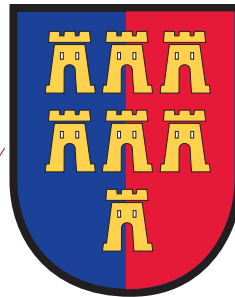


TRANSYLVANIA CLUB

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Nachrichten



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

TCK VERANSTALTUNGSKALENDER TCK SPECIAL EVENTS CALENDAR

June 17 **Waldfest –
Picnic & Golf Tournament** - GCHFC 12:00

June 23-25 **Heimattag**

Note: All our events will be held at the Alpine Club unless otherwise indicated in the event schedule.

Bitte holen Sie Ihre Karten zwei Wochen vor der jeweiligen Veranstaltung ab sonst werden sie verkauft. Es gibt immer wieder Mitglieder die ihre Karten am letzten Tag zurückbringen. Diese Karten hätten aber schon längst verkauft werden können.

Please pick up your tickets at our club office at least two weeks prior to the event. Tickets not picked up two weeks in advance may be sold.



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BERICHT DES PRÄSIDENTEN



Liebe Mitglieder und Freunde,

Hoffentlich hört das nasskalte Wetter das wir haben, in Kürze auf, so daß wir den warmen Sonnenschein genießen können, den der Sommer bringt.

Am 15. April genossen viele Leute den wunderbaren Spagetti Abend, den unsere Jugend veranstaltete. Es war ein toller Abend, und ich denke, dass alle Anwesenden die schmackhafte Spagetti Mahlzeit mit der Auswahl von Soßen, Knoblauchbrot und Salaten genossen haben. Der Besuch war gut, und wir wurden unterhalten von den beiden Wettkämpfern, die den Mr. Transylvania Titel anstrebten. Als einer der Kampfrichter muss ich sagen, dass es ein enger Wettkampf war, in dem sowohl Liam Schatz als auch Lukas

Hensel-Williams eine gute Schau lieferten. Wie immer gibt es aber nur einen Gewinner, und dieses Jahr war es Lukas, der die Ehre erhielt, mit dem Titel "Mr. Transylvania" gekrönt zu werden. Herzlichen Glückwunsch Lukas! Zudem wurden wir unterhalten und tanzten wir zur Musik der "Sieben Burgen".

Am 22. April waren Erika und ich zu Gast beim 64. Gründungsfest des Alpenklubs. Während der geselligen Stunde genossen wir eine grosse Anzahl von Vorspeisen und dann ein sehr schmackhaftes Essen, natürlich gefolgt von Apfelstrudel. Es war ein wunderbarer Abend, den wir mit den Präsidenten der anderen Klubs und den Mitgliedern des Alpenklubs teilten. Die Alpen Tänzer unterhielten uns und die Blue Waves spielten zum Tanz auf. Miss Alpine 2017 wurde auch an diesem Abend gekrönt. Wir gratulieren Emily Willard! Ich danke Bill Poje und dem Alpenclub für die Einladung.

Der 29. April war unser eigener Mitgliederabend.

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Dies ist der Abend, zu dem wir die Präsidenten der anderen deutschen Klubs zu uns einladen, und alle, die kamen, genossen die Zeit. Ich denke, es war ein gelungener Abend, obwohl nur 150 Mitglieder dabei waren. Der Vorstand hatte beschlossen, diesen Abend mitzufinanzieren, als Dank an die Mitglieder für ihre Unterstützung und freiwillige Hilfe während des Jahres. Deshalb war der Eintrittspreis deutlich niedriger als bei den meisten Veranstaltungen, bei denen wir eine Mahlzeit anbieten. Das schmackhafte Essen bestand aus gerösteten Hähnchen und Rostbraten von Angies Kitchen und anschließend einer tollen Auswahl von Nachtisch. Gemäss unserer Tradition stellten wir unsere neueste Miss Transylvania, Katelyn Emrich, vor und weihten ihr Portrait, das nun stolz an der Wand zur Schau gestellt ist. Es ist auch der Zeitpunkt, an dem wir das Bild unserer Miss von vor drei Jahren abhängen. Kolina Tavares war da und war froh, ihr Bild nach Hause nehmen zu können, wo sie es stolz aufhängen kann. Mitgliedsnadeln wurden ausgegeben an Mitglieder, die die verschiedenen Meilensteine zwischen fünf und 65 Jahren erreicht haben. Unser neuester Veranstaltungsleiter Dave Emrich gab eine von Herzen gesprochene Ansprache über die Bedeutung der Klubmitgliedschaft für ihn. Ich glaube, die Nachricht ist bei allen Anwesenden angekommen. Der stehende Applaus zeigte ihm, was die Leute über seine Erinnerungen und sein Bedürfnis, dem Klub anzugehören, dachten. Es war wunderbar solche vom Herzen gesprochenen Worte von einem jüngeren Klubmitglied zu hören. Nach den Formalitäten konnten wir zur Musik der Seven Castles tanzen.

Heute, am Sonntag, dem 7. Mai, feierten wir unseren Muttertag. Es war gelinde gesagt enttäuschend, dass wir selbst mit den Zahlen der Blaskapelle, des Chors und der Jugendgruppe nur etwa 110 Personen hatten, um Muttertag zu feiern. Ich danke der Jugend, die früh gekommen war und die Tische aufstellten und dann in der Pause Kaffee und Kuchen servierten. Unsere Hofbräu Kapelle spielte heute unter der Leitung von Jim Glasser, denn

Andrea Emrich hatte eine andere Verpflichtung. Unser Chor unter der Leitung von Gerhard Griebenow und dirigiert von Dieter Conrad und Andrea von Weyhe am Klavier füllte einmal mehr die Halle mit ihren melodischen Stimmen. Ich hoffe, dass alle Anwesenden das Programm und die vorgestellten Talente genossen. Ein Riesendank an Anna Schatz für die Leitung unserer Kindergruppe. Diese Gruppe ist wichtig für unseren Klub, denn sie wird hoffentlich unsere jungen Hirne anregen und ihr Interesse an unserem Klub und ihres Kulturerbes aufrecht erhalten. Ihr Lied und ihre Verse waren wie immer sehr unterhaltsam.

Bitte seid daran erinnert, dass am 27. May um 20:00 Uhr das Konzert der Blaskapelle stattfindet, geht und unterstützt die Hofbräu Kapelle. Dieses Jahr ist das Thema "Lieder und Musicals der Vergangenheit". Ich habe sie proben hören, sie klingen toll. Sie proben hart im ganzen Verlauf des Jahres und haben ein tolles Programm für das Konzert aufgestellt, bitte verpasst es nicht.

Lasst uns alle hoffen und beten, dass wir für unser Klubpicknick am 17. Juni gutes Wetter haben, wieder um 12 Uhr bei dem deutsch-kanadischen Jagd- und Fischverein. Kommt und genießt einen gemütlichen Nachmittag mit Freunden, spielt vielleicht Hufeisen oder seht euch an, wie die Kleinen herumlaufen und spielen. Egal was, kommt und genießt die Geselligkeit. Bitte sagt im Klubbüro an, mit wieviel Personen ihr kommen werdet, damit die richtige Menge an Essen bestellt werden kann.

Mitglieder, es ist an uns, uns von der besten Seite zu zeigen: dieses Jahr sind wir zum Heimtag die Gastgeber für unsere Sachsen Freunde aus Europa, den Staaten und Kanada und wollen sie im grossen Stil willkommen heißen. Dazu brauchen wir für jeden Tag freiwillige Helfer. Wir brauchen Hilfe beim Backen, Salat anrichten, Aufstellen, Kochen und Bereitstellen von eurer Zeit. Bitte kontaktiert Erika Schmidt oder Elke Hensel-Williams, wenn ihr in irgend einer Weise helfen könnt. Notiert den 23. bis 25. Juni in euren Kalendern und kommt und

feiert mit uns unser sächsisches Kulturerbe! Ich hoffe, alle unsere Mitglieder mindestens einmal oder besser dreimal an diesem Wochenende zu sehen. Ruft im Büro an und reserviert eure Karten!
Reinhard Schmidt, Praesident

Dear Members and Friends,

I hope this damp and cold weather we are having ends soon and we can begin to enjoy the warm sunshine that summer brings with it.

On April 15th many people enjoyed a wonderful Spaghetti Night that was hosted by our Youth group. It was a great evening and I think everyone there enjoyed the tasty spaghetti dinner, along with the selection of sauces, garlic bread and salad. It was a good turnout, and we were entertained by the two contestants vying for the Mr. Transylvania title. As one of the judges, I have to say that it was a close contest, with both contestants, Liam Schatz and

Lukas Hensel-Williams putting on a great show. As always though, a contest can have only one winner and this year Lukas Hensel-Williams was the winner and received the honour of being crowned "Mr. Transylvania". Congratulations Lukas! We also listened and danced to the music provided by Seven Castles.

On April 22nd Erika and I were invited to the Alpine Club for their Gründungsfest as they celebrated 64 years of service. We enjoyed a wide selection of hors d'oeuvres during a social hour and then sat down to a very delicious meal followed by Apple Strudel of course. It was a wonderful evening shared with other club presidents and the Alpine members. The Alpine dancers entertained us and the Blue Waves played for our dancing pleasure. Miss Alpine 2017 was also crowned that evening. Congratulations to Emily Willard! I thank Bill Poje and the Alpine Club for the invitation.



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April 29th was our own Mitgliederabend. It is the evening where we invite the presidents of the other local German clubs to join our members and those that attended enjoyed themselves. I thought it was a great night, even though we only had approximately 150 members attend. The board had decided to subsidize the cost of this evening's ticket price as a thank you to our members for their support and volunteering throughout the year, and so the ticket price was significantly lower than it is for most functions where we have a meal. It was a delicious meal of roast chicken and roast beef served by Angie's kitchen, and a great selection of desserts afterwards. As is our tradition at this event, we recognized our newest Miss Transylvania, Katelyn Emrich and dedicated her picture as it is now proudly displayed on the wall. It is also that time of year when we retire the picture of our Miss Transylvania of three years ago. Kolina Tavares was there and was happy to have her picture to take home, where she can proudly display it. Membership pins were also handed out to members reaching various membership milestones from 5 to 65 years. Congratulations to all those that received pins. Our newest Special Events Coordinator, Dave Emrich gave a very heartfelt speech on what it means to him to be a club member, and I think the message hit home to everyone that was there. The standing ovation he received showed how people felt about his memories and need to belong to the club life. It was wonderful to hear such heartfelt words from a younger member. After the formalities, we were able to dance to the music of Seven Castles.

Our Muttertag Celebration was today, Sunday May 7th. It was disappointing, to say the least, that even including the Hofbrau Band, the choir, and the Youth group, we only had approximately 110 people out to celebrate Mother's Day. I want to thank our Youth group for coming out early and helping to set the tables, and then served the coffee and cake at intermission. Our Hofbrau Band played for us today under the direction of Jim Glasser as Andrea

Emrich had a previous engagement. Our choir, led by President Gerhard Griebenow and directed by Dieter Conrad once again filled the hall with their melodious voices to entertain us. I hope everyone who attended enjoyed the program and the talent that was presented. A big thank you to Anna Schatz for taking on the task of leading our Children's Group. Our Kindergruppe is an important part of our club, as it hopefully will stimulate those young minds and keep them interested in our club and their heritage. They were as always very entertaining with their song and verses.

Remember to come out and support the Hofbrau Band at the concert May 27th at 8:00pm. The theme this year is "Songs and Musicals from the Past". I have heard them practicing and it sounds fabulous. They work hard throughout the year at practice and put on a great show at their concert, so don't miss it.

Let's all hope and pray for good weather for our Club picnic June 17th, which we will hold again at the German Canadian Hunting and Fishing Club at noon. Come on out and enjoy a relaxing afternoon with friends, maybe play some horseshoes or watch the little ones run around and play. Either way, come on out and mingle. Please call the club office and let them know how many will be attending so that the appropriate amount of food can be ordered.

Members, it is our time to shine this year at Heimattag as we host our fellow Saxons from Europe, United States and Canada and welcome them to Kitchener. In order for us to make this happen we need your help. Volunteers are needed for every day; for baking, salads, set up, cooking and donations of your time. Please contact Erika Schmidt or Elke Hensel-Williams if you are able to help out in anyway. Mark June 23rd-25th on your calendars and come out and join us as we celebrate our Saxon heritage! I hope to see everyone of our members at least once if not three times during the weekend. Call the club office to reserve your tickets!

Reinhard Schmidt, President



MITGLIEDERABEND





KULTURGRUPPE

CULTURAL GROUP REPORTS

Dear Members and Friends,

On April 29th we celebrated Mitgliederabend with members and guests. I would like to congratulate all those that reached milestones in their membership and received pins. Thank you to the dance group for their wonderful performance and their help with the tombola. It was a casual evening with good fellowship and delicious food. The meaningful words spoken by Bob Foster and Dave Emrich, our MCs for the evening were appreciated by all. Dave Emrich spoke about what it meant to be a member of the Transylvania Cub and his recollections of growing up in a family that was very involved. I have asked that his speech be put in the Blatt so that those that missed out could read his heartfelt words and hopefully make some of members think about how they grew up in this extended family and how it was and hopefully still is a big part of who they are and where they came from.

We celebrated our mothers and grandmothers at our "Muttertagfeier" on May 7th and I would like to thank the Hofbrau band, the TCK choir, Kindergruppe and the dance group for their participation in the program. These groups are always there to perform for us when asked and we very much appreciate all their dedication and time spent practicing for these important events. Our Kindergruppe was not as big as last year but it was so wonderful to see them sing "Mein Hut der hat drei Ecken" while doing the actions and to hear why they love their mothers. The hard work and patience it takes, by Anna Schatz to teach this young group every week is very much appreciated. I would also like to thank Helgard Werner for the poem she read, the youth group for their entertaining poems and Bob Foster for his both kind and funny words about Mothers. We gave our moms a

break this year and provided the baking for the coffee and cake during intermission. Thank you to everyone who helped make the afternoon a success for the minimal people who turned out. Maybe it is time to rethink this event in the future. A special thank you goes out to our men and youth who helped with serving the coffee and cake and clearing and washing the dishes.

The band concert will be held on May 27th and as always will be a musical treat. I look forward to attending this event and seeing what musical pieces they will present. There them this year is "Songs and Musicals from the Past". Make sure you come out to support our band!

I hope to see you all at the picnic on Jun 17th in Mannheim. Don't forget to call the office and let them know how many will be attending so that food can be arranged. Our youth group will be selling cake and coffee again for those with a sweet tooth, so please support them and help them raise some funds for new dirndls.

Heimattag is in Kitchener June 23 – 25th and I hope to see everyone there, celebrating with friends and family as we "Discover Tradition". I ask that you all think about volunteering throughout the weekend to help this a great Saxon celebration! We can use help with many things from baking to setting tables, to cooking. Call myself or Elke Hensel-Williams if you would like to help us out. We cannot do it without you.

Please let me know if you have any young teenagers wanting to learn to Ballroom dance this fall. We are hoping to have enough participants to have another class come September.

I hope everyone has a wonderful summer! Take the time to enjoy your family and friends and maybe even sing some Saxon songs and eat some speck on the BBQ.

Keep your Saxon roots close to your heart!

Erika Schmidt

Kulturgruppe Leiterin / Cultural Group President



MUTTERTAG – MOTHERS DAY





TRANSYLVANIA CHOR

Dear Members and Friends,

Before I give you an update on the choir activities, I need to give thanks to a group of volunteers who helped us with the choir concert: Kriemhild Hensel's team of Schnitzel makers consisted of Sarah Bliefert, Margi Habl, Rosi Karst, Linda Fritsch, Käthe Paulini, and Trudy Schneider. It is quite amazing to me that such a small group could put together the meals for approximately 275 people. Of course, as our president reported, choir members helped serve and clear the tables, helped by Trudy Schneider and Michael Griebenow. Together, these two groups were able to serve and feed everybody in a little over an hour so that the afternoon concert could start on time. A huge thank you to everybody on this team!

I missed our Mitgliederabend evening because I had to attend a Choir association meeting in Ottawa where I took the opportunity to spend a night in a jail cell of the Ottawa jail youth hostel, quite the different ambiance!

On May 6th the choir traveled to Stratford to take part in the 50th anniversary celebration of the Teutonia Stratford choir in the Avondale United Church in Stratford. This was a class event organized by President Hans Scheib and his choir members. Following the march in of the choirs' flags, in order of their founding years, national anthems and greetings by dignitaries, the audience was treated to the performances of five guest choirs and the host choir. After recognition certificates were given out to the 25 and 50 year choir members and the founders of the choir, I was able to present a plaque to the Teutonia for sharing the German tradition of choral music to the community, on behalf of the German-Canadian Congress. The concert was concluded with two mass choir songs, "Die Himmel rühmen" and "They call it Canada". The beautiful

architecture of the church and its superb acoustics made this a memorable event.

On May 7th we enjoyed the beautiful music of the Hofbräu band and then started into the Mothers' Day program with three of our songs. We share the disappointment that our president Reiny expressed. When the different groups are asked to perform on behalf of the club and there are only a limited number of families represented (kudos to those who were there) then....! Our club event directors Bob Foster and Dave Emrich and Helgard Werner lifted our spirits with select anecdotes and jokes, and the youth and Kindergruppe performances were entertaining and fun.

Our next performance will be in Exeter on Saturday, June 3rd, for a choir get-together and BBQ, limited seats are available on the bus.

Then we turn our attention to the Heimattag and the fall events with wine-fests. Stay tuned and have a great summer!

Gerhard Griebenow, Chor Praesident



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KARTENSPIEL-GRUPPE

Es wird bekannt gegeben, dass die Kartenspiel Gruppe sich wieder jeden Mittwoch, von 12.30 Uhr bis 17.00 Uhr im Schwaben Klub trifft. Jeder der gerne mitmachen möchte ist herzlich willkommen.



BALLROOM CLASSES

FOR BEGINNERS

We are planning on starting another ballroom class in the fall and are looking for young people, ages 13+ to come out and learn to dance, make new friends and have some fun.

Please contact the Transylvania Club office, Hailey Rich or Erika Schmidt if you know of anyone interested in joining this class.

Erika Schmidt, Cultural Group President



KEGELGRUPPE

Bowling has now finished for the 2016 / 2017 season. We hope to see everyone return for our next season starting in September 2017.

David Green,

Bowling Group President

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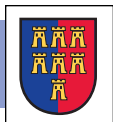
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HEIMATTAG 2017

Sunday lunch is going to be a delicious Gulasch dinner prepared by the ladies of the Transylvania Club and to go along with that we would like to serve some traditional squares "Kleingebaeck" for dessert. Ladies, we would very much appreciate if you could bring some of your wonderful baking to the Alpine Club before church so that we can plate the squares and baked goods before lunch is served.

Thank you, Heimattag Committee



LANDSMANNSCHAFT

Liebe Mitglieder und Freunde,

Die Landsmannschaft der Siebenbürger Sachsen in Kanada und der Transylvania Klub ladet alle Landsleute und Freunde zum Heimattag der am 23., 24. und 25. Juli in Kitchener stattfindet, herzlich ein. Wir freuen uns auf den Besuch von Stellvertretender Bundesvorsitzender, Landesvorsitzender NRW, Rainer Lehni aus Deutschland und unserer Landsleute aus der USA und heiße alle herzlich willkommen.

On behalf of the Alliance of Transylvania Saxons in Canada and the Transylvania Club in Kitchener, I would like to invite all members and friends to attend the 2017 Heimattag being held on July 23rd,

24th and 25th at the Transylvania Club. (Alpine Club location) I would like to welcome Stellvertretender Bundesvorsitzender, Rainer Lehni from Germany and ATS President Mrs. Joan Miller-Malue and our Landsleute from the USA.

A copy of the Heimattag program and event times and location can be found in this Nachrichtenblatt.

Please contact the Transylvania Club office (519-744-1191) for ticket information.

Please support your Saxon Culture, meet your fellow Saxons, and learn about your heritage by attending the Heimattag at the Transylvania Club in Kitchener.

John Werner

Bundesvorsitzender

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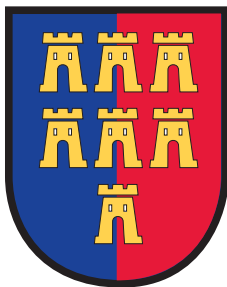
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ALLIANCE OF TRANSYLVANIA SAXONS IN CANADA

LANDSMANNSCHAFT DER SIEBENBÜRGER SACHSEN IN KANADA

HEIMATTAG PROGRAM 2017

SATURDAY, JUNE 24

- 6:00 p.m.: Official opening of the Heimattag 2017
Entrance of Flags and Guests
Canadian and American National Anthems
Brief address by the first Vice-president of the Alliance and the President of the Transylvania Club Kitchener
Grace
- 6:30 p.m.: **BANQUET**
Introduction of dignitaries
Greetings and brief addresses
Performances by various Cultural Groups
Dance – Transylvania Hofbräu Band

SUNDAY, JUNE 25

- 9:00 a.m.: Assembly for the Parade (Breithaupt Centre)
9:15 a.m.: Church Parade to the Breithaupt Centre
10:00 a.m.: **CHURCH SERVICE**
Guest Preacher: Rev. Enzo Pellini, Kitchener
Music by the Transylvania Club Choir and Brass Band
- 11:00 a.m.: **RALLY**
Speeches by the leaders of our Saxon Organizations
Cultural Program
- 12:30 p.m.: Lunch at the Alpine Club
2:00 p.m.: Fellowship Hour
with intermittent program by various Cultural Groups
- 4:00 p.m.: Official closing of the Heimattag 2017



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This presentation will not only highlight the details of the cruise and land tour with Avalon Waterways but provide pricing details and Early Booking Specials.

INFORMATION SESSION

Date: Wednesday, June 7, 2017

Time: 7:00pm

Venue: Schwaben Club, 1668 King St. E., Kitchener ON, N2G 2P1

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MITGLIEDERABEND SPEECH

Good evening and welcome to Mitgliederabend 2017. Mitgliederabend is the annual salute to the members and friends of the Transylvania Club here in Kitchener. Although I am unsure of when the first member's night occurred, Mitgliederabend has been a part of my collective memory since I was very young. I still recall with fondness when my parents and grandparents came to the Club for this annual tradition as a child. So please allow me to take a few minutes to recollect some personal memories about this special evening and our Club and heritage.

When I was a child, we typically had a babysitter and were allowed to stay up with treats and snacks, while my parents came to the various dinner and dances at the Transylvania Club. My own family has been active with the Transylvania Club since the late 1950's. My grandparents worked hard to help build up the club in the old days. My Grandmother Maria Emrich still recalls how hard they worked to keep the club going by cooking, cleaning and doing all the things that was required of them at the time. They did this out of love, duty and necessity. My Grandfather George Emrich was Vice President of the Club in the Vorstand, my father Helmut was also a Vorstand member in the 1980's as was my brother Chris in the 90's. I am now currently proud to serve with the current executive group, looking to give back to the club and heritage that I so keenly hold on to.

My earliest memories of the club go back to the early 1970's, when my brother and I would drive to the New club building at 16 Andrew St., to

help, and watch my dad set up to play dances at the club with his band the Saphires. I remember going into the basement of the club with my brother and marveled at the smell of bricks and mortar. The basement had not yet been painted! 1984 was the first year that I attended Mitgliederabend. There, I performed as a member of the graduating Ballroom Dance group. This was and still is a necessary and mandatory step to be welcomed and transitioned into our still proud and strong Youth and Dance group, as had my parents several years before. I made lifelong friends, and cemented long lasting relationships while in the group, and still regularly see many of these people. Those were the days! I am also fortunate to have met my beautiful wife through interactions with other local German clubs. She is a Saxon/Gottscheer girl who danced with the Alpine Club Dancers, but had ties to both the Alpine and Transylvania clubs. She celebrated many of the same traditions and culture that I grew up with. My siblings have also married and raised their children within the club. For this we are all lucky. Many years have come and gone since that wonderful time, and we have celebrated many milestones as well. We have lost many loved ones, those near and dear to us, as well as many founding members. We have also lost our beloved building and cultural center on 16 Andrew St., yet our club and membership perseveres and still thrives to this day. This dispels the myth that a club and its membership privileges do not necessarily require a "home" building to

be relevant and viable. We thrive and continue our many Saxon traditions to this day!

Merriam-Webster dictionary describes a member as “someone or something that belongs to or is a part of a group, community or an organization.”

The Transylvania Club is absolutely fortunate to have a dynamic and active membership. Each and every member is equally important to an organization such as this one. We still have many active Untergruppen involved with the dedication of members and sub-committee members that keep these groups viable and active. Although membership numbers have fluctuated due to several factors. We can be proud that we as a club are still here today promoting the values and traditions of our Saxon culture and Heritage, such as hard work, integrity. Yes, we have seen a decline in our membership numbers; this is endemic to many cultural institutions like ours. Declining immigration to this area from traditional hotspots has stopped the flow of new Saxon members to our club, but we can be proud that we welcome anyone who wants to become member. Unfortunately, though, many former members have left and have not returned to active membership, only to return to the club for family celebrations or special occasions. Life has become increasingly hectic and busy, with people having other activities and interests as their families spread out, sometimes forgetting or moving away from our dear traditions and customs. I myself did not continue my membership at the club for several years, as life with a young family took hold. I have always felt a strong connection to our traditions and culture and did not forget those traditions. I didn't however feel the need to be a member. It turned out that I was wrong! Yes, life is different for my generation and all who are

coming after this. We don't have the same ties to the heritage that our parents and grandparents had. The club for them was a connection to family and culture that they had to leave behind in Europe and Siebenbuergen. It reminded them of home where they could speak our distinct Saxon Language, cook their delicious foods and practice other traditions. These days we have Canadian roots, and the Saxon heritage seems to become less relevant. It is upsetting for me to see this happen, but I understand it. As I stated earlier, I left the club but have since come back as a member. Heartstrings pulled me back, but it was the desire of my children to become active first with Ballroom dancing, then membership in the current edition of the Youth and Dance group. We, as a family have become very active in the club, as were my parents and grandparents before me. I honestly believe that the cultural exchange that I was involved through the Hofbrau Band and Dance group last year to Germany and Austria was a godsend to me! Thank you so much to John Werner and the Landsmannschaft for providing this opportunity for us. I was able to visit my mother's hometown Voecklabrueck in Austria. I met family in Austria and Germany and made several new friends, while visiting the various Saxon groups throughout these 2 wonderful countries. More importantly, for our youth, it provided an excellent opportunity to make friendships with their European counterparts. This will provide them with an opportunity to create endearing life-long bonds that exist today! Lifelong, happy experiences for sure, as I was able to experience this with my entire family. I am happy to see that our Saxon culture and identity is alive and well elsewhere!

A key question still remains. How can we keep our traditions and culture and Club relevant in this day and age? How can we get former members and families who have strayed to come back? These questions are not easily answered and possibly cannot be answered. For sure we need to keep our children and young adults engaged with our culture and traditions, something that is evident by involvement with the Kindergruppe and the Youth dance group with all of the activities that they do. The recent annual Easter Tradition by the youth involving Spritzen or Beschien comes to mind. This will ensure the survival of the culture that we hold dear, and is entirely possible! I have a few thoughts on this subject. In the modern day and age, information is broadcast instantaneously. Through the internet and Facebook, I have connected with many Saxon groups in Europe. I am amazed by how they keep traditions alive. Can we bring these ideas here? There are groups there that are teaching the Saxon dialect to young people. Could that happen here? I personally have a full understanding of and can speak some Saxon, to hold a conversation, but in general we are losing our language. Can we keep it from disappearing? Another group teaches about cooking. I remember all the mouth-watering Saxon food specialties that both

of my grandmothers made while growing up with fondness. These foods, as comforting and delicious as they are, are also disappearing. Why not start a cooking group here, to keep this distinct tradition alive. What about learning the skills to make Schnapps, Wine, or Sausage? Embroidery and stitching? How many young people can sew a Tracht shirt, or dress. Who still knows how to properly polish our Stievel to a bright shine? I implore you to make a concerted effort as a group, to keep these long-known traditions from dying. Who knows, this could re-invigorate membership, and bring people back home to continue to build a community where friends and family feel valued, appreciated and loved.

On a closing note, I am reminded of a saying that many of us may have in our homes, possibly cross-stitched by a family member, relative or friend. It reads, "Vergiss nie die Heimat, wo deine Wiege stand. Du findest in der Fremde kein zweites Heimatland." Don't forget where you come from, you will not find another home. Our culture and identity as Transylvania Saxons in Canada needs to, no MUST survive. I will try to do my part. Thank you for allowing me to indulge my thoughts. Have a great evening!

*Dave Emrich,
Veranstaltungsleiter*



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Mitglieder die ein Jubiläum oder einen Geburtstag bekannt geben wollen,
sollen sich bei den folgenden anmelden:

Members that would like to announce an anniversary/birthday or other special event are asked to contact:

Helgard Werner

519-884-7725

helgardrwner@gmail.com

Heidi Lowrick

519-662-1757

hlowrick@gmail.com

GEBURTSANZEIGE - BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS



Clara Jablonski

Extremely thrilled parents are Krista and
Pat Jablonski
and proud big brother Johnny.

Beautiful cousin to Keelan, niece to Andrea
and Mike Henry.

Oma and Opa are Hilda and Walter
Janzen and

Ur-Oma and -Opa are Mary and John
Klein.

She weighed 5 lbs 10 oz. and
was born May 4, 2017 in New Liskeard
(near Kirkland Lake).

MONTHLY BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

We wish to extend best wishes to the following members who
are celebrating a birthday in the months of June and July.
If you have a birthday in this month 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.

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Michael Emrich
Werner Thuring
Lori Moore
Lorraine Principi
Katharina Karst
Meaghan Voll
Susanna Gross
Heidi Peller-Oliver
Walter Bauer
George Emrich
Anna Korditsch
Claus Bendix
Edwin Lowrick
Wayne Steffen
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Peter Walesch

Annemarie Boehm
Monica Frim
Bea Abbott
Rosina Schmid
Erika Schmidt
James Abbott
Maria Drygala
Judith Penteker
Devin Plomp
Tina Torok
John Groh
Regina Breckner
Katherine Reale
Robert Brown
Richard Wolf
Peter Stolz

JULY BIRTHDAYS

Ingrid Drung
Amy Kube
Breanna Karst
Katharina Löwrick
Linda Jung
Chris Kube
Maria Suessmann
Robert Foster
Helmut Wolf
Anna Kremer
Maria Wagner
Joseph Egi
Elke Bidner

Sabrina Emrich
Marianne Grieger
Arlene Vandepas
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Folgende Mitglieder treffen sich monatlich für mehrere freiwillige Stunden um für Sie das Monatsblatt vorzubereiten. / The following members meet monthly and donate their time to bring you this informative and entertaining newsletter:

Helgard Werner, Käthe Löwrick, Anneliese Scherl, Maria Hamestuk, Käthe Dienesch und Käthe Werner.

Herausgeber/Editor: Heidi Löwrick

ACHTUNG! - ATTENTION! - ACHTUNG!

Einsendeschluss für die nächste Folge:
10. Juli 2017.

Articles for the next bulletin must be submitted by July 10th, 2017.

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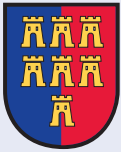
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