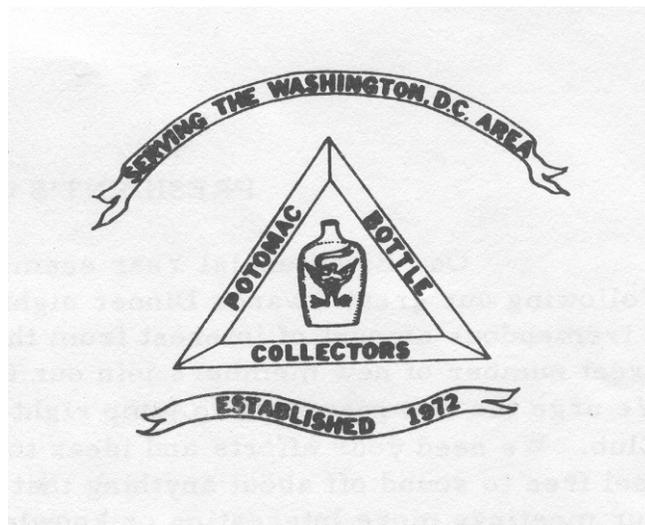


# THE "POTOMAC PONTIL"



Official Newsletter of the Potomac Bottle Collectors

Volume 19- March-April 1976

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Contents of this newsletter may be used by interested parties in the interest of bottle collecting if appropriate credits are given. THE POTOMAC PONTIL is published bi-monthly. Your comments are welcome. Newsletter correspondence should be mailed to Bob Hoag, 4820 Birch Lane, Alexandria, Virginia 22312.

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The Potomac Bottle Collectors meet the first Monday of each month at 8 p. m. in the meeting room at the Coca Cola Bottling Plant on Seminary Road, Alexandria, Virginia, near Bailey's Crossroads. Visitors are welcome and membership is open to all collectors.

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## Officers - - 1975 - 1976

President	--Vern Bauckman	Directors	--Mike Russell
Vice President	--Tom Johnson		Bus Nusbaum
Secretary	--Bonnie Bauckman	Librarian/Archivist	--Bunny Russell
Treasurer	--Kaye Johnson	Editor	--Bob Hoag
Membership Chairman	--Anne Thomas		

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Nice to see Jo Padgett and Jesse Curtis are both out of the hospital and doing well. Hope to see you both back with us soon!

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ATTENTION CLUB MEMBERS--We need your suggestions on anything that will make meetings more meaningful to you--please let us hear from you at the meetings. Speak up!

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John Miklas was elected Club Federation Representative and will be working closely with the Federation so as to keep us informed and enlightened about all news and helpful things the Federation has to offer us and we can offer them. John can and will make a good showing for your Club.

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

I would like to focus my few comments in the direction of two things --the first being the fantastic Show Zane and Barbara Shaffer, Show Chairman, and the great Committee of theirs, put on March 27th.

It was a huge success, from the beginning to the end. The results showed the many hours of planning and hard work that went into the preparation. The Show had everything--great displays, people thru the door, buyers, many new collectors, many great dealers, fantastic help from the Club setting up and tearing down, and last but not least, a great profit--\$1,178.00--that will make our Club stronger in many ways. It was particularly gratifying to me to see all the members who turned out at 5:00 a. m. to set up. This shows the great interest you need to have a healthy Club.

This brings up the other thing I want to comment briefly on-- the same interest is making your Club one of the finest Bottle Clubs in the country. Everywhere I go these days, there are nice things being said about Potomac Bottle Collector s Club. This, to me, shows the positive direction you are moving in. Attendance is extremely good each meeting night; we seem to be getting about five new members a month who seem anxious to get into the swing of things. So mix it up on meeting night and share your bottle thoughts and news with everyone.

Bob Hoag needs Pontil news from you badly--give him a hand to make our newsletter informative and interesting to all. Susan Godfrey has the Club patches and don't forget the book on D. C. Bottles-- if you haven't bought yours yet, do so. Keep sending Tom Johnson your new bottle information as we hope to expand this book in the future.

Our annual Club outing is shaping up for June. It appears it will be a real "squealer"--pig roast and auction. The date will be announced at the May 3 meeting.

Nice to see our members who supported the Harrisonburg Show on April 10 and good to hear we have so many who will attend the PBCA Show May 2. It is important that we attend other Club's functions.

Nice to have Bob Faville (Northeastern Region Chairman of the Federation) at our Show and to hear some of the things from the "horse's mouth"--especially that Virginia stands an outstanding chance to host the big Federation Show next year, and who knows, it could be held by the Potomac Bottle Collector s Club.

Thanks again for all your help putting on the Show and Sale - profits we made will be put to your good use.

Vern

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

Akers, Ernie  
5313 Blacksburg Road  
Springfield, Virginia 22151  
703-256-2530

304-897-6184

Colagrande, Cyndi & Dan  
1012 D Street, S. E.  
Washington, Do Co 20003  
202-547-5920

Sharp, L. Harold  
703 Old Heights Road  
P. O. Box 36  
Herndon, Virginia 22070  
703-437-3309

Gabby, Lois & Peter  
857 S. Frederick Street  
Arlington, Virginia 22204

Shipman, Karl W.  
6403 E. Halbert  
Bethesda, Maryland 20034  
301-229-6665

Irvin, Kay & Family  
4411 Cortez Drive  
Fairfax, Virginia 22030  
703-273-6256

Smith, Curt & Teri  
3704 Persimmon Circle  
Fairfax, Virginia 22030  
703-978-6786

Petry, Albert John  
232- 3rd Avenue--#4  
Quantico, Virginia 22134

Snyder, Tom  
7346 Eldorado Court  
McLean, Virginia 22101  
703-790-0228

Presti, J. V.  
P. O. Box 304  
Quantico, Virginia 22134

Stockdale, Mike  
5611 Franconia Road--#304  
Alexandria, Virginia 22310  
703-971-7743

Rogers, L.  
4225 Whiting--#304  
Alexandria, Virginia

White, Yvonne & Brian  
12703 Westport Lane  
Woodbridge, Virginia  
703-491-3065

Shaffer, Dale, Jane & Mike  
P. O. Box 18  
Rig, W. Virginia 26854

Changes to membership list:

McLaughlin Family telephone number is 703-494-6848

Add--Ed Wright  
12213 Bristow Road  
Bristow, Virginia 22013  
703-361-5756

## EDITORIAL

Well, this has been two action-packed bottle-filled months. We've had our normal meetings, two bottle digs at three locations, our own fabulous show and another two shows within easy driving distance (Harrisonburg and Lancaster). We've also elected our new representative to the Federation of Historical Bottle Collectors (John Miklas) and in this issue you can read the proposed change to the Constitution allowing our President to be elected for more than one consecutive one-year term.

To say the least, we all have been busy, and plans are firming up for more events in the immediate future. This has all been great fun and I will make sure you're all kept up to date on the latest happenings, but I need help. Please give me any items of interest you have for the Pontil, (articles, newspaper clippings, or information about finds you've made). Special thanks to a new member, Karl Shipman, for his letter suggesting many new ideas for our newsletter--we're working on them. Come on gang--help me out!

Bob Hoag

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### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

During recent meetings, the bottle auctions have become over-long and boring because of the lengthy bidding on \$1 and \$2 bottles. These auctions have run too long and many members have left without having the opportunity to visit, question, purchase or sell to the other members.

I feel that we should limit the auctions to \$3 minimum-bid bottles or lots and have the bid increments of 50 cents. Bottles and/or lots of bottles under the \$3 minimum should be set up on the stage with a bid list for each bottle or lot. These bottles could be sold each meeting night and not just on auction nights. Auction nights should be pre-scheduled and the dates shown in the Pontil so that all members could participate. I believe that the Club still may have some of the bid list forms used in the past.

Jack Stockdale

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### LET'S PAY THE RENT! ! !

For over two years now we have been the guests of the Coca Cola Bottling Plant for our monthly meeting room. Maybe our enthusiasm for bottle collecting has rubbed off because they have shown some interest in beginning a Coke collection of their own. A number of members over the past couple of years have tried to think of ways to repay the kindness which they have shown.

Let's pay the rent! Bring to the May 3 meeting a couple of those decent Coke duplicates that you have stashed away in your basement and have Vern present them to the "Coke" people when he turns in the key. Let's show them that we appreciate their hospitality.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION

Article VI, Section 2

Change from: The term of office for President is limited to one year  
(one full term).

Change to : The term of office for President is one year; however the  
President may be reelected for a second term or a maximum  
of two years. Upon completion of term will become a  
Director.

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NOTICE--ELECTION OF OFFICERS

NOMINATIONS SHALL BE MADE FROM THE FLOOR AT THE  
MAY MEETING TO BE VOTED ON AT THE JUNE MEETING.

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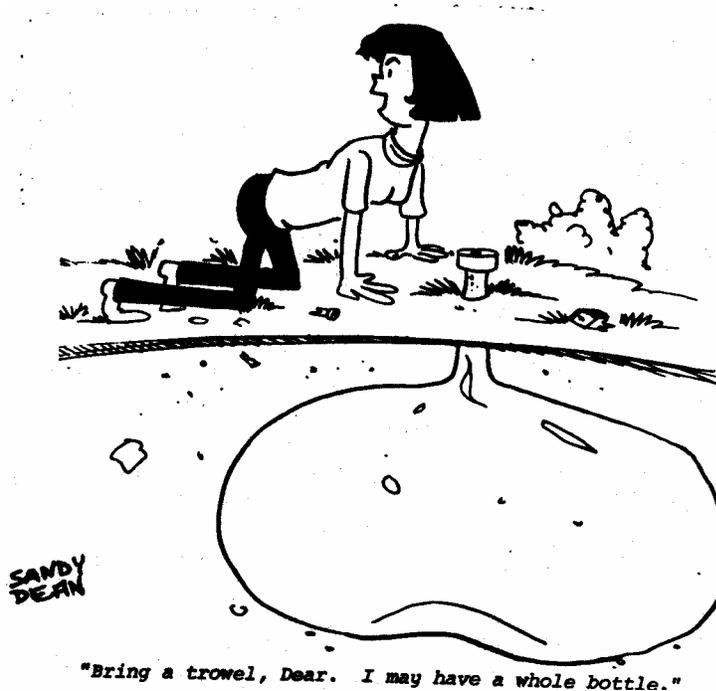
MONTHLY DOOR PRIZE WINNERS

March --Beth Thompson --McCormick Flask  
April --Betty Brewer --Green Pepper Sauce

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WANTED--CLUB CARTOONISTS--

We need someone who can sketch some funny cartoons. and will do this,  
please contact Bob Hoag.



# Cleaning Bottles

I have included photographs of this operation, and operation it can well be called, for there are certain instruments and methods you will have to use to get your bottles clean.

A lye solution can be used for soaking, but I prefer not to do this because of its strength and potential danger to the skin, especially with youngsters around. This does take off all but the most indelible stains. I would suggest mixing a solution of one can of lye with two and one-half gallons of water. Let the bottles soak in this solution for two or three days, re- move, use a bottle brush with strong sudsy ammonia and wash inside and out, and then give them a final rinse.

Instead of lye, I use sudsy ammonia mixed with water for the first soaking of four to six days. I have a large deep fifteen gallon metal container to which I add one-half bottle of sud-sy ammonia, stir, and into which I start placing my bottles. However, first, I remove as much foreign matter as possible and never put in bottles that contain paint, varnish, shellac, or heavy medicinals. They should have straight ammonia added to them and let set for the same number of days with periodical shaking to dilute the contents. After the soaking period, I use bottle cleaning brushes (brushes sold to clean guns work too) and scrub inside as well as I can. This first brushing isn't too important but dislodges more inside matter. I then drain this out. Next I use soapy steel wool and scrub the exterior of the bottle, then rinse and fill the bottle a little less than halfway with water. I have some small pebbles which I place inside the bottle and with some practice you can get the pebbles and water to swirl, thereby polishing the inside of the bottle. You may find this doesn't completely eliminate all rust and foreign matter, but what little is left can usually be removed with a very small brush with a piece of steel wool wrapped around it. However, I seldom have to resort to steel wool on the inside of the bottle. I rinse

again, inspect for any minor additional cleaning and then give the bottle a final rinse in fresh warm water.

If some bottles still have a stain inside, I place sudsy ammonia full strength in them and put them aside. Throughout the next few days, or as long as it takes, I agitate the ammonia, and when and if the stains disappear, I drain and give them a good rinsing in warm water.

You will find the more bottles you wash, the more cleaning tricks you learn. This will give you a good beginning. Good luck and be careful handling bottles when soapy and wet. They sure are slippery!

## Monthly Meeting Program Agenda

May - Slide program  
On "Those Lovely  
Old Wines."

June - Election of  
Officers  
Slide program  
On "Bottle  
Blowing in  
1665."

\* \* \* \* \*  
\* Plan Ahead Now  
\* Pig Roast will  
\* be Saturday,  
\* June 19.  
\* \* \* \* \*

COPY

115 East State St.  
Gloversville, N. Y.  
April 2, 1976

Mr. Vernon A. Bauckman  
12717 Gordon Blvd.  
Woodbridge, Va. 22192

Dear Vern,

12078

This is an open letter to your club and to the fine people of your membership, who worked so very, very hard to put on one of the nicest shows I have been to in a long, long time. A very special thanks to Zane and his wife for all they did for me and the Region. Also thanks to the ladies who sold the Journals for the Northeast Region. . . .

I hope you will write to Hillary about the Regional meeting for next year in conjunction with your show. I spoke to him and told him I thought it would be an ideal spot, and he agreed with me. I will be writing to Hillary explaining to him how to get your State group going. I do hope by then you will have a Federation Representative to attend this meeting. Again I would like to thank you and your wife and all the other fine people. See you in September at the Apple Valley BC Show.

Your friend,  
Bob Faville  
Northeast Regional Chairman

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SHOW RAFFLE BOTTLE WINNERS

Charlie Gardner Flask, G1-45 --Charles Clark, Manassas, Virginia

Amber Lightning Fruit Jar --Paul Pettit, Maryland

Charles Clark did not accept the flask--took the \$100 check instead. The Club sold chances on the bottle at the April meeting and Yvonne White was the lucky winner!

SPECIAL SHOW DISPLAY WINNERS

OBX --John Tutton  
Federation, Senior --Betty Brewer  
Fejeration, Junior --Barbara & George Russell  
People's Choice --Vern Bauckrnan

Other categories as follows:

Fruit Jars

Mike Jordan, 1st place  
Frances Rough, 2nd place  
Bob Douglass, 3rd place  
Tom Fink. Honorable Mention

Milks

Betty Brewer, 1st place (Old Bottles)  
John Tutton, 2nd place (OBX Winner)  
Betty Brewer, 3rd place (Bordens)  
Fred Rawlinson, Honorable Mention

Juniors

Barbara & George Russell, 1st place  
Randy Bates, 1st place

Sodas

Gene Crone, 1st place  
Gordon Knick, 2nd place  
Mike Russell, 3rd place

Noncompetitive

Barry Hogan, Colognes  
Eugene Heisey, Figural Pigs  
Zane Shaffer, Fruit Jars  
Bob Faville, Pontil Medicines  
Vern Bauckman, Beers  
Tom Johnson, Pontils, assorted shapes and colors  
Bill Pollard, Flasks  
Al Steidel Violins

Nursers

Bunny Russell, 1st place

Bitters

Tony Shank, 1st place  
Hillary Mills, 2nd place  
Gerald Mills, 3rd place

Figurals

Clyde & Dolores Garber, 1st place

Medicines

Kaye Johnson, 1st place  
Leo McKenzie, 2nd place  
Ed Hillenbrand, 3rd place