

## My Daily emails describing the previous day's activities with the folks

### Day 00 – written Wednesday AM, 28 March 2018

Once the folks arrived, we had pulled pork sandwiches on the breezeway, too. They were not all that hungry as I guess they packed a few snacks with them and a banana or two. We sat and visited for a bit. Dad had a bit of a nap in the chair out there, then later got about 20 minutes of sun (and a few Zzzzs as well). It was nice to sit out and visit.

Eventually we got our act together and got on the golf cart and headed to the Smiling Bison for dinner. Tommy was already there as was our friend Stephanie. And just after we got there, Kevin and Debe Abbott, our friends and artists from Gallery on First, also joined us. We all had the wings and a few drinks and also shared some poutine. The wings were good as always and we had a good time. Tommy had to leave at 6:30 for a meeting, and we left not too much later. On the way back I took the folks on a short golf cart ride along the Riverwalk and through downtown—it was a pleasant evening.

Once back here we were just in time for Jeopardy and Wheel of Fortune. By the time it was over, Tommy was back from his meeting. We watched American Idol and then watched the “new” Roseanne via DVD—it was actually pretty good and the same old characters and humor—very retro, I liked it. And then it was time for bed.

Mom is up already and says to say hi. She says Dad still had some issues with his APAP machine, and used it for 4 hours, then took it off, but later put it on again. She thinks he's just having a hard time adjusting to it. We had it all set up correctly, though. We'll see, it's probably just a learning process.

Mom says to tell you that their pilot yesterday was George Clooney—or at least a good imposter! Apparently a number of passengers were thinking/saying the same thing. Their flights were fine. They left Appleton about 20 minutes or so late, but arrived here right about on time.

We have no plans for today. I may make dinner, we'll see. I'm thinking maybe burgers on the grill would be fun. It's supposed to be warm today, about 80 for a high, and even warmer tomorrow before cooling down for the weekend. But the wind is supposed to die down today too—it was very windy yesterday.

### Day 01 – written Thursday AM, 29 March 2018

We topped out somewhere around 83 degrees yesterday, but the dew point stayed low and thus the humidity as well, so it was pleasant. There was a good breeze out of the ENE most of the day so that helped as well. Today is supposed to be a bit warmer, and tomorrow too. Then maybe some storms late tomorrow and a cool-down for the weekend, back into the 70s. So nice weather, overall.

Tommy grilled burgers for dinner last night and we ate inside, at the dining room table. I doctored up some pork and beans and we had some other leftover go-with's again. But it was nice to have burgers on the grill.

After Jeopardy and Wheel were over, we played a game of 65 last night. I think Dad was the winner overall, but it was a somewhat close game. I ended up exactly even. But it was fun. We had a nice chance to all talk with Jean on speakerphone during our game, too, so that was a nice break. At 10 Tommy needed his news fix, and then we went to bed!

## Day 02 – written Friday AM, 30 March 2018

I went to the gym about 10 yesterday and did a full Thursday AND Friday workout—upper and lower body. So that took a bit longer but I was glad to get it done with and now won't have to worry about trying to fit it in today. When I got home Mom was napping on the sofa and Dad was nowhere to be seen. Mom woke and said he'd gone for a walk. By about 10 to 1, we were both sort of wondering where he was since I was back home around 11:30 or so. And then Tommy called—Dad was at the welcome Center. So I hopped in the golf cart and picked him up. I'm not sure where all he was but I think he was just out enjoying the day and talking to people. He said he never got to the lake, and that's only a few blocks to the north. Good that he got out and walked. He did mention maybe we should eat at a restaurant that he saw that had outdoor seating—but I pointed out that every restaurant downtown has outdoor seating! I'm sure we will at some point, though.

We had lunch here—leftover pierogi from last weekend. They each had three apiece, so now I've only a few left. Thankfully.

We had a quiet afternoon here. We did take a bit of a ride and went to the Gallery on First—they have a very cool exhibit there right now and I wanted the folks to see it. We also ran into Debe and Kevin Abbott there, and they got to meet another studio artist, Charlie Ramos. So we had a nice visit there, but then we came back here, Mom wasn't really interested in going anywhere else. Once back they both sat out in the sun for a bit. Later on I went to check on Dad but he had wisely moved into the shade for a nap, so no worries about sunburn. The sun is hot this time of year and it would not take long to burn.

I spent the latter part of the afternoon in the kitchen, making dinner. I got some really nice cobs of corn and made creamed corn out of that—it turned out very sweet and yummy. All I add is butter and heavy cream, with a touch of salt, pepper, and paprika, and then just roast it a good while. I also made a cauliflower “mac” n cheese. And for our main course I did sous vide a pork tenderloin. I pounded them just a bit so they are maybe 1” thick and somewhat flat, then set them in the sous vide for 140-degrees. Once they were in, we took off for The District to meet Tommy after work. He arrived shortly after we did and we had happy hour. Both the owners—who we know—came by to chat a bit, so that was nice. While we were there, my sous vide “alarm” went off to let me know the pork was done, and eventually we headed home. I only had to warm the “mac” in the oven a bit, microwave the corn, and then quickly brown the pork steaks over high heat, and then we were ready to eat. It all turned out very good. And, fortunately, we were done eating by the time Jeopardy started.

Eventually we played another game of 65, but this time Tommy was the big winner and Dad and I were pretty much losers. But we had fun and I guess that's what counts. It was pretty close to 10 by the time we were done. We watched a bit of news before going to bed. And that was our day.

## Day 03 – written Saturday AM, 31 March 2018

We had a somewhat low-key day here yesterday. I had a 10 AM meeting for Nancy's mayoral campaign. When I got home the folks were gone. They'd wanted to walk to the Riverwalk, but Tommy took them there on the golf cart. So a bit later we went up there and they were enjoying a beautiful day, sitting on some of the new benches in the shade. Mom said they'd walked a few blocks along the Riverwalk as well. We visited a bit, then decided to go to the Colonial Room Diner for lunch. We sat outside, it was just so nice out with a nice breeze and near 80. We all had their deep-fried haddock special! Almost a WI fish fry! It was very good and very filling. Very, very filling. Once we were done, we took the scenic

route home and then once home, it was nap time. Well, at least for Mom and Dad. I was also very tired after lunch and felt very groggy for the next few hours. So we just took it easy the rest of the afternoon and into the evening. The folks sat outside in the sun a bit as well. I did manage to squeeze in a nice long walk, though still fell short for the day in my step total. 😞

Later on we watched some news. Dad was the only one who had any dinner, the rest of us still weren't hungry and only had a few snacks. But I made Dad a small plate of leftovers and that's what he had. After Jeopardy and Wheel, we watched Triple-D for a bit, but then later played another game of 65. Tommy was the big winner last night and I was a big loser. Oh well. I think all the rest of us lost as he ended up over a dollar to the good! Raking in the big bucks! Eventually we had on a bit more news before heading to bed.

Dad had a bit of trouble with the CPAP machine last night, but then I unplugged it and plugged it back in and it then worked fine. Guess it just needed a reboot! I think the previous night he got a good night's sleep with it. He wasn't sure how long he used it but also Mom wasn't aware of any thrashing around either. But they both had some nap time yesterday during the day too.

#### Day 04 – written Easter Sunday, 01 April 2018

We had a full day yesterday. Tommy and I went and did the weekly shopping yesterday, early. There was only one thing I needed to run out for later on, though that ended up as an armful of stuff anyway. But we got that done and taken care of early. Then we took Dad along on a "tour" of the historic district as there was a district-wide garage sale going on. Maybe about 10 or so houses, plus some outside of the district. Some that were on the list must have bowed out at the last moment, too. But we saw a bunch of folks we know, both those selling and those buying, and we managed to return empty handed—that's a good thing. We really just wanted to look.

Later on Tommy and I walked down to the farmers market and got just a few things there, including some strawberries and a loaf of rustic whole grain bread—we'll have some of that for breakfast in a bit. It was busy downtown, too. We also stopped at Magnolia Market and I picked up some deli ham, some really good sliced turkey, and some fancy sliced imported Emmentaler cheese.

Once home I made lunch. I cut up the strawberries for lunch and they turned out to be about the best strawberries I'd had in a long, long time. They were absolutely delicious. Wish I had gotten two! I made panini type sandwiches with the Ziguener turkey and Emmentaler cheese—they turned out really good as well. So that was our lunch, along with some chips.

Later in the afternoon I was in the kitchen to work on dessert for today. I made a Polish Papal Cream Cake. The top and bottom are puff pastries. Well, the first batch, one of them burned, ever so slightly. But too much to be tasty, so I headed to the store and got another. So the bottom crust was good but I needed a better top crust—perfectionist that I am. The next one (this time I baked only one at a time)—the next one (now on my 3<sup>rd</sup>) turned out a bit short, so I made the 4<sup>th</sup> and it was perfect for the 13x9 pan. So it only took me two packages or four puff pastries to get two that were acceptable! Whew! So that took up my afternoon, for the most part.

For 5 PM, Tommy and I headed to an Art Show opening at Casselberry, a city about 10 miles to the south of us. The had a show at city hall and Tommy plus a bunch of other artists had work in that show. There were four artists from Gallery on First in that show as well as others Tommy knows. So it was a lot of fun

and they had a VIP reception (and parking for us). There was also a Jazz in the park going on as well. It was a good time but it rained for a while there, so that put a damper on the outdoor event.

Once back here, we loaded up the folks in the golf cart and headed to Zorba's for dinner. Mom and Dad shared a lasagna—the lasagna there is huge. Tommy and I did our normal, a small pepperoni and mushroom pizza, and small Greek salads. Yum. Afterward we went around the corner to Springfest and sat and listened a bit to the excellent band, playing a mix of music with a German/Polka twist. There was a good crowd there and the music was good. Earlier in the afternoon Dad had taken a walk and was down there listening to the music. So I'm glad they both got to see it and the street parties we have in Sanford.

Once home I got to work on the crême for the *Kremówka Papieska*, I decided to make a double batch. I was worried it'd be lumpy or not set, but it turned out beautiful and tasty. So the cake is ready to be dusted with powdered sugar and taken along this afternoon with us—it's for the gathering we're invited to. And then we finished with some TV, some HGTV and some news and were headed to bed by 10:30 or so.

#### Day 05 – written Monday AM, 02 April 2018

We had a good day here yesterday, now it's time to take on the week. We started the day with Easter breakfast about 8:30: scrambled eggs, ham, Polish sausage, *cwikła* (chrzan), cheese, bread, English muffins, and some tomatoes. It was a good breakfast. Afterwards, we got ready and I took the folks to church for 10 AM Easter mass at All Souls chapel which is right here in the historic district. I'd never been in this church before. It is rather nice. We left here about 9:30 because I had no idea how crowded it may be. As it turned out, it was a pretty full church but there were still seats available. They had a nice choir for the Mass and they were singing while we waited. Mass was just a bit long, ending about 11:10. The priest was pretty good, rather funny, and entertaining at times as well.

Once home we relaxed for a while and sat out on the front porch for a good hour or so. Eventually I finished up my Polish Papal Crème Cake and got it ready to go and then we took off for our afternoon Easter celebration. There were a number of friends of ours there as well as some neighbors and friends of Linda and John's (the hosts) and we had a very fun time. One lady, who is also Polish and loves to make *gołąbki* and wants to come to our pierogi party had her 97-year-old mother there! The food was awesome, quite a nice variety. They had plenty of drinks of all types as well, and the desserts were very good as well. I had lots of compliments on mine. We ate very well. And it was a fun afternoon of visiting and fun. For those interested, they had some tables set up and were decorating Easter Eggs. And at one point we had an adult Easter Egg hunt—they scattered baggies with a few pieces of candy and little bottles of booze. Some of them had tasks in them, so you had to do the task. For example, Tommy had to sing his favorite Easter song. One guy led a conga line doing the bunny hop! And so forth. It was fun. Of course everyone was happy to meet Mom and Dad and they in return had a good time meeting a bunch of our friends. It was a good time and it was past 5 when we finally took off. We did go in Tommy's car, even though they are in the golf cart district, but we had some stuff to carry along, too.

Once home we just relaxed and vegetated for a while. We really weren't hungry and I don't think anyone had more than maybe a slice of toast, or in Dad's case, a bowl of ice cream. But we had a good breakfast and a nice mid-afternoon meal with dessert. So we weren't really hungry, either. There may have been just a bit of snacking going on here and there though. Then eventually at 8 PM we watched

*Jesus Christ Superstar* on TV. I thought it was very good, but Judas really stole the show, too. John Legend did a great job as well, but Alice Cooper's part was very, very minor—after a big build-up. But I'm glad we watched and we enjoyed it. Of course it went late—till 10:30 for us, but it was worth it. We went to bed shortly after it ended.

I'm not sure what we'll do today. I think maybe I'll suggest going to Black Point drive on Merritt Island, but we'll see.

#### Day 06 – written Tuesday AM, 03 April 2018

It was a warm day here yesterday and made it up to 89 for a high! Too hot for this time of year. But it was also mostly sunny and breezy and so did not feel quite that warm. It was a bit more pleasant in the morning when we were out and about, too. It is still dry here, but it was Monday, and so Tommy did his normal Monday watering of plants. We're expecting warm weather again today, but hopefully not quite as warm as yesterday, but still rather nice out—not like the weather forecast for central WI, for sure!

In the latter part of the morning we headed to Green Springs park which is almost directly across Lake Monroe from Sanford. It's a Sulphur spring, and smells so as well, and very green. But you could see some small fish in it, too. We had a nice time and both the folks did a bit of walking there—they have both been walking a lot more than they're accustomed to in the winter back home, so that's a good thing. I imagine you saw the pictures on Facebook.

Once home we had a lunch of leftovers and managed to empty quite a few containers—that was a good thing, they had been piling up a bit. After that it was nap time for the folks, and I took a nice, long, hour-long walk—I needed the steps, I've been slacking for a while. The rest of the afternoon was pretty quiet. I'm not sure what all we did. Some sitting, some talking, some walking.

Later on we made a run to the grocery store, and then Tommy made burgers and hot dogs on the grill, and that was our dinner. After Jeopardy and Wheel of Fortune, we watched Sunday night's *American Idol* courtesy of the DVR. By the time it was over, it was 9:30 and the folks went to bed, and we went by about 10.

We don't have any plans for today. Mom mentioned maybe going to Wal-Mart while I go to the gym. Tomorrow we plan on the zoo in the morning. And Friday we're going to Black Point Drive on Merritt Island and then lunch and visiting with Pat and George Cohen—it will be good to see them, I'm sure. By the way, the folks are enjoying all your emails—I print them out so they can each read them

#### Day 07 – written Wednesday AM, 04 April 2018

Tommy worked yesterday so was gone all day. I went to the gym at 10 and dropped the folks off at Wal-Mart while I was at the gym. I combined most of a Tuesday-Wednesday workout into one day, so hurried along and only skipped a few minor things to get done on time. I was tired by the time I was done, and hot.

Once back home I went out for a nice long walk to get in my steps for the day, getting all the way to the east end of the Riverwalk and back. When I got back home, the folks were already eating lunch, so I joined them. We've pretty well cleared the leftovers out of the fridge by now, and took care of most of the rest for supper last night, too. We had a mostly quiet afternoon here. The folks took a few naps, but also spent a bit of time outside and walking just a bit as well as some time in the sun.

Later in the afternoon I got cleaned up and for 6 PM I headed out for a Trust Board meeting, just as Tommy and the folks were finishing up eating dinner. The Trust meeting was good and not too long, so I was back in time for final Jeopardy! For our evening entertainment, after Wheel of Fortune, we first watched Roseanne, then American Idol from the previous night via DVD. The folks went to bed about 9:30, before that was over and we went not much after 10 or so—after Tommy had his news fix, of course.

### Day 08 – written Thursday AM, 05 April 2018

Yes, we went to the zoo yesterday morning. It was a good time. The temp was still pretty mild and pleasant out, and there is a lot of shade there, so that helped as well. We got a motorized wheelchair for Mom and she used it most of the time—Dad used it a little when she did some walking. We saw many of the main highlights. A few animals weren't out and there are some sections they're working on and closed. But still it was a good time. We were there a good two hours. We even ran into some folks we know—twice! First we ran into a friend who comes to our pierogi parties and who I was in Polish class with way back when. Then later we ran into some Sanford friend that were there with family, from Mark's Dad down to his grandkid. It was a nice day to be at the zoo.

Eventually we headed to Chianti's where we had lunch. They were busy but service was good and lunch was good as always. Mom and Dad both had the meatball with spaghetti, Tommy had chicken alfredo, and I had a chicken parm sandwich with a salad. It was all very good.

Once home it was R&R time for Mom and Dad, and both were soon napping. Meanwhile I went on a nice walk to get in some more steps, and so once again met my step goal—hooray. The rest of the afternoon was quiet. Both Mom and Dad spent a bit of time in the sun—but not too much—and both picked up a bit of color. I'm sure they're happy about that. Then later it was time for me to shower and get ready and I headed to city hall for a 4 PM meeting. It was interesting, to say the least. I lasted under two hours. It was also live-streamed on Facebook and Tommy watched the meeting from home. At the end during citizen's participation I spoke about the need for fiscal responsibility since they've amended the current year's budget beyond recognition from the original, and are out of money to spend for the rest of the year—with 5 months left in the fiscal year. Not that it'll change much, but at least they know someone's watching.

I headed home afterward, and shortly after we headed to St. John's River Steak & Seafood for dinner. It's located on Marina Island, right on Lake Monroe. It was windy so we sat inside, but we had a nice view of the lake. As it turns out, Wednesdays (during Daylight Saving Time) are the Rum Race, a sailboat race around the lake, and we got to see a bunch of sailboats out there. So it was quite nice to see. The food and service were good and we had a good time. Mom had crab cakes, Dad had a BLT. Tommy had the fish n chips, and I had salmon which was pretty good, too. So once again we had a good experience there.

We were out in the golf cart, and after dinner we stopped by The Imperial for a nightcap, and to show the place to the folks. Dad had a glass of wine, but mom had nothing. Of course, Tommy and I had our "usuals." We sat outside and enjoyed the nice evening air. It was not that busy as it was Wednesday night but was sure a pleasant evening to sit outside. We got home right around 8 or shortly thereafter. The rest of our evening was watching a DVR'd episode of *The Voice* from a previous night. Mom went to bed early, around 9. Dad went a bit later after the program ended and seemed to get his machine on OK.

He said this morning he slept well and he believes he had it on all night. We were in bed by about 10:30 after Tommy's news fix.

### Day 09 – written Friday AM, 06 April 2018

We had a somewhat busy day here yesterday. Tommy worked all day. But I went to the gym about 10 AM and again dropped the folks off at Wal-Mart. I had a good workout and again did a double workout, so a bit longer and a bit quicker and a bit more tiring, but still a good workout. I gave myself a bit extra time yesterday so I could get it all in, and I did. Once back home the folks made themselves some sandwiches for lunch and I had some leftovers—the last of the pierogi and a bit of Polish sausage. Then I went out on a nice long walk to get in some steps.

The folks spent the afternoon a bit napping, a bit in the sun, and a bit in the shade just enjoying a nice day here. I was busy on some other stuff and had to run a few errand, mostly to the bank which is w whopping two block away—barely two.

Eventually we had dinner, once Tommy got home from work. I fried burgers on the stove and we had some leftover turnip gratin and a few other things to go-with. Yumm. Tommy took off for the theater about 6:30 and we headed there right about 7:00. Our friend Jan met us there and so the folks got to meet her. We saw a number of other folks we know as well. Of course the movie took up most of our evening—it is a long movie at well over 3 hours with an intermission about 2 hours into it. But it's such a nice movie and again I enjoyed it, a lot. So it was about 11 by the time we got home from that. The folks went right to bed, we sat up just a bit until nearly midnight. A long day.

It was also a nice day and a bit cooler yesterday, we barely made it to 80 for a high, and it was sunny and we had a nice breeze all day, so a perfect day. Today should be quite similar as well. No complaints about this weather as long as it stays cool. It's too early for summer.

Today we'll head to Black Point Drive on Merritt Island, it's a very nice drive. Afterward we'll head to Pat and George's. Pat is going to have us over for lunch and Gary and Scott might even join us depending on their work schedules. So that'll be a fun time.

### Day 10 – written Saturday AM, 07 April 2018

Well, I failed miserably at getting my FitBit step total yesterday, but I did do a lot of driving and covered a lot of territory. Once we got moving yesterday, we left the house about 9 AM. Our first destination was Black Point Drive, on the Merritt Island Wildlife Refuge. It's a nice, scenic, one-way drive through some very nice areas. We are a bit late to see many migratory birds, but we did see a lot including

- An American Bald Eagle, high in a pine tree
- A good dozen or more alligators, of various sizes
- Several Roseate Spoonbills
- Lots and lots of other birds including sandpipers, herons, egrets, ibises, and other shore and marsh birds, some in big flocks
- Fish jumping
- A turtle
- Lots of tiny crabs at water's edge
- And a lot more

It was a nice drive. We took the truck because you sit up higher and it's easier to see stuff. We stopped a few times and walked just a bit. Tommy and I want to come back early some morning in January or so when all the birds are there, it must really be amazing. It took us a good hour or more to make that journey, but was a lot of fun and we saw a lot. It was also a nice day so we spent most of the time with the windows open, as well. Thankfully there were few bugs.

After that we headed to Biolab road, also (now) a one-way drive and also (new) a charge. But it's a nice drive on a gravel road (like black point), but along the western edge of the Indian River (more like the south section of Mosquito Lagoon). Very peaceful. And also a few gators along the way, but in the swampy area, not the river/lagoon. At times you are right on the Indian River. There were a few spots where people had pulled off and were fishing or picnicking or shelling or just sunning. It was a nice drive, but again, a slow drive. By the time we were done, it was going on 1 PM. We gave Pat a call and then headed there.

When we got to Pat and George's, she had dinner ready. Scott was already there and Gary arrived just a few minutes later, so we got to see them as well. Pat had a great lunch for us with lots and lots of food to eat—and we ate it. Later on we had two desserts, a peanut butter pie and a cheesecake. She really went all out, but it was very good. After Scott and Gary took off, we played a game of 65—it was all in fun and a good time. Of course there was plenty of visiting during the game as well. By the time that ended it was past 5 and we were ready to take off. Pat wanted us to stay for another lunch, but we declined—we were still full and we never did eat another meal for the day.

It was a pleasant drive to and from the coast and we got home well past 6, maybe closer to 7. The rest of the evening was quiet and restful. Tommy and I sat on the front porch a bit while the folks watched Jeopardy and Wheel of Fortune. Then at 8 we watched Triple-D for a while—though I know that at one point I was dozing a bit. We put on just shy of 100 miles yesterday, but it was four hours of actual driving time as a lot of Black Point Drive was stop and go, and go quite slowly, looking at what there was to see. By 9 Mom was headed to bed, and Dad shortly thereafter.

Earlier in the evening, Dad did practice putting on his CPAP machine, and that went fine. It also seemed he got it good when he went to bed last night. Mom says he slept well last night, too.

Tommy managed to get most of the laundry done yesterday and only had the last load to dry last night. Now this morning he'll do his ironing. We don't have any definite plans for today, we'll see how it goes. We plan to get tickets for tomorrow's performance of the Orlando Gay Chorus at the Wayne Densch Performing Arts Center. Tickets are half price, and it should be a lot of fun, too.

### Day 11 – written Sunday AM, 08 April 2018

In the good news department, we had rain yesterday! It was only about 4/10 of an inch, but still very welcome. We have a chance for more over the next few days, too. This was courtesy of a cold front that came through with a line of showers, about 7 PM last night. It was a nice rain. Tommy is happy because he spent part of the day fertilizing everything, too. It still got pretty warm yesterday, 87 for a high. But today will be cooler. In the afternoon we saw more and more clouds, but still warm and also very windy. We were all sitting on the front porch for a while and the wind was really something. Today we are told will be mostly cloudy though I see the sun shining now—and only in the lower 70s, a nice respite.



Of course in the *other* good news department, congratulations to Sean and Ashely. Soon Finley will be a big sister. When Sean called and asked for Mom and Dad I figured something was up. They were happy to hear the good news as well. I think that will be like the 15<sup>th</sup> great-grandchild, maybe? I'm not sure, I lost count! Yep, I just counted—the 15<sup>th</sup>! Wow. Congrats to Donna and Tom as well, I'm sure you're thrilled, too.

We had a quiet day here. We did some outside work and later in the morning ran to Wally World for more fertilizer for Tommy, plus a few groceries. For lunch I made eggs and brown-n-serve sausages with English Muffins and cantaloupe. For dinner Tommy made burgers and hot dogs on the grill and we had that with some macaroni salad, chips, green grapes, and some souped up pork-n-beans.

I made several trips to the farmer market yesterday. On my first trip there I spied an old Underwood typewriter that a guy had for sale. We'd been talking about that the previous day with Scott Cohen and he said he was looking for an old antique typewriter. So I TXT'd him a picture with the guy's price. He TXT'd back with an offer, so later on I went back to the farmers market—again on foot—and the guy took the offer. So I came home to get the golf cart to pick it up. Those old typewriters are heavy! So Scott now has his typewriter. It's really in fairly good shape, too.

Those trips downtown plus our shopping trip helped me get in my steps for the day, too. So that's a good thing. We had a quiet evening at home here, playing a game of 65. I think Mom was the big winner if I remember correctly. Well, it was all in good fun. I think we got to bed about 11 though I think I napped a bit in the chair beforehand as well. We are all up already today and Tommy is doing his weekly vacuuming right now. Mom is sitting on the front porch in the cool 65-degree weather, and Dad is in front of the TV in the living room.

This afternoon we're going to a concert at the Wayne Densch Performing Arts Center, the Orlando Gay Chorus is performing. We got some half-price tickets and it should be a fun time. For dinner tonight we'll have a pot roast—I need to get that in the crock pot in a bit here. That's so easy, just let it cook all day long!

## Day 12 – written Monday AM, 09 April 2018

In the morning Tommy and I headed to Wally World for our weekly shopping. It was not too bad of an experience and not too terribly busy either.

Later on I made Sunday brunch—pancakes. Tommy loves pancakes, but I'd never made them for him. It also gave me a chance to use the griddle that came with the range. It really only can make two at a time, but worked well. With the addition of some sausages and some fruit, that was our brunch. After lunch and dishes were done and in the dishwasher, I did take a bit of a walk through downtown and around the area. It was pretty busy as there was a Master's Golf put-put tourney going on—18 different small holes were set up around various bars and restaurants downtown and you could enter (proceeds to charity) and try your hand at putting. They were quite imaginative, just like a mini-golf course. So there were lots of folks out and about doing that and I ran into a few people we know along the way, too.

Our main activity of the day was attending the concert by the Orlando Gay Chorus at the Wayne Densch Performing Arts Center. It was very good. There were about 60 voices on stage, and my, they could sing. They also had several other smaller groups singing some song, and so a nice variety. We enjoyed it and were glad we went. Saw a few folks we know there as well, too. We actually drove there because it

looked like rain. But it didn't rain and downtown was pretty busy so Tommy had to walk a bit to park anyhow.

Later on we had dinner—pot roast. I had gotten it browned and in the crock pot early in the morning, and later on made some lemon jello with mandarin oranges—it's been ages since we had jello! It turned out to be a good meal. I used horseradish on it and that worked well. At the very end I took the juice and the onions and pureed it before thickening a bit, so a nice gravy to go with as well, for the carrots and potatoes. So we ate well.

Later on we had dessert—Pumpkin Cheesecake pierogi topped with whipped cream and some candied pecans. Yummy.

Our evening's entertainment was another game of 65, and Tommy was the big winner last night and Dad and I the big losers—even with Mom throwing me several wild cards. But it was fun and entertaining. It was about 10:30 by the time we were heading to bed.

### Day 13 – written Tuesday AM, 10 April 2018

We had a little bit of rain yesterday and some periods of clouds and sprinkles, then it'd clear out and be sunny, so very variable weather. In the morning I took the folks on a long golf cart ride. We went everywhere in and around the historic districts, both residential and commercial, and even quite a bit outside the district as there are some beautiful homes there as well. We were probably gone a good hour, maybe closer to two. So we got to see a lot. Including a pretty good-sized alligator just floating down the St. John's, maybe 30 feet or so offshore. So that was our morning. It started out cloudy but eventually the sun came out.

Then we went for lunch to the Willow Tree café. We had a good lunch there. We ran into a few friends, and even Theo Hollerbach the owner came by to say hi. The food was good as always is there. We had a quiet afternoon here. Mostly we sat outside on the breezeway and visited. We had some sprinkles a few times, but later on it moved out. I did get in a walk for a bit—I'd have gone further but the clouds were getting darker and indeed it rained a bit shortly after. So I never did get in my steps for the day.

For dinner we headed to The District and it was very good, as always. I had the ahi tuna tacos, they were great. Mom had soup and a burger. Tommy had soup and wings, and dad had the braised short ribs. All the food was good, and the three of us that had the soup really loved it—it was some sort of southwest bacon chicken corn chowder but was loaded with chicken—it was excellent. Tommy said maybe the best soup he ever had. It was not busy and the owners stopped by to say hi as well as a few friends that were there. So we ate well and had fun.

Once home we saw the remainder of Jeopardy and Wheel of Fortune, then played a game of 65. Tommy was again the big winner and I didn't do too poorly. Good thing the folks' ticket for their return is already paid for! LOL But it was fun and by the time we were done it was near bedtime.

### Day 14 – written Wednesday AM, 11 April 2018

It is decidedly cooler this morning, only 58 out right now and still falling. The temp started to fall quickly around 8 PM last night, and then overnight we had more rain, just over an inch. That brings our 3-day total to over 3 inches of rain! Well, we needed it, and when it rains, it pours! But, according to the weather forecasts, the rain is over now and we can expect to see the sun and pleasant temperatures today, in the 70s. It'll be a good final day for the folks, they'll be able to soak up some sun.

Tommy worked yesterday. Meanwhile I went to the gym and dropped the folks off at Target, so they got to see our super Target. Mom said it was big, and it is. Once back we had some leftovers for lunch. We had a quiet afternoon here. I went out on one short walk but it started to sprinkle, so I gave that up. I did not make my step total for the day yesterday. Boo-hoo. Later on in the afternoon I made some pierogi. There was a Cook's Illustrated recipe I wanted to try. I'll still go back to my own dough recipe though, but it was fun to try it. This dough has bread flour and used egg and sour cream. It also had a teaspoon of baking powder in it. Not sure what that bought it. I made sure to rest it a good long time on the counter, not in the fridge like the recipe suggested. And then it rolled out nicely. Anyway, it was fun. Mom helped me fill some of them as well. The filling was potatoes and cheddar cheese. Supposedly they got the inspiration for this recipe from some pierogi places in Pittsburgh. We had some for dinner, boiled, and the rest are in the freezer, I'll bag them up soon. We'll have them another day.

Dinner last night was a repeat performance of our pot roast dinner from Sunday—I put all the stuff in a pan and warmed it in the oven. So we had another eat-at-home day. Not sure what we'll do today, we've already eaten at most of the high lights in Sanford, with the exception of the Truffle. After dinner it was of course time for Jeopardy and then Wheel of Fortune. And then Roseanne. That show is still good and funny just like it was long ago. After that we watched a previously recorded episode of The Voice. Tommy went to bed early, about 9, as he's not been feeling the greatest. Mom and Dad went about 9:30 and I headed to bed about 10, so it was an early night for all of us last night. And that was our day.

#### Day 15 – written Thursday AM, 12 April 2018

Well, the folks are in the airport right now, we left them at security but watched and they were in good hands, being helped, so they'll be fine. We got up early, at 4:45, as we weren't sure how the airport would be. When I came up for Aunt Agnes' funeral, it was packed at 5:30. Today it was surely busy, but not nearly as packed as that time. So that's good. They should be to their gate by now, almost an hour before their 6:55 flight. We were out of here at 5:15, just to make sure we had no issues. Everyone at the airport was most helpful, too. So that is that, they are back on their way to chilly WI, but I think you'll notice a bit of a tan on them, too. They enjoyed their time here and we enjoyed having them, it was a good visit. Plus we probably made something like 35-cents off them or more in all those games of 65!

We had a somewhat low key day here yesterday. Both Mom and Dad got some walks in in the morning—and so did I. They have been getting their exercise when here—they don't get much of that back home in the winter weather. We had a leftovers lunch, and then I took them on a ride. We eventually went past our old house, they wanted to see it. And a bit of a ride around and into Lake Mary—boy the traffic there really sucks, and there was an accident to boot which really slowed it down.

Once back here we relaxed and visited, mostly on the breezeway.

It was a nice day and cooler yesterday, but sunny. It was only in the low to mid 70s for a high, but very pleasant out. We made reservations for 5 PM dinner at the breezeway, to celebrate the folks' 67<sup>th</sup> Anniversary which will be this coming Saturday. And they also wanted to celebrate our second, which was in January. The food was good, and we had a good time. Afterward we took a drive around the area and along the lakefront. It was Wednesday night so the Rum Race (sailboat race with a bottle of rum as the prize) was going on. I think I counted 17 sailboats. We came across a friend and local photographer

who was getting his drone going to take some photos. Mom thought that was pretty cool. So we had a nice view and drive along the lakefront. It was cool and windy, so a good thing we had our jackets.

Once home it was Jeopardy and Wheel time. After that we watched a PBS show on Moose—it was interesting. And by 9 the folks were headed to bed, and we followed about 9:30 to get ready for that early 4:45 alarm. I slept just OK, just worrying about things that could go wrong. LOL, I didn't sleep that well past 2 AM but was sound asleep when the alarm went off. It figures!