

# The Potomac Pontil

The Potomac Bottle Collectors – Serving the National Capital

*November 2008*

In this issue:

Edson Bradley: Washington's Whiskey Millionaire by Jack Sullivan.....	page 2
Civil War Era Bottles Recovered at Diggin' in Virginia X in Brandy Station, Virginia by Andy Goldfrank.....	page 5
Five Thrills of Discovery from a Single Bottle by Paul Fite.....	page 8
Upcoming Area Bottle Shows.....	page 10

## Meeting November 25th

Please join us at 8 PM at the Episcopal Church of the Redeemer in Bethesda. Visitors and show & tell items are very welcome.

## Editor's Note

Thank you to everyone who submitted the great articles for this newsletter. Please keep these materials coming. Also, please note the new address for newsletter correspondence including club newsletter exchanges: **Jim Sears, P.O. Box 370, Garrett Park, MD 20896**. The email address remains **searsjim@usa.net**.



Club member Steve Charing (center) distributed dealer packets along with Jon Vander Schouw at the York Expo in August.



November 30, 2008 is the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the invention of the Mason jar. To celebrate Jim Sears and Joe Merkel put on the Mason jar display shown above at the Expo in York, Pennsylvania. See page 10 for more photos from the Expo.

Meetings: 8:00 PM on the last Tuesday of each month in the Episcopal Church of the Redeemer, 6201 Dunrobbin Dr., Bethesda, MD 20816.  
President: Andy Goldfrank Vice President: Al Miller Secretary: Jim Sears Treasurer: Lee Shipman  
*Pontil*: Jim Sears (email: searsjim@usa.net, PH: 301/588-2174) & Andy Goldfrank (email: amg\_sticky@yahoo.com, PH: 202/588-0543)  
Web Site: [www.potomacbottlecollectors.org](http://www.potomacbottlecollectors.org) Maintained by Al Miller: [www.potomacbottlecollectors.org/contact.php](http://www.potomacbottlecollectors.org/contact.php)

# Edson Bradley: Washington's Whiskey Millionaire

by Jack Sullivan

[Special to the Potomac Pontil]

Growing up, Edson Bradley probably could not tell sour mash from sweet corn, but in maturity he turned whiskey-making into abounding wealth and used some of it to move his Dupont Circle mansion to Millionaire's Row in Newport, Rhode Island. In the process he promoted the rise of Old Crow bourbon – still one of America's best known brands.

Bradley was born in 1852, probably in Connecticut where his father, Edson Sr, was a partner in a large shoe manufacturing company. Although details about his early life are sketchy, he was born into wealth and trained for a career in finance. While still in his twenties Bradley became associated with Paris, Allen & Company, an important New York and London financial and importing firm.

Years earlier, members of the firm had become interested in whiskey production as an investment.

Immediately after the Civil War they had been introduced to a trio of Frankfort, Kentucky, distillers that included the estimable Colonel E.J. Taylor, a major force in Kentucky bourbon (Fig. 1). Together the money men and the whiskey men built a distillery in Frankfort they called The Hermitage. At the same time they purchased the Old Crow distillery, closed it down, and moved the operations to the new facility along with the brand name.



Fig. 1: Colonel E.J. Taylor

Sherman Paris of Paris, Allen became an officer of the company. Almost immediately it became highly profitable, selling its Old Hermitage and Old Crow brands nationwide. Bold and interesting advertising, as shown in these trade cards, were part of the success. (Figs. 2 & 3). The distillery grew into one of Kentucky's largest and most productive. Two photos from the Kentucky Historical Society show the distillery at its zenith. (Fig. 4).



Fig. 2. An Old Crow Trade Card

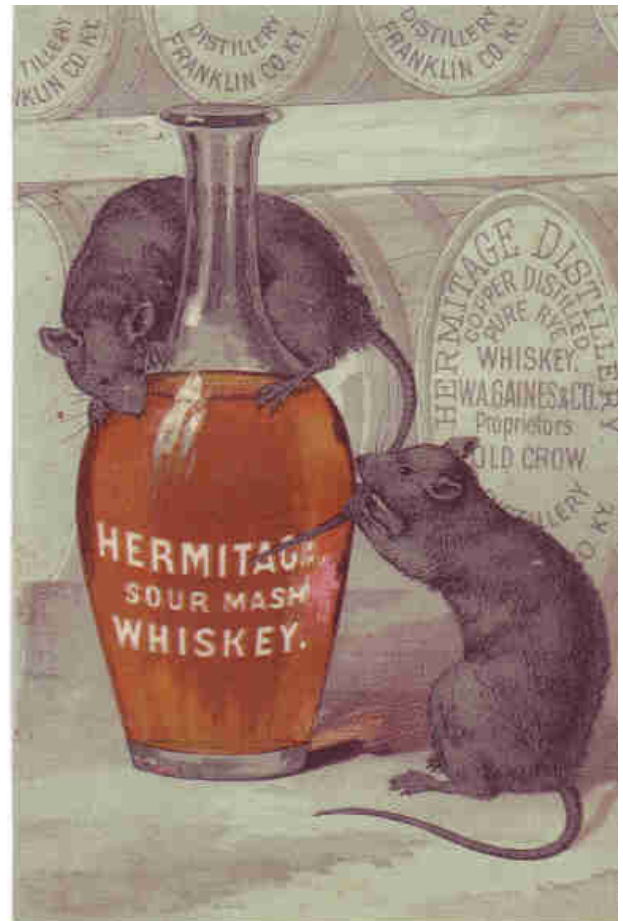


Fig. 3: Barrels at the Hermitage Distillery

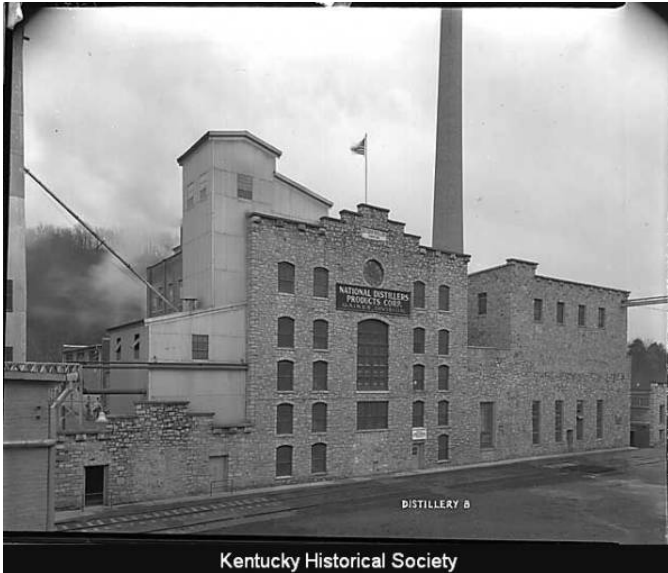


Fig. 4: The Hermitage Distillery, Frankfort KY

In 1882 Sherman Paris withdrew from the distillery business and the 30-year-old Edson Bradley took his place, invested, and became a vice president. Almost immediately he was anointed the principal spokesman for the company and represented its interests and those of the distilling industry on Wall Street and in the halls of Congress. In 1884 the New York Times reported he marched in a Republican political parade as a director of the Wine and Spirits Exchange -- an apparent early attempt at a "Whiskey Trust" (see my article in the June 2008 *Pontil*).

Soon the Nation's press was referring to Bradley as a liquor millionaire and a kingpin of the Whiskey Trust. I have found little evidence for that charge despite his being a major figure in the Kentucky whiskey industry. About this time he moved his residence from New York City to Washington, D.C., buying a large Victorian on fashionable DuPont Circle and tearing it down to build the grandest mansion the city had ever seen.

Bradley's home was truly his castle, featuring towers, turrets, and stained glass windows. It contained a Gothic chapel, an art gallery -- to hold his extensive collection of ceramics, tapestries and books -- and a 500 seat theater he called "Aladdin's Palace." Some interior rooms were transferred intact from France. Almost instantly the Bradleys became a regular item on the society pages of Washington newspapers. Edson's daughter, Julia, had a splashy and well-publicized "coming out" party in 1894 that drew a crowd of the rich and powerful to the castle. The press was not always kind: Bradley was criticized for paying a paltry amount of property tax annually on his D.C. mansion.

But Bradley had a much bigger problem. Because "Old Crow" had achieved national fame as a brand, other whiskey organizations were using some variation of the name on their products. His distillery, called W.A. Gaines Company, sought to fend them off by registering the Old Crow trademark in 1887. When that move failed to deter the

copycats, Bradley and his colleagues registered again in 1897 (Fig. 5) and repeated it in 1904 and 1909.

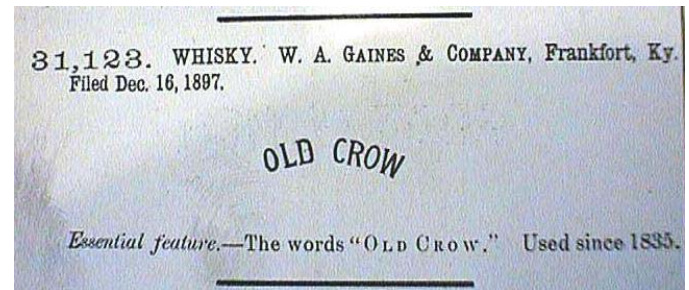


Fig. 5: The 1897 Trademark Registration

The principal culprit was the Rock Springs Distilling Company of Daviess County, Kentucky. It persisted in selling a whiskey it called Old Crow. Eventually the dispute found its way into the courts. A Federal judge in Kentucky decided for Bradley and the Gaines Company. That decision was reversed by a Federal Appeals Court and in 1918, the case found its way to the United States Supreme Court. The High Court ruled in favor of Bradley and ordered Rock Springs Distilling to "cease and desist" its use of the Old Crow name. We can speculate that at least a few of the Supreme Court Justices had been guests at Edson's palatial home.

Bradley's victory quickly became a hollow one as National Prohibition was imposed a year later. His company struggled along until 1922 when it was dissolved and the Hermitage distillery was left abandoned and derelict. Now 70 years old and enormously wealthy, Bradley was restless. He determined to leave Washington for a move to fashionable Newport, Rhode Island and, almost incredibly, to take his castle with him.

Brick by brick, tile by tile, the mansion was dismantled and transported to Rhode Island while the fascinated populace of Washington looked on. Ripley's Believe It or Not newspaper column highlighted the event for a national audience. In Newport Bradley purchased a large existing home called "Seaview Terrace." He joined the two structures to become one of the largest mansions in America (Fig. 6). It featured 17 rooms on the first floor, 25 on the second, and 12 on the third.



Fig. 6: The Bradley Newport Mansion

Time, however, was catching up with the Bradleys. Barely months after construction was completed on Seaview Terrace, Mrs. Bradley died there. Six years later in 1935, Edson, while on a trip to London, also died. The brand that had made him rich, however, survived Prohibition and lives on to this day.

Over time the image of the crow has become more sophisticated. Shown here is an early Old Crow shot glass (Fig. 7) in which the bird looks more like a robin. Contrast it with a 1938 ad in which the crow has a more realistic appearance. (Fig. 8). Also shown here are two Old Crow paperweights from my collection, one circa the 1950s (Fig. 9) and the other a contemporary example (Fig. 10). The crow has become a cartoon.



Fig. 7: A Pre-Prohibition Old Crow Shot Glass



Fig. 8: A 1938 Old Crow Ad



Fig. 9: A Circa 1950s Old Crow Paperweight



Fig. 10: A Contemporary Old Crow Paperweight

The Bradley mansion in Newport still stands. For a few years Edson's daughter Julia and her family lived there until they could no longer pay the taxes. Subsequently it became a girls' school. From 1966 to 1971 house was the setting for a spooky ABC daytime soap opera called "Dark Shadows." In 1974 it was purchased by a man named Carey. Now known as the Carey Mansion, it currently serves as a dormitory for Salve Regina University.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Notes:** The information for this article comes from a wide range of written and Internet sources. The trade cards (Figs. 2&3) are through the courtesy of Reggie Lynch. The photo of the shot glass (Fig. 8) is from Robin Preston and his [www.pre-pro](http://www.pre-pro) website.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Civil War Era Bottles Recovered at Diggin' in Virginia X in Brandy Station, Virginia

by Andy Goldfrank

At the beginning of November 2008, the latest rendition of Diggin' in Virginia ("DIV") was held at the site of a large Civil War 1863-64 winter encampment in Brandy Station, Virginia. This beautiful location was also the site of earlier camps by both Confederate and Union troops, infantry and cavalry. (If you are interested in learning more information about these DIVs or these historic sites, take a gander at the website devoted to these invitational hunts (<http://www.mytreasurespot.com/forums/list.php?5>) and earlier articles I have written (*The Potomac Pontil*, May 2005, June-July 2005, & June-July 2006)). This farm land that is now facing intense development pressure, in the 1860s, was covered with thousands of soldiers and they left many relics in their camps, trash pits, and latrines. At this particular DIV X, the participants found a fair number of huts and trash pits that contained relics in remarkable condition despite their 145-year burial including some nice bottles.

Although I could not attend this latest DIV because of work commitments, a few folks sent me emails and called about some of the bottles found at the latest DIV. Before I start rambling, as background in case you want more information, there are some good books on Civil War period glass dug out of the camps such as Mike Russell's *Collector's Guide to Civil War Period Bottles and Jars*. But getting back on track, to the best of my knowledge, there were at least a few special bottles found at DIV X.

For starters, first there was one and then there were two, 8-sided, smooth-based, aqua, igloo or turtle-style *Harrison's Columbian Inks*! The first ink was found by Scott Cleal in the side of a hole without context and it was a nice, crisply embossed example. The big question floating around, as I understand, was whether this sided turtle ink was from the Civil War or perhaps a post-war discard from the older house sitting at the location where the ink was found. Then during the last day of the DIV, Richard Smith found, in either the remains of a camp hut or a trash pit and relatively far from the first recovery, what appears to be a soldier's tin kit that contained utility bottles & another sided turtle-style *Harrison's Columbian Ink* in aqua. According to Ed and Lucy Faulkner, knowledgeable collectors and dealers in inks, these turtle *Harrison's* inks come in two sizes. Their book, appropriately titled *Inks: 150 Years of Bottles and Companies*, says that Apollos W. Harrison Columbian Ink Company started in 1843 in Philadelphia; the company was listed as an ink maker through at least 1869, with the last known listing of



First Harrison's Columbian Ink



Second Harrison's Columbian Ink



Remains of Tin Box Where 2<sup>nd</sup> Harrison's Columbian Ink Found

a home address being in 1877. *Harrison's* inks are widely collected and come in a variety of colors, shapes, and sizes. Although color is normally the driving force for collectors, the fame of the ink maker and the unusual igloo form make these two examples extremely collectible inks. In my opinion, for what it is worth, given the context of the recoveries in light of the known written historical record of the Harrison Columbian Ink Company, these turtle inks are early to mid-1860s bottles and definitely Civil War period.



**Jones' Schiedam Schnapps as Found**

Another special bottle, and probably rarer than the Harrison's turtle inks albeit not as valuable, was the *Jones' Schiedam Schnapps* found along with an early smooth-based whiskey in a trash pit by Guy Spring. Obviously the context of this bottle tells us it is from the early 1860s, but this kind of bottle was manufactured in this form and with similar characteristics for a long time. This bottle is a smooth-based, case gin style that outside of the context of its recovery would appear to date from the 1860s to 1870s (but similar ones can be found dating to 1900). It also has what some call a snout nosed lip (think pig). Guy sent me some additional pictures (not shown in this article) that make it easier to explain my guess as to the age; two such items are that the bottle has a dot and hinge mold marks on the base which suggest an earlier rather than later date during the age range of smooth-based case gins and schnapps. These dots are often (but not always) seen on early smooth-based, Eastern whiskeys such as from *Whitney Glass Works* and other period examples found at a number of the DIVs. The mold marks are two lines on the *Jones'* base on opposite corners which indicate the bottle was blown into a hinge mold and this also suggests the find is Civil War period and into the 1870s. Also, my guess is that this bottle is probably Dutch because after the 1850s, generally, American schnapps bottles tend to be (1) square rather than tapered in shape and (2) the lips tended to be applied and tapered such as on the ubiquitous *Udolpho Wolfe's Schiedam Schnapps* from the same era. With that said there is always the possibility that this bottle is nonetheless American – I just

do not have that much information about case gin bottles either American or foreign – and there is some record of American glass houses manufacturing embossed, tapered case gins in "imported" colors. See Bill Lindsey's *Historic Glass Bottles Identification and Information Website* hosted by the Society for Historical Archaeology (<http://www.sha.org/bottle/liquor.htm#Case%20Gin%20bottle%20s>) (containing a comprehensive discussion on case gins and schnapps) or an informative South African bottle and digging site which also examines gins (<http://www.antiquebottles.co.za/Pages/Categories/GlassCaseGinSection.htm>).



**Jones' Schiedam Schnapps after Cleaning**

Another interesting (although not terribly rare) find was an aqua, smooth-based, *Mrs. S. A. Allen's World Hair Balsam* recovered by Don Abramson. Aqua, pontiled examples of these bottles containing the balsam, which was identified as *Zylobalsamum*, and the related *Hair Restorer* are found regularly by privy diggers. The *Restorer* initially shows up in a stunning purple or amethyst and then later, post 1870 versions that also come in a variety of colors from green to amber to yellow. The purple hues are a bit rarer and fancier, and appear to date from the late 1850s and perhaps into the early 1860s. In any event, Susan A. Allen, the principal owner from the early 1840s to around 1862, advertised her product as early as 1853; Mr. Selah R. van Duzer became the proprietor in 1862 according to Don Fadely's *Hair Raising Stories* excellent website (<http://www.hairraisingstories.com/>). This statement is supported by the existence of numerous period documents, including proprietary medicine stamps; in addition, Fadely's website also has some fantastic advertisements and printed ephemera from Mrs. S. A. Allen. Also, putting together the sequence of bottles, the earlier versions of the *Balsam* bottle have a "355 Broome Street" address embossed on the front below the word "Balsam" -- this address appears to indicate, generally, a pre-1862 bottle, as the enterprise was listed in New York City business directories as being at 198 Greenwich Street starting in 1862. Van Duzen, however, was listed as a wholesale druggist in the late 1860s at 35 Barclay and 40 Park Place, New York rather than on Greenwich Street. Regardless of the exact line of ownership or store location, the Mrs. S. A. Allen product line survived – actually thrived – as an international quack medicine through to the beginning of the 20th Century according to Digger Odell's *Pontil Medicine Encyclopedia*, Digger Odell Publications (2007) (available at [http://www.bottlebooks.com/Pontil\\_Medicine\\_Encyc.htm](http://www.bottlebooks.com/Pontil_Medicine_Encyc.htm)). To me, it is interesting that this bottle would have shown up in

the midst of the turmoil of the Civil War because this bottle, unlike the schnapps or whiskeys, was not to steel a soldier as he prepared for the next campaign, to cure cough or fevers, or to bury one's sorrow or escape for a short time period. Nor was this a bottle that contained ink which was critical to writing home or planning the next military events. Rather the purpose of this bottle was strictly about vanity. As one 1863 advertisement from the *New York Times* announces, this bottle contained "the only reliable preparations for dressing and restoring the hair." Another *New York Times* advertisement, likewise from 1863, elaborates upon this even further stating "the hair dressing cultivates and beautifies." It seems that going bald or gray would be last on the list of needs and wants for a soldier or officer occupying a cold winter camp hut in Brandy Station, Virginia, nonetheless, cosmetic and hair bottles are not infrequent finds in these camps.



Van Duzer Receipt

The rest of the bottles recovered at DIV X were the classic inks, medicines, ales or whiskeys from the period that have been addressed in prior articles on the DIV hunts. This passing statement is not meant to belittle these other recoveries because as John Kendrick (who runs these DIVs and never tires of hunting for Civil War relics or leading others to these amazing sites), said to me "it is remarkable that when one of these bottles comes out of the ground that the last person to touch it was a Civil War soldier." With that said, it is my hope that this article and others provide a little more background, history and flavor that is not readily apparent when these glass relics are salvaged from these historic and soon-to-be destroyed sites. In turn, for those you who have not had the privilege of find a bottle from a Civil War camp, next time you pick up a bottle – whether freshly excavated from a privy or at a bottle show – I invite you to think about the people that could have used or held that artifact in its time. Frankly, it seems to me the more things change the more they remain the same.



Mrs. S.A. Allen's World Hair Restorer with Other Artifacts

**Mrs. S. A. Allen's World's Hair Restorer AND ZYLOBALSAMUM, OR WORLD'S HAIRDRESSING—**Are unequalled for restoring, invigorating, beautifying and dressing the hair, quickly cleansing the scalp, arresting the fall and imparting a healthy and natural color to the hair. They never fail to restore gray hair to its original youthful color. No lady's toilet is complete without the Zylobalsamum, or hair dressing. It imparts to the hair a most delightful fragrance, and is suited to both young and old.

The Restorer Reproduces.

The Hair Dressing Cultivates and Beautifies.

New York Times Advertisement



First Harrison's Columbian Ink Bottle with Horseshoe Dug at Same Site



Mrs. S.A. Allen's Hair Restorer Tax Stamp

## Five Thrills of Discovery from a Single Bottle

by Paul Fite

Discovering any treasure is an exciting experience. Everyone gets a thrill when they make a discovery, even if it's just a twenty dollar bill found in the pocket of the last year's winter coat. Bottle collectors enjoy a thrill every time they discover a bottle, whether it occurs on eBay®, a flea market, at a bottle show or of course, in the ground. Recently, it occurred to me that I may experience as many as five thrills of discovery associated with a single bottle. My Conoy Ginger Ale stoneware bottle is one such bottle.

First, I got a thrill when I found a potential place to dig bottles on a map. I researched topographical maps and aerial photos in search of places to look for bottles. I searched for likely spots such as where houses once existed, but are gone now. After I find a spot on a map, I try to get permission to dig. I found one promising location in a local highway median where no one would mind me picking up "trash". When I discovered the spot, I could not wait for the weekend. Even though I knew other places where I already had permission to dig, I only wanted to check out my newly discovered location. Finding this spot on the map was the first thrill of discovery associated my Conoy Ginger Ale stoneware bottle. (1)

The second thrill of discovery occurred when I tromped through the woods in that highway median. Early one Sunday morning, when traffic was very light, I pulled over to a safe location on the highway and I slipped into the trees with my four-pronged potato rake, backpack and a green five-gallon bucket. There, I explored the woods, and kept my eye out for tell-tale signs of glass. I looked in all the obvious places like ditches, gullies and creeks. Often, I only discover the beauty of nature in the woods as a consolation for finding no bottles, and even next to a highway, nature's beauty was still evident among the trees.



I pushed ahead through some fallen trees and briars until I found an old building site. Piles of bricks and pieces of a tin roof are good to find because where there was a house, there was trash dumped nearby. I walked down hill, in the most obvious direction to dump trash, and BINGO! There it was- a bunch of bottles scattered around in a ditch. Finding an old bottle dump is always a thrill! Thrill number two, that is.

I raked away dozens of plain whiskeys, beers, Clorox bottles, and broken water bottles. I dug up a few broken pieces of an unusual stoneware bottle and a few scattered broken white porcelain vessels stamped "Water Bottle Cooler" ("whatever that is," I thought to myself). After being both enticed, and disappointed by so many broken and plain bottles, the bottom of a blue bottle reflected its first glint of light in decades. I carefully scraped away the hard dirt around the bottle and tugged it out of the earth. "Oh Yeah, baby! Come to Poppa!" I don't know who I was talking too, but I was expecting a beauty. Then, disappointment, "Ah hell, it's broken!"

Although I am disappointed when I pull out a broken or cracked bottle, I have a morbid desire to assess how valuable the bottle would have been, had it not been broken. The greater the value of the bottle in its unbroken state, the greater my disappointment will be. So, eager to rate how disappointed I should be, I wiped off the mud from the broken blue bottle and, then, I gave a hardy "YES!" It was just a cheap screw top Phillips Milk of Magnesia. Okay, it isn't exactly a thrill, but it is always a relief when there is no need to be disappointed by a broken bottle.

After another five fruitless minutes of digging, I uncovered the top of stoneware bottle. Expecting disappointment, I grabbed the top of this bottle and gently tugged it out of the dirt with low expectations. But, instead, it was my third thrill of discovery, an unbroken stenciled stoneware Conoy Ginger Ale bottle! I never saw such a bottle, so I adored the bottle momentarily. I was eager to find more bottles, so I wrapped the bottle in newspaper and put it in my backpack. By the end of the day, I found several more bottles of no particular interest, but keepsers nonetheless.

I packed my bottles and headed out of the woods. Back on the side of the highway, I loaded my truck, checked for ticks then drove home. Once home, I lugged my pack and bottles to the back yard. I resisted the temptation to admire my finds and headed straight to the laundry room, where I stripped my clothes and placed them directly in the washing machine. Then, I took a shower to wash off all the sweat, dirt, bug spray, chiggers and poison ivy, (or most of it anyway).

My fourth thrill of discovery occurred when I revealed the beauty of the stoneware bottle. After a refreshing shower, I dressed and headed out back to wash my bottles. After I unwrapped the bottle, I washed away the mud and carefully brushed away the stains. Then, I held the bottle up to the light to see its beauty. The fourth thrill of discovery was a wonder to behold. This stoneware bottle had an unusual crown top and was covered with a clear glaze that allowed the



beautiful tan color beneath to fully reveal itself. The natural flaws in the surface of the clay added to its beauty as a piece of handmade art. There was even a fingerprint visible beneath the glaze.

The black stencil stamped on the side of the bottle read:

**FOX'S (inside a drawing of a fox)  
HIGH GRADE  
CONOY GINGER ALE  
BOTTLED BY THE CONOY SPRINGWATER CORP.  
WASHINGTON, DC  
CONTENTS 12 OZ**

The fifth thrilling discovery to occur was the answer to the obvious question, "What is/was Fox's Conoy Ginger Ale?" For the answer, I went back to where I started, the Internet. After several fruitless Internet searches, I finally searched on "Conoy Springwater Corp." and Bingo! I found a promising link. Fortunately, Mike Cianciosi, a member of both the Potomac and Baltimore Bottle Clubs, had already done some research. His website showed the bottle I found, a phone book listing and an advertisement from the company. In 1925, the Conoy Springwater Corp. was in business and loaned water coolers and sold bottled water and Fox Pale Dry Ginger Ale (2). Although there is no reference to Fox's High Grade Ginger Ale, it is obviously the same company. The last listing for the company was in 1932 in the Washington, DC business directory (3).

The bottle was not as old as I hoped, but Wow, was I thrilled. Then, I found the bottle listed in the Potomac Bottle Club's bottle book "Antique Bottles from the Washington DC Area" with a value of \$70-\$80. (4) With my own research now supplemented, I realized those porcelain "water bottle coolers" I saw were interior parts of the water coolers loaned out by the company as seen in the ad below. I also found a broken bottle embossed "Castalia Spring," perhaps an earlier attempt at bottling the water there. With the evidence at the site and the information from the advertisement, I believe I discovered the actual site of the former spring right in the median of a highway! The thrill of its history just kept going!

I was recently thrilled again to discover another piece of the history puzzle about Conoy Ginger Ale. After Nick Queen's recent Prohibition whiskey bottles showcase at the Baltimore Bottle Club meeting, I did some research on post-Prohibition whiskey. I read that Prohibition was repealed in 1933. Hmm, Conoy Springwater Corp.'s last known year of business was 1932. I previously assumed Conoy's stoneware bottles were so expensive that the company must have folded under the cost of such a poor marketing decision. Then, it struck me that until 1933, soft drinks like Ginger Ale had enjoyed a thirteen-year monopoly among customers who desired a "stiff" drink. The repeal of Prohibition must have transformed the market for soft drink sales very rapidly. By 1934, not even a sudden demand for good mixers could have kept this particular "high grade" ginger ale in competition against "real" drinks like beer, wine and liquor.

Others, perhaps, will get a thrill by discovering a bottle on eBay®, at a bottle show, a flea market or in the ground. Maybe, its just me, but the thrill of finding a treasured bottle is more than just a single event. Like a few other bottles on my mantle, I have enjoyed five thrills of discovery related to one bottle. First, I discovered a promising location on a map. Second, I discovered an old trash dump. Third, I dug and discovered the bottle in the earth. Fourth, I cleaned the bottle and discovered the bottle's beauty. And fifth, I discovered the history of the bottle. I honestly don't know which of those thrills is the best because they are all so gratifying. I suppose I will just have to start over again at the beginning.

**NOTES:**

(1) Photo courtesy of Mike Cianciosi

<http://www.chosi.org/bottles/conoy/conoy.htm>

(2) 1925 Washington, DC Telephone Directory, from <http://www.chosi.org/bottles/conoy/conoy.htm>

(3) Boyd's Directory for the District of Columbia (various years)

(4) Antique Bottles from the Washington DC Area by Potomac Bottle Collectors, 4th edition

(5) 1925 Washington, DC Telephone Directory Ad, image courtesy of Mike Cianciosi.

<http://www.chosi.org/bottles/conoy/conoy.htm>

(5)

**CONOY SPRING WATER CORP.**

**Pure Spring Water  
in  
Sterilized Bottles**

**THE MANUFACTURERS OF  
FOX  
PALE DRY GINGER ALE  
BOTTLED AT THE SPRINGS**

**WASHINGTON OFFICE:  
Union Trust Building  
PHONE:  
MAIN 2800**

**SPRING:  
BRANCHVILLE, MD.  
COOLERS LOANED  
AND SOLD**

# Upcoming Area Bottle Shows

## NOVEMBER 23 - GREENSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA

The Southeast Bottle Club's 7th Annual Antique Bottle & Collectibles Show & Sale (9 AM - 3 PM, Dealer Set-up 7 - 9 AM, no Early Buyers) at the Greensboro Farmer's Curb Market, Greensboro, North Carolina. INFO: **REGGIE LYNCH**, PH: (704) 221-6489, Website: [www.antiquebottles.com/greensboro](http://www.antiquebottles.com/greensboro).



## NOVEMBER 30 - BETHLEHEM, PENNSYLVANIA

The Forks of the Delaware Bottle Collectors Assoc. 35th Annual Show & Sale (9 AM - 3 PM, Early Buyers 7:30 AM) at the Bethlehem Catholic High School, Madison & Dewberry Avenues, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. INFO: **BILL HEGEDUS**, 20 Cambridge Pl., Catasauqua, PA 18032, PH: (610) 264-5945.

## MARCH 8, 2009 BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

The Baltimore Antique Bottle Club's 29th Annual Show & Sale, (8 AM to 3 PM), at the Physical Education Center, CCBC-Essex, 7201 Rossville Blvd. (I-695, Exit 34), Essex, MD. Info: **ERIC EWEN**, PH: (410) 265-5745, email: [teresaanderic@comcast.net](mailto:teresaanderic@comcast.net)



The Expo display by Joe Merkel and Jim Sears examples of the earliest Mason jars in a variety of shapes and sizes.



These are some of the unusual colors in the Mason jar display.



Mike and Betty Jordan rest after setting up their lovely display of hyacinth vases at the Expo. The Jordans are missed by the Potomac Bottle Collectors since they retired to Florida, and we enjoy seeing them at major shows.



Joe Merkel sets up the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary Mason jar display.