



BRISTOL, TENN-VA COLLECTIBLE BOTTLES & HISTORY MYSTIC WINE OF LIFE CO. of BRISTOL

While Bristol, Tenn-Va may not be a source of quantities of antique bottles today, it had a colorful and exciting history during the Whiskey and Patent Medicine Eras. One would be hard pressed to find a similar small town with as many different varieties of imaginatively named bottles.



Mystic Wine of Life ?

Where else might one find Pepper Bros' Celebrated & Aperient Tonic Bitters, (one of whom - C.T., has a world famous soft drink named for his daughter), and :

Dr. J.L. Wood's Tasteless Chill Cure: Dickey's Magic Relief, Manhood Restorer, Blood Cure: St. Andrew's Wine of Life Root , Chill Killer, Nerve Builder, or:

HOME: BEGINNINGS

BRISTOL - Whiskey Dealers (pre 1916)

E.GOUGE - DISTILLER (3pgs)

Can A E.Gouge Bottle Talk?

BRISTOL - Whiskey Trivia (2pgs)

BRISTOL - Whiskey Bottles (5pgs)

BRISTOL - Whiskey Jugs

BRISTOL - Whiskey Mini Jugs

*BRISTOL - Whiskey "Go-Withs"

BRISTOL - Shotglasses-VanBrocklin Collection

BRISTOL WINE & LIQUOR CO.

SOUTHERN WINE & LIQUOR CO

Cobalt KING'S LIQUOR: Fact or Fancy??

BRISTOL - Drug & Patent Medicine Cos. (to 1923) (2pgs)

APPLE BRANDY BITTERS - GOODSON,VA.

DR. JAMES A. DICKEY & CAM ANDERSON - BRISTOL Druggists

J.L.WOOD DRUG CO. of BRISTOL

C.F.HAGAN & the CIN-CO-LERY CO

JOHN R. DICKEY - BRISTOL Druggist (2pgs)

ANDREWS M'F'G CO. of BRISTOL (2pgs)

MYSTIC WINE OF LIFE CO. of BRISTOL

BRISTOL - Drug Store & Medicines (3pgs)

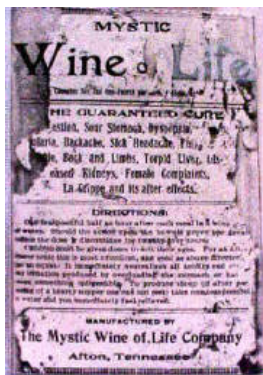
BRISTOL - Bottling Companies

THE MYSTIC WINE OF LIFE COMPANY

Best I can determine, the Mystic Wine of Life Company's beginnings were in Afton, Greene County, Tenn. about 1900. There is a clear BIM oval flask labeled as such...and touted as a "cure."

According to a Bristol newspaper article dated January 1st, 1908 the Mystic Wine of Life Company had just opened its doors for business.

The twin cities of Bristol were thriving and having gone "dry" on October 31,1907, they were a ready market for a patent medicine high in alcoholic content. Additionally, it is possible that the success of another Bristol product, "St. Andrews Wine of Life Root", possibly served as a "draw" for the Mystic Company to locate here with a competitor product.



Mystic Wine of Life - Afton, Tenn. label

The Mystic Remedies were apparently a popular product line. A January 25 ,1911 newspaper article notes: *that for the past few months , it has been impossible to fill all the orders for the Mystic Remedies.*

Seven salesmen were on the road during this time...in nearly every Southern state and the mail orders have increased, even doubled.

M.D.Andes was president of the Mystic Co. Andes was long a merchant in Bristol, operating a Commission House as early as 1879 at #24 Main Street. How he came to be affiliated with the Mystic Co. is not known by this scribe, however there are yet members of an Andes family residing in Greene County, so possibly the connection was a family one.

Mystic Aspirin Tablets

W.H.Reeve served as Vice-President. Reeve was most likely the same as one associated with the Lockett-Reeves Company, a grocery supply firm that also manufactured extracts. Charles McAfee served as Secretary-Treasurer, and G.T.Brown was the In-House

Mystic White Camphor Liniment wood crate



*BRISTOL - Dixie
Bottling Works

pre-1915 BRISTOL
COCA-COLAS

BRISTOL - Soda Bottles

BRISTOL - Dairies

*BRISTOL - Milk Bottles
(2pgs)

*Misc. Bottles & "Go-
Withs" (2pgs)

WHO was WHO in Early
Bristol? (2pgs)

Do Intact Examples
Exist??

* NEW "FINDS"

Early Pictures Around
Bristol

L. GERSTLE / BLUFF
CITY, TENN.

BLOUNTVILLE, TENN.

*JOHNSON CITY, TENN.

* List of Known
Johnson City Bottles

GREENEVILLE, TENN.

E.TN Saloon Owners

Other E.TN Bottles
(2pgs).

SWVA Whiskey
Distillers (2pgs)

SWVA Hutchinsons

ABINGDON, VA. -
Bits'n'Pieces

DAMASCUS VA.
BOTTLING WORKS

** SW VA. Bottles
(2pgs)

Local POTTERY

WASHINGTON
COUNTY, VA. POTTERY

Where Are Old Bottles ?

Digging

The ROBERT PRESTON
House Dig

Recent Bristol Events

BRISTOL - Bottle & Jug
Display

About Me

* Winds of Change

*In Search of COL.
JAMES KING'S IRON



Manager. J.M. Scott and the above comprised the Mystic Company Board of Directors.

The Mystic Co. was first located at 510 Shelby Street, Bristol, Tenn. in 1908 and, by 1923 had re-located to 315 8th Street...remaining in business until at least the latter date.

As for how the Mystic Company arrived by it's unusual name is anyone's guess. But, I'd imagine what with Andrews Manufacturing Company putting out their St. Andrews Wine of Life Root products, and printing a "Dreambook - Fortune-Telling" almanac, the cover graphics of which illustrated Witches brewing some strange concoction in a boiling cauldron, it came as no big surprise to local residents.

The Mystic Wine of Life Company's remedies were:

Mystic Wine of Life
Mystic Cough Syrup*
Mystic Worm Confections*
Mystic Aspirin Tablets
Mystic Liver Regulator
Mystic Antiseptic Healing Oil
Mystic White Camphor Liniment
Mystic Blood & Liver Pink Pills*
Mystic Neuralgia & Headache Tablets*
Mystic Antiseptic Liniment

Mystic Liver Regulator tin



I have yet to see several of the listed products noted above: (*), and I have yet to discover a machine made Mystic bottle. There should certainly be some out there, perhaps even as a screw cap example.

All of the Mystic products are either rare or scarce. I have seen more of the small amber Mystic Wine of Life bottles than any others, even so...I know of less than a dozen examples.

As always: additional info is requested and appreciated....

Mystic Wine of Life bottles



The Day I Dug A **Mystic Wine of Life** Bottle

In 1993, Ralph Van Brocklin, (a close personal friend), attended an auction in Paris, TN. Upon his return home, he phoned me, and informed me he had purchased the smaller size amber *Mystic Wine of Life/Bristol, Tenn.* bottle. I was excited - as I had both an amber and a clear large example, but not this smaller size amber in my collection.

However...it wasn't for sale...:>(

The following weekend, as I prepared to leave and go digging, I informed my wife, (somewhat jokingly), that I was "off" to dig a couple of amber Mystics.

About an hour or so into my digging, an amber bottle fell out of some roots and into my hole. Imagine my surprise when I rubbed the dirt off to read: *Mystic Wine of Life...Mfgd. By The Mystic Wine of Life Co...Bristol, Tenn.*

WORKS

Products of Local IRON WORKS

The CHIMNEY

Clifton Heights & The Chimney

The CISTERN & The IRON DOORS

The QUARRY CAVE, STONE "SHED" - 2nd IRON DOOR

Hunting OLD MILLS

***WHITE'S MILL**

The Star House & Mill

Graham-Mock Mill

DeBusk-Ebbing Spring Roller Mill

DeBusk - Widener's Mill

Holston - Gobble - Lilly Mill

Love's - Wilkinson Mill

Vails Mill

More Mills

MILLSTONES

Bristol,Tenn-Va Bottle Club

Bottles etc. For Sale

And, it was in excellent condition !

But ya know....I dug for two more hours and never did uncover that other one...

Mystic White Camphor Liniment



Bristol,Tenn & Bristol,Tenn-Va. variants

Mystic Wine of Life



left - aq. label only

Mystic Antiseptic Healing Oil



left is label only

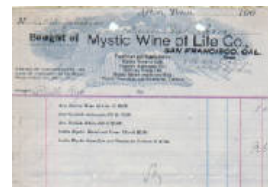
Mystic Antiseptic Healing Oil



label only w/box



1910 Letterhead & Cover



Afton Tenn receipt

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