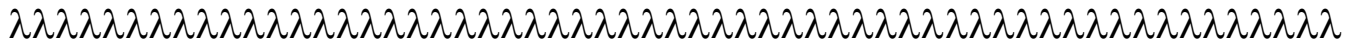


The Potomac Pontil

The Potomac Bottle Collectors Serving the National Capital



March 2001

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March 27th Meeting

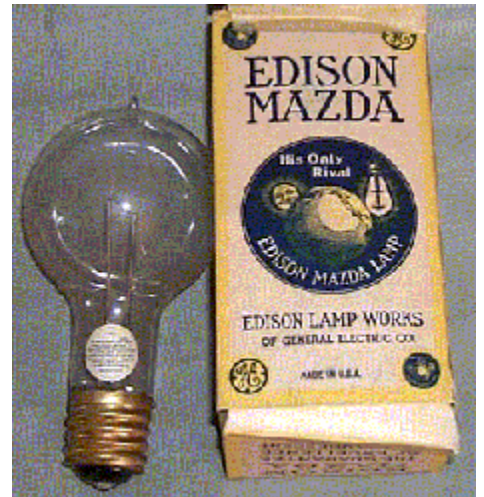
Program: To be announced

Show & Tell: Please bring in recent acquisitions. We would particularly like to see what club members found at the Baltimore Bottle show.

Meeting Location: We will be at our regular meeting location, the basement of the Episcopal Church of the Redeemer in Bethesda, MD.

February Program

Thanks to **Chris Kocsis** for a very informative program on collectible light bulbs. While the light bulbs unearthed by bottle diggers typically have little value, unusual bulbs are highly collectible when found in excellent condition. We learned that the word Mazda, which is found on the highest quality antique bulbs from several different manufacturers, comes from the name of a Z For anyone who missed the meeting, Chris' handout on dating light bulbs is included as page 4 of this newsletter.



A Request for Local Drug Store Bottles

I'm the editor of The Delmarva Blowpipe newsletter for the Delmarva Antique Bottle Club. I'm on a personal mission. My family owned drug stores in Washington, D.C. at the turn of the century until probably the late nineteen fifties. There were several different O'Donnell drug stores. This was not a chain but relatives that owned individual stores. I'm looking for bottles, memorabilia, etc. associated with these stores. My grandfather was a druggist by the name of John Murphy. He & my grandmother (Margaret O'Donnell Murphy) owned a drug store at 301 Pennsylvania Ave. SE. My great aunts & uncles also ran drug stores in various locations: 1444 Wisconsin Ave; 904 F Street NW; 1200 Wisconsin Ave. NW; 14th & Colorado Ave. NW; Wisconsin & P St., and 8th & G Streets, SE. The 8th & G Street SE store is now a part of the Smithsonian Turn-Of-The-Century Museum. They call it the Roach Drug Store. So in addition to O'Donnell I'm looking for anything with the names Murphy, Malone, or Roach from this era. There were all druggists that were married to an O'Donnell. I'd appreciate any information your membership could give me or any items that might be for sale. You can e-mail me @ bman007@msn.com or call me at (302) 856-9771 (home) after 5 p.m.

Thanks,

Mary Beaman

Our club bottle book, Antique Bottles from the Washington, D.C. Area, lists both Roach and W.J. O'Donnell bottles at modest prices. Can anyone in the club help Mary Beaman to obtain examples of these bottles?

Meetings: 7:30 PM on the last Tuesday of each month in the Episcopal Church of the Redeemer, 6201 Dunrobbin Dr., Bethesda, MD 20816.

President: Phil Godwin

Vice President: Allan Einsein

Secretary: Jim Sears

Treasurer: Ken Anderson

Pontil: Jim Sears (email: searsjim@usa.net, PH: 703/243-2409) & Andy Goldfrank (email: amg_sticky@yahoo.com, PH: 202/588-0543)

Web Site <http://members.aol.com/potomacbt/bottle2.htm>

Maintained by Peter Rydquist: pehraug@aol.com

Bottle Show Report

The Baltimore Bottle Club easily retained the title "Largest Bottle Show on the East Coast" with its 21st annual show and sale. Even forecasts of a huge snow storm could not deter dealers from filling approximately 300 sales tables at the March 4th show. Based on the paid attendance of over 1000 people, one might guess that buyers also ignored the weather. However, show organizers estimated that attendance could have exceeded 2000 if Mother Nature had cooperated. Serious collectors would not dream of letting meteorologists' warnings keep them from this show, but the buyers of inexpensive bottles apparently did stay home. About the only time I heard anyone express interest in low-end bottles was when a woman standing next to me dropped a \$1700 cobalt soda bottle on a couple of \$4 pontiled puffs. She apologized profusely for shattering the puffs while the dealer carefully inspected his prize soda, which appeared only slightly the worse for wear.

The Baltimore club's handling of the weather problem earned high marks from most dealers. Because of heavy snow to the North, New England dealers were allowed to leave the show early, and by 1 PM nearly half the tables were empty. While this did disappoint a few latecomers, most collectors found that they still had plenty of opportunities to exchange their cash for quality glass.

Upcoming Area Bottle Shows

March 25 (9 AM to 3 PM) South Keyser, West Virginia: The Potomac Highlands Antique Bottle & Glass Collector's Club 3rd Annual Show & Sale, to held from 9am to 3pm at the Keyser Fire Hall. Info: Dale Murschell , Phone (304) 492-5563. email: mountainmonster@mountain.net

April 1 (9 AM to 3 PM) Williamstown, NJ: South Jersey Antique Bottle & Glass Club 30th Annual Show & Sale at the Knights of Columbus Hall, Rt. 42, Williamstown, NJ. Info: Bob Tompkins, 1731 Hubbard La., Vineland, NJ 08360, PH: (856) 691-5170.

April 22 (9 AM to 3 PM) Harrisonburg, VA: Historical Bottle Diggers of Virginia's 30th Annual Show & Sale at the Rockingham County Fairgrounds, Route 11 South (I-81 exit 243)a. Info: Sonny Smiley, Phone (540) 434-1129 or Casey Billhimer, Phone (540) 289-9866 email: historyed@webtv.net.

June 2 & 3 (Sun: 9 AM to 3 PM, early buyers Sat. 6 PM) Kutztown, PA: Coal Crackers Bottle Club's 3rd Annual Bottle Show and Sale at the Renningers Antique Market. Info: Rod Walch, PH:(610) 377-1484 or Jody Farra, PH:(570) 462-1942.

June 17 (10 AM to 5 PM) Millville, NJ: F.O.H.B.C / Wheaton Village Museum, 4th Annual Antique Bottle Show & Sale at the Wheaton Village, Exit 26, Rt. 55, 1501 Glasstown Rd. Info: (800) 998-4552

June 23 (9 AM to 3 PM) Bethesda, MD: **Our Show is Back!!** Potomac Bottle Collectors Antique Bottle Show and Sale at the Episcopal Church of the Redeemer, 6201 Dunrobbin Drive, Bethesda, MD 20816, near Glen Echo and the Clara Barton National Historic Site. Info: Jim Sears, (703) 243-2409, email:searsjm@usa.net



Club Displays Bottles and Go-withs at Fairfax County Library

By Peter Rydquist

Club members Peter Rydquist and Allan Einseln with set up assistance from Jim Sears recently had over 50 bottles and related go-withs on display at the George Mason Regional Library of the Fairfax County Public Library in Annandale. Allan worked with Judy Williams of library and was given the opportunity to display for the month of February. The display featured bottles from D.C. and the surrounding suburbs such as beers, sodas, whiskeys, medicines, drug stores and milks. Entries from Alexandria, Rosslyn, Arlington, Falls Church, Fairfax, Vienna, Herndon, Leesburg, Rockville and Kensington were all featured as well as some local labeled bottles.

Copies of the show flyer and club information were posted inside of the display and made available to the public in a bulletin board area. By the end of the display period, the flyers and info were all gone. The library reported there was many inquiries and positive comments by the public about the display. All in all, the display was a great success, good public relations and hopefully the club can put on future displays at other branches. Many thanks goes out to Judy Williams for giving the club the opportunity to display and promote our club and the hobby.

Here's a partial list of what Al and I displayed:

D.C. Milks - Alderney Green Meadow Dairy, Simpson Bros (bust of George Washington), Thompson Bros, Fairfax Farms jill

Medicines - Harpers Cephalgine, Elixer Babek for Malaria, Red Dragon Seltzer, Peoples Drug store Poison, cobalt with label

Sodas - RA Shinn squat, aqua Palmer gravitating stopper, Arlington Bottling Co blob, Finley crown,

Alexandria - Brawner hutch, Portner blob, Fairfax & Co whiskey, Leadbeater & Sons drugstore (extract type bottle)

Clarendon - Marcey Bros Arlington County Dairy

Rosslyn - two different Consumer's Brewing, one Arlington Brewing Co, and written history of the breweries.

Herndon - Sun Rise Dairy pyro milk, Ernest L. Robey Druggist including photo of drugstore

Falls Church - Hazel's Dairy

Rockville - B. F. Owens Druggist

Kensington - H. O. Trowbridge Druggist

Vienna - one slugplate variety and one art deco script embossed Victory Bottling Works and history and photo of company

Leesburg - Purcell & Littlejohn Pharmacists.

