



Stein Zeitung

Erste Gruppe, the Southern California Chapter of Stein Collectors International

Erste Gruppe Chapter Bulletin:

Issue No. 139

5 Jan 2011

From the Assemblers Desk :



Pat Cunningham,
Erste Gruppe President 2011

During our Christmas and/or Holiday party Erste Gruppe has elected new Officers and Board members for 2011. The Presidents Gavel was awarded to our dear friend Patricia Cunningham, George Hartman, elected 1st VP and Don Smith, elected 2nd VP, Lee Poppie and Bill Gaumer, elected Board Members, Sharon Cooley elected Historian and our own Gossipmeister, Sue Kellogg and her hubby, Roy have volunteered to keep their current positions for another year.

On behalf of Erste Gruppe I would like to extend our appreciation and thanks to Mark Fieger for his service as EG President during 2009 and 2010. During Mark's

tenure he exhibited exceptional leadership making significant contributions that have resulted in the rejuvenating Erste Gruppe as a viable group. Among Mark's many achievements include: Updating and improving Erste Gruppe's web page, organizing and coordinating a joint West Coast meeting and Auction, increased EG membership with the admission of new members, contributed articles to Stein Zeitung, and host EG meetings. Well done Mark and thanks for your dedication and service.

I would also like to thank the EG members who have made my job easier during the past year by providing articles, constructive letters to the editor and other news worthy information about stein collecting and their adventures. The contributors are: Roy and Sue Kellogg for their contributions of the EG meeting minutes, SCI club correspondence, and news about our members. Master Steinologist Dr. Roy De Selms once again provided interesting stein related articles for our SZ readers. Mark Fieger for providing contributions to Stein Zeitung.

A special thanks to all who have taken the time to send cards and wish me well as I recover from a stroke and fall. I'm doing just fine and thanks for your concern.

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Erste Gruppe Officers (2011)

Pres. Pat Cunningham
1st VP George Hartman
2nd VP Don Smith
Treas. Roy Kellogg
Sect., Recording Sect. and Sunshine Lady, Sue Kellogg
Historian Sharon Cooley
Board of Directors: Lee Poppie and Bill Gaumer
Stein Zeitung Assembler – John Mann
johnmann2@cox.com

EG Board Members

1st year board member - Chris Gundel
2nd Year board member - Tim Peters

Erste Gruppe Chapter meetings (2011)

2/26 General at Kellogg's
4/2 Board at Elliott and Linda Jones
6/18 General at Poppie's
7/6-8 Convention in Providence, RI
8/13 Board at Patel's
9/10 Board at George and Sherry Hartman's
10/8 General at Hill's

Golden Gate Zecher 2011 Event Calendar

Feb. 12: Steve & Nancy Morris - Foster City
April 9: Les Paul – Alameda
July 4 – 6: SCI Convention, Providence, RI
Sept. 10: Dick & Julie Hughes - Belmont
Nov.: STILL OPEN

PSS meetings 2011

3/5 Portland, Or at Mike O'Hara's
6/11 Redmond, Or at Betty & Gary Criswell's
9/ open date likely 1st or 2nd Sat. in Bellevue, WA at Waring's Oktoberfest
D12/ open date likely the 3rd either Seattle area or Keiser

EG Meeting Minutes

Minutes from the business meeting at Lua Hooper's on 8-7-2010

The meeting was called or order by President, Mark Fieger at 6:15 PM. The minutes were read from the Poppie's meeting held in June and were corrected re:

information about Ted and Mary Ann Meinberg. They were introduced by Roy DeSelms.

Treasurer's report was given by Roy Kellogg and we have \$12,771.47 in our treasury.

Old Business:

Jim Riley talked about Ron Fox's mini convention to be held on Nov. 19, 20 and 21 of this year at the Hacienda Hotel in El Segundo. The fee for the hotel is \$89 a night, including parking.

Friday night: stein sales room open at 5 PM with an evening buffet "nosh".

Les Paul will give a talk about the best and most unusual character steins at 8 PM.

Saturday will feature a deluxe continental breakfast at 8 AM.

The Fox stein auction will preview at 9 AM. The Fox auction will start at noon.

Saturday night will feature a talk about pewter repair demonstration by David Harr at 7 PM.

Refreshments of coffee, cookies and brownies will be served.

Sunday morning a hot breakfast buffet at 8 AM will start. Ron Fox will give a talk on glass manufacturing and decorating techniques at 9 AM. You need to call Sue Fox for reservations.

It was mentioned that reimbursement from Ravi Patel for his cancelled meeting will be forthcoming.

New business:

Roy Kellogg was nominated to be chapter representative at the convention in SC this year. He is also the chairman of the By-Laws committee. The following points were brought up:

1. Membership dues for new members will be \$105/3 years. A regular membership is 3 years for \$105.
2. Proposals: \$ stipends for officers to attend convention. Was suggested that the Editor of PROSIT receive over \$1500; the Web Master \$1000; the Data Base manager over \$500. It was approved to give the editor of PROSIT the \$1500; no to the webmaster; and half agreed to the data base manager's fee.
3. The position of executive Director be eliminated was voted down.

Nomination for 3 person committee to select officers for EG in 2011 were Frank Poppie, Jim Belsha, and Terry Hill.

Saturday during the Fox Auction there will be a drop by from 3-5 PM for EG, DGGZ and PSS only to the Fieger house for beer and socializing. 5:30-7:30 PM will be dinner at the Marmalade Café in El Segundo. Cost is \$25/person. A salad up-charge of \$5 will be available.

No host bar-pay as you go. We need to RSVP by Nov. 10 to Mark Fieger.

It was proposed that a budget of not to exceed \$300 be available to support the efforts of this joint meeting.

Jim Riley needs to call Ron Fox and settle certain details.

We will support a tri member meeting in 2011.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:05 PM after giving our double hosts, Lua Hooper and Tim and Tony Peters our many thanks for such a wonderful evening and delicious food.

We were also thrilled to have Doug and Judy Armstrong join us for this meeting, along with their son, Dale. It had been a year since we last were together.

Submitted by Sue Kellogg
Sec't.

Meeting minutes from the Octoberfest at the Hill's on 10-10-2009

The general meeting was called to order by President Marc Fieger at 6:20 PM. The minutes were read from the last meeting at the Patel's and were approved. It was mentioned that Doug and Judy Armstrong would gladly accept phone calls before a visit is planned. Cards and notes are greatly appreciated.

Tim Peters will be a 2nd year board member for next year.

Treasurer's report was given and we have \$13,861.44 in the bank.

Report on the SCI convention: Roy attended the Board of Trustees meeting. John Kelly's newsletter online is wonderful and very informative. SCI membership directory is on line now. You need your SCI number to access it. You can send email to the webmaster using SEMINAR as a pass word then click on "New Members Only".

Next year's convention will be held in Myrtle Beach, SC in Sept. The 2011 convention will be in Providence, RI in July.

We always need new members in SCI. There are many members in various clubs that do not belong to SCI for various reasons, but we need to work on increasing the membership.

Awards were given to Ron Fox for his "Photos on the Road" pieces in PROSIT; The Gemutlecheit award was given to George Schamberger; Master Steinologist was Phil Masenheimer. Board President will be Phil Masenheimer, Treasurer/CFO, Ravi Patel (membership data base manager); Membership, Carolyn Estep. Miss Beer stein was Suzanne Elliott. For the skit presentations, EG was tied for FIRST PLACE by our 2 songs we sung! We will be having a new member join our group, named

John Matusch from Las Vegas. We all met, for the first time, a new member named Paul Newman, from east of San Diego also.

One of our long time members, Harvey Goldstein, will be moving to Colorado this month and we all wish him good luck in his new adventures. We will miss seeing his smiling face at our meetings.

It was brought up that SCI has many speakers available for different groups meetings. We need to take advantage of this and we get reimbursed from SCI.

A calendar for next year's meeting was passed around and filled out for future board and general meetings in 2010.

A note was read from Beverly Webster by Terry Hill.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 Pm. A talk given by Terry Hill on Richard Reimerschmid followed.

A hearty THANK YOU was given to Claire and Terry Hill on this 40th Annual Octoberfest at their home.

Submitted by Sue Kellogg,
Rec. sec't.

Erste Gruppe Chapter News

Jon Rosenbaum

Terry Hill writes: I hate writing this type of message to all of my EG & other stein collecting friends. A few of you have heard that yet another EGer is in a struggle with cancer. This time, long time EG member, Jon Rosenbaum has such a fight on his hands. Jon, stein and fountain pen collector, recently was confronted with the evidence of cancer in his bladder. Last week, he had surgery to remove a patch on his bladder and he had hoped that, that would be end to his problems. Unfortunately upon further examination of the tissue and subsequent MRIs it appears that the cancer was more pervasive and that nearby muscle tissue is also involved. Jon will face in the near future a regime of radiation and chemo therapy. Also further surgery is also on the horizon. Jon will be under the care of some very good physicians that are the experts in the field of bladder cancer at the renowned clinic at USC. This was a huge blow to Jon as he has a family history of colon cancer. Jon is feeling pretty down at this time and could use your cards and good wishes. His mailing address is: Jon Rosenbaum, 13 Crosscreek Irvine, California 92604-3625
Email address is : Jon529@aol.com

Memoriam

Douglas Rea Armstrong (1942 - 2010)



Douglas Rea Armstrong of Ventura passed away peacefully on Nov. 9, 2010. He died after a 17-month battle with glioblastoma.

Doug was born Feb. 25, 1942 in Ventura during the blackout. Doug was the son of Rea and Velma Armstrong and grew up in Santa Paula. He graduated from Santa Paula High

School in 1959. He went on to UCLA where he earned a degree in economics in 1963. He served in the Army Reserves for six years. In 1993 he obtained his Masters in education, and in 2001 he earned his administrative credential.

Doug and his wife, Judy, were married in 1969 and moved to Ventura in 1972 where they raised their son, Dale. Doug worked for the Santa Paula Elementary School District for 39 years as a teacher and principal. He also helped manage OK Liquor in Santa Paula with his in-laws. He retired from education in 2003 and worked at Community Memorial Hospital in Ventura as a gym attendant until declining health restricted his activity.

Doug was an avid golfer. He enjoyed many different hobbies including beer stein collecting, trapshooting, gardening, sports card collecting, kettlebell training with his son, and scaring people with his missing finger. He was an inspiration and positive role model for countless students, fellow colleagues and friends. He was an eternal optimist to the end of his life.

Doug is survived by his wife, Judy; his son, Dale; and his sister, Cheryl.

The family wishes to thank all of their friends, the UCLA Medical Center Staff, Dr. Gary Deutsch, Dr. Lynn Kong, and The Palms at Bonaventure staff for their care and consideration of Doug and his family over the last 17 months.

There will be a private burial at Pierce Brothers Santa Paula Cemetery.

Published in Ventura County Star from November 19 to November 22, 2010

SCI Updates :

Awards made in 2010:

Master Steinologist - George Schamberger
Jack Lowenstein Prosit Editor's Award - Steve Johnston
SCI Service Recognition Award - Chris Wheeler
Gemütlichkeit Award - Joann Ellis
Miss Beerstein - Margie Brune
Lifetime Membership in SCI - Walt Vogdes

Other significant SCI happenings:

The Gambrinus Stein Club will host the 2012 convention in Annapolis, MD Aug 15-17.

SCI has a new chapter in the Atlanta area --The Dixie Steiners

Steve Steigerwald will act as 1st VP for the coming year only while Ralph Joyce acts as the convention chair for the 2011 convention in Providence, RI.

SCI Officers & Committees (2011)

President - Phil Masenheimer	2011
Executive Director - David Bruha	2012
1st VP Conventions - Ralph Joyce	2012
2nd VP Membership - Carolyn Estep	2011
Chief Financial Officer - Ravi Patel	2012
Editor of Prosit - Walt Vogdes	2011
Museum/Library Director - Lyn Ayers	2011
Chapter Development/Support - Keith Lyle	2012
Internet Director - John Piet	2012
Secretary - Dave Lowry	2012

This year's (2011) committee chairs:

Membership DBM - Chuck Keiser
Nominating Committee Chairman - Joann & Fred Ellis
Chairman, Master Steinologist Committee - Lyn Ayers
Chairman, Bylaws Committee - Roy Kellogg
Chairman, Ethics Committee - Keith Kyle
Parliamentarian - Fred Irtz
Photographer - Martin Estep

The Covenant Stein or Boer War Stein Roy De Selms SCI Master Steinologist

The stein in **figure 1** went largely unnoticed on the eBay website probably because the photo looked like any common relief stein and was described just as “men hunting”. However something struck me about the stein and made me look more closely. Sharon and I (at her instigation) had recently read “The Covenant” by James Michener which is the story of the Boers



Fig 1

colonizing South Africa starting in the early 18th century and voila here they were depicted on this stein. Nobody else noticed and I was able to bring this rarity home for \$36.01 total cost. Wow! Just how do we know that this is a stein about the Boers?

The two side scenes show blond bearded men with rifles in the countryside behind rock defense walls and the front scene shows similar men with rifles



and cartridge belts on horseback with the motto above in Dutch *Eendragt Maagt Magt* (Unity makes strength). This is a fairly common motto in many languages, but in Dutch it also appears on the coat of arms of the South African Republic (**fig. 2**).



Fig 2 South African Republic

Here’s a brief story of the Boers in South Africa.

It’s certainly more complicated than this, but the 17th Century in Europe saw religious conflicts where German Christian Protestants became dominant in the North while remaining Catholic in the South (the Thirty Years War). The French Christian Protestant Huguenots (one of which was Roy’s ancestor) fled Catholic France (part of the Inquisition) and the Dutch Reform Church (Calvinist’s) followers of the Huguenot, John Calvin, became dominant in Holland. At the time the Huguenots went in all directions from France winding up in the Americas, Switzerland, Germany, Holland, Great Britain, and yes even in South Africa.

At this time (1652-1795) the Dutch East Indies Co. among others was trading from China, Java, India, etc. around the Cape of Good Hope back to Holland. The Cape of Good Hope at the tip of South Africa was a strategic stopping point about half way on this route. So the Dutch East Indies Co. decided to establish a colony there at Capetown to facilitate their transport in both directions by supplying fresh water and other provisions. As a result of the aforementioned religious conflicts many of the above groups were available to try new ways of life in different lands. So it was that these Protestant groups of Dutch, Huguenots and Germans found their way to colonize the tip of and later expand further into South Africa. These were mainly farmers and predominantly Dutch and therefore referred to in Dutch as Boers (farmer in English; Bauer in German).

In 1795 the British seized a major portion of South Africa in order to keep it from falling into the hands of Napoleonic France and the Boers were forced to retreat in Die Groot Trek (The Great Trek) and form their own colonies in the north eastern part of South Africa called the “Transvaal” and “The Orange Free State”.

The German made drinking glass in **figure 3** has the flags of Transvaal (**fig. 4**) and the Orange Free State (**fig. 5**) and the motto "Long live Uncle Paul (Kruger) and his band of Boers" written in German.



Fig 3



Fig 4

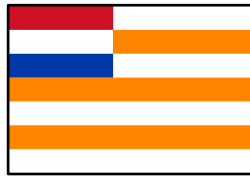


Fig 5

Paul Kruger was the most famous of the Boer leaders and is commemorated by the South African



one ounce gold coin, the Krugerrand (**fig. 6**). The Rand is the currency of the Union of South Africa. The first Boer War (1880-1881), also known as the "Transvaal War", in which the Boers successfully rebelled against British rule in the Transvaal and re-established the independence they had given up to obtain British help against the Zulus.



Fig 6

Shortly after this in 1884 Germany established a colony, Deutsch-Südwestafrika (German South West Africa) which became Namibia in 1990. The Germans had two other smaller colonies in North Africa. From this point on the Boers were allied with the Germans against the British and money and arms were sent to the Boers from German sources. Notice that the verse on the glass in **figure 3** is written in German as well as the verse on the base of the stein in **figure 1** which reads: "Der Gott der Eisen wachsen ließ der wollte keine Knechte." Translation by Walt Vogdes: The God who made iron did not want slaves. In 1888 the first Schutztruppe (protection troops) arrived from Germany in Southwest Africa. At first these were mainly volunteer, commissioned and non-commissioned officers from Germany and most had been previously in the German Imperial Army, but this gradually changed and Boers and Afrikaners did join to help in the fight against the British. These troops might have been infantry or mounted on horses or camels (**fig. 7**) and were characterized by their hats turned up on the right side presumably to be out of the way when aiming a rifle.



Fig 7

A special order stein became available sometime after this from Mettlach (**fig. 8**). These Mettlach steins all had the same decoration, but the designations written around the front scene were customized. You could imagine how rare these steins are and the one in figure 8 is especially rare because it was for a "Betriebs Kompagnie, Schutztruppe, S.W.A., Weihnachten 1905" (railway traffic control detachment, protection troops, South West Africa, Christmas 1905).



Fig 8, A. Ammelounx TSACO.

The Boer-German alliance was strong enough to help determine the sides in WWI. Demonstrating this is another German stein made by Mettlach and designed by Otto Hupp as mold #2718 simply entitled "David and Goliath with Verse" in the 1901 Mettlach catalog (fig. 9). Everyone knows the Biblical story of David and Goliath, but it was SCI Master Steinologist Dr. Theresé Thomas that pointed out that this design was a political satire on the first Boer War in which the

smaller Boer forces, David, defeated the mighty British Goliath. The symbolism on the stein is with Goliath carrying a shield with the British three lions and the slogan "honi soit qui mal y pense" (evil be to him who evil thinks). Another inscription in German reads "Merk die Lehr" (notice the lesson) and the lid (fig.10) has a clenched fist and verse "Mein gutes Recht" (my good right).

However the appearance of the stein by 1901 didn't anticipate that the overwhelming size of the British forces allowed them to squelch the Boers in the second Boer War of 1899-1902 and the Boer republics became part of the British colonies. In 1915 German South West Africa was also taken by the British and the whole became the Union of South Africa. By the end of WWI in 1918 the remaining German colonies in North Africa were forfeited and the rest is history.



Fig 9 and Fig 10 Image credit to A. Ammelounx TSACO.

A beautiful 17th-century example of the European silversmith's art.



Hand-wrought silver tankard. Circa 1685, by silversmith Hans Georg Beltz, Berlin. 79.6 troy ounces; Height: 275 mm.

The piece appears to be solid coin silver, inset with 61 coins, mostly German secular thalers of the numismatically popular "Wild Man" type from Brunswick-Wolfenbittel and Brunswick-Luneburg. Between the coins, the field has something of a matte texture, and ornate reousse flowers and foliage rise through the fields. These are also chased to increase the quality of their detail.

The base is a spreading domed style with nine thalers inset. These range in date from 1606 to 1644. The bottom portion flares out, and is smooth and gilt. The diameter across the base is approximately 197 mm. The top edge of

the base, where it connects to the barrel is also smooth and gilt.

The barrel is approximately 160 mm. tall and 150 mm. in diameter. This part of the piece has 21 thalers inset, all from Brunswick-Wolfenbittel and Brunswick-Luneburg and dating from 1604 to 1654. The top rim of the barrel flares out slightly, has a narrow lip, and is smooth and gilt.

The lid is domed with a broad, gilt lip around. Six Wild Man thalers are inset around the dome with the aforementioned floral design between. At the center is inset an apparent medallic issue of Friedrich Wilhelm (1640-1688), dated 1673. The reverse side of this medal bears the mark G.L., which corresponds to a die cutter named Gottfried Leygebe, who was in service at the Berlin / Kolln Mint from 1667 to 1683. Armorials and inscriptions are also found on the dome. Between the cover and its hinge stands an ornate ball finial with three silver minors of Albrecht III of Brandenburg-Ansbach (1634-1667).

The S-scroll handle is attached at top and bottom. On three sides of the handle are inset a total of 20 coins, some full-size minors being the same type as those on the finial, others have been cut down to fit the narrower lower portion of the handle.

The inside of the tankard is mostly gilt, save for the reverse side of the medal in the dome. At the center of the bottom of the barrel, there is inset a large silver medal of Friedrich Wilhelm.

The marks of the silversmith are found opposite the handle, on the lip of the lid, and on the lower rim of the base. This piece is clearly the fine work of an accomplished silversmith, a display item that will at once delight the numismatist and, equally, would be at home in a fine museum. From a numismatic viewpoint it will be especially appreciated as the thalers shown are early and very important. Indeed, we can easily envision that this will be a centerpiece or a talking point for any enthusiast in the field of European or German coinage.

Reference:

http://www.harrybassfoundation.org/basscatalogs/BASSS_ALE1/b1-3-e.htm