

Los Angeles Wheelmen VP Report - March 17, 2026

Hello All:

Today is St. Patrick's Day so I dug up this song to fit the occasion. This would appear to have been recorded 10 years before I was even born. I don't imagine Bing could have imagined that over 85 years later people would be listening to it on computers in their home via the internet.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OFdn5YBrqOg>

Sunday: On Sunday we were riding the "Rose Bowl Century" which is simply a challenge to ride as many laps around the Rose Bowl as you can up to 100 miles worth. There were only 3 of us at the start: **Phil Whitworth, Matt Krantz** and me. Phil took the 1st shot before Matt showed up and the Matt took the 2nd shot:





We later learned that **Dale Aaronson** and **Julie Shishino** had ridden from Culver City up to the Rose Bowl to do a few laps. Also, **Chris Hedberg** stopped by the Rose Bowl while doing her own ride, just to see who was there. Phil took this shot:



I had intended to do 50 miles worth of laps but after my 4th lap I broke a spoke and called it a day. Matt kept it up for 28 miles and Phil got in a little over 90 miles. It was actually very foggy at the start. On one of my laps you could hardly see more than 200 feet ahead. There were golfers out on the course next to us and Matt commented "how can they even play in this fog?" They wouldn't have any idea where their ball went. The fog burned off fairly quickly and I imagine it got plenty warm by the time Phil finished. Julie took the required shot of the Rose Bowl.



This Week: We will be riding "Capistrano Caper" this Sunday. These routes start in Capistrano and head south. The long makes it all the way to Oceanside before returning. The medium makes it down to the edge of Camp Pendleton before returning and the short goes as far as the San Onofre Power Plant. The long and the medium include a very steep climb in San Clemente, but there are instructions on how to skip this hill. If you skip it, all routes are fairly flat and stay close to the coast, so it shouldn't be too hot. We are riding this ride today at the request of **Mario Solano** who thought it would be nice to go to Capistrano at the time the swallows return. The official return date of the swallows is Wednesday, March 18 (tomorrow) but they don't come back all at once any longer. Capistrano is having a celebration and parade on Saturday which we will miss but at least we won't have to deal with the crowds and closed streets. The end of all three routes passes the mission where they supposedly nest. I hope to stop in to see if I can spot any of the swallows. To help identify them, here is a photo of what we need to look for:



I hope that next week I can post a photo of one that I actually took myself. I'll be riding the short route by the way.

Bicycle Quote of the Week: I've heard this one before, but I think it's cute:

"Don't buy upgrades, ride up grades" -- Eddy Merckx

REMINDER -- AWARDS LUNCH ON MARCH 29TH. To help encourage members to join us, I thought I would take a cue from late night television ads:

The Los Angeles Wheelmen are proud to offer for a limited time

Admission to the annual Awards Lunch

**Here is what you get when you confirm
your attendance:**

A FREE Lunch

CAKE

Conversation with fellow cyclists

An Awards Presentation

All for the LOW LOW PRICE OF \$0

That's absolutely FREE if you act now.

BUT THAT'S NOT ALL!!!

**Bring your spouse or significant other
and we'll double this offer**

That's TWO lunches

Twice the cake

Double the Conversation

BUT YOU HAVE TO ACT NOW.

**Confirm your intention to attend before
March 25th to assure yourself a place at
the lunch**

**This offer will NOT be made again until
Next March, so do not delay.**

**Confirm your intention to attend by e-
mail to Rod Doty at
roddoty@roadrunner.com**

or Text him at 310 890-8063

Parting Shot: I saw this sign at the Rose Bowl last
Sunday:



I thought -- sure it's easy to have free speech where there is no one around to hear you. I suppose on game day you are free to talk up USC even though this is UCLA's stadium.

See You On The Road,

Rod Doty, VP

Attachments area

Preview YouTube video Bing Crosby- When Irish Eyes are Smiling (1939)
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