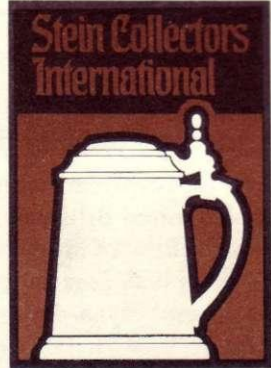


Prosit



No. 35

The Quarterly Bulletin of Stein Collectors International

March 1974

Be on tap for No 8!

There is no Convention City like Fun City: New York, That's why we are especially fortunate this year to hold our 8th Convention here — where it all began 8 years ago. Welcome home, S.C.I.!

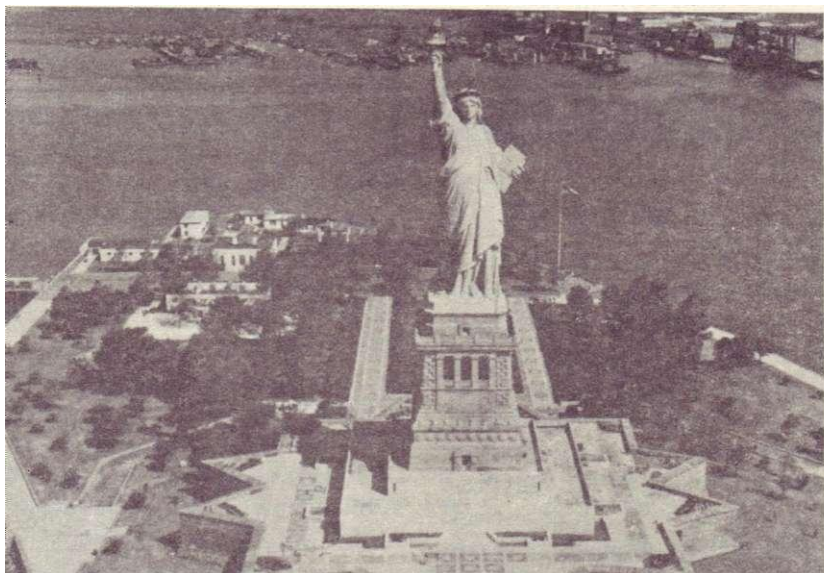
The greater New York/New Jersey chapters have gone all out to assure Conventioneers a fun- and stein-filled time. From the time you register on Wednesday afternoon or evening, July 17, or Thursday, July 18, until the time you bid a tearful adieu to your fellow collectors on Sunday, July 21, you will have talked steins, seen steins, perhaps swapped, bought or sold steins, you'll even drink beer out of steins, and will have had an unforgettable time.

Here's what is in store for those of you who attend what will surely be S.C.I.'s biggest convention:

A real German dinner at world-famous Lüchows Restaurant.

A fabulous stein exhibit, featuring steins from the Rudolph Schaefer collection and from the composite collections of Atlantic sea-coast S.C.I. members.

A real, live beer stein auction, under the auspices of the most famous art auction house in the world: Sotheby-Parke-Bernet. Parke-Bernet has been searching the four corners of the world to bring choice items to the



Photos: New York Convention and Visitors Bureau

auction block. An exhibit of steins will precede the auction.

The Metropolitan Museum of Art will have a corollary exhibition of pre-19th century drinking vessels: Meissen, ivory, Kreussen, Rhenish, Westerwald, silver, gold — all gems of master craftsman's handiwork.

A series of plenary lectures, featuring: Jeri Schwartz: "Unusual Steins" Arthur Gilbert: "Villeroy & Boch etched and cameo Steins" Harvey Murphy: "Stein Restorations" ... as well as speakers from insurance companies, talking about fine arts insurance, and a speaker from the New York Police Department addressing himself to safe-guarding fine arts collections.

Dealer's Day, featuring well over 500 steins brought to the Convention by hand-picked dealers — for your perusal.

For the first time ever at an S.C.I. convention, a farewell brunch on Sunday morning, giving everyone a chance to say good-bye to old friends and new, to break bread together one last time before "next year". . . . and, of course there will be all the old favorites: The Miss Beer Stein contest, the Saturday evening Gala Dinner-Dance, the Chug-A-Lug Contest, and steins, Steins, STEINS, STEINS!!!

The Convention Hotel is the newly re-decorated Biltmore Hotel, right in the middle of the action, on New York's plush East Side: Madison Avenue and 43rd Street (make your hotel reservations directly with the hotel on the enclosed reservation card). The hotel has guaranteed us rates which will hold for S.C.I. members even before and after the Convention. Since the Convention is so packed full of things to do, we will not have too much of a chance to see fabulous, glittering New York City. If you really want to see New York, and we heartily recommend that you do, come early and stay late. Go to the theatre, see the sights, ride the ferry, climb to the top of the Statue of Liberty, visit the Empire State Building, go shopping in the biggest, the fanciest, the most unique stores in the world!

Because we expect so many members, pre-registration is almost a must! Please use the enclosed pre-registration card to let us know your intentions and how many of you to expect. A deposit of \$25.- towards the total, per-person, Convention fee of \$89.50, will assure you a place at the Convention. "At-the-door" registration will have to be \$95.- per person for contingency purposes. Please pre-register no later than May 15, but hopefully as soon as possible.

Children of members will not have to register, but they will be charged, at cost, for those events they attend, mainly meals and bus-rides. Since registration fees are waived, children will not receive a convention stein. Baby sitting services will be available. The sitters are experienced adults, furnished by a bonded agency. Cost will be about \$2.- per hour. Sorry, but there cannot be a reduction for children's meals; as we are arranging for all meals on a banquet-type basis, the restaurants are only interested in numbers. Since these meals can be costly, you may wish to arrange for your children to eat elsewhere.

What is the weather like in New York in July? Hot. Expect 80 to 90 degree days, bring cool, loose clothing. But also bring rain gear. On the other hand, you will be spending most of your time indoors, in cool, air-conditioned splendor. The hotel is entirely air-conditioned, as are buses, restaurants, most other facilities.

That's it in the proverbial nutshell (or we should say, mini-stein). Pre-register for the Convention, make your hotel reservations, and then sit back and relax, if you can, until July when you will be heading for New York City and Annual Convention number 8! After you pre-register, your deposit (or full payment) will be acknowledged, and you will start receiving all sorts of information about New York City so that you will be able to plan for a beautiful, leisurely, once-in-a-lifetime fun-filled vacation. And once you get to New York, you will be further deluged with tips on what to see, what to do, where to go, where to eat, where to shop, how to spend your money, and many more useful hints and suggestions!

But even if you do nothing in New York but attend our big, Big, BIG Stein Collectors Convention, you will have had an experience you will never tire of recounting to the poor folks who had to stay at home. As we said previously, don't feel compelled to be in New York only between July 17 and July 21: Come a week early, stay a week late, and enjoy, enjoy.

All of us New Yorkers, New Jerseyites, Pennsylvanians, Connecticutans and Virginians, Marylanders and Delawareans welcome you with open arms and look forward to a gala time in July. And as New Yorkers are wont to say, "It'll be wild, man! Real heavy!". PROSIT!

CHAPTER NEWS

The New Jersey Chapter has selected its official new name — just in time for the convention they are co-hosting. "PROSIT" to the New Jersey "Bürgermeisters".



The Creussen Steins of Mettlach — Mettlach produced three Creussen-type steins, design numbers 2525 (shown above) a one-liter replica of the true Creussen steins, #2526, 1/2 L., and #2527, 3/10 L., both conventional steins. These excellent reproductions show the fine detail the Mettlach artists produced, and they illustrate perfectly that given time a fine copy can be more sought after and more valuable than the original. Photograph and text by J. Joseph Hersh, M.D.

CHECKPOINT

We would like to hear from more of you regarding our Checkpoint report in the January, 1974, issue. Many have already indicated that it was interesting and helpful. Some have many good suggestions on how to improve or further refine our descriptive categories.

Let us hear from you. Begin now to send us new data on recent transactions. We refer you to **Prosit** #30, June 1973, page 180, regarding particulars and to the January 1974 **Prosit** for use of abbreviations and condition notations. When we have accumulated a sufficient number we will publish another Checkpoint.

Der Trompeter von Sackingen

Most of us own at least one stein which pictures a young Germanic knight, standing besides his horse, holding a trumpet. Usually a castle is shown on a mountain-side in the background. A variation has the knight, still holding the trumpet, mounted on his horse, with a young damsel standing beside him. What is the story behind this scene?

The scene is taken from Joseph Viktor von Scheffel's epic poem, "Der Trompeter von Sackingen", or, in English, "The Trumpeter of Sackingen". The poem is a very long one (similar to our "The Rhyme of the Ancient Mariner"), and is composed of 16 cantos, each of which, in turn, has many verses. The story tells of the knight, young Werner, and his travels along the Rhine, where finally he meets the damsel Margarethe in the walled city of Sackingen. The plot is knight woos fair damsel, he wins f. d., he loses f. d., and finally wins and marries f. d. In between there is the usual pathos, knightly errands and moral lectures. Probably the most quoted lines from the poem are:

"Behuf dich Gott, es war so schon
gewesen —
Behut dich Gott, es hat nicht
sollen sein."

Translation: "May God guard over
you, it could have
been so beautiful —
May God guard over
you, but it was not
to be."

Joseph Viktor von Scheffel (1826 - 1886) was one of Germany's most famous and prolific poets, probably ranking with Schiller and Heine. His works were beloved by the Germans because he glorified Germany and told lovely tales of knighthood, valor, bravery and loyalty to emperor and country. He wrote "Der Trompeter"

in 1854, and it was an instantaneous success. The work has gone through innumerable editions and translations (there are some very excellent English editions available).

Villeroy & Boch honored von Scheffel's poem on several of their etched and relief steins: Nos. 1562, 1998, 2105, 2007, -8, -9. The latter three etched steins illustrate specific scenes: No. 2007 shows the adventures of the Kater Hidigegei, 2008 has the above-quoted lines, "Behut dich Gott, . . .", and 2009 depicts Werner and Margarethe. The "HR" people made at least one stein showing Werner and his trumpet, and virtually all other stein manufacturers produced one or more steins depicting this stirring, epic poem.

So if you own some steins showing "The Trumpeter of Sackingen", you might wish to go to your library and dig out a translation of this poem (Jessie Beck & Louise Lorimer did an especially fine job in 1893) and read it, and you might even want to look up the location of the still-existent city of Sackingen — it is an industrial center on the lower Rhine. Having peripheral background on one's steins adds an additional dimension of enjoyment to the hobby and helps to round out a collection.

Our thanks to Steve Smith of the Gambrinus Chapter for suggesting that some information on this poem be put into print, and Jack Lowenstein for preparing this article.

LETTERS

We continue to read and enjoy PROSIT and are grateful to one and all who make this fine publication possible.

B.Y., Florida

Keep up the fine work. This new PROSIT is a creditable publication, professionally done, and a true asset to stein hobbyists.

J.G., New York

Prosit

Re: PROSIT No. 34, January 1974
"Nürnberg" by Arthur Maethner.

Let me contribute another version of the name of my native city. Like Rome the city of Nuremberg has seven hills — hence the city was called Neu-Rom-Berg (New Rome-Burg) which name evolved into Nurmberg and eventually Nürnberg. This I learned as a youngster. It sounds plausible! "Nur-am-berg" — "only near this elevation" — is unconvincing. Civic pride would forbid the "only" part of the name of one's city. Source of my information: Real gymnasium Nürnberg.

Kurt Summerich, Wisc.

**Information, please**

Member Frank Love has a relief pouring Krug which holds some secrets. The Krug features a horned gargoyle, pewter ring in mouth. Both sides are decorated with blazonry and show the date 1388. The pewter finial is in the shape of a peacock. This blue and grey saltglaze piece is 2 1/2 L., 19 1/2" tall. Merkelback and Wick are the makers. It is thought that it was made in 1888 as a 500th anniversary piece. The blazonry has 3 peacocks. Frank's question: the coat of arms is not identified. Does anyone know in what coat of arms peacocks were prominent? Send information to SCI. We will publish for all to see.

Message from Mettlach

Jack Lowenstein made recent inquiry of the V & B factory regarding the termination of stein manufacture at Mettlach. He shares the following translation of the reply from Dr. Therese Thomas of the staff of the V & B Museum:

"It is correct that stoneware beer steins were taken out of production in 1914, but manufacture was taken up again in reduced volume in 1920. However, it was so expensive that it was given up again permanently in 1930. What was made at Mettlach between 1918 and 1930 is mostly of poorer quality; furthermore, quantitatively, not very much was produced in this short time."

Editor's Note: The Mettlach #2900 was the last production stein carrying a 1930 date. But there are two Mettlach 2900's. The one produced earlier has a totally different scene than the one produced in 1930. The 2900 produced in the earlier years has an incised (etched) Old Abbey Tower Mark (Castle Mark); the 1930 production carried a rubber stamp mark of the Old Tower Mark plus the word "Saar". If you have one, you may wish to find the other for your collection.

Lopez article outstanding

All stein collectors will welcome and enjoy a fascinating article recently published by Lotti Lopez. This accomplished author has often proven her knowledge of steins and skill of description. Please seek out the *American Collector*, vol. 5, no. 1, for Liselotte Lopez informative "Here comes the Volkswagen of Beer Steins." For your own issue, send 50c to *American Collector*, 13920 Mt. McClelland Blvd., Reno, Nev. 89506. For the antiquer, this is an interesting publication.



Which Twin is the copy?

Thirsty Knighter, Mike Wald, was recently so taken with a Hire's Root Beer mug at a recent antique show that he paid \$20.00 for it, although he was told that it was not an original. "Taken" is really the correct term, because Mike later discovered, through Hires, that in October 1973, 7500 of these mugs were reproduced by Hall China Company of East Liverpool, Ohio, as a consumer premium and were sold at \$3.50 each.

The original mugs produced by V & B were hand turned and sold for \$2.00 a dozen to soda fountain operators between 1905 and 1910. Very few are now left. They might command a price of \$100-\$125.

Mike's experience prompted him to do a little research and to share his knowledge with collectors as a caution against a hasty purchase of a "bargain" Hires Beer Mug. As he said, "How many of us would blindly send away \$20 or \$25 for a Hires Root Beer mug in mint condition." When Mike first saw the copy and the original together he could not tell them apart. With closer study he has found these differences. The photographs help to illustrate some of them. (V & B is on the left.)

1. The V & B is more colorful and looks more like a photo. The picture seems more lifelike.
2. The V & B is shallower; the copy holds more liquid.
3. The V & B has the lettering further away from the double band at the top. The "H" comes above the bands at one point on the copy.

More on Stein Collectors Guild

We have a follow-up on the story of the now defunct Stein Collector's Guild reported on in **PROSIT** #34, January 1974, p. 207.

Our thanks to member Earle W. Maxwell, England, for bringing this next notice to our attention. Following is the text of a letter received by Mr. Maxwell:

January 28, 1974

TO: *Members of the Stein
Collectors Guild*

FROM: *Ray Berg*
SUBJECT: Refund of Stein Guild
Membership Fees

During the past few months since my last communication to you, I have made many attempts to personally secure the monies with which to refund all of the membership fees that were paid to the Stein Collectors Guild. (Since BCINews is no longer a functioning corporation, there are no incoming funds, and consequently, no capital with which to pay outstanding debts. Any refunds that are made will be handled by me personally as an officer of the firm.) To date,

Prosit

I am making every effort to resolve this situation in a manner that will meet with the approval of all involved. Enclosed with this letter you will find one dollar, the first refund payment of your Stein Collectors Guild membership fee.

RB

/gcb

enclosure - first refund payment of SCG membership fee - (\$1.00)

Auction results

We had a successful auction, with many pieces going at prices comfortably above the minimum bid established by the sellers.

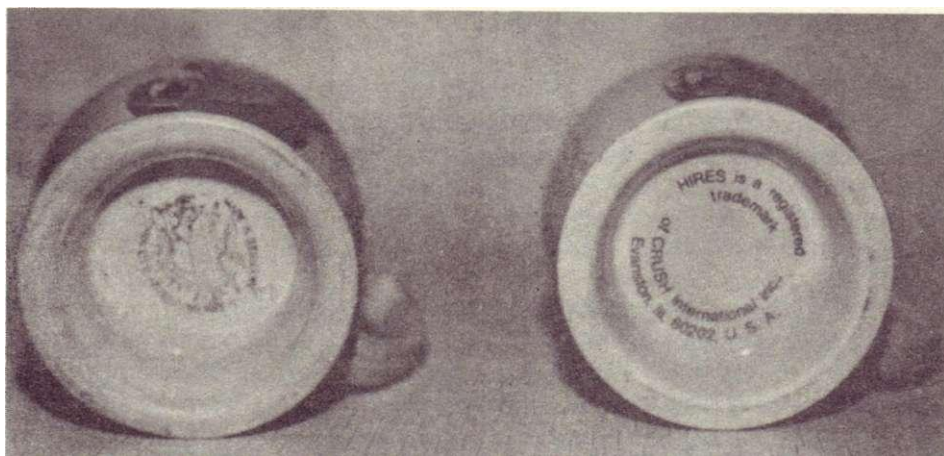
Unfortunately, two of the pieces offered for auction — the pewter pieces #4 and #5 — were sold prior to auction. We were not notified until after **PROSIT** had been printed and sent. We will try to work out safeguards against this in future auctions.

Another note of importance: SCI charge for handling will be a straight 10%.

Now, to satisfy your curiosity, here are the high bids for the pieces offered.

Item #	High Bid
1	\$140.00
2	110.00
3	33.63
4 — presold but bid at	142.00
5 — presold but bid at	215.00
6	35.00
7	72.00
8	145.00
9	55.00
10	145.00
11	145.00

Depending upon member interest we will plan another auction in the fall. Start selecting and photographing those steins you may wish to offer.



- The foam at the top of the V & B mug is white and feels slightly raised; on the copy it is the same color as the background.
- The V & B has the picture going right down to the double band at the bottom while the copy does not.
- The copy is about double the thickness of the V & B as can be seen in the photo.
- The handle on the V & B is slightly ridged while the copy is smoother and more rounded.
- The V & B is more recessed on the bottom and is marked with the Mercury Mark in green: #3095 — IV. Above the Mercury Mark is "Made in Germany"; below the Mercury Mark is: "For the Charles E. Hires Company". It was made in 1907.
- On the bottom of the copy it reads: Hires is a registered trademark of Crush International, Inc., Evanston, Illinois 60202, U.S.A.
- The copy has a ® mark next to the word Hires.
- The lettering on the V & B seems to be more irregular as if hand done. The copy is much more perfect.

Our thanks to Mike for his analysis and excellent photos. He is to be commended as he says: "The only reason I feel this knowledge should be made public is so more people don't buy them (the copies) for \$20 or more as I did. Many an unscrupulous antique dealer could substitute one without the knowledge of its being new."

I have not been able to secure the total amount needed.

refund payment in cash.

However, I have been in contact with the Post Office Department representative here in Louisville, and we have discussed the following plan for payment of the refunds. At this time, this is the only viable way of assuring the repayment of your monies. We plan to refund one dollar per month for the next eight months until all SCG membership fees have been refunded. Since we have no corporate checking account and the cost of money orders would defeat the purpose of this plan, we will make each

We made the decision to handle the refunds in this manner because we felt that you would prefer receiving *partial* payments over a period of several months rather than waiting an additional six to eight, or even ten, months to receive full refund payment. Also, since *all* costs and expenses for the processing and handling of the refunds will be borne by me personally, I had no choice but to choose the most inexpensive and expeditious method of handling the refunding.

Prosit



New SCI specialists group

Steinologist par excellence, Jack Lowenstein, will head up the "München Kindl" specialist group. Shown here are three of his many interesting Munich Child steins. If you have an interest in this area, write: Jack Lowenstein, R.F.D. 4, Raymond Road, Princeton, N.J. 08540. Be sure to button hole Jack at the convention, too.

Prosit



This bulletin is the official publication of Stein Collectors International, a non-profit organization dedicated to the study of antique beer steins and other drinking vessels. **Prosit** is published quarterly. Dues for SCI and **Prosit** are \$20.00 per calendar year. All correspondence relating to SCI membership and **Prosit** shall be directed to: Stein Collectors International, P.O. Box 4226, St. Paul, MN 55116.

Commercial Advertising Rates:

All advertising that does not fall into the categories outlined in "Stein Exchange" will take our commercial ad rates, as follows:

Full page	\$60.00
2/3 page (2 columns)	\$45.00
Half page (horizontal)	\$35.00
Full Column	\$25.00
Per column inch	\$ 2.75
(1-inch minimum)	

Production Requirements:

Prosit is printed offset, so no engraving plates are made. Please lay out your ad as closely as possible to the appearance you desire. If you send no instructions, we will use our own discretion in laying out the ad.

If you wish to include photographs in your ad, please send black and white glossies only. There will be a \$10.00 charge for each photo included.

Deadline for the next issue is May 15, 1974.

Der Gem/Prosit Index

1965-1973

It is useful for collectors to have an index to all past articles relating to their hobby. Our thanks to Jack Lowenstein for compiling an index to **Der Gemutlichkeit/Prosit (Der G.** ran from September 1965 to June 1969; beginning with the September 1969 issue the SCI publication became **Prosit**). The index is reprinted below. We have continued the indexing, adding the articles from the 1973 **Prosits**.

INDEX TO "DER GEMUTLICHKEIT"/"PROSIT"

TITLE	AUTHOR	NO. DATE	PAGE
A cameo is	Lowenstein, J.	30, June '73	177
Are Mettlach Steins being Reproduced?	McClelland, T.	11, Mar. '68	48
Are you a Specialist?		31, Aug. '73	186
Article in Germany's Largest Newspaper	VonKrusenstiern, A.	15, Mar. '69	63
Artifacts for Drinking the 'Golden Brew'	McClelland, T.	16, June '69	70
Baby V + B		32, Oct. '73	195
Biggies (The)	McClelland, T.	25, Sept. '71	133
Black Forrest Mettlachs	McClelland, T.	16, June '69	68
Brewery Book of Interest to Steiners	McClelland, T.	20, June '70	99
Carved Ivory Tells its Own Story of Quality	McClelland, T.	5, Sept. '66	17
Character Steins Book Reviewed	McClelland, T.	29, Sept. '72	171
Collector Tells of Buying Steins at Auction	Lowenstein, J.	3, Mar. '66	11
Collectors Continue to be Duped	McClelland, T.	8, June '67	31
Collectors Gather at "Castle Mark"	McClelland, T.	19, Mar. '70	87
Commemoratives Become Collector's Items	McClelland, T.	27, Mar. '72	150
Demand Up and Supply Down	McClelland, T.	4, June '66	13
Eat Your Heart Out!	McClelland, T.	24, June '71	128
Erste Gruppe Plans Character Book		32, Oct. '73	193
Ethics Needed in Selling and Buying by Mail	McClelland, T.	24, June '71	126
Faience Stein Collecting	Hoch, A.	33, Dec. '73	202
Faience Steins	Lenker, R.W.	20, June '70	95
Falstaff Produces Westerwald Stein Replica	McClelland, T.	27, Mar. '72	151
Great Stein Auction	Lowenstein, J.	23, Mar. '71	123
Guide to Mettlachs	McClelland, T.	1, Sept. '65	3
Hamm Displays Steins	McClelland, T.	20, June '70	98
Heidelberg: A Popular City	McClelland, T.	21, Sept. '70	107
Honest-to-Goodness Character Stein	McClelland, T.	3, Mar. '66	9
Kammerer's Körner	Kammerer, G. E.	Nos. 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 21	
Kreussen Steins	Lowenstein, J.	26, Dec. '71	144
Kreussen Steins — Fact or Fancy?	Ey, A. J.	22, Dec. '70	109
Legend of St. Hubert	Hanson, R. F.	24, June '71	125
Like a Good Lager Beer, New Book is Light	McClelland, T.	22, Dec. '70	111
Lyrics Proposed for SCI Song	Lowenstein, J.	14, Dec. '68	59
Major's Book Review	McClelland, T.	26, Dec. '71	142
Mettlach 2u02 Door Prize	McClelland, T.	16, June '69	65
Mettlach No. 2869 is One of Rarest	McClelland, T.	15, Mar. '69	61
Mettlach Tureen and Tray		30, June '73	177
Mohr's Revised is More than Before	McClelland, T.	7, Mar. '67	27
Mystery Mark Explained — D.R.G.M.	Smith, S.	31, Aug. '73	187
Mystery Marks	Hill, T.	23, Mar. '71	120
National Brewing Co. Features Steins in Ad	McClelland, T.	18, Dec. '69	81
Nothing Definite on Jap Mettlachs	McClelland, T.	12, Aug. '68	49
Nürnberg Funnel Steins	Love, F.	31, Aug. '73	184
Old Abbey is Mecca for Steins	McClelland, T.	7, Mar. '67	25
Old English Tankards	Rosser, M. L.	33, Dec. '73	198
Old Steins are Being Reproduced	McClelland, T.	6, Dec. '66	22
Owls on Steins	Maethner, A.	33, Dec. '73	197
Packing Precious Products for Shipment	Heimann, J.	31, Aug. '73	188
Pewter Character Steins		33, Dec. '73	199
Porcelain Steins	Lenker, R. W.	29, Sept. '72	165
Promotions, Publicity Give Shot in Arm	McClelland, T.	16, June '69	70
R. J. Schaefer Stein Collection	McClelland, T.	9, Sept. '67	33
Regimental Stein Collecting	McClelland, T.	26, Dec. '71	141
Regimentals were Personalized Steins	McClelland, T.	2, Dec. '65	5
Regional Stein Clubs are Active	McClelland, T.	18, Dec. '69	84
Reinhold Merkelbach Marks	Love, F.	22, Dec. '70	112
Religious Motif on Drinking Vessels	Ey, A. J.	23, Mar. '71	117

Rene von Schleinitz, Art Collector, Dies
 SCI Constitution and By-Laws
 SCI Forwarding Service
 Second Lady Buys a Stein
 Secrets of the Steins
 Souvenirs of Heidelberg
 Stein Collectors International
 Stein Content
 Stein Photography
 Steins are Fascinating
 Steins at Convention
 Story of the Munich Child
 Terry Hill Reports on Convention
 There's Not a Mettlach in Mettlach
 There's Nothing Like the Bill Schwartz Steins
 Three New Price Books Reviewed
 Tour Leader's Report
 Twelve Suggestions for Antique Buying
 Twins — Mettlach Pouring Pitchers
 Two-Faced Stein
 Very Plain — But Rarest of Rare
 Villeroy and Boch Welcomes SCI
 Von Schleintz Collection Goes on Display
 Wick-Werke of Hohn Grenzhausen
 World's Strongest Stein Collector
 Wrong Number? Perhaps Not

McClelland, T.	28, June 72	164
	30, June 73	178
	33, Dec. 73	198
Hankenson, D.	4, June '66	15
Brinkley, A.	32, Oct. 73	189
McClelland T.	21, Sept. 70	104
McClelland, T.	1, Sept. '65	1
McClelland, T.	Most issues	
Lowenstein, J.	33, Dec. 73	200
Hersh, J. J.	18, Dec. '69	82
McClelland, T.	19, Mar. 70	92
Lowenstein, J.	13, Sept. '68	53
Hill, T.	25, Sept. 71	135
McClelland, T.	5, Sept. '66	20
McClelland, T.	17, Sept. '69	75
McClelland, T.	19, Mar. 70	89
McClelland, T.	9, Sept. '67	35
Laestar, C. & M.	24, June 71	126
	30, June 73	175
McClelland, T.	15, Mar. '69	62
Ey, A. J.	14, Dec. '68	59
McClelland, T.	19, Mar. 70	85
McClelland, T.	15, Mar. '69	62
Love, F.	23, Mar. 71	122
McClelland, T.	10, Dec. '67	41
	30, June 73	179

Prosit

To be sold to the best offer
 over the quoted price.



- #1 Mint-inf. Reg. #117 — Mainz \$100.00
- #2 Fuss Artillery #9 — Köln. Missing are two soldiers who should be standing by the cannon, otherwise mint \$100.00
- #3 Castle Marked Mettlach #1526. PUG 3/10L. Has a commemorative coin on top and in center of the pewter lid which states and has the same photograph as on stein — "Zur Errinerung an der Goldenen hohzeit". \$95.00
- #4 Has Bavaria and Mettlach under the Castle Mark; #3277. Etched inlay top and etched drawing on the stein. This etched picture was originally painted by Ludwig Hohlwein, a famous Bavarian Jugendstil (Art Nouveau painter). His name is also on the stein, etched in. \$150.00
- #5 1L V&B #1526 PUG, no lid. \$45.00

Send airmail stamped, self-addressed envelope for reply to your bid.

All bids must be received by April 30, 1974.

SCI member #347

GEORGE WALLACE
 546407175
 42nd M.P. CUSTOMS
 APO N.Y. 09069

STEIN EXCHANGE

Deadline for the next issue is May 15, 1974.

Notices of "Steins for Trade" or "Steins Wanted" shall appear here free to SCI members. Please limit to approximately 45 words, one insertion per issue.

Please do not submit Stein Exchange items in a letter with other questions or information. Print ad on a 3" x 5" card or paper with your name and address. Indicate your membership number if you wish your replies to clear through SCI. This will help us.

If we receive more items than we can devote space to in one issue, we reserve the right to hold the last items received until the next issue. Notices of "Steins for Sale" are considered commercial and will be charged at commercial ad rates seen elsewhere in this issue.

Wanted: Unusual and scarce Regimentals — one or a collection. Contact member #271, C/O SCI, Box 4226, St. Paul, Mn. 55116.

Wanted: Mettlach Stein #3144, Elks' Club stein, also any other old and antique Elks' Club steins and related items. Must be in mint condition. W.E.S., Box 430, Van Wert, Ohio 45891.

Addict needs fix: Characters "Singing Pig", "The Prophet (Father John)" "Sly Fox"; Mettlach #2093 or Mettlach Thirsty Knight will avert withdrawal symptoms. Long term needs include any good steins. Have some for trade. John Stuart, Rt. 11, Box 69E., Morgantown, W. Va. 26505.

Wanted: Hires Root Beer mugs (Mettlach, of course) All shapes and sizes. Please write Joe R. Beard, Rt. #1, Box 325, Clear Spring, Md. 21722.

Character type artillery projectile steins wanted. No Regimentals. Also will trade "S" #2100 3/10 L. Mettlach and \$ for "S" 1/2 L. #2100. D. D. W., Member #178, 1005 Churchman Ave., Beech Grove, Ind. 46107.

Wanted: Pharmacy and/or medical related occupations in "Good" or better condition. State price and brief description. Replies to member #377, C/O SCI, P.O. 4226, St. Paul, Mn. 55116.

Wanted: 1972 Convention Stein. Reply to Member #67, C/O SCI, P.O. 4226, St. Paul, Mn. 55116.

Wanted: Regimental steins complete with lids. State condition and price. All replies answered. Write ART, P.O. Box 444, Botsford, Ct. 06404.

German Military Steins, plaques, pipes, etc., wanted. One or collections. M.A.P., Box 345, LaCanada, Calif. 91011.

Wanted: Mettlach steins #1469, #1161, #3099, #2894. Also Mettlach plaque #2013. Siegmund Klein, C/O Hudson Health Club, 353 W. 57th St. N.Y.C. 10019.

Antique Beer Steins Bought and Sold.

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P. O. Box 1118
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2811 ½L	2035 1L

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