

Lieblinger Verein of Chicago Newsletter

www.lieblingerchicago.com

Our 81st Year, 1939-2020

SPECIAL CORONAVIRUS EDITION - III

'Til We Meet Again...

By now you have all heard that our Club has cancelled our August Picnic Meeting, as well as our annual Kirchweihfest. These were difficult decisions that your officers and committee members had to make - but they had to be made. Many members of our club are in their 70's, 80's and even 90's! I would be hard pressed to state that none of them are vulnerable. And, then there are the other senior members - us "young" Lieblingers. Although I don't feel like it, technically I am also in the high risk group. And, so it goes. This is just how we need to proceed for a while longer. However, this too shall pass. We all just need to stay on the path of keeping the virus from spreading...long enough to let the doctors and scientists develop a vaccine, which hopefully is only several months away. Fortunately, we still have our health, and a few more months of diligence on our part can keep it that way! By the time you receive this newsletter, it will have been about 5 months since we held a monthly meeting. Wow! I have spoken to numerous members during that time and while we all miss our gatherings and comradery, everyone has been resolved to what our current normal is. For some of us it means keeping in touch by phone. Others by texting, and yet, others by video phone chat, Facebook Messenger and "zoom" meetings. These are important activities and I want to make sure we all recognize

the value of social interaction. Find a way to make contact with a friend or loved one. It will do you both a world of good. In fact, you'll see in Bettie's report a little further into the newsletter that the Officers and Committee Members held a virtual meeting (via Google Meet). Not only was it productive, but it was a whole lot of fun. We must have spent the first 15 minutes just getting reacquainted. I highly recommend it. It may just be how we conduct some of our meetings for a few more months, and that's OK. The news around the Lieblinger world is the same. Lieblinger clubs all over have cancelled almost all of their meetings and activities for 2020. For now, we still have not cancelled our September, October and November Meetings, nor the Annual Christmas Party. There is still time to consider what can be done or can't be done. We will keep you advised of any changes. But for the time being, enjoy Summer! Get outside. Talk to friends. Have some ice cream. Grill a Bratwurst. We will get back together soon enough and like when we were kids returning to school in September, what stories we'll be able to tell about what we did during "The Great Pandemic!"

Rick Stumpf - rick@rickstumpf.

Members are reminded to pay their yearly membership dues of \$5.00. Checks should be payable to the "Lieblinger Pleasure Club" and can be mailed to Johanna Swiontek, 1112 Thomas More Terrace, Mount Prospect, IL. 60056.

GREETINGS TO ALL OF YOU!

I sure miss our meetings and enjoying an afternoon with members...now friends. When we are able once again to hold meetings safely, I encourage you to attend a meeting, if you have not in the past, because we have a great time...whether playing bunco, having a drink and snack at the bar or sharing a joke or two.

A big thank you to Rick Stumpf for writing and distributing the Covid Editions of our newsletter while I was dealing with some health issues. I also want to thank Katie Amundsen for the articles she wrote...they were very interesting and informative about life in Liebling. I hope you enjoyed them as much as I did. Please see the new *Keeping the Story Alive* written by Katie for this Edition.

In case you missed the email from our President, Rick, the Officers and Committee Members met on Sunday, July 12th, via Google Meet to conduct some Club business.

Here are the highlights from that meeting:

We acknowledged the passing of one of our members, Mrs. Katharina Just. We offer our deepest condolences to the Just and Hedrich families.

Johanna Swiontek said that some members have not yet paid their yearly dues of \$5.00.

The August meeting/picnic has been cancelled. The Officers and Committee Members do not feel they can provide a safe environment for the members, especially the elderly.

The Kirchweihfest has been cancelled. The Officers and Committee Members regretfully had to make this decision based on the fact that large gatherings are prohibited at this time and in the foreseeable future. Our Kirchweihfest is our Annual Fundraiser and we count on having a large turn-out to be successful...to hold a Kirchweihfest with smaller numbers would cost the Club money.

The Christmas Party was discussed...no decision was made at this time whether it can be held.

Andreas Schubkegel, one of our long-standing Liebling Members and former President of the Club passed away on July 22nd. Mr. Schubkegel was an Officer of the Club for 31 years. He served as Treasurer from 1969-1973, Finance Secretary in 1983, First Vice President in 1976 -1982, and 1984 -1992. Mr. Schubkegel was President from 1993- until 2001. Our deepest condolences to the Schubkegel family.

We always celebrate the Birthdays and Wedding Anniversaries of our members at our meetings. We would like to acknowledge and celebrate the Birthdays and Wedding Anniversaries of our Members for the months of April, May, June and July since our last meeting was in March.

Birthdays Celebrated:

April:

Eva Schmidt, Magdalena Schaefer, Brittney Schaefer, Dorothy Nagelbach, and Delores Eberle

May:

Heidi Atkinson, Konrad Schmidt, Walter Helwich, and Natalie Rill

June:

Katie Amundsen, Adam Helwich, Mary Wagner, Logan Rill, and Billy Lehnhardt

July:

Fred Hedrich, Jr., Bill Lehnhardt, Lavinia Helwich and Braden Lehnhardt

Wedding Anniversaries:

April:

Konrad and Eva Schmidt celebrated their 68th Wedding Anniversary.

May:

Roger and Cheryl Falk celebrated their 2nd Wedding Anniversary

Cathy and Joe Schubkegel celebrated their 40th Wedding Anniversary

John and Barbara Nebl celebrated their 59th Wedding Anniversary

June:

Georgene and Walter Helwich celebrated their 42nd Wedding Anniversary

July:

Dave and Liz Steeb celebrated their 48th Wedding Anniversary

John and Bettie Schaefer celebrated their 47th Wedding Anniversary

If we missed your Birthday or Anniversary in April, May, June or July, please let me know and we will post it in our next newsletter. Also, if you have a Birthday or Wedding Anniversary coming up in August, or any other announcement, please let me know so we can acknowledge your special day or event.

Keeping the Story Alive

By Katie

Village Services

Many aspects of life in Liebling can be traced back to the Middle Ages, a time when Liebling's forefathers originally resided in German provinces such as Württemberg, Hessen, Pfalz and other areas. Among the most quaint customs which were practiced in Liebling are several traditional community services which are also found in other cultures.

Daily in the spring, summer, and fall, the town's pigs and cows were walked out of the village to surrounding common pastures. Several Romanian

swine herders began walking early in the morning through each street summoning pigs by blowing a tin horn. With the help of dogs, the swine were herded out in the morning and back home at dusk.

Following the pigs, the dairy cattle were called from Main Street by the tin horns of cow herders. As each home released their cows, the herders lead the animals to pastures north and south of Liebling called "Hutwaud" or "Hutweide", where they grazed during the day. At dusk the cows returned to town and like the pigs, found their own way home to be fed by their owners.

The town crier of Liebling was called "the little mayor" or sometimes "the drummer" as he had a small drum which he sounded when he walked through the village to call inhabitants to gather for news. The town crier announced official news of the village, for example houses for sale, land for sale, or who butchered a cow and was selling its meat.

The lamplighter lit Main Street's petroleum lamps every night at dusk. The lamps provided a warm glow to guide villagers on evening visits and provided a place for the older boys to meet friends at the corners of the streets.

The Liebling Church rang "the prayer bell" at dusk to call all to prayer and daily devotions. The prayer bell also reminded the children to return home, as it was their curfew.

Imagine the sounds and sights of Liebling as these age-old daily customs provided the comforts of order, tradition, and timeless service to 5,000 villagers.

Also, email me, Bettiesch@aol.com if you know of a member who is ill and could use some cheering up by receiving a get well card from Club members.

Events:

August Meeting-Picnic – cancelled
Kirchweih – cancelled