

Los Angeles Wheelmen VP Report - May 6, 2025

Hello All:

Yesterday was Cinco de Mayo so I had at first thought some music for that day would be appropriate for tonight's theme, but then I remembered that Sunday was Star Wars Day, so I chose this instead. Only a portion of it made it into the movie, so I think we owe it John Williams to listen to the whole thing

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JaPf-MRKITg>

Sunday: There was a slight chance of rain on Sunday so I more or less used that as an excuse to not ride. The truth is, Sunday's ride was rather hilly and I didn't think I was up for that kind of climbing yet. But it turned out 5 riders didn't let the possibility of rain deter them. **Phil Whitworth** took this shot at the start at the zoo.



That's **David Williams, Edwin Dair, Dale Aaronson,** and **Rafi Karpinski.** They are grouped under the Camel sign in the zoo parking lot which is our official starting point so that we can avoid being confused with other groups that start at the zoo. All 5 rode the long route but all but David rode to the start so they got in quite a few more miles. The long does 3 significant climbs and it so happens they sent photographic proof that they went over all 3. First up was Elysian Park. From the high point in the park you get this view of downtown and a nice view down into Dodger Stadium. (both photos from Dale)





(The Dodgers were in Atlanta losing to the Braves that day) The next climb was Mount Washington. Here is a shot Phil took of the Self-Realization Center found at the top of that climb.



The final climb is the very difficult climb up Camino San Rafael. Phil took this shot of the group at the top of this one.



Except for a short climb up Descanso, the route is pretty much all downhill from here. Unfortunately this is where it started to rain so maybe I wasn't wrong to skip the ride..However Dale says it lightened up on the downhill and that despite the light rain, they had a good day.

This Week: On Sunday we will be riding "Capistrano Caper" which starts in Capistrano and heads south. The long makes it all the way to Oceanside before turning around. The medium makes it down to the edge of Camp Pendleton and the short only goes as far as the San Onofre Power Plant. There is a rather steep climb on the long and medium, but the route sheet includes directions for avoiding this hill if you wish. Since the short is not very hilly at all and I don't think I'll be able to use rain as an excuse, I plan to be there. It's a long drive to Capistrano, but you get to see places on this route you don't see on any other route. **David Nakai** has indicated he will be there and in another e-mail, it looks like Phil Whitworth plans to be there. So why not join us. We usually eat at a fish place in Oceanside, but one year for some reason I went to an In-and-Out -- the

place was filled with Marines, so if you want to feel secure while you have lunch -- that's an option.

Save the Date. We have a club meeting coming up in a couple of weeks. We will be meeting at the home of **Gary Murphy** in Westchester on Thursday, May 22. I'll be sending out a more formal notice later, but mark your calendars now.

Parting Shot: A few weeks ago when Coachella occurred, the news listed many of the acts which were appearing but except for Lady Gaga, I hadn't heard of any of them. Made me feel old. Last weekend was the annual Beachlife Festival in Redondo Beach. I took this photo of the acts appearing on Saturday and Sunday and at least I had heard of most of the headliners. They must be attracting an older crowd than Coachella.



I may have been familiar with the headliners, but I've never heard of any of the names in smaller print (below Susanna Hoffs & the Beach Boys).

See You On The Road

Rod Doty, VP

Attachments area

Preview YouTube video star wars cantina

