

# 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

November 2023

Volume 58 Issue 9

### MEMBERSHIP

\$20 Family or Single

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#### HISTORIAN

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#### PROGRAMS

Jim Livingston  
Jon Lawson  
Larry Westfall

#### BOARD

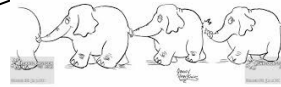
Terry Monteith  
Larry Westfall  
Jon Lawson



16th Charter Member  
FOHBC



**Prez Sez**  
by  
Jim Walker



**Hello to all you "BOTTLENECKERS" for November 2023.** I hope this month of Thanksgiving finds you all in good health. Our infamous White Elephant sale will be at this month's meeting, so don't forget to bring some quality donations. The club treasurer will be much happier when the auction is over! We won't have the usual raffle or 50/50 due to the auction & the need to focus those hard earned \$\$\$ on things you can't live without?

You will still have your last chance to buy a raffle ticket for the nice vintage clock donated by Mr. Vice Prez, Paul Dragos. The winning ticket for this vintage clock to be drawn at our Christmas Party, which is on track for 9 December, at Tim & Laura Schweighart's lovely home. A party flier will go out in early December with details. An important reminder that this meeting will be the time for club officer nominations for 2024. Let's have a good attendance for this last important meeting of the year!

**Candidate Says, Campaign Confusing, Babies Kiss Me Since I have Been Using—Burma Shave**



[www.sdbottleclub.org](http://www.sdbottleclub.org)

**2016 & 2013 FOHBC First Place Newsletter Award**

## MEETING MINUTES 10/19/23



President Jim Walker called the meeting to order at 6:34 PM and led us in the pledge of allegiance. Frank Console brought a guest, Lori Howell, and she joined the Club!

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:** Treasurer DIXIE BRYANT gave the checking account balance, informing us that the clock raffle has taken in \$49 at the September meeting. **Bottleneck Editor** MIKE BRYANT, as usual, needs Your articles for the newsletter. **Librarian** TERRY MONTEITH had no report. **Sunshine Chair** PAT WALKER had no report. Jeff McGreevy offered to help Pat find out about ailing members. **Membership Chair** PAUL DRAGOS stated there's been no change since last month. But later during the meeting, Ms. Howell joined raising the count to 78 members. **Historian** this position is Open for someone to take over. **Videographer** MIKE KASZUBA discussed how he thinks our club meeting videos should only be available to Members on our website. He needs to talk to Jeff Gardner to see if this is possible. **Webmaster** JEFF GARDNER was absent.

**OLD BUSINESS:** There was no old business to discuss.

**NEW BUSINESS:** President Jim shared that the Schweighart's will be hosting our December Party! It will be held probably around early afternoon on December 9, so mark your calendars. Our officer elections will be held at our November meeting. Please consider serving on the Club board. Dixie asked if we want her to book our meeting room for January thru March 2024 and was told "yes please." We can't find any place else to hold meetings for the low amount we pay at this location.

### BREAK

Show N Tell was held before the program. Jim thanked Nancy Fowler and Lynn Stafford for the Halloween yummy treats. They went all out with decorations, etc. Paul Dragos went around selling Special Raffle tickets for his donated 1935 Iconic clock You can still buy tickets for this prize at our November meeting - and the winner will be drawn at our Christmas party.

Joni Cooley sold the raffle tickets, taking in \$79. We didn't have a second roll of tickets to hold the 50/50, however. The first ticket drawn was Joni's! Mike Bryant was the next winner, followed by Larry Westfall, Tami Harman, Terry Monteith, Pat Walker, and Larry a second time. Adding to the six bottles, Jim Livingstone added a modern Nalgene water bottle he got at his last visit to the

historic ghost town of Bodie.

### PROGRAM

The program was on Jim Livingstone's bottles from the historic ghost town of Bodie, CA. He had given a similar program back in 2015 at our February meeting. He had more bottles and other Bodie items to share tonight. The town of Bodie is the largest and best preserved ghost town in the U.S. It began in the early 1870s and the population "boomed" after a rich vein of ore was uncovered due to a mine cave-in in 1875. The population grew to 10,000 at one point, but then dropped to only 500 by 1900. Ninety percent of the town burned down in a 1932 fire. But there are still 200 some buildings in the town, owned by the State Park system since 1964 and kept in a state of "arrested decay." Jim fell in love with the town, and after seeing a book on bottles by John Chapman in our Club library years ago, he needed to get a Bodie bottle. The rest is history, as they say. Jim shared his pharmacy, beer, brandy, and seltzer bottles from Bodie.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.

*Submitted by,  
Carol Serr, Secretary*



"Hey! Anybody seen Big Bird?"



'UNFRIEND' NAMED OXFORD DICTIONARY'S WORD OF THE YEAR

## I Wish They Could Talk

by

Paul Dragos

“What is the fascination with collecting old bottles?” That is a question I get asked a lot when people find out I belong to an antique bottle club. Most do not understand the allure an old bottle has to us. It is understandable, we all have different interests and fascinations and whether it makes sense to anyone else is not important, but I tried to understand myself why I enjoy owning a bottle that 50, 100, 200 years old. There are several reasons members of the club collect. For some, it is the thrill of the hunt, to find that one rare bottle that completes a collection, or is so unusual you hardly ever see an example. For others, it is a treasure expedition. Finding a bottle at a garage sale that cost \$5 when it is really worth \$500. Any reason is fine and there are probably dozens more I haven’t mentioned, but for me, it is a connection.

I have a couple bottles from the mid-1800s. None are valuable or really noteworthy in the bottle collection world, but none of that matters to me. When I hold an old bottle, I wonder who was the person using this when it was new. What were they doing with it? Obviously we can surmise from the contents they were drinking it, or using it to clean, or any number of other uses, but WHO were they? It is that connection that makes me treasure old bottles so much, I am holding something that another human held in their hands hundreds of years ago. I’ll never know who that person was, and won’t meet them (well, anytime soon I hope) but they were a real person, and today, I have something they used many years ago. Others may not find this interesting, but it is the fascination that fuels my collecting, the stories that bottle could tell. I wish they could talk.

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## WHITE ELEPHANT SALE



**November 16th is our much anticipated, spectacular, colossal, stupendous, not-to-be-missed auction of curiosities, collectibles, and countless surprises! Please bring your special contributions to be placed center-stage for this always entertaining club fundraiser. This is not a venue for cleaning out your junk! Donate items that others would be pleased to own, bakery treats too!**



# F.W. BRADLEY

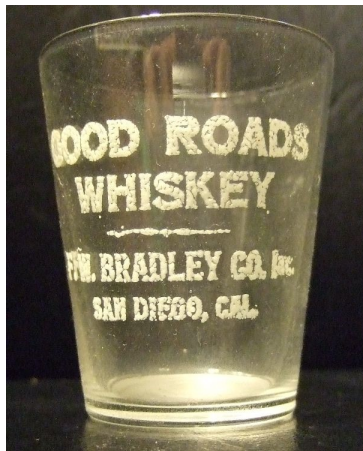
By Rick Patterson

This is a story about the life of F.W. Bradley , a beloved son, a Civil war soldier, a entrepreneur, and a family man who loved his beloved state of California . He had many accomplishments throughout his storied life but he will be forever etched in the annals of history as a purveyor of wine, liquors, bottled soda and mineral water. His name is literally embossed on glass bottles for people to admire, collect and inquire about the history of his life . Francis William Bradley was born in Audrain County, Missouri on May 1848. Francis grew up being raised only by his father as his Mother passed away when he was young. Francis grew up as any normal young man at that time helping his father with needed chores around the home. As soon as Francis was able, he joined the Union Army in his mid-teens .In August 1864, Bradley enlisted as a private in Company A of the 44th Regiment of Missouri Infantry according to government records. Only after one month after his training he saw combat. Francis was involved in many fierce battles and was hospitalized for a period of time in 1864. He was later discharged for a described disability. The disability he had did not however affect his ability to earn a living. After the war he married and moved to St. Joseph Missouri. Around 1887 the Bradley's moved to San Diego. There Francis initially opened a saloon with a partner called the Eintracht Saloon at 963 Fifth Street in San Diego. A subsequent owner would call it a "resort." The saloon featured a hot lunch available before noon, cold steam and lager beer, and mixed drinks — not just shots of rotgut whiskey at the bar. After he sold the saloon he ran the Albemarle Hotel. After leaving the hotel job Francis founded two businesses, the Bradley Spring Water and Bottling Company, located at 1225 C Street, and F.W. Bradley Wholesale Wines and Liquors, located at 1058-1062 Fourth Avenue

Throughout his career as a San Diego whiskey merchant, Bradley advertised his goods vigorously. Showing a cartoonish figure straddling a rail, one ad asserted: *““ On the Fence as to where to ensure the best wines and liquors of all kinds? Don't poison yourself by drinking inferior liquors when you can buy the pure goods at a very little more cost. We have all the favorite brands. Buy here and you are sure of the quality as well as quantity .Try our Eastern Peach or Apple Brandy.”* F. W. Bradley –Wholesale Wines and Liquors. Bradley's flagship brand was "Good Roads," a blended whiskey. He was issued a trademark for the name in February 1910.

At the same time, the proprietor's spring water and bottling plant were flourishing. Francis claimed to be sole owner of what he called "the Celebrated Bradley Spring" near San Diego. His ads touted his bottled spring water as "a pure natural mineral water, efficacious in all kind of kidney and stomach problems." His company also sold a full line of carbonated soft drinks, including root beer, ginger ale and flavored soda waters. Bradley bottled his non-alcoholic beverages in Hutchinson type bottles. Those hutch bottles also carried his embossed name. These hutch bottles bearing his name are prized processions of bottle collectors not only in California, but across the nation.

Francis Bradley lived a full and rich life with it however ending abruptly. Only two years after receiving a trademark patent on his famous "Good Roads" blended whiskey he loved, he succumbed to a heart attack in San Diego on May 3, 1912. He was 66 years old. His funeral was held at the chapel of a local funeral home. Francis Bradley was buried San Diego's Mount Hope Cemetery.



# The Story Behind: The LBJ ACL

By

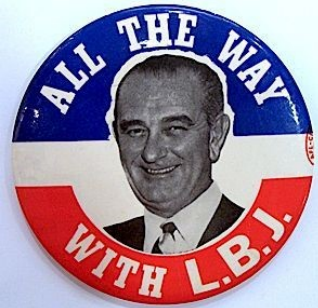
Mike Bryant



Lyndon Baines Johnson was born on August 27, 1908 in the small rural Texas community of Stonewall. He was the oldest of five children, and got the political bug at an early age when he was elected President of his 11th grade class. In 1926 he enrolled in Southwest Texas State Teacher's College

(today's Texas State University.) He graduated in 1930 and briefly taught public speaking and debate in a couple local high schools.

Johnson's father Samuel was a well respected politician who served six terms in the Texas legislature. It was no surprise that Lyndon would become active in local politics. His tenacity and hard nosed work ethic was legendary and it wasn't long before he was appointed as a legislative secretary to Texas Congressman Richard Kleberg. In 1937, Johnson saw his chance and ran for Congress. It was a hard fought race, but he won and would serve for 12 years. In 1949 he was elected Senator. He would become one of the most powerful men in the U.S. Senate.



In 1960, Johnson was persuaded to run for the office of President of the United States on the Democratic Ticket. His opponent was a very popular John Kennedy. Kennedy would win the party's nomination. Knowing he would have

a hard time being elected President without the help of Southern Democrats, Kennedy asked Johnson to be his Vice Presidential



running mate. The 1960 race pitted Kennedy and Johnson, against Richard Nixon for President and Henry Cabot Lodge for Vice President. It was a close race, but John F. Kennedy would become the 35th President, and Johnson the 36th Vice President of the United States.

It was well known that while relaxing on his ranch, Vice-President Johnson's favorite drink of choice was scotch and soda. Cutty Sark and Canada Dry Club Soda to be exact. This fact did not go unnoticed by W.D. Matthews, the owner

of the Canada Dry Bottling Company of San Antonio, Texas. Vice President Johnson was to be the keynote speaker at the American Bottlers of Carbonated Beverages national convention to be held in Dallas towards the end of November 1963. Matthews thought it would be nice to thank Johnson by producing a special applied color labeled (ACL) club soda bottle honoring the Vice President. One hundred cases, totaling 2400 bottles were produced. They were a big hit with Johnson, and he started using them at his ranch upon arrival. It is noted that not all of the bottles may have made it to the ranch. There is speculation that many were taken as souvenirs by the bottling plant employees. Still, only 2400 were produced, so that is a relatively small number by today's standards.



In preparation for re-election for a second term as President, Kennedy planned to make campaign swings through several key states. One of those states was Texas. On November 22, 1963 he landed in San Antonio for a two day, five city tour of Texas. Vice President Johnson had planned a big shindig at his ranch to honor the President's visit. No doubt, the special LBJ ACL would have been prominently on display and served to the dignitaries in attendance.



What would happen that day in Dallas, changed everything. The world was in shock. One moment Johnson was planning a big party, the next he was on Air Force One being sworn in as the 36th President of the United States. Needless to say, the BBQ that was to honor President Kennedy never happened.

So what became of all the special Johnson sodas? Most were used at the ranch or given away. A couple phone company employees claim that they were given permission to dig the dump on the ranch where they recovered several of the bottles.



I was fortunate to add one to my collection years ago. From time to time one will appear on Ebay, but be prepared to spend several hundred dollars if you want to land one of these much sought after ACL's.

And Now You Know

## October Meeting Pictures



Jon Taking Bottles with Tami & Robert Harman



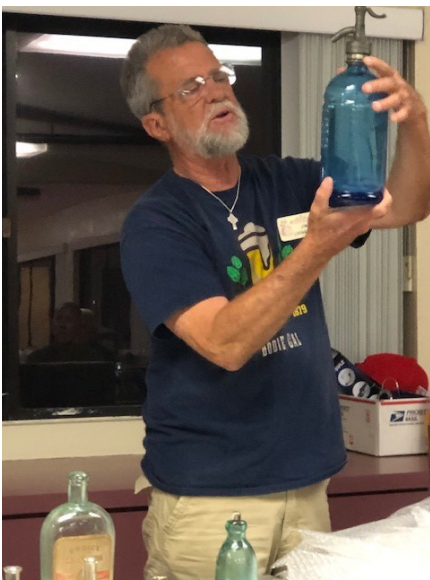
One of the several "For Sale" Tables



Wonderful Halloween Snacks Provided by Nancy & Lynn



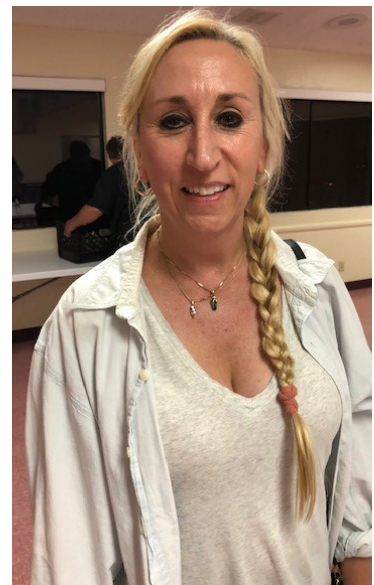
Snack Providers Nancy Fowler & Lynn Stafford



Jim Livingston Did A Great Program On Bodie Bottles



A Happy Vanessa & Terry Monteith



Our New Member Lori Howell

NEWS—Upcoming Shows

SHOWS SUBJECT TO CANCELLATION



**Jan 26-27** Anderson Bottle Club's 47th Annual Show and Sale. [Anderson, CA](#)

**Feb 16-17** Oregon Bottle Collectors Annual Show and Sale. [Aurora, OR](#)

**April 19-20** The Golden Gate Historical Bottle Society's 56th Annual Show and Sale. [Antioch, CA](#)



\$280.00



\$22.50



\$76.00

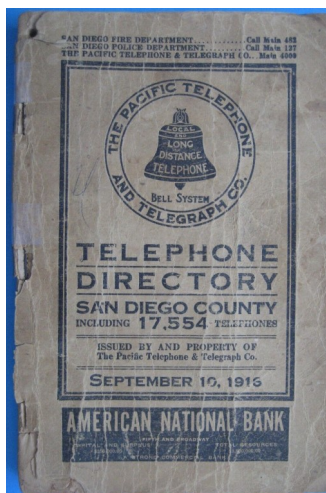


\$34.00



\$46.00

San Diego Items  
Recently Sold on Ebay



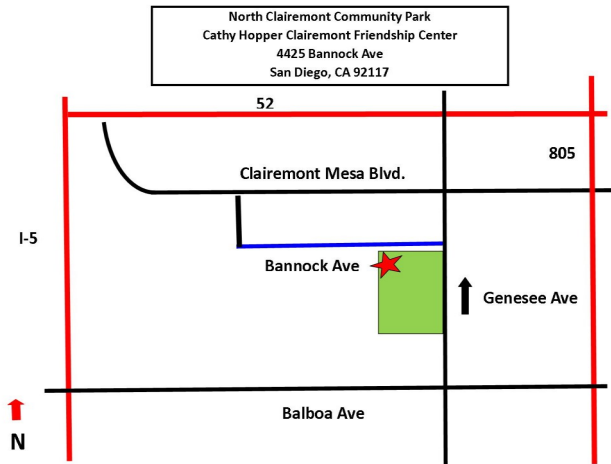
\$125.50

**E  
B  
SAN DIEGO  
Y**

Cola Root Beer ACL.....	\$280.00
1916 SD Phone Book.....	\$125.50
1913 Baseball Team Photo.....	\$76.00
Courtesy Chevy Frame.....	\$46.00
Belfast Bottle Cap.....	\$34.00
Cloyed's Dairy QT.....	\$22.50

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

## This Meetings Raffle Items



No bottle raffle tonight because of the  
White Elephant Sale

### 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**