



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

April 28, 2023

Issue 9



CONGRATULATIONS!

The following are the winners of the
2023 Easter coloring contest:

Ages 3-4
Ella Robb
Br. 18 - Salem

Ages 7-8
Rose Hazel
Br. 30 - Youngstown

Ages 5-6
Noah Murray
Home Branch

Ages 9-10
Alice Mc Cormick
Br. 30 - Youngstown

2023 Easter Coloring Contest Participants

The ATS Youth Activities Committee thanks the
following junior members who sent in their
colored Easter pictures:

Rhett Albert Burick – Br. 25 New Castle
Trace Burick – Br. 25 New Castle
Winston A Randolph – Home Branch
Rosie McCormick – Br. 30 Youngstown
Jack McCune – Br. 27 New Castle
Alice Emig – Br. 30 Youngstown
Jessa Westland – Br. 17 Canton
Daniel G. Mezzara – Br. 30 Youngstown
Laurel Emerich – Br. 27 New Castle
Nash Foisel – Br. 33 Cleveland East
Bodhi Krahe – Home Branch
Sophie I. Randolph – Home Branch
George Lanahan – Home Branch
Chelsey Cunningham – Br. 29 Monaca
Ava Gregorich – Br. 7 Farrell
Camden Jackson – Br. 19 Salem
Kendall Emerich – Br. 27 New Castle
Owen Bachinger – Br. 30 Youngstown
Niko Krahe – Home Branch
Holden E. Randolph – Home Branch
Henry Lanahan – Home Branch
Emma Sloan – Br. 30 Youngstown
Katie Hanek – Br. 4 Cleveland West
William Wilson – Br. 19 Salem

BRANCH 9, CHICAGO By Rose-Marie Hauer

Greetings members and guests!
Spring is in the air and pretty soon
we will be planting flowers and
vegetables. Our meeting was held
on April 3, with fair attendance.
All the reports were read and
accepted. There was not much
news and no one was on the sick
report.

Wishing all the Moms, Aunts
and Grandmas a very Happy
Mother's Day.

Everyone, please stay healthy.

Our next meeting will be May 1,
at 7 p.m. at the Donauschwaben
clubhouse.

BRANCH 33, CLEVELAND EAST By Arline Krestel-Suts

Reminders for all members. The
Branch 33 membership banquet
will be Sunday May 7 from 1 to 5
p.m. at Saint Noel's Party Center
Chardon Rd., Willoughby Hills.
Members free, guests \$25. Make
reservations with Cindy Schneider
(216) 410-8851. Weather should
be beautiful. Hope to see many
of you there

Branch 33's next meeting will be
Wednesday, May 10 with an ice
cream social at 7 p.m., and the
meeting to follow at 8 p.m.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Denise Aeling Crawford
ATS Nat'l President



The deadline for returning the ATS Scholarship
Application Forms has now passed. The Fraternal
Activities and Scholarship Committee will be meet-
ing at the end of April to select the 2023 Scholarship
winners. The recipients will be announced at the ATS
Branch Presidents Meeting that will be held in Salem,
Ohio on May 20. Good Luck to all of our applicants!

Other activities during the Branch Presidents Meeting
will be the distribution of Branch Sharing checks and
awarding Subsidy Grant checks to our Cultural Groups.
The Branch Sharing checks are based on ATS members
in your local Branch, as well as Life Insurance premiums
and Annuity and IRA deposits by your Branch members.
The Cultural Groups need to return their Subsidy Grant
application forms to the ATS Home Office by May 5. As
the Subsidy Grant checks are based on the number of
ATS Members in the group, the groups should encour-
age any non ATS Members to become an ATS Member.

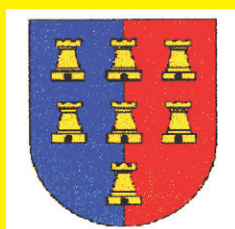
Please do not forget about the American Fraternal Al-
liance's Fraternal Food Drive this April and May. Each
Branch is encouraged to have your members bring non-
perishable food items to your next Branch Meeting. Then,
you can donate those items, or a check, to your local food
pantry. Please remember to take some pictures of your
Branch Members and the donated items and forward
them to the ATS Home Office at Office@ATSaxons.com.

The ATS Home Office is gearing up for our Summer
Activities. Saxon Summer Camp is returning this year
after the Covid-19 hiatus. This event is for our younger
members ages 7 to 15. They will attend Camp Frederick
in Rogers, Ohio from June 25 to June 30. One night of
the week, the Youth Activities Committee will visit and
promote our Transylvanian Saxon culture. The North
American Heimattag will take place on July 7 and 8
in New Castle, PA. The Friday evening activities will
take place at the Eintracht Singing Society's picnic
grounds. All of the Saturday activities will take place
at Cascade Park. Information about meals and hotels
is located in this issue of the Volksblatt. In addition to
the ATS Cultural Groups performing at the Heimattag,
we will have the dance groups from Canada and the
Trachtenkapelle from Traun, Austria for our entertain-
ment. After the Heimattag, the group from Traun will
have three additional concerts for you to enjoy. They
will play in Cleveland on Monday, July 10; in Salem on
July 12; and in Detroit on July 13. Please plan to attend
one (or more) of these dates. This group is part of the

Continued on Page 2

**TIMELY - DO NOT DELAY
MAILED WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, 2023**

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



Countdown to our
North American Saxon Heimattag
New Castle PA July 7-8, 2023
70 days left!
See Page 4 for Reservation
and Hotel Information



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 18, SALEM
By Barbara Spack

Branch 18 members met on April 10 for the regular meeting. The ladies discussed having a Sausage and Krapfen sale and will be getting information on whether the sausage can still be made at Horst, since the business has changed ownership. We will talk about it more at the May meeting. The kitchen cleaning is still scheduled in April. Anyone reading this before April 29 who is available to help, please come out to the club at 10:00 a.m. We need to dispose of expired items, clean and organize the pantry and storage shelves and take inventory of supplies.

The Easter Egg Hunt was held at the club on Saturday April 8 and Dawn Jackson will have a report at the May meeting.

The upcoming calendar of events for 2023 was reviewed. We will be hosting the Traun Austria performers on July 12. Tentative plans are to open the country club grounds at 5:00 p.m. and have food available for sale

as well as a cash bar, and socializing with the guests and members, then a musical performance by the group. This will be open to the public so we will be promoting it to the local businesses and community.

We celebrated the April birthdays of members Sue Weber, Marcia Spack, and Diane Kuttler. Happy birthday ladies. Also a special happy birthday wish goes to our birthday secretary, Lois Whitacre, who celebrated her 95th birthday in March.

The Salem Saxon Scholarship Applications have been distributed to the guidance offices at Salem High School, West Branch High School, and United Local High School. Anyone in the Salem area who is eligible for the scholarship is welcome to apply and the deadline to receive applications is June 1st. Any questions can be directed to Barbara Spack at 330.501.1491.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 8 at 7:00 p.m.

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE
Cont’d from Page 1

Federation of Transylvanian Saxons cultural exchange program. Another summer activity is ATS Family Day at Waldameer Park and Water World. Join us on July 22 at the Coaster #1 Pavilion during the day for Bingo and Prizes, as well as the beautiful park grounds. Mark your calendars now for these summer events that the ATS plans for you, our members.

Did you know that the first Earth Day was in 1970? Earth Day has a link to the 1960s “hippie” counterculture movement. Besides the long hair and beards, bell-bottom jeans, and flower crowns, the social and political movements, including the civil rights movement and opposition to the Vietnam War, the environmental movement started. A book titled Silent Spring published in 1962 introduced many Americans to the devastating effects of the large-scale use of pesticides, especially DDT. As the decade continued, more and more people became aware of other threats to the environment, such as automobile emissions, oil spills and industrial waste. Despite the awareness, environmental activists hadn’t yet come together as a true movement. Democratic Senator Gaylord Nelson from Wisconsin learned about anti-war “teach-ins” that were held on college campuses in the mid-1960s. Although these teach-ins had been abandoned as an anti-war tactic, Nelson announced in 1969 that he was planning a nationwide teach-in on the environment for the following spring. Nelson hired Denis Hayes, a 25 year-old, as national coordinator of the Environmental Teach-In, as Earth Day was originally known as. Hayes recruited a small staff of volunteers, many of them college students, to coordinate various events around the country. The first Earth Day took place on April 22, 1970, with more than 12,000 events scattered across the country and attended by an estimated 20 million Americans. In 1990, Earth Day went global, with 140 nations participating. Today, the Earth Day Network collaborates with more than 17,000 partners and organizations in 174 countries, making it “the largest secular civic event in the world”. Until next time.....

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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, MAY 3, 2023	FRIDAY, MAY 12, 2023
WEDNESDAY, MAY 17, 2023	FRIDAY, MAY 26, 2023
WEDNESDAY, MAY 31, 2023	FRIDAY, JUNE 9, 2023

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

BRANCH 4, CLEVELAND
By Joan Miller-Malue

Branch 4 is teaming up with other fraternal organizations to help fight hunger in North East Ohio by collecting non-perishable food items for the Greater Cleveland Food Bank. We are asking our members to bring donated items to our next meeting that will be held on Monday, May 15 at 7:00 p.m. Sadly to say that many hardworking people are facing the hardship of feeding their families. In North East Ohio 1 in 6 people struggle to put food on their table. Suggested needed items include peanut butter, canned meats, canned soup, canned vegetables, pasta (preferable whole grain and rice (preferable brown rice), etc. Your kindness and generosity in donations of non-perishable food items can make a difference.

The Cleveland Saxon Dance Group is preparing for their Annual Trachtenball that will be held on Saturday, May 13th. Doors open at 5:30 and a Schnitzel dinner will be served at 6 p.m. They are asking folks to dress in their Trachts to participate in the Aufmarsch. Performances by the adult and children Dance Groups will follow. The Youngtown Saxon Brass Band will play for the evening dance. Prepaid tickets are \$25 for adults and \$12 for children age 10 and under.

To make reservations go on-line to the Cleveland Saxon Dance Group's Facebook page and make payment through Cheddar Up or send a check made payable to Cleveland Saxon Dance Group to Christine Roppelt, 8905 Fernhill Ave., Parma OH 44129. The Dance Group works hard to promote our Transylvanian culture. Let's show our appreciation by supporting the group by attending their events.

There is still time to join the Saxon 250 Club. The cost is \$50 for the year. A person does not need to be a member of Branch 1 or 4. Any adult age 18 and over is eligible to join. A drawing for \$25 will be awarded for 50 weeks with a special drawing of \$100 at the end of week 25. At the year end banquet 12 prizes will be awarded with the top prize of \$1000. You do not need to be present at the banquet to be a winner. Profits from this fundraiser helps to defray expenses of the Sachsenheim. If you wish to become a member, send a \$50 check made payable to the Saxon 250 Club to Stephanie Miller, 23500 Wingedfoot Dr. Westlake, OH 44145. If you have any questions you can send an email to Saxon250club@gmail.com. We thank you for your support.

BRANCH 30, YOUNGSTOWN
By Rosemarie Kascher

Upcoming events at the Youngstown Saxon Club:
May 14, 2023 Reservations for Mothers' Day Brunch in by May 5, 2023 by Kravitz; discount including tax and tips, \$29.95, children 5-12 yrs. old \$16.50, under 4 yrs, free
May 15, 2023 Officers Meeting @ 5:30 p.m.
May 21, 2023 General Meeting @ 2:00 p.m.
June 25-30, 2023 Saxon Summer Camp for the Youth
July 7-8, 2023 Heimattag, New Castle
July 9, 2023 Saxon Day Picnic with Austrian guest musicians

We welcome Mark Cole as a new member.
A highly qualified language teacher has volunteered to start German language classes at the Youngstown Club. If you are interested, at any age, to learn or improve your German language, not the Saxon dialects, please notify Rosemarie Zarny 2158 Cranbrook Dr., Youngstown OH 44511, 330-792-0388.
Thanks to those who made the Goulash Dinner such a success, especially Michelle Eberth for the delicious meal.

Our woman of the year is Chris Fotiuk and man of the year is Harry Clay, two members we respect and admire.
A box has been set up to receive contributions to the local food banks; please contribute items of your choice.
Students who want to earn two hours of credit both at their high school or at YSU for community service, are invited to apply at our office for experience, work at the Youngstown Saxon Club. This helps both ways.
Happy Springtime to all!

SAXON SUMMER CAMP

Ages 7 - 15

June 25 - 30, 2023

CAMP FREDERICK
ROGERS, OHIO



Summer is rapidly approaching and the ATS Youth Activities Committee is once again sponsoring Saxon Summer Camp, for our Junior Members and friends, ages 7 - 15, the opportunity to spend a week together in fellowship. We are offering four camp programs for the different ages. The programs are designed to allow campers to continue to grow, every time they move to a new age group, the type and level of activities increase to meet the needs of that age group.

New Adventurers – Completed K-2nd Grade Songs, creek stomping, hiking, swimming, crafts, discovery time, camp fires and more.

Cost: ATS Junior Member \$150 and \$350 for non-member children

Discoverers – Completed 3rd- 4th Grade Traditional camp activities plus climbing tower and archery.

Cost: ATS Junior Member is \$170 and \$370 for non-member children

Journeyers – Completed 5th – 6th Grade Includes traditional camp activities plus canoeing, high rope courses and zip line.

Cost: ATS Junior Member is \$225 and \$425 for non-member children

Ultimate Challenge – Completed 7th – 9th Grade Includes camping out at Ohiopyle, PA, go whitewater rafting and caving at Laurel Caverns.

Cost: ATS Junior Member is \$295 and \$495 for non-member children

The one-week camp will be held at Camp Frederick, a beautiful camp located in Rogers, Ohio on 144 acres of forest, rambling streams, rolling hills, glacial rocks and meadows. Camp Frederick is an organized camp center located at the Ohio, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia borders. The camp is located 1 ½ miles east of Rogers, Ohio off SR 154. The address is 6996 Millrock Road. The camp is staffed with trained and experienced counselors.

At Camp Frederick, our campers will be housed in cabins which accommodate eight persons.

One evening will be devoted to Saxon folk dancing and folklore.

We welcome our members to bring along one friend who is not a member. Also, ATS members may send their children or grandchildren (who are not yet ATS members) to the camp at the non-member cost. Each camper will receive a free Saxon Summer Camp T-shirt.

If you wish to attend please complete the Registration Form and send it along with a \$100.00 deposit for ATS Junior Members and \$150.00 for non-member children to the ATS Home Office by May 1, 2023. Upon receipt of your registration fee we will send you a Camper's Health Examination Form and Personal Information Form that must be completed by you and returned to this Office by June 1, 2023, along with the balance of your camp fee. We will mail you a map and detailed information as to arrival and departure times, and what to bring along.

SAXON SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____ Sex _____ Age _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Tele. No. () _____ Member Br. No. _____ ATS Cert. No. _____

☐ Enclosed is an ATS Registration Form & deposit of \$100.00 for myself

☐ Enclosed is a Registration Form for my non-member friend and deposit of \$150.00

Friend's Name _____ Age _____

This Form and deposit must be received at the ATS Home Office by May 1, 2023.

Balance will be due by June 1, 2023.

Make check payable to ATS (Alliance of Transylvanian Saxons)

Mail Check and Form to: ATS, 5323 Pearl Road, Cleveland, Ohio 44129-1503

Signature of Parent or Guardian _____

Green with envy...or
spiritual perfection?

The lovely greens of spring are emerging, lifting the spirit as they chase away winter.

Green is a color with a lot of meaning. Among them: envy, nausea, life, nature, wealth, politics.

But how about spirituality?

The Prophet Muhammad's favorite color was green. He wore a green cloak and turban. The Quran describes paradise as a place where people wear green garments.

Confucius believed that green jade represented 11 virtues, including music, intelligence and benevolence.

In ancient Egypt, the god Osiris was often painted with green skin. He was the lord of death and fertility.

SALEM SAXON RETIREES
By Norma Byers

The Salem Saxon Retirees met on a beautiful April 5th at the club with 25 present.

President Lois Whitacre called us to order and Tony Rothbrust gave the invocation after which we recited the Pledge of Allegiance to our beautiful flag. I do believe the Easter Bunny was already there! Our delicious lunch was served by our caterers, Bev and helper, of two kinds of salad, Broccoli and cauliflower and the other was a pasta salad, very yummy. For dessert we had our choice of 2 kinds of cakes!

Our secretary, Dianne Kuttler read the minutes and Katie Lederle gave the financial report.

We had one birthday, Dianne Kuttler, so we sang Happy Birthday to her. Our vice-president, Dora Lee Sandoe conducted the 50-50 drawing and it was won by Morry Johnston.

We were all happy to welcome Helen Aeling with her "Humor by Helen". Thanks Helen!

We then stood and said The Lord's Prayer.

Tony got the Bingo out and we all were happy for that! Thanks Tony!

Enjoy this warm weather as I'm not certain how long we may have it. Please take care of yourselves, stay well and I'll see you on May 3rd. TOODLE-OO!

FRATERNAL CALENDAR

NATIONAL EVENTS

May 20, 2023
Branch Presidents Meeting - Host - Salem

June 10, 2023
66th Bowlers Convention Host Cleveland West

June 25 - 30, 2023
Saxon Summer Camp
Camp Frederick in Rogers, OH

July 7 - 8, 2023
North American Heimattag
Host: New Castle Branch 25

July 22, 2023
ATS Family Day
Waldameer Park, Erie PA

October 21 - 22, 2023
ATS Open Bowling Tournament
Host : Merrillville, IN

LOCAL EVENTS

May 7, 2023
Cleveland East Br. 33 Membership Banquet

May 13, 2023
Cleveland Saxon Dance Group Trachtenball

July 9, 2023
Youngstown Br. 30
Saxon Day Picnic
with Traun Austria Cultural Group

July 10, 2023
Cleveland West - Traun Austria Cultural Group
Dinner and Concert

July 12, 2023
Salem - Traun Austria Cultural Group
Dinner and Concert

July 13, 2023
Detroit - Traun Austria Cultural Group
Dinner and Concert

July 23, 2023
Chicago Br. 9 Annual Picnic, Morton Grove IL

August 26, 2023
Cleveland Sachsenheim Summer Oktoberfest

September 19, 2023
Chicago Br. 9 Banquet, Lone Tree Manor

October 14, 2023
Cleveland Saxon Dance Group Traubenfest

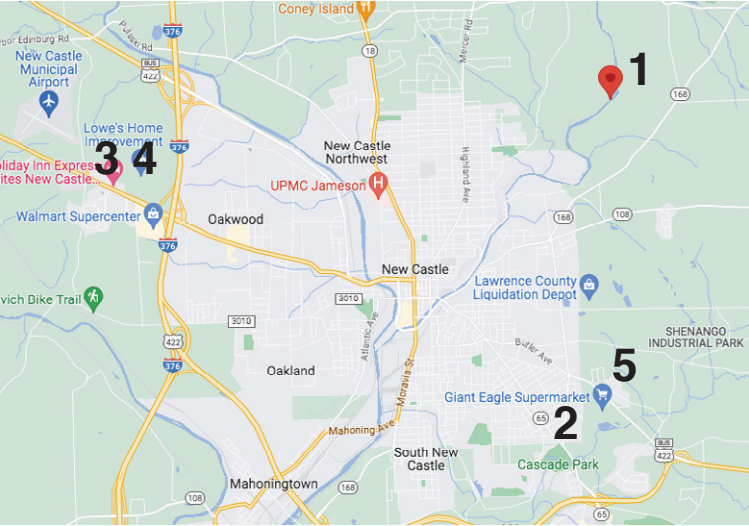
October 27, 2023
Cleveland West Children’s Halloween Party

November 12, 2023
Cleveland West Veterans Day Dinner

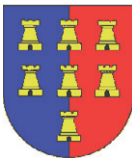
December 2, 2023
Cleveland West Sausage Sale

December 16, 2023
Cleveland West Children’s Christmas Party

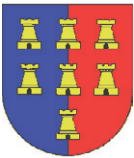
December 17, 2023
Chicago Br. 9 Christmas Party



- 1. Eintracht Picnic Grounds
- 2. Cascade Park
- 3. Holiday Inn Express
- 4. Hampton Inn & Suites
- 5. Quality Inn New Castle



2023 SAXON HEIMATTAG RESERVATION FORM
July 7 – 8, 2023
New Castle, Pennsylvania
Host: ATS Branch 25 - Eintracht Singing Society



	Ticket Price	Number Tickets	Total
FRIDAY EVENING (Food served 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.)			
Eintracht Picnic Grounds			
586 McKee Crossing Rd.	Adults \$20	x _____	\$ _____
New Castle, PA 16101	Free for Children		
Barbecue, Food, Music and Fun!	Ages 12 & Under	x _____	

SATURDAY LUNCH (12:00 – 1:00 p.m.)			
Cascade Park			
1928 E. Washington St.	Adults \$20	x _____	\$ _____
New Castle, PA 16101	Vegetarian \$20	x _____	\$ _____
Ham/Turkey Sandwich & Salad Buffet	Free for Children		
Vegetarian option: Grilled Veggie Wrap	Ages 12 & Under	x _____	
Church Service, Lunch, Cultural performances all afternoon			

SATURDAY DINNER (6:00 p.m.)			
Cascade Park			
Schnitzel & Bratwurst Buffet Dinner	Adults \$40	x _____	\$ _____
Vegetarian option: Eggplant with Ricotta	Vegetarian \$40	x _____	\$ _____
Cultural performances &	Free for Children		
Dancing to Trachtenkapelle Traun	Ages 12 & Under	x _____	

GRAND TOTAL \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____ Phone Number _____

_____ Email _____

Prepaid Reservations Only

Deadline for Reservations: June 20, 2023

All tickets will be held at the door

Mail reservation form and checks (US currency only) to:
Alliance of Transylvanian Saxons 5323 Pearl Rd. Cleveland, OH 44129
Phone: (440) 842-8442 Fax: (440) 842-5442
Email: Office@ATSaxons.com



Credit card number _____ (\$25 minimum)
Expiration ____/____ Security Code _____ Billing Zip _____

Heimattag Hotels

Holiday Inn Express
2732 W. State Street
New Castle, PA 16101
(724) 714-0000 or
IHG Callcenter at (877) 424-2449
Group Block: Eintracht Group
Deadline for discounted rate is June 6
2 Queen Beds - \$135 + tax per night
1 King Bed - \$130 + tax per night
Smoke Free Hotel
Breakfast included
Indoor Pool

Hampton Inn & Suites
2608 W. State Street
New Castle, PA 16101
(724) 656-0000
Group Block: Eintracht Group
Deadline for discounted rate is June 6
2 Queen Beds - \$135 + tax per night
King Bed - \$130 + tax per night
Smoke Free Hotel
Breakfast included
Indoor Pool

Quality Inn New Castle
1740 New Butler Road
New Castle, PA 16101
(724) 658-7700
Group Block: Eintracht Group
Deadline for discounted rate is June 6
2 Queen Beds - \$104.49 + tax per night
1 King Bed - \$104.49 + tax per night
Smoke Free Hotel
Breakfast included





CHURCHES

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

10:00 Service
Nursery
Coffee following service
Senior Circle



Cinco de Mayo draws revelers

Everyone loves a party, and the celebration of Cinco de Mayo has captured the imaginations of Americans, if not all of Mexico.

Cinco de Mayo celebrates the Battle of Puebla on May 5, 1862, when Mexican forces under General Ignacio Zaragoza won a dramatic victory over Napoleon III's French Army. The forces of Napoleon III foolishly marched 6,000 soldiers from the coast toward Mexico City. The route took them to the city of Puebla de Zaragoza, where the French general ordered a direct assault up a steep hill. But the Mexican army had fortified the hill with a ditch and brick wall, and with a force of just 2,000 soldiers, killed 1,000 French soldiers and forced the surviving French troops to retreat. The French returned in 1863 and took Puebla, but in 1867, the Mexican army retook the city and ended European domination of Mexico.

The battles were historically significant, but Cinco de Mayo is mainly celebrated in the state of Puebla today.

Meanwhile, in the U.S., Cinco de Mayo is usually expanded to two days and may include parties, parades, and plenty of decorated bars.

BRANCH 27, NEW CASTLE By Dolores Both

It was a beautiful spring evening when our president, Judy Both, called our meeting to order and led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. All officers were present at roll call. Copies of the minutes from the March meeting were distributed and read. The Treasurer's and Financial Secretary's reports were accepted as read.

Mothers' Day: Soni's at 3208 Wilmington Road is reserved for May 4 at 6:00 p.m. We will have a pasta buffet. The buffet is \$16.95 per person; members will pay \$10.00 towards the cost of the meal and guests will pay full price. If you haven't made your reservation yet, call Judy Both at (724) 654-0573 before April 27. Reservations are limited. Checks are to be made out to Saxon Ladies Branch 27.

The renovations of the meeting room at the Eintracht are not finished and Judy will check with Tom Stoops, president of Branch 25, regarding the renovations and costs.

Cultural Committee: Judy distributed a Saxon Word Search game that we could work on in our spare time. A fun challenge for all. We will be looking for ideas to promote the Transylvania culture. Many of our older members have passed away and it's important to preserve the traditions before they are lost.

New Business: A suggestion was made for all groups within the club to work together to plan the kids Christmas Party. This will be explored further. The idea of everyone getting together to

work towards a common goal generated much interest.

Charity and Community Involvement: Since April is Sexual Assault Awareness month, our members brought many items to donate to ARISE, the women's shelter. Judy will take these items to the shelter. We will be participating in the American Fraternal Alliance's Fraternal Food Drive this May. Those attending the May meeting are encouraged to bring one of the items listed to donate to the City Rescue Mission's Family Care Ministry: new socks, body wash, bar soap, bath towels, wash cloths, #10 cans of fruit, vegetables, spaghetti sauce, jeans (waist 30-38), boxer briefs, and solid color book bags.

Membership cards have been distributed to paid-up members. It is important to have more full members than social members. To become a full member you need to invest in an annuity or take out an ATS insurance policy. Contact Marie Benedict (724) 667-7395.

Thank you to Sherri Fenske for donating the beautiful Easter arrangement as our door prize which was won by Judy Both. Katie Hudak brought in a jar filled with chocolate Easter eggs. We all wrote down our guess of how many eggs were in the jar and Dolores Both won by guessing 68 eggs and there were 81 in the jar. I must say a chocolate egg a day keeps the doctor away!

Don't forget to let Judy know you're coming to our Mothers' Day Dinner on May 4. We look forward to seeing you.



Branch 27 donations to ARISE



BRANCH 26, MERRILLVILLE By Helen Brooks

On Sunday, April 2, 2023, Saxon Lodge Branch 26 held its meeting. President Jeff Szostek called the meeting to order and we said the pledge to the flag. Roll Call of Officers had several absences due to illness. All reports were given and approved and accepted.

We were informed that Marty Smith is ill at home and his wife Jackie is caring for him. Our prayers go out to them. Also Willard and Ethel Schuffert are ill and we pray they get well soon.

Jason Smith said that there would be more information on the bowling tournament since we will be sponsoring it.

Erika Sumichrast was visiting from Nevada. We also were pleased to have Regina Rempier and her daughter and son-in-law with us.

The raffle was won by lucky Regina Rempier and attendance was won by Marty Varney. We enjoyed an evening of joyous friendship.

Happy Easter to all! Christ is Risen. He is Risen indeed.

God bless all!
Till we meet again.

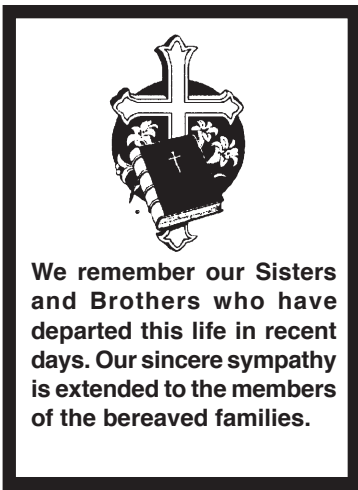
Tomorrow is the busiest day of the week.

BRANCHES 14 AND 17, CANTON By Cheryl Schnebelen

Well, spring in Ohio has always been interesting so I suppose we should be used to having winter one day and summer the next.

We hope everyone is doing well and will be able to attend our next luncheon meeting on Sunday, May 7, at 1:00. We are still meeting at Meyers Landing Bar and Grill in Meyers Lake Plaza between Big Lots and the barber shop, and continue to offer help to any current, past, or direct descendants of the ladies lodge who are in need of financial assistance. 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 join us for our next meeting at Meyers Landing on Sunday, May 7, at 1:00.



Barbara J. Huffman
Age 80
Died: February 22, 2023
Branch 30, Youngstown, OH

Linda M. Jones
Age 70
Died: April 1, 2023
Branch 30, Youngstown, OH

Martin Smith
Age 95
Died: April 7, 2023
Branch 26, Merrillville, IN

George Turk, Jr.
Age 76
Died: April 11, 2023
Branch 1, Cleveland, OH

Donald S. Weber
Age 92
Died: April 15, 2023
Branch 33, Cleveland, OH

Karen Gazdich
Age 80
Died: April 16, 2023
Branch 26, Merrillville, IN



FDA proposes new salt substitute rule

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration is proposing a new rule to allow the use of salt substitutes in everyday foods, such as cheese or canned tuna, in an effort to reduce salt consumption among Americans, according to Kaiser Health News. Excessive salt consumption is linked to high blood pressure and a variety of cardiovascular complications.

BRANCH 10, COLUMBUS
By Donald Blum

MONTHLY MEETING

HICKORY HOUSE

550 Officenter Place
Gahanna, Ohio 43230
May 15, 2023
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.

HEIMATTAG

North American Heimattag
New Castle, PA.
July 7-8

Christine Oehlman and Olga Hesch are coordinating the arrangements for the event, lodging and travel.

PRAYERS

Please keep long time ATS member, Paul Schaible, in your prayers. Paul is facing physical challenges. We wish him the best. Paul's family was founding members of Martin Luther Church in Columbus.

Please keep President Mike Roth in your prayers. Mike is home recuperating from shoulder surgery. We wish him a speedy and complete recovery.

CELEBRATIONS

Please join me in wishing Susie Karst (May 23), Jill Blum (May 24), George Lassel (May 29) a very happy birthday. Alles Gute zum Geburtstag!

HUMOR

A mother was preparing pancakes for her sons, Kevin 5 and Ryan 3. The boys began to argue over who would get the first pancake. Their mother saw a teaching opportunity for a moral lesson. If Jesus were sitting here, He would say, "Let my brother have the first pancake, I can wait." Kevin turned to his younger brother and said, "Ryan, you be Jesus."

FACEBOOK PAGE

REACHED A MILESTONE-WE NOW HAVE 150 FACEBOOK GROUP MEMBERS!

Alliance of Transylvanian Saxons, Columbus Branch 10 (Facebook Group)

Please invite people to join our Facebook Group, that is open to all people interested in sharing or reading about our Saxon Heritage. We will continue to modify and improve the Facebook page as needed. While we welcome you to join the Columbus Branch 10, you do not need to be a member to join the Facebook Group. 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 (donaldblum@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. We encourage you to spread the word about our group.

HISTORY/HERITAGE

We are going to look at some of the lives of ATS members and where their stories began in Transylvania over the next several Volksblatt issues. The fun thing about this is I am learning a lot about Transylvania through the individuals' stories and just telling you. I will give credit to the people and their stories, as they have either already written the stories or are just telling me their stories. I am excited to tell you their travels in life from their beginnings in Transylvania.

The first town we will discuss is **Rode** (now known as Zagar). Hans Duerr actually wrote a book about his family and Rode. Also, he submitted his story and information to ATS to be part of the upcoming book put together by ATS. He has graciously provided a summary of the information for the Volksblatt article to me. When ATS has completed the publication of the assembly of the ATS members stories I am sure you will want to get a copy. Look for information on the book in this issue of the Volksblatt.

The stories may be similar to other towns of Transylvania and just the name will be different. As with many Saxons the journey to get to America may not have been easy and included many turns along the way.

RODE

By Hans Duerr

"The village of Rode is one of literally hundreds such small towns dotting the landscape of Transylvania. As is the case in Germany, the "motherland," there are villages located every two to three miles from another, and, much to my surprise,

I found two such places called Ober (Upper) Rode und Unter (Lower) Rode there.

This underscores the kinship and heritage of Siebenbürgen with the Germanic Countries.

If you want to locate Rode on a map you have to look north of Hermannstadt to the vicinity of Mediasch, the nearest larger town.

There, between the Small and Large Kokel Rivers the village is nestled in a valley surrounded by rather steep rolling hills. These hills were once covered with vineyards, while others were used as pastures for the herds of sheep tended by Romanian shepherds.

Rode, also called "Zagor" in Hungarian, is first mentioned in a royal document of King Sigismund of Hungary in 1412. The village itself, it is believed, is probably a Century older, along with some other neighboring communities. The first document mentioning a citizen of Rode by name (George Plebanus, pastor) dates back to 1497, and my uncle's name, Ordoesch appears as early as 1666 along with other names still in existence today. In 1592 the community commissioned a church bell with the inscription "Des Herrn Wort bleibt in Ewigkeit (The lord's word is forever), while the present church with its surrounding bulwark was erected 1783-84. In 1793 a Roder judge with my name, Johann Dürr issued a decision in a land dispute, and a census document of 1857 lists the population as 1282 souls: 1071 Saxons, 127 Romanians and 84 others, probably Gypsies. And this, in essence, is where the population stood when we left in 1944.

Relatively isolated from the world, Rode and other small Saxon communities had not experienced the modernization found in the cities. Rural electrification had not yet taken place, and there was no powered farm machinery with the exception of steam powered threshers or mills. The work in the family vineyards and fields was performed by manual and animal labor and ranged the entire gamut of related activities as well. From plowing, sewing, harvesting, butchering to spinning and making clothes, these activities engaged the entire family as young and old did their part. Additionally, the community maintained common property and supported the church, school, pastor and teachers. The church, in particular, was of central significance. It, along with the school, was the glue that held the community together and assured the maintenance and continuance of the German language and Saxon traditions. Pastors and teachers were well educated, sometimes abroad, and were treated as 'respect persons.' More often than not they participated in the governance of the village along with the elected mayor and elders. Additionally,



Photos of Rode

the village was organized into neighborhoods, where people looked out for and supported each other beyond the immediate family.

Unlike in America, where the typical farmstead sits in isolation surrounded by fields, Saxon farmsteads are in a row side by side in the village. The main house with living quarters fronts the street, with stalls, hay barn, implement sheds, gardens, brick baking oven and water well arrayed behind, often in a square around a barn yard. The entrance to this yard was through a large door or gate which permitted access by farm machinery and wagons. The wine cellars were under the main house, reachable from outside. I was born into such a house, No. 12 in Rode.

A small, treasured photo of my father holding me as a baby was taken by a German soldier in our house. The German troops had been quartered in our village on their way to the oil fields of Ploiesti and the Caucasus, strategic targets for the Germans in their southern offensive against Russia. Little did we, or they know, that two years later this once

proud German Army would come through Transylvania again, this time in the opposite direction, pursued by Stalin's Red Hordes.

But in the meantime, life in Rode continued as it had for centuries. Isolated and tradition-bound, it lay far from the hustle and bustle of the cities and was initially unaffected by the upheaval to come. Only when horses were confiscated by the Romanian government and men drafted for the war, did the reality sink in.

As my grandparents and others have told me, life in Rode was good, albeit hard.

But they were used to manual farm labor and enjoyed tending to their fields and vineyards during the growing seasons. During the winter men brought in fire wood from the forest, and women gathered in neighbors houses in spinning and embroidering circles. Weddings were traditionally held during winter time and lasting for days, provided merriment for young and old.

This idyllic life came to an end on the sixth of

Cont'd on Page 7



Trachtenball

Westside Sachsenheim
7001 Denison Avenue
Cleveland, OH

Saturday, May 13, 2023

Doors open at 5:30 p.m.

Schnitzel Dinner served at 6:00 p.m.

Your hosts and performers are
CLEVELAND SAXON DANCE GROUP
ADULT AND CHILDREN'S GROUPS

Dress in Tracht and help us perform the AUFMARSCH

Dance the night away to
THE YOUNGSTOWN SAXON BRASS BAND

Reserve tickets online at
<https://trachtenball-may-13-2023.reservations.cheddarup.com>

Make checks payable to:
The Cleveland Saxon Dance Group

Adults \$25.00 Children ages 4-10 \$12.00

Send to: Christine Roppelt
8905 Fernhill Avenue Parma, Ohio 44129
OR CALL 216-773-9375:
Please leave name and return phone number
Meal tickets will be held at the door.
Deadline for reservations is May 5, 2023

Adult tickets @ \$25.00 per ticket _____

Child tickets at \$ 10.00 per ticket _____

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

I would like to sit with the following people _____



BRANCH 10 Cont'd from Page 6

September 1944. On this day German troops heading west suddenly roared through the area and a fire fight ensued between them and Romanian police and soldiers. While artillery fire rained down on the village from surrounding hills, the Roders, interrupted in their daily activities, frantically ran about, trying to figure out what was happening."

Hans provides a summary of his home town of Rode, Transylvania. It is a teaser to a more complete story that Hans has submitted and will be published by the ATS, when ATS reviews the stories of many Saxons from Transylvania. So in order to get Hans' and many other Saxons stories you will definitely want to purchase the book when it becomes available.

As I talked with Hans about his history and heritage he told me of something remarkable that he has done. Hans has published a book on his family history and heritage. As the children in the family reach an age where they can appreciate the rich heritage that get a copy of the book.

Hans visited Rode in 2002. He has included pictures of the church/school, the landscape of the town and him standing in from of the home where he lived.

I am sure that every Saxon family would have liked to have captured their family experiences and history in order to pass it along to future Saxon family members. If you have someone in your family that can pass along this information, it would be invaluable in preserving Saxon and your family history. Don't stop doing this to preserve our heritage.

I want to extend my gratitude to Hans for sharing this part of his family history.

May 11 again at Eat & Park at 12 Noon. Here's hoping to see everyone. If the date, place or time changes, Diana will give up all a call. She promised to be there and we are holding her to that. Thanks to Rosemarie for all her help..much appreciated.

Stay safe everyone—and healthy. This month we have wind and rain, but May brings sun, flowers, smiles and happiness.

Till we meet again—as usual it's RO.

ATTENTION:

Members Cleveland East Branch 33 2023-2024 Application for Scholarship/Reimbursement College Expenses

Branch 33 members who are newly entering or continuing college (undergraduate studies only) are invited to apply for a Freshman (\$1,000) or Sophomore/Junior/Senior (\$500) scholarship for the 2022-2023 academic year. IT IS THE MEMBER'S RESPONSIBILITY to call or write to REQUEST an application.

DEADLINE IS May 30, 2023.

Here are the eligibility requirements, i.e. the RULES.

1. At least one parent or guardian or grandparent of the applicant must be a member in good standing of ATS Branch 33 for the past two (2) years.
2. Scholarship applicants must be a member in good standing of ATS Branch 33 for the past two (2) years, having transferred from Junior/Juvenile status to Active/Adult i.e. local dues paying status.
3. Freshman: High School accumulative GPA minimum 2.0
4. Upperclassman: College accumulative GPA minimum 2.5

Branch 33 members attending college for undergraduate studies can request an application by mailing in the form below or via e-mail to Karyn Schmidt at mbks26@gmail.com.

Questions call Karyn at (216) 382-7397.

Application Request for Branch 33 College Scholarship/Reimbursement

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

College/University: _____

Year: circle one

Freshman Sophomore Junior Senior

Parent/Guardian/Grandparent Name: _____

DEADLINE IS May 30, 2023:

Mail to: Karyn Schmidt
4979 Anderson Road, Lyndhurst OH 44124

YOUNGSTOWN SAXON RETIREES

By Ro Dundon

On April 13th we met at Eat & Park in Austintown. It was the first time we got together since December 2022.

Since our off time we have had some sad news. Marge Teutsch lost her husband Michael. He was so devoted to family, Church and the Saxon Club and he was known by all. Mike will be missed by all. Sundays, Wednesdays and Fridays will not be the same without Mike and Marge at the club.

Roger Bartscher passed on in March. He was a most kind and thoughtful Gentleman. He will be sadly missed by Lisa Scott and most certainly by all of us.

Marge and Lisa, you have our sincere sympathy. They will both be remembered.

Our President Diana Kommel has been under the weather for sometime. After a hospital stay and into physical therapy she is back home and doing well.

Eileen informed us she has a serious problem. We will be praying for her.

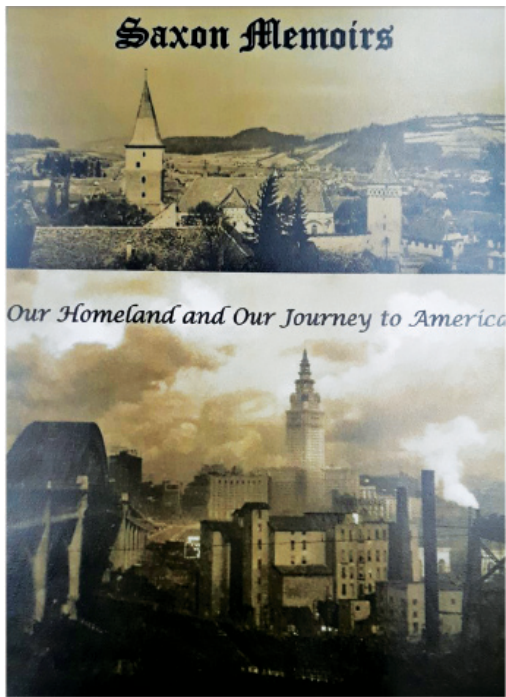
We missed wishing a Happy Birthday to Rosemarie and to Barry. I'd sing Happy Birthday to them but...I've

been told I can't carry a tune so they lucked out. Instead I do wish you had or will have a very Happy Day and many, many more.

The Club's Presidents Night was a success and well attended. The Woman of the Year was Chrissy Fotiuk. It was an honor she truly deserved. She has been a real asset to the club, always there when she was needed no matter what. Man of the Year was Harry Clay who really deserved this honor. When anything goes amuck, Harry is called—and is sure to be there. Congratulations to both.

Easter came and went. I hope everyone had a great day with family and or friends or both. Does anyone have any idea how many varieties of jelly beans are on the market? When I was a kid there was one kind—classic then later spicy then licorice. Now they're are speckled, red, jello, rainbow, sparkles, life saver, skittles, starburst, chocolate covered, chocolate filled and just plain chocolate. I didn't buy all of them, but pretty much.

Our next meeting will be



Get your copy of the Saxon Memoirs!

Written by your fellow Saxons.

Copies are \$25 each.

Send checks payable to
ATS

5323 Pearl Road
Cleveland, OH 44129

Call the ATS Home Office at
(440) 842-8442 for
more information.



ATS Summer Fun!

Plan on attending one or more of the events that the
ATS has planned for you this summer!

Details for all events will be in future issues of the Volksblatt.

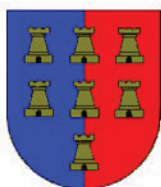
Fun for ALL Ages!



Laying Down: Paige Tellman and Jake Botsch; Kneeling: Lukas Jones, Vala Schobel, Grace Zgola; Back: Adia and Joshua Muntean, Andreas Schobel, Zach Botsch, Grace Botsch, Kori Hall and Anneliese Kirr.

Saxon Summer Camp is back! It is scheduled for **June 25th to June 30th** for our youngsters **ages 7 to 15**. The one-week camp is held at Camp Frederick, a beautiful camp located on 144 acres of forest, rambling streams, rolling hills, glacial rocks and meadows in Rogers, Ohio. Campers are housed in cabins and one evening is devoted to our Transylvanian Saxon culture. Our young ATS members are allowed to bring a friend with them. (Picture from 2016)

NORTH AMERICAN TRANSYLVANIAN SAXON HEIMATTAG



Join us in New Castle, PA on **July 7th & 8th** for the **2023 North American Saxon Heimattag**. Help us share in the celebration of our Transylvanian Saxon Heritage. It will be a time to make and renew friendships with our fellow Saxons from Canada. Our special guests will be the **Trachtenkapelle Traun** group from Traun, Austria.



In case you cannot attend the Heimattag, or if you would like to hear the **Trachtenkapelle Traun** band again, join us for a **Dinner and Concert** at various locations while the band is here.

Monday, July 10 Cleveland Sachsenheim

Wednesday, July 12 Salem Saxon Club

Thursday, July 13 Century Banquet Ctr, Detroit



Join us on **Saturday, July 22** for **ATS Family Day at Waldameer and Water World** in Erie, PA. The Park offers plenty of amusement rides for all ages, as well as lots of water park activities. Bring your picnic basket and cooler and head to Coaster #1 pavilion. The ATS will play Bingo in the afternoon, as well as have a drawing at 5 pm for various prizes. No cost if you do not want to ride the rides. Come and visit with us. Free Parking and easy access to the pavilion.