

## Ride shortened by Kevin's kidney stone; too bad, beautiful morning!



Riding up Jefferson, day or night, has become challenging where vegetation has taken over a good chunk of the road. Funny how, on the most-beautiful day we've seen since Fall, only three of us showed up for the ride this morning. Myself, Kevin (not the pilot) and Karen. Hmm. It used to be easier saying "the kid" to describe which Kevin, but at 24, is he really "the kid" anymore? Ah, touching on that age thing, more on that later!

I think the coldest temp we saw was 48 degrees, which seems downright toasty! By the end of the ride, upper 50s. And no rain. We've earned this. Unfortunately, Kevin didn't get to enjoy it much, suffering the past few days with a kidney stone, which, after the ride, was bad enough to require a(nother) trip to the ER. He's much better now, but since I had to back off my effort on the climb to stay with him, you can tell he wasn't doing great this morning. But this morning, we had to cut the ride short, skipping the outlaw West Old LaHonda section entirely and instead heading straight down 84. It must have been beautiful on West Old LaHonda this morning!

I'm really looking forward to a long string of nice days ahead. The weather folk say no rain for the next 10 days, with temps in the upper 60s to low 70s. We've earned this.

Of course all that rain has given quite a growth spurt to roadside vegetation, as you can see in the photo above. I probably have to deal with the county road department; likely the same people who have said West Old LaHonda is shut down for bikes. Maybe they'll be a bit more responsive to this; it's getting dangerous, having the useful part of the lane eaten into so much.

OK, now that age thing. My wife was giving me a bad time tonight, asking me if I knew how old I'd be in 8 days. To which I replied, "8 days older than I am now." Which is true! It's not as if you suddenly wake up one morning feeling a full year older than the day before. "61" is just a number, nothing more. At least one nice thing about the timing of my birthday; it hits right when the weather starts getting better. That's something I can look forward to!