



# FRIDAY FOLLIES

April 13, 2007



Hey! April 13, 2007

Whew! There is so much to tell you, I honestly do not know where to start... Let's start with the snow on the ground the day before Easter! We ended up getting about an inch and it continued to spit snow all day. I do not ever think I have witnessed snow this late in Virginia Beach or when I lived in Mississippi. California - yes, but that was in the Sierra Nevadas. This was just really strange - especially after we had seen several days hit 80 and above.

LUCKILY, I had not planted my flowers or groomed my yard, yet. As you can see from the photos, everything is moved off the deck and away from the front of the house because it is being painted. I have been silently cussing because I have been so anxious to get out in the yard and spruce it up. But now, I am glad that I couldn't. All of my beautiful plants are still warm inside my garage for at least another week when this guy finishes painting... IF he ever finishes. Man! It is like pulling teeth to get him to come to work! No show days... dead battery in his car... relatives came into town... you name it... The whole thing was only supposed to take four days total and today started week three... My windows have been covered in plastic for four days... I kid you not. I am about to go NUTS!

I told him today that I would now be deducting \$200 a day until it is finished. He showed up today and worked the entire day. Ha! I should have the plastic off my windows by the weekend! Yea! That means I

can finish manicuring my new lawn, refurbish the pea gravel on the path, plant my new plants, and put my pretty deck back together! I cannot wait!

Meanwhile, I finished painting my living room and started on my dining room. I also stained the bookcases on either side of my fireplace. They were “pickled” before and against a stark white wall, well, it was not attractive at all. Plus, no matter what you put on them, it did not stand out - it simply blended into the “blah” behind it.

NOW, the room has a really warm glow to it - just a hint of color on the walls and the bookcases are stained the same golden oak that the furniture in that room is made of. It is BEAUTIFUL, if I do say so myself. Amazing the difference a coat of paint and stain made. Just amazing...

The photo on the right shows you how high the ladder was, and that was not even extended all the way, yet. I had to extend it another three rungs to do the top of the fireplace. At first, I did not think I could do it, but by doing a bit at a time, I got used to it.

The two photos at the bottom kinda show you the difference in the stained and the unstained book cases. Now everything I put on them just “pop” out and get noticed. Very cool. I'll try to remember to include a photo of everything finished next week.



Next -- Exciting news,  
Indeed!

Tada!

My song, AMERICA! is  
copyrighted!



The paperwork came in the mail this week! I was so thrilled! But what was really kind of un-nerving...

The very same day the copyright came in the mail, two letters from different publishing companies in Hollywood also showed up in my mailbox. BOTH companies trying to buy the rights to AMERICA!

- well - asking for a signature to allow them to publish it on a variety album. Thank Heavens I know a bit about how the recording industry works. I just tore them up and threw them away. If you ever copyright a song, do not be surprised if, no sooner than the copyright paperwork shows up, they contact you. Hilltop Publishing and Americord - both in California. They are notorious for ripping folks off. You should never have to pay someone to publish your work. They should pay you.

Anyway, GET THIS! Two of the faculty where I work have asked to help me record my song and put it on an MP3 file to send to the competition for American Idol. How cool is that? We are going to try to do it one afternoon this week after they finish their classes. If I do it, I will let you know and if it makes it to the top 20, you will ALL have to vote for it. Ha! I can just see Sanjaya singing it now. Actually, that would be pretty cool.

Another funny little tid-bit this week. Jessica and her new boyfriend wanted to take me out for Easter Sunday instead of me having to cook. (I had already cooked a ham, potato salad, asparagus vinaigrette - you name it - but that was OK.) Ricky owns one of the older, more established and popular restaurants here at the beach - The Jewish Mother. After I got off the phone and thought about it for a moment, I just had to BURST out with laughter. I was being taken on Easter Sunday - the holiest of all Christian holy days - to the JEWISH MOTHER for brunch! The irony of it just blew me away. Anyway, we all had a laugh about that as they took me to a new place here called Chadwick's. My! It was outstanding. Anyway, I thought that was funny and that you would laugh, too. Ricky, by the way, is adorable and sweet.

Certificate of Registration

This Certificate issued under the seal of the Copyright Office in accordance with title 17, United States Code, attests that registration has been made for the work identified below. The information on this certificate has been made a part of the Copyright Office records.

*Marybeth Peters*  
Register of Copyrights, United States of America

Form PA  
For a Work of Performing Arts  
UNITED STATES COPYRIGHT OFFICE

PAu3-999-053

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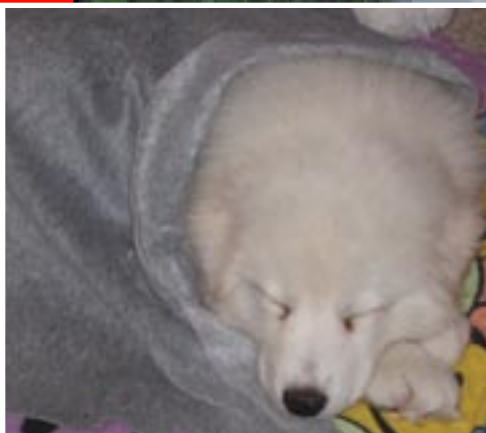
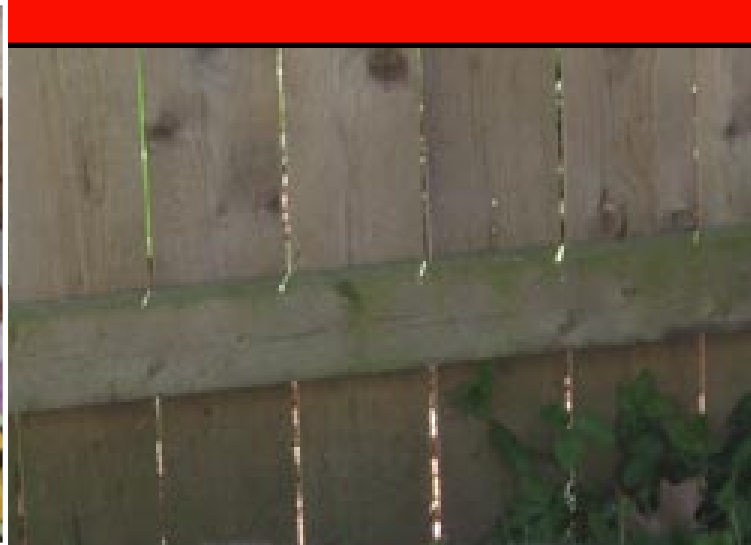
DO NOT WRITE ABOVE THIS LINE. IF YOU NEED MORE SPACE, USE A SEPARATE CONTINUATION SHEET.

1 TITLE OF THIS WORK ▼  
*America!*

PREVIOUS OR ALTERNATIVE TITLES ▼  
*Lyrics and music*

NATURE OF THIS WORK ▼





**It also occurred to me this weekend that Jess and I drove up to Baltimore to get Oliver one year ago Easter Sunday. It is hard to believe he was ever that small. The little gray blanket he came with that completely covered his body and made him feel safe -- we now realize is about the size of a dish rag! Ha! And Maggie hid under the bed for three straight days and would NOT come out. Now look at them. They eat every meal together and sleep together and bathe each others faces... it is a sight to see.**

**BBOH is doing great and is learning to dance when I sing Zippity -Do-Da! He has also learned to sing like the canaries. Very funny. When they start to sing, it makes him mad and he sings louder! LOL! And YBee has filled out since last week. He is looking like a real bird, now!**



Many, many of you wrote this week (and last), but I have to admit, with all of this painting going on and things all askew, I have had very little time to write back individually, lately. I have read every one of them, though, and will respond. I promise. Thank you all very much.

Here are just a couple of examples:

Halina from Poland checked in this week - (you remember - the English teacher who has her whole class reading the Follies each week to help them learn English...) She said they are really enjoying them. That pleases me.

And my little buddy, Chip, in Hawaii was commissioned into the U.S. Marine Corps on March 30. Just incredible! Chip has been living in Honolulu for the past five years, working full-time as a ship captain with Paradise Cruises and attending the University of Hawaii. Looks like he will be back up this way soon. You look GREAT, Chip! You, too, Carson!

One last thought this week before I close...

We had to say good bye to a very sweet, very young friend this Easter. Pete was one of those rare individuals who truly never met a stranger. He loved everyone and it showed. To look around at his memorial service, you could not help but be overwhelmed that someone 25 years old could have that kind of affect on that many people from ALL walks of life. He just loved life and loved everyone, and it showed in every word he spoke and every action he took. How many of us will they be able to say that about. Talk about a rich man... God bless...



Please pray for our troops - that they return home safely and soon...

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!