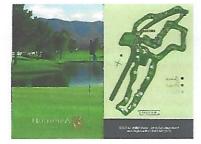
SUMMER 2019

June 2 (Sun) Not quite O dark thirty, but a timely start (5:30). Jenny the starter at Ashwood Golf Course (C 89, J 73) in Apple Valley, CA got us out at 7:10 vs our 8:30 tee time for a 2 ½ hour

round from the front tees on the Mesquite and Sycamore 9's. Lunch at Taco Bell right next to the world's largest rectal thermometer in Baker. The Raiders new stadium, a steel skeleton, under construction, right next to the freeway in Las Vegas is progressing nicely. Checked into the Virgin Gorge Casino in Mesquite. Cheryl did great at video poker or some version thereof, me not so much. Casino buffet. 350 miles.

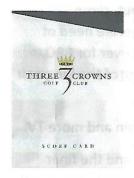


June 3 (Mon) We hit off the yellow and red tees at Wolf Creek (C 103, J 95) in Mesquite, NV. a highly rated U.S. course by Golf Digest. Very expensive by our standards \$145 each. The lay out is beautiful but vicious and the cart path is a 10 on the sphincter scale, which will be a true test of anyone's pucker power. We thought a 7 A.M. tee time would get us on the road early, but following a group of twenty very poor to mediocre players put that idea to rest. The 5 plus hour round, time zone change and a drive of 370 miles finally got us to the Zermatt Utah Resort Spa in Midway, UT a bit later than anticipated. Thankfully the room was more than expected. Room service and the best Moscow Mule ever compensated for a long day.



June 4 (Tues) The Wasatch Mountain State Park (C 103, J 93) Lake course in Midway, UT. Our intent was to play the Mountain course but it was hosting the Senior Men's State Amateur Championship. Very attractive, well maintained, perfect grass, with the Wasatch-Cache National Park mountains for backdrop. Took another one of my famous short cuts from Midway to Jackson, something over 300 miles. Not quite as attractive as anticipated. The Jackson Super 8 was the most expensive Super 8 I've ever experienced. \$205. Interesting dinner at Sidewinders.

June 5 (Wed) The starter at Teton Pines (C 97, J 89) in Jackson Hole, WY. got us out early even though non-members generally can't go before 12. He was probably sympathetic to our upcoming drive to Casper. There was one group of members on the course who let us play through, so it turned into a 3-hour round. A number of lakes, reflecting pools of the Teton Mountains, consumed the occasional ball. The course is flat and the fairways seem to be recovering from what was probably frost. They were preparing for a tournament. Another interesting drive, only 170 miles, this one rather slow through the Bridger-Teton National Forest from Jackson Hole through the Wind River Reservation and on to Riverton. No snow on the roads, but considerable depth along the sides and of course the mountain pack didn't seem to have begun its melt. The highway in front of our Super 8 was under construction necessitating a bit of maneuvering to get there.



June 6 (Thur) D-Day. Up early. The drive from Riverton to Three 3 Crowns Golf Club (C X, J X) in Casper was130 miles. If it wasn't for the bunkers, water and heat we might have done a little better. Pleasant pale (white) golf cart girls. The course, what we saw of it was a bit overpriced \$150 for 2 considering its rating. Called it quits after 9. The intent of the day was to drive to Scottsbluff NB and play there tomorrow. However, we got there so early we decided to put in some more mileage. Mistake! No rooms at any inns so we ended up driving to Valentine NB. A total of 540 miles for the day.

June 7 (Fri) Stopped for breakfast at a nice ancient hotel off Highway 20. The fields across northern Nebraska are under water. There probably won't be enough time to get their crops in as the fields can't possibly drain and dry enough in time. The Randolph Community Golf (J 48) got me on and off in no time for the remainder of our drive to Sioux City, IA. Cathy and Larry Henshaw plied us with liquor, not much plying required, the occasional cigar and stuffed us with their famous lowa corn fed tri-tip.



June 8 (Sat) The Bluffs GC in Vermillion, SD. (C 95, J 98) No breakfast as we had to hit the road for an early tee time. Gnats, flies, mosquitos a somewhat humid morning, similar to the last time we played here just after the Missouri flood, with Cathy and Larry. Todd and Marcy hosted a birthday party for Brooklyn at the bowling alley. Checked out the garage sale across the street. Wild rice and BBQ pork chops to tonic. the vodka.





June 9 (Sun) Fox Run GC in Yankton, SD. (C 113, J 110) Larry made breakfast, but it didn't hold off the effects of the uncomfortably cold wet morning round. This is the town Mike Brokaw and his family hail from. Put on my big boy pants when we got back as it was still pretty cold. Todd, Marcy and Brooklyn came over for BBQ chicken and chops. Alcoholism put in an appearance as I fell up the stairs and barked my shin. Yeah! I know it could have been worse if I fell the other direction.

June 10 (Mon) Bid our adieus and hit the road. Sioux City, IA to Cedar Rapids, IA about 250 miles. Keegan and Violet helped us unload the car. Heather and Sean were at work. Dinner was an everything salad which my undernourished body desperately craved.

June 11 (Tues) Took my Martha Stewart golf creation to Michael's for reframing. Why you ask? Because my first attempt at framing left a little bit to be desired. Violet, Keegan and Cheryl were in company to purchase whatever artistic necessities kids can't do without, slime materials, various coloring pens and glitter come to mind. The car was in desperate need of debugging so a visit to the car wash was in order. Heathers friend Carey came over for BBQ. Watched the St. Louis Blues take the Stanley Cup 4-1 followed by the beginning of the longmeir marathon.

June 12 (Wed) Not much to report, lunch at the Red Lobster, gas up the car, rain and more TV.

June 13 (Thur) Indian Creek GC in Cedar Rapids to reintroduce the kids to golf and the finer nuances of driving golf carts, their real passion or primary reason for going to a golf course with their grandparents. Del Taco for a post golf luncheon followed by more Longmeir and a visit to Stuff in search of treasures.

June 14 (Fri) Another visit to Stuff in search of Steven King novels. Drove up to Tony and Kelly's in Evansdale. Vodka, smokes, BBQ and a visit to the emergency clinic for esophageal issues as a result of not chewing my meat thoroughly. Embarrassing!

June 15 (Sat) A visit to the auction in Raymond to look for lawn sprayer and check out the Porsche. Came away with a box of books for free as the winning bidder only wanted something else on the pallet and gave me the books.



June 16 (Sun) Pin Oaks Links (C?, J 87) Breakfast at McDonalds in Manchester, IA This course has been renamed and reconfigured since we last played here. Kelly and Cheryl rode together and their score card has gone missing. The construction in downtown Independence on the main street and bridge over the Wapsipinicon River could not keep us from our appointed rounds and lunch at the Chinese restaurant. Major TV watching.

June 17 (Mon) The day was dedicated to acquiring travel books from AAA. Getting Siri to be more cooperative with a visit to the AT&T store and some shopping at Target.

June 18 (Tues) Started our rainy, but after breakfast at Hardees the sun put in an appearance. Sunny Brae G&CC (J 43) Osage. Crossing the surging Cedar River on the floating bridge was quite the experience. Which will move them into John's top ten 9-hole courses. Acorn Park (J 46) in St. Ansgar is also on the Cedar River, but not hilly at all. The Riceville CC (J 40) was very kind to me with 6 pars. Tony and I worked on leftovers as the girls had gone to Lake Delhi.





June 19 (Wed) Lone Pine CC (J 43) in Colesburg has almost identical parallel holes, up the hill



and then down the hill, repeat for nine holes. Woods Edge GC (J 50) in Edgewood captured two of my balls hit to the center of the fairway, but mysteriously disappeared. There is a lumbermill next to one of the holes. Remembered the aroma of newly sawn oak lumber. Elkader G&CC (J 48) is located outside a neat town on the Turkey River. The course is relatively flat with lots of mature trees. Went to the Hi-Vee super market for vodka, ginger beer and port. Haven't experienced getting zonked in decades. Tony made stuffing and chicken.

June 20 (Thur) Visited Beaver CC and Sunnyside CC both private clubs to see if I could get a member to sponsor me for a round. Both pros gave a positive



response suggesting I call and make a tee time. The inference is that they can probably use the extra green fees. Several garage sales on Prospect one of my favorite streets in Waterloo. The girls returned from Lake Delhi. BBQ burgers and string beans, fresh strawberries lots of TV.

June 21 (Fri) Junie's truck stop for breakfast, got my fix of grits. First day of summer marked by lots of rain. House bound all day so more Longmeir.

June 22 (Sat) More Longmeir and lots of dogs.

June 23 (Sun) After a nutritious donut run we drove back up to Waterloo. Marty was hosting a kid's party where they all got to paint large concrete mushrooms. Who'd Ah Thought! None of them pulled the 40-pound mushrooms over, but they'll probably all grow up to become artists or painters. Headed over to the Best Western in Dubuque. Dinner at Old Chicago was Italian, plenty to eat but not all that terrific.

June 24 (Mon) motel breakfast. Drive by the Dubuque CC to see about getting out but they are closed Mondays. Cheryl and I went up to Eagle point Park to check out the Mississippi River as it was at flood stage and closed to all river traffic. The water level on either side of the lock and



dam was undiscernible. Our next tour stop was at the Julien Dubuque Monument. Cheryl related the story that Julien died while attempting to dive into the Mississippi from the cliff while being chased by Indians. Unfortunately, he landed on the railroad tracks below and was run over by a passing train. Although trains hadn't been invented for another 200 years it makes for an entertaining yarn. The Meadows GC (J 97) score

was adjusted for rain, thunder, lightning and skipping two groups. Dubuque has changed enough that finding our old eating establishments was not doable. The Village Inn had to suffice.

June 25 (Tues) another mediocre motel breakfast before visiting Chip and Nancy Bliss. They had just returned from checking off one of the items from their bucket list. A trip to the big city, New York, covering everything a tourist needs to experience. However, they don't need to go back anytime soon, or ever for that matter. Hung out on their patio before and after having a late lunch at the Yardarm Marina. Lots of yachts, turtles and wonderful reminiscences. Had to leave earlyish as Chip was having a stint on the manana and Nancy a sinus procedure. Aren't the Golden years something? The University of Dubuque, Loris as Clark Colleges are undergoing renovation and incredible growth.

June 26 (Wed) Took highway 151 from Dubuque to Cedar Rapids. We were the recipients of 3 chocolate-chocolate cement mixers from Culvers as well as other edibles.

Sean, Keegan and myself went to the driving range to get the boys some swing time practice. Gave Sean my newly framed Martha Stewart golf creation thing as a donation for Click-Stops golf tournament white elephant auction. Lots and lots of pizza for dinner.

June 27 (Thur) Twin Pines GC (C 101, J 93) in Cedar Rapids is a relatively flat course. Keegan is hitting the ball better and we drank lots of water. Heather drove us to watch Sean play hockey at the Roughriders hockey facility which probably seats 2'000.

June 28 (Fri) An eventful morning at the trampoline park. Violet and Keegan have obviously been here on multiple occasions as their skill level is considerably advanced on all the different stations. We too have advanced from watching Longmeir to Grace and Frankie. Off to Old Town Cedar Rapids to watch the USA women's soccer team trounce the French team 2-1. Drinks on the patio probably had an affect on tomorrows golf tournament. Anyway, that's my excuse.

June 29 (Sat) Click Stop Cares best-ball Golf Tournament in Shellsburg was played under somewhat warm humid conditions. Kelly was concerned about our group hydration. The more beer she drank the thirstier she became and the more beer she drank to overcome this thirst the thirstier she became. And so forth! Our water, liquid, intake must have been sufficient enough to offset alcohol poisoning.

June 30 (Sun) Tim and Nicole hosted a bridal shower at the party barn for Scott and Ali. Lots of the family we hadn't seen in a number of years. Pat and Patty, BJ senior, etc. Their neighbors the Kacinas put on a great Mexican buffet lunch. Milo and James had a joint birthday party at Allan and Jordan's home in Cedar Falls. Heavy rain on the drive back to Sean and Heather's from Cedar Falls to Cedar Rapids.

July 1 (Mon) Picked up Keegan from swim practice. Tipton CC (J 47) surprisingly nicely laid out community course. The 3/30 G&CC was closed due to damage from the storm last night and the Wapsi Oaks CC is closed on Monday. Somewhat of an unproductive day.

is Score Card Compliments of the Following Binks – American Trust & Savings Bank, Lancens, Iowa Constructly State Deart, Cleanory, Servanda, Tipora, West Branch First Trust & Savings Bank, Wheeldard, Dison, Lost Nation, Cleanor, Grand Moseal, Donolau First Trust & Savings Bank, Wheeldard, Dison, Lost Nation, Calamon, Grand Moseal, Donolau

July 2 (Tues) West Liberty CC (J 43) another special community course. Keegan did very well at his swim meet. His take off dive gives him an advantage by not going as deep as the other swimmers. Breathing too often slows him down, but he'll learn to oxygenate and coordinate his breaths.

July 3 (Wed) Checked out the two private country clubs in Cedar Rapids, Elmcrest was an absolute no, but Cedar Rapids was an absolute maybe. Spent the afternoon making reservations for our pilgrimage to Branson.

July 4 (Thur) One of the neighboring communities puts on an entertaining firework display over their lake.

July 5 (Fri) Breakfast at Riley's, seems they moved a few stores from their original location. One of the garage door cables gave up the ghost so we called for an estimate. Got the chance to hang out in the basement recreation room and watch some farfetched action movie starring The Rock.

July 6 (Sat) Toured Menards and Home Depot getting garage door estimates as Sean and Heathers is of the old wooden variety and the newer kind are lighter in weight, metal clad and insulated. Of course, Saturday mornings at Home Depot is kids work shop time. Violet made a wooden car along with every kid in Cedar Rapids. Watched the Sweden vs France woman's soccer match as Violet is becoming quite the soccer player herself. My interest was in evaluating which blond filled out her shorts the best. Laundry and packing day for our Branson trip. Dinner at the 30 Pub.

July 7 (Sun) The Cedar Rapids to Branson drive started at 7:30 and ended at 4:00 that afternoon with 450 miles of "Are we there yet?" beginning not quite out of the driveway. The Grand Country Inn was the ideal place for 2 grandparents and 2 grandchildren. Mini golf outdoors and mini golf in the dark 3-D indoors version. Buffet dinner followed by the on-premises water park.

July 8 (Mon) Branson Hills GC (J 104) Magnificent setting. The kids spent the day at the water park. The Dolly Parton Stampede was spectacular. The kids were anticipating a country western dud, but were pleasantly surprised with all the regalia, noise, celebration, horsemanship and an entire roasted chicken (each) to be eaten with no utensils.



July 9 (Tues) Breakfast at the Cracker Barrel one of our favorite restaurants while on the road. Fritz's Adventure Park had rock, wall, ladder climbing, zip lines, suspension bridges and so many more daring deed features than I can remember, none of which I would have attempted at any time in my life. Although the kids were exhausted they still had enough energy for another go at the water park. Took a ride into old town Branson and had dinner at the Paddle Wheeler restaurant and Marina on Lake Taneycomo. Keegen was quite taken with our attentive waitress Cody as was his grandfather.

July 10 (Wed) Thousand Hills Golf Resort (J 81) relatively short and hilly, even with an early out it was hot. Played with Jim and Ryan, father-son, in town from Wisconsin for his daughters softball tournament. Cheryl took the kids to breakfast buffet where they followed the John



Waters philosophy of spoiling the grandkids. "If you finish all your dessert we'll get you something to eat" Anyway ice cream, soda and pastries is a terrific way to start breakfast or any meal for that matter. After the cat, dog and parrot show we got the opportunity to wait for a stifling hour and a half on the Branson Railway platform. In addition

to riding on a railroad for the first time they can brag that they have also been to Arkansas. Just saying! Next was a tour of the Titanic, the worlds largest museum attraction, according to



their publicity department. In actuality it was a unique experience that we would absolutely recommend. There was an interesting miniature golf mine tram ride



which could not be passed up. The Grand Country Buffet provided another gastronomic experience for kids who until now had never experienced a buffet.

July 11 (Thur) After a parting breakfast buffet it was an 8 and 1/2 hour drive to complete the 1005 mile round trip back to Cedar Rapids. Way too much windshield time. Heather and Sean rewarded us with a home cooked chicken enchilada dinner, relieved to have their children returned in one piece. The vodka and nights sleep were also part of the reward.

July 12 (Fri) Car wash and gas before heading back to Tony and Kelly's in Evansdale. Tony BBQ steak, asparagus and potatoes but not the salad or vodka. Made T-times at Beaver Falls and Sunnyside.

July 13 (Sat) Red Carpet (C?, J 96) after breakfast at Junies Truck Stop. As I remember it, we returned to Red Carpet to celebrate one of Cory Goldsmith parent's birthday. Quite the party and well attended, as it was catered, I think, and plenty to drink.

July 14 (Sun) Visitation rights were the rule of the day starting with Bill and Carol Conrad followed by Bill and Denise Glenny. Cheryl bought 10 of Bill's birds that he welded from knives, forks and spoons. We are talking unique artistic ability. Lastly a visit to Jerry Schmidt's to loll around his converted cattle pond and catch up on his duties with the clients from Harmony House and his volunteering with the food bank.

July 15 (Mon) Other than my haircut the days highlight would be, hands down, Tim's concert on their lawn. His band needed to have an open-air practice as all their gigs have been indoor and the 150 years celebration of the city of Vinton was being held in the park. Neighbors, family, friends, co-workers, children and Leo brought lawn chairs, refreshments and voices. Quite the afternoons and early evening entertainment. The Kacinas provided a huge spread of pizzas. Somebody drove us back to Tony and Kelly's.



July 16 (Tues) Beaver Hills CC (C?, J 94) Rated 2018 IGA # 1 course. Very nice private course, rather empty, pleasant setting with some water and plenty of forest. Cheryl needed her annual Maid Rite hamburger meat fix. The oil light came on so a visit to the neighborhood service department was in order. Cabella's Mexican Restaurant provided our Mexican fix for dinner and the occasional marguerita.

July 17 (Wed) In anticipation for our return trip with visits to Tim and Sue and the Scott and Ali wedding in Colorado Cheryl needed her toes, nails and hair

done. Dillard's for a nicer shirt for me and Target for, whatever. Not knowing when our next visit to Culvers might be, a chocolate-chocolate cement mixer and hamburgers were pretty high on our agenda. Finished Bishops Pawn an interesting novel about the Martin Luther King era and some unanswered questions about his execution.

July 18 (Thur) Sunnyside CC (J 96) An interesting mid-west round of golf. There was a thunder and lightning delay of one hour, 2 holes, siren for lightning and another 1 hour rain delay. Expressed through the last 16 holes in record time, very humid followed by more rain. Chinese pick up for dinner and pack the car for tomorrows drive.

July 19 (Fri) Uneventful drive to Omaha. Skipped playing the Panorama National GC as the heat index was going to be brutally oppressive. Tim and Sue took us to our favorite Liver family restaurant. Not everyone is a liver afficianado, but we do have this in common. Sue took me by Sol's Pawn Shop for another run at my faux Jackson Pollock painting, to no avail. The beginning of our usual marathon Pinochle game.

July 20 (Sat) Lisa, Kevin, Sean, Heather, Keegan, Violet, Tim, Sue, Cheryl and I anyway that's who Tim barbecued for. More pinochle.

July 21 (Sun) Visited a couple of golf courses in Omaha, the Elmwood Park needs to be played when the next opportunity presents itself, an attractive one-hundred-year-old masterpiece, what can be seen of the course through the torrential rain. Kevin's birthday at an upscale pizza place. Cassy put in an appearance for dinner, she has turned out to be quite the looker. Back to their place where Kevin introduced me to his man cave. His autographed baseball collection was special even had some old Brooklyn Dodgers. More pinochle, but Tim is getting tired of his partner, me.

July 22 (Mon) Well, the drive westward from Omaha was interrupted by nine holes at the

Thornridge GC (C 51, J 48) in Milford, NB. We ran out of starch and called it a day at the Ramada Inn in Sterling, CO. What a dump. The bones looked like it was probably nice at one time, just not anymore. No hot water in the sink, soap bars from the travel lodge, breakfast beyond sparse, outside not well maintained. Sean called regarding renting horses for the kids to go on a ride. Done!



July 23 (Tues) Lake Arbor GC (C 49, J 48) Arvada CO. We only played 9 holes as it was getting a bit on the warm side, the drive gave us a starting time a bit later than we're accustomed to and

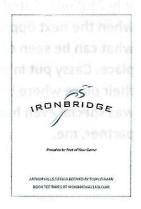


might as well throw in the elevation change. Anyway, that's our excuse. Expedia found the Caravan Inn, Glenwood Springs, CO. a pleasant older motel, much to our liking. There was about 1 mile of highway construction on the 70 near Vail, which took about 1 hour to get through. Lunch at Wendy's in Silverthorn. Don't recall what we did for dinner, but vodka closed out the day.

July 24 (Wed) Used our Daniel Boone skills to find the local liquor store. Procured two cases of Asti-Spumonte, Ali said we could do that as our contribution for the wedding, which we put in the motel room to keep cool. Didn't want them going off in the car while we were parked in the sun. Drove to Carbondale in search of our VRBO which is a bit remote. So Remote! Then on to Basalt to check out Tim and Nicole's VRBO, which was also a little removed from town. About 15 or 20 miles apart so walking over to each others place was not in the cards. But as it turned out both were terrific accommodations for our respective crowds. Took a short cut to tour the town of Carbondale. Partook of an interesting lunch, trout and a salmon cobb salad, at an older restaurant located under the overpass in Glenwood Springs. Discovered Jimmy John's which is a Subway knock off.

July 25 (Thur) Met at Tim and Nicole's after breakfast. Unloaded our wedding stuff and was able to get a tee time at Ironbridge (J 95) for Tim, Quinton, Tony, Cory and myself. The person taking our reservation was adamant that the club allows no fivesomes. We worked around this. The

guys were all impressed with the severe undulations which the mountains may have had some impact on the appearance. They were all taken with the setting, a bit of a change from the relatively flat terrain of Iowa. It must be the Rocky Mountains. Aye! After dropping the guys off Cheryl and I went grocery shopping for our VRBO. Sean and Heather had checked in and all the kids helped us move in the groceries and luggage. Matt, Micah, Benjy and Mickey had already arrived, Shannon got in about 7. Sean did a yeoman's job of barbecuing for everyone. There was a great deal of bringing each other up to date. Jacuzzi!



July 26 (Fri) Will, Tammy, Allan, Jordan, Sean, Heather and the tribe went to the hot springs in Carbondale and a venture into Glendale Springs. Glendale Springs GC (J 49) got my attention. After dinner the replacement generation headed into Basalt to do what they do best of an evening.

July 27 (Sat) Ham and cheese sandwiches for breakfast. Practiced and edited my wedding toast

relentlessly, to no avail it seemed. The nerves, you know! Made an emergency run for soda and ice. The location for Scott and Ali wedding ceremony by the river was as perfect a setting as anyone could wish for. The reception was about a half mile from where the wedding took place. Got the champagne delivered to all the tables, the glasses took a little longer. Thank God for Cheryl, she prompted me to use my notes mid-toast. Apparently, it went okay as a number of people actually complemented me on the toast. The food, open bar and presentation the Kasina's provided was terrific. Tim's equipment and music were perfect. Cheryl and I danced the light fantastic, or so we thought. Lots of hugging, kissing, champagne and strong visiting was experienced throughout the night.



July 28 (Sun) Clearing the cabin was a project, primarily accomplished by Cheryl, Mickey, Shannon and Heather. The rest of us just carried luggage, repacked cars and sat around being just basically useless. That includes me, Sean, Benjy, Matt, Micah, Keegan, Violet and somebody's friend left over from last nights party Minoosh. Getting out of Colorado on our way home was as accomplishment, but it doesn't hold a candle to crossing Utah and then south on15. Utah may be considered a picturesque state, but that drive is dreary, tiresome, etc. Interesting sign "Next service 120 miles" needs to be taken seriously. That's why we were able to wait on lunch and gas in Salina. The St. George Ramada Inn has suited our needs for a number of years.

July 29 (Mon) Very simple St. George, Mesquite, Las Vegas, Baker, Barstow, Hesperia for lunch and gas, San Bernardino and thankfully Lake Forest. A day of unpacking, laundry, lazy-boy and channel changer reeducation. The End!