

Before we were Schaedler Yesco Distribution, Inc., we were Schaedler Bros. But who were the Schaedler brothers?

Andrew C. Schaedler

Andy Schaedler was referred to as “The Idea Man.” It was Andy who suggested that the brothers expand their electrical contracting business into manufacturing and distribution. He had “an electrical brain” and was a whizz at repairing radios; a necessary skill as radio was the main entertainment for most in the early 1900s.

In 1906 he was the electrical foreman for the new PA Capitol being built to replace the building after the fire of 1897.

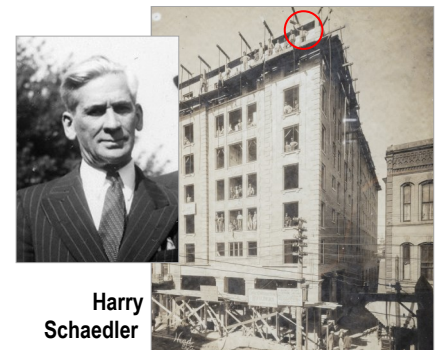
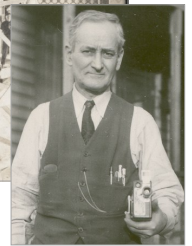
Andy was an avid stamp and coin collector and made weekly trips to the post office to buy the newest stamp released.

Despite never being married or having children of his own, he felt strongly that education was critical to building a strong next generation. In the 1950s, Andrew began giving scholarships to local students so they could attend college. He did this independently for many years and personally chose the recipients with funding from his stamp and coin collection.

Upon his death in 1968, family members discovered just how avid a collector he was! Incredibly, Andy’s collection was valued over a million dollars. The family liquidated the collection and set up the official Andrew C. Schaedler Scholarship Fund. For many years the family carried on Andy’s initiative and chose deserving students to receive the funding. In the 1970’s, it was decided that the remaining funds would be distributed to a number of Pennsylvania colleges so that they could manage an ongoing fund in Andy’s name. Today, roughly a dozen schools still offer the Andrew C. Schaedler Scholarship fund.



Andrew C. Schaedler



Harry Schaedler

Harry Schaedler

Harry’s main role in the company was to “run the business and keep it organized.” Getting dirty hands was what he liked best as he took care of the shop. Harry kept the business in order and was known for organizing the shelves understanding the inventory, so customers could be served quickly and efficiently.

Harry was a trained bricklayer before joining his brothers in the electrical business. It is also thought that he worked on structures for the 1926 World’s Fair in Philadelphia. Harry died in 1961.

The current Schaedler family members are descendants of Harry. (See the family tree)



William Schaedler

William Schaedler

Although Bill was initially an active member of the team, his business sense in real estate is what lured him away from Harrisburg and to the Philly / South Jersey / Delaware area.

As the world was changing and growing around him, Bill saw more than swampland in the Wilmington area. He saw dollar signs and had the foresight to buy up land that no one wanted – yet. Later his gamble paid off when he made lucrative deals with Dupont, several other major companies and local government. Bill was able to retire at age 33.

As a result of his success, Bill became “the financier” of the business. He wasn’t active in the day-to-day business but was involved in all major decisions. “If it makes sense and offers us an opportunity, then let’s do it” was basically his philosophy.

Bill lived in Pennsville, New Jersey. He died in 1977.

