

Lieblinger Verein of Chicago Newsletter

www.lieblingerchicago.com

Our 80th Year, 1939-2019

Lieblingers: Old & New

Last month, the title of this column was "Traditions: Old & New." I wrote about how we are actively creating a bridge by both celebrating the old traditions of our immigrant families as well as embracing some new traditions we are establishing.

A couple weeks ago we held our 3rd annual Lieblinger Leadership Team Meeting. (I am proud to be part of a team that is so deeply committed to keeping our club strong). We had very productive discussions about a variety of topics. I can report to you that the state of our Verein is strong and stable. Financially, we have neither lost nor gained significantly over the past 5+ years. We do, however, need to be looking to the future.

The Leadership Team spent a considerable amount of time discussing ideas of how to attract more of the younger generation of Lieblingers. Last year we made some changes to our Annual August Picnic – some successful, some not so much. We will continue to build on the good ideas and improve on the others. We want to make this one of many events that is more relevant to younger members. We also have a new Webmaster who will be upgrading our website. A new Lieblinger Group has also been established on Facebook! (Thanks, Cheryl). During our discussion someone pointed out that since we in the leadership team have been called "The Young Lieblingers," the group we are reaching out to are actually "The New Lieblingers."

This year we celebrate the 80th anniversary of our Chicago club. We are planning a banquet and hope that everyone will attend. (Details are not yet final but the tentative date is Sunday May 5th in the afternoon). 2019 also marks the 75th anniversary of the "Flucht" – the mass exodus of more than 2,000 Lieblingers, mostly women & children. These events give us an opportunity to remember and honor "The Old Lieblingers." They also afford us a great opportunity to establish a bridge to "The New Lieblingers."

Rick Stumpf
rick@rickstumpf.us



Rick Stumpf, presiding at the January Meeting



Eva Leber, Kathryn Kastory, Kaethe Erk, Eva Schmidt, and Madgalena Schaefer



Guenther Schmidt, Jim Wagner, Joe Schubkegel, George Schubkegel and David Steeb serving at the bar and enjoying snacks brought by members.

Meeting Summary/Highlights:

The 1,032 meeting of the Liebling Club was held on January 6, 2019. A moment of silence was observed for our dearly departed members, Martin Helwich and Fred Hedrich. Madgalena Schaefer sponsored the luncheon and dessert in celebration of her 69th year as a member of the Liebling Club; the longest tenure of any member. The English version of the statuten was passed out at the Christmas Party to members attending. Members that did not attend will be mailed their copy, which should be stapled into the membership book. Motions voted on at the Meeting: To celebrate the Club's 80th Anniversary with a luncheon and dance. To have a Kirchweihfest this year on October 12th and to check on the availability of the band, Paloma, to play at the Kirchweihfest.

At our January Meeting, Vicky Stumpf, asked Mrs. Blechschmidt if she would share with the younger members how New Year's Eve and New Year's Day was celebrated in Liebling. This question started an interesting discussion by the younger members about some of the traditions that were passed down by their grandparents.

We would love for our members to share their memories of Liebling Club Events; Kirchweihfest, Christmas Parties, Picnics, etc. or your family's Liebling traditions. If you are a senior member, we would love if you shared what life was like in Liebling.

Your memories will be shared in a new Feature, REMEMBERING...

Please email them to Bettiesch@aol.com or if you receive your newsletter by mail, you can mail them to me using my return address on the envelope.

We look forward to seeing you at the next Liebling Club Meeting on February 3, 2019!

Remembering...

New Year's Eve and New Year's Day in Liebling by Kaethe Blechschmidt:

On New Year's Eve the musicians would play music under the windows of homes... this was how the old year ended and then they would play music under the windows for the New Year.

On New Year's Day, the young men and women would travel by wagon, they would have 6 horses. The horses would be decorated with flowers by the girls. The young people would visit all the relatives and friends and get sausage and cookies and Kecheler.

Anniversaries and Birthdays:



Jim Wagner, Elaine Grossich, Rick J. Katie Amundsen, Kaethe Blechschmidt, Bettie Schaefer, Rick Stumpf, and Owen and Karen Rill



Our very young members Lavinia and George at the meeting.