



Liebling Verein of Chicago Newsletter

www.lieblingchicago.com

Our 85th Year, 1939-2023

President's Message

Well, John Steinbeck wrote it more than 85 years ago in a short story that likely most of us had read in school. The best laid plans of mice and men often go awry. Last month we were excited to report about the planned visit of Pastor Walter Sinn and Waltraut Eberle at the end of June. Well, not so much. I received word a couple weeks ago that Pastor Sinn will not be able to obtain a visa to travel to the US. What a shame. There have been some early discussions of what we may plan to do in the wake of their withdrawal. Perhaps you may be aware that there has been a considerable effort underway, among Lieblings around the world, to restore the church in Liebling after decades of deterioration during the Romanian communist regime. There has also been a group of Lieblings in Germany that have formed a foundation to restore and maintain the cemeteries in Liebling. We plan on discussing how our club might be able to help in these causes. Please keep checking this newsletter and our website in the weeks and months to come to see how you may participate in these deserving projects. In the meantime, we are looking forward to some fun changes to our meeting luncheons. Coming up is "Chicken March." No, we aren't going to organize Adam & Angie's chickens to march around the hall. 😊 The lunch buffet will include chicken – fried and broasted – along with a variety of side dishes. And some fun variations will occur in April and May. Do plan to join us. And if you are thinking of contributing a side dish or some dessert, please make sure you let someone on the Hospitality Committee know by Wednesday before the meeting so that we can plan our purchases more effectively, i.e. not buy more than what is needed. Hope to see you soon.

Rick Stumpf

rick@rickstumpf.us

What a great meeting we had in February with many members we have not seen for awhile and some new Lieblings joining us. John Schaefer captured some wonderful pictures of Barbara Blum celebrating her 96th birthday with her family and friends. Before I could transfer the pictures to our computer, John dropped his phone, and a small crack is all it took to make his phone totally inoperable. Despite our best efforts and the tech phone guys, we could not retrieve the pictures from the February meeting.

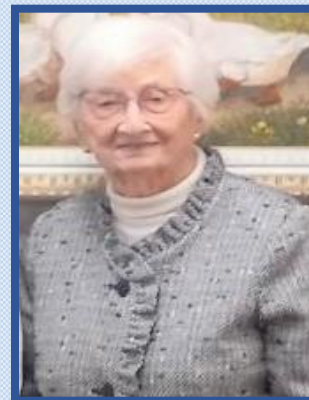
We will take pictures of members who celebrated their birthdays and anniversaries in February at the March meeting to post in the March newsletter along with birthdays and anniversaries celebrated in March.

(Bettie)

Birthdays Celebrated in February

Bert Mohrdieck, Barbara Nebl, Liam Atkinson, Lisa Menninger, Krista Reuter, Michael Schaefer, Jr., Monica Yearwood Novak, Barbara Blum, Liela Snyder, Stephanie Snyder, Nolan Faulkner, Blake Hughes, and John Schaefer

Happy Birthday to Barbara Blum celebrating her 96th birthday!



(picture taken last year)

Anniversaries Celebrated in February

June and Eric Melerski celebrating 19 years and Liz and Charles Hughes celebrating 48 years.



Liz and Charles Hughes (picture from last year)

Highlights from the February Meeting

The 1,083rd meeting was held on February 4, 2024.

The Blum family sponsored the luncheon in celebration of Barbara Blum's 96th birthday and they also brought a delicious chocolate cake for members to enjoy.

President, Rick Stumpf, thanked the Hospitality Committee, Nancy Holl, Elaine Grossich, Vicky Stumpf and Christy Schubkegel for purchasing and preparing the luncheon and clean-up. Rick also thanked the Bar Committee: George and Joe Schubkegel, Roger Falk, and Adam Helwich for serving members.

Rick told members that if they are planning to bring a side dish or dessert to the meeting for the luncheon to please notify the Hospitality Committee by the Wednesday before the meeting so that the committee can plan their luncheon purchases for the meeting.

The January Minutes of the meeting were recorded and read by Stephanie Snyder and the minutes were approved as read.

Liz Steeb gave the Financial Report, and the report was approved by members.

Rick gave a brief update on Pastor Sinn and Waltraut Eberle's visit to Chicago on June 27-July 4. Cheryl and Roger Falk and Mary Wagner have volunteered to be on the committee to assist our visitors. Discussed at the meeting was the possibility of Pastor Sinn conducting a church service in German at Joe and Cathy Schubkegel's church in Mt. Prospect before our meeting on June 30th. After the church service we would then have our luncheon and meeting at the Donauschwaben hall.

Rick contacted the President of the Liebling club in Montreal about the possibility of purchasing Kirchweih Tracht from them. Their response is that their club has not had a Kirchweih in 8 years and that their membership is scattered. The Montreal President said that several of their members have asked her what to do with the Kirchweih Tracht. Rick said that we should look into purchasing these Tracht from Canada and that it would be easier to ship from Canada than overseas.

Rick stated that our club has the largest Kirchweih in the world and that is very heart warming that our younger generation wants to hold a Kirchweih and preserve the tradition of the Kirchweih.

Elaine Grossich was informed by the band, Paloma, that they are already booked for the day of our Kirchweih, October 12th. Elaine was then given two dates the band is available in October. Rick Stumpf contacted the Donauschwaben President to see about the availability of the hall for either of those dates. The day that the band, Paloma, and the hall are available is October 19th. A Motion was made, voted, and passed to **change the date of the Kirchweih to October 19th**. Rick will email out an updated calendar to members. Several members suggested we try to schedule our Kirchweih with the hall and band a year ahead.

Heidi Atkinson contacted Manzo's Banquets to make reservations for our Christmas Party on December 8th. Heidi said that there is a slight price increase and that the room we had last year has already been reserved and that we will be in the larger room this year. A Motion was made, voted, and passed to provide a deposit to Manzo's Banquets.

Discussed at the Leadership Meeting in January was ways to attract our younger members and one suggestion was having a fun dinner night. It was suggested that we get together for dinner at Maple Tree Inn, which is owned by our member, Erich Wennberg. Notification to members will be provided when a date is set.

Vicky Stumpf told members that the Hospitality Committee discussed ways to make our meeting luncheons more interesting. The committee decided to try a variety of foods, not just lunch meat. The March meeting luncheon will be fried and broasted chicken along with a variety of side dishes. If anyone is interested in providing a side dish or dessert for the March meeting, a sign-up sheet is at the front table. Rick will email a list to members of future luncheons planned for the upcoming meetings.

Heidi Atkinson suggested that we bring bunco back. Women, children, and men are welcome to play bunco. She said that playing bunco is a wonderful way to socialize with everyone. Heidi stated that men could have the option of playing cards or poker.

Cultural Moment – Adam Helwich brought to the meeting an English translation of the book “Struwwelpeter” written by Heinrich Hoffmann. It is a picture book of rhymes for kids which Heinrich wrote for his 3 yr. old son in 1844. The stories are humorous and somewhat unsettling – much like Grimms’ Fairy Tales.

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:

We have started a process to acquire tracht pieces no longer needed by Lieblings in Canada. Please Let us know what your family needs.

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.

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

Luncheon Menu

April 7th Meeting – Brunch-based menu and Mimosas

May 5th Meeting – Cinco de Mayo – variety of themed foods and margaritas.

Upcoming Events:

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 19, 2024

Christmas Party – Sunday, December 8, 2024.

Editor: Bettie Schaefer