

SIGN ON...

DICK JOHNSON

11/28/12

IN MY LAST COMMENT, I TALKED ABOUT THE DAMAGES TO OUR SCHOOLS AND HOW I THOUGHT ALARMINING THEM MIGHT AT LEAST CUT DOWN ON THE DAMAGE CAUSED BY THE LOW-CLASS BUMS WHO ARE ~~CAUSING~~ ^{CREATING} SO MUCH NOT ONLY PHYSICAL BUT EMOTIONAL DAMAGES TO THE BUILDINGS, EQUIPMENT, AND PERSONNEL. IN THE LAST FEW DAYS ANOTHER SCHOOL IN THE FORTUNA AREA - THE AMBROSINI SCHOOL, I BELIEVE, SUSTAINED BROKEN WINDOWS AND EQUIPMENT ~~DAMAGE~~ ^{DAMAGE}. AS IT WAS EXPLAINED, JUST A BROKEN WINDOW CAUSES MUCH MORE DAMAGE THAN IT MIGHT APPEAR ON THE SURFACE, DUE TO THE TINY SHARDS OF GLASS IMBEDDED IN THE CARPETTING, WHICH ARE ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO GET OUT. IN THIS CASE, SEVERAL THOUSAND DOLLARS WORTH OF DAMAGE WAS INCURRED. ONE OF MY FRIENDS IS A SCHOOL BUS DRIVER AND CUSTODIAN AT ONE OF THE OUTRANO GRAMMAR SCHOOLS. THEY KEEP THEIR BUSES AT THE EUREKA CITY SCHOOLS CORPORATION YARD. HE TOLD ME THAT THE KIDS WHO VANDALIZED THE SCHOOL BUSES AND OTHER EQUIPMENT TO THE TUNE OF SEVERAL THOUSAND DOLLARS WORTH OF DAMAGE WERE BETWEEN THE AGES OF NINE AND TWELVE YEARS OLD. I WAS SHOCKED! WHEN I WAS THAT AGE, ALL I THOUGHT ABOUT WAS WHERE WAS THE NEXT CANDY BAR COMING FROM! JUST GETTING INTO THE CORPORATION YARD HAD TO BE A PROBLEM! WHAT KIND OF LIVES DO THESE KIDS LIVE TO PUT THEM IN SUCH A DESTRUCTIVE ~~WASTEFUL~~? STATE OF MIND? THEN WE HAVE THE THE JERKS WHO THREW THE ROCKS AND OTHER DEBRIS IN THE DAM OUTLET UP IN THE FOREST ABOVE ARCATA. THIS WAS NO "OH, LET'S GO CAUSE SOME TROUBLE" EFFORT! IT TOOK SOME PLANNING AND SPECIAL TOOLS TO GET THE LOCK AND CHAIN CUT AND SOME KNOWLEDGE OF WHAT THE DAMAGES WOULD BE CAUSED BY THROWING DEBRIS ON THE PIPES. THE OFFICER I

TALKED TO WHEN WE HAD OUR LITTLE TASTE OF VANDALISM WAS VERY FRUSTRATED BY THE FACT THAT THEY COULD DO SO LITTLE TO STOP THE VANDALISM, OR THAT, EVEN WHEN THEY CAUGHT THEM, WHAT LITTLE GOOD IT DID WHEN THE PERPS WERE OUT EVEN BEFORE THE OFFICERS FINISHED THEIR PAPER WORK! (DON'T HAVE AN ANSWER, MAYBE MORE CITIZEN PATROLS - MORE LIGHTS AROUND THE SCHOOLS ~~AND~~ MIGHT HELP. WE PUT UP MOTION LIGHTS AT OUR CHURCH TO HELP KEEP PEOPLE OUT OF DARK AREAS. ARE THEY WORKING? I DON'T KNOW BECAUSE I'M NOT THERE LATE AT NIGHT. WE HAD A STREET LIGHT ~~HERE~~ ^{INSTALLED} ~~HERE~~ ACROSS FROM OUR HOUSE AND ALSO IN THE ALLEY AT THE CHURCH. THEY COST US A FEW DOLLARS A MONTH, BUT IT'S WORTH IT. I HOPE YOU ALL HAD A NICE THANKS GIVING. REMEMBER WHEN IT WAS JUST THANKS GIVING. AND THEN WE STARTED ON ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS? THEN THEY STARTED BLACK FRIDAY - STORES OPENING AT 3 AM OR SOME OTHER RIDICULOUS TIME. THEN BLACK FRIDAY STARTED ON THANKS GIVING DAY - 5 OR 6 IN THE EVENING! NOW, WE HAVE CYBER MONDAY. WHAT'S UP WITH THAT? CAN YOU DO THAT ANY MORE? PERSONALLY, I DON'T BUY MUCH ONLINE - THE CLOTTES NEVER FIT AND TOOLS OR OTHER ITEMS - I CAN GET THEM HERE AND ~~SEE~~ ^{KNOW} WHAT I GET. SHOP LOCALLY! OUR BARBERSHOP CHORUS, THE HUM BOLD HARMONIAIRES, WILL BE PERFORMING AT OLD TOWN CHOCOLATES AND COFFEE SHOP ^{IN} OLD TOWN ON "ARTS ALIVE" SAT NIGHT, DEC. 1ST - THEN, WE'LL SCHLEP UP TO THE EVERETT INN TO HELP UNVEIL THE CHRISTMAS TREE - COME AND JOIN US! SIGN OFF.

Dick Johnson 11/28/12