



# Die Golden Gate Zecher

## Nachrichten

A Newsletter for Northern  
California and Nevada  
Stein Collectors

Volume 43, Issue 1  
April 1, 2022

Hello Zechers,

This year started out with much sadness with the loss of long-time GGZ members Steve Elliott and Guenter Morawietz. Our deepest sympathies go to Steve's wife, Suzanne (our previous longtime VP) and their family and to Guenter's family. See pages 5 and 6 for obituaries.

A special "Thank You" goes to Rhoda! In addition editing our Zecher newsletter, when our February meeting was canceled due to COVID, she put together a wonderful Zoom presentation about Regensburg steins. She'll also give a short-version of her presentation at our April 30 meeting.

With COVID restrictions easing up day-by-day, our Zecher meetings are back on track starting with our **Spring Meeting on April 30** featuring our biennial member's auction! Proceeds go toward our fund for out-of-town speakers. Bring cash and/or checkbook. This is your opportunity to do some "Spring Cleaning" for donations to the auction. Even if you don't donate or buy, you'll surely enjoy our talented and entertaining Ron Fox as auctioneer. We'll also have a steins sales table for members to buy/sell/trade.

Another big "Thank You" goes to Bob for his fantastic job as our new Vice President and recruiting new members. Welcome new members! We are happy to have you!

All of our board members deserve our gratitude for working so diligently to keep our DGGZ club functioning. See you all on April 30th! Prosit, Julie Hughes, President DGGZ

### Message from GGZ Vice-President Bob Bebermeyer

Hi Zechers:

As Vice President I am tasked with encouraging old and new members to attend the Auction Meeting at Dick and Julies on April 30, 2022. This has always been a fun meeting and you could return to your home with some real treasures (at bargain prices) in addition to helping our club raise some funds for the Treasury. I have promised the Pres. that I will call or e-mail members whom we have not seen for a while and encourage them to attend. Please try to find some new members in your circle of friends; I have managed to annoy most of mine with club solicitation. The weather should be good and the setting in Dick and Julies back yard is fabulous. Please join me and if I call or e-mail you, please check you spam folders, it is only me and I would love to see those of you I know and to meet those of you I don't. Prosit and Gemutlichkeit, Bob

### In This Issue

President's and VP's Messages	1
April 30 Meeting Information	1
December Meeting Recap	2
2022 Schedule	2
Auction Items from Aurel Keck	2
Your Leadership Team	3
February Meeting recap	3
Meet New Members	4
In Memoriam Steve Elliott	5
In Memoriam Guenter Morawietz	6
Addition to Fry Collection	6

### APRIL 30 MEETING at Dick and Julie Hughes' 1532 Desvio Way, Belmont at 1PM

Please mail check for \$20 per person to:  
Julie Hughes  
1532 Desvio Way  
Belmont, CA 94002-3623

If you're lost, please call: 650-593-1261

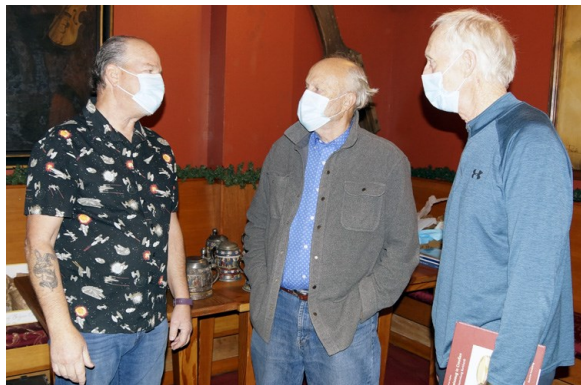
### Approximate Meeting Schedule

12:00 PM Board Meeting  
1:00 PM Snacks / Social / Stein Sales  
2:00 PM General Meeting  
3:00 PM Presentation / Auction  
5:00 PM Dinner

# Die Golden Gate Zecher Nachrichten

## December Meeting Photos

At our annual holiday meeting at the Speisekammer Restaurant in Alameda, Scott Mitchell brought his huge 17th century Creus-sen beer stein collection. Ron Fox explained the characteristics of these fine tankards and how to tell the difference between authentic ones and reproductions. As is customary, Les brought many steins for sale.



## 2022 Meeting Schedule

April 30, 2022: Dick and Julie Huges  
Belmont

August 16-20, 2022: SCI Convention  
Charleston, SC

September 17, 2022: Bill and Rhoda Fry  
Cupertino

December TBD, 2022: Probably Speisekammer  
Back by popular demand!

Note: Hillsborough Antiques Show at the San Mateo  
Event Center April 22 to 24 and November 11 to 13.

## Exciting Items to be Auctioned on April 30

GGZ member Aurel Keck has donated some items for our auction including an authentic Lowenbrau neon sign that you can hang in your man-cave (it looks like the one pictured here).



There's a Snow White Mettlach plaque in its original Mettlach box and many items from past conventions such as this 2.5" Villeroy & Boch blue and white cameo commemorative mini-plaque.





# Die Golden Gate Zecher Nachrichten

## Die Golden Gate Zecher

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### GGZ on Facebook

[facebook.com/DieGoldenGateZecher/](https://facebook.com/DieGoldenGateZecher/)

### February 2022 Meeting Recap

Due to COVID, we had to cancel our in-person February meeting. GGZ member Rhoda Fry decided to make lemonade out of lemons and set up a ZOOM meeting and talked about a type of Westerwald beer stein that is often referred to as a Regensburg. This style of stein, dating from the 1850s to early 1900s, was made of clay from the Westerwald region and manufactured at about 16 factories; only one of which was in Regensburg! We explored how modern and early steins are made by watching excerpts of YouTubes. Ilja Frenzel, a potter from Germany, has wonderful [videos on his YouTube station called Mittelalterkeramik \(click on this link\)](#) on making pottery from the middle ages. About 16 people joined in and we had guests from all over the U.S.



“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.

# Die Golden Gate Zecher Nachrichten

## New Member Sam Huntington by Bob Bebermeyer



It is my pleasure to introduce the newest member of the club. His name is Sam Huntington and he and his wife live in Pacific Grove, California. He has retired from the health care field. He is an avid cyclist, runner and swimmer and has traveled throughout the world. After Sam's last trip to Antarctica, he mentioned some of his trips to the German speaking world, Germany, Austria and Switzerland. I told Sam about our club and he expressed interest in perhaps acquiring a nice stein to have as an appropriate souvenir of his travels in the German speaking countries. He related that he was not a beer drinker but enjoys wine. Sam did admit that if he could find a Guinness on draft he would certainly drink it. I told Sam that drinking beer was not a prerequisite to membership and certainly given the expertise of our membership we could point him in the right direction for the acquisition of a favorite stein. I hope you will have an opportunity to meet Sam at one of our next meetings.

## New Member Roger Gayman by Rhoda Fry



Have you noticed that our V.P. Bob Bebermeyer has recruited three new members recently? Way to go Bob. And Bob is right, you don't need to be a beer-drinker to be a beer stein collector! Many members, such as myself don't drink at all. You're always welcome to bring a friend to a meeting.

New member Roger Gayman has had a lifelong affinity for the ocean environment which influenced his decision to pursue ocean lifeguarding in Southern California and later a career in the Coast Guard. A BA in Social Ecology from UC Irvine and MS in Business from The Johns Hopkins University facilitated his personal growth and eventual work with military veteran employment and training. Roger and his wife, Marci love to cycle and travel, as well as to spend time with their grandchildren. Since lifelong learning has always been a passion of theirs, they look forward to learning more about beer steins.



Artwork of peasants dancing found on early Raeren stoneware has also inspired later stoneware. See [www.toepfereimuseum.org](http://www.toepfereimuseum.org)



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## In Memoriam

compiled by Rhoda Fry

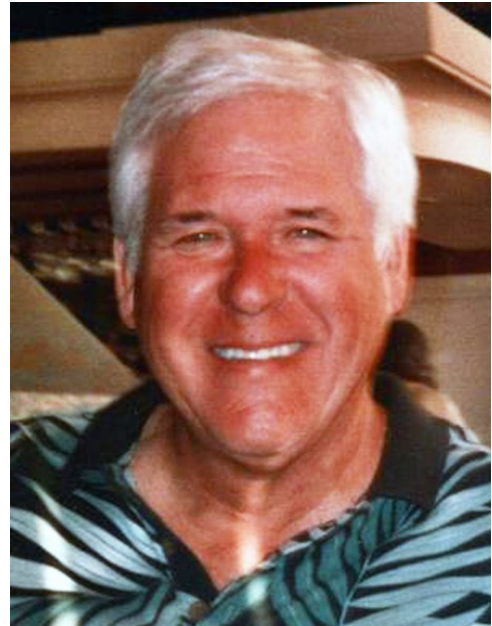
January 2022 was a sad month for our Zecher club, with the loss of two members, Steve Elliott and Guenter Morawietz to COVID. Members join the club for their common interest in beer steins and remain in the club for the camaraderie and friendship.

We never knew that Steve had a love for fishing and camping at the Rubicon Trail in the Sierras until he had spied Bill Fry's new jeep after a club meeting a half-dozen years ago. It had been a quarter-century since Steve had taken Bill under his wing as a beer-stein mentor and once again, Bill became his lucky student (along with our son, Justin) on his annual trek to the Rubicon sandwiched between an enjoyable visit at home-base at Lake Tahoe with his wife, our past club V.P. Suzanne. So get to know your fellow Zecher and you might find that you have more in common than just beer steins! Steve and Guenter's published obituaries follow.



Suzanne with Steve

## Stephen Elliott 1945 - 2022



Stephen Raymond Elliott was born in Vallejo, CA and spent his 76 years of life as a fixture of the community before passing from this life due to complications caused by COVID-19 and acute stubbornness.

Steve thoroughly enjoyed his childhood, much of which was spent finding out just how much mischief his family would tolerate. He joined his father, William G. Elliott Jr., and his brother, William G. Elliott III, as a commercial real estate broker at Elliott Real Estate in 1970 and continued a career he loved until his final days. During that time, Steve's lasting impression on Vallejo included serving on the Vallejo City Architectural and Heritage and Planning Commissions, the Board of Directors of the Executive Lions Club of Vallejo, and St. Patrick's-St. Vincent's High School Board of Regents.

He was best known as a consummate collector of antiques, notably a long-time member and leader in Stein Collectors International. Steve found joy in taking family and friends out on his boat on Lake Tahoe, braving the Rubicon Jeep Trail into Desolation Wilderness to go fishing, driving his vintage cars, and his regular game of poker with friends.

(continued from page 5)

## In Memoriam Stephen Elliott

Left with decades of fond and colorful memories are his loving wife, Suzanne Elliott; his siblings, Bill and Michele; his sons, Jason and Ryan of his former marriage to Barbara Elliott-Domingue, and his grandchildren, Maya, Samantha, and Dashiell. A memorial service in honor of Stephen will be announced and then held at a later date, when there is less risk of spreading the virus that ended his life. Donations in honor of Stephen are welcome to be directed to The Vallejo Naval & Historical Museum or the Executive Lions Club of Vallejo.

## The Life of Guenter Morawietz



Born the 10th child of the Morawietz family, Guenter was taken care of primarily by his sisters and other family members. He was born to an extremely poor family and Guenter struggled early on in life with malnutrition and lack of food and basic resources. He was treated for malnutrition as a child and was constantly on the lookout for food and care. Guenter's childhood was extremely difficult as WW2 was raging on and his childhood home was close to the eastern front. As the Russians approached his village,

(continued from previous column)

his sisters family fled and took him with them. On the run from the Russian army, many sacrifices were made and tough experiences were had that would mark Guenter for the rest of his life. Ultimately he traveled to Canada and then finally the US, he joined the army, and was coincidentally deployed back to Germany where he could render aid back to family members, especially his sisters and mother. Upon returning to the US he and his brothers, Frank and Joe opened several restaurants in SF where he ultimately met Harlean and had 2 children, Victoria and Gregory. Seeking new opportunities he became a General Contractor and built houses throughout the bay area under his company Morawietz Construction. He was an active member of a Stein Club and the Elks. He survived his wife of 44 years. He enjoyed fishing, dancing, cooking, drinking beer, and listening to German music. He had an infectious happy demeanor and was very well liked by everyone he met. He was always happy and considered himself a singer.

## New Addition to the Fry Collection

by Rhoda Fry



This 17th century Westerwald tankard, dated 1618, is called a Kurfürsten Krug or an Elector's Jug. The middle frieze has the arms of different regions represented by the electors. The mold design is signed IK, for Johann Kalb. Like many of the Westerwald master potters, in the late 1500s, Kalb moved his pottery from Raeren (in present-day Belgium) to

the Höhr-Grenzhausen area, where a road named after him, Johann Kalb Straße. Have a stein for show and tell in the newsletter? Send me an email with a photo to: [fryhouse@earthlink.net](mailto:fryhouse@earthlink.net)