



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

January 5, 2024

Issue 1

Happy New Year!

Grete Lienert-Zultner:

Nå-Johrs-Wünsch

*Ich bän zwor nooch e klinzich Mänsch,
kån awer dennich uch en Wünsch
za desem nåe Johr.
Ich wänschen Ech, na hirt norr feng:
Dett Johr sil zähmol beßer seng
wä det vergongä wor.
Er silt gesangd seng uch zefridden
En' silt glatt näckest Ich bekridden.
Vertrat dem Härrgott norr ellien,
meer wä et kitt, hie hälft Ich schin.*



TSBA BOWLERS

**NEXT BOWLING SESSION
JANUARY 14, 2024**

**HOSTED BY
NEW CASTLE BOWLERS
TEN PIN ALLEY
3825 E. State Street
Hermitage, PA 16148**

**Luncheon to follow:
SHARON ELKS LODGE #103
260 E. Connelly Blvd.
Sharon, PA 16146**

**Additions or Cancellations by
Tuesday, January 9, 2024 to
Rich Baker at (724) 854-0149**

BRANCH 33, CLEVELAND EAST By Arline Krestel-Suts

Eingutes neues Jahr wünschen wir euch alle! We reflect on the past year, and hope for the best in 2024.

We are sharing some pictures of Branch 33's Christmas party. (See Page 6). We enjoyed celebrating with many regular members, and happy to meet quite a few guests, including Donna Foisel's sister, who came all the way from Wichita, Kansas. The eldest member present was Bette Schmidt; the youngest, only a couple months old, was Madeline, the granddaughter of Mike and Christine Foisel. Everyone enjoyed seeing Santa Claus.

Branch 33's next meeting is on Wednesday, January 10 at Messiah Lutheran Church in Lyndhurst. We start the evening with a sausage and sauerkraut supper at 7 p.m.



**HIGHER ANNUAL
INTEREST YIELD
EFFECTIVE
JANUARY 1, 2024**

4.00%

On Current Annuity and IRAs
issued July 1, 1996 and after

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Denise Aeling Crawford
ATS Nat'l President



I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and New Year's season. It is hard to believe that it is actually 2024 already! Let's make the most of the new beginning.

Now that everyone should have their ATS Date Log calendars, start marking the dates for our events this year. The Transylvanian Saxon International Jugendlager (Youth Rally) will take place in Canada this year. It will start on Friday, July 5 in Kitchener, Ontario and run through Friday, July 19. Five young ATS members aged 16 to 19, along with a group leader will be able to attend, along with participants from Germany, Austria, Transylvania, and Canada. This is a great chance for our younger members to meet life-long Saxon friends from all over the world. All ATS members in this age group should receive information about the event in the mail.

The 108th ATS Convention will be held on Saturday and Sunday, May 18 and 19 in Youngstown, Ohio. Before too long, each Branch will receive instructions on nominating any candidates for positions on the ATS Board of Directors, as well as the number of Delegates that each Branch will be allowed to send to the Convention. Again, there will be a Saxon Handicraft Exhibit at the Convention. You have plenty of time to start and complete a project to enter into the contest.

Saxon Summer Camp will be the week of June 16 at Camp Frederick in Rogers, Ohio. ATS participants age 7 – 15 can hike and swim, sleep in a cabin, as well as plenty of other events. They can bring a friend with them if they way to. The North American Transylvanian Saxon Heimattag will be hosted by Kitchener, Canada this year on Friday through Sunday, July 12 – 14th. Preliminary plans are under way to take a bus so that we will not have to worry about the driving. You will have an opportunity to meet the Jugendlager participants at the Heimattag, as they will be at the celebration. Saturday, July 27th is the annual ATS Family Day at Waldameer Amusement Park and Water World in Erie, PA. If you haven't joined us at ATS Family Day, you're definitely missing out. August 2 – 4 will be the Sachsentreffen in Hermannstadt. The ATS has two busloads of people attending. To round out the year, the ATS Open Bowling Tournament will be held on October 12 – 13, in New Castle, PA.

Did you know that Samuel Morse's telegraph system was demonstrated for the first time on January 6, 1838? According to History.com, Samuel Morse was born in Charlestown, Massachusetts in 1791. He attended Yale University, where he studied philosophy and mathematics, before turning his attention to the arts. He eventually travelled to England in 1811 to study painting. After he returned to the United States, he received commissions to paint portraits of former Presidents John Adams and James Monroe, as well

Continued on Page 2

**TIMELY - DO NOT DELAY
MAILED WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3, 2024**

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as several wealthy merchants in Charleston, SC, and a series of allegorical works depicting the inner workings of the US Government to hang in the halls of Congress.

While working on a portrait in Washington, DC, Morse received a letter from his father. It was delivered via the standard, slow-moving horse messengers of the day. The letter stated that his wife was gravely sick. Morse immediately left the capital and went to his home in Connecticut. By the time he arrived home, his wife had

died and had already been buried. Because it took so long to receive the initial message, he shifted his focus away from his art career and dedicated himself to improving the state of long-distance communication.

He travelled again to Europe and in 1832. While sailing back home, he heard about the newly discovered electromagnet and he came up with an idea for an electric telegraph. He had no idea that other inventors were already working on the concept. Morse spent the next several years de-

veloping the prototype and took on two partners, Leonard Gale and Alfred Vail, to assist him.

In 1838, he demonstrated his invention using Morse code, in which dots and dashes represented letters and numbers. In 1843, Morse finally convinced a skeptical Congress to fund the construction of the first telegraph line in the United States, from Washington, DC to Baltimore, MD. In May 1844, Morse sent the first official telegram over the line. A teenage daughter of a friend chose the text of the first message. It was a passage from the Old Testament “What hath God wrought!”

Over the next few years, private companies used Morse’s patent and set up telegraph lines around the Northeast. In 1851, the New York and Mississippi Valley Printing Telegraph Company was founded. This company would later change its name to Western Union. In 1861, Western Union finished the first transcontinental line across the United States. Five years later the first successful permanent line across the Atlantic Ocean was constructed. By the end of the century, telegraph systems were in place in Africa, Asia, and Australia. While other telegraphs were invented earlier than Morse’s his was the first to make use of a single-circuit, battery-powered machine.

Because telegraph companies typically charged by the word, telegrams became known for their succinct prose, in both happy messages and sad messages. The word “stop” was free and was used in place of a “period”, for which there was a charge. Over the course of the 20th century, telegraph messages were largely replaced by cheap long-distance phone service, faxes, and email. Western Union delivered its final telegram in January 2006. Samuel Morse died in 1872 at the age of 80.

Until next time....

**A diplomat is
a person who
thinks twice
before saying
nothing.**

**YOUNGSTOWN SAXON CLUB
710 S. Meridian Rd**

**PORK & KRAUT DINNER
JANUARY 21, 2024**

11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

\$12.00

**TAKE OUT AND EAT-IN
PUBLIC WELCOME**

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 _____
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Amount Donated \$ _____

Please indicate if donation is in memory
or honor of someone

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SECRETARIES TAKE NOTICE:

**THE DEADLINE DATE FOR ARTICLES
IS WEDNESDAY - 12 NOON.**

You may either

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POSTAL MAIL:

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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, JANUARY 10, 2024	FRIDAY, JANUARY 19, 2024
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24, 2024	FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2024
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2024	FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2024

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 37, DETROIT
By Trudy Kalvin

Detroit Branch 37's Christmas Party was at St. Peter's Church. Although there was no snow outside, inside there was plenty of good food, music, festive decorations, and fun! Songs were sung in both English and German and with the help of our Branch musicians, Robert Schneider and Mike Rehner, who kept us on beat, we sounded great. When it came to singing "Jingle Bells", but who

should appear? Santa and his Helper (otherwise known as Sarah Wiseman and Evelyn Wiseman)! Everyone received a special gift from them.

The true Spirit of Christmas abounded as we are grateful for our fellowship and the blessings of our God and Savior, Jesus Christ, today and everyday throughout the year. Happy Holidays to all from Branch 37!

DETROIT BR. 37 CHRISTMAS PARTY



BRANCH 4, CLEVELAND WEST
By Joan Miller-Malue

Oh, what fun it was at the Krampusfest! We had a full house and everyone was in a festive mood. We thank the Gemütlichkeit Clevelander Musikanten for hosting this event. They did an excellent job providing music and entertainment for the entire evening. The Cleveland Saxon Dance Group gave a great performance and announced that the Group will be going on a cultural tour in Europe in 2025. Of course, the Krampus assisted St. Nicholas into the hall and were busy hunting down those of us that were "naughty this past! It was a very enjoyable evening for this Advent season.

We had a joyful Children's Christmas Party on Saturday, December 16. We thank our junior members, Kira Meekins for singing Jingle Bells; Jameson Donnellan for reciting a poem; Annabelle Kloos, playing the flute along with brothers Dean and James singing Jingle Bell Rock. The

children enjoyed the performance of Ta-Da Magic Show and of course, the visit from Santa Claus. We want to thank our MC Lexi Seiler who did an excellent job. Thanks go out to all who helped make this party a success. We are fortunate to have a good working team that are dedicated to planning for our children's holiday parties.

Our next monthly meeting will be held on Monday, January 15 at 7:00 p.m. when we will have installation of officers and memorial service. We want you to mark your calendar for Sunday, February 25 when we will hold our annual fundraiser, the Chinese Auction/Sausage Dinner.

We send special thanks to our members and friends who have supported our fraternal benefit society. We hope that 2024 holds one special blessing after another. We extend our warmest wishes for a Happy, Healthy New Year!

CLEVELAND WEST,
CLEVELAND EAST AND LORAIN
CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY



INVITE

your relatives and friends to
join the crowd at ATS.
Tell them about our fraternal society!

FRATERNAL CALENDAR

NATIONAL EVENTS

- 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
- June 16 - 21, 2024
Saxon Summer Camp Camp Frederick Rogers, OH
- July 5 - 19, 2024
Federation International Jugendlager Host: Canada
- July 12 - 14, 2024
North American Saxon Heimattag
Kitchener, ON Canada
- July 27, 2024
ATS Family Day at Waldameer
- October 12 - 13, 2024
ATS Open Bowling Tournament
Host: New Castle Bowlers

LOCAL EVENTS

- January 21, 2024
Youngstown Saxon Club Pork/Kraut Dinner
- February 25, 2024
Cleveland Br. 4 Chinese Auction / Sausage Dinner
- June 30, 2024
Chicago Br. 9 Picnic

January is Financial Wellness Month

SET UP AN ATS ANNUITY

FIND WAYS TO PAY OFF OLD LOANS

SEE A FINANCIAL ADVISER

MODERATE SPENDING

WAIT FOR SALES AND BARGAINS

A time to achieve financial balance.



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FEDERATION OF THE TRANSYLVANIAN SAXONS'
INTERNATIONAL JUGENDLAGER
JULY 5 – 19, 2024
HOST COUNTRY: CANADA

Five of our ATS Members will have the chance to attend the 2024 Jugendlager, which will be held in Canada starting on Friday, July 5 and ending on Friday, July 19. Announcements and applications have been mailed to our ATS Members ages 16-20.

Participants from Austria, Canada, Germany, Transylvania, and the United States will enjoy two weeks of learning about our Saxon history and culture as well as sightseeing in the beautiful country of Canada. Housing will be provided by the host country and participants will be housed with Saxon families and motels during their stay in Kitchener-Waterloo and in Aylmer. Details of the itinerary are not yet completed.

Participation in this Jugendlager will be limited to five young people from each country, along with one Group Leader. Participants from the USA must be ATS members in good standing between ages of 16-20. Each participant will bear the cost of their transportation to and from Canada and personal daily incidental expenses. The ATS will pay the Participation Fee for each of the USA participants.

Participants must have a valid passport or passcard and provide proof of medical insurance coverage.

All applicants should be interested in learning about our Saxon culture and traditions and be familiar with their Saxon background. They should also be knowledgeable about the activities of their local branch and the national organization, the Alliance of Transylvanian Saxons.

This is a two-week program that offers an individual a chance to share their family history with others, to learn about our Saxon heritage, and to make friends that will last a lifetime.

If you wish to be considered, please return the application that was mailed to you no later than March 1, 2024. Applications should be mailed to the ATS Home Office, 5323 Pearl Road, Cleveland, OH 44129.

BRANCH 9, CHICAGO
By Rose-Marie Hauer

Happy New Year! Our meeting was held on December 4, with great attendance. Thank you to everyone that came out and also voted in the elections. President Thut opened the meeting by lighting a candle and had a moment of silence for members that passed away over the years.

Sister Schmidt reported that we have several members on the Sick List. Brother Rick Oppermann, Sister Erika Prado, Brother Daniel Reif, Sister Katharina Roth, Brother Michael Schmidt, and Sister Katharina Thut. We wish them all a speedy recovery.

On November 18, several Saxon ladies attended the "Carol King" play at the Lincolnshire Theater and had a wonderful time. The Rosenball was held on November 25, with many Saxons in attendance. Thank you to Paige Deloy for her service as Rosenkönigin 2022-2023. She gave a beautiful

speech in English and German. Several young adults were in the Rosenball performance including, Finn Deloy, Paige Deloy and Karina Thut.

The elections were then conducted by Brother Walter Drechsler. We are happy to say everyone kept their same office and we have no changes. Congratulations to the Board and thank you to all of you for keeping us functional.

The Christmas Party was held on December 17, with over seventy people in attendance. (See Page 7 for photos. Ed.) Thank you to Sister Sanderson and her committee to volunteers to make this event a success. Food was brought for the Palatine Food Pantry and a donation was made to the Advocate Lutheran General Hospital Children's ward for Christmas. The lunch was delicious along with all the home made bakery items made by our members.

The raffle was a huge success. Thank you to all the members that donated raffle prizes. Thank you to Bill, Eric and Walter for the fabulous music and of course to Santa Claus. We had at least fifteen young adults who played games, won gift cards, a mint jar guessing game, and the kids sang and read poems. President Thut did a recognition thanking Sister Erica Hauer, Sister Liz Hauer, Sister Rose Hauer, Sister Elfi Sanderson and Sister Claudia Schmidt. They were presented with flowers and cards. It was a beautiful event! Thank you to everyone that attended and brought their children. We were totally blessed. Please come back next year!

The PICNIC has been scheduled for June 30! Please mark your calendars.

There is no January meeting! Please remember to pay your dues! Send them to Sister Claudia Schmidt.

I am hoping this New Year 2024, will bring you lots of joy and happiness.

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

YOUNGSTOWN SAXON RETIREES

By Ro Dundon

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!! I hope everyone had wonderful ones.

Our group met at Ruby Tuesday's in Austintown on Tuesday's in Austintown on Thursday, December 14th. It was a lovely day, and we had a very nice time and enjoyed the meal of our choice. Aside from the happy atmosphere, conversation we had a lovely waitress who added to the event. She was very pleasant, happy and above all, patient. Also, to make the day Dom was able to attend and Marnie again visited. We hope she comes again.

Diana presented us with a lovely gift, she is so thoughtful. Dom passed his gifts to everyone. Something he has done for years and years.

Diana is checking around for a different location to have our meetings. Tentatively the next meeting will be March 14, 2024, providing the weather agrees. Diana will, as she always does, phone everyone with time and place.

By the way, Dominic and I attended the Club's Christmas Party. We had a really good time. Above all just being with members we have not seen for months. To my complete surprise I saw a former neighbor and friend, Barb who I have not seen in years. What a treat. The menu was a down home dinner and good. Kudos to the kitchen staff.

Now is the time to make your New Year's resolution and plan to keep it. That leaves me out.

Please have a wonderful New Year, not only for that day but the entire year—stay safe and healthy.

So, until we meet again—As usual. It's RO.

BRANCH 10, COLUMBUS

By Donald Blum

MONTHLY MEETING HICKORY HOUSE

550 Offcenter Place
Gahanna, Ohio 43230
January 15, 2024
Time 12:00 noon

Our meetings are the Third (3rd) Monday of the month.

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.

Please keep Steve Lassel in your prayers. Steve has undergone major medical procedures. Steve can use the encouragement and prayers to help him through this difficult time. Steve is recovering and continues with good test results.

Please keep John Gellner in your prayers. John and his family attended our Christmas party but is not able to attend our meetings. We hope to see John surprise us with popping into a meeting once in while.

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 Hedy Fleischer (January 1) and Olga Hesch (January 12) a Happy Birthday. Alles Gute zum Geburtstag!

HUMOR (Mike Roth Humor)

A large manufacturing company, feeling it was time for a shakeup, hired a new CEO.

The new boss was determined to rid the company of all slackers. On a tour of the facilities the new CEO noticed a guy leaning against a wall. The room was full of workers and he wanted to let them know that he meant

business. He asked the guy, "How much money do you make a week?" A little surprised, the young man looked at him and said, "I make \$400 a week, why?" The CEO said, "Wait right here." He walked back to his office, came back in two minutes, and handed the guy \$1,600 in cash and said, "Here's four weeks pay. Now GET Out and don't come back. "Feeling pretty good about himself, the CEO looked around the room and asked, "Does anyone want to tell me what that goofball did here?" From across the room a voice said, "Pizza delivery guy from Domino's." As the group laughed, the CEO returned to his office.

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 (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 and Canada. We encourage you to spread the word about our group.

SALEM SAXON

RETIREEES

By Norma Byers

Our President, Lois Whitacre hit the gavel to bring us to order and Tony Rothbrust gave the invocation. 22 of us met with one visitor, Bunny Rothbrust. This was our special holiday meal, however it was a very sad day because one of our caterers, Beverly had passed away very unexpectedly so we were not in a holiday mood when we arrived. We said a prayer for her and family as she was closely related to our other caterer. A phone call was made and we were able to get a substitute, which worked out very well, but we really missed our regular caterers as we have grown very fond of them. We did have a delicious lunch of salad, Swiss steak, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans and our choice of three kinds of pie with ice cream. After Tony, we pledged allegiance to our beautiful American Flag! Our Secretary, Dianne Kuttler read the minutes from November and Katie Lederle gave the Financial Report.

Nancy Stumperth reported birthdays and anniversaries:

Susan Cutlip's birthday on December 5th and Ginny Tidd's birthday on December 8th, so we all sang Happy Birthday! Our Vice-President held the 50-50 drawing!

As usual, we are deliriously happy when Helen Aeling gave us her "Humor by Helen", as we really needed that, especially today!

We stood, bowed and said The Lord's Prayer! Then we spotted Tony coming in with BINGO and we were a bit happy again!

Enjoy your preparations for the birth of Baby Jesus, as we all will celebrate through the holidays! Stay warm this winter, do eat healthy and we will see you next year on March 6th, 2024!

TOODLE-OO



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.

John M. Sitch

Age 79

Died: December 1, 2023
Branch 30, Youngstown, OH

Hildegard J. Sabo

Age 96

Died: December 4, 2023
Branch 4, Cleveland, OH

Barbara D. Fox

Age 85

Died: December 11, 2023
Branch 30, Youngstown, OH

FDA considers drug to extend dogs' lives

The drug LOY-001, which could extend the lifespan of larger dogs, cleared its first major regulatory hurdle after the FDA found a "reasonable expectation of effectiveness," according to Axios. The San Francisco-based biotech company Loyal for Dogs aims to add at least a year to the lifespans of larger dogs with the long-acting drug, administered every three to six months. Larger dogs typically live between eight and 12 years, while smaller breeds often live much longer.

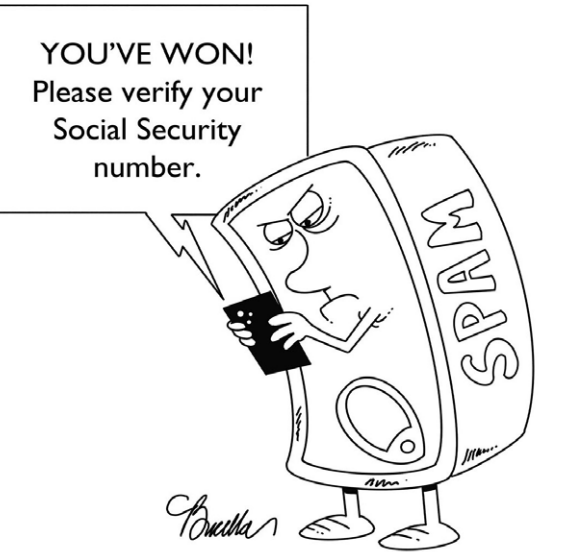


Cleveland Saxon Dance Group celebrating Christmas at Roll House Bowling Alley on December 15th

CLEVELAND EAST BR. 33 CHRISTMAS PARTY



CHICAGO BR. 9 CHRISTMAS PARTY



Spam Getting Spam



Happy New Year

Brush away old heartaches.
Learn from our mistakes.
Another year is finally over.
A new dawn awakes.

Let the old year out.
Welcome the new one in.
Bury the bad things of the past
As a new year now begins.

Make your New Year wishes
As simple as you can.
Pray for peace and love,
Not for wealth or fame.

Pray for health and happiness.
Pray for your fellow man.
Pray for all the ones you love.
Pray for those who've lost their way.

As the midnight hour chimes,
We leave the old and embrace the new.
I wish the things you wish for yourself,
And may God's love stay with you.

By John Peter Read

The ATS Board of Directors wishes our members and friends a new year filled with happiness, good health, peace, and prosperity. We look forward to another year of providing you with good service, excellent insurance and annuity products, fraternal benefits, and cultural activities.

Denise A. Crawford, ATS National President