



MIDWEST GLASS CHATTER

MIDWEST ANTIQUE FRUIT JAR & BOTTLE CLUB

Since 1972



Midwest Glass Chatter
April 2016

Club Officers

- *Richard Cole, President*
2904 W. Moore Rd.
Muncie, IN 47304
765-288-8717
- *Mike James, Vice Pres.*
5673 N. 300 E.
Marion, IN 46952
765-664-7622
- *Jim Durr, Treasurer*
500 W. Ohio St.
Fortville, IN 46040
317-485-5854
- *Joe Coulson, Secretary/Editor*
412 W. Smith Valley Rd.
Greenwood, IN 46142
317-476-6409

An Index to the Club Library is available online. Please contact Dick Cole about items which you would like to check out.

Membership

The Midwest Glass Chatter is a monthly publication and is a forum through which collectors can share information.

Membership cost is \$15.00 per year, per family, due each January 31. All jar/bottle related collectors are welcome. Send to MAFJBC, Attn: James Durr, 500 W. Ohio St., Fortville, IN 46040

Meeting Minutes, April 3rd, 2016

The April club meeting was held in the Cantina at Minnetrista in Muncie, Indiana. Club President Dick Cole opened the meeting and welcomed 7 club members.

Jim Durr gave the Treasurer's report for April. There was no income to report. Expenses included newsletter printing and postage costs. The club continues to maintain a positive bank balance.

Dick Cole shared a press release "Newell Rubbermaid and Jarden Corporation Announce Consumer Goods Combination with \$16 Billion Revenue." The merged companies will be identified as Newell Brands. Jarden Home Brands (also known as Hearthmark LLC) is a subsidiary of Jarden Corporation and holds the licenses for these home canning brands: Ball, Kerr, Golden Harvest and Bernardin.

Joe Coulson mentioned Karen Vincent's blog about Ball Stores Memories. Some of the material will be used in an upcoming book and exhibit on the subject.

<http://www.minnetrista.net/blog/2016/02/25/ball-family-history/memories-of-ball-stores/>

Joe also apologized for getting behind on the publishing the April *Glass Chatter*. We will be back on our regular schedule for the May issue.

Upcoming shows: June 11th 2016 (Saturday) Cambridge City, Indiana - Huddleston Farmhouse, Early Summer Fruit Jar Get-Together. All Proceeds go to the Huddleston Farmhouse Museum, 838 National Road, Cambridge City, Indiana 47327. Show 9:00 am to 3:00 pm.

The next club meeting will be held **June 12th at Minnetrista** in the Cantina at



1:30pm in Muncie, Indiana. The theme for Show and Tell is to bring Labeled jars and bottles.

Respectfully submitted,
Joe Coulson



New publication in the stores:
The Best Ball Home Canning
& Preserving Recipes



Ball blue PT
Bamberger's Mason Jar
(made by Ball Bros.)

Rare Hazel-Atlas Jar Surfaces after 30+ Years

[The following information was reported January 30th on the FaceBook Group "ATLAS Jar Collectors" which is administered by Russ "Mr. Atlas" Crupe who owns the premier collection of Hazel-Atlas jars and go-withs]

The jar is a half gallon. It has half rounded dimples, and it is embossed all the way around the base. The embossing is only around the base. The embossed HA logo is 1.5 inches tall.

On the sides of the jar it is embossed with fruit on one side and vegetables on the other side. The sides also have 3 decorative style grippers.

This jar is not listed in the Red Book. It will probably be RB #170-3.

I have no real info except that I waited a LONG time to own this jar. I had only seen it in a photo over 30 years ago! When the collector died that owned it I told the family to watch for the jar, and they told me that they never saw it. It has been boxed up for over 15 years.

I could make up a story and convince you that it's true, but there are no clues on the history of the jar. As far as RB #169 goes, it came out about the same time as the other gripper jars, and years ago it was believed that after a few were made that it was an infringement on an existing patent. The "few" made as far as we know are 2. The patent we believed belonged to Brockway.

—Russ Crupe

Visit the "ATLAS Jar Collectors" group at:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/874399335936195>



Photo Credits: Heidi Crupe



Administrative History of Ball Stores

Ball Stores opened with great fanfare in November 1934. The store was located in the old W.A. McNaughton Company building at the corner of Charles and Walnut Streets in downtown Muncie, Indiana. George A. Ball, the vice president of Ball Brothers, was the store's first president. Ball Brothers had no particular desire to operate the store, but they believed the need existed in Muncie for a high quality retail outlet. On opening day, some 50,000 people crowded the store to gaze upon the gleaming new fixtures and the wide range of merchandise. The new store employed 125 people, many of whom had been unemployed for quite some time due to the Great Depression. The

store carried a complete line of merchandise, selling everything from clothing and shoes to groceries and furniture.

In 1938, Fred and Margaret Ball Petty purchased the business from Ball Bros. Fred became president and treasurer of the company and served in those capacities until his death in 1949. Margaret assumed control of the company until 1965, when her son Edmund took over. He served as president until 1982, when he was succeeded by Martin Clark. The Pettys operated the business as an independent department store specializing in high quality merchandise. The store also held the honor as the largest independently owned and oper-

ated department store in Indiana. In 1968, Ball Stores acquired Collegienne Shops, a retail outlet on University Avenue near Ball State University. In 1970, the Muncie Mall opened, permanently changing the shopping patterns of Muncie and drawing consumers away from downtown. Both Sears and J. C. Penny soon abandoned their downtown locations in favor of the new mall. In 1978, Ball Stores opened an outlet at the mall in order to remain competitive in the Muncie Market.

By the 1980s, the company was starting to experience financial difficulties. A group of investors, most of whom hailed from Muncie, acquired the company

in order to reestablish its past glory. However, the downward slide continued. In 1984, the store's home furnishing outlet closed. In 1986 the downtown store closed, followed by the closing of Collegienne in 1988. In 1989, after city officials considered and withdrew proposals for transforming the Ball Stores building into the new city hall, the building was demolished. By 1990, the Muncie Mall outlet was closed, bringing an end to a chapter in Muncie's commercial history.

[Cited from the Ball Stores records, Archives and Special Collections, Ball State University Libraries]

<http://www.bsu.edu/libraries/archives/findingaids/MSS114.pdf>

Show and Tell

The theme for Show and Tell was to bring Mason's Patent type jars or items.

Mike Mosier shared a wooden shipping box for a dozen half gallon Mason fruit jars (jar design on the box: Mason's Patent Nov. 30th 1858); a Ball blue PT (RB #400/SFJR #174) Bamberger's; an aqua QT (RB #481-1/SFJR #211.a) Boldt Mason (the "smiling" variation); a wooden shipping box for a dozen pint Ball fruit jars (jar design on the box: Ball Mason's Patent 1858); an olive green QT (RB #274/SFJR #149) Ball Perfect Mason; and a light green HG (RB

#1624/SFJR #841) The Marion Jar Mason's Patent Nov. 30th 1858.

We were glad to have long-time members Mike & Gusty Monaghan in attendance. Gusty told us about visiting the Ball Kitchen in Muncie years ago. It was a place you could go to learn canning.

Mike James displayed a clear PT (RB #1862/SFJR #909) Mason's Patent Nov. 30th 1858 (reverse: N.C.L. Co.); an aqua HG (RB #1888/SFJR #876) Mason's Patent Nov. 30th 1858 (base: M.F.J. and B. Co.); and an olive yellow HG (RB

#1787/SFJR #827) Mason's Patent Nov. 30th 1858.

Joe Coulson brought a recently published magazine that he purchased at a CVS drug store, "The Best Ball Home Canning & Preserving Recipes". He then displayed a wooden shipping box for one dozen quart Mason fruit jars from the Root Glass Company (jar design on the box: Mason's Patent Nov. 30th 1858); and an aqua HG (RB #1866/SFJR #916) Mason's Patent Nov. 30th 1858 (heel: U.G. Co.).

Joe also shared a very old framed photo of John Landis Mason (the inventor of the

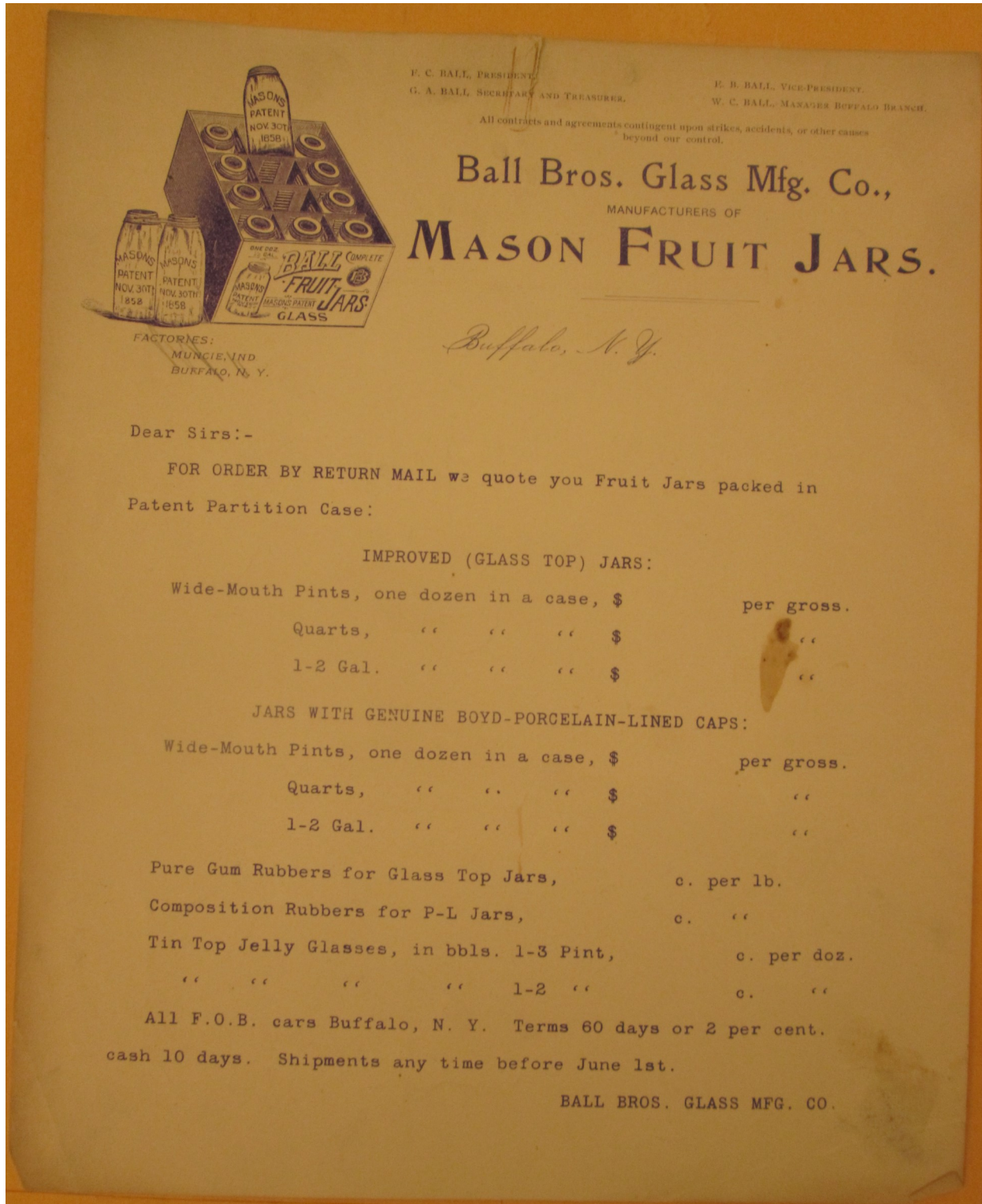
Mason jar). A few examples are known. It is believed to have been produced circa 1872 as company promotional material.

Dick Cole displayed a couple of early Ball Brothers Glass Mfg. Co. paper items. The first was a price sheet template from Buffalo, New York. This letter depicted a generic Mason's Patent Nov. 30th 1858 jar. The second item was an advertisement for Ball fruit jars taken from a page of a sales catalog of The C.S. Morey Mercantile Co. of Denver, Colorado. This advertisement depicted a Ball (3L loop) Mason jar.



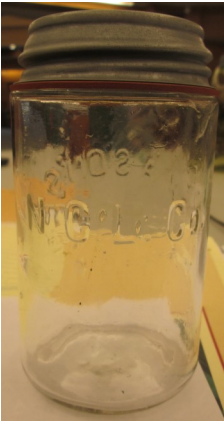
Sepia toned photograph of John Landis Mason, circa 1872, showing him sitting amongst boxes of fruit jars and trimmings

Show and Tell Pictures, cont'd



Dick Cole shared this early Ball Brothers Glass Mfg. Co. price sheet template from Buffalo, New York. It is interesting to note the phrase "Fruit Jars packed in Patent Partition Case", and the wonderful illustration of a case of one dozen half gallon Mason's Patent Nov. 30th 1858 jars (without the Ball logo). It is also interesting that different types of rubbers were sold for the glass top jars ("Pure Gum Rubbers") versus the porcelain-lined cap jars ("Composition Rubbers").

Show and Tell Pictures



Clear PT Mason's Patent Nov. 30th 1858 (reverse: N.C.L. Co.)



Olive yellow HG Mason's Patent Nov. 30th 1858



Aqua HG Mason's Patent Nov. 30th 1858 (base: M.F.J. B. Co.)



Aqua QT "Smiling" Boldt Mason



Wooden shipping box for a dozen pint Ball fruit jars (jar design on the box: Ball Mason's Patent 1858)



Wooden shipping box for a dozen half gallon Mason fruit jars (jar design on the box: Mason's Patent Nov. 30th 1858)



Wooden shipping box for one dozen quart Mason fruit jars from the Root Glass Company



A smiling Mike Monaghan enjoying the club meeting



Olive green QT Ball Perfect Mason

St. Louis Bottle Show Pictures by "John Jarguy"



Ron Ashby (far left) and Dave Rittenhouse (far right) at the show



Bob Rhineberger at his sales table



Jerry McCann was at the show



Greg & Angela Spurgeon were there too



The Phifers' sales table



Ron Ashby purchased a scarce QT Mason's Patent Nov. 30th 1858 (reverse: 3 in shield) and a scarce HG (G in shield) Mason Patent Nov 30th 1858 at the St. Louis Bottle Show. Note that the shields are different styles.

Huddleston Farmhouse

Early Summer Fruit Jar Get-Together

at the

Huddleston Farmhouse Museum

838 National Road

Cambridge City, IN 47327

Tables will be provided. \$20 for one table or \$30 for two.

Admission is Donation with all proceeds going to the

Huddleston Farmhouse

Show and Tell, Buy your own dinner at

Lakeview Restaurant

1219 National Rd Cambridge City Saturday Eve 6:30pm

Saturday June 11th

Dealer Set up 8am-9am

Show 9am-3pm

Can camp the night before on-site

Co-Chair, Marty Troxell

Contact. (765)-478-3800

Co-Chair, Richard Leece

Contact. (574)-686-2618

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A jarrific place to share and learn

Send articles and info here:

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AND FACEBOOK!

[HTTP://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/](http://www.facebook.com/)



Sales catalogs from the late 19th century are often pieced out page by page for their advertising which is of interest to a diverse audience of collectors. Keep your eye out for wonderful fruit jar advertising like this piece displayed by Dick Cole at the club meeting. Notice the illustration of a shipping box along with a Ball (3-L loop) Mason.

Announcements

Upcoming club meetings:

Sunday, **June 12th**, 1:30pm meet at Minnetrista, theme is bring Labeled jars & bottles

Sunday, **July 10th**, 1:30pm meet at Minnetrista, theme is bring Go-Withs

Sunday, **August ?**, To Be Announced, Annual Club Picnic, theme is bring Foreign jars, bottles and related items

Sunday, **September 11th**, 1:30pm meet at Minnetrista, theme is bring Labeled jars/bottles

Sunday, **October 2nd**, 1:30pm meet at Minnetrista, theme is Commemorative jars, bottles, and related items

Sunday, **November 6th**, 1:30pm meet at Minnetrista, theme is Reproduction jars & bottles

Sunday, **December 4th**, 1:30pm meet at Minnetrista, Annual Christmas Pitch-In Dinner

- Our club is a member of the Federation of Historical Bottle Collectors (FOHBC). The FOHBC has many resources and interesting articles on their website as well as a list of bottle shows: <http://www.fohbc.org/shows>
- More than 4,400 items in the Minnetrista Heritage Collection can be viewed online. Many of these are scarce to rare items relating to our hobby. Start your search here: <http://minnetrista.net/heritage-collection>
- The Jelly Jammers continue to update their website with valuable information. <http://jellyjammers.org/>

