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# ❖ Weedman Newsletter ❖

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Volume 43 Issue 2

Summer 2010

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*The Weedman Newsletter is available to those interested in either paper or electronic form.*

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## Subscription Renewals Due

It is time to remind subscribers to send a donation of \$5.00 per year to continue to receive the Newsletter.

For those who are computer savvy, we are going to offer an alternate way of getting the Newsletter. The on line version will be offered at no cost to those inclined to get the electronic version.

Here is how we will handle on-line subscribers. Send an e-mail to Editor Nick Weedman ([nick@weedman.org](mailto:nick@weedman.org)) and ask to receive notification that a new issue of the Weedman Newsletter has been posted to the web site. A mailing list for those subscribers will be compiled and once a new issue is posted, an e-mail will be sent advising it is ready for viewing.

Again, this will be offered at no cost but we will restrict participants to those with a true interest in sharing family information or in pursuing the family genealogy.

Many will prefer to receive the standard paper copy and the cost of this will remain, as it has for 42 years at \$5.00. We will encourage new subscribers to use the on-line version but will still offer the standard hard copy.

If you are due for a renewal contribution and have not opted for the electronic version, a yellow notice slip will be enclosed with this issue.

Your interest and continued support of the *Weedman Newsletter* is highly appreciated.

## Newsletter Archives Available

The *Weedman Newsletter* is now in its 43<sup>rd</sup> year. Originated in 1968 by **Paul** and **Marianne Montgomery**, the publication has been a source of family information for all of that time. In addition, it has stimulated family research and published many of those findings.

All of the available issues of the Weedman Newsletter are now available on the family web site, [www.weedman.org](http://www.weedman.org). In 1996, the series begins with Issue 2 and it is unclear if there was an Issue 1 which is not available to the editor or whether there was simply none published. If any of our subscribers have a full set of Newsletters and could see if they could find Issue 1 of Volume 29, we would like to obtain a copy.

All of the Newsletters are in Adobe Acrobat format and fully searchable. Early issues may not be searched as accurately as we would like since some of the type was cursive and there is the occasional hand written note. These are not well recognized by OCR (optical character recognition) software.

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*Roy L Weedman was a gifted and prolific writer. His autobiography is an extremely interesting work.*

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Many of the Volumes were manually indexed by the Montgomery's or other volunteers. These indices can prove helpful and supplement the OCR searching you might use.

We trust you will find the Newsletter Archives helpful. It is noted that the formatting appears to be less than professional at this point but we will work to improve that.

### Roy Weedman Autobiography

We were recently contacted by **Lillian Roe Gilmer** of Nashville, TN who descends from the **Willis Green Weedman, Sr.** line of Kentucky Weedmans. Mrs. Gilmer is an attorney who found our web site and made contact to update her family information. She is a cousin to **Dr. Daniel Wilson Weedman**, a well known astronomer, and advised that Dr. Weedman had furnished to the immediate family a copy of an autobiography written by his father,

**Roy Lee Weedman**, a number of years ago.

**Roy and Louetta Weedman** were frequent participants in the Weedman Family Reunions. He was an excellent and creative writer who supplied us with a family song and a poem about our family name. Both Roy and Lu Weedman died last year only months apart.

The autobiography is mentioned because it is a highly personal recollection of not only his family history but also his recollection of the Weedman family in the Grayson and Ohio Counties area of Kentucky. The work is over 60 pages long and thus too long to publish here. We would hope that more family members would document their recollections of their past and their family history for future generations to have. The use of video recordings of conversations can prove informational. Or, audio recordings, as **Kenneth Weedman** made could be quite interesting.

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## About the Weedman Newsletter

The *Weedman Newsletter* is a quarterly family publication with emphasis on the genealogy of the Weedman and allied families. It is distributed to interested family members, selected genealogical societies and libraries. Circulation is 120.

The *Newsletter* is edited, published and distributed by **Nick Weedman**. All address changes, new subscriptions, etc. should be sent to him.

Articles for publication in the Newsletter are highly welcomed. They must have some relevance to the family and those with a genealogical flavor are of particular interest.

Editor and Publisher: **Nick Weedman**  
130 Berry Creek Drive  
Flat Rock NC 28731-8531  
E-mail address: [nick@weedman.org](mailto:nick@weedman.org)

Visit the Weedman Web-page at: <http://www.weedman.org>.

Queries regarding the Weedman family or allied lines are welcomed. Attention will be given to each and for those which cannot be answered by family genealogists, publication in the *Newsletter* will be made.

The *Weedman Newsletter* is a registered publication (ISSN 0883-7791).

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Perhaps **Dr. Daniel Weedman** would provide permission for us to put excerpts or the full work on the family web site.

**Dr. Daniel W. Weedman** is in the Weedman Family Hall of Fame.

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## Family Names in the News

*The internet has proven to be an excellent tool to learn about achievements of family members whose accomplishments may otherwise be unknown. Here we will advise of some of the positive items that we have found on this medium.*

**Donovan Weedman** of North Platte, NE is appearing in the news for his accomplishments as a high school golfer. Most recently, he was the top male golfer in the Gothenburg NE invitational golf tournament shooting a 74. We will keep a watch for even better scores from this young man.

**Jonathan Weedman** of Los Angeles, CA was recently elected as Chairman of the Board of the Young Musicians Foundation of that city. Jonathan is a Regional Vice President of the Wells Fargo Foundation. This Foundation is the largest donor to non-profit organizations in Los Angeles County. Jonathan is involved in a large number of civic and cultural organizations in that city. His father, **Charles Vern Weedman**, is a very well known attorney who is in the Weedman Family Hall of Fame.

**Lillian Rawles Educational Foundation** of Dyer County, Tennessee was founded by one of the daughters of **Margaret Olive (Olly) Weedman Rawles** and is a generous provider of college scholarships to graduates of high schools of that county.

*Obituary*

## Alma L. Weedman Ford

**Alma L. Weedman Ford**, 76, formerly of Louisville and of Horse Branch, KY, died Wednesday, May 5, 2010 at her residence.

She was preceded in death by her first husband, **Jimmie B. Weedman**, who passed December 6, 2000.

Survivors include her husband, **James L. Ford** of Horse Branch; son, **Jeff (Jane) Weedman** of Horse Branch; daughter, **Sondra (David) Harbison** of Louisville; three grandchildren, **Patrick (Natalie) Harbison**, **Ben Quinton**, and **Kati Weedman**; and one great-grandchild, **Brett Harbison**.

Funeral services were held May 10, 2010 in Louisville, KY with burial in Bethany Cemetery in Louisville.

*Source: Louisville Courier-Journal*

Alma and Jimmie Birch Weedman hosted the 7<sup>th</sup> Biannual Weedman Reunion in Bardstown, KY in 1996. They did an outstanding job and supported similar events both prior to and after the one they hosted. Alma was a warm, friendly person who will be sorely missed by her family and many friends.

*Jimmie Birch Weedman's line: Jimmie Birch Weedman<sup>7</sup>, Claude Weedman<sup>6</sup>, James Henry Weedman<sup>5</sup>, Willis Green Weedman, Sr.<sup>4</sup>, John Weedman<sup>3</sup>, Christian Weedman, Jr.<sup>2</sup>, and Christian Weedman, Sr.<sup>1</sup>*

*Obituary*

## Marvin Eugene Weedman

**Marvin Eugene Weedman** of Ooltewah, TN died on May 15, 2010. He leaves his wife **Betty**, and sons, **Kirk A. Weedman** and **Victor A. Weedman**. He was born

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*Alma Weedman Ford was highly supportive of all of our Reunions and other family activities.*

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*The lawsuit over the estate of John Weedman, son of Christian Weedman, Sr. was highly informative.*

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April 22, 1937 in Little Rock, Arkansas and was the son of **Heywood Benedict Weedman Sr.** and **Celeste Emma Redman (Weedman)**. Celeste was an avid family history fan and contributed in a significant manner to efforts to document the family.

*Marvin's lineage: Marvin Eugene Weedman<sup>7</sup>, Heywood Benedict Weedman, Sr.<sup>8</sup>, Marc Dominic Weedman Sr.<sup>5</sup>, Elisha Spurrier Weedman<sup>4</sup>, Daniel Weedman<sup>3</sup>, Christian Weedman, Jr.<sup>2</sup> and Christian Weedman, Sr.<sup>1</sup>*

*Obituary*

### **Beverly Elaine (Barrows) Weedman**

**Beverly Elaine Weedman** of Lemon Grove, CA died on February 6, 2010 in San Diego CA. She was the widow of **Albert Leroy Weedman**. She left three daughters: **Sharon Kay, Sandra,** and **Marcia Lynette**. Beverly attended the 11<sup>th</sup> Weedman Family National Gathering which was held in San Diego in 2004.

*Albert Leroy Weedman's line: Albert Leroy Weedman<sup>6</sup>, Andrew Garfield Weedman<sup>5</sup>, Jesse Hamilton Stewart Weedman<sup>4</sup>, David Weedman<sup>3</sup>, Christian Weedman, Jr.<sup>2</sup> and Christian Weedman, Sr.<sup>1</sup>*

*Obituary*

### **Duane Weedman**

**Duane Weedman**, 34, of Juneau, Alaska died on May 25, 2010 in Juneau. He was born in Haines, Alaska and was the son of **Walter** and **Jeanetta (Carder) Weedman**. He was employed by the state of Alaska as an analyst and website developer since 2003. He leaves a brother, **Raymond G. Weedman** of Alaska and his parents.

*Source: Juneau (AK) Empire, May 27, 2010*

*Duane's lineage: Duane Weedman<sup>9</sup>, Walter Weed-*

*man<sup>8</sup>, Winfred Wilbert Weedman<sup>7</sup>, Carey Sylvester Weedman<sup>6</sup>, Henry Linas Weedman<sup>5</sup>, Asa Weedman<sup>4</sup>, John Huhn Weedman, Sr.<sup>3</sup>, Christian Weedman, Jr.<sup>2</sup> and Christian Weedman, Sr.<sup>1</sup>*

### **John Weedman Lawsuit**

*In the Spring 2010 issue of the Weedman Newsletter we provided details of the Elizabeth Weedman Murphy family. A subscriber stated that while it was interesting, the lack of knowledge about the early family left that person wondering about some details.*

*Many genealogical researchers look into census records, vital statistics, probate records, newspapers, etc. to find as much information as possible. But, there are other sources of family information hidden in court records. Here, we will detail a lawsuit which describes in detail the early family structure of the Christian Weedman, Sr. family.*

**John Weedman** was the sixth child and second son of **Christian, Sr.** and **Elizabeth Weedman**. He was born circa 1772 in Fayette County, PA. He doesn't appear in any of the Fayette County tax lists that we can find and thus know little about his early life.

In 1799, **Christian** and **Elizabeth Weedman** sold the homestead, "New Holland", to a couple of neighbors and apparently departed Fayette County. It is unclear where they went prior to their relocation to what was then Hopewell Township of Fairfield County, Ohio about 1806.

However, from early histories of Licking County, OH it has been learned that **John Weedman** was an early settler arrived there in 1801. It is believed that he remained there until his death about 1836 or 1837. He was believed by many to have been an old bachelor, but histories and court records show a different story.

Here is an excerpt from a Licking County,

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OH history entitled, "*Pioneer Papers No. 17*", by Dr. J. N. Wilson:

"...I will mention that this **John Weedman** owned one of the three or four horses that were stolen by the Indians in April after his arrival. The Indians were pursued by Ratliff, Hughes and Bland, overtaken and killed, and the horses brought back. In 1805, we find that this Weedman had purchased 160 acres of land in the refugee tract, near the Perry County line in this county, where he resided some thirty years, and in the mean time, his brother and sister came and settled near him. He was always considered by his neighbors a well to do old bachelor. He died suddenly in his house where he had lived alone. After his death, quite a sum of money was found; the money was sticking in the cracks of his log house, the silver in bags, stowed away in secret. His brother administered the estate (editor note: actually it was his brother-in-law) and he and his sister took possession of the farm supposing they were the rightful heirs; but some one after the death of **John Weedman**, wrote to a **Nicholas Weedman** who was living in Indiana, and who soon made his appearance in Newark (the county seat of Licking County) and made application to our well known fellow citizen, S. D. King, Esq. for the purpose of getting possession of the estate. His statement was that his father while a young man lived in one of the western counties of Pennsylvania, and that he had a love affair with a neighboring girl, but as the course of true love does not always run smooth, they had some difficulty which was settled by an unwilling marriage on his part. As soon as the wedding was over, John left for parts unknown, but turned up on the Bowling Green. Mr. King brought a suit of ejectment against **Nicholas Weedman's** newly discovered uncle and aunt. The trial came on but no one appeared to contest his right, so judg-

ment was obtained by default and he now came in possession of his father's estate, a father that he never saw or knew, much to his satisfaction, but the uncle and aunt thought it rather a hard bargain to give up a good farm to obtain a thirty five year old nephew..."

Despite a fire which destroyed many of the Licking County records, that of the lawsuit survived. In those records, **Jacob Kefover** was revealed to be the administrator of the estate of **John Weedman** and the estate was valued at \$977.13 (a considerable sum in those days!).

The suit reveals the wife of **John Weedman** was **Sophia Weedman** living in Indiana who relinquished any right to the estate. It states that **John** and **Sophia Weedman** were married in March 1792 and that **Nicholas Weedman** was the sole offspring of the couple. (**Nicholas Weedman** was born April 1, 1792).

Of great significance is the naming of the siblings of **John Weedman** who were shown to be: **George Weedman** of Illinois, **Jacob Weedman** of Indiana, **Christian Weedman** of Kentucky, **Adam Myers** and **Mary**, his wife, of Huron Co., Ohio and **Catherine Kefover** of Perry County, Ohio. In addition, children of deceased siblings are named: **Jacob Riffle**, **George Riffle**, **Elizabeth Riffle**, **Hannah Riffle**, and **Catherine Riffle** of Fayette County, PA (these are children of **Elizabeth Weedman Riffle** and her husband **Nicholas Riffle**, both deceased); and **Jacob Walters** of Illinois, **John Walters** of Ross County, OH, **Eli Walters** and **Naomi**, his wife, and **Mary Walters** whose place of residence is unknown.

Why is this important? It confirms the family structure of **Christian Weedman, Sr.** (with the exception of daughters **Elizabeth Weedman Murphy** and **Mar-**

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*Licking County, Ohio histories provide informative if not slanted points of view on personalities of the area.*

*Chelsea Weedman will enter Penn State University on an athletic scholarship for swimming in the Fall of 2010.*

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**garet Weedman**) and reveals the names of surviving children of two other deceased daughters (**Barbara Weedman Riffle** and **Sarah Weedman Walters**).

There is a second lawsuit that is helpful in constructing some of the early family and that is one contesting the estate of **Catherine Kefover** who died in 1861 in Perry County, OH. We will print details of that law suit in a subsequent issue.

*Birth*

### **Harrison Howard Weedman**

**Travis** and **Arielle Weedman** of Portland, OR announce the arrival of their son **Harrison Howard Weedman** who was born on June 12<sup>th</sup> at 8:50pm in Portland. He was 8lbs 8oz and was 21.5". Travis advises "his mom and I are very happy and blessed with a healthy boy".

Congratulations on the latest addition to the Weedman family!

### **More Honors for Chelsea Weedman of San Diego, CA**

We understand from reliable sources that **Chelsea Weedman** was named Student Athlete of the Year at a recent ceremony held in the Cathedral Catholic High School in San Diego, CA. The school has

1,400 students so it is quite an honor to be chosen for this award.

In a recent newspaper article, the following was stated:

"...Weedman set the tone for the current high school campaign when her times at the early-season Mt. Carmel Invitational nearly matched her title marks a year ago in the 100 breast stroke (1:04.23) and 200 IM (2:02.51). Her best in the 100 breast stroke came in her sophomore year (1:03.72)."

"The individual title that I really savor the most is my freshman year in the 100 breast (1:05.65)," Weedman said. "I knew that one would be really tough. I went out and did my best. I had fun with it, and I really was pumped up."

That also put in place the chance to become the second girl to win four titles during her high school career in the 100 breast, following Rancho Buena Vista's Jennifer Ross (1988-91).

Chelsea recently tried out and was selected for the Del Mar CA life guard service this summer. She will enter Penn State University this Fall on an athletic scholarship.

We will surely hear more of her as she begins her college career.

### **Herschel Weedman World War II Record**

**Herschel Weedman** served with distinction in World War II and his son, **Paul Weedman**, of San Diego recently came into possession of a couple of documents that were of great interest. Paul provided those to us and we will print those in this issue. There may be similar records available to family members and hopefully this may initiate some discussion about those who did serve in that war. These appear on the following two pages. Herschel was a son of **Andrew Garfield Weedman** whose line goes back through **Jacob Weedman**.

HEADQUARTERS 8TH MEDICAL BATTALION  
APO 8, U. S. Army

22 May 1945

SUBJECT: Commendation.

TO : Private First Class, Hershel R. Weedman, Company B,  
8th Medical Battalion.

It is with greatest pride and pleasure that this letter is addressed to you personally. The duties you have performed as a driver within your company and the battalion as a whole have made you one of the unsung heroes of this war. The hedgerows of Normandy, the Brittany Campaign ending in the conquest of Brest, the long trip through France to Luxembourg, the mud of the Hurtgen Forest, the battle for Cologne and the crossing of the Rhine, the battle of the Runr pocket, the long trip through Germany ending in the crossing of the Elbe and conquest of Schwerin have not stopped you from surmounting every difficulty. Under all conditions of combat, often under direct fire, and more than once under direct observation from the enemy and in danger of mines, you, together with all the other drivers in your company, have displayed endless courage and tireless devotion to duty. In spite of difficult road conditions, the strain of blackout driving and long hours without rest, men like you have carried on, often saving lives. In addition, you have kept the maintenance of your vehicles at such a high level that the maximum number of vehicles were always available for use.

It is recognized that motor officers, motor sergeants, and mechanics all have contributed to the enviable record this battalion has established, but the principal credit still belongs to the individual driver. Each one of you can be justly proud of the fine work you have done through all these long months of combat operations, and it is my privilege to share this pride with you. Perhaps you do not realize it, but your individual efforts have helped in no small way to contribute to the final crushing victory over the mighty German Army.

*John M. Thompson*  
JOHN M. THOMPSON,  
Lt. Col., MC,  
Commanding.

## History of U.S. Army 8<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division & Medical Battalion in WWII Private First Class, Hershel R. Weedman, Company B

- **07/01/1940** – Activation of the 8<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, Ft. Jackson, S.C.
- **Summer 1941** – Field maneuvers in the Carolinas woods and fields.
- **Fall 1942** – Division participated in maneuvers in Tennessee & Missouri.
- **Summer 1943** – Division participated in maneuvers at Camp Laguna in Arizona desert.
- **12/05/1943** – Division sailed from New York Harbor to Belfast, N. Ireland.
- **12/15/1943** - Division landed in Northern Ireland and began 6 months training before the ETO ( European Theater of Operations ).
- **06/28/1944** – Four troop ships and Twelve Motor transports carried the 8<sup>th</sup> Division towards France.
- **07/04/1944** – Division landed on Utah Beach, Normandy, France ( one month after invasion ).
- **07/07/1944** - **Division enters combat.**
- **07/26/1944** – Division crossed the Ay River after fighting through the hedgerows of Normandy.
- **07/28/1944** – Division pushed its way down the western coast of Normandy.
- **08/08/1944** – Division pushed through Brittany & captured Rennes.
- **08/25/1944** – Division attacked the city of Brest until 09/11/1944.
- **09/19/1944** – Division drove across France to Luxembourg.
- **11/20/1944** – Division entered bitter Battle of the Hurtgen Forest.
- **11/28/1944** – Division cleared the city of Brandenburg.
- **12/03/1944** – Division pushed on to the Roer River.
- **02/23/1945** – Division crossed the Roer River.
- **02/25/1945** – Division captured City of Duren.
- **02/28/1945** – Division crossed the Erft Canal.
- **03/07/1945** – Division reached the Rhine River near Rodenkirchen and maintained positions at Cologne.
- **March 1945** – Division advanced into the Rhineland.
- **04/06/1945** – Division attacked northwest to aid the destruction of enemy forces in the Ruhr Pocket.
- **04/17/1945** – Under operational control of the British Second Army, drove across the Elbe and penetrated to Schwerin when the war in Europe ended.
- **05/02/1945** – Division advanced into northern Germany and encountered the Neuengamme concentration camp and Wöbbelin subcamp, near the city of Ludwigslust. The SS had established Wöbbelin in early February 1945 to house concentration camp prisoners who had been evacuated from other Nazi camps to prevent their liberation by the Allies. Wöbbelin held some 5,000 inmates, many of whom suffered from starvation and disease. The sanitary conditions at the camp when the Division arrived were deplorable. There was little food or water, and some prisoners had resorted to cannibalism. In the first week after liberation, more than 200 inmates died. In the aftermath, the United States Army ordered the townspeople in Ludwigslust to visit the camp and bury the dead.
- **05/07/1945** – Germany surrendered and operations officially came to an end the following day.
- **05/22/1945** – Lt. Col. MC, John M. Thompson in a personal letter commends Private First Class, Hershel R. Weedman, Company B, for his endless courage and tireless devotion to duty.
- **11/20/1945** – Division was re-deployed back to the United States and deactivated.
- In WWII service the 8<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division spent 266 days in combat. Total division casualties were 13,986, 2,852 of which were killed in action.
- **1988** – The 8<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division was recognized as a liberating unit by the U.S. Army 's Center of Military History and the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.



### Ambulance Driver Ranger & Instructor In:

- Physical Conditioning
- Hand to Hand Combat
- Blitz Course
- Booby traps and demolition
- Stalking & ambushing Tanks
- Cliff Scaling & use of Toggle Rope
- Flotation of Personnel and Equipment
- Improved bridges
- Individual Camouflage
- Wire Entanglements
- Sniping & Infiltrations
- Patrol & Ambushing