

Day 32 – At Sea – Cruise Critic Luncheon – Guest Talent Show - 28 Oct. 09: The day started partly cloudy with a stiff breeze blowing across the deck. The waves were 2 or 3 feet high and sometimes the wind blew the tops off the waves.

We tried walking around the Lower Promenade Deck but the wind was so strong that we moved inside and walked around the Upper Promenade Deck. At 7am the public areas were pretty much deserted so we had the decks to ourselves.

Later in the morning Barbara broke out the Halloween decorations she had carefully packed. On previous cruises at this time of year we have seen some pretty outrageous Halloween decorations put on cabin doors. Barbara had brought some fairly tame decorations to celebrate the occasion so she put them up this morning, as shown below.



Cruise Critic Luncheon: Today Karen had arranged for a Cruise Critic Luncheon in the dining room. All the Cruise Critic fans on board were invited. Twenty five people came and we filled up 3 tables. There weren't any formal announcements or agenda at the

luncheon. These get-togethers just serve as a convenient time to rub shoulders and get to recognize and know other Cruise Critic folks as we proceed through the cruise. Near the end of the meal we went around and took pictures of everyone as shown in the following photos.





Jean got her wine steward, Alex to take this photo below so that Orlin could get into the picture at our table.



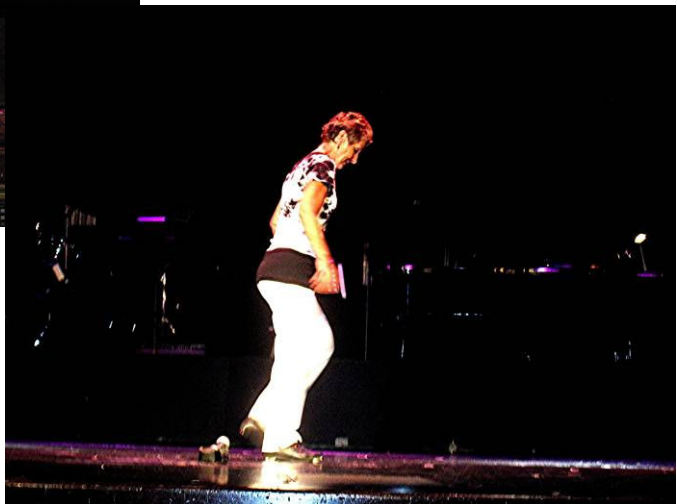
For that extra effort Jean and Doug got a little extra recognition in the picture on the right that Alex snuck in.



Here is Alex, on the left. He will be performing in the Filipino talent show tonight singing “Sweet Caroline”. He proceeded to give us an acapella rendition of his song and it sounded great.

Guest Talent Show: At 3pm we went down to the Queen's Lounge for a Guest Talent Show that Steve, the Assistant Cruise Director, had put together. Guests on the Amsterdam who wanted to display any particular talent on stage could sign-up with Steve. This afternoon it was **SHOWTIME !!** Our friend, Karen (KweenKaren), is part of a clogging dance group back in her home town. Today she had signed up to put on a clogging demonstration in the Guest Talent Show. Four or five other guests had put on their acts and they were enjoyable. Finally it was Karen's turn on stage. She described clogging for the audience and noted that it came to America through Appalachia, back in our neighborhood. They put a microphone down on the stage so that the sound of her clogging shoes could be clearly heard. She did a flawless clogging routine that the

audience loved. Here are a couple photos we got of Karen doing her clogging dance on stage.



They didn't give prizes for the best talent but we would have given our vote to Karen.

Tomorrow we arrive in Brisbane, Australia about 8am. We have a tour scheduled to visit koala bears, kangaroos and other Aussie wildlife at the Lone Pine Koala Sanctuary.