

CHAIN REACTION

FEBRUARY 2015

ORANGE COUNTY WHEELMEN MONTHLY NEWS



From the Desk of the Prez.....

Paul D'Aquanni
OCW President

It seems like it was just a short time ago I was writing my 1st Presidents Message. Actually it was, because I am moving on after 1 year. I feel that the club is in great hands and will not miss a beat as I transition out of the Presidency.

I am very grateful to those who served as Officers and Board Members, as they can always be counted on to do their job and to even go the extra mile, when needed. I am also very grateful for those who work behind the scenes not necessarily officers or board members, but they make cycling safe and fun for other members of OCW, as well as the general cycling community.

I will choose to not make my "thank yous" by personally naming those, but to recognize in general for fear of leaving someone out and offending. Thank you all!

It has been fun to observe and participate in ad hoc events & rides that did not originate in the board meeting, but by the general membership. These ideas might have originated on a ride, or at the Starbucks during post-ride discus-

sion, or a BRC event, but the ideas flowed upward and many times became a reality. OCW as a club benefited as the fun factor increased, and that is what it is all about.

One of my goals was to work on the financial controls of the club. While we worked this year with more transparency and some improvements to procedures of handling regular financial matters, these improvements still need to be refined and documented for future consistency. I do have some regrets I did not do more in this area with the documentation. Oh well, need to leave something for my successor.

I am very encouraged on the strength & growth in membership. What makes it so encouraging is the comments such as "we are a safe club", or "we really know how to run an event", or how about the generous & fun social activities we have. These are all positive comments that make folks want to be a part of OCW. As I have stated before, an increase in membership brings in new ideas, which will only make OCW a better club. So keep up the good work and hopefully I will "see you out there on the road".

Ride safe and have fun.

Paul



News Items Worth Reading

Miguel Perea
OCW Vice President

ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET

Saturday, February 21, 2015
Guest Speaker: Levi Leipheimer
Former Professional Road Cyclist



Levi Leipheimer is an American former professional road racing cyclist. He was twice US national champion, winning the time trial title in 1999 and the road race in 2007, and is an Olympic medalist. Levi was born and raised in Butte, Montana and resides in Santa Rosa, California with his wife Odessa. He is the patron of the widely-attended King Ridge Gran Fondo, a mass participation ride in Sonoma County.

To register for the OCW Awards Banquet, you must be a current OCW member and logged in.

Visit the link below for the OCW Awards Banquet web page and the registration link will be in the navigation pane on the left.

[Awards Banquet](#)



OCW's Public Relations Update

Stacy Kline
lci@ocwheelmen.org

It's shaping up to be a busy February with the annual [OC Wheelmen Awards Banquet](#), [OCW's League of American Bicyclists Traffic Skills 101 class](#), and a plethora of daily rides!

Of course, we encourage everyone to attend the annual banquet. Levi Leipheimer will be our speaker, Jim Brewer will once again regale us with one of his wonderful slide shows, and it's a great opportunity to visit with your OCW cycling family as we celebrate each other's cycling accomplishments over the past year. Every attendee will receive a special treat at the door. Please join us on February 21!

On February 16 and February 21, OCW will once again be offering its renowned version of the [League of American Bicyclists Traffic Skills 101 class](#). This is a fast-paced class that is packed with information about how you too can ride safely and legally, on the road wherever you ride. OC Wheelmen has a goal that every single rider with the club will go through this life-changing training that truly empowers you as a cyclist on the road in traffic. Join OCW and sign up online. The class is free to members!

The [Matthew's Change](#) petition on [Change.org](#) now has over 4,050 signatures! We have almost reached our goal of 5000 signatures and then we will take the petition to the California legislature and Governor Brown. [Please consider signing the petition](#) which calls for an important change in the California vehicle code to allow motorists to legally cross a double yellow center line, only when safe to do so, when passing a bicyclist. Visit [MatthewsChange.org](#) for more information. Spread the word!

[The Bicycle Tree](#) of Santa Ana needs our support! The Bicycle Tree of Santa Ana plays an important role in Orange County as the only bike co-op in the county. Everyone is welcome to stop by the store to take a class, talk bikes, and to work on their bicycles under the expert eye of Paul Nagel and a myriad of talented volunteers. The Bicycle Tree accepts donations of bicycles, bike parts & accessories, and money. OC Wheelmen gives the Bicycle Tree a substantial endowment annually which goes directly to support programs for youth such as the students at Spurgeon Intermediate School who recently completed the nine-week "Wrench and Ride" program. Each student was able to pick out a bike to repair and keep it as his or her own. For most of the students this was the first bike they have ever owned. They also learned how to ride safely and legally on the road. Check out [Stacy Kline's video](#) and [photos](#) from the most recent group of students to complete the program!



OCW CLUB LINKS

HOME PAGE: www.ocwheelmen.org

CALENDAR: www.ocwheelmen.org/page/show/418357-calendar

OFFICERS: www.ocwheelmen.org/page/show/419328-officers

DIRECTORS: www.ocwheelmen.org/page/show/419332-directors

SUPPORTING MEMBERS: www.ocwheelmen.org/page/show/424483-supporting-memberships

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Special Thanks to Greg and Stacy Kline, and John Renowden for holding the January Folding (Brain Storming) Party!

For more information on holding a folding party, log onto:

<http://www.ocwheelmen.org/page/show/470759-folding-party>

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Spring Metric

March 28, 2015

OCW members be sure to identify the discount code. It will be found in the Spring Metric website area. Be sure you are logged in and you will see the discount code on the left-side Nav bar in the Spring Metric area.

[Click here to register](#)

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[Join or Renew OCW Membership](#)

