

DIE KUNDE

April 2024



PACIFIC STEIN SAMMLER



Note from the PSS president

Hello to all PSS friends and family.

May 18 is fast approaching and we always look forward to seeing each other, sharing stein stories, learning more about the large stein world, adding a stein or two to our collections, or maybe even do a little spring cleaning.

A big thank you goes out to Lyn and Janine Ayers for the social on Friday evening before the regular March PSS function and arranging the meeting at a local brewery and restaurant.

The May meeting will again be at the home of Bernd and Christy Hoffmann in Ridgefield, Washington. Directions to their home, along with an RSVP form, are on the last page of this Die Kunde. Our club will provide water and non-alcoholic beverages, but all are welcome to bring another beverage of their choice.

Don't forget to bring a stein for your beverage along with your PSS badge. Lunch is \$20 per person and we need to know how many will be able to attend so please mail in your form to Bernd and Christy or contact them to let them know and pay when you get there.

The Hoffmann's collection is not to be missed.

For fun, we will have a German costume dress up day. A door prize will be given to the lucky winner.

Need more room at home for additions to your collection? Last year we had several tables full of steins for sale and trade with many changing hands. Search through your collection and see what you may have to trade or sell.

The more the better!!

The fall PSS meeting will not be until September 7th so try not to miss this meeting and maybe invite some friends interested in steins to join us. Remember to RSVP and travel safe.

Al Hopp

Pacific Stein Sammler - Preident

PSS Officers

President- Al Hopp ajhopp@pocketinet.com

Vice President- Lyn Ayers lyn.ayers@gmail.com

Treasurer- Walt Vogdes wvogdes@gmail.com

Secretary- Scott Freund scottfreund14@gmail.com

Newsletter editor- Alain Steenbeeke

asteenbeeke1@msn.com

Advisor- Phil Masenheimer

PSS website admin- Walt Vogdes

2024 PSS Event Schedule

May 18th Bernd and Christy's home in Ridgecrest, WA

September 7th Alain and Liz Steenbeeke's home in
Puyallup, WA

December 7th No venue yet

If you would like to host a meeting, please let one of the
board members know.

For those who may be interested, here are the dates
and events for Die Golden Gate Zecher club:

Saturday April 13 2024

Bob and Lin Bebermeyer's Home

Monterey, CA

Speaker: TBD

Saturday June 8 2024

Host: TBD

Location: TBD

Speaker: TBD

Saturday September 28 2024

Bill and Rhoda Fry's Home

Cupertino, CA

Speaker: TBD

SCI 2024 convention in Madison, WI

SCI's 57th annual convention will be held in Madison, Wisconsin, July 2 through July 6, 2024. There will be two days of preconvention activities: Tours on July 2 and a commercial auction by Fox Auctions on July 3. The convention itself will be Thursday through Saturday, July 4 through July 6, with check-out from the hotel on Sunday July 7.

For more information about the convention, please go to stein-collectors.org and click on the Conventions tab.

Drachenfels

Near a town named Königswinter is a hill called Drachenfels (Dragon's rock), named for the legendary dragon which used to live in a cave on its slopes. On top of Drachenfels is one of the oldest castles in the area (or possibly the oldest), built between 1138 and 1167 by Archbishop Arnold I of Cologne. The entire region used to fall under the governance of Cologne, and the crest of Bonn and other towns therefore contain the Cologne cross. From the castle there is an excellent view all around, particularly to the Rhinelands below, so the occupants could watch for potential invaders. The castle was ruined during the 30 Years' War with Protestant Swedes in 1634, and never rebuilt.



But there are legends going further back about Drachenfels. The Nibelungenlied or "Song of the Nibelungs" is an epic poem in German based on oral traditions of events of the 5th and 6th centuries, similar to the Odyssey or the Iliad of the Greeks. Of course, as tales get passed on they change over time, and there are many versions of the story. Here is one version: "There was a man named Siegfried, who went to work for a blacksmith in a forest. Siegfried was so strong that he could do the work of all the other men by himself, but because he was so strong,

the blacksmith was afraid of him. Thus, he sent him on a chore into the forest, hoping that the dragon who lived there, Fafnir, would kill Siegfried. But Siegfried had with him a strong sword that he had soldered himself, and when the dragon attacked, Siegfried killed it. Siegfried bathed in the dragon's blood, and so became invulnerable, except for one small spot at the back of his neck where a fallen leaf had covered his skin.

Siegfried went back to the blacksmith and asked why he had tried to have him killed. He intended to spare him, but when the blacksmith tried to kill him again, he slew him. Since he was invulnerable, Siegfried then went on many adventures and met many princesses. There was an argument between Siegfried and Hagen over one of these princesses. Siegfried was lured into the forest and killed by Hagen, who struck him in his vulnerable spot. During his funeral, all the heroes and noblemen walked past Siegfried's body. When Hagen walked past, Siegfried's wounds started bleeding, and so Kriemhild, a princess who had loved Siegfried, knew that Hagen had killed him. The saga then continues as Kriemhild tried to wreak revenge on Hagen.



Mettlach #2394. Siegfried forging the sword and killing the dragon. Why they depict him killing the dragon with a club on this stein will remain a mystery.

Yet that's not the *only* legend associated with Drachenfels. Another tale takes us back into the mountain's pagan past, and was retold by Lewis Spence in his 1915 book, *Hero Tales and Legends of the Rhine*.

Long ago, a dragon lived in a cave on the Drachenfels. The pagan peasants worshipped the creature and offered human sacrifices. These helped to stem the dragon's appetite, keeping it from eating farm animals and local people. Two warrior princes, Rinbod and Horsrik, often raided the Christian settlements across the Rhine, seizing captives to offer as sacrifices.

One day, they got their prisoners back to their own land, and started dividing the captives. A Christian maiden caught their eye, and such was her beauty that they fought over her. Both wanted to marry her, but neither would relinquish their claim. When they couldn't solve the argument through words, they decided to fight with weapons. The victor would win the maiden.

The priests finally intervened, not wanting to risk losing skilled warriors in combat. They decreed that since neither could decide who would have the maiden, and a Christian one at that, they'd offer *her* as a sacrifice to the dragon.

With some annoyance, the princes agreed, but Rinbod hated the judgment. He loved the maiden, seeing her as more than just a prize, but his pleading with the priests got him nowhere. She would die the following day.

The next day, the priests led the maiden to a clearing outside the cave and tied her to an oak tree. The dragon always emerged at dawn, so everyone waited in the half-light of morning for the dragon to appear.

As you can imagine, the villagers murmured with excitement, keen to see the dragon devour the

devout Christian. Horsrik watched with disinterest, glad that if he couldn't have her, no one would. Rinbod, however, watched with a heavy heart. The calm resolution of the maiden impressed him; no warriors entered battle with such a steadfast spirit.

Dawn broke, and the dragon hauled itself from the cave. Smoke drifted from its nostrils, and it bared its fearsome teeth at the onlookers. Still, the maiden seemed to show no fear. She greeted its approach with a hymn, singing praise for her god while the dragon roared. It grew close enough to pounce, and the maiden made her move. She held out her crucifix and the dragon threw itself to one side, desperate to evade the holy symbol. It crashed over the side of the cliff and fell into the Rhine below.

The villagers dropped to their knees in shock and awe, and Rinbod ran down to free the maiden. Despite the best efforts of the priests, the villagers chose to convert to Christianity. Rinbod finally married the maiden, and built Burg Drachenfels in her honor. While we've lost the maiden's name over the centuries, the legend still marks her bravery.





Girmscheid 776 0.5L



Girmscheid 953 0.3L The maiden holding the cross



Please help me find...

Don't forget to submit your own requests for steins that you are looking for!

Al Hopp is looking the following steins:

Reinhold Hanke #1584 Horse returning hat to fallen rider.

Merkelbach and Wick #1175 Gnomes rolling dice

Both are the fourth stein in a series of four.

Steins marked THOH, TOH or Kakam (Theodore Otto Hahn)

Alain Steenbeeke is looking for the following steins:

Gerz model number 275B number 1,2 and 4 The number will be roman numerals. Black Whale of Ascalon series



Gerz 275B with master stein

Also Gerz 1345B roman numeral 5 V. The months depicted on the stein would be September and October.



Gerz 1345B with master stein.

If you are looking for particular steins, please let the Die Kunde editor know at asteenbeeke1@msn.com or pacificsteindkn@gmail.com. Include pictures if you have them.

PACIFIC STEIN SAMMLER MEETING

Saturday, May 18th at the home of Bernd and Christy Hoffman

29911 NE Walmer Rd, Ridgefield, WA 98642 (360) 518-6518

11:30 am - Board Meeting

12:00 - Social Hour, Stein viewing/buying/trading

1:30 pm - Dinner (bring your own beverages)

3:00 pm - General Membership Meeting

3:15pm - Program: TBD

Dress up in German clothes if you have any and bring steins if you want to sell and money to buy some

Driving Directions: Coming from the North on I-5, take exit 16 toward La Center/Cowlitz Reservation - 0.3 mi

At the traffic circle, take the 3rd exit - 0.1 mi

At the 2nd traffic circle, take the 1st exit East onto NW Lacenter Rd - 1.2 mi

Turn right onto NW Timmen Rd - 1.3 mi

Turn right onto NE 299th St - 500 ft

Turn right onto NE Walmer Rd - Destination will be 315 ft on the right

Coming from South I-5, take Exit 14 right onto Pioneer St - 53 s (0.5 mi)

At the traffic circle, take the 3rd exit onto N 65th Ave - (0.7 mi)

Turn right onto NE 279th St to NE 10th Ave - 3 min (1.5 mi)

Continue on Timmen Road to NE 299th - 0.5 mile

Turn left onto NE 299th St - 499 ft

Turn right onto NE Walmer Rd - Destination will be 315 ft on the right

Park on driveway or gravel area. Call 360-518-6518 for assistance

RESERVATION FORM - PACIFIC STEIN SAMMLER MEETING

May 20th, 2023, at the home of Bernd and Christy Hoffman

NAME(S) _____

Number of party: ____ for the enclosed \$20/person

Mail by May 10th, payable to: Bernd Hoffman, 29911 NE Walmer Road, Ridgefield, Washington 98642