

## Life at 35,000ft

The plan was to have all the loose ends tied up early so I could get to bed at a reasonable hour and do the regular Thursday morning ride before leaving for the airport. That plan was laid to waste by the big sale that starts Friday; way too much stuff to get done, and just when I was about to write off one of the biggest tasks (new hangtags for every bike on sale) I had an epiphany.

Seriously. A real live epiphany. As in, I'd been fighting this one for some time, it really seemed beyond my technical abilities, and then, at 9pm, I realized I had already written an SQL query that was doing almost the exact same thing! And thus began a three hour ordeal in which I did get the job done, but got to bed sometime past 2am.

And I have to get up for the ride at 7.

So I went to bed thinking Kevin would appreciate the opportunity to sleep in (I always have to wake him up) but at 7:03am there he is next to the bed, saying "Aren't you getting up?" And for the briefest of moments I was thinking, 4 hours sleep, but how can I rationalize missing the ride? Then I remembered that I'd forgotten to bring my bike back home from the shop (I planned to pick it up around 11pm, naively thinking I'd be done by then). Saved! But Kevin went on his own and had a very nice ride.

I got going earlier than I wanted to, not really sleeping after Kevin left, but clearly not coherent because on the way to the airport we realize we left the cytomax at home... Not quite fatal but close... and then after checking out bags Kevin asks where the backpack with the camera gear is. Um, er,... Quick call to Becky who does another round trip to the airport and delivers both camera bag AND cytomax, literally saving the trip. We might be able to live with a substitute for Cytomax (although we didn't want to find out!) but it's not like we can go out and buy \$2000 in extra camera gear.

And why is the camera gear so important? Because if it's not documented in words and photos, it didn't happen. Simple as that!

Turns out to have been a good thing we didn't get to the airport early and catch the earlier flight, since that flight was delayed an hour and we wouldn't have made our connection at Dulles. So maybe my lack of a brain this morning worked out for the best.

Although it was more an issue of preoccupation with work stuff that messed things up. Hey, that's my story and I'm sticking to it!

9:55pm Made it on plane to Frankfurt and had enough time to set up mobile hotspot and send files from laptop. Close but worked!

Bye until Frankfurt- Mike