



Editor Note: With an abundance of reporting information and photographs this issue, we are placing the entire Regional Directors report on our website FOHBC.org. Please go to the homepage under Editors' Pick for *"The Rest of the Story,"* as Paul Harvey used to say.

Northeast Region [Charlie Martin Jr., Director]

At the conclusion of my last report, I informed you about an upcoming antique bottle show in New Jersey. Well, as promised, here is their show report, albeit a bit late, but nonetheless, another very successful show for bottle collectors in the Northeast Region.

The New Jersey Antique Bottle and Collectors Association (NJABCA) hosted its 52nd Annual Antique Bottle and Collectors Show on November 27, 2022, in Compton Lakes, New Jersey. Show Chairman Ed Natale reports that it was a successful event. Approximately 40 dealers set up 40 tables. A strong crowd came through the doors "to pursue bottles, stoneware, glassware, postcards, antiques, and more." Ed wanted to be sure to thank all who came out, as well as all of those who helped with putting on the bottle show. Plans are already in the works for next year's event to be held the Sunday after Thanksgiving, November 26, 2023.

The New Year "2023" hardly began when The Little Rhody Bottle Club held its Annual Winter Show on January 8 at the Clarion Hotel in Taunton, MA. Forty buyers paid \$15 for early admission, while \$3 for general admission was garnered from 190 bottle hunters. Shoppers had over 40 dealers spread out over 75 tables to peruse. Bill and Linda Rose, Co-Chairs for the Show, spoke about all of the wonderful activity between buyers and dealers. This author agrees with the summary review, having spent the whole morning talking with dealers and fellow buyers. The variety of material available was outstanding.

Remember, it is Winter here in the Northeast. Our bottle shows are few and far between. However, listed below are a few upcoming events you may want to put on your calendar.

February 5, The New Jersey Antiques Bottle club (NJABC)

March 12, The Baltimore Antique Bottle Club (BABC)

March 19, The Somers Antique Bottle Club (SABC)

April 16, The Rochester Bottle and Antique Show (GVBCA)

April 30, The Dunkard Valley Antique Bottle Stoneware Show and Sale

Check out the locations and show times in the current issue of the Antique Bottle & Glass Collector or, better yet, FOHBC.org Show Listings.

Look for my report on the above shows in the next edition of AB&GC. I hope many of you will mark your calendars more often this New Year and get out and support your local club's event. Your participation makes a difference! Until the next issue, Happy Hunting!

Midwest Region [Henry Hecker, Director]

With the ground frozen in most of the Midwest region, digging has slowed but not bottle collecting. The Milwaukee Antique Bottle and Advertising Club has its annual show on February 5 at the Waukesha County Expo Center. The sales tables will number over 120, and space is sold out. As a countermeasure to inflation, the sales table cost was raised this year to \$40 from \$35, but admissions were held flat, including early admissions, which have allowed the club to put the show back in "the black" the last several years.

February 12 marks the date of the 52nd annual show for the Central Ohio Club at the Doubletree Inn in Columbus. The West Michigan Bottle Club will hold its 32nd annual show on February 25 at the Fonger American Legion Post in Grand Rapids. The North Star Club of Minnesota is hosting its show on April 16 at the Knights of Columbus Event Center in Bloomington. The Ohio Bottle Club holds its Mansfield show at the Richland County Fairgrounds on May 13.

So, for collectors in our region, there are plenty of venues to acquire bottles above ground over the next couple of months. One may have to drive a ways, but shows are the ultimate entertainment...after digging, in our hobby. As Regional Director, as I get more connected with the various clubs, I will heavily promote advertising these various shows in all the club newsletters. As clubs, we tend to be too provincial and focus on our own shows in our communications. We certainly don't have to worry about competing with each other, and more collaboration can only help in promoting the hobby more effectively.

Eric McGuire's report in our last issue about how a library staff barely tolerated him for doing bottle research struck a chord with me. His research was viewed as mere whimsy. He went on to say, "It is true that the traditional 'keepers of history' seldom have extensive knowledge on the subject." In my experience, I have encountered an industrial archeologist surveying a site and finding a Hutchinson soda. I introduced myself and told him the entire history of the bottler from my own acquired knowledge. He seemed unimpressed and dismissed me as some sort of charlatan. He probably never did his own research. Several years ago, I found a Comanche Indian Muskwa bottle from Mukwonago, Wisconsin, that our local historical society members scoffed at, "It can't be a real one! It certainly is not part of OUR history," one longtime member exclaimed. When the research was finished, the bottle and its progenitors proved to be an amazing story which I will tell in a future article. As I am now president of the historical society, I will do a presentation on the Comanche Medicine Company at one of our museum open dates this year. We do need to make friends with our local historical societies as we both have a lot to offer each other.

Editor Note: Continued at FOHBC.org.

