

ATS 109TH CONVENTION MAY 2 - 3, 2026 HOST: BRANCH 1 AND 4 - CLEVELAND

CONVENTION SCHEDULE
CLEVELAND SACHSENHEIM
7001 Denison Ave, Cleveland, Ohio

Friday, May 1, 2026
2:30 p.m. Board of Directors Meeting

Saturday, May 2

9:00 a.m. Delegate Registration
10:00 a.m. Convention Opens
Noon Lunch
1:30 p.m. Convention Resumes
4:00 p.m. Recess for the Day
5:30 p.m. Social
6:00 p.m. Dinner
7:00 p.m. Trachtenball

Sunday, May 3

9:30 a.m. Convention Resumes
Noon Lunch
1:30 p.m. Convention Resumes
(if necessary)

CONVENTION DELEGATES

Br. 1 Cleveland West

Thomas J. Hospodar
Hanz G. Hermann
August J. Botsch
Michael N. Bretz

Br. 3 Alliance

John H. Aeling

Br. 4 Cleveland West

Monica M. Weber
Donna J. Jankow
Stephanie A. Miller
Christine S. Roppelt
Barbara A. Hermann
Diane E. Hum

Br. 5 Lorain

Monica F. Gilles
Virginia A. (Ginger)
Romes
Jeanne M. Petty

Br. 7 Farrell

no response

Br. 8 Alliance

Casey M. Crawford
Courtney A. Crawford

Br. 9 Chicago

Diethild (Dede) Thut
Georg Thut, Jr.
Claudia Schmidt
Margarete Mahltig

Br. 10 Columbus

P. Michael Roth
Marlene S. Mueller

Br. 14 Canton

no response

Br. 17 Canton

Helen E. Aeling

Br. 18 Salem

Christine K. Phillis
Barbara A. Spack
Twila R. Rothbrust

Br. 19 Salem

Glenn T. Spack
Tony P. Rothbrust

Br. 25 New Castle

Daniel A. Both
Mark V. Hudak

Br. 26 Merrillville

Brigitte Floyd
Daniel Schuffert
Michele Schuffert

Br. 27 New Castle

Dolores A. Both

Br. 29 Rochester

no response

Br. 30 Youngstown

Ernest Roth, Sr.
Rosemarie A. Kascher
Kathleen M. (Kiki) Eberth
Tammy J. Hahn
June L. Muntean
Julaine E. Gilmartin
Rose Marie Zamary
Frances A. Hinerman
Michael Bachinger
Michael Teutsch, Jr.
Ernest L. Roth, Jr.
Jonathan P. Barkett

Br. 32 – Ellwood City

no response

Br. 33 – Cleveland East

Donna J. Foisel
John W. Foisel
Heinrich (Henry) Hum
Arlene E. Suts
Daniel W. Suts
Maria Phillips
Lisa Deaton
Alt: Ema Litschel

Br. 37 Detroit

Debbie K. Ferguson
Ingrid E. Weihs-Ferguson

Br. 45 Ellwood City

no response

Home Branch

Denise A. Crawford
Randall B. Floyd
Christine D. Oehlman
Jacob F. Spor
Margarete I. Ziegler

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Denise Aeling Crawford
ATS Nat'l President



Branches 1 & 4 in Cleveland and the ATS Home Office have been busy preparing for the 109th ATS Convention being held the first weekend in May. The Board of Directors will have their second meeting of the year on Friday afternoon, May 1st. The Convention will start on Saturday morning. The Board will review our financial statements and fraternal activities with the Delegates during the Saturday session. The Convention Delegates will vote on budget items, one Constitution change, and the election of the ATS Board of Directors. The Convention Delegates also vote on the Saxon Handicraft Exhibit items and determine the winners in each category and an overall winner. In preparation for the Convention, the Fraternal Events/Scholarship Committee will be meeting on Saturday, April 11th to review the scholarship applications that have been submitted. All winners of scholarships will be announced at the Convention. Cultural Group subsidies and Branch Sharing awards will also be distributed. Another important item to be voted on at this upcoming Convention will be accepting a bid for hosting the next Convention, which will be held in 2028. Branches, talk about this in your meeting and let your Delegates know to put in a bid for this event.

Have you sent in your reservation form for the bus trip to the Heimattag in Aylmer, Canada yet? Seats are filling up fast so get your deposit in soon. We don't want you to miss the bus! Remember, too, you need to make your own meal and hotel reservations for the weekend.

The Heimattag on July 10 – 12th is just one of the events this summer that you don't want to miss. Saxon Summer Camp has 10 campers signed up for the week of June 14th. The ATS Fishing Charter will be held June 20th and Family Day at Waldameer occurs on July 25th. Plan on attending some of these events this summer. They are held especially for you, our members!

As I'm writing this column, I just wrapped up a Zoom meeting with the Federation Leaders. Members in the meeting were Rainer Lehni from Germany, Manfred Schuller from Austria, Radu Nebert from Transylvania, Rebecca Horeth from Canada, and a couple of others representing various groups. Discussion centered around Heimattag celebrations in various countries, the upcoming Jugendlager in Germany, and the Cultural Exchange program. One question on everyone's mind is when is the next Sachsentreffen in Transylvania going to be? The answer is: we don't know yet. There will be another one! But the decision as to when has not yet been made. Once I know, I'll let everyone know!

Speaking of Jugendlager, we have two young ATS members who will be traveling to Germany this summer. Alexander Spack and Katelynn Pechatsko, along with group leader Jonathan Barkett, will spend two

Continued on Page 4

TIMELY - DO NOT DELAY
MAILED TUESDAY, APRIL 7, 2026

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

Schloss Horneck needs OUR help!



Schloss Horneck located in Gundelsheim, Germany is the international location for our Siebenbürger Sachsen to house Sachsen artifacts, books and other historical documents and records. It is important to our worldwide Sachsen community to help in the maintenance expenses of this historical facility that will preserve our Sachsen culture and heritage.

The Federation of Transylvanian Saxons requests donations to help in the funding of the facility. If you are interested in giving a donation, please complete the form below and send to the ATS Home Office, 5323 Pearl Road, Cleveland, OH 44129.

Please make your check payable to the ATS.

DONATION FOR SCHLOSS HORNECK

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zipcode _____

Amount Donated \$ _____

Please indicate if donation is in memory or honor of someone

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.

BRANCH 5, LORAIN By Michael Johnson

Most everyone has paid their dues for this year except for a few. If you are one of these individuals please be prepared to pay your dues at the next meeting by either cash or check payable to: **ATS Branch 5, Lorain, OH.** If you are not going to be attending, please submit your dues by mail soon, as you are now considered in arrears. Make your check payable to: **ATS Branch 5, Lorain, OH** and mail your check to: *Michael W. Johnson, 2151 Lakeland Ave., Lakewood, OH 44107.* Our next meeting will be on Monday April 20, 2026, starting at 7:00 p.m. at the American Slovak Club as usual.

Remember, if you are currently under a doctor's care or soon to be, you need to contact Sister Jane Mowery at (440) 246-3004 to begin the process of receiving benefits due through your membership in Branch 5. Currently there are no other members on the sick list other than Sister Debbie Tomusko who underwent some surgery and is now recovering and reporting to be on the mend. Congratulations to Nick and Juliana Piller on the birth of their daughter Eva Jane Piller. All are doing well and thankful for the cards, texts, and well wishes.

This month we have another member who will be a 50-year member, Sister Ginger Romes, our Branch 5 Treasurer. She has served in other officer positions during the years as well in the ladies Branch 11 before the merge with Branch 5. She is also a standout bowler in the TSBA season and tournaments representing Branch 5 Lorain. Congratulations Ginger on this achievement and appreciate your service.

Members celebrating birthdays this month of April are Sisters Ginger Romes, Debbie Tomusko, Barb Gilles and Junior members Sofia Ali, and Mackenzie Smith. May you all celebrate your special day the way you want. Happy Birthday!

Until next time enjoy the start of our spring weather and have a Happy Easter!



Alliance of Transylvanian Saxons
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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, APRIL 15, 2026

FRIDAY, APRIL 24, 2026

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 2026

FRIDAY, MAY 8, 2026

WEDNESDAY, MAY 13, 2026

FRIDAY, MAY 22, 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



ATS National Convention
May 2 and 3, 2026
Sachsenheim Hall – ATS Branches 1 and 4
7001 Denison Ave.
Cleveland, OH 44102



Saturday, May 2, 2026

Lunch: 12:00 pm
 Soup and Sandwich Bar
 Dessert

| | Ticket Price (Adult) | Ticket Price (Children 4-10) | Number of Tickets | Total amount |
|--|----------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| | \$15.00 | | X _____ | \$ _____ |

Doors open at 5:30 pm
 Dinner @ 6 PM

Schnitzel Dinner
 as part of CSDG Trachtenball
 Entertainment, Please wear your Tracht

| | | | | |
|--|---------|---------|---------|----------|
| | \$25.00 | \$12.00 | X _____ | \$ _____ |
|--|---------|---------|---------|----------|

Sunday, May 3, 2026

Lunch: 12:00 pm

Saxon Sausage Platter with 2 sides
 Salad, roll, butter
 Dessert

| | | | | |
|--|---------|--|---------|----------|
| | \$20.00 | | X _____ | \$ _____ |
|--|---------|--|---------|----------|

Saturday and Sunday morning complimentary coffee and pastries

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

Reservations made by:

Name: _____ Branch City & Number: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Make Checks payable to: **ATS Branch 4**

Send Reservation and Payment to: Donna Jankow
 7663 Ragall Pky
 Middleburg Heights OH 44130
 (440) 826-0773
 (*All tickets will be held at the door*)

SAXON HANDICRAFT EXHIBIT

A highlight of the ATS Convention is the Saxon Handicraft Exhibit. The Exhibit this year will be held at the Westside Sachsenheim, where the ATS Convention will meet on May 2-3, 2026. The Handicraft Exhibit Director is Barbara Hermann and the Assistant Director is Elisabeth Weber.

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

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

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

1. There will be prize competition in eight (8) categories (7 Adult & 1 Junior).
2. There will be first and second prizes awarded in each category.
3. There will be one (1) President's Award for "Best of Show" Entry.
4. No more than three (3) entries allowed per member.
5. Only items actually made by present ATS members are eligible for entry in this prize competition.
6. Winning entries will be determined by ballot vote of the Convention Delegates.

NOTE: An Entry Blank must be filled out for all items placed on display. Advance registration will be appreciated. The exhibition room will be open Saturday morning (May 2) for delivery and set-up of display items. All items must be picked up Sunday morning (May 3) prior to the start of the Sunday Convention Session.

Send your entry blank for the Saxon Handicraft Exhibit to:

Barb Hermann
Handicraft Exhibit Director
29076 Fall River Dr
Westlake, Ohio 44145
(440) 364-4358

SAXON HANDICRAFT EXHIBIT ENTRY BLANK

Name _____

Branch No. _____ Phone Number _____ Email _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

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

My ATS Certificate No. is _____

Exhibit Categories: Describe your entry.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Ceramics | 5. Painting |
| 2. Crewel/Cross Stitch/Needlepoint | 6. Photography |
| 3. Crocheting/Knitting | 7. Open Class |
| 4. Quilting | 8. Junior Category (13 and under) |

Description: _____

AGREEMENT

I agree to be responsible for the delivery, display and pickup of these items at my own risk and hold the Alliance of Transylvanian Saxons and Branches 1 & 4 harmless against any and all loss, damage, cost and expense that may be incurred by reason of such display and exhibition. I hereby certify that any item(s) entered under my name for Prize Competition was (were) made by me personally.

Signature _____

Date _____

2026 ATS Convention

May 2-3, 2026

Sachsenheim Hall

Hotel Blocks

(check-in 5/1 Friday, depart Sunday 5/3)

1. Hampton Inn Cleveland Airport

(10 rooms, 5 King & 5 2-Queen beds)-must book by 4/9 or will be released

10305 Cascade Crossings (I-480 & Tiedeman Road)
 Brooklyn, OH 44144

Reservation phone#: (216) 929-8400

Block name: ATS

Room rate: \$159/night plus tax

2. LaQuinta by Wyndham Cleveland Airport North

10 Rooms - Doubles

4222 W 150th St
 Cleveland, OH 44135

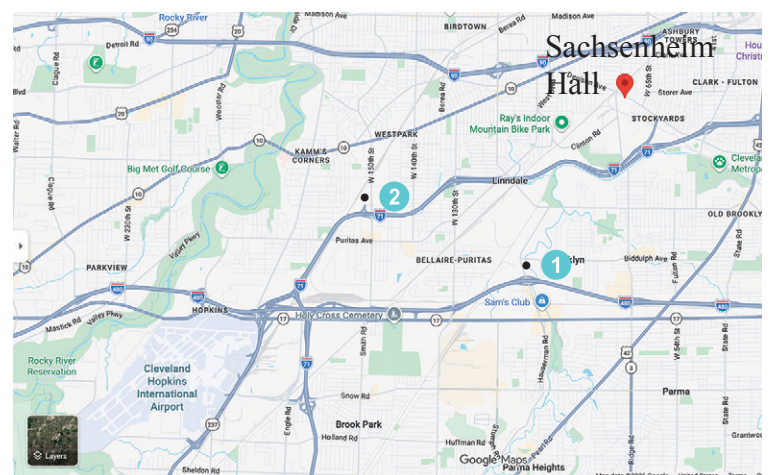
(216) 251-8500

Block name Alliance of Transylvanian Saxons

Room Rate: \$109.00 plus tax

Reservation cut off date: April 13, 2026

<https://www.wyndhamhotels.com/hotels/52983?checkInDate=05/01/2026&checkOutDate=05/03/2026&groupCode=CG050126ATS>



TRACHTENBALL

Presented by The Cleveland Saxon Dance Group

SATURDAY
MAY 2ND



Doors at 5:30
 Dinner at 6
 Program at 7

Savory Schnitzel Dinner with All the
 Fixings and Dessert

Adults \$25
 Children between 4-10 \$12

Encouraged to wear Tracht · Perform
 in our Aufmarsch!

Performance by The Cleveland Saxon Dance Group

Special Performance by ATS Branch 33 Saxon Singers

Aufmarsch & Dance Music by The Youngstown Saxon Band

Westside Sachsenheim
 7001 Denison Ave Cleveland Ohio 44102

Scan QR code
 for reservations



FRATERNAL CALENDAR

NATIONAL EVENTS

April 18 - 19, 2026

TSBA Season-end Tournament - Salem

May 2-3, 2026

ATS National Convention

Hosts: Cleveland West Branches 1 and 4

June 13, 2026

TSBA Convention hosted by Cleveland West

June 14 - 20, 2026

Saxon Summer Camp

June 20, 2026

ATS Fishing Charter

Linda Mae Charter - Eastlake, Ohio

July 10 - 12, 2026

North American Transylvanian Saxon Heimattag

Aylmer, Ontario Canada

July 25, 2026

ATS Family Day at Waldameer, Erie, PA

LOCAL EVENTS

April 25, 2026

Br. 33 Cleveland East

Krapfen Sale for members

Br. 8 Alliance

Dinner at Hart Mansion 4 p.m.

May 2, 2026

Cleveland Saxon Dance Group Trachtenball

June 27, 2026

Br. 8 Alliance Summer Outing

1776 performance by Carnation Players

Br. 9 Chicago Annual Picnic 11 a.m.

August 15, 2026

Branches 3 and 8 Alliance

Summer picnic @ John Aeling's

December 13, 2026

Br. 9 Chicago Christmas Party

BRANCH 33, CLEVELAND EAST

By Arline Krestel-Suts

Our last meeting was March 11, and we met virtual via Zoom. We had a good turnout so thank you to everyone who got on their computer or smart-device and showed up for the meeting.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, April 8. We start at 7 p.m with dinner: hotdogs, sauerkraut, and assortment of condiments... in honor of baseball's opening day. We also have a game planned for members, also in honor of baseball.

Branch 33 is planning to make Krapfen and selling to Branch 33 members. We did a bake sale last year and

had a great response. Date is Saturday, April 25, at our usual meeting place Messiah Lutheran Church in Lyndhurst. Ema Litschel is taking orders for the Krapfen (440) 479-9334 (2 dozen max.).

Remember that Branch 33 has formed a Choir; we are meeting on Sunday evenings at Messiah Church. Anyone and everyone are welcome to join us! Call Margie Ziegler for the choir practice schedule (440) 488-6421.

We wish everyone a Happy and Blessed Easter... Jesus Christ is risen, He has risen indeed!



BRANCH 8, ALLIANCE

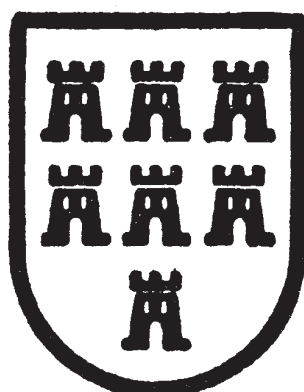
By Lesley Reed

Our latest meeting was held on March 18th. We had eight members present and enjoyed a pizza dinner with dessert beforehand. As the first point of order, the upcoming ATS convention was discussed and that the paperwork concerning our selected delegates and other pertinent information had been submitted. We also were informed of the proposed changes to our Constitution. We received a notice that the Alliance YWCA, which we contribute to regularly, are celebrating their 100th anniversary. A motion was made and passed to send them a donation to mark the occasion.

The discussion of a ladies' summer outing was continued. It was agreed that we would plan on attending the Carnation Players matinee performance of 1776, based on the book by Peter Stone, on Saturday, June 27th. When we meet again on May 20th, please let Barb Esterly know if you are attending so she can purchase the tickets. Also, if anyone has a handicraft to submit for the exhibit at the May convention, Denise Crawford is willing to deliver it. Other upcoming ATS activities include the Summer Camp beginning June 10th, the Heimattag beginning July 10th, the Family Fun Day at Waldameer Park on July 25th, and the Open Bowling tournament in Salem beginning October 17th.

Upcoming activities for our Alliance, OH branches include the following: a dinner at Hart Mansion restaurant on April 25th at 4 p.m., lodge meetings on May 20, September 16, and October 21, a summer picnic at John Aeling's on Saturday, August 15, and our annual Holiday dinner at Hart Mansion on November 14.

Lastly, we want to send our birthday blessings out to Shari Edwards, whose special day is April 13th!



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Cont'd from Page 1

weeks touring Germany, together with other young Saxons from Austria, Germany, Canada, and possibly Transylvania. Those of us who've been on a Jugendlager in past years know that they will have a great time and make lasting friendships with Saxons from around the world.

Did you know that on April 9, 1945, a Lutheran pastor and theologian was hanged in a Prisoner of War camp in Germany? Adolf Hitler became chancellor of Germany on January 30, 1933. Two days later, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, a lecturer at Berlin University, took to the radio and denounced the Nazi Fuhrerprinzip, the leadership principle that was merely a synonym for dictatorship. According to History.com, Bonhoeffer's broadcast was cut off before he could finish. Soon after, he moved to London to pastor a German congregation, while also giving support to the Confessing Church movement in Germany.

The Confessing Church movement emerged in the 1930s as a reaction against the Nazi regime's attempts to unify Protestant churches under a pro-Nazi ideology. The movement aimed to preserve the integrity of Christian doctrine and resist governmental manipulation of the church. It

represented a crucial moment in Protestant history, highlighting the struggle between faith and political power. Its legacy continues to inspire discussions on faith and ethics in political contexts.

Bonhoeffer returned to Germany in 1935 to run a seminary for the Confessing Church. The government, however, closed it in 1937. Bonhoeffer's continual vocal objections to Nazi policies resulted in him losing his freedom to lecture or publish. He soon joined the German resistance movement and the plot to assassinate Hitler. In April 1943, he was arrested by the German Gestapo. Evidence implicating him in the plot to overthrow the government came to light and he was court-martialed and sentenced to death. He died on April 9, 1945, just days before the American liberation of that POW camp at Flossenbürg.

While in prison, he acted as a counselor and pastor to prisoners of all faiths. His last words were "This is the end – for me, the beginning of life". Bonhoeffer's Letters and Papers from Prison was published posthumously. Among his celebrated works of theology are The Cost of Discipleship and Ethics.

Until next time...

YOUNGSTOWN SAXON RETIREES

By Ro Dundon

Hi there to everyone. This will be a short note.

We met at the Eat and Park Restaurant in Austintown. It had been some time since we had been together. It was good to see one and another.

We have some sad news to impart since our last meeting. In November our member Eileen Ring passed away. All of us are so sorry for her family. She will be missed.

Another member who will be missed was Beverly Myers who passed away in March. The family has our sympathy.

The conversation at the table was that the food at the Club is excellent. There is a new cook. The menus and

specials are wonderful. That's a good reason to stop into the bar, check out the restaurant and get together with the other members. What better way to pass a wet, rainy, (soon to be spring) evening.

Bo Rutklosky's photos of actual dinners look absolutely luscious, makes you want to take off for the club.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, April 9th. Again, we will meet at Austintown's Eat and Park time being 12:00. Rosemarie will call everyone if plans change.

Well Spring is here, or should be, and so will Easter. So stay dry and warm, don't eat too much candy. Soooo until we meet again, as usual... it's RO

CHURCHES



**St. Peter's
German and Saxon
Lutheran Church**
11423 Chicago Rd.
Warren, Michigan 48093
(586) 979-3850
stpeters_church@sbcglobal.net
www.stpeterswarren.org

10:00 Service
Nursery
Coffee following service
Senior Circle



Lake cow bacon almost happened

In 1910, America had two problems: a meat shortage and a plague of water hyacinth choking the waterways of the South. A congressman from Louisiana had one solution to both: hippos.

House Bill 23261 proposed importing hippopotamuses from Africa, releasing them into the bayous to eat the invasive plants, and then — eating the hippos. Proponents called the meat “lake cow bacon.” The New York Times endorsed the idea enthusiastically. Theodore Roosevelt was on board. A former Confederate officer actually traveled to Africa to scout the animals.

The bill came remarkably close to passing. It failed by a single vote.

Had it succeeded, Louisiana's marshes might today look considerably different. Crawfish étouffée might share the menu with hippo po'boys. And the phrase “lake cow bacon” would need no explanation whatsoever.

It needed just one more vote.

BRANCH 4, CLEVELAND By Joan Miller-Malue

We had a very enjoyable Lunch with the Easter Bunny. Thirty-two children really had a good time and enjoyed the entertainer, Brad Thompson with his balloon twisting. We want to thank everyone who helped out to make this event successful. We thank our junior members Katelyn Pechatsko for being our MC and Quinn Pechatsko and Katie Hanek for helping out throughout the morning. We are so grateful for our junior members who volunteer to help at our events. We want to thank Diane Hum for making the unique Easter egg hand-out. It was a great afternoon!

We are looking to add a few more new members for the Saxon 250 Club 2026-2027 season. The cost to join is \$50.00 for annual membership. This is a great opportunity to support our Sachsenheim while taking a chance on some great prizes. Beginning in April, we will draw numbers for 50 consecutive weeks and each winner will be awarded \$25.00, except for week 25 where a special prize of \$100.00 will be awarded. At the end of the club year, each member will be entitled to one ticket to our year end banquet and will be entered into a grand prize drawing where cash prizes ranging from \$50.00 - \$1000.00 will be awarded (winner need not be present). It is not necessary to be a Branch 1 or 4 member to join—membership is open to all adults ages 18 and older. If you are interested in joining, please make checks payable to Saxon 250 Club and mail to: Stephanie Miller, 23500 Wingedfoot Dr, Westlake, OH 44145. Should you have questions, please email us at saxon250club@gmail.com.

The Cleveland Saxon Dance Group is preparing for their Annual Trachtenball that will be held on Saturday May 2, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. They will serve a Schnitzel dinner. Come dressed in Tracht and join in the Aufmarsch. Music by the Youngstown Saxon Brass Band and special performance by Branch 33 Saxon Singers. Cost is \$25 for adults and children ages 10 and under \$12. To make your reservations go online: Trachtenball-may-2-2026.cheddarup.com. Deadline for tickets is April 25.

Our next monthly meeting will be held on Monday, April 20 at 7:00 p.m. Hope to see you at the meeting.



Try To Imagine

*Try to imagine, if you can
what it was like for Jesus as a man.
To hang upon that cross of wood
like His father planned He should.
How God felt watching His Son
suffering for the sins of everyone.
Man's debt for sin had to be paid;
a master plan had been made.
Saving man was worth the price
and Jesus was the sacrifice.
God offers a chance our souls to save
and escape forever an earthly grave.
We must believe in what Jesus taught
and love others just like we ought.
Now try to imagine, if you can
the hope of God's eternity plan.
Heaven waits for those who believe
when earthly life you finally leave.
Easter is a time to recall
what the cross means to us all.
So, celebrate Easter with joy unbound
cause salvation you have found.*

An original poem by Judith E. Both Easter 2026

Artwork by Brooke Hudak

BRANCH 9, CHICAGO By Rose-Marie Hauer

Greetings and Happy Easter! Our next meeting will be held on April 6 at the Donauschwaben Club, beginning at 7:00 p.m.

On March 22, several of our members gathered for an enjoyable afternoon of bowling, pizza, and soda. It was wonderful to see everyone and share some laughs together.

We still have navy blue fleece jackets available for pur-

chase. Please contact Karina Thut if you are interested.

Please mark your calendars for the following upcoming events:

Picnic: Saturday, June 27 at 11:00 a.m.

Christmas Party: December 13

Sick Report:

Please keep Sisters Erna Klein and Hilde Mueller in your prayers. All the best!



Chicago Branch 9 Bowling and Pizza Party



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.

William Meisel

Age: 88

Died: December 24, 2025
Home Branch

Marc Schadel

Age: 39

Died: February 8, 2026
Branch 30, Youngstown

Ronald J. Chef

Age: 84

Died: March 16, 2026
Branch 30, Youngstown

Richard Jackson

Age: 71

Died: March 23, 2026
Branch 19, Salem

Hilda Jamison

Age: 98

Died: March 23, 2026
Branch 4, Cleveland West

FDA cracking down on compounded GLP-1s

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) announced that it will take formal action against Hims & Hers, a telehealth provider that prescribes and ships compounded GLP-1 weight loss drugs. According to Reuters, the FDA indicated that it would block Hims' access to drug ingredients and refer the case to the Department of Justice for additional investigation. Hims recently scrapped plans to sell a compounded version of Novo Nordisk's Wegovy tablet for \$49 per month.

Colon cancer most deadly cancer for young adults

New research published in the medical journal JAMA concludes that colorectal cancer is now the leading cause of cancer death for Americans under age 50. The study found that colorectal cancer deaths have increased 1.1 percent annually since 2005.



**ATS ANNUAL
FISHING CHARTER
SATURDAY, JUNE 20, 2026
LINDA MAE CHARTER**

**226 E. Island Dr.
Eastlake, OH**

Just 20 miles East of Downtown Cleveland

\$40.00 for ATS members

\$80.00 for non-members

Pre-paid reservations only

Including fishing and bait

Charter departs at 2 p.m

Please arrive by 1:30

This is a great opportunity to enjoy what nature has to offer. What better way to spend the day having a great time, relaxing and fishing on Lake Erie. And the great thing about it is it's fun for everybody, from the person who never had a rod in their hand to the professional angler.

Space is limited. First Come, First Serve!

Additional fees, as needed, are:

Ohio one-day Fishing License \$14.00

Fishing Pole Rental \$15.00 (lost lures are \$5)

No License required for anyone under the age of 16

Names: _____

Address: _____

Cell Phone Number: _____ Email: _____



Please make checks payable to ATS

Mail reservation and check to ATS Home Office 5323 Pearl Road Cleveland, OH 44129

DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS: May 31, 2026



HEIMATTAG 2026

der Siebenbürger Sachsen

WIR SIND HEIMAT | WE ARE HEIMAT



OFFICIAL PROGRAM

\$25 CAD - FRIDAY, JULY 10, 2026

included in Weekend Pass

5:00pm Doors open at the Saxonia Hall

Join us in our Bavarian Biergarten! Dirndls & Lederhose or your FIFA team's football jersey encouraged!

SATURDAY, JULY 11, 2026

\$20 CAD - not included in Weekend Pass

1:00 pm Paulaner & Hacker-Pschorr German

Beer Tasting - Saxonia Hall Lounge

Taste six beers paired with small bites of

food, featuring expert explanation by a Paulaner representative. Learn their history and how their beers are crafted.

Biergarten open 1:00pm -4:00pm at no charge

\$60 CAD - included in Weekend Pass

5:00pm Doors open at the Saxonia Hall

6:00pm Dinner followed by cultural

performances

Dance to follow

\$45 CAD - SUNDAY, JULY 12, 2026

included in Weekend Pass ; ticket for lunch only (service & rally no fee)

10:30am Worship Service at St. John's Lutheran Church

11:00am Trachtenumzug Parade to Saxonia Hall

11:30am Kundgebung | Cultural Rally

12:30pm Lunch

WEEKEND PASS ONLY \$125 CAD

Tickets online at www.saxoniahall.com/heimattag

All prices include sales tax (HST)

ACCOMODATIONS INFORMATION

Information also available on the Heimattag website: www.saxoniahall.com/heimattag

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS - ST. THOMAS

2 Queen Beds | Breakfast included

13 minutes from the Saxonia Hall

<https://www.ihg.com/holidayinnexpress/hotels/us/en/st-thomas/vasst/hoteldetail>

COMFORT INN - ST. THOMAS

2 Queen Beds | Breakfast included

11 minutes from the Saxonia Hall

<https://www.choicehotels.com/en-ca/ontario/st-thomas/comfort-inn-hotels/cn005>

BEST WESTERN - TALBOTVILLE

2 Queen Beds | Breakfast included

25 minutes from the Saxonia Hall

https://www.bestwestern.com/en_US/book/hotels-in-london/best-western-plus-stoneridge-inn-conference-centre/propertyCode.66085.html

German-Canadian Club of Aylmer, ON | Saxonia Hall | 522 Talbot St. W. | Aylmer, ON | N5H 2T8

ATTENTION: Members Cleveland East Branch 33

2026-2027 Application for Scholarship/Reimbursement College Expenses

Branch 33 members who are newly entering or continuing college (undergraduate studies only) are invited to apply for a Freshman (\$1,000) or Sophomore/Junior/Senior (\$500) scholarship for the 2026-2027 academic year. IT IS THE MEMBER'S RESPONSIBILITY to call or write to REQUEST an application. **DEADLINE IS May 31, 2026.**

Here are the eligibility requirements, i.e. the RULES.

1. At least one parent or guardian or grandparent of the applicant must be a member in good standing of ATS Branch 33 for the past two (2) years.
2. Scholarship applicants must be a member in good standing of ATS Branch 33 for the past two (2) years, having transferred from Junior/Juvenile status to Active/Adult i.e. local dues paying status.
3. Freshman: High School accumulative GPA minimum 2.0
4. Upperclassman: College accumulative GPA minimum 2.5

Branch 33 members attending college for undergraduate studies can request an application by mailing in the form below or via e-mail to Karyn Schmidt at mbks26@gmail.com.

Questions call Karyn at (216) 382-7397.

Application Request for Branch 33 College Scholarship/Reimbursement

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: () _____

College/University: _____

Year: circle one Freshman Sophomore Junior Senior


Parent/Guardian/Grandparent Name: _____

DEADLINE IS May 31, 2026: Mail to: Karyn Schmidt

4979 Anderson Road, Lyndhurst OH 44124

Heimattag
2026





Travel with the ATS to the
NORTH AMERICAN TRANSYLVANIAN SAXON
HEIMATTAG
in Aylmer, Canada
July 10-12, 2026

Accommodations are at the Holiday Inn & Comfort Inn in St. Thomas (see separate ads for Hotel info and Meal reservations)

Bus leaves Friday morning July 10 from the Youngstown Saxon Club with a stop at the ATS Home Office in Cleveland. We will be returning on Sunday, July 12.

Cost for round trip on bus is \$75

Reservation deadline for Bus is June 1, 2026.
Seats are limited—sign up today!

RESERVATION FORM FOR BUS

NAME _____ Phone Number _____

Email _____

Number of Passengers _____ @ \$75 Total for Bus Reimitted \$ _____

List Travelers _____

Make Check payable to ATS and send to ATS Home Office, 5323 Pearl Rd, Cleveland, OH 44129

Don't have a retirement plan?

Call the ATS today!

Christmas at The Saxon Club

Old World Style Christmas Maker's Market

2026 MAKER'S MARKET MEETING

WHAT: Planning Meeting for the 2026 Maker's Market

**WHEN/WHERE: Wednesday April 29, 2026
7 PM**

**Salem Saxon Club (Club House)
1980 New Garden Rd.
Salem, Ohio 44460**

WHO: Club Members, Prior Vendors, Potential Vendors, Anyone that want's to be involved!

TOPICS/DISCUSSIONS:

- 2025 Maker's Market Recap Open Comments
- 2026 Market Date and Plan
- Market Planning Meeting Schedule
- Committee Sign-ups for the Market:
*Food/Drink
Decoration/Lighting
Entertainment/Contest
Vendors*
- Light Refreshments of Cookies and Drink

**FOR QUESTIONS/CONTACT:
Stacy 330-301-0744**

**The Fat Facts:
Busting common food myths**

Fat has had a rough few decades. Blamed for everything from belly bulge to blocked arteries, it became the dietary villain of the 1980s and '90s — and the myths that took root back then are still floating around today. Let's clear a few up.

Myth #1: Eating fat makes you fat. This one is everywhere, but it oversimplifies how the body works. Weight gain comes from consuming more calories than you burn — regardless of where those calories come from, according to the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. In fact, healthy fats from foods like avocados, nuts, and olive oil help you feel full longer, which can actually reduce overeating. The low-fat craze largely replaced fat with sugar — a trade-off the New England Journal of Medicine has since identified as counter-productive.

Myth #2: Fat in food becomes fat in your arteries. It's an intuitive idea, but the



**Fact:
Some fats
support health!**

body doesn't work like a pipeline. Dietary fat is broken down during digestion, absorbed, and processed by the liver before it ever reaches your bloodstream. The American Heart Association notes that the relationship between fat and heart disease is far more nuanced than once believed. Unsaturated fats — found in fish, olive oil, and almonds — are genuinely heart-friendly.

Myth #3: All fat is the same. Not even close. The Mayo Clinic distinguishes

clearly between harmful trans fats (found in heavily processed foods), saturated fats (worth moderating), and beneficial unsaturated fats. Emerging research published in The Lancet even suggests some saturated fat sources, like dairy, have a more neutral cardiovascular effect than previously thought.

The bottom line? Fat is not the enemy. Type, quantity, and overall lifestyle habits matter far more than any single ingredient. A little fat with your meal isn't something to fear — it's something your body actually needs.

**SAXON HERITAGE
COLUMBUS
BRANCH 10
OPPORTUNITY**

This is your Opa's, Oma's, Vater's, Mutter's and now your Heritage. We have been around for 116 years. Now is your opportunity. We want your ideas and comments on continuing this wonderful tradition, history and heritage. Over the next month you will be receiving correspondence on what you want the Saxon Club to mean to you. Please take the time to provide your needed and wanted valuable opinion. Danke, Gott segne!

**COLUMBUS, OHIO –
BRANCH 10
Founded**

January 23, 1910

*******IMPORTANT**

**NO APRIL GENERAL
MEETING*******

REGULAR MEETINGS

WILL RESUME

MAY 18TH

WATCH FOR

NOTIFICATION

MEETING MARCH 16TH

We discussed upcoming events like ATS Meeting, Heimattag, Saxon Summer Picnic and mailing going out to Central Ohio Saxons. Festivities included early Easter Celebration by a couple of members.

ington home and her new home in North Carolina. She spent time cleaning up her Pickerington home after last month's storm and is helping her son in North Carolina on things that need to be done down there. In spite of splitting her time between Ohio and North Carolina, she had time to visit Hedy Fleischer at her new home in Asheville. Hedy was thrilled to have lunch with Olga, and Olga took Hedy for her first manicure ever. Hedy is still adjusting to her new home. Olga visited with John Gellner and reports he is doing well.

George Lassel has just undergone a medical procedure and would welcome your prayers for his recovery.

Regina Kellner had an opportunity to go to Canton to help the family celebrate her great grandson's first birthday.

Sophie Untch is still on a slow recovery. She has been challenged by mobility issues and then got a sinus infection to complicate her recovery. Please keep Sophie in your prayers.

Susi Mueller (in above picture) is facing challenges but with the assistance from her daughter, Marlene Mueller, managed to make it to our last meeting. Please keep Susi in your prayers. Members that our facing challenges welcome your calls.

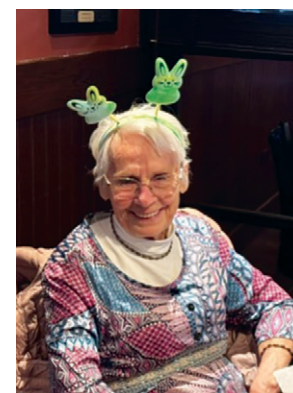
HUMOR

A man left work one Friday afternoon, and instead of going home he spent the weekend fishing and hunting with his buddies, and spent his wages drinking and having a good time. When he got home on Sunday, he was confronted by a very angry wife.

After nagging him for several hours, she asked him how he would feel if he didn't see her for 2 or 3 days. With a smirk on his face, he told her that would be fine with him.

Monday went by and he couldn't see her. Tuesday went by and he couldn't see her. Same thing on Wednesday, he couldn't see. Finally, on Thursday, THE SWELLING ON HIS EYES WENT DOWN ENOUGH THAT HE COULD SEE HER A LITTLE BIT OUT OF THE CORNER OF HIS RIGHT EYE!

Moral of the story is watch your words carefully.



SAXON MEMBERS

Quite a few of the members are facing challenges and could use your prayers. Please stay in contact with members to cheer them up and find out how they are doing.

Olga has been splitting time between her Picker-

April is Financial Literacy Month

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



What is Compound Interest?

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

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

Example 1

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

Your investment: \$54,000

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

Example 2

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

Your investment: \$95,000

At age 65, you will have \$132,147

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

An ATS Tax-Deferred Annuity is a great way to save!

Not only is your interest earnings on an ATS Annuity compounded daily, the earnings are tax-deferred. This means that you're not paying tax to the IRS each year on those earnings, as you would with a savings account or a CD at the bank. Taxes on an ATS Annuity are only paid when you withdraw funds from your account. Usually, these withdrawals occur after you have retired and are in a lower tax bracket.

Don't have an ATS Annuity? Start one today!

Alliance of Transylvanian Saxons

5323 Pearl Road

Cleveland, OH 44129

(440) 842-8442 Office@ATSaxons.com www.ATSaxons.com

