

THE TOWPATH



Published quarterly (January-April-July-October) ❄️ **January - 1997** ❄️

MUSEUM LOCATED AT 120-122 N. MAIN ST. - WINTER VISITING HOURS BY APPOINTMENT

Dues: \$5.00 per person (due in January) - Life Memberships: \$50.00 per person

O the snow, the beautiful snow, Filling the sky and the earth below,
Over the housetops, over the streets, Over the heads of the people we meet,
Dancing, flirting, skimming along, Beautiful snow, it can do no wrong.

John Whittaker Watson

OFFICERS OF N.B. HISTORIC ASSOCIATION

(97) Donald Ruese, President/Trustee	629-3284
(99) Douglas Harrod, Vice Pres./Trustee	629-2224
(99) Donna Warner, Secretary/Trustee	629-3616
(98) Betty Schroer, Treasurer/Trustee	629-2777
(98) Mark Gaerke, Trustee	629-3609
(97) Craig Griesdorn, Trustee	629-3321
(98) Dorothy Hertenstein, Trustee	629-3320
(99) Rev. Lawrence Holmer, Trustee	629-3738
(97) Eugene Kuck, Trustee	629-2517
Vernita Scheer, Curator	629-2258
Bea Young, Curator	629-3113
Marjorie Lietz, Editor Emeritus	629-2924
Lucille Francis, Editor/Genealogist	629-3148
Martha Plattner, Genealogist	629-2814
Susie Hirschfeld, Membership Chairman	629-2133
Lois Moeller, Historian	629-3180
Irene Wellemeier, Corresponding Secy.	629-2760



N.B.H.A. Museum as it looked in December 1989

(The trees have since been removed)

🌲🌲🌲🌲🌲🌲 Christmas Tree Festival 🌲🌲🌲🌲🌲🌲

On Saturday and Sunday, December 7th and 8th, 1996, our 22nd annual Christmas Tree Festival and Open House was held at the Museum. Approximately 200 visitors came to see the displays centering around the theme, "Favorite Christmas Stories." Santa Claus made an appearance on Sunday afternoon from 2:00 to 4:00 and handed out candy canes to the children. Refreshments of cookies, cider, and coffee were served in the summer kitchen behind the Museum.

We are grateful to Donna Warner for all the many days she spent during the week prior to the Festival coordinating and working out all the details. Her persistent efforts resulted in a well-organized and interesting

display of decorations and prizes. Thanks also to Rev. Larry Holmer (narrator) and Evelyn Wenning for making a video of all the displays. This tape will be added to the collection of previous years in the library.

We also want to thank everyone else who participated in decorating and setting up displays, those who came to visit, all the volunteer hosts, those who baked cookies, those who made and/or donated prizes, those who gave cash donations or purchased items from our gift shop, and also First National Bank for providing the programs. We appreciate your support. We hope you will return next summer during our regular visiting hours and see our new acquisitions and new displays. (See the insert sheet for a list of prizes, donors, winners, hosts and hostesses, and displays.)

UPCOMING EVENT

ANNUAL MARCH DINNER MEETING
of the New Bremen Historic Association
MARCH 17, 1997

Plans are now being worked out.
Watch the local papers for further information.

A Review of 1996 Events

•On March 25, 1996, our annual dinner meeting was held in the St. Paul's Church assembly rooms. After the dinner, the Samaniego family gave a presentation of their American Indian culture and dances.

.....

•Last summer, on July 4, 1996, we passed (without fanfare) the 20th anniversary of the dedication of our museum. To honor this occasion, some of our founders and/or past officers were invited to ride on the New Bremen Historic Association's float in the annual Bremenfest parade on August 18th. Those who accepted were:

Mary Ann Brown (Olding), Sue Maxson, Vic Maurer, John Hoffman, Craig Hoffman, and Beverly Poppe, all Founders of the organization. Also riding on the float were Past Presidents Anna Mae Hudson, Jacqui Kuck, and Fred Wellemeyer. Driving the tractor pulling the float was the 1996-1997 president, Don Ruese. (names provided by Don Ruese)

The theme of the parade was "Rock, Roll, & Remember." We chose to "remember" those who gave the Historic Association its start.

.....

•In March, Lucille Francis was asked to assume the responsibility of publishing *The Towpath* due to the illness of Marjorie Lietz and her husband, Paul. Paul passed away on August 7th and Marjorie is recuperating from her November 11th hip-replacement surgery.

.....

•In July, our new book, *New Bremen Marriages*, went on sale for \$8.00 (+\$2.00 S/H, if mailed.) There are still a good number of books on hand, if you are interested in finding out more about your New Bremen ancestors. We also still have a limited supply of

the *Ralph May Remembers* books for \$6.50 (+\$2.00 S/H.) Both books are also available at the Museum during open houses and at the New Bremen Public Library. Many thanks to those of you who have already purchased these books. We hope you have found them interesting, informative, and useful in doing your research.

.....

•In August, Martha Plattner and Lucille Francis spent a "Day at the Auglaize County Fair", hosting at the Auglaize County Historical Society's log cabin. Both enjoyed visiting with Vern Doenges, former Auglaize County Auditor, and seeing his postcard collection which he had on display.

•Some of the visitors to our Museum this summer during the regular visiting hours and by appointment were a group of 12 young people from Lienen, Germany and a group of 20 members of the Vandalia-Butler Historical Society, Vandalia, Ohio. (Afterwards, they attended a pig roast at the home of Lowell & Barb Ziegenbusch. Barb is the niece of one of their members.) Also paying a visit were several grade school classes from New Bremen Elementary School.

Thanks to those who "hosted" during visiting hours this past summer. Our Museum will again have visiting hours next June, July, and August.

Curator's Corner

We listed a few of the new donations and/or loans of artifacts in the last issue. Here are several more:

1. "PRACTICAL" BRUCKEN CIGAR BOX: (Marjorie Lietz)
2. "WOODMAN OF THE WORLD" BADGE & old pictures: (Dorothy Gobrecht Robinson - Toledo, Ohio)
3. HOUSEWIFE'S KNEEPADS (2 sets) designed & patented by Lola Patterson (received from N.B. High School)
4. 2 REELS OF FILM of the March 25, **1960 STATE BASKETBALL SEMI-FINALS TOURNAMENT** at Columbus in which New Bremen played Frazeysburg and lost 64-51.

Players on this team were: (alphabetically) Jan Belton, John Bornhorst, Jim Cumming, Max Fledderjohann, Captain Jake Froning, Steve Froning, Larry Hirschfeld, Danny Nedderman, Ray Rush, Tom Thieman, Ron Wiedeman, Dennis Wint, and Tom Wissman. The coach was Jerry Schacht. Managers were Jim Schroer and Wayne Ziegenbusch. This is the only team in **New Bremen basketball's 81 year history** to have gotten this close to a state championship. (Films donated by N.B. High School who had received them from the state.) ~~We are having these films converted to video tape and a copy will be placed in the New Bremen Public Library. (never done!)~~

Thank you, everyone, for your donations.

N.B.H.S. BASKETBALL STATISTICS	
HIGHEST INDIVIDUAL SINGLE GAME SCORE	Mark Froning (1963-1964) - 44 points
HIGHEST INDIVIDUAL SINGLE SEASON SCORE	Jim Opperman (1956-1957) - 640 points
HIGHEST INDIVIDUAL SINGLE CAREER SCORE	Jim Opperman (1954-1957) - 1553 points
"WINNINGEST" COACH	Jerry Schacht (1958-1959-1960) - won 42, lost 8 - 84%

"At **ST. PAUL'S CHURCH** we had two big beautiful Christmas trees. I'll never forget those lovely Christmas trees - each one had a lovely big angel at the top. These trees, of course, were lit by candlelight and that really was a fire hazard, but we didn't think anything of it - everybody had candles on their trees. And one of the men was continually walking around the tree to be sure that no fire started."

"Christmas was about the most special time of the year. We spent many hours stringing popcorn to decorate the tree. We had no tinsel so yards of popcorn were used instead. And many of the ornaments were just made of paper. We had no glass balls or colored lights."

"All the churches had special programs put on by the children of the Sunday School. We were given poems to recite and we had special Christmas songs we had to learn. All of these programs were in German. It was not until I was ten or twelve years old, I think, that we had any English in the Churches. At first they alternated - one Sunday it would be English and the next Sunday it would be German. Finally it all became English. Almost every family in town spoke German or 'Plattdeutsch', which is the dialect of German that depended, of course, on the section of Germany from which their ancestors had come."

*Naomi (Grothaus) Sunderman
(July 1, 1979 Oral History Tape)*

SLEIGH RIDES

Naomi (Grothaus) Sunderman

In High School, we went on sleigh rides. These were invited groups and we usually went to someone's house in New Knoxville. (At that time, we had some New Knoxville students who finished High School in New Bremen.)

We had to have someone to take us, and Morris Bessel had a team of horses and a big wagon. Sometimes Henry Wehrman took us. He also had a wagon with horses. These were the large farm-type wagons which most farmers owned. In the winter when there was a deep snow, they would remove the wheels and attach sled runners instead. We called them bobsleds. They were wonderful for sleigh rides.

These sleigh rides were always a weekend High School highlight. We would bring our own blankets and coffee and we would all pile in this big wagon. It was cold, so we would bundle up and start out.

The hostess usually served doughnuts and



Altar at St. Paul's Church at Christmas time

With a magnifying glass, you can see the angels at the tops of the trees, the candles, and the strings of popcorn. Also of interest are the old wooden pews with the lift-up seats (remember the wires underneath to hold the men's hats?) and the organ pipes behind the altar. This picture dates from before 1933, when the church was redecorated for its centennial celebration. The pews were replaced with benches in 1958 during a complete remodeling and refurbishing for its 125th anniversary.

A CHRISTMAS MEMORY OF MARGE LIETZ: "At Christmas time the children would receive gaily decorated boxes of old-fashioned candy (colored gumdrops, chocolate clusters, orange slices, coconut bonbons, and sugar candy with fancy pressed designs), also peanuts and English walnuts. The box would have a cotton twill tape handle." (Joyous Echoes - Dec. '96)

coffee for refreshments and we would play games until about midnight, when we would hear Mr. Bessel say, "Boys and girls, it's half past middlenight." That meant it was time to go home. It was kind of a long ride to New Bremen, especially when the horses didn't do anything but walk, so by the time we got home, it was often 2:00 in the morning. But we had been on a sleigh ride and, believe me, we had a wonderful time.

Picture a happy crowd of high-schoolers all bundled up in one of these sleighs, the horses with their sleigh bells jingling, and everyone out for a night of fun. It was on one of these sleigh rides to New Knoxville that I had my first date with Edwin Sunderman, who became my husband some ten years later, in 1918. Those were great days.



ELMER ENDE

Readers may be interested in some information on one of the benefactors of the New Bremen Historic Association. The one in mind is Professor Elmer Ende (1892-1966).

The New Bremen Public Library contains his lifetime collection of books, prints and music, many classics in German and French. He also found and preserved the original Town Charter of 1832 and other important papers when the old Town Hall was torn down in July, 1959, all of which he cataloged for the Association so that we know them today.

Professor Ende was the son of lifetime New Bremen residents, Fred Ende, a jeweler and optometrist, and Georgiana Laut Ende. He attended the local public schools, received degrees from the American Conservatory of Music and Ohio State University and studied organ in Europe. He was an organist, choral director and instructor, and for 27 years was Professor of Music at University of Akron, retiring in 1957. He was founder of the Akron chapter of the American Guild of Organists.

He also traveled extensively in Europe, both for his own continuing education and to direct tours, and lectured on music at Heidelberg (Germany) University and University of Vienna. He became interested in genealogy, located and visited with relatives of his wife living in Lauterecken, Germany, and gave an organ recital on the very organ there that his wife's great grandfather Karl Boesel (an early settler of new Bremen) had given to its local church a century earlier.

He never really left New Bremen, though, as he and his wife (Grace Boesel Ende, also a town native) returned summers during his active teaching career to visit with his parents, and in 1957 he retired and they became full-time residents of the Ende family home at 123 South Main Street. They were active members of Zion U.C.C., and he played the dedicatory recital of the (then) new organ at St. Paul's U.C.C. in 1958. They were active supporters of the Historic Association; indeed, he functioned as town historian.

My early memories of him include his lengthy discourses on the political scene, delivered between puffs on a fragrant pipe, and his lectures on, well, everything; he was born to be a teacher. Who else would visit at our home, and spend much of the evening reading through our new encyclopedia (cover to cover, book by book, it took many months). Having accomplished that feat, he also expected it of my brothers and me, and regularly assigned sections of the volumes for us to study, followed by tests administered by him orally. Amazingly, he was well informed on almost any subject and his advice was practical and

focused.

So focused was he that he never bothered to learn to drive a car; his wife drove for him. That way, he was free to read and study while she had the wheel.

When I became engaged to my now-wife of 36 years, and introduced her to him, his response was classic. He listened carefully to her courteous remarks of introduction, and then pronounced his personal judgment: she was an alto.

He had of course a lighter side too. At our marriage, he became the centerpiece of the reception. He befriended another guest who was a retired Marine Corps general, and after suitable refreshment together they offered their version of "From the Halls of Montezuma to the Shores of Tripoli", and other incidental music, the Professor grandly conducting the band and assembled guests.

When I reviewed this draft with my own extended family on Thanksgiving Day, 1996, they relived our similar holiday gatherings of past years at my parents' home in Akron, with "Uncle Elmer" as a participant. He immensely enjoyed eating, so Thanksgiving was made for him. After eating double helpings of perhaps a dozen courses, he would belch (nicely), make necessary adjustments to the waist of his pants, expand and snap his suspenders, and announce that he had received "his sufficiency and fanciful."

~~~~~  
*NOTE: The author is Robert M. Brucken, of Cleveland, Ohio, a nephew of Professor Ende, who lived nearby to him in Akron for over thirty years and so fondly remembers him.*

*Robert Brucken is the son of Harold and Eunice Boesel Brucken. Both are 1924 graduates of New Bremen High School and will celebrate their 91st birthdays in February.*

*Eunice Boesel Brucken and Grace Boesel Ende are the children of Adolph and Ida Haveman Boesel, along with Reuben Boesel, Elsa Boesel Bunten, and Mildred Boesel Wolfe.*

*The Endes had no children, but from time to time would "adopt" Robert Brucken and his two brothers, "to the occasional relief of their parents."*

*This article was presented to the Brucken family (a gathering of 20 people) on Thanksgiving Day, November 28, 1996, for all to read. They enjoyed it and encour-aged publication of it in our newsletter, The Towpath.*

*We appreciate the Brucken family's sharing of their personal remembrances of their uncle, Elmer Ende.*

## A Trip Down Memory Lane

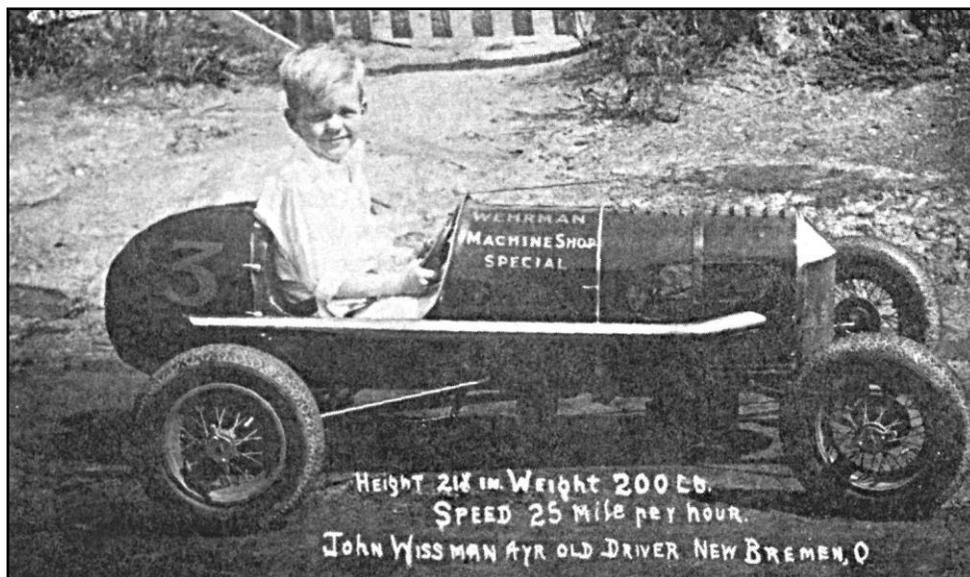
by Irene (Wehrman) Staggs  
of Highland, California  
(NBHS Class of '36)



◆When the New Bremen Racetrack was in its glory, my brother, Eddie Wehrman, had his machine shop in my father's barn (*on N. Jefferson St., later New Bremen Machine & Tool owned by Norb Roettger.*) Qualifying for the race was usually held on Saturday. If a car broke down, the racing teams did not have the garages and parts as they do now. Eddie would work sometimes all night to ready the repairs for the next day. Many times drivers would sleep there, too. How times have changed!

The race car in the picture below was a miniature replica of Mauri Rose's car. Eddie "pounded" out the tail section, shaped the cover over the engine, and used baby buggy springs. The tires were made by Firestone. John Wissman was the driver. The mechanics were Roger Quellhorst and John Briggs. Eddie received a lot of recognition from *Popular Science*, *Popular Mechanics*, and other publications. This was the first little car at this time.....

◆I remember my father, "Fritz" Wehrman, telling of a tornado or a cyclone blowing a baby buggy down Amsterdam Road with a baby in it. They found it miles down the road, with the baby still in the buggy! Maybe someone else remembers this story?



◆Along the towpath, west of the bridge on Second Street, sat a log house. East of the bridge lived Mrs. Grothaus & Mame (I think there were more children). To the north, behind my Dad's property (we lived at 205 N. Jefferson St.), lay the hull of an old canal boat in the muck of the canal. When the canal was dredged many years later, all that was left were pieces of board from the bottom hull (everything else was rotted away), and they were destroyed. I remember that. Across from our property, along the Canal Road to Lock Two, was the old Allen Handle Factory (*the present location of N.B. Machine & Tool, Inc. - 210 N. Jefferson St.*)



◆This brings me to another family - the Eschmeyers. Mr. Eschmeyer would take his vegetable cart and sell his vegetables from his garden. Mrs. Eschmeyer had a rug loom off her kitchen and would spend many hours weaving rag rugs. At Easter time, we would buy scraps and wrap our eggs in vinegar-soaked rags and a larger piece of cloth and boil them. They were beautiful! (If the color came through into the whites, we would cut that part away and eat the rest.) I know there were other children, but the only one I remember is the youngest, Paul. After he graduated I believe he went to college in Michigan. (*Note: Paul is a member of the N.B.H.A. and now lives in Fort Collins, Colorado.*)

◆Was there not a saloon across the street (*at 109 N. Main St.?*) from where Anna Schwepe lived that was owned and operated by her father? (*Schwepe's Hall?*) This would have been not too far from Zion.

Trippers of the light fantastic should not forget the grand wedding dance at **William Schwepe's Hall** on next Thursday evening, December 22nd. Refreshments of all kinds and good music will be on hand. Everybody is cordially invited.

*New Bremen Sun 12/16/1904*

## *Birthday Greetings to Members*

11/26/1996 - Madeline Bubp turned 93 years old.  
12/16/1996 - Lloyd Laut celebrated his 94th birthday.  
01/04/1997 - Former editor, Marjorie Lietz's birthday.  
01/15/1997 - Lester Blanke is 92 years old.  
11/11/1996 - Les's wife, Lorraine ("Toots") turned 92.  
08/31/1996 - Les & "Toots" celebrated their 70th anniv.  
(Toots is a sister to Lloyd Laut.)  
(Their father was Clarence Laut.)  
01/28/1997 - Harry Ludeka celebrates his 99th birthday.  
03/14/1997 - Bernice Dilger turns 92.

### **MEMBERSHIP UPDATE**

In the July, 1996 issue, we printed a list of the Charter Members and all Life Members to that date.

Beginning with this issue, we will try to update our membership list each quarter. In this issue are listed brief obituaries of members we have lost the past year (1996) and a list of new members we have gained.

In the next issues, we will list those who have paid their '97 dues or beyond, additional new members, new Life Members, and deceased members.

## **SILVER DOLLARS**

We don't see many silver dollars anymore. They used to have a good, comforting touch to the palm of the hand, and a pocketful of silver was a fine thing to have. But silver dollars were kind of unwieldy, and by common consent, they dropped out of fashion. Recently, though, a Midwestern company brought silver dollars back into circulation for a brief day of glory. It paid its whole payroll in silver dollars in order to watch the way that the industrial payroll circulated all through the community.

The results were enlightening to all concerned. As silver dollars passed across store counters, from hand to hand and pocketbook to pocketbook, the community gained an entirely new conception of the important part that the industrial dollar plays in bringing prosperity and general well-being into a town where a factory is located.

Whether the plant's wages are paid in silver or paper money, the money circulates widely and does a lot of good. And when the example of a single town is repeated and multiplied all over the country, a new concept arises and a basic truth is emphasized. In the community or nation as a whole, when industry prospers, everyone prospers!

*(New Bremen Sun Editorial - 5/23/1940)*

## **READER'S RESPONSE**

I enjoyed the article in the October issue about Louie Landwehr's Hamburger Shop. I remember that quite well. There was a Juke Box and Louie could mimic one tune in particular - Kay Kyser's "Three Little Fishes in a Itty Bitty Pool." How many people remember that one? I enjoy reading the notes from readers. I learn what became of some people. **(Robert Heinfeld - Ada, Ohio)**

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Robert Heinfeld is the person who came up with the name "Towpath" for our newsletter back in 1978-1979. After receiving over a dozen suggestions from our readers, Bob's was chosen because it was felt that this would be an appropriate reference to New Bremen's canal town history. We have used this name since the April, 1979 issue.

### **FOR HELP WITH YOUR GENEALOGY QUESTIONS,**

write to: Lucille Francis -- 419 E. Front St. - N.B., Ohio  
Martha Plattner - 5885 St. Rt.

274 - N.B., Ohio

~~~~~

Please keep in mind that most replies require more than a 32¢ stamp, in addition to the costs of copying records, newspaper obituaries, etc.

⇐Does this story have a familiar ring to any of you? Remember when, back in the early 1970s, Crown Controls gave their employees leather draw-string pouches full of silver dollars for Christmas? Does anyone still have any silver dollars or one of these pouches?

This company (now called Crown Equipment Corp.) still follows the practice of giving unusual Christmas gifts. For many years now, they have been handing out booklets of tear-off \$2.00 bills.

A PUZZLE SOLVED!

Some time ago we were asked by a member of the N.B.H.A. "**WHAT EVER HAPPENED TO THE OLD CANNON** (& cannon balls) that used to sit **in the old City Park** on N. Main St.?" (between Main & Franklin across from St. Paul's Parsonage - this area is now the parking lot behind the Post Office.)

One of the responses we received to that question was: "It was 'turned back in' or 'sold back' to the Government 'during the war' to be made into bullets."

Another response was "It was sold to Cliff Harris's junk yard as 'scrap metal' when the new Bank & Post Office were being built in 1959-1960."

The latter response seems to be the most logical since I have found at least two people (Jill Coble May and Tom Fledderjohann) who remember playing on and around the cannon in the 1950's. They also remember that the cannon had a cannon ball inside it.

If anyone has any other information to verify this, please let us hear from you.

MEMORIAL PLAQUE

The first mention of a Memorial Plaque was made in the April/May, 1979 issue of *The Towpath*, when a donation had been received from Verona (Langhorst) Huenke in memory of her grandfathers, William Langhorst and William Schulenberg. A plaque was installed in the Museum with the names of both men engraved on brass plates. It was hoped that others would be interested in honoring someone by making a donation of at least \$100.00.

In the August/September, 1979 issue of *The Towpath*, it was mentioned that perhaps a Memorial Fund should be established. Over the years, contributions have been made ***In Memory of*** William Langhorst, William Schulenberg, Amber & Allen Dicke, Milton and Dorothy Brose, Don Metz, Norma (Vornholt) Sharp, Myrtle Belton, Carol Ludeen Fledderjohann, Emil Fledderjohann, Esther (Rabe) Yarrington, Irene Poppe, Paul Lietz, and ***In Honor of*** Mr. & Mrs. Elton Bruns and Irene Poppe.

At the September 3, 1996 meeting of the officers of the N.B.H.A., a review was made concerning the policy of the placement of engraved brass plates on the Memorial Plaque. It was established that henceforth in order to have a name engraved on a brass plate and placed on the Memorial Plaque, contributions must total \$100.00 or more for that person.

We will publish names of memorial fund donors in *The Towpath* as they are received. Memorial gifts will be used for special projects in accordance with the families' suggestions.

1996 MEMBER DEATHS

ŸLela Mae (Scheer) Billger, 84, Port Hueneme, CA; daughter of Lafe & Wilma (Oberwitte) Scheer; husband, Frank Billger, d. 1/18/1985; daughter, Dottie Laut. (3/24/96)

ŸW.S. Bowman, Shoreview, MN; son of Stella (Williams) Bowman; family moved to New Bremen from Dayton after the 1913 flood. (*July '92 Towpath*)

(*April, 1996 Towpath returned - no obituary*)

ŸWilbur J. Garmhausen, 93, Chillicothe, OH; son of Charles & Alice (Finke) Garmhausen; wife, Elizabeth Gorrie, d. 11/14/1988; children: Charles, Betsy Hunter, Janet Bock. (4/20/96)

ŸPauline (Vornholt) Gilberg, 93, New Bremen, OH; daughter of Benjamin & Anna (Kuck) Vornholt; husband, Paul Gilberg, d. 4/10/1989; children: Alice Hartwig, Jane Talan, Kathryn Beel, John & William Gilberg. (4/12/96)

ŸMarie Greiwe, 97, Minster, OH; daughter of Gustave & Amalia (Huckeriede) Greiwe. (5/13/96)

ŸThomas R. Haeseker, 59, Trotwood, OH; son of Leroy & Lillian Haeseker; wife, Charlene, d.12/29/1984; brother, David; sons, Steven & Jeffery. (8/26/96)

ŸKatherine M. (Tangeman/Cooper) Knost, 87, New Bremen, OH; daughter of Edward & Amanda (Pohlman) Tangeman; husbands, Robert Cooper, died 9/11/1937, Albert Knost, d. 2/27/1982; children: Anna Mae Hudson, James Cooper, Marlene Lammers. (6/6/96)

Memorial Fund Donors in memory of Paul Lietz

Gene & Kathleen Aufderhaar, Ken & Pat Bensman & family, Ed & Cindy Bergman & family, Lewis & Rita Bertke, Steve & Diane Bertke & family, Roger & Leota Busse, Don & Doris Cook, Helen Dammeyer, Wilton & Helen Dicke, Thomas E. Eustis, Allen Eversman & Kim Lott, Howard & Sally Fark, Gary & Karen Farley & family, Tom & Diane Fledderjohann, Lowell & Lucille Francis, Melinda Gehret & family, Leon & Rosemary Gerling, John & Joyce Gilberg, Duane & Alice Hartwig, Paul & Viola Headapohl, Marvin & Mary Heitkamp, Ken & Michele Hemmelgarn & family, Bill & Edythe Henschen, Virgil & Fern Hirschfeld, Rev. Lawrence Holmer, Dick & Mary Lou Howell, Earl & Ellen Huckriede, James & Anna Mae Hudson, Mary Jordan, Dan Kah & family, David Kah & family, Dorothy Kah, Robert & Betty Kettler, Mark & Peggy Kitzmiller & family, John & Peg Knost, Eugene & Gestine Kuck, Marjorie Kuck, Larry & Carole LaVeen, Clarence & Dorothy Leshner, Jerry & Cindy Newman, Mr. & Mrs. Mervin Niekamp, David & Carolyn Pape, Fred & Margaret Pape, Richard & Betty Plattner, Bill & Chris Poeppelman, Ed & Mamie Rump, Dale & Shirley Schaefer, Howard & Laverta Scheer, Roger & Vernita Scheer, Victor Schneider, Curtis, Betty & Dwight Schroer, Myrtle Schwartz, R. Jay & Carol Stauffer, Gregg & Lisa Thobe & family, Jerry & Shirley Tontrup & family, Fred & Hilda Topp, Tom & Tina Travis & family, David & Donna Warner, Karl, Evelyn & Sue Warner, Wayne Wenning, Richard & Louise Wiedeman, Lorma Wiehe, John & Edith Wissman, Leola Wissman, Dr. Kenneth & Kitty Ziegenbusch.

ŸLouise (Henning) Laut, 79, Conway, SC; daughter of Harvey & Emma (Mesloh) Henning; husband, Thomas Laut, d. 10/31/1981; children: Daniel, deceased, John Laut. (1/6/96)

ŸPaul A. Lietz, 75, New Bremen, OH; son of Herman & Alma (Heil) Lietz; wife, Marjorie Gieseke/Conradi, step-children: Edward and Genevieve Conradi. (8/7/96)

ŸIrene (Rismiller) Poppe, 84, St. Marys, OH; husband, Arnold A. Poppe, d. 1/13/1989; children: Eileen (Altic) Pugh, deceased, Barbara Block, John Poppe. (4/3/96)

ŸGoldie Schmidt, 102, Dayton, OH; daughter of Dr. Henry & Alice (Huenke) Schmidt; brother, Dr. Leonard Schmidt, deceased. (2/14/96)

ŸJames Schnell, 70, St. Marys, OH; son of Clayton "Whitey" & Corrine (Hollingsworth) Schnell; wives, Shirley Christler, d. 1/3/1979, Barbara Triplett; daughter, Debra Kuck. (2/23/96)

ŸMildred (Froning) Westerheide, 90, New Bremen, OH; daughter of Jacob & Anna (Grieshop) Froning; husband, Henry Westerheide, d. 7/27/1985; sons: Robert & Donald. (12/26/96)

ŸEsther (Rabe) Yarrington, 74, Columbus, OH; daughter of Alfred & Marie (Schowe) Rabe; husband, Richard Yarrington, d. 1968; sister, Ruth Schwartz, d. 1971. (1/24/96)

NEW MEMBERS IN 1996

10/31/96	Ahlers, Frances - New Bremen	08/16/96	Lohmeyer, Steven S.-New Albany, Indiana (Lamping)
12/14/96	Alger, Johanna (Malik) - Macon, Georgia	07/03/96	Lohmeyer, Steven S.-New Albany, Indiana (Lamping)
07/25/96	Beel, Kay (Gilberg) - Westlake, Ohio	05/30/96	Martin, Anita J. (Schelper/Cook)-Winter Haven, Florida
05/21/96	Bennett, Carol - Hemingford, Neb. (Finke genealogy)	07/03/96	Martin, Anita J. (Schelper/Cook)-Winter Haven, Florida
10/19/96	Boesel, Charles W. - Toledo, Ohio	05/30/96	Moeller, Jack - Rochester, Michigan
02/08/96	Boesel, Retired Judge Jacob J. - Columbus, Ohio	07/03/96	Moeller, Jack - Rochester, Michigan
04/22/96	Braun, Richard Walter - Tamaroa, Illinois	07/03/96	Moore, Vada L. - Celina, Ohio (dau.-in-law=Judy Braun)
07/03/96	Braun, Thomas W. - Phoenix, Arizona	07/23/96	Opperman, Fred C. - New Bremen
04/19/96	Burkard, Betty (Tangeman) - Wapakoneta, Ohio	03/22/96	Opperman, Fred C. - New Bremen
12/14/96	Conradi, Karen E. - Philomath, Oregon	03/22/96	Papsdorf, Robert A. - Sun City, Arizona & California
07/03/96	Cook, Anthony P. - Washington, D.C.	05/21/96	Papsdorf, Robert A. - Sun City, Arizona & California
06/05/96	Cook, Carolyn (Dammeyer) - Friendswood, Texas	07/12/96	Richey, Helene (Wuebbenhorst) - Wapakoneta, Ohio
04/25/96	Dicke, Dr. Thomas E. (LM) - Lima, Ohio & Arizona	03/05/96	Robinson, Dorothy (Gobrecht) - Toledo, Ohio
07/03/96	Eckhart, Kenneth - Celina, Ohio	03/05/96	Robinson, Dorothy (Gobrecht) - Toledo, Ohio
04/02/96	Egbert, Alvin (LM) - New Bremen	03/05/96	Sampson, Mary Ann (Wellman) - Swanton, Ohio
12/14/96	Eustis, Dr. Elaine (Conradi) - Nashville, Tennessee	08/06/96	Sampson, Mary Ann (Wellman) - Swanton, Ohio
10/19/96	Finke, Robert - New Bremen	08/06/96	Schroder, Aretta (Kunhorst) - Otterbein/St. Marys, Ohio
02/20/96	Fledderjohn, Dolores (Mohrman) - New Bremen	05/06/96	Schroder, Aretta (Kunhorst) - Otterbein/St. Marys, Ohio
06/05/96	Furry, Eric A. - Bangor, Maine	05/06/96	Schroeder, David - Potomac, Maryland, Washington
05/06/96	Gerling, Rosemary (Landwehr) - Wapakoneta, Ohio	05/06/96	Schroeder, David - Potomac, Maryland, Washington
04/02/96	Gilbert, Kathryn (Berning) - St. Marys, Ohio	09/22/96	Schroeder, Robert - Woodbury, Connecticut
07/03/96	Haeseker, Thomas R. - Dayton, Ohio (Died 8/26/96)	09/22/96	Schroeder, Robert - Woodbury, Connecticut
08/25/96	Hanna, Jamie (Wierwille) - Chino Hills, California	07/03/96	Shadley, Margaret - New Bremen
10/31/96	Heinfeldt, Jessalyn - New Bremen	07/03/96	Shadley, Margaret - New Bremen
01/20/96	Heinfeld, Robert G. - Ada, Ohio	11/04/96	Shadley, Phyllis J. - Mt. Pleasant, Iowa (Geib genealogy)
08/18/96	Hirschfeld, Virgil - New Bremen	11/04/96	Shadley, Phyllis J. - Mt. Pleasant, Iowa (Geib genealogy)
07/03/96	Hone, Carol - Celina, Ohio (Hoene/Meier genealogy)	06/27/96	Sunderman, Dr. Duane N. (LM) - Columbus, Ohio
11/02/96	Hund, Betty - Santa Ana, CA (Behm genealogy)	06/27/96	Sunderman, Dr. Duane N. (LM) - Columbus, Ohio
04/09/96	Koenig, Roger - New Bremen	04/12/96	Sunderman, Joan (Hoffman)(LM) - Columbus, Ohio
06/06/96	Lammers, Marlene (Knost) - New Knoxville, Ohio	04/12/96	Sunderman, Joan (Hoffman)(LM) - Columbus, Ohio
07/09/96	Landwehr, Louis - Englewood, Ohio	04/12/96	Talan, Jane (Gilberg) - Cleveland, Ohio
03/24/96	Laut, Dottie (Billger) - Oxnard, California	04/12/96	Talan, Jane (Gilberg) - Cleveland, Ohio
11/07/96	Lear, Lance - Sidney, Ohio	10/18/96	Thomas, Martha (Hirschfeld) - Bucyrus, Ohio
		10/18/96	Thomas, Martha (Hirschfeld) - Bucyrus, Ohio
		10/01/96	Trastick, Rev. John W. - New Bremen
		10/01/96	Trastick, Rev. John W. - New Bremen
		02/09/96	Vessel, Patricia - Lake Oswego, OR (Schroeder genealogy)
		02/09/96	Vessel, Patricia - Lake Oswego, OR (Schroeder genealogy)
		07/21/96	Vick, Edna (Dicke)(LM) - Lancaster, Kentucky
		05/06/96	Vick, Edna (Dicke)(LM) - Lancaster, Kentucky
		05/06/96	Weder, Mrs. Don (Margie Fark) - Botkins, Ohio
		05/06/96	Weder, Mrs. Don (Margie Fark) - Botkins, Ohio
		05/06/96	Wells, Rita - Delton, Michigan (Neuman/Metz genealogy)
		05/06/96	Wells, Rita - Delton, Michigan (Neuman/Metz genealogy)
		05/06/96	Wells, Rita - Delton, Michigan (Neuman/Metz genealogy)
		10/08/96	Wells, Rita - Delton, Michigan (Neuman/Metz genealogy)
		10/08/96	Wells, Rita - Delton, Michigan (Neuman/Metz genealogy)
		12/14/96	Whitten, Rebekkah (Malik) - North Liberty, Iowa
		12/14/96	Whitten, Rebekkah (Malik) - North Liberty, Iowa

ADDITIONAL LIFE MEMBERS

08/28/96	Hansis, Lucille (Toop)
09/30/96	Hirschfeld, Merlin & Susie (Fark)
08/07/96	Holmer, Rev. Lawrence T.
08/07/96	Holmer, Rev. Lawrence T.
07/12/96	Kellermeyer, Paul H.
07/12/96	Kellermeyer, Paul H.
12/02/96	Rabe, Andy
12/02/96	Rabe, Andy
06/27/96	Sunderman, Dr. Duane & Joan (Hoffman)(new)
07/21/96	Sunderman, Dr. Duane & Joan (Hoffman)(new)
07/21/96	Vick, Edna (Dicke)(new)
07/21/96	Vick, Edna (Dicke)(new)

New Bremen Historic Association		
Annual Financial Report for 1996		
<i>Betty Schroer, Treasurer</i>		
	RECEIPTS	BALANCE
CHECKING ACCOUNT 1/1/96		4390.07
DUES, DONATIONS, MEMORIALS	4750.85	
INTEREST	226.93	
GRANTS	850.00	
SPECIAL EVENTS & PROJECTS:	1604.75	
Annual dinner meeting, Books, Xmas Open House, Ornaments, Postcards, Notecards, Prints		+ 7432.53
	EXPENSES	
UTILITIES	391.92	
PROPERTY & MAINTENANCE	277.15	
INSURANCE & TREAS. BOND	466.00	
NEWSLETTER EXPENSES	1395.56	
SPECIAL EVENTS & PROJECTS	2083.55	
MISCELLANEOUS	196.45	- 4810.63
CHECKING ACCT. (1st Nat. Bank)	12/31/96	7011.97

REMINDER!

MEMBERSHIP DUES - JANUARY, 1997

Membership dues/*Towpath* subscriptions for 1997 are now due.

(Renewal notice & envelope are enclosed.)

Our *Towpath* circulation is currently over 500 copies, of which approximately 470 are sent to Charter, Life, or yearly paid-up members, the rest being Complimentary Copies mailed to nursing homes, historical & genealogical organizations, prospective members ("subscribers"), etc.

Card of Thanks

I would like to say a special Thank You to Robert Brucken of Cleveland, and to Irene (Wehrman) Staggs of Highland, California for their contributions to this issue, also to those who had the foresight in the early days of the Historic Association to record the interviews with some of our "elder citizens." These transcribed interviews provide a lot of interesting reading. Could we get some volunteers to rekindle this practice for future references??? Let us know if you would be willing to participate in this project.