



Liebling Verein of Chicago Newsletter

www.lieblingchicago.com

Our 85th Year, 1939-2023

President's Message

It's a new year, and since it's still January, I can say Happy New Year to all of you. We are preparing for another year of gatherings and events to advance the fellowship and strengthening of bonds among members. As you look through the club's calendar (available on our website, if you didn't pick up a copy at the Christmas Party), I want to highlight just a few dates. Of course, we have our annual Kirchweih and Christmas Party (October 12th and December 8th, respectively), but there are a few dates I would like to bring to your attention. Our May meeting happens to fall on Cinco de Mayo and we have celebrated in recent years with an appropriate food and drink menu. Our July meeting (actually held on June 30th) will feature a visit from Liebling's Pastor Walter Sinn and Waltraut Eberle. Waltraut has been instrumental in coordinating efforts to revitalize the church structure in Liebling. They will be in Chicago for a week and we are forming a committee to assist in preparing activities and providing rooms for their stay. If anybody would like to join this committee, or can offer them a place to stay, please contact me directly. And, of course, our annual picnic/BBQ will be on August 11th. You will also find in this newsletter, information about an undertaking to acquire Tracht pieces to supplement our existing inventory so we will continue to have enough for many Kirchweih's to come. Finally, we are asking anyone who still may wish to purchase one of our keepsake Liebling Church ornaments to do so in the next 90 days. After that time, we will remove the ornament from our website and no longer offer it for sale. Our remaining inventory of ornaments will be donated to the Pastor to take back to Liebling so that any proceeds from their sale will benefit the efforts to restore the church.

Rick Stumpf

rick@rickstumpf.us

December and January Birthdays were celebrated at the January Meeting.

Birthdays Celebrated in December

Rick Stumpf, Audrey Vaccarello, Nicholas Schubkegel, Kaethe Blechschmidt, David Grossich, Jason Vaccarello, Peyton Masters, Cecilia Galicia, Katharine Mohrdieck, Keith Grossich, Nancy Melerski, Bettie Schaefer, Nichole Mohrdieck, Rudy Mohrdieck, Laura Reichert, and Leah Steeb



Bettie Schaefer and Rick Stumpf

Birthdays Celebrated in January

Inga Yearwood, Elaine Grossich, Owen Rill, Curt Yearwood, William Mohrdieck, Paul Brumley, Eric Stumpf, Megan Ferguson, Karen Rill, Mike Holl, Kathryn Faulkner, and Jim Wagner



Karen Rill, Owen Rill, Jim Wagner, and Elaine Grossich



Heidi Atkinson provided members with an overall view of the finances of the club. Guenther Schmidt reported that the Audit Committee reviewed and approved the financial records.

Rick Stumpf stated that he received correspondence from the Pastor of the Liebling Church and Waltraut Eberle that they are planning a visit to Chicago June 27-July 4, 2024. Rick said that we will need members to form a committee to assist our visitors. Roger Falk volunteered to be on this committee. Members do not need to speak German fluently since Ms. Eberle does speak English.

Rick has been contacted by younger members about our Kirchweih Tracht. These younger members are looking at methods to make or purchase pieces of the Tracht that are missing or need repair. Members discussed the Tracht inventory that the club currently has and how the club can provide assistance to members to obtain the clothing items they are missing. It was suggested that we reach out to all members through the newsletter.

The elected Officers and Committee Members present were officially installed at the January meeting.

John Schaefer welcomed Stephanie Snyder as Secretary and Corresponding Liaison to Liebling Rundschreiben "a new face at the front table." John also thanked Mary Wagner for her years of service to the club.

Cultural Moment- Mary Wagner brought back from Budapest "Szaloncukor" (parlor candy). Szaloncukor is made of fondant, then covered by a thin chocolate layer (or not, but most of them are), and then wrapped into a nice Christmassy paper or wrapping sheet with a special shape. The oval shaped fondant candy keeps its ovalness, and the szaloncukor has a bow tie shape with two frilly ends. Mary shared the candy with members and told everyone how these candies were hung on the Christmas tree as decoration in Liebling and Austria.

Highlights from the January Meeting

The 1,082nd meeting was held on January 7, 2024.

A Moment of Silence was held for Bernhard Faust who passed away in November. Members were informed of his passing after our meeting in November. Our deepest condolences to the Faust family.

President, Rick Stumpf, thanked Joe Schubkegel, Vicky Stumpf, Elaine Grossich, Nancy Holl and Christy Schubkegel for snacks that they prepared for the meeting and donated. Rick thanked the Hospitality Committee, Vicky Stumpf, Elaine Grossich, Nancy Holl, and Christy Schubkegel for purchasing and setting up the luncheon for members, as well as cleaning up. Rick also thanked the Bar Committee, Adam Helwich, Joe and George Schubkegel, and Roger Falk for serving members. Thanks also to Jim Wagner for helping to serve during the pre-meeting of officers and committee members.

There were no luncheon and cake sponsors for the January meeting. Members can sign up to sponsor the luncheon and cake.

The November Minutes were read by Mary Wagner and were approved. Mary was thanked for her 9 years of service as Secretary and the Corresponding Liaison to Liebling Rundschreiben. Mary stepped down as Secretary and Correspondent so that the next generation could step in.

Nancy Holl nominated her niece, Jennifer Jankowski, into the club. Jennifer is the daughter of Mary Kay and Rick Jankowski and granddaughter of Katherine and Jacob Gerhardt. There were no objections, the nomination was voted on, and accepted. We welcome Jennifer Jankowski as a new member.

Liz Steeb gave the Financial Report, and it was approved. Liz informed members that in celebration of Keith Grossich's December birthday, Keith and Elaine generously donated \$500 at the Christmas Party to help pay for the children's gifts.



Michael Schaefer brought to the meeting several Eintracht newspapers which featured pictures of our Kirchweih's. Michael also brought VHS tapes of different club events. These were items that his mother, Magdalena Schaefer, had saved and Michael thought that the club might like to have all or some of these items. Members stated that we should keep these items. It was suggested that we create a formal position to maintain catalog and maintain these items.

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.

If your address, phone number or email has changed, please let Liz know so that we can keep the club's membership list up to date.

Kirchweih Tracht:

As stated in the meeting highlights: our younger members have reached out to the club in search of Kirchweih Tracht – either a complete Tracht or to replace missing or damaged items. We have started a process to acquire tracht pieces no longer needed by Lieblingers. It was suggested that we reach out to all members.

1. Does your family need a complete Kirchweih Tracht? If so, child, or adult?
How many?
2. Does your family need missing items- or items that you can no longer repair.? Please state what clothing items are needed?
Child or adult?
3. If your family no longer needs Kirchweih Tracht, would you be willing to donate your Tracht to the club's inventory? The club's Tracht inventory is loaned out, as needed, just before the Kirchweih and then returned to the club's inventory.

You can respond to these questions by either emailing Bettiesch@aol.com or by just hitting reply to the newsletter email.

Pictures of members enjoying beverages and appetizers before the meeting



Behind the bar and at the bar: Joe & George Schubkegel, Adam Helwich, Cheryl Falk, and Katie Amundsen. Standing: Elaine Grossich, Sitting at the table: Liz Steeb, Guenther Schmidt, Jim Wagner, and Vicky Stumpf



Rick and Vicky Stumpf, Jim Wagner, and Adam Helwich (John Schaefer and Joe Schubkegel in mirror)

If we have missed your birthday or anniversary this past year or if you are a new member, please email Katie Amundsen ...kamundsen73@gmail.com

Upcoming Events;

**Liebling Meeting – February 4, 2024
Liebling Meeting – March 3, 2024.
Liebling Meeting – April 7, 2024
Liebling Meeting – May 5, 2024
Liebling Meeting – June 2, 2024
Liebling Meeting – June 30, 2024**

Mark your calendars now for our family events:

**Liebling Meeting/Picnic – August 11, 2024
Kirchweih – Saturday, October 12, 2024
Christmas Party – Sunday, December 8, 2024.**

Editor: Bettie Schaefer