

ATS Founded in 1902

October 16, 2020



ATS Essay Contest

The ATS Cultural Promotion Committee would like to thank all of the contestants in the "Why My Cultural Heritage Is Important To Me" essay contest.

Winners:

Ages 12 and under

Allison Reif, Br. 9 - Chicago, lives in Antioch, IL
 Lauren Badertscher, Br. 27 – New Castle, lives in Tampa, FL

Ages 13 to 19

1. Nadia Kauntz, Br. 4 – Cleveland West, lives in Cleveland, OH 2. Emma Lemanski, Br. 4 – Cleveland West, lives in Saginaw, MI

3. Braedon Gilles, Br. 5 - Lorain, lives in Cross Plains, WI

Ages 20 and up

 Erica Hauer, Br. 9 - Chicago, lives in Park Ridge, IL
 Austin Bonnett, Br. 33 – Cleveland East, lives in Bay Village, OH
 Marah Eakin, Br. 4 – Cleveland West, lives in Pasadena, CA Other Participants: Barbara Esterly, Br. 8 – Alliance Sara Hendel-McCormick, Br. 30 – Youngstown Jim Kloos, Br. 1 – Cleveland West

Lenore Lemanski, Br. 4 – Cleveland West Marlene Mueller, Br. 10 – Columbus Madeline Nagy, Br. 33 – Cleveland East Linda Scully, Br. 7 – Farrell



HAVE A NEW ADDRESS?

If you belong to a household receiving two or more *Volksblatts*, or if you have recently moved and have a new address, you can alleviate both situations simply by using the Change of Address Form printed in the *Volksblatt*. We ask that one *Volksblatt* per household be sufficient.

Also, the same form holds good for any of our members who would like to, but are not receiving the newspaper. If you are a member in good standing, you are entitled to receive our publication.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Denise Aeling Crawford ATS Nat'l President



I would like to congratulate the winners of our Essay Contest. The topic was "Why my Cultural Heritage is Important to me". The Cultural Promotion Committee met recently by phone to select the winners. Each member of the committee reviewed all of the essays (no names attached) and ranked them prior to the meeting. During the meeting, committee members selected the winners. The first-place winners in each age category were: Allison Reif (12 and under), Nadia Kauntz (ages 13 – 19), and Erica Hauer (ages 20 and up). Prizes were awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place. Congratulations to all the winners! I would also like to thank all of the other essay contest participants. Everyone did a wonderful job! Some of the winning essays are included in this issue of the Volksblatt. We'll have more next time.

Our Branches are resuming their monthly meetings, whether in person or virtual. I would like to remind everyone that we are still looking for a Branch to host the 2021 Branch President's meeting. I'm being optimistic that we will be back to some semblance of normal by that time! It is a one-day meeting. It is usually held during the month of May, but does not have to be. We ask the Branch to provide a lunch for the attendees and a meeting room. If your Branch is having a special event in the evening, consider hosting the meeting that day. The majority of Presidents from the Branches will stay for your event. If your Branch has any questions about this event or if your Branch is interested in hosting this event, please contact the ATS Home Office.

Did you know that the ATS is required to file an Unclaimed Funds report each year? Most years, the ATS files a "negative" report, meaning that there are no funds that need to be turned over to the state. But, every now and then, we file and remit monies that should have been claimed by someone. What are examples of an Unclaimed Fund as it related to the ATS? It could be the proceeds of a life insurance policy or annuity, or a check that was issued and never cashed. Let's say a member passes away. The member never updated their beneficiary on their policy and now this beneficiary is no longer living or cannot be located. The Home Office has steps to determine who to pay the proceeds to. But if these steps are exhausted without a determination, then the funds are turned over to the state. In another scenario, a check is issued to a member. Let's say it is a dividend check that was earned on their life insurance policy. The recipient never cashes the check. We are not allowed to keep outstanding checks on our books after three years. Generally, we send a notice out to the recipient stating that they have a check (or multiple checks) that they have not cashed. If that person does not

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TIMELY - DO NOT DELAY MAILED WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2020

Attention Postmaster: Send all Changes of Address to: The Alliance of Transylvanian Saxons 5393 Pearl Road Cleveland, OH 44129-1597



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Schloss Horneck needs OUR help!



Schloss Horneck located in Gundelsheim, Germany is the international location for our Siebenbürger Sachsens 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 donation 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, 5393 Pearl Road, Cleveland, OH 44129.

Please make your check payable to the ATS.

DONATION FOR SCHLOSS HORNECK

Name Address	
City Zipcode	State
Amount Donated \$	

Please indicate if donation is in memory or honor of someone

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE Cont'd from Page 1

respond back, the amount of that check is remitted to the state. So, updating your beneficiary on your life insurance policy or annuity is very important. You can name a primary or principal beneficiary, as well as a contingent or secondary beneficiary. Unforeseen things happen. That's life. Think of the secondary beneficiary as a backup plan. We would much rather pay your desired beneficiary the proceeds of your policy or annuity rather than sending it off to the state. Until next time....

BRANCH 30, YOUNGSTOWN By Rosemarie Kascher

In the general meeting yesterday, September 20, it was decided that the Youngstown Saxon Club would open, for three days a week, starting October 11, Sunday, with breakfast. This is the next meeting day.

The Club will be open on Sundays from 9:30 a.m. till 2:00 p.m., Wednesdays from 4:30 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. and on Fridays from 4:30 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. Queen of Hearts drawings will be on Fridays and the regular drawings will continue on Wednesdays. There will be a limited menu for each of these days.

The next branch meeting will be October 11 at 2:00 p.m. If you are interested in running for office next year, please contact one of the current officers for information i.e. Helen Fotiuk for one.

October 22 will be the meeting to determine the calendar for next year.

Thanks to Michelle Eberth, the Pork/Kraut Dinners will resume again. The first will be October 25, 2020 from 11:30 a.m. till 2:00 p.m. and will be strictly carry out. People are available for door to door at your car; You can either stay in your car or enter the Club, with required mask, to place your order. Because food costs have increased, there will be a slight increase to \$10.00 per order. We will observe all state and federal regulations as well as social distancing, as required, please.

We are sorry to announce that the Childrens' Halloween Party will be postponed until 2021 since we can't guarantee the safety of all at this point in time. We look forward to next year's party.

It was so good to see our

Alliance of Transylvanian Saxons Home Office: 5393 Pearl Rd., Cleveland, Ohio 44129 Telephone: (440) 842-8442 FAX: 440-842-5442 E-mail: office@atsaxons.com Website: www.atsaxons.com

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SECRETARIES TAKE NOTICE:

THE DEADLINE DATE FOR ARTICLES IS WEDNESDAY - 12 NOON.

You may either **MAIL:**

29076 Fall River Dr



Sometimes your joy is the source of your smile, but sometimes your smile can be the source of your joy.

- Thich Nhat Hanh, Zen Master

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fellow Saxons at the meeting. Don't take risks and please stay safe, everyone. E-MAIL: saxonvolksblatt@aol.com

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 21, 2020 FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2020 WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2020 FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2020 WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2020 FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2020

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

Et kit mer feng, en Sox zā seng.



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

10:00 Bilingual Service Nursery Coffee following service Senior Circle Sunday School Church Choir Bell Choir

St. John's Lutheran Church 1000 Ford Road Highland Hts., Ohio (440) 449-1334

> Rev. Paul Stork Pastor

10:00 Worship Service

BRANCH 26, MERRILLVILLE By Helen Brooks

Saxon Lodge Branch 26 held its monthly meeting on October 4, 2020.

President Randall Floyd called the meeting to order and we said the pledge to the flag.

Roll call of officers: three were absent. Secretary Jeff Szostek read the minutes and they were accepted. Treasurer Pete Guip was absent so there was no report.

It was noted that Pete's wife Christa is in the hospital. We send prayers for her quick recovery.

It was announced that our November 1st meeting will be at Innsbrook Country Club at 2 p.m. It will also be our memorial service in honor of our deceased members. Dinner will be served at 3 p.m. Our Christmas meeting will also be at Innsbrook.

BRANCH 9, CHICAGO By Rose-Marie Hauer

Social isolation is a difficult task to manage after so many months. Cabin fever is occurring yet we must still fight the battle by wearing a mask and social distance. Our ancestors encountered way more in the past then we are enduring now. We must stay strong and appreciate what we have, and look to the future. The Board cannot wait till we can all get together again!

Branch 9 would like to recognize Sister Sara Hartig who celebrated her 90th birthday! We all hope you have many years to come. Sister Hartig has always been an influential part of Branch 9. We are so blessed to have her as a member! Congratulations on your 90th birthday! May we be blessed to have you for many more years to learn from your river of wisdom.

It is with a heavy heart to report that Sister Sara Brantsch, 97, passed away on September 22, 2020. Sister Brantsch was very active in the German community and was loved by everyone. She loved to talk and share stories about her culture. She is survived by her daughter Ute Brantsch, the late Krista and granddaughter Camille Rudenko. Memorial donations may be made in Sara's name to The Alliance of Transylvanian Saxons for Schloss Horneck.

As members are getting older or passing away our Saxon Trachts and shirts are left behind for younger generations. However, these generations may not want to keep these items. Many members do not



Sister Sara Hartig



Sister Sara Brantsch

have Trachts and ask us if they could borrow one for an event. Our answer is we don't have any. As you know a Tracht is unavailable to buy. So we have come up with an idea at Branch 9 to correct this issue. Rose Hauer and Dede Thut are reaching out and asking any members, past members, and children of members that have a Saxon Tracht or shirt hanging in their closet they do not want to contact Rose at 773-758-9461. We would like to preserve these costumes and have them available for others to wear to our events.

Unfortunately all the events for the rest of the year sadly have been cancelled. Please watch the paper for any updates. Be safe!!!!!!

YOUNGSTOWN SAXON RETIREES By Ro Dundon

Hi everyone! Glad to be able to have a report to send. Some of the members got together for a picnic at Lucy's. She has a pavilion next to a peaceful lake. Just a beautiful setting for us to relax and get caught up on our comings and goings since the last time we met. Our luncheon, picnic food, fried chicken, roasted potatoes, potato salad (for those who are addicted to it-me) baked beans. Dessert was a wonderful cake-individual slices of red velvet, carrot, & chocolate. Betty, Barry and Lucy were the picker uppers for the food and we sure thank them profusely.

Welcome to Rosemarie Zamary. Long time member, first time with us. She

BRANCH 5, LORAIN By Michael Johnson

According to the Lorain County Board of Health we are at Level 2 in the COVID-19 risk level assessment. This means we still wear masks indoors during gatherings of small groups and keeping 6 feet distances from those in the room. We did just that when we met for our monthly Branch 5 meeting on September 21st. Minutes from the June meeting were read by recording Secretary brother Brian Gilles and approved followed by financial reports from July and August by Treasurer Sister Ginger Romes, also accepted as read. One member, Brother Tom Ralph was reported as being on the sick list but is recovering well from his ailment and expects to be back on his feet soon.

The Christmas Dinner being planned for December 5, 2020 was the topic for new business as Sister Jeanne Petty presented the menu options from Erie Steak & Seafood Co., formerly The Jackalope. More details will be decided and finalized at the next meeting which will be on October 19, 2020 starting at 7 p.m. at the American Slovak Club. A small meal beforehand at 5:30 p.m. of Saxon sausage prepared by Sister Jeanne Petty that was bought for our summer picnic that was canceled, will be served for our enjoyment. Remember, if you are sick or do not yet feel comfortable in a group setting, don't feel that your attendance is necessary. One day we hope to be able to meet safely without the worry of this infectious disease.

Birthdays being celebrated this month of October are sisters Ruth Pasta, Monica Gilles, Jane Mowery, Erica Zgola, and junior member Jenne Peters. I want to apologize and wish a September Happy Birthday to Grace Zgola. I mistakenly



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.

Matilda A. Stefanick Age 96 Died: September 22, 2020 Branch 30, Youngstown OH

Mary E. Bacik Age 93 Died: September 24, 2020 Home Branch

Patricia A. Schemmel Age 83 Died: September 26, 2020 Branch 37, Detroit MI

James A. Alberter Age 94 Died: September 27, 2020 Branch 30, Youngstown OH

John E. Klamer

Age 86 Died: September 27, 2020 Branch 30, Youngstown OH

Quotes

In every community, there are a number of social super spreaders among us. Long suspected and emphatically confirmed by our data, these people are who -- through dint of their job, or lifestyle or perhaps even genetic makeup -- would be more dangerous in the instance of a pandemic than the average person.

> Hannah Fry, mathematician

I think that's the only way to run a business. You've got to go for the opportunities, but be healthily paranoid about everything going wrong.

Mark Dixon, founder of International Workplace Group

The greatest thing in family life is to take a hint when a hint is intended -- and not to take a hint when a hint isn't intended.

It was a brief meeting and was adjourned. We had the pleasure to see Erika Sumichrast who was visiting from Nevada.

Lucky Erika won the raffle and attendance prize. You go girl! We the enjoyed prepacked sack lunches.

Till we meet again.

was a great setter upper and cleaner upper. She's a keeper!

Don presented all of us with a house candy holder he made. He was so happy to get together with the members.

Kay was not well so she didn't attend nor did Eileen. Hope you're better Kay. We're sorry Marge missed the picnic.

With much sadness I have to report the passing of two of our longtime members. Hermine Gentile and Tillie Stefanick will be missed terribly. Rest in Peace loved printed her Sister Chloe's name instead last month. May everyone enjoy their special day!

Until after our next meeting, stay safe and healthy!



members. The next get together will be October 8th at noon at The Falconers Grille.

Everyone, stay safe. Do what the experts advise to say healthy. Enjoy the fall season coming upon us. Till we meet again...As usual it's Ro Robert Frost, poet

Now we have black and white elected officials working together. Today, we have gone beyond just passing laws. Now we have to create a sense that we are one community, one family. Really, we are the American family.

> John Lewis, congressman and civil rights activist

FRATERNAL CALENDAR

NATIONAL EVENTS

March 7, 2021 TSBA Spring Tournamant Host Youngstown Bowlers July 9-11, 2021 North American Saxon Heimattag Host: Salem Saxon Club

LOCAL EVENTS

November 8, 2020 Cleveland Brs 1 and 4 Veterans Day Dinner November 21, 2020 Cleveland Br 1 Sausage Sale December 12, 2020 Cleveland Brs 1 and 4 Children's Christmas Party



"Alex won for the scariest costume. He wasn't wearing a mask."

ATS Masks for Sale



The ATS has face masks for sale. ATS Secretary, Monica Gilles, modeled



The Alliance of Transylvanian Saxons is looking for members to share their family's personal story of life in Transylvania and their journey to America.

The ATS is hoping to gather enough stories that we can publish a book that will be valuable to future generations on learning from personal memoirs on how our Saxons lived in Transylvania and their travels from their homeland.

Individuals submitting their stories can also include photos.

Submit your story to the ATS Home Office, 5393 Pearl Road, Cleveland, Ohio 44129. Include your full name, phone number, email and local Branch No.

We hope that we can collect enough stories within the year that we can publish a book of Transylvanian Saxon Memoirs.



the mask while working at the ATS Office.

Masks are \$5.00 each. Send checks payable to

ATS Home Office 5393 Pearl Road

Cleveland, OH 44129

ASK YOUR DEPUTY HOW A CERTIFICATE OF MEMBERSHIP IN THE ATS CAN HELP YOU TO SAVE!

Name:	Branch NoCert. No
Address:	
City:	State: Zip Code:
Juvenile M	embers are encouraged to color
and mail to the	ATS Home Office for a special treat.
	Please mail to the
ATS Home Office;	5393 Pearl Road; Cleveland, OH 44129
Be	efore November 6, 2020



Essay Contest for All Ages

Why my Cultural Heritage is Important to me

Why My Culture is Important to Me

My Saxon culture is important to me because of the huge impact it has on my life. My family and I use our Saxon culture very often. We use it to enhance family meals and cook traditional foods, such as Palatschinken, Roladen, Goulash, and Krapfen. Also, for the celebrations the family attends, we wear traditional outfits such as Dirndls and Trachts when we participate in dances at the club with our family and friends. I enjoy meeting and getting to say hello to new people when we walk around and are selling raffle tickets at functions with my cousins. One of my favorite outings is the "Bowl Where You Are" competition because I get to go bowling with my family and other members of the club.

There are many reasons why being a Saxon is important to me. I love the way how everyone treats you like family and supports you. Everyone is so funny and has such a great sense of humor. I love having an extended family like this to care about me and that is why my culture is so important to me.

> Allison Reif Antioch IL Branch 9, Chicago

Why My Cultural Heritage is Important to Me

My grandfather, George Kauntz, founded the Sachsen Builders Corporation in the early 1960s. A German immigrant, he managed a contracting firm, which constructed commercial buildings and homes. Even though my grandfather is now deceased, I look up to him (literally) when I strive to work just as hard as he did. He raised a wonderful family after he moved to the United States with his wife Emma, incorporating Saxon traditions and values in the household. After he passed away over 20 years ago, my grandmother continued the cultural traditions at our family gatherings. She cooks sauerkraut, schnitzel, and potato pancakes and we all dance to polka music. Additionally, my family attended holiday parties at the Sachsenheim, where my grandparents were long-time members. I attended a Saxon

Summer Camp in 2014 as well and gained insight on my culture through a polka dance.

I am proud of my Saxon heritage because I am always learning more about it, whether through conversations with my grandmother or special gatherings at the Sachsenheim. I have been learning more about my heritage through my father as well, who constantly shares stories about my grandfather and the family traditions.

Nadia Kauntz Cleveland OH Branch 4, Cleveland West

Why is my culture important to me?

My Saxon culture has been a part of my life as long for as I can remember. If you would have asked me why my Saxon culture is important to me before the summer of 2017, my answer would be different. I have participated in Branch 9 functions, worn my grandmother's Saxon Tracht, and baked Krapfen, Plachita, and Kartoffelsalat. These experiences were important to me because they helped me understand some of the customs and traditions of my family and the Saxon people that came before us.

The summer of 2017 was a life changing summer. My mom and I were fortunate enough to travel to Romania with the ATS. This was an eye-opening experience for me because my culture became more real to me. Although there were many highlights from this trip, the first would be participating in the parade at the Sachsentreffen in Sibiu. I remember walking in the parade, in my grandmother's Saxon Tracht, and thinking to myself "I never realized that there is this many Saxon people from all over the world!" I found out that there were over seventy groups that marched in the parade from all over the world. This was a really hard concept for me to grasp because before this, the Saxons were just a few groups of people in Chicago, Ohio, and Canada that were trying to keep up the traditions of their ancestors. Marching in the parade gave me a sense of unity and I realized that the

Saxon people are not merely just "some group of people" from the past, but rather they are people who are active members of groups from all over the world.

Another moment from my trip to Romania was driving through Scharosch. Romania. Prior to my trip, Scharosch was merely a place on a map and it was the location of a painting that was hanging in my grandparent's living room. I remember my mom talking to our tour guide and asked him if we were anywhere near Scharosch. We were both in absolute shock when he replied, "Actually, we will be driving right through Scharosch." I remember the look on my mom's face when she heard this, she was in utter disbelief. Our tour guide was nice enough to have the bus driver pull over so that we could get off and look around. When we got off of the bus, I saw a familiar sight. From a distance, I saw a church that I have seen many times before. However, this time, it wasn't a painting. It was a real building of a church in the town where my great grandparents attended church. I couldn't believe that! was standing in the same town of where my great grandparents were born and experienced life for a short time. In this moment, I again realized that my Saxon heritage is so much more than I ever thought.

Every time I wear my grandmother's Saxon Tracht and every time I look at that painting, I think of my trip to Romania and how much my Saxon heritage has evolved and inspired me over twentyfive years. I am now inspired to further explore my Saxon culture.

BRANCH 10, COLUMBUS By Donald Blum

FACEBOOK PAGE

Alliance of Transylvanian Saxons, Columbus Branch 10

We will continue to modify and improve the Facebook page as needed. You are invited to join our Facebook group and share your Saxon history or just enjoy what others post. If you are interested in becoming part of the Facebook group you can request an invitation or send me your email address (donaldcblum@prodigy.net), and we will set you up.

We are happy to say, we continue to add Saxon/ German heritage individuals to the Facebook Group. Some of the new members include people from Europe and Canada. We encourage you to spread the word about our group and invite others to join.

HISTORY OF TRANSYL-VANIA-HOLY LEAGUE

What is the Holy League and what significance does it have for Transylvania? many areas vacated. Towns suffered massive damage. This made the collection of taxes very difficult. This worsened Michael financial situation further.

In order to start rebuilding the economy the fortress of Braila was attacked and conquered. As one of the most important ports on the Danube, Braila somewhat alleviated some of Michael's financial problems, thanks to the highly commercial taxation. Additionally, by controlling Braila, Michael had gained an important strategic position against Moldavia(which had fallen under control of the Sultan). Michael could attack and then retreat to the fortress, while Moldavia had no fortresses in the south. Ottoman responded by sending Tartar(Turkish) raiders into Wallachia to attack Targoviste. The Tartars had an element of surprise but also only had a narrow corridor to pass to attack Targoviste. The Tartar raiders



PART 4 IN A SERIES.

We take up after the Holy League victory at the Battle of Giurgiu. Sigismund of Transylvania has complied with his duty to provide support to Michael and decides to return to Transylvania. He decides he did not want to keep his army in the field when the snow falls. Mercenaries demanded more payment during the winter. Moldavia leader, Stefan Razman, returns to Moldavia (previously, with the help of Sigismund, Razman had taken control of Moldavia). During his absence, Polish nobleman brought the Pro-Ottoman pretender, Ieremia Movila, to the throne. Razman fought to regain the throne but was defeated. Movila recognized by the Sultan became threatened by a Moldavian military intervention. Conflict seemed inevitable and the war with the Ottomans continued. Wallachia was mostly in ruins. Many of the peasants fled leaving the army and

were easy to detect. Michael intercepted and destroyed their army. After defeating the Tartars, another offensive was launched in the west to take the fortress of Vidin, along the Danube. At the same time Michael marched south to conquer the fortress at Nikopol, also along the Danube. A problem for Michael develops in the spring, as Michael had to dismiss many of his mercenaries, as he could not pay them. This was due to the insufficient taxes and lack of plunder of conquered territories. This made Michael on accepting assistance from Serbian and Bulgaria. With this assistance, Michael continued attacks through the summer continued in Northern Bulgaria. These attacks caused massive economic damage. Another Tartar army was ordered to pass through Wallachia and join an Ottoman army in Hungary. The Tartar



Continued Page 6

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My mind not only wanders, sometimes it leaves completely.

Seasonal treat takes full advantage of apple season

Apple season can vary depending upon the weather and the region of the orchard. A harsh and long winter can slow the blossoming of trees in the spring and an unexpected freeze can zap the buds and delay the growth and production.

That's why National Apple Month begins in late September and extends through November.

Apples are grown in every state except Hawaii and Alaska and include 2,500 known varieties. Whatever region we live in, applepicking, roadside stands and markets featuring a dozen varieties are usually good sources because we've got special family recipes that taste best with apples fresh from the tree.

About 100 apple varieties are grown commercially in the United States, but 90 percent consist of the 15 most popular, including Gala, Granny Smith, and Red Delicious. Though our recipes tend to focus on desserts or salads, here's one that combines the savory taste of sausage with the sweet flavor of apple, perfect for any meal.

Sausage-filled baked apples

1 pound bulk pork sausage

6 large tart baking apples

(Braburn, Macintosh, Honey Crisp)

1 small apple



BRANCH 10 Cont'd from Page 5

army sacked the Wallachia towns of Buzau, Gherghita and Buceriste. Ultimately, the Tartar army was defeated and chased back across the Danube and out of Wallachia.

Meanwhile Mehmet III dealt a massive defeat to a combined army of Austria and Transylvania at the battle of Mezokeresztes, in Southern Austria-Hungary. Two more Transylvanian attacks on Lipova and Timisoara were repelled in the Banat region. Shaken by these defeats Austria and Transylvania seek to negotiate a treaty.

This caused a break in the hostilities and opened up an opportunity for an Ottoman invasion into Wallachia. Michael now had to scramble to garner up more troops for a massive Ottoman attack. To raise funds for new troops, Michael imposed strict restrictions. He eventually enslaved his own people by forbidding all classes of serfs from leaving estates where they worked. This enabled the landlords to raise harsh taxes on the peasants to help find Michael. While it was a pragmatic way to raise taxes and fund the army but it squeezed the life out of the country's poorest people. While Michael was renowned for his military victories his popularity among his people had greatly diminished. In addition to taxes his people, the military leaders sent a delegation to Rudolf II, of the Habsburgs, asking him to pay for 4,000 mercenaries, from the imperial coffers to help fight the Ottomans. The emperor agreed, as it would take some of the pressure off of Austria and shift the fighting to Wallachia and northern Bulgaria. Another hope was that Michael would be able to push back the Ottomans and cause the Bulgarians, Serbians and Albanians to revolt against the Ottomans. Michael now has a standing army of 13,000 fighting men. He resumed his attacks all along the Danube. The attacks and devastation was so severe in the bigger towns along the Danube that these territories were cut off from the rest of the empire. Furthermore, Michael transported some 16,000 Christian peasants into Wallachia, providing them with land in order to increase his tax base. But in Moldavia, military leader Movila and

his nobles were planning to overthrow Michael and replace him with Movila's younger brother, Simon Movila. To make matters worse, Sigismund, Michael's supporter, had given up his position in Transylvania due to internal and external problems. Andreas has now assumed authority in Transylvania. Michael scrambles and makes another proposition to Rudolph II. Michael proposes the unification of Wallachia and Transylvania under Michael's rule, in order to continue the war against the Ottomans. Rudolph refuses and makes plans to takeover Transylvania for himself. Surrounded on all fronts, Michael decides to make peace with the Ottoman Emperor, Mehmet III. Because of all the success against the Ottomans and destruction in Bulgaria, they agreed to terms. Michael kept the fortresses on the Danube and was recognized as the ruler of Wallachia by the Sultan. This leaves Michael to deal with his Christian enemies and secure his country.

So this concludes this part of the Series about the Holy League of Transylvania, Moldavia and Wallachia. With much hope and success of military conquests by the Holy League we find the Holy League is in shambles and fighting among themselves and fighting for their individual survival. Join us for the next series to see what lies ahead for the Holy League.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

An interview with God: MAN: What surprises you most about man?

GOD: They get bored with childhood and wish to grow up quickly, and then when they are grow older they wish they could be younger and be a child again. They loose their health in order to make money, and then they spend all their money to get healthy again. They are so anxious to think about the future that they forget about the present. They wish for so many good things in life and don't think about all the good things they have. They live like they will never die and, as they get older and closer to death they feel like they have never lived.

2 tablespoons brown sugar
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1/4 teaspoon grated lemon rind
2 tablespoons light or dark raisins
Extra brown sugar, ground cinnamon, grated lemon rind.

Preheat oven to 375 degrees F.

Brown the sausage in a large skillet. Wash the apples; cut a slice from the tops; scoop out the cores and enough flesh to leave a 1/2 inch shell. Peel and finely dice the smallest apple.

To the sausage, add the diced apple, raisins, brown sugar, cinnamon, and lemon rind and mix well. Fill the apple shells with the mixture. Sprinkle the tops with additional brown sugar, cinnamon, and lemon rind. Place in a baking dish, cover with foil, and bake until tender, about 40 minutes. Then serve with biscuits or croissants and apple jelly.

MAN:What to you recommend to man?

GOD: I gave you the gift of life, so treat each day as the gift that it is.



Choruses

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NOT HAVING ENOUGH LIFE INSURANCE CAN BE FRIGHTENING!

Do you have enough Life Insurance to cover your funeral expenses? Do you have enough Life Insurance coverage for your family to continue making the rent or mortgage payments? Will your family be able to continue paying the car loan or credit card payments?



Consider these facts:

- Only 54% of Americans have Life Insurance
- Only 30% have sufficient Life Insurance coverage
- 27% with Life Insurance only have group coverage (which usually isn't enough coverage and can rarely go with you if you change jobs)
- Group Life policies (typically employer-paid coverage) dropped 12.4% between 2017 and 2018



Contact your local ATS Deputy or the ATS Home Office to learn more about our Life Insurance Plans:

- Single Payment Life—Only one premium pays this plan for life
- Seven Payment Life—Payments are made for only seven years
- Twenty Payment Life—Can complete premium payments during one's best earning years
- Life Paid up at Age 65—Premium payments are completed by retirement age
- Whole Life Provides the maximum amount of permanent life insurance with

cash value at the lowest rates

Putting off obtaining Life Insurance could be a very costly mistake. The younger you are, the lower the premiums. Generally, you're much healthier when you are younger. If you develop health issues later in life and try to obtain Life Insurance then, you may have to pay more for coverage or not qualify for coverage at all.

