

GOLFNOTES

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Greg Grim savors his moment in the sun
as 2021 Grim Open Champion



CONTENTS

Volume 17

Number 33

3 Notes from the Bench on No. 6 Tee

Allan once again opens that window and spouts his unsolicited opinions on everything



6 2021 Grim Open

Greg Grim wins his second title with mighty shots from tree trouble

15 Capon Springs Course finally gets tee shirt



Golf its own



16 Recent Changes to the Capon Golf Course

18 Allan's Fairly Excellent Adventure in the Capon Free-Throw Contest



20 Allan's Resonators, or, Inspired Word Images—His Top-Ten word visuals



23 Get to know Marilyn Rebeta McLean in 55 Completion Questions



41 Allan Grim's Map Guide to the Public Golf Courses of Southeastern Pennsylvania



Notes from the bench on No. 6 Tee



Since the pandemic I've become less concerned about germs, not more. Every threat from germs, bacteria, or contamination seems to pale. I used to observe the five-second rule on food dropped on the floor. Now I'm willing to go to ten seconds. Maybe fifteen for scrumptious food items. But then who wants to wait that long if its ummm.

The best part of horse racing is the names of the horses. And how do you pay a jockey? Does he work only two minutes? An executioner only three seconds? Not simple to value their efforts. A diamond cutter one second?

The high school course that's given me the most practical value is typing. It might have been Physics or Chemistry but I don't remember much from them. Life filled in my

blanks, usually the hard way. My teacher has been mostly that ruthless guy Experience. I was often sentenced to trial and error. You usually don't win on appeal.

I'm still upset over my high school Chemistry and Physics courses. The instructors never instilled much learning or love of the subject. And the textbooks were so tedious and dry. They needed pictures with color that showed practical uses for each scientific principle. There were a few diagrams but few photos and illustrations of situations you would encounter in the real world. I think my Physics course started with vectors and forces.

Yechhh. Still don't know understand that. Is tug of war an example? Or is that one of Newton's laws of motion until one team overtakes the other?

I've decided that most of the chemistry of life boils down to two



phenomena: hot vs. cold and wet vs. dry. If you know the effect when each prevails, you have most of any situation explained. They may be called different things, like, for H₂O: moisture, water, humidity, steam, precipitation, droplets, liquid, or ice. But it all boils down (okay, a pun) to the four conditions.

My first car was a '69 Viagra. It had a lot of get up and go.

Talking heads speak too often in absolutes. Not many things are that certain or black and white. "I couldn't agree with you more." Really? "If this isn't what impeachment is about, I don't know what is." Did the President sell our nuclear codes to the Russians? "That is the worse display of politics I've ever seen." There's been worse. Probably the speaker is overly emotional at the time. He might have



a strong belief, which he is quick to defend. Emotional people lapse into speaking without nuance. Yes, some people with strong beliefs can control their emotions. They sometimes

speak too definitively because of their enthusiasm for the views. And the more extreme the views, the less tolerant of opposite views. That's why it's so hard for liberals and conservatives to compromise. So far apart. It's the law of the political jungle.

Golf courses on the tour have too many shaved areas around the greens. Few greens exist where the rough runs to the frog hair. Shaving



has become pervasive in recent decades. The US Open and some other tournaments used to have much rough to the edge of the green. Now shaving has become a copycat, meowing too often on many courses. The recent 2021 US Open at Torrey Pines finally reversed that trend somewhat with green collars often ringed by rough.

The tour and the other organizations continue to love sand bunkers as obstacles. Pros love them too. They would rather be in them than the rough for most wayward shots. Yet the PGA and USGA insist on

having them on the sides of where most drives go and around the greens. They only intimidate the rest of us.

Some bunkers are sporting and necessary. But having several on any hole is playing into the hands of the pros, who will whine about their balls straying into those bunkers. Like Br'er Rabbit pleading not to be thrown into that briar patch. Those pros can easily disgorge their ball from them. Unless the lie is terrible or the lip is high. Not that often. Instead of so many bunkers, just grow the rough higher in their spots. Okay, keep some sand traps but give them depth and lips and furrows. Maybe don't rake them at all.

I can't believe most of the batters in MLB. They swing at horrible pitches with no strikes on them. No batter should swing at a pitch with no strikes on them unless it's close to where they like it, their wheelhouse. To a lesser extent you can say the same when the batter has one strike on them. Be selective on the first two. If you take the first or second pitch and it's a strike you still have two or one left. Don't help the pitcher. Even if you do hit a ball that is outside your comfort zone, you

probably won't get a hit. I certainly would not swing at a curve or slider with no strikes on me unless it's a hanger. What adds to my upset is that these same batters will take a called strike three. If it's close you have to swing. You swung at a bad pitch with no or one strike; why can't you swing at a not-awful pitch (the umpire thought it was good enough) with two strikes?



Why don't golf driving ranges include areas with rough? It's where hackers spend most of their time before they reach the green. And the teeing grounds are

often just flat, unlike many of the lies a hacker will have on an actual golf course. The ranges need some variety in grass length and ground shape. And you will of course never see a practice bunker (AKA fairway bunker) for hitting long shots to a green. Even greenside traps are hardly ever present. ●



From tree troubles Greg Grim scorned the safe shot, and lashed out with amazing shots to win the 2021 Grim Open

Since 2017 no player had broken 40 in the Grim Open, except for the sudden outliers from Oklahoma in 2020, Tory Caldwell and John Droz. Tory nailed 38 and 39 in winning the Open and John had 39 but stumbled home with a 43 finish. Remarkably, they had never been to Capon before 2018 and haven't been back since. In the opening nine of 2021, Greg Grim, nephew of Allan Grim and youngest son of Grim's brother George, led with only a 41. That would be the low score for the tourney. Greg had just four serious

pursuers left. Last year's Champion Mark, Jr. was only one behind. Three strokes back with 44's were Allan and first timer Nick Dark, husband of Mark's daughter Kyleigh. He's a British citizen hoping to move with Kyleigh and their infant son Max to America. Ryan, Greg's brother, was next at 45. After that dismal group was Tyler, a brother to

Kyleigh, and son to Mark, who was at 49.

Where were the other usual contenders in this 62nd Grim Open? George, age 74, waning in his golf skills, but always a Mount Pompei threat, was already out of the tournament before he arrived at the Capon resort.

by Martin Povser



He had broken his right pinky metatarsal a few weeks before in a ping pong match when it got caught in his right Bermudas pocket as he attempted a forehand topspin return where you begin around your hip. Another potential contender was Douglas, Allan's son, who



at age 41 has played little golf in recent years. But when he played, he showed flashes of his teen-years' brilliance.

(Above on the Sixth Tee, George sits on the left, Douglas next right, and Gini, George and Allan's sister on the end, with Allan standing behind her.)

The man to watch was Archie, husband of Allan's and George's sister Gini. A great all-around athlete (he wrestled in high school), he had dazzled with near par scores in his 2020 practice rounds. But he could only manage meager scores during that Open. In practice this year he had played what he called "poorly." Maybe he could reverse last year's results and break through with a victory. It would erase his dubious accolade as the best golfer

Please note that all photo captions are within the text of the article. They are in bold Italics and parentheses. Now you'll actually have to read some of the article.

never to win the Grim Open. On the very first hole of the tourney, Archie mailed in his curse renewal for one more year. He drilled his initial drive of the tournament low and left at the last tree before the sandbox about 50 yards up the hill on the left. It caromed right to several yards in front of the ladies tee. He pushed his long second shot on this uphill but short par 4 toward the right tree line. The large white oak tree loomed to his right blocking the right part of the green, and the front bunker threatened on the left. The branches of the oak tree awaited to block any approach shot veering right. ***(Photo above shows Allan putting on the first green with the oak tree behind him.)***

His iron up the steep hill was short. From there he had to go under the branches of that oak. After three running shots that went only a few yards, he reached down and picked up his ball and uttered, "That's it. I'm done." He turned and trudged back down the first fairway. Allan was standing on the fairway just to his left and yelled to him, "It's early. It's only the first hole. There is plenty of time to make up your strokes." Archie responded, "No, I'm going to..." then he listed some things he would do that would



replace his plight and avoid his upset. As Allan remarked later, "He didn't need to shoot any particular low score on the first hole. He only had to post one stroke lower than the rest of us for all 18 holes."

Unbelievably, this is the third time he has done this on the very first hole of this tournament. In 1997 and 2000, he never made it up to the mounted first green.

(Below, Archie enjoys a bench on No. 3 tee as a spectator after his WD 3.) He explained the next day that he had not been playing well at Capon. He had played only one round before Capon. Last year he also hadn't played much at all before Capon. But he had played superbly prior to the Open, shooting in the mid-



30's. Then he played mediocre during the tournament.

In view of the high numbers for this year's leaders, he might have recovered. He had many holes left to make it up. He was lying 6 and could've run his next ball on the green and made the putt for a 7. He didn't need to shoot close to par—just one shot lower than anyone else. No one knew that score so early in the championship.

After the typical first round played on a Thursday morning at Capon, Championship Committee Chair Allan voiced that they should consider playing on Saturday afternoon around 3 o'clock instead of the traditional late Saturday morning tee off and an ending that ran late and made the golfers late for the 1 o'clock lunch of hamburgers, which bugged most of them. The main reason Allan wanted to change is that the weather was forecast not to be the typical August hot and humid afternoon. "We used to finish in the afternoon like golf tournaments in America usually finish in the late afternoon," said Allan. He also cited his aversion to the clash of hunger delayed and burgers awaiting. Food is huge as golf here. The discussion got animated at Saturday breakfast of the golfers and their families. Some had planned other activities for that morning and others

unfamiliar with the suggestion had planned and hoped to finish the tournament that morning. Both camps were appeased by Allan's committee allowing Mark's group of wife Sherry and son Tyler and son-in-law Nick to tee off their final round on early Saturday afternoon. The others, now a threesome with Archie now out of it, would continue the morning tee off. Thus, when Greg sank his final putt for an 83 just before 1 pm, he could not raise his arms in triumph. He had to await the Mark group where Mark had shot a 42, second to Greg's 41 in the opening round and Nick had shot 44, three strokes back. Greg could beat his brother Ryan and Uncle Allan and enjoy the lunch burgers at Capon's dining room. They did get to the dining room on time. But Greg had to await till late that afternoon for the end of the rounds of Mark, Jr. and Nick Dark to know if he was the 2021 victor.



Nick Dark, 34, has Welsh-English parentage and has been an accountant for Deloitte, and a British government employee. Tall and lanky and modest, he was playing in his first Grim Open. He is married to Kyleigh Grim, daughter of Mark and Sherry Grim. Mark is Allan's first cousin. *(In the photo above Nick tees off from Hole No. 9 in his final round. In the photo at the bottom right sit Alex, Tyler's girlfriend, Sherry, Mark's wife, and Nick).* They have been



living in England and had a baby boy Max in January 2020. Nick and Kyleigh have moved to the US now and Nick is hoping to find work in the Delaware Valley. He is a solid golfer and played well in his first crack at Capon. His first round of 44 tied Allan for third place, three shots behind leader Greg.

emerge from the trap. He studied it and got advice from concerned competitors and spectators. Finally, he blasted away and got it out but still a few yards short of the green. It was actually a stellar shot. You don't have a good idea what is likely to occur. However, he chipped on well short and then three-putted, missing a measly three-footer for a triple-bogey 7. **(In photo left Ryan stands behind cousin Douglas.)**

He again displayed his swashbuckling style with a stroke he strutted on the slanted-left par 4 Hole No. 5. Ryan pushed his titanic drive into the tree line on the right side of the fairway. A tree blocked a direct line to the flag on this uphill, plateaued, sloping green. A closer concern was that a tree branch was a threat to his backswing. He lined up aiming right of the blocking trees for a sweeping high hook to the green. On his backswing his club clashed with the branch. On his downswing, he flailed into the golfer's ultimate fear, a whooshy whiff.

Otherwise, Ryan played only fair, not spectacular. With a four-stroke deficit to start, he yielded the title to his younger brother Greg with a final round 45 and 90 total. **(In photo right Ryan drives from the 5th tee.)** Ryan matched

his score with his first-round 45. He just couldn't generate anything worthy. He still soared his drives and his other clubs. The flaw was hitting them straight and being precise on his short irons and putts, a common defect of bombers. Of course, he also hadn't play at all since last year. He summed up his play: "This was a year in which anybody could win, but I played like a nobody."

Ryan, 43, had moved his wife and four kids to West Dover, Vermont in August 2020, seeking a community with in-person school, in response to pandemic school restrictions. They returned to their longtime Washington DC home in late August 2021. He continues to work at The



On the first tee of his final round, Ryan clunked his tee shot into the trees left of the tee where it caromed to in front of the tee about thirty yards out. Then he rocked his hybrid to the front green bunker, over 200 yards away and up the hill. Horrible, then spectacular. Typical. Problem was his ball was stuck under the front lip with no option to go for the flag. He was hoping to merely get it up enough to





Intercept, an online journal that investigates governmental misdeeds. He now also co-hosts a morning show on Hill TV called "Rising," which can be found mostly on YouTube.

He as a left-winger hosts with a right-winger presenting informed comments on the news. Somehow both Ryan or Greg seem to thrive on avoiding golf between Grim Opens. A few practice rounds at Capon and they're good to go and actually compete. Makes you wonder what they would do if they had played as much as Allan or Mark, who are retired but not tired of golf. This was another Grim Open like last year's where no one broke the 40 barrier. Thus, they were some of the most competitive Opens for someone to break through with one superb round.



Both brothers continued to launch their drone-threatening drives that often find trouble when they return to earth. But a wayward lie never seems to daunt them. They can often recover from inside tree lines with their prodigious length and their ability to elevate.

Defending Champion Mark, 70, now living in Wilmington NC with wife Sherry in a retirement community, started with a decent 42, only one shot behind Greg. Playing steady at home, he said, and all week at Capon, he suddenly lost it on



the final nine. He was playing unremarkable until the Postage Stamp No. 4 Hole where he plunked his tee shot into the left bunker, took three strokes to get out and then only to the fringe about 25 feet away. Three putts from there added up to a killer 7 on this par 3 114-yard hole. After that, no comeback either. In fact, he stumbled his way to a triple bogey 8 on the Monster 7th Hole. His 51 finale gave him a tie for fourth with his son-in-law Nick at 93. After his



opening 44, Nick had also mounted no charge; he regressed with a frustrating 49.

In the photo top left Tyler sits at the shuffleboard court. Below left he is shown teeing off No. 8 hole. Middle photo is Sherry driving from ladies tee on No. 8. Above photo is Mark, Jr. with his daughter Kyleigh and her son. Below Mark and Sherry on No. 7 hole.)

Mark's son Tyler, 32, is a computer go-to guy for the US Navy, living in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Joined him at Capon was his girlfriend Alex, 31, whom he met on the Hinge internet site. She is a





came in with two 54's for a 108. **(Left is Gini sitting in the Capon dining room with grandniece Lauren Grim, 14, daughter of Douglas and Kelly Grim. Below left Gini tees off on No. 5 hole.)**

product manager for the digital ad company *Max in Magnite*. She was born in South America to a German father and an American mother. They moved to Bavaria in Germany till she



was 14, then to Denver for high school. She lives there now. Tyler continued with his disappointing Opens. He began with a dismal 49 then ballooned to a last round of 58 and 107 total. Mark's wife Sherry continued her stellar play for the women in the Grim Open, carding two 50's for a 100. It beat her son Tyler by seven strokes. Gini Grim avoided last place by beating her husband Archie, one of the favorites, just by her finishing. He had withdrawn before finishing the first hole. She

Allan had stayed with Greg by the time they reached the 6th hole of the final round, neither one blazing home. Allan was still two shots behind. Greg's victory was assured by two masterful strokes from trouble. One occurred on Capon's 7th hole. Greg's drive on the Monster par 5 (the 16th hole of the Open), was enormous. But it veered inside the double rows of trees that line the right. He had to hit over the trees from the rough or hack out safely. He elected to go for it, crushing it over the hapless trees into the fairway only ten or so yards from the green. Allan drove to the right side of the fairway with one of his solid but short drives from the yellow tees. It was just right of the famed saucer in the center of the fairway there.



He blasted his 3-wood straight up the right side of the uphill fairway on this par 5. With about 50 yards to the pin, his 46-degree wedge was solid but overshot the plateaued green to the top of the steep bank rising above and behind it. It stuck in short grass. Facing a sheer drop to the green and then only about fifteen feet to the middle back pin. He putted it down the bank and it dribbled to about four feet. Forced to make it, he did for his par 5. Greg plopped his short wedge onto the green but missed a 10-footer for a birdie. But his gimme putt gave him his par 5 and preserved his two-stroke lead over Allan.

(Below left is Greg putting for that birdie.

Above right is Allan driving from No. 5 tee.)



On the long par 3 8th Greg flew his drive right from 238 yards short and into the 9th fairway. His

wedge flew onto the down-sloping green, where the ball ran to the back left of the green, leaving about 30 feet now uphill and a major curve left to the hole. Allan elected to tee off with his 4 Hybrid instead of his 3. His last round he had hit the 3 but it had gone long and left of the green. He chose his 4 and struck it straight for the hole but it landed a few soft yards short of the green with little roll. He needed a delicate pitch to a green that slopes front to back downhill. He babied his sand wedge low but had enough spin to hit the green and crawl only a bit downhill to about 3-4 feet short of the hole. But now he had a severe right-to-left break downhill. Greg faltered by three-putting from back left on the green for a 5 on this par 3, leaving his long, left-curling first putt well short.

Allan could tie it with his putt and walk to the last tee tied for the lead. He studied it, then pulled it left with no chance. He now offers, "I had no confidence I could make it. I was concerned about going well past the hole if I missed. It runs downhill. Not a good attitude. I was making crucial putts, but I went



negative and thought I was due for a miss." With Allan missing his touchy putt for a bogey 4, Greg held a one-stroke lead on the 18th and last tee.

clouds inviting a bold visit. However, a direct line to the green was blocked by the pine and two more even closer.

Allan had been hitting mostly solid drives all week. He would aim left and strike a fade short of 200 yards, landing with little roll. He hadn't hooked a drive anywhere on Capon's tree-line layout. On this occasion he again whacked a solid drive just to the right of the 150-yard marker in the center of the

Greg smothered a hook just inside the left tree line to about 150 yards out from the tee. *(Below left is a photo of Greg making his errant drive.)* He had a large oak on the left and a tall white pine on the right and the sky above with





his approach shot 150 yards from the treacherous green. He chose his 22-degree 4 hybrid and it was solid but low and pulled to the same area left of the green where Greg had gone. However, after landing, it hopped over the narrow but raised practice green and down a steep four-foot drop to an area between the bank and a maintenance road. Although Greg was only in light rough, he faced a delicate pitch shot over the large left bunker to a pin that stood about 15 feet above and beyond the left fringe. With the green sloped favorably toward him, he plopped it

between trees on both sides with branches blocking any lofted ball to a green that was several feet above his lie. He also had no shot at the pin with the left bunker looming to the right and little room left to land it anyway. He punched an 8-iron over the bank and under the branches onto the green. But it scurried across to the front, leaving a long and huge left-breaking and downhill putt from about 30 feet. "That was my best shot of the Open," remarked Allan later, even though it ended up far away from the pin." ***(Here left is a photo of Allan in his backswing for his trouble shot. The blue flag looms just behind the edge of the green's left bunker on the right.)***

fairway. Before lining up his shot, Greg uttered, "Watch this," Off mostly bare ground, he aimed straight through the narrow channel and blasted his ball majestically over the opening between the two large trees sneering at them as it saluted the clouds before landing in a prime spot just left of the green a few yards from the practice green. ***(On the prior page at the right is a photo of that magic moment as Greg follows through.)*** Allan stood right behind him. After a resigned groan he bantered, "Come on. Give me a chance!" After his shrug he strolled to

deftly and safely over the left bunker and about 15 feet above the hole. But now he had a steep downhill and slightly-left, curving putt to the hole.

For Allan, he was back and left of the green only ten or fifteen yards away, but in a pitiless spot. He had to launch his approach over the bank

With Allan's ball well away at the green front, Greg tapped his putt gingerly down the hill. It was too cautious, stopping four feet short. He stepped up and calmly drained it for a bogey 5. ***(Below is a photo of Greg after stroking that putt, with his father George behind him watching. Allan stands far right and his son Douglas in the foreground practices putting.)***



Allan said he had the same front-edge putt in an earlier round. He had come up badly short facing a still left-curving and downhill 15-footer. Since Greg had holed out for a 5, Allan needed to make his 30-footer for a par and a 4 to tie. "That putt is impossible and I had no confidence I could get it close, let alone make it. I actually rushed it and somehow hit the same kind of putt as my prior round." It too was well short and still downhill and curving."

With the Open now lost to at least Greg (Mark and his group still to play), the next putt was even quicker downhill and he struck it indifferently missing it for a double-bogey 6. Greg had beaten Allan by two, 83 to 85. Although Greg might have rejoiced as Grim Open champion, he was only

the leader in the clubhouse. He had to await the afternoon play of Mark, Jr., the defending Champion, and his group. Mark, Jr. was then 11 over after his first nine. Greg had finished his 18 at 15 over. That total would of course turn out to be good enough to garner his second Grim Open title. His other was in 2000.

As set forth before in this article, Mark would finish well behind with a 93, three shots behind third-place finisher Ryan at 90 and Allan at 85. Of his performance, Allan commented, "I played sloppily for my first nine. I made some adjustments that I should have made before the first round. It might have been different." Hindsight never needs glasses and will readily think, if not uttering, these rhyming words: woulda, coulda, and shoulda.

Greg is 39 and single and lives in the woods near Beckley in southern West Virginia, where he works in agriculture. Although he has phone and internet service, he has not been available for interview or basic information since Capon Springs. ●



Relaxing in the Capon Springs dining room, Greg grins and chomps away, beside family members, Iris (daughter of Ryan), Ryan, Elaina (daughter of Douglas), and Elizan (Ryan's wife and mother of Iris)



Grim Lineup

A segment of the Grim family poses in the Capon game room after the tournament. From left, George, Kelsy (daughter of George), Elaina (daughter of Douglas and Kelly), Allan, Douglas (son of Allan and husband of Kelly), Gini (sister of Allan and George), Grim Open Champ Greg, and Elizan (wife of Greg's brother Ryan. Greg and Ryan are both sons of George). Kelly does not appear in this photo.

The Golf Course at Capon Springs gets a tee shirt

Before she retired, Ginny Brill selected and ordered all the items sold in the Capon resort's Food Shop. Ashley Smith, who had worked in the food service department for many years, has now taken over. Ashley mentioned to Ginny that she had gotten lots of requests for a shirt that had something to do with the golf course. This was about the same time that a guest family donated the new signposts on each tee. The existing signs had been created by Capon guest Tom Hutchins sometime in the 1970's. Ginny thought the signs would be an appropriate subject for teeshirts. Last year, the new signs on the

tees were designed by ICON Screen Printing and Embroidery in Winchester, using the signposts as the pattern. Since ICON had the art work already done for the signs, converting that for use on tee shirts was easy. Ashley and Ginny decided that the Capon Logo should go on the front and the hole designs on the back. They chose the ICON's color "yam" for the shirt

color since it very closely matched the color of the background on the golf course signs. The maker of the t-shirts is Comfort Colors. The food shop ran out of shirts this summer, since Comfort Colors, like so many other employee-strapped businesses this year, could not keep up with ICON's demand. So, whenever shirts come in from Comfort Colors, ICON prints them and sends them to Capon. Those are then shipped out to waiting list orders or sold off the Capon Food Shop shelves. •



On the Second green from left are Archie, Doug, George, Greg, Allan, Ryan, and Gini, as Ryan just drained his putt.



Pain next to Pleasure

Capon canceled its Talent Show because of the pandemic. Led by Iris, the kids had their own outside, drafting Allan as MC. Here he is above feeling the crowd's pain from his tries at humor. Right, in the Capon dining room Greg reviews the 61 champions of the Grim Open on the tournament's plaque after the ceremony where his father, George, standing here, handed him the silver trophy. To Greg's right is his brother Ryan observing his brother's moment. The trophy itself sits by itself on the table between George and Greg.



RECENT CHANGES

TO THE CAPON GOLF COURSE

After having been enlarged and re-shaped because of the removal of the moribund White Pine a few years ago, the trap in front of **No. 2** green has been shortened. Now there is a modest gap between the threesome of trees that replaced the White Pine on the left and the shruken trap itself. Capon did it because the long bunker ran downhill to the left and, with rain, sand washed down and out, and the left end became a basin for water to sit for days. *(See the photo below right of Sherry Grim teeing off from the ladies tee on No. 2.)* Note the gap now between the pine trees on the front left of the green and the re-shaped trap that covers some of the front right of the green. The trap is actually several yards below the green down a gentle slope.

The fence on the left at the woods on **No. 4** “Postage Stamp” preventing balls from rolling into the woods was removed. That may have occurred before this last year. The ground slopes severely downhill from the green to the woods, although a trap catches some balls just left of the green and high rough stops a few others from the trap to the woods. The small wire fence was replaced by a ground-with-grass barrier, about the same foot-or-so height.

But two other changes disturbed the returning golfers. The long bunker down the steep bank to the rear of **No. 4** green had been filled in and grass planted to replace it

keeping the natural slope of the bank. Some golfers fretted not having it there to grab their runoffs and overshots of the green and prevent their balls from bounding farther downhill into the woods beyond. Of course, some purists could argue that a ball that rolls or flies over the back should suffer the results.



Thus, a trap becomes a backstop preventing further ruin into the rough or worse, the woods. You can counter that the trap is punishment enough. You are facing a steep bank when you attempt to blast out of the trap.

Why was this trap removed? Let Capon golf overseer Pete Budnyk, now retired, explain. “Since the trap was so narrow, and had a high lip all the way around, it was difficult to get the riding sand rake in and out. So, ultimately, a

maintenance issue was responsible for making the call.” For the record, Capon uses a Jacobsen “Groom Master” machine to enter the traps and smooth them out.



Another change on **No. 4** was hardly noticed. Until a few years ago the front trap, with a squarish, flat, shallow shape, had allowed those in it to putt their way out to the green that lay several feet below the trap. A few years ago that shape was altered. A lip was added to the flat and open back of the trap to force golfers to blast out instead of easily putting out and down the bank and onto the green below. Since last year the old, traditional shape with no lip was restored. *(See it here in the photo above taken from the tee where Mark, Jr. is hitting while son Tyler and girlfriend Alex cuddle).*

These changes, controversial among veteran Capon golfers, have come amid the evolved role of Pete Budnyk, who has overseen the Capon golf course for several decades. He also was involved in other aspects of

Capon. Let him explain all of this himself:

“I retired from full time work at Capon at the end of 2013. Most did not know, but my main responsibility at Capon was taking care of the maintenance of the buildings. I watched over the golf course at the same time, and that gave me the chance to develop so many relationships that I find difficult to let go. During the first few years of retirement, I continued just my golf course things. A five-day work week became a four-day one, then a three-day one, and four years ago a superintendent was brought in. That didn’t work out, so I got back into that for a couple of years, then a long-time golf course co-worker took over the ‘growing’ side. For the last two years, I only come up on Tuesday and Friday mornings during the summer to do the tournaments as a volunteer... I no longer have much of an impact on the operation of the golf course. As you can imagine, after fifty seasons, that is quite a change for me, but things are in good hands.”

When he was active at Capon, Pete and his family lived in a white cottage left of the hill heading up to the golf course. No one lives there now. Their primary home for over 40 years was in Stephens City, south of Winchester, Virginia. With retirement from Capon, it’s now their full-time home. He still journeys to Capon twice a week, as golfers know, to run the Best Ball (also known as Pot Luck) tournament on Tuesday and Friday mornings in the summer. He has a choice of directions to get there—35 minutes over the dirt road, 45 minutes over the roundabout paved way. ●

ALLAN'S FAIRLY EXCELLENT ADVENTURE IN THE CAPON FREE-THROW CONTEST

I don't recall the last time I played in the Capon Free-Throw Contest. It's held on Friday of Capon week at 4 pm. I wouldn't sign up for basketball anyway. I'd be resting up for the Capon Talent Show that evening. I know I detested the basket and the basketball for this half court set among the maintenance buildings, just below one of Capon's tennis courts. I'd never shot at a tougher rim. The ball bounces hard off it and you get little roll. They also had these heavy, thick basketballs. Anyway, I'd played little basketball anywhere for years.

I was watching the badminton tournament when brother George stopped by and prodded me to go with him to the free-throw competition. He had broken his right pinky metatarsal and was going to shoot left-handed and beat the 76er's Ben Simmons in his percentage of foul shots made. Easy to do, I thought. George has won the contest before, right-handed of course. I said I really wanted to take a nap after playing golf in the potluck and having to be MC in the kids' talent show that evening. But he prodded me and I said okay. I would watch George shoot, count his baskets, note that he wouldn't win, then I'd go take a nap.

There were 14 competitors listed by the 4 pm hour on the signup sheet. When we arrived, contestants were shooting several balls. Not content to watch them, I grabbed one here and there and shot from different spots, including the foul line. Nothing impressed me about my game. Why should it?



After a golf round Allan sits on the second-floor porch of Capon's Main House, probably musing on many things except basketball.

Jonathon the boss arrived and said that if anyone still wants to compete they can sign up now. I didn't know that was possible at this late date. I thought, what the heck, and added my name to the list. A few more signed up too. Maybe around 18 or 20 are now in it. Jonathon barked out, okay, let's begin, and then asked us which ball should we use. I had a ball in my hand that I liked and I said this one and he said, okay. Great. No hulking ball from other years. He also said Allan, you go first. Me, one of the last signups? Oh, get him out of the way first.

When you're called to shoot, you are allowed to take practice shots. The first you make is your first attempt in the contest. I said

I'm ready to go, which was a lie, since I'm never ready for basketball, especially foul shots. I spurned any practice shots. Ready to roll. I was trying to recall my routine for making a free-throw try and couldn't remember. I placed the ball between my two hands equally and bounced it a few times. I recalled I had used a two-hand set shot. I made the first one. So I would have started my shots from the first one anyway. With two people on both sides closer to the basket for rebounds, I got the ball back promptly and bounced it quickly maybe two times before throwing up the next shots quickly, like a chain on a speeding bike. Somehow the shots were going in. Then one hit inside the rim on the left and then the right rim and came out. Unforgiving rim. I made another one or two than one hit the right side of the rim and bounced away from the rim. But made everything else. 8 out of 10.

All my shots were that obsolete set shot, feet on the ground, hands symmetrical, my right foot back off the foul line as a brace. Most would plant their feet side by side, I recall. No one would jump to shoot it from other spots. A few players still used it into the 1950's. It was big before then since the jump shot only began in the late 1940's. I knew I would struggle even to get the ball to the rim. I have to bend down to my knees and boost it high to get it over the rim. The ball went down low too. They flew up arched like mortar rounds.


With his right pinky's bones ailing, George threw up all his tries left-handed. He missed a

few initial shots then made his last four or five. Other players didn't seem to get even close to the eight. However, a short guy stepped up, headed for junior year in high school. I know, as I chatted with him as a member of our potluck golf team on Tuesday morning. I had asked him what sports he plays and he said he was a member of his high school basketball team. He made eight also. Soon a young lady stepped up. She looked like a robust athlete. No doubt a high school or college player. Seemed confident. She hit eight too. Three-way tie. But no kissing sister.

We had a best-of-five-shots playoff. I really didn't want to shoot any more. Bad mindset for a playoff. But, hey, we were tied and you break it with more tries. I was told to go first. I didn't focus or feel nervous. Just threw them up like practice. I made just two. The varsity guy made only one. The strapping young lady marched to the line and made three. She said, "I won!" A small mob gathered for her. I rambled over to commend her. Not sure how I said it. No response. She looked lost in her glee. What would I have done? I don't like attention as she got. Maybe cover my face. Shake my head.

George and I strolled back down the hill. I don't know what George did. I went and lay down for my nap. I didn't conk out as fast as I usually do. That evening at dinner I saw the Capon bulletin board at the dining room door. A notice said the winner was Ellie Slack. (**See it here to the left**). Below that, "She receives a jelly of [his] choice." Unforced written error. Someone had written after her name, "Cherry." I guess Ellie wrote it—It's in a feminine hand. Below that line it read "Runner-up with 8 out of 10"—"[Alan] Grim." Below that: "He receives a jar of apple butter!" I never went to get it. ●

BASKETBALL
FREE THROW CONTEST



**Winner with 8 out of 10,
3 out of 5 in tie breaker**
Ellie Slack ✓ *cherry*
She receives a jelly of his choice!

Runner-up with 8 out of 10
Alan Grim
He receives a jar of apple butter!

Congratulations!

Allan's Word Tropes

Resonators

Here are my top ten word images of all time, in no special order. They explain something by giving your mind a visual comparison. They are inspired; you wish you had thought of them. These are the words that hustled into my mental warehouse over the years and didn't just visit; they locked the door, and refused to leave. I call them resonators. Each time I read them or hear them, they set off a pleasant woosh that wafts, then settles over my imagination. Many that you and I would offer have wilted into shredded clichés. You might say some of my ten qualify also. I had to include one sure example on my list: the ominous iceberg one (No.8). I try to avoid clichés. At times you must use them; they've earned their dubious status. They work and are memorable. Too often we get lazy and don't create fresh tropes.

1. **Wife-beater tee shirt**
(When you see it, you try to stifle a knowing chuckle. You are a peaceful person. Not the same for those controlling, possessive guys. They will be upset, as they are the source.)

2. **My leg feels like Ginger-Ale** (When it has "fallen asleep," a familiar image for a common medical condition. This one comes from my childhood.)

3. **Bling** (A dazzling "reflection" on what expensive jewelry does to us all just gazing at it. You can just hear the bling's ping.)

4. **Ummmm** (What we can't help uttering when we've just eaten something tasty. Or are about to. It's now an ad meme.)

5. **She turns heads.** (When both men and women stroll past a gorgeous, woman on the sidewalk, we can't help jerking our necks to confirm what we just saw. Men will do it to prolong their awe; women to deepen their envy. And if the lady now behind us catches us doing it, her lustrous face won't nod to us, because it's old for her. Yeah, but she still cherishes it.)



6. **The face that launched a thousand ships.** (Actually, this is from a play by English playwright Christopher Marlowe in 1604 called “The Tragical History of Dr. Faustus.” According to Homer’s *Iliad*, in Greece, Troy had abducted Helen, beautiful wife of Sparta’s king. This ignited the Trojan War. Many Spartan men, seduced by her beauty, joined in the action to regain her from Troy. She was eventually retrieved and returned to her husband Menelaus. There is of



course more, including why this figure of speech appears in Dr. Faustus. Google it. (See the painting at the head of this piece. Helen is being stolen or retrieved. Your call. And to whom is she waving?)

7. **Paradise by the dashboard light.** (Rock song title by Meatloaf from an album “Bat out of Hell.” The song tells a lengthy tale of a couple parked by a lake and the stormy actions between them. Spoiler alert. It doesn’t turn out as the title suggests.)

8. **It’s just the tip of the iceberg.** (Everyone who knows there is more to a story spouts this one. It began as a superb metaphor but has melted into a creamed cliché worsened by a ship called *Titanic*.)

9. **Oh, she doth teach the torches to burn bright!**

(Romeo exclaims this when he first spies Juliet at a mixer, or something. Google it yourself. Love at first sight and then, at the end, excessive emotion that leads both to their deaths. They each could have used “downers” from an apothecary. Instead, they persisted and each took potions. Romeo took something not knowing Juliet was faking her death. But his was for the ultimate calm. Don’t make me explain. Her potion was to only appear dead to avoid an unconsented marriage. When she awakened and saw Romeo dead, well, you should know her fateful action.)



10. Can’t decide between **vroom, swoosh, and boing!** (All are sounds of onomatopoeia. The first, for ads capturing the noisy sound of speed and acceleration of fast cars; the second, the roaring sound logo for Nike and just doing it; and last, that bouncy image from compressed springs when you jump on a trampoline.) ●

Kelsy Grim, Master Photographer

Here is the official photographer for this magazine at Capon Springs. Kelsy Grim is the daughter of Allan's brother George and his wife Melissa. Kelsy, 27, has just finished her graduate studies in School Counseling and is moving to Colorado along with her beau Jack Walton, 26. He is a software engineer for JP Morgan Chase. They both spent their teen years in the Allentown suburbs and graduated from Parkland High School. She is an accomplished photographer. Her Capon photos actually had to be developed. Tragically, when one roll came back, it was all blank. The remaining photos are superb. You have just viewed several of them, along with a few of Allan's. She captured many grand vistas as backgrounds for several golf action photos. Alas, because of space limits, Allan couldn't enlarge them to the visual impact he wanted. Kelsy also took close-ups of Grim family members, but they were mostly part of the blank roll. Three of her action shots I consider classics are featured in this issue. Regrettably, Allan had to limit their size too. They show three critical last moments of the Grim Open: Greg's approach to the final hole from tree trouble, Allan's shot from peril behind the last green, and Greg's winning putt. All appear on the last pages of the Grim Open article. Below is Allan's photo of toeless Kelsy on the 9th fairway. Behind her is the 9th green and clubhouse. ● — Martin Povser



Get to know
Marilyn
Rebetta
McLean



in 55 Completion Questions

You don't really know her. Viewed as smart, nice, attractive, cultured, and a woman of God, why was she forced to leave high school in the middle of her senior year and, in a much later time, why did she go to jail?

This is the fourth Completion-Question Interview. My brother George and Sister Virginia readily agreed to submit to theirs after I asked if they would do them. Despite asking the family, no one stepped forward for the next one. That's when I was drugged, then dragged to the temporary editor's cold, drafty office to answer an Egyptian pyramid of completion questions, or else. Okay, I volunteered out of desperation. I was featured in the last issue of this magazine. After more requests for the next issue, the person featured here volunteered.



From left, Allan, Marilyn, her brother Bill, and Allan's brother Jim at 321 Highland Avenue, Kutztown, Pa. Circa 1943 This was Allan's home till 1944 when his family moved to College Hill, Kutztown. It was also across the street and a few homes down from Allan and Jim's mother's place at 332 Highland Avenue, where she lived from 1972 till her passing in 2009.

Her name is Marilyn and she is my first cousin on my Mother's side of the family. She surprised me with her offer since she calls herself "a private person." Although she remained so in some of her answers, she was



amazingly candid on other aspects of her life. Even those who know her well, I believe, will gain some new insights about this fascinating, intriguing lady. Her willingness to subject herself to my probing has been remarkable. I won't always let an interviewee escape with brief answers. Where I deem necessary, they must explain themselves. The interview format is written inquiries, not a spontaneous sit-down. Marilyn's often deep and compelling answers were enthralling to review. I think that she and other interviewees, including me, discovered regions within ourselves that we had never thought about, let alone expressed

before. And I believe that we are contented to have let others know too.

Marilyn is one of the five children of Tom and Doris McLean. Her mother, Doris, was one of four Ackerman sisters. Another one was Ruth, my mother. Marilyn was born in Berks County, Pennsylvania, in 1940. She attended

Conrad Weiser High School, Harrisburg Community College, and Lebanon Valley College, meeting her educational goals enabling her employment in private industry, federal government, and thirty-four years with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. An initial political appointment to the Auditor General's Department transitioned into civil service jobs in the Department of Health, then Department of Insurance, then Bureau of Child Support Enforcement, and finally in Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse

She is retired and says she is inspired daily by her daughter Melanie, who lives in Pennsylvania, and son William, living in Colorado, along with four grandsons. Art is big in her life. She is a member of the Hershey Area Art Association and maintains an art studio in her home. Since retirement, she has studied with Pennsylvania artists Irene Lewis, Ruth Gibbel, multiple HAAA instructors, and attended the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Art in Philadelphia. She's currently active with plein air artists at local venues. Here are two of her paintings.

In 1884 Harry Leroy Valentine had the Valentine Mansion built in Womelsdorf, Pennsylvania as a federal style double brick with mansard roof. The outside of the building was faced with Philadelphia brick laid in black mortar. The exterior door and window trimmings were of Hummelstown brownstone. At the request of his wife Kathryn, the mansion was converted to a Victorian-period building a few years later. A



huge double- pillared wrap-around sculptured brownstone porch was added, along with a copper covered bay window above the entrance.

“Valentine Mansion”

11 x 14

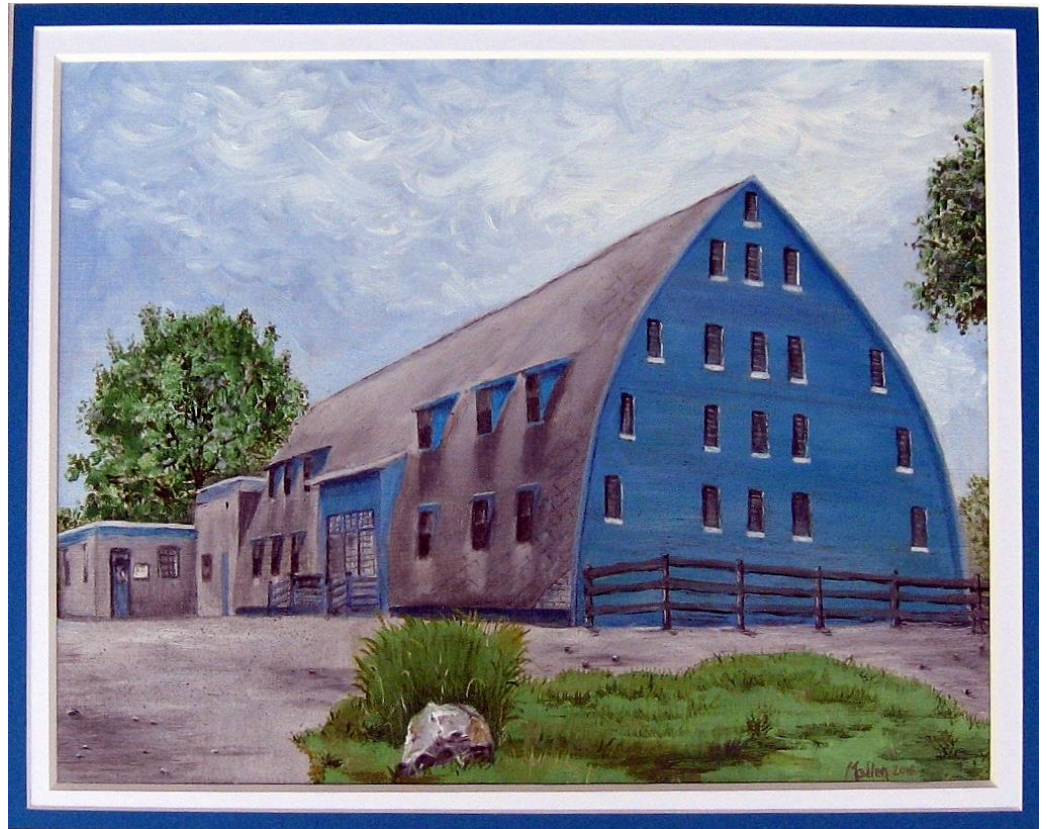
Oil on Masonite

The Blue Barn, 475 West Governor Road, Hershey, Pennsylvania, was built in 1950. It replaced the barn that was destroyed by fire at Milton S. Hershey's Rolling Green Farm Unit No. 61. Rolling Green was discontinued as a student residence in 1968. The Antique Auto Club of America purchased the red brick farmhouse and the barn was sold to be restructured as an office building.

"Blue Barn"

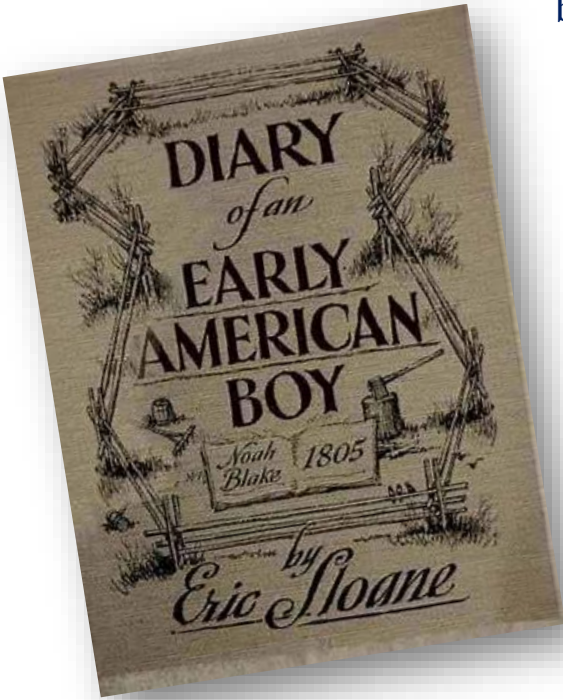
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Completion Questions of Marilyn Rebeta McLean

- 1. I am happiest when....I have no pain.**
- 2. I'm really afraid of....flying in airplanes. Since knowledge is power, watching the PBS documentary "City in the Sky" helps, with the idea that understanding how it all works is half my battle.**



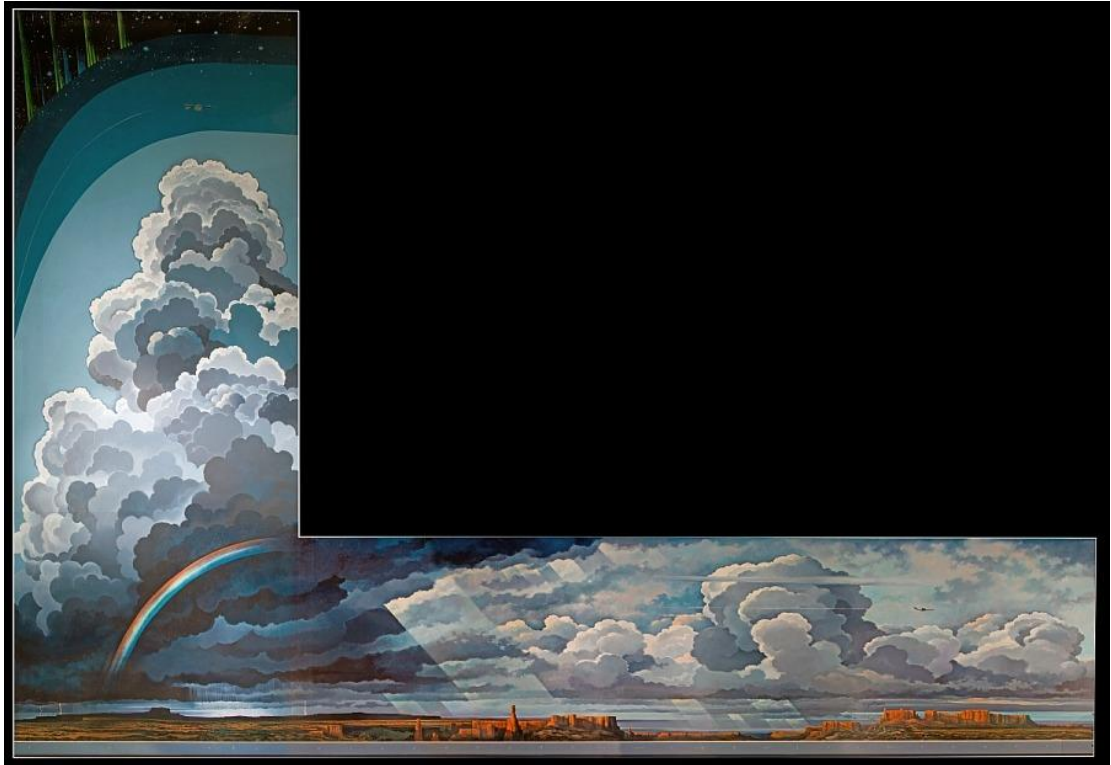
3. If I could talk to any living person it would be....**The Son of God**

and my first question would be....” **Will You please keep my faith strong in spite of it all.”**

4. When I look at the sky I think....**I would like to draw and paint clouds as well as Eric Sloane. Let me explain. Eric Sloane, who was born Everard Jean Hinrichs in 1905, was an American landscape painter, illustrator, and author of illustrated books on the cultural history and folklore of**

America. I began collecting his books after reading “*Diary of an Early American Boy: Noah Blake-1805*”, based on a diary he discovered at a local library book sale.

His most famous painted work is probably the skyscape mural, *Earth Flight Environment*, which was put on display in 1976 in the Smithsonian's Air and Space Museum , and stretches 75 feet across the horizontal segment! To the best of my knowledge, it is still there. (Here it is on the top of the next page.)



5. I can't believe I actually....spent time in a jail cell. I was employed by Consolidated Engineering, which firm was involved in construction of the Federal Building in Harrisburg and then worked for the Federal Government after the build at the time of Philip Berrigan's conspiracy trial. Father Philip Berrigan was an internationally-renowned American peace activist, Christian anarchist and former Roman Catholic priest, who devoted his life



to breaking down "prison walls" in order to expose and oppose American militarism, the use of nuclear weapons, social inequalities, avarice, and police brutality. Since I was working in

the building during the trial, I asked to see one of the holding cells (which had been constructed during my Consolidated Engineering employment) and was allowed to step inside. There was an immediate awareness of being enveloped within cold steel and concrete, and a deeper sense of the impossibility of escape if you found yourself locked inside.

6. A fateful decision I made was....**believing everything other people said. In eighty plus years on planet earth I've learned the need to test what other people say with logic, verification of the facts and experience. A recent example might be Trump's statements about a stolen election. Do we believe him? In any effort we make within our worldview, we need to make sure we are always seeking to make a cumulative case for what we believe, and one way to do this effectively is to use logical consistency, empirical adequacy, and experiential relevance. If we are claiming some truth about the world, and have a lot of lines of "evidence," but they are inconsistent, inadequate, or irrelevant, we have a problem. What we have is something that does not even make sense in the meekest of ways, does not fit the facts, nor does any good.**



7. I'm really embarrassed that I know so little about.... **the mathematics of the universe and how it relates to our own space, distance and time on earth.**

8. A great rock song is....**"Imagine" by John Lennon.**

9. Sometimes I'm quite....**boring, which makes for superb creative thoughts while chewing on a twizzler.**
10. I know this is weird, but I really like to**wash dishes by hand at a sink that has a window with a view.**
11. Sometimes I look back at my life and....**realize that I have a purpose set in place by God because that is the only reasonable explanation for the fact that I made it this far.**
12. From time to time it's good to....**sneeze, especially when living in Lebanon Valley.**
13. For a companion on a long train ride, put me with....**my first husband, who was a good listener, just like my mother; he was a kind man who practiced yoga and my mother was a kind woman who practiced love. Incidentally, yoga comes in handy on any long ride.**
14. Sometimes I just want....**to have a take-your-breath-away, bring-tears-to-your-eyes laugh, like the ones my children can produce in me when acting silly together.**
15. I love it when....**I see someone being kind in spite of it all.**



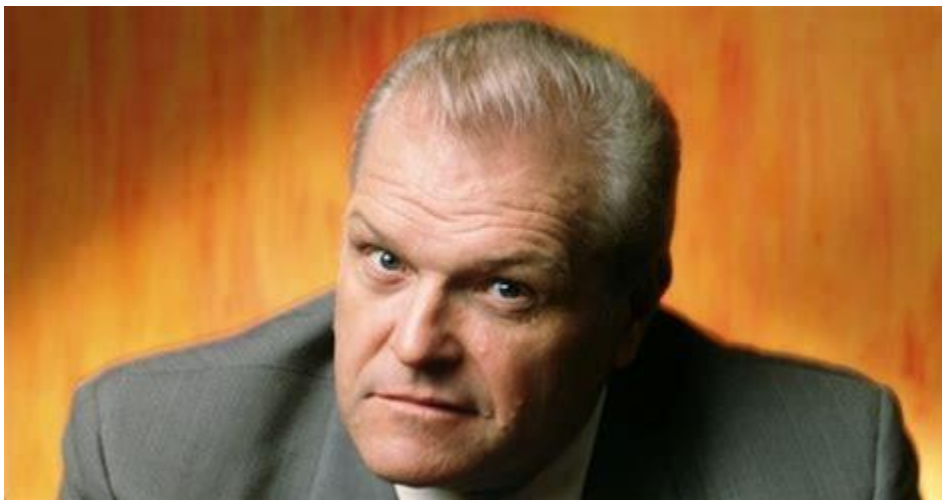
16. Alone or with people? I prefer....**both, depending on my mood.**

17. I really miss....**church service with a choir singing hymns and the pastor wearing vestments, instead of a praise band and pastor wearing blue jeans.**



18. I would really like to learn....**how to get in and out of a kayak gracefully.**

19. The two most beautiful words are....**“I AM”**
God’s name I AM is absolute. Names are important. In our world today, a person’s name is an identifying label. In Biblical times, however, names were often chosen to give information, describing in some way the character of a person or circumstances at the time of the birth. I consider my middle name special in that way because my parents gave it much thought, combining both grandmother’s names to fashion one of a kind for me at birth. Reba (maternal grandmother’s name) and Loretta (paternal grandmother’s name) = Rebetta.



20. A man who really turns me on is....**Actor Brian Dennehy and his 1983 film “Never Cry Wolf”.**

21. I work best when....**I can focus on one task at a time.**

22. Ask me to get up in front of a group of people to present something and I....**focus hard on the subject instead of myself to alleviate self-consciousness.**

23. The best TV drama series ever was....**the neo-western “Yellowstone” with Kevin Costner and Kelly Reilly and written by Taylor Sheridan.** (Shown



right) I contacted Sheridan to let him know that the every-other-f***-word was distracting from his superb writing skills and was surprised that he corrected! Coincidence?



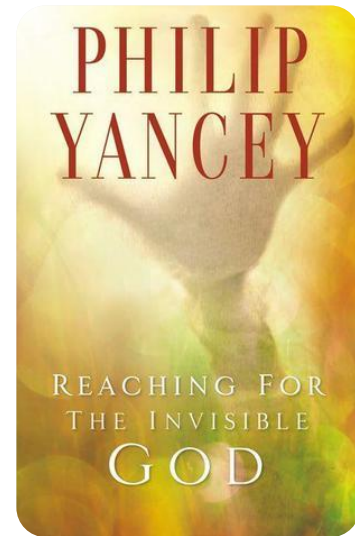
24. I'm fascinated by...**the inability of humans to learn from the past.**

25. I can't believe I used to....**walk in high-heeled shoes all day long working in the Auditor General's Office, where I often walked to meetings between buildings.**

26. I admire people who....**are non-judgmental.**

27. I don't understand people who....**have never experienced hardship or loss.**

28. A book everyone should read is....**“Reaching for the Invisible God”, by Phillip Yancey.** Yancey asks, "How do I relate to a God who is invisible when I'm never quite sure he's there?" This book offers deep, satisfying insights to the questions you are sometimes afraid to ask, e.g., What can you count on this God for? How can you know God? This relationship with a God you can't see, hear, or touch--how does it really work?



29. My political views are....**not as important as originally thought.** I now believe that lifestyle views matter so much more.

30. I'd like to go back in history and....**spend more time with Grandfather Oscar Ackerman; he told me that he prayed for each one of us grandchildren even before we were born.**

31. I'm thankful for....**the mother I was blessed with, her Bible, the world-wide Christian church, family, friends, good food, a comfortable home, retirement, enough money to be comfortable in retirement, functionality, creativity, art, and that I was able to pay off my home mortgage, which seemed impossible at the outset.**



32. A musical I attended and can't forget was....**“Phantom of the Opera” on**

Broadway, because the venue, talent and music were exquisite.

33. When I was young I wish I had....**been wiser. Sara Teasdale said it best in her poem *Wisdom*. “When I have ceased to break my wings against the faultiness of things, and learned that compromises wait behind each hardly opened gate; When I can look life in the eyes, grown calm and very coldly wise, Life will have given me the truth and taken in exchange - my youth.”**

34. I was really moved by the movie....**“Shadowlands” with Anthony Hopkins. I was moved by the 1950s plot of the reserved, middle-aged bachelor C. S. Lewis as an Oxford University academic at Magdalen College and author of *The Chronicles of Narnia* series of children's books who meets American poet Joy Davidman Gresham and her young son Douglas on their visit to England. He did not yet know the circumstances of Gresham's troubled marriage. What begins as a formal meeting of two very different minds slowly develops into a feeling of connection and love. Lewis finds his quiet life with his brother disrupted by the outspoken Gresham, whose uninhibited behavior sharply contrasts with the rigid sensibilities of the male-dominated university. They ultimately marry and it is a marriage of convenience, a platonic union designed to allow Gresham to remain in England. But when she is diagnosed with cancer, deeper feelings surface, and Lewis' beliefs are tested as his wife tries to prepare him for her death. I am in the throes of writing about two**



sisters who also attempted to prepare family and friends for their deaths.

35. I once refused to....sign my name to a document that my bosses wanted to fire a co-worker who was not guilty of the charges they cooked up.

36. One quality I look for in others is....patience.

37. I used to be obsessed with this song....“O Love That Will Not Let Me Go”, until I created this painting related to the third stanza line, “I trace the rainbow through the rain”: At age 20 George Matheson (1842-1906) was engaged to



be married but began going blind. When he broke the news to his fiancée, she decided she could not go through life with a blind husband. She left him. Before losing his sight he had written two books of theology and some feel that if he had retained his sight he could have been the greatest leader of the church of Scotland in his day. A special

providence was that George’s sister offered to care for him. With her help, George left the world of academia for pastoral ministry and wound up preaching to 1500 each week—blind. The day came, however, in 1882, when his sister fell in love and prepared for marriage herself. The evening before the wedding, George’s whole family had left to get ready for the next day’s celebration. He was alone and facing the prospect of living the rest of his life without the one person who had come through for him. On top of this, he was doubtless reflecting on his own

aborted wedding day twenty years earlier. It is not hard to imagine the fresh waves of grief washing over him that night. In the darkness of that moment George Matheson wrote this hymn. He remarked afterward that it took him five minutes and that it was the only hymn he ever wrote that required no editing.

37. When I am feeling lonely....I listen to the Westminster Choir sing it on Youtube.

38. I always wanted to look like....Farrah Fawcett and found a hairdresser who could cut and style my hair like hers. With the

passing years trading physical beauty for wisdom, I now picture myself in a positive way.

(Right, a picture of Marilyn in the FF hairdo.)



39. If you are about to marry, just know that....**you better be the best of friends first, and concentrate on remaining that way. The triangular importance is God - first, spouse - second, self - third on both sides of the aisle.**



40. One technique I've used to fall asleep is....**winning a game or two of Titan Chess on the computer. Chess Titans is a chess game with 3D graphics. It is a fully animated, photo-realistic interactive game with ten difficulty levels. It can be played by two participants, or one player against the computer. I have found it to be relaxing and a great way to learn how to play chess.**

41. One eating habit I'd like to get rid of is....**having dinner too late for a good night's sleep.**

42. I hate to say it about myself, but....**I can be really annoying to myself, as well as others. I consider my most annoying trait is trying to please others when they are being annoying.**

43. I'm really proud that....**I attended college and moved up the ladder at work.** [See the introduction to her Interview.]

44. I'm really bugged by people that....**are condescending.**

45. A part of my physique I wish were better is....**my muscles.**

46. I often think about....**mortality and my own death, which leads me to read a lot of books about it and led me to the "Aging With Dignity" website. The temporary nature of my time on earth requires a deeper compassion for myself and others, so my human nature is challenged. I want to be discerning about my spirituality and how I exercise myself in that fashion. I feel it is important to be aware of what I open myself up to, i.e., Does it bring me peace? Superiority is not the goal. Does my experience of spirituality alter my life in a lasting way, and lead to acts of compassion and goodness?**



Instead of the John I call my bathroom the Jim!
That way it sounds better when I say I go to the Jim first thing every morning!!!



47. Not many people realize that I'm good at....**garden design. When I purchased a home with a basic landscape that my parents owned,**

I was immediately compelled to add design suitable to the property location. As an open, corner lot it begged for privacy. So I first added thirty-eight arborvitae, followed by brick pavers, concrete patio, potting shed, and four trees. Spring provides new ideas every year.



48. When I see a man, I'm usually drawn first to... **his expression and body language, to get a sense of safety in his presence. It is possible that only those who have worked in inner city environments will understand this.**

49. In recent years I've changed a lot in...**the way I dress. I no longer have to follow the rules to dress for success since retirement.**



50. If you ask me at a party if I want a cocktail...**I would ask for a French Martini: [Contents left]**

51. I'm a big collector of....**things that belonged to people I've known and loved, e.g., the house I live in belonged to my parents.**

52. If you asked me to sing karaoke....**I would hope it would be songs by Ella Fitzgerald or Billie Holiday** [Shown right]

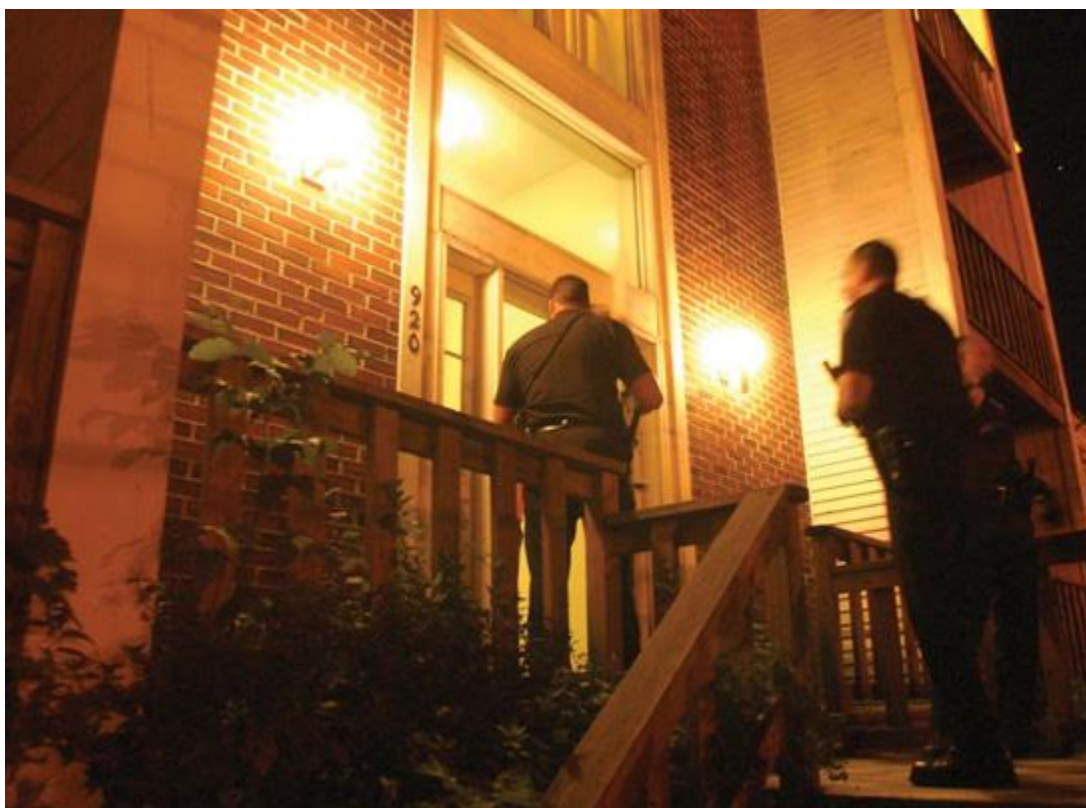
53. If you would ask me to dance....**it should be jitterbug.**

54. My senior year in high school was....**in one instance, a disaster! I became pregnant in May of my junior year of high school and didn't have the wherewithal to "know" it. A 22-year-old soldier by the name of Harvey Lightner sowed wild oats on me and two other females that spring. Sex education was non-existent in the 1950s and parents did not typically speak of or teach the facts of life. Since Pennsylvania law forbade pregnant girls to attend school, I was kicked out of high school in December of my senior year. On February 6, 1957, I gave birth at the Reading Hospital in Berks County where my loving mother drove me on that cold winter night. The birth was already beginning as we drove the icy roads from Robesonia to Reading and fear was mounting because, what appeared to be a deformity, was presenting. The bottom first breach birth almost took both of our lives, except for the medical**



skillfulness of Dr. Richard Kleppinger. So, in this instance, that year was a blessing because a beautiful female child named Melanie Gay McLean was born, saying it all as she mooned the world upon entry. [Marilyn and Melanie are shown on prior page. Circa 1970.]

55. A police car pulls up to my home at midnight and I'm in bed. I'm thinking....**NOW what! This may not be comprehended by someone who received police protection instead of police brutality. During President Kennedy's tenure, I worked in Reverend Leon Sullivan's anti-poverty program and witnessed police brutality and dishonesty, which left a lasting memory. •**





Grim's Map Guide

Public Golf Courses of Southeastern Pennsylvania

Have you ever wondered how many public golf courses there are in Southeastern Pennsylvania? Have you wondered which courses you haven't played yet but are good courses? Have you wondered where a course is that you heard of but never played? Have you wondered which are the golf courses of each county? Or what county a single course is in? Or what county has the most courses? Have you wondered how far it is to a certain golf course? Do you wonder if certain courses are actually eighteen holes or might be fewer? Have you wondered whether a course is a championship layout? Or a course you heard was not that great, but you want to play it and find out?

This is a list of all the public golf courses in Southeastern Pennsylvania. Commonly they are called "daily fee" courses. So, no country clubs. And



Downingtown (Mansions)

Cobb's Creek. They are better than some of the others in SE Pa. But it's your call which ones you might consider playing. They get a lot of traffic and have constant upgrading and maintenance issues. I have also limited my guide list to the six counties closest to Philadelphia: Montgomery, Bucks, Lehigh, Northampton, Chester, and Delaware. I have made an exception for a few courses just beyond their boundaries. These few outsiders were chosen because I am familiar with them, they aren't too far for most of our readers, and are decent in their look and challenge.

If you break up Pennsylvania into four quadrants, many counties and courses are missing. Lancaster, Lebanon, Schuylkill, and Monroe Counties are the ones immediately beyond the six included counties. I made this decision arbitrarily since I am not familiar with these outsiders. And our readers and I would have to go far to play them. The Poconos courses are part of a special vacation area that some readers have played or may want to play sometime and are distant from most readers. Some are in the Southeast quadrant; others not. They should be featured in their own

none from the City of Philadelphia. It has a few municipal clunker courses not worth a mention, let alone a trip. Okay, we'll mention them: Walnut Lane, John Byrne, Juniata and

Galen Hall (Colonials)



article anyway. In fact, you can find guides for just these layouts.

I haven't given the full names of any of the courses, their addresses or websites. Or even a dot showing the exact site of the course. In the Age of Google just list the name and add golf to it and the website appears for every course, usually with a directions map. Since many US courses have similar names, add PA to your search. Since no roads are shown, I have provided some key major towns nearby for easy location.

I have also placed them in four categories with homes as a metaphor for their overall size and quality. The four are Mansions, Colonials, Ranchers, and Condos. Mansions are what are typically called Championship golf courses, often too liberally applied. I've decided what bin to put them in, not letting the course or their ad agency to provide it. They should be creative in design, tough to play, and present a variety of challenges. The next category down is Colonials, where I have put solid,

Inniscrone (Mansions)



decent links that lack the golden luster of Championship quality (Mansions). You should want to play them at least once a year. The next lower bin is the Ranchers. They are the clunkers: open and easy and mostly primitive design. You want to play them only if you have little other option, or they are close and you want to get in a quick round. Or you want to take your new-golfer grandson to play golf on an actual course. It's a course you suppose the farmer who owned the land said to the developer, no sale unless he and his farmhands get to design it. The fourth bin is the Condos—something less than eighteen holes or are less than 70 to 72. Of Sixteen total, thirteen are only nine holes but with decent lengths. For the remaining three, one is twelve holes with decent lengths (**Rolling Turf**). The other two are eighteen holes of decent lengths, but par 65 (**Fairways**) and par 62 (**Meadowbrook**). Arguably these are all Executive courses. **Gilbertsville-New Nine** is Colonial quality. All the rest are only Rancher quality.

For each course, I show its county by the first letter of the county's name. The only two where I needed a second letter are Be for Berks and Bu for Bucks. The few outsider counties are spelled out. The courses are not rated or in any special order within their general category.

A. Mansions *(Championship quality)*

1. PineCrest Bu
2. Lederach M
3. Bella Vista M
4. Linfield National M
5. Northampton Valley Bu
6. Makefield Highlands Bu
7. Allentown Municipal L
8. Bethlehem Municipal N
9. Golden Oaks Bu
10. Berkleigh Be
11. Olde Homestead L
12. Morgan Hill N
13. Wyncote C

While being creative and tough, Mansions provide a variety of challenges.

14. Raven's Claw M
15. Downingtown C
16. Shannondell M
17. Broad Run C
18. Glen Mills D
19. Loch Nairn C
20. Paxon Hollow D
21. Hideaway Hills (Monroe)
22. Westover M
23. Bucks Club Bu
24. Iron Valley (Lebanon)
25. Inniscrone D

B. Colonials *(Solid, decent courses)*

Colonials are pleasant and fun to play and not so hard that you won't play it again.

- 26. Fox Hollow Bu
- 27. Mainland M
- 28. Landis Creek M
- 29. Turtle Creek M
- 30. Wedgewood L
- 31. Hickory Valley-Presidential M
- 32. Shepherd Hills L
- 33. Iron Lakes L
- 34. Green Pond N
- 35. Whitetail N
- 36. Southmoore N
- 37. Five Ponds Bu
- 38. Arrowhead-Red Be
- 39. Honey Brook C
- 40. Blackwood Be
- 41. Manor Be
- 42. Reading Be
- 43. Riverview N
- 44. Twin Ponds M
- 45. Galen Hall Be
- 46. Ingleside C
- 47. Hidden Valley (Schuylkill)

C. Ranchers *(Open, easy and weak design)*

- 48. Gilbertsville Old 18 M
- 49. Skippack M
- 50. Macoby Run M
- 51. Rich Maiden Be
- 52. Green Acres Be
- 53. Kimberton C
- 54. Sawmill N
- 55. Butter Valley M
- 56. Exeter Be
- 57. Flying Hills Be
- 58. Willow Hollow Be
- 59. Horsham Valley M
- 60. Spring Hollow C
- 61. Pickering Valley C
- 62. Springfield D
- 63. Neshaminy Valley Bu
- 64. Hickory Valley-Ambassador M
- 65. Middletown Bu
- 66. Blue Mountain View (Lebanon)
- 67. Moccasin Run C
- 68. Chisel Creek C
- 69. Chapel Hill Be

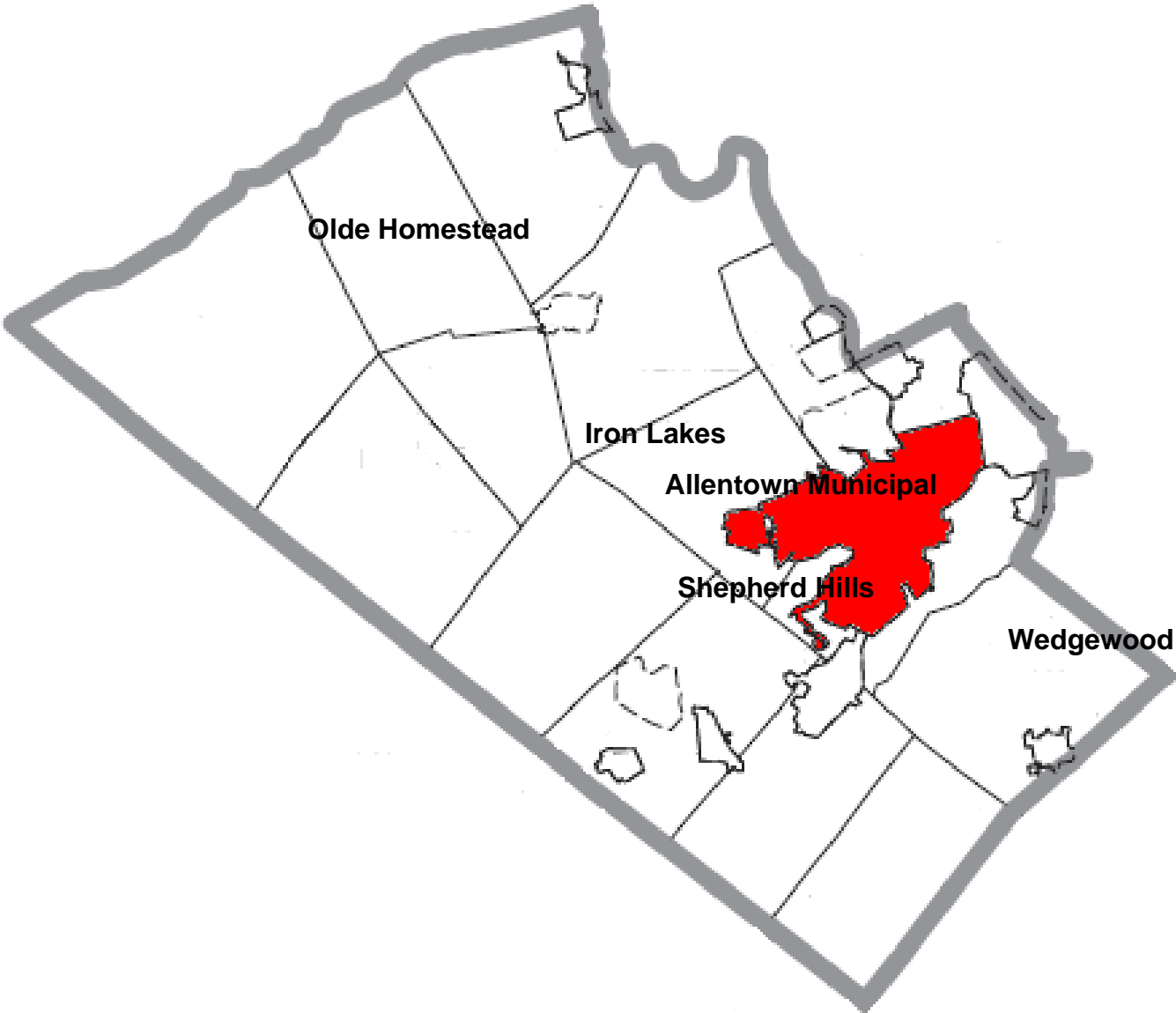
Ranchers disappoint you. You swear the farmer who sold his land to the developer also demanded that he and his farmhands design his new golf course.

D. Condos *(Most nine holes, the rest hybrids)*

- 70. Tumble Brook-9 L
- 71. Twin Woods-9 M
- 72. Arrowhead-Blue 9 Be
- 73. Willow Brook-9 N
- 74. Hawk Valley-9 (Lancaster)
- 75. Green Hills-9 Be
- 76. Worcester-9 M
- 77. Heritage Creek-9 Bu
- 78. Olde Masters-9 Par 31 D
- 79. Gilbertsville-New 9 M
- 80. Sweetwater-9 M
- 81. Walnut Acres-9 Be
- 82. Oxford Valley-9 Bu
- 83. Rolling Turf-12 par 38 M
- 84. Fairways-18 par 65 Bu
- 85. Meadowbrook 18 par 62 M

Less is not more for these layouts. They're all Rancher quality, except for No. 79.

Lehigh County—5



Northampton County-9 Outsiders-2



Bucks County—9



Montgomery County—22



Delaware County—4



Delaware County—12



Berks County—15 Outsiders—3

