

# THE TOWPATH

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**NEW BREMEN HISTORIC ASSOCIATION**

P.O. Box 73 - New Bremen, Ohio 45869-0073

(Founded in 1973)

**VISITING HOURS: 2:00-4:00 p.m. Sundays - June, July, August**  
(Or anytime, by Appointment)

**DUES: \$8.00 Per year / Per person**

(Life Membership: \$75.00 Per person)

July - 2000

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## MEETINGS ARE HELD FIRST TUESDAYS

7:00 p.m. at the Museum (summer time)

**THE TOWPATH** is a historical reflection of New Bremen and the surrounding area - researched, written, and/or edited by Lucille (Topp) Francis, EDITOR, and published quarterly by the New Bremen Historic Assoc. We welcome any stories and/or pictures that our readers are willing to share.

## COMPLIMENTARY COPIES

With each quarterly mailing of **The Towpath**, a number of Complimentary Copies are sent to folks we think might be interested in reading one or more of the articles in that issue. If you are one of these people and would like to continue receiving future issues, please send the appropriate amount of dues (subscription) to the above address. (P.O. Box 73)

## MEMORIAL DONATIONS

Memorial donations are welcomed in any amount. When donations for any one person or couple have reached \$100.00, a brass plate engraved with their name(s) is attached to the Memorial Plaque.



This "Avenue of Flags" photo was taken at Resthaven Memory Gardens cemetery near Moulton, Ohio on a Memorial Day in the late 1970s.

## OLD GLORY

The nickname of "Old Glory", was originally applied to the United States flag by Capt. Stephen Driver, an old sea Captain who was living in Nashville, Tennessee in 1862, during the Civil War. In order to keep a flag of the Union, presented to him by friends, he hid it under a quilt and slept beneath the flag without its detection. He ascribed his "glorious" sleep to it and christened it "Old Glory." When the Federals entered Nashville, he flung it to the breeze and told the story. From that time on, the nickname "Old Glory" has clung to the emblem. ★★★★★ (N.B. Sun - 6/24/1898)

## WAR VETERANS' GRAVE MARKERS



Mexican (1846-1848)

Civil (1861-1865)

Spanish (1898-1902)

These grave markers are some that have been placed on veterans' graves by the American Legion. Flags are placed in each one for Memorial Day each year, and are left in place throughout the summer. New Bremen's American Legion Post #241 and Boy Scout Troop #95 place nearly 300 flags every year.





### **CAPTAIN MICHAEL STONE**

Michael Stone was born May 4, 1841, the son of Thomas Stone of Ireland and Eliza Wise of Pennsylvania. He was reared in St. Marys, Ohio.

On April 17, 1861, just weeks before his 20<sup>th</sup> birthday, Michael Stone enlisted in Co. "E", 20th Ohio Volunteer Infantry, at St. Marys, his home town. On April 27th, he was elected 1st Sergeant. Company "E" was sent to Zanesville, Ohio, where the men were mustered in as Ohio troops under President Lincoln's call for men to join the State Militia for 90 days.

In early June, 1861, the 20th O.V.I. left Camp Goddard at Zanesville and went via the Central Ohio Railroad to Bellaire where they crossed the Ohio River to Benwood, Virginia (later West Virginia.)

On August 10, 1861, Michael Stone mustered out of the Militia, & on August 18th, he enlisted in the re-formed 20th O.V.I. for 3 years service with the Federal Army.

On September 3, 1861, Stone was appointed 1st Lieutenant in the 31st Ohio Volunteer Infantry, Co. "C". On September 27th, the 31st O.V.I. traveled to Cincinnati, then via railroad to Louisville, Kentucky, and then to Camp Dick Robinson south of Lexington.

On February 26, 1862, Michael Stone was promoted to Captain of Co. "G" of the 31st O.V.I. at Louisville.

On June 19, 1864, at Kenesaw Mountain, near Atlanta, with skirmishers being ordered to the front, two companies under the command of Captains Wade and Stone advanced to the edge of a piece of woods and soon became engaged with the enemy's skirmishers. The regiment was ordered to support them, and four companies were advanced to the edge of an open field in which the deployed line had been imprudently halted by an officer and the inspector of the 2nd Brigade. So

dangerous did their position become that it was only by the personal gallantry of Captain Stone, acting as Major, that his men could be supplied with ammunition.

On July 20, 1864, Capt. Stone was again cited when, acting as a field officer, he gallantly led Co. "G" forward as skirmishers, and soon disclosed the enemy's position.

On the morning of August 5, 1864, the skirmish line, having been strengthened to 150 men, was ordered to advance and endeavor to capture the enemy's rifle-pits. Captain Stone, brigade officer of the day, having arranged a plan of attack, moved forward his line until within 100 yards of the enemy. At the bugle-call, in conjunction with the skirmishers of the other brigades of the 3rd Division, they dashed into the rifle-pits and captured 2 commissioned officers and 54 enlisted men. Only one man was killed and 3 were wounded, a result mainly owing to the skill, coolness, and daring bravery of Capt. Stone, acting as Major.

On August 7, 1864, Capt. Stone was slightly wounded in the mouth and spent 2 weeks in the hospital at Atlanta.

On March 12, 1865, Capt. Stone's 3-year enlistment was up, and he was discharged at Fayetteville, N.C. as active commander of the 31st O.V.I. His discharge paper states that he was enrolled on March 6, 1862 to serve "three years or during the war." It also states that he was born in Auglaize County, was 23 years of age, 5'9" high, had a light complexion, blue eyes, and brown hair. His occupation upon enrollment was listed as carpenter.

The 31st O.V.I. went on to the end of the war and was mustered out July 20, 1865 at Camp Chase at Columbus. Stone was mustered into Kishler Post #83 of the G.A.R. in St. Marys on 11/13/1882.

*A more detailed "time line" of the movements, battles, and operations of Capt. Michael Stone's regiment from April, 1861 through July, 1865 as compiled by his grandson, Judge Jacob J. Boesel, can be seen at the N.B. Public Library.*

### **DR. MICHAEL STONE**

After Captain Michael Stone was discharged from the 31st O.V.I., he returned home to St. Marys and entered the study of medicine. He married Mary Magdalene Elzey at Decatur, Indiana on September 13, 1876. Mary was born September 16, 1851 on a farm near Decatur.

Dr. & Mrs. Stone had four children, the three oldest being born in New Corydon, Indiana: Thomas W. (10/4/1877-9/27/1933), who married Dorothea Gilberg of New Bremen; Maud (1878?-11/28/1918), who married Attorney Theodore Tangeman; Bessie Lee (4/13/1881-3/19/1958), who married Attorney Otto J. Boesel; and Margaret Cleo ("Tuttie"), who graduated with the class of 1909 and served as associate editor of the first N.B.H.S. yearbook ("Mirage") ever published. She later married Al K. Kinley, lived in Cleveland, and died in the mid-1930s.

Dr. Stone practiced medicine for 5 years at New Corydon, Indiana, then at St. Marys and Coldwater before the family moved to New Bremen on December 2, 1884.

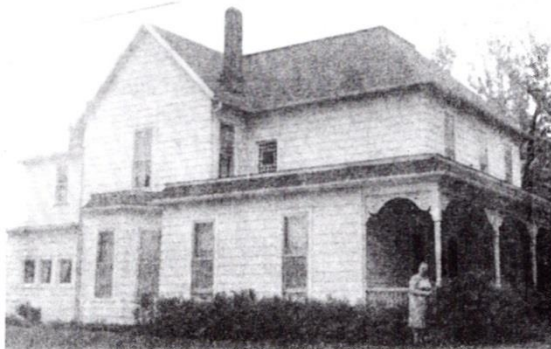


In October, 1890, Dr. Stone purchased the first lot on the east side of South Main St., south of the alley behind the businesses on Monroe St. By July, 1891, the Stones had built a new 2-story frame house on this lot. Next to it, August Dierker was building his 2-story brick house, and south of that, Fred Pohlman was also building a 2-story frame house. This marked the opening up of the Fred Vogelsang addition and the extension of S. Main St.

The three oldest Stone children were all school teachers - Thomas at Kettlersville and Maud & Bessie in New Bremen. In 1902, Thomas received a degree in mechanical engineering from Ohio State University after which he became associated with the Western Gas Engineering Co. in Fort Wayne, Indiana and eventually became its vice-president and general manager. In August, 1900, "Miss Maud" purchased a millinery store from Theodore Rabe on S. Washington St. and she and Bessie ran this until both married in 1906 and sold it to Mrs. E.R. Haines. Their husbands were attorneys and had their business together above the Arcade at that time.

Dr. Michael Stone died May 17, 1898 at his home on S. Main St. of chronic gastritis and stricture of the pyloric end of the stomach, a condition he was thought to have contracted while in the Civil War. He was buried in Elm Grove Cemetery at St. Marys, near the grave of his father, Thomas Stone, who had died on March 15, 1881. Mary (Elzey) Stone lived until September 3, 1928.

Other doctors who practiced in the former Dr. Stone office at 8 North Main St. were Dr. P. Radabaugh (January, 1895), \*Dr. William H. Fesker (March, 1901), and Dr. E.M. Phelps of St. Marys (January, 1903.) The Stones' house was later turned into three apartments and was owned by Mrs. Freda Koenig. It was purchased several years ago by Crown Equipment Corp. and razed.



**DR. MICHAEL STONE'S HOME**  
at 10 South Main St.

**\*DR. WILLIAM H. FESKER**  
(3/3/1874-6/4/1902)

Dr. Wm. H. Fesker was a veteran of the Spanish-American War. He graduated from Cincinnati's Ohio Medical College in March, 1900 and came to N.B. in March, 1901. On October 12, 1901, he married Bertha Wiemeyer of New Bremen. His medical practice was very short lived as he died on June 4, 1902 at the age of 28.

## CIVIL WAR MILITARY RECORD

Soon after the telegraph brought the news of the Rebels' 4/12/1861 attack on Fort Sumter, S.C., the whole state of Ohio rallied to the defense of the Union. The U.S. Army at that time consisted of fewer than 17,000 troops. On April 15<sup>th</sup>, President Lincoln called upon the states and territories for 75,000 militiamen, each to serve for 90 days. Ohio's quota was 13,000 but 30,000 responded.

In Auglaize County, the work of enlisting men and the organization of companies was started. Recruiting officers from Camps Vance (near Findlay), Cleveland, Chase (in Columbus), Troy, and Lima opened offices in different localities in the county. On the evening of 4/22/1861, a meeting was held at the courthouse at Wapakoneta and the call was made for volunteers. Some 60 men came forward and signed the roll and took the oath. As the days passed, others came forward to do the same.

After the Union Army was turned back on July 21, 1861, at Bull Run Creek / Manassas Junction, Virginia, in the first battle of the war, President Lincoln called for the enlistment of 100,000 additional troops to serve for 3 years instead of 3 months. Before this, both sides thought the other would collapse within 90 days.

Before the close of the war, over 1100 men from Auglaize County had entered the service of the Army. In all, Ohio furnished 340,000 soldiers - one eighth of all who fought for the Union Army.

### STONEWALL JACKSON

It was at the Battle of Bull Run / Manassas that Thomas J. Jackson was given the nickname "Stonewall." He was in command of a Virginia brigade which firmly held a hill at the center of the southern line. Gen. Bernard Bee of S.C. yelled to his own men, "Look, there is Jackson with his Virginians, standing like a stone wall!"

The soldiers of the New Bremen area served mostly in Company "C" of the 37<sup>th</sup> Regiment of the Ohio Volunteer Infantry. The 37<sup>th</sup> O.V.I. was the third entirely German regiment organized in the state and came from Auglaize, Mercer, and Wyandot Counties. Company C's men were all from Auglaize County, and nearly all were mustered into service on 9/14/1861 at Camp Brown at Cleveland. At Vicksburg, Mississippi, the Lt. Colonel became severely wounded and the command devolved upon Major Charles Hipp, who later became Postmaster in St. Marys. On 11/13/1864 the regiment entered Atlanta to obtain outfits for the "Grand March to the Sea" under Gen. William T. Sherman. The men were discharged from this regiment at Cleveland, Ohio on 8/12/1865.

The 45<sup>th</sup> O.V.I. was organized at Camp Chase (Columbus) on 8/19/1862 and had 75 recruits from Auglaize County. It was discharged at Nashville on 6/15/1865.

The 57<sup>th</sup> O.V.I., Co. "C" was recruited at Findlay from Auglaize, Mercer, and Sandusky Counties.



The 71st O.V.I. was recruited mainly from Auglaize, Mercer and Miami Counties from October, 1861 to February, 1862. It was mustered out at Camp Chase in January, 1866.

The 99<sup>th</sup> O.V.I. was mustered into service August 26, 1862 and included one company from Auglaize County. Of the 99<sup>th</sup>'s 1700 recruits, 700 were transferred to the 118<sup>th</sup> O.V.I. The remaining 99<sup>th</sup> left Camp Lima on August 31<sup>st</sup> and reported at Lexington, Kentucky. Later, at Nashville, the remnant of the 99<sup>th</sup> was consolidated with and became known as the 50<sup>th</sup> O.V.I. and was finally mustered out at Salisbury, N.C. on June 26, 1865.

The 118<sup>th</sup> O.V.I. was mustered into service at Lima in August, 1862, was ordered to Kentucky, and operated in Kentucky and Tennessee without any particular engagement until the campaign of May, 1864, when, in a single 10-minute charge against Resaca, Georgia, the regiment lost 116 of the 300 men engaged. The regiment was mustered out at Cleveland on July 9, 1865.

## CIVIL WAR ERA TIME-LINE

**1854** - The Republican party was formed by men opposed to the extension of slavery.

**1855-1856** - Warfare in Kansas between slavery and anti-slavery factions. John Brown, a radical abolitionist born in Torrington, Connecticut, led a raid on pro-slavery settlers at Pottawatomie Creek in Kansas, killing five.

**1858** - A review of Ohio's military forces was held.

**10/16-18/1859** - John Brown and his followers captured the federal arsenal at Harper's Ferry, Virginia (later West Virginia), planning to use the arms to incite a slave revolt in the south. U.S. Marines, led by Lt. Col. Robert E. Lee, forced them to surrender.

**12/2/1859** - Convicted of murder and treason against Virginia, John Brown was hanged at Charles Town, Va.

**1860** - Republican Abraham Lincoln is elected as the 16<sup>th</sup> President of the United States. South Carolina is the first state to secede from the Union in protest.

SECEDED	STATE	READMITTED
12/20/1860	South Carolina	(7) 6/25/1868
1/9/1861	Mississippi	(9) 2/17/1870
1/10/1861	Florida	(4) 6/25/1868
1/11/1861	Alabama	(3) 6/25/1868
1/19/1861	Georgia	(11) 7/15/1870
1/26/1861	Louisiana	(5) 6/25/1868
2/23/1861	Texas	(10) 3/30/1870
4/17/1861	Virginia	(8) 1/16/1870
5/6/1861	Arkansas	(2) 6/22/1868
5/20/1861	North Carolina	(6) 6/25/1868
6/8/1861	Tennessee	(1) 7/24/1866

**1/29/1861** - Kansas becomes the 34<sup>th</sup> state.

**2/8/1861** - The Confederate states are organized in a convention at Montgomery, Alabama, their first capital. When Virginia seceded from the Union, Richmond became the new capital of the Confederacy.

**2/9/1861** - Jefferson Davis is elected President of the Confederate states.

**3/4/1861** - President Abraham Lincoln is inaugurated.

**4/12/1861** - The Civil War begins at 4:30 a.m. - South Carolina's Confederate troops attack federal Fort Sumter at Charleston, South Carolina.

**4/14/1861** - Fort Sumter surrenders.

**4/15/1861** - President Lincoln calls upon states and territories for 75,000 militiamen to serve for 90 days.

**4/17/1861** - Western delegates at Virginia Convention oppose Virginia's secession from the Union.

**6/20/1861** - West Virginians choose a governor who is loyal to the Union.

**1/1/1863** - President Lincoln signs the Emancipation Proclamation, freeing slaves in areas controlled by the Confederacy.

**6/20/1863** - West Virginia becomes the 35<sup>th</sup> state, separating itself from Virginia.

**7/1-3/1863** - General Robert E. Lee invades Pennsylvania, is turned back at Gettysburg by General Meade's Union Army.

**10/31/1864** - Nevada becomes the 36<sup>th</sup> state.

**1864** - Ulysses S. Grant becomes the Supreme Commander of the Union Armies. Grant pushed the Confederate Army south into Virginia, while General William T. Sherman advanced from the west to Atlanta, Georgia, on his "Grand March to the Sea".

**1864** - Lincoln is elected for a 2<sup>nd</sup> term as President.

**4/9/1865** - Confederate General Robert E. Lee surrenders to Union General Ulysses S. Grant at the Appomattox courthouse in Virginia.

**4/14/1865** - President Abraham Lincoln is shot by John Wilkes Booth at Ford's Theater in Washington, D.C. He died the next day.

**4/15/1865** - Andrew Johnson is sworn in as the 17<sup>th</sup> President of the United States.

**5/26/1865** - Surrender of the last Confederate army at Shreveport, Louisiana, ending the Civil War.

**12/18/1865** - Slavery is abolished by the 13<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the U.S. constitution.

**3/2/1867** - The Reconstruction Act was passed, organizing the southern states into five military districts.

**10/18/1867** - Alaska is purchased from Russia for \$7.2 million.

**5/30/1868** - In this year, Saturday, May 30<sup>th</sup> was set as the date on which to observe "Decoration Day." This tradition was begun on May 5, 1866 and had been repeated on May 5, 1867. ("*The Towpath*" - April, 1997)

**7/28/1868** - Citizenship was granted to former slaves by the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

**3/4/1869** - Ulysses S. Grant was inaugurated as the 18<sup>th</sup> President of the United States.

### ULYSSES S. GRANT

Ulysses was born on April 27, 1822 in Point Pleasant, Ohio, the son of Jesse Root and Hannah (Simpson) Grant. His given name at birth was Hiram Ulysses, however he switched it to Ulysses Hiram when still a boy. When he applied for admission to West Point, through a clerical error, he was listed as Ulysses "Simpson" Grant. He accepted this name change and continued to be known thereafter as Ulysses S. Grant.





## DIETRICH SCHROEDER

Dietrich William (Richard) Schroeder, is shown here in his Civil War military uniform (with his rifle and bayonet) as a corporal in Captain Henry Schmidt's Co. "C" of the 37th Regiment of the Ohio Volunteer Infantry.

Dietrich was born 12/22/1839 in Germany and emigrated to America in 1854. Prior to enlisting on 9/3/1861 in Co. "C", he had also served 3 months in Co. "E" of the 20th O.V.I. He was promoted to Corporal on 2/9/1862.

Dietrich served in many engagements under the command of Major Charles Hipp of St. Marys, the most noteworthy being the Battle of Missionary Ridge, Tenn., which was inspired and directed by Gen. August Willich of St. Marys, and where, on 11/28/1863, Dietrich was wounded by a shot in the ankle. He was discharged for disability on 12/15/1864 at Camp Dennison. His discharge certificate and examining surgeon's certificate were signed by W.G. Kishler, Examining Surgeon, on 10/30/1865 at St. Marys.

Dietrich was a blacksmith by trade and had been detailed as such during the war. He married Elise Schowe on 3/6/1866. Their home and his blacksmith shop were located near the canal, at 104 E. Plum St. A restored log house now sits at this location, having been moved from Mercer County and reassembled there by Crown Equipment Corp. around 1995. Dietrich was the grandfather of Ralph May, well-known and much-published New Bremen historian.

Dietrich Schroeder died 9/18/1895 and was buried at Willow Grove (Lock 3) Cemetery. His remains were accompanied by his army comrades of New Bremen, St. Marys, and Wapakoneta, and also the Little Six Band of New Bremen.

(N.B. Sun - 9/21/1895)

## THE G.A.R. ENCAMPMENT

### A New Bremenite Tells What He Thinks Of It

(New Bremen Sun - 9/21/1895)

Messrs. William Schulenberg, Henry Finke, and Henry Schaefer attended the big G.A.R. (Grand Army of the Republic) encampment at Louisville, Kentucky last week. Their experiences were related in the following interesting style by William Schulenberg:

"The long advertised encampment of the G.A.R. held at Louisville, Kentucky has come and gone. I have learned from personal experience that those who believed the encampment at Pittsburgh last year made a mistake by selecting any place south of the Ohio River for holding

the next encampment, for the reason that many believed the animosity created by the late war still existed between the North and South, are the ones that were mistaken, and upon their arrival had just cause to banish from their minds all thoughts of animosity.

Henry Finke, Henry Schaefer, and myself left New Bremen on Monday morning, September 9th, and were joined at St. Marys by a number of comrades. We took a special train from St. Marys which landed us at Louisville at about 6:00 p.m. without change of cars. Upon our arrival we were greeted on every hand with a hearty welcome. Everyone seemed to battle with each other in extending the hospitality for which Kentucky is noted.

The most noted rebels of bygone days seemed to have nothing on their minds but the atonement for the evil deeds done by them in the past, and well did they redeem themselves. We talked with many old rebels who acknowledged that during the war they hated us worse than rattlesnakes, but that feeling had long ago taken wings and gone.

When we 'visited' them over 30 years ago, they resisted us. Now they welcomed us from the bottom of their hearts and were glad that the war resulted as it did - said that slavery was a curse, but they never knew it until it was abolished. Now no man in the south can be found that would accept it if tendered.

The decorations exceeded anything ever seen - welcome banners everywhere with 'Old Glory' waving over all. Not only the business houses and dwellings were covered from ground to roof, but even the trees were wrapped from root to branch and extended in every direction from the city for 25 miles around on every road entering the city.

We also had the pleasure of forming the acquaintance of Otto Dolphinger and family, relatives of Fred and Henry Kunning, where we were made to feel at home almost before we had entered their pleasant and cozy home. They treated us with such cordiality that for the time being we felt like members of the family.

Later, Mr. Dolphinger took us to Cave Hill Cemetery, second finest in the U.S., and the other places of sightseeing. At the cemetery, we visited the graves of the Detchen family, the mother of whom was a sister to Henry and Fred Kunning. Everything connected with the encampment was a glorious success, barring accidents with which daily papers have made everyone acquainted. After 3 full days of sightseeing in the Falls city, somewhat fatigued, we started homeward on Friday morning. After breakfasting in Louisville, we took dinner in Indianapolis and visited the soldiers' monument between trains and arrived home for supper nothing the worse for wear."

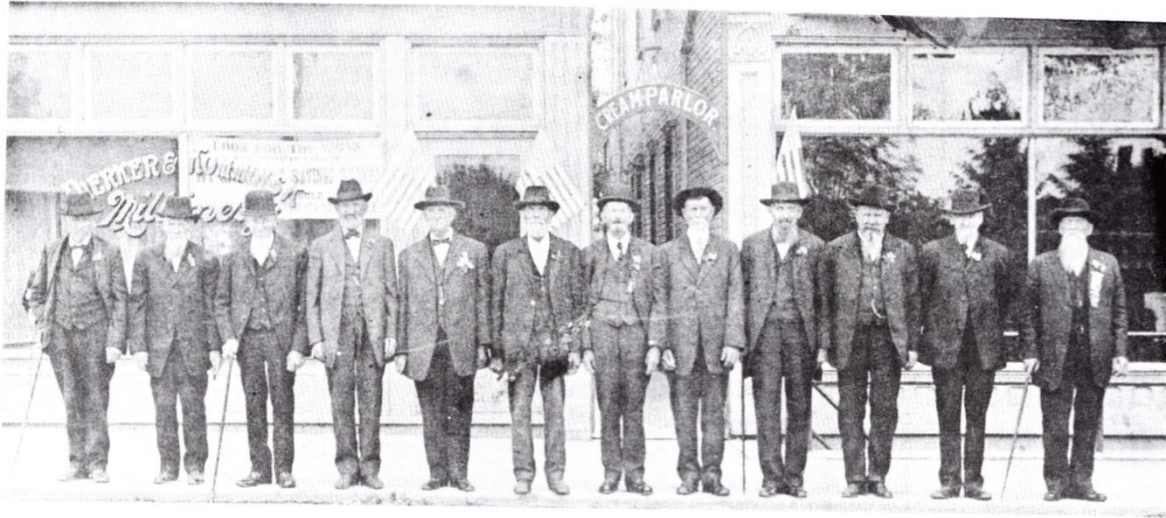
William Schulenberg

"New Bremen contributed many soldiers to the Civil War. Those veterans participating in the Decoration Day exercises in 1912 were photographed on Monroe St. - twelve bearded, stalwart and upright men."

Ralph May - 2/11/1971 / Evening Leader



**CIVIL WAR VETERANS IN 1912 DECORATION DAY PARADE**  
in front of Minnie Dierker & Hilda Komminsk's Millinery Shop / F.O. Wood's (Ice) Cream Parlor & Cheap Store  
on the southwest corner of West Monroe St. & Water St. - New Bremen, Ohio



- |  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| 1. Fred Tellman (6/25/1838-4/15/1916)      | 5. William Tschudin (11/16/1844-4/7/1917)     | 9. William Vornholt (3/2/1838-7/22/1912)     |
| 2. Herman A. Moeller (10/28/1845-7/5/1918) | 6. John William Waterman (5/19/1842-6/7/1927) | 10. Frederick Dickman (10/25/1833-5/13/1915) |
| 3. (unknown - mis-identified*)             | 7. Fred Roettger (5/20/1842-1/31/1919)        | 11. Fred Behm (10/11/1844-2/20/1927)         |
| 4. Henry Schaefer (6/29/1842-10/27/1935)   | 8. Ben Schulenberg (2/12/1845-7/20/1915)      | 12. William Schulenberg (9/7/1838-1/26/1928) |
- \*Number 3 (above) was mis-identified as "Herman" Hermsmeyer who had served in the Mexican War. (E Leader-2/11/1971)  
However, it was Gottlieb Hermsmeyer who served in the Mexican War and he died 6/12/1909. (see Pg. 9)  
Ralph May identified the men in this 1912 picture as "in their late eighties." Actually they were in their 60s and 70s.

**CIVIL WAR VETERANS IN 1914 DECORATION DAY PARADE**  
in front of the 1912 Laut-Schulenberg / Crown Theater building on the north side of the street  
across from the Laut (Hollingsworth) Hotel on West Monroe St. - New Bremen, Ohio



(This is a copy of a postcard sent to Civil War Veteran, Fred Dickman, by Herbert Schulenberg, Crown Theater owner.)  
As far as is known, this picture has not been previously published. The veterans were not identified,  
however many of them are probably the same as in the 1912 picture above,  
except for William Vornholt, who died on 7/22/1912.



# NEW BREMEN CIVIL WAR VETERANS

(from: Cemetery records & American Legion records, including a 5/31/1937 Memorial Day program)  
(also from: Williamson's History of Western Ohio & Auglaize Co.-1905 / Military History of Ohio-1885)

CEMETERIES: (GP=German Protestant / WG=Willow Grove / PR=Plank Road / SP=St. Paul)

(NOTE: This list is neither 100% complete nor 100% accurate. There are many inconsistencies in the various records.)

ENLISTED	KILLED	DISCHARGE	CO	37TH REGIMENT, O.V.I. (unless otherwise stated)	ENLISTED	KILLED	DISCHARGE	CO	37TH REGIMENT, O.V.I. (unless otherwise stated)
3/30/1864	*prisoner	11/3/1864	C	Abeler, William (killed in "Sultana explosion-4/26-27/1865)	8/25/1862	11/25/1863		C	Luedeke/Luedirke, William (*wounded at Mission, Ridge, TN)
9/23/1861	*prisoner	7/22/1864	C	Anglebrock, August (killed in "Sultana explosion-4-26-27/1865)	8/24/1861	5/25/1862		C	May, Henry (wounded 5/17/1862; Princeton, W. Va.)
8/27/1861	WG	8/20/1865	C	Aue, Christian (taken prisoner August, 1862 & exchanged)	8/23/1861	7/23/1863		C	May, Jacob (wounded 6/5/1863; Vicksburg, Miss.)
8/25/1861	5/20/1863		C	Bambauer, Charles (killed at Vicksburg, Mississippi)	8/27/1861	GP	8/20/1865	C	Meyer, J. Henry
				→ Bambauer, Jacob (killed at Vicksburg)(listed on 1937 program)		GP		C	Meyer, Rudolph (listed on 1937 program)
9/1/1861		9/15/1864	C	Barienbrock/Beimbrook, Herman (died/buried? at Robinson, Ill.)		GP			→ Moeller, Herman (196th O.V.I.)(listed on 1937 program)
8/25/1861	5/17/1862		C	Behm, Charles (killed at Princeton, West Virginia)	8/27/1861		fall/1864	C	Munday, Richard (Military Record of Auglaize Co. - 1885)
4/5/1865	GP	10/1865		→ Behm, Frederick (Co. I, 1st Ohio Cav.)(listed on 1937 program)	8/27/1861		8/20/1865	C	Nebel, August (died/buried? at Cincinnati, Ohio)
8/25/1861	1/14/1862		C	Behm, John (Co. C's 1st casualty)(killed at Logan C.H., W. Va.)	8/27/1862		7/12/1865	C	Nieter, August (died/buried at Dayton)
9/3/1861	5/22/1863		C	Bergmeier, Frank/Franz (killed at Vicksburg)	10/8/1862	GP	8/7/1863	F	Pape/Pappe, Ernst Wilhelm / William (Co. F, 37th O.V.I.)
8/27/1861	WG	8/20/1865	C	Blase, John H. (wounded at Vicksburg 5/22/1863)	8/25/1861		7/1865	C	Reiter, William (Military Record of Auglaize Co. - 1885)
8/25/1861	GP	1/1863	C	Boesel, Charles Jr. (Private w/Co. "C")(2nd Lt./Co. "F"-resigned)	8/29/1861	GP	8/20/1865	C	Roettger, F. Christian (Sergeant)
8/27/1861	5/22/1863		C	Boetcher/Boettger, August (*wounded at Vicksburg, Miss.)	9/2/1861	GP	6/25/1865	C	Roettger, H. Fred/Fritz (wounded 9/10/1862 at Fayetteville, W. Va.)
10/9/1861		11/4/1864	C	Buchholtz, Fred (taken prisoner 5/17/1862 & exchanged)	10/8/1862	WG	8/7/1863	F	Rump, Henry J. / J.H. (Co. F, 37th O.V.I.)
8/27/1861	GP	8/20/1865	C	Buchholtz, John	8/25/1862	GP	1/10/1865	C	Schaefer, Henry (wounded 5/19/1863-Vicksburg)(Co. H, 5th Batn.)
8/25/1862		6/8/1864	C	Buhr, Fred C. (wounded/amputation)(buried at Wapakoneta)	8/27/1861		10/9/1861	C	Schindler, Bernard/Barney (buried? in Indiana)
10/7/1862	GP	8/7/1863	H	Burmeister, Georg(e) (Co. H, 37th O.V.I.)	8/25/1861		9/15/1864	C	Schindler, Stephen (buried? in Indiana)
				→ Conradi, Chas. F. (1st U.S. Cav., R.A., California)(1937 program)	4/26/1861		8/27/1861		→ Schmidt, Henry* (Wapakoneta)(4th Sgt., Co. K, 15th O.V.I.)
8/25/1862	5/22/1863		C	Dicke, William Dietrich (killed at Vicksburg-buried in orchard)	8/22/1861		8/12/1865	C	Schmidt, Henry* (2nd Lt.-9/7/61, 1st Lt.-3/31/62, Capt.-3/4/63)
8/25/1862	GP	5/28/1865	C	Dickman, Frederick	Botkins?	GP/C-24	died 1878		→ Schmidt, Henry A. (Shelby Co.?) (Auglaize Co. Grave Registration)
	WG			→ Dreier/Dreyer, Henry (Co. A, 52nd O.V.I.)(listed/1937 program)	9/3/1861	GP	7/31/1862	C	Schrader, George Adam (military records list as Adam, George)
9/22/1861		12/30/1862		→ Ehlers, Peter (Co. E, 58th O.V.I.)(1885 Military Record-Aug. Co.)	9/3/1861	WG	3/15/1865	C	Schroeder, Dietrich (wounded at Mission, Ridge-dis. 9/15/1864)
	GP		C	Eisenhut(e), William (listed on 1937 program)		SP			→ Schucraft, William (listed on 1937 program)
	WG			→ Fenneman, John Henry (Co. K, 29th O.V.I.)(listed/1937 program)	8/26/1861		10/8/1862	C	Schuette, John (disability discharge)(buried? at Lockington, Ohio)
8/27/1861	GP	8/20/1865	C	Finke, Henry (regiment quartermaster, May/1865)	8/25/1862	GP	5/25/1865	C	Schulenberg, Benjamin A. (also known as Bernhard* August)
9/4/1861	GP	9/28/1864	C	Frey, Jacob J. (wounded at Resaca, Ga.)	8/26/1862		7/1864	G	<del>Schulenberg, Bernhard</del> (Military Rec. of Auglaize Co.-1885)
9/23/1861		8/20/1865	C	Frey, John (discharged 6/26/1863* for disability)	8/1/1861	GP	6/3/1864		→ Schulenberg, Frederick (Co. E, 1st Ohio Cavalry)(disability)
9/23/1861		8/20/1865	C	Friederich, Anton (buried at Minster, Ohio)(1937 program)	9/2/1861		8/20/1865	C	Schulenberg, J.H. / Henry (wounded)(buried at St. Marys, Ohio)
	GP			→ Gibson, Theodore (Co. E, 67th O.V.I.)(listed on 1937 program)	8/25/1862	GP	5/25/1865	C	Schulenberg, William (forwarded substitutes to front)
	GP			→ Gilie/Gilli, Henry (Co. E, 58th O.V.I.)(listed on 1937 program)	8/26/1861		fall/1864	C	Schulte, John B. (Military Record of Auglaize Co. - 1885)
9/2/1861	PR	2/15/1862	C	Goll, Phillip (discharged for disability, died soon after war)		WG	12/27/1861	C	Schulte, William Frederick (1st Lt./resigned)(1937 program)
9/23/1861	Deserted		C	Goseman, Herman (buried at Minster)(1937 program)	8/23/1861	5/17/1862		C	Sordenberg/Siedenberg, Henry (killed at Princeton, West Va.)
9/1/1861	GP	2/18/1862	C	Gress, Phillip (discharged for disability)	9/3/1861	*prisoner	7/22/1864	C	Siemer, Fred (killed in "Sultana explosion-4/26-27/1865)
8/23/1861		fall/1864	C	Grewe, Albert (wounded 5/17/1862 at Princeton, W. Va.)	10/20/1864	WG	7/12/1865		→ Speckman, Louis (Co. H, 106th O.V.I.)(listed on 1937 program)
10/8/1862		8/7/1863	F	Grube, Henry	8/25/1862	SP	5/28/1865	C	Staas, Frank
10/8/1862	5/24/1863		F	Grube, William (killed at Vicksburg, Miss.)			Deserted	C	Staas, Louis/Lewis
9/2/1861		7/12/1865	C	Heeman, Henry (wounded)(Military Record of Aug. Co.-1885)	8/13/1862?		7/16/1864?		→ Stone, Michael (Co. G, 118th O.V.I.?(discharge says 37th O.V.I.)
				→ Herring, Ernst (Co. M, 1st Ohio Light Artillery)(+Mexican War)	9/1/1861	WG	8/20/1865	C	Stork/Stork/Stark, Fredrick/Fritz (orderly sergeant)
10/7/1862	PR	1864	H	Hilgeman, Fred (Co. H, 37th O.V.I.)	8/25/1862	11/25/1863		C	Sundmacher, Henry (killed at Missionary Ridge, Tennessee)
8/25/1861	GP	8/20/1865	C	Hinke/Henke, Christian (cemetery marker is illegible)	9/23/1861		7/29/1862	C	Tangeman, Bernhard (wounded at Princeton)(buried at Minster)
8/25/1861	GP	8/20/1865	C	Hoewischer, William H.F. (wounded)(1937 program)				C	Tangeman, Joseph (wounded 11/25/1864 at Mission, Ridge)
	GP			→ Hunter, Samuel H. (Captain) (Co. C, 14th Ill. Inf.)(1937 program)		WG			→ Tecklenburg, Henry F.W. (Co. D, 24th Illinois Inf.)(1937 program)
	GP			→ Juneman/Jueneman, John F. (4th Ohio Cavalry)(1937 program)	8/24/1861	GP	9/15/1864	C	Tollman, John F. / Fred/Fritz
3/30/1864		8/20/1865	C	Kettler, Henry (twice in hospital)(buried at Piqua, Ohio)	8/24/1861	GP	8/20/1865	C	Thieman, William (forager w/Sherman - guard w/Gen. Hazen)
8/25/1862	6/9/1863		C	Kladde/Klatte, Henry (died at Milliken's Bend, Louisiana)	6/13/1861	GP	8/1864		→ Tschudin, Wilhelm (Co. D, 28th O.V.I.)(Co. F, 8th U.S. Cav.)
8/25/1862	3/27/1863		C	Kladde/Klatte, Herman (died at Memphis, Tennessee)	10/7/1862	SP	8/7/1863	H	Vick, William (Co. H, 37th O.V.I.)
3/30/1864		8/20/1865	C	Kladde, John (Military Record of Auglaize Co. - 1885)	8/25/1861	GP	10/14/1862	C	Vornholt, William (scout in W. Va.)(hernia disability)
	GP			→ Kleboeker/Claybaker, Wm. (Co. F, 8th Ind. Cav.)(1937 program)	8/27/1861	WG	8/18/1863	C	Wagner, Peter (gunshot in neck)(repaired roads)(disability dis.)
8/9/1862				→ Klute, Henry (Co. K, 99th O.V.I.)	10/7/1862	WG	8/7/1863	H	Watermann, John W./William (Co. H, 37th O.V.I.)
8/25/1862	GP	5/28/1865	C	Knost, Georg(e) (wounded 6/11/1863 at Vicksburg)	3/30/1864		8/20/1865	C	Weinberg, Louis (Military Record of Auglaize Co. - 1885)
8/25/1861	5/19/1863		C	Koch/Cook, Charles (killed at Vicksburg)	3/30/1864	6/27/1864		C	Wiedeman, William (killed at Kenesaw Mountain)
8/25/1862	GP	5/28/1865	C	Kohlhorst, Henry W. / William (shot in mouth-7 mos. in hosp.)	8/20/1861	GP	12/30/1865		→ Zwez, Julius (Co. E, 68th New York Infantry)
1861			C	Kuhle, Charles (Military Record of Auglaize Co. - 1885)					

\*SULTANA EXPLOSION: The freed Federal prisoners of war who crowded the decks of the steamboat Sultana never received the welcome they expected. On 4/26/1865, her boiler blew up in the middle of the Mississippi and 1700 men drowned or burned to death.



# MILITIA IN GERMAN TOWNSHIP, Auglaize County, Ohio - 1860

Registration of men between the ages of 18 and 45 - H. RABE, Assessor

Population of German Township in 1860 = 1602

This list was found in a small notebook in the archives at Wright State University's library & compiled by Barbara Adams and Gene Mozley, both of the Sidney Historical Society for "The Report of the Ohio Genealogical Society" - Summer, 1982 - Vol. XXII, No. 2 - P.O. Box 2625 - Mansfield, Ohio 44906  
Barbara Adams - 21674 Dingman-Slagle Rd. - Sidney, OH 45365  
Gene Mozley - 327 Bon Air Dr. - Sidney, OH 45365

1 Ahlers, Died.	66 Gieseke, Wm.	131 Kruse, F.	196 Rottger, Chr.
2 Ahlers, Wm.	67 Gilberg, C.	132 Kuhlmann, F.	197 Rottger, Wm.
3 Althoff, John	68 Gilberg, E.	133 Kummicke, J.	198 Rump, Henry
4 Aue, Chr.	69 Gilberg, F.	134 Kunning, C.H.	199 Rump, Herm.
5 Backhaus, F.	70 Graess, Ph.	135 Kunning, F.H.	200 Schmidt, Chr.
6 Backhaus, H. Jr.	71 Grube, H.	136 Kunzel, P.A.	201 Schmidt, Chr. Jr.
7 Backhaus, H. Sr.	72 Gruber, Geo.	137 Kunzel, P.C.	202 Schmidt, H.
8 Bank, C.	73 Grutzmaker, F.	138 Lamping, J.F.	203 Schmidt, H. Sr.
9 Bartsch, Dr.	74 Harjehausen, J.O.	139 Landwehr, H.	204 Schneider, Aug.
10 Baumann, J.H.	75 Haseker, C.	140 Lanfersick, H.	205 Schneider, Chr.
11 Becker, J.	76 Hehemann, Joel	141 Langhans, H.	206 Schneider, H.
12 Becker, Luis	77 Heine, Wm.	142 Langhorst, C.	207 Schowe, H.
13 Bertke, R.	78 Heinfeld, A.	143 Langhorst, F.	208 Schowe, Wm.
14 Blase, J.H.	79 Heinfeld, H.	144 Langhorst, Wm.	209 Schroder, D. Jr.
15 Blase, John	80 Heinfeld, John	145 Laut, Chr.	210 Schroeder, D.
16 Bochemole, Wm.	81 Heise, C.	146 Lehmkuhl, C.	211 Schulte, G.H.
17 Bordewisch, F.	82 Heitkamp, Wm.	147 Lubkemann, F.	212 Schulte, Wm.
18 Brinkmeyer, H.	83 Heitkamp, Wm. Sr.	148 Ludeke, Wm.	213 Schultheis, Wm.
19 Brockmann, H.	84 Henke, Chr.	149 Lukes, Wm.	214 Schulze, Wm.
20 Brockmann, Chr.	85 Henke, F.	150 Marcus, F.	215 Schutte, B.
21 Brockmann, F.	86 Hick, Wm.	151 Marcus, Wm.	216 Schwabero, J.
22 Broderick, Geo.	87 Hirschfeld, A.	152 Mason, D.	217 Siedenbergh, H.
23 Broderick, R.	88 Hirschfeld, Henry	153 Maurer, Carl	218 Silgmann, H.
24 Bruetsch, Amb.	89 Hohne, P.H.	154 Maurer, Peter	219 Sollmann, Wm.
25 Bruggeman, E.	90 Hohne, Wm. H.	155 Meltzer, H.	220 Solms, F.
26 Bruggeman, H.	91 Hoper, John	156 Menges, J.	221 Speckmann, F.H.
27 Bruggeman, J.	92 Howischer, Chr.	157 Metz, H.	222 Stork, F.
28 Bruggemann, A.	93 Howischer, F.	158 Meyer, B.	223 Stork, Wm.
29 Bruggemann, John	94 Howischer, H.	159 Meyer, H. Wm.	224 Sulter, Wm.
30 Brune, B.	95 Howischer, Wm.	160 Meyer, J.H.	225 Tecklenberg, L.
31 Brune, H.	96 Huckeriede, H.	161 Meyer, Joseph	226 Teljan, H.
32 Brunswick, A.	97 Hulsmann, F.	162 Meyer, W.	227 Tellmann, J.
33 Budhe, Wm.	98 Hulsmann, P.A.	163 Meyer, Wm. A.	228 Tielke, D.
34 Buehler, Chr.	99 Hyne, H.	164 Meyerholt, J.	229 Toche, H.
35 Burmeister, Geo.	100 Hyne, P.	165 Mohrmann, H.	230 Tostrick, H.
36 Bush, Wm.	101 Jager, Henry	166 Muller, Chr.	231 Uetrecht, Chr.
37 Buttemeyer, A.	102 Jordan, J.C.	167 Muller, F.H.	232 Vennemann, H.
38 Cappel, Jacob	103 Jung, A.	168 Muller, F.R.	233 Vornholt, H.
39 Chaffe, Wm.	104 Jung, F.P.	169 Muller, H.	234 Vornholt, J.
40 Conradi, Carl	105 Kamman, A.	170 Neddermann, Wm.	235 Vornholt, J.H. Sr.
41 Dammeyer, F.	106 Keck, Mo.	171 Neirmeyer, J.F.	236 Waesch, C.
42 Depweg, B.	107 Keller, Wm.	172 Niemann, Jim (?)	237 Walters, J.P.
43 Deuthan, F.	108 Kellermeyer, Chr.	173 Nieter, Aug.	238 Wehe, Theobald
44 Dicke, F.	109 Kellermeyer, F.	174 Nieter, F.H.L.	239 Weimer, H.
45 Dicke, Wm.	110 Kelley, D.	175 Nieter, Henry	240 Weinberg, F.
46 Dickmann, F.	111 Kelling, H.	176 Nussmeyer, H.	241 Wellman, H.
47 Dickmann, Henry	112 Kettler, C.R. Jr.	177 Ottenjohann, Wm.	242 Wellman, J.
48 Dickmann, Herm.	113 Kettler, Chr. H.	178 Pape, Fried.	243 Wenzlau, F.
49 Dietrichs, F.	114 Kettler, F.H.	179 Pape, Wm.	244 Wiechmann, J.H.
50 Elis, P.	115 Kettler, G.	180 Paul, Chr.	245 Wieggers, Henry
51 Eshbert, Wm.	116 Kettler, Wm.	181 Pelscher, Geo.	246 Wieggers, Herm.
52 Fahrenhorst, Wm.	117 Keuthan, F.H.	182 Polsdorfer, D.	247 Wiehe, H.
53 Fash, John H.	118 Klanke, H.	183 Polsdorfer, E.	248 Wiethoff, H.W.
54 Fielmann, H.	119 Klatte, F.	184 Polsdorfer, Henry	249 Wilde, John
55 Finke, Wm.	120 Klebocher, Wm.	185 Polsdorfer, Herm.	250 Wilhemy, Wm.
56 Florke, H.	121 Kniest, F.	186 Prince, Dr. Wm.	251 Wilker, Jas.
57 Flute, Herman	122 Knost, G.	187 Prubaecr, P.L.	252 Witte, Wm.
58 Fricke, Ebert	123 Knuppel, F.	188 Punton, J.A.	253 Wittenbrink, C.
59 Fulling, H.	124 Koch, Wm.	189 Quellhorst, C.H.	254 Woehler, H.H.
60 Fulling, J.	125 Kohlhorst, F.	190 Quellhorst, J.D.	255 Wolf, Ph.
61 Funke, J.M.	126 Kohlhorst, H.	191 Rabe, H.	256 Wuppenhorst, H.
62 Gante, John	127 Koop, A.	192 Rabe, Wm.	257 Ziemer, F.
63 Geib, Ph.	128 Koop, Wm.	193 Racher, Martis	258 Ziemer, H.
64 Geishbucker,	129 Koper, C.	194 Remfer, Wm.	259 Zwatter, F.
65 Gelshoff, Wm.	130 Koper, H.	195 Richert, H.	260 Zwiersmann, H.



## MEXICAN WAR TIME LINE

**2/23/1836-3/6/1836** - Siege of the Alamo - 187 Texans and frontiersmen fight to death in San Antonio against a Mexican army of 3000 men.

**3/2/1836** - Texas declaration of independence is adopted at Washington, Texas.

**4/21/1836** - Battle of San Jacinto - Gen. Sam Houston defeats Mexicans & captures Mexican Gen. Santa Anna.

**10/22/1836** - The Independent Republic of Texas installs Sam Houston as president.

**3/4/1845** - James Knox Polk is inaugurated as the 11<sup>th</sup> President of the U.S., after campaigning on promises of annexing Texas and expanding the Oregon Territory.

**12/29/1845** - Texas becomes the 28<sup>th</sup> state.

**4/25/1846** - After Polk took office, he sent a personal emissary, John Slidell, to Mexico to try to buy New Mexico and California. When the Mexican government refused to receive Slidell, Polk sent troops under Gen. Zachary Taylor (old "Rough & Ready") to the disputed Rio Grande boundary. Mexican troops attacked the U.S. soldiers and Polk claimed war had begun "by act of Mexico."

**5/13/1846** - Congress declares war on Mexico.

**9/14/1847** - Mexico City is captured by U.S. troops led by Gen. Winfield Scott after a succession of American victories, including Vera Cruz and Pueblo.

**1/24/1848** - Gold is discovered in California by James W. Marshall at Sutter's Mill.

**2/12/1848** - The Mexican War ended with the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo. Mexico accepted payment of \$15 million for territory that was to become California, New

Mexico, Arizona, Nevada, Utah, and parts of Colorado and Wyoming - the largest accession of territory since the Louisiana Purchase. Polk blocked the Wilmot Proviso, an attempt to exclude slavery from the new acquisitions.

Polk also tried to purchase Cuba from Spain for \$100 million, but his offer was rejected.

## New Bremen's Mexican War Veterans

The following four New Bremenites are listed in the Auglaize County Military Record as serving in the Mexican War. Also listed on the May 31, 1937 Memorial Day program was Mike Keegan (1810-10/13/1883) whose death was recorded by Catherine (Helwig) Schulenberg, wife of Civil War Vet., Wm. Schulenberg, as "Mack."

Gottlieb Hermsmeyer (11/2/1827-6/12/1909) enlisted in April, 1847 in Co. "I", 4<sup>th</sup> O.V.I. and fought at Vera Cruz and Pueblo. After the war, he settled on a farm in Shelby County, and in 1882, he moved to New Bremen with his third wife, Henrietta Blumhorst, and lived on S. Walnut St.

Ernst Herring (12/13/1817-3/5/1898) also enlisted in April, 1847 in Co. "I", 4<sup>th</sup> O.V.I. and fought in both the Mexican War and the "war of rebellion" (Civil War). He served in Co. "M", 1<sup>st</sup> O.L.A. (Ohio Light Artillery).

Casper Metz (3/7/1818-5/15/1877) served as 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant in Co. "C" in the Mexican War and in the Indian Wars for 7 years. He married his 2nd wife, Philippine/Philomena Paul, on 10/16/1849.

William Schaffer (3/14/1810-11/8/1870) also enlisted in 1847 and was a Private in Co. "E", 4<sup>th</sup> O.V.I. He married Sophia Charlotte Doenges on 4/20/1853.

## SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR

**3/4/1897** - Republican William McKinley is inaugurated as the 25<sup>th</sup> President of the U.S.

**1/28/1898** - HARRY LUDEKA's birth date. Harry died on May 16, 2000 at the age of 102 (see page 15.)

**2/15/1898** - An unexplained explosion on the U.S. battleship Maine in the harbor of Havana, Cuba, kills 260 of the crew while they were asleep.

**4/11/1898** - Blockading proclamation issued. the First gun of the war was fired by the gunboat Nashville in capturing the prize Buena Ventura.

**4/20/1898** - President McKinley is authorized by Congress to intervene in Cuba with the U.S. Army and Navy, and to call the state militias as necessary. When the news reached the large cities, whistles blew and bells rang.

**4/23/1898** - The President calls for 125,000 2-year volunteers.

**4/25/1898** - The U.S. declares war on Spain, demanding independence of Cuba.

**5/1/1898** - Admiral George Dewey destroyed the Spanish fleet in Manila Bay, Philippine Islands.

**5/12/1898** - San Juan de Puerto Rico falls before the guns of Admiral Sampson. The fleet arrived in the Puerto Rican harbor with the message "Remember the Maine" and did not lose a single ship or man.

**5/25/1898** - The President calls for 75,000 additional volunteers.

**6/3/1898** - The Merrimac is sunk in Santiago Harbor.

**6/10/1898** - 600 U.S. marines landed at Caimanera.

**7/1/1898** - Colonel Teddy Roosevelt's Rough Riders take San Juan Hill, losing 231 men, with 1364 wounded.

**7/26/1898** - Spain proposes peace through French Ambassador Cambon.

**8/12/1898** - Spain and the U.S. sign peace protocol, defining terms. Hawaii annexed to the U.S.

**11/28/1898** - Final terms of U.S. accepted by Spain at Paris.

**12/10/1898** - The Spanish-American War ends with the signing of a treaty. Spain frees Cuba, cedes Puerto Rico and Guam Islands to the U.S., and sells the Philippines to the U.S. for \$20 million.

**2/4/1899** - After U.S. rule was established, Philippine guerrilla leader, Emilio Aguinaldo, began fighting the U.S. troops for 2 years until he was captured.

**1900** - Future U.S. President, William Howard Taft, was appointed President of the Philippine Commission (1900-1901) and Governor of the Philippines (1901-1904) by President McKinley. Later, President Theodore Roosevelt appointed him Secretary of War (1904-1908) and entrusted him with special missions to Cuba, Panama, the Philippines, and Japan.



**9/6/1901** - President McKinley is shot by assassin Leon Szolgosz, an anarchist, in Buffalo, New York.

**9/14/1901** - President McKinley died. He was the last President to have served in the Civil War, and the last to embark on a war of territorial expansion - the Spanish-American War. He was born in Niles, Ohio, practiced law in Canton, and served as governor of Ohio from 1892 to 1896, when he won the Republican nomination for President of the U.S. He had been re-elected in 1900 for a second term.

**9/14/1901** - Republican Theodore Roosevelt is sworn in as the 26<sup>th</sup> President of the U.S. - at 42, the youngest ever to serve as President. (John F. Kennedy was the youngest ever to be elected, at 43.)

**7/4/1902** - The Philippine-American War ends by proclamation of President Roosevelt. →

### ENLISTED IN WAR

#### Ten New Bremenites Sign the Roll

(N.B. Sun - 4/22/1898)

Recruiting officers of Company "L", 2<sup>nd</sup> Regiment, Ohio National Guard, of Wapakoneta, were at the Hotel Central yesterday afternoon and evening to receive applications from those desiring to enlist as reserves, to serve only in case of war with Spain. Ten new recruits signed the pledge. They are as follows:

*Christ H. Grothaus	*Clarence B. Kettler
*Henry Herring	*Arthur Moeller
William Hirschfeld	Julius Schwaberow
Lafe Huelsman	*Otto Steinebrey
*W. C. Ivens	*William Tomhafe

### N.B.'s Spanish-American War Veterans

#### Company "L", 2<sup>nd</sup> O.V.I.

Walter H. Ahlers (Sgt.), George F. Bloss, William L. Heitman, Henry Herring, William E. Ivins, Clarence B. Kettler, Otto A. Steinebrey, William Tomhafe.

#### Others

Dr. William H. Fesker (see pg. 3), Emmanuel P. Grundisch (Philippines), Eayre R. Haines (on 1937 program), Valerius H. Nieter, Benjamin C. Wiedeman (Philippines).

### OFF FOR CUBA

\*Seven of the boys who enlisted in the service of the U.S. last week (see above) passed examination. The others were fairly good and would probably have been permitted to go had there not been more men than were needed.

The boys left New Bremen Monday morning for Wapakoneta. They were serenaded at the Hotel Central by the

### THEODORE ROOSEVELT

As a youth, Theodore Roosevelt's health was poor. His efforts to build up his physical strength by "roughing it" helped make him a sportsman, hunter, horseman, rancher, and explorer. After his wife, Alice, and his mother, Martha, both died on the same day in 1884, he retired to his North Dakota ranch for the next two years, where he acquired many "western" mannerisms.

At the outbreak of the Spanish-American War, he resigned his position as assistant Secretary of the Navy and organized the volunteer cavalry regiment known as the "Rough Riders."

It was while Roosevelt served as governor of New York (1899-1901), that he first used the term, "Speak softly and carry a big stick, you will go far." This was in regards to his relations with the New York Republicans.

In 1906, Roosevelt was the first President to travel outside the U.S. while in office. He visited Panama, and was responsible for the beginning of construction of the Panama Canal.

He was also the first President to ride in a gasoline-powered automobile (8/22/1901) and the first to fly in an airplane (10/11/1910), a year after leaving the White House.

Theodore Roosevelt was succeeded by William Howard Taft as President in 1909.

Little Six Band and accompanied to the edge of town by a big crowd of citizens, the band playing and the cannon booming all the while. The rendition of the *Star Spangled Banner* and *Marching Through Georgia* brought hearty responses, and amidst the patriotic shouts of the assembled crowd could be seen faces wetted with tears. The old veterans stood by the 7 brave lads with the devotion of a father. New Bremen is proud of her war lads.

(N.B. Sun - 4/29/1898)

### HER HEART WENT WITH JOE

The regiment came up the street, to field of glory bound.  
At sight of it from surging crowd, a thousand cheers went round.  
A maiden fair pressed close to one, her cheeks and eyes aglow,  
And as her lips bestowed a kiss, she whispered, "Good-bye, Joe."

The soldier boy smiled through his tears, he looked upon her face.  
He pressed her closely to his side, a last and fond embrace.  
The crowds cheered on, the soldiers marched, they heard the bugles blow.  
The sweetheart looked along the line and saw no one but Joe.

They little recked the trusting heart that beat so sad that day,  
When to the fields of fame and death the gallants marched away.  
The pallid maiden left the scene with faltering steps and slow,  
As on and on beneath the flag, his thoughts with her, went Joe.

The incident the crowd forgot, it had its counterpart  
In many a city fair where beats a young girl's trusting heart.  
No matter where those heroes march, nor where they meet the foe,  
Till he returns - God speed the day - her thoughts will be with Joe.

(N.B. Sun - 5/6/1898)



## LETTERS FROM THE BOYS

*Kenton, Ohio - Apr. 27, 1898*

After our friends accompanied us to Wapakoneta on Monday, we received a good round of drilling and then we were invited to supper given by the ladies of Wapakoneta at the Court House. It was a grand banquet after which followed music and speaking in which we were asked to go out and conquer a nation that was too bad to live and hardly fit to die.

After that, we went to the Armory, had a good time, and then retired with our blankets on the floor. We left the next morning on the 7:50 a.m. train, escorted by a crowd of about 2000. We changed cars at Lima, and then went on to Kenton. There are 12 companies here, about 900 men, ready to obey Uncle Sam's call.

We receive a salary of \$2.00 a day as long as we are not enlisted in service, so we don't object to staying a while.

(N.B. Sun - 4/29/1898)

[NOTE: This first letter from "the boys" was signed with the \*7 names on page 10 plus the name of Walter Ahlers.]

*Camp Bushnell, Columbus, Ohio - May 4, 1898*

We arrived at Columbus at 11:30 a.m. last Friday, and had a seven mile march before we got into camp. We got there about 2:30 p.m., without having any dinner, so we pitched our tents, preparatory for supper, but our supper never came - we were obliged to go to a stand and buy it. We will be mustered in today or tomorrow. Our meals are coming regularly, but they are slim - soup for breakfast, dinner, and supper.

The streetcars run out here daily, and are crowded. Last Sunday we were visited by Frank Kettler, Albert Conradi, Henry Barienbrock, William Helwig, and August Boesel of Columbus.

Yours truly,

Volunteers of New Bremen  
(N.B. Sun - 5/6/1898)

A company of 72 volunteers was formed in St. Marys last week and are now being drilled by Captain Lambert, preparatory for active service if the U.S. government should be in need of them. Five of the company are from New Bremen. They are:

George F. Bloss
William Hirschfeld
Levi/Lafe Huelzman
Ed Paul
J.A. Schoettley

(N.B. Sun - 5/6/1898)

## TWO VOLUNTEERS RETURN A Hot Farewell Given

*Camp Bushnell, Columbus, Ohio - May 11, 1898*

In the past week we were visited by Dr. Radebaugh, Louis Uetrecht, "Dad" Wiegman, and "Texas" Steinebrey. This, in connection with the presents sent us by Dr. Ekermeier and Herman Brinkmeyer, and other kind deeds that were done to us on our departure from home, shows the patriotism that two of our boys, A. Moeller and C. Grothaus, did not appreciate.

When we enlisted in New Bremen, we swore to be true to the Ohio National Guard and to stand by them during the war with Spain. When it came to mustering into the service of the U.S., they showed what is called in modern language, "yellow", and would not enlist. The whole company (about 80 men) lined up in two open ranks and the two were run through the hot alley. When they left for the streetcar station, they were flagged with a yellow flag by the rest of the companies in the city. The parole guards caught them at the depot and they got another hot raking.

We were mustered into U.S. service yesterday and were cut from \$2.00 a day to \$15.60 a month. No more featherbed soldiers - we are now regulars of the U.S.

Yours truly, N.B. Volunteers

(N.B. Sun - 5/13/1898)

In 1866, during the early reconstruction days after the Civil War, the following law was passed: "No person who has served in any capacity in military, naval or civil service of the so-called Confederate States, or of either of the States in insurrection during the late rebellion, shall be appointed to any position in the Army of the United States."

In 1884, this law was modified as follows: "No person who held a commission in the Army or Navy of the United States at the beginning of the late rebellion and afterward, served in any capacity in the military, naval or civil service of the so-called Confederate States, or of either of the States in insurrection during the late rebellion, shall be appointed to any position in the Army or Navy of the U.S."

On March 31, 1896, during the patriotic outburst over our national position in the Venezuelan question, the act of 1884 was repealed. This made it possible, in 1898, for President McKinley to commission Fitzhugh Lee (son of Gen. Robert E. Lee) and Joe Wheeler as Major Generals of the United States Army. Both men served with gallantry and distinction in the Confederate Army during the Civil War.

(N.B. Sun - 5/13/1898)

## BOYS NOW IN CHATTANOOGA

*Chickamauga Park, Chattanooga, Tenn. - May 18, 1898*

Our regiment left Camp Bushnell in Columbus Monday evening on the 6:10 p.m. train. We were escorted to the depot by a large concourse of people. "Remember the Maine" is the battle cry and we go with the determination to avenge the murder of our 266 sailors who went down in Havana harbor.

Our train arrived at Xenia at 9:30 p.m. where we were presented with lunch boxes filled with sandwiches. At 11:00, we arrived in Cincinnati where we filled our canteens with hot coffee and began to relish true army life. We arrived at Louisville at 4:00 and feasted our eyes on the beautiful picturesque countryside. All along the line people flocked to the railroad stations to see the soldier boys, and from every farmhouse waved the red, white and blue, accompanied by lusty cheers from the entire household.



Don't say the south isn't loyal. They seem to be glad that an opportunity has presented itself wherein they can show their patriotism. We stopped at Murfreesboro, the place where our fathers fought the great battle on December 31, 1862 and January 1, 1863, in which General Sheridan won a telling victory at an enormous sacrifice of men.

Next came the Tennessee River with its oily water and there at the edge of Chattanooga peered the famous Lookout Mountains. We slept in our cars Tuesday night and the following morning went into camp which is about 14 miles from Chattanooga, Tennessee - 4 miles south of the boundary line. We covered 10 miles of that distance by train and footed 4 miles, reaching our destination in the evening without having had a morsel to eat since we left Chattanooga. We ate breakfast, dinner and supper all in one at about 8:30 p.m. and it made us feel stout again. We do not expect to stay here over 10 days, after we are equipped in full.

Yours truly, Clarence B. Kettler  
(N.B. Sun - 5/20/1898)

### **IN CAMP GEORGE H. THOMAS** **New Bremen Soldier Boys Enjoy Army Life**

*Camp Thomas, Chickamauga, Georgia - May 25, 1898*  
We are camping on the old battlefield of Chickamauga, where Rosecrans fought in the summer of 1863 and where General Thomas, after whom this camp is named, did such heroic work, saving the battle of Chickamauga from being a rout. The ground is covered with monuments and tablets telling of the different movements that were made, one of which marks the place where two divisions, both belonging to the same army, mistook each other for the enemy, and before the mistake was discovered, many were wounded and slain. We have found numerous relics of the war in the shape of bullets, pieces of canister shot, old triggers and pieces from saddles. The old cannons are stationed here just as they were left in battle.

The boys are all enjoying good health, living on hard tack, bacon, potatoes, beans, onions and coffee. The Ohio troop stands the climate better than any others. The Minnesota boys were skating the Sunday before they left home and marched to the depot in sleet. Now they are getting 112° in the shade. The days are very warm and the nights are cool. The mosquitoes are as large as the grasshoppers in Ohio.

Last Tuesday, while unloading bacon from the cars, a box weighing about 800 pounds fell on three men, killing them almost instantly.

The government has about 1500 mules for transportation purposes. The boys are having lots of fun training them. Each company is entitled to four mules and a wagon.

Respectfully yours, Clarence B. Kettler  
(N.B. Sun - 5/27/1898)

Major General Merritt, who will be commander of the U.S. troops sent to the Philippine Islands, as well as Military Governor of the Philippines, has received his final

instructions and started for his far-away post. He expects to sail from San Francisco about June 1<sup>st</sup>. His army will consist of 16,000 men, nearly one third of them regulars.

(N.B. Sun - 5/27/1898)

### **N.B. VOLUNTEERS JOINED BY NEW RECRUITS**

New Bremen's new recruits, William Heitman and George Bloss, arrived here last Wednesday and are now members of Company "L". We who hail from New Bremen now number seven - a lucky number.

We are now preparing for practice in loading our wagons. All our goods will be hauled by wagons, excepting blankets and rubber leggings, which we will have to carry in knapsacks.

The newspapers here state that 27 regiments will leave to reinforce the Cuban army and this, of course, includes us. We are prepared to do that which we started out for.

by Clarence B. Kettler  
(N.B. Sun - 7/1/1898)

### **COMRADE MEYERS DIES**

Comrade Elmer Meyers died last Saturday evening from typhoid fever. He was 22 years old and we deeply mourn his loss.

The health of the regiment in general is very good. The well from which we got our water was condemned yesterday and now we get our water from the mineral springs and it is the best water we have had since we left Ohio.

An effort is now being made to organize a band in this Regiment. There were 26 applications by musicians yesterday morning.

The Regiments have been chosen to go out and look for the enemy and discover their movements, and I am among the chosen.

by Clarence B. Kettler  
(N.B. Sun - 7/8/1898)

### **OUR BOYS DO NOT EXPECT TO GO TO PUERTO RICO**

We have been out to the target range practicing shooting. The boys all shot fairly well. The trip is about six miles each way, but as the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ohio is noted as the healthiest of any regiment in the park, this was easily overcome.

Only a short time after we reached the range, the boys saw some young pigs weighing 75-100 pounds running around, and they decided to go on a foraging expedition. A small skirmish line was thrown out and in a short time they returned and we enjoyed a fine roast of four of those pigs for supper.

About a week ago, we were certain of going to Puerto Rico, but since terms of peace are being agreed upon, we have settled down, never expecting to go any further than here at Camp Thomas. It is the firm belief that the end will come before long, by the under-dog giving up.

by Clarence B. Kettler  
(N.B. Sun - 8/5/1898)



## BOYS IN CAMP ANXIOUS TO COME HOME

They Enlisted to Fight But Were Disappointed

*Camp Thomas, Chickamauga, Georgia*

The other day the 2<sup>nd</sup> Division was ordered to move to Knoxville. Such cheering and hurraing was never before heard in our camp. The boys who were anxious to go to the front are now even more anxious to go back to their own states and be mustered out as we are all tired of garrison duty.

Most of the boys gave up homes, families, friends, perhaps a good position. As to the officers, most of them no doubt gave up good positions but in return secured a better one. Some were earning \$6 or \$8 a week and now get from \$125 to \$450 a month. They have a special cook, get furloughs to see their families, or have their families come to camp and spend a week or two, or maybe even a month.

As to the privates, they can only eat what the government gives them. They must hunt a place somewhere in the sun, use the ground for a table or stick their feet in some ditch and use the other side for a table. If they feel as though they would like to see their families or friends, they can do so by having them send photos.

With these advantages, no one would blame an officer to be anxious for garrison duty, or a private for wanting to be turned loose, to become a citizen again and go out and earn a living at whatever suits him best.

Another thing which discourages the boys greatly is the amount of sickness that is now prevailing in camp. We have about 40 men in our Company that are not able to drill, and there is an equal or greater number in any other company.

We do not know how soon we will move to Columbus.  
by Clarence B. Kettler  
(N.B. Sun - 8/26/1898)

For the present, government supplies sent to Havana will be distributed under the personal supervision of Miss Clara Barton, President of the Red Cross Society.  
(N B. Sun - 8/26/1898)

## OUR BOYS CHANGED QUARTERS SUNDAY

*Camp Poland, Knoxville, Tennessee - August 24, 1898*

Last Saturday evening, the final orders came for us to break camp and move to Knoxville. We got up bright and early Sunday morning to pack up our effects to be transported. The third battalion was first to march to Rossville, Georgia, where we all boarded the train. We left Rossville about 8:00 p.m. and reached our new camp 1½ miles south of Knoxville at 3:30 a.m.

As soon as "dawn's early light" set in, we were busy as bees constructing camp. The ground is beautifully located and we have water works and plenty of spring water.

Twenty five men from each Company are permitted to visit town each day. The citizens of Knoxville treat us

kindly. The 6<sup>th</sup> Ohio has received orders to go to Cincinnati and take part in the G.A.R. parade. We hoped to take part also, but do not know whether orders will be given to that effect.

by Clarence B. Kettler

by Clarence B. Kettler  
(N.B. Sun - 9/2/1898)

Company "L" of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Regiment remained at Camp Poland until 11/15/1898, when it was ordered to Camp Torrence at Macon, Georgia. There it was under waiting orders when the war ended on 12/10/1898. It was mustered out of service at Macon on 2/10/1899.

(Williamson's History of Western Ohio & Auglaize County - 1905)

Company "L" arrived home from Macon on Sunday, February 12, 1899, and was greeted by a crowd of welcoming and expectant home folks at the Wapakoneta station. On Monday evening, a reception and banquet were given by the ladies of the city at the Court House, followed with a dance at the City Hall.

(McMurray's History of Auglaize County - 1923)

## 2nd OHIO REGIMENT RETURNS HOME

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Ohio Regiment has been mustered out of service. Company "L" of said Regiment, of which New Bremen volunteers are members, returned home last Saturday and Sunday. The Company was handsomely received at Wapakoneta. The boys are looking well.

(N.B. Sun - 2/17/1899)

#### ABOUT THE CORRESPONDENT

Clarence B. Kettler, a native of New Bremen, was the son of Henry F. ("Fritz") Kettler, who had served in the Civil War. The Kettlers lived in Piqua, Ohio, where Clarence became a furniture salesman after being discharged from the Army. He died 8/25/1948.

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## BUFFALO BILL

## Buffalo Bill Goes to War

The services of Colonel William F. Cody (Buffalo Bill) have been tendered to the army. Colonel Cody expects to be put in charge of the cavalry scouts who will accompany the U.S. Infantry to Cuba.

(N.B. Sun - 4/22/1898)

Buffalo Bill Cody's "Wild West and Congress of Rough Riders of the World" will exhibit at Lima, Ohio, on Thursday, August 3, 1899.

Differing as it does from all other exhibitions, Buffalo Bill's "Wild West" stands as a living monument of historic and educational magnificence. Probably the most interesting is a vivid reproduction of the Battle of San Juan, which will be participated in by many members of Roosevelt's Rough Riders who actually participated in the gallant charge. Buffalo Bill (Colonel Cody) appears at every performance.

(N.B. Sun - 7/28/1899)

(N.B. Sun - 7/28/1899)



## LETTERS FROM THE PHILIPPINES

*Cavite, Philippine Islands - October 7, 1898*

To: C(larence) R. Backhus - St. Marys, Ohio

I received a SUN of August 5<sup>th</sup> and was interested in Clarence Kettler's letter. I am sending a letter for publication just to let you know that our little burg (New Bremen) is represented in the Philippines as well as at Chickamauga Park, Georgia. I wish we could run across a couple of "porkers" in this country like Kettler's company did at Chickamauga, but all the pigs here hold an honorable position in the Philippine household.

The native soldiers here from Aguinaldo's favorite Regiment are armed with Mauser rifles and have 25 rounds of ammunition of 30-30 and 45-70 calibers. Their guns are in terrible condition compared with ours. Also, they do very little drilling.

B. C. Wiedeman

(N.B. Sun -11/18/1898)

*Cavite Isle DeLuzon, P.I. - October 20, 1898*

To: H.M. Wieggers - New Bremen, Ohio

I reached Lewistown, Montana on 10/2/1897 (after graduating from N.B.H.S. in 1895), and went to work for the Montana Hardware Co. for \$60 a month. (I paid \$20 board.) I worked with this firm until May 4, 1898, when, having enlisted with Co. "I" of the 1<sup>st</sup> Montana National Guard, I enlisted with them in the service of the U.S. We arrived in Helena on May 7<sup>th</sup> and were examined and mustered into the U.S. Volunteer Army on May 10, 1898.

On May 25<sup>th</sup> we were taken to San Francisco. During this time we spent 6 hours drilling each day. This was all right when we were in our own cool climate in Camp Smith in Helena (although it rained almost every day we were there, and our blankets and clothing were always wet and muddy), but when we got to Camp Merritt in San Francisco, it was sandy. We were in San Francisco from May 29<sup>th</sup> to July 19<sup>th</sup>, when we marched to a wharf five miles away carrying about 100 pounds of gear. You can bet I'll think twice before I join another Volunteer outfit.

When we reached the dock, we had to stand around until 3:00 p.m. I had not eaten more than a sandwich since 4:00 a.m. and expected to get something to eat as soon as we had put our bunks in order. I had scarcely done this and settled down, when the 1<sup>st</sup> Sergeant informed me that I was on guard that night. I found that I was Corporal of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Regiment and would be on guard at 9:00 p.m. with 11 men. I dug out my plate and tin cup and stood in line awaiting my turn from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. When I last got to the kitchen, my supper consisted of half a potato, a spoonful of stew, a handful of musty hardtack, and coffee. We pulled a mile out into the Bay and this made guard duty a trifle easier, as there were no attempts made to get back on shore.

At 10:00 a.m. on July 20<sup>th</sup>, the Transport Pennsylvania with 1200 Montana and 300 California troops aboard started out of the Golden Gate. Soon every available space on the rails was full of sea-sick men trying to outdo each other in throwing up what they had eaten.

Our supper on board consisted of a plate of beans, a little hardtack and coffee. The next morning, when we

were told that our breakfast would consist of hardtack and coffee only, some of the more determined men threatened to throw the Lt. Siedorf overboard. He didn't go overboard, but we got more than hardtack for breakfast and no one was arrested.

The trip from Frisco to Honolulu took 10 days. During that time I lost 12½ pounds. When we arrived in Honolulu, the people gave us a feast and frequently invited individual soldiers to dine with them. We remained in Honolulu until August 3<sup>rd</sup>.

At 5:00 a.m. on August 3<sup>rd</sup>, we sailed out of the harbor amidst the cheers and good wishes of nearly ¾ of the population of Honolulu. When the people of Lewistown heard that we were to go to the Philippines, they immediately collected \$150. Our Captain invested it in sea-bread, fruit, jam and molasses. This helped out quite a bit on the 23-day passage from Honolulu to Manila. The capacity of our ship, which was originally a freight ship, was about 1000, but there were nearly 1500 men on board. The grub which was bad from Frisco to Honolulu was worse from Honolulu to the Philippines.

The Pennsylvania anchored in Manila Bay on August 25<sup>th</sup>. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion was quartered in a former Spanish prison until about ¾ of the men were in the hospital and fit only for the grave. One man, William O'Leary, age 23, died Sept. 5<sup>th</sup> and was buried the same day.

Shortly after this we were moved into the Cavite Arsenal formerly occupied by the Spanish Marine Infantry. When the 18<sup>th</sup> U.S. troop got here, we had to pull out.

Just beyond the south entrance of the Cavite Arsenal extends a portion of Manila Bay about 4 miles wide by 6 miles long. In this bay are the hulls and dismantled military masts of seven Spanish warships.

The climate here is extremely hot during the dry season. When we first landed, we could not bear the noonday heat and remained in our quarters from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. About 3 weeks ago, the rainy season began and lasted until about a week ago. This seemed to cool the atmosphere and enables us to sleep under our blankets. This is a relief, because the mosquitoes are so large and vicious that it is impossible to sleep unless a person keeps covered.

The health in the 1<sup>st</sup> Montana is steadily improving, due mostly to the strong constitution of the men. Quinine and calomel are the only drugs prescribed, no matter what the illness might be. I have been down with malaria twice. The second time, I took the advice of one of our men who had been in the south before. His prescription was a large dose of quinine in a big drink of whiskey. This fixed me up in less than no time.

We get mail about twice a month. We are always happy when some ship comes into the harbor, but with our joy there is also a fear lest we should hear evil news from loved ones at home. I have had but three letters since I am here. I am coming home after this Philippine Island business is settled and we are mustered out. I hope this letter reaches you all in the best of health and happiness.

**Corp. B(enjamin) C. Wiedeman**

Co. "I", 1<sup>st</sup> Montana Volunteer Infantry



## From the Mailbox....



Dear Mrs. Francis:

Thank you so much for the complimentary copies of *The Towpath* which you sent with the April, 2000 issue. They were especially interesting to me because they contained articles about my graduation class of 1938 from N.B.H.S. (July, 1998 issue) and about the 1910 and 1911 football teams on which my father, Lewis Poppe, played. (January, 2000 issue)

I was also interested to see where Irene (Wehrman) Staggs and Jeanne and James Tangeman are now too.

*The Towpath* is bringing back many memories.

Sincerely, Rachel (Poppe) Olin

Dear Lucille:

I just finished the April, 2000 issue of *The Towpath*. It brought back many memories, many different emotions - happy ones of riding the "streetcar" to Lima with my Aunt Laura Wuebbenhorst, who had doctor appointments there once a month. That was a long but exciting time for a girl of four or five years of age. Another memory of the streetcar is from when I lived at 315 N. Main St. My Grandmother Wuebbenhorst and three aunts lived on the south side of the house and my family lived in the north side of the double. The streetcar would stop at the corner and pick up my aunt and me for the trip and stop again in the evening to let us off the car.

Other memories are both good and bad. My great-aunt, Emma Kawell, lived on North Franklin St. and I lived on West Ash St. I could go visit her if I walked on the sidewalks - I couldn't cut through the alley because Dietrich's Egg Plant was loading eggs in trucks. When I entered Aunt Emma's kitchen there were sugar cookies and milk waiting for me. As a small girl, my mother would caution me not to say anything about little children because my aunt didn't have any. Years later I was told the reason - I was about the same age her daughter, Marie, had been when she and her father, Henry Wuebbenhorst, were killed by the streetcar.

I didn't realize how many people had been killed by the streetcar. I remember the Koops. My parents would go to their farm every fall to purchase potatoes.

Another side note about Aunt Emma. When she and Uncle Henry Wuebbenhorst were married in October, 1905, they traveled to the courthouse in Wapakoneta to get their license and then went across Franklin street to St. Paul Church and were married. I accidentally ran across this information in the church's marriage records.

Thanks again for the memories.

Helen (Wuebbenhorst) Richey

Thank you for the complimentary copy of the April, 2000 issue of *The Towpath*. I have enjoyed it so much I would like to continue receiving future issues. Enclosed is my check for \$8.00.

Alvera (Schroer) Heil

Thanks so much for the complimentary copy of *The Towpath*. It is well worth the price I have enclosed.

Mary Ellen (Schemmel) Kurtzman

On behalf of my father, Leroy Haeseker, and myself, I am writing to thank you for including us on your mailing list for the April, 2000 issue of *The Towpath*. My father has fond memories of the "electric mule" (streetcar) during his early years while attending Koop School. I have enclosed my check for the year of 2000. Keep up the good work. Thank you.

David L. Haeseker



**Harry Ludeka at his 102<sup>nd</sup> Birthday Party  
January 28, 2000**

Harry Ludeka was born on January 28, 1898, the son of Louis & Anna (Haeseker) Ludeka, just months before the Spanish-American War began. Harry was able to reach his goal of having lived in three centuries - the 1800s, the 1900s, and 2000. Before he passed away on May 16, 2000, he was the oldest living graduate of N.B.H.S., having graduated with the class of 1916. He was a charter member of Boy Scout Troop #95. He was also the oldest member of the New Bremen Historic Association and looked forward to reading *The Towpath*.

Harry loved to tell stories and play cards. He had a "card club" - a group of about eight retired men from New Bremen, who would gather regularly in his room at Otterbein Retirement Community at Lake St. Marys to play "Knock Rummy." (see the January, 1998 issue of *The Towpath* for a picture.) The "boys" played cards at Harry's less than a week before he entered the hospital the first week of April.

Harry's philosophy was, "A little nonsense now and then is relished by the best of men." Harry was one of the participants in our 1997 Annual Dinner program, "Tales of Yesteryear." Those of you who purchased tapes of this program have a special keepsake.

Harry Ludeka was a much-respected man and will be missed by all who knew him.





## Curators Corner

### Capt. Michael Stone's Civil War sword

This was recently donated to the N.B.H.A. Museum by his grandson, Retired Judge Jacob J. Boesel, of Columbus, Ohio, along with Capt. Stone's discharge certificate, a Captain's shoulder insignia, sash, pictures, and Lieutenant Colonel Frederick W. Lister's Officer's Report dated August 17, 1864, citing Capt. Stone's acts of gallantry. (see page 2)

### Military Display

We have a display area in one of the upstairs rooms at our museum that includes a Civil War flag from the 37<sup>th</sup> Regiment of the Ohio Volunteer Infantry, a short sword, a bayonet, uniforms worn during the various wars, military books, and other items.

### New Displays at our Museum

Our new curators have been moving things around and creating some new displays. There are also items on display that have not been shown before. The Doenges & Doenges Tire Shop safe from Roger Henkener, mentioned in the January, 1998 issue of *The Towpath*, has finally made its way to our museum. Come and see these items and other things you may not have seen before.

## Thank You

### Computer and Printer

We would like to extend a hearty Thank You to Lloyd and Janice (Topp) Schroer for their willingness to donate a brand new computer and color printer to the N.B.H.A. museum. We appreciate their generosity and can find many uses for these items in the future.

### New Roof on our "Outhouse"

Thanks also to Roland Dicke of Preferred Builders for putting a new wood shingle roof on our display "outhouse" in the back yard. Roland has been replacing some shingles on the museum roof, and when his "Cousin Larry" asked him to replace the roof of the outhouse, he was agreeable to the suggestion. Larry, along with Jerry Brown and Carl Roediger, scraped and re-painted the outhouse, so it now looks much better.

### Fire Extinguisher Service

Thanks to Lance Lear of Lear Fire Equipment Co., who has donated his annual inspection of our extinguishers.

Check us out on New Bremen's new website at  
[www.newbremen.com](http://www.newbremen.com)

### NEW MEMBERS THIS QUARTER (THRU 6/8/00)

04/24/00 Biederman, Sherry (Kuck) - Newark, Delaware  
05/10/00 Borlik, Roberta (Thiesing) - Indianapolis, Indiana  
03/25/00 Brown, Joseph - Bloomington, Illinois (Rejoined)  
06/04/00 Dicke, Dennis W. - New Bremen  
05/24/00 Forwerck, Cleora (Fark) - New Bremen  
04/25/00 Graaskamp, John - Niagara Falls, New York  
05/10/00 Haeseker, David L. - Trotwood, Ohio  
05/10/00 Heil, Alvera (Schroer) - St. Marys, Ohio  
06/04/00 Klingler, Mrs. Dennis (Edith) - New Bremen  
04/10/00 Kuenning, Eric - Columbus, Ohio  
04/15/00 Kurtzman, Mary Ellen (Schemmel) - Van Wert, OH  
04/07/00 Meckstroth, Mrs. Roland (Sally) - New Bremen  
04/12/00 Olin, Rachel (Poppe) - Ashland, Ohio  
04/12/00 Poppe, Carl - Carlsbad, California  
04/12/00 Poppe, Paul - Edmonds, Washington  
05/10/00 Senter, Janet (Grothaus) - Dayton, Ohio  
04/14/00 Siferd, Lois (Quellhorst) - Wapakoneta (Rejoined)

### MEMBER DEATHS THIS QUARTER

04/09/00 Fischer, Sally (Wilson) (died 4/9/00)  
05/16/00 Ludeka, Harry (died 5/16/00 - 102 yrs old)  
05/02/00 Ritter, Paul (died 5/2/00)

### MEMORIAL DONATIONS

Donations have been received from the following  
in memory of Harry F. Ludeka

Tom & Jill Dickman & family, Lowell & Lucille Francis, John & Joyce Gilberg, Gloria Goodwin, Johann & Mary Klein, Jerry & Kathleen Pulskamp, Everett & Dorothy (Dickman) Koenig, Paul & Deanna (Koenig) Hoadley, Dan & Lisa Hoadley, John & Karen (Koenig) Herman, Jerry & Laura Koenig, and Beverly Koenig.

A brass plate with Harry's name will be added to our  
Memorial Plaque.

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### 2<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL N.B.H.A. SUMMER PICNIC Sunday, June 4, 2000

Our second annual summer picnic was held from 2:00-5:00 p.m. on Sunday afternoon, June 4<sup>th</sup>, at the museum. The weather this year was wonderfully sunny and pleasantly warm for most of the afternoon.

Local auctioneer, Tim Eiting, volunteered his services and appraised antiques and collectibles that were brought in by many people of the area - he did a total of 85 appraisals of many different kinds of items.

Musical entertainment was donated by the Miami-Erie Boys and Rita (Gehret) Heitkamp. Girl Scout Troop #260 did face painting for the young and old alike.

It was estimated that approximately 350 people attended. A number of them toured the museum and/or took advantage of the food that was offered - hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, pies, ice cream, and hot and cold beverages.

A special Thank You goes to all who served on the committee, those who baked pies or served food and drinks, those who monitored the museum and restroom facilities, and to those who furnished tents & tables. The cooperation of all these people made this another successful event.

Dru Meyer, Special Events Coordinator