

THE SAXON NEWS

Volksblatt

Celebrating over 100 years of Saxon Fraternalism

Club House in Hunters Woods at

2:00 p.m. The shared cost is \$15

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

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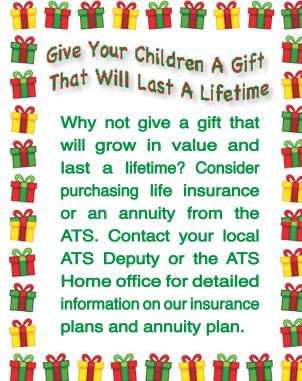
BRANCH 27, NEW CASTLE By Dolores Both

On November 7 we enjoyed a delicious dinner at Soni's Restaurant followed by our meeting. We received a very nice, much appreciated thank you letter from Branch 25 for our continued donations and support of the Eintracht Singing Society.

This month members donated 71 items for the City Rescue Mission. The Mission was very appreciative.

Don't forget to send in your pre-paid reservation for our Christmas party on December 8 at the





for members and guests. Send it to Judy Both, 1512 Drespling Lane, New Castle, PA 16101 by November 30. It's a catered affair and we need to know the number attending. Several members have volunteered to bring in their Christmas centerpieces to be used to decorate the tables. Instead of having a \$5 gift exchange, we voted to donate any money collected to the ATS Saxon Relief Fund. The Children's Christmas Party is December 7 at 6:00 p.m. and November 20 at 6:00 p.m. is

is December 7 at 6:00 p.m. and November 20 at 6:00 p.m. is Deck the Halls at the club. Debbie Hermann has sign-up sheets at the club for volunteers to work the Children's Christmas Party and Deck the Halls. Planning for both events is smoothly coming together and your volunteer help is greatly appreciated.

We voted to make a monetary donation to ARISE, the women's shelter.

Don't forget to send your \$7 dues for 2025 to Katy Hudak, 4097 Countyline Road, New Castle, PA 16101 by January 1. Please enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope for sending the membership card to you. Please write your check payable to "Saxon Ladies"

Continued on Page 3



MAILED WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2024
Attention Postmaster: Send all Changes of Address to:

The Alliance of Transylvanian Saxons 5323 Pearl Road Cleveland OH 44129-1503

<u>Attention</u> TSBA Bowlers The next session will be held in Cleveland West on December 8th. Please note a change in time and location. The bowling session will be held at Yorktown Lanes 6218 Pearl Rd Parma Heights, OH 44130. We will begin bowling at 12:15 p.m. for that session. Dinner will follow at the Westside Sachsenheim. Please send any meal cancellations to CJ Schmitz (440) 799-1940.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Denise Aeling Crawford

ATS Nat'l President



I had the pleasure of attending the Youngstown Saxon Culture Group's 53rd Annual Trachtenball on Saturday, November 2nd. What a delightful evening! The Cleveland Deutscher Musik Verein played for our listening pleasure, directed by everybody's favorite polka musician Fred Ziwich. The Pittsburgh Alpenschuhplattler Dance Group danced as well as our own Cleveland Saxon Dance Group. The Culture Group's Brass Band rounded out the evening. If you missed it, you missed a great evening. Plan to attend this wonderful event next year!

The American Fraternal Alliance, of which the ATS is a member, had a networking event in Cleveland on Tuesday, November 12th. This was a chance for the ATS Board of Directors to mingle with other Fraternal Benefit Societies and discuss critical issues facing the fraternal system. It is always nice to hear from our counterparts about new ideas, strategies for attracting new members, keeping existing members informed, as well as growing our Branches. The AFA helps to keep our tax-exempt status in place on a federal and state level, as well as reporting on compliance and regulatory changes that occur.

As the year winds down, we seem to get busier and busier. We start worrying about the holidays and everything that still needs done before the end of the year. Take some time to relax and just enjoy the holidays. While we're counting our blessings, remember to include some charitable donations on your to-do list. The ATS gladly accepts donations to the Saxon Relief Fund to help our elderly Saxons in Transylvania. The Saxons in Germany, through the Sozialwerk der Siebenbürger Sachsen group, sends money and supplies to the Altenheims (retirement homes) in Transylvania. Send your check, payable to the ATS, to the Home Office at 5323 Pearl Road, Cleveland, OH 44129. We will wire the funds to Germany. Thank you!

Not sure what to get your children, grandchildren or even great-grandchildren for Christmas? How about something that doesn't need batteries and they will not outgrow it? Purchase an ATS Life Insurance policy for them! You've already done that. How about an ATS Annuity for them? You can deposit some money to begin with, and then add more each birthday and Christmas. Give them a good head start in life with life insurance and a retirement plan!

Did you know that the "sometimes called first president" of the United States died on November 22, 1783? According to History.com, John Hanson was a self-educated son of farmers from Charles County, Maryland. His family lived in Maryland for three generations. At age 25, John married his wife, Jane Contee. They had nine children. However, only five survived to adulthood. One of those five was killed in action as a Continental soldier at Fort Washington, New York, in 1776.

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

President's Message Cont'd from Page 1

John Hanson's career as ratified in 1781. The nation a politician started in 1757 when he was elected to the Maryland Colonial Assembly. He represented Charles County different times over the upcoming years (1758 – 1763, 1765, 1766, and 1768-1769). He then took a seat in the revolutionary Annapolis Convention, which took control of the colony from the British in 1774 and renamed itself the Assembly of Freemen in 1776. Hanson was an outspoken supporter of the Patriot cause and was instrumental in Maryland's decision to back the rebels laying siege to British-controlled Boston, Massachusetts, in the aftermath of the battles of Lexington and Concord.

Hanson served as a delegate to the Continental Congress in 1780 to 1782. This included a term as the president of Congress (similar to the position of prime minister in the British Parliament). America's first constitution, the Articles of Confederation, was

was a loose confederation of states, each operating like independent countries. The national government was comprised of a single legislature; there was no president or judicial branch. Upon ratification of the Articles of Confederation. the Continental Congress became the "Congress of the Confederation" or the "United States in Congress Assembled". John Hanson was the first president of that body.

The presidency did not exist as an executive position separate from Congress at that time. At the 1787 convention, delegates devised a plan for a stronger federal government with three branches (executive, legislative, and judicial) along with a system of checks and balances to ensure no single branch would have too much power. This new Constitution needed to be approved or ratified by nine of the thirteen original states. By December 7, 1787, five states



Brain training may help fight dementia

Researchers at the University of Montreal believe that a study conducted on seniors shows that memory training helped stabilize their mild cognitive impairment.

The paper, published in an Alzheimer's and dementia journal in September, showed that even after five years, seniors who had received memory and attention training had not declined further. However, a group that was not treated declined further.

The memory and attention training volved no drugs at all and was a short-term program of memorizing lists, performing tasks, and focusing attention.

had done so. Other states opposed the document, because it failed to reserve un-delegated powers to the states and it lacked constitutional protection of basic political rights, such as freedom of speech, religion, and the press. A compromise was reached and on June 21, 1788, the ninth state ratified the document. It was agreed that this new government under the U.S. Constitution would begin on March 4, 1789. George Washington was inaugurated as America's first President on April 30, 1789. Nineteen amendments to the Constitution were originally proposed. Twelve of these were adopted and sent to the states for ratification. Ten of these twelve were ratified and became part of the Constitution on December 10, 1791. These ten amendments are known as the Bill of Rights and include freedom of speech, religion, and press.

Have a wonderful Thanks-

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

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SECRETARIES TAKE NOTICE:

THE DEADLINE DATE FOR ARTICLES IS WEDNESDAY - 12 NOON.

You may either

E-MAIL: saxonvolksblatt@aol.com **POSTAL MAIL:** Saxon News Volksblatt 29076 Fall River Dr Westlake, OH 44145

Articles e-mailed will receive an e-mailed confirmation by Noon Thursday. If you did not receive a confirmation, please give us a call.

DEADLINE DATES FOR ARTICLES:

DEADLINE

ISSUE

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2024 WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2024

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2024

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2024 FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2024 FRIDAY, JANUARY 3, 2025

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 27 Cont'd from Page 1

Branch 27". If you prefer, a membership card can be emailed to you and you can print it. Please include your email address.

To order your Wendell August ornament and booklet, "A Brief History of the Transylvania Saxons," contact Judy Both at (724) 654-0573 or jboth1512@comcast.net. Christmas will be here soon and the ornament will have a special place on your Christmas tree.

The next meeting will be at the club on March 6 at 6:00 p.m. No meetings in January or February.

Judy read her original poem, "Veterans Day." Thank you to all veterans for your service!

After the meeting we had a door prize drawing. Members received a ticket for each item donated to the City Rescue Mission. Sherri Fenske was the lucky winner of a beautiful wristwatch. A "Name the Slogan" game followed the drawing. Game winners were Doris Shenker, Katy McCune, Sherri Fenske, Dolores Both, Linda Stoops, Susan Shenker, Debbie Hermann and Doreen Hietsch. We shared "much fun" and laughter.

An added note: Our Treasurer, Linda Stoops, fell a week ago and was at our meeting not feeling too good. Our best get well wishes are sent her way.

See you at the Christmas party!

Veterans Day

November eleventh is Veteran's Day, chosen for Americans their thanks to say. To the men and women who bravely fought for the lasting freedom we all sought. Confronting enemies who would wrest away the way we live from day to day. Inadequate though thanks may be, as a group it comes from we. Who recognize your selfless gift and to heaven our voices lift. Asking God to watch over you to guide and protect in all you do.

An original poem by Judith E. Both 2015

BRANCH 30, YOUNGSTOWN By Rosemarie Kascher

Upcoming events: Wednesdays

Dinner and Drawings Thursdays

Bar Bingo,

Queen of Hearts Fridays Fish Night,

open to the public

Sundays Breakfast and 2 p.m. meetings, 2nd Sundays

December 2 Officers meeting, 6 p.m.

December 8 Branch meeting and Christmas Party after

December 15

1 p.m. Childrens' Christmas Party, free for all children

Closure dates:

Thursday, November 28 December 24

Christmas Eve December 25

Christmas Tuesday, December 31 New Year's Eve

January 1

New Year's Day

There is the possibility that there will be a Game Night on Tuesdays; we'll keep you posted.

A delightful Christmas

Party has been planned for your children and grandchildren on December 15 at 1:00 p.m. and it is free for all children. So, bring those children and grandchildren for a special party just for them. What a treat! Phone Christa if you have questions. (330) 770-1419.

We welcome Bruce Zinz to our membership. He is in a long line of Zinz's that have been members over the years. Welcome!

Thank you, Tammy Hahn for another successful Craft Show because of your fine leadership. We are grateful.

The Christmas Party is right after our December meeting and, as before, we request that you, if you can, bring some cookies for the cookie table, and/or donate to the prizes. The party is free for all members, \$5.00 for social members and \$10.00 for guests. It's a lovely event so don't miss it.

At a time when the world and our country are in change, we pray that each of you has a wonderful Christmas and New Year. Sachs halt wacht!

Youngstown Branch officers for the new year: President: Ernie Roth

1st Vice President:

June Hoelzel

2nd Vice President:

Fran Hinerman

Corresponding Secretary:

Rosemarie Kascher

Gene Thomas

Financial Secretary: Val Thomas

Sgt. At Arms: Tammy Hahn ATS Secretary:

Julaine Gilmartin

Trustees:

Mike Teutsch Barry Garhammer Bo Rutkowsky Rick Spencer

Dan Richards Kevin Miller

Denny Furman Michele Childers

Thank you!



CLEVELAND SACHSENHEIM ATS BRANCH 1

SAUSAGE SALE

Saturday December 7, 2024

\$5.00 per pound Garlic or no garlic Sold in 3 and 5 pound packages

Orders taken until November 29.

Call: Sachsenheim (216) 651-0888 Rob Hanek (440) 356-5582 Email: rhanek8@yahoo.com

PICKUP AFTER 3 PM



TO THE ANNUAL TRANSYLVANIAN SAXON SOCIETY

Christmas Part

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15th, 2024 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM DONAUSCHWABEN HALL 625 SEEGERS RD, DES PLAINES, IL 60016

> BRING YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS THERE WILL BE LOTS OF FOOD CHRISTMAS CAROLS GIFTS FOR THE CHILDREN. . AND OF COURSE, A VISIT FROM GOOD OLD ST. NICK!

There is NO admission Dinner will be provided at a cost of \$15.00 per adult \$10.00 for children ages 12 and under. Contact Rose Hauer at (847-685-9821) for reserverations no later than December 7th Baked goods and raffle prizes would be appreciated.



In the spirit of the giving season, please bring a donation of canned goods and/or dried food products.



Joint Social - Bring covered Dishes Meat & cookies provided!

Santa & Mrs. Claus will attend games & crafts for all ages

Each child will get a gift!

Please RSVP by calling or texting Chris Phillis at (330) 853-8834 with number of children attending! Keep your memories alive with this

Wendell August ornament

\$20





"A Brief History of the Transylvanian Saxons" booklet

\$1

Pre-paid orders for a single ornament can be mailed in the continental United States for an additional minimum of \$6.00. Postage will vary for multiple ornament purchases. Contact Judy Both at 724-654-0573 or jboth1512@comcast.net

FRATERNAL CALENDAR

NATIONAL EVENTS

December 8, 2024

TSBA Bowling Session Host: Cleveland West

January 26, 2025

TSBA Bowling Session Host: Lorain

February 16, 2025

TSBA Bowling Session Host: New Castle

March 2, 2025

TSBA Bowling Session Host: Youngstown

April 5 & 6, 2025

TSBA Season-end Tournament Host: Lorain

May 17, 2025

Branch Presidents Meeting

Host: Columbus Saxons, Br. 10

July 11 - 13, 2025

North American Saxon Heimattag

Host: Youngstown Saxon Club

October 18 - 19, 2025

ATS Open Bowling Tournament

Host: Merrillville, IN

LOCAL EVENTS

November 23, 2024

Youngstown Saxon Culture Group

Fall Sausage Sale

December 6, 2024

New Castle Eintracht Sinfing Society

Christmas Concert Dinner 5 p.m Concert 7 p.m.

December 7, 2024

Cleveland West Sausage Sale

Cleveland East Sausage Sale

New Castle Br. 27 Children's Christmas Party

December 8, 2024

Columbus Br. 10 Christmas Party

Berwick Party House

New Castle Br. 27 Christmas Party

Hunters Woods Clubhouse

December 14, 2024

Cleveland West Children's Christmas Party

Cleveland Sachsenheim/GCM Krampus Fest

Salem Saxon Club Christmas Party 5:00 p.m.

December 15, 2024

Chicago Br. 9 Saxon Christmas Party

Cleveland East Br. 33 Christmas Party

January 19, 2025

Youngstown Saxon Club Pork and Kraut Dinner

February 16, 2025

Youngstown Saxon Club Pork and Kraut Dinner

March 16, 2025

Youngstown Saxon Club Pork and Kraut Dinner





Alliance of Transylvanian Saxons

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

BRANCH 9, CHICAGO By Rose-Marie Hauer

President Thut brought the meeting to order, and we had great attendance. As the year is winding down, we have one important event and that is the Christmas Party on December 15, at 1 p.m. Members were mailed information. Attached is also a flyer if you did not receive one. Please make reservations for lunch to Rose and come join us for a fun filled afternoon.

Currently we have no members on the sick list.

In order to keep our members informed the ATS is currently in the process of obtaining email addresses and constructing a Facebook page. Please watch for information.

Next meeting is December 2, with elections. Please try and attend.

I wish you all a very Happy Thanksgiving and God bless you all!



Thanksgiving Day: November 28

One of the most celebrated holidays of the year, the holiday feast often takes center stage.

The real purpose of the day is how you recognize and give thanks for your family, your country, and the many blessings, large and small, that fill your life.

More people travel for Thanksgiving than any other holiday, including Christmas. That means that as you drive, fly, or travel by train, you should put safety first

Remember not to rush or drive at excessive speeds. Stay in travel mode so you can patiently handle any problems that arise and reach your destination safely. You'll have time to eat, give thanks, visit, and cheer for your favorite football team.

BRANCH 33 SAUSAGE SALE

Homemade Saxon Wurst



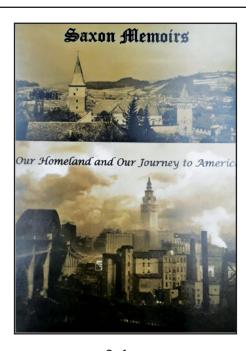
The Taste of Cleveland East!

Saturday, <u>December 7, 2024</u>
Messiah Lutheran Church
5200 Mayfield Rd. Lyndhurst
Pick-up 1 to 4 p.m.
\$4.50 per pound

Satisfy your craving and call order to Ema Litschel (440) 479-9334 Options: In Casing or Loose Garlic or No garlic

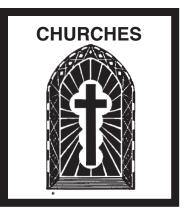
Note- Half Sale Proceeds donated to Local Food Bank





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.



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

Favorite holiday dessert?

If you are looking for a good dessert for Thanks-giving, your best bet might be vanilla ice cream and a brownie.

According to the International Dairy Foods Association, vanilla once again tops the list of favorite ice cream flavors at 38 percent. Consumers prefer to pair a scoop of vanilla on a brownie (31 percent), followed by cake (22 percent, cookies (17 percent) and pie (13 percent.)

In order, favorite flavors after vanilla were fairly traditional: Chocolate (32 percent), strawberry (25 percent), butter pecan and cookie dough (21 percent each). Also present in the top 10 were chocolate chip, rocky road, and peanut butter cup.

BRANCH 10, COLUMBUS By Donald Blum

MONTHLY MEETING

HICKORY HOUSE 550 Officenter Place Gahanna, Ohio 43230 November 18, 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."

CELEBRATIONS

We wish Liz Lassel (November 6), Marlene Mueller (November 6) and Christine Oehlman (November 15). Alles Gute zum Geburtstag!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8TH!

It's time again for the Columbus Saxons Club Branch 10 Annual Christmas Party!

You don't want to miss the Christmas Party/Celebration. It's Sunday, December 8th at the Berwick Party House. The celebration will be from 12:00 to 4:00 p.m. Should you feel the urge you can wear your Dirndl or Lederhosen or Saxon Tracht or Christmas Ugly Sweater

There will be more information in the coming weeks on



Mail Check Payable to the COLUMBUS SAXONS CLUB BRANCH 10 to the following:

C/O DON BLUM, TREASURER 6436 LAKEVIEW CIRCLE CANAL WINCHESTER, OHIO 43110

PRINT NAMES OF PEOPLE ATTENDING	à
PRINT CHILDREN'S NAMES	AGE

the Facebook page, Volksblatt and other communications!

Let **Don Blum** know you are coming to the Christmas Party by **responding to the**

following:

Don Blum

Email donaldcblum@prodigy.net

Call Cell Phone (614) 580-8616

Or Text To (614) 580-8616

When you respond make sure you let the Don know your name, phone number, the names of all the people & especially children(age) and names that you will be bringing to the Saxon Christmas Party. We need a head count for the Berwick Party House by November 15, 2024.

The cost to come to Saxon Club's Celebration is: Adults \$ 35.00

Children under 13 years \$20.00 Children under 2 Years FREE

Pay for the Christmas Party by sending your check (Payable to the COLUMBUS SAXONS CLUB BRANCH 10) to Don Blum no later than Friday, November 15, 2024! Again, we need the names of all the people in your party and children's ages and names under 13. Please use the attachment in sending your payment. If we do not receive your payment by Friday, November 22, 2024, we will assume you are not able to attend and we will miss you.

C/O Don Blum, Treasurer 6436 Lakeview Circle Canal Winchester, Ohio 43110

We encourage you to bring your special and delicious Christmas Dessert to share!

TRANSYLVANIA TRIP

One of the next stops on our journey was a stop in Mediasch, the birthplace of Hermann Oberth (The father of space-flight). As a rocket scientist, his theories and designs led to the study of rocket science, development of rocket design and the potential for space travel. His many students would carry on Hermann's ideas and philosophies, and in their own right would become famous and influential in the rocket and space industry. I apologize for no pictures but it was a brief visit.

On to Biertan (Birthälm). The stop was very interesting in our visit of another marvel of ingenuity of building these large, ornate and varied architectural structures. I still am amazed that the fortified churches were built with only manual labor, and not the mechanical benefits

barrier. We had already experienced the physical exertion of undertaking the effort of getting to the top of the structures by climbing long and challenging steps. Many endeavored the several hundred steps to reach the church. After reaching the top, we learned there were two ways to get there, one working harder and climbing the steep steps, and the other working smarter, and using a second, more direct path, not requiring the physical effort. Unfortunately, I took off so quickly and was not aware of the smarter path to follow. The Biertan church had been used as the Bishop's residence for over 300 years (residence was putting it politely, as it was a small room that was not as ornate as the church). An intriguing feature to the residence was the massive door, with an intricate lock. Once inside we viewed the beautiful architectural design of the extremely tall walls with beautiful supporting ornate wood trellis ceiling. As with all the churches, the murals tell a story of Christ's life and the events surrounding his life. We learned an interesting fact that the church remained pretty much the same as it original design except for one change. After the Reformation and the transformation from Catholic to Lutheran, there was a change made to the mural in the front of the church. As was customary in Catholic Churches, the Virgin Mary is elevated to a very high place in the church. While the Lutheran religion still holds the mother of Christ in high esteem, a statue of Mary was replaced with a mural of Mary in the scenes of Christ's life Previously, we had dis-

that are used today. Equally

amazing is that the structures

are still in good condition after almost 1,000 years of existence. We have already

recognized several patterns

of the fortified churches and

structures. Many were built

on steep hills/mountains,

fortified walls and/or a water

cussed the White Stork population of Transylvania and the Brown Bears that inhabit Transylvania and Romania. On our trip we learned that Transylvania/Romania has 50% of the Brown Bear population of Europe. Recently, I was fortunate to watch a show on WOSU/PBS regarding "Nature: Count Dracula's Transylvania." It was a wonderful movie about the past and current wildlife population that had inhabited and due to restoration efforts, much wildlife is being brought back to Transylvania. It dis-



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.

Katherine Brusk

Age 81 Died: October 31, 2024 Branch 33, Cleveland East

Frank Hum

Age 73 Died October 31, 2024 Branch 33, Cleveland East

Joseph Garofalo

Age 77 Died: November 1, 2024 Home Branch, Erie, PA

cussed in further detail about the Brown Bears life. It talked about the coexistence with man and farming. It showed how the Brown Bears come down to the valleys to enjoy the plentiful number of apples and plums of the valleys. It talked about how this balance between man and the bears are being sustained because of the traditional rudimental farming and way of life of current Transylvanians. I learned that at one time Transylvania/Romania was home to more than several million bison. Through aggressive hunting their very existence was almost threatened to a mere dozen bison. Due to efforts, the population is making a comeback and now has a population of several hundred bison. The movie talked about beavers that were so prevalent, were almost reduced to nothing. Due to efforts by the government the beaver population is again flourishing and adding back to the delicate balance of wildlife of Transylvania. The movie talked about the importance of bat population in Transylvania. Transylvania, with its large number of older churches, castles, buildings and caves, provide a natural habitat for the bats that maintain an ecological balance of controlling the insect population. The movie talked about the Lynx, which we knew was so prevalent thousands of years ago and is still being maintained today. The Lynx population is thriving, but the numbers are not known because of the solitude living of the Lynx. It was a very enlightening show

Continued on Page 6

BRANCH 10 Cont'd from Page 5

about an area of Transylvania of which I was not familiar.

We end this part of our Transylvanian journey and more will come in subsequent Volksblatt articles.

HUMOR

An old man and his wife visited the doctor for a checkup. The doctor wanted to examine the doctor first. After the visiting the old man, the doctor said I am surprised you are in such great shape. I attribute it to my good and clean life. The doctor said your good and clean life? Yes, I have lived such a good and clean life that the Lord himself turns the light on when I use the bathroom and the Lord himself turns it off when I leave. The doctor says the Lord himself did this? The old man says yes.

The doctor nodded politely and said I will need to visit the doctor next. After visiting the wife, the doctor says you are in excellent health. The wife asks how is my husband? The doctor says physically he is fine, but I am worried about his mental health. The wife asks, why? He insists the Lord himself turns the light on when he goes to the bathroom and the Lord himself turns the light off when he leaves.

The wife shouts, MY GOD, THE DARN FOOL IS PEEING IN THE FRIDGE AGAIN!

HAPPY THANKSGIVING. ENJOY THE TIME OF YEAR WITH FRIENDS AND FAMILY CREATING HAPPY MEMORIES! GOTT SEGNE!





The Catholic tower

The catholic tower is on the southern part of the fortifications. On the ground floor of the catholic tower used to be a chapel that was painted with frescoes and was used by those who refused to accept the Reformation. A symbol of tolerance. The frescoes are late Gothic of the 1500s. Inside are depicted the Annunciation, the Adoration of the Magi, the Last Judgement, Christ in a mandorla, the Archangel Michael, Saints George and Ursula. In the niche above the entrance is the Coronation of the Virgin and King Vladislav Jagiello of Poland, Hungary and Bohemia (1471-1516). The rectangular three-storey tower shows arrow loops on the upper level, a wooden lagging parapet walk and a pyramidal broach roof.

Turnul Catolicilor

Turnul Catolicilor, aflat pe partea de sud a primului zid de apărare, adāpostește la parter o capelă ce păstrează încă o bună parte din pictura murală de odinioară. Turnul de apărare cu plan dreptunghiular are trei nivele, etajele superioare au guri de tragere, un coridor de apărare cu balustradă de lemn și un acoperiș piramidal. Pe fresce se disting: Buna Vestire, Adorația Magilor, Judecata de Apoi, Judecata Universală, Hristos în Mandorlă, Arhanghelul Mihail, Sfântul Gheorghe și Sfânta Ursula. În nișa de deasupra intrării se află fresca încoronării Mariei (Maria Patrona Hungariae) și a regelui Vladislav al II-lea.

Katholischer Turm

Der Katholische Turm steht auf der Südseite der ersten Ringmauer. Im Erdgeschoss des Katholischen Turms befindet sich eine Kapelle, in der ein großer Teil der ursprünglichen Ausmalung erhalten geblieben ist. Der im Grundriss rechteckige Wehrturm ist dreigeschossig, hat in den Obergeschossen nach außen Schießscharten, einen holzverschalten Wehrgang und ein Pyramidendach. Auf den Fresken sind zu erkennen: die Verkündigung, die Anbetung der Heiligen Drei Könige, das Jüngste Gericht, das Weltgericht, Christus in der Mandorla, der Erzengel Michael, der Heilige Georg und die Heilige Ursula. In der Nische über dem Eingang befindet das Fresko der Krönung Mariens und König Wladislaw II.





We petition our Sa

ATS SAXON RELIEF FUND

Help us help

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Melfen!

Melfen!

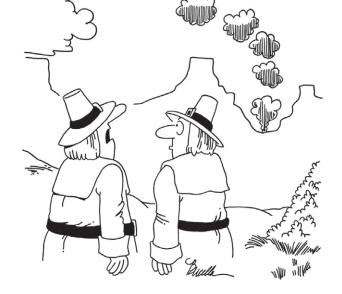
We petition our Saxon fraternal community - members, branches, affiliate organizations, and friends to continue to support our Saxon Relief Program.

The need is still great and we ask our members and friends to continue to support our Saxon Relief Fund program with generous contributions.

NOTE: Gift packages can be ordered for delivery to a specific relative or friend in Transylvania for a minimal cost of **\$50.00**. Send your check payable to the "ATS Saxon Relief Fund" and the **exact name and address** of the recipient to our ATS Office. Please print or type for clarity. The package contents include non-perishable items such as: Coffee, Milk, Cocoa, Sugar, Rice, Flour, Margarine, Soup, Chocolate, Cheese, Sausage, Yeast, etc.







"It says, 'Wednesday is no good, how about Thursday?'"

BRANCH 4, CLEVELAND By Joan Miller-Malue

We wish to thank Amanda Saxon Dance Group! Donnellan and the members of the Cleveland Saxon Dance Group for hosting the Veterans Day Dinner at the Sachsenheim. They did a nice job recognizing and honoring the veterans attending and expressed their gratitude to all Veterans and currently serving military for their efforts they gave, and the sacrifices made for their countrymen. "The secret of happiness is freedom; the secret of freedom is courage."

We are all excited for the Cleveland Saxon Dance Group having been selected to participate in the Saxon cultural exchange program that we take them on a European Tour to Germany and Austria. They are working hard preparing for their two-week program as well as having fundraisers to help with the great expense for their travels. They have several upcoming fundraisers that we hope you can support: 1) they are having a Pre-Sale event selling sweatshirts and T-shirts with their logo. You can view and order the collection on their Facebook page or contact Amanda at adonnellan5@ yahoo.com or call her at (216) 235-5240 for order form or if you need more information. Orders need to be in by the end of December. 2) You can purchase tickets for their Big Liquor Barrel Raffle that will be drawn on January 24 at the Sachsenheim's Game Night. You do not need to be present to win. Raffle tickets are being sold by the Dance Group members. 3) Their Annual Chili-Cook-off that will be held on Saturday, March 15, 2025. This is always a fun event. Get your chili recipes out to perfect them for the competition. Let's show our support to the Cleveland

Many of you have been waiting for the Sachsenheim's Sausage Sale. It will be held on Saturday, December 7th. You can order sausage with or without garlic in 3 lb. of 5 lb. packages. The cost is \$5 a pound. You can place your orders by calling the Sachsenheim at (216) 651-0888 or call Robert Hanek at 440-356-5582 or email him at rhanek8@ yahoo.com. Deadline for orders is November 29! They are hoping to recruit a few more helpers in making the sausage. If you can lend a hand please contact Robert Hanek. He will be happy to hear from you.

The invitations have been sent out to our Junior Members to attend the Children's Christmas Party that will be held on Saturday, December 14 at 1:00 p.m. We invite our junior members to participate in the program by reciting a poem, singing a song or playing a musical instrument. Just let me know when you make your reservations. Reservations are a must by texting or calling me at (216) 233-8631 or email me at miller-malue@cox.net. Please make your reservations early so I can tell the Santa's helpers have time to arrange for a gift for each child. We ask that everyone bring a can or box of non-perishable food item that will be donated to a local food bank. Deadline for reservations is December 5th. Look at the Volksblatt ad for more information.

We are going to be super busy that day since following the Christmas Party the room will be setup for Krampus Night that will be that evening. Entertainment will be performances of the Gemütlichkeit Cleveländer Musikanten, Krampus of



Veterans being honored at Veterans Day Dinner



Tim Wolff in his Color Guard uniform

Cleveland, DJ Kishka, the Cleveland Saxon Dance Group. There will be food, drinks, games, raffles and more. Tickets are available online at Eventbrite.com for \$15 and tickets at the door \$17.

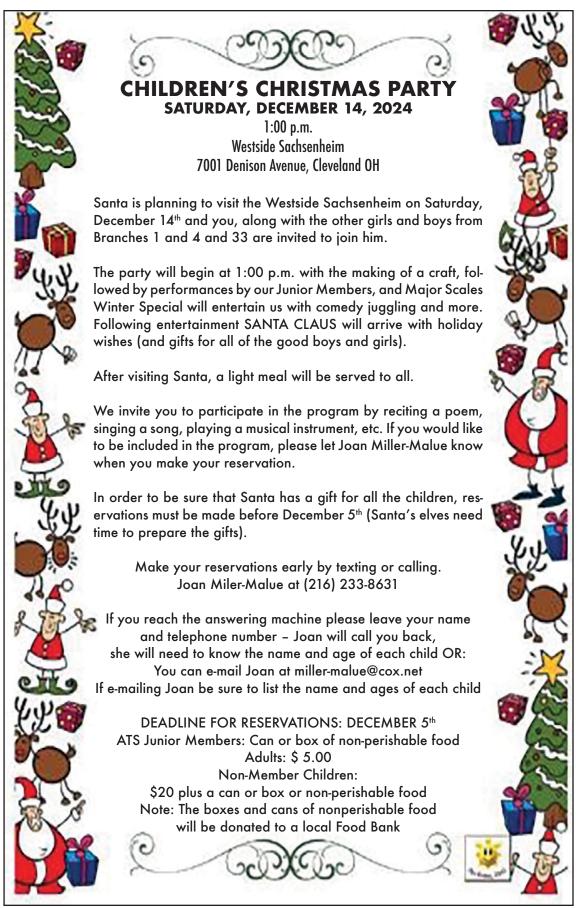
Ways to show gratitude each Thanksgiving and beyond

Thanksgiving is a time to give thanks for the blessings in our lives, and the greatest blessing for most of us is the people we love. There are many ways to show our gratitude for what others bring to our lives, and we can do it anytime -- not just on Thanksgiving Day.

- Send a handwritten thank-you note to your Thanksgiving host. If you did the hosting, write them for the people who showed up, pitched in, and made the holiday special.
- Plan some quality time with people you care about -- set a date, plan an activity, and really do it.
- Give genuine compliments to others. It's a simple way to show that we care, and it really matters.
- Open your home to a few extra guests. Ask a friend to

join you if you know they don't have plans, or see if elderly neighbors would like to stop by. If they decline, pack up some leftovers and give them the gift of a meal that only requires reheating.

- Keep family traditions alive. Maybe Grandma made the best pumpkin pie, but needs some extra help these days. You can take over the labor while Grandma relaxes and offers guidance. The pie still gets made (with Grandma's personal touch) and the tradition continues.
- Say it clearly. Use words like "I appreciate everything you've done," or "I love spending my Thanksgiving with you." Your loved ones may be glad to hear the words, and you'll be glad you said them.





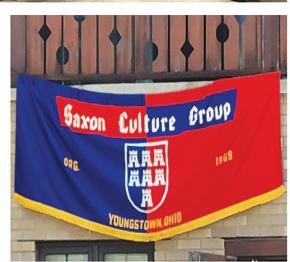








Youngstown
Saxon
Culture
Group





53rd Annual Trachtenball











