

SUMMER 2006

Not sure how long it took for the earth to be created but according to the biblical version it was about a week. But one thing about which I'm pretty certain is that after all that practice the creator got the landscaping down pat by the seventh day. And if you want to behold the results of this masterpiece throw your clubs in the car and get up to Vancouver Island in British Columbia. Crystal clear rivers and streams of glacial melt running year round, teeming with all manner of fish, as attested by the bear loitering around the banks that wouldn't be there otherwise, if it weren't eating time. Majestic mountains of granite covered in year round snow fields protruding through the verdant seemingly endless forests. Wildlife, you betcha! It is nearly impossible to adequately describe how incredible this place, a virtual Garden of Eden. While mankind was given a mandate to take dominion over all the creatures and land, and we were made in his image and likeness, then it is not too much of a stretch to think that God is a golfer at heart. Man has made this place into a golfers' paradise.

This is a 54 day narrative which includes 51 rounds of golf, anecdotes we felt should be shared in the event someone has the opportunity to experience this place, interesting side events and places that make a golf trip more fulfilling.

6-16-06 The Gene Autry Museum near Griffith Park was presenting an exhibition of both Northwestern and Southwestern Indian art which turned out to be a nice precursor of our trip to Canada. Enjoyed the nice show of the universe at the Griffith Park Observatory, followed by a walk along its' trail with our friends and antagonists of many years. Sharing a Mexican dinner and political conversation is always enjoyable as we know how far to push each other's buttons without becoming belligerent. Mike is a lifetime U.S.C. football fan so I left him with a U.S.C. bottle opener as a token of appreciation for his hospitality. Unbeknownst to him the "Fight On For U.S.C." song, which plays each time a bottle cap is placed in the opener, was replaced with the "Cheer, Cheer, For Old Notre Dame" version. What are friends for anyway?

6-17-06 In a galaxy far, far away I came to California for the summer and to participate in my Army buddy forthcoming wedding. Well we are pushing a half century since that moment and summer is not over yet. Today was dedicated to pursuing the quest of finding the creator of a certain bed post. So through the Santa Monica Mountains and over to Malibu to find this artist of renown! As reward we later were allowed to enjoy the street fair and entertainment of Santa Monica and the opportunity to get our fill of Mexican cuisine in anticipation of there not being any such food in Canada

6-18-06 Three days in a row without golf! Is it absence or abstinence that makes the heart grow fonder? The Santa Barbara art community takes over the strand area on weekends. A unique painting of a golfer teeing off from one inaccessible tiny island to another during a violent storm, I can relate, achieving the impossible, but only in the mind's eye. On to the Rusack Winery, outside of Los Olivos, for a taste of the grape! The girls scored, but myself and number one buddy held out for our big 2 cases of Pinot Noir purchase at the Lucas Winery in Solvang. When in Rome do as the Romans do! Dine on the wharf in Santa Barbara!

6-19-06 SHERWOOD FOREST GOLF CLUB (C 104, J 93) in Sanger just east of Fresno, is in the foot hills of the Sierra Mountains. The snow melt makes the King River, which comes into play on a great many occasions particularly high this time of year, and as my driving skills have a tendency to be attracted to water, there were multiple opportunities to be distracted by and stare at the huge trout. All of my elementary school teachers would attest to my world renowned skill at the thousand yard stare, at which I am unexcelled. One of our playing partners was in the marines with our son and also a bartender at the Silver Dollar. The entire bar is inlaid with silver dollars over which the occasional pitchers of beer were passed.

6-20-06 Just up the road is the SIERRA MEADOWS COUNTRY CLUB (C 98, J 88) somewhere between Oakhurst and Ahwahnee. This place is incredibly lush, hilly and comes highly recommended if your ultimate destination is Yosemite National Park, Bass Lake or any of the other lakes in the area otherwise it a good piece off Highway99. Paired with a father and son who come here every year, on vacation from Arizona!

6-21-06 The BARTLEY CAVANAUGH GOLF CLUB (C 87, J 88) in south Sacramento is a links style course with lots of mounds, water, narrow fairways, postage size greens with mean gathering areas where all chips seem to have a tendency to run. Paired with a father and son twosome, they were putting their fathers' day presents to good use. Spent the evening bar hopping downtown Chico reminiscing the days our .2 daughter used to go to school here. Bicycles still all over the place for any patron to use on their way to the next destination!

6-22-06 The BIDWELL PARK GOLF COURSE (C 91, J 96) provided for an interesting round. Our two some were local residents who offered a great deal of course management advice. But the long narrow greens, mature oak trees, The Big Chico Creek which is clean and pretty, the rough is brutal so we are not too sure they were of much real assistance. Although we were following the ladies club there was not the slightest hold up. As it turned out their slowest member who was 101 years young dropped out after the front nine complaining of the heat, which was 105 degrees. What a wimp! We have stayed with our friends in Redding on several occasions, but this time they were helping their kids manage an upscale wine bar restaurant. We were obligated to taste test a number of their specials which are cooled and powered magically by nitrogen. Don't ask! Eventually I went back to my favorite of the day, Coors light!

6-23-06 Today we were paired with two intriguing amateur astronomers in town for a convention of their hobby. The GOLD HILLS GOLF COURSE (C 93, J 92) is nicely maintained, hilly, surrounded by very attractive homes, but a bit on the pricey side, by our standards. The Sacramento River Park in downtown is a good 20 degrees cooler because of its proximity to the river. The park bridge was constructed as a giant sundial.

6-24-06 Some dummy neglected to make a tee time at the Shasta Resort. Can you imagine a resort course being booked solid on a Saturday? Apparently they didn't know who we were! In any event we moved on to GRANTS PASS GOLF COURSE (C 103, J 95). Morning tee times are imperative when the midday temperature gets into the 100's. The discomfort factor really detracts from the game and

appreciation of how nice the course could have otherwise been. The quaint old downtown with all its antique shops really warrants a brief tour, but we opted for the air conditioned room versus the misery factor of the real world.

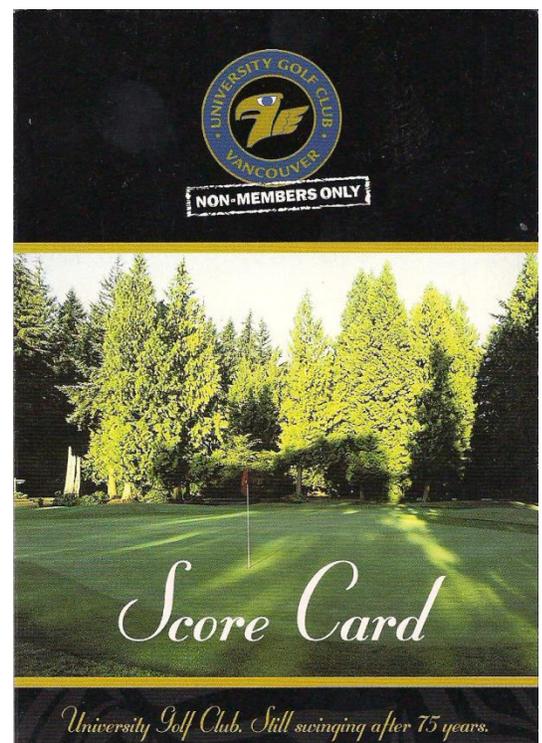
6-25-06 We were somewhat fortunate to follow the Oregon Special Olympics Golf Team, God bless them! TRYSTING TREE GOLF COURSE (C 90, J 99) a links style course in Corvallis is quite the challenge, they have not gone out of their way when it comes to marking where the next tee box might be. You have to pay particular attention to where the group in front is heading when it comes to navigating from one hole to the next. It wasn't hard to recognize the old stoners we passed on the interstate. Old V.W. bus painted with faded psychodillic colors, driver with a long white pony tail, cruising along about 30 M.P.H. and holding on for dear life, with an expression of abject fear, as if he were not in complete control of his 400 M.P.H. rocket sled .

6-26-06 Followed a best ball tournament of state employees and their vendors at the RIVERSIDE GOLF CLUB (C 94, J 92) of Chelalis was another special treat. We figured there must have been significant bets involved, or they were all virgin golfers, or they had never played best ball before. The waiting gene must be part and parcel of the genetic makeup required of state employees? The greens were in good shape, water hazards on most holes, so you could have multiple opportunities to get into difficulties. She who has more confidence in her driving skills than anyone else in the car got the opportunity to drive through Portland during the morning rush hour and the Seattle, time to get home, evening rush.

6-27-06 The Mukilteo-Clinton Ferry to Whidbey Island is the shortest way to the HOLMES HARBOR GOLF CLUB (C 77, J 80) in Freeland. This course was a cross between a par 3 and a regulation size course built on a very photogenic prominence overlooking the Harbor, all up and down hill with the occasional side hill lies, nothing about this place is remotely flat. There is a restaurant-bar in Coupeville with an interesting history well worth the visit.

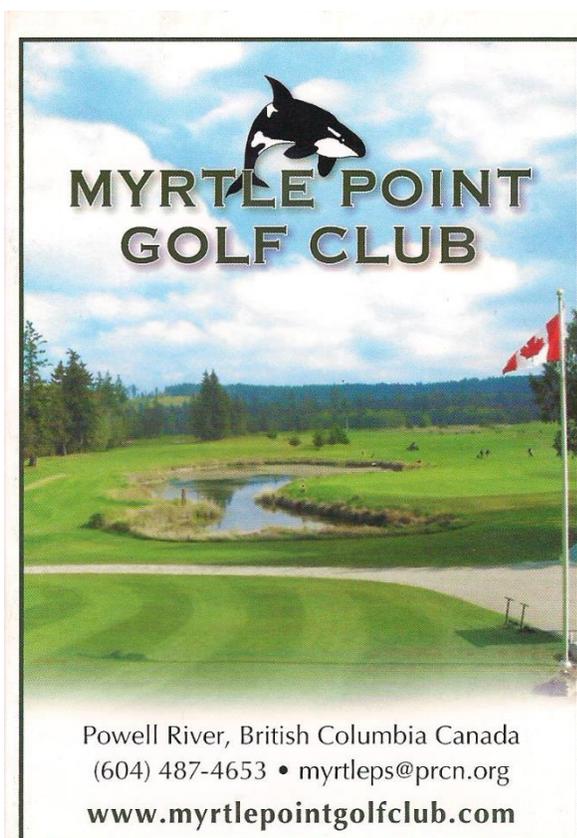
6-28-06 Today we began as a five some as one of the men was scheduled for brain surgery, but could only get in nine holes. What an inconvenience, can you imagine letting a little thing like brain surgery interfere with a round of golf? LAKE PADDEN GOLF COURSE (C 95, J 93) of Bellingham is set in a magnificent forest which truly muffles any noise of ball striking. However this same forest consumed a goodly number of balls. Crossed the border into British Columbia! The Park Plaza on Broadway must have the best view of downtown Vancouver set against the mountains just north of the city and not only that, but Earls across the street provided the opportunity to experience Canadian beers.

6-29-06 The UNIVERSITY GOLF COURSE (C 87, J 89) could be described as a forested island situated in the middle of the city. Our early morning starting time was part of a shotgun start due to there being another afternoon tournament shotgun. The resident



coyotes seemed quite healthy and oblivious to our presence or their urban location. They have adapted very well to city life. Drove through downtown Vancouver, across the Lions Gate Bridge, a shore line drive through West Vancouver, to Horseshoe Bay for a delightful ferry ride to Langdale and on to Sechelt! Wish we had stayed at Pebbles, where we enjoyed dinner, instead of the no star motel we had reserved. Anyway, she who sleeps with one eye open in sleaze bag motels allowed that I would not be accosted in the middle of the night and was able to get some sleep. What a gentleman!

6-30-06 Breakfast at McDonalds with our new best friend, the blaster, who apparently makes his living blowing things up for a mining company. SECHELT GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB (C 90, J 94) is another friendly links style venue with plenty of slopes, wide fairways and large greens. Daniel Boone here couldn't seem to find our diversionary tour of Pender Harbor on the short drive to Earls' Cove where we caught the Saltery Bay Ferry. The B.C. Ferry Line is excellently maintained and provides mini cruises. If you are ever in the area be sure to stay at the Beach Gardens Resort, just outside of Powell River, It overlooks the Malaspina Strait, has a nice restaurant and bar and comes highly recommended by she who doesn't enjoy sleeping with one eye open. The entertainment for the evening was provided by our neighbor who invited us to the retirement party of his forest service superintendent. We absolutely know he enjoyed the evening immensely as the crows were busy working over a huge puddle outside his room.



7-01-06 Why is there a corral in the middle of the MYRTLE POINT GOLF COURSE (C 89, J 87) in Powell River? Glad you asked! It's an elk corral. It seems the elk have a taste for what grows along the rough and fairways. Not only that but they convert this vegetation into what's called scat which is considerably more profuse and sizeable than the occasional goose grease found on our fairways and their hooves also do a number on the greens. Consequently, because of this behavior they are rounded up and shipped off to Santa's wonderland or some other fantastic destination, but most assuredly not some fast food franchise. After inquiring why the herd wasn't thinned out during hunting season, the following explanation was offered. Some studious elk must have read the statute regarding the discharge of fire arms inside city limits, so the first shot of hunting season brings the entire elk population into town where it is perfectly safe. They have adapted very well to their human species neighbors, a veritable Northern

Exposure scenario. Ergo the corral! Another mini cruise from Powell River across the Georgia Strait to Little River on Vancouver Island! Initially we thought they had arranged the fire works for our

edification, however as it turns out it happened to be Canada Day. Almost achieved sainthood today as our accommodations at the Campbell River Resort were not only superb, overlooking the river itself, but we are staying in one place for several days. As everyone knows, fireworks begin after sunset, but waiting for the sun to set this far north can be a daunting experience pacing the clock with Molson's Canadian.

7-02-06 Instead of yelling FORE! After an errant shot, the locals here at the SEQUOIA SPRINGS GOLF CLUB (C 91, J 81) in Campbell River yell Fore Left or Fore Right, which is somewhat confusing unless you know the location of the clubhouse. Magnificent club house, the course itself which was well forested, had short narrow fairways, which probably accounted to my having the best round of golf ever, and oh yeah the greens were rather small. After checking out the waterfront and a wood carving contest they hold along the beach we returned to the patio of our resort lounge to enjoy the river, eagles, fishermen, kids riding inner tubes, canoes, trees that had been rendered into huge carvings, and some First Nation ladies who were nice enough to share a little of their culture.

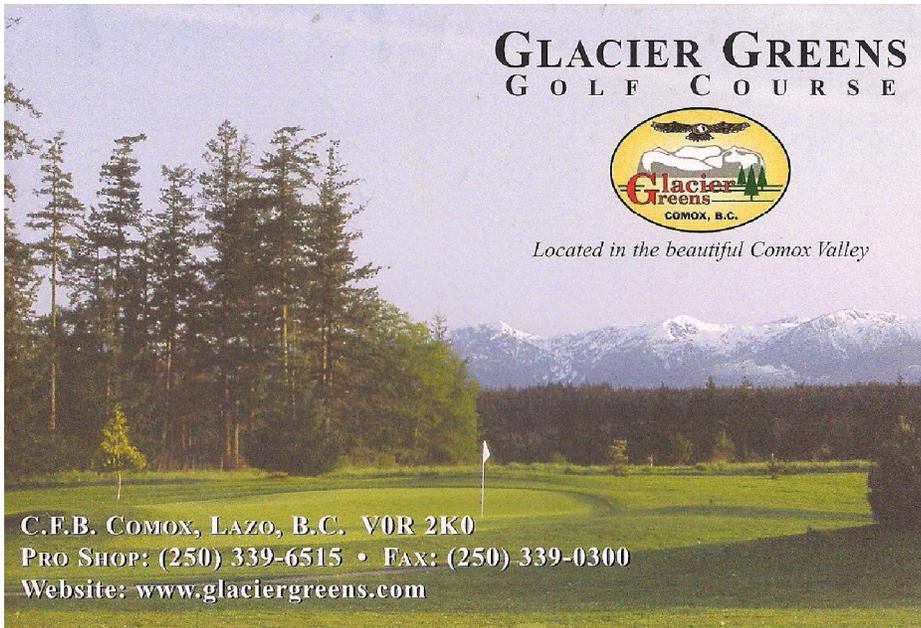
7-03-06 Really unique father son twosome we were paired with today at the STOREY CREEK GOLF CLUB (C 100, J 91). Dad is a retired Beaver pilot. He compares this airplane to a huge pickup truck with wings that he flew to various lumber camps, apparently very utilitarian, considering all the explanations for its' uses. Junior embosses golf balls with corporate and various other logos, and like a bartender who drinks his mistakes, brings these mismarked balls home to dad, who promptly tees them up and places them as far out in the Strait of Georgia as possible. The excuse for so many 3 putts is the enormous greens, in any event that's my excuse and I'm sticking with it. There seem to be an inordinate number of female employees that do the gardening, mowing, starting, equipment operation so our best guess is there is an available female work force versus cheap immigrant labor. Deer love to eat most flowers, but the landscapers have discovered that marigolds are not the flower of choice for Bambi. Had dinner at Moxie's in the harbor followed by a last night in the resort bar regaling our 1st nation friends with our in depth knowledge of American Indian lore acquired from years and years of studying western reruns.

7-04-06 Today the pairing was with two friends, one who had just flown in from Bermuda and the other was somehow involved in producing movies. The CROWN ISLAND RESORT AND GOLF COMMUNITY (C 84, J 87) is incredibly expensive by our standard, well designed, but in any event we had a successful round, this coming from two recovering alcoholics. The conversation covered forestry, the oil sands in Calgary and upscale housing around the course. We learned from our partners that Ernie Els said the easiest shot in golf is the fourth putt. And Ben Hogan said the way to cut 5 strokes off your game is to eliminate the easy par threes. The B.C. travel bureau had made reservations for us in Comox for another extended stay. This is a great service to be aware of. The 4th of July is no big holiday here.

7-05-06 Having driven past the SUNNYDALE GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB (C 95, J 94) yesterday our expectation was this course would be a cake walk, the opportunity for some low scores, because at first glance it appeared to be absolutely flat. Anyway, what man proposes, Allah disposes! And boy did he dispose of that notion. The fairways were beyond bumpy which we attributed to the land having been forested in the distant past and never adequately graded. The small greens were hard to hold. Two ancient duffers with their own eclectically tricked out carts were our partners. The club pro and starter

each had a hickory stick collection that would be the envy of any connoisseur of golf memorabilia, these clubs were all acquired mostly from local garage sales. There are two highways going through Courtenay, 19 and 19A. Canadians have this tendency to finish every sentence or remark with AYE! So getting directions here is very entertaining.

7-06-06 The GLACIAL GREENS GOLF COURSE (C 94, J 95) is a very attractive must play military course that is adjacent to the Comox airport in use by both the military and commercial airlines. Canadian military pilot trainees must first learn to handle glider flight, so that provided a pleasant distraction during our round. The deer are so abundant we wondered if they actually needed lawn mowers. After



few beers with our partners, retired postal employees, and we found out many Canadians become snowbirds to the Lompoc area. Great monthly golf packages seem to be the attraction. The Black Fin, a harbor watering hole and restaurant, provided a terrific view of the bay, forests and mountains. This sort of atmosphere makes one a bit mellow, we had a little difficulty

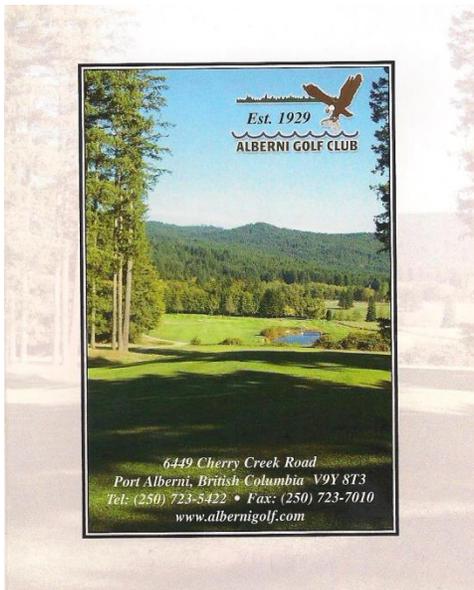
tearing ourselves away.

7-07-06 Our young partners today could hit the ball a ton, but of course, not in the desired direction. The COMOX GOLF COURSE (C 99, J 86) has nine holes, with two sets of tees, one block off the main drive, right in the middle of downtown. Once again the deer are oblivious and just consider us as an inconvenient intrusion of their habitat. She who loves animals, but doesn't want to own one, became concerned after hitting one off the tee box, but got over it when another deer, against which her ball came to rest in the sand trap completely ignored her and had no inclination to move, they are so proximate that you might almost consider them of the petting zoo variety. Another afternoon drive through paradise to the Qualicum-Parkside area where we are actually staying for a week, courtesy of Vacation Rental By Owner or (VRBO on your computer). In another life this would be an easy choice where to live, 20 golf courses within 20 miles, no brainer. Oh Well, the stuff fantasies are made of, except people really do live here.

7-08-06 QUALICUM BEACH MEMORIAL (C 92, J 84) is another well maintained challenging course with 9 holes and two sets of tees. Once again we are paired up with a father son twosome. Dad has a customized golf cart with a pneumatic chair lift and swivel to accommodate his disability and are we ever impressed by the way he has adapted, because it does not appear to have adversely affected his

game. It is wonderful that this kind of technology is available so people with the desire do not have to become house bound. The view of the snowcapped mountains across the Strait of Georgia is really something to behold. What a way to remember their veterans. Downtown Qualicum Beach is a quaint community that is complete in every respect. Stopped by The French Creek Pub for appies, which is Canadian for appetizers. Crab cakes, shrimp and fried glands or clams as the case may be, and yes Alice there is a Santa Claus, they had both Molson's and LaBatts.

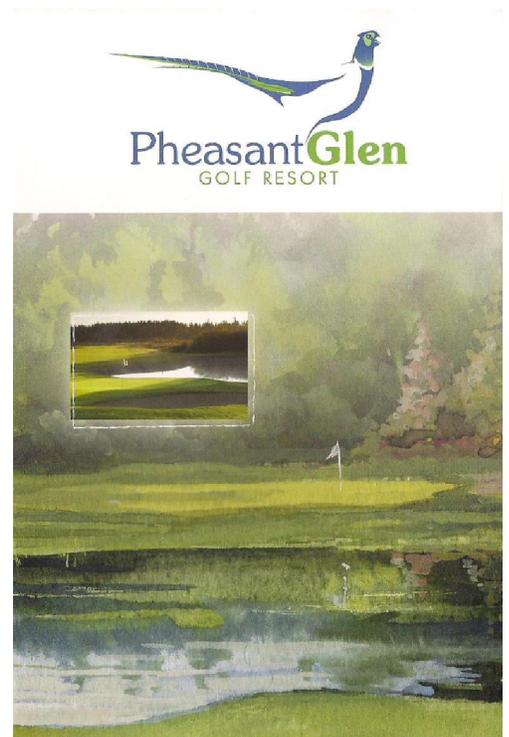
7-09-06 Paired up with an elderly couple today at the EAGLE CREST GOLF COURSE (C 95, J 108). They live on the course, and taught us a few new golf terms. An Eskimo shot is called a Tukuluk, or in our parlance, took a look, there is supposedly no peeking in golf. Placing the hands above the ears with all ten fingers extended is a "Moose". This notifies the scorer you achieved a ten. This course meanders through a housing tract, but the homes are well disguised by the forest. A little libation commenced our post card writing seminar. We've run away from home and are never coming back, as if!



7-10-06 You have to wonder what took so long for someone as frugal as me to buy the 2 for 1 golf discount book. Do yourself a favor and get the book at the first available opportunity. Played our round today with two young college men who double as hockey players and like to brag about their town being home to an N.H.L. referee. Imagine hockey players in Canada! If there are any indications of this country's youth, the future of Canada is in good hands. The PORT ALBERNI GOLF COURSE (C 89, J 87) built in 1929 with its snowcapped mountains is an absolute majestic Alpine setting. During the Alaskan earthquake Port Alberni, which is set in a fjord about 50 miles from the Pacific Ocean suffered a catastrophic tsunami disaster, losing many residents. They have long since recovered.

7-11-06 Today we were paired with two different twosomes. They must have had something on their agenda or perhaps our deodorant was lacking. In any event the ARROWSMITH GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB (C 72, J 76) was most enjoyable, one of the guys was retired Canadian navy who spent a number of years training and stationed in San Diego. The course which is named for the local mountain is lush but the greens seemed very hard to read. Does illiteracy have anything to do with reading greens? Parkside seems to be more of an amusement, families with children, resort oriented community than that of the more laid back Qualicum Beach.

7-12-06 Well today was a complete rain out so we took a drive out to the PHEASANT GLEN GOLF RESORT course we were to have

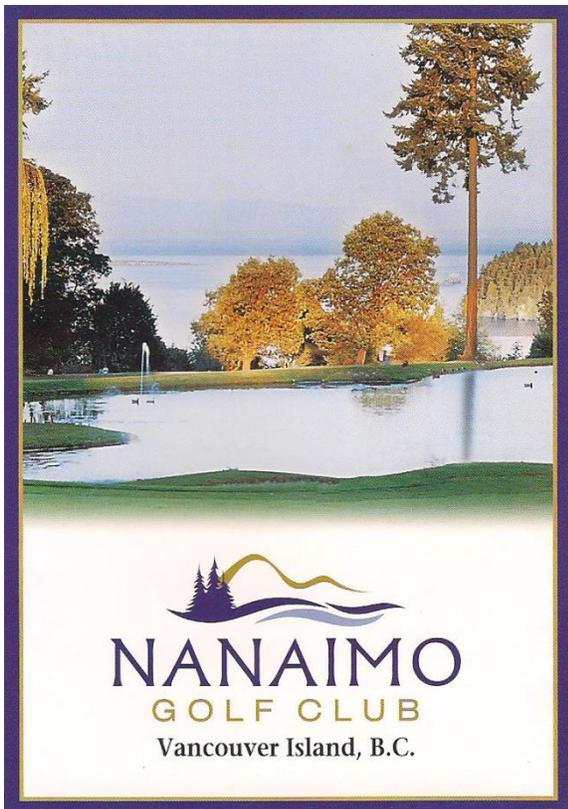


played, then on down to Nanoose Bay, not many treasures in the antiquing department. Very quiet reading and resting rainy day!

7-13-06 Another magnificent forested setting with a father son pairing at the MORNINGSTAR INTERNATIONAL COURSE (C 91, J 96). The day began somewhat rainy and blustery, but not enough to discourage us. Playing with someone familiar with the course helped save a number of strokes as the dog legs on both the card and what's perception are a bit deceiving, dad is a judge and son a movie producer. Just an observation, there is a huge driver in front of the club house that may be considered among the largest in the world and another, isn't it amazing how many automobiles you see here in Canada that have British Columbia license plates? BOOO!

7-14-06 We needed to drive past Nanaimo, our destination, in order to find the COTTONWOOD GOLF COURSE (C 87, J 94) in Cassidy, with a little help from our friends the R.C.M.P. Another interesting pairing, one we called the German, which may have had something to do with his accent and the other had the longest black socks, at least they weren't fishnet, but then everyone can't be fashion mavens like us. The course started out wide and flat, so I'm thinking converted pasture, wrong, because then it entered the impenetrable forest. There were wooden fences in front of two of the tee boxes placed to discourage driving into their protected streams. Very boisterous frogs! Women employees seem to be the rule rather than the exception. Another miraculous selection by he who can occasionally does something right, the Best Western Dorchester.

7-15-06 There seems to have been a little confusion as our tee time was only good for nine holes at the WINCHELSEA VIEW GOLF CLUB (C 45, J 47) in Lantzville, there being a tournament unbeknownst to me. Another magnificent view of the Strait of Georgia, I need to share something with you, whoever is in charge of landscaping this province did a terrific job. Toured Lantzville and the Canadian Tire Store which has solar lit pup tents and all manner of camping gear I wish existed during our camping days.



There is a passenger ferry to Protection Island, guess where it docks, that's right at a floating pub, where we decided to have a pint before walking around the island. Yeah, that's likely to happen, a pint, what's the point of a pint? Anyway the island is charming. The jazz place up the street was disappointing, wish we'd eaten at the hotel dining room instead.

7-16-06 It just doesn't seem fair, after having played so many magnificent courses their beauty begins to be taken for granted when each new place is as beautiful as the previous. Now I begin to understand the quandary judges must experience in selecting Miss Universe. Each explanation is so completely inadequate. The NANAIMO GOLF COURSE (C 97, J 90) is another gem, as was the retired couple from Scotland. We exchanged golf jokes, but I got the sense that my

American sense of humor came across a bit crass. Another (V.R.B.O) one week rental, this time an adorable cottage overlooking Mill Bay! Did our obligatory shopping at the local market and set in all the necessities, followed by a healthy dinner of oreos and beer.

7-17-06 Today was one of those days when you strike the ball well but the score card reflects a different level of play. DUNCAN MEADOWS GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB (C 90, J 105) was a tough nut to crack with blind holes, links style rough and rolling hills. Laundry day in Mills Bay! Enjoyed my first H. Upmann Cuban cigar in forty years, relaxing on the deck, staring at the view! Keeping the rum and vodka in the refrigerator preserves the ice supply as the two old ice trays had difficulty keeping up the production level we require.

7-18-06 Ho Hum! Just another day in paradise or the local version anyway! COWICHAN GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB (C 103, J 89), provided the atmosphere and retired couple for another wonderful golfing experience. These two are now local to the area, having retired from the navy and relocating from their old home in Manitoba. More forests, views of the bay from our deck, it's tough but somebody has to do it.

7-19-06 MARCH MEADOWS GOLF COURSE (C 99, J 100) in the town of Honeymoon Bay is located on Lake Cowichan and absolutely worth the drive. If you are an R.V. person or fisherman this is where you need to be. It is another 9 hole course with two sets of tee boxes with lumpy and tiered fairways, forested of course, the greens are deceiving and we read too much into what we thought were breaks when there were none. Home course to Dawn Coe-James a Canadian ladies professional! There was the constant background sound of passing logging trucks, by now it should be a veritable desert. Late lunch in Cowichan Bay on the water, and if I ever come back this is where we'll stay, not that our place isn't nice, but this is beyond special. What a change of pace, eating in, grilled cheese and tomato soup on the deck.

7-20-06 There was this version of homeless people that we played with today, snow birds of sorts with a huge R.V. they head south when the snow flies, they actually volunteered that Lompoc was one of their destinations. In addition they recommended "Tour 18" if we're ever in Houston, it is made up of 18 replica signature holes from the elite golf courses of the world. The ARBUTUS RIDGE GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB (C 98, J 93) is actually close to the cabin. On leaving the course on the way to dinner we stopped and gave this couple a jump start. Across from the restaurant patio is a college campus. You should see how meticulous this croquet club was in the setting up of their course. Every wicket and post was placed with exacting measurements while being observed by two members of each club. Do they take their croquet seriously here or what? The folks we helped out treated us to dinner and invited us over to their house for a night cap.

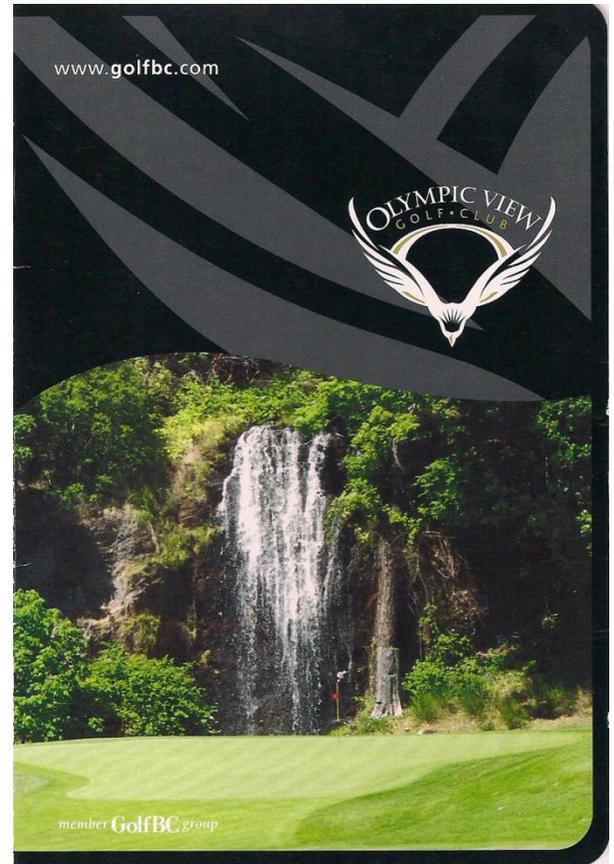
7-21-06 MOUNT BRENTON (C 94, J 92) in Chemainus turned out to be a scorcher even being so close to the water. We had an excellent guide on another flawless course, the 18th hole was particularly memorable, dog leg right, down a steep hill to the lake and the green just on the other side. Really neat town with lots of old brick buildings and murals depicting scenes from nature, animals and the 1st Nation people. Drove back up to Nanoose Bay for an evening at the incredibly expensive Fairwinds Resort and

the opportunity to play their course tomorrow! No air conditioning, cross ventilation, windows and a fan that was absolutely inadequate.

7-22-06 We were exhausted from a miserably hot night and complete lack of sleep, maybe we should play under these circumstances more often because the scores were quite good. Our accomplices at the FAIRWINDS GOLF CLUB (C 90, J 89) were excellent players with tons of course knowledge. In addition to Bambi, the wild life exposure today was of the flying kind, eagles, white swans and vultures. Perhaps the vultures were sensing the effect heat might have on old geezers, something I'd probably prefer not to know. A semi long truly scenic drive to Victoria where we checked into the Travelers Inn and spent the evening luxuriating in our air conditioning set on snow flake.

7-23-06 There ought to be a law or at least a club policy against allowing golfers to walk this course. There are elevation changes so radical the cart struggled on occasion, and once again the temperature was brutal, elevated tee boxes and greens, one of the guys was diabetic, but amazingly they survived, barely. The OLYMPIC VIEW GOLF COURSE (C 97, J 94) gets its name because you can see the Olympic mountains in Washington from here. This course is so idyllic many of the features are used for wedding pictures, the water falls, an island setting typical of their northwest rain forest. After rehydrating with our partners we repaired to Spinnakers on the inner Victoria harbor and commenced the further replacement of lost body fluids and eventually a great dinner.

7-24-06 The starter assigns an adoptive hole to each group, which means fix all the dings and police the area for butts and such. The CORDOV BAY GOLF COURSE (C 104, J 95) is not



particularly difficult, which was a nice switch as we are getting a little weary on our golfing marathon. We did our best, this last day in Canada, to further stimulate the local economy. After checking in the car at the ferry terminal for a very peculiar customs check, we walked around downtown Victoria spreading good will. The ferry crossing of the Juan de Fuca Strait to Port Angeles was a little

wobbly, with a few significant rolls and yaws thrown in for good measure. The Super 8 was a challenge to locate and our arrival was too late to argue about the king size cot in the veritable closet we were assigned. Well here we are back in the good old United States of America.

7-25-06 DISCOVERY BAY GOLF COURSE (C 100, J 85), formerly named Chevy Chase, of Port Townsend is a little remote from any population center, so you have to wonder, how could they possibly survive financially unless some timber baron made it his private Brigadoon, certainly not from the tourist who drops by once in a lifetime. Today was big boy pants weather, overcast and drizzle, but quite a welcome change. This is another must play course if you are in the area and have map quest, an absolute find, well worth the detour. Port Townsend is a must see community with stately mansions, sturdy ancient brick buildings downtown, that lend an air of permanency and by the way they are all occupied, not abandoned as other places that have fallen on hard times. I'm on a motel roll again, the Aladdin is right on the bay, when the tide is in the water comes up almost to the window. Today our culinary cravings were devoted to a Mexican food fix and crab cakes.

7-26-06 There was a very amusing diminutive Indian veteran retired from the 24th Infantry Division who couldn't stop bragging about the white woman he married. I'm imagining he wasn't so boisterous at home considering his size and having a wife who could double for Ma Kettle. The LAKE LIMERICH COUNTRY CLUB (C 93, J 106) of Shelton is another 9 hole course with 2 sets of tees plunked down in another terrific setting. The drive from Port Townsend to Shelton is 80 miles almost entirely along the Hood Canal, living along this road would require that your shopping list be complete, otherwise it's a long drive back for the cigarettes.

7-27-06 The THREE RIVERS GOLF COURSE (C 92, J 94) in Kelso was nice enough, but we probably wouldn't play here again as the town is absolutely depressing and uncomfortable to drive through. The city council desperately needs to take a lesson from many of the other older communities we've been through. A long drive to Eugene where we checked into the second shittiest motel ever, so much for being on a roll of picking good motels, this place was a dump. The planets must have fallen out of alignment.

7-28-06 She who is the best golfer in the family, shot an honest to goodness hole in one today at the OCEAN DUNES GOLF LINKS (C 101, J 98) of Florence, which by the way is appropriately named. Ocean! Dunes! Links! On the other hand someone else in the family got to emulate Lawrence of Arabia with the occasional trek through the sand in search of errant balls. BAD BALL! Paired with two retirees who divide their time between Florence and Parumph! She who hits holes in one, got the opportunity to buy a round for everyone in the clubhouse. After getting home there was a letter with a newspaper clipping from the local Florence paper documenting the occasion. It was a long awesome drive down the coast to Gold Beach, where once again I pulled one out of my butt, The Gold Beach Breakers, view and all, overlooking the ocean. It was so very windy, the spray was whipped off the edge of the glassy breakers, reminiscent of some painting I may have seen at the Wyland studio. The mail boat ride up the Rogue River is not for the faint of heart.

7-29-06 Once again we were paired with an interesting couple, this time at the SALMON RUN GOLF COURSE (C 91, J 95) in Brookings. Young retirees, not quite ready to lie down and die, so he claims to do some commercial fishing, which I think is more of a recreational nature. Not being a detective myself, but picking up on obvious body language, glances and sarcasm, the misses seems to regard his scheme more as a hole in the water that he keeps pouring her money into. The imagination that went into placing this course in a mountain, forest environment is remarkable. So many elevation changes, running streams, full creeks, dog legs going in every direction, up, down and sideways. A must play if you are ever here, but try to get paired with a local as distances and markings are not adequate. The coast south to Arvada is again inspiring, inspiring me to slow down, because heights would not be my choice way to leave this earth. If you ever hear of me committing suicide by jumping off a bridge, you have been misinformed, it was murder, and there are probably two or three other bodies nearby that I took with me.

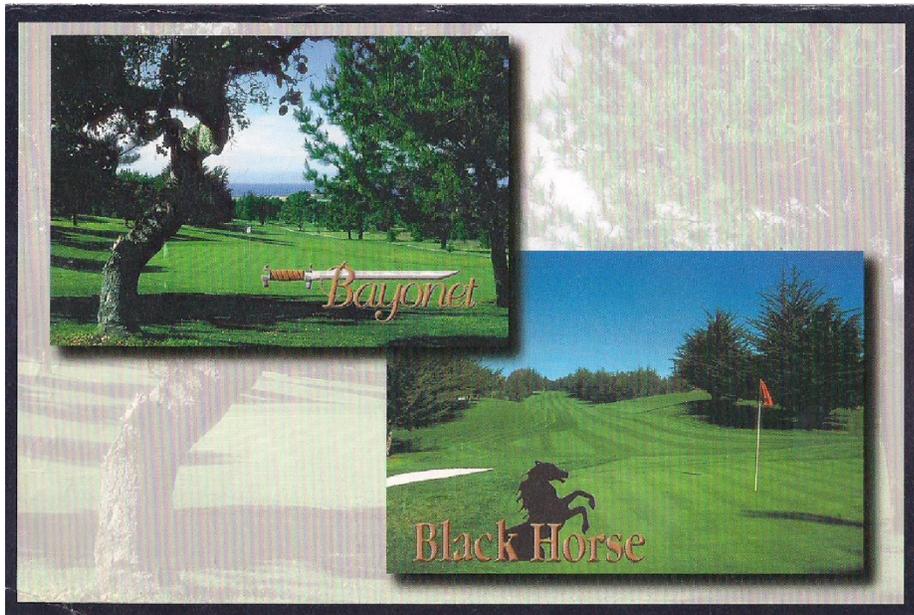
7-30-06 The EUREKA GOLF COURSE (C 91, J 94) is a municipal course of course and a source of income for Eureka, which does not appear to put a penny back into maintenance, and that is a crying shame. The front nine is flat, the back nine has its fair share of trees, hills and water, but the markings are nonexistent, so count on your perception. Highway 101 through the coastal range and Mendocino County is a pleasant drive.

7-31-06 A pair of retired Pacific Bells employees kept us company for most of the round. Wild Turkey, of the avian variety, and Bambi run rampant, as in they are all over the place. The UKIAH MUNICIPAL GOLF COURSE (C 99, J 92) has some nice challenging elevation changes, blind dog legs, deep wide dry creeks, go ahead give it a whack, we'll look for it later. Drove on to Petaluma and stayed with our friends, the wine connoisseurs, for we consider them to be one of the closest human beings who have an inkling as to how to identify what they are drinking without reading the label. Our favorite wine on the other hand is the open bottle in front of us.

8-01-06 Our hosts Jack and Marlene Thorpe treated us to a round of golf and lunch at ADOBE CREEK GOLF CLUB (C 90, J 98). No elevation changes, but a ton of moguls, absolutely well maintained. The nap, a recovery mechanism, for imbibers! Toured downtown Petaluma, followed by dinner at the Washoe Inn, a dedicated historic building. Who would have guessed that Ulysses S. Grant gave a campaign speech here, apparently he had spent time on the west coast early on in his military career, between the Mexican and Civil Wars.

8-02-06 She was gracious enough to allow me to drive the Golden Gate Bridge which as many of you may know is quite a way above the bay, knowing full well I would have preferred cringing on the floor, but practicing my Lamaze breathing technique as loudly as possible we were able to make it across. Thanks are in order for her withholding remarks as to how high we are, or I hope we don't go through the railing, knowing she was dying to make some comment of that nature. Then I got to experience the San Francisco morning rush hour. SHARP PARK GOLF COURSE (C 95, J 100) in Pacifica was our golfing destination of the day. Another ill maintained course and interestingly enough cash only, wonder who does the books. Our partners were one guy who was huge, Man Mountain Dean size and his sidekick the Scotsman, they could have been a Vaudeville act. The wind was constant off the ocean, not sure what

gale force really is, but it was the strongest we've ever had to contend with. The Comfort Inn in Marina, oh yeah, I'm on a roll again.



8-03-06 The military knows how to do things right, work with the cards they've been dealt, BAYONET-BLACK HORSE (C 97, J 96) in Fort Ord is a very nice old army course which we both recommend, if you are ever in the Monterey area. Beau Coupe dog legs, which translates into, many dog legs, the aprons are deceptively long which makes the approach longer than it

appears. Another blustery, overcast drizzly day, but nothing to compare with yesterdays' sailing experience! Pure dumb luck! We got the last room in town, across from the fairgrounds, where we spent the better part of the evening. The rodeo is in Paso Robles, who'd of figured, must be every cowboy in California is putting in an appearance. The cleaning crew at the motel must love this weekend, what with the stuff that sticks to your boots getting traipsed through every room. Cow puckie everywhere! The beer was cold and the exhibits entertaining!

8-04-06 In addition to every fairway being contoured, hilly and narrow it was particularly difficult for recovering alcoholics. The HUNTER RANCH GOLF COURSE (C 97, J 95) outside of Paso Robles will be hearing from us some time in the future so we can give it a fair chance to really prove itself. The drive over to Morro Bay is always an adventure. The Blue Sail Inn on the bluff is very walkable down to the embarcadero, once again my motel choice credibility was reestablished. Clam strips and chips on the water with entertainment provided by the local harbor seals.

8-05-06 Today's round was at CHALK MOUNTAIN GOLF CLUB (C 93, J 94) in Atascadero where it would be advisable to have a member as a tour director so you don't have to drive ahead to explore what the next shot holds in store. There is a prison for the criminally insane adjacent to the course, probably filled to capacity with screaming golfers. The main drag in Morro Bay is closed for a street festival and farmers market on Saturday. Missed the Friends of The Library book sale, but was allowed to participate in the celebration of clean clothes at the Laundromat.

8-06-06 MORRO BAY GOLF COURSE (C 91, J 93) has always been very friendly to us. And once again as a refresher, everything still rolls toward the far corner of the bay, and yet, I am still a nonbeliever, or perhaps just a very slow learner as my teachers would probably suggest. Actually paired up with an

elementary school teacher who comes here many times each year for a little relief from the chaos associated with the career he has chosen. He may be a prime candidate for Atascadero! Dinner on the embarcadero after experiencing several bars along the way!

8-07-06 We've admitted to running out of starch, so tomorrow will be our last day on the road. Today we were paired with two Hawkeyes, visiting by way of Fresno, on summer vacation from the University of Iowa. We were instructed by the starter to starter ourselves as he was overwhelmed being the cart guy, pro shop guy, helping in the restaurant and whatever. DAIRY CREK GOLF COURSE (C 96, J 90) outside of San Luis Obispo almost allowed for an excellent round, however, excuses, excuses, excuses! Another pleasant last night in Morro Bay!

8-08-06 Played nine holes with our daughter-in-laws great grandfather, an amazing man, with terrific stamina, still able to get around the course at his age, I should be so lucky. PISMO STATE BEACH GOLF COURSE (C 33, J 35) was our last round followed with lunch and the long, long drive home.



TOWN	COURSE	TOWN	COURSE
Sanger CA	Sherwood Forest	Parkside BC	Morningstar
Ahwahnee CA	Sierra Meadows	Cassidy BC	Cottonwood
Sacramento CA	Bartley Cavanaugh	Lantzville BC	Winchelsea View
Chico CA	Bidwell Park	Nanaimo BC	Nanaimo GC
Redding CA	Gold Hills	Duncan BC	Duncan Meadows
Grants Pass OR	Grants Pass GC	Duncan BC	Cowichan
Corvallis OR	Trysting Tree	Honeymoon Bay BC	March Meadows
Chehallis WA	Riverside	Cobble Hill BC	Arbutus Ridge
Freeland WA	Holmes Harbor	Chemainus BC	Mount Breton
Bellingham WA	Lake Padden	Nanoose Bay BC	Fairwinds
Vancouver BC	University	Victoria BC	Olympic View
Sechelt BC	Sechelt G&CC	Victoria BC	Cordova Bay
Myrtle Point BC	Myrtle Point GC	Port Townsend WA	Discovery Bay
Campbell River BC	Sequoia Springs	Lake Limerick WA	Lake Limerick CC
Campbell River BC	Storey Creek	Kelso WA	Three Rivers
Courtenay BC	Crown Isle	Florence OR	Ocean Dunes
Courtenay BC	Sunnydale	Brookings OR	Salmon Run
Comox BC	Glacier Green	Eureka CA	Eureka GC
Comox BC	Comox GC	Ukiah CA	Ukiah Muni
Qualicum Beach BC	Qualicum Beach Muni	Petaluma CA	Adobe Creek
Qualicum Beach BC	Eaglecrest	Pacifica CA	Sharp Park
Port Alberni BC	Alberni	Seaside CA	Bayonet/Black Horse
Qualicum Beach BC	Arrowsmith	Paso Robles CA	Hunter Ranch
Qualicum Beach BC	Pheasant Glen	Atascadero CA	Chalk Mountain