

SHOW REPORTS

Little Rock Bottle Show Uncrowded, Buyers Market

by Michael M. Elling, Sharon, Tennessee

Unprecedented high gasoline prices, over \$1.70/gal., but perfect Spring weather greeted dealers and visitors at the 34th Annual Antique, Collectible & Bottle Show at the Jacksonville Community Center just a short drive above Little Rock on US Highway 67.

The spacious convention floor is all on one level, with plenty of free parking, and with doors open all around, visitors are allowed to enter free of charge. Some 57 tables were sold, up from 48 last year, but attendance was down with estimates of about 100 to 150. For the benefit of the dealers who financed the show via table rent, free coffee and donuts during setup and free coldcut sandwiches at lunch were generously given. Still significant discoveries were made, and prices were reasonable.

Soda bottle collectors Randee and Sue Kaiser, of Holts Summit, Missouri, found three scarce ACL bottles. First was a 1947 **Sunny South**, a clear glass 7-ounce soda from West Columbia, South Carolina. The green/white label pictures a cotton boll, and was made in near perfect registration by Laurens Glass Works. It was tagged at \$40.00.

Second was a 1948 **Pipestone**, also clear glass 7 oz from Pipestone, Minnesota. Famed crossed Indian peacepipes with an intricate field of open crosshatches allows the color of the product to compliment the label. Randee stresses that everything on the bottle happens on one label only, there is nothing on the reverse. It was tagged at a bargain of \$15 and the glass was made by Owens-Illinois.

Third was a **Red Race** from about the same time in clear glass with a white/red

label showing the bust of an Indian Chief. It is an undated product of Chattanooga Glass Company and was tagged at \$40.

Grant Irwin, of Little Rock was there building a data base of all Arkansas soda bottles and discovered an unknown three-color **All American Beverages** in red/white/blue. The 1948, 12-ounce clear glass bottle shows several patriotic devices on the label and red lightning bolts at the neck. It was made by the Streator Plant of Owens-Illinois for the Garrison Beverage Co., of Harrison, Arkansas.

Jerry Cheatham, of Stamps, Arkansas picked up a very near mint **Cotton Picker** from Leland, Mississippi, in the coveted 1951, 12-ounce white label showing a cotton patch at harvest with picker and bale in the foreground. Set up as a dealer, Jerry picked the rarity up from a parking lot visitor.

In other news, Joe Kisner of Indianola, Mississippi found a very scarce two-gallon salt-glazed jug with the terms **L.P. Hossley, Wohners Corner, Canton, Miss.** Joe says it has no cracks or chips and comes from the era of the 1880s.

John Hinkel, an early ink specialist from Pacific, Missouri, said this show fielded more ink bottles than any he has attended in recent years. He beamed as he showed a prize **Sanford's Royal Black Ink (Chicago)** from the era 1890-1910 still bearing its original paper label. It was tagged at \$35.

But the bargain of the day were some dozen or so **C.E. Wright Coca-Cola** amber glass soda's tagged at \$25 each.

Wright was the franchised Coke bottler from Greenwood, Mississippi at the beginning of the 20th Century.

St. Louis Maintains Average Attendance Despite Costs

by Michael M. Elling, Sharon, Tennessee

The St. Louis Antique Bottle Collectors Association 34th Annual Show & Sale was held at the usual location at the Two Hearts Banquet Center, on 4523 SO. Lindberg Avenue. Chairman Ron Sterzik said that despite record high gasoline prices and a lodging tax that has gone up to 15 percent, all 105 sales tables were sold and attendance reached nearly 400 paid admissions. "That's been about our normal attendance in recent years," Ron said. In an effort to aid attendees, the red show flyer was redeemable for \$1.00 at the catered dinner made available on Sunday afternoon.

Several display tables greeted visitors in the lobby. A display of 19th and 20th Century inks again took the Best of Show People Choice ribbon. Ron Gion, of Columbia, Illinois displayed a tabletop of 20th Century seltzer bottles and Mike Elling showed 18 different NEHI soda bottles from known bottlers of Missouri from 1929 to 1963.

Delbert Roley, of Stewartsville, Illinois found a scarce **Eagle Brand** by Pappy's of So. Milwaukee, WI, in scarce green color label. It is a wartime 12 oz squat

shape dated 1944, by Reed Glass Company of New York. Also, a stunning 1957, 7 oz **Orange-A**. It has a picture of two oranges on the tree among blossoms in orange/white color. It is clear glass and made by Anchor-Hocking for the Plymouth, PA, bottler, and was tagged in mint condition for \$35.00. Another scarce **Sun Spot** in standard 12 oz clear glass with vertical flutes embossed at the shoulder and base was found in a single black paint. It was a wartime bottle dated 1942, by Brockway, and for the Norfolk, VA, bottler. Finally Delbert wound up a successful day by finding a **Wagner's**, in 12 oz clear glass from the Detroit, MI, bottler. It is a 1941 white/red paint promoting the terms, "HAVE THE SMACK THEIR'S LACK!"

Dealer Milford Anglin, of Siloam Springs, Arkansas found three bottles for his collection and was delighted by that high count; two versions of **Town Crier**, one of the St. Louis hallmark soda bottle brands for collectors. The first is a 1947 in red/white paint by Ober-Nester Glass across the river. It shows the bust of the bell crier ringing in the news. The second



Sue Anglin with granddaughter Mollie receives loving support.

is a very scarce 1950 showing the crier in the same colors, but “full figured” as he is telling the news and ringing the bell. This also is clear glass and made by Ober-Nester. The third bottle found is a **Sally Ann**, a 1945 green glass bottle of Owens-Illinois in 7 oz showing a pretty girl and made for the Broad Mountain Springs Beverage Company of Nesquehoning, PA. Milford attended the show with his wife Sue, and their little eight-year old

granddaughter Mollie.

I also found a scarce **CherO**, post 1927, 6 oz proprietary twist bottle from the Monongahela, PA bottler. It has no glass maker markings, and was made while under threat of the Coca-Cola lawsuit against Chero for using the term “COLA” on its products. This was brought in by dealer Fred Arwood of Gate City, Virginia and was tagged in near mint condition for \$11.00.



Ana Schutz of Trivoli, Ill., shown with Mollie Brewer (8) of Fayetteville, Ark.



Mary Chisley of Mt. Vernon, Ill., thinks she has made a sale.

The bargain of the day was a box of mid-1950's **Spea's** jug-eared painted label vinegar bottles, in mint condition for \$20.00 each



Mike Elling of Sharon, Tenn., exhibited 12 bottles of NEHI Soda.



Ron Goin of Columbia, Ill. with his seltzer exhibit.



Wayne Lowry, the Jar Doctor, demonstrates the latest cleaning technology.



Milford Anglin (L) with Marg and Gordon Logan having a discussion at the tables.