



The Little Rhody Show Roars Back

By William Rose
President, Little Rhody Bottle Club

“Damn the torpedoes, full speed ahead,” were defiant words uttered during the American Civil War. Well, enough was enough for the Little Rhody Bottle Club. On Sunday, June 20, 2021 it was damn the COVID, full speed ahead with an outdoor bottle show. Thanks to the suggestion of Jim Brochu, the son of long-time bottle collector James Brochu, an outside bottle show was conducted at The Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational High School in Upton, Massachusetts. Typical of the weather in New England, we were told to hold your breath and pray. The weather forecast predicted that it might or it might not rain that day in Upton, Massachusetts.

As I departed my home at 4:00 a.m. under the darkness of the receding night, sunrise was starting off to the east, revealing a sky filled with ominous dark clouds. Come what may, the club was committed!

When I arrived at the high school the clouds started to move out and the sun shone through on this hot and humid spring morning. At 6:00 a.m., the thirty dealers started to arrive and fill up the 54 tables with bottles of all types. Before the dealers could finish setting up, patrons were stopping in on their way to the Flea Market in Grafton, Massachusetts.

People came from Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Hampshire, Maine and

Massachusetts. Throughout the day there was a steady flow of patrons, as bottles were whisked off tables to become part of another person's collection.

The turnout was so good that Little Rhody will make this the home of an annual, second bottle show for the club. For the year 2022 this same show will be held inside the high school. Admission to this show will remain free to the public. More than ample parking is available at the school.

Photographs of this swap meet were provided by Tish and Mike Hewins, Trish and Peter Manfredi, and Arthur Pawlowski.



PREVIOUS PAGE:

Little Rhody Bottle Club member Ron Tetrault from New Bedford, Massachusetts (*far right corner, black T-shirt and white baseball hat*) enjoys the festivities.

THIS PAGE:

TOP: All of these poisons came in one purchase by William Rose, brought down from Maine to Massachusetts by Richard Carney, rick@seaglassofmaine.com

BOTTOM: This photo features club members Taylor McBurney from Rhode Island (*at left end of table*), Bob Lanpher from North Attleboro, Massachusetts (*in red baseball hat*), Jim Livsey from Rochester, Massachusetts (*in white baseball hat with back to camera*), and Karsten Kydland from Taunton, Massachusetts (*in blue baseball hat and gray T-shirt*).



BELOW: Club members Henry Hartley from Rochester, Massachusetts, Ron Rainka from Warren, Massachusetts (*behind the table*) and Klaus Jahnke from Richmond, New Hampshire (*in the green baseball hat and green T-shirt*) enjoy the perfect day.

INSET: A collection of bottles from club member Leo Goudreau of Ware, Massachusetts.





A potential customer checks out a bottle while club members Peter Manfredi from Glastonbury, Connecticut, (center) and Earl Bennett, a renowned dairy bottle collector from Holbrook, Massachusetts, chat.

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