

The Potomac Pontil

The Potomac Bottle Collectors Serving the National Capital



August 2002

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No Meeting in August

Next Meeting September 24th

Our next meeting will be on the usual date: the last Tuesday of the September. Lee Shipman is interested in hearing if people would prefer moving future meetings to Friday evenings. Please give Lee your opinions at (301) 229-2005 or plannerlee@earthlink.net.



Picnic time is September 14th.
See page 2 for details.



Thank you to everyone who helped with our June 30th show. It's not too soon to start planning for next year's show. See page 4 for more photos from the show and a few ideas for next year.

July 30th Meeting

Matt Knapp organized a contest to guess the final prices for bottles recently offered on Ebay. The winner was **Jim Sears**, who has apparently been spending way too much time playing with Ebay.

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: Matt Knapp Vice President: Needed 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: pshraug@aol.com

Picnic Saturday September 14th

The Potomac Bottle Collectors will be having a picnic at Fort Hunt Park in Fairfax County, Virginia beginning at noon.

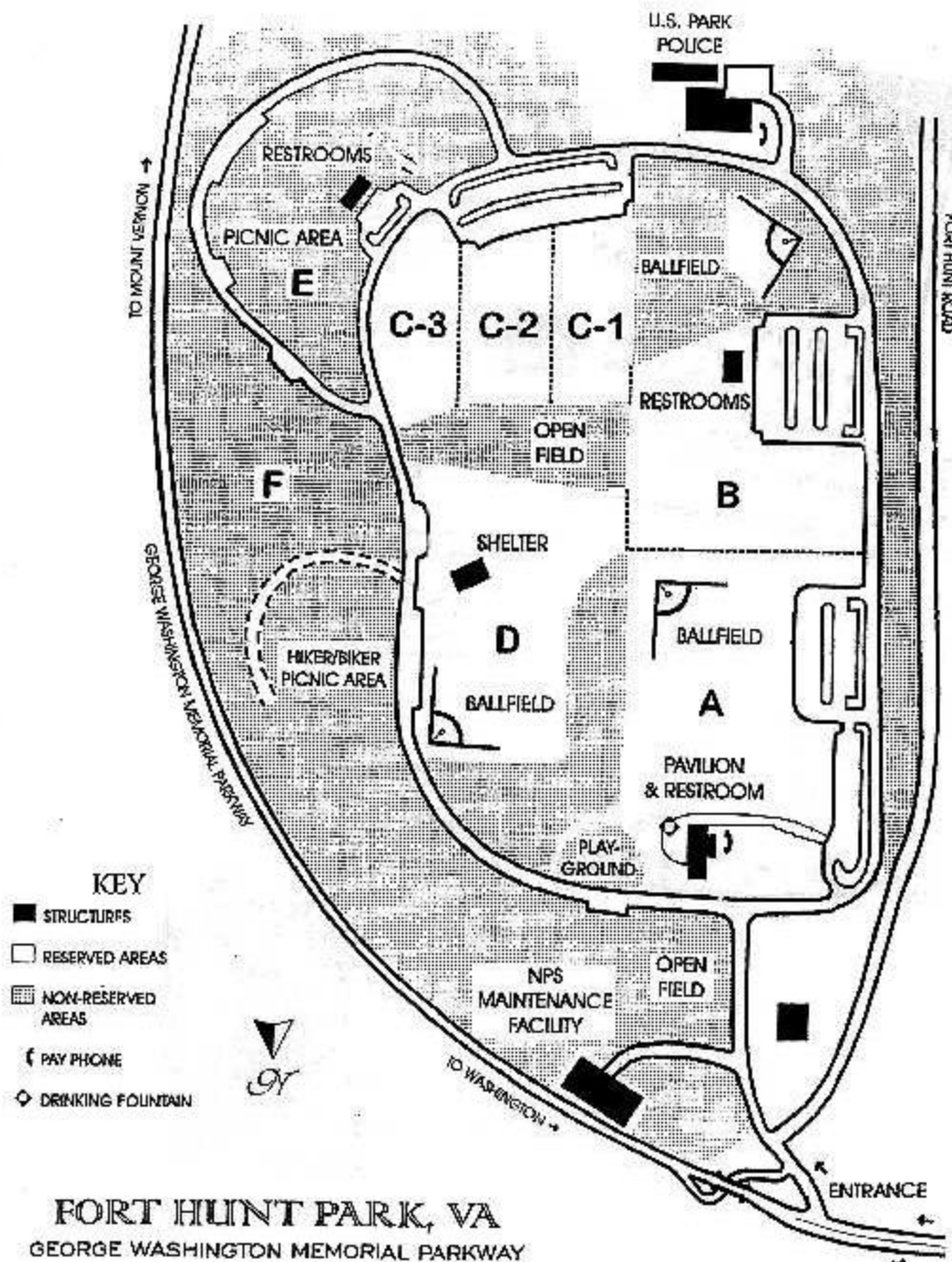
- ✓ We will have an **auktion**, with the club keeping 10 percent of the proceeds. Please bring bottles to auktion and plenty of cash.
- ✓ The Club will provide soft drinks, hamburgers and hotdogs. Please bring a dish to pass.
- ✓ Families and guests are welcome. Please inform Lee Shipman (301/229-2005 plannerlee@earthlink.net) if you will be bringing a large group so that we can be sure of having enough food.



Directions

Fort Hunt Park is located 5 miles south of Old Town Alexandria along the George Washington Memorial Parkway (parts of which are also called Mount Vernon Highway and Washington Street) in Fairfax County, Virginia. To reach this road from Washington, DC, take 14th Street Bridge south toward Virginia, and take exit for Mount Vernon/National Airport. To reach it from the Beltway in Maryland, take the very first exit after the Wilson Bridge. To reach it from the Beltway in Virginia take exit 1 North, go to the first traffic light and take a right on Franklin Street; go about 3 blocks and take a right on South Washington Street.

We will be meeting in a free (unreserved) portion of the park. It's a large park, as shown by the map at right. Lee Shipman suggests that we use the southern portion of the picnic area so that we all find one another. Please contact Lee for more information.



FORT HUNT PARK, VA
GEORGE WASHINGTON MEMORIAL PARKWAY

Unknown Washington D.C. Cobalt Blue Iron Pontil Soda Sold through Glasswork Auctions

Club member Bob Ford noticed this awesome unknown D.C. soda in the Glasswork Auctions #63 catalog. It sold for \$1800 plus the buyer's premium. The auction closed on July 15, 2002. This is near or might be the highest price ever paid for a D.C. bottle! The bottle and description from the catalog are shown below.

297. "A. FAVIER / MINERAL WATER / RECOMMENDED BY / M.D. FACULTY - W.C.D.C.", American, ca. 1840 - 1855, cobalt blue, 8-sided, 7 1/4"h, iron pontil, applied blob mouth, a tiny 1/8" in diameter flake is off one panel edge, otherwise perfect. To our knowledge this bottle, recommended by the medical faculty from Washington City, District of Columbia (W.C.D.C.), is the only known example. And, with the exception of the tiny chip is in attic pristine condition.
(\$1,500.00) (\$2,000.00 - 3,000.00)



This is the only known D.C. sided soda – pontilled or in any color. A check of our club's books reveals no listing of any type for Favier. This rare bottle will certainly be added to the next edition of our club's book.

-Peter Rydquist

Upcoming Area Bottle Shows

September 15 (9 AM to 3PM, early entry 7 AM) **Winchester, Virginia:** The Apple Valley Bottle Collectors Club 28th Annual Show and Sale at the War Memorial Building, East Cork Street and Purcell Avenue. Info: **Frank Kowalski**, 3015 Northwestern Pike, Winchester, VA 22603, PH: (540) 877-1093.

September 22 (9 AM to 3 PM) **Lewes, Delaware:** Delmarva Antique Bottle Club 10th Annual Show & Sale at the Cape Henlopen High School. Info: **Ferd Meyer**, PH: (302) 945-7072, email: jfmeyer4@cs.com or **Alan Wesche**, PH: (410) 352-5975, email: wishman@beachin.net

October 5 (9 AM to 3 PM, early buyers 7:30 AM) **Richmond, Virginia:** The Richmond Area Bottle Collectors Assoc. 31st Annual Show & Sale at the Showplace Annex, 3002 Mechanicsville Turnpike. Info: **Judy Foles**, 12275 Cedar Lane, Ashland, VA. 23005. PH: (804) 798-7502, email: judyfoles@mail.com

November 3 (9 AM to 3 PM) **Elkton, Maryland:** The Tri-State Bottle Collectors & Diggers Club's 30th Annual Show & Sale at the Singerly Fire Hall, Routes 279 & 213 (I-95 exit 109A), Elkton, Maryland. Info: **Warren Cavender**, PH: (302) 998-0690

Views from the June 30, 2002 show



Above: **Joan Goldfrank** and **Torrey Smith** spent about 7 hours taking admissions. Joan is creating a database of attendees, which will be a big help for future shows.



Top Left: **Ken Anderson** put on an impressive display of bottles and advertising for Bliss Native Herbs.



Left: **Andy Goldfrank** showed off the tools of the bottle digging trade along with his digging partners **Dave Cutler** and **Scott Jordan**. The diggers helped set up signs and tables for the show as well as setting up the display.

Bottom Left: **Bob Ford** and **Steve Charing** offer bottles and Baltimore Bottle Book. Copies of the book are still available for \$24 (money order only) from Baltimore Antique Bottle Club c/o Charles Meyer, Treasurer
2812 Quarry Heights Way
Baltimore, MD 21209



John Krause, Dick Fulton and Mike Fasano hang out in front of the refreshment table, which is adjacent to Mike's sales table. Mike not only organized the refreshments but also made several signs for the show and planned the sign placement.



Left: **Andy Goldfrank** acted as both a dealer and an appraiser. Andy was also in charge of advertising for the show and negotiated hard with the *Washington Post* to get us an affordable ad.



Below: **Al Steidel** offers a good assortment of bottles and stoneware.

Lee Shipman (partially visible at far right) avoided cameraman **Matt Knapp**, but she played a huge role in the show planning. Lee explored several possible locations for the show and ultimately found this very nice room at the Waldorf School. Lee also designed the table layout and created a map for the show.



Peter Rydquist (in bottle-decorated T-shirt, above) contributed to the show from set-up to the end of clean-up.

Thank you to everyone who helped out with the show. Plenty of glass changed hands, and the attendees all seemed to have a good time. The success of the show is due to club members pitching in to distribute show fliers, sell dealer tables, set up and take down tables, put on displays at the show, and set up signs so people could find the place. We also received great support from the Baltimore club including the loan of their show signs.

Now we need to start planning all over again in order to have a show next year. We would repeat our show on the last weekend of June except that date is already taken for the Federation of Historic Bottle Collectors annual show. One possibility is to have the show on June 22, 2003, which would sandwich it between Wheaton Village's June 15th Millville show and the June 29th Federation show. If everyone can stand the heat, another alternative would be to wait until August and move into the slot abandoned by the Federation.

This year's location worked very well, but the room has no extra space for the show to expand. However, we would be able to put on a larger show next year by placing tables in the hall as well as in the main room. Remaining with the same show site would help customers to find us, but it probably prevents us from holding the show during the school year.

Finally, we need to be sure that club members are willing to volunteer their effort for another show. The show does generate a little money to support other club activities such as the picnic, but the primary goals are promoting the club, promoting the hobby, and providing a venue for members to buy and sell bottles.

Please send your ideas for next year's show to Jim Sears at (703) 243-2409 or searsjim@usa.net.