

The Wedding Chronicles

July 2009 Edition

CASINOS

Calling all risk takers? Anyone a gambler at heart? I'm so NOT! But, if you are, you may have some fun rolling the dice, pulling the slot machine handle or playing a hand or two of cards. On the Valor, I think Chris and I spent a whole 20 minutes in the casino. I put in \$5, (all the cash in my purse) and played the nickel slots. I like the fun games with the animals where you get to wash the piggys, or make the cows jump the fence, stuff like that. And I was so happy! I hit a bonus round, which brought my total cash balance up to \$6.15, when I was down to \$.30. So, I played my \$.15 took my \$6. and left!! I walked out a winner!! Granted I only won \$1, but hey!

Chris likes the number slots, and he did better than I did. He ended up \$25 ahead. And you know what? Their slot machines still let you deposit coins, and you can cash out in coins!! There's nothing like the clink of the coins on the metal of the machine!

The Casino also has tournaments and all sorts of giveaways and specials and what not. If you love Foxwoods, you'll be able to have a little piece of that action on the ship while you're on vacation. The card tournaments are neat to watch. There are some people who get all into it and it's amazing to watch them. I don't think I could think that fast, watch the other players and not let the cards show on my face. I'm not the world's best poker player. =)

I would just caution those who enter the casino, it can be addictive, so please play responsibly. Set limits, and stick to them or enlist a buddy to make sure you stay within your budget. Good Luck! Have a great time at the Liberty's Casino!

ENTERTAINMENT - SHOW STYLE

style review, the entertainers on Carnival are right up there with them. The shows that they put on are amazing. All while sailing on the open seas! The costume changes, the set changes and all while cruising at a pretty good clip. I find this amazing! The entertainment staff is quite talented and puts on a great show.

What I liked best about Carnivals' shows is that while they are extremely well choreographed, the dancers are also having fun! That really makes the show come alive. It's one thing to be able to execute a perfect routine, but to do it while having a blast kicks up the whole entertainment value.



This is the Casino on the Carnival Victory. It was gorgeous! There are card tables, and slots- a lot to keep you busy!

On the Valor, they did a really neat show about music through the decades. They take you from the swing period, all the way up to today. Some of the time periods were really neat to watch. The 70's and the disco stuff and the eighties, ugh, I'll not say anymore about that. =) I'm so glad I was way too young to do any of that stuff. =)

The other show was a singing and dancing spectacular that I don't remember much about. =) I can see the costumes and the two main vocalists, but the theme escapes me. Or maybe I was blinded by my love for Chris that I wasn't paying attention to anything but the man next to me? (Come on now, that was a good cover!) The shows are very entertaining and a great way to relax at the end of the day. And if you're lucky, you can get your picture taken with a dancer. =) Quentin blushed so much when he had his taken. He thought she was very pretty. Did I add that that dancers are gorgeous!

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THE GUESTS'S AREA

This month we're going to focus on the Grandparents of the Bride, Claire & Richard Fontaine.

Claire & Richard Fontaine - Family has always been important to my grandparents. Having raised a large family, I've always felt that they've encouraged all of us to keep in mind how important family truly is. I remember all the family dinners and backyard BBQ's surrounded by family. When Brianna & I went to visit them in Florida, they had planned a fabulous week for us. We went to the pool with the neat waterfall and had curly fries while we got to swim and hear the band. Not to mention they braved the crowds and took us to Disney! It was a great week that we got to share. And whenever we went to their house Gram would always have coffee milk. And we got to drive the golf cart! Grandma and Grampa spend much of their time in sunny Florida (someday I'll live there too) but do visit us in the summer time. I'm glad that Quentin & Alaina have the honor of knowing them. They've taught my father, me and now my children so much. Although, I have to get Grampa to teach the kids the value of money. We're having issues with that one! =) I thank them for the values that they're passed on through the years and hope that we each have our own special memories that they've given us.



OUR WEDDING VOWS

Chris has done it again. =) Here I am, trying to make sure that he has the wedding day of his dreams, and I realize that all of this is of little importance to him. He just wants the two of us to be joined surrounded by family and friends. He doesn't care about the dress I wear, or if his vest is titanium or platinum. But I thought he would at least care about the VOWS! Wrong again, I don't want to write our own, I'm not that eloquent, but I would like more than just the custom ones they've provided.

So I ask Chris, what do you think of these ones, and do you know what he does? He bursts out laughing!!!! I was absolutely serious about those ones too! They had this nice portion about hands. How these would be the hands that take care of you and hold you and provide for you, etc. And he looked at me straight faced and said, "Allison, you're marrying me, not my hands." Men! That's true, but obviously the boy hasn't read enough romance novels.

So I'm on a quest to find the perfect vows. Ones that aren't so generic, yet aren't as flowery. Oh, and ones that Chris won't laugh at! Although that would be a wedding story to tell. The groom couldn't recite his vows because he was laughing too hard. But that would beat crying. =) I'll probably be the one who is crying =)

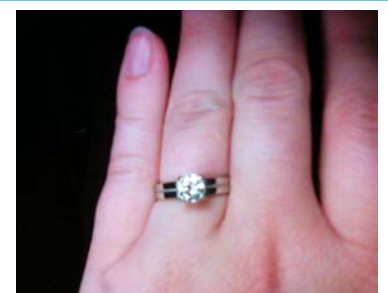
I know that I'll find the perfect vows. My wedding coordinator has 300 sets that I can comb through. (That's even boring to me!) So, what does that tell you? I think that google is going to be my new best friend in helping me locate some good ones. Maybe I'll even get creative and smoosh two sets together to get what we want?

THE PROPOSAL!

The one thing that I asked Chris for when he proposed, was to make a memory. I'm sure he was nervous about it, but he made me a wonderful memory. On 6/27/09, we had a scrumptious dinner at the Post Office Café in East Greenwich, then had ice cream cones from Papas. YUM! From there, we went to Oakland Beach to watch the lightning and waves. As we sat on the rocks, we were chatting and being all cuddly, and I said something like "Let's go home." Chris, with his arm around me, looks me in the eyes and says "Only if you'll marry me." Of course, I said yes!!!! Then he pulls out the ring, and magically fireworks appear. It was PERFECT! I don't think he could have planned it any better if he tried. It was an incredible proposal delivered by the man I love.

Who could ask for more than that!! And to top it all off, it's such an everyday moment, that we can go back to those rocks and relive the memory often. I'll never be able to go to Oakland Beach again and look at those rocks and not see our proposal "memory". I was so full of happiness, and you only get a few handfuls of those moments in your lifetime. I hope Chris got to enjoy that feeling as well. =)

Here's a photo of the ring Chris chose for me! I absolutely love it! It's perfectly simple, and suits me. =) My band is gorgeous too! What great taste he has, I mean he did pick ME! =)



MARRIAGE FUNNIES

Marriage is the triumph of imagination over intelligence. Second marriage is the triumph of hope over experience.

I haven't spoken to my wife in 18 months - I don't like to interrupt her.

Just think, if it weren't for marriage, men would go through life thinking they had no faults at all. **A husband said to his wife, 'No, I don't hate your relatives. In fact, I like your mother-in-law better than I like mine.'**

A man meets a genie. The genie tells him he can have whatever he wants, provided that his mother-in-law gets double. The man thinks for a moment and then says, 'OK, give me a million dollars and beat me half to death.'

How do most men define marriage? A very expensive way to get your laundry done free.

A man said his credit card was stolen but he decided not to report it because the thief was spending less than his wife did.

The most effective way to remember your wife's birthday is to forget it once.

Or put it in your phone with all sorts of flashing lights and bells and whistles. (I think the same is true of your anniversary.) Chris did this to remember my Birthday was the day after Thanksgiving in 2006. =)

SLIGHT CHANGE IN PLANS . . .

It seems that Carnival has changed our cruise a little bit. Instead of 3 ports of call, we get to experience 4!!

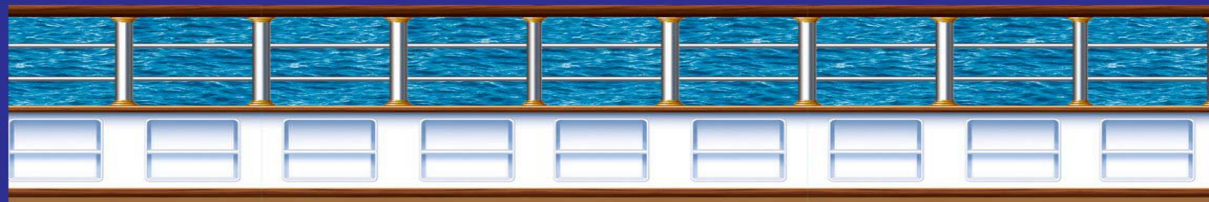
Half Moon Cay, Bahamas - 'Located on 55-acres of the 2,400-acre Little San Salvador Island, Half Moon Cay has been rated as "Best Private Island" by Porthole Cruise Magazine for the past four years. An international bird sanctuary in the Bahamas (only two percent of the island is developed), the beauty and serenity of Half Moon Cay is second-to-none.'

Grand Turk - 'The beautiful Island of Grand Turk is the capital island of the Turks and Caicos. Take the time to explore Cockburn town's wonderful selection of historical buildings including many Bermudian and Colonial style buildings and ruins. That's just the beginning of all the things to see and do in Grand Turk.'

Please take a moment to visit Carnival.com and check out our new itinerary and the shore excursions that we have! I'm excited to be able to experience 2 new ports of call!!

Exotic Eastern Caribbean aboard the Carnival Valor

Saturday, Sep 04	Miami, FL		4:00pm
Sunday, Sep 05	Half Moon Cay, Bahamas	9:00am	5:00pm
Monday, Sep 06	Fun Day At Sea		
Tuesday, Sep 07	St. Thomas, USVI	9:00am	6:00pm
Wed, Sep 08	San Juan, Puerto Rico	7:00am	3:30pm
Thursday, Sep 09	Grand Turk	11:00am	5:30pm
Friday, Sep 10	Fun Day At Sea		
Saturday, Sep 11	Miami, FL	8:00am	



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