

Los Angeles Wheelmen VP Report - March 11, 2025

Hello All:

Last Sunday we were riding the Gateway Bridge down in Long Beach so for our theme music tonight here is maybe the best "bridge" related song I know of:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4G-YQA_bsOU

Sunday: We were riding a brand new ride on Sunday -- the "Gateway Bridge & Queen Mary" ride. We had 6 riders. I took this photo at the start:



That's **Jacques Stern**, **Bill Faulkner**, **Hoy Quan** and **Mike Wapner**. **Gary Murphy** was also there but somehow I didn't get him in the shot. The odd thing

was that our usual 3 riders (Phil, Edwin and Mario) weren't there. The ride was designed to go to two places none of our other rides visit: The new Gateway Bridge and the old Queen Mary. That's pretty much all the short route did and we all did the short (I think Mike added a few miles on his own). First up was the bridge. It's just about a mile climb to the high point of the bridge where we turn around to go back down. Here is a shot taken by Mike as Gary and others reached the top:

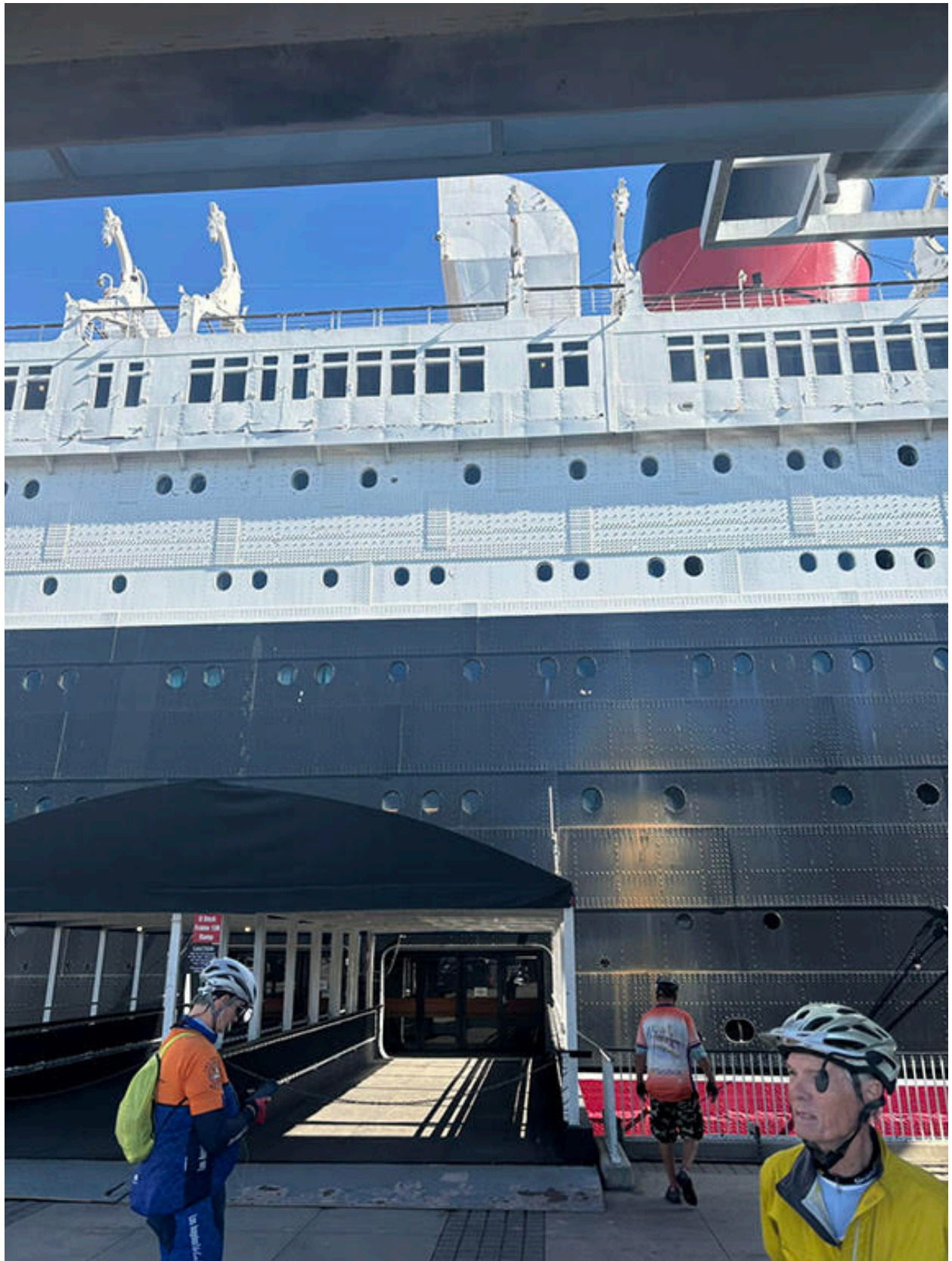


Here's a shot from Hoy showing the channel the bridge actually goes over.



Seems like a really big bridge to go over such a small channel. I'm not even sure the big container ships use this channel.

After the bridge, it was on to the Queen Mary. Here's a shot I took, but we were too close to the ship to really get it all in.



We also took a look at the Russian Sub which is tied up next to the Queen Mary. Here is a selfie Jacques took with the sub.



Looks like a real rust bucket. If you are wondering how a Russian sub ended up in Long Beach, here is a Wikipedia page about the sub

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Soviet_submarine_B-427

Apparently, until 2015 you could tour the sub but it was closed when part of the hull ruptured and a family of raccoons took up residence in the sub.

This Sunday: This Sunday we will be riding the "Oak Ridge Rides" which start out in the Valley. This is our century and metric century of the month, but don't let that keep you away. There is also a half century route and a quarter century route. I plan on only doing the half century. All routes head over Santa Susana to Simi Valley and eventually return back over the pass. The longer the route, the further west the route goes before turning around to return. The quarter century never gets out of Simi Valley and the full century goes all the way to Oxnard. Hopefully the weather will be good and we can get another nice ride in.

Annual Awards Lunch. You should have received the invitation yesterday, but just a reminder -- the annual Awards Lunch is Sunday, March 23. We hope to see a lot of you there. It's always nice to see many of our members who don't ride any longer.

Malibu: Although **Phil Whitworth** thought he would be turned back from riding PCH into Malibu, last week the guards waved him through the check point so he was able to get a first look at the destruction. He posted a number of photos on Strava. Here is one:



Looks like this was a very nice beach house before the fire. Another photo is below.

Parting Shot: Often in the past I have used photos which Phil took of the various puns posted on the Reel Inn sign in Malibu. Here is what is left of the Reel Inn. The sign is still there, but I don't imagine they will be putting up any new puns.



See You On The Road

Rod Doty, VP

Attachments area

Preview YouTube video Simon & Garfunkel - Bridge Over Troubled Water (Audio)

