

## Pencil of the Week Chronicles 6

04/28/2021 Byrncliffe



We have now moved all our stuff to the Canton Condo and have been real busy unpacking. I think we are half done now. Did find the pencil boxes and Mary picked one from Byrncliffe Resort. Tis an ordinary pencil the typical pencil yellow with black lettering. Did find the Boston Mills one as well.

This is a pretty decent course out in the NY boonies very close to windfields with maybe a 100 windmills scattered around the local area. I don't believe you can see any from the course but they are all around there. Decent as it may be, the greens there give me fits. I have played well there many times but never could score due to my issues of reading greens in mountainous areas.

This course was selected by Jim or Jim Jr as one of the courses played in our annual family tournament; a tradition that goes back many years. Early on it was Dad, brother Jim, and I playing 4 rounds in Buffalo. After i graduated, we played 2 in the Buffalo area and 2 in Ohio. Somewhere in time, ex bro-in-law George joined in and after Dad stopped playing, Jim Jr. was added as well.

Jim Jr likes to pick courses i struggle on and Byrncliffe quickly became his go to course for that. It was built in 1967 and has an old style row of motel like rooms with an outdoor pool. Very hilly and would be impossible to walk. They take pride in their "reachable par 5s" but i can only remember getting close on one of them a couple of times. I am pretty sure i have been on in 3 and added another 3 or more putts to the score. We have not played there recently as the last time we did play there, there was a painfully slow outing ahead of us on a very early tee time. We were hot about that one.

To read more on Byrncliffe try <https://byrncliff.com/>

Memories? The most striking holes are the first few. A short par 4, then you tee off straight up the mountain with the next hole going straight down the mountain. Best to be

careful when the grass is wet. The forth is a par 3 over a waste area that can add several strokes to your score. Lots of doglegs and holes across the side of the mountain too. Mountain golf is not for me. The putts add up very quickly for me here.

To be fair, he course is worth playing for sure. Perhaps you handle the mountains better than I. For me it is ultra frustrating. I would suggest if you schedule it would be prudent to ask if there are any outings ahead of you.

#### 05/05/021 Rothland and Arrowhead



About 75% unpacked. Mary had to sort thru about 20 pencils from one of the old boxes. She kept coming up with Fifty-Four Flags, which i said "never played it". Finally she hit with Rothland, a course played many times in our family tournament and other visits to the area. Researching them on line, I saw where both Rothland and Arrowhead, located in Akron, NY were both part of Fifty Four Flags courses. Maybe Jim or Jr. can shed light on this. Perhaps one or both courses had the 54 flag pencils for scoring use. In any case I don't remember that moniker at all. As i usually scarf up all the loose pencils in the cart that could explain how i had several of the 54 flag ones.

Both are very nice courses. Rothland is an older course and you can score well there. They have 27 holes and there are some hidden hazards that are not obvious, so a GPS system can help you out there. I think 85 is a good score there. You can look at it here: <https://www.rothlandsgolf.com/>

For those in Ohio, i wouldn't go out of my way to play it. I remember #1 a risk reward tee shot across the dogleg, and #18 a double dogleg that is just plai nasty.

Arrowhead is an upscale modern course that is worth a trip to play if you swing through western NY. If you vacation there, Arrowhead, Hickory Stick, Glen Oak, Diamond Hawk, Harvest Hills, and Niagara Parks (if Canada ever lets us back in) are recommended.

The Arrowhead website has a tantalizing flyover at <https://arrowheadwny.com/> It is quite a mean test with 3 holes over 500 from the whites (Jr shows no mercy at 6300). Even the Yellow tees are long at 5700! Sure would be fun to play from there sometimes. Maybe when i hit 80 Jr will let me go from the yellows.

Haven't played in the area for all last year, so the holes from the courses noted are all mixed up in my mind. I remember several, just not sure which holes go with which course anymore. Niagara Parks is the one that is . When etched in my mind. When get to that pencil, lookout. I played so much there in the early days, I have memories of each and every hole there. That will be a long one and your eyes might glaze over before you are finished reading it.

Tam-O-Shanter sadness update...since i now live close by. I can see the destruction. Along Fulton it is all graded over and you can see apartments going up. Sign at the back end of the course along Fulton says Residence on the Green. What a bunch of #\$\$%&\* Sicko's.

### 05/12/2021 Ironwood



Been busy this week. About as unpacked as we will get, perhaps for forever. Dug into an old box and pulled out a handful. Mary passed me them one by one so i made a que of 8 pencils for the coming weeks. Pencil #31, i can't believe i am up to 31 already, is Ironwood Golf course. This pencil is a beat up red one with gold lettering. Not particularly attractive I say. Someone should start a pool on how many pencils i get to. I am thinking middle of next year if i make it that long.

I did not play this one until the mid 90s as a guess. The Lockheed guys, John T, Mel, and Neil, were branching out into the Hinkley area. I believe we started at Pine Hills and loved the course but it was hard to get a tee time there. Looking around, we saw Ironwood was close so we gave it a try. Not one of my favorites. It always seemed wet making it long.

Weird course as well with lots of OB. #1 is a monster par 4 with OB all the right side. #2 is a monster par 3 along the same woods. Coming out of these 2 over is almost impossible, 3-4 over is likely. #3 is also along the woods but a reasonable length. These 3 are a slicer's nightmare, so you know its not for me.

After a couple of par 4s, you get to this huge clump of woods right in the middle of the

course? Its like they ran out of gas for the chain saws when they built it. The whole course is surrounded with trees, and entirely clear in the middle except this clump they forgot to cut. A short par 3 up the hill through this weird clump. Then you are out of the clump and head more up hill on a par 4, then wrap up playing out to the main road to the left of the long driveway, then another back along the right side of the road to the clubhouse.

#10 heads out to the clump and you play a downhill par 3 through the clump. Up and down on the next two and then you are back to play along the perimeter for 3 slicer nightmares. One of them, #15 is a par 4 along the perimeter. You have to lay up to a creek where there is a 30 yard wide opening in the trees to go up the hill 150 yds through a chute of trees. I have seen people lose 3 golf balls on that one and score big numbers. A par there is very very unlikely. I give that hole a 10 on the Nasty scale. The green for the next one is back into the clump. Tee off from the clump on #17 uphill to a great finishing par 5.

You can see it all here: <https://www.ironwoodgolfcoursehinckleyohio.com/hole-details/>

We played it a couple times a year for 3-4 years and mostly gave up on it. No loss for us slicers! A 90 was a good score for me there. Now that i hit the ball straighter, i maybe could shoot 87 there.

Stories? Other than the brutal recollections of the holes, We dd see one pair dump a cart going from the fairway to the cart path. All is it takes is a heavy guy in the passenger seat and a turn of the wheel to the right while the cart is tilting to the heavy side. He got beat up pretty bad.

The other story is about a couple of Cisco outings we had there. That group had no clue about the course. I came out low man every time as they whacked away into the woods and other places. It was always a hoot to pay sr rates in the clubhouse as they all got nicked for \$47 as they were too 30 something.

Dick has talked about playing there again. You never know but i have no plans to return anytime soon.

05/19/2021 Sugarbush



I thought it was a good idea to have a que of 8 pencils but taking them in the photo messed up the detail so you can hardly see the names on them. I believe #32, is Sugar

Bush Golf course. This pencil is a beat up green one with silver lettering.

I believe i played this one early on after moving to Ohio so it was the 70s. I was looking at courses to play when the family came up so I played this with Dad and brother Jim. I can't remember if there was water on the fairways but i remember we aimed for the rough for maximum distance. We played it a couple of years then kind of dropped it.

The DST players always played at WIndmill in the area (it is in Ravenna) bt we got disenchanted when they raised the price along the way, so we opted to play Sugar Bush in Mantua which is farther to the north. We played it for several years and had some interesting rounds there. The round i recall the most is when we were on the back and there is this short par 4 through the greens on an elevated green. Most of us could drive it to 100 yds out but Chad Murphy was a bomber. John (last name escapes me) was on the green in the group ahead. We all hit and Chad was a bit impatient waiting so he teed off. Pounded it good. Chad yelled fore but it is a long way away. John jumped when the ball hit up there and was highly ticked off. Not sure he ever forgave Chad for that one.

Later on in the 90s i took the Lockheed guys, John T, Mel, and Neil, there. Dick Lott also played with us at times. I remember the ranger getting after Dick Lott one time. He was not happy with that. Mel told us that he once had invested in a share of the course. As a share owner he was unhappy because the majority owners really did what they wanted and he had little say.

You can see more about it here: <https://www.sugarbushgolfcourse.com/gallery/>

The course gives you a brutal start with a par 5 through some trees and across a creek to an elevated green. The hits you with a long par 3 on a hill side. The 3d is a monster uphill par 4 that is over 400 yds and impossible to hit in 2. If you are +3 at that point you have done good! The rest of the nine is tough but there are a few par opportunities as the elevation drops to a par 3 and again to a par 4 before finishing with another unreachable par 4, a long 5 and a trecherous #9 along the water. The front nine is just plain tough!

The back is much shorter and can be had if you are patient. Ten goes over water, 11 has a downhill shot to a green on a mound, Next is a short downhill position hole followed by a 90 degree dogleg to an uphill green. 13 is another major downhill par 3 followed with a downhill par 5. Lots of elevation changes on this nine! I eagled this one once playing with George and maybe Neil? i hit two good shots down the hill and threw up a lob wedge. It was looking good. Couldn't see where it landed but George nearby said uh oh. In the hole it was! Sweet!

I believe this one was a high 80s low 90s scoring for me; a struggle on the front and better scored on the back. There will be more rounds played here for sure. Only a matter

of time.

### 5/26/21 Sunny Hill



#33, is Sunny Hill Golf course. This pencil is a green one with white lettering.

Can't say much about this course. It is an older course up on route 18 just down the road from what was once Maplecrest. A ho hum course believed to be first played with old long time league buddy Gerald Betts. Don't remember the circumstances but we played there a couple of times in the fall. I have some good stories about Gerry but I will save them for Edgewood if we ever pull that one.

The only other times we played there were a late fall when we tried to play at Maplecrest and unexpectedly found them to be shut for the year. Thinking it was Mel, Dick, and perhaps Bill that was there. We ended up playing a couple of weeks there till they were closing for their year end xmas party.

Mostly back and forth. The only memorable hole i can recall is a par 3 that goes back into the woods. One you finish you come back to the tee and wander over to the next. Good for a quick round. Might be a little more crowded now that Maplecrest is gone.

They have a website: <https://www.sunnyhillgolfcourse.com/> if you want to know more.

### 06/02/21 Kent State



#34, is Kent State GC. This pencil is a blue one with white lettering and has the looks of someone chewing on it..

Well, i learned something new researching this!

<https://www.record-courier.com/story/business/2021/03/10/kent-state-oks-offers-two-parcels-golf-course-franklin-township/6943849002/>

The course shut down in 2016. Another old one bit the dust and i did not know. RIP Kent State Golf Course!

I only played here a couple of times with the Cisco guys. League secretary Randy (RIP) held our year end outings here at the suggestion from the best league golfer who lived nearby it. His name is Jerry. I saw him a couple years ago at a Cisco reunion and he

looked terrible. He was a recent cancer survivor of some sort and was a shadow of his former self. He said he had not played in 2 years during his battle. I feel bad that i can't remember either one of their last names. They are in my brain somewhere but can not be retrieved at the moment (now there is an easy opening for you).

This is where Randy would set up the crazy awards for things like closest to the big tree on 4 fairway and stuff like that. It was a pretty pathetic excuse for a golf course but had some interesting holes. At any moment you might hear a roaring train and a loud whistle as it prepared to cross one of the nearby roads. You had to stop and cover your ears when that happened. It had a half way house right next to the tracks as well. I would guess there were at least 2 or 3 trains passing thru during each round back in the early 2000s.

Back to Jerry. I always admired Jerry. An excellent golfer he was and he played strategically. I don't ever remember seeing him make a bad shot. I watched him carefully one time. When he missed the green he almost always gave himself a good chance at a par. I noticed that instead of trying to chip close or hole it like the rest of us, he chose to chip to a spot that was optimum for making the putt. I wish i could do that, but i have been playing it the other way so long i do it without thinking. How many more strokes could I save by following his strategy? A bunch! It was hard to pick up on what he was doing until one hole where i thought he had a make able chip, he chipped to the right of the hole with nowhere enough speed to reach the hole? But you know what? It was almost a gimme for his next. Me? i would have taken a shot at it and ended up with a downhill sidehill putt that i couldn't make. My hat is off to Jerry and i hope he makes it back to playing as soon as possible.

Catch you all next week.

06/09/21 Yankee Run



#35, is Yankee Run. This pencil is a black one with white lettering.

It has been quite awhile since I played there, This one is to the NE almost on the PA border. They do get a lot of play from PA, Warren Oh and Youngstown Oh. I believe it is family run by some of the nicest people, When I did make reservations, I always got a letter in the mailbox that thanked me for reserving a tee time there. I am not sure they still do this as email has taken over that kind of confirmation.

The course reminds me of the way Maplecrest (RIP) was run. Pretty flowerbeds

everywhere you look to brighten your experience. One of the old courses with huge trees and mostly small greens.

Nice pictures here: <https://yankeerungc.com/>

They are celebrating their 90th birthday this year!

I suspect the DST was first to play there, likely at the request of TK who was always looking for challenging courses. I remember playing there with TK, the Captain, Mike B, and Rick for sure. George and I played there with brother Jim in family golf outings, and I took the Friday guys there as well. Not sure when i will play there again as us the car driving range of us geezers seems to be more limited each and every year.

Looked back at my scores and found a 95 in 2001, a 87 and 89 in 2004, an 89 and a 79! in 2005, a 91 in 2006, an 88 in 2007, an 81 in 2008, an 87 and 91 in 2009 before the DST petered out with my retirement in 2010. Foremost in my memory was a round i played there with the Friday group where I played really well and for some reason was striking irons 10 yds longer. I recall backing down to a PW from 125. Wow! Was surprised i did not find the card for the 79 I had there. That is a stellar round. Maybe we got rained out after 16 holes? LOL. I am sure some of you have some stories to share so let them rip.

This course smacks you right up front with a par 5 that goes straight out and just before the green there is a high wall of wilderness with the green perched on top. Anything short lands in that horrible stuff and there is little choice but to drop somewhere behind the wall and give it another go. I mostly tried to play long and had to chip back. Lots of big numbers on that one and very discouraging way to start. #2 is a nasty par 3 uphill on another plateau perched halfway up another hill. Easy to take a 5 there. Could be a mid iron or a hybrid with the tee somewhere between 170 and 200. Short is no good, long is no good, right is in the brush and left is in a bunker. Yikes.

From there another par 5 with an extreme dogleg corner to reach on your 2nd shot, then another extreme dogleg par 4 where you need a 200 yd shot to reach the corner. Next is an uphill par 4 and an uphill par 3 before heading back down again to a par 4. I don't remember #8 at all but then it is a nasty #9 green near the clubhouse.

The back nine is a bit tamer and has some straightforward holes but there are some real challenges there too. #10 and 11 come to mind as the approach over a lake on 10 takes away your breath and 11 has some creeks to avoid. I remember sticking my iron 5 foot from the pin on the par 3 #11 with a great shot, then walking away with a disappointing par. I also remember frustrating 3 putts on #18. That green rivals some of Chippawa's best completely nonsense greens.



Catch you all next week.

## 06/16/21 River Oaks



#36, is River Oaks. This pencil is a crappy blue one with white lettering.

Another that it has been quite awhile since I played there, This one is on Grand Island in NY on the way to the Falls on the East branch of the Niagara River. It is on Whitehaven, the same street my sister lives on. She lives close to the West river though. I believe she has a swim pass for their pool as well.

The course was built in my day in 1972. I remember the excitement when it was being planned. A new course and a Holiday Inn right across the river from where I lived. We rode bikes over the bridge back in the day. Wow, we were ever lucky to have this nearby.

Nice pictures here: <http://riveroaks-golfclub.com/the-club/the-course/>

Well, when we did get to play it we had mixed feelings. It was expensive, a nice layout, but it had it's shortcomings. First off, every weekend round there was 6 freeking hours long. Basically, they stacked the tee times too close. There was a long wait at the first tee and it was a straightforward hole. After finishing the hole, you went through the trees to find a long and tough par 5. After a long wait to tee off we were excited to play the first hole! Then as you passed through to the 2nd tee, horrors, there were 3 groups at the next tee box! Everyone played the easy first quickly and the difficult second hole was sure to back things up. Dumb design, eh?

I also remember making last minute decisions to play and calling around for a tee time and being so happy that they had an "opening". That happy feeling quickly dissapeared when we got to the course and found tens of carts waiting on the first tee and later the standard 3 groups on the next. The excitement was all gone by the time you loaded your clubs in the car 6 hrs later. Sigh.....

We here in Ohio can be thankful there are no 6 hour rounds here. Of course we do have 3 hr nines when the leagues play. Oh well.

A second issue was the rough. They had done a nice job on the fairways but get a bit off the fairway and it was dirt and mud and rocks. The rough was pretty much unplayable. You had o search for a spot with no rocks. The third issue was the fairway design. The

fairway weaved right and left as they cut it. You could drill a straight arrow drive down the middle and find yourself in the rough. What the.....? Why was there rough right where a fairway should be?

I don't get to Buffalo very often anymore but no one ever brings up playing this one. It is either over priced or still slow or perhaps there are just better choices around.

Catch you all next week.

### 06/23 /21 Eaglesticks



#37, is Eaglesticks. This pencil is a beat up green one with silver lettering.

Yet another that it has been quite awhile since I played there, This one is in in Zanesville Oh, about a 75 minute ride south and west of here.

I am pretty sure this was added as a once a year pilgrimage by TK. This one has been mentioned often in top 10 lists of places to play in Ohio and it sure deserves to be there. I have played it with the DST and then took my Friday guys there and then the family group there. Everyone just loves the place. When we could, we played 36 there and it was a long day. The replay was always a bargain and hard to pass up. Well, that was then. Our days of 36 holes are long gone, especially in mid summer.

Website here: <https://www.eaglesticks.com/>

They only have a couple of pictures in their Gallery which is disappointing because there are some real beauties out there.

#1 is camera worthy for sure. You tee off from an elevated tee across a valley and hope to reach the fairway. A huge nasty evil bunker guards the left side and another on the right. If you make the upper fairway it is a possible birdie. #2 in a long par 3 with another huge nasty evil bunker left. A tough par. #3 is a long par 5 where you have to clear a creek 3/4 the way down, but that could be a different hole. There are many great holes but my memory is a bit foggy after all these years. There is one par 4 down in the far corner of the course that you could almost drive but if you went right you were in trouble. #9 and #18 are beautiful. The tee is way above the fairway and there are many bunkers to avoid.

This is one of a few courses where they want you to ride the fairway and stay out of

their beautiful rough. When we first played there The greenside rough was a 10 on the nasty scale. With their fast greens, you could miss by a foot or two and have a nasty chip. You had to get it out of there and it would run way to far once on. Of course this was back when we played competitive golf. Move it in the fairway but never in the rough. These days we move them everywhere for a preferred lie. Somewhere along the line they softened the rough to speed up play. Before that there were some slow rounds there.

We did have some awesome scores there. I recall some of the better golfers ripping it up with 77s. TK, Mike B, and George likely. I think my best was 83 with most of my scores between 85 and 91. The trips were always fun but wearing. I thought we were crazy one year, trying to play 36 on hot humid 90 degree sunny day. We gave it a try but Bill tanked after a few holes. Couldn't cool down even with a water soaked towel. He packed it in as the rest of us played on. It was not enjoyable; i can tell you that.

In summary, this one is in my top 3 in Ohio along with Avalon Lakes and Little Mountain.

Catch you all next week when i detail the nightmare of Chippawa's back nine.

### 06/30/21 Chippawa



#38, is Chippawa, the evil one. This pencil is a really dark green with white lettering. There are good courses, and bad courses. And then there is Chippawa, just plain evil.

This one is out in the boonies down route 21 on the way to Massillon. Areas down there are surrounded by countless mobile homes, some of them real beauties. When speaking of Chippawa, i don't know where to start.

I guess i will start with the golf course. It is nestled in some rolling hills which presented the designer with some challenges, which he clearly and utterly failed and failed miserably. Not that there aren't some really nice holes there. The front nine is very nice.

It starts with a short par 4 with the green built into the hillside and guarded by a front left bunker. Easy to get to the undulating green in two but there is not an easy putt on the entire green. Difficult but fair. #2 is a crowned green on a mound. This one is a piece of crap. Very difficult par here. #3 is a great par 5 straight out and a very good birdie

opportunity. If you are playing well, you can get back the stroke you lost 3 putting #2 and get back to even par. #3 is a decent par 4 but the landing area is tight; another possible par. #4 is really tough from the whites as you need to drive thru a chute on a longish par 4. The senior tees take that all away but the green is still tricky. #5 is a short par 3 but not very deep so it is tough to keep it on the green. Houle told me he had an ace at Chippawa. I would guess this must have been it. Probably skull-ed one that his the pin? At this point you should be no more than 2, perhaps 3 over. The three finishing holes are decent tests but 4 or 5 over for the front is common.

The back nine starts with a longer version of #1 with the green again cut into the hill side. A tough hole indeed. #11 is a long par 5 where you tee off on a hillside and hope not to hit the power wires that run down the left side of the fairway. Possible par or bogey here. The left side of this one is tick infested so keep a vigil. #13 is a ludicrous par 3 with a huge bunker across the entire front of the green. Front of the green is only 90 yards out and is flat in the front, then runs up a hill. The green is no wider than 10-12 yards, so there are many misses and you have to chip to a narrow green. Watch out left! Tall grass and more ticks. One more reasonable par 4 is next. Ladies and gentleman, that is where the fun ends. What follows are three holes that are a disgrace to golf. Then the last 2 are a fair but challenging par 3 and par 4 to finish. Unfortunately, you are so damn mad by this time, you are cussing the golf course and just want to go home.

The first on the Bermuda Triangle is an impossible par 4 that goes out to flat spot that you can't possibly get to the green from. So if you power it past there it runs downhill to a small lake at the bottom of the hill. Then you have a downhill lie to an uphill green that must be 50 yards higher than where you are. The green is huge and most of it is sloped toward you. If by chance you make it on the front, no human being can putt the ball hard enough to reach the back pin (there is no way they can put it anywhere else. If you hit the center of the green, expect it to roll back to the front. If you hit the back, thank your stars if it happens to stay on. A double is a good score here.

The next of the 3 is one of the worst piece of crap holes I have ever played. You tee off higher up the mountain downhill. If you have a good drive you can put it 150 or less from the pin and not end up at the bottom of the hill some 60 yards lower. Right is a lost ball and left is a nasty sidehill in tick country. If you were lucky to get to 150, be advised that the green is another 30 or 40 yard above you. Before I say nasty stuff about said green I have to give props to John T on his shot many years back.

We were playing this hole and John and I both put our drives way left on that nasty side hill. I punched down into the fairway knowing there was no real safe shot toward the green. I stepped aside for John's shot. John lined up looking like he was aiming for the wooded ravine left of the green. Being a good sport, I said John, you are way off in your alignment. John said "i am going at the green". I said something like "are you nuts? that

is an insane play; there is NO WAY. I couldn't hit a bazooka over those tall trees; if you hit them the ball will be in the ravine. Not to mention the ball is below your feet and a very side hill lie. So John takes aim and hits the most incredible shot I have ever seen. It was a great shot but there was no way he was going to clear those trees. Well, when we got up there, his ball was on the green in good shape. To this day, it was the greatest shot I had ever seen, or I had witnessed some sort of divine intervention.

There is the green. It has a small flat spot on back and the rest of it is sloped straight down the hill. I did play in the Cisco league there and this green was always a nightmare. After playing it 5-10 times, you just pretty much give up and hope for luck. I can recall one round with the pin on the left side halfway down the slope. I was at the left front and chipped it up to 4 feet, then watched it roll back to my feet. Tried again, same result. Finally got it up past the hole where I watched another guy miss the hole and the ball roll down to where I had started. Needless to say I HATE THIS HOLE.

The next hole is more of the same and is similar to the first triangle hole

The last straw was 3 years ago. I had hit 2 great shots to the top of the green and was one foot off the back. The pin was only about 12 feet away. Laying two, I had thoughts of birdie or par. Well.....I picked up after 10 and refused to play this course for 2 years straight. Why spend good money to put up with this kind of crap. Why would the owners not do something other than just keep taking your money?

I did go back once this year because I felt pity on the Monday guys. Wouldn't you know it, I forgot my hat. I had to scour the pro shop to find a hat that did not have the Chippawa logo on it.

I can only hope my anger will go away before I write about the next pencil

07/07/21 Hawks Nest



#40, is Hawks Nest. This pencil is a really nice red with gold lettering.

This one is way out to the west and then south from Seville. Almost out to 71.

This one was a staple on the DST for many years. Likely TK found it and we did like it.

I was not a fan. It was a fairly new course and the greens were rock hard. I can't tell you how many times i hit a green just to see it skip off the back.

It was a homey course. Built by a Massillon Grocery czar's wife, and a religious one at that, there was no alcohol allowed on the course. They sent rangers out looking for violators and indeed caught 2 of our guys with some beer. They were pulled off the course screwing up our skins games. I think John was one, maybe one of John's buddies. They later sold the course to Ohio State where they use it for agricultural studies i guess.

I do not remember many holes. On the back 9, Sixteen thru 18 are tough. Don't think i ever got to 16 in two. 17 is a par 3, then 18 is a long par 4 with a very long bunker down the right side. Those 3 come to mind right away,

On the front #1 is memorable, Here is where the bunker back of the green always grabbed my ball after skipping off. #7 is cool as well. You go up the hill and then have to lay up or go across the pond to a green. Can never forget the par 3 #8. That is where i lined an awesome 5 iron right at the pin. Hard to see where it landed. I started looking back of the green when i heard Neil exclaim "Bloody Hell. It's in the hole". That might have been my 3d ace.

I also remember the long ride out there. It was also very sketchy since we always played early and i was always tired. I remember being scared for my life one trip as the fog was so thick you could not see more than 10 feet ahead. The trip, normally 55 mph was running more like 20mph.

Not sure if i will ever get out that way again. who knows?

07/14/21 Lyons Den



# 41 is Lyons Den. This pencil is also a really nice red with gold lettering.

This one is out to the west at historic Canal Fulton.

This one was a course i played with the neighborhood gang after moving to Hartville; 1975 perhaps? We played a standard quarter skins game with carry overs. Rich and Ed were the best of us, then me, then there were some hacks that filled the last spot. With my slice back then i wasn't much better than the hacker group though. Wow. Now that's

an opening for verbal abuse.

Don't remember anything at all about it so i looked up the scorecard. It's a small compact family run course. The tips are 5400 and the whites 5100. With par at 69 it sounds easy but i don't remember any good scores there. I believe I took the Lockheed buddies there a couple of times but it really had nothing special to draw us back. I Don't believe the DST played there any.

Maybe some of you played it and can add more.

07/21/21 Wood Lake



# 42 is Wood Lake Resort and Golf Club. This pencil is also a really nice green with gold lettering.

This was one of the initial Pinehurst DST Open courses during the first several years of this storied tournament.

Since that was so long ago, i looked on the web and found this:

Two of the true legends of golf course architecture, Arnold Palmer and Ellis Maples, teamed up to design Woodlake's two championship golf courses. The original course, The Maples Course, was built by Ed Seay and Ellis Maples in 1971 and is described by many golfers as one of the most challenging and beautiful in the Southeast with lush Bentgrass greens and hybrid bermuda fairways winding gracefully around the lake. The Palmer Course was completed in 1995 and is a combination of Dan Maples and Arnold Palmer-Ed Seay, inspired by Palmer's belief in fair and challenging golf for all levels of play.

At the time there was only one course that wrapped around a couple of lakes and it was pretty tough. Never saw the new one. I remember rolling up and they had a driving range into the water where you hit floating golf balls. Pretty darn cool. Years before that i had become a disciple of the first ball i remember that was marketed as "Cosmic Floaters". I loved them cause i just thought that was just the coolest ball to play and you couldn't lose it in the water. Turns out you could though. Unless you wanted to wait for it to float to shore, it was a goner. It was such a Cosmic idea though. Note that this was way before the famed Mollies took over and dominated the world. RIP Bob Molitor. I

am all out of Cosmic Floaters but still have upwards of 50 Mollies i treasure.

Bob's obit is here:

<https://golfclubatlas.com/forum/index.php?topic=45306.0;wap2>

TK was a fan of Maples courses and I don't think we missed a one playing down there. Although it was a tough course, I seemed to hold my own against the competition. I wanted to keep it in the tourney but we eventually moved on.

07/28/21 Hyland



Sorry, was working on bathroom remodeling and this slipped my mind yesterday. Shame on me.

# 43 is Hyland Golf Club. This pencil is also a really nice blue with white lettering.

This was early Pinehurst DST Open courses for many years of this storied tournament.

I think this was our warm up course and then I believe it was part of the tourney. Thinking the later years it may have been first, followed by Legacy, Tobacco Road, and always finishing at the Pitt. Either that or it remained a warm up with Longleaf the starter.

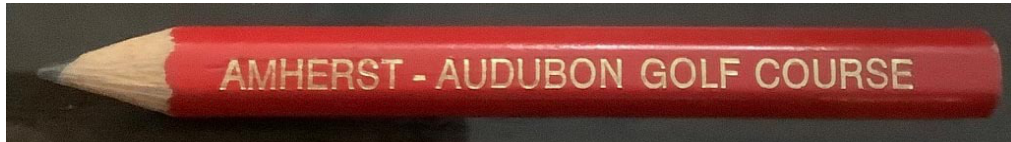
Very playable course except some real tough stretch. The tough stretch was a par 4 up a big hill to the right. Then tee off going back from off a cliff to a big dogleg left. Next was a long water carry par 4 that was real nasty. There was also a long par 5 in that mix that passed by a maintenance shed. That there maintenance shed will be long remembered as George seemed always to dash in there several years to find a life saving bathroom. I think he could find that one in his sleep he was there so many times. Along those lines, you did not want to go into the small clubhouse bathroom after he was in there either. George, i want to apologize for making light of that serious medical issue which has since been corrected, but you know how I am.

This course was perfect for the first round. You could break 90 the first day, much to your relief after not having swung a club for several months. For the most part, we soon found out, yeah, I suck just as much as last year and it got worse the next round.



More sad news.....Skyland Pines will close in September. Nothing on the new since it's not entirely done deal yet. Lots of unhappy wedding planners around that got their money back and are scrambling to find a new venue. Another old one bites the dust. Played there a month ago and enjoyed it.

08/04/21 Audobon



# 44 is Audoban Golf Club. This pencil is also a really nice red with gold lettering. Looks as sharp as it can be.

This course is located in Amherst NY, a Buffalo suburb. Have not played it since i moved from that area in 1970 so I have no idea. It is out somewhere near the University Campus the eventually built there.

I did find this:

<https://www.audubongolfclub.org/about1-clm6>

This indicates it has been around a long time. I doubt if i will everr play there again. All I can remember is that was a decent course.

Heading to Buffalo this weekend. First time since 2019, We will wrap up our family tournament with 2 rounds. I think I am 5 back but am really feeling confident I will get it done this time.