

Neon's Blog_2018

December 31 2018

Mid 40s for the last day of the year today. We did the Y ellipticals and walked the track for 2 miles. There was no strength class today and the Y closed at noon. Not much doing. We started another puzzle.

Sad to hear Ed Bose passed away at 89. Great golfer. Enjoyed many rounds at Seven Hills in the Missile League. He was one of the good guys.

That puts this blog to bed. Time to start a new one tomorrow.

December 30 2018

Back up to mid 40s today. We went out and picked up some prescriptions and stopped to find some projects for the kids. Found about 3 sessions worth for the next few weeks. Listened to the Bills game. They won big which is no help cause I lost the lunch bet already.

We dropped Jacob's jacket and the gas cans at Carolyn's and went out for Mexican. It was very good. New Year's eve tomorrow. May do the Y and then vegetate?

December 29 2018

Yikes. 60 yesterday and 34 degrees now. We left for Sarah Mills wedding at Little Flower at 12:15. Mary taught CCD with her mother Cathy for many years and helped out with her mother Fran at funerals. Fran also went to Red Hats till the last few months. Alzheimer's is getting the best of her.

It was a really nice wedding with great music. We went to the reception in the hall and the food was excellent. Fran couldn't remember friend Cathy Schafer's name. She did remember Mary but asked if she went to this church. Daughter Cathy said she really doesn't remember that she is her daughter, just knows her as the lady of the house. Sounds very familiar as that is how my mom was the last 3-4 years of her life.

Matt and Cathy Schafer had dinner at our table and we had good conversation. Matt does the Saturday Polka's on WZIP from 8-12 every week. Sure was cold going home.

December 28 2018

Was thinking about Bill's almost ace yesterday. Getting tired of watching everyone else get an ace since I have been shut out since 2005. Recently, saw Dick Miller's ace, missed Dick's ace as I was visiting the bushes when he made his, and now watched Bill come close. Been nineteen years now. At 70+ rounds/year with 4 par 3s a round, that is 5320 misses in a row! What the heck?

Very warm 60 today with on and off drizzle. Wind was not as bad as predicted. I walked the back and picked up a few sticks. We went to get some lunch meat and some kraut for new years. Tis the season to vegetate.

December 27 2018

Was supposed to get to low 50s but never got above 46. Cold wind chill too. I started

out on fire with 3 pars and a birdie then took a 7 on the par 3, dumping 2 in the water. Oh well. Lots of pars and more birdie chances but none made. Settled for a 42-40 =80. Bill had an excellent round at 84. Almost flew one into the cup on #11. Dick also played well sans a couple of holes with an 87. We were all chilled at the end.

That wraps up golf for this year. I had an incredible year. My average score every nine was 6.01 over par, a full 2 stroke lower than last year. A full 75% of my scores were under 85. Best ever since I started tracking my scores in 2012.

Time to get in the shower and warm up. Late update: ran out of perfect curl shampoo; went with revitalizing shampoo.

December 26 2018

Very nice day. Should have played. It was much warmer than predicted with a bright sun in the sky. Mary and sister Catherine were off to after xmas sales. I raked a small spot at Brenda's that was missed but that only took 5 minutes.

When the ladies got back, we went to cash in the fuel perks and I saved \$42. Sweet! Golf tomorrow. We had an opening so I invited TK, but he is out of town right now.

I continue to feel better so I guess I beat this virus back.

December 25 2018

Happy birthday Jesus!

Quiet day. Sue and Ed visited from Coraopolis Pa. Near Pittsburgh. Carolyn came over to visit with them. We all had lunch and exchanged gifts and watched a video Sue had made from my brother Jim's old 8mm tapes. She left a copy which I am slowly converting to mp4. Using VLC which is free but very slow. It will likely take 2 hrs for a 1 hr video.

Mary and sister Catherine went over to Carolyn's. She has cooked a turkey. I stayed home as I am tired and a bit groggy with this cold I have. I did sleep better last night but am tiring fast.

Got a new neon yellow ski cap! It is very nice and a little heavier than mine. Should be warmer.

December 24 2018

The kids got over at 10:30 as we were opening gifts because Wes was working Christmas day. Everything went well and it was a good family experience. Santa went overboard (sister Catherine) and we will need to do an intervention when my other sister visits tomorrow.

T-Rump spooked the stock market with his absurdities. Dropped 2.7% in a half a day of trading.

December 23 2018

Mary got to cooking the roasts and we had that ready by 9:30. She finished icing the pie then made the salads. All that was done by 1pm.

She helped me wrap up the leaf removal at Brenda's by 1:30. Jenna came over and decorated the cookies. Carolyn helped a bit to keep things moving. She also helped my sister bring in her plethora of gifts from Buffalo.

We had pizza and I started Christmas Chronicles on Netflix. While they were watching I watched Steven Bodzin Trance Live at the Boiler Room. He is quite the showman with his bald head. I linked the video to the song of the day.

Busy day. Coming down with a cold. Dang it. Everyone better stay away tomorrow.

December 22 2018

Mary got to baking the cookies early and had them done by 9:30am. Carolyn picked the pre-cut cookie dough from Gordon Food Service and split the box with her. No grand kids to help frost them so we set them aside for tomorrow. If no help then, we shall have to wing it.

Started the pies after that. She made the dough but came up short so had to run out for more supplies. It went better this year cause we saw on TV that it is best to chill the dough for a half hour before rolling it. Doesn't stick to the paper or roller as easy. I helped with the apples and putting the dough in the pan. The pie went in the oven at 2:30 so that was a marathon 4-5 hrs for a pie. It is a big sheet pie just like the one my mom made for most Holidays. Everybody loves it and is the highlight of the day when it is around.

In between helping out, I bagged 2 piles of Brenda's leaves on every trip out. I made 3 trips and moved 6 of the 8 piles to the trees. I was quite wasted by the last outing and somewhere around 12 bags. Maybe move the last two tomorrow or I will leave them till the mood moves me. Kind of a scratchy throat by dinnertime. Hope it is just from being out in the cold.

More cooking tomorrow. Got to cook the roasts and the macaroni salads.

December 21 2018

We headed out for the last grocery run and I think we got it done. Rolls for the roast beast, horse radish, macaroni, shrimp and more. Apples for the pie!

The kids were over from 11:30 till 4:30 and wore us out. Lots of goodies were eaten and many games played.

Surprised Jacob did not make it over. Maybe tomorrow in the cold? I played some good chess the last few days and pulled myself back up to 1310. It is really hard in the low 1230s as the players always do the unexpected.

T-Rump's diversions continue. Govt shutdown and Syria pullback mess in process. What a jackass.

December 20 2018

The kids were great last night and a lot of fun. Today was Wilkshire. It started out at 40 and perhaps hit 48? Anyway I was on. Two over 38 on the front and one over on the back with a birdie on 18 for 75. Could have parred them all and had 2 other birdie chances. Had maybe 3 look ups but saved par on two of them. On the downside, the tees were way up today.

Thought Jacob would be over to rake but I guess he chose tomorrow instead. Gonna be colder and wetter according to the weather.

Mary went to church to help a lady fold bulletins. They tried to call Fran, the other lady that helped but no answer. She is the one that has Alzheimers. She was pretty functional till now but is going downhill. She stopped going to Red Hat lunches 2 months ago, they took her cell phone away, and seem to be helping her up the aisles in church. We have seen it all before, so we are not shocked, just saddened.

Tomorrow should be busy with groceries, kids watch and maybe leaves.

December 19 2018

Time is a ticking. Went to the dentist this morning. Alas, I need another crown in January. Stopped at Arby's for an Arbynator for lunch on the way home. We went over to Brendas and raked 8 piles of leaves. That was a good workout. We will finish tomorrow or Friday when Jacob comes over to help. Then the wind Friday will cover it all over again?

Another kids watch tonight.

December 18 2018

What is up with this Christmas invasion around here? Shen Yun? An ancient Chinese dance that almost was lost forever? Wish it was. Russian Ballet doing the nutcracker? Why don't they go somewhere else? Not only do tboth of them hack us and interfere in the elections, they try to snag our easy Christmas money. Get out of here!

I did deposit my usual monthly budget amount into TVG for horse racing earlier this month. How was my luck? It is obvious I am totally snake bit. Out of 16 wagers, I hit nada. I even tried \$2 win on a 3/5 heavy favorite. Thinking I at least should win \$2.10 and I could say I won one. He ran second. All I can do is laugh about it.

I went to the Y and did the usual. Not a big crowd, perhaps 10 people. Nowhere to hide. Jenny caught me blowing off the last exercise. I am not into that one: Laying on my stomach and doing a superman.

Mary was busy. She got her hair done at 8am, then had lunch with Pat, Jan, and Brenda, then went into town with Brenda for awhile. She cycled down around 2:30pm.

December 17 2018

Went to the Y this morning and did the usual elliptical and strength class. Went well. Not much going on. Had some softener salt delivered. I got the idea to pull a bunch of old pictures up and print them for this years festivities. Selected mostly Xmas pics but some of the others were just too cute to pass by. Put them on a drive and Mary took them over to CVS and printed them. 35 pics. Should be fun.

More struggles at chess, Dropped below 1250 and almost got back up to there. Where is my brain? 60 Minutes showed all the plastic in the ocean. It is a massive problem now. Looks pretty convincing that many animals are eating it and it is likely we are too, although in mico quantities. Yikes!

December 16 2018

Mid 40s today. We finished a puzzle of the Manger this morning. Weird that we never did do one of those all these years. Headed to Texas Roadhouse for an early dinner. Lots left over for tomorrow. Veggy day!

The Bills squeaked one out to stay 1.5 games behind the Browns. With 2 games to go, that means I will be buying lunch in January. No way the Bills can win 2 while the Browns lose both. Oh well. It sure has been a very expensive last 2 months.

Struggling at chess. Down to 1250+ where the going is rough. Golf is set for Thursday. Hope it doesn't get rained out.

December 15 2018

It hit mid 50s today again. Supposed to cool down tomorrow. We cleaned up some leaves clogging the ditch around 8am and got that over with. Did some vacuuming and veg'd the rest of the day.

We finished a small puzzle then Mary headed to church. I spent a couple of hours planning our trip down to Florida. Going to stay in Bowling Green KY, and perhaps Montgomery AL. That gives us a long first day with a visit to Pigeon Roost 1812 site 6 hours out. We will visit The Hermitage in Nashville the next morning and then stop in Montgomery. Will visit Fort Jackson there in the morning and perhaps another site before heading to Panama City Beach.

December 14 2018

It hit mid 50s today! I headed to Wilkshire for ice golf in hopes of hooking up with a group but no luck. They did let me play the back and I wizzed around that in no time. Went 7 over for a 43 but had a par chance on almost every hole.

I hit the first 4 greens in regulation. With the frozen greens however, that was not a good thing and they all bounced over. Chipping was fun too. You had to guess the ice bounce and direct your chip away from the many goose droppings. Should have been around 40 but for a lip out, a 3 putt, and some unlucky bounces. Anyway, I ended the drought of 39 days without golf. What a relief!

Went out to pick up some Coldstone cards for Xmas. Stopped at Walmart for a few items and ate at Arby's. I had one of the new Arbinators. Very good!

December 13 2018

It hit mid 40s today! We went to the Y and did the usual stuff. Stopped at the post office to mail Ginny a package. Also stopped at the little donut shop in town. People named Mary got a free donut. She said it was good.

I went to the Greek church to get a gyro and see John T. It was very good and reasonable cost too. Offered to help him work on his house but he said he will contract the work out. Dell was also helping there too. When I got back the snow was mostly melted. Weather said OK tomorrow till 3pm when there would be rain. Tried to get a time at Wilkshire but they were booked. I will check the weather tomorrow and perhaps just drive down and hook up with a 2 or 3 some. I am sure there will be some partial groups. No play in 38 days!

Don Webster passed away. I remember him way back to my Buffalo days. He had a

dance show like American Bandstand in Hamilton Ontario prior to 1964 before being lured to Cleveland. I do remember it was VHF channel 11 and was real grainy when the signal came in if at all. RIP Don.

December 12 2018

The lousy stinking evil cold continues. It did hit 40 but I have yet to see any serious melting of snow. We picked up groceries this morning. Mary went to the knit shop and they said she was OK without a fix.

Ginny sent a box of nuts for Christmas. Mary sent her neck scarf in return. The nuts are very tasty! T-Rump has been very entertaining as they begin to lock up his cohorts. NY says they will be investigating suspect business transactions. The big guy is going to be toasted!

Wes says the kids are getting their flu shots just before we watch them tonight. That should make it more fun, eh?

December 11 2018

The lousy stinking evil cold continues. We did the Y this morning. Lots of reps again. The lady next to me groaned several times during the workout. Saw Wes and Lincoln there. It was 28 but the wind chill must have been below 20.

I thought something was rotten in Denmark. On the elliptical my pulse rate went up to 123. It never goes that high. Towards the end of class I was a bit light headed. When I got home my pulse was 80? Normal is 60. Then, there it was. My morning 1/2 pill metoprolol was sitting on the table. Guess I missed it this morning. I took it and within 40 min my pulse was back to 60. That is amazing. Guess I better not miss that one again.

Made an appt with an urologist for Jan 7. Symptoms of an enlarged prostate lately needs checking into. Emails from old buddy Greg in NY about this issue pushed me to take action. Sounds like being proactive is a better choice than not.

December 10 2018

The lousy stinking evil cold continues. We did the Y this morning. Lots of reps could mean pain tomorrow. Crazy busy. Must have been 30+ women in class. We got home and Mary was off to Red Hat lunch at the Olive Garden.

Got a call from Z-man's school. He was ill and the school could not contact mom or dad. Turns out Kaetchen's phone was busted again. I picked him up and took him home. I just veg'd the rest of the of the day.

December 9 2018

Another entry made with recent thoughts in the Getting Old file for your reading pleasure today. It is further down the page at rrrparker.com

Another cold one. Mary went in to give blood as the van was located at church. After that, she finished up installing the zipper, Once again I was her loyal assistant. It went fairly easy but she did have to do some hand sewing at the top and bottom.

Watched the Browns win. They beat the Panthers who came close to a Super Bowl win

a few years back. Their QB, Cam Newton, looked terrible. Looked like he was just throwing it up for grabs most plays. He sure has fallen. The Bills blew another one they should have won in the 4th quarter.

We went to Grinders around 2:30. Bob Messner and his wife were there with 5 grand kids as mom and pop went Xmas shopping. Back home, we hunkered down from the evil cold weather.

December 8 2018

Another stinking cold day. Mind numbing. Had a good sleep. Helped Mary rip out Carolyn's zipper on the warm jacket she brought over. There was a small wraparound piece of materiel sewed to the zipper edges to give it strength and then that was sewed to the jacket.

First Mary pinned and then sewed the 2 wraparounds to the new zipper. I helped. I don't know how this could be done with a single person with only 2 hands. So that means we didn't have a clue as to how to do it. Rip out and putting the wraparound on took roughly 3hrs. Figuring it will take 2 hrs tomorrow to get the zipper on the jacket. At this point it is worthwhile to finish it. If we knew that at the start, it would make the most sense to load it into the trash can and buy a new one. On the other hand, it kept us out of trouble.

We finished watching the 7th and final episode of a season 1 of a British series called The Bodyguard on Netflix. The story has ended so I don't believe there is another season. Kept our interest. Most of the nights there is decent TV but Thursday is a bust and most of Saturday too. Think we watched a couple last Saturday, then Thursday, and finished tonight.

December 7 2018

Another stinking cold day. No golf for 32 days now. Mary went to knitting at the Y. After lunch, we ventured out to the mall. This was my one and only visit there this year. I was surprised that the mall was fully occupied.

Sears was fairly busy and we found some nice sweatshirts for Ed. Mary stopped at Chicos and used her gift cards, likely from last Xmas. Lastly we stopped at Bath and Body Works and picked up a few things for neighbors. That place was a zoo with long lines to checkout. What a racket.

The mall had a nice train for kids. Don't know the cost but looked like fun. On the minus side, no personal cameras allowed for the Santa visits. Guess if you were going to visit Santa you better have some cash. No poor kids allowed. No more shopping! Yay!

December 6 2018

Stinking cold. 29 but with the wind chill 20. No brain for chess games today; lost many. Very sad.

We went to the Y and did the usual today. My squatters have been in pain since Tuesday. Today did not help. Got out and had lunch with Rudy. Great steak at Johnny Js! Rudy's work is in a lull so he did 2 floors in his house. We laughed about finding projects to keep us busy.

Veg'd the rest of the day.

December 5 2018

Decent sleep. Won some chess games today after losing them all yesterday. Good to see the brain working every now and then. Went to the retiree lunch while Mary took the car in for an oil change.

Lunch was fun. Was surprised to learn Daryl was not supposed to drive anymore because he was forgetful. Bob Messner drove him. Must have Alzheimer's although he did not actually say so. Lunch was fun. Everyone was jovial; must be the season. Brought home ½ my meatloaf lunch for Mary. She liked it.

Bad luck continues. Got some scratch offs and no winners. Must be down \$60 this holiday season.

Heading to watch the kids later. Will let you know how it works out tomorrow.

December 4 2018

Slept a bit better but still was up before 6am. Took my first nap at 7:30 till 8am. We went to the Y and did the usual. T was the sub for Jenny. I think Jenny was in Florida watching her son compete in one of the golf tournaments he qualified for. T is very deliberate giving much instruction to the group and individuals. She wants you to do the exercise slowly and correctly and avoid undue stress on joints by incorrect moves. Mary and I both enjoyed it even if she is a little weird. We both felt the exercise did us more good than usual. If done quickly, we tend to move incorrectly just to keep up.

Headed in for a haircut and had lunch when I got back. Pretty much veg'd all day. I did take inventory of my golf balls. Got way too many' especially since I don't lose many. Perhaps I should discard them after each round to clear them out. Will take me 2 years or thereabouts.

December 3 2018

Very poor sleep last night. Not been sleeping well since the weather has nixed golfing. I was thinking about that this morning. I know that there has been flooding in Conway SC, Michael wiped out entire Florida towns, and the Camp fire was a major disaster, but this is no golf people! How much worse can it get?

We went to the Y and did the usual while we were both sleep deprived, but got through it. Picked up some groceries so we could have lunch. I had strange cravings for baloney sandwiches so I bought some and had 2 sandwiches for lunch. Could have ate another too. That is odd.

Finished up my 40 or so Xmas cards and passed 10 more to Mary to sign and write notes if she so chooses. We also paid the end of the month's bills (2) and things balanced. Got my Turbo tax in the mail. Great tax software but their auto billing was all screwed up. That is sad. Their phone system is a gauntlet keeping you from talking to a real person but I got through last week and they fixed the billing.

President Bush 41 passed away and I think the news talked to everyone who knew him the last 2 days. That was a lot of people since he made it to 94. I suppose we will hear

from many more yet to go.

December 2 2018

Awesome day warming up to the 60s before the bottom drops out tonight. All the neighbors were out raking and mowing except of course the ones that have leaves that blow into my yard. They stayed inside. Carolyn stopped over for a little bit after food shopping.

Listened to the Bills game till the half then we went on our walk of the hood. Came back and listened again, then they put it on TV after the Browns game was over. They could have won as the QB scrambled then tossed one to a wide open Bill who tripped over his own feet and dropped the winning touchdown. He gets paid for that too! The refs helped the Bills out last week but this week, wow, it went the other way.

Dined on our leftovers from the Roadhouse. Yum!

December 1 2018

Hello to stinking lousy weather December. Nothing has changed. Warmer in the mid 40s but steady rain starting at noon and it won't quit. Supposed to be even warmer tomorrow but the ground is so wet there won't be any golfing then either.

We headed out to finish Xmas shopping today and it was a zoo out there. Normally never out mid afternoon on a weekend but Texas Roadhouse had a \$25 free credit if you bought \$100 gift card. \$125 should give us 4 meals there next year. We got home in time for Mary to make church too.

November 30 2018

Goodbye and good rid-ens to the stinking lousy weather November. Had enough of you for sure.

Cleaned up the laundry room as there was a lot of tools strewn around. Then cleaned out the cubby and put the Xmas decoration boxes in there until we need them to put the decorations away. Loaded the closet with the stuff normally stored there, so the downstairs is all back to normal. Went out to pick up a prescription and got stamps for my cards. Was going to get a haircut but the barbershop had a lot of cars.

One more Xmas shopping trip should do it tomorrow. We shall see. Oh yeah, goodbye stinking November 2018. A pox on you.

November 29 2018

The kids were great last night. We let them play the electronics for ½ hr, then when they got riled up we did that again, then went to the books for the last ½ hr. Worked out well.

Stinking cold but a little warmer today! Low 20s warming all the way up to 36. We went to the Y and did the usual stuff. Not too brutal. Good thing since I have missed Mon/Tues waiting on the diggers. After lunch we got out the tree stuff and decorated the place. Pretty early for us, I'd say. Tomorrow we will clean the cubby a bit and put back the boxes till after Christmas.

May start the Xmas cards tomorrow but won't mail them out so soon.

November 28 2018

Stinking cold! Low 20s warming all the way up to 28. I went to the doctor for my yearly checkup. All was good. Came home and back out again with Mary for her appt out in Fairlawn. We went to the Olive Garden for soup and salad for an early dinner. Dang cold out.

We have to go out in the stinking cold again to watch the kiddos tonight. I may put an extra blanket on tonight.

November 27 2018

Snow in the grass this morning. Another poor night sleep thinking about the water situation. Mary went to the Y while I foolishly waited in case the crew showed up. They did around 1:15pm and fixed it in 1 hr and 30min. \$450 Ouch. They gave me a memento, a small section of the cut in the hose feeding the house. I called it a memento cause I can't spell the other word I wanted. They found it quick and conjectured there was a rock on top of the hose causing the damage.

Put away all the water buckets and bowls we were using and got a good shower in after dinner. Good thing as we both have Dr. appts tomorrow. Maybe a haircut if the barbers are not busy. Quite disgusted with the weather. Think I will unload my stuff from the car and throw in the towel. I can always reload if the weather ever improves.

November 26 2018

I was thinking last night that since we were the 2nd task for the water crew tomorrow, they just might not get to us. So we headed over to Carolyn's for a shower last night. Turned out to be a good move. I called to check on them today about 1pm and they still planned to make it. They did come over at 4pm but just to look. Decided tomorrow would have to do when they got the digging equipment back. Guess they will have to brave the snow tomorrow.

We went for groceries and stopped at the hot dog shack for dinner. I had a kraut dog and a bowl of chili. We split some fries. No luck on the lottery either. Should have known better. It has been a great year but our luck sucks the last 2 months. Car repairs, new washer, new tank, new pump, now broken line, not to mention the crappy weather shutting down the golf. What the heck?

November 25 2018

Pretty warm in the 50s. Should have been playing today for sure. I got out to Walmart around 9am and beat the rush. They have doubled their toy department. Wow. Lots of big stuff for kids. You need a bigger house to keep all that stuff in. I got several toys for the kids and then stopped for a gift card for Jenna.

Got home around 10:30 and Mary headed off to church. She is finally feeling better and did eat some turkey for dinner. I sorted through some old photos I found in storage and tossed 2/3 of them. Lots of duplicates. Set some aside for Wes and Carolyn to wrap for Xmas. Survived another day without running water.

November 24 2018

The weather guy was right for a change. Morning rain. I had a small stream out by the well. Checked at the pressure tank and saw the pump was full on and couldn't get past 50psi. So the pump was just pumping away dumping water into the mud out there. Waited till everyone got up and used the facilities. Loaded up some buckets to use to flush the toilets this weekend and some bowls for the sinks to wash in, then shut the pump off. Called them to let them know I needed them out on Monday. We should be ok for the weekend. May need to visit Carolyn if we need a shower till it is fixed.

Sister and I went to get the fuel perks and we hit 30 gallons and saved \$42. Sweet. Then she packed up and headed home. I filled the cars and emptied 3 of 4 cans I borrowed from Carolyn. Mary was ill last night and not feeling it today. She ate 1 cookie today with water and 2 cups of tea all day long. I had my 3d turkey dinner.

We roughed it with no water all day. Wow, what a year. Going to Canada without technology and now doing without water. How adventurous can we get?

November 23 2018

Spent the day in a fog. Was awake at 4:30am and Mary told me there was no water. Crap! I knew that was high risk as the pump was being turned on 5 or 6 times a second due to the pressure tank being toast. Mary and sister Catherine headed out for black Friday shopping while I had to cancel my golf to stick around. Was a nice day too....major bummer.

Waited till things opened at 7:30 and was lucky they had a clean slate. They were at my place and working on it at 8am! Very sweet. New submerse-able pump was \$1100 and the tank was \$800. Can't really complain. That pump was 50 years old and on borrowed time. The new one is 3" which gives it much more clearance in the 4" well tube than the old ones.

Donamarc Water Systems did it. I was googling and saw they did everything from dig the wells to the water softeners. Figured they would be better at it than regular plumbers and they were. They told me I should have the well shocked every year for \$150 to keep it healthy. Also told me to check for 32psi on the tank every year and add pressure if needed. As an added benefit, they flushed my hot water tank. Leave everything on they said while I did it. Videos I saw said to shut off water and gas first.

Well, the elation was short lived. Around 2pm I watched the pump charge to 67psi. The dial slowly dropped to 40 and it kicked on again. Problem is no water was running. That means there is a leak outside. The guys were concerned about that before they left but did not see one in the pipe before they closed it up. I looked outside and sure enough there was a water puddle. I gave them a quick call. They said they would be over Monday and to leave it run.

I am not sure it is a good idea to keep running, so I will be keeping an eye on it.

November 22 2018

Nasty cold cold in the 30s today. We wrapped Christmas gifts this morning before we had to work on the dinner. The Hartville Kitchen turkey feast was excellent as usual. Turkey was very good. We ate about half of it leaving half to go. Great pies too. Wes and Carolyn's family joined us, Catherine, Steve, and Tasha. The more the merrier I say!

All the kids were good and things wrapped up around 5pm. Steve stayed for awhile and we Skyped with Steve III. After he left, Mary and Catherine got to look at the ads for tomorrow's shopping.

November 21 2018

Cold in the 30s today. I was off to the doc office for a blood draw, then stopped at Walmart and had them fix my glasses. The lens and screw fell out last night in the garage somewhere. I did find the lens. Picked up some vitamins and cookies and donuts and headed home.

Around noon I went over and picked up the turkey dinner for 12 at the Kitchen. Wes and Kaetchen brought over the kids at 2:30 and picked them up around 6:30. Wore us out. Catherine arrived at 4pm so she helped with the kids too. Time to relax now and recharge for the feast tomorrow. Guess I will fire up the chess and see if I can hang with the big boys today.

November 20 2018

Another crappy day. Mary was off to a hair appt early. I went to the Y and did the usual and then got beat up. Jenny's son qualified for 2 golf tournaments in Florida. One in Dec and another in January. Very cool.

Got home and Mary was a bit ticked I did not leave a note. For some reason she never thought of the Y. When I got back, we tackled the closet organizer. Unfortunately I had to get out the hacksaw and saw the shelves and the hanging bars back because my closet was 1/4" short of 3 feet. Took me 2 hours, maybe 1 more than not doing any sawing. I got to look and see if they have better hacksaws these days. The blade is always falling out of mine.

I was pretty whipped by the time we had to leave and see Batcher. He looks good. Legs are quite thin. Not using them for so long, they are pretty useless. He is eating better now. Jr comes around 3pm and puts him in the wheelchair, so he was out of bed and alert. He has his lines down now. Told him he looks better and I get "I guess so" or "I am not dead yet" or "I am still alive". He was his usual quiet but piped up a couple of times about times gone by.

Jane's youngest, Steven is suffering from lots of joint issues. Jane looks good. We went to Parrisons with her for dinner.

November 19 2018

Just a real crappy day. Snow this morning turned into an all day drizzle at 37ish. We went to the Y and did the usual stuff. Worked on puzzle for awhile.

Mary went to get knitting help after lunch. When she got back we went to the HD and picked up the closet organizer I ordered. I treated her to a dog and fries at the dog shop just outside their doors. Pretty tasty.

Played 4 games of chess. Won 2 tied 2 to rise to a lofty 1415 rating! That won't last long.

November 18 2018

Still cold but not bad. We worked a tough puzzle today. Not much going on. Waiting on a closet organizer shipment for pickup at HD. Did do the vacuuming, put stuff away, and did the monthly baseboard spray.

Carolyn stopped over to bring gas cans, a table, and chairs for Thanksgiving and had a flat. We showed Jenna how to change the tires. Brand new tires. She was mad about it but cooled down after we saw a screw sticking into the tread. How is that for luck. Flat the next day after you buy them? She is following in my footsteps (hitting rocks, replacing washing machine, etc). I think her tires cost more than my washer though.

Digorno pizza for dinner. I like it better than the pizza shops. Neither the Bills or Browns lost. Both on bye weeks.

Gave George a call. He is doing well. Changing his diet and all.

November 17 2018

Still cold but the snow melted away by the afternoon as we hit a scorching 40 degrees. Finished another puzzle and paid the bills.

Looking at the bills I found the same bogus charge on my chase card as I did on my citi card. Called in and they will send a new card. Then it dawned on me. This was the \$50 copay for Mary's mammogram.

No wonder I thought it was fraud as it showed as "CCF Clinic Lockbox". What idiots. I remember getting the bill while I was waiting for my new citi card. Thought I had paid it? Must not have. But I had and when it showed up on my account I thought it was fraud and canceled the card, so it never was paid. Paid the new bill with the chase card and here we go again. I did call chase back and explained and they said they would let it go through. Painful, but better safe than sorry. How did I find out? I googled it and Cleveland Clinic showed up with a lockbox subject. The light bulb went on but it was very dim.

November 16 2018

Truly another crappy day! The weather was cold but calm. Lots of accidents yesterday and 2 more bad ones on the expressway again today. Drove through the hood today and lots of pine branches are down.

We went for groceries this morning, then I went to the Y. Did the elliptical for 20min then walked a mile, although it might have been less cause I lost count of the laps.

Hit 1410 chess rating last night after 2 wins. The I was rudely smacked down under 1400 after the next 2.

November 15 2018

Truly a crappy day! Freezing rain in the early hours caused bad roads for awhile. Mary and I were whipped after watching the kids last night. Wes said Lincoln puked later, so we are hoping we didn't catch anything.

We were tired this morning. Mary was going to drive to Mogadore to have lunch with an elderly bowling buddy, but the lady called and told her to stay home. I had talked myself into going to the Y. After I got the paper and saw it raining out, I reconsidered. I

called all veg day. It changed between rain and snow and freezing rain all day. Glad we stayed in! Hopefully we can emerge tomorrow.

November 14 2018

More of the same cold weather. Mary wanted me to go to her doctors appt with her and I did. Nothing to speak of. He had her back off on vitamin D as that is a bit high. We worked on puzzles and watched the horses.

I called Dish to drop them. Told them I was going to get \$40 at Hulu, so they offered less if I kept it for a year. I jumped at that cause I don't have to mess around with any setups and don't have to figure out how to drive my other TV. The time I spent researching was needed to get them to back their price down. Hulu over Roku is for sure simpler if you were starting off. No equipment and less cables, etc. We shall see what happens 12mo from now. Dish does have an interest in keeping customers as that is one metric the stock market looks at. This is a way to keep that metric up but they do lose revenue.

Almost time for an early dinner and then we watch the kids till 9:15 as usual on Wednesday.

November 13 2018

Cold crappy day. It was supposed to snow but never did. We went to the Y, did the elliptical, and the strength class. There was a sub for the class so it was pretty tame. That was pretty much it for the day except for puzzles and working on cut the cord.

First thing I did was load the Watch TVG ap to Roku. That gives me the horse racing channel to watch.

I ordered a digital antenna with amplifier to get local channels and set it up a couple of days ago. Worked surprisingly well. It picks up the main channel and the affiliates. Ion is 23-1 and it has several affiliates; 23-2 is qubo, 23-3 is shop and so on. Ch 3, 5, 19, 43, and 45 are similar. All come in really good. This saves \$10-\$12 a month for local channels. Since the antenna was \$39, it pays for itself quickly.

Fox8 was a no show. Reading on the Fox 8 site indicates they are VHF only and most of the digital antennas are optimized for UHF. Guess I will say goodbye to Fox8. There maybe a better antenna choice out there that does a good job on both but I will stick with this one. I always liked the fact that I could get local news past 7am when the others switch to the network.

On the downside, I have to switch TV inputs with the remote back and forth from Antenna to HDMI 1. Also, you have to put the channel in as 3-1 and not just 3. Doesn't sound like much but I am sure it will be a pain. I think changing Hulu channels will be pain. Likely scrolling as opposed to punching in a number.

Still experimenting with the main programming. Looks like I can get the channels I want on the many streaming offerings. I signed up for a Hulu trial for \$40/month and it looks to have all the channels we watch. Turned off the Dish and we will see how it goes. I have till Nov 21 to cancel the trial at no cost. If this works out, this will be a significant savings, enough to cover at least 2 golf rounds a month. At this point I am not sure what local channels on Hulu, so I am still working on that. CBS seems like Ch19, so I know I get some. Maybe I can chuck the antenna?

November 12 2018

Forgot to relate the dead battery story yesterday. Left my radar detector on for a few days. Since I did NOT get to golf on Thursday, the car has been sitting since Wednesday. Drained the battery dead. Whipped out the jumper cables sitting on my garage wall for ?several? Years. Hooked them up and sparks flew and smoke came out of the cables. I guess the garage isn't the best place to store them with the moisture eating away the metal to where they are a hazard rather than a help. Heed my warning readers! Store them in a dry place. Also forgot to report on my Cut the Cable initiative, but that is for another day.

We went to Kohls to get our 30% off + some coupons we had. \$44 for jeans for both of us + a picture frame for the kids. Mary went off to Red Hat lunch while I had cookies for lunch. Lost just 3 lbs on my diet. Obviously I took in more calories than I was burning the last few days. Snow is on the way for tomorrow. Oh joy.

November 11 2018

Mary and I went out around 9am to see what needed to be done as far as mowing and raking. We set it up to get help from Carolyn, Jenna and Jacob at 11am after the light snow dusting should be melted. We were going strong till almost 4pm. Took 15 leaf bags to the recycle yard. What we did in 5 hrs would have taken 8 or 9 without the family help. With only 2 trees left, I wondered how we managed those years when we had 6 more? Those were the 50+ bag years. Wow! We did get help from the kids back then but they were younger but so were we! We are just so grateful for Jacob and Jenna who help us without fail when we need it.

Pooped out, we went to Grinders for dinner.

Both the Bills and Browns won! Miracles can happen! The Bills started a guy at QB I had never heard of. Their QB was so bad he was rated worst in the league. Their rookie qb is injured, an experienced guy they brought in 2 weeks ago is injured, so they had to find someone else other than their starting qb. Where, when, and how they got this new guy is unknown to me. I googled him and he has been a backup for 5 years on various teams. Sad that he plays better than who they chose as their main starter.

November 10 2018

Cold windy nasty day that never got above 32 degrees. Dusting of snow over the leaves. Looking at the forecast, it wont melt till maybe noon tomorrow. Hoped to do raking and cutting mums and pumpkin smashing but now I don't know.

We finished another puzzle. I looked thru a bookcase a couple of days ago and decided to toss some old books. For some reason, I saved my college physics book, probably figured I might need to help the kids one day with it. Also saved 3 radar books my dad had that I could never part with. Saved for memories I suppose. One was written in 1944, one year shy of making it 75 years. I suppose I will see it on Antique Roadshow one of these days worth a ton on money. Goodbye to more of the past.

Mary is off to church and I am going to get dinner ready.

November 9 2018

Dreamed I was picking up someone getting released from prison. They couldn't find him so we left. As we drove away I saw him chasing the car so we turned around but never found him. I can do without that tonight.

Day 5 weigh in 165 was higher than yesterday? Not sure that scale has it all together. Worked on a puzzle we have of Pebble Beach. Houle is heading there in Feb, so I will send him a pic of it and tell him that is the closest I will ever get.

Mary went to the knit class at the Y. When she got home we picked up the weeks groceries. Pretty much veg'd the rest of the day, as it was cold and crappy. First snow of the year but it melted. Broke even at chess. Up to a lofty 1380 rating for the moment so the competition is tough.

November 8 2018

Busy day. Day 4 weigh in 163.8 was surprising. I guess watching the kids last night really burned the calories! Maybe class + kids = weight loss? We went to the Y, did the elliptical and Andrea's strength class. She beat us up good. Might have been that the lingering pain from Tuesday's class didn't help. We had lunch and got ready to watch Lincoln at 3pm while Wes and Kaetchen went to school conferences. He was a lot of fun and kept us busy till almost 6pm.

I grabbed some roast beast and headed out to old Clyde's calling hours, 7-9 pm. I brought a Mollie golf ball to set on a table somewhere as a goodbye gift. RIP Clyde and enjoy the Mollie. Clyde didn't play well enough to deserve a Mollie but I do have a good supply to work with.

The set up there was a real mess. With only 2 hrs for calling, everyone came at once. The tiny room was jammed with people by 7pm, all standing as there were no more than 10 soft chairs along the wall. More came as I waited. No casket, just a few things and his service flag on a table. No greeting line leaving us golfers clueless. I saw King and Houle there, but no Denny. Denny, being his best buddy could have pointed the family out. I left to get out of that zoo after 1/2 hr. I expected all the other Monday golf guys to show but they must have gone later. Old Clyde was a great guy but his family really screwed this up. Hope the funeral tomorrow goes better.

November 7 2018

Was sunny and thus warmer than expected today in high 40s. Wind was not as bad as they predicted so we missed a good golf day. I canceled tomorrow due to lack of interest. Dick had other things to do and no word from Bill or Mel. Was going to be chilly, but snow is in the forecast and golf is likely out for next week.

Went to the retiree lunch and sat with John R, Hujar, Paden, and Messner. Not much new there. Veg'd out the rest of the day.

Shoulders are sore from Tuesday's class but less pain than expected so that was good. Guess I will be at the Y tomorrow then. Heading over to Wes' to watch the kids for their Wednesday night trivia date night. Day 3 weigh in was 166.8, so that is good.

November 6 2018

Was warmer than expected. Weird day. Storms, rain, sun and wind. We went to the Y, did the ellipticals and then Jenny really beat us up. Mucho reps and squats. Tomorrow should be fun.

From there we went and voted, then stopped at CVS and paid their outlandish price for their hot water bottle. If you remember back, I looked at GE and CVS and then ordered one on line for \$10. Turns out it was more like a warm water bottle than a hot one. Put the hottest tap water I could in it and it just didn't conduct well. Must be plastic as opposed to rubber. So I bit the bullet and paid \$17 at CVS. The story continues tomorrow; I opened the box and there is no stopper in this one. One more trip?

Day 2 of the low carb diet. Down to 167.8 this morning but the scale was different every time I stepped on it. That is no help. We shall see.

November 5 2018

Oops. Looks like I did not post Nov 3 or 4 even though I made the entries? Sorry about that.

It was iffy for playing. The course was very wet and when Bill called they were not ready to call it a go just yet. I called at 9 and they were a go, so we waited for Bill. I had only 2 pars on the front but 7 bogies for a 43. I played better on the back scoring 38 with 1 birdie for an 81. Bill had a poor front but rallied to finish at 88. Dick was decent on the front and fell back for a 97.

I hit the ball very well off the tee. Irons were so so but I only chunked a couple. That was pretty good considering the wet ground conditions. A couple of cup rimmers cost me. Looks cold Thursday but it may be the last chance for the year as they are talking snow showers all of next week.

Started the low carb diet at 168.4 this morning. Lets see how that goes.

November 4 2018

Turned out nicer than expected today. We got the clocks turned back and finished up a puzzle around 10am. Put the hoses away for the year and Jacob got here to do Pete's lawn. He finished, we had lunch, and Carolyn and Jenna came for cake and ice cream for Mary's birthday. I told them next weekend is raking, mowing, cutting mums, and smashing pumpkins.

Sad news from Denny via email. His long time buddy and one of our Monday golfers Clyde Sheppard passed away yesterday. He was very frail from chemo. He had several bouts of it for skin cancer over the past few years. I believe he played this spring then occasionally rode with Denny and watched. He was a ride along at Skyland Pines October 1 just a little over a month ago. RIP Clyde. All your putts will be dropping now. I likely will go to calling hours tbd next week. Denny is coming back from MB for the event.

Hope to play tomorrow. Ray said it should be OK if it doesn't rain tonight. Looks like we will get some. Hope it is a light rain.

Bills and Browns stunk it up again so I remain ½ game back.

November 3 2018

Not much happening today. Brought in the Halloween decorations. Will let them dry out and put them away tomorrow. Put some numbers on the mailbox. The markers kept wearing out so I got some stick on numbers for them.

I watched the Breeder Cup races and mostly lost. Mary went to church. We finished up one puzzle and started another. Dinner was left over prime rib take home. It was just as good today. Yum.

I called George after dinner. He is good to go and may get out tomorrow. Only one blockage and it was ballooned open and a stent put in. BP is fine.

November 2 2018

Lots of dreams last night. I was showing my sheep at the fair. Problem is my shorts kept falling down and I had trouble pulling them back on. I sure was glad I had clean underwear on and sorry for those that had to walk behind me. Couple nights back it was Jenna coming over to watch our cats. Since it was hot out I did not want them getting too hot in the car....where does this stuff come from??

Mid 50s rainy day for Mary's birthday. Mary went to the Y knit club at 11am. I tagged along did 25min elliptical and walked a mile on the track. We got back and finished the puzzle. Sister Sue called around 2pm and said Jill reported that George went in with chest pains. She followed up later and reported George did have an attack, now has a stent, and is fine. Sounds like what Bill went through back in Pinehurst several years back. I shall call George's cell tomorrow and see what is going on.

Got my hot water bottle in the mail. Never did have anything sent from Rancho Cucamonga before.

Took Mary to Outback for her birthday. She was thinking prime rib and it was an excellent choice. My blue cheese wedge salad was awesome and the prime rib was super good. Lets see what tomorrow brings.

November 1 2018

Cold and rainy day. I went to the eye dr as a follow up to my eye zap a couple weeks back. Mary went to the Y. I ended up at the wrong office so when I got to the right place I ended up at the back of the line and was last one before their lunch. 15 min cost me an hour. Eye was OK and I am good to go for another year.

Got home, we had lunch, and we went for groceries. Finished up the puzzle after dinner and Mary was off to church.

No golf tomorrow. It is so soggy and more rain is on the way; hopeless. Tomorrow is Mary's birthday so she will choose the place. She may be thinking prime rib?

I ordered and got a device called Parkez. With all the stuff we put away for the winter, parking gets real tight. This is a little stop sign on a stick that lights up when you bump the stick. Seems to be working well. It's only \$10 and worth it. The cheaper solution is the ball that hangs from the ceiling and bumps off your windshield. Those get to be a pain and the kids try to play with them and rip them out.

October 31 2018

Started out in the 60s and temps fell all day with rain starting at 11am. It had been

awhile since we cleaned the registers so we got that done today. They were getting pretty dusty all right. I did a little stationary bike today as I was too lazy to head to the Y.

Got out the card table and started on a 500pc puzzle. It is maybe 1/2 done. Got to get ready to head over and watch the kids to close out October.

October 30 2018

Lots of dreaming last night. Just don't remember any of it. Cold morning that was supposed to get up to 57 later. Sure took it's time. Cold for most of the golf round till the sun came out for the last 45minutes. It was a rough go. Very wet! Dick got the cart stuck going where he shouldn't. He had to push it out. I shot 84. Dick had 96 and Ken 95, so I took low net. I was hitting good shots but there was no roll. On top of that, I had 4 penalties. Two for water balls and 2 for OB.

Carolyn stopped over for a little bit. She noticed my new jacket still had the tag on it. It was under the armpit so I couldn't really see it. Guess I played with the tag on. Carolyn did not want to cook so like I am having Thanksgiving this year. So I ordered the food from the Hartville Kitchen. Pumpkin and Banana Cream Pie included.

Jacob came over at 4pm and just did finish the 3 lawns before dark. The days are getting shorter for sure.

I played and won a few games of chess so I am back up to 1290 after falling to the depths of 1220. Nice to get away from those 1220 guys as one never knows what they are doing. The site analyzes your game and the last one I won it said I made 3 mistakes and 10 blunders. I logged off as I seemed to be pressing my luck.

October 29 2018

Dream last night: Playing in Alaska. We had a delay to wait for a polar bear to clear the course. It was a water hole. He/she eventually jumped into the water and swam away. We played on.

Dreary day with the rain ending around 9am. It was cart path only at Fox Den. Ken and I were there and Dick almost there. Ken and I decided to try tomorrow instead. Sable was booked so we set up at Chenoweth tomorrow. Supposed to be warmer as well. Long ride for nothing.

Got home and Mary had gone to the Y. She got back and we had lunch. Did 15 min on our ancient exercise bike for something to do. The most exciting thing today was a 20 minute search for the garage opener. Found it in the door pocket.

Called the neighbor kids to come get the leftover candy. Barely hung up the phone when the doorbell rang.

Browns cleaned house again. Fired head and offensive coaches. Cavs fired theirs too. Tonight the Bills are set to lose another to New England. Hope it isn't too embarrassing.

October 28 2018

Dreary day but it isn't raining. We headed to Walmart early with some success. No hot water bottle but the mach3 blades were \$10 cheaper for 3d party blades.

Bill was asking when I was going to get a new jacket so I looked at them, even though mine is only 15 years old. They were only \$20 here. It was almost perfect but lacks a collar. Hopefully I can deal with it. Had a nice smooth lining which works for golf. Fleece lining is no good as it pulls on your sweatshirt. XL too for free swinging movement!

Had to order the hot water bottle on line. Walmart was \$11 and free shipping. Amazon was the same but I had to spend \$25 for free ship since I dropped Prime. They wanted \$13/mo for Prime so I am seeing how I do without it.

We got a call from JoAnn. She left her phone in Mary's car Friday. Friday must have been the day to leave your phone somewhere. I took it over and told Mel to look for a good home for the two of us.

Trick or treat was cold and rainy. The grand kids had fun. Only got about 25 kids come by because of the rain for the most part. What am I going to do with all the left overs?

October 27 2018

Cold and rainy day again. I dreamed about Mayfair closing. They still had some grass to plant on #15 and they had rocks to move in the parking lot plus some branches to pick up near the clubhouse. How could you close without finishing those tasks? I tossed and turned about that half the night.

Thought we would eat at the Hartville Kitchen at 2pm. That would let Mary go to 4pm mass. So the hot water bottle was leaking and needed replacement. I saw one at Walmart for \$10 but that is a hike. On the way to dinner we checked GE and CVS. GE had a tiny one and CVS wanted \$17 for theirs. It is painful to be cheap, so it is off to Walmart tomorrow. Got to the Kitchen at 2pm and the line was in 3 segments already. I asked someone in the 2nd segment across from me. Said she was there 20min. Figuring we were 40min away, I tossed in the towel and headed home. Why were all the people here at 2pm on a crappy day?

I did look at places to stop on the way to Florida in February. So far the plan has the Pigeon Roost (1812), Fort Williams(civil war), and the Hermitage (1812+) for day 1 and 2 on the way.

Looks like leftovers for after church today. Other than picking up some cider and going to the bank, the day was pretty much a bust.

October 26 2018

Bummer. Looked at my Citi card account and found a bogus \$50 recurring charge on it. They had a chat so I asked about it. Since it is bogus, they will dispute the charge and canceled the card. That will cause me a bunch of work with all the places that store my number. I guess this is what we all need to do these days. Stay vigilant.

We played Mayfair today. They were going to close Sunday but rain forecasted for the weekend so they pretty much closed up around 3pm as the drizzle started. How do I know? Well, I got home and ready to call for next weeks tee time and realized my phone was still in the cart. I called Mel to go over and rescue it and he did. After looking thru all the carts in the barn, he found it in the office just before they closed the doors for the year.

I had my usual trouble with the greens. Lipped out 2 on the low edge and missed another batch just on the low side. I rarely play enough break there for some reason. My drives were good but I was not staying over my irons and pushed a lot of them to the right. Mel had a good round at 100 (net 70), Bill was at 93 (net 76), Dick struggled to a 102 (net 79), and I had 86 (net 73).

Mary and JoAnn took some returns back to Stan Hywett and made their way elsewhere to make it a shopping day. JoAnn had a tough week I hear. She ran into a door in her hallway on a midnight bathroom trip and had some nasty burns pouring gravy out of a roasting pan. A tough week indeed!

October 25 2018

We watched the kids last night after Z-man's 8th birthday party. He knew the card was from me cause I always call him that and that is who the card was addressed to. I guess I am the only one that calls him that.

I called Kalix a good little girl but she won't have any of that. "I am NOT a little girl" she says. Later I asked her what I should call her and she said "Kalix because that is what my name is". She said she is a big girl.

Another cold day in the mid 40s. October is slipping by real fast. We went to the Y, did the ellipticals and the strength class. I puttered around all day. Lost at chess, so the brain is dead today.

October 24 2018

Another cold day in the mid 40s. Since we missed class yesterday, we went to the Y, did the ellipticals and walked a mile on the track. Headed to GE as the coffee is now out, so the emergency light is flashing red. Just got to have coffee in the morning. Looked pretty open at the barber shop so I hurried back over there and got my haircut.

After lunch I put the outdoor swing in the garage as well as the 2 umbrellas. The hose and the outdoor decorations go in next. Tried some chess but am brain dead today. I did well last night getting my rating back above 1300 but I guess it was a temporary thing.

Heading to Wes' at 5pm as it is Z-man's birthday #8. I will ask him how it feels to be 8 years old.

October 23 2018

Another cold day but not so bad with sunshine. Barber was busy this morning so I skipped back as we waited for the Lowe's delivery call. It finally came and they were there at 12:15. They installed the washer and I put the railings and door back on and we were back in business with a backlog of wash to do.

While I waited I cleaned my car windshield and cut down the iris regrowth in 3 of the flower beds. Pretty much done with the flowers until the mums topple over. Then I will get them and what is left of the other flowers.

Some of the yellow jackets made it into our bedroom the last couple of days in a very groggy state. I figure they are looking for a way out past the poison and are somehow getting to the roof rafters and down the walls and through the heat vent. I will have to

give them another dose tonight. They can't last much longer.

So lets hope that is it for the bad stuff for now. Mary's car is fixed and back, the guy I backed into never called, Carolyn is going to move the rock, and we have replaced the washer.

Now that we missed the Tuesday class, I will have to go Thursday. Maybe just the ellipticals and walk the track tomorrow?

October 22 2018

Cold start today at 35 degrees. Dick and I canceled with the Monday group for the 9:30 time as it was going to warm up later. We decided to play Tannenhauf and started a little after 11am around 48 degrees. We played quickly. I had 4 birdie tries on the first nine and missed them all finishing at 4 over 40. Started the back poorly with a double bogey and hung in there but finished with 3 straight bogies for an 82. Dick had a nice 44 on the first nine but finished at 94. Usual score for us both so we can expect the same Friday.

Wasn't too good at chess yesterday. Today was worse. Think I lost 4 games before I quit and have dropped below 1300 rating. Brain dead this week.

October 21 2018

The kids slept in till almost 11 am. Jacob mowed the front of Brenda's lawn. Very cold and it did not grow very much this week. Longer than I expected though. With the front cut, it should look good to the house hunting drive bys. Jacob cut mine and left a small patch for Jenna to practice on.

Carolyn came over before I could get Jenna out there. She must have sent mom a text to rescue her before that. So, next week I will have Jacob leave a bigger patch twice the size. Carolyn, on her way over, hit the same rock in her yard as Mary did last week. I am figuring she just did it on purpose to make Mary feel better about it. Not nearly the same damage either.

Jacob finished up Pete's yard and headed out. I was listening to the Bills but I turned off the radio feed after it was 21-0. The Browns are still in their game in the 4Q but are behind by 7.

The temps don't look good for 9:30 am golf tomorrow. I am trying to push it back to noon-ish to gain 10 degrees. Sue also wanted us to come out to their campsite next Wednesday. I was considering it but nixed that as 44 and rain are predicted at Pymatuning.

October 20 2018

We went to the XC districts at 12pm. It was Jacob's last XC race for high school. This was a difficult season. He never did regain last years form after his injury just prior to the season start. He ran his best but faded the last mile to run 18:33 and place #69. Still, he was in the top 25% of the division 1 runners. Last years results were 17:44 and 46th place. He had planned on improving on that this year but things just didn't work out.

Carolyn's Halloween party is tonight so Jacob and Jenna will spend the night here. We

brought Jenna home from the XC race. I had her help us put together the 2 person swing I purchased on clearance for \$80. It is pretty nice.

After dinner we watched several educational ocean exploration videos. Plankton is the key food source and where you have hydrogen sulfide, you have tube worms. The British narrator pronounced another gas as me-thane. One again there are tube worms that can live on me-thane.

October 19 2018

Mel was nice enough to pick me up this morning as the car was still at the collision shop. Nice chat on the way up about him possibly moving to independent living. I miss those chats. We should carpool more often.

I played well once again. We were all befuddled with the fast greens. They were ludicrous speed as we played the back first. You could see them rolling them before we started; the likely cause. Either we got the hang of them or the front was not that fast, cause we all putted better on the 2nd nine. I shot a stellar 2nd nine for a 3 over 38 for an 81 for the day. Bill was at 90, Dick 95, and Mel at 104. My best chip of the day, to about a foot, was a look up. That says something?

Mel took me up to Hudson to pick up the car as it was finally ready. They sure do nice work there but 3 day fix turned into 10 days real quick. Puffed bee poison up the siding end piece again. This has got to be the 5th time and they are still hanging in there. Got to be a bunch of dead bodies in there they have to treck by to get out.

October 18 2018

We went to the Y this morning, I still in squatters pain from Tuesday. Not much squatting but lots of reps with the weights. Tried to look at the washer timer but the knob wasn't coming off. We bailed out the water and prepped for a new one. Off to get a Maytag I saw at Best Buy with a pre-look at what Lowes had. Turns out Lowes had it for the same price and install was included so we jumped on that. They will bring it Tuesday. We celebrated with ice cream at DQ.

Called on the car. They said it was at the dealer for the sensor adjustments and would check on it. I will need a ride from Mel for golf as Mary will need the car for a hair appointment tomorrow.

The speculation is over. The new church at state and market took a year to build and they finally put up a sign. It is called (drum roll) Hartville Full Gospel Church. Wonder if there is a Partial Gospel Church somewhere they are competing with?

October 17 2018

Not a stellar month! Last night the washer stopped working. Full of water too. Tried different settings but no luck. Watched some repair videos. Not sure why nothing is happening. Seems like other settings should do something? I may pull the timer apart and clean it but I am not optimistic. So we wrung out the clothes and finished them at the local coin laundry.

Went and got my secondary cataract zapped. Finished that at 1pm but eye is still dialated and out of focus due to the eye drops I hope. I don't really feel I needed it. I should have told the doctor to wait. I was not having any trouble. Maybe a scam to

squeeze a few more bucks out of each patient.

Nothing on the car yet. Guess they still need the headlight. My squatters are sore today from yesterdays class.

October 16 2018

We did the Y and then Jenny's strength class. She beat us up good. That was easy cause I missed the last 2 weeks. Her son is at State this weekend for the high school golf tournament as an individual. He shot 74 to get in. Very nice!

We chopped 4 more flower groups as we continue fall cleanup. The shop is waiting on a headlight so the car is not ready yet. Another mind numbing day.

October 15 2018

Looked like the rain would blow thru early. I went over to 7 Hills and no one was there. Just Me, the owner, and the green cutter. Oh well. Came home and cleaned out some of the flowers; 4 bags worth. Added them to the trash pickup since recycle is closed till Thursday. Good thing we did not play. It drizzled all day.

Headed to the Y at 11:30 and did 20min on the elliptical. Mary went to the flea market with old neighbor Joyce, who drove over from Monaca, Pa.

Got the gel pillows I ordered from Walmart. The are called gel fiber filled and made in America. Looking at the label it says 100% polyester filled. Also says the cover was made in China and it was filled in America. Damn Chinese lie like a rug. Hunkered down for a mind numbing rest of the day.

October 14 2018

Busy day. I put in my new Chinese made light sensor. Easy to do but the text on 3 adjustments was pretty useless. I hooked it up on the table and had to play with them to figure them out (sort of). The on time was easy, although there is very little turn from 1 minute to 6 minutes. The factory setting was 6 minutes. I set it to 2 minutes. I left the factory sensitivity adjustment where it was. Same with the lumen setting after I experimented. All the way left was always on in the daylight. The other way was off till really dark. I had to wait till dark to find out.

Jacob came and cut the 3 lawns. While he was cutting I took apart the lawn swing and set it out with the trash. Took Jacob quite awhile. I asked him to lower the blade on mine as they are aerating tomorrow. As a result I had to rake and faithful assistant Mary bagged 6 large leaf bags of grass. Took them to the recycle and was whipped.

Thankfully the local trash picker grabbed my scrap iron/steel at dark. If they had not, I would have pulled them back and found somewhere to recycle them. Ferrous metal isn't worth much these days. They pay per ton.

The Bills lost in the last 2 minutes tied trying for a score. Instead they threw a pick 6! The Browns were stomped.

October 13 2018

We picked up some groceries, the light sensor at HD, and the Halloween candy at Walmart early 9-11ish.

We went to Jacob's XC Federal League Finals after that. The Lake kid won as expected by 10-12 seconds. Jacob ran JV for some reason. He was 5th after the first pass by the starting line, then 30th on the next pass. Not sure where he was on the last pass. He finished somewhere in the top 1/3 and ran 18:44. He was not happy about that as usual. That injury was a real setback for him. Good thing we wore winter coats. 45 is cold!

Back home by 2:15pm to warm up and rest to go over to watch Lincoln for a few hours at 3:45pm while Z and K go roller skating with their school mates.

Saw only a couple yellowjackets. They should be finished off soon.

October 12 2018

Say what? My duct tape fell off again last night so the yellow jackets live to sting again another day. Thinking about my next move. Late Update.....i took a look after dinner and I was mistaken. The duct tape is still up and I don't see any activity! More on that tomorrow.

Played Brookledge today. Dick tied me with a good back nine. I went 42-26 = 88. I had 2 birdies but 2 triples and a few doubles. The sand gave me fits and so did the greens. Not my favorite course. First cold day in a long time in the low to mid 50s. Guess I am not ready for it yet.

The Lockheed guys are done. I told them to start saving up to pay me next year. Only three more Monday rounds scheduled. Golf season is drawing quickly to a close.

October 11 2018

Hurricane Michael really ripped up Panama Beach in Florida where we are going to stay in February. I sure hope they get moving on the clean up.

Played well at Turkeyfoot today and had low net with an 81. Great score for me there. I chipped in for a birdie and had a 2nd opportunity but left the putt short. Made some nice putts to save pars and bogeys offset with some chunks along the way.

Seemed to be cursed this week. Backing out after golf, I hit the bumper of a Lexis SUV. No real damage but I left my name and phone under the windshield wiper. Looks like the bumper was not aligned with the lower rear light where I bumped it. May just take a screwdriver to pop it out. Guess I will see if they call. I was watching the car next to me, who had his backup lights on, to make sure he didn't back into me. The drive lane there was very small which I was not aware of, so I needed a tight back up turn. Watching the car next to me rather than behind me was the flaw.

Getting dark. Almost time to put up my yellow jacket poison again. No phone calls yet. Perhaps the paper under the wiper isn't obvious at this point.

October 10 2018

Finally a good sleep! Supposed to be the last nice and warm day for a long time. 82 today but then falling into the 50s for the next 10 days. We did the neighborhood walk today since we have not been able to get to the Y. Nice and cool for the walk and very enjoyable.

No luck with the yellow jackets for the 2nd day. They are in the vertical corner strip on

the siding. First try I puffed some poison up it only to watch it fall out. Duh? For try #2 I had a good plan but poor execution. I powdered up a cloth and slapped the duct tape on the siding to hold it there over their entrance way. Problem is one side of the duct tape fell off overnight. I guess in my rush to leave the area I did not press it to the siding well enough. Now I have to rip that one off and try again. Seems like it is taking me 3 tries to fix stuff?

The back flood light is another example but not my fault. I replaced the sensor and it worked for 1 night. Then the bulb went out and took out the sensor. I am going to return it and get a new one later this week. The new one won't have the 1/2 on feature. I couldn't see buying another of the same sensors given it died after 1 day. I didn't find another sensor from a different supplier with that feature. What a pain.

I called Dennis. They still don't know why he loses blood. They gave him a unit and will do a IV for iron for several days. They did an MRI looking at his sciatica problem and found a place they want to clear out around the nerve on L4. He does not want surgery though. We shall see.

Went over and helped Wes load his HD truck rental with brush from his backyard. He has a lot of it from the storm a few weeks back. Planning isn't one of his strong points. The recycle yard is closed today and all the others nearby are also closed. Carolyn felt sorry for him (for some reason) and let him dump it in a pile in her yard where she can burn it. He still has a lot left, but had to get the lawn mowed today, so he returned the truck. He needs to get his shed replaced as well before the winter, so he has lots of fall projects to get to.

Heading over to watch the kids later.

October 9 2018

Very poor sleep last night as I knew Mary likely wasn't sleeping well either. We both somehow got thru the day in a sleep deprived state. I know I felt like crap all day.

I went over and watched them tow out the Toyota up to Hudson for fixing. Mary helped Kaetchen out after I picked her up at Carolyn's (she stayed the night watching the grand kids). Kaetchen had locked her keys in the car at the Y this morning. She could not find the spare key so the Hartville police opened it for her. Bad week for the Parker's, eh?

Mary is back over to Carolyn's till 7pm but will sleep back here tonight as Carolyn's flight is back tonight. Hope we can catch up on the sleep. I pulled out the tomato plants and cut back some plants today just for something to do to keep me awake.

I was just wondering the last few days if Chips Ahoy cookies contain an addictive substance. Seems that if you eat one, you want more. I think you could eat a 1/2 a box if you were not careful. Maybe I should ask the CDC?

One more warm day before it hits the 50s. The warmth was nice while it lasted.

October 8 2018

Another busy day. I played Tannenhau and went 41-42 = 83. Took a bogey from 105 out on the last hole when I needed a par to tie low net. That cost me \$2. The course was very wet and I had never seen the greens so slow. I was short with my putts all

day and could have taken 3 strokes off if I just got it to the hole. Frustrating.

Mary went to Red Hats lunch, then turned around and went to watch the kids at Carolyn's. She must have taken Jenna out to dinner cause I got a panic call saying she hit Carolyn's driveway rock and the car was toast.

That rock has always been lurking there on her driveway turn. It's too small to see from the car so you don't even think about it. She should put a tall stake in front of it so you can see something there. Might save someone else some aggravation down the road. There goes \$500 for the deductible.

I backed it into a parking space and called Geico. They will tow it up tomorrow morning. Lots of the front end is hanging and close to the front tires, so really not drive able.

The Indians choked again and are out of the baseball playoffs. Better luck next year.

October 7 2018

Busy day. Jacob stayed over and cut all 3 lawns this morning. He did Brenda's, mine, and then Pete's. Pete's belt broke (old age) so he finished up with my mower. I got Jenna on ours for mowing lesson 1. Just a small patch. She made the turns too fast and as a result didn't steer the corners too well. Good first step though.

Then I put her to work. It was hot and sticky. We did 2 replants, then cut 6 sets of tall grass. She moved it to my trunk and we hauled it to the recycle. Threw some rotten tomatoes around there as well.

Looks like we missed afternoon rain. Dang! Both the Bills and Browns won today. Imagine that!

October 6 2018

Thunder and rain this morning. We headed out to Medina in our gear to watch Jacob run XC. He did OK considering his injury, running an 18:47, about as same as last week. Only a few more weeks to go then he can rest up for track in the spring. We picked up a few groceries after.

When he gets home he will head to work at Don Pancho's to bus tables all night. He said it is boring when things are slow. Jenna is going to her first homecoming dance with a few of her girlfriends. How quick they grow up.

Hope the rain tomorrow somehow misses us. There are 3 lawns that need cutting tomorrow.

Late update – Bro-in-law Dennis is back in the hospital losing blood again. Mary and I are thinking it is something he is eating? Same issues now for perhaps 3 years now off and on.

October 5 2018

A bit chilly at Mayfair till the back 9. I was in a zone with the driver, First was off but then I just cranked them out one after another. Had a chance to hit most greens in regulation. After a mediocre start, I almost eagled #5 and had a birdie chance on #6. Took an ugly double on #9 for 5 over 41. John played well and shot 40.

Kept on cranking drives on the back but putting was letting me down. Four over after 5 felt bad but I finished the last 4 one under for 80. Pretty amazing year as the season slips away. John struggled on the back for 47. Dick was 98, Mel ugly at 115, and Bill was maybe at 94.

I was depressed when I heard the republicans are going to vote Kavanaugh in. Worst day since T-Rump stole the election. God help us.

October 4 2018

Rained off and on all day; golf was canceled. Went to the Y today and did the elliptical then walked the track for a mile. Did not go the strength class cause my biceps are still toast from Tuesday.

Mary went to Ohio Mart with JoAnn Davis. She isn't home yet. Likely visiting with Mel and JoAnn on the old Mayfair East hole #2. Not much else going on this rainy day.

Kavanaugh Supreme Court circus is continuing. Hard to believe the republicans are still pushing him. The wrath of women will surely rain down upon them.

October 3 2018

Went to the retiree lunch today. Attendance was low with only 3 full tables and 3 at another. I joined the three. I knew Dave Wright from drafting but not the other two. Carl Starks was one of them, now 92. He always teamed with Ed Bose in the Summitt Senior golf tournaments. Both were good back in the day. Ed cannot drive anymore at 89. Carl still plays at Sunny Hills.

Other than that, a pretty boring day. Golf likely will be rained out tomorrow morning so that sucks.

October 2 2018

We went to the Y this morning. Jenny wasn't there so they had a substitute. She did lots of reps with the weights and squats. Wonder how that is going to feel tomorrow.

Yesterday's sting is still itchy and a minor distraction. I put down some concrete caulk along the foundation. Hope the rain didn't disturb it.

It's the second day of the month so I did my normal backup of all files to the memory stick. Not much else going on today. I played a little chess and have been bouncing between 1290 and 1350. That is pretty nice indeed. Oops, forgot the bills. Maybe tomorrow?

October 1 2018

Nice day. Played Skyland Pines. It was still a little muddy out there. I hit it well but too many look ups and a lost ball and one in the water kept me at 42-42 =84. Putted well but did not make many. Chipped pretty decent to save 3 or 4 pars. I was low with net 70 by 4 strokes. The beat goes on!

Put up new LED address sign. Got tagged by a wasp so that was not fun. Was up my shorts a couple of inches. Those shorts came off quick. Never did find or see it though. Did hear it. They are becoming a real pain this fall. I hosed them with water for a bit then let them be. They like the top of my porch posts. No way to spray them

without putting a ladder up and that's not happening.

Sept 30 2018

Another cool day to end the month. We headed to Cleveland to Fort Huntington Park. It is very close to FE Stadium and in front of the Justice center. The park is only 1 small block and has many tributes. They have the Perry Statute, Jessie Owens statute, Cleveland Police memorial, James Corrigan statute, and a Plaque for the Fort.

The Fort was built after Hull surrendered in Detroit and they expected a battle there as a result. Settlers cleared out but a battle was never fought there. There was almost a landing by the British there but a storm blew the ships down the lake and they never came back. I read that General Simon Perkins, founder of Akron, had his Ohio Militia sent there to protect Cleveland. In my research I could only find a skirmish between Perkin's command and the British at Marblehead. I shall have to visit there next time I go to Put-in-Bay. We were just at the Perkins Stone Mansion in Akron.

The Perry Statute was the first monument to him and it was first displayed in Cleveland. It fell in disrepair and they had 2 new copies built. One is in Cleveland, one in Providence RI. Cleveland gave the old one to Perrysburg Oh who eventually lent it to Put-in-Bay. Perrysburg commissioned a replacement of some sort. There is a yet different monument to Perry in Erie I have not seen. I have seen yet a different one in Buffalo, and another at the tip of Presque Isle. I think I will get to all of them down the road. Maybe not in Providence though. Cleveland moved the monument several times and I think this park is a good home for it.

We also went to the Cleveland Aquarium. Although it is just 10 min from the park, it took us 45 min to find it. There were no signs and it was not in my GPS? I was glad I looked at the google map and the earth view. I could see the building as we crossed over bridges back and forth but could not find it. As I was about to give up, I tried one more time and found it right next to the Nautica Queen down under the bridges.

Sept 29 2018

Only 57 degrees this morning warming up to 64 in the afternoon. Cool but comfortable with no wind. We walked our 1.8 mi loop at 8:30am and then went for groceries. We beat the crowd. Helped Mary twist the ends of her bead bracelets she is making for Xmas. 10 done, 6 more to go.

Spot sprayed the yard weeds. Seems like 100 a few weeks ago and another 100 today. Did the baseboard spray as well to catch any visiting crawly things. Watched some of the Ryder Cup golf, but had to look at the scores and move on. USA will need a great day tomorrow.

Plan to head to downtown Cleveland tomorrow and get a pic of the Perry Monument near the stadium. We will head to the Cleveland Aquarium after that and stop for food somewhere.

Sept 28 2018

Brrr. Only 53 this morning. Looks like the backyard light sensor is working OK. It comes on 1/2 brightness at dusk and full if the motion sensor is triggered. It was on when I got up and we tested the motion last night.

Played the Dales today. Kind of sad. This is the last year for the course. The Hills closes next Sunday and the Dales on Nov 4. I brought my camera and got the starter to get a pic of the group in front of the clubhouse.

Fond memories. Had a mid 70s score (75?) on the Dales with the Monday group a few years back. Don't remember the score but I was striping the irons and making putts. I do remember buying a pitcher of beer for the guys to celebrate and not drinking any of it, so it must have been post 2004. Also the Ace in 2005, nothing but cup on #13.

Played decent but made no putts on the front for a 43. Two birdies on the back for a 39 and another 82 for the day.

Sept 27 2018

Walking only at Sanctuary, so the commish canceled. Mary and neighbor Pat went to visit Brenda at her new house, so I went to the Y. Lots of people in class today. Wasn't too bad except for the crowded conditions.

Picked up new sensor at HD for the backyard light. Took awhile to get it all back up. Found out that I had turned the wall switch upside down way back when I fixed that wall. Fixed that too. Waiting for darkness to test out the sensor.

Jacob was over to cut Brenda's lawn and did a nice job. I got to find some jeans for golf in the cold tomorrow.

Sept 26 2018

Rained till about noon. We went to Kohls to get some long Nike pants for me for the Y, as it is getting colder. My old pair was getting shorter and shorter. I had a couple of other pairs but without the elastic at the ankle, they are not functional for some of the exercises.

We needed to kill about an hour before lunch so we went to JoAnn Fabrics. Never, in my wildest dreams, would I have ever thought I would be shopping in there with Mary. I asked the clerk to just shoot me, but she declined.

We had soup and sandwich at Bob Evans at 11:30. It was good but the scene was really depressing. Looking over the crowd, I only saw a couple of diners under 70. Another group was an outing from a local nursing home. Lots of wheel chairs and decrepit people in them. The nursing home has food, but their outing is at Bob Evans. How sad is that? I almost gagged when the guy at the next table with a breakfast and biscuits and gravy spooned the light brown gravy all over his hash browns.

Sept 25 2018

Rain off and on all day. We went to the Y. There was a substitute trainer as Jenny went to her son's golf tourney. Not too bad, perhaps the easiest in a long time. Watched the ponies most of the day.

Found the Perry statute is in Fort Huntington Park in Cleveland right across from the football stadium. Perhaps a Sunday trip his weekend as the Browns are away and traffic should be down?

Sept 24 2018

Another cool day and the wind made it colder. Good news is I went 7 over 39-40 =79 at Sable Creek. Chipped in and made 2 long putts for birdie. Bad news is I did not win a skin on any of them. I did 3 putt 2 holes but I can't complain after making those long ones. I took low net with a 65 and Dick got 2nd with a 69. Done just in time for the rain to hit. A real soaker.

Lots of flooding still in Conway SC and now Georgetown may be next. Getting pretty ugly down there.

Sept 23 2018

Another cool day but not bad. We went over to help Wes. I helped do the paint edging and clean up. Mary did some cabbage salad, clothes folding, and also helped with the clean up. Kaetchen and kids left the Island a little before we headed home at noon. Hopefully they can keep the kids hands off the wall when they get home.

Jacob came over to do the lawns and Brenda's Realtor had an open house. We picked up a few items at GE and veg'd the rest of the evening. The Bills won. Their rookie QB is did pretty good today.

Sept 22 2018

Last day of summer and it won't make it up to 65 today. We went over to Wes' this morning to help with the upstairs hallway. We had taken down the wallpaper up there and patched his wall where his intercom was a few months back. At that time we did the down hall and stairs. The kids went to the Island so he got to it this weekend.

It took the 3 of us 4 hrs, mostly removing glue from the walls. I smoothed the patch, skim coated the one wall, and sanded it as well. Went over to the Lake Diner for food and a shake after. Wes was then going to head to the store for paint and planned to do a primer coat tonight.

Tomorrow would be the top coat of paint and clean up before the kids get home. He has another problem as well. Last evening's storm took down some of the neighbors trees and they are on top of his shed. Maybe he will get a new shed out of it.

Sept 21 2018

According to the weatherman, this is our last warm 80s day for the foreseeable future. We played Raintree and I struggled on their greens once again. Shot 45-42 for an 87 but missed many a putt and only put a few chips close enough to one putt. My first 2 putts lipped out on the low side as I never played enough break all day long. Bill tied me with a stellar back nine. His 2 birdies were center cut, costing me \$1.25

We went to the Greek Festival early. A passing storm kept the early attendance down as far as I could tell. We had the plaki (fish). It was fantastic. The olives in the Greek salad were also amazing, as were the green beans. Yum!

Going to help Wes tomorrow with glue removal, wall patches, and painting prep.

Sept 20 2018

Played well today at Barberton. Short game was down then up then down again. Shot

4 over 41 on the front and 5 over 40 on the back, marred by a double where I was 2 foot off the green and took 4 to get down. Made 1 out of 3 birdie ops, making the toughest one of the bunch. Got low net which was worth 3 dollars.

We went to Z and K's school for their fall fest. Jenna performed her Poi routines and was enjoying it!

Sept 19 2018

We went over to see the Perkins Stone Mansion. The John Brown House, across the street, is being renovated so that is closed till December. Seen the signs for 40+ years but never went to see it. The Mansion was the family house for Simon Perkin's offspring who settled here in the 1820s. He surveyed the area and basically founded Akron yet never lived here. We got a very nice private tour since we were there at open at 1pm. We toured till about 2pm then had lunch at EL Rancho out on W Exchange.

Got back home for a few hours of rest then watched the kids from 6-9pm over at Wes'.

Sept 18 2018

Jenny said we wouldn't like her today and she was right. Lots of reps of just about everything. We saw Wes and Kaetchen there. Went to the barber after. He was talking up the Greek Fest this weekend.

More tomatoes! We have our hands full. Not much else going on today.

Sept 17 2018

I skipped Monday golf after looking at the radar. Turns out they played in a slight drizzle. It rained here pretty steady so I guess they got lucky. My record on wet turf is pretty poor (Friday's pitiful play) so I am glad I skipped.

The garage wouldn't go up this morning. Turns out it worked after pulling the plug and reinserting it. That receptacle likely needs replaced. We went to the Y where Andrea made us do lots of reps. Crowded class today; 30+ women. I should be warmed up for tomorrow's class with Jenny. BTW, we saw her Sunday shopping at GE.

Carolyn stopped over to see what was up. Nothing as usual. She will do a short trip to SF the first weekend in October and we will keep an eye on the teenage grand kids.

Brain was working today. Won a few chess games and beat a 1350 guy. I quit while the quitting was good. Likely a fluke.

Sept 16 2018

Quiet day today. We did some house keeping and bill paying till around noon. Jacob came over and did his mowing. A late lunch of BLTs using our tomatoes was awesome.

I watched the Browns almost win one, only to lose by a FG in the last seconds. The Bills got pummeled again. We picked up a few groceries around dinner time and veg'd the rest of the evening. Will have to see if we can duck the rain in the morning and get golf in.

Sept 15 2018

I dug up the wire where i repaired it last time. Mary was my able assistant. The \$40 sensor tool I got to check underground wiring was worthless and no help. Wire is too deep i guess.

Mary went to HH and got the same repair kit I used last time again. It has a heat shrink sleeve to close around the fix. Three, what looks like brass chinese finger cuffs have screws at each end you can slide the 2 cables with the 3 wires into to lock them in. Got that done but am not sure i heated the bottom of the sleeve good enough to keep out all the moisture. The propane torch kept flaming out down at the bottom of the hole . The fix is 2 feet below the dry well top in case I need to know next time.

So i declare temporary victory! Problem is that my fix was in April 2015, only 3 years ago. I am thinking the problem is the stinking lower gage (15w) buried wire couldn't stand up to the wet environment? I did see a copper gnd wire but not sure about the other wires (copper or aluminum). If it is aluminum it won't like the brass clamp. If this fix goes again in 3 years, I am going to be too old to tackle it and will have to hire someone to do it. Maybe sell the house?

Sept 14 2018

Finally sunny today and it warmed up to mid 80s. Florence hit Wilmington this morning but it looks like the real damage is up to the north of there where there was more surge. Time will tell as more rain tomorrow there.

We played Seven Hills and Dick was the big winner. I couldn't figure out the greens and only made one putt. Missed a lot of short ones too and had 38 putts. For some reason they cut the fairways to the mud. Either they need to to dry it out or they are going to do some plugging of the fairways. No one could get a clean hit on the ball except for Dick and his woods. I shot 93, only my 3d score in the 90s this year. John and Mel also had the same issues.

The kids were over at 4pm-7pm as Wes took Kaetchen out for dinner (happy hour) at the Twisted Olive. We were quite busy and are now toast for the day.

Sept 13 2018

Saw the sun later in the day again. Most of the morning was fog and dreary. I started out great at Chenoweth today. Four pars and a birdie to start the front finished as 5 over 40. Back nine was so so, scoring a 41 while missing a couple of birdie tries. 81 is good but disappointing after that start. Tied for low net by leaving my birdie try 2 inches short on #18.

Lincoln was over when I got home so I got to help Mary the last hr or so after she had already watched him for 2.5 hrs. He had a good time here! Tried chess later but brain wasn't working very good.

Sept 12 2018

Saw the sun later in the day. First time since last Friday. We took a trip to HD to pick up the dawn to dusk sockets I bought for the outdoor lamps. Forgot to switch the switch to on till late so I will have to look tomorrow to see if they turn off. Picked up some potting soil for fall replanting and some LED fan bulbs.

Later in the afternoon we dropped balloons at Wes' for Kaetchen's birthday while she was out picking up the kids from school. They were surprised when they got home. Continued on to the doctor to get our flu shots. Jacob came over after practice to do the lawns. I did 1/2 the back since we were running out of daylight. Riding the mower doesn't help my back. I went pretty slow.

Sept 11 2018

Another rain out. No mowing either. Drizzly day till 11am, so I went to the Y with Mary. Holy cow! This is the second week Jenny has been intense. Normally, I get a breather when she gets to the biceps but there were so many reps even I was struggling to finish. We shall see. Last week it took 3 days to recover.

Puttered around today. Had to pitch lots of tomatoes that over ripened while we were gone. Got my gator foam boards and mounted the 1812 canvas I purchased on it. Pretty cool. You can have any photograph printed on canvas now so it looks like a painting. You then use the gator foam boards with sticky adhesive on one side to mount it. I ordered a canvas and did it myself. There are places that will print and mount your photo for you.

911 victims RIP.

Sept 10 2018

We went to the Y today. First time I have been there on a Monday in quite awhile. It's crazy on Mondays. Me and 30-34 women crowded the room. It's so full it is hard to count them. Since Andrea is quite a bit easier on the class, everyone wants in. It was much easier and no squats, which is the killer for me.

Back home and the rain stopped so I went out and pulled apart the connector on the sump power line, figuring that was the problem with the sump power. Sadly it was not to be. Still no power at the end of the cable. Since I can't believe my repair from last time has gone bad, I want to find the break. Bill suggested a product that I shall try but it will take a couple days to get here. At this point I hope that is the issue since I know where to dig.

Got a Friday tee time, flu shot appointment, and called about scheduling my secondary cataract laser zapping. Waiting on a call back.

Got a pleasant surprise check from the BP Fair Fund. I got back 100% of my losses from the 500sh I purchased after the spill. BP had minimized the spill, so I bought some stock figuring it would go back up but they lied and paid the price. I still lost money on the shares I had before the spill, but with this check, broke even on those purchased after the spill. Thinking I might get back enough to pay for a lunch, \$5K was a huge surprise.

Went and picked up some groceries so I could have breakfast tomorrow.

Sept 9 2018

We came back a day early. First, remnants of tropical storm Gordon was scheduled to come thru Monday. Second, bro-in-law Dennis went off to the hospital last night and was admitted. He has the double whammy of sciatica and kidney stones and was in a ton of pain.

Friday we stopped at several War of 1812 sites as we drove in and then took my sister to dinner for her birthday which is Sunday. Saturday, I played the white tees with brother Jim and Jim Jr. Very close match until my birdie on #16. Ended up with an 83 to their 87s. Nice fish fry for dinner. Around 9pm Dennis was off to the hospital and there was no sense in staying around.

Today before we left, we hit 2 more 1812 sites but couldn't find the third which is along a bike path somewhere under Elmwood Ave where the expressway rumbles thru. It was too cold to walk down there to search around, as we were not prepared for the cold weather that hit this weekend, especially since we were not sure where exactly to look.

We did find the Flint Hill Memorial burial rock 50-60 yds off the 4th tee in the middle of the Delaware Park Golf course, where I played hundreds of times as a teenager. With the cold, there were very few golfers out there. I flagged down one guy who showed me where the 4th tee was on his scorecard otherwise I would have never found it. Story goes that 300 died from "camp disease" and were buried in shallow graves during the winter. They were all moved into one mass grave in the spring. A rock and plate were put there in 1896. I submitted a new waymark for it when I got home.

BTW, the stinking sump alarm was going off when I got home. It was raining hard but I ran an extension out there and the pump began to work. Either the plug socket is bad (I surely hope so) or my underground repair has gone bad. That would suck as it would be a deep hole to be dug and repaired again.

Sept 6 2018

No Blog till I get back on Monday. Heading to Buffalo. Wanted to get a round in with bro-in-law Dennis at Brighton as I have not done that since mid 2016 before he had many health issues. Also, can take my sister Catherine out for her birthday for all she does for us and the family every Holiday. Finally, can get a few more War of 1812 waymarks in the Buffalo area.

Today, we tried to play Sable Creek. The good news is I was even par after 1 hole before the storm hit. It was supposed to miss us to the north but sure did not. Quite a downpour! Veg'd the rest of the day. Catch you when I get back.

Sept 5 2018

Another day over 90, sigh. Went to the retiree lunch and sat with Darrel and Messner, Sam and Chris. Not much new. The golfers were over to see if I was playing tomorrow. Stopped for a Strickland's on the way home.

Pretty much veg'd till we had to leave for watching the kids. Hope they go easy on us cause my squatters are killing me from yesterday's class.

Sept 4 2018

93 today. We need mercy. Went to the Y and Jenny beat us up real good. There was lots of groaning in the room today. I saw her son was in the paper with a 38 at Sanctuary and she said he shot 73 at Oak Shadows and came in 3d. So much for my accomplishment taking 57 years. Damn high school kids. Trash man broke some glass in the road this morning so we had a community clean up with 4 of us participating.

Researched Buffalo sites to waymark and then began looking at Perry Monuments and statues. Turns out I found 6 statues and 2 monuments, a tall chip, and his gravesite monument across 3 states. Way, way too cool! Mary was beading up some bracelets she wants to have ready for Xmas gifts to the girls and lady relatives.

Sept 3 2018

Slept in a little. Another 90+ day. We may be up to 20 by now? Did a little weeding in the morning, then watched the 3 kids for 2-3 hrs as mom and dad went to the flea market. They kept us busy.

3pm was the going away party for neighbor Brenda. Hot dogs and bring a dish. She had a good time. The kids from the 2 neighbors south of me were always going over. They were good for her and kept her mind off the loss of her husband. I don't know how she will get by at her new condo in Massillon. Probably just old people there.

Sept 2 2018

Slept in till 8:15! Mary scrambled some eggs and I made some toast. It was a hot one from the start.

Veg'd most of the morning. Mary cooked up the bacon for the BLT ritual and I cut up the tomatoes. Jacob was just getting over to cut the lawns so he joined in chomping down on the BLTs.

After being out doors for awhile I decided not to play golf Tuesday. The tee time was not till 10am and the temp was predicted to be 91. I am so tired of the heat. Finally cooled down around 6:30 so I raked up some grass and did a little more weeding.

Sept 1 2018

We were up and out to CC early. Jacob was going to give it a try, even as he still has the hip pain from a week ago. He gave it a try but could only manage a 20 min 5k and said he had to stop and walk 4 times. Obviously the injury isn't going away. He was so disappointed and kind of embarrassed by being beaten by some of the new runners. It has to be disappointing to have practiced and gotten ready for your senior year and then be unable to compete. He was not taking it well.

Last night I was remembering how great diffusion is. Say you fart 4 or 5 cubic inches in a standard room of 10 x 12 with 8 foot ceilings. That fart is diffused by a factor of 300,000 times in that room over time. And it gets way better if there is an adjacent room. If a window is open, you are golden!

Did a little weeding on and off but pretty much vegd all day.

August 31 2018

Super day as I scored my lifetime low of 57 years golfing. Missed a short putt for a par on #1 Sable Creek Maroon and then had regulation pars on the next 6 holes. Got into real trouble on #8 but punched thru the trees and salvaged a bogey. Lousy tee shot on #9 but managed to chip my 3d shot to 6 inches to get a par and finish 2 over.

The Gold nine was sweet. Started with two regulation pars then chipped up close for a par. Three more regulation pars and I was even after 6. Followed that with 2 eight par

saving putts then had a chance at birdie on #18. Blew it by but made the par saver to finish the back at even par 35. An impressive 2 over 73. I sure had way more GIRs than normal. That sure helped!

All the long time Friday guys signed the scorecard; Mel, John, Dick, and Bill. Sure glad I got to do that with my old buddies as opposed to the other groups I play with.

Groceries and pill pick ups before fresh corn and tomato for dinner.

August 30 2018

Very nice day. Much cooler. Played Good Park with the Lockheed guys. Went 41-42 for another 83. Never missed a short putt all day, nor did I make any others. Driver was awesome. Hit a few good hybrids. Irons were a bit weakish leading to a lot of chipping. Chipping was not good nor bad, keeping me from a lower score. The bunkers cost me 2. Hopefully better tomorrow.

August 29 2018

Another nasty hot one with temp in the 90s one again. TV said 18 this year for us and 38 in DC. Ouch! We went to pick up some items st JoAnn Fabrics and then went to the Stark County Fair. Got a nice matt for my antique etching of Gen Winfield Scott circa 1860. It worked out perfect.

Watched some of the Harness racing at the Fair Don McKirgan is still in the sulky at age 77. Amazing guy. Wow, I can remember taking Jacob and Jenna there when they were little. Now they are 17 and 14. One of them was scared of the turkey cause it was so big. Fond memories indeed. I imagine we will go again next year.

Stopped at Handles and the girl made up 2 huge hot fudge sundays. I don't see how she could cram any more into that little cup.

August 28 2018

A nasty hot one with temp in the 90s one again. We went to the Y, did the ellipticals and then went to Jenny's strength class. She beat us up good today. After we left, I counted the squats we did and came up with 108. Ouch!

Lincoln came over after his nap around 12:30ish. Carolyn was here for awhile as well. Kaetchen got back around 4pm with Z and K and stayed about an hour.

Lately I have be irritated with the people that say "No problem". Say what? I was thinking of several of the time we have eaten out lately. The waiter come over and asks if we need something. Another drink please....."No problem" he says. Another time I ask for the check....."No problem". Say what? Why on earth would they think that I was even concerned there would be a problem and what problem would that ever be anyway?? Very screwy!

August 27 2018

A nasty hot one with temp in the 90s. We played Chenoweth and it was hot! I struggled around the front nine with only 1 par the first 6 holes before parring out the last 3 for a 9 over 44. Been awhile since I scored that high on a nine. Finished great though. After 3 bogies on the the first 3 on the back, I finished with 3 over 38 with 2 birdies. 18 was

classic. I sliced my drive down into the trees, hit a 4 iron through the trees to within 50yds of the lake, then a wedge to 12 feet, making the putt for a birdie 4. Nice!

We were getting woozy the last 2 or 3 holes from the heat. So it was good to get into the clubhouse and cool down.

August 26 2018

Lots of thundering this morning. The storm passed by before 9am though. I did a little weeding just biding my time till Jenna and Jacob came over at 1pm. The sun was brutal with all the humidity.

Jacob mowed the two lawns and Jenna helped me cut back the hosta's. They were toast with the heat wave this year and had lots of crispy leaves. We have had 10 days over 90 this year. Jenna cut them off and I dug down to cut most of them back because they spread so fast. It was hot and we got cooked. I did not expect such heat today but the rain caused humidity to skyrocket. We did 10 hostas and 3 of my big plants that may also be hostas. Filled the dumpsters and 2 big leaf bags. I am toast.

Mary set up to do some bead bracelets and Jenna loaded one which she was able to take home.

August 25 2018

We were out to see Jacob CC but he did not run. Some hip muscle issue. He wasn't sure yesterday, but he knew he couldn't go after their warm up. He may be out for awhile.

Picked up some groceries and did some weeding. Nice cool day. Mary went to church and I cooked up a couple of Ted's dogs for dinner. This month is running out already.

August 24 2018

Played the Hills today. Really hit the ball well but my short game was sub par. Went 41-40 for an 81. The poor short game cost me a bunch of money. \$5 for putts and \$3 for dots. Beautiful day though.

Got my shoe bench from UPS. Mary helped me put it together and it looks good. I had shoe storage by the door but you could not sit on it. This one you can. Six stinking pages of instructions! Took about an hour to assemble.

August 23 2018

Played Raintree today. They had the sprinklers going all day. Greens were soaked making putting slowish. I went 40-42 for an 82. Three 3 putts in a row at one point. Putting let me down the last 10 holes. Hit the ball well except 2 pushed drives I had to punch out on.

I dumped all my stocks today. They have gone no where since March and I am down 3% for the year. With all the political risk I felt it was time to bail.

August 22 2018

Eye Dr appt at 10:30 went quickly. He said I need the right eye zapped for secondary cataract. They will call to schedule. I will likely hide from the light the rest of the day.

Those eye dilatations really seem to last too long in my opinion. I used some eye drops to dilute the stuff after a couple of hours. It did seem to help.

Did a little weeding and we had taco's for an early dinner.

August 21 2018

We got beat up at the Y this morning. Saw Wes, Kalix, and Lincoln there. After lunch we took the car in for service and grabbed a Strickland's cone on the way home. Quite windy all day and cool this evening.

Brenda had her crew out cleaning the garage and filling pretty much a whole dumpster the truck brought this morning. Major dumpster filling. Something was mis-filed as we saw some dumpster diving as well. They were here early and are still going at 6pm!

Message to T-Rump as two of his guys are convicted:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=232naAvYiGY>

August 20 2018

Long ride out to Rawiga was awarded with a 2 over 38 front nine. I birdied the next 2 and parred the 3d on the back. Even par after 12! Of course it had to end and it did, I went 8 over the last 6 holes with 4 bogies and 2 doubles. I was playing not to get a big score and I did not. Did not get any pars either. Oh well.

Mary was decorating for Lincoln's bday when I got home, so I helped. Cooked burgers and dogs and had a ball watching the little guy open all his gifts.

August 19 2018

Wow, up at 8:15am! Latest I have slept for a very long time. Rolled over at 6:11 and fell back asleep. Cooked up some eggs and set the pan on the plastic from the cheese then back on the burner. What a mess; took me 1/2hr to clean it all up.

Did some weeding on and off then Jacob was over to do the 2 lawns. Neighbor Brenda had her crew over to help get the house ready to sell. Back to golf tomorrow after a 1 week absence. That will be a good test.

August 18 2018

Mind numbing day. Rain this morning. We went to pick up some groceries needed since we got back around 9:30am. Put up the new family room curtains and picked some ripe tomatoes. We had some of them for lunch. Not much else all day. Mary went to church and I cooked up the spaghetti. Did a little weeding.

Lincoln's bday is Monday but they got so many toys around, don't know what to get the little bugger.

August 17 2018

Got my haircut early and then took Mary for her mammogram follow up at AGMC. All is well. Been awhile since I was downtown. The new AGMC building looks nice and there is all kinds of road construction down there. We stopped for a Stricklands on the way back and picked up my car at Wes'. He had borrowed it while a new alternator was put

in Kaetchen's car.

Spent most of the afternoon loading pics into Shutterfly and Waymarking. I have 5 waymarks and 72 visits so far.

The boys were able to squeeze today's round in at Good Park. I thought they would be rained out.

August 16 2018

Sorry for not warning the blog would be not while we went to Canada to visit the important battle sites.

Tuesday the 14th we went to see the sites on the way up thru Michigan to Windsor. Primarily around Monroe and the Battlefield at the River Raisen where the American wounded were mascaaed by the Indians. Also stopped at the sites for Hull Trace, The battle at Brownstown, and the Battle of Monguagon. The fort in Detroit is now gone and skyscrapers stand there.

Wednesday the 15th we drove out to Chatham and followed the Tecumseh Trail. It goes places one never dreamed of going down some decent and some remote roads. I got a ton of pics of markers strewn along the way that tell the story of the British retreat from Amherstburg and the Battle of the Thames where Tecumseh was killed. There were a couple of skirmish sites along the way and a nice park in Chatham.

Today we visited a couple of Windsor sites and Fort Malden in Amherstburg before heading home. Beautiful park there too. The fort was burned, sold off, then reclaimed and partially restored. This is where Brock and Tecumseh forged an alliance and was the British stronghold until Americans got the edge after the Battle of Lake Erie.

With this trip we have visited all the major battle sites in the old northwest during the war (Fort Meigs visited last year). There are still some minor sites in Ohio and some in Indiana I am interested in visiting some day down the road. Quite a bit more to visit at the other end of the lake near Buffalo yet.

August 13 2018

I skipped Chippawa today. Dick and I played Sable Creek. I had a 41-41 for an 82 while Dick had a 52-46 for a 98. He really came along towards the end. I played pretty decent with the exception of a couple of look ups on the front and some weak putting on the back.

Mary had a good lunch with the Red Hats today. Time to pack up for the mini trip tomorrow. On a side note, my chess has been on the upswing. After wandering up/down from 1250 rating, I crossed above 1300 today. Likely just a temporary surge, lol.

August 12 2018

Good night sleep for a change? Wish I knew why. We were out to pick up food for Wes Bday party this morning. When we got back Mary made salads, I cleaned up the garage, and got out the grill. Jacob was first over and started the mowing around 12:30. Wes got here 1ish and we ate and partied till 3pm. They took the old fence cedar slats. As I was going to trash them. Those babies were on the 1974 fence and are 44 years old. Lots of thundering by no rain to speak of at 4:30pm.

August 11 2018

Did not sleep well but did get into a good stretch from 6am till 7:45am. That helped. Not much going on today so I went out and got on the weeds for two hours or so. Lots of tree sprouts we had to pull/cut.

Mary went to church and I made the spaghetti diner. Carolyn and the kids made it home from Charleston but she says they all have a cold virus. Very odd.

August 10 2018

Awesome round at Glen Eagles today. We just squeaked it in ahead of a storm. I went 38-40 for a 78 with a birdie on a par 3, a par 4, and a par 5. The par 5 was a birdie 6 though, as I had to re-tee after ripping one into the woods. Maybe a round with Dick on Monday before taking a week off for Canada trip.

August 9 2018

Happy Birthday to Wes, now 38 years old. Still a good runner; a few weeks back he finished 5K 6th overall and won his age group.

The Lockheed guys played Boulder Creek in Streetsboro. Very nice course but brutal set up. Lots of long walks to your ball around the greens. I hit one that ran down a hill 60 yds. I had to walk out to it, hit it 60 yds up the hill, then climb the hill. I was whipped for 2 holes after that. Pretty good score 41-44 =85 but I had to par the last 5 to do it!

Got home and Mary was wrapping up watching Lincoln and Kalix at 4:30pm. Got to revive myself for tomorrow at Glen Eagle.

August 8 2018

We went to HD to pick up the paint hardener I ordered. Got some furnace filters as well. Stopped over to the shade section and had some made to order for the family room; 40wx36min. We had decided to put in light filtering shades and sheer white curtains. Got the curtains ordered from JCP and the shades from HD today. When we got back we put up the shades on both windows. Mary had to run to HH to pick up some brackets. They have excellent prices on shades \$15 each. Anywhere else, custom sizes are insane, about triple that.

Carolyn is in Charleston visiting her friend Jenny. Hope they have good beach weather,

August 7 2018

Cooled down a little today. We went and picked up a lab order at the doctors and then went to the Y. Jenny's class wasn't too bad. Last week I was sore for 2 days. We shall see tomorrow.

I did some weeding and then we went to see Batcher. He looked great. We went too dinner with Jane and Silvia. We were both surprised to learn Ken's cancer was gone? As far as she knows, he is fine but just like a paraplegic she says. He does have legs you know. The whole thing is quite curious.

August 6 2018

Another 90+ day. Played Pleasant View south in Louisville. Very tight fairways and I was missing by the smallest of margins, That led to a lot of punched 4 irons and some chip outs. Was +7 on the front and again on the back for an 85. Tied for low net, so others must have had the same issues.

I did put well after a slow start. The greens were very sloped so I eventually caught on that I needed to lob it up close to the pin. That was easier than figuring out how hard to hit it to get the run up. Will be glad when the heat breaks.

August 5 2018

Wow; hot and very humid this morning getting the paper! Not a good day to work outside as it heads to 90. I did toss some stuff that was accumulating in the garage in the morning but not much else.

Around 12:30 we went to the Haines house in Alliance. It was a stop on the Underground Railroad, open only for 3 hrs on Saturday and Sunday the first week of the month. We have been planning to visit since April but kept pushing it back because something else was going on. It was a nice visit and the guide was knowledgeable. Dinner after at the Roadhouse was sweet!

August 4 2018

Another nice day today. We got moving early. The deck and a few spots on the vinyl siding had the green mold growing. We use a 50-50 mix of bleach in a bucket and a broom to take it off. All the while I am using the broom, I make power noises like I am using a power washer. It goes a lot easier if you do that. Only took an hr and ½ Could have taken much longer if I didn't pretend I was using a power washer.

I tried to pull out a wire I had cut going from the garage to the laundry room (one of my reno's) but it didn't come from the receptacle box in the garage. So I tossed in the towel and just attached a "Hot" warning to the partial wire. Don't know where it goes to. I had cut the wire because the power from the garage was wired into the downstairs bathroom. I cut that and put the bathroom on it's own breaker. As noted before, the previous owner finished the downstairs and was quite a HACK at electrical.

Quiet afternoon. I pulled some weeds and Mary went to church.

August 3 2018

Nice day today. We played Barberton today and followed high school kids trying out for the team. They moved along OK; took us about 4 ½ hrs to play. I was hot the first nine shooting 5 a over 41 with one birdie. Sad thing is I had chance for par on every hole. Lots of speed putts. Not as good on the back shooting 7 over 42 for an 83 total.

Finished up plans for the Windsor trip where we will stop at 3 historic sites for the Battle of the Raisin, Fort Amherstburg, and Battle of the Thames. Plan is to go Aug 14-16 with pretty full days. Got the GPS loaded with Canada maps and found out how to do the sim card for the trip.

August 2 2018

The kids were great last night. They listened well and, for maybe the first time, Lincoln did not need to be carried around.

Played Ridge Top with the Lockheed guys. Went 42-38= 80 from the short tees. I played very well with the exception of a couple of putts. Never made one longer than 3 feet. Tough greens!

August 1 2018

Another month gone by. I was up early at 5am and went back to bed at 6:30 and back up at 8am. Went to the retiree lunch at 10am. Stopped to get a photo of LeBron James sign on route 224 for a waymark. Ate with John T, Terry Y, and John R. Good fun. Carolyn and Jenna were over for a bit to visit Mary. Not much else going on. Wes called for us to sit tonight with the kids for trivia night.

July 31 2018

No golf today, but I did catch chippy #7. We went to the Y and did 30min on the elliptical followed by Jenny's strength class. I was surprised at how I held up. The only issue was my legs were weak, so the exercises on one leg were mostly shaky. Did a little grocery shopping to replace items consumed by our guests.

Put in a Waymark for Fort Schlosser. It was rejected the first time so I added some pics taken by sister Catherine. Starting to plan a mid August 2 day? trip thru Detroit and into Canada to see more 1812 sites.

July 30 2018

Just got there in time for golf. Played well the front shooting 4 over 40 but sucked on the back shooting 44 for an 84. Not a bad score. Left 3 in front of the hole and rimmed a couple out at Skyland Pines. Lady at the desk was a blast from the past from the old Edgewood days. Houle, King, and I said hi! That wraps up 5 straight days of golf. I need a rest but am likely to get beat up at the Y tomorrow.

July 29 2018

Sorry for missing 3 days of blogs. Brother Jim came in on the 27th and dragged me out for a practice round. I told him I would play 9 but would ride along for his back nine. We played Sable Creek and Jim struggled while I shot 46. He did much better on the Gold with a 44.

Jim Jr got here the 28th and we met George and played Sanctuary. I was low with a 85 going 41-44 from the 6100 yd Black tees.. Play was slow and there was 5 rude groups in the outing ahead of us playing music, drinking, and shouting loud. I told the course not to give them a tee time next year. Then we met Mary for dinner.

Today we played Raintree. Scores suffered as we were a bit tired (at least I was). I shot a respectable 89 from the 6200 white tees. We had lunch and they headed off to return home to Buffalo. Jacob did a nice job on the lawn.

July 26 2018

Another nice day in the mid 80s. I sort of played at Turkeyfoot, shooting my worst score of the year at 96. I think I was tired, not focused, and not swinging well. Lipped

out several putts, topped several, and hit 2 OB. I am going to write that one off in hopes of getting my swing back Saturday. Guess all the work at Wes' wore me down.

Mary went over and helped Wes clean up while he got a primer coat on the walls.

I did some weeding after dinner without much back pain. I have been unable to do this for several weeks now. More to do.

July 25 2018

Another nice day in the high 70s. We were off to finish the skim coat today. Got there after the doctor appt I had around 10am and we finished up at 12pm. Celebrated at the Lake Diner with lunch and milkshakes. I had Red Raspberry and Mary Chocolate. Up to Wes and Kaetchen now to sand prime and paint.

Doc said he doesn't see any spine issues. I will just need to stretch daily to tighten up the back muscles.

July 24 2018

Another nice day in the high 70s. We were off to skim coat today. Got there at 8:30 and ran out of energy around 2:30pm. Did the big wall on the stairs and 1/2 the other stair wall. Then did the walls in the hallway, the side of the stairs and the wall entering into the living room. Still have the 1/2 stair wall, the front door wall and the wall with the switches. I figure 3-4 hrs should do it. That will make it 6 days in a row.

July 23 2018

Nice day in the high 70s. Played Zoar and went 40-39 =79, so it was a good day. Dick finally played well, scoring an 85. Too many of the senior tees were forward making the course pretty defenseless. We played fast as well.

Getting back so early, I had to stop at Wes' house and mud the panels that were taken out. I did three panels, Wes did 2. Mary was over earlier helping with the last of the glue removal. Tomorrow, I will go over and skim coat the walls. That will leave Wednesday for touch up and sanding.

July 22 2018

Wes was working the again today so Mary and I went over for round 2 of getting the glue off the walls. Never saw so much glue. We worked 5 hrs till 2:30 and were whipped. Got more done than I expected but there is still about half the stairway done. Mary got the rail side done except for the high parts. I got the heavy spots scraped off. Not sure how difficult the rest is. Mary will help tomorrow as Wes is home. Mostly keep him company since most of the stuff is too high for her. I expect to do the first coat of mud Tuesday.

Vegged the rest of the day. Hope I have some energy left for golf tomorrow. It has been a busy busy week!

July 21 2018

Wes is working the next 2 days so Mary and I went over to get the glue off the walls. A major pain. Mucho glue! I used DIF on the real heavy spots and scraped it off. I did 1

small wall, one a little bigger, while Mary did the lower half of one and $\frac{3}{4}$ of another. Two people for 4 hrs and I think there is another 12 hrs in that hall and the stairs.

Feeling tired after all that but I went for groceries while Mary went to church. Wonder how much energy we will have tomorrow?

July 20 2018

Played OK today. We played fast to keep ahead of a 2 some and beat the rain. Thought we were going to get stormed on but we were OK. I went 42-40 =82. Hit the ball well but the greens were killing us. Several times all 5 of us had makeable putts and we all missed. Lots of side hill putts made us miserable.

Went over to Wes' later and helped pull down wallpaper. He grilled some yummy chicken.

July 19 2018

Back in the USA! Quite a trip. We knew the phones wouldn't work but I was surprised the GPS wouldn't as well. Oops! The Garmin lets you choose what to download. Since I did not have a passport, I did not load Canada. I better rectify that before the next trip. Got a sim card on order for the phone.

Needless to say, getting to the hotel Monday was a trip. We stopped at a hot spot in the mall and I used the ipad to look at a map and plot a course. I wrote it down and we followed the written instructions and got there. So we were old school for the whole trip!

Tuesday we had to wait till noon for the Fieldcote Museum and were sad to learn the Bloody Assize display only ran from 2012 to 2014. The guy there was very nice, He opened an hour early for us when we rang the buzzer. He did go on and on about the current exhibit. When I told him I was disappointed he jabbered on and on about that too.

The Stoney Creek Battlefield made up for it. We spent 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ hrs there on a guided tour with 2 very knowledgeable guides. Walked across the street to see a monument for the mass grave of the buried called the Lion monument. Then we got over to the local cemetery where there was a monument for 2 people who spied and got the sentry codes for the dawn attack on US forces. I had the gps coordinates for all but the accuracy varies. In this case it was 30 feet, so we had to walk around a bit to find that one amongst many markers.

Wednesday we headed to Toronto. Very heavy traffic all day long but we got to Fort York. The fort had been reconstructed from a deteriorated state but kept intact even as valuable as the land is there. The visit center sits under the highway. The fort is 300 feet away between the rail lines and the elevated highways, surrounded by massive skyscrapers in every direction.

Wonderful displays and guided activities there. Best we have seen. We got out of dodge before the 3pm hour on the advice of the locals. I found a BBQ bar and we had some good BBQ. I tried my first order of Poutine and it was very good.

Today we went in to Queenston to see Brock's monument. 138 steps up and back down was a chore within a stairway of maybe 40" across. Would be tough to pass

people for sure. Then we walked the trail which was a lot of up and down. After 1 hr of climbing and walking, we hit the road. They have a new Indian Monument area, but we were too bushed to find it. All in all, a great trip, eh?

No blog till July 19th or 20th upon our return from Canada

July 15 2018

Another scorcher. I was out early to water the back and crank down the umbrella before our trip tomorrow. Just vegged most of the day except for taking out the trash and helping Brenda take out hers.

The ladies were sewing away on something and then went over to see Bloomer's kitchen remodel. Hope they don't get any ideas. Heading to Canada to see War of 1812 sites and swim in the motel pool.

July 14 2018

Another hot one. We made a trek to Mantua for Art on the Hill. We got cooked walking around. Lots of jewelry, some iron works, some painting and mostly stuff no one was interested in. I did see a large bird of iron but it was \$100. It is an old downtown area and a lot of the locals were there. One building was from 1901. Cute little girl, maybe 4, was getting us to vote for the photo contest best photo. That was the highlight.

On the way home we stopped for an ice cream sundae at New Baltimore. A bit later we stopped in Hartville. They had the street blocked off but it was mostly a kids play event. The ladies headed to church while I chilled out.

July 13 2018

Friday the 13th was a hot one. My sciatica was bugging me today but I had a great round at Tammy Dales. I shot 40-39 for a 79 that I have been trying to reach for awhile. Didn't think it was possible after a double bogey on 15, but I finished bogey par par, making 2 long putts the last 2 holes. Fantastic! I did miss 2 short birdie opportunities along the way. No golf for me till next Friday. Will head to Canada on Monday and be back Thursday.

The ladies did some local shopping. Ginny bought us a welcome sign for the driveway. Now they are making some kind of sewing crafty item.

July 12 2018

Nice day with a breeze and low 80s. We played Arrowhead. Last round there for me. Lots of crabgrass, basically dirt bunkers, lots of burned out parts of fairways, and a couple of messed up greens. Some cup cuts were by hacks. I managed a 39 on the front but had a 44 on the back. Hit a couple of dirt bunkers and it was a guessing game chipping. Some stopped and others ran forever.

Dawn's Jim stopped in and went out to lunch at the Hartville Kitchen with the ladies. When I got home after eating at Grinders, Wes and family was over so we played with the kids till around 5:30pm. They liked the gifts Ginny brought. A Quilt, a dress, a shirt, and 2 games.

My sciatica was killing me this morning. I took a couple of aleve and was OK once I

got to the golf course. This is getting old quickly.

July 11 2018

Busy day. Got right out and got my haircut early this morning, then picked up groceries. By the time I got home it was almost time to leave for the retiree lunch. John R made it. Not much new with him. He recommended I see the doctor regarding the sciatica. He ignored it and ended up with nerve damage in his foot. Surgery was non-invasive and took care of his issue. Not sure how they pinpointed the area causing it.

The ladies went local shopping and came back with quite a few items.

July 10 2018

Warming up today to high 80s. We did the Y and got beat up in Jenny's strength class. Ginny stayed home and worked on a quilt. After lunch they were off to shop and I finished up reading Navy Island, Historic Treasure of the Niagara.

Pretty interesting. Dad and his buddy Howard Sasse (of Wood Wand Putter fame) used to row out and spend the weekend there in the mid 1930s. It is an island just before Niagara Falls. There were 1700s forts, the Queens hotel, docks, cannon placements, and fruit trees. Wonder what they investigated or got into? Also goes into the Canadian Rebellion on 1837-38 where the "Patriots" holed up on the island in order to invade Canada.

The British built ships there to use on lake Erie in the early 1760s. I have no idea how they sailed them up river and into the lake.

Did a little outside but my sciatica was bothersome today. It is a pain! Bothered me a little golfing Friday but was OK Saturday Sunday and Monday.

July 9 2018

The string of beautiful days continued. Not so for my golf game. On the front at Tannenhauf I hit the ball well but poor chipping and two long 3 putts put me only at 4 over 40. On the back I was still cracking drives but my iron play fell back. Lots of hooks and pulls. I may have been not turning very well. Also missed a bunch of putts by an inch or so. That resulted in a 43 for a total of 83. Not a bad score, but should have been better as the senior tees here seem very short.

Mary and Ginny went to Red Hat lunch and won some prizes. They ate at Carlos here in Hartville. John headed back to Buffalo where he will fly home tomorrow.

July 8 2018

Beautiful day! We did the Cuyahoga Valley RR today, courtesy of John. He bought the tickets for the executive car, which gives you a lot of room and nice cushioned chairs. A great ride but very cold in there as the AC is frigid. We were surprised how long and how many cars the train had. It was 9 cars and an engine on each end, I would guess it was 120 -140 yards long.

Judy H, Bill's wife was the volunteer conductor and was a riot. She had lots to discuss with Ginny as she is a major quilter. Bill had prepared her as he likely loaded 4 Uncle

George Clinton albums on her Iphone. She cranked up Atomic Dog for me, and I followed that with Flashlight. When I heard Atomic Dog right off, I knew Bill had set it up. Judy said it was on her normal playlist but I am not buying that.

It was a great trip. Never saw many of those places we passed by. Been here a long while as well.

July 7 2018

Beautiful day! Misc tasks this morning to get ready for visitors. Pulled some weeds and such. Jacob was over to do the lawns around lunchtime, so I did the trimming when he was done. John and Ginny arrived around 3pm. We caught up on the news and doings in Buffalo and the ladies cooked up a nice chicken dinner.

Train ride tomorrow.

July 6 2018

Finally a cool day! The heat wave broke and we played in the low 70s. Needed a jacket the first 6 holes till the sun came out. No one played very well. I shot 44-39 = 83 and that was our best. Mel had issues (107) as did everyone else (93, 97). Bill was out with a bad back.

The sump alarm went off but it was just a glitch. We got my oil changed, the rug washed at the laundromat, fed the cats, and had a hot fudge sundae at the mini golf course. Mary's sister Ginny and husband John should be here tomorrow.

July 5 2018

Yet another brutal day at 90+ degrees. Played Mayfair with rumbling off in the distance most of the day. Started well with a 40 on the front. Was doing good on the back for awhile. I did get screwed on #16 though. Mayfair 16 is par 5 with lake in front the last 80 yds. I ripped a drive left down the left tree line and heard leaves so i hit a provisional. Got down there and it was in bounds! Hit a low 5 iron up to 100yds. Then bladed a wedge that looked like it was gonna be wet but it smashed into the bank, popped up and ran to the pin. I couldn't believe it didn't go in as i was shouting for it to go in as it ended 2" from the cup for a lousy birdie. Screwed again! I finished poorly with a double and triple (3 penalties- water and OB) for an 85.

Mary and Jenna went shopping for her birthday gifts.

July 4 2018

Another brutal day at 90+ degrees. Forth of July today. Thomas Jefferson put together the Declaration of Independence and it was signed this day in 1776, He was a great man, albeit a bit of an idealist. As president he weakened the country by ignoring our defenses.

We stayed in today. Too hot to get out and move around. We did hit DQ though for a blizzard for desert. One more hot day in store, then it is supposed to cool down a bit. I did spend some time looking at vacation pricing for next year. Not sure what to do for the 50th next year.

July 3 2018

Another brutal day at 90+ degrees. Mary got her hair done while I went to the Y. My Sciatica was bothering me for the elliptical and at the start of the strength class. A substitute was there and did 1/2 aerobics and 1/2 strength. The former was tougher than the latter. Only 8 in the class as there must be a lot traveling this week.

I put the flags out for the 4th of July. We paid a couple of bills and did some grocery shopping as well. Too many leftovers. We ate the meatloaf and tossed the lasagna as we needed to clean out stuff from our weekend visitors.

July 2 2018

Another brutal day at 90+ degrees. Took me along time to get going at Sable Creek today. I went 44-41 = 85. Two pars and a double on the front, then 3 bogies followed by 5 pars and a double on the back. Missed my only birdie try from 4 feet on number 6 maroon.

Nice \$100 scratch off on my way home, then got a good nap in around 3pm.

July 1 2018

Another brutal day at 93 degrees. The Buffalo relatives were headed home by 9am. I dug up some flowers for them to take and was cooked early. It was hot already before 9am. We put things back in place then I vegged until the party at 4pm.

Jenna's party was at 4pm. Carolyn played a couple of videos from when she was a little over 1 and 2 yrs old. At 14, she is so grown up now. She was just a kid last year, and ever a few months back. But that is over. OMG! I graded her book of wisdom and her and Jacob were verbally sparring in a jokingly manner.

Actually hope there is a rain out tomorrow. It is going to be hot again and I am not looking forward to getting fried on the course again.

June 30 2018

We went to the flea market this morning. I got 2 wind-spinners and 2 scooters for the kids to use when they are over. Stayed in the rest of the day. It was HOT, all the way up to 92.

Brad looked at all my sea shells, one at a time. I have a lot of them. Was thinking for each one of them (maybe 600?) someone had to bend over to pick it up.

June 29 2018

I hit the ball OK today at Mayfair. Chipping was up and down. Some good, some bad. Amazingly, I somehow shot 81, a very good score here. One double bogey and 2 short missed putts (look ups) kept me from breaking 80. I continue to be amazed by my good play.

Bonnie and Dennis were back from the Clinic and all is well. They think her valve still leaks but is a more tolerable amount. Another check in 6 months is in order. Jacob was over doing his double mowing again.

We went to Hartville Kitchen for dinner and picked up a yummy strawberry pie.

June 28 2018

I hit the ball very well today at Barberton Brookside. The greens were very fast and I had mixed results. Shot 82 but the tees were up due to the heavy rains.

Dennis, Ruth, Bonnie, and Bradley came from Buffalo around 3pm. They will head to Cleveland Clinic for her checkup tomorrow and stay till Sunday.

June 27 2018

Uh oh. Wes wants us to sit tonight. This is above and beyond the call of duty but we will try to survive.

Cold this morning, rained, then warmed up. I met Rudy for lunch. We meet every 2-3 months, He visited Marge in Austin in May. Had a good time. Said she is fully retired, volunteers for meals on wheels, and has put on some weight. He is back contracting with Lockheed. Scott Powell works for the contract firm now.

I was troubled when reading my t-shirt tag the other day. Says machine was only! Man, what if you don't have a machine? Hand washing would be an issue. What is this world coming to?

June 26 2018

We watched the kids last night. They were good but pooped us out.

Another nice day with rain around dinner time. We went to the Y, did the ellipticals and strength class. Lots of reps did me in again. Lots of aches and pains to deal with. Sciatica has not been too bad the last few days. I can feel it, but it is tolerable. Off to the dentist in the afternoon. That went well but I had to deal with rush hour traffic on the way home. I don't miss that!

Made a new waymark for Fort Schlosser, and added visits to several markers and Fort Erie and Fort Niagara. Uploaded 20+ photos. On the Fort Erie site, Mary and my sister Catherine were in a photo or two.

June 25 2018

Another nice day. We went to the Y, did the ellipticals and strength class. Lots of reps did me in. Had to go with the light weights towards the end. We ate lunch with Jacob, and he headed over to Pete's to water and cut grass, then cut ours. He was there from 11am to 3pm. He ran 5 miles this am and will do 8 tomorrow.

Wes brought the kids over and we watched them from 11:30 – 3:30. We go back over at 5pm so they can go out to dinner. I skipped golf as 3 kids were too many for Mary to watch by herself. Will have to wait till Thursday to play.

June 24 2018

Nice day. Finished cutting down all the iris, then weeded the fence area. Pretty much filled the dumpster with weeds. Sprayed grass and weed killer in the back under the neighbors trees.

We went to JoAnn's to pick up some craft items for kids then went to Texas Roadhouse to stuff ourselves. Half a day of work and the rest on cruise control.

June 23 2018

Rain passed by but was on and off this morning. Did a lot of cutting down the iris in front. Twas tough with my sciatica. Pete came over with instructions for Jacob's lawn care while he is gone this week. We shared ideas of how to stretch to help the sciatica pain. I have pain in the morning and the Aleve works. Maybe tomorrow I will not take any and see if it is just going away with movement.

Did several more weeding passes during the day, resting up between sessions. Carolyn stopped over for a bit. Tomorrow Wes is celebrating their anniversary, so we get to watch the kids. I opted out of golf as 3 kids are too much for Mary to handle on her own with Lincoln being so young. Oh well.

Researched some places to visit around the Hamilton area. I found 3 sites plus Fort York in Toronto. Might hit them next month.

June 22 2018

I canceled golf today. It looked like we could get it done but it rained here till 10:30. Glad I called it off as it was chilly and wet. Their loss was the economy's gain. We cashed in some Kohl's cash and one of their gift cards on 3 items for Mary, none for me. To be fair, I did order socks and undershirts from Walmart. Stopped on the way back to pick up some throw rugs and lens wipes there before heading home.

Went to feed the cats at Wes'. Cat called Es is MIA today and yesterday. Since we only saw poop for one in the litter boxes, it must either be outside the house or dead somewhere inside. Maybe the neighbors let it in? Maybe it was tired of being mistreated by the other and left for greener pastures? Your guess is as good as mine. Oops, Wes just sent a text that he is home and found 2 cats. He thinks she was outside.

June 21 2018

Slow golf round this morning at Fox Den. Two groups on each tee box for the entire front nine. I went 39-43. Hit the ball well, but four times I three putted the long ones. Guess my putter magic is gone.

Mary was busy with blood test, feeding cats, neighbors, and the laundry.

June 20 2018

Long day! Long Trip!

We left Friday and stopped in Erie to see the Erie Maritime Museum. Unfortunately, the rebuilt Niagara, which won the day on the battle of lake Erie in 1813, had sailed to Sandusky. The Museum was interesting and we took 20+ photos. We then drove out on Presque Isle to see the Perry Monument.

I shot lights out a Whirlpool in Canada and then at Arrowhead in Akron NY, shooting low 80s both days. I made more putts in 2 days than I will make the rest of the year. Had 4 pars out of the fairway bunkers. Nary a birdie to be had. Brother Jim, Jim Jr, and George said they never saw me play so well. I crushed them and have a 10+ stroke lead going into the 2 Ohio rounds in late July.

Monday and Tuesday we spent at Fort Niagara and Fort Erie. Took another 40+ pics. Amazing that the British occupied Niagara for most of the war and the US Fort Erie. Seems backwards, eh? Niagara is the real deal. Never destroyed, it was reconstructed to repair the wear. Erie was rebuilt from the foundations left after it was destroyed. Sister Catherine had connection at Niagara and we got a personal tour from the assistant director there.

Today we left early and added the Erie zoo to the visited column. Nice zoo. Small but you get up close to the animals.

On the down side, we sure did eat way too much. Also I seem to be developing Sciatica. Looking into stretching exercises.

June 14 2018 Next blog is June 20

Another nice day. We did the Y this morning. It was a struggle since I got beat up so bad yesterday. Lots of reps today was the issue. Later, it was off to dental cleaning. Mary got off scott free as usual while I need to come back one time.

After the dentist we went to Bravo for dinner to celebrate #49. Got to get packing. Hope to leave early tomorrow and stop in Erie to see the Maritime Museum and the rebuilt Niagara from the war of 1812. We will be in Buffalo, so no blog till June 20.

June 13 2018

Another nice day. Went over to Carolyn's and wired up her new outdoor lawn post. She got a real deal at Lowes for the lamp at \$19. We were back home 10am ish. Mostly cut back the iris in two places. I had done one yesterday as well. Two down but still have 3 areas to go.

As to my phone data, turns out they send me my usage data 4 times a day. I had set the phone to not get data unless the WiFi is on, but they must send it over the cellular network. So they told me how to turn that feature off, so that won't happen again. Tomorrow is our 49th anniversary. Mary still loves and feeds me even if I am over 64!

June 12 2018

Nice day. We went to the Y and did strength class. I haven't been there in 2 full weeks so I was concerned. No problem with the elliptical workout but I got beat up good in Jenny's class. Lots of squats today. About halfway through, I cramped up the side muscles while swinging 10lb weight side to side while twisting. I had to stop and go out in the hall to stretch those muscles and end the cramp. I was out for about 10 minutes then got back into the ab workouts. Ouch!

The kids came over after, had lunch, and stayed till about 2pm. That was yet another workout. Jacob finished up the lawn and I hit the shower 3ish. That reminds me I am about out of Max Volume shampoo. Got a Curl Perfect shampoo ready to go. I just got my haircut so we shall have to wait a bit to test how it works on the curls.

Got a new multimeter. For some reason all my voltage readings on the old one went kaput.

June 11 2018

Chilly gloomy day today in the mid to high 60s. Played Seven Hills and shot 43-43=86. Leary of the tight fairways with the wet ground, I didn't hit many good shots. It could have been worse but my chipping the front nine put me in close to save a few strokes. Hit it better on the back but chips were leaving me a few foot longer putts which I didn't make. I hope I do better this weekend. No golf as we leave for Buffalo Friday and Thursday is our anniversary #49!

Trimmed the remaining driveway bush. Checked out Wes' vacuum. Glue was dry so I put it back together and it is working. Not sure how long it will last as I don't think that glue around the charger connection will hold up for more than a few charges.

June 10 2018

Crappy day with high humidity and rain off and on. We went to Kohl's to shop this morning and stopped at Rockne's for a big lunch. I wanted to get some long pants. Thinking ahead for our trip to Buffalo on Friday, you never know what you might need. Not sure if I will need a winter coat but I do want to take a jacket, sweatshirt, and long pants.

Wow! Apparel has changed for the better! I found shorts and long pants with the look of regular pants but with a stretchy waistband. Quite the marketing ploy, they call them an athletic fit. What they really are, are pants that stretch when you eat too much or are putting on the pounds. Why would you ever want to buy anything else?

They even had stretch belts. Those were a "stretch" as I don't believe you could stretch them more than maybe a quarter of an inch. I am totally impressed with the new apparel. I just hope they don't go out of style forever! Fair is fair when shopping. I left with 3 items, Mary left with 6.

We had ice cream for dinner.

June 9 2018

CAVS got hammered last night. Didn't watch any of it. Puttered around and put stuff away.

Worked on Wes' vacuum switch. Took it apart and saw that the pin that goes into the charger barrel was too loose. I saw that it snapped into a small hole in the plastic but a small corner of the hole is broken out and does not keep the pin anchored. Only thing I could do is use some glue to try and hold it. I may use some epoxy when the glue dries. Might take awhile for all this to dry.

Other than that, a mind numbing day. I tried a couple of Belmont picks but busted. I guess I will just watch the races.

Dang phone downloaded 180MB at 6am yesterday? Never touched the phone. Likely the android google crap updating. I will have to give them a call and see how I can turn some of that stuff off. Have to wait for Monday as there is no help on weekends or after hours.

June 8 2018

It was hot and very slow at Brookledge today. I was terrified on the greens and it showed. Did not sleep well and had a rough start. Shot 48 on the front with two 4 putt

greens, one resulting in a 9 on a par 5. Settled down on the back nine and shot 39 with one birdie. My tire sensor acted up on the way to golf, but it reset and was OK going home.

We took the leftover driveway sealer over to Carolyn's. Green is having a paint day, so they said the sealer is OK to bring. I was worried about where I was going to get rid of that. We went to Arby's for the meats afterwards.

June 7 2018

Played well at the Hills again shooting another 79 out there. 41-38 on the nines. One birdie chip in and almost 2 others. Had a good feel for the roll outs on my chips today. Too bad I couldn't make any putts. The driveway was dry after the warm day today, so I put the equipment away and the cars back into the garage.

CAVS lost again so they are toast with one more loss. Glad I did not stay up to watch the 2nd half.

June 6 2018

Catherine had breakfast then packed the car and left for home. I got ready for Jacob to help with the driveway sealer. I had bought one fresh can of sealer and it went on smooth. The old stuff from 2 years ago didn't mix up well. I thought I had it mixed but it was too gritty. I had to go to HH and get some new. I got 3 cans but we only use two, so I need to return one. The other problem I will have is how do you get rid of old driveway sealer??

Tonight we go to Wes' to watch the kids from 6-9pm. That will do us in for the day. Might be too tired to watch the CAVS tonight. At 0-2, they need to win one.

June 5 2018

We dropped off rummage sale items at the church this morning, then went to Canal Fulton with Sister Catherine. Sister Sue and husband Ed from Pennsylvania met us there on their Hog. We had a great time. We spent an hour and a half at The Glassworks looking at stuff and buying a few items.

After getting some chocolate we took a ride on the Canal Boat they have there. Very interesting trip. Then it was lunch at the Tea House, where Ed raised his pinky finger sipping tea. We went to the ice cream parlor where we finished off stuffing ourselves with hot fudge sundays. There was an OMG 3 pound Banana split on the menu. I suppose if we all had a fork.....They headed back to their hotel and we headed home.

Looking back, I see we missed June 3. That night we went to Kalix' dance recital. When Carolyn was doing those, I hated watching all the other dances of kids I did not know. Now I have mellowed and admire these kids getting up in front of the crowds and they all are so cute and their families all so proud. They all make my eyes moist. Not so much with the heavy duty elderly lady tap dancers though.

June 4 2018

Another cool day in the low 60s. We played Mayfair and I was not on today. Went 42-44 = 86 with 1 birdie and 2 penalty strokes. Very poor putting which seems to be common

for me at Mayfair.

The ladies met Sue and Ed in Wilmot at their hotel for swimming, hot tub, perhaps shopping, and dinner. Might have to go get gas tonight when they get home.

June 2 2018

Still cool today without sun. We got the house ready for my sisters visit. I puttered around and did a little weeding. Mind numbing day.

Stinking Wearfit is not working. Looks like the bluetooth crapped out. It still takes my vitals but won't link to the phone. I will take another run at it tomorrow. If it is dead, I give up on them. This is the second one and seems like the same issue. Perhaps these cheapos both used the same bluetooth chip or design? I can't afford to get a new one every 2-3 months being on a fixed income and all.

Looked at Costa Rica trips. For \$5,000, I think I will have to pass.

June 1 2018

Cooler today. We played what I call the Hills, but Dick misunderstood so he missed. I should have been clearer. So I had another good round shooting an 80 and leaving about 3 putts right in front of the hole. Oh, the pain! I wish I could play every day but my 3 a week routine is pushing it at my age. My back is feeling it. Bill had 83, John was a bit off at 86, and Mel had 100. Mel left a lot of putts short too.

Mary was feeling better. That is good, as Catherine will be here Sunday night to Wed morning.

May 31 2018

Another hot day in the mid 80s. I played Ellsworth today with the Lockheed guys. I was awesome. Dang, wish I could play like that all the time. Three over 38 on the front. One bogey, one chip in birdie, and an 8 on a par 5 (look ups and rough). Back nine was 41 with one birdie, but my putting left me for awhile. Lots of smashed drives and GIRS.

Took Kalix to dance recital after dinner. Mary isn't feeling well. It was fun to my great surprise!

May 30 2018

Another hot day. No rain that was predicted but it is spotty. Jacob was over to mow. Need it every 5th day. Finished my planter and put it outside. Filled it with sea shells from the last few years from MB, Pauley's Island, Oak Island and other shores.

I was thinking the new patio doors and curtains are working out well. The 3 panes and eglass has kept the house a lot cooler this spring.

We did the neighborhood walk this morning while it was low 70s and fed Wes' cats. Possible rain tomorrow. I think it will be OK for golf though.

May 29 2018

Another scorcher at 90. Was a sad group of golfers today. Denny, Dick, and I were OK

with the heat. Houle had to pack up after 9. Bill King was sucking oxygen by 17. Clyde looked bad after Chemo last week and had a bandage wrapped around his leg where they cut out some melanoma and did a skin graft from his thigh. Bill and I shot 82. We both could have done better. I am real happy with my game right now. Just too many mistakes to break 80. Three look ups today. Two on short puts and one on a chip.

Mary suggested I freeze 2 bottles of water. That really helped. Dinner was a dog and a blizzard at DQ.

May 28 2018

Wow. Lebron did it again. I was figuring on going to bed when they rallied to keep it close at the half. Never seen anything like it. Late in the game he broke away for a layup. As he tried to jump, a Celtic player grabbed both of his shoulders and rode his back as he struggled to jump. He flicked it in with his wrist and it was a 3 point play. The Cavs won the street fight and go back to the finals. He has to be the greatest player ever in todays era of street fighting bball. Round 1, Fight!

Warmed up quick today, passing 90. Did a little gardening but stayed out of the heat for the most part. Remember the troops this Memorial Day.

May 27 2018

Busy early again today. Took Mary to IHOP before 8am and had breakfast. Over to HD, we picked up some potting soil, plants for the deck planter, 2 hanging baskets, and some items for her craft garden plates. Put that all out when we got home.

Later on, we hit Texas Roadhouse for an early dinner. Now down to \$125 in gift cards. Likely enough for 3-4 more visits. Too hot to do much outside today.

Cavs are underdogs for the Eastern finals game 7. Kevin Love is out, so someone else has to pick up the slack for them to win. I might stay up if it is a close game.

May 26 2018

Busy early today. We went to the flea market early so we could get out before the crowd. Mary picked up a large mixing bowl and a few craft items. I was looking for some lawn things that spin in the wind but I did not see any. That was a surprise because I always see them there.

We thinned out the Iris in 3 spots as they spread rapidly. Also thinned out the ferns, which also spread quickly. Took the resulting waste to the recycle and took neighbor Brenda's stuff there also to help her out. Jacob came over to help Pete do his planting. All that stopped when the rain came.

The afternoon was slow due to the rain and humidity. It was a good time to stay in. Dinner was bread and water (sweetened up with crystal light), with a side salad. The lettuce was on it's last legs as was the cuke, some cheese was added, and the tomatoes were tossed as they were moldy. So I can say we had bread and water for dinner. Being on a fixed income is hard.

May 25 2018

Geat day for golf. We played the Tam O Shanter Dales. I had a great start with 2 pars

then so so except for a long birdie putt to tie Bill's birdie hole out with a wedge. 6 over for a 42 on the front. Super start on the back starting with bogey eagle par birdie or 2 under after 4. Sadly I finished 6 over again for a 40 totaling 82. I think God was on Bill's side as he shot 79.

Eagle was on the #11 par 5 measuring 386. I don't know why it is a par 5 when #10 is a par 4 at 412? Anyway I was 20yds short in 2 but had a good feeling about my chip. I tossed it up there and it ran up to the cup and fell in! Been a long time since my last eagle.

Raked up some grass from yesterday and got tagged by a wasp or yellow jacket. Burned for awhile, but no biggie. Ice helped and I took a couple of allergy pills. Jacob is going to cut the back tonight.

May 24 2018

Started chilly at 49 but giot up to 80+ today. Played Chenoweth with the Lockheed guys. Gawd were they slow. The 2 Jims kept hitting into the rough and had no clue where to look. I swear it took ½ hour on one hole. I played good shooting 81. Made a good number of 5 footers but nothing longer.

Cut the front lawn and noticed the deck was off kilter. I think I improved it some by tightening up the deck "shock" on that side. Not sure why it was hanging low on that side but that should help.

Kalix and Lincoln were over so we had fun till around 4:30 when mom came.

May 23 2018

Mary headed out to see old neighbor Joyce in Salem this morning. I puttered around till my doctor appt at 2:15. Next time I will get a morning appt so I won't be there waiting so long.

Dang grass is long again and needs cut. Not sure I can wait for Jacob till Friday. Mind numbing day.

May 22 2018

We did the Y and it was not too brutal today. Carolyn stopped over at lunch to chat a bit then left. I took a short snooze while Mary went to the hairdresser. I got the grocery shopping done then we raced up to Cleveland to have dinner with Al, Bob, and Jane.

Big storm as we drove up and it took down 2 trees, one of each of our neighbors. Glad I didn't try to save mine last time. Bet some of the damage was done by the twister of a couple years back.

Dang open office thinks all the words are mis-spelled again. I will have to find that fix again on the internet.

May 21 2018

Somehow I missed the blog yesterday. It was a long day. I finished painting the windowsill in the bathroom and put the blinds and curtains up, so that is done. We did some spring cleaning in the toy room. We had a lot of books. We will take some to

donate to the library, saved some, and tossed a bunch in the dumpster. Then Jacob came over after they got back from the Poi trip and did 3 lawns.

Jacob said Jenna took a class in fire eating. He and his dad took a class on contact juggling. All they need now is some tatoos and they can join the circus.

Today we played Tannenhauf. I played well for the most part with a letdown to start the back nine. Went 41-43=84. Putted better on the back. Planning to go up to Cleveland and have dinner with the Cisco crew tomorrow night.

May 19 2018

Up early again, dang it. Rainy day off and on. We went to JCPenny to get a curtain rod for the valance in the down bathroom. Got that and put it up later. We stopped for some groceries and had lunch at Handels. Yep, hot fudge sundays.

I painted the down bathroom window sill with the first coat of white. It takes 2 coats to cover the brown. Will finish tomorrow and re-hang the valence. That will brighten it up down there. Could fix the old rod holes but new paint will be needed since it is some kind of off white I could never match. Might put a new vanity in if I find one.

Also put a sealer coat on my planter project while I had my paint clothes on. Watched the Preakness and missed a good upset payoff by 1/2 a length. Mary went to church so I cooked the spaghetti. Odd that all the grandkids are out of town; the older in Columbus; the younger on the island. Crappy weather for both.

May 18 2018

Another nice day but a bit windy. Did not sleep well. Was up at 5am but napped in the lift chair so that was good. We played Sable Creek. I continued to hit the ball well but my short game is still bad. I am going to try to chip and putt a bit bolder as I always seem to be short.

I scored 83, John 84, Bill 88, Mel 94, and Dick 98. Mel had a great round but one bad hole hurt. Dick made his comeback on the back nine, shooting a nice 44! The rough around the green collars was again a pain for everyone.

Dang grass needs cut again.

May 17 2018

Great day; sunny and warm plus golf = a winner. The Noah's and Bonnie headed up to Cleve Clinic at 6am. I barely got up in time to wave goodbye. After her appt, they headed straight home around noonish.

I played Brookledge from the ladies tees with the Lockheed guys. The commish messed up and called the yellow tees which were only 4700yds. I hit the ball great but never did make a putt. Missed 4 birdie tries, one as short as 2 feet. The collar of the green was deep rough and I had 3-4 there that were tough to chip given their fast greens. Shot 42-41 =83 with 4 three putts. It was frustrating but I didn't let it bother me since the weather was so nice. Will try again tomorrow at Sable Creek.

May 16 2018

Busy doctor day for me. Went to the office for blood draw in the morning and then to Dermo man in the afternoon. Bonnie has an appt with the surgeon early tomorrow, so they will leave for home from there. Today they packed the truck up for the ride home so I dug them up a plant Ruth wanted to take back with her.

Both Carolyn and Wes stopped by to chat with them today which was nice. We headed over to Wes' to watch the kids from 6-9pm. Oops, we were 30 min late as the time had sneaked up on us.

May 15 2018

Was going to be a slow day with the Y, a haircut, and Jacob mowing. The Y was brutal, then Carolyn wanted help fixing her fridge water pool and installing a new ceiling fan in Jenna's room. The Fridge was easy. We just cleaned a spot that was icing over.

The fan was another story. The new ceiling mount was shorter and when you tightened the screws to the box it got sucked up above the drywall. We needed a metal piece to put under the mount to keep it from being raised above the drywall when you tightened the screws. Off to Lowes. We didn't have much luck until Carolyn spotted a metal door strike plate that was just the right length and had 2 screw holes in just the right places. Worked like a charm! Talk about being creative!

We looked at her outdoor pole lamp. The glass piece that fell out had let the weather in and the socket was rusty toast. Decided it needed a new lamp another day.

Jacob got my lawn cut later and did Brenda's too. It was really long! I helped out with the weed wacker on both.

One final miracle! Bonnie got out of the Clinic and got back here around 7pm. Her heart rate is still too high, so they have to do something. Looks like that will be up to her Cardiologist in Buffalo.

May 14 2018

Good judgment today! I could see it was going to storm around 11am and our tee time was 10am. Dick went and got rained out after 3 holes. The other 3 might have played after the rain ended.

Puttered around all day. Stained my planter project, chopped some roots, weeded, etc. A real mind numbing day.

May 13 2018

Rainy for most of the day. Bonnie called from the Clinic and said they still do not have her meds right as they do not like her heart rate? Sounds odd to me. Mary and Ruth went to church and Ruth and Dennis headed up to Cleveland Clinic around 1pm. They got a flower from church for Mothers Day.

We picked up some groceries and won \$1 on \$20 worth of scratch offs. That sucks. They are predicting rain for golf tomorrow. Still sore from golf Friday. Don't like that!

May 12 2018

Surprised once again with a nice day in the low 70s. Did a bunch of weeding early. Bonnie called from the Clinic and said she was not getting out today, so they went up later. We put up the new blinds in the down bathroom. We will need a new rod for the valence that clears the blinds. Likely need a trip to JC Penny in Canton for that.

Jacob was over to do Pete's lawn. Mine maybe in a couple of days. He should be available now that track is over.

May 11 2018

Got much colder today, only low 50s. I got chilled at golf and my 3d round this week got to my back. Back bothered me the last 4 holes. We played Windmill and the greens were very nasty to all of us. We were all shaking our heads. Fortunately I chipped in twice, once for a bogey and once for a birdie, or my 90 would have been much higher.

I started well then had a string of 4 bad holes, then steadied before the struggle of the last 4 holes. With my back aching and being chilled, Mary went off to the tack meet with Carolyn while I stayed home. Maybe 3 rounds in 4 days isn't a good idea?

May 10 2018

Got lucky today. The rain forcast went away as the rain passed us by last night. Scared the golfers though. We only had 3. Same 3 I played with Tuesday but I only took \$3 vs \$6 Tuesday. Shot 43-43 at Raintree. The tees were up but I wasn't quite on, and then added in 5 – 3 putts greens. Never did putt well there.

The lawn was long again so I cut it. It will be ready for Sunday cutting I suppose.

May 9 2018

Nice day again, 81 degrees! Ruth and Dennis headed to Cleve Clinic at 10am. Mary helped with my planter project. We put the wood base together. Got to stain it next, then cement in the paver blocks to the base. Not much else going on.

We will head to Wes' to watch the kids from 6pm to 9pm. Our guests have my key to get in. Gonna be a long night.

May 8 2018

Nice day. I played Tannenhaut with the Lockheed Tuesday guys and shot lights out. It was so nice out with no wind and our 3 some played fast. Went 41-38 = 79, making only 1 putt all day. Saved par with a lot of 3 footers, so it was the chipping that got me the 79. I cleaned up on skins and it paid for my lunch at Grinders.

Stopped on the way home to vote for the redistricting issue and the fire levy. Ruth and Dennis are still up in Cleveland. I remember the first day being pretty darn rough so I am not surprised they have not returned by this time, 7:20pm. Tomorrow should be a little easier but not much.

May 7 2018

Nice day. Bonnie left for surgery at 3:30 am. That is rough. We got a call around noon that everything went well. They had not seen her yet but she would have to be groggy. I remember being out of it for the most part for 2 days. It only hurts when you breathe.

Mary and I went to the Y, did the ellipticals, then the strength class. After that we went to HH to get a bolt and rubber patch for the airbed. Then picked up groceries at Giant Eagle. After lunch I patched the airbed and used the bolt to put up the shade umbrella. Lots of wash to do this afternoon as we waited for Ruth and Dennis to get back from Cleveland Clinic.

May 6 2018

Sorry I missed on the blog yesterday. Yesterday am, we went to the flea market and picked up a bunch of stuff. We waited and later went to Carolyn's for Burgers, brats, and dogs. Jenna gave us a super Poi demonstration. Bonnie, Phil, Ruth, and Dennis enjoyed the show. Dang air mattress had a hole so Phil had to sleep on the couch. I gotta fix that.

Today, Jacob was over to mow. Wes and the kids came over to visit. There was lots of Kids activity going on. Later we went out to dinner at a restaurant of Bonnie's choice. She picked out Carrabas and it was very good. Tomorrow, real early she will be off to Cleveland Clinic to have her chest cracked open and valve repaired.

May 4 2018

Windy day with storms scheduled. The storm blew by early so we played but it was windy. The greens were tough due to all the rain yesterday. Sometimes they were slow, sometimes fast. I hit the ball well but my short game let me down. Went 43-44 = 87 with 1 birdie (my one putt for the day).

Went to the Lake relays and Jacob ran his usual times. He had a 5:04 mile relay leg, and a 2:11 800m leg. They finished last and then first. Great to win one now and then!

May 3 2018

The Buffalo crew headed out to Cleveland Clinic at 8am. Golf was cancelled due to expected T-storms, so I went to the Y to do the ellipticals and strength class. Lots of reps and the 10 pound weights I had were too heavy.

Looks like another golf rain out again tomorrow.

May 2 2018

Another nice day headed to 80, but very windy. I went to the retiree lunch. Picked up a "we miss you" card for Batcher and got the guys to sign. 92 yr old Bill Tuma was talking our ears off. Darrell was mothering again. Stopped for a Stricklands on the way home. Excellent vanilla maltball.

We visited Batcher at Briarwood nursing home in Stow and were very surprised to see him set up at the dinner table. He looked great and ate almost a full meal. He is doing much better than when at home. He looks better, and eats better. He said 2 people get him dressed and into a wheel chair every morning. He says his breathing is fine. Darndest thing i ever saw. 2 and a half years and better than ever???

Our Buffalo relatives, expected tomorrow, showed up today.

May 1 2018

First day it hit 80. Was very nice! Mary had a dr appt so I went to strength class alone. Small class of maybe 15. I did pretty good on the bosu today and Jenny noticed. Did good at all the exercises except the ab workout with legs in the air. I can not keep my legs up for very long at all while laying down.

Did some moving of the daffodils to get them away from the iris. Picked up food for the company coming, then went to another track meet. Jacob was not feeling it today. He did a 2:12 800 leg, and a 5:08 1600m and was toast in the stretch. There will be another day.

April 30 2018

That does it for a lousy April. Cold and nasty 2018 April is over. Yeah! Wore shorts today but it was too cold to take my jacket off for more than a half hour. I drove the ball very well. Almost automatic lately. Irons were 1/3 pushed, 1/3 hooked , and 1/3 straight. A poor short game kept me from breaking 80. as I scored 42-39 =81. I had about 4 three putt greens. They were slower than I figured for the most part.

OMG, after gold Dave Eisner stated he read and believed some silly Sandy Hook conspiracy theory. Us other 4 couldn't believe he fell for that crap.

Got home and cleaned out the cars while Mary did the windows. Been waiting for a warm day and we finally got one.

April 29 2018

Chilly start again at 35 degrees but it warmed all day with the sun shining bright. We did some straightening up in prep for visitors next Thursday, so we got a jump on that.

Jacob was over to cut our and Pete's lawn around noon and finished up at 2:30pm. We decided to order pizza tonight as we have not had it for awhile. It was good. Especially good as we watched the Cavs win. Saw only the last 5 minutes, but the end is always the best part.

Jumped on the bike and did 20min. Zapp "I Can Make You Dance", a classic. Looking forward to warm temps and golf this week.

April 28 2018

Upper 40s and rainy today. Nasty. Did a lot early today as I was up early with a nasty leg cramp that took what seemed forever but likely was less than 10 minutes. Pulled out the robins nest at 8am and again at 9:30am. The dustpan I put in that spot seems to be deterring them. Really dumb birds.

Moved the TV in the family room to be able to slide in a shelf unit we ordered. Mary will stack her sewing boxes on it. Had to buy an extension cord with the plug strips on it as the cord is too short.

Also installed a new gel seat on the old school exercise bike. I had been thinking about buying an elliptical, but the old bike did get my heart rate up last time I tried it. Considering a cheap elliptical is \$1000 and needs maintenance often, I opted for a \$80 seat replacement. \$40 for the seat, and \$40 for an adapter. I deserve a pat on the back for my cheapness.

We skipped the track meet in Orville last night. I was tired from 2 golf days and it was a little stormy. Jacob said his 4x800 relay was a winner.

April 27 2018

Fortunately Mel was feeling good today. He was not sure as he felt crummy yesterday, but he did drive me to golf. Mary was happy about that. I pulled out the morning robins nest before I left and again after I got back. Dumb birds.

Bill and I both birdied #1 at Brookledge, Mel and John got pars. Never remember that happening before. I warned Bill it is a bad omen to birdie the first hole. He blew me off and parred a couple more and birdied another. What the... I scored 40-41 while Bill went 39-43. John T 's first round wasn't too good at 90 something, and Mel played well on most holes.

Got my car back this evening finally! Golf next week looks good with Sanctuary, Arrowhead, and Mayfair scheduled.

April 26 2018

A sunny 38 this morning. We had 4 players at Firestone public. I shot a nice 85, marred by one in the lake a triple and 3 doubles. Lots of pars and decent putting. It got up to 55 near the end. Similar is expected tomorrow.

Jacob ran a great 800 in 2:09. His legs were hurting at the end with lactic acid. Ran a great 1600m too but fell off on last lap due to the same. He did finally get under 5 with a 4:59.

April 25 2018

Mid 50s and gloomy all day. Not much doing all day. Picked up some groceries and did a few odd jobs around the house. Darn robins trying to nest under my deck. Pulled out the nest the other day and they started again.

Watched the kids as Wes and Kaetchen did trivia. Z-man was playing Grand Master Flash. Everyone was toast around 9pm. Both us and the kids. They returned just in time.

April 24 2018

Mid 50s with rain expected all day. We went to strength class. Pretty brutal squats and bicep reps. Mary was up early and got her blood tested for her doc appt next week, so we broke open the last Easter chocolate, a bison, for consumption.

Jacob got 3d in the 1600m against Jackson, looked like 5: 09. The winner was around 4:50 in a drizzling rain at 55 degrees. Been miserable weather for most of the meets this year.

April 23 2018

Nice golf day. Started in the high 50s and got up to 70 when we were done. Mary drove me again since Wes still has my car. I drove the ball real well. Sliced only 2 of them when I fell back a little. Otherwise they were long and straight. Three look ups and

making zero putts held me back but my 84 was good enough for low net. I had one birdie when I sculled an 8 iron to 3 foot and made the putt. Denny was back. Houle is still out, recovering from having his gall bladder taken out, Clyde has skin cancer and is being treated so we might not see him for quite awhile.

I put my tall grass I dug out by the road with a free sign. No takers so far. Mary went to the Y and said it was a rough class and crowded with 41 women there. They must have missed me.

April 22 2018

Cold today but it is headed to high 60s. Celebrated Earth Day by replanting some tall grass to the front and cutting back the clump in the back by 1/2. Done by 9:30am. I think Carolyn will take the rest we dug up. That stuff costs a fortune if you buy it. Maybe \$200+ worth?

Jacob cut Brenda's and our lawn. Took him a little over 2 hrs. After he finished, we went to Texas Roadhouse for an early dinner and then to Pat Catans for some bead stuff. Stopped in at Toys R Us. They are still at only 10% off on most stuff. We picked up a small Thomas the Train set so Lincoln could play with it.

April 21 2018

Cold today but it is headed to high 50s. Dreaming about being lost in an airport last night and advising a church on the new consortium they were joining. Makes no sense at all. Good news on the scale this morning 164.2 is good. I would like to go longer but I broke it just after lunch. The chocolate was calling to me.

I went to HH and got an extension arm to lower the shower head so Mary could reach it. Looks like it should work. Then we went over to Brenda's and picked up sticks so it could be mowed tomorrow. Put the battery back in the mower and it is charging. Looks like it has survived the winter. Called brother Jim and he is pretty much back from his bypass with one week of PT under his belt.

Dismal chess. Must be brain dead this weekend. Finished reading Tecumseh and Brock, my 11th book on the war of 1812. That should be it for reading. I'll start planning trips to visit the sites. Working on one up thru Michigan to Windsor and to the battle of Thames.

April 20 2018

Cold today but it got to 43 at tee time. We finished at 3pm and it was 50. Cold wind all day out of the north. I had a poor start and improved as we went except for my triple on #10. 3 pars on the front and 5 on the back for 43-42=85. Bill went 40-47 for 87, Mel 55-52, and Dick 54-xx, where xx is too embarrassing to record. Mary drove me and picked me up at Mayfair.

April 19 2018

Cold today but it got to 48 after the sun came out late in the day. So tomorrow I moved the tee time back to 11am to warm it up a little; an executive decision. Should be 41 by then. Nice to get a round in only a week after the last one. Should have been 3 rounds

this week but the other were too cold and yesterday was snowed out.

We did the Y today and got beat up pretty good. Maybe because I told Andrea she ran overtime on Monday. Lots of reps of weights and squats. Touched up the ceiling paint in the family room and other various spots. Mary took Kalix to dance. Wes has my car for a few days, so we didn't go to Jacob's track meet. I just did some reading and veg'd.

Looks like Jacob took my advice to run the 1600m like 2 800m legs cause he texted me he ran an even 5 minutes and was 2nd place, missing by a second. I hope he breaks 5 min before the season is over.

April 18 2018

Cold today but it got to 48. Should have played today as the next 2 days look poor.

Met Wes at the repair shop and lent him my car for how ever long it takes to fix his AC. I patched a mounting hole for the old light in the family room. Now it needs some paint. Did some weeding. Wanted to rake out some dead grass but my shoulder started to cramp about half way through it. So I stopped and will wait for another day.

Mary got her hair done. Heading to Wes' to watch the kids at 6ish. Going to be a long night.

April 17 2018

Another nasty day that never got above 36. Snow globe snow. Pretty darn disgusting. We went to the Y and got beat up pretty good. Mucho squats and crunches. Going to feel that tomorrow. I had to limp in and out as we used mom's handicap tag. Parking is tough with all the construction going on at the school. Carolyn and Jenna stopped in for 45 minutes or so then we picked up some groceries.

We finally got to clean up the mess we made in the family room putting up the new light. Also got to putting the toy room in order after the last kids visit. Have I said this is a disgusting spring yet?

April 16 2018

Nasty day started at 40 then went south with cold rain and spritzing snow. We did the Y. Class was big and there were lots of reps. Thought it would be a slow day, but Wes called and brought over 2 kids. They were here around 4 hrs. Lincoln wanted dad a couple of times but got by it and played, eventually dozing off around 4.

Wes helped me put the light up. The ground wire pulled out of the ceiling box but we put it up anyway. No one will ever be up there so it shouldn't be an issue.

Roast beast for dinner as the diet continues. Down a half pound yesterday.

April 15 2018

Mid 60s but rain all day long. Might wash out tomorrow's golf. We got started early at 8:30 ish heading to HD. Found a great, but pricey LED ceiling light with 5500 lumens 2'x4'. I should have planned better, cause it turns out there was no ceiling box, so I had to make another trip.

The guy who bought the house new, finished the lower level himself. What a hack. He wired the ceiling with a single pair in the switch plate and there was only single pair in the ceiling at the light as well. So he must have made 4 connections in the ceiling and used 3 wire segments instead of just the 2. Oh, I am sure he used a box somewhere in the ceiling; sure, sure he did. OMG. No way to be sure without ripping out the ceiling. Guess I will have to turn my back on that potential disaster.

So with Mary's help we got a box and 4 wall anchors up for the base plate OK. I moved the box to the middle of the room. It was a foot from where it was; the hack didn't want to feed the wire through another floor rafter I suppose. We made the connection and mounted it but it didn't work. Pulled it out. I rigged up a plug to test the lamp and checked the ceiling power. Both were good, so I guess the connections under the caps came loose. Called it a day at 3:30pm after 7 hours. My back and arms were done and my assistant Mary is just a little too short to reach things from a chair. I will wait for my taller assistant; daughter Carolyn. Should take less than 20 minutes, scheduled for Tuesday.

Good steak for dinner tonight. Down 4lbs this morning for 6 days on diet. Looks like another diet week. I should go for 9 lbs, but 6 or 7 is more realistic.

April 14 2018

70+ degrees again today! The third straight day. I felt like I was in MB. I took Mary to JoAnn's and Michaels to get beads. We bought a nice bead bracelet in MB and she wanted to make a few. So I tagged along, with nothing better to do. I was in there so long I got disorientated when I came out. "Where am I?" Not a thing looked familiar. Guess I have not spent much time in those 2 stores.

After I got my bearings, we went to Dick's to look at the ellipticals. I had thought I wanted the Sole e35 but it is huge. Their e25 was a bit shaky when you exercised. The Bowflex Max seemed better, and had a smaller footprint. I shall look at that closer. They recommend a service contract on all that stuff for Approx 100/yr to oil and adjust. I will look for a service manual to see if it is something I can do.

Sprayed some weeds. Them dang wintercress weeds are trying to come back. The ballast on the tubes light is dead, ripped it out and now got to find a Led light for the family room ceiling.

April 13 2018

70+ degrees again today! We played at Tammy Hills. Bill led the way with an 82, great putting, and 2 birdies. I shot 85 and was not happy with any part of my game. Driving was OK though. Mel played well for 13 holes and was hitting good tee shots. Dick was terrible but woke up for 2 pars on the last 2 holes.

I walked the yard and picked up some sticks. No mowing called for yet. I did 20 minutes on the old school bike. Trying to get my metabolism up to loose a few pounds. Day 5 today. Still only 2 down but I have been eating good and mostly protein. A bun with my lunch sausage was a violation.

April 12 2018

70 degrees today! We did the ellipticals at the Y then strength class. Wasn't too bad. I

got a haircut after then we went to Johnny Js for the steak special. Mmmm. I was really into it as this was day 4 of my diet. Down a little more than 2 lbs with a long way to go. We skipped the track meet (too warm, lol) and Mary took Kalix to dancing.

Talk about old school. Last night I did 20min on our old exercise bike with my old cassette player and my old Zapp tape. Pretty old stuff including myself, eh?

April 11 2018

Warming up today in mid 40s! Carolyn came over. She had looked on youtube on how to fix her Toyota clock. It said to touch up the solder joint to 5 parts. And so we did and it worked. Not very scientific but I guess if one of those solder joints go bad, the others can't be far behind. As they were larger components, they would put more stress on their solder joints from heat/cool cycles plus car vibration. So touching them all up makes sense. It was likely just one of them but touching all gives then all extra time.

Went grocery shopping so I could get more low carb stuff for my diet. At 169.4 the last 2 mornings, so today completes day 3.

April 10 2018

Another cold day but it did hit 42. We went to the Y and got beat up in Jenny's class. Feeling it already. Bundled up for the track meet but it was still cold. Jacob ran the 4x800 the 1600, and the 800. His time in both 800s was 2:25 and the 1600 5:25. I told him if he runs the mile as 2-800s at that pace he would hit 4:50.

April 9 2018

Another cold day, another missed golf round. Got a Friday tee time though. Supposed to warm up later this week. Went to the Y. Saw Kaetchen there. She said Z-man had a ball at the mulch party. He always wanted to climb a mulch pile he said. Strength class was a lot of weight work. I had heavy ones since the class was so big.

Mary was off to Redhats for lunch so I did the towels and put away the Easter stuff. Weighed in at 171.0 this morning and stared the low carb diet again. I need to add more activity this time and ease back on the calories. Easier said than done. Mary will have to finish the birthday cake.

April 8 2018

Cold night but no snow. Started to see flakes once we started the mulch party. Carolyn, Don, Jenna, Wes, Z man, L, Kalix and Mary and I were all mulching at break neck speed. I think we must have set a new record spreading 10 yards of mulch in 1 hour and 15 minutes! It was around 35 degrees but no one got cold.

Got the grill going and cooked the food, then had my orange cake with yellow frosting with triple chocolate ice cream. The little guys did an egg hunt and took their baskets home with them. It was a great birthday

April 7 2018

Perhaps my strangest birthday ever. I moved the cars across the street early so they

could dump the mulch. There were 2" of snow out there so things looked bleak. Metker called to make sure I wanted it and said they would be over soon. I would guess I was their only customer for today. They did not get here for another hour and a half. He said they had to break out the ice in the truck before they loaded it. Must have been from the rain before the snow.

Then we picked up Mel and JoAnn to go to calling hours for Jack Bowyer. We spoke to Colleen, Jack's son, and his daughter in law. We were surprised there was no other work people there so we headed out. Stopped for lunch at Bob Evans and it was good. Then stopped at their house to see some pics.

Got home around 3pm so Mary could do the potato salad and my cake for tomorrow. I did a little weeding and a little mulch and called it a day. Sang happy birthday to myself a couple of times.

Big day. Waited for mulch, went to see a corpse, and ate out. Happy #70.

April 6 2018

Finished reading Francis Marion book. it was an odd book written in very flowery language, and claimed to be not accurate by Peter Horry who had told his first hand stories to the author. They were both from the Winyah Bay area where we often visit. The same guy who made up Geo Washington chopping down the cherry tree story. It does not look like any other books were written more accurately that had any first hand knowledge, so you have to take it with a grain of salt.

The "swamp fox" harassed the British in the war for independence after they had taken south Carolina. I found a few war sites to visit but they would be a long ride. might catch a few of them one of these years. should be able to visit his grave though which is close to Georgetown.

Mary went to knitting at the library then we met Carolyn at the Track meet in Kent. Cold and Rainy! Jacob ran the 4x800 relay (2nd place) and the 1600m (4th or 5th). Then we got out of Dodge and went home to get warm.

April 5 2018

We went to the Y today. Strength class was fairly easy. Lots of reps with weights though. Dropped library books off, went to the bank, and picked up groceries for the week and party Sunday.

Mary took Kalix to dance lessons and I went to see Z man do Tae Kwon Do.

Mel sent along that Jack Bowyer passed away at 85. He had been slowly fading away since 2014 with Alzheimer's. Likely we will go to calling hours on my birthday Saturday.

April 4 2018

Retiree lunch today. Slim crowd but saw Gerry King there for the first time. I guess Messner talked him into coming. Sam Malene was doing OK after his stomach surgery. No Lott or Tsoras.

After that I went to lunch at Johnny J's where there was a meet as Bill Castro had returned to town to visit his wife's mom in the nursing home with Alzheimers. It was nice. Saw Rudy, Don Z, Bill C, and Mike Wood. They all reported to me along our journey. Also saw John Bartucci there too. He was a software buddy of Dicks.

Quite a storm last night with lots of rain. Much standing water out there today. Finished a short Canadian book about the war of 1812. It was about some of the battles, but very short and pretty much worthless for the serious buffs like myself.

April 3 2018

We went to the Y. Jenna beat us up pretty good with lots of squats and ab work. Saw Wes, Kalix, and Lincoln there. We went and dropped a package at the post office, then ordered mulch for Saturday delivery. Did more reading and nearing completion of James Madison bio. He certainly did a lot, including a lot of speech writing for Jefferson. We were going to a track meet but it was canceled. Good move as it really poured and stormed with lightning and all well past 7pm.

April 2 2018

We spent most of the morning putting things away from yesterday's Easter dinner. All went well and it was great. When it came time for dinner I was surprised we had given all the left overs away except for the pies. Wes had come after work last night and he got all the remaining good stuff. Turns out the family did not go to Put-in-Bay as they all had the flu.

April 1 2018

It was a great Easter. Mary and Catherine went to 8am mass, then got to cooking. The spiral ham was great. Sue brought rutabaga, Catherine brought pies, Steve brought a few of Kathy's cupcakes, and Carolyn brought Cupcakes and broccoli salad. Mary's bro Dave called as did my bro Jim. Sue and Ed came and had a good time, plus Ed said grace.

March 31 2018

More cold to start the track meet but it warmed quickly. However, the wind was strong. Jacob ran in a 1600m x4 relay and was closing in on his lap till his shoe untied. Quite a bummer for him. We went to pick up the 2 chocolate bunnies then came back and warmed up. Mary and Catherine went shopping. Who would have thought?

March 30 2018

Bummer. Nasty cold this morning but it warmed up to mid 40s. I had canceled golf but I think we could have played. It would have been pretty wet though. We picked up groceries, colored eggs and such. Catherine arrived around 2. We had dinner and went and picked up fuel perks. Saved \$42 on my 30 gallons.

March 29 2018

Drizzled all day but very warm at 60. We went to the Y. Class went OK. I had to do do the crunches a bit slower to give my stomach a little longer rest between crunches.

After a bit we went to get the steak lunch special at Johnny J's and home by 1:30pm. Their steaks are juicy and tasty with no fat.

Finished up the day getting a few things done before the Easter weekend.

March 28 2018

Another super crappy day with temps in the mid 40s and rain on and off. We went over to Carolyn's early. I helped her paint the 2 hallways that were all finger printed up. She had used flat paint. This time it is semi gloss. We also put up a railing for her down the stairs for us old people. Mary and Jenna did a couple of bracelets after lunch then we packed up and headed home.

March 27 2018

A super crappy day with temps in the low 40s and rain most of the day. Mary went to Y class but I skipped. Don't want to pick up any germs with my boil still semi open. It is looking much better but has quite a ways to go before it is totally shrunk up. We shall see for Thursday.

I finished reading The Ohio Country 1783 to 1815. Since it was written in 1910, it calls the Indians either Aborigines or just plain old Savages. Much more detail on the Ohio battles than in the other texts I have read.

March 26 2018

There was no wind at breakfast, but it did kick up to make it colder by tee off at 11am. Not too many players on the course today. It did warm up a bit on the back nine, but once you get chilled you are slow to warm.

Bill was awesome again shooting 80 and making many good putts. I was at 84 today with one birdie. Dick and Mel struggled a bit at 96 and 105.

Went to the doctor to see whats up with my back clunking. After many questions he is thinking it is arthritis and no worry. Exercise at will he says. He lanced my boil and set me up with Amoxicillin which I remember worked great last time. That should help.

Mary took Jake and Jenna out to lunch and then bowling since they are on spring break this week. Carolyn went along to watch the fun.

March 25 2018

Kalix said she felt like a big girl on her 5th birthday. She is something! She loved all her gifts too. Lincoln was having a ball playing with everyone, especially Jenna. Zander was not feeling very well and was kind of quiet.

Looks Ok for golf tomorrow. Temp should hit 50 but the wind WILL be an issue.

March 24 2018

Not much doing today. I was putting heat on my neck all day trying to loosen up a

neck boil. Had one there a year and a half ago. It went down to almost nothing, then decided to flare up about 10 days ago. Antibiotics are helping but very slowly.

Mary went to church at 4pm so I made the spaghetti.

Did talk to my brother today and he is recovering quickly now.

March 23 2018

We ran some errands this morning. Stopped at the bank and deposited the tax return checks. We then stopped at Hartville Market Place and bought gifts for the Kalix bday party. Finally, picked up 2 books at the library.

Mary went to knitting then Kalix came over for a couple of hours. She is not wishy washy and just might be a Type A. Around 4pm we went for fish. Last week of lent is this week.

March 22 2018

Wow. I was complaining about the cold temps in the mid 30s but today started around 24. At least it was sunny. We did the Y today. 25Min elliptical then strength class. Not too hard today but I could see Mary now has bicep muscles. Quite impressive.

After class, I went to have lunch with Rudy. Juicy steak! He is going to visit Marge Miller in Austin in a couple of months. Mary went to watch Lincoln while Kalix was tested for the school Z will be going to next year. It is an unconventional school that hopefully will challenge them more than what Lake is able to do. We shall see.

March 21 2018

What the.....Snowed 5" last night. Lots of accidents early. Was going to paint at Carolyn's but the kids had off school so I thought I would wait. Turns out next week is spring break anyway.

Decided to get the floors washed. Mary got out the Shark steamer but it died after 10 minutes. Warmed the water up but no steam? I grabbed the throw rugs and we went to the coin laundry. Mary got them started and I stayed and watched while she went to HH and got a Hoover Twin Steamer.

I scrubbed all the floor edges and baseboards first because the steam messes up my baseboard caulk. Mary did the main steam cleaning. Not fun but it is not an everyday task. The floors do look nice now.

We went over to Carolyn's for burgers and gave Jacob his Book of Wisdom ratings for last year. He is 17 now. My, how time flies! They showed us the Thailand photos.

Denny sent us the Monday golf schedule that starts April 2. Wonder if the snow will stop by then.

March 20 2018

Not too bad a day in the 30s. Maybe I am getting used to the crappy weather? Mary went to meet ex-neighbor Joyce in Salem and I went to the Y. Did 25 min elliptical then Jenny's class. It was brutal. Not as bad as last week with the weights. The worst part was her sped up reps of various types of squats. I was out of breath and a bit light headed so I slowed it down and did some of the alternate choices.

Not the greatest of sleep nights, so I hope for better tonight.

March 19 2018

My favorite names for the great and powerful idiot are T-Rump, Donald Chump, Don the Con, and Captain Bone Spur. He is off the rails once again to start the week.

Pretty nice day in the low 40s today. Time for golf! Played Sable Creek with Bill and Dick. Bill shot 79 with 10 one putts. Yikes. That would take me 10 rounds to do. I did OK with an 83 and Dick struggled with a 104. Not used to the cold yet. Mary went to the Y and did good she said.

March 18 2018

Finally a decent day in the mid 40s thanks to the sun. We picked up some stuff at HD for a small planter project, then went to Walmart. Bought about \$80 of Easter candy. We loaded up the baskets when we got home.

Also did some leaf pickup out of the front flower bed for the dumpster. Plan is to play golf with the boys tomorrow. Should be a bit cooler. Hope that works out.

March 17 2018

Yet more and more crappy weather. It did eventually get to 40 though. We went up to Streetsboro to have lunch with George and Willa. We talked to them about our SC trip and they talked about their Aussie trip.

I also reported on brother Jim. Talked to him earlier and he is having big issues with his leg. They apparently took much more vein from his leg than they did mine. His whole leg is black and blue and hurts all the time. I think whoever worked on his leg was a hack.

On a sad note, co-worker Sherwin Ruben passed away at 87. He was a good guy with great sense of humor. He had once told me he traded me for a bag of peanuts back when we played basketball back in the 70s. I eventually quit that cause I kept getting injured which screwed up my golfing.

March 16 2018

Yet more and more crappy weather. We picked up some groceries this morning. Mary

went to knit around lunchtime. Later we met Wes and family for fish at church. The kids loved it, especially the deserts. Zander is following in my footsteps. He shoved the entire mini cupcake in his mouth to eat it.

March 15 2018

Yet more crappy weather. Lots of thunks in my lower back last night, so I decided in the middle of the night to not go to the Y in the morning. Legs were OK this morning but triceps are still very sore. Going to take it easy till my doctor appt as I need to find out what is going on with my back. Mary did go to the Y today.

March 14 2018

The crappy weather continues. 30ish all day. Pi day today. OMG do I have sore muscles from yesterday! Back of my legs made it hard to pull the old socks on. Triceps are hurting too. Thought a good walk would loosen things up but no luck. We did 1.5mi at the Y. Finally had to resort to some Alieve.

Picked up some Mexican food for dinner tonight. Did not see any Mexicans climbing anything. T-Rump says they are incredibly good climbers.

March 13 2018

The snow globe continues. We did the Y this morning and Jenny's strength class. The average age in this class is maybe 35 whereas on the Mon/Thurs class 70. Quite a difference. We did most of the exercises except some of the ones done balancing on the ball, which are pretty much nut-so.

March 12 2018

What the heck? I seem to be stuck in a snow globe. Someone keeps shaking it up every couple of days. It has been mid 30s for quite awhile and will stay there till the weekend. Of course it will dump some snow on us so we can not golf.

Went to the Y this morning. We did the ellipticals and then went to a very crowded class. Mary did good. I got a doctor appt in 2 weeks to check out my lower back issues. Keep getting thunks there where there should be none. Mostly when I am rolling over in bed. No pain, but it is worrisome.

March 11 2018

Missed the blog last night as we watched the kids from 5pm to 10:30 as Wes and Kaetchen were at Dan Deckard's wedding. They were real good the night before when we watched them at their house. Last night, however Zander had an earache and a mild temp of 100.5 and was just laying around on the couch. Kalix and Lincoln were active until Lincoln fell asleep. When he woke up he didn't really get back into it. Kalix was the one with the energy all night. Z-man went to the doctor this morning to check it out.

I had taken Wes to the church before the wedding and saw all the amigo's. They all looked much the same except for one that was hard to recognize. Good to see they all get together from time to time. They were all either neighbors or runners with the exception of crazy Dave.

Not much all day. I felt kind of full so we had salad for dinner. We did pick up a few leaves outside.

March 9 2018

We picked up a few groceries this morning. On and off snow all day but very little accumulation. Mary went to knitting then talked to Texas sister the rest of the afternoon. I watched the races and lost out by a head on \$300+ hitting the first 4 of 5. Not good enough.

Heading to watch the kids as Wes is going to a wedding rehearsal and dinner. Talked to my brother. He is doing good except for leg hematoma. Sounds familiar.

March 8 2018

We went to the Y, did the elliptical, and walked 1.5 miles. Holding off on strength class till next week to give Mary time to recover from her dizzy spell. Could be ear needs cleaning? If it happens again she will go get them flushed out.

Also got a bonus. Reading a mailing by Aetna, we checked on Silver Sneakers and we were good to go. We filled out the Y papers to cancel our cc payments so that will save \$47/mo. Sweet!

Mary took Kalix to dance class and I am sure the kids will be crazy to see her.

Continued my read of the Miracle at Philadelphia. At the end, Ben Franklin spoke up and urged all to sign as it might be the best they all could do, and reminded them they were not all infallible.

March 7 2018

Mary had hair day today and I the retiree lunch. Only about $\frac{3}{4}$ attendance today as it was cold out. The weather is aggravating me highly. Supposed to snow on and off the next 2 days.

Sat with the usual crew this week. John R and Dick was missing and Ian McCloud sat elsewhere. Sam Malene had emergency surgery surgery in AZ and only got one golf round in.

Continued my read of the Miracle at Philadelphia. Amazing they got it done with every issue hotly contested.

March 6 2018

We went to the Y again and did 15min elliptical then walked a mile. Mary seems fine once again. Maybe we will do the strength classes next week.

Getting antsy about no golf. Need to get out there but more snow is on the way. Not liking it. Guess I will continue reading the history books. Working on the Miracle in Philadelphia which is quite interesting.

March 5 2018

Mary seems fine today. She had eggs and toast for breakfast and soup for lunch. I went to the Y and did 20min on the elliptical. Maybe we will try that tomorrow.

March 4 2018

Mary woke up dizzy this morning and got sick. She has been on water, crackers, and tea so far. I am the nurse today. Suspect it is the same issue that occurred a year and a half ago. Doc said it would go away and it did for a long time.

Got bored and cleaned out the cupboard with the boxed stuff in it. Most all the boxes in there expired between 2013 and 2016. I tossed them and put the dumpster out to the street for the usual Monday pickup. Slow day for me.

March 3 2018

Slept in till 8:30 cause it was a restless night. Got out the Easter decorations and ordered the big bunnies. Also ordered the spiral ham from Schwanns again and invited everyone for dinner. Got the suitcases put away and did back up on the computer. I think I am up to date now, but I am sure I missed one or two things.

Looked around for things to do. Haines house in Alliance was part of the Underground Railway back in the day and it is open from 1-3 tomorrow. We will do that plus go to Texas Roadhouse. Mary has been knitting and went to church today.

March 2 2018

1-3" of snow overnight. Welcome back, eh? It is 25% melted already. Unfortunately, I saw Wilkshire in Zoar was flooded on the way home from MB. Saw several flag-sticks sticking out from the water. #10 and #17 for sure. Won't be playing there for awhile.

Mary went to knitting and I did the taxes. I was unhappy to learn that even though my gambling losses were greater than my gambling winnings, since I get the standard deduction the losses don't really count. Thus, my "winnings" resulted in around \$400 in extra taxes. Gambling is a lose lose.

We went and finally got groceries, picked up my meds, and it is off to the church fish fry soon.

March 1 2018

50 this morning but it has rained most of the day, it is getting colder, and it is to snow tonight. Finally got to a barber this morning. Talked to him about coyotes and he said he sees them a lot out by Sable Creek. Said customers in development north of HH have seen them in their development as well. Not good.

From there I picked up our mail and dropped off my prescription. Was going to get groceries but waiting for a call on the prescription. Guess that will be tomorrow. Carolyn stopped in and then took Mary over to bring my car back. Still raining. A good reminder of why I like to get out of Dodge in February.

February 28 2018

Long 11 hr trip home. Missing the hot tub already.

Yesterday we walked the Cherry Grove Nature Reserve, had an early dinner at Olive Garden , packed to leave, and hit the hot tub.

February 26 2018

We did 15min on the elliptical this morning then out for a beach walk. We waited for news on my brother's bypass. He got 4 bypasses, so I am still one up on him. Really good news. He will be hurting for several days.

There was afternoon rain so we went bowling. Mary lost the first two games even though she did better. Several misses looked to have been very close. She put a whipping on me the last game with a 133. When we got back we did the river and hot tub.

February 25 2018

Played 5700yd tees at Meadowlands in Calabash on a wonderful day with Mary as my cart mate. Great drives except for the one i topped into the pond. Went 45-43 =88 16 over. 5 pars 1 double 1 triple 11 bogies.

I was just long enough to clear all the fairway bunkers so that made it easy. Too bad my short game sucked. 2 penalties and 4 three putts hurt me. My one chance to be somebody was on a par 5. My long putt popped over the hole and came to rest 4 feet away. Missed the comeback.

Mary went to church early this morning. Almost time to hit the hot tub.

February 24 2018

Forgot to mention brother Jim is in the hospital and will get 3 bypass surgery Monday. Chest pain if he exerted too much for the last 6 weeks, he finally went in.

Sue and Ed packed up and headed home this morning. He left sunglasses. We did a beach walk of 3.5 miles in the hot sun then had lunch. My camera worked for one pic

of a big driftwood log and not so good when i took the pic of bird puke. Looks like a lot of small shells in the puke.

We hit the outdoor pool after lunch and cooked in the outdoor hot tub. After that I finished the Archaeology of Colonial Brunswick book I bought at Brunswick Town. The visit there and the book were a great experience. Catherine, Sue, and Ed all enjoyed the visit there with Mary and I.

We will veg tonight. Church early and then golf tomorrow.

February 23 2018

Sue was whipped yesterday so we went easy on her. We went to the boardwalk and she did well. Walked 3.1 miles in all. Mary and Ed did the Sky Wheel, but said no to the Slingshot.

February 22 2018

We went to Brunswick Town and Southport. Sue bought ALOT of candy. We checked out the ancient 1730 privy from the governors house. Saw 2 big ocean going ships in the channel and dined at fishy fishy.

February 21 2018

Sue and Ed got here around 2pm yesterday. I played River Oaks and shot 47-43 = 90. I played the white tees, but on the back moved up on the long holes like 400yd par 4s.

Today we hit the pool and did a beach walk. Tomorrow we will hit Southport and Brunswick Town.

February 19 2018

Supposed to be super nice the rest of the week. Perhaps record temps of 81 wed/Thurs since Catherine is gone home. Sue and Ed come tomorrow for the nice weather.

Misty this morning so we took a few local sign pics while we went to cash in our second \$100 lottery win. No way! Could we get a third? Unbelievably we got the third one. \$30 in tickets returned \$115 today.

The sun never did come out - mist all day. We went out for a beach walk - too much mist coming down. We went out to bowl - closed till 3pm. We went to flea market - closed Mondays. we went to Walmart to look for a cheap bathing suit - none fit. We tried jc penny - no suits out. We tried a beach store- most were crappy. But i did find a speedo there. now bowling was open- tie in game 1, Mary won game 2, i won game 3 time for the hot tub!

February 18 2018

We vegd today. Mary went to church and when she got back we did the exercise room. This is the third time in there for us. There were many out on the outdoor pool deck so we grabbed lunch and went down to hit the outdoor pool and hot tub. Mary did get in there with me even though it was a bit cool with the wind.

Later we went to Walmart for coffee and some new swim trunks for me. We cashed our \$100 winner and bought another \$20 worth of tickets and dang if we didn't hit another \$100. Sweet! I tried out the trunks when we got back. They were a L and it looks like I better tie them real real good or they shall fall down. Stay tuned for more on this story.

February 17 2018

We went to a site in NC called Brunswick Town / Fort Anderson. It is north of South port around the New Inlet ocean entry. Cold at 55 with the wind we bundled up. Brunswick was one of the first ports on the Cape Fear river back in the late 1700s. Destroyed by a hurricane once and replaced by Wilmington later, it faded away.

Then during the civil war, the rebs built a fort there. It was abandoned after being shelled and they being outnumbered. It had been long forgotten till an archaeologist re dug up some of the town in 1953. Kind of amazing that it was forgotten so many years and needed rescued. I took a lot of signs but the text is so small you cant read them. The one grave is from the 1700s if you look closely. interestingly, the important people are buried in the church floor but since unmarked no one knows who they were.

They had people dressed in clothes from the era and told stories. we listened to how they made turpentine and tar from the pine trees. it was a big trade item back then.

On the way back we picked up some groceries and i won \$100 on a scratch off to pay for the day's activities.

February 16 2018

Warm yesterday (no blog). We went to Charleston, a 2 hr drive. We went to Boone Plantation. The fact that the house was new in 1932 was a bummer. The slave cabins were informative. Made me very sad to think we enslaved so many. Over 150,000 slaves arrived in shackles between 1711-1858. Horrible.

We also went to Snee farms owned by Charles Pinkney and Fort Moultrie and Jenny's new house. Today it was 81 degrees. We got back and started one of many loads of wash. About ready to head to the church fish fry then do some more wash and hit the hot tub.

February 14 2018

Cold start at 50 but quickly warmed up to mid 60s. I had a stellar golf round at Eagle Nest. Shot 41-43 = 84 but it could have been much better. Lots of missed up and downs from just off the green.

Mary and Catherine picked up groceries then shopped at Barefoot Landing. They saw and took video of a gator in the water. We ate at the Boundry House in Calabash for Valentines Day/ Ash Wednesday. They were off to 6pm mass and we will hit the hot tub later.

February 13 2018

Cold cold day at 50. We went to Huntington beach state park to see Atalaya, a castle like house built by the Huntingtons in the 1930s. They bought 10,000 acres of defunct rice plantation on the cheap and built this house and Brookgreen Gardens. The king's road went along the Waccamaw and there was no rt 17 thru the property at that time. The beautiful Brookgreen Gardens was their garden where Anna Hyatt Huntington displayed her sculptures. The gardens were donated as a foundation when she died at 92. The house and property went to the state for a public park.

February 12 2018

Nice 70 today but it rained all morning. We did the mall then had lunch. After lunch the rain cleared and we went on a 4 mile beach walk. Back to the hot tub. At dinner, we saw dolphins out there.

February 11 2018

Fog again. I played Carolina Shores while the ladies went to church. No one was there so I played myself and moved quickly. Finished in 2.5 hrs including a 5 min rain delay. Good thing it was warm, 65, cause I got wet.

Will not play there again. Grass too sparse, uninteresting layout. I only chunked 2 all day which is pretty good for the conditions. Shot 45-43 or yet another 88 down here. Only 3 pars on the day and a birdie miss by a sliver.

We went to an Irish band and Scottish pipe and drum band at the church for \$20 a ticket. There were about 500 people there. 480 of them seniors.

February 10 2018

Fog here so it only got to mid 60s. We went to Georgetown for the day where it was 70. We went off the beaten path to Battery White, and old fort for the rebs they built well but abandoned when challenged. It was in a yacht club and hard to locate. Then we went to the old gunn church ruins 14 miles north of Georgetown out in the boonies. We wrapped up with another walk thru Georgetown and a stop at Pauleys Island Hammock shops on the way home.

February 9 2018

Only 55 today but was supposed to get warmer. We went to MB boardwalk and walked about 4 miles. A little chilly. Picked out some stuff at the Gay Dolphin then headed to Broadway at the Beach. We ate at Senior Frog. A bit pricey at \$60 for 3 of us. Spicy

too.

Walked another mile there but found some good stuff here and there. I got an oinking pig at Ron Jon's. Back home to the hot tub to finish the evening.

February 8 2018

Only 55 today but warm enough for golf. I played with 3 jovial but poor golfers at Eastwood. Lots of water and bunkers with fast greens. I went 44-44 = 88 but 18 over par. I parred 6 but too many doubles and a triple added up quickly. The ladies shopped. They picked me up about 2pm and we hit the hot tub after lunch.

February 7 2018

65 today but the strong winds kept it cool. We spent the day tripping to Holden Beach, Wild Mary's, a weird roadside site, Oak Island, Southport, and the old Smithville Burial Grounds. We took lots of pics. Hot tub when we got back.

February 6 2018

Easy 60 today with sun, Played Eagle Nest and was first off with a guy from Glen Falls NY. He did not talk a lot and hit some good shots but had many chunks to go with them. I hit it well and went 44-44 =88. Could have got that down to 84 so I did not throw away too many.

The ladies shopped and we went to Hamricks and cleaned up. I got some gym shorts for \$8 and a Nicklaus shirt for \$17. Back to the hot tub again. Great day!

February 5 2018

No 60 today but 55 with sun was much better than yesterday, We did a 2.7 mile beach walk and took our coats off on the way back. Picked up lots of shells. We hit the outdoor pool! No wind and 55 was warm and the outdoor pool is close to the indoor pool temp. We had a ball out there. Invited people in and they thought we were nuts.

We watched the stock market meltdown panic. It was down 800 pts then it rocketed down another 800 in ten minutes. Ended up down 1000 +. Scary stuff. Finally someone beat the Patriots. It was the Eagles by the hair on their chinny chin chin.

February 4 2018

Much warmer at 60. We hurried off to the Conway river walk and got it in before the rains came. Stopped in the Tanger Outlets and picked up new shoes for the gym, new underwear for me, couple pair of jeans, a shirt and robe for Mary, and a bracelet. Oh yeah, fudge too.

We did the hot tub when we got back and are now watching the super bowl.

February 3 2018

Colder today at 45. We exercised then hit the lazy river and then the hot tub. After lunch we shopped in Calabash and spent some good cash. On the way back we stopped at a flea market and found a James Garfield plate so we got it for John.

Mary and Catherine went to church. I was flipping thru the channels and Lawrence Welk was on. Mom wanted that on so I flipped back to it.

February 2 2018

Long drive to Raleigh Jan 31 where we visited David and Rachael. They are doing great. Nice house, 2 dogs, 1 cat. It was good to see them doing well. They are almost at their 5 yr anniversary. He remembers the zoo days which they all seem to do.

In the morning, we drove to MB. Stopped in and visited the Fayetteville Arsenal and Cape Fear Museum on the way down. Took some nice pictures too and uploaded to the waymark site. Got checked in and did some grocery shopping. Got in a 3 mile beach walk while the temp was up at 60 degrees.

Today we had to wait for Catherine. She was supposed to get in at noon but she messed up her reservations and got here around 5pm. We did get a shorter walk in since it was around 50. Colder tomorrow as well.

January 30 2018

Couple of inches of snow last night. Not bad. Headed over to the post office and put the mail on hold. Went to GE and deposited a check and picked up a few things. We both looked for something for tonight's dinner and settled on a stir fry.

Puttered around at home and finished packing. Scored some chess wins. Finally got a few wins this week and moved up to 1265 or so. It's been awhile since I was that lofty.

T-Rump has the state of the union speech tonight. I will likely watch and hope I don't puke. He wants his lap dog, Nunes, to hold off releasing a classified memo till afterwards so he likely will. T-Rump always knew the FBI was going to roast him for one thing or another so he started attacking them even before the election. Pretty shrewd. Guilty of a boatload of crimes, he needed to claim a vendetta. Pretty shrewd indeed. Hope he gets his due in the end.

January 29 2018

Oops, missed Sunday. Very nice warm day in the mid 50s. We watched the kids from 10:30-1:30 while mom and dad caught up on some sleep. They were both down on sleep with all the colds or flu they had for the last week or so.

One of my old co-workers bit the dust at 90; Tony Costanzo. He was always thoughtful and pleasant and good to work with. Not a great engineer but a stand up guy. RIP

Tony.

We went to the Y this morning. Today it cooled down and snow is expected tonight. When we got home it was time to do the wash and start packing for the trip. I loaded the clubs up, some kitchen stuff, some books, and shoes. Tomorrow I need to stop the mail, transfer the phone, and do final packing.

January 27 2018

Rain all day but mid 40s made it decent. Lazy day. I packed up the pills for the trip next week and got some other items together. Watched the horses but did not wager since the account is busted again. Mary went to church and I made salads for dinner.

January 26 2018

Had a good round at Wilkshire. 40-43 was not too bad but could have been better. Almost eagled the first. The ground was frozen so the drive went long. Just hit a 4 iron at the green and it rolled and rolled to about 3 foot short of the green. Almost chipped it in for an eagle but settled for a birdie. Made a long putt on #8 for another birdie. Hit it good the back nine but a couple of 3 putts and poor chipping did me in. I had a better touch when they were frozen but kept hitting too short when the greens thawed.

Mary went to knitting while I was gone.

January 25 2018

We did the Y this morning and the strength class. Did OK except for the leg crunches. The snow did melt so we should get a round in tomorrow. It has been 35 golf less days so FINALLY!

We helped out Kaetchen. She is ill, so Mary took Kalix to dance and I took Z-man to Tae Kwon Do. Z saw a sound wave approach him and drew it for me when I got him home. It was a bunch of concentric circles. Very odd. Got to keep an eye on that. Kaetchen was going to write it down and date it,

January 24 2018

Back down to 25 today with light dusting of snow. Hope it melts for golf Friday. I updated the Getting Old blog today so take a look.

Not much going on today. Carolyn stopped in for a short visit on the way to Marcs. Mary went to get her hair done. I am thinking of a haircut next Tuesday cause I sure have gotten some bad ones in MB. I went to shop for a few items at Giant Eagle.

Told the cashier that the toothpaste coupon was void in Puerto Rico so they had to pay full price to brush their teeth down there. Also saw an old timer checking out behind me with 2-30 packs of Genny Cream. I told him it was my favorite beer and had drank a tanker truck full of it before I quit drinking. He said he liked it too. It was a slow

checkout line so I had to amuse myself.

January 23 2018

Started out at 45 and slowly got colder. Supposed to get a light snow then it should melt AND if the stars align properly we might get to play golf Friday at Wilkshire.

Did the Y this morning and it was a rough go. It's 2pm now and I can feel it in the lower body muscles. Jenny also does the step class just ahead of the strength class. It is a cardio workout. Those people came out soaking wet. Ouch.

January 22 2018

50ish today. Snow did not melt off till mid afternoon. Looking at the forecasts we might get to play Friday. I better call the course tomorrow.

We did the Y today. Lately I have to crank the elliptical up to level 15 to get my heart rate up to the 110 target. It is a struggle. The strength class was busy and Ok but rough on the thighs today. Parking is an issue lately with the construction plus the new people starting back in January. It will wear off by the time we get back in March. Still 9 days till we leave though.

We worked on another 1000pc puzzle. Should finish tomorrow on day 3. Congress voted to end the shutdown today. I will wait a few days and then get in the market.

January 21 2018

Nice day again. We finished a puzzle and started a new one. It was 45ish so the driveway melt is done. The snow is still melting. Not much else to say. Just hanging loose for another 10 days so we can leave for MB.

Oh yeah. I got a USB charger tester. It goes in line with the charger. You can test the brick and the cable. Measures the voltage and current. I thought one of my wall plug USB slots were bad but it tested good. The issue is the cables often go bad after 4-6 months of use.

January 20 2018

Another decent day, around 45 today with good snow melt. We worked on a puzzle today. We tried 1000pc since there were bright colors on it. We are moving right along on it. No luck with the horses today. After a good win at Tampa, not luck there at all.

I did get most of the ice off the drive. Tomorrow I should get the rest of it. I knew there was going to be a T-Rump govt shutdown last night. It makes for good T-Rump TV which is all he is interested in. Good diversion for him from the Russia probe and the paying off of his porn star mistress.

January 19 2018

Finally a decent day, around 35 today with a hint of snow melt. We finished another puzzle. Mary went to the Y for knitting and I went to Independence for my free Bills lunch from Bob. Wow. I had forgotten how bad the drive was. No way I could do that everyday at my age anymore. If I didn't hail when I did at 62, 65 would have been it for me. It was good seeing Craig, Bob, and Jane. Jane reported Batcher has been moved to the nursing home, as he was too much for Silvia to handle anymore. Not sure how long he will hang in there. Could be a long time.

January 18 2018

Man, this is getting old. More cold and nothing melting. I did not sleep well. Got up at 5am, went back to bed but it wasn't much help. Kind of in a fog all day. We headed to the Y but it was hard to find parking. I said that was enough so we just headed to the grocery store. Dang cold out there.

Veg'd for awhile, had lunch, and headed to the dentist to get my crown put on. Back home to veg but I did pour some washer fluid in the car and we did a puzzle. Hop I sleep better tonight.

January 17 2018

Another cold day. I am ready to head south but there are still 13 days left. I have set aside my war of 1812 readings to prepare for the trip south. Re-read Joshua's dream about Southport, NC. Looks like a lot of things to do that we missed last year.

Carolyn stopped over for awhile today. I gave her the car battery charger I got for her. Tomorrow the Y and the dentist.

January 16 2018

More snow, more cold. Only 2-3" but end of drive was bad. Used Brenda's snowblower to get thru it. Went to the Y; strength class was brutal.

As I sit at the table and look out, I feel like I am at a ski resort or a hunting lodge with all the snow out there. I see a hawk fly by and light high up in the tree. I hear the National Geographic guy say the hawk is hungry and looking for his dinner. He surveys the wintry scene and nothing is moving. He retreats to his nest hoping tomorrow will be a better day.

I finished "Fire and Fury" covering T-rump thru October 2017.

An interesting read for sure. Surprisingly, Bannon seems to have been the only person with any brains that was or is in the white house, except for General Kelly as of now. He knew Comey firing was a losing prop, don jr Russian meeting was close to treason, and the cover up letter a serious mistake. I was expecting him to be the alt right fool. Of course it was his agenda, but at least he had some common sense.

Jared and Ivanka are labeled "Jarvanka" and are clueless and now petrified at the Muller Investigation and their finances. The pushed for Comey firing for this reason

and coaxed T-Rump into it. Pushed for the don jr cover-up and hiring Scaramucci too.

T-Rump is just a major idiot only caring about getting big wins and cares less about details of anything. He was pressed on Afghanistan decisions for months but did not want to deal with it. He tried giving the pentagon free reign but McMaster refused and eventually forced a decision. Such is the kind of jackass some have elected.

One Sr staff (ex Goldman guy) said the White House was an idiot surrounded by a bunch of clowns.

My biggest laugh is when t-rump interviewed McMaster for national security adviser. T-Rump liked the uniforms with all the medals on them. He told Jared he bored the sh.. out of me. Jared convinced him to have a 2nd interview and he says he wore a suit and looked like a beer salesman. Badgered by Jared to hire him, t-rump relented and said OK, but he didn't ever want to meet with him again.

God help us!

January 15 2018

Getting tired of this stinking cold and stinking snow. We did the Y today then decided to get out and about. We picked up a charger for Carolyn as a birthday gift at HD. Picked up some Centrum vitamins at Walmart. Then we shopped Kohl's and Mary got a new wallet with the gift card Sue gave her for Xmas. Oddly enough, neither Kohl's nor Walmart had a pasta claw. Very strange indeed.

Finally, we stopped at the Texas Roadhouse and pigged out. Home by 4pm. No racing luck. Checked my pick 3 and pick 5 tickets and only got 2 of 5 races right. After 6 days of wagering I am back to even with only one winning day. Pretty lousy record I'd say.

January 14 2018

Quiet morning as Carolyn came over for awhile. Mary headed to 11 am mass and the roads were good. Got the kiddies at 2:45 and watched them till 6:30. The kids were very good and Lincoln had a good time of it. Wore us out.

January 13 2018

OMG there were some big drifts this morning. Glad Brenda's snow blower started. Took me 45 min. Settled in to watch the ponies. Came close but no cigar. We did a puzzle and put away the Nativity set. Even the house is complaining about the clod with some thunks here and there for no reason.

Did OK in chess. Moved up to 1200. Hope I can work my way back up.

January 12 2018

We got the Auntie em warnings on the weather. Some of the schools fell for it and

closed. Freezing rain at noon and snow to follow. It has not amounted to much so far. We heeded the warnings and took back some books to the library and picked up a few items for the kids watch tbd this weekend. Ice cream was a must.

I had finished the 2 library books on 1812 and started the Fire and Fury book about T-Rump. It seems fair with digs to both the parties. I am about half done and it is a tale of 3 competing advisers with no one in charge. Bannon, Kushner, and Preibus/Ryan. What a mess with a ding dong in the middle.

Hit a nice pick 4 at Tampa and am up a couple hundred (for the time being anyway).

January 11 2018

No snow when I got up this morning and it eventually hit 58 degrees with some misty rain. Supposed to storm tomorrow. Wish it would always stay this warm.

We did the Y elliptical and strength class. Not many on the machines but strength class was full. Got home and after lunch I helped Mary with the bill paying. She did very well this month. Only off a little over a dollar with her manual checkbook. Doesn't look like golf tomorrow and today is day 19 with no golf.

January 10 2018

Temp rose to the low 40s snow melt is on. Slow day for me. Not much to do till 5:45 when we went over to watch the kids till 9pm on trivia night. The kids were good. Lincoln took a 30min nap then played good. He crabbed a couple of times but that was short lived.

Mary got the car serviced around noon so that is good to go for our trip at the end of the month. Day 18 with no golf.

January 9 2018

Mid 30s today. We did the Y this morning. 25 min on elliptical followed by Jenny's strength class. Wes stopped in and met Jenny. This is going to cost me as she keeps telling me to keep going. Class was brutal.

Went to get a much needed haircut around noon. There were 2 in the chairs, 5 ahead of me and 3 came in after. Took me an hour and a half. Mary went to an eye appointment, shopped with Carolyn, then visited over there till dinner time.

Will try chess again tonight. I had risen up to 1300, then fell quickly down to 1130 and have not gained much back. Think I am at 1170ish now. The players at this level are erratic. Flashes of brilliance and dumber than a rock. Hate playing guys down here. Oh well.

January 8 2018

The good news was it was much warmer today. The bad news was it was near 32ish and there was a lot of freezing rain this morning. Most schools closed. So no Y classes and the Red Hat lunch was canceled.

We vegd till we headed off to visit Batcher at 4pm. It was a slow ride up there behind a plow but we were only 5 min late. Batcher has stopped the PT so he is going to spend the rest of his days in bed. So sad. He obviously has given up. I am not in his shoes but it all doesn't seem right to me. He is tough to talk to. He seems not to process what you are saying properly. He does talk about some things and seems coherent at times but that is few and far between.

We ate at Parrison's again with Jane. She is doing well.

January 7 2018

Finally a day in the 20s. Warmer tomorrow so I am waiting to see some melting. Did some more reading on 1812. Amazing they had first hand accounts that have survived time. Also did a little re-organizing of stuff while I waited for the Bills playoff game.

The Bills gave a decent and gritty effort but fell 10-3 to the Jags. The Jags definitely out muscled them but the Bills hung tough. The Bills lack of talent, however, doomed them to a loss.

January 6 2018

Another nasty cold day. Supposed to get to 22 tomorrow!

We spent around 4 hrs putting Christmas away. The window hangings, cards, cups, plates, ornaments, tree, singing animals and such. Then moving the furniture back. Everything is back to normal now.

Mary did church and I cooked the spaghetti for dinner.

January 5 2018

Another nasty cold day. One more left. We vegd this morning. I was looking at stocks and did some more 1812 reading.

This book is called Unshackling America and is very good. It goes back and reviews our difficulties with the British, French, and Barbary Coast. Washington, Hamilton, and Adams were the Federalist Party and wanted a strong Central government. Jefferson was opposite. For the people and States rights. Once Jefferson got elected as the 3d president, he went with a weak Navy. Wrong move because the British, French, and Pirates were playing havoc with out trading vessels. Our Navy was spread ultra thin and it cost us big time. Also pointed out that anyone not supporting the revolution were considered "Tories". They lost all their land, rights, wealth, and basically kicked out of the country. More later as I read.

Wes called and was going to hang out later. Brought the kids and they had lunch and played till 5ish. Was good to see them.

January 4 2018

Another nasty cold day. I bailed on the Y this morning. Went to the dentist at 1pm. Brrr. They drilled out another tooth and put a temp in. Go back in two weeks for the real one. Felt like norm at Cheers. There were 4 people in the waiting room and 3 of the staff said "hi bob" thru the window.

Got home and picked up Mary to go to the store, since the car was nice and warm, and we picked up some groceries. Stopped at the library and picked up 2 books and copied our passports. Stayed warm inside for the rest of the day. Two more nasty cold days ahead.

Ordered an advance copy of Fire and Fury, a T-Rump expose. The end is near for him!

January 3 2018

Headed over to the retiree lunch. Attendance was roughly 75% the normal due to those going south and the cold snap. Not much to report. Just chit chat stuff.

Filled the cars from the cans so Carolyn could have them back. Around 5:45 the power went out. Got Carolyn to check the web and see what was up. She said 1500 were without power in the area, they were investigating, and planned to get power back at 8:30pm. It went on at 8pm and it took 1 hour to bring it from 66 back up to 73.

January 2 2018

Start of diet day 7 = 165.8 I think it is a wrap because I want to eat real food again.

We went to the Y again. Very cold at 10 degrees. The cold is to continue till Saturday, which is a long time away. Jenny asked for new year resolutions. I said I was going to try to find my cape (I had my superman shirt on). We picked up a couple of birthday cards and put them in the mail.

Worked on puzzle most of the day.

January 1 2018

Happy New Year! I made it till 10:30 last night but a ringing alarm at midnight woke me up. It was a small clock in the Perry Como room. Perhaps the kids were fooling with it? Anyway, I was up at 7am ready to go. Another cold bast is here. It will be 0-12 degrees all week. That sucks.

Thinking back on 2017, it was a good year for us. No hospital visits tops the list. Golf was good and all the Parker family did fine. In Buffalo, Mary's family spent too much time in the hospital but came thru it OK.

We were going to go to the Y, but an unexpected project tied us up. I ended up fixing the cabinet turntable down low in the sink corner. I was amazed I figured it out! Loosened the wrong screw at the start and it cost me 45 min to get the long shaft back to the correct position and length. One of the flex springs at the top snapped in half but there seems to be enough pressure from the remaining half to keep it working. Keeping my fingers crossed. We got it all cleaned up inside and reloaded the stuff and it still is working (at the moment). We tossed a jar of Folgers instant coffee that was in there dating back to 2007. Veg'd the rest of the day.

Start of diet day 6 = 165.8