

LOGUE OF ALICIA'S ADVENTURE IN CHICAGO

June 21 – I was picked up without incident at O'Hare Airport 5:30pm. Kathy was standing right outside the Customs door with the biggest sign so she was very easy to spot. We went straight to Kathy's office to drop off my work clothes. Next we went to dinner at Sushi Nano which is just a block from Kathy's apartment with her nephew Nate (Nathan) who lives in the garden apartment and then fell fast asleep after meeting Minnie and Mickey – 2 of Kathy's Morkies.

June 22 – We got up at 5:45 and rode our bikes into work. I fell once, but Kathy did not even know about it until I asked for a medical kit once we got to the office. Since we had slept in, we took a direct route to work which went straight down the bike path, past multiple beaches and marinas and then to the River Walk which ends right at Kathy's office building. Kathy and I went to breakfast and wandered through City Hall and the County Building which are really the same building – they just have different names on each side of the building. We looked at the Picasso in the plaza of the Daley Center (courthouse) which seems to be used primarily as a slide for young children. We also looked at the 2 of Miro's sculptures outside of the state and county buildings and I agree that they are pretty ugly. Finally we went through the Thompson Center (State of IL Building) which Kathy says has been nicknamed Thompson's Folly since the snow/ice slides down the front of the building in the winter, it leaks when it rains, it can't be heated in the summer and people have jumped off the inside atrium to commit suicide. She was right the atrium is a definite waste of space. I went over to court with Mike (law clerk/law school graduate) and I got to watch a "prove up" which is an actual divorce where the women was crying. It was very sad. I met all of the lawyers and associates in Kathy's office, but spent most of my day with Diana who is a law school graduate, but prefers to be a paralegal so that she can have a better work/personal time balance in her life. Diana agreed to walk with me for an hour every day to show me around the city. Even though it was raining, we went to State Street but only made it as far as Target since I wanted to go in and look in the stores. It is much cheaper to buy stuff here than at home. On our way home Kathy and I walked through Navy Pier. Much of Navy Pier caters to children, but I really liked the Crystal Gardens which is all glass and full of trees, plants and fountains. We ate dinner at Castaways which is on top of the North Avenue Beach Boathouse which is in the shape of a boat. There were a lot of people playing volleyball on the beach but not many people dinning on the roof of the boathouse because there were tornado warnings issued, but Kathy says that tornados never hit Chicago because of the tall buildings. Upon arriving home Nate came upstairs with us because he thought that he had a gas leak. The night ended up with the puppies in our arms, trailing behind Firemen who discovered that the carbon monoxide detectors were just out of date.

June 23 – It was a gloriously sunny morning so we got up earlier and rode to work stopping at various places to get the perfect view and pictures of the sky line. We went through Maggie Daley Park (primarily for children) and then over to Millennium Park (primarily for adults) via the silver/elevated walk way and saw the band shell, the "Bean", the water park for the

children to play in and the gardens. We then went to the Art Institute of Chicago which is pure glass and very modern in the back and the front is very old and stately looking with lions on each side of the entrance way. I helped Diana all day with divorce discovery and learned how complicated tax returns can be in big money cases. Today Diana and I walked all the way down Michigan Avenue during lunch hour. I left work early today to go up to Diana's apartment which is in Marina City which is a circular building across the river from the office. Then me, Kathy, Sara, Shaska, Oren, Shane, Zach, Mary, Lynne and Diana went on an electric boat cruise. It was really a floating cocktail hour with Oren as our captain since he was not drinking. We then rode home via Buckingham Fountain and saw the fountain all lit up. Our route to Buckingham Fountain took us through the lower roads/streets that are underground Chicago. Kathy explained to me that this is why Chicago has no garbage on the sidewalks like in most large cities. All garbage pick-up and delivery trucks use the underground road system so that you do not see the "ugly side of Chicago". We pedaled home in the dark and went to bed after talking to Nate to make plans to see the museums at the end of the week.

June 24 - Today we got up even a bit earlier so that we could ride to work through the "Museum Campus". We saw Soldier Field which is where the Chicago Bears football team plays. It used to have historical landmark status with its stately/Roman columns, but after a major facelift which now makes it look like a spaceship landed in the middle of the columns, it has lost its landmark status, but it is still very interesting to look at. We went over to what used to be known as Meig's Field which was an airport on Northerly Island which was used primarily by the Illinois Governors and State Legislators to go back and forth from Chicago to Illinois' Capital - Springfield. Kathy told me that the "second" Mayor Daley without notice to anyone, in the middle of the night, bulldozed down the tarmac so that the Springfield governor and legislators could no longer interfere in city politics. Since Meig's Field was on Chicago Park District property, the airport could never be rebuilt. They are now using Northerly Island as a bird sanctuary and a concert venue. After that we rode past the Planetarium, Shedd Aquarium and finally to the Field Museum where I saw the statue of "Sue" (the dinosaur) outside. During lunch hour Diana and I went to the West Loop Goodwill Store where I found a lot of treasures to buy. Actually, Diana insisted on buying them for me. After work Kathy and I met her friends Cori and Penny for dinner at Cindy's which is a brand-new restaurant on the top of what used to be the Chicago Athletic Association which has now been remodeled into a hotel. The view was spectacular overlooking Millennium Park, Monroe Harbor, Grant Park and of course the skyline. The most complicated part of the evening was trying to get up the elevator to the restaurant. After dinner we were met by an employee of the restaurant/bar located in the lobby who happened to be in the elevator with us and she convinced us to go down to the restaurant/bar that she worked at and we had an after dinner drink. The two restaurants are totally different with Cindy's being very bright, airy and open and the other bar/restaurant being very dark, oaky and more of a man cave with pool tables, bocce ball courts and other games. We took a taxi home that night since the weather forecasters had lied to us by telling us that it was going to rain all night long which it never did.

June 25 - We slept in today since we did not have a bike to ride to work and instead took the "L" to the office. We had a fine dining experience for breakfast at McDonald's and then started our day at the office. Howard was an expert witness in a legal malpractice case so I watched him testify all morning. On my lunch excursion with Diana today we went back to State Street so that I could do some shopping and I found a watch for my sister's 21st birthday and then stopped at Garrett's popcorn which is a Chicago institution. Portion sizes are way too big in Chicago. After work we took the quick route home from the office which took us down the side of the Lincoln Park Zoo so that we could get home in time to go out for a quick al fresco dinner and get to the Mercury Theater where we saw "Ring of Fire" which is all about the life of Johnny Cash. I got to meet Kathy's boyfriend Bruce who came with us to the play, as did Nate.

June 26 - Kathy played in the Loyola University Law School Alumni Golf outing today. Nate was off work so he and I went out exploring the city's museums. We went to breakfast at Ann Sather's followed by: the Lincoln Park Zoo which made me sad because the animals were all caged in, the Conservatory which is much smaller on the inside than it appears on the outside, the Chicago History Museum and the Contemporary Art Museum. After a bit of an issue figuring out how to get home with our Uber driver, I arrived back at Kathy's house and had dinner with Kathy, Bruce, Little Kathy, Julie, and Charlie. We had a very simple American barbecue with Nate coming up to join us after we had finished eating for leftovers.

June 27 - Nate and I got to the Art Institute of Chicago as soon as they opened and stayed there until they closed. This gave us the opportunity to see the vast majority of the museum with my favorite part being Salvador Dali. Nate thought that we had ridden our bicycles to the wrong building since he remembered the Art Institute of Chicago as being a very old building with two lions on each side of the doorway. I knew that we were at the correct building because Kathy had previously shown me how the contemporary art side of the building looked totally different from the main entrance. We rode our bicycles home and Nate then took off to the suburbs to go to his friend's party and I ventured out on my own to the "World's Largest Block Party" where I met a few people but more important I got to see the Neon Trees. I successfully found my way home on the #8 Halsted bus. I borrowed a cell phone from someone on the bus who allowed me to call Charlie to get directions to get back to Kathy's apartment. Kathy and Bruce were waiting up for me when I got home just to make sure that I arrived safely.

June 28 - Charlie and Julie who I had met Friday evening had a party on the first floor of Kathy's building. There were a lot of people at the party and I finally got to meet Clay who I heard so much about for the past week. We went to the Gay Pride Parade. As I was warned, the parade went on forever and there were too many politicians, but it was quite entertaining and fun trying to get the items such as necklaces that they were throwing from the floats. We then went back to Charlie's apartment for an after party.

June 29 - As usual we cycled into work and then I spent much of the day with Kathy. In the morning we had a pretrial conference with the judge and in the afternoon we had a settlement conference in the opposing counsel's office. During lunch hour Diana and I walked over to the

Sears Tower which is now known as Willis Tower. When I returned to the office I found out that Kathy had made plans to go to the Sears Tower after the settlement conference. We went to the Metropolitan Club which is on the 67th floor and walked around looking at the views from different sides of the building. I met Joyce who works for the Metropolitan Club and she gave me several tidbits of information about Chicago architecture such as that the buildings that have grass growing on the roofs do so to receive tax benefits and that when the Chicago Board of Trade building was built it was the tallest building in Chicago and since it was assumed that no building would ever be built taller than the Chicago Board of Trade building, the statue on the roof of the building does not have a face. Obviously there are many buildings taller than the Chicago Board of Trade today. On our way home from work we stopped at Eatery which is a two-story grocery store/restaurant/wine bar/brewery. People were dining and drinking intermixed with people grocery shopping. We then went to Pizzeria or Uno where I got to experience Chicago style deep dish pizza.

June 30 - Kathy and I got up a little bit earlier than usual today so that we could take our longest bike ride thus far of my trip. We went straight down the bike path to the 31st St. Harbor. From the time that we got to McCormick Place which is Chicago's huge convention center, the southbound trip was primarily on the edge of the walkway just several feet from the water. We stayed on the bike path on the northbound return trip. The south side bike path is much more primitive than the bike path on the north side of Chicago. It is primarily a nature conservatory/bird sanctuary. During lunch Diana and I took another one of our walks and I bought a shirt to wear over my "costume" as well as a pair of shoes for a great price at Old Navy. Diana invited me to go to dinner with her and her boyfriend Jerry in Chinatown and while I was there I bought Kathy some almond cookies because she commented that they were her favorite. My pseudo-parents, Kathy and Bruce were again sitting at the dining room table when I arrived home to make sure I returned safely.

July 1 - Since I left my bike at the office yesterday so that I could go to Chinatown with Diana, Kathy biked to work alone and I again successfully maneuvered through the Chicago mass transit system and took the bus downtown by myself. Over lunch hour Diana and I went back to State Street to do some shopping only to discover that the store that I wanted to go into no longer existed. I did however find a handbag that I really liked for my mom which I may go back to buy for her during my excursions next week. We had originally planned to go to an outdoor jazz concert tonight along the lakefront – at the Shedd Aquarium, however due to unseasonably cold conditions, Kathy and I decided to forgo the outdoor concert and instead go straight home, pick up Gracie (the third dog that I had yet to meet) and go straight to New Buffalo so that we could wake up in New Buffalo first thing in the morning and start yet another new adventure. We had dinner at the Stray Dog which is the bar/restaurant right next to Kathy's condo and then fell straight to sleep.

July 2 - Kathy and I were supposed to go to a real estate sheriff sale today so that she could attempt to buy the house next to her parents, but the sale I continued until August, so instead

we got to play all day in New Buffalo. I slept in while Kathy worked out and then we walked the dogs so that I could see the town. Later on in the day we took a bike ride to see more of the town and did a little shopping. I found some great treasures on the \$2 rack! I went with Kathy real estate shopping, but she did not find as good of a deal as I did with my clothes and purse, so she didn't buy the condo below hers even though we both liked it. We had lunch again at the Stray Dog sitting out on the rooftop deck soaking in the sun. Little Kathy got to New Buffalo that afternoon and we sat out on the balcony with Eddie and Karen who also have a summer home in New Buffalo. Bruce and his son Marshall showed up later on in the evening and we all went to Casey's for dinner.

July 3 - Little Kathy and I were moving slowly, so by the time we woke up breakfast burritos had already been made and Kathy, Bruce and Marshall were already preparing to go out to walk the dogs. When they got back we went for another bike ride. This time instead of riding the tandem with Kathy I got to ride my own bicycle. Little Kathy went grocery shopping while the rest of us went for the bike ride. By the time we got back from the bike ride Marshall had to be put on a train going back to Chicago so we grilled some hotdogs and had a quick lunch on the third floor patio. Little Kathy and I went to the pool and then later on in the afternoon we went to Karen and Eddie's house where I met a huge group of people my own age which were friends of Kristen, Nicole, Matt and Dana who are Eddie and Karen's kids. While waiting for dinner I hung out with Nicole on Dana and John's boat enjoying "marina living". Dinner was a joint effort with Eddie supplying the meat and white wine, and we supplied all of the side dishes, red wine and dessert. I tried several different types of fine red with dinner that we brought with us from the condo. It was well after midnight by the time we left Eddie's house because dinner was broken up by the Fourth of July fireworks that we watched down at the beach. When we arrived home we discovered that we were locked out of Kathy's condo so we called the police who of course were not very happy that we had bothered them with a "nonemergency matter". We next tried calling a locksmith who said that they would come and help us at 8 o'clock the next morning. No one that we called seemed particularly concerned that we were all going to be sleeping on the sidewalk that night. Finally we borrowed a ladder from the Stray Dog and Kathy climbed up onto the balcony of the condo however she was still not able to open the door to let anyone in. Bruce then climbed up the ladder to help Kathy and he was finally able to open the door so that little Kathy and I could get into the condo.

July 4 - Having gotten very little sleep after our escapade of climbing up the balcony, I slept in and woke up as Kathy and Bruce were preparing to go play tennis. Having met all of the fun people at Eddie and Karen's house; after eating breakfast, I walked over to their house to go jet skiing, boating and just hanging out with the other people my age. After going back to Kathy's condo for a quick workout, I went back to Eddie and Karen's house where we again had a joint effort dinner with several other types of nice red wine.

July 5 - Kathy and Bruce again got up to play tennis first thing in the morning, so while they were gone I made them breakfast of scrambled eggs with veggies and garlic which we all

enjoyed on the balcony overlooking the marina. I had made plans to spend the day at Eddie and Karen's house because Bruce was going home to spend the day with his kids and Kathy needed to go visit her brother in the hospital. We again spent the day in and on the water enjoying the weather which has finally warmed up. After spending the day in the sunshine, I went back to the condo for a quick workout, shower and to pack up my clothes to head back to Chicago. We had Eddie's birthday dinner at Eddie and Karen's house and actually made it home at a reasonable time for change.

July 6 - Kathy and I got up at 5:00am to drive back to Chicago. We dropped the dogs off, hopped on our bicycles and still made it to work on time. It was a very "unusual" day at the office with one associate (Oren) being terminated and the partners finding out that the office manager had been arrested and was locked up in jail for embezzling \$278,000 from the prior law firm that she had worked for - so obviously she won't be back either. There are two new associates that will be starting one tomorrow and one the next day, but who knows how long it will take to hire a new office manager. At lunch Diana and I walked over to union station and wandered through the French market then dined on a wonderful Vietnamese sandwich which was surprisingly very good. I left the office early (1:30) to take an architectural walking tour of Chicago which started at 2:00. However, by 3:00 I was drenched, not having any fun and not being able to hear the commentary over my headphones so I rescheduled the tour the following day and came back to the office after of course stopping momentarily to do some more shopping on State Street. After work Kathy and I met Clay at a bar called "Murphy's Bleachers" which is right across the street from the historic Wrigley Field which is where the Chicago Cubs play baseball. Kathy explained to me that going to a baseball game is nothing more than an open air bar for people to party with their friends that just happens to have a baseball game going on in the background. Judging from how drunk a lot of the people were wandering around Wrigley Field - I think her assessment was correct. We then went to dinner at a little pizza place just a few blocks from Kathy's house and ordered individual pizzas for each one of us. When we were almost finished eating the sky opened up again so we finished dinner inside to avoid the rain. Unfortunately we still had to pedal our bikes home in the rain.

July 7 - It was still raining when we woke up, but we decided to ride our bikes to work anyway since by that time we were used to riding our bikes soaking wet. When we got to the office everyone was shocked that Kathy had convinced me to ride in the rain with her, but it really wasn't that bad. A new associate by the name of Shannon started working today so Kathy, Shannon and I went over to court. One of the judges was quite funny warning Shannon that all of Kathy & Howard's associates have a problem with getting pregnant, so she had better be careful working for our firm. I had to leave court while Kathy was in front of the judge arguing a motion because I rescheduled the architectural walking tour for 11:30 that morning. I so much more enjoyed today's tour and yesterday's tour. I now have a much greater appreciation for the buildings that I have been walking by every day with Kathy and Diana. Kathy had only slept a couple hours the night before so she was very tired, consequently after work we just stopped at a little Italian restaurant near her home where I had grilled calamari and lobster ravioli.

Knowing that my time is coming to an end in Chicago when Kathy went straight to bed, I started organizing my suitcases so that we can go from new Buffalo to the airport Sunday night without needing to stop at Kathy's apartment.

July 8 - Kathy and I both had a little bit of problem getting ourselves out of bed today so we had a fairly direct bike ride to work, although nothing with Kathy is really direct. We went through parts of Grant Park that are used for nothing but playing softball and rode by the parts of Grant Park that have already been shut down for Taste of Chicago which we are going to go to on Friday. We also went to Cancer Survivors Park which is a long narrow Park going uphill which is filled with flowers/plants that is just for meditation. Kathy and I went to court in the morning and we actually managed to settle a case that she's been working on for several months. The parties got divorced that morning. This is Kathy's case where her client has a cyber-stalker who somehow managed to be in the back of the courtroom, but the sheriffs threw her out so that she would not interfere with the prove up. Kathy and I then went to celebrate getting out of court early by going to the nail salon and getting manicures. Diana and I took our daily walk to the grocery store where she bought things that she is going to bring out on the boat tomorrow and I had a wonderful "combo lunch" for only \$4. WE walked by the new East Lake Shore Drive portion of Chicago which Kathy and I ride through coming to work, but going slower I was able to see the Aqua building which is "wavy". I love the look of the building. I was supposed to go to a mediation with Kathy this afternoon, but she messed up the time that the mediation commenced, so by the time I got finished with my afternoon walk with Diana she had already left. We had dinner at a Mexican restaurant near Northerly Island. There were 12 of us going to the concert. Bruce, Clay and Julie came to dinner and the concert and I also met some new people: Dave, Barbara, Joy (President of the US Chapter of the IAML), Greg, Marcy, Chuck. I was shocked to have met Joy who had hosted Linda and when she did her studentship a few years ago. It is amazing that Kathy and Joy not only know each other, but a very good friends. Kathy's former associate, Maxine who I had met earlier that day in court was also there with her husband. We biked over to Northerly Island where we all sat together at the John Fogarty concert. Even though I only recognized three songs, I really had a good time. I had really hoped to have a beautiful view of the skyline but the weather did not cooperate. It rained through most of the concert and rained on me and Kathy all the way home.

July 9 - We slept in a bit this morning since we did not get home until after midnight last night so we took a shortcut through the city rather than staying on the bike path the entire way. Kathy pointed out to me Loyola's law school which was on the way. It is amazing to me how all of the universities are right in the middle of the city rather than being in small towns or on the outskirts of the city. We also stopped at Holy Name Cathedral where I went in just to see how beautiful it was, but I could not really wander around inside the cathedral since there was a church service going on at that time. I went to court with Kathy in the morning and sat in on a hearing on a petition for rule to show cause. At the conclusion of the hearing the man was found to be in indirect civil contempt of court. After the hearing Kathy explained to me all the different things that the attorneys did wrong in the hearing and how it impacted the judge's

ruling. Afterwards I went up to watch the proceedings in the court room that Howard was in and then took off for another architectural walking tour. This tour focused on "indoor art" in Chicago's office buildings. Immediately after the tour ended I went to The Goodman Theatre to meet Cori who had invited me to the matinee performance of Vanya & Sonia & Marsha & Spike. I had a bit of problem finding my seat because I was directed to a lift (elevator) that dropped me off on a four that was not intended for patrons, rather was full of actors rehearsing their lines. It took me a while to figure out how to get off of that floor and to find my seat. The play was very funny and enjoyable. Kathy and I left work and pedaled to the grocery store that Diana and I had been to the day before to pick up some things to take on the Tiki Boat (party boat) which we picked up in Monroe Harbor. Once again getting to my destination was the most difficult part of the event since the email directions that we were sent Addison one part of Monroe Harbor and the Tiki Boat was on the far side of the yacht club. We were joined by Bruce, Julie, Little Kathy, Joyce, Joy, Greg, Diana & Jerry. I also got to meet Joyce's nephew Jon and Kathy's friend Penny. We had a barbeque on the boat and enjoyed the Chicago skyline as the day turned into night and all the lights came on in the city. We pedaled home that night without getting rained on and it was first bike ride I experienced where the wind was behind me so I felt like I had no impediment to peddling.

July 10 - Since this was my last bike ride into work Kathy and I stopped and took various pictures along the way. Our first stop was Olive Park which had a very nice view of the northern sky line. We then stopped at two separate locations on the River Walk to get pictures of my favorite buildings. After Michael and I help Kathy clean out her office I spent the rest of the morning working with Diana to finish up a project. Clay and I then went to Taste of Chicago to see Mike Goldman and Friends in concert. Kathy's niece is a member of the band and was supposed to play, but because her father had been ill she was not able to fly back into Chicago for the performance. I really enjoyed the concert especially since Kathy had given me the name of the band in advance so that I could listen to some of their music before I came to Chicago. As soon as I got back from Taste of Chicago Kathy and I rode home to get the three puppies and took off for New Buffalo. It is quite a sight to see three puppies in a convertible driving down the highway, especially with two of them having mussels on their faces so that they don't attack one another. We took a different route to get to New Buffalo this time so that we could drive past the Museum of Science and Industry on our way. We got to New Buffalo in time to see a beautiful sunset with Little Kathy and to have dinner at Casey's. Bruce showed up at the end of dinner.

July 11 - Today was Kathy and Bruce's birthday so I got up first thing in the morning and made them a wonderful breakfast that everyone enjoyed. While Little Kathy went to the grocery store to pick up some supplies for dinner and Kathy and Bruce went to play tennis, I organized my suitcase for my travel home and then went to town to see if there was anything else that I "needed" to buy on the \$2 rack. Unfortunately, the \$2 rack was only for Fourth of July weekend so I came home with no new purchases. We spent the afternoon on Meg and Paul's boat with their kids Nico, Anthony and Marco as well as with Kathy's stepdaughter Laura and

step granddaughter Sarah who were in from California visiting Indiana University where Sarah starts as a freshman in the fall. We spent a good portion of the afternoon on the beach in Union Pier where their friends had rented a home for the week. We got back to Meg and Paul's house just in time to miss a slight rain shower although the skies looked much more ominous. After a quick shower and change we went back to Meg and Paul's house for dinner of Seafood Pasta, Caesar Salad and of course red wine. Karen and Eddie joined us for dinner as well as Meg's friend Michelle. We celebrated multiple birthdays since Paul, Eddie and Nico also all have birthdays the same week. It was a very late-night and we all went home very tired.

July 12 - We got up first thing in the morning to go out kayaking. Little Kathy stayed home while me, Kathy and Bruce took their two-person kayak and Meg and Paul's two-person kayak out for a spin on Lake Michigan. While coming out of the harbor we ran into Karen, Eddie and their son Matt so we stopped at their beach to get our pictures taken and Karen decided to come out as the fourth person on our kayaking trip. We had a quick lunch at the condo while we closed it up for the weekend and prepared to head to the airport. Kathy and I drove to the airport without the puppies who had gone home with Bruce. Mickey got very excited and I was afraid that he would jump out of the car when he saw us pull up beside Bruce's car while driving down the highway. After a few interesting driving maneuvers, Kathy and I stopped for one final drink before we went to the airport. It was very sad for both of us at the airport. We both had tears in our eyes as we gave each other multiple hugs goodbye. I am happy to be heading off on the next phase of my trip, but very sad to be leaving Chicago.





