

FOHBC NEWS



FROM & FOR OUR MEMBERS

Mighty Fine Spaghetti Dinner in Downieville

Ferdinand, I wanted to thank you for your hospitality at last year's Downieville Antique Bottle Show. You and Jerry Forbes had mighty fine wine and spaghetti over at your river house (rented). I wanted to tell you that I enjoyed your article on *The Color Puce* (Jan Feb issue of BOTTLES and EXTRAS). I had a furniture finishing shop here in Sacramento and we made our own stains. Rose Lake worked to make puce, in the shop we called it "Pucelaneous." We used a lot of the earth colors, raw umber, burnt umber, raw sienna, and burnt sienna. Looking forward to the National Antique Bottle Convention in Sacramento.

George Wagoner
Carmichael, California

I remember your father and he was a great guy

Hi Ferdinand, First of all, I want to tell you, I remember your father and he was a great guy. I have been collecting bottles since the early 70s and met your father back then at the Baltimore Bottle Club. I was reminding my wife about him and she remembers once when the Baltimore Bottle Show was at the Timonium Fairgrounds. She and I were there early to help along with some additional people. The doors were locked so someone went over to security to have them unlock but they were told only Ferd Meyer could authorize it. So I went over to the security building, told them I was Ferd Meyer and asked them to open up, which they did. I let Ferd know what happened and he did not mind.



The Sonora Stomach Bitters (pictured above) was dug by me and my digging partner Rob Crew, in Baltimore a couple weeks ago. It was in a wet brick-lined outhouse about 8-10 feet deep with the Sonora Bitters being on the bottom. Most of the bottles in the outhouse were around 1880s with the Sonora and a few others at the bottom being older. Unfortunately, I never bother to take photos when I dig.

The patina on the bottle is pretty cool as it makes it look like the bottles dug in the Benicia mud flats in the 70s which is neat because of the bottle embossing of Sonora. I checked with Jeff Wichmann at American Bottle Auctions and he was not sure if it was west coast or not. I believe there is also a Sonora, Texas. I'm not sure if Sonora stands for the town or was used as a selling

tool. Thank you for your help,

Jeff Strong
Baltimore, Maryland

Antique Bottle Club of San Diego FOHBC Membership Drawings

Hi Ferdinand: We had our meeting last night and here are the five winners of the FOHBC memberships. I was pleasantly surprised. Of the approximately 40 members present, only about 10 were not FOHBC members already. Thought that was great! The winners were Terry Monteith (El Cajon, Calif.), Ken Gallo (Santee, Calif.), Camile Horak (San Diego, Calif.), Jim Walker (San Diego, Calif.) and Carol Serr (La Mesa, Calif.)

Mike Bryant
Antique Bottle Club of San Diego

New Show: Central Texas Antique Bottle Show

Thank you Ferdinand. I don't have a flyer yet. Our daughter is supposed to help me with that. We think Texas is ready for another bottle show and want to try Waco because it is centrally located. There is a local collector base and hopefully we can draw some collectors from Austin, Dallas and West Texas who don't travel to the Houston bottle show.

Jay Kasper
Shiner, Texas

J. J. McBride - King of Pain

Hi Martin: This is in response to Fred Holabird's letter to the editor regarding the article *J. J. McBride, King of Pain* (Jan Feb issue of BOTTLES and EXTRAS). Certainly Mr. Holabird is a well known Nevada bottle book author and we all look forward to his new book *Ghost Towns and Medicines*, which we have been anxiously waiting since 2012.

The author of this article and associate researcher Mr. Jon Aurich, owner of the Florence Mine in Goldfield, Nevada and of *Strange Inheritance Fame*, did not just dash off this article but in contrary spent many months researching this man and this Nevada medicine. As long time collectors of virtually all things Nevada, we both have advanced knowledge and understanding of research.

J. J. McBride could not be found in the San Francisco Directories of 1870, 1871, 1872, and 1873. Neither did we find any of his advertisements in newspapers of the West or East. In addition, extensive search of books on medicines and cures, and also check-

ing with several major Nevada bottle collectors, not one example of this bottle was found.

However, he was found with the help of the wonderful docent ladies at the University of Nevada, Reno, Historical Society; 1) as a resident of Elko, Nevada in Howard Hickson's *Histories*, 2) in the book *Sagebrush Doctors* by Edna B. Patterson, 1972. Both these references were given in the article. In addition, his advertisements were found in *The Elko Independent* on Wednesday, April 13, 1870. Microfiche copies were unsuitable for publication because of blurriness. I have included copies of these for your perusal. Now, certainly Mr. Holabird could be right, and also in spite of our extensive research and knowledge of Nevada bottles, we could be wrong. It would be very clarifying if Mr. Holabird could produce the directory and advertisements he contends exist, and produce just one bottle like ours which he states were sold by the millions.

It seems a mystery as to why McBride would choose a one-horse town like Elko which in 1870 must have had a very small population to run any advertisement at all. Respectfully,

James D. Jacobitz, M.D., San Francisco, California
Jon Aurich, Jr.

List of Pigments for Coloring Glass

This list of pigments for coloring glass is found in many references. [Editor note: List is in conjunction with the article within the May June BOTTLES and EXTRAS issue "More on the Color Orange in Antique Glass" by Ken Previtali]

Cadmium Sulfide	Yellow
Gold Chloride	Red
Cobalt Oxide	Blue-Violet
Manganese Dioxide	Purple
Nickel Oxide	Violet
Sulfur	Yellow-Amber
Chromic Oxide	Emerald Green
Uranium Oxide	Flourescent Yellow, Green
Iron Oxide	Greens and Browns
Selenium Oxide	Reds
Carbon Oxides	Amber Brown
Antimony Oxides	White
Copper Compounds	Blue, Green, Red
Tin Compounds	White
Lead Compounds	Yellow
Manganese Dioxide	A "de-coloring" agent
Sodium Nitrate	A "de-coloring" agent

Information Request: Baltimore Glass Works Bottles

Dear Ferdinand, I'm with an exhibit design firm in Louisville, Ky, Solid Light, who is working with Sagamore Spirit in creating exhibits for the new rye whiskey visitor's center. We are in search of Baltimore Glass Works or Maryland Glass Works-made historical whiskey flasks to purchase in order to create an historically based bottle sculpture.



Also, if not Baltimore Glass Works made, then others would work that are typical of the time period. I've been able to purchase some really nice examples, but only one Baltimore Glass Works bottle on Ebay. I thought as a collector, you may know who has bottles for sale that aren't advertised on the web.

We are staying with the clear glass with the aqua/greenish/

bluish/ tint bottles interspersed with only a few of the amber glass but very transparent bottles. I've attached some examples of bottles I've purchased on Ebay thus far to give you a visual. Hopefully, you have a bit of time to consider this request! Thank you in advance!

Robbi Ray, Research Coordinator
Solid Light, Louisville, Kentucky

[FM] Robbi: Best to visit a bottle show in your area. See link to FOHBC show listings at FOHBC.org. The Baltimore Antique Bottle Show is a monster each March. You could complete your task in a few hours.

Book Review: North Carolina Brewers and Bottlers, 1774-1908

Bill (Baab): I was honored and pleased to read such a gracious review of my little book. Thank you. Also, wanted you to know I am well underway with my next three books: *Coca-Cola and Pepsi-Cola Bottling Works of North Carolina*, *Lesser Known Bottling Works of North Carolina (Chero, Christo, Mint, etc.)* and *Independent Bottling Works of North Carolina* (Not franchised by any specific brand). All three will cover a period up to 1925 with some independents as early as 1850. If you are willing, I might ask for your review and input. I have purchased a high end digital camera and have started experimenting with different images and formats. Again, thank you. Regards,

David Tingen
Raleigh, North Carolina

