TRICK OR TREAT!

Halloween started as a European Christian Holiday in 1770 or so as a three day holiday that included:

Oct 31st or “All Hallow’s Eve” – ‘hallow’ means “bless” so it means all the people who are blessed.

November 1st, “All Saints Day” to commemorate the saints.

November 2nd, “All Souls Day”, to celebrate all the people and family members who have died.

The original idea was to ridicule the dead so that we would not be afraid of death.

According to Wikipedia “the traditional focus of All Hallows' Eve revolves around the theme of using humor and ridicule to confront the power of death.”

The pumpkin that has its eyes, nose and mouth carved and a candle inside was called. “Jack o’ Lantern”. It was named after a ghost named Jack or Juan who had a head like a pumpkin.

This is similar to the Headless Horseman who was supposed to ride at night with a Pumpkin on his head. The famous story, “The Legend of Sleepy Hollow” by Washington Irving is about the headless horseman.

When I was a kid many years ago, we used to dress up with masks and other kinds of costumes, like pirates, and knock on people’s doors and say: “trick or treat” which means ….we will play a trick on you if you do not give us a treat, or candy!

Treat sometimes means something nice, like a present.

Many people decorate their houses with ghosts and witches and big spider webs.

One time Randy Hurley and I were out trick or treating, and we came to a house that was on a hill, and we had to climb up about 50 winding steps.

When we got to the top, se saw someone dressed as a Ghost!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! We were scared!!!!!!!!

So we ran like crazy down the steps to escape!

After trick or treating is finished, all the kids come home and look at all the candies they got. We used to hope for lots of chocolates!!!!! But some people used to give us…. apples! Lollipops! And other kinds of candies we did not like!!!!

So have fun on Halloween! Trick or Treat!!!!