



# Lieblinger Verein of Chicago Newsletter

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

Our 84th Year, 1939-2023

## President's Message:

### Looking toward the future

While we embrace our past, we can't help but be hopeful for our future. Inevitably, we strive to envision the positive outcomes that may come our way. Of course, sometimes life deals us challenges, but the human spirit in each of us helps us overcome many of those challenges. Take our club, for instance. Our membership continues to grow despite the waning connection to our past in Liebling. We still enjoy the company of more than a dozen seniors who emigrated from Liebling nearly 80 years ago. They continue to inspire us with their strength and devotion to our organization. And we continue to work toward maintaining the traditions they have passed down to us. We recognize our role in being the custodians of those traditions and we are taking action to ensure they continue for generations to come. In this newsletter, you will learn about a project that Katie Amundsen has put forward and is spearheading. It is called "Kerweih 101." It is an important undertaking to safeguard the continuation of our Kirchweih traditions. It is likely that every one of you have enjoyed participating in our Kirchweih. Those of us currently in leadership learned how to prepare for and manage a successful Kirchweih from our parents and grandparents. We are now preparing for future generations to be able to carry on those traditions. You will read about how the club will be preparing a "guide", or manual, on how the many traditions of Kirchweih are accomplished. We have a dedicated team that will be putting this together under Katie's leadership and the hope is that future generations of leadership will be able to successfully plan and execute Kirchweih for all to enjoy in years to come.

Rick Stumpf - [rick@rickstumpf.us](mailto:rick@rickstumpf.us)

## Birthdays Celebrated in February

Bert Mohrdieck, Barbara Nebl, Liam Atkinson, Lisa Menninger, Krista Reuter, Michael Schaefer, Jr., Monica Yearwood Novak, Johanna Spang, Barbara Blum, Heinrich Reichert, Sr., Liela Snyder, Stephanie Snyder, and John Schaefer



John Schaefer, Liela Snyder, Barbara Blum, Stephanie Snyder and Heinrich Reichert, Sr.



Barbara Blum's family celebrating her 95<sup>th</sup> Birthday at the February Meeting.



Special Birthday wishes also to Johanna Spang who is celebrating her 98<sup>th</sup> birthday in February.

### **Anniversaries Celebrated in February**

June & Eric Melerski celebrating 14 years, and Liz and Charles Hughes celebrating 47 years.



Liz and Charles Hughes celebrating their 47<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

### **Highlights from the February Meeting**



The 1,072<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Liebling Pleasure Society was held on February 5, 2023.

The luncheon was sponsored by Barbara Blum in celebration of her 95<sup>th</sup> birthday. Mrs. Blum's family also brought a delicious cake for members to enjoy. The dessert was sponsored by Maria Rink in celebration of her daughter's (Stephanie) and granddaughter's birthdays (Liela).

Rick Stumpf thanked the Hospitality Committee, Vicky Stumpf, Nancy Holl, Christy Schubkegel, and Elaine Grossich. Rick thanked members for donating and making snacks for the meeting. Rick also thanked the Bar Committee: George and Joe Schubkegel and Roger Falk for serving beverages at the meeting.

Cheryl Falk and Bettie Schaefer, who were not present at the January meeting, were installed into their respective committees at the February meeting.

The Minutes of the January meeting, taken by Mary Wagner, were read by Katie Amundsen. The Minutes were read and approved.

Rick welcomed two of our newest members to the meeting, Barbara and Franz Mausser. Rick also welcomed Mrs. Blum's family to the meeting celebrating Mrs. Blum's 95<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Kaylan Hughes, married to Kevin Hughes (Blum), was nominated for membership into the Club. No objection was made, and Kaylan was voted and accepted into the Club. Welcome Kaylan Hughes to the Liebling Pleasure Society.

Liz Steeb gave the Financial Report, and it was approved. Liz informed members that there are around 658 Lieblingers in the Chicago area and stated that we now have 200 members in our Club, which does not count children under 16 years of age, who are not eligible for membership, nor grandchildren. Liz also spoke about the number of Lieblingers around the world.

Liz reminded members to pay their annual dues of \$5.00. Please also notify Liz if your mailing address, email address or phone number has changed so that our membership list is up-to-date.

Rick stated that a new Committee has been formed to search for a new venue to hold our 2024 Kirchweih. Keith Grossich, Vicky Stumpf, Guenther Schmidt, John Schaefer and Stephanie Snyder volunteered to form that Committee. The Chairman of the Committee is Stephanie Snyder.

At the January meeting, members were informed that the band, Paloma, are not available to play for our Kirchweih on October 7<sup>th</sup> but they are available for October 14<sup>th</sup>. President, Rick Stumpf, looked into securing another band and also checked to see if the Donauschwaben Hall is available to hold our Kirchweih on the second Saturday of October. Rick was unable to secure another band for our Kirchweih, but was able to confirm that the hall is available for October 14<sup>th</sup>.

A Motion was made to change the date of our Kirchweih from October 7<sup>th</sup> to October 14<sup>th</sup>. The Motion was voted on and approved. A Motion was made to hire Paloma to play for our Kirchweih on October 14<sup>th</sup>. The Motion was voted on and passed by members. Rick will change the date of our Kirchweih to October 14<sup>th</sup> on our official Liebling Meetings and Event Calendar. The new calendar will be posted on our website.

Vicky Stumpf told members about a public Facebook group called "Chronicling the Germans of Chicago." The Facebook page states that "the purpose of this group is to chronicle the multiple German enclaves throughout Chicago". The site displays old pictures and also solicits club events. Vicky suggested that this would be a good place to advertise our events for free, like the Kirchweih.

Rick told members that a Leadership meeting was held with Officers and Committee members at his home in January. One of the topics that came up was how to manage our Kirchweih so that it remains strong throughout the coming years.

At the Leadership meeting, Katie Amundsen proposed that we provide a guide to carry out our traditions. Katie has named this Project “Kerweih 101”. Katie said that the objective is to inspire and encourage our younger members to joyfully and respectfully carry out our traditions. This would be a written guide to our younger members of all things that need to be done to have a great Kirchweih. Members at the February meeting agreed and unanimously supported this proposal made by Katie.

A discussion about what items should be included in this guide were discussed and suggestions were made by members on how to provide the information needed. Members said that it would also be beneficial to hold some workshops, or videos on preparing the girl’s tracht, and how to dress the Grosse and Kleine marchers for the Kirchweih. Members also suggested holding some practice dance sessions. Katie told members that she would provide more information about this project in the newsletter.

Vicky Stumpf provided a survey sheet at the January meeting and some members expressed a desire to have soup and side salads served along with our usual luncheon entree. Members were encouraged to sign up to donate and prepare a side salad for the March meeting.

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### “Kerweih 101” Project –

Information provided by Katie Amundsen:

“The “Kerweih 101” project is a written guide with job descriptions and procedures, plus a series of workshops, both live and on-line video, to help execute a successful Kerweih. The goal this year is to focus on the 5 most recognizable Kerweih traditions; the Kleine marchers, the Grosse, the Tracht, Strauss, and Aufmarsch, and to complete this by October.”

“This is a group project in which all members are invited to support, join, and actively participate in sharing their skills and working together to inspire and encourage the future leaders. We have already begun, join us! “

Contact Katie with your “ideas, recommendations, and willingness to help.” Email Katie: [rkamundsen@att.net](mailto:rkamundsen@att.net) or text : (815) 353-4906

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**Reminder: To pay your Annual Liebling Dues of \$5.00. Checks need to be made out to “Liebling Pleasure Society”. Mail your check to Liz Steeb, 6635 Dawn Avenue, Countryside, IL. 60525.**

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Katie Naurath, Liz Steeb, Franz and Barbara Mausser, Grace and Liesl



Keith Grossich, Bella, David Grossich, Monica Reichert, and Karen Grossich



Some of our future leaders: Logan, Grace, Henrik, Harrison, and Natalie

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**Please note that the Kirchweih this year has been changed to October 14<sup>th</sup> – please change the date on your calendar.**

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#### Upcoming Events:

Liebling Meeting- March 5, 2023  
Liebling Meeting- April 2,2023

Editor: Bettie Schaefer