

# GLAZIERS AND BEER STEINS:

*Steins from the Collection of Jim and Elizabeth Perry*



In the world of stained glass and nineteenth-century beer steins, it may not be difficult to see a connection. Practitioners from both fields would recognize the common methods of hand painting, screen printing, etching, flashed glass, and firing temperatures. Most steins will tell a story, depict an event, or be a presentation piece for a special accomplishment.

Falling into the category of occupational steins, shown on these two pages are three steins presenting the tools of the glaziers trade and depicting the inside of the nineteenth-century workshop. Not much has changed except perhaps the ties worn by the workers. Any stained glass worker today could find his or her way around this glass studio, finding needed tools and dealing with customers.

The first picture (this page, left) shows a stein with a shield and tools of the trade. A rough translation of the old German says, "Long live the handiwork of the glazier." The wording around the base is translated as, "I would rather leave this world than have the glazier die of thirst."

The second stein (opposite page) is decorated with a wrap-around scene of a stained glass workshop, complete with tools hanging on the walls and men at work at the benches. The man on the far right of the stein is apparently having a discussion with a customer. The same German phrases appear as on the first stein but placed in a different area.

The third stein, the smallest of the three, is clear glass with a hand-painted scene of a workman repairing damaged flat glass windows. The inscription, roughly translated, reads, "May the storm be always in the city and never in the field."

Even in this modern, technology-savvy world, the basic concepts remain.

