

Bottle Talk

RALEIGH BOTTLE CLUB NEWS LETTER

Editor: Marshall Clements August, 2008

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Schmidt Coca-Cola Museum Elizabethtown, Kentucky



Bill and Jan Schmidt started collecting Coca-Cola antiques to decorate their office space. Over the years their collection grew to what is now the Schmidt Museum Of Coca-Cola Memorabilia. Bill's father and grandfather were also Coca-Cola bottlers.

A TRIP TO REMEMBER

When I plan a trip I usually include some of the better things of life such as eating in as many unique local restaurants and diners as possible, and visiting numerous antique malls searching for old bottles and small antiques to add to my ever growing collection. Back in June I had a "vacation" scheduled that originally included little time for those "better things". The original plan began with a 50th wedding anniversary celebration in Atlanta. After that, a long road trip to Springfield, Tennessee visiting friends and family as we traveled. The trip then was to continue on to Elizabethtown, Kentucky to attend the wedding of a good friend. The eleven day trip plan seemed to be packed with visits to family and friends with little time for anything else except the wedding. As time for the trip drew near we discovered some of the people we had planned to visit were also vacationing and would not be at home. This gave us the much desired time to visit a few antique malls and relax a little as we moved along our appointed route toward Kentucky. Nearing Elizabethtown, we exited from the Interstate in search of our motel. A sign immediately caught my eye...SCHMIDT MUSEUM OF COCA-COLA. For the first time I realized we were within walking distance of the museum. Since this was not part of our original plan and we had not scheduled a lot of spare time after the wedding. I knew it was going to be tough to squeeze in a tour of the museum....tough but not impossible. Sure enough, early on Sunday afternoon we managed to get to the museum armed with a digital camera and a fresh battery pack. I knew my time was limited so as my wife meandered through the aisles leisurely taking in the displays. I went like a madman up one aisle and down the other taking pictures. I knew I would have little time to read and examine the displays so I directed all of my attention to taking photographs. I took more than 200 pictures as I hurried through this amazing museum. Even with 200 pictures I still could not capture the magnificence of this vast collection.

Last year I visited the "WORLD OF COCA-COLA" in Atlanta and was impressed with the collection of memorabilia and really enjoyed the animated movie about searching for the Coca-Cola formula. If I had to choose the World of Coca-Cola or the Schmidt Coca-Cola Museum based on the number of Coke collectibles and the quality of the displays it would be no contest. I would choose the Schmidt Museum every time. In all fairness, if I had small children that had to be entertained, I would probably choose Atlanta strictly because of the animated movie.

The accommodations in the Elizabethtown area are at least half price compared to Atlanta and parking is free and directly adjacent to the Schmidt Museum. For overall convenience and quality I highly recommend the Schmidt Coca-Cola museum. The Schmidt Museum has over 10,000 square feet of exhibits and displays covering the complete history of Coca-Cola. The museum curator has done a magnificent job arranging the many displays so every unique piece of memorabilia is clear and visible as you walk the aisles. The framing of the die cuts and standups are professionally done to enhance the beauty of each piece. The main lobby has a fully operating 50's style Soda Fountain where you can enjoy a nickel Coke and a hot dog. If you have a large group looking for that special meeting place the Schmidt Museum has you covered. They have a large hospitality room that is ideal for club and group functions. This room features a soda fountain from the 1893 Columbian Exposition as well as beautiful displays of early advertisement. I hope you can tell from my write-up how impressed I was with this museum. It was way more than I ever expected. I am only sorry I did not have time to slowly browse through the displays and fully enjoy the experience. My thanks to Don, the person working that great Sunday afternoon, for his southern hospitality and his willingness to put up with my questions during the visit and later on the phone.

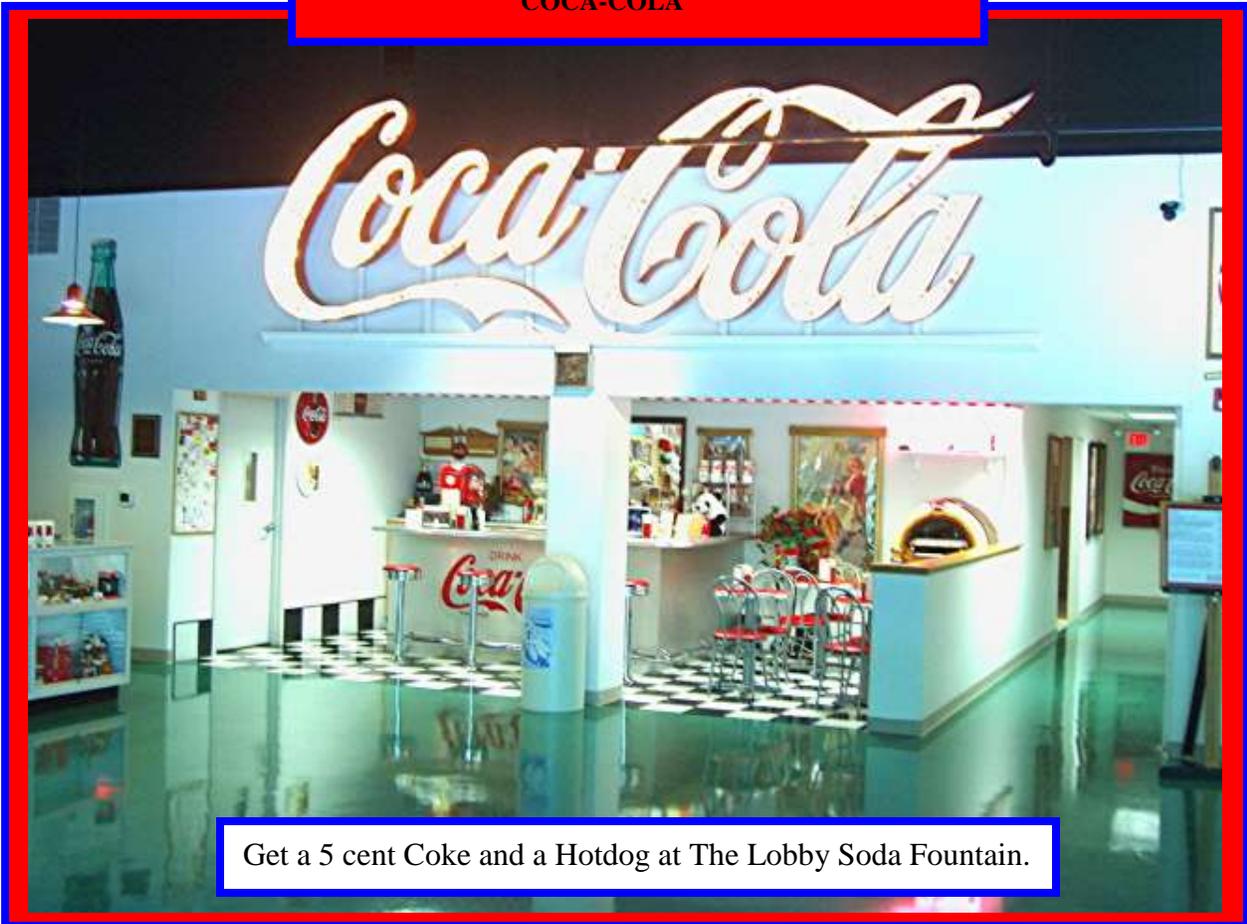
I have tried to include enough photos in this issue of 'Bottle Talk' to give you an idea of just how impressive this museum really is. I hope the photos will give you the itch to hit the road to Elizabethtown in the near future. You'll be glad you did. I certainly am.

Marshall Clements
Editor: Bottle Talk

**To learn more about the Schmidt Museum of Coca-Cola Memorabilia go to:
www.schmidtmuseum.com**



THE FRONT LOBBY STARTS YOU ON A GREAT ADVENTURE INTO THE EARLY YEARS OF COCA-COLA



Get a 5 cent Coke and a Hotdog at The Lobby Soda Fountain.



The above photos are of the two early Elizabethtown Coke plants. My photos were not clear enough to see the dates, but I thought they were worth seeing anyway. Note the different types of delivery vehicles.

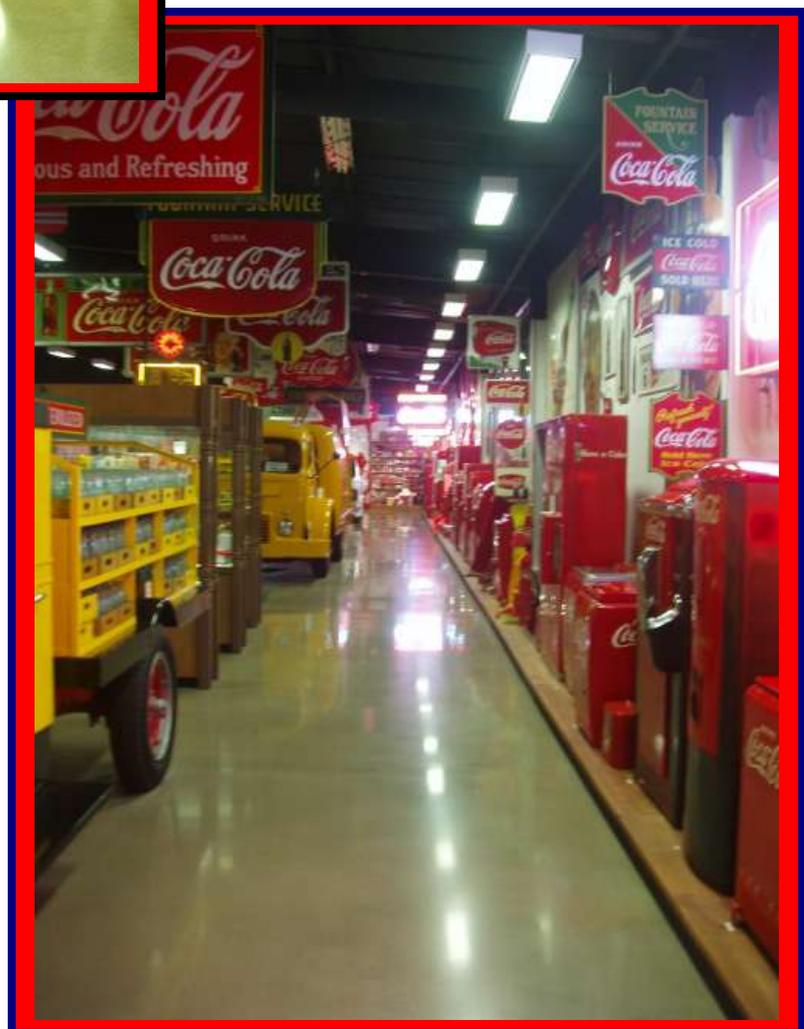
The photo on the right is a picture of an early lighted clock sign. I would guess this lighted sign to be 12 to 15 feet high. It really gets your attention when you enter the museum lobby. The sign came from Piqua, Ohio.





**UP
ONE
AISLE**

**....and
down
the
other**



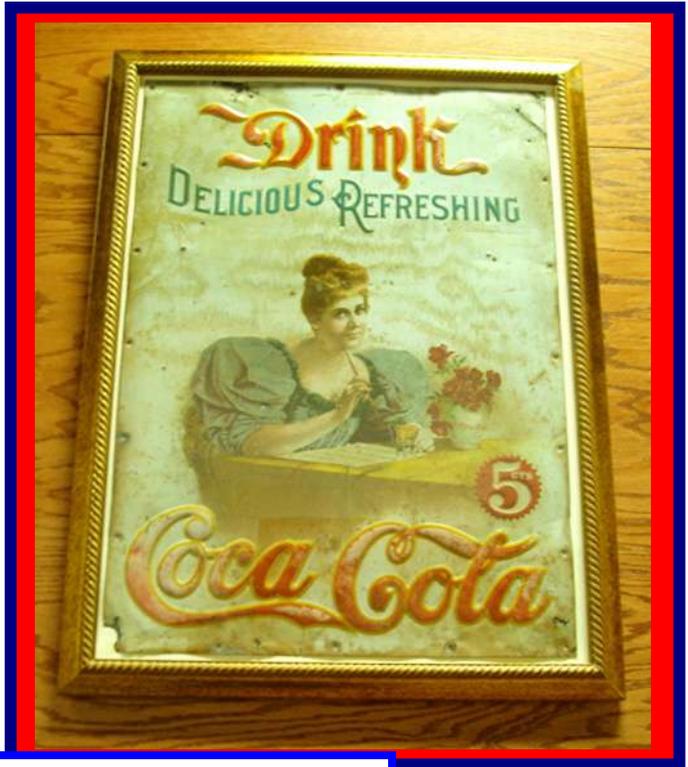
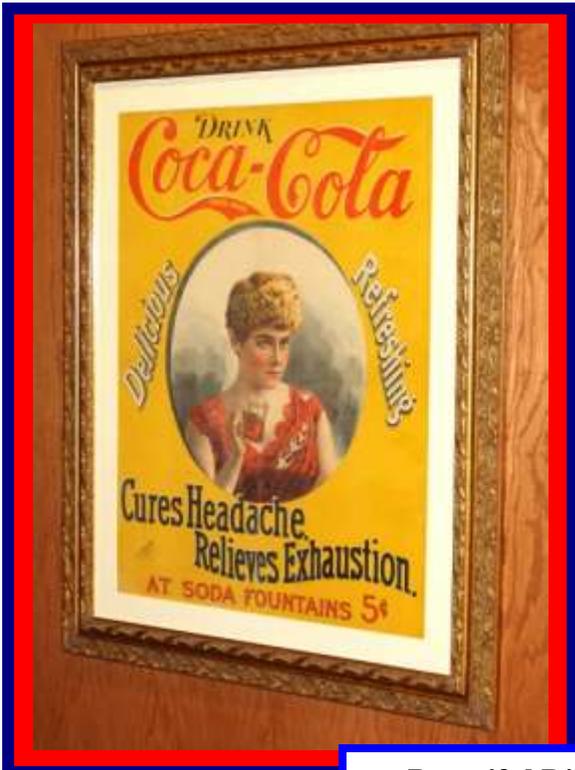


The First Coke Bottling Machine..

Made To Fill Hutchinson Bottles



Hutchinson Bottles, the first bottles to hold Coca-Cola, were in use very early by only a dozen or so Bottlers. They featured a "stopper" on the end of a wire loop, which closed off the neck of the bottle. When pushed down by the consumer to allow the liquid to flow, the resulting release of the carbonated beverage resulted in a "popping" sound. Thus, carbonated beverages earned the name of Pop from that time on.



Beautiful Die Cut and Tin Advertisement



**Filler Capper
Manufactured by the
Crown, Cork and Seal Company**

Was used to fill and cap straight sided bottles.

**From the Cap
or
From the Cup
The Good Taste Of
*Coca-Cola***



Vintage Coke Dispensers And Unique Aluminum Carriers



**Ice Cold Coke
Hit the Market
with these early
Ice Box Coolers.**

**Ice It Down
and
Pass It Around**
Coca-Cola



Early Coca-Cola Fountain Syrup Jugs

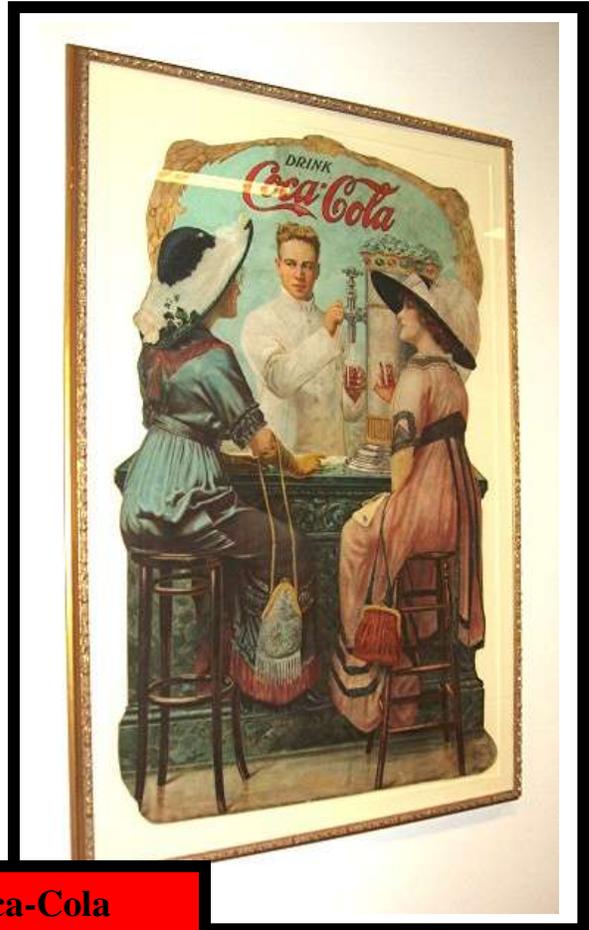
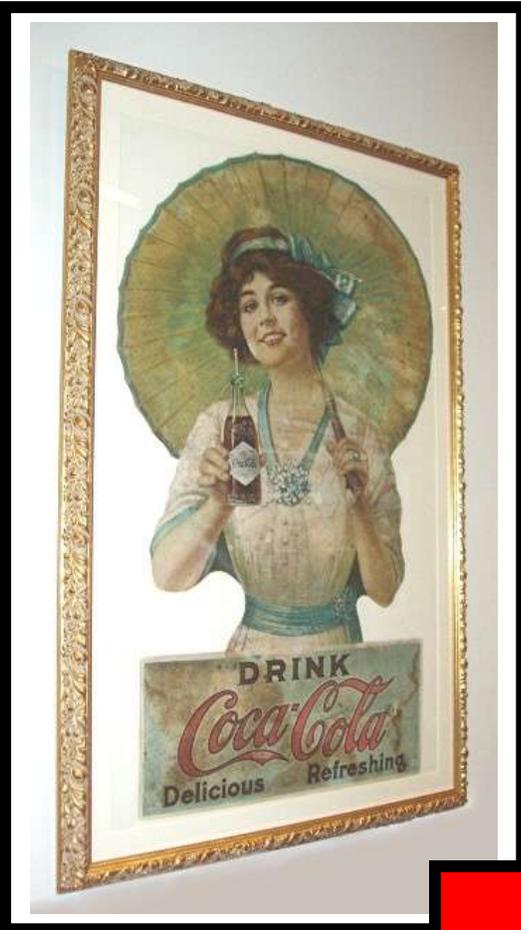




These old Festoon Coke advertisements could be seen in the local drugstores during the 20's and 30's. They were very ornate and colorful; designed to draw attention to the product ...

REFRESHING
Coca-Cola





**Early Coca-Cola
Advertisement**

Die cuts and lithographs





Full Size Coca Cola Standups

These are just two of the many life size standups on display.



Early 30's Delivery Truck

Did you know?
During the religious holiday of Passover, Coca Cola makes a kosher Coke by substituting sugar for corn syrup, which is not considered kosher.

Did you know? If all of the 6.5 oz. bottles ever produced by the Coca-Cola Bottlers, were placed end to end, they would wrap around the world more than 11,000 times.



The red and white van in the above photo, adorned with 3-D figures, is even more impressive when seen in person. This van was created as a local school art project. Three Hardin County, Kentucky high schools joined forces to complete this amazing project.

NICE WORK GUYS!



Late 40's Delivery Truck



The store side sign was moved from an old building torn down in Marietta, Georgia sometime in the 70's.

The display on the right is a collection of door pulls usually found adorning the screen doors of early grocery stores and gas stations. Due to their constant abuse it is difficult to find a nice quality door pull today.





Drop a nickel into the big red box and out jumps a refreshing Coca-Cola.





The Hospitality Room

The Hospitality Room is quite large and even more beautiful. It is an ideal place for club and group functions of all types, if you can keep everyone's attention on the business at hand instead of the decor. The room includes the soda fountain, shown above, from the Columbian Exposition of 1893 (Chicago Worlds Fair). After the Exposition, and before coming to the Schmidt Museum, this fountain was used as a working soda fountain in Kettering, Ohio. The Hospitality Room also contains the world's largest Coke bottle made from other Coke bottles, as well as numerous framed die cut and standup advertisement pieces shown on the following page. The museum curator found an old photo of a 1920 store front display and realized that almost everything shown in the photo was available in the museum archives. Using the archived pieces he recreated the store front window now on display in the Schmidt Museum Hospitality Room with the exception of one piece. The clock on the left is a piece from the 1893 Columbian Exposition. The display is pictured on the following page.



About this exhibit:
**This is the world's largest
 Coke bottle made from
 real Coca-Cola bottles.**

**Stands 9.5 feet tall
 32 inches at the base
 14 layers - 2-3 bottles
 deep
 800 ACL bottles
 600 lbs. of Coke bottles
 13.5 inch Aluminum Cap**

**Note: The filled bottle was
 one of the last "returnable"
 to come off the Elizabethtown
 bottling line in 1997**



Recreated 1920 Store Front Display



Raleigh Bottle Club, FOHBC Member



If you are a collector of painted label soda bottles you need to be a member of the Painted Soda Bottles Collectors Association. A one year membership includes bi-monthly issues of Soda Fizz magazine. This magazine is a must for the soda bottle collector. Soda Fizz is the premier magazine for the collector of painted label soda bottles.



BOTTLE COLLECTORS

*If you have not yet joined the FOHBC I would strongly encourage you to do so. There is no better way to keep up with what is going on in the world of bottle collecting. Membership includes a subscription to the BOTTLES AND EXTRAS magazine. Membership information can be found on the website:
www.fohbc.com*

*Send your payment to:
PSBCA -The Soda Fizz
341 Yellowstone Drive
Fletcher, N.C. 28732*

RBC Website

"Take a look"

www.raleighbottleclub.org

**If you have constructive ideas or suggestions please contact Robert Creech at:
raleighbottleclub@gmail.com**

UPCOMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 13-17 - HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA NEW

The 11th Annual All-Dairy Antiques, Bottles & Collectibles Show & Sale (8 AM - 5 PM daily) at the Pennsylvania Farm Show Complex & Expo Center, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. INFO: **CHARLES A. ITLE**, PH: (717) 423-6789 or **LOLLY LESHER**, PH: (717) 787-2905.

SEPTEMBER 21 - WINCHESTER, VIRGINIA

The Apple Valley Bottle Collectors Club 34th Annual Show & Sale (9 AM - 3 PM, Early Buyers 7:30 AM) at the Mt. Carmel Baptist Church Family Life Center, 1309 Opequon Ave, Winchester, Virginia. INFO: **RICHARD M., VENS Koske**, 2038 Chestnut Grove Rd., Winchester, VA. 22603, PH: (540) 247-4429.

SEPTEMBER 21 - WINCHESTER, VIRGINIA

The Richmond Area Bottle Collectors 37th Annual Show & Sale (Sat. 9 AM - 3 PM, \$3 Adm.; Early Entry 7:30 AM, Adm. \$20) at the Showplace Annex, 3002 Mechanicsville Turnpike, Richmond, Virginia. INFO: **MARVIN CROKER**, 4718 Twila Ln., Richmond, VA 23234, PH: (804) 275-1101 or **ED FAULKNER**, 4718 Kylee Ln., Moseley, VA 23120, PH: (804) 739-2951 or E-mail: faulkner@antiquebottles.com .

** Federation Member Club **

OCTOBER 10-11 - MONCK'S CORNER, SOUTH CAROLINA NEW

The Berkeley Antique Bottle & Collectibles Show (Fri. 12 - 6 PM; Sat. 9 AM - 1 PM) at Berkeley Industries, Moncks Corner, South Carolina. INFO: **LIBBY KILGALLEN**, PH: (843) 761-0316 or E-mail: lkilgallen@bciservices.org.

OCTOBER 18 - LOUISBURG, NORTH CAROLINA

The Raleigh Bottle Club's Annual Show & Sale (Sat. 8:30 AM - 2 PM < Gen. Adm. \$3; Early Adm. 7 AM, \$10) at 111 South Church St., Louisburg, North Carolina. INFO: **BARTON WEEKS**, Show Chairman, PH: (336) 508-2759, E-mail: bweeks6@triad.rr.com or **DONNIE MEDLIN**, Co-Chair. PH: (919) 496-1367. All show info available at: www.raleighbottleclub.org. Club E-mail: raleighbottleclub@gmail.com. (FOHBC Member Club)

NOVEMBER 23 - GREENSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA NEW

The Southeast Bottle Club's 7th Annual Antique Bottle & Collectibles Show & Sale (9 AM - 3 PM, Dealer Set-up 7 - 9 AM, no Early Buyers) at the Greensboro Farmer's Curb Market, Greensboro, North Carolina. INFO: **REGGIE LYNCH**, PH: (704) 221-6489, Website: www.antiquebottles.com/greensboro.

Blast From The Past



Early 1960 Durham, N.C. Coca-Cola Delivery Truck
This is the first piece of Coke memorabilia you see when you drive into the Schmidt Coca-Cola Museum parking lot.

If you have an old photo that might make a good "Blast From The Past" feature, please let me know. Pictures must be of good quality and owned by the submitter. Submission of a photo does not guarantee publication.

MEETING INFORMATION

Meeting Time and Dress Code

Monthly meetings are held on the first Tuesday of every month. The meetings are held in the Glenn Laurel Clubhouse at 1330 Galax Street, Raleigh, N.C. The meetings start at 7:30 and usually last about an hour. Feel free to come any time after 6:00 for fellowship and a little selling and trading prior to the meeting. The dress is always casual.

Directions to Clubhouse

From Crabtree Valley Shopping Mall, go south on Edwards Mill Road toward Blue Ridge and Duraleigh Road for approximately 1 1/2 miles. Look for a school on your left followed by Carnegie Park Apartments. Take a right at the stop light onto Laurel Hills Road then an immediate right onto White Pine Drive. Continue on White Pine Drive until you come to a stop sign. Turn right onto Galax Street. Continue on Galax to the bottom of the hill and the white club house will be on your left.

RBC MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

1 year membership \$15.00

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP _____

Email Address: _____

My collecting interests are:

Please make check payable to: **Raleigh Bottle Club**

Bring you check to the club meeting or mail it to: Robert Creech
1309 Hinnant Road
Selma, NC 27576

How did you learn about the Raleigh Bottle Club: Newsletter _____
Member _____
Other _____

If you have any questions about the Raleigh Bottle Club or just want to talk about bottles give me a call on (919)423-8557 or contact me via email at meclm@prodigy.net

The Raleigh Bottle Club is a member of the Federation of Historic Bottle Clubs