

Earl's Diary - Thursday - February 21, 2013

Dear Readers, One and All

I had an interesting day yesterday. In the morning I called my friend Christine (in Stockton). A cold area had marched down and through California the day before. That storm system then moved right over most of Arizona. Yesterday morning when I woke up, I noticed it had rained. All during the day we also had brief showers here in Sun City.

I was invited to Greg and Janea -----home in Arizona. (You have previously been introduced to Greg and Janea. They are just up the road from Phoenix about 20 miles, on I-17.) I left Sun City, heading north at 3:15. Along the way the sun was half in, and half out. As I looked northward, I could see dark black clouds ahead. As I got closer, the roads were wet (just like it had rained). No worries, however. I was cruising along at 55 mph. Suddenly when I was about 1/4 mile from I-17, I noticed snow on the ground AND on the roadway. The change was so drastic. It was like a line between snow on the ground, and no snow on the ground. It was just like someone had dumped a pail of snow from up above. Oh boy! I thought. What have I gotten myself into?

I immediately took the truck out of cruise control and slowed way down. Looking ahead, traffic on the freeway was crawling along. The snow was about 2 to 3 inches deep. The travel lanes appeared to be clear, but wet, just like melting snow. I continued on and entered the freeway with all the rest of the traffic. At some point I said to myself, you need to turn around and go home. Fortunately snow was NOT falling when I was traveling through the accumulation. It sure hadn't been long before when it stopped falling however! The turn-off was a mere 3 miles up the road, so I continued on. As soon as I got to the turn-off the snow was gone. It had started to melt already! I made it without further incident.

I spent a delightful 4 hour evening with the Greg and Janea just visiting. I was a little apprehensive about returning to Sun City. However, once on the road again, all the roads were clear and no sign of snow! Wow! That was quite an experience! I have since learned that snow in the Phoenix area is a very rare sight indeed!

Today I am just relaxing, doing nothing. Everyone's off on their very busy schedules. I assured them I was capable of entertaining myself. I may even go to another movie later this afternoon. That would be 3 in one week!!!! I have heard *The Life of Pi* is supposed to be pretty good. We'll see about that.

Thanks for coming along with me. In the meantime here are a few photos (of the many I found) of the snow in Phoenix. The deeper accumulations seemed to have occurred in a limited band. Sun City didn't get any snow at all. Bye for now - - Earl

A "heads up" -- These are not my photos. I found them on the internet. I sure wouldn't have had time to stop and take pictures. It appeared that most of the photos were taken from Scottsdale - that's a little southeast of downtown Phoenix.

