

### BRANCH 8, ALLIANCE

By Lesley Reed

A meeting was held on May 20<sup>th</sup> with eight of our members present. Attendance awards were received by Jan Ossler and Barb Esterly.

Two pieces of communication were received since our last meeting. One was a thank-you card from the local YWCA acknowledging our latest donation and the other was the interest statement from the ATS home office.

During the Old Business portion of the meeting, we received an update on events from the recent ATS convention from our president, Denise Crawford. An important event to keep in mind for July 2027 is the Heimattag which will be held in Cleveland. It coincides with the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the ATS. It was learned that nine of us will be attending the play "1776" performed by the Carnation City Players on Saturday, June 27<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 p.m. Upcoming ATS events include the Summer Camp, the Heimattag, the Family Fun Day at Waldameer Park and the Open Bowling tournament hosted by Salem.

During New Business, a motion was passed to suspend formal meetings for the months of June, July and August. However, we are invited to attend a potluck picnic at the home of John Aeling on Saturday, August 15<sup>th</sup> at noon. The trustees of our ladies' branch are asked to meet with our treasurer, Helen Aeling, one half hour before the picnic begins. Member birthdays taking place this summer include Helen Aeling on May 24<sup>th</sup>, Mary Craven on July 5<sup>th</sup>, Denise Crawford on July 26<sup>th</sup>, and Casey Crawford on August 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Besides the summer picnic, other lodge activities to keep in mind for the rest of the year include formal meetings on September 16<sup>th</sup> and October 21<sup>st</sup> as well as the annual holiday dinner on November 14<sup>th</sup>.

### BRANCH 4, CLEVELAND

By Joan Miller-Malue

We will not be holding our regular scheduled meeting in June which was to be on the third Monday. We are in discussion with Branch 1 to try to have our Branch meetings on the same day. In the meantime, President Weber would like to hear your suggestions on increased branch meeting participation. Please email Monica at [monica\\_weber@sbcglobal.net](mailto:monica_weber@sbcglobal.net) share your ideas. She would love to hear from you. "Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success." (Henry Ford)

Give your Dad a break from manning the grill and bring him to the Sachsenheim for the Father's Day BBQ on Sunday, June 21 from 1:00 – 5:00 p.m. BBQ choices include pulled pork, ribs, brisket, half BBQ chicken, burgers, sausage sandwiches and more. There is a Father's Day Raffle. Raffle tickets are selling for \$5.00 for 6 chances. Reservations are required. Please call (216) 651-0888 or stop up and speak with your bartender/server to make your reservations. Show your love and appreciation to your Dad, grandfather, uncle or father figure by treating them to a delicious BBQ at the Sachsenheim on Father's Day.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Denise Aeling Crawford  
ATS Nat'l President



As promised, check out the back page for a spotlight on our cultural groups. Between the Trachtenball and the Spring Choir Concert, each of our groups gave a wonderful performance. I encourage you to attend one or all of their events anytime you can. It's well worth it!

The ATS Summer Events are coming up fast! We have ten kids attending Saxon Summer Camp on June 14<sup>th</sup>. Two teenagers and a group leader will be attending the Jugendlager in Germany. They'll be flying on June 25<sup>th</sup> and return on July 9<sup>th</sup>. As I'm writing this, there's still two seats left on the ATS Fishing Charter on Lake Erie on Saturday, June 20<sup>th</sup>, and a few seats left on the bus heading to Aylmer, Canada for the Heimattag on July 10<sup>th</sup>. If you haven't made your seat reservation yet, please do so soon. Just a reminder, you need to make your own meal reservations and hotel reservations. In addition, most Branches have some sort of summer activity planned. Make sure to attend these. Your Branch needs you!

Coming up on Sunday, June 14<sup>th</sup> is Flag Day! This day commemorates the date in 1777 when the design for a flag for the new United States of America was approved. Fly your US flag proudly on this day. Better yet, fly your US flag proudly every day!

Did you know that on June 5, 1956, Elvis Presley rocked The Milton Berle Show? According to History.com, by the end of 1955, Elvis had nearly 18 months of nonstop touring behind him and two dozen singles under his belt. The hits, however, were only on the Country and Western charts. It was his debut single on RCA/Victor, his new label, which propelled Elvis to the top of the pop charts. "Heartbreak Hotel" made him the king of the radio and record stores during the spring of 1956, but television made him the King of Rock 'n' Roll. And if any one moment could be called his coronation, it was this night on Milton Berle's show.

This momentous night was not Elvis' first appearance on television, nor his first on this same show. Between January and March of 1956, Elvis made six different appearances on Tommy & Jimmy Dorsey's Stage Show, and on April 3<sup>rd</sup> he appeared for the first time with Uncle Miltie. However, every one of those appearances featured Elvis either in close-up singing a slow ballad, or full body but with his movements somewhat restricted by the acoustic guitar that he played. It was this June 5, 1956 appearance on the Milton Berle Show that he put his guitar aside and America witnessed for the first time, the 21-year old Elvis Presley from head to toe, gyrating his soon-to-be-famous (or infamous) pelvis, during his performance of "Hound Dog".

The mainstream media at the time reacted negatively to this appearance. Comments from critics included

Continued on Page 5

TIMELY - DO NOT DELAY  
MAILED TUESDAY, JUNE 2, 2026

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



### Attention TBSA Bowlers

69th TSBA Convention

Sachsenheim Hall

7001 Denison Ave

Cleveland, OH 44102

June 13, 2026

10:30 am

Lunch \$10

Reminder: Each Branch may  
send 3 delegates

RSVP: CJ Schmitz

(440) 799-1940 by June 5th

## 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 30 YOUNGSTOWN By Rosemarie Kascher

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

June 8 Officers Meeting  
6 p.m.

July 13 Officers Meeting  
6 p.m.

July 19 Branch Meeting  
July 26 Saxon Picnic  
Guests \$10, Social members  
\$5, regular members free.

There is no Branch meeting in June but look forward in December for the celebration of the Youngstown Saxon Club's 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

Wednesdays Dinner and Drawings

Thursdays Bar Bingo Nite  
Fridays Fish Dinner, open to the public

Sundays Breakfast until 2 p.m.

The Pork/Kraut Dinners will resume in September.

Those of you who enjoy the Monday Trash and Treasure Days, please keep your stations and area clean and uncluttered; it is truly appreciated as there are food items often available. Thank you.

We want to congratulate the three scholarship winners, Br. 30 as well as the ATS awards. Our Br. 30 winners are Sofia Terleski, Mia Terleski and Ava Bosnak. We are delighted with our Vice President's granddaughter is one of the first Br. 30 winners as well as the Terleskis. Congratulations to each of you.

We want to thank our past president, Kiki Eberth on having the foresight to prepare a new Kinder Korner for a wonderful addition especially for our youth. It will soon be in progress so look forward to it.

Welcome our new member, Ashley Ruppert in the future meetings. Happy Springtime to each of you. Check our websites for updates.

*Tact is the art of convincing people that they know more than they do.*



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

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## SECRETARIES TAKE NOTICE:

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

You may either

**E-MAIL: saxonvolksblatt@aol.com**

**POSTAL MAIL:**

**Saxon News Volksblatt**  
29076 Fall River Dr  
Westlake, OH 44145

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

### DEADLINE DATES FOR ARTICLES:

DEADLINE	ISSUE
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10, 2026	FRIDAY, JUNE 19, 2026
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24, 2026	FRIDAY, JULY 3, 2026
WEDNESDAY, JULY 8, 2026	FRIDAY, JULY 17, 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

**ATTENTION: Members Cleveland East Branch 33**  
**2026-2027 Application for**  
**Bill and Sue Foisel Scholarship/Reimbursement**  
**for Part Time College Expenses**

Branch 33 members who are newly entering or continuing college (undergraduate studies only) are invited to apply for a scholarship for the 2026-2027 academic year. IT IS THE MEMBER'S RESPONSIBILITY to call or write to REQUEST an application.  
**DEADLINE IS JULY 15, 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: \_\_\_\_\_

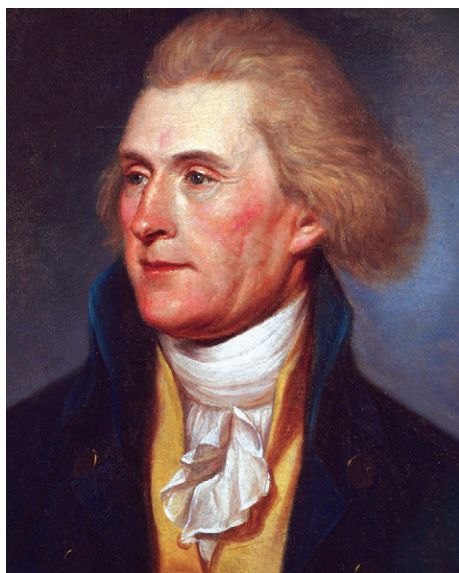
Year: circle one    Freshman    Sophomore    Junior Senior

Parent/Guardian/Grandparent Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**DEADLINE IS July 15, 2026:**  
 Mail to: Karyn Schmidt  
 4979 Anderson Road, Lyndhurst OH 44124

**The Declaration's missing 168 words**

In June 1776, Thomas Jefferson included a fiery 168-word passage in his draft of the Declaration of Independence that condemned slavery as "piratical warfare" and "execrable commerce," and accused King George III of waging "cruel war against human nature itself" by forcing enslaved Africans into the colonies. It was the most radical language in the document. Congress cut it between July 1 and July 3. South Carolina and Georgia refused to sign a declaration that questioned the slave trade they intended to continue. Northern delegates weren't exactly comfortable either — as Jefferson later noted in his autobiography, they "had been pretty considerable carriers" of enslaved people themselves. The delegates replaced Jefferson's passage with a vaguer complaint about the King inciting "domestic insurrections among us." Jefferson was furious, writing that Congress had



"mangled" his draft, and the deletion haunted him for decades. The deeper irony: the man who called slavery an assemblage of horrors enslaved more than 600 people over the course of his life. Two hundred and fifty years later, those missing 168 words remain among the most consequential edits in American history.



**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    \$60 CAD - 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  
 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](http://www.saxoniahall.com/heimattag)  
 All prices include sales tax (HST)

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

**ACCOMODATIONS INFORMATION**

Information also available on the Heimattag website: [www.saxoniahall.com/heimattag](http://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/yqsst/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](https://www.bestwestern.com/en_US/book/hotels-in-london/best-western-plus-stoneridge-inn-conference-centre/propertyCode.66085.html)

**Salem Branches Branch 18 & 19**  
**Joint Social and Scholarship Awards**

**Saturday, June 13, 2026**  
**5:00 pm.**

**Catering will be provided by**  
**Affordable Catering and BBQ**

**We are asking the women from Branch 18**  
**to provide dessert**

**Please rsvp to**  
**Barbara Spack (330) 501-1492**

**Don't have a retirement plan?**

**Call the ATS today!**

# FRATERNAL CALENDAR

## NATIONAL EVENTS

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

## LOCAL EVENTS

- June 17, 2026  
Cleveland Sachsenheim  
Annual Patio Pilsner Party
- June 27, 2026  
Alliance Br. 8 Summer Outing  
1776 performance by Carnation Players  
Chicago Br. 9 Annual Picnic 11 a.m.
- June 28, 2026  
Columbus Br. 10 Picnic  
McGill Park, Canal Winchester
- July 25, 2026  
Cleveland Sachsenheim  
Old World Music and Folk Festival
- August 8, 2026  
Alliance Branches 3 and 8  
Summer picnic @ John Aeling's
- August 9, 2026  
Cleveland East Br. 33 Summer Picnic  
Penitentiary Glen, Kirkland, OH
- August 15, 2026  
Cleveland Sachsenheim  
Oktoberfest
- September 26, 2026  
New Castle Br. 26 and 27 Oktoberfest
- December 13, 2026  
Chicago Br. 9 Christmas Party  
Columbus Br. 10 Christmas Party  
Berwick Party House

**SAXON CLUB FLEA MARKET**  
**FLOWER POWER + PATRIOTIC VIBES!**  
 Come shop, sell, and soak up the good vibes!  
 VINTAGE FINDS • HANDMADE GOODS • TREASURES & MORE

**LOCATION:**  
710 S MERIDIAN RD  
Youngstown, OH

**WHEN:**  
Mondays (WEATHER PERMITTING)  
TIME: 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM

WEAR YOUR FLORALS, BRING YOUR FLAGS, AND ENJOY A DAY OF COMMUNITY, DEALS, AND FUN!

★ VENDORS WELCOME! ★  
SET UP, SELL, AND BE PART OF THE EXCITEMENT!

DON'T MISS IT - SOMETHING NEW EVERY WEEK!

## BRANCH 5, LORAIN By Michael Johnson

We met for our monthly meeting the third Monday in May to conduct business as usual. After the minutes of the last meeting were read, and this month's treasure's report, a report from the special committee for the Branch 5 summer picnic which will be on Sunday, August 16 and the Christmas dinner on Saturday, December 5 were made. Details of those events to come at a later date as we get closer.

I'm happy to report as financial and dues secretary that all members' dues are paid for the year. We currently stand at 38 members in our branch and would like to see more of you come to our monthly meetings. We'll meet next at the American Slovak Club, 2915 Broadway, Lorain, OH 44055 on June 15, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. Join us at 5:00 p.m. that same day for a pre meeting dinner at the Blue Sky Restaurant, 917 North Leavitt Rd., Amherst, OH.

Sisters Debbie Tomusko and Sharon Powell are still on the sick list as reported by our vice president Sister Jane Mowery. Our hopes would be that each of you will be well soon.

Sisters Monica Gilles, and Ginger Romes, gave a report on the 2026 ATS 109th Convention that as delegates they attended last month and presented to the floor our branch share check from the ATS investments in 2025. Thank you both for taking the time to represent Branch 5 Lorain on behalf of its members.

There will be a July Dinner



Erica Zgola being presented the \$1000 Scholarship in Memory of Donald G. Miller by Branch 5 President Monica Gilles.

for members in good standing only, 7/14/26 at 6:00 p.m. at Nemo Grille, 36976 Detroit Rd, Avon, OH 44011. RSVP is required before July 2 by calling Sister Jeanne Petty at (440) 670-3368.

I'm putting out a request for our members to share announcements of their teen's high school, college or tech school graduation, so that we can congratulate them in the coming month's article. Send news and announcements I can share in this article by either email [mikjo79@gmail.com](mailto:mikjo79@gmail.com) or USPS ADDRESSED to Michael Johnson, 41984 Debra Dr, Elyria, OH, 44035.

Congratulations to Grace Zgola and Kaden Windham, former junior members on both receiving \$1000 Scholarships offered through the

ATS at this past year's convention. Good luck to you in your continuing education.

Members celebrating birthdays this month of June are Sisters Arleen Gilles, Lesley Hochevar, Brother Paul Kirschner, junior member Kayla Ali and a special Happy Birthday to our most senior member Sister Shirley Mitoff who will turn 96 on June 13th! Happy Birthday to you all and may you celebrate in your favorite way.

There are many opportunities to enjoy summer's activities presented by our sister branches published in your issue of the *Volksblatt*. Be sure to check them out and consider making plans to be a part of the fun. Until next month, stay healthy and safe this summer.

### A blood test for Alzheimer's

For decades, diagnosing Alzheimer's disease required expensive PET brain scans or a spinal tap. In May 2025, that changed.

The FDA cleared the first blood test for Alzheimer's disease, a simple lab draw that detects amyloid plaques in the brain, the hallmark indicator of the disease. A second approved test can be administered right in a primary care office.

The test is said to be more than 91 percent accurate.

This test is not a treatment. It tells doctors and patients what they are dealing with earlier.

## Attention Youngstown Saxons!



The Youngstown Saxon Club has been having fun for 125 years. If you have any photos from over the years please share them for a pictorial montage to help celebrate! Please contact Kiki Eberth (330) 509-8443 [kkeberth@gmail.com](mailto:kkeberth@gmail.com)

**CHURCHES**



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

**10:00 Service**  
**Nursery**  
**Coffee following service**  
**Senior Circle**

**YOUNGSTOWN  
SAXON RETIREES**  
By Ro Dundon

"It's Spring Again and Birds on the Wing again" —the song says it all.

Our Group met on May 14 at the Eat and Park in Austintown. We all look forward to getting together. But... the Markles are still under the weather. They could not attend this meeting. They are planning to be with us in June.

I hope all The Mothers had a really wonderful Mother's Day. We all deserve to have a special day to remember those with us or passed on.

Coming up next month is the Special Day for Dads. I hope all the Fathers have a really great relaxing day.

Before Father's Day comes Memorial Day—a free day for some. Many have family and friends to remember and honor on that day. Amen to the prayers for our loved ones gone but not forgotten.

Our next get together will be on June 11, again at the Eat and Park in Austintown. The time is 12 noon. Anyone who would like to join us please feel free. You will be warmly welcomed.

Should anything change, our President RoseMarie Zarmy will get in touch with you.

So—Until we meet again—  
As usual.....It's a RO.

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**  
Cont'd from Page 1

"Mr. Presley has no discernable singing ability" and "is an unutterable bore" and "his one specialty is an accented movement of the body that heretofore has been primarily identified with the repertoire of the blonde bombshells of the burlesque runway. The gyration never had anything to do with the world of popular music and still doesn't". (If only those critics could see today's musicians!)

Elvis Aron Presley was born on January 8, 1935, in Tupelo, Mississippi. He later changed the spelling of his middle name to Aaron, the biblical form of the name. He grew up being active in the church with gospel music being an important influence on him. He received his first guitar on his 11<sup>th</sup> birthday in

1946. A few years later, he won a talent show in Memphis. After graduating in 1953, he worked a number of jobs while pursuing his musical dream. He cut his first demo record at what would become Sun Studio that same year. Elvis soon began touring and recording. "That's All Right" was his first single in 1954. "Heartbreak Hotel" mentioned above, was his first Number 1 single and his first Number 1 album was self-titled. Also in 1956, he signed a movie contract (Love Me Tender) with Paramount Pictures. Despite the uproar that his dance moves caused, he became a popular guest on several television variety shows. His famous

The Ed Sullivan Show appearance occurred in October of that same year.

A stint in the US military did not lessen his career. He received his draft notice in 1957 and was inducted in the U.S. Army in March 1958. He eventually served in Germany for approximately 18 months. He met his future wife, Priscilla Beaulieu, while in Germany. Overall, he is credited with 117 singles, 24 albums, 33 movies, and 3 TV concert specials. Elvis died on August 16, 1977. He was scheduled to fly later that evening for a concert in Portland, Maine to begin another tour.

Thank you, thank you very much!

Until next time...



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.

**Joyce Walpole**

Age: 85

Died: March 30, 2026

Branch 17, Canton

**Mary Beth Weidle**

Age: 73

Died: April 10, 2026

Home Branch



**ATS Family Day**  
at  
**Waldameer and Water World**

220 Peninsula Dr.  
Erie, Pa.

Saturday, July 25, 2026

**Over 100 Attractions and Waterpark full of Wet n' Wild Fun for Everyone**

ATS has reserved a Picnic Pavilion – "Coaster #1"

Free Parking

Free Admission to Picnic Facility and Amusement Park

Bring Your Own Picnic Basket  
Grill available by Pavilion

Discounted Tickets for Combo Pass –  
Amusement Park Rides and Water World

ATS Member \$25.00

Non-Member \$42.00

(Children under age 1 Free unless they want to enter Water World)

Hours for Water World 11 am – 7 pm

Waldameer Rides Noon – 9pm

**TICKET ORDER FORM**

\_\_\_\_\_ NUMBER OF ATS MEMBERS @ \$25.00.....\$\_\_\_\_\_

Name and Certificate Number of Members:

\_\_\_\_\_ Cert No. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Cert No. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Cert No. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Cert No. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Number of Non-Members @ \$42.00.....\$\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Number attending that will not purchase combo pass

Amount Remitted.....\$\_\_\_\_\_

**Make Checks Payable to: Alliance of Transylvanian Saxons**

Mail tickets to: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zipcode \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration : \_\_\_\_\_ Billing Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

**Deadline for Ticket Orders is July 06, 2026.**

Mail Order Form to: ATS Home Office  
5323 Pearl Rd. Cleveland, OH 44129

**BRANCH 10, COLUMBUS**  
By Christine Oehlman

**JUNE Meeting Location**

June 15, 2026 @ Noon  
Rusty Bucket  
73 N. Hamilton Road  
Gahanna, Ohio

**Steps toward Columbus Branch 10 Membership**

Being an ATS member **does not automatically** make you a member of Columbus Branch 10. There are a few steps involved:

- **Step one** - being an ATS member.
- **Step two** - having a Columbus Branch 10 member invite you to become a Columbus Branch 10 member.
- **Step three** - completing our one-page application. With this, we have an initiation fee and new member yearly dues.
- **Step four** - having a board member contact you to schedule your initiation into Columbus Branch 10.

That being said, at our Columbus Branch 10 May 18<sup>th</sup> meeting, we welcomed Jennifer (Jenny) Hutchinson (Birtler). She is the daughter of Heinz and MarSue Birtler. It was a wonderful event, applauding, welcoming and getting to know her a bit and how she is looking to learn about her father's Saxon heritage. Welcome, Jenny!!

**Did you complete and send the survey?**

We plan to present survey findings and suggested changes at our picnic on June 28<sup>th</sup>. If you **have not yet completed it**, please do so and return it **TODAY**.

**Welfare of our Members**

As you noticed, Don Blum did not write this week's article. He's on leave due to upcoming health related matters. I'll be filling in for him. We remember those who were unable to be with us at our May meeting: George Lassel and Jill Blum are recovering from surgeries, and we look forward to seeing them soon!

Sophie Untch continues to be on the mend at home. Wir schließen euch alle in unsere Gebete ein. (We keep you all in our prayers.)

**Celebrations**

Happy Birthday to Regina Kellner (June 20) and Sara Alzner-Brown (June 22). Happy Anniversary to Heinz & MarSue Birtler (June 16), George & Liz Lassel (June 25). Genieße deinen besonderen Tag! (Enjoy your special day!)

**Upcoming Columbus Branch 10 Picnic**

Remember to RSVP for our June 28<sup>th</sup> Picnic. We are also looking for a few folks to help set up and clean up. If you receive a call from a member to help out, say, "yes, how can I help?" to make this day a great success. See the insert for details!

**Humor** (compliments from Sara Alzner-Brown)

I am old, and just realized still have so many unanswered questions.

I never found out who let the Dogs Out... where's the beef... how to get to Sesame Street... why Dora doesn't just use Google Maps.

Why eggs are packaged in a flimsy paper carton but batteries are secured in plastic that's tough as nails...

Why women can't put on mascara with their mouth closed...

Why "abbreviated" is such a long word...

Why lemon juice is made with artificial flavor yet dish washing liquid is made with real lemons...

Why they sterilize the needle for lethal injections... and why do you have to "put your two cents in" but it's only a "penny for your thoughts" where's that extra penny going to...

Why do "The Alphabet Song" and "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star" have the same tune...

Why did you try to just sing those two previous songs... and just what is Victoria's secret?

**COLUMBUS SAXON CLUB SUMMER PICNIC**

Columbus Saxons – Branch 10

Invite you and your family to celebrate our Saxon Heritage at our **ANNUAL POTLUCK PICNIC**.

Sunday, June 28<sup>th</sup> at 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.



McGill Park Three Seasons Shelter  
6725 Lithopolis-Winchester Rd Canal Winchester OH 43110

RSVP (number of family members & side dish) by June 19<sup>th</sup>  
We are also looking for volunteers to set up, cook, clean up  
Call or text Christine Oehlman (614) 419-7485  
Provided are Burgers / Hot Dogs / Brats / Drinks (and incidentals)  
Looking forward to seeing you there!



**Join us at the Annual Saxon Branch 9**

**Summer Picnic Celebration**

There will be food, fun, raffles and fellowship.



The committee would appreciate donations of baked goods.

**Where:** Linne Woods, Grove 1, on Dempster and Ferris Ave. in Morton Grove

**When:** SATURDAY, June 27, 2026

**Time:** Beginning at 11:00 AM



**BRANCH 9, CHICAGO**

By Rose-Marie Hauer

Our meeting was held on May 4, at the Donauschwaben Club, with fair attendance. A special thanks to Sister Dede Thut, Brother Georg Thut, Sister Margaret Maltig and Sister Claudia Schmidt for attending the Convention as our delegates. They brought back lots of valuable information.

Please mark your calendars for the following upcoming events:

**Picnic: Saturday, June 27 at 11:00 a.m.** (see attached flyer)

**Christmas Party: December 13**

**Sick Report:** Please keep Sister Erna Klein and Sister Hilde Mueller, Brother Andreas Mueller and Sister Hilde Schoonmaker in your prayers.

Our next meeting will be June 1, at 7 p.m.

All the best!

**Siebenbürger Sachsen FLEECE JACKET SALE**



SIZES: SMALL - 4XL  
COLOR: NAVY BLUE

**BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!**

**\$35.00**

+ SHIPPING  
PAYMENT TYPES:  
CASH  
CHECK  
ZELLE

**PLEASE PLACE ORDERS BY JULY 3, 2026**

**CONTACT KARINA THUT TO PLACE YOUR ORDER  
KARINA19T@GMAIL.COM**

**BRANCH 33, CLEVELAND EAST**  
By Arline Krestel-Suts

Branch 33 had meeting on May 13, started with Social Hour and enjoyed eating Krapfen; thank you to members who made the donuts. Absolutely delicious! We also sang happy 70th birthday to Wayne Suts.

Each of our 8 Branch ATS Convention Delegates shared their experiences, insights and thoughts on the Convention; delegates were pleased and thankful to be able to attend. It was a very successful convention. Thank you to Cleveland Westsiders for fantastic job hosting. Congratulations to Re-elected Board Officers. We also had a fantastic time at the evening Trachtenball, taking part in the March, watching the Saxon Dancers, and our Branch choir sang three songs! All delegates found especially interesting Eric Litschel's presentation on his work on the ATS Historical Archives. So happy and proud of his work! We had 2 winners in the Handicraft Exhibition: Dan Suts in photography and Margie Ziegler in Open Class, a beautiful necklace she made. Our two Branch deputies, Ema Litschel and Margie Ziegler, won sales awards.

Congratulations to all the ATS Scholarship winners; and Congratulations to our two Branch 33 University 2026 graduates, Hudson Schneider and Williams Krew. Please note, Branch 33 has an additional Scholarship- **The Bill and Sue Foisel Scholarship Fund**- starting this Fall, Branch 33 members attending traditional or non-traditional schools, vocational or trade schools are eligible. Any *Branch 33 member* can apply through application in Volksblatt, or contact Karyn Schmidt or Margie Ziegler.

Our Membership Banquet was held on May 17. Pictures are here in Volksblatt.

Next meeting is June 10th, starting with Party Tray supper, and Cornhole and Bocce Ball in the courtyard.

Branch 33's Summer Picnic is scheduled for Sunday, August 9th at Penitentiary Glen in Kirtland. Catering by Mission BBQ, fun and games, \$5 for members \$10 non-members. Arline Suts taking reservations (440)867-6103. Then our next event will be the Clambake last Saturday in September.

Remember, NO Business MEETING in July or August.

**Cleveland East Branch 33 Celebrated Membership with banquet on May 17. 72 members enjoyed dinner, singing by our choir, and Gemütlichkeit!**



**Branch 33 Choir and Director (missing Erika Tully).**



**Congratulations to Georg Hum, receiving 50 year Membership pin from President Margarete Ziegler.**



**Youngest attending member Anneliese Ginther with her father, Jim, giving extra smiles to Choir Director Agnieszka.**



**America 250: The Smithsonian comes to you**

For most of its history, the Smithsonian Folklife Festival has meant one thing: a trip to the National Mall in Washington, D.C. This year it means something different. For America's 250th birthday, the Smithsonian is taking the festival on the road — partnering with more than 30 local festivals in communities across the country and three U.S. territories, from March through November 2026.

The traveling initiative, called "Of the People: The Smithsonian Festival of Festivals," is the first time in the festival's history that it has gone national. Stops this summer include the Blackfoot Ranch Rodeo and Indian Relay Races in Idaho on June 25-27, with additional events running through the fall.

Back in Washington, the Smithsonian is marking the anniversary in a big way. The National Museum of American History opened "In Pursuit of Life, Liberty & Happiness" on May 14 — a sweeping exhibition spanning all three floors and featuring 250 significant objects, including the desk Thomas Jefferson used to draft the Declaration of Independence.

The landmark Smithsonian Castle, currently undergoing its first major renovation in more than 50 years, is pausing construction to reopen from Memorial Day through Labor Day. The special exhibition inside, "American Aspirations," includes Harriet Tubman's hymnal among its featured artifacts.

The Smithsonian's theme for the year — "Our Shared Future: 250" — calls on Americans to reflect on the nation's history and commit to its ideals going forward.

# Alliance of Transylvanian Saxons Minutes of the 109<sup>th</sup> Convention

May 2 – 3, 2026

Cleveland, Ohio

## FIRST DAY'S SESSION

### Convention Called to Order

President Denise A Crawford called the 109<sup>th</sup> Convention of the Alliance of Transylvanian Saxons to order at 10:00 a.m. She introduced and thanked Thomas J Hospodar, President of Branch 1, Cleveland West, for hosting the Convention and all the hard work preparing for the weekend. Brother Hospodar welcomed all the Delegates to Cleveland and wished them an enjoyable weekend.

### Invocation

Reverend Diana Thompson, of the Bethany English Lutheran Church on Triskett Road in Cleveland, gave the invocation.

### Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

The Delegates stood for the Lord's Prayer, the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, and singing of the National Anthem and Siebenbürgen.

### Opening Remarks

President Crawford gave the opening remarks. She thanked the Delegates for being prompt, reminded everyone to turn off their cell phones, and stand to be recognized.

The Delegates received the following items in their packets:

- ATS 109<sup>th</sup> Convention booklet containing the schedule
- Minutes of the 108<sup>th</sup> Convention
- Current ATS Constitution
- Proposed ATS Constitution change
- Brief Synopsis of Nominees for Board Election
- Handicraft Exhibit Ballot
- 2025 Annual Report
- Independent Comparative Report for the year-end 2025

Those attending their first Convention were asked to stand and be recognized. President Crawford announced that each of them are now a potential future Board Member!

### Report on Delegates Credentials

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Monica M Weber reported that all Delegates' credentials were checked at the ATS Home Office, and all are eligible to be seated as Delegates.

### Roll Call of Officers and Delegates

The Roll Call of Officers and Delegates was held and the following were present:

### Board of Directors:

President	Denise A Crawford, Alliance, Branch #8
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Monica M Weber, Cleveland, Branch #4
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	Randall B Floyd, Merrillville, Branch #26
3 <sup>rd</sup> Vice President	Michael Bachinger, Youngstown, Branch #30
Secretary	Christine D Oehlman, Columbus, Branch #10
Treasurer	Michael Teutsch, Jr., Youngstown, Branch #30
Trustees	Debbie K Ferguson, Detroit, Branch #37 Barbara A Spack, Salem, Branch #18 Jacob F Spor, New Castle, Branch #25 Ingrid E Weihs-Ferguson, Detroit, Branch #37 Margarete I Ziegler, Cleveland, Branch #33

### Delegates:

Branch 1 Cleveland	Thomas J Hospodar, Hanz G Hermann, August J Botsch (Saturday only), Michael N Bretz
Branch 3 Alliance	John H Aeling
Branch 4 Cleveland	Monica M Weber, Donna J Jankow, Stephanie A Miller, Christine S Roppelt, Barbara A Hermann, Diane E Hum
Branch 5 Lorain	Monica F Gilles, Virginia A Romes
Branch 7 Farell	Not represented
Branch 8 Alliance	Casey M Crawford, Courtney A Crawford
Branch 9 Chicago	Diethild Thut, Georg Thut, Jr., Claudia Schmidt, Margarete Mahltig
Branch 10 Columbus	P Michael Roth, Marlene S Mueller
Branch 14 Canton	Not represented
Branch 17 Canton	Not represented
Branch 18 Salem	Christine K Phillis (Saturday only), Barbara A Spack, Twila R Rothbrust
Branch 19 Salem	Glenn T Spack, Tony P Rothbrust
Branch 25 New Castle	Daniel A Both, Mark V Hudak
Branch 27 New Castle	Dolores A Both
Branch 29 Rochester	Not represented
Branch 30 Youngstown	Ernest Roth, Sr., Barry L Garhammer, June L Muntean, Julaine E Gilmartin, Rose Marie Zmary, Frances A Hinerman, Michael Bachinger, Michael Teutsch, Jr., Ernest L Roth, Jr., Jonathan P Barkett
Branch 32 Ellwood City	Not represented
Branch 33 Cleveland	Donna J Foisel, John W Foisel, Heinrich Hum, Arline E Suts, Daniel W Suts, Maria Phillips, Lisa A Deaton
Branch 37 Detroit	Debbie K Ferguson, Ingrid E Weihs-Ferguson
Branch 45 Ellwood City	Not represented
Home Branch	Denise A Crawford, Christine D Oehlman, Jacob F Spor, Margarete I Ziegler

### Introduction of Guests:

President Crawford introduced the following groups of individuals:

#### Past ATS Officers

- Past Trustee – Helen E Aeling, Alliance, Branch #8
- Past ATS Secretary – Monica F Gilles, Lorain, Branch #5
- Past Trustee – Hanz G Hermann, Cleveland, Branch #1
- Past Trustee – Ema Litschel, Cleveland, Branch #33

#### Introduction of Special Guests

- Hanz & Barb Hermann – Managing Editors of the Saxon News Volksblatt
- Glenn T Spack – President of the Transylvanian Saxon Bowlers Association
- Lisa A Deaton – ATS Home Office Manager

### Introduction of ATS Sales Deputies

Deputies attending this weekend are Barbara A Spack, Helen E Aeling, Lisa A Deaton, Margarete I Ziegler, Michael Teutsch, Jr., Monica F Gilles, Monica M Weber, P Michael Roth, Randall B Floyd, and Denise A Crawford. President Crawford thanked them for keeping the ATS going.

### Visitors

All visiting ATS Members were welcomed to the Convention Sessions. There were no visitors present who were not ATS Members. President Crawford reminded them that they cannot vote and should not receive any ballots. Same for anyone who is an Alternate Delegate.

### Special Recognition

President Crawford presented Branch President pins to Brother Thomas J Hospodar and Sister Christine D Oehlman as new Presidents of Cleveland, Branch #1, and Columbus, Branch #10, respectively.

### Memorial Service

President Crawford called upon Reverend Diana Thompson to conduct the Memorial Service of our departed Saxons from 2025. There were 111 Saxons that passed during the year and the average age was 85 years old.

### Appointment of Convention Committees

The following Members were appointed by President Crawford to fulfill Convention duties:

#### Registration Committee

- Christine S Roppelt – Cleveland, Branch #4
- Stephanie A Miller – Cleveland, Branch #4

#### Chaplain

- Reverend Diana Thompson, Bethany English Lutheran Church
- Christine S Roppelt – Cleveland, Branch #4

#### Convention Marshall

- Carl I Vavpot – Cleveland, Branch #1

#### Sergeant At Arms

- August J Botsch – Cleveland, Branch #1

#### Election Committee

- Juliane E Gilmartin – Youngstown, Branch #30
- Marlene S Mueller – Columbus, Branch #10
- Tony P Rothbrust – Salem, Branch #19

#### Saxon Handicraft Exhibit Directors

- Barbara A Hermann – Cleveland, Branch #4
- Elisabeth K Weber – Cleveland, Branch #4

#### Piano Accompanist

- Martha Custer

#### Parliamentarian

- Glenn T Spack – Salem, Branch #19

### Reading of the Minutes of the 108<sup>th</sup> Convention

Whereas each Delegate had been provided with a printed copy for reference, a motion to dispense with the reading of the Minutes of the 108<sup>th</sup> Convention and approve them as written was made by Sister Frances A Hinerman, Youngstown, Branch #30, and seconded by Brother Barry L Garhammer, Youngstown, Branch #30. Motion carried.

### Induction or Dissolution of new Branches

President Crawford announced that there were no new Branches added or dissolved since the last Convention.

### Reports from the Board of Directors

#### President's Report

President Denise A Crawford reported that assets grew to \$98,450,415 and surplus increased to \$15,354,789. She stated we continue to lose members each year and encouraged everyone to get at least one new member into our great family.

The office is implementing new software for the insurance and annuity program. Progress is slow as information is being entered into both the old and new systems to ensure that every policy is correct in the new system. As we progress to eventually having no discrepancies, that is when we can sunset the old program. She thanked the Home Office Staff for all of their hard work.

President Crawford thanked the Board of Directors and leadership of Branch Presidents and their Officers who are working to keep our Fraternal the successful society that it is.

A motion to accept the President's Report was made by Sister Marlene S Mueller, Columbus, Branch #10 and seconded by Brother George Thut, Jr., Chicago, Branch #9. Motion carried.

#### Secretary's Report

Secretary Christine D Oehlman reported on the membership and insurance activity comparing year end 2025 with the previous year end.

#### Total Membership

December 31, 2024	6024
December 31, 2025	5880
Increase (Decrease)	(144)

#### Total Annuity and Life Certificates

	Annuity	Life	Total
December 31, 2024	2257	4891	7148
December 31, 2025	2190	4762	6952
Increase (Decrease)	(67)	(129)	(196)

#### Total Life Insurance Value

December 31, 2024	\$25,861,211
December 31, 2025	\$25,726,660
Increase (decrease)	\$ (134,551)

#### Total Annuity Value

December 31, 2024	\$67,880,901
December 31, 2025	\$67,599,315
Increase (Decrease)	\$ (281,586)

Continued on Page 9

## ATS CONVENTION MINUTES Cont'd from Page 8

A motion to accept the Secretary's Report was made by Brother Glenn T Spack, Salem, Branch #19 and seconded by Brother John W Foisel, Cleveland, Branch #33. Motion carried.

### Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Michael Teutsch, Jr., reported on the financial condition of the ATS for the year ended December 31, 2025. He stated that we are a Fraternal Benefit Society, and that we are founded on a common bond, which can include characteristics that members share. Those can be ethnicity, religion, profession, or gender. With a Fraternal company, the members come first – not the profits.

Description	Year-end 2025
Total Assets	\$98,450,415
Bonds	88,283,344
Common Stocks, Short-term Investments, Other Invested Assets	6,808,704
Cash, Receivables, Certificate Loans, ATS Building, Equipment	3,358,367
Reserves	75,755,181
Branch Deposits	2,915,880
Annuity & Insurance Income	2,257,771
Investment Income	4,481,926
Insurance & Annuity Expenses (Life claims, Annuity withdrawals, Surrenders, Interest paid)	5,435,136
New Business & Operating Expenses	943,448
Fraternal Expenses (Volksblatt, (Orphan, Scholarships, etc.)	337,106
Net Income	113,261

Treasurer Teutsch also referred to the Independent Comparative Report that was in the Delegate packet. The ATS exceeds the leading commercial insurance companies in all categories.

A motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was made by Sister Rose Mary Zmary, Youngstown, Branch #30, and seconded by Brother Hanz G Hermann, Cleveland, Branch #1. Motion carried.

### Report by the Committee on Rules

3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President Michael Bachinger presented this report which will be voted on later in the day. The ATS asks for Convention consideration and approval of the following Budget Proposals for a two-year period from July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027, and from July 1, 2027 to June 30, 2028.

- Salary & Benefits \$ 495,000
- Sales Promotion \$ 60,000
- Fraternal Activities \$ 75,000

Trustee Ingrid E Weihs-Ferguson, Chairperson of the Constitution Committee, presented the Constitution change. Each Delegate had been provided with a copy of this change and the change was posted in the Volksblatt, the official publication, three times.

A motion to dispense with the reading of the Proposed Constitution change at this time was made by Sister Helen E Aeling, Canton, Branch #17, seconded by Sister Juliane E Gilmartin, Youngstown, Branch #30. Motion carried.

### Reports of Standing and Special Committees

#### Audit Committee

The Audit Committee report was presented by Chairperson, Randall B Floyd. The ATS Trustees conducted an audit during 2025 where they reviewed the ATS income and expense records and verification of assets. An Internal Audit was also performed to determine that operations of risk management, internal controls, and compliance procedures are adequate and function properly. During 2025, Zupka & Associates, Certified Public Accountants, conducted an independent audit and issued a report for the year ended 2024. In their opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the admitted assets, liabilities, and surplus (statutory basis) as of December 31, 2024, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended. This Independent Auditors Report, as well as quarterly and annual financials are filed with the State Insurance Departments (Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio and Pennsylvania) and the NAIC. Brother Floyd urged everyone to please review your investments and annuities to make sure your future is secure.

A motion to accept the Audit Committee Report was made by Sister Casey M Crawford, Alliance, Branch #8, and seconded by Sister Juliane E Gilmartin, Youngstown, Branch #30. Motion carried.

#### Cultural Promotion & Youth Activities Committee

Trustee Margarete I Ziegler, Chairperson of the Cultural Promotion Committee and the Youth Activities Committee reported on the activities of these two committees. The Cleveland Saxon Dance Group participated in the Federation of Transylvanian Saxon's Cultural Exchange Program with a trip to Austria and Germany in 2025. 20 members of the Dance Group traveled abroad June 17 – July 1. They said it was an amazing experience and thanked everyone who helped make the program happen.

The 2025 North American Transylvanian Saxon Heimattag was held in Youngstown on July 11-12. Participating in the event were the Youngstown Brass Band, the New Castle Kinderchor and Maennerchor, the Cleveland Saxon Dance Group, and the Kitchener Transylvania Club Dancers. President Crawford gave a presentation on the 800<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Saxon's Golden Charter. Thanks to Youngstown, Branch #30 for hosting a very successful weekend!

Eric Litschel is the librarian/historian for the ATS. He's cataloging books, digitizing historic materials and providing historical articles in the Volksblatt. He will do a presentation on Day 2 of the Convention

The 2026 North American Heimattag will be held in Alymer, Ontario, Canada on July 9–11<sup>th</sup>. The Cleveland Dance Group and Youngstown Brass Band will be participating. Please join us for the festivities.

The International Jugendlager, another exchange program sponsored by the Federation of Transylvanian Saxons, will be held in Germany this year starting in June for 2 weeks. Katelynn Pechatsko (Cleveland) and Alexander Spack (Salem) will attend. Jonathan Barkett (Youngstown) will be the group leader.

Other events include the annual Bowl Where You Are, Saxon Summer Camp on June 14-19 with 10 attendees, ATS Family Day at Waldameer on July 25, and Coloring Contests – Easter and Christmas. Great participation for our Saxon Youth. And they love getting stuff in the mail for participating. A new event that the Youth Activities Committee is working on will be a Field & Game Day in September or October. Details forthcoming.

A motion to accept the Cultural Promotion & Youth Activities Reports was made by Sister Christine S Roppelt, Cleveland, Branch #4 and seconded by Brother Hanz G Hermann, Cleveland, Branch #1. Motion carried.

#### Fraternal Activities/Scholarship Committee

Chairperson Jacob F Spor gave the report for the Fraternal Activities Committee. Twenty-one

Freshman Academic Scholarships will be awarded this year for a total of \$23,000 plus 4 renewable awards totaling \$4,000. Twenty-four Continuing Education Scholarships will be awarded this year for a total of \$21,000. Two Vocational and Trade School scholarship winners will receive a total of \$1,000 each. Grand Total of all Scholarships: \$50,000. Certificates were distributed to the Branches for those receiving scholarships.

The Freshman Academic Scholarship recipients are as follows:

- Four-year \$1,000 per year renewable Victor Deptner Memorial Scholarship:
  - Travis M Griffith, Home Branch
- Four-year \$1,000 per year renewable Rev. & Mrs. John Foisel Memorial Scholarship:
  - Lauren Q Badertscher, Br 27, New Castle
- \$2,000 Rev. & Mrs. John Foisel Memorial Scholarship:
  - Allison Reif, Br 9, Chicago
- \$2,000 New Castle Branch 27 Scholarship:
  - Kasen J Weaver, Br 30, Youngstown
- \$1,000 Past ATS Officers Scholarship:
  - Maya C Malue, Br 4, Cleveland
- \$1,000 Henry Schindler Scholarship:
  - Lydia M Temple, Br 4, Cleveland
- \$1,000 Michael Schassburger Memorial Scholarship:
  - Lydia R Parkonen, Br 27 New Castle
- \$1,000 Jon Weber Memorial Scholarship:
  - Caitlyn M Blankenship, Br 18, Salem
- \$1,000 ATS Branch 33 National Scholarship:
  - Natalie A Klein, Br 30, Youngstown
- \$1,000 Julia & Martin Konnerth Scholarships:
  - Jack M Lawrence, Br 26, Merrillville
  - Michael W Gerthung, Br 30, Youngstown
- \$1,000 Branch 10 Columbus Scholarship:
  - Brady L Roth, Br 1, Cleveland
- \$1,000 Branch 14 Canton Scholarship:
  - Joshua T Rau, Br 1, Cleveland
- \$1,000 Davidson-Schuller Appreciation Scholarship in Honor of ATS and Branches 33 & 34:
  - Madeline R Snow, Br 8, Alliance
- \$1,000 John F. Spack Memorial Scholarship:
  - Rylan P McConville, Br 1, Cleveland
- \$1,000 John & Mary Guip Memorial Scholarship:
  - Jeweliana R Farmer, Br 30, Youngstown
- \$1,000 Branch 5 Lorain Nation Scholarship:
  - Laura J Andrews, Br 26, Merrillville
- \$1,000 Dale and Rose Segedi-Kaufman Memorial Scholarships:
  - Raymond L Appleby, Br 19, Salem
  - Joshua D Joki, Br 30, Youngstown
- \$1,000 Dr. David E. Schuller Family Appreciation Scholarship:
  - Kayden R Windham, Br 5, Lorain
- \$1,000 New Castle Branch 27 Scholarship:
  - Kathleen I Brooks, Br 26, Merrillville

Renewable Scholarships:

- Receiving Years 2, 3 and 4 for the Victor Deptner award:
  - Drew R Sloan, Br 30, Youngstown
  - Andrea M Griffith, Home Branch
  - Sofia K Sattely, Home Branch
- Receiving Year 2 of the Rev & Mrs John Foisel award:
  - Alexa Clark, Br 30, Youngstown

The Continuing Education Scholarship recipients are as follows:

- \$2,000 Branch 18 – Salem Scholarship:
  - Olivia B Showalter, Br 30, Youngstown
- \$2,000 Branch 37 – Detroit Scholarship:
  - Catherine Leprich, Br 37, Detroit
- \$1,000 Scholarships in Memory of Marie Stirner:
  - Payton A Leunis, Br 7, Farrell
  - Alec R Schmidts, Br 9, Chicago
  - Taylor N Tully, Br 33, Cleveland
  - Abigail L Haydu, Br 33, Cleveland
- \$1,000 Scholarship in Memory of Gertie & Ernie Gottschling:
  - Andreas J Schobel, Br 1, Cleveland
- \$1,000 Lorain Saxon Ladies Branch 11 Scholarship:
  - Andrew M Greger, Br 1, Cleveland
- \$1,000 Joan Miller-Malue Appreciation Scholarship:
  - Olivia M Zinz, Br 30, Youngstown
- \$1,000 Scholarship in Memory of Donald G. Miller:
  - Grace M Zgola, Br 5, Lorain
- \$1,000 Donzella Herman Scholarship:
  - Kara N Pasquale, Br 32, Ellwood City
- \$1,000 George R. Spack Sr. Appreciation Scholarship:
  - Mattias R Fabian, Br 1, Cleveland
- \$750 Niles, Branch 20 National Scholarship:
  - Sofia K Terlesky, Br 30, Youngstown
- \$750 Erie Branch 2 Scholarships:
  - Bailey K Klein, Br 30, Youngstown
  - Thalia R Fabian, Br 30, Youngstown
- \$750 Award in Memory of George H. Schneider:
  - Olivia K Lang, Br 27, New Castle
- \$500 ATS Branch 34 Cleveland East Scholarship:
  - Macy McConville, Br 4, Cleveland
- \$500 Scholarship in Memory of Karl & Charlotte Klamer:
  - Catherine R Klinek-Cornell, Home Branch
- \$500 Farrell Branch 7 Scholarship:
  - Addyson Jones, Br 8, Alliance
- \$500 Scholarship in Memory of Gerard Slusny:
  - Sofia G Agnew, Br 32, Ellwood City
- \$500 Sofie & Franz Hum Memorial Scholarship:
  - Karley F Gerst, Br 30, Youngstown
- \$500 ATS Scholarships:
  - Michael A Ivanov, Br 1, Cleveland
  - Jackson A Hardy, Br 25, New Castle
  - Lucille A Kuhn, Br 33, Cleveland

Continued on Page 10

## ATS CONVENTION MINUTES Cont'd from Page 9

The Vocational and Trade School recipients were:  
\$500 Frank Hum Memorial Scholarship:  
Olivia C Andrews, Br 26, Merrillville  
\$500 ATS Scholarship:  
Olivia C Andrews, Br 26, Merrillville  
\$1,000 ATS Scholarship:  
Owen A Gavio, Home Branch

Branches were asked to invite recipients to Branch Meetings or Summer picnics to make the presentation.

Chairman Spor continued his report with other events. The 2025 ATS Open Bowling Tournament was hosted by Merrillville. The winning team was Gus Botsch, Brigitte Floyd, Ema Litschel, and Dolf Litschel (mixed with members from Cleveland East, Cleveland West and Merrillville). Doubles winners were Sara Wilson and William Wilson of Salem, Singles event – women Stephanie Miller of Cleveland West, men William Wilson of Salem. ATS Presidents Award for high series actual pins in any event went to Sara Wilson of Salem and Jason Smith of Merrillville. The 2026 ATS Open Bowling Tournament will be held October 17-18, 2026 in Salem. The 2026 Fishing Charter is June 20 in Eastlake, OH. Maximum number on the boat is 16 so he urged Delegates to get their reservation in soon. Any branch wanting to host the 2026 ATS Golf Outing should contact the Home Office.

A motion to accept the Fraternal Activities/Scholarship Committee Report was made by Brother John W Foisel, Cleveland, Branch #33, and was seconded by Sister Monica F Gilles, Lorain, Branch #5. Motion carried.

### Investment Committee

The Investment Committee report was presented by Chairperson Michael Teutsch, Jr. He stated that the Investment goal is to keep a spread of approximately 1.5%-2% between what we earn and what we pay out. That means we only have about 1.5%-2% available for operations.

During the year 2025,  
(2) bonds were purchased for \$1,426,693.87  
(0) bonds were sold  
(7) bonds called, or matured with proceeds of \$1,063,389.57  
90-180-day Treasury Bills activity for the year netted interest of \$28,778.88  
At December 31, 2025, the current yield on ATS investment portfolio was 4.68%. The other leading commercial companies averaged less at 4.55%

Treasurer Teutsch thanked the rest of his investment committee, made up of President Crawford, Michael Bachinger, Randall B Floyd, Margarete I Ziegler and Ingrid E Weihs-Ferguson.

A motion to accept the Investment Committee Report was made by Sister Diethild Thut, Chicago, Branch #9, and seconded by Brother Barry L Garhammer, Youngstown Br #30. Motion carried.

### Orphan Committee

The Orphan Committee Report was presented by Chairperson Monica M Weber. She stated that the Orphan Fund has been available since 1915. It supports children who have lost one or both parents. During 2025, there were 10 children from seven families receiving a stipend. The total distribution was \$12, 775.

A motion to accept the Orphan Committee Report was made by Brother Jonathan P Barkett, Youngstown, Branch #30, and seconded by Sister Virginia A Romes, Lorain, Branch #5. Motion carried

### Report of Affiliated Organizations

Brother Glenn T Spack, Salem, Branch #19, President of the Transylvanian Saxon Bowlers Association, gave the report on the 2025-2026 bowling season. Currently, there are 17 four-person teams with 63 bowlers. The League Champion team was New Castle #3, consisting of Brandon Rapich, Jarrod Palmer, and Ken Wansack. Season-end Tournament Champion team was Cleveland West #1, made up of Sylvia Wolff, Tim Wolff, Carlie Ely, and CJ Schmitz. On behalf of the TSBA, Brother Spack thanked the ATS for their continuing support of their association. He reminded Delegates that anyone can be a bowler, from any ATS Branch.

A motion to accept the TSBA Report was made by Brother Daniel W Suts, Cleveland, Branch #33 and seconded by Sister Courtney A Crawford, Alliance, Branch #8. Motion carried.

### Action on Charges or Grievances

None to report.

### Unfinished Business (from the 2024 Convention)

President Crawford announced the only Unfinished Business from the 2024 Convention was that the position of Secretary of the Board of Directors was not fulfilled. This was taken care of when Sister Christine D Oehlman accepted the appointment of the position. She was appointed for a one-year term initially. This was renewed in 2025 and now we're making it official by having her run for the two-year unexpired term ending in 2028.

### Filing of Communications

There were no Official Communications to report.

### Action on Budget Proposals

The Committee on Rules has submitted the following Budget Proposals for 2026 – 2027 and 2027-2028 for consideration:

Salary	\$ 495,000
Sales Promotion	\$ 60,000
Fraternal Activities	\$ 75,000

The consensus of the Delegation was to vote on all three proposed budget items together.

A motion to accept the proposals was made by Sister Donna J Foisel, Cleveland, Branch #33, and seconded by Sister Margarete Mahltig, Chicago, Branch #9. Motion carried.

### Action on Proposed Constitution Change

The following change to the Constitution of the Alliance of Transylvanian Saxons was presented by the ATS Board of Directors for Convention consideration and approval:

ARTICLE VIII – Election of Officers

#### Proposed Addition:

**(New) SECTION 6. If all Offices are not filled in compliance with SECTION 5, or a vacancy occurs, the President has the right to appoint an ATS Member to that vacant position.**

**Old SECTION 6 becomes SECTION 7  
Old SECTION 7 becomes SECTION 8  
Old SECTION 8 becomes SECTION 9  
Old SECTION 9 becomes SECTION 10**

If the proposed change is approved by the Convention Delegates, the entire ARTICLE VIII will read as follows:

ARTICLE VIII – Election of Officers

SECTION 1. An election of Officers shall be held at the Convention. The term of office for the President, the Vice Presidents, the Secretary, and the Treasurer shall be for four years. These offices are to be filled in alternate Conventions in order to maintain a continuity of experienced personnel in office. Trustees shall be elected at each Convention for a four-year term: three Trustees will be elected at one Convention, and two Trustees will be elected at the next Convention. The number of members elected to the Board of Directors from any one city, all Branches therein included, may not exceed four officers.

SECTION 2. All Officers shall serve until their successors are duly elected and qualified.

SECTION 3. The election of Officers shall be by secret ballot. The candidate having a majority of the votes cast shall be declared elected. If there be but one nominee, the Secretary or other Officer may be instructed to cast a unanimous ballot for the election of the candidate to office. If voting needs to be repeated to attain a majority vote and more nominees are on the ballot than needed to fill the office, the member receiving the lowest number of votes will be dropped from the previous voted ballot. In the event of a tie on a voted ballot, the President shall cast the deciding vote.

SECTION 4. The election shall be conducted by the President who shall appoint an election committee to assist in collecting and tallying the ballots.

SECTION 5. A Branch must make nominations in writing to the Alliance Board of Directors 60 days prior to the date of the Convention. The nomination must include a short description of the candidate's background and qualifications, and written permission from the candidate to let his or her name stand for election. The candidate must be elected as a delegate and must attend the Convention. When the nomination date has passed, the Board of Directors will provide the Alliance Branches with the list of nominees and their qualifications. Incumbent Officers of the Alliance are eligible for re-election and, if not present at the Convention, must send in writing a "consent to be nominated."

A nominee for election to Office must meet the following:

- Be a member of the Alliance in good standing for the past three years
- Be an American citizen
- Not be an immediate family member of current officer or nominee (Immediate family member shall be defined as spouse, parent, child, sibling, grandparent, grandchild, stepparent or stepchild)
- Possess general knowledge of the fraternal benefit system and the fraternal workings of the Alliance
- Have served as a Delegate to at least one previous Convention
- Be willing to complete continuing education as designated by the Board of Directors of the Alliance
- Have the willingness and commitment to devote the necessary time to fulfill the duties of office
- Not be a current Officer in another fraternal benefit society

**SECTION 6. If all Offices are not filled in compliance with SECTION 5, or a vacancy occurs, the President has the right to appoint an ATS Member to that vacant position.**

SECTION 6 7. To be eligible for election to the Office of President, a member must be in good standing and have served as an Officer of the Alliance for at least five years. To be eligible for the office of First Vice President, the candidate must be a member in good standing and have served as an Officer of the Alliance for at least four years.

SECTION 7 8. Elected Officers shall assume their duties the first day of July, following the Convention. Before assuming office, each Officer shall furnish bond, at the expense of the Alliance, in such amount as shall be designated by the Board of Directors or as may be required by statute.

SECTION 8 9. Upon the election of a new President, Secretary, or Treasurer, the retiring Officer holding that position shall be retained in an advisory capacity to his successor until the first day of August, following the Convention.

SECTION 9 10. In the event that the Convention is unable to elect a President, the Board of Directors, at the next official meeting of the Board, shall appoint a President who shall serve until the next Convention.

The Amendment was presented by President Crawford & Constitution Committee Chairperson Weihs-Ferguson.

Parliamentarian Spack explained that this will fill a hole in the Constitution. Roberts Rules of Order state that the President has the right to appoint a person to a vacant position. This amendment will just make it clearer in our ATS Constitution.

The Delegates were asked if they wanted the Proposed change read aloud at this time. As all Delegates had a written copy of the proposed change in their packet and the change was published in the Volksblatt, a motion was made by Sister Stephanie A Miller, Cleveland, Branch #4, and seconded by Brother Glenn T Spack, Salem, Branch #19 to dispense with reading aloud the Proposed Constitutional change. Motion carried.

A motion to accept the proposed Constitution change was made by Brother Daniel W Suts, Cleveland, Branch #33 and seconded by Sister Juliane E Gilmartin, Youngstown, Branch #30. Motion carried.

### Election of Officers

The following Offices are up for election this year:

- First Vice President
- Third Vice President
- Secretary (2-year unexpired term)
- Treasurer
- 3 Trustees

The following ATS Members submitted their nomination forms for the following Offices. All of these people and their brief backgrounds have been published in the Volksblatt for all members to see. They were also included in the Delegate packet.

- Monica M Weber – First Vice President
- Michael Bachinger – Third Vice President

Continued on Page 11

## ATS CONVENTION MINUTES Cont'd from Page 10

Christine D Oehlman – Secretary  
Michael Teutsch, Jr. - Treasurer  
Debbie K Ferguson – Trustee  
John W Foisel - Trustee  
Ingrid E Weihs-Ferguson – Trustee  
Margarete I Ziegler – Trustee

A motion to instruct the Secretary to cast a unanimous ballot for the positions of 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer was made by Sister Rose Marie Zamy, Youngstown, Branch #30 and was seconded by Brother Barry L Garhammer, Youngstown, Branch #30. Motion carried.

The Election Committee was called on to handle the voting for the Trustee position (Sister Marlene S Mueller, Brother Tony P Rothbrust, and Sister Julaine E Gilmartin).

Ballots were distributed to the Delegates. Delegates were reminded to vote for 3 only.

- \* John W Foisel
- \* Debbie K Ferguson
- \* Ingrid E Weihs-Ferguson
- \* Margarete I Ziegler

By a vote of the Delegation, the following three people were elected to the Office of Trustee for the next four years:

Debbie K Ferguson  
Ingrid E Weihs-Ferguson  
Margarete I Ziegler

Each elected Board Member was given a chance to thank everyone for their support and the support of all the Board Members.

A suggestion was made that at upcoming Conventions, ballots with preprinted names and check boxes could be utilized.

### Installation of Officers

Past ATS Trustee Hanz G Hermann installed all Officers to their respective offices.

### Convention Recess

President Crawford adjourned the meeting at 2:14 pm to reconvene at 9:30 am on Sunday, May 3, 2026.

The Delegates gathered for a group picture.

## SECOND DAY'S SESSION

### Convention Called to Order

President Denise Crawford called the Second Day's session of the 109<sup>th</sup> Convention of the Alliance of Transylvanian Saxons to order at 9:30 a.m.

### Invocation

Sister Christine S Roppelt, Cleveland, Branch #4, gave the invocation.

### Visitors

President Crawford welcomed those visitors that returned, as well as new visitors attending this day's session.

### Roll Call

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Monica M Weber conducted the Roll Call of Officers and Delegates. All Delegates who were seated on Saturday were present on Sunday with the exception of the following people: August J Botch, Cleveland, Branch #1 and Christine K Phillis, Salem, Branch #18.

### Reading of the Minutes from the First Day's Session

Secretary Christine D Oehlman read the Minutes from the first day's session.

A motion to accept the Minutes of the First Day's Session as written was made by Brother Ernest Roth, Sr., Youngstown, Branch #30, and seconded by Virginia A Romes, Lorain, Branch #5. Motion carried.

### Unfinished Business from 1<sup>st</sup> Day's Session

There was no unfinished business from Day 1.

### New Business

Branch Sharing Awards were presented by President Crawford. This program is an award program designed to acknowledge the production efforts by our Local Branches. The award is based on:

- \* The number of ATS Members in your local Branch in good standing
- \* The value of Life Insurance Premiums paid by Branch Members
- \* The Value of Annuity Deposits received by the ATS from Branch Members

The total Branch Sharing checks distributed based on the year 2025 was \$9,448.

Subsidy grants to Cultural Groups were presented by President Crawford. Receiving groups were the Cleveland Saxon Dance Group, the Eintracht Kinderchor and Maennerchor, the Saxon Singers, and the Youngstown Saxon Culture Group. The total amount distributed was \$8,750.

It was also noted that the ATS also pays a subsidy to the Cultural Groups who perform at the North American Saxon Heimattag, whether it is in Canada or here in the USA. In addition to the checks we passed out today, we will also pay a subsidy, based on the number of ATS members of the TSBA, when they start their new season in the fall.

### Deputy Sales Awards

President Crawford distributed the Deputy Sales Awards for 2025 as follows:

- Margarete I Ziegler, Cleveland, Branch #33 - 2025 Combined Life and Annuity Sales
- Helen E Aeling, Alliance, Branch #8 – Runner Up for Combined Life & Annuity Sales
- Michael Teutsch, Jr., Youngstown, Branch #30 – 2025 Most New Members with 9
- Ema Litschel, Cleveland, Branch #33 – Runner up for Most New Members with 8

### Saxon Handicraft Exhibit Awards

Chairperson of the Fraternal Activities Committee, Jacob F Spor, introduced and thanked Barb Hermann and Liz Weber for being the Handicraft Exhibit Directors this year. He stated that all participants received a certificate.

1<sup>st</sup> place winners received a blue ribbon and an ATS backpack cooler, and 2<sup>nd</sup> place winners received a red ribbon.

Ceramics  
No entries

### Crewel/Cross Stitch/Needle Point

1<sup>st</sup> Place – Christina S Roppelt, Cleveland, Branch #4 & Margarete I Ziegler, Cleveland, Branch #33 – joint effort making a Saxon Apron

2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Mary S Appleby, Salem, Branch #18 - pillow

### Crocheting/Knitting

1<sup>st</sup> Place – Susanna Mueller, Columbus, Branch #10 – knitted tan dress

2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Susanna Mueller, Columbus, Branch #10 – knitted pastel dress

### Painting

1<sup>st</sup> Place – Georg Thut, Jr., Chicago, Branch #9 – Saxon village

2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Wayne Suts, Cleveland, Branch #33 – ocean scene

### Photography

1<sup>st</sup> Place – Daniel W Suts, Cleveland, Branch #33 – boy with Butterfly

2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Arline E Suts, Cleveland, Branch #33 – highway scene

### Quilting

No entries

### Open Class

1<sup>st</sup> Place – Margarete I Ziegler, Cleveland, Branch #33 – necklace

2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Carl I Vavpot, Cleveland, Branch #1 – Siebenbürgen shield

The President's Award went to Carl I Vavpot, Cleveland, Branch #1 for his Siebenbürgen Shield hanging plaque, which Carl donated to the ATS Home Office for display. President Crawford thanked him for his donation.

### Good and Welfare

President Crawford stated that since the last Convention in 2024, the ATS has collected and remitted \$16,775 in donations to the Saxon Relief Fund and \$4,470 to Schloss Horneck, the Saxon Museum in Germany. The dollars remitted include amounts received from Members and Branches, as well as additional amounts from the ATS.

Brother Michael Bachinger will be attending the 2026 Heimattag in Dinkelsbühl, Germany and will deliver greetings from the Delegates and all Saxons in the USA.

Sister Stephanie A Miller, Cleveland, Branch #4 thanked everyone for a great Trachtenball, which was held the previous evening. As the Cleveland Saxon Dance Group children grow, they are in need of Trachten, both men's and women's. Donations will be well taken care of. The Facebook site to follow the group is Cleveland Saxon Dance Group.

Brother John W Foisel, Cleveland, Branch #33, thanked the Board for allowing him to be a part of the election process. He found it enjoyable and challenging. President Crawford thanked him for his courage to participate and hopes he will try again in two years.

### Speaker Presentation

Eric Litschel, the ATS Archivist and Historian, gave a presentation of what he's doing for us at the ATS Home Office. Following his presentation, he was asked if his presentation would be made available for Branches to see. He will see what he can do to accomplish this.

### Host for Next Year's Convention

President Crawford asked for bids from Branches to host the next Convention in 2028. Brother Glenn T Spack, Salem, Branch #19 entered a bid for Branches #18 and #19 to host the event.

A motion to accept the bid from Salem, Branches #18 and #19, to host the 2028 Convention was made by Sister Frances A Hinerman, Youngstown, Branch #30, seconded by Brother Heinrich Hum, Cleveland, Branch #33. Motion carried.

President Crawford announced and thanked Detroit, Branch #37 for hosting the 2027 Branch Presidents Meeting on May 15, 2027. We look forward to seeing our Branch leaders there.

### Important Dates to Remember

President Crawford announced upcoming events and asked local Branches if they have any additions. She also let Delegates know that folks are allowed to attend other Branch's events.

- May 22 – 25<sup>th</sup> Heimattag in Dinkelsbühl, Germany. (Look for videos on YouTube)
- June 13 Annual TSBA Convention at the Cleveland Sachsenheim  
3 delegates per Branch are welcome to attend
- June 14 – 19 Saxon Summer Camp at Camp Frederick in Rogers, OH
- \* June 20 ATS Fishing Charter on Lake Erie
- \* June 25–July 9 International Jugendlager held in Germany
- \* July 10 – 12 North American Transylvanian Saxon Heimattag in Alymer, Ontario Canada
- \* July 25 ATS Family Day at Waldameer
- \* Oct 17-18 ATS Open Bowling Tournament in Salem, Ohio

### Closing of Convention

President Crawford declared the business agenda complete. On behalf of the Board of Directors, she thanked the Officers and Members of Branches #1 and #4 for their fine hospitality and hard work to make this an enjoyable weekend for everyone. Job well done! She gave a special thank you to the Convention Committee, the Handicraft Exhibit Directors, and to the Delegates. A final special thanks to President Crawford's fellow Board Members. It's a great Board that works well together and she is looking forward to the upcoming year.

### Reading of the Minutes of the Second Day's Session

Secretary Oehlman read the Minutes from the second day's session. No corrections or additions were made. Following the reading, Christine thanked President Crawford for her leadership and her hard work to make this Convention a great success.

A motion to accept the Minutes of the Second Day's Session as read, was made by Sister Donna J Foisel, Cleveland, Branch #33, and seconded by Sister Casey M Crawford, Alliance, Branch #8. Motion carried.

### Farewell

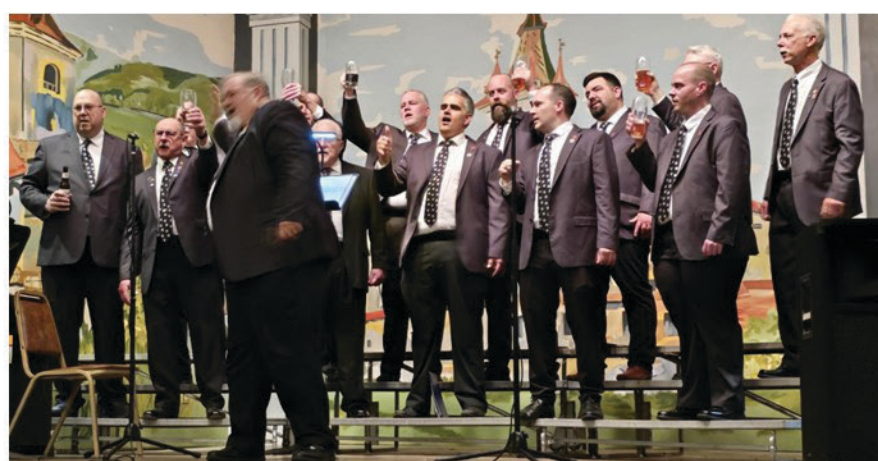
Sister Monica M Weber, President of Cleveland, Branch #4, gave Farewell Greetings to the Delegates.

### Adjournment

Attendees stood and sang "God Bless America" and "Ich Bin Ein Sachs".

President Crawford declared the meeting adjourned at 11:54 am and wished everyone safe travels home.

# Alliance of Transylvanian Saxons Spotlight on Cultural Groups!



**Cleveland Saxon Dance Group Trachtenball—May 2, 2026**  
**Eintracht Männerchor Spring Concert—May 9, 2026**