

## Carpathia Club, Inc.

**PRESIDENTIAL NOTES**

What a difference a couple of years make. A few years ago I was resigning from my position as the Vice President due to an injury I suffered while working at the Club. At that time I kept my situation private because it was still undiagnosed. To set the record straight, I suffered from something called Post Concussive Syndrome. Post Concussive Syndrome is a condition that results from a concussion. It's a situation where the concussion doesn't go away and can last from 6 months to multiple years. The good news is that mine finally went away after about 2 years but those 2 years were very difficult for my family and close friends. I'll spare you all the details but I wanted to set the record straight once and for all that my resignation was due to an injury and nothing more than that. Lastly, I want to thank all the people that had me in the prayers. I know there were many of you and I appreciated them all.

With all that behind me I decided it was time to get back actively involved in the Club. The big question is why? Well, the truth is that many people have approached me over the years and it was time in my opinion for a change. It wasn't until a month or so ago that I actually made up my mind when my lovely wife told me to take the responsibility on and do what I do every day and make that Club shine again.

Before I go on, let me tell you a little more about myself. I've been married to the same wonderful woman for almost 20 years. Mary-Ann and I have three daughters; Audrey (14), Laura (13), and Sabrina (9). Mary-Ann also grew up through the Club and we both feel very blessed that our kids are growing up here too.

My parents started in the Club back in 1952 and continue to support the Club today. I started in the Jugend-Gruppe and Kickers when I was 12. I joined the Schuhplattler group somewhere along the way and even sang in the Choir for about 6 months. At some point I retired from the dance groups and started playing in a German band called the Echoes. I did that professionally for about 10 years. When I was in my twenties I became a Trustee for the Club. I did that for about 4 years. I also served on the Building and Soccer field committees. I became the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President and held that position for about 3 years and then the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President for about 1 year until I had to resign due to my injury. I've coached for the kickers for about 10 years and currently Coach the U15, soon to be U16 Girls. I work for a company called Electronic Data Systems or EDS. I started there doing computer support work and now have progressed to overseeing several major pieces of business.

Back to that question of why the heck would someone in their forties want to take on the responsibility of the President of the Club. From

my perspective, its time for the next generation to take over the daily responsibility of the Club and more importantly it was time for a change. Just as in the past the next generation changed a few things along the way to hopefully make the Club a better place. At some point my generation needs to pass the Club on to our kid's generation. I'm also a firm believer that if we don't change our Club will be severely challenged in a few short years. We've operated our Club in the same manner for many, many years and there are a few things that need to be adjusted.

I'm a firm believer that the Board of Director and the Group Leaders need to start **Leading** the organization. We are all **Accountable** to the Membership. We need to rebuild the **Trust** within the organization. We need to **Work Together as One Club** if we are to succeed. Most importantly we need to **Embrace our Youth**.

Our Ehrend President Mr. Pelvay says it much more elegantly, but without the youth our Club will not last very long. That's not to say that every member is not important, because they are, but if you look back in time there has always been some youth to pass on the Club Traditions to and we need to get more of them back active in the Club.

To that end, please talk to your kids, brothers, sisters, cousins, and friends and encourage them to join us at a Club function in the near future. My goal is to bring back their memories of all the wonderful times they have had at the Club. Don't hesitate to remind them of the base foundation in life they gained through the Club. We all benefited from being associated with the Club and the least we can do is come back at least once a year to support it.

In the coming months I will not only be spending my time getting my arms around the day to day operation of the Club but I would like to meet with every **Untergruppen to solicit their input**. I **have asked** as many of the executive Board members to be present at these meetings. My intent is to get direct feedback from the membership. Our Board of Directors needs to know that is working and what needs to change. Look for these to start occurring in the near future.

In closing, I wanted to take a moment and thank all of the people that perform work on behalf of the Club each and every day. Without your efforts there would be no Club. On behalf of my family and myself I want to wish everyone a happy Easter.



John Huth, Jr.  
President of Carpathia