



OFFICERS (elected)

President:

Cindy Donovan

1ST VP (Activities):

Sylvia Marshall

2ND VP (Food):

Bev Dunnington

3rd Vice President

(Wagon Master):

Position Open

Secretary:

Connie Baynum

Treasurer:

Chuck Marshall

National Director:

Bob Tucker

CONTRIBUTORS

(Appointed)

Newsletter:

Lois Tucker

Membership/Roster:

Kay Dudding

Photographer

Position Open

Chaplain:

Kay Dudding



PRESIDENT

The weather at Lively Lady was great this year, and Mike and his family were very hospitable as always. Although there were health discussions, I do want to apologize for the long meeting on Saturday,

We now have a complete schedule for next year, which does include a long trip. Read on in the newsletter for more information. I would encourage everyone to note the date in your calendars and proceed with making reservations for those where they must be made directly with the campground as soon as possible. If you have ideas for where we might want to go in 2025, it is not too early to start research and make arrangements to reserve camp sites.

October rally at the FMCA Campground is full. Be thinking about getting your registration in for November.

Cindy Donovan, President norcin523@sbcglobal.net 317-508-2368

A Police Officer stopped a motorist who was speeding down Main Street. "Officer," the man began, "I can explain." "Just be quiet," The officer snapped. "I'm going to let you cool your heels in jail until the chief gets back." "But Officer, I just wanted to say..." "And I said to keep quiet! You're going to jail". A few hours later the officer looked in on his prisoner and said, "Lucky for you the chief's at his daughter's wedding. He'll be in a good mood when he gets back." "Don't count on it", the driver answered. "I'm the groom."





1ST VP (ACTIVITIES) CORNER

Follow The River Florence, Indiana November 8-11, 2023

Our last big rally of the year! Time really flies when you are having so much Fun! I am disappointed that I have been unable to attend this year due to family matters. I especially missed going to Lively Lady. That is always a great time. But I look forward to seeing all the old and new members sometime in the future.

Now onto a few of the activities near Follow The River

Finding Your Luck!

Belterra Casino - Just 2.5 miles west of campground

Things in Vevay, Indiana

Life on the Ohio River Museum, 210 E. Market St.

The museum depicts life on the Ohio River in the mid 1800's. There are maps, boat murals, artifacts, ledgers, and a collection of steamboat photographs to help illustrate this area's place in river history. Switzerland County was a regular stop at the height of the steamboat era (1850-1920).

Historical walk of Vevay! Get a map at the Information Center.

Schenck Mansion - Call to see if they have tours 812-427-2787 It was sold in 2020 and may now be a private residence. Outstanding example of the Second Empire style house. It is on the National Register of Historic Places. It was built by Benjamin Franklin Schenck in 1874 to the total cost of \$67,000!

Enjoy your time at Follow the River!

Sylvia Marshall, VP Activities redhawksgrad@aol.com 937-321-1696



Messenger

Monthly Newsletter of
Tri-State Travelers
A Chapter of Family Motor Coach Association

October 2023
Volume 23, Issue 10



I just made reservations at Artillery Ridge Campground and Horsepark for August 5-11, 2024.

610 Taneytown Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325, Phone: 717-334-1288

Website: Artilleryridge.com (be sure to check out the web site especially for park map)

Spots 47 to 60 Reserved, and all Lots are 70 feet long, pull through, and includes a picnic table. Plus Cabin #1 for Cindy

10% discount for our group or 10% Military or 10% for Good Sam Members (only one discount).

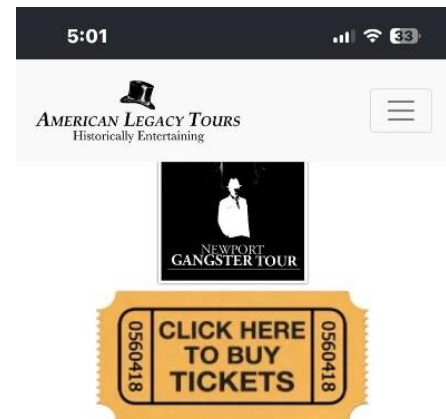
Cancellation: up to 10 days prior, you get all but \$15.00. After that you lose one night's deposit. Pavilion for gatherings, and Pool.

Two thirds of a mile to the Visitor Center. Restaurant is not on site but many nearby.

Check in: Anytime. Check out: 1:00 A deposit is needed to reserve a spot.

Please contact the campground and reserve your own spot by November 1st (2023) so we have an idea of how many are going.

These events are available at the FMCA Campground. Who would like to go on this tour either Friday Oct 13 or Sat Oct 14 as a TST group? It gets great reviews. It is 13 miles from FMCA campground. \$29.00 each.



Experience the streets where the mob made their fortunes, gamblers met their demise, and "ladies of the night" earned their reputations. Join our gangster guides for a lively, high-energy tour of Newport, KY's historic streets. The tour begins outside an illicit casino, where you'll learn how this small town gave rise to the modern gaming industry. The Newport Gangster Tour is among the most sought-after tours in greater Cincinnati and a must-do for history buffs and organized crime enthusiasts alike.

americanlegacytours.com



Messenger

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Brain Brew Custom Whiskey

Join us on Friday or Saturday between 1 pm and 8 pm to experience YOUR Bourbon YOUR Way!
Register for a Custom Bourbon Experience today at BrainBrewWhiskey.Com!

Join us and taste 6 award winning Bourbons, then blend them to create your custom Bourbon Recipe! What a great unique experience! Whether you create YOUR custom Bourbon recipe in our Experience course or by answering 13 questions with the AI App - WoodCraft Bourbon Wizard at myBourbonWizard.com - you can order YOUR custom Bourbon bottle and name it to take home and enjoy! For October rally, how many would be interested in a Distillery Experience at Brain Brew in Newtown





2nd Vice President (Food)

Please think about volunteering for this position. It really doesn't take much time.

- 1. Ask for volunteers to prepare a main dish for Friday and Saturday nights. They will be reimbursed.*
- 2. Ask for volunteers to prepare a side dish or a dessert for Friday and Saturday nights.*
- 3. If someone wants to make a special meal on these days, work with the 2nd VP usually, to spread the word and remind people to bring a side dish or a dessert. Hope to see you at the next rally Bev. Take care and stay healthy.*



3rd Vice President (Wagon Master): Position Open

Important Notice:

At present, we are still without a "Rally Master." Judy and I are overseeing the "Rally Master's" responsibilities and I am trying to stay ahead of things. PLEASE, you must verbally tell me if you need to cancel a registration. The cancellation must be verbally made to me before our money is due to the Campground. Thanks for your cooperation. Michael (Fuzzy) Overbeck, 513-200-4349



SECRETARY'S CORNER

Minutes from Tri State 2023 Annual Meeting

Our meeting was called to order by our President, Cindy Donovan, at 9:15 am at Lively Lady Campground, Aberdeen, Ohio.

SECRETARY'S REPORT - April 2023 minutes were read. Two corrections were noted to be changed. A motion was made to accept the minutes. All agreed.

TREASURER'S REPORT - Treasurer Chuck Marshall informed the group that our treasury is at a good balance. Connie Baynum asked if our balance could also be disclosed with the income/deduction report given monthly in the Newsletter. Discussion followed. Connie Baynum made a motion that the Balance of our Account be given orally twice a year at our Spring and Fall meetings. Fred Dudding seconded. All were in favor. Motion passed.

NATIONAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT - Fuzzy Overbeck as our appointed 2023 National Delegate, due to Bob Tucker's inability to attend, reported reasons that FMCA organization could be in trouble due to excessive past spending. The newly elected FMCA president is Gary Milner (formerly VP). Since the National election was held, two of our Tri-State Traveler long time volunteers, Fuzzy Overbeck and Ken Lewis, have been relieved of their previous FMCA duties. Discussion followed.

NEW BUSINESS -SURVEY - Connie Baynum informed the group that a simple 10 Question Survey is linked in her September Secretary's Corner of our Newsletter. This was created to share our Rally preferences with our upcoming 2024 members who volunteered to be a Rally Master. Discussion followed.

NEWSLETTER - Above discussion revealed there are members who do not know how to access our Newsletter. Fred Dudding made a motion to have Mark Griffith, TST IT person, attach a link to our newsletter monthly, when he sends out the Newsletter Email flash. Connie seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed.

NEW MEMBER PACKET - Also during the discussion, it was noted that there are new members who have not received emails from TST. A suggestion was made that a Welcome Packet for new members be created. This is something that can be initiated by Kay Dudding, Membership, and Connie Baynum, Secretary. It will need Board approval.

FACE BOOK PAGE - Brenda Kinnett asked that the old picture be changed. Fuzzy will talk to Mark about doing this. Brenda asked, "Why are their two FB pages?" Fuzzy explained that a former page cannot be taken down (according to FB guidelines). Our current information has been posted over the last two years on Tri-State Traveliers Camping Group. Please use this site only.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE - President Cindy Donovan asked for volunteers for a 2024 Nominating Committee. Herb Ashby, Michael (Fuzzy) Overbeck, and Jerry Baynum volunteered.

2024 RALLIES - Larry and Brenda Kinnett announced they would be Wagon Masters for August 2024 if there is enough interest for a rally in Gettysburg, PA. Many members expressed they liked this idea. Information will be posted by Kinnetts this week on Facebook, in our October Newsletter, and sent to all members with an Email flash.

Kerry Clifton & Karen Gadzala, May 2024 Wagon Masters, reviewed the details of the May 2024 rally in Archbold "Sauder Village", Archbold Ohio.

WINTER GATHERINGS - Candace Rice suggested we have winter gatherings organized. She volunteered to do this and asked for an assistant. The first winter TST gathering will be our annual holiday party on DECEMBER 10th hosted by Candace, Karen, and Brenda at the Kinnett's home in Loveland, Ohio. More information is coming next month.

MEETING ADJOURNED - A motion was made at 10:45 by Bob Tucker. All agreed.

Connie Baynum, Secretary Connie.jones.baynum@gmail.com 859-801-8489





TRI-STATE TRAVELIERS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Last name	Pilot First Name	Co-Pilot First Name
Name to be used on name tag		
Address	City	State Zip code
Area Code & Phone #	FMCA Number	Coach / Length
Anniversary	Pilot Birthday	Co-Pilot Birthday
Pilot email	Co-Pilot email	Recommended by

Winter Address

Return this application with yearly membership dues of \$15 plus \$25

Initiation fee payable to Tri-State Travelers to: (\$40.00)

Chuck Marshall, TST Treasurer

469 Bending Branch Lane

Miamisburg, Ohio 45342

For Chapter use:

Date: Ck#



Beverly Dunnington

The following are the items for Friday night dinner:

[Connie Baynum](#) - bratwurst and sauerkraut

Beverly - spareribs and sauerkraut

Candice - a crockpot of something else for those who don't like sauerkraut

Danah - 1 pkg. of mashed potatoes

Beverly - a dessert

We could use another crockpot of pork and sauerkraut. Also, we need 4 more members to bring a large container of mashed potatoes such as Bob Evans.

We need salads, side dishes and desserts.

Saturday night:

Danah - pot roast with carrots and potatoes

Patty D. - stuffed pepper soup

Beverly- chocolate caramel cake

Janet - Birthday cake and ice cream cups

We need more crockpots of pot roast or beef stew, salads, side dishes, and desserts.

Please let me know what you will bring.

Note - This is being posted on our web site also.

[Connie Ashby](#) Count me in on 2 large Bob Evans potatoes Friday dinner

[Karen Wietmarschen-Gadzala](#) I will bring family size mashed potatoe for Friday and dinner rolls and butter for

Candice V Rice

Would anyone like me to make a crockpot of something for those that don't like pork and sauerkraut? I love it, but I know that there are those that don't. Otherwise I will bring a crockpot of green beans to go with it. Or mashed potatoes, whichever one you need.

Patty Liska DelSorbo

I'll make my stuffed pepper soup





RALLY REGISTRATION FORM
FOLLOW THE RIVER CAMPGROUND
REGISTRATION DEADLINE NOVEMBER 3RD
NOVEMBER 8TH – 11TH, 2023

Members Name _____ Co-Pilot _____

FMCA# _____ Phone# _____

Coach/Towable Make _____ Length ___ 50amp ___ 30amp ___

Slide Out? Yes ___ No ___ How Many? ___ Towing a Car? Yes ___ No ___

Arrive: AM ___ PM ___

Please circle the day you will arrive and add your total payment below.

Wed, Thu, Fri, & Sat Full Hook Up \$60.00 per night \$ _____

Rally Fee (per person @ \$5.00) Count: _____ \$ _____

Total: \$ _____

Please Make Check Payable to : Tri-State Travelers

Please Mail Check and Completed Form To: Chuck Marshall
 469 Bending Branch Lane
 Miamisburg, Ohio 45342

Location address: 12273 Markland Town Rd. Florence, IN



TREASURER'S CORNER

Treasurers report

Hi Lois, here is this month's treasurer's report.

Income:

Rally Fees	\$2160.00
Honorarium	\$200.00
2024 Dues	\$105.00
Total income	\$2722.00

Expenses: rally

Fees	\$2650.00
Fuel Expenses to National __	\$450.00
Food for Rally	\$184.34
New Member Name Tags	\$38.82
Total expenses.....	\$3323.16

Dues for the year 2024 are due by December 31, 2023. You can mail a check for \$15.00 made out to Tri State Travelers to me at 469 Bending Branch Lane, Miamisburg, OH 45342. I will be at the FMCA rally for dinner on the 14th and at Follow the River on Friday and Saturday if you prefer to pay in person.

Chuck Marshall, Treasurer cjmjr45@aol.com 937-321-1695

First it was, alcohol kills Covid. Then heat may kill Covid. Now direct sunlight may kill Covid. So if you see me outside in my yard drunk, naked and laying in the sun, Mind your own business. I'm conducting important medical experiments.





Tri-State Traveliers 2023 Rally/Event Schedule

<u>Jan - Feb</u>	<u>Winter Dinner</u>		<u>TST</u>
<u>Jan 18 - 23</u>	<u>RV Super Show</u> <u>Tampa, FL</u>	<u>Register on FMCA</u>	
<u>Mar 15 - 18</u>	<u>FMCA's 106th Int'l Convention</u> <u>Perry, GA</u>	<u>Register on FMCA</u>	<u>FMCA</u>
<u>Apr 19 - 22</u>	<u>Natural Springs Resort</u> <u>New Paris, OH</u>	<u>Reservations by April 05, 2023</u>	<u>TST</u>
<u>May 17 - 20</u>	<u>Gummins Ferry RV Park</u> <u>Salvisa, KY</u>	<u>Reservations by April 01, 2023</u>	<u>TST</u>
<u>Jun 07 - 11</u>	<u>GLAMARAMA 2023</u> <u>Darke County Fairgrounds</u> <u>Greenville, OH</u>	<u>Register on FMCA</u>	<u>GLAMA</u>
<u>Jun 21 - 24</u>	<u>River Front RV</u> <u>New Richmond, Ohio</u>	<u>Reservations by Jun 01, 2023</u>	<u>TST</u>
<u>Jul 12 - 16</u>	<u>Two Rivers Campground</u> <u>Carrolton, KY</u>	<u>Reservations by July 01, 2023</u>	<u>TST</u>
<u>Aug 02 - 05</u>	<u>Whispering Hills</u> <u>Georgetown, KY</u>	<u>Reservations by May 15, 2023</u>	<u>TST</u>
<u>Aug 15 - 18</u>	<u>FMCA's 107th Int'l Convention</u> <u>Gillette, WY</u>	<u>Register on FMCA</u>	<u>FMCA</u>
<u>Sep 13 - 16</u>	<u>Lively Lady Campground</u> <u>Aberdeen, OH</u>	<u>Reservations by September 01, 2023</u>	<u>TST</u>
<u>Oct 11 - 14</u>	<u>FMCA Campground</u> <u>Newtown, OH</u>	<u>Reservations by October 01, 2023</u>	<u>TST</u>
<u>Nov 08 - 11</u>	<u>Follow The River RV Resort</u> <u>Florence, IN</u>	<u>Reservations by November 01, 2023</u>	<u>TST</u>





Tri-State Travelers 2024 Rally/Event Schedule

<u>Jan - Feb</u>	<u>Winter Dinner</u>		<u>TST</u>
<u>Jan 17 - 21</u>	<u>RV Super Show</u> <u>Tampa, FL</u>		
<u>Feb 07 - 10</u>	<u>Southeast Area Rally</u> <u>Lakeland, FL</u>	<u>Register on FMCA</u>	<u>FMCA</u>
<u>Mar 20 -23</u>	<u>FMCA's 108th Int'l Convention</u> <u>Tucson,AZ</u>	<u>Register on FMCA</u>	<u>FMCA</u>
<u>Apr 17 - 20</u>	<u>Natural Springs Resort</u> <u>New Paris, OH</u>	<u>Reservations by >>>>>>>, 2024</u>	<u>TST</u>
<u>May 15 - 19</u>	<u>Sauder Village</u> <u>Arthbold, OH</u>	<u>Reservations by2024</u>	<u>TST</u>
<u>Jun 05 - 09</u>	<u>GLAMARAMA 2024</u> <u>Darke County Fairgrounds</u> <u>Greenville, OH</u>	<u>Register on FMCA</u>	<u>GLAMA</u>
<u>Jun 19 - 23</u>	<u>Cummins Ferry RV Park</u> <u>Salvisa, KY</u>	<u>Reservations by >>>>>, 2024</u>	<u>TST</u>
<u>Jul 10 - 13</u>	<u>Two Rivers</u> <u>Carrolton, KY</u>	<u>Reservations by July 1, 2024</u>	<u>TST</u>
<u>Aug 05 - 11</u>	<u>Artillery Ridge Campground & Horsepark</u> <u>Gettysburg, PA 717-334-1288</u>	<u>Reservations Call Them</u>	<u>TST</u>
<u>Aug 14 - 17</u>	<u>FMCA's 109th Int'l Convention</u> <u>Deschutes County Fair & Expo</u> <u>Redmond, Oregon</u>	<u>Register on FMCA</u>	<u>FMCA</u>
<u>Sept</u>	<u>Lively Lady Campground</u> <u>Aberdeen, OH</u>	<u>Reservations by >>>>>>>, 2024</u>	<u>TST</u>
<u>Oct 09 - 14</u>	<u>Timbercrest RV Park</u> <u>Millersburg, OH</u>	<u>Reserve on your own 2024</u>	<u>TST</u>
<u>Nov</u>	<u>Follow The River RV Resort</u> <u>Florence, IN</u>	<u>Reservations by >>>>>>> >>, 2024</u>	<u>TST</u>

Dear paranoid people who check behind their shower curtains for murderers, if you do find one, what's your plan?



National Director:

Message from Ken Lewis:

As all of you should know, our Area Secretary was elected to the position of FMCA National Secretary. It is therefore necessary to hold a special election via zoom meeting on Monday, November 6th at 7PM. to fill this vacancy. Prior to this election, we are in need of a candidate to finish Pamela's term which began at the 2023 GLAMA Business Meeting. I ask each Chapter National Director and Regional Vice President to solicit candidates and respond by Friday, October 13th in an email report, your candidate, or a negative response that you have no candidate. Upon receipt of this nominating effort, a slate of candidates will be prepared for presentation at the vote on November 6th.

I appreciate your efforts in providing candidates for this important position. Please respond either with a candidate or report of no candidate by the date of October 13th. A separate email will be forwarded to each of you with the zoom meeting log-in instructions for the Nov 6th meeting.

We all had an enjoyable time at Lively Lady and as of September 23, the October rally is Sold Out. Do not forget and make your reservation for Follow the River in November.

Thought I Would list some international/area rallies you might be interested in: Tampa Super Show January 17/21; February 7/10 Southeast Area Rally (SEA) Lakeland FL; FMCA 108th March 20/23, Tucson AZ; INTO Rally May 17/21; INTO Rally, Muskogee OK; GLAM June 5/9, Greenville OH.

Stay Safe.

Bob Tucker, National Director bobtucker31@hotmail.com 703-338-9749





Editor's Corner:

As you know, Bob and I are all military. Thus, I included the following hoping we 'NEVER FORGET' what happened on:

Two 9/11 victims identified more than two decades after World Trade Center attacks



Story by Spencer Kimball

Smoke pours from the Twin Towers of the World Trade Center after they were hit by two hijacked airliners in a terrorist attack in New York City, Sept. 11, 2001. © Provided by CNBC

A man and a woman who perished at the World Trade Center in the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks have been identified, New York City officials said.

The remains of 1,104 victims, or 40% of those who died in attacks, still have not been found nearly 22 years after the al-Qaida terrorists hijacked commercial airlines and crashed them into the Twin Towers in lower Manhattan. The attacks on the World Trade Center killed more than 2,700 people.

Two victims who perished in the World Trade Center have been identified more than two decades after the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. New York City's chief medical examiner said Friday.

Their names are being withheld at the request of their families, officials said. They are the 1,648th and 1,649th victims whose remains have been identified since 2001.

The remains of 1,104 victims, or 40% of those who died in the attacks, still have not been found nearly 22 years after al-Qaida terrorists hijacked commercial airlines and crashed them into the

Twin Towers in lower Manhattan. The towers were destroyed in the attacks, leaving more than 2,700 people dead.

Dr. Jason Graham, New York City's chief medical examiner, described the painstaking effort to identify the victims' remains as "the largest and most complex forensic investigation" in U.S. history.

Investigators have spent decades using DNA testing to identify tens of thousands of remains recovered from the Ground Zero disaster site. More than 30% of the remains recovered are still unidentified, according to the medical examiner's office.

Graham said in a statement Friday that the medical examiner's office has made a "solemn pledge" to return the remains of those who perished to their loved ones.

The identification of the man was confirmed through DNA testing of remains recovered in 2001. The woman was identified through the testing of remains recovered in 2001, 2006 and 2013.

The announcement that two victims were identified comes three days before the anniversary of the attacks. The man and the woman are the first new identifications since September 2021.

Less than an hour after the attacks on the Twin Towers, al-Qaida terrorists crashed a third commercial airliner into the Pentagon, killing 184 people.

Passengers in a fourth hijacked airliner heading for the nation's capital fought for control of the plane. United Airlines Flight 93 crashed in a field outside Shanksville, Pennsylvania, killing all 40 people on board.

In the wake of the attacks, the U.S. went to war in Afghanistan where the leader of al-Qaida, Osama bin Laden, was sheltered by the Taliban. The Bush administration subsequently invaded Iraq to overthrow Saddam Hussein, who had no connection to the attacks. More than 6,700 U.S. troops died in those wars.

Bin Laden was killed by U.S. forces during a raid in Pakistan in 2011. The Biden administration withdrew the U.S. military from Afghanistan in 2021 and the Taliban returned to power after the collapse of the U.S.-backed government in Kabul.





MEMBERSHIP'S CORNER

Please let [us](#) know if your birthdays or anniversaries are incorrect.

October Birthdays	October Anniversaries
10/01 Allen Donahue	10/02 John and Linda Ross
10/01 Cassie Womer	10/04 Mike and Judy Overbeck
10/06 Larry Kinnett	10/04 Preston and Renee Watkins
10/08 Tina Joslyn	10/12 Greg and Brenda Marlin
10/22 Robert Goh	10/14 Fred and Kay Dudding
10/23 Jan Bitz	10/20 Tom and Paula Horne
10/31 Sara Cron	10/24 Avery and Debbie Adams

Kay Dudding, Membership rev2by2@msn 937-232-5959

Please welcome our new members:
David & Tina Joslyn



Hi
 there
 friend





Messenger

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On Sale for \$20. There could be an upcharge for larger sizes. Send your order to Judy Overbeck

Shirt A



Shirt B



Shirt C



How About this?

The Mysterious Deaths of 6 Historical Figures were Whom?

HOW ABOUT THE Fifth ONE?

Edgar Allan Poe, Mickey Mouse, Alexander the Great, Mozart Cisco Kid, Napoleon,
Amelia Earhart, Adolf Hitler, Harry Truman, Christopher Marlowe

5. Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart — December 5, 1791



Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart circa 1789. Credit: Hulton Archive via Getty Images.

Was Mozart's death caused by a pork chop, a sexually transmitted disease, poisoning by a jealous rival—or none of the above?

The [famed composer](#) first began showing signs of his final illness in the fall of 1791. He was overworked, underfunded, and depressed. He was working on the *Requiem* commissioned by a mysterious benefactor that July when he began having what some have described as stomach and joint pain. By November 20, he took to his bed. His body began to swell badly, and emitted a foul odor. His wife and sister-in-law made him a special garment with an opening at the back just so he would be easier to change. By the evening of December 4, he was starting to show signs of delirium. His doctor was summoned, and when he arrived bled Mozart (standard practice for just about any ailment back then) and applied a cold poultice to his forehead. The composer fell unconscious and died five minutes before one in the morning on December 5. He was 35. The last sounds ever made were an attempt to mimic one of the drum parts from his unfinished *Requiem*.

The official diagnosis was acute miliary fever (*miliary* refers to a rash with spots the size of millet seeds). But within a week, a Berlin newspaper reported that Mozart might have been poisoned. In fact, Mozart's wife said that her husband had lamented months before his death, "I know I must die, someone has given me [acqua toffana](#) [a compound of arsenic and other toxins] and has calculated the precise time of my death", for which they have ordered a requiem, it is [for] myself I am writing this."

The main culprit in the supposed poisoning scheme is often said to be the composer Antonio Salieri, one of Mozart's rivals. Though the theory faded after Mozart's death, it resurfaced with new energy in the 20th century thanks to Peter Shaffer's 1979 play *Amadeus* and the 1984 film adaptation. In [some versions](#) of the tale, Salieri is said to have commissioned the *Requiem* himself, with plans to pass it off as his own after murdering Mozart. But Salieri strongly denied any involvement, telling a pupil of Beethoven's who visited his deathbed, "I can assure you on my word of honor that there is no truth in that absurd rumor; you know that I was supposed to have poisoned Mozart." Others have accused the Freemasons, who supposedly poisoned Mozart, one of their own, because he revealed their secret symbolism in his opera *The Magic Flute*.

Mackowiak, however, considers a Masonic involvement unlikely, in part because others involved in *The Magic Flute* lived for decades, and because Mozart's lodge held a ceremony for him after his death, and supported his widow. Furthermore, the most likely poisons in use at the time wouldn't have caused the kind of severe, general swelling Mozart experienced, which is known as anasarca.

Others have suggested syphilis, which was an epidemic in Mozart's day, and sometimes included a low-grade fever and rash. That disease also attacks the kidneys, and was frequently treated with mercury, which would have led to further kidney deterioration and could have caused anasarca. But Mozart was a workaholic who had no time to play around, and by all accounts loved his wife Constanze dearly. According to Mackowiak, there is no credible evidence either partner ever had an affair. A less-salacious theory [argues](#) that Mozart was killed by an undercooked pork cutlet, or more specifically, trichinosis. It is known that Mozart consumed a pork meal shortly before falling ill. But trichinosis—which comes from the parasite *Trichinella*—usually causes muscle pain, which Mackowiak thinks family members would have remembered and included in their descriptions of the composer's last days.

Whatever the illness, Mozart was not the only one in Vienna to suffer it; Mackowiak notes that there was a cluster of similar cases at the time. One plausible diagnosis, Mackowiak and [other researchers](#) argue, is post-streptococcal glomerulonephritis. An inflammatory disorder of the glomeruli (a network of capillaries in the kidneys) that follows infection with the *Streptococcus* bacteria. It can appear as part of an epidemic and cause the kind of swelling Mozart suffered from. While not normally fatal with the more common Strep bacteria (the type that causes Strep throat), glomerulonephritis that follows infections with *Streptococcus equi*—which normally affects horses, and sometimes cows—can cause kidney failure and death.

Humans often get it from consuming milk or milk products from infected cows, which explains the epidemic nature. Kidney failure would also explain Mozart's stench, likely caused by the waste products that build up in the blood, sweat, and saliva when kidneys stop working. Sadly, since both medical records and Mozart's skeleton (well, most of it, [probably](#)) have been lost, it's once again likely that a full understanding of Mozart's death will remain forever out of reach.

