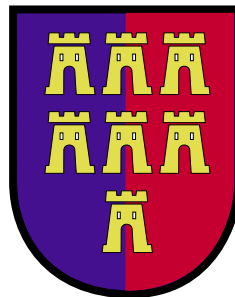


TRANSYLVANIA CLUB

Nachrichten

INC. 1951



41 RIVER ROAD EAST, UNIT B, KITCHENER, ON N2B 2G3

Tel: (519) 744-1191

E-mail: transylvaniacub@outlook.com

Nr. 523

Aug./Sept. 2024



Landsmannschaft Ehrennadel Recipients and John Werner at Heimattag 2024

Check www.transylvaniacub.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

October 4 to 12	Oktoberfest	
October 27	Aylmer Trachtenball Saxonia Hall, Aylmer	14:00
November 16	Saxontreffen	
December 4	Frauenverein Christmas Dinner	18:00
December 22	Weihnachtsfeier/Christmas Pageant	14:00
January 18	Kameradschaftsabend – hosted by TCK	
February 1	Frauenball	

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 e-transfer at least two weeks prior to the event.

The office is open on Fridays from 09:00 to 12:00. 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 transylvaniacub@outlook.com. Thanks.



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PRESIDENT'S REPORT - PRAESIDENTEN BERICHT



Dear TCK Members and Friends,

Hello and greetings to all members and friends of the TCK! I trust that everyone is doing well as we have passed a very busy season in our Club Calendar. Most days the sun is shining, and we have certainly had an

abundance of rain. Many of our gardens and lawns are still lush and green, not normal at this time of the year! Summer is upon us, and I hope that everyone has had some time to enjoy the weather and perhaps enjoyed a few holidays!

The past few months have been very busy at the Club, with our Siebenbürgen customs on proud display. Heavy planning, action, and hard work have culminated with a variety of exciting events!

On Sunday May 26th, the Transylvania Choir and Transylvania Hofbrau Band presented their joint Concert event with the theme "Moments in the Sunny South". The concert was a resounding success! All of the diligent planning by Band and Choir Director Andrea Emrich, along with the Choir and Band leadership groups produced another memorable afternoon of music and fellowship. We look forward to what they will do next year! The afternoon started with a light lunch available from the Kitchen, by Margit Fritsch and her dedicated group of volunteers. We are lucky to have both talented groups represent our club at our events and within our community at large.

Saturday June 8th provided those in attendance, with the opportunity to Boogie on down at the Youth Group Disco Night! This event was a fundraising event for the Youth group. It was a fan-

tastic evening of great food, prepared by our own Youth, as well as dancing, audience participation games, and entertainment provided by these talented youth. We danced to the music of DJ Daddy Frank (Frank Emrich) who spun many favourites from the Disco era. Members and friends showed up in period costumes to make the evening that much better! A great time was had by all!

Our annual Club picnic was celebrated on Saturday June 15th with our friends at the German Canadian Hunting and Fishing Club at the Hubertushaus in Mannheim. A Fish Fry dinner and drinks were available for purchase. Our own Hofbrau Band provided entertainment under the direction of Mr. Jim Glasser. They played many favourite selections and were greatly appreciated by the many people present who enjoyed the sunshine and warmth that day. The Transylvania Youth Group once more provided desserts for the picnic-goers. We thank the German Canadian Hunting and Fishing Club in Mannheim for this shared opportunity to celebrate!

As I write this report, we have just concluded a successful Heimattag here in Kitchener! Heimattag also coincided with the International Transylvanian Saxon Jugendlager, hosted by the Siebenbürgen Landsmannschaft in Canada (July 5-19). There is youth representation from Germany, Austria, Romania, the US, and of course from Canada.

After planning and preparing for both events for the past several months, I can honestly say that the hard work and planning has paid off! This year's Jugendlager participants began arriving in Kitchener on July 5th. We have 6 participants from Germany, 7 participants from Romania, 6 from Austria, 4 from the U.S., and 4 from Canada. I have watched as friendships have grown and blossomed between these youth participants, with the common connection being our Saxon culture and heritage. And isn't that the reason we do this? This event fosters relationships between these youth, leading to a lifetime of friendships and great memories. We must thank John Werner and his Landsmannschaft

team for putting together the program and events for this year's participants. The participants have been active from the moment that they arrived, meeting at St. Jerome's University in Waterloo, learning about their Saxon Culture and Heritage. On Monday July 8th, they went as a group to Aylmer seeing the sights, getting to know each other, and meeting the Saxon people from the Saxonia Hall. We are happy that the youth Participants have been able to stay with billet families in both Aylmer and Kitchener while on this trip. I would like to offer a special thanks to all billet families for welcoming the youth, as we share our North American traditions with them. After the stay in Aylmer, the group has made their way to Kitchener to partake in the Jugendlager reunion and Heimattag celebration last weekend in Kitchener. While here, the group will see sights such as Niagara Falls, spending time at the Schmidt cottage in Amberly at Lake Huron (special thanks to Reiny and Erika for providing this opportunity for the youth), as well as going to Canada's Wonderland for a day of fun and thrills. They returned home on Friday July 19th, hopefully with wonderful memories, and life-lasting friendships made while here!

On July 12-13, the Transylvania Club hosted the North American Heimattag where we celebrated our Siebenbürgen culture and traditions. Friday night was a fun-filled evening and reunion for anyone who has participated in the 50-plus years of the Jugendlager tradition. We had well over 200 people come out! It was a great party, with music provided by the Edelweiss Trio and DJ Daddy Frank. There was fun and games as well as genuine Saxon Fellowship, with all that that entails! The food was awesome, with food and desserts provided by various club members. Thanks to everyone who brought these food items. We were also served traditional Transylvania Pork Sausages. I want to thank the entire team who helped to make these sausages, as well as the Grill team! You can certainly know that we were sampling the goods while BBQing!

Heimattag continued Saturday July 13th with over 270 people in attendance, including several guests and friends that came over from Germany for the Celebration. It was nice showing our German Landsleute how we keep the Saxon traditions intact. An afternoon meal was available, during which the Transylvania Hofbrau band played. The Celebration then started at 2:15pm with the Church service and devotion by Pastor David Schmidt. Several cultural performances then followed by our various TCK and guest groups. This included dances provided our wonderful TCK Kindergruppe, the Cleveland Dance group, the Saxonia Dancers from Aylmer, our TCK Choir and a presentation by the Jugendlager participants. An excellent meal was prepared, served and enjoyed by all! After dinner there were speeches and Awards given out to various groups. The program continued into the evening with a spirited performance by our own TCK Youth Dancers, and then dancing with music provided by Wildbahn. I would like to personally thank all of the Committee Members (TCK BOD), our volunteers, Club members and leaders who made this another great Heimattag in Kitchener. I would also like to thank everyone who supported the Club by showing up, and simply getting involved. This is a great showcase for our Culture and traditions, ones which we should strive to keep alive! Many memories were made throughout the weekend, ones which we will always remember and cherish! Special thanks go out to Erika Schmidt who was instrumental in much of the planning, and organization of this event.

As many of you may have recognized, there is work ongoing at the Alpine Club to freshen up the façade of the Club. During the timeframe of August 12-23, we have an opportunity to paint and redecorate our Transylvania room as well. If you are available, and willing, we could use volunteers to help move the furniture, remove the Paintings and maps and paint this showcase area for our Club. Please contact me by email at demrich@rogers.com or by leaving a

message at the TCK Club office if you are available to lend a hand during this timeframe.

As I finish my report, I want to wish all of our members a safe and happy summer season and hope to see you all at our Club celebrating with us when we resume functions, practices, and meetings in the fall! We look forward to a busy Oktoberfest Season working with the Alpine Club at the Habsburg Haus.

Take Care!

Dave Emrich, President



HEIMATTAG T-SHIRTS

We still have T-shirts that were ordered for Heimattag available in a variety of sizes, either white or black, at a cost of \$25 each. If you are interested in purchasing any, please contact the office.



TCK CHOIR AND BAND





HEIMATTAG





HEIMATTAG





HEIMATTAG



YOUTH GROUP FUNDRAISER





CULTURAL GROUP

KULTURGRUPPE

Happy summer to everyone!!

It has been a very busy couple months for our cultural groups and the Transylvania Club. We are all taking a well-deserved break now for a few weeks and will be back to practicing and preparing for Oktoberfest soon. I hope you all had time to take part or attend the activities and events that happened in May to July.

The TCK choir and Hofbrau band are both directed by Andrea Emrich and presented their second annual combined concert this year. What a great concert of songs and music taking us to the sunshine spots around the world, from Hawaii to Europe. Everyone enjoyed the performances of both groups and had a great time singing along to "Paloma Blanca, Eviva Espana and Fliege Mit Mir". Congratulations to a job well done! The light lunch prepared by the choir and band members was also very delicious. Can't wait until next year to see what the theme will be.

The youth group held their fundraiser on June 8th and the theme for the night was "Disco". Some of the costumes and the décor really brought you back to those disco nights. They had a silent auction, games for all ages, costume contest and a disco dance contest. So much fun! The dinner that the group cooked themselves was so delicious. Roast chicken, meatballs, salads, roasted vegetables and dessert was a filling meal for all. We might have to get some of those recipes for future use. Fantastic night, great music and fun for all; what more could you ask for. I encourage everyone to please come out and support their next function.

One of the highlights of the summer was Heimattag 2024 in Kitchener along with a two-week

Jugendlager program that started the week before Heimattag and ended on July 19th.

Heimattag was a two-day event this year for a change. I think it ran very smoothly and was enjoyed by all. It took a little more organizing on Saturday for all the volunteers but I heard nothing but positive comments about the weekend. Friday was a full house with over 200 people attending the Kamaradschaftsabend / Jugendlager Reunion event. They enjoyed homemade sausage (supervised by Dave Emrich), pigtailed and hotdogs and a large variety of salads and desserts made our by our members. There were games for all ages, a cultural display put on by the Frauenverein and slide shows and pictures of past Jugendlagers and Heimattag events. Edelweiss Trio and DJ Frank provided dance music and the floor was packed all night.

Saturday was the official Heimattag opening with church, our cultural program, then dinner, some presentations and dancing to Wildbahn. Pastor Davi Schmidt officiated the church service and the Hobrau Band accompanied us with Hymns and a musical interlude. This was followed by the procession of flags, national anthems and guest speakers; ending with the Siebenbuergelied. The very talented cultural groups that participated in the program following were the TCK Kindergruppe, Cleveland Saxon Dance Group, TCK Choir, Saxonia Dance Group and the Jugendlager participants dance presentation. They were all amazing and it was great to see how our music, dance and Trachten were represented in true Saxon tradition. After some fellowship time, delicious dinner was served by Conestoga Catering and the Frauenverein served coffee and baked goods for dessert. A short program resumed with greetings from our president, Dave Emrich, the presentation of Ehrennadeln (Honour Pin), by John Werner and John Horeth to 21 members of the Transylvania and Saxonia Clubs. We congratulate everyone who received their Ehrennadeln this year and I know that they are all

very proud to wear the pin representing their dedication and contribution to the Saxon culture. The TCK dance group ended the cultural program with their outstanding performance. I am sure there will be lots of reports about the two weeks of events and lots of pictures, so I will not go into great details.

The 28 Jugendlager participants will have many great memories to take home with them and that is due to the work of the Jugendlager committee headed by John Werner and Rebecca Horeth. A special thank goes to Krista and Rick Hesch for taking on the organizing and chaperoning in Kitchener. It is a huge undertaking to keep these youth entertained and making sure they get to see some of Ontario. I would also like to thank Jim Glasser for driving the bus to all the destinations the youth had planned. What a great team! Congratulations on a successful Jugendlager.

I would like to thank everyone who helped in any way to make this weekend a success and make everyone feel welcome; from set up, decorating, making food, baking, donating funds when they could not help out, admissions, kitchen help, billeting the Jugendlager participants, hosting gatherings and chaperoning. We could not have had the successful Heimattag without you. A huge thanks to all the groups, some coming from far, that performed on Saturday. Without these groups and volunteers, there would be no Heimattag.

The Motto for this year was "Pflege deine Wurzeln /

Nurture your Roots". Our Saxon culture and heritage were proudly displayed and the roots on our tree grew that much stronger. With continued nurturing by all our cultural groups, our members and the leaders of the groups and our board of directors, I am confident that we can continue to deepen those roots and help our Saxon tree grow to high heights. Be a leaf on our tree and become involved, come out and support and help us continue our SAXON ROOTS!!!!

SAXON UP!

Erika Schmidt

Kulturgruppe Leiterin / Cultural Group President



LADIES AUXILIARY

FRAUENVEREIN

Our ladies' group was busy this month helping with the preparations for and work during our Heimattag and Jugendlager events. Many thanks to those that helped with hall setup, in the kitchen, providing salads and desserts, making sausage, admissions, chaperoning the youth, hosting get togethers, setting up the beautiful Saxon display, billeting Jugendlager participants, and more.

We will have a short break now before we begin with Oktoberfest preparations.

Margit Fritsch/Heidi Lowrick

Ladies Auxiliary Co-Presidents

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JUGENDLAGER





JUGENDLAGER





CHILDRENS' GROUP

KINDERGRUPPE

On Saturday, July 13th our Kindergruppe participated in the annual North American Heimattag event, which is hosted by The Transylvania Club roughly every 4 years. We participated in the cultural presentations, along with dance groups from Cleveland, fabulously, performing a total of 5 dances for a packed hall of guests and dignitaries. Thanks so much to everyone who participated and helped with the organization. Kindergruppe will be starting back up again for our winter session on Wednesday, October 30th and it will run weekly until Wednesday, December 18th at the Alpine Club from 6:30pm to 7:45pm. The Weihnachtsfeier (Christmas) performance will be held on Sunday, December 22nd in the afternoon. We are hoping to

see many new faces. Each night we have lots of fun activities for the kids (ages 4 to 13) including: games, crafts, Jr and Sr kids dance group, 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. If you are interested in joining please contact us at the number below.

We are also looking for some youth and adult volunteers who may be interesting in helping with and/or leading Kindergruppe this fall. If you are interested, please let us know. For more information or to join, please contact Krista or Rick Hesch at hesch@rogers.com or 519-662-4364.

Krista & Rick Hesch, Heidi Hesch & Bengt Nyman

Kindergruppe Instructors



TRANSYLVANIA SAXON EXHIBIT

The Aylmer-Malahide Museum & Archives is hosting a pop-up exhibit about the Transylvanian Saxons in Canada, including immigration to Canada and our lasting and changing traditions. Rebecca Horeth is guest-curating the exhibit and will also showcase some of her graduate research. There will also be details about the 1944 evacuation of Northern Transylvania, which took place 80 years ago this Fall. The exhibit, "Arriving in Aylmer: Transylvanian Saxons in Canada since the 1920s," will open on July 4 and run until September 20. If you are interested and able to sponsor the exhibit this summer, please visit: <https://aylmermuseum.ca/join-support/#sponsors>

You can make a donation through the museum's website or by contacting the museum at info@aylmermuseum.ca. Let them know that you are directing your support to the Saxon exhibit! Donations of \$20 or more are eligible for a tax receipt.

All support, whether by visiting the exhibit or through a donation, is greatly appreciated!

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LANDSMANNSCHAFT

Liebe Mitglieder und Freunde,

The friendships and the memories the twenty-seven Jugendlager participants made in the last two weeks will remain with them for the rest of their life. Six youth from Austria, six from Germany, seven from Romania, four from the USA and four from Canada arrived on July 5th for the two week Jugendlager. They spent their first two nights at St. Jerome's University in Waterloo getting to know each other and attending seminars on Saturday morning presented by Waldemar Scholtes, Rebecca Horeth and John Werner. Waldemar Scholtes presented a slide show with dialog starting with our Saxon heritage in the early 1100's with migration maps, history, pictures of fortresses and churches and village layouts, talking about Saxon Character and Ethnic Identity and ending with the Siebenbürgische Hymne. Rebecca Horeth spoke about the Saxonia Hall and I spoke about the function of our Canadian Landsmannschaft, the Föderation der Siebenbürger Sachsen, the Windsor Saxon Club and the Transylvania Cub. We will look at repeating this seminar in the fall for our Transylvania Club and Saxonia Hall membership. Saturday afternoon was set aside for bowling and the evening finished with group activities at the University.

Sunday morning the group left for Aylmer where they spent the next four days visiting the "Jumbo" Monument & Elevated Park, Port Stanley Beach, the Aylmer Museum, the Walker Dairy Farm, travelling to London to do some shopping, pretzel making at the Saxonia Hall and preparing for a group performance at the Heimattag. They enjoyed time at the Saxonia Hall and pool parties and evening BBQ's with the Horeth and Gotzmeister families, all being billeted in with Saxon families during their stay.

Friday afternoon the group returned to Kitchener-Waterloo to meet their Saxon family billets and to

participate in our two day Heimattag celebration.

The Heimattag Motto was specifically chosen to celebrate our Friday evening "Jugendlager reunion" theme.

Pflege deine Wurzeln – Nurture your Roots

Christine Lang, Rebecca Horeth and Rick Hesch worked hard to get the names of approximately 650 Jugendlager participants since 1971. Via email, Facebook and Instagram, invitations were sent out for the "Jugendlager Reunion" event. The evening was a great success with Jugendlager participants from Austria, Germany, Romania the USA and Canada rekindling their Jugendlager experience as far as 50 years ago.

Our Heimattag on Saturday gave the Jugendlager participants the opportunity to enjoy our North American Heimattag, this year at the Transylvania Club. Although shortened to a two day event we were able to celebrate the full Heimattag experience starting with our Church Service led by Pastor David Schmidt of Bethel Evangelical Lutheran Church, our Kundgebung/Rally with greetings and comments from John Werner (Landsmannschaft Canada), Denise Crawford (ATS USA) and Valerie Bertleff (on behalf of Rainer Lehni (Vorsitzender des Verbandes der Siebenbürger Sachsen in Deutschland e.V. and President der Föderation) and Rebecca Horeth (1st Vice Chairman Landsmannschaft Canada) who helped us commemorate the evacuation of our Siebenbürger Saxons from North Siebenbürgen eighty years ago in September 1944.

The highlight of every Heimattag is the cultural presentation. This year the Transylvania Club Kindergruppe, the Cleveland Saxon Dance Group, the Transylvania Club Choir, the Saxonia Club

Dance Group, the Transylvania Club Youth Dance Group, the Transylvania Club Hofbräu Band and the Jugendlager presentation all provided us with excellent performances. The success of a Heimattag can be measured by the participation of Cultural Groups. Thank you to the six groups and the Jugendlager participants for their performances with everlasting memories of our Heimattag.

Since 1962 the Landsmannschaft in Canada has presented the Ehrennadel (Pin of Honour) to 93 Siebenbürger Saxons and individuals in recognition of their work in supporting and promoting our Saxon Culture and Customs in Canada. This year, we recognized 21 recipients from the Transylvania Club and Saxonia Hall for their dedication and the hard work they have done to promote and sustain our Transylvania Saxon Culture in Canada. It was my honour on behalf of the Landsmannschaft in Canada to present these to:

Gertrude Croft	Andrea Emrich
Dave Emrich	Bob Foster
Lisa Fritsch	Margit Fritsch
Krista Hesch	Rick Hesch
Rebecca Horeth	Amy Kube
Michael Lindert	Sofia Lindert
Lori Moore	Amanda Mooser
David Pfingstgraef	Justin Schatz
Daniel Schmidt	Kolina Tavares
Hildegard Triska	Linda Walker
Karl Wolf	

Liebe Landsleute, ich danke Euch für die Arbeit die Ihr geleistet habt und für die Euch diese Anerkennung zuteil wurde. Tragt diese Nadel jederzeit mit Stolz und in Ehre, und lasst sie Euch daran mahnen, euere Kraft auch weiterhin in den Dienst der Gemeinschaft zu stellen.

Dear recipients. I would like to thank you for your dedication and the work you have done to support

our Transylvania Saxon Culture. Please wear the Ehrennadel with pride and respect and may it provide you energy to continue serving your Saxon Community.

I would like to thank ATS President Denise Crawford and our Saxon Brothers and Sisters for their attendance and support, especially the participation of the Cleveland Saxon Dance Group who next summer will be visiting Austria and Germany as part of the Federation Kulturaustausch. We look forward to celebrating next year's Heimattag in Youngstown, Ohio on July 11th, 12th and 13th, 2025.

Die Ausstellung Siebenbürgischer Trachten die es im Kultur Zimmer zur Besichtigung gab, wurde von allen mit viel Interesse bewundert. Wir bedanken uns bei dem Frauenverein des Transylvania Klub für diese Ausstellung. A number of Saxon Trachts, artifacts and books were donated by our members to be sold with donations going to the support the Jugendlager costs. We thank all members for their donations.

I would like to thank our Heimattag host the Transylvania Club, President Dave Emrich, the Landsmannschaft/Transylvania Club committee and all volunteers that worked together to achieve a successful Heimattag that was enjoyed by all and will be remembered for many years to come.

Mit gutem Essen, Musik, Gesang, Tanz und Offiziellem Programm und der Unterstützung unserer Landsleute von nah und fern kam ein Erfolgreicher Heimattag zu Ende. Ich danke allen für ihre Mithilfe und Anwesenheit.

After the Heimattag the Jugendlager went into its second week. Sunday afternoon Rick and Krista Hesch hosted a pool party with games and lots of food. Monday the participants went to Niagara Falls where they saw a movie at the IMAX Theatre, enjoyed a picnic lunch prepared by the Transylvania Club ladies auxiliary, got super wet on the Hornblower boat ride, toured Niagara Falls and enjoyed a meal at Jack Astor's on their return to

Kitchener. Tuesday morning the group visited the St. Jacobs Market and travelled to Reinhard and Erika Schmidt's cottage on Lake Huron for two days of fun in the sun, BBQ, bonfire and overnight camping before returning back to Kitchener-Waterloo. Thursday was Wonderland day with lots of rides and fun at the amusement park. They returned to Lori and Craig Moore's home for the "Abschlußabend" with all host families in attendance. Lots of food, good conversation, a slide show of their two week stay and with tears in the eyes of many participants this evening brought their two week Jugendlager to the end.

An important part of the Jugendlager is for these young people to meet fellow Saxons, especially Saxon Youth to get to know us and see how we live and celebrate and sustain our Saxon Culture in Canada. From all impressions we were successful.

Thank you to all that helped run a successful Jugendlager. In Aylmer, Rebecca Horeth, John Horeth, Daniel Pflingstgrae and Derek Gotzmeister, and in Kitchener, Krista, Rick and Ryan Hesch. Your dedication to the Jugendlager program and the effort and patience you exhibited is much appreciated. As big thankyou to all the families that hosted the participants during their stay. You have played an important function in the Jugendlager experience for the young people you hosted.

Please continue to support your Saxon Culture by participating in our Cultural Groups and attending functions at the Transylvania Club and Saxonia Hall.

Ich wünsche allen Mitgliedern und Freunden einen schönen Sommer.

John Werner

Bundesvorsitzender

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80 YEARS IN THE FLUCHT BY REBECCA HORETH

Within the Transylvanian Saxon community in Canada, 1944 is a significant year. 80 years ago, this September, our international community will commemorate the evacuation of Northern Transylvania, the Flucht, which occurred in the autumn of 1944. In the stories we've heard from the founding members of our Saxon community over the years, and from our own families, the evacuation happened quickly. With short notice and only the essentials in hand, the people who were still remaining in the village during the challenging and uncertain times of war filed down the main dirt road to begin their journey toward Austria or Germany. The sound of ringing church bells on each village's assigned day notified, first, the women and youngest children that it was time to leave. Many would never return.

The evacuation of Northern Transylvania in 1944 is still in living memory. My grandfather's childhood friend, Michael Ungar Jr., recalled on his 90th birthday, "When I hear the clock tower ring in Aylmer, I remember that day so exactly." The church bells rang when the moment to leave had come. The townspeople had only had 48 hours to prepare to leave; 48 hours to collect food for their family and horses for at least two weeks; 48 hours to gather their most prized possessions. Very few families stayed behind in the villages. Mike remembered and told me, "We listened as the bells rang, and we could hear them as far as the neighbour village. Then, it was gone. We were told we could go back, but we never did."

It is estimated that approximately 100,000 Germans left the region as the Second World War neared its end (Iorio and Corsale 2012, 206-207; see also Illyés 1982, 25; Koranyi 2022, 1). In the north, Saxon historians credit the cautious leadership of Robert Gaßner, who, along with Saxon Lutheran ministers in northern villages, prepared discreet plans to leave Transylvania with a departure timeline scheduled for September 6 to 19, 1944 (Wagner et al. 1982, 76-77;

Wieden 1986, 7). Only a few of the most prized cultural possessions, like the Fest Tracht, were packed for the journey. While many of the beautiful artifacts of our Saxon culture were left behind, those who fled carried with them their memories of the customs and cultural practices from their village lives. By foot, wagon, and rail car, the Transylvanian Saxons began a long trek away from their homeland.

Upon their arrival in American militarized zones in Austria and Germany, the evacuees settled in refugee camps—called Fluko-lager—found nearby work, mostly with local farmers, and began to re-establish their Transylvanian Saxon village lifestyle and customs in their new settings (Keiper 2009). Economic hardship following the end of World War II, however, prompted some families to continue their westward journey towards Canada and the United States. "It is difficult to obtain the actual numbers of those who migrated from Transylvania to Germany, Austria, the United States, and Canada because Saxons immigrated either with a German, Romanian, or Hungarian passport" (Pfeiffer 2009, 28; see also Kroner 2001, 31).

Both the United States and Canada strengthened their immigration policies during post-war periods. While today Canada is known to be a welcoming country, it maintained a carefully-defined category of ideal immigrants until after the Second World War. Widely held biases shaped the decisions to restrict immigration for specific groups. The government blocked immigration from Germany in 1946 except for direct relatives, but the Transylvanian Saxons could be interpreted as being displaced from Hungary or Romania. So, the Canadian immigration policy was permeable for Transylvanian Saxons.

Such restrictions were eventually lifted in 1950, except for former National Socialist and Communist Party members (Kroner 2001, 30; Wieden 1986, 12-

13). This 1950s wave of approximately 5000 evacuated, northern, Transylvanian Saxon immigrants to Canada is considered the most significant wave in Canada (Scholtes 2016, 22). Although these Saxons chose to move to Ontario, there were factors that pushed them to leave Romania, namely their conditions at the end of the Second World War and, later, a distrust for the Romanian government (Pfeiffer 2009, 57). The Saxon migrants' interpretation of a permanent migration from the 1950s forward is pivotal and prompted deep feelings of nostalgia because they sensed there was no longer a Transylvanian "home" or Heimat to which they might return. First-generation Transylvanian Saxon immigrants in Canada remembered their homeland and took action to reconsider and restore it so they could teach their children and grandchildren.

We celebrate our Heimat, Transylvania, together annually, and these gatherings - whether in Austria, Canada, the United States, Germany, or Romania - illustrate that our traditions and our culture continue several generations after that departure 80 years ago. Today, we still ask, "what is Heimat, what is Heimattag?"

Certainly, we think of our parents, grandparents, and great-grandparents and their home of Transylvania. But for those of us who were born outside of Transylvania, home or Heimat is more of a feeling than a place. It keeps us grounded in our culture and connects us to each other, so that when we are far from the physical places we call home, wearing the Tracht, singing a Lied, and eating something that tastes just like Oma made... we find a place with each other that feels familiar.

Through the stories and traditions we know about the Heimat, we have created a sense of belonging for ourselves, our children and our grandchildren, but also for our larger communities-- our friends and neighbours who are inspired by our engagement with our heritage to embrace their culture themselves and find a place for their roots within our larger Saxon family. We are building our community around our memories of the Heimat and around our

traditions like the Heimattag, the Auf Marsch, the sächsische Musik, the dance groups, the Tracht, the food, and the storytelling that takes place when we gather.

By doing our traditions together, we are not simply observers of Transylvanian Saxon culture, but we are part of our own history. Whether you are in a dance group, choir or band; whether you cook or serve a meal or buy a drink for a friend, wear the Tracht or help someone wear one themselves; whether you spend hours organizing an event or simply come to attend; whether you travel to other Saxon clubs in another country or welcome another Saxon into your home; we are all here for the same reason. Together, we are the curators of the physical objects that have been passed down to us. We are the curators of the traditions we learned from our parents and grandparents. We can continue to pass on what we know and what we have learned from those who carefully brought it with them in flight from Transylvania 80 years ago.

Thank you.

2024 MEMBERSHIP FEES 2024 MITGLIEDSBEITRAG

Membership fees for the year 2024 are due at the rates shown below:

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 via e-Transfer, by cheque or by calling the club office to pay with a credit card.

Bitte bezahlen Sie Ihren Mitgliedsbeitrag mit e-Transfer, mit Scheck oder übers Telefon mit Kredit Karte.



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

helgardrwner@gmail.com
hlowrick@gmail.com

519-884-7725
519-589-8122

BIRTHDAYS - GEBURTSTAGE



Katherine Löwrick

*was born in Burghalle on July 8, 1929
and celebrated her 95th birthday with her family
on July 8, 2024.*

Her family and friends wish her all the best.

ANNIVERSARIES - JUBILÄUM



Best wishes and congratulations to

Martin and Ingrid Hesch

(married on July 19, 1979)

*who celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary
on July 19, 2024*



Congratulations to

John and Helgard Werner

(married on July 20, 1974)

*who celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary
on July 20, 2024.*

Best wishes for many more happy and healthy years to come.

**FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS - FAMILIENNACHRICHTEN****DEATHS - TODESFAELLE**

*John (Hans) Baumann
passed away on May 13, 2024
at Trinity Village Care Centre
in Kitchener at the age of 88.*

*He was born in Krawukovo,
Yugoslavia on January 26, 1936.*



*John Paulini
passed away at the age of 93
on June 23, 2024
in the Freeport Palliative Care Unit.*

*He was born January 18, 1931 in
Draas, Transylvania.*



*Anna Kreisler
passed away peacefully on July 1, 2024
at the age of 89.*

*She was born in Zendersch,
Transylvania on September 6, 1934.*



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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

helgardrwerner@gmail.com

519-884-7725

Heidi Löwrick

hlowrick@gmail.com

519-589-8122

MONTHLY BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

We wish to extend best wishes to the following members who are celebrating a birthday in the months of August and September. If you have a birthday in either of 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.

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Hermine Brown
Trudy R. Schneider
Sven-Erik Nyman
Annemarie Schatz
Hans Kauntz
John Werner
Maria Eichberger
Andrew Saur
Darlene Giebat
Eugenia Schatz
Susanna Kauntz
Christa Bendix

Connor Crouse
Andrew French
Ronald Schatz
Jennifer Frim
Petrina Breckner
Karl Wolf
Tina Rich
Gwen Wolf
Michelle Nyman
Seth Bailey
Margit Fritsch
Randy Gondosch

Maria Goellner
David R. Green
Gerald Schatz
Neil Hoffman
Nancy Fritsch
Rosie Emrich
Anna Schatz
Andreas Emrich
Klaus Bliefert
Katharina Ungar
Elmer Brown

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Kristian Lowrick
Andrea Emrich
Lilly Hill
Claudia Griebenow
Tina Vicano
Betty Ann Doering
Alex Emrich
Rosemarie Rawlings
Michael Giebat
Harry Drung
Reinhold Schuster

Katherine Warkentin
Alfred Lowrick
Elke Hensel-Williams
Marlene Maier
Melanie Stuehler
Katie Dienesch
Dave Emrich
Erhard Dreger
Gerhard Griebenow
Anne Foster
Mike Vandepas

Katharina Dienesch
Hailey Voll
Ingrid Hesch
Georg Fritsch
Martin G. Hesch
Katharina Schertzer
Peter Wuschnakowski
Michael Griebenow
Anna Eichvald

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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 Löwrück.

ATTENTION!

Articles for the next bulletin must be submitted by:

September 10th



519-580-3418
Reinhold Fritsch trellogistics@rogers.com
• SAND - GRAVEL - TOPSOIL •



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TRANSYLVANIA CLUB KITCHENER

2024-25 Board of Directors - 2024-25 Vorstand

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Vice-President	Alfred Lowrick	Vizepräsident
Secretary	Hermine Brown	Schriftführer
Treasurer	Peter Hamberger	Hauptkassier
Membership Treasurer	Katie Dienesch	Mitglieder Kassier
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Special Events Director #2	Reiny Schmidt	Veranstaltungsleiter #2
Property Manager #1	David Green	Gebäudeverwalter #1
Newsletter Editor	Heidi Löwrick	Presseleiter
Press Committee Member	Helgard Werner	Pressekomitee
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Webmaster #2	Katelyn Emrich	Webmaster #2
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Oktoberfest Committee Member #1	Rick Hesch	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