

Los Angeles Wheelmen VP Report - March 4, 2025

Hello All:

We were riding "South Bay Surprise" last Sunday so I was looking for songs about the South Bay. I found this one by the Beach Boys. I had never heard it before and now that I have heard it, I understand why -- it's not really one of their better efforts. But, it is about the South Bay.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QbCGv-VGbPQ>

Sunday: I got up Sunday hoping to ride, but the weather did not look promising for the first hour or so. It did look like it would clear up into a nice day, but I decided I didn't want to start in the rain. I ended up kicking myself when at about 8:30 when the ride would be starting, I looked out and it was already sunny. I should have had more faith. As it turns out, 3 riders did have faith. They were our usual stalwart riders. **Phil Whitworth** took this selfie at the start.



That of course is **Phil, Edwin Dair** and **Mario Solano**. The ground looks dry to me. They all did the long which took them as far as Knott's Berry Farm where Phil took this shot



Some clouds, but mostly blue sky so it does look like it turned out to be a fine day. They apparently paused at Mrs. Knott's chicken dinner location, but I doubt they actually ate there.



All in all, it looks like they had a nice day. I just wish I had had the faith to join them.

Thursday Triple Dipper Ride: We also had a nice day for last Thursday's Triple Dipper ride. **Sandy Weiner** took this panorama shot of the group at our usual break at Golden Cove in Palos Verdes.



Clearly we had a good turn-out that day.

This Week: On Sunday we have a brand new ride which the club has never ridden. It is called the "Gateway Bridge & Queen Mary" ride. Those are the two sites all routes will take in. First we ride over to the new Gateway Bridge in Long Beach and ride up to the top for the view. Unfortunately the bike path on the bridge does not go all the way across, so we have to turn around at the top. But

even if it did go all the way, it would only dump us on Terminal Island and there is no way a bicycle can get off the island except to go back over the bridge. There is a nice view from up there and there are benches so you can rest from the surprisingly long ride to the top. It is a separated bike path all the way, so don't worry about traffic. Once we come back down off the bridge we will head over to the Queen Mary. Although the Queen Mary has been there for decades, surprisingly, the club has no route that goes over to see it up close. There is also an old Russian submarine tied up there. Not sure how we got that. That's pretty much it for the short route. We ride the Long Beach bike path south and stop for lunch before heading up the San Gabriel River back to the start. The medium and long add extra miles by heading further south before returning. The medium goes as far as the Santa Ana River which it takes inland a few miles to lunch. The long makes it all the way to Newport Beach where it does a loop around the Back Bay before heading back. Both the long and medium come back together for the return. Since these are new routes, I hope to see a lot of you out for this one. It's a chance to ride two places none of our other routes go. **NOTE:** Daylight Saving starts this Sunday, so remember to set your clocks or you'll end up an hour late for the ride. These days most of my clocks reset themselves so it shouldn't be much of a problem.

Save the Date: Our annual Awards Lunch will be Sunday, March 23rd. It's a free lunch, a little entertainment (maybe) and some award presentations. What's not to like? We always like to see a lot of our members who no longer come out to ride with us. It's a great chance to catch up. I'll be sending a more formal announcement and invitation next week, but for now, mark your calendars and plan to join us.

Century Challenge Totals: Speaking of the Awards ceremony, one of the awards to be presented will be those for our annual century challenge. **Hoy Quan** wanted me to remind you that if you have not yet entered all your 2024 centuries and metric centuries on the web site, you should do so now so that they can be considered for the awards.

Parting Shot: Speaking of South Bay Surfers, as in the song at the top of this e-mail, I took this photo in Hermosa Beach last week.



I gather that it is a dermatology business, but it would appear they are trying to attract the surfing crowd. Maybe all that time spent sitting on their boards in the salt water gives them some special skin problems.

See You On The Road

Rod Doty, VP

Attachments area

Preview YouTube video South Bay Surfer (Stereo)

