



Karen Feld

Bush family a big favorite at Maine inn

The first family has been quite a hit at the White Barn Inn, one of its favorite spots in Kennebunkport, Maine, where it has vacationed for the past 40 or so summers. The White Barn is a sophisticated country inn with the dining room set in a restored barn dating back to the Civil War. The president, who can't help but be somewhat disruptive with his entourage of Secret Service, always apologizes to other guests for disturbing their dinner.

On one recent dinner there, his daughter, Doro LeBlond, asked one of the Secret Service agents to carry her doggie bag, apparently for Millie, who's recovering from lead poisoning. Then she had a second thought. "I wouldn't ask you to do that," she told him almost sheepishly.

One young lady, dressed in a robe, waved to the president from her window as he passed her house on his routine power walk with his dog and entourage in Kennebunkport the other morning. That same evening, when the sexy blonde saw him at the White Barn Inn, she asked: "Did you see me waving this morning?" The president didn't miss a beat: "I didn't recognize you with your clothes on."

One waitress at the White Barn Inn in Kennebunkport was pleasantly surprised when Bush personally telephoned 15 minutes after he and Barbara, their daughter Doro, and another couple had finished their hot fudge sundaes and gone home to Walker Point. The president said that he had incorrectly added his American Express voucher. "I didn't leave a large enough tip," the president said. He instructed the restaurant to change the total.

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Bush and his entourage aren't the only ones vacationing in Maine this summer. Buffalo Bob Smith, of Howdy Doody fame, and his wife have a summer home in Princeton, Maine. Fifties TV fans may be surprised to learn that there are three Howdy Doody puppets. The original, which appeared in all 2,543 TV shows, is in Buffalo Bob's home in Florida. The spare, which was made in the event that the original was damaged, is now on display in the Smithsonian. Buffalo Bob calls this one "Double Doody." The third Howdy is identical to the other two except that it has no puppet strings. His name is "Photo Doody," and he is used for personal appearances, including summer appearances at fairs and festivals in Maine. The third Howdy is likely to tour with Buffalo Bob this fall when his book, "Howdy and Me," is released.

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Homemade "Bush Sauce" is the hot seller Down East this summer. The label boasts that it's "wicked good and excellent with quail." The sauce, made in Ogunquit, Maine, not far from the president's summer home in Kennebunkport, sells for about \$4 per jar. Not a bad price when you consider that it's guaranteed to "shower your taste buds with a thousand points of light." It's available in three varieties: mild — kinder and gentler; medium -wicked good; and zing — hot and spicy.

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Trump watchers missed it, but vacationers at the elegant Breakers Hotel in Palm Beach are still talking about those few days in April when Patty Hearst and Marla Maples were guests there at the same time. The Breakers is only a stone's throw from the Donald's Mar-a-Largo.

These are the "Capital Connections."