

Rock Harbor News

Member Corner: Duane Melius

Misty Fields:

Duane has been a member of RH for



about 5 years; his name and face are probably quite familiar to most people, as his outgoing personality and lighthearted demeanor precede him. Duane has a core group he plays golf with, but he says that everyone is really his friend.

Duane was born in Front Royal but his family moved to Hagerstown, MD where he grew up and graduated from high school.

Mr. Melius, Duane's father, was a car salesman and he owned his own dealership in Hagerstown. Duane's first job was cleaning the cars at

the dealership and then when he got his licenses he would move the cars from lot to lot. When it came time for Duane to enter the adult world of working he felt like he had two choices: become a car salesman or be a restaurant owner. His grandfather owned a restaurant and wanted to leave ownership to Duane, but Duane wanted to follow in his father's footsteps and become a salesman. His father had one piece of advice for him: "Learn how to talk to people." Mission accomplished. Duane wondered if he made the right choice over the years, but 40 years later and approximately 6500 cars sold, (that's about 162 cars per year), we can safely say you might be in the right business.

Life hasn't always been about work for Duane, he has many hobbies outside of work (and golf) that keep him busy. For years Duane and his good buddy, Mike Moore played on a professional bowling

team that traveled up and down the East Coast. There was apparently a lot of winning between the both of them, but it is unknown as to who took home more trophies in the sport. Duane owned race horses for a little over a decade and raced them at Charlestown. He drove race cars at the Winchester Speed Way and drove drag cars at the Mason Dixon Race Track. In 1998 there was an article in the Hagerstown paper, entitled, "Boys and their Toys." It was an article about Duane. You might be wondering why the paper would write a story like this on Duane Melius, you might be thinking, a lot of guys have hobbies and like their toys...so what? To answer that, we have to go back to Easter Eve, 1998.

Duane was flying over the Shenandoah Valley in a plane that ran out of gas, way before the airport. He located I81, began to lower the plane and traffic began to clear, but before he could land the plane a bridge came into his

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path and he had to pull the plane up to avoid hitting the bridge, when he did, gas from the wings gave him a little more flight, but still not enough to make the airport. He ended up in a swamp, in Martinsburg, WV. He got out of the plane and began to walk; he saw a car wash and a man washing his truck. He asked the man if he could get a ride. The man asked if he broke down, Duane said, "not exactly". The man asked why he needed a ride, Duane said, "you will not believe me if I tell you". The man said, "You are going to have to tell me if you want a ride". Duane said, "Look over there", the plane was visible and the man washing his truck said, "No you didn't!" The good thing is, no one was hurt, and Duane thought he would just keep this to himself. But, the next day was Easter dinner with his family; the topic of conversation: a plane wreck that happened the night before. Someone wondered out loud if anyone was killed in the accident. Duane quickly speaks up, "No!". The family began to question how he knew for certain. We could circle back around to the title of the article and answer...Boys and Their Toys, that's how he knows. Duane said he is really looking forward to retiring in about 4 years. When asked what he was going to do, he thought for a moment, and decided he would like to be a Ranger at the course, or even mow the grass. He has a little time to refine his plans for retirement, but in the mean time I am sure the golf, friendship and laughter at the course will continue.

Coles Corner

April Charity Tournaments

1. Insurance Association of Northern Shenandoah Valley is Friday, April 20th. It is a 4 Player Scramble with proceeds donated to Bright Futures.

brightfuturesfrederickcounty.org

GUEST FEES- \$125 per player or \$400 per team

MEMBER FEES- \$75 per player or \$255 per team

2. Greenwood Volunteer Fire & Rescue is Friday, April 27th. It raises funds to support our local volunteer Fire men or women with expenses they have as well as new equipment needed for the outfit.

GUEST FEES- \$90.00 per player

MEMBER FEES- \$42.00 per player

April Member Events

Member Opening Day is Sunday April 15th. It's a 4 player scramble with the teams set by the committee. Food will be provided by the club.

Shotgun start will be @ 0830 on the Boulder Course. Signups close Friday April 13th. I wish everyone the best this month and our staff will be here to answer all your questions!!

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BEFORE and AFTER



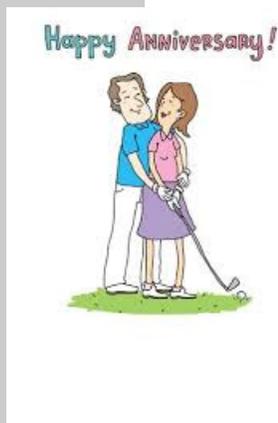
7 Boulder

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Birthday's and Anniversaries: April



Dan Wall—April 2
Mary Lou Schroeder—April 12
Jerry Updike—April 15
John Saunders—April 18
Kelli Spence—April 24
Jeanne Stensland—April 28



June & Bruce Qualls—April 5
Denise & Tom Adams—April 6 (22 years)
D'Ann & Kevin Kenney—April 8 (40 years)
Hope & Stephen Brim April 10 (42 years)

Welcome

Welcome to our new members:

Chris Furey
Matt Keller