

Applied Color Label (ACL) Bottles

by Fred Arwood

One of the fastest growing areas of bottle collecting over the past few years has been in Painted Label Sodas. These are also referred by some as ACLs (applied color labels), silk-screened, pop and soda.

Regardless of the name, all have enamel-paint applied on glass bottles. Most ACL collectors prefer to build a collection of small bottles, in the 6 to 12-ounce range. Nearly all collectors prefer bottles with two or more colors applied to clear, green or amber glass, and labels which that have pictures which show scenic views, Indians, females, animals and historic events.

Some collectors limit their collections to geographic regions, companies, states and glass or paint colors.

Several years ago, I started collecting ACL "Quarts". Referring to them as "quarts" is a broad category that includes ACLs in the 24 to 32-ounce range. I found that they are still rather inexpensive, had larger labels, and displayed well. Disadvantages are that they are heavy, and require more space for storage.

The most desirable ACLs of any size are the bottles from "Mom and Pop" bottling plants that have been out of business for many years.

If you are considering a new soda collectible, then ACL "Quarts" might be worthy of your interest.

Here, I share a dozen bottles with you from my personal collection.



From Left to Right:

1. C & P - 28-ounces, clear glass, red and yellow label, from MA, 1940
2. Myopia Club, 28-ounces, clear glass, red and white label, from Ma, 1954
3. Big Chief Ginger Ale, 32-ounces, green glass, red, tan and yellow label, from CO, 1945
4. Peconic, 29-ounces, clear glass, red and white label, from CT, 1952



From Left to Right:

1. Calvert's, 30-ounces, clear glass, green and white label, from PA, 1942
2. Capital Club, 32-ounces, green glass, red and white label, from PA, 1959
3. Cotton Club, 32-ounces, clear glass, red, white and blue label, from OH, 1942
4. Derby Club, 29-ounces, clear glass, blue and white label, from NH, 1948



From Left to Right:

1. Liberty, 29-ounces, clear glass, green and yellow label, from NJ, 1958
2. Liberty, 30-ounces, clear glass, red and white label, from PA, 1947
3. Liberty Bell, 32-ounces, green glass, red and white label, from PA, 1952
4. Liberty Club, 28-ounces, clear glass, red and white label, from MA, 1946