



FRIDAY FOLLIES

June 24, 2005



Hey!

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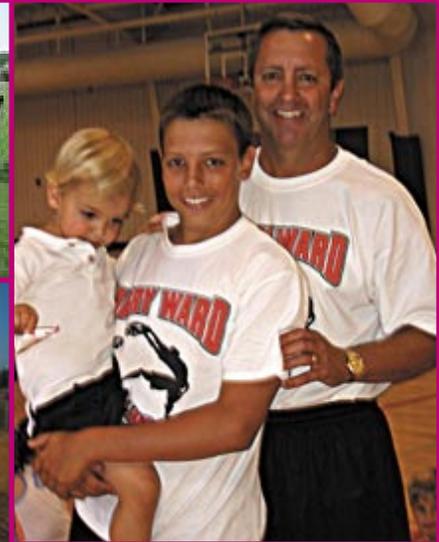
It has been the nicest couple of weeks! Even when you work full-time, year-round, summer just takes on a different feel. Folks are gone from the office on vacation, shorter hours for twelve month employees, it is so hot you simply have to move a bit slower, and where I work, the students and the teachers are all gone and the summer programs and camps have started...it is just nice. The only hard part is when they all come rolling back in in September - tanned, rested, recharged - and those of us who have been planning the next year all summer are exhausted, pale, and ready for a break. Ha! Such is life...



Well, elections, or rather primaries, were last week. I had several very dear friends running for several positions throughout the state. Pictured here are my great friends Leo and Gloria with a bunch of their "crew" having a quiet dinner after the "Victory Party." Most of my other friends won, too, so it was a nice evening.

The "Victory Party" was great for me - in and of itself! There were so many people there that I care about, but for obvious reasons, I have not been around for a while. It was just very cool! I truly, truly enjoyed myself!

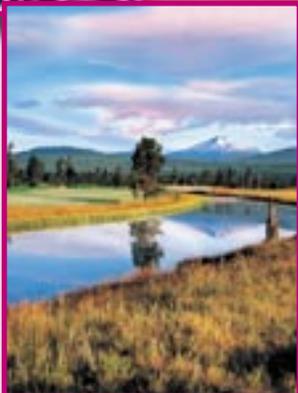




And here are some great photos I took this week for our website at work. These little cherubs were enrolled in summer camps for basketball and lacrosse. Hey! Break out the camera and see what happens! Even with the big kids! They were just hilarious (and precious...) I love what I do!

Also, this past week my nephew, Andrew, my brother's youngest son (of three), got married to Laura. I was there in spirit, guys... They will be stationed in Fort Bragg, North Carolina, only a few hours away from here. I am so glad they are close and cannot wait for them to visit. I hope to have a few photos of the wedding to show, soon...and of Jeremy and Jessica in their father's wedding! Man - doesn't the whole world have digital by now? (Ha! Since that is all I work with - I get terribly impatient! Forgive me!) Miss my family terribly, but everyone is fine and Jeremy is back safely in the high desserts of Oregon.

This weekend was great - well part of it. Everyone has bad days, right? Sunday was not so bright for me - for whatever reason - never did figure out why. Just had "the blues" for no apparent reason. Anyway, Saturday was awesome! My violin teacher, Charlotte, came to the house to give me my lesson and after, we packed up and went to the beach. She is from Canada and has only lived in the area for two years. She lives in Norfolk and had never been to Virginia Beach before. We got to the beach at 11 and thought about getting up and going to the Boardwalk Art Show - HUGE event this year - but never even made it back to the house until 5:30. We just had a blast talking, sleeping, people watching, and yakking.



I had another friend call me to go "night fishing" Saturday evening with he and a buddy - but I was just too wiped out! Thanks, Man! Hope you caught tons! Maybe another time.



Gandy has had a tough few weeks. I thought again two weeks ago I was going to have to put him down and even talked with Doc Wood about it. But God Bless Him! He always rallies! For a week I had to CARRY this 90 pound dog up and down the stairs to go "outside". Then, all of a sudden, he was fine. Trust me, this dog has been too much a member of the family...for me to be selfish and keep him while he is suffering would be so wrong! I watch him carefully... I have twice thought it was time to put him down, and then he is fine for several weeks or a month after. I know in my heart that it will not be long, though. But, Sincerely, as long as he smiles at me and wags that big white tail-flag, and gets excited about taking a walk...he is here!

Now, interesting - look what I found! Awesome! If you have an old dog that is having trouble with his hips...go get a food and water dish like this. It sits up on a pedestal, and he does not have to bend over to eat and drink. I swear, it has made a HUGE difference for him. His little legs, hips, eyes, and ears are just about GONE, but when he saw that dish, and I told him it was for him, that tail went way high and started wagging! (He is so sweet...)



I had a friend drop by today at work. Mary now lives in Washington state with her husband and two children, and I have not seen her since - what - 1998? She was my children's baby sitter and also their after school caregiver at work for YEARS! Her babies were just that when she moved from the area - babies! Look at them now! It was really nice to see her, and I know JJ and Jess will love this photo.



OK, bare with me! I had a little time to paint over the past two weeks, but not as much as I would have liked. Here is the third pass at "Morning Coffee" that I showed you a couple of weeks ago. I am proud of myself for *really* taking my time, showing some discipline, studying the painting, and trying to learn how to do the detail. It is far, far from finished, but it is moving along.

Then I started this one for the laundry room. The colors are just blocked in at the moment, but I really think I am gonna like it.



To all of you on my Friday Follies List, whether you are in Manila, Singapore, Kuwait, Bermuda, Virginia Beach, Mississippi, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Minnesota, Indiana, Colorado, Philadelphia, Key West, New Jersey, North Carolina, Indonesia, Washington D.C., Iraq, Costa Rica, Maryland, West (By-God) Virginia, Nashville, Florida, Chattanooga, New York, Oregon, Maine, Australia, Europe, or Yuma, have a wonderful, wonderful week!

God bless.
Remember, life is short...
We need to make it a good one.
Grow in peace and wisdom.

Your Friday Friend,

Judi Godsey



PS. NOTE OF CAUTION... 20 employees were fired from The New York Times here in Norfolk for sending lewd and indecent emails. (To my knowledge, none of the 20 were on our joke list - even though some of the attorneys who represent the company were!) I have asked each and every one of you on this list to tell me if the jokes that accompany these "Follies" place you in jeopardy, or even if they offend you. Please understand that they are intended to be light-hearted and are not mean-spirited in any way. If you are ever offended, do not hesitate to ask to be taken off the Friday Follies Joke List. PSS. If you send a joke and I don't use it, it is because it has been used before, and I try not to repeat. Remember, I have been sending these since August of 1997. One tends to go through huge numbers of jokes that way. Disclaimer: When anyone asks if I type all of these jokes, the answer is, "No!" I cut and paste one evening during the week (30 minutes, TOPS). Obviously I don't have time to sit, read, and retype jokes all day!