

Lieblinger Verein of Chicago Newsletter

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

Our 79th Year, 1939-2018

NOVEMBER at the CLUB



Happy birthday to Eva Leber!



Officers of the Verein:

Mary Wagner, Secretary

Rick Stumpf, President

Katie Amundsen, Vice-President

Johanna Swiontek, Finance Secy

Heidi Atkinson, Treasurer

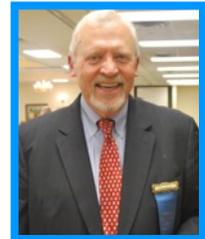
John Schaefer, Vice-President

The President's Message

Let's give thanks.

By the time you receive this, we will have celebrated Thanksgiving - a time traditionally spent with family. It's a day where we are reminded of the gifts that we have and to give thanks for the blessings we have been given. For us Lieblingers, there is much to be thankful for. Seventy-four years ago our parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles packed up their belongings and fled ahead of the advancing Red Army. Their hopes and expectations were that the evacuation would be temporary and they would return to their homes. But that was not their final reality.

Of course, the Lieblingers eventually settled in many different countries around the world and made new homes. Although many of their possessions could not be taken with them, the most important things they did bring with them were their work ethic and devotions to family. It is with this backdrop that those in my generation were raised. Our parents instilled in us the value of hard work and the touchstone that family provides us throughout our years.



As much as I have tried, I just can't imagine what they endured as they made the bold and daring trip to come to America. Their courageous journey to start a new life almost half way around the world from Liebling must have been filled with angst. But, as we know, they persevered and as they say, the rest is history. I would like to personally thank all of those brave Lieblingers who made the difficult decisions and then kept their traditions and values alive and taught them to us. Thank you.

Rick Stumpf

rick@rickstumpf.us

We send our deepest condolences to the family of Maria Hedrich on her recent passing.



General Meeting Highlights

- ✦ On Nov. 4, twenty-six people attended the 1,031st meeting.
- ✦ Heinrich Reichert sponsored dessert. There was no lunch sponsor.
- ✦ Voted to print the English translation of the amended statutes.
- ✦ The Kirchweih was well-attended. We estimate same profit as last year.
- ✦ Elections were held for 2019 officers and officials.
- ✦ Contact Rick or John by Nov. 24 for Christmas Party reservations.

2019 Officers and Officials

President	Rick Stumpf
Vice President	John Schaefer
Vice President	Katie Amundsen
Secretary	Mary Wagner
Treasurer	Heidi Atkinson
Financial Secy	Johanna Swiontek
Auditors	Roger Falk Günther Schmidt Helga Schmidt
Hospitality	Vicky Stumpf Nancy Holl
Bar	George Schubkegel Joe Schubkegel Dave Steeb Jim Wagner
Bunco	Elaine Grossich Helga Schmidt
Rundschreiben	Mary Wagner
Flag Bearers	Rick Amundsen George Schubkegel
Newsletter	Bettie Schaefer
Webmaster	Cheryl Falk

Keeping the Story Alive

by Katie

When my mother handed me her white cotton apron this Thanksgiving, I remembered having seen it many times when I was a child. The upper corners were embroidered with two pink and rose-colored flowers tied together with a purple ribbon, and I recognized it immediately. What I did not know was the story behind this family heirloom.

The apron was handmade by my grandmother and bordered with her hand-crocheted trim. Its lower half was constructed from three panels crocheted together in an open weave pattern. Sewn into each panel were three tiny rows of darts and the overall effect was a stunning work of art.

I was at first confused that so much of my grandmother's work had gone into an apron which was not a royal blue satin apron worn at Kirchweih. "When did you wear this apron?", I asked, and the answer surprised me.

Bridesmaid attendants wore such a white cotton apron over a red cashmere skirt on Krenzel Abend, the evening before the wedding. On this night the groomsmen and bridesmaids prepared for the wedding by collecting dinnerware in large baskets and carried the baskets to the hall for the wedding dinner.

White aprons were also worn by a select group of girls at Kirchweih. On Kirchweih, girls wore their finest Tracht to the afternoon dance and later returned home to change into their evening Tracht. Occasionally a group of boys hired the band to play at one of their homes between the afternoon and evening dance, and their girls would join them later at the boy's home. Only then did these girls wear their white aprons over white cashmere skirts for the evening dance, while all the other girls wore their blue satin aprons.

Christkind also wore a white apron when she came to Liebling's homes on Christmas Eve. My mother wore her white apron when she appeared as Christkind, and at this year's Christmas program, Christkind will wear it again.

Editor and photos, Katie Amundsen
