
Lieblinger Verein of Chicago Newsletter

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Our 81st Year, 1939-2020

Special Coronavirus Edition - II

Contact-less Contact...

First, I hope everyone reading this newsletter – and all of your extended families and friends – are healthy and safe. As I write this, it has been more than 3 months since those of us in Illinois have been under one form of restriction or other to help prevent the spread of the Coronavirus. I would be among the first to express the frustrations this has put on our quality of life, but I would also acknowledge the utter importance it represents for the greater good of the community and our friends and families. I'm sure you all know how this infection has had an overwhelming impact on the elderly with an extremely devastating impact on those in Assisted Living and Nursing Care facilities. I am keenly aware of this since Vicky's Mom is in an Assisted Living facility not far from where we live, and I'm happy to say she is doing fine and the facility has been doing a very good job of managing things.

The past 3+ months have brought many new words and practices into our daily lives. Hardly a show goes by on TV without any number of commercials stating they offer "contactless" delivery, and "we're here for you." If you want some encouraging news, then visit the Illinois Department of Public Health website and look at the charts they publish in the "Restore Metrics" tab. Scroll through the charts and you will see amazing progress over many weeks. It's the kind of "good" news you aren't likely to find on the TV.

"Social distancing." There's another addition to our vocabulary. We all know what it means and,

hopefully, we are all practicing it! I don't know about you, but that's a tough one for me. When speaking with others in the neighborhood or at a store, I find myself inching closer and closer to the other person – though maybe it's due partly to my hearing loss – and Vicky ends up pulling me back. I can't help it. I'm a very social person. We humans are "social animals." We need to socialize. We need the company of others. Have you ever seen a picture of a hermit? I don't want to be like that! I can't wait, but I will have to because it's the right thing to do. Of course frequent handwashing and the use of hand sanitizers are an even bigger part of our lives than ever. Coughing and sneezing into your elbow (and not your hands) is important. And let's not forget about facemasks. As uncomfortable as they may be, they help. Please wear them.

Of course, this COVID-19 pandemic is just the latest hardship we have faced. We came through so many others in the past – and we will do so again. If you don't know the hardships the older Lieblingers faced back in Romania, just ask them – and learn. They survived, and so will we!

All of this focus on healthcare and healthy behaviors makes a good transition to another article you'll find in this newsletter – Home Remedies in Liebling. I think you'll enjoy it.

Keep in touch – but don't touch!

Rick Stumpf - rick@rickstumpf.us

Home Remedies in Liebling

(Please note: As a sign of how careful we have to be so that someone doesn't sue us, I feel compelled to preface this article with a caution and disclaimer. This article is prepared for entertainment purposes only. The remedies listed are not endorsed by the Verein or any of its officers. Always seek professional medical advice before self-treating any illness. There).

<i>ILLNESS</i>	<i>REMEDY</i>
<i>Headache</i>	<i>Soak a cloth with rubbing alcohol and tie it tight around the forehead</i>
<i>Sore throat</i>	<i>Gargle with salt water</i>
<i>Tonsillitis</i>	<i>Gargle with petroleum, then tie a cloth around your throat and sweat</i>
<i>Rheumatisms</i>	<i>Rub on spirit of camphor oil</i>
<i>Toothache</i>	<i>Rub area with rubbing alcohol</i>
<i>Eye pain</i>	<i>Cover with a milk compress</i>
<i>Cuts and abrasions</i>	<i>Clean the wound with acetic acid (or Chamomile tea)</i>
<i>Stomach upset</i>	<i>Drink olive oil</i>
<i>Bee sting</i>	<i>Warm compress</i>

<i>ILLNESS</i>	<i>REMEDY</i>
<i>Constipation</i>	<i>Eat a "Zöpfchen" (a kind of braided roll?) and drink warm water (and don't belch)</i>
<i>Diarrhea</i>	<i>Dry roux soup and dry bread</i>
<i>Common cold</i>	<i>Steam bath and sweat</i>
<i>Cough</i>	<i>Hot tea with honey, then sweat</i>
<i>Gas</i>	<i>Hot bran</i>
<i>Fever with a cold</i>	<i>Plenty of hot tea (Chamomile, Peppermint or Fennel)</i>
<i>Fever with a cold</i>	<i>Rub chest with some goose fat, cover with a hot compress then a dry cloth</i>
<i>Helping a baby fall asleep</i>	<i>Grind up some poppy seeds and put in the baby's milk</i>
<i>Warts</i>	<i>Wrap tightly with a compress</i>
<i>Heavy bleeding</i>	<i>Apply a leech</i>

Keeping the Story Alive

By *Katie*

Liebling's Economy, Businesses and Commerce

The largest industry in Liebling was agriculture and various businesses rose to support the wheat and corn farms, adding to the village's success. Fifteen threshing machines owned by Liebling individuals or cooperatives of farm families employed engineers, machinists, and laborers who worked for farmers from Liebling to far away villages. Thirteen horse-drawn old mills were replaced in the late 1880's by two steam-powered grain mills which each employed as many as eight full time workers. Liebling grain brokers and agents bought and shipped wheat, corn, and lesser grains to buyers using hundreds of railroad cars. A brick yard outside of town manufactured bricks, and together with a lumber yard in town provided for the growing need of new buildings and renovation of older structures.

Horse breeding was an important industry in Liebling for hundreds of years. Liebling horses brought the village a great deal of pride as they were considered the finest in Banat and were sold for high prices at the Ciacova horse market. A large stable attached to the city hall housed the six to ten prized stallions owned by the state, with their precise care administered by the mayor and town council and handled by full time workers.

An army of highly proficient Liebling tradesmen worked from their shops and homes. Living and training under their Masters, journeymen and apprentices labored to support the town's agricultural industry and way of life. Blacksmiths made and repaired plows, farm equipment, cookware, tools, wagon rims, and hardware such as chains, buckles, hooks, and nails, as well as shoeing horses. Working closely with the blacksmiths were the wagon makers and the "Sattler", who made saddles, bridles and harnesses. Weavers wove sacks for grain storage and huge tarps to cover Liebling's

wheat stacks. Carpenters and furniture makers (Tischler), shoemakers (Schuster), and tailors (Schneider) all handcrafted products which were made-to-order. The barbers had standing appointments and came to their clients' homes for twice weekly shaves and trims.

Since the 1920's, the cheese factory was a family run business standing at the end of town near the train station. The citizens of Liebling made cheese for their own use, while the cheese factory sold their products in the city of Temeschwar and other large towns. However, Lieblings greatly contributed to the factory by selling their cows' milk to the cheesemakers. Twice daily, early in the morning and in the evening, townspeople brought milk to numerous collection stations located throughout town where the milk was measured and the sale entered into a ledger. A family's additional income earned in this way was called "milk money".

Some families supplemented their income by raising silkworms in their attics. The Austro-Hungarian Empire first encouraged this cottage industry in Banat during the 1800's. Another small family business was beekeeping, as honey was a valuable commodity and sold to neighbors. Also, several women hand-knitted stockings, gloves, and sweaters and sold them to families.

A pharmacist ran Liebling's pharmacy (Apotheke), a private doctor provided general healthcare, and a veterinarian looked after the animals. Liebling had several notaries, but for the services of an attorney, bank, insurance agent, hospital, specialist doctor or dentist one needed to travel to Ciacova, the county seat, or to Temeschwar.

A market was held every Monday in the center of Liebling where Romanians sold their farm goods and products. In the fall townspeople purchased pears, apples, plums, apricots, cherries, and peaches for making fruit preserves.

By 1944, there were seven general stores in Liebling, run by the following families; Erk, Hack-Gärtner, Hack-Schlosser, Heubach, Klenk, Müller, and Walter. There one could buy dry goods which were imported from outside Banat such as sugar, chicory, coffee, rice, and spices. Paper, oil for lamps, dolls, basic to luxury fabrics, buttons, lace, ribbon, and even rolls from a baker in Ciacova could be purchased at a general store. Two butcher shops (Fleischbank) supplied Liebling with an abundance of fresh meats such as lamb, roasts of beef or pork, fresh sausages, bacon, and chops. Four taverns, two on each side of Liebling, sold wine and schnapps, and on Sunday nights four bands, each with six to eight musicians, played in the tavern dance halls.

Other Notes

At this time, we are expecting to hold our July 12th Meeting. While all indications are Illinois will advance into Phase 4 – which allows meetings and gatherings of up to 50 people – we must first confirm that the Donauschwaben Hall will be available to us. If we do move forward with the planned meeting, there will be many changes that will be made to comply with the guidelines to keep everyone safe and to prevent any spread of the Coronavirus. We expect to send out an email (and call members without email) no later than June 30th.

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