

# 12<sup>th</sup> Convention

July 1978

**S.C.I. CONVENTION XII**

**JULY 12 - 26, 1978**

**METTLACH & HOHR-GRENZHAUSEN**

**GERMANY**



**Master Steinologists: Therese Thomas**

**Werner Sahn**

**Miss Beer Stein: Marianne Gruskin**





Bürgermeister R. Felton

Mary Durban

Wendrin von Boch







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Rosie Sahn, Earl Christy

Kurt Sommerich & Dezso Ladanyi



Pat Murphy



Hannah Steichman

Pat Jahn



Leonce Miller

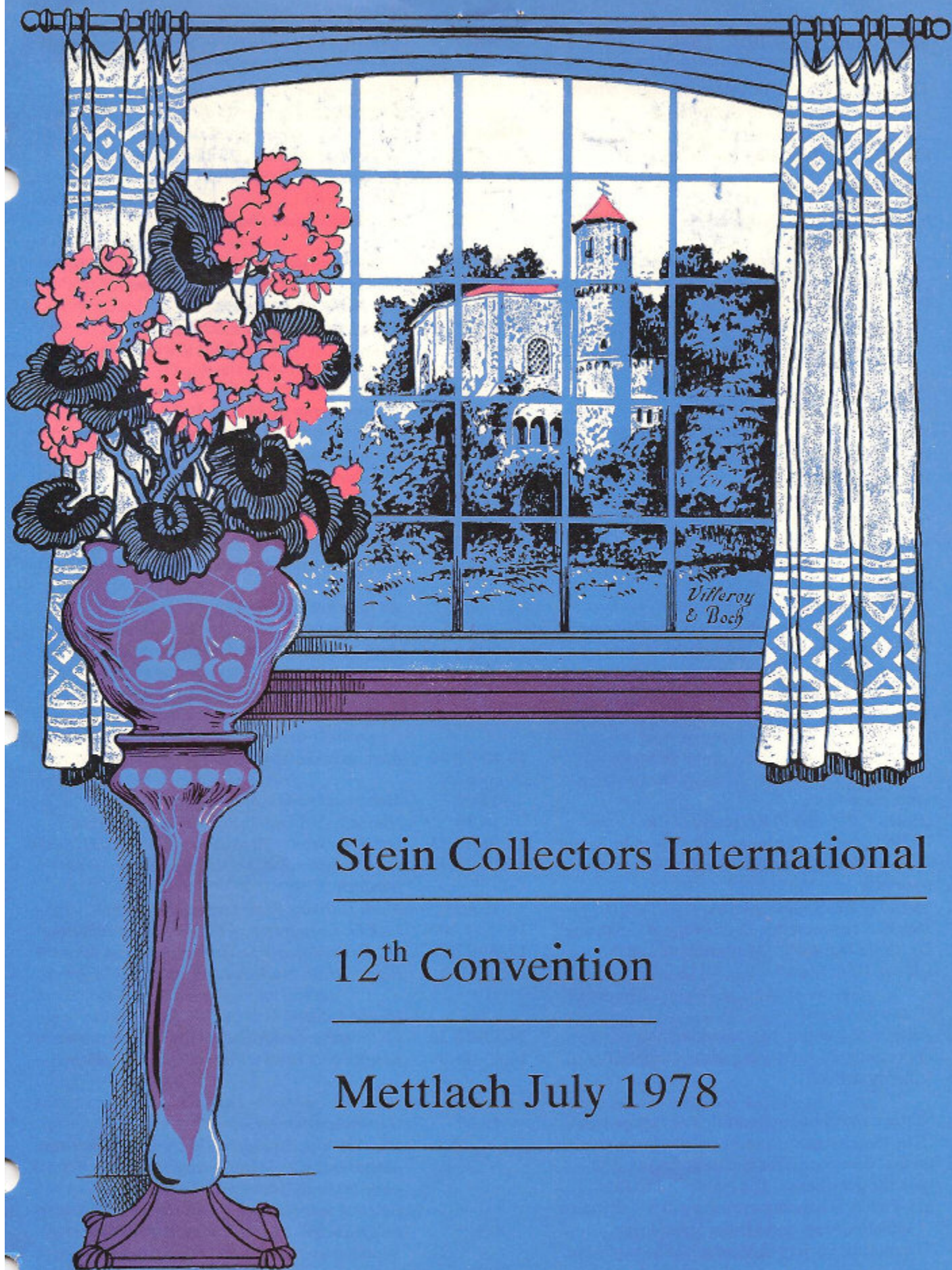
Segmund Klein & Matt Gruskin











Stein Collectors International

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12<sup>th</sup> Convention

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Mettlach July 1978

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### Wednesday, July 12th, 1978

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The participants will be picked up at the airport Luxemburg. Transfer to the hotels.	12.00 (Ortszeit) (local time)
Departure of the buses	
from Trier	17.00
from Losheim	17.30
from Mettlach and Orscholz	17.45
tour through the „Hasenberg“ – wine growing estate at Perl. Wines tasting in the club house of Perl, followed by a dinner. Transfer to the hotels.	18.30  At about/ca. 22.00

### Thursday, Juli 13th, 1978

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Departure of the buses	
from Trier	8.30
from Losheim	9.20
from Mettlach and Orscholz	9.30
Multi-purpose hall (Mehrzweckhalle) Opening of the Convention and words of welcome.	10.00–10.40
A speech is held by the gentlemen: Wendelin von Boch – director of the Faïencerie Kurt Sommerich – president of the SCI	
The Villeroy & Boch musical society of Mettlach will be playing on this occasion.	
same place board meeting of the SCI	10.40–12.40
same place lunch	13.00
(Buses 1, 2, 3 and 7) Refectory of the Abbey	14.30
Dr. R. L. Scott – The humoristic style of M. Schlitt	14.30–15.15
Dr. Th. Thomas – Art Nouveau Stoneware in Mettlach	15.15–15.45
Mark Durban's film: „Stein crazy“, Part II	15.45
Jack G. Loewenstein: „Psychology of Collecting“	16.15–17.00
Dr. Gene Manusov: „Musterschutz and the Elusive Hash Mark“.	17.00–17.30
(Buses 4, 5 and 6) Faïencerie – visit to the exhibition hall. opportunity of purchasing in the Center of Villeroy & Boch.	14.30–16.30 16.45–18.00
Saareck guesthouse: Aperitif. The fanfare band „The Hesebacher“ from Saarwellingen is playing on that occasion. Joint dinner in the pavilion near the guesthouse. The mayor of Mettlach, Mr. Felten, is handing over a certificate. Election of Miss Beerstein and Master Steinologist. The musical Society of Mettlach 1851 is playing.	19.00

Transfer to the hotels.

At about/ca.  
22.30

### Mittwoch, 12. Juli 1978

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<i>Abholung der Teilnehmer am Flughafen Luxemburg. Transfer in die Hotels.</i>
<i>Abfahrt der Busse aus Trier</i>
<i>aus Losheim</i>
<i>aus Mettlach und Orscholz</i>
<i>Fahrt durch das Weingut Hasenberg in Perl. Im Vereinshaus Perl: Weinprobe, mit anschließendem Abendessen. Transfer ins Hotel.</i>

### Donnerstag, 13. Juli 1978

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<i>Abfahrt der Busse aus Trier</i>
<i>aus Losheim</i>
<i>aus Mettlach und Orscholz</i>
<i>Mehrzweckhalle Mettlach – Eröffnung der Convention und Begrüßungsansprachen</i>
<i>Es sprechen die Herren: Wendelin von Boch – Direktor der Faïencerie Kurt Sommerich – Präsident der SCI</i>
<i>Es spielt die Mettlacher Musikvereinigung von Villeroy &amp; Boch.</i>
<i>Mehrzweckhalle – Generalversammlung SCI</i>
<i>Mehrzweckhalle – Mittagessen (Busse 1, 2, 3 und 7) Refektorium der Abtei Dr. R. L. Scott – The humoristic style of H. Schlitt Dr. Th. Thomas – Art Nouveau Stoneware in Mettlach</i>
<i>Mark Durbans Film: Stein crazy. Part II Jack G. Loewenstein – Psychology of collecting Dr. Gene Manusov – Musterschutz and the Elusive Hash Mark.</i>
<i>(Busse 4, 5 und 6) Faïencerie – Besichtigung – Ausstellungsraum Kaufmöglichkeit im Villeroy &amp; Boch Center.</i>
<i>Gästehaus Saareck: Aperitif. Musikalische Begrüßung durch den Fanfarenzug „Die Hesebacher“ aus Saarwellingen. Im Festzelt gemeinsames Abendessen. Die Musikver- einigung von Mettlach spielt. Herr Bürgermeister Felten überreicht eine Urkunde. Wahl von Miss Beerstein und Master Steinologist.</i>

Transfer ins Hotel.



Friday, July 14th, 1978

Departure of the busses from Trier	8.00
from Losheim, Mettlach and Orscholz	8.45
in the conference room „Roter Saal“ and in the entrance-hall of the Abbey: Exhibition of stein objects.	9.15–12.00
in the small hall of the Abbey: stein objects will be registered for the auction.	9.15–11.30
in the conference room „Uhrensaal“ of the Abbey: Viewing of the objects. This room will be supervised till Saturday at 9.00 AM.	Until/bis 12.00
Abbey: two to three buses will make a tour through the valley of the Saar: Serrig – Saarburg – Kastel – Cloef – Orscholz (Arrival at about 12.30 PM)	10.00
departure of the tour – five buses from the Abbey Hotel „Saarschleife“, joint lunch	12.10
Refectory of the Abbey (Buses number 4, 5 + 6)	12.30
Dr. Manusov	14.30–15.00
Dr. Thomas	15.00–15.30
Jack Loewenstein	15.30–16.15
Mark Durban's film	16.15
Dr. R. L. Scott	17.00–17.30
Faiencerie (Buses Nos. 1, 2, 3 + 7) – visit to the exhibition hall	14.30–16.30
possibility of purchasing in the Villeroy & Boch Center. Afterwards the participants will have the opportunity to change.	16.45–18.00
in the multi-purpose hall (Mehrzweckhalle) of Mettlach: Dinner-dance. The Euro-Dancing- Band is playing. – Door prizes (Tombola)	19.15
Transfer to the hotels.	At about/ca. 23.00

Saturday, July 15th, 1978

Departure of the busses: from Trier	7.50
from Losheim	8.30
from Mettlach and Orscholz	8.40
refectory of the Abbey: auction of stein objects of Mettlach (see separate notes)	9.00
picnic near the Old Tower (if the weather is bad, it will take place in the Villeroy & Boch dining-room „Saalbau“)	12.30
conference room „Uhrensaal“ and in the small hall of the Abbey: truck (exchange of steins between the participants)	14.30–18.00
In the conference room „Roter Saal“ and in the entrance-hall of the Abbey: exhibition of steins of Mettlach.	
organ recital. Mass in the church of Mettlach, participation of the church choir	18.30
Departure of all buses to Losheim. – Folklore festival in the pavilion near the Losheim lake together with the sailing-club.	19.40
Transfer to the hotels.	23.30–24.00

Freitag, 14. Juli 1978

<i>Abfahrt der Busse aus Trier</i>	
<i>aus Losheim, Mettlach und Orscholz</i>	
<i>Roter Saal und Großer Flur – Abtei: Ausstellung von Steinzeugobjekten</i>	
<i>Kleiner Saal der Abtei: Registrierung der Steinzeugobjekte für die Auktion</i>	
<i>Uhrensaal der Abtei: Besichtigung der Objekte. Dieser Raum wird bis Samstag überwacht.</i>	
<i>ab Abtei: zwei bis drei Busse fahren durchs Saartal: Serrig – Kastel – Cloef – Orscholz (Ankunft gegen 12.30)</i>	
<i>Abfahrt der vier – fünf anderen Busse ab Abtei. Hotel Saarschleife, gemeinsames Mittagessen</i>	
<i>Refektorium der Abtei (Bus 4, 5 und 6)</i>	
<i>Dr. Manusov</i>	
<i>Dr. Thomas</i>	
<i>Jack Löwenstein</i>	
<i>Mark Durban</i>	
<i>Dr. R. L. Scott</i>	
<i>Faiencerie (Bus 1, 2, 3, 7): Besichtigung Ausstellungsraum</i>	
<i>Kaufmöglichkeit im Villeroy &amp; Boch Center. Gelegenheit zum Umziehen.</i>	
<i>Mehrzweckhalle Mettlach: Dinner-dance. Es spielt die Euro-Dancing Band. – Tombola</i>	
<i>Transfer in die Hotels.</i>	

Samstag, 15. Juli 1978

<i>Abfahrt der Busse aus Trier</i>	
<i>aus Losheim</i>	
<i>aus Mettlach und Orscholz</i>	
<i>Refektorium Abtei: Auktion Mettlacher Steinzeugobjekte (s. Notiz)</i>	
<i>Picknick um den Turm (bei schlechtem Wetter im Saalbau Villeroy &amp; Boch)</i>	
<i>Uhrensaal und Kleiner Saal Abtei: Tauschmarkt</i>	
<i>Roter Saal und Großer Flur Abtei: Ausstellung Mettlacher Steinzeug</i>	
<i>Orgelkonzert. Messe in der Mettlacher Kirche, Beteiligung vom Mettlacher Kirchenchor</i>	
<i>Abfahrt aller Busse nach Losheim: Heimatfest im Zelt am Losheimer See. Beteiligung vom Segelklub.</i>	
<i>Transfer in die Hotels.</i>	



## Sunday, July 16th, 1978

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Departure of buses from Mettlach, Orscholz, Losheim Sight seeing at Trier.	8.30 all buses alle Busse
Reception in the Dormitory of the Simeonstift by the Major Dr. Wagner, Trier	9.30 11.00
Joint lunch in the Loewenbrauerei Trier	12.00
Departure of the buses through the Moselle valley to Cochem –	13.30
In Cochem embarkation	16.15
Arrival at Kobern-Gondorf – joint dinner in the Raubritterrestaurant.	19.05

There after transfer to the hotels Humboldt-  
höhe, Coblenz/Vallendar (Buses 5, 6, 7) and Dorinth,  
Lahnstein (Buses 1, 2, 3, 4)

## Monday, July 17th, 1978

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departure of all buses from the hotels	8.00
welcome in the city-hall of Höhr-Grenzhausen	8.30
(Buses 1 + 7) visit to the Rastal ceramic factory	9.30
lunch at „Erlenhofsee“, Ransbach-Baumbach	12.30
visit to the clay-pit Villeroy & Boch in Mogendorf	14.00
(Bus No. 2) visit to the Rastal ceramic factory	9.30
lunch at „Erlenhofsee“, Ransbach-Baumbach	12.30
visit to the clay-pit Villeroy & Boch in Mogendorf	14.00
(Bus 3) visit to the Rastal ceramic factory	9.30
lunch at „Vereinshaus“, Höhr-Grenzhausen	12.30
visit to the Marzi & Remy ceramic factory, Höhr-Grenzhausen	14.00
(Bus No. 4) visit to the Wick-Werke ceramic factory, Höhr-Grenzhausen	10.00
lunch in the municipal hall of Vallendar	12.00
visit to the Deinhard champagne cellar, Coblenz	14.00
(Bus No. 5) visit to the Gerz GmbH ceramic factory, Sessenbach	10.00
lunch at „Zugbruecke“, Grenzau	12.00
visit to the Grenzau castle	14.00
(Bus No. 6) visit to the Marzi & Remy ceramic factory, Höhr-Grenzhausen	10.00
lunch at „Zugbruecke“, Grenzau	12.00
visit to the Blum ceramic factory, Höhr-Grenzhausen	14.00

Special programm:  
„Kannenbaeckerland“ clay separating plant  
technical school, Höhr-Grenzhausen  
Westerwald museum, Höhr-Grenzhausen  
Stolzenfels castle on the Rhine

## Sonntag, 16. Juli 1978

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Abfahrt der Busse aus Mettlach, Orscholz, Losheim Stadtrundfahrt in Trier	
Empfang im Dormitorium vom Simeon- stift durch Herrn Oberbürgermeister Dr. Wagner, Trier	
Gemeinsames Mittagessen in der Löwenbrauerei, Trier	
Abfahrt der Busse durchs Moseltal nach Cochem –	
in Cochem Einschiffung	
Ankunft in Kobern-Gondorf. Gemeinsames Abendessen im Raubritterrestaurant.	

Anschließend Transfer in die Hotels Humboldt-  
höhe, Koblenz/Vallendar (Busse 5, 6, 7) und  
Dorinth, Lahnstein (Busse 1, 2, 3, 4)

## Montag, 17. Juli 1978

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Abfahrt aller Busse aus den Hotels	
Empfang am Rathaus in Höhr-Grenzhausen	
Busse 1 + 7 Betriebsbesichtigung Rastal	
Mittagessen „Erlenhofsee“, Ransbach-Baumbach	
Besichtigung Tongruben V & B, Mogendorf	
Bus 2 Betriebsbesichtigung Rastal	
Mittagessen „Erlenhofsee“, Ransbach-Baumbach	
Besichtigung Tongruben V & B, Mogendorf	
Bus 3 Betriebsbesichtigung Rastal	
Mittagessen „Vereinshaus“, Höhr-Grenzhausen	
Betriebsbesichtigung Marzi & Remy, Höhr-Grenzhausen	
Bus 4 Betriebsbesichtigung Wick-Werke, Höhr-Grenzhausen	
Mittagessen Stadthalle Vallendar	
Besuch Sektkellerei Deinhard, Koblenz	
Bus 5 Betriebsbesichtigung Gerz GmbH, Sessenbach	
Mittagessen „Zugbrücke“, Grenzau	
Besichtigung der Burg Grenzau	
Bus 6 Betriebsbesichtigung Marzi & Remy, Höhr-Grenzhausen	
Mittagessen „Zugbrücke“, Grenzau	
Betriebsbesichtigung Fa. Blum, Höhr-Grenzhausen	

Sonderprogramm:  
Tonaußbereitung „Kannenbäckerland“  
Fachschule, Höhr-Grenzhausen  
Westerwald-Museum, Höhr-Grenzhausen  
Schloß Stolzenfels/Rhein



## Monday, July 17th, 1978 (in the evening)

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departure of all participants from the hotels to Marksburg „Castle Candle Light Dinner”, Braubach. 18.30

## Tuesday, July 18th, 1978

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departure from the hotels by bus 9.00  
(Bus No. 1 + 7) visit to the Wick-Werke 9.30  
ceramic factories, Höhr-Grenzhausen  
lunch in the municipal hall of Vallendar 11.30  
visit to the Deinhard champagne cellar, Coblenz 14.00

(Bus No. 2) visit to Wuerfel & Mueller 9.30  
„King-Keramik”, Höhr-Grenzhausen  
lunch at „Vereinshaus”, Höhr-Grenzhausen 12.00  
visit to the Grenzau castle 14.00

(Bus No. 3) visit to the Peltner workshop, 9.30  
Höhr-Grenzhausen  
visit to the Westerwald museum, 11.00  
Höhr-Grenzhausen  
lunch at „Zugbruecke”, Grenzau 12.00  
visit to the Blum ceramic factory, 14.00  
Höhr-Grenzhausen

(Bus No. 4) visit to the Rastal ceramic factory 9.00  
lunch at „Zugbruecke”, Grenzau 12.00  
visit to the Peltner workshop, Höhr-Grenzhausen 14.00

(Bus No. 5) visit to the Rastal ceramic factory 9.00  
lunch at „Zugbruecke”, Grenzau 12.00  
visit to the Peltner workshop, Höhr-Grenzhausen 14.00

(Bus No. 6) visit to the Rastal ceramic factory 9.00  
lunch at „Erlenhofsee”, Ransbach-Baumbach 12.00  
visit to the Villeroy & Boch clay-pit, Mogendorf 14.00

Special programm:  
„Kannenbaeckerland” clay separating plant  
technical school, Höhr-Grenzhausen  
Westerwald museum, Höhr-Grenzhausen  
Stolzenfels castle on the Rhine

joint „Rheinischer Abend” at the Dorinth-Hotel 19.30  
Lahnstein.

## Wednesday, July 19th, 1978

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(Bus No. 7) departure to the Frankfurt airport 8.00  
(Bus No. 5 + 6) departure to the 8.00  
Luxembourg airport  
(Bus 1 - 4) tour to Wuerzburg 8.00  
(255 km = about 160 miles)  
(Buses 1 + 2) lunch at the motor-way 12.00  
restaurant Wuerzburg-Sued

## Montag, 17. Juli 1978 (abends)

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Abfahrt aller Teilnehmer von den Hotels 18.30  
zur Marksburg, Braubach  
„Castle Candle Light Dinner”

## Dienstag, 18. Juli 1978

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Abfahrt aller Busse aus den Hotels  
Bus 1 + 7 Betriebsbesichtigung Wick-Werke, 9.00  
Höhr-Grenzhausen 9.30  
Mittagessen Stadthalle, Vallendar 11.30  
Besuch Sektkellerei Deinhard, Koblenz 14.00

Bus 2 Betriebsbesichtigung „King-Keramik” 9.30  
Würfel & Müller, Höhr-Grenzhausen  
Mittagessen „Vereinshaus”, Höhr-Grenzhausen 12.00  
Besichtigung der Burg Grenzau 14.00

Bus 3 Besichtigung Werkstatt Peltner, 9.30  
Höhr-Grenzhausen  
Besuch Westerwald-Museum, Höhr-Grenzhausen 11.00  
Mittagessen „Zugbrücke”, Grenzau 12.00  
Betriebsbesichtigung Fa. Blum, 14.00  
Höhr-Grenzhausen

Bus 4 Betriebsbesichtigung Rastal 9.00  
Mittagessen „Zugbrücke”, Grenzau 12.00  
Besichtigung Werkstatt Peltner, Höhr- 14.00  
Grenzhausen

Bus 5 Betriebsbesichtigung Rastal 9.00  
Mittagessen „Erlenhofsee”, Ransbach-Baumbach 12.00  
Besichtigung Tongruben V & B, Mogendorf 14.00

Bus 6 Betriebsbesichtigung Rastal 9.00  
Mittagessen „Erlenhofsee”, Ransbach-Baumbach 12.00  
Besichtigung Tongruben V & B, Mogendorf 14.00

Sonderprogramm:  
Tonaufbereitung „Kannenbäckerland”  
Fachschule, Höhr-Grenzhausen  
Westerwald-Museum, Höhr-Grenzhausen  
Schloß Stolzenfels/Rhein

gemeinsam (alle Busse 1 + 7) „Rheinischer 19.30  
Abend” im Dorinth-Hotel, Lahnstein

## Mittwoch, 19. Juli 1978

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Bus 7 fährt zum Flughafen Frankfurt  
Bus 5 + 6 fahren zum Flughafen Luxembourg  
Bus 1 - 4 Fahrt nach Würzburg (255 km)  
Bus 1 + 2 Mittagessen in der Autobahn-  
raststätte Würzburg-Süd



## Monday, July 17th, 1978 (in the evening)

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departure of all participants from the hotels to Marksburg „Castle Candle Light Dinner“, Braubach. 18.30

## Tuesday, July 18th, 1978

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departure from the hotels by bus 9.00  
(Bus No. 1 + 7) visit to the Wick-Werke 9.30  
ceramic factories, Höhr-Grenzhausen  
lunch in the municipal hall of Vallendar 11.30  
visit to the Deinhard champagne cellar, Coblenz 14.00

(Bus No. 2) visit to Wuerfel & Mueller 9.30  
„King-Keramik“, Höhr-Grenzhausen  
lunch at „Vereinshaus“, Höhr-Grenzhausen 12.00  
visit to the Grenzau castle 14.00

(Bus No. 3) visit to the Peltner workshop, 9.30  
Höhr-Grenzhausen  
visit to the Westerwald museum, 11.00  
Höhr-Grenzhausen  
lunch at „Zugbruecke“, Grenzau 12.00  
visit to the Blum ceramic factory, 14.00  
Höhr-Grenzhausen

(Bus No. 4) visit to the Rastal ceramic factory 9.00  
lunch at „Zugbruecke“, Grenzau 12.00  
visit to the Peltner workshop, Höhr-Grenzhausen 14.00

(Bus No. 5) visit to the Rastal ceramic factory 9.00  
lunch at „Zugbruecke“, Grenzau 12.00  
visit to the Peltner workshop, Höhr-Grenzhausen 14.00

(Bus No. 6) visit to the Rastal ceramic factory 9.00  
lunch at „Erlenhofsee“, Ransbach-Baumbach 12.00  
visit to the Villeroy & Boch clay-pit, Mogendorf 14.00

### Special programm:

„Kannenbaeckerland“ clay separating plant  
technical school, Höhr-Grenzhausen  
Westerwald museum, Höhr-Grenzhausen  
Stolzenfels castle on the Rhine

joint „Rheinischer Abend“ at the Dorinth-Hotel 19.30  
Lahnstein.

## Wednesday, July 19th, 1978

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(Bus No. 7) departure to the Frankfurt airport 8.00  
(Bus No. 5 + 6) departure to the 8.00  
Luxembourg airport  
(Bus 1 - 4) tour to Wuerzburg 8.00  
(255 km = about 160 miles)  
(Buses 1 + 2) lunch at the motor-way 12.00  
restaurant Wuerzburg-Sued

## Montag, 17. Juli 1978 (abends)

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Abfahrt aller Teilnehmer von den Hotels  
zur Marksburg, Braubach  
„Castle Candle Light Dinner“

## Dienstag, 18. Juli 1978

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Abfahrt aller Busse aus den Hotels  
Bus 1 + 7 Betriebsbesichtigung Wick-Werke,  
Höhr-Grenzhausen  
Mittagessen Stadthalle, Vallendar  
Besuch Sektkellerei Deinhard, Koblenz

Bus 2 Betriebsbesichtigung „King-Keramik“  
Würfel & Müller, Höhr-Grenzhausen  
Mittagessen „Vereinshaus“, Höhr-Grenzhausen  
Besichtigung der Burg Grenzau

Bus 3 Besichtigung Werkstatt Peltner,  
Höhr-Grenzhausen  
Besuch Westerwald-Museum, Höhr-Grenzhausen

Mittagessen „Zugbrücke“, Grenzau  
Betriebsbesichtigung Fa. Blum,  
Höhr-Grenzhausen

Bus 4 Betriebsbesichtigung Rastal  
Mittagessen „Zugbrücke“, Grenzau  
Besichtigung Werkstatt Peltner, Höhr-  
Grenzhausen

Bus 5 Betriebsbesichtigung Rastal  
Mittagessen „Erlenhofsee“, Ransbach-Baumbach  
Besichtigung Tongruben V & B, Mogendorf

Bus 6 Betriebsbesichtigung Rastal  
Mittagessen „Erlenhofsee“, Ransbach-Baumbach  
Besichtigung Tongruben V & B, Mogendorf

### Sonderprogramm:

Tonaufbereitung „Kannenbäckerland“  
Fachschule, Höhr-Grenzhausen  
Westerwald-Museum, Höhr-Grenzhausen  
Schloß Stolzenfels/Rhein

gemeinsam (alle Busse 1 + 7) „Rheinischer  
Abend“ im Dorinth-Hotel, Lahnstein

## Mittwoch, 19. Juli 1978

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Bus 7 fährt zum Flughafen Frankfurt  
Bus 5 + 6 fahren zum Flughafen Luxembourg  
Bus 1 - 4 Fahrt nach Würzburg (255 km)  
Bus 1 + 2 Mittagessen in der Autobahn-  
raststätte Würzburg-Süd



(Buses No. 3 + 4) lunch at the motor-way restaurant Wuerzburg-Sued The tour will then carry on to Coburg (155 km = 97 miles) If time allons a visit of the Ehrenburg castle.	12.30	<i>Bus 3 + 4 Mittagessen in der Autobahn-raststätte Würzburg-Süd Weiterfahrt nach Coburg (155 km) Eventuell Besichtigung von Schloß Ehrenburg</i>
(Buses No. 1 + 2) Dinner at the Goldene Traube hotel. (Bus No. 1) overnight accommodation at the Goldene Traube hotel (Bus No. 2) overnight accommodation at the Goldener Anker hotel.	19.00	<i>Bus 1 + 2 Abendessen Hotel Goldene Traube Bus 1 Übernachtung im Hotel Goldene Traube  Bus 2 Übernachtung im Hotel Goldener Anker</i>
(Buses No. 3 + 4) will drive to Bamberg (50 km = 31 miles). Joint dinner at the Bamberger Hof hotel.	18.30	<i>Bus 3 + 4 fahren nach Bamberg (50 km)  Gemeinsames Abendessen im Hotel Bamberger Hof, Übernachtung in diesem Hotel und in Dependance (evang. Haus)</i>
Overnight accommodation at this hotel and at „Dependance” (House of the Protestants)		

#### Thursday, July 20th, 1978

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(Buses No. 3 + 4) Departure of the buses from Bamberg	8.00	
in Coburg, visit of the „Veste”	9.00	
(Buses No. 1 + 2) lunch at the „Goldener Anker” hotel	12.00	
(Buses No. 3 + 4) lunch at the „Goldene Traube” hotel	12.00	
tour to Bamberg, short visit, then on to Nuremberg (70 km = 44 miles)	13.30	
guided tour of Nuremberg	17.30–19.00	
(Buses No. 1 + 3) dinner at the Heilig Geistspital; then overnight accomodation at the Merkur hotel	19.15	
(Buses No. 2 + 4) Grand Hotel; then overnight accommodation at the Grand Hotel.		

#### Friday, July 21st, 1978

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The morning is at everyone's disposal.		
(Buses No. 2 + 4) lunch at the Heilig Geistspital	12.00	
(Buses No. 1 + 3) lunch at the Grand Hotel		
departure of all buses for Munich.	14.00	
On the way short visit of the Kolosseum and Marsfeld.		
From Nuremberg to Munich (Hilton Hotel) (about 200 km = abt. 125 miles)		
Streetcar Beerparty	18.30 – 19.30	
Bavarian evening in the „Ballsaal” A + B of the Hilton Hotel.	20.00	

#### Saturday, July 22nd, 1978

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visit to the brewery museum and to the National Museum of Bavaria.	9.00	
(Buses 1 – 4) lunch at the restaurant Ratskeller	12.00	
guided tour starting at the Hilton Hotel.	14.00–16.30	
Afterwards time at everyone's free disposal.		
dinner in the „Ballsaal” B + C of the Hilton Hotel.	19.30	

#### Donnerstag, 20. Juli 1978

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<i>Abfahrt der Busse 3 + 4 aus Bamberg</i>
<i>Coburg – Besichtigung der Veste Bus 1 + 2 Mittagessen Hotel Goldener Anker</i>
<i>Bus 3 + 4 Mittagessen Hotel Goldene Traube</i>
<i>Fahrt nach Bamberg. Kurze Besichtigung und Weiterfahrt nach Nürnberg (70 km) Führung durch Nürnberg Bus 1 + 3 Abendessen im Heilig Geistspital; anschließend Übernachtung im Hotel Merkur Bus 2 + 4 Abendessen im Grand Hotel; anschließend Übernachtung im Grand Hotel</i>

#### Freitag, 21. Juli 1978

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<i>Vormittag zur freien Verfügung</i>
<i>Bus 2 + 4 Mittagessen im Heilig Geistspital Bus 1 + 3 Mittagessen im Grand Hotel</i>
<i>Abfahrt aller Busse in Richtung München Kurze Besichtigung Kolosseum + Marsfeld</i>
<i>Bis München (ca. 200 km) ins Hotel Hilton</i>
<i>Straßenbahn-Bierparty Bayerischer Abend im Ballsaal A + B des Hotels Hilton.</i>

#### Samstag, 22. Juli 1978

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<i>Besichtigung des Brauereimuseums und des Bayerischen Nationalmuseums. Busse 1–4 Mittagessen im Ratskeller Stadtrundfahrt mit Führern vom Hotel Hilton. – Anschließend frei – Abendessen im Ballsaal B + C, Hotel Hilton.</i>
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## Sunday, July 23rd, 1978

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departure of all buses to the church „Wieskirche”. Tour of this church. Then the tour will continue in the direction of Hohenschwangau. The Hilton Hotel provides for the picnic.	9.00
Return to Munich via Ettal Abbey	16.00
Joint dinner at the Hofbräuhaus	20.00
Transfer to the Hilton Hotel.	23.00

## Monday, July 24th, 1978

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departure of all buses to the city center Recommendation: Visit of the „Antic-House” (see separate note)	9.00
meeting-place behind the opera-house, parking place of the Hofbraeuhaus. Departure of all buses for Mannheim/Heidelberg (340 km = 212 miles)	13.30
arrival of the buses (Buses 1, 2, 3) in Heidelberg, – Europäischer Hof hotel. Dinner and overnight accommodation (Bus No. 4) arrival in Mannheim – Wartburg hotel. Dinner and overnight accommodation.	At about/ca. 19.00

## Tuesday, July 25th, 1978

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(Bus No. 4) departure from Mannheim to the „Europäischer Hof” hotel in Heidelberg a bus will drive up to the Heidelberg castle	8.30 at/um 9.00 and at/und um 9.30
Sandwich buffet at the restaurant „Europäischer Hof”. a bus will drive up to the Heidelberg castle	12.00–14.00 At/um 14.00 and at/und um 15.30
final dinner at the restaurant „Europäischer Hof” in Heidelberg. A gipsy band will play. return to the hotel at Mannheim.	19.00 23.30

## Wednesday, July 26th, 1978

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departure for Luxembourg.	8.30
Arrival at the airport	12.00–12.30
Checking-in of passengers and return flight.	(local time) (Ortszeit)

## Sonntag, 23. Juli 1978

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<i>Abfahrt aller Busse zur Kirche „Die Wies”, Besichtigung der Wieskirche. Danach Weiterfahrt Richtung Hohenschwangau (Picknicktüten vom Hotel Hilton) Abfahrt über Abtei Ettal nach München. Abendessen im Hofbräuhaus am Platzl. Transfer ins Hotel Hilton</i>
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## Montag, 24. Juli 1978

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<i>Abfahrt aller Busse Richtung Stadtmitte Vormittag und Mittagessen zur freien Verfügung: empfohlen: Besichtigung des Antic-Hauses in München (s. Notiz) Treffen hinter der Oper, Parkplatz vom Hof- bräuhaus. Abfahrt aller Busse Richtung Mannheim/Heidelberg. (340 km)</i>
<i>Ankunft Busse 1, 2, 3 in Heidelberg – Europäischer Hof. – Abendessen – Übernachtung. Bus 4 Mannheim – Hotel Wartburg – Abendessen Übernachtung</i>

## Dienstag, 25. Juli 1978

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<i>Bus 4 Abfahrt aus Mannheim zum Hotel Europäischer Hof, Heidelberg fährt je ein Bus zum Heidelberger Schloß hinauf.</i>	8.30 at/um 9.00 and at/und um 9.30
<i>Sandwichbüffet im Europäischen Hof fährt je ein Bus zum Heidelberger Schloß hinauf.</i>	12.00–14.00 At/um 14.00 and at/und um 15.30
<i>Abschiedsdiner im Europäischen Hof Heidelberg Es spielt eine Zigeunerwanderkapelle. Bus 4 Rückfahrt ins Hotel nach Mannheim.</i>	19.00 23.30

## Mittwoch, 26. Juli 1978

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<i>Abfahrt der 4 Busse in Richtung Luxembourg Ankunft am Flughafen. Einschecken und Rückflug.</i>
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## Members of the board of SCI

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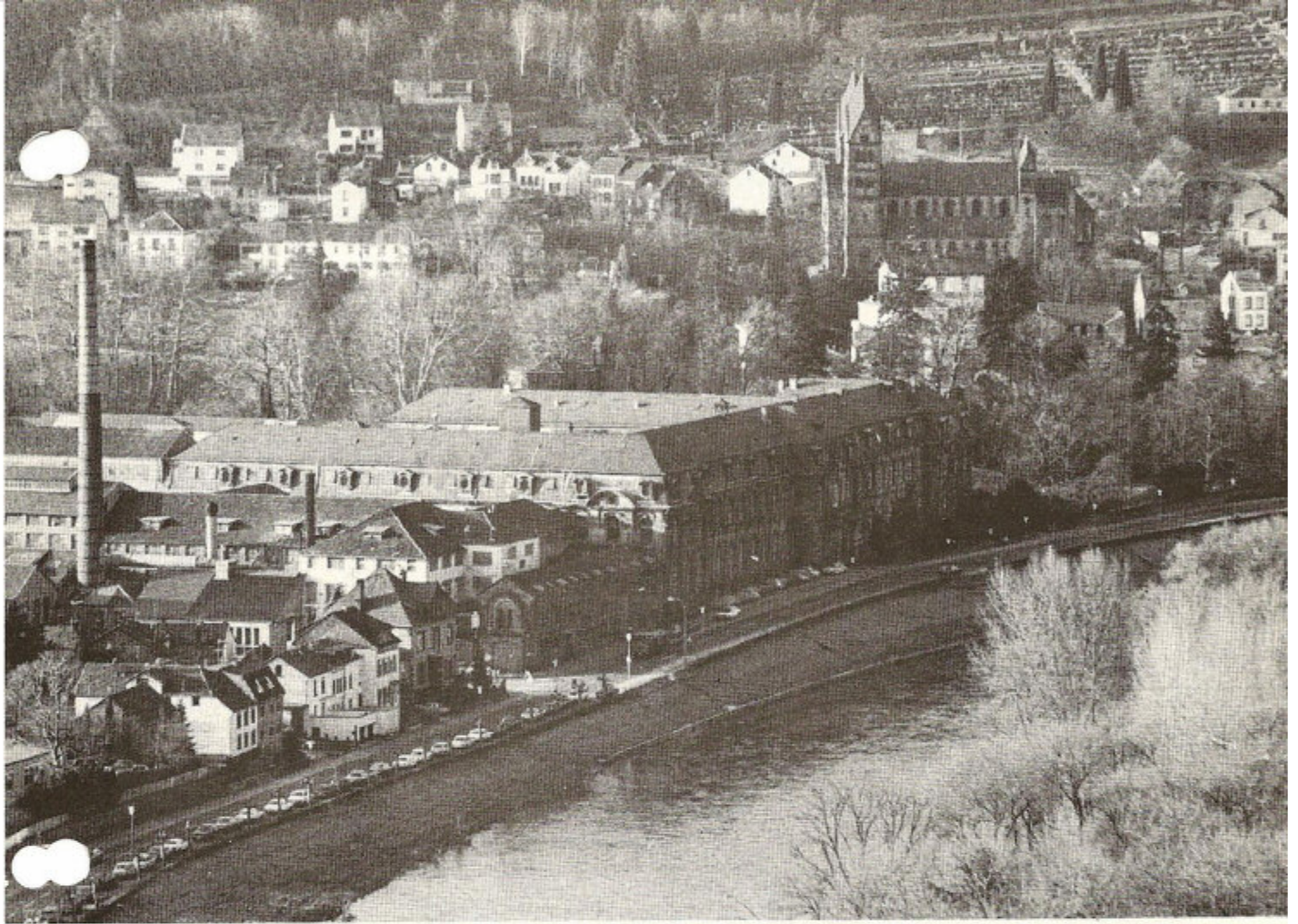
Kurt Sommerich	Walton F. Rippert
Rosemarie Sahn	Floyd E. Dietlien
John A. Ay, jun.	Ernestine Lambertus
Vera Christy	Jack G. Loewenstein
Dorothy Schardin	Wyatt Yon
Terrence G. Hill	Donald Forster
Eugene Manusov	

## 12th Convention Committee

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- 1) *Convention Coordinator*  
Dr. Thérèse Thomas, in cooperation with  
Jack G. Loewenstein and Dr. Ridge L. Scott
- 2) *Registration*  
Vera H. Christy and Dr. Thérèse Thomas
- 3) *Stein and Stoneware Show*  
Marlene Stemper  
Anton Post
- 4) *Transportation*  
Alois Heilig  
Günter Birndt
- 5) *Accompanying persons and assistance in the buses*  
Günter Birndt  
Manfred Bungert  
Gisbert Emmel  
Dieter Metzger  
Manfred Rech  
Ewald Schramm  
Manfred Schulligen
- 6) *Public Relations – Newspapers, Television*  
Gerhard Brenner
- 7) *Door Prizes (Tombola)*  
Villeroy & Boch Keramische Werke KG, Mettlach  
Generaldirektion – Mettlach; Faiencerie, Mettlach  
Mosaikfabrik, Mettlach; Cristallerie, Wadgassen  
Villeroy & Boch S. A., Luxembourg; Porzellanfabrik  
Heinrich GmbH, Selb; Villeroy & Boch,  
Merzig
- 8) *Organization of the two days at Höhr-Grenzhausen*  
Werner und Rosemarie Sahn  
Elke Baaden  
Fa. Rastal – Höhr-Grenzhausen
- 9) *Organization of the additional tour through  
W.-Germany*  
Dr. Thérèse Thomas & Günter Birndt
- 10) The following have generously contributed to the 12th  
Convention:
  - Villeroy & Boch, Keramische Werke KG, Mettlach
  - The voluntary fire-brigade of Villeroy & Boch
  - The Red Cross of Germany
  - The catholic church choir 1875 of Mettlach
  - The musical society 1851 of Mettlach
  - The fanfare band „The Hesebacher“, Saar-  
wellingen





# American Stein Collectors Flock To Germany In July

**Villeroy & Boch renews beer  
stein production to collectors' delight.**

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"Mecca" of beer stein world, the Villeroy & Boch factory is located on the Saar River, in Mettlach, Germany. Imposing building (center foreground) houses administrative offices and museum. Ceramic producing facilities (not in photo) cover many acres within town limits. Workers' houses and town church are included in this view of Mettlach.

---

by Jack McDermott  
PICTURESQUE IT IS, with ancient abbey, soft flowing river, wooded hills and castles, but Mettlach, Germany, never really was big on the tourist circuit until mid-July, 1978.

Then came the crowds. The old town was hit by 290 conventioning Americans who arrived to visit the Villeroy & Boch factories and to see where the beer steins are made that they prize so highly.

Stein Collectors International,

founded in 1965, draws its members from every social strata and every geographical region of the U.S. Each year members have a convention to culminate their fun and business activities. In 1978 they were invited by youthful Wendelin von Boch, executive at the Villeroy & Boch enterprise, to hold their sessions at headquarters for the giant ceramic complex.

Arriving on charter flights from Chicago or New York, and either singly or in family groups, the

(Vol. 7, no. 76)



beer-stein collectors gave themselves only a few hours to clear away the jet. Then they were off on the first of their Mettlach jaunts that would eventually see them through the Villeroy & Boch stein making facility and factories for dinnerware, building tiles and sanitary fixtures.

Sandwiched in between during the five days' visit were stopovers at the lovely old Saareck castle and the local city hall (where they were served an impeccable lunch) with the town mayor. Then more socializing at a Saar winery, at Montclair castle, and at Villeroy & Boch's own guest house which is done up in the style of a turn-of-the-century hunting lodge.

A "Miss Beerstein" was elected from among the group, and a barter market was held for members to get in some of the beer stein swapping which is so dear to their hearts.

#### A (Beautiful) Inflation Hedge

Beer stein collecting either as an inflation hedge or as an investment may not be far from their thinking. But it is generally held among SCI members that the real affection for steins is based on genuine beauty. Many beer steins unquestionably are lovely — even to the most disinterested observers.

Steins, as a household item in Germany (which seems to be their place of origin), were developed back in the Renaissance days. In the late 1500's, says SCI's Jack Lowenstein, steins were made of brown-ware (tin-glazed) and decorated with unfired colors.

About 1620, polychrome steins began to appear. These had salt-glazed



Villeroy & Boch executive Wendelin von Boch (r.) made presentation of convention stein to Stein Collectors International President Kurt Sommerich. Inscription on stein (in German) hails diuretic benefits of beer drinking.

brown backgrounds and were painted with fired multi-colored glazes. Some of these oldies show relief figures representing the 12 apostles, the planets, German rulers and hunting scenes. Coats of arms, flowers, cherub faces and even portraits as motifs began next to appear over the centuries.

Today, says Lowenstein, a New Jersey resident, prices for the very early models, identified as Kreussen steins and tankards, will range from \$500 to \$1,500 for brown, monochrome pieces and \$1,000 to \$10,000 for polychrome pieces depending on condition, decoration, pewter work, etc.

SCI president Kurt Sommerich, from Milwaukee, informs that while beer steins are associated mainly with

Germany, "there are others from Holland, Belgium and even the United States. The wood-burned style (note: wood was used as fuel for baking the basic clay) was typically American in the early 1900's."

When the technique for high temperature clay firing was developed in Germany in the 13th century, drinking vessels became one of the first products of the stoneware process. It was not until the 16th century, however, that potters in Cologne, Germany, actually began

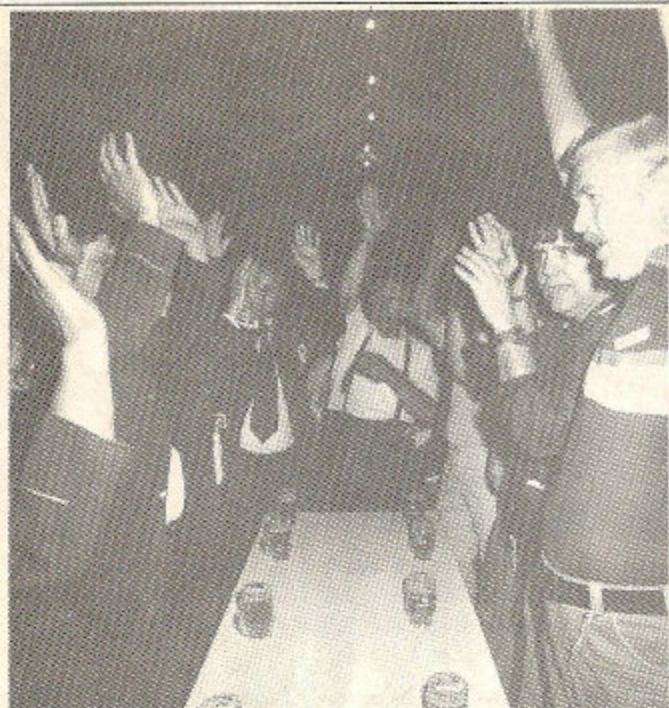


Foot-high stoneware stein to commemorate the "12th Annual Convention of the Stein Collectors International, Mettlach, July 13-16, 1978," was produced in limited edition by Villeroy & Boch for members who attended the event.



Parade of beer stein makers — in medieval costume for the moment — was part of official reception for the 290 visiting members of Stein Collectors International.





German-American rivalry — to select the fastest beer drinkers — had U.S. visitors (right) lined up against the



home team in Mettlach. One thing settled: The U.S. side was fastest on the draw. They jumped the gun!



Beer Stein Queen elected by conventioners is Mrs. Matt Gruskin of Huntington, N.Y. Her happy husband is at right.



Beer steins and other decoratives from the late 1800's — heyday of the handmade stoneware era — are on view at Villeroy & Boch factory museum in Mettlach, Germany.



Visiting U.S. collectors have fun "going native" for social event during visit to Villeroy & Boch in Germany. Man at left, a physician, is one of many in group.

turning out the stoneware product that we know today as beer steins.

In the German language, "stein" signifies "stone", and is the work which universally names the familiar tankards even when made of glass or other material.

#### Character Steins Popular

The 290 members of Stein Collectors International who visited Mettlach this summer reflect a variety of backgrounds. While the range of subjects chosen to decorate beer steins is perhaps not overly extensive, each subject family has its loyal fans.

German regimentals (from pre-World War I) and character steins are great favorites. German folklore and scenics are other popular ranges of motifs.

Regimental steins frequently were presented to servicemen upon completion of duty in the military reserve. This practice stopped, however, in 1914 when the Government decided to use the lead and pewter lids for munitions.

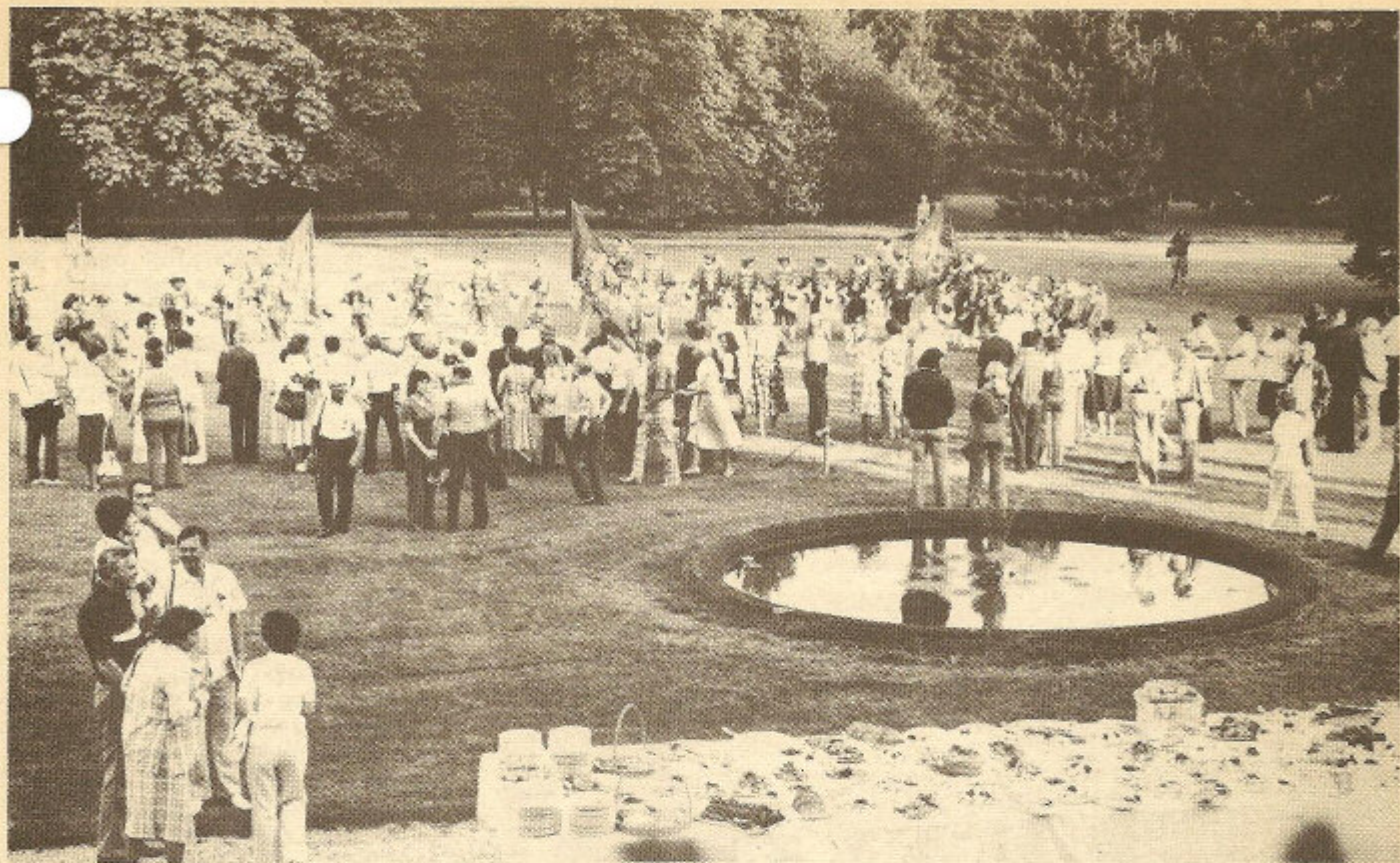
Recently offered for sale at \$325, by an SCI'er, was a half liter, Prussian Dragoon Regiment No. 6, from Mainz, 1906-09. A half liter, Wurttemberg

Infantry Regiment No. 125, 1910-12, went for \$190. Meanwhile, a lovely half liter reproduction of a scene with Brunhilde and Siegfried (unspecified date) brought only \$58.

For many Stein Collectors International members, the most sought after steins are those made in Mettlach by Villeroy & Boch. In recent years the big ceramic firm has begun again to produce steins after a hiatus of many decades.

A first edition "Renaissance Collection of Mettlach Steins" was a sellout at \$200. Limited to 3,000





Estate of von Boch family was thrown open to U.S. collectors who think of Mettlach as "mecca of beer stein world". Outdoor dining was part of the convention fun.

steins, and offered only on the U.S. market, the 9½" hand-produced steins are numbered and dated. The steins are back-stamped with the VB name, date (1976/77) and the outlines of the Benedictine Abbey tower, a very familiar sight now to the hundreds of SCI members who have visited Mettlach.

#### Turn-of-Century "Golden Era"

According to collector Kurt Sommerich, "the Cadillacs of the beer steins" were produced by Villeroy & Boch in the 1890's. V&B archives acknowledge the period of 20 years through 1905 as the "golden era of Mettlach stoneware" although stein production continued until 1913 and sporadically in the 1920's. From then until now the interests of the V&B firm were turned to other ceramics production.

Seventeen factories in Germany, Luxembourg, France, Italy, Argentina and Canada are operated by the Mettlach-headquartered enterprise which employs some 15,700 persons. About 85 per cent of total production is directed at an international building industry's demand for tiles and sanitaryware products; the balance is for dinnerware, decorative accessories

and fine crystal. The company introduced its first limited edition collector's plate for Christmas 1977.

Mettlach was chosen as a Villeroy & Boch site because of its proximity to the nearby Saar coal mines. Until establishment of a Villeroy & Boch factory in 1809, the company had been based in Luxembourg where the busy local factory was founded by three sons of Francois Boch.

Boch's original pottery at Audun-le-Tiche in the northeastern French province of Lorraine was in business from 1748 to 1870 and may be considered the beginning of the Villeroy & Boch empire.

Another native of Lorraine, Nicholas Villeroy, was also to cross the border into Germany and open a pottery on the Saar river. In 1836, he merged with the Mettlach operation. This business relationship was soon cemented with the marriage between offspring of the two families.

#### Economics Stopped Stein Production

Cessation of the beer stein production at Villeroy & Boch came about for a couple of good economic reasons.

First of all there was the increasingly high cost of the articles,

whereas cheaper, less labor-prone products offered V&B a better profit margin. Secondly, a lack of qualified skilled workers had developed. Genuine artists in their own right, the creators of V&B beer steins, and other intricate stoneware decoratives, put in long years of training in order to become qualified workers.

In his book written for Villeroy & Boch, and titled "Mettlach Stoneware 1885-1905", Anton Post tells how complicated the stein-making process could be. Stoneware steins, says he, are a hard, homogeneous and vitrified product usually coated with a matte glaze.

At least two colored clays, but often more, are worked side by side in forming a stein. Certain portions of the decoration may be slightly raised. In most cases, the variously colored sections of the design are separated by means of an intaglio line which is colored black so as to give the various areas and figures special emphasis.

#### Decorating

Post quotes an observer of Mettlach steins at the World's Fair Exhibition in Paris in 1878: "The decoration must be applied to the (pre-shaped stein) by cementing on, pressing on, impressing, engraving and then painting." Steins



and other holloware items were pre-shaped in plaster molds. Their slightly raised decorations were formed by sheet metal or wooden patterns.

"On larger stein surfaces," Post writes, "a pattern...would be pressed onto the surface of the still soft clay to provide the basic outline. Next, the object would be covered with a black

coloring agent which would fill in the outline. Excess coloring would be wiped from the surface, remaining only in the depressions. It is certain that the illustration then was applied by some mechanical means. The seams resulting from the use of plaster molds were carefully cleaned away."

In recent years, the quest for nostalgia was an encouragement to Villeroy & Boch as the company set about resuming its dormant beer stein production. The Stein Collectors International, founded in 1965 by a California hobbyist, has helped in its way to spread and maintain the enthusiasm for beer steins. Recent (and on-going) production of new beer steins at Villeroy & Boch is assured a ready market.

#### Spreading The Word

As a group, Stein Collectors International effectively goes about broadening the layman's understanding of beer stein lore. Part and parcel of the SCI program, as was seen at Mettlach, is a sharpening up of members' familiarity with stein nomenclature, with the complexities of beer stein science, and with the long and really colorful history of beer steins. Members came to Mettlach out of reverence for one major name in the field - Villeroy & Boch. Visits to other hallowed sites will come in turn.

Regular, around-the-calendar group activities are arranged by local chapters with an assist for membership affairs, and for distribution of the group's own publication, "Prosit." SCI headquarters for latter are at P.O. Box 16326, St. Paul, MN 55116.

Beer stein collecting for the group that made its way to Germany in July 1978 has become a way of life.

The words of Wisconsin member Leo Weinstein make that clear.

"Years ago," says he, "I'd buy beer steins for \$5 and \$10." (Note: Those same steins today are bringing as much as \$1,300.)

"It gets in your blood," Weinstein says.



"Spring", first of the Four Seasons limited edition stoneware steins, appears in pale green with white classical figures in relief. Ten inches high with pewter and ceramic lid, the new stein will retail for \$350 through Villeroy & Boch, 225 Fifth Ave., New York 10010. Stein in background was the "First edition Renaissance Collection Mettlach Stein", among 3,000 pieces representing Villeroy & Boch's resumption of beer stein production after a half century's hiatus.

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# Hundreds Attend Stein Convention In Germany

By ROLAND A. HENSCHEN  
AUTHOR'S RIGHTS RESERVED  
COLUMN No. 48

Music, singing, bands,  
Beer, food, weins,  
And Steins,

steins,

steins!

That in no way says it all, but it's great for starters in describing the 12th annual convention of Stein Collectors International, which took place in July.

This convention was the first of its kind to be held in Germany; and was divided between the two "Meccas" of stein collectors.

First was Mettlach, where we were hosted by the firm of Villeroy & Boch, with arrangements made by Dr. Therese Thomas and staff. Here the main business of the convention took place, culminating in a fabulous dream auction of steins.

Then it was on to Hohn-Gronzhausen, by bus and boat, where we were hosted by Rastal Werk, Werner, Gunter and Rosemarie Sahn; and a large majority of the whole town, with arrangements made by Lottie Lopez.

Hohn-Gronzhausen has been for many years the stein producing capital of the world. Here we were to visit several workshops and museums and have many of our questions answered regarding the production of ceramic and glass wares; culminating in the most fantastic fun-filled dinner dance it has ever been my pleasure to attend.

Everywhere we went we were welcomed by the mayors of the cities and other of our host dignitaries, such as Wendelin von Boch of Villeroy and Boch. All of this, of course, had full media coverage via tele-

vision, radio and newspapers.

Unfortunately, at the end of the convention week, some of the 300 U.S. delegates had to leave for home; but about 200 stayed for the tour week which followed. Some of the highlights of the convention and tour were films and lectures on steins and steinology, visit to Villeroy & Boch Tower, museums and Palencerie,

## The Stein Makers

BY

ROLAND A. HENSCHEN

Losheim Folklore festival, boat trip on the Mosel, tour of Rastal glass factory, and visits to Marzi and Romy factory, Wick-Werke factory, Deinhard champagne cellar and wein museum in Coblenz, Gerz ceramic factory, Blum ceramic factory, the Castle Gronzau, Westerwald Museum, Peltner workshop — old pottery oven and museum, Werner Sahn's personal collection from the Westerwald, and many, many more — all this during the first week!

The second week included a tour of Wuerzburg, visit to the Hummel factory, Bavarian evening in the Ballsaal of the Munich Hilton Hotel, and a streetcar party put on by the Hilton. Each car had musicians playing, lots of beer and singing as we toured Munich, and again, so many things that space will not permit me to mention them all.

In the two weeks many things were presented to the conventioners that became instant collector items, such as: ceramic badges by V & B, stoneware badges and mugs by Rastal Werk, stoneware mugs from our visit to Wick-Werke, mugs from

the streetcar party, a fabulous ruby glass stein from Rastal, small mugs from Peltner, glasses by Rastal, gifts of pens, ash trays of Mettlach Tower, and grab bag gifts at a dinner (I got a glass stein!).

After the tour, I spent another week in research. This week, plus the convention, will enable me to answer at least some of the many questions which are now unanswered in my files.

Everyone who attended came away with many new friends, souvenirs, and fond memories of Germany. They marveled at the super-human efforts of those who arranged this fabulous, once in a lifetime dream convention in the land of beer and steins! Future columns will feature details regarding the various firms visited.

At the convention I finally met my nemesis, Dr. Joe Hersh. We have exchanged written barbs in various journals over the past years on character steins; but meeting face to face we hit it off immediately, finding we enjoyed one another's company and exchanging stories. We were wise enough, however not to bring up the subject of character steins!

One of the highlights of the convention was the enrobement of Jack Lowenstein to look like his favorite character stein and the central theme of his collection of steins . . . the Munchner Kindl (or Munkh Child). He received a black — with gold trim — robe and hood, a huge pretzel to hang around his neck, a five liter stein (full) and a large white radish — all symbols of this character. He was also chosen to be the new executive secretary

of S.C.I. and editor of the S.C.I. bulletin "Prosit."

Two new Master Steinologists were elected to this exclusive club for their outstanding contributions to steinology. They were Werner Sahn of Rastal Werk and Dr. Therese Thomas of Villeroy & Boch.

I would like to make the following recommendation to stein collectors. All of the steins put out during the convention will certainly become collector items of value, as they are mostly limited editions; so I would recommend that you obtain them if the opportunity presents itself.

This would include the Mettlach Tower stein, which is the third stein to be put out by the Mettlach Company since their reintroduction into the line, and which is a limited edition of 1,000. Also, the ruby red glass stein by Werner Sahn, limited to 500, presently available from Lottie Lopez, 552 Centre Lane, Santa Paula, CA 93060. Also collectible are the stoneware stein from Merklebach, the street car party stein and the small souvenir stein by Peltner.

In the future when someone says, and they surely will, many, many times, "were you at the Munich street car party?" I will get down my stein and for a few minutes reminisce on one of the greatest stein conventions ever — and all the other fantastic memories that this question will conjure up.

\*\*\*\*\*  
Attention all Ohio stein collectors . . . if you want to join an active and aggressive local group of Stein Collectors International, contact Ohio Chapter of S.C.I., 2265 Bradley Rd., Westlake, OH 44145.



## Krug-Sammler-Club international tagte in Los angeles

Anlässlich einer Reise in die Vereinigten Staaten nahmen *Wendelin von Boch*, Mitgesellschafter der Unternehmensgruppe *Villeroy & Boch*, sowie *Werner Sahn*, Mitinhaber des *Rastal-Werkes*, Hör-Grenzhausen, und seine Gattin an der alljährlich stattfindenden Zusammenkunft des Clubs «*Steins Collectors International*» teil.

Die hiesigen Sammler wird es interessieren, daß für das Jahr 1978 eine Zu-

sammenkunft in der *Bundesrepublik Deutschland* geplant ist.

*Rosemarie Sahn* wurde in Los Angeles zur Vizepräsidentin des Clubs gewählt.

Unsere Abbildung zeigt von links nach rechts: *Joe Durban* (Detective Sgt. of Monterey Park), *Wendelin von Boch*, *Werner Sahn*, *Rosemarie Sahn*, *George Westphaln* (Chief of Police), *Terry Hill* (President of SCI).  
-ck





## COLLECTOR and POLICEMAN

Joseph J. Durban is a sergeant of the Police Department of the city of Monterey Park, near Los Angeles, owns the identification card which we so well recognize from American criminal fiction serials, is not at all exotic and, besides, just may be America's most successful collector of Mettlach stoneware.

Durban says, "There is really no contradiction; after all, an old policeman can also be interested in stoneware".

Durban and his entire family were recently guests at Mettlach, after having had Wendelin von Boch as his guest at the Los Angeles Convention of the "Mettlach Stein Association" [sic] — where the latter had introduced the new Mettlach beer stein. Durban was fascinated by the presentation and thought that Wendelin von Boch had been an excellent ambassador of Mettlach's in California.

Durban himself owns a collection of many hundred pieces of Mettlach stoneware, its value cautiously estimated at \$240,000. For that reason beer steins at his home,



which is similar to a small museum, are safeguarded with heavy steel chains. Son Durban, a teacher in Los Angeles, is also a collector; he was so fascinated by the exhibit in the Executive Offices that he photographed it completely.

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Photo caption:

" A toast to the future of beer steins in Los Angeles. Our picture shows, from left to right, Joe Durban and the visitors from Europe, Werner Sahm, Wendelin von Boch, Rosemarie Sahm; Major [sic] George Westphaln and T. Hill."

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## A fun time at the stein collectors Mecca

by Terry Hill

Convention photographs by Jack G. Lowenstein and Werner Sahn.

This writer when last heard of at the close of the Milwaukee convention was deliriously heading home to paint up a "Germany or Bust" banner. Well I did get home, I made the banner, but waiting a whole year for SCI's great pilgrimage was nearly more than I could take. My well traveled friends kept telling me that the anticipation was half of the fun of going, and did I ever anticipate. All of Ojai, and half the country knew that I was to attend a stein collectors gathering in Deutschland, and by the time of my departure my weary friends were delighted that I was at last on my way.

The Erste Gruppe Chapter, SCI's most westerly clutch of stein fellows, led an advance guard of conventioners and departed for Frankfurt via Lufthansa charter on the 8th of July. My blue jacketed E.G. companions, by the trip's end, had our 747 jet companions polkaing in the aisles amid choruses of beery verses and our SCI anthem, "Ein Prosit."

For the next three days this band of pre-convention raiders, swelled by SCLers from Arizona, Connecticut, and Oregon, laid claim to the treasures of Frankfurt, Heidelberg, and Luxembourg's most famed antik shops, *Biergartens*, and businesses of most singular notoriety. Local inhabitants were soon aware of little green stickers about their cities that proclaimed the virtues of Erste Gruppe. Word had it that an underground filmmaker and his cronies were responsible for the souvenirs.

By Wednesday, our band had taken up residence at the Hotel Saarschleife in the village of Orscholz, seven kilometers from Mettlach. Already we had become faithful disciples of two of our new bus-fellows — Gunther Birndt, our driver, and Isabelle Thomas, our



SCI President, Kurt Sommerich, addressing the Wine Tasting Party at Perl.

guide. Their concern for our welfare and genuine friendliness over the next two weeks was so sincere that lasting friendships were molded. Fellow SCLers from other buses said they also shared this feeling for their drivers and guides.

Wednesday evening we were joined by the main body of SCI who only hours earlier had landed in Luxembourg via Icelandic Airlines. When the great conclave of conventioners joined ranks in the village of Perl at their famed winery, it marked the greatest back slapping and hand wrenching moment in SCI annals. After the "Hey look it's..." and the "Wie gehts?" died down, the proud villagers of the Perl-Sehndorf area treated us to a Teutonic feast followed by a wine tasting party that featured district wines that have made the Saarland famous. The highlight of the tasting was the rare opportunity to sample a pair of 1976 Perler Hasenberg Ruelander wines — one an *Auslese* and the other the prima *Berenauslese*. A local saying has it that "a woman who loves such a sweet and mild wine as these has a lot of charm and goes to bed early, her husband is often a very tired man." The featured entertainment for the affair



Mr. Robert Felten, Mayor of Mettlach, and Dr. Therese Thomas, V & B archivist.

was a district male chorus whose members crooned out a variety of drinking ditties and set the stage for their bombastic baritone, Niki Schmidt. The rotund singer soon had the convention goers on their feet with verse after chorus of songs permeated with a *Gemueticlichkeit* that was only to die down two weeks later at the end of our "Once upon a time" fantasy.

Early Thursday morning, seven Villeroy and Boch buses left to pick up the now scattered SCLers who were lodged in Trier, Losheim, Orscholz, and Mettlach. As the Buses descended upon the great stein mecca, they were greeted by "Welkommen SCI" signs, American flags and banners. At the opening ceremonies of this historic 12th SCI Convention, we were joined by members of the *Mettlach Steinzeug Sammler Society* and local dignitaries. After a stirring greeting by



The buffet dinner on the evening of July 13 at Gasthaus Saareck in Mettlach.

Luitwin Gisbert von Boch-Galhau, Director of Villeroy and Boch, rousing march music by the Musical Society of Mettlach, remarks by SCI President Kurt Sommerich and Convention Committeeman Jack Lowenstein, the meeting was turned over to our 1978 Convention Host, Wendelin von Boch.

The youthful von Boch, Director of the *Faiencerie*, glibly led a round of introductions not the least of whom was Dr. Therese Thomas, V & B archivist and convention mastermind. Von Boch presented Kurt Sommerich and Jack Lowenstein with original V&B Delft style beer steins. The theme of Sommerich's two liter beauty was a humorous peasant scene, and Lowenstein's krug was bedecked with his much loved *Muenchener Kindl*. Dr. Ridge Scott of Barrington, Illinois, who along with Jack Lowenstein and Therese Thomas headed up the



convention program, was presented an oversized stoneware tile in bas relief of the Mettlach Abbey.

The raves over Scott's terra cotta tile plaque were only silenced by von Boch's next revelation, and that was the 1978 SCI convention stein. This year's convention favor was designed by Jo van Zundert who already has to his credits the 1976 Renaissance Krug, the 1977 and 1978 Christmas plates, the 1978 Mother's Day plate, and the newly released Four Season Steins. Robust in size, this year's mammoth "character stein" would take a healthy thirst to down its liter and a half contents. The subject of van Zundert's artistry is the famed tower of the old Benedictine Abbey. Monks and a sole nun are found cavorting about the tower and a series of grotesque faces protrude from the base of the stein. These funny looking visages were once part of the architecture that completed the old abbey; today they form borders for walkways about the V&B grounds.

The last item on Wendelin von Boch's program was the debut of Dr. Thomas's latest literary effort, Volume Six of *Keramik*, a publication for potters, collectors and museums. The thrust of Volume Six was to give a general survey of the stoneware products manufactured by Mettlach between 1885 and 1905. The soft bound book, profusely illustrated in color has been written with the SCI collector in mind.

After the close of the morning meeting, the SCI Board of Directors and Officers met for their annual business meeting. With this writer banging the gavel as Chairman of the Board, the following items of business were resolved:

- 1) The annual financial statement of SCI will hereafter be published in *Prosit*.
- 2) The unanimous selection of Jack Lowenstein as a replacement for the vacant position of SCI Executive Secretary and Editor of *Prosit*.
- 3) Approved a grant by SCI to pay for the Convention package of Vera and Earl Christy as a token of our appreciation for all their work in behalf of SCI subsequent to the passing of Jack Heimann.
- 4) Accepted the slate of 1979 officers and board members as pre-



Wendelin von Boch addressing the opening meeting of the 1978 convention at the Sporthall in Mettlach.



Mark Durban at the premier of his film, "Stein Crazy, Part II".



Evelyn Hersh crowns Marianne Gruskin "Miss Beer Stein of 1978" while Dr. Hersh announces the selection.



Joe Durban refereeing the chug-a-lug contest.

sent by the Nominating Committee. That list included:  
 President — Rosemarie Sahn, Germany  
 1st Vice-President — Earl Christy, Minnesota  
 2nd Vice-President — Dezso Ladanyi, Ohio  
 Treasurer — Pat Clarke, N.J.  
 Recording Secretary — Vera Christy, Minnesota  
 Chairman of the Board — Kurt Sommerich, Wisconsin  
 Two Past Presidents preceding the Chairman of the Board — Al Hoch, Illinois, and Terry Hill, California  
 Board of Directors: 3 year terms: Ridge Scott, Illinois and Matt Gruskin, N.Y.  
 2 Year terms: Walt Rippert, N.Y.; Gene Manusov, California and Ernestine Lambertus, Indiana.  
 1 year term: Floyd Dietlein, Nevada and Don Forster, N.Y.  
 5) Selected St. Paul-Minneapolis as the site of the 13th Annual Convention in 1979. Also accepted a bid for the 1980 Convention from the Buckeye Steinverein.

Following a noontime feast at the *Mehrzweckhalle*, the conventioners were divided into two groups. Half boarded their buses for a trek through the *Faiencerie* and the purchase center of Villeroy and Boch, while the remaining group attended a series of steinology lectures at the Abbey Refectory. Dr. Therese Thomas guided her stein collecting audience through a slide lecture "Art Nouveau Stoneware in Mettlach." Thomas pointed out that it wasn't until after 1905 that "Jugendstil" (art nouveau) pieces became firmly entrenched in the Mettlach line of stoneware. Among the more famed art nouveau artists designing pieces for Villeroy and Boch were Louis Payen and Ludwig Hohlwein. Our V&B archivist noted that in many instances the artists and modelers of fine *Jugendstil* pieces were never recorded, and the chances of their identification are slim. No doubt Dr. Thomas's love of this phase of Mettlach artistry was infectious, and her interest has cultivated new collectors in this Class of '78 conventioners.



# Prosit

"The Humouristic Style of Heinrich Schlitt", a subject of enormous interest to Mettlach buffs was the topic of Dr. Ridge Scott's slide lecture. With views of steins, plaques, and wall murals, the loquacious Barrington collector soon had his audience acquainted with Schlitt's style and recurring themes. The men collectors nodded their approval of Scott's slide portrayal of a stein collector's version of the Schlitt theme found on the 2090 stein, i.e. with apologies to Schlitt, there was colorfully garbed wife Joanna chasing Ridge with a threatening wooden spoon upon his attempt to sneak home another beer stein.

Closing out the P.M. program was the European premier of Mark Durban's latest film, "Stein Crazy, Part II." Durban, showing an affinity to his early years in the Hitchcock school of cinematography, cast Frank Poppie in the lead role of a beer guzzling Gulliver who was nearly done in by a mob of stein animated subjects a la "Psycho." Long time fans of the Monterey Park film maker rejoiced to see a return to the screen of the infamous Storm Lake Bug. When quizzed on future films, Durban replied that this year's SCI Convention will be the backdrop for a new saga of steiny intrigue.

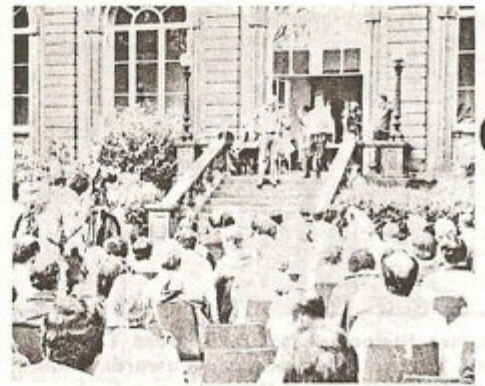
For our Bus No. 1 gang it was a quick retreat to our hotel up the mountain and a change into our beer drinking duds — *Lederhosen* and *Dirndls*. The occasion was the annual beer bust night. We weren't ready, however, for the sight that was to greet us upon our arrival at the Villeroy and Boch Guesthouse Saareck. Our time machine whirred and snatched us away from 1978, and our first view of this fabled place had to be of a far distant time. With the sun setting on the old stone Saareck, the Hesebacher fanfare band, resplendent in Renaissance dress, bugled out a welcome and twirled their banners and flags proudly. At the foot of the Guesthouse was an enormous spread of food being readied for SCI appetites. This fabulous feast, usually the fare of royalty, instead

was being prepared for the disciples of Gambrinus and container collectors of the golden brew. After blinking our camera shutters, we loaded our plates and headed for the waiting beer tent and a foamy mug of gusto. Ah, the food *schmeckt's gut*, and my glass was empty as Wendelin von Boch and Jack Lowenstein clamored at the noisy gathering so that the evening's fun could begin.

With the crowd somewhat stilled, local politico, Burgermeister Robert Felten, took the opportunity to present to SCI President, Kurt Sommerich, an official scroll from the city of Mettlach. The sharp tongued Sommerich soon had our sides aching as he in turn presented a scroll to Burgermeister Felton from Stein Collectors International. Not to be outdone, Fredlein Schroeder, Sr., SCI's Ambassador from the land known as Texas, grabbed the microphone and bestowed on the good Burgermeister gifts from his native country. Schroeder produced a flag that had flown over the Texas Capitol at Austin and a University of Texas T-shirt. With the SCLers chanting "Hook 'em Horns," Felten discarded his suit jacket in favor of his new Texas souvenir.

When Joe Hersh was called upon to make an announcement, the rush was on for a strategic spot in which to snap a photo of the 1978 Miss Beer Stein. Doctor Joe was back in charge after a recess of two years, and he called upon five of his former queens to assist him in his crowning efforts. The bevy of Miss Beer Stein alumni included Lee Poppie 1971, Rose Miller 1973, Jackie Dietlein 1974, Claire Hill 1975, and Mary Durban 1976. Hersh then added to the Royal Court, this year's popular choice, Marianne Gruskin of Greenlawn, New York. The jeweled coronet that Queen Marianne wore until convention's end was once again crafted by my wife Claire from a beer can. Empty of course.

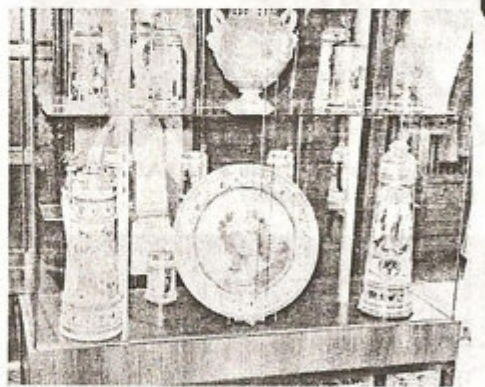
The crowning activities were not yet finished, and this became quite apparent after the announcement that not one but a duo was to share the honor of 1978 Master Steinologist. The honorees were Dr. Therese Thomas and Werner Sahn. The first recipient was so honored for her scholarly research dealing



The big auction of July 15.



Wendelin von Boch, Jenni Hill, Dr. Therese Thomas awarding door prizes.



Steins on exhibit at V & B.



Mr. & Mrs. Wendelin von Boch at the dinner dance held in the Mettlach Sporthall.





Master Steinologists: Dr. Therese Thomas and Werner Sahn receiving awards from Jack Lowenstein and Wendelin von Boch.



Netty and Jack Lowenstein with Miss Beer Stein of 1978, Marianne Gruskin.



Wendelin von Boch gets a TEXAS welcome from Fredlein Schroeder.



Brigitte von Boch with Rosemarie and Werner Sahn at the Sporthall in Mettlach.



The "Porta Nigra" in Trier.

with the history of Villeroy and Boch and Werner Sahn as one of the world's foremost collectors and a diligent researcher of ceramic production in the Westerwald region of Germany. However, it was Wendelin von Boch, who astounded the onlookers when he brought forth a pair of ceramic crowns fashioned in the V&B *Faiencerie* complete with "Castle Marks" to honor this year's Master Steinologists.

Then it was Wendelin's turn to be flabbergasted when moments later he was presented with an "SCI original" — a shirt illustrated with Mettlach steins and carrying the proclamation "Coach — SCI Drinking Team." The anxious von Boch immediately donned the outfit and readied himself for the upcoming chug-a-lug contest.

Nearly an hour later, it was a California team that emerged as victors. Before the end came, fourteen teams did foamy battle and the list of dignified participants included: Burgermeister Felten; Christof and Wendelin von Boch; ERA champions Therese Thomas, Joanna Scott, Brigitte von Boch, and Rosemarie Sahn; members of the band; and miscellaneous townsmen standing in the beer line. The Championship match featured the Upper Mid-West Steinverein with John Boller, Wyatt Yon, Jerry Peterson, and Marv Tschida pitted against the sudsmen of Erste Gruppe — Terry Hill, Doug Armstrong, Mark Durban, and Frank Poppie. The contest was close but never in doubt as anchorman Poppie led his charges to another victory and a decade of uninterrupted Championships. After round after round after round of toasts and lots of singing, our guide held up her sign signaling our return to Orscholz. What an incredible day — it must have lasted a week!

Upon our arrival at Mettlach on Friday, SCIers were still talking of the day before. The morning program featured a viewing of the Mettlach Stoneware Exhibit by Villeroy and Boch and Anton Post. While some collectors, armed with cameras and notepads, casually perused the showing others brought steins, plaques and other collectibles out of their luggage for registration in Saturday's great

stoneware auction. Still other conventioners boarded buses and toured the picturesque Valley of the Saar visting Serrig, Saarburg, Kastel, the Cloef and rendezvoused at the Hotel Saarschliffe for *Mittagessen* with the rest of the conventioners.

The afternoon's fare was as varied as the morning's. Once again a tour was arranged for those wishing to visit the *Faiencerie* and the V&B purchase center. The collectors participating in the stoneware auction were allowed to preview the lots that were to come under the gavel the following day. While these eager stein buffs were plotting their auction strategy, other collectors gathered in the Abbey Refectory for another afternoon of stein lectures. Featured talks included Jack Lowenstein's slide lecture on the "Psychology of Collecting," Gene Manusov's slide show entitled "Musterschutz and the Elusive Hash Mark," and a command performance of Mark Durban's film "Stein Crazy, Part II."

Friday evening we returned to the *Mehrzweckhalle* for our gala ball attired in gowns, suits and vests — quite a contrast to the leather britches fashions of the night before. With the last course finished, Kurt Sommerich gavelled the attending SCIers into order and proceeded to conduct an SCI meeting. At Kurt's request, the slate of SCI Officers and Board of Directors for 1979 was unanimously approved. When Herr Sommerich asked for a ratification of the Board's choice of Jack Lowenstein as new Executive Secretary of SCI, the conventioners endorsed the popular New Jersey collector unanimously. Jack then wrestled the mike away from Kurt and addressed the convention about his objectives for the future of SCI and its publication *Prosit*. Kurt Sommerich, who by this time was acquiring luggage of excessive weight, received yet another award; a pewter tankard honoring Sommerich's SCI presidency. The magnificent piece crafted by Rastal Werk was presented by



our newly elected President, Rosemarie Sahn.

To the delight of all, Wendelin von Boch, with the aid of my daughter Jenni, proceeded to open up the Villeroy and Boch treasure chest with fabulous door prizes that included steins, plaques, and sets of China and crystal. We waltzed, tried the polka, embibed the never ending supply of Ayler Kupp wine until our guide rounded us up hours later for the return to our *Heimat* in Orscholz.

Saturday dawned, and I was experiencing difficulty in my attempts at getting up. My recollections of the preceding night were clouded by a strange dream of Frank Poppie instructing a young ceramic executive in the art of chug-a-lugging beer. The strangest part of my dream was the attire of the youthful exec. — he was wearing spotted boxer trunks atop his slacks. I would have to assure myself of more sleep and less wine if I was to last another week.

Getting myself back together was essential because this A.M. the long awaited stoneware auction was to take place. The weather was beautiful and it was decided to hold the event outdoors on the steps of the old Abbey. Ridge Scott, acting as auctioneer, headed up a group of SClers who staged the auction. The affable Scott guided 256 lots through a three hour session. The auction, similar to the event a year ago in Milwaukee, was plagued by a number of lots with excessively high reserves. A large number of pieces however produced active bidding, and some real bargains were to be had. A contributing factor to the passing of a number of lots was not the reserve but the size of the piece, as many collectors declined some bargains on punch bowls and plaques not wishing to face the prospect of transatlantic shipping. Nevertheless, like the Milwaukee venture, this year's edition was an exciting and tremendous success.

The old tower proved to be a showy



"Miss Mosel," the local wine queen, Rosemarie Sahn and the "Mosel Robber Baron."



"Miss Mosel," Rosemarie Sahn and the "Mosel Robber Baron" look on as SClers arrive at Kobern-Gondorf.



Some of our officers and directors at the Sporthall in Mettlach during the dinner dance: Matt Gruskin, Dr. Ridge Scott, Jack Lowenstein, Rosemarie Sahn, Earl Christy, Vera Christy, Dezso Ladanyi, Kurt Sommerich.



Dr. & Mrs. J. J. Hersh at the Losheim Summer Fest.

backdrop for our lunch as we picnicked on the Abbey grounds adjacent to our treasured landmark. The tableware for this noon affair, as was the case with our other eating events, was yet another pattern of V&B china.

While the morning buyers settled their auction tabs, a score of stein hustlers set up their stock in the Abbey Conference Room. The stein buying and trading was intense with many a beery vessel and Deutschmark exchanging hands.

Scarcely had we secured our newly acquired treasures in our hotel rooms when the call arrived from guide Isabelle that it was time to leave for our evening at the Losheim *Heimatfest*. On the way, our buses stopped at the Mettlach Kirche for evening services. While we listened intently to the town choir accompanied by a pipe organist of extraordinary talent, our gaze wandered about the ancient chapel. Dominating the walls of the nave were mosaic murals depicting historical scenes from Benedictine religious life in Mettlach.

Continuing our evening jaunt, we arrived at Losheim Lake and the site of the weekly *Heimatfest*. If you're having trouble with the term *Heimatfest*, picture a big beer tent, a noisy band, plenty of beer and eats, *singen* and *trinken*, and a talent show by the local folk, and you're there. The crowd of SClers and Losheimers were aroused when the entire shindig was cast into darkness because of a power failure. The New York collectors managed a "Ho-Hum" and a troupe of Trapp Family type singers kept the crowd entertained with the aid of flashlights until the power was finally restored. Later, as we traipsed our way to our buses, we suddenly realized that our stay in Villeroy and Boch land was about to become a memory, for the following day we were to leave this wonderful corner of Germany to begin a new convention chapter in Hoehr-Grenzhausen. The richest memory of our residence in Mettlach was not the V&B wares we so admired, but the people who created this adventure. To Therese Thomas, the von Bochs, the drivers and guides, and all of the people of Mettlach, *Viele Dank* and a mighty big *Prosit!*



Sunday, July 16th, our bus caravan of stein laden collectors high rolled our way toward Hoehr-Grenzhausen in the heart of the Westerwald. After a whirl-wind tour of the ancient Roman city of Trier and a luncheon retreat in the local *Lowenbraukelleri*, we zipped through the fabled Moselle Wine District just in time to board our cruise ship at Cochem. Lots of beer and three hours later, the SCI invasionary forces landed at Cobern-Gondorf amid rocket fire and a spectacular *Welkommen* from our new hosts, Werner and Rosemarie Sahn of Rastal Werke. As I tramped down the gang plank, I spotted my long time collecting crony Lotti Lopez and like an ancient Greek relay runner, I will pass on my story flame, and let her relate the next segment of our summer madness.

## Happy days in Kannenbaeckerland

by Lotti Lopez

A little more than two days in Hoehr-Grenzhausen — hardly enough time to see a fraction of what the stein metropolis in the *Kannenbaeckerland* — Pot Bakers Land — really has to offer those interested in the manufacture of beer steins. And in ensuing weeks, many SCI'ers would repeat it again and again — we should have stayed weeks instead of days — wish we'd had more time there — I'd like to go back on my own — and some did.

But let's start with Sunday night, July 16, 1978, when an overloaded Mosel riverboat (300 SCI'ers plus the regular tourist crowd) pulled into the landing at picturesque Kobern-Gondorf to be welcomed by the region's wine queen, by Rosemarie Sahn, and who else? A real *Raubritter* — robber knight? It was the proprietor of that evening's restaurant who had been persuaded to greet SCI'ers in his medieval garb complete with lance, helmet, and armor, who invited a few to ride in his coach while the rest of us mortals had to walk. Inside the *Mosella Tanzburg*, food and drink awaited us, and we were entertained by the band with strains of Rhineland melodies and Cathie Hill's favorite, "Rivers of Babylon", a big German hit.



Guenter Sahn, co-owner of Rastal Werk, welcoming SCI members to Hoehr-Grenzhausen.

After Victor Lopez's announcement that there was a surprise waiting in our hotel rooms, the group vacated the premises in a surprisingly speedy manner for their respective hotels, the *Dorint* and the *Humboldtshoehe*.

And the surprise was waiting: Bulging goody bags with neat collectibles, including the Hoehr-Grenzhausen convention badge, a small procelain stein, drinking glasses from the city and from Rastal, and the super prize itself; a second convention stein, made of ruby-red, overlay crystal with handcut designs and pewter lid engraved "SCI Convention at RASTAL 1978". This was a special gift, one per couple, from Werner and Rosemarie Sahn.



Our official welcome to Hoehr-Grenzhausen given by Mayor Wendelin Knesen, Rosemarie and Werner Sahn.

After Monday morning's breakfast of continental *Semmelrolls*, 300 well rested SCI'ers were bussed to Hoehr-Grenzhausen's city hall to be welcomed with a gun salute. Welcoming speeches in English and German by the town's mayor, Herr Wendelin Knesen, and by RASTAL's co-owner, Herr Gunter Sahn, were followed by the presentation of "friendship medals" — small gray-blue stoneware discs emblazoned with the city crest on a ribbon. Stein collectors were asked to sign the guest book. These festivities opened the two day stay in the birthplace of countless beer steins, including a few on your shelves.

Part of the group then went to such factories as Wick-Werke (makers of convention steins 1967-73), Marzi & Remy, Merkelbach Manufactur, formerly Reinhold Merkelbach and now owned by Goebel Enterprises; King Keramik, Wuerfel & Mueller, Workshop Peltner, where Silesian type pottery is made in the middle of the Westerwald. This is an old workshop whose kiln has been converted into a sort of museum.

Everywhere souvenir gifts were handed to SCI members. We also visited the firm of Otto Blum, where they still make salt-glazed stoneware by the old methods and the "salting", as it is called, produces cloud-like formations which can be seen all over town. This was one of the most fascinating places to visit, especially when one's tour guide was an expert named Werner Sahn who answered all questions and explained every phase of the work process. Flashbulbs popped, necks were craned; souvenirs picked, and most stein collectors went away with a more complete understanding of what saltglazed stoneware is all about.

But the indisputable highlight of the SCI tour in Hoehr-Grenzhausen was the visit to the exhibit and factory of RASTAL, owned by our convention hosts, Werner and Guenter Sahn. Our new Master Steinologist and his President wife had







S. C. I.  
SIXTH ANNUAL BOARD MEETING  
Mettlach, Germany

July 14, 1978

The Sixth Annual Board Meeting of the S. C. I. was called to order by Terry Hill in a large office of the "Abtstaql" of the Falencerie at 9:35.

The following were in attendances:

Kurt Sommerich	Terry Hill	Wyatt Yon
Floyd Dietlein	Rosemarie Sahn	Gene Manusev
Vera Christy	Jack Lowenstein	Ernestine Lambertus
Dorothy Schardin	Dick Miller	Dr. Ladanyi
Dr. Joe Hersh	Dr. Scott	George Mirsh taking the place of Al Meak

Also in attendance was the following Nominating Committee:

Robert Alutia  
Fredlein Schroeder  
Mrs. Edith Sommerich

The Treasurer, Vera Christy, passed out copies of the financial report, which is as follows:

Cash on hand January 1, 1977	\$20,638.78
Receipts	81,924.51
Disbursements	51,076.10
Cash on hand December 31, 1977	<u>\$51,487.19</u>

Breakdown of Receipts

Membership fees for 1977	13,305.00
Membership fees for 1978	920.00
Advertising in PROSIT	2,096.75
Convention fees	35,826.00
Book Sales	897.50
Stein sales, 1977	4,725.00
Stein sales, 1975	510.00
Sale of binders	177.00
Back issues of PROSIT	555.00
Money collected for "Early Bird" dinners	2,292.00
Gift from Miller Brewing Co.	200.00
Proceeds of auction	1,965.88
Miscellaneous	612.44
Interest on CD #1892	64.95
Interest on CD #5041	84.24
Interest on saving account 1-06786-7	768.43
Interest on saving account 5-00064-1	24.22
Air fare held in escrow (savings account 5-00064-1)	16,900.00
Total Receipts	<u>\$81,924.51</u>