

Bottle Talk

April, 2009

Marshall Clements, Editor

Raleigh Bottle Club Newsletter



FRONT



REAR

Diamonds Are A Mann's Best Friend

FEATURING

The Coke Diamonds of Sterling Mann



Turn -Top 10 oz. 1968 ACL

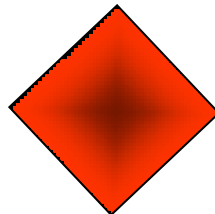


Crown Top 10 oz. 1967 ACL



FRONT COVER: The unusual, colorful Coke featured on the cover is a collectors dream. It is a 10 ounce, crown top, diamond Coke decorated with an unusual wrap around ACL. It is considered to be one of the rarest of the diamond Cokes.

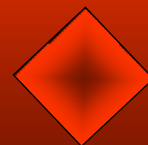
ABOVE: The bottle on the left is a 26 oz. (one pint 10 ounces) diamond Coke that rivals the cover bottle in rarity. It is a two label bottle (front and back) with a crown top. It was first introduced in 1966. The bottle on the right is a 28 ounce crown top with a single front label. Even though it is not as rare as the 26 ounce, it is extremely hard to find.



TOP LEFT: Another rare 26 oz. single front label with screw top.

TOP RIGHT: 10 oz. crown top with single front paper label.

BOTTOM LEFT: The short and tall versions of the 10 oz. diamond. Both have a front label and crown top.





TOP LEFT: This very unique emerald green, 10 ounce, crown top Coke diamond is a very nice addition to any collection.

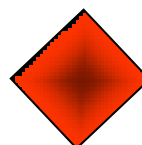
TOP RIGHT: A bottle with a different twist. This four label quart Coke diamond has two labels on the front and two on the back. The top labels advertise the new twist cap with the words "Twist to open, Twist to reseal".

LEFT: This 16 ounce screw top diamond has a single foil label. It was introduced to the retail market in 1966.



TOP: Diamonds sometimes come in clusters. This five diamond cluster contains five clear cokes with a center embossed diamond design. Embossed in the diamond are the words Coca-Cola with a Coke bottle in the background. The embossed design is very similar to the front painted label seen on the newsletter cover. The bottle in the middle is a screw top; the others are crown tops. The fourth bottle from the left is a Canadian issue. All of the bottles are 10 ounce.

LEFT: Another very rare bottle is this 26 ounce crown top. James Bond once said, "Diamonds are forever". Trying to find a jewel like this just might take forever.

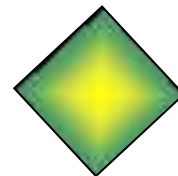




LEFT: Here are two examples of emerald green Coke diamonds. The embossing is virtually the same on the 10 and the 16 ounce bottle. Although both of these bottles are tough to find, the screw top 16 ounce bottle may prove to be an extremely difficult challenge.

BOTTOM LEFT: These two white diamond Cokes can be found in 10 and 13 ounces but you may have to spend a little money and some vacation time. These very hard to find bottles came from Australia.

BOTTOM RIGHT: Embossed label bottles are difficult to photograph. The enhanced photo below offers a clearer view of the embossed diamond design found on most of the diamond cokes.



FINDING YOUR NICHE



Webster defines *niche* as "a situation or activity specially suited to a person's abilities or character." As you can see from these photos of Sterling Mann's collection of 'throw-away' sodas he has definitely found his niche. Sterling began his search for throw-away sodas in the early 90's. and has amassed one of the largest and most complete collections in the country. Along with his bottles he also collects packaging and advertisement with the words "no deposit no return", "one way bottles", or "throw-away bottles". As you can see, Sterling's diamond Coke collection was just a small part in a large niche.





Rounding out Sterling's niche are the two photos above. The photo on the left shows a great collection of rare and unusual wooden Pepsi-Cola crates. The fourth and fifth crates from the top were issued prior to 1910.

The pre-1900 'Back Bar' Pepsi-Cola bottle on the right is a personal favorite of Sterling's. Most people have never seen this extremely rare bottle, even in a photograph. This bottle was purchased from the late Everett Lloyd collection along with two other rare Pepsi pieces, a one gallon syrup jug and a 1905 New Bern, N.C. newspaper advertisement believed to be the very first Pepsi newspaper ad.



IN THE BEGINNING

A profile of RBC member Sterling Mann

by Marshall Clements

During the early 80's Sterling and his wife, Margaret, decided to add an additional room to their home. Margaret's idea was to decorate the new addition with a country store motif. The very first purchase she made for the new room was a Pepsi celluloid sign. Once this sign was in place it only seemed right to enhance it with a couple of old Pepsi bottles. They were living in Virginia at the time so, as you might have expected, their bottle choices were straight sided Pepsis from Richmond and Petersburg Va. After finding these two old Pepsi bottles, Sterling decided to do some research on Pepsi-Cola. He quickly discovered the strong North Carolina tie. Sterling's hometown is Newport, N.C. located about 20 miles from New Bern, N.C., the birth place of Pepsi Cola. With this new discovery he became instantly "hooked on Pepsi". Over the next few years he was able to build a very nice collection of Pepsi memorabilia.

In the early 90's Sterling decided to take a new direction with his collecting. A lot of collectors in the Carolinas collected Pepsi items. He wanted to collect something a little unique that would set him apart from the other collectors. He ultimately decided on "throw-away" soda bottles. The rest is history. Sterling's collection has quickly grown to around 2,000 bottles. With most bottle collections come the "go-withs"; those items that go with or enhance a particular collection. Some of the rarest and most difficult advertisement pieces are those referring in some way to the throw-away soda bottle. Over the years Sterling has collected some very rare and unusual advertisement pieces to support his "throw-away" soda collection.

The Sterling Mann Collection of throw-away sodas and related advertisement is considered one of the premier collections in the country. I only wonder if Margaret had known then what she knows today, would she have taken a pass on that first celluloid Pepsi sign. Maybe so, maybe not.

Marshall Clements

show and Tell



Donnie Medlin "CRUSHES" the RBC members with his presentation. Donnie set aside his Pepsi bottles for one night and brought one of his sideline collections to show the club, his collection of CRUSH bottles and advertisement. Just as you would have expected his collection was pretty amazing.



Early tin Chocolate Crush hanging wall sign. CHOCOLATE CRUSH is not only Rich and Creamy, it is also scarce and rare.



TOP LEFT: Emerald green 24 oz. bottle embossed on shoulder 'Orange Crush Bottling Co. Ashtabula, Ohio'. A diamond slug plate embossed "Drink Our High Grade Beverages".

TOP RIGHT: Emerald green 28oz. bottle with a diamond slug plate. The slug plate embossing reads: ORANGE CRUSH BEVERAGES 28 FL OZ.

LEFT: A nice framed celluloid Crush advertisement. These are very fragile and split easily. They are very rare in this pristine condition.



LEFT: Hard to find paper label Orange Crush marked FULL QUART.

BOTTOM LEFT: A very nice Orange Crush thermometer with 'Crushy', the Crush mascot.

BOTTOM RIGHT: An unusual and hard to come by one pint 12 oz Crush with centerslug plate. The slug plate has ORANGE CRUSH BOTTLING Co. around the top and ELMIRA HEIGHTS, N.Y. around the bottom. In the center is COR SHERIDAN and BLEVENTH ST.



UNCLE CLEM BLOBTOP



Yeah!... And I dig old people.

WANTS AND DESIRES

INFORMATION NEEDED

Bill Baab is undertaking a new venture. He is searching for information on the origin of bottle collecting for a future publication. If you have any information dealing with early bottle collecting or know of anyone that might have such information, please contact Bill at:
riverswamper@comcast.net

...Will pay top dollar for bottles embossed 'Wilmington, N.C'

Sodas Medicines
Whiskeys Beers
Milks

Contact:
Chris Whitehurst
cbw315@yahoo.com

..... Will pay reasonable price for glass two Liter soda bottles in very good condition, w/cap and bright color. ACL or Styrofoam.

Marshall Clements (919) 423-8557

bloktop@gmail.com

FOR SALE..... My long-awaited Augusta bottle and pottery book has been published, capping 35 years of research and collecting.

74 well-illustrated pages. "Augusta on Glass" costs \$40

(shipping charges included). Make personal checks or money orders payable to *Bill Baab, 2352 Devere St., Augusta, GA. 30904.*



RBC MEMBER NOTICE

It is time to pay your annual \$15.00 club dues. If you are behind in your dues please contact the Treasurer, Jerry Higgins and make payment.

THE DEADLINE HAS PAST

**Raleigh Bottle Club
FOHBC Member**



BOTTLE COLLECTORS

*If you have not yet joined the FOHBC I would strongly encourage you 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*

We invite you to join us at our meetings on the first Tuesday of each month. If you are interested in becoming an RBC member you can go to the web site www.raleighbottleclub.org for more information. If you would like to talk to a club member about joining please give me a call....Marshall Clements 919-423-8557. You will always be welcome.



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.

*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

MAY 1-2 - GRAY, TENNESSEE

The State

of Franklin's Antique Bottles & Collectibles Association's 11th Annual Show & Sale (Sat. 8 AM - 2 PM, Free Adm.; Early Buyers/Set-up, Fri. 12 - 6 PM, Adm. \$10) at the Appalachian Fairgrounds in Gray, Tennessee. Johnson City, TN-Bristol, VA area, 150 tables available. INFO: **MELISSA MILNER**, PH: (423) 928-4445 or E-mail: mmilner12@chartertn.net.

** Federation Member Club **

JUNE 4-7 – GRANTVILLE (HERSHEY), PENNSYLVANIA NEW

The National Association of Milk Bottle Collectors' 29th Annual Convention at the Holiday Inn in Grantville (Hershey), Pennsylvania. INFO: PENNY GOTTLIEB, 18 Pond Rd., Cos Cob, CT 06807, PH: (203) 869-8411, E-mail: gottmilk@msn.com. Website: www.milkbottlecollectors.com.

JUNE 13 - SMYRNA, GEORGIA

The 39th Antique Bottles Show & Sale (Sat. 10 AM - 4 PM, Adm. \$3; Earlybird/Set-up, 6 - 9 AM, Adm. \$10) at the Smyrna Community Center, 200 Village Green Cir., Smyrna, Georgia. Free bottles for kids 12 & under; free bottle & pottery appraisals. Also, Scott's Antique Market is Thurs.-Sun. INFO: **JACK HEWITT**, 1765 Potomac Ct., Lawrenceville, GA 30043, PH: (770) 963-0220, E-mail: hewittja@bellsouth.net or **JOHN JOINER**, E-mail: propji@bellsouth.net.

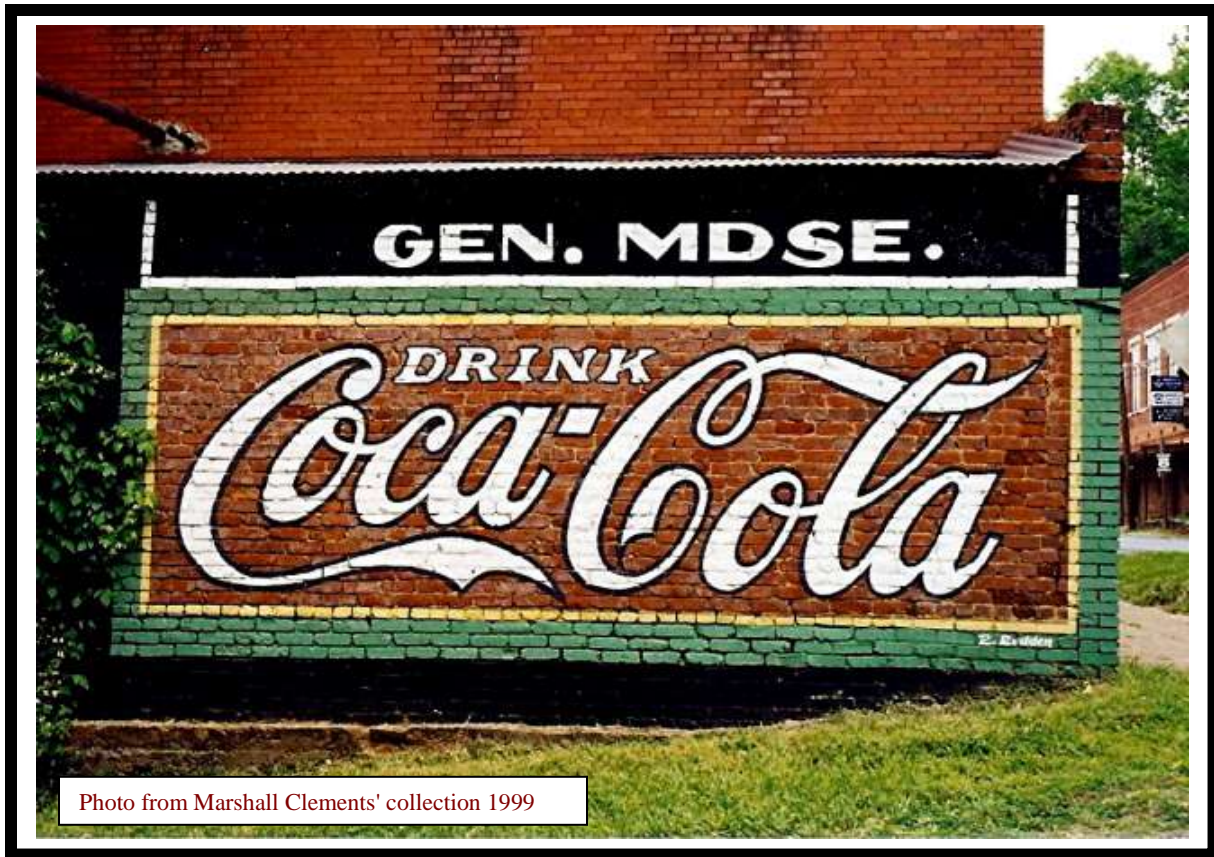
JULY 31, AUGUST 1 AND 2 - POMONA, CALIFORNIA NEW

FOHBC is hosting The Annual National Show, Pomona Fairplex, 1104 W. McKinley Ave., Pomona, CA 91768, Banquet – July 31 (6pm), Dealer unloading – August 1 (8am – 12 noon), Setup and early admission – August 1 (1pm – 5pm), General admission (\$5) – August 2 (9am – 3pm). Info: Pam Selenak, 156 S Pepper St, Orange, CA 92868, ph: 714) 633-5775, email: pselenak@yahoo.com or R Wayne Lowry, 401 Johnston Ct, Raymore, MO 64083, ph: (816) 318-0161, email: JarDoctor@aol.com

OCTOBER 3 - RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

Richmond Virginia Antique Bottle Show & Sale (Sat. 9 AM - 3 PM, \$3, Early Adm. 7:30 AM \$10) NEW LOCATION -at the Chesterfield County Fairgrounds, 10300 Courthouse Rd., Chesterfield, VA 23832, INFO: MARVIN CROKER, PH: (804) 275-1101, E-mail: RichBottleClub@comcast.net or **ED FAULKNER**, PH: (804) 739-2951

BLAST FROM THE PAST



The above photograph was taken in 1999 while on vacation in Alabama. I think this is the favorite store side Coke sign in my collection. I especially like the choice of colors, the clarity, and the simplicity of this sign.

Photo owned by Marshall Clements

The Raleigh Bottle Club is currently searching for an ideal spot for their 2009 show. Think about what might be available in your area that would be suitable. They are looking for a place easily accessible to the public and out of town dealers. Other concerns are good lighting, easy loading and unloading, and clean restrooms. If you have a suggestion, please contact club president Jack Murdock at 919-829-5766