



# Leaky Weeks Almanac

USS John W Weeks  
Association

Volume 12, Issue 1  
May 2015

**Len Budzynski, President: 7249 Clipper Ct, Maumee OH 43537, (419) 878-3747, [lenski@buckeye-express.com](mailto:lenski@buckeye-express.com)**

Dear Members, Shipmates and Friends,

Our organization is a reminder of the adage, "The only thing that is constant is change."



Our organization is experiencing that adage now. Last year, our long time and reliable Treasurer Bruce stepped down. His shoes are being filled by Jerry Wester doing double duty as Secretary-Treasurer. As he mentioned in previous newsletters, Len is stepping down as President at the end of this year after serving us with unselfish work and expertise for twelve years. We had to rely on Len's help for this newsletter for one last time but future ones will be my total responsibility with the much needed help of co-editor Ray Goodmuth. Len will continue to be our Website Administrator for some time until a replacement is found for that role.

The entire Executive Board has been busy since the Harrisburg Reunion and we have been in continual communication. Alan Cutcher is coordinating the reunion being held this year in Port Huron, Michigan. Alan is doing this without the assistance of the Military Reunion Planners but rather has formed his own committee. Many of you probably recall that Alan was the former Mayor of Port Huron and I and many refer to him as the Mayor Pro-Tem. The reunion promises to be one you don't want to miss as well as being one that is less expensive than previous reunions. The registration form, information sheet and an article written by Alan explaining the activities and events that are planned are included in this newsletter.

Director Ray Goodmuth's help is so invaluable in so many areas. Ray is co-editor of the newsletter, he and Kathy Michaels have been working on locating new members, especially those that served aboard the WEEKS in the 60's, and is willing to help in whatever is needed to be done. Special thanks to Ray and Kathy on the new member searches. Bob Michaels will be taking over the assignment of maintaining the membership rosters. Bob will be doing this using an Excel format rather than a data base that Len kept up-to-date. A special thanks to my dear wife Judy for always serving as my proofing editor. An article is included on the Mini Reunion that will be held in Lancaster, NH June 24-27. All shipmates are invited to attend. Of special interest will be the Friday afternoon ceremony that will be the start of the USS John W Weeks Room being developed at the Museum.

Transition issues continue in the areas of dues and the newsletter distribution. Several paragraphs are included of issues that we have discussed over the last several years. In short, we are asking that annual dues be paid to the Treasurer no later than the end of March.

Please feel free to contact me or any of the officers with questions or concerns. We look forward to working with you and do appreciate your support.

Dave Kurtz

## Inside this issue:

Newsletter Distribution	2
Mini-Reunion	2
2015 Reunion	3
Hotel Information	4
Registration Form	5
Sick Call & Taps	6
Hilo, Hawaii	6

---

## PORT HURON, MI 2015 REUNION

**Sept 30 - Oct 3**  
**We will be staying at the Double Tree By Hilton**  
Reunion Forms are in this newsletter and on our website.

---

## Attention!

**Please make sure that we have your correct home address! If you no longer wish to receive the newsletter, contact Dave Kurtz.**



## Changes in the Newsletter Distribution

**AN IMPORTANT REMINDER THAT TO REMAIN ON THE ACTIVE ROSTER AND TO RECEIVE THE LEAKY WEEKS ALMANAC (NEWSLETTER) BY U.S. MAIL OR EMAIL, YOU MUST PAY YOUR ANNUAL DUES OF \$25 BY MARCH 31 OF EACH YEAR. APPROVED HARDSHIP CASES ARE EXEMPTED FROM ANNUAL DUES. IF YOU HAVE NOT PAID YOUR 2015 DUES, PLEASE DO SO IMMEDIATELY IF YOU WISH TO REMAIN AN ACTIVE MEMBER OF THE JOHN W WEEKS ASSOCIATION. REMIT YOUR CHECK TO OUR TREASURER JERRY WESTER AT HIS ADDRESS LISTED IN THIS NEWSLETTER.**

**ALSO, PLEASE HELP US KEEP OUR COSTS DOWN BY LETTING ONE OF THE OFFICERS KNOW YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS IF WE CURRENTLY DO NOT HAVE ONE ON FILE FOR YOU. THIS WILL BE VERY MUCH APPRECIATED.**

**STARTING WITH THIS ISSUE OF THE NEWSLETTER, IN MOST CASES, MEMBERS WHO HAVE EMAIL ADDRESSES WILL BE SENT THE NEWSLETTER VIA EMAIL. OVER THE PAST SEVERAL YEARS, WE HAVE DISCUSSED THE COST FACTOR IN SENDING THE NEWSLETTERS VIA THE U.S. MAIL SYSTEM. HOWEVER, IF THERE IS A VALID REASON WHY YOU WOULD LIKE THE NEWSLETTER SENT TO YOU VIA U.S. MAIL, PLEASE LET ONE OF THE OFFICERS KNOW. THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR COOPERATION ON THIS IMPORTANT MATTER.**

## Weeks State Park, Lancaster, NH

At 1:00 pm on June 26 a special ceremony will be held at the John W. Weeks Homestead Museum located in the Weeks State Park to celebrate the start of the JOHN W. WEEKS DD-701 ROOM being developed at the Museum. Lunch will be served before the meeting and a reception will follow afterwards. The Weeks Association is donating the ship model of the WEEKS donated to the Association last year to be the main attraction of the display. Alan Cutcher is also donating a ship's plaque, a commissioning pennant, a set of dress blues and a silver dish from the wardroom to help start the collection.

One room will be dedicated to the John W Weeks. There are three bedrooms upstairs currently with no walls dividing each room. The Museum intends to install a wall to divide our room off. They will need to develop funding or find donations to cover the cost. Our Treasurer, Jerry Wester, will gladly accept donations for this worthwhile and important construction renovation. Alan said he would be willing to donate a plaque to the Weeks Museum at the end of 2015 listing all the donors, and their rating and years of service. This plaque would be the very first item to be placed on the new wall. Alan has also said that if donations exceed the actual construction cost that the balance would go towards the cost of display cabinets or furniture for the room. Several officers have already made donations for the wall. It would be nice for Alan to be able to present a check of approximately \$1,000 to the museum manager and Weeks family at the June 26 ceremony. Descendants of John W. Weeks will be attending.



The John Wingate Weeks Historic site is the Mt. Prospect Estate that was built at the direction of John W. Weeks, a leading conservationist, U.S. Congressman, U.S. Senator, and Secretary of War under Presidents Harding and Coolidge. The 420 acre estate was donated to the State of New Hampshire in 1941 by his children.

More information on the site can be found on-line at: *The Hampshire Division of Parks and Recreation: Weeks State Park.*

If anyone has an article (directly related to the ship) or photos that they would like to donate to the collection please send it to: Alan Cutcher, 1118 Lincoln Ave., Port Huron, MI 48060 by June 15<sup>th</sup>. Please include your name, rate and years of service on the WEEKS for the Museum.

**A reminder that this ceremony is a part of a Mini-Reunion being held June 24-27 in the Lancaster, New Hampshire area. All members are invited to attend the Mini-Reunion. If you are planning to attend, please let Alan or Dave know so that museum staff can adequately prepare for the lunch, reception and tour.**

## **PORT HURON 2015 WEEKS REUNION** – by Alan Cutcher

At last year's reunion it was decided to attempt for us to plan our own reunion without the assistance of professional planners. It is anticipated that we could possibly reduce costs for those attending. If this is successful I know of a couple other members who would like to Host the group in the future.

The schedule for the reunion this year is a little more relaxed...no activities before 9:00 am!! Breakfast in the dining room everyday is included!! The Tours are designed to be included for everyone. The Lightship tour will include an area with a video show of the entire tour for those who don't want to climb all the ladders up and down the ship. The Ice Museum tour is unique showing a way of life long gone. You will enjoy the Thomas Edison Depot tour. The Depot is on the river directly in front of the Hotel. Thomas Edison worked in the Depot and on the trains. His Father Sam lived in a house at the top of the hill behind the Hotel.

The Hotel is located on the St. Clair River near the site of Fort Gratiot, a Fort built during the War of 1812. To the North of the Hotel is the end/start of Lake Huron, depending on which way your heading. You will have a chance to explore the Lake and River if you sign up for the Huron Lady Cruise.

Just North of the Hotel, on the River, is the International Flag Plaza which was built, after 9-11 , to honor all those who respond to 9-11 calls and to show our appreciation to our Canadian neighbors for their support during the attack of 9-11. A special dedication of an engraved "Tribute Stone" in honor of the John W. Weeks will be held there. Those who served on the Weeks during the summer of 1959 might remember passing this spot as a part of the escort for Queen Elizabeth and Prince Phillip during the opening of the St. Lawrence Seaway.

Your registration bag will include all the details including lots of local information.

A representative of the Local Tourist and Visitors Center will be available most of the time.

Remember...if you are going into Canada you will need your passport!

I look forward to showing you my hometown!

### **USS JOHN W. WEEKS REUNION SEPTEMBER 30-OCTOBER 4, 2015 DOUBLETREE/HILTON – PORT HURON, MICHIGAN**

#### **Wednesday, September 30**

- 3:04 p.m. - 6:59 p.m. Reunion Registration  
7:01 p.m. – 8:01 p.m. Welcoming Reception in Hospitality Room- Abbey South  
Followed by an Ice Cream Social (suggest you have dinner before the reception)

#### **Thursday, October 1**

- 9:02 a.m. Hospitality Room- Abbey South  
Presentation by "Freighter Frank," Huron Lightship Tour, Tour of Maritime Center and River Walk, Lunch at Rixs on the Rocks (order off menu)  
2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Tribute Stone dedication and wreath presentation at International Flag Plaza followed by a tour of Lighthouse Park and a scheduled return to the Hotel by 4:30 p.m.  
Dinner on your own. A list of local restaurants will be in the registration packet and will include directions

#### **Friday, October 2, 2015**

- 9:01 a.m. Tour the Thomas Edison Train Depot, tour of the Ice Museum followed by lunch at the Atrium (order off of the menu)  
2:00 p.m. HURON LADY 3 HOUR CRUISE (OPTIONAL)  
6:00 p.m. Executive Board Meeting  
DINNER ON YOUR OWN

#### **Saturday, October 3**

- 9:04 a.m. Business Meeting in Hospitality Room  
The rest of day open (regular historical trolley rides available...pick up at Hotel)  
6:00 p.m. Cocktails (cash bar) - Abbey South Hospitality Room  
7:00 p.m. Dinner (followed by drawings, 50/50, door prizes and entertainment)

#### **Sunday, October 4, 2015**

#### **DEPARTURE**

*Bus and trolley transportation will be provided for all tours*

*A more detailed listing will be included in the registration packet*



### DoubleTree by Hilton-Port Huron – Port Huron, MI

800 Harker Street, Port Huron, MI 48060

810-984-8000 – Direct

855-610-TREE (8733) – Hilton Reservations Line

#### About The Hotel

Stay at DoubleTree by Hilton – Port Huron and enjoy spacious accommodations, modern amenities and a friendly welcome. We will even greet you with our delicious fresh-baked cookie upon arrival. Centrally located in Port Huron, Michigan, minutes from St. Clair County International Airport, guests enjoy easy access to Port Huron's historic downtown area, with its specialty shops and waterfront eateries, the boardwalk and marina and the McMorran Place Sports & Entertainment Center.

At our Port Huron hotel, each of the spacious guest rooms and suites features stylish amenities including a 37-inch HDTV, a spacious work area, a microwave and mini-refrigerator, a comfortable Sweet Dreams bed, remote printing service and complimentary WiFi. Some guest rooms have balconies offering breathtaking views of The Blue Water Bridge and the St. Clair River.

#### To Make Reservations:

1. Phone the hotel directly at 810-984-8000. Please mention group code JWW.
2. Phone the DoubleTree by Hilton reservation line at 1-855-610-TREE. Please mention group code JWW.
3. Visit our web site at [www.porthuron.doubletree.com](http://www.porthuron.doubletree.com). In the field provided, enter group code JWW.

**Group Name:** USS John W. Weeks Association

**Reunion Dates:** September 30 – October 3, 2015

**Rate:** \$119 including breakfast + 11% tax

**Special:** The rate of \$119 with breakfast is available starting September 27<sup>th</sup> through October 6<sup>th</sup>, for guests interested in a longer stay.

**Block Cutoff Date:** August 30, 2015. If reservations are not received by 8-30-15 this block will be released and rooms will be on a space available basis only at the standard selling rate.

**Cancellation Policy:** To cancel, please call the hotel directly at least 24-hours prior to the arrival date to avoid a cancellation fee.

**IMPORTANT:** Please remember, when traveling through Canada, a passport or an enhanced license is required!

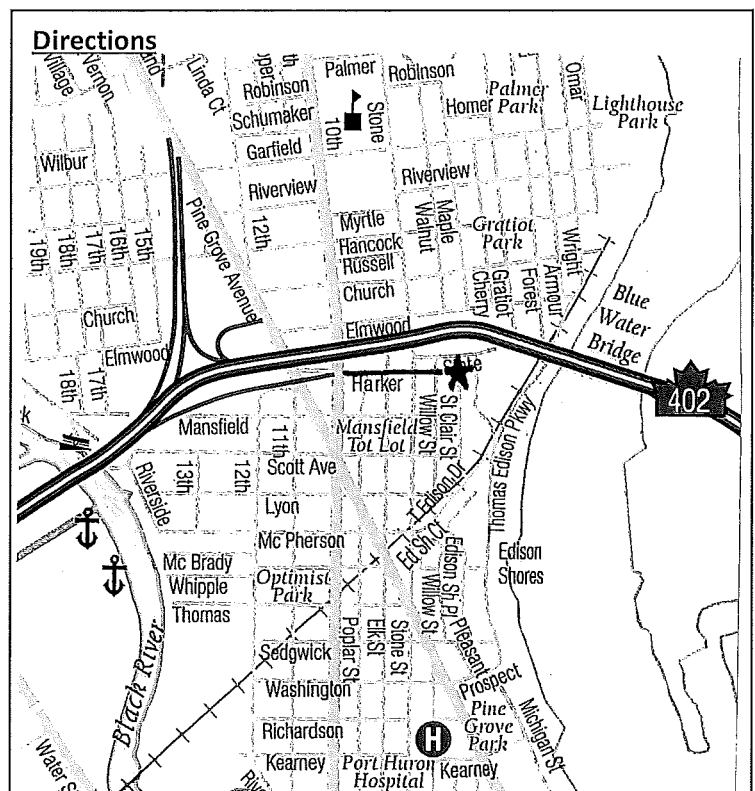
#### Directions

When driving East on I-94, take exit 275, stay straight onto Harker Street and the hotel will be directly in front of you.

If coming from Canada, turn right towards Downtown Port Huron, turn right onto Hancock and then right onto Pine Grove. Go underneath the overpass for the Blue Water Bridge and turn left onto Harker Street. The hotel will be straight ahead of you.

#### Local Shuttle Services

AcquaBlu Transportation	(810) 488-0266
City Cab	(810) 984-4100
Luxury Car Service	(313) 623-5512
Ruby's Airport Transportation	(800) 862-4496



**JOHN W. WEEKS (DD-701) REUNION • PORT HURON, MICHIGAN  
ACTIVITY REGISTRATION FORM**

Listed below are all registration, tours, and meal costs for the reunion. Please enter how many people will be participating in each event and the total amount. Send the amount payable to JOHN W. WEEKS ASSOCIATION in the form of a check or money order. All registration forms and payments must be received by mail on or before August 15, 2015. After that date, reservations will be accepted on a space available basis. Please do not staple or tape your payment to this form.

**MAIL YOUR CHECK OR MONEY ORDER  
PAYABLE TO JOHN W. WEEKS ASSOCIATION TO:**  
Jerry Wester, Treasurer  
2590 Sylvan Street, Little Canada, MN 55117

**CUT-OFF DATE IS 8/15/15**

ACTIVITY	Price Per	# of People	Total
THURSDAY am pm / FRIDAY am TOURS	\$35.00		
FRIDAY pm HURON LADY CRUISE - 3 hours	\$35.00		
SATURDAY: BUFFET DINNER	\$35.00		
<b>MANDATORY PER PERSON REGISTRATION FEE</b> (Covers various reunion expenses)	\$35.00		
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>			
<b>2016 ASSOCIATION DUES</b>	<b>\$25.00</b>		
<b>VOLUNTARY DONATION TO JOHN W. WEEKS MUSEUM MEMORIAL DD-701 ROOM</b>			
<b>TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE</b>			

**PLEASE PRINT NAME AS YOU WANT YOUR NAMETAG TO READ**

FIRST \_\_\_\_\_ LAST \_\_\_\_\_

YEARS ON SHIP 19 (\_\_\_\_) - 19 (\_\_\_\_)      RATING \_\_\_\_\_

SPOUSE NAME (IF ATTENDING) \_\_\_\_\_

GUEST NAMES \_\_\_\_\_

STREET ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PH. NUMBER (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

MUST YOU BE LIFTED HYDRAULICALLY ONTO THE BUS WHILE SEATED IN YOUR WHEELCHAIR IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN BUS TRIPS? (PLEASE NOTE THAT WE CANNOT GUARANTEE AVAILABILITY).     YES     NO

EMERGENCY CONTACT \_\_\_\_\_ PH. NUMBER (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

ARRIVAL DATE \_\_\_\_\_ DEPARTURE DATE \_\_\_\_\_

ARE YOU STAYING AT THE HOTEL?     YES     NO      ARE YOU FLYING?          DRIVING?          RV?







## New Shipmates added to our roster

Robert Bundy	MM3	63 - 65	Lloyd J Driesen	MM2	63 - 64
Kendall R Cook	Ens/Ltjg	64- 65	Frank Gratton	SFM2	62—64
Alphonso De Carlo	SFM3	62 - 63			

*If you know of any of our shipmates or family members that are sick, in the hospital, or deceased; please contact Bob Miller or Dave Kurtz*

## Taps

Our friend and regular reunion attendee **Bill Fleming**, age 83, passed away on February 4 at Glens Falls Hospital. Bill served aboard the WEEKS during the Korean War. Bill was a retired detective 3rd Grade with the New York City Police Department. He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Anna E. Beck Fleming.

**Addie Addison**, age 94, passed away on May 29, 2013 at Summerford Healthcare in Falkville, Alabama. During World War II, he served aboard the WEEKS and later at Pearl Harbor. He was employed by U.S. Steel during which time he was ordained a Deacon at Fairfield First Baptist Church. He is survived by his son Dr. Mark K. Addison and his wife Kim.

Phil Varner informed us that **Don Shaw** passed away on December 14, 2014. Don was a new member who attended his first reunion in Harrisburg last September. Don served aboard the WEEKS from 1962 to 1966. He is survived by his wife Judith.

Len received notice that shipmate **John Metroka** passed away in June 2014. John served aboard the WEEKS from 1958 to 1960 as a Fireman. John is survived by his wife Dorothy.

Len also was informed that **Pete Webster** passed away. Pete served aboard the WEEKS during the summer of 1963 as a Midshipman Third Class. Pete is survived by his wife Pat.

Ray Goodmuth received a call from the Margetich family that **William A. Margetich** passed away on November 7, 2014. He was a World War II crew member of the WEEKS and was 92 years old when he passed. William's brother-in-law was old "blood and guts" Chuck Bednarik who just recently passed away. William was a Congressional Investigator for the House Un-American Activities Committee.

Len received notice that shipmate **Norman Michael Zoumis** passed away, he served on the Weeks 1951 - 1952.

We were noticed that **Robert Martin Jr** passed away, he served on the Weeks 1951 - 1955.

We were noticed that **Edward Fennel** passed away, he served on the Weeks 1950 - 1951.

Len received a call from a friend of **Michael Hackett** to inform the association that Mike passed away after a lengthy battle with cancer.

The association was notified that **James Fryar** passed away. James served on the Weeks 1951 - 1953.

**Mahlon Lynn** passed away. He served on the Weeks 1944 - 1946, no other information is available.

Len also was informed that **Richard Homes** passed away, he served on the Weeks 1952 - 1955 . No other information is available.

Len received a call from Bill Sloan, to inform the association that his wife **Linda** passed away as the result of an automobile accident.

On February 19, Bruce and Jan Neidemire, Ray and Harriett Goodmuth, and Jerry and Shirley Wester were able to meet up in Hilo, Hawaii. Bruce and Jan were on the early part of a month long South Pacific cruise while the Goodmuths and Westers were staying across the Big Island on the Kohala Coast. It was a beautiful day for the get together, blue skies and 80 degrees. Jerry reports that there wasn't enough time for anyone of them to get into any trouble but there was a vague reference regarding where Ray parked the car.

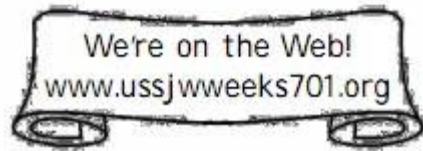




USS John W Weeks  
Association

7249 Clipper Ct  
Maumee, OH 43537  
Phone: 419-878-3747

Email:  
[lenski@buckeye-express.com](mailto:lenski@buckeye-express.com)



## Your Officers and Committee Members

### Directors

Bob Michaels - (757) 898-1650 [remichaels@cox.net](mailto:remichaels@cox.net) Director Emeritus Earl Thomas - (301) 987-6347 [ewtppearl@aol.com](mailto:ewtppearl@aol.com)

Alan Cutcher - (810) 984-4670 [wc1996@aol.com](mailto:wc1996@aol.com)

Ray Goodmuth - (410) 758-6596 [raygoo@live.com](mailto:raygoo@live.com)

### President:

Len Budzynski - (419) 878-3747 [lenski@buckeye-express.com](mailto:lenski@buckeye-express.com)

### Vice President:

Dave Kurtz - (717) 366-4610 [davejudy55@gmail.com](mailto:davejudy55@gmail.com)

### Secretary:

Jerry Wester - (651) 483-4252 [shirjer99@juno.com](mailto:shirjer99@juno.com)

### Treasurer:

Jerry Wester - (651) 483-4252 [shirjer99@juno.com](mailto:shirjer99@juno.com)

2590 N. Sylvan Street

Little Canada, MN 55117

### Chaplain:

Bob Miller - (304) 897-5892 [uncleskip@hardynet.com](mailto:uncleskip@hardynet.com)

### Historian:

Jim Fariello - (303) 659-3319 [jamesFariello@netscape.net](mailto:jamesFariello@netscape.net)

### Newsletter Editor:

Dave Kurtz - (717) 366-4610 [davejudy55@gmail.com](mailto:davejudy55@gmail.com)