



Die Golden Gate Zecher

Nachrichten

A Newsletter for Northern California and Nevada Stein Collectors

November 21
2022

Message from President Julie Hughes

Hello Zechers, Wow, what an amazing Oktoberfest meeting we had, hosted by Bill, Rhoda and Justin Fry! Thank you to the Frys for giving the Zechers such a wonderful time! Bill had just finished building a display case in their foyer and it now houses the most beautiful and unusual steins, including Bill's Munich Brewery steins. Very impressive! Rhoda's kitchen was never closed. There was an abundance of appetizers and snacks, accompanied by beer and huge pretzels. Later in the day, a delicious dinner of sausage, roasted chicken, beef stew, spaetzle (noodles) and salads along with Rhoda's homemade desserts. To top it all off, Suzanne brought her famous monumental chocolate cake. Nobody went home hungry.

Mark Durban gave us great insight into the early life of Henrich Schlitt (1849 - 1923), demonstrating some of Schlitt's original illustrations and paintings, many of which were published in a wide array of publications. Most collectors know Schlitt for Mettlach steins and plates, etc... and his paintings in the Munich Ratskeller. Thank you Mark for a great and informative presentation!

After Mark's presentation, we all had fun watching Bill and Justin demonstrate their Lionel Train layout. Some members made a monetary donation for steins and glasses that were provided by Chuck McDonald. These donations added \$60 to the Zecher treasury. We are still accepting contributions. Thank you Chuck for your generosity!

We also "Welcomed" Roy and Sue Kellogg, who officially became Zecher members and have attended some of our past meetings. Aurel Keck, a long-time member who lives nearby, also joined in the fun. It was wonderful to see him again. In all, we had 31 people at this meeting. This sure was an amazing time had by all.

We still need more members to step up to host meetings; please consider it. Our last get together for 2022 will be our holiday party at **Speisekammer Restaurant on December 11, 2022 from 11am - 4pm** for "Gemutlichkeit," delicious food, a stein talk, show and tell, and stein sales. You don't want to miss this great holiday event!

Julie Hughes

German Christmas ornaments on right



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Annual Holiday Party at Speisekammer Restaurant speisekammer.com

Speisekamer
2424 Lincoln Ave., Alameda, CA
Sunday December 11, 2021
11 am to 4 pm



No Reservation Form!
Just Order your own Lunch
at the Restaurant

bring steins for show/tell/sell/trade

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Free Online International Conference December 1 & 2 Rhenish Stoneware
The LVR-Landes-Museum Bonn is hosting a free online live conference that appears to be in English. This event will not be recorded so you'll have to get up early! Sign up info is here: <https://bodenmalpflege.lvr.de/media/bodenmalpflege/aktuelles/pdf/>

2022/2023 Meeting Schedule Brought to You by our V.P. Bob Bebermeyer **Mark Your Calendars!**

Sunday December 11, 2022
11AM to 4PM
We Must EXIT by 4PM!
Speisekammer Restaurant
2424 Lincoln Avenue, Alameda, CA
Order your meal from the menu and bring money/check/credit card to pay for your meal
Speaker: Rhoda Fry on the Anatomy and Terminology of Beer Steins 101
Bring steins for show/tell/buy/trade!

Saturday March 11, 2023

Time TBD
Les Paul Collection
568 Country Isle, Alameda, CA
Speaker: Bill Gee from La Grange, KY
Bill spoke at the recent SCI Convention
The topic is likely The Trumpeter of Säckingen, which is the title character in a poem (Der Trompeter von Säckingen) written in 1853 by Josef Viktor von Scheffel, which tells the story of a love affair between the trumpeter and a baron's daughter.

June 10, 2023

Time TBD
Bob & Linda Bebermeyers' home
1247 Sylvan Road, Monterey, CA
Speaker: TBD

Saturday September 16

Time TBD
Fall Oktoberfest Meeting
Dick & Julie Hughes' Home
1532 Desvio Way, Belmont, CA
Speaker: TBD

Mark Durban Offers a Sneak Peak by Rhoda Fry



Mark Durban with his wife Pola looking on

We were lucky to get Mark Durban to be our speaker at the September 17, 2022 meeting on the artist Heinrich Schlitt and he certainly did not disappoint. Mark Durban is a second-generation stein collector who has studied the artist known to stein collectors for his whimsical themes on Mettlach wares. Mark showed us the artist's other talents in creating artwork for a myriad of publications, fine art, and even his sketchbooks. Remarkably, Mark recently acquired a treasure trove of Schlitt's work that was left in his old apartment in Germany. In the photo above, Mark is showing us a nude male figure. He also brought an oil painting of a military scene. We learned that some of Schlitt's creativity might have come as a result of having taken pain medications. Mark and Therese Thomas, former curator at the Mettlach Museum, are collaborating on a new book about Heinrich Schlitt featuring his life story and Mark's newly-discovered artworks.

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Aurel (long time member) and Julie (President)

"*Die Golden Gate Zecher Nachrichten*" is published 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.

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Early German Stoneware Book

by Rhoda Fry

We've been reading a 2-volume book, written in English, The Ancient Art Stoneware of the Low Countries and Germany, or "Grès De Flandres" by Marc-Louis Solon in 1892. The book, still referred to by art historians today, contains illustrations by the author, many facts about guilds, history, trade, stoneware centers, along with the author's opinions that make it feel as though he has stepped out of the past and into your home to tell you a very good story. He references a number of familiar museums and famous private collections that were later auctioned off, some to museums. You can read it for free on google books, buy it as a reprint, or acquire it from an antiquarian bookseller for a princely sum.

To the right, are illustrations of a jugs with angels, which I thought is appropriate for the season. Their description provides an example of the author's prose: "The last example is not of a model commonly found at Siegburg, nevertheless its decoration remains truly characteristic. It was made for the trade of some distant province. The arms of Austria spread their broad shield on the front of the piece, surmounted by the figure of an angel. This angel is often added to escutcheons where it is quite out of keeping with the other heraldic bearings; we have seen it on fig. 69 forming the crest of the arms of Berg. Perhaps it is to their own device that the potters liked to introduce in this peculiar manner, as a stamp of origin; an angel stood, as we know, in the arms of the abbatial town. A long inscription, a much rarer instance at Siegburg than in other centres, is disposed on the shoulders of the jug, impressed in two bands, slanting in a curious way."

The author also provides a number of interesting and humorous anecdotes. It is good to know that over 400 years ago, communities were interested in recycling, re-using, and sobriety: In Siegburg, guild regulations forbade selling inferior goods. On the feast of St. Annon, the guild gave paupers defective jugs that could be brought to the Abbey to be filled to the brim with a good beer, regardless of its size, as long as it could be lifted with one arm!

I think that the author is referring to St. Anno, which is celebrated on December 4. Anno (c. 1010 - Dec. 4, 1075) was an archbishop in nearby Cologne (Köln) who was prominent in the political struggles of the Holy Roman Empire. He was canonized 1183.



Fig. 69. B^m Oppenheim Coll. Height, 14 in.

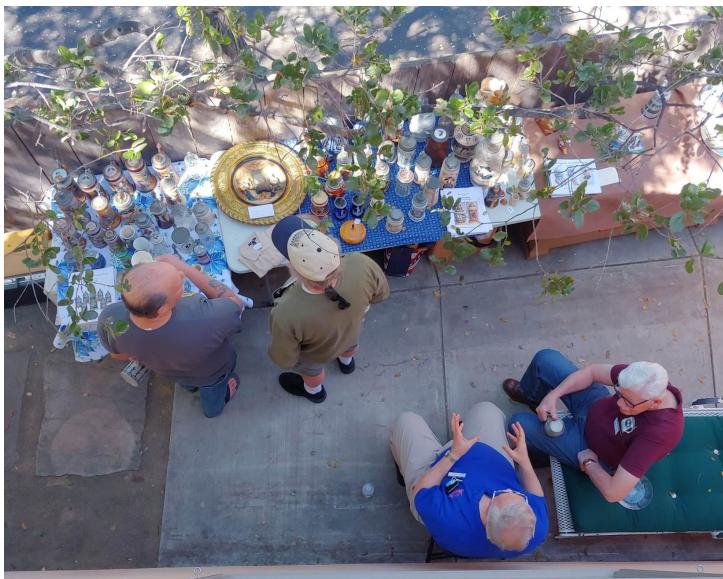


Fig. 70. Felix Coll. Height, 10½ in.

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We were extremely lucky with marvelous weather with a record heat wave the preceding week and rain the day after the meeting. Suzanne climbed into Justin's tree fort (and was an amazing help with after-party cleanup along with Vicki). Peggy and Nancy chipped in to help boil noodles and had time for a break on the deck while others enjoyed robust stein sales in the side yard.



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Out of Town Stein Collectors are
Always Welcome!

Out-of-Towners who came from the South:
Mark, Pola, Pat, Terri, Roy, and Sue.

Out-of-Towners who came from the North:
Bernd, Christy, Lyn, Janine.



See you on
Sunday
December 11, 2022
Speisekammer
Restaurant,
Alameda
from 11 am to 4pm
(no reservation needed
buy your own lunch)

