

## I can artificially slow down rabbits. Nothing artificial about me, just slow.

A couple of slow days up the hills, both Tuesday and Thursday. At least it's been getting a bit warmer, but not quite enough to abandon leg warmer and sometimes base layers. Thursday was a bit odd; besides seeing a whole lot of rabbits (Kevin counted 10) on West Old LaHonda, it also felt a lot cooler than the temp showed.

But hey, I've got two cool new bike toys to play with! First, the Garmin Varia radar, that shows moving blips on my computer, where the cars are. You can see how many, and how fast they're coming up on you. Kind of like the tracking gadget in the first Alien movie, when the Alien was in the air duct. Second, the new Garmin Edge 1040 computer. WAY faster, better screen, and a cool new feature that tells you how much you've got left in the tank. Basically, how many miles you can keep riding until empty.

Why so few diary entries though? Mostly stress. It's getting really difficult finding enough staff for the shop, which is putting my France trip in peril. Mentally, that trip, thinking about it, it's something that hold me together. Something I really look forward to. My annual home away from home for 11 days. The intense logistics that go into it that are somehow fun. Makes no sense really. After breaking two ribs last year, well, maybe that's one of the reasons I'm really looking forward to it this year... I didn't get to do nearly as much riding as I would have liked to, and missed two big stages.

This year's trip will be quite different from past; Kevin and I will be seeing stages in both the Alps and Pyrenees, staying first in Grenoble, then taking a few trains to Lourdes. No finale in Paris; that's a bit over-rated anyway. Just hoping we can pull it off.