

# The Wedding Chronicles

March 2009 Edition

## GROUP SHORE EXCURSION - MAGEN'S BAY

How does a group excursion sound? Think we could get a group of us together to go frolic at the beach at Magen's Bay in St. Thomas? If we have enough people, we may be able to have Carnival design our own special excursion. I'd like it to be something simple, like just taking us down to the beach. We were there in 2007, and it was amazing. The color of the water was so teal, but beware, it still tastes like salt water.

I'm not sure of the cost just yet. I need to see how much interest there is. If you would let me know either way, I can begin more research. It's okay if there is something else that you would rather do in St. Thomas, or if you've had enough of us and just want to wander around the ship. I just thought it might be a neat thing to do as a gaggle of us.

Or, if anyone else has a better idea for a big group shore excursion, I would love to hear it. I'm just trying to keep it as low key and as low cost as possible. And relaxing on the beach is very hard work you know. =) You have to make sure that you're properly lathered up in 50 spf sun block, make sure that you have enough towels to cover you up to hide you from the sun. Then you have to make sure that you have your hat on to protect your face to make sure you don't get the sunglasses tan lines. It's not as easy as it looks! Lots of prep goes into having a simple relaxing day on the beach. But it's well worth the effort. Watching the kids, young and old, play on the beach and in the water is an awesome sight.

## SHIP HIGHLIGHTS - LIDO DECK

Where's the food at? This is one of the most important questions to be answered on our cruise. That and when is it ready? I know I eat about 7 meals a day while on board. And there is a system about it. You'll get a schedule each day (Carnival Caper) which will tell you where the food is and when. When in doubt, go to the Lido deck. There you'll have all your juice machines, 24 hour pizza bar and round the clock ice cream machines!! Chris and I became very friendly with the soft serve machines. He was almost ready to go work at Dairy Queen by the end of the trip.

Lido is more casual dining. We usually go there for breakfast, lunch, and snacks 1-5. For dinner, we prefer the formal dining room. The midnight buffets are all up on Lido. It's amazing to see the artistry the can do with food. The deli is on this deck as well and makes a killer grilled cheese, turkey sandwich and reubens. And they have potato chips. I think it's one



*Magen's Bay - This is from our visit in 2007. The pictures just do not do this place justice. The colors are amazing and I'll have a better camera with me this time to capture the colors and the memories that we make.*



of the only places on the ship were you can get that salt fix. Moral of the story, if you're hungry, head to the Lido deck. Pizza and ice cream 24/7, even when you're disembarking. And other menus available at various times during the day, omelets for breakfast, burgers for lunch, oh, and I forgot the bars. There are 3 bars on Lido. What else could one ask for?

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## THE GUESTS'S AREA

This month we're going to focus on the Father of the Bride and Father & Stepmother of the Groom, Paul Fontaine and Jim & Julia Trainor.

**Paul Fontaine** - He's Gramps. He gets the pleasure of being father and grandfather to such a wonderful group of people. What would he do without us around to drive him bonkers? He has the kids, and then my sister and I, so it's a wonder he has any hair left at all. =) Gramps is always there whenever we need him and I'd be lost without him around. I'm proud to have him as my Dad.

**Jim & Julia Trainor** - Chris' Dad and StepMom are blessed with having a wonderful family. They share 4 children and soon to be 5 grandchildren, 7 if you add Q & A. Who could ask for a better family than this gang? They get to live in sunny Florida year round. Can you sense I'm a lil jealous? They're both wonderful people who would be there for you in a heartbeat. I've only known them a short time, but they've always made me feel more than welcome and happy to open their family to me. I look forward to welcoming them to our family!



Paul Fontaine -  
Gramps- What  
would we do without  
him to keep us  
grounded! = )

Love doesn't make the world go round.  
Love is what makes the ride worthwhile.  
~Franklin P. Jones

Jim & Julia  
Trainor -  
I can see the  
family  
resemblance  
=)



## HOW TO DECIDE WHO TO MARRY?

You've got to find somebody who likes the same stuff. Like, if you like sports, she should like it that you like sports, and she should keep the chips and dip coming. - *Martin, age 10.*

How would you make a marriage work?

Tell your wife that she looks pretty even if she looks like a truck. - *Nathan, age 10.*

The commission of human rights approved the following international symbol of marriage:



## WHY MEN HAVE 2 DOGS AND NOT 2 WIVES

**The later you are, the more excited your dogs are to see you**

Dogs don't notice if you call them by another dog's name

**A dog's parents never visit you**

Dogs like it if you leave things on the floor

**Dogs agree that you have to raise your voice to get your point across**

Dogs like to do their snooping outside, rather than inside your wallet or desk.

**Dogs find you amusing when you're drunk**

A dog will not wake you up at night to ask, 'If I died, would you get another dog?'

**If a dog has babies, you can put an ad in the paper and give them away**

If a dog smells another dog on you, they don't get mad. They just think it's interesting

**Dogs like to go hunting and fishing**

Dogs like to ride in the back of a pickup truck.

**And last, but not least:**

**If a dog leaves, it won't take half of your stuff**

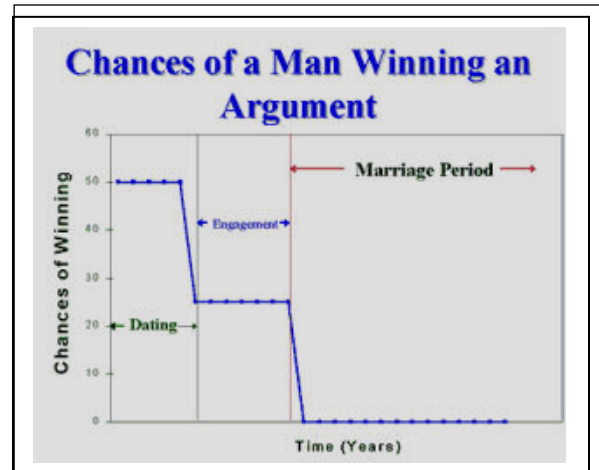
## TRAVEL INSURANCE - HOW LUCKY DO YOU FEEL?

That's basically what it all comes down to. Do you want to roll the dice? Last trip, we didn't go with the insurance and everything was great!! The trip before, we had some issues about 2 weeks before the cruise and almost cancelled. The good thing is that you can purchase up to a week before you leave. The vendor that I used in the past covers almost everything. There is even an option for cancellation without any reason at all!

It may be something that you want to look into purchasing. You are under NO obligation to do so. The cruise is COMPLETELY refundable until Nov 1 2009. The airfare and hotel will vary on how we book them. If you're sure that everything will go according to plan, (it better, by the way) then the travel insurance may not be for you. If you're a worry-wart like me, you may want to get some more information and then make your decision. You're spending a lot of money for this trip, and I would hate to see you lose a penny of it because of something out of your control.

In the past, I've used a company called Travel Insured.

I had a good experience with them and thankfully didn't have to use their services. It ran me about \$80 a person for the insurance. There are deals, and kids are usually free. If you have any questions, you know where to find me. =) There are many companies to choose from, too.



## 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 85413**

**Allison Fontaine - Booking Number 77DT42**

**Dining - 6pm - Main Seating**

## WEDDING INFO - QUICK REFERENCE

**January 22, 2010** - Friday - 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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