Since 1972

Midwest Glass Chatter January 2014

Club Officers

- Richard Cole, President 2904 W. Moore Rd. Muncie, IN 47304 765-288-8717
- Dave Rittenhouse, Vice Pres. 1008 S. 900 W. Farmland, IN 47340 765-468-8091
- Jim Durr, Treasurer 500 W. Ohio St. Fortville, IN 46040 317.485-5854
- Joe Coulson, Secretary/Editor 889 Berry Rd. Greenwood, IN 46143 317-385-0956

An Index to the Club 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: James Durr, 500 W. Ohio St., Fortville, IN 46040 The January meeting was replaced by the annual Fruit Jar Get-Together in Muncie, Indiana in the second floor conference room at the Baymont Inn hotel. Club President Dick Cole opened the meeting and welcomed a packed room full of people.

MIDWEST

FRUIT JAR

Meeting Minutes, January 11th, 2014

Dick introduced the club officers for 2014: Vice President, David Rittenhouse; Treasurer, Jim Durr; Secretary, Joe Coulson. Dick will continue in the office of President.

Jim Durr provided the Treasurer's report for January. The club has a bank account balance of \$2900. A total of 20 membership renewals for 2014 have been received so far.

Dick recognized the passing of Anne Szopa. Many of us have fond memories of interacting with her in the fruit jar and jelly glass hobbies.

Several other people were also being thought of at this time. Don Burkett fell and broke four ribs. He is currently in a nursing facility for rehab, and he is expected to return home in a month. John Hathaway is experiencing kidney issues, and he is recovering in a facility in Maine. Junne Barnett sends us all best wishes from an assisted living facility. Junne would love to hear from her jar friends: Violet Junne Barnett, Indiana Masonic Home, 690 State Street, 1E Medical Center / Room 159, Franklin, Indiana 46131.

David Rittenhouse announced that our 2015 Muncie Jar Show will be the second Sunday in January again (January 11th). A July event is not planned. There was an open discussion about holding the January Show at another location. The show will continue to be held in Muncie, because the cost is extremely cheap (we only pay for tables, and there is no convention center rental fee).

Dick Cole mentioned the exhibit of Ball Jars that is currently on display at Minnetrista. There are many interesting items on display to capture your attention. It is worth stopping by to see, and there is no cost at this time.

The list of upcoming regional bottle shows: February 9th (Sunday), Milwaukee, Wisconsin–42nd Annual Milwaukee Antique Bottle and Advertising Show at the Country Springs Hotel and Convention Center; February 15th (Saturday), Columbus, Ohio–Columbus Ohio Antique Bottle Show & Sale at the Ohio State Fairgrounds.

The next club meeting will be February 2nd at 1:30pm at Minnetrista in Muncie, Indiana. The theme will be "recent purchases", so bring along anything you acquired at the January Show!

> Respectfully submitted, Joe Coulson, Secretary



Mike James shared this black and white aerial view of Muncie from about 1956, which is the year of the newest car in the photo! The view is centered around the Ball Brothers plants. You can see the large batch tower sticking up in the center.

Show and Tell

Attendees at the Fruit Jar Get-Together on Saturday, January 11th brought Show and Tell items. We went around the conference room asking people to introduce themselves. Each person could bring any Show and Tell items to the front of the room and talk about them. People could also describe items to be put in the auction, which was held after Show and Tell ended.

Dick Cole (Muncie, IN) started the Show and Tell by displaying a milk glass Ball Ideal. A small number of these test jars were made in milk glass near the time of the U.S. Bicentennial (1976). They were shown and given to executives of Ball Corporation. Most of the jars were broken during shipment to Ball. Dick indicated that 5 jars are still known to exist. He can account for the whereabouts of 3 of them, which includes his example.

Joe Coulson (Greenwood, IN) shared two interesting Ball company gowiths. He brought an invitation to the "Fourth Annual Family Reunion of Ball Brothers Employees" dated April 26, 1923. The invitation was shaped and designed in the form of a fruit jar cardboard shipping box of that time period! Joe acquired this item from Phil Robinson years ago.

Joe also shared a Ball ® Home Canning Jar Brush. It looked an awful lot like a toilet brush, but it was specifically marketed for cleaning the inside of jars! Chuck Erb (Leon, IA) brought two sets of home movies on DVDs containing footage of our past fruit jar shows. Chuck donated the items to the auction with the proceeds to go to the club.

Colleen Dixon (Muncie, IN) displayed a clear half gallon Golden State; and a clear pint Jumbo peanut butter jar.

Mike Jordan (Ocala, FL) shared an unembossed amber jar that had thick glass with an incredible amount of bubbles, and a very large rolled lip.

Jim Sears (Garrett Park, MD) asked everyone to also remember old-time collector Dick Harris who passed away this last summer. The bulk of Dick's collection will be appearing in North American Glass auctions.



Jim displayed an aqua quart "Crowleytown" Mason's 3 Patent Nov 30TH 1858 with a brass lid variation. Jim took this jar to show "Mr. Mason" Don Burkett, and Don decided to sell him a "Crowleytown" Mason's 4 Patent Nov 30TH 1858 to go

with it!

Bill Heiter (Union City, PA) shared a government canning poster from World War I issued by the National War Garden Commission in Washington, D.C. The caption read "Are YOU a Victory Canner?", and it depicted a woman draped in a U.S. flag surrounded by fruit jars and vegetables. Bill also shared a deep green "Petal" jar.

(Fort Doug Griggs Wayne, IN) shared two beautifully colored quart Ball (3L logo) Mason jars. One was olive with amber swirls, and the other was a root beer amber! Doug's son Tyler acquired the amber jar for \$100 from a "Buy It Now" listing on eBay! Great finds can still be had if you are persistently looking. Both Doug and his son collect fruit jars.

Mike James (Marion, IN) told us that he acquired sixteen old MAFJBC pottery award jars at a local flea market. That was a really nice find! Mike also shared two old black and white photos. The first was an aerial view of Muncie from the mid-1930s, and the second was an aerial view from about 1956 of the Ball plants in Muncie. Mike also displayed a January 1962 copy of the Ball Brothers internal company newsletter, "The Ball Line." The cover of the newsletter featured an article announcing "Muncie Glass Will Close–Plant to Shut Down in Late February or March."

Mike told us that he started working in the glass industry in 1970. There were 178 glass plants in the U.S. in 1970 with 19 of those being in Indiana. He said that now there are 50 plants in the U.S. with only 4 being located in Indiana.

Joe Merkel (Chelsea, MI) displayed a half gallon Kerr "Self Sealing" Trademark Reg. Patented Mason in a strong cornflower blue. His wife Tina enjoys the blue and purple jars.

Joe also displayed an aqua midget pint Mason's Patent Nov 30TH 1858 (base as seen looking through the mouth: 58); an aqua midget pint Mason's Patent Nov 30TH 1858 (base as seen looking through the mouth: D over 58 over D); a light aqua quart Mason's Patent Nov. 30TH 1858 (both letters S in Mason reversed); an aqua quart Mason's CFJCo Patetn Nov 30TH 1858 (reversed N and T in Patent); an aqua quart Mason's Patent Nov 30TH 185 (missing the last 8); and an aqua quart Mason's Patent Noa 30TH 1858 (Nov misspelled with an 'a').

Margaret Shaw (Boggstown, IN) shared a deep aqua pint that was made by Hemingray. It had a "hat" style screw cap (large brim).

Show and Tell, cont'd

Margaret also shared an aqua pint Improved Standard Patented April 17^{TH} 1888 (with unusual closure); and an aqua quart Shaker Preserves (ground lip).

Larry Munson announced that this past October he was able to complete a set of lettered Mason's Patent jars that when lined up in a row spell out "Larry and Hazel Munson"!

Larry told us a story of how he acquired a rare Redwing pottery jar. In 1983 Redwing made only three club member jars in the half pint size. They destroyed the molds afterwards. Ball furnished the lid and jar rubber for them in 1983. Larry said that the competition to get one of these jars is super tough. Every Redwing collector would like to have this jar, and there are over 4000 Redwing collectors!

Larry corresponded over the years with a guy in Nebraska that had one of the half pints. Unfortunately for Larry when the collector died the jar was donated to a museum.



Not too long ago Larry pulled into a Minnesota antique mall to look around. It just so happened that a guy brought a "little one" in at closing time the night before. Larry was very surprised when he saw the 1983 Redwing half pint jar. He called the guy that consigned it and negotiated with him. When Larry's wife heard the price she said "You've held it, you've looked at it, now put it back in the case!" Larry said that is the moment he knew his wife really wanted him to have it! Everyone in the room laughed at this joke.

Mike Matey (Mexico, MO) displayed an aqua quart Dictator (reverse: Patented D. I. Holcomb Dec 14TH 1869) with a scarce original metal lid "Patented Dec. 14 1869"; and a clear quart The "Mascot" Trademark Patd with lots of swirls in the glass.

Rick Lease (Reisterstown, MD) shared a quart pottery Washington Fruit Jar Patented March 13TH 1866. This jar belongs to a friend of his, and it is the only known example. This jar was for sale. The jar is the same shape and takes the same closure as the Torrey's Egyptian Fruit Jar.

Rick also showed two clear quarts that were related. The first jar was a (cross) Mason's (CFJCo monogram) Patent Nov 30^{TH} 1858 jar; and the second jar was matching except it was missing the two monograms.

Phil Smith (Union, KY) displayed a brass paperweight

shaped like a jar and had the embossing Mason's Improved (cross).

Phil also displayed a pint Mason's GCCo Patent Nov. 30^{TH} 1858 that was olive with lots of amber swirls. He found this jar in an Adamstown, Pennsylvania antique mall. The jar had a price tag of \$35, but he still asked them for a discount.

Phil shared an aqua pint Banner (encircled by) Pat'd Feby 9th 1864 Reisd Jan 22d 1867 (unembossed pressdown glass lid).

Jeff Klingler (Harrod, OH) presented along the theme of "Good friends and good jars." He showed a pint Mason's GCCo Patent Nov. 30[™] 1858 with amber swirls, which his good friend Gordie acquired for \$12 at an antique mall. Jeff also showed a clear quart The Columbus Mason's Patd 1858 (one example known), which he acquired from his friend "Mr. Mason" Don Burkett. Tom Sproat (Ryland Heights, KY) presented along the theme of "Cracked jars and cracked friends" (everyone chuckled). Tom mentioned that his great grandfather owned the first china and glass store west of the Allegheny mountains (Chillicothe, OH).

Tom displayed a deep aqua pint with flared lip and iron pontil (string tie closure); a clear pint with glass pontil (string tie closure); an olive green pint with glass pontil (string tie closure); and a deep green three quart with glass pontil (string tie closure).

David Rittenhouse (Farmland, IN) shared an aqua quart Gem with a protrusion in the side to hold a fork. This jar had been altered by glass teacher Jennifer Halvorson.

Note: the auction was held right after Show and Tell ended.



Dick Bere (left) and Jim Durr (right) capture auction results

Fruit Jar Get-Together Pictures



Chuck Erb



Jon Vander Schouw



Colleen Dixon



Mike Jordan



Jim Sears



Bill Heiter



Doug Griggs Holding an amber Balll Mason



Mike James



Joe Merkel



Margaret Shaw



Larry Munson



Mike Matey



Rick Lease



Phil Smith



Jeff Klingler



Tom Sproat



Bill Burgess



David Rittenhouse



Aqua quart "Crowleytown" Masons



Olive with amber swirls quart Ball (3L) Mason



Cornflower blue half gallon Kerr "Self Sealing" Mason



Aqua midget pint Mason's Patent Nov 30[™] 1858; base 58



Aqua midget pint Mason's Patent Nov 30[™] 1858; base D 58 D



Aqua quart Dictator; metal cap "Patented Dec. 14 1869"



Aqua quart Mason's Patent with both letters S reversed



Aqua quart Mason's CFJCo Patent with T and N transposed



Aqua quart Mason's CFJCo Patent with just 185



Aqua quart Mason's Patent with NOV spelled NOA



Aqua quart Shaker Preserves



Deep aqua pint Hemingray with flared cap



Aqua quart Improved Standard Patented



Close-up view of the ramped collar closure on the Improved Standard Patented



Metal paperweight of Mason's Improved (cross)



Quart Washington Fruit Jar Patented March 13[™] 1866



Clear quart Mason's Patent Nov 30[™] 1858 with and without Cross and CFJCo



Pair of amber swirled pint Mason's GCCo Patent Nov. 30TH 1858



Aqua pint Banner



Clear quart The Columbus Mason's Patd 1858



Aqua tooled lip jar with iron pontil



Clear half gallon Golden–State



A clear and deep olive pint and deep green quart with flared lip and glass pontil (string tie closure)



Deep green quart Petal jar



Milk glass quart Ball Ideal test jar



Invitation to Fourth Ball Brothers Employee Reunion 1923



Amber quart with lots of bubbles and large lip



Clear swirled glass quart The "Mascot"



Aqua quart Gem modified to hold a fork



This was a display on Show Day of quart "slug plate" jars made for various companies by Ball Brothers

Jar Show Exhibits



Mike Jordan won the "People's Choice" award for his wonderful display of Amber Jars



Dick Cole displayed Uncommon Modern Ball Jars



Tom Sproat's display was titled "Going Green: Pre-Civil War Green-Colored Jars"

Jar Show Exhibits, cont'd



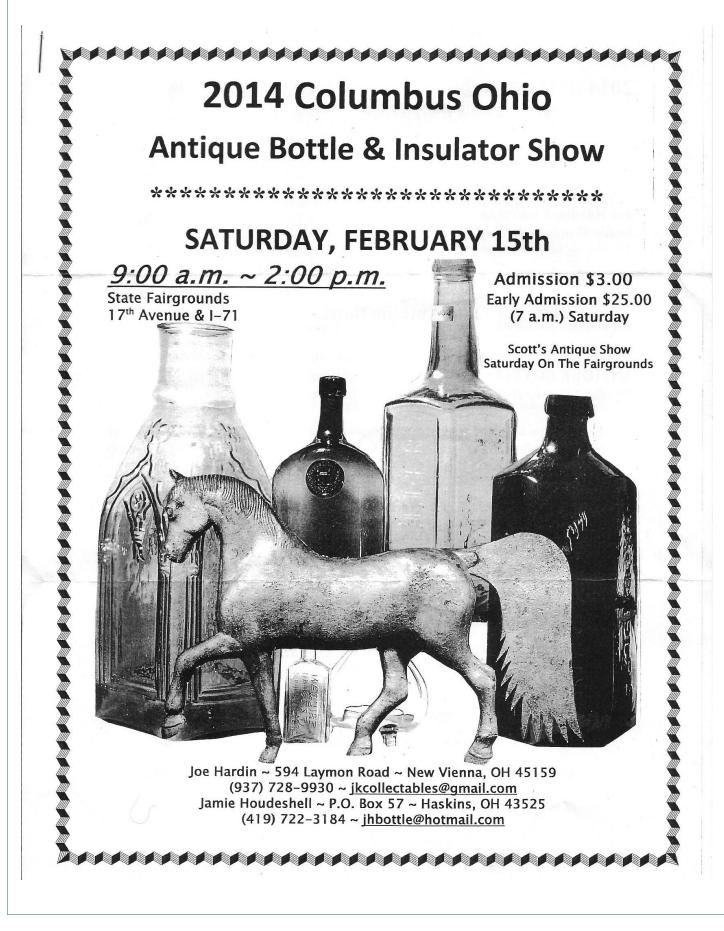
Joe Coulson displayed Kerosene Home Oil Cans



Mike Mosier displayed Ball company Go-Withs



A nice display covering the Gas Boom of East-Central Indiana







"Room Hopping" is one of the enjoyable activities that collectors participate in during our January Show weekend. People leave their hotel room doors open so that others can come in and chat and look over items for sale. Many transactions occur in the hotel rooms before Show day. You just never know what additional goodies you might find.



Announcements

- Upcoming club meetings:
 - Sunday, **February 2nd**, 1:30pm meet at Minnetrista; bring recent purchases Sunday, **March 2nd**, 1:30pm meet at Minnetrista; bring an interesting product jar Sunday, **April 6th**, 1:30pm meet at Minnetrista; bring some "Go-Withs"
- The Federation of Historical Bottle Collectors website is a great resource. Our club is a proud member of the FOHBC. One of the useful tools on the Federation website is the bottle show listing: http://www.fohbc.org/shows
- The 2014 FOHBC National Antique Bottle Show will be held in Lexington, Kentucky on August 1–3, 2014.
- The next North American Glass auction opens January 27th. Many fine fruit jars are for sale, including a Mold Preventer, Griswold's Patent 1862, and Franklin Fruit Jar RW King Detroit Mich:

http://www.gregspurgeon.com/auction

