

## Los Angeles Wheelmen VP Report - November 26, 2024

Hello All:

When I arrived at the ride on Sunday, it was very foggy (more on that later) and the long and medium routes were headed into the mountains, so this song came to mind. It has nothing to do with the ride or cycling, but that's just how my mind works. I believe it was popularized when it was used in the movie "Bonnie and Clyde."

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L-obJtivOLE>

**Sunday:** On the drive to the ride start in Santa Clarita, it was a bright beautiful day in the San Fernando Valley and I was looking forward to a nice day of riding. But as I went over the hill into Santa Clarita, I ran into a fog bank and the day turned dark and dreary. I was the only one there planning on riding the short and somehow starting the ride in such fog and riding alone didn't appeal to me, so I ultimately went home without riding. However, there were 4 intrepid riders there to take on the long route. I took this photo:



That's **Phil Whitworth, Mario Solano, Dale Aaronson, and Edwin Dair.** Looking through all the photos they took, I can just kick myself, because obviously they were soon out of the fog and it looks like it turned out to be a nice day. Here's a photo from Phil showing some of the fall colors they saw





Heading up San Francisquito Canyon they passed these pipes (photo by Dale) which come after one of the steeper sections of the climb.





I'm not sure, but I believe these pipes bring aqueduct water over the hill. They have to pump the water up, but at the bottom the water in the pipes run a small hydro-electric generator where they can reclaim some of the energy it took to pump the water up. Neat! Another pipe I look forward to crossing on the San Francisquito climb is this one (photo by Phil) because I know I'm getting close to Green Valley at that point.



I followed this one on a map once and it dumps into the Bouquet Canyon Reservoir. The hardest part of the San Francisquito climb comes shortly before reaching Lake Elizabeth Road. In this photo of Phil taken by Dale, you can see just how steep it is. Phil looks like he is gritting his teeth





You can see by the time they got this far, the day had turned nice. They didn't include any photos of the downhill on Bouquet but I would guess that is because they were enjoying the long long downhill too much to stop.

**This Week:** We have two rides this week. First, on Thursday is our traditional Thanksgiving Day ride. These are short and fairly easy routes to get you in the mood for a nice dinner later. Starting from the "Corner" the long and medium head to the Palisades where we often regroup for a photo and then head down to the Marina for a break. The short skips the Palisades and just goes to the Marina. To any of the usual Thursday Triple Dipper riders who might be thinking of doing that ride on Thursday -- I would urge you to join us at the "Corner" for this Thanksgiving Day Ride. It's a little shorter and a little easier than the usual Thursday ride, but it's a holiday and you deserve a break.

On Sunday we start December off with a ride in Orange County: "Winding Roads of Orange County." These routes do just that -- wind around Orange County without going anywhere in particular. They are not excessively hilly, although there is a long up-grade to lunch and continuing after lunch on both the long and medium routes. The long adds an extra hill or two taking you up past Soka

University. You have to read my description of this ride in the schedule to get my thoughts on that. All in all, these are pleasant routes and a nice way to end your holiday weekend -- particularly if you want to work off a little of that Thanksgiving dinner.

**Patches of the Week:** In honor of Thanksgiving, here are four of the Thanksgiving Patches I recently received from **Laverne Boethling**. Although it might not be quite PC these days, I like the one with the Native American on the bike with the pilgrim. They are all pretty patches.















**Parting Shot:** Phil took this shot of the "Santa Clarita Cycling Bear" on Sunday's ride. I wasn't familiar with this, but the sign explains it all





# Santa Clarita Cycling Bear

2018

Frank Rock

One of several art bears that grace sites around Santa Clarita, "The Santa Clarita Cycling Bear" was inspired by the Amgen Tour of California (ATOC), a prestigious cycling event which the City has hosted a record thirteen times. Painted by local artist Frank Rock, the public art piece is part of the California Bear Project, a project developed in August 2004 by the City of Santa Clarita to install life-size grizzly bear sculptures throughout the community. Each bear replica measures over ten feet in length and is over five feet tall, and represents different Santa Clarita themes.



[SantaClaritaArts.com](http://SantaClaritaArts.com)

See You On The Road

Rod Doty, VP

Attachments area

Preview YouTube video Foggy Mountain Breakdown

