



Desert Steiners

**Our next meeting is Saturday October 31,
2009 in Tucson at:
Ron and Judy Heiligenstein's Home**

Agenda:

11:00-12:00 Talking and looking at what you bring

12:00-01:00 Let's have an enjoyable lunch and conversation with fellow steiners.

01:00-01:15 Club meeting.

01:15-? Main program

Last Meeting:

Spencer and Peggy Wessling did a great job hosting our meeting.

SCI President Phil Masenheimer came down from Tacoma, WA and delivered a great presentation on occupational steins.

Ron Heiligenstein conducted his Prosit quiz. John Piet took the honors.

Next Meeting:

Our speaker will be Master Steinologist Gary Kirsner, co-owner of the Stein Auction Company and a member of the Desert Steiners. Gary will be talking about "price trends of beer steins over the last few years." As co-owner of the leading international stein auction organization, without question he knows his subject. Anyone with an interest in acquiring or disposing any type of steins now or in the future will benefit from his presentation. There will also be plenty of time for questions. This should be one of our most informative programs!

We are hoping that members that go to the SCI convention in Las Vegas can give us a report. There is still time to sign up,

LAST CALL

The Golden Gate Zechers are in their last efforts to promote the SCI convention at the Palace Station Casino and Hotel in Las Vegas. The pre-convention activities are on October 3 & 4, the private auction on the 5th and the convention itself on the October 6, 7 and 8. The registration numbers to date are in line with recent conventions and the host chapter is pressing with a series of

emails to remind those last few undecided convention goers. You know as soon as you let the opportunity go by you're going to wish you hadn't and spend the week thinking about the fun you could have had. So decide to see your old friends and make some new ones.

It is not too late to go. Please contact Arvid Frende at 510-614-8616.

Further, since 31st October is also Halloween, everyone is encouraged to bring his/her scariest stein for showing. Surely everyone has a scary stein - so even if it's just the condition that makes it scary, please join in the fun by bringing your scariest stein. This should be good for plenty of laughs!

Ron Heiligenstein will again conduct his regular Prosit Quiz, so "bone up" on the September 2009 Prosit's contents if you hope to win a surprise prize.

Although many of you have seen Ron Heiligenstein's regimental stein collection, you will have another chance at this meeting. His collection is most impressive, with some people saying it may be the premier regimental stein collection in the U.S. Many of those regimental beer steins featured in S.C.I.'s Prosit over the years, can be seen in this collection. You may also find interesting the Heiligenstein's outstanding collection of fine western art.

Again, we look forward to seeing you on 31st October in Tucson! And don't forget to email the Heiligenstein's (do it now) your intention to attend.

The 2009 Attendance stein will not only be on display, but being the last meeting of the year, it will be given away. It is a ½ liter Mettlach PUG. You can see it at:
<http://www.steincollectors.org/chapters/DesertSteiners/DesertSteiner.html> Only members with up to date dues get a chance at this beautiful stein. Come to this meeting and get one more chance.

Treasury Report:

Balance				Wessling	
from April	+ New Dues	+ Contribution	- Postage/ Supplies	= New Balance	
\$378.59	+ \$20.00	+ \$50.00	- \$14.42	= \$434.17	

Providing an e-mail address gets you the newsletter quicker and the club saves money.

2009 paid membership: Whittemore, Wurst, Richmond, Montemayor, Watts, Wessling, Piet, Pabst(elder), Woods, Heiligenstein, Humphrey, Scheer(elder), Scheer, Hornisher, Kirsner, Scheller, Peters, Phipps, Heater, Bradbury, Stewart, Gray, Isserson, Ellingston, Pabst

2009 dues are due now and are \$10 per family.

Remember: the SCI website: www.steincollectors.org An excerpt from Stein Talk...

The following question was posted :

Is Edelweiss a large white flower that is seen on a lot of steins, if so, what does this flower mean or symbolize?

With the following reply:

I think one of the things it represents is purity. It is literally "noble white". An alpine folktale I came across tells of a man who scaled the highest peak to pluck an edelweiss flower for his maiden--it is located high up, so only the worthy and purest can possess or obtain it. Very symbolic. Highest attainment or something like that.

And this reply:

I would look up Edelweiss on line for fuller discussions of the traditions. It's not so much an abstract symbol as a practical one. It was very much a tradition, mainly 19th century, of the Germanic people in the Alps (Bavaria, Switzerland, Tyrol). Climbing the high peaks to bring back a flower for one's girl was the height of romanticism. It also was the cause of many fatal falls, and led to the flower becoming an endangered species. Edelweiss is now protected from picking in the region (it is a very slow growing plant). Also interestingly, it is now grown commercially in the Canadian Rockies, and it is fairly common in Finland (being further north is similar to being at high altitude). But the Finns have no similar tradition.

Respectfully Submitted, Grace/Don Scheer; don_scheer@hotmail.com; 520/219-4472