

The Wedding Chronicles

February 2009 Edition

PREPARING FOR OUR VOYAGE!

While I plan on having a ton of fun on the trip, there are some details to be attended to beforehand. It's time to start thinking about the trip and what we need to do to prepare for it. I found this great website that gives a pretty decent overview of any cruise, <http://www.cruisedirectonline.com/cruiseguide2006.htm> It lists so many things that will pertain to not only this cruise, but many others as well. There are also many more Carnival specific details on <http://e532.carnivalcruise.ca/ThingsToKnow.aspx#0> This is a great overview for those who are new to Carnival cruising.

First off, we need to make sure we have the cabins booked. Then we can always shuffle people around later. Once you have your cabin assigned, would you please let me know? I'm a planning nut, and want to have everything settled and under control.

I will be doing research for airfare, hotels, and transfers soon. We're a little too far out for accurate data, but within the next 6 weeks I hope to have better ideas of the accommodations.

If there are any "singles" out there, please let us know. We'll be happy to find you someone to share your cabin with, or you can also go it alone. The choice is yours. And I promise I won't put you with one of my kids. I've already have placed them with their grandparents. What a great wedding present!! =)

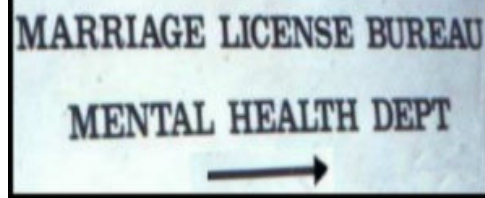
SHIP HIGHLIGHTS - COMEDY SHOWS

Who loves to laugh? Depending on the circumstances, most of us right? The comedians on the ship put on a great show. In November, Chris and I sailed on the Valor and hit almost every show. There was one that was just fabulous though. It had, , a ventriloquist with Bernie and Lydia. Each time I've seen them on comedy central, they have really cracked me up!

The second act of the night was Jim Black, a comedian. He's up on stage cracking on marriage and men and women and children. And since Chris and I are seated in the front row, we're perfect material for his act. After selecting a couple married for 42 years and joking how they act, his eyes rest on Chris. He had his arm around me, which was all the fuel Jim needed. He said to him, "Sir, you don't have to hang on to her so tight, she's on a ship, where is she going to go?" Then he asks how long we've been together, and what the secret to our longevity is. Now, Chris, my ever romantic boy that he is, replies, "Well, I kinda like her." The flattery is just never ending. =) It was perfect, all through the show, we got cracked



Isn't this hilarious!! Chris has always wanted a "Smart Car" while I can't stand the lil things. I've made a deal with him though, he can have one if we both get one and do them up like above! Oh, and they'll have to have names too! My question is how on earth would by wedding gown fit inside that thing?



on, but he didn't take his arm from around me. Chris handled it well, and was a great sport. It's wonderful to really be involved in the show, not to just observe it. Even though I had to go to the bathroom SO badly, that I was turning green, there was no way I was getting up in the middle of his act. Could you imagine the material that would give Jim? Sir, I now sees why you were holding her. She ran away. Hehe!! =)

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THE GUESTS'S AREA

This month we're going to focus on the Mother's of the Bride and Groom, Riva Fontaine and Debra Montanaro.

Riva Fontaine - She's been a major part of both the kids and my life from the beginning. Now she's added Chris to her brood and has regained the balance between boys and girls. She's always there for any of us whenever we need her. Whether we need to send her to the store or to have her take the chuckleheads to the doctors or pick them up from school when they just don't feel like being there, her days are consumed by the family. I can't say enough about what she brings to our family. I couldn't have handpicked a better mother.

Debra Montanaro - Proud Mother of a wonderful son and daughter, and Grandma Boo to 2.8 gorgeous little girls, Deb has been a huge influence on those she cares about most. Deb enjoys spending time with family, gardening and is an avid reader. Chances are if you've seen her at work, you're one of 3 things - An attorney, a deadbeat, or once associated with a deadbeat. She's a part of the RI Judiciary system, and it takes a special person to be able to do the work that she does. I look forward to her gaining another granddaughter, grandson, and of course Me! And us welcoming her to the family!

FACTS ABOUT MARRIAGE PROPOSALS

When asked if there was anything they would have changed about one of the most romantic moments of their lives, several women said a 'bigger diamond!'

54% of men still get down on one knee

44% of men ask their partner's father for permission to marry

57% of men cry when she said yes

65% of women say he could have put more effort and preparation into the proposal (I know I won't have that complaint, Chris is too sweet)

25% of couples wait longer than five years before taking their relationship that step further

23% of women have been proposed to more than once

Well, after Chris proposes, I am not accepting any more. He's stuck with me, forever and ever. . (Poor Chris, =)It could be worse though, don't ask me how, but I'm sure it could be. We've turned Chris' life upside down. I hope he can find some enjoyment in it. It's tough going from Chris, to 72% Dad to full blown Dad. =)



Riva Fontaine - aka "Granny"- What would we do without her! She's the best Granny that we could have!

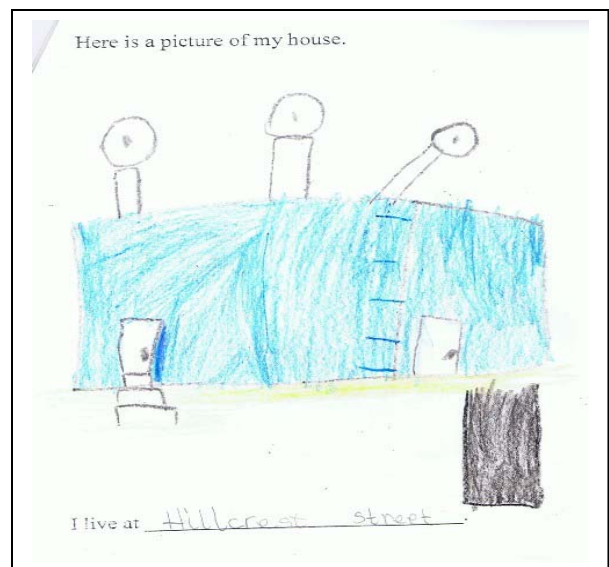
Deb Montanaro - and her wonderful son. I can see where he gets his gorgeous face from!



OUR HOME, SATELLITE DISH CENTRAL

Two antennas met on a roof, fell in love and got married. The ceremony wasn't much, but the reception was excellent.

That brought to mind the picture that Alaina drew of our house for school. For open house, she had to draw a picture of our house. It was so adorable. She had the house with all these dishes on it. And it looked so much like home. =)



WEDDING UPDATES - CEREMONY BOOKED!

Well, it's official. We've booked the ceremony and reception!!! We went with the Deluxe Romance package, so we get a neat Ice Sculpture. And, drum roll please, and extra half hour of open bar. I knew that would bring some excitement. => I've booked a DJ, so the reception will be in the Disco. The actual ceremony should most likely be in the Tapestry room. I've placed pictures of the two rooms at the right. The locations may change, but are not likely too.



The disco looks a little busy with the hands and feet pillars around the room, but my wedding coordinator tells me it's a really neat room. We'll have 90 minutes in the disco after the ceremony to drink, dance, and eat. You can also see how the buffet will be set up and I have a sample menu as well. It's shaping up to be a wonderful day. =>



CARNIVAL CRUISE LINES CONTACT INFO

We have a rep that we will be dealing with directly at Carnival, Luis Brito. He is wonderful. Please call him to make your cruise reservations, cabin selection and deposits/payments. Please book ASAP to ensure a cabin. There is a \$250 deposit per person due at booking.

Please give him my booking number and name when you book. That way he can make sure we're all tied in for dining together. Please feel free to select whichever cabin you like. Don't feel like we all have to be in the same hall. Chances are we will be on different floors and such. Please select the cabin that best suits your needs.

Luis Brito - 1-800-819-3902 ext 8541
Allison Fontaine - Booking Number 77DT42
Dining - 6pm - Main Seating

WEDDING INFO - QUICK REFERENCE

- January 22, 2010 - Arrive in Miami, FL. - Hotel and transportation arrangements to be confirmed
- January 23, 2010 - Saturday - Board the Carnival Liberty -Wedding Ceremony to immediately follow - The Liberty departs Miami
- January 24, 2010 - Sunday - Fun Day at Sea
- January 25, 2010 - Monday - San Juan, Puerto Rico
- January 26, 2010 - Tuesday - St. Thomas, USVI
- January 27, 2010 - Wednesday - St. Maarten, NA
- January 28, 2010 - Thursday - Fun Day at Sea
- January 29, 2010 - Friday - Fun Day at Sea
- January 30, 2010 - Saturday - The Liberty returns to Miami - Debarkation Day - Travel home day

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