

Chronicle

The Hôtel-Restaurant Bierhäusle has a long family history of gourmet tradition. In Freiburg-Lehen While the first historical references date back to the XVIth century, the brewing and cooking activities started in 1842 with Ignaz and Franz Josef Schwaier. Their home brew was not only served in their Bierhäusle, they also delivered it on a wheel barrel to further establishments in Lehen. As usual in the cafés those days, the Schwaier tenants - this family name will be spelt Schweier from 1881 onwards - also made their own wine. They fetched the must in Pfaffenweiler, Ehrenstetten and Bötzingen, then matured it in large 600 to 1200 liters barrels in their cellar. Besides this, they also distilled roughly 300 liters schnaps per year.

The Bierhäusle became a popular destination for excursions before the end of the XIXth century. Indeed the home brew, the good wine, the nice food cooked by Mrs Schweier, the skittle alley, the large room and the beer garden under the shadow of the chestnut trees attracted many guests until 1943, when a bombing destroyed 40% of the premises. The renovation of the Bierhäusle eventually started following a barn fire in 1948. Thanks to two renovation projects, Karl Schweier, his son Werner and his wife Lisbeth turned the old village café into the "Hotel - Restaurant Bierhäusle" whose welcoming and warm atmosphere became famous throughout the Region.

The next generation is now managing the hotel – restaurant, namely Karl Schweier who has acquired his qualification as a chef in the sports and spa hotel "Traube" in Tonbach. He has taken over the leadership of the family kitchen after many years of consolidating his experience in several restaurants abroad and particularly in Switzerland (among which the Seiler Hotels in Zermatt).

This typical Baden hospitality was nicely complemented by a Swabian touch thanks to Karl's wife Claudia, who also stems from a family with a long hotel tradition – Hotel Donaublick in Scheer, near Sigmarinen. Before moving from Swabia to Baden, Claudia has strengthened her hotel business training and experience in Zermatt (Hotel Mont-Cervin), in Sonthofen and Vail in the USA (Hotel Sonnenalp), in London (Mosimann's) and on the cruise ship MS Vistafjord.