

# Lieblicher Verein (Chicago)

## Lieblicher Family Christmas Pictorial

Our 85<sup>th</sup> Year

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

December, 2024

### Fröhliche Weihnachten (Merry Christmas)

Mögen sich all deine Wünsche erfüllen

(May all your Wishes Come True)

The Christmas Party with our Liebling families was celebrated at Manzo's Banquets in Des Plaines on December 8, 2024.

Katie Amundsen announced the December birthdays at the Christmas Party.

#### 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



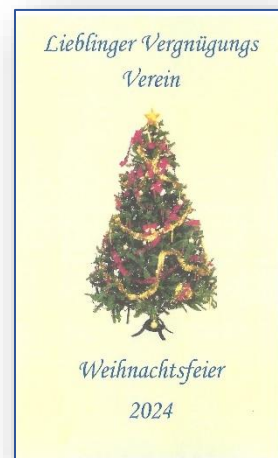
David Grossich, Katharine Mohrdieck, Jason Vaccarello, Rick Stumpf, Bettie Schaefer, Keith Grossich, Audrey Vaccarello, Peyton Masters, and Leah Steeb

A very Special Birthday Shout-Out to Kaethe Blechschmidt who celebrated her birthday on December 6<sup>th</sup>.



Kaethe Blechschmidt is celebrating her 102<sup>nd</sup> birthday.

The Christmas Program presented this year was created by Rick Stumpf. Rick also designed the printed program.

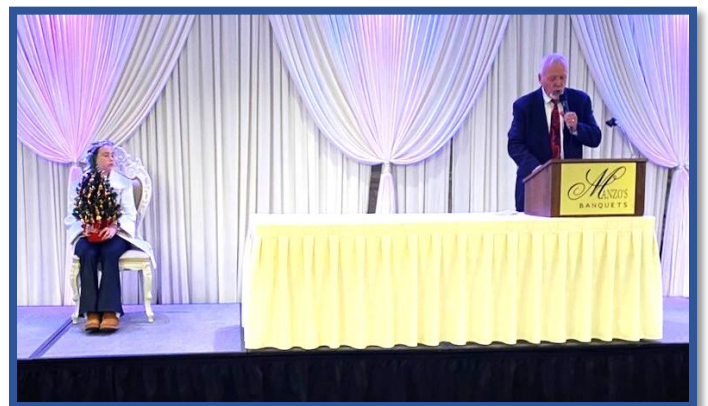




Jeffrey Grossich gave the Invocation.



Members brought beautifully wrapped Raffle Gifts!



Das Christkind – Grace Naurath, and President and Master of Ceremonies, Rick Stumpf





Heidi Atkinson read The Liebling Weihnachtsbaum



Kate Naurath read Christmas in Liebling

**Children 's Performances:**



Das Christkind – Grace Naurath, and Rick Stumpf handed out Salon Zucker candies to Die Kinder



Peyton Masters playing Jingle Bells on the cello. Singing are his sisters, Maycee and Taylor Masters



The Salon Zucker candies were also given to members attending the Christmas Party who fled Liebling 80 years ago.



Hannah Steeb playing Let It Snow on the cello.





Kate Naurath and her youngest daughter, Liesl, reciting the Pledge of Allegiance



Here Comes Santa Claus!!!



Grace Naurath tap dancing to Eyes on the Road

(Christmas songs were sung between the Children's Performances at the Party)



Die Kinder Gifts – 32 members' children received gifts from Santa Claus



Santa's Helpers, Natalie and Karen Rill, Christy Schubkegel - Das Christkind- Grace Naurath , Santa Claus and Rick Stumpf





Gavin is excited to open the gift he received from Santa Claus

Die Kinder attending the Christmas Party and receiving gifts from Santa: Liam and Oliver Atkinson; Jude and Simon Brumley; Ben, Madilyn, and Nolan Faulkner; Bella Grossich; Harrison, Henrik, Oliver, and Owen Hughes; Maycee, Peyton, and Taylor Masters; Andrew, Charlie, Grace, Grant, and Liesl Naurath; Owen Rill; Camia, Catarina and Caya Rogers; Levi Schubkegel; Hannah and Leah Steeb; Gavin and Layla Stumpf; Evangeline Untch; and Audrey and Wyatt Vaccarello.

**Our Liebling families that attended the Christmas Party:**











## A Surprise Gift –



There were 14 tables at the Christmas Party and there were 14 white bags with one red letter on it spelling out Merry Christmas – the 15<sup>th</sup> bag had an Exclamation Point.

Inside each bag was a Green Pickle Ornament with two chocolate Kisses and one chocolate Hug, and a brief note about the German Pickle Tradition. John and Bettie Schaefer donated the ornaments, with Bettie creating the gift bags.



The old Christmas Eve tradition in Germany was to hide a green pickle ornament deep in the branches of the family Christmas tree after the children were in bed. In the morning, the child that finds the pickle ornament receives an extra gift from St. Nicholas or gets to open their gifts first. The adult who finds the pickle ornament traditionally receives good luck for the entire year.

At each table, a card was taped to the bottom of one chair, saying they won a pickle ornament. The Exclamation Point bag was given to the last Raffle Bag winner.



Thank you to Bettie's and John's grandsons, Braden and Billy Lehnhardt, and their cousin, Riley Mertz, for handing out the Pickle Ornaments to the winners.

Thank you to our Santa Helpers this year: Natalie and Karen Rill, and Patty and Christy Schubkegel.

Thank you to the Bunco Committee: Johanna and Jennifer Swiontek for selling and overseeing the Gift Bag Raffle and their service at each meeting. Thank you also to Monica Reichert for helping to sell tickets at the Christmas Party

Thank you to Elaine Grossich and Lauren Lehnhardt, for taking pictures of families at the 14 tables.

Thank you to all our Officers and Committee Members for their commitment and service this year.

Special Thanks to our President, Rick Stumpf, and Vicky for their commitment and dedication.



Vicky Stumpf and, granddaughter, Layla



Rick Stumpf, and grandson, Gavin

Since this is my last newsletter ...as I pass the pen to Christy Schubkegel, I want to thank you for your feedback, corrections, and sharing your pictures and events. I appreciate each and every comment that I received.

It has been my privilege and honor to write and distribute the newsletter each month for the past 6 years.

So often as I would sit and write the newsletter, I would think about my father-in-law, John Schaefer, who was President for 20 plus years. Marrying into the Schaefer family... you learned very quickly the importance of the Liebling Club. I know that John Schaefer, Sr. would be so proud of all our Officers and Committee Members who keep our Liebling Pleasure Society Club active and thriving... now entering our 86<sup>th</sup> year!

At Christmas time our family enjoys many traditions ...I am now going to share one of our family traditions ...started by my father-in-law. Every year he would say: "pull out your calendars and write down these dates" ... the dates of the Liebling Kirchweih and Christmas Party.

Here is your new tradition... everyone... take out your calendars – and write or type in your phone these dates: ...

**Kirchweih – Saturday, October 11, 2025  
Christmas Party - Sunday, December 7, 2025.**

Have a Joyous Christmas and a Blessed, Healthy New Year.

Bettie

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The Officers and Committee Members wish you a Merry Christmas and...

Alles Gute zum Neuen Jahr  
(Best Wishes for the New Year)

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January Meeting – Sunday, January 5, 2025

Editor and Photographer: Bettie Schaefer