

The Hidden Bottle Hunt!

Explanations for Zone 5 Clues - 2021

CLUE 1

The bottle bill's year minus a rodeo's age
That's when a gray eagle fell on a bluff
Lines drawn in honor seventeen months later
Will help if you think historically enough.

SOLVE 1

Take the bottle bill's year of birth (1971) and subtract the age of Zone 5's most famous rodeo, the Pendleton Round-Up (110), and you'll be left with 1861. That was the year that Edward Dickinson Baker, senator from Oregon, died in the battle of Ball's Bluff in the opening skirmishes of the American Civil War. Baker was known as the "Gray Eagle" of the Republican Party. Baker County was formed and named after him in 1862. Zone 5 bottle lies within the initial historic Baker County boundary but not its current boundary.

CLUE 2

Clues come out du quotidien
To keep the hunt intéressante
But it would be your great misfortune
To be off by exactly soixante.

SOLVE 2

This clue points you to Malheur County. There are a couple of clues here. First of all, the use of French. Malheur County takes its name from the Malheur River, which was named by French Canadian trappers. The word directly translates to "misfortune."

Additionally, while clues appeared daily (du quotidien) at 10 AM for most of the state, they appeared at 11 AM for the Mountain Time portion of the state, all of which is located in Malheur County. Thus, it would be important to not be off by sixty minutes (soixante).

CLUE 3

This city on the land of the Northern Paiute
You could have gotten there on a line quite minute
Named by a virtuous man before his life was uproot
Do you know what I am talking about?

SOLVE 3

This clue points you to Ontario, Oregon. It sits on the territory of the Northern Paiute, as much of Eastern Oregon does. Ontario was named in 1883 by James Virtue, a prominent banker and miner who grew up in Canada, before his bank failed in the Panic of 1893. Ontario's growth was powered by its placement on the Oregon Short Line Railway. The rhymes here also provide a clue. The last line only fits with the rest of the clue if you pronounce it in a Canadian accent (a-boot).



CLUE 4

If you're feeling fraternal (or since '85, sororal)
This would be the place to choose- or maybe
You want a mike and a couple of phonographs
Either way, just don't be a loser, baby!

SOLVE 4

This clue points you to Beck-Kiwanis Park. The first part alludes to the service organization Kiwanis International. It was originally formed as a fraternal club only open to men; however, in 1985, a lawsuit was filed from the Ridegwood, NJ chapter, which quickly opened the door for women to join as well.

The second part of the clue alludes to the alternative musical artist Beck. Two songs are referenced here- "loser, baby" comes from his song Loser. "Mike and a couple of phonographs" is an alternate way of saying "two turntables and a microphone". That is a reference to the song, "Where It's At."

CLUE 5

Today, a championship final played across the pond
A three-time winner, of the lawn he was fond
He shares a first name with the venue's prime minister
But his name that you're looking for is its finisher.

Do you need one more clue?
A bridge to get you to the final spot?
Knowing the importance of Ōsakasayama
Will get you very very hot.

SOLVE 5

These are actually two clues in one to narrow down the final location. The first stanza points you to Becker Ponds in Beck-Kiwanis Park. The morning this clue was released was also the Wimbledon men's final. Boris Becker, who shares a first name with UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson, was a three-time winner of the tournament.

In the second stanza, Ontario's sister city is Ōsakasayama, Japan. The bridge in Beck-Kiwanis Park was a gift from Ōsakasayama to Ontario; the treasure is hidden very close to the bridge.

