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# Lieblinger Verein of Chicago Newsletter

[www.lieblingerchicago.com](http://www.lieblingerchicago.com)

Our 81st Year, 1939-2020

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## SPECIAL CORONAVIRUS EDITION – V

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*Buwe, was hun m'r heit?*

Certainly NOT Kirchweih – unfortunately. As you all know by now, we have cancelled our annual Kirchweihfest. What a shame. Like so many of you, I always looked forward to our traditional event, and seeing so many Lieblingers and other Donauschwaben. I will miss the Goulasch and the Wurst mit Kraut as well as dancing to waltzes and polkas. Most of all, though, I will miss the marchers in tracht – both the Kinder and the Jugends. And of course, I will miss the fun and excitement of auctioning the Rosemary Strauss. October 2020 will just have to pass without this tradition. For any of you who may be longing for a little nostalgia of Kirchweih, I recommend viewing the videos that were taken during our big 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Kirchweih in 2014. Thanks to Curt Yearwood, we have videos of the two Aufmarsches. There is also a video of the Strauss auction. You can find these by visiting our website ([www.lieblingerchicago.com](http://www.lieblingerchicago.com)). In the top menu there is a choice for 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Once clicked, you will find 3 links – one for each of the videos. Enjoy!

And, in case you missed the announcement letter recently sent out, our October and November meetings have been cancelled. Since we normally hold general elections at the November Meeting, all Officers and elected Committee Members have

agreed to stay on in their roles until such time as we can reconvene our monthly membership meetings and conduct elections. I want to thank all of the Officers and Committee Members for their continued support and dedication to our club! And while we have not yet officially cancelled our annual Christmas Party, we will have updated information when the group convenes, remotely, this coming Sunday to make the decision. We will let all members know after that October 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting and also post a notice on our website. So, until we can all meet again, I wish everyone continued happiness and health.

Rick Stumpf - [rick@rickstumpf.us](mailto:rick@rickstumpf.us)

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### Birthdays Celebrated in September

Nancy Holl, George Helwich, James Reichert, Lauren Lehnhardt, Kimberly Schaefer, Christy Schubkegel, and Kaethe Erk

### Anniversaries Celebrated in September

Rick and Vicky Stumpf celebrated their 37<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary and Mike and Nancy Holl celebrated their 34<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary.

If we missed your birthday in September, please let me know and if you are celebrating a birthday or anniversary or some other special event in October, please email me [Bettiesch@aol.com](mailto:Bettiesch@aol.com)

Sure miss seeing all of you at the meetings and especially will miss seeing so many members at our Kirchweihfest... because sadly, our Club, like others had to cancel their Kirchweih. Thanks to Curt Yearwood for video taping our 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Kirchweihfest and for Jason & Jennifer Vaccarello and Rick Stumpf for putting them on You Tube. You can access the 3 You Tube videos on your Smart TV (or if you have Roku) by searching Kirchweih Chicago-2014- Adult, Kirchweih Chicago-2014- Kids' March, and Kirchweih Chicago-2014 Strauss. So, on the day of Kirchweih, make some goulasch/and or sausage, put on the You Tube video of our 2014 Kirchweih and relive and enjoy all the excitement of our Anniversary Kirchweih Celebration. On a personal note, while checking out the You Tube videos, I played a portion of the kids' march for my grandsons and they got a big kick in seeing how small they were and had fun watching themselves. I am sure that your family will enjoy watching these videos as well!

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*On September 13, 2020 the Officers and Committee Members met on Google Meet to conduct Club business*

#### Highlights from that Meeting:

*A moment of silence was held to honor the passing of Andreas Schubkegel, our long standing Liebling Member and former President of the Club. Mr. Schubkegel passed away after our last meeting in July so we wanted to acknowledge his passing.*

*Discussion of how to create and protect an ebook of our Liebling Cookbook recipes with plans to make it available on our website.*

*Rick Stumpf reported that he has updated our Lieblingchicago.com website with additional pictures, past newsletters and will be adding the Liebling Ornament for purchase through the site.*

*A decision was made to have Rick send out letters to all members saying that all Officers and Committee Members will retain their positions until a General*

*Election can be held and the Club can resume in-person meetings.*

*Also included in that letter to members will be the names of the new members to be voted in asking members if there is any opposition to their membership. The new member Nominations are: Nichole Carrasquillo Stumpf, Kim (Stumpf) Masters, and Carl Masters (Kim's husband)*

*The Club will continue the program of Kirchweih Sponsorships for the Kirchweih despite not actually holding the Kirchweih. There are 3 levels of sponsorships to help support the club. Platinum - \$100, Gold- \$50, and Silver -\$25. We will thank and list all of our sponsors in the newsletter.*

*Checks should be made payable to: Liebling Pleasure Society, and mail to Heidi Atkinson, 7N290 Fox Bend Drive, Campton Hills, IL. 60175*

#### Keeping the Story Alive by Katie

##### Kerwei

*As with most new settlements in Austria-Hungary, the premier event after the founding of the village was the completion and dedication of the church. Following three years of construction which began in 1820, Liebling's Lutheran Church was dedicated on October 19, 1823, amid great celebration. The church was the largest Lutheran church located in a Banater village, and it was erected in the largest Protestant village of Banat. Upon its dedication it was agreed that Liebling's Kirchweihfest (the festival for the founding of the church) would be held annually on the Sunday following the Theresia name-sake day, which was October 15. Kirchweih in Liebling also corresponded with the end of the corn harvest and the growing season, another cause for celebration. As work in the fields slowly came to an end, the first order of preparation for Kerwei was painting the home exteriors and whitewashing the tree trunks along the streets. The still warm, dry*

days of October were the perfect time for this annual task. The work of preparing the Tracht (traditional dress) for the Kirchweihfest was labor intensive. Each teenaged girl and young woman wore four distinct Trachten to the three dances and the church service during Kerwei. On display was not only the Tracht's fine workmanship of each handcrafted piece, but also the family's financial investment into the luxurious fabrics. Every detail and every pleat was given full attention and was worn with great pride. The wearer also carried a sprig of rosemary. Around noon on Saturday of Kerwei, work stopped in the fields perhaps until the following Tuesday. The workers hurried home to care for their animals, clean up yards and houses, and to finalize preparations for the day ahead. That evening a regular meal was shared, then the young people dressed for the first night of dancing wearing their regular dance attire known as, "Sonntags Tanz Tracht". On the Sunday morning of the Kirchweih, almost every soul in Liebling attended the ten o'clock church service wearing the traditional "Sonntags Tracht", the dark formal church attire. Following the service, families returned home for the four course Sunday meal of beef soup, beef with horseradish sauce, pork roast with potatoes and vegetables or roast duck with plums, and fancy torte. After the mid-day meal, the girls and young women dressed in their finest "Kerwei Tanz Tracht", the Kirchweih dance Tracht, for the afternoon dances. Girls wore pleated satin overskirts in red, pink, white, green, or turquoise blue over 3-4 pleated and starched petticoats. Included were a fine white blouse with tall pleated and starched sleeves, an embroidered dark vest in velvet or satin, a delicate satin shawl with silk fringe, a blue satin apron with black lace, and thin light-colored knee socks. This outfit best resembles the Tracht worn at today's Kerwei, however, today cashmere shawls are often worn in place of satin shawls. Men wore black suits with a white shirt and no hats to dances. By quarter to one on Sunday afternoon, the streets were filled with well-dressed teenaged girls, boys, and young married couples who walked to their dance halls while families watched

from their homes and benches. In the tavern the music commenced promptly at one o'clock with the playing of the beloved Strauss waltz, "An der schönen blauen Donau", The Blue Danube. Dancing then continued until late afternoon. When the music ended, the girls and young married couples walked home for a quick meal and to change their Tracht. Meanwhile an age-group of boys would hire the band to play at a boy's home while they had dinner and waited for their girls to join them. When the girls arrived they wore white aprons with their Tracht, in celebration of the extra party. All the youth of Liebling reassembled at their taverns in the evening for the final night of dancing, which continued into the early hours of Monday morning. On this last night of Kerwei the girls wore the "Kerwei Oued Tanz Tracht", the Kirchweih evening dance attire, which included flowered cashmere pleated overskirts all in the same color, and a blue, green, or brown flowered cashmere shawl. Many of today's familiar traditions of Kirchweihfest were not found in Liebling before the second World War. After consulting multiple reliable Liebling sources, there were no references to a Kirchweih Strauss with ribbons, an auction, a march, nor boy's decorated hats. My primary source confirmed that, and stated that upon arriving in Chicago in 1950, these elements were at the Liebling Verein's Kirchweih, perhaps being adopted from other Banater Donauschwaben. In time, a rosemary Strauss decorated with ribbons, its auction, and an Aufmarch with girls in Tracht and boys with decorated hats became part of the Liebling Kerwei not only in Chicago, but in Canada, in Germany, and even in Liebling.

### Events:

**Kirchweih – cancelled**

**November Meeting - cancelled**

**Christmas Party - pending**

Editor: Bettie Schaefer, Contributor: Katie Amundsen