

The Midwest Bottled News

published by the 1st Chicago Bottle Club



**Charter Member
of the Federation
of Historical
Bottle Collectors**

President
John Panek
Vice President
Mario Pisterzi
Secretary
Craig Wright



*"We're happiest when
we're down in the dumps"*

Treasurer
Peg Komorowski
Librarian/Historian
Tom Majewski
Show Chairman
John Vlahovich
Newsletter Editor
Ray Komorowski
Hospitality
Jennifer Pisterzi

Celebrating our 50th Year * Volume 50, Number 9 * Sept 2019

Announcements

50th Club Anniversary Dinner:

Saturday, September 28th

Jamesons Charhouse,
1331 W Dundee Rd, Arlington Hts, 60004
Cash Bar - Drinks 3:00 pm - Dinner 3:30 pm
\$38.50/per person includes choice of entree
Beef, Chicken, or Fish, Rolls, Soup or Salad,
Coffee or Tea, and Dessert

*We hope to see you all there. If you are planning
on attending please contact John Panek to secure
your reservation.*

1st Chicago Bottle Club Show & Sale

Sunday, October 27:

Holiday Inn Matteson, 500 Holiday Plaza Dr.,
Matteson, Illinois 60443.

This is our 50th year anniversary
show, please get your table
reservations to John Vlahovich
as soon as possible. RAFFLE
TICKETS - If you need more
books to sell, just let John V.
know. Remember, this is the
Clubs major fundraiser! The
prize for most tickets sold for the show raffle is a
beautiful pontiled, handled, amber, chestnut flask.



2019 MEETING DATES / CALENDAR:

For the following dates all meetings (unless noted
otherwise) will be held at Hinsdale Covenant
Church, 412 S. Garfield, Hinsdale Illinois 60521.
Doors open at 7 pm.

September 20:

Auction: directed by John Panek
Program: "Go-Withs", anything other than the
bottle or jar.

October 18:

Auction: directed by John Panek
Program: Suburbs of Chicago.

November 15:

Business: nominations will be received for all 2020
Board positions

Auction: directed by John Panek
Program: The Colors of Fall.

December 13:

Business: elections for the 2020 Board
Auction: directed by John Panek
Program: Holiday Party

WANTED: Donation bottles for our monthly
auction and/or door prizes. Please see John Panek.

CONGRATS: Mario and Jen Pisterzi placed 3rd in
the FOHBC Club Show Poster/Flyer contest.

August Meeting Minutes

submitted by Craig Wright

The August meeting was called to order by President John Panek at 7:45 pm. This month's meeting was at Hinsdale Covenant Church. After welcoming the attendees, John showed the prize bottle for the person selling the most raffle tickets for the Club's October show. It's an open-pontil, handled, amber chestnut flask. Very nice!

On to business. A motion was made by Chris Jordan and seconded by JR Gibson to accept the June meeting minutes as published in the July/August newsletter. Treasurer Peg Komorowski gave her report. A motion was made by JR Gibson and was seconded by Mario Pisterzi to accept the Treasurer's report. Peg also reported that the Club's new website will be up and running within the next month.

Show Chairman John Vlahovich reported that dealer table applications continue to come in. Craig Wright asked about a conflict with a Zurko Productions Windy City Bottle & Advertising Show, scheduled for October 25-27. (Our show is October 27th.) John Panek explained that Dan Puzzo (Antique Bottle Club of Northern Illinois show chairman) has been working with Zurko Productions on shows. Dan is aware of the date conflict and has notified Zurko Productions that many dealers who set up at the Zurko show on Friday and Saturday will not be there on Sunday. Zurko has no problem with bottle dealers setting up for only Friday and Saturday. Conflict averted. John Panek reported good sales at the Zurko show at Grayslake in August. John Vlahovich noted that the Club owes money to the Federation for an ad for the Club's show that appeared in the Augusta National Show program. Peg will contact the Federation and make the payment.

Speaking of the Augusta National Show, John Panek presented the Federation's 3rd place award for show posters to Mario and Jennifer Pisterzi for their design for the Club's 2019 show flyer. Congratulations!

John Panek has lined up Jameson's Charhouse in Arlington Heights for the Club's 50th anniversary dinner. The location is 1331 W. Dundee Rd., just east of Route 53. The date is Saturday, September 28th.

See Announcements on the 1st page for details

Back to the Augusta National Show. Club members Jim and Jody Hall and Craig and Linda Wright set up at the show and Ray and Peg Komorowski attended. The show had about 160 tables. The Augusta Convention Center was a very nice facility. The early admission on Friday was a little slow, but there seemed to be a good amount of activity among the dealers. Saturday brought in the public and the action picked up.

Mario Pisterzi reported that the glassblower for the Club's commemorative bottle was having some problems with forming the top, but the mold maker will add to the mold to make it easier to form the top. Mario began taking orders at the meeting. Limit 2 per person. Contact Mario or John Panek to get your order in. Mario hopes to have some preliminary samples by the September meeting.

John Panek thanked Tom Majewski, Russ Sineni and Jillian Norman for donations for the raffle and auction.

On to the raffle, including medicines, a Mulvihill hutch, a Twin City Dairy milk, and whiskey flask.

Break Time! Thanks to Jennifer Pisterzi for putting it together!

Several items came up for auction. There was a Wm. Pfeifer amber bottle; Chas. H. Mayers, Hammond, Ind. hutch; an Ernst Tosetti beer; a milk bottle with a pretty girl on the label; and an H. Wichert pitcher.

For Show & Tell, John Panek brought in a Thompson's Hygeia Wild Cherry Phosphate, Chicago, in the largest size (quart?). Chris Jordan brought in a Peter Meyers, Bottler, Chicago beer. Mario Pisterzi brought in a seltzer with an acid-etched trademark, similar to the CCBCO. monogram. Someone had listed it on an internet site as a Coca-Cola Bottling Co. seltzer. Mario advised the lister that the logo resembled the Chicago Consolidated Bottling Co. logo and was not a Coca-Cola bottle. The lister decided that Mario was right and Mario bought it, since it may be a Chicago bottle. However, Ray Komorowski (semi-official Lomax authority) has never seen this bottle and it may even be from a different company and city, since there is no city on the label. Thoughts? Anybody?

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Program for the evening was "Figural bottles of shapes other than regular bottles." Mario Pisterzi showed a figural liquor decanter in light green glass, shaped like a man; an amber Chicago cabin whiskey; a Cohansey figural barrel fruit jar; an amber elephant-shaped figural; and a Poland Water Moses bottle. Craig Wright showed a modern bottle, probably a European liquor that was coated with some brown-painted material to look like a tree branch; a "33" brand orange syrup bottle, probably for a soda fountain, that was shaped like a barber bottle; an amber Whiz deco soda bottle from Chicago (had to get a deco soda in somewhere!); and a green liquor bottle shaped like a Moses bottle. John Panek showed a whisk-broom-shaped figural, bisque, for Uno Tonic from Fred Dolle, Chicago; a Louis Sues Old 47 Whiskey bottle shaped like a castle tower from Chicago; and a Henry Wichert condiment jar with a top that moves up and down in a wire bail. Meeting was adjourned at 9:48 pm.



DIGGIN IN.. CHICAGO

Here are a few examples of images sent to the newsletter



Dug at the end of May - JOHN A. LOMAX SUPERIOR BOTTLED LAGER BEER, in amber.

These Lomax Superior Bottled Lager Beers are tough to find and are known in aqua, amber and green.

Dug in July – three, aqua W.H.H. Hutchinson sodas and a green J. A. LOMAX MEDICATED AERATED WATERS round bottom.



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At Auction

Highlights of some nice Chicago bottles/items in the news:

June-eBay

W. H. H. / CHICAGO / ILL. Described by seller as: Up for auction is a medium cobalt, paneled base, soda or mineral water bottle from the William H. Hutchinson Company of Chicago, Illinois. The bottle has heavy staining, scratches, and small dings at the paneled base. There are small burst bubbles in two locations on the shoulder. The embossing is strong. This is a dug bottle that has only been rinsed out, it would look spectacular if tumbled. These tall Hutchinson's are normally seen in aqua and light cobalt. Sold for: \$305.13



June-eBay

CONSUMERS CLUB BEVERAGES // BOTTLED BY CONSUMERS BEVERAGES CO. CHICAGO, ILL. SEELEY 1730. Described by seller as: 8 ounces. It has case wear. PayPal only. I combine shipping. A better description by Craig Wright: The fluted design may mean that it was an early ACL and a transition from the deco designs. I just found this on eBay. It's in a list that I have, but it's only listed as being from Illinois with no town listed. I've never seen one before. Sold for: \$166.50



June-eBay

COMPLIMENTS OF/JOHN TREBES/42 S. CLARK ST./CHICAGO, ILLS.

Described by seller as: Here is a rare one, the glaze is perfectly shiny in person... for some reason it looks a little dull with the flash. The advertising is crisp and clear. Love the lightly larger, yet still mini-jug size. No chips, no cracks, no hairlines and no repairs. There is some glaze wear around the outer top edge of the spout... no chips... just the rounded top outer edge glaze wear as pictured, very minor. Sold for: \$300.69



July-American Glass Gallery

PRATTS / ANTISEPTIC / TOOTH POWDER (label only). Described as: neck label, contents, and cork, America, 1890-1900. Colorless, square with concave corners, tooled square collar, smooth base, 3-3/4 inches tall, perfect. Extremely colorful and ornate label in absolutely remarkable condition. One of the choicest, most eye-appealing, early tooth powder or dental bottles that we have seen. Neck label read, WALTER PRATT & Co., Perfumers. Chicago ILL.

Lot 291 sold for: \$275.00 without buyer's premium, shipping, insurance and handling.



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GEORGE LOMAX (the other Lomax)

Images and text by ray



What a colorful grouping of George Lomax, iron pontiled, soda & mineral water bottles. I was motivated to take this picture because I have been selling bottles for a friend and the latest round of bottles featured a rather large amount of G. Lomax bottles. I took this picture because I knew I would never have the chance to assemble the quantity and quality of these types of early bottles again. I wanted the image before they were all gone; I even added a few from my personal collection.

Early History (from Bottled in Illinois book)

George Lomax came from England to Chicago via New York in the early 1850's. He was about 33 years old at the time. He is first listed in Chicago City Directory's from 1852 through 1854 as a mineral water bottler on Canal Street between Lake and Fulton. During these three years, Edward K. Bebbington and Joseph Entwistle are also listed in Chicago Directory's as bottlers at the same Canal Street address.

Beginning with the 1855 Chicago CD, and continuing with his death in 1863, George Lomax is listed as the proprietor of his own soda water manufacturing business-Lomax & Meagher, later G. Lomax & Co., in partnership with John Meagher. Meagher was the next-door neighbor in the 1860 Chicago Census, who had also emigrated from England. Their bottling business was located at George's home address: 138 W. Madison. Since Meagher's name was never embossed on the George Lomax bottles, he must have been a relatively junior partner in the bottling works. In fact, when George's business affairs were being put in order and shut down in 1864 after his death, his widow Anne Lomax was listed in the CD as head of the company.

With George's incapacity and death in 1863, there were likely no new glass company bottle orders after 1861-62. In this light, it is interesting to note that there are only two smooth based bottle varieties in the list. This suggests that his bottling business was quite successful in the late 1850's, with bottles blown in seven different molds, but was winding down in the early 1860's, with only two mold varieties reordered.

SODA WATER MAKERS.	
	Bebbington & Co. Canal bt Lake and Fulton
	Cole Frank, Jefferson nr Kinzie
	Hutchison W. Peoria bt Lake and Fulton
	Lawson & Sundell, 137 Illinois
→	Lomax & Meagher, 138 W. Madison
	Miller A. J. (Soda Fountain erector, and dealer in Soda Water Apparatus,) cor Lake and Carpenter

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Post 1860 Bottles



Smooth base with sunken recessed shield, versions are known in small lettering & medium lettering with and/or without "dimple" centered in shield. (image on right)

Smooth base with hinge mold, slope-shouldered soda with oval blob top. (image on left)



Thoughts

George Lomax's bottling career started in 1855 and lasted up to his death in 1863.

For a relatively short bottling career he certainly left us with some beautifully shaped and colorful bottles. For a more in-depth story on George Lomax please refer to Farnsworth & Walthall's book, *Bottled in Illinois*.

National Bottle Show Augusta, GA

The FOHBC celebrated its 50th Anniversary National Antique Bottle Convention in Augusta, Georgia. The event was held August 1-3 at the Augusta Marriot in downtown Augusta.

Proudly representing the 1st Chicago Bottle Club was Craig & Linda Wright, Jim & Jodi Hall, and Ray & Peg Komorowski. We had a great time and the southern hospitality was outstanding.

As you would expect, beautiful southern bottles were on full display from the local collectors and diggers. They sure do love their John Ryan sodas and their South Carolina Dispensary bottles!

