

MIDWEST GLASS CHATTER

MIDWEST ANTIQUE FRUIT JAR & BOTTLE CLUB

Since 1972

Midwest Glass Chatter
November 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, November 6th, 2011

The November club meeting was held at Minnetrista in Muncie, Indiana. Club president Dave Rittenhouse opened the meeting and welcomed 14 members. We also had a guest named Margaret from nearby Gaston, Indiana. Margaret learned about our club through the staff at Minnetrista. She has an old wooden barrel at home that is full of fruit jars. She believes that they are modern clear jars without any collectible value, but her curiosity got the better of her, and she came to check out our club meeting to talk to us and learn a little bit more.

Anne Szopa gave the Treasurer's report for November. There was income from a couple of membership dues renewals. Expenses included the cost of printing and mailing the newsletter, as well as the cost of advertising our January Show in the bottle magazines. The club continues to maintain a positive bank balance.

Dave mentioned that dealer contracts for the January Muncie Show have been mailed out. Dave has also been handing out Show flyers. He had a stack of them at the meeting. Martin Van Zant's printing class made the Show

flyers for us. We appreciate Martin's student volunteers that put in the effort to help us out. They always do a very nice job.

Dick Cole said that there was no new update on our club Library. Lou Ebert brought a copy of the book "Hoosier Beer: Tapping into Indiana Brewing History" to our meeting. A motion was made to add this book to our Library. The motion was seconded and passed. Dick will purchase a copy of the book for our club Library.

Joe Coulson shared an announcement from Minnetrista about one of their upcoming Home Canning Workshops. Joe also told everyone about a project he is leading to piece together as complete a set as possible of our club



newsletter, the Midwest Glass Chatter. Look elsewhere in this issue for a current inventory report. Please let Joe know if you can help fill in the gaps. Joe will eventually scan them all to DVD to preserve our club's history.

Dave reminded everyone that the December club meeting will be our annual Christmas dinner.

See you all at the next meeting.

Joe Coulson, Secretary



Show and Tell

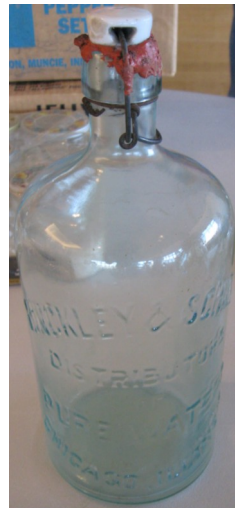
The Show and Tell theme for the November meeting was Shipping Cartons and Wooden Box Ends. Club members also bring recent purchases.

Colleen Dixon showed us a very ornate jelly jar made of clear glass that had a glass screw-on lid (jar was approx. 6" tall by 2 1/2" wide at the base).



Colleen displayed another jelly jar, "Black's Snow Flake Egg Shampoo Pittsburgh PA" (decoration around top of jar, below threads, glass lid, 4 7/8" by 2"). She also brought a mineral water bottle, "Hinckley & Schmitt Distributors of Pure Water Chicago, Illinois" (11 1/2" tall x 4 5/8" across base, with ceramic stopper).

Colleen also brought an aqua half gallon RB #3028 Woodbury (WGW monogram) with original closure; an apple green quart RB #2780-1 Swayzee's Improved Mason; an aqua pint RB #1489 Trademark Lightning (extremely whittled); and a clear 3 1/2 ounce RB #1347 Jumbo Peanut Butter with original lid.



Gusty and Mike Monaghan displayed an amber pint Trademark Lightning. The jar was purchased from an estate auction of a 92 year old neighbor. They were able to purchase a few jars at the auction, but this was the beautiful one to share.



Walter and Ann Gausman brought several items. Walter displayed a light amethyst quart RB #1636 Mason (with looped underline, made by Pennsylvania Glass Co. of Anderson, Indiana, 1888-1915). Walter found this jar at a garage sale at this year's Covered Bridge Festival.

Walter displayed a cardboard shipping box full of Ball jelly glasses (clear, half pint) with original shiny metal lids. A note on the box indicated that a person could get a copy of the Ball Blue Book for 25 cents (this dates the box to sometime between 1949-1959).



Walter displayed an original carton of Ball Quilted Crystal Jelly Glasses (clear, half pint). Walter once again used the Ball Blue Book advertising (35 cents a copy) to date the jelly glass carton; this one falls into the 1963-1969 time period.



Walter also brought a cardboard shipping carton for the Ball salt and pepper shakers (made sometime after 1975, because the clear glass shakers had the trademark registration ® symbol).



Martin Van Zant brought several nice items to our meeting. Martin displayed a wooden box end for "The Peoples Brewing Co. Terre Haute, Ind."; an aqua quart

Show and Tell, cont'd

RB #633 (barrel-shaped wax sealer), base: Cohansey Glass Mfg Co. Pat. Mar 20 77; an aqua half gallon Mason's Improved; a light green RB #1898 Mason's Patent Nov. 30th 1858 (base: TIGNER G. CO. XENIA, IND); an aqua quart RB #1900 Mason's Patent Nov. 30th 1858 (base: W.C.D.); an aqua half gallon RB #2133 Mason's (figure of a shield) Union; and an amber quart RB #1466 The Leader.



Richard Long told everyone that he is a relatively new collector. He said that Martin has helped him learn many things about the hobby.

Mike Mosier shared a wooden shipping box for pint Ball (3-L logo) Mason fruit jars; and a wooden box with the following printing: "From Ball Brothers Co. Muncie Ind."

Joe Coulson shared a cardboard box from the Sterling Glass Co. (one dozen quart fruit jars); and a cardboard shipping box for Midland Mason Jars (8 quart jars).

Anne Szopa and Sue Wilson shared a thermos with a fruit jar inside. The thermos was labeled: "Ther-Mo-Pack / Holds Quart Fruit Jar / Keeps Food or Drink / Hot or Cold for Hours". The thermos was made of cardboard and paper.

Anne displayed two cardboard box ends. The first was for Ball Zinc Caps for Mason



Jars; and the second was for One Dozen Quart Ball Special Fruit Jars.

Anne also brought complete cardboard boxes for: Ball Plastic Freezer Jars; Ball Regular Pint Mason Jars; Ball Wide-mouth Quart Mason Jars; Ball Regular Quart Mason Jars; and No. 808 Ball Jelly Glasses.

Dick Cole displayed 1960s jelly glass covers; a cardboard box for #63 lids; and an unopened cardboard box containing an amber quart 1976 repro Ball Buffalo jar.

Dick also shared an example of jelly cover that had been made from widemouth lid stock!

Show and Tell, cont'd

Lou Ebert brought a wooden box for "One Doz. Quarts Mason Fruit Jars Manfd. By The Safe Glass Co Upland, Ind."; a wooden box for "One Doz. Quarts Complete Ball Fruit Jars Glass" (illustration of Ball 3-L logo jar at left, and Trademark BB monogram at right); a wooden box end for "Marion Fruit Jar & Bottle Co's Mason Fruit Jars Glass One Dozen 1/2 Gal's Complete" (illustration of Mason's Pat. Nov. 30TH 1858 jar at left, and Trade Mark M in diamond inside a circle in upper middle); a wooden box end for "One Doz. Quarts The Swayzee Fruit Jar. The Swayzee Glass Co. Swayzee, Ind." (illustration of Mason's <SGCo monogram> Patent jar at left); a wooden box end for "One Doz. Pints The Swayzee Fruit Jar. The Swayzee Glass Co. Swayzee, Ind." (illustration of Mason's <SGCo monogram> Patent jar at left); a cardboard box end for "One Dozen Quart Ball (script) Eclipse Wide Mouth Glass Fruit Jars" (illustration of Ball <in script> Eclipse Wide Mouth jar at left); and a cardboard box end for "One Dozen Quart Flint Glass Double Safety Adjustable Fruit Jars M'n'd. By Kivlan Onthank & Co. Boston, Mass." (illustration of Double Safety jar at left, and Goodhouse-keeping seal at upper middle).

Dave Rittenhouse shared a wooden box end for "One Dozen Quarts Standard Wax Sealer Glass Fruit Jars Made By

Greenfield Fruit Jar Co. Greenfield, Ind." (illustration of Standard wax sealer jar at left); a wooden box end for "One Dozen Quarts Genuine Boyd's Mason Fruit Jars Made By Greenfield Fruit Jar Co. Greenfield, Ind." (illustration of Genuine Boyd's Mason jar at left); a wooden box end for "One Doz. Quart Impd Mason's Complete Fruit Jars Clyde Glass Works Clyde, N.Y." (illustration of Mason's Patent Nov. 30TH 1858 jar at left); and a complete wooden box for "One Dozen Quarts Redkey Glass Co. First Quality Full Weight From Redkey Indiana" (illustration of Mason's <GCCo monogram> Patent Nov. 30TH 1858 jar in middle).

Dave also displayed cardboard containers for: one dozen Ball Widemouth Zinc Caps; one dozen American Zinc Caps; and one dozen Samco Genuine Mason Zinc Caps.



History of the Sterling Glass Co. of Lapel, Indiana by Jean Harbron

Nov. 1914	Sterling Glass Co. incorporated by Arthur Woodward and several partners. It was a one-tank factory, operating as a hand blown plant until 1918, when a semi-automatic machine was installed. (Roller, Indiana Glass Factories Notes, p. 55, 1994; and Cascadden, History of Lapel and Fishersburg, 1938, p. 83)
21 May 1920	Letterhead of Sterling Glass Co., Inc., Lapel, Indiana, mfrs. Flint Glass Bottles (Roller, Indiana Glass Factories Notes, p. 55, 1994)
Nov. 1922	Sterling Glass Co. purchased by the Thomson & Taylor Company of Chicago, Illinois, distributors of spices, extracts, teas and coffees so that they would have a steady supply of glass containers. (personal interview by Jean Harbron with Robert Graves Warfield, Jr., grandson of John D. Warfield, Sr. who owned Thomson & Taylor). Note: the name of the company that purchased Sterling Glass Co. has been listed incorrectly in several sources as Thompson & Taylor. Reference: spice bottle with original label and listing in Thomas' Grocery Register for correct spelling as Thomson & Taylor Spice Company in 1976. A photo exists of Sterling Glass Co. in 1922 when it was purchased.
Feb. 1923	Sterling Glass Co. plant in Lapel, Indiana being put into shape to resume glass making, according to Arthur Woodward, mgr. Will be equipped with Lynch LA machines and Miller feeders for making narrow-neck ware such as extract bottles, castor oil flasks, sauce, vinegar and patent medicine bottles, and also polish bottles. (Roller, Indiana Glass Factories Notes, p. 55, 1994)
7 Oct. 1925	Letterhead of Sterling Glass Company, Lapel, IN, John D. Warfield, Pres. and Arthur Woodward, Manager. (Robert Graves Warfield, Jr.)
1929	Arthur Woodward sold his stock and George Terwilliger assumed management of the factory. (Cascadden, History of Lapel and Fishersburg, 1938, p. 83)
1 Jan. 1929	Thomson & Taylor who owned Sterling Glass Co. of Lapel, IN and the Warfield Chocolate Company merged to form the Warfield Company, John D. Warfield, Jr. Pres. Glass factory now operating as Sterling Glass Division of The Warfield Company, manufacturers of machine made flint glass bottles and jars, Office 554 W. 22 nd Street, Chicago. (letterhead from the early 1930s, Robert Graves Warfield, Jr.)
1929 - early 1940s	Products made by Sterling Glass, a division of the Warfield Company, Chicago, Ill., included a mustard jar shaped like a 6" tall lighthouse complete with the outline of bricks and using a screw cap, jars to hold candles for a religious supplier in Chicago, jars for the Farley Company which made candy, the old square "quilted" jars with an S inside a circle in the base, Plochman Mustard jars, glass containers for Thomson & Taylor, Sterling Mason fruit jars in pints and quarts with ribs, and shellac bottles. (Robert Graves Warfield, Jr.)
Aug. 1935	Article in Glass Packer with photo of glass jar made by Sterling Glass Co. for Warfield Cocoa. (Tom Caniff)
1935	Multiple photos of the inside of Sterling Glass Co. as it was being refit with a new furnace and other equipment. (Robert Graves Warfield, Jr.)
July 1938	The Glass Industry, The Journal of Glass Manufacturing, article on pages 259 - 262, Modernization of The Sterling Glass Plant. (Robert Graves Warfield, Jr.)
WWII years - 1950	Glass containers made by Sterling Glass Co. included jars for Crisco and Proctor and Gamble Coffee, Little Sport peanut butter distributed by Regal Stores, Inc., Indianapolis, Ind., Plochman Mustard, and others. (Robert Graves Warfield, Jr.)
1950	Sterling Glass Co. sold to Brockway Glass Company, Inc., Brockway, Pennsylvania. Robert Coyle moved to Lapel, Indiana to oversee the refitting of the plant for use by Brockway. (Robert Coyle interview, July 1995).
9 Aug. 1951	Brockway Glass Company (formerly Sterling Glass Co.) reopened with Robert Coyle as supervisor of the hot end of the plant and Robert Warfield, Jr. as traffic manager, purchasing, and production scheduling. Both Robert Coyle and Robert Warfield state that no fruit jars were made at the Lapel plant of Brockway Glass Co. after the plant reopened in 1951.
1967	Robert Coyle named general manager of the Lapel plant of Brockway Glass Co. (Robert Warfield, Jr.)

History of the Sterling Glass Co., cont'd

1951 - 1980	Glass containers made at the Lapel plant of Brockway Glass Co., Inc. include Shinola shoe polish, Lil Bo Peep ammonia, Heinz ketchup, Pepsi, Lysol, Seagram Whiskeys and many others. (Robert Warfield, Jr. and Robert Coyle)
1970	Second furnace and stack added at Lapel plant. (Robert Warfield, Jr.)
1988	Brockway Glass Co. acquired by Owens-Illinois Glass Company. Lapel plant renamed Owens-Brockway.
2 June 2000	Owens-Brockway Glass Containers receives award as a supplier of glass bottles for Miller Brewing Co. of Milwaukee. Amber beer bottles were made at the Lapel plant at this time. (Anderson Herald Bulletin, p. A3)
1 Apr. 2001	Owens-Brockway Glass Containers named top supplier of the year by Miller Brewing Co. of Milwaukee. (Anderson Herald Bulletin, p. A3)
2001	Owens-Brockway renamed Owens-Illinois Glass Containers of North America. (www.owens-
1 Oct. 2002	Molten glass leaks from furnace. Newspaper article about a glass leak from one of the furnaces at the Lapel plant of Owens-Illinois Glass Containers of North America. (Anderson Herald Bulletin)



Glass Chatter Inventory—Do You Have Any Issues to Add?

- 1973 to 1976: have not seen any examples; probably a typewritten letter format, anybody have info?
- 1977: Mar/Apr?, May (Vol. 1, No. III), Jul (Vol. 1, No. V), Sep (note: these are "new newsletter format"; booklet)
- 1978: Jan, Mar/Apr, May, Jul, Aug, Oct, Nov, Dec
- 1979: Jan, Feb, Mar, May, Jun, Aug, Sep, Oct, Nov, Dec
- 1980: Feb, Mar, Apr, May, Jun, Jul, Sep, Oct, Nov, Dec
- 1981: Feb, Mar, Jun, Jul/Aug, Oct, Nov, Dec
- 1982: Jan, Mar, May, Jul (cover should probably say June instead; mailed Jun 3), Jul (different; mailed Aug 2),
Aug, Sep, Oct/Nov? (mailed Nov 6), Dec? (Santa on cover; mailed Dec 9)
- 1983: Complete: Jan? (mailed Dec 24), Feb?, Mar, Apr, May, Jun, Jul, Aug, Sep, Oct, Nov, Dec
- 1984: Complete?: Jan/Feb?, Mar, Apr? (cover torn; Easter eggs), May, Jun, Jul, Aug,
(may not be a Sep issue), Oct, Nov, Dec
- 1985: Complete: (Jan. to Dec.)
- 1986: Complete: (Jan. to Dec.) (note: Sep/Oct was a single issue)
- 1987: Complete?: (Jan. to Dec.) (note: Jan/Feb was a single issue; Jul/Aug not dated)
- 1988: Complete: (Jan. to Dec.) (note: Jul/Aug was a single issue)
- 1989: Complete: (Jan. to Dec.) (note: Jun was labeled Apr; Jul/Aug was a single issue)
- 1990: Complete: (Jan. to Dec.)
- 1991: Complete (Jan. to Dec.)
- 1992: Complete (Jan. to Dec.) (note: Oct/Nov was a single issue)
- 1993: Complete (Jan. to Dec.)
- 1993: Antique Fruit Jar Collector's Directory
- 1994: Complete (Jan. to Dec.) (note: Jun/Jul was a single issue;
there were two different un-dated Nov. issues – mailed early/late)
- 1995: Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, May, Jul?, Sep, Oct, Nov, Dec
- 1996: Complete (Jan. to Dec.) (note: May/Jun was a single issue)
- 1997: Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, May, Jun/Jul, Aug, Sep, Oct, Nov
- 1998: Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, May, Jun/Jul, Sep, Oct, Nov, Dec
- 1999: Complete (Jan. to Dec.) (note: plus an additional special Jan. Show edition)
- 2000: Jan? (cover labeled Oct 1999), Feb, Mar, May, Jun, Jul, Aug, Sep, Oct, Nov, Dec
- 2001: Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, May, Jun, Jul, Aug, Oct, Dec
- 2002: Jan? (no date), Feb, Mar, Apr, May, Jul, Aug, Sep, Oct, Nov, Dec
- 2003: Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr/May (May was an inserted letter), Jun, Jul? (no date), Sep, Oct, Nov, Dec
- 2004: Complete (Jan. to Dec.) (note: no date on Jan)
- 2004: Membership Directory
- 2005: Complete (Jan. to Dec.) (note: Jan was a letter)
- 2006: Complete (Jan. to Dec.)
- 2007: Complete (Jan. to Dec.)
- 2008: Complete (Jan. to Dec.) (note: there were no issues in Sep. and Oct.)
- 2009: Complete (Jan. to Dec.)
- 2010: Complete (Jan. to Dec.)
- 2011: Jan. to current

LEGENDS OF THE JAR!

[Editor's Note: This article is a result of long time collector and author Bruce W. Schank reaching out to long time collector Darrell Plank.]

I first met Darrell at the January 2008 Muncie, IN show. We spoke briefly but he was busy hoping so I didn't get a chance to talk at length with him. Yet I already knew about him because his collection was Legendary to me and I'm sure many other people as well. Normally when one hears Darrell's name mentioned it's always nothing short of synonymous with the Crème de le Crème of fruit jars.

Darrell was born on Nov 4, 1956 in Kansas City, MO and also spent his childhood there until attending college. Darrell is a graduate of the University of Missouri and has a Masters degree from Purdue University. He worked at one time for Bell Labs in Chicago as a programmer and then made his way



from there to Washington State working for Microsoft at Redmond in 1984 and has remained in Washington State since then. He mentioned that he lives in the "middle of nowhere" but wouldn't change that for anything. In 1997 Darrell and three of his friends started a successful video game company called Suckerpunch which he currently devotes a good portion of his time to.

Surprisingly, Darrell first became interested in fruit jars while in Junior High School. He had a friend who collected bottles and he was interested in them too but didn't know where





he would find bottles such as a Dr. Harter's Wild Cherry Bitters. His Mom canned so he took her downstairs one day and pointed to all of her jars and told her he had just assimilated them all for his collection.

Well, his mother basically said to

him that that's not the way it was going to be but that he could pick out any 10 jars he wanted. After doing so he was then off to the races and what a race it has been for him. Indeed nothing short of stupendous!

Darrell's first exciting jar as a young collector was a half gallon amber Globe with a big bruise on the heel. But the fact he had an amber jar of any kind at all was just about the most exciting thing he could imagine at that time. *So there is hope for the rest of us.* He mentioned how he went to the 1976 Show at St. Louis with all of the money he

had saved up. It was close to \$300 and incredibly with that little money he ended up with a teal 1858 quart and a few other nice jars which he still has in the collection to this day. His collecting kind of shut down for a brief time period while going to college because money was tight and he just didn't have the free time due to his studies.

He remembers going to the Nashville, TN National Show in the early



90's where he bought a Ladies Favorite which by the way just happened to be the very first jar he spent over 1k on. After that jar the next time he really started to get some "high end" examples was after he had worked for Microsoft for awhile. Shortly after they went public and his stock options vested, it was at that time Alex Kerr's collection became available. That pretty much was the incredible beginning to a never ending quest for rare and beautifully colored fruit jars.



Darrell mentioned that although he feels a Ball Jar collection of 500 jars would actually be an interesting collection, he only has enough space to accommodate a limited amount of jars. Actually the type of jars Darrell is after are ones in which a non-collector when looking at it would say, "Oh wow now



that's really interesting."

He told me if you're going for high end jars especially the really high end ones, then they usually tend to be great colors but still the same he is also a huge fan of odd closed jars.

Believe this or not he bought a green B.B. Wilcox jar at one time and according to him completely sight unseen. When he opened the box and took a look at the jar he claims his jaw dropped. The jar is a color of green exactly akin to the

Petal jars and Darrell feels the green Petal jars are the only jars that come in that particular color green. He feels this jar was one of the craziest jars he has picked up over the years and one of his favorite.

Another great jar Darrell acquired was a wonderful milk-glass swirled 1858 quart that came from the Alex Kerr collection. He claims no one really knows what the actual stories behind these milk-glass jars are but the running theory is that some-



one after work hours decided to make a jar out of the cap liner material as an end of the day joke or whimsy. Nonetheless the jar is rare and fantastic all at the same time no matter what the reason might be.

Now there's no doubt that Darrell pays nothing short of top dollar for his jars and that's probably true about most of them but he was lucky one time from what he told me on an





eBay auction. He won a wonderful cobalt jar with a super pontil and laid on ring that was on eBay along with two plain aqua wax sealers. The photo wasn't that good and the description too was a bit vague at best. Only at the end was it mentioned to be a cobalt blue wax sealer. So he took

the chance and managed to snag that beauty for a paltry \$600 bills and considering the jar that was a real steal for him, that's for sure.

Darrell has another very interesting jar and one in which I have never seen before until seeing his photos, a cobalt blue Hartell jar. And according to him it's the only example he's ever seen or heard of in that color. The jar came from the Al Vignon collection and he claims a fair amount of the jar has been reconstructed. There are some big chunks that have been repaired but he takes that

all in stride. He always reminds people "if you want the Venus de Milo with arms then you just don't want the Venus de Milo because the only one known doesn't have any arms. Be happy with what you get." Great advice since a one-of-a-kind jar after all, is what it is.

Darrell's favorite jar in the entire collection surprisingly to me happens to be his amber quart Air Tight Fruit Jar. I asked him why and he told me there are a few reasons for this. The jar is not only beautiful and interesting but one of the most historic jars that exists. The jar just happens to be one of the earliest figural jars, one of the only amber



figural jars, one of the only amber pontiled jars and from what he can figure probably the earliest amber side embossed jar as well. Put all of these factors together and it takes top spot in his book and that's saying a lot considering what he owns.



At one point Darrell looked at his collection and said to himself; "Oh My Gosh I have a rather large collection, kind of by accident, of cobalt jars." With that said he doesn't think it's fair to say he has them all though. He freely admits that most likely he has probably an example of all of the well known cobalt jars out there but there are obscure cobalt product jars hardly anyone



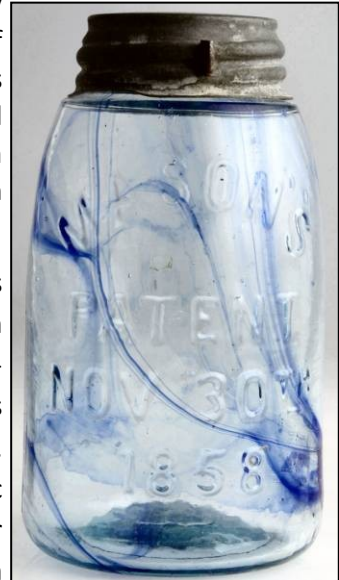
has heard of that he does not own. Still he never imagined he'd ever own the cobalt lightning or the Mason's CFJCo. Improved, Clyde NY on reverse simply because the jars were owned by people he believed would never give them up. So after acquiring those jars he had basically most of what he wanted anyway.

Darrell looks at his jars pretty much from a historical viewpoint and wonders often where a certain jar he owns was during the Civil War or what kind of food did somebody put up in this jar. He claims there was

a lot of really great looking fancy glass that people put on the table but that usually was in the back of the china closet and taken out once a year at Christmas or some other holiday. One of the things he loves about jars is that people actually handled them on a day to day basis and they were an integral part of their lives. He loves seeing jars that still have labels on them saying what was in them at one time too.

One of my favorite jars in Darrell's collection happens to be his cobalt streaked (striations anyone) 1858 midget.

He says that fantastic and stunning midget jar came from a family in Muncie, IN. The family's story is quite remarkable at least to me anyway being a Ball jar collector. Their grandfather made the jar at the Ball Corp. plant in Muncie, IN around 1900 as a lark. They kept it in the family all of those years until finally selling it to Darrell. Now, for all of those naysayers out there who don't





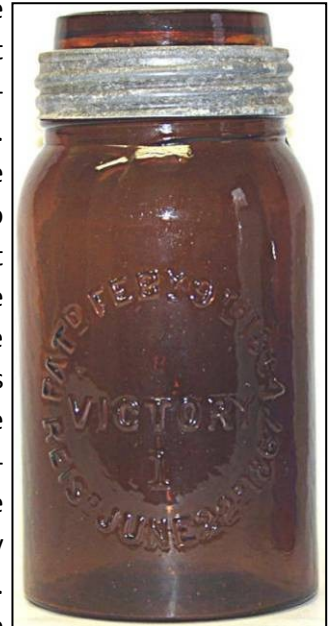
believe Ball made vanilla 1858 jars including midgets, this is one story if true (and there's no reason to doubt what the family claims) tends to prove the opposite. This jar would also be the one and only Ball made jar that I know of with cobalt in it too. Hmm, I wonder if I could ever find anything good enough to trade Darrell for this

jar. I seriously rather doubt I could find anything but it's a pleasant thought for me. :0)

Darrell happens to own one of the three known cobalt CFJCo midgets to exist. Interestingly enough he mentioned the story he heard of how some guy out of the blue walked into a show at one time with those same three cobalt CFJ midgets in a shoe box. Only he lamented how he's never been fortunate enough to be the guy who was actually there when people like that show up with great jars. He's also never had the fortune of finding a great or spectacular jar on a table or at some obscure antique shop for \$5.00 or less as others he knows has. He's actually had to pay for most of the jars he has in the collection although he claims some he's acquired at fairly reasonable prices or what he considers reasonable and

not that they'd be reasonable to other people.

Darrell also has a tragic jar story too. He used to have a mirror that had some fixtures on it. He had some jars under the fixtures including a nice half gallon Bloeser jar. Somehow one of the fixtures came loose from either road vibration or whatever and one day bang, it fell hitting the Bloeser jar. He still has the closure but the jar itself is unfortunately history now. Sadly for some strange reason he didn't seem to learn his lesson. He put the fixture back on the mirror and as far as he was concerned it was nice and tight this time firmly believing everything was going to be okay. But sadly tragedy was to strike yet again.



This time he put a nice set of three deep green colored Lightning's back under the fixture and low and behold and out of the blue that same fixture came crashing down again one day and hit the quart jar. The half gallon and pint thankfully survived but the quart was a \$700 "hard pill to swallow" lesson for Darrell. Suffice it to say after tragedy number two he longer has any jars under that mirror.



To the rest of the fruit jar collecting world Darrell would say just enjoy what you collect at present. He believes that there's a thrill involved in every level of jars. There's no reason for anybody to feel that their collection is any less exciting than his or anyone else's collection. You've got to have the

passion in you and not worry too much whether other people don't share the same passion as you do. Everyone should enjoy and be proud of their collection. He's thrilled that we have all of the collectors in the hobby and at all of the varying levels and everyone deserves praise.



extremely knowledgeable about his jars too. I would imagine he is an exceptional programmer since Math seems to be a serious and fun hobby for him as well. He is also an accomplished musician and knows how to tickle the ivories with the best of them. An-



other avenue of interest for Darrell is photography and his skills are quite evident by the majority of the excellent photos accompanying this article.

In ending, I asked Darrell sort of facetiously whether there exists a jar that can actually make his jaw drop any-

more. I mean come on now folks! This guy obviously owns some of the most overwhelmingly spectacular jars that most normal and even advanced collectors have ever seen or could imagine owning. It just simply boggles this humble author's tiny noggin thinking about them. I couldn't help but wonder, isn't it just a bit all too commonplace for him now? Can any jar actually be impressive or thrilling enough? To my sheer surprise he chuckled at all of my foolish tomfoolery and said, "Oh yes absolutely!" It's obvious I'm having a hard time grasping or understanding what it's like to own fruit jars of the caliber in his collection. I'm simply coming from an outside vantage point of complete and utter normalcy talking to one of the most prodigious and prominent fruit jar collectors in the country. I have an invite from Darrell so sometime hopefully in the not too distant future I will be visiting with him and seeing those incredible jars up close and personal.



Addendum: Photos 1, 11 & 19 courtesy of June Lowry.



Show Headquarters—Signature Inn

Room Hopping

Jelly Jammers—Saturday, January 7, 2012—10 am

Fruit Jar Get-Together & Auction—Saturday, January 7, 2012—1:30 pm

Make your own reservations with the hotel—765-284-4200

Show Location—Horizon Convention Center

Admission \$2

Ample Space—Dealer tables still available

Fantastic lighting

Show Chairman—David Rittenhouse

1008 S 900 W

Farmland, IN 47340

765-468-8091

Show Information—Dick Cole

765-288-8717



MIDWEST ANTIQUE FRUIT
JAR & BOTTLE CLUB

A jarrific place to share and learn

Send articles and info here:

Joe Coulson, Editor

10515 Collingswood Ln.

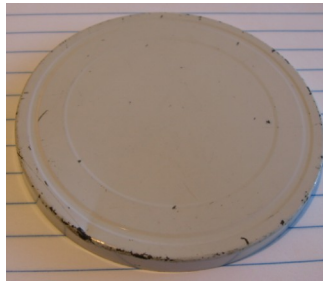
Fishers, IN 46037-9598

Email: JCoulson@LeaderJar.com

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.FRUITJAR.ORG



Dick Cole shared this unusual jelly glass cover which was made from Ball widemouth lid stock. Evidence of the widemouth lid design is on the inside of the jelly cover!

Announcements

- Our annual Winter Show is coming up very soon. Saturday, January 7th is the Fruit Jar Get-Together & Auction at The Signature Inn (ph. 765-284-4200). Sunday, January 8th is the Jar Show (9am to 2pm) at the Horizon Convention Center in Muncie, Indiana.
- North American Glass holds fine quality fruit jar auctions. Recent auctions have featured fabulous jars from the collection of Bill Dudley. Check out the website for more details.
<http://www.gregspurgeon.com/auction/>
- The Circle City Antique Bottle Club has well-attended monthly meetings on the west side of Indianapolis. You might consider stopping in sometime and saying "hello." Contact Martin Van Zant for more details: mdvanzant@yahoo.com
- The Jelly Jammers now have a website called the "Jelly Jammers Cupboard":
<http://www.jellyjammers.com/>

