

MIDWEST GLASS CHATTER

MIDWEST ANTIQUE FRUIT JAR & BOTTLE CLUB

Since 1972

Midwest Glass Chatter
August 2011

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An Index to the Club Lending Library is available online. Please contact Dick Cole about items which you would like to check out.

Membership

The Midwest Glass Chatter is a monthly publication and is a forum through which collectors can share information.

Membership cost is \$15.00 per year, per family, due each December 31. All jar/bottle related collectors are welcome. Send to MAFJBC, Attn: Anne Szopa, 11199 U.S. Highway 35, Economy, IN 47339

Meeting Minutes, August 14th, 2011

The August club meeting was held at the home of Colleen and Jerry Dixon in Muncie, Indiana. Club president Dave Rittenhouse opened the meeting and welcomed 10 members.

Anne Szopa gave the Treasurer's report for July and August. The club sent flowers for Charles Williams' funeral. A very nice Thank You note was received from Brona Williams. Expenses included the cost of placing an advertisement in the FOHBC National Show Program, the cost of purchasing a copy of the Standard Fruit Jar Reference 2011 edition for the Club Library, and costs associated with printing and mailing the club newsletter. Some income was received from new members joining the club in July.

Joe Coulson mentioned that it saves the club time and money if members receive their newsletter by email rather than by postal mail. You also get all the pictures in full color and can resize the newsletter as large as you want on your computer monitor. Joe also mentioned that he is working on a project to put together a complete set of the past club newsletters. A few club members are helping with this project. The biggest gaps are in the 1970's and early 1980's.

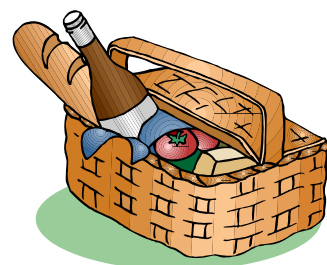
Dick Cole told us that Jerry McCann called and thanked him for the club's support of the July Fruit Jar Round-Up. He was glad that the club promoted it and helped with a little money. He was also appreciative that the club purchased a copy of the SFJR 2011 book.

Joe shared a letter from club member John Elwood. Due to health reasons John is dropping out of the hobby. The club will send him a card. John has been one of the regular attendees at club meetings. We will greatly miss his participation and support.

Dave reviewed the upcoming bottle shows. He also mentioned the annual Portland, Indiana Tractor Show. There are antique and flea market dealers at this show, and you can find jars for sale.

Dave said that he had a lot of fun at our July Fruit Jar Round-Up. He made several good purchases. He reminded everyone that you need to reserve your hotel room early for our January 2012 Show. We had people staying on the second floor last time (there is no elevator, although one is planned to be installed in the future).

Joe mentioned that he would not be able to attend



the September meeting due to a planned two week vacation that overlaps with the club meeting. He needs someone to take the meeting minutes and photos. Colleen Dixon and Jean Harbron volunteered to help out in Joe's absence.



Rare WILSON & WEBB jar

Show and Tell

The Show and Tell theme for the August meeting was recent purchases.

Anne Szopa brought a clear half gallon Ball (3-L) Mason; a clear quart Ball Ideal (with glass boss to secure bail; Drey style boss); and a thick green glass product jar (glass lid and clamp; eight sides; base: Matthias & Harrison / 20 oz / Patent).



Joe Coulson displayed a nice yellow half gallon The Leader (two lines) (no matching lid).

Colleen Dixon shared an aqua salesman sample Trade Mark Lightning.

Jean Harbron shared an aqua quart THE BALL MA-

SON'S N PATENT NOV. 30TH 1858; and a light blue pint SKO Queen Trade Mark wide-mouth adjustable (base: Smalley Kivlan & Onthank Boston Mass.). Jean mentioned that she has been busy doing home canning.



Dick Cole displayed an example of the PENLEY jar that he mentioned at the July Fruit Jar Round-Up. It was a clear jelly jar (base: Made in China) (metal lid: PENLEY ® / Quality Products Since 1923 / For MASON Regular Mouth Jars). Penley needed metal lids and bands manufactured, so they contracted with Jarden in

Muncie. Penley went out of business for some reason, so the jars and lids and bands are sitting in a warehouse in Muncie. Dick also shared a clear pint Ball Ideal. The base had unusual stippling.



Dave Rittenhouse brought an aqua midget pint MASON'S PATENT NOV. 30TH 1858 (with a circle on the back); and an aqua midget pint with the BBGMCo logo. Dave believes the jar with the circle is a re-worked mold of the jar with the BBGMCo logo. Dave also shared an aqua half gallon RED (key symbol) MASON with milky swirls in the glass; and a clear quart T.M. Sinclair & Co. Ltd. Cedar Rapids, IA. Pork and Beef Packers (he had the jar but not the lid; however, he was able to get the milkglass lid at the show!).

Sue Wilson displayed an aqua quart THE WILSON &

WEBB PATENT MARCH 24TH 1903 (no closure). This was the first jar that she and Anne had seen at a bottle show. She thought the price tag was \$25, but it turned out to be \$2500, she and was very shocked. She had to pass that jar up. Sue was able to get an example of the jar from a friend at the recent July event. Sue also shared a tall slim clear oil bottle (grippers; side: One Liquid Quart / Filled to Line; base: Owens Illinois logo).

Lou Ebert displayed a light aqua half gallon wax sealer (base: M.F.J.Co.) (unlisted in the Red Book in half gallon). Lou also bought a Ball Brothers advertisement in the July Auction for the Indiana Sales Agency (see related article in this newsletter).



Show and Tell Pictures



Unreleased PENLEY jelly jar



Metal lid for the PENLEY jelly jar



Base of the PENLEY jelly jar



BBGMCo pint



Mason's Patent pint, reverse: Circle



Red (key) Mason with milkglass swirls



T.M. Sinclair & Co. quart



Original milkglass lid & wire for T.M. Sinclair jar

Antique Fruit Jar Collectors Directory 1993

While going through some pamphlets and books, I discovered this 1993 Directory. It was compiled from the membership of the Midwest Antique Fruit Jar and Bottle Club. At the Toledo FOHBC Expo in 1992, Tom Moulton, husband of jar collector Alice Moulton, suggested that we put out a sign-up sheet for people who collect jars or are interested in joining the club. Notice was also placed in the Antique Bottle and Glass Collector, Bottles and Extras, and the Federation Letter.

Tom then collected the names and made a print out for me, thereby saving me lots of time.

Thanks also to Alice and Howard Creswick whose jar drawings were used, and thanks to Melody Dippold for the arrangement on the MAFJBC show flyer, which I used for the cover of the directory.

As I browsed through the directory I realized how many 'fruit jar' collectors there used to be. I wonder how many still collect, how many are still among us, and how many enjoy the hobby? I know there are many new names on the current membership.

I found two hundred and seven names in the directory, and one hundred and fifty one were already members of the club. Those who signed as members of the MAFJBC were... AZ: Roger and Gerry Hasse and Larry Onyskow; CA: K & Gloria Aoki, Jack & Lynn Comer, Carlos Edgerton, Don Frazier, Robert Glover, Scott Grandstaff, Tom &

Kathy Houghton, Jerry & Eileen Ikeda, Alex & Carolyn Kerr, Frank & Fran Peters, CE & Myrt Stone; CO: Bill & Maria Simpson; FL: Tom & Alice Moulton, John Vanderschouw.

Then from IL we had James Anderson, Mike Davis, Jim & Penny DeGrado, Luther Didrickson, A.D. Doehring, Bob & Julia Flint, Blano & Maxine Granda. And Bob & Barbara Harms, also Louis Hirsch, Jerry McCann, Pete Peterson, Bob Rhinberger, and Roy & Jessie Robinson.

Of course we had several from Indiana: John Abney, Ken and Donna Almon, Carol Anderson, Jack & Jan Andres, Norman & Junne Barnett, Dale Bewley, Tim Bewley and Ralph & Vera Chapman. Also Chuck Devaney, Roger & Joan Emery, Eugene & Gladys Fannin, Donald Foltz, Allen & Louella Franklin and Carl Gallion. Oren Hammond, Mark Hilligoss, Charles Knapp, Charles Knarr, Tom & Mary Lou Koontz, Gene & Colleen Kozuk. Also Warren & Opal LaBolt, Wayne & June Lowry, Robert & Dorothy Lydy, Doug Moore, Bill & Julie Murphy, Jack Myers, and Bob & Mary Jane Needler, John Nestleroad, Tom Nixon, Ted & Pam Penix. Are you tired of reading? I am tired of typing, but there are just a few more. George & Nancy Reilly, David Rittenhouse, Phil & Meredith Robinson, Howard Rothgeb, Ed & Margaret Shaw, Darwin & Joan Sievers, Bob Stark, Connie & Jeff Taylor, Joan Todd, John Van Dyke, Carlos Wardwell, Jerry Watson, John & Judy Weber,

Charles & Brona Williams, Michael Witsman, and Felix & Wanda York.

Many of these people are still members of MAFJBC, who live in many areas of the state. Some have moved to another state, and of course some of them are no longer with us due to age, non interest, and of course the call from heaven. Can't you imagine the "Gathering of Jar Collectors" that could be held up there. Who knows maybe there is one.

From other states we had Terry & Betsy Lemon of Iowa, and from KS Roy & Judith Allen, John & Kay Moore, and David & Judy Morris. Members from KY were Roy & Barbara Brown, Jerry McKinley, Kenneth Quinn and Jerry and Bonnie Weber. George & Barbara Camp were from LA. Evelyn Blake and John Burrill, whose names I don't remember, were from MA. Then from MD we had Rick Lease, Randy & Karen Manning and Tracy Schaff.

MI brought us several memberships: Dr. Arthur Bowles, Dan Bell, Erv & Cay Bettinghouse, Mason & Nancy Bright, Bill and Diane Burgess, Don (Mr. Mason) & Glennie Burkett, Alice & Howard Creswick, John Donahue, Doug Leybourne, Tom Schumm, Mark Schweiger, Charles Shipmen, and Nellie Smith.

Linda Glass and John Varone were our members from MN. And MO brought us Col. Bob Allen, Eugene Ballew, John & Chris Carter, Lynn Douglas, Randy & Jan Haviland, Leon & Janice

Shores and Charles Womack. One member was from MT, Larry & Hazel Munson, and one from Nebraska, Richard & Connie Sorenson, and also one from NV, Don & Opal Wellman.

From the state of NJ we had Phil Alvarez, Stan & Isabel Sherwood, Bob Tompkins, Rev. Patrick R.C. Wilhelm and George McConnell. NY gave us Dick & Phyllis Vanderlaan and Jerry Brown came from NC.

Being next door to Indiana we had several members from the state of OH. Bud & Rena Abbott, Dick Addison, William & Maria Baden, Dick Bere, David & Angie Blair, Tom & Deena Caniff, Ken & Melody Dippold, Bill & Wanda Dudley, Adam & Phyllis Koch, Shirley McDonald, Charles & Debbie Macioci, Al & Beth Vignon, and Phil & June Wymer. Emily Kraft was from OK, and Hank Bartels was from OR.

Four members from PA were in the 1993 directory: Russ & Heidi Crupe, Tom Fink, Connie Riegner and Art Snyder. TN brought Claude & Jill Bellar in as members, as well as Bob White. From TX our members were Jack LaBaume and Don Spencer. Only Bob & Mary Dillon were from VA. Joe Dresp was our member from WA, and Karla Ball joined the club from WV. Our members from WI were Lee & Roxanne Bernard, Arlyn & Marie Heath, Arnie & Lu Oathout, also Leyroy & Ruth Rummler.

We had two members from other countries: John

Junne's Thoughts on a Directory, cont'd

Lynch from Australia, and John Barclay from Canada.

Of the fifty-six names in the book that were not already club members, I can pick out several that later joined the club, as well as many others. Yes, at that time the hobby of collecting fruit jars was grow-

ing, and growing fast. Jars were available and at a reasonable price. Also the addresses of some of the members have changed to another state.

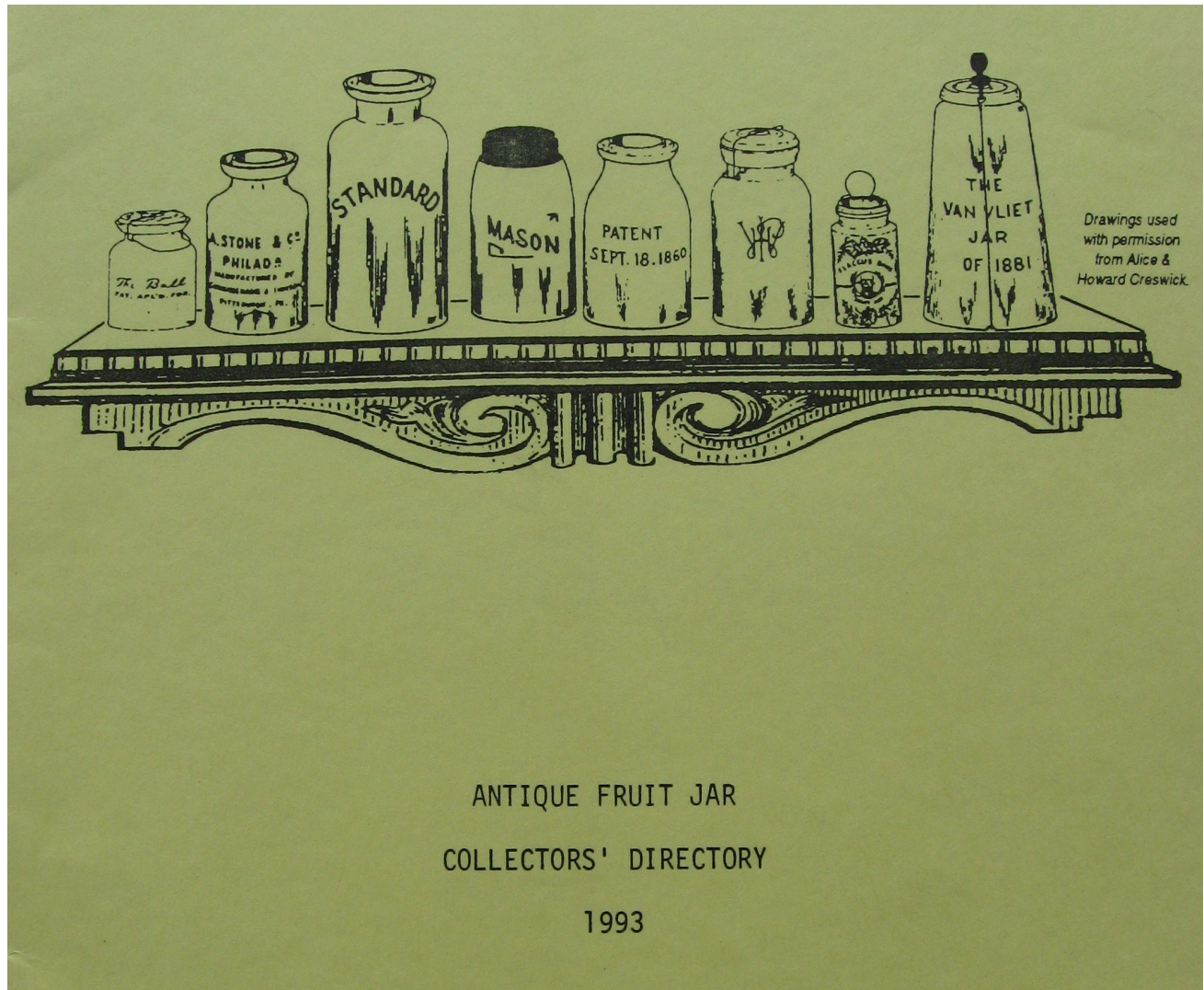
After nearly forty years of being in the hobby, I remember so many of the old time collectors from North, South,

East and West as the many friends that Norman and I made while he was collecting, and a lot of them are still in the hobby. Some of them have even become grandparents as the children we knew then are now parents themselves.

Wouldn't it be nice if

someone took Tom Moulton's idea, and we could have a new Fruit Jar Directory? I'm sure it wouldn't be as large as the 1993 directory, which has brought so many wonderful memories for me, and I hope that it will for you also.

—Junne Barnett



History of the Indiana Fruit Jar Sales Association

LET'S GET TOGETHER AND SELL JARS.

The Indiana Sales Association was organized early in 1896 to handle the sale of fruit jars made by members of the organization. The members were: Ball Brothers Glass Manufacturing Co. in Muncie; Marion Fruit Jar and Bottle Co. in Marion, with factories in Marion and Fairmount; Giles-Clough Co. in Redkey and Swayzee Glass Co. in Swayzee.

The new sales agency approached Peerless Glass Co. of Converse, maker of the Tigner Mason fruit jars and the Standard oil cans, about joining the organization. The Peerless Glass Co. refused to enter into any such organization. As a result Edward Ball, as a representative of the Indiana Sales Association, bought the Peerless factory and stock on February 26, 1896. The factory, which was about ready to start production, was closed down with the grinder being shipped to Muncie, and the molds went to Marion, thus eliminating one jar competitor. Peerless had bought the Tigner factory in January of 1892, before Tigner had ever gotten into production, to have its own source of glass bodies for its tin jacketed Standard oil cans. The wholesale price of fruit jars was advanced one dollar per gross as soon as the Peerless factory was sold.

The sales agency opened its headquarters in the Bishop Block in Muncie with Mr. J. L. McCulloch of Marion Fruit Jar and Bottle Co. unanimously

chosen president, because Marion Fruit Jar and Bottle Co. was the prime mover in originating the association. Mr. F. C. Ball was appointed to be selling agent, with all orders having to come through him. The association was said to have lasted for but one season.

Sources: Marion, Indiana newspapers; "The Marion Daily Chronicle" Jan. 16, 1892; "The Daily Chronicle" Feb. 27 & Mar. 20 1896; "Marion Daily Leader" May 5 & Jun. 8, 1896; "Marion Daily Chronicle" Dec. 12, 1899. Converse, Indiana newspaper; "The Converse Journal" Mar. 5 & 19, 1896; Muncie, Indiana newspaper; "Muncie Daily Herald" Feb. 28, 1896.

LET'S DO IT AGAIN.

The major fruit jar manufacturers had contemplated forming their companies into a trust similar to United States Glass Co. or National Glass Co. in late 1899, early 1900. After deciding on the inadvisability of such a move, they held meetings in Muncie, Indiana in February of 1900 to arrange for a new fruit jar selling agency.

On February 21, 1900 the Indiana Fruit Jar Sales Agency was formed, by which all of the fruit jars sold by them, that season, were sold through the agency. The price of jars was increased an average of about one dollar per gross at that time. By terms of the agreement between the manufacturers the association was for one season.

The manufactures involved in the organization were: Ball Brothers Glass Manufacturing Co. in Muncie; Marion Fruit Jar and Bottle Co. in Marion, with factories in Marion, Fairmount and Converse; Swayzee Glass Co. in Swayzee; Redkey Glass Co. in Redkey; Safe Glass Co. in Upland; Port Glass Works in Muncie; W. H. Streeter (renting the Greenfield Bottle Works factory owned by Hollweg & Reese of Indianapolis) in Greenfield; and Atlas Glass Co. in Washington, PA. Each company's output was to be drawn upon, proportionally, according to the capacity of each factory. The allocation of the orders received, to the various companies, was controlled by Ball Brothers, as designated sales agent.

On February 22, 1900 Ball Brothers Glass Manufacturing Co. issued a flyer listing the jar prices to be charged by the agency for the coming season, per gross, in car load lots. Machine made Masons with porcelain lined caps; pints \$4.50, quarts \$4.75, half gallons \$6.75. Machine made Masons with aluminum caps; pints \$4.40, quarts \$4.65, half gallons \$6.65. Machine made "Improved" Masons with glass caps; pints \$5.50, quarts \$5.75, half gallons \$7.75. Machine made standard [wax sealers]; quart \$4.75, half gallons \$6.75. Hand made Masons with porcelain caps; pints \$4.50, quarts \$4.75, half gallons \$6.75. All jars packed in cases of one dozen each. All prices F.O.B at the factory having the lowest freight rate to the city of

order.

At the time it was stated that a railroad box car would hold 100 gross of fruit jars, but the newspaper article did not specify if it was pints, quarts, or half gallons.

In October 1900 the selling agency for the machine made fruit jar manufacturers, with Ball Brothers in charge, had control over 90 percent of the output in the country.

On April 1, 1901 the agency made the following, per gross, car lot price quotations, hand made jars; pints \$5.50, quarts \$5.75, half gallons \$8.75. Machine made jars; 15 cents higher. The prices quoted above were only good for shipments prior to April 10, after that date the prices were 10 cents higher. After May 1 and prior to May 10, the prices were again advanced 10 cents.

On November 16, 1901 the sales agency was dissolved, after operating for two seasons. Thereafter each of the former member firms looked after its own sales. A number of the firms in the organizations were of the opinion that they had been getting the "worst of it" and felt that they would be better off "going it alone". Messrs. John L. McCulloch and J. Wood Wilson of Marion Fruit Jar and Bottle Co., said that the scheme was practical if it had been possible to fix an equitable ratio of interest between the different firms, but that could not be done to the satisfaction of all.

Indiana Sales Association, cont'd

Also adding to the agency's problems was that numerous glass companies making other lines of glassware had started making fruit jars and selling them at other prices, thus disturbing the market established by the agency.

Sources: "Indiana Glass Factories Notes" by Dick Roller, pp. 37 & 99. Marion, Indiana newspapers; "Marion Daily Chronicle" Dec. 12, 1899 and Feb. 22, 1900. "Marion Leader" Aug. 27, 1900 and Mar. 1, 1901. "The Morning News" Oct. 21, 1900. "The Marion Leader" (S.W.) Apr. 26, 1901. "Marion News-Tribune" Nov. 17, 1901.

Louis E. Ebert

July 18, 2011

FRUIT JARS.

MUNCIE, IND., February 22, 1900.

GENTLEMEN :

We are now ready to book orders for FRUIT JARS, and we quote you as follows for immediate reply:

MACHINE MADE.	PINT.	QUART.	HF. GALLON.
Mason, with Porcelain Lined Caps,	4.50	4.75	6.75 per Gr.
“ with Aluminum Caps,	4.40	4.65	6.65 “
“ “Improved” (with Glass Caps),	5.50	5.75	7.75 “
Standard, - - - - -		4.75	6.75 “

HAND MADE.	PINT.	QUART.	HF. GALLON.
Mason, with Porcelain Lined Caps,	4.50	4.75	6.75 “
Extra Porcelain Lined Caps, - - - - -		2.00 per Gross.	
“ Aluminum Caps, - - - - -		1.90 “	“
“ Standard Caps, - - - - -		“	“
“ Rubbers—Composition, Gray, 20c. $\text{\textcircled{P}}$ lb. White, 26c. $\text{\textcircled{P}}$ lb. in bbl. lots.			
Jelly Glasses, Tin Tops, $\frac{1}{3}$ Pint, 15c. $\text{\textcircled{P}}$ doz. $\frac{1}{2}$ Pint, 17c. $\text{\textcircled{P}}$ doz.			

Usual extra charge for packages on Jellies.

All Jars packed in cases of one doz. each.

All F. O. B. Converse, Fairmount, Greenfield, Marion, Muncie, Redkey, Swayzee, Upland, Ind., or Washington, Pa. Sellers' option, except rubbers, which we will deliver to any point on or east of the Mississippi River. If favored with your order we will endeavor to ship from factory having lowest rate of freight to your city.

TERMS—30 days from date of shipment, or 1% for cash in 10 days.

These prices are for immediate shipment in full CAR LOADS, or if you desire we will make later shipment by charging you $1\frac{1}{2}\%$ additional for each month or fraction thereof that shipment is delayed. Goods not to be stored, however, later than June 1st, 1900.

All quotations subject to change without notice.

Yours very truly,
BALL BROS. GLASS MFG. CO.

MIDWEST ANTIQUE FRUIT
JAR & BOTTLE CLUB

A jarrific place to share and learn

Send articles and info here:

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.FRUITJAR.ORG



An amber half gallon example of THE LEADER (on the left), and a yellow half gallon THE LEADER (on the right). These jars were made in Yorktown, Indiana in the 1890's.

Announcements

- The next club meeting will take place at Minnetrista in the Cantina room at 1:30pm on Sunday, November 6th. The theme for Show and Tell will be Shipping Containers or Wooden Box Ends.
- Future club meeting Show and Tell themes: December 4th, Our Annual Christmas Party; January 7th & 8th is our Winter Show. An up-to-date list is always available on the club website.
- Keep an eye on Ray Klingensmith's auctions. Several good early fruit jars have been for sale. <http://www.glassdiscoveries.com/>
- The next North American Glass auction will open October 24th. This auction is run by Greg Spurgeon, and he always has great fruit jars for sale. <http://www.gregspurgeon.com/auction/>

