

Ho Ho Ho, A Santa Mystery

by Harold Brandenburg

Sometime in September, a no-handle Santa Milk size pitcher was listed on eBay. The seller, who lives in Germany, called the piece a candy container. This piece had three small holes drilled in Santa's pack. One hole on either side and one in the back. They were uniformly placed and close to the rim. The holes appear to have been drilled at the factory prior to painting. The seller who is a toy seller, believed this to be true.

This piece was purchased by Jim Deibert, a member of RBCC and a very advanced collector of RB figurals. Jim was very helpful to me by supplying pictures and opinions on rare figurals for my talk in Pittsburgh. The Deiberts have in their collection a Santa Lemonade with the same configuration of holes. Jim called the seller in Germany and he disclosed that in his opinion this piece was a candy container and he listed it as such. The purpose for the holes he stated was to hang Santa up for display. The pack was filled with candy and covered with a piece of material. Anyone who can add any information to the above please forward it to our editor who will pass it on to our Membership. Merry Christmas to one and all!



Santa Spotted in Pittsburgh



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www.royalbayreuth.org

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2007 RBCC Convention

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania • September 27, 28 & 29



More photos on Page 11.

President's Letter

by Sandy Heerhold

Once again we are approaching the winter season. Today is a good day to write this letter as our weather is gloomy, cold and damp. Not much can be done outside today.

Judging by comments from our members during convention and various e-mails received since, our 2007 convention was a great success! Many people contributed to make this happen. You all know who you are, and for that, I thank you. We had a good amount of items placed in our auction, and although the prices were lower in most cases dollar-wise, we had a very small number of unsold pieces. Hopefully in future auctions when the market picks up for RB, we can improve the dollar amount overall.

The facility, Embassy Suites in Pittsburgh, was great. Their staff was easy to work with and very accommodating. Thank you Sonja for making my job easy. Rooms were clean, spacious and up to date. The manager's reception was exceptional. Cooked-to-order breakfast was very good, something tasty there for everyone.

At our ice cream social this year, we were fortunate to have the Pittsburgh Banjo Club perform. For a minimal charge, there were approximately 20 band members, ranging in age from 7 to 92. Their fees are donated to charity. The band was amazingly talented and well received by all. Too soon, their fun-filled program was completed. We had additional entertainment at our banquet for 2007. After enjoying a terrific meal, we were entertained by Lou Schreiber, a keyboardist, and Vinny Vegas, a vocalist. This duo played

lots of classic lounge music, and serenaded every table to our amusement!

Our variety of programs piqued member's interest. Thank you to Harold Brandenburg for his program on rare figurals. Becky Conrad shared a snippet on her area of expertise, Sunbonnets. Roberta and Alvin Cappel had a beautiful and diverse display on tomatoes. This included various information along with an excellent BLT dip with crackers. Bev Brumbaugh took us along on his porcelain factory tours, Terry Anderson educated us on puzzle jugs, and I think Ida did a program on Fred. (Actually Ida provided us information on the Jester series)!

I would like to thank the retiring board; Becky Conrad, Carolyn Church, Karen Church, Kat Thacker. I would also like to welcome their replacements; Harold Brandenburg and Chris Bartlett as directors, Onita Pierce as Secretary and Harriet Land as Treasurer. We once again have a capable group to make club decisions.

We have now moved on to the planning stages for our 2008 convention. If anyone would like to volunteer in any capacity, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Each year our club has been in existence, we have continually made improvements. This past year our biggest improvements have been in our Web site, royalbayreuth.org, and our club newsletter. The credit for both of those go to the Thackers, thank you Kat and Gregg.

Thanks to all of you who contributed to make our 2007 Convention a success!

Secretary's Message

by Onita Pierce/via Kat Thacker

Hi RBCC members. I would like to introduce you to your new club Secretary, Onita Pierce. She comes from South Carolina via NYC, and got introduced to the RBCC through her brother and sister-in-law, Terry and Mary Anderson. A club member since 2001, she told me she really does not have any specialty or favorite RB pattern/type that she collects, because she loves it all! Her first duty as Secretary is to remind you that DUES ARE DUE!

Please send them, along with any membership changes/corrections to:

Onita Pierce
RBCC Secretary
205 Candlewick Loop
McCormick, SC 29835
Phone: (864) 391-2652
E-mail: okp205@wctel.net.

Add Your Current E-Mail to the Roster

Hopefully everyone received your updated club roster in the June mailing. If you did not receive a copy, or if you have corrections, please contact our new Secretary, Onita Pierce (okp205@wctel.net). Approximately 2/3 of the club provide an e-mail address, we encourage you to provide your current e-mail address to Onita.

Royal Bayreuth Wanted

Lid for a 3 3/4" tall
small Apple Teapot
(#451 in Mary's first book)
Contact Steve Bartlett
Dufferdog@aol.com
or (401) 885-5889

Thank You

by Chris Bartlett

To our Royal Bayreuth friends, thank you so much for the wonderful get well card from the convention and the Bovine Bistro care package. We missed everyone so much! Thanks too for the many cards, e-mails, calls and notes of support and encouragement we have received since my breast cancer diagnosis. I have a long treatment schedule ahead but with a positive attitude and the support of so many I will win this fight! We'll see you all in Columbus.

Health Update

by Chris Bartlett

Hi Royal Bayreuth friends, just wanted to give you an update on how I am doing. Again, we sure missed seeing everyone in Pittsburgh but will be all set for Columbus in 2008!

We had very good news from the breast surgeon who we saw yesterday. The four dense dose chemo sessions which I have had over the last eight weeks have effectively shrunk both the breast lump and the lymph nodes. So the doctor is now talking about only needing to do a lumpectomy instead of a mastectomy. I now undergo 12 weeks of chemo starting next Wednesday of Taxol and Herceptin which will take me to the end of January. Surgery will probably take place in mid February and then there will be radiation and a year of Herceptin and hormone therapy. Still a long road ahead but we were thrilled to have such positive results already.

I still have some hair - doesn't take much time to wash or blow dry these few strands though! More will probably fall out but for now I am comfortable just wearing a hat and not a wig. And I tolerated the first round of chemo with very little nausea or side effects and I am optimistic that this next round will continue to do well.

Again, thank you so much for your cards and well wishes - it means so much!

Royal Bayreuth Collector's Club Treasurer's Annual Report

by Carolyn Church

October 9, 2006- September 25, 2007

Receipts

Balance 10/9/06	\$14,736.55
Membership Dues (New & Renewal)	4,340.00
Convention Registrations & Meal Fees	3,728.74
Auction (2006)	42,692.00
Plaques	205.00
Hospitality Room	40.00
File Purchase	20.00
Balance 10/9/06 Plus Receipts	65,762.29

Disbursements

Convention Expenses:

Return of Convention Fees	170.00
Packing House Restaurant	599.22
Welcome Bag Expenses	218.89
Four Points Sheraton	1,984.18
Printing Supplies	54.84
Embassy Suites Hotel (2007 convention)	500.00
Postage for Raffle Baskets	30.00
Total Convention Expenses	3,557.13

Postage 126.63

Supplies 93.35

Hospitality Room (2006) 40.00

Auction:

Net Proceeds to Sellers	39,985.00
Hotel Room for Auctioneer	108.87
Travel Expenses for Auction Pieces	119.08
Total Auction Expenses	40,212.95
Plaque Expenses (E-bay Fees and Postage)	69.06

Entertainment:

Those Funny Little People	400.00
Jerry Little (clown)	50.00
Total Entertainment Expense	450.00

Newsletter 4,285.15

Web site 475.00

Miscellaneous:

Convention Site Selection Expenses	161.18
Plaques for Outgoing Board Members	51.84
Northfield Insurance Agency (Bond for Treasurer)	170.10
Total Miscellaneous Expenses	383.12

Disbursements Total. \$49,692.39

Balance 10/9/06 Plus Receipts. \$65,762.29

Total Disbursements. \$49,692.39

Checkbook Balance 9/25/07 \$16,069.90

Post Convention Comments from Your VP

by Terry Anderson

Thanks, thanks, thanks, to everyone for such great support - I hope not to miss anyone!

- Hospitality - what can we say, SUPERB!
- Web site - it's the best it has ever been. And they want to make it better?
- Entertainment - banjos and a crooner, hope you enjoyed both.
- Newsletter - bang-up job.
- Show and Tell - participants had great items.
- Programs - They were all interesting and covered a variety of subjects. Fred did a nice job - you should have been there!
- Registration - smooth.
- Lunch - sandwich with coleslaw, OK. With fries, I don't know-but fun.



Everyone stepped up to the plate when tasks came up. No one had to be cajoled into taking on officer or board duties. I believe that the Embassy Suites format contributed a lot to our cohesion as a club. Beverages and hors d'oeuvres brought us all together each evening and a breakfast buffet gathered us all in the morning. With this and the hospitality room and events, how could you not get closer to all the varied people that came to share their passion for RB?

You all made Sandy's and my jobs a lot easier. Spread the word and let's make next year's convention in Columbus the MUST BE place for RB lovers. Thanks for your support for another year.

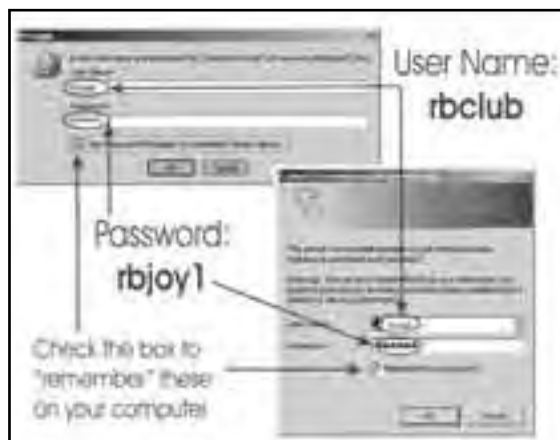
Hey, did you know the cow's eyes light up when you write?

Web Site News

by Gregg Thacker

I appreciate the wonderful feedback regarding the Web site while in Pittsburgh! Hopefully the Web site was able to deliver some of the convention excitement to those that could not attend this year. Within a few days of the event we had over 180 photos available on-line – with 90 more added a few weeks later. This year, we also added images from some of the presentations – including photos from the first RB convention. We sent alerts about the web updates to everyone in the roster with a valid e-mail address so they could get an early peek. If you did not receive any e-mail updates please send a note to editor@royalbayreuth.org.

Since launching in March we have had nearly 5000 unique visitors and more than 103,000 views! We have good (and free) placement on Google



and Yahoo when someone searches for Royal Bayreuth. E-mail inquiries from people outside the club are increasing and hopefully we can convert some of those inquiries to members!

As a reminder, the User name is still "rbclub" and the Password is "rbjoy1". Above is an image of how to access the site. If you are having trouble the Web site send me a note at editor@royalbayreuth.org. Warm wishes for wonderful holidays!

Dear Royal Bayreuth Friends...

by Joanne Lundquist
and Paul Stratman

Another convention year has come and gone. The Bovine Bistro has shut it's doors to reopen as something else next year. We really want to thank everyone for all the work they put into helping, it sure was a sign that many hands make little work.

We hope that everyone had as good a time as we did. We especially wish to thank Sandy and Chuck who let us use the room that they were staying in and did not once tell us to leave or be quiet. Sandy was the greatest, she went shopping with us and never once told us what to do ... now that is something!

This past convention was one of our more memorable, we loved seeing everyone and especially those of you we had not seen in awhile. We appreciate everything that Kat and Gregg did to help us and know it was a lot of work. Those of you who brought stuff to fill our faces with thank you, thank you, thank you.

We will now leave next year's room to the able hands of Roberta and Alvin. I am sure they will come up with something terrific as they always do.

We will be moving on to our next job (why do I always say yes?) to fill some positions on the Board. However, since we have finally gotten Sandy trained, if she thinks that she is getting away with saying "NO" to another term as President she can forget it! Sure would make the nomination job easier for this old moooooooooooooo cow and friend. Yours in cud chewing... see you next year!

Club Auction News

by Chuck Heerhold

We would like to thank all the members who submitted pieces for the Royal Bayreuth Collectors Club Auction.

These members put reasonable reserves on the pieces they submitted and we had a record low number of pieces that were unsold. Out of approximately 150 auction pieces, less than ten were not sold. This is a big hurrah to all our bidding members and to the variety of pieces put up for auction.

Due to the fact that we finally got an excellent Web site put together by Gregg Thacker with help from his wife Kat, RBCC editor, we were able to display many of the auction items on the site. Our old Web site didn't allow us to do these things in the past (thanks Gregg and Kat for your help in making this auction a success).

I would also like to thank my right hand man, Roger Lundquist and a host of other members that offered their assistance. The nice thing was that everyone was willing to give a hand. This auction and convention reminded me of the first ones we had back when we formed the club back in the mid-nineties.

It is impossible to give enough thanks to our Auctioneer Rollie Rosenboom and his wife Ruth. Rollie is a big reason this auction was a success and Ruth is the reason for the smooth paperwork flow. They have been responsible for RBCC auctions for about 10 successful years and I hope we all come to Columbus in 2008 and make that auction even better than this year's.

At this time, I would like to introduce you to next years auction chairman, Bev Brumbaugh. Actually Bev needs no introduction, as he has also served in many capacities on the board of directors. Welcome Bev, and thanks for your help this year. Thanks again to everybody for their support.

Editor's Message

by Kat Thacker

Happy Holidays to all fellow RBCCers!

In the spirit of Christmas, check out the amazing RB Santa "candy container" information sent in by our long-time member Harold Brandenburg. He shared lots of rare figural items with us during the convention - fascinating! Did you know that RB made white Santas as well? That would be something mighty nice to come down your chimney this year!

I will go on the record to say how wonderful our 2007 Convention was this past September! Everything went very smoothly throughout the three-plus days. Club President Sandy Heerhold did a great job of organizing all the details long-distance, with local help from the Churches. We had a very good turn-out and lots of fun with members old and new. The hotel was well suited to our club's needs: between the free breakfasts and Manager's receptions we got to catch up on all the latest news with friends. Our hospitality room, the "Bovine Bistro" was fabulous and always packed with goodies (Great job Joanne, Paul and crew!) This year's educational programs were full of variety and good information for all levels and types of collectors. After seeing the Cappel's incredible Tomato collection, I was inspired to start looking more carefully for those items. Both the ice cream social and club banquet had great entertainment - everyone especially loved the Pittsburgh Banjo Club!

Our club Auction was loaded with a wide variety of pieces thanks to Auction Chair Chuck Heerhold. A record-breaking number of lots sold on that Friday evening - the reserves were low enough that even beginning collectors were able to purchase multiple pieces. As wonderful as it is to see the rare pieces at every convention, it's also nice to actually get to take something home you could afford to purchase from the event! Speaking of purchasing, I have prints from



this year's (and past) convention art for sale again. Our theme this year was "cows" so check out the Warhol-inspired art in this issue. Just send me an e-mail if you're interested, and I'll be happy to send prices and sizes available. (editor@royalbayreuth.org)

In wrapping up convention thoughts, all the volunteers and chairs need a big round of applause for their hard work behind the scenes. These events require a lot of commitment and many members rose to the occasion to put together a first-rate convention! A special thanks to Janet Belcher who took over the mind-numbing job of Recording Secretary - nice job Janet! Please consider signing up to help with next year's event in Columbus.

At the close of 2007 I would like to thank everyone who submitted the excellent articles, interesting story ideas, and great photos! We REALLY need YOUR ideas for future stories in this newsletter. Photos are also appreciated - they can be used on our club Web site as well. Any stories you would like us to rerun or update from past issues? Let us know. We can't put this newsletter together without your input, any ideas at all are considered, so don't hesitate in sending your stuff!

RBCC Board Meeting Minutes

by Janet Belcher

Saturday, September 29, 2007 • 3:30 p.m.

Meeting called to order by President Sandy Heerhold.

Attendees:

Sandy Heerhold, President
Terry Anderson, Vice President
Onita Pierce, Secretary
Harriet Land, Treasurer
Board members: Harold Brandenburg, Alvin Cappel, Mary McCaslin, Ida Parrott, and Nancy Rublaitus.
Christine Bartlett, absent

Sandy welcomed the new board members and thanked them for their willingness to serve.

Hotel sites for future conventions: Decisions need to be made for 2009 and 2010. Sandy will recontact the Double Tree and Hilton in Memphis, TN for the 2009 convention since the membership is willing to spend money on meeting rooms. It will be a board decision to select the hotels for future conventions. The Pere Marquette in Peoria, IL is still a consideration for 2010.

Auction Reserve Bidding: After an informal discussion with auctioneer Rollic Rosenboom, it is recommended that the reserve bidding be done by the persons consigning the pieces. Any errors would then be their responsibility. The club should have no liability for sold pieces as it is a deal between seller and buyer.

2008 Convention: The Ohio convention will be hosted by Roberta and Alvin Cappel and several programs are already obtained.

Newsletter Editor Report by Kat

Thacker: There was much discussion concerning advertising in the newsletter

to draw attention to the Web site and club auction. Already using the "wanted" list and "items for sale" and board did not think that it was appropriate to sell ad space. Free ads will be for members only, limited to business card size, and related to Royal Bayreuth. With board permission, Kat may add articles from the newsletter on the public Web site as a sample or teaser for those checking out the site. The private area will remain for members only. Sandy Heerhold will work with the editor on details and submit to the board for approval.

Kat needs a current e-mail list in order to notify members of auctions or other information by mass e-mails. She also requested links to auction houses to add to the Web site, with their permission. There is a need for someone to answer queries posted on the RB site. The newsletter will be given a face lift in the near future.

There was a request to have a scheduled room visitation on next years program.

Mary McCaslin volunteered to give new members a welcome call to get acquainted and they will be sent a porcelain plaque.

Alvin Cappel inquired about the dollar amount allowable for the gift bags. Now set by budget to \$10 per bag.

Onita Pierce inquired as to what to do with the excess of supplies from past conventions. Was told to give them away at convention, reuse what she can or throw away. She noted that there are plenty of name lanyards for future use.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectively submitted by Janet Belcher

Royal Bayreuth Jesters

by Ida Parrot

"Clowning around" had a much more serious overtones than it does today.

Indeed, to be successful in the job of King's Fool the holder had to be anything but a fool in the modern sense of the word.

The Royal Bayreuth Jester pieces with the sayings attributed to Charles Noke were probably "borrowed" by the factory to enhance their sales to tourists and travelers everywhere in English-speaking world

Charles John Noke was a gifted ceramic designer at the Royal Worcester factory and later became the senior designer and modeler for Royal Doulton from 1889.

Bits of wisdom appearing on both Royal Doulton and Royal Bayreuth pieces include:

"Welcome Is the Best Cheer"

"More Than Enough Is Too Much"

"Kiss the Child for the Nurses Sake"

"A Kindly Word Cools Anger"

"Never Say Die. Up Man and Try"

"Come and Welcome. Pass-By and No Offence"

"Penny in Pocket Makes a Merry Companion"

Collecting Jester pieces is serious business as they come in many sizes, shapes, and items.

**Deadline for the next
(March) issue is
February 10, 2008.**

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of Royal Bayreuth or any other print topic.*

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RBCC Annual Business Meeting Minutes

by Janet Belcher

Saturday, September 29, 2007 • 9:00 a.m.

The annual business meeting was called to order by President Sandy Heerhold. She extended thanks to everyone for all the help in making the convention a success.

The secretary's report by Karen Church stated that there are 160 members, down from 182. Eight new members have been added in the past year and 29 removed from the roster. Illinois and California have the highest membership. There are 63 attendees at this convention and 46 to attend the banquet.

Motion to accept the report as given by Judy Stockwell. Seconded by Alan Belcher and passed.

The treasurer's report was given by Carolyn Church. The printed annual report was handed out showing a balance of \$16,069.90 as of 9/25/07. Motion to accept by Paul Stratman and seconded by Joanne Lundquist. Motion passed. The auction results at this time are \$14,420 plus the 5% buyers fee making total of \$14,721.

Audit done by Alvin Cappel and Alan Belcher indicates that receipts and check-book balance. Treasurer's report is accurate. Motion to accept report by Bob McCaslin, seconded by Bobbie Jo Brumbaugh.

The membership fee is currently \$30 and it was suggested that it remain so. Motion to accept by Dottie Earle, seconded by Chuck Heerhold.

Next years convention will be held in Dublin, Ohio on September 25, 26, and 27 2008 at the Embassy Suites with a room rate of \$104 per night. Roberta and Alvin Cappel will be hosting.

New Business: The convention days will remain Thurs. through Sat. at this time as it seems more favorable to the membership.

Chuck Heerhold thanked the members for all their help with the auction. A question was asked concerning who was bidding the reserve bids. Chuck answered that some owners were bidding their own reserves and some club members were bidding for other owners with the reserves unknown to the bidders. It was suggested that there be auction "spotters" to help Rollie and catch all reserve bids.

Newsletter editor Kat Thacker would appreciate help with articles, ideas and photos. Please update current e-mail address for her. Once again, Paul Stratman recognized Kat

and Gregg for an outstanding job well done.

Auction chairman for 2008 will be Bev Brumbaugh.

Nominating committee will be headed by Joanne Lundquist.

Joanne Lundquist expressed appreciation for all the help and donations for the hospitality room. A sincere thanks to Kat Thacker for all her art work, decorations and printed materials.

Bob Gollmar and Ida Parrott reported on the concern of staggering the election of officers for one year to balance the terms of office. Motion made by Bob Gollmar "to keep a staggered balance of experience on the board, at the 2007 election only, the term of office for President and Vice President will be 1 year." Motion to accept by Chuck Heerhold, seconded by Joanne Lundquist and passed.

Alvin Cappel presented the slate of officers for 2008.

President: Sandy Heerhold - for one year term

Vice President: Terry Anderson - for one year term

Secretary: Onita Pierce

Treasurer: Harriet Land

Board Members: Christine Bartlett, Harold Brandenburg, and Nancy Rublaitus

There were no other candidates presented from the floor.

Motion to accept the slate of officers as presented made by Bob McCaslin, seconded by Ida Parrott, motion passed. Officers were elected and introduced to the members.

Auction policy change concerning someone wishing to sell a large collection at convention was explained by Sandy Heerhold. At the Thursday afternoon board meeting, a motion was made by Becky Conrad stating "for an auction at convention consisting of 15 or more pieces, the seller must have been a member in good standing for 3 previous years or will be charged a 15% sellers fee." Discussion followed with members feeling that the fee is penalizing those that want to submit pieces, especially quality items. Could add to the motion "at the board's discretion" or consider the fee as a "service charge".

Motion presented called for a vote by Bev Brumbaugh to membership and motion voted down.

There was a suggestion to develop a method for a non member to pay a service fee for selling items at the club auction. Motion made by Bob Gollmar to table any further discussion and leave the decision concerning the selling of auction pieces by a non member to the auction chairman and executive board. Seconded by Bob McCaslin, motion passed.

Judy Stockwell inquired about having a speaker from Germany that she has heard about who is knowledgeable about Royal Bayreuth and has spent time at the Tettau factory. He may be in the New England area. She may try to contact him for a possible program.

Roberta Cappel mentioned that she would love to have the program again on "shoes" that was presented before by Anne Wojtkowski.

Budget items were addressed by Sandy Heerhold. The current budget allows \$700 for entertainment and \$800 for hospitality which includes the gift bags, decorations, and printed items. She recommended that the budget for 2008 remain the same. Motion to accept the budget made by Bob McCaslin. Seconded by Dottie Earle, motion passed. Since we have adequate money in the treasury, the members approved of spending money for the meeting rooms and necessary food service fees in order to find a suitable site for future conventions.

Nancy Rublaitus mentioned that press releases for the convention and club membership have been done by mailings and e-mails. Members should save any noticed articles and send to historian Harriet Lavine.

There is a need for someone to secure entertainment for the 2008 convention in Ohio. Contact Roberta and Alvin Cappel with ideas, possibly checking local music departments or ideas from the hotel.

Sandy Heerhold concluded the meeting with words of thanks for all the help in making the convention a success.

A schedule for room visitation by floors was announced. Reminders to sign the greeting cards in the hospitality room and purchase raffle tickets for the drawing to be held at the evening banquet.

Meeting adjourned at 10:35 a.m.
Respectively submitted by Janet Belcher

Our Annual Royal Bayreuth Trip

by Fred Zumthurn and Ida Parrott

If the leaves are starting to turn, it must be time for the Annual Royal Bayreuth Collectors Convention.

This year's convention found us in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. We knew of Pittsburgh only from its colorful team names such as Pirates, Panthers, Penguins, Steelers, and the Xplosion!

We did not know what a marvelous softer and more genteel side awaited us.

In fact, Pittsburgh was just voted #1 in the top "10 most livable cities in America" in the annual Rand-McNally survey.

So Pittsburgh has many wonderful tourist attractions starting off with the beautiful 19 room mansion of the Bayernhof Music Museum, which was the highlight of the excursion planned by Joanne and Roger Lundquist.

W-O-W is the only way to describe it. In fact more information can be seen

on their Web site at www.bayernhofmuseum.com.

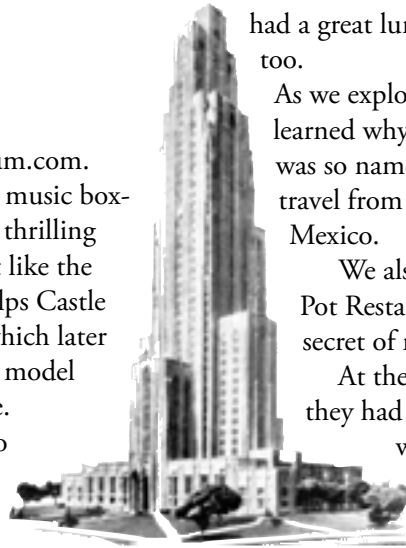
Besides world-class music boxes, it also boasted of a thrilling man-made cavern just like the one in the Bavarian Alps Castle of Neuschwanstein, which later became Walt Disney's model for the fairyland castle.

Then we were off to Lidia's World Famous Italian Dishes - delicious and yummy.

We enjoyed the programs - The music, singing, and the laughter, too.

We also enjoyed the daily omelet breakfasts and waffles and nightly Manger's receptions at the Embassy suites - a great place plus it saved time, money, and gas!

Fred enjoyed the ice cream and we



had a great lunch at Primanti Brothers, too.

As we explored Pittsburgh, we learned why Three Rivers Stadium was so named and that one could travel from Ohio to the Gulf of Mexico.

We also went to the Melting Pot Restaurant, where I learned the secret of making good fondue.

At the Redbeard Restaurant, they had the best home-made

warm German potato salad, which of course goes great with home-town brew.

Of course, we always enjoy the auction --- fun and excitement, especially with Rollie Rosenboom.

All of our friends and favorite Royal Bayreuthers were in attendance, too.

All in all, we both agreed that Pittsburgh turned out to be a really nice surprise.

Musings of an Advanced Collector

by Judy White

Baraboo, Wisconsin is famous for being the birthplace of the five Ringling brothers, who in the late 1800s started the circus that we all know. What we don't know is that there were five Gollmar brothers who also were born there and who also started a circus, a railroad circus that traveled until 1916. One of these brothers was the grandfather of Bob Gollmar, another notorious citizen from Baraboo.

In addition to his interest in porcelain, Bob is still very involved with the circus world, volunteering as an ambassador at the circus museum a couple of days a week from May until Labor Day each year, and has done so for at least 20 years. He loves the wonderful circus wagons and artifacts from another time. I had heard about the famous annual circus parade in Milwaukee, but Bob said that no longer occurs. Because it costs from \$200,000 to \$300,000 to put that parade on, there is only a very occasional

one in Baraboo these days.

Anyone who has been to a convention knows Bob from his continued involvement with the Hospitality Room each year, often the chairperson, but always a mean cookie chef. Though he didn't come to the pre-RB group meeting in Orville, OH that got our club going, Bob has attended every convention that we have had.

I have known Bob all these years because we have both been involved in the RS Prussia club as well as in the Royal Bayreuth group. I was always eager to see Bob's sale displays in his room and wondered where in the northern Midwest he was able to find such choice items. I lived at that time in the Midwest and didn't come across them, but despite some broad hints, Bob never did reveal his sources!

Bob has been collecting antiques for quite a while, following in his father's footsteps. His dad collected moustache

cups. Acquiring some RS Prussia pieces and then Royal Bayreuth, Bob started as a dealer when his sister and her husband bought a motel in the Wisconsin Dells area and asked him to go into business with them. In this resort area the small shop they set up by the office did a pretty good business for nine years.

After that, Bob got into doing shows by himself. He told me about his first show at the Denver fairgrounds, which had just closed a cat show prior to the antique market. By the time he had set up his booth, he had cat hair all over his navy pants; he doesn't remember that he sold anything at that show. He met Jim Fisher, however, who urged him to do the Cedar Rapids show. He was admitted as a dealer but it took years to work himself up to a prime spot from the back of the buildings. He sold Wavecrest, Havilland, RS Prussia and Bayreuth. He started with the scenic RB pieces because he liked them better and could find

Continued on Page 10...

... *Musings continued from Page 9.*

them at a good price, not like the figurals which seemed so high priced. He agreed with me that we do seem to have a history of "buy high, sell low," not the ideal way to do business.

While his wife is not a collector, she does enjoy day trips and can spot an unmarked piece easily, recognizing the decorations and molds. Bob himself has no favorites and is a true dealer in that he said he could "let anything go." He bought only what he liked and enjoyed it while he had it. He does think he made better buys on the unmarked pieces as dealers often didn't know what they had, even not recognizing the Deponiert mark.

The best part of his involvement is this business has been meeting the people and making good friends. He belongs to regional organizations as well as the two clubs and has served on Boards and held offices. He hopes that these groups keep going. He sees our numbers going down because the young people aren't interested in this merchandise; they didn't grow up with it. He will continue to come to the conventions, probably enjoying them more now that he has reduced his inventory and won't be "trapped in his room" as any of you single sellers can appreciate with no one to watch the merchandise while you browse and socialize.

We talked of the future of auctions at our meetings. We have seen that the long-timers already have most of what they want and it is difficult to find rare items to sell.

Our conversation ended as we talked of the many "characters" we had met in this field over the years. Bob recalled one, a grumpy old guy who wanted to buy something from him at the Cedar Rapids show. He was trying to get a better price and asked Bob, "What can you do for a poor farmer?" After the guy had left, his friend Jim told him that the "poor farmer" owned six farms. We agreed that you certainly can't tell much about these china collectors from their demeanor or dress. But then, we are all always looking for that Great Buy.

Origin of Gemma Mark

by Cathern James

NOTE FROM EDITOR: This information came in response from Cathern James regarding the Gemma Mark question. Thanks C.J.!

Hello Bayreuthers,

A question came up from RBCC member Ken Russell, Dunedin, New Zealand (pg 7, Vol 12, Issue 3, September 2007): "Can any of our readers offer a clue as to the origin of the GEMMA mark?" Here is the answer to the question. I'm sure there are other references, but at least one of these should be readily available to our US members. For Ken's benefit, I am quoting the Wojtkowski text. If this is further quoted, please assure credit is fully included (ref 3, below).

- 1) Kovel, Ralph and Terry. Kovel's New Dictionary of Marks: Pottery & Porcelain 1850 to the Present. New York: Crown Publishers, Inc., 1986, page 112, mark C.
- 2) Rontgen, Robert E. Marks on German, Bohemian, and Austrian Porcelain: 1710 to the Present. Atglen, PA: Schiffer Publishing, Ltd., 1997, page 118, mark 766, text on page 374.
- 3) Wojtkowski, Anne Everest. Porcelain and Pottery Shoes. Atglen, PA: Schiffer Publishing, Ltd., 2004, page 214 under heading Schmidt Victoria; factory marks with color plates, pp. 180-183. Page 214, Reference 3 from former club member Anne Wojtkowski is quoted below in its entirety:

"Schmidt Victoria. Porzellanfabrik Victoria aka Prozellanfabrik "Victoria" Schmidt & Co. aka Charles Schmidt & Co. aka Schmidt Victoria., Altrohlau, Bohemia (now Stara Role, Czechia), 1883-1945. The Charles Schmidt porcelain factory was established in 1883 in Altrohlau, near Karlsbad (or Carlsbad), then in Bohemia (Karlsbad, Bohemia is now Korlovy Vary, Czechia). The region around Karlsbad was the center of the Bohemian porcelain industry in the late 1800s and early 1900s. Many companies included either Karlsbad or Carlsbad in their marks, even though they were not located in the city.

Thus, some Schmidt Victoria marks include "Carlsbad" as a part of the logo. Most Schmidt Victoria models can be found in luster finishes. One of the company's hallmark lusters was shaded from a pale yellow through orange to rust. The company also used lusters in mother-of-pearl, pink, a dull orange, and blue. Schmidt Victoria was one of the largest German exporters of crested china, made especially for the British with both colored view and those in black and white. Schmidt's Gemma trademark was often used on these miniatures.

The mark is a simple shield with diagonal bars containing "GEMMA". A crown may appear above the shield. Below, the shield there may be no designation or there may be "Austria", if the piece was made before WWI, or 'Czechoslovakia', for the newly formed country after WWI. Fairy Ware was a trademark used by another Schmidt factory.

It occasionally can be found printed over the Gemma mark. It is believed that Gemma was an earlier mark and was not used after WWI. Fairy Ware models are often identical to Gemma models. Among the other trademarks used by Schmidt Victoria are Alexandre, Empire, Empire Gem, Empress China, Durbar, Elite, Ness China, Rococo, and Victoria. Certain unmarked Schmidt Victoria shoes are often misidentified as Royal Bayreuth."



2007 RBCC Convention



Royal Bayreuth eBay Prices October 2007

by Judy Stockwell

Art Nouveau Lady Creamer, BM, Deponiert.	\$256.00
Ash Tray, Arab on a horse scene, bm	\$52.59
Black Eagle Creamer, 4 1/2" x 5", marked.	\$227.80
Clover Hatpin Holder, 4 3/4" tall, bm	\$2,034.99
Dog Hatpin Holder, 4 3/4" tall, bm	\$381.55
Tapestry Dutch shoe, old green lion mark.	\$141.06
Art Nouveau Lady Vase 5" tall, bm	\$898.89
Milk Maiden Creamer, Deponiert.	\$382.75
Monkey Water Pitcher, 7" tall	\$1,775.50
Oak Leaf Shaker	\$139.50
Shell Salt & Pepper Shakers, natural chambered	\$76.30
Sunflower Creamer, Deponiert, bm.	\$279.75
Swan Ash Tray	\$294.00

