

Los Angeles Wheelmen VP Report - June 17, 2025

Hello All:

Sunday was Father's Day so I thought I would lead off tonight's e-mail with a father related song. This is not exactly a "Father's Day" song, but I always liked it.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JCQVnSOFqfM>

Sunday: We were riding "Life Begins at 8:30" which started from West LA. There were only 3 of us at the start where I took this photo:



That's **Rafi Karpinski** and **Dale Aaronson**. However, we had texts from **Phil Whitworth** and **Edwin Dair** saying they would meet us on the course. As you'll see in the photos below, I know Phil met up with the riders, but there was no mention of Edwin so I'm not sure he ever connected with any other rider. We actually split between all 3 routes (which is rare). Phil and Dale did the long, Rafi rode the medium and I did the short. All routes rode out to Malibu. The long and medium went inland with the medium returning through the valley and the long returning back to the coast for a return through Malibu again. The short simply

went out to Malibu and back. Here is a shot Phil took of Rafi and Dale when they met up on PCH.



And here is a shot Dale took of Phil as he climbed to the top of Latigo on the return.



For me, the ride was an opportunity to get my first look at the fire damage along PCH in Malibu. Most of the houses have been cleaned up and there is nothing left but a few foundations and a lot of pilings sticking out of the surf, such as these:



There were still a few burned out cars to be seen such as this one:



My big concern was whether PCH would be good for cyclists, but I'm happy to say that at almost no place is it any worse than it ever was. A few places you have to swing out to go around equipment parked in the shoulder, but that's only for a few feet. Much of the ride is actually better than it ever was because where there used to be 3 traffic lanes, it has been narrowed down to two and the third lane if available for cyclists. I found myself thinking that it is too bad they can't leave it this way forever (except it would be better if they took away all the orange cones -- way too many orange cones).

This Week: This Sunday we will be riding our century, metric century and half century of the month. These will be the "Laguna Canyon Centuries" which start in Torrance and head south down the coast and back. The full century makes it all the way to Laguna to ride Laguna Canyon. The metric only makes it down to

Long Beach before returning while the Half Century just gets to Seal Beach. All routes are fairly flat and stick close to the coast which should make for an easy and pleasant day. As usual these days, I will be doing the half century.

Birthday Celebration: Last Thursday the Triple Dipper Group celebrated 3 birthdays: **Emma Pham, Lora Chen** and **Howard Wedin**. **Sandy Weiner** took this shot of the celebration at Golden Cove in Palos Verdes



I count 13 plus Sandy which is pretty good for one of our Thursday rides.

Parting Shot: I really don't have a photo for this spot, but here is another photo taken by Dale on last Sunday's ride. It was taken on the descent down Latigo Canyon. I was struck by how green it is. So often Southern California is just brown. I was also struck by how much agriculture seems to be springing up in the canyon. I don't remember there being so much the last time I rode the canyon.



See You On The Road

Rod Doty, VP

Attachments area

Preview YouTube video Father and Son (lyrics) - Cat Stevens



To be calm when
you've found
something going on

