

# FOHBC NEWS



## Educate yourself: Read a bottle book

Unless you have a mentor highly knowledgeable about antique bottles, the best way for newcomers to learn about them is to read books and subscribe to magazines on the subject. One can also join the Federation of Historical Bottle Collectors. Check out the website at fohbc.org.

In my opinion, one of the best books ever written on the subject is "The Illustrated Guide to Collecting Bottles." It was written by Dr. Cecil Munsey, Ph.d, and published in 1970 by Hawthorn Press of New York.

This a book for all collectors of antique bottles. It was one of the first ones I purchased less than a year after I began collecting old bottles and I have never regretted getting it. In fact, 50 years after entering the hobby, I still use it.

Munsey was one of the early collectors inducted into the FOHBC Hall of Fame.

He delves into the early history of collecting bottles in the United States, pointing out that such collectors were few in numbers until the start of the 1950s. Today, the hobby is No. 3 behind No. 1 stamp collecting and No. 2 coin collecting.

His chapters begin on the oldest bottles dating to Egyptian and Persian times and steadily advance through the annals of history and each of the more than 300, well-illustrated pages are filled with facts all collectors need to know.

Munsey also authored a book on Coca-Cola collectibles, but his bottle collecting book remains No. 1 on the bucket list of collectors.

You can still find the book on the Internet through sites such as Amazon and ABE. But be careful: Buy the one in the very best condition, with prices in the \$25 to \$30 range and including dust jackets.

Public libraries in the Augusta area on both sides of the Savannah River also may have copies of the books.

The federation publishes a magazine, Bottles and Extras, while another good one is Antique Bottle & Glass Collector, P.O. Box 227, New Hudson, Michigan 48165.

Locally, my wife and I self-published three books on Augusta bottles, or those (like milks) sold in this area. All are out of print, but copies may be found in public libraries in Augusta and Evans, Georgia and Aiken, South Carolina.

Bill Baab, Augusta, Ga.

## To the Editor of Bottles and Extras

Next year marks the 125th anniversary of the invention that revolutionized forever the manufacture of glass bottles — the brainchild of Michael J. "Mike" Owens, born January 1, 1859. With his bottle machine, patented in 1895, he changed the way bottles had been made virtually from the beginning of recorded time.



Michael J. "Mike" Owens

His mechanization of the glass-blowing process also eliminated child labor from glass factories, which he himself had experienced from the age of ten in his native West Virginia.



After Owens' death in December 1923 E. D. Libbey commissioned a glass bust of the inventor in his memory

From a very poor family and lacking almost any formal education, Owens had a natural intelligence, understood engineering principles, and possessed an inventive spirit. He also had an enlightened Toledo, Ohio factory owner in Edward Drummond Libbey, a man who believed in Owens, financed his research, and advanced his name to the forefront of American industrialists. Note Owens Bottle Machine Co. (now Owens-Illinois), Libbey-Owens Sheet Glass Co., and Owens-Corning Fiberglass.

After Owens' death in December 1923, E. D. Libbey commissioned a glass bust of the inventor in his memory. It was issued only to a limited number of friends, co-workers and other associates of Owens. Shown here, the bust recently was offered at an on-line auction but initially attracted no bidders. Perhaps the opening price was too high, but an important artifact of bottle history, in effect, "went begging."

Jack Sullivan

## Schafer & Vater Nips

Ferdinand

I have read your article about Schafer & Vater Nips and I am hoping that you can help me. This piece has been in my family for as long as I can remember. It sat in my parents' house for about 60 years. I have tried to find one for sale with no luck. I have found two variations on Schafer-vater.com. Do you know if this is a rare piece? Any information would be helpful, thanks



William Carson, Middletown, RI

*Answer from Tom Lines*

Bill, I collect S&V bottles, flasks and decanters, having over 550 examples in my collection. The example you have is in nice condition. As for rarity, it is neither common nor rare but somewhere in between. The multi color glaze is the most common coloration but it is also known in a blue & white glaze...which should be considered very rare.

The S&V market has gotten soft over the past 6-8 years. So 10 years ago, your piece would have brought \$75-\$85. In today's market, it may bring \$45-\$55.

The blue one I mentioned would bring \$200+.

For more examples of S&V bottles, Google "Carlopetos Schafer and Vater". The website was created by Carlos Lopez. Although rarity and values are not referenced on the site, it does offer a good photo documentation of what's out there.

Please feel free to contact me should you have further questions.

Kindest regards, Tom Lines

## Fake Milk Bottles



Hello: I was just wondering if you could help me with this milk bottle I bought today is it real or fake? The one on the left, thanks

Ryan Brown

## Lindsey's Blood Searcher

Hi all, I wanted to see if you all know if there has ever been an article published about the history of Lindsey's Blood Searcher from Pittsburgh Pa. Thanks!

Zach Baer

## Looking for a Dairy Bottle from Campbell and Savona, N.Y.

My family had a dairy in Campbell and Savona, New York where all of my grandfather worked and his father owned and operated it up until everything was sold in the late 1990s or early 2000s. The dairy was called Allen's Dairy and operated between the 1920s to 1970s.

But was previously known as Home Dairy Co. When my great

grandfather passed and the dairy switched hands, there was a lot of family tension that happened resulting in all of the glass milk bottles being smashed and thrown out by one of family members (as the story is told). I have attached an old picture of the truck that they used but I am looking for any glass milk bottles that one might have. According to the website, I figured you might be able to help me or lead me in the right direction. We are unaware of what the bottle actually looks like but do know what some of the boxes look like. Google really isn't much of a help because I am guessing that this dairy was pretty small and only served around Campbell and Savona.



Any information or help would be so gratefully appreciated not only from me but my father as well. If you need more information I would be more willing to give you names and everything. Once again, thank you so much in advance.

Sincerely, Mackenzie Allen Pelsy



#### Help with Identification?

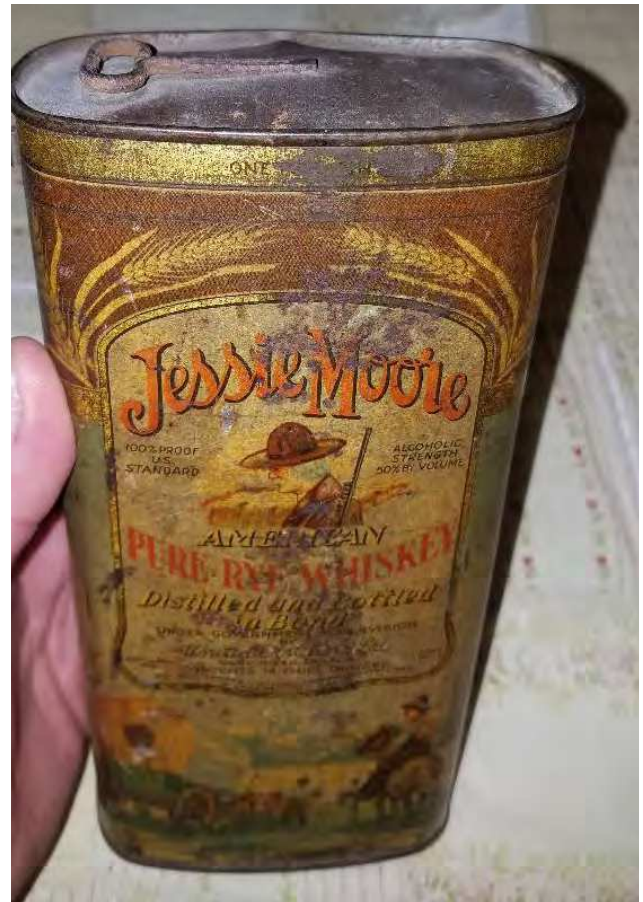
Trying to identify whether or not this is a bottles maker's mark.... found these pieces while exploring laurel valley plantation Sunday. Any guidance will be greatly appreciated.

Emma, Louisiana



Dear Mr. Meyer,

I was hoping you could help me learn a bit more about a family heirloom passed on to me by my late Grandfather.



I have a full ,16 Oz bottle of Jesse Moore Whiskey, still encased in its original tin.

I am an amateur bottle collector, and have done a ton of research online, hoping to find a comparable item to compare it to. As you know, the bottles when empty can be quite valuable, but I have found no info on a full bottle, especially one that hasnt seen daylight since its production. I attached pics of the sealed tin, hopefully you can give me a little insight, any information at all would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely, Thomas Kedves

To the President of the FOHBC

Hi dear Matt, good morning, how are you there?

Last week I have sent you a copy of this "hard copy" as enclosed to your home address and yesterday I have sent a second copy to



Ferdinand (Meyer) so that you can see how the freshly published "hard copy" of my digital "Bibliography of Glass" looks like in reality.

Please could you be so kind to mention the existence and the sale (www.erik-tonen-books.com ) of this "hard copy" in your Magazine, the collectors/subscribers would be very happy with the information so that I don't have done this mega work for nothing.

Again a 1000 times thanks from Willy van den Bossche in Belgium.

#### Response:

Hello Willy,

Yes, we got the copy and it is beautifully executed. A really great looking book. Very well done. Best of luck on the sale of your book and we hope this helps.

All the best,

Matt Lacy


#### Better Meal Description for Augusta Banquet

Well, it took a little longer than hoped but the "meat, chicken, veggie" option originally presented to banquet attendees has been expanded to: Glass, Beef Meal: Smoked Beef Brisket (or) Chicken Meal: Herb Roasted Chicken Breast (or) Vegetable Meal: Polenta Corn Cake with grilled vegetables, all with Mashed Potatoes, Chef's choice of vegetables, Cheesecake, Tea, Coffee, Water, rolls & butter are included with plated dinner. Meal plates are \$45 a person. Tickets are still available.

Augusta Team

Join us in Welcoming  
the Smallest New Member  
of the FOHBC Family

*Logan Darl Fifer*




Born  
April 24, 2019  
at 9:04 am

to mom & dad:  
Louis & Lindsey

8 pounds 3 ounces  
21 inches long

Congratulations,  
Fifer family!




**WELCOME TO**  
**RENO**  
**NEVADA**

**RENO BOTTLE SHOW**  
**JULY 19 - 20 2019**  
**RENO - SPARKS CONVENTION CENTER**  
SHOW HOURS FRIDAY 9 AM - 5 PM / SATURDAY 9 AM - 3 PM

DEALER SET UP 8:45 AM FRIDAY / EARLY BUYERS 9:00 AM FRIDAY \$10.00

FREE TO PUBLIC ON SATURDAY 9 AM - 3PM, PARKING \$10.00

INFO / CONTRACTS: MARTY HALL 775.335.9467 ROSEMULEY@ATT.NET



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