

# The Golden Age News

Published monthly by:

## Bluffton Senior Citizens Center

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www.blufftonseniors.org

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JANUARY 2017

Volume I Issue 1  
JANUARY 2017



Mon. 2 **Closed for the NEW YEAR Holiday!!!**

Tue. 3 Dance, 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Wed. 4 Quilting, Crafts  
Potluck, 12 Noon  
Exercise Class, 1:30 p.m.

Thurs. 5 Bowling, 9:30 a.m.  
Euchre, 1 p.m.  
**Community Meal, 6 p.m. by  
Bluffton Presby. Church**

Fri. 6 Dominos, 9:30 a.m.

Mon. 9 **Monthly Dinner Meeting,  
12 Noon**

Tue. 10 Line Dance, 3 p.m.  
Dance, 4 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Wed. 11 Quilting, Crafts  
Potluck, 12 Noon  
**Deb's Workshop, 1 p.m.**  
Exercise Class, 1:30 p.m.

Thurs. 12 Bowling, 9:30 a.m.  
Euchre, 1 p.m.

Fri. 13 Dominos, 9:30 a.m.

Mon. 16 Exercise Class, 1:30 a.m.  
**Bingo w/Bluffton Hearing Center  
2:30 p.m.**

Tue. 17 Dance, 4 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Wed. 18 Quilting, Crafts  
Potluck, 12 Noon  
Exercise Class, 1:30 p.m.  
**Medicare Advantage Meeting, 2:30 p.m.**

Thurs. 19 Bowling, 9:30 a.m.  
Euchre, 1 p.m.  
**Community Meal, 6 p.m.  
By First Menn. Church**

Fri. 20 Dominos, 9:30 a.m.

Mon. 23 **Toenail Clinic, 10 a.m.**  
Exercise Class, 1:30 p.m.  
**Bingo w/Richland Manor,  
2:30 p.m.**  
**Western Square Dancing,  
6:30 p.m.**

Tue. 24 Line Dance Class, 3 p.m.  
Dance, 4 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Wed. 25 Quilting, Crafts  
**Crafters' Meal, 12 Noon**  
**Exercise Class, 1:30 p.m.**

Thurs. 26 Bowling, 9:30 a.m.  
Euchre, 1 p.m.

Fri. 27 Dominos, 9:30 a.m.

Mon. 30 Exercise Class, 1:30 p.m.  
**Bingo/Right at Home,  
2:30 p.m.**

Tue. 31 Dance, 4 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.





**TIME: Monday, January 9th, 12 NOON**

**PLACE; Bluffton Senior Center**

**WHAT: Potluck meal. Please bring a dish to share and your own table service.**

**HOSTESS: Rosemary Meyer**

**MC: Bill Peebles**

**PROGRAM; Connie from Town and Country Flowers will have a demonstration.**



**JANUARY CLOSINGS**



The Bluffton Senior Center will be closed **Monday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>** in observance of **New Year's Day**. The Center will be OPEN on **Monday, January 16<sup>th</sup>** for **Martin Luther King Jr. Day**.

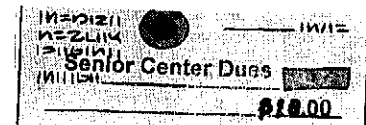
**WINTER WEATHER**



Winter is coming! If Bluffton Schools are closed due to winter weather, **ALL ACTIVITIES** at the Bluffton Senior Center will be cancelled. If the weather turns bad in the middle of the day, please call ahead to check on activities. We use **WLIO Hometown Stations, Lima**, announcement system to announce closings and cancellations. If in doubt, don't hesitate to call the Senior Center, 419-358-8971.



**JANUARY IS DUES MONTH**



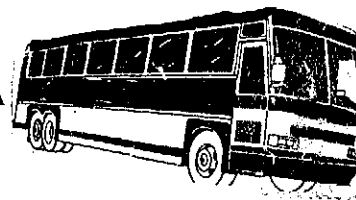
It is the beginning of the year and that means it is time to pay dues. Your dues for 2016 are no due! Dues are still just **\$18.00** a year. They can be paid in person or by mail: **132 N. Main St., Bluffton, OHIO 45817**. Don't forget, you can receive your newsletter by email. Just email your request to [srcenter@wcoil.com](mailto:srcenter@wcoil.com)

**HOBBY CENTER**

We had dolls from around the World to go with the **Blaze of Lights** theme, **THANKS** to **Sara Jane Amstutz**. Twenty-two countries were represented. **THANK YOU Sara** for sharing your dolls! In January, **Elaine Harris** will share her snowman collection. If you have a collection of something you could share with us, phone **Tonya** at **419-358-8971**.



COACH TRIPS WITH TONYA  
2017 Trips



**September 4-13, 2017 Grand Canyon and Red Rocks** We will visit 5 National Parks. Join us to meet a Code Talker, enjoy a cowboy night, and see the Lowell Observatory, visit Sedona, an ancient Pueblo village and much more. Six optional tours are also available on this tour to get the most out of your trip. Price starts at \$2700.00. Brochures are at the Senior Center.

**November 29-December 3, 2017 Christmas in New York City** See Time Square, Chinatown, visit the top of the Rock, the 9/11 Memorial and Museum, the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island and watch the glamorous Rockettes. Price starts at \$1905.00. Brochures are at the Senior Center.



Continue to watch here for more details.



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**VOLUNTEER OF YEAR**



Every year, the **Board of Directors** picks a volunteer or volunteers to receive an award based on their hard work to make the Senior Center a better place. This year, several people thought our **Board President, Roger Edwards** and his wife, **Jo**, because of all the hard work they have done on the apartments. **Roger** had nominated **Harlan and Pat Basinger** because of all the hours they had spent painting the apartments. The **Board** decided to honor all four of them: **Roger and Jo Edwards** and **Harlan and Pat Basinger**. Congratulations and THANK YOU for your hard work!!



**MEDICARE ADVANTAGE PLANS INFO**

**Medicare Advantage** plans may offer extra coverage, like vision, hearing, dental, and/or health and wellness programs. Most include **Medicare** prescription drug coverage. To learn more about these plans and when and how to change your **Medicare**, join us on **January 18<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 p.m.** for a presentation by **Mass Mutual**.



**BINGO**



We have a new BINGO sponsor, **Right at Home**, is a in home care and assistance company out of Lima. **Right at Home** will sponsor BINGO on **January 30<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 p.m.** The first Monday is January 2<sup>nd</sup> and the Senior Center is close, so no BINGO that day! **January 16<sup>th</sup>** BINGO is sponsored by **Bluffton Hearing Center** and **January 23<sup>rd</sup>** BINGO is sponsored by **Richland Manor**.

**April 14th** The "Church Basement Ladies" are back at LaComedia **\$75.00**  
Audiences can't seem to get enough of these witty, lovable ladies. Due by March 1st.

**Tuesday, April 25th.** ShowTime presents "The Juggernaut Jug Band" at Plain City.  
Jazz, ragtime, swing and more via washboards, washtubs, kazoos and jugs  
.Lunch at DerDutchman before this special musical and vocal program. **\$75.00** Due by Feb. 1st.

**May 15 & 16** " The Ark Encounter" and "The Creation Museum".  
2 days - 1 night including a River Boat Dinner Cruise **\$300.00.**  
**\$50.00 Deposit by March 1st.**

"Sister Act" at LaComedia **\$75.00**  
A feel-good musical comedy based on a 1992 hit film. Due by April 1st.

**July 16 - 22 Branson and the Ozarks** 7 days - 6 nights **\$864.00** **Deposit due May 1st.**  
7 fantastic shows, including "Moses" at the Sight and Sound Theater, Dixie Stampede,  
Patsy Cline and Friends, Branson Belle Showboat, Branson Mill Craft Village, The Ducks Land  
and Water Excursion, Uptown Cafe and a show in the Andy Williams Performing Arts Center.

**Vermont, New Hampshire & Maine** **October 14 - 21, 2017** 8 days - 7 nights  
**\$1,050.00 ----- \$50.00 Deposit due by May 1st. Balance due August 14th.**

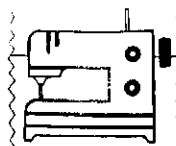
This trip has been sold out for several months with a stand-by list of 20.  
Those of you on the primary list, please call the Senior Center and verify your interest in this trip.

**Ron Retzer presents "Spirit of America"** at DerDutchman in Plain City on **November 10th.**  
A Celebration of America's music with a special salute to Veterans. **\$75.00**  
Ron will be joined by vocalists, Jennifer Galownia and Bob Wolfe.

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**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

Rugs are still a **BIG SELLER** AT THE Senior Center's Gift Shop. The most popular rugs are jean rugs. We are looking for volunteers to cut jean strips here or at home. The job is not hard and does not need to be perfect. Let **Deb** pr **Tonya** know if you can help.



Have you ever propped your cell phone or tablet up against something so you can use it hands FREE? At **Deb's Workshop on Wednesday, January 11<sup>th</sup>, starting at 1:00 p.m.** We will be sewing smart phone holders. There is the option to learn how to make a larger tablet or kindle holder. Please call ahead if you are coming so we'll have enough supplies.



**TOE NAIL CLINIC**



Our next **Toenail clinic** with **Dr. Kirk** is scheduled for **Monday, January 23rd 2017 at 10 a.m.** You must call ahead to make an appointment with **Dr. Kirk**, 419-358-8971. A **\$10.00** fee is due at the time of your appointment.

**WESTERN SQUARE DANCING**



Our next Western Square Dance will be on **Monday, January 23th at 6:30 p.m.** There is no dance in December. The cost is **\$3.00** for non-members and **\$2.00** for members. You don't need a partner as partners are changed throughout the evening. So mark your calendars.

**WISH LIST**



The Bluffton Senior Center could use the following items: red thread, gray thread, small safety pins, any color of all cotton thread, masking tape, get-well cards or sympathy cards. Thank you in advance.



**WE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS...**

Phyllis Scott , Ada      Paul Gossard, Bluffton      Fred & Pat Rodabaugh, Bluffton  
 Connie Bailey, Findlay

**SENT CARDS TO THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS IN THE HOSPITAL...**

Sheila Hurlburt      Paul Gossard



**WE EXPRESS OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF....**

- Mary Ann Kooker;
- Dwight Lutz.



**DECEMBER DINNER MEETING**

It was cold and snow was on the ground, but seventy-five (75) people still made it to the Senior Center for the December dinner meeting. The Staff had the tables decorated for Christmas. **Faith Investment Services** served a nice meal from **Lee's Chicken**. **Tonya** interviewed **Dale Huber** for his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday and gave him his red rose. She also presented the Volunteer of the



(continues from page 5) Year award. **Roger & Jo Edwards** and **Pat & Harlan Basinger** for all the work they did on the apartments. **Gary Reese and Scott Basinger** then gave a short talk on talking to loved ones about the end of life issues. **Phil Schey** ended the program with singing Christmas songs and invited the congregation to join in. A good time was had by all



## NATIONAL DO NOT CALL REGISTRY



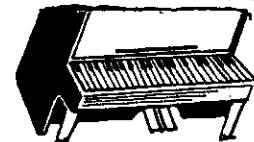
Questions about the **National Do Not Call Registry** were raised at a meeting at the **Center** recently. We hope to help people understand what the Registry is and how it works. The **Do Not Call Registry** prohibits sales calls from legitimate companies. You may still receive political calls, charitable calls, debt collection calls, informational calls, and telephone survey calls. In addition, companies may still call if you've recently done business with the company, or if you've given the company written permission to call you. However, if you ask a company **not to call** you again, it must honor your request. Record the date of your request. The Registry is just a list, it **does not** block your number in anyway.

### STOPPING UNWANTED CALLS

If your number is on the Registry and you get a sales call or an illegal robocall, **don't** interact in any way. **Don't** press buttons to be taken off the call list or talk to a live person. Doing so will probably lead to more unwanted calls. Instead, **hang up** and file a complaint with the FTC.

If you get repeated calls from one particular number, **contact** your phone company. Ask to **block** that number, but first ask if there is a "fee" for the service. There are online **call blocking services** and smartphone apps that **block** unwanted calls. Since 2009, the FTC has seen a significant increase in the number of illegal sales calls. The reason is technology, Internet powered phone systems make it cheap and easy for scammers to make illegal calls from anywhere in the world, and to display fake caller ID info, which helps them hide from the law.

Scammers have started calling and offering to put peoples names on the Registry. **Don't** fall for it! Register your number at **donotcall.gov**. The Registry does not expire! You **do not** need to reregister! This information was taken from the **Federal Trade Commission** website and is believed accurate.



### SHOW TIME AT COLUMBUS

On December 1<sup>st</sup>, 40 Senior Citizens boarded an Excursion Railway bus with **Tim** as our driver. We left the parking lot at 8:45 a.m. with **Bob and Bev**, as our tour guides, going to Worthington, Ohio to Northland Performing Arts Center. On the way, we had a Christmas Quiz with several winners receiving a treat. Arrived at **Bob Evans** for lunch and received a Gift Card to spend for our lunch. At the Arts Center, we were entertained by **Ron Retzer** and **company** with keyboard, fiddle, guitar, and a couple of vocalists. There were several numbers that **Ron** played the "Armonica," an instrument developed by **Ben Franklin**. Everyone present enjoyed the program very much. Boarded the bus and settling in for home, when we had a pleasant surprise! **Tim** pulled the bus into **Graeter Ice Cream Shop** in north Columbus. He did a superior job of navigating the bus in the small parking lot. Ice cream was delicious!! Had some of **Bev's** famous cookies on the trip back to Bluffton. Arrived just in time to join the people there for the Community Meal. A very good Day!!



November 17, 2016

**Men's High Score;**

Jack Wickham	197
Allan Eversole	180
Max McCafferty	160
Dick Marquart	154

**Women's High Score;**

Marilyn Lenhart	142
Susan Thomas	140
Sue Mawhorr	124
Bev Armstrong	118

**Men's High Series;**

Allan Eversole	339
Jack Wickham	336
Dick Marquart	301
Max McCafferty	280

**Women's High Series;**

Susan Thomas	277
Marilyn Lenhart	270
Sue Mawhorr	237
Bev Armstrong	230

December 1, 2016

**Men's High Score;**

Dick Marquart	205
Jack Wickham	172
Mike Bastian	171
Allan Eversole	171

**Women's High Score;**

Linda Taylor	133
Susan Thomas	130
Marcia McCafferty	124
Sue Mawhorr	121

**Men's High Series;**

Dick Marquart	350
Mike Bastian	329
Rick Mawhorr	317
Jack Wickham	313

**Women's High Series;**

Linda Taylor	256
Marcia McCafferty	236
Susan Thomas	234
Sue Mawhorr	228

December 8, 2016

**Men's High Score;**

Allan Eversole	208
Larry Gunn	173
Rick Mawhorr	161
Basil Meyer	160

**Women's High Score;**

Susan Thomas	147
Marcia McCafferty	138
Marilyn Lenhart	137
Sue Mawhorr	114

**Men's High Series;**

Allan Eversole	334
Rick Mawhorr	318
Basil Meyer	303
Larry Gunn	301

**Women's High Series;**

Susan Thomas	288
Marcia McCafferty	263
Marilyn Lenhart	255
Tonya Meyer	212

December 15, 2016

**Men's High Score;**

Rick Mawhorr	206
Mike Bastian	175
Basil Meyer	169
Ed Taylor	163

**Women's High Score;**

Bev Armstrong	148
Sue Mawhorr	147
Linda Taylor	134
Tonya Meyer	103

**Men's High Series;**

Rick Mawhorr	406
Mike Bastian	305
Basil Meyer	304
Jack Wickham	301

**Women's High Series;**

Sue Mawhorr	260
Bev Armstrong	257
Linda Taylor	225
Tonya Meyer	205



## FALL COLOR TOUR OF VERMONT, NEW HAMPSHIRE, &amp; MAINE

October 15 – 22, 2016

Saturday morning, around 7:30 a.m., a Coach USA bus, loaded with forty-nine seniors plus the bus driver, **Bob**, left Bluffton heading east for our eight day trip. **Bob & Bev** greeted everyone and had a prayer for safe traveling. We all enjoyed seeing a beautiful sunrise plus at 5:30 a.m. we were able to see the "Harvest Moon" setting in the west. It was HUGE and a bright orange! The bus was rather loud for the first two and a half hours with everyone getting acquainted with people in front of them, across the aisle, or behind them. Stopped for a break/rest area and enjoyed some of **Bev's** homemade cookies along with several juices and coffee. Back on the bus and heading to **Palmyra, NY** for our first overnight stop. Had a quick supper and returned in time for the **Ohio State** fans to be able to watch the football team play. Luckily the CBS New York station was carrying the game which made the fans on the bus HAPPY! Sure was seeing lots of gray and red on our people plus the next day with **Ohio** wining. (Just have to say, that those **Hawkeyes** won their game, too! I'm from Iowa.)

Sunday the group was up early, ate breakfast and back on the bus going to **Killington, VT**. Since it was Sunday, **Bev** had a little devotion time with reading a poem titled, "Counting Your Blessings," wrote by a 10 year old boy. The message was to appreciate things you have been blessed with from **God** every day. Ended by everyone singing, "**Count Your Many Blessings**" and repeated the **Lord's Prayer** together. Before arriving at our lodge for the evening, we stopped at **Lake George** and the **Village**. People walked by the lake, took pictures, and some shopped, got themselves some coffee and especially "fresh air." Arrived at the lodge, checked in and then to supper at "**The Foundry**." Keith felt it might have been a grist mill or a foundry years ago.

Monday was our usual schedule, up early, breakfast, and back on the bus. Today we toured **President Coolidge**, 30<sup>th</sup> President's, farmstead, church, cheese factory, schoolhouse, general store (which parents ran), all carefully preserved and now a museum. This was located at **Plymouth North, VT** in the heart of **Vermont's Green Mountains**. On the way up here, we saw the most beautiful, breathtaking, bright colored trees with the sun shining on them (green-orange-red-yellow). People were snapping pictures on the bus from one side to the other side and then when we arrived, more pictures were taken with the trees on the mountain for the background. After several hours here, we continued to the town of **Woodstock** which has many different shops: crafts, souvenirs, cafes, clothing, and a famous 5 & 10 variety store (**C.F. Gillingham & Son**). The floors in this 5 & 10 store would squeak when walking on them plus there was a "guard" cat on a shelf behind the cash register. Ha! (The first look at it, one would think it wasn't real but if you would talk to it, he would maybe move his tail.) Stopped and checked out a covered bridge located in town and again many pictures were taken. Back on the bus and headed for the "**Sugarbush Farm**" where we heard the family history which was started in 1945 by the grandparents, passed to their children, and now to their children and grandchildren. The son told about harvesting the sap from trees, cooking the maple syrup and about the many items made from it. Before leaving, we all purchased some of those items which came home with us. We even had a sample of the syrup they make and sell which was very tasty. From here, we headed to **Quechee Gorge** located about fifteen minutes or so from **Woodstock**. This is known as **Vermont's Grand Canyon**. Again, the foliage



was so colorful plus the river was running very well considering how dry the area has been. Before leaving for the lodge, most of us had some ice cream for a treat which was very tasty. Back at Killington, we then went to the **Sherburne United Church of Christ** for a complete turkey meal plus apple pie for dessert with Vermont Cheddar cheese on it. (P.S. we were served real mashed potatoes!) The hostess spoke about the history of the church in their sanctuary before our meal; on how they share the building with **Catholic Church** members in town on Saturday night. The other group have their service then on Sunday morning with about 20 attendance, 18 are members. They do mission work in the neighborhood with a "**Food Pantry** plus food for pets!" After visiting with them around the table during the meal, we headed back to the lodge for an hour of magic with the magician, **Steve**. He involved several people from the audience to assist him with his tricks. We had several from our group: **Alan Hefner, Bev Baxter, Bill Steiner, Mary Jo Williams, Roger & Elaine Dirmeyer, and Paulette Davis**. Like the old saying, "Laughter is the best medicine," and there sure was that and everyone should have slept well!

Tuesday the day started by getting up at 5 a.m. for a 6:30 a.m. breakfast. Was a foggy morning but cleared off the closer we got to **Bath, New Hampshire** seeing a covered bridge. It is the longest covered bridge in **New Hampshire**. We traveled on to **Littleton, N.H.** which had more little shops to check out souvenirs or just eat at shops that the "locals" might eat at. One of the famous shops in town was the "**Chutter's General Store**," which is listed in the **Guinness Book for the World's Record** having the longest candy counter in the United State, 112 inches. It was overwhelming when one walks in the store and I and Keith walked around looking it all over and then purchased a little variety of chocolate, nuts and etc.. After having lunch at a local's restaurant, "**Topic of the Town**" (our waitress was from Findlay, lived here for 30 years); we drove out of town to the **Rock Estates** which was the home of a millionaire who built his home siding the outside with rocks. He had a tree farm which grew **Christmas trees**, about 50,000. About 3000 trees sell locally to people around town\area and then ship by UPS around in the country. The next big job is then to replace all these trees so they have more for next years. Had two gifts shops with lots of Christmas decorations and etc. which several of us purchased. On the way to see "**The Basin**", we drove by the mountain that used to have the shape of a man's face titled, "**Old Man of the Mountain**." Well, we believed the guide telling us it was located there because the fog prevented us from seeing anything there. This man of the mountain is the state symbol of, **New Hampshire**, a natural profile from the cliffs of **Cannon Mountains**, five layers of rocks, 40 feet high and 25 feet wide. We then go to the area of **The Basin** which was located at the bottom of a hill (a 15 minute walk down and back). There is a beautiful waterfall that falls on a circular rock about 30 feet diameter which makes it swirl about. What a breathtaking wonder of nature! Supper was eaten on the **Winnepesaukee Scenic Railroad, Meredith, N.H.** in an old fashioned dining car with a complete roast turkey meal with the trimmings and warm apple crisp for dessert. It was catered by "**Harts' Turkey Farm**" restaurant, another local family in the area. I believe the train ride was about 2 hours going along the **Winnepesaukee Lake** and then back. Our hostess shared details regarding the village along the tracks and some stories about the homes built there too. Very expensive but beautiful! Spent the night at **Fireside Inn** at **Laconia, N.H.**

...Wednesday was another early day leaving at 8:15 a.m. for a full, beautiful day in **Kennebunk, Maine**. Picked up a guide and she explained about the history of **Kennebunkport, Maine**. We saw beautiful, large, old homes down "millionaire" street. Talk about elaborate, it is very hard to explain them but

pictures we took can say how they were. We drove along the road which followed the beaches of the **Atlantic Ocean**. Stopped at a public beach area and all of the people who wanted too, got out and walked on the sandy beach. A few even waded in the water, picked up some shells or rocks and took pictures and then back on the bus. Continued down the road and she pointed out on one of the peninsula (named **Walker's Point**) is the summer home of **President Bush** family, **son, Jed's** new home, plus three homes for the secret service people when the family is visiting there. They had just left the week before and the home is now closed up for the winter. About a block away or so, we saw the little church the **Bush** family attends when here and still a very active church. Headed to the main street of **Kennebunkport** for lunch with many other visitors, buses and of course, more gift shops! Ha! The guide left us and we then headed to **Portland, Maine** to go on a cruise to board our boat for a scenic tour (90 minutes) of "**Lighthouses**" in the area. A total of four with one still a working lighthouse: **Bug Light, Spring Point Light, Portland Head Light and Ram Island Light**. We were told it is very expensive to live on the islands around **Kennebunkport**. A lot of the people live there year round and to go back and forth is using a ferry. Lobster is the main business for people in Maine, with 85% of the state's income is from the ocean. The ride was rather smooth, a little breeze sitting on the top deck of the boat but a beautiful sunny afternoon for the ride. This evening we ate at the "**Fireside Inn**" at the lodge, where they had an indoor Lobster Bake for our meal. Some ordered the lobster and the rest of us (including me) had chicken.

Thursday, we had another early morning for breakfast. Picked up another guide for the tour of **Portland, Maine**, downtown area including two lighthouses, **Portland's Head Light** (the working one) and **Bug Light** (doesn't work) just available for people to look at it or for pictures. She mentioned that **Portland** has about 64,000 people, is on a peninsula that is about 3 miles long and 3 miles wide; with the **Ford River** enter the **Atlantic Ocean**; five ferries serve the six islands; 77 cruise ships come into the port in the spring and summer months. Returned to **Old Port**, area by the wharf, where we all went different areas for lunch and could shop when finished before the bus came and picked us up. **Keith** and I ate at **Lobster Co.** restaurant built right over the water and claims they served the catch of the day sea food. We both had shrimp and it was delicious. Before eating, **Keith** went to a section of a fence on the wharf that people fastened padlocks on with so many, many different type. He got one and fastened it on with the others including his initials on it and spotted some old ones, India made padlocks and etc, etc. The bus arrived at 2:15 p.m. and headed to **Freeport, Maine**, to **L.L.Bean** store. Wow, a very large store that probably covered a whole block itself. Seemed like we sure saw quite a few **L.L.Bean** bags boarding the bus! Ha! Returned back to **Portland** and had supper at different eating places near the motel. Back to the motel to repack and get ready for our return trip to **Ohio** on Friday.

Friday left motel at 8:30 a.m. Fog in the area with a light mist. **Bob**, our bus driver, had to deal with this until **Shrewberry, Mass.** Stopped for lunch and continued to **Wilkes-Barre, PA.** Before arriving in **PA.**, we went through these states: **Maine, New Hampshire, Conn., and New York.** Rained very hard at times, then the sun would shine through the clouds, and wind blowing hard. Arrived at **Wilkes-Barre**, and **Bob Painter** announced we would eat at **Cracker Barrel** with a few doing a little shopping. The hotel was a lovely place to spend our last night on the trip even if a few of us heard the band at a wedding reception in their ball room. Saturday morning, we were served a "great" buffet! One sort of felt like

"royalty" in the dining room with the buffet and the food was delicious and HOT (temperature). After everyone finished eating, loaded up the bus and off we go heading to Bluffton. Had more rain, fog, and then sunshine when we entered Ohio. Arrived at the parking lot behind the Sr. Center about 6 p.m. and everyone was busy gathering up their "goodies" and saying goodbye's to everyone. Again I want to "thank" **Bob and Bev** for all their work to keep things running smooth for 8 days together on a bus; **Bev's** delicious cookies, entertainment with quizzes and stories; and the pumpkin that would get passed around with candy and last, the good bus driver we had, **Bob**.

Several "special" things that happened on our trip: celebrated two birthdays—**Sharon McKenzie** and **Marilyn Bishop**. **Ken & Marilyn Wiley** had traveled to all 49 states through their married years and completed with the 50<sup>th</sup> when we went to Maine. **Diane Huber** met a cousin at Freeport, **L.L.Bean**; **Richard & Joanne Reiter** met their daughter and family at **Wilkes-Barre, PA**. **Keith and I** phoned **Doug Edinger** in **Stonington, Maine** who used to be a druggist in Pandora years ago and a brother to **Denny Edinger**, former postmaster in Bluffton. And last, special new friendships among the group that spent 8 days together on the road.

Shirley Sommer



Portland's  
Head  
Light →



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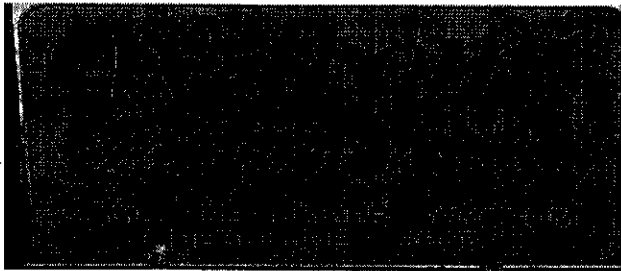
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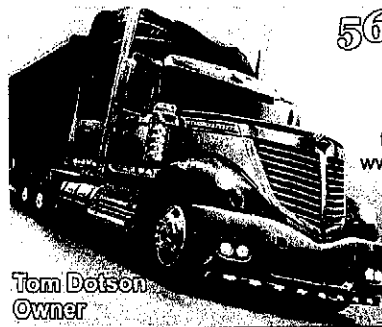
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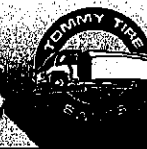
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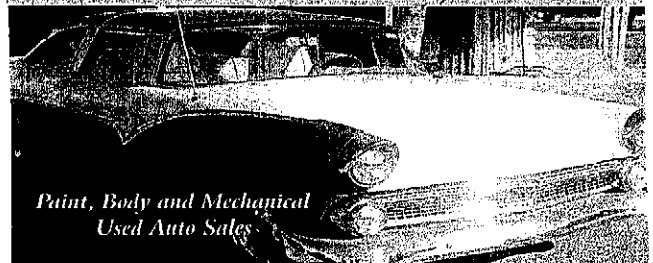
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