



Photos from Bottle Shows Long Ago

Hello friends, I went through some old photo albums and came up with a few photographs from antique bottle shows 40+ years ago. I wish two things...that we had taken a lot more pictures and that the quality of the photos we took was much better! Ralph (Finch) may be able to identify more people in the Rochester, New York banquet photo. I identified some of the seated diners. Lots of great memories...as I said, wish I'd taken photos at Laconia; Portland, ME; Sidney, NY; Buffalo; Rochester, NH; etc.



Sure had a blast cruising to shows in my 1970 Boss 302 Mustang...not super comfortable for long trips and the jar inventory space was limited but it sure was fast. All paid for by canning jars...those were the days. Let me know if you have any questions.

Mike Beardsley,
Chittenango, New York

[Note] Make sure you read *Jarring Discoveries, The Fruitful Early Days of Collecting* by Mike in the previous issue. We have added all of the photographs Mike provided and posted on FOHBC.org. See Editors' Pick on the home page.

Lestoil Heavy Duty Cleaner

I have been collecting and digging bottles since 1970, and I have seen a lot of bottles including a series of reproduction flasks. They were generally found at flea markets in various colors, including mixed glass colors. In 1984, I bought my current home and saw them again.

After getting to know my next-door neighbor, she noticed I had a lot of bottles. I explained that I was a collector and digger, and then she told me she had flasks! I was very excited, as you could see the flasks in the windows of her house. I asked if I could look at what she had. I went to her front room, and sure enough, she had a series of various colored flasks on all the ledges of her windows. I knew, of course, they were reproductions or newer flasks and told her they were made for Lestoil and could be found

in four colors with some mixed-in-color. She asked if I knew who made the bottles, and I told her I did not. I got an address for the company that owned Lestoil and gave her the address. Lestoil sent her the letter I have included. Finding out was a great bit of history, and she was tickled to get the reply.

I will guess that someday there will be someone who collects these flasks. I am not sure how many designs were on these flasks. I have seen George Washington, cannons, ships and the bald eagle design. I can guess they used other designs in the series. Now we know the rest of the story about these flasks. I am providing two photos of one of the flasks that I have [note that the editor provided higher-resolution images].

Thomas W. Brown
Findlay, Ohio

Response from the Noxell Corporation Consumer Services, March 8, 1990.

Thank you for inquiring about a promotional bottle of Lestoil Heavy Duty Cleaner with a colonial motif. The colonial bottle was strictly a promotional item for the Lestoil line, offered from approximately mid-1964 to mid-1965 in several short selective runs. The bottle was produced exclusively for us by the Knox Glass Company, Danielson, Connecticut in 1964. Only four colors were offered: green, blue, purple and amber. The reason for the variation in shading was that the same glass tank was used for all the glass bottles made. Consequently, as the desired production quantity of one color was reached, the glass was diluted with the next color. We have no idea as to the value of the bottles, if any. Thanks for contacting us. If we can assist you again, please let us know.



Just Devoured

Hi Ferd, just devoured the latest magazine and again you hit it out of the park with your layout and embellishments of my story! [Pike's Peak or Bust] I especially enjoyed, as always, the *Lost & Found* section which is where I always start my reading. The jaw dropper was the article by Rod Vining [Bottle Tumbling with a Twist] with those colored Mobile bottles! I'm still breathless as

I look at them now. As I type, I am awaiting the thumbs up from Lou Lambert to whom I have just shipped my green Ravenna flask for a possible cleaning. He said he would inspect it and render his opinion as to whether or not it is too risky. I leave that decision in his capable hands. I have banged out a couple of stories and am working on a few more. Lemme know if you can still use any. I also started my own YouTube channel of all my dig videos from the past ten years. I feared all my old DVDs would end up in a landfill and nobody outside my close friends and family would ever get a chance to see them. Check it out if you are bored or suffer from insomnia. It might just be the 21st century cure! *The Old Dirt Slinger* is my channel name. Take care.

Jack Klotz
Louisiana, Missouri



Keep Your Powder Dry

Dear Mrs. Meyer, Please, can you tell me where in 2005 the publication *Bottles and Extras* was based? I must quote *Keep Your Powder Dry..In A Glass Powder Horn?*, Cecil Munsey, Scott Grandstaff, Kitty Roach, FOHBC, *Bottles and Extras* (2005), pp. 2-8 and I have to include the place where the magazine was issued at that time. Is it Sacramento, California? Also, which number was the issue...Spring 2005? The 11th? With kind regards,

Alexandru Gh. Sonoc, PhD
Brukenthal Art Museum, Brukenthal National Museum
Sibiu, Romania

[Response] Hi Ferdinand & Elizabeth, Hope you are doing well!! I will answer the man's questions. *Bottles and Extras* was published in Happy Camp, California at this time. I still have the powder horns (pictured above) on my side table. Cecil and Dolores (Munsey) came for a visit in probably 1994 and I showed them the powder horns. Cecil became interested in doing the article about them. Besides *Bottles and Extras*, Cecil also sent the article to an early American collectibles magazine and a black powder magazine plus a couple others too. I am sorry I don't remember the issue number.

Scott Grandstaff,
Happy Camp, California

September – October 2023



Sloppy Joe's Bar, Key West, Florida

We recently traveled cross-country and went bar hopping in Key West, Florida. We stopped in to Sloppy Joe's Bar for some live music—they claim to be Ernest Hemingway's favorite bar. Debatable. Above is their bottle display and "History Under Foot" information.

Brian Bingham
Oceanside, California

