



Die Golden Gate Zecher Nachrichten

A Newsletter for Northern
California and Nevada
Stein Collectors

June
2024

President's Message

On April 13, about twenty Zecher members enjoyed a beautiful afternoon in Monterey at Bob and Lin Bebermeyer's home. A wonderful time was had by all. There was great hospitality, with a delicious dinner served out of Lin's new blue and white kitchen. Member Bob Burch gave an informative presentation on "Understanding Regimental Steins" from his collection. Many thanks to Bob and Linda for hosting such an enjoyable meeting and Bob Burch for his interesting presentation.

June 8th will find us at Jim and Cindi Rutter's home in the Emerald Hills area of Redwood City. This will be their first time hosting a meeting. **Our program will be our Zecher auction**, held every other year, to raise funds for out-of-town speakers. **Remember to bring items to donate to our auction.** Cash or checks will be accepted for your purchases. Jim has additional activities planned including a visit to his father's **famous Wizard of Oz and Sherlock Holmes collections**. Read all about it in Punch Magazine: <https://punchmagazine.com/oz-sherlock-stanford/>.

In July, I hope to see many of you at the SCI convention in Madison, WI. You will find all the necessary information to attend in your latest Prosit magazine. Sign up here: stein-collectors.org/conventions/

September's meeting will be at Bill and Rhoda Fry's home in Cupertino with speaker Steve Steigerwald speaking on Mettlach steins.

December finds us returning to Speisekammer restaurant in Alameda for our annual holiday party. Although the restaurant is now under new ownership, it is just as good as before and thanks to Les Paul, we'll continue to get our marvelous private room.

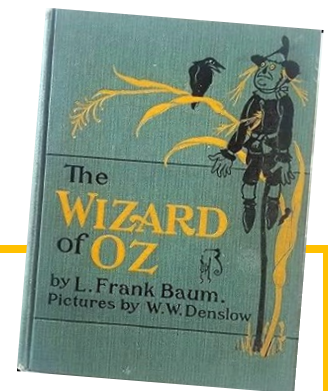
Be sure to mark your calendar for all these exciting and important events.

Prosit,

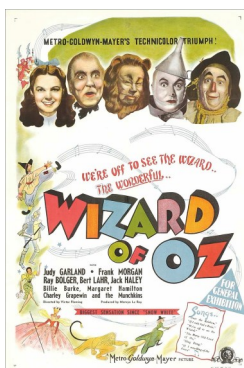
Julie Hughes, DGGZ President



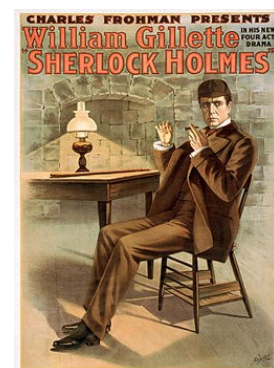
June 8 Meeting at Jim and Cindi Rutter's Home
6 Rock Creek Court, Redwood City, CA 94062
rutter@yoursports.com 650-714-1920



ASAP! Please mail \$25 per person to Jim Rutter to help defray the cost of food and drink. It helps to send checks early so that the host knows how many people are coming.



Meeting Schedule (approximate)
12:00: Board Meeting
1 :00PM: Socialize / Snacks / Stein Sales
2 :00PM: General Meeting
2:30 PM: Member's Auction followed by
guided tours of Jim's Dad's Oz
and Sherlock Holmes Collections
5:00 Dinner and "Beer Stein Jeopardy"



Wizard of Oz and Sherlock Holmes images are in the public domain

2024 and 2025 MEETING SCHEDULES

Saturday June 8, 2024

Host: Jim and Cindi Rutter
Location: Redwood City
Program: Member's Auction

July 2 - 6, 2024

SCI Convention
Location: Madison, WI

Saturday September 28, 2024

Bill and Rhoda Fry's Home
Location: Cupertino
Program: Steve Steigerwald on Mettlach

Sunday December 8, 2024

Speisekammer Restaurant (11AM—4PM)
Location: Alameda



Saturday April 12, 2025

Les Paul and TuC's Home
Location: Alameda

June TBD, 2025

Host: TBD
Location: TBD

September TBD, 2025

Dick and Julie Hughes
Location: Belmont

December TBD, 2025

Speisekammer Restaurant
Location: Alameda

Pacific Coast Stein Sammler Chapter Meetings in Washington State

Saturday September 7, 2024

Location: Puyallup, WA

Saturday December 7, 2024

Location: Gig Harbor, WA

For more information, email the
Pacific Stein Sammler Club contact
pacificsteindkn@gmail.com



Remember to Register!!!

**July SCI Convention
in Madison, WI**

stein-collectors.org/conventions/

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In Memoriam

Vera Parr Feb 12, 1947 - Aug 8, 2023



Vera Parr was a long time member of the Zechers and President of our club for several years. She worked as a speech therapist in the Bay Area. Well after she retired, she moved to Delaware to be closer to her family. She attended the 2021 SCI convention in Delaware where she reconnected with the Zechers. She got sick with cancer shortly thereafter and her sister took care of her at the end. We all miss her.

<https://everloved.com/life-of/vera-parr/memories/>

Graz Clock Tower - A Treasured Memory Found at Fox Auction

by Julie Hughes

While paging through my copy of the April 20, 2024 Fox Auction catalog, my fingers stopped dead in their tracks when, to my surprise, I came across a ceramic Clock Tower Tobacco Jar. I immediately recognized it as the landmark Clock Tower (Uhrturn) in Graz, Austria and it brought back a flood of childhood memories for me. And on top of that, the jar was made by Johann Maresch (1821 – 1914), an Austrian artist who made my terra cotta reclining gnome who is under my piano upstairs.

In 1951 at 11 years old, I traveled with my family to Germany and Austria to visit relatives for the first time after WWII ended. I can still picture the Graz Clock Tower in my mind with its massive structure and winding stairs leading to the top.

When my father emigrated to America from Graz, Austria at 17 years old in 1923, he carried with him a post-card album that his mother gave him to remind him of his homeland. It also helped to prevent him from getting lonesome while making a new life for himself, with limited English skills in a strange new country. I still have my father's cherished album that has many postcards of the Uhrturn.



Above: Graz Uhrturn tobacco jar by Johann Maresch. Height 10 in.¹

Above Right: Graz Uhrturn overlooks the entire city. Postcard from my father (ca 1900—1923)²

Right: Modern photograph of Graz Uhrturn³



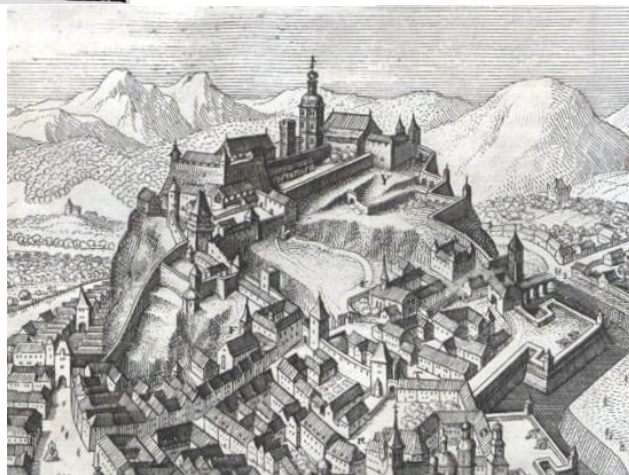
Graz Clock Tower (continued from page 3)

The Clock Tower, located on the former site of a fortress, dates back to the year 1265, when it was originally built as a defense tower to watch for enemies and fire. The fortress, which is situated on a hill with sweeping views of the city, is aptly named Schlossberg, meaning “castle mountain.” In 1809, Napoleonic forces destroyed the fortress but spared clock tower and bell tower in exchange for ransom money paid by Graz citizens. Now the fortress is a public park and its iconic Clock Tower has become a main symbol of Graz and an inspiration for various souvenirs, such as pins, snow globes, models, steins, jewelry, and my tobacco jar.

The 90-foot-tall Clock Tower’s present shape dates from 1569, when its first clock was installed. New clock-works were installed in 1712 and continue to be operational. The 16-foot-diameter clocks have gold-plated clock hands. Part of the Clock Tower's uniqueness is its "swapped" clock hands. The small hands show the minute, while the large hands show the hour. Originally, the clock only had a large hand to show the hour and the smaller minute hand was added later. Because hours were considered to be more important than minutes, the large hand remained the hour hand so that it could be seen from afar.

Fire watchmen manned the tower from a wooden structure that runs around the tower above the clocks. Three bells, some of which predate the tower’s current structure, are located above the wooden structure: the clock bell was cast in 1382, the fire bell was cast in 1645, and the bell rung during executions was cast in 1450 (in the 1800s it was used for tavern curfews).

Graz is such a beautiful city to visit with a historic center that is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. I will never forget my first visit to Graz in 1951 and now I have a very special tobacco jar to remind me of those precious memories.



Above Photos: Stairs leading to Graz Uhrturnm
Postcard from my father (ca 1900—1923)²

Above after Photos: 4.5” tall Uhrturnm souvenir made of
painted wood that was handed down from my family.

Above far Right: Modern Graz tourist stein featuring the
Uhrturnm by King-Werk⁴

Right: Print of Schlossberg from 1679 by Matthäus
Merian (1593—1650)⁵

References are on the next page

Graz Clock Tower References (continued from page 4)

1. Tobacco jar image courtesy Ron Fox of Fox Auction (modified by Rhoda Fry)
 2. Postcards from around 1900 to 1923 given to my father by his mother when he left Graz in 1923.
 3. Modern image of Graz, licensed through creative commons. By C.Stadler/Bwag - Own work, CC BY-SA 4.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=119457105>
 4. Modern Graz Souvenir Stein by King-Werk <https://www.germansteins.com/graz-austria-beer-stein/>
 5. Print of Schlossberg, licensed through public domain https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Topographia_Austriacarum_%28Burg_am_Grazer_Schlossberg%29_200.jpg
- Graz Uhrturm https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grazer_Uhrturm
 - Graz Tourism https://www.graztourismus.at/en/sightseeing-culture/sights/clock-tower_shg_1488
 - Graz Schlossberg [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Schlossberg_\(Graz\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Schlossberg_(Graz))
 - The Story of Graz by the Graz Museum <https://360.grazmuseum.at/en/>
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Monterey Memories at the Bebermeyer's Home April 13, 2024

Left: Lin serves up a feast in her new kitchen.

Right: Rhoda admires an early Mettlach beaker designed by Ludwig Foltz II while Bill smiles for the camera. Les provides information on one of the many steins he brought to sell. Host Bob is in the background, wearing his red jacket.



Above: Some of the steins that Bob brought

Left: Clockwise - Doug, Marina, Suzanne, Bob and Caroline hanging out in the loft with steins

Die Golden Gate Zecher

Board and General Meeting Summary Saturday October 14, 2023 Belmont

We had a moment of silence for Vera Parr; we received a warm hello from Larry and Pam Peters via email; Aurel Keck donated his wooden guard house where he kept an antique suit of armor (it now resides a Jim Rutter's); and Ron Fox is the new president of SCI.

Guests: Dave & Sharon Bruha from Harshaw, WI; Shannon Shankle from Monterey, and Rhoda's friends Caryl Gorska and Danessa Techmanski from Cupertino.

President – Julie: Thank you. All the board members will be staying on through 2024!! The 2024 SCI convention will be held in Madison Wisconsin, July 4-6 with pre-convention activities starting on July 2. Dave Bruha is the convention chair and spoke more about all the incredible sights close by the hotel. Sounds like it will be a great convention!!

Vice President – Bob: Shout out to fellow bike riders just back from a trip biking along the Danube River in Europe. The holiday party is scheduled for Saturday December 9 with Ron Fox as speaker. 2024 meetings are scheduled for April 13 at the Bebermeyers, June 8 at the Rutters, and September 28 at the Frys.

Secretary – Vicki: Minutes approved at board meeting. The board and general meeting minutes will now be summarized for the newsletter. Copies of the individual meeting minutes are available in the club files.

Treasurer – Dick: We have 49 paid members.

Newsletter Editor – Rhoda: Need members to send her articles.

Chapter Contact – Les: Out of town.

The Board decided to have no speaker at auction meetings and remove the historian position. We are looking for help putting past photos in digital form. A committee is working on updating the club guidelines.



Die Golden Gate Zecher

Summary of Board and General meeting minutes from April 13, 2024, Monterey

Thank you to Bob and Lin Bebermeyer for hosting. Thank you to Bob Burch for his wonderful talk on Regimental Steins. All officers and board members agreed to stay on through next year. Vicki brought photo albums from old meetings. She can still use some help digitalizing them. Thank you to Chuck, Julie and Vicki for updating the Zecher guidelines. Contact Chuck Schoppe if you'd like a copy. Spiesekammer restaurant has new owners. Les is hoping we can still go there for our holiday party in December. Les also mentioned the spring Hillsborough Antique show was cancelled this year and future shows are in jeopardy. Times are changing and younger collectors buy and sell online. Rhoda requested members send her articles for future newsletters. Julie thanked Rhoda for the new format of the newsletter. It's much easier to read! Julie is working on re-chartering our chapter with SCI. Please join SCI if you're not already a member. It's not expensive and you get 4 issues a year of Prosit magazine. Official meeting minutes are available from Vicki or Julie.

(Images of Graz Souvenir Stein by King-Werk <https://www.germansteins.com/graz-austria-beer-stein/>)

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Zecher Beer Stein
Club on Facebook!**

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**Join
DGGZ
Today!**

Die Golden Gate Zecher Membership Form

an organization for Northern California and Nevada Stein Collectors

Name(s) _____

Address Line 1 _____

Address Line 2 _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Annual dues are \$15 yearly or 3 years for \$40.

Membership dues help support the cost of speaker programming and ancillary items.

Members receive a newsletter via email and have a vote in club affairs.

Make your check payable to: DGGZ

and mail it to: Dick Hughes

1532 Desvio Way

Belmont, CA 94002



Did you know that Die Golden Gate Zecher has been an official Chapter of Stein Collector's International (SCI) since 1984? Chapter members are encouraged to become SCI members and membership has its benefits! At only \$25/year for an online membership (\$45 for print with discounts for 3 years) you get access to: quarterly magazine (and back issues), member's directory, library, convention, and more! You can join on the web stein-collectors.org/prosit2/

"Die Golden Gate Zecher Nachrichten" is published approximately four times a year for the benefit of our members. *Die Golden Gate Zecher*, an affiliate of **Stein Collectors International**, covers the Northern California and Nevada areas. We welcome contributions of articles, illustrations and photographs, letters of suggestion or encouragement, or general interest items from the membership. Material submitted to this newsletter originally appearing in another publication other than SCI must be accompanied by written permission to reprint. **Permission to reproduce material from this newsletter is granted to SCI or affiliate chapters, providing full attribution to this newsletter is given.** Zecher newsletter articles in native format will be provided upon request for the publication in SCI chapter's newsletters.