

Los Angeles Wheelmen VP Report - October 15, 2024

## MEMBER MEETING THIS WEEK -- SEE BELOW

Hello All:

Official Columbus Day (as well as Indigenous Peoples Day) was yesterday and that reminded me of a thing comedian Stan Freberg did a long time ago. Do any of you remember him? He did an album on the history of the United States including a piece on Columbus. So here is a link to that in honor of Columbus Day. It's 10 minutes long, but it's got a few funny bits.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o3hzDJiVfJo&list=PLJ0V3Dbzhnj0eX6GnL0YmZjND94Jklrml&index=2>

**Sunday:** We were riding "The Paul Neuerburg Century" starting from Arcadia. Only 4 of us showed up. **Phil Whitworth** took this photo:



That's **Phil, Jacques Stern** (in car), **me**, and **Rafi Karpinski**. There was another club there starting their own ride and they had quite a few more riders than we did. Oh well. Jacques and I rode the metric century while Phil and Rafi did the full century. Rafi added even more miles by starting from Monterey Park, but he's in training for the Dead of Winter Double. Much of both routes was on bike paths, so maybe not so scenic. Not much chance for photos of houses decorated for Halloween. Here's a shot Phil took along the Santa Ana River trail with the "Big A" in the distance:



And here is a shot of Rafi at their lunch stop.





As you may remember from last week, I was going to check out Shake Shack as a new lunch spot on the metric century since the Five Guys in the area had closed. Here is my standard hamburger and fries:



I was underwhelmed. The hamburger was OK, but nothing special and they don't offer all the possible toppings that Five Guys offers. But the fries were the real disappointment. Look at them. They remind me of the frozen fries you can buy at the grocery store that you heat up in the oven. Clearly not the fresh cut potatoes you get at Five Guys or at In-And-Out. I noticed that next door there is a place called Fire Wings. I looked them up on the internet and they are a small chain with half a dozen locations with an interesting menu (as long as you want chicken). I think next time, I'll try them

**This Sunday:** This Sunday we will be riding "Alhambra & Bikeway" which starts in Alhambra. As I mention in the description in the monthly schedule, all 3 routes stay together until lunch in Pasadena and then split. The short has only about 3

miles left to get back. The long and medium add a loop to La Canada with the long adding even a little bit more to the loop than the medium. The great thing about these routes is that you don't have to decide which route you want to do until lunch. Bring all the route sheets and see how you feel or what others want to do.

**New Feature on Route Sheets:** Starting with this Sunday's ride, I'm adding a new feature to the route sheets for each of the club routes. It is a QR code on the bottom of each sheet which will take you to the route on RideWithGPS. That way, while on the ride, if you want to look at a map of the route or get other information, you simply scan the QR code with your phone and there you are. As a sample, here is the code for Sunday's long route:



## MEETING INFORMATION

**October Meeting:** This month's meeting is this Thursday, October 17th, at 7:00 p.m. Our host this month is **David Nakai**. We won't be meeting at his home down in Fallbrook, but at his family's nursery business in Hawthorne -- actually in back of the business where David lives most of the time. David has already been buying snacks for our refreshments and seems excited about hosting so let's show up to show our appreciation. **Place: 12717 Grevillea Ave., Hawthorne.** (NOTE: the nursery is located at 4519 W. El Segundo Blvd, but we will be entering the rear which is off Grevillea, the side street next to the nursery.) From the 405, off and east on El Segundo Blvd for about one mile to a left on Grevillea. Entrance is across from the fire station. If there is no parking on Grevillea, use the nearby library lot. Go through the black iron gate and follow arrows. David warns not to antagonize the dog.



**Patch of the Week:** I really am running out of patches I haven't used yet, but I found this one sent to me by **Bill Faulkner** for the Santa Cruz Mountains Challenge.



I'm not familiar with this event, but it's offered by the Santa Cruz County Cycle Club and offers different lengths from a half century to a double metric century. Based on the name, I would guess all routes are somewhat hilly. It appears that it is still being offered, but their web site says they took 2024 off and will be back in 2025.

**Parting Shot:** At lunch at the Shake Shack on Sunday I noticed these stacks of wooden blocks on a couple of the tables. I couldn't figure out what they were for and finally asked one of the employees. Can you guess?



They are giant Jenga blocks. Apparently Shake Shack lets you play a quick game of Jenga while you eat your lunch. That's nice, but it still doesn't make up for the lousy fries.

See You On The Road

Rod Doty, VP

Attachments area

Preview YouTube video Columbus Discovers America



