

SIGN ON...

I AM, BY NATURE, A LEAD FOOT. I'VE STRETCHED SPEED LIMITS FOR YEARS, MUCH TO MY WIFE'S DISMAY. I KNEW I'D GET CAUGHT SOME DAY, BUT WHAT THE HECK - I'LL WORRY ABOUT IT THEN. WELL, A FEW YEARS AGO, WE WERE COMING BACK FROM REDDING, OVER BY DOUGLAS CITY, ON THAT NICE WIDE ROAD ALONG THE RIVER, DOING ABOUT 75, MY WIFE ~~TELLING~~^{REMINDED} ME ABOUT THE SPEED LIMIT, WHEN I MET A CHP GOING THE OTHER WAY. HE TURNED A U-EY, SO I JUST PULLED OVER AND WAITED FOR HIM. HE ASKED IF I KNEW HOW FAST I WAS GOING. I SAID YEP. WANT TO SEE IT ON THE RADAR? I SAID NOPE. ~~NO~~ I'LL WRITE YOU UP FOR 63, 30 YOU CAN GO TO SCHOOL AND IT WON'T AFFECT YOUR RECORD. I APPRECIATED THAT, AND HAVE BEEN A GOOD BOY SINCE!!

WHEN I HEAR OR READ ABOUT PROBLEMS WITH EUREKA'S STREETS, I'LL HAVE TO SAY IT'S NOT THE STREETS SO MUCH AS IT IS THE DRIVERS, AND SOMETIMES, EVEN THE PEDESTRIANS. I READ ABOUT THE TWO LAWSUITS FILED AGAINST THE CITY OF EUREKA CONCERNING ^{TWO} SEPARATE ACCIDENTS. THE FIRST ONE CONCERNED THE YOUNG MAN HIT BY A CAR AND KILLED AT CARSON AND J STREETS. ACCORDING TO WHAT I READ, THE BOY WAS STANDING IN THE MIDDLE OF THE STREET, IN THE DARK, FOOLING WITH AN ~~AN~~ ELECTRONIC DEVICE. THE DRIVER, ACCORDING TO THE TIMES-STANDARD, WAS NOT CITED - SO WHY IS IT THE CITY'S FAULT? I DON'T RECALL THE EXACT TERMS OF THE LAWSUIT, BUT IT ACCUSED THE CITY OF NOT

MAINTAINING THE STREET PROPERLY. COMON NOW. HOW HUNGRY IS THE ATTORNEY WHO DREAMED THAT UP? FOR ONE THING, THE AMOUNT OF THE LAWSUIT WASN'T VERY LARGE, AND THE ATTORNEY WOULD GET MOST OF IT. I'M NOT DOWN-PLAYING THE DEATH OF THE YOUNG MAN BY ANY MEANS, BUT AN ACCIDENT IS JUST THAT AN ACCIDENT. THINK OF HOW BAD THE DRIVER MUST FEEL! THEN, THEY ARE TALKING ABOUT CHANGING H AND I STREETS FROM THREE LANES TO TWO LANES. WHAT POSSIBLE GOOD CAN THAT DO? I DRIVE H AND I STREETS EVERY DAY. SOMETIMES YOU WON'T SEE A MOVING VEHICLE AT ALL. OTHER TIMES, YOU'D THINK EVERYBODY IN THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IS ON THE STREET. I PULLED ONTO H STREET ONE MORNING, NOTHING COMING IN MY LANE, AND ABOUT A BLOCK UP H, A SEMI-TRACTOR ROARED UP BEHIND ME AND ALMOST RAN ME OVER. SO- IF THE DRIVERS WOULD SLOW DOWN AND BE MORE COURTEOUS TO OTHER DRIVERS, THAT WOULD CUT OUR STATE-HIGH ACCIDENT RATES DOWN A LOT! AND, WE NEED MORE TRAFFIC OFFICERS. I KNOW THAT, BUDGET-WISE, THAT IS A THORNY ISSUE. IF WE COULD GET RID OF SOME OF THE CRIMINALS THAT KEEP OUR POLICE FORCE SO BUSY, THAT WOULD HELP. OH, WELL, THAT'S A SUBJECT FOR ANOTHER COMMENT. I WAS FORTUNATE TO BE INVITED TO HERB NEELY'S NINETEETH BIRTHDAY PARTY AT BAYWOOD A COUPLE OF SUNDAYS AGO. THE JOINT WAS PACKED WITH FRIENDS AND RELATIVES. HERB WAS MY MECHANIC, AND WE HUNTED, HUNG OUT, CUT FIREWOOD AND MOSTLY WATER SKI'D

FOR LOTS OF YEARS. HAPPY BIRTHDAY HERB!! THE WORD
REMOTE HAS TWO MEANINGS - FAR REMOVED FROM EVERY-
THING, OR AN ELECTRONIC DEVICE THAT SAVES STEPS AND
OTHER IN CONVENIENCES. WE HAVE REMOTES ON LAMPS,
COOL CEILING FANS AND LIGHTS, AND OF COURSE, THE T.V. WHAT
WONDERFUL DEVICES. THANKS TO THOSE WHO INVENTED
AND REFINED THEM!