



THE SAXON NEWS

Volksblatt

Celebrating over 100 years of Saxon Fraternalism

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

ATS Founded in 1902

March 18, 2022

Issue 6

BRANCHES 14 AND 17, CANTON By Cheryl Schnebelen

It looks like winter is beginning to fade and there is hope for spring to come. It has been about two years since Covid-19 has been affecting mostly everybody's daily lives, and I believe all of us are ready to move on past it. One way to do this is to attend the Canton Branches' luncheon meetings. Our next one will be on Sunday, April 10, at 1:00 p.m. We will be meeting again at Meyers Landing Bar and Grill in Meyers Lake Plaza between Big Lots and the barber shop.

We are continuing to offer help to any current, past, or direct descendants of the Ladies lodge who need financial assistance for daily needs, education, or training, etc. As you know, the ATS lodges were founded on a tradition of supporting members and their families, so if there is a need, please let us know. You can contact me by email at sherlee5@aol.com, text or phone at 330-312-5112, and I will forward your request on to others in the branch.

We are looking forward to hearing from you and please feel free to join us for our next meeting at Meyers Landing on April 10 at 1:00 p.m.

BRANCH 4, CLEVELAND By Joan Miller-Malue

Please make note that our March meeting will be held on **Wednesday, March 23, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.** We needed to make this one time change due to a special catering event.

At our last meeting we held our memorial services for our local members who had passed away during 2020 and 2021: Sara Schneider (died February 20, 2020); Maria Binder (December 19, 2020); Marie Seiler (January 12, 2021); Maria Fielker (September 7, 2021); Erna Kloos (November 22, 2021). These dear members will be remembered for their significant part in making our fraternal a loving and welcoming organization. Their families can be proud of the many contributions they made over the years that enriched our Saxon family.

Although I know we will continue with cold weather and even snow for a number of weeks, we are thinking and planning for Spring. We will host the "Breakfast with the Easter Bunny" that will be held on Saturday morning April 9, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. We have sent invitations to ATS Junior Members of Cleveland West, Cleveland East and Lorain. To make reservations call Patty Cunningham at (216) 398-7520 (if you reach the answering machine, leave your name and phone number. Patty will call you back) or email her at prscunn@yahoo.com. Deadline for reservations is April 1st.

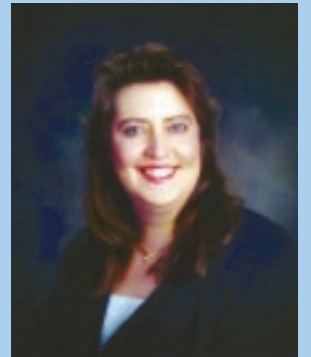
Mark your calendar for Sunday, April 24, 2022 for Branch 4's fundraiser, the Chinese Auction/Sausage Dinner. Letters will be mailed to our members asking for their support in donated items or financial contributions. We have had so many people asking about this event and we are eager to get together again for a fun afternoon. Details will be printed in upcoming issues.

We hope you come down to the Sachsenheim on Fridays during the Lenten season to enjoy a delicious meal from the fish menu as well as other delicious specials and desserts. Our manager and staff work hard to provide you with scrumptious meals to choose from a changing menu each day. Sachsenheim serves meals from 4:00 – 9:30 p.m. In addition, on weekends we are open in the afternoon when you can enjoy watching various sports events.

Remember our March Meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 23, 2022.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Denise Aeling Crawford
ATS Nat'l President



The Home Office has been a busy place the last couple of months. The year-end reports and 1099s were mailed to our members. Annual filings with the NAIC and the Departments of Insurance for the five states that we are licensed in were completed. Now it is time to work on the upcoming Convention. Each Branch has been mailed their official Delegate Roster form. The form states how many Delegates each Branch is entitled to send to the Convention. The number of Delegates is based on the ATS membership of that Branch as of December 31, 2021. Each Branch has their own rules for determining who is selected to represent the Branch as a Delegate. The Roster forms will need to be completed and sent back to the Home Office by April 25th.

Are you a crafty person? If so, do not forget about the Handicraft Exhibit for the upcoming Convention. You do not have to be a Delegate to enter something in the contest. The categories are Ceramics, Sewing, Crocheting, Cross Stitch, Knitting, Needlepoint, Quilting, Painting, Photography, and an Open Class for anything that does not fit in the other categories such as woodworking or metalworking. There is also an Open Class Youth Category for any item entered by one of our juvenile members ages 13 and under. Since everyone has been cooped up for the last two years, I want to see plenty of entries at this year's Convention! Further details will be in upcoming issues of the paper.

Did you know that March used to be the first month of the Roman calendar? The calendar had 10 months and spanned through December. I wrote in a previous issue how Julius Caesar changed the calendar to the Julian calendar. Some of the months are named for their numerical spot in the calendar. September is from Septem, Latin for 7 and December is from Decem, Latin for 10. March is different. It was named for the Roman god of war – Mars. With March typically marking the beginning of warmer weather, warriors would begin to train and fight once more as the frost thawed and the ground became easier to work on. March is a busy month. It includes Daylight Savings Time, the Vernal Equinox when day and night are equal in length, Lent, and sometimes Easter. Also in March is St. Patrick's Day, International Women's Day, as well as being Women's History Month in the United States. Juliette Gordon Low formed the Girl Scouts on March 12, 1912. Math lovers celebrate Pi Day on 3.14. The birth flower is the daffodil, synonymous with spring and new beginnings. The Eiffel Tower was climbed for the first time in March, let by Eiffel himself. All

Continued on Page 2

Can't wait for the
postal delivery
of your Volksblatt?



Current and back issues
can be read on the ATS Website
www.atsaxons.com



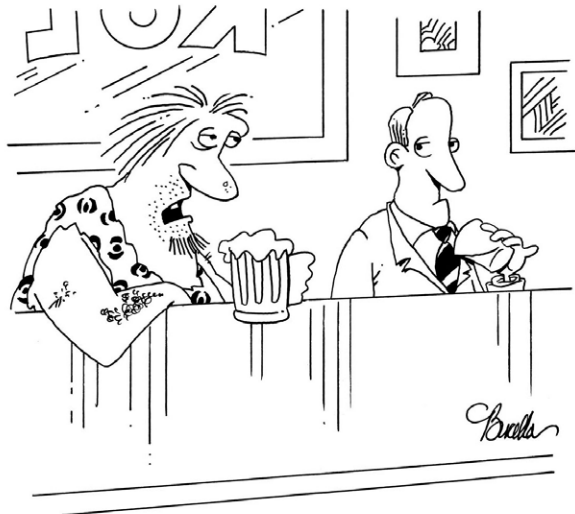
**TIMELY - DO NOT DELAY
MAILED WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16, 2022**

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

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE
Cont’d from Page 1

steps and no elevator, the trip took almost one hour. Alexander Graham Bell’s telephone was patented on March 7, 1876 and was followed three days later with the famous “Mr. Watson, come here. I want to see you.” transmitted via the telephone. In addition, the board game Monopoly was invented March 7th, 1933. And speaking of games, March is statistically the least productive month. This is due to “March Madness”, the NCAA single-elimination basketball tournament that features 68 college teams from across the United States. Brent Musburger coined the phrase “March Madness” in 1982. The tournament started in 1939. The team that won the first ever NCAA tournament was the Oregon Webfoots (now known as the Ducks). The University of Oregon defeated The Ohio State University 46-33 on March 27, 1939.

Until next time....



“Hunting, but I do dabble in gathering from time to time.”

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

BRANCH 27,
NEW CASTLE
By Dolores Both

Branch 27 ladies will meet Thursday, April 7, 3:30 p.m. at the club. The sun will be shining to make it a great day for a meeting. See you at the club.

BRANCH 26,
MERRILLVILLE
By Helen Brooks

Saxon Lodge Branch 26 held its meeting on Sunday, March 6th.

We started with the Pledge to the Flag.

Roll Call of Officers: Jeff Szostek and Dan Schuffert were excused.

All reports were given, approved and accepted.

We welcomed our visitor, Erika Sumichrast from Nevada. It is always a pleasure to see her.

The raffle was won by Marty Varney, and the attendance prize by Randall Floyd.

The meeting was adjourned, and we enjoyed a variety of pizzas and goodies provided by Helen and Brigitte. Our next baker will be Robin Varney.

Stay safe and healthy.
Til we meet again.

BRANCH 1,
CLEVELAND
By Robert Hanek

Unfortunately we will be cancelling April’s sausage sale. Rescheduling is an option we hope to discuss.

We will be having our March meeting on Wednesday, March 23. I hope everyone will be able to attend now that spring is slowly returning.



KEEP
CALM
and
SAXON
ON

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
5934 Stumph Rd #416 Parma OH 44130

Honorary Past Presidents-

Thomas J. Manning Br. 2 (814) 864-6072
3909 Schaper Ave #203 Erie PA 16508
Joan Miller-Malue Br. 4 (216) 233-8631
17105 Hilliard Rd., Lakewood, OH 44107

First Vice President -

Robert B. Cunningham III Br. 1 (216) 398-7520
9005 Memphis Villas Blvd., Brooklyn, OH 44144-2426

Second Vice President -

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

Third Vice President -

Randall Floyd Br. 26 (219) 798-6908
1806 E 73rd Ave, Merrillville IN 46410

Secretary-

Monica F. Gilles, Br. 5 (440) 309-7894
3520 Beavercrest Dr, Apt 107, Lorain, OH 44053

Treasurer-

Michael Teutsch, Jr. Br. 30, (330) 509-9670
140 Neff Ct. Canfield, OH 44406-1289

Trustees -

Jacob F. Spor Br. 25 (724) 657-3773
2940 Plank Rd., New Castle PA 16105
Barbara Spack Br 18 (330) 337-7487
1389 Brookview Dr., Salem OH 44460
Ingrid Weihs-Ferguson Br. 37 (586) 264-6136
11711 Lancer Dr., Sterling Hts., MI 48313-5148
Margarete Ziegler, Br. 33 (440) 488-6421
38047 Parkway Blvd., Willoughby, OH 44094-7543
Michael Bachinger, Br. 30 (330) 540-5168
3134 Neosho Rd, Youngstown OH 44511

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, MARCH 23, 2022	FRIDAY, APRIL 1, 2022
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6, 2022	FRIDAY, APRIL 15, 2022
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20, 2022	FRIDAY, APRIL 29, 2022

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

FRATERNAL CALENDAR

NATIONAL EVENTS

March 20, 2022
TSBA Bowling Session Youngstown OH
April 2-3, 2022
TSBA Tournament
Host: Salem
May 21-22, 2022
ATS Convention
Host: Cleveland East Br. 33
Cleveland Marriott East Hotel, Beachwood OH
July 9, 2022
ATS Saxon Day
Host: Branch 30 Youngstown
July 23, 2022
ATS Family Day
Waldameer Park, Erie PA

LOCAL EVENTS

March 26, 2022
Cleveland East Bowl Where You Are Party
Wickliffe Lanes 2:00 p.m.
Youngstown Saxon Culture Group Sausage Sale
April 9, 2022
Cleveland/Lorain Children's Easter Party
April 24, 2022
Cleveland Br. 4 Chinese Auction
May 14, 2022
Cleveland Saxon Dance Group Trachtenball

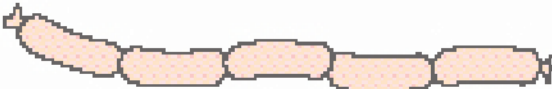


Cleveland West Branch 1
Wurstmarkt / Sausage Sale

Saturday, April 2, 2022
Cleveland Sachsenheim
7001 Denison Avenue

CANCELED

Youngstown Saxon Culture Group's



Spring Sausage Sale

We are now taking orders
for hot, mild, and
garlic sausage.
All flavors come in
3 lb and 5 lb links
or 5 lb bulk packages
(each with a little overage).

Saturday,
March 26, 2022

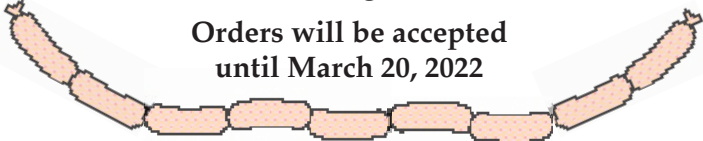
Pickup is from
9:00 to 2:00
in the pavilion.

The price is \$4.00 per pound
You can call in orders to
Walter Benesch 330-398-5449
Michael Bachinger 330-540-5168
Robert Bachinger 330-980-0911

If we do not answer please leave us your name,
phone number, and order. We will call you back to verify.

You can also email your orders to
bman1017@gmail.com

Orders will be accepted
until March 20, 2022



BRANCH 10, COLUMBUS
By Donald Blum

MONTHLY MEETING
HICKORY HOUSE
550 Officenter Place
Gahanna, Ohio 43230
Monday, March 21, 2022
Time 12:00 noon
Our meetings are the
Third (3rd) Monday of the
month.
Remember to bring a
canned good item or other
food item.

PRAYERS
Please keep long time
ATS member, Paul Schai-
ble, in your prayers. Paul
is facing physical challeng-
es. We wish him the best.
Paul's family was founding
members of Martin Luther
Church in Columbus.

CELEBRATIONS
Please join me in wish-
ing Mike Roth a very Happy
Birthday on March 21.
Please join me in wishing
Marlene Betts a very Happy
Anniversary on March 22.

HUMOR
A priest buys a lawn
mower at a yard sale. Back
home, he pulls on the start-
er rope a few times with no
results. He storms back to
the yard sale and tells the
previous owner, "I can't get
the mower to start!" "That's
because you have to curse
to get it started," says the
man. "I'm a man of the cloth.
I don't even remember how
to curse." "You keep pulling
on that rope, and it'll come
back to you."

HISTORY
This is a story about the
Transylvanian Coat of
Arms, which depicts seven
towers, castles or fortifica-
tions. We will look at a little
history before we get into
Transylvanian Flag or Coat
of Arms.

It is common knowledge
that King Geza II invited
German settlers that would
later become known as
Transylvanian Saxons, to
Transylvania. These Sax-
ons would be granted spe-
cial status. They would form
very strong communities
of farmers, artisans, mer-
chants and individuals with
mining skills. King Andrew
II of Hungary continued this
tradition by providing terri-
torial autonomy. We know
there were ulterior motives
in bringing in these Ger-
man settlers, and it was not
out of the kindness of the
Hungarian Kings. The area
was a frontier wasteland.
The area was a constant
path for invasions over the
years by the Turkish, Tar-
tars (Mongolian) and the
Ottoman Empire. The Hun-
garians who controlled this
territory were wary of the
invading groups. The kings

decided that Transylvania
could serve as a buffer from
these invading groups. So
the primary motive was
protection or first line of de-
fense.

In order to serve as a
defense, a series of towns
would construct fortifica-
tions. Some legends state
that seven Magyar Chief-
tains erected fortifications
in this region. This brings
us to the Transylvanian
Coat of Arms, which depicts
the Seven Towers or Fortifi-
cations. Also, it brings into
the discussion the name,
'Siebenbürgen', which has
been used to describe
"Seven Towns" or "Seven
Castles."

At one time, Transylvania
had 300 fortified churches
or castles. These structures
served as fortresses against
the invading groups.

This brings us to the Sev-
en Towns that represent the
Towers or Castles in the
Transylvanian Flag or Coat
of Arms. The fortified towns
that comprised the Seven
Towns are:

- Medwesch/Mediasch
- Nösnerland/Nosen/Bistritz
- Hermannstadt
- Klausenburg
- Kronstadt/Kruhnen
- Meinbach/Mühlbach
- Schassbrich/Schässburg

KRONSTADT/KRUHNEN
Kronstadt is located in
the central part of the coun-
try, about 166 km (103 mi)

north of Bucharest and 380
km (236 mi) from the Black
Sea. It is surrounded by the
Southern Carpathians and
is part of the historical re-
gion of Transylvania.
According to Balázs Or-
bán, the name Corona – a
Latin word meaning "crown"
– is first mentioned in the
Catalogus Ninivensis in
1235 AD, stating a monas-
tic quarter existed in the ter-
ritory of the Roman Catho-
lic Diocese of Cumania (In
Hungaria assignata est pa-
ternitas Dyocesis Cumanie:
Corona). Pál Binder sup-
posed it is a reference to
the St. Catherine's Mon-
astery. Others suggest the
name derives from the old
coat of arms of the city, as
it is symbolized by the Ger-
man name Kronstadt mean-
ing "Crown City". The two
names of the city, Kronstadt
and Corona, were used si-
multaneously in the Middle
Ages, along with the Medi-
eval Latin Brassovia.
The oldest traces of hu-
man activity and settle-
ments in Kronstadt date
back to the Neolithic age
(about 9500 BCE). Archae-
ologists working from the
last half of the 19th century
discovered continuous trac-
es of human settlements in
areas situated in Kronstadt:
Valea Cetății, Pietrele lui
Solomon, Șprengghi, Tâmpa,
Dealul Melcilor, and Noua.
The first three locations
show traces of Dacian cita-
dels; Șprengghi Hill housed
a Roman-style construc-
tion. The last two locations

Continued on Page 5



The "Black Church" in Kronstadt



Kronstadt - Illustration of the walled city
prior to the 1689 fire

CHURCHES



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

Jokes for spring

Does February march?
No, but April May!

*What can you find in
the middle of April and
March but not at the
beginning or end of ei-
ther?*

The letter R!

*What is a flower's favor-
ite kind of pickle?*
A daffo-dill.

Retirement

*What did the gardener
do after they retired?*
Not mulch.

Do you realize that in
about 40 years, we'll
have millions of old
ladies running around
with tattoos?

*What do retirees call a
long lunch?*
Normal.

*What do you call a per-
son who is happy on
Monday?*
Retired.

*A retired husband is
often a wife's full-time
job.*

BRANCH 10 Cont'd from Page 4

had their names applied to Bronze Age cultures — Schneckenberg ("Hill of the Snails"; Early Bronze Age) and Noua ("The New"; Late Bronze Age).

Transylvanian Saxons played a decisive role in Kronstadt's development and were invited by Hungarian kings to develop towns, build mines, and cultivate the land of Transylvania at different stages between 1141 and 1300. The settlers came primarily from the Rhineland, Flanders, and the Moselle region, with others from Thuringia, Bavaria, Wallonia, and even France.

In 1211, by order of King Andrew II of Hungary, the Teutonic Knights fortified the Burzenland to defend the border of the Kingdom of Hungary. On the site of the village of Kronstadt, the Teutonic Knights built Kronstadt — 'the City of the Crown'. Although the crusaders were evicted by 1225, the colonists they brought in long ago remained, along with local population in three distinct settlements they founded on the site of Kronstadt:

- Corona, around the Black Church (Biserica Neagră);
- Martinsberg, west of Cetățuia Hill;

Saxons living in Kronstadt were mainly involved in trade and crafts. The location of the city at the intersection of trade routes linking the Ottoman Empire and Western Europe, together with certain tax exemptions, allowed Saxon merchants to obtain considerable wealth and exert a strong political influence. They contributed a great deal to the architectural flavor of the city. Fortifications around the city were erected and continually expanded, with several towers maintained by different craftsmen's guilds, according to the medieval custom.

At least two entrances to the city, Poarta Ecaterinei (or Katharinentor) and Poarta Șchei (or Waisenhausgässertor), are still in existence. The city center is marked by the mayor's former office building (Casa Sfatului) and the surrounding square (piața), which includes one of the oldest buildings in Kronstadt, the Hirscher Haus. Nearby is the "Black Church" (Biserica Neagră), which some claim to be the largest Gothic style church in Southeastern Europe.

In 1689, a great fire destroyed the walled city almost entirely, and its rebuild-

ing lasted several decades.

Besides the Saxon population living in the walled city and in the northern suburbs, Kronstadt had also a significant Romanian and Bulgarian population (living in the Șchei district), and also some Hungarian population (living in the Blumăna district).

Located 15 km from Kronstadt, Prejmer (Tartlau) is the largest fortified church in South-Eastern Europe and it was included in the UNESCO World Heritage site in 1999. It was built in the early 13th century by the Teuton Knights and was eventually taken over by the Saxons. In the 15th century, when the Ottoman invasions began, fortifications were added to the church, and even though the village was destroyed over 50 times, the church was only captured once.



Prejmer (Tartlau)



Tartlau fortified church fortress entrance



Tartlau church fortification

The fortifications were ordered by Sigismund of Luxembourg and they included circular walls of 12 m in height and up to 5 m in width, a water filled moat, drawbridges, 5 defensive towers, a battlement, murder-holes and a secret underground tunnel that linked the church with the outside. However, what took this defensive structure over the edge, was the "Organ of death", a war machine made out of several weapons that could shoot simultaneously.

Just like Harman church, inside the fortress walls, there were built 272 rooms, used for storage in times of peace and for shelter in times of war. Each room has a number marked on the door that corresponds to the number of the house in the village. Each family had therefore a room assigned, and it was passed down from one generation to another. It had a total capacity



**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.**

Mary L. Daprile

Age 86

Died: October 15, 2021
Branch 30, Youngstown OH

George Scheipner

Age 84

Died: January 31, 2022
Branch 37, Detroit MI

Mark T. Mueller

Age 71

Died: February 2, 2022
Branch 1, Cleveland OH

Randall J. Emrich

Age 77

Died: February 19, 2022
Branch 30, Youngstown OH

Eleanor A. Norheim

Age 87

Died: March 1, 2022
Branch 5, Lorain OH

Wayne G. Elliott

Age 96

Died: March 7, 2022
Branch 30, Youngstown OH

of 1,600 people.

The Black Church, Schwarze Kirche, stands in the city of Kronstadt in southeastern Transylvanian. It was built by the Saxons of the city and represents the main Gothic-style monument in the country, as well as being the largest and one of the most important houses of worship in the region.

Author Judit Petki contends that, contrary to a widely held view, The Black Church did not receive its dark appearance as a result of the fire, which affected much of the city in 1689, but only in recent times due to pollution. The current popular name is apparently a 19th-century creation. The cathedral, a working church, is the main city landmark of historical Kronstadt, and a museum is open to visitors.

The originally Roman Catholic structure was known as the Church of Saint Mary, replacing an older building used for the same purpose. Construction on it began during the late 14th century, at an

Continued on Page 6

Wordoku - SCHNITZEL

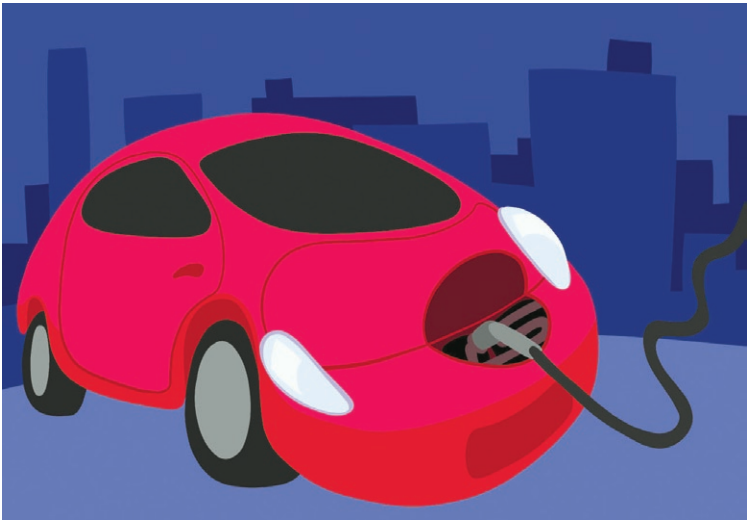
	Z	N					L	
		T	I		L	H	N	
T		Z			S			C
S	C						E	L
I			H			N		S
	S	I	T		N	C		
	H					L	I	

How to solve wordoku puzzles

You only need logic and patience to solve a wordoku.

Simply make sure that each 3x3 square region has only one letter from the word SCHNITZEL. Similarly, each letter can only appear once in a column or row in the larger grid. The difficulty on this puzzle is medium.

L	I	T	E	Z	S	C	H	N
N	S	E	I	H	C	T	L	Z
H	Z	C	N	T	L	I	S	E
S	L	N	Z	C	H	E	T	I
T	E	Z	L	I	N	H	C	S
C	H	I	S	E	T	Z	N	L
Z	N	H	T	S	I	L	E	C
E	C	L	H	N	Z	S	I	T
I	T	S	C	L	E	N	Z	H



Financial considerations and electric cars

Gas prices have steadily increased in recent months, putting a pinch on consumers. Given how expensive gasoline is, some are turning to electric automobiles -- not just cars, but also trucks, delivery vans and other vehicles. That said, before buying an electric car, there are important financial considerations.

First, if you want to use an electric vehicle, you're going to need to charge it. This means you'll typically have to pay for fuel, and ultimately, the cost power a vehicle can vary dramatically depending on local electricity prices.

That said, you can get a good grasp on how much you'll have to spend charging your car by looking at the kilowatt-hours per 100 miles. This outlines the fuel efficiency of an electric or hybrid car. A Tesla Model 3, for example, needs 25

kilowatt-hours (kWh) per 100 miles. With kWh in hand, you can calculate the cost to charge your vehicle.

Fuel costs aren't the only factor to consider with electric cars. Generally speaking, electric vehicles don't break down as often as traditional gasoline automobiles. This is due, in part, to the fact that electric power trains have fewer moving parts. You also don't have to worry about spark plugs and oil changes.

That said, the battery will eventually wear out, and replacing it can cost north of \$5,000. You may also need to install a charging station at your house, which can cost thousands of dollars. And if gasoline prices decline while electricity prices climb, the cost gap between combustion engines and electric drive trains would narrow.

BRANCH 10 Cont'd from Page 5

unknown date — analysis of related evidence has led several researchers to conclude that work began between 1383 and 1385, employing Bulgarian workers and craftsmen who proceeded to establish the Kronstadt Bulgarian colony in Șcheii Brașovului. According to popular legend, a Saxon child was disturbing the Bulgarian builders or told them that one of the walls was leaning. An annoyed Bulgarian pushed the child off the church tower and then hid/buried his corpse in the church to conceal his crime.

Its chancel (part of the church near the choir, reserved for the clergy and choir) originally featured a single column, but its role in supporting the entire central structure — on the model of German cathedrals built by Hans Stettheimer (a view expressed by researchers such as Ernst Kühlbrandt and Antal Hekler) is under dispute. The nave and aisles took longer to complete, and construction was interrupted for various intervals: in 1423, Pope Martin V issued an indulgence for people involved in construction, as a means to reactivate the site; in 1474, a document issued by Sixtus IV acknowledged that work was still lagging.

Several octagonal pillars, redesigned at least once during the building process, were probably completed around 1444. One of them features the inlaid crest of military leader John Hunyadi, who is mentioned among the church benefactors. The most intense work took place before and after 1450, and involved completing the exceptionally large number of portals, including the northern "Golden Gate" and its adjacent altar of the Holy Sacrifice. The eastern portal, commissioned by the Hungarian King Matthias Corvinus, was completed in 1476. The vestry was enlarged at some point between 1500 and 1515.

Completed during the 15th century (soon after 1476), the church belongs to the final stages of Gothic architecture. The result was a three-nave basilica, all the same height, that is: a "hall church", as was preferred during the 15th and 16th centuries in the German lands, where most of the architects and masons originated. Many parts of the building show similarities with the church in Muhlbach/Meinbach and St. Michael

Church of Klausenburg, as well as with the Dominikánsky kostol in Kaschau. The design was itself an inspiration for other religious buildings in the region, and it is possible that a stonemason originally employed on the site later worked on the church in Weidenbach.

The Catholic services were replaced with Lutheran ones during the Protestant Reformation, coinciding with the influence exercised by Johannes Honter (1498–1549). His statue of the reformer was erected by Harro Magnussen (1861-1908) on the southern side of the building. It was long thought that the church had been partially destroyed during a great fire set by invading Habsburg forces on 21 April 1689 (during the Great Turkish War), but this theory has been proven wrong.

A large part of the inner structure was modified during the 18th century, breaking with the original design. The explanation that the church had to be repaired following the fire of 1689 has been discarded, but it was modified with the help of masons coming from Freie Stadt Danzig as local craftsmen had not mastered the craft of completing the enormous vaults; these were to be completed in Baroque style.

The Black Church is 89 meters long and 38 meters wide. It measures 21 meters from the floor level to the top of its walls, 42 meters to the ridge of the roof, and 65 meters to the highest point of its only bell tower.

Much of the outside structure was built in friable grit(type of material), which caused outer sculptures and masonry elements to deteriorate with time. The oldest features surviving include several sculptures, arches, simpler masonry patterns such as trilobes (three sided), as well as numerous portals, while the crowning is imitation Gothic dating from the 18th century.

The oldest sculpture appears to be the almost completely deteriorated bust of John the Baptist; it is located in the choir section and reflects the Bohemian Gothic art as seen in the works of Johann and Peter Parler. A more flamboyant Gothic style was used in the outside sculptures — those probably depicting the church's supposed founder, Thomas, and the Catholic patron saint of Transylvania, Nicholas. Other pieces in that style include the Na-

tivity, Salvator Mundi, an archangel, as well as depictions of saints believed to be the Four Evangelists (probably completed in various stages between 1430 and 1450). Newer medieval sculptures, created after 1450 and showing some Renaissance influences, feature the northward bas-relief depicting Jesus Christ in the Temple of Jerusalem, as well as various figures on the same facade. The statue of Mary and Jesus faces towards the old city hall and stands above the coat of arms of Kronstadt (Brașov), as the Virgin Mary is the patron of the city.

A partly destroyed mural, which appears to have been completed around 1477, is situated near the southeastern portal, and features the coat of arms of Matthias Corvinus and his wife Beatrice. It shows the Nativity, together with depictions of Saint Catherine (Catherine of Alexandria) and Saint Barbara. Unlike the inner Annunciation mural, which is late Gothic, the outside painting is heavily influenced by the Renaissance.

The Black Church has three bells, the largest weighing 6.3 tonnes(metric ton) which makes it the biggest in Romania. The larger of the two organs, boasting an impressive 4,000 pipes, was built in 1839 by Carl August Buchholz and is played during weekly concerts. Of its rich collection of "Transylvanian" rugs, donated between the 15th and 17th centuries by Transylvanian Saxon merchants, some have been used to decorate walls as well as floors after the Reformation.

The church also features a cast iron tabernacle in Gothic style, a baptismal font completed in 1472 and donated by a merchant named Johannes Rewdel, two large chalices (both dated around 1504) and several brocade chasubles(outer garments worn by Catholic Priests - created between in the late 15th and mid-16th centuries).

We look forward to the next article about the Seven Towns depicted in the Transylvanian Flag or Coat of Arms.

Included are some pictures of the Prejmer and The Black Church.





Choruses

CLEVELAND, SECTION 1 EINTRACHT SAXONIA SACHSENCOR

Rehearsal:
Tuesdays 1:30 - 3:00 p.m.

PRESIDENT

Horst Hebrank
26148 Kennedy Ridge Rd
No Olmsted OH 44070
(440) 734-2584

SECRETARY

Christa Herbert
4703 West Ridgewood Dr.
Parma, OH 44134
440-888-6094

NEW CASTLE, SECTION 6 EINTRACHT MÄNNERCHOR

Rehearsal:
Every Tuesday at 7:30 p.m.

PRESIDENT

Jonathan Baisch
3336 Plank Rd
New Castle PA 16105
(724) 816-6866
jonathanbaisch@gmail.com

SECRETARY

Paul Garmon
2305 Highland Ave
New Castle PA 16105
(724) 674-7491
paulgarmon1@gmail.com



Cultural Groups

CLEVELAND SAXON DANCE GROUP

Rehearsal: Fridays
6:30 p.m Children
7:30 pm Adults
Westside Sachsenheim
csgd7001@yahoo.com

PRESIDENT

Christine Roppelt
8905 Fernhill Ave
Parma OH 44129
(216) 773-9375

SECRETARY

Stephanie Miller
23500 Wingedfoot Dr
Westlake OH 44145
(216) 647-3229

YOUNGSTOWN SAXON CULTURE GROUP

Meets: 2nd Sunday of Month
Youngstown Saxon Club

PRESIDENT

Erna Weber
525 Quarry Ln
Warren OH 44483
(330) 509-9421
Saxnera@aol.com

SECRETARY

Kevin McCarty
1901 Oakwood
Youngstown, OH 44509
(330) 883-7162
mccartks@gmail.com

TRANSYLVANIAN SAXON BOWLING LEAGUE



PRESIDENT

Glenn Spack
943 Stewart Rd.
Salem, OH 44460
(330) 332-8174
sspach2@neo.rr.com

VICE PRESIDENT

Tom Simon
538 S Schenley Ave
Youngstown, OH 44509
(330) 720-7988
ts112063@gmail.com

SECRETARY-TREASURER

Jenny Miller King
25321 Conover Dr.
Bay Village, OH 44140
(216) 551-1728
jmill411@yahoo.com

STATISTICAL SEC'Y. (Men & Women)

Carl J. Schmitz
26652 Redwood Dr.
Olmsted Falls, OH 44138
(440) 799-1940
cjsaintrite@aol.com

TRUSTEES AUDITORS

Rich Baker
232 Reiber Road
Hermitage PA 16148
(724) 854-0149
Karen Kinser
13626 Beech St. NE
Alliance, OH 44601
(330) 581-5049
Monica Gilles
3520 Beavercrest Dr Apt 107
Lorain, OH 44053
(440) 309-7894
gillemo76@hotmail.com



Are your
children,
grandchildren,
nieces and nephews
members of the ATS?
Let them benefit from
our fraternal program
and be a part of
our history!



BOOKS

The Saxon Cook Book - Third Edition
Over 400 Saxon/American Recipes \$12.00 per copy (postpaid)

Fleeing to the Friendly Enemy by Barbara Ohler Weber
A true story of the author's experiences during World War II
and her immigration to America in the 1950's.
\$14.00 per copy (postpaid)

Flucht aus Siebenbürgen by Monika Görig/Maria Schneider
Memoirs of Maria Schneider written in German describing her
family's hardships when they had to flee from their home in
1944 and start a new life in Austria.
\$20 per copy (postpaid)

Saxons Through Seventeen Centuries, author Rev. John Foisel
A paperback which provides a romantic account of the customs
and phases of intellectual development of the Transylvanian
people. Not intended to be a history of Transylvania, rather a
story of our people based upon seventeen centuries of history.
\$15 per copy (postpaid)

Why Can't Somebody Just Die Around Here?, author Gerhard
Maroscher. Tells the story of how his family was impacted by
World War II. His mother fled Transylvania with two young
sons and his father reluctantly served in three Axis armies
and was a prisoner of war by the Russians. Family immi-
grated to the USA to live the American dream.
\$24.95 per copy (postpaid)

All books unless noted have English Text.

Proceeds from book sales go to the Saxon Orphan Fund Program.

Order From:

The Alliance of Transylvanian Saxons
5323 Pearl Road, Cleveland, Ohio 44129
Make Checks/Money Orders payable to
ATS ORPHAN FUND
ATS Member, please indicate Branch number.

SAXON SENIORS

YOUNGSTOWN SAXON RETIREES

Meets 2nd Thursday 11:30 a.m.
Youngstown Saxon Club
(March - December)

PRESIDENT

Diana Kommel
666 N. Schenley
Youngstown, OH 44509
(330) 799-1738

SECRETARY

Rosemary Dundon
6000 Lake Rd W Apt 112
Ashtabula OH 44004
(440) 536-4661

SALEM SAXON RETIREES

Meets 1st Wednesday
of the month
Noon at 1980 NewGarden Rd

PRESIDENT

Lois Whitacre
15425 Lisbon St.
Minerva, OH 44657
(330) 813-0400

SECRETARY

Dianne Kuttler
4282 McCann Rd
Salem OH 44460
(330) 428-1723

USE ONLY THIS FORM FOR CHANGE OF ADDRESS AND CANCELLATIONS CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM

Branch No. _____

Certificate No. _____ SS# _____

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

☐ CHANGE

☐ CANCELLATION

☐ NEW to receive paper

THIS CHANGE IS FOR:

☐ 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

ASK ...

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

Women need to take more responsibility in planning for their retirement



Some of the following factors will have an impact on your lifestyle during your retirement years:

- ◊ Women tend to outlive men by as many as five years. Most women can expect to live to be 81. Most men can expect to live to be 76. On average, by the time women turn 65, forty-five percent of them are widows.
- ◊ Since many women tend to marry men older than themselves, it is estimated that seven out of ten women today will outlive their husbands by 15 years.
- ◊ Most women have fewer years in the workforce due to raising a family or providing care for their elderly parents.
- ◊ Women's average total retirement savings is just \$57,000 whereas men's average total retirement savings is \$118,000.
- ◊ 33 percent of women have no retirement strategy. Of those women who do have a retirement strategy, just 24 percent have it written down.
- ◊ 32 percent of women expect Social Security to be their primary source of retirement income.



The ATS Annuity Plans can help you provide for a sound financial future!

An ATS Annuity is a flexible retirement tool. You decide how much you want to put into your annuity and it allows your savings to increase without paying current taxes on the interest. The minimum deposit to start an ATS Annuity is \$300 for adults. \$25 is the minimum amount for future deposits. To make savings easy, you can use the ATS Autopay electronic funds transfer. The ATS would deduct a specified amount from your bank account on a regular basis. Because an annuity is designed as a retirement asset, there could be penalties for withdrawals prior to age 59 1/2. Also, a five-year surrender charge period applies to new accounts. The ATS does not charge any administrative fees.

- Because taxes are deferred until money is withdrawn, interest is earned on money that otherwise would be paid to the IRS.
- An ATS Annuity can also be designated as a Traditional IRA or a Roth IRA.
- Guaranteed interest rate of 1.75%
- Current APR is 3.0%



Ladies, contact your local sales deputy or the ATS Home Office today!