

### BRANCH 4, CLEVELAND

By Joan Miller-Malue

Fall has arrived and it is time for us to enjoy some great events at the Sachsenheim this October. We start with a beer lover's event, a Lagerfest, on Wednesday, October 16. Doors open at 5:00 p.m. There will be many different lagers to try. We will be raffling off a Krombacher Cornhole set. And of course, we offer many great dinner items on the menu that evening. Some say, "A beer is like a hug in a glass." Come down to the Sachsenheim on October 16 and enjoy a few "hugs."

The crisp fall air always manifests a celebration hosted by the Cleveland Saxon Dance Group that is enjoyed by all ages. Their annual Traubenfest will be held on Saturday, October 19, 2024. Doors open at 5:30 and a pork dinner will be served at 6:00 p.m. We will be entertained by performances of the Gemütlichkeit Cleveländer Musikanten and the Cleveland Saxon Dance Group. And of course, they will tempt you to steal the grapes and try to avoid be taken to jail by the evening's "grape patrol." Deadline for reservations is October 13. Adults \$25 and children ages 4 – 10 \$15. You can purchase your tickets online by using: [traubenfest2024.cheddarup.com](http://traubenfest2024.cheddarup.com) or mail a check payable to the Cleveland Saxon Dance Group to Amanda Donnellan, 9578 West 130 St., Strongsville, OH 44136. Let's support the Cleveland Saxon Dance Group as they prepare for the cultural tour in Germany and Austria in 2025.

Our last special October event will be the Children's Halloween Party that will be held on Friday evening, October 25, 2024, at 7:30 p.m. Junior members of ATS Braches 1, 4, 5, and 33 have been mailed invitations to join us for a fun evening that will include the making of a craft, judging of costumes, entertainment by "Magic Max" and refreshments. Admission is free to ATS junior members, \$4 for adults and \$10 for non-member children. Reservations are a must and can be made by texting or calling Joan Miller-Malue at 216-233-8631 or email at [miller-malue@cox.net](mailto:miller-malue@cox.net). We need the number of adults, children's names and ages. Deadline for reservations is October 17<sup>th</sup>. We ask that everyone brings a non-perishable food item that will

be donated to a local charity. We encourage the adults to come dressed in costume. We will also hold judging of adult costumes. Can't wait to see "witch" costume you rock!

We are hoping that you can join us for our monthly Branch meeting that will be held on Monday, October 21, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. We would love to hear your ideas to help promote our Saxon heritage and possible new fun events.

### BRANCHES 14 AND 17, CANTON

By Cheryl Schnebelen

As we head into fall and later the holiday season, the Canton Saxons will be having their standard meeting on Sunday, November 3, at 1:00 p.m., and a Christmas get together on December 15, also at 1:00 p.m., at Meyers Landing Bar and Grill in Meyers Lake Plaza. On both days, we will have lunch and socialize with our other branch members.

As the holidays approach, if you know of any current, past, or direct descendants of the Ladies lodge who are in need, please let us know because there are moneys available. Just contact me by email at [sherlee5@aol.com](mailto:sherlee5@aol.com), text me or call at (330) 312-5112, and I will forward your request on to others in the branch. We are looking forward to hearing from you and please join us at Meyers Landing on Sunday, November 3, and December 15, at 1:00 p.m.



### TSBA Bowling

Next Session

Youngstown

October 27, 2024

11:00 a.m.

Holiday Bowl

777 Youngstown-Poland Rd

Struthers, Ohio 44571

(330) 755-1444

Dinner following

@ Youngstown Saxon Club

710 S. Meridian Rd.

Youngstown, Ohio 44509

(330) 793-7973

Any meal cancellations

Please call Tom Simon

No later than

October 22, 2024

(330) 720-7988

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Denise Aeling Crawford

ATS Nat'l President



Members, do your adult children have Power of Attorney paperwork for you? Are you that adult child and have POA paperwork for your parents? If so, you may want to send a copy of it to the Home Office. We will keep it in our files. That way, when the time comes and you need to talk directly with us regarding your loved ones' accounts, we can do so.

Did you know that you can read old issues of the Volksblatt on our website? You can also read the current issue of the Volksblatt on the site, in case you haven't received it timely in the mail. The last couple of months of 2008 are available, as well as 2009 through current issues. In addition, some really old issues (from 1939 – 1954) are available. For those of you who like to read something in German, you'll love these. Many of the articles are in German, but not all of them. Go to our website, [www.ATSaxons.com](http://www.ATSaxons.com) and click on Volksblatt. Enjoy!

Did you know the origin of Oktoberfest started on October 12, 1810? The Bavarian Crown Prince Ludwig married Princess Therese von Sachsen-Hildburghausen on this date. Crown Prince Ludwig later became King Ludwig I of Bavaria. The Bavarian royalty invited the citizens of Munich to attend the festivities. These were held on the fields in front of the city gates. These famous public fields were named Theresienwiese (Therese's fields) in honor of the crown princess. Locals have since abbreviated the name to "Wiesn". Horse races in the presence of the royal family concluded the popular event.

The festivities and horse races were repeated the following year and almost every year after that, giving rise to the tradition of the annual Oktoberfest held in Germany. It is considered the largest folk festival in the world. Average attendance exceeds 6 million people for the yearly event, which begins in late September and lasts through the first Sunday in October. Each year, it continues to break new records from the quantity of beer consumed to the amount of chicken devoured. In 2005, a "quiet Oktoberfest" was introduced to make the festival more attractive to families. With this, "party music" can only be played after 6 pm. Only Bavarian brass band music can be played prior to that time.

In 2010, to mark the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the festival, in addition to the "regular" Oktoberfest, a historical festival took place in the south part of Theresienwiese, which was to remind attendees of the festival's history. In addition to family-friendly programming, a wealth of cultural activities and horseracing were offered. The "Oide Wiesn" was so successful that it has taken place every year since. It only takes a year off if the Bavarian agricultural fair, which takes place every four years, takes place at the same time.

There were over 60 groups for the parade through the city center to the Wiesn this year. It included

Continued on Page 2

TIMELY - DO NOT DELAY  
MAILED WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2024

Attention Postmaster: Send all Changes of Address to:  
The Alliance of Transylvanian Saxons  
5323 Pearl Road Cleveland OH 44129-1503



## Schloss Horneck needs OUR help!



Schloss Horneck located in Gundelsheim, Germany is the international location for our Siebenbürger Sachsen to house Sachsen artifacts, books and other historical documents and records. It is important to our worldwide Sachsen community to help in the maintenance expenses of this historical facility that will preserve our Sachsen culture and heritage.

The Federation of Transylvanian Saxons requests donations to help in the funding of the facility. If you are interested in giving a donation, please complete the form below and send to the ATS Home Office, 5323 Pearl Road, Cleveland, OH 44129.

Please make your check payable to the ATS.

DONATION FOR SCHLOSS HORNECK

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Zipcode \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Donated \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate if donation is in memory

## President's Message Cont'd from Page 1

9,000 traditional costumers, marksmen, flag-wavers, hunters, and members of bands and marching bands. Many groups were from different parts of Germany, but also included guests from Austria, Italy, Switzerland, Slovenia, Croatia, Transylvania, Poland, Ukraine, and Serbia. The parade route is seven kilometers (approximately 4.4 miles).

Statistics halfway through this year's event were interesting. With good weather, the visitors spread out evenly in the tents, gardens and streets. The visitors consist of families, couples, young people and senior citizens. Tourists mingle with the locals. American, British, and Australian English languages were reported, as well as Italian, French, Spanish, Polish, and Swiss German. One item unites them all – wearing traditional costume. As souvenirs go, traditional hats are popular with men, while women are opting for flower headbands this year. Apparently, a chicken hat is a yearly favorite. The police and fire fighters are satisfied with how things are going this year. The ambulance service also reported a quiet first half of the event, with 11 percent fewer patients than in previous years. The stretchers were deployed 991 times, which was the lowest figure since 2018. The Lost and Found office had counted 1,515 items so far, in contrast with 1,200 items at this point last year. Included in the count were 335 items of clothing, 230 ID cards, 180 bank cards, 270 wallets, 65 keys, 70 bags or pouches, 150 cell phones, 170 pairs of glasses, 30 pieces of jewelry, and 15 umbrellas. 330 of these lost items have been returned to their owners. The most unusual item found so far was a designer high-heeled shoe, which was subsequently claimed by its owner. I wonder if her name was Cinderella!

Until next time...



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E-mail: office@atsaxons.com Website: www.atsaxons.com

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## Cleveland Saxon Dance Group Veterans Day Luncheon

Sunday, November 10, 2024  
12:30 p.m

Westside Sachsenheim  
7001 Denison Ave, Cleveland OH

Enjoy a delicious Goulash lunch  
and honor our Veterans in attendance.

\$15

\$10 for Veterans

Tickets can be ordered here -  
<https://csdg-veterans-day-luncheon.cheddarup.com>

or email Amanda Donnellan  
@ adonnellan5@yahoo.com

### SECRETARIES TAKE NOTICE:

THE DEADLINE DATE FOR ARTICLES  
IS WEDNESDAY - 12 NOON.

You may either

E-MAIL: [saxonvolksblatt@aol.com](mailto:saxonvolksblatt@aol.com)

POSTAL MAIL:

Saxon News Volksblatt  
29076 Fall River Dr  
Westlake, OH 44145

Articles e-mailed will receive an e-mailed  
confirmation by Noon Thursday. If you did not  
receive a confirmation, please give us a call.

### DEADLINE DATES FOR ARTICLES:

DEADLINE	ISSUE
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2024	FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2024
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2024	FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2024
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2024	FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2024

Please have your articles in by 12 Noon.

Did you miss the deadline?

Have you emailed your article past 12 Noon?

Please call Hanz Hermann at (440) 525-0020



## When to claim Social Security early

Ask any financial advisor and they will tell you to wait until full retirement age to claim Social Security. The reason is simple: You will get more money.

Currently, the full retirement age for those born in 1955 or later is 67. For those born earlier, it is 66.

But people can claim benefits as early as 62, and there are some situations where that might make sense.

Necessity is one of the top reasons. If you find yourself in a situation where you can't work or have a shortened life expectancy, claim Social Security, according to Mass Mutual.

Some may find that they can work, but need Social Security to

stay out of debt and make sure bills are paid. In that case, you could claim and then suspend benefits once your situation improves.

Some happier reasons to claim early:

- You will never need the money. You could use your benefit to do good in the world.

- You want to just work part-time. Social Security can supplement your part-time income. Just be aware that you will get reduced benefits for the rest of your life.

- You have a solid marriage and your spouse is eligible for a larger benefit. In this case, the lower-earning spouse could claim and the higher earner would continue to build the benefit.

## Streusel baked apples sweeten autumn dinners

October is National Apple Month, and there's no better time than to sample some of the 2,500 apple varieties grown in the U.S. Harvesting is at its peak, and apples are at their most delicious.

Health-conscious? A medium apple clocks in at just 80 calories and is as nutritious as it is delicious. Enjoy apples as a low-fat baked dessert with a few added ingredients.

The best apples for baking have lower sugar content and are usually more tart than eating apples. Most home cooks use Granny Smiths, but test kitchens note that they tend to collapse and turn mushy. Try the Honeycrisp, which retains its shape, texture and full apple flavor, or Rome Beauty, Jonagold, Pink Lady, or Spartan.

### Streusel baked apples

1/3 cup walnuts, chopped medium fine  
 1/3 cup pecans, chopped medium fine  
 1/4 cup golden raisins  
 1/4 cup packed dark brown sugar  
 1/4 teaspoon salt  
 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon  
 1/4 teaspoon ground pumpkin pie spice (or cardamom)  
 1/4 cup rolled oats  
 4 tablespoon cold cubed butter  
 6 medium Pink Lady apples  
 1-1/2 cups apple cider



Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Combine walnuts, pecans, raisins, sugar, salt, spices and oats in a small bowl. Add butter cubes and toss until cubes are thoroughly coated.

Peel the top third of each apple. Use a melon baller to scoop out the stem, seeds and enough of the apple core to create a bowl with 1/2-inch thick walls. Stuff each apple with filling, mounding it on top.

Place apples in a 2-quart baking dish and pour cider into the pan. Cover the pan with foil. Bake 45 minutes, removing foil every 15 minutes to baste the apples with cider. Remove foil and bake an additional 30 minutes, continuing to baste, until the apples are easily pierced with a sharp knife.

Drizzle with sauce from the pan.

## Add a few steps and live!

We often hear that we should walk 10,000 steps a day for health, but is that true?

A new study from Europe says no.

If you average around 3,500 steps like many Americans, you can add as little as 500 extra steps a day. That 4,000 steps can help you reduce your risk of cardiovas-



cular disease, according to Health.com.

That study is just one of a series of new studies indicating that small changes add up to big benefits. Want to lose weight, improve mobility, or health? Start small with a few steps, one healthy meal a day, or just fewer snacks.

**Annual Craft & Vendor Show!**  
**Saturday, Oct. 19 10am--3pm**  
**Youngstown Saxon Club**  
**710 S. Meridian Rd. Austintown, 44506**  
**Basket Raffle, 50/50, Crafts, Food, Fun!**  
*For more information 330-792-7973 -- Saxon Club*  
**Proceeds benefit the Scholarship Fund & more programs.**

**Youngstown Saxon Culture Group celebrates 53rd Annual Trachtenball**

Please join us for this unique, cultural experience featuring an authentic homemade Schnitzel Dinner with performances by the following:  
 Cleveland Deutscher Musik Verein  
 Cleveland Saxon Dance Groups  
 Pittsburgh Alpenschuhplattler Dance Group  
 Youngstown Saxon Brass Band

Doors open at 6:00 p.m. ~ Dinner is served at 6:30 p.m.  
 Saturday, November 2nd, 2024  
 At the Youngstown Saxon Club Ballroom  
 710 South Meridian Road, Youngstown, Ohio 44512

**For Reservations, please call or text:**  
 Robert Bachinger (330) 980-0911 or Mike Bachinger (330) 540-5168  
 If we don't answer, please leave a message!

~~~~~  
**\$20 Adult - \$12 Children (12 to 6) Under 6 Free**  
 Tickets will be held at the door. Cash or check only. NO CREDIT CARDS PLEASE

# HALLOWEEN PARTY

Come dance to the "Monster Mash"  
 Crawl on over to our Halloween Boo Bash.  
 Ghosts and Witches and Monsters too...  
 They're all invited and so are you.

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2024**  
 7:30 p.m.  
 Westside Sachsenheim  
 7001 Denison Avenue

Junior Members of the Alliance of Transylvanian Saxons Branches 1, 4, 5 and 33 are invited to the Westside Sachsenheim at 7:30 pm on Friday evening, October 25, 2024 for a "spooktacular" time.

We will have a Masquerade Parade for judging of costumes and awarding of prizes. Tell Mom and Dad to dress in costume - there will also be prizes awarded for the best adult costumes.

You can show off your artistic talent by designing a scarecrow head. "Magic Max" will entertain us with his magical mischief show. Refreshments will be served following the show.

Make Reservations by texting or calling:  
 Joan Miller-Malue at: 216-233-8631  
 (If you reach the answering machine, leave your name and telephone number - Joan will call you back) **OR:**  
 You can e-mail Joan at: [miller-malue@cox.net](mailto:miller-malue@cox.net)  
 If e-mailing Joan be sure to list the name and age of each child.

**DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS: OCTOBER 17th**

Junior ATS Members: Can or box of non-perishable food  
 Non-Member Children: \$10.00 plus can or box of non-perishable food

Adults: \$4.00

Note: The boxes and cans of non-perishable food will be donated to a local charity.



# FRATERNAL CALENDAR

6 September 2024

## President Klaus Johannis pays tribute to the Transylvanian Saxons at the big international meeting in Sibiu

### NATIONAL EVENTS

October 19 - 20, 2024

ATS Open Bowling Tournament

Host: New Castle Bowlers

October 27, 2024

TSBA Bowling Session Host: Youngstown

November 17, 2024

TSBA Bowling Session Host: Cleveland East

December 8, 2024

TSBA Bowling Session Host: Cleveland West

January 26, 2025

TSBA Bowling Session Host: Lorain

February 16, 2025

TSBA Bowling Session Host: New Castle

March 2, 2025

TSBA Bowling Session Host: Youngstown

April 5 & 6, 2025

TSBA Season-end Tournament Host: Lorain

May 17, 2025

Branch Presidents Meeting

Host: Columbus Saxons, Br. 10

July 11 - 13, 2025

North American Saxon Heimattag

Host: Youngstown Saxon Club

### LOCAL EVENTS

October 16, 2024

Cleveland Sachsenheim Lagerfest

October 19, 2024

Cleveland Saxon Dance Group Traubenfest

Youngstown Saxon Club

Annual Craft and Vendor Show

October 25, 2024

Cleveland West Children's Halloween Party

October 26, 2024

New Castle Br. 25/27 Rocktober at the Grounds

November 2, 2024

Youngstown Saxon Culture Group Trachtenball

November 10, 2024

Cleveland Saxon Dance Group

Veterans Day Luncheon

November 23, 2024

Youngstown Saxon Culture Group

Fall Sausage Sale

December 7, 2024

Cleveland West Sausage Sale

December 8, 2024

Columbus Br. 10 Christmas Party

In his speech at the second Great Saxon Meeting on 3 August on the Great Square in Sibiu, Romania's President Klaus Johannis expressed his joy at celebrating an important historical event together with his compatriots: 800 years since the issuance of the "Golden Charter" by the Hungarian King Andreas II. He paid tribute to the Transylvanian Saxons, who have preserved their identity regardless of where they live today, as well as a rich industrial tradition and a great cultural heritage. The German part of Johannis' bilingual speech is reproduced below.

It has been 800 years since our ancestors, who came to Transylvania to live in freedom and defended European civilization and Christian values from the aggressors from the East, had their rights confirmed in a document. The "Golden Charter" issued by King Andrew II was the basis for a complex and functional administrative system of the Transylvanian Saxons in political, legal, religious, economic and military terms, and led to the flourishing of crafts and trade, education and art.

When the Saxons voted in Medias in 1919 for the unification of Transylvania with Romania, they brought their centuries-old experience of social coexistence, a rich industrial tradition and a great cultural heritage to the new state, of which we are proud today.

Remembering this past – respecting its values, remembering its sufferings and sacrifices – is part of the essence of the Transylvanian Saxons, which means that no matter where they are, they do not forget their homeland and preserve traditions and their identity, which is respected all over the world. We are members of a community that throughout its history has fought for freedom and built castles, built cities and administered them according to their own legal system, and built churches for the glory of God.

"Home without Borders" – the motto of today's event – expresses the reality in which most of the descendants of the contemporaries of Conrad Haas, Samuel von Brukenthal and Hermann Oberth live today far from their area of origin, but inspired by the will to preserve their Transylvanian uniqueness and pass it on to their children and grandchildren. Modern



President Klaus Johannis speaks at the Great Square in Sibiu. Image source: Romanian President's Office



President Klaus Johannis and his wife Carmen are received with great applause at the festive rally. Photo: Ludger Konopka

Romania, founded on the vision of its elites, which inspired all generations of the last two hundred years, has benefited from the efforts and achievements of its great personalities, among whom members of the German minority occupy an important place. The prestige that our country enjoys today is the result of the work of all those who see the memory of their ancestors and the preservation of traditions as a responsibility and continue their striving for freedom and prosperity.

Five years ago, with the Sibiu Declaration in the Council of Europe, we made a commitment and at the same time we made a commitment that is just as relevant in the complex and difficult conditions of today as it was then. Through the

contribution of all, through the energies of cultural diversity that enriches us, through solidarity and dialogue, we will build a Europe of freedom and democracy, a strong and secure, prosperous and competitive Europe.

800 years after the rights of our ancestors were affirmed, first and foremost the freedom to build a society of justice with respect for the law, let us be inspired by the anthem of Europe: "All men become brothers".

I congratulate the organizers, wish everyone a successful meeting and welcome you all to this "land of blessings", where we find ourselves both in Eminescu's verse "Ce-ți dorescuție, dulce Românie" and in the song "Transylvania, sweet homeland, our dear fatherland".

Siebenbürgische Zeitung Online



### Get your copy of the Saxon Memoirs!

Written by your fellow Saxons.

Copies are \$25 each.

Send checks payable to

ATS

5323 Pearl Road

Cleveland, OH 44129

Call the ATS Home Office at

(440) 842-8442 for more information.



## CHURCHES



**St. Peter's  
German and Saxon  
Lutheran Church**  
11423 Chicago Rd.  
Warren, Michigan 48093  
(586) 979-3850  
stpeters\_church@sbcglobal.net  
www.stpeterswarren.org

**10:00 Service**  
**Nursery**  
**Coffee following service**  
**Senior Circle**

## Open Enrollment starts October 15

From October 15 to December 7 you can change your Medicare options during the annual open enrollment period.

During this time, you can join, drop, or switch to Medicare Advantage Plans or to Original Medicare.

Medicare Advantage plans, known as Part C, are a Medicare-approved health plan that is an alternative to Original Medicare. The Advantage plans are offered by private companies and they must follow Medicare rules.

Advantage plans cover Part A (hospital insurance) and Part B (medical insurance). Most include Part D (Medicare prescription drug coverage.)

Some Advantage plans offer additional benefits such as hearing, vision, dental or wellness programs.

While most Advantage plans require you to use a doctor in the network, they may have lower out-of-pocket costs than Original Medicare.

Also during Open Enrollment, you can add or drop drug coverage.

One thing people don't realize is that you can make as many plan changes as you want during Open Enrollment. If you make a mistake, you can choose a different plan before December 7.

## BRANCH 10, COLUMBUS

By Donald Blum

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8<sup>TH</sup>!

**It's time again for the Columbus Saxons Club Branch 10 Annual Christmas Party!**



You don't want to miss the Christmas Party/Celebration. It's **Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup> at the Berwick Party House. The celebration will be from 12:00 to 4:00 p.m.** Should you feel the urge you can wear your Dirndl or Lederhosen or Saxon Tracht.

There will be more information in the coming weeks on the Facebook page, Volksblatt and other communications!

**MONTHLY MEETING  
HICKORY HOUSE**  
550 Offcenter Place  
Gahanna, Ohio 43230  
October 21, 2024  
Time 12:00 noon

Our meetings are the Third (3<sup>rd</sup>) Monday of the month.

**Remember to bring a canned good item, household product or other food item.**

"The generous will themselves be blessed, for they share their food with the poor."

#### MEETING

We celebrated the anniversaries for Christine and Todd Oehlman and Jill and Don Blum. As is customary George Lassel played his harmonica and we sang Happy Anniversary.

We inducted and welcomed new members Marsue and Heinz Birtler into the Alliance of Transylvanian Saxons, Columbus Branch 10. Also, we welcomed Evelyn Clark (Marsue & Heinz's granddaughter) to the meeting. She will be attending the next evening informational meeting by Olga Hesch to discuss potentially joining the club. Olga's next meeting is October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024, at the Old Bag of Nails in Hilliard. These meetings are designed to provide information about the meaning of

membership in the Columbus Transylvanian Saxons Club, Branch 10 to individuals who are not able to attend meetings on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month at noon. Olga has generated a lot of interest and will continue these meetings to assist individuals in learning about the club and sharing heritage information.

We decided to make donations in the names of Carl Lassel and Rob Cunningham to the Schloss Horneck Fund. Additionally, it was mentioned how the Club provided a beautiful flower arrangement for Rosina Schlect's celebration of life.

We discussed the Presidents Meeting on May 17, 2025, that the Columbus Branch will be hosting. We talked about Heimattag that will be hosted by Youngstown (July 11 - 12, 2025) and the alternatives of getting a bus or a van for transportation. People are still talking about the Saxon Club Picnic and we decided to investigate dates on Sunday, June 22 or June 27, 2025. We had a wonderful lunch and meeting.

Olga explained how she is holding evening meetings with individuals that are younger and/or currently working. This enables them to learn more about the Columbus Branch, ATS and the benefits of membership. She has gained interest and will continue to hold these meetings. We appreciate the effort of Olga in holding these informative meetings/dinners in order to answer questions and just share information. The last evening meeting is September 25<sup>th</sup> at the Polaris Grill. **The next meeting is Wednesday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>, from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. at the Old Bag of Nails in Hilliard.** If you would like to attend Olga's meetings, please contact as follows: Olga Hesch Phone (614) 432-3666; Email olga.hesch@gmail.com

We continued on our journey, we were able to catch a glimpse of the Carpathian Mountains arriving at Hermannstadt. Previously, we showed you pictures of this vibrant Transylvanian city with pictures of beautiful Churches, building the architectural styles of the building that included various important influence of the different cultures that are a part of the history of Hermannstadt.

As we told you in the last article there was a second important aspect to the city of Hermannstadt. We all know

how King Geza II of Hungary invited the Transylvanian Saxons to come to Transylvania. He promised these hearty and industrious individuals the promise of free and land and self-rule (total autonomy), if they would just come to the area and do a few simple things (HaHaHa). All they had to do was come to land in the Carpathian Mountains, build fortified structures that would shield Hungary from warring neighbors and keep valuable trade routes open to Hungary. So, we came to this desolate land that was mostly populated by brown bears, lynx and other predators and built these fortified structures in dense woodlands and marshes. These industrious and skilled craftsmen accepted the offer and Hermannstadt is a prime example of their success and fulfilling the promise to build these fortified structures to protect the villagers and to protect Hungary from enemies and keep trade paths open to Hungary. We will continue to see illustrations of this as we continue our journey.

These are pictures of the walls and fortified structures that surrounded the entire city of Hermannstadt. This is one of the fortified castles that is on the Transylvanian Flag. The amazing thing is these were all built by manual labor. There were no mechanical cranes, bulldozers or other modern days machines. When we use the term blood, sweat and tears, that and skilled craftsmanship is what built these fortified structures. I marveled at the fact that some of these structures were built by their hands and still stand today as an example of their craftsmanship.

Hermannstadt had a number of walls that protected and surrounded the entire city. On the first wall the towns people would throw hot oil, stones, shoot arrows from cross-bows down on the enemies. When firearms were introduced was probably in the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> centuries. The sidewalk was actually a moat as a second line of defense, where again soldiers could shoot arrows, etc. on enemies trying to cross the moat. Then there was a second wall that would offer additional defense and a place where soldiers could reign down on enemies anything they could use. The final line of protection were the houses and turrets, if the enemies could even get past the two walls. These fortified structures did an excellent job of protecting the city and Hungary from the invaders.



**We remember our Sisters and Brothers who have departed this life in recent days. Our sincere sympathy is extended to the members of the bereaved families.**

**Lois Jean Frank**  
Age 98

Died: August 16, 2024  
Branch 30, Youngstown

**George R. Klein**  
Age 87

Died: September 12, 2024  
Branch 30, Youngstown

**Lucy J. Secka**  
Age 82

Died: September 18, 2024  
Branch 30, Youngstown

*When you arise in the morning, think of what a precious privilege it is to live -- to breathe -- to think -- to enjoy -- to love!*

*Elbert Hubbard*

*Meaning is something you build into your life. You build it out of your own past, out of your affections and loyalties ... out of your own talent and understanding, out of the things you believe in.*

*John Gardner*

*Empathy is about finding echoes of another person in yourself.*

*Mohsin Hamid*

*A mask tells us more than a face.*

*Oscar Wilde*

*A pleasure is not full grown until it is remembered.*

*C.S. Lewis*

*Ask yourself what you would do even if you were never paid. That's a clue to what you should be doing and, of course, still be finding a way to be paid for it. You can attract more money from love.*

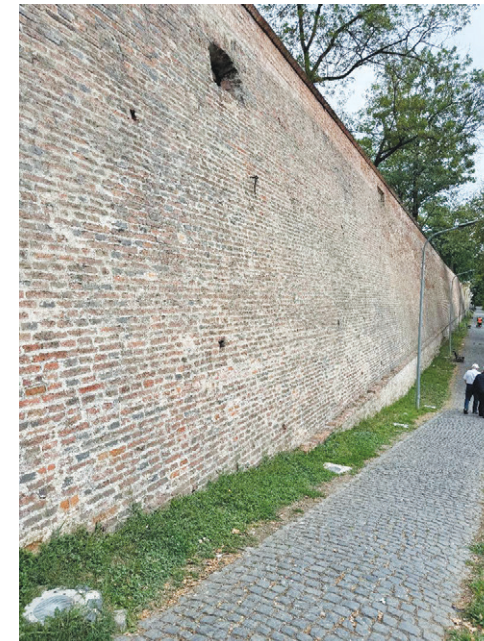
*Joe Vitale*

The pictures of the structures, as they still exist today, is a great example of the Transylvanian Saxons skills and craftsmanship. (See Page 6 for photos.)

Our next article will follow our travels through Transylvania.



## The fortified walls of Hermannstadt from a Columbus point of view



That's one big rock

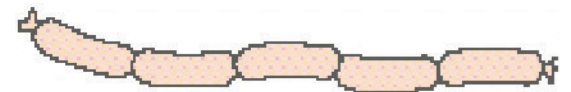


Massive diamonds are hard to find. In fact, the last enormous diamond was unearthed more than a century ago. But in August, miners in Botswana finally hit paydirt.

Miners for Lucara Diamond Corp uncovered a one-pound, 2,492-carat diamond from the Karowe mine, located about 300 miles north of the Botswana capital of Gaborone.

The find is second only to the 3,106-carat Cullinan diamond, found in South Africa in 1905 and cut into smaller stones for the English crown jewels. Another diamond from the same mine, the 813-carat Constellation diamond, sold for a record \$63 million in 2016. X-rays and precision grinding techniques are making large diamonds easier to find than ever.

## Youngstown Saxon Culture Group



### Fall Sausage Sale

We are now taking orders for hot, mild, and garlic sausage.

All flavors come in 3lb and 5lb links or 5lb bulk packages (each with a little overage).

**The price is \$4.00 per pound**

You can call in orders to

Michael Bachinger 330-540-5168

Walter Benesch 330-398-5449

Robert Bachinger 330-980-0911

You can also email your order to

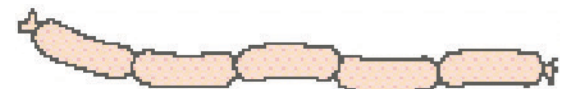
bman1017@gmail.com

**Saturday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024**

**Pick-up is from 9 AM to 2 PM**

**in the Pavilion**

Orders will be accepted until November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024







### Sneaky car repairs that will cost you

When the dreaded Check Engine light comes on, it could be for several causes, potentially expensive, and important to repair.

One culprit is the oxygen sensor. A bad sensor can cause rough idling, poor acceleration, and engine misfires. The longer you drive with one, the worse the damage. It will cost about \$300 to replace and you'll probably have to do it every 50,000 miles.

Another cause of rough idling and vibration: bad ignition coils and spark plugs. They may cause stalls and it may be more difficult to start the engine. On the high end, replacing them will be about \$500.

Your Check Engine light may also be signaling a bad fuel injector, which could cause misfiring, stalling, and rough idling. You don't want to ignore this repair, which usually tops \$400, partly because it can harm the catalytic converter. Break that thing and you'll pay about \$1300 to replace it.

On the other hand, the Check Engine light could just be nagging you about a loose fuel tank cap. It will be a sweet \$30 to replace it. Always check first to see if the cap is loose or missing when you see the warning light.

Another common cause: the thermostat. Designed to last 10 years or 100,000 miles, a faulty thermostat can cause overheating, noises, and coolant leaks. It will cost about \$400 to replace one.

When the weather cools down, your urge to curl up inside until spring might ramp up. And while cozy days indoors might sometimes be a truly sublime pleasure, an unexpected complication may arise in regions with cold and gray winters: vitamin D deficiency.

Also called the sunshine vitamin, vitamin D is synthesized in the skin after exposure to ultraviolet B rays and is essential for calcium absorption and maintaining strong bones. Vitamin D de-

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Branch No. \_\_\_\_\_ Cert. No. \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

**Juvenile Members are encouraged to color and mail to the ATS Home Office for a special treat.**

**Please mail to the ATS Home Office; 5323 Pearl Road; Cleveland, OH 44129**

**Before November 15, 2024**

### Do you get enough vitamin D?

iciency can lead to weaker bones and is associated with a number of adverse effects including increased inflammation, increased risk of autoimmune disease, and decreased cognitive function. During the summer, most healthy people can produce sufficient vitamin D through a modest amount of sun exposure -- five to 10 minutes at midday for several days each week for people with fair skin, and longer periods for people with darker skin.

In much of the U.S., however, winter sunlight is too



weak to spur vitamin D synthesis, which can lead to deficiencies. According to Nebraska Medicine, nearly 1 in 4 U.S. adults are low in vitamin D, and the condition has become more common in recent years. Symp-

toms may include fatigue, poor sleep, bone pain, feeling depressed or sad, hair loss, muscle weakness, loss of appetite, frequent illness, and paler skin. If you notice these symptoms, contact your doctor -- they can measure your vitamin D levels with a simple blood test.

Fortunately, vitamin D deficiency is easily remedied with appropriate foods and vitamin supplements. Certain fish (like salmon and sardines) are naturally high in vitamin D, as well as egg yolks and beef liver.

Many other foods, like milk and breakfast cereals, are enriched with additional vitamin D.

Vitamin D supplements come in two forms, D2 and D3. Several studies have shown that D3 raises vitamin D levels more effectively, and many physicians recommend it for this reason. For young adults, the recommended dietary allowance of vitamin D is 600 international units. Your physician can recommend an appropriate dosage for you.



# What are the benefits of joining the ATS?

## People ask themselves why should I join the ATS? What is the benefit?

Listed below are just some of the many benefits of joining the ATS.

- **Saxon Heritage & Fellowship** - Promoting the recognition and preservation of the Transylvanian Saxon Heritage. Join a choir, a dance group, or a brass band. Not musically inclined? Attend their events for a delightful evening out.
- **Financial Protection** - Life Insurance plans and Annuity savings plans to provide you and your family with a secure financial future. The ATS has great rates!
- **Fraternal Benefits** - includes:
  - **The Saxon News Volksblatt** - the official newspaper showing upcoming local and national events. It also includes articles of what's going on at other local branches. Feel free to attend an event at a neighboring branch.
  - **Orphan Benefits** - children can receive an Orphan Benefit if one or both of their parents become deceased.
  - **Scholarships** - high school seniors and bachelor degree candidates can apply for a scholarship from the ATS. Students must be a member of the ATS for at least two years to become eligible. Some local branches have their own scholarship award programs.
  - **Social Programs** - the TSBA bowling season, the ATS Open Bowling Tournament, Golf Outings, Fishing Charters, Family Day at Waldameer amusement park, as well as many local branch programs.
  - **Youth Activities** - including coloring contests, Saxon Summer Camp, International Youth Rallies (Jugendlager), etc. Local branches have holiday parties and activities for the young ones.
  - **Volunteering** - the Local Branch is a great way to volunteer. Whether you take an office or just help out at an event, the ATS and your local branch is a great way to make a difference. Attend Branch Meetings. Attend the ATS Convention, see what we're like. Maybe you will become a future ATS Board Member!

The ATS needs members and members need the ATS! Let's work together to preserve and promote our Transylvanian Saxon heritage as well as our fraternal benefit society. Introduce your relatives and friends to your local ATS Sales Deputy so that they can become a member. Let them see how the ATS can make a difference in their lives!

