

Neon's Blog_2014

December 31 2014

Nave a good New Year Eve. No blog as we are traveling today and returning tomorrow.

December 30 2014

Busy day. We went over to Carolyn's and ripped out the subfloor by the chimney. There were leaks there before it was fixed a couple years back, but the subfloor was rotted around the wall in the bedroom. The subfloor was $\frac{3}{4}$ plywood which was surprising. We cut it out, planned what we had to fix, and went and got 75\$ worth of material. Dropped the patch in and nailed it down after we put in some new insulation. Whole effort took 6 hrs and it's good as new. She has to cut in a piece of drywall now and mud it up.

We will be off to Olean NY to attend a funeral for Mary's Aunt Ethel. We will probably stop at the Seneca casino and contribute to the Indian warchest. So no blug for tomorrow.

December 29 2014

Crap. Hard frost today caused Sable Creek to close. Luckily TannenhauF was open. I went 44-40. Not bad for 34 degree temp. I finished 88 holes behind Dennis. I was way behind when he hung them up Oct 31 and never figured I could catch him. Otherwise I would have played a few more of the nice days in Nov and Dec. Turns out I could have caught up if mom hadn't passed away and I tended to things that needed to be done. Oh well, I shall try again next year.

December 28 2014

We got a lot done this morning. Mary got a call that her aunt passed away, so we scheduled a trip wed/thurs to Olean NY. We haven't been out for New Years for years and years and I guess this will be the first in a long time.

Denny called, so we will be golfing at 9am in the freezing temps unless the course is closed. We shall see.

December 27 2014

Was a great day! Catherine and Sue left. I played 18 in the morning and another 18 in

the afternoon when Dick could play. The rounds too 1:50 and 2:45. Shot 82 the first round and 79 the second round when I was fortunate to make 3 birdies. One of them was a missed eagle putt by an inch. Guess no eagles this year.

December 26 2014

Both sisters are going through mom's stuff today and bagging items for the thrift store or the dumpster. We ended up at 20 to the thrift store, 2 to the dumpster, sue 5, catherine 2 +2 for church.

December 25 2014

Merry Christmas everyone!

December 24 2014

Busy morning. I brought up all the hidden gifts, then sort of helped Mary cook. My job was to peel the potatos, wash dishes, and taste test the shrimp and potato salad. Also need to carve the roast when it cools.

We will set the food out tomorrow with roast beef in the crock pot, so everyone can eat when they want. It is good to spend Christmas with family. I expect everyone will be happy with their gifts.

December 23 2014

Busy day. I went and got a haircut, picked up suit at the cleaners, and went to lunch with 4 Lockheed guys working. Mary made mom's sheet apple pie and it looks good. More cooking and cleaning tomorrow to get ready for Christmas.

December 22 2014

Cursed. First, the Bills lost to the lowly Raiders and ended their playoff chances. Next, we go out to the golf course and there is a frost delay. We gave up at 10:30 cause it was looking like 12pm. The sun came back out at 12pm and now it is a sunny balmy day. Rain is expected all day tomorrow with more balmy temps. Grin and bear it.

The kids were over last night and Kaetchen had them all prepped that great grandma was gone. They never did say anything. Kalix looked confused at her empty room but she is only 2. All in all we had a good time with them.

December 21 2014

Nice day. Did not sleep well, so I did not golf. Got a tee time for Monday at Wilkshire though. We got the storage room arranged so so the sisters can sort thru mom's stuff Saturday. We found a couple of items they could use so we wrapped them up for Christmas gifts. OMG do we have a lot of stuff for the thrift store and the dump.

Mary is off to the store to get some cookie making stuff. She plans to make some cookies when she gets back and before we get the kids while mom and dad Christmas shop. Maybe I will get a little football watchin in as well.

December 20 2014

Pretty good sleep last night even though I was up at 6am. Got a Christmas card from Dennis. Since they were really ill in Buffalo, we avoided visiting them. I taped up the card as I always do, they sprayed the card with Lysol, then washed my hands good.

Neighbor actually picked up his pile of leaves that keep blowing over. I was out and raked up the ones that had blown over the last 3 weeks since it his pile is gone. All in all, pretty exciting, eh?

December 19 2014

The blog is back! Mom's wake and service was Wednesday. Was great to see familiar faces and lost relatives. Everyone was great and helpful. We were wiped out when we got back yesterday. I melted down her pills for disposal and straightened out her stuff. I expect to go thru it with my sisters the Saturday after Christmas.

It looks cold for golf. I got to find out who is open for the next chance we get.

December 16-18 2014 NO BLOG PLANNED

December 15 2014

Nice day out there. We ended up waiting all day for them to pick up the bed and wheelchair, so it was pretty boring. Should have been on the golf course.

Picked up my golf magazine and they had an article on the front page on "Go Low". I turned to it immediately since I am a low ball hitter, but it was about how to score low. Why didn't they say that in the first place?

December 14 2014

Slow day. Tossed some stuff we no longer needed then watched the Bills win! Their defense was amazing and the offense sucked again. Nice Sunday surprise. I figured they won one for mother.

We went out for dessert but Grinders was already closed? Mary suggested we pick something up at Giant Eagle and take it home. Picked up a 10\$ scratch off that paid 100\$. Sure glad Grinders was closed.

December 13 2014

I got an email from sister Sue. Looks like she is set up in the wrong time zone 3 hrs later. I am sure I missed it before. I guess my senses are heightened today. Odd, because I did not sleep well and am groggy.

Anyway, reminds me of my old Lockheed days. Me and a buddy noticed that we were getting Lockheed emails a few minutes before we received them. We swung into action and formed The Time Patrol. We hounded the IT Dept for a year before they synced up to a standard clock. After all, a high tech company with poorly synced clocks! Just another victory for persistency. The IT guys rephrased it as getting those 2 pains in their ass off their case.

December 12 2014

Mom's blood pressure was low last night so we had nurse's in every 6 hrs checking on her. She was given pain meds around noon and she looked peaceful the remainder of the day. My sister Catherine and I watched her take her last breath at 8:07pm. RIP beloved mother, grandmother, and great grandmother.

December 11 2014

My sisters are here. They worked on their photo display boards for the wake to be held down the road. I think we are all prepped now.

Mary and I went out and finished off Christmas shopping and dined at Rockne's. We were quick about it to get back before it got dark out.

December 10 2014

I am hooked on a larger font. It is nice to see again. Then again it is a bit large so I will try backing off 12pt to this 11pt and see how that goes. I just hope I am not heading for 14pt anytime soon Summarizing, getting old sucks.

The price of oil going down is a scam. It happens every so often cause then people buy gas saving vehicles. The stupid public then goes off and buys gas guzzlers. Once that trend is established, and enough guzzlers are sold, guess what? The price goes back up. Mark my words.

The sisters are coming for a few days. Maybe they will finish their mom scrapbook this

week.

December 9 2014

Damn weathermen. They said yesterday was the best day to golf and today would be rain. Today ended up being much warmer than yesterday. Too bad I was too beat up to play. Not much happened today. Man o man I am having trouble seeing this font lately. Maybe I should switch to a bigger font. This looks much better to me.

Mary had the priest come today and do the Anointing of the Sick last rites for mom. It is the last sacrament for Catholics but they have expanded it so you can have it anytime, like before major surgeries and other instances. Mom will be around for some time according to the hospice nurses, but she is getting very weak. No sense wating till the last minute.

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December 8 2014

Well, neither the Bills nor the Browns got their miracle yesterday. The Browns almost pulled one off though. Cudo's to the Browns. The Bills were way too conservative most of the game. Got to blame the coaches for that loss.

Brrr golf was cold the front nine. My wrists didnt want to cooperate and i kept lining up puts to the left. I readjusted and missed them all to the right scoring an ugly 47-43; worst this winter. Ice golf is fun though. Dick bounced one off the pond but it went just off the back of the green. I chipped off the pond ice as well and we fished 3 balls off the ice. Dick topped a dribbler on #18 that ran onto the green from 150yds. Missed his birdie though.

December 7 2014

Awesome day with sunshine. Have not seen that for quite awhile! Anyway, I was looking up the BigLots 6' weiner dog lawn decoration to send a pic to neighbors now down wintering in Ft Meyers cause she has a weiner dog. Searched and found BigLots down there. Just out of curiosity I googled her address and the street view showed her standing in the driveway. How

cool is that! Imagine the odds of standing in your driveway when the google street view cam comes by.

Big day for the Browns and Bills. They are both supposed to lose though. Bills face Denver and Browns Indy. They will both need miracles.

December 6 2014

Listened to the polkas and requested You Are My Sunshine for mom. They played it and I think she heard it. Slow day. Rain stopped around noon and Mary will be off to church in a few.

Worked on planning my laundry room updates. Not going to start anytime soon but figuring out what I need and educating myself on youtube on how to do drywall. Looks like a lot of work. Going to need to spread it over 2-3 months.

December 5 2014

Shot 42-38 with 2 birdies. Tough start adjusting to frozen greens; hit the 1st par 3 and ended up 10 yds over. I did adjust well and never hit another green surface. Hit 10 yds short and rolled up some nice ones.

Seem to be brain dead this week. After getting my chess rating up to 1234 for a week or so, tanked down to 1191. All the symptoms of brain death. Mom watch this afternoon. Mary is going to watch the kids this afternoon.

December 4 2014

Carolyn was on mom watch as we went out to breakfast and did some Christmas shopping. Almost all done except for a couple of gift cards.

There was a frost delay this morning. I may play tomorrow after it warms a little providing there is no rain. Dick can not play but is game for Monday. Question is will anyone be open next week?

December 3 2014

Fa la la la la la la la. Getting into the Christmas spirit. Nasty cold morning of 35 with a wind chill of 24. Dick and I were complaining, especially when we were hit with some sleet for two holes. Dick went 49-45 and I went 41-40 parring the last 4 holes. The triple bogey I had did not help any. Thanks for playable conditions, as I need a break from watching mom waste away.

Mom watch when I got home and Mary went off to bowling. Nurse was here today. All her vitals are good, but she is very frail from not eating. She sleeps a lot. What a depressing way to go. I think we shall ask the priest in for Anointing the Sick last rite sacrament this week. Maybe she will understand what is happening, but will forget about it in an hour.

December 2 2014

Thought I might golf when it warmed up to 30 but we had kight drizzle and mist all day. Should be good to go tomorrow though. Got a haircut instead. Other than that there was no excitement.

December 1 2014

I was so excited the Bills whooped up on the Browns I forgot to blog. The defense was awesome again. The offense sucked so I don't think they are going anywhere but beating the Browns made the season for me at least.

I took advantage of the mild gloomy 35 degree weather to get in a late season golf round. Didn't hit the ball very good but got by with a 41-39 round. Lots of close putts but none went in the hole. A 3 putt and a water ball cost me a better round.

On the downer side, mom countinues on 2 oz of fruit and 10oz of tea/water. It is not fun watching her waste away to nothing, and it will get worse.

November 29 2014

Listened to the polkas and was on mom watch as Mary and Catherine did some shopping. Even got out for a half hour to rake some leaves! The snow melted noonish and it was a playable day out there. Got into the high 40s!

November 28 2014

We had the normal crowd for Thanksgiving yesterday, The kids, grandkids, Catherine, and Steve. We all got stuffed then watched football till 9pm.

Today I was on mom watch till the ladies got bck from black friday shopping. We got a snow dusting last night and it never threatened to melt today. Maybe tomorrow?

November 26 2014

Busy day. Went and picked up the turkey at Hartville Kitchen then raked some more leaves deposited from the last wind storm. Sister Catherine got here and we headed to the Strip to get Jacob a TV for Christmas.

OMG. Our jaws dropped when we saw the big screen Sony's; incredible clarity. Now we both want to get one of the 60 inchers for two grand. Don't go anywhere near them if you are out shopping.

November 25 2014

The Bills crushed the Jets yesterday so I did not have to get mad enough to spit. Went out to lunch with Rudy. He is working till mid January.

Picked up some pills for mom at CVS. Got me to thinking that CVS is the store I go to the most.

Pretty sad, eh?

November 24 2014

Was in a fog yesterday after only 5 hrs sleep. A good night's sleep brought me back. Nice 2 day warm up, so my sister headed back to Buffalo to see what she could see. She will be back Wednesday to eat turkey and help out. Didn't get any golf in and it gets cold again tomorrow.

Very windy, a leaf distribution day. Knocked my big can over with a big gust. Picked up a few sticks, otherwise it would have been a slow day.

November 23 2014

Just remembered the news teaser I heard a couple days ago. They start playing them at 9 or 10pm at night to get you to stay and watch their 11pm news. Anyway, it was during the cold snap where the temps were in the low teens. "This man is missing and may be out in the cold." "Tune in at 11 and see what you can do to help." I had to laugh. Here this guy is out there somewhere freezing but they can't tell you for another hour or two.

November 22 2014

The snow is melting. Ole buddy Greg lives in Cowlsville NY where the weather channel said they had 88" of snow. He said it's more like 54" but I am sure some of it packed down. Glad to hear he is still alive.

The kids were over for 3 hrs last night and had fun. Once again they were well behaved.

November 21 2014

Went to lhop with Jane at 11:30. She is doing good. She is thru the nasty chemo and starting the milder chemo which goes thru February every 2 weeks. She had mouth sores the last round and it was difficult to eat and drink. On mom watch now. Catherine and Mary went to the flea market. Catherine is still stranded here.

Joe Kolp from Lockheed was arrested for taking nude pictures of boys the last 30 years. I probobly dealt with him a couple times a year but not often. He always did seem a little different from most. You never can be sure of people unless you know them well.

November 20 2014

Snow continues to pound Buffalo with another foot of snow a little further south than was hit yesterday. Mary is out visiting a friend and I am on mom watch. I finally get to get out of the house tomorrow so I just might avoid turning into a zombie yet.

November 19 2014

Another nasty cold day. Vegetation day on mom watch while Mary is bowling. I did take a first pass at covering up a phone outlet with drywall mud. I think it will take me a few passes to get it decent.

Lots of people were trapped south of Buffalo yesterday. They got upwards of 6 foot in a few places. The other side of the snow band had 3 or 4 inches. Made for good entertainment on the weather channel.

Our neighborhood is weird. Six inches of snow with leaves all over the top of the snow and just blowing back and forth, Do not remember that happening before. Good thing it is not winter yet.

November 18 2014

OMG. I was reading up on Cristmas on the Wikipedia and it was all rather confusing. At one point, the Puritans banned Christmas. Too many theories there. Today, many retailers are not even using the word Christmas anymore.

Anyway, the Netherlands chose St Nickolas after a bishop who always gave gifts to children. The Protestants would have none of that and came up with Kris Kringle. Leave it to the Americans; the New York Historical Society clamed it would be Santa Claus. After seeing so many "Holiday" car ads, I am figuring that, many years in the future, everyone will be getting new cars for Christmas. Santa will have to give up his sleigh for a flying 18 wheeler.

Cold 11 degrees this morning. All the way up to 19 this afternoon.

November 17 2014

Woke up to 6 inches of heavy wet snow. Oh well, got some exercise shoveling. Tis cold but tonight is supposed to be 11 degrees. Sister Catherine arived to help with mom for awhile. After I shoveled it was too late to play golf. All the good tee times had passed.

I am already sick of seeing Santa on the TV ads. Saw him chasing after a new car tonight. That made me wonder how the Santa Claus thing got started and tied to a Holy day. Mary reminded me it was St Nicholas. I guess that was too denomination specific. Anyway, I have to do some research to see how this abomination all started.

November 16 2014

Slow day. Took my last 6 leaf bags to recycle then watched the Browns lose. Quite a day, eh? Oh yeah, I pumped up Mary's tires to 32psi as they were down to 25 with the cold weather change. Where does the time go?

November 15 2014

Not much going on. Tis cold out there. Picked up some leaves over by the side of the house I had raked there for future bagging. More than I thought. Filled up 10 leaf bags. Took 4 to recycle and left the other 6 for tomorrow.

November 14 2014

The Bills were on NFL Network last night and played pitiful losing to Miami. The pregame stuff was horrible. They had a bunch of ex-NFL players (goons) sharing inane banter among themselves. " Hey, I like your tie (fill in a name)." Bill Cowher was the only one making any sense. Hard to believe they pay these guys money for this. The Bills have both their premier backs out and it showed big time. They were forced to the passing game and it showed.

Too cold for golf today at 21 degrees plus there will be a frost delay. The ground is frozen out there, which makes it ice golf. Wish I played. Might have hit a nice 4 iron with run onto the Gold #1 and been putting for eagle.

Kids were over 2:30 – 6pm. Kalix was running around like a mad woman but Zander was laid back.

November 13 2014

Carolyn was on mom watch so we went out and did a little pre Christmas shopping at the Strip in North Canton. Mary went to knitting class so I am on mom watch.

They say you can tell a lot from a persons garbage. They emptied the can Monday. So, Monday thru Thursday, we have sticks picked up from the lawn, 8 of those plastic grocery bags with wet and soiled diapers, and now 1 bag of kitchen garbage. Not much in there other than 3 days worth of coffee grinds, tea bags, and empty Busch NA cans. Pretty impressive, eh?

Mom has come down a notch. No more than 250cals and 12oz of liquids on a daily basis for the last 3 days. Swallowing is the issue.

Does not look good for golf tomorrow; 28 and snow showers. I saw flakes today. Not ready for it yet. I may have a panic attack when I finally buy into the fact golf is over. I am still hopeful it is not.

November 12 2014

Mom watch today. Looking at the 10 day weather forecast it does not look good. They are also using the S word. I better start planning a winter project if I want to stay sane this winter. I hope I don't have a panic attack.

November 11 2014

Last warm day, so I went and played today. Had 3 birdies, but 3 double bogeys and 3 balls in the water did not help the scorecard. Hit 3 of the 5 lakes. Was looking for another birdie on a long putt but I 4 jacked it.....What was I thinking? Anyway, it all added up to a 39-43 =92. Very disappointing. I hope I get another chance this year.

Mom watched in the afternoon and raked a few leaves.

November 10 2014

Played pretty good this morning. We flew around in 2hr and 15. Missed several putts by inches, but finally hit a couple near the end finishing bird, bird, par for a 41-36 =77

Got the lawn cut and picked up some leaves. Quiet on the mom front.

November 9 2014

Wes went to the game today. The Bills should have won. I blame the coaches for not running it 3 times down on the two, Not scoring from the 8 after getting a first down with 2 minutes left, and on the officials who were paid off by KC, I am so mad I could spit.

I hope Wes enjoyed getting together with his cousins and getting to the game. I am sure he enjoyed the 1st 3 quarters anyway,

November 8 2014

The weekend is here and we do not have the help of nurse aides. I hope things go easy this weekend. Put the patio chairs in the garage early for winter storage. It is pretty crowded in there but I found good spots to put things. Winter is nearly upon us. Snow is expected next week.

I am still 13+ rounds behind Dennis this year with no hope of catching him. Not being in a league this year cost me maybe 6 rounds otherwise I would ratchet up my winter play and try to catch him but 13 rounds is too much of a deficit.

November 7 2014

Played in the cold today. Started out at 37 degrees and got up to 40. Wind chill was 38 degrees. Cold indeed. My wrists did not want to snap thru in the cold. Also noticed that a softer ball is best in the cold. Allows you to compress it a little better. Played poorly shooting an 87.

Mom is pretty chipper and played catch with me for the first time in weeks. She did seem to have more problems swallowing today though.

Breaking news....Mary is going to pick me up a Hawaiian King BBQ sandwich tonight. I have been drooling over this ever since I saw the Arby add a month ago. Arby's HAS THE MEATS!

November 6 2014

Carolyn was over to do mom watch. We went to Chico's. That wasn't cheap. Then had a great lunch at Olive Garden, stopped at Home Depot, and got Mary to her doctor appointment. Alas, I was home before dark, extending my streak of being in by dark. One of these days I am gonna do something crazy like stay out till after dark. I am getting excited just thinking about it.

November 5 2014

Went to the retiree lunch to chat with the old guys. Sat with Charlie, Dick Lott, and Jim

Feldman. It was enjoyable. Back home to mom watch as Mary went off to bowling. Mom is much the same today. Not much change.

November 4 2014

Bummer. Voted early so I could vote against John Renacci for congress. Unfortunately he was not on my ballot. He sympathizes with the Tea Party lunatics and they were responsible for all the impasses in congress. I guess after I complained to Renacci about his allegiance, he redrew the districts so I would not be in his. That's what they do. They redraw the voting lines to get maximum votes. A pox on him.

After some thought, I postulate a little known law of nature: One's well being is inversely proportional to the coefficient of how full of crap they are.

November 3 2014

Had a great round at Sable Creek this cold morning. We played fast and I was chipping and putting very well. Shot 39-38 for a 77 to tie my low for the year. A couple of 3 putts on the back kept me from a spectacular round.

Been thinking there must be a law of nature at work. Mom was pretty bad last Sunday when the nurse gave her an enema and got things moving. She steadily improved all week. So, my feeling is the flushing out of waste is a major turning point in one's outlook and health. I am not advocating everyone run out and get an enema, but if you are feeling down, one should consider spending some time in the bathroom. Best to be at home. I am sure your workmates would appreciate it. Still working on my law of nature. Maybe it will come to me shortly. How about "To regain your pace, eliminate waste."? Or better yet "To keep on rolling, empty your colon."

November 2 2014

Mary's birthday went well. After church she went shopping with Carolyn and Jenna, then back home for cake and ice cream. All the grandkids were there and she was loving it. Family is so important and we have a great one.

Mom was talkative today and did well eating and drinking. She has had 20+oz the last 2 days which is great. We are all hoping she enjoys the short time she has left and today was a good day for her.

November 1 2014

Opps, missed another day. Kind of semi-normal around her with all my visitors gone. Back to the usual routines. I wagered on the Breeders cup. First wagers in a couple of months. Came out \$54 ahead so I took my winnings and quit.

Mom's week long rally continued. She was more alert the other day but she sucked down 16oz of liquid at lunch which is amazing given she has been around 16oz for all day. Never know what to expect. We have spent a lot of time cleaning her up today as the liquids, miralax, and

prune juice has resulted in lots of loose poop. TMI?

October 29 2014

Health Aide and Nurse gave mom an emema. Took a half hour but they were handsomely rewarded. I went out and raked leaves during the festivities. After it was over, I played Happy days are here again.

After lunch, I got a break mowing grass. Mary went bowling so she had a bit of a break too.

October 28 2014

Mega mom watch all day. Four of us watching mom. Health Aide and Nurse also milling around. Nurse suggested an emema for mom. I said no but maybe one of my sisters would care to have one.

She wanted to give her 3 ducolax and I held back for 2 now. She told Mary to do 2 more if nothing had happened today, so she got 2 more. Holy crap I say. I am sure we will see some of that very soon.

Mom has been pretty much the same the last 3 days. We have been pushing a little more yogurt to mix and get her cipro pills in during the day. Pills are for UTI.

October 27 2014

Missed a day again. Big turn out for trick or treat. Brother Jim left and sister Catherine drove in. Not much to report other than mom is now on a nurse a day schedule.

Awesome start at Fox Den today. Birdie, par, bogey, and par, even after 4. Then not so good, finished the front with a 43. Scored better on the back. Did not hit many good irons but was putting extremely well to get out with a 40.

Sister Sue rolled in and we have a houseful.

October 25 2014

Jacob and I cleared the leaves and took them to recycle. He was a great help. Jim arrived at 10 and helped get mom up. Looks like she has a UTI. The nurse talked to the doctor and ordered meds. Unfortunately the meds came at midnight down from Cleveland. We will do those in the morning. Jim was a big help.

October 24 2014

Nice day for golf! I was managing well till I hit #13 at tannenhauf. My drive was a little blocked out but I had a shot at the left side of the green. Unfortunately, I was 5 yds off target and buried it in the bunker lip. Dang thing was 1" below the surface. My first whack went right over the top of the ball. Same with the 2nd but it rolled out to the middle of the bunker. The 3d on was

the charm but left a 20 ft uphiller which I 3 jacked to card an 8. When things go wrong, they go wrong. I settled down and went even par the last 5 holes thx to 2 birdies. 39-41 for an 80. Mel went 52-52 looking up. Dick went 56-48 with issues on the front. Lyle shot 95.

Nurse said mom's bp and pulse went down. She is very tired. Nurse is sending a nurse the next 2 days which is sudden. Maybe she is erring on the safe side. We shall see.

October 23 2014

Health care aides gave mom a whirlwind shower. Nurse was in. So, after week 1, not much has changed. She is still getting some food and liquids and is getting a bit weaker. Got the grass cut.

Next up is a round of golf tomorrow at tannenhau. Hope there is no frost.

October 22 2014

Health care aide came in and showed us how to change and do sponge baths for mom while she stays in bed. This should be helpful since mom no longer bears all her weight when standing.

We got out to the Texas Roadhouse for dinner. Now that was good.

October 21 2014

Hospice pastor stopped in and was very good with mom. Hospice social worker was just taking up our time as we didn't need her. Mom is a little weaker again today.

Sister Catherine is in town to help out till Friday. Welcome help.

October 20 2014

Hospice health care aide was here. Dropped off supplies and set up schedule of visits. They are going to come Monday Wednesday and Friday The nurse is supposed to come tomorrow and the Priest as well. Should be interesting.

We had the kids from 2:30 to 9:30. That is the longest time so far. We went thru the toy routine about 3 times for each activity. Sister Catherine is coming today thru Friday so we will have some time to get away.

October 19 2014

Holy crap! The Bills pulled one out in the last 5 seconds. I hear they hadn't done this since 2011. I didn't think they could do it. Other than that, they played like crap. Both Rbs injured and taken off in a cart is not good. Did a little yard work when I wanted to get outside.

Mom is much the same, just getting a little bit weaker every day.

Oh yeah. I got out this morning to collect groceries. Woo hoo!

October 18 2014

Mom watch most of the day. It's been a bit easier since she is in Hospice. Less activity and less feeding marathons. She just eats a drinks a little when she wants.

October 17 2014

Sleepy Hollow beat us up. Cart path only made for a lot of walking. I was at 90, John 97, Dick 99, and Mel was 110+ with a Smitty like back nine. Neil stopped in to tell us his horror story. He believes he will be past the infection treatments in a couple of days, but his tube has to be pulled and the tube hole has to heal.

Lots of home activity. Nurse was in, Carolyn was in, hospital bed installed. Mom had a good day but only 10oz of liquids.

October 16 2014

Finished raking the leaves from yesterdays grass cutting in the morning. Sister Sue was here for the day and sat in on the sign up with Hospice for mom. We got to go out for lunch and then met with the hospice assessment nurse, More people coming tomorrow.

Hated to sign mom up for Hospice, but not taking fluids will do her in in short order. We felt this was better than an endless circle of hospital visits with no help for any meaningful recovery. It's the Alzheimer's disrupting the brain commands for swallowing. It's a nasty disease.

October 15 2014

My turn to mom sit on bowling day. Got the grass cut after she got home and had a ton of leaves to cut thru. Guess the leaf season is here.

Mom seems much the same today. She did eat well again, but was way low on her liquid intake again today. Time to get the hospice ball rolling.

October 14 2014

Carolyn mom sat while we both went to the dentist. We stopped for some new golf shoes, Halloween candy, and Bob Evans. I had the pot roast hash breakfast at 10am. It was very good. I don't think I would order it at 7am though.

The kids were over and had fun tonight.

Mom seems much the same today. She did eat well again, but was way low on her liquid intake

today. Getting scary.

October 13 2014

Shot 80 at Oak Knolls. I normally have trouble chipping there because of the fast greens. I did better than normal but did let 3 or 4 get away from me. We stopped at Twin Lakes tavern to lift a glass and tell stories about our recently departed Lynn Cline. It was a nice tribute to him. Darrel ordered Lynn his usual brew and left the bottle untouched in the middle of the table.

Mom seems much the same today. She did eat well again. Mary is out to a Red Hat dinner at the Geisen Haus.

October 12 2014

Did a little outdoor work then watched the Browns waste the Steelers while the Bills got ripped apart by NE as usual. Pretty sad.

Mom 's swallowing issues continue. Had to have her spit out liquids three times today cause she had held it in her mouth for too long, say 15 minutes? Called Wes and he pointed me to medical feeding options, none of which are good. Emailed the clan to see what should do when mom eventually can not swallow even the liquids. Late stage Alzheimer's ain't for the squeamish.

October 11 2014

Put up the Halloween decorations today. Mary went to Marcs and now church and is going out after church, so I am mom watching and staring at walls.

Mom is having swallowing issues, so we purchased some thickening. Maybe try it out tomorrow. Mom is mostly blank stares the last couple of days. It is sad. She is slowly getting ready to check into the big house in the sky.

October 10 2014

An hr and 20 min in the fog to Reserve Run was worth it. We played in fog for 8 holes. Scored 41-37 = 78. Could have been better; a 3 putt, a ball in the lake, and 4-5 missed 3-8 footers. I could have been somebody. Mel shot a career round scoring an 81 and draining a 40 footer on the last hole for a birdie.

Mom was not with it today. Seemed very slow and sluggish. Ate well though.

October 9 2014

Market is tanking. Good thing I am 66% cash. It still hurts though. Cut the grass in mid 50s temps. With the leaves it took 2 hrs cause I circle around a lot more than normal. I better bundle up tomorrow.

Went to the grocery store early. I needed to get gas for the mower anyway. Didn't realize it was so much work.

October 8 2014

The sun is visible today! Another slow mom watch day as Mary bowls. I did cut down the tiger grass today and hauled it to the yard recycle 8am ish. Did get to go out and get the newspaper and mail too. Quite a day so far. Much of the same planned the rest of the day. Eat your heart out.

October 7 2014

Just remembered I shot 77 at Sanctuary in August, now 78 in October. I think it's the pin placements. They tend to keep it on a flat part of the green which helps me out.

It's a mom watch and stare at the wall day today. Mary is off to visit the sewing lady with Alzheimers and I will be home all day. Mom has a very runny nose today and isn't moving very fast and it will be hard to get liquids in her. In for a fun day. The kids will be over later to liven things up and tire us out.

October 6 2014

Was in the 50s and I turned in a stellar round of 41-37=78 at Sanctuary. I have played well there this year. Chipping well and did make a couple of putts. Birdied a par 3 and a par 5. Choked down the stretch though, going 3 over the last two holes. I could have been somebody.

A hot shower warmed me up. I don't seem to be as resilient as I once was. In fact, you can just fill in the blanks. I am not as _____ as I once was. Goes for a lot of things I could say.

October 5 2014

Holy crap! The Bills AND the Browns won today. The Browns looked good. The Bills sucked. Detroit missed 3 field goals which is almost unheard of to allow the Bills a chance. Surprised they took advantage of it.

Not much else going on. Emailed Joe Staudt. He is still looking after Lockheed dumped him 11 months ago.

October 4 2014

Cold day in the 50s. Got out and picked up a 40w globe ball for \$3.99 at Hartville Hardware. Came back and searched the web. Nothing cheaper anywhere. I saw some guy on ebay selling them for \$60. What a joke. Did skype with sister at 2pm, otherwise watched the horse racing. I have not wagered in 2 months. Mom hit the donut hole on her prescriptions. Ouch. \$4.25 a pill for one of her Alzheimers meds.

On mom watch while Mary heads to church and will fry up a couple burgers.

October 3 2014

We flew around Windmill lakes with a storm coming in. Got thru 13 before we got wet. Finished with 43-46. Missed at least 3 short ones and took 2 penalties. Didn't have my swing grooved but we were in a hurry.

Sad news last night. Dave from the Monday group called and said Lynn passed away. He was waiting on surgery. Guess the wait was too long. We might get together and toast him. There are no services as he wanted to go quietly.

October 2 2014

Mind numbing day. Went out early in the fog to get a bagel and milk. Mary went out to Ohio Mart and then to the doctor. That left me to take mom for her hair wash and set so I spent an hour sitting in the salon while the hair lady watched her soaps. It was so not exciting. Waiting for Mary to return and I will cut the lawn. I figure they may head back to Ohio Mart. If this is the case, I might as well take a nap.

October 1 2014

Busy day. Went to the retiree lunch and chowed down on their veggie beef stew. I love it. Just like mom used to make. Sat with Batcher and John T. Was on mom watch while Mary went bowling then took mom off to the vascular doctor Her leg is doing good, but he could see the progression of Alzhiemers. He pulled me aside and ran down the end stages of his mom. I think she is one of his favorite patients and reminds him of his mom.

September 30 2014

Last day this month. Carolyn was over to get mom up while Mary went to breakfast. I spray painted the coat tree for the entrance way white to better match the surroundings. Took me 3 hrs for first coat then 2 touch ups. It should be good to go tomorrow.

Mom spilled her chocolate milkshake on the carpet. We wiped it up and have the fan going to dry it off. Have to check and see how we did in the morning. I have the retiree lunch tomorrow then take mom to the vascular doctor. Should be an exciting day.

September 29 2014

Played pretty good shooting 80 at Brookledge. A lost ball and a couple of poor shots cost me. Made one birdie putt, but missed 2 more short ones. They had the back 9 closed for aeration, so we had to play the front twice. I went 41-39.

September 28 2014

OMG, almost forgot my blog today. Then I saw a McD commercial saying the monopoly game is back starting Sept 30. I think I will get up early and get my first game piece. So much excitement.

Anyway the Americans got stomped in the Ryder cup. That sucked. Jacob was over and helped me do some tall grass cutting, removing posts and painting. That was the highlight for today. Sure lucky to have him helping me. He is a hard worker.

The Bills sucked and lost to Houston.

September 27 2014

Watched the Ryder Cup European domination. The Americans were tired and played awful in the afternoon round. Did a little prep for tomorrow. Jacob is coming over to help me cut and dispose of the tall grass and cut down the posts. Maybe a little painting to. Watching Kalix in a couple of hours while the others play miniature golf.

September 26 2014

Just Mel and I played today. I shot an 85, Mel a 95. Mel finished the last 5 only 2 over. My round was unusual. We played the back nine first and the Z par 5 got me. I was up to the edge of the river in 2, then hit 3 balls in the mahoning river before clearing from 140 out. A Tin Cup moment. I doubled the next, then settled down to play even par the last 11 holes (2 birds, 2 bogies). Beautiful day once again!

Back home to mom watch at 2pm. She had a rough day. Bloody nose this morning and trouble swallowing (more than usual).

September 25 2014

Another exciting day in the books. The market took a nosedive today. I am hanging on, gulp. Got my filling fixed and took mom for her flu shot. Doesn't get any better than that, eh?

Playing Riverview tomorrow. Some easy holes and tight ones where you can get in trouble. I am hoping for the best.

September 24 2014

Slow day. I was on mom watch while Mary bowled. They dropped off my fixed mower and I mowed the aerated sections on 1 down from the highest, then the other lawn parts at the highest. OMG what a dust storm! I had dust everywhere. Took a shower right away and put my clothes right in the wash.

Another big day tomorrow. I go to the dentist, then maybe get mom to CVS for a flu shot.

September 23 2014

Mary and I got out for 1/2 day as Carolyn came over to mom watch. We went to Aurora Farms Outlet to our get away. I bought some neat stuff at the seen on TV store. Mary was looking for dress pants but the usual suspects did not have her size. She did pick up a couple of earring sets to make the trip worthwhile.

We topped off the outing with "We have the meats" Arby's lunch. It is interesting that they have not changed their menu boards yet. You figure they could make a paper sheet showing the new items. What a bunch of dummies.

Watched the little ones from 3:00 till almost 8pm. After they left, I told Mary I had something for her. She was suspicious. I popped open the AI eve and gave her 2. We were whipped.

September 22 2014

Dang chilly today. In the 50s but supposed to warm up to mid 70s the rest of the week. Kind of an odd day for me today. Left the faucet running this morning after I got up, got to the golf course too early, messed up the score card, hit once to the wrong green. Put a fork in me.

Shot 43 on the front at Tannhauser. Had 2 triples, snowmen 8s on the par 5s and parred 5 of the other 6. Back nine was an up and down 42 with 1 birdie on the par 5 16th. A very weird day out there.

Joyce got the lawn aerated today and my mower should be back Wednesday. Tomorrow is outlet mall shopping. Hopefully I can snag another Nike sweatshirt at a good price.

Stock market is killing me today. Bio techs are getting hammered.

September 21 2014

Looked like the rain stopped, so I started painting the rest of the fence portions out back. Carolyn came over to do mom's shower and brought Jacob, his friend Stone, and Jenna. Jacob and Stone painted for me and did a good job but it started pouring with a few boards to go. We took a short break till the rain cleared then I had them take down 2 fence runs totaling about 10 yd. They were really into it, all swinging my small sledge and sawing the 2x4s. Never saw them working so fast. They had a ball.

After the fence was ripped down, they finished up the painting and some touch up. Still some minor touch ups to do though.

Just before the rain started, I felt a little woozy. I am guessing it was the heat and humidity. I took a 1/2hr break and drank some water to cool down and was fine.

September 20 2014

What the heck? Looks like I lost another day along the way. I am confused; this seems to be happening way to often. Well today was a nothing day. Very nice weather though. Mary was off to the yarn shop and Jacob's cross country meet, then church. I cooked her breakfast and dinner. Becoming quite handy in the kitchen.

Joyce did not show for the 2nd day in a row for aeration, but she did call and let me know, which was nice. She will try again tomorrow or Monday. I pulled a few weeds but did very little all day.

Did have lunch with Jane Thursday. She said surge was pretty much pain free and is starting chemo next Thursday. She should be wig shopping soon. She plans to work as much as she

can, but who knows how she will handle the chemo. Guess she is about to find out.

September 18 2014

We played 4 holes in the fog this morning. Managed an 82 at Berkshire. Mel kept looking up to see if he could see his ball and was around 108. Putting continues to be my downfall. Missed 4 birdie tries (again).

Lawn aeration sometime today. Waiting on them now.

September 17 2014

Busy day it was not. Did a little lawn cleanup while I mom watched on Mary's bowling day. Watched CNBC all day, Nabbed another 100sh of TWTR on the way up. Took some profits on a couple of stocks figuring they will be down tomorrow or the next day. Hope I am right.

My chess is awful the last week. I had gotten my rating up to 1200 for awhile, now is is barely over 1100. Guess the brain aunt working.

September 16 2014

Busy day. Got out for breakfast while Carolyn watched mom this morning. Stopped at Kohl and Home Depot to pick up some things. Touched up the outdoor porch posts with white paint.

Watched the kids for Wes and Kaetchen from 3:30 to 8pm. We tired them out and they tired us out.

Arrg! Feels like another filling is out. Looks like another dentist trip soon. Geeze. Just when you have a few spare bucks, its gone somewhere. In my case, the dentist seems to get most of it.

September 15 2014

Huh? Missed 2 days of the blog. We were busy with a birthday party yesterday with a cookout and the kids staying late. Not sure why I missed the day before. Oh well, such is the life of a senior.

Very frustrating round at Sable Creek today. Parred the first 4, then missed my 2 foot par putt. Put it on the par 3 and lagged up to 3 feet, then took 3 more from there. Finished out with pars for a 3 over 39. My goodness. Shot 43 on the back, missing all my putts. I think I missed 6 on the back under 4 feet. An 82 with 9 missed opportunities. All I can say is the 3 round experiment with the new putter is now officially over. At least I refrained from uttering bad words.

Got home and borrowed the neighbor's mower and cut the grass. Am exhausted now, which will perhaps help me not dwell on my putting disaster today.

September 12 2014

Early morning at Mayfair. They were booked so I got a 7:27 tee time. The sun rises at 7:03. It was chilly, but I managed a 4 par, 5 over front nine missing 3 birdie tries. The back was so so till it started to rain. I put on my jacket and immediately took an 8 followed by a drive OB but saved a 6. Took the jacket off and got par on the last 3 to salvage a 40-46=86. Bummer!

Hot shower and turned the heat up when I got home. Getting wimpy in my old age. Wes might be over later to work on a birthday gift for his wife.

September 11 2014

Off to the dentist this morning to get a missing filling. Cleaned up quite a few small sticks knocked off the trees last night. Mom got her hair done and I am on mom watch while Mary goes knitting.

Looks like it is fall. High of 65 today. Should be chilly for golf tomorrow. I will be taking my winter gear.

September 10 2014

Another slow day. Broke up 1/2 the paneling we pulled out of the laundry room and tossed in the dumpster. Then was on mom watch all day. We went to the lower level during the tornado panic for about 15 minutes. None to be seen. Mom got a good dose of exercise walking down then up the stairs.

September 9 2014

Slow day. Straightening up after the kids visit yesterday. They were great and we had fun. Mom watch today as Mary and Carolyn went to an aging seminar at the Hartville Kitchen all day. I hope to get the grass cut when they get home. Getting pretty long after being away for several days.

September 8 2014

Went 38-43=81 at Chenoweth. Was kind of silly playing from gold at 5100 when the whites were 5700, but that is the Monday senior guys. Watched the kids from when I got back at 2:30 till about 7pm. Wes did bring me a free dinner though.

Spend Thurs thru Sunday in Buffalo. Was very nice to see everyone for more than a couple of hours. The hotel was great and we had the pool and hot tub all to ourselves. Didn't sleep well but that is not unusual. Was sure whipped Sunday when I got back.

Our scramble team was very very bad at 3over par. I held things together for quite a few holes but we bogied 3 of the last 6 holes. Played Brighton with Jr. and edged him by a stroke. I had 84 and Jr. 85. It was his best round there this year. Came down to the last hole where we both missed 8 footers.

September 3 2014

Had a good round at Sable Creek yesterday shooting a 42-39=81. John from Texas had a 94 and Dick a 90. Both of them had birdies and I had none. Had 3 tree hits and never made a putt. Could have been a great round if the trees were more my friend.

Company left for Buffalo this morning. Today is mom watch and cut the grass day. We will head to Buffalo in the morning. Carolyn will watch mom till my sisters get here, then we will be back on Sunday afternoon.

September 1 2014

Missed yesterday as this is a busy week. There won't be many blog entries until Sunday or Monday since this will be a busy week.

Last night we went to John Tsoras 50th anniversary bah at the greek church. The meal was fabulous and there were many nice things said about John and Dell during the speeches. It is likely his son footed the costs, as he is single and has a high paying job in building prosthetics. The greek pastries are to die for. They had a big cardboard picture of them on their wedding day 50 yrs back and it was a hoot. John looks like a greek geek.

Carolyn and Don are out for a scuba dive around Findley Ohio this morning so we had their kids last night. Today Mary's sister and family arrive today and stay till Wednesday, then head to Buffalo. We leave Thursday for the Buffalo golf scramble and return Sunday. Got a nice hotel 30% off via a Priceline bid. My sisters from Buffalo and Pittsburgh will be here thursday to mom watch while we are away.

A busy week indeed and we get a small mini vacation to recharge. Have a good week all.

August 30 2014

Huh? Missed another day somewhere on the blog. Yesterdays is the 29th I am sure. Mary went over to watch the kids while Wes ran a 5k in Stow. I hear he was top dog. I will have to find the results and look them up.

Got the grass cut so I am back on mom watch while Mary goes to church later. Just another exciting day!

August 28 2014

A chilly 51 this morning but it warmed up quick. Shot 86 at Glen Eagle, Mel had 90. I played well for the most part, but putted poorly. Also had a couple lookups to see how good I hit it and those do not do well.

August 27 2014

Beautiful day today. I spent most of it inside on mom watch. I did get out to do a little gardening though.

August 26 2014

Very humid and warm this morning with no air movement. Didn't sleep well, up at 4:30. Nothing much happened today. I was on mom watch all day. My ebay 3 wood showed up. I gave a \$40 best offer on a \$50 club and they took it. Guess I shouldn't bid \$30 on that other one. Hopefully someone will outbid me, otherwise I will have another for \$30.

August 25 2014

Had a great round at Fox Den, 39-39=78! Thee birdies. Got into trouble a couple of times but got it back. Parker luck on the first 3 to gat me started. Hit a sweeping hook on the first tee. It went OB at almost a 90 degree angle, smacked the barn and bounced back in the fairway. I birdied from there. Second hole, I whacked it into the trees. It hit one and bounced right back into play. Pretty amazing. I did hit 2 more trees, but they were not nice to me. The round was hot and sloooooooooow.

August 24 2014

Slow day today. Packed up the dumpster and pulled weeds. Not much else going on.

Long time employee and friend Jane Smith is facing a mastectomy Thursday. I hope she recovers well. I am not sure what additional treatment she will face. She is also in the early haggling over her divorce. Combined these will be really hard on her in the coming months. She is going to Akron General. I hope Wes gets a chance to check in on her later this week.

Got another Church rant for you thanks to my sister. The small church they had gone to and still help out at sent their pastor packing. How many of those Christians offered to help with the moving? One 78 year old guy and my sister and husband Ed. As I have said before, most members are just a bunch of jerks.

August 23 2014

Yankee Run kicked our ass today. Long and wet didn't help. I shot 91, Kirk, Dan, and TK had 94. Very poor putting for all. There were times everyone had a 5 footer and no one made it. Come to think of it, not many were made under 5 foot either. Was good to catch up with these guys for only the 2nd time this year.

Mary will be off to church and I will be on mom watch shortly.

August 22 2014

I played very well at Hinckley Hills. Lots of trouble there and I avoided it all. Was 12 over with an 83, but 3 of them came when the cisco guys were jabbering on their cell phones while I was hitting. Missed a couple of short ones too. I could have been someone.

Kinda whipped. Picked up our fuel perks and saved \$15. Looking fwd to Yankee run tomorrow with Kirk and Tom.

August 21 2014

Got a haircut this morning. They fired their new 3d barber. I asked why and he said she cut hair too quick. Damn, I am into that! Said his customers like to talk a bit and she wasn't working out for that reason. Well, he thinks they do but I am not one of them. Oh well.

My mower part came, so I installed it and finished the last 1/3 of the lawn. Good to get that out of the way. Looking forward to golf at Ironwood with the Cisco guys tomorrow. Not my favorite course. It has several holes that I am not enamored with.

Mom was sleepy today so we cancelled her hair appointment. She said she didn't feel good this morning and looked half asleep. Got to go with the flow.

August 20 2014

Quite a storm last night. Around an inch of rain in my bucket.

Called around and thought I found a part at Don's mowers in North Canton. It sure looked like the same part so I bought it. The guy in there must have been in his 80s and moved like it. I was impressed he was able to slowwwwwwwwwly manipulate the computer. Oops, did not fit. Although it was very close, the threads on the bar were just enough different that it did not fit. Ordered the right part on line and paid an extra \$11 to get 2 day shipping, so my grass would not be too long by the time it arrives. Went and picked up a prescription and got my flu shot. I am good to go!

That was it for today's excitement.

August 19 2014

Opened some paint cans and loaded them with kitty litter to dry out before tossing the cans. Took mom to the foot doc where she got her nails clipped and measured for new shoes. Then stopped to get new hdcp hangers good for 5 more yrs. If she uses them up, she will be 100. The girl forgot to punch holes for the expiration date so I told her (I do not have a hole punch).

Got 1/2 the grass cut before the steering link flinky to the one tires broke. Hartville Harware was out of them and sent me to another shop in north canton. Pulled in the lot at 5:01pm and pickups were exiting from the back of the building to the driveway. Not a good sign. Sure enough they were closed. How they locked up, started their car, and were halfway gone is beyond me. Super powers maybe? Something tells me the boss was not around today.

August 18 2014

Continued to play well, shooting 82 at Seven Hills. Made 3 birdies and 3 putted twice. To many chipouts from the trees (3) to score any better. Only 1 double and lots of pars. Made 12\$ which is sweet.

Mary was on mom watch and did a lot of cleaning today. Carolyn was over to give mom her shower this morning.

August 17 2014

Exciting morning. I got to go over to Home depot and look at their paneling for the laundry room. I was thinking this thin fiberglass stuff but it said it had to be glued on to a flat surface and not attached to studs. They had another thicker product but it is discontinued. Looking at Waynescoat panels now. Picked up some weed b gone and birdfeed to keep me busy during the week.

Mary and Carolyn went over to Wayside Furniture to get there free lunch and ice cream. The rest of the day promises to be pretty dull.

August 16 2014

Jacob was awesome today. He helped me empty the laundry room, rip down a divider wall, and put everything back. Took from 9am to 12pm. I started early at 7:30am. I am whipped. Can't imagine how long it would have taken me by myself.

Mary took mom to church for the first time in a long time. She thinks mom enjoyed it. After dinner, Mary headed to the Uniontown festival to meet Wes and the kids. I am on mom watch now.

August 15 2014

Got off to a rough start at Flying B. 4 over after 3, finished with a 12 over 84 today. John T whipped me with a sparkling 82.

Our company left this morning. I will need to catch up on my sleep now.

Jacob is coming in the morning to help move the laundry room stuff into the garage. We had to put that aside when we had visitors.

August 14 2014

Went out to the flea market and wandered around there, the Kitchen, and the Hardware store for almost 4 hrs with guests Dave and Kim. Wore me out. Did find a bike for Zander for \$10, but it will need training wheels to start out.

I am on mom watch for the afternoon while they shop and do dinner. I might meet them or they might bring me something back. Looking fwd to golf tomorrow at the Flying B.

August 13 2014

Sorry for the late post. Did well at the very wet Ellsworth back 9. A grueling walk since there were no carts. Got the last pull cart too. Hit the ball well. One bad hole; took a 7 with the ball in the water on a par 4. Added in 5 pars and 3 bogies.

Mary, Dave, and Kim went to the Maps Museum and over to see Carolyn. They brought burgers and corn to cook for dinner.

August 12 2014

Did a little cleaning up to get ready for surprise guests; Mary's brother Dave and wife Kim. They should be here shortly or by 4pm. Had lunch with Rudy and his buddy up from Florida, Brian. Brian did a few trips with us to Pinehurst. He is busy down there and lives on a golf course (sweet).

I am off to sub the Cisco league tonight. Should be a slow go.

August 11 2014

We got soaked playing golf today at the Sanctuary. I wanted to wait an hr, but they talked me into going. It rained all but 2 holes, and rained hard for 4 or 5 holes. I had a double bogey on the first hole then shot a 2 over 37 on the front and 40 on the back for a steller 77, just 6 over par. Best round of the year.

Mary says Dave and Kim are coming tomorrow. Will have to put the laundry work on hold while they visit. They have not been here in a long time.

August 10 2014

I nuked the garage this am. Going to store laundry room stuff in there this week and don't want bugs crawling around in my stuff. We will move all the stuff to the garage and rip out a false wall and then reorganize the storage. Hopefully tossing some stuff and old paint cans.

I am unsure what to do down there. Get ugly sewage moisture when the sump craps out. I do have a nice water detector down there now so we can react quicker. Thought about cheap fiberboard like they use in bathrooms but may do some kind of moisture resistant wallboard. Just don't know and don't have any good ideas. That is next year's project since I used up my project budget for the near future. The bedroom remodel was expensive but much needed. It looks great too. Fixed income you know.

Speaking of fixed income, saw Bill's buddy Alex Trebeck hawking life insurance. The premium is fixed for life for all those fixed income folks worrying about their burial and funeral. No burial costs for me. My golf buddies will spread me around a good course in places nobody pees I hope.

Nothing else going today. Long rain delay at the PGA today which makes the day more boring than it is already. Maybe I will pull weeds to liven things up.

August 9 2014

Nice day today. Wes' birthday #34. We put a quick last minute party together and it went well. Swiss steak, corn on the cob, and mashed potato followed with cake and ice cream. Pretty much took the whole day of shop, cook, bake, then party.

I guess tomorrow will indeed be a day of rest.

August 8 2014

Early 7:07 tee at Mayfair. Was hot and cold all day. The greens are tough there. Had 3 birdies saving an 83 for me. Edged out JT who had an 87. Mel, Neil, and Dick all 100 or plus. Neil is striking it well. We played in under 4 hrs. Not bad for 5 players. We were hustling along.

Mom got her shower and Jacob did my lawn. Many thanks cause I am whipped and tired.

August 7 2014

Quiet day. Cool morning, hot afternoon. Watched the market then the horses. Mom was out to get her hair done late. They were delayed due to the parking lot repaving being done there. She ate poorly today so she got an extra Boost drink. Pretty lethal stuff; 385 cal in 8 oz.

Also cancelled my Capital One credit card since I can't use it for wagering. Been using it for years but for some reason, gaming charges are not allowed. Those people are out my money.

Looking forward to an early golf round tomorrow.

August 6 2014

Grandkids wore us out last night. They were in good moods and were highly entertaining.

Went out to the retiree lunch this morning and home by 12:30. Sat with Dick Hujar, Dick is 82 and I asked him what he does to keep busy. I now see my future if I make it to 82. Not looking forward to that. Got back and mom watched the rest of the day.

August 5 2014

We are scheduled to watch the grandkids while Wes and Katchen do paintball. That is her bday gift to him this year. Should be fun and we should be whipped.

Put some stain cover paint on the ceiling wet spots. Hope to put some ceiling paint over it today.

Took a few minutes to look at last years blog. Since I am into golf stories lately, I want to be sure I don't repeat any. You know I am getting old and don't want to be one of those old people that keep telling the same story over and over.

Bob Muller invited me to play Thursday as one of the sales guys that visit him had set up a time at Mallard Creek. I remember him asking last year but it got rained out. Plus side was nice course, reasonable fees but the downside was driving 1hr and 15 min NW and coming back at rush hr from a 1:30 tee time. I had to pass. I am surely getting old.

August 4 2014

85 at Oak Knolls. I was a little off with my irons and chipped ok but not close enough for my bad putting. Only made one around 5 feet. Missed three closer than that. Driver was all over, found 2 under pine trees.

Lynn was slumped over when we got into the clubhouse. He had only 10oz of water all day and was trying to recover. He got worse and almost passed out so they called the bus. He had low blood pressure which kind of backs up my dehydration theory. Neil and Dick played well the back nine.

Speaking of Neil, we played in the 70's at Tannenhaus with either my neighbors, or the DST guys. He invited his dentist buddy along. We all walked and, trying to move quickly with a 5some, we had cheated and walked ahead off the fairway. Mike Bittaker (I think), yanked a fairway line drive that hit Neil's buddy in the elbow funnybone. He dropped like a shot and was out. We called for the bus. Neil stayed with him and the rest of us played on. Funny thing. This guy never played with us again.

Another time there, we ended up with lightning all over and closeby. We gathered in one of their shelters. It was so scary some of the guys took the change out of their pocket and took off their shoes (metal spike days). Somethings you never forget.

Caught #27 today.....on a roll!

August 3 2014

Caught #25 today. I always was a trendsetter. Following my lead in trapping, I now have 4 neighbors in the mix. Pete was first, trying to rid his patio of chippys, Dwain was next with the same goal. Then the house on the corner is laying for groundhogs. Unfortunately, he nabbed a skunk the other night with an apple as bait and also had to pay to have it removed. Business in trap sales is exploding around here. Varmit population is down.

Last time I golfed with Bill H, he said he read my blog. I searched back on the 2013 blog and had mentioned his Oak Knolls debacle but never told the story.

Bill, Neil and I played Oak Knolls on a nice day. On the last hole, Bill had hit the right bunker, and blasted over into the left bunker. While Bill was raking the sand, Neil putted out and ran as he had something to do. I believe I putted out as well and sat down on the back of the green as Bill had yet to finish.

Darned if he didn't blast out of the right bunker and about 20yds over the green. I found a bit of humor in this and began to laugh. After a look from Bill, I really lost it and laughed till my throat hurt. When he messed up another I was laughing AND crying. At this point, I don't know how he finished. I apologized profusely after the incident, but there was nothing I could really do to stop myself. I really do enjoy playing with Bill; a very nice guy with a great sense of humor.

August 2 2014

Big day today.

I picked up mom's prescriptions and waited in a long line of traffic heading to the flea market to get to giant eagle and pick up a can of cherry pie filling for the cheesecake. Mary made cookies and the no bake cheesecake for dessert for the hot dog dinner invite from across the street. Mom was not up to it so I stayed home and watched her. Other than that, I got nothing.

Tomorrow promises to be another stunner.

August 1 2014

Played well at Rawiga. 41-38. I am just in a zone right now. Hope it continues. It was pretty hot and I did not bring enough water. Was in need of much liquids the rest of the day.

Carolyn was over this morning for 5 hrs doing mom's shower and mom watch while Mary was out with Brenda. Pushing liquids as mom doesn't seem to be with it today.

July 31 2014

All the stocks tanked today. Dang Russians.

Got the grass cut and trimmed out some flowers who have had their day. Not much else as mom got her hair done. Now on mom watch as Mary headed to knitting.

Hope to have another fine golf round tomorrow. My cold is getting under control.

July 30 2014

Watched Jake and Jenna while Carolyn was at work. Jacob seems to be getting around and eating more solid foods. I watched the stocks as TWTR gave a bit back after it's after hrs jump. Another of my stocks went up 7% confounding me. They made an offering for \$4.67 and the stock went to \$5? I don't get it. I guess they needed funding and that put the buyers at ease?

Mom watched the rest of the day as Mary got out of the house to get sane.

July 29 2014

I had 600 sh twtr start of the day. Couldn't get a good read on the earnings. They were saying it could go up or down 8. No one was real sure about it and many were pessimistic. Not wanting to hang myself out to dry, i sold 300 and let 300 ride. This was a mistake as they blew out earnings. So i made a nice chunk of change anyway. Thx again Bill! I got in when his guru bought in.

I mom watched till 2 when Mary got home. Then I was on Kid watch till 6:30. My cold seems to be a bit better today. Another good night's sleep should help.

July 28 2014

Got soaked at golf. Rained the first 8 holes. Shot a nice 81 at Tannenhau with 2 birdies. With the very wet greens I had a 4 putt and 3-3 putts. Could have been a spectacular round. The rain cleared the back nine and came back after we finished. Neil played the back well with a 47. He had a bad front with a high 50 something.

Crappy day. Mom was slow this morning. Wore her out yesterday.

July 27 2014

Busy day. We got the food ready for mom's bday party in the morning. Sue, Ed, Carolyn, and Jenna got here around 12. We ate and did the cake. I showed Sue some of the exercises to do when she is here end of August. They all had left by 3:30.

Wes, Kaetchen, Zander, and Kalix got here around 4:30. They had something to eat and then we did the cake and ice cream thing for a second time. It was a good day and good family time.

I came down with a cold yesterday evening. Turns out Zander had a cold when he was here early last week. Them little kids are disease carriers. Hope I am OK for golf tomorrow.

July 26 2014

Got the grass cut today, then mom watched all day.

Mary watched the races. Zander ran the kids run and sat down to rest now and then. Wes and Kaetchen ran the 5k. Wes was 4th and Kaetchen was 57th. Wes was 1st in his age group and Kaetchen 2nd.

July 25 2014

Jacob seems to have done well with having his tonsils out this morning. So far so good. Jenna stayed over and made cookies.

Played Zoar today. Shot 43-36. Parred every hole on the back nine missing 2 birdies. I think I found something with my putting. Seems like playing the ball forward helps me line up better.

July 24 2014

Busy day. I was out at 8am prepping the driveway and opening the sealer cans. Waited to 9am to fire up the blower and blow off the dirt and grass. Finished up the slopping on of the sealer by 10:30. Found out the stuffs slops on better when it is cool out.

Watched the kids from 2:30 to 7pm and am whipped. Hope I can golf ok tomorrow.

Won the pick 5 at Saratoga by a nostril. I had 4 right before turning off the computer cause the kids were here. Said to myself I would pay off my Catholic Charity pledge if I won. Dang'd if I didnt squeeze by. I only had 1 horse, the favorite, in the last race. Couldn't add my 2nd choice. My 2nd choice was ahead all the way and my only horse nosed him out in a head bob (I watched the replay before I looked at the results). Was exciting! Darned if the payoff was \$11 more than what I need to pay Catholic Charities. A promise is a promise, so I withdrew the amount and left the \$11 in my account. Payout by the way was \$500 for a \$32 wager.

July 23 2014

Slow day. Looks like I did in the bees by drowning them. There was less and less activity and I used the wasp spray to clean up the stragglers. No activity since. Did some weeding off and on. Likely will slop the driveway tomorrow. Supposed to be a dry and cool day so I wont get too toasted out there.

July 22 2014

Grabbed a haircut early. Carolyn came to mom watch so we went to lunch at the Olive Garden, did some grocery shopping, and picked up grandson Jacob to cut the lawn. It's a hot one today, supposed to get to 90. They delivered my driveway sealer, so I will be doing that this week.

TK wanted me to sub but I am whipped after 4 days of golf, plus it is just too hot out there. His partner quit. I told him I would help out next week if he needs me.

July 21 2014

Wow! Played Chenoweth today, 4th round in 4 days. I am feeling sorry for Mary being cooped up with mom for 4 days. Shot a nice 82. Having missed 6 putts under 4 feet, it could have been much better.

Carolyn is home and had a great time in Belize. Jacob is getting his tonsils removed Friday so Jenna will stay over Thursday night.

July 20 2014

Jim. Jr., and George came to town to play Raintree Saturday at 1pm. We got spritzer upon for about 6 holes on the front and 3 on the back/ I had an acceptable 89 and had the best score but didnt hit the ball too well. We played Sunday at Reserve Run and I was on. Fired an 84 with 2 penalties. Had to be my best round of the year as far as ball striking. Running the 4 iron worked better around the greens. Both were from the longer tees than I am used to anymore. Raintree was 6250 and Reserve Run was 6100. George held on to win our mini tournament by 4 strokes. I fell way too far behind when we played the first 2 rounds in Buffalo. Picked up 8 in the Ohio swing but fell 4 short. Congrats George!

July 18 2014

Very dissapointing round at Windmill. 42 on the front with three 3 putts was bad enough. Started the back poorly then fell apart. Shot 49 with a 9 on #17. Hit the pin twice but nither went in. Dang! Can't do that the next 2 days when George, Jim, and Jr. come to play. Looks like we will get wet tomorrow.

My blog seems to have lost a day. I think it was Tuesday. Oh well. This is Carolyn's last fun day in Belize. I hope it went well. She will be traveling home tomorrow.

July 16 2014

It promised to be a another dull day, but it got pretty exciting once again. Scored some store boxes at Big Lots to arrange the tool storage in the laundry room, picked up some donuts and stopped at the bank. Mary had me fix an electrical switch and bagged squirrel #25. And all before noon! Wow, you never know what can happen around here.

We get to watch the kids later so we will be busy around 2:30 again. They will wear us out for sure.

July 15 2014

It promised to be a dull day, but it got pretty exciting. I went and picked up my 2008 Focus from Mr. Tire. I had them change the tranny fluid, coolant, and fuel filter. Figured after 6 yrs, some PM would be good. Battery checked out Ok which surprised me a little.

Picked up mom's pills, some roundup for the weeds, and some sand for my home project. I dropped some sand down between the patio concrete and the block. Some of the block was getting wet in the garage entry (below ground) and I figured the gutter overflow from these massive rain events was draing down there. Then used some Quickcrete concrete crack filler over it to seal it off. Pretty it isnt. I hope I can clean some of the excess off after it fully dries.

PT lady was here to work out mom. She has done wonders for her balance. Still not easting well but we are getting 700 cal/day in her with breakfast, milkshakes, and Boost. Still need to work to get her liquid intake up. Best we can do is 34-38 oz per day.

July 14 2014

Breakthrough round at Sable Creek. A nice chip in on 18 to get to 79. This after I 3 putted from 2.5 ft on 17. It's all coming together! Finally!

Went over and helped the boy move furniture and clean out his garage. Quite a mess. Hurried home so Mary could go to the Red Hat dinner.

July 13 2014

Spent 2 hrs pulling weeds this morning all bug sprayed up to keep the skeeters off. I believe that will be the highlight of the day as nothing else is planned. Should be mind numbing.

Carolyn and family are off to Belize. They have 3 days in Belize city then off to scuba the reefs. I was a little surprised my grandson Jacob is doing it. He is the cautious type like myself and there is much risk in scuba. I hope they all have a good time with the Iguana and monkeys and reefs.

Playing Sable Creek tomorrow. I usually score well there but I must get my short game back to do that. My goal is to break 80, but if the short game isn't there I can forget that.

July 12 2014

Went up on the roof and put a little more patch around the sewer vent. Looked ok but there were a few places that needed touch up. Clipped some tree branches hanging over the garage. Took a trip up to Mr. Tire and scheduled coolant, transmission oil, and fuel filter replacement. The focus has 72,000 miles and I figured it was time to do some maintenance. Suspect a new battery is also in the future given it is 6 yrs old.

Nothing going the afternoon. Going to watch the horses golf and the Indians.

July 11 2014

My name is LeBron James from Akron Ohio. He is coming back. I forgive him and don't really give a rats ass.

Played well this morning at Barberton. 83, but of course I could have been a contender. My short game is about 33% back now. Missed an 18" birdie putt. What can I say?

July 10 2014

Headed out and picked up fresh baked bagels this morning. Yummy breakfast. Not much doing today.

This LeBron stuff is nuts. Why should he be able to pick his team mates? Pro basketball is a joke now, and has been for several years. Why do people pay to see it? I say let's take free agency to the max. Before each game both teams bid for each of the players among both teams. There would be a game max pay and a game min pay. The bidding begins and once they hit the max for a player, the team he is on can win a tie. Then on to the next player till they are all gone. That way, an overpaid schmuck in a slump may get the game pay he deserves. I say let's do it.

July 9 2014

Not much doing today. Took the squirrel out to Quail Hollow in the morning, then

watched the stock market. Bought a bunch of TWTR yesterday on the way down but it went down further. Came ½ the way back today, and I am optimistic.

Been making mom milkshakes lately since she doesn't eat much. Dr said she can have all the ice cream she wants, so I make her 2 a day. Been real helpful. Make it in this mini blender that must be 10 yrs old. Can't imagine paying more than \$9.99 for it. I will use it till it dies, then look for another around the same price. Quite a bargain shopper I am, eh?

July 8 2014

Some serious downpours on and off today. Thankfully it was a dry night as I got in 9 holes with the Cisco league. The total league is 7 people now. Way down from it's heyday. Ugly 46 with 2 snowmen, 3 pars, and the rest bogeys. Poor short game again.

Scored 2 squirrels today making it 23 this year. Call me Trapper Bob. I will take the second one over tomorrow morning.

July 7 2014

Did not play as well as Saturday. Started out with a 9 on the par 5, then finished the front strong shooting 43. Developed a hook on the back nine with my irons and a poor short game left me at 45. Not too bad overall but not what I wanted.

Got Jacob over after rain ended at 4pm. Grand kids over at 4 till 8 to take whatever energy we had left. We get the honor of watching 2 fishbowls with 3 fish for the next 12 days as my daughter vacations in Belize.

July 6 2014

Since I was golfing all day yesterday I chased Mary out of the house to give her a much needed break. After church, she went with her friend to lunch and then mall shopping. This lady leads a dull life so she was pleased as punch to also get away for a few hours.

I was on mom watch, and had a mind numbing day. Just to spice things up I pulled out one of her jewelry drawers and told her they were hers. She looked them all over and I put 2 bracelets and a necklace on. Spent the day with a blinged out mom. Her total food intake for the day was ½ pancake, 2 milkshakes, a tablespoon of mashed potatoes, and a piece of watermelon. She will get a Boost drink later that will have 385 calories to keep her going.

July 5 2014

Omg this was the most enjoyable day of 2014. I got to play with Tom, Kirk, Bill and Mike of the old DSW Tour at Tannenhauf. The dew sweepers together again (at least some of them). I played very well with the driver and irons. Many sweet shots.

Chipping and putting was up and down but vastly improved probably from all the repetition. What a great day. Kirk had many good shots and some not so good. Tom played well. Bill, well Bill had issues but it was great to see him again. He still has his unusual wit. Tom was talking to Kirk who has been alcohol free for 3 years after restarting after 9 years Tom said he had quit for 1 day. Really? Bill and I smiled and Bill said he had quit drinking last night after sharing a bottle with Judy.

Speaking of Tom, he married once again. This is wife #5. He said there are a lot more out there. All I can do is shake my head, but if he is happy that's all that matters I guess.

July 4 2014

Got my well deserved nap in for 45 min yesterday. Then went over and helped Carolyn with her septic pump. The pipe was broken, so we had to replace that. Took 2 trips to Lowes to get the right fittings. Oh well, so we are hack plumbers. There were other "complications" but we solved them.

July 3 2014

Hit the ball sweet today and got wet 3 holes. Too bad my putting still sucks or I could have went low. 40-44 = 84 with many missed opportunities.

Mom got her shower and did PT, so she is whipped. Sister Catherine took Mary to Sam's and she loaded up with mom stuff at their cheap prices. I am overdue for a well deserved nap.

July 2 2014

Took mom to the doctor to drain her thyroid cyst, but she was uncooperative so we had to abort. Not good sign for any future medical issues. Sister Catherine went along for the fun.

July 1 2014

Guess I missed yesterday. Played at Chippawa for the last time in the heat. Once again I had to brush off 15-20 ticks that inhabit the course. I hit the ball well the front nine. I could have parred 8 holes, but made 2 pars and 6 three putt bogies and shot 42. My spirit broken, I hacked it around the back nine in 48. Was on #15 in 2 at the back of the green. Cozied up to the hole mid green and it rolled all the way off. I putted up and it rolled back down. I picked up and took an 8. So it goes.

Today was busy. Catherine mom watched while we went out to lunch. The grand kids came over at 4 and we watched them till Jenna's tenth birthday cake was lit. It was a fun time. TH PT lady came for mom from 4-5 and wore mom out. We all had cake and ice cream for dinner.

June 29 2014

Another mind numbing day inside as it is too hot and humid. The skeeters are definitely out today. Got 20 oz of liquid in mom at 2:47. twenty more to go. Going to be hot at Chippawa tomorrow.

Catherine is in Carolton Ohio with a friend but plans to spend most days (5 hrs) here this week. That should give us a few hours break each day.

June 28 2014

Carolyn was over to watch mom while we shopped and ate breakfast out. Mom was slow going. We need to get liquids into her after yesterdays ordeal. Really hot out there today so good day to stay in.

June 27 2014

Mom got sick at the hairdresser. Puke and poopfest. Mary got her home and cleaned her off. She sat awhile and then we put her to bed. We have to watch for dehydration.

June 26 2014

Very busy day. Out at 7am to get gas for the mower and bagels for breakfast. First time I ever had a warm just out of the oven bagel. MMMMM. Got the lawn ready for Jacob to mow (I do the hazardous spots), then went way out in the back and chopped off some low branches. Dragged them all to the front where I cut them up just before Jacob got there around 1pm. Phew. What a workout.

Got mom to the doctor at 4:30. We were worried about her not eating. She lost 2 lbs the last 4 weeks. Doc was not concerned. He said she only needs 600-800 cal's per day and maybe the Boosts we gave her killed her appetite. He was more concerned about her getting 60-40min of liquids. Said you can survive 4 weeks without food, but only 4 days without water. SO we have a new focus. Oush the drinks.

June 25 2014

Got a squirrel early #19. He took the 8am shuttle to Quail Hollow. Other than that it was a mind numbing boring day. Mom's doctor was out sick so they rescheduled her for tomorrow. I did mom watch while Mary went to her sewing ladies group.

Wes and Kaetchen had their anniversary yesterday. We almost forgot but I sent out a JibJab ecard.

June 24 2014

Slow day. Storms last night cleared out. Maybe more tonight. PT was here for mom and gave her a good workout. She is resting on her bed after lunch. Chippy 8 relocated today.

June 23 2014

Missed yesterday's blog. Watched the grandkids for 5 hrs and it wiped us out.

Up and down round at Tannenhaut today 47-41 = 88 Too many double bogies and poor putting. Missed all 4 birdie tries.

Trying to get mom some doctors appointments without any luck so far.

June 21 2014

Pretty crappy Saturday. Gloomy all day till 7pm. Got 2 more outlets installed with nightlights. Jacob was over to mow and he did a good job after a shakey start. We weed whacked too. Mary got out to go shopping with Carolyn for 3-4 hrs.

I was on mom watch. She still isn't eating much of anything after breakfast. This has been going on for 4 weeks now. I am going to call the doctor Monday. She is doing good with PT but I don't know where she would get any energy. Will put her on our scale tonight at bedtime.

June 20 2014

Bummer. The whole Friday group was out this week. I went over to Sable Creek early to play and all 4 holes I could see from the parking lot were covered with water from all the rain this week and perhaps overflowing creeks/ditches. Sadly I returned home and did our morning walk. Got me a haircut and took mom to her hair appointment later.

Remember my law of Conservation of Pain? Basically the sum of all pain in the world is constant and is distributed across the population.

According to this theory, I could get new back pain while someone else's tooth pain goes away to compensate. Net pain is the same. I was wondering if each pain type follows the rule. As an example, if I get back pain, someone else's back pain goes away. Is the net backpain total always equal? This is one of the tough questions I mull over from time to time. Even tougher than that one is it net perceived pain or actual pain that is conserved??

June 19 2014

Another dreary day. I did get out twice this morning though. Went over to Carolyn and replaced a bad breaker. Still could be issues but the breaker was most likely it. It was an ARC protection breaker for her outdoor outlet. \$40 is an ouch! When I got back home I had to fire up the squirrel transport for number 18 this year.

PT for mom this afternoon. Her new blood monitor meter uses a lot less blood so that is a keeper. Mary may go out and about this afternoon.

June 18 2014

Wow! We had a big thunderstorm last night. No damage but 4-5" of rain in the bucket. Carolyn dropped the kids over while she went to work. She was worried about more storms. There was lots of local flooding she said. I jumped right on that and did some tree trimming before they stopped in. Jacob and Jenna brought the branches over, Jacob and I cut them up, and Jenna tossed them in the trash bucket.

Got very hot and humid but cooled off later. Put in my new outlet/nightlight in the bathroom. Worked great.

June 17 2014

Slow day. I was up early and paid bills and sent some of mom's bills in for reimbursement. Mom fell back on her butt this morning heading to the bathroom so we will need to watch her even closer. She might have a bruise on her arm. Too early to tell. She says nothing hurts. Probably more scared than hurt.

Mary had the morning and afternoon off but Brenda wasn't ready till 2pm. PT guy is coming shortly so I will warn him she may be a little shakey.

OMG! All my friday golfers are out for 2 weeks. I might have to play early by myself.

June 16 2014

We had a long trip of 6 hrs dropping mom off at Sue's. Went out for a fish fry Friday. I had both a fish fry and a beef on weck, and gave away the sides. YUM! Didn't sleep very good and played poorly Saturday morning shooting a 91 at Glen Oak. George played good with an 84. Cookout Saturday and an Anniversary cake, Got to see everyone there and it was fun.

Sunday I hit the ball OK but finished with a pair of 8's. Guess I was tired shooting 98. Jr shot 87. George is at 177, Jr at 184, Bob at 189, Jim at 200+. We plan 2 rounds here July 18 weekend. We headed back at 3pm and picked up mom at Columbiana, getting home around 8pm. Long weekend and we are all tired.

Golfing in the rain today. Hope I can find my swing again.

June 12 2014

Arrg! Another skunk cost me \$75. That is the last time I leave the trap open at night. Removed chippy 4 this morning. Carolyn gave mom her shower to get ready to go to Sue's tomorrow as Mary and I head to Buffalo for the weekend Saturday is our 45th anniversary! Quite an accomplishment, eh? Who knows how she put up with me all these years? Slow till 2pm ish when the PT guy came to give mom a workout.

The grass didn't look like it could wait, so I called for Jacob and gave him his first mowing lesson. He enjoyed it, but was going too fast!

No blog while we are away. Will fill you in Monday when we get back.

June 11 2014

Bagged squirrel #16 today. A big brownish gray. Jenna and I released it around noon. Jacob was over to help me finish cleaning up my fence disassembly and trim the small maple out back. We took all the trash to the yard recycle. He was a great help. Carolyn took mom to the hairdresser while Mary had a doctor appointment.

June 10 2014

Wow. a new record; 3 squirrels captured in a day. I was headed over to quail hollow and heard something coming from my trunk. I turned down the radio and listened carefully. The squirrel was singing to the tune of green acres!

**"quail hollow is the place to be
park living is the place for me
land spreading out far and wide
keep westiew and give me that countryside.**

Kids wer over for 3+ hours and wore us out. Lots of fun. They are going to a waterpark tomorrow.

June 9 2014

Hit the ball well but couldn't cash in with putting. I did putt well toward the end when I kept my eye glued to the ball. 84 at a tough tree lined course. Got the grass cut with Mary's help and now she is off to Red Hats.

PT guy was here today. He will start working on mom Thursday.

June 8 2014

What the heck? Got up this morning and turned on the news. What? No news? They dont't have early news on Sunday. I figured it was Monday, but no today is Sunday. I was all set to play golf today. Thought about some of the holes last night and everything. Darn it.....I was wondering why I was the only one on the block who put out the trash can yesterday. Brenda was totally confused. Maybe I will put it out next week on Friday or Saturday.

Had the Belmont winner yesterday. It's a good thing. I had lost my stake, but got half of it back. The triple crown hopeful was beaten by a horse that skipped the Preakness and was fresh. There may never be another triple crown winner. Three races, the last one the longest is brutal. Breeding may be a part of it. They do breed horses for the long races but it is rare they can do well as short as a mile.

Ripped out a section of fence, but still have to pull the nails and clean that up. The drizzle on and off kept me inside. I did wash the garage door and did trim some low

branches to the left of the house.

June 7 2014

Nice lazy day. Did some outside work but not much else. Watching the Belmont card. Not too bad, even after 5 races. Missed 1 in the first pick 4, but hit a daily double to get back to even. Mary will head to church in a bit.

June 6 2014

I hit the ball great at Windmill today. Missed 4 short putts and messed up the last two hole. Could have been around 83 but finished 41-46.

Mary went shopping while I golfed and Carolyn did the mom watch. She said mom was quite alert today.

June 5 2014

I went to Rudy's 35th Anniversary Lockheed lunch. Saw 3 other guys I haven't seen in 14 years. It was nice. Mom is off to the hairdresser. Nothing else planned.

My right shoulder hurt yesterday, perhaps from the golf Monday. Today my left arm is killing me. I suppose lifting those 5 – 50lb bags of stone did not do me any good. Got some heat on it and will try Aleve later tonight. Getting old is no picnic.

June 4 2014

Went to the retiree lunch. Stopped to fill a blood lab order on the way. Lunch was enjoyable. Stopped at Hartville Hardware and picked up some bird seed, rocks, a switch plate, and hanging basket. Mary and I cut the grass just before it rained, then the grandkids were over for 3-4 hrs. Whipped!

June 3 2014

Got chippy #2 today. Lots of people lost in our development today. They blocked off Market between Canyon and Tumbleweed, so people turn in and can't find their way out. An elderly couple stopped in front this morning in panic since they were low on gas. I directed them out with one small mistake (I was not yet awake I guess). Guess they made it cause I did not see them again.

Today is the foot doctor for mom. Wes said they would bring the kids over 4-7 but we don't know which day. Guess we will be surprised.

June 2 2014

All day golf at Charity event. Our team sucked and was 2 under par. The winning

team was 11 under as usual. On the long drive home I hit my best drive in 2 years; about 250 yds. I was only 85 yards behind the winner. Geeze! We finished at 5:30, followed by an hr of socializing, dinner, prizes, silent auction, etc and got home by 9pm. Brutal! I did win one of the bags though containing a \$100 gift certificate for Jewelry. That rewarded Mary for her long day with mom.

June 1 2014

Hit a nice pick 5 at Belmont where I almost never win. Outsmarted myself though. One of my ponies was scratched before the first race. I would have got the favorite, but I switched it to another horse. Too bad. Won 800 but would have been 2x if I had left it alone. Oh well.

Not much on the schedule today but we may be surprised later.

May 31 2014

Went to Lockheed Farewell party at Guys Party Center. Had a good time. Saw Mel, John, and Dick. Talked to everyone I knew well at the party. I would say 20 people. A lot of them are retiring rather than moving to Orlando. Going to be a new experience for them since many of them are 58-62. Lots of weight put on since I saw them last: Tom Morrish, Harry and Mary Westerman, John Burkley, Bob Grimaldi, LaHurd. Also saw Baginski, Terwilliger, Joyce (does my lawn), Mickelson, Holloway, Filicky, Hazeljean, Hugh Quinn, Babyak. Festivities were scheduled till 11:30, but I left at 9:45. Was getting chilly in there, I was losing my voice, and I had pretty much talked to those I knew. I was thinking I should have purchased a Grim Reaper outfit for the event.

We got our morning walk in and now I am on mom watch. Mary is out to the bank, grocery store, and hair dresser.

May 30 2014

Finally a good nine. Shot 38-45 at Tammy Hills. Figured out I was not staying down on the ball. Did for 9 holes, but not the back 9. One double and one triple on the back else I could have been at 80.

Mary is on mom watch today. I am heading to Baginski's Lockheed farewell bash at 6 tonight. Should see some old buddies there.

May 29 2014

Oops. Missed a day. We were supposed to watch Kalix while Zander had his tonsils out, but he took sick and they cancelled the surgery. So I got the grass cut.

Not much going today. Mom got her hair done. First time she was out for 2 weeks. I weeded a bit and watched the ponies. Mary is going to bum around with Carolyn while Jacob does Karate tonight.

May 27 2014

Carolyn was over to get mom up as Mary took Ginny to the airport to send her off back to Texas. I headed to Ellsworth where I hit the ball good but wedge and chipping were my downfall. Several times it took me 3 to get on from 100yds out. Very poor. Oh well, I hit the ball well, so something else has to break.

Mary and Ginny made a nice outfit for Jenna yesterday. She will be thrilled.

May 26 2014

Memorial Day. We were surprised yesterday as Wes and Kaetchen brought over burgers and the kids. We had a good time. Mom is still not eating well, but seems a slight bit more awake. We stopped her new pill as it said possible side effects are being tired and loss of appetite. She seems still a bit slow this mornin

May 25 2014

Lazy Sunday. I did have to make a trip with Mr. Squirrel #12 this morning. Picked up some scratch offs and 2 tickets were \$50 winners. Not bad for \$20. I also hit the pick 5 at Santa Anita yesterday for \$700 after a long slump. What's up with that. Normally when Mary's sister Ruth visits, I have luck. None while she was here but as soon as she left.....Mary and Ginny did some planting of marigolds this morning, then Ginny took her out to lunch.

May 24 2014

Busy day for the sisters. After breakfast they picked up picnic supplies at the store, cooked up potato salad, cut up watermelon, and packed up for Wingfoot lake picnic with everyone but me as I was on mom watch. At 4pm, they ran Ruth to the bus station, came home, fed mom and got her to bed. I got the gras cut just before it got dark and sent out the picnic pictures.

May 23 2014

Took me awhile to settle down this morning at the course. Shot 47-41. I feel I am finally coming around with my game. For some reason, still pulling the driver. Got to follow thru to the hole. Had a couple of poor shots near the end but I was getting tired. There was an awful cold wind this morning and I didn't have my warm stuff. It warm up toward the end. Sitting on the couch with a blanket on and the thermometer says 76.

The sisters went out to Grinders when I got home. They take Ruth to the bus station a bit later for her 5:40pm bus to Buffalo. Heck of a deal she got booking eary; \$50 round trip. Can't drive for that!

May 22 2014

Got the oil changed, filled up on fuel perks, and hit the driving range. Relearned to keep the swing smooth, keep your head down, and follow thru to the target. Golf 101. Hopefully I can execute on those items and keep my score lower tomorrow.

The sisters made cabbage rolls, then went out for ice cream for Ruth's upcoming bday. I was on mom watch. She is very weak today; tired out more since it was shower day. I was after her to drink all day since she hasn't been drinking well this week. Dehydration is really bad news.

The times, they are a changing. Saw on the news last night they opened a LGBT school in Oklahoma. My my my. I am speechless.

May 21 2014

We had Mexican dinner out last night. The ladies had a couple Margaritas and we all had fried ice cream. Carolyn and Jenna was on mom watch.

Today the ladies were busy doing hair, taking a car load to the church rummage sale, and beading. I got to cut the thick grass.

May 20 2014

Chilly again. We had a great time at Carolyn's cookout yesterday. Everyone was there to chomp down Ted's dogs and burgers.

Busy day today, Haircut, Dentist, and dinner out tonight.

May 19 2014

My game is in shambles. Dick's too. Shot 92 at Oak Knolls with 5 penalties and 3 more punch outs from the trees. Got Dennis' driver and hit several good shots but a baseball swing crept in and ended with pull hooks. Lots of work to do. My chipping finally came around near the end of the round.

We had a cookout at Carolyn's with the hot dogs Ruth brought. Teds Teds Teds!

May 18 2014

Nice day. I was on mom watch while the sisters were shopping. Tossed ma the big ball for 1/2 hr . Each time she caught it and rotated it around with her fingers on each side, got the tilt square, then rotated it around looking at it. After awhile she tossed it back. And on and on. Good finger exercise. A couple of time she faked throwing it causing me to laugh. Great fun.

Looking forward to golf tomorrow. I have my new driver I wrangled away from Dennis. Hope it makes a difference.

May 17 2014

Slow day so far. I was on mom watch and did a few dot to dots with her. Mary and Ginny went out to get groceries and go to the bank.

Didn't have much racing luck on Preakness Day. Won a dailey double, then missed the last race of a pick 4. I was thinking before the race I should apoligize to my 3 picks in that race, cause if I bet on them, I probably put the hex on them. Sure did. The late pick 4, I got knocked out in the 3d race, so my 4th race Preakness horses are safe.

Picking up Mary's sister Ruth at 8pm.

May 16 2014

Amazingly the golf course opened even though very wet. Played and scored 86, but did not hit many good shots. It was cold at 45 degrees at the start and 55 by the time we were done.

Mowed the lawn and it was very thick. Mom watching while Mary and Ginny get away to the Hartville Kitchen/Hardware complex.

May 15 2014

Lots of rain yesterday and this morning. I suspect we may cancel golf tomorrow. We shall see.

Mom is whipped today. Got her shower, got her out to her new doctor, and did blood work. Needed both arms and was tough to hit a vein. Eeeeeek!

May 14 2014

Busy day. Cleaned the gutters that were spilling over yesterday. It was a hot task. Then when I was done, it was off to Quail Hollow to transport the 10th squirrel I have caught this year. Did some weeding while mom was at the hairdresser.

The kiddies were over from 2:30-5:30 and wore us out.

May 13 2014

Went to lunch with Rudy today. He still has 6 weeks left at Lockheed. Who else was there but another 3 that worked for me. Don Zowalski has an indefinite period left. Tom Babyak hase till February, and Bill Castro has taken a spot in Florida and it was his last day. Wow. I guess a lot of people worked for me over the years. They were all good workers and I enjoyed managing them.

Nasty storms last night, very hot today!

May 12 2014

The rain passed at 9am. Golf started at 10 am but we played very slow; searched for golf balls here and there maybe 30 minutes. We packed up and ran with 4 holes left due to some nasty approaching thunder. We got into the clubhouse before it poured. Good thing cause I was going to lose money. After starting with two pars, I had a 9. Did score a birdie but dumped another in the lake. I would have been around 92; could have been an 85 or so. I keep telling myself I am on the verge of a good round.

May 11 2014

Got the grass cut in the morning. Everyone was over for a cookout from 4-7pm. The weather was great and the kids pretty much played in the yard the whole time. It was great to see them having all that fun.

May 10 2014

Damp from yesterday's rain, 60ish and kind of dreary. Got the backyard stuff out of the garage. The swing awning connection was broken. Went online but nobody sells the part. You have to buy the \$54 assembly. I guess we will have to do without it. A brand new one is \$150 but I bet \$100 once it goes on sale. Mary was busy making potato salad for her Mother's day cookout tomorrow. Hope the weather is nice.

May 9 2014

Nice day. Got our round in before the rain and there was a cool breeze. New driver was 12/15 which wasn't bad. Four 3 putts and dumping one in the lake hurt me. Went 44-45 but "should" have been 83 ish.

May 8 2014

Busy day. Mary went for EKG, I did the dentist, and mom got her hair washed and set. What a beautiful day at 83 degrees! I tried out my recent driver purchase and was impressed. The range balls were going out 200, so a good ball should travel farther and I should be good to go. Got my hopes up for tomorrow.

May 7 2014

Big thunderboomers early 6am ish this morning. I was on mom watch while Mary visited her sewing friend with alzheimers. Her other friend was over yesterday and is in the early stages of dementia. I'll cut the grass when Mary gets home. Got to cut it the 4th day after the last cut with all the rain.

May 6 2014

We got our 1.8 mile walk in this morning. It was cool but no wind, so not so bad.

Thought I might have lunch with Rudy to see how he is doing, but he didn't respond soon enough. So I did some misc stuff. Took medical records to new doctor, picked up some beer for visitors coming next week, picked up some pea gravel, and some Gunk. May try the Gunk to try and cut the grease in my screw drive (garage opener). It is clogged with 40 yrs of old grease. I figure to clean it out somehow and use new grease. Also straightened out the 2x4 in the patio so nobody will trip on it. Mary was a great assistant.

May 5 2014

Missed a day. We went off to the Battle of the Magicians at the Canton Palace and saw good magic and funny funny magic skits. Great dinner at Bonefish as well with Mel and Joanne.

Had a working man's 85 at Chippawa. Hit out a bucket beforehand to get my swing back. I was using Dick's driver and it served me well. Iron play was better but still a bit weak. The short game was so-so but I putted well for the most part. Banged the short ones into the back of the hole. OMG if I missed one of them I would have been 12ft past the hole! Best of luck to Neil who is scheduled for prostate surgery next Saturday.

May 3 2014

Kind of a slow day. I did cut 1/2 the grass till a pop up shower came down. After dinner the sun came out and I got to finish before dark. Sent a pic of my smashed driver face and sent it out to those who would know. Got some interesting comments back as expected. I was accused of hitting rocks.

Watched the Derby. The favorite won. He had roughly \$12M wagered on him for win place and show. It is a popular race for sure. As for wagering, I did cash a \$2 win ticket that paid \$3.10 but that was the highlight of my wagering today. One of my long ago golf pals Chuck, was from Kentucky and he went every year. One year he didn't make it all the way there....too many mint juleps. I wonder if he is still standing today?

Tomorrow we go to the Magic show then out to dinner while Carolyn holds down the fort. Always go with Mel and Joanne and we always enjoy it.

May 2 2014

Played ugly at Brookledge. Lots of arms only swings. Guess I am not a mudder. The greens were impossibly fast. There were a lot of 3 and 4 putts. I shot a not very pretty 94. Not only that, I crushed in the face of my driver. Too many powerful hits I guess.

May 1 2014

I have 144 holes in this year. Last year I was at 324. That says it all about the weather. Dennis said they just opened his course Monday in Buffalo, Nuff said.

Maybe getting wet again tomorrow. It's going to be chilly.

Kids were over for 2 hrs this afternoon. Got a nice pic with Grandma and Zander reading his book. He showed her how to turn the page.

April 30 2014

Another rainy morning. This time it never stopped for very long. The snowbirds returned home today to this gloomy weather. Cleaned up the storage room today to get some stuff together for Mary's church rubbish sale. That is still a couple of weeks out. Supposed to rain on us golfers AGAIN tomorrow. Kind of getting used to it.

April 29 2014

Rainy morning. Off to the dentist to get my new crown then back home. Another day out! Rain surprisingly stopped, things dried out and got warm. So onto the mower I went and sawed the tall grass down. That's about it. The break from the rain was greatly appreciated,

April 28 2014

Another crappy rain day for golf. Shot an 85 with poor short game. Should have been around 80, Swing is coming around but still not where it was last year. Hunkering down for the rest of the rain. Supposed to rain all week. Geeze.

April 27 2014

Nice day once again! Pulled some weeds, cleaned the garage, and ordered chinese at Lucky Star. "What you order Mr. Paker?" Love calling there and ordering. Their Honey Chicken is really good. Crispy chicken and a few pineapple chunks. Hoping the rain stays away tomorrow for golf.

April 26 2014

Nice day, a bit on the cool side. How come the weekends are nice this year? Seems like the weekday golf is cursed; always raining. What the heck? Quiet day. Did some replanting and not much else. Mom was feeling bad and didn't eat much of anything. Feeling bad is all she would say. Nothing hurt as she usually says, just feeling bad? Had the Santa Anita 1st 4 races right. Unfortunately not the 5th. Had 2 of the 5 horses and it would have been a 1500 payoff, but both were 4 lengths back. The curse continues.

April 25 2014

Looked like rain but I went anyway. We were dry for 7 holes then got gradually

soaked the rest of the way in a light shower. Dick had a ticket for free golf too. I shot 87 with a couple 3 putts on the front. Putts would go up the hill and come back down, so we made it an auto 2 putt on the second go around on Twin Lakes 9 holer.

April 24 2014

Dr appointments took up the morning. Carolyn was over to get mom in the shower and I got the grass cut. Another boring day.

April 23 2014

Another cold day for spring. Barely got to 50. Caught my 8th squirrel yesterday. Cleaning out the hood.

The kids were over last night and had fun. They were good once again. They were here from 3-5:30 and Mary had to run out the door for her bowling banquet at 5:30. We did Easter egg hunt and they found their baskets. Mary was busy from 3:30 to 9 when she got mom to bed. Carolyn called and said Jacob ran the 800 in 2:43 taking 10 seconds off his best time. Very encouraging.

April 22 2014

Catherine left for home today. Mary had a hair appointment so I was on mom watch today. Moved a few plants as the ground was soft from the rain and it was easy to do. More of that planned for tomorrow so it should be a slow day as well.

April 21 2014

Wonderful Easter day yesterday. Sue and Ed surprised us and came. With Catherine, us, Wes, Carolyn, Don, Jacob, Jenna, Carolyn's friend Tasha, and Steve, there were thirteen. And the food was Goooooooooooooooooooood.

Busy day today. Got in a 2 mi walk the am, played poorly at Seven Hills (95), and helped Wes put in 3 light fixtures. I am whipped. Catherine mom watched and Mary got out for awhile too. Sadly, Catherine is leaving tomorrow morning.

April 19 2014

Did some last minute prep stuff for the Holiday weekend. Got my non-slip pad glued to the bathtub this morning. Also did some planting in the island and by the garage. My sister should be here this afternoon. Egg hunt and dinner tomorrow.

April 18 2014

Golf! Finally! Too bad I didn't play very well. Had some good shots when I kept my backswing short. Guess that is going to have to do. 44-46 is poor play for me. The

short game was a bit off. Kept chipping past the pin just out of reach for my putting. Nice day to get out though. Hope to do better Monday.

Then had to hassle with CVS and get mom's insurance right, I think that is straightened out now. Also might have her a new doctor. They send me paperwork, then they review and schedule an appointment.

Printer problems again after updating to windows 8.1. Turns out I needed a new driver.

April 17 2014

Long day. I couldn't sleep after 4am so got up at 5. Did some shopping online and got out and hosed out the garage, then mowed the lawn. Took mom off to the Vascular doctor. He said her foot sore has healed and to come back in 3 months so he can keep an eye on her. He even gave me a few doctors to try and may help get her into one if need be.

Crazy traffic on the rush hr return ride. Almost got whacked by some jerk barreling off the exit ramp. The kids were supposed to stay, but Zander didn't want his mommy to leave. This is the second try this week. When Wes brought him over there were no issues. Must be a I want my mommy thing.

April 16 2014

Kids were over on the snowy day yesterday. When will it end? They were angels once again. I was at the dentist for my crown work. Got a temp now for the next 2 weeks. Today is mom watch while Mary bowls. Looks like we will be able to play friday, but with my luck, rain will probably fall or it will snow or something.

April 14 2014

I skipped golf today. Looked like a rain out but I guess it just missed those that played. Just my luck. Mary is out at Red Hats, so we had kilbasa and potatoes.

April 12 2014

Beautiful day today. God has been very nice to the weekend golfers, not so much for us weekday retirees. I did watch a lot of the Masters golf today.

I did some flower bed cleanup and Mary helped me pick up 2 buckets of sticks in the back. Going to need to mow this week. The grass is officially growing and got lots of sunshine today.

We were all ready to watch the little ones. When they didn't show by 5pm, Mary checked the calendar and saw it is tomorrow they are coming. I better put the driveway car and tricycle away and get them out again tomorrow.

April 11 2014

Another cursed rainout this morning. Unbelievable. This is much the same as last Friday; rain hard in the am then clear up. I tried to get mom a new doctor today. Every one I tried was not taking new patients. Must be a run on doctors with all the new Obamacare people signing up.

April 10 2014

Finally a nice day. Nasty wind though. Went 42-46 at Tammy Dales. Didn't hit my tee shots as well as I would want. Played the last 3 holes with something in my eye which I can claim cost me a couple strokes. Maplecrest tomorrow.

April 9 2014

Oh man, spent most of the day figuring out moms new insurance websites, medication costs, and potential doctors. Looks like a few precriptions need to be changed to alternates because of cost.

Went to 13yr old Jacob's grandsons track meet. Twas cold enough for my winter golf gear. He did good in the 800m. He finished in the top 1/3 of the runners but stayed with the leader the last lap and 1/4 Needs to stay closer the first lap to have a chance. Pretty good for a first outing given he hasn't run much on his own before starting training this year.

April 8 2014

What the heck? Dentist gave Mary a gold star for her teeth and I got a gold drain on mine. Need a crown replaced and 4 fillings. That will be mucho expensive.

Grandkds over from 4:30 to 8. Wore us out. We played in, we played out.

Doc retired. Mary and I signed up with one closer to home but we still need to find an old person's doctor for mom. Also got to check into her meds with her new insurance company cause a couple are way too expensive.

April 7 2014

Well, my birthday golf is rained out. Supposed to rain at 11am but none yet. Should have gone. Guess I am depressed with the bad weather always hitting on a planned golf round. Stayed home and wrote my checks to the IRS and Ohio. Ouch!

Great party last night. He had "Ted's". Catherine had brought me sahlens dogs and some Ted's hot sauce. They were great!

April 6 2014

We're going to have a celebration. You bring your friends and i'll bring mine. Celebrating my birthday today; it is really tomorrow, I suppose our golf will be a rainout. That is how my luck is going lately. I will update the blog later after the party.

April 5 2014

Watched the kiddies last night. They were very good once again. Poor Kalix had 4 shots and a finger stick at the doctors yesterday but it didn't bother her. On top of that her face was scraped up from a fall. She fell by the outside stairs and was OK, but when she got up she scraped her face on the stairs. Ouch. Zander went to Children's Hospital for an x-ray of his adenoids which were swollen. Guess it was one of those horrible weeks for parents.

Sump working OK today. That's a good thing. Going to be a slow day today. Tomorrow we cook Ted's hot dogs and have cake for my birthday, which is Monday.

Evening update: Caught two squirrels this morning. Around 2pm another dropped down on my spinning rail on my feeder. Couldn't hang on 2 times, the third he hung on and went for a ride 2x around before it flung him off. It was a treat to see that. Mary said it was a squirrel amusement park.

April 4 2014

Carolyn was over for moms shower, so we ran a couple of errands this morning. She got the lens for her turn signal \$12 and we put it into the car to repair the damage I did backing into her car last week. Mary is off to the doctor and I am on mom watch this afternoon. Fish fry from the church this evening.

Dang sump pump float is acting up. Doesn't shut off when it should. I sure hope I don't have to buy a new pump just for that. If I do, going to make sure it is built better than this one. The bottom part that holds the float is flexible. I figure if it isn't exactly vertical the float bulb doesn't want to slide up and down the wire properly. Maybe I can rig something up to it to make sure the float stays vertical. That is what I will try if it acts up again. This idea came to me while writing this blog, so the blog has paid off. Moral of the story is that is is good to explain things to someone. You might get some good ideas. Even if your just talking to yourself. So far, I have pulled the pump up twice and dropped a screwdriver down the well both times. Clumsy, eh?

April 3 2014

Rain rain raining out another golf round. I am cursed this year. Not much going on today. FB was down 5% today which sucks. Still stuck home.

April 2 2014

Forgot to warn there would be no blog while we were off to Pittsburgh. We had a great time. Got to see friends Dan Flynn, John Rasmussen, and ex neighbors and friends Joyce and daughter Renee. Also went to the history and science museums

and the Phipps Conservatory. Swam a few laps in the hotel pool and enjoyed the hot tub. Thanks to sisters Sue and Catherine for watching mom for a couple of days. The time off was much needed. No wonder the weather finally got better.

March 29 2014

Last night Kalix's party was awesome. The kids played well and we got some nice pictures. Kalix walked to me with her book to read. We were all entertained and the food and cake were great!

Had to shovel 2" of heavy icy stuff this morning. Mary noticed the down toilet was not flushing. I checked the sump and found some type of cloth sucked up by the pump. Pulled it out in pieces and it was good to go. Good thing Mary noticed cause it would have soon backed up into the house. Good that it happened before we left the house to my sisters tomorrow morning. They would be dealing with a mess.

Not much to do today. Heading to Pittsburgh in the morning till Wednesday.

March 29 2014

Storm a coming late afternoon. When will it ever quit? Going over to Kalix birthday #1 later on. Mary is heading to knitting to get some advice on putting her knitted sweater together, so I will be on mom watch till the party.

Heading to Pittsburgh Monday. Sisters are going to stay and take care of mom for 2 ½ days. Nice to get away. Can't wait to enjoy the great highways of Pittsburgh. We will hit the museums and the hot tub and enjoy dinners out. Will see some old friends too.

Guess I didn't do too much damage to Carolyn's car the other day. She says the lens cover costs \$12.

March 28 2014

Cursed again. Seems a common theme, eh? Saved \$10 on my fuel perks. Made a nice trade for \$233. Good start anyway. Downhill from there. Was pouring gas into my car and it spilled all over Carolyn's leg and shoe. Was getting late so I headed off to golf and backed into her car. Broke her turn signal lens, put a small dent in her fender, and scraped up my rear bumper. Drove off to the course and it was of course closed as they needed to clean up wind damage. On the plus side, I did make it home safely. I am not going to operate any more machinery today!

Mom is dozing after breakfast. She hasn't been eating good and is on a downhill slope.

March 27 2014

Busy day. Out to breakfast, picked up a few things at the store, and made a doctor

trip with mom. Snow didn't melt till late. Supposed to rain all night and morning. Maybe get in a round noonish tomorrow.

March 26 2014

OMG! Snow again last night; shoveled 3 inches. Jenna was over this morning. Guess this week is spring break. Mom watched while Mary went bowling and skyped with Catherine. Guess the snow killed off golf for Thursday. Maybe Friday? Carolyn will be over tomorrow, so we get to go to breakfast.

March 25 2014

It was nice this am, so I quick called Dick and we played. I started slow but finished well at 42-37. Dick went 44-49 falling apart on #9 thru #16. Even shanked one. Great to get in a bonus round this week.

March 24 2014

OMG. Started with Dell tech support at 9am, wrapped it up at 11:15am. Turns out he downloaded me a new driver and turned on print spool to get it to work. He forgot to turn print spool on auto, so I had to reconnect with them cause he forgot to do that and it didn't work after a reboot. Now the new Dell is finally full up. Kids are over later so that will wear me out.

Been thinking about a corollary to my conservation of pain theory. New pain in my right hip has been there for a week now. So if I own some pain, it just keeps moving around my body. At times my right rib hurts, or it is my shoulder , or wrists. Perhaps I only get so much and it moves around. There are some pain free days, so I am not sure where that pain goes on those days. I guess that doesn't make sense, so I guess I will just discount the corollary and stick with the overriding conservation of pain theory.

March 23 2014

Not much going on today. Mom watched while Mary was out shopping for birthday gifts. Skyped with both sisters. It's a good diversion for mom.

Watched the golf. Arnie was there. I kind of look like him but I have a better swing than he does. Well, he is 85 now.

March 22 2014

Missed a day yesterday. Had a 10am tee time and it snowed 3" at 9:30. I am cursed! It all melted by 2:30pm. Poor Neil drove down from Brecksville to watch it snow. The roads were horrible for awhile.

Spent the rest of the day and all morning trying to xfer everything to new windows 8

computer. Windows 8 sucks. Can't get the Dell printer installed on my Dell laptop. It works on my old Lenova. Well, back to frustration now. I am sure there will be more of it.

March 20 2014

First day of spring surprise. My trap was full this morning with a very large skunk. Cost me \$75 for someone to take it away. I figured it was well worth it. Didn't know squirrel trapping could get expensive.

Carolyn mom watched this morning while Mary and I went to lunch at the Olive Garden. It was nice. Stopped and picked up 2 large Easter bunnies for Easter. Mom and I have this cold, but it has really slowed her down.

Got a Windows 8 computer since XP won't be supported. Took me 4 hrs to connect to the internet. I had to go in and change the wireless router to use no authentication. The mini ipad didn't care. Took me 30 seconds to change it. Windows 8 hides most everything, so it is a treasure hunt to find anything. Shmucks like me keep them alive. Oh well, a \$400 Dell is a lot cheaper than Apple laptops, and I am too cheap anyway. The Dell sucks. The touchpad clicks are very loud and irritating. Other than that, I am ecstatic about my purchase,

March 19 2014

Mom watch today while Mary bowled and partied. Then she went to Jenna's school thing. Mom and I both have drippy noses and sneezing. Usually takes me 10 days so I am down to maybe 7 left.

For some reason I was thinking of music. Maybe cause sister sent mom a CD to listen to. I remember my dad listening to marching songs with the kids and grand kids. He liked Judy Garland too. Later in life he listened to opera. That gawd awful crap is UN-listenable. I would rather get a sharp stick in the eye than listen to one of them soprano's. He definitely wasn't a sophisticate, so where the heck did opera come from? Only thing I can figure is he wanted to drive everyone else in the house nuts o.

March 18 2014

Golf! I can hardly believe it! Shot a nice 10 over 80 with 1 birdie.

We walked today. I wasn't sure I was going to make it around after the 11th hole. It was rough but I made it. Scores: Bob 80 (par on the first hole thanks to ball hitting tree and landing on the green), Neil 92 (6 penalties) , Dick 98 (double bogey-itis).

Talk about impossible odds:

So Neil's ball is out on the ice on the par 5 2nd near the #3 par 3. Can't be reached. He sees a lost ball just under the ice by the shore and hacks a tiny hole thru it to pick up a ball. Next hole Dick pulls one left that bounces across the pond in falls into said hacked hole. Next to impossible! I told Dick to buy a lotto ticket.

March 17 2014

Very cold morning but it is warming up nicely. Mom watch today as Mary is knitting. I seem under the weather. Not sure if it is a cold coming on or just the dry air. Plan to golf tomorrow. Hopefully the weather holds and I feel a little better.

March 16 2014

Stinking cold again. I hate this!

March 15 2014

Mary watched the kids this morning while Wes and Kaetchen ran a race at quail hollow, Hope all the squirrels I left there didn't get in the way. Wes ran #2 but was just off a 12hr shift. Kaetchen finished 3d in her age group. Quite impressive.

Carolyn got mom up and we did a little sticker art and watched the horses. I picked the wrong 1st time starter in one race. If I had picked the other one I would have been \$15K to the better. Oh well.

Not a bad day. Hopefully golf next week.

March 14 2014

Carolyn was over to shower mom, so we went to Denny's for breakfast. They have good coffee. Stopped to pick up chocolate bunnies but the won't be out till next week. Bummer! It's really nice to get out once in awhile. Mary is great company too.

Did some grocery shopping. Picked up some cabbage for cabbage salad for our fish tonight. The church's fish was too salty last week. We should give them a week and see if it improves any.

March 13 2014

Geeze, 8 degrees this morning before it warmed up to a balmy 22 later. Watched the grandkids around dinner time. It was a zoo and I am exhausted. Supposed to warm up the next couple of days.

March 12 2014

Mom watch again today while Mary bowled. Skyped with sister Catherine. Nasty day today. Rain, then freezing rain, then snow, about 1/4 inch. Lots of accidents in Cleveland as they got more and idiots forgot how to drive in the snow after 1 week. Tomorrow watching the grandkids. Such excitement!

March 11 2014

Mom watched today till I headed up to Cleveland to have dinner with Al, Bob, and Jane. Al was his usual self and has the most bizarre stories to tell:

His best buddy back in Cleveland hadn't called for several weeks which was unusual. I guess this guy was all alone with no remaining family. After a couple of days trying to reach him, he called the police station and asked they check on him. No one was home? He checked hospitals and filed a missing person report. Police tracked him down to a hospital he had not checked. Turns out the guy had cancer and was in Hospice care. Al got on the plane, arrived Thursday, got him a Will and straightened out his paperwork just before close of business Friday before the guy passed away Saturday. They had to get strangers that happened to be in the hospital to witness signatures. Strange story, eh? Turns out the guy had \$500k. His wish was to set up a cancer foundation, so now Al has to set it up and run it. Talk about cutting it close.

Stopped at the Rocksino and lost some of my money on the way home. I was proud of myself as I did good driving in the dark. I am rarely out after dark anymore. It wasn't fun as it once was, Guess I have become a homebody, while Mary is now the social butterfly.

March 10 2014

Updated yesterday's date. Today was mostly slow, Did Skype with both sisters today. Watched Zander from 5:30 to 7:30 while Kalix had swim lessons. Tomorrow will have dinner with Al, Bob, and Jane at the Boneyard in Mayfield. Al is in from LA for a funeral.

Bad week for chess. After fighting my way up to a 1300 rating, it has dropped like a rock to 1220. Lack of golf and spending much time cooped up here has made me brain dead.

March 9 2014

ARRRG! They still had snow on the greens when I called, so I canceled my time. No luck at all. Snakebit. Nice day tomorrow but I am on mom watch.

Broke even wagering yesterday. Not so today. Only picked 3/10 winners. Very poor. Nice day but not warm enough for some major snow melt. Nothing else of note.

March 8 2014

Got a tee time for Monday! Good thing I called, only one left before noon. I can not wait! It is about time, eh?

Mom watch today. Will be watching the Florida Derby at Tampa Bay Downs today. Did a little leaf pickup this morning.

March 7 2014

Carolyn was over to mom watch and shower her this morning. Mary and I went to exchange cars at Ganley. I negotiated over the internet between Ganley and Cain and got Ganley's price down \$15/month. Told Mary she was getting a virtual car. Went in, signed papers, and drove off in under 2 hours. Sweet! Got to love the internet.

Basement overflowed with rinse water. Sump was still running but I guess the float got stuck. Will have to watch it because there could be a stone somewhere in pipe. Should have taken it apart and looked but it is such a messy job. Thankfully, the little floor water alert fired, but the washer does carry a lot of water.

While I was out there found a ton of deer scat about 15 yds behind mom's window. They must be bedding down there on occasion, which is odd because it isn't in the pines close by. Maybe they are in the pines and that area is just the latrine area.

Fish fry tonight to be picked up at the church.

March 6 2014

Mom watch most of the day. Took a beating in the stock market as bio techs seem to be out of favor this week. I sure hope they will make a comeback.

Weather is starting to break. Can't wait for the snow to melt so we can get back out on the course.

March 5 2014

Went to the retiree lunch and got to sit next to Ed Bose. Ed is a giant of a man. Soft spoken, about 6 ft and built like a tank. I will always remember golfing with him in the Seven Hills work league. He was a low handicapper and played in the ADGA tournament (Akron District Golf Association). He was good. Anyway, I was to play him one night and I can't get my old junker's trunk open to get my clubs. He came up and said I could play out of his bag. A very nice gesture.

Anyway, I was hitting it all over the place. Here was Ed, a giant of a man, following me around like a puppy dog pulling his cart into the woods looking for my ball, etc. I was feeling really embarrassed. BTW, I had never seen clubs as old as his were. They were older than my dad's at the time. I sure didn't want to break one. I somehow got thru the round and am sure he would never want to play with me again. Didn't phase him in the least but I will never forget my horror story.

He is 85 now and is still playing. Doesn't know if he can do it this year though. He had one knee replaced and the other is in need of replacement but the doctors are hesitating because of his age. Said he will go out and hit a few at the range and see if he can make a swing with the bum knee. I believe he will find a way to get out there this year. I would bet on it.

March 4 2014

Carolyn got mom up this morning. I bagged squirrel numero uno and took him off to

quail hollow. That guy better build a shelter quick as it is still cold out. Mom watch the rest of the day. Oh yeah, I added a couple of items to Jake's Wisdom book at Carolyn's request.

Been haggling with the car lease guys and have a Friday appointment to exchange our 2011 out for a 2014. Not totally set yet but I should know by tomorrow.

March 3 2014

Slow morning and afternoon on mom watch. All the grandkids came over at 4pm to celebrate Jacob's 13th birthday. I made some signs to hang up and sketched out a short book of my "Wisdom". It was serious with a light touch so as not to be so dramatic. I think he liked it.

Wes brought crab legs and the kids all ate them and then the ice cream and cake. It was a short but nice party.

March 2 2014

Oops, missed March 1. It was a nice day, did a few odd jobs and mom watched yesterday. Today will be much the same. Skyped with both sisters and Steve III. Steve III is in Johannesburg South Africa doing same math research. Oh yeah, I updated my website scores, Golf gallery, and ASIC gallery. Looks pretty nice now. Can't find the What's in the Bag pictures, so I will have to retake them someday.

Almost done snowing. I shoveled 2" early this am and will need to make another pass shortly. Maybe another inch or so. Otherwise just mom watch today. Might watch some golf.

It is supposed to warm up for a few days later this week. It will probably melt most of the snow before another batch comes in to aggravate me. All I can do to keep my sanity!

February 28 2014

*Was minus 2 when I got up, but it warmed up nicely higher than expected thanks to the sun. Goodbye February, one month I *#@&! hate being in Ohio.*

Carolyn gave us a 4 hr break and mom got her shower. We ate breakfast out, did a little shopping, picked up pills, and went to the bank. Then back to mom watch. Not a bad day considering it is still February.....

February 27 2014

Gawd another cold day and colder tomorrow, perhaps record low temperature. It's been 45 long days since the last golf. That is absolutely disgraceful, disgusting and despicable. That's what they say on the Thomas the Train videos anyway. I'm real sick of this winter.

Not much went on today. We get a break tomorrow morning when Carolyn does mom watch then I need to take mom to a doctor appointment just after lunch time.

February 26 2014

The grand kids were really good last night and a lot of fun. Woke up to 10 degrees this am. Weather guy says 7 days from now it is still going to be in the 20s. Geeze almighty.

Mom watch today while Mary bowls. Been doing a lot of stock trading this week. Up and down is good. This week I have bought and sold 1000sh NWBO 3 times this week for a profit of \$500. That will pay for 1/2 of the new bedroom rug anyway.

February 25 2014

Regarding the bear going over the mountain, my sister cut a CD for mom since she loves music and that is about all these days. So I play the CD 2 or 3 times a day and that song is on there twice. So now I contemplate these things quite often lately. Not only that but I wonder why anyone would go around singing poly wally doodle all day. And why would the monkey chase a weasel, eh?

Not much doing today. Resting up for watching the little ones at 3pm. Sister Sue is making me jealous sending pics from the Alabama gulf coast. I wonder if she went with her banjo on her knee?

February 24 2014

Another slow day. Watched the market closely and made a ton of day trades. Did pretty well, maybe up \$500. Beats doing nothing all day.

Bears are dumb. Did you know the bear went over the mountain to see what he could see? And all he saw was the other side of the mountain.

February 23 2014

Got the garage stairs cleaned. Been in my job jar for 5? years maybe. Also updated my web page golf galaxy photos after I found them on my CDs. Not much else to do today. Mary is going to do some grocery shopping and I will pick up some Grinders later for dinner. Mom is OK today.

Not much luck at the races yesterday, Guess I will have to step back on spending and wait till the new rug and income taxes are paid for in March. Sisters will watch mom end of March. Thinking of heading to Pittsburgh and going through their museums. May be able to have dinner with John R and maybe Dan Flynn while there.

February 22 2014

Weird day so far. Got the tools put away in the utility room and straightened it out a bit. Mom didn't want to get up. We pulled her to the edge of the bed and she sat there for 2+ hrs. Finally bribed her with a piece of bread covered with jelly. She got up and ate but still didn't want to get dressed. Carolyn stopped by and got her dressed. Nice day out there, 55 now. Was not supposed to get that warm so it is a bonus. I am mom watch the rest of the day. Probably watch the ponies the rest of the afternoon.

Got an update on my ex-boss at Cisco. He had his 3d cancer surgery. Right now, not much left of his digestive system. He can still eat, but will need to hook up at night for a feeding tube. It is so sad to see this happen to a great stand up guy. Makes you wonder how cancer chooses it's victims.

February 21 2014

Carolyn was over to mom watch while we went out to lunch. I had lunch with Rudy at Lockheed. They are closing the plant and he is not very busy while he waits out his last day sometime in June. Mary went out with her sewing buddies. Otherwise a slow day.

February 20 2014

Finished the caulking early, touched up paint, and got the bedroom furniture back. Project now complete! Still have some stuff to bring back to the closet. Maybe tomorrow.

Nice snow melt today but it hardly made a dent. Geeze, no golfing anytime soon.

February 19 2014

Got the base boards trimmed by 8am. Carpet guys did the install at 2pm as promised and did a good job. Got all the furniture moved back except a couple of items. I will caulk and touch up the paint and it should all come back together by evening. I am whipped.

February 18 2014

Ton of snow this morning. I had to shovel 3 sessions to clear the length of the drive. Delayed Jim's trip home till noon-ish to let the plows do their job. On the plus side, he helped me move all the furniture out of the bedroom. Joey helped too. Jim pulled 1/3 of the staples out of the pad, had lunch, then was on his way. After a much needed rest, I went back in and finished removing the staples and pad. Mary did the vacuum. I am toast; very tired.

Tomorrow I will trim the 3 walls worth of base boards and have them ready to go in once the carpet is down. This was much more work than I thought, mostly because of the added snow shoveling this morning.

February 17 2014

Joe and Jacob are off to Laser Tag today for the last hurrah's of Jim and Joey's mini trip here. They have to be worn out. One more day of entertaining and then it is time to prep for the carpet guys Wednesday. Got to move stuff out, pull the carpet, and clean up. After they are gone, got to hammer in the baseboards, caulk, and paint touch up.

February 16 2014

Joe and Jacob are still at it at Carolyn's. They should be here this evening. Quiet day here, skype-ing with both sisters and watching golf.

Carpet installers are coming Wednesday,

February 15 2014

Brother Jim and son Joe arrived around 11. Carolyn picked up Joe so Jacob and Joe could raise the roof at her house. She is taking them to Ninja night at the karate studio where they will be on the go from 6-9pm. We will head out for Pizza at 6 while Carolyn mom watches.

Still would like to add light to the bedroom. May get an estimate from an electrician to do the install. Figure you need to drop a wire from the attic to get a ceiling light. Not something I want to tackle.

February 14 2014

Carolyn was over to shower mom and sit with her this morning. Mary and I got away for breakfast and errands. Stopped to get snacks for my brother and son who will be visiting this weekend. Last stop was Home Depot to look at some stuff for sprucing up the laundry room. We are thinking white paneling at \$12 a sheet. Might need 10-12 of them. Also looked at flooring ideas for in there and track lighting maybe for bedroom. Still in the planning stages for these tasks.

Hey! Looks like we may have a thaw next week. Sweet!

February 13 2014

Busy day. Mom got her hair washed and set.

I went over to Carolyn's. Got the molding back on her bathroom door in quick order. Her room went quickly which was a surprise. It was too tight but we pulled the molding and there was lots of room to shim it. The last one was interesting. We could not shim it because the door frame was right up against a stud on each side. She came up with a brilliant idea. We pulled off one side of the door frame and mounted the hinges directly to the stud. This gave us the much needed room. Then we pushed the other frame side over and shimmed it to where it wanted to be. The top of the

frame was disconnected and long screws used to hang it from the top framing stud. She will use drywall tape to cover the stud we put the hinges on so it looks decent. So we are using 2 pieces of the door frame disconnected and tossed the other piece. Very sweet. I suppose we would have had to do the same thing if we had a pre-hung door, cause the opening between the studs was too small.

Got my fan light fixture socket part from UPS and installed that at home. I am hoping my 80C electrical tape is good enough to withstand the heat in the light fixture. I see I can buy up to 180C glass mesh tape if I need to. We will let it heat awhile and if we smell the tape I can get some hi temp tape for the job. There were connectors on the parts, but I had to break them to get the old part out, so I soldered the new and wrapped with tape. Also replaced the 75W halogen with a 50w bulb to reduce the heat generated in the fixture.

February 12 2014

The kids were good yesterday. They were oozing nose fluid, so we hope we somehow avoid colds. Not much going on today. Mary is bowling so I am on mom watch most of the day.

Got the baseboards painted. The paint was old and a bit thick but they look ok.

February 11 2014

I was thinking about my sleeping issues a couple of days back. I wake up often, at least 4 times every night and then worry if I will get back to sleep. Makes for a restless night. If I wake up near daylight, I figure the nights about over and I don't have to worry about going back to sleep, so I fall right back to sleep. Thinking about this I said to myself "Self, why don't you pretend the night is almost over, even if it is not really next time you wake up"? I wondered if my brain was so gullible. Well, I am sure you guessed it is and it is. Seems to be working for me the last couple of nights. I hope I can continue to fool myself. Wow, I left myself wide open with that comment.

Not much on the to do list today. Maybe paint the base boards tomorrow. Mary went grocery shopping and filled the trunk at Marcs. They must not have anything left there now. Watching the kids tonight. Should be fun and tiring.

February 10 2014

Once again I totally avoided watching any golf this year. I am sure watching it would just make the winter go slower, if indeed that is possible.

Scored a nice pick 4 at Tampa Bay. I guess I am not bad at handicapping there. \$500 and I had them send me a check. I am back to ahead a couple hundred for 2014. This is excellent, since it is my winter hobby and helps the days go by a little quicker.

Helped Carolyn and we got 1 door up and started the next. Took mom to the foot doctor where she said ouch ouch ouch as he clipped her toenails.

February 9 2014

What the heck? They said a light snow, but I already have 3" and it is supposed to snow till 5pm. I shoveled 1/3 the drive. No hurry, we are not planning to go anywhere today and there will be more snow. Had a good time at the charity auction last night. Things must be going good cause the prices bid were out of my range. No bargains to be had.

To keep busy, I pulled the carpet out of both closets. Also cut all the small base boards that go in there. So I have them cut for that 1 wall now. Next up paint them and they will be ready for a quick install after the carpet goes down. The other 3 walls are easy, long straight ones with the 3 corners left to cut. I figure I will do them once we pull all the carpet out, paint them and be ready. Saving \$100 by pulling and disposing of the carpet and moving the furniture myself. I would have let the carpet guys do it, but last time they blew dust all over the walls. I don't think they had a filter in the damn shop vac. Rest of the day should be pretty boring other than shoveling. I do love shoveling; keeps me busy and good exercise.

February 8 2014

Watched a crummy movie with the kids last night. They were angels. Carolyn is in the penalty box for picking out such a loser of a movie.

Not much doing today. Going to the Angelman's charity event tonight. I figure to get close to the finals on the reverse raffle. My luck is improving on my pick 4s and hopefully will get better so I am not there yet. Thus I should get close tonight but no cigar expected.

February 7 2014

Another busy day! Got out early to get breakfast and do some shopping with Mary. Carolyn was here for a 4 hr shift and gave mom her shower and breakfast. It was our 1/2 day off. Twas great.

Mary went thru the car wash (inside the car) so we can go in style tomorrow to the Angelman's dinner. Jacob and Jenna over tonight so we will be watching a movie.

February 6 2014

Busy day! Got out early to get a blood test, but they didn't have the fax order. Called the gastro doctor to get them to resend the order and they said it wasn't for 6 months. This guy has the worst office people ever. When they called me they never said 6 mo and promised to fax the order. Oh well.

Helped Carolyn return her wrong size doors she already painted and brought the replacements to her house, then got a haircut. Also took mom to the doctor. She got a clean bill of health but he suggested she get that cyst cut out. I am going to wait for warmer weather. Finally, hit a couple of profitable pick 4's in the evening.

Noticed it is getting lighter earlier around 7am now. Sweet! Golf can't be too far behind.

February 5 2014

Had a nice free lunch yesterday with Bob and Jane at Red Robin in Orange Ohio. Stopped and lost money at the Rocksino. It is very nicely done and the machines were not too greedy. Took some time to lose my limit.

Boring day except for all the shoveling this morning. Wer heavy stuff topped with a nice ice crust. Was a real workout. I spent the rest of the day on mom watch, while Mary got out and bowled. Getting much colder now at 5pm. Mary dropped off some soup for Wes' family. They are all sick.

Tomorrow mom has a dr appt.

February 4 2014

Guy came over and measured for carpet and I got a few questions answered. He said to leave the tack strips and do baseboards after the install. Spent an hr on the phone yesterday setting up a pre-paid funeral for mom when she goes. That way the money is designated ahead of her eventual medicare status down the road and will make everything easier when the time comes. An expectancy calculator says she has a 50% chance of making it to 96. Death is not cheap.

Heading north to get my free football wager lunch. I am going to stop at the Northfield Rocksino and make a few contributions. I'll do it before my late 2pm lunch so I will be sure to miss rush hour on the way home.

February 3 2014

Oops, missed my blog yesterday. Was busy straightening up and preparing for a bust of a Super Bowl. I was waiting for them to bring up the Bills pounding by Dallas and they did. I was surprised to know there was another blowout worse than the Bills loss. Don't remember which team though.

Started getting the base boards ready but lost a set screw on my mitre saw. Hopefully we can get a replacement when Mary goes and orders the carpet later today. Will be interesting to have a white carpet. Going to have to be careful in there with shoes. Also, I hope I have enough base board material left to cover the room.

February 1 2014

The new fan light failed after the 1st use. I investigated and found the socket was bad this morning. Have to wait for Monday to call for a part. If they give me any flack, I'll take it back to Home Depot and start all over again. I do like the remote and quiet fan but not keen on the light assembly. Been looking but have not seen one I like as much.

Mom watch planned for the rest of the day.

Update 6:37pm – OMG, I went to play chess and saw my rating at 1201. Pathetic! I sucked it up and focused so I didnt drop below 1200. won the next 3 and drew the 4th game avoiding that disaster.

January 31 2014

I beat the pros in the market for January! I should brag now cause it is unlikely it will happen again anytime soon. Anyway, I kept even in January while the S&P tanked 2.9%.

Put up the new fan today. A 5 and a half hour ordeal. Mary served as my trusted assistant. We got it up OK and then it didn't work with the remote. Crap! Took it down and thought it might be a good idea to see if the remote's batteries had a plastic sheet you had to remove. Nope, the batteries were still in the bag. Feeling stupid, I put them in and went to re-install the fan. The top cover didn't cover the ceiling chips, so a trip to the hardware store was in order. Sure enough, they had something called a medallion to mount to the box and cover all the ceiling chips around the box. The remount went smooth and we now have the fan up.

The jury is still out though. After the light is on awhile I smelled something odd. It is probably OK but we will have to watch it a bit. The 75W small halogen is mounted at the bottom of the fan in a small cavity about 4 inch round and 2-3" deep. That is a pretty small space for 75W. I wonder if we can get a 45W bulb somewhere. With the 75W, it heats up the glass cover and the heat conducts out to the hefty fan blade mounts. The mounts act like a heat sink, but it still seems a bit iffy. We shall see.

January 30 2014

FB had a good report last night. The stock jumped 7.50, so I raked in the dough today. Finished my paint touch up so all done until we get the floor figured out. There is one swatch of carpet I liked, but Mary has to decide. Mom got out and got her hair done.

One more stinking day left in January and I am still hanging in there thanks to my winter projects.

January 29 2014

No shoveling today either! Started out at -5 again. Did some caulking around my moldings today and will touch up the paint tomorrow. Mary brought a few rug samples after bowling. A couple look OK, but not a real standout. Spent the rest of the day on mom watch. Doesn't look like golf is possible anytime soon.

January 28 2014

No shoveling today! Went out in -5 temp to get blood test. Wasn't too bad; no wind.

Got back and finished painting the trim and doors white. Took 4 hours. Had an early dinner and the kiddies arrived. They have been very pleasant the last 2 hrs. Lets see how that holds up. I have some caulking to do tomorrow or the next day, then touch up the paint miscues. Then onto the floor. I am leaning towards a gray rug.

January 27 2014

Shoveled a little this morning. Mostly drifts. Jenna was over. School canceled again today. That is about the 4th time this year with more to come. Finished my walls and put the room together. Next up is painting the trim white. Hope I have some white paint left. Took from about 8am till 4:45 with about an hr break. I am pooped out, but it looks real nice. New fan on the way to install, then figure out a new rug or wood flooring. I think a rug will be easier on the feet.

January 26 2014

Shoveled more, twice today. Mom got her shower from Carolyn. She brought over her "essential gray" paint and we loved it. I went out on the treacherous roads and bought 2 gallons for 2 coats. Painted along the ceiling, corners and floors to get ready for tomorrow. Sherwin Williams has good paint. It stayed on the walls and brush and was not dripping on the floor. Should be able to do 2 coats tomorrow and put the room all back together if I have the energy. Still have to do the new baseboards and paint the trim. That will be 2 coats as well, although the closet doors might only need one coat. Should be finished by Friday.

January 25 2014

The kiddies were a delight last night. Kalix has been de-crabified. I guess her teething may be over. Wow was it nasty today. Stayed in the 20s but the wind was blowing it cold. We stayed in and stayed off the roads.

January 24 2014

Brrr! Started out an minus 2 this morning. Got my wallpaper off the last wall then washed it down and patched it. Finished that around 1:30. Mary made another trip to Hartville Hardware and picked up a pint of the gray paint we had picked out. It looks good, maybe a little on the dark side but it does contrast well.

Got to get ready for the kiddies. They should be over soon, so we will be busy.

January 23 2014

Mary and I had doctor appts. Carolyn came over to mom sit and things went well. Had to put air in my tires. Not a pleasant job in freezing temps.

I got the walls patched this morning before the doctor. Should sand them after dinner and get the big stuff moved to get to the final wall. Should be ready to paint Sunday

or Monday.

January 22 2014

Got the 3 walls washed down, then I was on mom and Jenna watch while Mary bowled and got her hair done. Did pretty good at Tampa bay downs clearing \$280 on a couple Pick 4s.

Surprised after dinner as Wes brought a truck over to move our old bedroom furniture to his house. I now have my car back into the garage. That is a good thing since the battery is now 6 years old. Living on borrowed time with this cold weather. It is not going to get above 25 for the next 10 days.

January 21 2014

Busy day! Ran over to Carolyn's to put up new doors. First issue is she bought 3 28" doors when she needed 30". The bathroom door was right, so we worked on that. The hinges went on easy but of course the door didn't fit. We pulled the inside molding to re shim the doors. The molding didn't come off easy, nor did the shims come out easy cause she didn't want to pull off the outside molding. Anyway, we eventually got it to hang right, but I need to re-chisel one hinge cause it isn't sitting flat. It closes hard right now and once I flatten the hinge out it should be fine. Didn't have time cause I had to run mom to the doctor.

Gyno doctor said mom was fine and her issues were normal for a female of age. So we are set there. While I was waiting for the doctor to explain it all, I was looking at their accessories. There was a cool looking in to you microscope with a camera. I can guess what that is for. They also had nitrous oxide hooked up to a gun like end with a little nozzle at the end of the gun. Wonder what that is for? And OMG, they had a portable BIOVAC. I guess that is for vacuuming out stuff. All that cool stuff! Made me think I should go back to school and start a new career. I could be Dr. Bob.

January 20 2014

I guess this is doctor week. Mary and I have an appt Thursday and mom Saturday. We just added one for mom to check out her female problems. Scoring big bucks for Ohio from Medicare! BTW, her 1 week hospital bill was 20 grand. Thank you Medicare.

Got my another 2 walls wallpaper stripped this am. Ready for wall washing and wall patch before I do the final wall. Going to get in a couple of door hangings at Carolyn's tomorrow morning. Hope to get 2 of the 4 done and get home to take mom to the doctors.

5pm update – washed down 2 of the walls to get the Dif stripper off the walls. Still one to do. Sent Mary to Hartville Hardware. Hate to traumatize those guys. They always flock around her and ask her if she needs help. They must have a loudspeaker code for when she comes in. She always gets good service there and has a lot of admirers. She picked up some paint strips with the color on them so we can narrow down the color choice. Picked me up some drywall mud as well.

January 19 2014

Was up at 7am and shoveled 2 inches. Off to Home Depot to buy some Dif to strip wallpaper off. The stuff is excellent with small patches, mediocre with long runs, and is a little tricky. You have to put it on and wait just the right time for it to soak in, but not too long that it dries. After a couple of tries I figure 8 minutes is about right. I cleaned off 1/3 of the bedroom walls and figure to do another 1/3 tomorrow. With 2/3 done, I will wash patch and sand and be ready for paint. When that is done, I will do the last 1/3, patch, sand, and paint them all. This minimizes moving the heavy stuff.

Took about 5 hrs to set up, strip, and get things back to normal. I am worn out. This is much better than a steamer. The steamer makes a mess and you have to be careful or you will get hot water on you. This is work. Rather be golfing but the weather sucks.

January 18 2014

Things are back to normal. Mom likes her chair and was off to get her hair done today. Very slow day. Carolyn and Don brought my car back so we are back to a 2 car family. I tried wagering today without much luck. Guess my lucky streak is over. Still up for the year though.

January 17 2014

We picked up mom in Columbiana at 1pm. Had a really nice lunch at the Dutch restaurant out there, We were home by 4pm and got mom in her new chair. Seems like she likes it. She looked tired from her trip.

January 16 2014

Mary and I went out today. We saw Last Vegas movie and chowed down at Quaker State & Lube.

Since we have been on our own for a few days we have eaten out every day. I was noticing the people at Texas Roadhouse while we were waiting for food the first day. I could see roughly 16 tables, and there was only 1 woman smiling and attentively listening to the guy. Must be on a date. At the Hartville Kitchen, there were no smiling people; not exactly a hot spot for dating. At Quaker State, Mary was smiling. I told her that people who saw her would think we were dating or something.

January 15 2014

Spent 2 hrs getting the bedroom back together last night then chowed down at the Hartville Kitchen. It was good.

Today we put the handles on the closets and the lift chair for mom arrived. I put back all the railings I had taken off and we are back to normal. Carolyn stopped over for me to check her brakes. The caliper was locked up and the rim was hot. She is

debating what needs to be done and where she will take it. If they do both rotors, pads, and the caliper it would be \$300.

Got the CDs I had burned from the 9mm video I took years ago. Looked at brother Jim's wedding and Robin at Seaworld swimming with the dolphins. They did a really nice job.

Sweeter than candy was winning another Pick 4, this time at Tampa Bay Downs. Collected a cool \$750 on my \$48 wager. That pays for the rest of the stuff I blogged about yesterday. God provides when the need is there is all I can figure.

January 14 2014

I played well yesterday for 10 holes with 3 birdie opportunities which I missed. Not so well the back nine though. 41-44=85 for the round. Dick shot 45-46 for 91. The place was booked but the starter slipped us in. It was 40-46 degrees during the round but the wind made it a bit chilly. It was nicer today with same temps but no wind.

Got ready for the new furniture. They should be here in the next 2 hrs. All the getting ready was profitable. Mary found \$90 in quarters she had squirreled away and we found some loose change here and there. \$2000 for the new furniture and closet storage minus 90 found minus 1000 won at the races, so we are down to a net cost of \$910. Also picked up a stock being touted by a CNBC anal-ist and sold half for a profit of 300, so we are down to \$610. Still some work to do to break even.

Have much more to do later tonight after the furniture arrives to get back to ground zero.

January 13 2014

Dropped mom off to sister yesterday afternoon. In the evening I headed to the bathroom and was shocked to see her bedroom door open that time of night. Then it dawned on me she was not here. How soon we forget.

Sweet! Hit the pick 4 at Santa Anita for \$1000 which put me up for 2014 (so far). This is a position I am unfamiliar with, lol. Also sweet is Wilkshire is open so I should get a round in today, the first of 2014.

Got most of the bedroom furniture moved to the garage yesterday afternoon/evening. Still have the big dresser to move, but will need Wes' help later today or tomorrow morning.

January 12 2014

I was up early today. The only news shows on were Fox replays. I guess Republicans are the only ones that get up early. OMG, it was more of the Benghazi rant. The Embassy attack was Sept 2012. Let me see, That's 16 months ago and many congressional hearings ago. Fear not, these guys will still be ranting about this until the next President is elected. Of course, this is falling down the list behind

Obamacare and NSA spying.

On another note, you got to be nuts to use a debit card at Target. Carry cash if you are going to shop there.

Mom will be off to Sue's later. We will be organizing stuff for the new furniture.

January 11 2014

Warmed up, rained last night, and the snow is all gone. Sweet! Golf maybe soon? Mary was very busy helping Kaetchen with the kids, cleaning her stuff to get ready for the new furniture Tuesday, and was off to church. I did some cleaning as well and was on mom watch. Tomorrow mom is off to sister Sue's to give us a much needed break. Thank you Sue!

January 10 2014

Shoveled a couple of inches of wet snow this morning. Jenna is over again for the morning with 101 temp and is missing school. I accuse her of being a floor licker. I don't know where she picks up all the germs. Off to the doctor with mom later today to get some antibiotics for cyst before she goes off to my sisters for 4 or 5 days.

I am doing my part to stimulate the economy in 2014. New lift chair for mom, new bedroom furniture, and doctors fees. Don is still getting his car fixed, so he is also contributing.

Been an odd year so far. New issues popping up every day it seems.

January 9 2014

We went out to Wayside to look at bedroom furniture this morning. Carolyn came over to mom sit. We found what we were looking for and will order it tomorrow. Had to car jockey in the evening to drop a car at KSU for Don. He is arriving back from his trip late tonight and will need a car to get home.

To top things off, got to take mom to the doctor so we can get an antibiotic for her cyst which seems to be infected. Never a dull moment.

January 8 2014

Much warmer today. Started out at 4 degrees and sneaking up on 20. Went to the retiree lunch and dropped of a check for mom's lift chair.

Mary is off to bowling and is going to look at bedroom sets after. She should bring me some pictures of the ones she likes.

January 7 2014

***COLD! -10 last night and -11 this morning. My beast of a furnace kept up nicely/
Happy Birthday to daughter Carolyn today.***

***Busy day taking down the Christmas stuff, packing it, storing it away, vacuuming,
and general cleanup. Mom was in need of an extra shower. I spent 2 hrs on the phone
getting her a new health insurance, as General Dynamics was transitioning all of that
to a 3d party to manage. Phew.***

January 6 2014

***Started out at 17 degrees and it is headed downward towards zero. Daughter picked
up another set of closet doors, so I got them up. Cold day, so I am staying in. Grand
kids this evening so we will be pooped out by day's end.***

January 5 2014

***Hey! My luck is improving this year. I have hit 3 of 14 wagers this year as of last
night and am down \$26 for 2014. Let's hope this ramps up in the plus direction.***

***Planning a mall excursion today. Gets us out of the house and the mall is easy to
wheelchair around in. Last time we went mom was fascinated with the girl with the
pink hair. Hopefully we shall see more bizarre individuals this time. I think I will wolf
down a gyro for food.***

January 4 2014

***Supposed to be 0 degrees Tuesday. The weather forecasters are playing it up big
time. Aunte EM, Aunte EM!***

***Got the closet organizer yesterday. "Should" have it up this morning. Nothing much
more planned. Maybe I will update the blog later today. Update – Took a couple of
hours. Their wall anchors sucked, so I had to use an assortment from my collection.***

January 3 2014

***Sweet. The closet doors went up before 9am this morning. About a 2hr job. I was able
to use all the existing hardware except 1 bracket with 2 screws per side. Most of the
time was spent moving a few sliding brackets to get the doors to meet squarely. That
took about 4 tries and most of the time. I think I will use the old doors for shelving in
the garage, but not till it gets warmer out there.***

***I should get the organizer tomorrow and get it up in Mary's closet this weekend.
Need to buy another closet door set and install, but will have to wait till I get my car
back. That clears the way for me to go over and install Carolyn's 4 doors. Will be
chiseling and shimmying over her house next week.***

January 2 2014

Only 1 golf round in December, so that means there has already been 1 full month of crappy weather. That doesn't bode well. Shoveled another inch this morning.

Went and got Carolyn's doors at Lowes. Picked up a pair of bi-folds for my closet and we shall see how that goes.

January 1 2014

Happy New Year. Watching the festivities New Years Eve reminded me I bought some Twitter stock the other day.

I should sign up for Twitter. I could tweet my friends when something exciting happens. Hey, I could have tweeted that I was laying on the floor watching the Cleveland festivities on the TV. I hit the can around 11pm. Is that worthy of a tweet?

I guess there are too many problems to overcome though. First, I don't know anyone that tweets. Second, I don't have a cell phone to tweet with. Third, who would want to read my tweets?

I tell you, I don't know how these thoughts jump up and demand to be heard. Come to think of it, last year was devoid of interesting thoughts like this one, especially the latter half of the year. I am now encouraged that 2014 will be better in that respect.

Finally, you will all be interested in my New Years Resolution. This year I will be focused on having my zipper zipped before I leave the house. I anticipated that I need a sign on my door that says Check Your Zipper. OK, maybe I put it up the day I got back from shopping with my sister, where we looked at a lift chair for mom and stopped at Giant Eagle, all the time unzipped. Anyway, it seems like a good resolution.