



The Gambrinus Gazette

Winter 2012

THE GAMBRINUS STEIN CLUB QUARTERLY

John Manning, Editor

NEXT MEETING: SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2012



Supporters of the 1848 German republic movement hoist black, red, and yellow flags in Berlin.

DICK STROM ON “THE UNEXPECTED” IN STEIN COLLECTING

Our February meeting will be a real treat with our very own Dick Strom discussing a hodge-podge of short stein-related subjects he has encountered in his decades of collecting and research.

As you probably know, Dick is our past-president and is co-chair of the 2012 Convention committee. Dick’s talk will focus on several steins that demonstrate “Things One Never Expected in Stein Collecting,” including:

- Reservist steins associated with one regiment. Examples shown will range from an imperial period original to a Japanese copy of a post-World War II German reproduction, a copy-of-a-copy, so to speak!
- Flag of the German Republic. Steins depicting the flag of the German Republic long before it was established after World War I, and in fact, long before German Reunification. Editor’s note: In the picture above, note the colors of the flag hoisted by German Republic supporters in Berlin during the 1848 Revolution.
- Caveat Emptor? A stein Dick purchased because he thought it was a mistake, but it turned out to be correct – which makes it even more interesting.
- A stein that Dick now believes to be an occupational.

To supplement Dick’s presentation, please bring a stein that was a surprise find or otherwise featured something “unexpected.”

The venue will be the Seven Seas Restaurant in Rockville, MD. Seven Seas has won many awards including being named one of the 100 best Chinese restaurants in the U.S. Lunch is \$25 per person and will feature several family-style entrees, such as: chicken with mushrooms, Peking pork chops, crispy mango beef, shrimp with crabmeat sauce, and complimentary soft drinks and hot tea. Seven Seas also has a full line of imported and domestic beers.

Because the restaurant needs a head count, be sure to send the reservation form and check to John Manning so he receives it by February 7. Thanks!

NEXT GAMBRINUS MEETING FEBRUARY 12, 2012

Seven Seas Restaurant
Federal Plaza Shopping Center
1776 E Jefferson St.
Rockville, MD 20852
(301) 770-5020

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| Noon | Social hour and stein sales |
| 1:00PM | Lunch |
| 2:00PM | Business meeting: Club elections and convention planning |
| | Feature Discussion: Dick Strom on the Unexpected in Stein Collecting |

Secretary's Minutes

John Manning, Editor

The Gambrinus Stein Club convened at Paradiso Restaurant in Alexandria, Virginia, on Saturday, November 12, 2010. Members helped themselves to the bountiful Italian lunch buffet.

2012 SCI Convention Committee Report. Committee chairs Dick Strom and Carol Fox gave an update on the preparations for 2012 SCI Convention that Gambrinus is hosting at the Loews Annapolis Hotel in Annapolis, Maryland on August 15-17, 2012. Program planning is wrapping up:

- Dinner Cruise. The committee has finalized details on the cruise that will feature heavy hors d'oeuvres from the renown Ken's Creative Kitchen.
- Commercial Auction. Fox Auctions will host the commercial auction the day before the convention.
- "German Night." The formal dinner will be a "Chesapeake Feast" featuring local dishes, including world-famous Maryland crabs. The committee reported that Bill Weinig has agreed to work on obtaining a live band for the evening.
- High Tea. The formal tea will be Thursday afternoon at the Maryland Inn Treaty of Paris restaurant.

Carol Fox announced that the week of the convention immediately precedes parent's weekend at the Naval Academy. This means that it is important to book your hotel reservations as soon as possible. The rates guaranteed for the convention are \$119 per night during the week of the convention and \$159 on the Saturday that follows.

As a city that has its roots back to the 17th century, Annapolis was developed before the advent of the automobile. This means that in addition to being very historic, downtown Annapolis is "walking friendly" -- all the restaurants, bars, and entertainment venues are nearby and conventioners will not have to worry about transportation. The Loews has a full-service concierge desk that will help get you where you want to be.

Dick also commented on the resort-style "e-Cruisers" that provide complimentary transportation between the Loews Hotel and a number of fantastic local restaurants.

Nominating Committee Report. The Nominating Committee announced it's slate of officers for voting on the February Meeting. As all officers agreed to stay on for another term, the committee nominated for president, Barney; vice-president, Judy Stuart; treasurer, Chris Schaefer; and secretary, John Manning.

As always, nominations will be accepted from the floor during the February meeting.



Long-time Gambrinian and former Gambrinus President **Roger Goll** has complications stemming from prior surgery. Although I heard he is at home, he and his family would appreciate cards and phone calls. Feel free to send Roger a note or card at his address: 13314 Vanessa Avenue, Bowie, Maryland 20720. We wish Roger the best in his recovery!

President **Barney** suffered a stroke early last fall that took about a quarter of his vision in both eyes and therefore proscribes him from driving a car. Dick Strom and I went out to see Barney and he was making a steady recovery and looking great. Although Barney is still the great talker we all know, it takes time for him to read or write at the computer. Please feel free to send Barney your thoughts and well-wishes by giving him a call on (540)888-4888.



**GAMBRINUS
IS ON
FACEBOOK!**



<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?v=wall&gid=360598303625>



**DUES
DUES
DUES**

Gambrinus Stein Club dues are \$10.00 per year or \$25.00 for three years. If you have not yet paid your dues, please send a check payable to Gambrius Stein Club to our treasurer, **Chris Schaefer**.

Germany Meets China: Tsingtao Beer at the Seven Seas Restaurant

John Manning, Editor

The February meeting is the perfect venue to partake in some refreshment celebrating the sometimes-forgotten German experience in China, compliments of Tsingtao Beer.

On November 1, 1897, a Chinese paramilitary group called the “Big Swords Society” killed a pair of German priests in Juye, China. In response, Kaiser Wilhelm II, anxious to expand Germany’s presence in Asia, sent a nearby cruiser squadron to the harbor town of Tsingtao (now Qingdao), China. The squadron’s energetic commander, Admiral Ernst Otto von Diederichs (Figure 1), understood the dispatch to be an order to take and occupy Tsingtao.



Figure 1. Admiral von Diederichs, who led the German naval squadron into Tsingtao Bay in 1897.

On November 14, 1897, the squadron landed quietly at dawn on the town’s long pier, the Zhan Qiao, even though the ships expected heavy Chinese resistance. An armed amphibious force of over 700 sailors ran up the pier and quickly took over the town’s artillery battery and a special unit disabled the telegraph lines to the town. These actions surprised the just-waking, probably very confused, inhabitants of Tsingtao.

Later that day, the Germans restored the telegraph line and received coded messages from Berlin ordering them to suspend operations at Tsingtao pending negotiations with China. Von Diederichs, thinking that middle-level bureaucrats lost their nerve, replied that the town was already taken and that “... Revocation not possible.” After an uneasy silence, Berlin returned, “Congratulations” and Von Diederichs was promoted to vice admiral.

In March 1898, the German Empire formally acquired a 99-year lease on the town and surrounding area from the Qing Dynasty. The area under the lease at the time had 83,000 people. Tsingtao was officially placed under German protection by imperial decree on April 27, 1898.



Figure 2. A postcard from Tsingtao, circa 1910. Note the Prussian eagle behind the traditionally dressed Chinese children.

Tsingtao quickly became the home base to the German Navy’s East Asia Squadron. Once municipal and military duties were delegated, in August 1903 German settlers established the first brewery in China, the Tsingtao Brewery, to provide much-needed refreshment to the naval base.

Although Germany ultimately ceded all rights to Tsingtao (which was renamed Qingdao) after World War I, the country’s 19th-century adventure in China is most evident today by the continued success of the Tsingtao Brewery. The brewery is still headquartered in Qingdao, which now is a city of over 3 million people. Its logo features the Zhan Qiao, the same pier that the Germans landed on in November 1897 (Figure 3). Still using the yeast derived from the original batch from Germany in 1903, Tsingtao is the top-selling beer in China and has become one of the country’s most valuable exports. As of 2008, Tsingtao was the the 6th largest brewery in the world.

So, come to the February meeting and taste some German history by filling your stein with Tsingtao beer at the Seven Seas!



Figure 3. The logo of Tsingtao beer featuring a head-on view of the Zhan Qiao pier.

1



Note: Examples shown are part of the famous “From Which To Drink” Collection

These two pages contain a sample of the two dozen tankards Stephen Smith presented to Gambrinus at the November 2011 meeting. Steve’s informative talk stressed the nuances between drinking vessels made in different regions of Europe and how to identify specific steins. **Russ Keiser, Carl Cotting, Tom Fox, John Manning, and Dennis Hunsicker** brought pieces to compliment Steve’s talk.

Accompanying the talk was a 15-page color hand-out Steve and Dennis compiled for each stein discussed. Descriptions are, counter-clockwise:

1. **Copper World War I Military Service Stein.** Hand made and named for a German soldier, 1916. Excellent engraving, an Iron Cross on the lid, and quite heavy. Bullet shell used as a thumbblift. An artillery shell “copper rifling strip” decorates the handle and the body.
2. **Bohemian Copper Wine Server.** Circa 1700s. 14”, features a brass finial and five armorials. Most likely a very nice wedding present.

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BRASS, COPPER, & BRONZE DRINKING VESSELS

STEPHEN LEE SMITH, NOVEMBER 2011

3. **Military Presentation Copper Stein.** 16.5", description indicating it was a Christmas (1887) present from the 110th Infantry Regiment to another regiment for "thankful memories." Unusual.
4. **Copper Clad Steins.** Late 1800s. Copies of early Siegburg steins. A flux was used to adhere copper to the ceramic stein body by electro-plating.
5. **Bronze Stein.** 1860, 1.5L, very heavy. Made by the "lost wax" process. Given as a gift to a professor for assistance in a grape blight.
6. **Munich Copper Stein.** 4.75" tall. Art Deco style with a molded "egg shell" type design and crimped lid edge. Molded brass thumb lift with cast finial to keep the stein from tilting over. Relief of the Schutzenliesl, or "Target Girl" on lid.

Again, this is just a sampling of the steins shown by Steve to the club. For more information, go to Steve's compendium of beer stein information, www.steveonsteins.com.



<http://www.steveonsteins.com/>

