

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

May 2023

Volume 58 Issue 5

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\$20 Family or Single

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Larry Westfall
Jon Lawson



16th Charter Member
FOHBC



Prez Sez
by
Jim Walker



Hello to all you "BOTTLENECKERS" for May 2023. I hope you're enjoying this early summer weather. There are several new venues popping up around town that surely will promote the antique and collectible business. Maybe some of you are already checking these out and can give feedback at meetings. Paul and I had a lot of fun at the bake sale/auction last meeting and all donations were greatly appreciated. Even though our attendance was down a bit, we had some energetic bidders and more than enough goodies to go around. A fully restored 1934 radio, Donated by Paul Dragos, was put up for raffle, to be given away, to a lucky winner at the June meeting. A \$300 value on this beauty! Our regular Raffles/50-50 will resume at this meeting. We had a special guest, Jeff Gardner, who is our club's webmaster. He did a great job explaining how our web site works and how important it is to provide input for all to review, Articles/photos, etc! We're hoping that Jeff will choose to become a fellow BOTTLENECKER? Our new meeting site is working out as expected, with lots of room and a congenial atmosphere, so please come on out and help us fill the room! Mixing and mingling with your fellow club members is very important! I hope to see you all on the 18th.

Does your husband / Misbehave / Grunt and grumble / Rant and rave / Shoot the brute some / Burma-Shave.



www.sdbottleclub.org

2016 & 2013 FOHBC First Place Newsletter Award

MEETING MINUTES 4/20/23



President Jim Walker called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM and led us in the pledge to allegiance. There was

one guest – Jeff Gardner, our new Webmaster. And Jeff McGreevy brought a friend, Scott Dunkle, who joined tonight! Scott collects bottles as well as local fossilized shark teeth.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: The Bryant's were on vacation so not in attendance tonight. **Librarian TERRY MONTEITH** was absent. **Sunshine Chair PAT WALKER** shared that Eileen Westfall is recovering well from knee replacement surgery, but Larry fell and hurt his shoulder! Clair Cunningham also fell, injuring his knee seriously and is on crutches. Pat Walker will be having minor back surgery in a few weeks.

OLD BUSINESS: Paul Dragos shared that he had checked into the Club getting a PayPal account since so many people use digital means to pay for things these days. He filed an application for an account, but was told it can take 60-90 days to get ap-

proved. He will keep us informed. Dave Vilett suggested Venmo instead. Paul suggested Dave look into the details for getting such an account.

NEW BUSINESS: Paul Dragos showed everyone a \$300 value raffle item he donated to the Club. It is a Philco AM radio from the mid-1930s. Tickets, 6 for \$5 (or \$1 each) will be sold from tonight's meeting until our June 15th program when a winning ticket will be drawn. Make sure to buy your tickets!

Our webmaster, Jeff Gardner, came tonight to announce the winner of the website contest for those who shared a post to our Blog page. Nine people made posts by April 19: Dave Vilett, Jim Walker, Pat Walker, Doug Porter, Joni Cooley, Paul Dragos, Tami Harman, and Mike Bryant posted on the Blog, along with an unknown poster (was it you?). So, Jeff asked Tom Dunning to pick a number between 1 and 9 to choose the winner. Number 2 on Jeff's list was Paul Dragos, to whom he awarded a bottle of wine. Do we want to continue this contest monthly? The more posts on the Blog, the better

our ranking becomes with search engines like Google for more folks to find our Club – and hopefully join. You can post at: <http://sdbottleclub.org/post/>

BAKE SALE & SHOW 'N TELL: After a brief break, the Bake Sale auction got underway at 7:15PM. While there wasn't a large crowd at tonight's meeting with so many "regular" attendees being "out of town," etc. there were 22 items/containers of goodies to bid on. Jim Walker and Paul Dragos did a great job, as usual, getting folks to open their wallets. Eleven members won some great goodies, which included mostly homemade cookies and fudge, along with 12 cupcakes, and a loaf of zucchini bread; only 6 items came from the store. Thanks to all who generously donated goodies! Their sale brought in \$91 for the Club!

A brief Show N Tell was held and then the meeting adjourned at 7:50pm.

*Submitted by,
Carol Serr,
Secretary*



HOWDY SODA

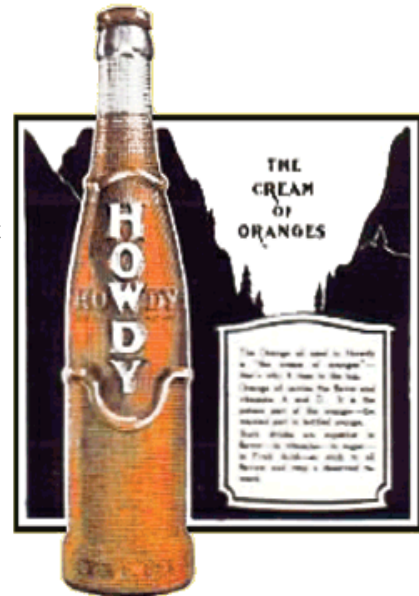
By
Mike Bryant



San Diego
Howdy

Around 1920, Charles Grigg invented a new carbonated orange drink which contained 14% sugar, and he named it Howdy. By 1926 Howdy had over 400 franchised bottlers selling their drink. The franchise bottler in San Diego was Star Beverage Company. Even with their success, Howdy still could not compete with their main competition, Orange Crush. A new flavor was needed. There were already too many colas and root beers on the market, so in 1929 they developed a Lithia based lemon and lime soda, and named it Bib Label Lithiated Lemon-Lime Soda.

This new drink turned out to be a success, even during the Depression, but the name was a mouthful, so it was then shortened to 7UP Lithiated Lemon-Lime. Eventually, it was shortened to what we now call 7up.

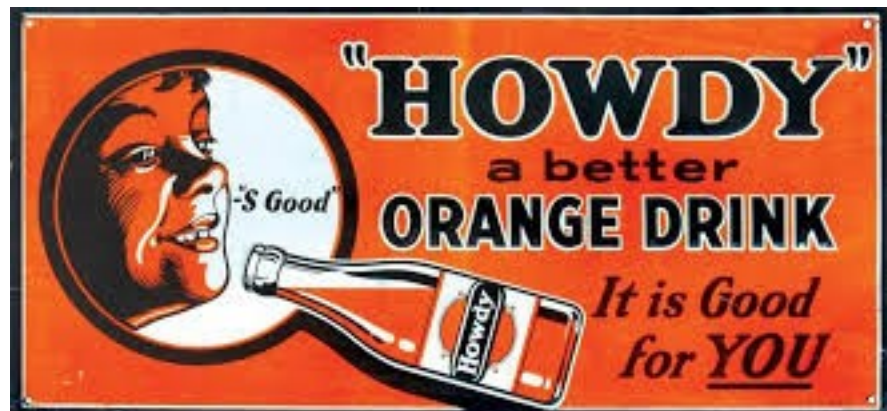


1920' Ad

In 1936, Charles Grigg's new drink became such a big seller, that Howdy Company changed their name to The Seven Up Company. During World War II, many soft drink companies struggled to survive and had to reduce their output because of sugar rationing. 7up required significantly less sugar for their drink than it's competition, so it thrived.

The popularity of the drink made it very profitable, and Seven Up advertised vigorously in all the national magazines. This campaign made Seven Up the third most popular drink in America. Lithium Citrate, a mild anti-depressant was used in Seven Up until 1950.

The San Diego Howdy bottle is scarce, with just a few in local collections.





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.

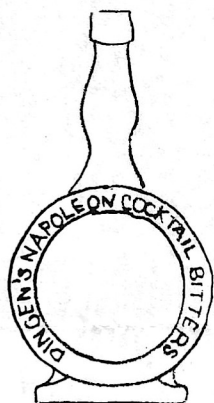
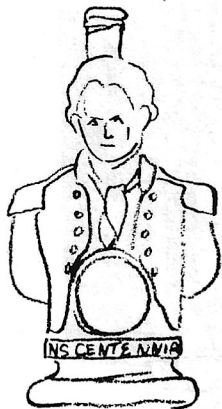


Most of the figural bottles were made by the Whitney Glass Works of New Jersey. A few such as the fish are attributed to the Lancaster Glass Works in New York. Drake's Plantation Bitters bottles were undoubtedly made by several glass houses, due to the fact that so many different colors and several different designs are found. This probably the most common of the figural bitters bottles. Several others are also relatively common, namely; Old Schem 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 bitter; 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.

Figural bitters bottles are seldom dug as other bitters bottles often are. The reason for this is, because of the attractiveness of the bottles most were saved when emptied and then used as vases for flowers or as ornaments around the house, there-by serving as lasting advertisement for the products. Most figural bitters bottles found today are discovered in attics or basements or turn up in the hands of people who have had the bottles passed down to them thru their families.

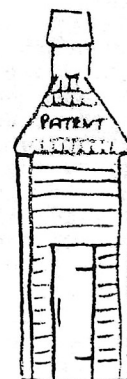
The number of figural bitters bottles available to collectors today is very small compared to the square or round bitters bottles. This fact combined with their appealing colors and desirable shapes, probably makes figural bitters bottles the most highly sought after bottles today.

The value of most figural bitters bottles has risen steadily in the past few years, and is certainly destined to climb even higher.



SOME CABINS

- American Life Bitters
- The Best Bitters In America
- S. T. Drakes Plantation X Bitters
- H. P. Herb Wild Cherry Bitters
- Holtzermann's Patent Stomach Bitters
- Jacob's Cabin Tonic Bitters
- Kelly's Old Cabin Bitters
- Dr. Lovegoods Family Bitters
- Old Homestead Wild Cherry Bitters
- Dr. Petzolds Genuine German Bitters



SOME BARRELS

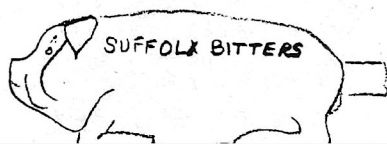
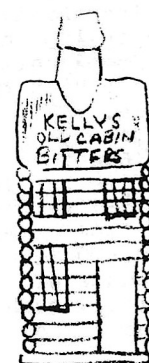
- Bourbon Whiskey Bitters
- Dr. Chandler's Jamaca Ginger Root Bitters
- Favorite Bitters
- Greeley's Bourbon Bitters
- E. E. Hall's Bitters
- Hall's Bitters
- Highland Bitters and Scotch Tonic
- Keystone Bitters
- Old Sachem Bitters and Wig-wasm Tonic
- Original Pocahontas Bitters
- Roback's Bitters
- Smith's Druid Bitters
- W. C. Bitters

SOME FIGURAL BITTERS

- Angostura Bark Bitters-Globe shaped
- Barto's Great Gun Bitters-Cannon
- Berkshire Bitters-Pig
- Brown's Celebrated Indian Herb Bitters-Indian Queen
- Dingen's Napoleon Cocktail Bitters-Drum
- Doctor Fisch's Bitters-Fish
- The Fish Bitters-Fish
- Herkules Bitter-Ball
- Horse Shoe Bitters-Horse Shoe
- Kckeepers Army Bitters-Drum
- National Bitters-Ear of Corn
- General Scott's Artillery Bitters-Cannon
- Seaworth Bitters-Lighthouse
- Simon's Centennial Bitters Bust of Ceontiental Soldier
- Sol Franck's Panacea Bitters Lighthouse
- Suffolk Bitters-Pig



1. Simon's Centennial Bitters.
2. Dingen's Napoleon Cocktail Bitters
3. Seaworths Bitters
4. Mckeevers Army Bitters
5. General Scott's Artillery Bitters
6. Keystone Bitters
7. Old Homestead Wild Cherry Bitters.
8. Kelly's Old Cabin Bitters



April 2023 Bake Sale Meeting Pictures



Paul Dragos with June's Special Raffle item. A Working 1934 Radio



Pres. Jim Walker and Our Web Master Jeff Gardner



Auctioneer Paul Working the Crowd



Auction Goodies



High Bidder Jeff McGreevy



Auctioneer Jim Walker Trying to Squeeze Blood Out of a Turnip

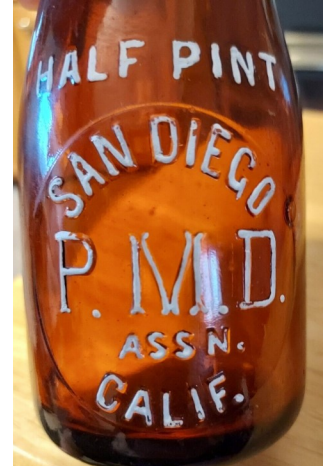
NEWS—Upcoming Shows

SHOWS SUBJECT TO CANCELLATION



May 12-13 7th Annual Washington Bottle Show
Kent, WA

May 26-27 57th Annual Las Vegas Antique Bottle &
Collectors Club's Annual Show Boulder, NV



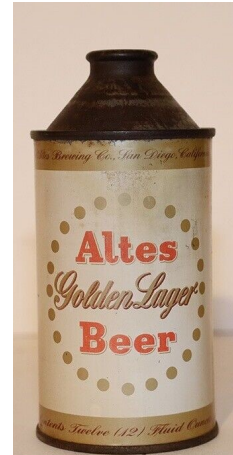
\$29.99



\$205.49



\$69.15



\$113.50



\$45.00

San Diego Items
Recently Sold on Ebay



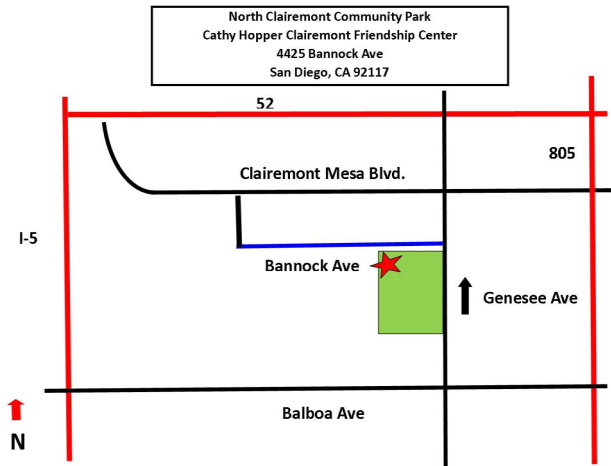
\$41.00

E
B
SAN DIEGO
Y

Bus Route Sign.....	\$205.49
Altes Cone Top.....	\$113.50
SJ Wines Coffee Tin.....	\$69.15
Broadway Malt Opener.....	\$45.00
East SD Milk Pt.....	\$41.00
PMD Amber Pt (Damaged).....	\$29.99

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

This Meetings Raffle Items



- 1) Rainier Ale Cone Top Beer Can
- 2) J.E. Ryder Teignmouth Medicine
- 3) Mexican Mustang Liniment, N.Y.
- 4) Early S.F. Capers
- 5) Henry C. Meyer Blob Top Beer
- 6) Amethyst Rock Specimen

PROGRAMS

Subject To Change

- JAN. 20** Extended Show & Tell
- FEB. 17** Rare San Diego Milks by **Doug Porter**
- MAR. 16** Antique Clocks by **Paul Dragos**
- APR. 20** Bake Sale
- MAY 18** Dating Machine Made Bottles by **Carol Serr**
- JUN. 15** Miniature Sample Bottles by **Larry Westfall**
NO MEETING JULY & AUGUST – PICNIC INFO WILL BE PROVIDED
- SEPT. 21** Bottle BINGO & **Ice Cream Social**
- OCT. 19** Bodie, NV Bottles by **Jim Livingston**
- NOV. 16** **WHITE ELEPHANT SALE!!!**

REFRESHMENTS

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

NO MEETING IN DECEMBER – CHRISTMAS INFO WILL BE PROVIDED

MEETINGS START AT AROUND 6:00 PM