# LOS ANGELES WHEELMEN SCHEDULE

## FEBRUARY 2026

**VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME.** Each week the routes offered will be available on the Web. Go to www.LAWheelmen.org and click on "Upcoming Rides." Download the routes and bring them with you to the ride.

**Sunday, February 1 - 8:30 a.m. CORNER CAPER - PHASE II** (Long 62 mi & 3800 ft, Medium 53 mi & 2400 ft, Short 31 mi & 1500 ft) It's Groundhog Day Eve. I don't think there are any observances or traditions for today, but you might want to get a good day's rest so that you are ready for all the festivities tomorrow. You will probably want to get up early to see the official groundhog in Punxsutawney make its prediction. After that you will probably want to spend the day watching the "Groundhog Day" movie once or three times. It will probably be showing on some channel all day. So, in anticipation of a long day tomorrow, we have a relatively short and not so difficult ride today. We start close to home so there isn't much travel time involved. The long and medium go out to the valley (over Benedict Cyn) and head east. They travel through Griffith Park to the Eagle Rock area and the long makes an extra loop up to the Rose Bowl area before rejoining the medium riders for the return along Mulholland and down Franklin Cyn. As is often the case, the short route doesn't go to the valley. Instead it is half of an old route we used to run called Movie Star Madness which was a tour of movie star homes. This route is so old, we are pretty sure none of the stars listed on the route still live in the houses indicated (many aren't even alive). But it's an interesting ride anyway. So, the long offers enough of a work-out for those who want a real ride today, but the medium and the short take it easier for those who don't want to be too tired for the groundhog festivities tomorrow. We can hope for good weather for today's ride, but we will be hoping the clouds roll in tomorrow so the groundhog doesn't see his shadow and we have an early spring. **START: THE "CORNER"**, Olympic Blvd, 1 block west of La Cienega in Beverly Hills. From the Santa Monica Frwy (10), off & north La Cienega 1½ miles, L - Olympic 1 block to R - Le Doux.


**A problem encountered on this route back in 2020 at the beginning of Covid. We shouldn't have this sort of trouble this year**

**Thursday, February 5 – 8:30 a.m. TRIPLE DIPPER SOUTH BAY RIDE** Meet on the bridge at end of the Ballona Creek Trail in Marina Del Rey. Riders usually go south to Palos Verdes on the bike path and then do some riding on the Peninsula. There are optional climbs including the 3 "dips" which give the ride its name. The group usually stops for a break at the Golden Cove shopping area. Occasionally the group will decide to vary the route and explore specific sites elsewhere in the city. A typical day is 40 - 50 miles but often individual riders either cut the day short or add extra miles as desired. Contact **Lewis Singer** lewissinger@gmail.com for details.

**Sunday, February 8 - 8:30 a.m. AMAZING MAZE** (Long 66 mi & 3900 ft, Medium 56 mi & 2000 ft, Short 41 mi & 800 ft) I know I have explained the "maze" before but it's been a while so for those newer to the club here it is again. A long time ago a portion of Villa Park had a series of confusing streets, so the club devised these routes to loop around the area to test a rider's ability to follow the route. Although this was before my time with the club, they apparently gave out route sheets that had differing paths through the maze so that you could not simply follow other riders. I was told that often many riders would get lost or confused. But over the years things changed. The club quit handing out different route sheets. Villa Park actually straightened out some of the streets. We added mileage numbers to the route sheets which made it easier to know where your next turn was. And of course GPS devices made it almost impossible to get lost. So, it's not much of a "maze" any longer, but we still run this ride because it goes through some nice areas including the Villa Park portion of the routes. All routes today ride through the "maze" after lunch The differences in the routes are both before lunch and after the "maze." The Long gets to lunch by a roundabout way via Santiago Canyon. On the return, the long

takes Skyline through the Tustin Hills, which is a very pleasant portion of the route. It's a short climb followed by a long downhill section. The medium makes a loop to the south before getting on the Santa Ana River trail for a long stretch to lunch. After lunch and the "maze," it takes a less hilly return than the long. The short is similar to the medium but gets to the Santa Ana River by a more direct route than the medium and then rides with them to lunch. The short makes an abbreviated trip through the "maze" and a slightly shorter route back to the start than the medium. All routes are very pleasant and they all come together for lunch. If you are having a bad day, you can always switch to a shorter route at lunch. And if you really want to experience a maze, I suggest you wait until the fall and find one of those corn mazes. Supposedly they can be really hard. **START: PINE TREE PARK in TUSTIN.** From Santa Ana Frwy (I-5) in Tustin, off & east on Redhill, L- Bryan one block to park.

**Starting Group in 2022**

**Starting group in 2024 – Let's do better this year**

**Thursday, February 12 – 8:30 a.m. TRIPLE DIPPER SOUTH BAY RIDE -- See February 5th for details.**

**Sunday, February 15 - 7:30 a.m. (full century) & 8:30 a.m. (metric & half centuries) 2026 KICK OFF CENTURIES** (full century - 101 mi & 3100 ft, metric century – 67 mi & 2300 ft, half century – 52 mi & 2200 ft) Our traditional New Year's Day centuries were rained out this year, so I thought I would give everyone a second chance to kick off the new year with a bang. Sure we are a month and a half into the year, but look at it this way – if your resolutions haven't been going so well, it's a chance to start all over. Not only that, but the days are about 1 hour longer now than they were on January 1st. I've moved up the starting times from the January 1st rides, so you don't have to get up so early. The plan is the same. All routes are simply a trip from Malibu north up PCH and back. The full century adds a loop around the Ventura/Oxnard area to make up the miles with a lunch stop in Ventura. The metric rides into Camarillo for lunch and then returns back down the coast. The half century simply rides to Point Magu and returns, stopping for lunch at Neptune's Net on the way back. The roads might be a bit more busy than they would have been on January 1st when everyone stays home to watch football or recover from a hangover, but riding PCH north of Malibu is always pleasant and there is a good shoulder most of the way. The bulk of the climbing comes from the many hills along PCH which all routes ride in both directions and which add up to about 1000 feet of climbing each way. However, no hill ever gets above 150 feet above sea level, so the climbing isn't very difficult. So why not come out and start your year off again. **START: MALIBU CIVIC CENTER**. Take the Santa Monica Frwy west to the end and then PCH north to R on Webb Way and R on Civic Center Way.

**Even in January, the fields in Oxnard can be green. Check them out on today's ride**

**Thursday, February 19 – 8:30 a.m. TRIPLE DIPPER SOUTH BAY RIDE -- See February 5th for details.**

**Sunday, February 22 - 8:30 a.m. FLINTRIDGE EXPRESS** (Long 56 mi & 4000 ft, Medium 38 mi & 2100 ft, Short 30 mi & 900 ft) The word "express" has many meanings. It can mean to convey a thought or meaning as in "He expressed his ideas on the subject." But I don't think that's what the word means in the title of today's ride. It can mean the process of pumping breast milk for a human baby, but I'm sure that's not what the word means in the title. Finally, there are meanings related to speed. An express train is one that makes few stops and therefore gets to its destination sooner. Similarly, an expressway is a roadway with few exits to get you to your destination faster. Express delivery usually means something like overnight shipping or somehow expedited shipping. So it would seem this is the meaning of the word in the ride title. But I don't see why. None of the routes are the fastest or most direct route to Flintridge or any other place these rides go. I can't think of anything about today's routes that I would call express – particularly the long. Today's routes offer a wide range of options like our long, medium and short program should. None of the routes is excessively long, but they vary quite a bit in difficulty. The long route includes some difficult climbing with 4000 feet of gain in only 56 miles. Much of this climbing is in relatively short but very steep climbs. We start off with some hills in Monterey Park. I don't normally think of Monterey Park as a hilly place, but you will be surprised. Then we head over to La Canada Flintridge and ride up Crown and Starlight Crest. This is very steep, but take it slow and bring low gears and you can do it. The heavy climbing is over after Flintridge, but there is another good climb in Pasadena and a final hill back in Monterey Park. The medium is somewhat easier. The medium

skips the hills in Monterey Park and takes a less hilly route over to the Pasadena area, but it doesn't miss all the fun. Once in Pasadena, the medium riders go down Chevy Chase to Eagle Rock before returning to the start. Then there is always the short route. It hardly does any hills at all. It spends a relatively flat day in Alhambra, South Pasadena, San Marino, Arcadia and Pasadena. Sounds like we have something for everyone. So why not join us – what have you got to lose? Hopefully, at the end of the ride you will express your satisfaction with having had a good day on the bike. **START: BARNES PARK in MONTEREY PARK**. From San Bernardino Frwy (I-10), off & south on Garfield, R - Newmark, L - McPherrin to the Park. Park where you can - we'll meet at corner of McPherrin & Park Ave.


**If you make it here on today's ride, give yourself a pat on the back**