

Neon's Blog_2017

December 31 2017

Start of diet day 5 = 166 (better).

Started to get ready for 2018 and noticed my blog has gotten 10% more pages this year at 94. Hmm? Hope I am not boring you too much. Bla bla bla eh?

We had a 1pm early dinner at Texas Roadhouse. I got the rode kill and Mary got the kabob. It was a very busy place today. Got home to listen to the Bills win. They needed the Bengals to beat the Ravens to get into the playoffs. The Bengals were ahead most of the game but Baltimore took charge and went up by 3 late in the game. Bengals were down to their last gasp when they hit a TD strike with less than a minute left and the Bills are in. First since 1999. Eighteen years! Wow! Of course they will lose the first game but at least they got that monkey off their back. I can guarantee you there will be a lot of reveling tonight in Buffalo!

December 30 2017

Start of diet day 4 = 167.2 I must not be active enough? If we don't go to the Y I just veg with this cold weather. We finished a tough puzzle after 3+ days effort.

Did some winter cleaning and nailed up some pictures using my flawless stud finder. We had 2" of the powdery white stuff out there. I went out to get the paper and it was so light I just pushed it off the driveway. Forgot to bring in the paper of course.

Bored, so we started another puzzle. I cooked burgers for dinner while Mary went to church. Carolyn came over after dinner for tea.

December 29 2017

Start of diet day 3 = 167.6 to start the day. We picked up a few groceries early since we had no lunch stuff. Worked on the puzzle and put some stuff away. This puzzle is hard!

Mary's passport came in the mail so we are both able to visit Canada and perhaps Costa Rica someday.

Last day for stock market. Another dismal year for me. Two big losers kept an otherwise good year of trading in the red, while the S&P was up over 25%. Very sad.

December 28 2017

Not much lost yesterday which is puzzling. 168.2 to start the day. At 9am we did the Y 25 min elliptical and the strength class. I hustled out of there 5 min early to meet Rudy for lunch. He is wrapping up a contract job at Keithley up in Cleveland and Lockheed has a contract job for him. Said he was planning on visiting his sister in Florida in

April and would head from there to Texas to visit Margie. Sweet!

Started a new puzzle. It is not easy. Lots of curved surfaces to put together. Yikes. It is going slow.

December 27 2017

Time to get back to the diet. The start weigh in is 168.4 which is less than expected after the pig out Holiday.

Started at Zero degrees this morning. Will not get above freezing for 12 days. We went to the Y. Did 20min on the elliptical and we walked 1.5mi on the track. I ran the last lap and did OK. Started a new puzzle and spent 90 min on it. Still another hour before we have to head out to Fairlawn for Mary's appt.

Went out to Fairlawn, did doctor appt, then shopped at Macy's for a purse. It was too cold out there at 14 degrees. Macy's was busy. Stopped at Winking Lizard for an early dinner. I went with the chicken wings to keep the carbs down. This cold stinks! It stinks I say.

December 26 2017

I skipped the Christmas day blog, but it was another good one. All the family was here plus sister Catherine again. She is the mad shopper and had brought many gifts for all plus lots of food, candy, and coffee.

We thought she might stay another day but she needed to get home for a hair appt. The lake effect slammed Erie yesterday to the tune of 55 inches and more was expected today. Nephew Phil took 11 hrs to get home yesterday. Today, we looked at the traffic cams and radars and figured it would be pretty clear sailing. She called and said it was another ½hr getting thru Erie but otherwise it was good.

We got fuel perks early, then Mary and her shopped a bit, then left at 11:30. Home by 4:45 pm. I put stuff away most of the day. Put together the new weed whacker and the 3/8 drill with Lithium battery pack and put away my 4 dozen golf balls.

December 24 2017

Was great to have Ed and Sue visit during the Holidays. Twas fun for all of us.

Today the ladies did 8am mass and then the 4pm Christams mass. That is where they are as I blog for today. After 8 mass I cooked them breakfast. Eggs, toast, OJ, and bacon. Then they got to work on the potato salad for tomorrow and put the roast beast in the oven. We brought up all the gifts and piled them up for tomorrow. They made a last minute treck to JC Penny's for stocking stuffers and found some good deals there.

I am watching Dish's yule log but I swear they restarted it. Last time I looked there was more charring on that log than there is now. The Bills played a good half but then went back to their old ways. NE scored 21-0 in the second half. Pathetic again.

December 23 2017

We got stuff ready for today's party with Sue and Ed. They got here around noon. Carolyn came and visited with them then Catherine came around 2pm. We did the frozen pizza challenge and DiGorno's won hands down.

Gifts were exchanged and Ed and Sue headed out around 4pm. Mary and Catherine went to the store to pick up stuff for tomorrow's cooking. And that is a wrap for today.

December 22 2017

Miserable drizzly day here. Headed to Zoar with hopes it wasn't as wet down there and we were right! I was trying to create a new word for the weather. I came up with "drizzlemarable". Anyway it was not bad at Wilkshire in Zoar and I played fantastic golf going 38-40 for another 78! Two bogies on the front plus 2 more and a double on the back. Missed all 5 of my birdies ops. Sure wish I could do that in the summertime?

Jacob and Jenna were over and had created some fantastic cookies while I was gone. We finished up the latest puzzle but there were 4 pieces missing.

December 21 2017

Thought I missed a day but went back and had two Dec 16ths, so I went back and corrected. Picked up Jacob and Jenna around 10am. Jenna helped with cookie batter and then went over and helped Mary watch K and Lincoln. I hear it all went well. Katchen was helping with Z's class Xmas party.

Jacob helped me with several items. We took the mower battery in for the winter, put up the train, and built 2 shelves in the laundry room. I helped Jacob plan it out, then we went to HH to get some shelve brackets. Took a couple hrs to put them up.

They will be over tomorrow but I will be heading out for golf as long as the rain stays away.

December 20 2017

Not much going on. Went to HH and picked up an appliance bulb to replace the one we fried during the oven clean cycle. Also picked up some caulk and re-caulked the floor edges in the bathroom. I took the old caulk out the other day as it was looking ugly. Looks much better now.

Started another puzzel and helped Mary do some Xmas cookies for the neighbor.

December 19 2017

Sister Sue's birthday today. We did the Y elliptical plus strength class today. Lots of weight reps and dreaded squats. Saw Wes' family there too. Going to be hurting tomorrow.

We decided to go out and about to get a few items. Does it make a successful trip if you come back with more than expected? We stopped at BB and Beyond to find a gift for a neighbor. We found one plus some cookie sheets which were extra. Down to Micheal's for a knitting needle we went. Came out with that plus a large basket bench.

Next was some frozen pizza at Giant Eagle and another from Earth Fare. Extra's were a cookie tray and some mini cupcakes. Later we had a Schwann's stir fry which was quite good!

Saw some gas for \$2.03 but we never did fill up. That is a recent low. Looks like one could have golfed today as the snow really melted off last night. We plan to play Friday.

December 18 2017

We did the Y elliptical plus strength class today. Lots of weight reps; ouch ouch ouch. Then we headed over to the library to submit Mary's passport application. I guess that is our Xmas gift to each other. Passports were \$355 including pictures and a new official birth certificate.

Updated GPS maps and installed phantom alert on the Garmin. It ID's speed traps, cameras and stuff.

Called the course in Zoar but snow melt is too slow for tomorrow, so I got a Friday tee time. Pulled out bathroom caulk that was looking cruddy around the floor edges. Need to get a tube and put down some new stuff either Tuesday or Wednesday.

December 17 2017

Kids were coming over at 11:30 so Wes and Kaetchen could go see Star Wars. We got stuff ready for them. The kids did well. Lincoln was tired and fell asleep right away. He started playing well after he woke up and was fine the rest of the day. They all left around 4:30 and we were whipped.

The final weigh in ended with 165.4. The summary is 2.6lbs lost over 5.5 days or just over ½lb a day. Not good enough with so little activity during the snow in days. Going to have to restart the diet after Xmas.

December 16 2017

Got up to 44 today but there is a lot of snow to melt. I called the course and they estimated perhaps one could play Tuesday next week.

Kind of groggy all day as we had a 2:30 visit from the Sheriff. Said Carolyn needs to

move her vehicle or it would be impounded. She has this listed as her home address to get around e-checks. Called her and she finally answered and apparently went out and got it. No biggie. We did another puzzle and I put up a rounded mirror so I could see if the garage is closed by looking out the window.

Mike came over and got the snowblower started. His quick fix was to spray into the muffler. Apparently it gets to the carburetor from there. Seemed dangerous to me. I was spraying into the box that covers the carb, but he said it is closed up and doesn't get to it.

Day 6 weigh in was 164.4. Last day as I started on some cookies Mary brought from church.

December 15 2017

No snow overnight but it is 9 degrees this morning. Golf may well be over for this year. Leg and foot cramps got me up early. I ran 8" hot water in the tub and stretched it out. Seemed tight after yesterday's shoveling. I better do some more stretching.

Forgot to mention I got a card from a relative of my mom's long time friend Lena Acquisto. Said she has passed away in July after a stroke at 94. This is the end of our parents generation. No one is left. The cycle of life continues.

Not much going on. We paid most of the December bills. Mary went to knitting and when she got back we went to the bank, got FREE air in the tires, and picked up some grocery items. Mary saved us 50 cents by telling me there was free air at Get Go.

I know you were anxiously waiting for another golf story. Thought about dew sweeper John Cassidy the other day as well. He had the longest John Daley back swing of anyone I ever saw. Things often went awry and the ball would head off to the nether lands. Sometimes he just whiffed it. Never talked about girlfriends so we were all sure he was gay. Shot craps starting his Subway franchise. Pretty hard to do, eh? Well he tried one near BV Mall. Trouble was, BV is a restaurant mecca. Subway seems to do well with locals and travelers, but obviously not malls.

Day 5 weigh in was 165.2 and that is better. After 4 days that is 2.8lbs. I'll give it today and tomorrow, then pig out Sunday.

December 14 2017

Last night it was coming down pretty good. On the way back home from watching the kids it was 25mph. Saw 3 deer crossing the road just ahead of us. The kids, by the way were very good and Lincoln was OK with us. He fell asleep at 7:30pm for 10 minutes, and still tired and quiet but kept his cool.

School closed today in many places around here. TV morning news said the roads were bad around here. Looks like another foot out there including drifts, so maybe it was 6 of snow and 6 of drifts? Mary helped me shovel the heavy stuff. We only did 1/2 the drive for 1 car to pass. I tried the snowblower but it would not start again.

Mary took Z-Man to Tae kwon do, but he had a stomach ache and left early. Got a card back from Rich P. While showering I remembered golfing with him, so it is time for a golf story.

Well, when we moved into this house, I met him out back, as he lived back of me. I was unhappy to learn from him that the back 1/3 of the lot was mine and I would have to mow it. He golfed so I let him know I was interested in playing should they have an opening. I finally got the call and ended up playing with neighbors Rich, Ed, and either Sully or another name I forget. Rich and Ed were a couple of strokes better than I. The other 2 were hacks.

Anyway, Rich had a temper and got to throwing clubs now and then. After one bad short par 4 at Mayfair. #17 I think (no longer there), he just tossed his putter into the air. It was the first and last time in my 56 years of golfing that I saw a fellow golfer climb a pine tree.

Day 4 weigh in was 166.8. That is a bummer.

December 13 2017

More nasty nasty nasty snow when I got up. Only another 2-3" . Shoveled a little but it was cold and the end of the driveway was packed down pretty good. Tried to start the neighbor's snowblower she left out for me went she went south but it was not going to happen. I called her son to ask where to try the hot start spray but still not starting. I will try again tomorrow.

We stayed in and Mary went to her hair appt at 3pm. When she gets back, we get to head over to Wes' for watching the kids tonight. Hope it all goes well.

Day 3 weigh in was 166.4 so 1.6 lost after 2 days.

December 12 2017

Nasty nasty nasty snow when I got up. Only 2-3" but over the day it got to 2-6". We went to the Y. The crowd was down some due to the snow. Jenny beat us up again. Maybe it won't be so bad since I have been to classes pretty regularly lately.

Burned some more calories today at the Y and 3 shoveling sessions. Mary made her exquisite swiss steak. It was great!

December 11 2017

Did the Y this morning then veg'd. Guess I will be doing a lot of that this week with it being too cold to play golf. Mary was off to Red Hats to their Christmas lunch.

Started my diet today with the morning weigh in at 168.

December 10 2017

Early thoughts at 1pm. We scored big at Giant Eagle today! Bought 3 bogo meat deals for 1) roasts for Christmas 2) roasts for later 3) swiss steak. Saved like \$40. I plan to do the low carb diet tomorrow, so we got some bacon and pepperoni. I dropped from 167 to 164 before Thanksgiving and am now back to 168. I'll need a good week of diet to drop down there again. Bills pre-game says there is heavy snow coming down.

The Bills played in a blizzard. Looked like they would win, then lose. Tied 7-7, they won in OT. Jim jr said there was 19 inches at the stadium and 1 inch at his house when he got home. Those snow bands are amazing. Wish I was there! I really hope they make the playoffs. It would get that monkey off their back (longest time missing the playoffs) even though they would lose quickly.

December 9 2017

Cold but sunny. My car battery is 9 yrs old so I was researching prices this morning. Walmart was lowest at \$100 where the closest of others I saw was \$128. As I had to go there anyway to pick up a poster frame, I asked about the install. Since it was less than an hour I got er done. We wandered around and picked up a few other items too. Picked up some stuff at HD as well.

Went to Texas Roadhouse. They were offering \$30 extra if you bought a 100 gift card. Pretty much free money, so we ate an early dinner and bought ourselves a card plus the free money. Mary is off to church.

December 8 2017

Another cold day. Buddy Greg in Batavia said he had 12 " of snow. Sucks to be him today. I vacuumed out Mary's car and took some leaves to recycle. She went on a yarn shop outing and had lunch out. I grabbed some frozen chili from the fridge. It was good.

Watched the races. The budget doesn't allow any wagering for awhile, but I watched the report from CA where the wildfires hit a training facility and 20 horses died. Got to be scary out there. Got to get the xmas gifts and condo payment paid for in January. In February it will be shopping bills to get paid.

December 7 2017

The cold is nasty, even at 32 degrees. The issue is it feels like 22. We went to the Y. I pushed up the level on the elliptical to 10 and that seemed to get my heart rate up to 110. My Fitpolo said 95 but I know that is wrong. Still have not figured that thing out.

At strength class, I was happy to learn that the others who were there Tuesday were also hurting. Hurts to put my socks on. Today I did OK but had to drop the weight I was using with the left arm down to 3lbs for the shoulder exercises. Used 8lb for other left arm exercises but my left shoulder was done early. Did a quick find on "Y" for the blog and got 89 hits for the year. Pretty good for almost a year.

Not much else today. We will be driving the kids to their classes. I get Z-Man and Mary

gets K-Girl.

December 6 2017

The cold arrived today. Brrr! The lake effect snow is starting. None here but Buffalo is supposed to be buried the next day or two.

Went to the retiree lunch today. Batcher is too weak to get him in the car says Jr. Saw John T and John R. No Mel or Dick today. The food was good and the baklava as well courtesy of Sam Salem.

December 5 2017

Busy day. We went to the Y and to Jenny's class where I was beat up badly. Missed her class for 3 weeks. She was out one week and I golfed the other 2. It was brutal. She told me to stop laughing at the end of class when we were supposed to sit with our ankles crossed and then stand up without using our hands. I did not try figuring a broken ankle would be in my future. Jack LaLanne I am not. Nor Gary Player, but that is obvious.

Then it was off to the dental cleaning where the tech brutalized all my gums. Alas, another crown is set for January. Wrapped a few gifts while Mary tended to the wash. Read the next 1/4 of the War of 1812. Finished the 1/2 about the war. The remaining 1/2 are abbreviated Biographies of some of the players, maybe 10 pages each.

Text of note was about the large flag we saw at the Smithsonian last year that flew over Ft McHenry that Francis Scott Keys wrote about during the battle at Baltimore. Another item that has surprised me was that of the Hartford Convention. New England wanted some constitutional amendments to limit power. They had never approved of the war and were considering breaking off from the union. Fortunately the war was almost over.

December 4 2017

Wow wow wow! Scored a 78 today with 4 double bogies and 3 birdies. Lots of pars and par saves. Missed perhaps the easiest 6 footer when I firmed it by the left edge on #16. That might be it for "warm" golf. Supposed to get into the mid 30s for the next 10 days, but one never knows.

I started the mowing when I got back and did the back 1/3. Kept pushing the leaves into the pines then circled back on cut grass to push it to the pines again. Finally Jacob got here and did a nice job on the rest. Carolyn helped rake and bag the 5 leaf lines Jacob made. We were a very efficient team! I suppose it will all get covered again and soon with the neighbor's leaves.

December 3 2017

Not much happening today. Did a little raking as Mary went to give blood at church.

Listened in to the Bills pitiful loss. We did some grocery shopping and turned my \$20 into \$23, a smart 15% gain. Carolyn stopped over to grab some xmas wrapping paper. We have enough for a lifetime so we want to share. A mind numb-er of a day.

December 2 2017

Decided to wrap up the shopping today. Ordered Wes' kids the Highlight's magazine. They were sneaky. I found them on the front page of their site for \$10 off. Used the pull down on the site and added them to the basket and they were regular price! Emptied the cart and clicked on the \$10 off and took care of that. Then they sent an email saying they would auto renew so I clicked on that and took that off. Got to watch what you do! Then loaded up Kalix from the Amazon gift wish list.

We went to Kohl's and then to the mall. Took my car to the busy parking lots in case of door dinging. A plus for that is we got to groove to Armin Van Buuren Trance 2017 on the trip.

At Kohl's we returned an item and found some toys for Lincoln. Saw some headsets (mine is falling apart), but I had to pass on the batman, ninja turtles, and frozen models. At the mall, we peed, exchanged Jacob's shirt for a medium, and pigged out on stir fry. Back home we wrapped gifts and Mary headed to church for 4pm mass. In way before dark today.

December 1 2017

I forgot to mention we ran out of Suave Perfect Curl shampoo, so I am using Suave Maximum volume. Just saying, in case I look a little different next time you see me. Wes was over with Lincoln and Kalix and they didn't say anything so I guess my shampoo is not an issue.

They had fun playing with the Christmas decorations and it is not even the first day of Christmas. Wonder where I am going to get a partridge in a pear tree. I still have time. We were going to watch the kids while Wes and Kaetchen went shopping but Kaetchen has a really swollen and sore throat. Hope she gets better soon. Not a good time but there never is.

Got stamps and mailed around 40 cards out. Mary has another 10 to decide if she will write anything in them before sending.

T-Rump is looking shaky as there was another plea deal by one of his cohorts. Let us hope he gets nailed.

November 30 2017

Weather is still good. Finally! God finally wanted me to break 80 as I shot a 79 today. Started out on the black with bogey bogey birdie par par, so things were looking up. Finished the front with 2 more pars and 2 more bogeys, missing another birdie try along the way. Three over 39 without making a putt the whole nine.

Was 2 over after 3 on the Maroon, then scored 3 pars while actually making a putt! All I needed was to go 2 over on the last 3 to break 80. I promptly looked up and dribbled my tee shot on the par 3 but saved a bogey almost making a long putt. Now I needed a par and bogey to finish. Lashed one into the trees but hit a spectacular punch shot to the green and saved par with a difficult 2 putt. With a good tee shot on 18, I was sure to get bogey until I looked up again and shanked it behind 2 pines. I threw the ball way up and over them using my XE1 wedge and again got down in 2 difficult putts. In spite of my 2 look ups the last 3 holes, I finished with a 4 over 40 for a 79. God finally wanted me to break 80 for a change.

Weather is supposed to get down into the low 30s next Wednesday so Monday might be it for good weather. We shall see. Mary is off taking Kalix to dance now after dinner. Kaetchen was not feeling well, so we are not sure if we will be watching the kids tomorrow.

November 29 2017

Weather is still good. Rough night. Had a foot cramp around 2:30am. Got out the hot water bottle to stem that and got back to sleep then woke with a leg cramp at 4am. Got up at 7am after a crummy night's sleep. Got a haircut early then we got some passport photo's taken. Tried to submit the paperwork but they have new rules since 9/11/2001. The birth certificate has to have both parents listed and the maiden name of the mother. Well, that just was not done back in the day.

Mine went in since I had an old passport, but I am not sure that won't be rejected. Found a place to order Mary's certificate, but I filled in the paperwork and ordered it. However, there was no place to send the drivers license copy to? No phone numbers or email addresses either. I suppose they will call with that info? Was at least expecting an email. Crazy!

Spent an hour or 2 helping Carolyn set up her Tv's for Spectrum Cable. Got 3 of 4 working and they said to return the other box as it was not working properly.

November 28 2017

Spectacular day in the low 60s! We played late since Mel had a dentist and Bill a doctor appt. I shot a sparkling 83. Bill was a bit off all day and had 91, Dick a 97, and Mel an eve 100. Once again I should have broke 80. Three jacked an eagle putt. Lots of other putts very close but not in. We hope to play again Thursday! It won't be as warm but not freezing either.

November 27 2017

Pretty nice day once again. We did the Y this morning, then got out the tree stuff and trimmed the tree. Played Christmas music and I was grateful I am likely to make another Christmas with my wonderful family. Found a lot of kids ornaments and a couple of moms too. Had a few sentimental moments.

Put all the boxes away and picked up some breakfast and lunch items at GE. I got my

new smart phone the other day and got it working. My fitpolo download didn't seem to work worth a darn. Oh well.

November 26 2017

Pretty nice day. Sister Catherine packed up and headed home after breakfast. We cleaned up and moved the furniture around to get ready for the tree. Figure to do that tomorrow after the Y. We need to burn some calories tomorrow to start the Thanksgiving recovery. That might take a week or more.

Surprisingly, the Bills won after 3 miserable weeks.

November 25 2017

The ladies went Hartville shopping at the Marketplace, Hardware store, Marcs, and a couple of crap shops in town. We wrapped the packages for Xmas. I raked a few leaves but the bucket filled pretty fast.

They went to church and I heated up the ribs and started the potatoes. Started a puzzle to pass the time.

November 24 2017

Cold morning but it warmed to 50. Pretty balmy for golf. Unfortunately, I played poorly shooting 49-44. Dick shot 50-50, and Bill had a respectable 41-44. I had one birdie (only putt I made all day) and missed another 5 foot chance on 17. Guess 1 was my quota.

The ladies put in a full 8 hrs shopping. Mary came home with 7 gifts, so they did well.

November 23 2017

Great Thanksgiving once again. I love the family events. Everything was rosy today. The kids were good. Carolyn cooked up a feast and we all ate to much. Way too much. Jenna did a fantastic Poi show for us and we all went home happy. I said thanks that we haven't had a nuke war so far this year.

November 22 2017

We were busy making pies till 1pm. They look good.

November 21 2017

We were going to play golf today. It was to get to 50 but with a 20mph wind it was not going to fell like 40 till noon. I figured I would call and I was glad I did. It was walking only. Although I was ok with walking, the prospect of soggy ground, muddy chumking, and high winds would make it unpleasant, so I nixed it. Too bad I waited so long or I could have gone to the Y. Might be OK for Friday. Will have to check the forecast on

Thursday.

Decided to upgrade to a smart phone. I had been looking for a new cheap camera but they were around \$149. The smart phone was \$60. No brainer, so I ordered it.

November 20 2017

Cold, windy, but sunny. We did the usual at the Y. Saw Wes there. He said Kalix had a fever today. I vegged after that but Mary took the kids to Steak and Shake and then xmas shopping. She got clothes for Jacob and boots for Jenna.

November 19 2017

Pretty much snow flakes all day. Another day to veg. The Browns were in the game but lost. The Bills never were in it and you could almost smell them all the way from the west coast.

November 18 2017

Pretty much rained all day long. We got groceries in the morning, and vegged all day. The rain stopped around 2pm so I went out and got the last 2 groups of purple mums into the dumpster. Mary went to church and it started to come down hard for the next hour. Somewhere between 2-3" of rain for the day.

Signed up for Curiosity Stream so I could watch their 4 part documentary on the war of 1812. We watched the first 2, 45 minutes each. Everything jived with the book I read that I picked up at Fort Meigs. Part 1 went up to Brock's death, Part 2 goes up to Tecumseh's death.

Wonder how Jenna's school trip to DC went?

November 17 2017

The temp was to only get to 40 today, so Bill bailed on us. That was accurate but with no wind, it was pretty balmy. Much nicer than Tuesday. Dick bested me by one with 46-38 to my 46-39. I parred 3 out of the last 4 but he hung right with me doing the same. Chipping in twice (once for birdie) and making a birdie putt from off the green certainly helped. My mid,round chipping of 4 look ups in a row did me in. We skipped around some groups to finish in 2 hrs and 45 minutes. Next week looks crummy but you never know.

Kalix and Lincoln were over from 3-5pm. He is finally OK with us which makes it much easier to watch them.

November 16 2017

Debated with myself whether I would do the Y today and decided to veg out. Went Mon/Tues, golfed yesterday and will golf tomorrow, so I won't miss it.

We have one of those Kohls 30% off cards but I can't bring myself to go and use it. I got plenty of socks, underwear, shorts, T-shirts, shirts, jeans, all kinds of winter gear too. Somehow I feel as if I am missing out on the 30% off deal. At my age I am always looking to save money. Oh well.

Going to be a busy evening. Golf banquet tonight for the Thursday Lockheed golfers and wives. Mary will take Kalix to dancing, drop her off and we will head out to the dinner. Going to be down around 30 tonight.

November 15 2017

We had 4 for golf this morning but the weatherman lied. Supposed to get to 50 but never got over 42. With the wind it wore on us. I was iced by mid back nine. Kept down on the ball well and made 3 birdies on the back. Almost holed a 9 iron for an eagle but was 4 inches short. Did shoot 41-43 for 84, while Bill had 89, Dick 98, and Mel 106.

A hot shower felt good then I vegged the rest of the day.

November 14 2017

Up and to the Y again for the usual. Jenny was not there so John took over and led a brutal class. Lots of weights and squats. He is a riot as in very funny and entertaining but he put us through some serious exercises. I did like that he did change the routine so the reps were farther apart. First time I was able to do 3 sets of 8 push ups (knees of course) with a breather between sets.

Carolyn stopped over and watched Mary make a pie and chili. Lots of left over chili for tomorrow plus we froze 5 servings. I went over and raked some while Brenda was mowing. Worked up a good sweat.

Bought a cheapo chinese \$35 fitbit. Minimally useful. Can't get a correct heartbeat unless you stop moving. Works with a phone ap. I don't have a phone but I had hoped I could get a pulse rate out of it while exercising. Bummer.

November 13 2017

Up and to the Y this morning. We did the usual. Saw Wes and Kaetchen. Peeked into the kid watch and saw Lincoln playing with Kalix. He was always hanging on mom, but now when he sees there is fun stuff to do, he is all over it.

I had lunch and watched the horses. Mary was off to Mulligans for a Red Hat lunch. I went out around 2:40 to put the trash bucket back and saw a sturdy 8 point buck roaming around looking for a female I suppose. Back to the Y tomorrow.

November 12 2017

We got the leaves raked and bagged early. Most from the back tree, 6 bags in all. Picked up groceries around noon. Some stuff is for turkey day.

Jacob came over to do Pete's lawn and put the bagger on for the leaves. He was almost 2 hrs doing that, then cut down my back half. Two more bags of leaves. Nice job. After the lawn, we took the bags to recycle and smashed a couple of pumpkins.

Carolyn and Jacob both liked our new xmas tree. It is a live tree about 2 foot high. Walmart had them for \$10. Finished our second 500 pc puzzle for the winter (the other was 2 weeks ago). They take 2 days to finish.

Oh yeah, the Bills got crushed by New Orleans. They never punted the whole game. When NO got far ahead, they ran the ball. Bills couldn't stop that either. Final 47-10.

November 11 2017

Brrr. We went out and got a live tree. 25 degrees out there. We stopped on the way home to get some decorations and Mary decorated the tree. I know it is a bit early but we have the Christmas spirit already this year. This is the earliest ever. Brenda came over from across the street and loved it.

Picked up some leaf bags as well and filled one near the tree on the side of the house. It's a small tree so one bag should be enough for the ones that did not blow away already. Tomorrow we should gather up the leaves in the back. That one will take 6-10 bags.

November 10 2017

In the mid 30s today but 26 now at dinner time. I was on Dish watch as I waited for the Dish guy to bring us HD. He put up a new dish and gave us a new box. TV looks great now. He was here from 1-3pm when he was supposed to get here at 10:30am. Got here just in time to go up on my roof during a mini blizzard,

I went out and raked some of the leaves and bagged 1 bag. Turns out we only had 1 bag so I was finished quick. We will need some more, perhaps 10 or so. Mary went to the Y for a few hours. They had a table set up to get people interested in the knitting class.

Kind of a wasted day but it was a good day to be inside.

November 9 2017

In the mid 40s today but the wind kicked up on the back nine to make it tough. I ran out of good swings on the front nine, shooting 44 with a very poor short game. Everything was short. No putts made on the front. Lipped out one and left 3 on the lip. Very poor swings on the back with 3-4 look ups. Not sure why I was looking up since I hadn't made many good shots anyway? Did make one putt on the back for a birdie on the par 3 next to my barber's house on the gold nine.

It may snow tomorrow. Not looking forward to that!

November 8 2017

Templeton Septic showed up and pumped the tank for \$160. He recommended Summitt Excavating for the upcoming inspection. It is a new State of Ohio requirement and I should be getting a letter soon. He was done early so we went to the Y. Did 25min on the elliptical and then did a mile on the track. I ran the last 2 laps to see if I could do it. Breathing was OK but my bad leg was hurting down near the ankle.

I did some weeding as the sun was out today. Resting up for kid watching tonight 6pm to 9pm.

November 7 2017

Election day. I walked up to the table where 2 young ladies were calling me over to sign in and told them this was the site of a natural disaster one year ago. One said "Really? I wasn't here last year." The other just laughed. Just voted on the issues, Jenny for the school board (Tuesday Y strength class), and 2 trustees.

Got my blood tested at 9:15am and finished off the bday cake when I got home. Went from there to the Cardiologist but they said I didn't have an appointment? The scheduler will call me. If I don't hear by 10am tomorrow I will call.

Cut down 3 sets of mums. The bucket was too full to do the other 2 sets, so next week for them. Also pulled up the cherry tomatoes.

November 6 2017

There was a severe storm last night. Most of the damage was north of us. Lots of people without power. Not bad at 51 this morning. We did the Y and the strength class. Wasn't too hateful.

Stayed off carbs today to see how it comes out in my blood test tomorrow. We have both been right around the good limit for the last 2 years. I was 5.8 last year after lots of Halloween candy. So lets see how this year goes.

Brain dead today. Maybe 1 chess win for every 4 losses. Better quit for the day. We put away the Halloween stuff. I plan to deal with the left over candy after my blood test tomorrow. Got a follow up with the cardiologist tomorrow plus I should vote as well.

November 5 2017

Wow, 60 degrees this morning. A little rain and thunder to put up with though. Mary went to church. When she got back we did grocery shopping and got some cookout food for the bday party later.

It stayed warm all day and it still has not stormed here by 5pm. The radar shows it won't be too long now. Great family party. It was so nice to have everyone together. Jacob was off to work at 2:30. Lincoln is getting to know the family and was good. He

got tired around 3pm so everyone left by then. We picked up the leaves and set the garbage out.

November 4 2017

Left for Pittsburgh at 7:15 and got there in 2hrs. Ed drove to the zoo and Sue and their nephew Caleb also went along. Pretty nice zoo. I would have liked more indoor buildings. They had an aquarium, elephant house, and tropical house (monkeys) but everything else was outdoors.

We got to the Texas Roadhouse 2:30 ish and were home by 6pm. Sue and Ed bought dinner in appreciation of my stock picking the last 2 years. This is my 14th zoo, Mary's 12th.

November 3 2017

Quiet morning. Mary went to knitting around noon and I went golfing. It was pretty nice. Low 50s but the wind kept us chilled. Very wet due to the rain last night. I hit the first 4 greens and had only 1 par. Left a bunch of putts short. Shot 43-42 =85 with 1 birdie. Hit the ball well with the driver and irons to start. The irons kept getting worse. Chipping was decent but made maybe 1 or 2 putts.

November 2 2017

Happy Birthday Mary! I fixed her breakfast. We went to the Y, did the elliptical. And strength class. When we got back I soldered the old connector for the sump alarm battery on the new battery. Looking up where you get rid of a lithium battery, I found only one place down in the bowels of Canton.

We decided to take all our hazardous waste down there and picked up some from Wes' to take as well. I took some old brake fluid, a lead acid battery, some antifreeze, and a couple other items. On the way back, Mary picked Olive Garden for her Bday meal. Been a long time since we have been there. I was surprised they were so busy at 2pm.

Dropped the old slider blinds at Carolyn's and picked up Jacob for lawn cutting. He cut Pete's and then ours. In between, I borrowed Brenda's SUV and we loaded an entertainment center into it for Wes. Twas very heavy getting it into the house. Mary took Kalix to dancing.

November 1 2017

Another crappy cold day. Started the day calling 3 septic pumpers and eventually settled on the one who did it last time. They quoted \$160 vs \$220 and \$265 for the other two. Quite a % difference. It pays to shop around, eh?

Went to the retiree lunch. Batcher skipped but I got to see John R who had been missing for several months. All is well with him. Sat with Hujar 85, Horadas 89, and Salem 90. All still sharp. Horadas has some leg problems but the others are still active.

October 31 2017

Another crappy cold day. I was up early at 6am. When it got light I went out and tried to get the battery out of the sump alarm. It is recommended they are changed every 2 years. It has been 2 years and the alarm has been acting up with false alarms more frequently.

Should have come out easy but it was not budging. Googled removing stuck plastic cap from metal and got the idea to pour hot water on it. Worked like a charm. Found a part number on the battery pack (battery + 2 pin connector), but no results when I googled it. Figured it was a Liberty Pump part number. I also took the rubber shield off. No part number but it did say 3.6v lithium. Measured 3.6 so maybe it is still good?

Off to the Y for the brutal Tuesday class. Brutal it was. Then it was back to finding a battery.

Liberty Pump said any AA size lithium would work and recommended LS14500. I searched and found a pack for \$17, or I could solder the old connector on and just get an \$5-8 battery. Not too keen on soldering onto the battery end of a lithium since it is a fire hazard, so I went with the \$17. With shipping it was \$30. Ouch! Maybe next time. Put the old battery back in until the new one comes.

Off to the dentist to have my new \$1950 bridge installed. The dentist's main assistant said her name is Brittany. Since she did most of the work it shall be forever called "Brittany's Bridge". Should be easy to remember since that is my niece's name.

October 30 2017

Another crappy cold day. We almost had a private golf course today because of the cold. Mid 40s but with the wind chill high 30s. Dick and I were bundled up. Clyde played but he was iced by 9 so he quit. I went on to shoot 41-44 and Dick went 46-47. Only 1 group ahead of us and after we left there was 1 car in the lot. I was chipping and putting well but 50-50 with the driver.

October 29 2017

Another crappy cold and rainy day. The Browns lost early in London. They were in it for 3Q. I must have been the only one grilling steaks at 11:30am. We had 3 in the freezer and I figured we better grill them before winter or they would be there a long time. Also, trick or treat would start at 3 so I wanted to have stuff put away by then. Quite a feast! We ate 2 of 3 so we will have one left to split this week.

Lots of treat-sters 3-5pm but with the cold, most were done by 4pm. I think we had somewhere between 80-100 kids. Kaetchen came with sister Kailey and took the grand kids around. Lots of candy left. Once I get my blood tested next Tuesday I will work on reducing the excess.

Not looking good for golf tomorrow. With a 15mph wind it will feel like high 30s.

October 28 2017

Crappy cold and rainy day. Changed a few button batteries today, Thought Jacob and Carolyn might come over but they did not. I was going to show them how to change the batteries and check if they were any good with the meter.

Just a mind number today. Mary went to church and I cooked the spaghetti for dinner. Oh yeah, I checked both cars and made sure they had a snow scraper/brush in them.

October 27 2017

Cool start then warmed up. Might be the last warm day for awhile. Played well at Sanctuary today. Up and down the front nine shooting 42. Fast greens were breaking hard. I missed several on the low side. Heated up with a par on 9, then went 4 over on the back for 43-20 = 83. Birdied #11 and had chances on the next 4 holes but came up empty. Slow front nine but a quick back nine.

Picked up groceries afterwards.

October 26 2017

Mary went to church and out to breakfast after this morning. I went to the Y did the elliptical and strength class. Crowded with 26 women with a 50-50 split between young and old. There were a few exercises that got to me.

Not much else going on. Sun was out and it got warmer than expected. Mary went with Z to Tae Kwan Do and I veggied well into the evening.

October 25 2017

Nothing on the agenda today. Tried to get an oil change but the line was 2 cars. Would have been close to an hr to get it done. Hope it doesn't take as long as it did to get a haircut. Finally got one yesterday. Turns out barber Theresa had back issues. The waiting crowd was up in arms about the Browns being too cheap and the players kneeling at the games during the anthem. I think it is disrespectful but their right to do so.

We cleaned up yesterday's party stuff and put stuff away. Also loaded the garage with the outdoor stuff for the winter. It has been so nice that I have not thought about doing it. Today, being cold and rainy prompted our memory. Got so bored I got out the vacuum cleaner.

Jenna asked for wireless earbuds for xmas so I got Catherine to split the cost with me. That makes her shopping easier. She wanted them to use while she is Poi dancing as I mentioned yesterday.

Already decided not to play golf tomorrow. Frost expected and it won't get above 50. Add the wet conditions to that and yuck!

October 24 2017

We did the Y this morning. The Tuesday strength class was much tougher. The mix was the opposite of yesterday with $\frac{3}{4}$ youngsters and $\frac{1}{4}$ seniors. Got ready for Z's 7 bday party. Some streamers and lots of 7's stuck all over the place.

The party went well. Jenna stayed and put on an awesome display of Poi. Spinning stuff with lights, balls, and sticks. Jacob got the grass cut, enjoyed the party, then was off to work. Lincoln was having fun with everyone. Good to see him getting familiar with family.

October 23 2017

Decided to skip golf as rain was predicted for noon and later. Looks like they might have got it in. We went to the Y and did 25min elliptical then the Monday strength class. Pretty easy. I counted 23 people in the class. Mostly seniors and maybe 6 or 7 thirtysomethings.

After lunch, loaded up on fuel perks. Got 29 gallons at 1.90/gal off. Saved \$55 and left 1.90 on the table because I forgot to load one of the gas cans into the trunk before I left. Mary had a Dr. appt and he gave her an all thumbs up.

Chess is still up. Have worked my way back up to 1355.

October 22 2017

Jacob and Jenna had a good time overnight. We watched Zootopia and some other PG movie. Jacob was off to work at 9:30am so I got Jenna to work for me where it would normally be Jacob for 2 hrs. She helped me cut down and transport the tall grasses to the yard recycle. As a bonus she got to smash a pumpkin that was dumped there. Looked like a bad carving job so maybe they dumped it and started over. She was a little short of 2hrs so I had her sweep the garage and vacuum my car.

Listened to the Bills pull one out at the last minute. They were outplayed all game but forced 3 turnovers, the last one leading to the winning FG. Browns lost in OT. They are snake bit.

Just another amazing day. It was like summer out there. Another T-shirt day.

October 21 2017

Cleared some flowers out of the center island . The garden guys say it is too late to move stuff. Should be 4 weeks before the hard frost. So I will wait to move the tall grass.

Jacob ran districts at 3pm. He finished 46th out of 123 in his usual 17:44 . One of his team mates nudged him out down the lane by 0.3 seconds. Their new freshman burned out. Jacob and him agreed to go out fast and I guess it was too much for him.

The Lake freshman won the districts. Wow!

Carolyn's Halloween party is tonight so the kids sleep over here. I have to go pick up Jacob at 8pm after work and get him there by 10am in the morning.

October 20 2017

We played Good Park today. John T did not show so we called him. He was on his way to a cruise with Del. Used the free coupons to get everyone a free golf round.

Played pretty good on the back shooting a 41 and came within a foot of an ace. Missed a couple of putts and took 2 in one of the bunkers. Had trouble staying down on the front nine. Lots of pushed tee shots into the trees. One par and all bogeys on the front. The greens were sanded which slowed some putts but helped us in chipping. 85 for the day.

Picked up groceries after I got home. Supposed to cool to the 50s next week.

Oh yeah. I checked with Mozilla support as to why it gives me garbage when opening my .ods scores files. They said the server wasn't configured properly so I checked with ipage and reopened the old case. With the Mozilla input, they fixed it in a snap. So you readers out there, you can look at the scores files now with Firefox

October 19 2017

Early tee time with the Lockheed guys. I was the first one at the course around 8am. Saw 2 guys pull in and start mowing the greens. Saw the starter roll in. There were 2 twosomes that went ahead of us but they moved out. I was pumped after I parred the first 5 holes, then bogeyed the next 3 and doubled nine for a 41. Tried to pull it together on the back but.....only 3 pars due to hitting bunkers and 3 putting. 44 on the back for an 85. The gang ate at Jersey Mikes. It was OK but I won't intentionally go back. Buffalo sub was shredded chicken and lots of sauce. Quite gooey.

Barber closed for the 3d straight day. Picked up some pills. Mary took Kalix to ballet class. Pypl had a good 3Q report. Skx did as well, but I had got out due to poor reports the last couple of quarters. One out of two. Ordered State of Trance 2017, Armin Van Buuren. His youtube vids are awesome. The theme seems to be love your neighbors and live life intense. His crowds really get into it.

October 18 2017

We did our neighborhood walk at 9:30. Was still pretty chilly, so jeans for golf tomorrow. Some guy was having a southwestern style roof put on. The orange curved tiles. Looks pretty much out of place. Tried to get a haircut again but they were closed the 2nd day in a row.

Went over and watched the kids from 1 -5. For the first time Lincoln did not have a meltdown!

October 17 2017

More than half the month is gone already? We did the Y elliptical and Tuesday Strength class. It was pretty brutal today. Neighbor Tammy was there as well. Headed to the dentist at 2pm. They tried the metalwork on me and were happy, so they will get the 2 crowns on and finish me up in 2 weeks.

Mary made up a batch of her famous swiss steak. It was yummy and we have enough left over for another meal. Got the fixings for another batch as well!

Been reading a book I picked up about the war of 1812 in northwestern Ohio. Very interesting. Just 200 years ago there was not much there and the Indians were barbaric. They supported the British since the settlers kept driving them west and had had enough. Had to look up scalping. Guess it had been going on since 1035 over in Europe. Seems like a very odd thing to do but they were easier to carry around than decapitated heads.

October 16 2017

Wow. Some terrible golf was played at Sable Creek today in the Monday group. I had a poor showing at 90, Dick at 96 and everyone else was over 100. Darrell was high at 116. He could not keep his head down. I hit good drives but was always coming up short of the green. I chipped decent but never made a putt (again). First, it was cold, second the ground was soft, third the wind was up, and forth we were all bundled up. The cold will take some getting used to.

Jacob was over after practice to mow. He just finished while the sun was setting.

October 15 2017

Jacob had 2 pics in the newspaper slide show for the XC meet. Very cool. I normally don't look online at the paper but I was up early and thought I would check for meet articles before I went out for the paper.

Mary was up and to church at 8am, so I went out and cleared another area of spent flowers. Not a lot to do out there till the leaves come down. Did a little straightening up but it was a slow day. Played some better chess today and lifted my rating back up to 1240 after a week of pitiful play. Watched the horse racing but the budget doesn't allow for any wagering for awhile. Upcoming payments for the homeowners insurance, my dental bridge, and the Myrtle Beach rental in the next 10 weeks.

Speaking of pitiful, the Browns were all of that today. Bills had the week off.

October 14 2017

The Federal League XC was at 2pm. Jacob came over early while Carolyn was food shopping. We went to the race. Jacob did good. His usual mid 17 mins at 17:47. He may have been in the top 30? He was a little down tha he did not do better but it was a

good time and effort. Have to wait and see if and when they post the times. Not sure when I will get the lawn mowed as he is busy tomorrow.

We picked up plenty of swiss steak stuff on the way back. That is always good. Plenty means we will enjoy it a couple times.

Updated the Getting Old blog with thoughts about golf.

October 13 2017

Sable Creek today. I had a rough start 5 over after 3 but finished strong shooting 9 over 81. Three birdies was odd. I had a rough time saving par with a putt but birdie chances rolled right in? Seems if i really want a putt, I can't make it. If I don't care. In it goes. Bill had 88. Mel and Dick were high 90s. John did not make it. Turns out he had water on the floor and counters. Sounded like a blocked drainpipe?

I was telling the boys golf was always a time I could forget all troubles and enjoy the outdoors. So why do I play now? No troubles to worry about. I guess I figure it is a good healthy thing to do while you are waiting around till you kick the bucket.

October 12 2017

Watched the kids last night. As usual, Lincoln had enough of us by 8pm so we had to call them home. He is OK with us till he gets tired and then it is cry time.

Early tee time at Good Park. I was in the trees most of the front nine but managed a couple of pars and saved the other bogeys. I kept waiting for a putt to fall but it never happened. Missed my first two pars by a total on maybe one inch. Hung in there and kept trying but nothing fell. Went 42-44 and tied for low net.

We picked up groceries 3:30ish and Mary went over to take Kalix to Ballet classes.

October 11 2017

Busy day. They came over and aerated and over seeded the lawn. Did a nice job. Took 1.5 hrs for 2 guys for \$900. Nice profit! Would be an enormous task to undertake.

Carolyn was over to visit for an hour or two in the morning. Mary had to watch Kalix for an hour around lunch while the guy came and installed the new kitchen shades. For \$80 it took him 2 hrs and well worth it. Looked complicated.

Heading back over to watch the kids and cry baby Lincoln tonight. He is getting used to us but still starts crying when he has had enough of us and wants mommy. He is going to hear about it when he gets older.

October 10 2017

We did 25min on the elliptical and the Tuesday strength class. It was thorough but not

too difficult. We had lunch and then drove out to Stan Hywet to pick up Mary's prize. She went to Ohio Mart and they drew her name for the Tee Time for 4 at Good Park. Sweet! Next time we have 4, I will schedule and it will be a freebe. Stopped at Stricklands for a mint chocolate chip on the way home.

Did some more clearing of spent flowers. Three areas done with 3 to go. Tomorrow will be busy. They are going to aerate, the shades in the kitchen go up, and Mary is going to watch Kalix for awhile. Might also be on kids watch in the evening.

The Indians lost so there is a winner take all playoff game tomorrow night as well.

October 9 2017

Got a call this am that golf was canceled. It was walking only after the rain last night. So it was off to the Y for 25min on elliptical and strength class. It was a fairly easy class. Mary was off to Red Hats for the lunch and I did some more clearing of the flowers outside. Pretty much a ho hum day.

My chess was dismal. Slightly under 1200 now.

October 8 2017

Up early. Mary went to church. When she got home we went to Walmart to pick up a few items. Picked up a table lamp for the Perry Como room. The new fan has a light but is much dimmer than the old one, so we needed more light in there.

Did some more clearing of fading flowers outside. Bad day for the Bills, Browns, and Squeelers. They all lost.

Supposed to get rain from the quick moving hurricane but it is supposed to clear by tee time.

October 7 2017

Tried to finish the garage gutter guards this morning. Since it was cool, the roof shingles are major stuck to the roof. Will need to wait for some heat so they get a bit gooey and I can lift them to slide the guards in at the top. I hope it will get sunny this afternoon and I can finish.

Waited till it warmed up around 1pm. Still could not get under the roof shingles. Gave up and tried plan B. Bent the guards under at the back and snapped in the front. Not the ideal solution but seems to work. Time will tell. I may have to go back and put some screws in.

Jacob ran 17:30 at Medina. Good time! He was over to mow. Carolyn had to drive him. He has a suspended license till his 17th birthday in February for crossing the lines while "adjusting his music", or so he says. The City of Green ought to send him a Xmas card for his support. All his Bob Evans paychecks are going to pay for his

violations and end up in the city coffers. Now that he can't drive maybe he will be able to keep some of it.

October 6 2017

Did not think we would get the golf in without getting soaked. As it was, we got a mist for a few holes and a light rain on the last hole. I was up and down on the front nine at Mayfair. Lucky to shoot 44 with 2 doubles and a triple bogey. After Bill parred the first 3 on the back (I was 2 over) I figured I needed to do better. So I did. Parred out with a couple of birdie chances. They were close but not in, so I finished the round not making a single putt of any distance. 44-38 =82 very respectable!

The Shades came for the kitchen and will be installed Wednesday. I picked up the gutter guards I needed and will put them in this weekend.

On the chess front, my mind is mush this week as I have dropped all the way down to 1220.

October 5 2017

Poor decision not golfing today. It was clearing up but it looked like we would get a downpour at 11. Turns out it stayed south of us. Went to the Y and did 25min elliptical and did the strength class. Normally the Thursday classes are easy but this was not. Lots of weight reps, squat reps, and crunch reps. Ouch.

Cleaned out some fading flowers and said goodbye to our 50 cent sized spider in the front Iris. It was his time to go. We watched Kalix for Zander's parent teacher conference and later Mary took Zander to his Tao-Qua n-do class. She had taken Kalix to dance lessons the last 2 weeks and Zander wanted his time with Grammy.

October 4 2017

Changed out an old noisy fan for a quiet one in the guest room upstairs. Horrible time of it. Took the old one down last night and started out before 8am. I could see the electrical box was too high. It was above the ceiling by 1/8 to 1/4 inch. Mounted the hanger on it and could see it had to be lowered. Unwired it and took it all apart and found I needed some shims so I could tighten the screws and have the box at ceiling height. Cut them out of aluminum sheet. That was a lost hour or so.

Saw I would need a medallion to cover the ceiling edges so got one at HH. Wired it up and could not get the cover plate on. The medallion was blocking the place I needed to get a screwdriver in to attach the cover plate. Back to HH to get a larger medallion. Took it apart, new medallion in and wired it up 2nd time. Found I could STILL not get the cover screws in. After a lot of tries, I took it all apart to see why the cover plate would not go on. Turns out by tightening the screws too tight, the mounting bracket was flexing backwards so the cover would not align. That killed another hour. Third wire up was the charm, and I got the cover on.

Screwing in the fan blades was another disaster. Got the 1st 3 in and couldn't do the

4th. Not sure what the issue was but could not get any of the 3 screws started. Figured it was some paint in the screw hole. Must have spent 1/2hr to get through that. Went OK after that.

Me and ceiling fans DO NOT get along. I had put up 4 back in the day and they were all disasters, every one of them. Not so much the assembly those times. It was taking out the box wire hangers and installing the hefty bars.

October 3 2017

We did 25min at the Y then went to strength class. Jenny was out again but "T" was replacing her for the day. She did say something about teaching a Wednesday and a Monday class (at 9am). Anyway, she was a perfectionist. Dead serious too. The class is small, so she was instructing everyone how to do each exercise. If she saw you doing it wrong, she would come over and tell you what to change. That was good. We learned some stuff, and with all the time she took we had a lot of breathers.

After lunch it was off to the dentist. She drilled off my 2 crowns and gave me a temp bridge to wear for 4 weeks. I go back in 2 weeks then after another 2 weeks at a cost of \$1950. Ouch! Ouch! Ouch! Soft foods for me from now on.

Took down the fan in the Perry Como room. The new one goes up tomorrow.

October 2 2017

Sad morning with the news that 58 people were dead and over 500 injured in Vegas when some nut job was shooting an automatic from his hotel room.

Played OK at Tannenhauf going 41-42 with one birdie. Had my chances. Putting good but none were dropping. I ended up making 2 putts for the day.

Touched up the base board paint and put the tools away. I guess the fan install is next in the Perry Como room.

October 1 2017

Missed yesterday. We headed to Toledo for a mini vacation trip I had researched in the spring. We finally got around to it. Yesterday we drove there (2hrs 30min) and went to a rebuilt Fort Meigs. Learned it was built in 1812 for the war and was a very busy place for 6-10 months then was abandoned. The Indians sided with the British cause we kept pushing them out of the state. We sure gave them a raw deal as we took over their homelands. Commander Perry "never gave up the ship" and beat them in the battle of lake erie and there was no turning back.

We also had a lecture on the smooth bore muskets used back in the day. Picked one up; they are very heavy. The guy fired off a shot. He said they were almost useless over 50-75 yards as they went off in the last direction with which they hit the end of the barrel as they exit.

We went to the maritime museum there that focused on the lake ore boats from the paddle wheelers to the big diesels as well. Toured the ore freighter on site.

No swimming as the hotel pool and hot tub as there were about 50 kids in it. Not sure why there were so many? Wrapped up the trip this morning with 3 hrs at the Toledo Zoo. It's a nice zoo. They don't have a lot of animals but they were active. We saw them feed their big gator.

Say what? The Bills won another upset. Amazing!

September 29 2017

Hope I started a new string today. I played poorly the front nine at Raintree. Two in the water and the slick greens had me talking to myself and anyone that would listen. What got me mad was picking up on my irons. After a 48 on the front I vowed to do better. And so I did, shooting a 1 over 37 with only 12 putts for a 85. I stayed down and hit some good irons, chipped well, and putted way over my head.

Once home, I almost wrapped up the kitchen project. Put the molding and base boards on and caulked. All I need to do it touch up some white paint and I am done. The shades should have arrived yesterday so there was more delay than expected.

Since nothing is happening, we decided to do our weekend in Toledo. Better leave 7am ish if we want to get the Fort and Museum visit in by 5pm. Hot tub Saturday night and the Zoo Sunday completes the plan.

September 28 2017

Well, my string of 5 great nines came to an end big time. Took me 3 holes to get started and then it didn't go well. 46-47=93 at Turkeyfoot. Putted pretty decent but they do have some absurd greens, Took 4 on one hole. Had those hooking irons going today. That did not help. Hope that goes away soon. Skipped lunch so I could get to my painting.

Got the first coat on by 2:30 then waited the 3 hours it recommended and got the 2nd coat on. Good thing. I had poor coverage in 5-6 spots. After golf tomorrow, I will put up the molding and it will be done.

September 27 2017

Mid 80s today and 60s tomorrow. Finally getting seasonal. Got started early and sanded the skim coat with the help of my able assistant Mary. She held the light on the wall so I could locate areas to sand quicker. It all looks great except for the 3 bubbles I patched. I hope they will dry so I can sand and get the primer on.

With the waiting, we went out and cleaned out the garage gutters to get ready for the gutter guard install. The back gutter had a lot of mold on it so we got the bleach out and cleaned that off. Went back later and put them on one side of the garage. Went in

pretty slick. Not very elegant on the ends. They say to just stuff some screen in there. The bad news is I was short 3 screens to do the back, so I ordered 3 pieces. On the plus side it is still very hot so I would have waited on the back side anyway.

Got to the primer. The bubbles were fixed and dried and sanded out. Wasn't sure I was going to get the primer on cause the last person that used the roller didn't clean it well. Got it rolling well enough to struggle through it. Gave it a good cleaning after so it should be OK. Lots of buildup near the critical area on the roller. May get to the real paint Friday afternoon after golf. I can see the light at the end of the tunnel.

September 26 2017

Wow. The 6th day in a row with 90 degrees in late September. Gotta love global warming. Sound like a broken record? This is the last day according to the weather report. We did 25min on the elliptical at the Y, but Jenny canceled the strength class. I am going to be hurting next week after missing a week.

Sanded my mud and touched up a couple areas. Also found I will need to trim the moldings a bit as they had set the sliders down lower. So, I had to do some more mud across the top. It's not perfect, but after I sand the touch up, I will skim coat the whole wall and maybe able to prime it tomorrow. I remembered the sanding attachment I bought for the shop vac. That really kept the dust down. Should have got that to Wes when he was sanding.

After dinner I sanded and did the skim coat. Looked pretty good but arrrg! There are 2 bubbles near a taped seam. One is an inch long, the other smaller. Since I would make a professional fix them, I had better too. Not sure if I missed them earlier or figured I could cover them up. What I learned; you can't cover bubbles. I will take them out with a razor blade early tomorrow after spot sanding the skim coat. I will patch it and hope that it dries so I can add some more mud. Typically filling a hole takes 2 passes. Oh well.

We did buy the paint. Snowball is a light blue with a tint of gray. Going to paint the 2 walls and see if we like it. If not, the 3d wall will have to be painted and that carries into the hall.

September 25 2017

Wow. The 5th day in a row with 90 degrees in late September. Gotta love global warming. Played great at Brookledge, a course I usually struggle on. Went 3 over 38 on the front, then 6 over on the back with 2 birdies. Once again God didn't want me breaking 80 as the last putt lipped out on #18. This was the 5th good nine in a row.

Put some mud on the low spots I saw. Will have to look when it dries but I believe I am down to one or two touch ups.

September 24 2017

Wow. The 4th day in a row with 90 degrees in late September. Gotta love global

warming! Another coat of mud this morning. Can still see the patch lines. Need to put more on thick to hide the lines. This is going to take more passes than I thought.

Jacob did the lawn and we went out for Texas Roadhouse. Yummy and we have leftovers for tomorrow.

Somehow the Bills won thanks to 2 defensive interceptions.

September 23 2017

Lazy Saturday Saturday. Got to the mudding early and was done by 9am. Fixed up the old slider molding and it still looks good. Going to re-use them. Did some weeding. Was getting bored, as we have a mini heat wave, so I went to the Y and did 25min on the elliptical around 2:30pm. It was like a private gym. About 20 cars in the lot and 3 people in the exercise room.

Jacob reported he ran poorly in the heat in Strongsville. 18:02 this time. Carolyn said it was hot. Been record temps the last 2 days around 90.

September 22 2017

I was optimistic heading out to golf today. I had fixed my irons during yesterdays round, was driving well, and putting better. I was pleased to find it was continuing. I made some unlikely putts on the front nine, scoring 8 pars and a bogey for a 1 over 38. God didn't want me breaking 80, so he had me miss a couple of close ones, rim one out, and rim out a chip which would have been birdie. Ended up getting a 42 for an 80 total. Good ball striking except for a couple of bad pull hooks.

Going to mud the wall fixes this weekend. Should take 2 passes, but will likely need a skim coat on the entire wall next week.

September 21 2017

Played Skyland Pines with the Lockheed boys. Lost a yellow ball first hole. They were blending in with the leaves, so I switched to white. Had much trouble trying out a new putting stroke so I gave up after 9 and putted much better on the back. Shot 47-41. Found I was not making a good turn on my irons and corrected that on the front nine as well. My handicap is down to 12. Yikes. Tied for low net at 76. Everyone was having tree and putting troubles.

September 20 2017

Busy morning. We got started early and demo'd the piece of wall next to the slider I wanted to fix. A piece around 5" x 20". That was done around 9am so I went out and cut down several spent flowers outside. Waited for Carolyn to arrive around 11am. Contractor Mike had installed the bathroom fan so she came over when he finished. I had to wait cause she had a lot of the tools I needed. We replaced the wallboard and did some caulking.

Chess has been weird again. After hitting a high just over 1400 and plummeting to 1140, I am back to 1327. I think I belong around 1250-1275 but the ups and downs are weird.

Around 1:40 I figured I was just going to sit around, so I went over to wire up Carolyn's exhaust fan. Took a while to figure out what the wires were, but hooked them up properly and we headed home.

September 19 2017

We did the Y today. 25Min elliptical then Jenny's class. Not too brutal today which was very surprising! Got groceries cause we were out of lunch stuff and picked up a couple of prescriptions. After lunch I got a haircut. Had almost forgotten about that.

Thought I would add an image of my favorite bad guy. He was great in the Spaghetti Westerns and in the two Sabata movies.



September 18 2017

Played Mayfair again. Came in tied for low net so I did OK. Never made a single putt. Hit mostly good drives and 4 irons.

We went to see Batcher at home. Sylvia says he is getting weaker and Jr. might not be able to get him out for much longer. Ken was more talkative than usual and that was good. It's now been 2 years since he was in rehab. Mom was pretty mobile till the end. Perhaps his time is short.

Oh, forgot to mention yesterday. Got up Sunday night for ½hr so I could get back to sleep. Nothing on Sundays so I catch the Lone Ranger (1952). So the bad guy is a young Lee Van Cleef, my favorite bad guy. So I look in Wikipedia and he was in 3 episodes as different people. Even did a Perry Mason. There is a website dedicated to him and some guy blogs about him every month. That guy has good taste, but maybe needs a life.

September 17 2017

Another busy day. We went over to Carolyn's at 8am and finished the ceiling. We only had four small pieces to do. Then we agonized over the ceiling exhaust fan and how to do it. No good ideas till I came home and researched it. We have to mount it flush to the tile. So how to slide the tile in? I figured the fan needs to be mounted there, then loosened and lifted up while the tile is slid in. Then drop the fan and re-mount it. Hopefully we can get arms in to do it over the grid. Not much space there.

Wes and the kids came over to play at 2pm while Kaetchen was working on the room a little. They stayed till 6pm. Jacob got the mowing done and headed back to get to work at 5pm.

September 16 2017

Busy day. We went over to Carolyn's and worked on the ceiling. We moved the grid and it looked much better. We cut 10 tiles and only have 4 more to do to finish. Had to stop as she was going to the Lizard Clambake. We went home, showered, got a flu shot and ate at the other Lizard on Easton. Mary went to church and I picked up some coffee for tomorrow.

Heading over there early to finish up before Jenna's hockey stuff.

September 15 2017

Slow go up to Sugar Bush in the fog. Just Bill and I today. Dick had a bad back and I do not know why John missed. I played good. Only one bad 8 on a par 4. Scored an 88 and Bill had 95. They had a couple of ridicules greens where the ball would not stay put. Don't think we will play there again.

Kalix came over for a tea party and stayed an hour or so. Wes had sanded and put a primer coat on the walls. He said a bit of touch up was in order. Will be interested to see how it all comes out.

Went to Giant Eagle for a flu shot and Aetna said no. Called them and they said Walgreens or Walmart or doctors office. Neither are convenient. I told them thanks a ton. Pretty irritated about that.

September 14 2017

Almost missed golf waking up at 7:30 for a 8:15 tee time. I got a move on and made it to Tannenhauf at 8:08. Golf is an amazing game. It was effortless today. There were 4 others so we played 5. I parred the first 2 then threw in some more pars, a birdie and a couple bogeys to shoot 3 over 39 with two 3 putts! Not as good on the back but started and finished with a birdie for a total of 3 today. Finished with 40 for an 8 over 80. Not even thinking while swinging. It just flowed. Won 17 skins and low total, gathering up \$19 in the parking lot. Wow?

Mary took Kalix to dance and she was thrilled. Such a joy at that age!

September 13 2017

Guy came over to measure for the vertical cellular shades we are going to put on the new slider in the kitchen plus the window. Looks do-able but not cheap. The slider was 1900 and the shades will be around 900. I got to get busy fixing the walls and putting up the trim and then painting. This will keep me real busy multiplexed between Carolyn's ceiling and Wes' walls.

Must be a down cycle. I have plummeted from 1400 to 1200 chess rating. Tonight is Kaetchen's birthday and watching the kids. Wish us luck.

September 12 2017

Another busy day. Did 25 min elliptical then did the "brutal" Tuesday class. I was toast and looked up at the clock and had 20 minutes left. My legs are feeling it now.

After a quick lunch we went over and helped with Carolyn's ceiling. She had decided the one skinny channel in the shower was OK. I suggested pushing the tiles over 3-4" but she was OK with the small channel. We cut and filled 3 pieces. They took 30-40min each so it will be a slow go.

Canceled Hostwinds web hosting. They had no way for me to edit my pages because it was not in one of the formats they handle. After a 1/2 hr of chatting at ipage trying to get a lower cost, they came through with A \$59/yr offer down from \$159. It pays to complain. Got them to change the nameservers so I should be up tomorrow.

September 11 2017

Another busy day. Did 25 min elliptical then did the "easy" Monday class. Went over for 2nd wall coat at Wes'. They had sanded and got the walls ready, so off we went. Started noonish and finished at 3:30. Kind of a slow start since I had to thin out the new bucket of mud. He told Alexa to play P-Funk and we moved a little faster.

Boy the last 1/2 hr was rough. Wes had to take a break cause he was messing up near the end. We only had 8 feet of wall left. I fixed the area he was having trouble with then did a couple of feet and I was toast. Hard to keep your arms up for 3 hours. I let him finish while I cleaned up the tools.

I think we may have to do some minor touch up after sanding. Also, the wall patch we did looks a little low so it might need another coat. We will take a day off to rest. Brutal.

After dinner I sparred with the Hostwinds web chat. They told me I couldn't edit my files unless I coded html. I was shocked as they had moved it all without telling me. The files are all there so I could rebuild it but I was ticked.

September 10 2017

Busy day. Wes wanted help in making his textured walls smooth. Carolyn had all the stuff, so I went over and picked it all up around 8:30. When Mary got home from church, we went over around 9:30. After we moved some furniture around they wanted to take out the home intercom system. It had a radio, tape player, and intercoms to the front door, rear door, and upstairs.

We ripped it out and I went home to get a piece of sheet rock to patch it. We started mudding at 11 and finished at 2:30. We hope that pass filled in the low spots and maybe we only need one more coat. We shall see when we make the 2nd pass tomorrow afternoon.

Got a shower in and we ate at Grinders and picked up a few groceries.

September 9 2017

We were up early to head to Wooster to see the XC. Jacob gave his all and finished 20th. He was 18th the last 1/2 mile but a couple kicked past him. Their new freshman finished 30 feet ahead of him after they were side by side the last 1/2 mile. A new PR of 17:25. Must have been a quick course cause the winner was 15:55. I checked the previous year and Jacob cut 1 minute off his time.

Wes called. He is thinking of mudding his family room to get rid of the textured walls. Could be tomorrow or early next week. Put in a request for the vertical cellular measurement pro for the slider.

Turns out the new host company lost some of my files. I sent them a request to have someone competent work on it this time. I had tested all the links before I changed the nameserver and they worked. Then they lost them? Methinks they had not saved them properly. Anyway, I asked ipage to restore their links and it looks like they did. Not totally propagated yet but I can see it.

September 8 2017

Played much better at Windmill today. Shot 85 and putted pretty well.

After dinner we went to the Canton Arts District and watched close up card magic. It was just amazing. I caught a couple of things but only because the table was at eye level. Had the table been a little lower as it usually is I would have never seen a thing. Ed Ellis was just amazing.

They still don't have my website up. I will bug them tomorrow.

September 7 2017

Played poorly at Ellsworth. Started with 2 pars and it went downhill quick. Shot a 93 with a couple of penalties and very poor putting. Tough greens there as always.

Blog is still down and they are not sure why.

We took Z-man to Tao-Quan-Do while Kaetchen took Kalix to dance, I was impressed with the class. They are keeping them fit and focused. Thought this was yesterday but it turned out Mary watched all 3 kids while they went to trivia. She should have called me. 3 kids are way too much.

September 6 2017

Retiree lunch today. Batcher, johnr, johnt, nor dick showed. I left at 11:30 to get to Carolyn's and help with the ceiling. We put up the outside rails then hmmm'd and hawww'd about where the tiles would go. We figured the heat vent needed to be moved in line with the light. We called it a day with her to scale out the room and figure where the tiles should go. I seem to be congested every time I leave. Cats? Construction dust? Not sure.

Mary went to take Z-man to Tae-Quan-Do at 5pm and must still be there.

I changed the website nameservers so it might take 24 hrs to propagate thus I did not update the site. May take a few days to update what is on the page as I will be using a new editor.

September 5 2017

The new sliding door went in today. There were 2 guys doing it and they worked awesomely as a team. Sure glad we didn't tackle it by ourselves. The board under the door was totally rotted out. They dug it out and put a lot of support boards in under the sub floor then a new board on top of it to set the slider frame on. Before they started I asked how long it would take. They said 3.5 to 4 hrs. They started around 7:50 and finished at 11:15 just as they said.

Went to the dentist to check my healing and they say I am doing good. They took out the stitches.

September 4 2017

We started our Labor Day with some exercise. We walked the flea market from 7am to 9am and came home empty handed. Looked at small tables, pitchforks, and for a jewelry mannequin stand. No luck. When we left at 9am 80% of the parking was full. Glad we went early.

Got out to the back 40 and finished weeding and snipping off the new trees trying to grow back there. We will aerate back there this fall and see if some grass will grow back there. May be hard in the areas with a lot of sawdust.

Not much else doing. We took down the sliding blinds and moved out the table. Installer said he would be here at 7:30. Should go pretty quick.

September 3 2017

We had rain yesterday! Drizzled off and on all day. The paper said August was the 2nd lowest rain total in history at 0.75 inches. You can see it in the lawns for sure.

We went to the play last night. Memphis is a tale of black music emerging in the not so tolerant south back in the 50s. Had front row seats and you could see the sweat on the actors/dancers brow. It was a very good all around with drama, humor, music, singing, and dancing. I love live performances where you can see the talent up close. We are lucky to have the player's guild so locally. Wow! I was out till 11:30pm. We didn't make it to midnight on Jan 1, so this is the late mark for the year.

Did not sleep very well, so I was groggy all day. Held my own in chess though. Hit 1 pick 4 and missed 1 for a +\$28 day. Better than a sharp stick in the eye.

September 2 2017

Another cool morning. We went to Hoover to see Jacob run xc. He started out near the front and that gave him an edge. He blew by his PR and finished first for Green with a 17:43. Not sure he had broken 18min before today. He was awesome! I would like to see him get down under 17:30. Lots of smiles to go around the family today.

There was 10-12 schools competing and I always admired these kids. There is an elite few who can run under 17min like Wes. The others, knowing they are not going to win focus on improving their PR. They gut it out and work hard. Seeing these kids and their parents and grandparents at these meets leads me to believe this country is not going to be going to hell in a hand basket. There is still pride in trying your best.

Wes and family were over for hot dogs at lunch. Everyone ate good and had a good time. We are whipped and resting up for the canton players guild play tonight.

September 1 2017

Very cool this morning at 52. Still chilly in the mid 60s. Was not on top of my game today shooting 88. Hooked 1/2 my irons, made 0 putts and had 3 bad holes. Oh well. Next golf is Thursday.

Working on moving my website to Hostwinds. Ipage was jacking up the price, so I signed up for 2 years at \$54/year which is a good deal. They are supposed to move it for me. We shall see how that goes. Hope I don't need FTP to update. I set up an FTP site but don't remember how to use it. Will need their technical support guys to help.

August 31 2017

We went to the county fair today. With my extraction I could only eat fries, fudge, and milkshake. Watched the harness races and lost \$18...all losers. The shame of it all. It was nice to go although the little ones like the animals more.

Chess rating at a new all time high 1402. Amazing. It won't take me long to get back down to 1250, lol.

August 30 2017

Just vegging today. Didn't sleep well with the extraction drainage. Got up 4 times and then final at 5am. Ate eggs for breakfast, watermelon and cheese for lunch and raman noodles for dinner. Snacked on 3 musketeers. The drainage stopped this morning.

Chess has been odd. After dropping to 1247, I have zoomed to 1350 with a 12 game win streak. Looked at my stats and I have still lost a few more than I have won, but am in the 83 percentile. Odd since I play the same defense and offense every time.

Later on I hit my all time high of 1381 before I lost 2 straight and called it quits. Feeling pretty good but need some sleep. Should catch up tonight? Hope to go to the Stark County Fair tomorrow and watch the harness races and grab some fair food.

August 29 2017

Brutal class at the Y after 25 min on the elliptical. Triceps are in the most pain. Not thinking about that anymore after the dentist took an hour to take off my crown and extract what was left of the tooth in little pieces.

Eventually had some small watermelon pieces and some yogurt for dinner. Headache and swelling but the bleeding has stopped. I can't imagine how golf buddy Denny got them all pulled for his choppers last year. Yikes!

August 28 2017

Took a breather from golf and went to the Y. We did 30min elliptical and then did the strength class. The instructor asked me why I was not golfing so I explained. She was rough on the abs today. I think she got thru the other exercises too fast so she just kept at the abs till class was over.

Mary went to lunch with the church ladies so I did some work in the flower beds. Hit a small pick 4 but I messed up the ticket and lost \$50. Damn!

August 27 2017

Cool again today. Jim and Jr. loaded up and followed me up to Gleneagles in Twinsburg. We played the blue tees which are the regular tees at 6000yds. I held my own. Poor play to start but I was able to chip close to save bogies most of the front nine. Shot bogey 45 on the front. Jr was still 3 back at the turn but he was hitting it well. His short game did him in plus I hit some nice shots and had some nice saves shooting 40 on the back. George had 85, jr. 87, and Jim 90. First time I won the tournament in a long time holding off Jr. and winning by 5. My mollies helped again.

George took us to lunch at the Rusty Bucket in Solon and we all headed home. Mary went to the go carts to watch Lincoln while the rest ran the carts.

August 26 2017

Cool again today. This time I turned on the heat on to heat the house if it got below 69. Good thing. It was 48 outside this morning. I played surprisingly well from the blue tees at Zoar going 47-43 with only 3 three putt greens.

We had steaks at my house. George went home with a few plants for the yard and Jim and Jr. went to 7 hills to get in another 9. We watered, cleaned up and showered.

August 25 2017

Cool again today. I turned on the heat this morning to push it to 69 from 64. We picked up some goodies in the morning and then I did the 30min elliptical at the Y. Couple of odd jobs around the house then lost 3 pick 4 wagers. One was trashed by a 47-1 shot that no one could really pick.

Jr. called at 5pm. They were just into Ohio and wanted to go to dinner. Will be either Lembo's or Johnny Js. Posting early since it will be a short night.

August 24 2017

Cool today. Needed a sweatshirt for golf on and off. Played better than usual. Birdied the 3d hole on the front shooting 42. Better on the back chipping in on #17 to shut out the opponents with a 40. Penalty on the last hole cost me low net.

I think I broke even on the ponies around 6pm. Pretty much ready for visitors Friday. Maybe we will take it easy tomorrow.

August 23 2017

Took me a little bit this morning to figure out it was Wednesday and not Thursday and golf was tomorrow not today. Jacob called and asked if I could help with his front speakers. He got started as I drove over. I was darned impressed that he had both door panels off and was looking at a video on how to remove his speakers. Had to drill out the 3 rivets. Dang! Carolyn and I have trained him well and he has become quite a go getter. Jenny was visiting to attend her grandmother's funeral. She was impressed as well.

We went and bought the speakers but we need to wait on a mounting adapter, so the door panels went back on. Mary and I went to the grocery and loaded up on stuff for our weekend guests. Then it was off to Lincoln's party. Wes and Kaetchen went out to the trivia quiz. He did well and got a little cranky. Dozed off for 20minutes then was cranky. Called mom and dad and they got home pretty quick.

August 22 2017

We did the Y this morning. 25Min elliptical then strength class. I was dizzy when we got off the floor near the end so I went to a wall to steady. A quick lunch and then to the root canal guy for a consult on my tooth. He looked and said the last fix a couple months back still traps food. It is a gonner. There is not enough root to re-crown.

Gonna get it yanked next week and the week after they will start on a bridge. The other option is an implant for \$2500. I will pass on that option.

Took Z-man to tae kwon do. It was a hoot. He is picking some of it up but there is too much fooling around. Only 5 kids in the class but too many to control.

August 21 2017

Eclipse of the sun day. Neighbor Brenda called us over to look thru Mike's welding mask. Eclipse was 1/2 done. Very cool around 2:30pm.

Played Sable Creek with working things out in mind. Not worrying about the score. Hit on a better putting stroke using a pendulum stroke anchoring the putter with the left hand. Also got more turn into my irons. I had already worked that into my driver with success. It worked 75% of the time as long as I did a good turn and kept my left elbow straight.

Got home and Mary said the sump alarm went off, so she stopped the wash and flushing. I pulled the pump and it was dead. Got to take it back to HD and get a replacement they told me on the phone. I got a 2yr one from HH and installed it, so I will have a spare. Warranty on that will be useless as it will sit around till I need it. That is the second time that alarm has saved us a lot of messy cleanup.

August 20 2017

Slow Sunday morning. I left for Windmill Lakes and Jacob got the lawn done. It was busy there and slow. Took a little under 5 hrs so I guess it was just the fact we were a 2some. Hit the driver well but was only 50% on my irons. Made 3 putts! 2 over my quota. But added 4 3-putts in there to offset those. It was a rare Sunday round with George wanting to get ready for this weekends tournament. George edged me 92-94.

August 19 2017

Did not sleep very well with too much food on my stomach, so I did not wake up till 9:15. Been a long time since that happened. Finally got going to the Y where I did 30min elliptical. It is a bit easier now that my BP is lower and I went 2x last week. It was a good workout. Home for lunch then I was back and forth watching the races and digging weeds.

Cooked a couple of burgers for dinner as Mary went to church. She is feeling better from her stomach issues the last couple of days. Made the reservations for February in MB. Planning on playing with George and perhaps Kirk tomorrow at Windmill.

August 18 2017

Made a comeback of sorts at Sable Creek shooting 42-42 =84 but had lots of poor hits. Made one putt on #7 so I used up my quota and thus missed a couple of birdie putts on the back. John had a great round with a 1 over 37 and a 41 for a 78.

Tried a couple of races without luck. Got to stay away from Saratoga.

Grand kids went to the Uniontown festival. It is pretty exciting for them and it is a great thing to watch. Now it is becoming a tradition for them and that is pretty nice.

August 17 2017

Ugg. We played Raintree and it was an ugly front 9. Lots of missed putts and 2 in the water over the par 3. Took the 2 ball putter out of the bag after 9 and improved; Went 49-41 for a 90. The less said the better. Opponents were sinking long putts. Ours were rimming out. Perhaps I can play better tomorrow and wash away this round.

August 16 2017

Got a haircut at 8am. Had to keep quiet around the barber, an obvious T-Rump supporter. Headed over to Carolyn's to help Jacob put in his sub-woofer. Watched several youtube videos in the morning so was prepared. I was mostly the project leader. Had the battery gnd removed then we fed a power wire thru the firewall grommet. Carolyn and Jacob fed it to the trunk.

Jacob and Carolyn had put in the radio Catherine and I got him for xmas, so they knew how to pull it out. We fed in the rc-4 cables and the remote turn on wire back to the radio. Plugged the rc-4 cables in and we were kind of stuck on where to hook the remote wire. Jacob googled the radio info and found out which wire to attach so we did that. Those wires were fed back and we hooked them up to the woofer amp. Tied on the ground and we were good to go.

No sound and no front speakers? We didn't listen to the advice to check and see if everything was working. Eventually, Jacob figured that was the way they were after listening to his favorite song. We did test to see if the radio was putting a signal out and it was. So the front speakers must be fried, or both wire feeds were busted. Since the wires feed in different directions it would seem unlikely that both were broken.

So we ate lunch and googled stuff with no good ideas. Got the meter out. There was power back there an the remote was 12v, so I figured the amp was fried. Saw a 30a fuse that looked ok but was not. A quick trip to buy some fuses and we were good to go. I showed Jacob the amp adjustments for low pass, high pass, levels, and bass boost. He adjusted it the way he wanted and re-installed the radio.

The geek squad guy told him he does it in 2hrs, but his first install was 12hrs. We took 5hrs with lunch included. The fuse cost us an hour. I never looked into stereo speakers, so taking a sub-woofer pair of cables and plugging it into a 4 channel amp with crossovers? threw me. Flew blind on where the speaker wires were to be attached and best guess was good enough.

Kids. Jacob did not know where the book on his radio was. The kid that sold him the amp and speakers did not know where those were. I plan to get him a small storage box to put that stuff and receipts in. Time to get started on that.

Oh yeah. My legs are killing me from all the squat exercises yesterday. That did not help any.

August 15 2017

We did 25min elliptical and then got beat up in strength class. Too many squat exercises; going to be hurting tomorrow. Showered quick and then met Rudy at Johnny Js for lunch. He was just at MB and took our suggestion to go to Hobcaw Baroney and enjoyed it. He rented near where we were in Avista. Walked the beach past it many times.

Not much else going on. May get a haircut tomorrow and then help Jacob with his car speaker.

August 14 2017

Played Sanctuary today. One of the guys who never comes was there so we had 9. I was in the first group so went up to the tee. The other guys rolled up and Darrell wasn't there. I asked where Darrell was and they said the starter nixed 9 guys for two tee times. I was hot. Almost went home but I figured I could complain after. Had 2 bogies to start, then a par and then two ugly 3 putt double. 6 over after 5. Went birdie, bogie, birdie, par to finish the front at a 5 over 41.

At the break I complained to the manager. She knows me from way back at Edgewood in the 70s and is working here now. She apologized and gave Darrell and I a free round as a make up. Good thing cause it would have been my last round there. Another poor start on the back going +1, +1, +5, +1,+2.....10 over for the first 5! Ugly! Settled down and went par, par, bogie, par to shoot 89. What is up with that?

Cut back some flowers when I got back. I was hot and sweaty already so why not? Mary went to the Red Hat lunch and had a good time.

August 13 2017

Rough night. Woke up with hiccups at 3am for about 1/2 hr. Went over to Carolyn's to cut and hang ceiling tile. We decided we would have to re-do the hanging structure. The new partitions we bought would not snap in. Guess they have been changed and improved sometime during the last 30 years. So, we painted the window and door trim, put the handle in and put up 3 shelves for Jenna.

Got back around 2pm. I watched the ponies, then grilled some T-bones. They were great. Bought them awhile back when GE sent us a 10% off a \$100 bill. So we bought extra coffee and 5 or so expensive steaks. Been quite awhile since I bought steaks. Will be interesting to see if I put on a pound. Been hovering at an unexplained 162. Seems low based on recent eating habits.

Hit a pick 3 at Gulfstream for \$240, another at Presque Isle but too many favorites so I only cleared \$8.

August 12 2017

Did the Y this morning. Once a week is not cutting it, so I hope this helps. Did 25 min on the elliptical and got in 1.87 miles. Younger guy next to me was insane. He did 60 minutes and 8 miles. If you ratio mine out to 60min, it would be 4.5 miles so this guy was going roughly twice my speed for a much longer time. I told him that that was intense.

We picked up 30 gal with fuel perks, dug some iris out of one of the mulch beds, and I was whipped by 10:15am. Did the bills and lunch.

Mary went off to church and I made the spaghetti for dinner. Hit a pick 4 at Thistledown for \$160 this time, but missed a lot of others. Made maybe \$40 after the losses. Watched a good movie on Netflix; Larry Crowne with Tom Hanks.

August 11 2017

Played at Mayfair with the guys. Not a good round at all, going 46-46 =92. I Have never broke 90 the 3 fridays we have played there. I did shoot an 85 with the Lockheed guys earlier this year. My putting was pitiful again. The greens have their share of slopes. I am thinking after a couple bad reads there, I lose confidence and don't know where to hit it. We did stop and try to clear the lake from the championship tees on #18. I missed by 5 yards. Bill might have cleared it but we couldn't really tell since his shot landed right of the lake.

It finally rained after threatening to all week. Grass could use it. Weeded a bit after dinner. Got an appointment for Aug 22; may need a root canal. Guess what? Hit a \$800 pick 4 at Thistledown. Since I may need a root canal, it was time to be provided for.

August 10 2017

Another busy day! Played at Tam-o-Shanter Hills with the Lockheed guys. Couldn't keep my great golf past the front nine and had a so so back nine. Went 38-43 with one birdie on the front and had 3 birdie tries on the back but came up empty. We did get a light rain for a few holes.

Went to the dentist to see why my gum was swollen. She poked around and said it was an abcess but was not sure what tooth it was because it is between two teeth. So she is sending me to mr. root canal guy to find out. Bummer week! Stocks are down and a possible root canal ahead.

August 9 2017

Another busy day! Started out with a flat tire. Took it off and dropped it at Mr. Tire. Took Carolyn's light tubes down and we figured where the fan would go. Went to HD and found a good fan/light and picked up a kit to vent it out the house. Need a 4" hole saw to get it outside. We looked at the ceiling tiles and she did not like the ones there so we went to Lowes and found what she liked.

Went to the eye Dr. for post zap check. All was good but he was 30 min late and it took way too long. Went to Wes for his surprise Bday party. He got his local favorite dinner, Hamburger Station. I had 4! They went off to the trivia and we watched the kids. Worked out pretty good till 8:30 then Lincoln had enough of us and started his crying. We called them to get home pronto and listened to the crying for another 25 minutes.

August 8 2017

Busy day! We did 30min elliptical and then strength class. Jenny said I had better keep up with Mary. I think she kept her balance for the bosue workouts better than me. After lunch we headed to Carolyn's where I did a second mud coat on the bathroom. We are thinking this is the last coat but it may need some touch up after sanding. Put in a new electrical outlet and switch.

Back home to shower and head out to dinner with Jane, Bob, and Al from CA. Mary came too. Good food and good company.

August 7 2017

Thankfully the rain stayed south. We played Zoar today. To start out, my birdie putt on #1 went in and popped back out of the cup. Make a putt? Get out of here. I finished a pretty good nine with a 41 thanks to 4 pars and 5 bogies. Make a putt? Get out of here. Scored 9 straight pars on the back for an even par 36 and a 77 total. Make a putt? Rimmed one out but get out of here. No 3 putts at all.

Wow! I have not shot 5 over for a long time. This was for sure the best round since my heart bypass and back to 2014 where I had a couple of 6 over 77s at Sable Creek. Looking back further the last 5 over was in 2012.

Picked up some groceries after dinner. Looks like a busy week ahead helping Carolyn.

August 6 2017

Had to rake up several spots on the lawn. For some reason the cut height was way low, so Jacob raised it, just not enough. I should put a piece of tape where the normal cut would be. Took me an hr and a half while Mary was at church.

After church, we headed over to Carolyn's to make a few dry wall repairs and skim coat some. We got the repair done but the skim coat didn't go well. Something on the walls (glue?) kept the mud from going on smooth. We will have to re-do; hopefully the light coat will help the next skim coat. There is a lot to do in that bathroom but we just have to go one step at a time. Next visit, have to smooth over the tape scene and maybe touch up other areas a bit.

Back home around 2pm. Missed my pick 4 in the last race. Had 3 of the 9 runners but they were no where close as an unexpected horse won by 9-10 lengths. What is up with that?

August 5 2017

Straightened stuff out and puttered around till lunch. Then we headed to Girard to meet up with the WZIP88 polka crew and watch Molly B polka show. What a talent! She left me speechless. In the finale she played 10 or so instruments and sang too.

Had a good time catching up with the polka Schafers and Fred Carty from Lockheed. Jacob mowed while we were gone.

August 4 2017

Wow. Golf was iffy with storms in the area but we played anyway. Rained on us a couple of holes and there was a lot of rumbling in the skies. The Pros would have been in the clubhouse.

Dick was amazing! Windmill is not an easy course but he went 40-35 =75 against a par of 71. He was even par on the back with an ACE and 2 birdies. He Aced #14 158 yds with his 9 wood. I will have to look at my saved cards, but I doubt I have ever been 4 over for a round. Been playing for 56 years. I had a decent score of 86 and was whipped by 11 strokes.

August 3 2017

Went to Brookledge with the Lockheed group. They had some kids program out ahead of us. After 4 holes it was already an hour and 30 minutes which is the pace for a 6 hr round. I picked up, got a rain check, and went home. Looks like rain tomorrow as well.

Did some flower culling. After dinner, we went over to Wes' and fed the cats.

August 2 2017

Straightened up the house. Things get moved around and not always put away so it is good to get things back in their place. Went to retiree lunch and had a good time joking around. Stopped at Stricklands after, Not much after I got home. Got some tools together for Carolyn's bathroom and picked some weeds. Tried 2 pick 3s at Saratoga and some unexpected horses won, so I threw in the towel.

August 1 2017

What a day! Around 9:15 we did 25min on the elliptical then did strength class. Twas a rough one with lots of leg work. We got 15min at home and then off to my doc to see where my BP was 128/65. He looked at my last week of readings and figures that the bump up to 30mg lisinapril puts me in an OK zone. 125-140 still seems high to me.

Picked up Arbys for lunch and headed to Carolyn's where I dremmeled out some baseboard for the new cold air grill, put up the curtain rod, and fixed the bathroom door lock. We also talked about her new ground floor bathroom project. Maybe Sunday we rip out some wall board along the floor that has some moisture damage

and replace it.

Off again to Walgreens to order my amlodipine prescription. I verified they use a different manufacturer. My theory is the stuff I got from Giant Eagle was non-functional. I can pick it up Thursday so I should be able to see if my theory is proved out in about a week.

Off again to pick up a few items at Giant Eagle. Based on the last couple of months, I wrote down on paper my order 1/2lb swiss, sliced no salt turkey, and chipped virginia ham. She chipped both meats! I showed it to her and told her I thought she could read. Oh well.

July 31 2017

Long drive up to Glen Eagles in Twinsburg. They are really putting some money into that course. Impressive new clubhouse underway. I was trying to get my swing back but not much luck. Driving iron was the only club working. Pitiful iron play. Keep stopping at the impact for some reason. Dick played great with an 85 to my 90. I did have 4 putts rim out while he drained a bunch of them. He eagled #17 out of the green side bunker.

Pulled some weeds before dinner while Mary took Z to his tea-kwan-do class. Tomorrow is strength class, doctor visit, and some more work at Carolyn's. Going to start August on a high note.

July 30 2017

Went over to Carolyn's to help with Jenna's room. She had sanded last night and we arrived at 9am. We helped paint the 2 coats of a sandy brown which included the electrical covers. The ceiling needed touchup (oops) of course. Put up 1 register on the top of one wall. She needed another register and to exchange a heat register for a cold air return register. Put up the smoke detector as well. Next is the carpet. We may do it or she may have one of Mike's guys put it in.

We got home by 12:30pm and Wes brought the kids over at 4pm. Lincoln wanted to be held most of the time. He was a little cranky for 20mins, then settled down outside. Around 5:30 he got cranky again. Mom and dad got back at 6pm but he was still a crank even with them.

Twas a long day.

July 29 2017

Went over to Carolyn's to help with Jenna's room. For some reason she didn't have Darby skim coat all the walls. He did fix the one wall that we pulled the shelf off of, but the paint clearly was going to show the fix. I drove home to get all the mudding stuff and we got started around 9:30. Slow go for the mud, but we got it done around 1pm. She should sand tomorrow morning, then we will get a coat or two on the wall.

Big go around about the paint, so they looked and looked and Jenna got what she wanted. Jacob got started on Pete's lawn and then did ours when we got back. He is working at 7pm as well. He is a hard worker!

Mary got off to church and I made salads for dinner. We had some chicken at lunch so we did not need much more. I was looking at the late pick4 at Belmont, so put some funds in and cashed in a \$1169 win. The Lord does provide when you are in need. I am a believer in that. That certainly softens the miserable week I had in the stock market.

July 28 2017

We played quick today but not good. Mel played pretty good with a 93 while the rest of us hacked it up. Dick and Bill were at 85, I shot 86 and John shot 87. Not sure where my swing went but it seems to have disappeared.

July 27 2017

Had an up and down round with the Lockheed guys. Went 43-32 =85 for a net 70 losing to Hogans net 67 and Bradys net 70. The 2 water balls and the the 2 strokes for a wrong ball hit did not help. Dick played and had a net 62 to take all the money. He has a wad of cash for tomorrows play.

Watered a bit. Mary went to a baby shower for Chris from next door.

July 26 2017

We went over to help Carolyn with Jenna's room this morning. We painted the ceiling and I was quite impressed with the Sherwin Williams paint. The ceiling was pink and one coat covered it with a little touch up here and there. While the paint was drying, we ripped out the old carpet and got it out to the dumpster. We figured to do a second coat but when it all dried it looked pretty darned good.

We got home and had lunch and I went over to pick up my lisinapril increased dosage of 30mg (was 20). I asked the druggist if the had changed manufacturers of any of my BP meds and they had only changed the metoprolol but that was several months ago.

I still am perplexed. Looking back at my blog I finished helping Wes on July 10 and I was still as good as gold. Not till I refilled a couple of prescriptions did I notice a change. Something is rotten in Denmark and I hope it is just not me. Going to talk to doc about this next Tuesday when I see him.

July 25 2017

Another comfortable day. We were at the Y this morning. Did 25min on the elliptical then strength class. My heart rate went up to 120 on the elliptical even though the load and speed was same as usual. Rarely above 115 before. Strength class was rough. I was watching the clock early and was a bit winded at times.

I had emailed my BP measurements to the doctor. He sent in a new higher dose prescription and wants to see me in a week. Did a little iris cutting in the afternoon and quit when we got hot and tired. Should be painting tomorrow at Carolyn's.

July 24 2017

Pretty cool today. Quite different from the last several days. It rained on the way to Fox Den and threatened to rain the rest of the day but we played dry. I played poorly shooting 88, once again never making a putt. On the plus side, I did make all the short ones to keep my score respectable. Also got the driving iron back in play for into the wind shots.

Golf was very near the car place, but I had to come home and go all the way back up there. Mary was just back from a Dr Appt when I got home. They did a super job on the repair. Looks like new. Since it was rush hour we stopped for dinner at Rockne's. Mary was off to with Brenda to pick up a baby shower gift.

July 23 2017

Another scorcher with high humidity. Cut down some plants early but was still toasted. Carolyn and Jenna stopped over to show us pics of their Thailand trip. Jenna had a pic of the scorpion on a stick she ate. Yummy!

After that we weed whacked under the south pines in the back. Jacob showed up just as we finished and mowed in the scorching heat for an hour and 15min. He did a nice job. After dinner we watered and called it a day.

Been checking my BP. Started at 140 then down to 130 after pills kick in. Stopped the magnesium pill yesterday to see if that was a factor.

July 22 2017

High humidity and rain today. Doesn't happen often, but today the outside of the windows had condensation on them. Reminded me of Florida.

Mary helped me install a grab bar in the bathroom. Preparing for old age. Mel lent me his stud finder because mine is worthless. It worked OK and we got it up. Not exactly where I wanted it but you have to go where the studs are. Picked up some groceries before lunch.

Mary went to church and after dinner we did a little weed pulling and cutting back iris and we called it a day.

July 21 2017

Was a scorcher today that really heated up on the back nine. We started at 7:50 and it wasn't too bad. Bob and Bill shot 39, John a 41, Dick 47, and Mel 49. About 4 holes in on the back I was toast and was thinking of calling it a day. Dick gave me some ice

and I poured water on my head and carried on. Used the umbrella for the last 4 holes. I was 47 on the back. Bill was the only one to hang in there with a 41. If he had not doubled the last hole he would have shot 79, settling for an 80. Quite impressive!

Was toast the rest of the day. The kids were over for about 1 and 1/2 hours and did me in.

Not liking my BP so I am back to monitoring it. At the eye doctor Monday I was 140/70. I was surprised since it had been under 120/65 for over a year and still looked good when I went in doc's office early May. Checked yesterday and was similar. Today 3 readings between 130-145/70. I will take them over the weekend and email the doctor Monday.

July 20 2017

Carolyn and family got back from Thailand last night so she is busy getting things back to normal.

Played well at Barberton Brookside today. Went 43-41 and made only 1 putt all day. Missed all 4 of my birdie chances and 3 putted another from 4 feet. I thought with my eyes fixed I would putt better. Light bulb; guess that is not the problem. Drank 3 bottles of liquids to stay hydrated in 90 degrees.

Noticed John Sabo's place was a mess on market north. Chuck Ivan said no one has lived there for 2 years. The neighbor cuts it now and then. Also said the basement was all black mold. So sad. I was thinking he was too old to do the lawn work and maybe we could help. Not knowing where he is nixes that idea.

July 19 2017

Had to take the damaged Toyota up to Hudson to get fixed. Damage is \$1400 and we have to pay the \$500 deductible till the other party's insurance pays up. They called later and said it would be ready Friday. That is quick. Must have fixed it today and paint tomorrow?

Picked up some food for Carolyn and fed the cats. Got home and Wes called. He brought the kids over at 4pm and was gone for 2 hrs. Lincoln played good. He got crabby and took a little nap on Mary's shoulder. When he woke up he played Ok, a little unsure of his situation. When they came to pick him up he played comfortably. He does take several steps on his own now at 11 months. Making progress! This is the first time he stayed without having a fit. Zander helped distract him from time to time and that was good.

Can't wait to play tomorrow. After 4 days of doing useless stuff it should be a nice change. Going to be a scorcher though.

July 18 2017

We did 25min on elliptical before strength class. All the 10lb weights were gone so I ended up with 12. Did Ok for the most part. Still can not lift my legs straight up. What ever muscle does that must still be toast. I am pretty happy in general with my progress. When I started I couldn't do the elliptical for more than a couple minutes. My triceps cramped up with any stress and I had no abs or balance. Can do most things now except the leg lifts.

Took the car in for service. Guy in the waiting room was jabbering on about poor Trump so I kept changing the subject. Luckily they finished my car shortly thereafter. Stopped at Stricklands for a cone on the way home.

Had to run over to HH to sign for the new slider install. Ouch! Picked up a new hose. Got the leaking to stop by doubling up on the hose gasket but the top of the spigot was leaking. Back to HH for a part. Likely was just the cracked washer plus I had put in a part backwards while trying to stop the leak. So it was a miracle. A hose that doesn't leak at the spigot connection. Nary a drop! Mary was amazed.

July 17 2017

Went over and fed the cats early and brought Carolyn's gas cans back. Neighbor Brenda was cashing in her fuel perks so I scored 10-11 gallons for free.

The eye doc was all screwed up. They had my old number so that didn't work, so they called Mary several times and it was busy. I called in at 8am and after being on hold for 6 minutes, called on the cell phone. They told me 2:15 was my appt. Around 1pm, Mary got a call asking where was I? I was due at 12:45. I told them I would just come in. They zapped my eye for 3-4 minutes. Lots of drops to numb, dilate, lubricate, and who knows what else. At 5:30 some things look better but I still am not sure. Might try warm washcloth to get stuff out of there.

Guess I will find out how the eye is tomorrow. Taking the car in for 6mo service after strength class. Then it goes in for damage repair Wednesday. Wonder what rental we will get?

July 16 2017

Dang nab it. Wonder where that comes from? Woke up early and realized the eye surgery center had not called and given me a time for Monday. They likely found my old phone number in their files and did not check with the main desk at the office. I will have to call first thing 8am. If they push me off to another day, I will go to the Monday golf at Wilkshire. I really would rather it be fixed though.

We picked up my meds at Giant Eagle and went to Kohls. While shopping they called on the loudspeaker for our License plate. Some woman did a scrape job pulling in next to us. She did give us her insurance info thankfully. Lunched at Steak and Shake where the shakes are awesome.

Got the grass mowed. Jacob should be back and cutting next time.

July 15 2017

Woke up and we got the cats fed. Then weed whacked under the back pines and sprayed some weeds. Clipped off the Iris leaves that had mostly turned brown.

Mary went to church and we picked up groceries after. Had to load up the cart to cash in a 10 off 100 at Giant Eagle. We had to get some steaks to push up the total. Guess we will grill out soon.

Watched Johnny English movie on Netflix. Rowan Atkinson had the leading role and was funny as usual.

July 14 2017

Woke up late but got to the course quickly. Played pretty well the front nine shooting a four over 40 with one birdie and great putting. No so good on the back with 1 par and lots of others. Don't think I made a putt on the back. 40-51 = ugly.

HH stopped at 2 and measured for the sliding door. He said it was standard and didn't see any issues. Kaetchen called and brought the kids over around 3pm. We invited them for dinner and that worked out. Kaetchen went shopping and we watched Z and K till about 6:30. We are whipped.

July 13 2017

Lots of rain this morning then it cleared off once again. I bailed on golf. There would have been a rain delay and it would be wet hot and buggy. We went to the Y and did 25 min elliptical before strength class. It was a rough class and crowded. I think there was 30 women and me.

Headed over to Carolyn's and fed the cats. Stopped at HD and picked up some Roundup, then had an ice cream cone for lunch at Stricklands. Dinner was mexican. Hope the rain clears out for golf tomorrow. Too many rainouts!

July 12 2017

Lots of rain this morning then it cleared off. We went over to Wes' and finished off the bedroom. We picked up and Mary vacuumed. I put on the electrical and vent covers. All done except for a few touch ups.

We went over to HH and picked out a patio door. With \$619 labor it came to just under \$2000 for a vinyl door with eglass and 3 pane windows. Install is likely 6 weeks out. We had called someone that did 2 sliders for neighbors. He was going to come over and estimate but that was 2 weeks ago. His loss. With HH, we got a good look at and a good rundown on the door we chose.

Must be that chess players veg after dinner. Yesterday I couldn't win during the day. Tried a couple of times. Was down under 1200 rating. After dinner I gave it another try

and quickly whacked everyone I played and pushed my rating to 1275. Pushed over 1300 today with several wins. Playing 1300-1350 guys now so not so easy.

July 11 2017

We went to the Y and did 20min on the elliptical then took the strength class. Worked up a good sweat for sure. After class we headed to Carolyn's to feed the cats. Plenty of water left but no food. We upped the food ration a bit today.

Not much else to tell. Mary worked on the wash and cleaning the toys next door neighbor Jan gave us. I watched the races. Cashed a win bet but my pick 3 was sad. Went over to help Pete mow, but he said he had it covered. Looks like rain on and off till the weekend.

July 10 2017

We went to the Y and did 20min on the elliptical then 1 mile on the track. Wes called around lunch time and I went over at 12pm. We did a second coat on the room, pulled off the painters tape, and cleaned up.

Then we tackled the kids closet with all the closet organizer I had left over. Took a bit of planning but we had a plan and put up the 4 guide posts . We got 2 of them into the studs and put wall anchors in for the other 2.

Once that was done, we reloaded stuff in the closet and there was much more room for stuff when we were done. Wrapped up and loaded my car with all my stuff and called it a day at 5pm. Mary was back from Red Hats lunch and said it went very well. Got a few aches and pains to take to Strength class tomorrow.

Was a good day to skip Chippawa with the storms blowing thru all day. Doubt if anyone played.

July 9 2017

Mary went to church early, so I did some flower cut backs, moved a few, and got rid of some weeds. When she got back we had lunch and headed over to feed the cats. I sprayed some Fabreeze around and that flushed out the cat that has been hiding on us. That was good cause now we know they are both in there.

We went over to Wes' about 1:30. We put up the tape then I painted around the edges with a brush and Wes did the roller work. Took us 3 hours to finish the room. One gallon was just enough but Wes thinks a 2nd coat will be needed to fix some spots he missed. We got back around 5:30, had dinner, put the trash out and called it a day. Should be back to Wes to help paint tomorrow after some work at the Y.

July 8 2017

We went over to Carolyn's to feed the cats in the morning. They needed food and

water. Still didn't find the 3 legged cat, Casper Catters. He hides pretty good.

Got back and had lunch then watched the kiddies, Z and K, for a few hours. Lincoln came over when Kaetchen came to pick up the kids and was happy for awhile then got a little cranky. We watered and called it a day with a light salad for dinner.

July 7 2017

We tried to play this morning but were rained out. Just as well, cause it was very ugly. I won the first hole with a bogey, Mel won the second with a double bogey. We bailed back to the clubhouse as it poured. We waited 15 min and were considering going back out when a big bolt crossed the sky. Stayed alive to play another day.

Mel wanted to go out to dinner so we prepped the house. Mel and Joann stopped in and I showed them the refurbished rooms and such.

July 6 2017

Caught a chippy this morning. Was running late so I took it to the golf course and let it out there. I was up and down today. 75% good shots and 25% poor. The front nine had hard ground and the back soft. That was enough to throw off my chipping. I made 2 long birdie putts but missed 2 short ones of 8 ft and 5 ft. I ended up shooting 42-43 =85.

After lunch with the boys, Mary and I went over to feed the cats. We are supposed to go over and feed them every other day for the next 2 weeks. There are supposed to be 2 cats but one is in hiding.

July 5 2017

We hit the Y for 20min elliptical and a 1 mile walk. Stopped on the way home to feed Wes' cats. A short while later it was off to retiree lunch. Sat with Dick, John Burkley, Batcher and son. Ken looked the same, talked the same, but was a little weak in the legs getting lifted into the car.

I was going to put up a grab bar in the bathroom but it was not the right size. Have to get another first. Put my ladders away and straightened up the garage. Not much else today.

July 4 2017

Great 4th of July! I was up and painting the posts at 7am. Was done by 10:30 and it was hot by then. Cleaned up and decided to go to Steak and Shake so I invited Jake and Jenna. The food was good and the shakes yummy. We dropped them off and fed Wes' cats.

Played the ponies. Missed at Belmont, bur hit the pick 5 at Santa Anita for \$390. I was down to my last \$100 so this keeps me funded for 2 or 3 waging days. Watered the

flowers and called it a day.

July 3 2017

Nice to sleep in your own bed. We went to the Y and did 20min elliptical and walked a mile on the track. Picked up some groceries. It was very hot when the sun was out so not much to do outside.

We put up a shelf and clothes bar in the down guest bedroom. That one does not have a closet so this solves that issue for short stays there. We used a Rubbermaid closet organizer package and there is a lot of pieces left. Perhaps Carolyn can use them.

Did a little weeding later and watered the flowers. Post painting tomorrow.

Update – I was reading the wife's Dove Pistachio and Magnolia body wash and it said it would lather up and the scent would totally relax me. I tried it and I did detect a scent but it did not totally relax me. What a bummer. Speaking of scents, whats up with the Fabreze scents? Mary picked up a bottle of Gain scented Fabreze. Want it to smell like laundry detergent? It eventually ran out so I looked for that next time I was in the store. They did not have any but I did find Tide scented Fabreze. I don't get it.

July 2 2017

Back around 7pm today. We had seen everyone there was to see so we packed up and headed home from Buffalo. The trip Friday was rainy but cleared up when we got to Catherine's. We planted the 3 flowers we dug up and brought to her, then helped plant some other stuff and did some mulch. I had to replace her outdoor faucet and tried to cut her some window framing without a miter saw. They need a bit of touch up sanding to fit right. Then it was off to a great fish fry with Jim and Cris and Catherine.

I played well Saturday, shooting 87 including a holed out A wedge for a birdie. We played reasonable tee boxes of 6000yds. Sunday I shot 96 from 6200 tees. The course was soft so they played like 6600yds. I could not get to many of the par 4s and never a par 5. Had good chances to save some pars but missed around 6 makeables. Went to Teds then packed up and headed home.

June 29 2017

Went to the eye doctor. Took a long time, about an hour and a half. Was not happy with my left eye, He found I had secondary cataracts, which are quite common. That is where the fluid around the lens gets cloudy. He said it is a quick fix, set up for July 17. Also have it in right eye. After a check of the fix in August we will decide to fix the other eye or let it go for awhile.

*Jenna had a good time here. Mary and her went shopping but had to hustle home to chaperon Jacob and his GF. **Heading to Buffalo tomorrow. Will blog if I can or not.***

June 28 2017

Went to the Y and did 30min elliptical. It was rough for some reason. Mary skipped as she was holding Lincoln for many hours yesterday and needed a break. I spent a few hours weeding a couple of mulch beds. Did the one in the back and ½ one in the front.

Caught a chippy today and took him to the stadium. He was of good size. Mary is picking up Jenna to stay the night as mom and dad go to a concert at Blossom.

June 27 2017

Went to the Y and did 30min elliptical before strength class. It is a lot tougher going 1x a week. After class we picked up a few groceries and had lunch. Headed over to watch the kids at 2pm.

Lincoln still gives us a rough time. He watched the other kids play outside then was crabby but fell asleep on Mary, the human bed, shoulder. Cranky again when he awoke, he cried on and off till mom and dad got home. We were whipped so went and had fries and a shake at the Lake Diner. Boy oh boy are there shakes good!

June 26 2017

Started off in the 50s and never got above 70. Nice! We played 7 Hills this morning. It is very tight so I tried on the tee to choke down and swing smooth. Worked like a charm as I only visited the trees once. Hit my irons very poorly, had only one good chip and missed 5 or 6 short putts. Keeping it in play was key as I shot 87 and my net 68 was best of the lot.

Hit a pick 4 at Parx but only a positive return of \$10 then missed a couple of small Pick 4s at Presque Isle by a couple of photo finishes.

I hear tomorrow we watch the kiddies so I will need a good night sleep.

June 25 2017

Another nice day. We spent 3 hrs out in the tree restoration area pulling weeds, spraying weeds, raking, and spreading grass seed. That was enough.

Jacob got home from Salt Fork and did our lawn. We went to Grinders for an early dinner. No racing luck yet again. Hopefully I can get it back during the week; weekends seems impossible for me.

June 24 2017

Nice day. I fixed up a little of my post caulking. Had to dumpster dive to get the caulk back which I tossed. Did 3 buckets of weeds from the tree restoration area in the back. Four or five to go. Also sprayed under the pines. I am going to nuke those weeds till they are goners.

Went to Madison's graduation party. Lots of Dwain's relatives there. He is the only one

that is gone thanks to agent orange. Good food and good cake. Angies back yard is beautiful.

June 23 2017

Golf was rained out and it rained most of the day. We went to the Y and did 20min on the elliptical then walked a mile on the track. Not much to do but watch the rain. No luck at the races today.

June 22 2017

Played Ridge Top with the Lockheed group. I was on fire the front 9, going 4 over 40 while taking a 6 on a par 3. Mind game when there is OB on the left. I do have a snap pull hook with my irons that surfaces now and then and always think about it on these types of holes. Sure enough, it showed up again. It's like it is programmed in. Started with a par on the back then got in the trees and short 2 or 3 double bogies. Finished poorly with a 46 adding another 6 on the #18 par 3.

Caulked a few spots in the posts so they are ready for a final coat of paint. Not looking forward to spending more time on the ladder.

Broke even on the races, hitting a pick 4 at Belmont but whiffing on 2 at Presque Isle. Guess my streak is over. One of the Belmont winners was named Mary Pray for Me so I had to have it on the ticket.

June 21 2017

Cool morning but it warmed up fast. Got the paint out and painted the posts where we scraped. I had figured on minor scraping but we probably scraped 1/5 of them. Started at 8am and did not finish till 11:30. Next I need to re-caulk some of the places we pulled out caulk and then paint the whole 4 posts. I was a very careful on the ladders today. I wasn't feeling all that confident. Slow but sure got it done.

I cleaned up and showered, got a haircut, and then neighbor Brenda called. She had put the wrong fluid in her mower oil so I had to drain it and refill. Another messy job. The mexican place left the phone off the hook so we just went over and ate.

Last night I hit a pick 4 and a pick 5 at Presque Isle. Got all 8 races correct and cleared another \$500. Never did that before. Amazing. I got the 1st 4 at Belmont correct but my pick 5 was a neck short in the 5th race. Could have been somebody.

June 20 2017

Missed Monday for some reason? Played Tannenhauf. Only 4 of us so I rode with Houle. He was bitching and moaning about hitting the ball so short in the wet conditions. He said someone should shoot him and I told him not to tempt me, Anyway, I had a great round shooting 83 with one birdie. Should have been 1-2 strokes lower so I can't complain. That is 2 good rounds in a row! Great drives and irons.

Hit another Pick 4 for \$125 with a horse named Mad Dog Bob finishing it up.

What a workout today! We did 30 min elliptical and then Jenny's strength class. After class she said she admired us and wanted to be just like us when she grew up, lol. Not sure if she just thought we did good in class or she was amazed someone at our age could get through her class.

On top of all that, Mary helped me scrape the front posts to prep them for painting, That went on for 3 and a half hours. We both showered and were spent.

June 18 2017

Busy day. We got ready for the cookout by 9am and puttered around till Wes' family came over at 1PM. Started the grill at 1:25 and everyone was full by 2:30. The kids had fun and the adults also. Everyone was gone and everything put away by 6pm, We watched it rain on and off for a couple of hours. Hit a pick 5 at Belmont for \$300 and missed the first race at Santa Anita, Great day overall.

June 17 2017

Busy day. We went to Walmart and picked up some needed items like a bath rug and new scale. Jake was over to cut lawns. He was $\frac{3}{4}$ done when Pete's mower stalled. It wouldn't start so we had to push it back to the shed in the heat.

Mary did some wash and went to church. I cooked spaghetti for dinner and now Mary is working on potato salad for tomorrows cookout. Happy Father's Day.

June 16 2017

Another 90 day. We played Ridge Top and I did much better this time. It is pretty short at 5000yds but it is tight and the greens were tough. Bill was smoking hot for a good while but cooled off going 40-42 for honors at 82. I went 43-41 for 84 and Dick had putting woes and went 46-45 for a 91. I got lost on the way over but I called Carolyn to get back on track. Needed a shower to wash off the sunscreen and bug spray.

Kids were over later and were good but Lincoln cried till he fell asleep. Hopefully he will be more comfortable here each visit.

June 15 2017

Oops, we celebrated 48 years yesterday. Starting on 49.

For some reason I did not read my calendar correctly and showed up 20 minutes after the tee time for the Lockheed retirees. Guess it was too early.

So I went to the Y with Mary when I got back from my morning drive. 25 min on the elliptical then the strength training. Andrea is pretty easy on us but she was out and Kim had the class. She was just about as rough as Tuesday's Jenny. More squats and

a ton of ab workouts. We shall see tomorrow.

We saw a baby skunk wandering. Momma must have been done in? It wandered across the street and to the back. Just the same, we kept the garage closed. We made a quick trip to Ollies and Acme, then to the coin exchange to get a ring sized bigger. Broke even on a pick 4. Tried the next one but a 95:1 shot came in? That's nuts.

June 14 2017

Celebrated 47 years today with senior breakfasts at Ihop. Neither one of us liked the pancakes. They tasted like biscuits. We enjoyed the eggs and bacon and left $\frac{3}{4}$ of the garbage pancakes. The coffee was good.

Lots of aches and pains from yesterdays strength class. Some triceps and more in the squatting muscles. We did a lot of those and more with weights.

Got back and put some more crackstixs in the patio. Mary had a dr appt and later went to statcare with Carolyn who has inflamed scalp from hair color allergy. She got some steroids for it.

Started pulling weeds in the back where the tree was removed. Guess I will plant grass in the fall. Not sure how I will keep the weeds down till grass planting.

Looks like all hell is breaking loose. T-Rump is now under investigation for obstruction of justice as he should be. Some crazy T-Rump hater was shooting congressmen practicing for an annual baseball game.

June 13 2017

Another hot one today. We did the Y this morning 30min on the elliptical and then the brutal Tuesday strength class. I was whipped since it has bee 2 weeks for me. Worked up a good sweat so I showered and went to meet Rudy for lunch. He is about to start a bathroom reno and was in the planning stage. He has already redone the boys rooms and after the bathroom, he will be in my situation; out of projects.

Got back and puttered around a bit. Too hot to work outside though. I want to put in more crackstixs in the back concrete and also need to paint the front pillars. Both will have to wait for cooler days. I did hit a Parx pick 4 for \$650 where normally I am out after the first race.

The Cavs lost so that is over. Glad I went to bed after the Warriors took a 15 point lead in the 2nd quarter.

June 12 2017

Another hot one today. I played a mediocre round at Sable Creek going 45-44. Front nine I had 4 penalties and the back was just all bogies. I asked Ray about fixing #4 on black cause everything goes to the water and there should be a landing area that is

flat right of the green. He said that it was intentional to make all the greens on the short par 4s extremely difficult. I told him the green was ok but there needs to be a safe layup area. He said you can't play it from the right side. You have to play the left side of the fairway and perhaps lay up short left for an uphill chip. That has penalty stroke written all over it.

Got back and painted the 8" porch cement faces white and got in the shower to wash off the sunscreen and the heat. Cavs tonight. May be their last game given they are 1-3.

June 11 2017

Hot one today. Mary and I survived watching the kids last night with Carolyn and Jenna's help. Wes and Kaetchen went to see Huey Lewis at the Rocksino. The older ones were real good. 10mo Lincoln was doing OK from 6:30 but around 9:15 he had put up with us long enough and wanted mama. After all the crying we could take, he got loaded into the car for a ride. Thankfully, he slept in the car till 11am while Mary sat with him.

Today we hung the kids pictures. I painted the steps. We did some grocery shopping and some wash. Kept busy.

June 10 2017

Warm day today. Mary and I planted 3 items then got to bleaching the deck and the north side of the house. Do it every 2 years or as needed to clean out the mold that grows on those spots. Showered to make sure the bleach was off then settled down to play the Belmont day. A little behind after race 4. Did ok on the first 3 but not close on the 4th.

Jacob is over and has the grass cut. I will cook chops for dinner then we have to get over to watch the kiddies from 7-11? The little one will be the problem.

June 9 2017

Wow I hit the ball nice once again at Windmill. Went 44-43 =87 but it could have been much better. Good drives, nice smooth iron swing and decent chipping. My putting was so bad I thought I was going to puke. I told Dick and Bill I was out of the putting wager indefinitely. I didn't make a one putt till late in the round. Got so bad I went to one hand putting. Bill had a nice 86 and he could have gone lower.

Picked up some heavy mirror hangers at HH and hung 2 mirrors when I got home.

June 8 2017

Wow I hit the ball nice today at Sanctuary. Went 43-44 =87 but it could have been much better. Good drives, nice smooth iron swing and decent chipping. \$ penalty strokes and poor putting did me in.

Cavs lost in the last minute and are now 1 loss from elimination. Golden State is just too good this year while the Cavs are not deep enough to contend.

Random thought for the day. Well, I have had 2 crowns replaced and one patched up over the last 2 months. So I have now had to give up chewing gum. Just another sacrifice to add to my growing list of no-nos. Giving up salt was the last one. On this one I can cheat a little. I found that if I only take a 1/2" piece of gum (the average stick of gum is 3") there is very little suction action and seems to be safe. Cheaper too as the stick of gum provides 6 chews.

June 7 2017

Still cool today. We went to the Y and did 30min on the elliptical and walked a mile. I ran one lap and it took me 1 minute. We walk it in 2 minutes, lol. That is a 10 minute mile should I be able to continue at that rate. Aint happening.

Went to the retiree lunch. Batcher was there and he looked better. Still weak though. He ate 3 pc fish and took the fries home. He really enjoys coming. Played some races and hit the pick4 for \$599 cause I typed in one wrong number and it was the right one.

June 6 2017

Kind of cool today. I was the designated driver for Mary's colonoscopy this morning. All went well and she goes back in 5 yrs.

Around noon I went over and showed Wes how to skim coat. He got the hang of it and was as good as I was by the time the wall was done. When I say good as me, it means there will be sanding to do.

He found a nice mirror with birds on it at a garage sale. An awesome fathers day gift! Steve will stop in late tonight on his way to pick up Ill at the airport. He will drop off some NY nickel cans too.

June 5 2017

Nice day for golf round at Sanctuary. Too bad I was not up to the task. I hit the ball well but putting was still an issue. Shot 43 on the front nine and missed at least 5 putts under 5 feet. Back nine was going better till I went triple/quad/triple, but I finished with 3 pars for 47 and a 90.

Took an 8 on the par 5. After a monster drive, I hesitated to take out my 3 wood but did anyway from about 220 out. A good 3w would put me 20 or 30 yds out and a good birdie chance. Instead I sliced it into trouble and saved an 8 with a one putt. Seems like the 3w always does that to me. This won't happen again because I whipped it into the trees. I thought about just breaking it in two, but I would likely have hurt myself. Whipping it into the woods seemed the better choice. Good riddance!

June 4 2017

Picked up some mulch in the morning and put it down in by the driveway drain. Jacob came around 3:30 and got most of the grass done before the rain. Cavs are in the game in 2Q but look to be destined to lose.

June 3 2017

Nice day. We were going to walk early but I got off the chair 7ish to get coffee and twisted something. Put the heating pad on and took a couple advil and was good to go by 9am. Didn't push the neighborhood walk. Did some weed spraying too.

Went to Pegasus Farms with Wes' family and returned around 2:30. The kids had fun there. Ran into Jeff Porter and his wife . He was showing his 2016 Corvette Zr1 at the car show there. Mary got to church and I had dinner ready for her when she got back.

June 2 2017

Cavs lost last night. They did not look good; now 0-1. Whatever I had yesterday, I had 30% of today. Scored 88, John was 89, Dick 90, Mel 95, and Bill had a great round at 82. I did birdie the last hole after driving the green. Lost to everyone at putting. Rrr.

When I got home the kiddies were here having a good time. We had lunch and strawberry shortcake. Mmm. After dinner I dug some grass out of the ditch by the driveway. I hope I can shape it so the mower can cut around it and avoid weedwhacking.

June 1 2017

Wow! Found my lost swing today. After a couple of hacked holes, I put an almost great finish together till I triple bogeyed #18 (choke). Went 44-39 at Sable Creek. I was even par on the back nine going into #18. Oh well. Looking forward till tomorrow. Hope my run continues.

May 31 2017

Mary went to watch Kalix this morning and had fun. I played Sable Creek with Dick. I wanted to play since I missed Friday and Monday. I went 49-42 and Dick 48-45. Had one chip in again which is just amazing. I started hitting the ball well after a few holes today. Had to stop the experiment with the 3 ball putter. It is too light and I had no feel with it. On top of all that, I missed 3 short putts that rimmed out on the left side. It is my eyes again. Had that issue before and it came back with vengeance today. What I think is the target line is actually left of where it should be.

May 30 2017

We went to the Y. Started with 25min elliptical and then the Tuesday strength class to get beat up. Jenny tried to get everyone to do the "dancing crab". I tried it but collapsed to the floor each time and I wasn't the only one. Mary did not try it.

We got back, had lunch, and headed to the dentist. After that, we visited Rudi's widow, Barbara Faiss. She is 84 in a high end independent living apartment in good health with a sharp mind. Can't beat that.

May 29 2017

Pretty nice Memorial Day. We were up early for some reason and got our neighborhood walk in from 7:00 to 7:35. That is early for us. When we got back we planted the flowers we got at Walmart yesterday. I pattered around the flower beds till Jacob got here to do his mowing. Mary went with Brenda to put flowers on Dwains grave. For some reason they didn't put a flag on his site so they went and got one. Then she left her phone there so had to go back. We are heading to see Going in Style where the old guys rob the bank that screwed them during the crisis. I hope they do good. I wish I could get revenge on both financial advisers that each lost 1/2 my 401k in 2000 and 2008.

May 28 2017

Mind number day. Got over to Wes' and found the tape fix I made did not work. The tape buckled, so I had to redo it. Perhaps I didn't soak the tape long enough? Fixed that and was back home by 9:30. We planted some seeds in pots and I did another section in the back with crack stix. Jacob finally said he was not coming over so we went out to Texas Roadhouse for an early dinner. After, we picked up some flowers at Walmart. They have the best prices by far. We were back home by 1:30 for a mind number of a day.

May 27 2017

Busy day. We picked up some mud at HH when they opened and spent about 90min doing Wes' wall patches. Back at the ranch, I put the 6 40lb bags of soil out where they leveled some low spots. Then we planted the flowers and tomatoes we got the other day. I also filled the gaps of one section behind the house where there is a gap between the patio and the house using the crack stix stuff. Buying the extension hose allows me to heat the crack stix while keeping the propane bottle upright. That worked well. Then it was time to watch the Senior PGA.

Made the spaghetti for dinner and put on a Netflix movie after.

May 26 2017

What the heck? Golf was rained out. There was only 1 small rain band coming off the lake, traveling right over the golf course, and right over this area. How could that be? God must not have wanted us to miss golf today. Glad I called it off cause it stayed right there most of the morning.

We went to HD and picked up some flowers for Mary to plant, a torch hose, and a piece of sheet metal. When I say HD, that is Home Depot. HH is Hartville Hardware. I think those are my only abbreviations. We went over to Wes' and spent 4 hrs taking off the rest of the wallpaper and cleaning up. I was going to mud some wall repairs but I

put too much water in and it was too soupy. Guess I am out of practice. I figure there was 30 man hours put into stripping one room. Good thing he only has only a few rooms left with wallpaper. Just kidding, he has a bunch of them.

May 25 2017

We did the machines then the strength class this drizzly day. I did 30 on the elliptical while Mary did 20 then rode the bike. The class was easy and Mary did good after her long layoff. Mary was off to the doctor after lunch.

Did some wash then grocery shopping to wrap up for the day. Cavs should win tonight. Golf looks iffy with the rain.

May 24 2017

Sore today. Quiet day. Helped Mary unpack and just vegged.

May 23 2017

Did the strength class with Jenny instructing. This is the 2nd since I got back and she drives us so much harder. Lots and lots of reps. The last 15min was ab time and she did the leg lift ones which I can not do very many of. I was pretty much toast after the first rep. Then she went on and on. I think she was punishing me for taking time off.

Got a haircut and picked a few weeds then vegged the rest of the day. Just waiting to pick Mary up at CAK at 8:30.

May 22 2017

Weird golf round today. Started out double/triple, then chipped in on #3 for a 2 on the par 3. Lots of bad shots followed then on #7 I hit an anger management drive on the par 5 #7. I had just took 6 to get down from 100 yards so I was hot. Whacked a nice 3 wood from 190. Looked like it went over but it was about 18" from the pin. I made the eagle 3.

Lots more ugly shots but was chipping well. I went par/par, then chipped in for a par on the par 3. More not so ugly shots and I chipped in again on #16 for a par. I don't think I chipped in last year at all and here were 3 today. Strange game. Well the birdie and eagle helped me to a 14 over 85 at Fox Den.

Got home before 3pm and Jacob was over cutting the 2 lawns again. Pete's mower was not cutting properly so Jacob used mine for the remaining 3/4s. Looking forward to picking Mary up 8:30 tomorrow night.

May 21 2017

I promised to help Wes take down some wallpaper today. He was slow to call and we got started around 9am and called it a day at 1pm. He had something planned for the

afternoon. We got the first layer off 3 walls and started on the second layer. Got about 1.5 walls of that done. He works Monday and Tuesday, so maybe he will call Wednesday or just finish it on his own when he has time.

It poured for a good ½hr around then. I got home and mostly worked on saving my photos to the memory stick. That was a pain and there is still a lot to do. When I copied the Apple iphoto file to the memory stick I get thumbs, data, jpeg and .jpeg. It's about double the stuff I need so I have to toss all the junk. Very mind numbing and time consuming.

May 20 2017

Updated my getting old blog yesterday, so there is that for today. Picked up groceries and my usual quota of losing lottery tickets. I had 2 failed projects today. First, I tried to recharge my Focus AC. I attached AC Pro and you could see it charge and then when I stopped you could see the pressure drop. Must be a leak. Crap! I tried again later, so it is wait and see.

Second, tried to use Crack Stix to fill the gap between the block and the cement patio to keep water from flowing in there. Heating it to melt it with a propane torch, the torch kept going out or the flames rose up and were cooking the siding. Maybe the torch will work when the air is drier? Will also need to rig up a piece of sheet metal to keep heat from the siding.

Dug up a bunch of ferns that were spreading like crazy. A few is enough. Heated up the chicken breast I "cooked" the other day and microwaved some tater tots for dinner. When I say cooked, I mean I followed directions on the frozen Schwann's chicken breasts. They have good chicken, fish, and salmon and all you do is put them in the oven for the time indicated. I do check them with the meat thermometer though. Watched the Preakness but had no luck picking winners as usual.

My two ball used putter came today so that is exciting.

May 19 2017

Had my "Fun" day blowout before Mary gets home Tuesday. Played golf with the boys and hit the ball pretty darn good, but putted like a blind man. Ok maybe worse than one. Shot 92 with a chip in, but had 39 putts, including a 5 putt. I think the last time I did that was at Ellsworth in the golf league about 5 years ago.

Bill was da man shooting 84. He was the only one that could putt with 29. John had 97 and putted terrible with 41. Wow! Extremely poor for the best putter in our group. Mel shot 101 with 38 putts and Dick was at 104 with 37 putts. The Brookledge greens are killers.

We had lunch at Rockne's and I took my \$100 to the Rocksino. I was up \$80 early and walked out broke after an hour and a half. Bad for me going broke at rush hour, as it was 65 min to get home.

Time to watch the news and see what Rachael has to say tonight while I load up the washer to clean my neon shirts. Looks like a mind numbing weekend ahead.

May 18 2017

Went to the Y this morning. Did 30min on the elliptical then went to strength class. Class was brutal since its been 3 weeks out of it for me. I had to switch to a 5 lb wt for my left arm while I used 8lb for my right.

Headed to the doctor for a 1pm appt, then had ice cream at Stricklands, then to the skin doctor in Fairlawn. Car air is gone. I will give it one more try to recharge but it will take the kit a couple days to get here.

My used 2 ball putter wont get here till Saturday and I got a 3w from ebay that will take maybe a week? Golf tomorrow! Temp is going to drop from high 8s to low 60s for tomorrow.

May 17 2017

Headed to the eye doctor only to find out my appointment was yesterday. Now I have to wait another 5 weeks. Did mowing when I got back. Needs every 4 days at this time of year. Pretty darn hot in upper 80s.

Continued moving pictures slowly from the Apple CDs to my memory stick. It is a slow go and I have to rename many photos to avoid overwriting ones with the same name. Market tanked on T-Rumps latest debacles.

Cooked up some chicken and tater tots for dinner.

May 16 2017

Headed to the dentist for a crown replacement. She said she would try to fix the undercutting on the crown next to it and put a filling in there. Hopefully that will extend that crown a couple of years. Then she went to work on the other one. Lots of drilling and they had to cut back the gum with a laser again to get at decay near the gumline and to get a good seal. Don't remember such intense work but there most likely has been. I wonder how many hours I have spent in a dentist chair in my lifetime. Likely more than a day and less than a week.

Began to transfer some of the pictures I put on disc, but it takes a long time on the old Apple.

May 15 2017

Started at the Y early. It's been 2 weeks since I hit the gym so it was a struggle. Did 30 min on the elliptical and burned 300cals. Did 2 reps of 15 on the ab machine and headed home.

Dug up and bagged the spreading plants we are getting rid of. These 2 were done with the shovel so I got most of the roots. Not sure for the other 3 spots I cleaned out with the hand spade. Anyway, they are all gone now and we have to watch for the roots coming up. I moved a few iris to balance things out. It is time to plant the flowers but that will have to wait till Mary returns.

Baked the frozen pizza. It was not totally cooked but I ate it that way anyway, Ordered

some concrete filler to put by the back of the house. Need to get a propane tank and nozzle to heat it when I put it in.

May 14 2017

Happy Mothers Day. Slow morning. At 1:30 headed over to Carolyn's to pick up sticks. Picked them up till dinner was ready at 3pm and dined on bouyon salmon, cob, and watermelon. Was mucho yummy. Back out for sticks from 4 till 5:30. Quite a pile. Some areas were just too wet to get to. She can mow now when the swampy lawn dries up.

Headed to the Ice complex and watched Jenna practice hockey. She is looking good. Her skating is good but still needs some work.

May 13 2017

Crappy nights sleep again. Bed at 10, asleep at 10:45, up a couple of times, up and ate breakfast at 5am, back to bed and slept till 7:30. Oh well. Went to the bank early to get cash to pay Jacob for mowing.

Stopped at Play it Again Sports to check out their golf stuff and fitness equipment. The 3 woods were too pricey. They had a few putters but I did but like how they set up. The fitness stuff was too old. One was squeaky and another had a bogus heart rate monitor. Dropped newspapers off at the church and picked up a birthday gift for Don.

Daughter Carolyn has taken to calling me every day since Mary is in Texas. Likely checking up on me to see if I am still alive, eating, and keeping busy. Invited me over for chow tomorrow.

Jacob was over around 1pm to mow Pete and then my lawn. He also helped me put up the new umbrella and stand.

May 12 2017

Mostly yucky day with damp cloudy sky and mid 50s. We played Sable Creek and I finished well by smoothing my swing. Went 45-40 for the low round of 85. John had 87, Bill 88 Dick 90 and Mel 102. I had 2 good shots at birdie but missed. John birdied with a long putt just after just missing a long one the hole before.

Picked up some lottery tickets on the way home and and raised my streak of losing tickets to 8.

May 11 2017

Yesterday was warm , today rainy and 55. Tomorrow 50 for golf so need to bundle up. Went to the dentist to get my crown on and I need 2 more? Whats going on? Came back and had to wait till 2pm to shop.

Picked up my prescription and loaded up on food for the week. Bought my share of losing lottery tickets. Cooked spaghetti for dinner and some extra for next time.

May 10 2017

Good trip back yesterday. Looked like I missed all the bad weather up here. Nice.

Forgot to tell my dreams the other day. We had 2 foursomes that were going to play about 2 hrs away. TK took one car full and I was going later and had all the clubs. I was waiting on a couple guys who were late. Well, time passed and these guys called saying they would be a little later. I called TK and warned him to move back the tee times. There were more delays and eventually I figured we couldn't make it in time to finish before dark. I called TK and he had to drive back since I had all the clubs.

In another one, we had two 4 man teams that were going to play the areas toughest holes. On guy on my team had a 14 on a hole setting us back a bit. Never did finish that dream.

Today I unpacked and did my wash. Cleaned the coffee pot for a change as well. Did a little mowing, dug out some unwanted flowers and had a Subway for lunch/dinner.

T-Rump fired the FBI Director. Pretty unbelievable, eh? So far, he has fired all those investigating him.

May 8 2017

Yesterday we did the pool and steaks later. I was thinking how long is it going to be before I am in an 85 degree pool in 87 degrees weather? Dang good question.

Today we hit the links. Nice day in the low 80s. I went 48-45 = 93 with 7 extra putts and 2 penalties. That works out to be 10% extra strokes. I think I need a 3 wood with less shaft flex. The stiff shafts I was playing make it much harder to slice. Another surprising fact is that it is almost impossible to take a divot in Texas. Stuck my legs in the pool again and I was wondering when I was going to play golf AND be in an 85 degree pool. That may be a long long time.

Heading home tomorrow so no blog. Don't get home till after 9pm.

May 6 2017

We went to the Civil War Museum and the Japanese Gardens. Many of the war items had owners indicating they were passed down to someone from that generation to the next. A lot of them came from those wounded or captured during the horrible war.

Did not see one Japanese in the Japanese Gardens. What is up with that? The garden was very relaxing but there was no color there other than green. Lots of rocks and water and green shrubbery. Made me want some chinese food so there we went for dinner. Now we have more leftovers.

May 5 2017

We went to the Zoo today. Stopped for some yummy BBQ before we went in. Nice Zoo. I didn't remember it at all until we got 80% through it. Then saw the stagecoach I took everyone's picture on. Dinner was Ice cream sundays at Braums. This was the 2nd time we did that.

May 4 2017

Long day sightseeing. We went to breakfast at the Stockyard Hotel, toured and shopped the Stockyards, visited Texas Motor Speedway, and the National Engraving and Printing where they print money. Wrapped up at Joe T Garcia for dinner where we got a song played for us by the mexican minstrals.

May 3 2017

Lots of excitement this week. Not the good kind though. Couple days back John found a leak in his pool propane pipe and it was fixed Monday. Mary dropped a bowl yesterday. Today, someone whacked Ginny's car at the doctors. We are waiting for a rug install but it looks like they will be late. On the plus side, we missed a couple of crappy weather days back in Ohio.

Rug guys got here at 3:15pm and are all over it. They finished in short order and we put the dining room stuff back in. I had no problem lifting the heavy stuff; neither back or arms, but my hip didn't like it one bit. That hip has been aching since the mulching. Notice it golfing as well. Might be a problem.

May 2 2017

Oh that was an ugly round today. I shot 52 on the front nine. Started out hitting it well but had a lousy short game. The the 2 reversed. Nary a par on the front. I got a candy bar at the turn and went 3 over the first 6 on the back nine with a long birdie putt. John said the last 3 were easy so he must have jinxed me. Went 8 over the last 3 with 3 penalties. Ugh.

Six more days to go, then I pack up and head back,

May 1 2017

Stuff happening today. It was in Burleson this morning. Guys came to replace the propane line that had rusted through. That took into the early afternoon. John also spray painted the hood to his restored T-Bird. He is planing on taking it to a Saturday car show.

After that John drove us out to Granberry to walk around the shops lining the square. Most of the buildings were built in the 1870s-1890s. The old courthouse is in the middle of the square. I got Sue and Ed a Xmas gift to store away till December.

Apr 30 2017

Yesterday we went to Dallas to take the Kennedy assassination tour and then visited the Perot Museum. John's buddy gave us a free tour, and the Museum was awesome. Very technical for those who wanted it and some simpler displays and some kids stuff too. Nice mix. Ate downtown at a mexican place. Also ran into a walk for the environment, a T-Rump protest of sorts.

Today we did 1/2 of John's Ft Worth 10 cent tour, then visited the Modern Art Museum. I saw a couple of great paintings that might inspire me. There were 2 rooms of modern art with rectangles. Maybe I can corner the market on triangles? My 2 favorites were

called 1) toilet paper and poop and 2) garbage.

Apr 28 2017

The trip to Dallas went well. We had dinner, unpacked, and the day ended quickly.

Today John and I played golf. I did real good shooting 84 with 2 birdies. One long putt and another about 5 foot. The ground is so hard the ball runs a long way. Mary and Ginny are out somewhere still at 3:30. Will try to blog as much as I can but no promises. 87 here right now. I forgot that I can sweat. John shot 97.

Apr 26 2017

We got some cash for the trip and picked up pills and trip stuff this morning. We packed and had a tea party with Kalix. She was over while Wes and Kaetchen were digging space for some pavers to expand their patio.

To my surprise the tree guys got to it and took the 2 downed trees out in the back for \$725 that were left over from the tornado 20 months ago. They didn't want to take the heavy equip back there across my lawn so they had to cut them into what looked like 1 foot circles so they could lift the big stuff into the truck. They shredded the small stiff that was 1 ft diameter. 3 guys took 2 hrs to cut/shred/load the heavy stuff/clean up. Brutal work especially in the heat.

Wes picked up Kalix, we got a subway, and settled in for the evening.

Apr 25 2017

Mary got her hair done this morning and I went to strength class. Did 25min elliptical before class. Class was brutal. Three reps of 10 push ups, 30 second planks and side planks, leg lifts and more. Then they started the leg up ab exercises. I can never do more than 1/3 of those reps. Carolyn came over and was working on her vacation to Thailand. The flights go thru either Japan or South Korea. I told her to wait a bit and see if T-Rump does any bombing in the next week or two.

Mary went to the track and saw Jacob run 5:00, a new PR but not yet breaking under 5 min. I waited for the tree guy but he is late and it is almost dark.

Apr 24 2017

Nice day at Tannenhau. I played poorly again. Driver was so so, only 2 good irons all day but short game was better. 46-43 for 89. Last hole cost me \$2 as I had a triple bogey and lost to 2 guys by a stroke. My hip is a bit sore and I think that is why I am hitting irons poorly. Not following thru to ease stress on my hip. Went back to the lob wedge and smooth swing for shots with some grass under the ball. No can do on the short stuff.

We visited Batcher again. He seems to be slipping away slowly. Ken Jr is still getting him up when he can but he looks weak, has trouble speaking, and his hearing is not

very good Sylvia says. We had dinner with Jane again. She is adapting to her new home and getting around more now that the weather is warmer.

Apr 23 2017

Nice day started with frost but warmed up to 50 by 8:30. In 2 hrs we finished up the tree clean up and I hit the shower. Veg'd the rest of the day. The tree cleanup got me to put a new entry in the Getting Old thought log. Just call me S.

Apr 22 2017

Chilly day in the 50s. Good day for working on the tree back there. We got to it about 9am and had done a lot by 11am when Jacob got here to mow. I think with a couple of hours tomorrow, we will have it cleaned up as much as we can. I might guess we will need the truck for 4 hrs. Perhaps 2 loads here and one at Wes'. Kind of smells back there. Some animal has been peeing back there. Did not see any deer poop so not sure what it is. Could just be the grass pile the guy has back there.

Put away the Easter decorations and tried a few wagers without much luck. Mary headed to church and I will get leftovers ready for dinner.

Apr 21 2017

Was chilly at Mayfair today. Didn't play very well with all the clothes on. I finished strong with 2 pars and a bogey to shoot 90. Dick had 90, Bill 92, John 96, and Mel was way too high to write here. He was really off today.

On #10, both John and Bill were out of bounds. After the hole was completed, Dick asked the scores. John said 5 and they left for the next tee. Bill shrugged and said 5, and I said "Hey, wait just a minute". Off to the next tee and I questioned John reminding him he was OB, so he said "Oh yeah, it was a 6 then". Bill said "Yeah, me too. I thought maybe you didn't count OB as a penalty after John said 5".

That was settled, so Dick says "Anyone have my 8 iron? Must have left it at the last green". He runs the cart back with no luck, comes back and finds it in his bag all along. So that is how it goes with us seniors.

We went to Wes' for a cookout and to bring the kids their Easter stuff. They loved the stuff. We had a Ted's cookout, hunted eggs and had fun watching Lincoln do his thing. He is 8 mo now and crawls, stands, and is good with his hands.

Apr 20 2017

We were off to the Y a little early to beat the rain. Saw Kalix; she waved. Class was good and was very crowded. After we got back, I started back on the tree cleanup. I did a lot and then Mary came out and helped. She kept me going. We got the little saplings cut down and we pushed the leaves back. Then I mowed where we had cleared. Mowing should keep the tree saplings down.

Could have done more but golf tomorrow and I don't want to be totally whipped. Should be a good weekend to work on it as it will not be too hot.

Apr 19 2017

We were off to the Y and back home before 8:30. Did 25 min elliptical and a 1 mile walk. Went to work on the tree again for a couple of hours. Had lunch and then worked the tree some more. That tree will be the keep me busy project. The other plus is this is bound to burn some calories.

I have a pile of decent size branches and another pile of the small stuff. Thinking when we get done a HD truck rental might be in order. Mary went off to her bowling banquet and I picked a few weeds. Maybe work on the tree if it is not raining tomorrow.

Apr 18 2017

Mary got an excellent report from the doctor and I got worked over by the dentist this morning. She said they can't fix this one again so be careful. They put in a new post and had to laser back some gum material since it had settled under the old crown. My gums were sore all day.

We went back and cut back some of the old tree in the back to reclaim a little grass. That is going to take a long time to get out of there. After dinner we headed to Jackson to see Jacob run. He got down to 5:07 for the mile but was a tad slower in the 3200 at 12:07.

Apr 17 2017

Busy day. Catherine and I went to Get Go early to gas up on fuel perks. Came back for breakfast and we headed out at 9am. She went to Buffalo while I went to Sable Creek. I played well but made no putts. 3 putted 3-4 times from long range. Left everything short. Could have been a great score but it was 42-43 =85. Dick also had an 85 and we cleaned up. He had a net 60 and I a 66.

Gave Wes a ride to Ganley later to pick up the Rav4 after some recall work was done. Tired from the busy weekend and busy day.

Apr 16 2017

Happy Easter readers. Those listed yesterday all were over and the dinner was great! Kathy's cornbread was good. Carolyn brought yummy pasta salad, tasty green beans, and deviled eggs. The spiral ham from Schwanns was excellent and not salty. Mashed potato and cabbage salad rounded out the table.

As for desert, there was lemon pie, cookies, and Easter candy. What a great day!

Apr 15 2017

We put the final touches on the house for the Easter dinner tomorrow. Set up the table for 9; us two, Steve and Kathy, Carolyn's family, and Don's mom Pam. Wes is working, Steve III is in Dayton, and Kaetchen and the kids are on the Island.

Jacob was over to mow and help rake, Mary did a little breaking up the tree in the back

and is wanting to do more there next week. Catherine arrived around 2pm and brought lots of stuff as usual. Ted's dogs! Ted's hot sauce! Sweet!

Mary and her went to 8:30 Easter Vigil so I figure to be sleeping when they get back.

Apr 14 2017

Much nicer day than expected. We played the Dales again and I did better. Kept still over the ball and it really helped. I hit many a good shots. Too bad my short game was so bad. I shot 86, Bill 89, Dick 96, and Mel 98. Had one birdie chance but I left it short.

Apr 13 2017

We went to the Y and did 25min on the elliptical then the strength class. All went pretty well. We saw Kaetchen and Lincoln taking Kalix in to pre-school. That was about it for the day.

Neighbor Brenda got back from Florida today and looks good after skipping our winter. Golf tomorrow in the low 50s again. Maybe John T will show.

Apr 12 2017

I didn't see Carolyn's text last night. Jacob ran the 3200m in 12:02. I went back and looked at last years blog and saw that he was at 5:11 for the 1600 and 11:30 for the 3200. So, he now has a new PR in the 1600 and better get on the 3200m if he wants to do XC this fall.

Went and got a haircut then we went to pick up a few items for Easter. Mary took some stuff to Goodwill, then stopped to see Kalix. Brought her over for awhile while Lincoln went to the doctor. I sprayed some weeds. The lawn and mulched flower beds look great! Not much on for tomorrow except for the Y.

Apr 11 2017

Warm but wet today. Mary got a blood draw early then we went to the Y. Did the elliptical then the strength class. It was a rough go. Not sure if it was the mulch or the elliptical prior to class.

After lunch I went to the dentist with my problem tooth. Looks like a new crown is in order unless some of the root is toast. I am hoping that is all it is. Mary picked up the 4 lb bunnies for Easter while I was there.

Jacob got his 1600m time down to 5:08 at the meet today. He did 3 good laps but slowed too much the last lap to get under 5min.

Apr 10 2017

Nice day bur way too windy. We played 7 Hills and we were humbled. The greens were

very fast. The downhill putts were lightning and the uphill needed extra. The range of feel that was needed was beyond our skill levels. Lots of 3 putts and some 5 putts in the 4some.

The wind was taking any spin and accelerating it. I finally decided I was moving too much so I stayed still from 14 on. That helped. This could be a long high scoring year if I keep having to relearn every round.

Apr 9 2017

Feeling pretty good considering all the mulch I moved yesterday. Mary went to church so I went out and chopped some more roots. I figured the spots where the stumps were ground out would always be low so I got some soil and filled 2 spots. I will let it settle and see how much more I need for the 3rd spot and possibly for the first 2.

Jacob finally got there to cut grass and we left to get Easter candy at Walmart. Had a late lunch and watched the masters. I think we will go check out the hockey practice and surprise Jenna.

Apr 8 2017

Had a wonderful mulch party today and am whipped. They delivered the mulch at 8:30 am. I had ordered 10 yds but called this morning to add 2 yds. Ended up that 10 would have been perfect. We mainly moved much mulch over many meters merely for many minutes.

I started right in early in the melting snow. I think I must have moved somewhere between 1/3 to 1/2 of it by the time my help arrived. I was just loading the wheel barrow and dumping piles on the islands one after the other. I lost track after 20 loads. My help arrived a little after 11am. I was toast by then. First Wes, then Jacob, Jenna and Don jumped in and did the rest. Don's friend Scott also helped. They did all the smoothing and packing and moved loads to the back and side and the island by the septic. We had extra so I had them do Brenda's rock across the street.

We had lunch and then cake and ice cream. The kids had fun and Lincoln was bright and cheery. Everyone was gone by 3:30pm. I sat down a bit but quickly got in the shower. I was afraid if I sat too long I would not get up.

Thanks to my wonderful family for a great day.

Apr 7 2017

Happy 69 birthday to me. Well, it snowed on my birthday. Good thing it was predicted so we played Wednesday instead. I didn't sleep well. I purchased 8 lottery tickets for \$20 and bought all losers. Then my stocks were down but recovered to an almost break even for the week. Such are birthdays. Oh, well.

The snow stopped in the afternoon and has begun to melt. The sun is supposed to be

out tomorrow, which is good since everyone is coming to mulch at 10am ish.

Jacob's meet was nasty cold with rain spritzing last night. He ran a 5:21 1600m, just a tad slower than Tuesday. Still a long way to go to break 5 min. We got out of there real quick.

Apr 6 2017

We did the strength class today and it wasn't bad. Very crowded though. When we got back we finished the weeding in the back and by the garage. I took 6 bags to the recycle and just got it dumped when the rains came. It rained on and off for the rest of the day. The radar looked clear so we plan to go to the track meet at Canton McKinley. They usually don't have good distance runners so maybe Jacob can nab 2nd or 3d. Will report tomorrow.

Apr 5 2017

The track meet was cold as usual last night especially with a 20mph steady wind. Jacob ran the 1600m. He ran lap 1 and 2 at a 5min pace but petered out to almost a 6min pace for the last 2 laps to finish in 5:25. He said he ran later in the 400 relay and enjoyed it.

It was cold at golf this morning well into the back 9. I played pretty decent thanks to a good short game shooting 86. Dick was at 96, Bill 98, and Mel 99. I was impressed that the course was so dry so we set up next week there as well. I had 7 pars but too many others.

Finished weeding by the rock and by the side and whacked out 2 more tree roots. Mary helped. Took another car load of weeds to the recycle. We have 2 more areas to weed tomorrow. Then the mulch and snow come Friday in time for Saturdays mulch party.

Apr 4 2017

We did the strength class today. It wasn't bad except for the leg lifts. I can do one set but then those muscles give out for the next 3 sets. For those I can do maybe 1/3 of them. I did weed one area then came in to rest.

Mary headed over to help with a big funeral and I went out and chopped roots around the front right rock. I hit one the other day and it stopped the engine cold. That's not good. I whacked up 5 or 6 of them and covered them with soil. I probably have 3 or 4 more left to do. They were impossible last year as they were still somewhat alive. This year they are quite a bit easier.

Track at 5pm at Green. Jacob has been under the weather with the joint pain related to the acne treatment and other distractions. If I have time I will update.

Apr 3 2017

We got the round in before any rain today. I started very poorly but steadily improved as the round progressed and finished birdie par shooting 46-42=88 and edging 3 guys by a stroke. Collected six \$1 bills and made another \$1.50 on skins. Working on smoothing the stroke and it didn't kick in for quite awhile. I was low score edging Dave who usually gets me by a few. He is a 12hdcp while mine has pushed up to 18. I am planning to come down a few.

New phone number is now working. I spent 3 hours on the web changing my phone number at many sites. Will have more to do tomorrow.

Apr 2 2017

Oops. Missed yesterday. Yesterday, Mary helped with a funeral and I had fun again. Didn't mention Friday but I had fun with the phone both Friday and Saturday. According to Spectrum, someone is spoofing my caller ID and ringing people I do not know. People were calling telling me I had just called them when I had not. Spectrum saw no outgoing calls from my site, so it was coming from elsewhere. Got call after call from these people. Must have been 20 or 30 of them. Got Spectrum to change my number. Sad, cause I had that one forever, maybe 47 years. Hope I can learn the new one.

Today it was take it easy this morning then lots of afternoon effort. There was heavy frost and Jacob had track practice till 5pm. He was a bit late so I started and did the right side and back near the house. He finished the back 40 and the front left and side.

Did a lot of weeding and dropped off 6 bags at the recycle. Also did some raking and chopped a few roots out that were giving me trouble. I did 3 and need to do about 6 more. Need to weed the front left rock (already roundup sprayed), a little more by the garage, and the back and side left before Saturday. Saturday we are going to have a mulch party for my birthday.

Mar 31 2017

Last day of March. A pretty crappy day it was. Lots of rain overnight then again around 1pm it started and has not ended. I just cleared some gutter leaves to allow better drainage. Carolyn just called as she got home at 7:20 from her Charleston SC trip with rain all the way.

We picked up some food this morning and finally got to polishing the wood and vinyl floors once we got the right polish and microfiber mop. Went pretty quick and looks nice. I figure a once a year treatment should do it.

We had such lousy fish fries this Lent we went to Rockne's. It was better AND cheaper.

Mar 30 2017

Checked the radar this morning and it looked like the big storm might miss us. We were going to be on the edge. Went out to get the paper and the wind chill made it chilly. Called off the golf and it was a good thing. It only rained twice for 5 minutes but

it is too cold to get wet on the golf course. Fox Den is on the schedule for Monday.

Mary went to strength class but my abs were pretty sore. I tried to do a crunch to test myself and opted out. Decided to work on getting Carolyn a new battery. Researched battery prices and decided to get one at HD. Tried to put it in but the one terminal was toast. I didn't think I could get the terminal off but eventually did. Went to the store and got a new terminal and hold down for \$10 and got the job done. Since golf was canceled, it was nice to be able to accomplish something today.

Mar 29 2017

Surprisingly busy day. I did 30min on the elliptical this morning. Then I did some weeding on and off till 3pm ish. Mary was bowling.

All of a sudden I got call after call with people telling me I had called them. I got on a chat with TWC but they had no clue, so I just reset the cable box. That stopped it, so I guess the internet went wacky. For the next couple of hrs I answered the phone and told people what happened. They all laughed. I can do without that ever happening again.

Then after dinner, Wes called to see if we could watch the kids a couple of hours. Got back home at 9pm.

Mar 28 2017

We did the Tuesday strength class. There was a sub for Jenny and she piled it on. I thought Jenny was extreme. Lots of lift reps and lots of crunches today.

We started digging out the ground cover in front of the windows out front yesterday. I finished it today while Mary went to the yarn shop. Too chilly to do much else outside. Watched the races and vegetated all day. Not much better tomorrow either.

Mar 27 2017

Day 7 of virus and I am declaring victory. We did the Y today. 20Min on the elliptical and we walked a mile on the track as we watched the hard core class on the floor. Dropped off some 8mm tapes at the post office I am having converted. The last batch of what I have.

Picked up some prescriptions and went to HD to get a microfiber mop, some bird seed, and some roundup. Sprayed a few areas with roundup and did some weeding.

Denny sent some tee times for the Monday golf. Looks like we start next Monday at Fox Den as usual. Better get serious now. Played a few ponies with zilch racing luck. Same as my lottery tickets, 0 for all.

Mar 26 2017

Day 6 of virus and with the rest yesterday and a good sleep I feel better today. Mary went to 8am mass and I did some weeding. I have to get that wintercress weed out before it goes to seed. I did the strip beside the driveway and the bed by the mailbox but the dumpster was getting too heavy. I did some more but bagged it and those are heavy too. Put the preen down in the areas I have completed.

I sprayed one area but ran out of roundup. I will need to get another roundup. I figure I am only 20% done. Going to be a chore. Mary went out to pick up some mexican. She took Carolyn's junker and stopped to talk to her on the phone and it wouldn't start. Called AAA but then Carolyn said there were jumper cables in the trunk. We jumped it and were on our way.

Looks like the massive corrosion on the battery terminal could be the culprit. I will clean it off and see how it works tomorrow. Should do exercises tomorrow if I feel OK.

Mar 25 2017

Day 5 of virus seems like there was a bit of a setback from golfing yesterday. Back to scratchy throat. Up at 6:15 for a couple of hours after a poor sleep, I went back to bed and slept another 1.5 hrs till 10:30. Felt a little better but I should take it easy for a couple of days to help beat this thing.

Kalix birthday so we headed to Wes' place at 3pm. The kids had a ball playing with Jenna and Jacob. We had pizza and frys and cake and ice cream. Kalix loved Carolyn's Barbie Castle. I swapped cars with Carolyn and they will be off for Charleston Sc to visit with Jenny for spring break.

Mar 24 2017

Quiet morning waiting on golf. Made a few positive trades before heading out. It was windy but warm. I had 4 layers and finished warm with 2 still on. I thought about my swing this morning and resolved to smooth it out today, That worked wonders for the most part but I still had a couple of stinkers. The course was very wet from the rain last night.

I went 45-45 for a 90, Bill shot 95, Mel 95, and Dick kind of played along now and then. Bill had a nice birdie putting it 3 foot from the pin on the par 3 Maroon #7 then making the putt. We were thinking Mayfair Thursday when it warms up.

Fish fry was OK at Mel's church, then I got the car ready for Carolyn. It was good to see T-Rump fail on the repeal of healthcare.

Mar 23 2017

Frost and cold this morning. Warmed up pretty fast. I got an early email from Sable Creek for Friday, so I checked the weather and got a 10:08 tee time. Dick had problems with that and suggested 11:30 so I made that change. Looking forward to a warmish day of golf.

We did the strength class today and there were lots of reps for the arms. Might be sore tomorrow. This was day 3 of my virus but I did not feel bad, so I went to the class. I was surprised cause I got up at 5 and went back to bed at 6am and slept another hour. Hopefully I will feel a little better again tomorrow. After class, we went and got the oil changed that was due. They checked tires and fluids so Carolyn will be good to go to Jenny's Sunday. Kalix's birthday party is Saturday, so I will be asking her how it feels to be 4.

Mar 22 2017

Sunny but cold day for day 2 of my virus. Never got over 32. I got my best neon t-shirt on and went over and renewed my driver license. Went to HD and picked up an item I had shipped to the store. Back home to vegetate the rest of the day. I dozed off a couple of times but never did sleep.

Best to take it easy with a virus and you get over it quicker. I slept better than I expected last night but did use a lot of kleenex. Hope it goes just as well tonight. Carolyn is agonizing over Jacob's vehicle. Fix it or scrap it? Its a crap shoot with older cars either way.

Mar 21 2017

I have had better days. Got up last night and got a cough drop. I am either catching a cold or have a cat allergy. Suspect the cold virus is the issue. Must have picked it up from Wes or the kiddies. Turned out to be a nice day but the golf courses were closed. Too wet. Bummer cause the sun came out and it got into the 50s.

We went to the Y and did the brutal Tuesday strength class. Saw Wes and Kalix there before class. After class we picked up groceries and fuel perks. Only got 26 gallons since Carolyn had all full cans this time. Felt OK during the day. Just a little throat soreness. Should get worse later tonight. Market was down 1.5% today to top it off.

Mar 20 2017

Mary slept in so we skipped the Y and went to help Carolyn. We put together this new lamp for over her dining table. I can count roughly 100 parts that needed to be assembled. That took awhile. From 9am or so till lunchtime. We put some new handles on her cabinet as well.

We discussed how to get some more space in Jenna's room. She will either have to get rid of the large footprint dressing mirror and table or find a dresser that is taller and more compact like a men's dresser.

We then took down Jenna's shelf. It was quite a nice design and a chore. It fit across the whole wall and slid onto a board on each end. There were brackets attached to each stud with 2 screws. I believe that shelf could hold 300lbs if necessary, maybe more.

Good snow melt today; golf should be possible providing the course is open.

Mar 19 2017

Got a surprise visit from the kiddies yesterday. They had fun and had some dinner and some goodies. Mary went to church today. Afterwards, we went and got her a new winter coat on clearance at Burlington. Great deal for \$39.

Stopped for chinese food then over to Target for Kalix bday gift. Still pretty cold out there but the snow melt is about 80%. Hope the rain will finish it off and we can golf Tuesday.

Can't toss my Frankenstein can. Saw it on ebay for \$75.

Mar 18 2017

Slow morning. We got some stuff set aside for the Goodwill. Also put bulbs in the hall fixture. Two of 3 were out so I replaced them all. After lunch, we picked up a few items at Big Lots and the Dollar store. Got a waste basket for the bedroom to replace my Frankenstein basket which still scares the kiddies. Not much left for today. I will watch the horses and cook spaghetti as Mary does church.

Mar 17 2017

Still at 167 this morning so the diet is history. We did the Y this am and did 20min on the elliptical then 1.5mi on the track as we watched the hard core class down on the floor. Those women are hard core. What is up with all women in the hard core and strength classes?

Mary went to the Y for knitting while I watched the market most of the day. Grandson Jacob had his first accident on the 15th after having a license for 15 days. Glad no one was hurt. He said he was on his phone which is a no no. When will they ever learn?

Went out in a snow squall for fish at an Eastern Orthodox church. It was good but not cheap at \$15 each all in. Looking at the weather, Tuesday and Thursday are possibilities if the snow melts. Will be cold though, maybe 45.

Mar 16 2017

Down to 167 this morning. I am ready for some sweets so I think I will drop the diet tomorrow. Total lost was 7lbs over 14 days. We did the strength class again this morning. Mary did good and had no dizzy issues. Lots of people in there. It was good to get out after 2 days of cold and snow. The bright sun made it feel warmer anyway.

I got my plugs changed in the Focus. They were due at 90,000mi. The PCV is due at 100,000 but they said it was a dealer only part so they could not do it. My battery checked OK. That is now 8 years for the battery; borrowed time.

Pulled the sink apart due to slow drain. One heck of a hair clog in there right at the top. I was really surprised since its only 2 years since the install. Looks like that is going to be a real big pain going forward.

Mar 15 2017

Back to 168 this morning. Looked like another 2" of snow on the drive but there was a 2' drift in front of the garage I had to move. Cold and windy too. Green schools were closed but Lake was open. I went to the post office to return a book Amazon sent instead of the camera I ordered, and picked up some prescriptions.

Mary went bowling and I went to Johnny Js for lunch with Don Z (retired), Bill Castro (Orlando), Tom Babyak (Owego), and Rudy (unemployed). It was great to see them and find out what was going on. When I got back I swept the garage, tossed a dead mouse, and lubricated the opener drive.

Mar 14 2017

Still at 167.5 this morning. Looks like 2" of snow but everything is closed today with the nor'easter going up the coast. We are on the wrap around side. Was going to the Y but they close with the school.

Shoveled just a few feet and it was heavy stuff so I went back in. Most of it blew away and I shoveled near the garage. Most on the drive melted. Did some reading and played bad chess all day. More snow after dinner. Have to see what it is like in the morning. Maybe the Y tomorrow, then a lunch for me and bowling for Mary.

Mar 13 2017

Sweet! Down to 167.5 this morning. That gives me incentive to give the diet a go for another few days. Casing the kiddies yesterday must have helped. We saw Jenna do hockey practice last night. She got quite a workout and is pretty darn good after only 3 month of skating!

We did 20min on the elliptical and walked a mile. Mary went to Red Hat lunch and I picked up some groceries and set up an appointment to get new plugs and pcV valve on the focus. Those are recommended at 100K miles and I am getting close. Carolyn is going to do the dining room light but she had to order it. Should be 10 days max. Also sent her the dimensions for a possible rug for Jenna's room.

No golf in sight. Suppose to get a fair amount of snow the next 24 hrs.

Mar 12 2017

Another nasty cold day. We sprung the clocks ahead. The kids were going to come after breakfast. Turned out to be 11:30. We survived 3 hrs but Lincoln was not happy till mom got back. He did nap for 15 minutes. He was happy to see mom and perked right up. He is 20 lbs so is a heavy load.

Going to see Jenna play hiockey tonight. Should be different.

Mar 11 2017

Another nasty cold day. Up at 5am getting ready for time change. Another leg cramp last night. Wondering if my low carb diet plays a factor. Probably just the poor circulation I have in that left leg. Down to 168 this morning. Progress is encouraging.

We headed to HD early and picked up some Preen and a screen repair kit. Mary helped me with the screen repair and we got it back in the front door screen spot. With her help we kept the screen kinks out of it and it looks like brand new. I finished up Carolyn's videos and made 2 Dvds and a memory stick. She picked it up after work.

Mary went back out in the cold to shop with Carolyn and go to church.

Mar 10 2017

Damn! Snow on the ground and no end to the cold in sight. Should be in SC! Busy day, sort of anyway. We did the bills for most of the month. I pulled the screen door windows out so I could wash off the egg some kids tossed in January. Mary is still pretty upset about it. Got the windows and door cleaned but will need to replace the screen.

I also went over the dr appts and got them down on the calendar. Finally, processed another of Carolyn's video to MP4. I have 2 to go plus need to create the backup dvds.

The kids were supposed to come over but it was too cold for whatever Wes and Kaetchen had planned so we met them for Friday Lent fish. I got a nasty piece again so I think we will go elsewhere next week.

Mar 9 2017

Oops another blog missed. Yesterday Mary was bowling. I spent most of the day converting Carolyn's video to MP4 files.

Today we both did the strength class and got beat up good. Lots of reps. I was sore from Tuesday, mostly the triceps. Mary did not use the chair and did OK. Guess her dizzy stuff is over. After some laundry and such, we headed out to dinner at Texas Roadhouse and stopped by to return TWCs tv modem.

My Spectrum (TWC going forward) bill came the other day and jumped \$20. I called and bla bla bla TWC no longer exists but they were honoring their pricing but there was now a local tv surcharge and bla bla bla some more. I ditched the TV I never used, When they redid my bill last time it was included in their bonus package but not any more. What a scam. Change your name and jack up the prices.

We stopped a couple of places looking for an Easter Ham. It is a bit early but I need one with less salt. The best we found was at Giant Eagle; Sugardale smoked ham of 9lbs at 660mg salt per serving.

March 7 2017

Took the strength class and was glad to see Andrea was in for Jenny. She doesn't get crazy with the reps. I did very well considering it's been over a month since last time. Mary was getting her hair done so I went and got groceries to help with my low carb diet. Green beans, cauliflower, mushrooms, eggs, and turkey breasts.

Kalix was over for a couple of hours and then Mary left to watch Jenna tonight. Everyone is going to a concert except her and she needed company. Mary will stay over and be back in the morning. Hope the Boggie Man doesn't get me tonight. Scale still said 170 this morning; hope to see 169.5 tomorrow.

Mar 6 2017

Rain threat so we canceled golf. It is too cold to get wet. Called the softener salt guy so he should come before noon. Mary went over to Carolyn's to help her shop for light fixtures. Encouraging 170 on the scale this morning!

So it looked like the rain was ok till 6pm so we played. Wrong. Rain came at hole 7 so we rushed through the last 2 holes. Dick shot 48 as did I with Mel coming in at 51. Well, we didn't set the bar very high for our next effort. Hit the driver well. Never chipped very close though and somehow strokes added up. Mary said they found some nice fixtures to mull over.

Mar 5 2017

Cold morning but it warmed up to low 50s. I did a little weeding and leaf pickup in the afternoon and got the trash out. Tossed some records from last year to clear out my drawer. Also put away tax stuff since I am finished with that. Still hanging in on my low carb diet. Down to 171.5 this morning. Will be great when I get out of the 170s.

Mar 4 2017

Forgot to mention I will be on a diet for awhile. Need to lose 10 lbs. Hopefully that will not take too long. Looks like I missed a blog day again. Need to get back into the old routine again. Friday not much was going on. Mary had taken some cake to the Fish Fry and brought back dinner. We did lots of wash all day.

Today was nasty 20s cold. What a rude awakening here with the cold weather. We got some more food from the store. I sent in the taxes and they were accepted by the Feds and Ohio. Pretty simple now as it's all standard deduction. I paid a grand total of \$56 Federal tax. I hope T-Rump doesn't mess that up for me. Don't make enough to be taxed anymore, but we are doing OK. I can supplement my income with selling my golf pencils.

Mar 2 2017

Mary went off to help with a funeral at church for most of the day. I went to the ATM and picked up some groceries, then to the post office to pick up the mail. Putting trip stuff away, doing laundry, and addressing the mail took up most of the afternoon. We went over to watch Kalix and get Z-man off the bus while she took Lincoln to the

doctor.

What the heck was the white stuff that was coming down today? I am not liking that.

Mar 1 2017

We were up at 5:45am and left Doge an hour later. Home at 6:30 after picking up a subway sub for dinner. Did a lot of unpacking. Pretty whipped.

Forgot to mention the tally we did on the way to Conway yesterday, about a 30 minute drive. We saw 5 gas stations and 15 churches, 10 of them Baptist. I always claimed there are too many churches. This proves it.

Feb 28 2017

We did a beach walk this morning in shorts, t-shirt, and bare feet, walking in the water too. Was a warm 70ish all day but I saw Conway was to hit 80 today so we headed over. We stopped at the visitor center and then went on the riverwalk. You walk about 1/2 mile down the Waccamah and back. The Waccamah is one of the rivers tha empty into Winyah Bay at Georgetown. What a treat to stand on the banks of the Waccamah.

We spotted a retro diner so stopped in and had a great hot fudge sundae. After dinner we spent 20 min in the pool and then 15 in the hot tub. The jets were not working but it was nice and quiet. We had the place to ourselves.

We said goodbye to our beloved hot tub for another time.

Feb 27 2017

OMG. Forgot the blog yesterday. It was a cool day so we went bowling. We bowled terrible. I beat Mary 91 to 70 something, then she beat me 99 to 60 something. It was a bad pin machine. A couple of times the 7 pin just fell over when it set up. Other perfect balls left a pin standing? When we were done, 3 or 4 pins just fell over.

Today we went to golf. Mary did a good job as a caddy. I hit lots of good irons almost always short though.

Only 3 pars. i shot 48 on the front with 22 putts. They had sanded the greens and i did not have a clue. 4 putted one and 3 putted my 8 foot birdie try. The other 2 guys we played with had similar.

Only 46 on the back with a 9 on the finishing hole. The other 2 were all over the place and i hurried a bit too much and took a 9. Putted much better 16 putts as they had not sanded these yet.

Sigh, only 1 more day left. We will walk the beach and find some hot fudge sunday goodbye treat.

Feb 25 2017

We decided to travel out to Murrels Inlet and check out the condos out at Garden City Beach, as they looked interesting on the internet. This is about as far south of MB as North MB is north of MB. Trips south would be quicker but trips north would be longer. The Atalaya looked nice and reasonably priced but the desk didn't know what units they would have for Feb until April. I left them my contact info so they might call. Saw some units Dunn rents. The desk lady said only the end units had windows in the bedrooms.

We went to Old Time Pottery and Mary got some Red Hat stuff for her March Lunch. Lots of cool stuff there. We lunched at Flo's Seafood in Murrels Inlet, but it didn't set well with us. Must have been the mayo or lettuce on the rolls because we both had something different. Mary had fish while I had crab cake.

Looks like the hot tub will be tough with the big weekend crowd here.

Feb 24 2017

Opps. Missed a day. Yesterday we had a great time. We went to Southport on the NC coast, We went to the maritime museum, then walked along the river looking at the old houses and the historic site signs, There was a fort there in the past that was built to fight off the spanish back when England was at war. Well, by the time it was finished, the war was over.

We walked the river and dined at Fishy Fishy. The food was outstanding and fresh. Nothing frozen there. Mary had a fish sandwich and I had a crab cake sandwich. If you would have told me i would be eating lunch in Southport, NC outdoors dockside in shorts and t-shirt looking out at Bald Head Island on Feb 23, i would have said you were crazy. We walked to look at the old houses and stopped in the Christmas Shop there. I resisted the urge to add a bird to my flock.

Today we exercised as we did the wash, then did a 3 mile beach walk in t-shirt and shorts. Worked on a puzzle for awhile and sat outside in the beach chairs for an hour or so. Hit the hot tub after dinner to make it 24 straight days.

Four more days left.

Feb 22 2017

Easy morning as we did puzzles, read, and waited for tee time. Played River Oaks a second time and played the Bear 9 which is the toughest by far. Started out with a quad 9 (picked up after 6) followed by a triple 7 then settled down for awhile before finishing with an 8 and a wonderful 53.

Started the back like a changed man with lots of pars. Only 5 over with one to go! Then I got hit by another quad 8 for a 45. I felt like I hooked every iron I hit today. Even hooked a wedge. It could have been worse but I putted well. Highlight of the day was a par 4. I teed off and hit the right fairway bunker. Whacked a nice hooking 5 hybrid into

the left green side bunker. Nice sand shot but it rolled out to 20 foot then I made a downhill slider for a par. Mary enjoyed the ride along.

Feb 21 2017

Slept in this morning till 8:30! With no windows in the bedroom it stays dark. No road noise either. After breakfast we grabbed a load of laundry and went down to exercise. Did 20 min on the elliptical and 15 on the treadmill. Did some easy lifting with the 5 lb hand weights.

We did the grocery shopping and measured the beach walks. To the south pink house it was 1 mile. To the north the tower was 1.3 mile. Pretty good walks although they are always slow as we look for shells. Yesterday I almost stepped on a jellyfish. Tomorrow is golf. Mary will ride along for 18 unless she gets bored.

Feb 20 2017

My left calve was tight this morning. We did a long beach walk north this time. I would guess 2mi each way. After we got back I went to the barbershop on main st and got scalped good. Have not had a haircut this bad since I got one up in Independence a few years back. I was surprised he did not do a war dance before and/or after I was scalped. I knew it was a bad omen when I saw pictures of Jefferson Davis and Robert E Lee on the wall.

Mary went and got 2 puzzles from the game room. The first was so bad I tossed it in the garbage. Must have had 6 broken pieces and when we did the edges, you could not tell if they fit or not. Down to the pool at 5:30.

Feb 19 2017

Did the machines this morning after sleeping in till 7:30. Mary headed to church for 10am mass. Had lunch when she got back and headed off to a beach walk. We went south about a mile and on the way back we went out to main street to check out the shops. Nothing interesting. A few of the bars had people outside.

We stopped at the oldies shop we had seen many times before. Mary got a pair of fancy flip flops and I got a book on the shag. It was so nice out we went out to the chairs on the beach. The building is curved so we lose direct sun in the afternoon and that is why we went out. Could not stay out there for more than 45 minutes. The sun was too hot.

Feb 18 2017

Had a leisurely breakfast and made a grocery list. We were pretty low on dinners. Picked up the groceries and did some puzzle till lunch. Then we set out for the boardwalk in MB. Weather forecast was wrong. We dressed for 76 and it did not get above 65 due to cloud cover. Bummer. Turns out it was warmer at home than it was here today. What the heck?

Picked up a couple of items for the little ones and had a funnel cake at Iggy's. Fried dough covered with powdered sugar. Can't beat that! This place also had 150 flavors of soft ice cream! I had to ask how they did that and found out they hand mix every flavor. We also watched the rides. From afar we saw the slingshot go a couple of times. As we passed by 3 girls were going to ride this think that spins around and the arm takes your spinning seats and sends them up like a pendulum higher each time till you flip over the top. Crazy stuff! Time to head to the pool.

Feb 17 2017

We did a beach walk this morning. Was 40 when we got up but it warmed quick. I went to take Catherine to the AP and then headed to the golf course while Mary did the wash. I played reasonably well, a big improvement over last time. Hit the driver well but irons poorly. Short game was OK but not many up and downs. Only 5 pars.

Hit the pool when I got back before the weekend crowd got in. Last weekend Friday and Saturday were very busy poolside.

Feb 16 2017

We took the 3 hr Hobcaw Baroney tour. It was interesting. Highlight for me is looking at the North Inlet thru the salt marsh from their property, as I have read about North Island, Baruch seemed to be a ruthless hunter shooting 100 ducks at a time. Pretty lame,

Feb 15 2017

Oops, missed yesterdays blog. We were out all day. We went to Hamricks and bought out the store. I got 3 pair of shorts for \$12 and 1 for \$6. Also a Jack Nicklaus shirt for \$20. Mary and my sister got a ton of stuff. We then went to Georgetown and walked the waterfront and showed her the old cemetery.

Today was wet, windy and 60. We did the exercise room, had lunch at the Spring House, and I waited in the car while they hit a few places in Barefoot landing. The it was dinner and the pool.

Feb 13 2017

We did a beach walk this morning and snagged some shells. Had lunch and headed to Calabash for shopping. I bought some earrings for Valentines day. While we were out they "fixed" our washer/dryer clog. Catherine tried it and it clogged again.

Thirteen straight for the hot tub. Love it!

Feb 12 2017

I was dropped off for golf at Indigo Creek in Murrles Inlet. The course was reasonable but there was very little grass. I wasn't on today. Hit 6 drives into the weeds, hit maybe

1 good 6 iron, chipped horrible and made no putts. All ended up as a 103; pretty pathetic. There will be better days.

We went to the Market Commons but a bit too upscale for my wallet. Stopped out for BBQ then back to the condo to Face Time with the kids. It was good to see them again.

Feb 11 2017

We were off to the MB boardwalk this morning. We walked the beach to 2nd St pier then back on the boardwalk. We picked up shells along the beach and the walk was 1.2 miles each way. I walked the jackets back to the car while pizza was being eaten. I had a Nathans famous hot dog (Teds is better). Too hot for anything but short sleeves.

We did the shops and headed over to Broadway on the Beach for more shopping. Hurried back for church and I made the spaghetti. While I was waiting for the water to boil, I opened the washer and water spilled out. The code was drain blocked. I spent a half hour mopping up. I hate that piece of crap all in one washer/dryer. The repair guy is to call tomorrow.

We ate dinner and I pulled the clothes out wet and we took them to the real machines on floor 4. We did the exercise machines while we waited. I did 15min on the elliptical. After they dried we hurried to the pool to make it eleven straight days in the pool/hot tub. Loving it! Very busy in there with the weekend crowd being here.

Feb 10 2017

Ten straight days in the pool/hot tub. Loving it! We did the exercise machines today. I did 15min on the elliptical and 15 on the treadmill. It was busy there. Glad we got an early start.

Headed to Conway for the day. Found some nice stuff at Carolina Market Place antiques, then it was off to the Horry County Museum to see if they fixed the text I had complained about last year. They had, so Bravo! I made an impact on history!

We grabbed some lunch, visited another antique store, and hit the pool. Tried to get a car wash but it was down for repair. Oh yeah, I bought some unopened football cards from 1990. Opened the first pack and who was the card on top but Scott Norwood. What luck I have, eh?

Feb 9 2017

Ahhh. Nine straight days in the pool/hot tub. Loving it! The ladies dropped me off for golf at Valley at Eastwood at 10am and went off to shopping at the outlet mall. There were monsoon winds of 30mph for most of the day. I played a nice front nine in 44 with 3 pars, then a horrible 51 with 1 par and 3 penalties the last 2 holes. Trouble with my short game and club selection on the back. The course did not suit my game. Large bunkers guard most of the greens. With my low shots there was no run up for me. I had many a shot hit into them. I had 7 in the sand. Twelve putts on the front, 22 on the back. Yikes!

Feb 8 2017

Ahhh. Eight straight days in the pool/hot tub. Loving it! We were off early to the Plantations. We went to Hopswee (17.50ea) and Hampton(7.50ea). Hopswee was a great tour. The owner lives there and you tour the house with a great tour guide of Gullah heritage. It was a bit pricey. The Hampton tour is good. We were there last year with Sue and it was free then. Bought a book by the last of the family to live there. Should be interesting.

Stopped at Hobcaw Baroney but the tours are at 10 and 11am. It is a preserve set aside by Belle Baruch. We shall go back within the next week before Catherine leaves. We found Chinese food on the way back, then hit the pool.

Catherine played Marco Polo with a little girl around 8 who was by herself with mom keeping an eye on her since she was swimming alone.

Feb 7 2017

We got back to exercising this morning. I did 15min on the elliptical and 20min on the treadmill. After that we did a beach walk. Took my shoes off and walked in the ocean up to my ankles. Catherine did too. It was freezing!

We went on the Barefoot Princess sight seeing ship on the inter coastal waterway. It was a very enjoyable time and we were amazed at the mansions that have been built there. Picked up some more groceries and did the pool and hot tub. Busy day.

Feb 6 2017

I went to bed when it was 28-10 figuring NE had no chance and I finally had backed a winning team only to wake up and find I was right all along. My team never wins!

Mary dropped me off at Azalia Sands this morning and I played with 2 pretty decent players. I shot an 89 and they were in the upper 90s. The only one I hit into the water skipped out and I did not see it so I played a new ball. Took a 7 but it could have been a 5 if I played the ball that skipped out. Did not want to slow the play down though.

The ladies did a little grocery shopping and some shopping at Barefoot Landing. They found a nice sandpiper for \$12. Sweet deal. They went on a beach walk and we did the pool when they got back. Back up to the room for dinner and some puzzles.

Feb 5 2017

So, I am doing the blog just before the Super Bowl and am rooting for Atlanta. That means New England has it locked up.

We did the exercise room this morning. I did 25min on the treadmill. The ellipticals were busy as the room was pretty full. We did some wash in the joke of a washer/dryer. The stupid thing take hours. After a bit of lunch, we headed out to

Wilmington.

We went to the Bellamy house, a house restored by NC which was a mansion built by a plantation owner in 1860 the year the Civil War started. Then it was over to the Cape Fear Museum. It was quite interesting. I never heard that there was a coup in Wilmington back in the 1890s where they chased the blacks out of town. What the heck? We stopped at the Cotton Exchange but they were closing up shortly after we got there.

Feb 4 2017

I slept really well last night, best this year I would guess. Off to sleep at 10am and didn't wake till 4am. Finally up at 6am to watch a nice sunrise. I cooked eggs and toast for breakfast. After that settled, we did the exercise room. I did 20 on the elliptical and did a few 10 lb tricept and bicep curls. Catherine wanted to do a quick beach walk and we got some shells. Cold and windy today so quick it was. Off to the pools for an hour and then lunch.

We did a little on the puzzle and headed over to Bearfoot Landing for ice cream and candy. We bought 2lbs of the stuff. Back home so the ladies could make church. I cooked the spaghetti and asked for the sleepytime tea.

Feb 3 2017

After 2 days in the 70s today was a bust with rain and high 40s. We did the exercise room this morning. I did 15min on the elliptical and 10 on the treadmill. We are still learning the machines – lots of guesswork.

Off to shopping at the Coastal Mall to stay dry and warm. Mary got 2 tops, Catherine 1 top and Mary got me 2 shirts while I road the mall chairs for the most part. We stopped at an antique store and I got a dish for the shells. They had several nice carved birds but they were all \$67 dollars.

Did the pool and hot tub before enjoying sandwiches for a light dinner.

Feb 2 2017

Hello all from warm North Myrtle Beach. We had a good trip down and it was in the 70s yesterday and today. We had to wait a bit for the condo cleaning yesterday so we had lunch and went to Walmart to pick up all the non-perishables. The bedrooms are poorly lit, esp the master, so we got a goose neck lamp to help out.

Today we walked the beach early in 56 degree sunshine and were plenty warm. After we got back we hit the pool and hot tub. Both are excellent. We showered and picked up Catherine at the AP around noon. We stopped for Little Pigs BBQ and headed home.

Catherine unpacked and we did a puzzle then went off food shopping. She is whipped;

was up way early to get to the AP this morning.

Jan 30 2017

We did the cats, halted the mail, and transferred the phone. Also packed the bags and loaded up the car. Plan is to leave 8ish in the morning. May be later if its snowing or roads are bad. Will likely skip the blog tomorrow on Jan 31 since we will be traveling.

Jan 29 2017

We did the cats and got Arby's for lunch/dinner. Carolyn and her kids were over and we watched Jacob and baby Jenna's first year. It was funny stuff!

Jan 28 2017

Was worried while sleeping about the furnace exhaust pipe. There is a small drip at the elbow inside and I was wondering if there is exhaust coming thru as well. Thought it is time to replace the batteries in the co2 detector. Did that when I got up and read where this is the last year for that detector. Said it was good for 7 years, so 2011+7 would be 2018. Supposed to have a special chirp for replacement.

Went to the hardware store but they don't have any glue that would work while wet. I wrapped it with some plumbers putty but I doubt that will last. I will check it tomorrow. May have to wait till better weather and fix it when the furnace is off.

Captured some pics and video from Jenna's first year in 2004. Jacob was 3 and he was a hoot. Made faces for the camera and played with Jenna. He put on quite a show.

Jan 27 2017

After pushing 1-2" of snow off my driveway, I am ready for the trip south. Can't wait for Tuesday. We have Fri/sat/sun/mon to go and only have enough food for 1 more lunch and 1 more dinner. Have to figure something out. I am thinking Arby's has the meats.

We got a surprise visit from Kalix today. She was here for 3 hrs and had a good time. She loves playing with Grammy and didn't complain when she had to duck out for an hour and was stuck with papa.

Talked to Dan Flynn for an hour. He sure can talk. We talked about how government funding for his company was going and about some of the news regarding Lockheed people. He saw John Cleese at Heinz hall and recalled me doing the bring out your dead routine after Lockheed layoffs. Thus the call.

Jan 26 2017

We went to the strength class and Andrea was teasing me. After class I told her we were gone for February and she wouldn't have a man to pick on. She said she will

have to drag one in from the hall, lol.

Most of the day we were doing laundry. Not much else worth noting. T-Rump started his feud with Mexico today. Should be entertaining.

Jan 25 2017

The kids were fun last night but they were crabby going home. Might be too much for them on school nights to come over. Went to the Y with Mary. We did 15min on the elliptical then we walked a mile on the track. Went to the store or we would not have bread for lunch. Brought home my usual quota of lottery losers too.

I did some of the last videos including mom working for me. I am declaring victory on the video project. Many thanks to the Ezgrabber! The only bummer is that you cant see the videos I posted on the shared site with an ipad. Shutterfly has told me that, so I suggesting the create an ap for the shared sites like they did for your home sites. Mary went bowling and did pretty good.

Jan 24 2017

Went and got a haircut this morning then went to strength class. It was pretty brutal as usual on Tuesdays. Got a DVD of some 8mm conversions so I made up an mp4 file and uploaded some clips to shutterfly.

Decided it would be too wet tomorrow for golf so that is it for Ohio golf. Hope MB is better. Should be a busy night, Getting the 3 young ones soon.

Jan 23 2017

Slept well finally. Could be I was just tired. Could be I had some tart cherry juice at bedtime. We went to the Y and I did 30min on the elliptical. Incredibly the staff was playing country music. Not good music to pump up to. Lots of wailing. How can you exercise to wailing. I complained to the two young staff women. Didn't seem like they gave a care. I will see Wednesday.

Bill sent me a countdown applet which I got working with SeaMonkey. Unfortunately I don't see a way to paste the html code in using the Web Host's editor. At least I can take pride that I can sort of get stuff working. At least I have that.

No news on the merger stock so it continues to drop. That is painful. There have been ups and downs on the other times I bought merger stocks but this one is scary at this point. Maybe I need a silver bullet to bite down on.

Put a Gagola video together and uploaded it to Shutterfly. Hope they like it.

Jan 22 2017

Another lousy sleep night. I added a countdown to the page that I will have to

manually adjust every day. Count is how many more days we have to put up with T-Rump. We picked up a few trip items at Walmart and then chowed down at Texas Roadhouse with our gift cards.

Stopped at Burlington Coat factory and found a great winter outdoors coat for \$39.95. I had not expected to buy one but I could not pass up that deal. Was expecting to check prices and wait for clearance.

Did figure out SeaMonkey, so those skills are still in force. Couldn't find a day counter applet so I guess it will just be manual.

Mike and his buddy were across the street doing car work. His buddy said they went to Turkeyfoot but there was an hr and a half wait, so they played at Firestone Public. This warm weather is just crazy! 60 yesterday, 50 today, but cold is on the way.

Jan 21 2017

Took it easy again today. Put some stuff in a bag for the Goodwill. Stuff I will never use. Cut some DVD-rs and loaded some memory sticks. The sticks have much more storage than the DVDs but I wonder if I will ever be able to find them as they are so small.

Tried to get a small video camera going. Carolyn dropped it off for our trip. Got it charged and all but it doesn't want to connect to my computer? Read up on how to use the radar cruise control. I had tried it the other day unsuccessfully. Found out I had it in reverse. Was putting it into the constant speed instead.

Did some other prep stuff. Weather was amazing. Even Sable Creek is going to open tomorrow.

Had a thought about adding a java applet to my web page to countdown days we have to put up with T-Rump. Been a long while (15 years?) since I did something like that. SeaMonkey is what I remember using for html editing. Not sure I can resurrect those skills/

Jan 20 2017

Took it easy today and was working hard on the vhs tapes. I managed to do away with them all, somewhere between 6 and 8 cubic feet of them. They put a decent dent in the dumpster space. The last 2 were full tapes of Wes' high school running. Dang. Out of projects now.

I do have a couple of clean up items. I would like to mix a few interesting files and post to shutterfly. Also trying to find out why my videos can not be viewed on the shared site with an ipad. Only windows plays them. I can see them play with the ipad on my shutterfly account page, but not on the shared page. Will bug them about it. Mary went to knitting and was ripping out some after class.

My 401K was down 2% because Bloomberg said the FTC was not happy with Rite Aid divesting stores to Freds. Don't know where they got their info because there was noting official out there. What the heck? The T-Rump train wreck is supposed to be in favor of merger approval. I hope they are wrong, else I will take a real beat down.

Jan 19 2017

I went golfing and Mary went to the strength class. She said she did well. We went to Brookledge and were the first players to tee off. The front nine was chilly but it warmed up for the back. Dick shot 99, Mel 98, and I shot 87. Had a couple of birdie chances but missed both by a lot. Took me 4 to get down from green side on the last hole, otherwise I would have done better.

I started to rake over by Brenda's. The leaves were real heavy and I pulled a chest muscle which was a bit scary so I stopped and went inside.

Jan 18 2017

Went to the Y and was planning to do 30min. Was doing fine at about 15min when a young lady hopped on the one next to me and was doing 6.5mph vs my 4.8. That made those pedals so much harder and it was depressing. I threw in the towel at 25min and went over and did the ab machine.

We went grocery shopping to get some lunch stuff and Mary went off to bowling. I did some vhs videos to mp4 stuff till about dinnertime and called it a day. Looking forward to golf tomorrow.

Jan 17 2017

We did the Y strength class this morning. The Tuesday instructor was not very helpful in alternative options for Mary for the exercises on the floor. The Mon/Thurs instructor is much more useful. We were going to get Kalix and Lincoln this afternoon but it got delayed and we got all three here at 5pm till 7:30ish. I am not sure how we survived, but it was not too bad. 3 kids is more than a handful.

I got a tee time for Thursday but so far it is just me. Wonder where Dick and Mel are? Bill was going to play but has to go with Judy to the doctor. I will keep the faith.

After a struggle I found out how to upload video and post it to the Shutterfly site for the family. I just hope I can get people interested in checking it now.

Jan 16 2017

We did the Y this morning. 20Min on the elliptical and a mile walk on the track. Did some more videos and tossed a bunch of tapes with garbage on them. Left to visit Batcher around 3pm. We had a good visit with Jane also visiting, then had dinner at parrisons. Got home around 7:30.

Carolyn and family took their maimed cat to Columbus to see if they could fix the broken leg. They are holding off till Friday to see if the rest of the leg is getting blood flow before wasting surgery on it. So Friday its either surgery or amputate.

Jan 15 2017

Wow. Do I get into my work or what? Been working on transferring old vhs to DVD and got lost in my work. Missed Fri/Sat blogs. Pretty much been working on this for 3 days now and tossed quite a few tapes. I am up to 14 home videos now.

Also signed up on shutterfly for video at \$20/year. Up loaded about 100 pics clipped from the video and one video. Have not seen the video post yet. Says it might take 24-48 hrs for that. Stay tuned.

Jan 12 2017

Busy day, We got the boxes out for the tree stuff then headed to the Y in pouring rain. We saw Kalix and Kaetchen and did the strength class. The class is very full this year. As a result I ended up with 10lb heavy weights which made it tough. Not too bad though. Mary did good again and used a chair rather than laying down.

Got right to work packing up the tree when we got home and had it stored away by 1pm. That was a good thing cause Kaetchen and Kalix came over and Kalix had a tea party. She loves that. Lincoln was his usual happy self but is getting heavy at 16 lbs. He is a load to carry very long. Kalix did not want to go home as she was only over for 2 hours.

Got the 4 reels of 8mm film I had converted in the mail. Bummer was it did not play in my player. There was a note about that to send it back and they would do a different format.

I looked on google and they suggested downloading VLC player from videolan.org which worked. I could play the disc in the slot. I moved the files to my desktop and tried it. On the desktop I had to open each of the 4 files they made individually and play them. Weird. The disc they sent Catherine from the first batch of 2 reels worked ok on my DVD player but it played the same way on my computer.

Jan 11 2017

Was a little slippery this morning but it quickly warmed to 50. No one answered at the golf course so that sucked. Went to the Y and did 25 on the elliptical and did some ab weight machines.

Back at home I converted the 2 Hawaii tapes to files for the DVD. Watched the horse racing and hit the pick 5 for \$500+. Sweet! Between tapes I went to Geagle and picked up some food. Mostly lunch stuff as we try too empty the freezer before the end of the month. Folded some wash as well. Tried to call the course regarding tomorrow but no answer again.

Jan 10 2017

Snow and ice. I got the drive shoveled early while it was still powder. Glad I did cause it turned to rain and then the snow was heavy. Went to the Y and did the strength class. Jenny is big on lots of reps which is a killer.

Mary went to help out at a church funeral. I did some more video capture. Found a segment I knew Mary would love. It was a Christmas visit to Olean to see Grandma Schnell. There was lots of conversation with Grandma, Mother, and daughter. Very memorable.

Jan 9 2017

Went to the Y and did 30 on the elliptical. Mary did that plus the bike during that time. Got home and captured video all day from my old vhs tapes. Pretty impressive. I think I did 4 tapes today and 3 yesterday giving me 6 MPEG4 files which I burned on a DVD-r. That is an amazing volume reduction. The DVD takes up 6.5square inches vs 208 square inches or 32x smaller.

Jan 8 2017

Another veggie day. We went to Walmart and HD to pick up a few gifts for daughter Carolyn. Mary had to go back and pick up one of the bags of stuff we bought but didn't take home. I hate those circular bag holders. They put stuff in them but you can not see in them. If they don't unhook it you assume there is nothing in it and you go home leaving stuff in a bag on that rack. I suppose you can watch and see where they put stuff but that is not easy either. A pox on them!

Jan 7 2017

Veggie day. It was 3 degrees and going to get to 15 by the end of the day. Watched the horse races and broke even on the day with 2 wins and a bunch of losers. Mary went to church in the cold and I had the spaghetti ready when she got home. She misplaced Brenda's key so we got to find that tomorrow. Probably in the car.

She is still hacking going on 8 days now. Seems like a lot of people have the same thing. Carolyn's bday today. I think she is 44 today. Holy crap!

Jan 6 2017

Did not sleep well. Was up at 4:15 and got another hour in at 6:45. Cut a DVD for Catherine and mailed it out so Aunt Gloria can see it. I tried editing but that was not going well. Will need to do some manual viewing.

Headed out to lunch up by Viasat. Jane, Bob, and Craig were there to get my free Bills loser lunch. Long ride up and back. When I got back I tried to change my headlights to these LED ones I found. Took me a long time to remove the grill and pull out one headlight. Found it was the wrong bulb for my car. Somehow I got suckered in. Put it all back together.

Did some more looking and found the guys address. It looked right to me since I did pick him up eons ago for some reason. Property records showed a different owner since 2002 so that is confusing. I had heard he got married so maybe he sold it at that time. Have an email in to the source of the information. Should hear from him next week.

Jan 5 2017

Mary did great at strength class - her first time back. I went to lunch with Rudy Dudics and Don Zwolsky. We had fun remembering the good times and the people. One, Don said took his own life. I looked on the BJ to confirm and did not find anything. Not going to pass that on till I learn more. Major bummer!

I bought \$20 worth of all loser lottery tickets; so it goes. We got 2 stinking inches of snow this afternoon and it is cold. Won't hit above freezing till Tuesday. Got my ezgrabber gizmo in the mail (\$35 at amazon). Figured how to hook it up, and captured 1 VHS tape onto my computer. It had: Toronto, Wes k1 school stuff, Alaska, mom and dad in Hawaii, Gloria's wedding, Catherine (baby) and i at Xmas, Mary's family reunion.

Now i need to edit and cut a DVD. I hope to send Catherine one asap so Gloria can see it before it is too late. Her health isn't getting any better.

Jan 4 2017

Forgot to post last night once again so posting early morning. Went to the Y and did 30min on the elliptical. The last 5 were tough but I held on. Worked up a good sweat. My hamstrings were still aching from Tuesday's workout. I went to the retiree lunch and Mary went bowling.

Batcher did not go to the lunch. I found later his son was busy with meetings and could not break away. Bob Messner threw down a shocker. He said he sent Kathy Liszka a xmas card and got a call from her sister who said she passed away in October from heart problems. She was a very nice person. She was a software person at Lockheed, went to get her PHD at Kent and was a Professor at Akron U. Jane was upset as she lunched with her on a regular basis before her chemo and had not got back together with her since. There were no notices as the family wished so it is not widely known.

Woke up worrying about Mary resuming exercise activity. Figured we should try some things today at home before trying it at the Y and later in Myrtle Beach. Stay tuned. Also she called her brother Jim in the hospital. She said he did not sound good. The doctors have him on a heart monitor looking for Afib.

Jan 3 2017

Forgot to post last night so posting early morning. Went to the Tuesday strength class and Jenny brutalized us. She seems intent on working at least one muscle into submission. We did a ton of one leg dips with weights and did in the hamstrings. Tough to sit down this morning.

Not much else. I started looking at the manuals for ezgrabber I ordered, hopefully to turn my VHS home video into DVDs. That will be my project for January. Mary was talking to sister Ginny. We may spend 2 weeks there this spring. Looks like it is cheaper to fly.

Jan 2 2017

Mary's cough was bad last night so we got up and got her some tea at 4am. Back to bed for some more sleep. Got up around 7am and got ready for golf. Twas a miserable morning with fog and a light mist but low 40s. Dick, Bill, and I played down at Wilkshire among the goose crap. We shot 88, 89, and 80 respectively. I could have been somebody if I didn't 3 putt 18. As we were finishing what to my wondrous eyes should appear? Houle and Weaver teeing off on 10. He must have jinxed me. The mist stopped but the fog was here all day. What a crappy day.

Quiet evening.

Jan 1 2017

Happy New Year. Bah humbug, I say. Mary is suffering from a bad cough and cold. I may be following her. The Bills got trounced by the Jets, who tried everything in their power to not win. And the Browns should have won (but of course did not). On the Buffalo scene, Mary's brother Jim went in the hospital for dehydration as he hasn't been taking good care of himself while Shirley is in rehab after her back operation. Is that enough? I hope it can only get better.

On the plus side, the snow has melted and I might get to play tomorrow.

Looking back on 2016, Joan Herbold, Sheri Noah, and John Glenn are now resting in peace.