

PENNSYLVANIA KEYSTEINERS NOTES



**Founded in 1985 as a Chapter of SCI
OCTOBER 2023**

**President - Michael Finney Secretary - Michelle Keiser
Vice President - Betty Davis Treasurer - Chuck Keiser
Editor - Betty Davis**



**NEXT MEETING IS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19 AT
THE BLUE MONKEY TAVERN, 2 SOUTH CENTRE
STREET, MERCHANTVILLE, NJ 08109, WITH
FOLLOWUP AT SCHAIBLE HOME AT
137 CENTER AVE.**

WORDS FROM THE PRESIDENT

Our September 17th meeting went very nicely, Clarence and Cindy Riley attended and brought along Robin Mertz. Dagmar was also planning to come with them, but at the last minute she had to cancel. We had 11 members attend, but unfortunately both Frank Davis and my wife Dale were not feeling well so they both stayed home. I gave a short update on a couple members that couldn't attend. Joann Quain is doing a lot better after her knee replacement, Glenn Grove is home after having a section of his bowel removed and is recovering. And Shep is doing fine and still walking with his club, he will be 98 on November 23rd!

Chuck showed us the steins he purchased at the convention; they are a nice addition to his collection. We had a nice discussion and show and tell about the history of Reinhold Hanke and his factory. Clarence brought a large Hanke warrior or knight that was really nice.

And many thanks to the Keiser's for making the

reservations at the restaurant and then afterwards hosting the meeting at their home and serving dessert, it was delicious!

In November I will do a short presentation on Bustle Lady steins. And Chuck will talk about a glass stein he recently purchased. We will also have a show and tell about Gambrinus steins. So check your collection for steins picturing Gambrinus and please bring some along (also check for Bustle Lady steins— figure 1 is a beautiful lady that Clarence brought to



the September meeting). At the September meeting we remembered to take a group photo (shown here as figure 2).

Chuck and I drove to Stroudsburg to see Glenn Detrick and his collection, neither of us had ever seen it before. I hope you all received my email and pictures, it is a great collection. And we didn't come home empty handed, we each bought a stein, and you can see them at the meeting. Chuck will be auctioning off a couple of the convention steins that were donated by Glenn, with a few more at each upcoming meeting until they all find new homes. The proceeds will go to our treasury, Thank you Glenn!

Everyone stay healthy and we hope to see you at our next meeting.

SECRETARY'S MINUTES, SEPT. 19, 2023: The June meeting was in Levittown, PA. Lunch was at Salvatore's Cucina. Social hour and the meeting were at the home of Michelle and Chuck Keiser. The following were in attendance: Gary and Mimi Schai-ble, Mike Finney, Chuck and Michelle Keiser, Jim Sauer, Clarence and Cindy Riley, Betty and Heather Davis and Robyn Mertz.

President Mike Finney called the meeting to order, and the Minutes of the June 2023 meeting were accepted. Chuck Keiser provided the treasurer's report.

Mike spoke with Elsie Surman regarding Glen Grove's hospitalization and he is doing better. He also spoke with Bill Quain regarding Joanne and while she is recovering from surgery, she is not up to having a meeting at their home. He spoke with Dagmar Rives, and Dagmar's new email is Dagmar-Rives@gmail.com. He also checked in with Scott Callowhill and Bob Raue, and played phone tag with Shep Steenbock.

OLD BUSINESS: We forgot to take a picture at the last meeting, but will take a picture today (figure 2).

NEW BUSINESS: ** The mini-convention is November 3, 4 and 5 in Maryland. There will be a Ron Fox auction held there also.

** We need a location for our November meeting.

RAFFLES: The winners of the door prizes were Robyn Mertz and Cindy Riley.

NOMINATIONS: The following were nominated: Mike Finney—President: Betty Davis—Vice President; Chuck Keiser—Treasurer; Michelle Keiser—Secretary. Voting will take place at our November meeting.

SHOW AND TELL: Chuck Keiser spoke about his attendance at the Ohio convention, and showed the steins he purchased. Clarence Riley brought two steins, a Hanke Victorian woman salt glaze and a Mettlach-- reflecting the food industry.

PRESENTATION: Mike Finney gave a presentation on the history of Hanke.

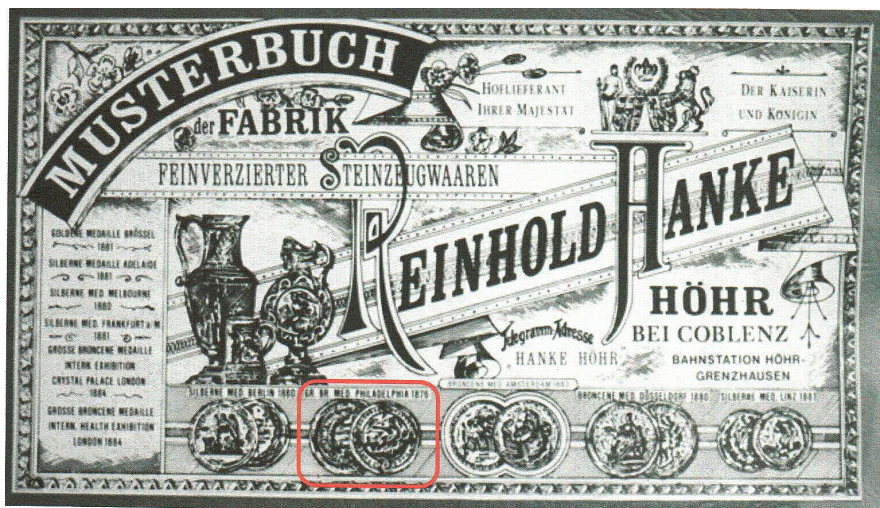
NEXT MEETING: The next meeting of the Pennsylvania Keystoneers is November 19, 2023, location to be announced.

Respectfully submitted,
Michelle A. Keiser, Secretary

PROGRAM PRESENTED BY MIKE FINNEY **REINHOLD HANKE:**

Who is Reinhold Hanke? According to an article in "steinmarks.co.uk, he was born November 7, 1839 in Feudenham, Bohemia (now Czech republic) and died June 22, 1886 at age 46 ½ leaving a wife, Marie (nee Krebs), and 2 young boys—Carl, age 14 and August, age 10 ½ to continue on with the pottery business.

As a teenager Reinhold played with the clay that was so available in Bohemia—molding it, making shapes with it, finding ways to remove the impurities



in it and learning the various ways to use it. So that in 1858 he was apprenticed to Siderolithwarenfabrik Baer & Maresch in Bohemia. They manufactured terracotta plaques, plates, vases, figurines, garden animals, tobacco jars and much more, but including only a few beer steins.

The next step up was in 1863, at age 25 he worked as a modeller for a terracotta manufacturer in Saxony. He then moved to Hohn in 1864 where he was briefly a modeller for Knodgen, Maxein & Company.

In October 1864 he went into partnership with Ottmar Speyzer to form Siderolithwarenfabrik von Speyzer and Hanke in Hohn. But 3 years later saw Ottmar Speyzer disappearing, leaving Hanke with all the company debts.

But Hanke carried on and in 1868 launched a new stoneware factory in Hohn. This new pottery, bearing his name, excelled in the production of the famous blue-grey and Cologne brown Westerwald stoneware. Rather quickly he was shipping to German royalty (Kaiser Wilhelm I and his wife Kaiserin Augusta, the Empress Augusta of Prussia) and to places such as Castle Eitz and Castle Stotzenfels.

By 1873 he exhibited at the World Exhibition at Vienna, Austria and was honored to have the Kaiserin Augusta, wife of Kaiser Wilhelm I, visit his factory. This visit was the prelude to being named "Supplier to the Court" by Empress Augusta of Prussia in 1876.

The pottery exhibited extensively and usually receiving awards for the quality and design of his steins and other stoneware.

In 1876 it was a bronze medal from the U.S. Centennial Exhibition in Philadelphia, PA.

In 1880 silver awards from Berlin, Germany, Melbourne, Australia and a bronze from Dusseldorf, Germany.

In 1881—a gold from Brussels, Belgium and silver from Frankfurt, Germany, Adelaide, Australia and Linz, Austria.

In 1883—a bronze from Amsterdam, Netherlands

In 1884—bronze awards at two different exhibits in London, England

The list goes on but Reinhold dies in 1886 and the business continues under the direction of his widow Maria.



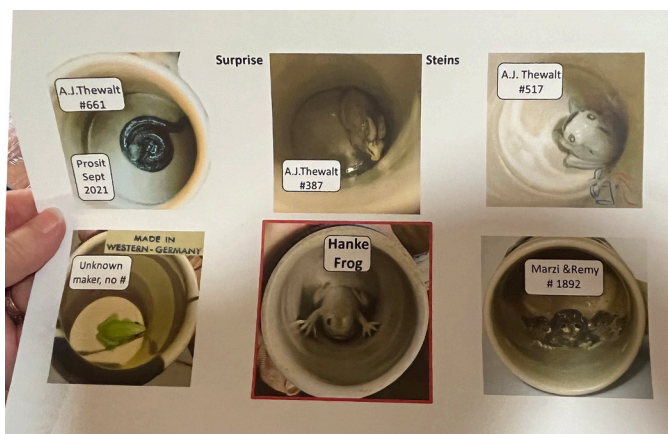
In a Hanke Sample Book of about 1884 is the image of an impressive ad for the business (Figure 3, the red outline shows the award from Philadelphia in 1876) and the attractive photo of Reinhold and his wife Maria was in a 1895 catalog from the Leipzig Trade Fair in 1895 (figure 4).

June 22, 1886 Reinhold Hanke dies at age 46. His wife, Maria ran the factory, until their sons, Carl (born 1872) and August (born 1875) were old enough to take over. August studied during 1893 at the Royal Porcelain Manufactory in Berlin and at the Munich Arts & Crafts College, through 1894. At some point he supplied designs to Reinhold Merkelbach.

In 1903 two of the former employees Wilhelm Roskopf and Alois Jac. Gerz joined together and formed Roskopf & Gerz..

On March 19th 1908 Carl Hanke dies at age 35., leaving the younger brother to carry on with the company.

Three years later (1911) three different Westerwald stoneware manufacturers combined forces and organized Steinzeubwerke, formally registered in January of 1912. The three companies—Reinhold Merkelbach, S. O. Gerz I, and Reinhold Hanke, later joined by Walter Muller, were under the direction of Paul Merkelbach. The firm was a cooperative aimed at marketing and sales of the products of its member





companies.

Late in 1913 Hanke reportedly withdrew from the Steinzeugwerke. The start of World War I in 1914 created great hardship. However on August 1 and 2, of 1921 the firm of August Hanke was virtually destroyed by fire, all the molds were destroyed. Its operations from that point were a mere hint of what they had been previously. August Hanke unsuccessfully attempted to rebuild his business and he only produced some ceramics at a reduced level.

Finally on September 27, 1938 he died at age 62. The damaged factories were torn down and the site was subsequently redeveloped. The Reinhold Hanke Company disappeared from the scene....to be remembered by a vast assortment of beautiful, interesting and collectible steins. (Based on an article in steinmarks.co.uk.) Pictured are three views of some of the Reinhold Hanke steins present at the meeting. Figure 7 shows the humorous side of collecting steins and drinking from them. The 6 steins, viewed looking inside the stein, show frogs calmly waiting for the drinker to discover that there is a frog in the beer stein. Hanke is at center bottom.

MINI CONVENTION: The Gambrinus Stein Club is hosting a mini-convention in Maryland on the first weekend in November. There will be a Fox auction on Saturday November 4th and sales tables and speakers on Sunday November 5th. See their article on page 9 of *Prosit* Vol. 2, No. 127 (the current September issue). Contact Norm Paratore (410-456-0042) or Eric Salzano (240-848-0306) for additional information. This smaller convention is great—less time spent in traveling to and from, easy to buy and sell, and a bit more casual but still an excellent place to learn more about steins and to talk with other like-minded collectors.

OUR NOVEMBER 19th MEETING: Lunch will be at the Blue Monkey Tavern, 2 South Centre St. Merchantville NJ 08109. We will be ordering off the menu, they open at 11:00 so we can order early and have social time from 11:30 and eat at noon. I think there is only one step when you enter and our meeting will be on the first floor in the back. To check their menu— <https://bluemonkeytavern.com/menu-food-1-column/>

Then just a short drive to the Schaible's home (137 Leslie Ave. Merchantville, NJ 08109) for the meeting and dessert. For the program, Mike will talk about steins of ladies with bustles, Chuck will show a glass stein he purchased recently. And everyone should bring in any steins they have picturing Gambrinus (also any bustle ladies).

2024 MEETINGS: The third Sunday in March is March 17. So what would you like to see as a program that day and where would be the best location. The first Sunday in June is on June 2. Second Sunday in September is the 8th and the November meeting would be on the 17th. Plan now to host one of the meetings or at least to arrange a program for a meeting. And also to attend all four of the meetings.

RESERVATION FORM FOR KEYSTEINER MEETING NOV. 19. 2023

Name _____ number attending _____

Address and Phone _____

There is no charge at this time. You will pay the Blue Monday Tavern on the 19th for the food you order there. This form lets the Schaibles know who are coming and can plan accordingly.

Send form to our hosts Gary and Mimi Schaible, 137 Leslie Ave, Merchantville, NJ 08109.
For last minute changes or for info contact the Schaibles at 856-486-4289.