LOCKKEEPER’S HOUSE PROGRESS

Groundbreaking for the reconstruction of the Lockkeeper’s House in New Bremen was held on Monday, August 3, 2009 at 10:00 A.M. at the site of the original lockkeeper’s house on Lock One North of the Miami-Erie Canal in the heart of New Bremen. The new building will serve as a visitor’s center, interpretive museum & offices for the Miami-Erie Canal Corridor Association (MECCA) and the Southwest Auglaize Chamber of Commerce, as well as for meeting rooms.

Many officials of the village and organizations were present for the ceremony as well as a crowd of interested citizens. Wanda Dammeyer displayed her completed model of a young boy leading a mule on the towpath.

The construction costs of the Lockkeeper’s House are being covered by a Transportation Enhancement Grant awarded by the Ohio Department of Transportation. The New Bremen Historic Association raised money for the local match of funds. The NBHA will design exhibits within the new building to tell the story of the Miami-Erie Canal and New Bremen. Construction is expected to be completed by spring of 2010.

About This Issue

Thanks to the letters & contributions from our readers, this has evolved into an extra-long and diverse 24-page issue.

In honor of the upcoming Veterans’ Day, we have more articles about the Wars. Beginning on page 3 is a 3-page article written by Kathi (Wuebbenhorst) Overley about her father, Carl Wuebbenhorst’s W.W.II memories. Following that are 5 pages of W.W.I information compiled by Gen Conradi. Other contributions are from Edward Conradi Ekermeyer about Dr. Edward Conradi and Florida State University; remembrances of Mary Jo Vogelsang about the Vogelsang family; information about the Frederick & Henrietta Louisa (Sandmann) Meyer home and family by grandson Thornton J.F. Hole; memories of synchronized swimming at N.B.’s first swimming pool (below) compiled by Gen Conradi, and 4 pages of news about this year’s class reunions during Bremenfest.
**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
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[printed & mailed by Messenger Press – Carthagena, Ohio]

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Lucille Francis ------- Johanna Schroer

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Delores Stienecker (chairman), Joyce Holdren, Amy Scheer, Carolyn Smith, Dennis Dicke

**ASSOC. MEETINGS ARE HELD FIRST TUESDAYS**

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

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**VETERANS (ARMISTICE) DAY**

The Armistice that ended the first World War was signed at 5:00 A.M. on November 11, 1918 at the headquarters of the Allied Commander-in-Chief in the Forest of Compiegne in France by representatives of the Allies and the Germans, with the cease-fire to become effective at 11:00 A.M. It covered a period of one month and was renewed until the peace treaty was signed at Versailles on June 28, 1919.

One year later, on November 11, 1919, many people felt that some commemoration should be established in honor of the occasion. Numerous celebrations, church services, and veterans parades were held. For two minutes at 11:00 A.M., the time of the cease-fire, all activities and traffic were stopped in honor of the dead soldiers. It was on this same day that the American Legion Post No. 241 of New Bremen was organized. Beginning on November 11, 1921, Armistice Day was made an official national holiday by annual proclamation of the President of the United States, beginning with President Warren G. Harding.

On May 15, 1938, Armistice Day was made a legal holiday by act of Congress. After World War II, the day was still observed, but with less and less personal involvement. On November 11, 1953, after the end of the Korean Conflict, a movement began in Emporia, Kansas to incorporate all the American war dead into the observance, and the day was referred to as “Veterans Day”. On June 1, 1954, President Eisenhower signed a bill into law making the name change official.

The Sunday nearest Veterans Day is observed as World Peace Sunday in churches everywhere. In New Bremen, the American Legion participates in this patriotic observance in a local church.

**PERSONAL NOTE:** I remember when I was in grade school in the 1940s, we observed Armistice Day by standing silently at our desks for two minutes and saluting the flag - at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, i.e.: 11:00 A.M. on November 11. [LMF]

**ARMY UNITS & RANKS**

This information from an officer at Camp Sherman, Ohio was published in *The New Bremen Sun* on 9/20/1918 about Army units and ranks of leaders and may help explain the strength of army units and ranks of officers when reading the 11/22/1918 New Bremen W.W.I Honor Roll on pages 8 & 9:

- An army corps consists of 60,000 men
- An infantry division - 19,000
- A regiment of infantry - 3,000
- A battalion - 1,000
- A company - 250
- A platoon - 60
- A corporal’s squad - 11
- A field battery - 195
- A firing squad - 20
- A supply train - 283
- A machine gun battalion - 296
- An engineers’ regiment – 1,098
- An ambulance company - 66
- A medicine attachment - 13

[A major-general] commands the field army & also each army corps.
[A brigadier-general] commands each infantry brigade.
[A colonel] commands each regiment.
[A lieutenant-colonel] is next in rank below a colonel.
[A battalion] is commanded by a major, a company by a captain, a platoon by a lieutenant.
[A sergeant] is next below a lieutenant, while a corporal is a squad leader.
World War II Memories of

Carl E. Wuebbenhorst – 1925-2004
Served in W.W.II American Theater – Corporal
September 10, 1943 - March 18, 1946
Bombsite Specialist – Marksmanship Specialist
Written By Kathi Overley (Daughter)

Taken from My Personal Thoughts (2004) by Carl Wuebbenhorst: “Like any small boy, I wanted to be a cowboy or a fireman. And like most small boys, I never did become either. But since I was big enough to know what an airplane was, I was determined to fly those darn things.”

“My dad (Edward Wuebbenhorst) took me to Patterson Field at Dayton - approximate age, twelve. Kind of a side trip when he was driving a White Mountain Creamery truck. We parked at the north end of the field just as six Curtiss P-40 fighters were taking off. They were no more than airborne before they started playing tag. They were all over the sky chasing each other and doing things that I never knew an airplane would do. I watched so hard and long that I could hardly get my head back down from looking up at them - and this kid was completely hooked on flying."

“Upon getting back home, I spent almost all of my spare time building model planes, those stick and tissue paper kind that cost ten cents apiece. I had a spare room so full of those things that my mother even gave up cleaning the room.”

From then on, Carl, in his teenage years, began collecting pictures and books about both WWI and WWII airplanes. Of course, keeping up on the newest and fastest war planes, one would have to follow the current airplanes. Of course, keeping up on the newest and collecting pictures and books about both WWI and WWII so full of those things that my mother even gave up paper kind that cost ten cents apiece. I had a spare room spare time building model planes, those stick and tissue completely hooked on flying."

"Upon getting back home, I spent almost all of my spare time building model planes, those stick and tissue paper kind that cost ten cents apiece. I had a spare room so full of those things that my mother even gave up cleaning the room.""

From then on, Carl, in his teenage years, began collecting pictures and books about both WWI and WWII airplanes. Of course, keeping up on the newest and fastest war planes, one would have to follow the current war closely - which he did!

On December 9, 1941, according to the Dayton Daily News, The United States of America declared war against Japan. On January 2, 1942, Carl, then a junior in New Bremen High School, began writing a day-by-day diary of war accounts around the world. He kept this diary updated until the end of his senior year.

From My Personal Thoughts: “After graduation, the Army needed a good man so my "friends and neighbors" decided to draft me. Upon induction I requested the Army Air Forces, and I’ll be damned if they didn’t agree. I think that was the only time we agreed on anything.”

On June 29, 1943, Carl was ordered to report to Dr. Roy C. Hunter at the Hunter building in Wapakoneta at 9:30 A.M. for his physical examination. Being a healthy young man, Carl had no medical issues that would disqualify him for acceptance.

With that, Carl was ordered to report for induction on Aug. 20, 1943 at 7 A.M. to the Court House in Wapakoneta. Because of his father’s illness, he could have filed exempt for the service, but he did not. Carl chose to fight for his country just as his great-grandfather, Henry Wuebbenhorst, did in the Civil War. So Carl left behind his family, his draftsman’s job at Stamco, and his friends in New Bremen only weeks after graduating.

From My Personal Thoughts: “I was sent to Amarillo, Texas for basic training and was then to be assigned to preflight school. And in the Army’s way, they lost my records for three months while I sat around and did absolutely nothing useful.”

“I finally got tired of doing nothing and went to base headquarters to find out why I had not been shipped out. Then finally, after two hours of searching, they decided that they found my files and they would send me to the next pre-flight opening, six months from then.”

In order to become a pilot, a serviceman had to prove his worth. So, Carl petitioned Mr. Walter W. Grothaus, president of the First National Bank in New Bremen, Miss Burk of the New Bremen Public Schools, and Mr. Harry Vornholt, owner of Vornholt Funeral Home in New Bremen. Each business person wrote a letter of recommendation for Carl to become a pilot. Along with many other original documents, Carl chose to keep these letters of recommendation.

Amarillo Air Force Base in Texas was the hottest, driest, dustiest place on earth, Carl would tell his family. “You got dusty when you slept. You got dusty when you walked. You got dusty when you ate. There was no escape from the dust, as the perspiration from the heat made the dust stick to a person’s body.” Carl had no fond memories of Amarillo Air Force Base.

From My Personal Thoughts: “No way, I said, the darn war would be over before I got out of school. So they sent me to Bombsight and Auto Pilot school. And old Carl lost his chance to become a military pilot, but at least I was doing something.”

For seven months, Carl sat in Texas practicing his sharp-shooting skills and he received his medal for being one of the best. In March of 1944, he was given leave to return home to New Bremen and his family. From there Carl was laid over for a few days at the Army Air Base in Salt Lake City, Utah, before continuing his journey to Lowry Field in Denver, Colorado.

Private Carl would spend months studying Top Secret Technical Support for the Army Air Corps. He studied hard and put his knowledge to work as he strived to fulfill a promise to his country to keep the enemy at bay. Carl was in class the day American troops disembarked in the
surf of Omaha Beach on D-Day - June 6, 1944. Many American soldiers listened to the radio that day, waiting for news of loved ones and defeat of the German army.

But things were not all work! On July 7th, Carl and a buddy were given a Temporary Enlisted Man’s Pass. Carl wanted to see Golden, Colorado. He wanted to get away, walk up the mountains of the Rockies, explore, and just think. But the question arose on just how to get there so, being ornery servicemen, Carl and his buddy “borrowed” a jeep to make the exploration. As far as we know, they did not get caught.

Carl grew to love the Colorado mountains and would return several times to his beloved mountains in the years to come.

“Be it known that Private Carl E. Wuebbenhorst has satisfactorily completed the prescribed Bombsite Maintenance – 1st & 2nd Echelon (Norden “M” Series Bombsite & C-1 Automatic Pilot) (Glide Bombing Attachment) (Mechanic) course of instruction at the Air Forces Technical School. In testimony whereof and by virtue of vested authority, I do confer upon him this diploma. Given on the 30th day of July, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and forty-four.”

This is what his diploma states from Lowry Air Force Base. It is now time for Carl to do battle against the enemy forces.

Corporal Carl E. Wuebbenhorst put in the request to be stationed at Patterson Air Base in Dayton, Ohio, but the Army chose to send him to Mountain Home Army Air Force Base in Idaho instead. Carl was assigned to the 213th Combat Crew Training Station Army Air Forces Base Unit in August 1944. Mountain Home Army Air Force Base was in the midst of the American Theater action.

Damaged bombers and fighters were returned home for repair by the Army Air Force Base crews. Every piece of scrap metal and parts were used again and again to rebuild another flying plane that would be sent back into battle. Carl would recall the bullet holes and blood splatters of his fallen comrades covering the interior of the planes as he repaired and replaced the Norden Bombsights and C-1 Automatic Pilots. He would receive information from home stating another New Bremen man had fallen during this war. Was this the blood of his friend, of a New Bremen classmate who died in this plane for his country? The blood splatters would always be a continual dreadful memory for Carl of the lives lost against the Japanese and their allies.

From My Personal Thoughts: “After I was sent to the lovely hunk of desert called Mountain Home, I took my own money, most of sixty-six dollars a month, and paid for my own flight lessons at College Field in Boise. I soloed in four hours, got my license in the minimum of thirty-four, and my commercial single engine land license in a minimum of two hundred hours.”

In learning how to fly planes at Boise, Carl would laugh when he told us children of how he and his buddies would “steal” the Army Air Force planes and fly them without permission. “After all, they had to be test flown before returning to battle” Carl would state with a grin. It was heard that some of the non-pilot and pilot flyers would even take their girlfriends up for a joy ride. So, Carl finally did get to fly those planes, even if it was not in battle as he had wished for. He still wanted to do more against the enemy. And finally, he would get his chance, as his barracks was ordered to leave for overseas soon.

But fate would step in. Right before Carl’s barracks was to depart, sickness took over the entire barracks. Possibly food poisoning, they claimed. Maybe from all the mutton the crews were forced to eat during their tour at Mountain Home AAFB. Their mission was cancelled and they were to remain in the U.S. - rebuilding and updating planes as before.

One of his crew’s missions was to revamp B-29 bombers. It seems there was a Top Secret Mission, one which no one could talk about. So, with gusto, Carl’s ground crew and other ground crews set to the task at hand. They were to strip the bombers of anything they could. These B-29s would have to fly a great distance and weight would be a factor on whether the bomber would have enough fuel to travel the distance necessary. So strip the crew did. Everything came out that was not immediately functional. Carl would recall that even the machine guns were replaced with broom handles to keep the Japanese thinking they were armed and ready for battle. Every extra ounce could mean failure for the mission, every extra ounce was removed.

Once the aircrafts were fitted with the Top Secret “Silverplate” modification requirements, they were flown to Wendover Army Air Field, Utah. Fifteen B-29 bombers were equipped to fly alongside the newly built B-29 bomber called the “Enola Gay”. Only two of the bombers were chosen to make that daring mission alongside the “Enola Gay” - the “Necessary Evil” and “The Great Artist”. One was equipped with cameras, the other was to survey the aftermath.

Carl was proud to have been a part of that Top Secret Mission when on August 6, 1945, the “Enola Gay” dropped Little Boy on Hiroshima. He had finally done his part at helping to win this war.

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With the war taking a turn for the affirmative, ground crews at Mountain Home AAFB were dispersed and deactivated. Carl once again put in a request to be closer to home at Patterson Air Base in Dayton. Instead, on January 28, 1946, Carl was reassigned to Walla Walla Army Air Base in Washington, 423rd Army Air Force Base Unit. Walla Walla AAB was the greatest ground crew training base in the United States. Several crews made outstanding records during their tours of duty during WWII.

Before his transfer to Walla Walla AAB, Carl received a ten-day pass to return to the home of his parents in New Bremen. During this leave, Carl was able to continue his personal flying at the Montezuma Airfield.

Returning from his leave until the date of his discharge, Carl was only at Walla Walla AAB for a few weeks. While stationed there, according to his personal flight book, Carl was able to take his camera to the skies once again. Using dates from his personal flight book, accurate dates were taken to prove when Carl had leave from the service.

A small scrap of paper was found amongst Carl's possessions years later:

```
B - YOU ARE ASSIGNED TO ROSTER 18-13
YOU WILL START PROCESSING AT 0745
17 MARCH 46
BE AT YOUR BARRACKS
Carl was going home for good.
```

Date of Entry into Active Service: 10 Sept 1943
Date of Separation: 18 March 1946
Mustering out pay: $100.00
Decorations and Citations:
American Theater Ribbon
Good Conduct Medal
Victory Medal World War II
Bombsight Mechanic
Pistol Marksman

On any given day, if you would ask Carl how long he had been in the service, he would answer two years, six months, and eight days. Carl had hated the war. He hated the fact that he had to be away from his ill parents when they needed him the most. He hated the memories of his fallen comrades' blood splattered into the planes he worked on. He hated getting news of another fallen classmate and friend.

Carl's 1942 daily diary accounts of the war can be followed in the many WWII movies that were filmed in black and white during those early years. His accurate account of his days at Mountain Home AAFB was made real by the movies and books that would soon follow in years to come.

Many of Carl's original documents and government letters are still in existence today in the possession of his loving wife of 52 years, Marilou Wuebbenhorst. These include: Original books and Dayton Daily News papers, WWII posters, Induction letter & envelope, Physical card & Immunization card, Army Air Base books, Carl's notebook with Top Secret notes taken during class at Lowry Field, Mountain Home AAF's Thanksgiving & Christmas menus; original personal pictures on the ground and in the air taken at Mountain Home and Walla Walla, Carl's original Honorable Discharge paper, several letters of appreciation for services rendered, the original "The Star of Service" presented to Carl from St. Peter's Church in New Bremen, and many of his original WWII decorations, clothing, dog tags, and remnants of his WWII parachute.

Carl did find the opportunity to return to the Colorado mountains - three times, in fact. In June of 1952, Carl married the love of his life, Marilou Richey, and they ventured to the mountains for their honeymoon. When the Wuebbenhorst family purchased an RV, Carl, Marilou and the three youngest children toured the western states including the Colorado mountains. Once again, Carl would return to Lowry Air Force Base with Marilou, when their youngest son, Alan, was stationed there before transferring to Georgia.

GOD BLESS ALL AMERICAN SERVICEMEN EVERYWHERE!

[EDITOR'S NOTE: Thank you to Kathi (Wuebbenhorst) Overley for sharing her dad's story with us.]
NEW BREMEN'S W.W.I DOUGHBOYS

Doughboy, the term for the U.S. Army infantryman during WWI was believed to have first been used during the Mexican-American War (1846-1848). It is not clear how this term started but some sources believe it referred to the dough that covered the soldiers giving them the appearance of unbaked dough. Other sources believe the name was first given to Union soldiers during the Civil War for the dumpling-shaped buttons that they wore on their uniforms.

The United States entered the “War To End All Wars”, or World War I, on April 6, 1917. Throughout the nation 10,000,000 men registered for the draft on June 5, 1917. In New Bremen and German Township, 162 men between the ages of 21 and 30 registered on that day.

The War Department called for the building of 16 National Army Cantonments for training the soldiers after the U.S. entered the war. Each cantonment was designed to accommodate 40,000 men with grounds for drill maneuvers and target ranges. Each camp was named for a distinguished soldier of the United States. The training sites were completed and housed the troops by September 1, 1917.

Camp Sherman in Chillicothe, Ohio, 83rd Division, was designated the training site for draftees from Ohio and West Virginia. Camp Sherman was commissioned on August 27, 1917 and was the third largest training site in the country. Covering 2,000 acres, it contained 2,000 buildings, housed 40,000 men and 10,000 horses and mules. During wartime, 124,502 soldiers passed through Camp Sherman. Actual film of training can be viewed at http://www.realmilitaryflix.com/public/523.cfm.

The process of the draft began on June 5, 1917 in Auglaize County for all young men 21 years or older. The registrant was required to answer the following ten questions:

1. Name in full. Age in years.
2. Home address.
3. Date of birth.
4. Where were you born?
5. Are you (1) a native of the United States; (2) a naturalized citizen; (3) an alien; (4) have you declared your intention to become a citizen; (5) or are you a citizen or non-citizen Indian? Specify which.
6. If not a citizen, of what nation are you a citizen or subject?
7. Father’s birthplace.
8. Name of employer. Place of employment.
9. Name and address of nearest relative.

On the next page is a list of names of young men in New Bremen and German Township who obeyed their country’s call and registered their names under the draft law of military purposes on that day.

When called for service, each soldier was given a physical exam, prophylactic inoculation and placed in brief quarantine. All incoming drafted men came through the Depot Brigade for preliminary infantry drill and manual of arms before being assigned to a Division. The men arrived without a concept of military life so initial training focused on physical drill. The Depot Brigade also took care of men physically unfit for combatant branches of the service prior to their discharge.

During this time the soldier was also given a trade test devised by experts that included every known industrial and commercial activity. The examiner could rate each soldier’s ability in occupation with extraordinary precision. This information was catalogued and kept in a card file in Washington, D.C. The Operations Branch of the General Staff sorted the data and assigned each soldier to an organization where his particular abilities were best applied.

New Bremen’s W.W.I Honor Roll (pages 8-9) was published in The New Bremen Sun on November 22, 1918 and listed the names and addresses of men in the service of their country, both here and abroad. Some of the addresses are a challenge to decipher because of the use of acronyms. Some of the acronyms have been interpreted and are listed here:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACRONYMS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AEF: American Expeditionary Force</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AEP ARD: ?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAC: Coastal Artillery Corps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FACOTS: Field Artillery Central Officers Training School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FANA: ?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FARD: Field Artillery Regiment?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FECTOR: ?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MGOTS: Machine Gunners Central Officers Training School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MGTC: Machine Gun Training Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MTDM: Motor Transport?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MTES: Motor Transport?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SARC: ?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SATC: Student Army Training Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USNARS: U.S. National Archives and Records Service</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SPECIALIZED CAMPS

**Infantry:** Camp Gordon, GA; Camp Lee, VA; Camp Pike, AR; Camp MacArthur, TX; Camp Grant, IL
**Machine Gunners:** Camp Hancock, GA
**Field Artillerymen:** Camp Jackson, SC; Camp Zachary Taylor, KY
**Signal Corps Troops:** Camp Meade, MD
**Engineers:** Camp Humphreys, VA; Camp Forrest, GA
**Quartermaster Corps:** Camp Joseph E. Johnston, FL; Camp Meigs, DC; Motor Transport Corps part of Quartermaster Corps
**Medical Corps:** Fort Oglethorpe, GA; Fort Riley, KS

Ralph May, U.S. Naval Forces Europe, wrote to The New Bremen Sun (9/20/1918) about the list of men in the military and their addresses:

“I was very interested in ‘The Honor Roll’ and New Bremen can be proud of her part in the War for Democracy. I was very much surprised to know that so many of our young men had left home and friends to join the Service. There is only one thing that will defeat the Hun, and that is man-power. Just as soon as America has four or five million men in France we can push the German line back wherever we wish to. Then will come victory and everlasting peace.”
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Precinct A</th>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Precinct B (continued)</th>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Precinct B (continued)</th>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Age</th>
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<td>Boesel, Clifton William</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>Heckman, August</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Wissman, Irvin Fred</td>
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<td>Dammeyer, Oscar A.</td>
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<td>Heil, Otto Fred</td>
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<td>25</td>
<td>Woehler, William H.</td>
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<td>Dicke, Alvin Carl</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>Heitmann, Lorenz F.</td>
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<td>Wuebbling, Walter Carl</td>
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<td>Isern, Homer C.</td>
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<td>Ahlers, Frank Diedrich</td>
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<td>Ahlers, John August</td>
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67 Lanfersieck Roscoe APO 798 US Base Hospital 54 AEF France
68 Laut Herman USS Canton New York City NY
69 Laut Melville 329th Inf Band 83rd Div AEF via NY
70 Laut Raymond F. USS Ohio c/o PO Ft. Monroe VA
71 Laut Willis 3 D Co 1st Tr Bn 158 Depot Brig Camp Sherman OH
72 Leonard John 36 Co 9 Tr Bn Camp Sherman OH
73 Lewis Harold Co B 2 SATC Ohio State University Columbus OH
74 Loy Elmer 31st Co, SNY, CA Fort Wadsworth NY
75 Lutterbein B.H. 324 MG Bn Med Det AEF APO 762
76 Maurer J.H. 1st Regt O Engineers Hqrs Co AEF
77 May R.C.R. US Naval Forces Europe US Ship Dixie c/o Postmaster NY
78 May Rudolph H. Co 104 U S Inf AEF
79 May Walter C. Co 104 U S Inf AEF
80 Miller Cand. Arthur H. 18th Co. MG MC GOTS Camp Hancock GA
81 Moeller Arley C. Co M 88th Inf 3rd Div AEF
82 Nedderman Ed Hqrs Co 21st FA AEF via NY
83 Nedderman Leo Christ Co B 101 Ammunition Tr AEF
84 Neuman Grover Barracks 928 S Co 541 Camp Farragut Regt. 9 Great Lakes, IL
85 Neuman Vernon B. Co D 112th Eng 38 Regt AEF via NY
86 Nieter Edgar E.P. SEA 2C Naval Aviation Forces Foreign Service Guipavas France c/o Postmaster NY
87 Nieter Corp. Leonard W. Embarkation Hospital Camp Stuart Newport News VA
88 Oberwittte Carl F.W. Replacement Unit no. 4 Camp Crane Allentown PA
89 Oberwittte Wm. C. F. T S for Sanitary Troops AEF APO 727
90 Pape Carl W. Battery B 324th Regt HFA AEF
91 Pape Corp. Edward Co L 330 Inf AEF APO 762 France
92 Pape Ward Hq & Supply, 17 Anti Aircraft Sector Camp Love Ft.Hancock NJ
93 Poppe Lewis J.C. Co D 16th Inf US AEF
94 Poppe Simpson Sgt Co 146 Imp AEF
95 Purps Carl J. Q M C Detachment Camp Gordon GA
96 Quellhorst George H. Battery A 4th Reg Band FARD Camp Taylor KY
97 Quellhorst Harvey H. 45th Co 12th Bn 4th Regt 159 Brig Camp Taylor KY
98 Rabe Lt. Wm. 14th MG Bn Co D AEF
99 Ruedebusch Frank J. Co H 104th US Inf 26 Div AEF
100 Ruedebusch Gustave H. Co.D 2 Developing Battalion Camp Sherman OH
101 Scher Corp. Herbert Co F 331 Inf AEF AOP 762 via NY
102 Schierholt Corp. Wm. J. Co.M 9th U S Inf AEF France
103 Schlueter Wm. A. Co A 121 MG Bn AEF APO 734
104 Schroeder Omer Fred 45th Co 12th BN 4th Regt 159 Brig Camp Taylor KY
105 Silk Leo died Oct 1918 influenza (1st week) France
106 Solman Herman Henry died Oct 2, 1918 influenza Camp Taylor KY
107 Solms Carl F. Co F SATC OSU Columbus OH
108 Speckman Earl Co A Tr Detachment Central YMCA Cincinnati OH
109 Speckman Edgar 114 Ammunition Tr AEF via NY
110 Speckman Fred Co.l 54th Inf U S Regt AEF
111 Speckman FF Leonard Co E Regt 16 New Aviation Great Lakes IL
112 Speckman Lloyd SATC Oberlin OH
113 Svehl John Battery B 324 HF Art AEF via NY
114 Sunderman Cand. E.F. 12th Observation Barracks FACOTC Camp Taylor KY
115 Sunderman Leo Co C 324 FS Bn Camp Merritt Garden City NJ
116 Taylor Corp. George 46 Co 12 Tr Bn 159 Depot Brigade Louisville KY
117 Tomhafé Raymond Truck Co 367 TM 211 Amer Mission MT.DRM Convois Autos Par B.C.M Paris AEF
118 Vogelsang Lt Fred C. Flo 17th Bn FARD Camp Zachary Taylor KY
119 Vornholt Harry H. Co B 3rd Prov Regt 156 Depot Brig Camp Jackson SC
120 Waterman Leonard 58th Co Bn 159 DB Camp Taylor KY
121 Wehmeyer Carl Co C 8th Bn State St Armory Springield Mass.
122 Wellman Ed USA Embarkation Hospital 2 Fox Hill Station Island NY
123 Weseli Felix Co A Tr Detach c/o Central YMCA Cincinnati OH
124 Wiehe Lt. F.W. MC Tuberculosis Board Base Hospital Camp Lee Petersburg VA
125 Wieman Clarence F. Battery C 340 F Art AEF
126 Williams 1st Lt. A.J. Infirmary 3 Engineers Camp Humphreys VA
127 Wuebbeling Walter Co. A 28th Inf AEF via NY France

[List copied/typed by Gen Conradi]
LEWIS J. C. POPPE

Lewis J. C. Poppe of New Bremen, Ohio was a private in Company D, 16th regiment of the First Division on October 10, 1918. His squad was on outpost duty to cover the withdrawal of the American unit, which had advanced into an area swarming with members of the Von Hindenburg army in the Verdun sector of France.

Lewis had the membrane burned inside his mouth from a gas attack on the previous day by the Germans. In spite of his injury, he volunteered to fill the nine canteens in his squad with water from a well that was supposed to be nearby.

Lewis lost his way in the gray dawn looking for the well. Unarmed, he came upon a lone German soldier. Lewis’s first thought was to quietly withdraw, but then he recalled how he had aided in the capture of a German lieutenant the day before and this helped him decide to overcome the lone man. He crept up to the unsuspecting soldier and in the German language warned him that an outcry meant death. Lewis told him that he was with a detachment of 60 Americans, hidden behind a ridge.

Lewis Poppe’s bluff worked but his courage sank when the lone German soldier told him there were 16 other German soldiers in a dugout below and that he was standing guard for the group. The group agreed, with one exception, and this man wanted to attack and kill Poppe but was overpowered and disarmed by his peers.

Lewis Poppe then enlisted the aid of the Germans in filling the canteens. The sentry knew the location of the well and helped Lewis find it. Lewis and the sentry told the 16 infantrymen to remain where they were. On the way to the well, Lewis found a loaded rifle in a ditch and picked it up. The German carried the canteens and in single file, all the men marched to Poppe’s squad with Lewis Poppe, the doughboy, bringing up the rear with his new-found rifle.

On the next day, help arrived for Lewis and his squad and the New Bremen soldier was on his way to Hospital 123 for treatment. It was there that he again encountered the lone German sentry that he had captured. The German had been wounded while carrying American casualties under German fire. Poppe learned that the name of this man was Max Christochowitz, just 18 years of age, and they became friends.

Through the next ten years they corresponded and finally through arrangements by Poppe, Max came to visit in New Bremen. Two weeks later Max had obtained a position as an accountant with the City Loan and Savings Co. in Lima.

Lewis Poppe’s feat of capturing 16 Germans would probably never have come to light if he and Max had not joshed each other about the event at the William Paul Gallagher Post of the American Legion in Lima. Veterans of the Lima post and Post 241 in New Bremen tried to gather reports about Poppe’s bravery in an attempt to recognize and document the heroic feat. Max Christochowitz found it hard to believe that Lewis Poppe had not been decorated for his bravery but Poppe had not heard from members of his company after that day in France.

Note: Lewis’s daughter, Ruth Kuck, says that Lewis received a Silver Star medal later with the help of Congressman John Levi Cable, U.S. Representative from Lima, for gallantry in action. He also received the W.W.I Victory Medal with three medal clasps (metal bars attached to the ribbon indicating the campaign he received the award for - Meuse-Argonne, St. Mihiel, Defensive Sector.)

After Lewis returned home from military service in 1919, he started a shoe repair shop in New Bremen and later opened a shoe store which he continued to operate until the time of his hospitalization on Sunday, October 22, 1972. He died the following Saturday on October 28th, leaving his wife, Clara (Dicke), whom he had married on August 29, 1917 and four children: Rachel (George) Olin, Carl Poppe, Ruth (Vernon) Kuck, Paul Poppe. [by Gen Conradi]
N.B. Sun - 9/12/1919: "Lewis Poppe is the new proprietor of the shoe repair shop in the Schneider block (5 North Main St.), having purchased the business and entire equipment from A.M. Steinebrey. Mr. Poppe retains George Roettger as assistant and Mr. Froning of Sebastian, expert cobbler.

Having returned from military service only a few weeks ago, Mr. Poppe is thus able to give his entire attention to the new venture. Mr. Steinebrey retains the bicycle repair department and will continue that part of the business at the same place.

Lewis Poppe moved several times between North Main St. & West Monroe St., starting at 5 N. Main, then to the Schelper building at 107 W. Monroe, to the Wagner building at 9 N. Main in 1948, finally ending up in the store below the American Legion’s dance hall (old Opera House) at 115 W. Monroe.

“The Towpath” – October 2009 – Pg. 11
Florida State University
Dedicates Statue of Edward Conradi
By Edward Conradi Ekermeyer

On Saturday, February 28, 2009, Florida State University dedicated the bronze statue of Edward Conradi at its annual Heritage Protocol celebration. The dedication was led by Dr. T.K. Wetherall, the current university president. Dr. Wetherall noted that Dr. Conradi served Florida State from 1909 to 1941, longer than any other president in the history of the university. The dedication was witnessed by an audience of family, alumnae, faculty and staff. The morning was sunny and cold – a beautiful winter day in Tallahassee, Florida.

Four of Edward and Augusta (Grothaus) Conradi’s descendants attended the celebration. They included Edward Conradi Ekermeyer and his sister Martha Ekermeyer Drake, the children of Liepe Conradi and Dr. Ernest Ekermeyer of New Bremen, Ohio. Also attending were James Boone and Betsy Boone Hosey, the grandchildren of Elizabeth Conradi Boone, the elder daughter of Edward and Augusta. Betsy Hosey is an employee of Florida State. Granddaughter Sarah Boone Slade was unable to attend and her brothers Edward Conradi Boone and Oval Barry Boone have passed away.

I was given the opportunity to recite my grandfather’s welcoming speech he regularly gave to the incoming Freshman class. I introduced his speech with these words:

“I thank Florida State for granting me the privilege on this occasion to recite my grandfather’s speech, entitled ‘Greetings to the Freshmen’. We are fortunate that in today’s gathering are women who listened in person to his greeting, and I hope, therefore, that my recitation of Edward Conradi’s greeting will honor their memory of it.

Many of us were welcomed by the president of the college we attended. Some of us even remember an idea from that welcome. I do. In my grandfather’s greeting, he offered practical advice to the first year students and ended his remarks with a blessing to us all - Give the best that is in you and the best will always be there to greet you. The women and men that I know who studied here, who served here, who are friends of Florida State, they personify, they radiate his blessing, his gift to us. So is it possible that his blessing to us became the spirit, the essence of Florida State?”

What do I think was the effect of Edward Conradi’s 32-year presidency? He assembled an innovative and effective administrative team and a faculty of scholars and teachers. Many of these men and women remained at Florida State for over 30 years. In 1934, Florida State and the Connecticut Women’s College at New London became the first women’s colleges granted independent chapters in Phi Beta Kappa. That is, they earned their chapters on their own achievements, not on the reputation of an associated men’s institution. Therefore, Florida State holds the Alpha chapter in the State of Florida.

By the 1930s, Florida State had a graduate school and taught the sciences, thereby attaining “university status” even though it retained the word college in its title. The student body had women from all parts of the United States. Furthermore, Dr. Theodore H. Jack, the Dean of Emory University told Dr. Conradi in 1934 that he “rated the faculty of the Florida State College of Women equal to the faculties of the State Universities of the South.”

Dr. William H. Dodd, long-term Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences and friend, recounted Edward Conradi’s 1911 vision of Florida State’s reputation. In the summer of 1911, Tallahassee alumnae and friends of the College gave a banquet for Dr. and Mrs. Conradi and certain faculty members and their wives. A lady made a toast to Dr. Conradi and in closing she said that in due time Florida State College for Women, under Dr. Conradi’s supervision, might well become “the Vassar of the South.” In response to the toast, Dr. Conradi remarked that, in Dr. Dodd’s words, “although it was as yet a small institution, he looked forward to the time it would be a college of some renown throughout the nation and one of which all Florida would be proud. But, he assured us, the Florida State College for Women he envisaged would shine with its own light and not in the reflected light of Vassar or any other already famous school.”

According to Dr. Dodd, by 1934 Florida State was a nationally recognized institution of higher learning with all the honors, “and through its alumnae, their various community activities, and the homes they had established, it had raised the cultural level of the State immeasurably. Dr. Conradi’s prediction of 1911 had been fulfilled.”

A final note: Edward Conradi was born in New Bremen in 1869 and died in 1944 in Tallahassee, Florida. His parents were Carl Friedrich Wilhelm and Gertrude Bruetsch Conradi. His wife, Augusta Grothaus Conradi, was born in New Bremen in 1873 to William and Maria Elizabeth Lanfersieck Grothaus and was one of the two first women teachers in the New Bremen schools. Florida State dedicated a theater of the performing arts in her memory after her death in 1928. Edward and Augusta are buried in Oakland Cemetery, Tallahassee, Florida.

[Edited by Gen Conradi]

“The Towpath” – October 2009 – Pg. 12
The Vogelsangs who settled in New Bremen came from Hanover, Germany in 1832, so you can see that we lived in New Bremen for a long time. We lived in the house that had been bought by my grandmother (Emma Frey Vogelsang) from the estate of her aunt, Dorothea (Boesel) Frey (1849-1929), after she died. The house had been built by Dr. Jacob Frey, M.D. (1842-1878). My grandmother had a brother, Walter E. Frey (1876-6/21/1901), who went to medical school in Cincinnati and died of tuberculosis before he could go further.

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THE MEYER FAMILY

Dear Mrs. Francis:  8/8/2009

Enclosed are two photos - one of the home of my grandparents [Frederick W. & Louisa H. (Sandmann) Meyer] on Route 66 between New Bremen & Minster, Ohio with the tracks of the Western Ohio Electric Interurban Railroad in front of their home. This picture was taken sometime between 1922 and 1930 by an itinerant photographer. The 8½” x11” picture hung on my parents’ living room wall for many years. I have that picture now. This house was still standing 3 or 4 years ago, but is now gone. It was used as an office for a business (Cotterman & Co., who built a new building on the site).

The other photo is a family picture of my grandparents with two of their children - Emma Catherine (standing) and Anna Marie (my mother) on her father’s lap. This picture was probably taken in December 1910.

I enjoyed reading the local stories about the Western Ohio in the April 2000 copy of “The Towpath” you gave me. My father, Benjamin Jennings Hole, was the last assistant Ticket Agent and Substation Operator for the Western Ohio Electric Interurban Railroad at Wapakoneta from 1925 to January 17, 1932 when it went out of business. He worked the night shift. Also, his brothers, David & Thornton Hole, worked from time to time for the Western Ohio. My father worked on tearing up the jointly-owned Western Ohio & Lake Shore Electric track between Fostoria & Fremont, Ohio - a connecting link between the Western Ohio and the Lake Shore Electric. One of my earliest memories is his leaving home on Sunday nights to go to Fostoria, Ohio. Also my uncle, Russell Wentworth (my father’s brother-in-law), started to work for the Western Ohio at Wapakoneta and was the last Ticket Agent and Substation Operator at the Rawson, Ohio substation. He and his family (wife & 3 children) lived upstairs in the substation. I was talking to my cousin, Russell (Bud) Wentworth, several years ago and he remembered living there with his parents. (There is a picture of the Rawson substation in Scott D. Trostel’s book "The Lima Route" on page 143.) The Western Ohio (The Lima Route) sent an express car from Wapakoneta to Cleveland via the Findlay & Fostoria Line & the Lake Shore Electric Line every day. My father said that the bread for the local Kroger stores was shipped from the Kroger Bakery in Cleveland to Wapakoneta via the Western Ohio and it was his job to unload it at the Wapakoneta station for pickup by the local Kroger stores. He said the bread was still warm when he unloaded it. My father also played for the Western Ohio baseball team.

Enclosed is a copy of my father’s (Ben Hole’s) Employee Pass on the Western Ohio and some passes for family members. It was colored red and didn’t copy too well. My mother also was issued passes to ride on the Western Ohio. I rode the interurban the first 5 months of my life with my parents but I don’t remember the trips. My father did not own a car and he courted my mother on the Western Ohio. I don’t know if the interurban stopped in front of my grandparents’ home for his convenience or if there was a stop nearby. My parents were married in the St. Paul German Reformed (now UCC) Church on June 19, 1930. My father had to borrow his brother’s 1928 Chevrolet touring car to take his new bride home.

FREDERICK WILLIAM MEYER was born 12/13/1864 in Jeiffeln, Hannover, Germany to Hermann Gerhard Meyer and Maria Elizabeth Siemann (aka Lisa Scheen). He came to America in 1883. He died 12/30/1936 after suffering a stroke at Minster, Ohio, at the age of 72 years. His mother and 3 brothers (Christian, Hermann & August / Gustav) also made their home in Ohio. "Gust" moved to Evansville, Indiana after he was married. Christian and Hermann stayed in the Minster-Fort Loramie area.

Frederick W. Meyer went back to Germany several times to visit his relatives. To pay for his passage, he would go to New York City and hire on as a ship’s crew member. On a trip back to Germany in late 1907, he met Henrietta Louisa Sandmann at a dance in Osnabruck, Germany. She came to the USA with him on the steamship Krown Prinz Wilhelm and arrived at NYC on May 5, 1908. They were at sea for about 15 days. They were married May 13, 1908 at Ellis Island. (Officials would not let them leave Ellis Island until they were married - 1st & 2nd class passengers disembarked at NYC piers and only steerage class passengers were taken to Ellis Island, where they were quarantined for several weeks.)

HENRIETTA LOUISA SANDMANN was born in 1889 at Hesepe, Germany and died about November 1931 at the age of 42. She was the daughter of Gerhardt and Maria (Kreinsbein) Sandmann. Her mother died when Henrietta Louisa was born and she was raised by her maternal grandparents (Kreinsbein) of Bramsche. She was baptized and confirmed in the Evangelical Lutheran Church at Bramsche. Henrietta L. was the only member of her immediate family (siblings) to emigrate to the United States.

Frederick W. Meyer was a farmer and rented several farms in Shelby & Darke Counties from 1910-1922. In 1922, he retired
NEW BREMEN'S SECOND SUNOCO SERVICE STATION

Ann & Ben lived in Wapakoneta from 1930-1941, then rented a small farm south of St Johns, Ohio. In the spring of 1943, Ben became a paraplegic from injuries received while working at the Turner Toy Co., and in 1951, Ann began working at The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co. at St. Marys. At that time they decided to quit farming, sold their livestock and farm equipment, and bought a home in New Knoxville on the SE corner of SR 29 & SR 219. For some years, with the assistance of their son John, they operated a Paint & Floor Covering store out of part of this house. The store was closed about 1964.

My siblings are: 1) Jacquelin Louise (Jackie Hole) Manahan/ Baughman (b. 9/12/1932). Jackie graduated from Miami Valley Hospital School of Nursing, Dayton, Ohio. Jackie & Richard Manahan had 4 children: Richard Wayne, Robert (deceased), Doug & Joanne Sitler. We had 6 children: 1) John (Rick) Frederick, Columbus County, Ohio, daughter of John Clayton & Mary Elinor (Chatly ) Manahan; 2) Greta Elaine (Hole) Benzing (b. 3/21/1934). Greta graduated from New Knoxville High School. She was employed for a time at the St. Marys Woolen Mills. Her husband, Bill, worked for the United Telephone Company at Lima & Mansfield, Ohio. Greta & Bill's children: Rev. James Benzing, Chicago IL; Rev. Bruce Benzing, Columbus OH.

2) John Jay Hole (b. 5/14/1937-7/4/2007). He married Evelyn Schroer, daughter of Mr. & Mrs Enoch Schroer, New Knoxville OH. John & Evelyn first lived with his parents. John laid floor covering for his parents and worked for the Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company, St. Marys, retiring as a supervisor. Evelyn operated Evelyn's Poodle Parlor & Pet Kennel, a cat & dog grooming facility on West Auglaize Street, Wapakoneta and boarded pets. Their children: Timothy (deceased); Thomas Hole, Capt., USN retired; Todd Hole, Findlay OH.

Thornton J.F. Hole - Egg Harbor City, New Jersey

In 1946, the service station (then Pure Oil) was taken over by Edgar Rump. The Rump family operated the establishment at this site until 1990.

Duane & Alice Hegemier

ARNOLD HEGEMIER LEASES SUNOCO SERVICE STATION

Arnold Hegemier this week leased the Sunoco Service Station at Main & Monroe Streets from the Anna Oil Company. The Anna company is owned by George Gross.

Mr. Hegemier has been manager of the (South Side Sunoco) station (South Washington & Cherry Streets) for seven years and will continue to give the public the same courteous and efficient service as in the past. Elmer Kellermeyer, assistant manager, will continue in that position.

<<<<>>>>

SUNOCO FILLING STATION HELD UP

At 10:45 p.m., Wednesday, August 9, 1939, a daring hold-up took place at the Sunoco Filling Station at the corner of West Monroe & Main Streets. Two men with dark glasses and skull caps got away with $80. They were driving a 1938 green Ford sedan which they had stolen earlier from A.G. Boogher in Santa Fe, Ohio.

When they drove up, station manager Arnold Hegemier stepped out to wait on what he thought was a customer. One fellow jumped out of the car with a drawn revolver, told him it was a stick-up and commanded him to go back in the building, where he and Elmer Kellermeyer were forced to enter the men's rest room while the second fellow rifled the cash register of $52.

They then took Hegemier's billfold with $20 and relieved Kellermeyer of $8. Just then Louis Landwehr stepped into the station, having stopped for air for his tires, and they politely led him to the restroom to join the other two men. Louis had observed the green car and had taken note of the license number as he entered the station. In less than a week, one of the perpetrators was arrested – Edward Hall of Lima, Ohio. He was bound over to the grand jury for a total of $30,000 bond - $10,000 for each of three charges, having also robbed a filling station in Van Wert later the same evening.

[NOTE: To read more about New Bremen's 'filling' stations, see the April 1998 issue of "The Towpath" - also our website.]
SYNCHRONIZED SWIMMING MEMORIES

I received an email from Linda Coble Jones asking me if I remembered the synchronized swimming program and water follies at the swimming pool in New Bremen. She went on to say, "I can still see people sitting on the towpath enjoying the music and the program and hear ‘Cherry Pink and Apple Blossom White’ over the loudspeakers. I remember the swim hats with flowers. I presently do water aerobics at a pool here in Yorktown, Indiana. Some of the women in the class wonder where my water skills were developed and I have to admit that it was the synchronized swimming I did as a youngster."

I, Genevieve Conradi, also remember the swimming programs and swimming lessons. The swimming pool was a gathering place for all the youngsters in New Bremen. Jill Coble May (Linda’s sister) told me that her mother would ask her if she planned to move to the pool because she spent so much time there. In this article I will describe how the pool came to be in New Bremen, name some of the people associated with running the pool in the early years and reprint several articles from the newspaper describing the swimming programs. Nancy Kettler Price and Jill Coble May were able to find some pictures from that era and we will share them.

The pool that Linda and Jill referred to was located on Plum Street just west of the canal - where the Crown Pavilion now stands. The swimming pool project was introduced to the village of New Bremen in September 1936 at the height of the Great Depression. Mayor Frank D. Kuenning and council called for a public meeting to provide information and gain approval for the construction of a public swimming pool in New Bremen by the WPA. New Bremen would be required to pay only one-fifth of the total construction cost with the remainder paid by the federal government. (For more information, see The Towpath - July 1998.)

The residents of New Bremen were interested in providing their children with a safe and sanitary place to swim. The closest facilities were in Sidney and Wapakoneta, a distance of 17 miles, which was quite a trip at that time. Children went swimming in the canal or gravel pits in the area and neither was safe or sanitary.

Land for the pool was donated by Emilie Vogelsang Grothaus (Mrs. John Henry Grothaus) and her sons, Alvin and Walter Grothaus. New Bremen voters approved a $6,000 bond issue to cover their share of the cost. The pool and bath house project was approved by the federal WPA in March 1937 and groundbreaking began in June 1938.

"Early on the morning of June 8th, and may we not rightfully add a momentous occasion, there appeared 42 WPA workmen - Area Engineer W.H. Price, his assistant, George H. Becker, and Architect Rial T. Parish - bearing transit levels, stakes and bulging blueprints, to form a procession headed by His Honor Mayor R.H. Dickman who, with due authority and ungloved hands, turned the proverbial first shovelful of virgin soil, symbolizing the initial effort toward realization of New Bremen’s dream of a municipal-owned swimming pool."

(New Bremen Sun - June 17, 1938)

Construction continued through 1938 and 1939 and the formal opening of the pool occurred on Memorial Day 1940.

SWIMMING POOL DEDICATION

New Bremen Sun Editorial - June 6, 1940

"Dedication of the 48th swimming pool constructed by the WPA in Ohio took place at New Bremen on Decoration Day, when WPA District Manager William B. Schmuhl officially turned the pool over to the community. Costing $41,000, the pool is one of the most modern in this area.

With a swimming pool surface of 4,725 square feet and wading pool of 680 square feet, it is expected that the pool will serve not only residents of New Bremen, but of surrounding communities as well. In addition, the plant contains a bath house, chlorination and filtration plant and colored electric lighting facilities for night bathing. The Federal cost on this project was $28,700 and the Sponsor’s share $12,300.

Participating in the program of dedication were Congressman Robert F. Jones, Mayor R. H. Dickman, members of the Village Council and Park Commission and visiting mayors. The New Bremen High School band gave a concert preceding the exercises."

That is the condensed form in which what was an event in New Bremen such as none of the present generation will ever witness again appeared in various papers over the state, and men and women reading the three short paragraphs scarcely realized what a story they told for New Bremen - for New Bremen’s youth in particular. What hours and half-days of pleasure and recreation are in store during the long vacation months for boys and girls out of school they themselves would scarcely be able to appreciate. However, the grown-ups, the mothers and daddies, are fully aware of what has been done for their kiddies in the construction of the municipal swimming pool, and the joy of the young folks must be shared by the older ones who know what health-producing exercise is available in a swimming pool filled with pure drinking water.

Many an elder will be persuaded more than once during the coming warm summer days to don the old two-piece bathing suit — if modern trunks are not at hand — and take a dip in the cool water which is ever purified and renewed. And the benefits to be derived and the joy to be obtained from the pool are not limited or confined to residents of New Bremen alone. Whosoever will, may join in the summer sports inherent to swimming pools, whether a resident here or elsewhere. This is the generosity of New Bremen folk.

To them who have not yet entered into the spirit of the thing, the invitation can merely be extended: “Come and see.”

Swimming was a popular activity for many people in the sultry Midwest. Nearby lakes and streams offered the sport but they lacked safety measures provided by life guards and clean water. Swimming was also popularized by Esther Williams in films from Hollywood in the 1940s and 1950s. She performed the motions of dance in the
water known as water ballet or synchronized swimming. The term “synchronized swimming” was first used in 1933-34 at the World Exhibition in Chicago. In 1984 Synchronized Swimming became an official Olympic sport.

The swimming pool required a staff who knew water safety and who could teach others to swim. The West Auglaize Chapter of the American Red Cross offered free instructions in beginner’s swimming at the pool in New Bremen. During the first five years, 1940 through 1945, instructors and pool staff included William Richcreek, Don Fledderjohn, Peter Rabe, Betty Behm, Catherine Schroeder, John C. McKenna, John Melchert, Fred Schroer, Marian Frey, Bernadine Luedeke, Craig Ekermeyer, Marlee Sunderman, Pauline Moeller, Paul Melchert, Myrl Smith, Mary Ellen Taylor, Betty Schnelle, Dale Braun, Lester Blanke, Paul Melchert, Mary Dicke, and Patsy Buckloh. (See The Towpath - October 2001)

Children who wanted to learn to swim in 1941 were required to be in fifth through ninth grades and measure at least 36 inches to the armpits. Classes were organized by each town having its own day for classes. 233 children completed the classes during the first year the pool was open. By 1945, the number and types of classes had grown - with classes for Beginners, Intermediate, Advanced and Adults. Life Saving classes were reserved for Juniors and Seniors in high school.

The popularity of the pool and interest in swimming techniques prompted programs for the public. One such program was directed by Cecelia (“Sis”) Harris in 1955.

**WATER FOLLIES TERMED HUGE SUCCESS**
*New Bremen Sun* - August 3, 1955

The more than 2000 visitors who crowded around the New Bremen Municipal swimming pool to witness the first annual Water Follies were treated to one of the finest programs of its kind ever staged in the area.

Under the direction of Cecelia Harris and the lifeguard staff of the New Bremen pool, the Follies was presented on Wednesday evening, August 3, 1955.

Participants who contributed to the success of the water carnival came from New Bremen, Wapakoneta, Sidney, Celina, Coldwater and Minster.

New Bremen participants and their parts follow:

**Master of Ceremonies** – Ralph Quellhorst

**Bringing Forth the Show** – Jean and Joyce Melby, Tom Thieman and Jim Kettler

**Fantasy in Black** – New Bremen Lifeguards Cecelia Harris, Janet Fledderjohn, Janet Wilke and Elden Smith

**Swimming Pool Patrol Commander** – Robert Wilson, Tom Wissman, Tom Slife, Tom Bassler, Tom Thieman, Tom Fledderjohann, Denny Wint, Jack Slife, Jim Heinfeldt and John Shroyer

**Smooth as Satin** – Ann Sanders and the Water Folliettes – Mary Ann Cooper, Jill Coble, Nancy Kettler, Linda Coble, Marlene Berning and Judy Gast

**Hey, Mommy, Look What I Can Do** – New Bremen Swimming Classes – Kay Heinfeldt, Dave Wint, Debbie Meyer, Bradley Klose and Jon Belton

**Story of a Hero (A modern fairy tale)** – Queen, 1955 Woodman Queen Judy Dietrich and her court – Janice Topp, Virginia McCollum, Nancy Maurer, Betty Tangeman, Jane Gilberg, Norma Berning; **King**, Ronnie Bauer; **Princess**, Jill Coble; **Sea Nymphs**, Nancy Kettler, Jean and Joyce Melby, Lynne Harris, Kathleen and Suzanne Ludeke, Elaine Ahlers; **Hero**, Robert Wilson; **Narrator**, Ralph Quellhorst

**Whatever Lola Wants** – Bette Harris, Terry Hirschfeld, Ann Sanders, Jim Kettler, Robert Wilson and Tom Thieman

**Little Hi-Jinks** – Jesse Gossette and Brother Clowns

**Adagio** – Bette Harris, Elden Smith

**Jeweled Splendor** – Water Folliettes

**Diving Stylists** – Ann Sanders, Jesse Gossette with Flip, Flop and Fizzle

**The Sophisticated Lady** – Terry Hirschfeld, Robert Wilson and Jim Heinfeldt

The show closed with a “Royal Ball” which added pageantry to the follies. Following presentation of King Ronnie Bauer and Queen Judy Dietrich, colored balloons were released to float skyward as they were followed by the pool spotlight.

This is a picture of the Aqua Debs of the New Bremen Water Follies of 1957: Emma Jane Scheer, Nancy Kettler, Jill Coble, Emily Harlamert.

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This is a picture of the Aqua Debs of the New Bremen Water Follies of 1957: Emma Jane Scheer, Nancy Kettler, Jill Coble, Emily Harlamert.

In 1959 Carl Watkins was the pool manager with Cecelia (Sis) Harris as Chief Guard. Other guards were Elden Smith, Pat Gels, Larry Landwehr and Judy Gast. In that year, Sis offered a course in Synchronized Swimming, along with all the other classes, at a cost of $2.50 for 10 weeks of lessons.

**SWIM MEET HELD AT NEW BREMEN**

Greenville was the visiting team at the New Bremen pool for a swim meet Saturday, July 30, 1960 at 7:30, supervised by Pat Gels. A team of forty members from New Bremen and Minster competed against them in racing and diving events with points for first, second and third places. The final score at the end of the meet was...

Members of the team who either didn’t place or were unable to be at the meet were: Teresa Shelby, Becky Luedeke, Kathy Hay, Denny Gruebmeyer, John Voress, Jan Luelleman, Richard Winner, Minster, Gene Moeller, Mike Kitzmiller, Earl Luthman, Minster, Nancy Kettler, Bev Widau, Debby Meyer, Judy Luthman, Minster, Gene Steineman, Bob Geiger, Minster, Jim Hay, Jan Bachman, Minster, Brad Klose, Sandy Boesel, Max Fledderjohn and Walter Cummins.

Diving judges were Janet Fledderjohn, Jim Meyer, and Gaylord Smith. Lane judges and timers were Judy Gast, Terry Hirschfeld, Barb Luedeke, Larry Landwehr, Ted Wagner, and Robert Wilson. Paul Ritter started the races. Announcers and score keepers were Lois Wahoff, Fran Cooper, Elden Smith and Carl Watkins.

Perhaps this article has brought back special memories about swimming in New Bremen that you would like to share with others. Please give me a call and tell me about those memories or email me at gen@nktelco.net.

Genevieve Conradi

AQUA DEBS
AND PART OF THE CAST
OF THE NEW BREMEN WATER FOLLIES - 1957

Left steps (l-r): Sis Harris (bottom), Bette Harris, Jill Coble, Emma Jane Scheer, Emily Harlamert.

At top on diving board:
1) Tom Wolf (with hat)
2) Ann Sanders (back)
3) Nancy Kettler (in front)
4) ______ (holding animal)
5) Lois Wahoff
6) Becky Campbell
7) Kathy Schmieder
8) Peggy Ritter
9) Debby Heinfeld

(5) Youngsters-left steps:
________, Kathy________,
Pam Moeller, Jane Moore,

Right steps: Judy Newkirk, Barbara Cashdollar, Saundra Moore, Katherine Wahoff.

**N.B.H.S. CLASS OF 1959 REUNION – AUGUST 15, 2009**

**STANDING:** Wilbur Rodeheffer, Dale Paul, Jan Sprinkle, Dan Dicke, Fred Pape, Sarah (Valentine) Glover, Ed Koenig, Pat (Gels) D’Alessio, Tom Fricke, Martha (Topp) Ewing, Christine (Richey) Glass, Gary Wiedeman, Jack Earl (teacher), Wayne Amstutz*, Daryl Koenig.

**SEATED:** Carolyn (Schaefer) Wolfe, Janice (Wiehe) Howell, Oneta (Dicke) Lyda, Beckie (Bruner) Dicke, Mary (Waesch) Maurer, Jenine (Schnelle) Fanning.

Wayne Amstutz did not graduate with the class as he moved to Berne, Indiana. John Schaefer left before the picture was taken. Two guest teachers, Mr. Jack Earl (art teacher) and Mr. Lowell Weitz (music teacher), attended. Only Mr. Earl is in the picture.

**UNABLE TO ATTEND:** Joanne (Berning) Meckstroth, Mary Ann (Cooper) Cole, Jerry Fogt, Edward Judt, Paul Ritter, Sharon (Rush) Potter, Jeanne (Schilling) Raver, Phyllis (Shaffer) Mills and Jeanne (Braun) Inglis who helped plan the reunion, but was unable to come because of the death of her husband on Friday.

**DECEASED:** Wayne Fark, Karen Klute, Larry Landwehr, Judy (Pilkington) Bailey, Pat Pittsenbarger, Elizabeth (Pohlman) Beck, Gary Schmieder, Robert Wilson, Lowell Ziegenbusch.

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**BREMENFEST**, held in August every year, has become a time for graduates and fellow former classmates of New Bremen High School to get together for class reunions. This year was no exception.

The **CLASS OF 1954** celebrated the 55th anniversary of their graduation this year. Graduates, former class members and spouses gathered at 4:00 p.m. Saturday, August 15th, at the Senior Citizens Center for a catered meal and fellowship, with 38 people present. They watched movies taken during their Junior year of High School when they took a trip to the Statehouse in Columbus. They also looked at pictures of their Senior trip to Chicago. Some went on to the Bremenfest activities later. (see picture, next page)

The **CLASS OF 1959** (above) celebrated the 50th anniversary of their graduation on Saturday, August 15th. Class members, spouses and guests toured the new high school, the former (1929) high school (now the elementary school), ate at La Piazza at noon, then toured the Crown Farm Complex, where they were joined by some members of the 1954 and 1964 classes. A booklet compiled by Pat D’Alessio was handed out. On Sunday, the class rode a float in the Bremenfest parade.

The **CLASS OF 1961**, now celebrating 48 years, meets each year for a get-together. They met this year at the food tent at Bremenfest on Saturday, August 15th, ate supper and then gathered at a classmate’s house for an evening of visiting. Those in attendance were John & Rosella Bornhorst, Jill (Coble) May, Gen Conradi & Dennis Dicke, Karl & Delores Kittel, Judy Meckstroth, Fred & Barb Moeller, Wayne & Judy (Scheer) Wiehe, and Larry & Carolyn (Shaffer) Wehnes.

The **CLASS OF 1964** celebrated the 45th anniversary of their graduation. On Friday evening, August 14th, Jim Elking gave his classmates a tour of the Bicycle Museum of America. They also got to see the restored Civil War Flag carried by Company “C” that is on display at the museum. After that they met at the Bremenfest Park north of town, with 22 class members (and spouses) in attendance. On Saturday, some of the class joined the class of 1959 on a tour of the Crown Farm Complex. The rest of the weekend was spent at the Bremenfest celebration.

Diane Gast gave each member a booklet containing class names, addresses, e-mail addresses and personal notes. The cover was a picture of the old Central Grade School which was admired by the classmates. Other members brought memorabilia such as Junior and Senior class play programs and memory books with class pictures. Of particular interest were pictures brought by Marcia (Ashbaugh) Weadock of “Moving Day-1956” from the Central Grade School on Franklin Street to the new elementary school on Walnut Street (see page 22). Bill Kuck brought his homemade summer sausage for everyone to enjoy. (see reunion picture, next page)

There were 37 in the graduating class. Attending were Marcia (Ashbaugh) Weadock, Duane Dammeyer, Carole (Dicke) Ferguson, Jim Elking, Diane (Gruebmeyer) Gast, Larry Gruebmeyer, Diane (Kettler) Grilliot, Jerry Koepner, Bill Kuck, Delores (Luedeke) Kittel, Barbara (Margerum) DeRooxtro, Karen (Moeller) Farley, Mary Ann (Moeller) Voisard, Bonnie (Quellhorst) Elsas, Joyce Ruedebusch, Marlene (Schoenlein) Olberding, Jim Suchland, Jim Trontrup, Stan Topp, Jerry Wahoff and his sister Lois Westerheide, Tom Wente, Jim Wilson.

Unable to attend were Walter Cummins, Connie (Dicke) Applegate, Mark Froning, Cheryl (Hott) Long, Joe Knost, Jan Luelleman, Larry Poppe, Ron Roettger, Susan (Salutz) Richey, Don Scheer, Karen (Westerbeck) Diffie.

Four members are deceased: Sandy (Boesel) Bitler, Gary Maich, Mary (Pohlman) Kill, Tom Westerbeck.

STANDING: Don Fischbach, Paul Casebolt, Tom Braun, John Koeper, Don Luedeke, Frank Kuening, Tom Holdren, Harold Stammen, Ned Dammeyer, Bill Bruns.

MIDDLE: Mary Ellen (Schemmel) Kurtzman, Joyce (Inman) Holdren, Joyce (Quellhorst) Gilberg, Eileen (Dennis) Brady, Delores (Schroer) Stienecker, Janice (McCollum) Vogelwede, Anna Louise (Schmidt) Hoelscher.

FRONT: Eugene Topp, John Gilberg, Don Westerheide, Lloyd Schroer.

ABSENT: Bob Baur, Jane (Becker) Dirks, Don Dicke, Louise Erhardt, Mary Mohrman, Joan (Neuman) Williams, Nancy (Quellhorst) Heitkamp, Roseanne (Schaefer) Meyer, Tom Stovlbeck.


Jim Berning & Dale Hirschfeld were present but are not in the picture. Eileen Dennis and Dale Hirschfeld did not graduate with the class. The Hirschfeld family moved to Degraff ca. 1948. The Dennis family moved ca. 1951.

N.B.H.S. CLASS OF 1964 REUNION – AUGUST 14, 2009

BACK: Tom Wente, Diane (Kettler) Grilliot, Stan Topp, Jim Tontrup (front), Jim Suchland (back), Jim Elking, Jim Wilson, Jerry Wahoff.

MIDDLE: Larry Gruebmeyer, Bill Kuck, Duane Dammeyer, Mary Ann (Moeller) Voisard, Bonnie (Quellhorst) Elsass, Karen (Moeller) Farley, Diane (Gruebmeyer) Gast.

FRONT: Marcia (Ashbaugh) Weadock, Barbara (Margerum) DeRoxtro, Jerry Koeper, Delores (Luedeke) Kittel, Carole (Dicke) Ferguson, Joyce Ruedebusch, Marlene (Schoenlein) Olberding. [photo provided by Diane Grilliot]
LEFT TO RIGHT FROM TOP: Robert Baur, Jane Becker, James Berning, Thomas Braun, William Bruns, Paul Casebolt, Ned Dammeyer, Donald Dicke, Louise Erhardt, Donald Fischbach, John Gilberg, Thomas Holdren, David Hott, Joyce Inman, Thomas Kettler, John Koepfer, Werner Kramer, Franklin Kuenning, Nancy Looker, Donald Luedeke, Janice McCollum, Mary Mohrman, Joan Neuman, Joyce Quellhorst, Nancy Quellhorst, Rosanne Schaefer, Mary Ellen Schemmel, Anna Louise Schmidt, Delores Schroer, Lloyd Schroer, Harold Stammen, Thomas Stovibek, Eugene Topp, Evelyn Waterman, Donald Westerheide, Sally Wilson, Karron Woehler.
MOVING DAY – September 28, 1956
[Class of 1964 – Fifth Grade – Lloyd Blanke, teacher]

Tom Westerbeck, Joe Katterheinrich, Jerry Koeper, Marlene Schoenlein, Sandra Boesel
Diane Kettler, Sharon Maby, Don Scheer, Larry Gruebmeyer [Photos by Mildred Ashbaugh]

Joe Topp, Jim Wilson, Bill Moore, Mark Froning, Stan Topp, Bonnie Quellhorst, Donna Snively, Jim Elking, Ann Gossette

Sandra Berning, Diane Gruebmeyer, Susan Salutz, Karen Moeller, Clarence Kohler, Joe Knost <<<>>>>>

"Today was the first school day in 79 years at New Bremen that the first and second grade students failed to show up at the old (Franklin Street) school building. What's more, the teacher didn't even make it. It's neither for the health nurse nor the truant officer, however, but one for the moving van.

New Bremen elementary students are in the process of vacating the old grade school which was built in 1877 in favor of their new $490,000 building. The new unit is located across town and has been added to the (1929) high school building.

Kindergarten, first and second grade students changed schools yesterday, and moving day was scheduled today for the third, fourth, fifth and sixth graders.

Teachers have been clearing out library books and supplies all week via cars and school buses. The children also make the move by bus and are charged with carrying their own books and supplies. [Mr. Blanke drove the bus to the new school that day.]

Once in the new building, teacher and students alike take a tour of the new 14-room structure, hoping to get the "newness" feeling out of their systems as soon as possible so that the classroom routine can start again.

The bond issue for New Bremen's first new school building since the high school was constructed in 1929 was passed in 1954 and was to have been completed by August of this year. Various supply delays held up work, however, and when school started early this month, educators were forced to turn back to the old school. Some classes had to be held in the basement there due to increased enrollment. The old elementary unit is retiring at the age of 79.” [N.B. Sun – 9/28/1956]
E-mail to Gen Conradi:  
7/7/2009

My name is Linda Coble Jones (Jill Coble May’s sister). I am writing to suggest a possible topic for The Towpath. Do you remember the synchronized swimming program and water follies that the old WPA pool used to sponsor? I can still see people sitting on the old towpath enjoying the music and the program. If so, I feel this would be a topic of interest. Cecelia Harris was one of the coordinators at the time. [EDITOR’S NOTE: See page 16]

I presently do water aerobics at a pool here in Yorktown, Indiana. Some of the women in the class wonder where my water skills were developed and I have to admit that it was the synchronized swimming I did as a youngster. I can still hear “Cherry Pink and Apple Blossom White” and remember the swim hats with flowers when I think back to those days.

Keep up the good work you all do for The Towpath. I look forward to receiving it in the mail.

Maybe the old WPA program would work in today’s economy! Linda Jones – Yorktown, Indiana

Hi, Gen:  
7/8/2009

I just wanted to congratulate you on the fine job you did on translating the Charles Conrady letters published in the July 2009 Towpath. That is truly an admirable piece of work. Our daughter-in-law, a native German, and our son, who has lived in Germany for the past 25 years, have great difficulty deciphering and translating the old German script. The article is not only interesting, but of great historic value as well.

John T. Dickman – Columbus

Good morning, Lucille:  
7/9/2009

Another outstanding issue (July 2009) - but then, I have never seen one that wasn’t.

I think there might be a slight discrepancy on page 1 in the lead paragraph regarding the picnic. I’m pretty sure I didn’t win a ticket to a candlelight Christmas dinner. Could that have been my brother Chuck (Charles)? I haven’t been able to get hold of him to ask, but I’m sure it wasn’t me.

[CORRECTION: Yes, the winner of the Christmas dinner was Charles (Chuck) Dickman, not John.]

I have already congratulated Gen on her translations of the old German script letters of Charles Conrady.

I didn’t realize that the Rod & Gun Club was such an active organization. And I didn’t realize, although I lived through much of that era, that boxing matches were an integral part of most of the meetings. Amazing!

John T. Dickman – Columbus

I was going through some pictures of my parents, Wilbert & Marie (Roediger) Dammeyer, and thought you might be interested in this picture of the old Thompson (lockkeeper’s) house (see front page).

Reading The Towpath brings back many memories. You all do a great job.

Janice (Dammeyer) Ursin-Smith / Belvedere-Tiburon, CA

Dear Mrs. Francis:  
7/14/2009

The July 2009 issue of The Towpath had a 1936 list of men who purchased insurance from The Home Benefit Association. Three of these men were Adolph W. Koenig, Ray Koenig and Victor Koenig. If relatives of any of these men are available, I would like to get in touch with them to learn more history about my husband’s family.

My husband, Dr. John Henry Koenig Jr. (1909-1994), and I have 5 children, 15 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren. I think they should learn about the wonderful people they came from.

Your stories about the conditions these German immigrants overcame getting to America and building a town in a virgin forest, with hardships we hardly know about today, and their trust in Christian ways to make a better life, will make their descendants proud of the sturdy German stock they belong to.

I know that my husband’s father, John Henry Koenig Sr. (1868-1938), was an entrepreneur and an attorney. He graduated from Michigan University and he married Clara Elizabeth Boesel, daughter of Karl Boesel Sr. and his 3rd wife, Mary Schroeder. [My mother-in-law kept in touch with the Conradis and spoke of them often.]

I am now 90 and come from an age when you pinned the diapers on with 2 big safety pins and children ate what was on their plate. I suppose being several generations closer allows me to appreciate your Towpath more. Looking forward to the next quarterly,

Shirley A. Koenig – Owens Cross Roads, Alabama

NEW MEMBERS THIS PERIOD (THRU 8/31/09)
[^Spousal Memberships @ $7.00 or $70.00/LM]
6/27/2009 Fark, Julie (Dammeyer) (Transfer) – New Bremen
7/14/2009 Jacoby, Donna (Dicke)(LM) – New Bremen
8/7/2009 Quellhorst, Lowell - New Bremen (spouse)
8/26/2009 Strang, Rev. Becky (Erb) - New Bremen
8/24/2009 Weadock, Marcia (Ashbaugh)(LM) – Ft. Wayne, IN

ADDITIONS TO LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP ROSTER
7/14/2009 Jacoby, Donna (Dicke)(new)
8/24/2009 Weadock, Marcia (Ashbaugh)(new)

MEMBER DEATHS THIS PERIOD
7/28/2009 Cooper, James (CM) (died 7/28/09)
8/1/2009 Dicke, Esther (Headapohl)(died 8/1/09)
6/27/2009 Fark, Louis (died 6/27/09)

MEMORIAL / HONORARY DONATIONS

The following donations have been received this period:

In memory of James E. Cooper
by Dale & Shirley Schaefer

MEMORIAL / HONORARY DONATIONS

Donations to memorialize the deceased or to honor the living are welcomed in any amount. When donations in memory of or in honor of any one person or couple have reached $100.00, a brass plate engraved with their name(s) is attached to the Memorial Plaque.

“The Towpath” – October 2009 – Pg. 23
REDEDICATION OF CIVIL WAR FLAG

The Civil War Flag given to the members of Company C of the 37th Ohio Volunteer Infantry Regiment by the citizens of New Bremen was carried through the war and returned by William Schulenberg at the end of the Civil War. The flag passed through three generations of the Schulenberg family and to Ray Knipple in 1959 for safe-keeping. In 1975, Mr. Knipple donated the flag to the New Bremen Historic Association. The flag has been restored and is on display for all to see at the Bicycle Museum of America.

On Saturday, August 22, 2009 at 10:00 AM, a large crowd gathered to rededicate the flag. The American Legion Post 241 Color Guard was present as well as two men dressed as Civil War soldiers (John Hoffman and Wayne Maurer). Mayor Jeff Pape addressed the group and said, “This is a lasting impression of what sacrifices were made by those men in the name of freedom.” Author Mark Bernstein talked about his research for the book “Company C: New Bremen and the Civil War.” The AC Swing Band played “Rally Round the Flag”, a very popular song during that time period. Rev. Becky Erb Strang, minister of St. Paul United Church of Christ, delivered a prayer.

Everyone then entered the Bicycle Museum of America to view the flag where it will be permanently on display. All were surprised to see how large the flag is. It measures 6'6" by 13'8" and was carried in the battles. The specialists who restored the flag (the Textile Conservation Laboratory at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City) said they could still smell the gunpowder when they took the flag out of its case. This is truly a piece of our national history and the role that New Bremen played. Be sure to take your family to see the flag.

2009 Christmas Schedule

CHRISTMAS CANDLELIGHT DINNERS

The Candlelight Dinners will be held again this year at the Museum during the Christmas season. The dates for the dinners are Wednesday, December 2; Friday, Dec. 4; Wednesday, Dec. 9; and Friday, Dec. 11, 2009. The menus are in the process of being planned and promise to be delicious. Lighted Christmas trees and candles will be in full array each evening with appetizers at 6:30 PM and dinner at 7:00 PM. The price of each meal remains at $25.00. Get your tickets early so you will not miss the fun. Call Delores at 419-629-2685 for your tickets.

Christmas Tree Festival & Open House

The Museum’s Christmas Tree Festival and Open House will be held Sunday, December 13th, from 1:00-3:00 PM. The theme will be “A LOCKKEEPER’S CHRISTMAS” Trees will be decorated November 23rd and/or 24th. If you would like to bring and/or decorate a tree, contact Delores at 419-629-2685.

Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus will be on hand to greet the kiddies and take their wish lists.

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.

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

Address Service Requested

If your newsletter is “undeliverable”, it will be returned to us, costing us from $2.50-$3.00 per copy postage!