

# The Weidman Messenger

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## Editor's Column

By Connie

### STANLEY WEIDMAN SELLS HIS DURANGO MILLS

J. Stanley Weidman, only remaining son of John S. Weidman who founded the village of Weidman, sent us clippings from Durango, Colo., newspapers announcing the sale of the sawmills of J. Stanley Weidman, Inc.

We have thought about J. Stanley Weidman many times this past year. We have thought of him, and of his son, John.

Stanley and John Weidman stopped in at the Skinner home a year and a half ago, unexpectedly, and we made the acquaintance of the man with whom we had corresponded for years, and of his son.

The true test of a gentle man (and we don't mean gentleman) is the ability to endure, with grace and charm, two hours of others' visiting, in a strange place and a very strange house. John won our hearts with his gentleness and his devotion to his father.

John died last April 26 of a heart attack, with no warning of his affliction to his family or apparently himself. We have thought of John, often, since then. And we have thought of his father, Stanley Weidman.

The Durango Herald says of John: "The younger Weidman... joined his father after serving in World War II as a fighter pilot.

"He learned the business from the ground up, and in the years prior to his death had been taking over the active operation. Although father and son discussed many matters, the presumption was that the younger Weidman would run the mill during the coming years."

John's son, Buzz, is a Freshman at Colorado State University, too young to enter the business, and so Stanley Weidman sold to San Juan Lumber Company, a major operator in Colorado and Utah.

The Durango Herald goes on: "The senior Weidman returned daily to his desk (after John's death) and the mill has had one of its best earning records this year.

"J. Stanley Weidman, who lost his money in Michigan during the depression, came to Durango and started the mill April 1, (Continued on Back Page)



THEY'RE OFF ON A WINTER VACATION--Cox's Restaurant was closed after business Saturday, to open again in March, the owners said this week. In the photo above, Mrs. Cox, Mr. Cox and Miss Kay Leiter, the Cox's Restaurant friendly and capable staff, pose for the Messenger camera.

Mr. and Mrs. Cox plan to spend December and Christmas with their three daughters and their families in Saginaw, after which they plan a trip to Chattanooga, Tenn., to visit Orville's brother, and then, being that far south, they probably will go on to Bonita Springs, Florida, where Mrs. Cox's sister, Juno (Terwilliger) Anthony, lives on the place Harry Terwilliger started to develop there when the tornado Diana hit the Bonita Springs-Fort Myers area. Mr. Terwilliger's property was totally destroyed by the tornado, Mrs. Cox, another of his daughters, said, and he died discouraged.

Many here will remember Harry Terwilliger who lived north of Weidman years ago. Mr. and Mrs. Cox now own the extensive Terwilliger acreage there, and are making their northern home there.

We all will miss the restaurant, but at that we must remember that Weidman is fast becoming a resort town; and resort businesses often close during winter months.

We wish Mr. and Mrs. Cox a happy winter and good vacation, and urge them to "hurry back".

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### NEWS NOTES

Mrs. Kit Johnson spent Thanksgiving with the Gerald Johnson family in Mt. Pleasant. Mr. and Mrs. Tom Powell and family and Mrs. David Brown of Mt. Pleasant were Friday visitors of Mrs. Johnson.



Messenger photo WEIDMAN POND'S BIG FISH--

The Weidman Mill Pond still has lots of great big fish in it, after having been drained, refilled, drained again, dredged, and generally mauled over.

Silas Harper, of 353 Kent Rd., Merrill, caught this big northern pike Saturday morning on his second cast, in early-winter fishing at the Weidman dam.

The big pike measured 37 inches long and weighed 14 pounds. That's a good enough

## Men in Uniform

P. F. C. Glen Bierschbach, son of Mr. and Mrs. Julius Bierschbach, was assigned Nov. 7 to the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment in Vietnam as a scout, his parents were notified.

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Airman Apprentice Ralph W. Flaucher, USN, son of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Flaucher, has been attending basic Aircrew Survival Equipment School at the Naval Air Technical Training Unit at Lakehurst, New Jersey.

He has been on a 15-week survival course, the course including training in packing parachutes and servicing survival equipment such as aviators' life rafts and life jackets. He will make one voluntary parachute jump with a parachute he personally packed.

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Dick Zeien, John Cotter and Tom Schumacher arrived home last week, all of them discharged after serving their two years in the Army, all of them having done their stint in Vietnam.

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Here's a new address:

Pvt. Wallace H. Skinner, US-54989335, Brty-D-4 TNG 1st--AIT BDE, US ATC-FA, Fort Sill, Okla. 73503.

Wallace arrived at Fort Sill on Sunday, Dec. 1, and is in heavy artillery training for eight weeks.

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### NEWS NOTES

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Hagerman and daughter, Jill, of Allegan were Sunday guests of his mother, Mrs. Vera Hagerman.

Weekend guests of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Pung and family were Mr. and Mrs. Olan Black and family of Middleton, who came Wednesday afternoon. They left two children with the Pungs and came back Saturday, for a family party at the home of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Cotter. Seventeen couples were present, for a family dinner and visit Saturday evening.

fish for anyone.

Mr. Harper told the Messenger reporter that he has been fishing the Weidman Mill Pond since 1937. He came back Saturday and was jubilant, as his prize was expected to win first place in a fishing contest at Sanford, and Saturday was the last day. Mr. Harper hurried to Sanford with his Weidman Mill Pond pike. We have no doubt the Weidman fish won.