

THE TOWPATH

Published Quarterly
January-April-July-October

THE NEW BREMEN HISTORIC ASSOCIATION
April 2018

ANNUAL DINNER MEETING

Good times and laughter filled the old New Bremen high school gym as people gathered to share their memories. On March 20th, this special site was chosen for the 2018 Annual Dinner Meeting of the NBHA.



NBHA Annual Meeting held in old high school gym

Tours of the building began in the evening at 5:30.



Lloyd Schroer

wondered how many class plays had been presented on the stage.



Diana (Elking) Hartwig showed us the beam where she left her fingerprints when she jumped on the trampoline in high school.

Dinner, prepared by Speedway Lanes, began at 6:30 and this group of **Junior High Student Leaders** provided welcome assistance during the meal.



'After dinner, Dave Maurer, NBHA president, called the Annual Meeting to order and recognized current board members. He then presented a slate of trustees to be elected. With no nominations from the floor, Larry Dicke, Don Gagel and Diane Paul were re-elected and the business meeting was ended.

The evening's program began with our school song, proudly sung by all. Pictures of early New Bremen and its schools, prepared by Brian Puthoff, were presented. Alumni **John Dickman** and **Edith Wissman** provided commentary which everyone enjoyed. Both John and Edith have fond memories of their school days in New Bremen.

In conclusion, **Superintendent Jason Schrader** discussed plans for the new school which will replace the present elementary and middle school building.

The evening ended with the raffle drawing and door prizes.

We thank Supt. Schrader, Diane Kramer, Elementary & Middle School Principal and Brian Puthoff, Media Specialist for their assistance in planning this memorable evening.

NBHS ALUMNI

John Dickman & Edith Wissman



"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.

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NEW MEMBERS

Mimi & Robert Messick

Dr. Gary & Katherine Topp

Janice Dorsten

NEW LIFE MEMBERS

Dr. Gary & Katherine Topp

MEMBER DEATHS

10/4/2014 **Rolf Slade**

12/12/2017 **Everett Topp**

12/23/2017 **Rev. Lawrence Holmer (LM)**

1/10/2018 **Robert Boykin (LM)**

1/29/2018 **Paul Quellhorst (CM)**

2/5/2018 **Stan Kuenning (CM)**

2/18/2018 **Kitty Hunt Ziegenbusch (LM)**

2/26/2018 **Jim May (LM)**

(CM=Charter Member LM=Life Member)

DONATIONS

Jack & Becky Dicke, Stan & Dorothy Hirschfeld, Jason & Lori This, Bill & Cynthia Young, Robert Wierwille, Elmer & Roberta Halker, Edward & Rosalind Ekermeyer, Karl & Ethel Mesloh, Jerry & Sue Maxson

MEMORIAL DONATIONS

In Memory of **Christopher Kuck** by Barbara Kuck Dill.

In Memory of **Kitty Hunt Ziegenbusch** by Rob Ziegenbusch.

2017 Monthly Raffle Winners

January- \$100 Steven Meyer (NB), \$75 Bob Kuck (NB), \$50 Duane Heinfeld (Minster)

February - \$100 Sherry Meckstroth (NB), \$75 Wagner's IGA (Minster), \$50 John Thobe (NB)

March - \$100 Bruce Suchland (NB), \$75 John Thobe (NB), \$50 Steve Koenig (NB).

NBHA Board Members especially thank those winners who have chosen to increase the profits

by returning their winnings.

ITEMS RECENTLY DONATED TO MUSEUM

Program and ticket from 2017 State Volleyball game by **Jared Weigandt**; New Bremen Broom Company Whisk broom, 1949 NBHS Class photo by **Charles Dickman**; 1911 wedding invitation, Dicke genealogy papers, quilt top, assorted photos by **Cheryl Barlage**; 1935 & 1936 NBHS class rings, scrapbook, assorted photos by **Darlene Neuman**; Guinness certificate & print by **John Turner**; NB FFA cap by **Greg Paul**; Pictures, news clippings by **Merrily Hoffman**; Ray-Ann Lanes jacket by **Louis Bertke**; Lock Two Mills stationery by **Ron Kremer**.

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)



NBHA NEWS

Barb (Cashdollar)
Ziegenbusch shared a story and a historic recipe:

When we moved to New Bremen we attended Zion Church and enjoyed the frequent carry-in dinners. Mrs. Gertrude Komminsk noticed that my mother did not have a basket to bring her food to the church. She gave my mother this

basket and made us feel welcome. My mother always brought that basket full of food whenever she visited any of her children. My kids would say, "Grandma is here and she brought the Basket!"

Barb also shared her favorite recipe for banana bread given to her by Mrs. Komminsk:

3 over-ripe bananas, mashed fine

1 C. sugar

½ C. Crisco

¼ tsp. salt

2 eggs

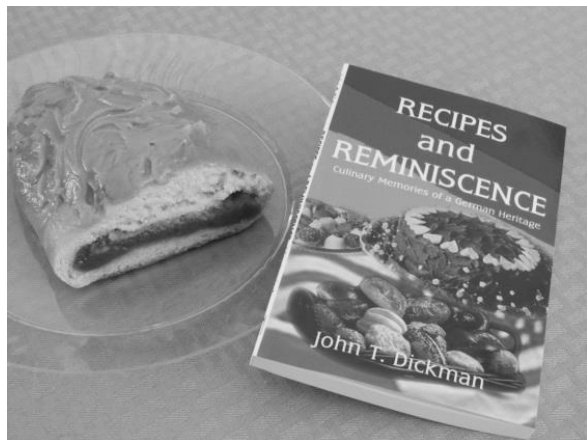
1 Tbsp. sour cream

1 tsp baking soda

2 C. flour

Cream together the sugar, shortening, salt. Mix in the beaten eggs. Add the sour cream and baking soda and mix well. Alternately add the mashed bananas and the flour to the mixture. Pour into two small loaf pans or cake pans, greased. Bake at 350 degrees for 40-60 minutes. (I used a 7"x11" cake pan & butter rather than Crisco. It was done in 40 minutes.)

And speaking of food, **John Dickman** stopped by one day with a peanut butter roll that he had made and wanted us to taste. He used a recipe from New Bremen baker Irvin August Fark. John describes how to make this tasty treat in his book ***Recipes and Reminiscence: Culinary Memories of a German Heritage***. The peanut butter roll was delicious!



VISITORS

Deborah Philipot Scrogg and her family came to see the museums during their visit to New Bremen. **Deborah purchased the house (now the Pape House Museum) in 1991 and enjoyed living there. And she also became engaged to be married in this house.**



LETTERS

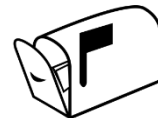
Dear Gen & Joyce,

In the passing of my father I desire to establish a life membership to the New Bremen Historical Association. He used to save his Towpath for me to read and I always enjoyed it. You are to be commended many times over for the work you do.

The Luelleman House was the home of my great grandparents. Thank you.

Sincerely, **Dr. Gary Topp, DVM** (Ohio)

Keep up the great job! **Mary L. Wissman**
(Florida)



Exceptionally excellent NBHA newsletter.
Best local Historical Society periodical that I've ever seen.

Mary Ann Olding (Ohio)

Thank you for the wonderful work you do on *The Towpath* which I always look forward to seeing.

Michael Boesel Bee (California)

Greetings from a former New Bremen resident:

My late wife and I always looked back on our time in New Bremen with many fond memories. We had a great apartment in a delightful town and where we started our family. It was a pleasure to return a few years ago for the annual meeting. I just wanted to let you know I've been around many city and county historic groups over the years and none has been as successful as the NBHA. Your expansion shows continued effort/support and your newsletter is superb. I can tell you that at the first meeting held, many years ago, at the library, none of the dozen or so people there would have ever dreamed of what the organization has become. Over the years I have spoken at other societies and used NBHA as an example of excellence. As a former teacher I would suggest that you should involve the young people in your program as much as possible. Many organizations of all types are finding it challenging to pass the interest and zeal to the younger generations. Congratulations.

Greg Parrott (Illinois)

New Bremen During World War 1

This is the second in a series of articles written to observe the centennial of World War 1. The first article covered 1917 and this article concerns life in NB during the first half of 1918. Our information comes from the archives of the *Sun* newspaper and items donated to the NBHA museums.

Off to War

Local news published in early 1918 shows the deepening effect of the war on the Homefront and also gives news of New Bremen soldiers. The cards and letters published tell of their safe arrival at training posts in the



USA or with the Allied Expeditionary Forces (AEF) in France. At this time in the war the AEF was just being deployed as a field army under the command of Major General Pershing. They fought their major actions during the second half of 1918. The following is a letter written by **Raymond Tomhafe**. (Pictured here.)

Somewhere in France

Feb. 21st, 1918

Friend Jim,

Will try and write you a few lines and let you know that I am safe in France and feeling fine and dandy.

The trip across the pond (as we call it here) sure was great, for we had nice weather almost all the way, only a few days of rough weather is all we had. We fellows were up on deck without coats on, it seemed almost like summer. After we got where we could see the sight of land, we could see green fields and trees starting to get green. Where we are now, it is not quite so warm, but it will do for this time of the year. They say they get Spring early and I sure hope we do for we start to work in a few days.

They sure have got funny ways around here of doing work. They hitch one horse in front of the other and then make one horse pull all of the load. They have two-wheeled carts here. I have seen only a few four wheeled wagons. The only automobiles a fellow sees here belong to the government.

The people wear wooden shoes and sure make a lot of noise when they walk on the stone walks. We have heavy shoes in the army that we call clod hoppers, but they are nothing compared with these wooden shoes. We sure can appreciate having good shoes. (One page deleted by censor.)

The French language is a little hard to learn, but I am going to get all I can of it, so when I get back home I can give you a whole string of it.

The Y. M. C. A. has a little store here where we can buy different things if we have the money. They sell candy, tobacco and cigarettes. Some of it is as cheap as in the states and some (The censor struck out a few lines here.)

The only American girls I have seen so far are with the Red Cross. They sure are doing good work here and we fellows can appreciate what they and the Y. M. C. A. are doing for us.

Well I guess I must close now, hoping to hear from you soon. Give all the fellows my best and tell them that if they want to see some sights to come to France on the next boat that leaves N. Y. I am not in a bit of danger where I am now, so the folks at home need not worry about me not being back at the end of the war, which I think is not far off. Well I must close as it is time to put out the lights.

Your friend, Priv. Raymond Tomhafe.

(New Bremen Sun 3/15/1918)

Saying Goodbye

The first group of men drafted left in October, 1917 and were given a farewell by several hundred people at Main and Monroe Streets. When the second group left for military training in April, according to the *Sun*: ... *they were tendered a pleasant farewell reception in the Washington Street city hall. Members of the City Band rendered several musical selections, refreshments, lunch and cigars were served and all enjoyed a real good time...*

There was also a farewell church service:

The farewell services in St. Paul Church last Sunday evening tendered the local boys, who left today for Camp Sherman to enter military training, was largely attended. Members of St. Peters Church were invited to join the services and several appropriate hymns were sung.

A service flag with 31 stars, representing the number of local boys, who are serving under the colors, was unfolded. The services were impressive and served to inspire the boys with a feeling that New Bremen people are with them with heart and soul. (New Bremen Sun 4/26/1918)

We are honored to have the service flag from St. Peters Church preserved at our museum. The women placed a star for each man in military service from their congregation. They also formed "The Correspondence Committee" to ensure that the men far from home would hear the local news. Mrs. Edgar (Ruth Mueller) Henning donated a packet of letters to our museum written by the committee to her father, Frank Mueller.

**St. Peters Service Flag and letters
can be seen in our museum.**



Elsa Mueller, Viola Mueller, Hilda Huefe, Carolyn Neuman, Bertha Wierth, Irene Ekermeier (chair)

Challenges on the Homefront

Supporting the war effort was causing some changes and challenges on the Homefront. One of the first was the nationalization of the railroads. President Wilson put all railroads under federal control to ensure more efficient operation. In February this caused a problem for *Sun* readers when the paper ran only local news and posted this notice.

BLAME THE KAISER!

Because of irregularity in railroad service due to conditions brought about by the war, the *SUN* is obliged to appear in four-page form today, the ready-print paper for this issue having failed to arrive though the press was held up till the last minute. It is one of those unavoidable events that cause regret but can not be remedied. May the kind readers bear with us.

Another change came when the United States Food Administration [USFA] was established to manage the wartime supply and conservation of food. "Food Will Win the War" declared the USFA as a program of conservation was put in place. It was a voluntary program that relied on American patriotism to support this war effort. The USFA urged the conserving of wheat, meat,

and sugar so those items could be saved for the military.

Herbert Hoover was appointed head of the USFA and these efforts at food conservation came to be known as Hooverizing. Although the program was voluntary, there were some guidelines such as the restriction of the use of wheat in baking.

Bread baked with less wheat was called Victory Bread. There was no standard recipe for Victory Bread. The only requirement being the use of 80 % wheat flour and 20% substitutes such as cornmeal or barley flour. The *Sun* reported "Herb Trautwein the owner of a New

Bremen bakery can only sell Victory Bread to his patrons. This was ordered because of food conservation instituted all over the country."

The cost to supply food to the military was highlighted in another *Sun* article titled "Soldiers' Meal Ticket is your Liberty Bond." It lists the amount of 14 food items needed to feed one United States soldier for one year. The largest amounts are 475 pounds of meat, 413 pounds of wheat flour and 73 pounds of sugar. The cost to supply this food is noted as one of the reasons for Liberty Bonds.

Liberty Bonds were issued by the government to raise money for the war. Buying bonds was another voluntary program that allowed those on the Homefront to aid in the war effort. The Treasury Department offered Liberty Bonds, War Savings Certificates and Thrift Savings Stamps. The 25 cent Thrift Savings Stamps were collected and then exchanged for a \$5 War Savings Certificate. In New Bremen the Kuenzel Mills Company participated in the program.

A \$5 War Savings Certificate and a card with a War Saving Stamp comprised a gift which the Kuenzel Mills Company will present to every one of their employees, according to a resolution adopted at a meeting of the board of directors Tuesday evening this week. This step was decided upon partly as a patriotic move on the part of the management and also because of valuable services rendered while pressing and voluminous war orders were being filled in the mills. (New Bremen Sun 2/22/1918)

The *Sun* reported that New Bremen went "Right Plumb over the Top" in the War Savings Stamps campaign and their quota was surpassed. A list of the more than 400 names of the people who purchased the stamps was published in the July 5th issue. (The list of names can be viewed at the museum.) The following week a letter from Walter Grothaus was published with a favorable comment. Excerpts from that letter follow:

**PATRIOTIC VEIN IN LETTER WRITTEN BY
WALTER GROTHAUS TO
POSTMASTER KUNNING**

Camp Gordon, Ga.

July 4th, 1918

68th Co. 6th Inf. Rep. Reg.

Dear Lafe:

Your many kindnesses to me in the past surely place me under the obligation of writing you a letter.

Today is the 4th of July and the soldiers of Camp Gordon are celebrating with appropriate amusements and entertainments the anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. The Fourth this year is undoubtedly more impressive, it has a much greater significance, it is more meaningful to us, than any Fourth we, who are now in

camp, have ever experienced in our lives. The soldier in khaki everywhere, is wonderful evidence that the principles established and boldly proclaimed to the world in 1776, are still being jealously guarded by the descendants of the signers of that famous document. In reality the principles laid down in 1776 to apply only to the territorial limits of the U.S. have by this war, if successful, and it can't be otherwise, been extended to cover the entire world.

I certainly was mighty proud of N. B. when I saw in the last issue of the SUN, that she had again, as she had on every former occasion, more than subscribed the W.S.S. quota. It is especially pleasing to know that this was accomplished before some other town, or cities, who proclaim to have as much if not more unadulterated loyalty than New Bremen, had subscribed their quotas. Evidence is too overwhelming now, to doubt but that the early anti-war sentiment which clouded our minds in the first days, when the issues were not yet entirely clear, has entirely disappeared and New Bremen is every inch, true American...

...The Auglaize County boys who left on May 28, when I did, have undoubtedly seen some mighty intensive training. After a four days stay at the Columbus barracks, we were rushed to Camp Gordon, Ga. We were merged with boys from Pennsylvania and Illinois, and from the very start we were shoved thru a schedule which called for a morning tumble out of bed at 5:20 a. m. and with the exception of just ample time for meals, a continual drill of some kind, until 5 p.m. We passed rapidly thru ordinary drill, to rifle practice, to bayonet drill, to the use of gas masks and Saturday we continue with a ten mile hike to a target range where we will camp three days in the open, shooting at the targets during the day. Our company it is said has been whipped into a condition, which is equal to that of recruits who have had six months training, whereas we have had only four weeks.... It would be no surprise to me to see overseas service very soon...

...The climate here in Georgia is not what we expected. We thought it would be unbearably hot, although it gets mighty warm at times, yet it is very rarely that a nice breeze is not blowing. At night it gets almost uncomfortably cold. The extra blanket from our own The Kuenzels Mills Co. has proven very valuable...

...Fate has decreed that my place in the army is with the infantry. This of course, means trench warfare, hand to hand encounters, over the top. This does not worry me in the least, however. I only trust that in all cases and under all circumstances I shall always do my duty...

Give my regards to your family. With the very best of wishes, I am,

Very truly yours, Walter
(New Bremen Sun 7/12/1918)

By July 1918 America had been in World War 1 for over one year. During that time there had been major challenges to produce the soldiers, food supplies and money needed to wage the war. The people of New Bremen had faced many changes in their lives as they supported these war efforts on the Homefront. The hardest challenge had to be saying farewell to family and friends who left for military service. The Sun continued to print cards and letters from the service men.

A card received a few days ago by Miss Beata Klanke, from her cousin Leo F. Sunderman, stationed heretofore at Camp Taylor, Ky., gives information that he together with Elmer Ende have been transferred to some Eastern port preparatory to entering upon overseas duties. They have been assigned clerical work because of their ability to converse in German. A later card addressed to the SUN states that their destination is Camp Vail, N. J., from where the overseas journey will begin shortly. He mentions himself, Ende and Menschel who will with others be engaged as interpreters in the Signal Corps.

(New Bremen Sun 7/26/1918)

This article ends with **New Bremen's Honor Roll** listing "all those who are serving under the colors."

Men Who in The Hour Of Need Obeyed Their Country's Call; Now in Active Service Or in Training Camps

SELECTED MEN

Raymond Tomhate	Walter Fledderjohann	Elwin Hespe
Erwin Helfeld	Edward Nedderman	Arley Moeller
Ben Gieseke	Melville Laut	John Stueve
Henry Borgeding	Sam J. Kurtz	Fred Klute
Lewis Poppe	Homer Isern	Gust Ruedebusch
Elmer Ende	Edgar Speckman	Arthur Moeller
Irwin Koeper	Leander Heitkamp	Ed Wellman
Clarence Wieman	Harvey Fricke	Hugo Kettler
Chas Gast	Lieut. Chester Kuenning	Carl Pape
Lieut. Fred Vogelsang	Leo Nedderman	Franklin Grothaus
Albert Bambauer	Forest Greber	Wm. Schierholt
Ferd Greber	Albert Ahlers	George Miller
Carl Wehmeyer	Rudolph May	Fred Speckman
Tony Frenzer	Edward Harjehausen	Hugo Hoepfer
George Taylor	Elwin Kellermeyer	Harry Kamman
Walter May	Roscoe Lanfersieck	Fred Hollcroft
Herbert Scheer	Harvey Heinfeld	Kurt Ihle
Walter Grothaus	Dr. Kurt Berend	Carl Purpus
Walter Wuebbeling	Mortimer Klanke	Ivan Koeper
Hunter Kuenzel	Edward Pape	Wm. Schlueter
Frank Ruedebusch	Leonard Nieter	Leonard Grewe
Edwin Sunderman	Wm. Oberwitte	Ben Lutterbein
Alfred Barth	Leo Sunderman	George Quellhorst
ENLISTED MEN:		
Otto C. Althoff	Albert Heil	Jacob Maurer
Lieut. Wm. Rabe	Lieut. Dr. G. A. Haveman	Hilmer Dickman
Oscar Harjehausen	Edgar Nieter	Leonard Speckman
Ralph May	Herman Laut Jr.	Milton Boesel
Richard Boesel	Glenn Houtz	Simpson Poppe
C. T. Fogle	Adlai Doenges	Vernon Neuman
Lieut. Dr. I Boesel	Walter Bertram	

(New Bremen Sun 7/19/1918)



INTERVIEW WITH TOM BRAUN- A Man of Many Interests

Tom was born in New Bremen to Wilson and Delilah Dammeyer Braun in 1936. He has a brother Robert and a sister Jeanne. Tom is married to Virginia McCollum Braun and they have one son.

A 1954 graduate of New Bremen High School, he began his career at Crown. After graduating from the Ohio State University with a degree in accounting, Tom worked in Fort Wayne and later moved to Phoenix. He retired in 1996 and moved back to New Bremen in 1997. At that time his widowed mother needed help.

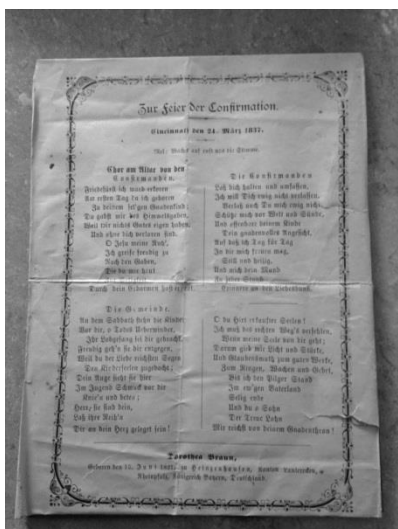
Their task of helping his mother was brief. She died just two months after his arrival home. It then became his job to clear out her apartment. He found that his mother had saved many items about his family and New Bremen. The documents below helped spur his interest in genealogy.

Tom has been a member of the NBHA Board for 20 years. He has served as treasurer of the organization and is currently our genealogist. He has researched his own ancestors and has assisted many others to learn about their families. This is exemplified by his report that he has 70,000 names on the family trees in his computer.

When questioned about his research technique, he said that he often begins his search for information by typing in the individual's name in Google. He may then find an obituary and he will look at White Pages for information about the family members. He may also use the website www.findagrave.com for more information and has found

that the website www.familysearch.org has been helpful. In addition to on-line records he investigates local records found in county court houses, churches and libraries.

An 1837 confirmation document of Dorothea Braun, the Great-great-great Aunt of Tom Braun.



Tom also prints out the obituaries that he finds and adds them to the collection at the New Bremen Library. The obituary files are a valuable resource in genealogy research.

During the interview we learned that genealogy research is just one of Tom's many interests. He is also an avid bicyclist and told us about special bike paths in Arizona, Nevada and California in addition to local paths that he travels. Locally he visits the Kuenning-Dicke Natural Area, the Coldwater bike path, Sidney's Tawawa Park and many others in nearby towns.

When he is not on his bicycle, he may be playing spider solitaire, solving Sudoku puzzles or reading. He chooses nonfiction books and is interested in history and biographies. And, of course, answering requests he receives for genealogy research.

Tom also loves to travel. He and his wife Ginny have traveled extensively through the U.S. and Europe. Their visits to Europe focus on Germany which has helped Tom with his genealogy research. As he talks about his travels he is able to recall details of his discoveries and readily shares the information. Now, he and his wife often travel to Reno to be with their son John, daughter-in-law Michelle and grandson Michael.

We enjoyed hearing about Tom's many interests and are eager to hear about the new things that will catch his interest as he is always researching and learning.



This document, an original Currier & Ives print designed to display a family tree, helped spur Tom's interest in genealogy. The print and written information is in German. On the first line is the name of the parents Heinrich Wilhelm Sunderman and his wife Sophia Maria Meckstroth, both born in Ladbergen, Germany. The four columns list the names of their ten children, with dates of birth, marriage and death.

How Did It All Begin And How Have We Grown In 45 Years?

The New Bremen Historic Association

1973-4 Officers & Trustees

President, Victor Maurer
Vice President, John Hoffman
Secretary, Melba Roediger
Treasurer, Jeanette Hellwarth
Trustee, Sue Maxson
Trustee, Mary Wint,
Trustee, Emil Fledderjohann
Trustee, Holly Riebel
Trustee, Mary Ann Brown
Curator, Gregory Parrott

The New Bremen Historic Association, formed in the fall of 1973, decided to establish a museum in one of the oldest houses in New Bremen. By December they had received \$7500 in pledges from local businessmen for the purchase of the Luelleman house on North Main Street. Because this was only half of the amount needed to purchase the property, they sent a letter and a pledge card to the people of New Bremen to ask their support in this project. A contribution of \$76.00 or more by July 4, 1976 would entitle the individual's name to be placed on the **Founders Plaque** in the museum. The plaque displays the following names and can be seen when you visit the museum.

FOUNDERS PLAQUE

John P. Hoffman, Clifford & Jeanette Bessel Harris, Carl & Melba Roediger, Jerry & Sue Maxson, Dr. and & Mrs. Ronald L. Riebel, Richard & Nancy Hack, Mr. & Mrs. Emil Fledderjohann, Craig Hoffman, Mr. & Mrs. Don Hellwarth, Mr. & Mrs. Paul Hoffman, Jerry & Mary Ann Brown, Paul & Mary Wint, Prof. & Mrs. Ende, Mr. & Mrs. James F. Dicke II, John & Beverly Poppe, Mr. & Mrs. Gregory Parrott, Vic & Virginia Maurer, Dr. & Mrs. V. J. Stegall, Minster New Bremen Medical Group.

By April, 1974, the fund drive to purchase the Luelleman house was declared a great success and the museum was established. The NBHA Board asked for donation of artifacts for display in the museum and extended an invitation to become **Charter Members** of the New Bremen Historic Association. (The list of Charter Members can be seen on the next page.)

In 1975, Janet Fledderjohn took over as curator and began the first newsletter for members of the association. While Janet was away for studies at Wright State University, Rosemary (Koeper) Heitkamp served as curator and she and others wrote the newsletter.

It was not long before the board of trustees requested that their newsletter have a name. Members of the association sent many suggested names and in January 1979 the Trustees chose *The Towpath* as the name for the newsletter. This name was submitted by Robert G. Heinfeld, a native of New Bremen and resident of Ada, Ohio. He explained that he chose this name because New Bremen had its beginnings as a canal town. The towpath, a vital part of the canal, indicates a sense of continuity with news going backward and forward and he felt that a newsletter should have this same purpose.

Our newsletter has grown along with our membership. In 1978 the newsletter was mailed to 61 towns in Ohio and to 16 states other than Ohio. The NBHA Board surmised that though people moved away they still wanted to keep contact and be a part of New Bremen's past, present and future.

In 1996 the NBHA had approximately 475 members.

In 2010 we had a total of 854 members – 54 charter members, 16 charter + life members, 424 Life Members and 360 Regular or yearly Members. Since 2010 we have lost 144 members through death and have gained 135 new members.

Currently *The Towpath* membership totals are reported as the number of newsletters that we send rather than the number of members within the household.

In January of 2018 we mailed 664 issues- 31 charter member households, 7 charter businesses, 397 life member households, 182 regular members households, 12 copies to local and state historical societies and 35 complimentary copies. *The Towpath* traveled to 73 towns/cities in Ohio, 38 states and two foreign countries, Canada and New Zealand.

What was accomplished in 2017?

- Hosted Annual Dinner Meeting in March with Tim Eiting as speaker.
- Participated in the Auglaize County initiative "Auglaize County: IN MOTION!"
- Opened Pape House and Luelleman House to visitors the fourth Sunday of May through October. Also welcomed visitors by giving museum tours as requested.
- Addressed maintenance issues in all museum buildings.
 - Heating & cooling systems maintained.
 - Luelleman Outhouse resided.
 - Placed new locks on both museums for added safety.

(Continued on the next page...)

(What was accomplished in 2017? continued...)

- Moved growing Military Display to larger and more accessible space.
- Digitized over 1200 photos and slides in the NBHA Collection.
- Continued Sorting and Storage Project.
- Participated in projects and events that promoted our purpose in various venues.
- Utilized social media to share photos & information about New Bremen history.
- Participated in display at Auglaize County fair.
- Sponsored Annual Christmas Tree Festival.
- Assisted individuals with genealogy questions or research needs.
- Published our quarterly newsletter *The Towpath*.

New Bremen Historic Association Spirit of '76 Plaque Charter Members

1	Anthony, David (Mr. & Mrs.)	46	Kuenning, Earl (Mr. & Mrs.)	91	Shelby, Thomas (Mr. & Mrs.)
2	Bay, M. Irene	47	Kuenning, Stan (Mr. & Mrs.)	92	Shupp, Dennis
3	Behm, Walter W. (Mr. & Mrs.)	48	Kunning, C.H. (Mr. & Mrs.)	93	Sollman, Hilda (Pohlman)
4	Blanke, Lorraine & Lester	49	Rabe, William (Mr. & Mrs.)	94	Stegall, V.J. (Dr. & Mrs.)
5	Block, Thomas & Barbara	50	Laut, Lloyd J.	95	Steineman, Norbert F.
6	Boesel, Reuben J. (Dr. & Mrs.)	51	Lear, William & Kohneita	96	Steiner, Marie (Braun)
7	Braun, Floyd P. (Rev.)	52	LeMaster, Helene L. (Mrs.)	97	Stienecker, Rick & Mark
8	Brown, Jerry & Mary Ann	53	Lietz, Paul (Mrs.)	98	Stueve, Roman
9	Buckloh, W. Frank & Marie	54	Marshall, Robert E.	99	Topp, Anna Mae (Mrs.)
10	Casebolt, Lucille & Robert	55	Maxson, Jerry & Sue	100	Topp, Emil J. (Mr. & Mrs.)
11	Cooper, James (Mr. & Mrs.)	56	Maurer, Arthur W.	101	Ward, Thomas N. (Rev. & Mrs.)
12	Cumming, James (Mr. & Mrs.)	57	Maurer, Frederick H.	102	Wellemeyer, Fred (Mr. & Mrs.)
13	Dicke, Allen A. (Mrs.)	58	Maurer, Thomas & Helen E.	103	Westerheide, Henry A. & Mildred A.
14	Dicke, Irene K. (Mrs.)	59	Maurer, Vic & Virginia	104	Wierwille, H.E. (Mr. & Mrs.)
15	Dicke, Jack & Beckie	60	Maurer, Walter P., Jr.	105	Wierwille, Robert & Jill
16	Dicke, James F., II (Mr. & Mrs.)	61	May, Ralph (Mr. & Mrs.)	106	Will, Carl G. (Father)
17	Dietrich, Marvin (Mrs.)	62	Meckstroth, Earl E. (Mr. & Mrs.)	107	Young, S. Chester (Mr. & Mrs.)
18	Ende, Elmer, (Prof. & Mrs.)	63	Meckstroth, Jacob A.	108	Zuege, H.W. (Mr. & Mrs.)
19	Fledderjohann, Emil (Mr. & Mrs.)	64	Meckstroth, Judy A.	BUSINESSES & ORGANIZATIONS	
20	Fledderjohn, Janet I.	65	Meyer, James & Marcia	109	Advance Auto Co.
21	Frey, William H. (Mr. & Mrs.)	66	Moeller, Adrian F. (Mr. & Mrs.)	110	American Budget Co.
22	Fritz, Lewis G. (Rev.) D.M.	67	Moeller, Paul W.	111	Beatrice Foods Co.
23	Garman, Charles L. & Erlene	68	Moore, T.H. (Mr. & Mrs.)	112	Botkins Grain & Feed Co.
24	Garmhausen, Chas.J.,Sr. (Mr./Mrs.)	69	Mousa, Virgil E. (Mr. & Mrs.)	113	Bremco Mills, Inc.
25	Gensler, George (Mr. & Mrs.)	70	Parrott, Gregory A. (Mr. & Mrs.)	114	Crown Controls Corp.
26	Gieseke, Arnold (Mrs.)	71	Perl, Roger D. (Mr. & Mrs.)	115	Dicke Service Station
27	Greiwe, Marie	72	Poppe, Arnold A.	116	First National Bank - New Bremen
28	Hack, Richard & Nancy	73	Poppe, Leona E.	117	Friemering's Home Furnishings, Inc.
29	Harmony, Frieda & Lee	74	Poppe, John A. & Beverly	118	Gagel Plumbing & Heating
30	Harris, Clifford & Jeanette (Bessel)	75	Quellhorst, Paul (Mr. & Mrs.)	119	Gilberg Funeral Home
31	Hartman, Irvin W.	76	Rabe, Michael (Dr. & Mrs.)	120	Gilberg Furniture
32	Heil, Arthur (Mr. & Mrs.)	77	Reed, Alexander C. (Dr. & Mrs.)	121	Lampert Super Market
33	Hellwarth, Don (Mr. & Mrs.)	78	Reynolds, Dorothy (Kunning)	122	New Bremen Student Historical Society
34	Henkener, Roger J.	79	Riebel, Ronald L. (Dr. & Mrs.)	123	New Bremen Women's Club
35	Herkenhoff, Frank L. (Mrs.)	80	Ritter, Paul (family)	124	Precision Tool & Machine Co.
36	Hertenstein, Stanley & Dorothy	81	Roediger, Carl & Melba	125	Prenger's Marathon
37	Hirschfeld, Verlin (Mr. & Mrs.)	82	Ruedebusch, Orville C. (Mr. & Mrs.)	126	Ray Ann Lanes
38	Hoffman, John P.	83	Ruese, Donald & Carol	127	Riggs Food Express, Inc.
39	Hotchkiss, Leland H.	84	Rump, Mamie & Ed	128	Stamco Div., Monarch Machine Tool Co.
40	Jordan, Mary Belle (Block)	85	Scheer, James H. (Mr. & Mrs.)	129	Suchland's Flowers & Greenhouses
41	Klein, David K. (Mr. & Mrs.)	86	Schmidt, H.J. (Dr. & Mrs.)	130	Thieman Stamping Co., Inc.
42	Knost, George & Sophia	87	Schott, Paul (Mr. & Mrs.)(& Randy)	131	Tranco Sales & Service, Inc.
43	Huenke, Hy., Sr. (Mr. & Mrs.)	88	Schroeder, Walter (Mrs.)	132	Twentieth Century Mothers C.C.L.
44	Koop, John F. (Mr. & Mrs.)	89	Schwieterman, Al	133	Twig Benders C.C.L.
45	Kramer, Mildred B. (Bessel)	90	Schwieterman, David & Ruth Ann	134	Wint's Restaurant

FROM CANAL LANDS TO THE LIBRARY AND LOCK ONE PARK



**At the corner of Washington & Monroe Streets
in New Bremen in 1968. (facing south)**

Early in New Bremen's history the area pictured was a section of undeveloped land along the east bank of the Miami & Erie Canal in Ober Bremen. The land was owned by the state of Ohio and in 1844 a 30 year lease with the right of renewal was granted to local businessmen W.F.L. Koop and J.F. Boesche.

Mr. Koop was trained as a carpenter and built many of the oldest buildings in town. He was probably responsible for putting the first buildings on this site. The other original lease holder, Mr. Boesche, had several business interests. He operated a Dry Goods and Grocery store along with a grain and pork business. When the original lease holders retired, the lease was transferred to other businessmen.

In 1866 after returning from service in the Civil War, William Finke opened a flour mill on the leased land. Then in 1869 Mr. Finke in partnership with Fred Backhaus and H. C. Kuenzel ran both a flour and woolen mill. Both mills took advantage of the water power afforded by the canal and the mills flourished. By 1914 the name was changed to The Kuenzel Mills Company operating woolen and flour mills.



The Kuenzel Mills Company in the 1920s.

The dark line represents the M&E Canal. The fainter line to the left of the canal represents the beginning of the St. Marys River. Dotted lines point to the location of the mills on S. Washington Street.

The flour mill produced all-purpose flour named Gold Lace and a soft winter wheat flour named Gold Star. The woolen mill produced all wool bed blankets named The New Bremen Blanket. It also produced an all wool blanket cloth known as Kuneta Cloth. The mill proudly made blankets for the military in both World Wars.

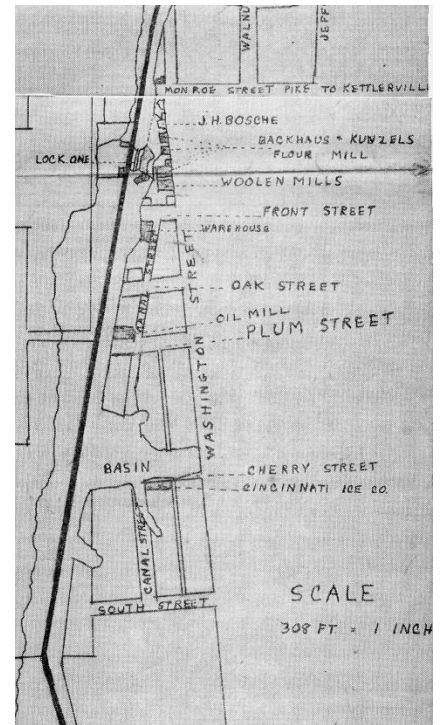
The New Bremen Blanket was advertised on the Ruth Lyons WLW radio show but the pronunciation of our town's name stumped the star as this article notes:

IS IT BREE-MEN OR BREM-EN? ASKS KUENZELS' STAR

Pronunciation of New Bremen's name stumped Ruth Lyons of WLW program "50 Club" Monday when she attempted to go into a commercial announcement plugging blankets manufactured here by Kuenzel Mills. Miss Lyons, whose program is heard daily between 12:00-12:30 on WLW, wasn't sure whether she should pronounce it New Brem-en or New Bree-men. At any rate, the local product got off to a good start on this nation-wide program.

According to David Kuenzel, blankets made by Kuenzel Mills are now being offered as prizes on Miss Lyons' program every day. He urged New Bremen listeners to tune in at noon. The Kuenzel products are also being used and publicized on Betty Brady's "Family Fair" over WLW every Saturday morning from 9:30 to 10:00 a.m.

Kuenzel Mills' participation in both programs began Monday and many New Bremen listeners heard the broadcast. The Ruth Lyons show emanates from the Hotel Gibson where Miss Lyons has 50 guests for luncheon each day. Guests are quizzed on household hints, etc., and are awarded prizes such as the blankets made in this village.



Using this method of advertising, Kuenzel Mills not only provides further interest in their own products but also advertises New Bremen as a whole.

...The New Bremen Sun, May 20, 1948



See a New Bremen Blanket when you visit the Museum.



Saturday night shopping in the 1930s or 1940s on S. Washington Street. Kuenzel Mills on the left, Arcade Department Store on the right.

The era of using the state owned canal lands for business came to an end in 1956 when Kuenzel Mills closed. Although the business is gone we are honored to have some of their products in our museum. The mill buildings were empty for several years as other businesses looked at taking over the land lease.



Kuenzel Mills circa 1960.

But in 1967 the lease was terminated after more than 100 years of business use. The state turned the land over to the village to be used for park and recreational purposes. The buildings were razed and the canal land became the site of a new library building and Lock One Park.

In 1904 the *New Bremen Sun* newspaper ran an article titled "Interesting Changes" about the things that had changed in town since 1890. It ended with the statement *New Bremen though it has lost a number of its old, influential and progressive citizens, has made continual strides forward, and today may look back with pride at the things that have been accomplished in a business, social and an educational way.* We think this is still a true evaluation of our town in 2018.

Below are two items that you might want to see on your next visit to the Luelleman House Museum.

The first is a booklet that explains the process of making woolen blankets in New Bremen.



The second item is a flour sack from the Kuenzel Flour Mill.



NEW BREMEN'S QUEST FOR A LIBRARY

The New Bremen Community has always been interested in providing adequate reading resources. Early in our history the School Board made available the facilities for the literary education of the students. Local newspapers were published in both English and German. However, before the 1930s there was no public library in our town. In 1938 the Blume Memorial Public Library, a school district library in Wapakoneta, stepped in to assist reading resources for all of Auglaize County. They established "Book Stations" within the county and rotated the books every two weeks for the readers.



South Washington Street with the New Bremen Fire Department and Arcade on the left and Kuenzel Mills on the right.

The Arcade Department Store on S. Washington Street served as a "Book Station" and the site for the New Bremen Public Library branch until the store closed in the early 1950s. A group of eight women led the Friends of the Library group in New Bremen to secure a more permanent home for their library. Those women were Frances Bailey, Dottie Boesel, Alice Cumming, Katherine Grothaus, Ruth Howard, Betty Komminsk, Verona Huenke and Mary Wint. The following excerpts from a 1960 newspaper article give a history of their work:

...There were no funds for this project so donations were greatly appreciated. The late Cade Schulenberg graciously donated some space in his store and the library became a reality. Books were donated by Martha Liesner, Emily Grothaus, Sara Valentine, Anne Gossette, Lynne Harris, Mrs. Harry Komminsk, Mrs. E. Day, Mrs. Lee Harmony, Mrs. Lewis Komminsk, Mrs. J. W. Boesel and Mrs. Walter Grothaus. From the Kuenzel estate a set of books by Washington Irving and others were received and Mr. and Mrs. J. Whitcraft presented the library with 156 books in the name of the mother of Mr. Whitcraft...

With space and books donated, one more thing was needed-volunteer help to man the library. Two of the first

librarians were Mrs. James Cumming and her daughter Miss Melinda Cumming.

With the help of some of the original trustees the shelves were scrubbed and painted, the books were listed and regular hours were set-up. Thus was born the New Bremen Public Library.

After a few years more space was needed and the Mayor and the Council of New Bremen gave permission to use Town Hall... (Note: this space was above the old fire department on S. Washington Street.)

Librarians are still volunteers after five years. Sara Valentine worked in the library at one time and at present; Anne Gossette has been there since November 1959. In September of last year Martha Liesner marked the beginning of her 3rd year. Girl Scouts have put in some hours to earn credits, as have Boy Scouts who are working on their Reading Merit Badges. The Library hours are from 4 until 5:30 every Tuesday and Thursday afternoon. During this time a member of the New Bremen Women's Club is present to act as advisor...

...Three or four times a year books from Blume Memorial Library are rotated. This involves about 300 books which must be carried up and down the stairs of the town hall. This transportation is usually provided by Jim and Chad Cumming.

Recently the New Bremen Lions Club voted to donate 60 dollars a year to the Library. Money donated will be used to buy Junior Literary Books. At present time Landmark Children's books from the third grade and up are on order.

Reading is the key to understanding. The ability to read is a gift to almost everyone, but what you do with that gift is the individual's own responsibility.

The New Bremen Public Library was a dream five years ago. Today many books are available for pleasant reading hours ahead. ...New Bremen Sun 1/28/1960



Fire Department on S. Washington Street in 1960.

Next the New Bremen Public Library was moved to the former bank building at the corner of Washington & Monroe Streets. This space became available when the First National Bank moved to a new building. Space in the old bank building was short-lived, though, because this building was scheduled for razing in 1969. The books were then moved to the basement of the high school.



In 1962, the Dierker Building housed the library where the First National Bank had been.

In the meantime many changes were occurring within the village. The Central School on S. Franklin was torn down, Schulenberg's store closed, the *New Bremen Sun* went out of business, Route 66 was rerouted through New Bremen, the canal lands along the M & E canal were deeded to New Bremen, the Kuenzel Mills and the service station just north of the mills were removed. Even the soda fountain at Schwieterman's Drug Store closed about that time!

Changes were also being made in Wapakoneta. The Blume Memorial Public Library was assisted to become a County system in 1964. This allowed New Bremen to become a part of the County system and have access to the evolving services of the library world and its technology. At the same time a Friends of The Library group was formed in New Bremen to provide input of community needs and financial support for their library.

One result of these changes was the availability of the canal land for a new use. The Village decided to use part of the land for a permanent and dedicated building to house the library collection.

...Architects Freytag and Freytag were hired. The building was built on Washington Street and opened in August of 1973.

To paint the inside and lay the carpet, a group of young couples were called upon. They were Cal & Esther Slattery, Carl & Melba Roediger, Sue & Jerry Maxson, Barbara & Lowell Ziegenbusch, Marge Stueve, Bob & Betty Finke, Lowell Quellhorst and Wayne Brady. David Schwieterman, a long-time friend of the library, led a

fund drive to furnish carpeting. The Ritters donated outside lighting. The Twig Benders purchased a display case for the entry. The 20th Century Club and Reuben Thiesing donated the charge desk. The Friends purchased furniture for the lounge area. The children's section was furnished with the original shelving and the County Board bought new furniture for the adult area. Paul Headapohl through the years has furnished flower displays on a regular basis and the JC's and Men's Garden Club helped with the landscaping. The Village Council purchased lettering for the outside of the building and a grand opening was held in October of 1973... -New Bremen Sesquicentennial Reflections, 1983

In 1988 the library was expanded. The expansion allowed more room for books, a handicapped accessible restroom, a public meeting room, and a promise from the county library that they would provide more money to buy books and magazines for New Bremen.

The Open House and Dedication of the New and remodeled building was held on Jan 6, 1991. Michael Sawyer, Auglaize County Library Director served as the Master of ceremonies. The invocation was given by Dr. Lawrence Holmer, Pastor of St Peter Church. Those speaking were James Dicke II; Urban Buscher, Mayor of New Bremen; Victoria Pendleton, State Library of Ohio; Janice Holcomb, Treasurer of Friends of Library; Melba Roediger, New Bremen Branch Librarian; and Marge Lietz, local historian.

Members of the Friends of the Library Board in 1991 were Ann Bornhorst, Carol Stauffer, Janice Holcomb, Beatrice Young, Dotty Hagerstrand, Ethel Mesloh, Mary Wint, Donna Watkins, Jan Fiser, Randy Houseworth, Paul Headapohl, Gene This, Alice Burnell, and Carolyn Smith.

The New Bremen Library Staff were Melba Roediger, Branch Librarian; Sue Maxson, Assistant Branch Librarian; Dotty Hagerstrand, Library Aide; and Jean Minch, Library Aide.

When Alice Cumming was asked to write about the Friends of the Library organization for the New Bremen Sesquicentennial book, she ended her summary with this thought:

*...Over the years the structure of the Friends (of the Library) has remained basically the same. There is always a central board with a wider general membership. From time to time, different groups send representatives. In general the Friends operate on an organized basis, but when we look back at the help given by so many individuals and groups, we feel **everyone in New Bremen has become friends of the library.***



A FEW DOG STORIES FROM THE PAST

JIM DOYLE'S CURLY

The state of Ohio is the owner of a dog in New Bremen. It is a fact pure and simple, and was brought to light by Assessor G. A. Gilberg who is now engaged in making his rounds about town. The dog's name is Curly and personally is the property of Jim Doyle, whose place of abode is on a canal boat right north of the First Street bridge. By a recent ruling of the county auditors throughout the state the assessors are instructed to take up all canines and charge them to the property on which they are found. Since the Doyle homestead is situated on state property, Mr. Gilberg saw no other way out and in accordance with instructions from his superior officer listed the dog as property of the great Buckeye State.

...New Bremen Sun 5/4/1906

JUST LIKE A RATTLESNAKE

Gas Shell Has About the Same Effect,

Writes American Ambulance Driver at Front



Norman Lee, an eighteen-year-old driver for the American Red Cross ambulance in France, throws a sidelight on gas shells in a letter written "near Scissons" and just received here.

"The boches (*Ed. Note: French pejorative slang for Germans in WWI*) dropped a few gas shells over about midnight," he writes. "Have you ever heard a rattlesnake? Well, a gas shell has the same effect. No one has to tell you what it is; you know. It just goes 'put' and lets out a greenish vapor. That's enough – down in the 'dugout' put on your masks and wait until the boches are finished. But it's a ghastly scene sitting, one candle burning and everyone sitting around with masks on; the cat hugs the fire, while James, the medicine dog, has his mask on, too – it's a special one – and he knows enough not to paw it off. He's a real war dog."

"During these sessions there is always an official 'sniffer' who has to take off his mask every once in a while, go to the door and see whether the stuff is still around. The other day we were in doubt, so we threw the cat out. She came back so quickly that no one had any doubt that it still was there."

"Oh, it bothers me – that gas - more than the shells. It's a pretty rotten way to make war."

...New Bremen Sun 7/5/1918

FRIENDSHIP OF LASTING DURATION SPRUNG UP BETWEEN POSTMAN

AND TWO DOGS

Without being able to attribute the odd relationship to any particular deed of kindness toward the canine pals, **Postman Walter Behm** has won the apparent lasting esteem and love of a couple of dogs whose owners live on his route in the west part of the village. They are the dogs owned by ex-mayor Harry Nussmeyer on N. Franklin Street and by Mrs. Alma Lietz at the corner of S. Herman & Poplar Streets.



Quite a few years ago, when Mr. Behm was delivery man on the present route, the canines' affection for him became evident when one of the dogs (the white and tan residence guardian of Mr. Nussmeyer) began to arrive at the Post Office, on the minute, to start off and make the rounds with the letter carrier from house to house along every street. Neither rain nor shine, neither snow nor ice, could cause the animal to deviate one iota from the adopted course!

Soon Mrs. Lietz's dog joined the trek when the mailman arrived at its home, however the accumulation of years on this animal's back has cut its perambulation short, the pooch calling it quits whenever Mr. Behm stops at the Post Office for his second pack. Then the dog leisurely trots home while the other one faithfully continues the perambulations consuming the better part of a half day.



"Bobby" Lietz, pet dog of Alma Lietz, looking for the Postman.

Adding to the strangeness of the case is the fact that during the three years when Mr. Behm performed office duties while O. C. Ruedebusch was in the armed service,

the dogs merely called at the Post Office occasionally, rattling the door latch with their noses until admittance was granted them. They snuffed around a few minutes, spied around to who was there and then peacefully took leave without ever attempting to accompany Harry Thielker (who was acting carrier during the interim) on the route. No sooner had Mr. Ruedebusch returned home from overseas and resumed his position in the Post Office and Mr. Behm again shouldered the letter bag, when the dogs were again at hand to accompany him on the route!

After three years, the Nussmeyer dog retains the uncanny knowledge of the route so exactly that it no more follows the carrier, but trots ahead of him turning into streets to right or left as the case may be before the carrier ever arrives at the point, its companion in the daily diversion contents itself by covering the short stretch from its home to the Post Office. And on Sundays neither of the dogs shows up at the Post Office!

...*New Bremen Sun 1/1946*

ODD FRIENDSHIP

A couple of months ago, or to be more specific-on Easter Day, the parents of

Jimmie Rosselit presented him with a fluffing duckling not many days old, an act which was not odd by any means.

With the assistance of Mr. & Mrs. Rosselit, it did not take Jimmie very long to bring the

web-footed little bird to a stage in life where the white feathers began to show, for it is the offspring of genuine Pekin parents. Suddenly the discovery was made that the duck had a change in voice, beginning to quack most merrily. Unfortunately in innocence and ignorance the bird had been named "Oscar", a term which would indicate masculinity; however, the "quack" distinctly betrays femininity. Oscar kept on growing until "her" enclosure became too small and she was given the freedom of her and the neighbors' yards.

On the same premises Jimmie sports the ownership of a terrier pup which he quite properly named "Foxy." Now this same Foxy is fond of Oscar for romping purposes but the sense of gentleness and reservedness is not developed in an equal degree in the two, a condition of which Oscar

does not approve, in other words Foxy is too rough wherefore Oscar evades her wherever possible, but like all fully grown and good ducks she seeks companionship of one kind or another. This she has found in next door neighbor, Mayor Dickman's family dog



which is properly named "Topsy" of "Uncle Tom's Cabin" fame only this is a four-legged, stub-tailed Boston bull terrier.

When Oscar first made advances of an affectionate nature to Topsy, the latter rather resented such conduct but never acted rough or ill-mannered wherefore Oscar seemed daily to become more and more enamored of her until she -that is Oscar- appears to have won over Topsy. They eat together, they drink together from the same pan; occasionally Oscar splashes duck fashion, squirting water all over Topsy causing the latter hastily to retreat, Oscar at once following with soft quacks assuring how she did not mean to be rude.

Then the two walk around in the yard together, Topsy saying nothing. Oscar repeatedly softly quacking assurance of her admiration and love for the black canine. Of course, when Foxy injects herself and makes the "company" a "crowd" Oscar hurriedly seeks shelter until the romping ceases when she promptly steps to the side of her chosen one. Topsy's decision to ride in the car or follow someone up town is greeted with loud quacks of disapproval and Oscar waddles over to her native retreat only to evince joy and happiness when her companion returns.

This friendship does not suffer estrangement or dissolution even during the dark hours of the night. Topsy seeks repose in her bed and Oscar retires to some convenient nook on her home premises. Should her dog friend become aroused during the night and in dog fashion emit sharp barks, immediately Oscar is awake, comes over as fast as those broad aquatic feet will carry her and in very solicitous and assuring manner tells Topsy not to be afraid for "I, your ever faithful Oscar am right here to protect you and assist you in the night watches." Then the two will sit for a spell on the porch steps-Topsy on the upper step and Oscar on the second-ogling each other and saying-nothing, only soon to seek their individual beds again and see what the morning may bring forth.

...*New Bremen Sun 7/11/1946*

The Rosselit family lived on South Franklin Street across from the old school. Walter Rosselit was hired by Corrine Schwieterman in 1945 to be the pharmacist after the death of her husband Urban. Mr. Rosselit remained in New Bremen until David Schwieterman completed his pharmacy studies and military service and was ready to take the role of pharmacist. Walter, his wife Cecelia and son James then owned and operated a drugstore in Dayton.

New Bremen Historic Association
P.O. Box 73

New Bremen, Ohio 45869-0073



NBHA Museum – 120 N. Main St.

NON-PROFIT ORG.

U.S. POSTAGE PAID

New Bremen, OH

Address Service Requested

PLEASE KEEP US ADVISED OF ANY ADDRESS CHANGES.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The Luelleman House & the Pape House will be open from 1-3 PM on the 4th Sunday of 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 17- 19, 2018

New Bremen PUMPKINFEST

September 28&29, 2018



Barbara Knapp and Tom Braun reviewing genealogy records at the New Bremen Library. Barbara came to New Bremen to learn more about her ancestors. For more information about Tom Braun, see story on page 7.

DO YOU HAVE A HIGH SCHOOL REUNION PLANNED THIS YEAR? IF SO, PLEASE SHARE A PICTURE WITH US FOR THE TOWPATH.

Send your photo by email to gen@nktelco.net

or by mail to NBHA, P. O. Box 73,

New Bremen, OH 45869-0073

Membership Status Code - Check your address label

PD 18 - Means you are Paid through Dec. 2018.

LM P-11 - Means you Paid for a Lifetime Membership in 2011.

LM D-18- Means you are a Lifetime Member and made a Donation in 2018.

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

CM D-18 - Means you are a Charter Member and made a Donation in 2018.