

BEER-SOAKED WELCOME MAT IS OUT FOR EXCITING CONVENTION NO. 2



The pride of the Ray Sanders' collection are these Mettlach steins that once were property of Anheuser Busch of St. Louis.

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Milwaukee's Sheraton-Schroeder Hotel has spread out the welcome mat for Stein Collectors International's second big convention. Club President Jack Heimann expects close to a hundred members to show for the "new and improved" version of last year's first such affair in New York City. Based on the combined enthusiasm of Kurt Sommerich, our vice-president and convention chairman, and the folks of old Milwaukee, we can positively predict an enlightning stay from June 13 to 16.

Bringing the famous Ripley stein collection out of storage by the people at Pabst Brewing Co. may be the highlight of the convention. On the night of Thursday, June 13, members will be guests of Pabst in the charming Blue Ribbon Hall. Dinner and plenty of Pabst Blue Ribbon will be served along with the showing of the Ripley steins.

"Political" meetings will be at a minimum although a few "exchange" type of meetings will be held. Members will show photos and color slides of their pride possessions (steins, not children). A slide show of last year's convention and subsequent trip to Europe will be presented.

Two SCI members — Helena Ratzsch and Karl Mader—will be hosts for two special luncheons at two of those famous Milwaukee restaurants.

We will be guests of Schlitz Brewery in their congenial Brown Bottle Room. We will have our own private cocktail party in the hotel. A small but select group of antique dealers will have a two-day show right in our Sheraton-Schroeder Hotel.

More of the camaraderie and friendship that were evidenced in our New York convention will be there in Milwaukee.

der Gemütlichkeit

TENTATIVE CONVENTION SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, JUNE 13

Check in at Sheraton-Schroeder anytime after 1 p.m.

The morning is free for early arrivals to shop or sight-see.

Registration in hotel from 3 to 5 p.m.

(Bring photographs of steins, steins to sell or trade)

Schlitz "Brown Bottle" get-acquainted party at the brewery in the evening.

Dinner is independent (but group may find one suitable place as we did in New York last year).

FRIDAY, JUNE 14

Breakfast is independently arranged.

Antique Show all day in hotel.

Meeting No. 1 at 10 a.m.

Discuss goals of SCI, proposals for next convention.

Lunch (*Mittagessen*) in Mader's Restaurant.

Afternoon free for shopping or tour to Old Milwaukee or museum.

Evening—dinner and stein display at Pabst Blue Ribbon Hall.

Installation of Kurt Sommerich as SCI's second president.

Nominations for honoraary vice-president.

SATURDAY, JUNE 15, 1968

Antique Show all day in hotel.

Meeting No. 2 at 10 a.m.

Election of vice-president, slide show of last year's convention and tour of Europe. Showing of color slides of members' steins and collections.

Lunch at Karl Ratzsch's Restaurant.

Free cocktail party in hotel before big banquet in hotel. Dancing after dinner in Crystal Ball Room.

SUNDAY, JUNE 16

Auf Weidersehn Continental breakfast. Check out of hotel. Happy stein hunting for another year.

Stein Exchange

WOULD LIKE TO HEAR from anyone who has a Musterschutz Fox or Boar with green hat that they would trade or sell. What Have you? J. J. O'Neil, 87 Industry St., Pitsburgh, Pa. 15210.

WANTED TO BUY: American Eagle Mettlachs per Mohr's book, Nos. 2238, 2893 and 3135. Walt Flezke, 8956 East 33rd Place, Tulsa, Okla. 74145.

LOOKING FOR collection of Mettlach steins to buy. Please send descriptions, condition and price (or leads). Also interested in Turnverein steins with bust of Ludwig Jahn. M. Jahn, 4901 South Austin Avenue, Chicago, Ill. 60638.

METTLACH BEAKERS WANTED: Series 2332 or 2333/xxxx. Others considered. Write Lt. Gene Addison, Exchange Officer, 636005 Support Squadron, APO San Francisco 96321 (Air Mail please).

WANTED TO BUY: Mettlach etched plaques or steins all sizes Describe with number, size and price. Cyril N. Volk, 708 Morningside Dr., Millbrae, Calif. 94030.

FOR SALE—or will trade—large collection of pre-war Regimentals at \$45 each. Also have few duplicate Mettlachs for exchange. C. N. Volk 708 Morningside Dr., Millbrae, Calif. 94030.

BEGINNING COLLECTOR of German steins desires to buy some CHARACTER, METTLACH and AMBER GLASS steins. Please send picture or description and price to Cyril N. Volk, 708 Morningside Dr., Millbrae, Calif. 94030.

I AM INTERESTED in locating some commercial steins depicting the names and/or marks of the many German breweries. Describe fully and quote price. John B. Hickman, 9005 Weldon Drive, Richmond, Va 23229.

I'M INTERESTED in purchasing and hearing from anyone who has steins or mugs picturing early automobiles or aeroplanes. David K. Bausch, 252 North 7th St., Allentown, Penna. 18102.

METTLACH COLLECTORS ITEM

For the first time the complete 1899 Mettlach factory catalogue is available to you. I have reproduced this catalogue in its entirety. There are over 80 pages with 700 illustrations of steins, flower containers, punch bowls and wall plaques. Everything is shown that was in production at that time, with identifying numbers under each illustration.

I have put this book in a fine loose leaf binder. I plan to make available to you from time to time supplementary pages containing articles of interest to Mettlach collectors, which are obtained in the process of my continued research. We plan to have the complete and finest definition of the

entire Mettlach effort. I also hope to publish colored photographs of stein collections throughout the country.

I have reproduced only a limited number of the catalogues so get your order in early. The price is \$25.00, the original book has been appraised at \$300.00, so you will realize this is a rare opportunity to have a copy of a collectors item as well as a very important reference book. The catalogue is being printed now and will be mailed as soon as finished.

I will accept checks and money orders only. Please send your orders to:

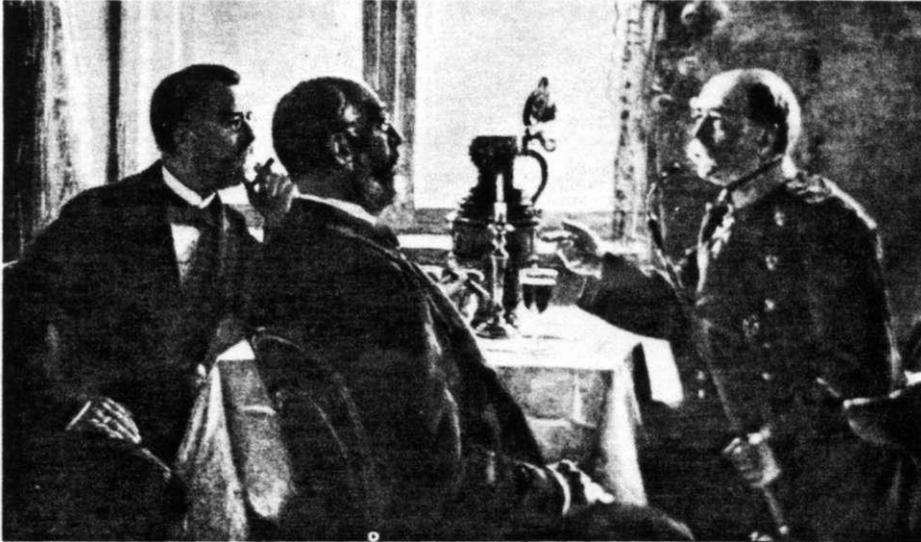
ARMSTRONG ENTERPRISES

2100 Pridgen Road

Hampton, Virginia 23363

KAMMERER'S KORNER

By George E. Kammerer



Above is an old print of Bismark, the historic German figure. One of the interesting features of this photo copy is the wine pitcher as used in those days.

The picture below is not a group photo of SCI charter members.

Thanks to Friedla Baum, an interested translator, I was able to get the story behind this august assemblage.

It seems for about a ten-year period starting in 1871, the inhabitants of the small town of Tever in the Grand Duchy of Oldenburg had been sending Bismark 101 plover eggs annually.

A group of Tever's leading citizens had the idea to surprise Bismark with the daintily color flecked eggs of their native bird, the Kubitz (Plover), for his birthday as a token of their affection. The gift was always presented with much fanfare and goodwill.

This event became a dear habit to Bismark. In an expression of thanks, he presented them with two steins and a silver pokal. The goblet was in the shape of a large egg. The cover was crowned by an artistic plover chicken head and the body rested on two silver chicken legs. Tever's leading citizens are shown posing with the steins and pokal presented to them by Bismark.



LETTERS

Ad in der Gem Draws 21 Calls

FROM JOHN A. EY, JR.

Appreciate space you gave my ad . . . and let me say the ads sell. I believe it was Wednesday (I did not get mine in Maryland until Friday) I received three long distance calls from California regarding the items; and each day as the bulletins were delivered across the country, more calls came in . . . 21 in all . . . from California, Texas, New Mexico, New York, New Jersey, Georgia, Florida, Indianapolis, etc., etc., etc.

Free Mettlach

One Villeroy & Boch Mettlach stein will be given away at the convention. The door prize will be a choice piece of that rare Mettlach quality.

Order Directory!

SCI's membership directory can now be ordered and should be out before the national so that summer travelers can benefit en route to Milwaukee—or other destinations.

Members only can order the booklet (printed and with a decorative, protective cover) for \$2 a copy. Address changes and additions will be sent periodically to those who order.

Another Stein Favor

A second half-liter, lidless commemorative stein will be given as the official favor at the Milwaukee convention. This may be the convention "that made Milwaukee famous" and this may be the stein to remember it all.

STEINS: old & authentic. Loan of color photo & prices—25c.

OLD WORLD ANTIQUES

June Dimsdle

8009 Corona Kansas City
Kansas 66112

Steins

Send legal sized, self addressed envelope for list of descriptions and prices.

RAD SMITH

(The Counselor's Closet)

3235 Seventh Avenue N.

St Petersburg, Florida 33713

Are Mettlach Steins Being Reproduced in Japan?

There may be more than rumor to the notion that Mettlach steins are being reproduced in the Orient.

Member Milt Bovee passed along this bit of information that he received from a reputable Ohio dealer:

"Incidentally, if you do not already know, alert the other collectors you know that the Japanese are making Mettlach steins, engraved, and putting the castle mark on them. One way to tell is that the "VB" is not on and neither are the numbers show-

ing date made and number made. They are GOOD and even some dealers are being fooled on them."

The word is spreading rapidly across the nation. SCI President Jack Heimann wrote, "We should do our best to locate a piece to compare and show at Milwaukee."

Heimann wants to discuss the dilemma at Milwaukee. He has in mind that SCI should publicize the situation and ask dealers in the future to warranty "by

full return of purchase price any sale of pieces represented as Mettlach that are not Mettlach."

Heimann was writing to Villeroy & Boch at Mettlach to determine what action they may desire to take to protect their trademark in this market.

"We should do everything possible to STOP this racket," says Heimann.

Members knowing anything about the Japanese made "Mettlachs" should send what they know to SCI headquarters.

Ray Sanders Has Favorites

While building a quality collection of about 65 steins, beakers, punch bowls and plaques, Ray Sanders of Lagrange, Illinois, came across a set of Mettlachs in the Anheuser-Busch Brewery in St. Louis.

He acquired the steins from Anheuser-Busch a few years ago. "They have three marks on them," writes Ray, "the Castle mark, the Villeroy & Boch mark, and the Anheuser Busch of St. Louis mark."

The large, 5-liter piece is Mettlach No. 2524. The ½-liter mates are No. 2580.

Other prizes in the Sanders' collection are a Capo di Monte and a Royal Vienna, both in mint condition.

Sanders thinks that SCI's bulletin is tremendous. "It has been a great guide in some of my purchases," he writes.



A Royal Vienna stein is another favorite of Ray Sanders.

TWO RARE TANKARDS FOR SALE \$550 PAIR

Recently Acquired from Eastern Zone of Germany - Each is 20" high, 8" in Diameter and Weighs about 7 pounds.



Early guild pewter (guild Hallmark granted to Craftsman in 1628) depicts blacksmith working at anvil, also horse's head surrounded by horseshoe. Made by Master Pewter Maker in 1680; his Hallmark is impressed on handle (initials "A W" and shape of monk).



Double hallmark on handle (1709), this was at one time given as a gift to Count Adolph von Bentheim (1713) of Steinfurt; shield on thumb-lift. Scene shows Frederick the Great and his dog Alkmene.

Both pieces came from one private collection that was originally in Nurenberg.

FRED LENGENFELDER

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