



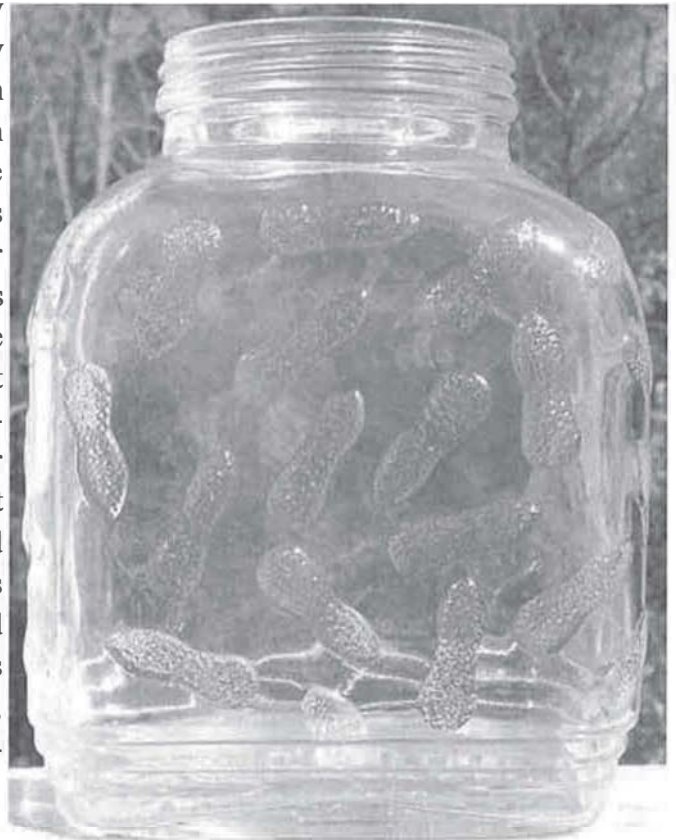
News & Views

The Hazel-Atlas Glass Company

By Mark Buersmeyer

The Hazel Glass Company was founded in September of 1885 in West Virginia. The first glass it manufactured was one and a quarter ounce opalescent glass liners for Mason jar zinc caps. The Hazel Glass Company became known as Hazel-Atlas Glass after one of its founding owners, along with other investors, formed Atlas Glass to expand its product lines. Through out its nearly ninety-year existence the company produced a number of consumer product packaging items, as well as kitchenware and tableware for the dining room.

The greatest diversity of products manufactured by Hazel-Atlas Glass was its product packaging lines. Many manufactures of popular consumer products called upon the glass manufacturer to make their packaging. Though few examples remain, shoe polish jars were a large source of revenue for the company in its early years. Companies like Carter's Ink, Zoes Gold Tarnish Remover, and Silver Forest Bath Oils packaged their wares in Hazel-Atlas glass. Cosmetics and ointments containers also bore the "HA" Hazel-Atlas logo. Calendula Cerate (an ointment for lacerations), Nadinola (circa 1885), Shepard's Ointment, Princess D'Amour Cleansing Cream, Max Factor Cosmetics, Blue Star Ointment, Rose-Peroxide Toilet Cream (used by Caucasians to lighten facial hair), and Burma-Shave were some of the many personal products found in Hazel-Atlas packaging. Coffees' such as Old Judge, Canova, Miller's, and Maxwell House used glass containers. Kroger's Embassy, Jewel "T", Peter Pan, Skippy, and Shedd's peanut butters were all found in Hazel-Atlas jars.



This Hazel Atlas peanut embossed jar is marked with the familiar HA as well as 'design patd. 5474-12'



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Although its product packaging lines were its major emphasis, Hazel-Atlas Glass also provided a large variety of kitchenware products. Many people today remember their mothers' and grandmothers' using glass canning jars to store garden grown fruits and vegetables for winter uses. Many of these canning jars bore the Atlas name on their sides, and the "HA" Hazel-Atlas logo on the bottom.

In the 1930's, Hazel-Atlas was considered to be the worlds largest tumbler producer. Tumblers were offered to manufacturers to use instead of 'traditional jars'. Once the product within the container ran out the container was kept for use as a child's cup or tumbler. For this reason many of the product packaging tumblers produced were oriented toward children with nursery rimes, cartoon characters, fairy tail characters, and whimsical or educational facts printed on them. Hazel-Atlas continued to produce tumblers through the 1950's, when their souvenir state glasses featuring state songs, birds and landmarks could be found in every roadside stop.



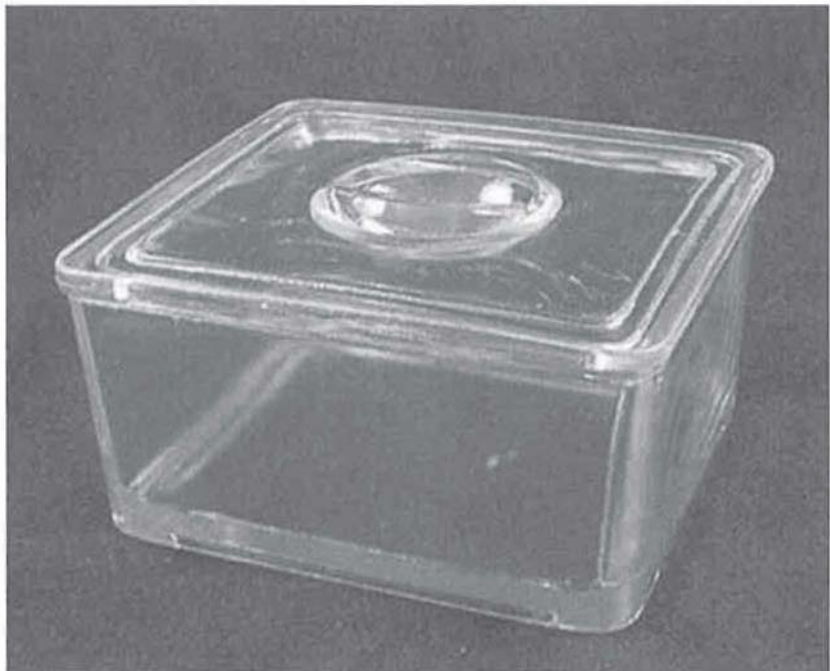
The Kraft Foods Corporation had its own dedicated product packaging containers manufactured by Hazel-Atlas Glass to carry its processed cheese spreads. Many collectors cherish these containers, affectionately known as "Swanky Swigs", today. There were dozens of different styles and patterns made, from flowers to geometric shapes.

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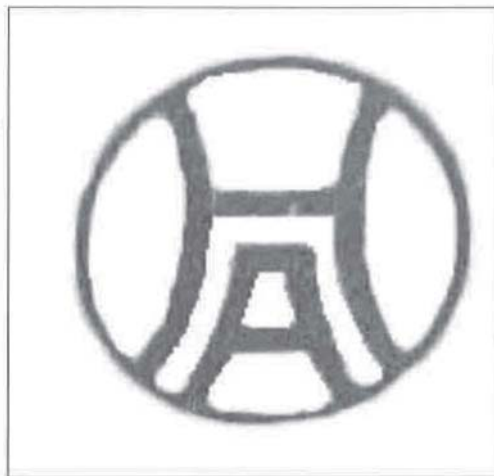
Mixing bowls, batter jugs, measuring sets and juicers were all part of the Hazel-Atlas line of kitchenware. Many of those same collectors may have been bottle fed as a baby from one of the glass baby bottles made by the company. Tupperware of the 1930's were glass refrigerator dishes. These containers, usually four sided, could be stacked to save space. Whether they were salt and pepper, or various other spices and shakable cooking products, Hazel-Atlas produced a large variety of shakers.

Product packaging and kitchenware were not the only products offered by Hazel-Atlas Glass. During the Great Depression many families could not afford china for their dining tables. Glass being cheap to manufacture, companies like Hazel-Atlas provided inexpensive tableware for families affected by the depression. Cloverleaf, Moderntone, Newport, and both Florentines one and two were popular Hazel-Atlas table setting patterns during this time. After World War Two table setting patterns continued through the fifties and sixties. Capri, Moroccan Amethyst, Ovide, Platonite Newport, Platonite Moderntone, and Crinoline were popular patterns of the forties, fifties, and sixties for Hazel-Atlas.



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In 1956, the company was sold to Continental Can Company. For the first few years after the sale products continued to be sold under the Hazel-Atlas Glass logo and name, and from nineteen seventy onward the products would be known as Hazelware. Clubs and shows provide the avid or budding collector the opportunity to learn more about an important company in American history. All over the United States collectors continue to search for, and remember glassware manufactured by the Hazel-Atlas Glass Company.



Glass Articles - and Definitions - Needed

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The only thing glass collectors love more than buying glass, is talking about it.
We'd love to have you teach us about the glass you collect.

Please send your articles and definitions to me at editor@ndga.net. Remember, I can't print what I don't have.

Rosemary