

## Rabbits ahead, Dogs behind, a typical Tuesday ride at its best

Sure, it could have been a bit warmer (39 up on Skyline), sure, I wish I had a motor like Fabian Cancellara to keep everyone in line. But it wasn't raining, and I feel like I'm beginning to feel some benefit to my new-found status as a legit bicycle commuter, having to haul a hefty briefcase with laptop up Jefferson on my way home from work. When I get on my Madone after that, it feels like the bike's got a jet engine!

No way am I going to remember everyone who showed up. John, Karl, Marcus, George, Millo, darn, forgetting one of the guys who shows up once in a while, plus Nigel and at least one other (oh, right, Robert, someone who might be becoming a regular again and goes way back to my racing days). Karen didn't show up this morning, nor did Kevin, who is spending some time in Maine with his Mom after his Dad unexpectedly passed away.

I shot some very nice video but unfortunately it doesn't seem to be transferring from my camera to the computer at home (it had no problem playing on the computer & big TV at the shop though). I hung with Nigel & Marcus & John for as long as I could, surprisingly even longer than Nigel did, but I think that's because my legs were covered & warm while his were bare and freezing up. We waited for stragglers and then pushed on again, gradually increasing the pace until once again there were guys off the front and guys off the back and me in the middle. Today was one of those days where it felt quite comforting being in the middle, and I'm beginning to feel stronger again. Today was also the first "real" Tuesday version of the ride, getting back to the start at 9:22am (the Tuesday ride typically finishes between 9:18 & 9:22 "in season"), and thinking back on it, there were many opportunities where we could have shaved half a minute here, half a minute there, without watching people disappear off the back, never to be seen again.

I'll publish the youtube video link when I get things figure out.Â --Mike--