

1-10-79



# the reactor

by Paul Azevedo

Why is it? I always want to get something or talk to somebody at City Hall on Friday afternoon, when it's closed. Probably for the same reason that I always get a hankering to have a Chinese take-out lunch from Kay Heung No. 2 on Mondays.

Some things I like about Pacifica: The lending library at Allstate Savings. I haven't an account there, and I have never used the library, but it gives me a warm feeling knowing it's there...The new phone booths in front of Brentwood market. They look substantial and useful. I like Pyramid Alternatives. I wish that some of the drunken housewives around town made use of its helpful services.

I LIKE THE drums in the window at Manor Music...I like the "diver below" flag flying above Anderson's Skin Diving, and the American flag that flies above it.

I don't like the dismal portion of Palmetto avenue that will become, I hope, the new KOA Campground. If this is the kind of environment that environmentalists want to save, forget it.

I don't like kids racing their bikes on the sidewalks of shopping centers...or racing bikes on any sidewalks for that matter.

I DON'T LIKE motorcycles, or bikes either, parked on sidewalks. Sidewalks are for walkers. They are not a parking lot.

I like Pacifica sunsets. There is something about reds and grays over blue water that is worth the full price of admission and more.

I like the neat auto repair complex at 1040-1050 Palmetto. The shops are unobtrusive, and relatively clean.

I DON'T LIKE ice plant, that all-pervasive coating along our coastal freeways. Someone called this South African intruder "green death" and I have to agree.

"I don't like the empty lot across from Linda Mar center. It has sat there useless, if you forget Papa Louie's seasonal Christmas trees, for at least 15 years. Even a monthly flea market would put it to use. I will believe the plans for a commuter parking lot on the site when I see the cars parked there, perhaps when my beard is a foot long and completely gray.

I don't like the besotted Santa leaning against Rudolph in the Seavue Realty window. Santa Claus is the symbol of generosity, not inebriation.

I DON'T LIKE graffiti on walls, or smashed eggs against walls...or vandalized windows...or dog dirt on sidewalks (step carefully there).

I like our courteous SamTrans bus drivers...for the most part a pleasant crew. I don't like the bus stop signs that give no scheduling information, or even tell the reader where to call.

Something else I like. The people of Pacifica. We are a varied group, for the most part we aren't rich, but we have a lot going for us in enthusiasm, in our willingness to do what needs to be done, and even in our fights and our divisiveness we reveal our energy and our potential for accomplishment. Happy New Year!