



# Die Golden Gate Zecher

## Nachrichten

A Newsletter for Northern  
California and Nevada  
Stein Collectors

February  
2023

Hello Zechers,

### President's Message

Willkommen 2023! I hope the new year is a happy and healthy one for all of you, and a very warm "Welcome" to our newest Zecher member, Deb Hanson. A big "Thank You" to Les Paul for once again organizing a wonderful, fun-filled Zecher holiday party at the Speisekammer. And another big thank you for hosting our next meeting on **March 11!** The last time the Pauls hosted a group was at the 2019 convention. Master Steinologist Les' main interests are character steins, early steins, and miniature steins so there will be something for everyone to see among his 5000 items. To learn about our speaker Bill Gee from Kentucky, please see the article on page 2. As always, please contact a board member if transportation poses a problem for your ability to attend and we will do our best to accommodate you. Looking ahead to 2024, please notify Zecher VP, Bob Bebermeyer, if you'd like to host a future meeting.

SCI's 56<sup>th</sup> annual convention will be July 25th through 29th, 2023, and brings us to Dayton, Ohio, with great speakers, Ron Fox's auction, aviation history tours, high tea, and most importantly, the special opportunity to view Roger Glass' Stein Collection. Roger, an SCI member who sadly passed away in 2022, started his collection with a Mettlach stein in 1973 and eventually created an impressive collection of rare steins from around the world. His legacy continues for all to appreciate in a self-published book and through the permanent display of his collection at the Carillon Historical Park museum. I hope to see all of you at our meetings and convention this year. PROSIT!

*Julie Hughes* President, DGGZ



Did you know that Die Golden Gate Zecher is a chapter of Stein Collector's International (SCI)? 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 at [stein-collectors.org/prosit2/](http://stein-collectors.org/prosit2/)

If you want to preview an item in the Fox Auction Catalog, contact Ron and he'll gladly bring it to the meeting.  
Email: [foxauction@yahoo.com](mailto:foxauction@yahoo.com)  
Phone/Text: 631-553-3841

**Online Beer  
Stein Auction  
March 12!!!**

### In This Issue

President's Message .....	1
2023 Meeting Schedule .....	2
Meet March Speaker Bill Gee .....	2
Your Leadership Team .....	3
A Tale of Two or Three for One by Arvid Frende .....	4
Meet New Member Debra Hanson ...	5
Peter Dümmler at the British Museum by Rhoda Fry .....	5
Finding Hermann by Jim Rutter .....	6,7
Photos from December Meeting ....	8
Meeting Minutes September 2022 ..	9

### Spring Meeting, Saturday March 11 at Les and TuC Paul's home

Please mail check for \$25 per person to:  
Les Paul  
568 Country Isle  
Alameda, CA 94501

### Approximate Meeting Schedule

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

# Die Golden Gate Zecher Nachrichten

## 2023 Meeting Schedule

**Saturday March 11, 2023**

**Time 1PM**

Les and TuC Paul

568 Country Isle, Alameda, CA

Speaker: Bill Gee from La Grange, KY

Topic: The Trumpeter of Säckingen

**June 10, 2023**

**Time 1PM**

Bob & Linda Bebermeyers' home

1247 Sylvan Road, Monterey, CA

Speaker: Jim Rutter

Topic: Bavarian Music Culture

**July 25—29, 2023**

**Stein Collectors International Convention**

Dayton, Ohio

**Saturday September 16**

**Time 1PM**

Fall Oktoberfest Meeting

Dick & Julie Hughes' Home

1532 Desvio Way, Belmont, CA

Speaker: TBD

**December 2023**

Date TBD

**11AM to 4PM** (Must exit by 4PM!)

**Back by Popular Demand**

Speisekammer Restaurant

2424 Lincoln Avenue, Alameda, CA

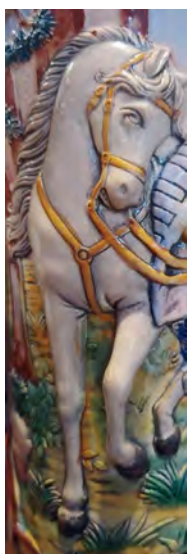
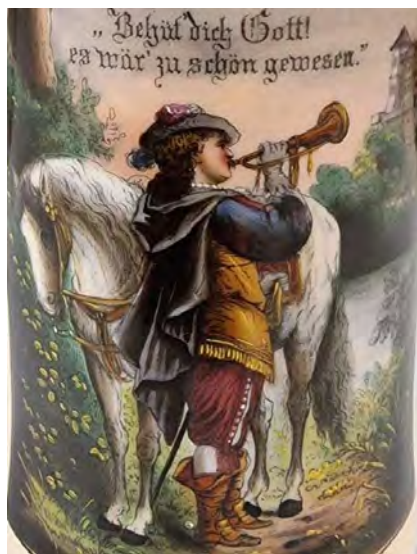
The **Pacific Coast Stein Sammler** Chapter has these meetings in Washington State: **March 4** Vancouver, **May 20** Ridgefield, **September 10** Richland, and **December 9** Puyallup

## Meet Bill Gee, our March 2023 Speaker



When Bill was just 12 years old, in the 1960s, he started collecting steins and over time developed an affinity for the scene of a man standing by a horse and blowing into a trumpet. He took a two decade break from collecting while he served in the Marine Corps, attended college and started a family. As with many beer stein collectors, the gift of the Gary Kirsner beer stein books revived and expanded his interests in collecting. He subsequently joined SCI and his local chapter, Thoroughbred Stein Verein. SCI's *Prosit* and especially Frank Loevi's *Beer Stein Library* ([beerstein.net](http://beerstein.net)) helped him to learn more about the many steins with a horse and trumpeter which is based on Joseph Victor von Scheffel's epic poem, written in 1854, *The Trumpeter of Säckingen*.

The humor, romance, and cultural identity in this popular poem made for an ideal decoration on beer steins. To wit, *Steve on Steins* ([steveonsteins.com](http://steveonsteins.com)), has found 100 versions of the Trumpeter and his lady. The most common scene is his sad farewell. Others steins include the trumpeter (Werner), his love (Margaretta), her father (the baron) and the baron's philosophizing cat (Hidigeigei). Many motifs are based on paintings by Carl Schweninger the younger. You can learn more about these steins from Bill Gees's articles in *Prosit* in the [March 2021](#) and [September 2012](#) issues. Over the decades, Bill has honed his collection's focus on rare Trumpeter pieces and Heinrich Schlitt Mettlach steins and resides in La Grange, Kentucky. We look forward to his visit!



# Die Golden Gate Zecher Nachrichten

## Die Golden Gate Zecher 2022 Officers and Board of Directors

### Officers

#### President

Julie Hughes

Phone: 650-593-1261

Email: dandjhughes63@hotmail.com

#### Vice President

Bob Bebermeyer

Email: bobandlindabebbs@yahoo.com

#### Secretary

Vicki Guay

Phone: 510-525-3555

Email: vickiandboys@att.net

#### Treasurer

Dick Hughes

Phone: 650-593-1261

Email: dandjhughes63@hotmail.com

#### Newsletter Editor/Publisher

Rhoda Fry

Phone: 408-529-3560

Email: fryhouse@earthlink.net

### Board Members

Nancy Morris, Director

Phone: 650-349-5345

Email: snmorris@comcast.net

Chuck Schoppe, Director

Phone: 408-867-9229

Email: chuck\_sch@hotmail.com

### Chapter Contact

Les Paul - Phone: 510-316-6013

Email: oldsteins@gmail.com

## Die Golden Gate Zecher Beer Stein Club on Facebook

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



Reproduction of 'Abschied' by C. Schweninger Jr.  
in print from the Rijksmuseum collection

<https://www.rijksmuseum.nl/nl/collectie/RP-F-1994-6>

“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

## A Tale of Two or Three for One by Arvid Frende

It is 1905 in a mid-size town in Germany. You must go out and buy a new beer stein today. Last night at your local bar you became a little too animated in trying to make a point with your fellow inebriates and accidentally knocked your stein off the table while waving your arms.

You enter the stein shop and notice the stein you had when a teenager (photo 1).



Each night before dinner, your father sent you down to the corner bar with the large pouring stein to get beer to accompany the meal. For your effort you got your stein filled to capacity of 1/16 liter. Then you see the stein next to it, which appears to have a second stein added to your stein. It has a capacity of over 1/8 liter. You wish that stein had been yours (photo 2).

Then you see several tall steins that appear to be three steins in one. The first one includes images of gnomes (photo 3) next to a 1/2 liter stein that includes an image of the same gnome (photo 4). The next tall stein also has images of gnomes (photo 5).

Note: All steins in this story were manufactured by Adolph Diesinger Majolica Fabrik in Hohn, Germany



You see another 1/2-liter stein which includes a guy raising his stein (photo 6). Next to that is another tall stein with a similar style individual raising his stein (photo 7). This stein depicts Landsknechts. The center design looks like a design on your father's pouring stein. You like the looks of this stein, and at just under 1 1/2 liters, you feel like you are getting 3 steins for the price of one. The only problem you will have is to resolve to sit on your hands while arguing with your friends. Since your friends will need to get refills 3 times more often than you, it is a small price to pay.



# Die Golden Gate Zecher Nachrichten

## Meet New Member Debra Hanson!

I was born and raised in Waterloo, Iowa, attended Purdue University in Indianapolis for two years and graduated from Clarke College in Dubuque, Iowa in Computer Science. I ultimately moved to El Dorado Hills, California, and started working as an Instructional Assistant for the San Juan School District working with high school students who had disabilities. I retired from the Folsom Cordova Unified School District and moved to the Monterey Peninsula. On the peninsula, I worked for The Gathering for Women, helping homeless women find housing and employment. My last employment position was that of Project SEARCH Coordinator for Hope Services. I designed and started the internship program for young adults with disabilities. I have two children, Brian, and Mandy. Brian lives in Irvine, California, and has two children, Leif and Hesper. Mandy lives in Conifer, Colorado, and has one child, Dominic. I have a Pomeranian named Sassy Lady. I am not a runner anymore, but I belong to a group of active adults who bike, hike and play. I love to travel and have visited many places including France, Italy, Austria, New Zealand, Switzerland, and Thailand. I hope to visit many more. I am going to bike the Danube River with a group, including the Bebermeyers, in the fall of 2023. So it will be my first trip to Germany and Hungary. I'm excited to be a part of the Stein Club as I'm learning more of the fine art and history of steins.



<http://www.landeskunde-online.de/rhein/kultur/trompeter2.htm>

## Peter Dümmler at the British Museum

by Rhoda Fry



The British Museum has in its collection, three stoneware pieces designed by Peter Dümmler, a pilgrim flask he designed at the Gerz company and two plaques from his own firm Dümmler & Breiden. These are also featured in David Gaimster's book, *German Stoneware 1200-1900*. You can view them on the museum's website by searching for dumler ([www.britishmuseum.org/collection](http://www.britishmuseum.org/collection)). Although the keywords "beer stein" will not produce satisfying results, late 19th and early 20th-century manufacturer names such as Dumler, Hanke, Gerz, Merkelbach, Mettlach, and Villeroy yield a number of wares, some of which are steins. A broad search of "german stoneware" reveals a remarkable collection of early wares along with newer items.

Peter Dümmler began his apprenticeship at age 14 at Reinhold Hanke and later worked at S. P. Gerz. In 1883, he and his brother-in-law founded their own company, Dümmler & Breiden. In the 1890s, the factory stopped producing salt-glazed stoneware and only produced ivory-colored ceramic wares. The factory closed in 1992.

The museum's curator, Judy Rudoe commented, "These plaques are technical masterpieces and no comparable plaques with modelling of this quality and fine detail have been recorded." Dümmler's pride in imitating 16th-century work is evidenced by including his initials within the artwork, hidden next to a lock of hair. You can learn more about Dümmler & Breiden and the beer steins they produced in "Collector's Guide to Dümmler & Breiden Beer Steins" by Frank Loevi ([www.beerstein.net/articles/db-guide.asp](http://www.beerstein.net/articles/db-guide.asp)) and view a catalog of their steins on [beerstein.net](http://www.beerstein.net).



# Die Golden Gate Zecher Nachrichten

## Finding Hermann

by Jim Rutter

One of the many enjoyable aspects of vintage stein-collecting is the occasional thrill of discovery. While it's pretty rare these days to luck upon a valuable stein in a neighborhood estate sale or Saturday-morning flea market, there is much to be said for the rare rush associated with conducting and discovering some element of fascinating heritage. Many German-made steins have clear marks or are well-documented in books and manufacturers' catalogues, but with custom-made steins, it can be challenging or even impossible to identify an object's specific origins or provenance.

Among two dozen steins, that my father, Dr. Richard R. Rutter, inherited from his maternal grandfather, Dr. Alva Jacob "A.J." Rummel (1876-1954), which have been passed on to me, there are only a few that could be considered noteworthy, including a ½ liter "Serving Women" Mettlach (#1986), a ½ liter "Hunter" Marzi & Remy (#1614) and a ½ liter tan-colored "Happy Radish" C. G. Schierholz & Sohn.

In going through his eclectic collection, an unusual ½ liter unmarked pottery relief stein called to me. The central cartouche is an ancient warrior triumphantly holding a raised sword while on horseback. A large round shield trampled by the horse's hooves confirms his victory. The intriguing and unfamiliar phrases in old-German typeface: "Geschenk der Groß-Loge" (Gift of the Grand Lodge), "O d H S von California" (O d H S from California) and "Orden der Hermanns Söhne" (Order of Hermann's Sons) beckoned further research. A quick internet search led to my journey of discovery.

In 1840, in New York, Orden der Hermann Söhne (O d H S), also known as the "Sons of Hermann," was founded as a fraternal aid society. The organization was named after Hermann (Arminius),



a Germanic chieftan who united and commanded German tribes to destroy three Roman legions, totaling 20,000 troops in 9AD. The epic defeat led to the Roman Empire's permanent withdrawal from Germania. Over time, Hermann became a national symbol of German unity: in freedom from the Roman church in 16<sup>th</sup> century and later, from Napoleonic France in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

In 1870, California's first lodge was established in San Francisco; within a few years, California had 70 chapters. And by 1896, the national organization had grown to 90,000 members. Demonstrating pride in their ethnic heritage, its membership funded a massive Hermann monument in New Ulm, Minnesota that is similar to the one in Germany's Teutoburg Forest. Neu Ulm's monument, affectionately called, "Hermann the German," even has its own Hermann Monument Society. In 1973, it was placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Following the decline in immigration and anti-German sentiment from two world wars, membership dwindled. Nevertheless, the national organization, Grand Lodges and chapters have continuously preserved German culture, traditions and language and provide low-cost insurance and aid to its members. You can learn more about the San Francisco East Bay German Societies and California's Hermanns-Söhne activities here: [www.ugas-eb.org](http://www.ugas-eb.org).



Was it possible that my second-generation German immigrant great-grandfather Rummel, and perhaps some of his six siblings, had belonged to such an organization? And furthermore, might have Dr. Rummel performed an extraordinary service to California's Grand Lodge to merit receiving this unique "Gift of the Grand Lodge" stein?

# Die Golden Gate Zecher Nachrichten

(... continued from page 6 ...)

A phone call to Ms. Maria Gutsfeld, former secretary of the Grand Lodge of California, confirmed that no Rimmel family-members had been President of the organization. Unfortunately, the question as to membership remained unanswered as there are no rosters available from his time-period. Incidentally, I did learn from SCI Master Steinologist Dr. Roy C. De Selms that his grandparents had been members of the Berkeley chapter, which still exists today.

Another well-placed call, this time to Ms. Ruth Sauermann, Secretary of the Petaluma Lodge, mentioned that the lodge's own museum had a pair of identical beer steins in its collection. An email exchange confirmed that theirs matched mine. The museum also shared a fascinating type-written narrative that accompanies their steins, "History of the Beer Steins."



Steins at the O d H S Museum, Petaluma

*"Robert and Eva Maria Potts discovered the beer steins in 1968 at a flea market in Benicia, California. The steins' seller claimed he had acquired them at an unclaimed merchandise auction at the Port of San Francisco. The steins were discovered in their original shipping box, which had been damaged, leaving only three steins intact according to Leonard Breitenstein, the historian of the Grand Lodge in California in 1968.*

*The steins had been ordered from Germany sometime prior to 1917 as gifts to outgoing Grand Lodge presidents. They came from Germany by cargo ship, sailing all the way around the tip of South America and arriving in San Francisco the day World War I was officially declared between the United States and Germany. The ship was immediately impounded and the entire crew incarcerated in the federal prison on Angel Island. The entire cargo was also impounded, along with the steins, in a government warehouse in San Francisco where they sat until the Port Authority auction in 1968. These remaining steins are very rare and valuable.*

*In 1969, one stein was given to Leonard Breitenstein [sic] who was secretary of the Grand Lodge from 1953 to 1963. In 1979, Breitenstein donated his stein to the Hermann Sohn Museum in Petaluma at their grand opening. In 2006, Robert C. Potts donated the other two steins to the Hermann Sohn Museum in memory of his wife Eva Maria Potts, a member of the Vallejo Lodge. In 2010 the Hermann Sohn Museum Committee gifted one stein to the archives of the Hermann Monument Society in New Ulm, Minnesota."*



O d H S stein on top right in Dr. Rimmel's home

If only three steins survived the long passage from Germany to San Francisco more than a century ago, then where did mine come from? Adding to the mystery, my great-grandfather acquired the stein during the time it purportedly was stuck in a warehouse. We know this because a 1932 photograph shows it sitting on the top shelf of the social-hall bar in the home he built in the Monterey Heights neighborhood of San Francisco in 1927. Had one or more of the steins been pilfered from the port? Maybe my stein had been the accepted prototype for the final order. As to its acquisition, Dr. Rimmel, who was about 40 years old when the steins were requisitioned, might have led the committee for its purchase and kept the prototype. However, this is unlikely because our family has no record of his membership in Orden der Hermann Söhne. Alternatively, he might have received the stein in payment for medical services from one of his patients, a very common practice in those days, especially during the depression.

A number of questions remain unanswered and may well never be answered, but in stein collecting, you just never know when you might peel another layer of the onion.



# Die Golden Gate Zecher Nachrichten

Memories from December 2022 Meeting at Speisekammer, Alameda



New member Deb Hanson with first-time attendee Lynne Denley (Charles' wife)



Diesinger expert Arvind Frende talks about a 3-themed stein



G  
E  
M  
Ü  
T  
L  
I  
C  
H  
K  
E  
I  
T



Jim Rutter shares his research on a stein made for the California chapter of the The Order of the Sons of Hermann



Lots of Stein Sales Tables!!!





# Die Golden Gate Zecher Nachrichten

## Board Meeting Minutes

Sat. Sept. 17th, 2022

Bill and Rhoda Fry's house in Cupertino

1. Meeting called to order at 12:32 pm by President Julie Hughes.

2. Present: Pres. Julie Hughes, VP Bob Bebermeyer, Treasurer Dick Hughes, Secretary Vicki Guay, Newsletter Editor Rhoda Fry, Board members Nancy Morris, Chuck Schoppe

3. Officer Reports

**President – Julie:** Thank you to Bill and Rhoda for hosting. Vote to give \$400 to Mark Durban for speaking at today's meeting. Unanimous approval. Will get reimbursed \$200 from SCI.

**Vice President – Bob:** Need hosts for February and April. Hughes' volunteered for Sept. 16<sup>th</sup>. Discussions about having a March meeting at Les Paul's, which will replace February and April meetings. Vicki suggested adding a June meeting.

**\*\*Update:** March meeting at Les Paul's, June meeting at Bebermeyer's, Sept. meeting at Hughes' **Secretary – Vicki:** Minutes approved.

**Treasurer – Dick:** 47 members, 2 unpaid. One is moving away and we'll leave him on the email list.

**Chapter Contact – Les:** Out of town.

**Newsletter Editor – Rhoda:** Needs volunteers to write articles.

**Historian – Vacant.**

4. New Business:

Rhoda suggested changing meetings to lunch with general meeting after the meal followed by a speaker. Have board meetings on Zoom previously. Julie says according to the Club guidelines, it is at the discretion of the host to decide the time of the meeting.

Julie asked Chuck to update the operational guidelines and by laws. Vicki volunteered to help.

5. Meeting adjourned at 1:10pm by Julie

## General Meeting Minutes

1. Meeting called to order at 2:20 pm by President Julie Hughes.

Thank you Bill and Rhoda for hosting.

Welcome out of town members Lyn & Janine Ayers and Bernd & Christy Hoffman from Vancouver, WA, Pat Cunningham & Teri Byrd from Southern California and guests Mark & Pola Durban from Big Bear and Roy and Sue Kellogg from Lake Elsinore (now Zecher members).

(...General Meeting Minutes continued...)

Huge welcome back after 20 years to long time member Aurel Keck.

2. Officer reports:

**President – Julie:** Member Chuck McDonald donated a table of steins for members and guests to take home. Any monetary donations will be given to the club. Thank you Chuck!!

**\*\*Update:** \$60 raised.

The board approved \$400 speaker fee for out of town speaker Mark Durban.

**Vice President – Bob:** Still working on 2023 meeting hosts. September Oktoberfest at the Hughes'. Any more volunteers? **\*\*Update:** March meeting at Les Paul's in Alameda, June Meeting at Bebermeyer's in Monterey and September at the Hughes' in Belmont.

**Secretary – Vicki:** Minutes in the newsletter. Board approved.

**Treasurer – Dick:** 47 members.

**Newsletter Editor – Rhoda:** Need new articles. Former active members that still pay dues enjoy seeing the pictures in the newsletter.

**Chapter Contact – Les:** Out of town.

**Historian – Still vacant.**

3. New Business:

Good convention in Charleston. SCI has 538 members, 27 overseas. 409 still get paper copies of Prosit. 2023 convention in Dayton still in limbo as local member Roger Glass has died. **\*\*Update:** 2023 SCI Convention WILL be held in Dayton, OH from July 27-29<sup>th</sup>. There will be a visit to the Roger Glass collection.

4. Meeting adjourned at 2:42pm followed by speaker Mark Durban

