

## CONGRATULATIONS! The following are the winners of the 2024 Easter coloring contest:

### Ages 3-4

Madelyn Loyd  
Br. 30 - Youngstown

### Ages 5-6

Flora Jones  
Br. 5 - Lorain

### Ages 7-8

Noah Murray  
Home Branch

### Ages 9-10

Carson Mshar  
Br. 30 - Youngstown

## 2024 Easter Coloring Contest Participants

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

- |                                      |                                 |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Evan Burick – Br. 25 New Castle      | Amelia Werner – Br. 18 Salem    |
| Shepard Collier – Br. 9 Chicago      | Jack Collier – Br. 9 Chicago    |
| Grace Gelsinger – Br. 8 - Alliance   | Chelsey Cunningham –            |
| Giuliana Mshar – Br. 30 Youngstown   | Br. 29 Monaca                   |
| Judah Stelle – Br. 25 New Castle     | Laurel Emerich –                |
| Ann Volk – Br. 9 Chicago             | Br. 27 New Castle               |
| Carina Cornell – Home Branch Canton  | Bodhi Krahe – Home Branch       |
| Claire Cunningham – Br. 29 Monaca    | George Lanahan –                |
| Alice Emig – Br. 30 Youngstown       | Home Branch                     |
| Cora Hazel – Br. 30 Youngstown       | Henry Lanahan – Home Branch     |
| Rosie Mc Cormick – Br. 30 Youngstown | Daniel Mezzara –                |
| Katharina Volk – Br. 9 Chicago       | Br. 30 Youngstown               |
|                                      | Zoey Ryan – Br. 30 Youngstown   |
|                                      | Tessa Shazer –                  |
|                                      | Br. 45 Ellwood City             |
|                                      | Alex Cornell – Home Branch      |
|                                      | Kendall Emerich –               |
|                                      | Br. 27 New Castle               |
|                                      | Mary Gelsinger – Br. 8 Alliance |
|                                      | Rose Hazel – Br. 30             |
|                                      | Youngstown                      |
|                                      | Margaret Hoover –               |
|                                      | Br. 9 Chicago                   |
|                                      | Camden Jackson –                |
|                                      | Br. 19 Salem                    |
|                                      | Niko Krahe – Home Branch        |
|                                      | Alice Mc Cormick –              |
|                                      | Br. 30 Youngstown               |
|                                      | Juliane Paal –                  |
|                                      | Br. 27 New Castle               |
|                                      | Lilly Vidal – Br. 4 Cleveland   |

**TIMELY - DO NOT DELAY  
MAILED WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10, 2024**

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

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Denise Aeling Crawford  
ATS Nat'l President



Attention all Branch Treasurers: Please remember to file your Branch's Form 990 or the 990-N Electronic Postcard by May 15. Every ATS Branch is required to file one of these two types of information forms. Although each Branch is exempt from Federal income tax because of the ATS's exemption, each Branch still has an annual filing requirement. If the annual gross receipts for a Branch are normally \$50,000 or less, the 990-N e-postcard can be submitted online with the IRS. If the annual gross receipts are normally greater than \$50,000, a traditional Form 990 is required. If a Branch goes for three years without filing, the IRS will cancel that Branch's exemption. If this happens, the Branch will be required to pay Federal income taxes, just like every other corporation. Once you have filed either one of these types of 990s, please mail a copy to the ATS Home Office for our files.

The 108<sup>th</sup> ATS Convention is fast approaching. Have you finished your craft item to be entered into the Saxon Handicraft Exhibit? Remember, you do not have to be a delegate to the Convention to submit a Handicraft item. If you are a delegate, have you (or your Branch) made your meal reservations and your hotel reservations? Even if you are not a delegate to the Convention, you are welcome to make a meal reservation for Saturday evening at the Youngstown Saxon Club.

Do you live in an area where you could see the total solar eclipse earlier this week? As I write this article a week before, the forecast is for a rainy and cloudy day. Most of the area schools have cancelled classes for the day. City and county offices will be closed, as well as many businesses. Tourists from all over the country and even the world are descending on northeast Ohio. The total solar eclipse is projected to be the US's largest mass travel event this year.

Did you know that on April 12, 1633, the inquisition of physicist and astronomer Galileo Galilei began? The chief inquisitor appointed by Pope Urban VIII ordered Galileo to turn himself in to the Holy Office to begin a trial for holding the belief that the Earth revolves around the sun, which was deemed as heresy by the Catholic Church. Standard practice, at that time, demanded that during the trial, the accused be imprisoned and secluded. According to History.com, this was the second time that Galileo was at odds with the Church for refusing to accept their orthodoxy that the Earth was the immovable center of the universe. The first time was in 1616, when he

Continued on Page 2



## 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.

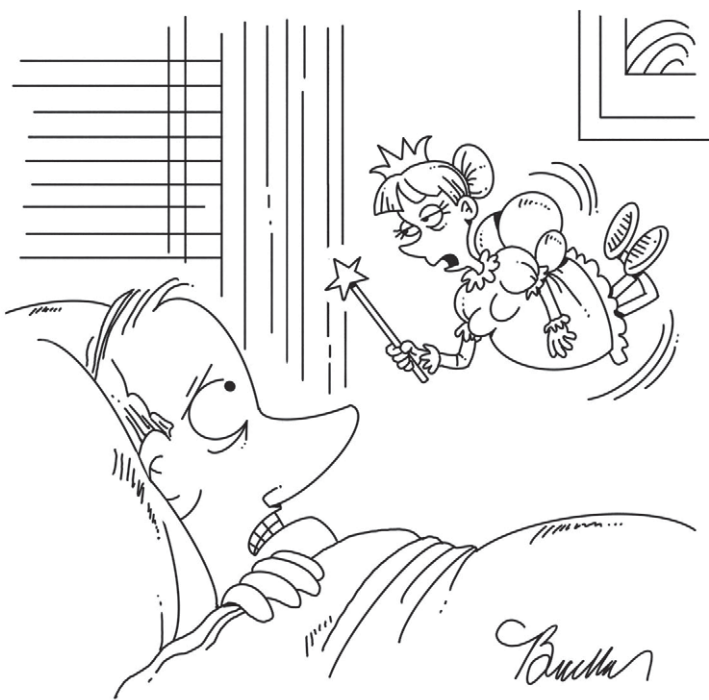
### DONATION FOR SCHLOSS HORNECK

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_  
 Zipcode \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Donated \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate if donation is in memory  
 or honor of someone

\_\_\_\_\_



"I'm the midlife fairy. I put the hair you lose from your head inside your nose and ears."

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

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

11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.  
 \$12.00

TAKE OUT AND EAT-IN  
 PUBLIC WELCOME

## President's Message

Cont'd from Page 1

was forbidden from holding or defending his beliefs. In the 1633 interrogation, Galileo denied that he "held" belief, but continued to write about the issue and evidence as a means of "discussion" rather than belief. The Church had decided the idea that the sun moved around the Earth was an absolute fact of scripture that could not be disputed, despite the fact that scientists had known for centuries that the Earth was not the center of the universe.

This second time, however, Galileo's arguments did not win. On June 22, 1633, the Church handed down the following order: "We pronounce, judge, and declare, that you, Galileo, have rendered yourself vehemently suspected by this Holy Office of heresy, that is, of having believed and held the doctrine (which is false and contrary to the Holy and Divine Scriptures) that the sun is the center of the world, and that it does not move from east to west, and that the earth does move, and is not the center of the world." The penalty included Galileo's book entitled Dialogues of Galileo Galilei be prohibited and condemned him to the prison of the Holy Office. He was also ordered to recite once a week for three years the Seven Penitential Psalms.

Galileo agreed not to teach the heresy anymore and spent the rest of his life under house arrest. It took more than 300 years for the Church to admit that Galileo was right and to clear his name of heresy.

Until next time....



**Alliance of Transylvanian Saxons**  
 Home Office: 5323 Pearl Rd., Cleveland, Ohio 44129  
 Telephone: (440) 842-8442 FAX: 440-842-5442  
 E-mail: office@atsaxons.com Website: www.atsaxons.com

### National Board of Directors

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**Denise Aeling Crawford** Br. 8 (330) 257-0267  
 9415 Elsmere Dr, Parma OH 44130

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**Robert B. Cunningham III** Br. 1 (216) 398-7520  
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#### Second Vice President -

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

#### Third Vice President -

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**Michael Bachinger**, Br. 30 (330) 540-5168  
 3134 Neosho Rd, Youngstown OH 44511

#### Chief Medical Examiner-

**Dr. Andreas W. Schuster**, Br. 1 Cleveland

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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, APRIL 17, 2024	FRIDAY, APRIL 26, 2024
WEDNESDAY, MAY 1, 2024	FRIDAY, MAY 10, 2024
WEDNESDAY, MAY 15, 2024	FRIDAY, MAY 24, 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



## 2024 Election of ATS National Officers

At the upcoming ATS Convention that is being hosted by Branch 30 - Youngstown on May 18 – 19, 2024, the following offices (all with four-year terms) were scheduled for election:

- President
- Second Vice President
- Secretary
- 2 Trustees

However, with the passing of our First Vice President, Robert B. Cunningham III, in the middle of his term, a shuffling of positions is happening due to filling the vacancy for the office of First Vice President.

Nomination forms for individuals wishing to run for office had to be submitted to the ATS Board of Directors and received by March 15, 2024. The following ATS members have submitted their nomination forms for the following offices:

- Denise A. Crawford** (currently President) – running for President (4 year term)
- Monica M. Weber** (currently 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President) – running for 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President (unexpired 2 year term)
- Randall B. Floyd** (currently 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President) – running for 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President (4 year term)
- Michael Bachinger** (currently Trustee) – running for 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President (unexpired 2 year term)
- Monica F. Gilles** (currently Secretary) – running for Secretary (4 year term)
- Debbie Ferguson** – running for Trustee
- Barbara A. Spack** (currently Trustee) – running for Trustee
- Jacob F. Spor** (currently Trustee) – running for Trustee

Delegates will be limited to voting for two Trustees only. The two nominees with the highest votes will receive the 4-year terms and the other nominee will receive the unexpired two-year term left open by Trustee Michael Bachinger moving to 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President.

A brief background of each nominee follows.

**ATS President**  
**Denise A Crawford**  
**Member of Branch 8**  
**Alliance, OH**  
**(Incumbent)**

Denise Crawford has served on the ATS Board of Directors since 1989. She held the position of Secretary until 1999 when she was elected as Treasurer. She moved from Alliance, Ohio to Parma in 2016 when taking over the position of Home Office Manager in the ATS Home Office. In 2020, she was elected to the position of President. She has served on almost every ATS Committee throughout the years. Denise has served her Local Branch for over 30 years. She is a Sales Deputy for Alliance, as well as the current President of Branch 8. Past local positions held include Treasurer, Local Dues Secretary and ATS Secretary. Community involvement in Alliance included the YWCA of Alliance where she served on their board for multiple terms and various committees, the Alliance Kiwanis Club and the Women's Division of the Chamber of Commerce. Denise has a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration – Accounting and is a Certified Public Accountant. She also holds an Ohio insurance license. Denise has been a member of the ATS for 59 years. Denise says, "I have served on the ATS Board of Directors for almost 35 years, including the last four as President. All of these years, plus my background in Public Accounting assisting local businesses, I feel I have a unique understanding of the ATS as a business and feel capable of leading the ATS into the future."

**ATS First Vice President**  
**Monica M Weber**  
**Member of Branch 4**  
**Cleveland (West), OH**  
**(Currently Second Vice President)**

Monica Weber (known as Moni to most people) has served on the ATS Board of Directors since 1985. She has held the position of Trustee, Secretary, and currently holds the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President position. Moni is the Chairperson of the Strategic Planning Committee and the past Chair of the Cultural Promotion Committee for years. In addition, she has served on almost all of the ATS Committees over the past 38 years. Moni is a Sales Deputy for Cleveland West and is the President of Branch 4, a position she's held since 2000. Other local branch positions held include Financial Secretary and Treasurer. Community service activities include being a Magnet Appraiser and a Jazzercise instructor. Monica has a Bachelors of Science Degree in Nursing from Vanderbilt University and a Master Degree in Nursing from the University of Pennsylvania. She has worked for the Cleveland Clinic in a variety of positions over the past 35 years. She is currently the Senior Director of Professional Practice. She holds an Ohio insurance license and has been a member of the ATS for 64 years. Moni states, "Having served on the Board of Directors for these past 38 years has prepared her for this new position. She looks forward to continuing to contribute to the success of the ATS".

**ATS Second Vice President**  
**Randall B. Floyd**  
**Member of Branch 26**  
**Merrillville, IN**  
**(Currently Third Vice President)**

Randall Floyd has served on the ATS Board of Directors since 2014, serving first as Trustee and currently as the Third Vice President. He chairs the Audit and Internal Audit Committees and serves on the Investment, Insurance Sales, Orphan, Salary & Pension, and the Fraternal Events/Scholarship Committees. Randall is the current President of Branch 26 in Merrillville and serves as their Sales Deputy. Previously he was their Branch Secretary. Randall is a past Precinct Committeeman and past President of Church Council at Emanuel Lutheran Church. He volunteers at the local food bank, local parks, and with cancer fundraising. Randall is a retired electrician. He has been in the insurance business for over 30 years and was a Union business representative for 24 years. He has a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting and a Master's Degree in Public Administration. He holds an insurance license for Indiana and Illinois. Randall has been an ATS member for 24 years. Randall feels he is qualified for his position based on his previous years serving the ATS, both as a National Officer and a Local Officer. He states, "the ATS deserves qualified members to represent us. His dedication and love for the history, culture, and the families of Saxons remain a life-long pursuit."

**ATS Third Vice President**  
**Michael Bachinger**  
**Member of Branch 30**  
**Youngstown, OH**  
**(Currently Trustee)**

Michael Bachinger has served on the ATS Board of Directors as an ATS Trustee since 2020. He chairs the Information Technology Committee and serves on the Audit, Cultural Promotion, Fraternal Events/Scholarship, Insurance Sales and Investment, and Strategic Planning Committees. Mike has served his local branch for

over 40 years. He currently is his Branch Treasurer and has held the offices of Vice President, Secretary, Trustee and ATS Sales Deputy in the past. He has also served on various local committees including the property upkeep and pavilion remodeling committees and assists in the business office. He is also a member of the Youngstown Saxon Culture Group and Brass Band. Mike has been active in his community with the Mahoning Valley Historical Society and the Youngstown Housing Task Force. He also plays with the Deutscher Musik Verein. Mike retired from the US Postal Service after 40 years, having held positions as letter carrier, Manager, Customer Service, Labor Relations and Human Resources. He attended Youngstown State University. Mike previously held an Ohio insurance license. He is a lifetime member of the ATS. Mike states, "being a life-long member and a current national officer, and having attended Heimattags in the USA, Canada, Germany and Transylvania, I am immensely committed to the preservation of our heritage, our local club environment, and our national society."

**ATS Secretary**  
**Monica F. Gilles**  
**Member of Branch 5**  
**Lorain, OH**  
**(Incumbent)**

Monica Gilles has served on the Board of Directors as the ATS Secretary since 2016. She chairs the Youth Activities Committee as well as serving on the Constitution, IT, Insurance and Investment, and Strategic Planning Committees. Monica is the President of Branch 5 in Lorain. She previously served as ATS Secretary and Recording Secretary for her Branch, as well as being a Sales Deputy. For community service, Monica donates blood as often as she can. She is also a member of the VFW 451 Auxiliary. Monica has worked for the ATS Home Office since 2002. She previously worked for Key Bank. Monica has an Associate Degree in Medical Administrative Assistant from Ohio Business College and has accounting credits from the University of Toledo. Monica has an Ohio insurance license and has been an ATS member for 47 years. She also bowls with the TSBA and was a past TSBA Trustee. Monica says, "my 20 years of experience working in the ATS office with ATS Members and their life insurance policies and annuity contracts uniquely qualifies me for a position on the ATS Board."

**ATS Trustee**  
**Debbie Ferguson**  
**Member of Branch 37**  
**Detroit, MI**

Debbie Ferguson is running for an ATS Trustee position on the Board of Directors. She has 25 years of service to her local branch, serving as Trustee and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President. Branch Committee work includes Heimattag Committees (1999 and 2000), Bowl Where You Are (various years), Detroit's hosting the Transylvania Dancers (2018) and hosting the Traun Group from Austria last year. Community service includes blood drives, March of Dimes, donating art supplies to Latchkey and Day Care organizations, helping her neighbors and driving seniors to appointments. Debbie is retired from various retail companies, serving as manager, trainer, inventory specialist, and opening new locations. She was also a school bus driver for 6 years. Debbie states, "I enjoy working with the people from my club. Whatever comes up, we seem to figure out a way to make it happen. I look forward to working with the National group at the ATS."

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# FRATERNAL CALENDAR

## YOUNGSTOWN SAXON RETIREES

By Ro Dundon

### NATIONAL EVENTS

May 18 - 19, 2024

ATS Convention Host: Youngstown, OH

June 8, 2024

67th TSBA Convention Host: Youngstown Bowlers

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 19 - 20, 2024

ATS Open Bowling Tournament

Host: New Castle Bowlers

### LOCAL EVENTS

April 12, 2024

Cleveland Sachsenheim 250 Club Banquet

April 13, 2024

New Castle Br. 25 Halfway to Oktoberfest

April 21, 2024

Youngstown Pork/Kraut dinner

April 27, 2024

Youngstown Pop Dinner

May 4, 2024

Cleveland Saxon Dance Group Trachtenball

May 5, 2024

Cleveland East Br 33 Membership Banquet

Saint Noel Banquet Center, Willoughby Hills

May 12, 2024

Cleveland Sachsenheim Mothers' Day Brunch

Youngstown Saxon Club Mothers' Day Dinner

June 26, 2024

Cleveland Sachsenheim /GCM

Summer Pilsner Patio Party

June 30, 2024

Chicago Br. 9 Picnic

July 13, 2024

Cleveland East Captains Baseball Game Outing

August 18, 2024

Cleveland East Annual Summer Picnic

Penitentiary Glen

August 24, 2024

Cleveland Sachsenheim / GCM

Summer Oktoberfest

September 15, 2024

Chicago Br. 9 Banquet, Lone Tree

September 28, 2024

Cleveland Sachsenheim Clambake

October 19, 2024

Cleveland Saxon Dance Group Traubenfest

October 25, 2024

Cleveland West Children's Halloween Party

December 7, 2024

Cleveland West Sausage Sale

December 14, 2024

Cleveland West Children's Christmas Party

Cleveland Sachsenheim/GCM Krampus Fest

The members met on March 14, 2024 at a new (for us) restaurant after an absence of 2 months. Our new meeting place was Denny's Restaurant on Mahoning Avenue in Austintown. I think we were all satisfied with the atmosphere, the food and the service.

We welcomed Mike and Carmela Markel to our luncheon. We were so glad they came and they promised to be back. We are counting on seeing them at the April meeting.

Marni also graced us with her presence. She also promised to return whenever she could. Dom took the day off to be with us. It was so good to be together.

We had much to talk about, to get caught up during our time off. The conversation of course included the activities at the Club and the future plans. We discussed the place, time and date of the next meeting.

The place will again be Denny's on Mahoning Avenue in Austintown. The Date is Thursday, April 11, 2024. The time is 11:30. If there is any change in this schedule our President Diana will be on the phone to give you the right information.

I hope you all had a wonderful Easter with family and friends and went easy on the candy and other goodies. I don't know if I can follow my own advice since I haven't had a piece of candy since February 14.

Everyone enjoy the coming Spring weather and beautiful flowers that are already on the way pushing through the dirt.

All Mothers: have a wonderful Mother's Day with those near and dear to us and to remember those gone ahead.

Till we meet again, as usual, it's RO.

## 2024 Election of ATS National Officers

Cont'd from Page 3

ATS Trustee

Barbara A. Spack

Member of Branch 18 Salem, OH

(Incumbent)

Barbara Spack has served on the Board of Directors as an ATS Trustee since 2008. She chairs the Salary/Pension Committee and serves on the Audit, Cultural Promotion, Fraternal Events/Scholarship, and Youth Activities Committees. She has served her local branch for 29 years as their Recording Secretary, ATS Secretary, and Scholarship Fund Trustee and as a Sales Deputy. Her community service includes various local non-profits, including the local animal shelter. She attended Kent State University. Barbara holds an Ohio insurance license and has been an ATS member for 33 years. Barbara states, "as a Trustee since 2008, I continue to learn and gain knowledge of the National operations and needs, striving to meet the challenges facing our Fraternal growth."

ATS Trustee

Jacob F. Spor

Member of Branch 25 New Castle, PA

(Incumbent)

Jacob Spor has served on the Board of Directors as an ATS Trustee since 2008. He chairs the Fraternal Events/Scholarship Committee and serves on the Audit, Constitution, Salary/Pension, and Youth Activities Committees. He has served his local Branch in the past as Trustee and Vice President. Jake's community service includes the Neshannock Twp. School's Band Parents group and working with Habitat for Humanity. He also helps to build sets for the local high school's musical productions. Jake attended Youngstown State University for three years studying Engineering and is a graduate of the Lawrence County Vocational Technical School. He has been employed by Stevens Masonry for the past 19 years and is a Foreman/Superintendent. Jake has been an ATS member for 21 years. Jake says, "with over 15 years on the Board of Directors, I feel I still have much to contribute to the growth and continuation of the ATS."

## Why grocery carts have wonky wheels

Practically everyone has been there. You're pushing a cart along in your favorite grocery store and everything seems fine. Then you hear it: The dreaded cart squeak. A moment later, one of the wheels develops a mind of its own, spinning this way and that. Next thing you know, you're dragging the cart like it's a stubborn mule.

Does it seem like every grocery store shopping cart has a broken wheel? Turns out, there's a good reason for that. Head to a pharmacy or a clothing store -- rather than a grocery store -- and the cart's wheels are typically far less rebellious.

Why? It's all in how folks use the carts that makes the difference.

Carts in stores with lighter shopping loads, like clothing stores and pharmacies, often stay inside the store rather than getting pushed into the parking lot. Customers can typically carry their purchases



without assistance. Grocery store trips, however, often involve bigger loads, so customers are more prone to pushing carts out into the parking lot, according to CNN.

Outside, grocery carts are bombarded with rain and snow. Collisions are common, potholes are more ubiquitous, and the wheels collect much more dirt and debris. Crucially, the caster plates that attach the wheels to the cart can warp over time, which is perhaps the biggest reason the wheels go haywire.

Those carts are not cheap either. Stores can pay well over \$200 per cart.





## 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



## Keep batteries from kids and pets

Little batteries look harmless enough, but a toddler puts one in his mouth, however, it could cause a choking or serious burns if the battery is leaking corrosive chemicals.

Remember that dogs could think a discarded battery is a toy. If they bite the battery, their mouths, tongues, and gastrointestinal tracts could be burned.



## Youngstown Saxon Club 300 Club

The Youngstown Saxon Club is a group of no more than 300 members that gets together once each year in September to participate in a Banquet in our Ball Room.

We start with a Banquet and Open Bar that usually has a theme to it and then after dinner there is a Reverse Raffle for the 300 tickets that were sold. We give away about \$5,600.00 in cash & prizes at the Drawing. The Last 5 Numbers Drawn equal \$2,000.00 of that money.

We only sell 300 tickets and the price is \$60.00 per ticket. Saxon Club Members, All ATS Members, and the General Pubic are eligible to purchase tickets.

We are always looking for new 300 Club Members and still have a few tickets available for 2024. If you might be interested in buying one you can contact the Youngstown Saxon Club Office 330-792-7973 or contact me directly...Rick Lieb (330) 518-7593.

## BRANCH 5, LORAIN By Michael Johnson

Our meeting took place in a different location this past month due to the American Slovak Club being closed for repairs to their roof. Though our meeting at the Lorain Public Library seemed to be a good choice to regroup a week later, a time constraint of an hour just gave us long enough to take care of business as usual but no time for our Branch 5 audit. With the future of the availability at ASC in the balance, a decision for an alternative place to meet was decided. **Our next meeting will be held on Monday, April 15th 2024 at St. John United Church of Christ, 715 Reid Ave. Lorain, Ohio 44052.** Trustees and officers please meet at 6:30 p.m. to conduct the audit. General meeting with the rest of our members will start at 7:00 p.m. Please park in the lot east of the church and use the Reid Ave. south glass door entrance to enter the building. As of the time of this writing we have one member on the sick list. Brother Russ Gilles is under a doctor's care for an illness and is home doing well. Remember that if you come under an illness or injury requiring the care of a physician and you will be maintaining that relationship for more than a week, you could be receiving sick benefits. Contact Vice President Jane Mowery at (440) 246-3004 as soon as possible if you find yourself in these conditions. She will be able to answer any questions you have about the sick benefit and if you qualify.

We want to congratulate Brother Brian Gilles, who last month participated in the American Lung Association Fight For Air climb held at

the Key Tower in Downtown Cleveland. His time completing the challenge was 19 minutes, 23 seconds, in full fireman's gear. 1,349 steps or 58 floors of breathless upward mobility. Good job Brian!

The 2024 ATS National Convention will be held in Youngstown, Ohio this year on May 18 - 19. Sisters Jeanne Petty and Jane Mowery have accepted the opportunity to serve as delegates to represent Branch 5. If you have something you plan to enter in the Saxon Handicraft Exhibit being held that same weekend during the convention, contact either Sister Jeanne at (440) 670-3368 or Sister Jane at (440) 246-3004 to arrange a possibility of taking your entry to the convention, but **only** if you've completed and sent your entry form in and cleared that arrangement with the Handicraft Exhibit Director according to the rules.

We would like to wish a happy birthday to the members celebrating in this month of April; Sisters Barb Gilles, Debbie Tomusko, Ginger Romes and Junior members Sofia Ali and Mackenzie Smith. May you all enjoy your special day just the way you like. Happy birthday!

Until next time be safe and stay healthy!

## BRANCH 8, ALLIANCE By Lesley Reed

Our first meeting of 2024 was held on March 20<sup>th</sup>. We had ten members present and enjoyed a meal of pizza and some fellowship time beforehand. Tonight's recipients of our two attendance awards were Helen Aeling and Barb Esterly. We also acknowledged two student members of our men's and ladies' lodges who qualified for scholarship awards for the fall 2023 semester. Those members are Evan Hertel and Sadie Zeedrich.

There were several pieces of communication received from the home office to address. One being the nomination form for President of the ATS that was completed and signed for the ATS convention in May. We also received a "sign up" form for the Jugendlager this summer, a current list of our members, and a notice about the ATS convention that described the proposed changes to our



## The dragon rules the zodiac

The Chinese zodiac proclaims 2024 to be one of the most prosperous and its all due to one mystical creature with the head of a camel, the neck of a snake and the paws of a tiger.

The dragon.

He rules the rains. Flies through water and sky alike. And he dominates the other 11 animals of the zodiac: rat, ox, tiger, rabbit, snake, horse, goat, money, dog and pig.

In China, you will be lucky to have a dragon baby, who is destined for success, and so Chinese birthrates climb dramatically in the year of the dragon.

The ancient Chinese zodiac existed at least as early as 475 BC and became widely adopted during the Han dynasty from 206 BC to 220 AD, according to Smithsonian Magazine.

In 2024 the year of the Dragon began Feb 10, in accordance with the lunar calendar.

constitution.

A get-well card was signed by all to be delivered to Shari Edwards. We keep her in our thoughts and wish her a full recovery in the near future from her lung transplant surgery. We passed around a order sheet to indicate our meal choice for next month's meet-up at Chives Restaurant in Alliance on April 17<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m.

We welcomed a new member this month, Barb Carpenter. Her mother, Lena Kunkle, was a longtime member of our lodge. We're very happy to have Barb join us!

Barb Esterly reported on the ladies' lodge outing to see the musical Oklahoma. It was agreed that the production was very professional and enjoyed by all. We will begin looking for ideas for a summer outing and discuss them at our next meeting.

The birthdays celebrated since we last met were Penny



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.

### Mike Svajhart

Age 98

Died: March 6, 2024  
Branch 33, Cleveland, OH

### Joseph M. Schuller

Age 97

Died: March 7, 2024  
Home Branch

### Joseph S. Ohr

Age 86

Died: March 9, 2024  
Branch 30, Youngstown, OH

### Lois J. Julius

Age 82

Died: March 13, 2024  
Branch 30, Youngstown, OH

### Carole Tinnes

Age 89

Died: March 21, 2024  
Branch 9, Chicago, IL



Zeedrich in November, Karen Kinser in December and Shari Edwards in April.

An important order of business was nominating two delegates to attend the May convention in Youngstown. After some discussion, the ladies chosen unanimously were Denise Crawford and Karen Kinser.

One of our last items of business was to review all the events coming up later this year. These include in June, the bowling convention and Teen camp, in July, the Heimattag and the Waldameer Water Park outing, in August, our annual picnic hosted by John Aeling, in October, the Open Bowling tournament, and in November, our annual holiday dinner at Hart Mansion.

The next formal meeting date on our schedule is Wednesday, May 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. at the American Legion Hall in Alliance.



**BRANCH 4,  
CLEVELAND**  
By Joan Miller-Malue

We had a very enjoyable Breakfast with the Easter Bunny. The children really had a good time and enjoyed the entertainer, The Funny Balloon Guy who did magic and balloon twisting. We want to thank everyone who helped out to make this event successful. We thank our junior member Katelyn Pechatsko for being our MC and Sydney Patterson for helping out throughout the morning.

The Saxon 250 Club's banquet will be held the evening of April 12. We wish all members good luck in the yearend drawing. We are looking to add a few more new members for the 2024-2025 season. The cost to join will again be \$50.00 for annual membership. This is a great opportunity to support our Sachsenheim while taking a chance on some great prizes. Beginning in April, we will draw numbers for 50 consecutive weeks and each winner will be awarded \$25.00, with the exception of week 25 where a special prize of \$100.00 will be awarded. At the end of the club year, each member will be entitled to one ticket to our year end banquet and will be entered into a grand prize drawing where cash prizes ranging from \$50.00 - \$1000.00 will be awarded (winner need not be present). It is not necessary to be a Branch 1 or 4 member to join – membership is open to all adults ages 18 and older. If you are interested in joining, please make checks payable to Saxon 250 Club and mail to: Stephanie Miller, 23500 Wingedfoot Dr, Westlake, OH 44145. Should you have questions, please email us at [saxon250club@gmail.com](mailto:saxon250club@gmail.com).

The Cleveland Saxon Dance Group is preparing for its Annual Trachtenball that will be held on Saturday, May 4, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. They will serve a Schnitzel dinner. Come dressed in Tracht and join in the Aufmarsch. After the group's performance, Fred Ziwich and his International Sound Machine will play for the evening dancing. Cost is \$25 for adults and children ages 10 and under \$12. To make your reservations go online: [Trachtenball-may-04-2024-reservations.copy.cheddarup.com](https://trachtenball-may-04-2024-reservations.copy.cheddarup.com). Deadline for tickets is April 28, 2024.

Our next monthly meeting will be held on Monday, April 15 at 7:00 p.m. Hope to see you at the meeting.

**ATS BRANCH 1 SAXON 250 CLUB  
2024-2025  
Prize List and Rules**

1st Prize	\$1000.00
2nd Prize	800.00
3rd Prize	500.00
4th Prize	400.00
5th Prize	300.00
6th Prize	200.00
7th Prize	100.00
8th Prize	100.00
9th Prize	100.00
10th Prize	50.00
**49 Weekly Prizes	25.00
***One Special Prize	100.00

\*\*A drawing will be held for 50 weeks. The drawings will be held at our Branch meetings.

\*\*\*Regular weekly winners will receive \$25. A special drawing of \$100.00 will be held at the end of the 25th week for those who have paid a total of \$50.00 into the club by the 25th week. MEMBERS MUST BE PAID IN FULL ONE WEEK PRIOR TO THE 25TH WEEK TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE SPECIAL DRAWING.

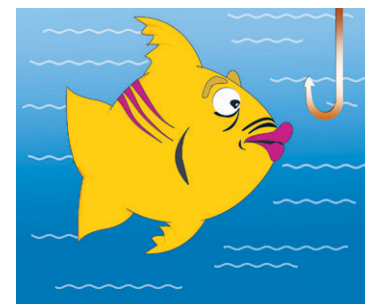
1. The donation to join the club is \$50.00. Members will be assigned one number for each \$50.00 contribution.
  2. Payments must be made at least one week in advance of drawing to be eligible for the weekly \$25.00 prize.
  3. Membership is open to all adults ages 18 and over - you do not need to be a Branch 1 or 4 Member.
  4. A maximum of 250 numbers will be available. A member may purchase more than one number. Membership will be open on a first come first served basis.
  5. At the completion of the 50 weeks, a dinner (free to paid members) will be held.
  6. Prizes will be drawn at the dinner. Members need not be present to win.
  7. In the event of a dispute regarding the rules, regulations and ticket sales, the decision of the Rules Committee shall be final.
- To reserve your number, send a check for \$50.00 made payable to the Saxon 250 Club to:

Stephanie Miller  
23500 Wingedfoot Dr  
Westlake, OH 44145  
216-647-3229 [saxon250club@gmail.com](mailto:saxon250club@gmail.com)

**How to catch and release a fish**

These steps help you return a fish to the water so it can be caught again. They are from The Complete Idiot's Guide to Fishing Basics (Alpha).

- Land your fish as soon as you can. Don't play the fish to exhaustion. Keep it in the water as long as possible while you remove the hook.
- Handle it carefully. Wet your hands. Be careful of the fish's dorsal and pectoral spines. Some fish have sharp spines on their fins.
- Gently remove the hook. Use pliers or forceps. Barb-



less hooks are easier to remove.

- Don't throw the fish back. Cradle it in your hands while moving it slowly forward and backward so water flows through its mouth and gills. Release the fish once it shows it can swim on its own.

**TRACHTENBALL**  
Saturday May 4th, 2024  
Performances by:  
DOORS OPEN AT 5:30 PM.  
DINNER IS SERVED AT 6 PM.  
SAVORY SCHNITZEL DINNER WITH ALL THE TRIMMINGS AND DESSERT!  
ADULTS \$25  
CHILDREN BETWEEN 4-10 \$12  
Come dressed in Tracht of any kind and join us for our Aufmarsch!  
Dance the night away to Fred Ziwich and his International Sound Machine!  
See bottom to make reservations!  
Or scan this QR Code:  
Wingside Sachsenheim  
7001 Denison Ave  
Cleveland OH  
<https://trachtenball-may-04-2024-reservations-copy.cheddarup.com/>



**Saxon Memoirs**  
*Our Homeland and Our Journey to America*

**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 National Convention**  
**May 18 and 19, 2024**  
**Youngstown Saxon Club – ATS Branch 30**  
**710 S. Meridian Road**  
**Youngstown, OH 44**



	Ticket Price (Adult)	Ticket Price (Children 4-12)	Number of Tickets	Total amount
<b>Saturday, May 18, 2024</b>				
Lunch: 12:00 PM				
Soup, Salad, Sandwich Bar	\$15.00		X _____	\$ _____
Cocktails @6PM (cash bar)				
Dinner @ 7PM				
Schnitzel Dinner	\$24.00	\$12.00	X _____	\$ _____
Vegetarian/Vegan Option to be determined	\$24.00	\$12.00	X _____	\$ _____

*The evening event is open to non-delegates that wish to join in the celebration. Please add the reservations to the list above.*

<b>Sunday, May 19, 2024</b>				
Lunch: 12:00 PM				
Egg Salad/Chicken Salad Croissants, Frut Cup	\$15.00		X _____	\$ _____

*Saturday and Sunday morning complimentary coffee and pastries*

Grand Total: (Please enclose Check or Money Order) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Reservations made by:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Branch City & Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Make Checks payable to: **Youngstown Saxon Club**

Send Reservation and Payment to: Youngstown Saxon Club  
 710 S. Meridian Road  
 Youngstown, OH 44509  
 (330) 792-7973

(\*All tickets will be held at the door\*)  
**Deadline for reservations: May 1, 2024**

**SAXON HANDICRAFT EXHIBIT**

A highlight of the ATS Convention is the Saxon Handicraft Exhibit. The Exhibit this year will be held at the Youngstown Saxon Club, where the ATS Convention will meet on May 18 - 19, 2024. Handicraft Exhibit Director is June Hoelzel and Assistant Directors are Sara Deutschlander and Patty Blevins.

The Junior Category, which allows our junior members, ages 13 and under, to exhibit their handcrafted items in an open category will once again be a part of the Exhibit. All members competing in this category will receive a small token of appreciation.

The Handicraft Exhibit provides an opportunity to display articles which relate to our Transylvanian Saxon cultural background, but is not restricted to this category only. It is a showplace for the artistic talents and abilities of our people, present and past.

A prize competition is held for items made by present ATS Members only. The rules for this prize competition are as follows:

1. There will be prize competition in ten (10) categories.
2. There will be first and second prizes awarded in each category.
3. There will be one (1) President's Award for "Best of Show" Entry.
4. No more than three (3) entries allowed per member.
5. Only items actually made by present ATS members, ages 14 and over, are eligible for entry in this prize competition.
6. There will be a separate Junior Category for ATS members, Ages 13 and under.
7. Winning entries will be determined by ballot vote of the Convention Delegates.

**NOTE:** An Entry Blank must be filled out for all items placed on display. Advance registration will be appreciated. The exhibit room will be opened Saturday morning (May 18) for delivery and set-up of display items. All items must be picked up Sunday morning (May 19) prior to the start of the Sunday Convention Session.

**Send your entry blank for the Saxon Handicraft Exhibit to:**

**June Hoelzel**  
**Handicraft Exhibit Director**  
**Unit 2601**  
**695 E Western Reserve Rd**  
**Poland, Ohio 44514**  
**(330) 953-2856**

**SAXON HANDICRAFT EXHIBIT ENTRY BLANK**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Branch No. \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

- I will bring the following items for exhibit only
- I will bring the following items to enter in prize competition

My ATS Certificate No. is \_\_\_\_\_

Adult Exhibit Categories: Describe your entry.

- |                 |                |
|-----------------|----------------|
| 1. Ceramics     | 6. Needlepoint |
| 2. Crewel       | 7. Quilting    |
| 3. Crocheting   | 8. Paintings   |
| 4. Cross Stitch | 9. Photography |
| 5. Knitting     | 10. Open Class |

Junior Category (Ages 13 and Under) - Open Class

Description: \_\_\_\_\_

**AGREEMENT**

I agree to be responsible for the delivery, display and pickup of these items at my own risk, and hold the Alliance of Transylvanian Saxons and Branch 30 harmless against any and all loss, damage, cost and expense that may be incurred by reason of such display and exhibition. I hereby certify that any item(s) entered under my name for Prize Competition was (were) made by me personally.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Earth Day is April 22**

**Tiny plastic bits exist in food, soil, and water**

Microplastics, bits of plastic that are less than five millimeters, are everywhere on Earth -- in our food, soil, and water.

A study by the University of Newcastle in Australia estimates that every person consumes about five grams of plastic every week. That would be like eating a credit card.

Microplastics come from everywhere. Some are created with the breakdown of larger items, including synthetic clothing that shed bits when washed, car tires, or paint flakes. Some microplastics are manufactured for use in other products like makeup or sunscreen.

In food, fruits and vegetables contain the bits, probably from the water taken in by roots. But plastics are also present in beer, rice, honey, tea, and salt.

At this point, it is not possible to avoid microplastics



entirely. They are literally in the apples on the tree, the snow in the Arctic, and the sands of the deserts.

However, you can avoid using plastic containers, single-use bags, and plastic packing materials. You can try to replace plastic tubes and bottles in everything from water to shampoo.

Experts at Rutgers University say the scientific community is still speculating what impact microplastics have on human health. There is some possibility that they can affect hormones and reproduction, and absorb chemicals and toxins before entering the human body.



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

**ATS Convention**  
**May 18 & 19, 2024**  
**Youngstown Saxon Club**  
**710 S. Meridian Road**  
**Youngstown, OH 44509**

**Hotel and Lodging information**

**Fairfield Inn and Suites**  
 801 N. Canfield Nile Road  
 Austintown, OH 44515  
 (330) 505-2173

Standard room with 2 Double beds \$174 +tax  
 Standard room with 1 King bed \$174 +tax

Cut-off date for these rooms - April 15, 2024

Code for block rate is "Saxon Club"

**Hampton Inn Youngstown**  
 880 N Canfield Niles Rd.  
 (330) 544-0660

Standard room with 2 Queen beds \$155 +tax  
 Cut-off date for these rooms - April 17, 2024

Code for block rate is "Youngstown Saxon Club"

**All rooms are non-smoking**  
**Complimentary Hot Breakfast is available**



## SAXON SUMMER CAMP

Ages 7 - 15

June 16 -21, 2024

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-2<sup>nd</sup> Grade** Songs, creek stompng, hiking, swimming, crafts, discovery time, camp fires and more.

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

**Discoverers – Completed 3<sup>rd</sup>- 4<sup>th</sup> Grade** Traditional camp activities plus climbing tower and archery.

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

**Journeyers – Completed 5<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> Grade** Includes traditional camp activities plus canocing, high rope courses and zip line.

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

**Ultimate Challenge – Completed 7<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> 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, 2024. 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, 2024, 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, 2024.  
Balance will be due by June 1, 2024.

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

## Student loan match plan may help young employees

Student loan payments have emerged as one of the primary obstacles to retirement saving, but a new plan may change that.

Provisions in the Secure 2.0 Act are designed to help the 28 million student borrowers pay their loans and start retirement savings.

The student loan match works much like employer match with a 401(k). Employers can match loan payments as contributions to an employer-sponsored re-



tirement plan like a 401(k). That means employees would be able to save for retirement just by repaying their student loans. Employers would be able to match dollar-for-dollar or as a per-

centage of the annual pay.

It is still unknown how many employers will implement the benefit. In a 2023 survey by the National Association of Plan Advisors, fewer than 5 percent of the firms surveyed say they have or will add student loan matching.

Some research suggests that employees are more likely to stay with a company when loan match is in place, according to Money.com.

## ATTENTION:

### Members Cleveland East Branch 33 2024-2025 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 2024-2025 academic year. IT IS THE MEMBER'S RESPONSIBILITY to call or write to REQUEST an application.

### DEADLINE IS May 30, 2024

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, 2024:

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

**Treat your amazing mom to Mother's Day BRUNCH** at Youngstown Saxon Club  
710 S Meridian Rd, Youngstown, OH 44509  
SUNDAY - MAY 12, 2024  
One Seating: Noon - 3:00 pm

**MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH MENU**

- Carving Station - Prime Rib
- Made-to-Order Omelet Bar
- Blackberry / Pomegranate Salmon
- Bourbon Glazed Chicken
- Tortellini in white vodka sauce
- Mashed Potatoes & Gravy
- Almondine Green Beans
- Strawberry-Mango Salad
- Caesar Salad
- Maple Bacon and Sausage
- Fresh Fruit Display
- Mini Hot Dog Bar
- Assorted Cakes

Price includes tax & service fee  
CASH BAR AVAILABLE

Live Entertainment & Family Fun Photo Booth

Prepaid reservations made by calling 234.228.8785



**BRANCH 10, COLUMBUS**  
By Donald Blum

**MONTHLY MEETING**

HICKORY HOUSE  
550 Officenter Place  
Gahanna, Ohio 43230  
April 15, 2024  
Time 12:00 noon

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

**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.

**GERMAN HISTORY**

**COLUMBUS-EDUCATION**

Through reading 'The Columbus Germans' by La Vern J. Rippley and reading articles from the Columbus Dispatch and Books by Myron T. Seifer on the Columbus Firsts in Public Education.

German language and education was prevalent in Ohio and particularly in Columbus. While public schools did not start in Ohio until the 1830's there were private schools that had begun in many cities and communi-

ties. German education initially was associated with the German churches. Many of the churches served as churches on Sundays and then as schools during the week. Columbus was a pioneer in German schools. Initially, Germans in Columbus had at least nine of these schools. The schools handled a variety of subjects but more times than naught would teach religion, the bible and music, in addition to educational curriculum.

Pressure was exerted on the Ohio Legislature, allowing reading, writing and arithmetic, but also the teaching of German as a foreign language. Columbus was successful in setting up three German public schools, one dating back to 1839. The schools were so successful that they saw a 50% increase in students very quickly. This caused the Board of Education to build new schools at Fourth and Court streets to house exclusively German students. The number of schools continued to increase as the interest in the schools increased. The German schools became so popular that even non-German educators supported these schools.

Eventually, German was used so extensively that German language was incorporated in the schools along with English in three buildings; The Central School (near Mound & Fourth), The Third Street School (south of Beck on Third Street, and South Street School (near Fulton and Washington). In addition the South German School-Suburban-one room school, used as a course of study at the high school level.

Initially, the German public schools increased at such a rapid pace, that the Board of Education proposed that in the early grades that all instruction would be in German. The concept was introduced, that a gradual transition from the early grades would transition to an English speaking study by the completion of the fifth grade.

Reports indicated that many Americans sent their children to the German schools as the schools demonstrated superiority in education and the opportunity they provided in language learning.

It should be noted the Columbus Public Schools were the first in the country to teach the German language in depth.

German books of every kind were made a part of the Columbus City Library. One section was reserved for German children, mostly from the southend, who were able to read the German literature in their language.

The first German Artillery Company recruited from local schools. The students who signed up were expected to serve for a five-year period. Captain Otto Zirckel recruited 90 youths for a German Volunteer Military Company.

The idea for Kindergartens originated in Blankenburg, Germany, in 1837, by Friedrich Froebel. Caroline Frankenberg was a student of Froebel. While another individual was supposedly credited with starting the first Kindergarten in the U.S, Miss Frankenberg brought the Kindergarten concept from Germany to Columbus in the late 1830s, which predates any other kindergarten concept in America. The school was established at the SE corner of Rich and Pearl Alley.

Professor Anton Liebold was a pioneer in Physical and Gymnastic Education. He developed handbooks and methods of instruction. His manuals discussed instruction and training by documenting the systematic processes in teaching physical education. He was the first full time physical education head of Columbus public schools. Much of his instructions followed German formats of physical education. His books and instructions would become official instructions on a national level and would be incorporated in other school and college programs.

German schools and the German students were among the first in Columbus to hold a variety of entertainments in the school building. Holidays of various nature and German entertainment, generally musicals and military drills and exhibitions were prominent in the German schools. On the last day of school the German schools initiated picnics and entertainment concepts.

The first German classes in the high school, taught by JC Christian taught German at the high schools at \$ 0.50 per lesson.

German schools and education was expanding at phenomenal rates up until when the war broke out in 1914. The affect was tremendous. The schools went from 4,340 students taking German and plummeted to zero.

In addition to the public school system of Columbus

Board of Education, there were challenges facing higher education. The story of Capital University begins in 1830. Under the leadership of Wilhelm Schmidt, a young German theologian, a seminary was started the Schmidt home in Canton, Ohio. A few months later it moved and was located on South High Street in Columbus. Students came from all over the state and did not have a strong basis of the German language. Due to the language challenge lectures had to be given in English. The board recruited Charles R. Schaefer to become the successor to Schmidt. English became the accepted language of teaching. The board appointed German born, Friederick Winckler as the new professor of the seminary. Winckler took a hard stand on the letter of the constitution that German was the only authorized language of instruction. Schaefer had already resigned so Winckler won his victory. There was one problem. The English constituency of the Zanesville Lutheran Synod withdrew its financial support. The only way to solve the problem was to implement that instruction would be in English and German. A way to address the problem was to hire Reverend William F. Lehman (Lehman would have a residential building dedicated in his name-the building has since been demolished), a master of both languages. Eventually, Lehman would become president of the seminary. It appeared as though Lehman had resolved the issues and problems, up and until his death. There were several successors after Lehman's death. The staunch support of the German factions of the seminary held it together but it was not amiable. The German factions said the seminary was getting too English and the English factions said it was too German for their liking. This went on for decades. In 1902, the

General Assembly of German Lutheran Seminary voted to change the name to Evangelical Lutheran Joint Synod of Ohio and other states made a last ditch effort to hold things together. There was even an effort considered to ask the King of Prussia to raise money in his kingdom to endow a German professorship. Nothing ever came of it. A final effort was made to have a percentage of the Lutheran Book of Concern (Sermons on the Gospel by Matthias Loy) and all the profits of the Kirchenzeitung (church newspaper) would allow one man to devote his entire time to the German language and literature. The profits were substantial but the money would be put away into the general fund instead of being used for the endowment. The bickering continued until 1910. The board officially decided to discontinue the instruction of German for classroom instruction. It was deemed too expensive to support the dual language system for instruction, instructional material and books.

As you can see from the articles, Germans in Columbus have had a tremendously positive affect on so many diverse areas of the educational community.

We will continue to explore other areas in which the Germans had an impact on Columbus.

**HUMOR**

A man hasn't been feeling well, so he goes to his doctor for a complete checkup. Afterward, the doctor comes out with the results. "I'm afraid I have some very bad news," the doctor says. "You're dying, and you don't have much time left." "Oh, that's terrible!" says the man. "How long have I got?" "Ten," the doctor says sadly. "Ten?" the man asks. "Ten what? Months? Weeks? What?!" "Nine...," The man asks again, "Nine what? Months? Weeks? What?!" The doctor shakes his head and replies, "Eight...!"







## Choruses

**CLEVELAND, SECTION 1**  
**EINTRACHT SAXONIA**  
**SACHSENCOR**  
 Rehearsal:  
 Tuesdays 1:30 - 3:00 p.m.

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 No Olmsted OH 44070  
 (440) 734-2584  
**SECRETARY**  
 Christa Herbert  
 4703 West Ridgewood Dr.  
 Parma, OH 44134  
 440-888-6094

**NEW CASTLE, SECTION 6**  
**EINTRACHT MÄNNERCHOR**  
 Rehearsal:  
 Every Tuesday at 7:30 p.m.

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

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



## Cultural Groups

**CLEVELAND SAXON DANCE GROUP**  
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 6:30 p.m Children  
 7:30 pm Adults  
 Westside Sachsenheim  
 csgd7001@yahoo.com

**PRESIDENT**  
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 Adonnellan5@yahoo.com

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 Stephanie Miller  
 23500 Wingedfoot Dr  
 Westlake OH 44145  
 (216) 647-3229  
 SAMiller55@sbcglobal.net

**YOUNGSTOWN SAXON CULTURE GROUP**  
 Meets: 2nd Sunday of Month  
 Youngstown Saxon Club

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

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



## BOOKS

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

**Fleeing to the Friendly Enemy** by Barbara Ohler Weber  
*A true story of the author's experiences during World War II and her immigration to America in the 1950's.*  
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*Memoirs of Maria Schneider written in German describing her family's hardships when they had to flee from their home in 1944 and start a new life in Austria.*  
 \$20 per copy (postpaid)

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

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

All books unless noted have English Text.

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

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 5323 Pearl Road, Cleveland, Ohio 44129  
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## SAXON SENIORS

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

**PRESIDENT**  
 Diana Kommel  
 666 N. Schenley  
 Youngstown, OH 44509  
 (330) 799-1738  
**SECRETARY**  
 Rosemary Dundon  
 6000 Lake Rd W Apt 112  
 Ashtabula OH 44004  
 (440) 536-4661

**SALEM SAXON RETIREES**  
 Meets 1st Wednesday  
 of the month  
 Noon at 1980 NewGarden Rd

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 Minerva, OH 44657  
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**OF**  
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**CAN HELP**  
**YOU**  
**TO SAVE!**





Today the church still exhibits the basic characteristics of the three-aisle Romanesque basilica that originally had a six-level western tower. The ensemble was surrounded by a ring wall, which was fortified starting in 1430, when the Ottoman attacks occurred. A second fortification wall was built, as well as several defence towers and a moat. The church itself was also strengthened: defence towers were built above the chancel and its apse and above the two side entrances. The western Romanesque portal is ornamented with typical interlace. The spire roof with corner towers was built as early as 1591. Especially valuable are the altars from other village churches, which are displayed inside. These were brought to Heltau for safety reasons.

Place and surroundings

The legend of the fortified church of Cisnădie tells us that a great treasure was once hidden inside. After numerous Ottoman attacks in the 15th Century the village community built a secret chamber within the castle walls. Access was secured with a massive oak door, which could only be opened by pressing a hidden spring. From the outside, the

entrance was camouflaged so well that only few insiders could find it. Not even the priests knew about it. Over the centuries, the knowledge of this hidden entrance got lost. At the beginning of the 20th Century it was rediscovered and can be visited today. In addition, not secretly hidden, but visible from far away visitors can spot the first clock tower in Transylvania, which is operated since 1425, and the first lightning rod in Transylvania dating back to 1795. The bell ringer of Heltau provides expert guided tours of the fortification and the church affiliated museum and has many more stories and legends to share.



Hegt wird gesungen!: “Det Frähjohr kitt än de Wegden”

It’s hard to believe that the popular song “Det Frähjohr kitt än de Wegden” (Spring Comes to the Willows) will celebrate its 100th birthday in four years! Over time it has become part of the public domain and only a few people know its creator.

The lyrics of the song sparkle with joy of life. Imagine the long, cold winters in the farmhouse parlors 100 years ago. In the first weeks of spring not only did the ever-changing cycle of nature begin, but at the same time the spring customs also began.

The boys in some villages used to attach branches with pussy willows to the windows or gates of the houses where their sweethearts lived. Catkin branches in a vase by the window were supposed to protect the house from evil spirits. Flirchers (flures, flutes) made from young willow bark also had an established place in earlier spring customs: the boys made them sound loudly to scare witches. (Carl Göllner “In the cycle of the year”, Kriterion-Verlag Bucharest, 1987, p. 58)

Even today people still like to put the pretty Palmitzker in the vase as a herald of spring. Grandfathers teach their grandchildren to beat flutes made of willow branches. Declarations of love and driving away evil spirits are no longer associated with it, you simply enjoy spring and perhaps feel transported in space and time.

Grete Lienert-Zultner (\*1906 Malmkrog, †1989 Traunreut) was a gifted song writer and is one of the best-known and most popular dialect poets in Transylvania. In 1925 she completed the teachers’ seminar in Sighisoara. In 1926 she married the notary Michael Lienert. In addition to her family, she was also active in the women’s association and gave lectures and recitals together with Anna Schuller-Schullerus. During

her years as a teacher in Waldhütten, Neithausen, Neustadt, Denndorf and Schaas, she created numerous plays and musical plays (e.g.: “Äm Ihr uch Gläck”, “Bäm Brännchen”, “Wieht de Fänn hiemen?”, “Fosnicht hu mer”), “Bauernliesel”, “Das Salzfass” and others), in which she incorporated several of her songs in folk music. Through the theater performances, their songs quickly spread and became popular: “De Astern”, “De Schnieglekelcher blähn”, “Der Owend kitt errun”, “Iw-wer de Stoppeln”, “De Birkeblädder fallen”, “Ställ uch fridlich”, “Sälwer-fäddem” and many more).

From 1963 the family lived in Sighisoara, where Grete Lienert-Zultner founded a singing group, which Paul Schuller, music professor at the Bergschule, transformed into a chamber choir in 1965, which existed until 2001. In 1967 and 1968, this choir recorded a total of 26 dialect songs on two records for Electrecord Bucharest. In 1978 the family moved to the Federal Republic. Here Grete Lienert-Zultner published two volumes of poetry “Wat u menjem Wiěj bläht” and “Growing, Blooming, Ripening” and two songbooks “De Astern uch änder Liedcher” (22 songs) and “Der Owend kit erun uch änder Lieder” (21 songs). Ernst Irtel praised Grete Lienert-Zultner’s songs as follows: “Her melodies are tasteful and noble, always stimulating and imaginative, versatile in expression [...] born from the experience of the village and its people, they also hit right in the heart.”

Listen to the song “Det Frähjohr kitt än de Wegden” with Waltraud Zoppelt and Hans Krauss (Schäßburg) at [siebenbuerger.de/go/866U](http://siebenbuerger.de/go/866U) and with the Zenderscher Choir at [siebenbuerger.de/go/867U](http://siebenbuerger.de/go/867U).

Angelika Meltzer  
SBZ Online 3. April 2024

Det Frähjohr kitt än de Wegden (Gangeliedchen)

Text und Melodie: Grete Lienert-Zultner (1928)

Marschmäßig

1. Det Fräh-johr kitt än de Weg-den, na zäh mer Flir-cher  
schneg - den aft Feeld, un de Bääch, än de Bäsch. Pal -  
mitz - ker seng er - wacht vum Drie - men, all  
sän - gä bränge mer se hic - men, as Härz-ker schlo si frih uch  
fräsch, as Härz - ker scho si frih uch fräsch.

1. Det Frähjohr kitt än de Wegden,  
na zäh mer Flircher schnegden  
aft Feeld, un de Bääch, än de Bäsch.  
Palmitzker seng erwacht vum Driemen,  
all sängä bränge mer se hiemen,  
|: as Härzker schlo si frih uch fräsch. :|

2. Kutt, kutt, net säzt norr am Schaden!  
Kloopt feest, ir Kameraden,  
bäs datt de Schuël sich liest!  
De Medcher, dä hu Blomme fangden,  
sä hu schi Krinz fir as gebangden.  
|: Hurra, na wärde mer bekrinzt! :|

3. Hiert, wä de Flircher klängen! / Hiert, wä de Medcher sängen!  
Dät schallt durch de gäänz Gemien. / Mir seng de Frähjohrsmusikanten  
und spille wä as Adjuvanten, / |: et frät sich alles, Griß uch Klien. :|



Fortified Churches Foundation  
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## April is Financial Literacy Month

Financial literacy is the ability to understand and make use of a variety of financial skills, including personal financial management, budgeting, and investing. It also means understanding certain financial principles and concepts, such as the time value of money, compound interest, managing debt, and financial planning.



### What is Compound Interest?

Compound interest simply means that you are earning interest on both your original money saved and any interest you earn on that original amount. Compound interest has been called the eighth wonder of the world. Albert Einstein is said to have called it one of the greatest mathematical concepts of our time. Another example of compound interest is like a snowball. In year one, you invest or save an amount. That amount earns interest. In year two, you earn interest on the original saved amount plus the interest from the first year. During the third year, you earn interest on your original amount plus the interest earned the first two years. Keep rolling that snowball every year, and it just gets bigger and bigger.

### When you are young, you have an asset money can't buy: TIME!

#### Example 1

At age 20, you start saving \$100 each month until you turn 65. You earn an average of 4% annually, compounded monthly.

Your investment: \$54,000

At age 65, you have \$151,550.

#### Example 2

You wait until age 50 to start saving. You initially invest \$5,000 and then \$500 monthly until you turn 65. You earn the same 4% return, compounded monthly.

Your investment: \$95,000

At age 65, you have \$132,147

As you can see from the above examples, starting early is definitely the way to go. Even small amounts saved, on a systematic basis, starting when you are young can really add up. In addition, if you could increase that small amount by a little bit each time you get a raise, it will really pay off for you when you retire.

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