



FRIDAY FOLLIES

November 3, 2006

Hey!

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Well, I hope your Halloween and all of the events leading up to it were a smash! I just think it is such a cool holiday. For adults, too! And having a party makes you get all of the little things you need to get completed around the house finished. TaDa - Done!

I decorated every room, got someone to help me move furniture around that I had been wanting moved for ions, cooked, cleaned, and simply had a blast. I always *over* do, though. I always plan too much food. But that is OK. At least I have gotten smart enough over the years to plan things that can be frozen. I guess I will be having meatballs, pasta, ham, and eggplant and squash casserole from now until the Super Bowl! Fine with me! LOL!

The really neat thing to me, though, and I know you think I am crazy - is that almost everything I served I grew in my garden this summer. All of the veggies and herbs were cooked and canned and then prepared for the party. I just LOVE doing that. And to see someone close their eyes and go, "Mmmm," when they taste it just thrills me to death. Hey! It's the simple things in life... Ya know?

One thing I learned about having a party at night is that the decorations do not have to be expensive. It is amazing what a string of lights can do for the "atmosphere." So, I literally had colored lights all over the house.

Photos on this page show different areas and the one right above here on the left shows my study (my Forest Gump Room) after the treadmill was moved to the guest bedroom and I could finally - after ten months - straighten up and redecorate that room. I simply could not move it by myself. To get it out of that room and into the next, the handle bars actually had to be removed, and I had no clue what kind





of wrench it would take. I had never seen anything like it. Anyway, that is done now and my upstairs is basically complete.

Folks always enjoy poking around up there. The Forest Gump Room really is a riot. I will paint it and a couple of other rooms this winter - but not in any hurry.

I also completed the garage and had the beer, wine, and desserts out there. That was a mistake! Dale, my friend who helps me with the parties, and I agreed that I would not do that again. Beer outside in the frig, yes, but everything else inside. It was just too spread out and people were congregating everywhere. One minute they would be there and the next they would be out in the garage or in the backyard on the deck or upstairs. It was just kinda funky. I like it better when "command central" is near the kitchen and the food. Live and learn.

It was also interesting because so many of the folks who were out of town last year were in town this year and visa versa. It was almost a totally different crowd. That was fun.

And as with EVERY party, there were some choice moments that will be talked about forever! Just too funny and too personal to go into here.

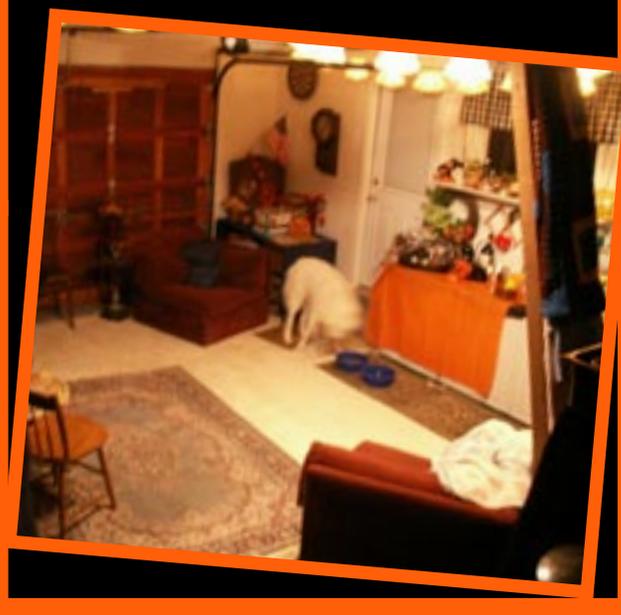
Two of my very best friends were also having parties that night and a few of our guests, but not many, were cross overs. I know their parties were great, too. We have GOT to plan this better next year so that we can make it to each others' events.





One couple was so upset that we had done it again this year, that they ordered a surprise for me. When I got up at 5:00 a.m. Saturday morning to take Ollie out and get the paper, I opened the front door and - *There they were!!!!*

Huge, black Crows ALL over my yard. I was stunned to say the least! I went to bed at midnight and got up at five. When the heck did they do that? It was hilarious because I was still a bit sleepy and groggy and when I opened the front door, it took me a second to realize what it all was!



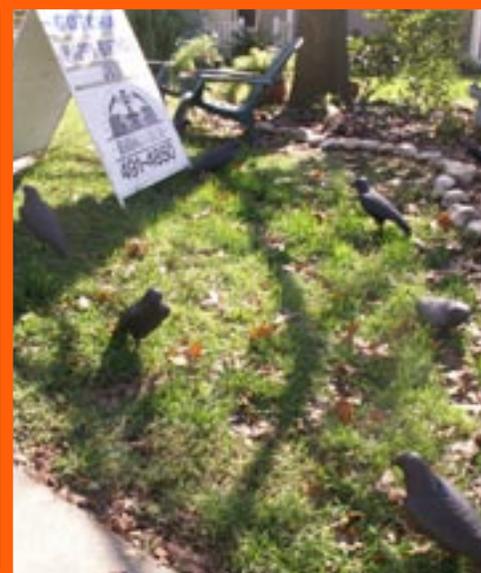
The funny thing was that I immediately felt relieved because I realized it meant I did not have to mow and edge my yard now! LOL! There was no way! Crows were everywhere -- in the flower beds, along the sidewalk, all the way up to the door steps. HAhaha. Too much fun! And very Halloweeny. Everyone seemed to get a big kick out of them.

Ollie was freaked out, at first. He kept tripping over them in the dark, but then he got the hang of it.

OK, now for the costumes... Some were dressed and some were not, and as usual, I got busy and forgot to take photos - or would misplace my camera - or would just forget about it because it was too much trouble trying to take photos and welcome and say good bye to everyone.

So, here are a few shots and you will just have to imagine the rest. Sorry about that, but "thems the breaks."

There were scary costumes and clever costumes, and sexy costumes, and funny costumes. To my way of thinking, Vicky was by far the best witch. John was by far the best ghost. Steve and Trish were the best house-

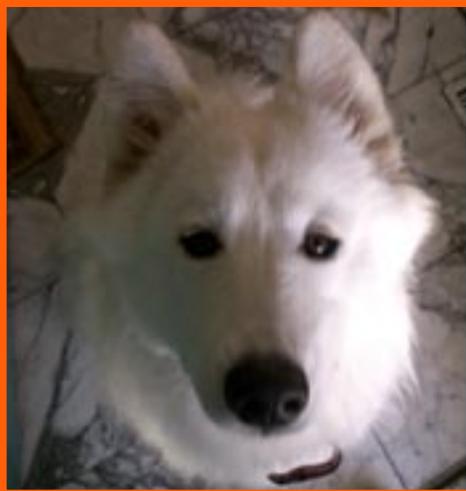




wives - they took my idea! Trish even had on my bathrobe! I had to run to the closet to make sure my pink polka-dot robe was still there! The funny thing is, though, my robe is for REAL! What does that tell you!

Lots of the neighbors were here (new and old) and TWO of my friends came that have just published books! One came straight from her book signing! Very cool, indeed!





And as usual, the best part was the "After the Party" party! I just love that... when folks sit around and get comfortable and review the evening after most folks have gone. Trust me - there was PLENTY to talk about this year! LOL! Ollie came out and joined us, and we ALL tried on Trish and Steve's bustles. Too funny.

Then later, I loved getting ready to go to bed and seeing Maggie curled up on the bed, the fireplace going in the bedroom, and Ollie passed out on his pillow on the floor. They were POOPED! Ha!

Oh, one more thing. Only one person guessed initially, without any thought, what I was. I needed to be comfortable and to be able to move around as needed. I was dressed normally in black jeans and a black shirt and was carrying a big eyeball. Any ideas?



JUDIWITHANI -- of course! (Smile)

HAPPY HALLOWEEN, Y'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, Maryland, West (By-God) Virginia, Nashville, Florida, Saudi Arabia, Chattanooga, New York, Oregon, Russia, 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!