

**Monday, April 24**

Tracy picked me up at the post office in Laurel, Maryland, and then gave me a brief tour of the town and its history. Laurel is about half-way between Washington, DC, and Baltimore, Maryland. (Tracy informed me that to pronounce the name of the city and the state like a native, you have to say "Ballmer, Merlin.")

Laurel is probably best known as the place where Alabama Gov. George Wallace was shot during his presidential campaign in 1972.

Here I am sitting on top of the cow's head at the Laurel Meat Market on Main Street.



Here I am in front of the remains of the old Montgomery Wards. This is only a historic spot to Crissy collectors. This is the store where Tracy's mom purchased her the 1973 Montgomery Wards catalog outfits for Cinnamon.



After driving around, we went home to Tracy's house. There I met a lot of my friends. Here I am with Tracy's Crissy dolls from her childhood, original Velvet, Look Around Crissy, and Hairdoodler Cinnamon. Velvet told me that her ponytail has been in a braid since 1972 due to the meanness of a childhood friend of Tracy's who made her hair all ratty and gnarly.



Here I am with Tracy's Hairdoodler Cinnamon and 4 Cinnamon friends each modeling the 1973 Montgomery Wards catalog outfits for Cinnamon. As of now, Tracy is the only known person with the complete set of outfits from her childhood!



Here I am with Tracy's Diana Ross. I didn't know that I was going to meet a celebrity!

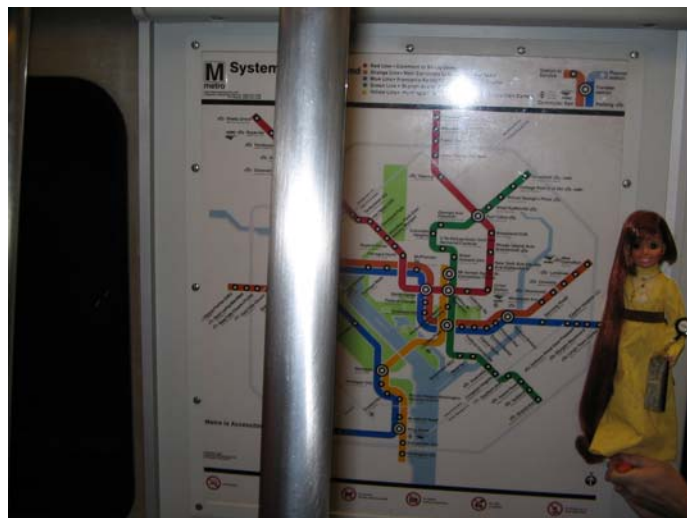


**Tuesday, April 25**

Tracy took me to work with her. Tracy's Crissy let me borrow her "Summer Social" outfit. It is an outfit that survives with Tracy's Crissy from her childhood. Here I am getting on the Metro (the subway) at the Greenbelt station. Notice I am holding my fare card.



Here I am in front of the map of the Washington, DC, Metro (subway) system.



Here I am at work with the Accounting Dept. From left to right is: Matt, Starr, Tracy (holding me), Lucas, and Bonnie.



Here I am with former Congressman Bob Davis (R-Michigan). I couldn't come to Washington, DC, without meeting a politician! He wanted to take me home for his daughter!



At lunch time, Tracy took me on a tour of some of the sights. Here I am in front of the White House. This is the home of the President of the United States.



Here I am in front of the Washington Monument and the Reflecting Pool.



Here I am at the newest memorial, the World War II Memorial. Each of the pillars represents one of the 50 states or U.S. Territories.



Here I am in front of the World War II Memorial and the Lincoln Memorial.



Here I am in front of the Lincoln Memorial (next page).



Here I am in front of President Lincoln inside the Lincoln Memorial.



Here I am in front of the Korean Veterans' Memorial. Tracy had never been here before.



Here I am in front of the Vietnam Veterans' Memorial. Someone thought I was being left here in tribute to a deceased loved one.



**Wednesday, April 26**

Tracy took me to work with her again. Tracy's Crissy let me borrow her "Funderwear" outfit. It is another outfit that survives with Tracy's Crissy from her childhood.

After work we walked up to the Mall. The Mall is where almost all of the Smithsonian museums are located. First, we went to the National Museum of American History. I wanted to see the First Ladies' Gowns. Here I am with Nancy Reagan, Betty Ford, and Rosalyn Carter.



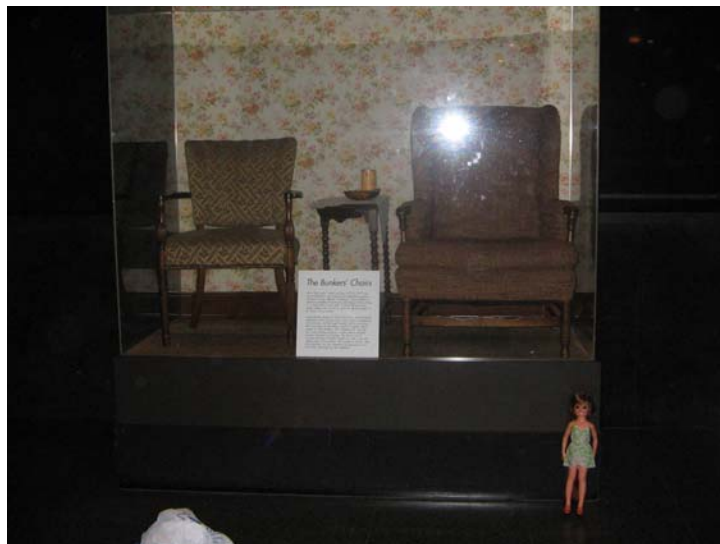
Here I am with Lady Bird Johnson and Jackie Kennedy.



Next we went to the Pop Culture section. Here I am with Dorothy's ruby slippers from the "Wizard of Oz."



Here I am with Archie Bunker's and Edith Bunker's chairs from "All in the Family." Note the beer can on the table.



Now we are on to the National Museum of Natural History. Here I am with a dinosaur.



**Thursday, April 26**

We went back to the Mall to visit the rest of the Smithsonian museums. Here I am in front of a Henry Moore sculpture at the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden.



Here I am in front of an Alexander Calder sculpture (mobile) at the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden.



Next we went to the National Air and Space Museum. This is the most popular Smithsonian museum. Here I am in front of some rockets.



Here I am outside the Museum of the American Indian. This is the newest Smithsonian museum.



Here I am in front of an American Indian tribal art object.



**Saturday, April 27**

Today Tracy took me to visit her alma mater, the University of Maryland at College Park. Tracy's Crissy let me wear her newly acquired red and white Totsy dress. After all, I had to wear red and white or black and gold, as these are the Terrapins' colors.

Here I am at the entrance gate.



Here I am at the "Circle M."



Here I am at the ODK (Omicron Delta Kappa) Fountain on McKeldin Mall in front of McKeldin Library. McKeldin is the graduate studies library.



Here I am rubbing Testudo's nose. For those who don't know, Testudo is Latin for Turtle or Terrapin, the University of Maryland's mascot. It is a tradition for students to rub Testudo's nose for good luck on an exam.



Here I am in front of the "Night and Day" sculpture. The students refer to it as the "Pi Symbols" (like 3.14. . .) because it looks like the Greek Letter Pi.



Here I am at the Jim Henson Memorial. Jim Henson was the creator of the Muppets and a University of Maryland graduate. Tracy's dad used to live next door to him when they were growing up.



Here I am at the Comcast Center. This is where the basketball games are played.



Here I am with the NCAA Championship Trophy won by the University of Maryland's Men's Basketball Team in 2002. The trophy is made of crystal.

The Lady Terps Basketball Team won the NCAA Championship in 2006, but the trophy is not on display yet. They have to build a case for it.



**Sunday, April 30**

Today we went up to Baltimore. (Remember, to pronounce the name of the city like a native, you have to say "Ballmer.") Here I am at the Inner Harbor.



There are lots of ships docked here.



Here I am in front of the Baltimore Aquarium.



Baltimore was the 5<sup>th</sup> stop of the Volvo Ocean Race, so the ships were at the harbor. Here I am in front of the map of the around the world Volvo Ocean Race.



Here I am in front of some of the ships in the Volvo Ocean Race. The black ship to the left is the ship from the United States, the Pirates of the Caribbean, entered by Disney. The white ship to the right is the leader of the race, the Dutch ship entered by ABN AMRO Bank.

The tall building to the left of the Pirates of the Caribbean is Baltimore's World Trade Center. The building in back of the ABN AMRO ship is the Baltimore Aquarium.



After walking around the Inner Harbor, we walked over to the baseball park, Camden Yards. This is the home of the Baltimore Orioles. (Tracy tells me that to pronounce the name of the team like a native, you have to say "Ballmer Oreos.") Here I am in front of the sign to the ballpark (warehouse entrance).



Here I am standing on top of Cal Ripken Jr.'s number 8. The Eutaw Street entrance to the ballpark has all of the retired numbers. In back of Cal's number 8 is Eddie Murray's number 33. I will be coming back to Camden Yards to attend a game on Tuesday.



**Tuesday, May 2**

When word got out of my visit and of what a big Oriole fan I am (after all, my dress is "Oriole Orange"), Tracy's boss Rob arranged for me to go to an Orioles home game. Rob also arranged for me to meet Baltimore Orioles All-Star 2<sup>nd</sup> Baseman Brian Roberts. (He's so cute!)

But my plans fell apart. Brian got injured and was not able to play or to see me. I was quite bummed because I have to leave town soon. However, Brian promised that as soon as he gets off the DL (disabled list), he will meet Rob

and Tracy at a home game and Tracy will bring along one of my Crissy friends as a stand-in. Then, Tracy will be able to get a picture of one of my Crissy friends with Brian. Tracy will also get an autographed picture from Brian for my scrapbook.

Until then, this picture of me with Brian will have to do.



**Monday, May 8**

I sure did enjoy my visit to the Baltimore-Washington area, but now it's off to visit Cathy in California.

Hugs & Kisses!