

8th Convention

July 1974

S.C.I. CONVENTION VIII

JULY 17 - 21, 1974

BILTMORE HOTEL

NEW YORK, N.Y.



Master Steinologist: Joe Hersh

Miss Beer Stein: Jackie Dietlein



Vera & Earl Christy



Jackie Dietlein





Netty & Jack Lowenstein



Norm & Ronee Medow



Wyatt & Lola Yon

Miss Beer Stein

Jackie Dietlein

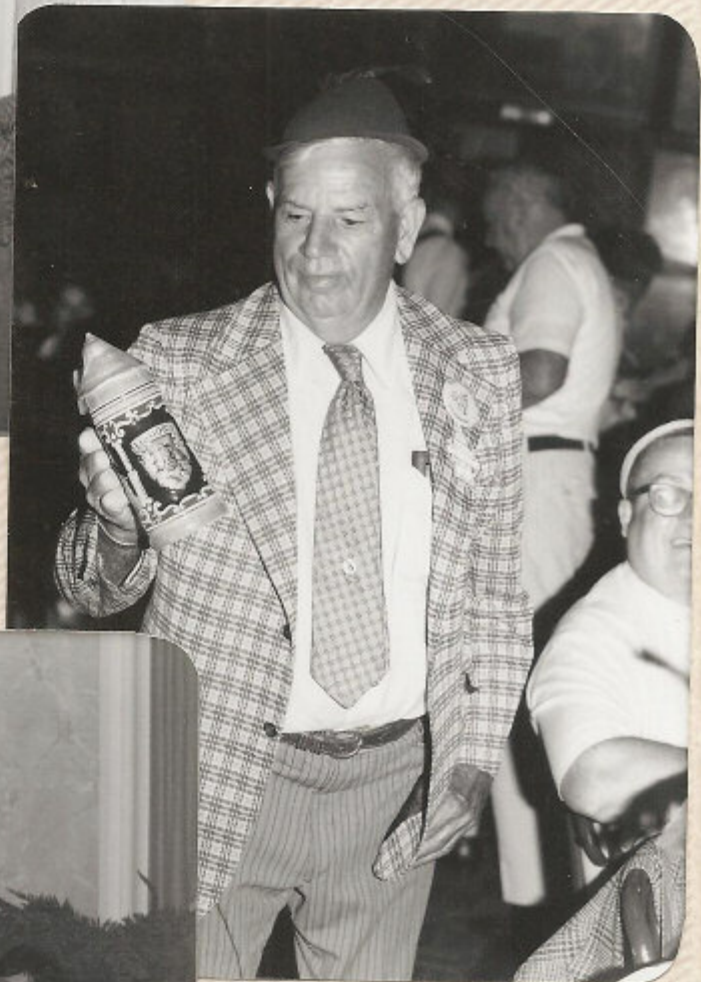


Norm Medow &

Jack Lowenstein



Bill Schwartz



Tom McGrath



Gene & Pat Manusov

(back) Jim Hansen & wife





Russ Rudin

Wyatt Jon

John Boller

Floyd Dietlein

Bob & Freida Alutin

Sig Kleine



Joe Durban

Herb Jeddy

Mark Durban

Terry Hill







STEIN COLLECTORS
INTERNATIONAL
1974
NEW YORK



The R. J. Schaefer Stein Collection

YOUR HOSTS:

BERGERMEISTERS OF NEW JERSEY

THE THIRSTY KNIGHTS OF NEW YORK

AND OUR S.C.I. AREA MEMBERS

STEIN COLLECTORS INTERNATIONAL

President: Fredlein Schroeder, Sr.
Vice-Pres: Norman Medow
Executive Secretary: Jack Heimann

New York Chapter—The Thirsty Knights

President: Mat Gruskin
Vice-Pres: Mike Wald
Sec./Tres.: Shirley Wald

Past Presidents of Stein Collectors International

Jack Heimann
Kurt Sommerich
J. Joseph Hersch
Leonard Schenk
Joe Durban
John Boller

New Jersey Chapter—The Bergermeister

President: Jack Lowenstein
Vice Pres: J. Lowenstein
Sec./Tres: The Lowensteins

Program

WEDNESDAY, July 17

Early Bird Day

Arrival . . . Biltmore Hotel

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| 12:00–5:00 pm | Registration . . . Suite K |
| 3:00–7:00 pm | Pre-Convention Tour Featuring
The Cloisters and a Brownstone Tour |
| 7:00 pm | Dutch-treat dinner and informal
get together |

THURSDAY, July 18

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| 9:00 am–5:00 pm | Registration . . . Suite K |
| 10:00 am | Welcome membership meeting . . .
Music Room |
| 9:00–12:00 | Stein selling and trading . . .
Suites N, O and P |
| 1:00 pm | Lunch and Show . . . Music Room |
| 2:30 pm | Stein selling and trading . . .
Suite N, O and P |
| 5:15 pm | Buses depart from Hotel to
Antique Center |
| 5:45–8:15 pm | Stein exhibit and party at
The New York Antique Center
962 Third Avenue, New York |
| 8:30 pm | Buses depart from New York
Antique Center for Luchow's
Restaurant |

Circa Midnight Buses return to Biltmore Hotel

FRIDAY, July 19

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| 8:00– 8:30 am | Board of Directors Meeting
Suite R |
| 8:30–10:00 am | General Membership Meeting
Music Room |
| 10:15 am | Buses depart for Parke Bernet 84 |
| 10:30–11:30 am | Preview of Stein Auction |
| 11:30– 1:00 pm | Buffet Lunch at PB 84 |

Program

FRIDAY, July 19 (Cont.—)

1:00— 4:00 pm	Auction
1:00— 4:00 pm	Exhibition at Metropolitan Museum of Art of Drinking Vessels (for those who do not attend auction*)
4:30 pm	Buses return from PB 84 to Biltmore Hotel
8:15 pm	Walk to "Steak and Brew" 221 West 46th Street
8:30 pm	Dinner at "Steak and Brew"
Circa Midnight	Return to Hotel

SATURDAY, July 20

9:30—11:30 am	Cluster Conferences
	(1) New York Police Dept. on safeguarding antiques
	(2) Arthur Gilbert . . . etched and cameo steins
	(3) and more
12:30 pm	Lunch . . . Music Room
1:30— 5:00 pm	Dealers Day . . . Suites N, O & P
1:30— 8:00 pm	Time to enjoy New York
8:00 pm	Convention Banquet . . . Music Room

SUNDAY, July 21

8:30—10:00 am	Farewell Continental Breakfast at the Biltmore
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**The exhibition of Drinking vessels at Metropolitan Museum of Art, Fifth Avenue at East 82nd Street, will be on view during the entire Convention.*



News photo by Anthony Casale

Mike Wild checks out some of the steins on tap at convention.

Their Steins Runneth Over Collectors Hoist a Few Here

By PETER COUTROS

The French invented the guillotine, and lost their heads; the Germans came up with the stein and saved theirs, cold and foamy. So, while some of the city's Frenchmen were marking Bastille Day yesterday with toasts in long-stemmed glassware, a group of stein fanciers gathered at the New York Antiques Centre, 962 Third Ave., near 57th St., to hoist a host of fancy tankards.

Not for quaffing, mind you, but to admire and be admired and to satisfy the "my-mug-is-prettier-than-yours" attitude that lurks in the recesses of our egos.

"Please, don't call them mugs, they are steins," admonished Jack Lowenstein. His tone suggested that anyone who'd confuse the two wouldn't know a Van Gogh from an Andy Warhole.

Since no self-respecting stein would go lidless on even the hottest day (anymore than it would allow itself to be called a mug), the question came up: why the flip-tops on steins?

"It was by royal decree," explained Lowenstein, who spills over with information like lager running down the side of a stein. "Since much of the drinking in the 17th century was done outdoors, lids were decreed as a health measure to keep suds safe from the atmosphere, including birds in flight."

For all his fascination with steins — he won 300 of them — Lowenstein is loath to speak of their monetary worth or to attribute any magical, machismo qualities to them.

"What they do is keep beer clean and cold," he says about these robust drinking vessels that have turned on men and taps for centuries.

While everyone at the opening session of the Stein Collectors International Convention, which runs through next Sunday, declined to discuss the value of their prized steins, it is no secret that they are appreciating in value.

He Drinks From Can

Regarding one such stein, featuring a medieval warrior on a white horse with a castle turret as a lid, one collector guesses its value as "upward of \$1,000. That's without the beer, of course."

"Usually, I drink my beer right out of the can, commented Lowenstein, laying an appreciative hand athwart a belly which apparently has had more than one on many occasions.

"At the turn of the century, these steins were utilitarian," he goes on, returning to his favorite subject. "Now, they've become art. But they're not treasures, not yet."

Someday, these beautiful Mettlachs, Musterschutzes, Regimentals, Faiences and HR steins will be worth lots of money and their owners' mugs will be known to lots of people.



NEW YORK CONVENTION — July 17-21, 1974

TENTATIVE PROGRAM SCHEDULE (Subject to last-minute changes)

Wednesday, July 17:

Early-bird registration at hotel all afternoon
"No-host" dinner at night (Restaurant list available)

Thursday, July 18:

Registration - all day
"Welcome" Membership meeting (A.M.)
Lunch and Fashion Show at Biltmore Hotel
Afternoon open to renew old friendships, stein swaps, etc.
Opening of Stein Exhibit at N.Y. Antiques Center - 5 PM
& Cocktail party
Supper at Luchows German Restaurant*

Friday, July 19:

Official S.C.I. Business Meeting - 9 AM
PB-84 Stein Auction preview, 11 AM
Lunch at PB-84
PB-84 Stein Auction - 1 PM
Supper at Stagecoach Restaurant

Saturday, July 20:

Plenary Lectures and Discussions - 10 AM
Stein Dealer's Day at hotel - all day
Lunch at Biltmore Hotel
Afternoon open
Gala Supper-Dance, Biltmore Hotel - 7 PM

Sunday, July 21:

Official Farewell Brunch at hotel

* The Thursday evening supper will include all the old S.C.I. favorites, including the Miss Beerstein contest, the East vs. West Chug-a-Lug contest, songs, beer, stein-talk and FUN!

The PB-84 Stein Auction is a special event, included in our program by courtesy of Parke-Bernet Sotheby.

A corollary "Drinking Vessel" exhibit will be held at the Metropolitan Museum of Art during the entire Convention.

NOTE: All meals, with the exception of the Wednesday "no-host" dinner and Thurs., Fri. and Sat. breakfasts, are included in Convention registration fee! All necessary transportation has been arranged, to assure that conventioners are not faced with a myriad of hidden costs.



For stein collectors, it was like a night in Munchen

By ESTELLE P. SAMMIS

It may be that the jolliest people in the nation are gathered in Manhattan

today for the opening of the eighth convention of Stein Collectors International. The convention runs through Sunday

at the Hotel Biltmore, but last night early arrivals gathered at the Greenlawn home of Matthew Grushkin, president of the New York chapter, host for the convention.

To enter the Grushkins' secluded back lawn was like stepping onto the famous third floor of Munich's Hofbrau Haus, with Strauss waltzes and the Bavarian costumes of some of the collectors.

"We all see each other every year — and more join — so if we don't know each other now we will by Sunday," said Robert Alutin of Manhattan. His wife, Frieda, agreed.

Stein-collecting is not as quiet as stamp-collecting. A little beer, but not too much, goes with the stein, and so does the festival atmosphere.

One of the oldest collectors visiting Greenlawn, was Siegmund Klein of Manhattan, happily surrounded with autograph-seekers.

WAS IT HIS steins? No. Klein is a retired professional weightlifter, and he broke a record for making Ripley's "Believe it or Not" column 10 times.

Klein collects gymnastic weight-lifter steins — in other words, there are steins and steins, a highly-specialized area.

Steins, collectors would have you believe, go back as far as man had a thirst. But after the advent of beers, ales, and lagers, the artisans of the Germanic countries turned their humor and their skill to steinmaking: lead and silver, pottery and china, glass, wood, and even ivory.

Animal figures often served as handles, and one popular old stein was in the shape of a cat with a headache bandage — a Katzenjammer.

And the clergy often served as bas-

relief figures, apparently delighting those who might have qualms about too much time spent in a pub. And pubs, by the way, often kept a customer's stein for his special use.

Many of last night's visitors in Greenlawn came from Minneapolis, St. Paul and Chicago, with another group from California. Warner Sahn came from Koblenz, Germany, and brought one of his famous steins.

"We look forward to this every year, and we keep in close touch with each other," one enthusiastic wife said.

ONE WAY several thousand of them keep in contact is through their quarterly newsletter "Prosit," published in St. Paul.

Managing editor Jack Heiman has been collecting steins 28 years, and he acts as a sort of central communications system for everyone else.

"It's delightful here on Long Island," he said, "and it's delightful to be able to come to someone's house when you're at a convention in a new area."

Heimann told of the foreign correspondent who brought him 400 letters from Germany, most of them amazed at the idea of collecting steins and wanting to know more about it.

Being with the stein collectors is enough to send anyone rummaging in an attic to find one, not just for the stein itself, but in hope of finding some of the happy, friendly fun collectors are having.

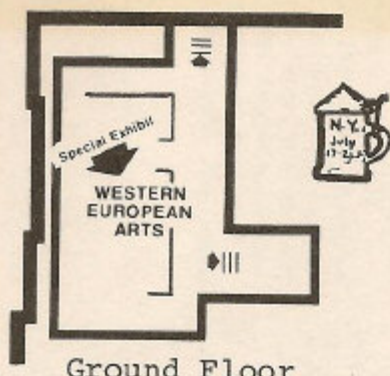
Tonight there will be a dinner at Luchow's in Manhattan, tomorrow, a Parke-Bernet stein auction at the Antiques Pavillion, 963 Third Ave.; all week, a display of steins at the Metropolitan Museum; a dinner-dance, a police lecture on stein and collection protection, and dealers' day, all day Saturday. Prosit!



Standing under a sign welcoming fellow stein collectors, Mr. and Mrs. Matt Guskin, dressed in attire to match the occasion, display one of the favorite beer steins in their collection. (Photo by Carl Rozycki)

The Metropolitan Museum of Art

COROLLARY DRINKING VESSEL EXHIBIT



In honor of the Eighth Annual Convention of STEIN COLLECTORS INTERNATIONAL, the Metropolitan Museum of Art is holding a corollary exhibition of classic drinking vessels during July and August. This is an unusual opportunity to see these steins, tankards, toasting cups and mugs, since many were brought out of storage especially for this exhibit!

The exhibit is housed on the GROUND FLOOR of the Museum, just below the Main Floor, in the Western European Arts area. A description of the galleries of interest to S.C.I. members follows:

Gallery #50, Western European Arts: Special exhibit of over 90 old drinking vessels, encompassing items made of stoneware, porcelain, pewter and glass. Of special interest will be the very fine examples of old Rhenish stoneware steins, including Ringelkrüge and salt-glazed steins from the Westerwald region. Also some fine polychrome faience steins. In the pewter area, there are excellent guild flagons, Birnenkrüge (pear-shaped tankards) and an assortment of other pewter steins. Glass is represented by hand-painted Humpen and flagons. Some very unique porcelain mugs and steins are exhibited, including some unusual puzzle mugs from England. This exhibit is a must for those stein collectors who are interested in pre-19th century drinking vessels!

Other galleries to see:

Gallery #39: Silver, silver-gilt and glass-and-silver tankards, presentation cups and flagons. Truly superb examples of the gold- and silversmiths art.

Gallery #46: Typical old stoneware steins and tankards, including ones from the Rhineland, Raeren, Frechen and Kreussen. Also a selection of silver and silver-gilt tankards.

Gallery #48: Fine majolica and faience drinking vessels and other tin-glazed articles. (Don't miss the main corridor if you love Majolica ware!)

Gallery #52: A stoneware and pottery exhibit, featuring a magnificent Kreussen stein, plus Schnellen from the Rhineland, stoneware bottles and jugs, tankards and mugs. Several faience pieces as well.

Gallery #54: The Thornton Wilson Gallery - a display which has to be seen to be believed. All from the private collection of Mr. Wilson, these are the finest examples of German and Austrian ceramics: Vienna, Berlin, Meissen -- several exquisite steins, but don't miss the rest of this marvelous collection.

... and while you are in the Western European Arts section be sure to look around and view the other exhibits: The Metropolitan Museum of Art isn't known as one of the finest museums in the world for nothing. You will be spending a most enjoyable morning, or afternoon, ... or day. A leisurely visit to the Museum will be a lasting souvenir of New York City.

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THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART INFORMATION

Museum location: Fifth Avenue at 82nd Street, New York, New York 10028.

Museum hours: Tuesdays 10-8:45; Wednesday through Saturday 10-4:45; Sundays and holidays 11-4:45. Closed Mondays (including Monday holidays).

Museum telephones: General information 736-2211; offices 879-5500.

Fountain Restaurant: Weekdays, except Mondays, for luncheon 11-3; for afternoon coffee and cocktails 3-4:45; Tuesday evenings 5-8:15; Saturdays 11:30-3:45; Sundays 12-4:15.

Snack Bar: Weekdays, except Mondays, 1:30-4:30; Saturdays 10-4:30; Sundays 12-4:30.

Admission policy: Pay what you wish (but you must pay something). Members free.

Prosit

1974 Convention in New York "Outstanding", "Fantastic"

We should call upon Roget's Thesaurus to yield new words for those old exclamations, such as "terrific", or "wow!" but whatever the words, convention-goers were unanimous in their praise of our 8th annual convention, so well and carefully planned by the New York and New Jersey chapters of SCI.

To single out events or persons for



Mr. and Mrs. Matt Gruskin, convention hosts, held a lovely outdoor party at their home for early convention arrivals. Matt is president of the New York Thirsty Knights.

praise would seem to negate the efforts of others, but surely convention chairman Jack Lowenstein and his co-chairman, Norman Medow, must be congratulated for their work and planning, for through their efforts and coordination, the convention at the Biltmore on July 17-21 was the biggest (209 attendance) and the most stein-filled in our history. Our thanks to them and to all the others who worked so hard.

Most SCI-ers arrived on Wednesday and were entertained in style at a party at the lovely home of Matt and Marianne Gruskin of New York.

Thursday early (too early for some sleepy partygoers) was Registration



Jack Lowenstein, convention chairman, received an award from his co-chairman and our new SCI president, Norman Medow.

Day and then steins, steins and more steins, talking and trading.

Thursday afternoon we were bussed to the New York Antiques Center for a beer "cocktail" party and the opening of a huge stein exhibit which had been set up by the New York and New Jersey chapter members. (see photos).

There were two special collections, one from Schaeffer Brewery with approximately 20 choice pieces, and a joint HR exhibit featuring 26 examples of etched, relief, tapestry and mosaic pieces.

Also on display were Regimentals, Faience, Lenox, Mettlachs, Characters (including many marked Musterschutz), and steins made of silver,

pewter, pottery, porcelain, glass, wood and copper.

In the Mettlach section were three etchings by famed Mettlach artist Von Stuck along with two of his choice steins. Steins representing special interests were shown depicting bowling, golfing, weightlifting, Munich maid, etc. The Mettlach display was outstanding.

Thursday evening merriment abounded at New York's famous Luchow's German restaurant. Lovely Jackie Dietlein of Nevada was crowned "Miss Beer Stein 1974"; Frank Poppie's California team trounced the Easterners in the annual chug-a-lug contest, and many pitchers of beer and gastronomic wonders were consumed.



Steins on exhibit at the New York Antiques Center, this outstanding display was prepared by hardworking New York and New Jersey members; it was spearheaded by hardworking Display Chairman, Mike Wald.

Prosit



Mr. and Mrs. Werner Sahm traveled from West Germany to attend the convention; chatting here with Joe Durban, Calif. at the Gruskin party.

Friday morning was all business, with meetings of the Board of Directors and general membership. The key subject was the question of requiring chapter members to also be members of the national SCI. It was decided that in order to build a strong national organization and to achieve the objectives of a stronger PROSIT that national membership would continue to be a prerequisite to chapter membership.

From business to more pleasure; an auction and buffet lunch at the Parke Bernet galleries, a fast visit to the Metropolitan Museum of Art to see a special exhibit of antique drinking vessels, then on to dinner at "Steak and Brew".

Saturday morning there were three plenary lectures, reports of which will appear in the next three issues of PROSIT. Detective Bob Vollpe of the N.Y. Police Fine Arts Squad lectured on fine arts protection. Art Gilbert discussed Chromolith and Phanolith Mettlach steins, and the wife of the Höhr-Grenzhausen, stein manufacturer, Mrs. Werner Sahm, spoke about modern stein-making methods.

Dealer's Day was Mike Wald's day and it was beyond describing; over 500 steins were for sale and it is believed that more than a few found their way into the hands of SCI-ers.

Saturday evening brought the gala dinner dance at the Biltmore. Many awards, official and not so, were an-

nounced and applauded. Dr. J. Joseph Hersh became our new "Master of Steinology". Jack Lowenstein was honored for chairing the convention; and his co-chairman Norm Medow was named as our new president.

Mr. and Mrs. Werner Sahm and MSgt Frederick Smith "traveled furthest" to attend the convention; all are from West Germany. Mike Wald was named "Mr. HR Steins"; Bill Schwartz came away with the title of "Master Stein Collector" and Mr. Jim Hansen was "Best Dressed".



Jack Heimann, managing editor of PROSIT, presents Dr. J. Joseph Hersh with "Master of Steinology" award.

Sunday morning brought a farewell breakfast, many sad "Auf Wiedersehens" and promises to meet again in Chicago in 1975.

It was a fine convention. A good time was had by all.



Jackie Dietlein of Nevada is crowned "Miss Beer Stein" of 1974 by Connie Smith of Florida, the 1973 Miss Beer Stein.

Convention commemoratives sold out

Alas and alack, all of the Statue of Liberty convention steins have been sold. Our first-ever commemorative character stein was a great success. Those members who were not at the convention or did not place an advance order may insert a request in Stein Exchange. Those members who have extras are urged to offer them to others through the same column.

S. C. I.
SECOND ANNUAL BOARD MEETING
 July 18, 1974

The Second Annual Board of Directors Meeting was called to order by the Chairman of the Board, John Boller, at 2:35 p.m., July 18, 1974. The following were present:

Fredlein Schroeder	Vera Christy	Norm Medow
Frank Lambertus	Jim Talley	Dick Miller
Wyatt Yon	Red Smith	Jack Lowenstein
Gene Manusov	Terry Hill	Dick Whiston
Joe Durban	Lenny Schenk	Al Hoch
John Boller	Jack Heimann	Dorothy Scherdin

The minutes of the last board meeting were read. The Chairman asked for any corrections or additions. Frank Lambertus moved that the minutes be approved as read. Jack Lowenstein seconded the motion and the minutes were approved as read. Terry Hill raised a question about the voting on the motion that all members who belong to a local chapter that identifies with S. C. I. require that its members belong to the S. C. I. Terry Hill wanted it written in that he had abstained from voting. Mr. Boller pointed out that the Erste Groupe as a whole did not vote.

It was brought up that if there are any questions, members of each group could talk to their board member or their group president.

Vera Christy was asked to read the Treasurer's Report. On January 1, 1973 - there was no money on hand.

Receipts after this:	\$15, 525.85	
Disbursements:	<u>10, 381.59</u>	
Cash on hand December 31, 1973:		\$5, 144.26
Membership Fees for 1973	7, 770.00	
for 1974	280.00	
Convention Fees	6, 400.85	
Sale of Steins	<u>1, 145.00</u>	
Total		15, 525.85
Disbursements:		
Convention Expenses	5, 671.82	
PROSIT	4, 276.45	
Miscellaneous	<u>433.32</u>	
Total		10, 381.59
The cash on hand January 1, 1974		5, 144.26
Received through June 30,		8, 685.62

Disbursements:

PROSIT	5,142.33
Mailings and	
Miscellaneous	<u>989.86</u>

Total

6,132.19

Howard Blitz said that was one of the best treasurer's report he has ever heard, so he moved it be accepted as read. It was seconded and the motion carried.

The President appointed an Auditing Committee with John Boller as Chairman. He is to pick out two members to assist him.

Mr. Schroeder introduced the following new conventioners:

Bill Sullivan ; Ray & Carl Laske
 Peg and Bob Baldwin, Westchester, PA.
 Glenn and Mildred Detrick, Stroudsbury, PA.
 Ted and Therese Niles ; Anthony & Effie D'Anbros, Conn.
 Mr. & Mrs. Schnitzlire, Baltimore, MD
 Fred Smith, Chicago ; Heinz and Rose Merlin, Baltimore, MD
 Mary and Tom McGroth, N. Y.
 Don and Loretta Frenz, Garden City, N.Y.
 Al Hestkum, Chesire, Conn.
 Mr. & Mrs. Werner Sahm, Grenzhausen, W. Germany
 Bob & Frieda Alutin, N. Y.
 Mike Wold, N. Y. City
 John DeLeusa, N. Y.
 Wade & Joann Meupin, Richfield, Ohio
 The Sahls from Caco, Fla.
 Wayde and Marian Miller, Illinois

A warm welcome was given to them.

The President asked for a report from the Chairmen of the Nominating Committee from Joe Durban. He gave the following:

President: Norm Medow
 First Vice-President - Al Hoch
 Second Vice-President - Wyatt Yon
 Recording Secretary - Dorothy Schardin
 Treasurer - Vera Christy
 Chairmen of the Board - Fredlein Schroeder
 Executive Secretary - Jack Heiman
 Board Members for 3 years - Jim Hensen
 Jim Talley

Frank Lambertus moved that the slate of officers chosen by the Nominating Committee be accepted. The motion was seconded and motion carried. We have the new officers and they were introduced.

Fredlein asked for a standing ovation and applause for Jack Heiman, and also to Jeanne for putting up with him. They were both given a round of applause.

At this time the gavel was turned over to Norm Medow.