

returned I had another inch sitting the waiting for me to remove. I decided to wait until we got that other 6 to 10 inches they forecasted. It looks like it has just started to snow again.

Tomorrow morning I will have to move snow before breakfast. I wonder how much it will really snow.

Today has seemed like a very long day. It seemed like every time I looked at the clock the time had only past five minutes. I watched a movie and event that seemed like it only took 5 minutes. Then I took a nap that seemed like hours and it was only ten minutes. Now it is after ten o'clock and it seems like two weeks have passed today.

I think I will have some hot cocoa and go to bed and sleep it off. Good night!

**08-Jan-10 5:38pm 12°**

I got up late and missed breakfast with the guys. Then I moved some of the snow so Becky could deliver the mail without getting too much snow on her feet. I don't know why I did that. She cuts across the lawn most of the time. All of my mail carrier do that. I guess I just do it to make me feel good.

So after a while I got the snow blower out to do the rest of the snow and I got about eight feet and the belt broke again. That was the third belt since December 9<sup>th</sup>. So rather than fixing it myself I took it to the shop.

Bob came over with his snow thrower and help. In 2 minutes here had more snow removed than I would have had in a half hour by hand. Thanks Bob!

I am having them checking it out to see what it is going to take to fix my snow thrower. It cost me about \$350. And this is its third year so it has only cost me about 33¢ per day. And this is the first trouble I have with it.

I can buy a new one that is gas powered with a 4 stroke gas engine for less than \$400.

After I see what is wrong with this one and what it will cost I will decide if I get a new one this year.

I like to save energy but I would rather have a snow thrower without dragging that cord around. The electric mower would use less energy than gas it the long run. I would use less energy using a cordless gas snow thrower.

In a couple of days I'll see what it will cost to fix this one.

**Slow Down**

I am sure most of you have seen this sign in you travels. I always thought it meant it was the fastest speed that you should be driving and you should do whatever you can to drive this speed or less.



Some times you get distracted and go a little fasted and go faster and might not notice. When you are distracted and not watching your rearview mirror at the same time and the police stop you and seem to be mad at someone it may be because he has been following you for a long time.



Please note this is not a speed sign for going east or west. ©

You should never ask what you were doing wrong. You should not get him any madder even if you are sure you were in the right.

I sorry I am not going to say who I am talking about. The first ticket you ever get can be scary.

Pay the fine and go to driving school and all will be fine.

Driving is a full time job, pay attention!

### 09-Jan-10 10:47am 11°

Wow 9 days of this year already. I hope you people who have made resolutions haven't given up yet. I try not to make them so I do not have to set myself up for failure. I just try to make minor changes as the year progresses.

#### Seen in the Newspaper

Today in the Harold there was story about Jack LaLanne. Do you know he is 95 years old and still going strong?

*For you who do not know Jack LaLanne, he is an American fitness, exercise, nutritional expert, and motivational speaker who has been called "the godfather of fitness". He has published numerous books on fitness and hosted a fitness television show between 1951 and 1985. He gained recognition for his success as a bodybuilder, as well as his prodigious feats of strength. He has been inducted to the California Hall of Fame and has a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.*

Source: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jack\\_LaLanne](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jack_LaLanne)

I remember watching him on the TV when I was a kid and more recently on his info commercials selling his juicer. If he is 95 and looking that good I best get on the stick if I am going to live to 154 years old.



### New Birthdays

No not today these are added to the list. Tom H on December 1<sup>st</sup> and Tom's dad on November 1<sup>st</sup>. I will add to the list today.

### Words of Wisdom

I have been getting a newsletter from Dick Sutphen for a long time. There are always some words to get you thinking. In this week is no different. I thought I would share this with you.

### REPLACING ILLUSIONS

You live in an illusion created by the way you view what happens to you. The illusion is the result of all your previous experiences being projected into the current situation.

There is a Zen story about a man who was sitting in the middle of the road drawing his arms forward and back as if rowing a boat.

Since he was blocking the road, a traveler asked him, "What are you doing? Are you crazy?"

"I'm rowing a boat," replied the man. "I have room for you if you want to join me."

"But there is no boat," said the traveler.

"No boat? Oh my God, we'd better start swimming," replied the panicked man.

When you finally realize the illusion, do not immediately create another one. It is time to explore what is -- what is reality and what is illusion, what can be changed and what cannot be changed. It is time to recognize the difference.

In a dim light you might see a length of rope lying on the ground and believe it to be a snake. The snake is not real, but your mind projects the fear as real. Naturally, you respond to the fear. Maybe you tremble. Maybe you run and fall. You could even have a heart attack and die. But all the while there was never any snake at all. You created and projected it into reality.

It follows that your familiar world is not real. It is simply your projection of the world, which is why the eastern mystics call it maya -- an illusion. Yes, the world exists but your mind distorts it and creates great misunderstandings. Your conscious beliefs about philosophy, relationships and society confuse it further, and your deeper beliefs about who and what you are blur reality even more.

If your mind is wrong, maybe no-mind is right. No-mind would be a matter of ceasing to compare one thing or person to another. No division. No prejudice. No judgment. No blame. It would mean you accept unalterable realities (what is). There would be no past and no future -- only now.



Meditate upon comparisons and illusions and how they could affect the manifestation of your desires.  
 Web Site: <http://www.dicksutphen.com/html/webcol402.html>  
 Source: Newsletter from Dick Sutphen

**JUST FOR GRINS**

"Wine is necessary for a man so that he can have a good opinion of himself...undisturbed by the facts." Finley Peter Dunne (1867-1936)  
 Writer and Humorist  
 URL: <http://www.eckraus.com>  
 Source [winemaking@eckraus.com](mailto:winemaking@eckraus.com) Newsletter

**10-Jan-10 4:48pm 10°**

Well today is 01-10-10 unlike 10 days ago when it was 01-01-10. And the temperature is 10° too. ☺

I am sure you are excited about that. You are aren't you?

**Swiss Army Knife**

Ten or fifteen years ago my Swiss Army knife needed to be repaired and I set it aside to take care of later. The other day I noticed it was still laying there. I knew that it had a life time warranty and I found the receipt dated 1992. So I packaged it up along the \$3.00 to get it fixed. Tomorrow I will mail it off to New York to get fixed.

Back in 1992 it was \$3.00 and today it is still just \$3.00 to get it fixed. Why can't they do that for car, computers, washing machines, and whatever?

I wonder what else I could get from the Swiss Army.

Get this; you can get Swiss Army knives, cutlery, travel gear, camping gear, and time pieces. But did you know they also have fragrances? Yes I guess even if you you to smell like the Swiss Army.

**11-Jan-10 6:18pm 21°**

**Swiss Army Knife update**

I mailed it out today to get fixed. I looked up what it would cost to buy a new one today. It is about \$72 dollars. I only paid \$22 in 1992. It just cost me about 6 dollars to send it in to be repaired. Considered I haven't used it in years because of the loose blade and when it comes back I won't be able to take it anywhere because it is a knife and it would be concealed. Is this a good investment? Oh well!

**From the INBOX**

I received this in an email from Bill and I thought you may like it.

**OH HELL YEAH!**

*Love This Comeback !!!!!*

*One of my sons serves in the military. He is still stateside, here in California. He called me yesterday to let me know how warm and welcoming people were to him and his troops everywhere he goes, telling me how people shake their hands and thank them for being willing to serve and fight for not only our own freedoms, but so that others may have them also.*

*But he also told me about an incident in the grocery store that he stopped at yesterday on his way home from the base. He said that ahead of several people in front of him stood a woman dressed in a burkha.*

*He said when she got to the cashier she loudly remarked about the U.S. flag lapel pin the cashier wore on her smock. The cashier reached up and touched the pin, and said proudly, 'Yes, I always wear it and probably always will..'*

*The woman in the burkha then asked the cashier when she was going to stop bombing her countrymen, explaining that she was Iraqi. ;*

*A gentleman standing behind my son stepped forward.. Putting his arm around my son's shoulders and nodding towards my son, he said in a calm and gentle voice to the Iraqi woman: "Lady, hundreds of thousands of men and women like this young man have fought and died so that YOU could stand here, in MY country and accuse a check-out cashier of bombing YOUR countrymen. It is my belief that had you been this outspoken in YOUR own country, we wouldn't need to be*

there today.

*But, hey, if you have now learned how to speak out so loudly and clearly, I'll gladly buy you a ticket and pay your way back to Iraq so you can straighten out the mess in YOUR country that you are obviously here in MY country to avoid.*

*Everyone within hearing distance cheered!"*

*IF YOU AGREE \_\_\_\_ Pass this on to all your proud American friends.*

*Source: email from Bill*

## **12-Jan-10 11:32am 31°**

I went out to get the mail and I noticed I forgot about the snow drifting the other day and Becky had to walk through a foot of snow to get the mail in my box. I see it was the third time. Sorry Becky! The snow is gone now.

Thinking about snow, they called about my snow thrower. It looks like it is beyond repair. The bearing in the housing will not stay in place. The housing is plastic and the housing it all most the same as saying the whole thing.

Yes it is time for a new snow thrower. I like the idea of using an electric snow thrower because they are less noisy and use a lot less energy.

The drawback for me is this one is a little small and I had to drag the cord around. Using the cord I kind of had to do it all twice. If I go a long ways I would have to back track to get the cord out of the way. If I would just use it like a vacuum cleaner I would still the same area 2 or 3 times.

Since this is my third season I have learned it is not the best tool for my driveway and sidewalk. It did a nice job but with light snow it took the same time with a shovel.

It is time for a gas power snow thrower. Tomorrow I will see what they have to replace it.

### **In the News**

I read this in the paper then heard it on the radio. Maybe you didn't hear it so I copied it from the internet just for you.

#### ***Tacoma bloodmobile offers beer to blood donors*** **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

*TACOMA, Wash. -- A Tacoma-based blood center offers donors a deal: Give a pint of blood, get a pint of beer. Cascade Regional Blood Services says the promotion has worked so well at six Tacoma pubs and breweries; it's expanding its "Give blood, get beer" offer to its bloodmobile for pubs in Federal Way and Steilacoom. Cascade's director of donor resources, Dan Schmitt, says it's a fun way to get more donors, and it's good for the restaurants as well.*

*The News Tribune of Tacoma reports donors who are at least 21 years old are given a coupon for a free pint of beer. The pub must wait at least four hours after the blood drive ends before donors can cash in on their free pint.*

Source:

[http://www.seattlepi.com/local/6420ap\\_wa\\_beer\\_for\\_blood.html](http://www.seattlepi.com/local/6420ap_wa_beer_for_blood.html)

### **George Score**

My George score is now 574.22. I am still using WheresGeorge.com. 3.7% of the George's I have been spotted. Are any of you using WheresGeorge.com people?



### **Weather Forecast**

Thinking about buying a new snow thrower this late in the season I wondered

