

## Los Angeles Wheelmen VP Report - June 4, 2024

Hello All:

For tonight's music I have a real treat. Member **Kit Gray** took my description of last Sunday's ride ("Ivan's Ride") from the ride schedule and put it into Chat GPT and asked the program to write a song about it. He tweaked the lyrics a little bit and then put them into Suno (an AI music program) and asked it to generate a bluegrass version of the song with those lyrics. He has put the result up on YouTube and here it is:

<https://youtu.be/yKz7O6Surt8>

You really have to play it through. It is amazing. Maybe I should just have Chat GPT write these e-mails for me.

**Sunday:** If you played the song, you know we were riding "Ivan's Ride." There were 5 of us at the start (which is a 25% increase over last week's four). **Dale Aaronson** took this selfie of the group:



That's **Dale**, **Julie Shishino**, the indefatigable **David Nakai**, **Russ Brynes** and **me**. It was amazing to see David back so soon after his recent accident and hip replacement. Dale and Julie did the long and Russ and I did the medium. David stayed with us on the medium to lunch but then caught the metro train at the Universal station to get back home. I believe he had to take 3 separate trains to do that. It might have been easier to ride back. Dale and Julie managed to catch sight of this deer on their route.



We all passed the "Great Wall of Los Angeles" and took photos of that. Here is one from Dale





Both the long and medium climbed back up Mulholland from Cahuenga. Julie and Dale stopped at the Hollywood Bowl overlook on the way up and took this nice photo of downtown.



I was looking forward to the downhill on Nichols Canyon because I had never gone down that one. I really enjoyed it. Lots of sweeping turns and never so steep that you had to keep braking all the time. This was only on the route to avoid a closure on Mulholland and I will probably return to the original route next time, so the downhill on Nichols was a one-time thing, but if you get a chance, I think it is worth the climb to get there.

**This Week:** This Sunday we will be riding "La Tuna Melt" which starts at the Zoo. Only the long actually climbs La Tuna Canyon for which the ride is named. The medium climbs Chevy Chase instead and both routes meet up near the Rose Bowl and then ride over to Altadena to ride up Christmas Tree Lane. There is then a long downhill through San Marion and over to Pasadena for lunch. The Short gets to the same lunch location by a shorter and easier route (although it is still up hill). After lunch, all three routes stay together on the return with the last few miles on the LA River trail before a return to the Zoo. I plan to at least do the medium, but I'm not sure Tuna Canyon is much more difficult than Chevy Chase, so I might attempt the long. Either way, I hope several of you will join me.

**Meeting:** The June members meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 13th. That's a week earlier than usual so I want to give you a heads up this week. The usual date was too close to the Grand Tour. Our host this month will be **Lewis Singer** who has hosted a couple of times before. I will be sending out full information next week closer to the meeting, but for now, mark your calendars.

**Patch of the Week:** This week's patch was sent by **David Nakai** and is for a ride I've never heard of.





I looked on the internet and couldn't find any reference to this ride and the only Cyclonauts club I found is in Massachusetts. But there is a Bitterwater Road up east of Paso Robles which I believe runs along the San Andreas Fault up there. I once put together a Bitterwater Century for the Great Western Bicycle Rally which used that road. Maybe this was a ride in the same area. It was a nice area to ride with very little traffic.

**Parting Shot:** This is a photo I took of the Great Wall mural last Sunday from the period near the great depression:





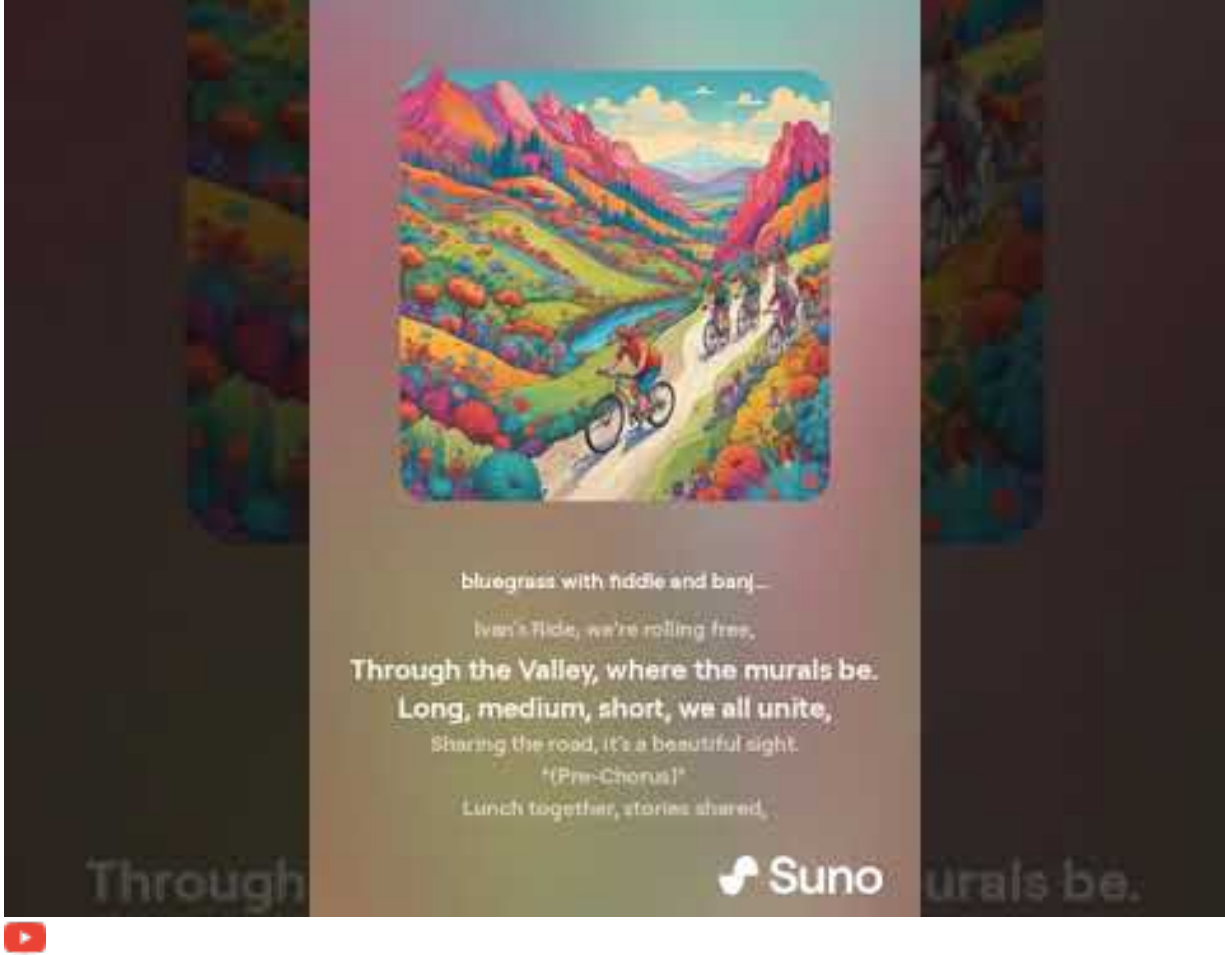
I thought it was interesting because the sign says "We can't live on \$5 to \$8 per week." Today it would say "We can't live on \$5 to \$8 per hour."

See You On The Road

Rod Doty, VP

Attachments area

Preview YouTube video Ivan's Ride



bluegrass with fiddle and banjo  
Ivan's Ride, we're rolling free,  
**Through the Valley, where the murals be.**  
**Long, medium, short, we all unite,**  
Sharing the road, it's a beautiful sight.  
(Pre-Chorus)  
Lunch together, stories shared,

Through Suno urals be.