

The Potomac Pontil

The Potomac Bottle Collectors – Serving the National Capital

October 2008

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Meeting October 28th

Please join us at 8 PM at the Episcopal Church of the Redeemer in Bethesda for our first regular meeting of the fall. Please bring in your summer finds for show & tell.

Odds & Ends

- If you are at all willing to help out as a club officer, please don't be shy about volunteering. We will hold an election for president and vice president if anyone is willing to serve.
- Jim Sears has a new address: P.O. Box 370, Garrett Park, MD 20896. Please send any hard copy materials for the *Pontil* to this box. The email address searsjim@usa.net is still good for electronic submissions.
- Our November meeting will take place on the 25th. Ideas for a program are welcome.

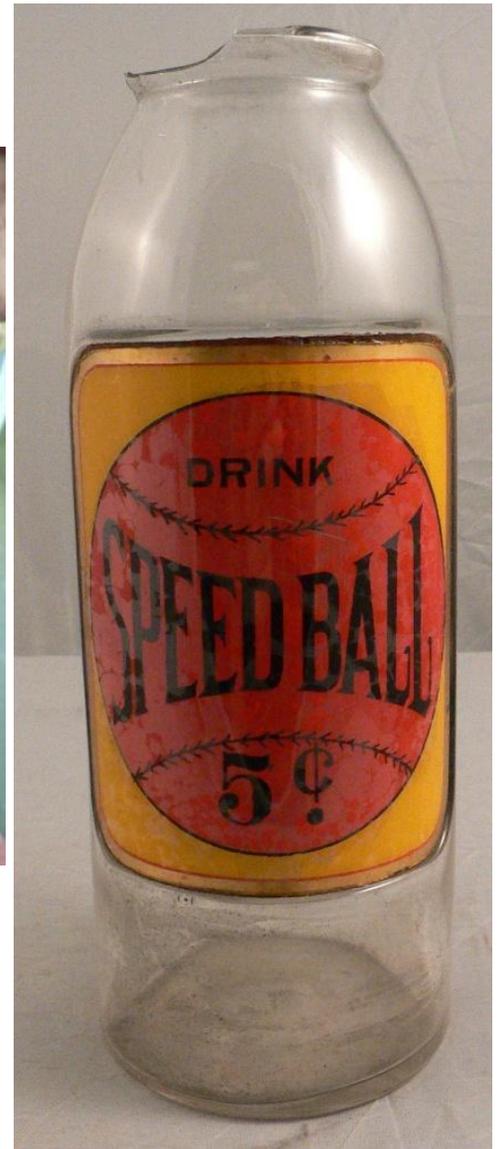
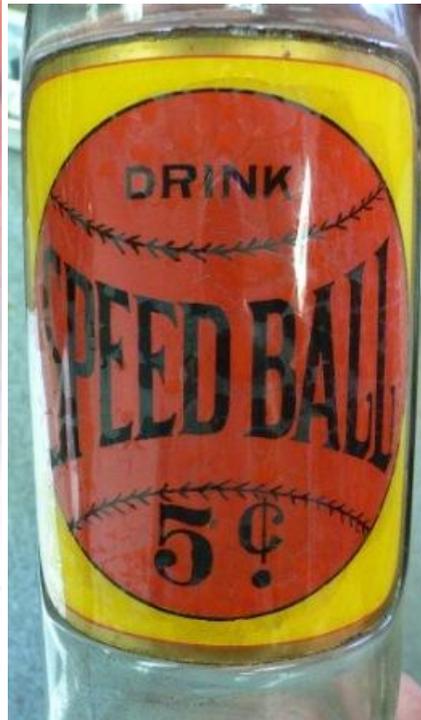


The bottles shown above were displayed at our club picnic in September. See page 3 for more picnic photos.

Speed Ball Company

by Richard Lilienthal

Entry number 540 in the Beer & Soda chapter of our book (Speed Ball Company, Washington DC, 8 in, amber, crown top) has always been a curiosity because of its odd name and related question about its content. A recent find at the Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum provides the needed information. Figure 1 is a close-up of the bottle in our book; Figures 2 and 3 are of the museum bottle. Unfortunately, the top is broken off the museum bottle. It appears to be a syrup bottle, and the expensive and colorful label-under-glass design means it was meant to be displayed at a soda fountain. I assume that the syrup was mixed with the carbonated water at the fountain to make the drink. As the label shows, the name "Speed Ball" relates to the base ball term (not the mixture of illegal drugs that goes by the same name).



Upcoming Area Bottle Shows

NOVEMBER 2 - ELKTON, MARYLAND

The Tri-State Bottle Collectors & Diggers Club 36th Annual Show & Sale (9 AM - 2 PM) at the Singerly Fire Hall, Routes 279 & 213, Elkton, Maryland. INFO: **DAVE BROWN**, PH: (302) 738-9960.



NOVEMBER 9 - PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

The Pittsburgh Antique Bottle Club Annual Show & Sale (9 AM - 2 PM, Early Buyers 7 AM) at The Ice Garden, Rostraver Twp. (Exit 46B of I-70, 4.1 miles north) Pennsylvania. INFO: **BOB DeCROO**, 694 Fayette City Rd., Fayette City, PA 15438, PH: (724) 326-8741 or **JAY HAWKINS**, 1280 Mt. Pleasant Rd., West Newton, PA 15089, PH: (724) 872-6013.

NOVEMBER 23 - GREENSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA

The Southeast Bottle Club's 7th Annual Antique Bottle & Collectibles Show & Sale (9 AM - 3 PM, Dealer Set-up 7 - 9 AM, no Early Buyers) at the Greensboro Farmer's Curb Market, Greensboro, North Carolina. INFO: **REGGIE LYNCH**, PH: (704) 221-6489, Website: www.antiquebottles.com/greensboro.

NOVEMBER 30 - BETHLEHEM, PENNSYLVANIA

The Forks of the Delaware Bottle Collectors Assoc. 35th Annual Show & Sale (9 AM - 3 PM, Early Buyers 7:30 AM) at the Bethlehem Catholic High School, Madison & Dewberry Avenues, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. INFO: **BILL HEGEDUS**, 20 Cambridge Pl., Catasauqua, PA 18032, PH: (610) 264-5945.



Photos from Potomac Bottle Collectors Picnic on September 27, 2008. Thank you to everyone who contributed food, and especially to Dodd Delph for bringing and grilling the venison.