

23rd Convention

July 1989

S.C.I. CONVENTION XXIII

JULY 6 - 9, 1989

HYATT REGENCY HOTEL

DEARBORN, MICHIGAN



Editor's Award: Leonce Miller

Master Steinologist: Gary Kirsner

Jack Heimann Service Award: Dezso Ladanyi

Miss Beer Stein: Rosie Koryto



Frank Poppie



Teena Greenberg

Margarie McKenzie

Terry Hill

Jack Lowenstein

Ester Schneider



Jessie Johnson



Mary Lou Boresch

Rosie Karyto

Don Limpert



John Stuart



Rosie & Werner

Pat Manusov

Dr. Dezso Ladanyi



JHSA Award



Jim Kaiser

Bo Baresch





Xmas in July ???

Ron Karyto

Hannah Steichman



Bo Baresch



Pat Manusov



Jim DeMars



Bill Mitchell



Les Paul







Ron & Rosie Karyto

Mary Lou & Bo

Baresch

Mureal Charon



Michael Slutkin







Kurt Sommerich

Bill Bosworth

Roland Henschen

John Stuart

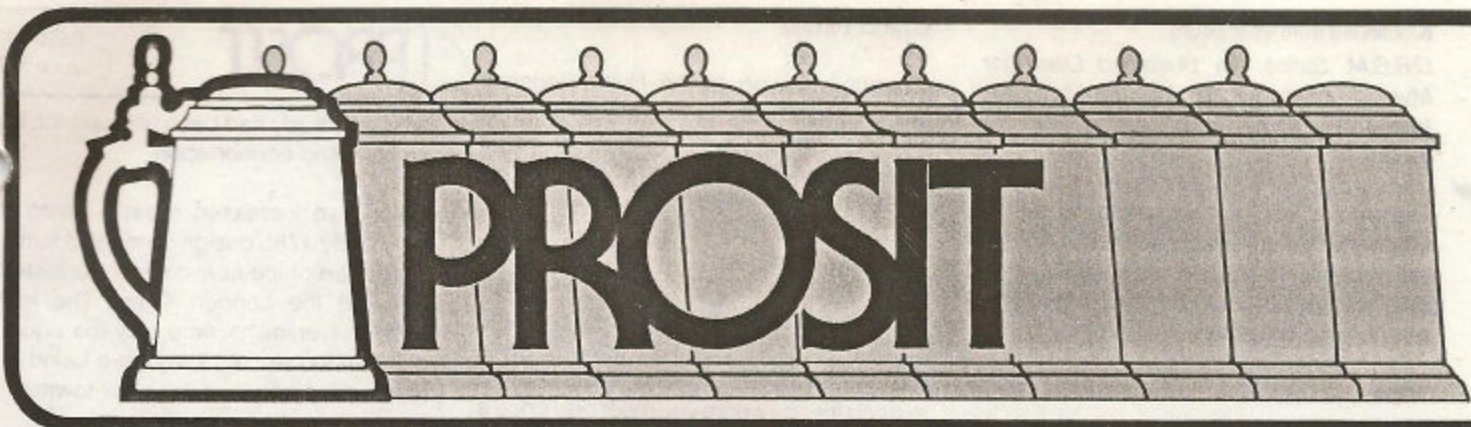
Al Schroeder











Say "Yes" to Michigan and Have a Wonderful Time in '89

What: The annual SCI Convention
When: July 6-9, 1989
**Where: The Hyatt Regency Hotel,
Fairlane Town Center, Dearborn,
Michigan**

The Michisteiner elves have been busy on the final details in preparing this opportunity for you to renew old acquaintances and meet new ones; to buy, sell and trade steins; to swap tall tales about recent acquisitions; to learn more about the drinking vessels that you now possess, those you hope to acquire, and those with which you are not familiar; to get your questions answered by the experts; and to do all of this in a congenial setting as you hoist your favorite beer, courtesy of the Stroh Brewery Company.

If you haven't yet sent in that reservation, now is the time to clear your desk and dig out your copy of the *March Prosit*. It outlines the convention program for each day, the fees and options available, and the arrangements for reduced airline rates. It also contains the convention and hotel reservation forms. So complete the convention reservation form, make out your check to *Michisteiners* and send both by next mail to **James Kaiser, 1416 South Gratiot, Mount Clemens, Michigan 48043**. Otherwise, you will forfeit your chance to experience that rare *Gemütlichkeit* that comes only when you mingle and exchange toasts with your fellow conventioners. Be one of the happy participants who can relive that experience when they pick up the next *Prosit* and read of the "wonderful time in '89".

Mail your hotel reservation cards directly to the Hyatt Regency Hotel, to arrive there not later than June 13 in order to receive the reduced convention room rate.

If you have not yet done so, this is also a good time to make out your wish-list of steins to buy, swap or on which to bid, for there will be exceptional opportunities available, in a wide variety of types and prices.

Stein Sales and Auctions

Members Stein Sales, including the session on Wednesday afternoon where the *Early Birds* vie for the first pick.

Michisteiner-sponsored separate auctions by *Ron Fox* and *Gary Kirsner* on Friday



Steam Locomotive

morning and Friday afternoon respectively. There you will have the opportunity to bid on a galaxy of fine pieces typical of those offered by these two members at previous conventions. See their advertisements in this and the *March Prosit*.

Members Auction on Saturday afternoon, the last chance to round out your possession of "must-haves" and/or sell those for which you no longer have cabinet space.

For the members auction, the entry fee will be \$5 for each piece, with a 5% buyer's premium. We shall ask each person registering a stein for this auction to identify any repairs or defects, in accordance with the SCI Code of Ethics, set forth on page 1698 of the December 1987 issue of *Prosit*.

Talks

The Stroh Stein Collection, presented by Stroh historian Peter Blum, and Master Steinologist John Stuart.

Glass Drinking Vessels by Ludwig Moser, presented by Mural K. Charon, author of the book "Ludwig Moser, King of Glass".

Drinking Vessels of the Kaisers' Germany, presented by historian and fellow collector William Piekarski.



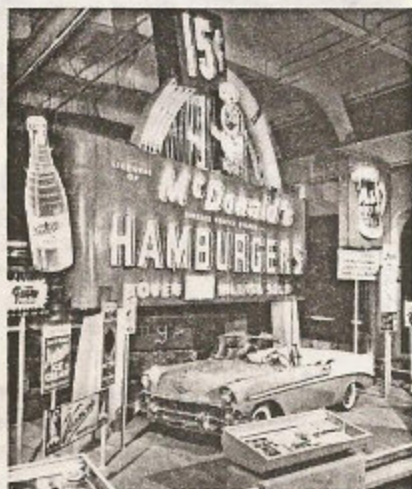
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D.R.G.M. Steins, An Unsolved Diesinger Mystery, presented by Patricia Manusov, researcher, author and SCI Executive Director.

The above talks will expand your knowledge of drinking vessels, particularly in new areas of interest, and aid in recognition of different types of pieces that you may like to add to your collection.

Trips

Ford Museum including dinner at Lovett Hall. The museum is a twelve-acre treasure trove of American ingenuity that vividly portrays our changing nation from 1800-1950. It includes a fine collection of early American silver and pewter tankards. A history, assembled by Mary Lou Boresch from a presentation by the Ford Museum, on the development of the craft that produced these fine pieces may be found at the end of this review.



The "Automobile in American Life" Exhibition

Stroh River Place where, through the hospitable courtesy of the *Stroh Brewery Company*, we shall assemble for our German Night dinner, festivities and viewing of the fabulous Stroh Stein collection. You have seen pictures of many of these pieces in "The Stein Book" by Gary Kirsner and Jim Gruhl. Now you will have the opportunity to view them in their new exhibition setting. This evening will also include the traditional contests. In the costume contest you may vie for honors as having the best authentic German attire for either Frau or Herr. With the number of trips to Deutschland reported in recent issues of *Prosit*, we expect a gaggle of new entrants. The talent contest will pit the imaginations and skills of members whose attire — or parts thereof, e.g. shirt, hat, skirt — most accurately and artistically represents a Bierkrug or decoration thereon. Be your own Durstige Ritter, Dancing Bear, Cuirassier, etc.

Grand Finale

Saturday evening at the Hyatt Regency Hotel. Banquet, dance and presentation of awards, all to the delightful music of Eddie de Santis and his Orchestra. Theme: *Red and White*.

The Last Farewell

Sunday morning at Giulios Restaurant in the hotel, a pleasant place to enjoy a great brunch with fellow collectors, to bid farewell to good friends whom you meet only once a year, and to plan for reunions at the next convention.

The Development of the Silver and Pewter Craft in Early America

By Mary Lou Boresch

Pre-1700: Little pewter and silver was in use in America. Boston had the greatest number of craftsmen: 20 silversmiths and fewer than 10 pewterers as late as 1690. New York had less than half this number, while other inhabited areas claimed at least one or two workers in each trade. Much of the silver was produced for church use. A single silver spoon was a sign of wealth. By 1700, tankards and other household items were common. Stylistically, Boston followed up-to-date London forms while New York followed heavier forms that were influenced by the Dutch heritage.

1700-1750: Silversmiths and pewterers were by now commonplace in every American city. Utilizing found materials, the silversmiths used either coins (usually Spanish) or outmoded vessels. Work in pewter utilized old and broken pieces. Materials were melted down and reformed. Pewter was recast in molds and silver was hammered into shape from thin sheets of the metal.

Both silver and pewter were imported in the first half of the 18th century. This kept the craftsmen up-to-date on foreign fashion. Silver was restricted to the very rich. Pewter was found in an increasing number of households and taverns by mid-century.

1750-1785: The American pewterers flourished throughout the northern and central colonies and emerged as leading members of the merchant class. This was particularly true following the Revolutionary War. As a respected businessman, the pewterer even purchased goods from the silversmith

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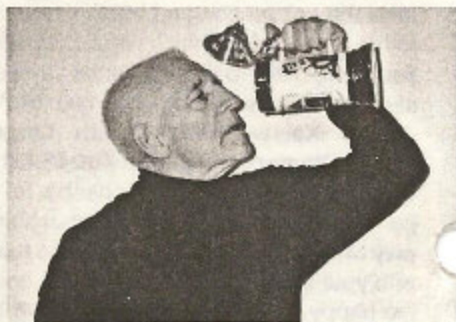
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who previously had been his superior, both socially and economically.

Silver also increased greatly during this period. By 1785 design styles and forms in every part of the new country consistently followed the London styles. The highly skilled silversmiths were truly the equal of any London worker. They were found in all major cities and in many small towns.

1785-1815: Major changes affected the silver and pewter trades during the post-Revolutionary War period. Both trades extended into the south where needs had previously been served by trade with England. A second change was the introduction of a new material called *Sheffield Plate*. This silver substitute, named after its English city of origin, consisted of sheets of silver bonded to sheets of copper. It could be worked like silver and was much cheaper. Factory mass-production of pewter was introduced by Thomas B. Boardman, who produced it in Hartford, Connecticut, and retailed it in Philadelphia and New York.

1815-1850: Individual silver and pewter craftsmen disappeared as eastern businesses wholesaled their goods to retail merchants. These manufacturers and merchants made silver and pewter available to a much wider population. Mass-production also caused the demise of pewter as a household material. It was replaced by cheaper ceramic materials and by mid-century, by electroplated silver. The advent of the Victorian era brought forth revivalistic designs. The earliest of these "new" designs are often accredited to John Kirk of Baltimore: His designs were basically a re-interpretation of the 18th century, highly ornamental, rococo style.



Convention chairman Bo Boresch invites all SCI'ers to have a cool drink with him at Dearborn this July

Stroh's calls off chugging contest

Stein collectors left high, dry

By Scott Martelle
News Staff Writer

7/8/89

The chug-a-lug contest, it seems, was more than Stroh's could swallow.

Stroh's announced last week it was sponsoring a beer-chugging contest at the Stroh River Place Atrium for members of Stein Collectors International. It was to be part of a German night at Stroh's headquarters for the collectors, who were in town this week for their annual convention.

But when Stroh's was asked why the firm was sponsoring something usually associated with fraternity parties and drunkenness, spokeswoman Karen Wiecha said that wasn't the case. The company was merely letting the collectors use its space, she said.

"We didn't set the agenda for what they're doing," Wiecha said. "We're just providing hospitality."

The agenda beyond the chugging contest included a catered dinner, dancing and an exhibition of 50 of the best steins in the Stroh's collection. The chugging contest was to have been a team speed event, with each member drinking one glass of beer.

Then Stroh's thought about it some more.

A half-hour later, Wiecha called to say Stroh's had canceled the chugging contest, even though it wasn't sponsoring it.

"We've just canceled it because of the way it might be perceived," Wiecha said.

There was no immediate reaction from the collectors, who spent most of the afternoon in a stein auction at the Hyatt Regency in Dearborn.

Alex the dog, though, was reported to be disappointed.