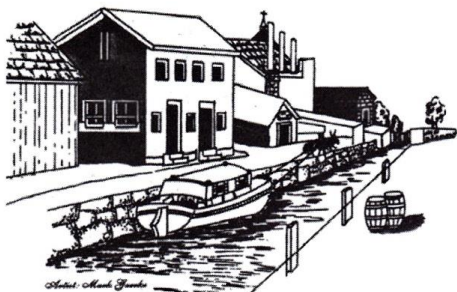


4-05



THE TOWPATH

Published quarterly
(January - April - July - October)

NEW BREMEN HISTORIC ASSOCIATION

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

MUSEUM located at 120 N. Main St. (founded in 1973)

VISITING HOURS: 2:00-4:00 p.m. Sundays - June, July, August
(Other Appointments, Call 419-629-1014 - Tuesdays, 9:00-11:30 a.m.)

MEMBERSHIP: \$10.00 / Year - \$5.00 Spouse (Life: \$100.00 / \$50.00 Spouse) October - 2005



Johnston Farm - 7/30/2005

photo by Gen Conradi

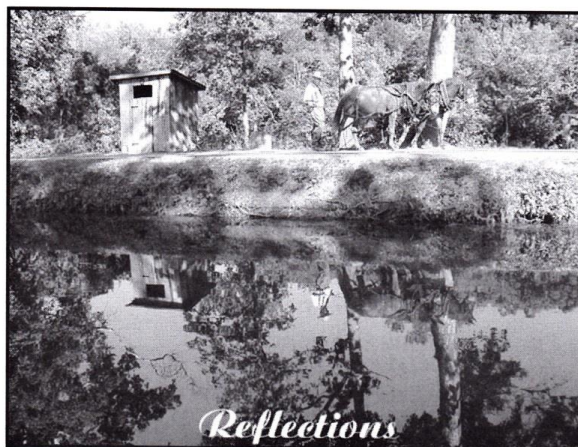
Canal Boat Excursion

Our Canal Boat Excursion, a fundraiser for the Lock One Preservation, was held Saturday evening, July 30, 2005 and was a great success. Excursion passengers met at Lock One North in New Bremen and boarded the bus to the Johnston Farm at Piqua, Ohio and the General Harrison canal boat. The General Harrison is a replica of the canal boats that traveled on the Miami & Erie Canal in the 1800s. Our ride on a beautiful summer evening was a wonderful simulation of that experience on this section of the canal at Piqua. Participants were greeted by the crew of the boat dressed in period clothing with their harnessed mules. Music of the early canal days was performed live by Scott Murray, Mike Doepker, and Rachel Barber. Neal and Leslie Brady served wine and cheese. Andy Hite provided historical narration and answered questions of the guests. To prepare for the canal boat experience, a quiz was given on the bus and Lowell Ziegenbusch received a *New Bremen Canal Game* for having the highest score. On the trip home everyone enjoyed the home-baked cookies of Delores Stienecker, the trip's organizer.

We extend our appreciation to all who participated in this fundraiser for the Lock One Preservation. We extend a special "Thank You" to Wayne Ziegenbusch, who donated the canal boat tickets to the New Bremen Historic Association. Everyone who participated said, "Let's do this again." [submitted by Gen Conradi, Historian]

STANDING: Wade Schroer, Sue Harrod, Barb Ziegenbusch, Bill Moore, Lowell Ziegenbusch, Jane Moore, Tom Braun, Joyce Ruedebusch, Verona Reineke, Beverly Fledderjohann, Delores Stienecker, Myron Fledderjohann, Dennis Dicke, Tom Fledderjohann, Diane Fledderjohann, Andy Hite, Marge Ziegenbusch, Wayne Ziegenbusch, Molly (Künning) Brown, Doug Harrod, (2) crew members.

KNEELING: Johanna Schroer, Neal & Leslie Brady, Gen Conradi.



Reflections

◆ "THE TOWPATH" ◆

"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 Association. Any stories and/or pictures that our readers are willing to share are welcomed.

Lucille Francis, Editor & Membership ----- 419-629-3148
[printed & mailed by Messenger Press - Carthage, Ohio]

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Johanna Schroer-----Webmaster

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Delores Stienecker (Chairman), Joyce Holdren,
Dru Meyer, Mary Paul

ASSOC. MEETINGS ARE HELD FIRST TUESDAYS

7:30 p.m. at the New Bremen Library or Museum

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SPECIAL EDITION

In order to be able to include the entire account of Charles Boesel's "Coming to America" plus other related items about the Boesel family, this issue of "The Towpath" has been expanded to 24 pages.

Pg. 3 - "Coming to America"
Pg. 12 - Boesel & Kunning
Pg. 13 - Boesel Hardware, Boesel Bank
Pg. 17 - Boesel Alma Mater - O.S.U.
Pg. 18 - Boesel Reunions - 1904 & 1906

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Editor's Message:

You may have noticed a change in the appearance and mailing procedure for this issue of "The Towpath". "The Towpath" is now being printed from a compact disk (C.D.), thereby eliminating a lot of unnecessary steps for the Editor, including the printing of mailing labels.

The printer, Messenger Press of Carthage, Ohio, will also address, sort, bundle, calculate postage and deliver the final product to the Post Office, again eliminating the time-consuming process formerly undertaken by Susie Hirschfeld and her helpers. Instead of folding the paper in half, labeling & stuffing envelopes, etc. (see page 15 of the April 2003 issue), "The Towpath" is now being mailed as a "flat" item, with your mailing address, payment code and bar code printed directly on the back page. There will no longer be an envelope.

We are interested in hearing from you in what condition you receive your "Towpath". If there is any shipping damage, we want you to notify us so we can address the problem.

We want to extend our thanks to Larry Kuhn of Lee's Printing, who has been printing "The Towpath" for the past 17 years, since October 1988.

Lucille Francis, Editor

**PLAQUES TELL STORY OF N.B. BUSINESS FIRMS**

[New Bremen Sun - 6/23/1933]

Plaques giving information of historical interest are being placed on business buildings along Monroe & Washington Streets. They tell the story of New Bremen's business developments by giving the dates the buildings were erected and other information. Some of them are:

North side of Monroe St.

Mueller Bros. - This building was built by Chas. Boesel, Sr. in 1863. Occupied by Mueller Bros. Clothing Store since 1904.

Laut Jewelry Store - This building erected by Adam Helwig. Present owner: Mel Laut, Jeweler.

Laut Building - This site formerly an open lot. Building built in 1865. Present occupants: Taylor Studio & Dr. Paul C. Bratten.

Rairdon Garage - This building built by Carl Boesel (Sr.), date unknown (1840). Owned & occupied by H.W. Rairdon since 1900.

South side of Monroe St.

First City Bank - Building erected by Chas. Boesel (Jr.) in 1895. Occupied as bank building, hardware store and Opera House since erection.

Poppe Shoe Repair Shop - Present building built in 1905 by Chas. Boesel (Jr.?) Occupied since 1920 by Lewis Poppe Shoe Repair Shop.

Schelper's Market - This building built in 1881 by Wm. Brinkmeyer. Occupied by Schelper's Old Reliable Meat Market since 1881.

Knot Shoe Store - This site occupied by Chas. Boesel Sr.'s carriage barn. Former occupants: Gust Boesel, Henry C. Meyer, Martin Knot. Present occupant: Herman J. Laut.

Dierker's Store - This site first used as a lumber mill in 1874. Building erected in 1881 by Christ Ave. Occupied since 1916 (1902) by August Dierker.

Hotel Hollingsworth - This site formerly occupied as a lumber yard. Present building erected in 1890 (1896) by Henry Laut & Co. Now occupied by Hotel Hollingsworth.

Laut Bros. - Built (1891) by Henry Laut, Wm. Schulenberg & IOOF Lodge #101. Now occupied by Laut Bros.

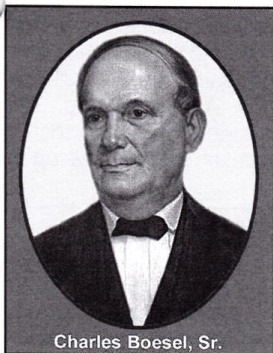
Schulenberg Bros. - This business block was built in 1884 (1891, 1897) by Wm. Schulenberg. In 1933, still Schulenberg - 3rd generation.

Wint's (S. Washington St.) - This building was moved from the hotel site (American House?) in 1881. First occupied by Conrad's Drug Store. Wint's Restaurant since 1919.

NOTE: There are five more listings of the buildings along Washington Street, from the Drug Store corner to the Arcade corner. Will try to include them another time. These plaques were put on buildings for the Centennial celebration in 1933.

CHARLES BOESEL, SR.

New Bremen's Most Influential Pioneer



Charles Boesel, Sr.

The Honorable Charles Boesel, Sr. died on Friday, April 17, 1885, at 10:30 p.m. after 3 months of painful suffering from a liver enlargement, at the age of 71 years, 2 months, 16 days.

Mr. Boesel was rewarded in great measure by his fellow citizens with many positions of honor, etc. In politics, Mr. Boesel had an outstanding position and was a rock-ribbed Democrat ever since he became a citizen of the United States.

That his name had a good reputation everywhere and that he was known and respected far and wide as an honest man was proved by the large attendance at his funeral. Participants arrived from all areas. The funeral procession was the largest which had ever been seen in this part of the United States. In addition to the large number of pedestrians, the procession contained 213 buggies. Pastor Buerkle gave the funeral oration which was in every way outstanding and did honor to the departed in every way.

Mr. Boesel left a widow and 11 children - 6 sons and 5 daughters. Four young daughters preceded him in death.

A good husband and father; an upright, just citizen; a benefactor of the poor and abandoned has gone home. May the earth be light on him. "Stern des Westlichen Ohio"- 4/23/1885

The following is an edited composite of three translated articles which appeared in "Der Deutsche Pionier" published by the "Deutscher Pionier Verein" of Cincinnati, Ohio. One article dated 6/1/1869, written by Charles Boesel, appeared in Volume I, pages 84-87 & 118-121, and was published in 1869, in which Mr. Boesel told about "The Settlement of New Bremen." (Translated by Allen A. Dicke in August 1959.)

A second article, "Einwanderers Reiseabenteuer" (Travel Adventures of an Immigrant), also written by Charles Boesel, appeared in 1871-1872 in Volume 3, pages 215-218, and was written after his 2nd return visit to Europe in June 1869. (Translation courtesy of C.C.C./N.B.)

A third article, a biography of Charles Boesel, appeared in Band 17, Heft 3, pages 210-225, in 1886 and was said to be written by Senator William "Ault" of Tiffin, Ohio, who had emigrated to America in 1833 on the same 3-masted boat as Charles Boesel. This was published shortly after Charles Boesel's 4/17/1885 death. (I have two translations of this article - one by Allen A. Dicke and one by George Chocoms.)

[NOTE: There are some inconsistencies between the three articles/translations. For instance, Charles Boesel writes in his 1871-1872 article of his reunion with his friend, "former Senator, then Judge Wilhelm Lang of Tiffin", however his "reunion" story matches that of the "Ault" story, in which Mr. "Ault" seems to be the old friend.]

COMING TO AMERICA

From Whence They Came

At the north end of the beautiful Rhenisch Palatinate, near the Rhenisch-Prussian border where the Lauter flows into the Glan, 10 German miles northwest of Speyer, lies the friendly village of Lauterecken. It had about 900 inhabitants, a cattle and sheep industry and produced fruit and garden products. There were rich hard coal mines at Odenbach and Roth, however the wine was only mediocre. It was the seat of a peace court and of a tax office and a forestry administration office. In the

former castle, Leopold von Veldens, the Count of the Palatinate, caused his oldest son, Ludwig, to be held in prison for rebellion and finally in 1670 caused him to be shot in bed by the jailer. Otherwise, the village was of no historical interest.

Here, on 2/1/1814, "Karl" (Charles) Boesel was born. His father, Carl Adam Boesel, died when Karl was only 8 years old, therefore the duty of raising and supporting the children fell upon the mother, Christina (Heil) Boesel, which duties she fulfilled in a Christian manner, faithfully and energetically.

Shortly after reaching his 14th birthday, after he was confirmed and had to leave school, Karl was apprenticed to a shoemaker in Lauterecken. Later he traveled for a time as a journeyman and worked in Merrheim. His father, a farmer, had died in 1822 at the age of 45 and left his wife with 6 children, of whom 8 year old Karl was the 5th. There were 5 sons and 1 daughter: 1-Johann ADAM (1804-1875), 2-Philip Peter (b./1806-stayed in Germany & raised a large family), 3-Johann GEORGE (1808-1842), 4-Elizabeth (Maurer/Paul) (1811-1889), 5-Peter CHARLES/Karl (1814-1885), and 6-Christian (1816-1841).

The Boesel family was one of the oldest in Lauterecken and were all true adherents of Lutheranism. Karl's great-grandfather, Johann Joachim Boesel, already lived in Lauterecken at the beginning of the 18th century, being born about 1700. He was a devout and zealous Christian and made trips through villages and cities near and far to collect money for the erection of a Protestant church in Lauterecken. Through his efforts for the welfare of the congregation, and due to his lovable, benevolent nature, he was highly regarded and loved. He himself donated to the congregation a beautiful marble altar which was erected in the new church. The congregation, to express its love for Joachim Boesel, and to perpetuate his name, had his name carved in large letters into the altar. (see picture on pg. 5)

EARLY BOESEL GENEALOGY

I. **Johann Joachim Boesel** (born ca. 1700) married a girl named Anna Maria Juliana on 2/27/1721. One of their sons was:

II. **Johann Adam Boesel** (born 2/27/1725). He married Maria Cecilia Weber on 6/28/1746. One of their sons was:

III. **Carl Adam Boesel** (7/19/1777-12/14/1822). He married Anna Christina Heil on 1/3/1803. They had 6 children. (see above)

Reasons for Leaving

At the beginning of 1832, it appeared that something important was to be happening in the world. The enlightenment of the nations made it impossible to dampen the spirit of the era and yet, there was an attempt to strangle it and to push the population back into the dark centuries. As men rebelled against the oppression of the state, excessive taxation, etc. and wrote about it in their free newspapers, the authorities tried to abolish the free press. Enough soldiers had been sent with guns from Altbaiern to frighten the people.

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On 5/27/1832, three spirited men (2 doctors and a pastor), who preferred to lose their offices rather than be silenced, organized a festive event on the Bergschloss ruins in Hambach. From all parts of the Palatinate came strong groups from almost every class of society with flags and music. About 35,000 men also came from other regions - from France, England, Holland, Frankfurt, Würzburg, Augsburg, etc. and speeches were made in a liberal spirit. The government's President tried to prevent the festivities with his troops, but to no avail. Thus the reformers were taken prisoners. Others, to escape captivity, fled to America. The discontent was such that thousands of families from the Palatinate left their homeland.

The Emigrants

In the spring of 1833, emigration from the Palatinate to North America increased very substantially. As steam ships and trains had not yet been invented, the majority of the emigrants traveled to Havre de Grace (LeHavre), France along the Imperial Highway (Kaiser Road) in large freight wagons drawn by four horses. Each wagon was large enough to carry the property of a number of families and since the horses traveled only at a walk, the young people usually walked behind the wagons, especially during nice weather.

Mr. "Ault" (Lang?) tells that he left Donnersberg on 4/12/1833 and made the trip to Havre de Grace on foot, spending one night in Metz, and the next morning resuming the trip, walking ahead of the wagons. He describes the morning as somewhat cool, with small ice-covered water puddles, and snow still on the mountains. The air was clean and the sky cloudless. When the sun rose higher, a warm south wind gave notice of the coming spring. The Imperial Highway was alive with freight wagons and pedestrians as far as the eye could reach.

At the same time, a group consisting of Phillip Jacob Maurer, his 5 sons and 3 daughters by his first marriage to Margareta Catherine Wagner (who had died on 3/18/1832), his second wife, Elizabeth Boesel (whom he married 1/1/1833), her mother, Christina, her brother, Karl Boesel, and other members of the Boesel family, started their journey to America. Before leaving, on 4/12/1833, Mr. Maurer executed an "inventorium" in Lauterecken concerning the estate of his first wife. Maurer was considered a rich man, with their "common property" valued at "11,798 gulden." In this document, he stated that he planned to emigrate to North America in a few days. Mr. Maurer was a well-educated man and he left a number of writings on history, economics and religion.

Mr. "Ault" (Lang?) states that as he walked along observing the people, the vehicles, and the beautiful Lorain scenery, he was overtaken by a wagon which was followed by a youth of about his age (about 19) as well as several children (probably the Maurer children.) He and the young man started to converse and found that they both had the same intentions. The young man told him that his name was Karl Boesel from Lauterecken, that he was a shoemaker, that his father had died a long time before, and that his mother and her children had joined the Maurer family from Kronenberg in order to make the

long trip to America. The two became warm friends and from then on, they attempted to spend the nights and the mid-day stops together. They looked upon every city and every village as something worth seeing. They came through Chalons, Meaux, Paris, and Rouen. In the evening of 4/20/1833, they reached Havre de Grace and early the next morning, they met again on the wharf and watched as two sailors on the American ship, the "Logan", raised the gang plank, then the Star Spangled Banner of the United States, and set sail into the open ocean, headed for New York.

Lauterecken

Gustave Adolph Boesel (1855-1917), 4th son of Charles Boesel (Sr.), made three trips to Europe - in 1873, 1895, and again in 1910, when he and his wife spent "90 days away", leaving New Bremen on 6/25/1910 and returning in September. After his return, he published a 134-page book titled "Ninety Days Away." The following is what he wrote about Lauterecken in his record of "A trip across the Deep Blue Sea.":

"Lauterecken, so well known to some New Bremen people who emigrated from there, has 2300 people and is built closely together, one house after another, as they are all over Germany. All houses are of stone and brick with tile roofs.

Lauterecken is the birthplace of our deceased parents, which is what attracted me there the first time 36 years ago. Fifteen years ago I was there again and by now I know a good many people there.

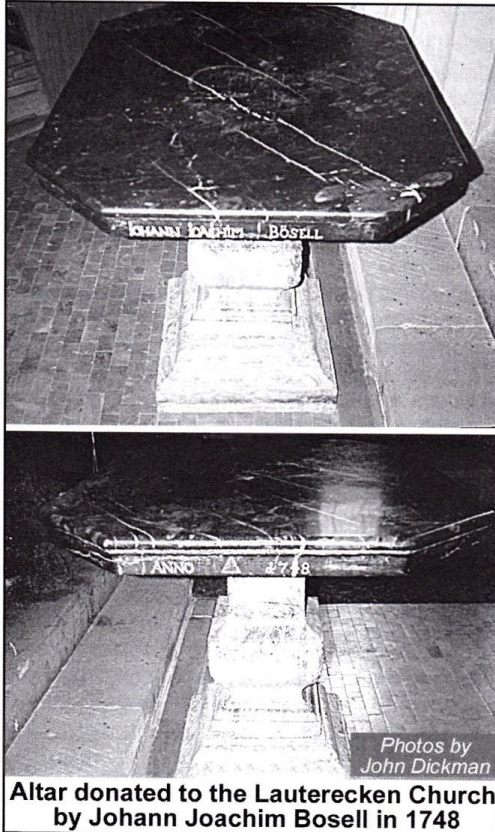
A healthier place cannot be found anywhere. High hills, beautiful woods and promenades, and flowing streams make it a healthy climate. Groves of cedar trees are taken care of by an Improvement Commission. Seats are scattered throughout these woods, so the weary traveler can sit down and rest.

The farmers all live in the towns, making them ugly. They have stables for their stock, and everything being built close together causes an aroma not altogether desirable. Only once in a while do you find a farmhouse by itself on top of a hill or where the country is very level. Each farmer has his land scattered all over the territory, one piece here and another there, with each acre having a different crop. There are no fences. Everybody knows his pieces and minds his own business - no lawsuits about fences.

The streets from one town to another in Germany are all alike, made out of crushed stone. They are so rounded that they are always dry. They are lined with fruit trees belonging to the state. The fruit on these trees is sold every year by the road supervisor and in this way a big amount of money is raised.

The town has a Protestant church and a Catholic church, the same as on my first trip 36 years ago. The Protestant church has an organ which bears the inscription, "Presented by Carl Boesel, New Bremen, O., U.S.A." The altar in the church was presented in 1748 by Joachim Boesel, great-grandfather of Carl Boesel. After the organ had been presented by Carl Boesel (my father), he then presented a pretzel to every school child on Easter Day, a practice that was kept up during his lifetime.

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The people of Lauterecken all drink their wine and beer, but moderately. They don't go to the saloon for the purpose of drinking as much as for the sake of meeting others.

Lauterecken has two flowing rivers, the Lauter and the Glan, which come together under a bridge. People have no cisterns, so they go to different stations along the rivers, wash their clothes, then take them home to dry. They use no washboards, but simply wet the clothes, put them on a flat board, rub soap over them, then use a brush. Then they dip the clothes into water and again use the board and brush. No wringers are used.

Stone quarries abound here and building stones and stone blocks for streets are cut and shipped. I met Mr. Ludwig Stein, who told me his grandfather was my father's boss once upon a time, and that my father had learned the shoemaker's trade from him.

In one house that we visited, we ran across a photo of our son, Irwin, and that of Albert, the son of my brother, Julius. We never knew that such a picture was in existence.

A trip like this is an education. I am publishing this work to realize a little money toward paying part of my expenses. Should I not have succeeded in giving you your money's worth, please present your account for amount of news due you, and it shall be given unto you. I have enough news stored away to make up the deficiency."

Gustave Boesel, New Bremen - September 1910

The Voyage

On the morning of 4/24/1833, the "Jefferson" (Carl Boesel's account says the "Norfolk") sailed out of the mouth of the Seine River loaded with 173 passengers, including the Maurer, Boesel, Braun, Paul, Lang, Stein, Barth, Eckert, Hoffman, Walther and other families. Three terrific storms were encountered on the sea voyage, in each of which the passengers expected to perish. Food on the ship became scarce and in addition, there was not a drop of good water on board. To the horror of everyone, there was an outbreak of smallpox.

On June 20th, however, the weather was favorable - it was a beautiful warm summer day, and the ship sailed rapidly westward. The sun had just set and many of the passengers were assembled on the deck to enjoy the cool of the evening. In the early twilight one could still see far over the ocean. Suddenly a sailor in the crow's nest cried "Land Ahoy, Land Ahoy." Everybody was frightened, but a sailor told the passengers in low-German that this meant that land had been sighted. He pointed to the west where one could see a long narrow blue strip. "There is land" he said, but no one would believe it. The people said that it was only a small distant cloud and they went below. Soon even the small strip disappeared as the night laid its deep shadows over the sea.

It was 10:00 p.m. and Karl Boesel & William "Ault" (Lang?) sat together on a pile of sails. The thought of land, landing, and parting had taken possession of both of them so that they could not think of sleep. Suddenly there was a warm wind from the west carrying the fragrance of flowers and the aroma of spices, so that no one could any longer doubt that they would soon reach land. The change from non-fragrant sea air, with its resin smells of the ship's wood, the smell of sea-sickness, and the harsh sea life, to the glorious fragrant land air had an inspiring effect upon the sea-weary. If one had spent months in a damp cold prison cell and suddenly came into a beautiful garden filled with fragrant flowers, the contrast could not have been greater.

When the sun rose the next morning, the ship passed over the gulf stream. Virginia lay on the left and the eastern shore of Maryland was on the right (according to the "Ault" story.) During the evening, the ship passed majestically between the lighthouses of Cape Henry and Cape Charles into Chesapeake Bay where anchor was dropped. The following morning three half-naked Negroes came out in a small boat with several baskets of cherries, which disappeared quickly. A pilot guided the ship to Baltimore where the passengers landed on 6/24/1833 after a sea voyage of 63 days.

According to Carl Boesel's account, "Travel Adventures of an Immigrant", the passengers were not allowed into the town of Baltimore because of their smallpox. Rather they were loaded onto flat boats outside of the town and left to their destiny. He states that their first night in America, June 24, 1833, was spent "under the stars".

"Many small children were so skinny that they could be kept alive only with the greatest care. The first task was to provide some fresh food for them. Förster Lang's 17 year old son, Wilhelm, took pity on the children and thought an attempt should be made to look for fresh milk for them.

In the evening, the boys went scouting, with Wilhelm Lang carrying a small pail. He had seen a herd in the neighborhood and as soon as the boys arrived at the grazing lot, I (Carl Boesel) took hold of a cow by the horns and Wilhelm went to work to try to obtain some milk. After some time, he said, 'Ho - cows in America are not built like in Germany. It's impossible to get a drop of milk.'

A third boy who had watched them came along and said, 'Boys, what are you trying to do?' Wilhelm Lang responded 'Well, we have with us several half-starved children and would like to get some milk for them.' 'Ignorant boys,' came the answer. 'This is not a cow, it's a bull.'

This same Wilhelm Lang later became Judge Lang in Tiffin, Ohio, a state senator, and treasurer of Seneca County."

[In 1863, Mr. Lang's wife, Maria, was the baptismal sponsor for one of Carl Boesel's daughters, Maria EMMA, who later married William Schmidt.]

Arrival in America

After disembarking from the ship, Karl Boesel & Wilhelm "Ault" (Lang?) looked for teamsters to take them over the Allegheny Mountains to Pittsburgh. Their families remained in the wagons because of the sun's heat, and the two young men again traveled together on foot. When they arrived in Pittsburgh 18 days later, the "Ault" (Lang?) family had to wait for friends who were coming from Philadelphia. The Maurer, Dannecker, Boesel, Braun, Paul, Stein, and other families then boarded a flat boat for Wheeling and Cincinnati. The two boys carried several articles onto the flat-boat together. However, when things were in readiness to depart, they both became silent. They shook hands without words, "Ault" (Lang?) jumped to the shore, Boesel waved his cap, and away they went.

The flatboat arrived in Cincinnati, and the immigrants were brought into contact with a German settlement company, the "City of Bremen Society", that had been organized there in 1832, with the purpose of founding a town in a new uninhabited section in order to induce other Germans to settle there. In those days there existed in Germany and also in America many immigration and colonization companies, nearly all of which collapsed sooner or later after they had carried thousands into disaster - probably not through evil intentions, but mainly through lack of knowledge of the true situation in the various settlements and of the extent of American assistance. The poor deceived ones, after they had sacrificed their money and their health, were frequently forced to rely only on themselves. The difference with this company was that the members themselves moved into the settlements.

The Settlement of Bremen

The "City of Bremen Society" was formed in 1832 and consisted of 33 members. In order to find a place which had the most desirable location for a town and also had the necessary productive soil for such a settlement, the company sent out a reconnaissance team consisting of F.H. Schroeder and A.F. Windeler. These two men traveled through the state of Ohio in all directions and even entered Indiana. Here they were so pestered by mosquitoes that they decided to return and seek their fortune in Ohio. Finally they found a place which appeared to fit their requirements. It lay 120 miles north

of Cincinnati, 23 miles from Piqua in Miami County, and belonged at that time to Mercer County. The Indians had vacated this strip of land in 1831, and there were still many remains of their habitation, including wigwams.

Schroeder and Windeler purchased 10 acres from the government for \$100.00, and Engineer Robert Grant, surveyor of Mercer County, proceeded with the laying out of building lots and streets. He divided the land into 102 lots, each 66' wide x 300' deep. Each member of the company received one lot as determined by a lottery. This manner of division was calculated to prevent quarrels which might have arisen because the lots did not all have the same value. The balance of the lots were intended for sale to any interested party at \$25.00 each. The proceeds were deposited in the common treasury out of which were paid the expenses of streets, the building of bridges, etc. (The town was given the name of Bremen, and Engineer Grant recorded the town plat in the county recorder's office on 6/11/1833.)

Mr. Windeler returned to Cincinnati to report to the company what had been accomplished, and Schroeder hurriedly erected a log cabin with the help of some Englishmen who lived within 4-5 miles in order to provide a shelter for the settlers who were expected. The cabin was only 14' long x 12' wide and contained only a pathetic bed and a fireplace of the simplest construction.

About 2 weeks later, in the fall of 1832, six families led by Windeler arrived with their belongings. When they arrived, they found only the small cabin that had been built by Schroeder and they found it necessary to live together in it until each had erected his own tent. The newly arrived settlers decided to found their own farms near the town and bought the necessary land from the government for \$1.25 per acre through the aid of Windeler. The clearing of the primeval forest was undertaken on the just-purchased farms with great vigor and the settlers rushed to set up log cabins before the beginning of winter. All settlers who could be found within a radius of 6 miles were brought in to help.

Filling the holes between the logs required time and frequently the walls had holes of substantial size. Occasionally during the winter, deer, driven by hunger and cold, reached through these holes at night and ate the straw out of the beds on which the settlers were lying. Wolves and bears frequently approached the cabins and gave forth with their horrible howling. Once, when a Mr. Bernhardt Mohrmann was engaged in hewing a log, a fox seized one of his chickens which was at the other end of the log. Mohrmann threw his ax at the robber, but this did not scare the fox, which disappeared with its victim.

Gradually the food which the settlers had brought along disappeared and flour especially was soon scarce. The nearest mill was more than 23 miles away and the road was often impassable. It occurred to one of the settlers to punch a large number of holes in a piece of sheet-metal so that the raised points could be used to grate corn. The resulting meal was rather coarse, but was adequate for baking bread. As the invention proved effective, a number of the devices were ordered by the

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other German settlers and even by the Englishmen who had lived in the neighborhood a long time before and who also suffered a shortage of bread.

The First School / Church

In the spring of 1833, more members of the settlement company arrived from Cincinnati and bought their farms very close to Bremen. The "City of Bremen Society" decided at this time to build its first school house which was also to be used for religious services, the cost of which was \$40.00. The first preacher for this Protestant congregation was Rev. L(ewis) H(enry) Meyer. After the death of F.H. Schroeder in the fall of 1833, Mr. Meyer was elected managing agent of the company.

The Arrival of the Maurer & Boesel Families

At the beginning of summer, the families from Rhenish Bavaria arrived and settled about four miles from town. Upon arrival in Cincinnati, the Maurer, Boesel, Braun, Paul, Stein, and other families had traveled to Hamilton and, leaving the others behind, the heads of the families traveled northward in order to seek a new home. When they came to Bremen, it pleased them so much that Mr. Maurer soon went to the land office in Wapakoneta and purchased 1½ sections (960 acres) of land at \$1.25 per acre. On 8/8/1833, the Maurer, Boesel, and other families arrived in Bremen. They now had to clear the primeval forest.

Nineteen year old Karl Boesel remained in Hamilton, however, and looked for work there. To stand in water and fell trees was not to his taste. He did work on the canal at Dayton for a short period and later on the Cumberland / National Road. In those days, large numbers of Irishmen worked on the canal. One evening, Karl crossed the Miami River near Dayton with eight of these people. Boesel could not speak any English and the Irish, who liked to play tricks on this green "Dutchman", struck their oars into the water, gave Boesel a thorough wetting, and rocked the boat so vigorously that he almost fell out. The Irishmen had a good laugh, but Boesel said nothing until the boat arrived at the opposite shore. Then he suddenly sprang out and gave the boat such a shove that it turned over and the eight Irishmen fell into the water and almost drowned. When they climbed out on shore in order to catch Boesel, he had long since disappeared into the woods.

Death of Phillip Jacob Maurer

On 9/9/1833, Phillip Jacob Maurer, brother-in-law of Karl Boesel (Maurer's 2nd wife was Elizabeth Boesel, Karl's sister), died of cholera just as he was beginning to build a log cabin. His 16-year old son, Friederich, died 2 days later, also of cholera. Another son, Johannes Frederick, died less than 2 years later on 2/13/1835, just a month before his 16th birthday.

Phillip Maurer was the wealthiest settler in the entire district. He was highly educated, and was also a devout and God-fearing man without pretense or hypocrisy. On the voyage across the ocean, when the weather was suitable, he assembled the Christians on the deck of the ship on Sunday mornings and, after singing a hymn and reading a chapter of Holy Writ, he spoke words of assurance and uplift. After singing another hymn, the group was dismissed with his benediction.



Phillip Jacob Maurer and his sons, Friederich and Johannes Frederick, were all buried at the southeast corner of St. Paul's Churchyard where home plate of the baseball field is now located. Their tombstone was moved (in the early 1900s?) to the lot of the 7th son, Phillip Maurer (1828-1905), at German Protestant Cemetery by Jacob Maurer (1858-1921), the son of Phillip and Dorothea (Jung) Maurer. The old, loose, illegible brown stone was set against the larger stone of Phillip and Dorothea Maurer, where it sat until the summer of 1995, when it was replaced by the James Dicke family with the replica shown here.

Information from the stone is as follows:

Phillip Jacob Maurer (father)	12/11/1791-9/9/1833
Friederich Maurer (2 nd son)	6/20/1817-9/11/1833
Johannes Frederick Maurer (3 rd son)	3/23/1819-2/13/1835

Karl Boesel Comes to Bremen

After Karl Boesel gave up his canal digging and National Road building, he arrived in Bremen in the late fall of 1833 to visit his relatives. By this time, the number of settlers consisted of 35 families. This included all those living within a radius of about 5 miles from Bremen. The town itself consisted of only 6 cabins which stood at such a distance from each other that one could easily pass between them without seeing them. Karl had passed through Stalltown (Minster), the nearest town to Bremen, and did not realize this until he had walked 1½ miles beyond and made inquiry. Determined not to miss Bremen in the same manner, he made inquiry at every cabin he passed. When he had gone another mile and met a man who was busy felling a tree, he asked how far it was to Bremen. He received the answer, "You are right in it this minute."

After Boesel had spent some weeks with his relatives in Bremen and had had a chance to observe their life and activities, he found that it was not possible to provide for himself a half-way decent existence there. The following summer, he decided to wander further and proceeded to Fort Wayne, Indiana. At that time, there was not a single village between Bremen and Fort Wayne and the path led through uninterrupted primeval forest. He arrived after a 6 day trip during which he had to suffer extreme hunger because there was a hut only every 7 or 8 miles. It was not possible to get anything to eat or drink, however, because the residents themselves suffered greatly from lack of food and drink.

After arriving in Fort Wayne, Boesel found work as a shoemaker and he remained there for 19 months. About the spring of 1835, however, he returned to Bremen in the expectation that the prospects for operating a business might now be better than at the time of his first visit. Bremen had in fact expanded remarkably. The number of inhabitants had grown, new houses had been added, and in 1834, a log church had been built.

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Boesel at first made an attempt at farming, but when the deer, chipmunks, etc. ate all his seed, he gave it up and in the early summer of 1836, he established a small business in connection with his trade as a shoemaker.

Early Communications

Bremen had practically no communication with the outside world. Only very seldom there arrived traders with food, which they offered for sale. The settlers were on several occasions swindled, particularly by a flour dealer from Stillwater who brought flour to Bremen. The first flour was of extra high quality. When he arrived the second time and opened the barrels for examination, the flour again seemed to be of the highest quality. However, when the purchasers brought it home and dug somewhat deeper into the barrels, they found that the main contents consisted of coarse corn meal.

Most of the settlers did not even have a wagon and were therefore forced to carry on their backs from great distances their requirements in food and the implements required for farming. A Mr. Greber, who needed a plow very badly, walked the 23 miles to Piqua, purchased a #7 plow, and loaded it on his back to carry it home. On the way, he also purchased ½ bushel of potatoes. To avoid having to make the trip twice, he loaded these on his back along with the plow. After he had walked a short distance, he was overtaken by a wagon going in the same direction and asked whether he could place his burden on the wagon. The driver was agreeable but asked 10¢ for the service. Greber thought this price was too high and he carried the burden home himself.

Settlers Search for Employment

Many of the settlers had used practically all of their cash capital for the purchase of their land, and as soon as they had prepared a portion of the land for cultivation, they were forced to seek work for wages in order to satisfy the most urgent living requirements, since their farms were not yet producing anything for sale. No such work was to be found in the vicinity of Bremen with the exception of clearing land, for which the pay was 35¢ per day. Those who sought work therefore had to travel 75 miles to Indiana, where construction of the Wabash Canal had been started in 1835.

Practically nothing had been done at this time in the way of starting business in New Bremen. With the exception of one (Karl Boesel's, founded in 1836), there was no store worthy of that name, since the items for sale were merely coffee, sugar, tobacco, whiskey, and such minor items. The only business of any importance was that of a Mr. Kuenning, who had erected a flour mill north of town which was operated by horsepower. Farmers came there from a distance of more than 30 miles in order to have their grain ground.

First Post Office

On 8/1/1835, when the number of inhabitants of Bremen had increased somewhat, a post office was established with Wheatley Hatfield serving as the first postmaster. Rev. L.H. Meyer was appointed on 10/9/1837, followed 10/4/1839 by John F. Boesche. Charles (Karl) Boesel was named 9/10/1840 and held the office until

9/5/1849, after "New Bremen" became a part of Auglaize County.
(N.B. Sun - 7/28/1933)

Town Incorporated

On 3/23/1837, the town was incorporated. Until that time, there was no noticeable improvement in the expansion of the town nor in improvement of the streets or of the farms. Trade was practically non-existent because of the poor communications, and the farmers, since they could not sell their products, were not stimulated to improve the cultivation of their fields.

Name Changed to "New Bremen"

At this time, the town was renamed "New Bremen" by the federal post office department in order to distinguish from the older town of Bremen in Fairfield County, Ohio.

The Miami & Erie Canal

In 1838, construction was started on the Miami & Erie Canal, which was to lead through the middle of New Bremen. From that time on, the activity increased since this work offered the possibility for all inhabitants to earn money. The number of settlers increased continuously, many new buildings were constructed, and many successful businesses were founded. The first warehouse (later the Wilbur Rairdon Livery Stable / Garage) was built in 1840 by Karl Boesel (*by his own account*), making it possible for the farmers to have an opportunity to sell the products of their land. These products were brought in from a distance of about 40 miles, since it was the only market in the entire region. Also, at this time, a larger flour mill was built by Messrs. Koop, Boesche, and Tangemann in Lock Two, which substantially contributed to the increase in business.

Because of the increase in business, more warehouses, various types of stores, business houses, etc. were erected and New Bremen soon evolved as an active business town. The building of the canal must be given all the credit that New Bremen today finds itself in such a good condition because without it, the town would probably never have amounted to anything.

Karl Boesel Starts a Family

On 7/4/1837, Karl Boesel married Sophia Wilhelmina Carolina Maurer, the oldest, not-yet 16-year-old daughter of his late brother-in-law, Phillip Jacob Maurer and Maurer's first wife, Margareta Catherine Wagner. On 9/8/1838, Karl's mother, Christina, passed away. His business expanded and things went well for him until 5/5/1843, when his 22-year-old wife died in childbirth, leaving him with two small sons, Carl JACOB (1841-1896) and Charles/Karl Adam (aka Jr.) (5/5/1843-1909).

In 1844, then 30-year-old Karl Boesel married again - this time to his first wife's sister, 18-year-old Dorothea Charlotte Maurer, with whom he had 10 children: August (1845-1921), Sophia Wilhelmina (Mesloh) (1847-1919), Dorothea (Frey) (1849-1929), Marie ROSINE (Schmidt) (1852-1931), Gustave Adolph (1855-1917), Julius (1857-1924), Emelie (1859-1860), Catharine Clementina (1861-1869), Marie EMMA (Schmidt) (1863-1944), Clara Augusta (1866-1870). His second wife, Dorothea, died 7/30/1874 at the age of 48 from the bite of a pet dog.

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The Boesels lived in a 2-story frame house that Karl had built about 1838 on North Main St. (later Gilberg & Hegemier's Furniture Store at 5 N. Main – building on left above). The north side of this building was of black walnut clapboard, put together with handmade nails, and was never painted. When the building was torn down in February 1960, a board with "Chas. Boesel" painted on it was salvaged by Elmer Ende and is on display at the Historical Museum. Elmer Ende was married to Grace Boesel, great-granddaughter of Charles/Karl Boesel (Sr.).

Karl Boesel Expands Interests

Karl Boesel's business affairs expanded continually and he soon started trading in wheat and the buying and packing of pork. Thereby, New Bremen won the reputation of being an important trading post and the town grew in proportion to its business activity. The work on the Miami & Erie Canal had already made New Bremen the headquarters of this part of the canal and when the canal was opened in 1842-1843, everything was transported via the canal because of the lack of other transportation means. In a short time, New Bremen controlled the entire grain trade of the area and well into Indiana. New Bremen became an important trading post and developed its business opportunity in a way which would have done honor to a larger city. It soon became necessary for Boesel to give up shoe making. He no longer had the time to make shoes.

In proportion to the expansion of Boesel's businesses, which caused him to become well-to-do, he also gained more respect from his fellow citizens. His friendly relationship with others, his prompt carrying out of all his duties, and his meticulous honesty made him generally beloved by all. In addition to many other small offices, he was the first clerk of New Bremen. As early as 1838, his friends nominated him as candidate for treasurer of Mercer County. He received the votes of the eastern part of the county, however his opponent, Judge Phelps, won by 37 votes. In 1840, under the administration of President Martin Van Buren, he became postmaster of New Bremen and held this position for 9 years. Also in 1840, he was elected as commissioner of Mercer County and served two terms (6 years) in this office.

Organization of Auglaize County

In 1848, Auglaize County was organized from parts of Mercer, Van Wert, Allen, Shelby and Darke Counties and New Bremen became a part of the new county. During this time, the population of New Bremen increased substantially and New Bremen remained almost an entirely German settlement.

Cholera Epidemic

In July and August of 1849, a cholera epidemic took the lives of about 150 of the 700 inhabitants. This loss was made good rapidly, however, during the next few years by increased immigration. In 1869, Karl Boesel estimated the population to be about 2000.

Karl Boesel's Summary of New Bremen

In 1851, Karl Boesel was appointed superintendent of the Miami & Erie Canal and held this position for 3 years. In all the offices he held, he showed business acumen, faithfulness and integrity, and there was never the slightest blot on his reputation. In the article written by him on 6/1/1869, he stated:

"As already mentioned, the Miami & Erie Canal, which connects the two cities of Cincinnati and Toledo, passes through the middle of New Bremen. The town therefore has a direct connection with these two very important cities during the entire year, with the exception of two to three winter months.

The Dayton & Michigan Railroad, which passes 10 miles east of town, is used in the winter for the transportation of absolutely necessary articles and these can be transported thereto and therefrom easily by wagons.

In addition to the daily mail connection with Piqua, there is an omnibus (hack) line to Botkins, the nearest railroad station.

For storing of grain, which is purchased during the entire year in very substantial quantities, there exist at the present time 7 large warehouses in the town. For example, in the winter of 1867, 9500 hogs were slaughtered and in previous years, this had actually attained the number of 12,000.

The woolen mill erected by Messrs. Finke, Meyer & Co. several years ago contributes substantially to the development of the town.

In addition to 7 or 8 dry goods stores which all do a good business, there are a furniture factory, a flax factory, an oil mill, and a plow factory which is operated by the Lanfersieck brothers, whose products enjoy such a high reputation that only plows of their manufacture are used in a radius of many counties and are being sent even as far as Illinois and Missouri.

Certainly it is fair to say that within the state of Ohio, there is hardly a town of the same population which excels New Bremen with reference to business activity. With respect to activity and ambition of the citizens, cleanliness of the streets, etc., New Bremen may be designated as a model town."

(Karl Boesel - 6/1/1869)

A Reunion of Old Friends

William "Ault" (Lang?), the young man who had befriended Karl Boesel on their journey to America and to Pittsburgh, settled in Tiffin, Ohio with his family, making the trip from Pittsburgh to Tiffin on foot.

When the election campaign of 1860 opened, the Democratic Central Committee of Ohio arranged for a number of mass meetings in which Mr. "Ault" (Lang?) was to make speeches. This brought him to St. Marys on 9/18/1860, where he made a speech in the evening. The next morning after breakfast, he was driven to New Bremen in a buggy by a Mr. B.A. Wendeln. Mr. Wendeln told Mr. "Ault" (Lang?) about the people he would be meeting and said that "even a few Republicans had sneaked in, which was to be greatly regretted." They arrived in New Bremen at 11:00 a.m. and he was to make a speech in the afternoon. [NOTE: When Karl Boesel describes this meeting, he calls Mr. Ault "Judge Wilhelm Lang".]

Senator William Ault's (Lang's?) Recollections

"We stopped at a nice inn east of the canal (the American House?). My luggage and my coat were carried in, and hardly had Mr. Wendeln introduced me to several gentlemen, when someone laid his hand upon my shoulder. I turned around and before me stood a tall, slender man. He reached out his hand, called me by my name, asked me how I was, and bid me welcome in New Bremen. I was embarrassed, regretted very much that I did not recognize him, and made excuses of all sorts. He reminded me of many people who were with us on our journey to America. I could recall many of them, but this gentleman I could not place. He was, however, clever enough not to mention the Maurer family name or I would have caught on immediately. Finally, he told me that his name was "Charlie". Even this did not make me any wiser. Then he said, 'If you have so entirely forgotten me, I will tell you. I am your old friend, Karl Boesel.' I said, 'You are not Karl Boesel, the shoemaker?' 'Yes', he said, and added, 'I have long since given up making shoes.'

Now things began to happen. Each tried to control his emotions. This was, however, difficult since this was the first time that we had met since we had parted in Pittsburgh more than 27 years before. During all this time, neither had heard a word from the other. After a thousand questions about this one and that one, we reached his residence, on one side of which he had his business. When I stepped into the parlor, I instantly recognized Mrs. Boesel (Dorothea) as the beautiful flaxen-haired blue-eyed girl, one of the two small lovely ones among the children of the Maurer company on the ship. She was surrounded by her children. She had grown, but she had kept her 7-year-old girlish face.

We were so much given to talk that we could not get to eating and hardly had we started when a music band arrived with the committee which had come to escort us. 'The people are waiting impatiently', we were told. Boesel went along and we stepped up onto the speaker's stand. He introduced me to the gathering as his old friend whom he had thought lost and had been reunited with today after 27 years.

With a heavy heart, I stepped forward to the edge of the stage and attempted to make a political speech as best I could, but it did not go very well. It was torture in the worst sense of the word - one cannot shed his feelings so rapidly. I am sure that the people of New Bremen excused me, because at later political meetings there, I was always received in a friendly manner. I had to leave that same evening, for on the following day Stephen A. Douglas, Senator from Illinois, was to make his entry into Tiffin and I had to be there."

Karl Boesel's Political Career

"In the fall of 1861, it happened that Karl Boesel and I were both elected to the State Legislature - he as a member of the House of Representatives and I as a Senator. Two years later, we were again elected to the same offices, and so we were together daily through four successive sessions of the Legislature during the War of the Rebellion (Civil War.) Two of those winters we lodged in the same hotel and lived together in the same room - again a lucky coincidence. During these four years, I really learned to know Mr. Boesel. I knew him earlier as a youth, but now he was a successful businessman full of knowledge and rich experiences. No political disagreements existed between us, since we both had become members of the Democratic party as soon as we became citizens, and remained true to the flag to which we had pledged allegiance. For us, it was the flag which we had seen unfold the first time in the harbor of Havre de Grace on the "Logan".

Mr. Boesel was no orator. He never took part in a debate, but every proposed law or regulation received his close examination and his yea or nay was simply the result of his best convictions concerning right or wrong. With all of this, he acquired for himself the respect and admiration of even the Republican members and the love of his constituents. So beloved and popular was he as Representative in the Legislature, that his senatorial district named him as candidate for Senator. In October, 1869, and again, 2 years later, he was elected Senator. Thus he served 4 years in each branch of the Legislature and maintained his reputation as a true and forceful representative of the rights of the people to the end of his days."

Revisiting the Homeland

Karl Boesel made two trips back to his homeland - the first in 1860 and the second in 1869. It was on his return from the visit in 1869 that his son, Jacob, announced by telegram on his arrival in New York that he had been nominated as a candidate for the Senate.

Retirement

Though Mr. Boesel desired to withdraw from politics, from mercantile business, and from public life, he could do nothing other than accept this honor with thanks. As his last term expired, he declined any further participation in politics and wanted to retire from public life. By 1874, although he was still healthy in body and spirit at the age of 60, he yearned for rest.

In 1866, he had transferred his extensive mercantile business to his two oldest sons, Jacob and Karl Jr., in association with Mr. C. H. Künning, and the business

became known as "Boesel & Künning" (see picture on pg. 12). In 1872, he had founded a private bank where, after retirement from the Senate, he found rest and enjoyment as manager. His son, Julius, was cashier. (see pg. 14 for picture.)

Karl Boesel Marries for Third Time

After the death of his 2nd wife, Dorothea (Maurer) on 7/30/1874, Karl again re-married, this time to Mary Schroeder from Montezuma, who was 29 years his junior. With her, he had 3 more children: Franklin Fernando Tilden Boesel (1876-1966), Bertha (1/17/1878-2/12/1878), and Clara Louise Elizabeth (Koenig) (1878-1958). Frank was only 8 and Clara was 6 when their father died on 4/17/1885. Their mother, Mary, died in 1914.

Even in retirement, however, Karl could not entirely avoid public service. On 4/7/1876, he was named by Republican Governor Rutherford B. Hayes as a member of the Ohio Welfare Administration which had just been organized, a position he held until his death.

INCIDENTAL NOTE: If you, like me, wondered where Frank T. Boesel got the middle name of Tilden, Samuel J. Tilden was the Democratic candidate who ran against the Republican candidate, Rutherford Birchard Hayes, in the 1876 Presidential election. Tilden received nearly 250,000 more popular votes than Hayes, but a special electoral commission with a Republican majority gave the office to Hayes by a margin of only 1 electoral vote.

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Another New Bremen baby born in 1876 with an interesting name was Hayes Rutherford Isenberger. He was the father of Robert ("Spats") Isenberger and Lucille (Isenberger) Casebolt.

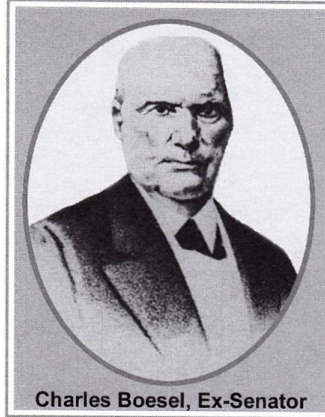
Senator William Ault's (Lang's?) "Eulogy"

"When I visited Karl Boesel at the end of March, 1885, I found him upon his death bed, the victim of an incurable liver illness. This threatened to soon put an end to his active life. He knew very well how things stood with him and resigned himself in full consciousness to his situation. He complained about no one, was satisfied with God and the world, and quietly anticipated his early demise.

What Boesel did for New Bremen is well acknowledged. What the poor, depressed, and suffering lost by his departure, they know best. His charity extended beyond the sea to his old home town in Lauterecken. When years ago, the people there built a new church, Mr. Boesel arranged for a new organ to be built therein which cost him over \$1500.00. When the organ was installed, the name 'Bösel' was placed thereon in gold letters in his memory.

When the Palatinate was the victim of floods, Mr. Boesel was one of the first Germans in Ohio to come forward with large contributions for the sufferers. Furthermore, Mr. Boesel always took a lively part in the education of the youth and especially the public schools of the state.

He saw the completion of the beautiful (Union/Central) school building in New Bremen in 1877, the construction of which he showed great interest in. The building itself is the embodiment of his ideas concerning school houses and he was able to see it placed in use.



Charles Boesel, Ex-Senator

Mr. Boesel was 6 feet tall and had a powerful body and erect posture. His face instantly made an unforgettable impression. His high-arched forehead, his somewhat deep-set brown eyes enlivened by a certain piercing look mellowed by inner peace and friendliness, his thin lips and his strong chin portrayed the man as he lived and worked. One

needn't be a great judge of men to see in him immediately a noble heart, a happy accommodating nature, honesty combined with joviality and kindness, and at the same time a man with firmness of character and strong will.

As I stood at his grave and saw the earthly remains of my dear friend being lowered into the ground surrounded by numerous weeping family members and the large grieving multitudes who showed him last honors, I was proud that my friend had not lived in vain and that his footprints can long be seen in the sands of time.

The citizens of New Bremen closed their places of business on the day of the funeral and closed the public schools not only to give everyone an opportunity to attend the funeral, but also to show that the love and sorrow for the deceased was mutual.

In the monthly meeting of the 'Deutscher Pionier Verein' (German Pioneer Club) of Cincinnati held on 4/7/1869, Mr. Boesel had been accepted as a member. Many of the dear older ones in Cincinnati and the entire state of Ohio knew Mr. Boesel personally and will agree when I say that Boesel's life was a powerful example that 'Where there is a will, there is a way'."

The Charles Boesel Family

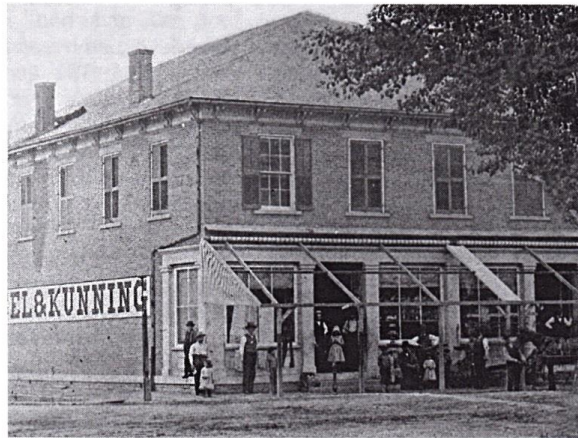
When Charles Boesel died on 4/17/1885, he was survived by 6 sons & 5 daughters: (1) Carl JACOB Boesel (2/6/1841-8/17/1896), (2) Charles Adam Boesel, aka Jr. (5/5/1843-3/29/1909), both by his first wife, Sophia Wilhelmina Maurer (9/15/1821-5/5/1843);

(3) August Boesel (4/27/1845-11/30/1921), (4) Mrs. John Henry (Sophia Wilhelmina Carolina) Mesloh (7/20/1847-12/8/1919), (5) Mrs. John Jacob (Dorothea) Frey (8/21/1849-3/30/1929), (6) Mrs. Henry (Marie ROSINE Louise) Schmidt (8/1/1852-11/29/1931), (7) Gustave Adolph Boesel (10/21/1855-6/16/1917), (8) Julius Boesel (3/13/1857-1/14/1924), (9) Mrs. William (Marie EMMA) Schmidt (9/1/1863-5/27/1944), all by his second wife, Dorothea Maurer (2/15/1826-7/30/1874), sister to his first wife;

(10) Franklin Fernando Tilden Boesel (8/2/1876-12/?/1966), (11) Mrs. John Henry (Clara Louise Elizabeth) Koenig, Sr. (12/20/1878-10/29/1958), both by his third wife, Mary Schroeder (1843-1914).

Charles Boesel also had 4 other daughters, born in 1859, 1861, 1866, 1878 who died as young children.

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Boesel & Kunning Dry Goods & Hardware

This picture of my grandfather's store is a good one. In later years, after Mueller Brothers owned it (October 1904-April 1937), the ledge in front became a hangout for most of us.

Uncle Lafe Kunning lived upstairs on the right. The rooms to the left were for storage. A large stairway ran from the middle of the lower floor to the second floor.

The man standing on the ledge to the left is Gust Gilberg. Next, in shirt sleeves is my father, Gustave Kunning, with yours truly in a dress. Next, also in shirt sleeves is my grandfather, C.H. Kunning, with my brother, Chester. Henry Goll is in the doorway with arms akimbo as usual. I do not know the other two. The young fellow next is Pearly Heinfeldt. Seated is Herman Pape with Edward in a dress. Behind Edward is Uncle Lafe. Next are Will & Ella (Laut) Dorfer. I believe the man with the horse is August Schroeder. No doubt he and Henry Goll delivered something together. The last man, in the doorway, is Ernst Kuck. This picture was taken before my grandfather, C.H. Kunning, passed away in February 1904.

Richard A. Kunning - July 1971

BOESEL & KUNNING

The business later known as Boesel & Kunning was started by Charles Boesel, Sr. in 1836. (The building above was not built until about 1863-1864.) About 1850-1851, Mr. Boesel employed 19-year old C(ourt) H(enry) Kunning, who worked for him for 4 years. Mr. Kunning then entered into partnership with Georg Peter Maurer under the firm name of Maurer & Kunning. They purchased the business from Mr. Boesel and continued their partnership for the next 4 years. Mr. Kunning then bought out Mr. Maurer's interest and conducted the business alone for a short while. He subsequently sold it back to Mr. Boesel, remaining in his employ until 1866, when the partnership of Boesel & Kunning was established, with the partners being Mr. Kunning himself and the oldest son of Mr. Boesel - Jacob Boesel.

Carl JACOB Boesel (2/6/1841-8/17/1896)

Jacob Boesel made his debut in the business arena in 1856 at St. Marys when he was just 15 years old. He was employed in the store of Joseph Kelsey, which at the time was presided over by David Armstrong and John Keller.

In 1858, after going to Bartlett's Commercial College in Cincinnati, Jacob returned to New Bremen and took charge of his father's business which he had started up again after a short retirement.

In 1866, Jacob succeeded his father and, together with C.H. Kunning, formed the firm of Boesel & Kunning.

In 1870, the grain & provision business was added and Charles Boesel, Jr. became a member of the firm, the name remaining unchanged.

The firm of Boesel & Kunning existed for 21-22 years when it was dissolved by mutual consent, the conditions of the transfer being agreed upon in less than 5 minutes. In 1890-1891, Charles Boesel (Jr.) withdrew from the partnership and purchased the hardware department. Jacob Boesel & C.H. Kunning retained the dry goods and grocery business under the name of **J. Boesel & Kunning**.

In 1893, Jacob Boesel withdrew from the partnership to give his entire attention to Boesel Bros. & Co. bank as its president. Mr. Kunning took his 2 sons, Gustave A. and Lafe Kunning, into the business and for 7 years they conducted business under the name of **C.H. Kunning & Sons**. After the death of Jacob Boesel in August 1896, the Kunning store building and the bank building were both sold to Jacob's brother, Julius Boesel.

In 1900, the two Kunning sons took over the business. In October 1904, Lafe Kunning sold the entire stock of dry goods and quit business. The Boesel & Kunning building (at left) was then sold to the Mueller Brothers, John and August.

(N.B. Sun - 4/8/1893, 9/17/1897, 2/19/1904, 10/28/1904)

Charles Adam Boesel (5/5/1843-3/29/1909)

(aka Charles/Karl, Jr.)

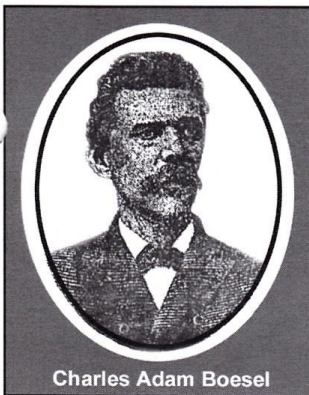
Charles Adam Boesel was born in a two story frame building on North Main Street that most people now living would remember as the former Gilberg & Hegemier Furniture Store (see pg. 9 - no longer there). Charles was the second son of Peter CHARLES Boesel & Sophia Wilhelmina Maurer. Charles's mother died 1 hour after his birth and he and his 2-year-old brother, Carl JACOB, were cared for by their Uncle George's widow, Christine (Braun) Boesel, until their father remarried - to their aunt, Dorothea Maurer, in 1844. Charles's baptismal sponsor was his uncle, Johann ADAM Boesel.

Charles Boesel (Jr.) was a veteran of the Civil War. He resigned from the army in January 1863 as a 2nd Lieutenant in Co. F., 37th Ohio Volunteer Infantry (see pg. 22).

Charles's first employment was in his father's warehouse on the northwest corner of Washington & Monroe Streets, later known as Rairdon's livery stable. He worked there until 1865 when he took charge of the flouring mill at Lock Two, which he operated for 3 years. In 1868, he returned to assist his father in his pork and grain business. In 1869, the hardware business of J(ohn) H(enry) Mesloh was purchased. Charles Boesel, Sr.'s two business rooms on the northeast corner of Main & Monroe Streets (later known as Mueller Bros. Clothiers) were united with an arch and the hardware business was combined with the dry goods and grocery business which had previously been conducted there by Charles Boesel, Sr. and C.H. Kunning.

In 1870, the grain & provision business was added and Charles Boesel, Jr. became a partner in the Boesel & Kunning firm (see above).

In 1890-1891, Charles, Jr. withdrew from the partnership, but continued the hardware department in the old room until 1896, when he removed his stock to his newly built Opera House building. Here he added a stock of groceries and continued in the business until 1898, a year after he had purchased the balance of the block east of the opera house. He then relinquished his interests in the mercantile business to his eldest son, Charles Jacob Boesel (Chas. III). (The former hardware room of the Boesel & Kunning building was occupied by William Uetrecht's Grocery from March 1904-1909.)



Charles Adam Boesel

Charles Adam Boesel

[known as Charles Boesel, Jr. to distinguish him from his father, Peter CHARLES Boesel (Sr.), who died in 1885, and his son, Charles Jacob Boesel (III)], had the Opera House built in 1895. Ground was broken in late June 1895. In late March 1896, Mr. Boesel moved his hardware store to the east room of the new building. In May 1896, Mr. Boesel was joined in business by his son, Charles J. Boesel (III), and they added a full line of groceries.

In March 1898, Charles Boesel (Jr.) sold his interest in the firm of Charles Boesel & Son Hardware to his son, Charles J. Boesel. At the same time, he, along with the Schmidt brothers, Henry & William, each withdrew his 1/5 interest in the old Boesel's Bank, leaving that bank in the hands of Charles's brother, Julius Boesel, & Jacob's son, Adolph Boesel.

On June 14, 1898, Charles Boesel (Jr.) launched another enterprise, the First City Bank (bottom right in Opera House building). At first he was sole owner, but in July 1899, it was changed to a stock company. Directors were: Charles Boesel (Jr.), C.H. Kunning, Theodore Purpus, Dr. M.S. Ekermeier, C.F. Wissman, Gerhard Waterman, Herman Laut, Edward Klanke, Herbert Schulenberg, Alex G. Boesel. Officers were: Charles Boesel (Pres.), Theodore Purpus (Vice Pres.), Alex G. Boesel (Cashier), Oscar Boesel (Asst. Cashier). The latter two were sons of Charles (Jr.) and brothers to Charles J. Boesel, who now had the hardware store in the same building (left side, above). On January 16, 1908, Charles Boesel (Jr.) resigned as President of the First City Bank and retired.

In July 1898, the New Bremen Natural Gas Office was moved from the J.F. Lanfersieck building to the Opera House.

CHARLES ADAM BOESEL (JR.) FAMILY

On 11/8/1866, Charles Adam Boesel married Louise Voeckell. They had 7 children who lived to adulthood: (1) Charles Jacob (Charles J. Boesel Hardware business), (2) William Ernst (Bell Telephone Co. / Dayton, Ohio), (3) Alexander G. (Cashier of the First City Bank), (4) Oscar H. (Asst. Cashier), (5) Wilhelmine L. (married Charles McKenna), (6) Alice (married Dr. Harvey Maurer - Beloit, Wisconsin), (7)



Frieda (married Henry Voeckell - California?).

In 1875, Charles Boesel (Jr.) purchased several lots on South Franklin St., built a brick house on the corner (27 South Franklin) and had beautiful gardens on the vacant lots to the

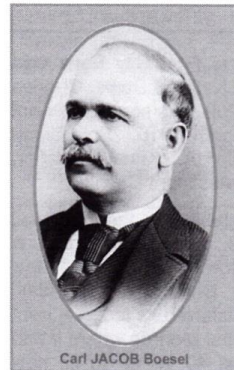
north. At the time, he was laughed at by his friends, who claimed that he had built out on a farm, there being only four buildings on South Franklin Street at that time.

Charles Boesel (Jr.) held many public offices, including 4 years on the Board of Trustees which looked after the construction of the Water Works plant in 1902-1903. He was an active member of the Volunteer Fire Dept. for 21 (27?) years and was one of the originators of the Volunteer Firemen's Mutual Aid Association.

He died of apoplexy March 29, 1909 at the age of 65.

INCIDENTAL NOTE: It appears that the two oldest Boesel brothers, Jacob & Charles (Jr.) had a "double" wedding, both having the same wedding date of November 8, 1866.

CARL JACOB BOESEL FAMILY



Carl JACOB Boesel

Jacob Boesel's early education was limited to the meager advantages afforded by the schools in New Bremen at that time. Later he attended the St. Marys Union School, where he learned the English language, and then attended Bartlett's Commercial College in Cincinnati from which he graduated in 1860. (see Boesel & Kunning article, pg. 12).

On 11/8/1866, Carl JACOB Boesel married Louise Wolfe. They had 5 children who lived to adulthood: (1) Adolph H. (Asst. Cashier in the Boesel Bros. & Co. bank), (2) Ida W. (married Emil G. Conradi), (3) Alma E. (married Fridolin Purpus), (4) Otto J., (5) Walter J. Boesel.

In 1885, when the Boesel Bank, established by his father, Charles Boesel (Sr.) in 1872, was reorganized as the Boesel Bros. & Co. bank, Jacob was named President, a position he held until his death 8/17/1896. He was also President of the first Building & Loan Association to be organized in New Bremen and President of the New Bremen Natural Gas Company from the time it was organized in April 1888.

Jacob Boesel, like his father (and brother, Charles Jr.), held many public offices. Like his father before him (Charles Sr.), Jacob became a Democratic State Representative from Auglaize County, serving from 1889-1893 [1898 Atlas].

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THE BOESEL BANK

In 1872, after retiring from mercantile pursuits, Charles Boesel (Sr.) established a bank and continued the same until his death in 1885, at which time the bank was reorganized under the firm name of **Boesel Bros. & Co.** Charles Boesel's oldest son, Jacob Boesel, was named President and held that position until his death 8/17/1896. The name was later changed to **Boesel's Bank**.

After the death of Jacob Boesel, his brother Julius was elected President of Boesel's Bank, with Jacob's son Adolph becoming Cashier and Charles Jr.'s son, Alexander G. Boesel, becoming Clerk. The Board of Directors was comprised of Charles Boesel (Jr.), Julius & Adolph Boesel and Henry G. & William C. Schmidt (brothers-in-law of Charles, Jr.).

In March 1898, Charles Boesel (Jr.), along with the Schmidt brothers, withdrew their interest and on June 14, 1898, Charles Boesel (Jr.) launched the **First City Bank** in his Opera House building (see pg. 13). His son, Alex, went with him and became the Cashier. His son, Oscar, became Asst. Cashier.

Jacob Boesel was also president of the first building & loan association founded in New Bremen and when the **Citizens Building & Loan Association** was started, he became President of it. Charles Jr.'s son, Gustave Boesel, served both as Secretary and Treasurer (in 1910) of the Citizens Building & Loan Co.

The **New Bremen Savings Co.** was incorporated in 1873 and dissolved in 1881, when the **Concordia Building & Savings Assoc.** was organized. In 1927, Theodore Purpus was declared to be the longest serving building and loan secretary in the state, having then completed 52 years in that work. He was still associated with the company on his 98th birthday on 11/6/1942. (N.B. Sun - 7/25/1929+11/12/1942)

The financial statement of 6/30/1935 for Concordia Building & Savings Assoc. shows Directors as Charles H. Block, Fridolin T. Purpus and Leo E. Purpus. (N.B. Sun - 7/5/1935)

On Thursday, January 16, 1908, the First City Bank was purchased by and merged with the First National Bank. Charles Boesel (Jr.) retired and died in March 1909. His son, Alex, went to Texas for his health and died in March 1910. Son Oscar followed other pursuits, and Gustave A. Kunning, teller, remained with the merged institution as Assistant Cashier.

In September 1919, workmen broke holes into the north wall of the Henry Dierker building at the corner of Monroe & Washington Streets and placed windows in it for the new banking room of the **First National Bank**. On Monday, 12/22/1919, the First National Bank transferred its location from the old Boesel's Bank building at 120 West Monroe where it had been conducting business "for the past 40 years" to its new rooms. Director Charles P. Gress was the first depositor. Julius Boesel was the President.

In November 1924, the former Boesel's/First National Bank building at 120 West Monroe was remodeled and the Citizens Building & Loan Association moved there from the 2nd floor of the Grothaus block (formerly Charles Boesel Sr.'s home).

1/15/1931: Walter W. Grothaus was elected as a new member of the Board of Directors of the First National Bank and the First City Bank. He will replace Adolph Boesel who died last month (12/3/1930). Other members of the Board are Clifford V. Huenke, Ferd W. Rabe, Herman F. Bienz, Fred A. Ende, Charles P. Gress and Ignatz Dabbelt. C.V. Huenke is President of the First National Bank, while F.W. Rabe, Vice-President, is Acting President of the First City Bank.

LEGAL NOTICES: Application was filed to dissolve the First City Mortgage Co. and the New Bremen Realty Co. All property and assets are to be transferred to The First City Bank.

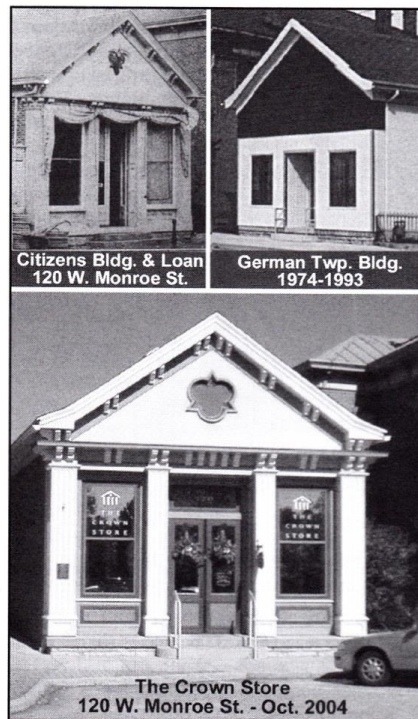
On 10/24/1934, the First National Bank was authorized to begin the business of banking as provided in Section 5169 of the Revised Statutes of the U.S. (N.B. Sun - 6/21/1935)

On 10/31/1934, 3-year liquidation proceedings were begun for the First City Bank. Ferd W. Rabe was the conservator.

In September 1940, the office of the Citizens Building & Loan Assoc. was moved to the home of F.W. Bruns where all matters pertaining to the liquidation of the company would be attended to. Bruns was appointed liquidator following the resignation of Irene Ekermeier. (N.B. Sun - 9/19/1940)

The Citizens Bldg. & Loan Assoc. building was purchased by the German Township trustees on 7/7/1944 for \$1500. In the 1950s, the building was occupied by Amstutz Hatchery, James Pape's Jewelry Store and Carl Wuebbenhorst's Paint & Wallpaper Store. In 1974, the trustees changed the front as shown below, eliminating the artistic window, columns, etc. In 1989, Crown Equipment Corp. became the owners of the building. On 2/1/1990, the Township Trustees moved into their present building at 123 North Main St. In 1993, Crown restored the former bank building to its original look and it became occupied by The Crown Store.

[Trustees info provided by Dennis Dicke]



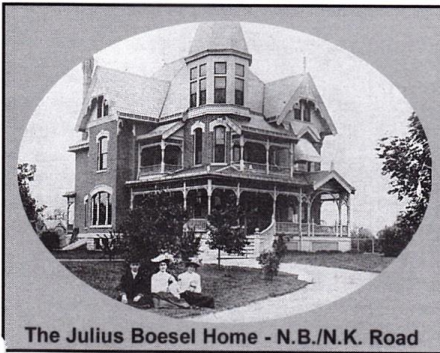
On 8/1/1903, Herman F. Bienz started working as a cashier in Boesel's Bank, located in the building at 120 West Monroe St. under the tutelage of Julius Boesel. He completed 50 years of continuous employment on 8/1/1953 and was honored by the First National Bank for his years of service. Bank officials of the First National Bank in 1953 were: Mrs. Clifford (Martha Dierker) Huenke, Harry Komminsk, Ferd W. Rabe, Mrs. Walter (Katherine Rabe) Grothaus, Alvin Grothaus and Herman Streacker of Minster. Employees were: Elwood F. Day (Bank Mgr.), Mrs. Ned (Marjorie Pape) Metzger & Elodie Lanfersieck.

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JULIUS BOESEL was the son of Charles Boesel, Sr. & Dorothea (Maurer), born 3/13/1857. At an early age, he became associated in the banking business with his father and was connected with the First National Bank for nearly 50 years. In 1896, he succeeded his brother, Jacob Boesel, as President of the institution after Jacob's death.

In November 1921, the Julius Boesel family moved to Mt. Gilead where Julius became a representative of the Ohio branch of the Kentucky Joint Stock Land Bank. When he died 1/14/1924, he was first buried in a Mt. Gilead cemetery. On 12/30/1930, his body was moved to the family plot in German Protestant Cemetery at Lock Two.



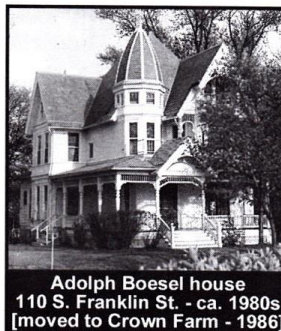
The Julius Boesel house shown here was built in 1895. The same architect, Chapin, designed the Adolph Boesel house, along with Zion's Church.

ADOLPH BOESEL, born 8/5/1867, inherited an astute business sense from his father, Jacob, and his Uncle Julius. He was introduced to banking and finance at the age of 14 and in point of service, was known to have been the oldest banker in Auglaize County, being connected to different financial institutions for more than 49 years.

Adolph started as an Assistant Cashier, Cashier, Vice President and since January 1920, was President of the First City Bank. For many years he also was Vice President of the First National Bank, which purchased the First City Bank on 1/16/1908.

For some 30 years, Adolph was a director of the Citizens Building & Loan Association and was its President when he died. He also was a Director & President of the New Bremen Broom Co. The only public office he ever held was that of city treasurer for some 30 years.

In November 1898, the Adolph Boesel family moved into their new home at 110 South Franklin St. opposite the Central School.



CITIZENS BUILDING & LOAN BUILDING Herman Heinfeld - An Old Builder

One needs to hear Herman Heinfeld talk about some of the old buildings in New Bremen which were either built under his direction or which he assisted to erect.

Recently when the heating system parts were being unloaded in front of the old (Boesel) bank building, now the property of the Citizens Building & Loan Association, Mr. Heinfeld looked on and began to speak about the manner of construction of the building. He pointed out how the columns forming the support at either side of the entrance, square contraptions faced to be in line with the diagonal street at that point, were finished on the side so that the door entrance would be on a straight north-south line.

He called attention to the carving on the columns, also the artistic window above the entrance, and explained how that was all work which had been done by hand. (see picture - pg. 14)

When asked how he came to know or remember that so well, he said, "Why, I did the work myself. That was in **1876**".

The Citizens Building & Loan Association building stands today as a monument of the craftsmanship of Herman Heinfeld. He is not ashamed to point at any building of his construction and say that it was built by him. (N.B. Sun - 2/21/1924)



BOESEL HARDWARE STORE

Charles J. Boesel started working in his father's hardware business at the age of 16 (ca. 1883) and in 1898, he took over management of the store. In September 1922, he sold the business to Harry F. Schroeder and retired. On 10/2/1922, the business became known as the New Bremen Hardware & Supply Co. On 9/7/1946, the business was moved to the southwest corner of Monroe & Water Streets, to a building that had also been built by Charles Boesel, Sr. in 1880. Most recent occupants of this building had been the Gast Frock Shop and the Erhardt Dry Goods Store.

(see "The Towpath" - October 1997, pg. 4)

Charles J. Boesel was responsible for showing some of the first motion pictures in New Bremen in Boesel's Opera House.

(see "The Towpath" - April 2001 for N.B. theater information).



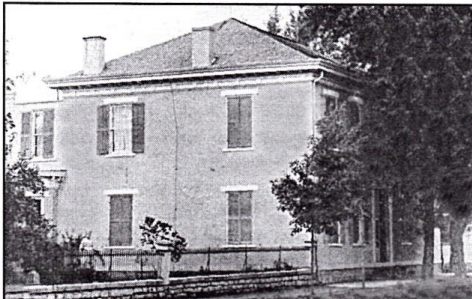
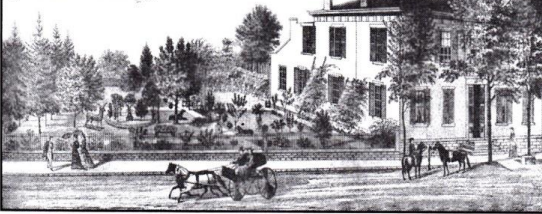
THE CHARLES J. BOESEL FAMILY
Caesar, Clifton, Charles J. (father), Mamie,
Mary (Ahrens) (mother), Milton Charles Boesel

[photo courtesy of Rev. Suzanne (Boesel) Northcraft,
daughter of Milton Boesel]

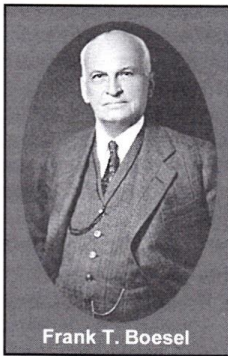
Charles J. Boesel & Mary Ahrens of Delphos were married on 5/21/1891. They had 4 children: (1) Milton, (2) Clifton, (3) Caesar and (4) Mamie (Brentlinger).

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**Charles Boesel (Sr.) house & gardens
Monroe & Main Streets
[1880 Atlas]**



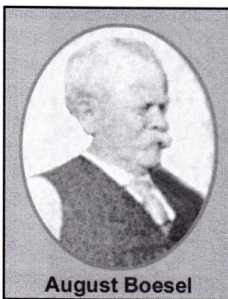
**The Charles Boesel (Sr.) house
(southeast corner of Monroe & Main Sts.)
Notice the Indian statue at the left of picture.
This statue spent many years later on in Fort Loramie.**



Frank T. Boesel

Franklin Fernando Tilden Boesel was the youngest son of Charles Boesel, Sr. and his 3rd wife, Mary (Schroeder) and was born (8/2/1876) and raised in this building, later known as "the Grothaus block". He was only 8 years old when his father died. He graduated from OSU & the Harvard University Law School and began practicing law in Milwaukee, Wisconsin in 1899. The above building later held the Post Office, the telephone office and the A.H. Albert Funeral Home.

[Frank Boesel photo courtesy of Beth (Ivins) Sauerland, granddaughter.]

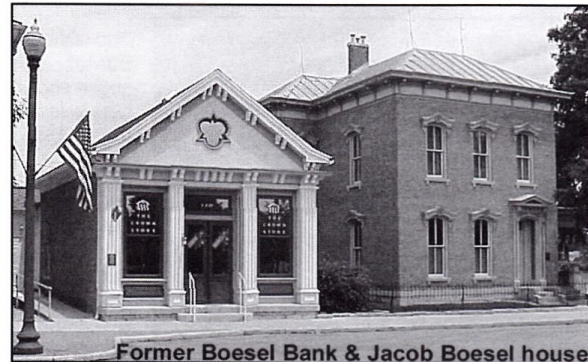
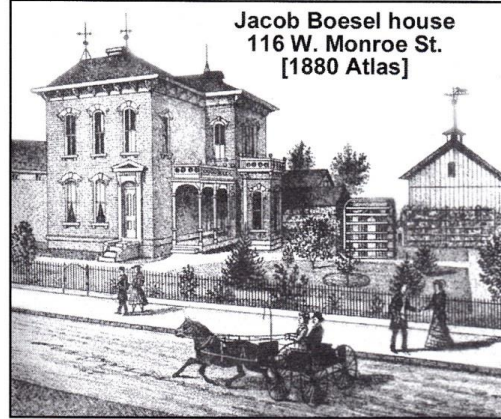


August Boesel

August Boesel was the 3rd son of Charles Boesel, Sr. His mother was Dorothea Maurer. The 3 oldest Boesel sons – Jacob, Charles (Jr.) and August were all confirmed 4/24/1859 in St. Paul's Church. The Boesel family transferred to Zion's Church after it was founded in 1865.

August Boesel conducted a tannery at the corner of Water & First Streets and had a 60 sq. ft. fish pond in the rear of the tannery that was well-stocked with catfish, bluegills and bass. About 1886, he moved to Columbus and became a guard in the Ohio State Penitentiary (see pg. 20, *Poeppelman letter response*). After a few years, he retired from this occupation and with his son, Oliver, operated a grocery in Columbus for about 30 years. August retired about 1911 and was a member of the executive committee of the Ohio Lakes Park Association, looking after the interests of Lake Loramie. His son, Oliver, became Treasurer of Kuenzel Mills.

**Jacob Boesel house
116 W. Monroe St.
[1880 Atlas]**



Former Boesel Bank & Jacob Boesel house



Otto J. Boesel



Walter Jacob Boesel

Otto Boesel & Walter Boesel were both sons of Jacob Boesel & Louise Wolfe and were brothers to banker Adolph Boesel. Both graduated from Ohio State University.

(see OSU article, next page.)

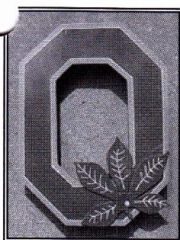


Threemasted Packet Ship

William Ernst Boesel was the son of Charles Boesel (Jr.) and worked for a time in the Boesel Hardware Store. As a young man, he went to Dayton where he worked for the Bell Telephone Co. He then managed a service station and garage in Dayton. In 1937, he and his wife, Nora, moved to Payne, Ohio where he died.

LEFT: This is the type of ship the immigrants came to America on.

Ohio State University Alma Mater of Boesel Family



The Ohio State University was founded as the Ohio Agricultural and Mechanical College through the efforts of Republican Governor, Rutherford B. Hayes. It was chartered in 1870, opened in 1873, and a state geological survey was begun. It was called Ohio Agricultural and Mechanical College until 1878.

In 1864, during the Civil War, while Rutherford B. Hayes was at the front, serving ably in the Union Army, Cincinnati citizens nominated him to be their representative in the Congress of the United States. Hayes took his seat in Congress in December 1865 and was re-elected in 1866.

Congressman Hayes had scarcely started his second term when the Republican Party nominated him for governor of Ohio. His two terms from 1868 to 1872 were conspicuous in that age of political corruption for freedom from scandal and irregularities. Even newspapers that supported the opposition Democratic Party praised his administration.

The *Columbus Dispatch* of March 16, 1930, carried a story showing that the family founded in New Bremen by the late Democratic State Senator, Charles Boesel (Sr.), had been represented at the university almost uninterruptedly since 1885 (for 45 years).

The story was accompanied by pictures of Frank T. Boesel & his son John of Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Albert G., Robert C. & Richard E. Boesel of New York City; Dr. Reuben J. Boesel of Rochester, Minnesota; Dr. Stephen W. Boesel of Niles, Ohio; Milton C. Boesel of Toledo; Otto J. Boesel & his sons, Paul & Kenneth, of Wapakoneta, Ohio; and Walter J. Boesel of New Bremen.

The first of the Boesel line came to Ohio State from New Bremen about 1885. That was Prof. Charles Mesloh (the first graduate of N.B.H.S. in 1882), who taught Germanic languages at the university until 1903. He was the eldest grandson of Charles Boesel, Sr. and many of his immediate family also subsequently attended the university.

Frank T(ilden) Boesel came next. He was the youngest son of Senator Boesel and his third wife, Mary Schroeder. Frank took advantage of a scheme his father had worked out to assure an education for his children. Each son was given a bank account, and their father added an amount weekly, varying according to the age of the depositor. He specified certain chores for each of his four sons at home and the sums accumulated were sufficient to send them or their own children to school.

Frank T. Boesel graduated from OSU in 1896 and became president of the Wisconsin Bar Association. His son, John, attended the University of Wisconsin at Madison for two years, but came to Ohio State because his father wanted him to attend the family's alma mater. John was a classmate of Kenneth & Paul

Boesel (sons of Otto J. Boesel). Kenneth & Paul's brother, Jacob James, was then only 11 years old, but planned to attend OSU as soon as he was old enough.

Two other sons of Charles Boesel Sr. - State Representative Jacob Boesel and New Bremen banker, Julius Boesel - sent their own sons to OSU.

Jacob Boesel's son, Otto J. Boesel, graduated from OSU in 1906 and became a law partner of his brother-in-law, Theodore Tangeman, and became Mayor of New Bremen. In 1913, he joined the law firm of Congressman J.H. Goeke, Anderson & Boesel and moved to Wapakoneta where he served as prosecuting attorney of Auglaize County from 1929-1933. For several years before his death, he was associated with his son, Paul O. Boesel.

Walter J. Boesel (brother to Otto) was a 1907 graduate and was an accountant in Columbus. (*In 1940, he lived in Dayton*). Others of the Jacob Boesel family who went from New Bremen to Columbus to attend OSU were Carl J. Purpus, Columbus attorney, and Mrs. Reuben H. (Eleanor Purpus) Dickman. Their mother, Mrs. Fridolin (Alma Boesel) Purpus, was a sister to Otto J. & Walter J. (also Adolph) Boesel.

Four of Julius Boesel's sons, Albert G., Robert C., Stephen W. and Richard E., received their diplomas from 1907 to 1918. Al went on to study at Yale. Bob went into the diplomatic service. In 1911, Steve became the first member of the family to make the football team and was a star athlete. Dick also played on the OSU football team and won national renown as a fullback in 1915, 1916, 1917. Steve practiced medicine at Niles, Ohio. Dick went to New York and joined the N.Y. Stock Exchange in 1926. Their sister, Gertrude (Mrs. E.B. Wilson of Defiance, Ohio), also attended OSU.

Marion Boesel, son of Oliver H. Boesel, received an M.A. degree at Ohio State. His brother, Paul Boesel, was a first-year student in 1930.

Also attending OSU were Reuben and Mildred Boesel, children of Adolph Boesel, and Milton Boesel, son of Charles J. Boesel.



THE NEW BREMEN CLUB, O.S.U. - 4/1/1910
1-Steve Boesel, 2-Ed Gieseke, 3-Irwin Garmhausen,
4-J.A. Meckstroth, 5-Paul Kuenzel, 6-Walter Grothaus,
7-Harry Nussmeyer, 8-J.T. Meckstroth, 9-Harry Komminsk,
10-Irwin Pohlman, 11-Walter Weinberg



TOP ROW: Marie Boesel & brother, Frieda Boesel & sister, Irwin Boesel.

[identifications by Ralph May – 1971]

ROW 2 (standing): Otto Boesel, _____, Rev. Paul Kluge, _____, Walter Boesel, Adolph & Ida (Haveman) Boesel, Mrs. Charles J. Boesel, Fridolin Purpus & daughter Eleanor, Alma (Boesel) Purpus, Ida (Boesel) Conradi, Emil G. Conradi, _____ with child, Gustave & Elizabeth (Hay) Boesel, Otto Mesloh, Emma, Louise & Dora Mesloh, _____, _____, _____ (3 men unidentified).

ROW 3 (seated): _____, _____, Charles Boesel, Jr.?, _____, Julius & Amalia (Haveman) Boesel, August & Catherine (Kuenzel) Boesel who lived in Columbus, _____, _____, _____.

ROW 4 (children): _____, _____, _____, Grace Boesel & her 2 sisters, Elsa & Mildred, Allan Boesel & sister Meta, Gertrude Boesel, _____ (others are unidentified, hard to distinguish which person is being referred to. One is Carl Purpus).

This picture was published in "The Evening Leader" of St. Marys on June 26, 1971. It had been provided to Ralph May by Grace (Boesel) Ende. Ralph May commented that the picture had been taken in front of the J.H. & Wilhelmina (Boesel) Mesloh home on the New Knoxville Road (now occupied by Karl & Ethel Mesloh). The Mesloh home was just north of the Julius Boesel mansion (see pg. 15). The Mesloh's son, Otto, was a famous cornetist with the John Philip Sousa Band in New York. Others in the group also had distinguished careers. Rev. Kluge became pastor of Zion's Reformed Church on 8/9/1903.

[This article was provided to the Editor by R(_____) 1 Judge Jacob James Boesel, son of Otto & Bessie (Stone) Boesel, in Ja(_____) y 1996.]

BOESEL 3RD ANNUAL REUNION - 6/23/1906

The reunion of the Boesel family at the home of Mrs. Dorothea Frey last Saturday was one of the pleasantest events of its kind yet held. A very large number of the various branches of the family met early in the forenoon at the beautiful residence north of town. At midday, about sixty persons were served, with Rev. Kluge asking grace.

In the afternoon, a business session was held and new officers for the coming year were elected. Grief was expressed by the assembled members because of the accident that had befallen Otto Mesloh which prevented him from being present. The retiring president, August Boesel of Columbus, gave an impressive yet humorous review of the life of the late Honorable Charles Boesel. (See pages 3-11 for biography.)

August Boesel also recalled incidents that happened during the childhood days of the older members of the family - himself, brothers Jacob and Charles Jr. and sister Dorothea (Frey).

After the evening meal under the trees, fireworks were set off, and at a late hour the seventy or so guests departed to meet again next year at the home of the Honorable J.H. Mesloh. Officers elected for the coming year were: Hon. J.H. Mesloh, President; Arthur J. Frey, Vice-President; Mrs. Fridolin T. Purpus, Secretary; Mrs. Harvey C. (Alice Boesel) Maurer, Treasurer.

Present at the reunion were: Mr. & Mrs. Charles Boesel Jr. and daughters Wilhelmina and Frieda; Mr. & Mrs. Gustave Boesel and children Irwin, Allen, Waldo, Emmett, Meta, and Norma; Mr. & Mrs. Julius Boesel and children Marie, Dorothea, Gertrude, Albert, Robert and Richard; Mrs. Jacob (Louise) Boesel and sons Otto and Walter; Mrs. Jacob (Dorothea) Frey; Mr. & Mrs. J.H. Mesloh and children Dora, Alfred and Louise; Mr. & Mrs. Adolph Boesel and children Grace, Reuben, Elsa, Mildred, and Eunice; Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Frey and children Marie, Wilbur, and Walter; Mr. & Mrs. Charles J. Boesel and children Milton, Clifton, Caesar, and Mamie; Mr. & Mrs. Emil G. Conradi; Mr. & Mrs. Fridolin T. Purpus and children Carl and Eleanor; and Dr. & Mrs. Harvey C. Maurer, all of New Bremen.

The out-of-town members were Mr. & Mrs. August Boesel and Emilie of Columbus; Reinhard, Edmund and Carl Mesloh of Columbus; Mr. & Mrs. William C. Schmidt and children Miriam and Felix of Chicago; Mrs. Frank Kettler of Chicago; Clarence Mesloh of St. Louis; and Miss Emma Mesloh of Springfield. (N.B. Sun - June 29, 1906)

**BOESEL FAMILY POLITICAL HISTORY**

Charles Boesel (Sr.), his son Jacob Boesel, and son-in-law, J(ohn) H(enry) Mesloh, were prominent businessmen and were heavily active in community and state politics. The Boesels were Democrats, but J.H. Mesloh was Republican.

Charles Boesel represented Auglaize County in the Ohio State Legislature from 1861-1865* and served as a Democratic Senator from the 32nd Senatorial District from 1869-1871*.

J. Henry Mesloh was the Republican representative from Auglaize County from 1873-1877*.

Jacob Boesel was the Democratic representative from Auglaize County from 1889-1893*. [*as listed in 1898 Atlas*]

OTTO FRIEDRICH MESLOH

Otto Mesloh with his cornet
[photo courtesy of Karl Mesloh]

Otto Mesloh was born 2/26/1867 and was the son of John Henry and Wilhelmina (Boesel) Mesloh. He was an accomplished cornetist who joined the John Philip Sousa band in 1898 and was Sousa's leading cornet soloist for 3 years. He also played with other military bands and with a vaudeville group called the "Elite Musical Four". He is shown here in his "Bubb & Bennett Band" uniform.

The accident referred to in the "Boesel Family Reunion" article was a train derailment between New Jersey and New York City on June 11, 1906 as the "Elite Musical Four" was returning to New York City from an engagement in Atlantic City. Otto and his seatmate were thrown through an open window headfirst into a marsh. Otto suffered numerous injuries including broken bones in his face. His seatmate, manager of the "Elite Four", suffocated in the mud.

Following a lengthy convalescence, Otto resumed playing in 1908, and on a visit home to New Bremen, he played "The Lost Chord" at the Boesel Opera House on 4/12/1912 for New Bremen's "Home Concert".

His health began to fail, however, due to the accident and he passed away June 28, 1923 at his home at 19 South Herman St. at the age of 56.

Before his death, Otto sold his cornet to Aaron Vogelsang. Lois (Quellhorst) Siferd and Ed Quellhorst, children of Frank and Paula (Vogelsang) Quellhorst, donated the cornet to our museum in 1990 where it is now on display. [photo & biography courtesy of Karl Mesloh]

**IS IT CARL, KARL, OR CHARLES?**

There were three "Charles" Boesels, variously also called Carl or Karl. In the early days, no middle initials were used so it was very difficult to know which "Charles" was being written about without knowing their birth dates, etc. For the purposes of being able to keep track of which one's deeds were being recorded, many times Peter CHARLES (1814-1885) was referred to as "Sr." and Charles Adam (1843-1909) was referred to as "Jr.". I have added the description Charles, III to describe Charles Jacob Boesel, son of Charles Adam (Jr.).

Karl Mesloh (gr-gr-grandson of Charles Boesel, Sr.) has given this explanation of the various spellings and pronunciations: "Carl, spelled with a 'C' is the ancient spelling. Karl, spelled with a 'K' is more modern (from about the 1500s). Charles is the anglicized spelling."

From the Mailbox



Dear Lucille:

6/24/2005, 8/25/2005

I read with great interest the article about Henry Schwerts that appeared in the April 2003 issue of *The Towpath*. The reason for my interest was due to the fact that Dr. Aaron Greer of Osgood, Ohio was who the story said had shot Mr. Schwerts in the mouth for not serving him a drink in his saloon.

For some time, I have been researching the August 1885 murder of Fannie Graham at Osgood and Dr. Aaron Greer was one of the four accused. Just recently I had the privilege of researching original copies of the *Versailles Policy* newspaper that my cousin acquired at auction. The two volumes were from the years of 1883-1886. During my search I came across this small article that caught my eye:

"Daniel Hendershot of Patterson Township shot a saloon keeper by the name of Henry Schwerts Wednesday night of last week at New Bremen. The ball entered below the chin, passing through the mouth. The wounded man will probably recover. Hendershot was arrested and is now in the Wapakoneta jail. Lynching was strongly talked of. The two men quarreled because the saloon keeper refused to sell Hendershot and his friends anything to drink, they all being drunk."

["Versailles Policy" - 6/10/1886]

So, according to the above piece, Dr. Greer was not the guilty party that shot Henry Schwerts. I believe Dr. Greer was not in Ohio at the time of this shooting since in the fall of 1885, he escaped from jail in Greenville and headed south. His obituary in the *Policy* dated 3/17/1917 states that he lived in Walstonburg (near Greenville), North Carolina so I highly doubt that he was part of Mr. Hendershot's friends that day.

I hope this information is helpful and sets the record straight on what actually did happen that day in New Bremen.

Before I close, I do want to tell you that your association puts out a fine publication and one that is enjoyable to read - enjoyable even to someone like me who is not from New Bremen. I guess it helps that I have worked at Crown for the past 11 years and have been in a lot of the historical buildings that Crown currently uses.

Sincerely,

[Dale Poeppelman - Maria Stein, Ohio]
 <<<<<<<<>>>>>>>>

EDITOR'S RESPONSE:

I was delighted to get the above letter from Mr. Poeppelman. At the time the Henry Schwerts story was published, I wasn't entirely comfortable with it because it seemed to be relying on "several men whose memory SEEMS to be true and correct". The articles also said that Mr. Greer "went south, changed his name, and was NEVER AGAIN APPREHENDED".

Since at that time, I had no definite date as to when the Henry Schwerts incident had occurred ("some thirty years ago"), I couldn't prove that it was unlikely that the culprit was Dr. Aaron Greer, however I did later find this small article in the 6/1/1888 issue of *The New Bremen Sun* of OHIO PENITENTIARY NOTES from August Boesel, who was then working at the penitentiary as a guard (see pg. 16).

"Hindershot, the would-be assassin of Henry Schwerts of New Bremen, is polishing garden hoes and forks. He stands his work well and seems to be always happy, carrying a smiling countenance."

[N.B. Sun - 6/1/1888]

This small item always made me wonder what the true story was of the Henry Schwerts shooting. The point of my story at that time was that I had actually been able to hold in my own hands the bullet that Henry Schwerts "had spit out".

Dear Readers:

7/19/2005

Some of you may remember William V. ("Bill") Nieter from when he was the New Bremen Village Marshal and later County Sheriff in Wapakoneta (1937-1953). Bill was also a County Commissioner from 1957 up until the time he passed away in 1965. I was only 15 years old when he died. My two brothers, Jim & John, have shared many funny and touching stories about Dad with me and I would like to do some writing about him for our family genealogy book.

I know that Bill Nieter touched many lives in our community during his public service. I would be very grateful for any stories any of you would like to share with me and my family. Please contact me at:

Judy Nieter - P.O. Box 27 - McAfee, NJ 07428 (973-827-1692)

<<<<<<<<>>>>>>>>

Dear Lucille:

7/27/2005

I looked through my parents' pictures and, lo and behold, I found my step-father's St. Peter's confirmation picture with these identifications of the people:



BACK: 1) Adiel Mueller, 2) Liebert Luedeke, 3) Wilbur Garmhausen, 4) Rev. Von Rague, 5) Wilson Maurer, 6) Lester Fark, 7) Gaylord Heinfeld (my step-father).

FRONT: 1) Wilbur Strasburg, 2) Omer Tangeman, 3) Pearl Garmhausen, 4) Hedwig Paul, 5) Irma (Frevert) Black, 6) Benjamin Pohlman, 7) Theodore Pohlman.

Sincerely, Joan (Hoffman) Sunderman - Columbus, Ohio

SOME IDENTIFICATIONS WERE ALSO MADE BY:

Rose (Pohlman) Leffel (6 & 7, front) & Verdella Schaefer.

[This photo was donated to the N.B.H.A. by the family of Irma (Frevert) Black and first appeared in the April 2005 issue of "The Towpath". Irma passed away 3/10/2005 after having celebrated her 100th birthday last November.]

<<<<<<<<>>>>>>>>

E-mail to Tom Braun:

8/26/2005

I suppose you know by now that my Grandmother, Irma (Frevert) Black, passed away in March. I cannot thank you and all the folks in New Bremen (especially your Mayor) for the kindness and interest you took regarding my Grandmother's 100th birthday. It was a wonderful event and I treasure the memory of Grandma saying the dinner blessing in German as she did when she was a child in New Bremen. I hope it is not too late to ask that my thanks be passed on to the Mayor and everyone else. New Bremen is a very special place and I hope to return for a visit with my children.

Thanks for everything, Lynn (Black) Jean - Kingman, Indiana

<<<<<<<<>>>>>>>>

You bring home closer to South Carolina!

Dr. George H. Widner - Chapin, South Carolina
 [7/6/2005]

-21-

Dear Lucille:

7/16/2005

I thought you might like to hear my connection with the New Bremen Cement Tile & Block Co. which you wrote about in the July 2005 issue of *The Towpath*.

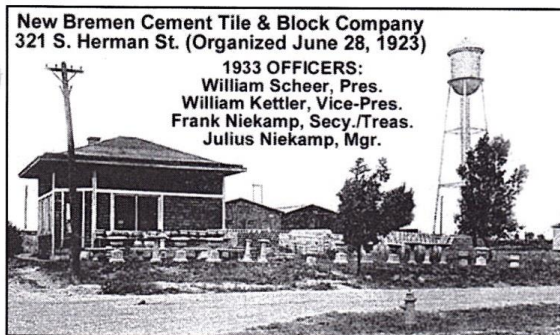
When I was a child, my sister Dorothy (Frey) and Evelyn Gieseke and I would go over to Cement Tile as they had this huge pile of sand and we were allowed to play in it – what a wonderful, large sand pile! [Evelyn (Gieseke) Warner remembers that the girls also played on top of a pile of cement blocks – they made steps out of them to the top of the pile.]

As I recall, Bill Scheer was the manager of the water plant and perhaps of Cement Tile. He and his family lived in the large home which was part of the water plant. He had 6 daughters – Mabel, Edna, Corrine, Yvonne, Marge and June. We children were amazed with the talking parrot they had in a cage hanging on a tree in their front yard. Bill also had a cow there and he tried to teach us girls how to milk a cow.

After the tragic swimming death of my 18-year-old brother Freddy in July 1938, followed in 6 months by the death of my 26-year-old sister Elizabeth in February 1939, my parents bought a plot at the German Protestant Cemetery to contain 8 graves. My mother bought a bench and an urn from Bill Scheer to have on the empty sites. It was cement with tiny flecks of colored glass – very pretty. I believe my sister-in-law, Madella Frey, gave the bench to June Scheer some years ago as a memento of her father's work. The urn is still on the site of my parents' graves [William and Martha (Bertram) Frey].

I always look forward to reading *The Towpath*.

Marian (Frey) Engle – Crozet, Virginia



In early 1923, Julius Niekamp of Chickasaw, head of the Chickasaw Tile & Cement Co., purchased part of the old National Handle Co. grounds along the L.E. & W. railroad track, reportedly paying Louis Huenke \$1500 for the same.

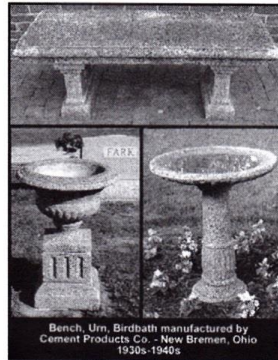
The N.B. Cement Tile & Block Co. manufactured concrete building blocks, lawn "furniture", fence posts, bricks and burial vaults. This building was originally built (in September 1920) at the corner of Washington & Monroe Streets. It was moved (in December 1920) to the Monroe St. bridge, and later to this site on South Herman St. (see pg. 7 of the July 2005 "*Towpath*").

EDITOR'S RESPONSE: In the July issue of "*The Towpath*", I showed a picture of the building next to the canal, across from Schulenberg's, and asked if anybody knew what had happened to it. I received a call from Jim Cooper in Oklahoma saying that it had been moved near the water plant on S. Herman St. and that it had been used by the Cement Tile Co. Bob Heinfeld agreed and said, 'Yes, and there's a picture of it in the Centennial book'. Thanks to both of you for your information.

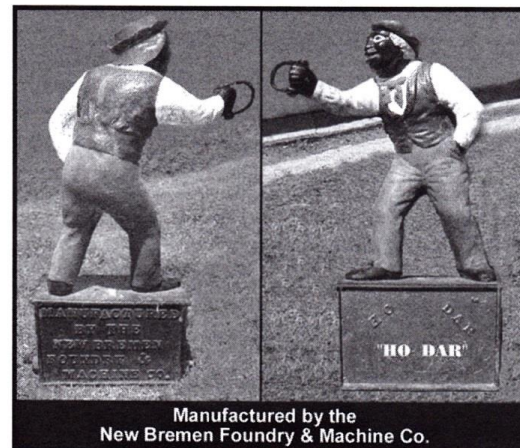
Evelyn (Gieseke) Warner recalls that during the depression, her father, Arnold Gieseke, and other neighborhood men gathered here when they were out of work. Sometimes they would help make the cement products to have something to do.

She also commented about the hoboes who used to camp out in this area. She especially remembers that one of the hoboes made crafts out of willow branches and once made her a child's chair.

Bill Scheer ran the cement business and was variously helped by his sons-in-law, Jack Abbott, Art Slife, and "Freeze" Howell. His daughters, Edna Slife, Yvonne Brockman, and Corrine Dicke worked in the office. In later years, the business was run by Art & Edna Slife. They also had a coal yard there.

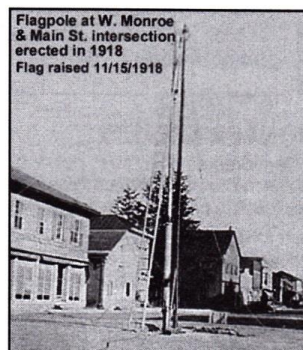


Richard Luelleman tells that as a young boy, he and other children would go around town collecting colored glass to be used in the manufacture of these lawn items. The blue glass came from Vicks jars, the green from 7-up bottles, and the red, brown, yellow flecks were medicine bottles, etc. They were taken to the factory, crushed, and added to the concrete for the benches, urns, birdbaths, etc. Evelyn Warner recalls that they also made the pedestals for gazing balls.



Here is another item that was manufactured by a former New Bremen industry – The New Bremen Foundry & Machine Co., which was also located on South Herman Street (in the late 1800s) (see pg. 10 of the July 2005 "*Towpath*"). The owner wishes to remain anonymous.

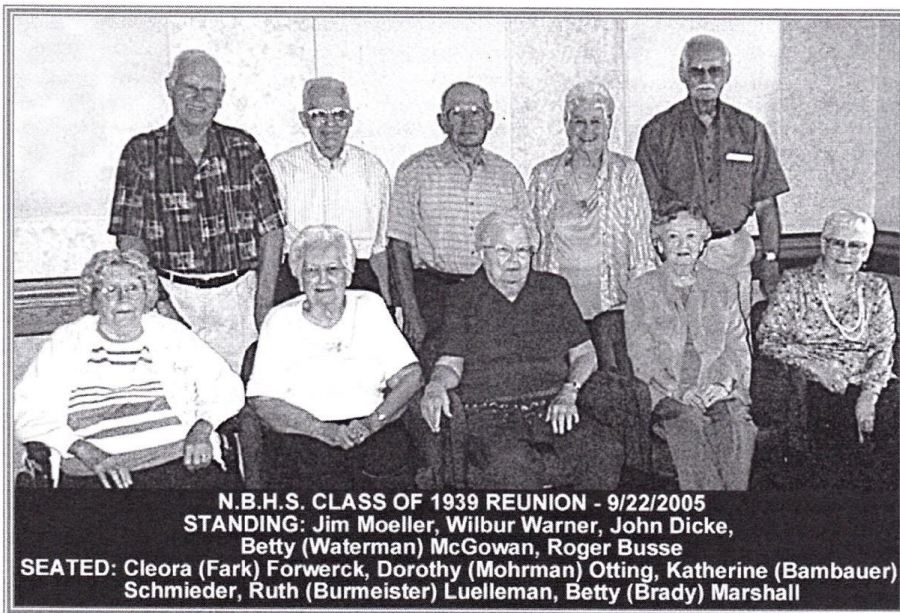
CORRECTION



On page 4 of the July 2005 "*Towpath*", I said that this flagpole (at the corner of Main & Monroe Sts.) had been moved to the High School grounds in 1933.

Actually, a flagpole was moved from the corner of Monroe & Washington Sts. to the school grounds. The flagpole shown here was moved in 1938 near where the current flagpole is located. A drinking fountain was also installed there.

(N.B. Sun-5/20/1938)



The New Bremen "Class of 1939" held their 66-year class reunion on September 22, 2005 at The Grille in New Bremen. Jim Moeller, president of the class, told his classmates that from now on a reunion would be held every year on the 3rd Thursday of September and would continue "until the last person is standing."

The class had 33 graduates. Thirteen members are still living. Of the 13 survivors, 10 attended the reunion. Absent were Mabel (Engle) Ruff, Jean (Tangeman) Pritchard and Ruth Evelyn McKay.

[submitted by Jim Moeller]



CIVIL WAR RESEARCH

A project is underway to document New Bremen's connection with the Civil War. We would like to include as much information as we can gather.

If you have any information to share such as documents, pictures or a family history of Civil War service, please contact Joyce Ruedebusch at 32 S. Herman St. [or e-mail jdr@nktelco.net].



Charles Adam Boesel (aka Chas. Boesel, Jr.) enlisted at New Bremen on 8/27/1861 in Co. C, 37th OVI. On 11/29/1862, he was promoted to 2nd Lieutenant in Co. F, 37th OVI, from which he resigned at Columbus, Ohio in January 1863.

[from "Military History of Ohio - Soldier's Edition - ©1885" - Auglaize County Roll of Honor]

treading on Holy ground and wrote the following verses expressing the thoughts that came to me."

"There is a place for a Pioneer Society in New Bremen and I would like to belong to it. Many interesting facts could be brought to light. I recently came across an old book in which Adam Paul had written his last will and testament on 7/29/1849, when the cholera epidemic was raging. He suggested that 'If enough children live so they can feed the cattle, they had better postpone the sale till spring.' He named 3 executors, to act jointly or whoever survived. This brought home to me the thought that pioneering wasn't easy."

The Old Churchyard

The Spirit of a Pioneer am I. I have come to take a look about the parts that once have harbored me to see if things turned out the way I dreamed that they would be.

My Spirit longed to see the place where once it lowly bowed in prayer. Alas, the little church, it was no more. A vacant field, forlorn and bare, is all I see.

Three lonely pine trees, old and bent, like sentinels do guard the place where many tears were shed. Evergreen and roses try to climb back to the place where loving hands had placed them long ago in honor of their dead.

The stones, by dear ones brought to mark the new-made mound, are buried two feet deep. But it is Holy ground, I say - I saw the tears but yesterday.

If I should be again endowed with form like mortal men, I would build a monument to those who braved the unknown then, and make this field a shrine.

A shrine of brick and mortar I would build to house the treasures loved by those who are no more, and then, at one side, a canopy to shield the makers of sweet music who play to honor God and uplift men.

Trees would I plant, with branches reaching high, and make a garden spot of blooming flowers, where peace and joy attend each soul that spend an earnest profitable hour in honoring the pioneer who did so much to clear the way for those who followed on, that it might later a memorial be to those who builded well, when they are gone.

(Mrs. Dora Maurer)

NEW BREMEN PIONEER SOCIETY

In the 9/27/1935 issue of the *New Bremen Sun*, Mrs. Henry L. (Dora Dicke) Maurer of Gary, Indiana wrote a poem accompanied by a letter suggesting that a Pioneer Society be formed in N.B.

She wrote, "Last summer, when I visited in N.B., I saw the old churchyard which now is a field where cattle graze. As I walked along, there were roses blooming along the edge, with evergreen that probably had been planted 80, 90, or even 100 years ago."

"It is 102 years ago that my great-grandfather (Phillip Jacob Maurer) and 2 of his sons were buried in the churchyard (see page 7). Later an aunt and uncle also were buried there. I felt I was

CURATORS' REPORT

NEW ACQUISITIONS

[submitted by Joyce Holdren]

DONOR: Mrs. David (Carolyn) Pape

- (2) Typewriters: 1947 Remington Rand (manual)
IBM Selectric (1960s)
- Envelopes: printed "David Pape – Certified Public Accountant"

DONOR: Nancy (Quellhorst) Heitkamp

- Envelopes: printed "Central Auto Service"

DONOR: Florene Bushman & Bushman family (William Bushman Sr. Estate)

- Old (1910) wood box from Bushman farm
- Lock Two Mills memorabilia: triangular ruler, thermometer
- Button hooks for shoes – one from Koeper Shoe Store

DONORS: James Ashbaugh Sr. family

- Photo: St. Paul Church Centennial celebration – 9/17/1933

DONOR: Beverly (Moeller) Wilt

- Picture: New Bremen Central School students – 10/6/1913

DONOR: Village of New Bremen – Diane Gast

- "Bear" brand thumbtacks container

DONOR: German Township Trustees

- (2) Lightning rods, complete with insulators, white globe & mace type display on top – from German Township building.

DONOR: Annabel (Scheer) Wagner

- (3) Child's dresses, child's long baptismal dress & slip made by Mrs. John Scheer ca. 1910 – worn by Annabel (Scheer) Wagner, Howard Scheer and Ted Wagner.

- (3) Hats – all belonged to Annabel (Scheer) Wagner's paternal grandmother, Sophia Elise (Mueller) Schroeder, who died 9/12/1908.

DONOR: Eudine Waterman Estate

- Memorabilia/Advertising items from New Bremen businesses: Jacob Fritz Insurance? (6/11/1923), "Curly" Wint, N.B. Hdwe & Supply (1951/3), Gilberg & Hegemier (9/1/1959, 6/10/1960), Dr. Michael Rabe (1/8/1960), Lampert's Super Market (1/19/1963), Westerheide Insurance (1964), STAMCO (10/18/1973), Miller Insurance, Edgar & Eddie (Rump).

- Pens, Pencils: Bolly's, Ernie's Barber Shop, First National Bank, Gilberg & Hegemier, Hotel Hollingsworth, Lock Two Mills, Lyons Electric, Marathon, Miller Insurance, New Bremen Insurance Agency, New Bremen Supply, Scheer's Carryout, Schwieterman's, Vornholt Funeral Home, Wint's, Wissman's Store.

- World War II Army jackets, hat, tie & medals

DONORS: Robert & Diane (Headapohl) Paul

- World War II medals of Warren Knipple (framed)
- Ledger of Herman Laut & Son, German Bible (late 1800s)

DONOR: Dr. Ron Riebel

- Navy uniform, including hat, tie, spats

DONOR: Vicki May

- N.B.H.S. Band uniform, including hat & plume

DONOR: Leola Wissman Estate? – Larry Wissman

- Numerous photographs

DONOR: Charles Vornholt

- "Vornholt Funeral Home" items: Original glass sign, framed photograph of Vornholt Funeral Home & Directors (1926-1986), Director's licenses for Wilson Vornholt (10/15/1919, 12/12/1933), Harry Vornholt (12/12/1933), Charles Vornholt (6/22/1948, 5/11/1949), woven Panama fan (advertising item), numerous old newspapers, articles & photographs

NEW MEMBERS THIS QUARTER (THRU 10/12/05)

[^Spousal Memberships @ \$5.00 or \$50.00/LM]

6/26/05	Goodwin, Rosemarie (Poppe)(TR) – St. Marys, Ohio
9/24/05	Katterheinrich, Joanne (Koenig) – New Knoxville, Ohio
10/4/05	Lenk, Janet (Ottenjohann) – Springboro, Ohio
8/6/05	Meyer, Gary K. – Hagerstown, Maryland
9/13/05	Schaefer, Paul (TR) – Columbus, Ohio
7/9/05	Schmiesing, Werner – Minster, Ohio
7/20/05	Schott, Ray Jr. ("Chip") – Celina, Ohio
9/19/05	Schroer, Richard A. – Oak Ridge, North Carolina
7/7/05	Shapiro, Kay (Slattery) – Cullowhee, North Carolina
9/1/05	Vornholt, Charles – New Bremen
9/1/05	Vornholt, Edna^ – New Bremen

ADDITIONS TO LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP ROSTER

8/20/05	Minster Bank (David Kelch)
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MEMBER DEATHS THIS QUARTER

9/23/05	Besanceney, Marilee (Sunderman) (LM) – died 9/23/05
10/5/05	Brown, Jerry (CM) – died 10/5/05
9/13/05	Burnell, Alice (Harlow)(LM) – died 9/13/05
9/21/05	Cumming, Alice (Johnson)(CM) – died 9/21/05
10/4/05	Dammeyer, Mrs. Ned (Carol Clymer)(LM)-10/4/05
6/26/05	Poppe, Lilas (Heitkamp) – died 6/26/05
9/7/05	Richey, Helene (Wuebbenhorst) – died 9/7/05
9/13/05	Schaefer, Franklin J. – died 9/13/05
8/16/05	Waterman, Eudine (LM) – died 8/16/05

MEMORIAL DONATIONS

The following memorial donations have been received this quarter:

In memory of Eudine Waterman

by Tom & Ginny Braun, Patricia Topp,
Joann Unterbrink, Don & Jan Voglewede family,
Dan & Deb Dues, the neighbors,
Arrowhead Golf Club, Aubrey Eaton Insurance Co.

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.



"TOWPATH" BOOKS

We have a limited supply of "Towpath" collections (books) which we are selling for \$20.00 (+\$3 S/H).

These collections contain from 34 to 37 issues, dating from July 1996 through July 2005, and are all of the available issues published by Lucille Francis, Editor, since April 1996.

Since several back issues have been depleted, we will be posting some of the major articles from those issues on our website from time to time.

These "collections" would be suitable to save in a loose-leaf binder so that you can continue adding future issues as they are published.

If you would like to catch up on some of the issues you may not have received or would like to give someone else a "starter" set, here is your chance. These collections will be sold on a first come, first served basis. If you want the maximum number of issues, get your order in early!

For more details, call Lucille Francis at 419-629-3148.

UPCOMING EVENTS

CHRISTMAS CANDLELIGHT DINNERS

Wednesday, November 30, 2005 - 6:30 p.m.

Friday, December 2, 2005 - 6:30 p.m.

Sunday, December 4, 2005 - 2:30 p.m.

Friday, December 9, 2005 - 6:30 p.m.

For more information, call 419-629-3495



OPEN HOUSE & SANTA CLAUS VISIT

Sunday, December 11, 2005 - 1:00-3:00 p.m.

ANNUAL DINNER

6:30 p.m. - Monday, March 20, 2006

St. Paul's Church Educational Building

Ruth Krieg will be cooking the meal.



Dave Kramer will speak about the
New Bremen Speedway.

COMPLIMENTARY COPIES

With each quarterly mailing of "The Towpath", a number of Complimentary Copies are sent to folks who 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 address below.

(Membership Dues information on pages 1 & 2.)

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OTHER BOOKS & RELATED ITEMS:

Then and Now (Village Pictures)

A Journey Through Time (Miami-Erie Canal)

CANAL Board Game (related to book)

Recipes and Reminiscence (by John Dickman)

Military Memoirs of W.W.II (by Katy Gilbert)

Ralph May Remembers New Bremen

New Bremen Marriages (genealogy)

SCHOOL COMMEMORATIVES:

Central School: Paperweights, Pencil Caddies

1929 High School: Trinket Boxes

BOTH: Medallions (make nice tree ornaments)

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS:

"Interurban on Main St." print

N.B.H.A. Shirts & Caps

N.B.H.A. Mugs & Pencils

N.B.H.A. Christmas Ornaments

N.B.H.A. Note cards



For More Information: Call 419-629-8902

or

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE
www.newbremenhistory.org

THE TOWPATH

HISTORICAL NEWSLETTER

New Bremen Historic Association

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