

Antique Bottle Club of San Diego



SAN DIEGO ANTIQUE BOTTLE AND COLLECTIBLES CLUB

One of The World's Oldest Active Bottle & Collectibles Club
Established 1965

THE BOTTLENECK

February 2023

Volume 58 Issue 2

MEMBERSHIP

\$20 Family or Single

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Jon Lawson
Larry Westfall

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Terry Monteith
Larry Westfall
Jon Lawson



16th Charter Member
FOHBC



Prez Sez
by
Jim Walker



Hello to all you "BOTTLENECKERS" for February 2023. I hope this article finds all in good health and smoothly adjusting to the changing weather. If you pay attention to the weather in other parts of the country, you'll realize how blessed we are here in this fair city! Even though prices are high on just about everything these days, we do survive (even without high priced eggs)! Our club is still standing strong, with a membership of about 82. I know our meeting space appears a bit tight when we have a good crowd, so I've managed to score our old North Clairemont Recreation Center, effective the March meeting. You'll hear more about this achievement at February's meeting. Yea! Our focus on future meetings/events will be affected by this positive change. Please adjust your schedules accordingly. Our tax free status allows us to use the spaces at a very reasonable hourly rate. The city does indeed have some good programs. The Phoenix club has a big show coming up on the 17th and 18th, so maybe some of you will attend. They are a thriving club and deserve support. Maybe you'll hear some feedback from the Yuma, Az. tailgater that went down on 4 Feb. I hear there were a lot of insulators to be had? Mike Bryant, our favorite editor, could use your articles and most hobby related inputs! Don't forget about Valentine's day and that special someone in your life.

DRIVE WITH CARE, BE ALIVE, WHEN YOU ARRIVE! BURMA SHAVE



www.sdbottleclub.org

2016 & 2013 FOHBC First Place Newsletter Award

MEETING MINUTES 1/20/23



Vice President Paul Dragos called the meeting to order at 6:20 PM because Jim Walker was out of town. We had one

guest - Dave Wear. He had spoken to Larry Westfall, who invited him to our meeting **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Treasurer DIXIE BRYANT gave the treasurers report. Please pay your dues to her tonight. **Editor** MIKE BRYANT had no report – just send him your articles.

Librarian TERRY MONTEITH has held this position over 15 years and can no longer continue. No member has stepped up to take on this responsibility. And since not many members check out our reference books anymore – because info can be found on the internet these days - the club will start auctioning and/or raffling reference books at our meetings.

Sunshine Chair PAT WALKER was absent, but someone mentioned Joni Cooley couldn't make it to the meeting tonight because she has vertigo. **Membership Chair** PAUL DRAGOS shared that we have 82 members. Then John Jenson joined tonight. **Historian** CLAIR CUNNINGHAM was the club's photographer from 1998 to 2002 and shared that he's having fun looking at old photographs he took back then.

OLD BUSINESS: Paul asked how everyone liked the Christmas party. Some commented it was difficult to mingle in such a narrow room, but the food was good.

NEW BUSINESS: Paul asked if anyone knows of another meeting location we could meet at. We currently pay \$100/month to be at the YMCA building but the room is small. Please let us know if you have other meeting room ideas. Name Badges - we have 25 blanks left to make more name badges at \$10 a badge. These are magnet style. Remember when you buy raffle tickets you get an extra raffle ticket if you wear your badge at the meeting. Bottle Show - Paul sent out a poll asking if members still want to have a show. He got about 12 replies, and only 10 members said they'd get a table or two. If you know of a room space we could hold our show in please let us know. Paul says to call and check the place before recommending it. Ask Mike Bryant for the space we need to be able to ask this question. Dave Vilett recommended the Masonic Lodge on Spring Street in La Mesa. The American Legion Hall in La Mesa was also mentioned,

REFRESHMENT BREAK: Dave Vilett sold raffle tickets and Matt Patterson the 50/50 tickets while we refreshed ourselves with snacks provided by Matt Lawson, Thanks Matt! Besides the

besides the annual selection of bottles to pick from there were also three bundles of insulator magazines, and one bundle of five small books to choose from. Before the raffle we auctioned off five reference books from our library.

SHOW 'N TELL: The program was an extended Show N Tell.

RAFFLES: Vanessa won the 50/50 (half the \$77). The raffle brought in \$115 and Bill Reynolds was the lucky first winner!. Then Mike Bryant picked out four bottles to choose from and the raffle continued. Tami Harman one the next bottle and then her ticket was drawn again! Then new member John Jenson won next. Larry Westfall's ticket was drawn next, followed by Paul Dragos's. Jon Lawson's ticket was pulled and he took a bundle of insulator magazines. Paul also took a bundle of insulator magazines. Tami's ticket was drawn again and she took the bundle of books. Robert Harman took the last bundle of insulator magazines.

The meeting adjourned a little after 8:30pm.

*Submitted by,
Carol Serr,
Secretary*



2023 ANNUAL DUES ARE DUE!

Please fill out the attached Annual Membership Renewal Form and submit it with your \$20 to our Treasurer, Dixie Bryant at the next meeting.

You may also mail your form and check for \$20 made out to SDABCC to our PO Box:

7770 Regents Rd, STE 113-326 San Diego, CA 92122

If you would like to order a name badge include \$10 for the magnet back badge.

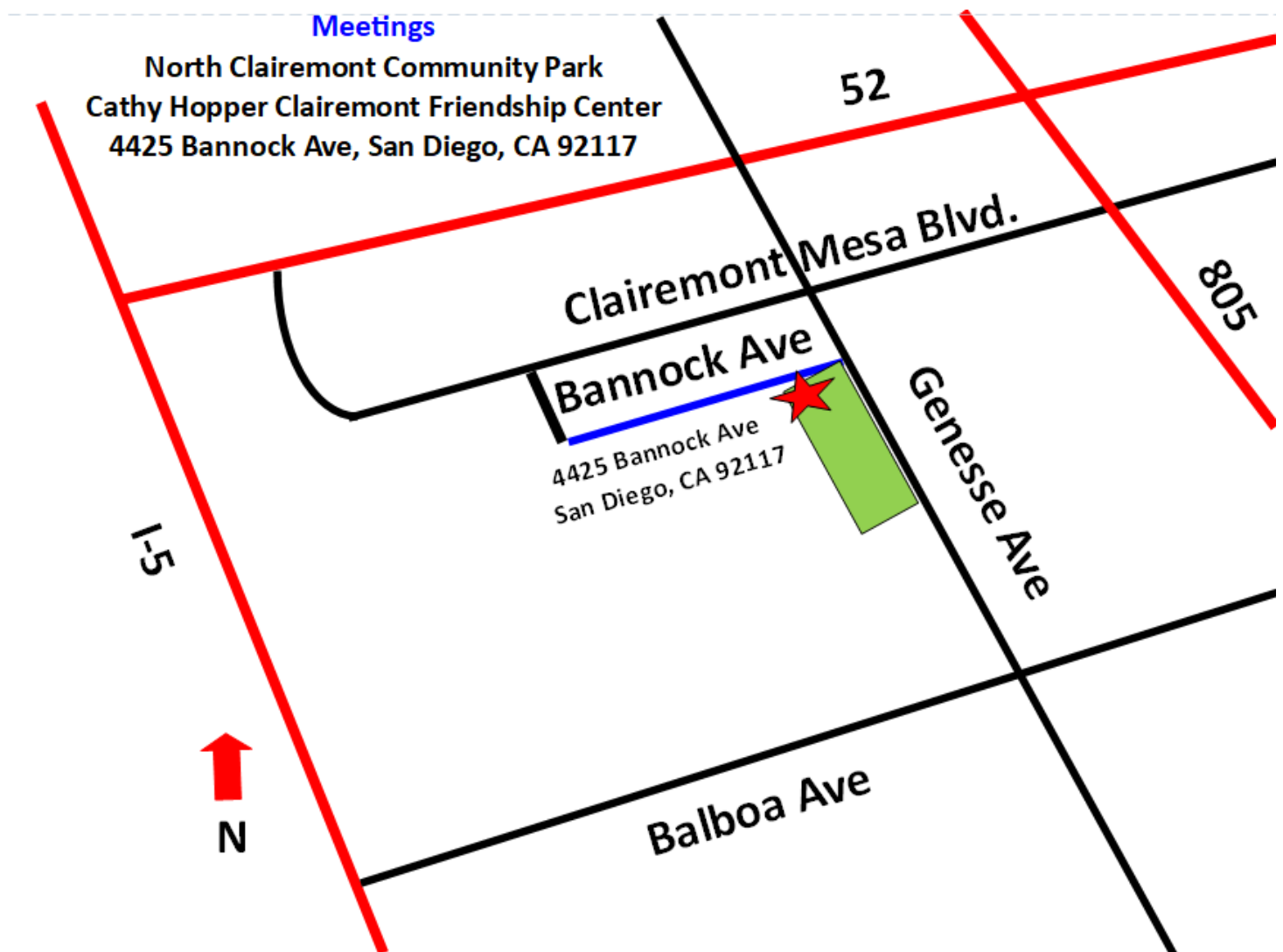
Thank you for continuing to support your club and our hobby!

We're Moving On Up To The North Side To Our Spacious Meeting Room

After a three year hiatus, our old meeting room at the North Clairemont Senior Center has reopened, and welcomed us back. Our last meeting at the YMCA will be this Friday, February 17. In March there will be a couple of changes. The biggest is we are moving our meetings from Friday night to the third Thursday of the month. If we stayed with Friday night we would have to be completely out of the room by 8PM. Thursdays allow us to stay until 9PM, with our starting time of 6PM.

There are only 11 tables, so we ask if you are bringing items to show or for sale that you bring your own tables. We have to set up and put away the tables after the meeting.

Our non-profit status and abundance of seasoned members allow us to have a great rate on the room.



My First By Paul Dragos

My collection pales in comparison to just about everyone else in the club. I have one (small) cabinet filled up, I don't really have room for much more, but there is one bottle that is at the front of my collection and always will be; it is also the most cherished. It is the first bottle I ever found and the beginning of my collecting. The year was 1976, I was 15 and working the summers on the Great Lakes as a professional search and recovery Scuba Diver. We were tasked with surveying a recently discovered shipwreck, which we quickly identified at the A.B Williams, a two-masted schooner that sank in 1862. She was (still is) in great condition, upright, intact, and sitting in about 70 feet of water. She was carrying coal in two holds, and fully loaded. Coal covered just about every part of her superstructure, and it was difficult to navigate around the vessel. Being young, invincible, (and pretty foolish) I found an opening in the pile and swam deeper, entering the vessel down a staircase near the stern. Visibility was horrible, and I was basically feeling my way in to a large cabin, which turned out to be the Captain's Quarters. Furniture was overturned and hanging everywhere, and I realized it was probably not safe to go any further, so turned around and started to make my way out; that is when I saw it. On the deck, was this small bottle. I quickly grabbed it and put it in a bag. I met up with my diving buddy and we slowly surfaced and swam to the dive boat. I began to question: "Was that really a bottle or just another lump of coal?" I handed the bag to my buddy as he was on the boat first, and when getting out of my gear asked him if he saw anything interesting in the bag. He replied: "You mean that small bottle?" Yes, I really had found it, an ink well, inscribed: "J.J. Butler CIN" It is very reasonable to believe it was the captain's, possibly last using it the evening the vessel collided with another and sank.

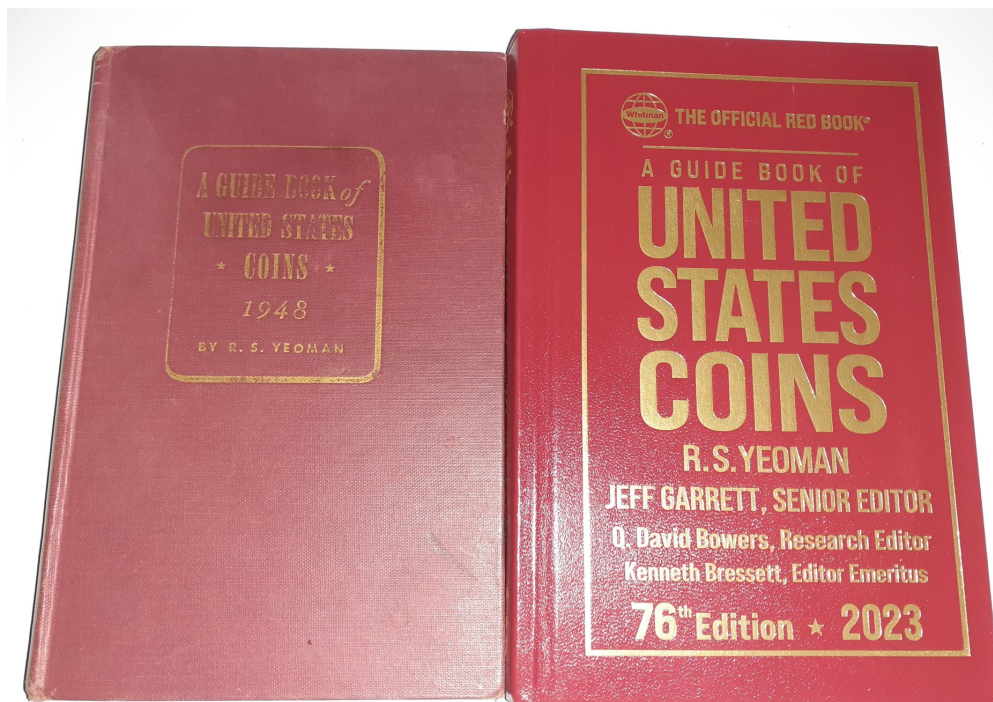
So, that began it all, my antique bottle fascination. It is worth very little, if anything, but to me is priceless. Back in 1862, probably the captain of that ship was using that ink well, and when the vessel sank, no one touched it for over 100 years; then I found it. There is something... fascinating, about finding something that no human has touched for all those years. Who was that person? What were they doing? If only the bottle could talk...

Yes, that is my first bottle, and I will treasure it always.



The Red Book Submitted by Jim Walker

Guide Book to U.S Coins, better known as the "RED BOOK", is one of the 10 best selling nonfiction references of all time. One can only wonder how many enthusiasts purchased the Red Book as the first book in their numismatic library, or how many got turned on to the hobby by paging through the Red Book, discovering the mysteries of long discontinued designs and even denominations... .The precedent for the first Red Book was set with the "Blue Book", compiled by Yeoman, Lee Hewitt and Charles E. Green . The Blue Book intended as a wholesale price guide, debuted at the 1942 ANA convention in Cincinnati... .The first printing of (the Redbook) 9000 was produced in November 1946 with a 1947 date on the cover . A second printing of the same number was run the following February. The two printings can be told apart by looking at the bottom of page 135. The first printing has and of the line reading ' scarcity of this date" while the second printing reads "...scarcity of the 1903-o" The second addition with a 1948 cover, had a total printing of 22,000 and the numbers gradually increased until numismatic boom year 1965, with the highest press run ever at 1.2 million. Many smaller varieties exist: some 1963 additions were missing page 237 and have an extra 239 in its place; some 1948 and 1987 editions are bound upside down; some 1973 have an extra set of pages 33-48 and are missing 49-64; 1977 editions have a listing of a non-existent 1908 -s VDB cent; some 1980 editions have a double cover printing and 1983 editions are missing pages 33-64. Red Books are now collectors items that can be displayed attractively with little risk , and most of the rarities are not out of reach for collectors. Few additions cost over a \$100 , and even those that are costly are sometimes seen at used book stores for 50c. They can be cherry picked , so to speak. A collector of Red Books offers not only the " hard facts" and a record of numismatic history, but also a piece of numismatic history itself.





FIGURAL BITTERS

THE FIGURAL BITTERS STORY

By Dick & Calla Spevacek

Bitters were probably first developed and used during the reign of King George II of England, when he imposed a heavy tax on all liquor and limited the number of pubs per mile. In order to stay in business, merchants added various herbs to alcohol and sold it as medicinal bitters.

In colonial America, there was little or no tax on strong spirits, and therefore no need to add medicinal herbs to their alcohol. But as the country became more civilized, and men were squandering all their family money on liquor, the temperance movement began, and in 1851 the "Maine Law" was enacted which prohibited the sale of all liquor. New York, Vermont, Connecticut, many other states soon followed. Now the American merchants were forced to add herbs to their alcohol also, and sell it as bitters in order to stay in business. The "Internal Revenue Act" of 1862 heavily taxed American liquor, which gave bitters a tremendous boost, and the bitters era was underway.

The earliest containers for bitters were round, square or rectangular in shape, with crude lettering or simply paper labeled.

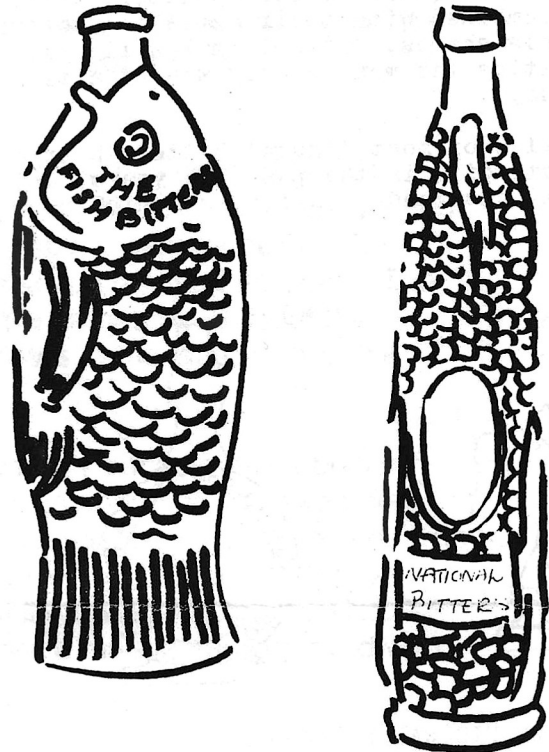


Figural bottles for bitters were first introduced around the middle 1800's. One of the earliest figural bitters bottles on the market was the pig shaped bottle containing Berkshire Bitters, put out by the Amann Co. of Cincinnati, Ohio. They were in business only in 1852 and 1853. Another early user of a figural bottle for bitters was Dr. Roback's Stomach Bitters, in their familiar barrel shaped bottle.

Other merchants soon realized that an attractive bottle would catch the buying public's eye, and therefore help boost sales. By the late 1860's there were quite a number of figural bitters bottles on store shelves. Most were in the shape of things familiar to the people at the time, such as a log cabin, a barrel, Indians, an ear of corn, etc.

Bitters, in these figural bottles sold for about \$1.00 a bottle.

The popularity of the figural bottles lasted to the 1890's, when higher costs of manufacturing the figural bottles combined with the large amount of competition, forced many companies out of business.



Most of the figural bottles were made by the Whitney Glass Works of New Jersey. A few such as the fish are attributed to the Lancaster Glass Works in New York. Drake's Plantation Bitters bottles were undoubtedly made by several glass houses, due to the fact that so many different colors and several different designs are found. This probably the most common of the figural bitters bottles. Several others are also relatively common, namely; Old Sachem Bitters (barrel), Hall's Bitters (barrel), the ear of corn, and the Indian Queen. Naturally color variants exist, and when one of these more common bottles are found in an unusual color it then becomes a much scarcer bottle. A good example of this is the National Bitters bottle, commonly found in several shades of amber, but when an aqua colored National was found it was an extremely rare bottle. Some of the rarest bottles in existence today fall into the category of figural bitters; Bottles such as the Berkshire pig, Kelly's Cabin Bitters, Scott's artillery Bitters (cannon), Seaworth Bitters (lighthouse), and McKeever's Army Bitters (drum) are among the rarest bottles in collections today.

January 2023 Meeting



"Pick of the Litter" Raffle Bottles & Books



Robert & Tami Harmon



Nice Crowd



M*I*C*K*E*Y Mouse Insulators



Bill Reynolds "Pick of the Litter" Winner



New Member John Jensen



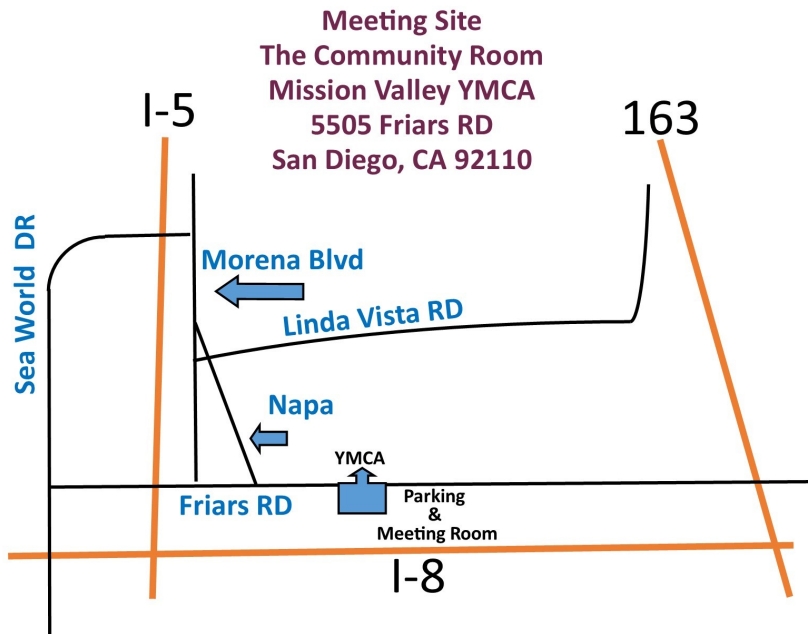
Tres., Dixie Bryant, Show Me the Money!

San Diego Antique Bottles & Collectibles Club
P.O. Box 191333
San Diego, CA 92159-1333

This Meetings Raffle Items



1. Ferris and Ferris Pharmacist San Diego
2. Sanford's Radical cure
3. Carton's HP Sauce
4. San Diego Soda Works
5. Face Wine Bottle



PROGRAMS

Subject To Change

- JAN. 20** Extended Show & Tell
- FEB. 17** Rare San Diego Milks by **Doug Porter**
- MAR.17** Antique Clocks by **Paul Dragos**
- APR. 21** Bake Sale
- MAY 19** Dating Machine Made Bottles by **Carol Serr**
- JUN. 16** Miniature Sample Bottles by **Larry Westfall**
NO MEETING JULY & AUGUST – PICNIC INFO WILL BE PROVIDED
- SEPT. 15** Bottle BINGO & **Ice Cream Social**
- OCT. 20** Bodie, NV Bottles by **Jim Livingston**
- NOV. 17** **WHITE ELEPHANT SALE!!!**

REFRESHMENTS

- Matt Lawson**
- The Cunninghams**
- The Hinners**
- Joni Cooley**
- The Walkers**
- Mike & Dixie**
- Nancy Fowler & Lynn Stafford**

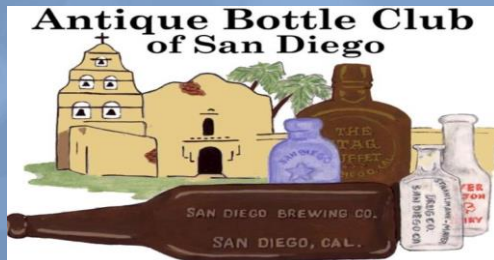
NO MEETING IN DECEMBER – CHRISTMAS INFO WILL BE PROVIDED

MEETINGS START AT AROUND 6:00 PM



ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

“One of The World’s Oldest Active Bottles and Collectibles Club”



Member Information:
January is Annual Renewal Time
***Dues are \$20 per Household or Single Member for the calendar year or any part**

Name Tags are Available for \$10

Mail Check made to SDABCC to 7770 Regents Rd, Suite 113-326 San Diego, CA 92122

- Meetings: Cathy Hopper Clairemont Friendship Center, 4425 Bannock AVE, San Diego CA 92117
- Time & Dates: 6:00-9:00 PM 3rd Thursday of Month except July, August, and December (Holiday Party)
- Purpose: To foster the preservation and study of antique bottles and all other collectibles through research, education and the sharing of knowledge.
- What: We are collectors representing San Diego County; we collect everything from antique bottles and jugs to historical artifacts, railroad items, paper advertising etc. Bottle hobbyists collect other items and are interested in all collections.

Each year this waiver form must be signed by each member to participate in club activities and to update the club directory. Please return it with your annual membership dues written to “SDABCC”.

Effective Dates: January 1, (year) through December 31, (year)

I, the undersigned, hereby waive my rights to any claim against, and release from any liability, the SAN DIEGO ANTIQUE BOTTLE & COLLECTIVLES CLUB, its officers, directors, committee chairpersons, and other club members for personal injuries, death or property damage in connection with my participation in the San Diego Antique Bottle & Collectibles Club, including, but not limited to, all transportation, club meetings, special and social events, such as shows and parties, and defects to equipment provided or sold. I acknowledge that there are risks and dangers involved in my participation in the San Diego Antique Bottle & Collectibles Club and its events. However, I personally assume all of the risks, known and unknown to me, of participation, not otherwise covered by insurance.

A waiver is “The voluntary relinquishment of a right, privilege, claim or advantage”. To release is “to set free from worry, pain, obligation, penalty, etc., or free from something that holds, binds, etc.”

I have read, and do fully understand, the above statement. I am signing this document, granting this waiver and release, and participating in the San Diego Antique Bottle & Collectibles Club and its events voluntarily, with full knowledge and assumption of any risks involved, not otherwise covered by insurance.

Members 18 years of age and older:

| | | |
|------------|-----------|-------|
| Print Name | Signature | Date |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |

Members under 18 years of age, this waiver and release must be signed by parent or legal guardian.

As parent or legal guardian of:

_____ I hereby execute this form on said person’s behalf and further agree to indemnify the San Diego Antique Bottle & Collectibles Club, its officers, directors, and members for any damage it/they may suffer due to injuries incurred by participating in the club.

| | | |
|----------------------------|-----------|-------|
| Print Parent/Guardian Name | Signature | Date |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |

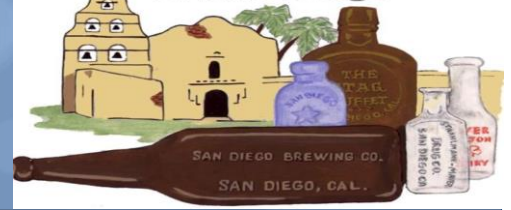




ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

“One of The World’s Oldest Active
Bottles and Collectibles Club”

**Antique Bottle Club
of San Diego**



Date

Print Name above to Order Badge with magnet-add \$10 to dues

Primary Member Name Listing in Directory

Other Household Member Name

Directory Information

Home Phone

Primary Cell Phone

Primary Email Address

Address

City

State

ZIP Code

Collects

Other Household Member Cell Phone

Other Household Member Email Address

Other Household Member Collects

Club activity interests (meetings, shows, digs

social events, programs, research etc.)

Previous Officer in Club?

Interested in Volunteering?

