Ehrenmitglied Sepp Kaindl aus Diessen, Ammersee

After the Gau-Ausschuss voted to bestow Ehrenmitglied on Josef "Sepp" Kaindl, 1.Gauvorstand Tom Vogt sent an email to Sepp letting him know of the honor. In the return email from Sepp, he wrote "mir bleibt schier die Luft weg." (The air was knocked right out of me.) His excitement was quite evident in his response.

Sepp is only the second Ehrenmitglied of Gau-NA. The Bylaws stipulate that an Ehrenmitglied can be awarded "in recognition of outstanding contributions and/or lifetime service to the Gauverband." Based on the letter written by Ehrengauvorstand Walter Wieand and the experiences of the Gau-Ausschuss with Sepp Kaindl, there was no doubt that Sepp fit that description.

Although Sepp and his wife Leni have attended many Gaufeste here in North America over the last nearly 50 years, they had not planned to come this year. Once he learned of the honor, he decided to attend and receive his pin and Urkunde in person. On Saturday night at the 26. Gaufest, Tom Vogt, Walter Wieand, and the four Gaubeisitzer awarded Sepp Kaindl an "Ehrenmitglied" pin and Urkunde. Con-

gratulations and applause throughout the banquet room were resounding.

As proud as we are to have Sepp as our Ehrenmitglied, the Bavarian press has published a half dozen reports about the honor! Sepp has also been interviewed on several radio programs. The articles give an outline of the many ways in which Sepp Kaindl has helped unite Gau-NA and the Bayerischer Trachtenverband. The positive light that the articles shine on Gau-NA is also evident. (The following is a summary of the

Sein Ruf reicht bis in die Rocky Mountains



 Gauvorstand Tom Vogt, Ehrenmitglied Sepp Kaindl, Ehrengauvorstand Walter Wieand

KREISBOTE

LANDSBERG

8. August 2017

information in the articles.)

Sepp Kaindl first became acquainted with members of Gau-NA in 1970. By 1978 the TEV Edelweiss Denver Verein and Sepp's Trachtenverein d'Ammertaler Diessen had become fast friends, even being Patenvereir at Denver's 1982 Fahnenweihe. Since 1985 he, his wife Leni, and many of the Verein members have been to Gaufeste here. The Denver Verein members have returned visits to Diessen and the Huosigaufest there. Sepp has visited 40 states and Canada to visit the many friends he has made in North America. When Trachtler and Trachtlerinnen visit Bayern, he is always ready to welcome them with open arms.

Sepp Kaindl has received many honors over the years for his tireless work in upholding the Tracht and Brauchtum in his beloved Bayern. He is Ehrenvorsitzender in his own Verein; Ehrenvorsitzender in the Huosigauverband; and Ehrenmitglied in TEV Edelweiss Denver. He has also received the highest honor of the Bayerischer Trachten-



Walter Wieand pins the Ehrenmitglied pin on Sepp's lapel as Gaubeisitzer Bob Hugel looks on

verband, the Lehrer-Vogel-Medaille. But he's not sitting on his laurels. Rather, Sepp sees these honors as a continuing mandate to develop and advance ever more interest in his Heimat.

Sepp Kaindi Ehrenmitglied im Trachtengau Nordamerika – Bayerns berühmter Trachtler zwischen den Kontinenten

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Sep Kaind ist Ehrenmitglied in Trachtler Rocky Mountains

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Karin Dean-Kraft Photos by Stephen Hargreaves

The Gauverband website has copies of all the articles written about Sepp Kaindl's Ehrenmitgliedschaft as well as audio clips of his radio interviews. Thank you to author Beate Bentele for sharing these with us.

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