

## VIRTUAL MUSEUM NEWS

By Richard Siri

The FOHBC Virtual Museum has been established to display, inform, educate, and enhance the enjoyment of historical bottle and glass collecting by providing an online virtual museum experience for significant historical bottles and other items related to early glass.

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If you haven't yet visited the FOHBC Virtual Museum, your interest in antique bottles and glass may be just a passing fancy.

The museum has been open for visits without charges, or free, for a few months now due to the Covid-19 pandemic but we will need to increase funding through membership, donations etc. We are exploring the options. There has been approximately \$18,500 spent building the museum to date as I write this in early June. We have a lot of plans ahead that will need financing, so we will be starting a new fundraising campaign.

People that are familiar with computer program development and web sites are amazed at the quality and scope of the Virtual Museum. It is and will be the go-to site for antique bottles and other glass objects. Alan DeMaison's imaging and Ferdinand's support imagery and research makes for a viewing experience unmatched anywhere online.

Right now bitters, historical flasks, jars, spirits, spring & mineral water and target balls have numerous examples in their respective galleries and we are starting to populate the inks, medicines, poisons, fire extinguishers and other galleries with the first examples. It all takes time and effort.

Gina Pellegrini will be imaging her father Lou Pellegrini's food bottle collection for our Foods & Sauces Gallery and if you were at the FOHBC 2012 Reno National Antique Bottle Convention and saw his display, then you should be looking forward to the gallery. The only piece in this gallery at the moment is a really nice cathedral pickle from the Rick Ciralli collection.

Alan estimates that by September, he will have 70 target ball images ready for development and up to 90 jars along with lots more bitters, spirits, tableware etc.

Keep watching the ever-growing Virtual Museum and for those that haven't looked yet, what's up with that? With bottle shows

being canceled and bottle club meetings postponed, this museum opportunity gives collectors a chance to view the great work that has made the Virtual Museum. Alan, Ferdinand and Miguel have been working on a daily basis putting new images into galleries and I must say, they are exceptional. It's hard not to like antique bottles and jars when you visit the museum. I'm sure that the Virtual Museum will bring new people into the hobby of antique bottle collecting and related glass objects.

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### Specimens in Open Galleries:

Bitters Gallery: 62 (+8)

Historical Flasks Gallery: 70

Spirits Gallery: 56 (+22)

Jar Gallery: 50 (+15)

Target Ball Gallery: 23 (+7)

Inks Gallery: 3

Foods & Sauces Gallery: 1

Spring & Mineral Water: 12  
(New Gallery)

Medicines: 2 (New Gallery)

Fire Extinguishers: 1  
(New Gallery)

As of 08 June 2020, we have 280 specimens on shelves meaning we have added 67 pieces since our last report in the May-June issue of *Bottles and Extras*. All with 3-dimensional imaging, superb support imagery and facts and information provided by top specialists in the collecting area. We are currently working on bottles previously imaged and on shelf displays for each gallery. Also, menu navigation vs. floorplan navigation is in the works.

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Miguel Ruiz, our web specialist for the museum, is still working from his wife's family home in Almaty, Kazakhstan in central Asia. He corresponds via email and WhatsApp on a daily basis with team members. We wish Miguel the best in these trying times.

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With an abundance of safety, Alan Demaison had canceled his plans a few months back to set up live Virtual Museum imaging at the Reno 2020 National. Our museum team certainly understood this and now look at where we are with no convention this year.

Alan, like many of us, has used self isolation to catch up on work that does not involve travel and interaction with others. So basically, Alan is not planning long-distance imaging trips anytime soon. He is contemplating meeting collectors halfway from regional areas near Ohio and possibly renting a clean room at a hotel to meet the collector and image a collection. More news on that as things develop.

Alan reports that as of 03 June, his editing schedule includes six unique Steven Hubbell bottles, and six duplicates that are different colors from those already done. We are actually using this duplicate imagery by using hyperlinks within the page. For example, you might see an exceptional J. D. Willoughby jar in our museum and on that same page you will see an image of a second example of a possible J. D. Willoughby with an iron pontil and rolled lip. Click the prompt and it will rotate just like the initial example.

Alan has one Kelly's Old Cabin Bitters from the Cleveland National which is a duplicate but different color and about 40 Finch target balls. He also has about 40 more McCann fruit jars and says that it looks to be two to three months of editing, working 2 to 4 hours a day. Alan is very busy indeed.





## VIRTUAL MUSEUM OF HISTORICAL BOTTLES AND GLASS

Phase 1 Goal:  
\$30,000  
ACHIEVED



Phase 2 Goal:  
\$30,000

**PLEASE HELP US FILL OUR JAR!**

Current Operational Account: \$14,934.87 - Development Gifts to date: \$34,556.98

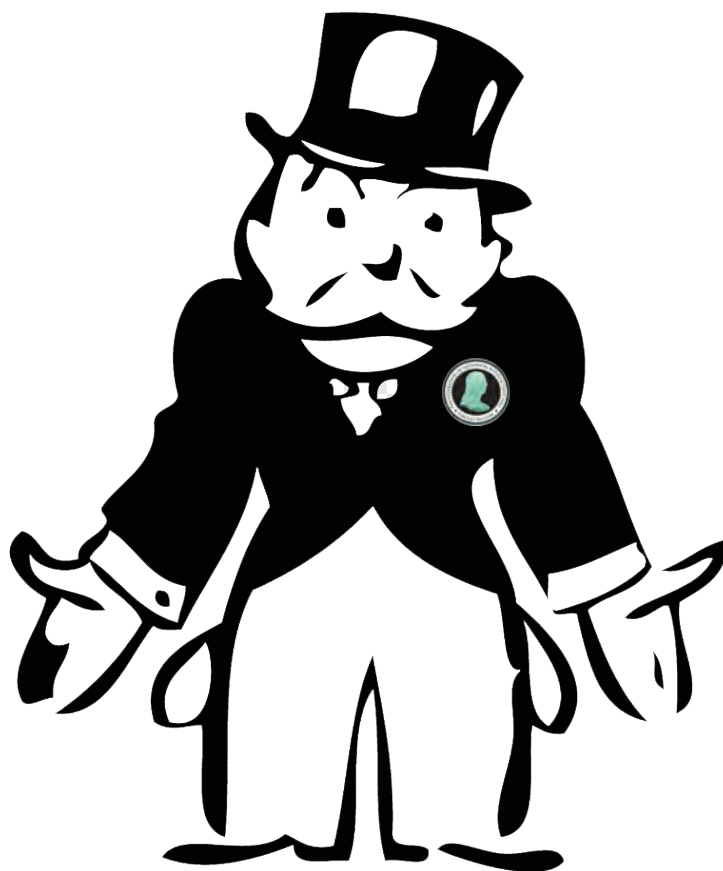
[FOHBCVirtualMuseum.org](http://FOHBCVirtualMuseum.org)



For gift information contact: Alan DeMaison, FOHBC Virtual Museum Treasurer,  
1605 Clipper Cove, Painesville, Ohio 44077, [a.demaison@sbcglobal.net](mailto:a.demaison@sbcglobal.net)

09 June 2020

Please help us in our new  
Phase 2 fundraising  
campaign to continue  
development of the  
FOHBC Virtual Museum.



The FOHBC and the Virtual Museum team thank our many donors who have helped us raise almost \$35,000 to date.

We have close to \$15,000 in available funds to continue development to build our galleries, exhibition hall, research library and gift shop. Donations are tax deductible. All donors are listed on our Virtual Museum Recognition wall.

With one salaried web technician averaging \$1,000 a month, we need help. Plus, we will be planning new trips soon where costs will be incurred. All other time is donated by the Virtual Museum team out of our love and passion for the hobby and the FOHBC. Thank you.





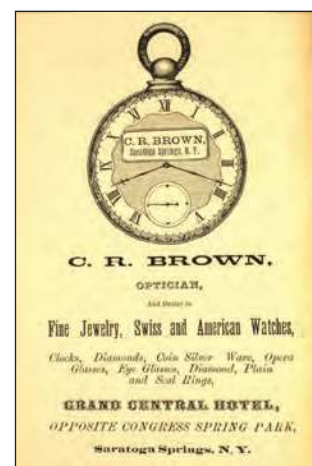
Mason's Patent 1858 CFJCo Midget Jar  
JAR GALLERY



W. C. Peacock & Co (WCP Monogram)  
Honolulu, H.I.  
SPIRITS GALLERY



From J. Palmer O'neil & Co. Pittsburgh  
TARGET BALL GALLERY

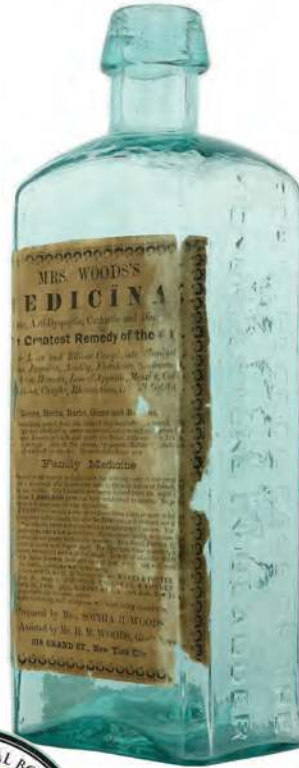


Crystal Spring Water, C.R. Brown  
Saratoga Springs, N.Y.  
SPRING & MINERAL WATER GALLERY





V. Squarza, San Francisco  
BITTERS GALLERY



Dr. J.R. Flanders Specific  
MEDICINES GALLERY



GII-49 Eagle - Stag  
HISTORICAL FLASK GALLERY



Sanford's Premium Writing Fluid Jug  
INK GALLERY

