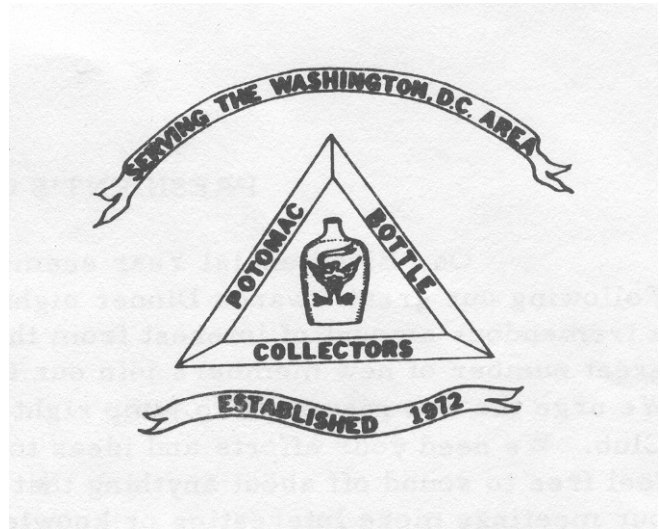


THE "POTOMAC PONTIL"



Official Newsletter of the Potomac Bottle Collectors

Volume 18- January-February 1976

Contents of this newsletter may be used by interested parties in the interest of bottle collecting if appropriate credits are given. THE POTOMAC PONTIL is published bi-monthly. Your comments are welcome. Newsletter correspondence should be mailed to Bob Hoag, 4820 Birch Lane, Alexandria, Virginia 22312.

The Potomac Bottle Collectors meet the first Monday of each month at 8 p. m. in the meeting room at the Coca Cola Bottling Plant on Seminary Road, Alexandria, Virginia, near Bailey's Crossroads. Visitors are welcome and membership is open to all collectors.

Officers - - 1975 - 1976

President	--Vern Bauckman	Vice President	--Tom Johnson
Treasurer	--Kaye Johnson	Secretary	--Bonnie Bauckman
Librarian/Archivist	--Bunny Russell	Editor	--Bob Hoag
Directors	--Mike Russell and Bus Nusbaum		
Membership Chairman	--Anne Thomas		

Club members wish Jo Padgett a speedy recovery and hope all is going well. Hope to see you at the meetings soon, Jo.

D. C. bottle information must be turned in to Tom Johnson at the March 1 meeting at the latest!

Would the lady who said at the December meeting that she had some Delaware druggist bottles please contact Dr. Dave Bryan, 600 South State Street, Dover, Delaware 19901.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Our Bicentennial Year seems to have started off with a bang! Following our great Awards Dinner night, we went right into January with a tremendous amount of interest from the old members and have had a great number of new members join our Club in the past three months. We urge the new members to jump right in and be an active part of the Club. We need your efforts and ideas to keep moving ahead. Please feel free to sound off about anything that you think would improve or make our meetings more interesting or knowledgeable for everyone.

We are fast approaching our annual Show and Sale. It is really shaping up to be our best ever; we are almost sold out and are still six weeks away. Zane Shaffer, our Show Chairman, and his wife have done a super job. Your efforts to help him and his various Subcommittee heads are greatly appreciated. They will need all the help they can get the next six weeks. So if you have not been called on, please volunteer your help. A Club that works together stays together.

Our monthly programs have been really informative to everyone. January was Soda month; Tom Johnson's presentation and the slide film were great. The auction that followed had good action and new and old members seemed to enjoy it. Attendance was very good with around 75-80 attending.

February was Fruit and Canning Jar Month. Bad weather and all, we had another good turnout--somewhere between 70-80 people. If you weren't there, you missed a super program. Zane Shaffer gave a fantastic demonstration of 50 different jars and that many different enclosures, followed by a slide film on Rare Fruit Jars from the Federation. Due to the length of the meeting, Tom did not get an opportunity to give his talk on How to Detect Repaired and Altered Bottles. He will do that at the next meeting.

Well, I could go on and on but I won't. I would just like to say I am thrilled, to say the least, with our attendance; the new members; the old members who have come back to us; people starting to participate; our Show and Sale; our interesting programs; and the quality that our Club is showing in all of its undertakings. I feel our Club takes a back seat to no one, and I predict it will be the best of its kind in the country. It's a good feeling to be healthy.

See you in March,

VERN

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

Andrews, David
4406 Alta Vista Dr.
Fairfax, Va. 22030
703-273-8056

Cornwell Family
(Owen L. , Mary Ann, James)
2903 Valley Drive
Alexandria, Va. 22302
703-548-9854

Curtis, Jesse & Nellie
Occoquan, Virginia 22125
703-494-6555

Guiffre, Joe and Ann
2030 Duke Street
Alexandria, Va. 22314
549-3536

Leonard, Dean
2528 Drexel St.
Vienna, Va. 22180
703-573-2874

McCalley Family
(Robert, Mary Louise, Michael)
4618 Norwood Dr.
Chevy Chase, Md. 20015
301-656-5512

Mackler, Don
2947 Wetherburn Court
Woodbridge, Va. 22191

Manion, Mr. & Mrs. Joe
8-1/2 East Masonic View
Alexandria, Va. 22301
703-683-1956

Partin, James
2512 Massey Court
Alexandria, Va. 22303

Stoneburner, Sharon
808 N. Garfield St.
Arlington, Va. 22201
703-525-8124

Thurlow, Larry & Linda
Box 1004 NSGA
Sabana Seca, P. R. 00749

Next?

* * * * *

NOTICE! I WILL DONATE \$10.00 WORTH OF GOOD BOTTLES TO BE AUCTIONED OFF WITH ALL PROCEEDS TO BE DONATED TO CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL...HOW MANY OTHER MEMBERS WILL MATCH MY OFFER???

Mike Russell, Director

* * * * *

COMING UP!!!

CLUB DIG WILL BE SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1976! !

Sharon Stoneburner was good enough to share one of her digging sites with the Club. We checked it out with Sharon and it looks good. We cannot promise anyone will dig pontils, but we feel there is something there. So, make sure you have a good pair of gloves and boots, and meet us at George Mason School, Route 7, Falls Church, Virginia, at 9:00 a. m. If anyone has a problem, let someone in the Club know because we want all to dig if they wish to. Please parents--accompany your "Juniors" if you will. Thanks again Sharon for showing us the location.

MONTHLY MEETING PROGRAM AGENDA

March: Reproductions and Altered Bottles; Show and Sale plans; Bottle swap and sale.

April: Slide presentation and talk about Charlie Gardner Auction; Bottle swap and sale; auction of Club members bottles.

May: Slide presentation--Bertrand, Bottles and Artifacts Recovered from Steamboat which Sank in 1864 in Missouri River or "Food Bottle Collection of Elmer Lester;" Bottle swap and sale.

Dig these bottles won at the following monthly meetings:

January --Buffalo Litho Water --Scott Hodgkins
February --Simplex Mason Fruit Jar --Marvin Spindle

PLEASE sell your raffle bottle tickets and turn in the money and stubs at the March 1 meeting. It is important to know where we stand so we can see how much money we can spend on local advertising. Let's everyone get their ten please.

We need Junior information for the Pontil! Come on Juniors--put out the word.

Any ladies wishing to make cake or cookies for meeting refreshments, please let Vern know. We're always glad to get those homemade goodies! Thanks go out to Fran Stockdale, Wanda Kirkpatrick, Kaye Johnson and Bonnie Bauckman for the goodies last month. I know they were good because there was very little left.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT-

As we all know, our Club is alive and well and we are growing rapidly. This interest and growth must be attributed to the devotion to the hobby of bottle collecting by all the members. But, most of all, to the planning and hard work put forth by the various officers since the founding of the Potomac Bottle Collectors in 1972.

Unfortunately, it seems that we no sooner elect a slate of officers and things begin to look up and go well, when it is time for that administration to step down and make room for others. This, I suppose, is progress. However, may I suggest a slight change in procedure which I hope you will all consider seriously.

As it now stands, the office of President is limited to one term. He may not succeed himself. I would like to see the constitution amended to allow an incumbent President to run for a second term.

The fact that a President is allowed the opportunity to serve for two terms is not binding on him nor on the membership. He has the right to refuse and the membership is not bound to vote for him just because he is a nominee. But, there are times when it would be a distinct advantage to all of us to maintain continuity for more than one year.

Therefore, I and several other Club members propose that this change be put into effect before time for the next election of officers. Let's think about it and then let's do something about it.

Wanda Kirkpatrick

ADS

Wanted: Any uncommon stoppered green smelling salts or Palmer's Perfume (emerald). Also uncommon Dr. D. Jayne's.

Bring to next meeting. Anne Thomas

Wanted: Beers that are in mint or near mint condition. Local beers preferred. Joe and Ann Guiffre, 549-3536

CLUB PATCHES ARE HERE! Bring your \$1.50 to the March 1 meeting to get yours. No limit. They look great!

Other Club Newsletters received in the past two months:

Tryon Drummer, Amsterdam, N. Y.

The Bottle Digger, Richmond Area Bottle Collectors Association,
Richmond, Virginia

Tri State Bottle Collectors and Diggers Club, Kennett Square,
Pennsylvania

The Bottle Worm, Winchester, Virginia, Bottle Club

The Dirty Bottle, Pennsylvania Bottle Collectors Association, York,
Pennsylvania

If you're interested in seeing any of these Newsletters, contact Bob Hoag.

TO THE RESCUE!

Many thanks to the following members who did the publicity at the libraries for our upcoming Bottle Show and Sale. It could never have been done without the work from:

Cherrydale - Arlington
Vienna Library
Main Library, Fairfax
Burke Lake
University of Maryland
Sherwood Hall, Alexandria
Manassas
University of Maryland
Queen Street, Alexandria
Rose Hill, Alexandria

Peter Back
Randy Bates
Gene Bowers
Trisha Bowers
Betty Brewer
Susan Godfrey
Tom Johnson
Dave Lindsay
Joe Manion
Pete Padgett

Please visit your library and see their bottles and displays.

Bottle Makes Miracle Voyage

— Five years ago, Patrick Sandfoss put a note in a bottle and threw it into the Ohio River. Last month, he received a letter telling him the note had been read — in Scotland.

The letter got to Sandfoss in Erlanger, Ky., on Jan. 30. It was postmarked "Port Charlotte, Isle of Islay" in western Scotland, 6,800 miles away.

"My wife and children were walking on the shore of the west coast of this island today, 17 January 1976, when they found a bottle with a note in it," wrote James L. Bain.

"The note gave your address and bore the words, 'Dropped this note in the Ohio River June 10, 1971.'"

"For a bottle to travel such a vast distance and stay afloat such a long time in the sea must be rare, if indeed not some kind of a record."

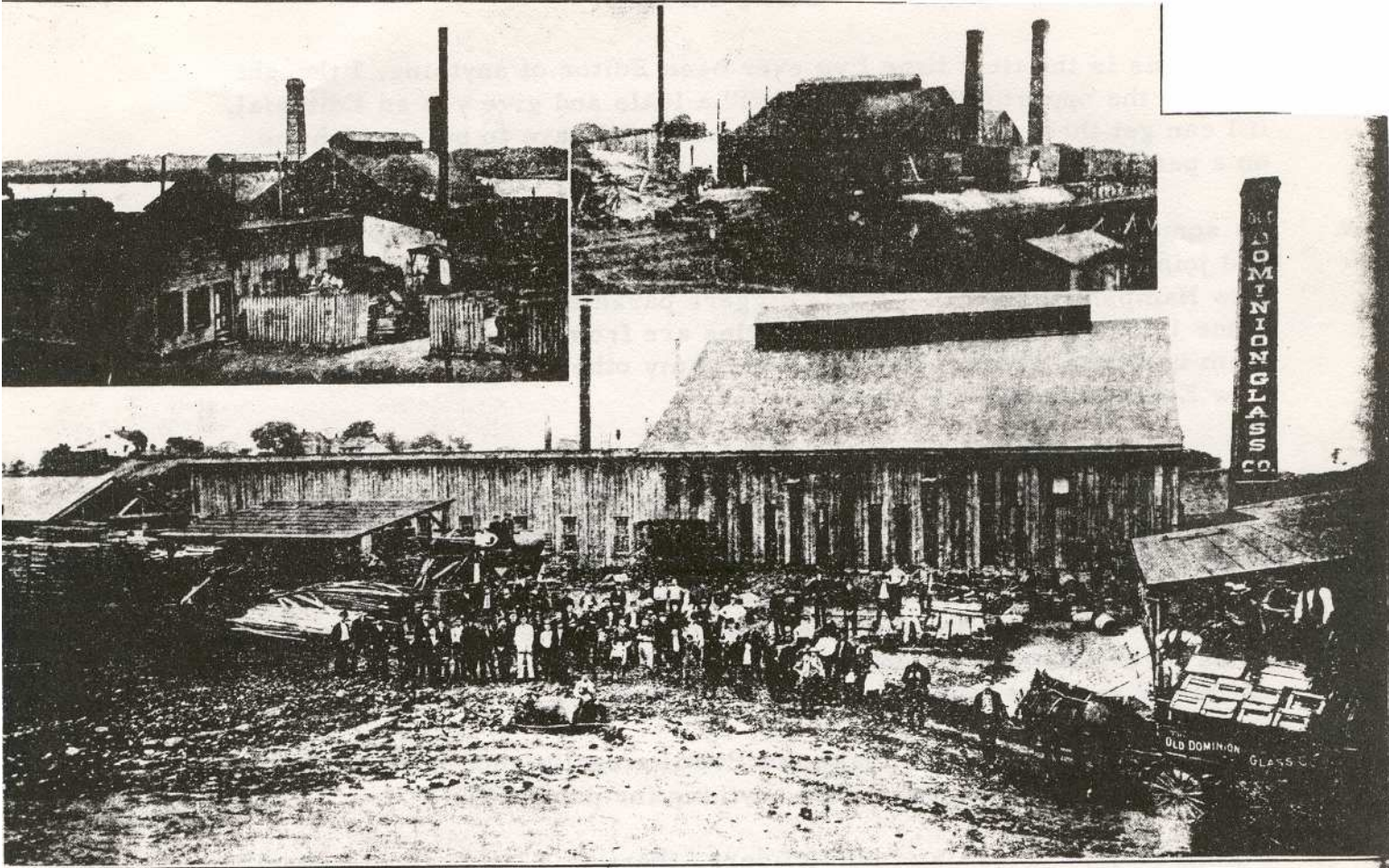
Bain asked Sandfoss to write back if his letter reached him. The bottle was probably dropped while Sandfoss was fishing on his uncle's boat, said Mrs. Sandfoss. But the family is not sure.

"It was five years ago and you forget about things like that. You figure it's not going to go anyplace," she said.

Mrs. Sandfoss said her husband has put bottled messages in the river before, but this was the first one ever was answered.

"You know how people will drop bottles in the river thinking someone will pick it up down a ways — but Scotland? I guess it went down to the Gulf of Mexico and took off from there."

The bottle had to travel down the Ohio to the Mississippi River, past New Orleans into the Gulf and west and north across the Atlantic.



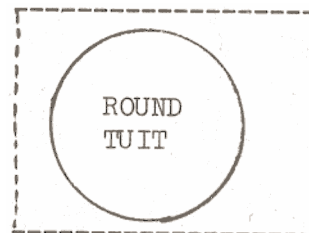
Industrial Alexandria—The OLD DOMINION GLASS WORKS manufactures glass bottles. It was established nearly six years ago, and has been a success from the start. Its officers are Henry K. Field, President; Geo. H. Schwarzmann, Manager; Lorenzo Wolford, Superintendent, and George D. Hopkins, Secretary and Treasurer. The plant covers nearly six acres, and its daily output is about two car loads. Its specialty is beer and soda bottles, although it makes all kinds, from the druggist's vial up. It employs upwards of 250 blowers and moulders, and a large number of boys. The wages paid are the highest, as the glass blower is a skillful artist and has the hardest kind of work to perform.

ONE FOR EVERYONE

At long last we have a sufficient supply, so that we have included one in each copy of the Pontil. Please cut it out and save! -Guard it. ...don't lend it.

Many problems will be solved and meetings should at least double now that each member has a round tuit available to them. For you see, so many have said, "I will get started getting involved as soon as I can get around tuit." Others have said, "I know I should come to meetings, I know I should help out with this or that, I just never get around tuit."

Now, everyone has their round tuit, and we know that better and even greater things are in store for club as a result.



(cut out and save)

EDITORIAL

Since this is the first time I've ever been Editor of anything, I thought I'd take the opportunity to "spout off" a little and give you an Editorial. If I can get through this one OK, maybe you'll have to put up with me on a permanent basis.

As some of you know, I moved to Virginia this summer from New Hampshire and joined the Club in the Fall. In one respect I was very sorry to leave New Hampshire as it is a bottle diggers paradise! I've been collecting since 1972 and about 30% of my bottles are from Bermuda where I picked them up scuba diving. The majority of my others are from good old New England dumps. So much for me.

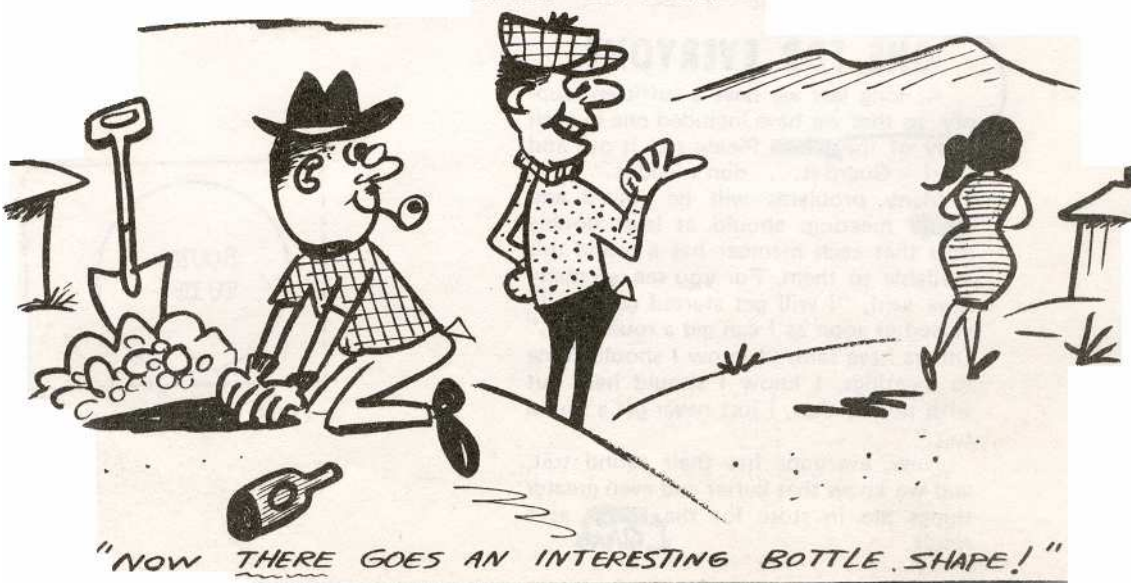
My comment this month is about our Club - - it's great BUT. Right now I would say we've got a lot going for us and with the hard work of a wonderful group of people we're just about to put on our biggest annual event. We've currently got a great bunch of officers, and a lot of enthusiasm from members, but unless we all participate in Club activities we can go downhill fast. A good example of this is our ticket sales for the Show drawing - - have you tried to sell yours yet? We definitely need the money to support the Show.

Secondly, we're trying to make the Pontil a really good informative newsletter. Have you submitted anything for publication?

On the subject of terms of our officers, there is a letter from a member in this issue, which I personally support. Our officers are the "spark plugs" of the Club and I don't believe one year is a long enough term to allow them to carry out their programs.

I guess my message is get behind your Club and keep a great thing going.

KEEP ON DIGGIN'



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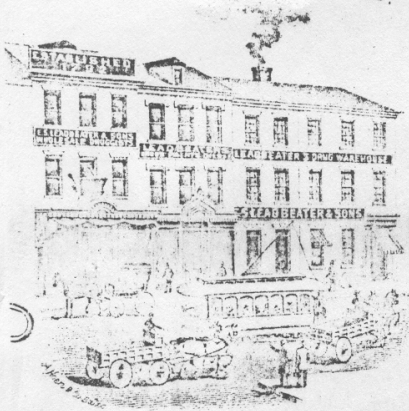
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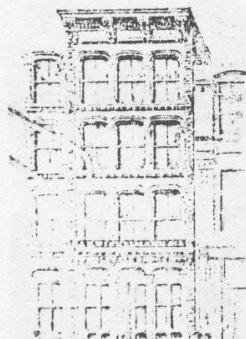
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