



Published by
The Alliance
of Transylvanian Saxons
Home Office: 5323 Pearl Road
Cleveland, Ohio 44129-1503
Tel: (440) 842-8442




New Membership Roll Call

The Alliance of Transylvanian Saxons welcomes the following new members who joined the ATS during the year 2024. We hope they enjoy being a member of our Fraternal Benefit Society as much as we enjoy having them!


- Branch 1 – Cleveland**
Lawton Huber
John S. Murray
- Branch 4 – Cleveland**
Delilah Ely
Janet Kloos
- Branch 5 – Lorain**
Xavier Jones
- Branch 9 – Chicago**
Zoey Volk
- Branch 10 – Columbus**
Heinz Birtler
Marthalta Birtler
- Branch 14 – Canton**
Michael Bruckner
- Branch 18 – Salem**
Peyton Hughes
Vivian Phillis
- Branch 19 – Salem**
Jackson Donovan

- Branch 25 – New Castle**
Declan Baker
Kellen Baker
Milo Branca
Timothy Holt
Glenn Karsnak
Henry Sanchez
- Branch 26 – Merrillville**
Mark York
- Branch 27 – New Castle**
Gianna Branca
Robbie Clifford
Emillia Sanchez
- Branch 30 – Youngstown**
Michele Childers
David Dehn
Ryder Gal
Haley Hess
Jordan Hess
Sharon Lallo
Landon Loyd
Madelyn Loyd
Liam Myers
Judith Rice
Aria Umbenhauer
Oley Walter
Bruce Zinz

- Branch 33 – Cleveland**
Malachi Harbaugh
Wade Harbaugh
Sally Kraus
Adelaide Moffitt
Kellen Poolos
Rosalina Riley
Dylan Siffin
Connor Tully
Taylor Tully
Thomas Tully
Weston Wyatt
- Home Branch**
Ardon Crandall
Martin Gierscher
Michael Pinter
Eric J. Woods



TSBA
January 26, 2025
11 a.m.
Rebman Recreation
5300 Oberlin Ave
Lorain, OH 44053
Please call Monica
at 440-309-7894
for meal cancelations
or additions
by Tuesday, January 21.



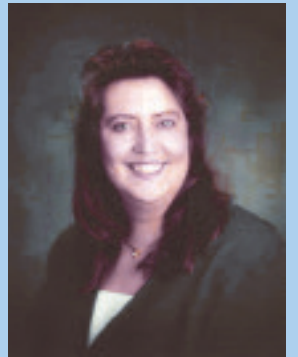
**SEE PAGE 3 FOR
2025 ATS SAXON
SCHOLARSHIP
INFORMATION
AND
APPLICATIONS**

**TIMELY - DO NOT DELAY
MAILED TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2024**

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

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Denise Aeling Crawford
ATS Nat'l President



Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and that Santa Claus was good to you and yours. We need to remember that family and friends are the best gifts to have during the holidays. I hope the upcoming New Year is a great one for you, as well.

This is a time for reflecting on the old and having optimism for the new. Do you make resolutions? How about a resolution to purchase a life insurance policy for those family members who do not have an ATS policy yet? The ATS is more than just a membership organization. We really do have your financial interest at heart. Have enough life insurance? Then, how about planning for your retirement? It's never too early to start setting money aside for your future or your child's or grandchild's future. Contact your local Sales Deputy or the ATS Home Office for information.

All Branches should have received three different forms that need to be returned to the ATS Home Office. One is the Branch Roster, showing all your Branch Officers. The Home Office uses this information for different mailings throughout the year, as well as for the Branch Directory that appears in the Volksblatt. The other two forms show your Branch Fraternal and Charitable spending. One is what the Branch used their Branch Sharing funds on, while the other shows hours, as well as dollars, for Fraternal and community activities. All three of these forms need to be returned to the Home Office timely.

Did you know the earliest New Year's resolutions were made over 4,000 years ago? The ancient Babylonians, according to History.com, were the first. They were also the first to have celebrations in honor of the new year. Around 2000 B.C. they celebrated the New Year during a 12-day festival called Akitu, which started with the vernal equinox. This was the start of the farming season to plant crops, crown their king, and make promises to return borrowed farm equipment and pay their debts. The Babylonian New Year was adopted by the ancient Romans, as

Continued on Page 4



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
or honor of someone

ATS SAXON RELIEF FUND



We petition our Saxon fraternal community - members, branches, affiliate organizations, and friends to continue to support our Saxon Relief Program.

The need is still great and we ask our members and friends to continue to support our Saxon Relief Fund program with generous contributions.

Please send your contributions to our ATS office, 5323 Pearl Road, Cleveland, Ohio 44129. Write checks payable to the "ATS SAXON RELIEF FUND". Thank you for your help!



NOTE: Gift packages can be ordered for delivery to a specific relative or friend in Transylvania for a minimal cost of **\$50.00**. Send your check payable to the "ATS Saxon Relief Fund" and the **exact name and address** of the recipient to our ATS Office. Please print or type for clarity. The package contents include non-perishable items such as: Coffee, Milk, Cocoa, Sugar, Rice, Flour, Margarine, Soup, Chocolate, Cheese, Sausage, Yeast, etc.

BRANCH 5, LORAIN By Michael Johnson

Just a quick correction on the date of our next meeting for Branch 5, Lorain. Monday January 20th, 2025 at 7:00 PM is the CORRECT date and time, NOT the date and time in the last issue of your Volksblatt.



Charitable donations (and deductions)

If you itemize deductions for tax year 2024, you can deduct qualified donations for charitable, religious, scientific, educational purposes, or to prevent cruelty to animals or children.

The key is that these donations are deductible only if you itemize all your deductions on Schedule A of the form 1040.

Most taxpayers take the standard deduction, which is generous. The standard deduction has increased from tax year 2023. For example, married couples filing jointly are able to deduct \$29,200 as the standard deduction. Single taxpayers can deduct \$14,600 for 2024 taxes.

If you do itemize, charitable deductions are limited to up to 60 percent of the taxpayer's adjusted gross income.

The recipient of the donation must be a qualified organization that qualifies for tax-exempt status under federal tax law.

Contributions are only considered charitable if the donor receives nothing of value in return for the gift.



Alliance of Transylvanian Saxons
Home Office: 5323 Pearl Rd., Cleveland, Ohio 44129
Telephone: (440) 842-8442 FAX: 440-842-5442
E-mail: office@atsaxons.com Website: www.atsaxons.com

National Board of Directors

President -

Denise Aeling Crawford Br. 8 (330) 257-0267
9415 Elsmere Dr, Parma OH 44130

Honorary Past Presidents-

Thomas J. Manning Br. 2 (814) 864-6072

3909 Schaper Ave Apt 203, Erie PA 16508

Joan Miller-Malue Br. 4 (216) 233-8631

17105 Hilliard Rd, Lakewood OH 44107

First Vice President -

Monica M. Weber Br. 4 (440) 356-5936

Second Vice President -

Randall Floyd Br. 26 (219) 798-6908

1806 E 73rd Ave, Merrillville IN 46410

Third Vice President -

Michael Bachinger, Br. 30 (330) 540-5168

3134 Neosho Rd, Youngstown OH 44511

Secretary-

Christine Oehlman Br. 10 (614) 419-7485

8333 Shade Maple Dr, Canal Winchester OH 43110

Treasurer-

Michael Teutsch, Jr. Br. 30 (330) 509-9670

140 Neff Ct, Canfield OH 44406

Trustees -

Jacob F. Spor Br. 25 (724) 657-3773

2940 Plank Rd, New Castle PA 16105

Barbara Spack Br 18 (330) 501-1491

1389 Brookview Dr, Salem OH 44460

Ingrid Weihs-Ferguson Br. 37 (586) 264-6136

11711 Lancer Dr, Sterling Hts MI 48313

Margarete Ziegler, Br. 33 (440) 488-6421

38047 Parkway Blvd, Willoughby OH 44094

Debbie K. Ferguson Br. 37 (586) 431-1956

4975 Surrey Dr, Sterling Heights MI 48310

Chief Medical Examiner-

Dr. Andreas W. Schuster, Br. 1 Cleveland

The Saxon News Volksblatt (ISSN 0894-1165), the official publication of the Alliance of Transylvanian Saxons, 5323 Pearl Road, Cleveland, Ohio 44129-1503, is published Bi-weekly.

Annual Subscription rate for non-ATS members
USA - \$15; Canada and Europe - \$50

Managing Editors HB Laser Communications,
29076 Fall River Dr, Westlake, Ohio 44145.

"Periodicals Postage Paid" at Cleveland, Ohio.

Postmaster: Send address changes to the Saxon News Volksblatt, 5323 Pearl Road, Cleveland, Ohio 44129-1503

SECRETARIES TAKE NOTICE:

THE DEADLINE DATE FOR ARTICLES IS WEDNESDAY - 12 NOON.

You may either

E-MAIL: 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, JANUARY 8, 2025

FRIDAY, JANUARY 17, 2025

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22, 2025

FRIDAY, JANUARY 31, 2025

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2025

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2025

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

FRESHMAN ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP GRANTS

To be eligible for a Freshman Academic Scholarship Grant you must be a high school senior with an accumulated grade point average in high school of 2.8, or better.

TWENTY-FOUR Scholarships will be awarded to new freshmen in undergraduate study at an accredited college or university in the United States.

- \$1,000 Four Year Renewable Grant from the Victor Deptner Memorial Scholarship
- \$1,000 Four-Year Renewable Rev. & Mrs. John Foisel Memorial Scholarship
- \$3,000 Rev. & Mrs. John Foisel Memorial Scholarship
- \$2,000 New Castle Branch 27 Scholarship
- \$1,000 Past ATS Officers' Memorial Scholarship
- \$1,000 Henry Schindler Scholarship
- \$1,000 Michael W. Schassburger Memorial Scholarship
- \$1,000 Jon Weber Memorial Scholarship
- \$1,000 ATS Branch 33 National Scholarship Endowment Award
- \$1,000 Julia & Martin Konnerth Memorial Scholarship
- \$1,000 Julia & Martin Konnerth Memorial Scholarship
- \$1,000 Branch 10 – Columbus Scholarship
- \$1,000 Branch 14 – Canton Scholarship
- \$1,000 Davidson-Schuller Appreciation Scholarship Award in honor of ATS and Branches 33 & 34
- \$1,000 John F. Spack Memorial Scholarship
- \$1,000 John and Mary Guip Memorial Scholarship
- \$1,000 Branch 5 – Lorain Scholarship
- \$1,000 Dale & Rose Segedi-Kaufman Memorial Scholarship
- \$1,000 Dale & Rose Segedi-Kaufman Memorial Scholarship
- \$1,000 Dr. David E. Schuller Appreciation Scholarship in honor of his parents Elsie and Daniel S. Schuller
- \$1,000 New Castle Branch 27 Scholarship
- \$1,000 Donzella Herman Scholarship
- \$1,000 George R. Spack Sr. Appreciation Scholarship
- \$ 750 Niles-Branch 20 National Scholarship

Applicants for the Scholarships listed must be ATS Members in good standing with a minimum of two years' continuous membership prior to the scholarship application deadline of April 15. High School Seniors must have maintained a 2.8, or better, grade point average in high school.

Complete the Request Form below to receive your Application. Please note: upon our receipt of the Request Form, an official ATS Scholarship Application Form will be mailed to you. The completed official ATS Scholarship Application Forms from the applicant and school must be received at the ATS Home Office before April 15, 2025.

REQUEST FOR ATS HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR SCHOLARSHIP

Name

Address

City, State, Zip Code

Tele: _____

E-Mail: _____

Br. No. _____ Cert. No. _____

Request must be received by March 14

MAIL SCHOLARSHIP REQUEST FORM TO:
 ATS Home Office
 5323 Pearl Road
 Cleveland, Ohio 44129-1503
**Request Forms must be received by
 March 14, 2025**
*Please note:
 Only official ATS Scholarship Application Forms
 will be accepted for consideration.*

UNDERGRADUATE CONTINUING ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP GRANTS

The ATS is offering TWENTY Academic Undergraduate Continuing Education Scholarship Grants to our members who are not current year high school graduates and are not entering college in their freshman year of study but are in an **undergraduate program.**

- \$2,000 Branch 18 - Salem, OH Scholarship
- \$2,000 Branch 37 - Detroit, MI Scholarship
- \$1,000 Award in memory of Marie Stirner
- \$1,000 Award in memory of Marie Stirner
- \$1,000 Award in memory of Marie Stirner
- \$1,000 Award in memory of Marie Stirner
- \$1,000 Award in memory of Gertie & Ernie Gottschling
- \$1,000 Lorain Saxon Ladies Branch 11 Scholarship
- \$1,000 Joan Miller-Malue Scholarship
- \$1,000 Award in memory of Donald G. Miller
- \$ 750 Erie Branch 2 Scholarship
- \$ 750 Erie Branch 2 Scholarship
- \$ 750 Award in memory of George H. Schneider
- \$ 500 ATS Branch 34 Cleveland East Scholarship
- \$ 500 Award in memory of Karl & Charlotte Klamer
- \$ 500 Farrell - Branch 7 Scholarship
- \$ 500 ATS Scholarship Award
- \$ 500 ATS Scholarship Award
- \$ 500 ATS Scholarship Award
- \$ 500 Award in memory of Gerard Slusny

Applicants must be ATS members in good standing, with continuous membership for a minimum period of two (2) years. They must have a grade point average of at least 2.8. They may be any age; however, they cannot be a current year high school graduate or entering their freshman year of college.

Applicants must be enrolled in an **undergraduate program** as a **full-time student** at an accredited college or university in the United States.

Requests for official ATS Undergraduate Continuing Academic Scholarship Applications may be made by calling the ATS Home Office (440) 842-8442, or by completing the Form printed below by March 15, 2025.

Completed official ATS Applications for scholarship grants must be received at the ATS Home Office before April 15, 2025

Undergraduate Continuing Academic Scholarship winners will be chosen in a random drawing conducted by the ATS Scholarship Committee

REQUEST FOR ATS UNDERGRADUATE CONTINUING EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP

Name

Address

City, State, Zip Code

Tele: _____

E-Mail: _____

Br. No. _____ Cert. No. _____

Request must be received by March 14

MAIL SCHOLARSHIP REQUEST FORM TO:
 ATS Home Office 5323 Pearl Road
 Cleveland, Ohio 44129-1503

Request Forms must be received by March 14, 2025
*Please Note: Only official ATS Scholarship Application
 Forms will be accepted for consideration*

**** Scholarship winners will be notified by mail. ****

**It matters not
 where you were born,
 or where you live,
 but what's in your HEART.
 Be Proud to be
 Transylvanian Saxon!**

VOCATIONAL & TRADE SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP

The ATS is offering scholarships for eligible Vocational & Trade School education programs. Applicants may attend a vocational school, trade school, technical school, certification training program, or credential program. Eligible fields of study include, but are not limited to, advanced manufacturing, automotive technology, computer technology, construction, cosmetology, culinary arts, electrical, HVAC, health care, industrial maintenance, machining, plumbing, or welding.

Applicants for this scholarship must be an ATS member in good standing, with a minimum of two (2) years' continuous membership prior to the scholarship application deadline of April 15. Applicants can be a high school senior or any adult.

Requests for official ATS Vocational & Trade School Scholarship applications may be made by calling the ATS Home Office (440) 842-8442, or by completing the Form printed below by March 14, 2025

Completed official ATS Applications for scholarship grants must be received at the ATS Home Office before April 15, 2025.

REQUEST FOR ATS VOCATIONAL & TRADE SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP

Name

Address

City, State, Zip Code

Tele: _____

E-Mail: _____

Br. No. _____ Cert. No. _____

Request must be received by March 14

MAIL SCHOLARSHIP REQUEST FORM TO:
 ATS Home Office 5323 Pearl Road
 Cleveland, Ohio 44129-1503

Request Forms must be received by March 15, 2025
*Please Note: Only official ATS Scholarship Application
 Forms will be accepted for consideration*

**** Scholarship winners will be notified by mail. ****

**Lunchables languish
 on store shelves**

Once the undisputed king of the kids' lunch box, sales of Lunchables -- a meat, cheese, and cracker combo in a disposable plastic container -- tumbled during the third quarter of 2024. Parent company Kraft Heinz saw a 2.2 percent drop in sales across the board, nearly half of which was driven by Lunchables, which decreased its sales by 12 percent.

According to CNN Business, Kraft Heinz is scrambling to prop up the ailing \$2 billion brand, and the headwinds are fierce -- parents are increasingly concerned that the prepackaged meals aren't healthy options, and the brand's attempt to get on school lunch menus turned into a public relations debacle. New competitors like Lunchly are entering the market as well, with backing from YouTube megastars Logan Paul and MrBeast.

Lunchables may be stale these days, but the brand, launched in the late 1980s as a way for Oscar Mayer to repurpose excess bologna, was an early leader in ready-to-eat packaged foods. In recent years, however, the brand has come under heavy criticism for its high levels of sodium and saturated fat, and in 2024, Consumer Reports found that the products also contained lead and cadmium.

Kraft Heinz disagrees with the findings, but Lunchables still took a major hit from the negative publicity. The company hopes to rebuild the brand with a revamped marketing campaign and new flavors.

FRATERNAL CALENDAR

NATIONAL EVENTS

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

October 18 - 19, 2025

ATS Open Bowling Tournament

Host: Merrillville, IN

LOCAL EVENTS

January 19, 2025

Youngstown Saxon Club Pork and Kraut Dinner

February 16, 2025

Youngstown Saxon Club Pork and Kraut Dinner

February 22, 2025

Youngstown Br. 30 Family Bowling

March 16, 2025

Youngstown Saxon Club Pork and Kraut Dinner

March 29, 2025

Youngstown Br. 30 Goulash Dinner



Alliance of Transylvanian Saxons

BRANCH 27, NEW CASTLE

By Dolores Both

December 8, 2024
2:00 p.m.

Hunters Woods Club House

Fortunately it was a clear, sunny day for our Christmas Party on December 8th at 2:00 p.m. We had a very nice turnout to enjoy a delicious meal catered by Jeremy from the Hill House Restaurant. Judy Both announced the happy tidings that all the officers agreed to keep their positions for 2025. Instead of exchanging gifts, members donated toward the ATS Saxon Relief Fund. The donations were matched by our treasury.

Several beautiful centerpieces were donated by members to decorate our tables creating a festive atmosphere. Sherri Fenski donated a beautiful centerpiece that was created by her neighbor who is known for her artful creations. Sherri's mother, Linda Stoops, won this centerpiece. Rosemarie Montini also donated a lovely

Christmas centerpiece that was won by Doris Shenker.

A little bit of a German legacy for you. If you find a bird's nest in your Christmas tree, you will have good luck. We didn't cut down a tree to decorate or look for a nest, but found a bird's nest filled with Hershey Kisses to use as a door prize. And guess what! It was me! The nest is happy in my Christmas tree surrounded by ornaments and many colored lights.

Judy had a fun Christmas carol game testing our memory and singing ability. We had to pick an ornament from the Christmas tree Judy created and sing the second line of the song listed on the ornament. With the help of everyone singing along, all the contestants were winners and received a very nice prize. Winners were: Sally Means, Jane Fishovitz, Linda Stoops, Rosemarie Montini, Debbie Hermann, Doris Shenker, Ken Harris, Susan Shenker, Doreen

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE Cont'd from Page 1

was the tradition of resolutions. However, the timing was different, as the calendar was eventually shifted to the Julian calendar in 46 B.C. which declared January 1 as the start of the new year and began each year by making promises to the god Janus.

In the medieval era, knights took a vow at the end of the Christmas season each year to re-affirm their commitment to chivalry (their moral code of conduct involving warrior ethos, knightly piety, and courtly manners, all combining to establish a notion of honor and nobility), according to Wikipedia. For early Christians, the first day of the new year became the traditional occasion for thinking about one's past mistakes and resolving to do better in the future. In 1740, English clergyman John Wesley, who founded the Methodist religion, created the Covenant Renewal Service. This service was held either on New Year's Eve or New Year's Day and is also known as watch night services. They included readings from the Scriptures and the singing of hymns and provided a spiritual alternative to the raucous celebrations normally held



Heitsch, Dolores Both, John Fishovitz, Nancy Harris, and Brett McCune. Candy dishes filled with yummy chocolates were won by: Debbie Hermann, Susan Shenker, Jane Fishovitz, Pat Both, and Rosemarie Montini.

Our party ended with Judy reading her Christmas poem entitled, "Everyday Should Be Like Christmas".

Thank you to Judy Both for a good and busy year that we enjoyed and to all the members for their support and volunteering their time and help. Wishes for the blessings of Christmas to all.

to celebrate the coming of the new year. Now popular within evangelical Protestant churches, these watch night services held on New Year's Eve are often spent praying and making resolutions for the coming year.

Despite the tradition's early religious roots, New Year's resolutions today are a more secular practice. History.com states that instead of making promises to gods, most people make resolutions only to themselves and focus purely on self-improvement. This may explain why such resolutions seem so hard to follow through on. At the end of the Great Depression, about a quarter of American adults formed New Year's resolutions. At the start of the 21st century, this increased to about forty percent. A study found that 46% of participants who made common New Year's resolutions were like to succeed, over ten times as among those who decided to make life changes at other times of the year.

What are the most common New Year's resolutions? Improving physical fitness, losing weight, saving money, pursuing career ambitions, spending time with family, taking up a new hobby, quitting smoking, home improvement projects, cutting down on alcohol, and improving mental health are the top ten. Other unique ideas include starting a gratitude journal (recognizing things in your life that you can be grateful for), cooking new foods (the Saxon Cookbook can help here!), read more books (the ATS has some to help you out here, as well), prioritizing sleep which can have many health benefits, joining a club (Local Branch meetings, anyone?) volunteering, drinking more water, open a retirement account or increase your contributions to your existing one (again, the ATS can help here!), scheduling monthly check-ins with family and friends who you've drifted away from, and telling people you love them more often. Pick just one or two and try to stick with them until they become a habit! Happy New Year, everyone!

Until next time...



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.

Thomas Zakel

Age 85

Died: December 2, 2024
Branch 1, Cleveland West

David Floyd

Age 73

Died: December 10, 2024
Branch 26, Merrillville, IN

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

The object of a New Year is not that we should have a new year. It is that we should have a new soul.

G. K. Chesterton

Cheers to a New Year and another chance for us to get it right.

Oprah Winfrey

You are never too old to re-invent yourself.

Steve Harvey

Many times we underestimate or do not realize what we can do. We put self-imposed limits on ourselves and fail to venture to the unknown, or do not dare to do the impossible.

*Tim Burmingham
in My Daily Insights*

There's no one way to dance. That's kind of my philosophy about everything.

*Ellen DeGeneres,
television personality*

DETROIT BRANCH 37 HOLIDAY PARTY

BRANCH 37, DETROIT
By Trudy Kalvin



There was a drizzly rain in the air on Sunday, December 15th at Branch 37 in Detroit, as people gathered inside St. Peter's Church where the holiday party was about to begin.

President Sue Fleischer welcomed all and started the event, as she usually does, with a prayer.

"Dear Lord, in this holy season when we are given so much, do not let us forget the many gifts and blessings you bring into our lives. Help us to remember that Christmas is a Celebration of the Birth of your Son, Jesus Christ.

Remind us to be grateful for our friends and families, whom we so often take for granted. We thank you for the beauty and peace of this Holiday.

Bless this food that we are about to enjoy on this special occasion. AMEN."

The food was catered so that our members could enjoy and relax. Wonderful homemade desserts were brought in by all members.

Festive red poinsettias were on each table, and the

hall was fully decorated with colorful lights.

As we joined in to sing holiday songs, Mike Rehner kept the beat with his Saxon embellished drum.

There were gifts for all. Long-time members, Katie Fedototszkin, John Fleischer, Karin Weihs, and Susanna Krautner, along with Pastor Gerry, were honored with a special floral gift. Also recognized were December birthdays: Debbie Ferguson, Rosie Kuhlman, Liana Egger, Robert Schneider, and Kaetchen Breckner.

Eva Fleischer, granddaughter of John and Maryann Fleischer, was our youngest guest.

Heartfelt blessings abound to the Breckner family for the loss of our brother George Breckner.

Special thanks to Debbie Ferguson and her family for all their help coordinating this gathering.

We at Branch 37 wish all a happy, peaceful Holiday Season, and look forward to our fellowship in the coming year.



The good news

A husband came home from work and was greeted by his newlywed wife. She said, "I have great news for you. Pretty soon we've going to be three in this house instead of just two."

Her husband ran to her with a smile on his face and delight in his eyes. He was glowing with happiness and kissed his wife.

She was happy and smiling too when she said, "I'm so glad you feel this way. My mother moves in with us tomorrow!"



**CLEVELAND EAST
BRANCH 33
CHRISTMAS PARTY**



CLEVELAND EAST CHRISTMAS PARTY



BRANCH 33, CLEVELAND EAST By Arline Krestel-Suts

I start this article by thanking everyone who participated in making our Saxon sausage sale a success. Thank you to all the members who worked making sausage, selling sausage, and for those who bought sausage. Proceeds were over \$800; we will donate to a local food bank and add to Branch 33's Scholarship Fund. Messiah Lutheran Church has been so kind to let us use their facility for the sausage making. Hope everyone enjoys the fruits of our labor!

On December 15, Branch 33 members and friends gathered together for a Christmas party at Pine Ridge Country Club. Santa Claus was able to attend and brought early Christmas presents. Thank you to Donna and John Foisel, and Holly Prankas for assisting Santa as Elves.

Food was delicious, the hall was festive, and everyone had a great time together.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, January 8, at 7 p.m. at Messiah Lutheran Church. First meeting of the new year and we will start with our Saxon Sausage and Sauerkraut Supper. 2025 Branch officers will be sworn in during the meeting. Cindy Schneider has put together a 2025 calendar of Branch and ATS events and if you did not get one at the banquet, come to the meeting to pick one up. Of course, Branch articles and the Volkblatt also lists all of the events.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas full of love, laughter... and minimal family drama. Here's to another year of Gemütlichkeit!!

Weight loss drugs may help lower cancer risk

Drugs in the GLP-1 agonist class such as Ozempic and Wegovy have already transformed diabetes and obesity treatment, and now researchers say that they may also help prevent certain types of cancer. According to National Public Radio, early studies have already shown the drug's promise against several common cancers, including those linked with excess weight and obesity (such as breast, colon, and liver).

Baumstriezel

Many Saxons know about Baumstriezel, which has spread to other regions of Europe. Here is a photo from the Christmas Market in Sankt Wendel, Saarland, with a kiosk of the "chimney cakes."

Rick Kunz, Poulsbo, WA



The rollers are ready to bake in the "Ofen."



Happy New Year (whenever it might be)

The new year begins on January 1 -- or does it?

Let's back up to early spring in 1750, when winter frost and ice were giving way to new growth and longer days across England, Ireland, and the thirteen colonies across the ocean. The King's loyal (and occasionally disloyal) subjects said farewell to the old year on March 24, as they had for many centuries, and greeted the year 1751 at midnight on March 25.

Another year proceeded as normal until early September, when warm days were just starting to give way to cooler evenings. People across the Empire retired to bed on September 2 ... and woke up on Sep-

tember 14, as decreed by the Calendar (New Style) Act, passed in Parliament the year before to align England and her territories with the Gregorian calendar.

The Act also decreed that the new year would begin on January 1 -- supposedly chosen because January got its name from Janus, the Roman god of transitions and beginnings. British subjects barely had time to shake off the hangover of losing 11 days in September before the year 1751 ended, just nine months after it began.

So if you felt like your 2024 passed way too quickly, remind yourself that at least you got a full 12 months..

YOUNGSTOWN SAXON CLUB
710 S. Meridian Rd

PORK & KRAUT DINNER
JANUARY 19, 2025
11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
\$12.00

TAKE OUT AND EAT-IN
PUBLIC WELCOME

BRANCH 10, COLUMBUS
By Donald Blum

MONTHLY MEETING
HICKORY HOUSE
550 Offcenter Place
Gahanna, Ohio 43230
January 20, 2025
Time 12:00 Noon

Our meetings are the Third (3rd) 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.”

CELEBRATION

Please me in celebrating birthdays for Hedy Fleischer (January 1), Olga Hesch (January 12) and John Gellner (January 23). Alles Gute zum Geburtstag!

CHRISTMAS PARTY

We had a wonderful Christmas Party Celebration with our Saxon family on December 8, 2024 at the Berwick Party House. Everyone did an excellent job in making this another fun and successful celebration for the 90+ attendees. We want to thank all the attendees for making this a fun day. Olga Hesch started off the dinner with information on the agenda and the various activities planned for 2025. Mike Roth opened the dinner with prayer and information on the meaning on becoming an ATS member and a

member of the Columbus Saxon Club.

During the festivities there was continuous slides of the Transylvania Trip in July-August. People had an opportunity to see what many of us had the joy of experiencing on our trip.

The dinner was wonderful and then everyone joined in singing some English and German songs.

As expected, St. Nikolaus made an appearance, taking pictures with families and especially the Saxon children attending. The children received a Christmas stocking with goodies from Santa including a \$2.00 bill and a Million Dollar (\$1,000,000) Santa Buck. We had a drawing for prizes that included bier stein and mugs, scented candles, special VLAD the Impaler bier, and unfortunately, a few people got a lump of coal. Santa encouraged them to change their ways before Christmas arrives.

We enjoyed the camaraderie of this wonderful group of Saxons being able to come together in joy and celebration.

We are looking forward to many more years of celebrations like this.

FROHE WEIHNACHTEN
UND EIN GUTES NEUES
JAHR!!!!!!

**COLUMBUS BRANCH 10
CHRISTMAS PARTY**



**It's the
All-American food
Cook your
hamburger
thoroughly**

As you slide the spatula under that hamburger, you might be thinking about that great sandwich. You might be more concerned about something else: E. coli bacteria.

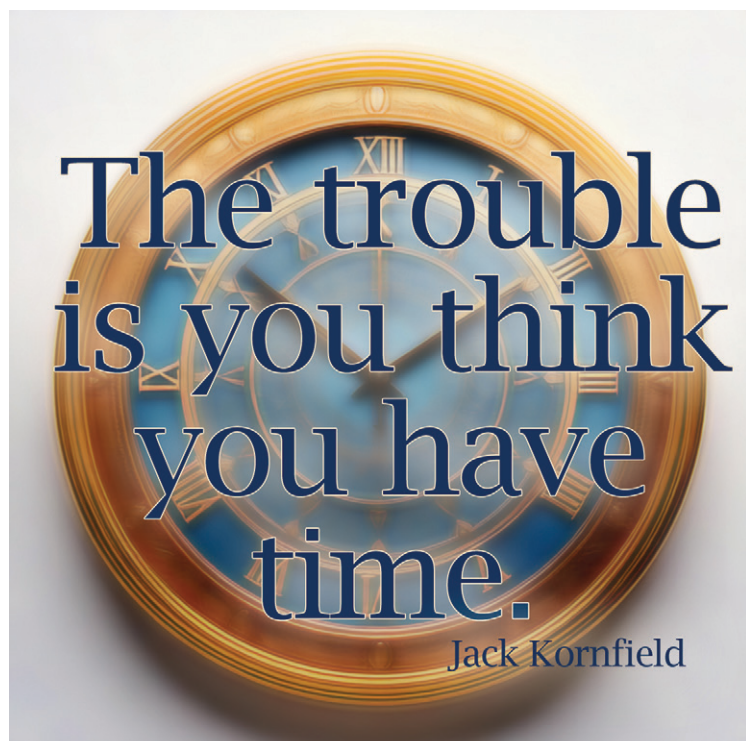
Unless you are certain that it's cooked thoroughly, cook it longer. There's no way to know whether the meat contains the bacteria. You can't tell by the aroma or the taste.

It's hard to say how many Americans fall ill every year from E. coli infection, the largest source of which is contaminated ground beef. The best guess is that more than 70,000 people get sick. About 2,000 get sick enough to be hospitalized and some 60 people in the United States will die of it.

An industry-wide survey by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention last year found that one of every 200 samples of ground beef was contaminated with E. coli bacteria.

It would be impossible to test every package of hamburger, and it takes just a small amount of E. coli to make someone seriously ill. Irradiation has been approved for use by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. It treats meat with a low dose of radiation that can kill virtually all bacteria. Public suspicion, however, has prevented its use.

Producers and the USDA can't guarantee germ-free meat. All consumers can do is to handle it carefully and cook it to 160 degrees, which kills E. coli.



The Kitchen Tour - A Tasty Return to the Homeland

Turning What You Love into What You Do

By Patrick J. O'Connor

This segment of “Turning What You Love into What You Do” chronicles the “trip of a lifetime” for two retirees. Part One explains the plans for a trip affectionately called The Kitchen Tour. Part Two shares the travelers’ memories from the experience. The trip celebrates the importance of ancestry to the Boomer generation.

This originally appeared on northeastohioboomer.com and is reprinted with permission.

Part I – Planning the Trip

Maria Phillips is a vibrant retiree that I profiled in June 2023 as an inspiring example to follow (See northeastohioboomer.com/blogs/how-to-maintain-the-encore-retirement-lifestyle-erl/). She has traveled extensively for many years, especially since retirement. She loves traveling for the social value as well as the learning experiences.

She and her cousin Heidi have traveled together on many trips, including one to Vöcklamarkt, Austria to visit their birthplace. They want to enjoy traveling as much as possible while young and mobile enough to do it. Maria’s mother and Heidi’s father were siblings.

Maria shares her love of traveling with others as she coordinates the travel programs for the Institute for Learning in Retirement at Baldwin-Wallace University (ilrbw.org).

Maria and Heidi discussed taking a trip to Austria and Germany to visit all their remaining relatives. They were both a bit weary of the “castles and churches” tours they had done many times before. They thought this trip would be special and focus on time with family.

As they pondered a different kind of trip, they thought of the good times people have that center around food. Food and dining have always had a special way of bringing people together. So, the idea of spending time with family and good food was born. And, the best place to do that... the kitchen. A trip that would be spent mainly in the kitchens of family members’ homes became the **Kitchen Tour**.

Why the Kitchen?

The kitchen seems like the room, even to this day, where people gather most. Some people even refer to it as the “engine room” of the home. It is a place that reflects family and culture. Perhaps it’s because of the collective lure of food that brings people together. And the kitchen is where those wonderful aromas of special foods originate. Throughout our lives, we recall the smell of food being prepared in the kitchen, especially around holidays. This makes sense since, of the five senses, the sense of smell has the closest relationship to memory.

Return to the Homeland

Maria and Heidi’s journey to America began in 1955. Maria was 4 years old when she came over and Heidi was 3 months old when she arrived in 1956. Maria visited Austria in 1999 with her father to see the house where she was born. The house had been converted to a barn with 80 cows. She and her dad had a good laugh that she was born in a manger and went from “stable to professor.” Heidi and her family returned to visit her grandmother Paulina in 1966.

Maria grew up on a farm near her grandfather and recalls being stung by honeybees when she

got too close to their hives. She also had to cross a bridge to visit her grandfather. The bridge had no railings, and she was scared because it moved when she walked on it. She’s always had a fear of bridges as a result. When she returned to the farm in 1999, it was a cement culvert over a creek. All those years of fear for nothing!

Maria and Heidi’s stories are like millions of immigrants who have come to the United States. In the early 1950s, Europe was still struggling economically and socially in the aftermath of WWII. Their parents wanted to make a better life for their children, so they left Austria while many other family members remained or emigrated to Germany. The remaining family members are the folks they wanted to see on the kitchen tour.

When they came to the U.S. in the ’50s, their church, relatives and friends were instrumental in assisting the new arrivals to get settled. In fact, Maria’s great-uncle Reverend John Foisel and his Lutheran church (St. John’s) sponsored both families to immigrate. They welcomed the housing and job assistance provided for them. Their fathers both worked at the same factory immediately upon arrival to Cleveland. Most of the people in the church were also immigrants from Germany, Austria and Romania. Maria, Heidi and their parents were involved in the church their entire lives.

Their Plans

Heidi and Maria were both excited as they thought about all the places, people and events that were to come. Maria was especially excited about spending time with her uncle Georg (her father’s brother), who is the last member of her dad’s family. He would be 90 in May, and she was eager to celebrate his birthday in Stuttgart, Germany. They also wanted to visit their Aunt Rosina, their parents’ sister, in Siegan, Germany.

They set up plans to visit, courtesy of cousin Georg, who agreed to drive them from town to town and kitchen to kitchen. The time frame between towns would be from 30 minutes to eight hours, so there would be time for lots of conversation while enjoying the beautiful countryside. The biggest challenge was organizing the tour, as families needed to be home for visits and they would be traveling through two countries. They wanted to travel without backtracking, so scheduling took some time and effort.

The 14-day journey to visit six cities in two countries, the trip of a lifetime, began May 23, 2023.

Maria and Heidi’s Kitchen Tour began under the direction of driver and cousin Georg Foisel Jr. Their first stop was Munich, Germany, visiting Heidi’s cousin Helga, her husband Georg, their children, and grandchildren, dining at the famous Hofbrau Haus.

They then traveled to Kirchheim Unter Tech, near Stuttgart, Germany, located near the foothills of a castle (*tech* is *castle* in German). This is the hometown of Maria’s Uncle Georg Foisel and Aunt Rosina. Many family members celebrated Uncle Georg’s 90th birthday party in May 2023. Everyone was thrilled to be together and welcome relatives from America to celebrate this special occasion.

The next stop was Attersee, Austria, to spend time with Heidi’s cousin Helmut and Hanni, who own a bed-and-breakfast overlooking the lakes and mountains. They dined at Druckerhof,

a mountaintop restaurant/hotel with a beautiful panoramic view of Austria.

Cousin Georg then escorted them to Vöcklamarkt, Austria, to visit the churches where Maria’s and Heidi’s parents were married. They even visited the jewelry store where their parents shopped for their wedding rings! Maria is included in the 1954 wedding photos of Heidi’s parents, Michael and Elisabeth Adam. They also went to Heidi’s grandmother Paulina’s home in Redl-Zipf. Even though Heidi visited her only once, she and her brother John have very fond memories of her. They also met Heidi’s Aunt Anni, her cousin Iris and her daughter Katarina for lunch at Zipfer Brewery, where Heidi’s dad worked as a young man.

The traveling trio next left for Salzburg, Austria to enjoy breakfast at an elegant outdoor café overlooking the Salzburg Love Lock Bridge with a view of Salzburg Castle on the Hill. They then returned to Siegen, Germany to visit their Aunt Rosina, Uncle Walter and cousins Christine and Uwe. They enjoyed many delicious meals in their garden.

Heidi is fluent in German and was able to converse with older relatives who spoke no English. Cousin Maximilian taught Maria and Heidi to use Google Translate so they could communicate with the older relatives. Technology and traveling (aka “holiday” in Europe) were popular topics of conversation.

Favorite Memories

The Kitchen Tour generated many wonderful memories with a few highlighted in the following three areas...

Family

Heidi and Maria were blessed to stay with family who treated them as if they had never been apart. They were able to connect with their families, as everyone they met was related to one or both of them. It was also the first time they met many of their cousins and their children. It was an experience they will always cherish because they spent so much time together.

Maria and Heidi could have done this trip individually, but it was better together. They were surprised to learn how similar their lives are with their relatives even though they are an ocean apart. They were also pleasantly surprised to enjoy the slower, relaxing European lifestyle. Of course, visiting all their cousins and families was the icing on the torte!

Food

They enjoyed many memorable meals on the Tour, and it was wonderful being together in the kitchen. Breakfasts in Germany and Austria began with fresh rolls from the bakery served with meats, cheeses, soft-boiled eggs, fruit, homemade jellies and pastries. They had many wonderful soups, including Gooseberry Soup with berries from Uncle Georg’s garden.

Schnitzel was popular at almost every restaurant along with Weiss Wurst (white sausage) and potato dumplings. Favorite desserts were Strudel, Cremeschnitten (Napoleons) and Palatschniken (crepes). And there was always homemade wine from Uncle Georg’s grapes, beer and delicious cappuccinos!

Great food and conversation were abundant everywhere. Everyone wanted to cook for them,

Continued on Page 11

ATS BRANCH DIRECTORY

Cleveland, OH Br. 1
Mtg. 3rd Mon. 7:00 p.m.
Sachsenheim
7001 Denison Ave
Cleveland OH 44102
(216) 651-0888
PRES: Robert M. Hanek
22677Peachtree Ln
Rocky River OH 44116
(216) 385-9932 rhanek8@yahoo.com
SEC'Y. Same as President
ATS SEC'Y. Same as President
LOCAL DUES to August Botsch
12606 Arliss Dr Lakewood OH 44107

Alliance, OH Br. 3
Mtg. 3rd. Wed.- 6:30 p.m.
American Legion Post 166
141 W Main St Alliance OH
PRESIDENT John H. Aeling
15590 Georgetown St. NE
Minerva, 44657
(330) 862-3706
JDAll852@yahoo.com
SEC'Y. John Esterly
2940 Cedarwood Dr
Alliance Oh 44601
(330) 821-8766
ATS SEC'Y. Helen Aeling
15354 Georgetown St. NE
Minerva OH 44657
(330) 862-2563
SICK NOTICES & LOCAL DUES to
John Aeling
Address shown as President

Cleveland, OH Br. 4
Mtg. 3rd. Mon. 7:00 p.m.
Sachsenheim 7001 Denison Ave.
(216) 651-0888
PRES. Monica M. Weber
(440) 356-5936
SEC'Y. Joan A. Miller-Malue
17105 Hilliard Rd.
Lakewood OH 44107
(216) 233-8631
miller-malue@cox.net
ATS SEC'Y Donna Jankow
7663 Ragall Pkwy
Middleburg Hts OH 44130
(440) 826-0773
SICK NOTICES to
Joan A. Miller-Malue
Address as above
LOCAL DUES to
Donna Jankow Address as above

Lorain, OH Br. 5
Mtg. 3rd Monday of month 7:00 p.m.
American Slovak Club
2915 Broadway, Lorain
PRES. Monica Gilles
3520 Beavercrest Dr. #107
Lorain OH 44053
(440) 309-7894
gillemo76@hotmail.com
SEC'Y. Brian Gilles
244 Ashwood Dr.
Avon Lake OH 44012
(440) 315-5214
bgilles74@yahoo.com
ATS SEC'Y. Ginger Romes
1507 West 39th St
Lorain OH 44053 (440) 989-8424
dgromes@roadrunner.com
SICK NOTICES to Jane Mowery
3600 Jaeger Dr Unit 3101
Lorain OH 44053 (440) 246-3004
janie.e.mowery@gmail.com
LOCAL DUES to
Michael W. Johnson
2151 Lakeland Ave
Lakewood OH 44107
(440) 225-8441 mikjo79@gmail.com

Farrell, PA Br. 7
Mtg. 3rd Tuesday 5:30 p.m.
Farrell Lions Den
810 Lions Club Lane Farrell PA
(724) 981-7130
PRES. Karen Zaborowski
1715 Shady Dr Farrell PA 16121
(724) 346-0373
SEC'Y. Same as President
ATS SEC'Y. Bonnie Gregorich
55 Oak Tree Ct
West Middlesex PA 16159
(724) 528-0309
SICK NOTICES to Karen Zaborowski
LOCAL DUES to Kathy Schuller
PO Box 834 Andover OH 44003
(440) 293-6973

Alliance, OH Br. 8
Mgt. 3rd Wed. 6:30 p.m.
American Legion Post 166
141 W Main St Alliance OH
PRES. Denise Crawford
9415 Elsmere Dr
Parma OH 44130
(330) 257-0267 dcrawfordcpa@outlook.com
SEC'Y. Lesley Reed
611 N. Market St Minerva OH 44657
(330) 868-3816
ATS SEC'Y. Helen E. Aeling
15354 Georgetown St. NE
Minerva OH 44657
(330) 862-2563 HHA658@aol.com
LOCAL DUES to: Lesley Reed
Same address as above
SICK NOTICES to: Barb Esterly
2940 Cedarwood Dr Alliance 44601
(330) 821-8766 jackprint@sbcglobal.net

Chicago, IL Br. 9
Mtg. 1st Mon. 7:00 p.m.
Donauschwaben Club
625 E Seegers Rd, Des Plaines IL
PRES. Diethild Thut
923 E Slayton Dr
Palatine IL 60074
(847) 414-2660
dedethut11@yahoo.com
SEC'Y. Elfi Sanderson
1425 London Lane
Glenview IL 60025
(847) 998-0939
elfisanderson@gmail.com
ATS SEC'Y: Claudia Schmidt
8550 Niles Center Rd Skokie IL 60077
(847) 899-8663
Schmidtc274@gmail.com
LOCAL DUES AND SICK NOTICES TO:
Claudia Schmidt
Address as shown above

Columbus, OH Br. 10
Mtg. 3rd Monday at Noon
Hickory House,
550 Officecenter Place Gahanna OH
PRES. Olga Hesch
7260 Refugee Rd
Pickerington OH 43147
H (614) 837-4038 C (614)432-3666
Olga.hesch@gmail.com
SEC'Y. Elizabeth Lassel
300 Glade Run Rd
West Jefferson OH 43162
H (740) 845-0564 C (614) 769-3986
ATS SEC'Y. P. Michael Roth
8063 Ivory Gull Cir Pickerington OH 43147
(614) 216-0008
LOCAL DUES and SICK NOTICES to
Donald Blum
6436 Lakeview Cir
Canal Winchester OH 43110
H (614) 837-1915 C (614) 580-8616
donaldblum@prodigy.net

Canton, OH Br. 14
Mtg. 2nd Sunday
Location varies
PRES. Thomas J. Rowinsky
1656 Dunkeith Dr NW, Canton, 44708
(330) 478-9333
ATS SECRETARY: Helen Aeling
15354 Georgetown St NE
Minerva OH 44657
(330) 862-2563 HHA658@aol.com
SICK NOTICES to Thomas Rowinsky
Address as shown above

Canton, OH Br. 17
Mtg. 2nd Sunday Location varies
PRES. Mary Rowinsky
1656 Dunkeith Dr NW
Canton OH 44708
(330) 478-9333
mkrowinsky@neo.rr.com
SEC'Y. Mary Rowinsky
1656 Dunkeith Dr NW
Canton OH 44708
(330) 478-9333
ATS SECRETARY: Helen Aeling
15354 Georgetown St NE
Minerva OH 44657
(330) 862-2563 HHA658@aol.com
SICK NOTICES to Mary Rowinsky
NO LOCAL DUES

USE ONLY THIS FORM FOR CHANGE OF ADDRESS AND CANCELLATIONS

All information in the form
to the right and below must
be correctly typed, or legibly
written.

- CHANGE
 CANCELLATION
 NEW to receive paper

HOME OFFICE RECORDS & VOLKSBLATT

VOLKSBLATT ONLY

Date: _____ Signature of Person Making Change _____

Mail to: Alliance of Transylvanian Saxons, 5323 Pearl Road, Cleveland, Ohio 44129-1503

CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM

Branch No. _____ Certificate No. _____

SS# _____ Date of Birth _____

Name _____

Old Street Address was _____

City/State/Zip _____

New Street _____

City/State/Zip _____

THIS CHANGE IS FOR:

Salem, OH Br. 18
Mtg. 2nd Mon. 7:00 p.m.
Saxon Club 1980 St. Rt. 9 Salem,
44460 (330) 222-1770
PRES. Marilyn McNutt
1721 State Route 9 Salem 44460
(330) 337-8940 Cell (216) 410-7291
SEC'Y. / ATS SECRETARY
Barbara Spack
1389 Brookview Dr Salem, 44460
(330) 501-1491 babrayn@sbcglobal.net
SICK NOTICES to Theresa Spack
384 W Pershing
Salem OH 44460 (330) 831-4119
LOCAL DUES TO: Helen Aeling
15354 Georgetown St. NE Minerva
44657
(330) 862-2563 HHA658@aol.com

Salem, OH Br. 19
Mtg. 1st Mon. 7:30 p.m.
Saxon Club 1980 Newgarden Rd
Salem OH 44460 (330) 222-1770
PRES. Glenn Spack
943 Stewart Rd Salem OH 44460
(330) 332-8174
SEC'Y. Robert P. Vogt, Sr.
973 Sunset Blvd. Salem, 44460
(330) 881-3346 mvcobra27@gmail.com
ATS SEC'Y Glenn Spack
Address and phone as above
SICK NOTICES to Glenn T. Spack
address above
LOCAL DUES to Richard Vogt, Sr.
c/o Salem Saxon Club
1980 Newgarden Rd, Salem, 44460
(330) 222-1770

New Castle, PA Br. 25
Mtg. 2nd Thursday 8:00 p.m.
Eintracht Hall 108 Taylor St.,
New Castle PA 16101
(724) 652-7221
PRES. Karl E. Hermann
1650 Union Valley Rd
Wampum PA 16157
(724) 732-3426
karlhermann@comcast.net
SEC'Y. Jacob Holzhauser
764 Rose Point Rd New Castle 16101
(724) 971-1260
newcastleintracht@gmail.com
ATS SEC'Y: Danual Forsberg
385 Trihaven Ln
New Wilmington, PA 16142
(724) 971-3448
danualforsberg@gmail.com
Local Dues: Joshua Stelle
10 Ludwig Rd New Castle, PA 16105
(724) 699-3039 Stellejw1@comcast.net

Merrillville, IN Br. 26
Meeting first Sunday at 2 p.m.
Slovak Club - 6920 Broadway
(219) 756-5101
PRES. Randall Floyd
1806 E 73rd Ave, Merrillville IN 46410
(219) 798-6908
Rfloyd1066@msn.com
SEC'Y. Brigitte Floyd
1806 E 73rd Ave, Merrillville IN 46410
(219) 688-6561
gittifyfloyd@gmail.com
ATS SEC'Y. Jeff Szostek
625 Lake Shore Dr
Hobart IN 46342-5017
(219) 313-7854 219szos@gmail.com
LOCAL DUES to Zita Palyok
724 E. 25th Pl, Lake Station IN 46405
(219) 962-7345 randz724@comcast.net
Sick Notices to Brigitte Floyd
Listed above

New Castle, PA Br. 27
Mtg. 1st Thurs. 6:00 p.m.
Soni's Restaurant
3209 Wilmington Rd, New Castle
PRES. Judith Both
1512 Drespling Ln
New Castle PA 16101
(724) 654-0573
jboth1512@comcast.net
SEC'Y. Dolores Both
3512 Hunters Woods Blvd #1
New Castle PA 16105
(724) 658-7407 doloresboth@verizon.net
ATS SEC'Y. Judy Both
1512 Drespling Ln New Castle 16101
(724) 654-0573
LOCAL DUES to Katy Hudak
4097 County Line Rd
New Castle PA 16101
(724) 924-9286 katyb26@hotmail.com
SICK NOTICES to Judith Both

Monaca / Rochester PA Br. 29
Mtg. 2nd Monday 7 p.m.
Saxon Club 112 Simes Ave
Rochester, PA 15074
PRES. Cristy Roberts (724) 601-2047
SEC'Y Tiffiane Smilek (724) 709-1891
ATS SEC'Y Donald Ash (724) 777-9059
All correspondences should be
mailed to Saxon Club - address
above

Youngstown, OH Br. 30
Mtg. 2nd. Sun. 2:00 p.m.
Saxon Club 710 S. Meridian
Youngstown OH 44509
(330) 792-7973
PRES. Ernie Roth Sr.
6280 Morningside Rd
Hubbard OH 44425
(330) 501-1110 djera@netzero.net
SEC'Y Fran Hinerman
4535 Mellinger Rd
Canfield OH 44406
(330) 507-1340
ATS SEC'Y Julaine Gilmartin
4173 Timberland Trail
Canfield, OH 44406
(330) 799-5171
LOCAL DUES Val Thomas
5947 Tippecanoe Rd
Canfield OH 44406 (234) 201-3993
SICK NOTICES to
Rosemary Zarmy
3202 Starwick Ct
Canfield OH 44406
(330) 792-0388
rzarmy@yahoo.com

Ellwood City, PA Br. 32
Mtg. 2nd. Wed. 7:30 p.m.
Saxon Club 901 Millview St.
(724) 758-3268
PRES. Laura Goehring
113 Mahony Ave Ellwood City PA 16117
(724) 971-2040
SEC'Y Johanna Jenkins
909 Old Zelenople Rd.
Ellwood City PA 16117
ATS SEC'Y Lori Berendt
2260 Cherry Hill Rd
Ellwood City 16117(724) 714-1217
SICK NOTICES to: Joan Evans
197 Portersville Rd Apt 3
Ellwood City PA 16117
(724) 752-1109

Cleveland, OH Br. 33
Mtg. 2nd. Weds. 7:00 p.m.
Messiah Lutheran Church
5200 Mayfield Rd, Lyndhurst OH 44124
PRES. Margarete Ziegler
38047 Parkway Blvd.
Willoughby OH 44094
(440) 488-6421
margarez@aol.com
SEC'Y. Arline Suts
413 Downing Dr Chardon OH 44024
(440) 867-6103
asuts@windstream.net
ATS SEC'Y. Karyn Schmidt
4979 Anderson Rd
Lyndhurst OH 44124
(216) 382-7397
SICK NOTICES to Arline Suts
Address and phone as above
LOCAL DUES to Michael Bretz
388 East 317th St.
Willowick OH 44095
(216) 392-6241 meb3172@att.net

Detroit, MI Br. 37
Mtg. 1st. Sun. 12:00 p.m.
St. Peters Lutheran Church
11423 Chicago Rd. Warren, MI
(586) 978-3850
PRES. Susanna Fleischer
11060 Furbush Rd. Holly MI 48442
(810) 694-1860
beetlebug7@peoplepc.com
SEC'Y. Trudy Kalvin
2448 Orpington Troy MI 48083
(248) 925-9995
ACTING ATS SEC'Y.
Susanna Fleischer
Address as above
LOCAL DUES to Ingrid Weihs-Ferguson
11711 Lancer Dr Sterling Hts MI 48313
iwferguson@aol.com

Ellwood City, PA Br. 45
Mtg. 3rd Tuesday 7:30 p.m.
Saxon Club 901 Millview St.
(724) 758-3268
PRES. John Dengel
305 Stamm Hollow Rd.
Ellwood City, PA 16117
(724) 622-1593
SEC'Y Dawn Dengel
Same as President
(724) 622-0152
ATS SEC'Y Cathie Bender
801 Park Ave.
Ellwood City, PA 16117
(724) 544-7232
LOCAL DUES to Kathy Carsele
318 Golf Ave.
Ellwood City, PA 16117
(724) 758-3002
Sick Notices to
Cathie Bender
Same as ATS Secretary

Kitchen Tour
Cont'd from Page 9



Cousins Heidi and Maria embark on their geneological Kitchen Tour.



Maria and Heidi enjoying their Kitchen Tour with relatives in Austria.

and preparation was almost as important as dining. Watching and listening to relatives describe what and how they were preparing delicious meals was a flavorful education. And the aromas will remain in their memories for life.

Fluttery

The Fluttery Feeling is when everything goes exactly as it should. Time seems to stand still and there are no worries or concerns about anything. Maria and Heidi report the entire experience gave them the Fluttery Feeling with the following highlights:

- meal preparation and dining on home-cooked food from kitchen to kitchen
- traveling through the beautiful countryside
- laughter and conversation with relatives they met for the first time

Für immer schließen – Close Forever

The idea of being in the kitchen turned out to be better than expected, as spending time together was the prior-

ity. Everyone has lifetime memories to keep them close together forever. Maria and Heidi now have a deeper and more loving respect for their relatives and ancestry. Good-byes can be difficult but when Maria said goodbye to her Uncle Georg, his last words to her were, “The next time we meet it will be in heaven.” See you then, Uncle Georg.

Author’s Note

*Maria and Heidi contributed much of the content and photos for this segment. My special thanks to them for their part and for honoring me to chronicle their **Kitchen Tour**. I’ve enjoyed the Fluttery Feeling the entire time. Thanks, ladies.*

P.S. Heidi is fluent in German so she will be translating this blog piece into German to share with relatives in Austria and Germany. Nice to have an international audience!

Editor’s Note; *Maria and Heidi are both members of Cleveland East Branch 33.*



January is National Glaucoma Awareness Month

You may have heard glaucoma called “the sneak thief of sight.” That’s because it has no symptoms until it has progressed beyond the point where it can be successfully treated. It is the second leading cause of preventable blindness in the world.

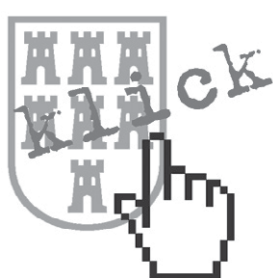
More than 4 million Americans have glaucoma and 120,000 are already blind because of it. Worldwide, nearly 80 million people have the condition.

The best way to protect yourself is to have an eye examination. Today, most optometrists test for it. If they find any indication, you should see an ophthalmologist immediately. Treatment can be effective in the early stages.

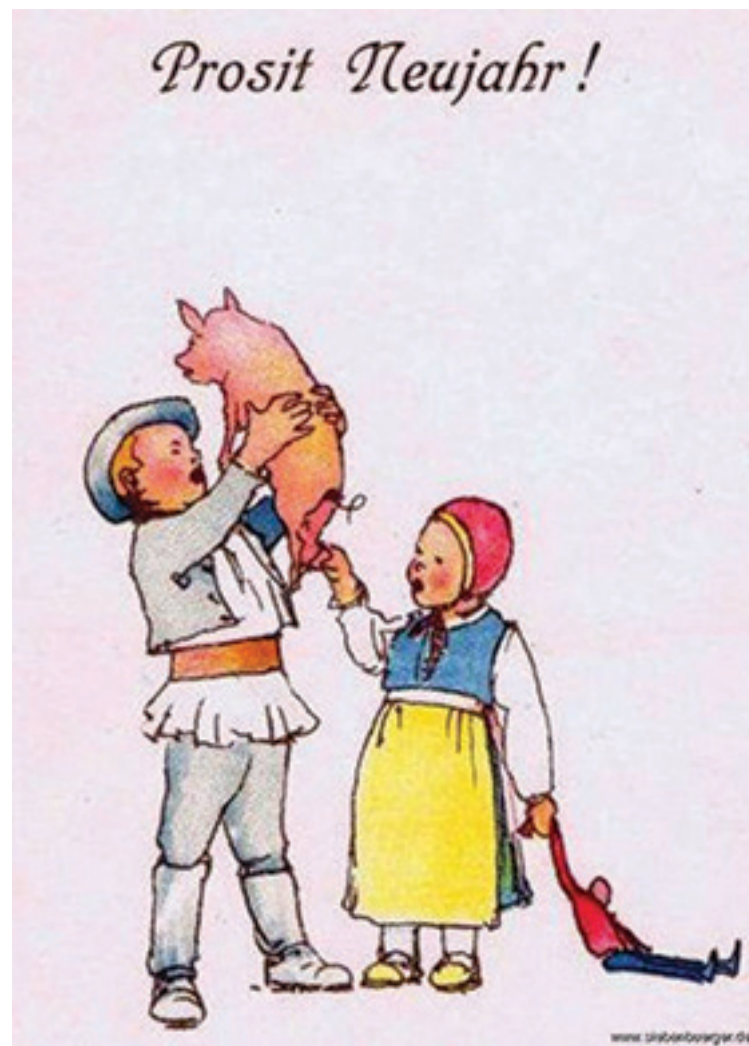
Though the most common forms affect middle-aged and older people, glaucoma can affect all age groups. Insist that your children be tested when they are being fitted for eyeglasses.

Those at higher risk include people over 60, people of African, Asian and Hispanic descent, and those who have family members who have glaucoma. Also at higher risk are diabetics and people who are severely nearsighted.

In the most common form of glaucoma, vision loss begins with peripheral or side vision. Be on the lookout for that first noticeable symptom and get treatment immediately.



Ich bin ein Siebenbuergere.R.de



January is National Blood Donor Month Blood banks begin search for donors

For children, January is a month for sledding and building snowmen. For blood banks it is a time of searching.

With snowstorms, holidays, increased illness and winter vacations, donations to the blood banks come up short every year.

It’s one of the reasons that January has been designated National Blood Donor Month. With blood being required by a patient every two seconds and only about 3 percent of the population donating blood, the plea goes out for eligible donors to donate as often as possible.

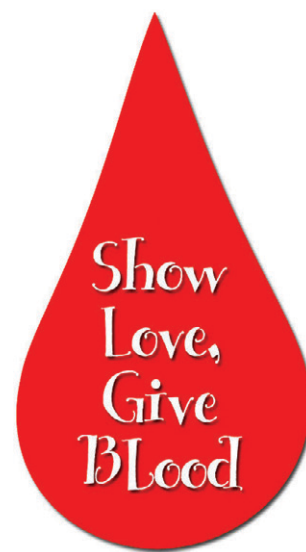
A single donation of blood can save three lives.

Blood banks want prospective donors to know that donating is a very safe procedure. All materials involved are used only once and then discarded.

The process starts with registration, a health history is taken and a mini-physical is given. The actual donation takes about 10 minutes and equals approximately one pint of blood. Your body will normally replace the lost fluid within 24 hours.

The American Red Cross offers some tips to make donating a good experience.

Before going to donate, eat a good breakfast or



lunch. Avoid fatty foods and eat iron-rich foods. Drink extra fluids to replace the fluid you will donate but avoid caffeine.

Be sure to wear clothes with sleeves that can be raised above the elbow.

Afterwards, eat the snack and drink provided.

Over the next 24-48 hours, be sure to drink plenty of fluids.

Even if you cannot donate blood due to health conditions or other reasons, you can still participate in Blood Donor Month. You can help organize a blood drive, or volunteer to help at mobile blood sites.

Check with your local blood drives to see if they need treats to give to donors after they give blood.

Monetary donations are always welcome.



The Year

What can be said in New Year rhymes,
That's not been said a thousand times?
The new years come, the old years go,
We know we dream, we dream we know.

We rise up laughing with the light,
We lie down weeping with the night.

We hug the world until it stings,
We curse it then and sigh for wings.

We live, we love, we woo, we wed,
We wreath our brides, we sheet our dead.

We laugh, we weep, we hope, we fear,
And that's the burden of the year.

Ella Wheeler Wilcox

Wishing all of you a happy, healthy, and prosperous New Year!

The ATS Board of Directors:

Monica M. Weber

Randall B. Floyd

Michael Bachinger

Michael Teutsch, Jr.

Christine D. Oehlman

Joan Miller-Malue

Debbie K. Ferguson

Barbara A. Spack

Jacob F. Spor

Ingrid Weihs-Ferguson

Margarete I. Ziegler

Thomas J. Manning

Denise A. Crawford



Alliance of Transylvanian Saxons

www.ATSaxons.com (440) 842-8442 Office@ATSaxons.com

