



**Note:  
Change of  
Meeting  
Date!!**

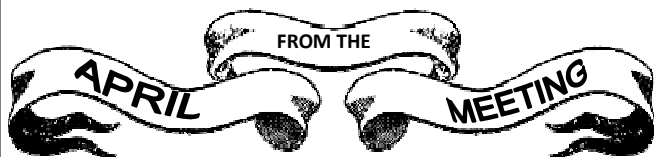
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**From the Editor & President** - Warm weather is here finally which means it will finally be nice to get out and dive, hunt and shop for bottles. The outdoor antique shows and flea markets are in full swing. The weather improvement has even resulted in an improvement in visibility in the St. Clair River. Myself and many other have made quite a few dives so far but unfortunately without much to show for it.

There was a last minute Date change for the May meeting due to the holiday. **Mark your calendars—MAY 30TH.** The upcoming May meeting will have **“Whimsies and Glass houses”** as the topic. This will include some whimsical items made at glass houses and some artifacts from the Mount Clemens Glass House. So come on down and learn a little something and/or share a little something. The meeting will be at the usual 7 PM and if you have any recent finds or acquisitions you want to show bring them along. Also, if you have bottles or related items that you are looking to sell, it is always welcome at the meeting so that it might find a new and loving home. I hope to see you all at the meeting.



### April MDABC Meeting Minutes:

There were 15 persons in attendance.

**Business Meeting** - The meeting was started at 7:13 PM and called to order by the club president. The minutes were reviewed and accepted. No change to the newsletter was noted.

**Treasurer's Report** - The balance as of March 28, 2013 was reported to be \$569.10.

**OLD Business** - 2013 show - It was indicated that the deposit has been placed for the room for November 9th. Mike stated that contracts and both sizes of flyers have been printed. The contracts and large size flyers were distributed at the Kalamazoo show. Small flyers were distributed at the Dearborn Coin Show where Mike Brodzik did a presentation on tokens/money and associated bottles. The regular contract mailing will occur in June/July but contracts have already been received for sales table reservations.

**NEW Business** - It was announced that Ralph Finch was a recent TV star with his appearance on TLC's April 24th airing of “My Crazy Obsession.” On the show Ralph talks about his collection of ketchup memorabilia. If you have a chance you should get a look at it. It can be viewed on the internet at:

<http://farmington-mi.patch.com/articles/farmington-hills-resident-displays-condiment-collection-on-my-crazy-obsession#photo-first>

- Topics for next meeting were discussed and decided upon - May—Glass houses and Whimsies; June—Bottles and tokens presentation, “Archaeophiology and Numismatics” by Mike Brodzik.

## May Meeting:

**Thursday, 30th @ 7PM**

### **LOCATION:**

**Sajo's Restaurant**  
**36470 Moravian,**  
**Clinton Twp., MI 48035**

### **TOPIC:**

**“Whimsies and Glass Houses”**

The Detroit News

## Entertainment TV

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TRENDING TOPICS JOSE VALVERDE CLOSING BOOK STORE FORD PROFITS NFL DRAFT KEVIN ORR RED WINGS

Home Ent TV

APRIL 24, 2013 AT 1:51 PM

### Former Detroit News copy editor featured on TLC's 'My Crazy Obsession' tonight

BY MELODY BAETENS THE DETROIT NEWS 0 COMMENTS

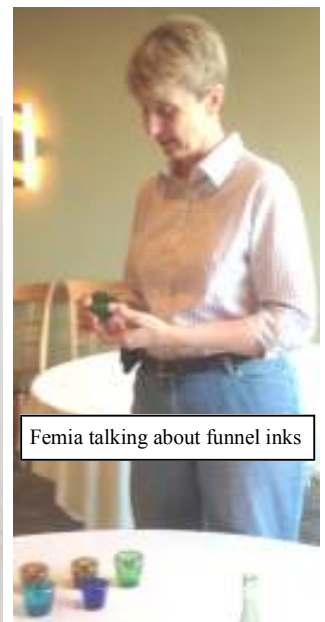


Farmington Hills resident Ralph Finch is being featured on the TLC show "My Crazy Obsession" Wednesday night. (TLC)

The Slug Plate is published monthly by the Metropolitan Detroit Antique Bottle Club and distributed to MDABC, other bottle clubs, bottle publications, the Federation of Historical Bottle Collectors and other interested related organizations. MDABC dues are \$10 yearly, and are due in January. Dues may be paid at club meetings or mailed to the club president. All editorial matter should be directed to Michael Brodzik at 26251 Koontz, Roseville, MI 48066 or to bottlmike@wowway.com. Articles and information from The Slug Plate may be reprinted without prior permission as long as proper credit is given to the original source.

**April Meeting Topic** - April Fool's Bottles - For those that were bold enough, items were brought that turned out to not be authentic or were something other than what they appeared or were reported to be. Items were brought by Ralph and Janet Finch, Mike Brodzik, Femia Alberts.

Both Janet Finch and Femia Alberts brought in funnel inks. Both have collected inks and found an interesting array of colored funnel inks available. It was indicated that there are originals of this style, but that it is extremely hard to tell the difference. Many of the reproductions are made in Mexico and come in very unusual colors. Ralph brought in an unusual and highly embossed Travis's Herb Bitters bottle [1]. Ralph indicated that a few of these were made as "fantasy" production and he came to purchase this one knowing such. It is embossed DOCTOR TRAVIS'S HERB BITTERS WATER OF LIFE GUARANTEED TO CURE GUOT, CONSUMPTION, DYSENTERY, ANKYLOSIS. BUCKSHUTEM N.J. A check on the internet indicates some history on this bottle: *This bottle was something created by the employees of the Clevenger Bottle Co. for their boss who was Travis Clevenger. This was done in the 1960's.*



Mike Brodzik brought a group of items. A group of free blown pieces of which some might be real and some might not. One is reported to be Persian [2] from the 1500's except several others that are very similar have been seen. What are the chances of that? Another piece is a Clark's Electric Natural Medicinal Water [3] which was bought at a Chicago bottle show back in 1997. Once it was home it was found that the price tag was strategically placed over a nice star bruise/crack. Also, seen was the strange blob quart [4] that is an obvious reproduction (bought as such) with a small sticker on the bottom "Made in India." A crock rounded off the group which was purported on eBay to be NOT cracked or repaired. Pictures on eBay clearly showed glue coming from the crack. But for \$35 who could pass up the one-gallon Moore & Foote from Detroit [5] with a nice greenish brown glaze.



**Recent Finds:** Jackie brought her recent acquisition of a Bazin's Shaving cream pot lid with base. It was a beautiful rose and was a nice match to her smaller black one found diving the previous Summer [6]. The St. Clair River has been reluctant to give up treasures but a dive on Sunday resulted in a 1906 V-nickel for Rick Ryan and a Cracker Jack car toy for Joe Varani.



**Recent Activity:** Mike Brodzik did a display at the Annual Michigan Treasure Hunter's Open House in April located in Livonia and won a silver 50-cent piece for the display. Most of the pieces were found diving but some were from digs on land.





## Significant eBay Activity

For those that have been following this auction power house you might have noticed some recent activity that borders on the edge of insanity, that is bottles selling and being listed at astronomical prices way beyond ever previously realized prices or likely ever to happen again. I thought it best to put something in this newsletter to address this so that this audience has an idea what's happening. The person behind all of these elevated purchases is identified as Sheikh Saud Al-Thani of Qatar. Yes, that way over in the Persian Gulf off of the Arabian Peninsula. This person is identified as having extensive quantities of money and is known to go on buying binges into many area of collectibles and antiquities. Excerpt from *The Telegraph* of London, 30 April 2005:

"Al-Thani has meanwhile collected feverishly across the board: Islamic art (his greatest passion), vintage photography, rare jewels, objets d'art, 18th-century French furniture, natural history books and specimens, vintage cars, textiles, Egyptian and Roman antiquities, Art Deco furniture - even sweeping up entire libraries in his wake. A \$9.57 million (£5 million) Fabergé egg bought at Christie's in New York in 2002, the Jenkins Venus - a £7.9 million Roman marble statue from Newby Hall in Yorkshire - along with a complete set of Audubon's Birds of America for \$8.8 million (£4.6 million) are just a few examples."

[Full article at: <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/culture/art/3641253/Scandal-of-the-sheikh-and-his-1bn-shopping-spree.html>]

Regardless, the flavor of 2013 appears to American bottles of which most are Pepsi and Coke, but price seems to be no barrier and eBay-listers are taking advantage of this deep pocket and posting elevated Buy It Now sales. Right or wrong? It's a controversy on the Facebook blog pages. Similarly, it has been pose as to whether some of these pieces which are rare are best to headed for around the world. This can be seen in the Facebook thread discussion under -

***“What would you do if you could get some crazy \$\$ for a very rare Michigan bottle but that bottle would be leaving not just the state but this country?”***

Well my philosophy is that the rare pieces should stay here. There seems to be no research as to what is rare, but purchases are made on what appears to be a whim [Buy It Now postings] and ultimately some bottles are relatively common. Where bottle go though is really up to the seller. With regards to the price madness, I am going to go with the old philosophy of buyer beware. Well for the record here is some of the madness for Michigan bottles.....

 \$2,999.99	 \$1,999.99	 \$2,999.99 for the pair	 \$1,499.99 \$1,499.99	 \$3,999.99 \$1,999.99
 \$999.99	 \$1,999.99	 \$1,999.99	 \$2,999.99	 \$550.00





**Fair Bottling Co.  
Benton Harbor**

**\$1,999.99**



**Bennett, druggist  
Muskegon**

**\$599.99**



**Coca-Cola  
Battle Creek**

**\$400**



**Coca-Cola  
Kalamazoo**

**\$200**



**Coca-Cola  
Battle Creek  
11 bottles**

**\$1,000**



**\$2,999.99**

**Coca-Cola, Kalamazoo, Battle Creek, Traverse City**

## Significant eBay Activity (continued)

Under any given day this buyer spends thousands of dollars. On 4/23 under the two screen names used \$12,000 in bottles were purchased. On the day, this newsletter was being written he had already purchased \$6,500 worth of bottles. Vast majority of items are Coca-Cola and Pepsi, so it will be one comprehensive cola museum in the desert.

## Auction Watch

In this section, I primarily focus on Michigan bottles. You may find that I do not cover much in the area of milks, canning jars and insulators. These are all very respectable areas of glass and bottle collecting, but due to the time that involved with monitoring auction items, I, unfortunately, only focus on items that I track. I know many of you out there are selling, buying or tracking items...so keep me posted. Otherwise, if you see something of interest that has transpired on eBay or any other auction site let me know.

### 1. Ginger Ale Extract, James Vernor, Detroit, Mich.

8.25" clear extract bottle (see pic)  
Ended 22 Mar at \$165.50 with 21 bids

### 2. Williamson's Perfumes, Williamson Mfg. Co. Detroit, Mich.

7.5" clear paper label perfume bottles with glass stopper and tax stamps (e pic)  
Ended 24 Mar at \$31.00 with 12 bids

### 3. Matheson's English Brewed Ginger Beer, Detroit Distilled Water Co.

7" two-tone stoneware with black transfer (see pic)  
Ended 24 Mar at \$124.99 with 1 bid



### 4. P. Wolf [Detroit]

Cobalt blue squat soda w/embossed eagle (see pic)  
Ended 05 May at \$192.50 with 6 bids

### 5. St. Louis Magnetic Water Co., St. Louis Mineral Water, Bay City, W.S., Mich.

11" aqua mineral water bottle (see pic)  
Ended 26 Apr \$22.01 with 4 bids

### 6. Teller's Mineral Water, Detroit

7.25 iron-pontil aqua mineral water (see pic)  
Ended 13 Apr at \$468.88 with 2 bids

The Metropolitan Detroit Antique Bottle Club's  
31st Annual

# Antique Bottle Show & Sale

Saturday, November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2013

9:30 am - 3 pm - **ADMISSION \$2<sup>00</sup>**

at the Royal Oak Elks Lodge #1523

2401 E. Fourth St., Royal Oak, Michigan

Free appraisals at show

For further information contact:

**Mike Brodzik**

(586) 219-9980

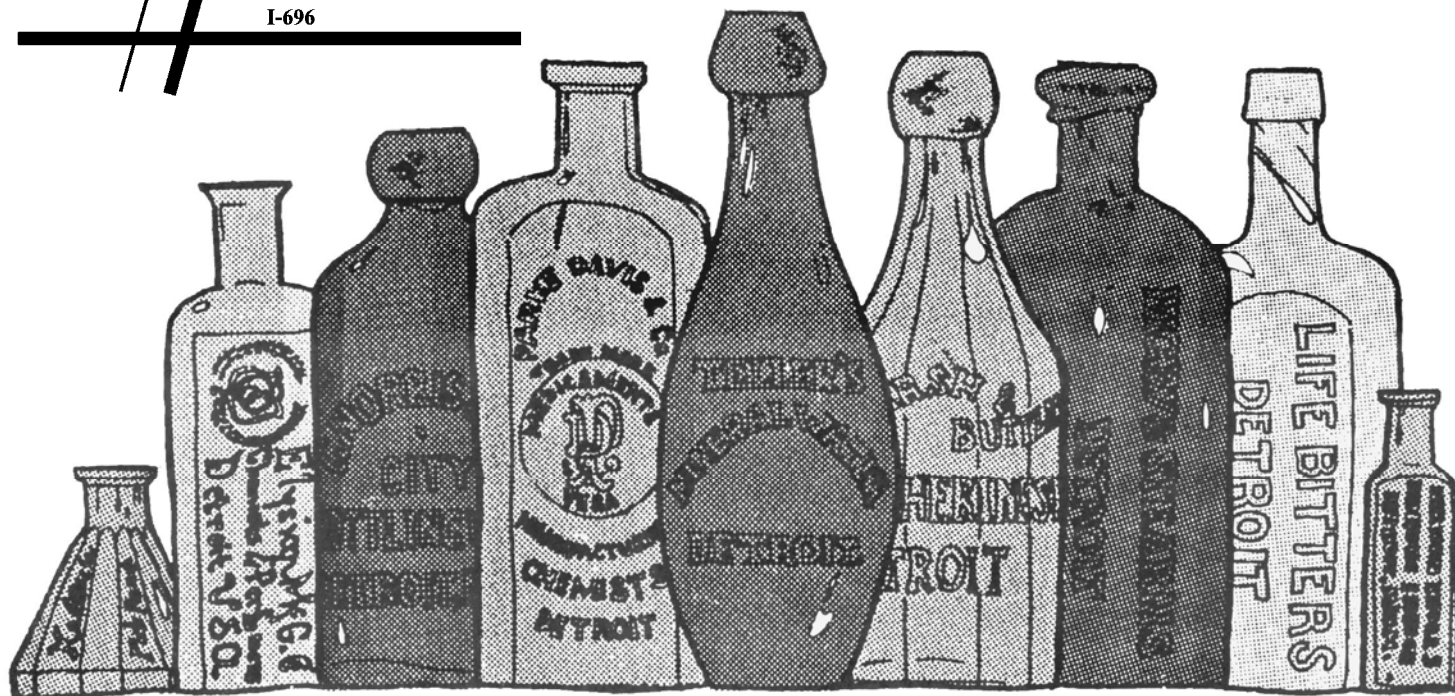
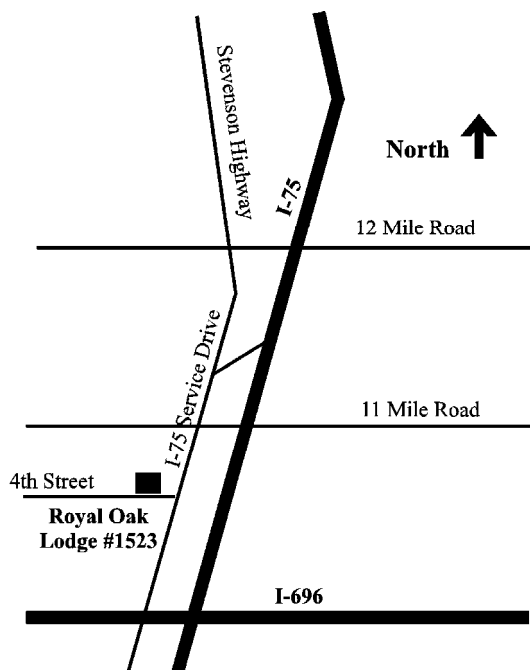
[bottlemike@wowway.com](mailto:bottlemike@wowway.com)

or

**Bruce Heckman**

(248) 760-1722

[hisser@comcast.net](mailto:hisser@comcast.net)



## Bottle Shows and other points of interest 2013

Hurry!!! There are things to do.



### Saturday - Sunday, June 1-2, 2013 - Midland, Michigan

Michigan Antique & Collectibles Festival at the Midland County Fairgrounds, 6905 Eastman Ave., Midland, MI, \$6 Admission. Saturday, 8 AM to 6 PM, Sunday 8 AM to 4 PM.. Up to 1000 vendor booths on 80 acres. Rain or shine.

### Saturday - Sunday, July 13-14, 2013 - Utica, Michigan

The Utica Antiques Market hold its second of three shows at the K of C Picnic Grounds on 21 Mile Road. For further information check out their website [www.uticaantiques.com](http://www.uticaantiques.com).

### Saturday - Sunday, July 20-21, 2013 - Marine City, Michigan

The Marine City Antique Show at Nautical Mile Park. For information check out the website [www.visitmarinecity.com](http://www.visitmarinecity.com).

### Saturday & Sunday, July 20-23, 2013 - Manchester, New Hampshire

Federation of Historical Bottle Collectors presents the 2013 National Antique Bottle Show, at the Radisson New Hampshire Expo Center, 700 Elm Street, Manchester, New Hampshire 03101, 1.800.967.9033. Banquet is on Friday evening, 19 July 2012. Quality collectors from across the USA will be gathered for the first National Show to be offered in New England. Visit FOHBC.org for more information or contact Michael George, 603.765.8079, [earlyglass@gmail.com](mailto:earlyglass@gmail.com).

#### Reggie Lynch Bottle Show List

May 30 Hershey, PA (May 30 - Jun 1)  
 Jun 1 Ballston Spa, NY  
 Jun 8 San Diego, CA  
 Jun 8 Raleigh, NC  
 Jun 8 Smyrna, GA  
 Jun 22 Tallahassee, FL  
 Jun 22 Tulsa, OK  
 Jun 28-29 Reno, NV  
 Jul 19-21 Nashville, TN  
 Jul 20-21 Manchester, NH  
 Jul 26-27 Birmingham, AL  
 Aug 10 Vicksburg, MS  
 Aug 17 Urbana, OH  
 Sep 22 Indianapolis, IN  
 Sep 22 Buffalo, NY

### Friday, Saturday & Sunday, August 9-11, 2013 - East shore of Michigan

The M-29 to M-25 Blue Water Area's 12th Annual Antique Yard Sale Trail. For information pick up a flyer at a local antique shop or email [trailsale@yahoo.com](mailto:trailsale@yahoo.com).

### Saturday, August 17, 2013 - Urbana, Ohio

4th Annual Urbana, Ohio Antique Bottle and Jar Show at the 4-H Building, Champaign County Fairgrounds, 384 Park Avenue, Urbana, Ohio 43078, Saturday, 9:30 am – 3:00 pm, No early admission. \$1.00 Admission Benefits a Junior 4-H Council, Antique bottles, fruit jars, flasks, inks, stoneware, milks, insulators, bitters, advertising and more. Held in conjunction with the Urbana Paper and Advertising Show, Information: John Bartley, PO Box 53, North Hampton, Ohio 45349, 937.964.8080 or [jbartley@woh.rr.com](mailto:jbartley@woh.rr.com)

### Saturday - Sunday, September 6-7, 2013 - Utica, Michigan

The Utica Antiques Market hold its third of three shows at the K of C Picnic Grounds on 21 Mile Road. For further information check out their website [www.uticaantiques.com](http://www.uticaantiques.com).

### Sunday, October 6, 2013 - Chelsea, Michigan

The Huron Valley Bottle and Insulator Club 38th Annual Show & Sale, Comfort Inn Conference Center, Commerce Park Drive next to the Comfort Inn, Chelsea (Exit 159 off I-94), 9:00 am – 2:00 pm, Contact Info: Mike Bruner, 248.425.3223 or Rod Krupka, 248.627.6351.

### Sent in by Ralph Finch

I know how the Detroit club members are right on top of getting the most out of the hobby, and already are packed and have reservations to this fall's WONDERFUL National Bottle show July 19-21 in Manchester, New Hampshire, but here is another must-attend event to mark on your calendar (and just sent to FOHBC members):

"Chattanooga has been selected for the 2015 FOHBC southern region National Antique Bottle Show. The show will be held at the Chattanooga Convention Center on Sunday, Aug. 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 will be show co-chairpersons.

"Chattanooga was incorporated in 1839. It is located in southeastern Tennessee at the crossroads of Interstate 24, 59, and 75.

"Chattanooga is known for its many attractions, including the Hunter Museum of American Art, riverboat cruises, Chickamauga National Military Park, Incline Railway, Lookout Mountain, Ruby Falls, Rock City, Houston (Glass) Museum, Tennessee Aquarium, the Chattanooga Theatre Centre and much more.

"Be sure to save the date (July 31-Aug. 2) for Chattanooga in 2015! — Tom Phillips, FOHBC Conventions Director"

It has been years since I have been to Chattanooga, but I enjoyed it, especially dining at the 1908-built Chattanooga Choo-Choo hotel and restaurant.

Terminal Station is a former railroad station, once owned and operated by the Southern Railway, and listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

You can stay in one of the 48 Victorian train cars, and enjoy the several restaurants and nightly entertainment, or just take a ride in the 1924 New Orleans' Trolley (it was retired in 1947).

FYI: Chattanooga Choo Choo was recorded as a big-band/swing tune by Glenn Miller and his orchestra and featured in the 1941 movie Sun Valley Sere-nade. It became America's No. 1 song for nine week.

I will meet you there, and we can all sing: Pardon me, boy, is that the Chattanooga Choo-Choo? (Or the kids' version: Pardon me, Roy, is that the cat that chewed your new shoes?)

### Upcoming Meeting Dates for 2013

X	X	X	X	MAY 30	JUN 27	JUL 25	AUG 22	SEP 26	OCT 24	NOV 21	DEC No Meeting
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