

THE TOWPATH

Published Quarterly

January – April – July – October

THE NEW BREMEN HISTORIC ASSOCIATION

April 2015

ANNUAL MEETING

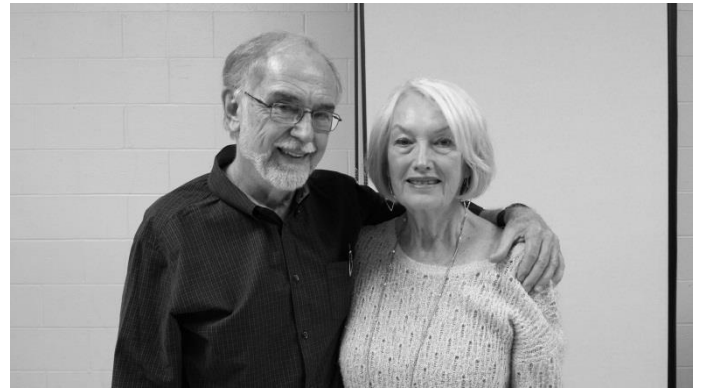
The 42nd Annual Dinner Meeting of the New Bremen Historic Association was once again quite a success. We are thankful for the hard work of Larry Dicke and Carl Roediger, co-chairmen, and the many other helping hands that made this event possible.



Tables were adorned with spring plants that later became door prizes. The crowd of 160 enjoyed a delicious meal catered by Speedway Lanes.



Larry Dicke, NBHA President, introduced the members of the Board and convened a business meeting to elect three trustees for a three year term. He then introduced Robert Gilberg and his wife, Nikki.



Robert & Nikki Gilberg

New Bremen native Robert Gilberg flew from San Diego, California to be our speaker. His book, *The Last Road Rebel*, containing many New Bremen stories, provided the material for his talk.

Thank you, Bob & Nikki, for coming home to share your story.



“*THE TOWPATH*” is a historical reflection of New Bremen and the surrounding area published quarterly by the New Bremen Historic Association. We welcome stories, pictures and suggestions of topics from our readers.

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Board meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month

Membership Dues

\$25.00 per year (includes spouse/S.O. at same address)

Lifetime membership - \$250.00 (includes spouse/S.O. at same address)

Payment is required by January of each year to assure uninterrupted delivery of *The Towpath*.

All levels of membership receive “*The Towpath*.”

MEMBERSHIP REPORT THIS QUARTER

(Dennis Dicke, Recorder)

NEW MEMBERS

William & Kathleen Dicke

Joseph Lochtefeld

Ben & Barb Rhinehart

Ed & Marilyn Schwartz

Mark & Joan Schwartz

Tom & Marilyn Wills

MEMBER DEATHS

Rev. Tom Ward (CM) 1/29/11

Victor Maurer (CM) 12/11/2014

Marjorie (Schmehl) Stienecker 12/21/2014

Julitta (Nieter) Heinfeld 1/7/2015

Eilleen (Webster) Dicke (LM) 1/14/2015

Dr. Ralph Casebolt (LM) 1/16/2015

Richard Luelleman (LM) 2/6/2015

Ruth (Burmeister) Luelleman (LM) 2/16/2015

Dona Mae (Speckman) Kuenning (CM) 2/16/2015

Naomi (Schroeder) Rison 2/24/2015

James Wissman 3/7/2015

Carol Ann (Robertson) Heinfeldt (LM) 3/9/2015

(CM=Charter Member, LM=Life Member)

DONATIONS

Thomas J. Emery Memorial

David Logan

Joyce Ruedebusch

Jason & Lori This

Barbara Dill

Jerry & Sue Maxson

MEMORIAL DONATIONS

In addition to memorials forwarded from family & friends, these individuals have also given donations:

In Memory of Dona Mae Kuenning

By Dianne Komminsk, James F. Dicke Family, New Knoxville Supply Co., Inc.

In Memory of Richard & Ruth Luelleman

By Jason This

ITEMS DONATED TO MUSEUM

1915 Photo book of Bertha Eschmeyer by **Amy King** (Athens, Ohio); Zion’s Church Records by **Ted Wagner**; School Box in German by **Rodney Suchland**; Small metal pocket knife, bottle opener stamped with “Opal Menchofer–Insurance phone 2135 New Bremen, O.” by **Ginni Guarnieri**; Ink pens – Wint’s Restaurant & First National Bank by **Marcia Weadock** (Ft. Wayne); 1912 NBHS Commencement Invitation by **Steve Luma** (Wapakoneta).

New Bremen Historic Association ANNUAL REPORTS

NBHA 2014 Activity

NBHA Board Meetings were held the first Tuesday of each month.

The mortgage for the 2013 purchase of house & property at 236 N. Main (\$60,000.00) was paid by March 2014.

Renovations planned for 236 N. Main St. were completed including:

- Assigned name to house "Pape House"
- Placed NBHA signs at house
- New foundation for porch, porch floor & rails replaced
- New concrete ramp & sidewalks leading to porch
- Eaves repaired and painted
- Overgrown shrubs removed
- Flowers planted in front of house
- Tree trimmed by arborist
- Inside house: wallpaper stripped, new toilet & sink, bathtub removed, floors sanded and finished, walls patched and painted, new Furnace and AC unit
- NBHA Board members assisted in renovations.

Implemented successful new fund-raising Raffle project in January with ongoing monthly drawings.

Published the quarterly newsletter *The Towpath*.

Held Annual Dinner Meeting in March 2014 with Jerry Maxson as speaker.

The Luelleman House Museum was opened and staffed each Sunday in June, July and August from 2-4 pm. Provided tours of Luelleman House Museum by appointment.

Participated in the county-wide "Be a Tourist in your own Hometown" visitation project.

Participated in the Auglaize County Fair Log Cabin display "Churches Then & Now."

Funded golf carts and provided drivers for transportation needs at Auglaize County Fair.

Completed repairs to chimney at Luelleman House.

Welcomed Volunteer Sydney Holden to assist curators.

NBHA Members participated in Consultation with Ohio Historical Society (OHS) for a Needs Assessment.

Revised Mission/Vision statement and instituted a Collection Management Policy for NBHA.

Deaccession of various items stored at former Zion Church.

Loaned Kuenzel Mills items to be displayed for 6 months at Ohio Statehouse featuring Auglaize County.

Conducted Annual Christmas Tree Festival at Lockkeepers House.

Continued to collect oral histories.

NBHA 2014 FINANCIAL REPORT

Balance 1-1-14	\$ 46,728.76
INCOME:	
Auglaize County Grant	\$ 750.00
Book Sales	\$ 516.50
Christmas Tree Voting	\$ 43.75
Donations	\$ 79,102.13
Historic Association Annual Dinner	\$ 1,775.00
Life Members-New	\$ 1,000.00
Membership Dues	\$ 5,725.00
Memorials	\$ 275.00
Raffle Income	\$ 10,210.00
Total	\$ 99,397.38

EXPENSES:	
Bonds	\$ 100.00
Christmas Tree Festival	\$ 45.77
Dues	\$ 140.35
Historic Association Annual Dinner	\$ 1,324.25
Luelleman Museum	\$ 960.67
Insurance	\$ 1,233.00
Lawn Maintenance	\$ 1,032.40
Loan	\$ 51,154.16
Misc. Expenses	\$ 237.00
Office Supplies	\$ 295.49
Pape Museum	\$ 31,246.35
Postage	\$ 403.84
Prints	\$ 500.00
Raffle	\$ 3,266.81
Real Estate Taxes	\$ 20.00
State Taxes	\$ 38.97
Towpath Mailing	\$ 823.55
Towpath Printing	\$ 3,112.51
Utilities	\$ 2,632.64
Total	\$ 98,567.76

Balance 12-31-14	\$ 47,558.38
New Bremen Foundation Investment	\$ 13,267.52
Petty Cash	\$ 40.00
Total	\$ 60,865.90

Reporting Period 1-1-14 to 12-31-14

Dennis Wm. Dicke - Treasurer

NBHA RAFFLE WINNERS

JANUARY - \$100.00 to **Don Kettler** (Lock Two), \$75.00 to **Connie Wills** (Dayton, OH), \$50.00 to **Gary Schmitmeyer** (NB).

FEBRUARY - \$100.00 to **Allen Bushman** (NB), \$75.00 to **Iva Lou Bergman** (NB), \$50.00 to **Sam Schmiesing** (NB).

MARCH - \$100.00 to **John Schroeder** (NY), \$75.00 to **Jim Bruns** (NB), \$50.00 to **Mary Eyink** (NB).

Board members have been very happy with the participation in the raffle. They especially thank those winners who have chosen to increase the profits by returning their winnings. Profits from the raffle are used to cover insurance and utility bills at both museums.

If you would like to lend your support in this project, you may enter the raffle by sending your name & address and a \$20.00 donation (or 3 names for \$50.00) to:

The New Bremen Historic Association

P. O. Box 73

New Bremen, OH 45869

A NEW BREMEN NOTABLE



Wilbur "Garmy" Garmhausen

Written in 1994 by Frank Cope and Janet Bock

Wilbur J. Garmhausen, known to everyone as Garmy, worked from 1935 to 1972 on behalf of Roadside Development in Ohio. His contributions began when rest areas were tiny picnic spots on donated land and continued through the huge increases in demands on Roadside Development with the coming of the Interstate Highway System.

He strove in his work to make highway landscaping a practical solution to roadside problems and a more attractive journey for the traveler. Most importantly, Garmy brought Ohio and its highway program to the forefront of national and international recognition.

In the summer of 1992 he was honored by the Transportation Research Board on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of its Landscape and Environmental Design Committee at their meeting in College Station, Texas.

It seems appropriate that now he is being honored by the state he loved with a plaque in an Interstate rest area which he developed to be read by the traveling public that he served. (*See above.*)

His career began as a designer for the Akron Metropolitan Park Board in 1926 after completing his academic training in the School of Landscape Architecture at The Ohio State University. At the time of the Great Depression, W. J. Garmhausen joined the United States Forest Service in the development of parks in the Hocking Forest, utilizing the labor of the Civilian Conservation Corps. In 1935 he joined the newly formed Landscape Section of the Ohio Department of Highways as Division 9 Landscape Architect with headquarters at

Chillicothe, Ohio. He became very active in the design and construction of roadside parks. By 1947 he had built 46 such installations complete with drinking water, toilets, shelter houses and picnic facilities. During this time he carried on the routine duties of erosion control along the highways, found time to lead in the development of mechanical methods of grading, seeding and mulching, and pioneered in chemical weed control.

In 1947, W. J. Garmhausen was transferred to the central office of Roadside Development in Columbus, Ohio to assist the Chief Landscape Architect in coordinating the roadside development operation over the entire state. He became the Chief Landscape Architect in July 1949 and during his tenure he guided the Roadside Development program throughout the state and was the principal coordinator responsible for the continued growth of the internationally famous Roadside Development Short Course.

In addition to his regular duties as Chief Landscape Architect, he authored 61 articles and publications, conferred with heads of state, and participated in national conferences such as the White House Conference on Natural Beauty. He worked tirelessly on many committees of such organizations as the Highway Research Board, the American Association of State Highway Officials and the Mississippi Valley Highway Conference.

He has received many certificates and awards for outstanding service as tokens of

appreciation for his assistance and accomplishments. He received the first service medal for outstanding achievement awarded by the Kentucky-Ohio Chapter of the American Association of Landscape Architects.

In addition to his years of professional service and devotion to the Ohio Department of Highways, W. J. Garmhausen has worked to improve the lives of others in the community as well. He has been active for more than 60 years with the Boy Scouts and was awarded the Silver Beaver Award. He assisted in the development of Bristol Village and Hopeton Village Retirement Communities and served as chairman of both boards. He continues to be very active in his church, First Presbyterian, where he has served five terms on session, two terms as co-president of Presbymates, and most recently on the Board of Directors.

W.J.Garmhausen is the husband of the late Elizabeth (Gorrie) Garmhausen and the father of Janet L. Bock, Charles F. Garmhausen and Betsy Hunter. He is father-in-law of John Bock, Susan (Torpey) Garmhausen and Steve Hunter. He has twelve grandchildren: Jenny, Jamie,

GARMHAUSEN ROADSIDE REST AREA
IN HONOR OF WILBUR J. GARMHAUSEN, CHIEF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT, OHIO DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS 1949-1972, DIVISION LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT 1935-1949. DEVELOPER OF OHIO REST AREAS, SPEAKER, AUTHOR, COORDINATOR OF OHIO SHORT COURSE ON ROADSIDE DEVELOPMENT FOR 31 YEARS. CHAIRMAN OF ROADSIDE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION, NATIONAL HIGHWAY RESEARCH BOARD. RECOGNIZED BY PRESIDENT L. B. JOHNSON FOR HIS NATIONAL ROLE IN ROADSIDE DEVELOPMENT. WE SALUTE GARMY, BORN IN LOCK TWO, OHIO, FOR HIS LEADERSHIP IN MAKING TRAVEL SAFER AND MORE ENJOYABLE.

Sally and Bob Bock; Debbie, Chuck, Stephen, James and Patrick Garmhausen; and Lynn, Amy and Matthew Hunter.

In response to the *Towpath* story, Betsy Hunter, the daughter of Wilbur Garmhausen wrote this letter.

Dear Mr. Garmhausen,

Just to reminisce a bit - I grew up in Lock Two. We moved there in 1915 and lived in the house south of the mill. There are many fond memories of the Garmhausen family, especially Wilbur.

As a youngster Mr. Garmhausen would take me along when delivering flour to Lima, Ohio. I had my first experience eating lunch in a restaurant while on one of those trips.

I also remember the Garmhausens going to New Bremen High School via the "canal road." As we grow older we appreciate the past.

Sincerely, Orville Ruedebusch, 1994

The note was written when **Wilbur Garmhausen** was featured in a *Towpath* article. The articles can be read online at www.newbremenhistory.org. He was the subject of articles in 1994 and 1995.

Marge Lietz, then editor of the *Towpath* added this editor's note: **Wilbur Garmhausen** has not lost his love for his hometowns of Lock Two and New Bremen. He loves to attend the Alumni meetings where he can visit with old friends.

His love for his hometown was evident when the NBHA asked members for help in the preservation of the museum. One of the goals was to landscape the grounds. Wilbur Garmhausen offered help promptly. He sent a money donation with a list of plants that would be "in keeping with the year historic" and attached his official seal.

Abelia (*abelia grandiflora*), Barberry (*berberis rose* glow needs no trimming), Sweet Shrub (*calycanthus floridus*), Hornbeam (*carpinus betulus*), Quince (*chaenomeles japonica*), Dogwood (*cornus florida*), Redbud (*cercis canadensis*), Burning Bush (*euonymus compacta*), Cotoneaster (*cotoneaster horizontalis*), Hawthorn (*crataegus crus-galli*), Deutzia (*deutzia gracillis*), Euonymus (*euonymus alata*), Forsythia (*forsythia suspensa*). Do not use Yews (*taxus*) as they were not used in that year.



Dear Marjorie, Thank you very much for the generous coverage you gave in the most recent *Towpath* about my dad, Wilbur J. Garmhausen. Although he was interviewed and written up in *The Columbus Dispatch* and *The Chillicothe Gazette* it was the *Towpath* that touched his heart and meant the most to him! He particularly delighted in seeing the photo of the Garmhausen Store and his grandfather's house beside it in Lock Two which accompanied the article.

In addition, he got a letter from someone (and he told me the name and I'm totally blanking now) who sat at his Class of 1920 Reunion table in 1990. That was so terrific...

I must say, there is something really special about New Bremen. Such good people there. When Dad talks about it, the "can do" quality that living there fostered, is positively electric. New Bremen may very well be the perfect place to live in this entire world. It certainly was for Dad growing up...Many thanks... Betsy Hunter

Wilbur J. Garmhausen

NBHS Class of 1920

Born in 1902, Wilbur died in 1996. Garmy is a "Lock Two" and New Bremen Notable.



Family Tree of Wilbur Garmhausen

Paternal grandparents, **Johan & Maria (Strassburg) Garmhausen**, had eight children:

Johann, Florenz, **Charles**, Anna, Benjamin, Otto, Laura, Emma

Maternal grandparents, **Henry Conrad & Marie Louise (Wehrman) Finke**, had seven children:

Clara, **Alice**, Laura, Julius, Minerva, Arthur, Pearl

Wilbur's parents, **Charles & Alice (Finke) Garmhausen**, had four children:

Grace, Ora, **Wilbur**, Pearl

Wilbur & Elizabeth (Gorrie) Garmhausen had three children

Janet, Charles, Elizabeth

New Series

We are beginning a series of profiles of NOTABLE NEW BREMEN PEOPLE. These are people who have impacted our history and culture.

Is there someone you think should be profiled?

Let us know.

Native Americans - First Inhabitants of the New Bremen Area

In the 1933 New Bremen Centennial Book, C. A. Schrage wrote that land scouts Schroeder and Windeler chose the site for New Bremen because of the rich soil, good drainage and land partially cleared for an Indian camp. This article explores who could have made that Indian camp.

Long before Ohio was a state, the territory was occupied by cultures of indigenous peoples. Most in this area were Woodland Indians of the Algonquian culture whose tribes shared similar languages. Algonquian tribes were agricultural people who depended on growing as well as hunting for their food. Two of these tribes the Miami and the Shawnee have a long history in western Ohio. At the time of Ohio statehood this area was principally home to the Shawnee since the Miami moved to Indiana after the Treaty of Greenville.



Ohio Indian Towns & Trails in the 1700s by Artist Jack Willard

The area which was to become New Bremen was between several Shawnee villages. Piqua and the Loramie trading post were to the south while Wapakoneta and Girty's trading post were north. The Miami - Auglaize trail was the well-traveled route between the villages. New Bremen is on the summit of the portage along this trail. The portage was noted on the map of Indian trails as the division between the Miami trail following the Miami River and the Auglaize trail following the Auglaize

River. This important trail first used by the Native Americans, became a military road and later a public highway (Ohio Route 66).

The Shawnee people like the other Algonquian tribes lived off the land by hunting, trapping, growing and gathering their food. During the summer they would gather in large villages where they lived in dome-like structures made of tree saplings covered with bark and brush. A large council house was used for tribal meetings. Many acres would be planted with corn while other vegetables grew between the rows. When fall came and the corn was harvested the village would separate into smaller hunting camps of extended families. The camp found in the New Bremen area was probably one of these hunting camps.

Over the years as their territory was taken over by colonists the Shawnee that stayed in Ohio moved from the Scioto River to the Miami and Mad Rivers. Later they moved north again to the headwaters of the St. Marys and Auglaize Rivers. There in 1818 Chief Black Hoof and his people were given three reservations. Even though they were on the reservations they traveled the Miami - Auglaize trail to meet with their Indian agent at Piqua. With the passage of the Indian Removal Act and the death of Chief Black Hoof in 1831 the Shawnee moved out of Ohio.

Any indication of the Shawnee camp site by New Bremen has vanished. However it is important to note the part it may have played in the choice of land by the Bremen Company scouts. In addition to the fact that the land was on the high ground along the Miami - Auglaize Trail, the remnants of the hunting camp indicated an area where game was plentiful. The many arrowheads found locally have proved that to be true. A small collection of arrowheads can be found in the museum. These are now the only material evidence we have of the Native Americans who were New Bremen's first inhabitants.



A Close-up of the Miami-Auglaize Trail in the Painting by Jack Willard

Prohibition Comes to New Bremen

The term saloon came into use around 1850 to mean an establishment that sold liquor by the drink. As towns became more industrial the growth of saloons came into full swing. New Bremen's 1871 Business Directory listed three saloons. By 1887 this number had grown to twelve saloons.

The increase in saloons also brought those who protested against them. Two of the most powerful of these organizations were the Women's Christian Temperance Union and the Anti-Saloon League. Their attempt to control the sale of liquor was called the dry crusade. The term *drys* came to mean those who favored Prohibition while those who opposed it were known as *wets*.

Support for the dry crusade came in 1886 when the Ohio legislature enacted the Dow Law. This law began as a \$200 annual tax on the traffic of liquor. It also permitted local governments to prohibit sales in their town. The amount of the tax grew to \$350 per year. Then an amendment was added, the Dow- Aiken Liquor Law of 1906 stated that all persons retailing liquor in Ohio shall pay a tax of \$1000 per year. Some of the money was to be paid into the county treasury.

"WET" MONEY" How Distributed In Auglaize County

The Aiken liquor settlement, recently made in this county, shows that of the money derived from the saloons in this county for the six months ending on December 31, 1908, the state received \$6895.32, and the county poor fund \$4525.46. The following amounts were received by the various cities, villages and townships in which saloons are operated: Cridersville, \$248.75; Geyer, \$243.79; Kossuth, \$248.75; Minster, \$1486.28; German Township, \$248.75; New Bremen, \$1243.75; St. Marys, \$3899.83; Uniopolis, \$248.75; Wapakoneta, \$3605.00; Pusheta Township, \$248.75; Jackson Township, \$91.04.

The New Bremen Sun, January 29, 1909

Headed by the powerful lobby of the Anti-Saloon League the *drys* continued to push for nationwide Prohibition. In 1919 they prevailed when the 18th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was passed to become effective January, 1920.

The rules for the enforcement of Prohibition were set down in the Volstead Act. In Ohio the term threefold Prohibition was used because there were three different dates when it would be effective. The first was when most of Ohio went dry in May, 1919 on the expiration of their state issued liquor licenses. The second date was when Wartime Prohibition began as a temporary act intended to save grain for the war effort. It was to begin July 1, 1919 which then became known as the "Thirsty First". The third date was the 18th Amendment date of January, 1920.

It should be noted that the rules of the Volstead Act did not prohibit the consumption of alcohol just the sale. During this era physicians often prescribed alcohol for therapeutic purposes. Also people could stockpile liquor for their personal use before Prohibition became effective. Many breweries turned to selling malt extract syrup for baking and beverages. Anheuser-Busch announced the creation of a non-alcoholic Budweiser. These and many other adjustments were made until the 21st Amendment repealed Prohibition in December, 1933.

The author of this *Sun* article thinks Prohibition will be *Pretty Tough*.

PRETTY TOUGH WHEN THREEFOLD PROHIBITION WILL REALLY BEGIN TO RULE AMERICA

Where Shall liquor "For Stomach's Sake" Find Hiding Place?

State-wide prohibition comes into effect May 27. War prohibition is effective July 1. Constitutional prohibition, as proclaimed by Assistant Secretary of State Folk, will rule America Jan. 16, 1920.

Drys say May 27 will be the end absolutely of the cup that cheers in Ohio, except as liquor unlawfully percolates into hill and dale from some other state. Even then, they point out, the time between May 27 and July is a short oasis. And, continue the drys, war prohibition, by the terms of the federal statute, is to continue in effect until demobilization of the men overseas, which, drys further say, cannot possibly be accomplished before constitutional prohibition goes into effect, Jan. 1.

It is pointed out that the proposed prohibition laws of Ohio and of the United States will forbid transportation of liquors. In a number of court actions where the question of transportation has been involved, drys say the courts have ruled that even carrying liquor in one's pocket may mean his conviction. The proposed state and federal laws prohibit, it is pointed out, storage of liquor even for personal use, unless the fellow who stores it makes declaration of the amount, kind and character of the stuff stored and the place where stored.

Drys admit that in states where there are laws, the statute requiring the holder of liquor to make affidavit is seldom invoked unless it becomes apparent that his liquor is stored not for himself, but for barter and sale. So the bibulously inclined, as well as those who think they need a little liquor for their stomach's sake, are said to be carrying home supplies of liquor in advance of the coming of prohibition and storing that liquor away in their cellars.

It is pointed out that a fellow can't have liquor with any degree of safety unless he hides it in his house, for the search and seizure law does cover garages, barns, shops stores and offices. But if a fellow does get by with his liquor in his home – what if he moves to another residence before the supply gives out? Suppose he carries out two jugs of booze and puts it into the moving van just as the prohibition commissioner comes along.

Well, says drys, it's up to him to explain. If he can persuade the commissioner that there is nothing but vinegar in the jugs, chances are he'll get by. But if the commissioner is suspicious, or if, in the process of moving one of the jugs gets broken and spills the secret? Well, then, say dry interpreters of proposed legislation, he'll not only lose his booze, but also be punished for failure to certify to the proper officials that he had booze.

And furthermore, say drys, the fact that transportation of liquor is forbidden will get him in bad if the court, as they insist it will, defines his act of moving liquor from his old residence to the new as transportation. *State Journal/The New Bremen Sun, February 7, 1919*

NEW BREMEN IN 1943

By Genevieve Conradi

This article is written for my NBHS classmates and friends born in the early 1940s. We have been called *War Babies* because we were born during WWII or *Boomers* as part of the post-war baby boom.

I was born at home, like others my age, on a cold and wintry February day in 1943. Dr. Fledderjohann was in attendance and my mother was moved to the living room of the farmhouse for warmth. My mother had so much chloroform that day that the pet goldfish died.

My mother often talked about what it was like growing up during the Great Depression, but she had little to say about the war years. I hoped that I would learn more about that time period by reading issues of *The New*



Genevieve with her parents, Carl & Marjorie Conradi and brother, Edward, in 1943

Bremen Sun. I soon learned that the war affected many aspects of life in our hometown.

The 1940 Selective Training and Service Act required all men 21-45 years of age to register for the draft. After the 1941 bombing of Pearl Harbor, all men between the ages of 18-64 were required to register. Paul V. McNutt, War Manpower Chief, said that by the end of 1943, 10 of every 14 able-bodied men between the ages of 18 and 38 would be in the fighting forces of the United States. In 1942 and 1943 about 6.5 million men were drafted.

I found that by June of 1943, many New Bremen men were serving in the Military. (See roster above, *New Bremen Sun*, 5/27/43.)

War Effort The Office of Censorship instructed newspapers including the *New Bremen Sun*, and individuals to avoid giving information to the enemy: **DO NOT TELL** the names of ships upon which sailors serve. **DO NOT TELL** the troop units in which soldiers serve.

Locally, U. J. Schwieterman, New Bremen pharmacist was asked by the War Production Board to release his supplies of quinine which were needed for the treatment of malaria in the South Seas. Also special pleas were sent out to procure donations of playing cards for the service men to use during leisure time. The second Victory Book Collection was being organized for the men and women

overseas. Mrs. Frank Streine was named the New Bremen Coordinator. During the first campaign 11 million books had been collected in the nation. Ivan Koeper was appointed solicitor by the local American Legion to gather in all old guns to be used in target practice in the army. Guns would be returned when the war was over.

Due to a smaller work force, President Roosevelt ordered a minimum 48 hour work week and the businesses in New Bremen supported the war effort. The New Bremen Rubber Company advertised for help for 100% defense work.

Men Now Serving In The Armed Forces Of World War II		
Donald Ahlers	William H. Kuck	Eudine Waterman
Richard Ahlers	Thomas Kuck	Robert Waterman
Charles Aze	Thomas Kuening	Donald Waterman
Merlin Ahlers	Richard Kuhlhorst	Howard Weinberg
Preston Belton	Leroy W. Kuhlhorst	Norbert Wenning
Herbert G. Bendure	Richard Knost	Howard Wellman
Albert Bessel	George Knost	Henry Wehmeyer
Lawrence Berning	Louis Landwehr	Martin Wehmeyer
John Stanley Bienz	Elton Landwehr	Paul Wint
Robert Bienz	Chester Ley	Richard Wissman
Karl H. Block	Paul A. Lietz	Elmer Will
Jacob Boesel	Carl Luelleman	Eugene Woehler
Paul Boesel	Ferdinand Luedeke	John Zahn, Jr.
Milton Brose	Harold Marshall	Frederick Reineke
Roger Busse	Lowell McNett	Fred Schroper, Jr.
Frank E. Coss	Harold Meyer	Richard Black
Norman Dammeyer	Kenneth Moeller	Virgil Howe
Richard Dammeyer	Thomas Moeller	Vernon Greber
William Davis	Adrian Moeller	Kenneth Rasor
Wilton Dicke	Norman Meckstroth	George Gensler, Jr.
Dale Duncan	Harold G. Olin	Roman Stueve
Irwin Duncan	William Moots	Paul Wissman
Ralph H. Dietrich	Carl W. Pape	Frederick Maurer
Louis M. Eiking	Ward Pape	Jamts Moeller
Kenneth Fark	Don E. Pape	Warren Heinfeld
Louis Fark	Carl Poppe	Paul Mescher
Orville Fischbach	Theodore Purpus	Atmer McNett
Merlin Fischbach	Chester Quellhorst	Willis Topp
Charles Forwerck	Vernon Roediger	Frederick Luebke
Paul Froning	Lowell Roettger	Frederick Topp
Richard Fischbach	Orval Rupert	Paul Eechmeyer
Donald Fledderjohn	Richard Rupert	Thomas Lampert
Dale Fledderjohn	Stephen Rust	Charles Vornholt
Arlon H. Greber	Norman Ruedebusch	Wilbur Hegemier
Howard Griner	Orrin Roettger	Orville C. Ruedebusch
Arthur Heil	Victor Schneider	Robert Hirschfeld
Arnold Heinfeld	Robert Scheer	Sylvia E. Brose
Carl A. Henke	Carl Schrolucke	Howard W. Scheer
Mark Heinfeld	Isaac Selby	Kermit E. Meyers
Delmar Hickman	Richard Simon	Ralph Kuhlhorst
Dillon Howell	Paul Stueve	Robert Kuening
Frederick Huckeriede	James Sunderman	Paul Block
Hubert Heinfeld	Albert Schwartz	Robert Heinfeld
Verlin Hirschfeld	Louis Schwartz	Wayne Belton
John Heisler, Jr.	Lawrence Schwartz	Carl Wissman
Robert Isenberger	Delbert Scheer	Theodore Pohlman, Jr.
Milton Jung	Ferdellas Schnelle	Robert Schroeder
Howard Kettler	Robert Schnelle	Robert Niemeyer
LeRoy Kettler	Harold Tangeman	Frederick Uetrecht
Frederick Kettler	Louis Tontrup	Herman Vornholt
Richard Kettler	Richard Tontrup	Merrill Kellermeyer
Robert Kettler	Frank Topp	William Richereek
David E. Koenig	Israel Topp	Leo Swartz
Vernon Koeper	Warren Topp	Donald Krauss
Walter Klosterman	James Waterman	

Kuenzel Mills advertised for fulltime workers or high school girls for after school work. Men and women were needed at the White Mountain Creamery for War Work certified by the War Manpower Commission as a food processing industry essential to support the war effort. Ed Wehrman discontinued lawnmower sharpening due to his increased war production work.

For Ladies...



Who Work!

SLACKS
OVERALLS
WORK DRESSES
SHIRTS
EVERYTHING IN
WORK CLOTHING

OUR STOCKS
ARE NOW COMPLETE



SHIRTS
\$1.00 to \$1.95
SLACKS
\$1.95 to \$4.95
COVERALLS
\$2.95
DRESSES
\$1.50 to \$2.95

No matter where you work
or what you do, we have
the type work clothing
for you.

OPEN SATURDAY
TILL 9:00 P. M.

UHLMANS
SIDNEY, OHIO.

Children also supported the war effort. The Boy Scouts collected scrap metals, rubber and rags. The Girl Scouts collected silk and nylon hosiery for the War Production Board. The silk stockings were used to make powder bags for naval guns. Silk was the material of choice for the powder bags because it did not leave a residue when fired. The nylon stockings were melted down and respun into thread for the manufacture of parachutes. Because of the shortage of silk and nylon many women went bare-legged or wore anklets. The Girl Scouts also collected waste cooking fats that would be used to make explosives. Four weeks after the fats reached the renderer, they were on the firing line.

Postmaster Herman J. Laut was appointed chairman for the war fund drive of the West Auglaize chapter of the American Red Cross. The monies were used for the Red Cross blood bank, recreation facilities for service men, establishment of army and navy auxiliaries of wives of men in service, providing nursing service reserve nurses. Some of the monies remained in the community for teaching home nursing, first aid, water safety classes and supporting sewing, knitting and bandage-making groups in the communities.



Man's "V" Neck Sleeveless Sweater, U.S. Army, Air Corps & Marine Corps, Olive Drab Yarn. Knitted by Verona Hirschfeld & donated by her son Dale Hirschfeld.

The American Red Cross was designated by the War Production board as the clearing agency for all knitting projects and provided patterns for the items. Mrs. Nevin Hirschfeld, Chairman of the local Red Cross Sewing Project, organized knitting and sewing groups for the war effort. They met at the Community Room on S. Herman Street. Some of the women involved in these groups were Mrs. Jerry Dietrich, Miss Pauline Kettler, Miss Lydia Kettler, Mrs. George Blasé, Mrs. C. W. Barth and Mrs. Carl Gieseke.

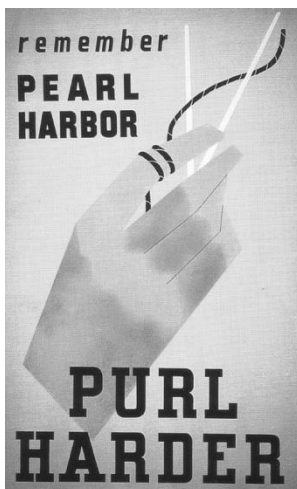
Frieda Dierker, R.N. conducted a 15 -week Home Nursing Course for 23 participants. Mrs. Margaret Ruedebusch Slattery was appointed Deputy Sheriff, the first woman in Auglaize County for this appointment.

Money A Victory Tax of 5% was deducted each week by employers throughout the nation. Changes in the exemptions, deductions and credits were made in the federal income tax laws and required a larger number of persons to file tax returns than in previous years. FDR put a freeze on wages, prices and job changes to check inflation. New Bremen and Waynesfield had highest tax rate in Auglaize County with 17.20 mills.

Everyone was encouraged to buy War Bonds. During the 2nd bond sale in 1943 it was suggested that each man, woman and child would need to buy \$86.00 in war bonds to meet the Auglaize County quota of \$2,412,000.00.

Rationing Rationing of everyday articles was considered a democratic process and became a way of life to insure that an adequate supply of food and other items was maintained and distributed fairly. The local Kroger store was selling two big loaves of unsliced Clock bread for 19 cents. The bread was not sliced because the metal parts of slicing machines could not be replaced so were banned from use. All commercially processed fruits and vegetables were strictly rationed. To deal with this rationing the community was encouraged to plant Victory Gardens to grow fresh fruits and vegetables. A four acre tract of land east of the high school on Walnut Street was prepared for gardens. The Office of Price Administration (OPA) authorized 25 lbs. of sugar per person for home canning that summer.

Shoe rationing was also instituted in 1943. Each man, woman and child was allowed three pairs of shoes per year. Unessential frills on shoes were eliminated by the order of the War Production Board (WPB). This order limited the height of heels for women and restricted colors to black, white, army russet and town brown.



Production of automobiles stopped shortly after we entered the war. Automotive plants were quickly converted to manufacture tanks, trucks and other items needed for the war effort. There was rationing of tires and gasoline for cars. People were told: *Think before you drive; use the telephone and save tires and*

gasoline.

The Columbus-Celina Coach Company advertised their bus service in *The New Bremen Sun* and opened a station at Schulenberg's store with Cade Schulenberg in charge. The bus rate to Columbus was \$2.55, to Cincinnati \$2.30 and \$1.00 to Dayton. A 10% Federal tax was added to the fare.

Air Raid Western Ohio with seven industrially important counties was considered a potential bombing target. Air Raid Wardens were named to implement the air raid procedure. The Air Raid Wardens were Frank Park, Commander, A. H. Albert, Ed Boesel, Ed Burmeister,

Ralph Fogt, Walter Frey, Ernst Loebell, Richard McNett, Lester Neuman, Lewis Poppe, Earl Prueter, Carl Quist,

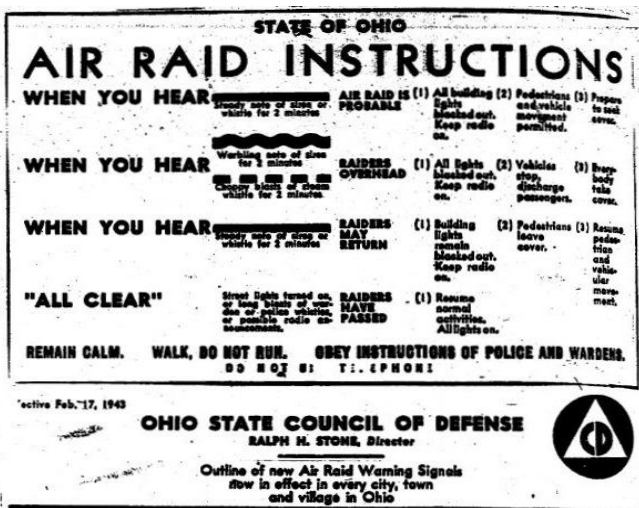
Orville Ruedebusch, U. J. Schwieterman, Pete Stovelbeck and Henry Wehrman. Thirteen auxiliary police were selected and assigned to assist Chief Clarence Wehrman

in the event of air raids. The Auxiliary Police were: Washington Street – Ivan Koeper, Walter Behm;

Franklin Street – Frank Buchloh, Lafe Deitemeyer; Monroe Street – Harris Sharp, Elton Moeller; Monroe Street – Henry Dicke, Edgar Rump; Main Street – Lawrence Souders; Jefferson Street – Oscar Schneider, Fred Wehrman; Herman Street – Henry Landwehr, Carl Schmidt. A county-wide trial blackout was planned for February 1943.

Harry Komminsk, manager of the White Mountain Creamery installed an air raid siren installed on their steam boiler. The siren had a higher pitch than the fire siren and was tested to be sure that all persons could hear the signal and know what to do. Failure to follow instructions in a drill would lead to a fine of \$100.00 for the first offense. Black-out paper to cover windows could be purchased for 10 cents a yard or \$1.00 a roll.

The following article, *A Brain in a Blackout*, was written in 1943 by an unidentified student for the *Crimson & Gold* page of *The New Bremen Sun*. I congratulate the author because I believe the young writer captured and described many of the anxieties and fears that air raid preparations and drills brought to the residents of New Bremen.



The New Bremen Sun March, 4, 1943

A BRAIN IN A BLACKOUT

Will the bells never ring – or is it to be the siren? Maybe it isn't tonight. There, there's the siren. No, the street lights are still on. The neighbors haven't blacked-out. The bells – the street lights are out. The basement light – did I turn it off? Of course, I did. Well, I think I did. Better make sure – it won't hurt to go outside (before the warden comes) and make sure we're not showing.

The excitement and breathlessness seems to have passed. Isn't it odd that a person involuntarily whispers when it's dark? A normal speaking tone seems out-of-place. I wonder what would happen if I turned on a light? How calm and quiet! It's hard to believe this is a war practice – seems more like those nights you can't sleep, and at about 3:00 AM, you make that

proverbial trip to the ice box. The town appears the same outwardly, but within it's different. Tonight families are huddled together – each alone with his own thoughts. I wonder of what they are thinking. "This is a good excuse for not having my lessons." "And we said it couldn't happen here." "I wonder where my son is tonight." Is that what people are thinking? Maybe. Oh! What is that splotch of white gliding through mid-air? Why, there for a minute, the Air Raid Warden's hat looked like something supernatural. It's strange what darkness does to ordinary things.

But to get back to the thought of other people. Are they thankful too, that this isn't the real thing – the real thing complete with the drone of planes, the whistling of bombs and the remaining quiet punctured by the stifled cries that accompany the unsuppressed fright of human beings? Sure, they are – who am I to be different from others when I thank my lucky stars and stripes that I am an American, living in the land of the free and the home of the brave! What's that? The "All-clear", of course. *The New Bremen Sun, Crimson & Gold Page, Written by a student, April 15, 1943*

Time In January 1943 the school hours were changed to Central War Time Hours – 9:45 to 4:30. War Time was year-round Daylight Saving Time.

In May, New Bremen, Ft. Loramie, Minster and St. Marys jointly changed to Eastern War Time from Central War Time. They planned to move back to Central War Time in the fall. If this sounds confusing, it was.

I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TIME IT WAS

Time marches forward, or is it backward? Who can tell? It keeps a man busy turning his clock forward or backward. If I were a clock I would want to be an electric one. That's one way to avoid being pushed around.

You now say to your friend, "Meet me at the corner at 7:30 P.M. Central War Time, or 8:30 P.M. Eastern War Time." You leave home to go to church and find you're in time to attend Sunday School. You leave New Bremen at 7:00 to go to a show in St. Marys. You arrive in St. Marys at 8:15. At least they can't pinch you for speeding when it takes an hour and fifteen minutes to drive eight miles. At 10:30 you leave St. Marys and get home at quarter of ten. Confusing, isn't it? Have you noticed how a person's appetite can't adjust itself to these sudden changes? It's only eleven o'clock and you're starved to death – with another whole hour to wait until dinner.

The only solution I have for this brain-befuddling problem is to wear two watches – one on each arm. Label one "Central War Time (Slow Time)" under it list all individuals, clubs, factories, schools, etc., affected by this time. The other watch will be your "Eastern War Time Watch." (It will be one hour faster.) Make a similar list for this watch. I would advise that these lists be written in pencil as they will be subject to change without warning.

After all the complaining there's one thing we'll have to admit – the hour of sleep we gained on Sunday night was wonderful. P.S. This article was written on Sunday night, by the time you read it we may be on Mountain Time. *The New Bremen Sun, Crimson & Gold Page, Written by a student, February 25, 1943*

Many of the adults were also confused by the frequent time changes.

EASTERN WAR TIME

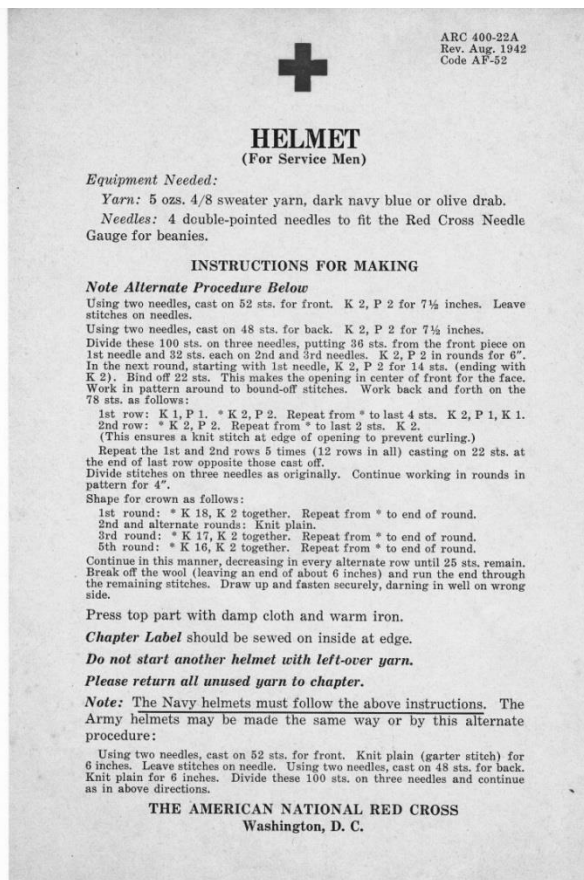
Discovering that towns in northwestern Ohio, one after the other, changed from Eastern Time to War Time, and realizing that entirely too much confusion had already arisen in regard to the kind of time to be observed, Mayor R. H. Dickman, Friday evening hastily called a meeting of the village council, laid the matter before the lawmaking gentlemen, and in one-two-three order the resolution was introduced and passed declaring Eastern War Time the legal time for New Bremen. Sunday all clocks were turned ahead one hour, and since then everything "is lovely and the goose is hanging high." Scarcely anybody would notice that the clocks had been meddled with – the sun rises at the same hour, minute and second and observes the same order in his setting, despite the fact that clocks and chimes and wrist watches all work in harmony in an effort to make the planets and all other heavenly bodies move on some other arbitrary time.

Piqua, Sidney and Minster had adopted the new time the preceding week; Celina, St. Marys and Wapakoneta were taking steps to effect the change last Sunday, so what was there left for the good old "New" towns – New Bremen and New Knoxville – to do but to follow in line and let the town clocks proclaim the time of day as being about two and one half hours ahead of old Father Time.

But, "ish-gebibble", the sun still shines, and the rain still falls, on the just and unjust alike whether they adhere to "sun time" of ages ago or to present Eastern War Time. He who sitteth in Heaven still reigns, and every so often confounds wise man in his own wisdom. The sexton of St. Paul church, half a century and more ago, regularly rang the church bells at six in the morning, twelve at noon, and six in the evening – according to Sun Time! *New Bremen Sun, Editorial, June 17, 1943*

The harsh realities of WWII necessitated hard work and sacrifice by all New Bremen citizens as they supported the war effort. But life did go on and "ish-gebibble", *the sun still shone and the rain still fell* and the New Bremen Village Council continued to meet regularly and deal with the issues of managing a town in 1943. They noted that the municipal water tanks needed a coat of paint, they developed a plan to get rid of the rats at the city dump, they admonished the residents who were allowing their dogs to trample Victory Gardens, supported the decision by retail stores in New Bremen to close their doors on Thursday afternoon and they appointed someone to fill the flower boxes on the Monroe Street Bridge.

An afterthought: The phrase – ish-gebibble – dates back to a 1913 song entitled "Isch gabibble, I Should Worry?" In the 1930s, Merwyn Bogue, comedian and cornet player for the Kay Kyser Band, took the name of Isch Ka Bibble and sang "I Should Worry? No Not Me." A likeness of Merwyn Bogue AKA Isch Ka Bibble appeared in 1954 in Mad Magazine with the name of Alfred E. Neuman saying- What me worry? Perhaps the denial of worry has helped these generations of people cope with living with war and other anxieties.



Red Cross Knitting Instructions for the woolen helmet designed to fit under the army issue helmet.

Donated by Dale Hirschfeld, son of Verona & Nevin Hirschfeld.

Additional 1943 Events

The births of Mick Jagger (The Rolling Stones), Janis Joplin, George Harrison (the Beatles), Newt Gingrich, James Levine (conductor), Robert DeNiro (actor), Arthur Ashe, Cokie Roberts, Joe Namath, Joni Mitchell, Billie Jean King, John Denver.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt flew to Casablanca, Morocco, to meet with Winston Churchill, the first time a U.S. President flew while in office.

The Postal Zone System was invented.

Frank Sinatra debuted on *Your Hit Parade*.

Porgy & Bess and *Oklahoma* opened on Broadway.

Frankfurters were renamed Victory Sausages.

The Pentagon in Washington, DC was dedicated.

The 1st US jet fighter was tested.

Norman Rockwell painted "Rosie the Riveter" for *The Saturday Evening Post*.

There were race riots in LA and Detroit.

Bing Crosby and the Andrews Sisters recorded *Pistol Packin' Mama* and *Jingle Bells*.

EARLY “SOCIAL MEDIA”

While doing research we often turn to the old issues of *The New Bremen Sun* newspaper. We remarked that this weekly paper was really the social media of its time.

The term social media has come into use in the last ten years to mean a way for users to share information with their social network. Now it means electronic communication. In the early 1900s communication was delivered by newspapers. At that time technology was advancing but telephones were a new invention not yet available to most people. So the local newspaper was the best option to stay up to date with the social news.

The old issues are quite different in their coverage of the news than papers today. The front page gave only sparse room to world or state events. Local items of interest to its readers filled most of the page.

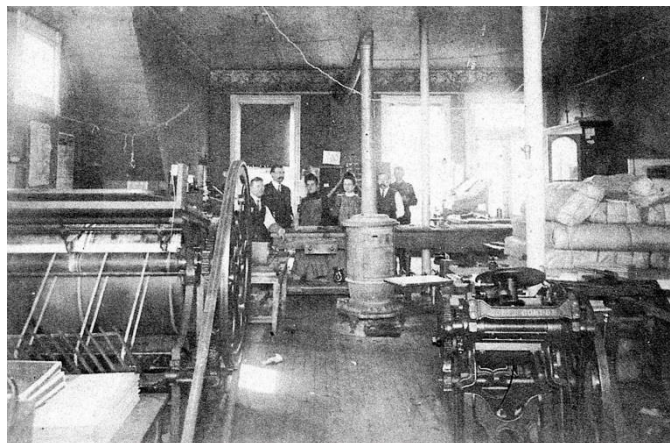
The front pages of the October 1919 issues are great examples. Only three articles were not town centered. A weekly column reported on The Fourth District in Washington. Another covered the Cincinnati Reds win of the World Series exactly 50 years after winning their first championship pennant. The other article covered the robbery of the Peoples Saving Bank in New Knoxville. The rest of the front pages were filled with social items such as:

- Farmers were pleased with the copious rains of last week.
- Mr. and Mrs. Joe Mann motored to New Bremen to conduct business and call on friends.
- Mayor Huenke ordered the marshal to strictly enforce the law of no bicycle riders on the sidewalks.
- Joe Brucken moved his cigar store to a more spacious storefront.
- The Girls Athletic Club of the High School enjoyed a 6 mile hike to Chickasaw on Sunday afternoon.
- Pauline Vornholt entertained last Friday at her parental home, a number of her comrades having been present. Games were played and a fine lunch served. Those present were: Roma Speckman, Erline Bruns, Madella Uetrecht, Laverta Kettler, Harold Schaefer, Orrin Blanke, Reuben Wissman, Ezra Hoffman and Paul Gilbert.

In early years not only did we want to know the news of the world but also what our friends and neighbors were doing. There was a time lag, though, because the newspaper was only published weekly.

In today’s world we still want to know the world news and what our friends and neighbors are doing but there is very little lag time with the new electronic devices. Twitter, Snapchat, YouTube and Facebook announce to others where we are and what we are doing.

Everyone seems to be texting on their phones and often with an abbreviated new language such as LOL, BFF... Just ask your kids. Interest in social news hasn’t changed; just the way it is delivered.



The New Bremen Sun print shop in the early years.

The first issue of *The New Bremen Sun*, was published on Friday, September 17, 1886 by C. M. Smith, Editor and Proprietor. In this first issue he shared his desire and purpose to serve the community. The following paragraphs are excerpts from his first editorial:

...In making our debut in New Bremen, we feel disposed to go to work with but few words in the way of a formal introduction, believing that business relations will be the most convincing proof, either pro or con. We welcome all to our office, where we will gladly greet you and push our familiarity and acquaintance. Our invitation is so wide-spreading and far-reaching that it positively includes everybody. A million friends and no enemies is our motto; neither shall we, as did Alexander the Great, allow our grief to overcome us on account of not having more worlds to conquer; and no pains will be spared, on our part, to prove that we are, indeed, a worthy friend of all public improvement, industries, enterprise, and all things pertaining to the advancement of progressive and social interests...

...We are here, to serve the public; we came not in time of war, but in time of peace; we bear no shield, but a will to work; and our interests and welfare are most certainly and closely allied with the progression and business interests of the town and community, thereby creating a mutual interest between us and the people. So, we have decided that the people of this community, shall know that our only and sole ambition is, to be a public benefactor; and we hope the people will cooperatively assist us in our work of making the SUN a first-class local and miscellaneous newspaper, second to none in the country, and a worthy representative of our neat little CITY....C.M.S.

The New Bremen Sun began publication in 1886 and ended publication in 1961.

**SOME HISTORY BITS FROM THE
NEW BREMEN SUN
100 YEARS AGO
1915**

- A girl cannot obtain a certificate to work until age 18 unless she has passed the 7th grade test. A girl may work without a certificate after reaching 18 years of age.
- A boy cannot obtain a certificate to work until age 15 and has passed the 6th grade test. He may work without a certificate after reaching 16 years of age. A boy cannot stay out of school between 15 and 16 years of age unless he is actually employed and his certificate to work is on file with the employer.
- The Surveying Company for the proposed shipping canal of the Miami & Erie Canal reached New Bremen.
- Kuenzel Mills in New Bremen put in a sprinkler system for fire protection. This is the first business in town to implement this modern technique.
- Seats at the Boesel Opera House were 35 cents/50cents/\$1.00 to see a Parisian Musical in three acts.
- Kellogg Corn Flakes sold for 9 cents a box.
- Granulated sugar sold for 3 cents a lb.
- The price of a Klanke cupboard was \$18.50.
- President Wilson made the first east coast to west coast telephone call. The charge for a call from Columbus, Ohio to San Francisco was \$16.00 for the first three minutes and five cents for each additional minute.
- A clique of high school boys of Lima are said to be addicted to the habit of using heroin, a derivative of opium and closely related to codeine and milder than morphine. The drug is obtained in a small pill and crushed in the hand and snuffed through the nostrils. It produces an effect of strength and restfulness; continual use of the drug will lead to the use of morphine and other stronger drugs. The school officials are investigating the matter, and threaten to use the extreme penalty of the law on the parties who are furnishing the drug to the boys.
- E.C.Kuenzel gave the writer a new version (which however may not stand very long anymore) of Germany's spelling system. Failure to receive satisfactory answer to his query why Germans spell culture with a c, he gave the solution by answering: "because England controls all the seas." See?

**LETTERS FROM OUR
READERS**



From Carol Cook (Friendswood, Texas) -

This poem was from Mother's (Marie Roediger) high school graduation in 1924. I don't know if she ever shared it with you but we always liked it and I did it in calligraphy for her many years ago.

Four Things

Four things a man must learn to do

If he would make his record true:

To think without confusion clearly,

To love his fellowman sincerely,

To act from honest motives purely,

To trust in God and Heaven securely.

-Henry Van Dyke

New Bremen High School May 23rd, 1924

From Doris Topp Carr (Gladstone, Missouri) -
Thanks for all you do for New Bremen!

From Larry Heil (Tucson, Arizona) - Thank you for the copy of The Towpath I received today...We also had an unpainted barn like you described. My dad built me a "cabin" in one corner of the barn. I remember the "Andy-Over" and playing "Kick the Can" in the back yards. Thanks again.

From Dottie Fark Haupt (Englewood, Ohio) - My sincere thanks to you all for such a fantastic job you all do. I look forward to reading it.

From John & Merrily Hoffman (New Bremen) - Thank you for the beautiful article on Aunt Selma. You people did a great job! John and I always enjoy your articles even though he remembers a lot more than I do. Keep up the good work and God bless. Thank you again.

From Otmar Elsener (Switzerland), a request for information about Maria Antonia Gemperle (born 1832) and Ludwik Jan Alfred Sulkowski, a Polish Duke, (born 1814), who he believes were land owners in New Bremen from 1853-1855. We have received requests like this in the past. The first was in 1909, then again in 1936 and again in 2000. After checking we found no record of them living in New Bremen, Ohio. We thought that since Maria and Ludwik were married in Albany, New York perhaps they lived in New Bremen, New York and suggested he contact their historical society.

WHAT DID YOU DO THIS WEEKEND?

Gen's Memories from 1959

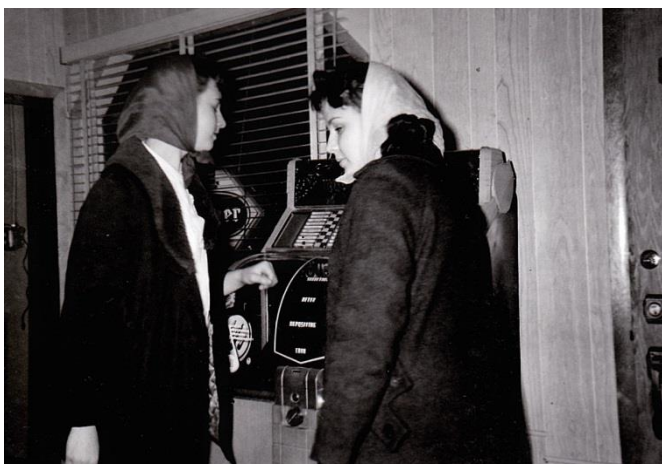
As I read Bob Gilberg's book, *The Last Road Rebel*, I could relate to his experience growing up in New Bremen. It caused me to remember how I spent weekend evenings during my high school years. This was our typical routine.

We spent most of our time looking for our friends. Before we could drive, we walked from one friend's house to the other. By the late 1950s we had all learned to drive but as girls we had no cars of our own.

We depended on the family car. If I could borrow my mother's DeSoto (pictured below) it was very roomy and we could pack them in. There were no seat belts to worry about because cars did not have seat belts then. First I would pick up my friends. Next we would stop at the Drug Store.



Then our next stop was usually Wint's.



In this picture Barb Cashdollar and Kathy Schmieder are playing songs on the jukebox at Wint's Restaurant.

Sometimes we spent the evenings making pizza – Chef Boyardee out of a box – with a stick of pepperoni and extra cheese from Howell's IGA. This was our way of finding boys who wanted to enjoy the pizza, too.



Jim Cumming, Karen Moyer, Lanny Hirschfeld, Sharon Widau, Lynn Hirschfeld at the player piano.



Lois Dicke, Lynn Hirschfeld, John Tostrick



Barb Cashdollar, Sandra Moore, Lois Dicke, Kathy Schmieder, Bev Lampert

Other times, after "cruising," the girls would arrive at the designated home for a slumber party. No matter what we chose to do we always felt we had good times to tell about when asked, "What did you do this weekend?"

History Mystery Page



#1. Who is this prominent New Bremen couple seated on the steps with the three girls?



#2. The New Bremen Boy Scouts are ready for a wilderness trip in 1969. Who are they?

Do you have a photo that you would like to share with others? Send a scanned copy (JPEG) to Gen at gen@nktelco.net or call us and we will scan it for you. Please share your photos with us.

ANSWERS: #1 Felix & Helen Kuenzel #2 Top: Duane Hartwig, Ray Sanders, Bob Nagel, Lynn Schaefer, (Trip Guide) 2nd row: Tom Sherman, Dave Dirksen, Bob Kuenning, Ned Burris, Stan Berning, Doug Hartwig Front row: Dean Hartwig, Rick Wierwille, Dave Heinfeld, Dave Dicke. #3 Ed Koenig, Hal Opperman, Tom Fledderjohann, Max Fledderjohann, Daryl Koenig, Roger Koenig, Bill Moore, Clarence Kohler, Bill Frey, Ned Conradi #4 Susan Warner at the drinking fountain on the SW corner of Washington & Monroe #5 Louis Poppe Shoe Store



#3. These young men are dressed for a Christmas Pageant at Zion Church in 1959. Can you name them?



#4. What was the location of this drinking fountain?



#5. This is the Boesel Opera House in the 1950s. The Moore's Store is on the left. What store is on the right?

New Bremen Historic Association

P.O. Box 73

New Bremen, Ohio 45869-0073

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CM P-76 - Means you are a Charter Member and Paid in 1976.

CM D-15 - Means you are a Charter Member and made a Donation in 2015.



The Last Road Rebel –and Other Lost Stories: Growing Up in a Small Town –And Never Getting Over It

By Robert Gilberg

Can be purchased at Amazon.com and BarnesandNoble.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Raffle Drawing at each NBHA Board Meeting (April, 2015 through February, 2016)

The 2015 Raffle (March 2015 through February 2016) began in March with the first drawing at the Annual Dinner Meeting.

May 2 & 3, 2015 BE A TOURIST IN YOUR OWN HOMETOWN

The Luelleman House & the Pape House will be open May 2 & 3 from 12 Noon - 4 PM Visit all the museums in Auglaize County

December, 2015.....Christmas Tree Festival and Open House at the Lockkeeper’s House

The Luelleman House Museum and Pape House Museum are always open to the public by appointment.