

FOHBC NEWS



News from across the Sea

Hello dear Ferdinand, How are you there?

First of all a few words about the situation and the consequences of the Coronavirus here in Europe and Belgium.

Most countries are in lockdown or lockdown-soft including Belgium. Nearly nobody to see on the street and nearly everybody staying inside their home to prevent contact with other people (at least 1.5 meter distance to everybody, washing frequently the hands, no handshakes, no kissing etc...). Most shops etc... closed. The Belgian government helps people and companies who are without income or lost their job. We have also very good social security to help (that's why we pay such high taxes 52%!)

In Italy more than 5000 people already died including doctors and nurses, the urgencies in the hospitals cannot follow, are short of mouth caps and other basic protections, they were not well prepared. Hospitals as for example in Bergamo (North Italy) select people older than 60 years who has to die or who may receive medical help because of the overwhelming thousands and thousands infected people. They didn't take the virus serious in the beginning and several still today and continue to spread the virus, the same situation now in Spain where it becomes even worse. Here in Belgium the hospitals have tripled their urgency capacity to avoid the Italian situation. Mainly elderly people above 60 with already a bad health before the virus are 90% of the deaths. To get rid of Corona it will take still 2 months up to a year "if everybody follows the instructions"

So I tell you this story as a warning of taking the virus and the rules very serious because the aim is to push down the number of patients to avoid overwhelming the hospitals and to avoid to make the "death selections" at the entrance of the hospitals.... sounds terrible but that's what it is.

Important for everybody now is to survive.

What's the situation there in Houston?... and with you?... and your wife Elizabeth?

Without being indiscreet is it allowed to know the result of the votes for the Hall of Fame or does it remain secret for a while which I would understand?

So, this is the news for today and I would say take care for each other.

Willy -;)) still in good health.

Well known Hutchinson collector Richard James Brown Sr Passes

Richard James Brown Sr., Tampa, Fla., was well-known among bottle collectors for his colored Hutchinson bottles. I think he was a federation member (Elizabeth, please check). Here is a brief obituary for member news.

TAMPA, Fla. – Richard James Brown Sr., 84, passed away March 3 at his Tampa home.

Known in the antique bottle hobby as the "King of Colored Hutch Collectors," "R.J." was known for his advertising in the bottle collector magazines for Hutchinson bottles, especially those from his home state of Pennsylvania.

He was a native of Oil City, Pennsylvania. He was a U.S. Navy veteran. He was recognized in the glass industry for his expertise, mentorship and work ethic and had spent most of his 50-year career with Anchor Hocking/Anchor Glass.

He is survived by his wife, a son, three daughters and other relatives.

He was buried in Prairie Cemetery in Harrisville, Pennsylvania on March 12, 2020.

Georgia bottle collector dies

DANIELSVILLE, Ga. –John H. (Jay) Wood, 81, a collector of antique bottles since the early 1960s, died Jan. 23 after a short illness.

"I knew John well before his wife Dot died in 2010," said FOHBC member Bill Wrenn, of Hartwell, Ga. "We set up at shows together and Dot always went with us."

Wood collected early slug plate crown top bottles, White House Vinegar bottles, Jumbo Peanut Butter jars, Rose Distillery jugs and folk pottery jugs.

"He had probably the best ever collection of Georgia crown top slug plate bottles and photos of many of them were used in the book "Georgia Crown Top Sodas" written by Ken Nease and Carl Barnett," said Brent Jones, a close friend of Wood's.

"John was a good friend and highly thought of. He helped a lot of collectors establish collections over the years," Jones added.

Dyott and Dr Robertson

Dear Ferdinand,

My name is Pete and I live in England. I have found a bottle that does not seem to appear in any book or internet searches. The closest that I have seen is on your site relating to Dyott and Dr Robertson. This bottle is completely different from your images and I wondered if it might be an original "Scottish" version as it has the family shield, crest and motto on one side ? (Virtutis Gloria Merces). Have you come across this bottle before please?

It is pontilled and has a cross hinged mould. The size is very large for a cures bottle. You might almost call it a flask. Do you think it is a Dyott bottle or a Scottish pre Dyott version ? I have attached some photos to help.

I hope that you may find this enquiry interesting and I look forward to your comments.

Kindest regards, Pete Randall.



40th Annual Milk Bottle Convention NEW date after show is cancelled

40th ANNUAL MILK BOTTLE CONVENTION AND BOTTLE SHOW IS CANCELLED! NEW DATE IS MAY 21 and 22, 2021 in Sturbridge, Mass.

Robert Esposito dead at age 90; grandfather was Koca Nola bottler

By Bill Baab

CHERRY HILL, N.J. — Robert V. (Bob) Esposito, 90, whose grandfather, James, and Vincent, the latter's brother, emigrated from Italy to the United States in 1893, passed away on Dec. 5, 2019, according to his son, Alexander.

His relatives became United States citizens in 1901 and opened a beer and soda bottling business in Philadelphia, Pa. In 1905, James applied for and was granted a Koca Nola franchise from that fledgling soda bottler whose home office was in Atlanta, Georgia. James later pulled out of the partnership and bottled soda waters, while Vincent stayed in the beer business.

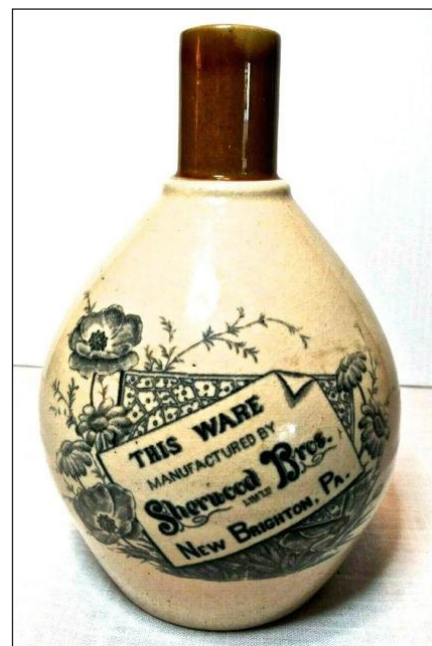
The complete Esposito story can be found in "A Head's Up on Koca Nola" by Charles David Head and published by the Seattle History Company. Copies of the book are still available at SeattleHistoryCompany@yahoo.com.

Bob Esposito retired in 1992 from the Campbell Soup Company. He was proud of his Italian heritage and loved to share information about his grandfather's soda water business with researchers.

To Bottles & Extras — A New Find

More than thirty years ago I carried on a debate with the British guru on ceramic bottles, Alan Blakeman. At that time I was convinced that most, if not all, of the transfer printed whiskey jugs found in the U.S. were made in Scotland or England and shipped to our shores. Alan disagreed. He argued that the U.S. must have had pottery firms with the capability of designing and executing even intricate transfer designs. Alan was right.

I saw the proof for myself in 1998. It was a small stoneware butter crock, likely a salesman's sample issued by the Sherwood Brothers Pottery of New Brighton, Pennsylvania. The crock was



drawn with an elegance and precision equal to anything the “Old World” could produce. The label claimed Sherwood Brothers clients could expect underglaze transfer printing of equal perfection.



The crock was part of a private collection of Sherwood Bros. ceramics that I drove 280 miles from Virginia to see in New Brighton. The collector, who regularly was digging at the site of the former ceramics works, also had found a shard that suggested a similar pattern might be found on a whiskey jug. For thirty-two ensuing years I have looked fruitlessly for that jug — until last month.

Shown below is the “new find” Sherwood Bros. jug as it appeared at auction on eBay in March, advertised as “very rare” — almost an understatement. Attracting five bidders, the jug opened at \$125 and ultimately sold for \$305, a relative bargain given its uniqueness.

Jack Sullivan

Pickle Identification

Hello Mr. Meyer,

I discovered you on Peachridgeglass.com. I have been trying to identify the manufacturer and possibly pickle bottlers for a relatively plain pickle bottle.

We recovered several pickle bottles from the wreck of the Confederate commerce raider CSS Alabama sunk off the Normandy coast in 1864. The bottles recovered from CSS Alabama are plain sided, with flutes from the shoulder to the base of the neck below three reinforcing or decorative rings. The mouth was reinforced by a flat lip. Research on the internet identified only one virtually identical example. That bottle, advertised on Ebay (image attached), was recovered from a site in Ware, Massachusetts indicating that the CSS Alabama bottles were quite likely from one of the New England prize vessels.

Could you point us in the direction of one or more authorities on pickle bottles that might be willing to help us find information.

Thank you in advance for any information and or contacts that might be of assistance.

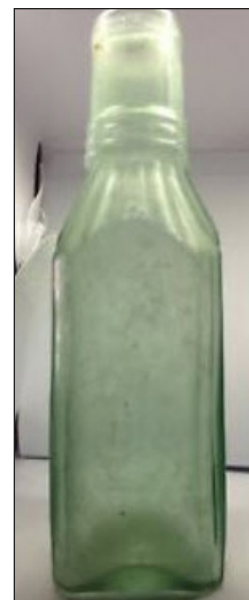
Very much enjoyed the Peachridgeglass site.

Gordon: (from Ferdinand Meyer V)

Tough to make a call on this one without an embossing. I asked a couple of prominent collectors with pickle and sauce bottle knowledge. Here are their comments:

Michael George: I don't know the answer to the question, but one of the largest packaging companies for such bottles was the William Underwood Company. The time frame is consistent to the dates, as is the square semi-cathedral form. They actually produced well over a dozen bottle forms for packaging, and was located in Boston. I don't know if they had these bottles made or not, but it is a good place to start. Lyndeborough NH made similar style bottles, but they were not in business in 1864, so maybe this was a New London or Willington CT product?

Here is a Wells / Miller / Provost bottle, civil war era, that is different, but in a similar style. Also, you see those neck rings on the peppersauce bottles made for this company as well. So, a strong possibility...



<https://www.ebay.com/itm/CATHEDRAL-PICKLE-JAR-BOTTLE-CIVIL-WAR-TRASH-PIT-DUG-WELLS-MILLER-PROVOST/323940130599?hash=item4b6c561f27:g:DTAAASwJkVdmpT2>

Rick Ciralli: I can tell you it's scarce to rare. Studied Zumwalts book for years. Could be an Eastern works like WK Lewis or one of the Boston merchants. This mold is not often seen. Many Peppersauce type bottles had neck rings but not too many in the pickles plus flutes. Probably held Gherkins

Supporting the National Bottle Museum

Dear Jim and Ferd,

On behalf of all of us here at the Museum I thank you both for your time and financial assistance with the NBM brochure.

The National Bottle Museum.

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Click to go to the National Bottle Museum

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The National Bottle Museum® is a non-profit (501)(c)(3) educational institution chartered by the Board of Regents of the New York State Department of Education. The museum is not affiliated with any religious, political, or commercial organization. The National Bottle Museum® is a non-profit organization, and its purpose is to preserve and exhibit bottles and objects related to bottle making. The museum is not affiliated with any religious, political, or commercial organization. The National Bottle Museum® is a non-profit organization, and its purpose is to preserve and exhibit bottles and objects related to bottle making. The museum is not affiliated with any religious, political, or commercial organization.

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Ferdinand, your patience with me was so appreciated as I made changes time after time. Jim, your financial assistance was

gratefully accepted. You both together make a great team!! We will give you a shout out in our spring newsletter.

Thank you, stay safe and look forward to bumping into you at bottle shows!

Ellie

FOHBC supports 2022 as year of glass

Dear Ferdinand Meyer,

I hope this note finds you enjoying friends and family as we usher in the beginning of a new decade.

I'm writing to include you in a glass-related action plan that is rapidly gaining support, and that I have been engaged in for the past few months with glass-related partners, associates, institutions and friends around the globe. These international partners have joined together toward enacting a resolution in the United Nations to declare 2022 The Year of Glass--and I'm asking that you craft and send a letter of endorsement by March 1, 2020 in support of the initiative.

I've attached several documents, including a presentation that outlines the many benefits and opportunities afforded by the UN designation, along with a timeline and actions completed by the organizing consortium to-date. A sample letter of support is also included for your reference.

If you are willing, please draft your letter on institutional letter-head (as appropriate), signed by yourself or a representative of the organization. Feel free to keep it simple, using the attached sample as a guide. Send your endorsement to me at this email address, and I will incorporate it with others for submission by March 1, 2020. The more letters of endorsement we submit now, the better our chances of receiving the endorsement from the United Nations for the 2022 designation.

If the 2022 UN designation is successful, we will then have two years to create programs, ideas and present this transformative material to the world. We hope to have your input as we move forward, and please feel free to forward this request to your own people, institutions and contacts for their endorsement.

Once again, the more letters of endorsement we have from institutions and countries around the world, the better our chances of being successful in receiving this designation by the United Nations

If you have questions, please contact me directly. I Look forward to your help and endorsement!

All the best,
Steve Gibbs

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Bored and stuck at home? Check out the FOHBC Slide Shows

In the members portal you can check out these quality slide shows the have been recently digitized.

The FOHBC recently digitized old slide shows and created a file for FOHBC individual members or clubs to use. This project was headed up by Jeff Ullman, FOHBC Northeast Director. Please understand that this is FOHBC material and should not be given to non-FOHBC members. See FOHBC Code of Ethics. The slide programs include:



Here is a sample slide from the elvin Moody Collection

Elvin Moody Bitters Collection "The Bitter Past"

Moody Slide Show Notes

William Covill Inks

Selected Slides

Blaske Auction – Sept. 1983

Blaske Auction Notes

Elmer Lester Food Bottles

Sacramento Cal. 1975, Photos by Kent Williams
Lester Food Bottle Notes

George Austin Collection

New York, 1970s

Fire Grenades

Byron & Vicky Martin Collection
Fire Grenade Notes

FOHBC Expo 1988 – Las Vegas

FOHBC Expo 1996 – Nashville

Gail Ross Flasks

Ohio Bottle Club

Gail Ross Notes

FOHBC Expo 92 – Toledo

Expo 92 Notes