

# FRIDAY FOLLIES

OCTOBER 19, 2007



Hey!

October 19, 2007

Short and sweet this week. Crazy, busy week. October for most not-for-profit organizations is very hectic. It is the month they usually hold their Phonathons, festivals, you name it. Everyone in my department ought to get a bonus this month - I am serious. Working three nights a week all month (in addition to regular hours), all day this Saturday and an evening party last weekend. Just plain tired! Actually dragging! Like I said - very glad I decided not to hold my traditional Halloween party this year. I may have to plan something for a bit later in the year, though, when things at work calm down a bit.

The weather is still ridiculously hot - in the mid 80s today! And I am still hauling in vegetables from the garden. Just look at all of this! I guess I am not complaining. I love it and love the canning - but I MISS my FALL! The leaves are simply turning brown and dropping off the trees. Very sad.

I did splurge this past week, though, and bought myself a birthday present. I figured since I wasn't going to have the party, I would buy myself a couple of things I wanted. First was the iPhone, and second was this lovely little electric fireplace. I just adore it. Puts out a good bit of heat, too. I always thought they were kinda "cheesy," but it really doesn't look that bad. It took me three hours to put the thing together, but once I did, boom - plugged her in and there she was!

She has a thermostat and a remote control, too. Right now, I just turn on the flame with no heat - for atmosphere, ya know?

I have it in the "bird room." I figured if I left it on low this winter while I am at work, I could turn down the heat in the rest of the house and save on energy and money. Actually, now I have 3 fireplaces - an electric, gas, and wood burning! I guess whatever suits my needs at the time, right? I like a big roaring fire when I have time to build one and stay home in front of it, but in the mornings before work, when I read the paper and sip my coffee, this little baby will be just fine.

Notice I swapped out the painting over the mantel? I really have not rearranged the room yet, so am experimenting with different looks. Since I put it together on Sunday, I have worked non-stop and have not had a chance to get back to it.



The 20th Annual Town Point Virginia Wine Festival is this weekend in Norfolk as well as the Stokley Garden Art show and numerous other attractions. The Admirals (our AAA hockey team) have their season opener this weekend, too. I just can't believe it is going to be so hot! It is just strange. I mean, I had a date in Norfolk this past weekend and it was cool and pleasant. It is just so unpredictable right now.

No, this is not my date! This is my little buddy, Andrew, who is not so little anymore. Remember he is the one who used to come into my office after school wearing his full football uniform - pads, helmet, cleats, everything to just "shoot the breeze" with me after school. We laugh so hard about that now. He had such a crush - and I mean he did this for YEARS! He attends another school now, but still pops in to see me periodically - no football uniform, though. Get this, the last time he stopped in to visit me, he had his hand in a bandage. He said that right after that, it got infected and he was in the hospital for almost three weeks with one of the new strains of Staph infections. He almost died! There was an article in the paper this week about the new "Superbugs." One high school student in the area actually died from it! Very frightening. Andrew's hand became infected when some kid in the gym tossed a pencil and the lead got stuck in his knuckle. He said the pencil was just standing there - erect - on his hand! He pulled it out and never thought anything about it - just as none of us would. Man! Anyway, he is fine, and smiling, and healthy again.



Another friend moved from the area this week! They are simply dropping like flies! This one, Nancy, actually retired and is following with her husband, a Naval Officer, to the DC area. Geeze, I have so many friends who have relocated to that area, maybe I ought to take a closer look! Ha! Nope! WAY too expensive for me. Plus, I like my Virginia Beach!

I made a mistake last week when I said Jeremy was starting right away at the Westin. I think it is the first of the month. It is a beautiful new hotel here in the heart of our new downtown area. He is really getting excited. Jessica is coming to some closure with her student teaching, too, so maybe after this week we will get to see each other more. October for all of us has just been a BLUR! Another friend of mine, Amanda (not the trainer), is graduating from nursing school tomorrow night. That is honorable, yes? I am going to the ceremony! Sooo proud of her!

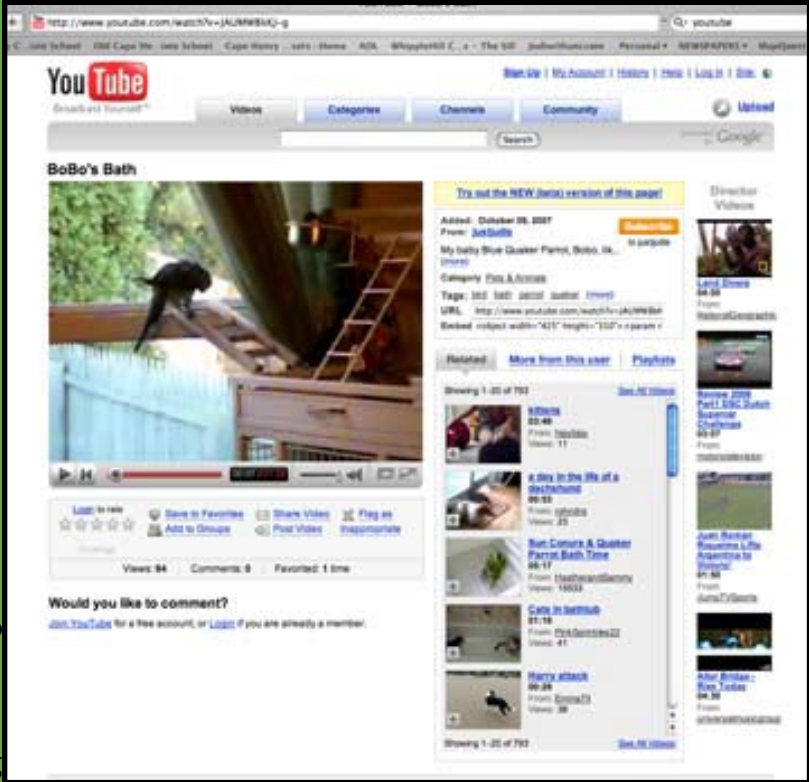
I also wanted to say, "Thank you" to so MANY of you who forwarded the video about the dancing bird to me. I am sure I watched it fifty





times and just laughed out loud each time that I did. I think it is probably one of the cutest animal videos I have ever seen. If you have not seen it, here is the web address. It is a precious Cockatoo who has *taught himself* how to dance - and dance - he DOES!

<http://birdloversonly.blogspot.com/2007/09/may-i-have-this-dance.html>



My little YouTube experiment did not work too well. I mean, I got the movie on the site and hundreds said they viewed it and left comments. The YouTube site is showing about 95 or so that have viewed it and there are no comments except mine... so I guess I did something wrong. Probably checked a wrong box somewhere. There were even many folks that said they rated it with 4 & 5 stars. No ratings are showing up. I will continue to experiment. It is just a silly video, but what a fun way to learn!

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JAUMW8kKJ-g>

There was an article in the paper this week about Happy Slip! Just hysterical! This is a local lady, probably early twenties I am guessing, who is a nurse/wannabe actress and has become a huge celebrity. Well, not HUGE, but semi-celebrity. She started a Vblog a year ago and now has a HUGE following as she posts new video weekly. She even won sixth place in the YouTube Awards this year (or something like that.) She is actually very clever and very good at what she does. She will be picked up by someone soon. I am surprised she has not been picked up by Apple already. She is a living, breathing advertisement for Macs. If you have not seen her stuff, you have to! Really cute. Just do a search for "Happy Slip." Very clever, indeed.

My friend Stephanie just got back from her honeymoon in Hawaii and sent lots of great photos. We still need to meet, but it is kinda cool having such a close friend that you have never met, ya know? She turned into a bird lover in Hawaii, too. She and her new hubby are thinking about getting a big bird! I have 14 (although not big birds) I would be willing to give away! (smile)



Have not heard from the students in Poland recently, but my friend Susan moved to Bangkok and wrote a note this past week. She is amazing! She lived in the Philippines when they were having trouble and her school even had to dismiss at odd times everyday to protect the President's children. Then she moved from that hot bed to Kuwait just as the war started to heat up over there -- then to Saudi Arabia and lost several of her teachers who were on holiday in Asia during the Tsunami, and now has moved to Bangkok just as trouble erupts in what used to be known as Burma. I don't know if she is following the trouble or if the trouble is following her, but trust me, her emails are always interesting! Maybe I will share sometime.



Roman was in town this week, but I did not get to see him. I ended up having to work, of course, and he flew in and right out again after the event.



I have a new grand nephew who is due to be born on October 24. I was hoping it would be on my birthday, but I guess you can't rush these things. It is my brother's son's new son. They have already picked out the name and his initials will be the same as my father's. W.C.G. VERY cool! So excited about that!



OK. I know there is more, but I really have to get going. Lots of things to do and veggies to cook and can. (smile)  
My website was "down" for several days this week due to a problem with the server, but is back up again. Because of that, the stats are all screwed up. (You know how I love looking at website stats...) Anyway - even with that, the following countries have logged on this month: United States, Canada, Israel, Brazil, China, Poland, Czech Republic, Great Britain, Germany, Austria, and unknown. Really interesting stuff.

One last thing. I am thinking seriously about exhibiting and selling a few paintings and some canned goods the Saturday after Thanksgiving. If you are local, mark your calendar and come see all of us.

"The TWN Fall Women's Show benefitting CHKD, Saturday, November 24, 2007, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. at the Fraternal Order of Police Clubhouse, Corner of Birdneck Road and General Booth Blvd. (Continue on Birdneck Road past General Booth and gas station on corner, FOP is on right.)

Get Your Holiday Shopping Done Early- Find Unique Gifts for those People who are Hard to Buy For: Art, Paintings, Photography, Needlework, Hand painted items for the home, Services, Baskets All Natural Soaps, Candles, Jewelry, Pet Gifts, Hand Made Purses, Skin Care, Personalized Items and much, much more!"

Sounds like fun, huh?

Pray for our men and women overseas - that they may return to us safe, soon, and successful!

Oh! One more quick thing... I do a good bit of ghost writing, and I wrote this for someone this week. I kinda liked the concept I came up with and wanted to share it with you. It is still just in draft form, but will show you some of the things I really do... Maybe...?

## Investment And The *Bank of Knowledge*

Formal education and life experiences allow us daily to make deposits in our *Bank of Knowledge*. These deposits accumulate rapidly as they are made continuously from birth until our death. Our personal accounts in the *Bank of Knowledge* are what allow us to manage our lives in an effective and productive manner, drawing on the interest earned for our individual needs.

As the balance of our deposits increases, and our accumulation of knowledge grows exponentially, our personal accounts enrich our lives, and in turn, allow us to make even more deposits into our safe, secure vault.

Some individuals decide along the way they no longer need to make deposits in this all-important *Bank*, then find their personal accounts bankrupt with all useful knowledge wasted or squandered away, never really invested in anything of value.

Then, there are many who travel through life continually depositing into their personal accounts and using only the knowledge needed at the moment to help “get by.” Modest withdrawals may be all they think are needed, and may even make them feel secure, but soon they learn that just as with money, knowledge is useless unless it is shared.

If great treasures sit in a crypt and are never discovered or passed on, of what use are they? It is as if they do not exist. The same can be said of knowledge. If knowledge goes to the grave with its owner and can no longer be passed on to the next generation, of what use is it? What purpose has it served?

Depositing in the *Bank of Knowledge* and then periodically making significant withdrawals and investing them in the betterment of our fellow man, helps to insure that the *Universal Bank of Knowledge* continues to enhance life for all.

Therefore, it is imperative to invest in yourself, your family, your community, and your world. Use your knowledge to build instead of destroy. Use it to solve instead of stagnate. Use it to heal and help instead of hurt and hinder. Use it to feed and nurture instead of deprive and deny.

Knowledge truly is power. Be invested in it and in using your great wealth for the common good. Unlike money, once knowledge is given away, it does not ever leave its owner. It is one of the rare commodities of life that can be split and transferred without any loss of dividends, meanwhile endowing and enlightening all who possess it.

Judi Godsey



*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, 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 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!