

THE TOWPATH

Published Quarterly
January-April-July-October
THE NEW BREMEN HISTORIC ASSOCIATION
April 2017

NBHA ANNUAL DINNER MEETING

The meeting was held on March 20, 2017 at the Holy Redeemer Fellowship Hall. The evening began with a delicious dinner prepared by Speedway Lanes and served by Holy Redeemer Youth Group.



After dinner a short business was conducted. President Dave Maurer introduced the Board members and gave an update on projects and events.

The speaker for the evening, Tim Eiting, provided a fascinating presentation assisted by Rob Stauffer. Their topic “**Historic Farms near New Bremen**” described farms that have been in the same families for 100 years or more. We appreciate all the research Tim did on Century Farms to develop this historical and interesting presentation.

A full house of 125 people once again enjoyed this annual event



Tim and Kristy Eiting

"THE TOWPATH" is a historical reflection of New Bremen and the surrounding area published quarterly by the New Bremen Historic Association and mailed to all members. We welcome stories, pictures and suggestions of topics from our readers.

Editors: Genevieve Conradi & Joyce Ruedebusch

gen@nktelco.net & jdr@nktelco.net

419-629-2764-----419-629-2946

WEBSITE – www.newbremenhistory.org

Johanna Schroer...johanna @nktelco.net

NBHA BOARD OF TRUSTEES

(2017) **David Maurer...**President...419-629-0164

dcmaurer6@gmail.com

(2018) **Larry Dicke...**V.President...419-629-1903

lddicke@nktelco.net

(2019) **Dennis Dicke...**Sec/Treas...419-629-2764

dengen@nktelco.net

(2019) **Max Fledderjohann...**419-629-3368

maxandbev@nktelco.net

(2019) **Larry Tangeman...**419-629-3314

lrtangeman@nktelco.net

(2017) **Mary Moeller...**419-629-3635

mem@nktelco.net

(2017) **Mike Stucky...**419-629-1366

mjstucky1946@roadrunner.com

(2018) **Diane Paul...**419-629-2856

rdpaul@nktelco.net

(2018) **Carl Roediger...**419-629-2549

ceroediger@nktelco.net

APPOINTED BOARD MEMBERS

Mike Staton, Curator...419-953-8369

mstaton@nktelco.net

Rob Ziegenbusch, Curator...419-305-2822

rmz74@nktelco.net

Rodney Suchland, Member-at-large...419-953-4451

rj_suchland@yahoo.com

Thomas Braun, Genealogy...567-279-4921

tomandginnybraun@gmail.com

Genevieve Conradi, Historian's Scrapbook...419-629-2764

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)

New Bremen Historic Association

PO Box 73

New Bremen, OH 45869-0237

2016 Annual Report

Check Book Balance 1-1-15	\$	103,159.93
INCOME:		
Auglaize County Grant	\$	750.00
Book Sales	\$	371.15
Christmas Tree Festival	\$	89.43
Donations	\$	5,976.18
Historic Association Annual Dinner	\$	1,710.00
Life Members-New	\$	1,750.00
Membership Dues	\$	4,700.00
Memorials	\$	1,630.00
Raffle Income	\$	10,015.00
T Shirt Sales	\$	560.81
Total	\$	27,552.57

EXPENSES:		
Bonds	\$	100.00
Christmas Tree Festival	\$	62.26
Computer and Computer Software	\$	1,133.85
Contract Services	\$	185.00
Dues	\$	92.61
Historic Association Annual Dinner	\$	1,575.63
Luelleman Museum	\$	9,372.88
Insurance	\$	1,121.00
Lawn Maintenance	\$	1,345.74
Misc. Expenses	\$	50.00
Office Supplies	\$	654.88
Pape Museum	\$	26,190.11
Postage	\$	814.01
Raffle	\$	3,365.55
Real Estate Taxes	\$	40.00
State Taxes	\$	23.47
Towpath Mailing	\$	749.57
Towpath Printing	\$	3,191.23
Utilities	\$	2,340.94
Total	\$	52,408.73

Check Book Balance 12-31-16	\$	78,303.77
New Bremen Foundation Investment	\$	13,512.84
Petty Cash	\$	40.00
Total	\$	91,856.61

Reporting Period:
1-1-2016 thru 12-31-2016
This is an unaudited report

Dennis Wm. Dicke - Treasurer

NEW MEMBERS

Deanna Anderson

Gary & Shirley Sollmann

Dan Maurer

NEW LIFE MEMBERS

Michelle Broussard

Jack & Darlene Gilberg

Dan Maurer

MEMBER DEATHS

George Neargarder (12/19/2016)

Edward Rump CM (12/20/2016)

Rev. Gene Hegemier (2/4/2017)

Jane Weber Elliott (2/10/2017)

Lowell Francis LM (2/26/2017)

(CM=Charter Member LM=Life Member)

DONATIONS

Lee & Rita Wissman
William & Cindy Young
Daniel Johns
Jim & Pat Moeller
Jim Kettler
John Pape
Jason & Lori This
Kendra Sindelar

MEMORIAL DONATIONS

In Memory of William Kuck by Sheryl Biederman.
In Memory of Jane Weber Elliott by Michael & Linda Hirschfeld.

2016 Monthly Raffle Winners

January - \$100 Arnold Heitkamp (NB), \$75 Greg Paul (NB), \$50 Marlene Ahlers (NB)
February - \$100 Jack Gilberg (NB), \$75 Joyce Ruedebusch (NB), \$50 Hollie Kremer (NB)

2017 Monthly Raffle Winners

March - \$100 Lloyd Schroer (NB), \$75 Mary C. Ahlers (NB), \$50 Sharon Leffel (NK)

NBHA Board Members especially thank those winners who have chosen to increase the profits by returning their winnings.

ITEMS RECENTLY DONATED TO MUSEUM

Kuenzel Mills sales slip by **Terri Davis**; Arcade hanger, lock Two fan, sales slips from White Mountain & Arcade, Arcade beverage license, election certification by **Lloyd Schroer**; Postcard of NB children by **Judy Meckstroth**; Graduation items from 1913, Taylor studio NB postcard, student photos by **Karen Voress**; Various NB advertising items and 1951 Mirage by **Amy Scheer**; Twig Benders programs by **Diane Paul**; Army Air Corps uniform belonging to Roger Busse, various NB baseball clippings & photos by **Larry Busse**.

William & Pam (Schott) Hartman visited New Bremen recently and donated a Klanke Furniture Company wardrobe for display at the Pape House. Pam said, "My parents loved New Bremen. We want to honor my Dad's memory and honor



my mother." Pam is the daughter of Paul & June Schott.

Dear *Towpath* Editors,



My husband was born in New Iberia, Louisiana and traveled around the world being part of an Army family and in the Navy in the Vietnam War. The first time he visited New Bremen, a decade ago, he was instantly enchanted and said, "Now this is what comes to mind when one visualizes their image of what America truly is." Seeing my birthplace once again, renewed my pride in New Bremen.

Gerald passed away June 12, 2015, at age 68 and I have since moved from my 35 year home in Houston to Tennessee. I still may not be back in Ohio, but my heart will always belong there. I am sending my life-time membership check to the New Bremen Historic Association in memory of my late husband Gerald Broussard. I know he would be proud to somehow have a lasting connection to the town he loved. All my best,
Michelle (Hoffman) Broussard (Tennessee)

Happy New Year, Gen & Joyce: You did it again. A masterful issue of *The Towpath*, a truly historical document. Sue and I look forward to February 1st, when tickets for the Annual Dinner go on sale...**John T. Dickman** (Ohio)

Enjoyed the January issue of the *Towpath*, especially the article about the cafeteria. I think lunches were \$.25 back in the early '50s. Sometimes we took our money and went to the drug store and had a soda. If we brown bagged it, we ate in the study hall. **Evelyn Baur** (Missouri)

Just a small donation in memory of what would be my father's 100th birthday on December 19, 2016. He absolutely loved New Bremen and its memories and was able to revisit many, many times up until his death in 2010. Having spent a great deal of time there as a child visiting my grandparents, I also loved its charm and the residents. **Sherry Kuck Biederman** (Florida)

(Editor's note: Sherry's grandparents were Ernst & Frances (Schulenberg) Kuck.)

I am a great-granddaughter of Carl Boesel and granddaughter of Frank T. Boesel, whose mother was Carl's third wife. Over the years I have enjoyed reading *The Towpath*, particularly the January 2017 issue's *German Migration*.

I thought the Mauer/Boesel etc. families were the founders of New Bremen. However, according to *Travel Adventures of an Immigrant...they learned about the New Bremen settlement and they bought some land*. Do you have any information about the first settlers? **Beth Sauerland**

(Editor's note: The City of Bremen Society drew up a charter in July 1832, among 33 members to purchase land in Ohio to found a Protestant town. Charles Boesel arrived in the Bremen community in the fall of 1833 to visit Maurer family relatives. Mr. Boesel reported that the settlement of Bremen had about 35 families at that time. The New Bremen Sesquicentennial Book (1983) gives a complete history of the founding of New Bremen.)

Bicycle Craze

The high wheel bicycles appeared in our country about 1870 and became more and more popular in a nation that depended upon horses for transportation.

An advertisement for the high wheel bicycle appeared in the *New Bremen Sun* in 1888. This ad lists New Knoxville as the source of bicycles.

The bicycle craze or golden age of the bicycle was evident in the mid-1890s. It was hampered by the early roads of stone, clay, brick, or gravel. Road improvements were being made but bicycles had narrow tires which proved treacherous on the uneven surfaces.

My grandfather's youngest brother, Albert Conradi, graduated from NBHS in 1894. He then enrolled in OSU and traveled to and from Columbus on a high wheel bicycle. He had to coordinate his trips with the weather and condition of the roads according to letters written by his older brother Louis.

The following articles are from the *New Bremen Sun* in the summer of 1893 and reflect bicycling in the town at that time:

Bicycles are coming in extensive use in this vicinity. The ladies even have caught the craze and spin along the streets as gracefully as men. (*New Bremen Sun* 7-15-1893)

The bicycle riding in New Bremen is really coming down to a fine point. Godfrey Finke, a tall, stalwart gentleman on Sunday afternoon attracted the attention of passersby, by riding on a bicycle carrying with him two of his children –three in all on one bicycle – and with the ease and grace manifested by the manipulator, a person could not help but express some appreciation for the novelty. (*New Bremen Sun* 8-26-1893)

A SAD ACCIDENT

Fred Neuman is Thrown from a Horse and Breaks a Leg

It was about 10 o'clock Thursday forenoon, when Fred Neuman of this place and Henry Kundert of Delphos, both horse buyers, drove to the farmhouse of Henry Schnelle who lives about 1 ½ miles east of Kettlersville. The farmer had a horse for sale, and upon being apprised of the mission of his visitors he brought him out into the barn-yard to allow his prospective customers to inspect the beast. One of the many tests applied to an animal, applying for the market, is his power



of respiration. The horse was young and frisky but Mr. Neuman who is quite a horseman, didn't need much persuasion to mount him. He drove him up and down the yard, rearing, jumping, and snorting. Mr. Neuman held steady and was about ready to give him another chase when up and sideways the horse jumped, running right under from his rider. Down came Mr. Neuman, landing on the ground with his foot, in such an angle as to break his right leg. Both the tibia and fibula are broken a little above the ankle joint. The bone protruded through the flesh, drawers, socks and pantaloons. Schnelle, the farmer, on whose premises all this happened would not allow the stricken man to be taken into his house so they had to drive to Kettlersville where Ben Kuest acted as the Good Samaritan. Drs. Ekermeyer and Stone of New Bremen were summoned and soon brought relief to the patient sufferer. Dr. Ekermeyer, who has a record as a bicyclist made good use of his ability as such. He was at the bedside of Mr. Neuman, 18 minutes from the time he received word, making

a mile in 3 minutes. At even-tide the unfortunate man was brought to his home, on Main Street, where he will receive the best attention from a devoted wife and faithful attendants. Mr. Neuman has the sympathy of the community in his hours to affliction. He is a man of pleasant disposition and esteemed by a wide circle of friends and acquaintances. To be in bed, this hot weather, and to be compelled to lie still, is hard to endure but Mr. Neuman's fortitude will conquer in the end and bring him out all right in a reasonable short time. Have patience, Fred. (*New Bremen Sun*, 7-15-1893)

But in 1896 this editorial statement appeared:

As much as may be said in praise of the bicycle, the spectacle of a rider on his bike isn't half as enlivening as a man on horseback. (*New Bremen Sun*, 12-18-1896)

When automobiles arrived in 1900, better roads became a necessity. In 1903 President Theodore Roosevelt declared that if people could tame a continent surely they should be able to build good roads.

In New Bremen all males between the ages of 21 and 55 years were mandated to provide labor on the roads for two days each year under the direction of the street commissioner or road superintendent of the district in which they lived. One important job was to haul gravel from nearby gravel pits to fill in the road beds.

Although automobiles caused the improved roads, many people in New Bremen still depended upon horses or bicycles for transportation into the 1930s. For trips of greater distance the interurban electric railway and the passenger train system were available.

It is interesting to note that "horse" terms were transferred from the early transportation dependence on horses to modern day transportation. The steam train was called an *iron horse*; the bicycle a *poor man's horse*; the interurban or trolley car was a *horseless carriage* and present day engine performance is *rated as horsepower*!

On this page is a sampling of advertisements from *The New Bremen Sun* depicting bicycles during the **Bicycle Craze** at the turn of the century.

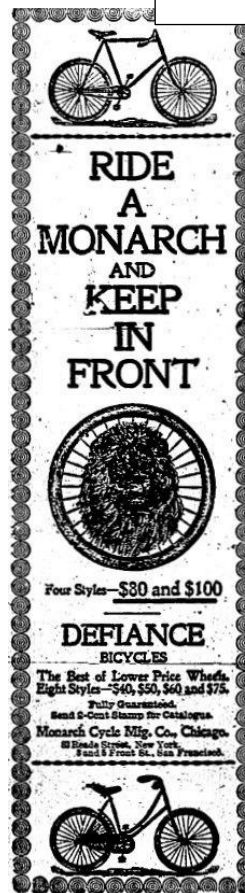
1892



1894



1897




1906



While the first bicycle craze slowed in the early 1900s, the popularity of riding bicycles for recreation and physical fitness has remained part of our culture.

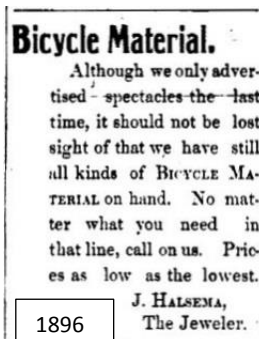
We are privileged to have the Bicycle Museum of America located in New Bremen to preserve bicycle history.



1894



1895



1896



The Bicycle Museum of America
7 W. Monroe St., New Bremen, Ohio

Mother's Day has its Roots in Peace Activism and Women's rights

Julia Ward Howe was a peace activist and strong supporter of the rights of women, in spite of a domineering husband. She is best known for writing the lyrics to *The Battle Hymn of the Republic* to describe her feelings about the Civil War. After the war she founded the New England Women's Club and the New England Suffrage Association. In 1870 she called for an international Mother's Day to celebrate peace and motherhood.

Another proponent of the cause was Ann Reeves Jarvis who created Mother's Day Work Clubs to address public health issues. The Clubs worked diligently to improve sanitary conditions and lower the infant mortality rate in West Virginia. During the Civil War the Work Clubs cared for wounded soldiers from both the North and the South.

After Ann's death in 1905, her daughter, Anna Jarvis, began a campaign to honor her mother and other mothers for their actions. She was successful when the first celebration to honor mothers occurred in her home state of West Virginia in 1908.

In New Bremen, the following article appeared in the *New Bremen Sun*:

Governor Harmon

**has issued a Proclamation for the Observance of
Mother's Day**

**And Mayor Boesel Has Repeated the Request to New
Bremenites**

Ohio's Governor Harmon has placed his stamp of approval on "Mother's Day" and issued a proclamation designating Sunday, May 8th, as "Mother's Day."

He has asked in the proclamation for a special observance of the day in all of the churches of the state. The object is to honor mother, your mother, the greatest friend you have or ever will have on earth. The wearing of a white flower or any kind on that day is accepted as a tribute to the mother of the person wearing it.

The proclamation of Governor Harmon making it a day of general observance is pleasing, and a long step toward making the day one as generally observed as any holiday in the present calendar.

Following the example of the Governor, Mayor Otto J. Boesel has also issued a proclamation, appearing elsewhere in this issue, calling upon the people of New Bremen to properly observe the day and along with their other religious duties give due recognition to the mother whose love for her children is immortal. (*New Bremen Sun*, 5-6-1910)

The *New Bremen Sun* endorsed this observance by publishing an article clipped from the *Columbus News*:

There will be a good many sighs and tears written and printed about Mother's Day. Let's cut that out and get down to material facts. Your mother is the best friend you ever had or ever will have. She was patient when you were an aggravating child. She was long suffering when you were thoughtless as a youth. She is proud of you as a man or woman. She loves you always—remember that, always. Whatever you may do or become, she still is your hopeful, confident friend. That can be said of no one else in the world. A mother's place is unique, beautiful, Christ-like.

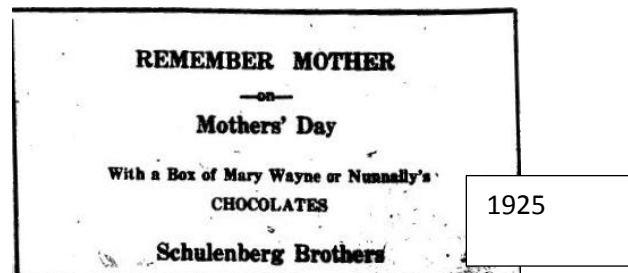
Mother's Day, on May 8, is simply an attempt to do collectively what all of us know we should do as individuals. It is setting apart a single day of the whole year to pay an all too insufficient tribute to Her. Life isn't too busy for any of us to pause and think, this once that to Her we owe all the real help, all the essential good, that may be ours. It isn't too busy for us to remember that the hand that rocked our cradle is the hand we always can be sure will be gentle and helpful to the end.

Memories of Mother, of what she has done, of what she will do in spite of all, will make any man or any woman better, cleaner of heart, higher of ideals. When you pay Her the small service of wearing a white flower, it not only will freshen your own mind, but it will be a suggestion to him who may have been thoughtless. And, if he is a real man, he will be thankful. It is a little thing, but it means a lot.

Remember the day and honor it. Mother, whether she be here or there, will know. And you will know, and be happier and better. (New Bremen Sun, 5-6-1910)

By 1911 all states observed the holiday. In 1914 President Woodrow Wilson signed a proclamation that the 2nd Sunday in May would be a National Holiday to be called Mother's Day.

Anna Jarvis was successful in founding Mother's Day but later resented the commercialism that followed the holiday. In the 1920s, the floral industry raised the prices of a white carnation and then added red carnations. They advocated wearing a red carnation if your mother was living and white if deceased. The greeting card and candy industries began pushing their products to consumers as well.



By 1943 Anna Jarvis formed a committee to rescind recognition of Mother's Day. She was distraught that the special day had become so commercial. She was placed in a sanitarium and her committee was disbanded. It is said that she was penniless and her bills were paid by people in the floral and greeting card industries to keep her in the sanitarium.

It seems New Bremen followed the national trends regarding Mother's Day. In 1925 only local churches presented programs for the holiday. As the years went by more commercial advertisements were found in the *New Bremen Sun* as local merchants promoted the sale of flowers, cards and candy.

St. Peter's Church

Sunday School at 9:00a.m. Lesson: "Philip and the Ethiopian Treasurer." Acts 8, 26-39.

The following Mother's Day program will be rendered in Sunday School:

Song by the School.

Prayer by the Superintendent

Song by the School

"History of Mother's Day"...Mrs. Chas. Boesel

Song 312

A Mother's Day Story...Margaret Roettger

A Song by Itala Wierth's Class and Viola Mueller's Class

Recitation by Marie Fark

A Mother's Prayer... Mrs. Cornelius Heinfeld

Song No. 310

German Mother's Day Sermon at 10 a.m.

Mother's Day

Let every day be Mother's Day-

Make roses grow along her way

And beauty everywhere.

Oh never let her eyes be wet

With tears of sorrow or regret,

And never cease to care!

Come grown up children and rejoice

That you can hear your mother's voice.

A day for her? For you she gave

Long years of love and service brave,

For you her youth was spent;

There was no weight of hurt or care

Too heavy for her strength to bear,

She followed where you went;

Her courage and her love sublime

You could depend on all the time.

-Edgar Guest

Henry C. Klutey, Pastor

(*New Bremen Sun* 5-7-1925)

For Mother's Day



We have a complete display of
Hillmark Mother's Day Cards,
beautiful in design and appropriate in
sentiment. Be sure and get one.

And then we have an excellent assort-
ment of Candles put up in attractive
boxes at 50c and up.

For Graduation

Never a nicer line did we have of
Graduation Cards. The young folks
now finishing school will appreciate
them. Look over our line and make
your selection.



SCHWIETERMAN'S DRUG STORE

NEW BREMEN, OHIO

Perfectly Simple—

Flowers

for MOTHER

A Gift that is simply perfect.
Mother's Day, May 12th

Cavanagh Greenhouses

S. Franklin St. Phone 306X New Bremen, Ohio

1940



HATS OFF TO MOM!

"She's Everybody's Sweetheart"

She's the real "heroine of the home front", that Mom of yours! Have you ever really stopped to consider what that actually means? Have you been just taking her for granted, as you do the comfort of your square meals, your soft bed, the fresh air you breathe? Of course, she's always been there when you wanted her—soothing your aches, mental or physical—real or imagined! Of course, she's loved it, and today she's doing still more—binding the wounds of an aching world—soothing the heart of a nation!

The second Sunday in May—every year—it is the day officially set aside to honor mothers. It's the day when, if you possibly can, you arrange for a furlough and pay her a visit. When, if you're too far away you write—or send flowers—or select a gift that you know will please her, because it's her day, and you love her! Lift up her spirits as she's lifted yours so often. Do the thing that will best show her you care—a visit, a photograph—a letter and a gift! But whatever it is, "Hats off to Mom," for she's the "grand old girl"!

1943

(The advertisements are from the *New Bremen Sun*)

SCARLET FEVER

From the beginning of New Bremen, scarlet fever was a dreaded disease. It primarily struck young children and was listed as the cause of death of many in the old church records.

The cause of the disease was not known and to protect the community several public health measures were implemented. To keep scarlet fever from spreading rapidly, homes with infected persons were placed on quarantine. The individuals were confined to their rooms or home for six weeks. A sign in the window alerted others to not enter. Special techniques were developed to clean the home after the individuals were free of disease. Homes were fumigated with sulfur or formaldehyde candles that burned in the closed rooms for 24 hours. Fumigation was believed to kill the organism causing the disease.

The *New Bremen Sun* documented the community's response to an outbreak of scarlet fever in 1936 with the following articles:

Scarlet Fever Keeps 25 Children Home from School

Approximately 25 New Bremen school children are absent from their classes because of scarlet fever. Not all of these have contracted the disease, as only 11 cases were reported up to noon today in New Bremen and its contiguous territory.

Grade school children ill with the disease include Shirley Jane Laut, Gerald Brady, Richard Hartwig, second grade; Anna May Quellhorst, third grade; Warren Moeller, fourth grade; Betty Schnelle, fifth grade; Kathryn Roettger, Marie Burmeister, sixth grade; Laonna Nieter, seventh grade, and Mildred Zahn, eighth grade. (*New Bremen Sun*, 11-13-1936)

Scarlet Fever Epidemic Subsides

After visiting and inspecting the New Bremen schools this morning because of the scarlet fever epidemic, Dr. R.C. Hunter, Auglaize County, Health Commissioner, and Dr. Frank Ayers, Mercer County health Commissioner, informed the *Sun* there is "no cause for alarm, due to the mildness of the cases and that the number of cases are decreasing." At the present time there are only seven homes under quarantine.

The health commissioners advise all persons having sore throats to keep away from others who are well. Scarlet fever always starts with a sore throat.

They also emphasize strongly the old adage "see your doctor early, if in doubt."

If children are not feeling well they should remain at home. The health commissioners are agreed the schools should be kept open so that close touch can be had with all children of school age. If a child is not in school it is missed immediately and the county nurse or health commissioner can investigate so as to learn the reason for its absence. Close supervision of absentees it is believed will cause the epidemic to subside.

At this season of the year there are always more contagious diseases because of the reopening of schools. Contributing factors are the daily bus trips to and from school, use of

uniforms and instruments by members of the band, lack of proper ventilation, etc.

In concluding their statement, the health commissioners again insisted that "with the close check now being instituted it is believed there will be no cause for future alarm." (*New Bremen Sun*, 11-20-1936)

Theatre Party for New Bremen Children Postponed

Because there still are several isolated cases of scarlet fever in New Bremen, Manager Tom Larkin of the Roosevelt Theatre reluctantly has decided to call off his Christmas party for New Bremen children tomorrow afternoon. If satisfactory arrangements can be completed, the party may be held at a later date. (*New Bremen Sun*, 12-23-1936)

Today we know that scarlet fever, also called scarlatina, is a bacterial infection caused by the Group A streptococcus, the culprit in strep throat and impetigo. It lives in the nose and throat or sores of impetigo and is spread easily by coughing, sneezing and sharing drinking glasses, dishes, linens and towels.

Scarlet Fever begins with a sore and reddened throat and fever. A rash may appear 1 or 2 days later. Today the doctor can do a quick test to see what is causing the sore throat and rash and prescribe treatment to prevent rare but serious health problems.



The cartoon above was drawn by Howard "Bud" Kettler in November of 1936. Howard was the cartoonist for the *Crimson & Gold* page of the *New Bremen Sun*. Page 9 features an article about Bud Kettler as our New Bremen Notable.



A NEW BREMEN NOTABLE

Howard "Bud" Kettler

Howard George "Bud" Kettler was born in 1919, the son of Bernhard and Augusta (Hoewischer) Kettler. He was the youngest of six children. His older siblings were Paul, Irene (Blanke/Ruedebsch), Grace (Scheer), Donald and Robert. He attended New Bremen schools and graduated in 1937. During his junior and senior years he served as the cartoonist for the Crimson & Gold page in the New Bremen Sun. The drawings on this page and the previous page are by Howard.

He served in the U.S. Navy during WWII. He then returned to New Bremen and worked as a postal clerk. In December, 1947, Bud resigned this job and purchased The Home Printing Company, publisher of *The New Bremen Sun*. He became business manager and editor and built the concrete block building for the business at the corner of 1st and Walnut Streets.



He conducted the newspaper and printing business until 1952 and then sold the business and accepted a position as type designer with

IBM in Poughkeepsie, New York and later Lexington, Kentucky.

Howard is best known for developing the **Courier** type style for the typewriter in 1955. In the early phase of development, the new type style was named Messenger. Howard said, "A letter can be just an ordinary messenger, or it can be the courier, which radiates dignity, prestige, and stability." Thus the type became known as Courier.

It is interesting to note that Courier has been adapted and released under many names and forms since those early days but still resembles the original Courier by Howard G. Kettler. Howard is known for developing 14 Font Families. To view the fonts go to www.myfonts.com/search+Howard%20G.%20Bud&20Kettler/

Of the many type styles Bud designed, he was very proud of designing the braille font for the Braille Writer, which embossed the paper so that a blind person could feel the typed image and read it. .

Howard and Lucille Schwieterman were married in 1944 and the parents of four daughters- Kathleen & Katherine (twins), Kristine, and Keely. In 1961 Lucille died unexpectedly at a young age. Later Howard married Gwendolyn Page. Howard died in 1999, Gwendolyn died in 2005.



Howard drew this cartoon in response to two earthquake tremors in our area during the first week of March, 1937. The tremors centered in Anna, Ohio and caused severe damage to buildings there. The quakes were felt in New Bremen but there was no damage reported. Howard's cartoon was published in the *New Bremen Sun* on the Crimson & Gold page.



The Ben Kettler Family Standing:
Howard G. "Bud", Robert, Augusta & Benjamin Kettler, Paul B. Stanford (step-son), Donald. Grace and Irene are seated.

This "self-portrait" cartoon was drawn by Bud Kettler as a junior in High School.

Thanks to the Kettler sisters, Kay, Kathie & Keely for pictures and information about their father.



The Early Years of New Bremen High School Basketball

Since 1915 when the program began, NBHS basketball has always been a popular sport. The problem was finding an adequate place for the teams to play. The Central School on South Franklin Street had no gym so games were played at the Hespe Auditorium on Monroe Street.

The Hespe Auditorium was in the Laut-Schulenberg building. The building was erected to furnish a room of sufficient dimensions to be used for public gatherings and civic exhibitions.



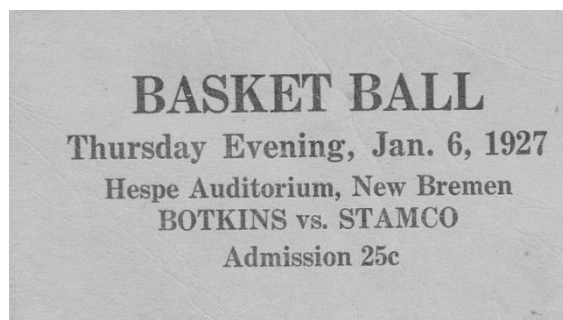
The Hespe Auditorium entrance is to the left of the theater.
Photo was taken before 1939.

(Note: Today this building still stands and is next to the Lock One Theater. It was the location of the Shanghai Gardens in the 1930s. It also housed the 5 & 10 Cent store from 1940-1975. Now owned by Crown it is used for company offices.)

The auditorium was used by the NBHS athletic department from November 1915 until the new high school building was erected in 1929. The auditorium had no seating for spectators and no locker rooms. Players had to go across the street to the Hotel to change into their uniforms.

Another team that used Hespe Auditorium was the STAMCO Five team, New Bremen's team in the Auglaize-Shelby County basketball league.

Below is a photo of an actual game ticket provided by Edythe Conradi Henschen. Her father, Lambert Conradi was the center for the STAMCO Five. Other members of that team were Alton Schelper, Elton Bruns, Leander Landwehr and Louis Kohl.



The problem of an inadequate facility for basketball was solved when the High School on Walnut Street was built in 1929. The new high school building had locker rooms and a gym with seating for 300 spectators.

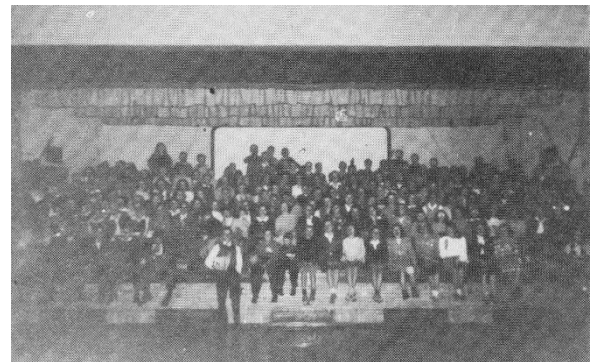
But by 1946 basketball games were becoming crowded with student and adult spectators. The decision was made to use the stage as seating for the students and this article was published in the *Crimson and Gold* section of the *New Bremen Sun* newspaper.

BLEACHERS

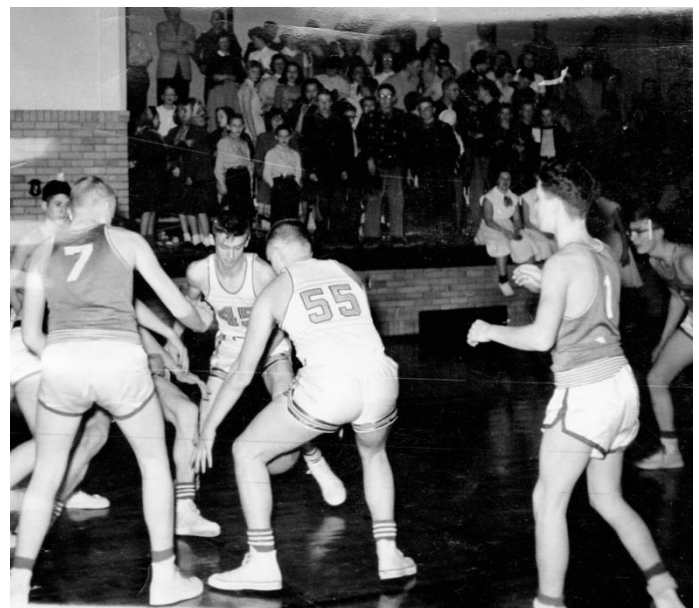
The seating problem in past years at basketball games has been a great one. But this year the problem has been solved, for bleachers are being rented from Shawnee High School for the season.

These bleachers will seat approximately 200 people. All students will sit on them so the seats on the incline may be used by the adults.

We are very thankful that we were able to rent the bleachers and are hoping more people will come, for there will be plenty of seats. (*New Bremen Sun, Crimson & Gold Page, 11-7-1946*)



NBHS Students seated on the stage.



NBHS basketball game in progress with students seated on the stage. (circa 1954)

Once the seating space was increased the hope was that season ticket sales would also increase. Another *Crimson and Gold* article reports on that issue:

BREAK THE THERMOMETER

This year, Mr. Bay, in charge of the season ticket sale, has had a large thermometer built so as to show the steady increase in the ticket sale.

The goal has been set at \$380, if we are to meet the necessary expenses. At present we have approximately \$250.

You as the public are entitled to know just where all this money is needed. The greatest of all expenses is that of paying the referees which amounts to \$110. Next is the renting of bleachers for \$25. As everyone knows from last year the uniforms could be improved so the purchasing of new trunks cost \$75. New basketballs were bought for \$60. And other additional miscellaneous expenses amounted to \$30. So you see we need approximately \$300 just to cover the expenses.

Anyone that hasn't yet bought a ticket can still purchase them. Let's see if we can't possibly raise enough money to break the thermometer. (*New Bremen Sun, Crimson & Gold Page, 11-14-1946*)

To keep the interest high, the next issue contained a humorous report of an imaginary basketball game with New Knoxville written by the *Crimson & Gold* staff.

Stuff

The most talked about thing in school is basketball and that will be my topic for the week. First I will explain the game to those who don't understand it (that includes me). Now the whole idea of the game is to get the ball through the basket. Bill Conradi has yet to find this out. The next thing is to be able to dribble. To do this you need a large wad of gum. One of the most important requirements is to be able to hold your opposition without the referee seeing you. This is done by gently placing your hand on the opposition's pants and holding on firmly. P.S. Be sure that the man you are guarding is smaller than you.

Now we come to the game. Let us pretend that we are playing New Knoxville. (If you do not know where New Knoxville is ask Shirley Weinberg). All of you realize that there is no prejudice against this wonderful little community. Ha! Ha! The game is started by the referee. Referees are always fair, that is if one team doesn't pay him more. He throws the ball into the air, the center start kicking each other and the game has started. Mervin Quellhorst gets the tip-off (don't get excited this is purely imaginary) and Tom Waterman makes a field goal. Knoxville then takes the ball out but Molly catches up with them and the game is resumed. Hoge throws the ball to Kuck, Kuck throws the ball to Hoge, this keeps up until the half and we are ahead two to nothing. Mr. Downing gives the boys a hot pep talk at the half and when I say hot, I mean hot. When the boys get out they all have heartburn from the hot pep talk.

The second half is just as exciting as the first. Jack Schnelle accidentally kicked Kuck in the head when he was trying to block a shot. Kuck makes the shot and the score, going into the last quarter is 1 to 2.

Bremen goes into the last quarter much more confident with

this large lead. Our coach sends in Johnny Ahlers to give us more height. With Ahlers in there we control the rebounds and this is a great advantage. With five seconds left there is a jump ball. Kuck slams the ball down and hits Mervie on the head and the ball bounces in. We are now behind one point. Dave Jung gets the ball and is fouled by Hoge, who just accidentally broke Dave's arm. Dave makes the foul and game is tie. What happened? The coach sends in a surprise player, one of great skill. I won't mention his name but his initials are David Schwieterman. He makes a basket and we win.

This game was purely imaginary and similarity to any game really played may be found when we play Knoxville.

(*New Bremen Sun, Crimson & Gold Page, 11-28-1946*)

The Editorial Staff of the *Crimson & Gold Page* shows that David Schwieterman was the Humorist. I wonder if David wrote the article about the imaginary game with New Knoxville?

EDITORIAL STAFF	
Editors	Joan Koenig and Erlene Kuenning
Assistant Editors	Susan Schulenberg and James Melchert
Columnist	Nancy Erhardt
Humorist	David Schwieterman
Girls' Sports Editor	Alberta Ahlers
Boys' Sports Editor	Robert Bay
Senior Reporter	Dona Mae Speckman
Junior Reporter	Donna Greber
Sophomore Reporter	Don Schwieterman
Freshman Reporter	Don Sharp
Eighth Grade Reporter	Charlene Schroer
Seventh Grade Reporter	Roland Meckstroth

YOU AND YOUR TEAM

At the beginning of every year we should turn over a new leaf, in our school activities as well as in habits at home and on the street. Since the basketball tournament isn't too far off, I think a good resolution for all of us would be to give our team the support they deserve. They have done a good job this last year and we have reason to be proud. I am certain they will do their best in this new year if they have the support of the student body as a whole. The success of this basketball season rests on the fans as well as the players.

A game lost is a hurt to each player as well as to a fan. No matter whether we win or lose, the cheering should not fade in the least. Imagine yourself a player. The game is nearly ended and you've been beaten badly. No one is cheering. No doubt you would feel like quitting. If the team can play an entire game, we should certainly be able to cheer through one.

The fans are a lot like the supporting cables on any bridge. What good would the bridge be without these? Therefore, what good is a team without its fans supporting it?

Let's carry out this New Year's resolution by starting right now.

1. Let's make it our business to attend every game that we possibly can.

However low or high the score, we will not let them down.

Perhaps this year will not be one of victory; but if it is—wouldn't you like to be able to say that you, a fan, helped bring it about? Let's meet the challenge of 1947 and cheer our team to victory.

From New Bremen Sun, Crimson & Gold Page, 1-16-1947

**New
Bremen High
School on
Walnut
Street built
in 1929.**



Auglaize County: IN MOTION!

In this issue our nomination for an Auglaize County native in motion is **Ruth Evelyn McKay**. Ruth was a 1939 New Bremen High School grad who chose a career as an airline stewardess when that service industry was just beginning. Our research found Ruth Evelyn and her husband Elliot Polansky did much to introduce aviation to Auglaize County.

The first stewardess, Ellen Church, began flying in 1930 as a registered nurse on passenger flights. At that time all stewardesses were nurses and that requirement remained until WWII when many enlisted to use their nursing skills in the war effort. During the war the nursing qualification was lifted and new guidelines were put in place.

The qualifications to become a stewardess for a major airline in the 1940s included being aged 21 to 26, unmarried, with 2 or more years of college. The physical requirements were height 5 feet 2 inches to 5 feet 6 inches and weight under 125 pounds. Those that were hired were sent to stewardess school for 4 weeks of study after which they earned their wings.

This information from Ruth Evelyn's obituary shows the effect her career choice had on her life.

...She lived a life most people dream of. After graduating from New Bremen High School in 1939, she entered Heidelberg College in Tiffin, graduating in 1943 with a bachelor degree in music. She then became an airline stewardess, first flying with Trans World Airlines on DC-3 airplanes. She later flew with American Airlines until 1947. She traveled to six of the seven continents, often with movie stars, politicians and other celebrities, missing only Antarctica.

She was married to Elliot Polansky, the first pilot employed by Crown Controls to fly parts and people to various locations in the Midwest...

Mr. Polansky was also instrumental in putting Auglaize County in motion with the formation of New Bremen Airways airport. New Bremen Airways offered charter flights and also sponsored an airshow according to articles in the *New Bremen Sun*.

AN AIRPORT

Has become Reality for the New Bremen Sector New Bremen Airways Preparing To Operate the New Airfield

For a long time the aviation enthusiasts and progressive-minded citizens of this community have yearned for a local airport. This desire has finally been realized with the formation of New Bremen Airways, a partnership between Clifford Harris, of New Bremen, and Elliot Polansky, formerly Chief Pilot for the Laister-Kauffman Aircraft Corporation of St. Louis.

In an interview with a representative of the *SUN*, Mr. Polansky said: "New Bremen Airways has secured a large tract of land from Mr. Carl Dicke, of this village, under a long term lease arrangement, and already has secured a Class 1 airport designation from the Civil Aeronautics Administration.

The new airport is located a little over three miles north of New Bremen along Route 66, and incorporates the old Frey estate, and part of Fernwood Farms. It is ideally situated for serving New Bremen and Minster from the south and St. Marys to the north. The field is considered a 'natural airport' by local authorities, since a minimum of grading will have to be done...(Excerpt from *New Bremen Sun* 5-2-1946) (*New Bremen Sun Airways* ad 5-29-1946)



NEW BREMEN AIRWAYS
NOW OPEN FOR
Licensed Flight Instruction
Gasoline and Servicing Facilities.
Fast, Safe, Twin-Engine Charter Service at Reasonable Rates. Passenger rides in a Twin Engine airplane on Holidays and Week-ends.
New Bremen Airways
3 miles south of St. Marys on State Highway 66
Telephone New Bremen 104 for Information. 45-2

AIR SHOW

Proved pleasing Feature, Saturday at New Bremen Airport

Careful estimate of the crowd which was present, Saturday afternoon at the New Bremen Airport to witness the show sponsored by the American Legion, is said to have approximated a thousand spectators who came from considerable distances to view the exhibition.

Elliot Polansky, manager of the port, was assisted by several expert pilots and fliers in going through maneuvers which were breath-taking but withal proved that the men had ability and a thorough understanding of handling aircraft...(Excerpts from *New Bremen Sun* 10-31-1946, 7-25-1946)



STUNT
DEMONSTRATIONS
and RIDES
Passenger RIDES
— IN —
A SINGLE ENGINE ARMY TRAINER
— OR —
A FAST TWIN-ENGINE EXECUTIVE AIRPLANE
SUNDAY AFTERNOON
— AT —
NEW BREMEN AIRPORT
3 1/2 Miles North on 66

DOG TRAVELS BY AIR

Sarge, a coal-black cocker spaniel, who was flown to New York City via the New Bremen Airways in charge of Mrs. Peggy McKay for delivery to Ruth E., daughter of Mr. & Mrs. H. D. McKay, Sr., on July 15, was shipped back to the local McKay family via American Air Lines from New York City to the Dayton, Ohio, airport, during Tuesday night, July 30, in a wooden crate and was called for at the Dayton Airport by H. D. McKay, Jr., accompanied by his girlfriend, Miss Rita Foos of Wapakoneta. Having been transferred from New York City to the Memphis, Tenn. Port, Miss McKay will spend a few days with her parents before assuming her hostess duties from the Memphis seat of operations of the American Air Ways to Canadian ports. (*New Bremen Sun* 8-1-1946)

BABIES, BABIES, BABIES ONE, TWO OR THREE ?



Albert and Annabelle Knost

Recently Amy Scheer showed me a delightful picture taken in 1912 of her Uncle Albert and Aunt Annabelle at a tender age sitting on a bearskin rug.

Amy wonders if there were other early families in New Bremen with twins.

Albert and Annabelle were the second set of twins born to George and Sophia (Dicke) Knost. Notice that they are both wearing dresses. You can easily identify Annabelle in this photo because her hair is parted in the middle. It was customary at that time to part the little girl's hair in the middle and the boy's hair to the side.

We do not know their age in this picture but think that they are about six months because they are sitting comfortably, are bright-eyed and attentive. Albert and Annabelle look well-nourished in this picture. We would expect the twins to be a little smaller at birth and playing catch-up during their first year.

George and Sophia Knost had a total of 11 children. The first set of twins was born in 1900 but only Walter survived and then died at the young age of 19 years from scarlet fever. Other children in the family besides Albert, Annabelle and Walter were Felix, Carl, Richard, Wilbur, Charlotte, Grace and George. Grace Knost Scheer is the mother of Amy Scheer who shared this picture with us.

The birth of a healthy baby is a joyful event and usually just one baby arrives. Years ago, without the technology to monitor the fetus, a second or third baby sometimes surprised the couple and brought need for extra care and concern. A multiple birth can bring on a premature labor and thus a low birth weight for the infants. Some other problems include an increased chance for cesarean delivery, respiratory distress, heart abnormalities and vision concerns.

A sad birth event was described in the obituary for the Ruedebusch twins:

The pall of gloom was cast over the home of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Ruedebusch at Lock Two this week, when the little twin boys, with which their home had been blest about a month ago, were taken by the angel of death. Saturday evening at 9 o'clock, Willis Frank passed away at the age of 27 days, only to be followed on Wednesday this week by the other baby boy, Wilfred John, aged 30 days. Both babes had succumbed to bronchial pneumonia. Services over both the little remains were conducted yesterday afternoon at 1:30 in the home by Rev. Henninger. Interment was had in the German Protestant cemetery. (New Bremen Sun, 12-10-1920)

We do know that the Ernst Wilhelm Pape (1818-1900) and Sophie Rosine (Thieman) Pape (1819-1900) family had a set of twins and a set of triplets.

Both Ernst and Sophie were born in Hemeln, Hanover, Germany. The Pape family came to New Bremen in 1850. Their twins Herman and Henry were born in 1853. The boys were strong, healthy and both lived a long life. The triplets arrived in 1858 and did not fare so well. Maria died the same day and Catharina and Charlotte both succumbed after several days.



Richard & Edward May

Ralph and Christine May had twin sons, Richard & Edward, in August 1925. They were the first set of twins to be born by Caesarean section at Piqua Memorial Hospital. Ralph May grew up in a house on Plum street where the Log Cabin now stands and maintained close contact with his friends and relatives in New Bremen.

Another set of twins were Hazel & Helen Hespe, NBHS graduates in 1937. They were the daughters of Leander & Martha (Bushman) Hespe.

On page 9 we also mentioned the twin girls born to Bud & Lucille Kettler while they were living in New Bremen.

**Do you have twins or triplets in your family?
Please drop us a note or an e-mail and tell us about them.**

MUSEUM HIGHLIGHTS

Military Display

Our curators, Mike Staton & Rob Ziegenbusch, are making good progress with the military display. The military collection has been moved to the first floor in the Luelleman House and new cabinets have been built to showcase the donated items. The collection contains artifacts from the Civil War, WWI, WWII, Korean War, & Vietnam War.



One of the cabinets features WWII items.

Schoolroom Display



NBHA members, Tom & Joyce Wente, have made our Schoolroom display come alive with the framing and hanging of the NBHS Class of 1910 flag and the slate blackboard complete with a chalk tray.

Fashioned from a large piece of slate, the blackboard closely matches the slate blackboards that many of us remember in the Central School on South Franklin Street. The large blackboard required a group of volunteers to transport and help hang it on the wall. Our model schoolroom contains displays that encourage interaction. Visitors young and old may sit at the desks, look at vintage books and write on the blackboard.

None of this would have been possible without the help of the Wentes. Thank you Tom and Joyce!



Rob & John Tangeman carrying the blackboard into the museum.



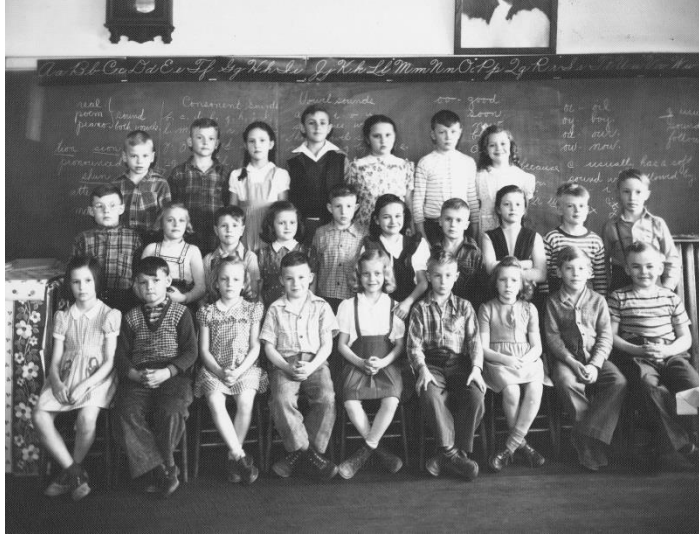
Rob, John and Tom figuring out how to angle the blackboard to get it to the second floor.



Project completed! Tom & Joyce Wente, Rob Tangeman, John Tangeman, Larry Tangeman

HISTORY MYSTERY

In the last issue of The Towpath (January 2017), we published this early picture of the NBHS Class of 1957 and asked readers for help with identifying the students. Calls from **Bill Tostrick**, **Marlene Moeller Egbert**, **LaRose Nedderman Roediger**, **Margene Howell** and **Carol Ruese** helped us name all the students!



Front Row: 1. Kay Gilberg 2. Eddie Roettger 3. Barbara Campbell 4. Dave Heinfieldt 5. Saundra Woehler 6. Warren Schroer 7. Rosalyn Ahlers 8. Merlin Campbell 9. Edward Conradi

Middle Row: 1. Dale Sollmann 2. Joann Fark 3. Gene Roediger 4. Helen Kuck 5. Jim Luedeke 6. LaRose Nedderman 7. Walter Fischbach 8. Jane Henkener 9. Bob Braun 10. Tom Rempe

Top Row: 1. Bill Tostrick 2. Roger Hegemier 3. Margene Howell 4. Jim Opperman 5. Patricia Raymond 6. Don Ruese 7. Marlene Moeller



1. The youngsters in this picture are all grown up now. Do you know their names?

(Hint: Their parents live on E. Monroe Street.)



2. Do you recognize this gasoline station? What was its name and where was it located?



3. Can you name the owner of the gasoline station pictured above?



4. What catastrophic event occurred in 1909 at the corner of Main and Monroe Streets?

(Answers on page 16)

**New Bremen Historic Association
P.O. Box 73**

New Bremen, Ohio 45869-0073



NBHA Museum – 120 N. Main St.



PLEASE KEEP US ADVISED OF ANY ADDRESS CHANGES.

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

NON-PROFIT ORG.

U.S. POSTAGE PAID

New Bremen, OH 45869

Address Service Requested

**NOW IS YOUR CHANCE TO
COMMEMORATE ANOTHER HISTORIC
LANDMARK IN NEW BREMEN AND SUPPORT
YOUR NEW BREMEN HISTORIC ASSOCIATION.**



**Order this special shirt at www.spiritsplash.com/nbha
from Apr. 1st through Apr 30th. The shirts
will be shipped after Apr. 30th.**

UPCOMING EVENTS

On Sunday, April 30, all museums in Auglaize County will be open from 1-4 PM to roll-out AUGLAIZE COUNTY: IN MOTION!

The Luelleman House & the Pape House will also be open from 1-4 PM on the 4th Sunday of May, June, July, August, September & October.

If you wish to visit at other times, call any Board Member for an appointment. We always have lots of interesting things for you to see, so please plan to visit.

BREMENFEST in New Bremen, August 18-20, 2017.

New Bremen PUMPKINFEST, September 23, 24, 2017.

***History Mystery Answers:** 1. Casey, Jenny, Ashley, & Dusty Woehrmyer. 2. Lone Pine Service Station at corner of N. Main & Pearl Streets. 3. Fred Wellemeyer 4. On July 17, 1909, car no. 18 of the Western Ohio Railway (interurban) jumped the curve and rolled on its side killing two and injuring others.*