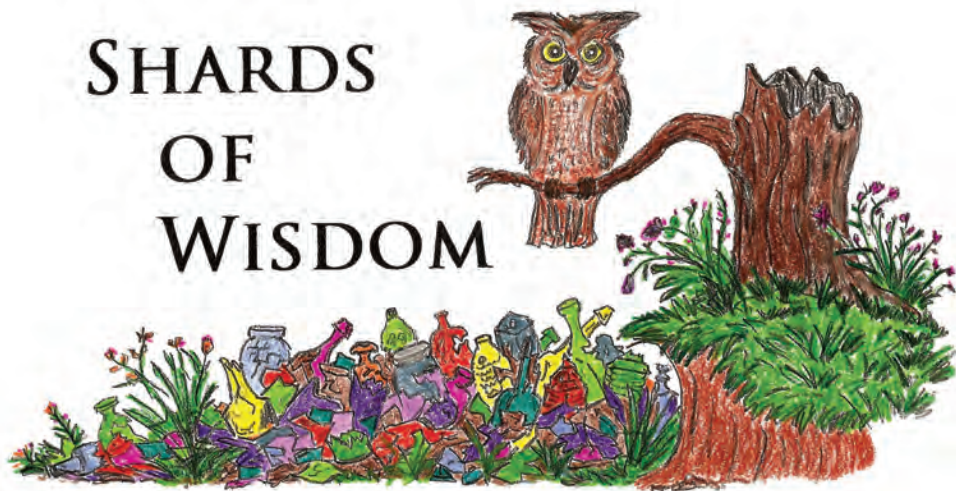


SHARDS OF WISDOM

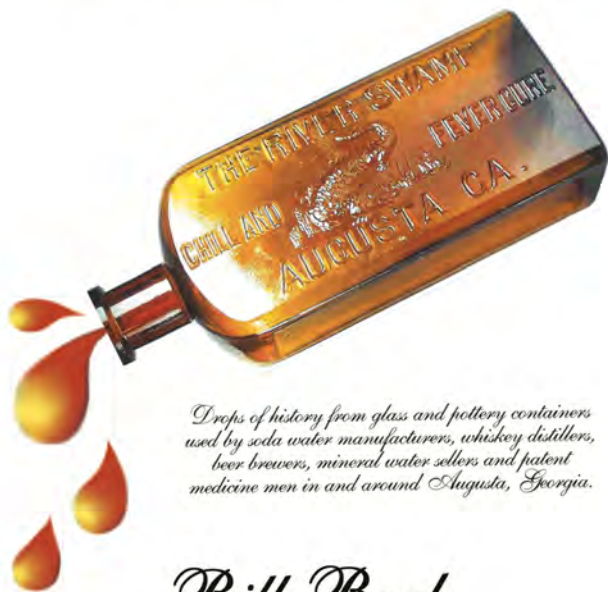


Augusta on Glass Book Review

By Dennis Smith

While bottle collecting spans a variety of categories: bitters, whiskeys, beers, sodas, medicines, etc. most collectors have an affinity for their local bottles. Those attending last year's National Bottle Show were fortunate to view the Bill and Bea Baab collection of Augusta bottles, now beautifully displayed in the Augusta Museum. Bill and his wife Bea spent decades assembling the collection and researching the history behind the bottles.

Augusta On Glass



Drops of history from glass and pottery containers used by soda water manufacturers, whiskey distillers, beer brewers, mineral water sellers and patent medicine men in and around Augusta, Georgia.

Bill Baab

Bill put his research into a beautifully illustrated full-color book in 2007 titled *Augusta on Glass*. Following an entertaining introduction, Bill details the history of Augusta through its bottles. First up is the story of the Augusta Brewing Company, including the social and political factors affecting breweries locally and across the country. Bill interweaves personal stories of the key characters allowing the reader to get to know them.

The biggest character in Augusta bottle history was probably Ed Sheehan who is covered in detail in the soda section. Sheehan's 60-year career began in the 1860s as manager of the Augusta operation of Savannah, Georgia bottler John Ryan. Pictured are interior and exterior views of Sheehan's bottling plant, his saloon, and the soda and beer bottles used over decades.

Sheehan's chief rival, Clinton Bottling Works, and others including Coca-Cola and Royal Crown are well covered and their bottles pictured. Another section details the local mineral water business and their bottles and dispensers.

Augusta's patent medicine history includes the famous River Swamp Chill and Fever Cure and Frog Pond Chill & Fever Cure along with many others. A fascinating chapter tells the story of Dr. W. H. Tutt and his medicines which included his Sarsaparilla & Queens Delight and Tutt's Golden Eagle Bitters.

Bills' book closes with a history of the local jug whiskey trade and the potteries that made the jugs. An appendix includes a checklist and rarity scale of Augusta bottles and pottery.

Augusta on Glass is once again available on Amazon in an updated second edition for \$40 with free shipping to Amazon Prime members.

https://www.amazon.com/Augusta-Glass-Bill-Baab/dp/1707853282/ref=sr_1_2?dchild=1&keywords=%22augusta+on+glass%22&qid=1593119743&sr=8-2

Amazon selling Augusta bottle book

By Bill Baab

During the 1970s following my "debut" into the antique bottle hobby, the Augusta Mill Supply landfill dating to the 1870s was discovered. After digging numerous bottles used by Augusta drug stores, soda water bottlers and other firms, many of my friends suggested that I write a book about them.

So in 1972 I started doing research and was able to contact surviving relatives of soda water bottler Edward Sheehan and Augusta Brewing Company founders, among others. Information also was gleaned from Augusta business directories dating to 1840 housed in Augusta University Reese Library and elsewhere.

It took 35 years to complete it to my satisfaction.

So in 2007, my wife Bea and I self-published "*Augusta on Glass, drops of history from glass and pottery containers used by soda water manufacturers, whiskey distillers, beer brewers, mineral water sellers and patent medicine men in and around Augusta, Georgia.*"

The book quickly sold out, but we were not interested in self-printing additional copies. Too much work.

In late 2019, fellow collector and my longtime friend, Dennis Smith, of Buffalo, N.Y., e-mailed a proposition. He said he wanted to pay me back for all the free proof reading of a number of his own books dealing with early soft drinks. They were printed and sold through Amazon Books. Our book had been stored on a compact disc which we mailed to Dennis who took care of everything.

He also wrote a review which will be published in future issues of Bottles and Extras, the Federation of Historical Bottle Collectors journal, as well as in Antique Bottle & Glass Collector published in Michigan.

Our book is now available for \$40 plus tax and shipping from Amazon Books. I don't know the address, but the company can be reached on the Internet. I will be glad to personally sign books purchased by Horse Creek Antique Bottle and Pottery Club members at no charge.

Soda and Beer of North America

<http://www.sodasandbeers.com>

Have you checked this site out? Todd Von Mechow has put together a comprehensive site with tons of information on beer and soda bottles and information that goes beyond. Here is what is found on the Home page:

The purpose of this site is to provide useful information for collectors, researchers, and novices on North American hand-made glass and pottery soda and beer bottles. It's not that we have anything against machine-made bottles, it's just that the scope of these bottles is too great to include in this work.

Hand-made glass and pottery beer and soda bottles span over 150 years of use. In North America, the earliest marked and documented bottles date to the late 1810s and some forms were used until about 1920. In other parts of the world, marked beer and soda bottles were being used by 1810, and hand-blown bottles were used well into the Twentieth Century. Unmarked

examples were used before marked examples. Machine-made glass bottles started to replace their hand-blown kin starting about 1905. Hand thrown bottles continued to be made into the 1920s, even though molding was prevalent.

This site is packed with information and listings of over 34,465 bottles with over 40,000 variants from over 17,255 firms, so step inside.

The following searches are available on this site:

1. **By Firm** - Search by firm name, location, and years of operation
2. **By Attributes** - Search by color, shape, manufacturer, and dozens of other characteristics
3. **By Map** - Search for bottles by geography
4. **Near You** - Search for bottles from a point on a map.
5. **By Maverick Status** - Search for bottles from unknown locations

Click on the links above to find bottles recorded in the database.

HISTORY'S CORNER

In Memory of Dick Watson

longtime FOHBC Historian

By Jim Bender

As part of bottle collecting, we as collectors have always welcomed insulator collectors to our shows. History shows that that insulators were first used in the 1850's to hold telegraph wire and then later used for telephone and power wires.

The shapes of the different insulators are designed to hold different wires. Many companies came up with a design that they felt was better and many did not work. In the early 1900's you could buy 1000 Insulators for as little as 38.70. There are not records that colors were made for any reason other than what was available at the time. Colors are not wire types codes as many people sometimes think.

Today insulators are made of ceramics due to costs and performance. As a kid I remember riding along seeing all the wires strung along the railroad tracks on glass insulators. Those days are long gone but the beautiful glass insulators will always be remembered in the great collections around the country.

Insulators like bottles are a true work of art and always will be treasured.

Watch each issue for a new installment of History's Corner.



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Greetings, Glass Enthusiasts!

This is a brilliant moment for the New Bedford Museum of Glass!

After ten years of operation in the relatively hard-to-find Wamsutta mill complex, we are now poised to reopen next month (pandemic permitting!) in the spectacular James Arnold Mansion in downtown New Bedford. The mansion is owned and maintained by a non-profit preservation organization and offers many advantages over our previous location: magnificent Victorian architecture, landscaped grounds, and plentiful on-site parking – all at one of the city's most prominent addresses. Additionally, our neighbors are several of New Bedford's best-known cultural attractions, including the First Unitarian Church (with its monumental 200 square-foot Tiffany glass mosaic!) and the elegant Rotch-Jones-Duff House and Garden Museum. Most importantly, however, the James Arnold Mansion served during the 1870s and 1880s as the residence of William J. Rotch, the president of New Bedford's famous Mt. Washington Glass Company and a founding officer of the Pairpoint Mfg. Company. Which certainly places the glass museum in proper historical context!

As we enter this exhilarating new chapter in our mission to celebrate and share the beauty and history of glass, we invite you to please join the museum at any of the membership categories listed below! Members receive free admission to the museum galleries, a 10% discount at the museum store, and easy access to museum programming, events and publications. Learn about exciting new acquisitions as they arrive, explore our glass research library of more than 10,000 volumes, and inquire about our many enriching volunteer opportunities.

Membership participation is crucial to the strength and success of every museum, and never has there been a more extraordinary time to discover the New Bedford Museum of Glass.

Please join us today!

Kirk J. Nelson
Executive Director

Shupps Grove Bottle Festival September 18, 19 & 20!

DUE TO MAJORITY OF BOTTLE SHOWS BEING CANCELLED THIS FALL & WINTER, we are extending an offer for another "outdoor show" with plenty of social distancing this September 18, 19 & 20!

The "survey" at the July 17th – 19th Shupps Grove Bottle Festival was an overwhelming 100% "YES" in response for another Fall show this September of 2020.

Please pass this information onto your local Bottle Clubs &

Bottle associates. Let's have a FUN & SAFE SHOW this coming September 18 – 20, 2020!!

Stephen W. Guion CPCU AU

Any Information?

I have a interesting find, I have shown this to people that's been digging and collecting for 40 plus years they cannot say what it is? The star pattern matches exactly the 22 star modified flag of 1819 6 rows of stars, 5 rows of stars, 6 rows of stars, 5 rows of stars

Well, thought I would see if anyone there might know?

Thanks D.L.



Revised N.M. Hutch Book being mailed to owners

FARMINGTON, N.M. – In 2018, collectors and researchers Zang Wood and Bill Lockhart teamed to publish the book, "New Mexico Hutchinson Soda Bottles," only to discover nearly two years later they had accidentally left out an important chapter.

So they've published a second edition containing the Silver City, N.M. Hutchinsons and have mailed it at no charge to each of the buyers of the first edition. Anyone else interested in buying a copy of the 130-page book should contact Wood, 1612 Camino Rio, Farmington, NM 87401 or e-mail him at zapa33-51@msn.com.