

THE SAXON NEWS

# Volksblatt

Celebrating over 100 years of Saxon Fraternalism

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

ATS Founded in 1902

December 19, 2025

Issue 26



## BRANCH 33, CLEVELAND EAST

By Arline Krestel-Suts

Christmas is coming quick, and then the New Year, 2026! I hope everyone has made a reservation for the Branch 33 Christmas Banquet, Sunday December 21, at Pine Ridge Country Club in Wickliffe. Doors open at noon, dinner served promptly at 1 p.m., and Santa will be joining us at 3 p.m. Maria Phillips is taking reservations at (440) 552-1364.

Congratulations to the Ginther/Kreiling family, Jim and Caroline had a baby girl in November. Bruce Schneider is now an Opa too, to a little boy. It was nice to see all their baby photos!

I am sorry to report member Don Brusk passed

away this month. He was husband of dearly departed Trustee Kathie (Schneider) Brusk. Our sincerest sympathies to Schneider and Brusk families.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday January 14, starting with a Sausage and Sauerkraut supper at 7 p.m. And yes, we are having Saxon sausage we made on December 6. Installation of Branch officers for 2026 and business meeting to follow supper.

Wishing everyone a Blessed and Merry Christmas!

TIMELY - DO NOT DELAY  
MAILED TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2025

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

**HELP  
WANTED!**  
Attend the  
monthly  
meetings  
of your Branch.  
Help make  
your Branch a  
healthy Branch.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Denise Aeling Crawford  
ATS Nat'l President



Merry Christmas to everyone! I know this is a busy time of year, but please, remember the real reason for this season! Take some time to relax with family and friends and just enjoy the Christmas season. The new year will be here soon enough to start our hectic schedules back up again.

Thank you to the Columbus Saxons, Branch 10, for inviting me to their Christmas Party and the honor of installing their Branch Officers. It was a wonderful event with good food, good company, good music provided by George Lassel on the trumpet and his daughter Jennifer and her clarinet, and of course, a visit from Santa Claus! They even arranged good weather that day! I have a few more Branches to visit before the end of the year and look forward to meeting local members at each of these stops.

Did you know there was more than one famous composition published on December 19<sup>th</sup>? According to History.com, Benjamin Franklin's *Poor Richard's Almanack* was first published on this date in 1732. The book, filled with proverbs preaching industry and prudence, was published continuously for 25 years and became one of the most popular publications in the 13 original colonies of America, selling an average of 10,000 copies a year. According to Wikipedia, later writers such as Noah Webster were inspired by the Almanack, and it went on to influence other publications of this type such as the *Old Farmer's Almanac*, which has included a picture of Benjamin Franklin on its cover since 1851.

On December 19, 1776, Thomas Paine published the essay *The American Crisis*, which gave a shot in the arm to the Patriots during a particularly rough stretch of the American Revolution. In this paper, Paine wrote: "These are the times that try men's souls; the summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will, in this crisis, shrink from the service of his country; but he that stands it now, deserves the love and thanks of man and woman. Tyranny, like hell, is not easily conquered; yet we have this consolation with us, that the harder the conflict, the more glorious the triumph". When these phrases appeared in the pages of the *Pennsylvania Journal* for the first time, General George Washington's troops were camped at McKonkey's Ferry on the Delaware River opposite Trenton, New Jersey. They had suffered defeats, losing New York City to the British troops. 11,000 volunteers had given up the fight and returned home to their families. General Washington knew that he would lose even more when their service contracts expired on December 31. Thomas Paine, again, delivered words that would salvage the revolution. (His *Common Sense* writing was credited with beginning the revolution.) General Washington commanded that the freshly printed pamphlet be read aloud to

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

## ATS SAXON RELIEF FUND



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.

Please send your contributions to our ATS office, 5323 Pearl Road, Cleveland, Ohio 44129. Write checks payable to the "ATS SAXON RELIEF FUND". Thank you for your help!



**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.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Cont'd from Page 1

his dispirited men; the rousing prose had its intended effect. Reciting Paine's impassioned words, the beleaguered troops mustered their remaining hopes for victory and crossed the icy Delaware River to defeat hung-over Hessians on Christmas night. Then, on January 2, the British army's best general, Earl Cornwallis, was defeated at the Battle of Princeton. With these victories in New Jersey, Washington not only won two battles, but also the love and thanks of man and woman.

Charles Dickens' classic story A Christmas Carol was published on December 19, 1843. Dickens was born in 1812. In 1824, when he was twelve, his father was thrown into debtors' prison and Dickens was sent to work in a factory. The miserable treatment of children and the institution of debtors' jail became topics of several of Dickens' novels. In his late teens, Dickens became a reporter and started publishing humorous short stories. After a collection of stories was printed as a book in 1837, he quickly became the most popular author of the day. His other well-known works include David Copperfield (1850), A Tale of Two Cities (1859) and Great Expectations (1861).

And now, on December 19, 2025, the final issue (issue 26) of the 2025 calendar year's Saxon News Volksblatt is complete. We'll start all over with issue #1 next year! Take care throughout the Christmas/New Year season! Stay warm, and if you're traveling, do so safely.

Until next time...

**Coincidence is when  
God chooses to  
remain anonymous.**



Alliance of Transylvanian Saxons  
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### SECRETARIES TAKE NOTICE:

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

You may either

**E-MAIL:** [saxonvolksblatt@aol.com](mailto:saxonvolksblatt@aol.com)

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**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, DECEMBER 24, 2025	FRIDAY, JANUARY 2, 2026
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2026	FRIDAY, JANUARY 16, 2026
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2026	FRIDAY, JANUARY 30, 2026

**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

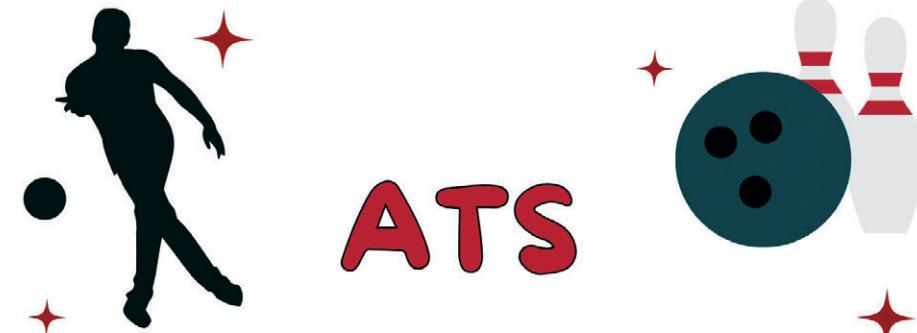


Cleveland West Side Sachsenheim Club /Branch 1 member Carl Vavpot has recently endeavored to concentrate on his art career. Of the many avenues he has chosen to showcase his art, one involves working with a 3D printer.

His latest creation is a 3D model of the Saxon Wappe. The PLA-extruded work includes a blue and red shield-shaped wall-hanger, accompanied by seven golden castles (sieben buergen) that fit neatly into seven platforms. The castles are removable, and also feature a loop for hanging one wherever you like.

These models are being sold through emailed order. Consider buying one today to grace your house or to gift to a loved one for the holidays! Please write to carlvavpot@yahoo.com with your request. They sell for \$30 per unit plus shipping. A portion of all sales goes towards the sustainability of the West Side Sachsenheim.

Perhaps YOUR club may want this done with their Wappe? Use the same email, and make a request!



## 43rd Annual Bowl Where You Are

### CALLING ALL BRANCHES!

Our Annual "Bowl Where You Are" Tournament for ATS members between the ages of 6 and 17 will be held February to March, 2026.

We encourage you to host a Bowling Party to bring your young members and their families together. As bowling alleys are already booking for February and March of 2026, we wanted to reach out early to give you time to plan.

Just a reminder this event is an ATS Scholarship Qualifying Event

FOR TIPS ON HOW TO MAKE THIS A FAMILY  
BRANCH EVENT, CONTACT

MARGIE ZIEGLER,  
YOUTH COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON,  
440-488-6421.



## Christmas is ground zero for young picky eaters

The struggle is real with kids and food, but especially at holidays when most of the food may well be different than what they are used to seeing.

You don't want tears at grandma's house. You don't want children announcing that they hate what is being served. To save the day, teach kids to compliment and thank the cook: Thank you Grandma, it looks good. Amazing how that one statement makes the picky eater look like a super star gourmet. Even if they don't eat much, they already said it was good. Everyone is happy. The child looks like a genius.

Teach them never to criticize the food. If they hate it, they need to keep that thought to themselves.

How you cope with the picky eater depends mainly on what works for you, but here are some ideas.

Consider presenting children with a challenge food. That's one bite of some-



thing they hate or never tasted before. Just one small bite, like three peas. If they eat the challenge food then they are finished with dinner. It is especially helpful if kids are competitive with each other. Then the challenge food is a contest. You can increase the amount of the challenge food once they have tried it 10 times or so.

Don't make a separate dinner for picky eaters. Put the family dinner on their plate, with small servings. Experts advise not forcing a

child to eat everything on the plate, but you can enforce some level of cooperation. They must eat a few bites of what you put on their plate, even if it means you sit with them and coach them through the bites. Mouth, chew, swallow, take a drink.

If your picky eater won't eat enough to fill them up, then you might make their favorite (microwaved chicken nuggets!) after dinner. But the key is they have to eat some of the family dinner.

First  
Day  
of  
Winter.  
Dec. 21,  
2025



"It started with shoplifting which led to stealing cars and the next thing you know..."



## FRATERNAL CALENDAR

### NATIONAL EVENTS

January 11, 2026  
TSBA Bowling Session Host: Lorain

February - March, 2026  
Bowl Where You Are Contest

February 15, 2026  
TSBA Bowling Session Host: Salem

March 15, 2026  
TSBA Bowling Session Host: Youngstown

April 18 - 19, 2026  
TSBA Season-end Tournament - Salem

May 2-3, 2026  
ATS National Convention  
Hosts: Cleveland West Branches 1 and 4

June 14 - 20, 2026  
Saxon Summer Camp

July 10 - 12, 2026  
North American Transylvanian Saxon Heimattag  
Aylmer, Ontario Canada

July 25, 2026  
ATS Family Day at Waldameer, Erie, PA

October 17 -18, 2026  
ATS Open Bowling Tournament  
Host: Salem

### LOCAL EVENTS

December 20, 2025  
New Castle Tom and Jerry Party 3 p.m. - close



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this Christmas with**

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the growing effort to  
preserve Saxon  
heritage for future  
generations.



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retailers.

### Avoid holiday safety hazards

Christmas is a time to celebrate, spend time with family and friends, and to relax. But, it's also a time when safety should be on your mind because the holiday season brings a unique combination of hazards into the home.

#### Christmas light safety

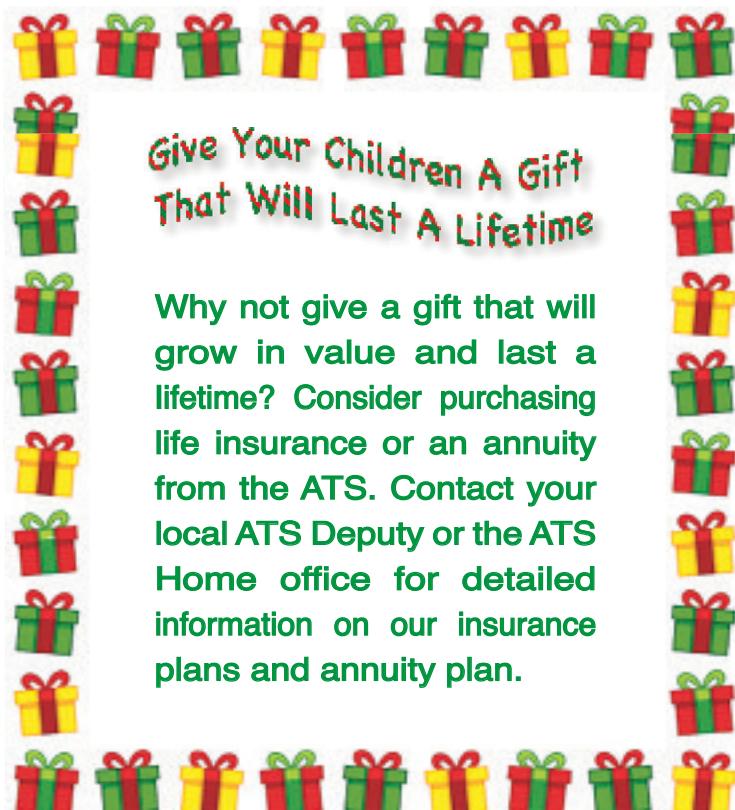
1. Make sure the holiday lights are meant for outdoor use. Lights made for outdoor use are designed to withstand cold and wet conditions. The tag near the plug will specify whether lights are made for indoor or outdoor use.
2. All cords and lights should be intact. Frayed cords and cracked light bulbs are more likely to cause a fire.
3. Never leave lights on overnight. Be sure to turn off the lights before retiring for the night.

#### Christmas tree safety

1. If using a real tree, water often. A tree that dries out causes a fire hazard. The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) reports that one of every 31 reported home fires in the holidays is caused by a Christmas tree fire and results in death.
2. Keep the tree away from heat. Trees, unlike humans and animals, don't need to be kept warm during the winter months. This only dries the tree out and increases the risk of fire. Keep it away from the fireplace, space heaters, even living room lamps.
3. Use lights specifically designed for indoor use.

#### Candle safety

1. Use battery operated window or tree candles.
2. If traditional candles are a must, be very careful about placement. Place them on sturdy, non-flammable surfaces, away from decorations, curtains, the Christmas tree and anything else that could catch fire.
3. Do not burn candles when no one is in the room.



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11/25



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stpeters\_church@sbcglobal.net  
www.stpeterswarren.org

10:00 Service  
Nursery  
Coffee following service  
Senior Circle

# 67

The top word for  
2025 means  
nothing

If you have middle-schooler children or grandchildren, you may have heard this word: Six Seven (67). And you might have asked what it means.

Whatever answer you got was destined to be unsatisfying because for Gen Alpha and Gen Z it means nothing. It is often used with a hand motion, commonly associated with the idea of weighing options: Hands out, palms up moving up and down.

Not having a meaning didn't stop Dictionary.com from making 67 the word of the year for 2025 mainly because searches for 67 dramatically rose during the summer of 2025. That's probably because adults wondered what their kids were up to.

What they are up to is laughing about your confusion.

Next word up: 41 (pronounced forty-one, and not four one, don't be so 67). 41 also means nothing.

# Oh Holy Night

Have You Heard?

Have you heard about the child born on Christmas day?  
He was sent to save us and to Heaven show the way.

Throughout His sojourn here on earth  
He lived for the purpose of His birth.

God sent Jesus our souls to save  
and keep us from an earthly grave.

A Christmas gift you cannot buy,  
the price for it can be high.

How can I get it you may ask,  
it does require a certain task.

This gift to you God freely does give  
if for Jesus you will choose to live.

You must believe for your sins Jesus did die  
and Satan's temptations you must work to belie.

This Christmas gift is yours for the taking  
if a commitment you are freely making.

Believe in Jesus and help all mankind  
salvation and Heaven to likewise find.

An original poem by Judith E. Both Christmas 2025

### BRANCH 27, NEW CASTLE

By Dolores Both

Branch 27 ladies and guests met at the Hunter's Woods Club House on Sunday, December 7, 2025, at 2:00 p.m. for our Christmas party. Everyone was dressed in their festive holiday finery ready to enjoy a great meal, a game and socializing. President Judy Both welcomed everyone to the party. Judy brought everyone up to date on the ballots received approving the proposed 2026 officers. The officers are: President Judy Both, Vice President Jane Fishovitz, Secretary Dolores Both, Treasurer Katy Hudak, and Trustees Doris Shenker, Rosemarie Montini and Debra Hermann. Treasurer Linda Stoops is retiring, and Katy Hudak will fill her position. Katy McCune is stepping in to fill Katy Hudak's vacant position as Financial Secretary.

December 7 is Doreen Hietsch's birthday and we all wished her a happy birthday and asked her to pick a prize for her special day. Wishes for many more happy and healthy birthdays Doreen!

Judy graciously thanked

the members and guests who helped set up the club house for the party, donated table centerpieces to be given away as prizes, and Katy Hudak and myself for planning the party.

Judy said the prayer before our meal. Jeremy from the Hill House Restaurant catered the delicious meal and received hearty applause from all of us.

After dinner the real fun started when Judy began her "Pick a Stocking" game. There were three categories, Christmas, history, and famous slogans. Contestants chose a stocking and had to answer a question. With a "little help" from the audience, all contestants were able to answer the question and got to choose a prize from under the tree. The winners were: Amanda Hudak, Debbie Hermann, Susan Shenker, Linda Stoops, Doreen Hietsch, Susan Cosgrove, Jack McCune, Katie McCune, Ken Harris, Jane Fishovitz, Nancy Harris, Sally Watson-Means, Dolores Both, Rosemarie Montini, Sherry Fenske, Bret McCune, Doris Shen-

ker, and Katy Hudak. Five beautiful table centerpieces were donated by: Judy Both, Sherri Fenske, Katy Hudak, Rosemarie Montini, and Susan Shenker. Four of the centerpieces were won by Jane Fishovitz, Susan Shenker, Doris Shenker and Dolores Both. In all the excitement, the winner of the fifth centerpiece was not noted, but I know she is enjoying her win.

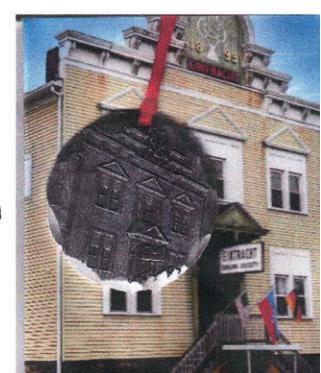
A collection container was available for monetary donations to the Saxon Relief Fund. We had a surprise donation from our caterer. The amount collected will be matched by our treasury. Thank you everyone.

No meetings in January and February. Next meeting will be March 5, 2026, place to be announced.

Merry Christmas  
and Happy New Year!

Keep your memories alive  
with this  
Wendell August  
ornament depicting the  
unique Eintracht building in  
New Castle, PA

\$20



"A Brief History of the  
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Booklet \$1.50

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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.

### James Kagarise

Age: 75

Died: November 27, 2025  
Branch 30, Youngstown, OH

### Katherine Schuller

Age: 86

Died: December 2, 2025  
Home Branch

*My idea of Christmas, whether old-fashioned or modern, is very simple: loving others. Come to think of it, why do we have to wait for Christmas to do that?*

**Bob Hope,**  
American film actor  
and comedian

**BRANCH 10, COLUMBUS**  
By Donald Blum

**\*\*\*\*\*IMPORTANT**  
**NO DECEMBER OR JANUARY**  
**MEETING\*\*\*\*\***  
**SAXON CLUB ANNUAL**  
**CHRISTMAS PARTY!!!**

What a wonderful gathering for our annual event of Transylvanian Saxons in Central Ohio. Our holiday event grows every year. Nearly 90 people attending this year. It's not too early to mark your calendar for next year, Sunday December 13, 2026. Special thanks to all those that helped prep behind the scenes for the event and to all those that participated in our celebration. We enjoyed the musical accompaniment of George and Jenny Lassel, and for those that answered the call to bring the delicious desserts. Definitely, did not check my blood sugar levels. We want to offer a special thanks to Alliance of Transylvanian Saxons National President, Denise Crawford, for again attending event and her participation that made the event extra special. It was special to recognize Saxon immigrants and 1<sup>st</sup> generation immigrants. The room was filled with Saxon Spirit (even the two gentlemen that got coal in their stockings) of those that participated and all those Saxons looking down on us from that Saxon Bar in Heaven singing Ein Prosst!!!

**Have a Blessed and Merry Christmas, Frohe Weihnachten and Gott Segne!!!**

**SAXON LIFE OF MICHAEL FARR** (his story is paraphrased from excerpts of his story)

So, when we left Mike in the last episode, Mike got a wonderful surprise of Rosie visiting him in the hospital. Unfortunately, the visit was short and Rosie returned home.

Mike was in Klausenburg for another two weeks. Then Michael and some other Saxons were sent to Nagy Warot Stuhl Weisenburg. He and the other Saxons were there for another two weeks. They enjoyed the comradery and had lots of fun. One night they were fooling around and played a joke on one of the people. Mike had run by the stove and stuck his hand in the ashes. Michael Weis was chasing him and Mike turned around and acted like he was trying to avoid him when he was wiping his black, sooty hands over Weis's face. Everyone started laughing at Weis, and he started chasing Mike again. As Mike was running he caught his foot on the iron bed post. His foot was already swollen and he couldn't get his shoe on, and now he really hurt his foot even worse. The next morning Mike's foot was all black and swollen. They had to walk to catch a train to Wascharhely. The next day they were to report to a doctor to tell them what was wrong with them before reporting back. Mike showed him his foot but didn't tell him he hurt it fooling around. The doctor told Mike to go to the Labodoso (sort like a rehab center). He was told to bathe his foot in hot water twice a day for two weeks and it would get better.

Mike's younger brother, Jakob, was a recruit in the same battalion, 22<sup>nd</sup> Honwed Regiment. Jakob had already been sent to the front line. After Mike's foot was better, he was put in March Company and sent to the front line. Mike had thought about his brother a lot. They were told they could take as much clothing as they could carry. Mike took extra shirts, pants and a set of boots that he planned to give to Jakob if they got together. Mike went to the front line and they were

## **Columbus Saxon Club Christmas Party**



Left to Right – President Christine Oehlman, Treasurer Don Blum, Trustee Marlene Mueller, VPMike Roth, outgoing President Olga Hesch.



supposed to go to the top of this mountain. They couldn't do it during the day because the Russians were close and would be able to see them. When they got to the top of the mountain and they hid in a cave covered with branches. Mike started talking to a corporal that was there. He asked if Mike could give him some cigarettes. Mike said sure and the corporal asked him his name. He said it was Farr. The corporal said there's a Farr, Jakob, in our company. Mike asked if he could see him. He said Jake was in the trenches below and he couldn't get to him right then. The next morning eight of the men with Mike were sent to the front trenches. While it was still dark, Mike walked along the trenches and not too far from him, he saw his brother Jakob and John Fleischer, a Saxon from Botsch, standing there and looking out of the trenches. Mike yelled and said, "Hi, Jakob." When Jakob saw Mike, he started crying. Mike and Jakob talked about where they had been assigned. Jakob was in 5<sup>th</sup> company and 3<sup>rd</sup> platoon. Mike had been assigned to the 1<sup>st</sup> company. That would not sit right with Mike so he went to his sergeant and said he wanted to be in 5<sup>th</sup> company because his brother was there. The sergeant said you have already been assigned to 1<sup>st</sup> company. I have learned from reading about

Michael Farr that he doesn't take "No" very well. He told the sergeant that to strike out the 1<sup>st</sup> and write the 5<sup>th</sup> company, and if he didn't Mike was going to go to the captain. So, the sergeant gave in and Mike and Jakob were teamed up together in the same company. Jakob's feet were frozen and he was ecstatic when Michael pulled out the extra boots that he had brought. Jakob was so excited and Michael gave him some extra shirts and pants. The four Saxons were together; Mike, Jakob, John Fleischer and another Saxon named Getferd from a neighboring Saxon town. They went forward on the mountain and came close to the Russian front line. The lieutenant, who was full of himself, said Mike dig me a hole. Well, that didn't sit well with Mike. He said dig it yourself, I have to dig one for myself.

A sergeant came and said he needed four men to go on patrol. They walked into the woods, where they hid under branches that hung to the ground. Suddenly, they heard bullets flying over their heads. They laid still until daybreak. When they crawled out, they saw Russians swarming all around, only about a kilometer away. They realized they were behind the Russian line, but the Russians did not see them hidden in the

**Continued on Page 7**

## The Nativity of Jesus Christ



The Nativity or birth of Jesus Christ is found in the biblical gospels of Matthew and Luke. The two accounts agree that Jesus was born in Bethlehem, modern day Palestine, in Roman-controlled Judea, that his mother, Mary, was engaged to a man named Joseph, who was descended from King David and was not his biological father, and that his birth was caused by divine intervention. The majority of contemporary scholars do not see the two canonical gospel Nativity stories as historically factual since they present clashing accounts and irreconcilable genealogies. The secular history of the time does not synchronize with the narratives of the birth and early childhood of Jesus in the two gospels. Some view the question of historicity as secondary, given that gospels were primarily written as theological documents rather than chronological timelines.

The Nativity is the basis for the Christian holiday of Christmas and plays a major role in the Christian liturgical year. Many Christians traditionally display small manger scenes depicting the Nativity within or outside of their homes, or attend Nativity plays or Christmas pageants focusing on the Nativity cycle in the Bible. Elaborate Nativity displays featuring life-sized statues are a tradition in many continental European countries during the Christmas season.

The artistic depiction of the Nativity has been an important subject for Christian artists since the 4th century. Artistic depictions of the Nativity scene since the 13th century have emphasized the humility of Jesus and promoted a more tender image of him, a major change from the early "Lord and Master" image, mirroring changes in the common approaches taken by Christian pastoral ministry

during the same era.

### Gospel accounts

Only the Gospels of Matthew and Luke offer narratives regarding the birth of Jesus. Both agree that Jesus was born in Bethlehem in the reign of King Herod, that his mother was named Mary and that her husband Joseph was descended from King David (although they disagree on details of the line of descent), and both deny Joseph's biological parenthood while treating the birth, or rather the conception, as divinely effected. Beyond this, they agree on very little. Joseph dominates Matthew's and Mary dominates Luke's, although the suggestion that one derives from Joseph and the other from Mary is no more than a pious deduction.

Matthew implies that Joseph already has his home in Bethlehem, while Luke states that he lived in Nazareth. In Matthew the angel speaks to Joseph, while Luke has one speaking to Mary. Only Luke has the stories surrounding the birth of John the Baptist, the census of Quirinius, the adoration of the shepherds and the presentation in the Temple on the fortieth day; only Matthew has the wise men, the star of Bethlehem, Herod's plot, the Massacre of the Innocents, and the flight into Egypt. The two itineraries are quite different. According to Matthew, the Holy Family begins in Bethlehem, moves to Egypt following the birth, and settles in Nazareth.

while according to Luke they begin in Nazareth, journey to Bethlehem for the birth, and immediately return to Nazareth. The two accounts cannot be harmonised into a single coherent narrative or traced to the same Q source, leading scholars to classify them as "special Matthew" (or simply the M source) and "special Luke" (the L source).

Per "Wikipedia"

### Branch 10 Columbus Cont'd from Page 6

woods. They were scared and crawled back as quickly as they could. It took them a couple of hours to get back to their company. They told them about the closeness of the Russians. The four Saxons; Jakob, Mike, John Fleischer, and John Getferd were sent out on patrol. All at once they came under fire from the Russians. John Getferd hollered, "Fleischer, I'm shot and he was dead." John, Jakob and Mike laid on their stomach in the snow for about an hour. Finally, it got dark and they jumped up, one by one, and ran down to the trenches; they got away alive. That night they stayed where they were hiding. Every once in a while, the soldiers from the 24<sup>th</sup> regiment walked away one-by-one, until the last man, the commander said, "You can't come with us--you belong to the 22<sup>nd</sup> regiment." When day broke, they started back and all at once they were cornered by the Russians. Since they didn't want to be killed, they were captured.

I know you can't believe I am going to leave you in suspense as to what happens next but this is a good place to pause the story. We will pick up in the next episode and find out what happened to these three Saxons.

### HUMOR

#### God's Not Deaf

Two young boys were spending the night at their grandparents' house the week before Christmas. At bedtime, the two boys knelt beside their beds to say their prayers. The younger one began praying at the top of his lungs:

"I PRAY FOR A NEW BICYCLE..." "I PRAY FOR A NEW NINTENDO..."

His older brother leaned over, nudged him and said, "Why are you shouting? God isn't deaf." to which the little brother replied, "No, but Grandma is!"



## Make your artificial tree smell real



There's nothing quite like the crisp and clean scent of a fresh-cut pine tree at Christmas -- but there's nothing quite like the mess that a real tree can leave on your floor, either. Even if you don't have the time, energy, or inclination to vacuum up dropped pine needles every day, you can still enjoy the scent of pine in your house throughout the holiday season.

For a DIY or more organic option, essential oils from pine and fir trees pack a powerful punch and absorb readily into cotton balls, unvarnished wood ornaments, or tea bags. Carefully apply a drop or two to each item and hang it up or hide it deep in the branches. Essential oils can be irritating, so wear gloves when applying it and place the scented objects where kids and pets can't reach them.

## Countdown to Christmas dinner at your house

ble oven, borrow one for the day so you can bake or heat different foods at the same time.

• The night before: Set the table. Have salt and pepper shakers in place and fill the butter dishes.

Get someone to help with setting up another table if you need one, and bringing in the chairs.

• Christmas day: Be ready to serve guests a beverage when they arrive.

When someone asks how they can help, have them cut cakes and pies into servings. People won't cut an uncut pie to serve themselves.

• At dinner: Ask guests to hold hands for the prayer, if it is your tradition.

• After dinner: If the women have cooked, the men can clear the table after dinner.

## BRANCH 5, LORAIN

By Michael Johnson

The First Transylvanian Saxon Sick Benefit Society of Lorain Ohio; Branch 5 of The Alliance of Transylvanian Saxons for 2025 is just about over. It's hard to believe that this branch which formed 122 years ago in July of 1903 is still together. And though we don't quite resemble the organization that depended so heavily on one another in those early years of the 20th century, we still have been able to hold fast to our identity as Transylvanian Saxons. While reading this article, take a moment to reflect on the people you know or have been inspired by throughout the history of this organization and how it has been a part of your life. Then take a moment to either write an email and send it to me at [mikjo79@gmail.com](mailto:mikjo79@gmail.com) or a letter addressed to Michael Johnson, 2151 Lakeland Ave, Lakewood OH. 44107 so I can share that with the readers of this publication. May we continue to press forward with hope for the future upholding the values and traditions passed down so long ago.

We met on November 17th for our final meeting of 2025 to wrap up business for the year so we could begin again in January with a clean slate. The evening concluded with the election of officers for 2026. There were no nominations for any of the offices from the floor since only those currently serving were the only ones in attendance that evening. Each officer was asked if they would maintain their current positions for another year. All officers agreed to maintain their positions at the current salaries set in the constitution. The officers again are: Monica Gilles - President, Jane Mowery - Vice President, Ginger Romes - Treasurer, Brian Gilles - Recording Secretary, Michael Johnson - Financial and Dues Secretary, Sergeant at Arms - Arlene Gilles, Trustees - Barbara Gilles, Jeanne Petty, and Brian Gilles.

A unanimous vote to again give an annual donation for the holidays to The Mary Lee Tucker Clothe-A-Child, Saxon Relief Fund, the Saxon artifact museum Schloss Horneck; located in Gundelsheim, Germany, as well as donations to the Friendship APL of Elyria and the second harvest food bank were approved.

On the evening of December 6th, members enjoyed a Christmas dinner at Diso's Bistro at All Nations in Lorain. On behalf of those who could attend, I would like to thank Sister Jeanne Petty for her time that went into arranging with the staff, all the reservations for the delicious meal combinations that were served. It was a most pleasant evening which I believe left all of us with that full holiday feeling.

At the time of this writing, Sisters Sharon Powell is being monitored with heart issues and Debbie To-

musko had knee surgery. We hope that each will be better for this coming holiday season. There are no other members receiving sick benefits or reporting any illnesses. Let's start the new year with everyone healthy and in good spirits.

Congratulations to Braiden Gilles, Brother Russ and sister Arlene Gilles, grandson for his 26th place finish out of 1900 participants in the Madison, Wisconsin 26 mile Marathon. It's nice to share the happenings of members and their families near and far.

Our next and first meeting of 2026 will again be held at the American Slovak Club, 2915 Broadway Ave. Lorain, Ohio on the 3rd Monday of the month of January the 19th, 2026 starting at 7:00 p.m. There will also be a pre meeting dinner at The Blue Sky Restaurant, 917 N Leavitt Rd., Amherst, OH 44001 at 5PM. If you are a dues paying member, please come prepared to pay your dues (which would be the same annual amount you paid last year) by either cash or check payable to: **ATS Branch 5, Lorain, OH**. If you are not going to be attending, you can submit your dues by mail. Please make your check payable to: **ATS Branch 5, Lorain, OH** and mail your check to: *Michael W. Johnson, 2151 Lakeland Ave., Lakewood, OH 44107*.

Happy Birthday to those members celebrating birthdays this month of December; Sisters Arlene Jones, Nancy Kranstuber, Brother Daniel Paghi, and Junior member Kyle Smith. Hope your day will be a special one!

Until next time, may everyone have a Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year!

# Branch 5 Christmas Dinner 2025



## Cleveland East Sausage Making

Saturday December 6th was a very busy day for Branch 33 Cleveland East: our annual Saxon Sausage Sale.

We had 28 members and friends who showed up to help, fantastic turnout! We cleaned and washed and measured and mixed and cranked and coiled and weighed and packaged... and cooked some for lunch to sample (hmmmm, needs more garlic? ;).

So many helping hands made light work. We want to thank everyone who purchased our sausage, hope you enjoy!



**Maria uch Josef (E sachsesch Chrästlied)**  
**Maria und Josef (Ein sächsisches Weihnachtslied)**  
 Worte und Weise: Ernst Helmut Chrestel, 1961

F C F

1. Ma - ri - a uch Jo - sef, dä wäj - jen är Kängd, end

iw - wer - de Giw - wel, do bleest e kåält Wängd. De

C (C7) F C (C7)

On - jel - cher fläj - jen, der Hem - mel, die klänjt, kutt

F B F C F

säht norr - dett Wanj - der, spränjt, frät ich end sänjt.

1. Maria uch Josef, dä wäjjen är Kängd, end iwwer de Giwwel, do bleest e kåält Wängd. De Onjelcher fläjjen, der Hemmel, di klänjt, kutt säht norr dett Wanjder, spränjt, frät ich end sänjt.

2. Ir Hirten, ir Hirten, luuft, luuft, säht, et schnät; äm ärmliche Kräppchen det Jesuskängd schräat. Bronjt Lemmcher uch Feelcher, datt ät nämmi freist, äm Stall uch äm Stiwwken äs allent vereist.

3. Wat selle mir em bronjen än aser Gemien? Mer liejen as Härz än det Kräppche si klien. Kutt, Vueter uch Motter, kutt allen erbä, lott frän es uch sänjen: Der Hielund äs hä!

1. Maria und Josef, die wiegen ihr Kind, und über die Giebel, da bläst kalt der Wind. Die Engelein fliegen, der Himmel, der klingt, kommt, seht dieses Wunder, springt, freut euch und singt.

2. Ihr Hirten, ihr Hirten, lauft, lauft, seht, es schneit; im ärmlichen Kipplein das Jesuskind schreit. Bringt Lämmchen und Fellchen, dass es nicht mehr friert, im Stall und im Stübchen ist alles vereist.

3. Was sollen wir ihm bringen in unsrer Gemein'? Wir legen unser Herz in das Kipplein so klein. Kommt, Vater und Mutter, kommt alle herfür, lasst freun uns und singen: Der Heiland ist hier!

Übertr.: Reich / Chrestels

Aus: "E Liedchen häft ängden – Alte und neue Lieder aus Siebenbürgen", [www.angelika-meltzer.de](http://www.angelika-meltzer.de)

**Günther Schuster:**

## Chrästōwend

Günther Schuster was born in Mediasch in 1960 and left his hometown at the age of 19, but remained connected to it in many ways. Since the founding of the Heimatgemeinschaft Mediasch e.V., he has held various positions, such as chairman or editor of the Mediascher Infoblatt (since 2001) and the supplement Medwescher Tramiter (since 2005), the only periodical publication in Transylvanian-Saxon dialect, an important platform for dialect cultivation.

Günther Schuster

## Chrästōwend

Mer wäintschen allen Fridden  
 Äm Flackerlächt der Kärzen;  
 Et wordt geneach gelidden,  
 Hengd gidd et niche Schmärzen!

Hengd stroat der Wängter Schnii  
 Af all eas eländ Sorjen  
 Und än e'm steallen Sii  
 Versänken mir den Morjen.

Der Œwend widd es stricheln  
 De Weangden af den Silen.  
 Seng Züwer widd es schmīcheln,  
 Gladd wonn mer et net wīlen.

Esi verschwainjdt der Kommer,  
 Der Bläck widd wīch, verlēft sich ...  
 Mer drīmen vun dem Sommer,  
 Vum Gläck, daot blēwt fūr īwīch.

De Siēnsucht giht af Rīsen  
 Durch Zegden dä īst wōren;  
 Der Triust widd alles līsen  
 Uch än dem Härz bewohren.

SBZ Online 24. Dezember 2024

## Hegt wird gesangen!: "E sachsesch Chrästlied"

Ernst Helmut Chrestel was born on 24 December 1916 in Hetzeldorf as the seventh child of Andreas Wilhelm Chrestel and Luise Oczko. Even at a young age, he showed a pronounced musical talent and was able to harmonize songs on the piano even before he started school. He received violin and piano lessons. Singing in the church choir during his high school years in Mediasch made a lasting impression on him. His studies of theology took him via Riga to Tübingen, Leipzig and Halle. During his student years, he joined the singing movement and decided to dedicate a large part of his work in his homeland to church choral singing. Parallel to his theology studies, he took organ lessons and took courses in harmony, counterpoint and choral conducting. In 1941 Chrestel successfully completed his theological studies and then supplemented his musical education at the church music school in Berlin.

At the end of 1942, Chrestel returned home and was ordained as a pastor in Marktschelken. In addition, he worked as a singing pastor in various parishes with the task of founding singing communities. In the spring of 1943 he married Ilse Maria Pauer. In the war year 1944, the couple was given a daughter Ilse Maria – the concert organist Ilse Maria Reich, who later became internationally acclaimed. In the terrible January of 1945, Pastor Chrestel was also deported to a Soviet labor camp in cattle cars on Stalin's orders, along with 70,000 women and men of German nationality who were able to work. He worked in coal mines (see "Atemschaukel" by Herta Müller) and also exercised his office as a pastor and later also as a choirmaster. In this way, he tried to make camp life easier for his compatriots by singing. After five years of forced labour, he returned to his family.

Ernst Helmut Chrestel was appointed pastor in Baaßen. There the family had another four children (Gretchen in 1950, Ernst in 1953, twins Adelheid and Gudrun in 1955). Daughter Ilse Maria received piano and organ lessons from her father. After the German schools were nationalized in 1948, there was a great shortage of organists in Transylvania. As long as the schools were run by the church, the teachers' duties also included directing a church choir and serving the organ. In communist Romania, teachers were forbidden to attend church services. Chrestel submitted the concept of a cantor school to Bishop D. Friedrich Müller. On October 7, 1956, the ceremonial opening of the cantor school took place in Baaßen with a festive service, and the first 15 students were committed by handshake in front of the altar by Bishop Vicar Alfred Hermann. Due



to the lack of an organist, Ilse Maria had to take over the organist service in Baaßen as early as 1954 at the age of ten and also played the organ at this solemn service. The cantor school had taken over the rectory and the whole family was involved. For many years, Chrestel was the parish priest, director and teacher of the cantor school at the same time. He was supported by Pastor Egon Heidel from Mediasch, who taught liturgy, choral studies, catechetics and the history of church music.

In 1965 the cantor school moved to Almen and in 1969 to Sibiu. In 1984, when Chrestel retired, the cantor school was dissolved. In the 28 years of its existence, 153 organists have been successfully trained in this institution – a life's work that Chrestel could look back on proudly. As a pensioner, Chrestel lived in his parents' house in Hetzeldorf and ran the music center he set up. In 1998 he moved to Landshut, where he died in 2000.

In Transylvania, it was a tradition to perform a nativity play in the church on Christmas Eve. In the village communities, they were usually rehearsed in the respective local dialect. However, a Christmas carol in Saxon dialect was missing. For this reason, Pastor Chrestel wrote and composed "E sachsesch Chrästlied" (Maria uch Josef), which was premiered in December 1961 at the nativity play of the cantor school in Baaßen and was part of the permanent repertoire there in the following years. The many cantor students took this song with them to their respective congregations and thus ensured its rapid and wide distribution. Even today, this song is traditionally heard at the Christmas parties of our compatriots. In the song collection "E Liedchen häft ängden – alte und neue Lieder aus Siebenbürgen" we have adopted the three-part movement by E. H. Chrestel. If necessary, I can also provide a four-part movement from the author. Listen to the Christmas carol siebenbuerger.de/go/2L165 mit the Zeidner Gesangtrio and a live recording from 2016 from the Stadtkirche in Karlsruhe with the Transylvanian Choir. It would be very interesting to find out whether other Advent or Christmas carols are known in dialect

Angelika Meltzer

SBZ Online 25. December 2024

# ATS BRANCH DIRECTORY

Cleveland, OH Br. 1  
 Mtg. 3rd Mon. 7:00 p.m.  
 Sachsenheim  
 7001 Denison Ave  
 Cleveland OH 44102  
 (216) 651-0888  
 PRES: Robert M. Hanek  
 22677 Peachtree Ln  
 Rocky River OH 44116  
 (216) 385-9932 rhanek8@yahoo.com  
 SEC'Y. Same as President  
 ATS SEC'Y. Same as President  
 LOCAL DUES to August Botsch  
 12606 Arliss Dr Lakewood OH 44107

Alliance, OH Br. 3  
 Mtg. 3rd. Wed.- 6:30 p.m.  
 American Legion Post 166  
 141 W Main St Alliance OH  
 PRESIDENT John H. Aeling  
 15590 Georgetown St. NE  
 Minerva, 44657  
 (330) 862-3706  
 JDAll852@yahoo.com  
 SEC'Y. John Esterly  
 2940 Cedarwood Dr  
 Alliance Oh 44601  
 (330) 821-8766  
 ATS SEC'Y. Helen Aeling  
 15354 Georgetown St. NE  
 Minerva OH 44657  
 (330) 862-2563 HHA658@aol.com  
 LOCAL DUES to: Lesley Reed  
 Same address as above  
 SICK NOTICES to: Barb Esterly  
 2940 Cedarwood Dr Alliance 44601  
 (330) 821-8766 jackprint@sbcglobal.net

Chicago, IL Br. 9  
 Mtg. 1st Mon. 7:00 p.m.  
 Donauschwaben Club  
 625 E Seegers Rd, Des Plaines IL  
 PRES. Diethild Thut  
 923 E Slayton Dr  
 Palatine IL 60074  
 (847) 414-2660  
 dedethut11@yahoo.com  
 SEC'Y. Elfi Sanderson  
 1425 London Lane  
 Glenview IL 60025  
 (847) 998-0939  
 elfisanderson@gmail.com  
 ATS SEC'Y: Claudia Schmidt  
 8550 Niles Center Rd Skokie IL 60077  
 (847) 899-8663  
 Schmidtc274@gmail.com  
 LOCAL DUES AND SICK NOTICES TO:  
 Claudia Schmidt  
 Address as shown above

Cleveland, OH Br. 4  
 Mtg. 3rd. Mon. 7:00 p.m.  
 Sachsenheim 7001 Denison Ave.  
 (216) 651-0888  
 PRES. Monica M. Weber  
 (440) 356-5936  
 SEC'Y. Joan A. Miller-Malue  
 17105 Hilliard Rd.  
 Lakewood OH 44107  
 (216) 233-8631  
 miller-malue@cox.net  
 ATS SEC'Y Donna Jankow  
 7663 Ragall Pkwy  
 Middleburg Hts OH 44130  
 (440) 826-0773  
 SICK NOTICES to  
 Joan A. Miller-Malue  
 Address as above  
 LOCAL DUES to  
 Donna Jankow Address as above

Lorain, OH Br. 5  
 Mtg. 3rd Monday of month 7:00 p.m.  
 American Slovak Club  
 2915 Broadway, Lorain  
 PRES. Monica Gilles  
 3520 Beavercrest Dr. #107  
 Lorain OH 44053  
 (440) 309-7894  
 gillemo76@hotmail.com  
 SEC'Y. Brian Gilles  
 244 Ashwood Dr.  
 Avon Lake OH 44012  
 (440) 315-5214  
 bgilles74@yahoo.com  
 ATS SEC'Y. Ginger Romes  
 1507 West 39th St  
 Lorain OH 44053 (440) 989-8424  
 dgromes@roadrunner.com  
 SICK NOTICES to Jane Mowery  
 3600 Jaeger Dr Unit 3101  
 Lorain OH 44053 (440) 246-3004  
 janie.e.mowery@gmail.com  
 LOCAL DUES to  
 Michael W. Johnson  
 2151 Lakeland Ave  
 Lakewood OH 44107  
 (440) 225-8441 mikjo79@gmail.com

Farrell, PA Br. 7  
 Mtg. 3rd Tuesday 5:30 p.m.  
 Farrell Lions Den  
 810 Lions Club Lane Farrell PA  
 (724) 981-7130  
 PRES. Karen Zaborowski  
 1715 Shady Dr Farrell PA 16121  
 (724) 346-0373  
 SEC'Y. Same as President  
 ATS SEC'Y. Bonnie Gregorich  
 55 Oak Tree Ct  
 West Middlesex PA 16159  
 (724) 528-0309  
 SICK NOTICES to Karen Zaborowski  
 LOCAL DUES to Kathy Schuller  
 PO Box 834 Andover OH 44003  
 (440) 293-6973

Alliance, OH Br. 8  
 Mtg. 3rd Wed. 6:30 p.m.  
 American Legion Post 166  
 141 W Main St Alliance OH  
 PRES. Denise Crawford  
 9415 Elsmere Dr  
 Parma OH 44130  
 (330) 257-0267 dcrawfordcpa@outlook.com  
 SEC'Y. Lesley Reed  
 611 N. Market St Minerva OH 44657  
 (330) 868-3816  
 ATS SEC'Y. Helen E. Aeling  
 15354 Georgetown St. NE  
 Minerva OH 44657  
 (330) 862-2563 HHA658@aol.com  
 LOCAL DUES to: Lesley Reed  
 Same address as above  
 SICK NOTICES to: Barb Esterly  
 2940 Cedarwood Dr Alliance 44601  
 (330) 821-8766 jackprint@sbcglobal.net

Chicago, IL Br. 9  
 Mtg. 1st Mon. 7:00 p.m.  
 Donauschwaben Club  
 625 E Seegers Rd, Des Plaines IL  
 PRES. Diethild Thut  
 923 E Slayton Dr  
 Palatine IL 60074  
 (847) 414-2660  
 dedethut11@yahoo.com  
 SEC'Y. Elfi Sanderson  
 1425 London Lane  
 Glenview IL 60025  
 (847) 998-0939  
 elfisanderson@gmail.com  
 ATS SEC'Y: Claudia Schmidt  
 8550 Niles Center Rd Skokie IL 60077  
 (847) 899-8663  
 Schmidtc274@gmail.com  
 LOCAL DUES AND SICK NOTICES TO:  
 Claudia Schmidt  
 Address as shown above

Columbus, OH Br. 10  
 Mtg. 3rd Monday at Noon  
 Hickory House,  
 550 Officecenter Place Gahanna OH  
 PRES.Olga Hesch  
 7260 Refugee Rd  
 Pickerington OH 43147  
 H (614) 837-4038 C (614)432-3666  
 Olga.hesch@gmail.com  
 SEC'Y. Elizabeth Lassel  
 300 Glade Run Rd  
 West Jefferson OH 43162  
 H (740) 845-0564 C (614) 769-3986  
 ATS SEC'Y. P. Michael Roth  
 8063 Ivory Gull Cir Pickerington OH 43147  
 (614) 216-0008  
 LOCAL DUES and SICK NOTICES to  
 Donald Blum  
 6436 Lakeview Cir  
 Canal Winchester OH 43110  
 H (614) 837-1915 C (614) 580-8616  
 donaldbclum@prodigy.net

Canton, OH Br. 14  
 Mtg. 2nd Sunday  
 Location varies  
 PRES. Thomas J. Rowinsky  
 1656 Dunkeith Dr NW, Canton, 44708  
 (330) 478-9333  
 ATS SECRETARY: Helen Aeling  
 15354 Georgetown St NE  
 Minerva OH 44657  
 (330) 862-2563 HHA658@aol.com  
 SICK NOTICES to Thomas Rowinsky  
 Address as shown above

Canton, OH Br. 17  
 Mtg. 2nd Sunday Location varies  
 PRES. Mary Rowinsky  
 1656 Dunkeith Dr NW  
 Canton OH 44708  
 (330) 478-9333  
 mkrowinsky@neo.rr.com  
 SEC'Y. Mary Rowinsky  
 1656 Dunkeith Dr NW  
 Canton OH 44708  
 (330) 478-9333  
 ATS SECRETARY: Helen Aeling  
 15354 Georgetown St NE  
 Minerva OH 44657  
 (330) 862-2563 HHA658@aol.com  
 SICK NOTICES to Mary Rowinsky  
 NO LOCAL DUES

## USE ONLY THIS FORM FOR CHANGE OF ADDRESS AND CANCELLATIONS

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Mail to: Alliance of Transylvanian Saxons, 5323 Pearl Road, Cleveland, Ohio 44129-1503

Salem, OH Br. 18  
 Mtg. 2nd Mon. 7:00 p.m.  
 Saxon Club 1980 St. Rt. 9 Salem,  
 44460 (330) 222-1770  
 PRES.Chris Phillis  
 3824 Depot Rd Salem 44460  
 affordablebbq@yahoo.com  
 SEC'Y. / ATS SECRETARY  
 Barbara Spack  
 1389 Brookview Dr Salem, 44460  
 (330) 501-1491 babravn@sbcglobal.net  
 SICK NOTICES to Theresa Spack  
 384 W Pershing  
 Salem OH 44460 (330) 831-4119  
 LOCAL DUES TO: Helen Aeling  
 15354 Georgetown St. NE Minerva  
 44657  
 (330) 862-2563 HHA658@aol.com

Salem, OH Br. 19  
 Mtg. 1st Mon. 7:30 p.m.  
 Saxon Club 1980 Newgarden Rd  
 Salem OH 44460 (330) 222-1770  
 PRES. Glenn Spack  
 943 Stewart Rd Salem OH 44460  
 (234) 320-4132  
 SEC'Y. Robert P. Vogt, Sr.  
 973 Sunset Blvd. Salem, 44460  
 (330) 881-3346 mvcobra27@gmail.com  
 ATS SEC'Y Glenn Spack  
 Address and phone as above  
 SICK NOTICES to Glenn T. Spack  
 address above  
 LOCAL DUES to Richard Vogt, Sr.  
 c/o Salem Saxon Club  
 1980 Newgarden Rd, Salem, 44460  
 (330) 222-1770

New Castle, PA Br. 25  
 Mtg. 2nd Thursday 8:00 p.m.  
 Eintracht Hall 108 Taylor St.,  
 New Castle PA 16101  
 (724) 652-7221  
 PRES. Karl E. Hermann  
 1650 Union Valley Rd  
 Wampum PA 16157  
 (724) 732-3426  
 karlhermann@comcast.net  
 SEC'Y. Jacob Holzhauser  
 764 Rose Point Rd New Castle 16101  
 (724) 971-1260  
 newcastleeintracht@gmail.com  
 ATS SEC'Y: Danual Forsberg  
 385 Trihaven Ln  
 New Wilmington, PA 16142  
 (724) 971-3448  
 danualforsberg@gmail.com  
 Local Dues: Joshua Stelle  
 10 Ludwig Rd New Castle, PA 16105  
 (724) 699-3039 Stellejw1@comcast.net

Merrillville, IN Br. 26  
 Meeting first Sunday at 2 p.m.  
 Slovak Club - 6920 Broadway  
 (219) 756-5101  
 PRES. Randall Floyd  
 1806 E 73rd Ave, Merrillville IN 46410  
 (219) 798-6908  
 Rfloyd1066@msn.com  
 SEC'Y.Brigitte Floyd  
 1806 E 73rd Ave, Merrillville IN 46410  
 (219) 688-6561  
 gittyfloyd@gmail.com  
 ATS SEC'Y. Jeff Szostek  
 625 Lake Shore Dr  
 Hobart IN 46342-5017  
 (219) 313-7854 219szos@gmail.com  
 LOCAL DUES to Zita Palyok  
 724 E. 25th Pl, Lake Station IN 46405  
 (219) 962-7345 randz724@comcast.net  
 Sick Notices to Brigitte Floyd  
 Listed above

## CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM

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

Certificate No. \_\_\_\_\_

SS# \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Old Street Address was \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

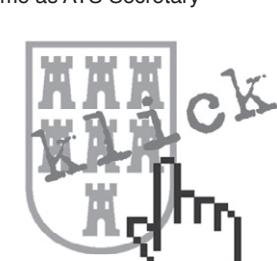
New Street \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Cleveland, OH Br. 33  
 Mtg. 2nd. Weds. 7:00 p.m.  
 Messiah Lutheran Church  
 5200 Mayfield Rd, Lyndhurst OH 44124  
 PRES. Margarete Ziegler  
 38047 Parkway Blvd.  
 Willoughby OH 44094  
 (440) 488-6421  
 margarez@aol.com  
 SEC'Y. Arline Suts  
 413 Downing Dr Chardon OH 44024  
 (440) 867-6103  
 asuts@windstream.net  
 ATS SEC'Y. Karyn Schmidt  
 4979 Anderson Rd  
 Lyndhurst OH 44124  
 (216) 382-7397  
 SICK NOTICES to Arline Suts  
 Address and phone as above  
 LOCAL DUES to Michael Bretz  
 388 East 317th St.  
 Willowick OH 44095  
 (216) 392-6241 meb3172@att.net

Detroit, MI Br. 37  
 Mtg. 1st. Sun. 12:00 p.m.  
 St. Peters Lutheran Church  
 11423 Chicago Rd. Warren, MI  
 (586) 978-3850  
 PRES. Susanna Fleischer  
 11060 Furbush Rd. Holly MI 48442  
 (810) 694-1860  
 beetlebugsue7@peoplepc.com  
 SEC'Y. Trudy Kalvin  
 2448 Orpington Troy MI 48083  
 (248) 925-9995  
 ACTING ATS SEC'Y.  
 Susanna Fleischer  
 Address as above  
 LOCAL DUES to Ingrid Weihs-Ferguson  
 11711 Lancer Dr Sterling Hts MI 48313  
 iwferguson@aol.com

Ellwood City, PA Br. 45  
 Mtg. 3rd Tuesday 7:30 p.m.  
 Saxon Club 901 Millview St.  
 (724) 758-3268  
 PRES. John Dengel  
 305 Stamm Hollow Rd.  
 Ellwood City, PA 16117  
 (724) 622-1593  
 SEC'Y Dawn Dengel  
 Same as President  
 (724) 622-0152  
 ATS SEC'Y Cathie Bender  
 801 Park Ave.  
 Ellwood City, PA 16117  
 (724) 544-7232  
 LOCAL DUES to Kathy Carsele  
 318 Golf Ave.  
 Ellwood City, PA 16117  
 (724) 758-3002  
 Sick Notices to  
 Cathie Bender  
 Same as ATS Secretary



Ich bin ein  
Siebenbuerger.de

# Merry Christmas



**Silent night, holy night**  
**All is calm, all is bright**  
**Round yon Virgin Mother and Child**  
**Holy infant so tender and mild**  
**Sleep in heavenly peace**  
**Sleep in heavenly peace**

**Silent night, holy night**  
**Shepherds quake at the sight**  
**Glories stream from heaven afar**  
**Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia**  
**Christ, the Saviour is born**  
**Christ, the Saviour is born**

**Silent night, holy night**  
**Son of God, love's pure light**  
**Radiant beams from Thy holy face**  
**With the dawn of redeeming grace**  
**Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth**  
**Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth**

**Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht!**  
**Alles schläft, einsam wacht**  
**nur das traute hochheilige Paar.**  
**Holder Knabe im lockigen Haar,**  
**Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh,**  
**Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh.**

**Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht,**  
**Hirten erst kundgemacht,**  
**durch der Engel Halleluja,**  
**tönt es laut von Fern und nah:**  
**Christ, der Retter, ist da,**  
**Christ, der Retter, ist da!**

**Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht!**  
**Gottes Sohn, o wie lacht**  
**Lieb aus deinem göttlichen Mund,**  
**da uns schlägt die rettende Stund,**  
**Christ, in deiner Geburt,**  
**Christ, in deiner Geburt.**

Words: Joseph Mohr

Music: Franz Xaver Gruber

The ATS Board of Directors and Home Office Staff wish faith, hope, and love for you and your family during this Christmas Season and throughout the upcoming new year.

Denise A Crawford  
ATS President