

# Uolkablatt Octablate

Celebrating over 100 years of Saxon Fraternalism

Published by
The Alliance
of Transylvanian Saxons
Home Office: 5393 Pearl Road
Cleveland, Ohio 44129-1597
Tel: (440) 842-8442

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#### The Hope of Christmas

Hope is a positive state of mind that helps us all some happiness find. When everything seems to be going wrong it can fill your soul with a glorious song. With the entire world in disarray normalcy is a vaccine away. The actions of many are guided by anger and hate, and thousands are looking at an empty plate. Hope seems the only thing we have to calm our fears like a soothing salve. The Christmas season is near at hand, it will arrive in a fractured land. Regardless of man's earthly plight, the hope of Christmas is still in sight. Christ was born for us to die, so in a grave our souls wouldn't lie. Believers know God has a plan, but we must do all we can. By working together hand-in-hand, to save our country and God's land. Hope is contagious, let's spread it around! Just maybe all of that Christmas hope will help us with our problems cope.

An original poem by Judith E. Both, New Castle Branch 27, Christmas  $2020\,$ 

### Give Your Children A Gift That Will Last A Lifetime

Why not give a gift that will grow in value and last a lifetime? Consider purchasing life insurance or an annuity from the ATS. Contact your local ATS Deputy or the ATS Home office for detailed information on our insurance plans and annuity plans.

TIMELY - DO NOT DELAY MAILED WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2020

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

### KEEP CALM AND WEAR A MASK!





### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Denise Aeling Crawford

ATS Nat'l President



Don't forget about those Saxon memoirs! We're still looking for members to share their family's personal stories of life in Transylvania and their journey to America. Keep sending your stories in to the Home Office. Now that it's cold and snowy outside, this gives you something to work on indoors. It doesn't matter how short or how long. Just write from the heart

I wish everyone a Merry Christmas. I hope it's a healthy and happy time for you and your family. December is usually such a busy month. Everyone is usually running around from store to store doing Christmas shopping, having Christmas dinners or parties with co-workers, friends, and relatives. Or just planning on getting together during the Holidays. That's just what we do during the Holidays. Wow, what a difference a year makes with this being 2020. No going out and about, shopping on-line, no getting together with people who aren't in your immediate family. Company Christmas parties are cancelled. Restaurants are not allowed to let a big crowd sit together at one table. Bah Humbug! I think we all just want 2020 to be over with and want to start 2021 on a better and happier note. Keep the faith, we'll get through this together.

Did you know that according to German folklore, nutcrackers (wooden carvings of a soldier, knight, king or other profession) bring good luck to your family and protect your home? A nutcracker is said to represent power and strength, serving somewhat like a watchdog guarding your family against danger. A nutcracker bares its teeth to evil spirits and serves as a messenger of good luck and goodwill. A tool to open nuts is a necessity, and according to the Leavenworth Nutcracker Museum in Washington state, woodcarvers in Europe were creating them in the shape of people by the 15th century. The original nutcrackers resemble people with large mouths which the operator opens by lifting a lever in the back of the figurine. Modern nutcrackers of this type serve mostly as decoration. But how did nutcrackers come to be associated with the holidays? According to the Weihnachtsmuseum (German Christmas Museum) in Rothenburg, Germany, the nutcracker's association with Christmas may be due to needing the gadgets to crack nuts, a common fall treat, for baking at this time of year. The Weihnachtsmuseum says that about 30 pieces are needed to make a wooden nutcracker. In the 19th century, Tchaikovsky's Christmas ballet furthered interest in the decorations and they started being mass produced in 1872 by the "father of the nutcracker" German Wilheim Fuchtner. Another family who made the nutcracker in Germany, the Steinbachs, still make them today for holiday gifts. When the holiday ballet became popular in the United States in the early 1950s, demand for nutcrackers increased. Today, many people collect these themed nutcrackers, displaying them during the holidays or even throughout the year.

Until next time....

#### 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.

K

Name	
Address	
City	_State
Zipcode	
Amount Donated \$	
Please indicate if	donation is in memory

or honor of someone

#### Flu complications can harm heart

Influenza has taken a back seat in headlines this year, but experts recommend that you get a flu shot nonetheless, including for a reason you might not be aware of -- your heart.

The Mayo Clinic says complications from the flu are more likely in people with heart disease. The Centers for Disease Control reviewed cases of 80,000 people diagnosed with the flu from 2010 to 2018. Of had a serious cardiovascular problem. The study was published in August.

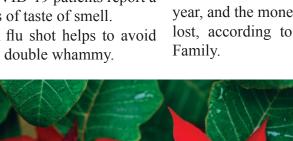
According to Harvard Medical School, the body's immune response against the infection can trigger inflammation and other changes that harm the cardiovascular system. And because just 30 percent of people with the flu develop a fever, the infection can go unnoticed. The flu shot can help prevent infections and also reduce the risk of developing severe complications when infections do occur.



#### Covid plus flu

One unpleasant scenario: It is possible to get COVID-19 and the flu at the same time--a catastrophic and those, nearly 12 percent possibly lethal combination. Symptoms of both are much the same, but many COVID-19 patients report a loss of taste of smell.

> A flu shot helps to avoid this double whammy.



#### Use it or lose it: Spending down those leftover FSA dollars

In the 1985 film Brewster's Millions, a minor league baseball pitcher stands to inherit a huge sum of money if he can spend \$30M in 30 days, but finds that offloading the cash is harder than he thought.

The millions of Americans looking to spend down their tax-free flex spending accounts (FSAs) might have an easier time than Monty Brewster, but there are still limitations. And when workers don't use the cash, they lose it. According to CNBC, workers may lose as much as \$400M each year from unused flex dollars. Some companies may permit an extension until March 15 of the following year or allow up to \$500 of rollover.

If you have funds leftover in your health care FSA, consider whether you need a flu shot, prescription sunglasses, sunscreen (SPF30 or higher), dental care or other items. You can also buy these items for a dependent, according to Further, an FSA account administra-

One online vendor, the FSA Store, simplifies shopping for you--all items are FSA-eligible expenses. For vendors that don't accept FSA debit cards, check with your plan about how to submit expenses for reimbursement.

Flex spending accounts have expanded over the years to allow workers to set aside up to \$5,000, taxfree, to pay for dependent care expenses, such as daycare or summer camp. With pandemic-related daycare and summer camp closures in 2020, parents will be hard-pressed to spend those funds before the end of the year, and the money may be lost, according to Arizona



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#### **SECRETARIES TAKE NOTICE:**

THE DEADLINE DATE FOR ARTICLES IS WEDNESDAY - 12 NOON.

You may either

MAIL:

29076 Fall River Dr Westlake OH 44145

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, DECEMBER 16, 2020 FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2020 WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2020 FRIDAY, JANUARY 8, 2021 WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13, 2021 FRIDAY, JANUARY 22, 2021

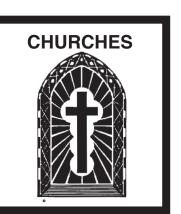
Please have your articles in by 12 Noon.

Did you miss the deadline? Have you emailed your article past 12 Noon? Please call Hanz Hermann at (440) 525-0020



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.

#### Tara M. Baber Age 40 Died: November 26, 2020 Branch 30, Youngstown OH



#### 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. Barbara Holzhauser Pastor

10:00 Worship Service

have always thought of Christmas time as a good time; a kind, forgiving, charitable, pleasant time; the only time I know of in the long calendar of the year, when men and women seem by one consent to open their shut-up hearts freely.

Charles Dickens

#### Roll a Santa / Roll a Turkey

Materials: Dice

Paper

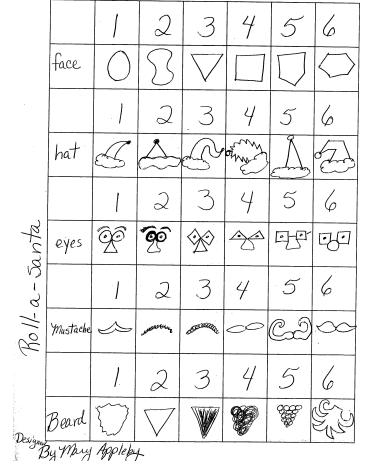
Markers, crayons or colored pencils

Directions:

Everyone takes a turn rolling their dice. Whatever number you land, you draw the matching part of the Turkey or the Santa. Play until you put all parts of the Turkey or Santa in drawing.

You can play multiple times and never get the same Turkey or Santa.

Happy Holidays everyone!!! Mary Appleby, Salem Ohio



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		Designed by	Mary Appleby	-			





#### **Nutcrackers highlight Christmas traditions**

Simple Christmas treats of oranges and nuts thrilled children throughout history, and the remnants of those traditions are still with us in decorative Nutcrackers.

Nutcracker historians say Aristotle possessed one around 330 B.C., but the wooden standing-man versions were first seen in the Erzgebirge area of Germany during the 1700s. They were known as "nut-biters." Two moving arms on the back of the head allowed the lower jaw to push the nut against the upper jaw freeing the fruit inside.

According to German lore, nutcrackers were given as presents to bring good luck to a family and act as protectors throughout the year.

In 1872, Wilhelm Fuchtner, known as the "father of the nutcracker," initiated the first mass production of nutcrackers using a lathe.

Nutcrackers were often dressed as soldiers and kings. Villagers were delighted to have these authoritative figures cracking the nuts that often acted as dessert in Europe. Imagine cracking your filberts with Napoleon!

Modern nutcrackers take on many shapes including birds, dogs, crocodiles, squirrels, and monks.

Traditional nutcrackers



are often dressed in shades of red but dark green and blue are also employed. While wood is still the most popular medium, versions have been produced in porcelain, silver, ivory, bone, and brass.

Nutcrackers became popular at Christmas during the Victorian era when children began to receive smaller versions of nutcrackers in their Christmas stockings.

Today, their popularity has been enhanced by the traditional performances of Tchaikovsky's "Nutcracker Suite" ballet during the Christmas season.

While nutcrackers can still crack nuts, most are decorative pieces brought out as the tree goes up and the wreath goes on the door.

#### 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** 

#### 400 years ago, Pilgrims' first Christmas wasn't exactly idyllic

Sixty-five days after setting off from England, the group of 100 travelers and their ship, the Mayflower, landed in in what is now modern-day Plymouth, Massachusetts, on December 18, 1620.

The Mayflower was offcourse, tossed by storms and angry seas and in need of supplies.

The travelers referred to themselves as pilgrims--people who go on a long journey for religious reasons. But these pilgrims did not find friendly inns to rest in for Christmas. They arrived to wilderness.

Nine days after their landing, some spent Christmas Day aboard the Mayflower, while others went to cut trees to build their cabins.

Over time, the struggle of the Pilgrims became steeped in myth as their descendents re-imagined their holidays. One 1900 women's magazine article proposed the preposterous idea that the Puritans decked their ship with

holly and ivy, wrapped gifts for indigenous children and feasted for Christmas.

In fact, the religious members of the voyage, the Puritans, rejected the celebration of Christmas as a holdover from Roman Catholic excesses in Europe. Their journals said simply that on Christmas they 'began to drink water' and then the ship's master offered some beer.

By 1621, the pilgrims certainly had not changed their attitude. According to their journals, some non-Puritan members of the community said they would not work on Christmas and began to play sports in the streets of the tiny village. The colony governor quickly put an end to those activities.

In an historical bah humbug, the Puritans went on to outlaw the celebration of Christmas in 1659. If you got caught having too much fun on December 25, you were fined five shillings.



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 pho-

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.



#### **2020 HOLIDAY GIFT IDEAS**

Looking for a unique way to pass on your Saxon heritage to someone on your Christmas list? Why not check out the exclusive items offered for sale at the ATS Home Office. Prices are very affordable and these items won't be found at your local department or book stores. Some supplies are limited. Order today!

Saxons Through Seventeen Centuries		CD "Glück Auf" by Eintracht Männerchor	\$ 5.00
by Rev. John Foisel	\$15.00	Saxon Apron - "I 💌 Saxon Cooking"	\$15.00
Fleeing to the Friendly Enemy		Desktop Flag Set (American & Saxon)	\$ 7.00
by Barbara Ohler Weber	\$14.00	Desktop Flag Set (American & Saxon Plus choice of Canadian or German)	\$ 9.00
<u>Flucht aus Siebenbürgen</u> (German Text)		ATS Navy Knit Cap with ATS Logo	\$10.00
by Monika Görig/Maria Schneider	\$20.00	Baby Knit Cap in Pink or Baby Blue	\$10.00
Ant People Children's book		Black T-shirt with Saxon Wappen	\$20.00
by Anne Junesch	\$10.00	Navy Sweatshirt with ATS Logo	\$25.00
<u>Saxon Cookbook</u> (third edition)	\$12.00	ATS Cloth Face Mask	\$5.00
Why Can't Somebody Just Die Around He	<u>re?</u> \$24.95		
by Gerhard Maroscher			

#### **HOLIDAY ORDER FORM**

ADDRESS	EMAIL					
CITY/STATE/ZIP	PHONE					
	Quantity	Price			Quantity	Price
Saxons Through Seventeen Centuries			ATS Baby Knit Cap	Pink		
Fleeing to the Friendly Enemy	. <del></del>		, and a second s	Blue		
Flucht aus Siebenbürgen			Black T-shirt	Small		
<u>Ant People</u>	10 <u>17</u>			Med	-	
Saxon Cookbook Why Can't Somebody Just Die				Large X-Large		
Around Here?				XX-Large		
CD "Glück Auf"			Navy Sweatshirt	Small		
Saxon Apron "I love Saxon Cooking"	<u>10 10</u>	7 <u>. 31</u> 38		Med	10	_
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Indicate Flag choice: _German _Cana	dian		TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED		\$	
ATS Navy Knit Cap			Make Check payable to: ATS	;		
			ATS Home Office, 5393 Pearl	Road, Clev	eland, OH	44129





\_\_\_\_ Security Code \_\_\_\_\_ Billing Zip Code





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

#### **BRANCH 10, COLUMBUS** By Donald Blum

#### **BIRTHDAYS**

Please join me in the celebration of Jesus Christ's Birthday on December 25th. John 3:16 - "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." This is the most important birthday ever.

#### **PRAYERS**

Your prayers and thoughts are needed for Mary Fleischer and Hannelore Hendel. Both of them are dealing with health issues and while in rehabilitation have contracted Covid-19. Please join me in prayer and wishing them the best. Gott segne.

We are sad to inform you that Hannelore Hendel passed away yesterday. Please send your prayers to her family and friends.

#### **MEMORIES**

Olga Hesch was fortunate to be able to create a new memory and remember treasured old memories. She was able to travel to visit her son, daughter-in-law, and grand dog Charlie in the Carolinas for Thanksgiving. They remembered Olga's Mother who had passed away 9 years ago, just 2 days after Thanksgiving, as well as Olga's Uncle. Olga's Mother said that Olga's Uncle "came" and got her. Olga had not seen her Uncle, as he was the first to pass of Olga's Mother's 13 siblings. Olga was honored to roast the turkey and fixings, using her Mother's cast iron heirloom roaster they had brought from Germany. The turkey and cast iron roaster weighed in at a hefty 35 pounds. Olga was fortunate to be able to have a special week with family in the Carolina's and family near in memories.

We hope everyone got a chance to create a memory over Thanksgiving.

#### TRANSYLVANIA: LAND, PEOPLE & FORTRESS-ES AND THEIR IMPOR-

Transylvania consisted of a diverse group of people.

The land is bordered by the Carpathian Mountains on the southeasterly bend and continues in a large semi-circle to the west. This provides a natural stronghold with only two entrances: the Mures Valley in the west and the River Somes as well as the Meses Mountains. For a long time, and in the Middle Ages, all passages were only passable from late spring to the fall. All rivers of Transylvania flow into the Danube River and provide a means for transportation.

The Transylvanian Saxons enter into the picture and area at the time of King Geza of Hungary. The land where the Saxons moved was a former wasteland and mostly inhabited by bears, wolves and lynx. The early German settlers were allowed to choose where they wanted to establish settlements. The Transylvanian Saxons delivered on what was originally hoped would occur. The industrious Saxons introduced better farming methods, skilled craftsmen and demonstrated a real knack for trade. The settlers were provided the status of free men, even though nobles did exist. Also, the Saxons were granted special legal status. Additionally, Transylvania served as an excellent source of taxes and tributes that were paid to neighboring Monarchies.

The Saxons built beautiful church structures, with architectural styles different than had existed in the area. Also, the ingenious Saxons were well aware that the Transylvanian area was a means or avenue for attack from neighboring monarchies and rivals such as the Ottomans, Mongols and others. The Saxons not only built churches but they built them as fortifications from attackers. Wallachia and Moldavia principalities to the southeast and south did not have this same luxury. After constantly being under attack from neighboring monarchies, Wallachia and Moldavia had to destroy all fortifications and were forbidden to build any new fortifications.

So it was not out of any generosity that the Transylvanian Saxons were offered land for settlements, especially in the geographic area of Transylvania, special rights, privileges, status and greatly reduced taxation levels. It was for ulterior motives, political, military and selfinterests of the neighboring monarchies. The monarchies saw this as a buffer zone and last ditch military area against the Ottoman Empire and also as a buffer against the rival monarchies of the Habsburgs and the Hungarians.

At one point, Transylvania had anywhere from 150-300 fortifications, many being fortified churches. Many still remain today and many are being restored under the UNESCO World heritage efforts. The Saxons had a thriving, industrious economy. Transylvania had the natural geographic barrier of the Carpathian Mountains, with passages only accessible during about 6 months of the year. Also, the Saxons were known to have good military skills. As we saw in the story of the Holy League of Transylvania, Moldavia and Wallachia, it was more beneficial to keep these principalities separated; instead of letting them form a highly competitive united government of the three principalities.

In the end, the success of Transylvanian Saxons had actually made them a threat to the surrounding rival factions. So Transylvanians would remain under the control of the neighboring monarchies for many more years.

Below is a ground plan for the church castle Honigberg.

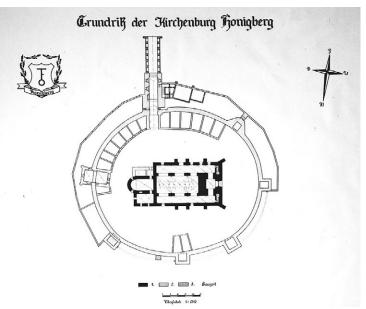
Pictures and information provided by "The Transylvanian Saxons, Historical Highlights", Wikipedia and The Independent Tourist.

#### **FACEBOOK PAGE**

Our Facebook page continues to draw interest from Saxons in many places. We are now at 102 Facebook members and growing weekly. Many of the new Facebook members are sharing interesting stories of their Saxon family background. This is just another way on keeping the Saxon history alive and relevant today.

#### <u>Alliance of Transylvanian</u> Saxons, Columbus Branch <u>10</u>

We will continue to modify and improve the Facebook page as needed. You are invited to join our Face-



While the structures may have different styles, the commonality was high surrounding walls (sometimes in concentric rings), usually with towers, a church in the center, often with it's own tower, and rooms for provisions in case of attack and sometimes boarding rooms for the villagers.

**Examples of fortified** churches.

book 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/ als to the Facebook Group. to join.

#### **Jokes**

Q How is the alphabet different on Christmas. A On Christmas there is noel

Q Why do couples get hitched on Christmas? A So they can have a Married Christmas.

Q How did the ornament get addicted to Christmas?

A He was hooked on trees his whole life!

Q Why are Christmas trees so fond of the past?

A Because the present's beneath them.

Q Why did the Christmas tree go to the bar-

A Because it needed a trim!

Q What do you get if you cross a Christmas tree with an iPad? A A pineapple!

Q What did Adam say the day before Christmas?

A It's Christmas, Eve!

Q What is a dog's favorite Christmas song? A Fleas Navidad

Q Who delivers Christmas presents to baby sharks?

A Santa Jaws!

Some of the new members include people from Europe and Canada. We encourage you to spread the word about German heritage individu- our group and invite others









#### O du fröhliche, o du selige

O du fröhliche, o du selige, gnadenbringende Weihnachtszeit! Welt ging verloren, Christ ward geboren: Freue, freue dich, o Christenheit!

O du fröhliche, o du selige, gnadenbringende Weihnachtszeit! Christ ist erschienen, uns zu versühnen: Freue, freue dich, o Christenheit!

O du fröhliche, o du selige, gnadenbringende Weihnachtszeit! Himmlische Heere jauchzen dir Ehre: Freue, freue dich, o Christenheit!

Johannes Falk Str. 1 (1768 - 1826); Heinrich Holzschuher Str. 2+3 (1798 - 1847); Weise aus Sizilien

#### Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht

Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht!
Alles schläft, einsam wacht
Nur das traute hochheilige Paar.
Holder Knabe im lockigen Haar,
Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh!
Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh!

Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht, Gottes Sohn, o wie lacht Lieb' aus Deinem göttlichen Mund, Da uns schlägt die rettende Stund, Christ, in Deiner Geburt! Christ, in Deiner Geburt!

Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht, Hirten erst kund gemacht! Durch der Engel Halleluja tönet es laut von fern und nah: Christ der Retter ist da! Christ der Retter ist da!

Text: J. Mohr (1792-1848) Weise: F. Gruber (1787-1863)

#### Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen

Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen aus einer Wurzel zart. wie uns die Alten sungen, von Jesse kam die Art. Und hat ein Blümlein bracht mitten im kalten Winter, wohl zu der halben Nacht.

Das Röslein, das ich meine, davon Jesajas sagt, hat uns gebracht alleine Marie, die reine Magd. Aus Gottes ew'gem Rat hat sie ein Kind geboren wohl zu der halben Nacht.

Text: geistlicher Dichter, 15. Jhdt. Weise: 15. Jhdt.

#### Alle Jahre wieder

Alle Jahre wieder, kommt das Christuskind auf die Erde nieder, wo wir Menschen sind.

Kehrt mit seinem Segen ein in jedes Haus, geht auf allen Wegen mit uns ein und aus.

Ist auch mir zur Seite still und unerkannt, daß es treu mich leite an der lieben Hand.

Wilhelm Hey (1837) Weise: Friedrich Silcher (1842)

### Deutsche Weihnachtslieder



### Am Weihnachtsbaum die Lichter brennen

Am Weihnachtsbaum die Lichter brennen, wie glänzt er festlich, lieb und mild, als spräch' er: "Wollt in mir erkennen getreuer Hoffnung stilles Bild!"

Die Kinder stehn mit hellen Blicken, das Auge lacht, es lacht das Herz, o fröhlich seliges Entzücken! Die Alten schauen himmelwärts.

Zwei Engel sind hereingetreten, kein Auge hat sie kommen seh'n, sie gehn zum Weihnachtstisch und beten, und wenden wieder sich und geh'n.

"Gesegnet seid, ihr alten Leute, gesegnet sei, du kleine Schar! Wir bringen Gottes Segen heute dem braunen wie dem weißen Haar.

Zu guten Menschen, die sich lieben, schickt uns der Herr als Boten aus, und seid ihr treu und fromm geblieben, wir treten wieder in dies Haus."

Kein Ohr hat ihren Spruch vernommen, unsichtbar jedes Menschen Blick sind sie gegangen wie gekommen, doch Gottes Segen blieb zurück.

### Ihr Kinderlein kommet, o kommet doch all'

Ihr Kinderlein kommet, o kommet doch all'! Zur Krippe her kommet in Bethlehems Stall. Und seht, was in dieser hochheiligen Nacht der Vater im Himmel für Freude uns macht.

O seht in der Krippe im nächtlichen Stall, seht hier bei des Lichtleins hellglänzendem Strahl in reinlichen Windeln das himmlische Kind, viel schöner und holder, als Englein es sind.

Da liegt es, das Kindlein, auf Heu und auf Stroh; Maria und Joseph betrachten es froh. Die redlichen Hirten knien betend davor, hoch oben schwebt jubelnd der himmlische Chor.

O beugt wie die Hirten anbetend die Knie, erhebet die Händlein und danket wie sie. Stimmt freudig, ihr Kinder - wer sollt' sich nicht freu'n? stimmt freudig zum Jubel der Engel mit ein!

Was geben wir Kinder, was schenken wir dir, du bestes und liebstes der Kinder, dafür? Nichts willst du von Schätzen und Reichtum der Welt, ein Herz nur voll Demut allein dir gefällt.

"So nimm uns're Herzen zum Opfer denn hin; wir geben sie gerne mit fröhlichem Sinn; und mache sie heilig und selig wie deins, und mach' sie auf ewig mit deinem in eins."

### Vom Himmel hoch, da komm ich her.

Vom Himmel hoch, da komm ich her. Ich bring euch gute, neue Mär. Der guten Mär bring ich so viel, Davon ich sing'n und sagen will.

Euch ist ein Kindlein heut geborn, Von einer Jungfrau auserkorn, Ein Kindelein so zart und fein, Das soll eur Freud und Wonne sein.

Es ist der Herr Christ, unser Gott. Der will euch führn aus aller Not. Er will eur Heiland selber sein, Von allen Sünden machen rein.

Er bringt euch alle Seligkeit, Die Gott der Vater hat bereit't, Daß ihr mit uns im Himmelreich Sollt leben nun und ewiglich.

So merket nun das Zeichen recht: Die Krippen, Windelein so schlecht. Da findet ihr das Kind.gelegt, Das alle Welt erhält und trägt.

Des laßt uns alle fröhlich sein Und mit den Hirten gehn hinein, Zu sehn, was Gott uns hat beschert Mit seinem lieben Sohn verehrt.

Merk auf, mein Herz, und sieh dort hin. Was liegt doch in dem Krippelein? Wes ist das schöne Kindelein? Es ist das liebe Jesulein.

Sei willekomm, du edler Gast!
Den Sünder nicht verschmähet hast
Und kommst ins Elend her zu mir
Wie soll ich immer danken dir?

Ach Herr, du Schöpfer aller Ding, Wie bist du worden so gering, Daß du da liegst auf dürrem Gras. Davon ein Rind und Esel aß!

Und wär die Welt viel mal so weit, Von Edelstein und Gold bereit't, So wär sie doch dir viel zu klein, Zu sein ein enges Wiegelein.

Der Sammet und die Seiden dein, Das ist grob Heu und Windelein, Darauf du Kön'g so groß und reich Herprangst, als wär's dein Himmelreich.

Das hat also gefallen dir, Die Wahrheit anzuzeigen mir, Wie aller Welt Macht, Ehr und Gut Vor dir nichts gilt, nichts hilft noch tut.

Ach mein herzliebes Jesulein, Mach dir ein rein, sanft Bettelein, Zu ruhen in meins Herzens Schrein, Daß ich nimmer vergesse dein.

Davon ich allzeit fröhlich sei, Zu springen, singen immer frei Das rechte Susaninne schon, Mit Herzenslust den süßen Ton.

Lob, Ehr sei Gott im höchsten Thron, Der uns schenkt seinen ein'gen Sohn. Des freuen sich der Engel Schar Und singen uns ein neues Jahr.

Martin Luther (1483 - 1546)
- Ein Kinderlied auf die Weihnacht Christi



### **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. Robert Cunningham III 9005 Memphis Villas Brooklyn OH 44144 (216) 398-7520 rbcunningham@roadrunner.com ATS SEC'Y. R.Cunningham LOCAL DUES to R. Cunningham

Erie, PA Br. 2 Mtg. 3rd Sunday, 2:30 p.m. Siebenbürger Hall 2114 French St. Erie PA (814) 452-4712 PRES. Thomas J. Manning 3909 Schaper Ave #203 Erie PA 16508 (814) 864-6072 ettmann1@neo.rr.com SEC'Y. Liz Manning 3909 Schaper Ave #203 Erie PA 16508 (814) 864-6072 ettmann1@neo.rr.com ATS SEC'Y Liz Manning Same address as above LOCAL DUES to Liz Manning 3909 Schaper Ave #203 Erie PA 16508 (814) 864-6072

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. Matt Aeling 909 E Broad St Louisville OH 44641 (330) 205-2586 maeling1@gmail.com ATS SEC'Y. Denise Aeling Crawford 5934 Stumph Rd # 416 Parma OH 44130 (330) 257-0267 dcrawfordcpa@outlook.com 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

Lorain Br. 5 cont'd 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 41868 Earlene Ct, Elyria OH 44035 (440) 324-2534 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 1714 Shady Dr Farrell PA 16121 (724) 346-0373 SEC'Y. Betty Holmes 409 Patt Dr. Farrell PA 16121 (724) 981-7130 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. Helen E. Aelina 15354 Georgetown St. NE Minerva 44657 (330) 862-2563 HHA658@aol.com SEC'Y. Lesley Reed 611 N. Market St Minerva OH 44657 (330) 868-3816 ATS SEC'Y. Denise Crawford 5934 Stumph Rd Apt 416 Parma OH 44130 (330) 257-0267 dcrawfordcpa@outlook.com SICK NOTICES to Phyllis Biggs 1690 S Freedom Alliance OH 44601 (330) 823-0681 LOCAL DUES to: Lesley Reed Same address as above

Chicago, IL Br. 9 Mtg. 1st Mon. 8:00 p.m. **DANK Haus** 4740 N. Western (2nd floor) Chicago PRES. Diethild Thut 923 E Slayton Dr Palatine IL 60074 (847) 934-6308 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 brasov95@hotmail.com LOCAL DUES AND SICK NOTICES TO: Claudia Schmidt Address as shown above

Columbus, OH Br. 10 Mtg. 3rd Mon. 1:00 p.m. all months Hickory House, 550 Officecenter Place Gahanna OH PRES. Mike Roth 8063 Ivory Gull Cir Pickerington OH 43147 (614) 834-22// rotnpmr@aoi.com SEC'Y. Marlene Mueller 310 Jericho Rd Apt 224 Pickerington OH 43147-1459 (614) 834-1060 ATS SEC'Y. P. Michael Roth 8063 Ivory Gull Cir Pickerington OH 43147 (614) 216-0008 LOCAL DUES and Sick Notices to Don Blum 6436 Lakeview Cir Canal Winchester OH 43110 (614) 837-1915 donaldcblum@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 HH658@aol.com
SICK NOTICES to
Thomas Rowinsky
Address as shown above

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Mail to: Alliance of Transylvanian Saxons, 5393 Pearl Road, Cleveland, Ohio 44129-1597					

Canton, OH Br. 17 Mtg. 2nd Sunday Location varies PRES. Mary Rowinsky 1656 Dunkeith Dr. NW, Canton 44708 (330) 478-9333 SEC'Y. Mary Rowinsky Samme adress as President ATS SECRETARY: Helen Aeling 15354 Georgetown St NE Minerva OH 44657 (330) 862-2563 HH658@aol.com SICK NOTICES to Mary Rowinsky-LOCAL DUES to: Rosanne Miller 5186 Everhard Rd NW Apt 7 Canton OH 44718 (330) 933-4584

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 SEC'Y. / ATS SECRETARY Barbara Spack 1389 Brookview Dr Salem, 44460 (330) 337-7487 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 (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. George R. Spack 1372 W State St Salem OH 44460 (330) 332-1442 SEC'Y. Robert P. Vogt, Sr. 973 Sunset Blvd. Salem, 44460 (330) 881-3346 mvcobra27@gmail.com ATS SEC'Y Glenn Spack 943 Stewart Rd Salem OH 44460 (330) 337-7575 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

ivitg. 2nd Thursday 8:00 p.m.

Eintracht Hall 108 Taylor St.,

New Castle PA 16101 (724) 652-7221 PRES. Detlif Seeger 116 Seneca Way New Castle 16101 (724) 923-9447 SEC'Y. Jake Holzhauser 592 Glass Rd New Castle 16101 (724) 971-1260 holzhauserjeh@gmail.com ATS SEC'Y: Joshua Stelle 104 Ludwig Rd New Castle PA 16105 (724) 699-3039 Local Dues and Sick Notices to Doug Schafer 113 Okinawa Dr New Castle 16105 (724) 944-6199

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, 46410 (219) 798-6908 rfloyd1066@msn.com SEC'Y.Jeff Szostek
1652 West 97th Ave
Crown Point IN 46307
(219) 313-7854 szozja1652@gmail.
com
ATS SEC'Y. Randall Floyd
Address and phone as shown above
LOCAL DUES to Zita Palyok
724 E. 25th Pl, Lake Station IN 46405
(219) 962-7345 randz724@comcast.net
Sick Notices to Jeffrey Szostek
1652 West 97th Ave Crown Point IN 46307
(219) 313-7854 219szos@gmail.com

Merrillville, IN Br. 26 cont'd

New Castle, PA Br. 27 Mtg. 1st Thurs. 7:00 p.m. Eintracht Hall 108 Taylor St., 16101 (724) 652-7221 PRES. Marie Benedict PO Box 25 Edinburg, 16116 (724) 667-7395 SEC'Y. Dolores Both 1527 Harlansburg Rd New Castle (724) 658-7407 doloresboth@verizon.net ATS SEC'Y. Judy Both 1512 Drespling Ln New Castle 16101 (724) 654-0573 LOCAL DUES to Gertrude Tizak 241 Cambridge St. #401 N.Castle, 16105 (724) 652-1867 Tizakg@yahoo.com SICK NOTICES to Marie Benedict

Monaca, PA Br. 29
Mtg. 2nd Sunday 6 p.m.
Saxon Club 112 Simes St
PRES. Richard Liller
150 Sunridge Dr.
Freedom, PA 15042
(724) 869-0261
SEC'Y Lauren Freshkorn
1298 Wagner Ave Monaca PA 15061
(724) 462-0046
ATS SEC'Y. Terri L. Munroe
8101 Revere Pl Aliquippa PA 15001-9533
(724) 544-0457
enchantra220@yahoo.com

Youngstown, OH Br. 30 Mtg. 2nd. Sun. 2:00 p.m. Saxon Club 710 S. Meridian Youngstown OH 44509 (330) 792-7973 PRES Robert Bachinger 5268 N. Beacon Dr. Youngstown, OH 44515 (330) 792-5177 bman1017@gmail.com SEC'Y Fran Hinerman 281 Forest Hill Dr. Youngstown, OH 44515 ATS SEC'Y Julaine Gilmartin 4173 Timberland Trail Canfield, OH 44406 (330) 799-5171 Local Dues Donald Hoelzel 695 E. Western Reserve Rd. Unit 2601 Poland, OH 44514 (330) 953-2856

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 Docia Jacobs 130 Belton Rd Ellwood City PA 16117 (724) 758-8486 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-

Cleveland, OH Br. 33 Mtg. 2nd. Weds. 7:30 p.m. St. John's Lutheran Church 1000 Ford Rd Highland Heights OH PRES. Ema Litschel 8050 Conestoga Trail Concord, 44060 (440) 358-1184 SEC'Y. Arline Suts 413 Downing Dr Chardon OH 44024 (440) 285-9498 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 440-943-4543 meb3172@att.net

Detroit, MI Br. 37 Mtg. 1st. Sun. 12:30 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 beetlebugsue7@peoplepc.com SEC'Y. Janet Nelson 128 Ottowa Dr. Troy MI 48085 (248) 879-3213 janetreadnelson@gmail.com ACTING ATS SEC'Y. Susanna Fleischer Address as above LOCAL DUES to Ingrid Weihs-Ferguson 11/11 Lancer Dr Sterling Hts Mi 48313 iwferguson@aol.com

Ellwood City, PA Br. 45 Mtg. 2nd. Sun. 7:30 p.m. Saxon Club 901 Millview Ave. (724) 758-3268 PRES. Tim Hardy 919 Aiken Ave Ellwood City 16117 (724) 679-2122 SEC'Y. Jamie Miller 114 Rustic Park Rd Ellwood City PA 16117 (724) 601-4181 ATS SEC'Y. Lori Biddle-Berendt 5412 Fifth Ave Koppel PA 16136 (724) 900-2616 LOCAL DUES TO: Ellwood City Saxon Club PO Box 161, Ellwood City 16117 SICK NOTICES TO: Mike Bieselt 106 Fairview Dr Ellwood City PA 16117 (724) 709-0595



## Merry Christmas

As we go through the hustle and bustle of the holiday season, let us remember the real reason for the season.



Christmas time is a special time of the year for you and your family. This includes your ATS family. We're here for you throughout the year providing fraternal benefits. Consider gifting your friends or family members with an ATS membership, if they are not already a member. Contact your local deputy or the ATS Home Office for information on our Insurance and Annuity plans as well as our various fraternal benefits and activities.

Merry Christmas to you and yours from the ATS Board of Directors