

BADGER MARBLE CLUB

Volume 15 No. 1

Meeting

March 4, 2012

Waunakee EMS

11 am Brunch

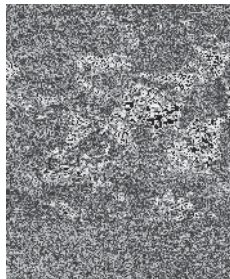
Meeting to
follow. Bring
food, utensils,
and mar-
bles..club will
supply drinks.

Presidents Column(LOL)

I'm burying this note here in the southwest corner next to Mexico in the hopes that you won't find another excuse for my lack of effort in putting a newsletter together. It's not that I don't love all you folks, but life gets a little sloppy as we get older. Probably would help if I was able to say "NO" to a few other commitments and obligations. I still get my marbles out now and then, just so they don't feel neglected. Helps to be fondled now and then.... the marbles I mean. So, bear with me. We still have a great show to offer those who wish to show up. Let's give it the ultimate effort for another year.

Mark Your Calendars

We have a date. Marble Show this year is October (12-13) 14th. Same venue. Same great rates.



"For Keeps or for Fair"

Hard to believe there is a choice when playing marbles. When I was a marbles playing fanatic in elementary school, you could go to school with a sock full and come home with a few battered puries and a new nickname.... loser! We played 'followies' to school and home again, a sure way to get scoled for being late for dinner. Yea... it could take hours if we had plenty of marbles. Just like poker.... when you're behind you want to get 'em back, when you're ahead, you want to keep going.

Well, I guess poker and marbles have gone their own way. Poker players are in it (still) for the long haul. Lose your butt or get an invitation from a casino to come back...no charge. Mibsters now play "fair"... we play.... win... then give 'em back. I can remember gettin' my ass kicked for not forking over one last shooter I tried to hide in my pocket. Good old Denny... loved to win, and big enough to cheat and not get challenged. I'll tell you what 'fair' meant in 1952.... it meant you better get to the 5&10 to get some more marbles so Denny would't be deprived of any winnings the next day. We all grew a little... Denny kind of stalled out. It took a year or two, but we eventually were able to gang up on him drag him to his house screaming and kicking, escort him to his room, and steal what was rightfully ours. That was fair!

February 2012

Ever Heart of Tinsley Green?

Tinsley Green is an area in the Borough of Crawley, one of seven local government districts in the English county of West Sussex. Originally a hamlet in the parish of Worth, it was absorbed by the New Town of Crawley in the 1940s and became part of the Pound Hill neighbourhood. As well as houses, farms and woodland, it became the site of the 1930s aerodrome at Gatwick—now London Gatwick Airport. The airport's first railway station was briefly known as Tinsley Green. The game of marbles has a strong local tradition, and Tinsley Green's pub hosts the British and World Marbles Championship each year.

The game of marbles has been played in Tinsley Green and the surrounding area for many centuries: TIME magazine traces its origins to 1588. The British and World Marbles Championship has been held at Tinsley Green's pub, The Greyhound, every year since 1932. Traditionally, the marbles-playing season started on Ash Wednesday and lasted until midday on Good Friday: playing after that brought bad luck. More than 20 teams from around the world take part in the championship, each Good Friday; German teams have been successful several times since 2000, although local teams from Crawley, Copthorne and other Sussex and Surrey villages often take part as well; the first championship in 1932 was won by a team from nearby Hookwood. The pub was rebuilt in its present form in 1936, and permanent rings were installed outside for marbles to be played upon.



Naming Marbles

Easy to guess how they came up with a name like Superman, Cub Scout, Bumblebee, etc., but you eventually get to a few, probably most, that have names without visual clues. Heck of a science, this 'marble naming. I suppose the folks below lost a lot of sleep coming up with these, and this is only a few of the line. How many do you have? **Me??? None.**

Alley's Blue Skies and Blush Lines: Honoring Alley's Blue Lady

R. Shepherd, B. McCaleb, B. Burkhart, and R. Anthony

Alley's Blue Lady is the venerable matriarch of Alley's Blue Skies and Blush Lines. The marble was made by Alley Agate when they were located in Pennsboro, West Virginia, and it was named by Ron Shepherd at the Sistersville Marble Festival in the Fall of 2008. The base color on these classics is a sky blue variation and the striping is a lavender pastel. The striping ranges from thick and dark to thin and light. Notice how a rich blue color outlines the thick dark stripe on the first example below, while white accentuates the lighter lavender striping on the others.



Alley's Blue Skies Line

Ron Shepherd named **Alley's Blue Skies Line**. Marbles in the Line prominently display the sky blue colors typical of the classic Blue Ladies, with the best examples showing a significant amount of white. Sometimes the blue is found as the base color. At other times, it appears over white or together with other colors. Several examples are shown below, along with two Blue Ladies, displayed as honored guests. Named examples include classic Blue Skies, a Spring Sky and a Blood Red Sky.*



The Blue Skies Line

Blue Skies are the namesakes of the Blue Skies Line. Each displays a sky blue color typical of the classic Blue Ladies. The best examples show a significant amount of white striping. Four variants are shown below. It should be noted that Champion, Heaton, Jabo and Vacor all produced marbles with a color combination of blue and white. Therefore, careful examination and comparison to known examples may be required to discern Alley's from those produced by other companies.



Stormy Skies prominently display the classic sky blue colors of the Blue Skies Line, with the best examples showing a significant amount of white. Each also displays one or more additional colors, which are often dark and reminiscent of stormy skies. For example, those below display gray, dark brown or black striping.



Alley's Blush Line

Bill McCaleb named Alley's Blush Line to honor the Blue Ladies, which are the first marbles celebrated for displaying Alley's Blush. The pastel colors of the Blush Line range from pinks to lavenders to purples. Marbles in this Line can vary from transparent to opaque. Several examples are shown below, together with the two classic Blue Ladies, appearing for an encore. **Marbles in the Blush Line earn the designation "Lady" by displaying the same lavender striping as the classic. Named examples include a Lady Tater, Lady Gaia, Opal Lady, Ebony Blush and Kurly Blush.***



A Bit Of "Old" Marble News



Marie Hathaway worked at the Peltier Glass Company for about two years, on and off, to save money to go to secretarial school. Eighty years later, Marie Hathaway can remember how she packed marbles at Peltier Glass — 10 to a row, 10 rows to a box. The 96-year-old Ottawa woman lived on Sycamore Street a block from the plant when she was hired as a marble packer in 1930. "I would never have gotten the job if it wasn't for my mother. She worked there as a marble sorter. I was very thankful. It was the Depression and it was good money. I thought it was pretty wonderful and the Peltiers were very, very nice." The work was not steady, rather she was on call as orders came in. And it was difficult, with marbles in bins, but the end products were miniature works of art. "Peltier marbles were beautiful, with swirls and clear crystal. "The founder, Victor Peltier, was dead 20 years by the time Hathaway was hired at the plant, but she worked under his son, Victor Jr. Hathaway was born in Minneapolis, coming to Ottawa in 1924. Her mother worked at Peltier five years and her father was a farmer. During her two years of on-and-off work at Peltier Glass, Hathaway saved money and went to secretarial school, later landing a job at the Block and Kuhl Department Store — now the vacant Little City Building at 112 W. Madison St. — rising to position of office manager, working there many years. Looking back at Peltier eight decades later, Hathaway has one regret. **"I often wished I'd kept a box of marbles, but I guess I was sick of them at the time."** (Original Publication Date: May 15, 2010. Published in "The Times," an Ottawa IL newspaper)



Keen Eye, Firm Hand Wins Marbles Championships

Ben Eddings, 10, eyes up his shot during the Allegheny County Marbles Tournament yesterday. Ben and his best friend, Brandon Matchett, will represent the county when they travel to Wildwood, N.J., to compete in the national championships.

Penelope Bouer was on a roll Saturday afternoon as she hopped from one side of the marbles ring to the other, knocking out marbles.

"She's going to win," a competitor whispered to her mom as they watched Bouer at the Allegheny County Marbles Tournament on yesterday, the last day of a three-day event in the courtyard of the Allegheny County Courthouse. Winners qualified to attend the National Marbles Championship in Wildwood, N.J., in June. Bouer, 12, of Bloomfield went to nationals last year and made it to the semifinals. She took first place yesterday and

will be returning to the championship along with runner-up Sarah Ireland, 14, for the girls. For the boys, winner Brandon Matchett, 10, and runner-up Ben Eddings, 10, will represent the county. Long-time pals Brandon and Ben, both 10, are fourth graders at Phillips Elementary School in the South Side. "I like (marbles) because it's a different kind of sport," said Bouer, who plays basketball and fast-pitch softball. She said getting a back spin on her shooter — the marble used to knock other marbles out of the ring — is the most challenging aspect, one that can give her callouses on her thumb. At the 2008 National Championship, local marbles champs took both the boys and girls first prize. The county has had a national champion in either category for five years, but last year was the first time for a sweep. National champions John Leffakis of Lawrenceville and Amber Ricci, 13, of Glenshaw were both at this weekend's tournament, helping as judges. Amber's father Ed, one of the event's organizers, said the county has more champions than any other place and many were on hand to help with the event. Ricci, 43, of Shaler said marble-playing has been a part of his family for a century. His grandfather and mother have both helped run the county marble group. "I've been around my marbles my whole life," Ricci said. His other daughter Sierra, 3, is too young to compete, but plays on a smaller circle designed for younger marbles shooters. County marbles starts in March, when coaches go to malls, schools and Boys and Girls Clubs to show kids how to play and to invite them to the tournament held every year, he said. Ricci said the concepts of marbles playing are very similar to pool and marbles has been called "knuckle pool." Thirteen marbles are set inside a circle. Players take turns attempting to shoot the marbles out of the playing area. The first player to get seven marbles out, or the player with the most marbles out at the end of seven turns, is the winner, he said.

Bouer's mom, Marcia, said her other daughter Alexandra, 14, plays marbles. As a mother, she likes her kids playing marbles in an atmosphere where they are able to meet other kids. Charlotte Murphy, 8, of Squirrel Hill said she met at least 10 kids yesterday and likes playing tag in between rounds of marbles shooting. She's been playing for three years. "The hardest part is trying to hit the marbles out of the ring and putting a back spin on the shooter so it stays after it hits the marble," she said.

Original Publication Date: May 30, 2009. From the "Pittsburgh-Tribune Review,"

Seems like **"Land of Marbles"** is keeping up to date. Nice assortment of marbles for sale at: <http://www.landofmarbles.com/new-items.html> or just Google **"Land of Marbles"**. Lots of other marble stuff. Great place to surf around. Learn plenty!

Morphy's December 2011 Marble Auction



Single Pontil End of Day Marble.

Description White with blue and red (red is dense on about 1/3 of marble). Unusual ground flat pontil which means it was possibly made for display. Some as-made hot spots. This marble was part of Paul's father's early collection, probably purchased in the 1930s or 1940s.

Estimate: 1,200.00 - 2,000.00

Sold: 2,160



Large White Onionskin Lutz Marble.

Description Nice evenly spaced lutz spotting and streaking throughout. Two subsurface moons and two small chips. This marble was purchased by Paul's father when he was a young child, probably between 1952 and 1956. Photo list: A, B, C (front cover and plate 23) and D.

Estimate: 2,000.00 - 3,000.00

Sold: 2,280



Large Stoneware Marble.

Description Blue and brown decoration, probably made in Akron, OH by Weeks Pottery or the American Toy and Marble Manufacturing Company. Photo list: C and D.

Condition (9.6). Size 1 - 13/16" Dia.

Estimate: 200.00 - 300.00

Sold: 330.00



End of Cane Banded Transparent (Fountain) Marble.

Description Green translucent base with colored overlay in white, yellow, and baby blue. Colors spurt up from pontil, about half way up the marble. Inside of marble looks like a ghost core of white. Great cup lines on surface. One minor surface reflection. Paul purchased this marble ...

Estimate: 2,000.00 - 3,000.00

Sold: 4,200.00



Onionskin Peacock Lutz Marble with Mica.

Description Extremely rare mica and lutz onionskin marble. Colors include purple, orange, yellow, blue, pink, red, green, turquoise, and baby blue with large chunks of mica and lutz. Early tooling marks, probably made in the 1920s by a master marble maker. Surface condition is fabulous ...

Estimate: 10,000.00 - 20,000.00

Sold: 13,200



Akro Agate Popeye Marble Box Set.

Description Yellow box of Popeyes. Includes original bag, five orange and yellow, five purple and yellow, and five green and yellow Popeyes. Box bottom has one corner tear.

Condition Marbles (9.5) Box top (Excellent). Size Marbles: 5/8" Dia.

Estimate: 1,000.00 - 1,500.00

Sold: 1,140.00



Christensen Agate Tri-Color Flame Marble.

Description Great equal color distribution of a black base with yellow and brown. Nice flame patterns throughout.

Condition (9.7). Size 3/4" Dia.

Estimate: 800.00 - 1,200.00

Sold: 540.00



Peltier Superman Marble.

Description Nice color and pattern for a superman. One as-made surface blowout and minor flea bites.

Condition (8.8). Size 25/32" Dia.

Estimate: 150.00 - 250.00

Sold: 300.00



Court Jester

Sulphide Marble.

Description Great well-centered figure of a court jester seated with legs spread. One of the best figures we've ever seen in a sulphide. Minor surface scratching and tiny chips.

Condition (8.9). Size 1 - 21/32" Dia.

Estimate: 2,500.00 - 3,500.00

Sold: 7,200.00



Rare Dark Purple Glass Ribbon Lutz Marble.

Description Rare marks with heavy lutz bands. One small chip near pontil.

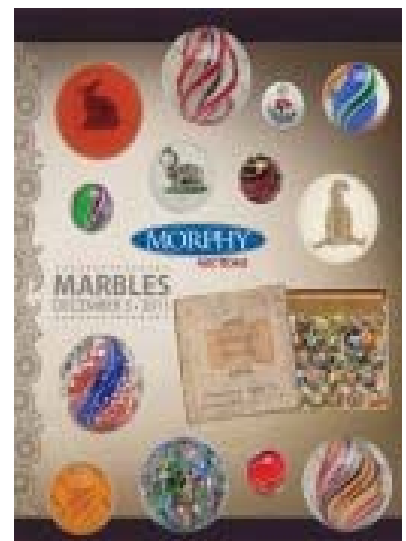
Photo list: C and D.

Condition (8.9). Size

11/16" Dia.

Estimate: 300.00 - 500.00

Sold: 840:00



Badger Marble Club
6454 Hyslop Rd.
Waunakee, WI
53597



Inside.....

Tinsley Green, Morphy's Auction, Show Announcement,

***Badger Marble
Club Meeting***

**March 4, 2012
Waunakee EMS-
Brunch/Potluck
11:00
Mtg. to follow**

Badger Marble Club

The Badger Marble Club Newsletter is published and distributed approximately every three months for the enjoyment and dissemination of information to members of the BMC. A one time complimentary copy is available to non-members upon request. Membership to BMC is \$20.00 per yr. and payable on or about Jan. 15th each year. Subscriptions to the newsletter only is \$5.00. Payment should be submitted to: Badger Marble Club, Bill Bass Treasurer, 410 W. Hickory, Lancaster, Wi. 53813. Information can be found on the BMC webpage hosted by Serious Sunlite www.badgermarbleclub.com



Feb 2012

