TRANSYLVANIA CLUB INC. 1951 Cachine Control of the Control of the

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41 RIVER ROAD EAST, UNIT B, KITCHENER, ON N2B 2G3
Tel: (519) 744-1191

E-mail: transylvaniaclub@outlook.com

Nr. 519

Dec. 2023/Jan. 2024



Check www.transylvaniaclub.com

to read your Nachrichtenblatt online.

Visit our website and select the Photo Gallery to view pictures of our Transylvania Club Events.

SPECIAL EVENTS CALENDAR VERANSTALTUNGSKALENDER

December 6	Ladies Auxiliary Christmas Dinner	18:00
December 17	Christmas Pageant – Weihnachtsfeier	14:00
January 13	Kameradschaftsabend – Schwaben Club	18:00
January 24	Kulturgruppe AGM	19:00
February 10	Frauenball	18:00
March 2	Trachtenball & Miss Transylvania Pageant	19:00
March 24	TCK Annual General Meeting	14:00

Note: All our events will be held at the Alpine Club unless otherwise indicated in the event schedule. Please order and purchase your tickets at the office or call in to pay by credit card or etransfer at least two weeks prior to the event.

Starting in December 2023 the office will be open on Fridays from 09:00 until noon. It may be easiest and most efficient to call and leave a message. Our office phone number is 519-744-1191 and our email address is transylvaniaclub@outlook.com. Thanks.



Be part of our Saturday & Sunday Programs!

Henning Grumme "Continental Breakfast" **Saturday 6-8:30am**Hans Gaensler "Musik Melodies" **Sunday 12-1pm**Call in direct to the studio during shows: 519-886-9878

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT - PRAESIDENTEN BERIGHT



Dear Members and Friends,

Well, this getting dark at 4:30 in the afternoon takes some getting used to. I guess it's time to start breaking out the winter boots and coats to get ready for the weather that we know is coming.

I would like to report

that once again we operated Habsburg Haus with the Alpine Club as an Oktoberfest Hall and am happy to say that although we don't have the final numbers yet, the hall was full every day that we were open and I'm sure that this year will be a profitable year again. I can't say thank you enough to all those people that volunteered their time and worked many long hours to make this event the success that it was. I heard many positive comments from our patrons about the quality of the food, the great atmosphere, staff, and music that we provided. This would not have happened if certain people hadn't stepped up to take on some leadership roles. A HUGE thank you to Lori Moore for organizing and scheduling all our volunteers to make sure we had enough people for the various positions and for coordinating with the Alpine committee on various levels. Another HUGE thank you to Margit Fritsch for her wonderful work in organizing, purchasing, and running the kitchen during Oktoberfest. Once again, our food hit the mark and was the subject of many compliments from our patrons. The pork hocks were a huge hit and never took long to sell out. Unfortunately, once again Oktoberfest was a Covid spreader and I know several of our volunteers, band members and members ended up catching Covid, including

Erika and myselfagain. Luckily, everyone came through it well.

The Alpine Club, with the help of numerous TCK members, has been working on refreshing the look of the club and got a ton of help with painting and cleaning from Lori Moore and Andy & Rosemarie Gellner. Alfred and Heidi Lowrick spent an entire day weeding and cleaning up the flower beds at the front of the club and it looks marvelous. Thank you to these members for stepping up and caring enough to do this work.

I also want to say thank you to all those people that put on their Trachts and marched in the Thanksgiving Day parade. It was a chilly day, but we showed our Saxon spirit once again. I thought that the number of people out along the parade route was down somewhat from last year. I assume the cold, rainy weather probably had something to do with that. It is fun riding on the club president's float and seeing everyone along the route, especially all the children waving to us. Our Family Day afterwards was a full house as usual. It was good to see so many children running around and enjoying themselves.

German Pioneer Day was October 10th at the Concordia Club. This year's Honorees were Ingo Schoppel and Dr. John Frim (Mississauga) and the Ludolph Family. All the recipients gave us informative speeches about their very interesting careers and contributions. Congratulations everyone.

"So you think you can Tanz" was October 11th at the Alpine Club and was well attended. It was another evening of tense competition and as usual, our dance group put on a great performance, and in the end the Schwaben Club Dancers received the trophy. Congratulations to all that participated.

The Aylmer Saxonia Hall celebrated their Trachtenball on Sunday October 29th at 2:00pm. They made the change to Sunday afternoon in the hopes that more people will attend and feel more comfortable to make the drive to Aylmer during

the day. We held the annual General Meeting of the Landsmannschaft in the morning before Trachtenball and elections were held. John Werner agreed to hold his position for another term. Thank you John, for all that you do to maintain and further our Saxon culture. I am proud to say that approximately 80 members of the Transylvania Club attended the Trachtenball, including our choir who performed under the direction of their conductor Andrea Emrich as well as our dance group who were a small group but always put their hearts into the performance. We had a nice buffet lunch and got to re-connect with our Aylmer friends once again.

By the time you read this, we will have had our Saxontreffen known as "Polka, Pali and Palukas" on November 18th and I will report more on that in my next Blatt report.

I hope to see some of you at the Ladies' Christmas Dinner where I will again be serving the delicious meal and wine and doing the dishes, along with other board members. We so appreciate all that the Frauenverein does for the club, and this is one way of thanking them all. Don't forget to make your reservation.

Don't forget to come out for the joint TCK and Alpine Christmas Program on Sunday December 17th at 2:00 and watch our Kindergruppe perform under the leadership of Rick & Krista Hesch, Heidimarie Hesch, and their helpers. The choir, band and youth will entertain us with their talents and cookies and coffee will be served. We would appreciate it if members attending would bring some of their delicious cookies for everyone to share. Of course, the jolly fellow in a red suit will make an appearance again and it's always fun to watch all the children's reaction to him.

I wish you all a merry Christmas and a happy and healthy new year!

Reinhard Schmidt, President



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OKTOBERFEST









OKTOBERFEST











OKTOBERFEST











KULTURGRUPPE

Dear Members and Friends,

You will read all about Oktoberfest from other reports, but I would like to thank all our groups and members for volunteering their time to help the club again be part of this festival.

German Pioneers Day was held at the Concordia Club this year. The Hofbrau band entertained everyone before the program. The Cultural Group congratualtes Ingo Schoppel and John Frim for being the honoured persons this year for their contribution to the work force in the Region of Waterloo and achievements they have had.

The Schwaben dancers won first place at the "So you think you can Tanz" competition this year and the TCK dance group performed in the competition. Congratulations to everyone who performed! The dance group had many performances throughout the week of Oktoberfest at many different venues and as always made us proud and had a lot of fun doing it.

October ended with Trachtenball in Aylmer. I would like to thank the choir members and the dance group members for making the trip to Aylmer to take part in Trachtenball. We had a delicious meal cooked by the members of the Saxonia Club and traditional entertainment by our choir, the TCK dance group and the Saxonia dance group led by Rebecca Horeth. The Edelweiss Trio played for everyone's dancing entertainment. Everyone who was able joined a large circle and performed the Siebenschritt. It was fun for all who participated. Congratulations to the Saxonia Club for a wonderful afternoon.

The Landsmannschaft held their annual meeting before the Trachtenball and I would like to congratulate the newly elected committee members and thank John Werner and those committee members

staying on for the remainder of their term for all their hard work in the past years. This July we will host a large group of young people for the 2024 Jugendlager for two weeks and TCK will host Heimattag 2024. More information about this will follow. We will be looking for volunteers to help as well as billets for the group.

On Nov. 18th, 2023 we will have our annual Saxontreffen. More information will follow in the next Blatt.

Please note that Kindergruppe has started again on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. at the Alpine Club and it is a large group of children. I would like to thank Krista and Rick Hesch, Heidi Marie Hesch, Bengt Nyman and some of the parents and grandparents for taking on the challenge of teaching our Kindergruppe and making sure we do not lose this very important part of our club life. Belonging to the TCK family is something each child should experience and enjoy. Please send your children so that they make new friends with whom they will progress on through Ballroom and Dance Group with. Like many of us who have made life-time friendships that started at the club, your children should have that opportunity too.

Ballroom classes have also started and they are well on their way to learning all the required dances for their graduation performance in April 2024. Amy Kube, Lorianne Schauss and Henry Hoffman are very impressed at how these young people are picking up the steps so quickly. It looks like we may have approximately 8 couples in the group and we definitely need these young people to replenish our dance group. Thank you to all parents and grandparents that encouraged your young teens to participate in the ballroom class.

The weather is getting colder and winter is around the corner; that means so is Christmas, my favourite time of year. All our groups are practicing for their Christmas performances and our Weihnachtsfeier. Our annual Weihnachtsfeier will take place on December 17th, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. at the Alpine Club. Please bring the whole family to this very fes-

tive afternoon of cultural entertainment, Christmas traditions, and many surprises and of course the very delicious homemade cookies and coffee and we can't forget our special visitor, Santa Claus. We ask that you bring some of your favourite cookies for all to enjoy. We are looking forward to sharing this afternoon with our Alpine friends again.

I would like to thank everyone who has donated Tracht pieces for our youth and children to wear during their performances. We are in need of larger size Stiefel (boots) if anyone has them just sitting in your closets.

I invite you all to the Annual General Meeting of the Cultural Group with elections on Wed. January 24th 2023 at 7:00 p.m. at the Alpine Club. If you

have interest in our cultural activities, we invite you to join our meeting. We always welcome new ideas and energy to this very vital part of our club life.

I wish you all a wonderful few weeks while planning, baking and preparing for the Christmas season and hope you all have time to spend with your families and friends!

Ich wuensche euch allen ein gesegnetes Weihnachtsfest und ein glueckliches neues Jahr!

Erika Schmidt Kulturgruppe Leiterin / Cultural Group President



GERMAN PIONEERS DAY

AWARD RECIPIENTS













LADIES AUXILIARY

FRAUENVEREIN

Our ladies group spent several days baking Christmas cookies – about 13 different kinds and approximately 2000 cookies. They are intended for sale at the Christmas Spectacular Market being held at the Alpine Club on Saturday, December 2 starting at 09:00. In addition to our cookies, we will be there all day selling coffee, Tortes, cheese cakes, squares, etc to the patrons. Come and support the ladies group and enjoy the treats that we are providing.

On Wednesday, December 6 is our annual Ladies Christmas Dinner. It includes a tasty traditional Christmas meal served by the members of the board, entertainment and treats for everyone. Come join us for an evening of fun and cameraderie. Please call the office by November 27 if you plan to attend.

We are also working towards our Frauenball which is coming up in February. The theme this year is Mardi Gras. Check your closets for your favourite carnival wear!

We wish you and your family a safe and Merry Christmas and a healthy New Year!

Margit Fritsch/Heidi Lowrick Ladies Auxiliary Co-Presidents









CHOIR - CHOR

As time progresses it becomes more obvious that Andrea's leadership has given a new life to our choir.

Her routine warmups and a change-up of seating arrangements are designed to get the best possible sound out of our voices and makes us listen better to each other.

Margit Fritsch does an excellent job keeping the men's voices on speed and in tune.

Much of our old repertoire has taken a back seat to new and exciting songs and canons. In a way, this eases the entry of new choir members as they learn the new songs together with the rest of us. There has possibly never been a better time for a new member to join our choir!

Sadly, we have lost two members due to personal reasons but we have also gained five new members from inside and outside the club. Their attendance so far has been sporadic but we are happy with the new voices and hope they can clear their schedules to allow for our practise time.

We introduced a short but snappy fall program at performances at the Hamilton Winefest and the Aylmer Trachtenball, and we were well received.

We sincerely thank the club executive for taking on the expense of the buses to the two venues. This enabled us to also provide a ride to our youth dance group which was also one of the highlights of the program.

We are now preparing for the Christmas season, hopefully with performances at retirement homes, possibly in conjunction with the band. We are looking forward to the club Christmas and the choir and band Christmas parties.

Gerhard Griebenow, Chor President



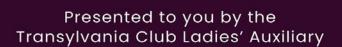
GHILDRENS' GROUP

KINDERGRUPPE

Kindergruppe is for kids 4yrs to 12 yrs of age and we run our program on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 p.m. to 7:45 p.m. Each night we have lots of fun activities planned for the kids, including: games, crafts, Jr and Sr kids dance groups, songs, snacks and much more. Come out and join in the fun, meet new people, develop friendships and learn about the Siebenburger Sachsen/Transylvania Saxon heritage. For more information or to join, please contact Krista or Rick Hesch at hesch@rogers.com.

Krista & Rick Hesch, Heidi Hesch Kindergruppe Instructors





MARDI GRAS

DRESS IN YOUR FESTIVE GLITZ

Join us as we dance and eat our way through Bourbon Street!

February 10th, 2024

Doors open at 5:30 Dinner starts at 6:30

\$45 for TCK members \$50 for non-members

Music by Wildbahn

Event will be held at the Alpine Club 464 Maple Ave, Kitchener



LANDSMANNSCHAFT

The annual meeting of the Landsmannschaft took place on October 29th at the German Canadian Club, Saxonia Hall in Aylmer. The executive report presented by John Werner highlighted the Heimattag celebration in New Castle and the Kulturaustausch with the Siebenbürgerkapelle and Tanzgruppe from Traun, Austria.

The following officers were elected for a two year term:

Chairman John Werner
2nd Vice Chair John G. Horeth
Secretary Daniel Pfingstgraef
Treasurer Trudy Schneider
Cultural Representative Derek Gotzmeister
Youth Representative Ryan Hesch

I would like to welcome Daniel and Ryan to the Landsmannschaft committee and thank John, Trudy and Derek for their continued support. I would also like to thank Kolina Tavares for 10 years of service as Youth Representative and look forward to her being on the board again in the future. Thank you to the club Presidents Reinhard Schmidt (Transylvania Club) and David Pfingstgraef (Saxonia Club) as well as all club members for their support of the Landsmannschaft.

Heimattag 2024 will be held at the Transylvania Club on July 12th, 13th and 14th. Please mark these dates in your calendar.

After being postponed due to Covid for three years, the 2024 Föderation Jugendlager is scheduled to be held in Canada from Friday July 5th to Friday July 19th. The date is set to coincide with our Heimattag celebration at the Transylvania Club. This event will be a great opportunity for Saxon youth from Austria, Germany, Romania, the USA and Canada to learn about their Saxon Heritage and discuss how they can sustain our culture in the future. Interested

youth are asked to register their interest by contacting our Youth Represent Ryan Hesch or me.

At this time of year when we joyfully look forward to the Christmas Season we are reminded of the plight of our fellow Saxons still living in Siebenbürgen. The living conditions that they face in Siebenbürgen, the cold weather and sometimes the lack of nutritious food is especially difficult for the elderly and even for some of the younger people that are in need of social assistance and help with medical conditions. We are fortunate to live in Canada and I ask for your support to help our less fortunate Saxons in Siebenbürgen by making a donation to the "Altenhilfe". Donations (cheques) can be sent to the Alliance of Transylvania Saxons in Canada 149 White Pine Cres. Waterloo, Ontario N2V 1B3. Cash donations can be given to Trudy Schneider or John Werner.

Im Namen der Landsmannschaft der Siebenbürger Sachsen in Kanada wünsche ich allen Landsleuten und Freunden nah und fern, ein Gesegnetes Weihnachtsfest und ein gutes, glückliches und gesundes neus Jahr.

John Werner, Bundesvorsitzender

ELSE IS RETIRING!

Wow.....

Else is retiring after 31 years with the Transylvania Club! She has been the backbone of this club's operations in the office for many years and has been through all the ups and downs with the club and its members. She has decided that it is time to take it easy and put her feet up to relax.

We all want to say "thank you" for her dedication, hard work, trustworthiness and assistance to the members and the board of directors. We wish Else all the best, good health, and hope that she enjoys a well-earned retirement.

Reinhard Schmidt, President



AYLMER TRACHTENBALL









SIEBENBUERGER ZEITUNG

Die Bezieher der Siebenbuerger Zeitung werden ersucht die Bezugsgebuehr fuer das Jahr 2024 von \$63.00 vor dem 31 Dezember, 2023 zu bezahlen. Den Scheck bitte ich auf "Alliance of Transylvania Saxons" auszustellen und an Trudy Schneider, 1520 Mannheim Rd., Petersburg NOB 2H0 abzusenden.

Herzlichen Dank, Trudy Schneider, Schatzmeisterin, Landsmannschaft der Siebenbuerger Sachsen



Die Jahreshauptversammlung der Kulturgruppe findet am 24. Januar 2024 um 7 Uhr statt. Ein neues Kommitee wird gewaehlt und alle Klubmitglieder sind eingeladen.

Bitte kommt und unterstuezt unsere Kulturgruppe.

The annual meeting of the Cultural Group with elections will take place on Wednesday January 24th, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

All club members are invited to attend and show support of our Cultural Group.

Erika Schmidt, Kulturleiterin

2024 MEMBERSHIP FEES 2024 MITGLIEDSBEITRAG

Mitgliedsbeitrag Membership Fee	bis/before March 24, 2024	nach/after Mach 24, 2024
Family	\$ 75.00	\$ 85.00
Single Adult	\$ 45.00	\$ 50.00
Senior	\$ 30.00	\$ 35.00
Youth	\$ 25.00	\$ 30.00

Please pay your membership fee at the office or by telephone.

Bitte bezahlen Sie Ihren Mitgliedsbeitrag im Büro oder übers Telefon.





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David Green

Stephanie Green

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

Many thanks to all of the amazing volunteers that assisted with prep, setup, organizing and cooking (pigtails, cabbage rolls, sauerkraut...) prior to the festival and those that helped at Habsburg Haus (in the kitchen preparing and serving food, making photo buttons, selling souvenirs, tickets, pretzels and clean up, etc, etc, etc. And special thanks to our organizers for taking charge and working tirelessly in order to make it all possible.

We couldn't have done it without you!

Cynthia Mooser

Jay Mooser

Jenn Arsenault Rick Gondosch Paul Arsenault Claudia Griebenow Sophie Arsenault Peter Hamberger Kathy Beckett Emmi Hensel Tim Beckett Heidi Hesch John Belez Krista Hesch Elke Bidner Rick Hesch Bonnie Bremner Robert Hesch Cathy Chapman Ryan Hesch Connor Crouse Audrey Horn Todd Crouse Susan Kachik Nicole Del Cul Isik Kayhan Ingrid Kremer Katie Dienesch John Dienesch Amy Kube Ingrid Drung Alex Leuschner Maria Drygala Heidi Löwrick Danielle Gustini Alfred Löwrick Heide Emrich Ava Maiterth Mike Emrich Helena Maiterth Margit Fritsch Karlheinz Maiterth Kathy Mathes Mike Fritsch Rosemarie Gellner Amanda Mooser

Craig Moore Lori Moore Judy Penteker Lorraine Principi Adam Schatz Ashley Schatz Lorianne Schaus Bob Schertzer Daniel Schmidt Christi Schmidt Frika Schmidt Trudy Schneider Agnes Sebastian Chris Sebastian Laik Sweeney Heidi Tavares Jeremy Vandepas Andrea von Wevhe Helgard Werner John Werner Helmut Wolf Transylvania Club Youth Dance Group



FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS - FAMILIENNACHRICHTEN

Members that would like to announce an anniversary/birthday or other special event are asked to contact: Mitglieder die ein Jubiläum oder einen Geburtstag bekannt geben wollen, sollen sich bei den folgenden anmelden:

Helgard Werner Heidi Löwrick helgardrwerner@gmail.com hlowrick@gmail.com 519-884-7725 519-662-1757

ANNIVERSARIES - JUBILÄUM



Klaus & Sara Bliefert and John & Regina Karschti

are celebrating their
66th wedding anniversary on December 28, 2023.
Congratulations from your families.



Congratulations to

Waldemar and Pieternella (Nellie) Scholtes

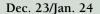
who celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on August 16, 2023



DEATHS - TODESFAELLE



Brenda Kasper
was born on May 5, 1943
and passed away on
November 5, 2023 at the age of 80.





FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS - FAMILIENNAGHRIGHTEN

MONTHLY BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

We wish to extend best wishes to the following members who are celebrating a birthday in the months of December and January. If you have a birthday in these months and your name does not appear in the list, please call our office with the correct information in order that we can update our membership records and database.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Roberto Reale Susan Frim Holger von Weyhe Mike Gondosch Hubert Knobloch Agnes Sebastian Cynthia Mooser Rosie Karst Gilberto Hackl Erna Emrich Heidi Hesch Martin Hartig Iuliana Hesch Rosina Pinnau Martin Gabber Erika Werner Amanda Mooser Wilma Gorbach Rosemarie Klaehn Hilda Janzen John Frim Eveline Hackl Stephen Werner Sara Orendi David Kachik John Frim Jr. Georg Emrich Kathy Mathes Danny Vicano Liam Schatz Victoria Gondosch Adam Schatz Elizabeth Bauer

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Alex Kenny Debra Vickman Edith Kauntz Hilda Mueller Robert Gondosch John Penteker Dieter Weissmueller Johann Paulini Christopher Gellner Reinhold Fritsch Katharina Bloos Jane Schertzer Owen Crouse Ursula Hesch Maria Emrich Erik Lowrick Patrick Stuehler Craig Moore Maria Schatz Terri Carter Stefan Schatz Sara Bliefert Heide Emrich Jennifer Arsenault Lorianne Schaus Susan Kachik





The following members donate their time to bring you this informative and entertaining newsletter.

Folgende Mitglieder treffen sich für freiwillige Stunden um für Sie das Monatsblatt vorzubereiten.

Helgard Werner, John Werner

Herausgeber/Editor: Heidi Löwrick.

ATTENTION!

Articles for the next bulletin must be submitted by:

January 10th





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TRANSYLVANIA CLUB KITCHENER

2023-24 Board of Directors - 2023-24 Vorstand

President	Reinhard Schmidt	Präsident
1st Vice-President	Peter Hamberger	1. Vizepräsident
2nd Vice-President	Dave Emrich	2. Vizepräsident
Secretary	Hermine Brown	Schriftführer
Treasurer	Peter Hamberger	Hauptkassier
Membership Treasurer	Katie Dienesch	Mitglieder Kassier
Special Events Director #1	Bob Foster	Veranstaltungsleiter #1
Property Manager #1	David Green	Gebäudeverwalter #1
Newsletter Editor	Heidi Löwrick	Presseleiter
Press Committee Member	Helgard Werner	Pressekomitee
Webmaster #1	Christine Schmidt	Webmaster #1
Webmaster #2	Katelyn Emrich	Webmaster #2
Web and Social Media Director	Breanna Gondosch	Web und Social Media Coordinator
Okt-fest Committee Chairperson	Dave Emrich	Oktoberfestkomitee Vorsitzender
Oktoberfest Committee Member #1	Lori Moore	Oktoberfestkomitee Mitglied #1
Oktoberfest Committee Member #2	Krista Hesch	Oktoberfestkomitee Mitglied #2
Cultural Group Chairperson	Erika Schmidt	Kulturgruppenleiterin
Co-Presidents of the Ladies Auxiliary	Margit Fritsch/Heidi Löwrick	Präsidentinnen des Frauenvereins