

## 2002 SCI Convention Report

### The 2002 SCI Convention A Big Hit in Small Bad Schussenried!

By Betty and Walt Vogdes



On Wednesday, July 17th, convention attendees boarded buses at the Forum Hotel in Munich and began the journey to Bad Schussenried in Upper Swabia. The beautiful countryside provided scant distraction from the anticipation of the beginning of our annual convention. A welcome party including a German buffet meal and music by the *Stadtkapelle* Bad Schussenried was enjoyed by all.



Thursday, the first official day of the convention, we met at the Library of the New Monastery in Bad Schussenried, being welcomed in this richly decorated rococo room with a trumpet and organ fanfare. Lined with book shelves which formerly contained 20,000 volumes, this room has historical claim as a "seat of wisdom". Our general meeting was called to order by President Clarence Riley and the first order of business was the presentation of the slate of nominees by Nominating Committee Chairman Fred Ellis. The slate was accepted as presented, and all were unanimously elected:



- Executive Director - Steve Steigerwald
- Secretary - Marie Stevenson
- 1st Vice President - Phil Masenheimer
- Chapter Development Officer - JoAnn Ellis

Following the election, awards were announced as follows:

- Jack Heimann Service Award - Claire Hill
- Master Steinologist - Art Maethner
- Editor's Award - Frank Loevi
- *Gemütlichkeit* Award - Frank Poppie
- SCI Service Award - James DeMars



Master Steinologist  
Art Maethner

These last two awards, which were authorized at last year's convention, were given for the first time.

Walt Vogdes then gave an interesting slide presentation on the Heinrich Schlitt murals decorating the walls and

ceiling arches of the Ratskeller in Munich. This presentation was developed by Art Maethner, and Walt was simply the speaker in Art's absence. Since a large number of attendees had enjoyed dinner at the Ratskeller on Tuesday evening in the Noah's Ark room, this was especially meaningful and added to our enjoyment of Schlitt's talents. Our next presenter was Dr. Beatrix Adler speaking on "Early Steins, Stoneware," a presentation which was both scholarly and enjoyable.

Next on the agenda was a guided tour of the 250 year old baroque Church of St. Peter and Paul in Steinhausen. Frequently referred to as "the most beautiful village church in the world", the relatively modest exterior does nothing to prepare the visitor for the opulent interior. Featuring beautiful statues of the twelve Apostles, the ceilings and walls are fully painted and gilded in an explosion of religious expression. Our official convention stein is fashioned after the church tower and steeple. (As luck would have it, there is an antique shop directly across the street from this church, and one of our members made a nice purchase!)



Click on any of the thumbnail photos below to see a larger image from Steinhausen.



Nice buy!

Back on the bus we headed to our next stop, the *Kloster Siessen*, begun in 1260 and home to approximately 230 Franciscan nuns. We enjoyed a guided tour and talk by one of the nuns who spoke about Berta Hummel who was a nun there until her untimely death in 1946.

After this busy day, we assembled for *Heimatabend* (regional evening) at the Bierkrugstadel in Bad Schussenried with music by the *Josefskappelle*, and traditional



entertainers from the Bad Schussenried area. The highlight of the dinner was *Ochs am spieß*, roast ox on a spit.



Bernard and Esther Harrison



Food and entertainment in the *Bierkrugstadel*

Friday found us back at the New Monastery for an interesting talk and slide presentation by Les Paul entitled "Early Steins, Altenberg" followed by Mark Durban speaking on Franz Ringer. The stein sales room opened for eager shoppers, while for others there were excursions to the open air museum at Kurnbach and a guided tour of the Castle Aulendorf and visit to a toy museum. The afternoon also offered a guided tour of the beer stein museum. That evening we enjoyed another delicious meal including Swiss delights of veal and famous Rösti potatoes. Swiss entertainment was by the Appenzell musicians featuring Swiss music, yodeling, ringing of cow bells, and singing.



Saturday found the early risers at a flea market for brewery items held on the grounds of the Beer Stein Museum. In the afternoon Johannes Vogt's commercial auction was held at the Library of the New Monastery. Those who didn't didn't immerse themselves in the flea market and auction enjoyed a day-long visit to the island of Mainau with its beautiful flower gardens. Our last evening was fittingly "Oktoberfest at the Bierkrugstadel" including a rural buffet and entertainment by the Maselheimer Musicians.

Sunday morning's *Weisswurst* breakfast (traditional Bavarian sausages) at the Beer Stein Museum was enjoyed by all and concluded a great convention.

Congratulations for the overall excellence of this convention to **Johannes Vogt**, chairman, and many, many thanks to **Herr Jürgen Ott**, owner of the Beer Stein Museum and a constant presence during our visit in Bad Schussenried. Herr Ott and his capable staff were responsible for making this time together truly memorable.

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**36<sup>th</sup> Convention**

**July 2002**

2002 Convention  
Bad Schussenried, Upper Swabia  
Germany  
July 17<sup>th</sup>

Master Steinologist:  
Art Maethner

Jack Heiman Service Award:  
Claire Hill

Jack Lowenstein Editors Award:  
Frank Loevi























