



NEW ENGLAND STEINERS



April 2023 Member Newsletter

Spring meeting update:

Our meeting last month saw a good turnout even for a cold rainy spring day in New England. Lots of conversations and catching up with members we haven't seen for a while, and a great guest speaker Barry Toussaint as well.

Barry (center picture below) brought a table full of tourist steins and walked us through the history of many of his pieces. Several of us learned quite a lot about a category of steins often overlooked. Barry also provided a copy of his PROSIT article from 2005 which is attached later in the newsletter. Interesting read, be sure to check it out.



The food was delicious at the Munich Haus as always, and I am sure we will return there again in the future.

Next Chapter Meeting- Save the Date!

Our next meeting will be Saturday, June 17th at East Side Restaurant in New Britain, CT, 11:30 AM - 3:00 PM. There is no need to send money upfront as we will be ordering off their lunch menu and settling the individual checks at the end. Stein sales tables will be available as always. Important note: Please RSVP and let Ron Jacob know if you are coming so the restaurant can staff appropriately.

Other Club business:

Reminder: We are planning a September "triple header" meeting with the Burgermeisters and the NY Uppersteiners. The Club has reserved 14 rooms at Riedlbauer's Resort for September 22 - 24. Riedlbauer's Resort is located at 57 Ravine Drive, Round Top, NY 12473

This will be a sold-out event and other options for convenient lodging are hard to come by **so please let your intentions know as soon as possible.** The Club has prepaid reservations in the amount of \$50 per room. If you want to go please send \$50 to Ron Jacob as soon as possible. The Resorts rate for the weekend are \$101 per person, per day double occupancy or \$103 pp single occupancy, with a two night minimum for the weekend. This includes three full meals daily served Family Style, all you can eat, with German American cooking.

This is their last Oktoberfest weekend with nightly entertainment. Saturday will feature the "Mountain Express Band" in Nussy's Bier Garten. There is plenty of parking and space to set up your own stein table(s). You must bring your own tables. This promises to be a most enjoyable and memorable weekend that is very affordable and great for networking with other SCI chapters. Contact Stu Weiss with any questions.

SCI updates:

The 2023 SCI Convention will be held in Dayton, OH July 25th – 29th. The Convention Hotel is the Marriott at the University of Dayton. As usual there will be tours, a commercial auction by Ron Fox, round tables, speakers, and of course, stein sales tables. This promises to be a good time for all. **See full page exhibit from SCI website at the end of this newsletter.**

Reminder that membership renewals can be made by check made out to SCI and sent to Celia Clark, SCI Treasurer, 1228 Marigold LN, Longview, TX 75604-2826 or can be made by using PayPal with payment to SCI. All renewal information can be found on SCI's website www.stein-collectors.org.

Stein Collectors International

The gathering place for the stein collecting community!



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News & Announcements

**January 2023
Featured Stein**
Palmer Cox Brownies
by Ron Gray



Click the image to read about this stein.



Join your friends and fellow collectors in Dayton, OH for the 2023 SCI Convention, July 25 - 29

Subscribe or Renew

SteinTalk



SteinTalk is a forum for people seeking answers to questions about steins. It's a great way to exchange information and opinions with knowledgeable collectors! Click above to see what's going on!

NES Contact information:

Feel free to contact us via phone or by email if you have comments, questions, or suggestions.

Primary:

Ron Jacob, 64 South Worcester St. Norton, MA 02766 email: jake1043@verizon.net, phone: 774-203-3122

Secondary:

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Girmscheid Souvenir Type 1 Series Steins

by Barry Toussaint

I have been a collector of German steins since my early teens when my father presented me with the "family stein", a Gerz etched #265 which came over on the boat with my great-grandfather, who was a German citizen.

As with all beginner collectors, I wanted everything in sight but could only afford lower-end steins and mugs. American souvenir steins provided me with a way to continue to collect. When I first started collecting, these pieces were bringing from 50 cents to \$2 each, and a person could enlarge his collection while maintaining a limited budget.

It wasn't until the early 1990's that the world of stein collecting really opened up for me. I met several other stein collectors who suggested I become a member of SCI. I soon learned that there were many other collectors interested in this segment of stein collecting.

The concentration of this article is on a particular series of American souvenir steins made by the German manufacturer Matthias Girmscheid around 1900. The name "type 1" comes from a close friend, Bernie Gould, a passionate collector who has categorized and cataloged virtually thousands of steins of this type. His research is a large part of this article.

The type 1 steins (or mugs, as it is rare to find a lidded piece) are characterized by a cream lead-glazed body with brown and/or green contrasting background coloring. They have very distinctive Art Nouveau decorations on the sides of the body (figures 1, 2, 3, & 4). These steins were manufactured between 1900 to 1910 when the Art Nouveau style was at its peak, so it's not surprising that they show that influence.

They were made in 1/10L, 1/8L, 3/10L and 1/4L sizes. There are capacity marks in relief as well as a base numbering system that signifies the size. They all have the same 436 mold number impressed into the base. It is the second slash number that represents the steins size (fig 5).



figure 1



figure 2



figure 3



figure 4

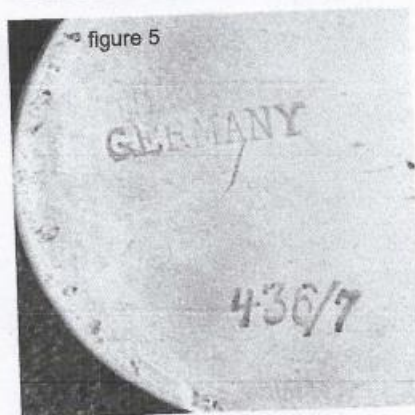


figure 5

This is the base numbering size chart.

436/9	1/10L size
436/8	1/8L size
436/2	3/10L size
436/7	1/4L size

After many years of collecting, I have not seen any exceptions to this numbering system. The base is also impressed with the word "GERMANY" in block type letters. In all the pieces that I have, only one is impressed with the Girmscheid makers mark (figure 6).



figure 6



Each stein is marked with a number inside a circle on the rear of the body back by the handle (figure 7). This number is clearly marked on most of these "type 1" series pieces. This was the manufacturer's way of identifying each stein for ordering and accounting. As with all stein manufacturers, there are always some exceptions within their numbering systems.

Stein #1 in this series is "Wheatland, Residence of the late President James Buchanan, Lancaster, Pa.", followed by #2, the "Woolworth Building, Lancaster, Pa.", and #3 "The Home of the Elks, Lancaster, Pa." Steins 4, 5, & 6 feature the "Masonic Home, Utica, N.Y.", in three different sizes. Steins 7 and 8 depict Springfield, MA. It appears that the early numbering system followed a salesman's route traveling throughout the northeast via the railroad. As a sale was made the salesman assigned the next available number.



figure 8

The first numbering oddity occurs with the stein marked "9+10" within the circle (figure 8). It is the only double-numbered stein in this series. We have yet to find any stein marked with just the #9 or #10 individually. The numbers continue consecutively, covering the states of Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania until #39. Here we discover another exception to the norm. There are two versions for this number, both showing

"Eastern Point Light", but one labeled "Gloucester, Mass." while the other is labeled "Cape Ann, Mass." (figure 9).

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figure 9



The next exception occurs at #119. For some reason a group of steins were assigned sub-numbers. Therefore we find #119/1 and three #119/10.

The numbers continue and the geographic areas expand to include the mid-west, far west, and south. The numbers appear to end at 167. Perhaps the advent of WWI suspended production.

We find no more steins in this series until #227 mysteriously appears. It is a 1/4 liter stein of the "Hotel Nantasket, Nantasket Beach, Mass." (figure 10). It makes you wonder why a 60 number gap?

Other oddities occur throughout the num-

figure 10



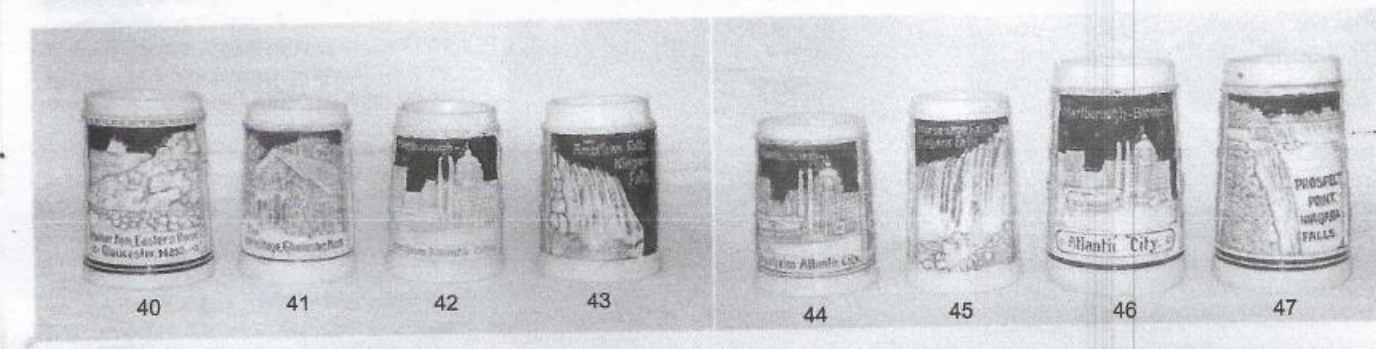
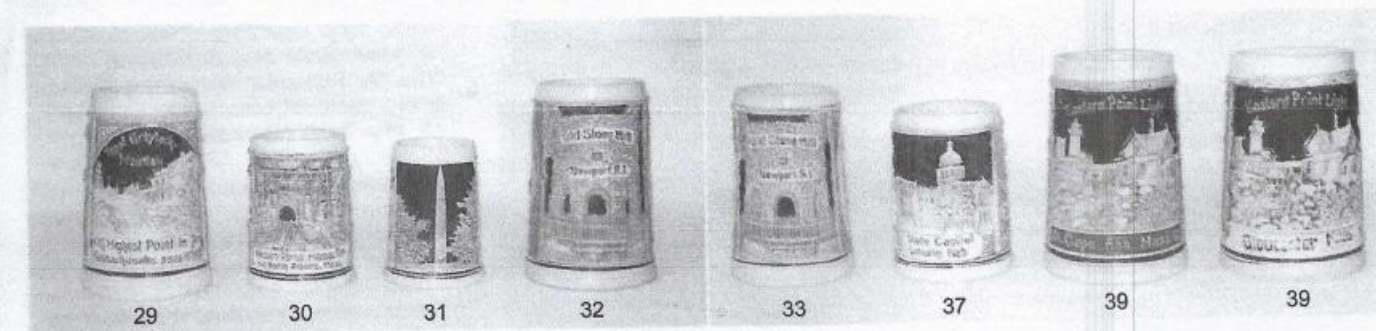
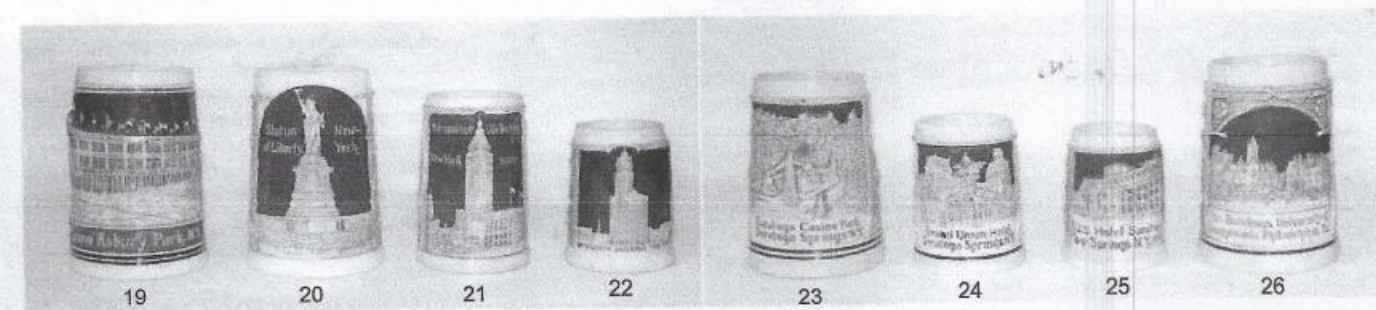
bering series. Steins #30 and #162 are slight variations of the same scene, "The Hoosac Tunnel, North Adams, Ma". Also, steins #31 and #163 are similar but different scenes of "Bennington Battle Monument". It appears that these steins were ordered and re-ordered at the same time, as these locations are only 20 miles apart.

Another standout of this series is the steins dedicated to unusual scenes or places, which breaks from the normal artistic style. Examples of this are #147, "A Dead Whale or a Stove Boat", #60, "The Old Fisherman Gloucester, Mass.", #114, "Battle of Lake Champlain, Sept. 11, 1814", #78, "Sanitarium, Battle Creek, Mich." and #91, "Stang Brewery, Sandusky, Ohio".

After studying these steins for many years, it appears that some were re-issued using the same identification number. It seems likely that they were re-orders after WW I. They stand out as the color was changed from the typical green contrasting color to a cobalt blue. There is also a noticeable decline in the sharpness of the relief, possibly due to worn molds.

If my math is correct, there are 25 states represented in this "type 1" series. The bulk of them are dedicated to the northeast, probably due to the population density and historic sites. I'm sure the location of the salesman and the state of transportation of that time, had a great deal to do with it also.

The following four pages are a photo gallery, in order by model number, of all known steins within the Girmscheid Type #1 series





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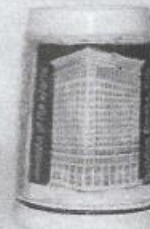
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118



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119/2



119/3



119/7



119/8



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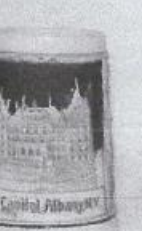
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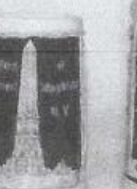
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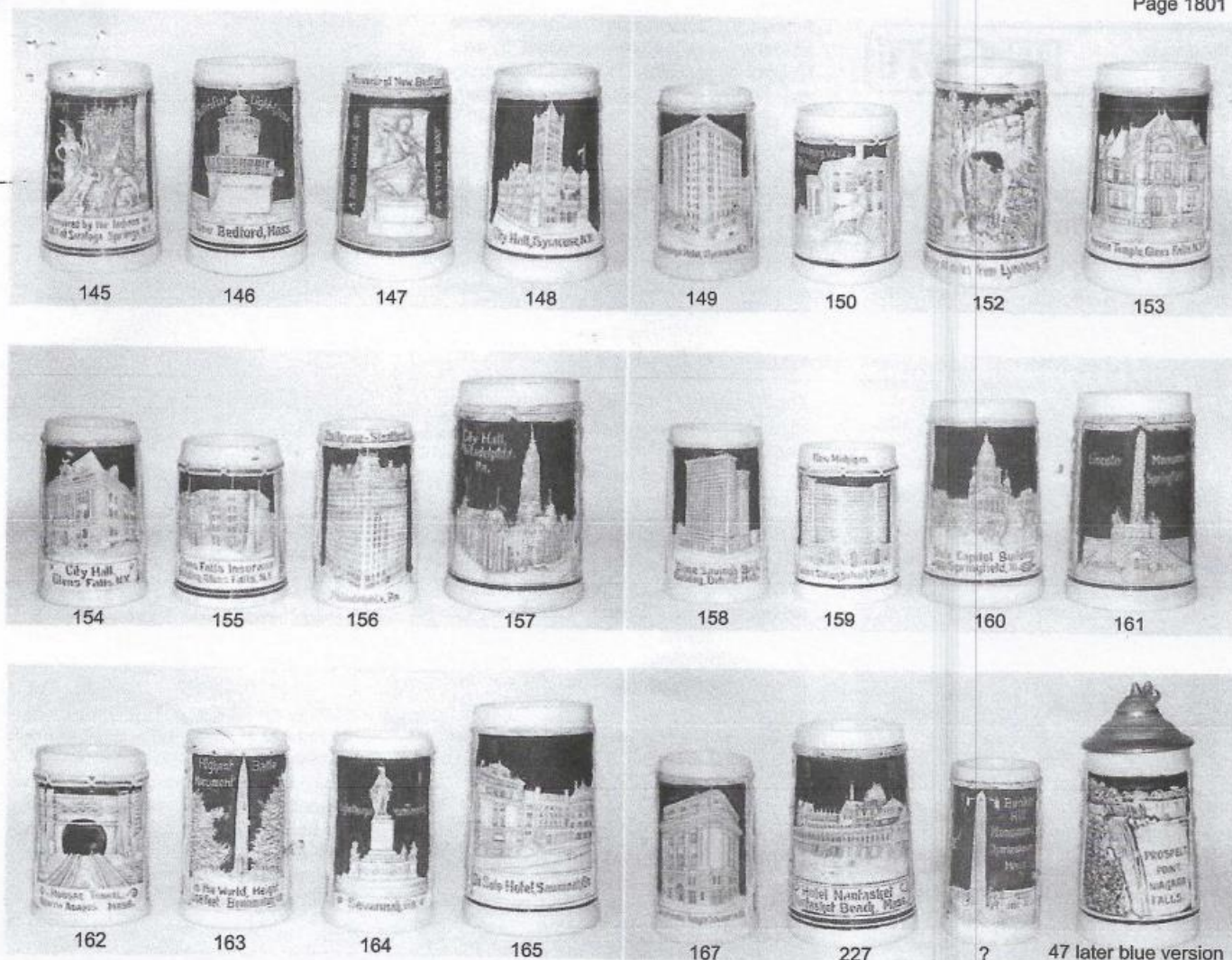
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It is important to point out that the smallest 1/8 liter size steins come in two different body styles, the more narrow and tall body and the wider shorter version. The above photo shows the two different bodies you can expect to find in that size.

The photo gallery accompanying this article illustrates all known model numbers and scenes. Hopefully we will hear from other collectors about steins from this series which are not included within this article. We are most interested in knowing if any steins within the #168 through #226 range exist.

Fun, inexpensive, historic, and educational are all descriptions for this area of collecting.

My collection currently numbers 144 different pieces. Hopefully, before I depart this earth, I will be able to complete this series. I welcome the opportunity to trade with all other collectors. Should you have any of these steins that fall into the missing numbers, please, please, let us hear from you about them. Your responses will prove to educate us all.

In the future, a series of articles will follow as this type of stein was produced by

most of the German stein manufacturers of the 1900 era. In the next issue of Prosit I will cover the souvenir steins manufactured by the Albert Jacob Thewalt firm of Höhr Grenzhäusen, Germany. The below photo is an example of the steins they produced.



The 2023 SCI Convention in Dayton, OH

SCI's 56th annual convention will be held in Dayton, Ohio, July 25 through 29, 2023. There will be two days of pre-convention activities: tours on July 25 and a commercial auction by Fox Auctions on July 26. The convention itself will be Thursday through Saturday, July 27 through July 29, with check-out from the hotel on Sunday, July 30.

The convention hotel is the Marriott at the University of Dayton, 1414 South Patterson Boulevard, Dayton, Ohio 45409. The hotel is convenient to restaurants and shops serving the university community and to Carillon Historical Park. The hotel has a complimentary shuttle which will take guests anywhere within a five mile radius.

Dayton is known as the birthplace of aviation, the city where Wilbur and Orville Wright developed the first airplanes. Sites associated with the Wright brothers range from their early bicycle shop to Hawthorn Hall, Orville's later home. The 1905 Wright Flyer III, which Orville considered the first practical airplane, is exhibited at Carillon Historical Park.

Dayton is a fitting location for the National Museum of the United States Airforce, the largest aviation museum in the world. It has 19 acres of indoor ex-



National Museum of the United States Airforce,

hibit space containing over 360 airplanes and space vehicles plus exhibits, a theater and restaurants. Visitors may board a NASA space shuttle and four former presidential airplanes.

An SCI member, the late Roger Glass, donated his beer stein collection to a Dayton museum. It is now on permanent display at the Carillon Historical Park, a museum complex of over 40 buildings and structures less than a mile from our convention hotel. We will view his collection during the convention.

Dayton is also known for the home of Paul Laurence Dunbar, the famous

African American poet; the Dayton Art institute, a major regional museum; its parks and paved trails along the Great Miami River; and more.

The convention itself will feature a strong program of speakers, round tables, auctions and stein sales, along with the hospitality room and afternoon tea in a nineteenth century mansion.

The convention rate at the Marriott at the University of Dayton is \$125 for a single or double room; this rate is valid from 7/24 - 7/30. Parking is complimentary.

Click here to make your hotel reservation online, or call 1-800-MARRIOTT and say you are with the Stein Collectors International 2023 group.

We urge you to make your reservation early.

For questions contact Richard Strom at stromrwk@gmail.com or 301-530-2403.

Watch for detailed convention information in the March, 2023 issue of *Prosit*.

