



Next Meeting Schedule

Our next meeting for the new year will be this month on February 17, 2024. As usual, we will meet in the Ratskeller of the Teutonia Männerchor Club on the North Side of Pittsburgh. A sandwich buffet luncheon will be served at approximately 12:00 noon with the general meeting to follow. Due to the "Lerne Deutsch" club meeting running from 10:30 am to 11:30 am in the Ratskeller, stein sales tables may not be able to be set up until 11:30 am. This will be a show-n-tell meeting so please bring a stein or two to share with all those in attendance.

Members Directory

The updated 2023-2024 Members Directory will be sent out to all current PSS members soon. If you do not receive yours by mid-February, contact Tom Levenson.

Happy Birthday Wishes



Happy Birthday To:

JACK BANKS	FEBRUARY 1
HAL PLATT	FEBRUARY 12
ANDREW FAHNER	FEBRUARY 17
YVETTE WEIDLER	FEBRUARY 17
KIM SELLERS	FEBRUARY 18
LEO GRACE	FEBRUARY 19
JUSTINA LEVENSON	FEBRUARY 22
TOM WEBER	FEBRUARY 24
JOEL STUMPF	FEBRUARY 25

May your special day be filled with happiness and good health !!!

Did You Know

February is the third and last month of meteorological winter in the Northern Hemisphere. In the Southern Hemisphere, February is the third and last month of meteorological summer (being the seasonal equivalent of what is August in the Northern Hemisphere). So ... if we get through February, Spring will be on the way !!!

Reference: *Wikipedia*

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Tip of the Month

Coming from a member of the Executive Committee of Stein Collectors International (SCI) this "TIP" may sound like a commercial for SCI but I assure you that it is far from that. If you haven't already become a member of SCI (the Pittsburgh Stein Society has the most Chapter members who are also SCI members) you're missing out on a whole world of benefits that any stein collector would want to have. A few of these benefits are: Prosit magazine is a full color magazine that is loaded with beautiful photos of rare and unusual steins, many interesting articles written by stein collectors (including our own Jeff Arduini, Tom Levenson, and the late Dick Platt), and pages and pages of information about steins that makes for many hours of great reading. Prosit magazine is published four times a year and is available in printed and digital form.

Another benefit is the ability to attend the annual SCI convention that is held in different locations all over the USA and, at times, Germany. This year's convention will be held in Madison, WI. These conventions give you the opportunity to meet and socialize with stein collectors from all over the country, to listen to experts speak on all types of steins, and to see thousands of steins all in one place for you to look at, touch, ask questions about

and even purchase if you find one that you just have to have.

There are so many more benefits to being a member of SCI but space in this newsletter just doesn't allow for the full details of all the benefits.

So, here is this month's TIP OF THE MONTH: Join Stein Collectors International ASAP and start to expand your knowledge of the steins that we all love to collect. Joining is as easy as filling out the form attached to this newsletter or by going online to www.stein-collectors.org and clicking on the Subscribe tab and then just follow the directions. You won't regret it.



HAPPY FEBRUARY !!

Show and Tell Time

As you know, we try to have guest speakers attend our meetings so that we can hear and learn from experts in their particular fields of interest related to the stein collecting world. In the past, we have been very lucky to have had some really top-notch guest speakers visit our meetings to share their knowledge and excitement about stein collecting with us. We have heard from Master Steinologist and SCI Executive Director, Steve Steigerwald, as well as J.W. Barney and Judy Stuart, just to name a few. These guest speakers are all very interesting to listen to and certainly add to the fun of attending our meetings and we will continue to try to have more guest speakers for the coming meetings. There is one speaker in particular out there that we have not heard from. **That's YOU.** That's right, we all have a stein that has a story or has something unusual about it. You don't have to be an expert in Mettlachs or own a character stein that no one has ever seen before. All you have to do is share the story or the details of that favorite stein with the rest of us "non-experts" in a show-n-tell segment of our meeting. It's easier than you think and everyone can do it. **Even YOU.** So, start thinking about that deal you got on eBay, or that stein that your grandfather left to your father who left it to you, or the first stein you purchased, or the last stein you purchased, you get the idea. With your help, we can make the show-n-tell feature of our meetings one of the reason our members will attend. Let's all participate and have fun.

(Reprinted from the PSS Newsletter dated January 2018).

Welcome, Welcome

Welcome to our newest PSS member, Hermann F. Westphal. Hermann signed-up for a one-year membership on January 08, 2024. Hermann lives in Woodstock, Maryland but hopes to make as many of our meetings at the Teutonia that he can. Welcome to our stein collecting family, Hermann. We all look forward to meeting you in person and hearing about your stein collection.

Article of the Month

How exciting it is to have our newest PSS member submit a whimsical and entertaining article about his pet dog named Helmuth !! Nice job Hermann.



This is Helmuth, my pet dog. He doesn't need to be fed or walked. He doesn't bark or bite either. He was born more than 120 years ago in Plaue, Thuringia, Germany, and raised by the Schierholz family who certified him as one of the finest specimens of the Musterschutz breed. If he still had his original Alpine hat and pipe, he would nowadays sell for a pretty penny. Nevertheless, he replaced his hat by his current helmet during WWI. He also lost his pipe in the trenches and quit smoking at the time. Since he is one of the few survivors of his generation, he is still relatively pricy. He is not to be mistaken with some recent genetically modified dog breeds by Domex that look very much like him but are not Musterschutz certified.

Stein Collectors International

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☐ No restrictions

☐ Show email address and telephone numbers
☐ Do not put me in directory (Member # only)

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