

# Lieblinger Verein of Chicago Newsletter

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

Our 79th Year, 1939-2018

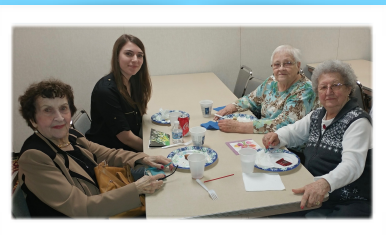
## CELEBRATIONS



**Congratulations to Mr. & Mrs. Andreas Schubkegel who celebrated their 69th wedding anniversary with family and friends.**



**Grace, Andy and Michelle Schubkegel joined the fun with 14 family members!**



**Congratulations to Leni Schaefer who celebrated her April 1st birthday!**

## The President's Message

Celebrations.

Our club meetings often include celebrations. Recognizing birthdays and anniversaries are always a part of our meeting agenda and in this issue you'll see pictures and read about the celebrations we had in April. Our monthly gatherings are ideal opportunities because they allow our members to celebrate with their long-time friends. In May we will have the usual celebrations of birthdays and anniversaries, but we will also take time to honor our grandmothers, mothers, aunts and sisters in advance of Mother's Day.

As we did last year, we will set up a special table to display pictures and other memorabilia of the strong women in our lives. They were and are indeed strong. Our mothers and their mothers not only endured extreme hardships in Liebling and beyond, they were the keystones of the family, and the family was the key to life in Liebling. It is in large part because of our mothers, my generation and others are able to live our lives as we have. They taught us not only that hard work was honorable and necessary, but that love of family and of others was the bedrock of a thriving society. In May we honor these women in our lives.



We also hope to celebrate Spring, at last! The near record cold we have experienced in April has been a real disappointment, but since May is right around the corner, we can all look forward to warmer weather which, hopefully, will allow some of our older members to feel up to joining us after a longer than usual winter. Won't you join us, too, on May 6th and help us celebrate?

*Rick Stumpf*

## A Tribute to Our Mothers

**Bring old photos, mementos, or artifacts belonging to your mother or grandmothers to the May 6th meeting.**



**Earth Day, April 22: Vicky lead us to help others and the environment by collecting amber pill bottles.**



**Die Freundschaft geht Majen.**

## 2018 Meeting Dates

- ♦ Sunday, May 6, Tribute to Mothers
- ♦ Sunday, June 3
- ♦ Sunday, July 1
- ♦ Sunday, August 12, PICNIC
- ♦ Sunday, Sept. 9
- ♦ Sunday, Oct. 7
- ♦ Saturday, Oct. 13, KERWEIH
- ♦ Sunday, Nov. 4, ELECTIONS
- ♦ Sun., Dec. 2, Christmas Party

## General Meeting Highlights

- ♦ On April 15, 33 people attended the 1,024th meeting.
- ♦ Lunch and dessert were sponsored by Mr. and Mrs. Andreas Schubkegel in honor of their 69th wedding anniversary.
- ♦ Rick will mail and email the Rundschreiben to members who ordered it.
- ♦ We will have a tribute to mothers at the May meeting. Please bring photos of moms and grandmothers, or mementos and artifacts belonging them to share at the tribute table.
- ♦ Correspondence: Arman Homan Foundation München Oktoberfest Trip, Heimat und Trachten Verein, Jolly Burgenländer Social Spring Dance, American Aid Society Spring Banquet. See Rick for details.

## *Keeping the Story Alive*

by Katie

Liebling was founded as an agricultural village in the Romanian Banat. Survival in the early years was dependent upon draining its swampy soils and growing enough grain to feed its people and livestock. Over time Liebling's wheat and corn fields produced an overflowing bounty which was sold to Europe, helping Banat earn the title of "breadbasket of Europe".

Liebling women maintained a "flower garden" in the backyard with flowers and for their cooking convenience, vegetables. The garden was planted in March and included a raised bed for pepper, tomato, cabbage and kohlrabi seeds; seedlings were then transplanted to the "wine garden".

A family's "wine garden" or "glee stick" was outside the town within walking distance or a short wagon ride. The family's annual vegetable supply was grown in this garden, with potatoes being the main crop. Also grown were carrots, beans, peas, tomatoes, onions, cabbage, kohlrabi, and some gardens had wine grapes or walnut trees. This hand-tended garden was cared for by the grandfather, older children, and other family help.

Work in Liebling's large fields began in March with the planting of oats (Hafer), spring barley (Frühjahrsgerste), tall cover (Luzerne), red clover (Rotklee), rye (Roggen) and barley (Gerste). In April hemp (Hanf), turnips and beets (Rüben), and pumpkins (Kürbis) were planted, and in mid-April the planting of corn (Mais) surrounded by sunflowers (Sonnenblumen) or broom (Zirock) ended planting. More than one third of Liebling's fields were in corn production, a labor-intensive cash crop. Preparing large fields with horse-drawn plows, using manual seed machines, and hand-hoeing weeds was a big task. Starting in early May, every able-bodied adult helped with the back-breaking work of hoeing weeds. A farmer's goal was to weed every field twice before the September harvest (Kukuruzbrechen).

As you work in your garden, may this story of Liebling inspire you!

Photos by Rick Stumpf

Editor, Katie Amundsen