

# The Potomac Pontil

The Potomac Bottle Collectors – Serving the National Capital

*June 2011*

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## Meeting – June 28th

We look forward to seeing everyone at 8 PM on Tuesday, June 28th at St. Mark's Orthodox Church, 7124 River Road, Bethesda, MD 20817. Please bring bottles for show and tell. Lee Shipman suggests **figural bottles** theme. If you have bottles that are shaped like other objects, please bring them along.

## Coca-Cola Bottles at the May Meeting

Thank you to Bill Porter (shown below) for discussing the history of Coca-Cola bottles at the May meeting. The bottles Bill displayed included some of the earliest Hutchinson Cokes such as the example shown at right and a Coke bottle honoring President Kennedy (bottom right).



Meetings: 8:00 PM on the last Tuesday of each month January-June, October-November; picnic in September.

President: Andy Goldfrank

Vice President: Al Miller

Secretary: Jim Sears

Treasurer: Lee Shipman

*Pontil*: Jim Sears (email: searsjim@usa.net, PH: 609/472-5473) &

Andy Goldfrank (email: amg\_sticky@yahoo.com, PH: 202/588-0543)

*Web Site*: [www.potomacbottlecollectors.org](http://www.potomacbottlecollectors.org)

Maintained by Al Miller: [www.potomacbottlecollectors.org/contact.php](http://www.potomacbottlecollectors.org/contact.php)

## Club Library Housed by Mike Cianciosi

Thank you to club member Phil Townsend for donating a copy of his book on Virginia bottle to the club library. Mike Cianciosi is the keeper of the library. Please email him at [chosi@cox.net](mailto:chosi@cox.net) if you would like to see any book from our library, and he will bring it to the next meeting.



At the May meeting Bob Ford displayed a variety of early food bottles, many with complete labels. Lee Shipman showed a cream top milk bottle complete with cream spoon.



Mark Benbow showed some items he had recently dug and rusty cans including the first Budweiser can. Alan Ou brought in a bottle from Hawaii. The embossing included the word "Limited," which we normally associate with Great Britain, but Alan's bottle is definitely from Hawaii.

## The Vision of David Haynes: Art Pottery in Baltimore

By Jack Sullivan

[Special to the Potomac Pontil]

“Art Nouveau,” a movement in pottery, jewelry, ironwork, and architecture, dominated the international art world during the turn of the last century. American artisans adopted its sinuous and organic forms to create a wide range of artifacts that today often sell for tens of thousands of dollars.

For that reason I was pleasantly surprised to find on eBay an Art Nouveau decorated stein with a low opening price. No one else bid for it and I obtained it for about \$10. Five inches high, the stein features stylized trees and mountains on a deep green base (Fig. 1). It has a handle formed like a tree branch, also an uncommon Art Nouveau touch (Fig. 2).



Fig. 1: Haynes Art Nouveau stein (left)

Fig 2: Stein handle (right)

The bottom of the stein bears the mark “Haynes Ware” and the identification of the design as “Cumberland Decoration,” “No. 1508 created in the series (Fig. 3). The acquisition sent me to do some research which revealed that the object originated in Baltimore, not a city noted for elite pottery production.



Fig 3: Stein pottery mark

The story begins in the late 1870s when David Haynes was a pottery jobber located at 347 W. Baltimore St. in Baltimore. He called his firm D.F. Haynes & Co. Shown here is large stoneware jar stenciled with his name (Fig. 4). Not satisfied with simply decorating ceramics made by others, in 1882 Haynes purchased the Chesapeake Pottery. This establishment had been started two years earlier at the corner of Nicholson and Decatur Streets.



Fig. 4: Haynes stenciled jar

Haynes was an artist first and a businessman second. His goal for his pottery was to raise the quality of ceramics available to the middle class of the Mid-Atlantic region at affordable prices rather than to concentrate on making pieces so costly that they would be available only to the rich. He hired a talented English potter named Frederick Hackney and put him in charge of production. He employed art students, mostly women, from the Maryland Institute School of Design. As a result Haynes was able to create top quality pottery and his pieces were awarded gold and silver medals at major U.S. world fairs, including the Chicago Columbian Exposition.

Among Haynes production were a number of items that were in tune with the Art Nouveau fashions of the day. One example is an object bearing lily pads and a butterfly known as a “Gooleh” vase, dating from 1885 (Fig. 5). Other Chesapeake/Haynes objects in the mode were a pitcher decorated with stylized flowers (Fig. 6).



Fig. 5: "Gooleh" vase

Flow blue also was trendy during the 1880s and Haynes obliged with a stylish pitcher that featured a poppy motif (Fig. 7). Reflecting the popularity of the novels of Charles Dickens, he commissioned noted American artist, C.D. Gibson, creator of the "Gibson Girl," to design a plate showing a scene from David Copperfield (Fig. 8). Some critics believe Haynes most beautiful and original designs occurred in his "Severn Ware," first made in 1885 (Fig. 9). It featured a fine porcelain body with a distinctive greyish-olive tint.



Fig. 7: Flow Blue pitcher



Fig. 6: Haynes pitcher



Fig. 8: Dickens plate



Fig. 9: Severn Ware platter

Haynes and his Chesapeake pottery have been credited by at least one author with creating “an era in the history of American ceramics.” Today many Haynes pieces sell for hundreds of dollars and even into the low thousands. Yet despite artistic success, his company failed financially after only five years in 1887 and was purchased by another well-known Baltimore potter named Edwin Bennett.

Bennett admired his artistic colleague. Just a few years later he sold the pottery back to Haynes, also involving his son, E. Huston Bennett., as a partner. The company name became Haynes, Bennett & Co. As shown by an 1891 ad from Popular Science magazine, the company continued to produce attractive and stylish ceramics (**Fig. 10**).



**Fig. 10: Popular Science Ad**

When the younger Bennett left the business in 1895, his interest was purchased by Frank Haynes, son of David. The firm became D.F. Haynes & Son. When David Haynes died in 1908, Frank assumed complete control. In 1914, with sales declining, he sold the plant to the American Sugar Refining Company and all pottery manufacturing ceased forever at the Chesapeake site.

Despite the up and down course of the enterprise and its abrupt ending, Haynes and his Chesapeake Pottery had produced during its three decades of operation a rich heritage of ceramic wares. His products currently are commanding higher and higher prices as antiques. Yet, as witness my Art Nouveau stein, bargains may still be had.

**Notes:** The information and images were gleaned from a number of Internet and published sources. A key reference was Lois Lehner's Encyclopedia of U.S. Marks on Pottery, Porcelain and Clay (Collector Books, 1988).

## Upcoming Area Bottle Shows

**June 25 - 26, 2011 –  
Memphis, TN**

Federation of Historical Bottle Collectors' Annual National Show & Sale at the Cook Convention Center, Memphis, TN. Info: R. Wayne Lowry, FOHBC Conventions Director, ph: (816) 318-0161, email: JarDoctor@aol.com.



**September 11, 2011 (Sunday) Lewes, Delaware Delmarva Antique Bottle Club's 19th Annual Antique Bottle, Sea Glass, Insulator and Collectible Show and Sale** (9:00 am – 3:00 pm) at the Beacon Middle School, Rt. 24, Lewes, Delaware. No early buyers. Mary Beaman, Tele: 302.684.5055

**September 25 (Sunday)  
Hammonton, NJ**

New Jersey Antique Bottle Club's First Annual Hammonton, New Jersey Show & Sale (9am - 3pm) at the Hammonton Volunteer Fire Company #2, 51 N White Horse Pike, Hammonton, NJ 08037, Info: Paul Delguercio, ph: (856) 252-7730, email: paulhavoc@comcast.net.

**October 1, 2011 – Richmond, VA**

Richmond Antique Bottle Show and Sale (9am – 3pm, early entry 7:30 am) at the Chesterfield County Fairground, 10300 Courthouse Road, Chesterfield, VA 23832. Info: Marvin Croker, ph: (804) 275-1101, or Ed Faulkner, ph: (804) 739-2951, email: RichBottleClub@comcast.net.

**November 10, 2011 (Sunday) Greensboro, North Carolina**

10th annual Greensboro Antique Bottle, Pottery & Collectibles Show & Sale indoors at the Farmer's Curb Market on 501 Yanceyville St, Greensboro, North, Carolina, Public admission 9:00 am-3:00 pm for \$1. Free appraisals. Dealer setup 7:00 am-9:00 am, No Early Buyers. Info: [Reggie Lynch](mailto:ReggieLynch@antiquebottles.com) 704.221.6489. [www.antiquebottles.com/greensboro](http://www.antiquebottles.com/greensboro)