

FRIDAY FOLLIES

September 17, 2010



Hey!

September 17, 2010

I think this may be the longest I have gone since 1997 without doing the Friday Follies! There are so many reasons, I cannot even list them all here. A few: left my job after 25 years and packed up my office; got my house ready to sell and got a contract on it with in the first week; got within days of it closing and the contract fell through; within 24 hours had a new and better contract and it should close before the end of the month; packed up, threw out, organized; found a place in the same neighborhood to rent; moved; got settled; got insurance, disability, and part-time work straightened out; blew up my computer; got it fixed (semi) then discovered all of the software on it was gone (they saved the data, thank Heavens); had to buy and/or reinstall all of the software; and am still noticing gaps in everything. (Not a day goes by that I do not look for something and it is not there. Ha!)



Missed you, missed you, missed you, missed you, missed you!
Sooo, anyway -- here is my new house!!!

It truly feels odd renting again after having my own place, but it is fine. The house is very nice, and I love being in the same neighborhood. With all of the other major life changes, I figured if I could stay in the same neighborhood, it would be less stressful. Also, with the first week, several things broke or went wrong, and it was so nice to be able to just let the landlord know and have it taken care of.

It is a bit smaller than my place was, but that is OK, too. I needed to downsize a bit, anyway. I am very comfortable and know I am going to be happy here. My family actually likes this house better. I am just having to get used to having "rooms" again. My other floor plan was all open throughout. I actually have a separate living and dining room in this house. I am liking that. Also, all of the bedrooms are upstairs. I was so spoiled having the master suite downstairs, but this is a great set-up. I get my exercise, and when I turn in for the day, it really is like a separate complex upstairs.

I also have to admit that my "stuff" looks really nice here. My son paid me the biggest compliment without even realizing it. After he helped me move in and I was getting kinda settled, he said he really liked this house and was surprised at how nice it looked. He said before I got in and arranged, the house looked kind of "dated," but the way I "put things together" it looked really great - very warm and cozy. I thought coming from a young man, that was very observant and sweet.





Since the dining room is right off the kitchen and there is also a counter-top bar between the family room and the kitchen, I decided to use the breakfast area for my desk. I am loving having my roll top handy in the kitchen! My "office" is upstairs. It helps to have a separate place to actually "go to work." Anyway, I like the set-up and having the family room and kitchen all together in one big space is nice.

Oh, I also decided to use my own art work throughout the house. They all look pretty good! There are only a few spaces in the entire house with prints and signed pieces from others. Oh, and the painting over the fireplace - that one was commissioned of a previous student who is actually legally blind. He has won numerous prestigious awards for his works.





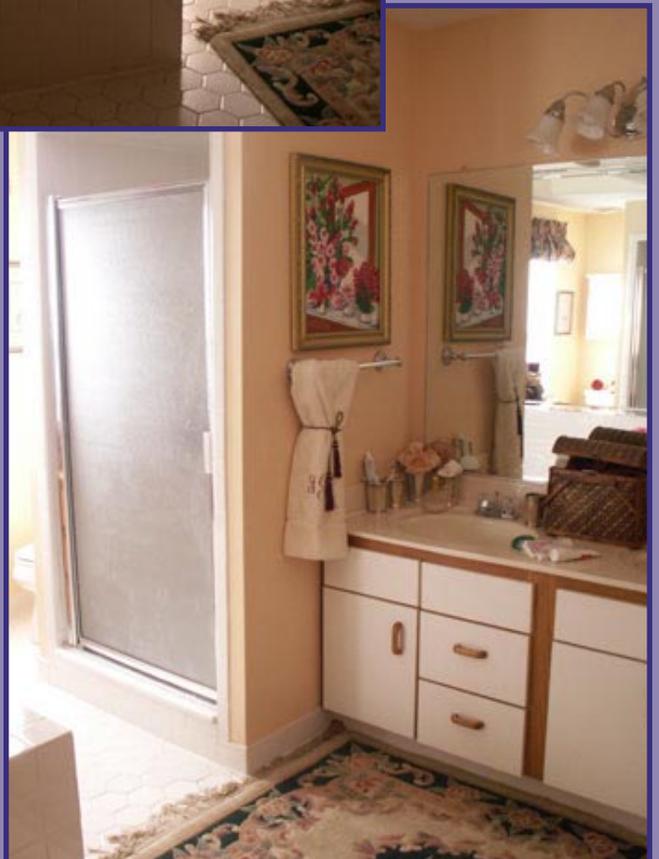
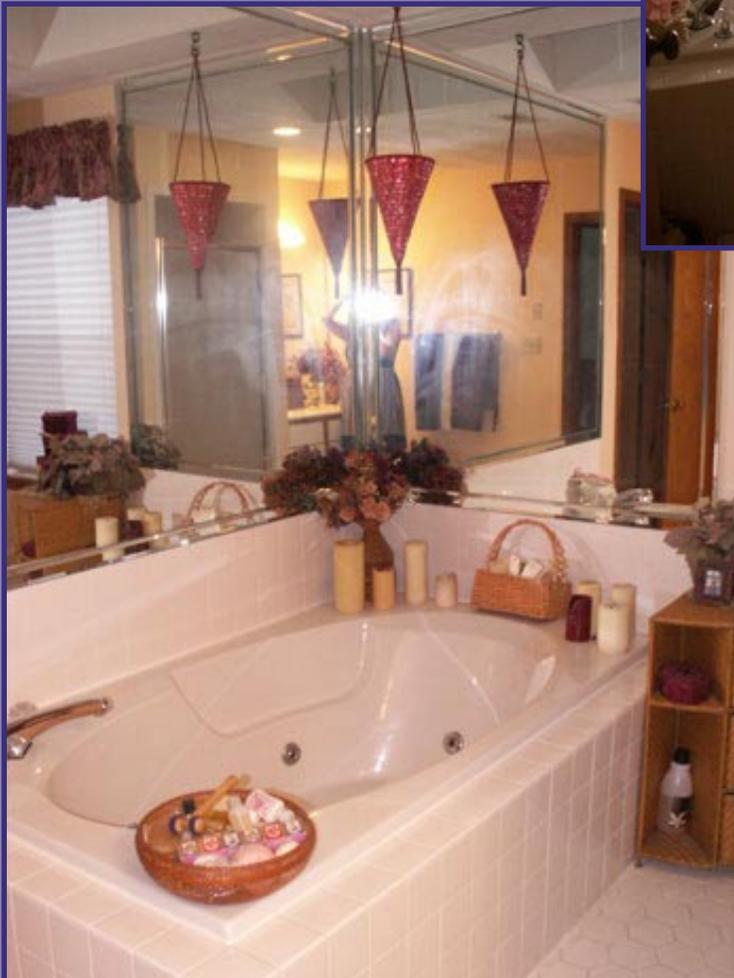
This house also has tons of hallways, landings, pass throughs, and entry ways. I've tried to make the most of those.

One of my favorite rooms in the house is my bedroom. It is very large and has high vaulted ceilings with three sky lights. I also put my electric fireplace in there by my seating area. Should be a really special place to sit and read the paper in the winter months.





And my master bathroom is "to die for"
- complete with a walk-in closet close by.





The study has turned into kind of a "catch-all guest room." All of my memorabilia and goofy stuff is on display in there, as well as it being my "at-home-work-area."

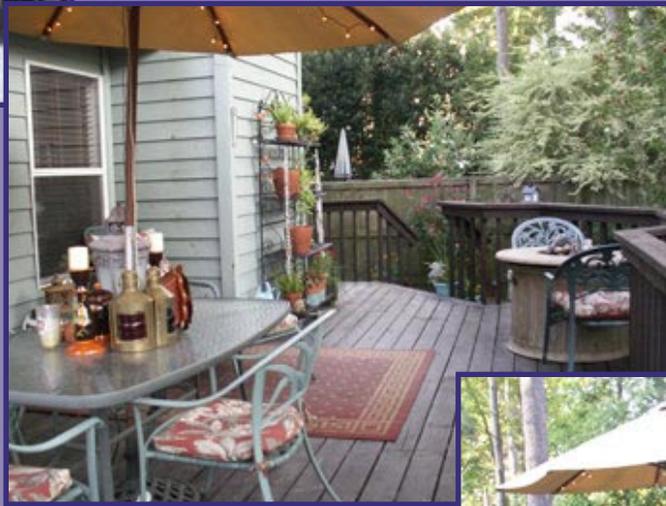


The second bedroom has come together nicely, and even though these photos do not show it, there is even an area where I have a crib set up for baby Kai. It is a functional room and will look better when I finish decorating! None of these rooms are really finished yet... but it is a good start! The guest bathroom is huge and I really like the way it turned out.





The back yard is tiny (will be hard to find garden space next spring, but I will) and it has a super-nice deck. All of the neighboring yards have tall hardwood and pine trees, so Ollie is in HEAVEN back there. He sits and watches the squirrels all day long! One draw back, though, is there is no place for him to get out from the weather. The side door to the garage opens in front of the backyard fence. I am looking into changing that. He simply has to be able to get out of the elements.



A few odds and ends this week, too.

Since the other house has not closed yet and is just a block away, I walk over and harvest my garden from time to time. It is still producing. I have not had much time to can anything, though...



Next is a photo of the beautiful calm sky after "Earl" passed by.

And the final are two photos from the beach. I had never seen anything like this before. This little seagull sat on the sand and watched patiently as two surfers set up their stuff, waxed their boards, and then headed to the water. As soon as they left the site... this little "lurker" tiptoed over to their spot and proceeded to try to open their plastic bag from the grocery store! Hilarious! Also, I guess kinda sad that even seagulls associate plastic bags with food...

I have added a KAI page for you! He has grown so much! Hopefully I will be able to write again very soon! Still lots of news to tell!

Love to all!





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, Lake Tahoe, Philadelphia, Key West, New Jersey, North Carolina, Indonesia, Washington D.C., Iraq, Costa Rica, Poland, Maryland, West (By-God) Virginia, Nashville, Florida, Saudi Arabia, New Hampshire, Tampa, Chattanooga, France, Phoenix, New York, Oregon, Russia, Maine, Australia, Bangkok, 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 Greenhaw Godsey