

Los Angeles Wheelmen VP Report - August 20, 2024

Hello All:

Last Sunday our route took us from Ventura up to Santa Barbara and back following some of the old El Camino Real route. That reminded me of this old song. Of course, we weren't headed back to Monterey.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_ol2N6A_Uts

Sunday: We were riding "Whale of a Century" which was our century and metric century for August. I believe we had a total of 8 riders, which is really very good for one of our century rides. Five riders rode the full century which started from Camarillo. **Phil Whitworth** took this selfie at the start



That's **Dale Aaronson, Mario Solano, Edwin Dair, Andy Pollack** and **Phil**. Andy is a Thursday regular, but we don't often see him on our Sunday rides. Three of us rode the metric which started from Ventura and rode the center portion of the full century. I started early, and **Jacques Stern** and **Rafi Karpinski**

started at the scheduled time. By starting early, I had thought the century riders would overtake me but they hadn't by the time I got to Santa Barbara. I got to Santa Barbara too early for lunch so I decided I would do the loop up to the whale, even though I had planned to skip it. Here is my photo from the whale to prove I was there. I took it from inside the whale -- sort of a Jonah's eye view.



I completed the loop and was back down at lunch when I saw the other riders go by on their way up to the whale. I was surprised by how far behind me they were, but it turned out they had some mechanical problems on the way and had stopped at a bike shop. It seems they had been joined by the two other metric riders and they took this group shot up at the whale



That's **Rafi** 4th from the left and **Jacques** 6th from the left. I had a lot of photos this week and I want to include at least one from each photographer. This first is from Dale and is of the Santa Barbara Mission which we also pass on the way to the whale.



Jacques sent a selfie from the tail end of the whale



All in all, it was a very nice day. Ocean breezes kept things cool and I think we

even had a slight tail wind on the way back. The Cool Breeze Century had been held the day before and a lot of their route arrows were still evident along our route.

This Week: This Sunday we will be riding the "Long Beach Bike Path" ride. I believe these routes **were** put together by **Ruth Barnes** not long after the Long Beach Bike Path along the beach was opened and all three routes ride the path. The long makes a big loop almost entirely on bike paths. It first travels up the San Gabriel River trail to Whittier Narrows where it then picks up the Rio Hondo and Los Angeles River trails back down to Long Beach before riding the Long Beach Bike Path. The medium and short travel more directly down to Long Beach to ride the Long Beach Bike Path and then take the LA River trail back toward the start. I hope to ride the long. It has no hills to speak of, so I should be able to hack it.

Minutes of the Meeting. The minutes of the meeting held last Thursday are attached. Happy reading!

Patch of the Week: This was submitted by **Mel Cutler** and once again is not really a patch. This was issued to riders of the Tour de Laemmle which was a ride put together by the owner of the Laemmle theater chain. The route actually went from theater to theater where riders could stop for popcorn and soft drinks. I like the design -- a blend of a movie reel with a bike wheel over a ticket stub.



Parting Shot: I took this on Sunday's ride:



I've noticed these Tsunami Hazard Zone signs before and my thought has always been "DUH!"

See You On The Road

Rod Doty, VP

