

Raleigh Antique Bottle and Collectibles Club

Bottle Talk

May -June, 2015



1870's Baltimore Soda Fountain Sign
from the Tom Walsh collection

Editor: Marshall Clements
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FOHBC member

BOTTLE TALK FEATURE OF THE MONTH

This vintage sign was painted by a professional artist for a Soda Fountain in Baltimore in the early 1870s. In later years the store space became a hardware store and the sign was covered with paper and used as a bulletin board. The paper covering helped preserve the sign in the wonderful condition it is today. When the hardware store closed two sisters that worked there, realizing the sign might have some antique value, took possession of the sign. When the last of the sisters died the family was offered the opportunity to bid on their remaining antique items. Each item was appraised by a professional appraiser. The appraisal value of the sign was around \$1500.00. A nephew of the sisters bought the sign with the idea of selling it for a considerable profit. The nephew's son owned a restaurant in Edenton, NC. The nephew decided to ask his son to hang it in the restaurant. It seemed like a safe place for it to hang and a perfect place for potential buyers to see it. While enjoying a meal at the restaurant, my wife noticed the sign and pointed it out to me. I quickly went over to take a closer look expecting it to be a reproduction. You can't imagine my surprise when I discovered it was an original. I then wondered if it was possibly for sale. After some length of time and several inquiries, I was given a sale price which sounded a little too high. I decided to think about it a little while longer. About a year passed and it was still on my mind so I went back to the restaurant and this time I left with the sign.

The "Tonic Beer" was a soda that was popular exclusively in and around Baltimore, MD. I have never been successful in finding what kind of soda it was. One thing that makes this sign unique was the misspelling of "SARSAPARILLA". The sign was spelled exactly like most people in the late 1800's pronounced it, "SARSPARELLA". The sign is made of heavy wood with cross studs on the back. It is completely covered with a layer of Gesso which artist still use today as a base for paintings. Mica 'sparkles' were added to the paint to give the letters a sparkle effect in the light. The use of mica sparkles was quite common in the late 1860's - 1880's.

I consider this sign to be one of the best pieces in my collection. It is truly a first rate piece of Americana. I had the sign appraised by one of the leading advertising and folk art auction houses in the country. It was appraised for many times more than the purchase price.

Tom Walsh

SHOW and TELL



Tom Walsh presented this nice emerald green GUILFORD MINERAL SPRINGS bottle from Guilford, VT

The owners of the Mineral Springs Farm filled these bottles with the special water and sold them all around New England and northeastern New York. The Guilford Mineral Springs Farm was most popular in the early 1870's when people traveled from Boston and New York to Guilford, Vermont to visit the Mineral Springs Farm. It was believed that the minerals in the spring had healing effects on people, along with the fresh country air. The mineral springs farm was originally on the Houghton's farmland. It was not widely advertised until James Dalton, Joseph Burnett, W. B. Potter, and John Knowlton bought it on August fourth, 1864. They formed a very successful company and soon enlarged the grounds and built several new buildings, including the springs house, bottling house, pavilions, and bridges near the springs

Guilford Central School



GLOVER'S
EMPERIAL DISTEMPER REMEDY
H. CLAY GLOVER
NEW YORK

Tom Walsh brought this beautiful 1890's sky blue GLOVER'S EMPERIAL DISTEMPER REMEDY to show and tell because of the bright color. Tom believes this bottle may have had the neck and top re-applied due to the glass flow in the neck area and the missing "E" in EMPERIAL. Buyer be aware !!!



This nice late 1800's hutchinson style bottle was shown by Tom Walsh. It is a center slug plate MARION BOTTLING WORKS, MARION, NC. This bottle is not considered rare but if you decide to find one it will probably take you a long time. The market value for this bottle is somewhere in the \$70.00 to \$90.00 range depending on condition.



The heavily embossed PINE TREE TAR CORDIAL has long been a collector favorite. Two reasons for the popularity are the embossed tree that covers one panel of the bottle and the deep, rich color. This is another bottle from the collection of Tom Walsh. The bottle sells on eBay from \$125.00 to just under \$200.00. It all depends on condition. This is a nice one.



Gerald Strickland is one of the top collectors of North Carolina license plates in the state. What he brings to "Show and Tell" is always fascinating. The numbered disk were issued by North Carolina from 1909 to 1912. The car owner would then construct a license plate with the issued number and mount it on their car. The black rubber license plate is a rare example of one of those plates constructed in 1913. 1913 was the year they changed over to porcelain plates. Gerald was fortunate enough to get both the constructed plate and the porcelain plate with the same number. A matching pair of these plates is extremely rare.



Pem Woodlief brought this unusual piece of Japanese lacquer ware for us to see. Japanese lacquer ware is not that uncommon but you rarely see one with an American soda advertisement. Satanet, "The Drink With A Wink" was bottled in Louisburg, NC. The following 2009 article by Bill Baab, the old "River Swamper" from Augusta, Georgia, will offer some insight into the history of Louisburg Bottling Works and the bottling of the little known drink we know as SATANET.

Louisburg, North Carolina Bottling Works

By Bill Baab



George Herman recalls his father's work at the Louisburg Bottling Works as his wife, Ann, listens (photo by Bea Baab)

Freddie Lee David Herman decided to get into the soda water bottling business when he bought an interest in the Louisburg (N.C.) Bottling Works owned by Blumey Miller in 1906.

Two years later, Herman owned the whole plant, said his son, George, 83 when interviewed at his home near Creedmoor, N.C., in May of 2008.

The business bottled Koca Nola, Rye-Ola and Nut Cola early, later adding Dr. Pepper and NuGrape. Also bottled was a concoction called "Satan-Et, The Drink with a Wink," produced by the Garrett Corporation of Norfolk, Va., that cost 5 cents a drink. Wording on a tin sign called the drink "as smooth as satin," yet spelled the beverage's name like the devil's.

Researcher Dennis Smith of Buffalo, N.Y., checked the name on the internet and found a label-under-glass "Satan-Et" bottle that sported a metal top probably used as a drinking cup. He also located the tin sign and a pocket mirror produced by the company.

The Louisburg bottling plant delivered its products in a 1914 Ford Model T "car-truck."

"On Saturday evening, four bolts were loosened and the truck body would be replaced on the chassis by a car body," said George Herman, who was born in Louisburg in 1925. The company later added a 1918 Ford T-model truck.

"My wife, Ann, rode in both those trucks, but she doesn't remember doing so," said George. The Hermans have been married 54

years.

The 1918 truck is owned by James "Junior" Woodard of Johnson City, Tenn. He said his grandfather, F.L., picked up the truck chassis in Raleigh and drove it to Louisburg. "It didn't have a cab or seats and he rode atop the gas tank all the way," Woodard said. "It was an awful trip because it snowed. Plans showing how to build the cab were later mailed to him."

George Herman recalled seeing a bottle washing machine and a bottle capping machine which could cap only one bottle at a time.

"The washing machine had revolving brushes and whoever was doing the cleaning would take a bottle out of the water and push it onto one of those brushes. Then the bottles would be filled and capped. I remember Dad always tried to figure out how to cap more than one bottle at a time, but later said someone else had beaten him

to it."

He said the company used lots of sugar in 100-pound bags "and one time the price of sugar jumped to 27 cents a pound. Dad bought several hundred pounds at that price, only to see the price plummet overnight to 7 cents a pound!"



Satan-et came in this unusual bottle whose top may have been used as a drinking cup (courtesy of Dennis Smith)



Check out the graphics on this pocket mirror (courtesy of Dennis Smith)

George also recalled his sister, Dorothy, who was paralyzed from the waist down by a fall from a tree when she was 6, guarding a truck full of beverages at the Louisburg fairgrounds when she was a bit older.

"She was sitting in the truck. She told me some boys had come up to steal some of the drinks, but she warned them off."

Woodard said his "Aunt Dot" was

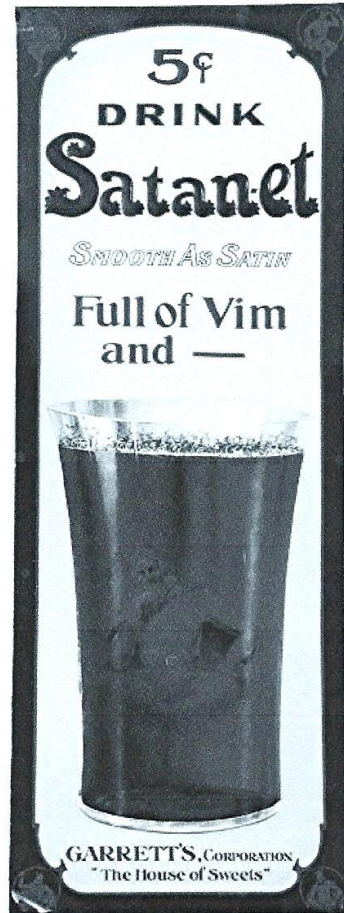
the family historian and wrote down records of the bottling business in a notebook. "She said the newer truck dated to 1916, but I checked with folks who are authorities on Fords and they told me the 1-1/2-ton truck wasn't manufactured until 1917." He is still looking for that notebook.

The business suffered losses when bottles simply weren't returned because there was no deposit system to act as an incentive. It was forced to close after the stock market crash in 1929.

"Dad later was able to recoup only 15 cents on the dollar, but that was better than nothing,"

said George, whose Uncle Ezra Herman also was in the bottling business, owning the Coca-Cola plant in Mt. Airy, N.C.

"Dad sold most of the bottling equipment to the Lane NEHI Bottling Co., in Henderson, N.C. Folks also broke into the plant and stole some things. I remember even later breaking up the bottle crates to use as firewood," he added.



Satan-et's tin signs were in eye-catching colors (courtesy of Dennis)



A syrup salesman holds a Satan-et sign, while Louisburg Bottling Works owner, Freddie Lee David Herman is seated in the truck and employee, Calvin Caviness, is at right (courtesy of Willis Herman, grandson of the owner)

AUTHOR'S NOTE: Thanks to Dennis Smith of Buffalo, N.Y., for sharing the Satan-Et images and to Willis Herman for e-mailing the photo showing his grandfather with a delivery truck. The photo is owned by George and Ann Herman.

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riverswamper@comcast.net



Donnie Medlin brought this nice half pint JIM CLAY , SOUTH BOSTON, VA. whiskey flask he acquired a few weeks ago. It has a 90% paper label that advertises wines, liquors, cigars and tobacco. You see a lot of these old whiskey flask but rarely do you see one with a label like this.



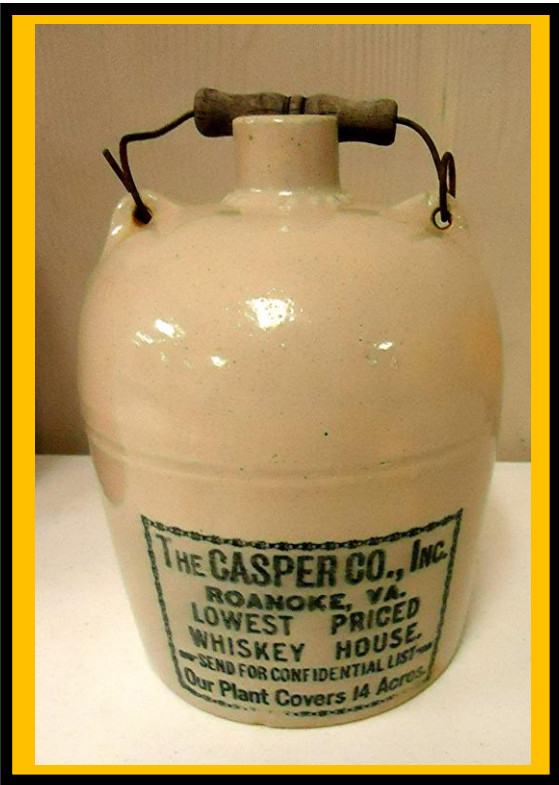
Frank Bishop is the owner of this nice O.P. HARE DRUG CO bottle from Petersburg, VA. You see a lot of clear medicines but only a few embossed amber bottles.

The two nice Minges Bros. bottles on the left were shown by Whitt Stallings. The green bottle is from Greensboro, NC and the other from Concord, NC. The bottler for these was Orange Crush Bottling Co. These are nice highly embossed bottles that should sell in the \$25.00 range

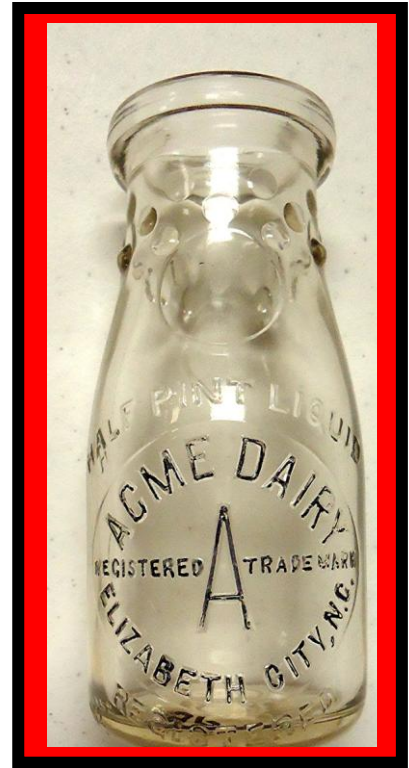


Jerry Higgins is the owner of this nice art deco JEFF COLA from Jefferson, Indiana. The deep ridges really make this bottle stand out.

This nice CASPER CO. jug from Roanoke Va. is one of Dean Haley's new additions.



Jerry Higgins showed this unusual art deco bottle from his collection. This nice JIMBO PURE SODA WATER from Pittsburg, Kansas is embossed with the head of a mule. This unusual and highly embossed bottle generally sells for around \$25.00.



Left: This rare N.C. milk bottle embossed FAIRVIEW FARM, J.R.ALLEN PROP. is from Bobbit, NC. This nice bottle is from Pem Woodlief's collection.

Right: This little half pint ACME DAIRY bottle from ELIZABETH CITY is one of the most sought after milks from North Carolina.



Pem Woodlief brought these nice N.C. mini jugs from his collection. Mini jugs were used by companies to offer potential customers a sample of their product. These jugs were widely used as a form of advertising in the early 1900's. Mini jug advertisement reached its peak in the 1920's and was almost non-existent by the early 30's.



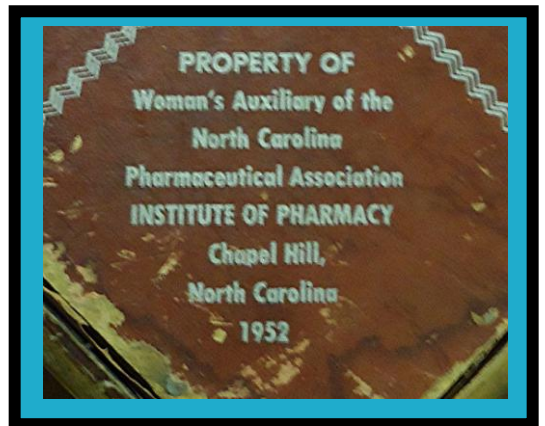
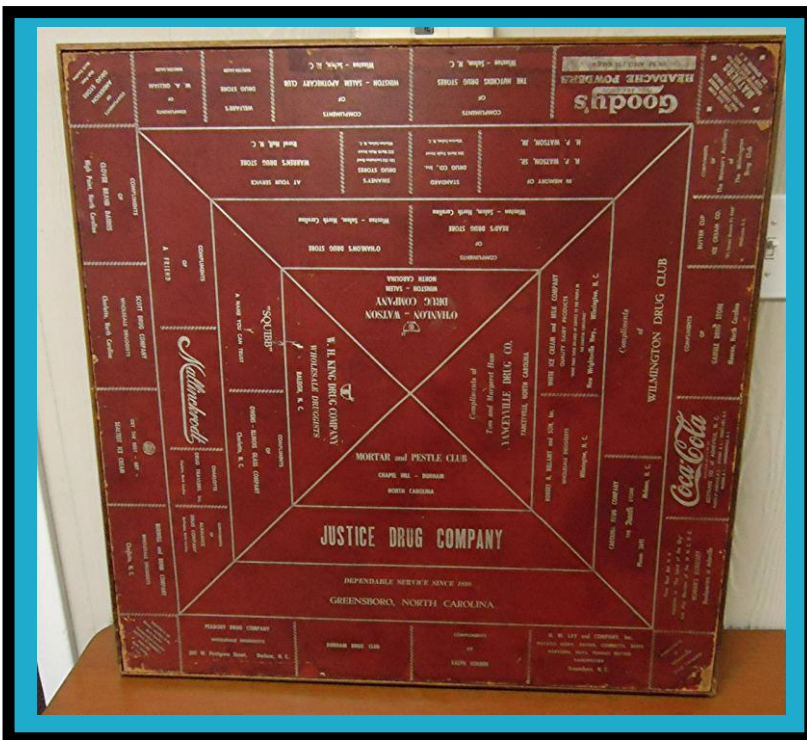
This extremely rare H & S canning jar was shown by Joe Williams. The 'H' stands for HELLER, who was known as an inventor and salesman. The 'S' stands for Samuels, who was a glass maker in the Philadelphia area. The unusual 'Cooper and Heller' closure really sets this jar apart from the rest. This style of closure became obsolete after about three years. Joe has been collecting jars for over 50 years and says he has seen only three H & S jars . The other two were clear. Look at it close. You may never see another jar of this type. This jar has been around for over 150 years. Circa 1860



Jack Murdock just added this very nice HARRISON COLUMBIAN INK bottle to his collection. This is a beautiful bottle that is estimated to hold about a pint. Ink bottles like this were generally used in offices or by teachers to refill smaller bottles for individual use. Circa 1840 Value \$300.00+



Tom Walsh is a collector of mid to late 1870's railroad posters and lanterns. This poster was an attempt by Lake Shore and Mich'n Southern Railway to draw attention to their fast service and gain favor with the public. It is an original 1875 stone lithograph print making it extremely rare. The estimated value of this print is \$10,000.00+. Sorry, it is not for sale.



Dean Haley brought this very unusual piece to 'Show and Tell'. As a money raiser in 1952 the WOMAN'S AUXILLERY of the NORTH CAROLINA PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION sold ads to be placed on the surface of a regular size card table. The ads include a large number of drug stores and local businesses around the state of North Carolina. I am not sure how these were distributed to the public. I would assume each advertiser received a number of card tables based on the cost of the ad and then distributed them to their best customers. I liked it so much I purchased it from Dean to display a Pharmacy Label Cabinet and some local medicine bottles. It was a perfect fit for this unusual piece.



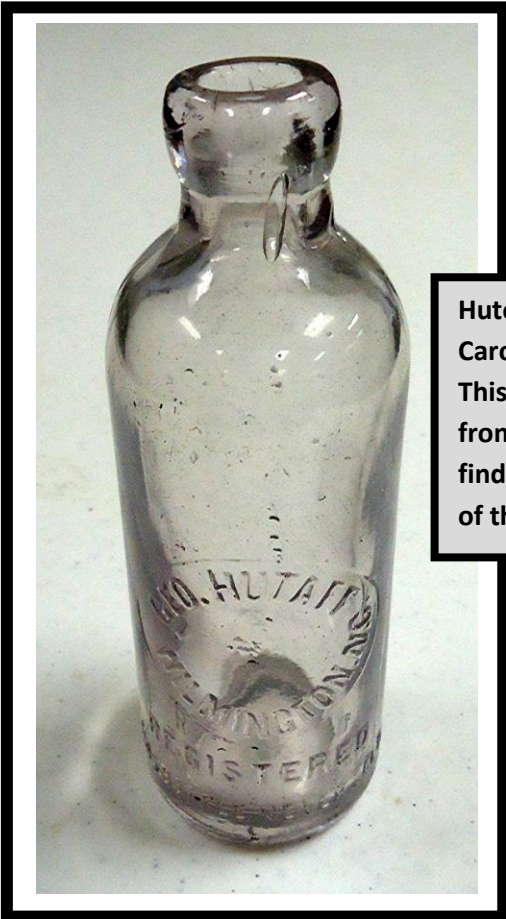
These two ink bottles were brought by Ron Hinsley. They are two great early ink bottles with a beautiful green color. These inks generally sell from \$10.00 to \$40.00 depending on color and condition.



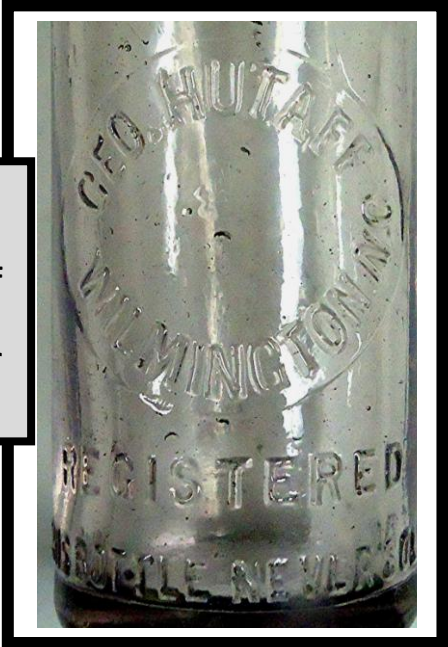
Jack Murdock is the owner of this nice Dr. Townsend Sarsaparilla. You see a lot of these for sale but the better ones still demand a good price. They usually sell for less than \$100.00. Again, it all depends on color and condition.



These nice bottles would enhance anyone's collection. The EXCELSIOR SPRINGS bottle on the left is hard to find in the blue color. The green PANACEA bottle is pretty rare and could sell for as much as \$200.00 Ron Hinsley is the owner of these two colorful bottles.



Hutchinson bottles from North Carolina are not very common. This center slug GEORGE HUTAFF from Wilmington, NC is a great find. Pem Woodlief is the owner of this nice bottle.





If you find an E.R. Mixon bottle, chances are it will not have a center slug plate like this one. What product came in this bottle is a mystery but we do know E.R. Mixon at one time bottled Pepsi. Could it be a rare Pepsi? Your guess is as good as any. Thanks to Frank Bishop for showing us this nice bottle.



This unusual shaped bottle in the light blue opaque glass is a very attractive bottle. It is believed to have been a perfume bottle. The bottle is about 5" tall so you would have to smell really bad to need that much perfume. If you would bring your wife a fancy bottle like this each time you return home from a bottle show she just might let you go more often. This bottle probably belongs to Ron Hinsley's wife.



BOTTLES JUGS ADVERTISING JARS SIGNS EPHEMERA ANTIQUES

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A Big

THANKS

to those that helped
to make the 2015 show a success.

2015 BOTTLE SHOW

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WANTED

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blobtop@gmail.com

Smart Phone scan-able link to
<http://www.Raleighbottleclub.org>



Oxford Bottle Man

Taylor Currin
NC Antique Bottle Collector
Oxford, NC

taylorcurrin@embarqmail.com
919-939-0903



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ephemera - advertisement - license plates -
BOTTLES

Jack is also looking for items from Lenoir, N.C.

Contact: Jack Murdock 919-829-5766

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Upcoming Shows

18 & 19 July 2015 (Saturday & Sunday) **Adamstown, Pennsylvania** – **The 15th Annual Shupp's Grove Bottle Festival**, Saturday & Sunday 6:00 am to dusk, early buyers Friday, 3:00 pm, The famous "Shupp's Grove", 1686 Dry Tavern Road, Denver, Pennsylvania 17517, Contact: Steve Guion, 717.626.5557, affinityinsurance1@windstream.net

25 July 2015 (Saturday) **Birmingham, Alabama** – **The Alabama Bottle Collectors' 10th Anniversary Bottle, Folk Pottery and Collectible Show** will be Saturday, 8:00 am thru 3:00 pm at the Bessemer Civic Center located at Exit 108 on I-20/59...FREE PUBLIC ADMISSION. Dealers and Early Buyers are welcome Friday afternoon, July 24th from 2:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Selling starts at 4:00 pm. More information can be found at www.AlabamaBottleCollectors.com or email ALBottleCollectors@Hotmail.com or call Tom Lines, Show

31 July – 02 August 2015 (Saturday & Sunday) **Chattanooga, Tennessee** - **FOHBC 2015 National Antique Bottle Show** at the Chattanooga Convention Center, Sunday August 2, with dealer set-up and early buyers on Saturday. The Chattanooga Marriott Downtown will be the host hotel and is connected to the convention center. The banquet/bottle competition, seminars, auction, and membership meetings will be held at the Marriott. Jack Hewitt and John Joiner are serving as show co-chairpersons. [Contracts and Information](#) **FOHBC National Show**

03 October 2015 (Saturday) **Richmond, Virginia** – **Richmond 44th Antique Bottle Show and Sale**, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm, \$3 Admission, Early Admission – 7:30 am: \$10, Chesterfield County Fairgrounds, 10300 Courthouse Road, Chesterfield, Virginia 23832 Info: RichBottleClub@comcast.net or Marvin Croker, 804.275.1101 or Ed Faulkner 804.739.2951 **FOHBC Member Club**

The show schedule published in BOTTLE TALK will generally list shows of interest on the east coast. It is not meant to be a complete list of all upcoming shows.

READER NOTICE

The next issue of BOTTLE TALK will include July - August - September. It will be emailed to you at the end of September.

BLAST FROM THE PAST



Durham, N.C. 1929 Tobacco Sale

This photo was taken at the lunch counter inside of the tobacco warehouse. Hotdogs and hamburgers were a dime. Beer was 10 and 15 cents. Look at that great coke sign. I can't imagine the value of that sign today.