

Neon's Blog_2015

Dec 31 2015

Good riddance to 2015! What a horrible horrible year. There were lots of dentist visits, my stroke, Kaetchen's miscarriage, a tornado with tree cleanup expenses, my bypass, and Dwain RIP. Enough said.

Dec 30 2015

I upped the target heart rate to 110 on the bike and on the treadmill. No problem. This was Y workout #3 this week. Guess I will up it again tomorrow. I may try 115.

Took Carolyn's gas cans back to her and picked up some furnace filters at HD. Also picked up some samples of vinyl plank flooring to check in the down bedroom. Picked up a prescription at Giant Eagle. I have to switch to keep cost down but it is real inconvenient with no pick up window.

Brenda bought some new mailboxes so it looks like I will have a project for tomorrow. Oh yah, I got the OK to ship my bogus engine back by ebay.

Dec 29 2015

I upped the target heart rate to 102 on the bike and then 104 on the treadmill. No problem. Guess I will up it again tomorrow. I may try 110.

Mind numbing day with nothing much else to do. Maybe I will go to HD tomorrow and look at some of the vinyl flooring I might use in the other down bedroom.

Going over to Wes' and get my car back when Mary gets back from visiting one of her friends.

Dec 28 2015

More miserable all day rain again. Wes still has my car so I went early to the Y with Mary. I upped the target heart rate to 100 on the bike and then 102 on the treadmill. Guess I will up it again tomorrow. Carolyn stopped by a little later around noon for a bit.

I finally got to the logitech site to download the set up software, but during setup it said my serial number was bad. The support site asked those with that problem to return it to where they bought it and ask for a replacement.

Switched one of my prescriptions to Giant Eagle, but it needed renewal so it will likely take a day.

Mary talked to Ruth last night. Looks like they are coming to visit Jan 1 to Jan 4.

Dec 27 2015

Miserable all day rain today. Catherine had pancakes this morning then headed back to Buffalo in the rain. She should be home by 1:30. The Browns came close but ran out of time. The Bills actually won another one even though they tried hard to lose. I am up one game with 1 to go next week. If I get by that then Bob Muller owes me a free lunch. We shall see, eh?

Sent my doctor my BP readings. They have been excellent since I asked him to get me back on Norvasc. Seems like the med for me. It's been a long time getting there and I am finally there.

I put the wrong snap case I got Jacob for his phone on ebay in hopes of selling it. I hope to get 10-20 back anyway.

Dec 26 2015

When I got back Sue and Ed had been there a couple of hours and had lunch already. We did the gifts and such and then headed to Alliance to the Texas Roadhouse. Mary and Catherine, sigh, just had to go thru Kohls which is in the same plaza. We got back home around 6:30pm.

Oh, I forgot to tell you I got the train working Christmas eve. The new engine came in the mail and worked on the track but was balky at times. I sanded down all the rails so the wheels made good contact and that worked like a charm. Mission accomplished!

Dec 25 2015

Ho Ho Ho. It was a great Christmas and the grass is still green. In fact, buddy Dick is thinking of playing tomorrow. Sweet. I can golf and get back to visit with sister Sue and Ed. Mary and Catherine will be shopping in the morning anyway.

It was a great Christmas with the family. It took quite awhile to open all the gifts. Jacob brought over his drone and was learning how to fly it. Now that my trees are gone, I have a good backyard to learn. He should be a frequent visitor!

Dec 24 2015

Holy crap. It's 60 degrees and sunny. A T-shirt will do. I made 10 trips on the the stairs bringing the gifts upstairs. Ten times 14 steps is 140 steps. I feel like this is my 4th workout this week. It's 1:24pm and I am just chilling out and listening to Christmas music and Doo Wop. Going to call up White Christmas by Clyde McPhatter. It's one of my favs!

Catherine is due in this afternoon, then I will have more stuff to bring in. I am feeling very weird right now. With all the bad stuff that has gone on this year, I feel like a lucky man for what I have, especially in family.

Late Update – Pizza for dinner. Mary and Catherine are off to 7pm Christmas Eve mass.

Dec 23 2015

This was Sable Creek's last day. I called and they said walking only. Wow, it's been a long time since I walked 18. Thought my walking days were over. I have been doing 15 minutes on the treadmill lately so I figured no problem. We walked and I played much better. I shot a nice 41 on the front and went even par the last 4 holes with a birdie on maroon #8. Dick struggled to a 48. On the back I did ok except for 2 holes. I took a 7 after being on the par 5 fringe in 3 (ouch) and took a 6 on the next par 3. I finished with a 45 while Dick almost caught me with a 40. My putting killed me on the back. Dick had 14 and I had 22.

I did get tired the back nine. The last 4 holes were a chore, but I was extremely happy I got through it all. Guess the new arteries are serving me well.

This morning I put in for a refund request for the non working train engine. The other one I bought may get here today. We shall see.

Dec 22 2015

Christmas is sneaking up on us. It was raining pretty hard at 6:45 when I got up so golf was going to be a washout. Off we went to the Y to get 2nd session this week in. Doing the cardio workout at HR=100 is easier every week. I will push it up a little higher next week.

It got really nice later and I was rolling to the golf course. Dick called and said they were closed. I guess there was too much standing water. So we try again tomorrow. I don't see anything on the radar, but the weather guy says rain again?

I just got my chess rating back up to 1110 from a pitiful 950 or maybe less. I was in the mid 1100s when I was in for surgery and dropped to the 1050s after. Not bad. Then 2 weeks ago it seemed like anyone could beat me. I gradually sunk to 950 and then began winning again. It took awhile to get to 1000, then getting to 1100 was easy. The only thing I can say is the low rated guys attacked the heck out of me and I was reeling. Getting to play the 1100 guys, there was less wild unexpected play and I fared much better. I expect more ups and downs to come.

My blog went down today. Turns out my domain expired. I had thought I had auto renewal on but it turns out that was for my account and not my domain. I had them turn it on. I had a heck of a time clearing cache on my brain dead PC. I had to restart the computer before clearing cache worked. The ipad was worse. I never did get Safari cache cleared, so I loaded Firefox on the ipad.

Dec 21 2015

The train I have been trying to get working is cursed! The engine finally came in the mail and of course it doesn't work. I inspected it closely and there are not even any

wires under the carriage. The ad says it was tested and works. What a joke! Also the couplers are broken off both the front and the back as well. I am going to rip into this seller when I return it.

Wes has my car so I went along to the Y with Mary. She did yoga and I did an exercise session. 1st this week. Dick thinks the rain will blow through so golf may be possible tomorrow. We shall see.

Dec 20 2015

Jake and Jenna are now off for two weeks so they wanted to sleep over last night. I pulled up Tarzan off of Amazon Prime and it was entertaining. This morning, we played games and did Christmas cookies till 2pm.

I glanced at the Bills game. They were losing 7-0. Next time I looked it was 28-10. I heard the announcer say this was the first time Washington had to punt, midway into the 3d quarter, The Bills defense is sicko.

Dec 19 2015

Another nasty day in the 30s with wind chill taking it down 10 degrees or more. Not much going on though. I did a quick trip to gather some stocking stuffers and Mary went to church. Did some gift wrapping too.

Not looking like I will have a train running anytime soon. The engine I ordered was supposed to be here 6 days ago. I contacted the ebay seller and have heard nothing from him for 3 days. Deadline for ebay help is 4 days from now.

Dec 18 2015

Got a haircut the morning. The barbers were mysteriously closed most of the week. Turns out they had strep. After that, I did my 3d Y session for the week. Mary went over at 11 to take Kalix to her swim lessons while Kaetchen helped out with the pre school party. Did a little grocery shopping to wrap it up.

Dang cold today at 35 degrees. Will have to get used to it.

Dec 17 2015

We went to Doo Wop last night and it was great yet another time. Heinz Hall is spectacular. We went to the meet and greet and all the singers were gracious. We got autographs from all the groups. We got Mary Wilson's last (Supremes) and she stole our pen, but she did give it back later. That ruined my story about having a famous person stealing my stuff. We got some pictures as well. Lenny Welch was amazing. He looked great at 78 (Wiki), but told me he was 75? Why would he lie about his age? They all put on a good performance at the show.

We stayed at Sue and Ed's. I bought her 2 construction helmets for her upstairs

guests (its very easy to whack your head on the ceilings up there). Today we went to the light show after Ed got off work. This was at the Phipps flower place. They had both the indoor and outdoor lit up. It was beautiful. We got back home around 9pm.

We were thankful that Ed did all the downtown driving in Pittsburgh during the rush hours. Pretty scary stuff.

Dec 16 2015

Went and did 2nd Y session this week. Barber is still closed. I hope all is well.

Heading out to Pittsburgh at noon. We have dinner and then go to the Doo Wop show with Ed and Sue. We will stay overnight and go to the Phipps light show tomorrow after Ed gets back from work, When we see it all, we will head home late. I will post tomorrows blog sometime Friday morning.

Dec 15 2015

Nasty wind today. It was low 40s today but wind chill was 37. It was cold early and late and it gave us a break in the middle. Dick showed the way again with an 87, I shot 91 and Mel had a 94. Mel was up by 5 with 6 holes to go. I think the cold got to him. Maybe one more round next week? I hope.

Got a hot shower and headed to the dentist to have my crown put in. I bought some Handel's gift cards since they seemed to have capped my bill for the year. My barber is closed so he must still be suffering from his appendicitis. My BP looks great today. Looks like the Norvasc is doing it's stuff.

Dec 14 2015

Just checked my blogs from the past 3 years. The first was 100 pages, last year only 73, and this year I am up to 74 already! Must have more to say this year,

Went over to Carolyn's to help her get wallboard. She got 4 sheets, some mud, and a 2x4 in case we need it. We brought it home in the HD truck. I headed home and then over to the Y for my 1st session this week.

I emailed my doc last night with my BP readings for the last 10 days. BP not getting better so I asked to return to Norvasc, which was definitely working with 2 pills. He called it in for 1 pill to start. Might take several days to kick in. Hopefully I can get the BP down.

Mary went to the Red Hat dinner at 1pm. I had Ted's dogs with hot sauce and pickle slices. Yum!

Dec 13 2015

I forgot to mention I invited Steve over to watch 4 Falls of Buffalo last night, a 2 hour

ESPN special on the Bills losing their 4 straight Super Bowls. It was a fair reporting of the events and I am glad we watched till 11:30 making it a short night. As hard as they tried to show that the city has forgiven Norwood, I decline to follow along. I still hold a grudge.

Jacob came over this 65 degree day to cut my lawn one last time. I raked neighbor Brenda's leaves and had Jacob cut hers blowing the leaves to the perimeter. He did an outstanding job. I came in and listened to the Bills game. They basically needed to win all their remaining games. They lost by 3. That will definitely free up my Sundays for the remaining weeks of football season.

Jacob was doing tons of homework and studying for his midterm exams this week. He should do well. I learned of a new element called ununium 114. It was man made by bombarding plutonium with calcium. They found 2 atoms of it. What good is it if you can only create 2 atoms, but that is a start.

Dec 12 2015

We got moving early. We went to Target, Kohls, and Acme and was home by 11am. Here is to wrapping up our day early. It is 64 degrees out there but not many at Sanctuary. It is a bit dreary out there and there was some drizzle out there. Maybe that is why? That reminds me, I better charge the mower. Jacob is going to hit it one more time tomorrow.

Dec 11 2015

Attended mass for mom at 8am this morning. Once again the church held up. It was 60 today so we did some leaves and dead flower cleanup. The kids were over 1-5pm and kept us busy. Then it was off to see Santa at 5pm.

Dec 10 2015

Tw was cold today! We teed off at 43 and it was 48 when we finished but wet hands and a 10-15mph wind put the wind chill down there. I started off great, then tanked, then came back for a 43-46 =89. Dick finished me off on the back going 41-43 =84. That was the last "warm" day as temperatures will be dropping.

Dec 9 2015

Did my second session at the Y this week. I was quite pleased with how I did setting pulse =97 on the bike and treadmill. Even did the cross trainer for an extra 10 minutes. Kaetchen was coming in as I was leaving.

It was so nice when I got home, and Mary was heading to bowling, I called Dick to play. It was a bit windy but warm enough. I edged Dick on the last hole, dropping my putt as he missed, 88 to 89. Boy did I have some horrible strokes. I had one where I dug a big hole behind the ball, the mud pushed it 10 yards. My short game was bad the front and excellent on the back.

Wes is having car looked at tonight so he will borrow mine later tonight

Dec 8 2015

Did my first session at the Y this week. I was quite pleased. Early last week I was struggling to breath at pulse =95 and towards the end of the week I was OK there. Today 95 was a breeze and it hit 100 with no issues. Hopefully this progress will continue and I can push it up higher, perhaps tomorrow.

Went to pick up a few things at the store. The cashier never gave me one of the bags so I had to return to get it. All I can say is rrrr! I got the RR track together with the little track clips I got yesterday. Today I got the power pack. Guess what? The train engine is toast. Maybe I can win one on the ebay auction.

Oh yeah, I got a government letter saying hackers got my SS number from them. Their security clearance site got hacked so i signed up for the free credit checker. I think I have at least 3 of them now.

Dec 7 2015

Only a 15 minute frost delay. Stuff in good shade didn't soften till later. On #10 I hit the back of the green and it bounced several yards. Th ponds did have a thin layer of ice on them. Ice Golf! Dick had another great day shooting 45-37 while I parred 5 of the last 6 to score a respectable 89. Dick is on fire!

I called my surgeon about what I thought were wires in my chest. They confirmed. standard procedure is to attach wires for a pacemaker. Some pull them out but my doc doesn't think yanking the wires off the heart is a good idea. So he just cuts them off as close to the surface and lets them float in the fatty tissue. That is what I have felt moving around and poking me on occasion.

Dec 6 2015

Looked like it was going to be a nice day, so we headed up to Cleveland to see the Monet painting of gardens exhibition at the art gallery. I guess there was a festival up there as well. We passed that by. The exhibition cost was a bit overpriced at \$16 for seniors. I thought there were too many Monet paintings displayed proportionally and they all looked the same to me. He did paint other things but they were not on display. My favorite was Women in the Garden by Renoir.

We headed home through the hood. The GPS took us thru the hood to 490 and then out to 77. We thought about eating at the gallery but headed home. Still hungry, I thought of the winking lizard in Fairlawn. We stopped there. I love their buffalo chicken salad. An added bonus was they had the Bills game on one of their screens, so we watched them almost blow it then finish Houston off. That made it an excellent day.

Dec 5 2015

Jacob was over early. I put him to work wrapping 4 gifts. Then he helped me hang Wes' track framing and a metal wreath in the hallway. He finished up by changing a burned out light in my fan that is in the entryway.

Mary did church and I had dinner ready when she got home. It never did warm up. The sun never came out till 3pm, just a couple hours before sunset. Days till xmas=25. Days till Doo Wop=11.

Dec 4 2015

Mary did yoga and I did my 3d session at the Y this morning. Mary went and got her knives sharpened at the hardware store. After lunch we went to Kohls for an item or two, saw a movie, and had dinner at Rocknes.

Love the Coopers was about a family Christmas and was both serious and funny. I had to dry my eyes a couple of times. Saw a trailer for an Easter Movie, The Young Messiah. Looked like a powerful movie.

Dec 3 2015

Not much going today. I met Rudy for lunch at Johnny Js. He was off for 5 months then signed up as a contract worker. He said he had 2-3 weeks of work left on a board he was designing when laid off. They found someone to pick it up and they spent 5 months on it and screwed it up, so they signed him back on to finish it.

My jeans have gotten raggedy, so I went thru them all and set aside 2 that were too small/tight, and tossed all the others into the dumpster. Now I had just a pair to use for work projects. I stopped at JCP on the way home and bought 3 pair for \$95. I was surprised they had such a good selection of sizes. I always have trouble, usually finding the sizes left that nobody wants. For freaks I guess.

Dec 2 2015

It was a bit chilly for golf but not bad. Around 40 with very little wind. I hacked my way around shooting 95. I did watch Dick shoot an amazing 39-38 =77 which beat his lifetime low. He had 3 birdies on the front and 7 straight pars on the back. He could have gone lower by avoiding three 3 putt holes. He put on quite an exhibition!

The little ones were over from 3-7 and wore us out. Kalix surprised me. At 2 ½ she is usually quiet, but was talking up a storm today. It was fun.

Dec 1 2015

We started the last month of this horrible year. It was a mind number today. I tried to get Dick to play after it stopped raining, but he did not answer till later on. It was pretty warm. So we will play tomorrow. Went to they Y to get in my 2nd session this week.

Used the cardio setting on the machines. Setting heart rate target to 100 was too hard on my breathing. Setting to 95 was about as high as I could go to breath and get a darn good workout.

Veg'd the rest of the day finishing a few decoration items and a few cards.

Nov 30 2015

Busy day. Jacob came over to help neighbor Pete. Mary and I went to the Y. After we got back we got the tree out and decided to dump some of the xmas stuff on Goodwill. We hauled it over there and stopped for groceries and had lunch.

We got the tree up and decorated it and put away all the stuff we didn't use. Phew. It definitely seems like all this was harder to do this year. Tomorrow is rain. Maybe golf Wednesday.

Nov 29 2015

Oops. A day late post. It was a short night and we all got out to 8am mass held for mom. Catherine stayed over and helped us take up the gifts. We chowed down on a big breakfast at Samanthas, then she left for Buffalo.

The Bills lost again. This puts them in a bad spot for sure. The defense never forced a punt in the second half. They were supposed to be a top ranked defense but they basically suck.

Nov 28 2015

Drizzle today and low 40s. Looks like low 40s will be common for early December. The gang went off to the Hartville Marketplace today. Everyone got a few items of interest. We had lunch back home and Sue packed up and headed home.

Carolyn and the kids came over to visit, then we took Catherine to the Y. I got my 2nd session in for the week. We did the machines then walked for 15min on the track. Time for dinner. Mass at 8am tomorrow then breakfast out.

Nov 27 2015

We were lucky today. The rain held off till 11:18. We finished at 11:02! That is cutting it close. It was surprisingly warm at 55 this morning. I finally broke through scoring wise. Dick shot 49-40=89 and I went 42-42=84. I still was not striking irons well but they were better than previous rounds. I did have a good short game taking only 29 putts for the round. Made 1 birdie out of 3 chances.

Mary and Catherine went shopping early as usual. Sue met them for lunch at noon and she plans to stay over tonight. We have plenty of leftovers for dinner.

Nov 26 2015

Posted this the day after Thanksgiving. We all got stuffed today and did not even eat half the food, supposedly for 12. There were 6 adults and 2 kiddies today. Turkey, stuffing, mashed, green beans, rutabega were on the menu. Pies were lemon, pumpkin, and chocolate. The kids had a good time playing after dinner and we showed them possible toys to get a read on xmas gifting. We loaded up Steve for his ride home which helped with some of the leftovers.

Nov 25 2015

Nice day maybe up to 60 later. Dick and I played Sable Creek. He had a very nice 41 on the front while I shot 46. I played better than last outing and should have had 44 but I messed up the last hole. I started the back well at 3 over after 4. Hit a very nice 5 iron to get on a par 4 in two but 3 putted. Then I collapsed with a double and three triples in a row. Not sure what happened but it wasn't pretty. Finished with a bogey. Dick did similar. Both of us shot 50 on the easiest nine holes out there. We are likely to play again Friday, as they are predicting the rain will hold off till evening.

Catherine got here about 3:45pm and is staying till Sunday.

Nov 24 2015

Dentist was scheduled for 2pm, so I was thinking of going to the Y. Carolyn called so we went over to help on her bathroom. After looking at the task at hand, Mary came back home and got the Dremmel tool we should have brought. We took down another 8 inches of wallboard around the tub, the 1 inch crown molding, and cut part of the rotted floor out. I had to leave to get to the doctors so we quit there. Mary did the primer on the walls.

The dentist was a marathon. I was in the chair for 2 full hours, as she did a root canal, put in a post, did the impressions, and put a temp in, all for the low low cost of \$1500. I maxed out my dental insurance last visit, so I got a deal. Normal charge for all this would have been \$2250. Being one of her first customers back in 2000, and having all the dental work I normally need every year has lined her pockets and I do get preferred pricing. The insurance is capped at \$1500 payout every calendar year and I usually come close to that. And I pay 50% as well. That makes me a VIP I guess.

The Bills gave it a good go but lost last night. The game went till midnight, so the night was short. Still some work to do.

Nov 23 2015

Mind number today. Went to the Dr. for what I thought was just a blood draw but it turned out to be that and a Dr. appointment. We went over my BP readings and he upped the dose another 10mg to the max for one of my pills. He said he was sure it would get me down to 140/90. I don't think it will.

Went over to the Y and did my 30min cardio work. Saw Wes's Family there waiting for preschool to end.

Headed to CVS to pick up 2 I renewed last week. They had them but not the new one. Also, Aetna sent a letter that said if I stick with CVS I will have \$175 deductible in 2016. So I guess I better start switching over to Giant Eagle. That will be a pain cause there is no pick up window.

Mary went for her Prolia shot at 3pm. How is that for an exciting day?

Nov 22 2015

We were going to either go up to the Cleveland art museum or go watch 007 at the movies. The news said there was a snow band up there and it just happened to be around the art gallery. Bummer. We went to the early show at noon and it finished up at 2:45. We stopped to get groceries, but our two stores were out of rutabaga. Yikes! We had better find some quick.

Nov 21 2015

Best nights sleep I had in a long time. Those kids sure did wear me out last night. Pretty dull day. Mary went to the Y to see Z man's basketball class, so I raked some leaves and the garage. Did a few chores and wrapped Christmas gifts. I have all the gifts figured out for the kids except for Jenna. Might snow tonight, hopefully to the north and west. I don't want no stinking snow.

Nov 20 2015

Cold and windy. Teed off at 37 degrees with 15mph winds, wind chill down around 32. It was maybe 42 when we finished. I thought my face was going to freeze on the 3d hole. I played very poorly but did manage to make 1 birdie with a putt of around 2 feet. First birdie since I got back. I shot 97 and Dick had his second 89 in a row. His 14 putts on the front sure helped.

The kids came over around 3 and left at 7:45. we did ipads, videos, toys, and reading. We are whipped.

Nov 19 2015

We had a great time at the Lockheed golf wives appreciation day. We sat with John and Del and the 3 other Hartville area golfers. The price was steep, but it has been a long long time since we went out to a nice dinner.

Another great day in the 60s. We were going to play Friday but Dick wanted to move it up to today's nice weather. Problem was he didn't see my email agreeing. So I went and he never showed. I guess we will play in the cold tomorrow after the frost delay.

After that, I went to the Y making it the third time this week.

Nov 18 2015

Another great day in the 60s. I went to the barber. Tony is still home recovering from appendicitus. He came back to work but it was too much. His wife is holding the fort but is tired. After that, I went to the Y making it the second time this week. Gusty winds today blowing some more leaves over. Darn it.

We may play tomorrow if the storm gets out of here soon enough. Its going to be windy!

Nov 17 2015

Another great day in the 60s. One more round at Sable Creek, but we had a foresome this time. I lost \$1.50 playing wolf, but I am back! I shot 44-43=87 and hit some decent irons. The bucket I hit Sunday paid off. Glad to get that monkey off my back. I had a short chip in and a made a putt from off the green as well. John shot 84, Dick 89, and Mel 101. Life is good once again.

Aetna called and will have a nurse check up on me once a month. They also gave me a 24 hr nurse line in case I need medical information while my doctor is closed for business. Now I feel so special!

Nov 16 2015

Another great day in the 60s. We did an exercise session at the Y, then went shopping at Kohl's with our 30% off book. We picked up new rugs for both bathroom. We got some xmas clothes for the little ones and I got some sweats and Pjs. We saved \$170 in all, lol. Stopped at Handels for a hot fudge sunday on the way home.

Nov 15 2015

Wonderful Sunday. It got up to 62 with no clouds. Jacob came over at 10:30 and did Brenda's leaves. It took 2 hours with me helping. It is hard to bag without any help. We did good. To finish up we did my leaves in the ditch. Wouldn't you know it, it went quick with only 2 bags of leaves but I stepped in a dog pile at the end and had to clean off my shoes. Just my luck this year.

I went over to the driving range which was helpful. I have to stand a bit taller, keep my head absolutely still, and control the downswing. I figure to still struggle but I SHOULD at least hit several shots better.

Nov 14 2015

Mary spiced up my salmon last night with some lemon pepper spice. When I tasted the salmon it seemed salty. We got out the bottle and read it. The highest ingredient was SALT. Looking farther down the list, there is absolutely no pepper in it at all. No more lemon pepper for me.

Brenda had a get together at her house for Dwain's passing. Dwain did not want the typical wake. It seemed to work out fine, a lot more relaxed atmosphere than the usual.

Jacob came over and cut my grass. Hope there are not too many cuttings left. There were not many leaves as there were 2 days with 30mph gusts that blew all the one neighbors leaves right across our lot and to someone else on the north side. Since all my trees went down I don't have any leaves of my own.

Nov 13 2015

It is Friday the 13th, but all the bad stuff happened yesterday. It was too windy to golf today, so that was a bummer. Mary went to Yoga then went to workout with me after. That makes 3 sessions and a golf round for me this week.

We went out later to pick up some groceries and Thanksgiving cards to send out. Fish for dinner tonight,

Nov 12 2015

A sad day today. Neighbor Dwain passed away during his battle with cancer. I believe he fought for somewhere around 3 years. This was his 2nd go around with chemo and he had to go into this round in a weakened state. RIP Dwain.

I went to the dentist this morning to bad news. My tooth that the filling came out has crumbled to the point of needing a root canal, post, and crown. Ouch ouch ouch. Not to mention the 3 fillings she put in after putting a temp filling into the broken one.

Finally, I went out to see Batcher at a Stow rehab facility. It was a depressing place similar to a nursing home. Ken need PT to get his strength back and get back to walking. No way Silvia can help him get around, so he will be staying till he can care for himself and move around on his own. Ken is 79.

Nov 11 2015

Oops, missed yesterday's blog. Not much going on yesterday. We went to the Y early so I got my second session in this week.

Today I hacked my way to a 93 at sable creek. It was embarrassing. I hit maybe three or four quality irons. My drives were leaking right, but my chipping and putting improved with a few exceptions. Going to try again Friday unless it is raining.

We watched the kids tonight. They were into the ipad and PBS Kids.

Dwain had a last ditch procedure today. He has been unconscious from just after he got admitted and things look very bleak.

Nov 9 2015

Surprised it got to 59 today! Mary skipped yoga this morning but went with me at 9am. We saw Kaetchen on the elliptical. Zander was in class and Kalix was in kids watch. She was going to a class at 10am and then would take Kalix for swimming at 11am and

then they all would head home at noon.

I got bored and cut down some flowers. I also put the nobs on the bifolds.

Dwain hasn't been feeling good the last three days and is supposedly bloated. He is refusing going to the hospital but can't get around. So sad. Brenda just called at 3:44pm and said she called 911. The bus just got here at 3:49, so I will wait and see if he goes in or refuses. They got the bed out of the bus at 3:55 and he was loaded in at 4:01 and was hooked up and off to the hospital at 4:10. I would expect he will be in for a couple of days.

Nov 8 2015

After posting my blog last night, I grabbed a twizzler and it sucked out one of my fillings. I should know better. I had an appt for another drilling Thursday so I guess I will get it fixed then.

Finished a second coat on the bifolds this morning, will put the nobs on tomorrow and the toy room will be done. The Bills were ahead at halftime, so we headed off to the roadhouse. We save ½ for the next day but we're still stuffed. Once again we took our pills with us...and brought them home with us. At leased we get it partly right.

Finally, we stopped for a few groceries we had on our list. We try to write down what we need when we find out we need it, otherwise we forget.

Nov 7 2015

After breakfast, I painted the toy room bifolds while Mary went to a crap show. Her bowling lady friend had a booth at the old hardware store and gave her a deal on a gift for Ruth. My paint was too thick it didn't cover good, so I had to go to HH and get some more paint for a second coat tomorrow.

We stopped on the way home at the Y and tried out the track. We walked about 30 minutes and watched the kids play basketball. There were only 2 runners and 3 walkers on the track. Looks like noonish is a good time to walk Saturdays.

I did some weeding and clean up over by the cactus and was not careful enough. I got a lot on very fine needles in my hands. It took me about an hour on and off to pick them out. I guess there must have been 20 to 25. I kept finding new ones every few minutes so it took a long time.

Nov 6 2015

Completed an exercise session at the Y today. That gives me 2 Y sessions and 2 golf rounds on that front. Not much else going on today. Warm and rainy, but a cool down is coming.

Nov 5 2015

Dick and I played Wilkshire. We were first off so we were done in less than 3 hours. Dick went 41-50 while I went 46-45. My drives were good, irons really bad with many lookups again. The last 4 holes were better. I used an open stance which allowed me to turn better and get my hands thru.

I looked up colloidal silver. The Mao clinic said it isn't good for you so I guess I will stay away.

Nov 4 2015

Another 75 +degree November day. If it hits 79 it will be a new record. I met Mary after yoga and she did 30min exercise with me. I hurried home and headed to the retiree lunch. Bill Tuma, who turned 90 this year was telling us he swears by colloidal silver. It is basically silver ions in water. He says it kills bacteria and single cells. He uses it as an ointment (a mix of aloe and this liquid). He also used it to bring plants back to life. He drinks it if he is coming down with something. I will have to research it.

Nov 3 2015

A 75 degree November day. We walked this morning, then went to vote. Off to the dentist and back to watch the little ones for 4 hrs.

Nov 2 2015

A 70 degree November day ideal for golf. We played and I shot 90 again. It was very disappointing the way I looked up so many times. It was more then 10 times. Hit 3 in the water (one skipped out), was in the trees twice, and had several 3 putts. Was surprised my score wasn't any worse. I had 7 pars and was 19 over the other 11. Pretty poor I say.

Mary is helping at another funeral, then we went over to Carolyns for Mary's birthday. Carolyn had a tasty pork roast for us and a nice cake. The little ones were there and Kalix gets so excited about partys it is fun to see. Carolyn does such a nice job on the family parties.

Nov 1 2015

Busy day again today. I got most of the outdoor stuff put away in the garage for winter while Mary was at church. She helped me with the rest when she returned. Jacob came over and mowed. I bagged some leaves and got the tomato vines.

We also put up the bifold doors in the toy room closet. Oddly one set seems shorter than the other. Its the way it hangs I guess. If you put a tape measure on each you get exactly the same measurement. The weather is supposed to be great this week. I hope I can get 2 rounds in this week.

Oct 31 2015

Busy day. We got out to HD early and picked up my bifold doors for the toy room closet. Mary had to help with a funeral so off she went. I did what I could but need an assistant to hang the doors. Maybe tomorrow.

Trick r Treat went from 3 to 5pm. Wes brought the kids over and we had pizza after they were done. We had 10 bags of crunch fun and 2 bags are left. I figure there were around 80 kids that showed up.

Oct 30 2015

Arrg! I headed to golf and the light rain got worse. I stood outside while waiting for Dick and figured the drizzle would have us soaked after a few holes. We tossed in the towel and headed home. It eventually stopped an hour later. Was low 40s but no wind. Sorry we didn't wait it out. We shall play Monday when it is supposed to be nice.

Mary and I put the living room back together. A lot of stuff had been moved out yesterday for the Stanley Steamer guys. Then I sat around and at 11:30 said hey, I should go to the Y. I did 3 machines 10min each again. The place is deserted around noon. That gives me 2 cardio rehab works this week. I should be doing a min of 3 and preferably 4 per week.

Checked with the people we usually invite for Thanksgiving. Catherine is coming, Steve also. That should be about it. Sue may come to shop the day after. Trick or treat and turn the clocks back tomorrow.

Oct 29 2015

We went thru the Y and did 3 machines 10min each at around 9am. I did 3 I used at rehab. I tried some kind of machine that looked much like you were skiing but it was too hard on my thighs. You use legs and arms but it kind of lifts you up and down. I quit in less than a minute. We got back before the Stanley Steamer guys came to do the rug.

It was windy. I hope tomorrow has a warm start and there is no frost delay for golf.

Oct 28 2015

We went thru the Y and got a how to demo on the equipment in the morning. I chilled out the rest of the day as Mary bowled. Kids were over 3-6pm and we all had fun. Not much ex

Oct 27 2015

Went to see doc today. My BP is still too high so he upped my lisinapril to 30mg. I suggested norvasc was the only med that worked before. He said lisinapril has some benefits for those who have had surgery. He can go up once more with the lisinapril and if that does not work, he will add norvasc. He took some blood to recheck a couple of out of bounds kidney labs and I got to pee in a bottle. As a extra bonus I got

a prostrate exam.

In the afternoon I went and got the 3d tire I needed, got my oil changed, and picked up the new prescription. This is the first time the guys in the shop blew off their checks. They never looked at my air filter or checked anything other than my washer fluid. Pretty shoddy.

Fired up my mower for Brenda across the street. Their mower belt came off and got cut up.

Oct 26 2015

Got the car over to Mr Tire to check out the noisy response to bumps and chuckholes. They called and said the stabilizer bar linkage needed replacing. That was what they guessed when I brought it in. I needed tires too. I got 2 but after I got it home I could see I needed one more. I will have to go back. Damn, tires are expensive these days.

We went over to the Y and the staff girl sat us down for 30min to see what our fitness goals were. We will go back Wednesday to get the tour of the facility and equipment. I did a little weeding and cutting back flowers as it was such a nice day.

Oct 25 2015

Did not get to the blog yesterday as we were busy. Went to Malone for the district XC meet. Jacob did good running 18:50? and it is a tough course with some nasty hills. Green came in fifth so missed the districts next week. Season over. Jacob and Jenna stayed the night to skip the Halloween bash at Carolyn's. They like to miss it, as there are noisy drinking going on, a good thin to miss. They had pizza and watched the transformer movie.

They went home this morning and I got the front grass cut. We went over to Wes' to have cake and ice cream and sing to Zander on his 5th bday. The Bills lost. They stunk it up early, made a comeback, then blew it at the end.

Oct 23 2015

Teed off in the high 40s this morning but the sun was out. We played 18 in exactly 3hrs. We played from the ladies tees cause I am still a bit handicapped. I did well shooting 90, while Dick had 92, and John a nice 81 with 3 birdies. I stroked many putts today and none went in other than a gimme. I must have missed 4 short ones too. Lousy chipping and several lookups kept my score up there. One was pretty funny. I was chipping to the 10th green. John was a bit ahead of me walking around so when I was ready to hit I called out "heads up". I listened to myself well, as I brought my head up to see how good it was going to be. I topped it of course.

We went out to Texas Roadhouse for dinner. We got there 5 minutes before they opened. Several other cars rolled in right behind us. When I got inside, I told them it was the senior citizen rush hour as the whole bunch of us were seniors.

Oct 22 2015

Went to final rehab. Learned how to use the arm crank machine. I wasn't cleared to use it till today. Now that I know how to use it I will carry on at the Y. The rehab education course was useful today. They were showing how to read the food labels. I talked to this old lady who brought salt up on the way out. Glad I did. She said you can ask for the deli meat labels at the meat counter and they will show you how much salt is in each of the meats. Now I can get back to sandwiches for lunch.

Finally got around to fixing the wireless printer. It has not worked for a long time so I was using the cable. Now I can use it the lazy way. All I did is find the disk and redo the installation process.

Looking fwd to golf tomorrow. Should be chilly to start then warm to 60.

Oct 21 2015

Another nice day. It was so warm yesterday, I washed the car in shirtsleeves. I had to go get some bloodwork this am for my PCP appt next week. I wanted to reschedule but they had messed it up. But they did mine anyways today. Not much doing. I watered my grass again and picked up some groceries.

Mary was busy. She did Yoga at the Y at 8am and did her bowling later on. I broke out a couple of Teds dogs for dinner tonight. Been a long time since I had a dog. Whipped up a batch of Loganberry too.

One of my biotech startups gave up on one of their cancer studys so I took a nasty hit to my 401k. My "luck" carries on.

Oct 20 2015

Oops. Missed a day. Yesterday I did rehab and did ok. Today I went in to see Cardiodoc Cutler. They did an EKG and he said I am doing good. Next appt is a year out, so I am good to go. He had no issue with me doing golf now. Sweet! Too bad there isn't much time left before they shut the course. Maybe another 2-4 weeks.

He is going to change my meds. Cutting back on the metoprolol (1/4) and increasing (2x) the lisinapril. My heart rate should come up a bit and hopefully BP down a bit.

Oct 18 2015

Jacob came over at 11:30 and cut the grass. I cut down the tall grass and we both loaded it into the car and got it to the yard recycle. Wow, it was nasty windy and cold. Wind chill had to be about 30. It did warm up later when the wind died down and the sun came out.

Jacob showed us his foot. He got spiked near the start of the XC race and ran hurting. That didn't help any.

The Bills lost but they did have a lot of starters out. The Browns lost in OT but played Denver real close. The Browns are no doubt better than the Bills this year.

Oct 17 2015

We went and signed up at the Y before 8am. That went quick. We will start using it next week.

Went to Jackson for the XC Fed league championships. Said Hi to Wertman. He said their boys came in 2nd.

Jacob had the pressure on. He had to beat the fastest JV time to run the final week. He beat it by 2 seconds at 18:28. He seemed to struggle in the cold but it was a good time for him. He got off to a very poor start and got behind a huge crowd. It is impossible to move up behind the big crowds. He was near the back of the pack all race long but did edge the JV guy out. Carolyn got the race time wrong so we were out in the cold a long time, about 3 hrs. Brrr in 42 degree temps.

Oct 16 2015

Got my blood drawn this morning on the way to the golf course. Glad I got an appointment cause there were 6 in the waiting room.

Met up with Mel and Dick at Brookledge intending to play chip/putt on the back nine. After a few holes I gave full golf a try and ended up playing 6 holes in 7 over with one par. I didn't hit them very hard and used a compact easy swing. We were playing the really short tees though. Looked up 3 times and did a lot of 3 putting but it was great to be playing again.

Oct 15 2015

I tried to get my blood drawn this morning on the way to rehab but things were too slow there. They must have been training someone. So I left and went to rehab. Stricklands had fudge brownie today. It was awesomely yummy.

I will have to go again tomorrow for the blood draw, but I set up an appointment tomorrow. I am figuring on getting that done then heading over to golf where I will meet up with the friday guys and play chip/putt on the back nine. Hope that works out for me. Should be fun.

Oct 14 2015

We skipped the walk today. It was a little chilly but not too bad. Went to get a haircut but they were closed for some reason. Mary went to bowling and the kids are coming after.

The kids were good and we had fun with them. They were here 3.5hrs or so. Pooped us out.

Oct 13 2015

Getting cooler out. We walked before the front came thru so it wasn't too bad. My tiny grass blades are doing good. I hope they grow in more this week but it is going to be chilly. Decided to sign up for the Y so we can walk inside this winter. Also, I can finish my rehab there once I find out what the routine is and what I should be doing.

Went out to the Texas Roadhouse for dinner. I surprised myself and ate quite a bit. Mary and I took our pills with us but didn't remember to take them. I had figured between the two of us we would remember some things, but it is not working out that way.

Oct 12 2015

Nice day. I did the rehab and pushed it a bit, so I am tired out today. Did my water can on the grass I planted last Sunday and I can finally see some teeny tiny blades coming up. Need to keep up with the watering until it gets a good foothold.

Oct 11 2015

Supposed to get 2 more nice days in the 70s before the weather turns cold (50s). Jacob is busy today so we had to cut the grass ourselves. Mary did the back and I did the front. I was worried about doing the front cause there is a lot of hard turning with my arms. It was a questionable activity for me at this stage of recovery.

Oct 10 2015

For some reason no blog yesterday. Maybe because it was such a lousy day with light rain on and off. We walked about ¼ mile in the morning and turned right around when we felt a sprinkle. Good thing cause it rained just after we got back. That's about all I remember from yesterday.

Today we finished the cat puzzle then went to Hard Rock Cafe. I had 2 free buffets, so we did that and then gambled. I lost my "free play money" then turned \$40 into \$63.81. Mary lost \$20 so we ended with a net profit of \$3.81. Big money! The buffet was really good. Everything I put on my plate was excellent. So all in all we got excellent free lunches for the price of gas to get us there and back.

Oct 8 2015

Another nice day. For some reason I could not sleep last night. I was tired in the morning and had to get out to rehab. My BP was high and didn't come down any after my meds. I clocked in at 157/85 and clocked out at 160/80 after the 3d try at the end. They didn't want to send me home with a high BP. I did set my next rehab back to 10:15 which will be better for waking up and fighting traffic.

I got home and took afternoon pills and it came down. Also took a short nap that helped. Was a shorts day today. Very very nice.

Oct 7 2015

Another nice day. Seems like they have all been nice since I couldn't play. Mary bowled and I went to the retiree lunch. Saw a bunch of the old crew and the golfers were sure to welcome me back. It was a nice feeling.

When Mary got back, we did our walk, so we got that in. Tomorrow I have to leave at 7:15 for rehab. What was I thinking? I am going to move to the next class and skip the rush hour and fighting the school busses.

Oct 6 2015

Another wonderful day. Mary had a dr appt and we walked after she got back. I did some yard work but not much else. Oh yeah, finished a puzzle.

The family gathered at Carolyn's for a cookout. It was great to see everyone together. The kids had a good time and us adults did as well.

Oct 5 2015

Another wonderful day. I had a cardio rehab at Akron General this morning. Ouch! \$30 copay each visit, so I will have to limit the visits that make sense. Basically worked my legs today. No issues, it's the arms that will be the hard part for the chest. Next visit is Thursday.

Did some ripping out of flowers again. Mary cleaned up my piles. Didn't realize how much I did today. Falling asleep all afternoon, so I ducked into bed for 1/2 hr nap. Still a bit tired. Mary was out with Brenda. Larry, another neighbor went to the hospital with stroke symptoms much like I had. He has regained control, so I suppose he will follow in my footsteps and try to get his BP down. Very weird all these medical problems around here.

Waiting on Mary, then a shower and then I can get some sleep.

Oct 4 2015

Wonderful day, a nice change from the cold weather. I moved mulch to the mailbox area and Jacob came over and finished it up for me. He then cut the grass. It looks nice. Mary went and got a couple mums to plant out there and got some grass seed to spread around on the bare areas. I also cut down one of the tall grass areas and sent it to the yard recycle.

Watched the Bills suck. This is the 2nd game that the defense lost it and cost them the game with the penalties. What the heck? Watching the last Indians game. Carolyn and Don is there celebrating their anniversary that was yesterday. Hope they have a good time.

Oct 3 2015

Really a crappy day. Cold and rain, rain and cold. We dug out the Halloween decorations from under the stairs. That is always a pain but we have to store stuff where we can. Put a few things out but it was too rainy and cold to do them all. We worked on the puzzle on and off and looks like we will finally finish it today.

Mary is at church and will pick up pizza on the way home. I am sleeping much better the last couple of days. I do get up for short periods but no more that 15 minutes. I think I got 8+ hrs last night. Been using the shower chair so far, but going to skip the chair tonight and get back to normal showers.

Still puzzled by what the dogs see in sniffing the poop. Come to think of it, they do that no matter what the temperature is. Must be pretty important stuff if they are sniffing at zero degrees like they do.

Oct 2 2015

Went out to the course to say hi to Mel and John and Dick. It was early at 7:30 am. I got some gas for the mower and headed back home. On the way, I saw this guy out with his dog. Dog was just standing there sniffing something on the ground, probably poop.

Makes you wonder what the dog is thinking. I personally have never thought about sniffing another person's poop pile. Maybe they want to know if the other dog is eating better than him. I dunno. It's a mystery to me. Walking was cold today.

Got an email from Johnr. He was confused about my bypass. He is always messing with his email address and must not have gotten my updates. So I straightened him out. He must have told Dan Flynn cause Danny boy picked up the phone and called me to get the details. Good talking with him again.

Oct 1 2015

Cold and windy today. I moved a litte more mulch up by the mailbox early on. Mary knew I was bored silly so she dragged me to Kohls, Macys, and Dillards looking for bedding. We found something on sale at Dillards. There was one clerk guy in their home department and he was a real Nancy. Whew-eee.

Ate lunch at Sbarro in the food court and it was better than I figured it would be. Back home to zone the rest of the day. I watched some horse races as my 401k dropped another grand. Easy come easy go, eh?

Sept 30 2015

Cold and windy today. Never got the urge to tackle the walk in the cold. That's not good. Incredibly boring day. Mary was off to bowling, so I just stared at the stock channel. Unloaded a bunch more on this up day cause I think the market is headed down. Most markets have made a death cross recently.

Mel called. I may go out Friday and say hi over at Sable Creek. They have an 8am tee time. Brrrrr. All I have to do is stick out a boring Thursday tomorrow.

Sept 29 2015

Did some flower clean up this morning. I want to extend the mulch to the mailbox at the driveway corner. It's too hard to mow there. I put grass killer there and will move some of my crappy tree grindings there and top it off in the spring. Should keep me busy for a few days.

Carolyn came over and walked with us at 11am. We beat the rain. I talked with Dwain about the snow. I am not supposed to shovel anymore. The plan is I will use his blower and clear both drives this winter. I could buy a \$1500 unit, but Dwain has one so why not put it to good use.

Sept 28 2015

Wow. I drove over to the course in light misty rain and said hi to Ken, Darrell, Denny, Clyde, Dick, and Dave. King was also on his way but I left before he got there. I have not seen him since the old Edewood days long ago. He was the best golfer. He apparently plays with an oxygen tank in tow due to the years of smoking. Everyone looked good and were all bitching about the rainy mist.

I got back and Mary went over to help Kaetchen out with a sick kid. She took Kalix to the Y swim lesson and went over later when Kaetchen took Z to the doctors. I did some puzzles and called it a day. The stock market whacked everyone today almost 3%. Ouch.

Sept 27 2015

Got my walk in early, We stretched it out to 30 min by adding another block. Mary went to church, so I picked up the Jakester and he did the lawn. Another nice job.

Watched the Browns lose, then the Bills drub the fish. Them Bills got themselves a team this year. They should make the playoffs if they stay healthy! Finished a puzzle.

I need to work on staying in bed later tomorrow. Need to keep in there till 7am. Hope to run over to Sable Creek and say hi to the Monday guys.

Sept 26 2015

Got my walk in early, It took 20 minutes so we will have to stretch it out longer tomorrow. Went to CVS to pick up pills and got my flu shot. I went with the stronger one this year. Mary went over and got hers too so she is keeping up with me. We went to lunch with Jane at noon. She will be moving soon up near her work, in fact 3 minutes from work. Sweet!

Not much else going on. Got a nap in after lunch and worked a puzzle. Mary went to

the mall with Brenda so they both got away for awhile. Cycling down for the night now.

Sept 25 2015

Nippy again this am. Headed to see the surgeon today. X-ray showed lungs clear. Doc said everything was a go. I picked up some literature at his office. It showed he was at Cleveland Clinic and moved to Akron General in January. Anyway, I was glad he had such good credentials. He said the mammary arteries he used should last 20-30 years!

I scanned his pic and added it to my web picture. How cool is that? I can drive now and can increase my activity level within reason. I will be doing Cardio Rehab at the hospital starting in about a week. Can't wait, although driving there 3 days a week will suck. Oops, no excuses for doing home tasks anymore. Bummer.

They did say shoveling snow is out. Guess I will have to get me a blower.

Sept 24 2015

Went grocery shopping this am instead of walking. I suggested to the clerk, they should ad warming zones here and there so one could warm up while shopping.

Cut down quite a few flowers for the fall. Mary had to bag them.

Sept 23 2015

Nicer day today. Still a cool morning but no cold wind, so I walked this morning. Mary did good at bowling today. Won 5 lost 2. There are lots of ripening tomatoes. I hope someone eats them.

Been wagering 2x/mo with no luck. Finally got a "winner". Did a DD and cashed an \$18 ticket in for \$8.90. How awesome is that?

Sept 22 2015

USA has visitors Pope Francisco and also Xi Jinping his week. I thought that was interesting. The good and the evil.

Carolyn is on her way back from Vegas. I am sure she will have some good stories for us. Mary did good watching the kids.

Sept 21 2015

Don't look now but winter is sneaking up on us. 50 degrees this morning. It keeps sneaking lower and lower every morning. I did fine last night by myself. I got up many times and went back to sleep many times. Glad I sent Mary to Carolyn's to watch the kids. I would have kept them up all night with my odd sleep pattern. Went over there later on but couldn't stay long. Too cold over there.

As I get better and better, I can't help wonder what the grand plan for me is. Is the bypass a new start for me? Or is it just the latest smackdown and the next is on the way? I guess I am about to find out. I sure would like a break and be able to find something we both enjoy and more importantly enjoy retirement together. So far, retirement has been take care of mom and catch up on renovations I had left sit for so many years. I do hope I can continue to help the kids with renovations. God knows I owe all of my family a lot for time missed out in my drinking years. I only hope I get time to make proper amends. Amen.

Sept 20 2015

Jenna and Jake walked with me this morning while Mary went to church. We went to the Texas Roadhouse at 11 and watched the Bills stink it up again. Boy they were bad. Mary is taking the kids home tonight. I think it will be easier for me since I want to switch the tv on a couple times a night. The kids will be fresher in school if they sleep in their own beds.

Sept 19 2015

We are watching Jenna and Jake till Tuesday while Don and Carolyn are in Vegas. I did some bush trimming and took my walk this morning. Jake is running cross at Boardman this morning. He will call when he gets back. Sounded like he got stuck behind the pack and ran a slow first mile. Then he got into gear and did good. Just missed out by a few yards for 6th on the team.

We had pizza and watched Ice Age. I hope Carolyn doubled my slot money or I am calling in the refrain of my youth, "I can't get no satisfaction, I can't get no satisfaction

***'Cause I try and I try and I try and I try, I can't get no, I can't get no
When I'm drivin' in my car, And that man comes on the radio
And he's tellin' me more and more, About some useless information
Supposed to fire my imagination, I can't get no, oh no no no, Hey hey hey, that's what I say***

.....

***When I'm ridin' round the world, And I'm doin' this and I'm signing that
And I'm tryin' to make some girl, Who tells me baby better come back later next week
Cause you see I'm on losing streak, I can't get no, oh no no no
Hey hey hey, that's what I say, I can't get no, I can't get no, I can't get no satisfaction
No satisfaction, no satisfaction, no satisfaction "***

Sept 18 2015

Boring day, seems like it's been 48 hr long. Nice walk this am, cut down some flowers, changed a light bulb. Mary went out with Fran and Carolyn fed me. Nurse was in, next Tuesday will be my last with the Nurses.

Carolyn had a tree part come down on her house. Should be easy to remove.

Sept 17 2015

OMG, Matt (WZIP Polka fame) and Kathy Schafer stopped in to see me today and brought a huge fruit basket. I got fruit everywhere. I will be seeing fruit in my dreams. More apples and pears than you can shake a stick at. And that is my 2nd basket! Help!

The PT person released me so I am done with that, tomorrow it's the nurse's turn to cut me loose. Walked around the big block this morning. The big hill too. I am doing awesome. More sleep is wanted. Hope I can get there.

Sept 16 2015

Time marches on. I had a nice walk this morning. The weather has been great. Warm days and cool nights. I spend at least 2-3 hrs outside today. Cut down some flowers and pulled some weeds. Carolyn dropped the fishies off. We are watching the kids and fishies Sat-Tues while she and Don go to Vegas.

Blood test from Friday finally in. They said I was back to normal. 10Units of hemoglobin (I was at 8 and need 12). That was good news. Mary was bowling. I was glad to see her have a little time by herself.

Sept 15 2015

Pretty boring day. For my walk, I walked the yard with my jug of weed b gone. Puttered around and had lunch. The nurse stopped in but she did not have any hemoglobin numbers for me. PT showed up later. Both say I am doing good. Should be the last week for them.

Sept 14 2015

Got a surprise visit from Dr. Steve from Kent around 3pm last night. He had been checking up on me and I had invited him over to show him a few PC tricks. A few was right as I tired early. We had some dinner and he left around 7pm. Twas good to see him.

This morning was cold, so I put off my walk till 10ish. Saw neighbor Connie who was amazed I went in to get checked most guys are too stupid to do so and I did good being proactive. Carolyn came over and brought me lunch while Mary was out with Brenda. Dwain was cutting grass and doing outside work which I thought was too much for him during chemo. Turns out I was right. He was suffering at night and almost went off to the hospital.

Skype d Steve and he was doing OK with his new laptop. IM'd Jane to see how house hunting was going. She found a nice house in Lyndhurst that was updated and looked nice. Might be hers within a week or 2. We might do breakfast the 26th.

Sept 13 2015

Rain ended last night and it was cold again today. Took my 15 min walk early making it about 1/2 way down the block and back. Got Jacob over to pull pod trees and then he

cut the grass. I am feeling much better these days. I was outside for ½hr in the afternoon. Sleep is improving. Settling down for football this afternoon. Think the Bills and Browns will disappoint?

The Browns sucked again but the Bills blew out Indy. Holy Crap!

Sept 12 2015

Nasty cold day. Never made it above 60. Mary walked with me to the back of the yard to look at the grass. I needed to get in 10-12min of walking and that was about the right distance. We pattered around and she went to feed the cats and head to church. Dinner when she gets back. I am feeling better but sure could use a little more sleep.

Jacob was going to cut grass but it is a raining.

Sept 11 2015

Busy day. Got out and got a haircut early. Guy came by and replaced my gas meter followed by delivery of a fruit basket from the Domyanczek's, followed by the visiting nurse. She took my blood to see where I am with the hemoglobin. That was 1:30pm and been boring ever since.

Got to walk 15 min tomorrow. Maybe outside on the road.

Sept 10 2015

Got some solid sleep last night but not a long sleep. PT was here today. I walked much longer and easier today (10 minutes) so I guess I am doing things right. I think I am going to be in pretty good shape in 4-5 days. She said with the residual pain I am a bit unstable so she suggested a cane for awhile to be safe. Deja Vu.

Speaking of that, The surgeon is in the same set of clinical rooms at the hospital as Dr Wright, mom's leg doctor. We saw him there. He still remembers us and said once again that we did good.

Go Squeelers tonight, and beat those Patriots.

Sept 09 2015

Good trip to the surgeon today. Everything looks good so far. Next appt is 4 weeks away to see if they can drop any restrictions. Right now no driving. As simple as it was, I got pooped out. I am down to 157 lbs, a place I have noot seen for many moon.

Btw, we tried out the Roku yesterday and while we scanned thru the movie list on Amazon I thought I saw one where I remembered a preview awhile ago. I was wrong. Anyway, out of dumb luck, the movie turned out to be about a guy with a weak heart who travels to see his 4 kids. Turns out, they all kept the truth from him on bad stuff while confiding in mom. I think my kids do a little of that. How the heck can I randomly

pick a movie about a bad heart old guy? Tis not fair.

Sept 08 2015

My leg improved again today. PT was here and saw they could only help for a couple of days. Went to Green to get an x-ray for tomorrow. It was pretty easy. Neighbor Jan cooked us lasagna and it was a nice change.

Wes stopped over to check on me, then installed my new Roku. I had been waiting for awhile to try it. To my surprise the Roku is wireless and there was no cable to run. Very sweet. With my Amazon Prime, I get access to hundreds of free movies, TV shows, and other stuff. We also hooked into Pandora and set up a Parliment and a Zapp channel. More bounce to the ounce! Atomic Dog!

Off to the doctor tomorrow for a 1 week check. I am going to tell his assistant the x-ray showed they left her earrings inside.

Sept 07 2015

My leg improves each day. Today I walked alone after the leg pain eased. It goes back to pain when I rest it.

Can't get around this refugee situation. Syrians drown trying to get to Greece on a raft from Turkey, now they go thru Hungary to Germany. What a mess Syria and ISIS has caused. It is all very sad.

Sept 06 2015

Talking to nurse Wes last night, he reminded me salt is not good, as it will help retain water in my leg. Mary looked and looked thru the food labels. There was only one logical choice for my side. Ice cream sandwiches came in with the low of 110mg salt. Very nice!

Sept 05 2015

The blog is back! At least I hope it is. I may zone out in my recovery and forget to post but my intention is to get back to normal.

My 5 bypasses were done Tuesday Aug 25. I woke up after in much pain as they had ripped my chest open and all now has to heal. I am not sure how quick I was to realize I was in good shape until I saw Mary coming towards me. It was love at first sight once again. One more good emotional moment in my life.

The 13 days since have mostly shown gradual improvement day by bay. The 8 days in the hospital were the worst. At first, every breath was hell. I had picked up hiccups and every one of them were agonizing. Trying not to start a hiccup attack led to shallow breaths, reluctance to breathe deeply, eating issues amid all slowed recovery. Another complication was I was at only 6 units of blood after surgery whereas I need

12.

If you see the latest Akron General TV ads about their new tie with the Cleveland clinic, you see my surgeon right off. New research showing transfusions increase cancer risk has led him to have patients create their own blood post surgery As a result, my recovery started with much less blood and shall take longer. I believe I was something like 7.5 units when discharged.

My thanks for all the prayers and well wishes out there. I seem to be getting closer to turning the corner on recovery, certainly within the next 5 days. My biggest issue is my left leg is way swollen from where the veins were harvested and I had gotten some blisters from their stupid leg pumps. Wonder whose idea that was. I had them kept off once I saw what they were doing but it was too late.

August 24 2015

Slow day just doing puzzles and waiting out my time. The market tanked again 500+ points. My guess is they can't use me as an indicator for awhile. This means they can't buy when I am selling and can't sell when I am buying.

Wes' family came over to play around dinner time. We had fun. About time to shave and shower and get to bed. I have to be at the hospital at 7am. Hopefully this isn't the final blog.

August 23 2015

We did some weed pulling in the morning and found our first ripe tomato on the vine. We shall feast on that tomorrow. Lunch at Texas Roadhouse. I wanted to have a big meal today and eat light tomorrow, the day before surgery. After lunch, Jacob cut the grass (hay) and Kalix and Wes came over to play. It was a relaxing day indeed.

August 22 2015

Not much happened today. Mostly did puzzles. Pretty boring day.

August 21 2015

Had to laugh last night. Watching the Bills/Browns pre-season game and the Browns call an all out rush. This guy comes right up the middle untouched by anyone and tackles the quarterback. Of course he has to celebrate. Wow, I guess he was proud of the fact he could run right to the qb and tackle him. What an incredible feat!

Dentist went OK. I took some pics of the finished toy room and emailed them out.

August 20 2015

Slow day. Finished a puzzle around noon and started another at 6pm. Carolyn and Jacob came over at 4pm and we put up the closet shelf and moved all the stuff into the

toy room closet. I can put up some wall hangings and arrange the decorations this weekend and take some pictures. I like it.

The Bills are on playing the Browns tonight in a pre-season game. Hope the Browns look good so I can have some negotiation leverage. Dentist tomorrow.

August 19 2015

Dave and Alex went to Kames this morning and left for home after lunch. I went with Mary and rolled Wes' garbage bucket out to the road. Started another puzzle.

My big accomplishment for the day was getting the maintenance light to go out on the Toyota. Five more days to kill off.

August 18 2015

Started another puzzle and am 95% done. Left the last 100pc in case our visitors need something to do tonight. Pulled out a few locust sprouts this morning (shh don't tell anyone).

Dave and Alex got here around noon. I gave them a tour of the new renovations and they headed over to the HOF around 1:30pm. More of the same excitement for tomorrow.

August 17 2015

Cleaned up after yesterday's painting and put everything away. Did some home defense spraying around the house. Finished the puzzle we started yesterday and did another, finishing by 3pm. Called the dentist and they pushed up my appointment to Friday.

Dave and Alex are coming tomorrow to see the Pro Football HOF. Just staying the day, they will get to see our new treeless lot.

August 16 2015

Oops. Missed the blog yesterday. The highlight of yesterday was taking my cath bandages off and getting in a shower. Wasn't allowed yesterday. To keep busy I started a 500pc puzzle and got it half finished. The Nitro patch gave me a headache.

Today, I went over with Mary to feed the cats at Wes'. I was getting a little car sick and then dizzy later on. I figured it was the nitro patch so I took it off. Was OK after that. Jacob came over and I coached him thru the closet painting. Next time Carolyn or Jacob come over we can put up the shelves and move all the storage back. I still need to order the closet doors for the room.

August 14 2015

Got my heart cath this morning. They tried to go thru the wrist but no luck. They then went up thru the groin. The doctor was shocked. My stress test indicated some blockage, but the cath showed it was significant. Apparently I had a lot of collateral artery growth that was supplying my heart in the normal condition but couldn't during high stress. My mom had a lot of that as well. So i inherited her bad arteries and luckily her smart artery growth.

It looks like my golf season is over. I now have a bypass (five of them) scheduled Aug 25 with 3 months of recovery. My main focus at the present time is to stay alive till August 25th. The blockage is so bad the doctor gave me nitro patches and pills. I am not worried, I got my collateral arteries going for me.

August 13 2015

Played badly today. Started off bad. I was 10 minutes out and I realized my wallet was not with me. Quick turn around and headed home. I calculated if I got home by 8:40 I just might make it in time. I was home by 8:38 and rushed off pushing the speed limit. Made it just in time by flagging them on the teebox once I pulled into the lot. Turns out I should have stayed home. Went 50-45 =95. Missed 2 birdie tries and had several 3 putts.

Back home Mary said the doctor called and she set me up for the heart cath in the morning. Sweet. I was feeling very jittery and my bp showed my heart rate at 90. I checked the med I stopped taking and it said not to do a lot of physical stuff and do not stop taking it abruptly. I popped one of those babies right off and will take 1/2 for the next few days. Looking forward to getting it all over and done with.

August 12 2015

Doctor appt today. The good news is he is going to put me back on the bp meds that were working. I hope it comes down quickly cause I feel quite jumpy.

He did get the stress test summary faxd over. It showed there was no change in the EKG post stress. That indicates the heart is in good shape. On the minus side there seems to be reduced blood flow when stressed indicating some blockage. Thus I will need a heart cath as an outpatient most likely. To me, this is good news. I will get fixed up without finding out about this the hard way. It's probably good I dropped out of the first stress test early because if I finished I would never found out about this.

So now I wait to hear from the cardiologist and the next step.

August 11 2015

Pretty much another brain dead day. Finished mudding by using a brush since our

closets are textured that way. The first coats were a bit uneven but no one will ever notice. That only took 10 minutes. Headed over for a haircut. No one there so it went quick as well.

Got prepped for a new crown at the dentist. I dropped off my witty sayings and the office manager Della enjoyed them she said. I imagine she will pass them on when things are not so busy.

August 10 2015

Brain dead day. Didn't sleep well then off to the test lab for the chemically induced stress test. It took 2 ½ hours and was not as bad as I was expecting. We stopped at Stricklands for an ice cream lunch afterwards. A bit groggy the rest of the day so I just remained brain dead to get thru it.

I asked if my PCP would have the results Wednesday. They said to have him call and they will fax him the results, probably the summary.

August 9 2015

I did another mud pass on the closet. I may just try a paint brush for my next pass and be done with it. Cut down some iris as the leaves are getting brown.

Went over to Wes' for his birthday cookout. He is 35 today. He said getting organized is his goal this year. The kids were having fun. They are all going to Minnesota Friday to visit Kaetchen's sister Kaley.

August 8 2015

Moved the stuff off the toy room shelf and patched the drywall with a 11x20' piece. Whoever put the closet together never got the brace into a stud. A little shelf overloading and the brace pushed thru the drywall. Taped and mudded the patch. It will need another 2 or 3 passes of mudding. After that, Jake can paint the closet and I will put the shelf back up.

We were out to HH to pick up an area rug for the toy room so we will have warm feet in the wintertime.

August 7 2015

Played badly again with the Friday guys. 44-45 =89. Mel had 86, John 83, and Dick 100. It's always a sad day when Mel beats me. That would be twice this year. I played OK after my stroke but now I seem to be having problems. It is most likely because I am always on edge with the higher blood pressure.

We went out to the Uniontown festival to grab some fair food, but they were not opening for another hour. That is odd. Guess they don't want sales. How could you not open and miss the people looking for a late lunch? We ended up at the Hartville Kitchen and picked up some stuff for the Red Hat dinner Monday.

August 6 2015

Played badly again with the Lockheed guys. They are sticklers for the white tees which are long at Tannenhaut. Holy moly the front nine was bad. I was in the trees for every hole but one and shot 48. Better back 9 with a 45. One of my worst scores again. Seems to be a recurring theme. Very poor chipping day. I sure hope I play better tomorrow.

We had the kids for a couple of hours. Zander was slow. I think he had a fever. Then it was off to drop my car with Carolyn for her trip to SC.

I think part of my poor play is my blood pressure. It's been 165/80 in the morning and comes down to 145/75 for awhile then goes back up when the meds wear off. Got an appt Wednesday which is a ways away. Will have to live with it till then. I believe I am on edge about it.

Next week is going to be another treat. Monday stress test, Tuesday dentist, Wednesday doctor.

August 5 2015

Busy day. Got my 2nd coat of white paint done in the toy room early then off to the retiree lunch. Lunch was good. Headed over to Carolyn's after that and did a 2nd mudding on some parts of her wall.

We then moved her 2 single switches to a double box in the bathroom. The first pass ended up with a short once we pushed the wires in. Did not see any reason for a short so we tried again. We screwed the switch down with the power on and we saw the spark and breaker pop. Still didn't see any reason for it. I pushed some wires apart and the 3d time it worked. However, I had the power wire mixed up so we had to move a wire to get it right. All that took 4 hrs.

I have another stress test scheduled for Monday at 9am. I am a bit ticked. Had one last week and the tech said I could quit any time if i wanted. I quit at 75% max heart rate. so since i didn't get to 100%, now they want a nuclear one to be sure. If they said that in the first place i would have pushed to go the distance. Methinks they are just protecting their ass.

August 4 2015

Got the baseboards caulked this morning. Later on, I replaced the 3 outlets in there. They kind of lost their grip so new was in order. Mary was my very useful assistant.

Doctor owed me stress test results. Its been a week so I called. They were going to prod his nurse to get him to read the report and call me back. I need to see what is up then bug my PCP to fix my blood pressure meds. I am rarely under 150/80 since the latest change. That is too high.

August 3 2015

Beautiful day today. We played Seven Hills today. I got out early and hit some balls. It helped a little but there are still issues. The high school was there today, probably golf tryouts. We caught them on the 3d hole and then were 2 groups on every tee. The others in my group were non stop complaining about them, the slow greens, and you name it. After 9 I went home. I can tolerate either the slow play or the bitching but not both. Shot 46 on the front but it should have been around a 43.

Got home, had lunch, and nailed the baseboards (except the closet). It will take 1 day to caulk, and 1 day to do the 2nd coat on the white. After that I can start on the closet.

Off to Carolyn's when we were done. Did some mudding in her bathroom and ripped out and patched her wall toilet paper holder. It will take a couple of mudding passes. Will combine her wall switches into one box probably Wednesday. She picked up the box and a register and I got some outlets and caulk for my toy room.

Oh yeah, replaced her lamp post light sensor. That is one thing I can cross off my bucket list.

August 2 2015

Busy day. I got the 1st coat on the room this morning. I was thinking 1 coat but it did not work out. I have to do the 2nd here after Chinese takeout for dinner. I am liking the color. Carolyn said she hates it. What color? It is a neon lime green. Makes you want to sing "Put the lime in the coconut and drink it all up". I wanted something light and we already have a lot of blue and white rooms now.

Sad to hear from Neil today that he is dropping golf because he doesn't want to spend the time at it that he needs to play decently. He played well when he was playing twice a week. With less play, his short game got really bad. His chipping was frustration squared.

I have played golf with him for many years. I got him playing in my Edgewood league way back when and he was a regular on the DST. We share the same wedding anniversary and always remind each other when the day gets close. He became a good friend and we will stay in touch.

August 1 2015

Busy day. Mary went to the funeral then met me at the restaurant for lunch at noon

with Jane. It was good seeing Jane. Her hair is slowly growing back from the chemo. It doesn't seem much longer than it was 10 weeks ago at the previous lunch. She seems to think the judge will order everything sold to settle the divorce this month.

Next up was watching the kids from 2pm to 7:30pm while Katchen took Wes out as a surprise bday gift. Turns out it was not a surprise. She had to tell him to avoid him making other plans. We played outside and watched a couple of movies. Wall.E was a weird one for sure. After a play break we watched Cars. The kids were very good.

Still not happy with my blood pressure meds. It is running too high. I will need another change for sure.

July 31 2015

OMG, I forgot to publish again yesterday! Yesterday I played with the Lockheed guys at Spring Hills yesterday. I did pretty good shooting 83 with a birdie. Had a couple other chances but could not deliver. Skipped lunch and met up with Mary and Jacob for an Arby's lunch.

Today we played Mayfair. I was out of sorts and much went wrong the front nine, shooting 51. Came back on the back to shoot 41. Still having iron issues. I got to get to the range soon. When I got back we painted the white in the toy room. Mary did the baseboards and I did the old brown door and window frames and the new door that had not been painted on the inside.

Headed to Hopkins Funeral home for calling hours for Wes' friend (crazy Dave)'s, dad. He was a year older than me at 68. They say he just passed away in his chair the other day. Sounds like a good way to go to me.

July 29 2015

I forgot to publish yesterday, but did them both today in case you want to catch up on my stress test yesterday. We did our 1.8 mile walk at 8am and it was hot. Mary went off to HH to get me some paint for the toy room. I picked neon-ish light green. While she was gone, I had to re-shim the door, as you could not close it. Took me about an hour for that and we had grilled cheese for lunch. After lunch we cut baseboards for the room, except for the closet. Called it a wrap at 2:30pm. Likely paint the white tomorrow and do some minor wall patch.

Plan is to finish the room except for the closet, then move the stuff back in. After that, I can move stuff off the closet shelf and repair the shelf. It was loaded too heavy and the brace broke thru the drywall. I figure if I cut a piece out to make the repair, I can find a stud to screw the brace to.

This is day 2 of 90 degree weather. Should be cooler tomorrow.

July 28 2015

Oh my hands are sore today from all the floor tile cutting yesterday. Was on the garage roof early to put up a zinc strip which inhibits mold on the roof. The outside section gets a lot of shade from one of our few remaining trees and we had a lot of mold growing this wet spring/summer. It went slower than I thought. All the roof shingles were stuck down so I had to loosen them up to slide the zinc strip under. As usual, I was hammer challenged while trying to put a few holding nails in. I did not put in many. Hopefully they will hold.

Chilled out till my 1pm stress test. More of economic stimulation I say. I went, I ran the treadmill, and quit when I was worn out. They basically want you to go till you drop so they can see what the EKG says. She said they want you to get to 130 heart rate but I might not get there with the med I have that slows heart rate. The new med has brought my heart rate down fro 65 to 45-55. Anyway, I cried uncle at 116. When I exercise, I usually let up when I hit 110 cause I am feeling it. Supposed to hear in 3-5 days from the doctor. There were a couple of ladies in the waiting room I freaked out with my experience.

We ate at Arby's after. Arby's has the meats! Mary got a BLT. It had lettuce, thin sliced tomato, and 1 inch of bacon. Wow! We watched the kids from 2:30 to 7pm and had fun.

July 27 2015

Not so good a round at Sanctuary today. Weather was awesome. Shot 87 today. Left 3 right in front of the cup and rimmed out once. Lots of poor iron swings as well.

Whipped out the toy room floor with the help of my trusted assistant Mary. Put down all 43 tiles in 3.5 hrs. Sweet! Still a lot to do but I am rolling on. I was short about 2 tiles. To save cash, I just patched tiles together in the closet. It will be covered with storage bins in there anyway.

Stress test at 1pm tomorrow. Guess I will find out how the old ticker is doing. I think there is something going on cause my left arm tends to hurt after walking or exercising.

July 26 2015

Up and to church 8am this morning. There were about 250 people there and they prayed for mom's soul. The singing and sermon was nice, and the church did not fall down. We had breakfast at Samantha's and it was good.

Warmed up quick today. When I got home, I painted the ceiling in the down bedroom. Completed that around noon. The plans are to store the toys there and my golf stuff. I will have to start calling it the toy room.

July 25 2015

We scrubbed out the floor in the back bedroom. It was the most disgusting thing I have ever done. All the black water sediment we washed up was primarily human waste. Eww. We also scrubbed the outdoor patio and killed off any mold that was there. A long shower was called for.

Went to Rockne's for early dinner. It was good. Stopped at HD and picked up zinc flashing for the roof and a contractor baseboard pack. Guess I will get to the ceiling paint after church tomorrow. Got to take up the gifts for a mass for mom.

July 24 2015

Funny game. Played Sable Creek and went 44-38 =82. Was struggling with my irons on the front. Went par birdie on the Gold easy nine, then took a 4 over snowman with 2 lost balls. Next hole, told the guys I was going to experiment and see if I watched the ball till I hit it if my game improved. Parred all the rest. Finished the nine with 7 pars, a birdie, and an 8.

Watched the kids for 4 hrs in the evening and it was fun. Its been awhile and I had missed them.

July 23 2015

White tees at Fox Den with the Lockheed guys. Went 44-46=90. Very disappointing long irons again and poor driver hits the back nine. I am perplexed about my poor swing. It's OK, then it is gone. Major bummer.

July 22 2015

Went up on the roof to scrub off the mold on the garage with bleach. Was hot up there! Took me almost 2 hours to do it plus clean the gutters. I was going to put up gutter guards this year but I only have 1 tree left to send leaves into them. Come to think about it, I guess this fall I will only be raking the blown over leaves. Oh boy.

Need to wash off the crud in the back bedroom before putting down the tile. You can see it is black water sediment; ewww. We tested some of our cleaners on it yesterday and guess what worked best? Hydrogen peroxide! Amazing. That is a big job and I was tired after scrubbing the roof so that will be for tomorrow or for the weekend. Took a shower to make sure I washed off the bleach I was using then took it easy the rest of the day.

July 21 2015

Busy busy day. Started out early moving stuff out of the back bedroom. When Jacob

came over at 10:30 we moved out the heavy stuff. The water softener guy showed up at the same time and fixed the softener. Seems like it is working now.

Once we had the stuff out, we ripped out the baseboards, then the rug, pad, and tack strips. The tack strips took the longest. Then we swept and vacuumed up. There was one corner of the closet with black mold. I killed it off and am waiting for it to dry before removing it. I might have to do a drywall repair to remove that piece. We showered and I drove him home and then it was off to the dentist for me.

The dentist re-filled the missing filling and I was off for home. Picked up a prescription, some beer like substances, and a pizza for dinner. Neon was on fire today!

July 20 2015

Warm and much cooler today. In the mid 80s all week. To celebrate, I shot a 9 over 80 today at Sable Creek. Putted well today. Chipping was not very good. Hit the ball well. I drove the green on Maroon #6. My long eagle putt missed by inches and I tapped in for my birdie.

Moved 2 wheelbarrow loads of top soil from across the street and used it on some of the ruts the trucks made.

Have the water softener guy coming in the morning. The unit is acting badly and I figure he can fix it. Got a dentist appt tomorrow afternoon. Not sure if I will rip out carpet tomorrow or not.

July 19 2015

Hot hot hot! Jim and Jr. left around 10am. We went over and loaded up gas from fuel perks at \$0.90 savings a gallon. I finished painting the doors and door frames in the laundry room so it is all finished now. Looking back I see we started digging in March 15. Four months! Of course there were some delays along the way, and Jacob had limited time on weekends to help before school was out end of May.

Got the grass cut again. We have to cut every 5th day with all the rain. The good news is it is going to be mid 80s all week with no rain.

The bad news is the water softener is acting up. Also, the filling the dentist put in July 2nd was sucked out with some candy Jim brought with him.

I am expecting a better golf round tomorrow. Will be playing senior tees and I do know what adjustments I need to make. I just need to make them and carry through on them. Not expecting perfection but hope to make a major improvements.

July 18 2015

Hot hot hot! We played Windmill and George came to make it 4. Missed a Ace by 10" on number 8 there, coming up a bit short. I played much better but wore out with 4 to play. Managed 97 today. George shot 89 and trounced us.

July 17 2015

Played Rawiga today with bro Jim and Jim jr. I had a Seven Hills time but it looked like the rain would not get thru till 2:30. I changed it to Zoar cause it look like it would be clear at 1:30. A little later the direction of the storm changed and it was not going to clear there either. I quickly called and got a 1:30 at Rawiga which worked out perfect. It just stopped raining when we pulled in. I hacked it around in 99 strokes. Jim won, I was 2nd, and Jr was 3d.

July 16 2015

Played with the Lockheed retirees at Maplecrest today. I had an up and down round, shooting 44-49. I took too many chances getting out of trouble and got more trouble for my efforts. That is a no no. My short game wasn't very good either. Somehow I won \$4 though, finishing each nine strong.

July 15 2015

Caulked the laundry room door to get ready to paint. We went out to Kohls to get me a new belt. All mine are now broken and if I didn't get one my pants would be falling down soon. Mary got a new purse and wallet.

We stopped at Lowes and found a nice metal shelving unit for \$20 that I could put the wireless setup on down in the laundry room. Picked up some paint for the metal door as well.

Had lunch at the Twisted Olive in Green. It was a pretty awesome place and the food was very tasty. It had been the home of the Beldons, some type of oil baron around here back in the day.

Got Jacob to cut the grass as well. The stuff is going crazy these days with all the rain.

July 14 2015

Carolyn hosted all the family at a cookout at her house last night. The food was great an family gatherings are always precious.

She came over with Jacob this morning and helped move all the stuff from the garage back into the laundry room. It was a tight fit but we got it all stored. The room is much brighter now and more organized. I still have a few items to take care of, maybe an hr or 2 to do.

Another storm rolled thru and the sun came up to grow the grass. I am getting tired of both of them.

July 13 2015

Played Wilkshire today. Excellent front 9 at 3 over 39 with 2 birdies. Not sure what happened on the back. Three putted the first 2 holes and 2 later on and threw in a 4 putt as well to shoot 48. Geeze that is bad.

Was using my 4 iron off the tee on the back to try to find my iron swing. Hit about 1/2 good and the others poorly. I know what a good swing is but its not grooved as of the present moment. Bad for me cause I need good irons.

Heading over to Carolyn's cookout at dinner time. Should be fun.

July 12 2015

Finished 2nd coat on the laundry room floor. Need to do 1 more coat where the washer/dryer sat before to give that a 2nd coat. It is a small area. Then I can bring all the shelving in from the garage and get my side of the garage back. I still need to up a couple of shelves and put another coat of white on the door and window frame. Also need to paint the metal door, so I will need some special paint for that.

July 11 2015

Painted the window and door frames white in the laundry room, then Jacob was over and painted the floor. He was a great help getting back into the small spaces. He saved me about 1/2 day of work. I had him mow while he was here. Neighbor Pete has him booked up for the next 3 days.

Later on we went to Don Pancho's and ate 1/2 of our serving. The rest went home with us for tomorrow.

July 10 2015

Had to skip golf to go to the cardiologist. Nuro man wanted him to look at an event on the heart monitor. Doc said no sweat for isolated 1 time occurrences like that and EKG looks good. Just to sign off on me, scheduled me for a stress test in a couple of weeks. I had better start studying.

Finished the laundry room walls. The first pass floor paint is tomorrow. I can see the light at the end of the tunnel. For the laundry room anyway.

July 9 2015

There was some stormy weather up in Cleveland that was just heading north of the golf course. How sweet! I headed up to play but none of the Lockheed guys showed up. Too close for comfort I guess. Headed home and worked on caulking my laundry room. Used up 2 tubes of caulk and now ready for the finish paint. I should get a first coat in tomorrow after the doctor's visit.

I did a little painting on the edges. I may get away with 1 coat since there is just primer to cover.

July 8 2015

Glitches abound, or was it? United Airlines, WSJ, and NYSE all had glitches today. I am not buying it. Pretty worry some stuff.

Jacob came over and painted the laundry room walls with primer today. He also helped put back up a section of fence in the yard blown down by the tornado. We pulled up the lilac roots and took them to the yard recycle as well. That kept us busy from 8am to noon. Did a little grocery shopping afterwards.

I was going to golf tomorrow morning but they are saying 75% chance of rain tomorrow. Can't get a break!

July 7 2015

We had a good time in Buffalo, attending my niece's wedding. We went up Saturday and I played some bad golf at Sheridan's 6700 yards shooting 103. Too long for a senior. Sunday we went up to Niagara Falls and poked around till afternoon. The wedding was at 5pm and went off fine and was very well planned.

Headed back last night and I finally got a good night sleep. Today I got the laundry room ready to paint tomorrow, then cut grass. It was thick and Mary helped me out in doing the back.

July 3 2015

Tough start. Sump alarm went off at 6:15am and it was deader than a doornail. Jumped in my car and made it to HD in 14min, 12 min to buy a new pump, 14min home, and a quick install. I still had 1/2hr to get ready for golf and leave by 8am.

Yankee Run is almost to PA so it was a long haul. Played pretty good shooting 83 but the senior tees were pretty short. Home at 4:15 with a pizza.

Heading to Buffalo early tomorrow. We have a 2pm tee time at Sheridan. Tough course!

No blog till we return Monday.

July 2 2015

Hung around this morning and went to the dentist at 10am. It was a very quick drill and fill. Stopped at HD and got the laundry room floor paint. Took a long time. I was about 6th in line. Stopped and got gas and picked up lunch at Arby's. Arby's has the meats don't you know. Love their turkey and Swiss, esp the wheat bread.

Was out clipping bushes and wasted flowers and neighbor mentioned I should get that fascia covered cause water can get in there. I called Biltmore to express these concerns and the girl couldn't find the sales guy or the project guy who were off till Monday. She had one of the owners stop by and take a look. He wasn't happy I had to call and went right off and got some fascia rolled for me. He got back to my house at 5:30 with an assistant and proceeded to make all the fixes. He finished at 7pm and was off to the next customer.

OMG! This guy freaked me. He was a sider/roofer who bought the old owner out and was having a good time doing real work again. He was up on the top of my stepladder, just under the gutter, with one foot on the top rung and the other over the top and on the back rung, taking nails and hammer out of his pocket and using them. The stepladder was on mulch that was not that stable. If he fell, he would have landed on my tomato stakes. On the garage roof he was leaning out over the edge hammering nails. I may have nightmares tonight.

Anyway, fascia, siding are now fixed, trees are gone. Still some minor cleanup to do.

July 1 2015

Relaxed day for a change. And no rain! Puttered around till the retiree lunch. Had a good time there with the old timers. Stopped at HH on the way home and picked up the paint and some rollers for the laundry room. Since it hadn't rained, jumped on the mower and mowed the front and near back. Mary rescued me and cut the back.

Headed over to Carolyn's at 4pm for Jenna's 11th. She has really grown and looked very nice and taller. She was really happy to be the center of attention and was smiling ear to ear all evening. When I asked how it feels to be 11, she said she felt a lot taller. It was nice to get an answer other than "the same as it felt to be 10". Once again it felt great to have all the family together yet another time.

June 30 2015

Sanded the spots that were drying in the laundry room yesterday, then put some final (I hope) mud on where needed. One more sanding pass and it will be ready for primer. Things are getting exciting. Should be priming sometime next week. Then the paint and then an epoxy floor paint to finish.

Kids were over 2pm to 7pm. Everyone had a good time and we are ready for Jenna's party tomorrow evening. She is turning 11 tomorrow.

June 29 2015

%\$*#@!

Looks like I lost all blog entries back to my last backup on May 6. This isn't the first Open Office file screw up. My laptop file of 6/27 is messed up and the pdf I made from it is as well. The plan is to back up every month so I should have June 6, but.....

Anyway, did my sanding in the laundry room and found 3 places that need fixing. I was going to redo what I did yesterday but there are 2 areas I put mud on too deep and it isn't dry yet.

I skipped golf at Chippawa. I swore I wouldn't play there again after the first round there last year. First, lots of tics the last couple of times we played there; I was tired of that. Second, the back 9 has 4 nasty ill designed holes. The last time I played there, I was on the back of #15 in two and took an 8. Putted for birdie down the hill and it rolled off the green, next shot rolled back to me, and it did not get any better till I picked up and declared an 8. This kind of crap happens often on those 4 holes and I have had enough.

May 6 2015

Busy day in the 80s. I went to the retiree lunch and had a good time. Batcher said he was just thru with chemo and radiation for a spot on his left lung. They will recheck him shortly.

Got back and did the grass. It sure was thick. Got that done then off to the middle school track meet. Jacob ran 3 events and did ok. Stopped and bought him an ice cream after the meet. Yum.

Back home around 6:30 and I helped Mary plant some flowers she had picked up this afternoon.

May 5 2015

Mary was off to the dentist to get a filling in her root canal. It was my appt, but I am supposed to keep my blood pressure low so I didn't want my crown work done right now. I wrote checks to bro/sis to wrap up my mom's estate.

Finished my electrical panel work by doubling up on a couple of breakers. Then I put in my GFI breaker for the bathroom protection. Only took 1.5hrs with Mary as my flashlight holding assistant. She was a really useful assistant.

Nothing planned later. I will probably attend the retiree lunch tomorrow.

May 4 2015

Nice but windy day at Sable Creek. First day in shorts. Up and down today going 43-46 after taking an 8 on 17. Dribbled my tee ball into the creek. Dropped and hit a nice 5 iron but it caught a high up limb and nobody saw where it went. Stroke and distance, so I dropped back by the creek laying 4. Four more and I had an 8. Oh well.

I had 2 events on my monitor when i looked at it around 4pm. When sent, the first event seemed to indicate a few sluggish beats. The 2nd event seemed like some quick bursts for 5 seconds or so. Guess it was not serious since no one called.

I know the monitor was blank after 9 and 13. I think it was blank after 18. Don t really know when they happened with the wind and car radio,etc. The alarm is very soft. Lets see what tomorrow brings.

May 3 2015

Enjoyed dinner and the Magic show with Mel and Joann last night. The late night got to me though as I was tired all day. Bed at 11:30pm, way way way past my usual time. Ain't a youngster anymore.

Anyway, thought I would tackle a quiet job. Trying to put in a panel GFI breaker in the panel for the bathroom downstairs. Located the main feed to the bathroom on a string that went out to the garage and back in. That part was simple. Cut the wire into the box in the garage and the piece out of the box in the laundry room. That gave me a long feed line I could re-route into the panel and attach to the new GFI breaker. Easy!

After doing so, I couldn't seat the breaker in there. After an hour of investigating, I figured out what looked like 4 breaker slots were just there to confuse me. All 4 are unusable. Not so easy. The panel is all full up used.

Plugging in some breakers I had removed while investigating, I broke one and had to head to HD to get a replacement. Got the breakers in, connected the bathroom string I had isolated to a plug, and plugged it in the washer outlet as a temporary fix. All systems are now go with my temp fix.

Pondered all my options and here is the plan. I found 2 lightly used breakers and I need both slots for the GFI breaker. So I have to back the 2 lightly used cables out of the panel and put a junction box above it. In the junction box goes those 2 cables and the bathroom cable. They have to be tied together and a wire run down into the panel to the GFI breaker. Will have to move some of the breakers around to fit the GFI into 2 slots side by side.

Going to have to pick thru all the wires to get the right ones and will have to stuff all those wires back in. I may have to stage this cause if I don't get it done in one day, it could be unpleasant.

One more thing I learned is the hair dryer is 1875 watts has got to go. It plugs into 15amp lines. Got to back up to a 1000w max hair dryer.

That pretty much shot the day. I see another day that will be shot when I get into the fix.

May 2 2015

Just Kirk and I today on the Hills. I edged him 88 to 93. He had a chance to catch me on 18, but I chipped in for a birdie and he took a double. It was an ugly low lob wedge that ran up, hit the pin and dropped. Kirk had 2 birdies and added 3 shanks to his score. I was surprised the lack of play on a Saturday. I passed Sanctuary at 9am and only saw 10-15 cars in the lot. The Hills was wide open as well. Really enjoyed catching up with Kirk and the relaxed pace of play.

Off to dinner and the magic show in a bit. Should be fun.

May 1 2015

Beautiful day started at 40 and ended 70. Played Mayfair and went 44-43. I hit some great shots but my chipping wasn't very good. Oh well. John T edged me by a stroke. Neil spent all day in the trees and his short game was terrible. I had a few 3 ft off the green to a near cup. Left 2 on the fringe and one way past. I had a chance to hit the par 5 over the water from 190. I hit a good 3 wood, didn't see a splash, but it must have gone in.

Kirk called for the weekend so I set up a 9:50 at the Dales course. No one else so far.

April 30 2015

Busy Day with high50s but seemed cold. The dry well sump wireless warning I put in last month sent out a warning at 3am. I checked it out at 7am. Turned out to be just a stone blocking the check valve, an easy fix.

We went to Grandparent pancake day at Zander's preschool. It was outside and chilly but a lot of fun. I cut the grass after charging the mower battery, then was chilled for the rest of the day. Hope it is warmer tomorrow for golf. Grand kids came over from 3 to 6pm and wore us out.

I did have a monitor event around 2:30pm yesterday. Just sitting on the chair, so it seemed odd. Sent it over the phone. Sounded like my heart sped up? Don't know. No one called so it must have been routine.

April 29 2015

Busy Day with mid60s sunny weather. Off to Akron General to get my heart monitor at 8am. It has 2 wires and clips to my belt. If it sees an odd event, it saves the last 30 seconds past and the next 30 seconds. If you have an event, you dial up the

monitoring service and it sends it over the phone using modem audio. They take a look and tell you if it is something serious and what to do. It saves up to 4 events. In addition, you can push a button and it will do the same should you feel faint or something.

Back home, Mary and I took a short 1/2 mile walk. Then I did some weeding. At 3:30pm I went to watch Jacob at the track meet. Not much going on tomorrow. Maybe cut grass and watch kids, a mind numbing day.

April 28 2015

Golf is back. Went to Sable Creek this morning to see if my golf was impacted. No sir. Great drives, 50/50 on my irons, but my short game was yipps. Shot 43-45 =88 while Dick shot 93. His game is coming back. We played in 3hrs which was sweet.

Puttered around the yard while Mary got her hair done. Got to go in and get my heart monitor early tomorrow. Other than that, nothing much going on.

April 27 2015

The Blog is back.

It was rudely interrupted Thursday afternoon when I had a mini stroke. But I am back with no physical impact. A stroke is an attack to the brain and not the body.

Thursday afternoon, I was feeling light headed and then couldn't move my arm for around 2 minutes? Spent 2 days in the hospital for tests. MRI image showed I had a small brain area impacted. Ultrasound showed no heart issues, nor major brain artery issues. Likely a degenerated blood flow path in a local brain tissue. Good thing I got plenty of extra brain cells, more than my share of course.

I will get a heart monitor in a day or two. They want to see if I have any afib or irregularities that may need to be treated. I kind of doubt they will find anything there.

I did get a script for PT. The one issue I seem to have is a little tendency to lose my balance. Not sure what PT they would do for that but I will see. Going to play 9 holes perhaps tomorrow to see if there will be any impact to my golfing ability. The monitor may be a distraction.

April 22 2015

Sure was a crappy day, rainy and cold. We straightened up for company coming this weekend. I put away the tens of tools I had laying around for the remodeling. Then off to JCP to see if we could get some bathroom curtains. We did and picked up a rod and a white shower curtain. Stopped and picked up a few groceries for our visitors as well.

I put up the rod and Mary measured where she wanted to hem up the too long curtains for the window.

Going to head to Johnny Js at 4:30. The remaining Lockheed Martin guys are having a layoff party for him. Rudy was supposed to go last fall but they kept extending him. Pretty good extension I say. If I remember I will touch on the party tomorrow.

April 21 2015

OMG! I fixed open office. Found many people complaining on the web and found some guy saying you had to rename your open office profile, guessing it was corrupted. A new install doesn't change the profile. I did so (it was way down in the c drive tree). When I opened one of my docs. It re-registered me and then everything worked. That is nutso.

Off to dental cleaning this morning. Ugh, another crown to replace. I told them to make it early May, so I could keep my streak alive visiting once a month. We got home by 10:30 and did some weeding and sodding some bare spots with grass dug from the flower beds.

Mike came over and grouted and helped me mount the huge mirror. Everything looks nice. The shelf paint is still an issue. He plans to put it on tomorrow. Now we need the plumber to finish. Seems like I am always waiting for him.

April 20 2015

Got rained on for 9 holes. One guy threw in the towel before starting. I had a weird round. No golf swing; the ball was going every which way. Was chipping and putting lights out, less so the back nine. Scored 41-43 with one birdie. Three jacked another 5 foot birdie opportunity. I don't every remember scoring so well with such a bad swing. My back hurts, so I must have been doing something funny.

Mary watched Mike hang the back-splash. He had it hung in 2 hrs. Hope to see him last call tomorrow to finish it all with grouting. He also needs to put up the shelf.

April 19 2015

Isolated T-storm this morning but more coming later on. Made a 2nd pass on caulking the bathroom around the tub. There were some fair size gaps so I planned on 2 passes. Should be done now.

Mary helped do some weeding, then we moved some xtra dirt to the back to fill Sun a low spot. Sue called. Her and Ed were on their way home from Wilmot and said they would stop by in 45min. I gave them the tour of the construction and we had lunch. Was good to see them again.

Off to return my bday gifts. The slippers were too small and the shirt as well. I must be bulking up? The store did not have any slippers so we got a refund and xchanged the shirt for a large. Stopped to get groceries, then cut the back grass before the rain got here. That's about it for today.

We shall see if we play or get rained out tomorrow.

April 18 2015

Awesome day weather wise. This morning I cut 7 pieces of baseboard and painted them for the bathroom. While I was waiting I thought I would touch up the ceiling paint in there. The can of paint I found did not match well, so off to HD for Berh paint, which I am sure I had used in there. That matched up good, so I finished up that task.

Put the painted baseboards in and caulked them, then out to cut the grass. Just cut the front. Packed everything away and called it a day at 2:30pm. Did not sleep good so I am now whipped. Posted the blog early since there are no plans for the rest of the day.

April 17 2015

Weather was fine this morning. Kind of gloomy but high 50s. I played well the front nine. Mostly as well the back but I did pull 3 drives left resulting Sun 1 penalty and 2 punch outs. Toured the course in 41-43 =84 with 4 three putts. My chipping was excellent.

Mike came over and set the shelf in place around 3pm. He plans to be back Monday/Tuesday to do the tile. Out with the neighbors for mexican. Not sure why they want to go all the way to Tallmadge for it when there is one a mile away?

Open office is becoming a pain. It was changing all my "in" to "Sun"? I turned off grammar check and it seems to help. Spell checker still doesn't work.

April 16 2015

Going to be chilly tomorrow for golf. 56 to 62 they say; I hope it gets warmer. After an early round I have to call Mike and he planned to head over to work on the vanity. I will keep my fingers crossed.

Mary has a 9am dr appt then will fill some time shopping then head to the dentist. She has a troublesome tooth.

This morning, Carolyn helped me install the dry well sensor. Should the pump stop working we will get a wireless warning Sun the house. We were on kid watch today and are pooped. Kalix was here for an hour this morning. Both came over at 3 while Wes and Kaetchen went to a movie. They rescued us at 6:30.

April 15 2015

Hope you got your taxes in today. It was wet at Ellsworth last night. We finished Sun the cold and dark. I played pretty well. Shot 48, but could have done better. Tree kicked one to the water, then on 17 I hit the water twice on the par 5 around the lake. Just poor iron play. Took an 8 with the 2 penalties there. Good to see the old crew.

Today I did some yard work and watched my stocks head upwards. I like that a lot. Heading out to Jacob's middle school track. He is doing the high hurdles and the 800. He needs some work to improve his distance running. I'll get on him.

Watching the little ones tomorrow. That should keep us busy.

April 14 2015

Publishing at 1:30pm since I am going to sub sub Sun the Cisco league tonight at Ellsworth. Long course when it's damp. Will fill you Sun on my play tomorrow.

Paul came at 10am and hooked up the tub and toilet. He put Sun a new toilet ring, stainless steel so it will last a couple of lifetimes, and a new shut off valve. He also helped me put up the shower curtain rod and fixed the outdoor spigot. What a sweet day of progress. Mike thinks he needs 2 visits to finish the vanity and Paul will need one visit to hook up the vanity and put Sun access panels. The light at the end of the tunnel is getting brighter.

April 13 2015

Hit 80 today!!! Been awhile. Pretty good score at Seven Hills today. Scored 44-42. The course played long for the seniors with the damp fairways and stiff wind. Needed 2 extra on the irons. Drives were not running out making the long holes real long. Bob Muesche joined our Monday golf. He hacked it up today but did score a birdie. My putting was good. It would have been very easy to add 5 to my score. Lots of guys were 3 putting. I wore the neon bracelet grand daughter Jenna made for me and I think it helped.

Mike came after golf and we set the vanity on the box. It looks good. He is going to make the end shelf, then come back to put that in and setup the back-splash I can see the light at the end of the tunnel. I am whipped, but may sub tomorrow if nothing is happening here.

April 12 2015

Another awesome day in the 60s. Started the day putting out the outdoor table, chairs, and swing seat. Got the grill out and washed it up for the 4pm Ted's cookout. Puttered around most of the day waiting for the party.

Great party with the family The Ted's hot dogs went quick. I got many nice gifts. Grand daughter Jenna made me a neon bracelet that I will wear to golf tomorrow. I might get razzed a little.

April 11 2015

Awesome day today in the 60s. Got out early and finished edging the mulch in the back. I had as much as two foot of grass I pulled out and sodded the bare area where the fence was. Needed a breather, then my useful assistant Mary helped me patch in the power wire out by the sump. I had to sit on the hole's edge and strip the cut wire. It was very brittle but I slowly was able to pull back the plastic insulation and make the connection. Success! Filled the hole back up with the dirt I had shoveled out.

Took another breather then out to mow. My assistant and I had picked up the sticks in the back so I was all set. The lawn looks pretty good for this early in the season. Came back and moved a lot of stuff around for my birthday Ted's cookout tomorrow. We're all set.

April 10 2015

Waiting on the plumber today. No luck as of 4:12pm, sigh. Wes called and brought the the kids over. We did the Easter egg hunt outside and they found their basket inside. Biggest bunny they ever saw they said. They did munch down a bit of candy followed with kite flying in the yard. They always have a ball with that.

I was amazed at how good the ground dried out today, We did have lots of wind which helped. Guess I better go get some gas. The grass sprouted and definitely needs mowing this weekend.

April 9 2015

Oh my. The drywell sump was off yesterday afternoon. Checking into it was fun. No power to the sump outlet. Since there were a few splices there, I pulled apart all the tape and checked the line; no power. Checked the breaker and it was good. Damn, I did drive a stake in close to the wire to mount the drywall sensor last week.

This morning I dug deep to see if I did in the power wire. Sure did; just nicked one edge. The odds are very long in hitting that skinny wire. If I wasn't so busy today I would get a lottery ticket. I picked up repair parts at HH. I dug deep enough to get 6" of good wire, but I will have to hang into the hole to do the splice. Stripping the wire will be the worst. Going to wait for no rain threats to do it. Just playing in the mud.

We canceled my birthday Ted's cookout cause Mike and Paul were trying to get here "late afternoon". No one showed or called. That sucked. Maybe tomorrow?

April 8 2015

Rained a lot yesterday and today is dreary too. Dreary or not, the temp this morning was 60. I went out and raked and picked up wet leaves from the last 3 areas I had not gotten to as of yet. What's left is stick pickup in the far back and straightening out the flower beds. Some of the areas have intruding grass. I can use the grass I dig out for some bare areas in the back.

Squirrel season is open. Caught 2. Both grabbed up the free peanuts and buried them in the lawn. Going in for the hard ones and they were trapped. Looks like I will have a good trapping season, although there can't be too many around after last year's trapped hoard. It rained all afternoon, so the squirrels went back into hiding.

April 7 2015

Happy birthday to me, happy birthday to me, happy birthday happy birthday, happy birthday to me. There will be a party Thursday with Ted's Hot Dogs and all the fixings. The big 67, one more year closer to ashes.

There was an 8 am mass for mother at the church, where they prayed for her soul. Very nice. We went to breakfast afterwards. Found the dang robins working on a nest on top of my garage lights. Ripped it down and covered it with a funnel for now. I will be watching them.

We spent some time looking at the vanity and getting some ideas. Mike came over around 3:30 and spent an hour figuring out what to do. He is going to set the vanity on a 9 inch box and have a 4" kick plate in the front and 2 on the side, and build a small 6" shelf on the left side to move it a couple inches from the door so the drawer opening will miss the door molding Hopefully he will be back Thursday and Friday.

April 6 2015

We headed back from cold cold Buffalo yesterday and drove through the snow all along 90. As soon as we got past the state line it started warming up. From 32 in Buffalo to 61 here.

Played Fox Den today and shot 40-45= 85. Missed a 3 footer on the last hole and it cost me \$3. It was 50s with wind chill and 3 rain holes. It finally warmed up after we were finished. I drove there without my wallet but Dick bailed me out.

No Blog April 2 – April 6 due to travel

April 1 2015

Frost delay this morning. Glad I didn't plan to play till 10:30am. It was nice out. We

played quickly, skipping around one hole to move quick. I shot 40-41 =81 and Dick had a 94. He should have been at 90 or so, taking an 8 on the par3. Probably the last fast round till late fall.

Wow. The LGBT's are in a tizzy about the Indiana law granting religious freedom. They be afraid they might get discriminated against. What the hell? That is a stretch. Guess they don't have any other immediate causes to protest about. That reminds me of all the weirdos they put on them HGTV house hunting shows. I would say about 1/2 of them have LGs and inter-racial couples looking for homes. Thank goodness no Ts yet. They are going overboard on diversity. I am pretty sure 1/2 the population isn't representative of the people they have on.

Off to Buffalo tomorrow, so the Blog will be on break.

March 30 2015

Ready for another cold month?

More to do than I thought today. I raked and picked up some sticks. Back to Hartville Hardware to get a new mower battery and look at back-splash We took a couple samples home but no decision yet. When we got home we filled the Easter baskets and a new bathroom blinds was delivered. Put them up.

Brenda and Nancy came over to see the work going on and they liked it. Strawberries and sponge cake with the tea. Mower started a couple times then stalled. The new battery needed a charge so I did that. Mower was turning over but didn't fire? Will try again later. Update: Mower turning over but no ignition. Checked the gas line and oil and found the gas tank was empty. What an idiot. A little gas did the trick.

We heard last night that Dennis' sister passed away. They were expecting family to come to town so Mary's sister and husband is changing plans and will stay with her brother, where we will be. Going to be a crowded and confusing weekend.

March 29 2015

Painted the white gloss bathroom window inside frame and one piece of molding that I had to replace. Put away a bunch of tools and paint cause the kids were going to be here, and picked up a few chocolate bunnies at the Waggoner store.

It's great to have Hartville Hardware (HD) close by. I ran over to find some huge spacer washers I was going to need for the drywell pump alarm to mount it. They found something that would work. Sweet! I am going to mount the transmitter on a post and drop the float into the drywell. If the level comes up too high the float will trigger the transmitter and I will get an alarm inside the house. No more septic backup when the pump fails! Not sure how long the thing will last. I called with some questions and it's already discontinued, so I can only hope it lasts.

Heading to Buffalo for Easter. Mary's sister in law's mom isn't doing very well. She must be close to 90. She will take all the mom care stuff we have (wheelchair, potty, shower chair, etc) so we will have a full car for the trip. Mary's sister Ruth's husband Dennis' sister passed away today, so they are in turmoil. May have to stay an extra day or 2 for a funeral.

The kids were good tonight. Zander had fun but Kalix was not feeling well and stayed very quiet for the most part.

Other than that, I wondered if my Conservation of Pain theory could be extended. My theory is there is a finite pool of pain. If someone's pain goes away, it just gets redistributed to others. I was wondering if the theory applies to the type of pain. For example, is back pain a finite pool. If someones back pain goes away, does another pick it up or could it be redistributed to a pain in someones ass? These are the things I ponder from time to time.

March 28 2015

Finished up the 2nd coat of paint early. Also did a little caulking around the window. I will put some new white paint on the window and one molding piece I replaced tomorrow. Raked leaves and got around 1 bag's worth.

Picked up a piece for baseboards at HD, but I couldn't find a giant washer I needed to install my drywell alarm. I will call the manufacturer in the morning and see why I need one. Did they not pack one?

Carolyn didn't stay over last night. She did leave in the morning on her trip though.

March 28 2015

Went out to breakfast this morning. Had a hankering for some bacon and we had none. We had been mulling the bathroom color and were going to go with gray as a default. Didn't seem right for a bathroom. We decided on an almost white with a little blue, so we picked up some color sheets and went with Blue Yonder. I headed back to HH, picked it up and did the first coat. Last coat tomorrow.

Carolyn said she feels much better with the new antibiotics so is heading to Charleston, SC tomorrow. She wanted to get a good night's sleep and Don is hosting poker night, so she and the kids will stay here tonight and head out in the morning. Will be nice having her and her kids over. Some good company for us boring old people.

March 27 2015

Painted the primer on the finished wall this morning and was done for the day.

Mary went and got Jenna from school because she was not feeling well. Coughing and 100.2 temp. Carolyn stopped at the doctors since she was not getting better from the strep. Doctor gave her a different prescription and told her if she was not getting better to head to the ER. She might have an abscess with infection. She will have to delay her spring break trip at least a day to see how she is doing. Lots of people seem sick lately.

We went to the last Lent fish fry and then stopped to pick up color patches for the bathroom.

March 26 2015

Got the white silicon caulk this morning and fixed up my clear caulk mistake from yesterday. Had it done by 8:30am. Along the same line, I had the drywall guy fix where my door fell (while putting it back up yesterday) and dinged the wall where he mudded.

Drywall guy sanded, fixed my wall ding, and said goodbye after collecting his bounty. All together he was here 6.5 hrs. Drywall guys are very well paid is all I can say. Once he was gone, I laid more floor tiles in the bathroom where there were missing tiles under the vanity. I figured that was the easiest way to level the surface in prep for the vanity. Had one space between tiles and filled it with my white silicon caulk.

No more work today. Kalix is going to be 2 today and we are heading out for cake and ice cream.

March 25 2015

The drywall guy was back for 1.5hrs to add more mud. He has most of it looking good and is to sand tomorrow. There are trouble spots though where some of the drywall paper was rubbed off. It looks like the edge of the paper kind of bubbled out when the mud was put on. The edge probably sucked up some of the mud moisture and bubbled.

I don't think he can cover it well. I would think taping it over would push it down and then he could cover the tape edges, but he discounted that approach for some reason. I guess I will have to watch him closely tomorrow but I am not optimistic.

Went out and picked up the chocolate bunnies for Easter. Picked up some silicon caulk for the down shower. Guess I better get on that tonight. UPDATE – Arrg! I got clear caulk so I will have to redo it tomorrow.

Luck of the Irish is gone. All my lottery tickets were losers and my stocks were down big today.

March 24 2015

Grouting and sealing the tile did the trick in the down bathroom. No leaks. That was a major relief since a drain problem would have been major work.

Got the drywall guy started and headed to the links for the first round of 2015. Played well (86) except for putting. No distance feel resulted in 42 putts, How bad is that? My playing partner had 32 putts. I could have broke 80 if he putted for me. Geeze.

Drywall guy said he would be back tomorrow and perhaps one more day. We will see how tomorrow goes. Found a grab bar at Hartville Hardware and got \$5 off with our coupon. Fixed income special.

March 23 2015

Got the tile sealed early so we can try out the downstairs shower tonight. Had to remove the toilet so Todd could replace a piece of drywall immediately behind it. He called and said his morning job wasn't complete and rescheduled to tomorrow. More hurry up and wait for me.

I was going to golf tomorrow after talking with him but there is snow coming in at 6pm. I just can't win.

March 22 2015 Once again?

Huh? It's March 22 again? I guess I got a day ahead of myself somewhere along the line. Dates and day are almost meaningless to us retirees. Today is the real 22nd.

I was going to seal the grout in the down shower. Looking at it though, it was obvious it needed grout. I put some new over the old (I hope that works) and will seal it tomorrow morning. No showers today. Both are out of service. Two hours of unplanned work.

We headed out to buy Kalix Pinkie Pie My Little Pony for her birthday. They have got to make a huge profit on this stuff. Outrageous. Got her a dress too, size 3T. Topped it off using our Xmas Texas Roadhouse gift card. I love that place. Always get the steak kobob. Very tasty and you don't have to expend all that energy cutting up your steak.

Drywall guy is going to get started tomorrow. I would say we are at 30% completion now.

March 22 2015

Wrapped up the raking and bagging this morning. Ended up with 10 bags and 3 trips to the recycle yard. Amazingly, saw Clark Reed there. He was VP Engineering at Lockheed for the last 10 years before retiring 2 years ago.

Paul the plumber arrived around 3. Took him 2 hrs to shim the walls so the surround

would be properly supported. Once that was done, he set the walls and hooked up the water. He was out of there by 6pm. Got some advice on a couple of other projects from him. He didn't install the fixtures, saying the mudders would muck them up. Looks like no shower in the new tub for a week or 2.

Mary and Carolyn watched the grandkids while mom and dad ran the Quail Hollow 5k. Mary said Wes came in 1st overall, but I didn't get the details. That's pretty cool. He ran 2nd there last year.

March 21 2015

Did some raking last night and picked up the leaf piles this morning. Six more bags filled. I have a couple more spots still to rake. Maybe 2 bags?

Hung out waiting for the plumber. He proposed noon, but after his 20hr trip yesterday I wouldn't be surprised to see him reschedule till later or even tomorrow.

March 20 2015

What the heck? Snow on the ground this morning, but thankfully it melted. We went to HD to pick up the new bathroom back-splash and a few items for the laundry room work. Picked up some food at Acme. We had to cash in on the \$5 coupon they sent us from the new Green store. Dwain came over from across the street to see the work in progress.

Going to watch the market till fish fry time tonight. Not much else going on today.

March 19 2015

Sit around and wait day. Plumber was supposed to be here today. Finally called at 5pm and said he had to pick up a trailer to pick up a van he bought in Indiana tomorrow and then he would be over. Called 1/2hr later and said they didn't have his rental and had to go find one elsewhere. He is going to come Saturday after he gets back and gets a few hours sleep. Did hear from the drywall guy. He is planning on being here Monday. One can only hope.

Did OK in the market on a down day. Mostly sat around though. I did try to nail a 2x4 between two studs with the board right up under the drywall. After bending 4 nails I got one side in. Tried to bang one in on the other side but it pushed the 2x4 out of place. So I set about to pry the board out and it got jammed in just where I wanted it. Incompetence followed by dumb luck.

BTW if you notice misspelled words, my defense is the dang spell checker for Open Office is not working. Re-installing was no help. Seems like it can't find the dictionary. Shows a spelling error for every word I have.

March 18 2015

Luck of the Irish again today! I started to rip down the tile, surround, and drywall. I was about 1/2 done when Carolyn, God bless her, arrived from work around 12:30. We made quick work of it and were cleaning up around 2pm when Paul called and asked if the could rip out the tub at 2:30. I was a bit confused since I was expecting them tomorrow. Plans had changed to the good. We hurried up and took the stair railings off and bathroom door off. In they came and had the 400lb tub out of there in a flash.

Not only that, Paul headed out to Sebring to pick up the tub and planned to set it in there in cement when he got back. I am bushed. Hope he has something left in the tank. I will let you know how it went tomorrow.

March 17 2015

Happy St Patricks Day. It was the luck of the irish for me today. We had the grand kids and Zander wanted pizza. I ran out to get it and it was only \$3.99. Picked up \$20 in scratch offs and won \$50 plus a cash explosion entry. Not only that, my stocks were up on what was a down day.

Didn't sleep well last night and was up early, so not very energetic. I did try out this shop vac attachment that sucks sanded drywall dust up. Worked perfectly. I was impressed! The sander is on the end of a hose you attach to the shopvac. I had ordered it after seeing it on youtube.

Tomorrow is demo day for the tub surround. I am expecting the tub will be ripped out Thursday.

March 16 2015

I taped and mudded the tape on 3 drywall sections this morning. Picked up some more mud, insulation, a shop vac filter bag, and some corner edges at HD. I watched videos of them taping and I guess I don't have it down. I looked like a hack comparatively. I do plan on getting better at it though. On the work I did, I will have to do more sanding than the pros. The pros make 3 passes at the tape and corners. I hope to keep it to maybe 4 passes. I dread doing the smooth finish coat though. It may take me a couple of passes.

68 degrees today before it goes back to the 40s. Golf is possible this week and surely next. Time to get out the sticks.

March 15 2015

Days like this make you really appreciate family. They are certainly the most important of all. Grandson Jacob was over from 9 -5 to help with my laundry room project. He ripped old paneling down crushed it up and loaded it into the dumpster. I had him

paint the cinderblock with water proof white stuff. Next he ripped apart my bathroom vanity and got it out to the dumpster.

Around 2pm daughter Carolyn joined Jacob and we did drywall. We cut and hung 4 panels by 5pm. I was whipped. After a shower, I got back to debugging my windows internet connection. The lpad was on the internet but my laptop wasn't. No luck, so we jumped in the car and headed over to see Don, Carolyn's husband. It took him a 1/2 hour to track it to "location provider". Uninstalled it and I was good to go. Apparently, all my browsers look at it and got confused. Must have error-ed during a failed automatic windows update.

Pretty amazing all the family help we got when we needed it. It makes me smile every time I think of it.

March 14 2015

Ready to rumble! Mary and I planned out the laundry room work for tomorrow and we did some prep work. Grandson Jacob should be over early so I wanted to save some demo work for him. He will also move stuff around and do some of the cinderblock painting. Carolyn will be over around 1pm and we can hang drywall on 4 of the wall sections.

I called Paul the plumber to give him his check. Asked him to cut the water off to the bathroom sink so we can demo it. And so he did. He is planning on the new tub install Friday. Hopefully, the bathroom project is on it's way.

Snow is down to 50-50 with last night's rain. It won't be much longer till there will be golf.

March 13 2015

Not much doing today. Mary went to help out at the church funeral. Jenna was sick so she was over while Carolyn was working. Fish fry coming up at 4:30. Wes and family are going to go.

I just watched the market tank today. Not a good week for stocks after a rosy jobs report. Traders are worried about the Fed raising rates. They are due to go up anyway. No urgency to invest or buy housing if the rates stay so low forever. Mind numbing day.

March 12 2015

We headed out to HD and bought 12 drywall panels. I rented their truck for \$20 to get the load home. Each one weighs 45lbs, so it was a chore dragging them all down to the laundry room.

I picked up some leaves where the snow had melted. Snow melt is about 20% I would say. That is 20% grass cover and 80% snow cover. Going too slow for my liking.

March 11 2015

Slept in till 8am this morning. Carolyn is going to help me get drywall tomorrow, so I did some measurements and figured I needed 11 panels. I will get 13 given we might screw up on our maiden drywall project.

Called the plumber and he is saying he can install the tub next week Thursday or Friday. That means we will be doing some demo next week. I give it a 30-70 chance given previous disappointments.

March 10 2015

Forgot to mention this yesterday. In the morning I had put a pair of metal scissors on my trunk. Later on I drove to Fairlawn (40miles) and back and the scissors were still there. How is that for smooth driving? Or, maybe I put the scissors there after I got back. At this point, I really don't know.

Up today was to put a new door handle on Carolyn's other car door. We hoped it would go easier than the other one we did a few weeks ago. Been too cold to work on it the last couple of weeks. Anyway, it did not go much easier. After we got the handle off, we found she had the wrong replacement handle. A couple of quick calls and she was off to get one for \$35 as opposed to \$10 on line. A little profit for Autozone, eh? Elapsed time 3hrs for a 1 hr job.

Wes called and is dropping the kids off soon. Should be fun. Kind of disappointed the snow is not melting off as quick as I had hoped.

March 9 2015

Another beautiful day. Sunny and lots of melting snow. Went to the dentist holding the crown that had come out. She checked for damage visually and via x-ray. She said it was good to go and re-glued it in there. Only \$50! I thought I had hit the lottery. Never had a bill that low ever. Stopped at circle K and used my Acme fuel perks for \$18 worth of free gas.

March 8 2015

Beautiful day. Sunny and lots of melting snow. We headed out to the Cleveland Art Museum for the day. Spent 3-4 hrs there wandering around. They have a beautiful enclosed space between the old and new building and the sun was shining in. Kids playing and a college jazz band playing. It was free with \$11 for parking. Stopped at Macaroni grill for Sunday dinner. We saved 1/2 and pigged out on desserts.

The art was not my favorite. Lots of really old stuff from BC to 1500 AD. They had west African art, but it all looked very similar.

Go snow melt!

March 7 2015

OMG I was bad at chess last night. My rating dropped to 1115. Pitiful. More pitiful play this morning dropping to 1040. What is up with that? Had fish fry at the church last night with Wes and family. It was goooood.

Not much going on today. I did set out the formaldehyde monitor yesterday to see if my Lumber Liquidator floor need ripping up. I need to package it up at noon and send it off at the post office for evaluation. Looks like the Uniontown branch is open till 3pm so I will take it there for shipping.

I may get my new dry well monitor today. I don't plan to install it till the snow melts though. It has a float valve connected to a wireless battery operated unit that sends a signal into the house to an alarm indicator. Pretty cool.

It's getting real old waiting for the plumber to install my new tub. He was supposed to call me 3 days ago. It is agonizing.

March 6 2015

Dentist called back and pushed me off to Monday. Oh well. The grand kids were over last night and were great fun. They had fun, were not oozing germs, and you could take your eye off of them for awhile. Growing up for sure. I normally call the little ones filthy germy little #^@&*!%^, but today I thoroughly enjoyed them. Surprised myself.

Dang cold today, but a plus 4 is better than a minus 4. Got to get out the clubs. Saturday is supposed to be the last day in the 30s and they are predicting 50 for Tuesday!

We went out and picked up my new glasses and stopped at the chocolate store. Oddly, they don't have their big bunnies ready? Call next week they say. Next up is the church fish fry tonight. Mmmm.

March 5 2015

Oops; forgot to update yesterday. The retiree lunch went well but was uneventful. Don returned my car in one piece. I will have to check on the ave mpg to get an idea on his driving habits, lol. Watching TV in the evening, noticed my "problem crown" was wobbling a bit. Looks like another trip to the dentist. Why not? Also got Mary a dental plan. I had trouble last time I tried. Finally, I called the plumber and he is going to check to see if my tub is finally in. I am still guessing we are a week away. He is

supposed to give me an update, but has not yet.

Cold this morning. Supposed to get to the 40s Tuesday, so we have that. Was able to get a dentist appt for tomorrow. Maybe I won't have to struggle thru the weekend with a loose crown. We shall see.

Took a look at the electrical box. I wanted to put in a GFI breaker. The wires I needed to get to were well buried. I would have to pull them all out and push them all back in after finding the correct wires. I buttoned it back up. Plan B is to wire a special line over to the shower light and have it on it's own breaker. When I pull off the old laundry room paneling, I will see if I can get to the shower light circuit.

We got out the Easter decorations. We now have 7 push button singing animals out. The kids will be over tonight, so I expect the singing animals will get a workout.

March 4 2015

Picked up a few groceries last night. Must be brain dead this week. Went from a chess rating of 1220 down to 1130 in one day yesterday. I think I won 2 games out of 15 or something like that. I guess I am go to go to the retiree's lunch, eh? All set to match wits with those 65-85. Might do an update later today if I have anything interesting to say.

March 3 2015

Lots of confusion after 60 minutes reported that Lumber Liquidators was selling "laminare flooring" with outrageous levels of formaldehyde. News reports following incorrectly claimed "hardwood flooring". There is a difference. I emailed 60 minutes and they confirmed the report was about laminare flooring made in China. That should let Wes and Carolyn off the hook because they used hardwood flooring. My new floor, however is laminare. We all purchased from Lumber Liquidators.

I ordered a test kit that has an exposure badge so I can check the formaldehyde exposure in the house. \$65 is painful for us on fixed incomes, but I need to know if it should be ripped up and replaced. One beam of light is my flooring box says "Product of Austria". Nerveless, I will test and see. Turns out composite wood is used widely these days. Maybe I have some exposure from other products.

Summing it all up for now is my thought; Damn China! While I am on that thought; Damn the Ruskies too!

March 2 2015

Finally warmed up into the 20s. There will be some melting tomorrow! Not much happened today. Mary took in the car for service and I chopped some ice at the neighbors. Pretty dull day. I did some trading and maybe made \$50. Better than losing

though. Much of the same tomorrow but it will be nice to see more melting.

March 1 2015

We made it through February! Unfortunately the misery continues. The extreme cold is finally over but we had 2.5 inches of new snow (expecting 4-7) on the ground. Wet heavy stuff. I shoveled 15' and needed a rest. Low and behold, Dwain, my sick neighbor brought out his snow blower and finished the drive. Things are looking up. I offered to run the snow blower but he said he has been feeling better the last 3 days. So off he went and finished both drives. Wow!

Yesterday we were out to get some drywall tools to get ready for laundry room work. Had \$100 in gift cards from credit card points, so used them up. Cashed in another \$100 that should come in the mail in about a week. Guess the rest of the day we will be hunkered down with more shoveling to come.

Neighbor Brenda is in Buffalo at a cheerleading thing with her daughter and grand daughter. She called and said it was a frozen cold wasteland. Hope she makes it back OK later today through the snow and all.

February 28 2015

Minus 5 this morning. Why not one more crappy day in this lousy month.

Last day of February and time for my February rant. February totally sucks. Started out Feb1 with the superbowl. My team lost as usual and at halftime the dish went out covered with wet sleety snow. Two days later I had a colonoscopy. Great start. Soon after, I suffered a groin pull that took 3 weeks to heal. Groin pull and all, shoveled thru a couple of snowstorms; my drive and the neighbors with some medical problems. We were all set to do the bathroom remodel but ended up waiting the whole month for the plumber to track down a tub that would fit. It's till not started.

That wasn't enough. I had to catch a cold that took 2 weeks to shake off, broke a tooth and needed dentist to fix it, and spent several hours on the phone with TWC, Vonage, Aetna, Fidelity, and Delta dental on various problems.

The dang weather was crazy. Snow and cold. Everyone around set record lows and the month ave temp set a record with 15.5 degree ave temps. There were 11 days with minus temps. I did manage to get out of the house a whopping 9 times of which 2 were for the colonoscopy and dentist. I did get up to see my old design team in Cleveland and stopped at the Hard Rock where the slots sucked my wallet dry in 1 hour to add insult to injury.

The biggest disappointment was no work was done on my bathroom, exactly the reason we didn't head south. I feel like a month of my life was wasted sitting around. Won't happen again. From here on in, I will be somewhere warmer in February and NOT here.

Daughter Carolyn wanted me to rant on all these school days off. The kids being home cramps her style. Not fair she says. She never got any days off, cold or not, but I suspect she did get a few off for cold. Now when I was in school, such nonsense was unheard of. If it was cold, you bundled up and actually used a scarf. Kids these days have no idea what that is.

February 27 2015

Zero this morning. Why not. Temps are supposed to go up tomorrow. Not much planned for today other than the church fish fry this evening. Another brain dead boring day ahead. Why not add another to this crappy month.

February 26 2015

We had a good time at Jacob's birthday. He is an awesome kid. He wore the birthday hat I made for him (construction paper), played checkers with his sister, and thanked us for our gifts. He got mostly A's on his teenager ratings but does have a few areas to work on.

A couple more days in the teens and then we move up to the 30's. What do you know? A light at the end of the tunnel!

February 25 2015

Woa. Lost most every chess game I played last night. Entering into brain dead mode. No wonder with this nasty freeze. Put up a new shade in the perry como room after it came in the mail.

Going over later to celebrate grandson Jacob's 14th birthday. He is not a kid anymore. I am going to rate how he did on my advice I gave him at his last birthday. Mostly great marks although he did slip up once this year.

February 24 2015

Minus 5 this morning. The TV says it's 11 days straight starting off below zero. Thank God for global warming. We headed out for some groceries when it got to 10 degrees but the wind chill was nasty. Hunkered down the rest of the day.

I did get my long stick out and knocked down a bunch of icicles in the afternoon. That was my excitement for the day.

February 23 2015

Minus 1 this morning, minus 8 in Cleveland. Glad we are in the south. Not much

planned other than having the kids over later. Carolyn will borrow my car for awhile as Don is getting his fixed after whacking a guardrail. Guess snow is an issue with him; he doesn't have those Buffalo roots.

Kids were over. We played stuff then watched Thomas the train. It teaches the kids to be good and useful. When things don't go well, there is confusion and delay. Sounds about right to me. Thought it was cold when I closed the garage for the night. Thermometer says minus 2. Here we go again.

February 22 2015

Up at 6am to watch Mass for the Shut Ins, now called TV Mass. Shoveled out what the plow left last night. Heavy stuff. Will shovel out the neighbors after a little rest. The snow pile by the end of the drive is almost up to the mailbox. What a mess. Still 15 degrees at least till tonight. Hope to get out of the house later to shop for curtains.

We went out and got curtains for the remodeled bedroom. They look nice. Stopped at Tim's for fish. That should be all the excitement for today.

February 21 2015

Heat wave 20 degrees this morning. Snowed 6" by noon. There looked like a break for an hour or two so I shoveled. Good exercise! Hear the roads are still bad so maybe we will wait to venture out tomorrow. Did I mention that February sucks? My sister is driving to Florida from Pittsburgh for a week tomorrow. Looks like it might be tough sledding.

Going to watch CNN today and maybe some horse races. I gave up wagering for now. Deposits are taxed too much from my Citi credit card, They want \$10 per deposit or 5% whichever is larger. That is just crazy. You have lost before you even start.

Vonage would not refund my payment even though I canceled 6 days into the billing cycle. I filed a complaint with the FCC, Wonder how they will like that? I tell you everyone is trying to screw you out of a few bucks. Verizon put a \$9 fee on Mary's phone after I downloaded her a \$1.99 ring tone. Say what?

February 20 2015

Minus 7 this morning; a lot warmer than predicted. Buffalo was at minus 10, so we have that.

Balmy plus 7 this afternoon. I drove up to Cleveland to lunch with my old design team and had a good time. Stopped at the casino on the way home and it sucked my wallet clean like it was a vacuum cleaner. Oh well. Mary was helping out at church with a funeral and eating out with them.

February 19 2015

You have got to be kidding. Zero this morning, briefly heading up to 5 then heading down to minus 14.

We went out and picked up a 4 drawer chest we ordered for \$37. Outside looks nice, but it is really el cheapo. Pressed mdf drawers, sides, and a cardboard like backing and drawer bottom. Should give us a little storage space in the Perry Como Room. Took us 2 hrs to assemble. Thank goodness for my battery operated screwdriver.

Not much else going on. Temps expected to plunge pretty soon.

February 18 2015

Kids had fun last night. They were here for 3.5hrs and tired us out.

Nice warm up today but tomorrow night it is supposed to go way negative. Shoveled twice today even though there was no snow showing on the radar? Must just be bonus snow, just for us.

Spend 2 hrs on the phone with Fidelity tech support. Their trader software wasn't working. They never did fix it but I got a workaround. Sweet day for those of us that had Zillow stock Z. It rocketed up 20/share and is back down to a gain of 15/sh. I sold 125sh for a gain of \$2500. Nice.

February 17 2015

Only minus 2 this morning and day 4 for my common cold. Got to the eye doc early and got my prescription changed. Left eye got stronger for some reason. Those sparkly episodes are optical migraines says he. It was horrible driving home since the sun is out bright today.

Plumber called. He has the tub lined up and should be able to install around 2 weeks from now. That is disappointing but at least we know now. Kids are coming over tonight as long as they don't mind exposure to my virus. That should wear us out.

February 16 2015

Minus 4 again this morning and day 3 for my common cold; what a pain. Spent ½ hr with Aetna. The new plan requires a PCP referral for all specialists. So I made some referral requests at the doctors site this morning.

Remembered my trip to the dentist to fix my broken tooth. The dentist warned me about other common teeth breakers when i told her mine broke on a hard pretzel. Look out for: popcorn seeds, whole almonds, and croutons. Don't

forget about those filling sucking items either like: taffy, gummy bears, and caramels. I will call this my Geezer Tip of the Day. This might be a new feature in my blog, if I remember it.

February 15 2015

Minus 4 this morning. Shoveled the drifts. It took me 3 sessions because of the nasty cold and wind chill of 20 below. Looks like a hunker down kind of day. I must be thinking well cause I won a few chess games and pushed my rating way up to 1264. That won't last long.

Carolyn has a house full here for a wedding today. I think they all are now stranded here till the wind stops and they clear the road. Guests up from the wedding from NC and Tennessee. She won't be happy.

February 14 2015 UPDATE

Did I say how much I hate February? Seem to be getting a cold virus this nasty snow blowing dismal day.

February 14 2015

Didn't do much after the dentist yesterday. She built my tooth up nice. I can bite food again! Noticed when driving there, I could see better without my glasses. Got an appointment Tuesday to fix that. I have has a several 2-5 minute episodes the last 3 months where I see a flashy half circle. Can't remember what eye doc said last time I told him but it isn't anything to worry about. Maybe that is screwing up my eyeglass prescription.

Heard a word on the news I don't like this morning. Give "plenty" of fluids they said. Plenty is very subjective. Plenty of cookies for some could mean 3. For those who crave cookies, it would be more like 8-10. "Nice" is another word I don't like. I thought I would do something "nice" for you. Well, how do you know I consider that nice? Again very subjective. We can do without these 2 useless words. Take my advice and don't use them.

That reminds me I hate February. I didn't find a word for that so I propose the word Februphobia. Let's see, it is Feb 14 today. So far this month, a groin pull, a broken tooth, eyeglass problems, freezing temps and no golf in sight. I rest my case.

February 13 2015

Blogging at 6:30 am at minus 2 degrees. I was thinking of my broken tooth and dentist trip last night at bedtime. I really don't think teeth are supposed to last forever. At 66 years, these teeth have been worked hard.

Wouldn't be nice if they refurbished you at say 50 yrs. They already start flushing out your system at 50 with those colonoscopy (had one a couple weeks back). Then, they put you on a maintenance schedule and flush you every 5-10 years.

What about ripping out and replacing all your teeth at 50? They can't possibly last another 50 years. It would beat the heck out of the current pothole patch approach. Wait for something to break or rot and then fix it.

Should be that way with eyes and joints too. Lots of people getting pot hole joint replacements. Many get lasix too on a willy nilly schedule. They should schedule all of this at 50 as well. If I was the Obamacare Czar I would get all that moving.

Right now, your body is like owning an old car. You got to keep fixing it all the time and it's not very reliable. Got to be a better way.

February 12 2015

Quiet day. Broke a chunk of tooth off Tuesday night. Dentist is off Wednesday so I called this morning and have an early appointment tomorrow. We went out to get some groceries so we can hunker down in the cold spell that started this afternoon. Supposed to be cold for several days.

Called the plumber and said to do the order if he can't find an alternative soon. I think next Tuesday is his must have date.

February 11 2015

Forgot to mention Lockheed Murray Revolt passing away at 90. Saw it in the Canton paper, so passed it on to the retiree lead, Jim Hogan. Murray was a straight forward guy. No politics with him. He was head of Procurement till he "retired" (Loral showed him the door) in 1989 after they purchased Aerospace. Loral basically offered a sweet retirement deal to clean out the power structure back then. It was either take it or get axed. A lot of good people went out the door, including Mel Davis.

Plumber said tub is a 4 week order, so he is looking for another option. I will call him later and tell him if he doesn't find an alternate by the end of the week, he should order one. Oh well, so much for a quick remodel. Kids were over last night and wore us out again.

This morning, a hung over Carolyn and I replaced her door handle. We youtubed it and were all set. My fear was we would drop the bolt down into the door and not be able to find it. My fears came true and she had to run out to AutoZone and get some spares. Everything went smooth except for one item. Cranking out a bolt snapped the metal brace off the door. When we put it back together that bolt didn't really hold onto anything. Then we realized what had happened. The door handle is now held in with one of two bolts so she will have to remember to open the door gently so as not to pull on the area that has the broken metal tab.

Wow. Quite an exciting day. We didn't have time to do the other door, so I can look forward to that.

February 10 2015

Another boring day. I did get out to take a bunch of wood over to Carolyn's to burn. Very icy there. Took neighbors paper to their door and almost flipped. Went over and sprinkled salt at the end of the drive to give me a safer trip tomorrow. Dwain has medical problems and his wife gets winded going to the mailbox, so I try to help when I can. Mary was off to Red Hats today touring the First Lady Library, so I went out and got a 12" subway to fill me for the day.

Got to return the plumbers call. My phone is not working so I have to wait for Mary's cell. Carolyn is looking to fix her door handles tomorrow and we have to take the door panel off. Should be an exciting day tomorrow.

February 9 2015

OMG, this was the most boring day of the year so far. Watched the market go lower and had zip to do. Another day like this and I will go stir crazy.

February 8 2015

Time Warner put in the new modem but didn't get my number transferred. I had to call in to get them to transfer our old number from Vonage. Their paper works says Vonage takes 6 days to transfer so we left the phone on Vonage for now. Turns out I can still call out but can't hear anyone at the other end. Calling here will just go to the answering and will get sent to my computer. Guess we shall live with that for another week.

George and Willa were over and loved the swiss steak. George helped me cut up the old doors and I will take them over to Carolyn's fire pit tomorrow or the next day.

February 7 2015

Finished up taxes this morning. Net loss of \$220 between the IRS and Ohio. Not too hateful. Mary is going to cook swiss steak for tomorrow when George and Willa come. Maybe I get get them to take some stuff off our hands.

Had to call TWC. They raised the bill \$20/mo and for some reason included the basic TV 20 channel package. Sneaky *#@%^&! 's. I called and of course they had a "deal" for me. They will boost my speed to 30MB/s and give me phone service for \$65, same as I pay now. So I will cancel vonage and save that \$25/mo. I suppose in a year I will have another go around with them.

Can't make decisions today. My chess play says I am brain dead.

February 6 2015

Quiet morning. Watched the market then had lunch at Hartville Kitchen. They had turkey and dressing special. Yum. Picked up some food for Sunday dinner. George and Willa are going to come over and we can catch up with what is going on with them.

Kids came at 3pm and wore us out.

February 5 2015

Shoveling again 3-4" in 10 degrees this morning. Dang plow was down 3 times! Dang it. Vanity came and they dropped it in the garage. Thankfully, Wes was off today so I had him stop by and help me carry it in. It's shorter than I thought, so they will have to build a base to set it on. It doesn't have to be fancy. I can put baseboards around the bottom.

Kids should be over tomorrow, so I had better rest up.

February 4 2015

Went off to the retiree lunch. They are all atwitter about Lockheed switching health insurance to One Exchange, Mom was switched to that last year, so I told them all I know about it. No reason for alarm. I heard that Jack Bowyer's wife sent him off to a home specializing in Alzheimer care. He was too much for them to handle. He couldn't do anything for himself. Been there, done that.

The vanity has made its way to Canton. I should be getting a delivery call pretty soon. Called Paul the plumber last night. He promised me prices tonight. We shall see. Everyone is queued up waiting on the plumber to replace the tub to start off.

February 3 2015

Out to the gastro snake doctor. Everything went well; he did not find anything. But he said there was cloudy stuff and he could have missed something, so he wanted me back in 5 yrs. I guess I did not totally empty out all the elixir before he started in on me. I was hungry so we grabbed lunch on the way home and I ate a good dinner this evening.

I guess I can get back to sorting stuff while we wait for the plumber to start on the tub. I should give him a call tonight and see when he might be able to start. The vanity is on the way. Last I looked it had arrived in Chicago.

February 2 2015

Boring day. All the slush from last night froze up. Spent the day drinking the elixir for the colonoscopy and the evening hanging around the toilet.

February 1 2015

Spend most of the day getting things ready for the superbowl party. Shoveled at least 3 times. We had about 3" before it stopped and then another wet heavy inch during the evening. The snow shut off Dish from halftime till 2 1/2 minutes left. Natch! We were all rooting for the Seahawks, so they were hexed. Oh well.

January 31 2015

Last day in January; it flew by. Still suffering from pulled groin, but it is improving. As you know from my conservation of pain theory, I am absorbing someone else's pain. I don't like it a bit. Mary was out picking up last minute stuff for the superbowl party. Banana cream pie should be a good dessert. Cooking the beast later tonight and maybe some of the salads.

Gave the bathroom walls another scrape down. The drywall guys looked at it and said he could go from there. He was to call Mike and give him an estimate.

Guess my brain is cycling down. I had gotten up to a chess rating of 1271 and hung around awhile, but am tanking to 1200. Pitiful play this morning so I gave up for now.

January 30 2015

Mary is still suffering with her cold, so I put on my apron and cooked today. Shoveled 2 driveways again today. We had maybe 2" with 6" drifts. Cold and windy too. Took a package to the post office and picked up some prescriptions. Other than that, it was a hunker down day.

Drywall guy is going to stop by tomorrow and look what needs to be done.

I think I have what I need to do taxes. Maybe do that this weekend.

January 29 2015

Mary is getting a cold. I kept my distance today. Ice/sleet/rain this morning. I was off to the dentist but drove carefully. \$100 and I was on the dentist's chair for about 25 minutes. Nice racket.

Got the headboard adapters today in the mail. They worked fine and the antique bed headboard is back on now. Quite an exciting day, eh?

Turns out FB went up 2% today. Not a blowout quarter but at least it did not tank.

January 28 2015

Mike came over early with Paul the plumber. We picked out the faucets and tub and they were off. I told Paul to give me a 1 day heads up so I can rip the old out before he gets here. I think he will call me with the prices first. Just puttered around the rest of the day while Mary was off to bowling.

FB had a good report but the stock went down??

January 27 2015

Slow day. Not too much going on. We went out later to change over a cell phone and it was nasty cold. Dinner at Steak and Shake, where the milkshakes are many many calories and really good. Stopped at Acme to pick up some groceries. It was a little warmer in there, but not much.

Aapl had a blow out quarter and I made somewhere around a grand after hours. Hope it goes up more.

January 26 2015

Rough morning. Was up by 5am and shoveling at 6:30am. We had 2" of snow but there were drifts up to 5". Shoved my drive and then Dwain's. He is in bad shape and had a dr appt and hospital appt. His daughter could not get over on the roads so he pushed them off a day. I was beat. Got to rest for awhile, then we watched the grand kids for 4 hrs. I dozed off while they were watching Thomas the Train DVD.

January 25 2015

Almost one month closer to golf. No let up in the snow coverage in sight, so it may be awhile. I found an attractive option for the antique headboard attach using two adapters. One hooks in the bed and gives you 2 bolt attach holes, and the other lets you shift the frame in or out. Luckily they had drawings of the parts. I printed them out at 1:1 scale and cut them out with a scissors And figured out how they would help me. Seemed good, so I ordered them.

Spent a couple of hrs ripping apart an old encyclopedia set and took the pages to the recycle yard. Also did the same with my old old engineering books. That was painful; they served me for many years and now are gone. Seeing some of those equations made me wonder how I was able to follow along. Guess I was pretty intelligent back in the day.

Realized the Super Bowl is next Sunday. Since I have a colonoscopy scheduled

Tuesday, I should be hanging around the pot most of Monday. I better make sure the plumbing is functional. Everything I eat Sunday will be flushed on Monday.

January 24 2015

Carolyn and family are off the Costa Rica. We picked up their car and drove it back to their house at 6:30am. We then took Zander to his soccer at the Y at 8:30. It was funny seeing the little ones run around. I think he was more interested in the girls. That's quite a Y we have.

No much else. I put a few things away, looked at back-splash tile and too it easy. Should be another boring day tomorrow.

Oh yeah, new news. My chess rating has rocketed back up to 1250. Guess my brain is working this week!

January 23 2015

The kids were over last night and we had a good time chasing them around. The little one, Kalix, was a bit under the weather and slept an hour. She came back then and was running around with her brother.

Busy day today. We stripped the bathroom wallpaper off. That went pretty easy. Lots of glue though and we spent a few hours without making much headway. We stopped and will check with Mike. Might be a whole lot easier to put up new drywall. Trade cost for mindnumbing labor. There isn't much drywall in there. No more than 4 sheets. Finishing the drywall is much less labor intensive than what we were doing.

January 22 2015

Had a dentist appt this morning but they called and said she was out with the flu. They offered me an appt tomorrow. I said thanks but no thanks and pushed it out a week. Better to wait while the flu goes away.

We made a shopping trip out to get a new bedframe, a couple of 1x6s, and some bolts for the frame. We put the new guest room mattress on the new frame. George is going to stop by in February and help me attach the antique headboard to it. We had to leave the side rails and the foot board off, and I stored them away. The kids were over from 3-7 and were good but there was a lot of coughing and runny noses. Hopefully we sterilized good enough after they left.

January 21 2015

More shoveling. Not too much fun with a groin injury. I would say we got 3" of the wet stuff. Mike, Carolyn's contractor neighbor came over to assess the bathroom work. He

said it seems pretty simple. Most of the work would be for the plumber and he would set the vanity and fix the bowed piece of drywall. I was planning on having Carolyn help with the demolition but she is vacationing next week. I may have to start myself.

Trying to figure out how to lower the antique bed. Since it is from a time the mattresses were smaller, it sits up way too high. Planning on buying a standard frame and somehow attaching the old headboard to it. I am running my idea by George for ideas. I would need some C like clamps to attach the headboard to a board I would run across the frame. Know what I need but never seen one. Hartville hardware should know if such a beast exists.

January 20 2015

This morning I prepped for the bedding delivery by taking off stair rails, etc. Tried to get someone to take mom's old dresser. Habitat said no and surprisingly the Salvation Army said no. I thought they gave people jobs to do minor repairs and clean up the items they get. I guess not. Very disappointing. They won't get any kettle money from me next year. Might just leave the dresser for a spring project. It is made of real wood, so it could be sanded down and re stained.

Spent the afternoon waiting on the Wayside truck. Finally came at 3:30. After dinner, I put the rails back on. Mike is going to come over tomorrow with Carolyn and consult on my bathroom project. Maybe I can coax an estimate out of him.

January 19 2015

Time flew by today. I was very busy making small strides. Let's see. I shoveled an inch this morning, then spent hours looking online at bathroom tubs and vanities. Made a few calls and submitted some questions about different products. Made my head spin.

Sorted mom's fashion jewelry randomly into 8 groups; one for each immediate female family member. Going to mail them each a package. They can keep the stuff or toss it. Maybe there are a couple items with sentimental or actual fashion value to each of them. Who knows?

January 18 2015

Successful day. Took a day off working around here.

We needed a new comforter for the new bed, so we looked online at macys, kohls, and a couple other places. I would say somewhere around 1000+ items. Headed out to 3 stores and found one we liked at macys. Too bad it was a Queen size at 90x90 inches. After measuring the quilt we have, we figure a queen would work.

Mary called macys and talked to the salesman we saw in the store, and he set it aside for us and took our charge card. Not only that he said it would be 15% less on the 28th

and charged us that price. Only issue is we can't pick it up till the 28th. Still, that was very cool. My only issue is what is a man doing working in the macys bedding department anyway?

January 17 2015

Kept busy today. More sorting the junk room. Almost done. Gathered up 4 bags for the Goodwill and 3 more for the trash bin. Took cardboard and paper to the recycle.

Planning a bathroom renovation. Looks like the fixtures would be under \$2000. If I help with the destruction maybe I can get by under \$5000. Not sure if I can get a jacuzzi tub/shower. Seen lots of tubs but none with showers added. There is probably a way. Jacuzzi would be helpful for all those aches and pains.

Neighbor Dwain is not doing good in Florida. He is coming back tomorrow to head to the hospital. He has been treated for Leukemia; perhaps it is related to that.

January 16 2015

Busy day. Salt guy came and we went to lunch with Jane. Lunch was enjoyable. We headed off to Lowes and picked up some paint and something to put under the new bed so it wont scratch the new floor. OMG they have at least 30 options. We left and picked up my car at Carolyn's. Noticed the steering wheel was jumping back at forth so went to Mr. Tire. Turns out I needed a new tire. Guess they haven't solved the belt shift problem in tires yet.

Got home and resumed emptying storage bins. I found a box I had packed after leaving Lockheed. Books went to the trash. Also found many years of my calendars. Trashed another 30 years worth of memories. Seems like I have now cut the cord from my working life and it all has went to recycle. Sad in a way, but the past is the past.

Tomorrow, more disposal.

January 15 2015

Slow start this morning. Ended up waiting for the salt delivery and the guy didn't show by noon as promised, so I called and told him to come tomorrow before 10:30. We went and got mom's jewelry appraised and they only found \$105 worth of gold. There were tons of costume jewelry, but she did have 95 years to accumulate. Lunched at the Hartville Kitchen.

Lent my car to Carolyn. She had another caliper lock up on her. I should get it back in a day or two. Did a little clear caulking in the renovation and painted a small table that is in there. All in all a slow day. This is good cause I have a groin pull that I need to rest. Been bothering me all week so far. Wes said to ice it, but there will be none of that in the wintertime.

January 14 2015

Busy busy busy. Spent the morning cleaning out the other spare bedroom closet. We took some old golf set and a huge bag of frames over to the Goodwill. I fixed the sagging shelf in there. Couple of wall anchors was all that was needed. Looks like I need to mud the walls in there and paint. We plan to get at least 15 storage bins in there to reclaim the room. That is the current project anyway. I took one bin of technical notes and reduced it to a shoe box. I had saved a lot of ASIC technical stuff and some PWB cross-talk notes. Before ASICs I was the cross-talk Guru of Ohio. I can't believe there was anyone better at it. All those notes are gone now. RIP my technical expertise.

In between work sessions, I had lunch with Rudy from Lockheed. He had good news. He was extended thru April. Mary was off to bowling. We never did go over to Wes' to check out the telescope last night. It was a clear night but it turns out the moon didn't rise till midnight. Bummer. He is headed over with the kids to give his wife a break, as she is feeling sickly.

January 13 2015

Yet another busy day. Spent the morning taking down the tree. Mary went to lunch so I gathered up the stuff for the Goodwill and took it over. Stopped at Subway and picked up a cold cut combo for my lunch/dinner. Wes called and we will go check out the telescope later tonight when it is dark.

January 12 2015

We has a slush storm overnight. I shoveled a few inches of slush. OMG was that heavy. Quite a workout but I took it slow. Good to go slow when you are old.

Finished up the walls, touched up the ceiling, and got a second coat on the closet doors. I ran a bead of clear drying caulk in the closet to see if I will like it. Got to wait 7-14 days to see it turn clear. If I like it I will do the rest of the room. Got the curtains back up, put away the tools and paint, and the job is now finished.

Tomorrow we take the tree down. Maybe we can get rid of some of the Christmas stuff we never use.

January 11 2015

Weather broke and we were up above freezing today! Another busy day. Caulked the baseboards and got a second coat on the framing and first coat on the closet doors. Will finish up tomorrow.

Carolyn and Wes and families were over for her birthday party. The swiss steak she requested is gone. The kids had a good time together. We chased them all out at 6pm

to head over to Wayside and order two mattresses for the guest room and the renovation bedroom.

Next project is fixing up the laundry room. That will leave the bathroom as the only room in need of renovation. I am thinking of leaving that to a professional. Will need to start saving for that expense.

January 10 2015

Minus 2 brrr cold. Went to HD to pick up closet doors, piece of molding, and a register. Brought it home and hung the closet doors. Oops, wrong size. Maybe I can find someone that can use them. Back to HD and got the right ones, They were pretty easy to hang. Two hours running back and forth sapped my energy. I may or may not tackle the caulking later tonight.

Mary cooked up swiss steak for tomorrow for a birthday celebration for Carolyn and was off to 4pm mass.

January 9 2015

Mary and I got the floor done by 1:30pm and put in the baseboards. I would have continued on except I was bushed shoveling 5" of snow with 1 ft drifts this morning. That was a workout. Temp was 18 this am, 8 now and is supposed to get to -2 in the morning.

Finished up the day going out for all you can eat fish with Wes, Kaetchen, and the kids. Afterwards, grocery shopping and home to get warm.

January 8 2015

Carolyn came over early to help Mary and I start the floor. First board we cut went around the register and we cut it the wrong way, lol. That was good because we were oh so careful the rest of the way. We got several rows done before she went to work for 2 hrs. She came back and we went further, then back after dinner and we got all but 2 rows done. We should finish the floor tomorrow. The there is still more to do but all pretty easy stuff.

Took 2 hrs to visit a lawyer to settle mom's estate. He will do some pretty simple stuff for "under \$500" he says plus \$200 court costs. Nice job, eh?

January 7 2015

Carolyn's is 42 today. I can't have a kid that old can I? Busy day. Went to the retiree lunch in the cold and blowing snow. Had a good time. Not too many people on the road.

Got back and put the first coat of summer melon on the room. Needed 4 hrs before the next coat, so my good and useful assistant Mary helped finish painting the closet and the brown wood around the doors, closet, and windows. I touched up the ceiling so that is now done as. Broke out the roller and put the second coat on the walls. Will wait till I get a second coat on the woodwork before I put the second trim coat at the edges and top. That way I can avoid a touch up on the wall edges. Whew. Finished clean up at 8pm and went out and shoveled a little. Long day.

January 6 2015

I painted the bedroom ceiling and Mary painted the baseboards. Then I had to take a break and shovel the driveway. A nasty 2 inches came down last night. More expected tonight. After dinner we went and picked up the paint for the walls, called summer melon I hope to get er done after the retiree lunch tomorrow afternoon.

Ginny and John want to do Myrtle Beach in May, so I dug around and looked at condo options. Looks like you can save \$500 by staying a row behind the beach.

January 5 2015

After dr appt I got the baseboards, came home and cut them to the right side. Had to re cut one which was a little short. Did OK on the angle cuts. I usually do at least one wrong, but not today! We went for an early dinner with or Kitchen gift cards. Yum!

After dinner, did 2 planning passes on floor layout that didn't work out right. After laying out 3 rows of boards I got it figured out. I will try a full layout tomorrow on my computer now that I have a better ideas. Also tomorrow is ceiling paint and baseboard painting.

Neighbor Rick came over for coffee at 9pm and stayed for 45min.

January 4 2015

Another busy day. Ripped out carpet and pad, then took out the tack strips and staples in the bedroom under construction. All done and ready by 10:30 am. We went and picked up the flooring. Yikes 7 - 50lb boxes. Not that heavy but when you carry 7 of them up the stairs its a chore.

Looks like it may fit across without any side cuts along the walls. Not totally sure but it looks feasible.

January 3 2015

Busy day! We got out to Lumber Liquidators and picked up some samples for the bedroom. We found something we like, so I will go pick it up tomorrow. Sue and Ed drove over from Pittsburgh to pick up 2 of mom's chairs and Sue took some sewing

stuff as well. I got rid of about 40 cu ft of stuff. Sweet! I ripped out the baseboards and tomorrow is the rug. That will be a messy job.

We got the grandchildren from 5 to 7 and had a good time with them. Now we are whipped.

January 2 2015

Went over to Carolyn's last night at the spur of the moment to see how her refurbish of her sons room was going. It looked pretty good. She had the white walls patched and done. She needed another coat on the black wall and still needs to fix up her dry wall patches. She has been moving out on that project!

Today we cleaned out more stuff. Yarn and a play yard went to the church. When I was a kid they called it a play pen, but today that sounds too crude I guess, so it is now a play yard (about the size of a pen). Trashed a bag of stuff from the store room and will have another bag after my sister looks thru it tomorrow. She is coming to take 2 of moms chairs, so more stuff is heading out the door!

January 1 2015

Hey everyone. Started off the New Year traveling home from Mary's Aunt Ethel's funeral. We got gas on the way back in Rootstown for \$1.83/gallon. Never thought I would be able to say that again. Pretty amazing.