

The Dixie Steiners

Fall 2022

SAVE THE DATE-MARCH 25, 2023, FOR NEXT DIXIE STEINERS' MEETING

SCI DUES REMINDER

REMEMBER-If your SCI membership expires in December, get your renewal dues in before the end of the month to ensure your Prosit subscription does not get interrupted.

October Dixie Steiners' Meeting

The Dixie Steiners held their Fall meeting on October 29th. Rich and Penny Howard hosted the meeting at their mountain home in North Georgia. Thanks for the hospitality, great food and drink!

The meeting kicked off with Steins for Sale. Here is a look at a few of the steins that changed hands.

The first one snagged by Andrew Ives, was a Duemler & Breiden, mold 406, a 1-liter stein created especially for the 1904 St. Louis World's Fair.



This was a great match for Andrew as he already had the standard D&B 406 in his collection.



These two steins have the same side scenes, but different central scenes, all by Defregger. The central saying translates to *"If you are together in happy company, celebrate the pleasant hour with beer steins."*

Andrew picked up a second very nice, ½ liter porcelain stein with a pewter lid, foot ring, and a lithophane of a pair of deer by a stream in the forest.



Walter Swett picked up a 1/2-liter, Munich Child stein manufactured by Marzi & Remy, mold 6133, dated 1910, with a 5-pin open hinge.



The stein was manufactured for the department store Karl Schüssel in München.



During Show and Tell or Ask, Andrew Ives showed a stein, mold number 994 produced for the American Gas Institute, Detroit, 1909 and was looking for help in identifying the manufacturer.

Unfortunately, no one present was able to answer that question, but perhaps someone reading this article can.



Don Franz, a collector of US Military Steins and drinking vessels shared the following items from the 135th Inf. Regiment, 34th Division, 5th US Army. The 135th's lineage can be traced back to the 1st Minnesota Volunteer Infantry which was organized in 1861 and was the first volunteer unit to offer its services to President Lincoln. The unit played a key role during the second day of the Battle of Gettysburg when it prevented a significant breach of the

Union's defensive lines on Cemetery Ridge. In October 1917, the unit was redesignated as the 135th Infantry Regiment and assigned to the 34th "Red Bull" Division. The assigned soldiers wore the "Red Bull" shoulder patch.



During WWII, the 135th was one of the first units to be deployed to North Africa where they participated in the landings at Algiers and the Tunisian Campaign and later the invasion of Italy where they fought courageously from September 1943 until the end of WWII in May 1945.

Below is a pitcher and a tumbler dedicated to the 135th.



After several reorganizations, the unit is known today as the 2d Battalion, 135th Infantry Regiment and is a unit within the Minnesota National Guard.

Franz Ringer Presentation

Chapter President Walter Swett did an overview presentation on the life and works of Franz Jakob Ringer, designer, painter, and sculpture. His work included genre paintings and sculptures, statues, fountains, wall friezes, murals, lead glazing, furniture, lamps, guild symbols, May tree figures, shooting targets, book illustrations, and beer steins.

Ringer was the 4th of five children born October 7th, 1865 in Munich to Josef and Maria Ringer.

He apprenticed with his father who was a master carpenter and later traveled through Tyrol and Switzerland. In 1888 he attended the Technical College of Aachen and was taught modelling and embossing by Munich sculptor Karl Krauss. After completing his studies, he returned to Munich where he worked as an assistant for 10 years to teacher and mentor Professor Josef von Kramer. In 1898, he was a co-founder and member of Vereinigte Werkstaetten fuer Kunst in

Handwerk (United Workshops for Arts in Crafts).

He married in 1896 and his son Eduard was born in 1899. They lived in Schwabing at the edge of Munich's artist quarter.

About 1900 he became self-employed and had a shop on Briennerstrasse, Munich. He designed in both the Historism and Art Nouveau periods and in 1900, several pieces of his work (clocks, lamps, plastering frieze, and portal) were displayed at the Parisian World's Fair.

Here are some samples of the variety of Ringer's work.

Dining Room



Wine Cellar Mural



Munich Woman Watercolor sketch – Note the woman's fingers and the FR monogram



Two Figure Containers about 1904



Advertising Stamp for Martin Pauson about 1910



One of the earliest known steins designed by Ringer was for the 1903 Association of German Engineers. Ironically, one of his latest known steins was designed 10 years later for the 1913 American Society of Mechanical Engineers, Munich.



Ringer is known to have designed steins for Villeroy & Boch, Mettlach;

Merkelbach & Wick; Wick-Werke; Marzi & Remy; Albert Jacob Thewalt; and others. According to the book *Das Münchner Kindl*, Ringer is known to have designed around 100 beer steins and at least 23 of them included the Munich Child.

Many, but not all the steins designed by Ringer have his FR monogram on them. One characteristic to help identify Ringer steins that include people, and which show hands are the pointed fingers with two middle fingers together as shown in the above watercolor sketch and the 1903 and 1913 engineer steins. In 1988, SCI member Durban conducted a study of 138 hands on Ringer steins and he found that 98% of them (135/138) had this characteristic.

Below are some examples of Ringer's beer steins:

1905 Deutscher Bäcker Innungen (German Baker's Guild)



1906 Federal Shooting Match, Munich



1912 Federal Shooting Match



1908 Gymnastic Competition



1912 Oktoberfest



1910 Oktoberfest



1912 Trade Show



Biedermeier Gentleman with Chicken



Cheers



Biedermeier Gentleman with Beer



Drink & Sing No Sin



Be in Good Spirits-Love-Drink and Sing



WWI broke out in July 1914 and Ringer died of cancer on December 1, 1917 at the age of 52. His only child, Eduard, was killed a few months later on a WWI battlefield. His widow died on December 1, 1944.

Mark Your Calendar for March 25th, 2023 for our Next Dixie Steiners' Meeting which will be hosted by Dave & Karen Thelen in Lawrenceville, Georgia. Check your email for additional details.

Wishing everyone Happy Holidays and a Safe and Prosperous New Year!