

24th Convention

July 1990

S.C.I. CONVENTION XXIV

JULY 18 - 22, 1990

HAMBURG PLAZA HOTEL

HAMBURG, GERMANY



Master Steinologist: Ron Heiligenstein

Mr. Beer Stein: Floyd Dietlein

Miss Beer Stein: Nettie Lowenstein









TERRY HILL





Pat Manusov



Marcia Hopper

Aurel Keck



Walt & Betty Vodges



Pat & Marty Jahn



Steve & Rosie Hoffman





Nettie & Jack

Petunia & Bob Scully



"The Twins" @?*&!!

Les Hopper



Roland Henschen













The Hamburg Convention

A brief summary by Jack Lowenstein

What superlatives can you use to describe a superlative Convention? From the Early Bird get-together to the elegant "red, blue and white" dinner dance on Saturday, everything was just perfect. Every event was superbly planned to give the 186 attendees a feeling of "welcome to Hamburg."



Once the board meeting was over on Wednesday, everyone was able to enjoy a typical northern German dinner at the Convention Center Hamburg. As always, many friendships were renewed. (Board minutes will be published in December.)

Thursday, day #1, was indeed an extravaganza. The General Meeting was opened by our host, Dr. Therese Thomas. After committee reports and a "State of SCI" address by executive director Patricia Manusov, the first award was presented: Netty Lowenstein was named "Miss Beer Stein 1990" and was presented with a beautiful crown, made once again by Claire Hill of California. In addition, Floyd Dietlein of Nevada was named "Mr. Beer Stein 1990" for his good humor, enthusiasm and cheerfulness.

Then came three outstanding lectures which kept everyone alert and added to our stein knowledge. Miss Eta Erlhofer of

Trier spoke about Raeren stoneware, its origin and style of decoration. The talk answered some of the mysteries of this early stoneware and its potters. The next lecture was by Johannes Vogt of Munich. Johannes, an acknowledged expert on the subject, gave us an entirely new and thorough insight into the faience steins of southern Germany. The final talk, in the afternoon, was an in-depth lecture about the 19th century artist Franz Ringer, by California's Mark Durban. While Mark confessed that his published research caused steins designed by Franz Ringer to increase in cost, he still continues his investigation and brought out many interesting facets of the artist's life and works.

(All three lectures, plus illustrations, will be published in future issues of *Prosit*.)



The highlight of the day was the official opening of the Heinrich Schlitt exhibit. After an introduction by Therese Thomas, the attendees were led into the exhibition room, where over 100 Schlitt-designed articles were on view: Steins, plaques, punch bowls, paintings, sketches, book illustrations, postcards and more. In addition, the brand-new 150-page book about Mr. Schlitt, written by Prof. J. A. Schmoll and Dr. Therese Thomas, was available for the very first time. Both authors were present to autograph this thoroughly illustrated book (written in both German and English) for SCI purchasers. Everyone was delighted by the wonderful exhibit and book.

Dinner that evening was aboard the 19th century sailing vessel "Rickmer Rickmers," permanently anchored in the Elbe River. It was another delightful experience—with gourmet food.

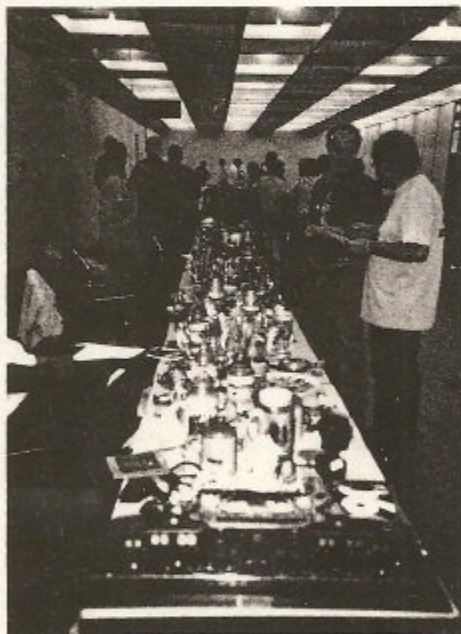
A city tour was the program on Friday, ending with a reception at the magnificent Rathaus (City Hall) of Hamburg. Senator Dr. Nevermann greeted the stein collectors with a champagne toast, and Pat Manusov reciprocated by presenting

the city with an official greeting from the mayor of Los Angeles.

A pseudo-Bavarian evening at the "Zillertal" restaurant rounded out the day with dinner, music and dancing. However, it was rumored that some of the more daring gentlemen explored the sore-called delights of the notorious Reeperbahn.



Saturday was a day to relax: The stein sales room was open, as was the Schlitt exhibit. In the afternoon the members' auction took place, and, as expected, quite a few collectors added something to their ever-expanding luggage.



The wondrous "red, blue and white" gala dinner-dance at the Plaza Hotel was the topping on the proverbial cake. A delicious dinner (many of the items had been cooked in beer!) preceded the festivities. Pat Manusov acknowledged Dorothy Schardin for having attended every SCI Convention and presented her with a free package to next year's "Silver Reflections" convention in Chicago. Ron Heiligenstein, although not present, was named "Master Steinologist" for his research, articles and lectures on regional steins. Therese Thomas was given a beautifully engraved silver tray for her faultless planning of this convention, and the entire Mettlach team was

thanked with a standing ovation. Then it was dancing into the wee hours to the music of the "Old Timers" band.



As always, Sunday morning was bitter-sweet as farewells were said and half of the conventioners went their own way, while the other half went on the post-convention tour. But everyone agreed that it had been a super convention and that we would all meet in Chicago in 1991 for number 25.



Election Results

PresidentBill Mitchell
(elected for 2 years in 1989)
1st vice presidentTerry Hill
2nd vice presidentJim DeMars
SecretaryPatricia Jahn
TreasurerWalter Vogdes
Executive director ...Patricia Manusov
(elected for 2 years)
Editor, *Prosit*Jack Lowenstein

Special Awards

Master
SteinologistRon Heiligenstein
Miss Beer SteinNetty Lowenstein
Mr. Beer SteinFloyd Dietlein



Wat Dat Say?

by Les Hopper

As can be seen by the title of this article, the author's English isn't too good. Even worse is his German. Hence a quandary every time he views one of our favorite drinking vessels suitably adorned with one of those expressions so familiar to the native-born German.

Hence he started pestering a few of his German friends for help. The result was reactions ranging from "it can't be translated" to a complete translation including a long discussion on the expression's background. Something simpler was obviously needed. Being addicted to an electronic idiot box (computer), it was decided to build the German expressions and their English translations into a data base program for easy retrieval.

With the help of many fellow SCI members and the translation guidance of Jack Lowenstein, about 350 expressions have thus far been catalogued.

The resultant knowledge has been most gratifying. Where else can one find that "An traurigen Mann schaut gar koane an. A lustiger Bua kriagt Dirndln grad gnuu." (No one looks at a sad man. (But) a merry man gets all the girls.) Now the author knows why he wasted so much time in his youthful chases.

Where else but on a beer stein can one discover the secret to longevity: "Bei Trunk und Scherz bleibt froh das Herz. Ein guter trunk macht Alte jung." (With drink and humor the heart stays happy. A good drink makes the old young.)

There is even a good message for all members of Stein Collectors International: "In Lied und Leben, nach Einheit Streben." (In song and in life, strive for unity.)

Considering this a worthwhile project to continue to the end of publishing some 500 expression translations for use by others, the author requests your help: If any reader is so inclined, a copy of the expressions as they appear on your drinking vessels would be appreciated. They should be sent, along with their translations if available (but not necessary) to:

Les Hopper
3530 Mimosa Court
New Orleans, Louisiana 70131-8305

Thank you very much. When completed the book or booklet of translations will be made available to all SCI members, and—hopefully—should end once and for all the recurring question, "wat dat say?"



Elegant Jugendstil

by Robert J. Pfaff

The accompanying illustration shows a pair of "Jugendstil" or "Art Nouveau" pewter tankards by L. Lichtinger of Munich. The tankards gracefully integrate the flowing handle and lid detail with those of the embossed cylindrical body.



The L. Lichtinger Company was among the firms who from 1899 exported pewter to Liberty's in London, from where these artfully designed objects were sent all over the world. Lichtinger's most celebrated artist was Karl Gross, who had been trained by such Munich greats as Fritz von Miller and Ernst Riegel.

(Ref.: "Art Nouveau in Munich—Masters of Jugendstil," Kathryn B. Hiesinger, Philadelphia Museum of Art, 1988)