

## Los Angeles Wheelmen VP Report - May 21, 2024

Hello All:

Sunday's Ride was "Circling San Fernando" so for tonight's theme music, naturally this song came to mind. Given the advancing age of our membership, if you play it all the way through, I think you will find it somewhat wistful.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V9VoLCO-d6U>

**Sunday:** As mentioned, our ride was "Circling San Fernando" which offered a century, metric century and now a half century. We increased our ridership over last week by a whopping 300%. **Phil Whitworth** took this selfie of everyone who showed up



That's Phil, **Jacques Stern** and me. It's a good thing I created the new half century route because that is what we all wanted to do. Jacques and I completed the route, but I'm not sure what happened to Phil. According to his Strava track, he got off the route somewhere up on Mulholland, never really completed the loop in the Valley, and then went home. Although we only rode the half century, because all three of us had started from home, we all got in enough miles to complete a metric century. On Saturday, Jacques reminded me that a portion of Mulholland was closed. I quickly put together a detour route which I handed out at the start. Although Phil had the detour, this might be why he got off course. The detour ended up cutting a few miles off the route and some of the climbing. We were still able to ride a portion of Mulholland Drive which is famous for its great views of the Valley. Thanks to "May Gray," this is all I saw:



It did get sunny around 11 a.m. and ended up being a nice day for a ride. Just before returning back over Sepulveda we rode the familiar stretch along Ventura Blvd. I don't think I have ridden this stretch for over a year, but amazingly, these guys are still putting up the sign on this building.





They have been working on that for years now.

**This Sunday:** We will be riding "Revel the Rollies From Redhill" which starts from Pine Tree Park in Tustin. The short makes a relatively easy loop around the Irvine area. The long and medium make a loop to the southeast with the medium making it to the Mission Viejo area before turning back and the long extends the loop all the way down to Capistrano. Despite the name, most of the climbing on these routes isn't too bad. The worst climb on the medium is the 3 mile hill on Bake Pkwy which is never too steep. HOWEVER, the long has a 1 1/2 mile climb on Pacific Island Dr that is a real killer. You have been warned. I plan to be there and will probably ride the medium.

**Patches of the Week:** Memorial Day is this weekend and that is when the Great Western Bicycle Rally formerly was held. I have many many patches from the Rally having been a co-chair of the event for about 10 years and having attended many more years than that. I thought I would include just two patches from my collection which have a little story. The Rally always offered a century ride and a century patch to go with it. The first patch below is the century patch from 1994, the last year **Ralph & Laverne Boethling** chaired the event. I think Ralph was giving a subtle hint that he was done with the Rally. The second patch was from the following year when **Sharon Ware** and I took over. I wanted to have a patch that complimented Ralph's last patch.







**Parting Shot:** On Sunday I passed this sign up on Mulholland which I have seen many times. But when I see it, the second photo is what I usually think of





See You On The Road

Rod Doty, VP

Attachments area

Preview YouTube video Joni Mitchell - The Circle Game

