

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

October 27, 2023

Issue 22

George J. Schemmel, Sr. Past ATS Trustee 1930 - 2023

We sadly report the death of Past ATS Trustee George J. Schemmel, Sr. He died on Sunday, October 8, 2023, at the age of 92.

George was born December 3, 1930 in Detroit, Michigan to Andrew and Regina Schemmel who were both born in Transylvania. He graduated from Detroit High School and continued his studies at the University of Iowa. He married Patricia (Battles) and raised three children, Keith, George and Jean. George had 14 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren at the time of his passing. He was preceded in death by his wife Pat; two children George & Michael (who died as an infant); two brothers Andrew & John; and one sister Regina. He is survived by children Keith and Jean and three sisters Marie, Frieda, and Pauline.

George retired from Detroit Edison where he worked most of his life. He was very active in the Shriner's organization and received the honor and distinction of being selected to the Royal Order of Jesters. He was also a member of the FOPA.

George was a member of ATS Branch 37 in Detroit, where at one time or another served in every office other than Recording Secretary and Treasurer. He was also an ATS Sales Deputy for his Branch for many years.

George joined the ATS 76 years ago in 1947. He was elected to the office of ATS Trustee at the 1989 Convention and served in that position until 2006. George received the Ehren Nadel (Saxon Honor Award) in 1999.

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to his family. The Saxon community has lost a good friend. George loved his family and friends and we were fortunate to have him as a member of our fraternal family. May he rest in peace.

**Bist du ein Sachs,
und sag's mit Stolz?**



George J. Schemmel, Sr.

BRANCH 4, CLEVELAND
By Joan Miller-Malue

We want to thank our Sachsenheim staff for putting on a great Clambake. It was a very enjoyable evening being with family and friends indulging in great tasting food and being entertained by the Gemütlichkeit Cleveländer Musikanten. Kudos to all that helped to make this a memorable event.

Last call for reservations for the Halloween Party that will be held on the Sachsenheim on Friday, October 27 at 7:30 p.m. We will have a Masquerade Parade for judging of costumes and awarding of prizes. *Mom and Dad are encouraged to dress in costume – there will also be prizes awarded for the best adult costumes.* Each child is invited to make a *ghostly* craft, and "Dragonfly Balloons" will entertain us with an Interactive Stage Show and Balloon Sculpting. Refreshments will be served following the entertainment. If you have not made your reservations yet please call or text me at 216-233-8631 or email me at miller-malue@cox.net today. Junior members are free, non-member children \$10 and adults \$4. We also ask that everyone brings a can or box of non-perishable food item that will be donated to a local food bank.

We wish our bowlers a safe and fun trip to Merrillville, Indiana for the ATS Open-Bowling Tournament. This is a great event that lets the ATS members meet up with members from the various cities. It is a weekend of Saxon Gemütlichkeit!



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Denise Aeling Crawford
ATS Nat'l President



On behalf of the ATS Board of Directors, I wish to extend our sympathies to the family of George Schemmel, Sr., former ATS Trustee, who passed away on Sunday, October 8, 2023, at the age of 92. George served on the ATS Board of Directors from 1989 until 2006. He was a great Transylvanian Saxon and will be missed by all who knew him. Please keep his family and friends in your prayers.

Depending on where you live, children will be out Trick or Treating, either this weekend or on Tuesday, October 31st. Please drive carefully during those hours. I hope that the weather stays warm for the little ones in their costumes. If a Branch is hosting a Halloween party, please submit some photos to the Volksblatt so we can all enjoy. Thank you.

Did you know that on October 27, 1858, the future President Theodore Roosevelt was born? Roosevelt was born in New York City to a wealthy family. He was home-schooled and then attended Harvard University, graduating in 1880. He served in the New York state legislature from 1881 to 1884, starting at the age of 23. In 1880, he had married Alice Hathaway Lee. They had a daughter named Alice who was born in February 1884. Two days after the daughter's birth, his wife and his mother died from illness. Struck with grief, he abandoned politics, left the infant with his sister, and moved to the Dakota territories. While there, he raised cattle and acted as the local sheriff. He found time to read and write history books. After a blizzard wiped out his herd of cattle in 1885, Roosevelt returned to the east and to politics. In 1886, he married Edith Carow. They had five children together.

Roosevelt served as U.S. Civil Service Commissioner from 1885 to 1889 in Washington DC, and then as New York City's police commissioner from 1895 to 1897. President William McKinley chose him as assistant secretary of the Navy. When the Spanish-American War broke out in 1898, he signed up for cavalry service, leading a crucial battle at San Juan Heights in Cuba. His quality leadership in the war contributed to his successful campaign to become New York's governor in late 1898. He held that position until 1900 when the Republican Party nominated him to be William McKinley's vice presidential running mate. The campaign was a success, but President McKinley was assassinated less than a year into his second term. When McKinley died eight days after being shot, Roosevelt became the 26th President at the age of 42 and began the first of his two terms in the White House. He was the first president to win reelection after gaining the White House due to the death of his predecessor.

Roosevelt was the first president of the 20th century and was seen by many as the nation's first modern president. He was the first to recognize the poten-

Continued on Page 2

**TIMELY - DO NOT DELAY
MAILED WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2023**

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

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

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE
Cont’d from Page 1

tial impact of the fledgling motion picture industry on the presidency, encouraging filmmakers to document his official duties and trips. He purposely played directly to the camera with huge gestures and thundering speeches. President Roosevelt was known for his strict federal regulation of industries and his passion for environmental conservation. He enforced the Sherman Anti-Trust Act, resulting in the trust busting of powerful monopolies. He pursued increased American diplomatic involvement in Latin America and the construction of the Panama Canal. All this was done in accordance to his trademark motto “speak softly and carry a big stick”.

In 1906, he won the Nobel Peace Prize for brokering a peace treaty between Russia and Japan. He was the first American ever to win a Nobel Prize in any category. In 1906, Roosevelt signed the Act for the Preservation of American Antiquities, giving the President the power to officially declare natural and historic sites situated on government land as national monuments. The larger than life Roosevelt died quietly in his sleep on January 6, 1919 from a coronary embolism at the age of 60. His popularity was so great that he was immortalized along with George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, and Abraham Lincoln in the carvings on Mount Rushmore. Roosevelt’s face was the last to be completed, in 1939. Until next time....

Alliance of Transylvanian Saxons
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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, NOVEMBER 1, 2023	FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2023
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2023	FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2023
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2023	FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8, 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

HELP WANTED

Part Time Office Assistant

The ATS Home office is looking for a candidate with excellent customer service skills, general office knowledge, and experience in billing, mail distribution and data entry.

Candidate must be proficient in Microsoft Excel, Word, Outlook, and be detailed oriented and able to multi-task.

We can offer a competitive salary and flexible schedule. Please email inquiries to office@atsaxons.com

YOUNGSTOWN SAXON CLUB
710 S. Meridian Rd

PORK & KRAUT DINNER
NOVEMBER 19, 2023
11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
\$12.00

TAKE OUT AND EAT-IN
PUBLIC WELCOME

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

Attention
Cleveland West
members:

Due to scheduling
issues the
Sausage Sale
planned for
December 2
has been
cancelled.
A new date
will be announced
at a later time.

BRANCH 30, YOUNGSTOWN
By Rosemarie Kascher

Upcoming events at the Youngstown Saxon Club:
October 27:

Children's Halloween Party 6-8 p.m. in the Ballroom

November 4 : Culture Group sponsored Trachtenball

November 6 : Officers meeting at 5:50 p.m.

November 12 :

Branch meeting with election of officers for 2024

November 19:

Pork/Kraut Dinner 11:30-2 p.m. takeout/Ballroom

December 3: Children's Christmas Party 1:30 p.m.

2024

May 18 & 19: ATS Convention held in Youngstown

In the future, there will be a 3% discount for those who pay cash. 3% fee if paid by credit card. Check if you in the past have used a debit card.

We wish to thank Mike Teutsch, Jr., and the committee for another successful Speck Fry. Thanks so much Mike, for what you do with your knowledge of foods as well as your other numerous talents.

We also wish to thank our other ATS officer, Mike Bachinger, for not only his skills as treasurer but for the many, many things you do for the Youngstown Saxon Club.

Every Saturday morning, we request members to volunteer for help in the maintenance of the building

and property. It's "rake leaves time". So please volunteer on Saturday morning. We start at 9 a.m.

Students who want to earn two credit hours both for high school and YSU for community service are invited to apply at our office. We both are winners this way.

Dues of \$40 for fraternal members are due now. As stated in the constitution all honor members are to pay half price dues, \$20. All dues are to be paid by January 1, 2024. Cash or checks, made out to the Youngstown Saxon Club, can be paid at the club or sent to the financial secretary, Val Thomas at 5947 Tippecanoe Rd, Canfield, OH 44406.

Happy Harvest time!

SALEM
SAXON RETIREES
By Norma Byers

Salem Saxon Retirees met on October 4th with 19 present. Our President welcomed everyone and Tony Rothbrust gave the invocation, and we all followed with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Dora Lee Sandoe sold the 50-50 tickets prior to lunch.

We had a great delicious, 2 course lunch, beginning with a delightful crunchy salad and next came our main course, spaghetti and meatballs, after which we were served yummy white cake or German chocolate cake! Wow! What a lunch!

The 50-50 was held next and I can't imagine it, but I won it! Yea!! \$26.00.

Dianne Kuttler, Secretary, read the minutes from September and Katie Lederle read the financial report.

Nancy Stumperth read the birthdays and some were in attendance: Dorothy Hutmacher, (98) on Sunday, and 2 others: Nina Snyder Wisler and Becky Brimlow! We sang Happy Birthday to them!

Helen Aeling and Nancy Stumperth gave us humor to hold us over until next month!

We ended our meeting by standing and saying the Lord's Prayer.

Tony set up the Bingo and we all had a fun time! (and I did get my second cup of coffee!). Thanks Tony!

Please stay warm and eat healthy and we'll meet again on November 1st at Noon.

TOODLE-OO!

October 28:
Statue of Liberty anniversary

The Statue of Liberty, a gift celebrating freedom and the enduring friendship between France and America, became an American landmark on October 28, 1886. Unveiled in New York Harbor, it was the culmination of 20 years of planning, engineering, and sculpting

The colossal statue itself was designed and its sections built in France. The pedestal and base were built in America. The base on which Liberty stands was the largest cement mass ever poured at the time. Half of the cost was donated by wealthy patrons.

Joseph Pulitzer, publisher of the New York World, organized a campaign to raise the balance. American school children donated their pennies, nickels, and dimes. Ordinary working people contributed the rest.

BRANCH 37, DETROIT
By Trudy Kalvin

Sunday, September 10 was "Speck and Zwiebel" Day at Branch 37. President Susanna Fleischer prepared the Speck with the help of Larry Kracker, the grill master, who grilled it to perfection outside the church on a beautiful, sunny, early autumn Michigan day. A German potato salad, baked beans, watermelon, and of course, the Zwiebel accompanied the Speck,

and was prepared by Debbie Ferguson, Ingrid Weihs Ferguson, and Karin Weihs. Among the 36 attendees were longtime members Mike Krautner (99 years young), and Susanna Krautner (95 years young), pictured below. Although they are not related, they are from the same hometown, Botsch. Also pictured are other members celebrating this day.



Susanna Krautner and Mike Krautner

YOUNGSTOWN SAXON RETIREES
By Ro Dundon

Today we again met at Bob Evans Restaurant in Austintown.

The conversations were lively and informative. Barry has predicted there is a bad, bad winter coming. Maybe we should get out the boots, hats, scarves and heavy coats out just to be prepared.

We hit on plans for our December get together. So far we decided to get together at Ruby Tuesdays in Austintown. The date will be Thursday December 14th unless it changes or weather is not on our side.

Our next meeting will again be in Austintown at Bob Evans, time is 11:30, date is November 9th. Diana will be on the phone to each of us in the event anything changes.

Halloween is coming. Don't forget the Trick and Treaters. I have all the candy ready for them. Problem being we live in a Condo—no Trick or Treaters come around. Good thing I bought

the candy I like—no waste!!

We were happy to see Dom made it. Sorry to say RoseMarie was not able to, but she thinks she will make the next one. Bev and Barb were also missing, as was Lisa. I hope you all know we missed you. Lisa we are praying for you, we miss you very much.

Anyone who would like to join us, please come. November's meeting will be at Bob Evans. You are always welcomed.


Please everyone, do your civic duty and VOTE on November 7th. I should have this report in time to remind all.

Before we closed the meeting I was wished a Happy Birthday by everyone. Social Security and I were born in the same year. Who would have thought we would still be around in 2023?

Stay safe, healthy and warmuntil we meet again

As usual...It's Ro

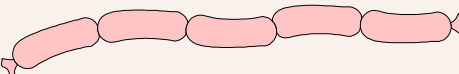



Saxon Sausage Sale
Branch 33 Cleveland East
Annual Wurstmart
Saturday, December 2, 2023

Price is \$4.25 per pound
Available in Garlic / No Garlic
Loose or in casing

Call orders to
Ema Litschel (440) 479-9334
(Order Deadline November 26th)

Pick-up 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
at Messiah Lutheran Church
5200 Mayfield Rd, Lyndhurst Ohio
Half proceeds donated to
local Food Bank



FRATERNAL CALENDAR

NATIONAL EVENTS

October 29, 2023
TSBA Bowling - Cleveland East
November 19, 2023
TSBA Bowling - Cleveland West
December 3, 2023
TSBA Bowling - Lorain
January 14, 2024
TSBA Bowling - New Castle
February 18, 2024
TSBA Bowling - Cleveland East
March 17, 2024
TSBA Bowling - Youngstown
April 6 - 7, 2024
TSBA Season End Tournament - New Castle
May 18 - 19, 2024
ATS Convention
Host: Youngstown, OH
July 12 - 14, 2024
North American Saxon Heimattag
Kitchener, ON Canada
July 27, 2024
ATS Family Day at Waldameer

LOCAL EVENTS

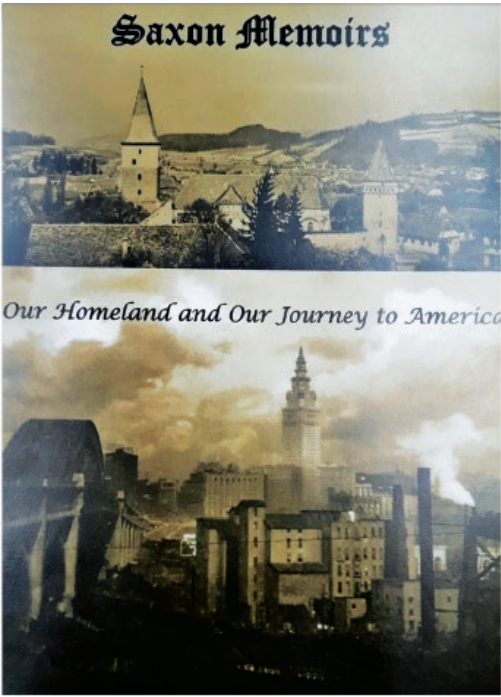
December 2, 2023
Cleveland West Sausage Sale cancelled
Cleveland East Sausage Making and Sale
December 3, 2023
Youngstown Children’s Christmas Party
December 10, 2023
Columbus Br. 10 Christmas Party
Berwick Party House 1 - 4 p.m.
Youngstown Christmas Party
December 16, 2023
Cleveland West Children’s Christmas Party
December 17, 2023
Chicago Br. 9 Christmas Party



Best Halloween candy for 2023

Unlike a pumpkin, you can get Halloween candy early and be prepared, not to mention satisfied. Among the favorites for 2023, according to Country Living, are all the usual delicious suspects including Reese’s Peanut Butter Cups, Mini Snickers, Milky Way mini, Candy Corn, Payday, KitKat, Twix, Butterfingers fun size, Hershey’s snack size, M&Ms fun size, Almond Joy, Reese’s Pieces. Coupon company RetailMeNot surveyed adults in 2022 and gave Reese’s Cups the top ranking, followed by KitKat. But they also found that Starburst and Twizzlers made the cut of the top 10.

In 2021 the top 5 best selling Halloween candy were Skittles, Reese’s cups, Starburst, M&M, and Hot Tamales. Last year, Americans spent \$2.4 billion on 600 million pounds of Halloween candy, according to Git-nux.



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.

BRANCH 27, NEW CASTLE
By Dolores Both

Branch 27 met at Soni’s Restaurant October 5, 2023, at 6:00 for dinner and a meeting. We send our get well wishes to Helen Burick who is recovering from surgery and to Marie Benedict who has been under the weather. Don’t forget to bring your donations for the City Rescue Mission to our November meeting. Needed items are: cranberry sauce, canned gravy, canned yams, canned fruit, canned vegetables, pie filling, pie crust mix, evaporated milk, and stuffing mix. Judy will deliver these items to the mission. Debbie Hermann and Katy Hudak, co-chairwomen of the Children’s Christmas Party, are planning on having a pre-planning meeting with representatives from the singers, the bowlers, and Branch 25 at the end of October. Much enthusiasm and planning is in the air along with candy canes, mistletoe and Santa Claus to make this party a very enjoyable experience for our children. Speaking of Christmas parties, our party is scheduled for December 7 at 6:00 p.m. at the clubhouse in Hunters Woods. The centerpieces are made and Santa’s elves are busy working on the favors at this time. The meal will be catered by the Hill House Restaurant. Members and guests will prepay \$10 to offset the cost of the dinner. Reservations must be

prepaid and received before November 27. Reservation forms are in the mail. Checks should be made payable to Saxon Ladies Branch 27 and sent to Katy Hudak, 4097 County Line Road, New Castle, PA 16101. While you’re thinking about it, don’t forget to include your \$7.00 for 2024 dues. Please be aware that if your dues are not paid, you are not eligible for benefits or club drawings. Dues must be paid by January 1, 2024. Thanks to all the volunteers for peeling potatoes for the German potato salad. The Oktoberfest was a huge success and the potato salad sold out. Judy really had our heads spinning with a Rebus Puzzle to finish our meeting! The winning team was Debbie Hermann and Jane Fishovitz. They took home stainless steel travel mugs. Congratulations! Please note: Thursday, November 2, 6:00 p.m. meeting at Soni’s Restaurant. Bring your donations for the Rescue Mission, Christmas party \$10 pre-payment and 2024 dues. (We will not be meeting in January or February.) Have a frightfully good time on Halloween!

Support yogurt.
It’s the only culture
some people have.

INVITE

your relatives and friends to join the crowd at ATS.

Youngstown Saxon Culture Group celebrates 52nd Annual Trachtenball



Please join us for this unique, cultural experience featuring an authentic homemade Schnitzel Dinner with performances by the following:
Cleveland Deutscher Musik Verein
Cleveland Saxon Dance Groups
Pittsburgh Alpenschuplattler Dance Group
Youngstown Saxon Brass Band

Doors open at 6:00 p.m. ~ Dinner is served at 6:30 p.m.
Saturday, November 4th, 2023
At the Youngstown Saxon Club Ballroom
710 South Meridian Road, Youngstown, Ohio 44512

For Reservations, please call or text:
Robert Bachinger (330) 980-0911 or Mike Bachinger (330) 540-5168
If we don’t answer, please leave a message!
~~~~~  
\$20 Adult - \$12 Children (12 to 6) Under 6 Free  
Tickets will be held at the door. Cash or check only. NO CREDIT CARDS PLEASE





**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**

**What if the  
neighbors  
think you are  
a vampire?**

Pliny the Younger wrote what was the first recorded ghost story in the first century AD. A specter was haunting a house in Athens and it was as scary 2,000 years ago as modern ghost stories are today.

Then, as now, if you see a ghost, or a vampire, or a zombie, and if no one else does, you are considered special, shall we say. But what if your family, friends, and neighbors believe the story? Well, now you have a truly scary situation because the scary stuff is considered the truth.

Scientists are digging up, literally, all sort of evidence of scary beliefs.

In 2015, archaeologists working in Poland began discovering graves of people buried 500 years ago in the fashion of vampires. Two women in their 30s, a man about 40, and an adolescent girl were buried with sickles pinning them into their graves. In the same cemetery, a child, about five years old, was found buried face down with a shackle on his leg. All those techniques were part of the vampire lore of the time, techniques intended to keep the undead from rising. Scientists think the older woman had distinctive protruding teeth, which

**BRANCH 33, CLEVELAND EAST**  
**By Arline Krestel-Suts**

Branch 33's latest meeting was held on October 11 with an attendance of 27. We started the evening with a Halloween pizza party. Thank you to Barb Hum, who brought the pizza and salad, and to bakers, Lisa Deaton and Tony Lattur, who brought Halloween themed pastries. Many members dressed up in Halloween costumes; winners of the costume contest were Henry Hum, in 1st place as Popeye, and for second place a tie- Bob and Pam Bonnett as 1950s

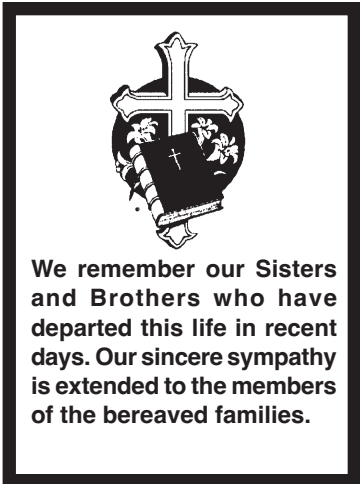
teenyboppers, and Donna Foisel and Holly Prankas as two blind mice.

Branch 33 will be hosting the next ATS regular Bowling session on October 29 at North Woods lanes in Macedonia. Members are invited to come down and visit with the bowlers. Many of our bowlers will be heading to Merrillville Indiana for the open tournament on October 21-22.

We are busy planning for our annual Sausage Sale to be held Saturday,

**Branch 33 October meeting with  
annual Halloween Pizza party.**

Costume parade included 2 Blind Mice - Holly Prankas and Donna Foisel (farmer's wife must've got #3!), Katniss from "Hunger Games"- Mora Ziegler; a Transylvanian ghost- Lucy Deaton; Popeye- Henry Hum; our Queen of Hearts Ema Litschel; Super Mario!- Cindy Schneider; 1950's teen boppers (Danny & Sandy from "Grease"); and Margie Ziegler as an Iron Chef!



**James R. Burnham**  
Age 82  
Died: September 19, 2023  
Branch 30, Youngstown, OH

**Katharina Chen**  
Age 80  
Died: September 26, 2023  
Branch 4, Cleveland, OH

**Robert N. Gelsinger**  
Age 89  
Died: September 29, 2023  
Branch 14, Canton, OH

**George J. Schemmel, Sr.**  
Age 92  
Died: October 8, 2023  
Branch 37, Detroit, MI





**BRANCH 10, COLUMBUS**  
By Donald Blum

**MONTHLY MEETING**  
**HICKORY HOUSE**

550 Officenter Place  
Gahanna, Ohio 43230  
November 20, 2023  
Time 12:00 Noon

Our meetings are the Third (3<sup>rd</sup>) Monday of the month.

We would like to discuss meeting alternatives on November 20th.

**Remember to bring a canned good item, household product or other food item.**

"The generous will themselves be blessed, for they share their food with the poor."

**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. Paul has said that a highlight for him is to continue reading news and stories about various Saxon activities in the Volksblatt.

**SAXON MEMOIRS**

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, Ohio 44129 - Call ATS Home Office at (440) 842-8442 for more information. Must have, Must read Book! - I got my book and it's a good read!

**CELEBRATIONS**

Please join me in wishing Liz Lassel & Marlene Mueller (November 8) and Christine Oehlman (November 15) Happy Birthdays. Alles Gute zum Geburtstag!

**HUMOR**

An engineer dies and reports to the Pearly Gates. Saint Peter checks his dossier and not seeing his name there, accidentally sends him to Hell. It doesn't take long before the engineer becomes rather dissatisfied with the level of comfort in Hell. He soon begins to design and build improvements. Shortly thereafter, Hell has air conditioning, flush toilets and escalators. Needless to say, the engineer is a pretty popular guy.

One day, God calls Satan and says: "So, how are things in Hell?" Satan replies: "Hey, things are going great. We've got air conditioning, flush toilets, and escalators. And there's no telling what this engineer is going to come up with next." "What!" God exclaims: "You've got an engineer? That's a mistake - he should

never have been sent to Hell. Send him to me."

"Not a chance," Satan replies: "I like having an engineer on the staff, and I'm keeping him!"

God insists: "Send him back or I'll sue."

Satan laughs uproariously and answers: "Yeah, right. And where are you going to get a lawyer?"

**FACEBOOK PAGE**

**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 (donaldcblum@prodigy.net), and we will set you up.

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

**CHRISTMAS PARTY NOTICE**

**Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup>**

**Berwick Party House**

**HISTORY OF MARTIN LUTHER CHURCH**

The records indicate that the Martin Luther Evangelical Lutheran Congregation was organized on January 2, 1927, under the leadership of Student George Schuster of the Theological Seminary of Capital University. This information is part of the minutes of the first official gathering of a group of individuals that had a desire to have a church, as well as the beneficial society, which they had organized in its "Sachsenhiem" at 323 Woodrow Avenue.

Okay, this leads us to the heart of this story, Martin Luther Church on Moler and Ann Streets. So how did Martin Luther Church come into existence? What prompted these Transylvanian Saxons to want to start their own church.

On January 23, 1910, The Sieben Buerger Sachsen &

Kranken Unterstuetzungs Verein (Seven Citizens of Saxon Singing & Sick Support Association) was founded. It was created by Transylvanian Saxons. While the heritage of Transylvanian Saxons is traced back to Germany, Transylvanian Saxons had created their own heritage and wanted to celebrate their heritage with other Transylvanian Saxons.

This club/organization/association is traced back to the first building (not much more than a garage at the time) on 323 Woodrow Avenue in the South End. This organization flourished so well that I am assuming someone got the idea that we have this strong organization, why don't we take it a step further.

A bit of historical significance is our current Saxon Club President, Mike Roth, is a direct descendent of the founding fathers of the Saxon Club. Services were conducted at the small building on Woodrow. They decided we should build our own church that celebrates the foundation of Martin Luther's teachings and our own heritage and language. George Schuster, Pastor-Student of Capital Seminary conducted services and was instrumental in the initiative to create Martin Luther Church.

Affiliation with the Joint Synod of Ohio was immediately established and the president of the Western District, Dr. H.J. Schuh, visited often and offered his help and counsel. Student George Schuster graduated from the seminary in June 1927. His installation as pastor took place in the summer of that year.

The aim of the congregation was to build a church home as soon as possible. Four lots were purchased for \$2,100 at the corner of Moler and Ann Streets for this purpose. Plans were drawn for an adequate church building. There was a large amount of interest and membership saw an increase.

Everything was progressing better than expected. Then, the congregation suffered a tremendous setback. Reverend Schuster received and accepted a calling to Greenville, Ohio in September 1928. Many of the 84 members wanted to disband.

We left off the story with the setback of Pastor Schuster accepting a calling to Greenville, Ohio. It was a real dilemma. A few of the 84 members wanted to continue but many wanted to disband the whole idea of creating the church. Thank goodness for the few stubborn Saxons that

wanted to continue. They would convince the group that this was what our Saxon community needed, and that we should not give up on this dream.

The group not only voted to continue but they voted to extend a call to Professor Edward C. Fendt of Capital University to serve the congregation in his 'spare time.' Professor Fendt accepted the call and would serve the congregation as pastor from November 1928 to June 1936.

Groundbreaking ceremonies for the church building were held in January 1929 and the church was dedicated on May 6, 1929. There were 65 members at the church dedication ceremony. I am proud to say that both of my grandparents Blum and Sollner were part of the original congregation, committee and part of the founders of Martin Luther Church.

This small but mighty congregation now had its own church home and it was a day of great joy. From the day of the dedication and until years later the church had Sunday school at 9:00 a.m., English service at 10:00 a.m. and German service at 11:00 a.m. Three years later a church organ was dedicated. It was a Moeller Pipe organ and was purchased and installed on April 10, 1932. This was really the second date of dedication and it meant the completion of the building program.

The total investment in the lots, building and equipment was \$12,000. As hard working Saxons the pastor and congregation wanted to pay off the indebtedness as soon as possible. This plan was realized in 1936. It should be noted that in appreciation of the founders and participants in the building of Martin Luther Church these individuals would have a stained glass pane installed in the windows of the church. I am not sure who all received this designation but, again, I am proud to say the Blum and Sollner

names received a pane in the windows (I have tried to go past the church today and I am sorry to say I think these panes have been removed).

While excited that the church was able to pay off the indebtedness in 1936, the congregation received news that changes were in the making. Reverend Fendt would be called from his professorship of Bible in the college to the professorship of Systematic Theology in the Theological Seminary of Capital University. This change and increased responsibility would necessitate his resignation as the pastor of Martin Luther Church.

As always, Martin Luther Church would prove to be resilient and persevere. The congregation accepted Reverend Fendt's resignation. The church offered student David Fetter, a senior seminary student as a position as interim pastor. Reverend Fendt would remain in a supervisory capacity during David Fetter senior seminary year. David Fetter would become Pastor David Fetter and accept being the pastor of Martin Luther Church on June 13, 1937.

This is where the story of the History of Martin Luther Church pauses today. In the next issue we will see how Martin Luther Church was affected by the Third Wave of Immigration of Transylvanian Saxons to America, from 1949 to 1955. Exciting things are ahead for the church and we look forward to telling you the final story in upcoming issues. Goodbye for now.

This is where we pause the story for today. You will want to see what happened to the Martin Luther Church Congregation in the upcoming article.

In coming Volksblatt articles we will detail how the creation of Martin Luther Church began and how the Third Wave of Immigration of Transylvanian Saxons to America, from 1949 to 1955, affected the church.



**Martin Luther Church**



Weigh the pros and cons before refinancing student loans



It’s hard to get past that student loan bill every month. But should you refinance?

Financial experts are divided on the merits of refinancing.

Notable financial gurus like Dave Ramsey emphasize a holistic approach to debt elimination, prioritizing budget management, increased income, and aggressive repayment strategies. According to Ramsey, the key to freedom lies in strategic budgeting, focusing on higher earnings and paying more than the minimum to expedite debt clearance.

On the flip side, proponents of refinancing argue that it can offer tangible advantages, provided it aligns with individual circumstances. If borrowers can secure lower interest rates, shorter repayment terms, reduced monthly payments, or even the convenience of loan consolidation, then refinancing may prove beneficial.

A lower rate can significantly reduce overall interest payments, saving borrowers substantial money in the long run.

Merging multiple loans into a single loan simplifies repayment, easing the mental load of juggling various payments.

A shorter term may lead to higher monthly payments, but it helps clear debt faster and minimizes interest accumulation.

Refinancing federal loans with a private lender can erase perks like Public Service Loan Forgiveness and income-driven repayment plans.

Some options offer variable interest rates, which can escalate over time and potentially negate any savings.

Eligibility criteria for refinancing may exclude borrowers who are struggling with credit or financial history.

Ultimately, the decision to refinance hinges on individual goals and financial circumstances.

The more I learn, the less I understand.

A black and white line drawing of a smiling witch with curly hair, wearing a pointed hat with a star, and holding a broom. Next to her is a smiling cauldron with a face. Bats are flying in the background around a full moon.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Branch No. \_\_\_\_\_ Cert. No. \_\_\_\_\_

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**Juvenile Members are encouraged to color and mail to the ATS Home Office for a special treat.**

**Please mail to the ATS Home Office; 5323 Pearl Road; Cleveland, OH 44129**

**Before November 6, 2023**

The logo for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, featuring a red silhouette of a child and the text "St. Jude Children's Research Hospital" and "Finding cures. Saving children."

**For each coloring entry the ATS receives, a donation will be sent to St. Jude’s Children’s Research Hospital.**

The beautiful eggplant masquerades as meat or pasta

The eggplant has been known to humans for thousands of years. Until the 12th century, however, its main use was as a table decoration. At that time, it was widely believed that this beautiful member of the nightshade family caused insanity.

All that changed when Thomas Jefferson planted imported eggplants at Monticello. Soon the word was out. The eggplant was a nutritious and versatile ingredient.

Today, we know that this substantial vegetable is high in fiber and a good source of potassium. Unlike most foods used in vegetarian fare, it’s a stick-to-your-ribs addition to any meal. You won’t feel hungry in an hour or two when your main dish features eggplant.

The big purple American variety

is the most popular in the U.S. Chinese eggplant looks more like a purple cucumber; Italian and white varieties are smaller.

Try these tasty dinners.

Meatless steak

Cut the sides off an eggplant and slice into four pieces, 3/4-inch thick. Sprinkle with salt and let stand 20 minutes; rinse and pat dry.

Combine 2 tablespoons olive oil with 1/4 teaspoon Tabasco, and brush on the slices. Place on a baking sheet and bake 15 minutes at 350 degrees, turning once. Then broil 1 minute per side until brown and tender, or grill 7 minutes per side.

Combine 1 tablespoon olive oil, minced garlic, 1 tablespoon balsamic vinegar, 1 teaspoon parsley, and



1 teaspoon fresh rosemary. Brush over cooked eggplant, add salt and pepper, and let stand for 5 minutes.

Eggplant parmigiana

Peel eggplant and cut into half-inch slices. Dip into beaten egg, then flour. Cook in hot oil 4 to 6 minutes, turning once. Drain on paper towels. Return to skillet, sprinkle with Parmesan, top with spaghetti sauce and cheese, and heat until heated through.



# The ATS can help you through the scary times!

When a loved one passes away, it can be a very scary time. How do I live without them? How am I going to pay for the funeral? How am I going to pay the bills without their income? What do I do with all of this paperwork? If you and your family plan ahead for this time, it won't be quite as scary. A life insurance policy can pay for the funeral. An annuity can provide a stream of income for those left behind. In times like this, it is nice to know that you have friends in the ATS. We're here to help you plan for the scary times. We're also here to help you get through them when they happen.



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

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