



Paul Azevedo

## The Reactor

### Bet You Didn't Know...

In case you need more questions for your Trivial Pursuit game, this column may come in useful. Herewith are a number of facts, guaranteed to be of no known use.

There are eight universities in the U.S., plus two community colleges, which have more students than Pacifica has population.

The College of San Mateo has more students (15,000) than does Stanford, (12,000).

The smallest county in the U.S. (New York County, New York) is less than three times as large in territory as Pacifica.

Nine states vary in elevation less than 1200 feet. They are Delaware, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Louisiana, Mississippi, Ohio and Rhode Island. Pacifica's highest point, on Sweeney Ridge, is 1200 feet above sea level. Our lowest point, of course, is sea level.

Six nations, Vatican City, (with 1000 population,) Liechtenstein, (26,000), Monaco, (28,000), Nauru, (8000) Tuvalu, (8000) and San Marino (22,000) have smaller populations than Pacifica. Tuvalu, Vatican City, Monaco, and Nauru are all smaller than Pacifica in area. St. Kitts and Nevis, an island nation in the Caribbean, and Andorra, in the Pyrenees mountains between Spain and France, are only slightly larger in population than Pacifica.

Sixteen of California's 58 counties are smaller in population than Pacifica. (There are some counties with less population than Sharp Park.)

Fourteen of Nevada's 16 counties are smaller than Pacifica. Carson City, its state capital, also has less population than Pacifica. It is an independent city, within no county.

Pacifica is larger than 21 of Alaska's 23 census divisions. Sixty of Arkansas' 75 counties are smaller than Pacifica.

At least one U.S. President, Ronald Reagan, has visited and spoken in Pacifica, when he was governor.

With 15/100 of 1 percent of California's population, Pacifica's two bookstores give us a bit more than our share (2/10 of 1 percent).

Most of the lumber used in Pacifica homes came from California, Washington and Oregon.

Pacifica, being on the west side of the San Andreas fault, is a part of the Pacific plate, one of the massive plates that are moving slowly over the earth. San Francisco is on the North American Plate. Pacifica will, in several million years, be hundreds of miles north of San Francisco. In exchange, Los Angeles will be just west of San Francisco. Whether this is a fair exchange is irrelevant.

Pacifica has more streams which deposit waters directly into the ocean than almost any other town or city in California.

The major industry in this area 100 years ago was dairying. Thousands of cows roamed the coastal hills, and were milked twice daily by hand. The milkers came mostly from the Azores and Switzerland.

The top campaign contributor in California campaigns was Assembly Speaker Willie Brown, who gave away \$1.6 million. Jane Fonda was next with \$1.3 million.