Digging for Clams...Err...Golf Balls

For the past four winters, Josh Tobey, a 78-year-old member of the Elks Club of State College (Pa.), gets his exercise in a unique way on the frozen golf course ponds. Tobey grew up in the New England area and was exposed to clam digging early in his teens. That practice has come in handy for his winter activity. He can be found almost daily, chopping holes through the ice-digging for golf balls with his homemade "clam digger." This past winter he found nearly 3,000 golf balls.

On good days Tobey will usually fill a 5-gallon bucket with balls, about 300 of them, that he has dug out of the muddy pond bottoms. Tobey says it's great exercise. The only negative is cleaning each of the

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What does Tobey do with thousands of golf balls? He has given many to local high school golf teams, sold them to raise money for his church and library and given them to the course pro for range balls.

(Editor’s note: David Williams, certified superintendent of the Elks Club of State College, sent us this information about Tobey and took the photographs of him in action.)

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