

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.

By the time this issue of *Bottles and Extras* gets to you, 2020 will be history. It is unfortunately a year that will be remembered as a major disaster for a number of reasons. Thank God it will be over soon and we can all move forward.

As I write this, I'm not sure how the start of 2021 will be as far as bottle shows are concerned. I know some January shows are being canceled but thankfully, we have the Virtual Museum to visit. Ferdinand Meyer is putting up bottles on a daily basis complete with the story behind each bottle. It's amazing to see all the information he comes up with on the bottles displayed. Alan DeMaison has been imaging soda water bottles and has imaging trips planned for the spring. Thinking optimistically, we hope the Covid-19 vaccines are readily available by then. Safety first. Gina Pellegrini's schooling with Alan as head imaging master is progressing at a good pace. Her work with her father's food bottle collection is moving forward and some of the outstanding results are now in the museum, fantastic bottles they are. Miguel Ruiz keeps the web site tuned up and running smoothly.

Viewing the museum is still free with no charge to visitors as the pandemic is still with us. We're hoping during this period that FOHBC members will promote and solicit non-member bottle collectors and others who enjoy glass and history and tell them about the museum so that they will take a look and perhaps join the FOHBC and support the cause.

We haven't decided how to set up museum memberships yet, but at some point we will have to charge a fee as the Virtual Museum does not and has never used FOHBC monies to operate. We survive on donations and need your help.

The Northwest Bottle Collectors club located in Santa Rosa, Ca. donated \$500 to the Virtual Museum that was intended to be used for a Christmas dinner that they could not have. The club members check out the museum almost on a daily basis as they know that new items are added often. With their membership numbers, the donation worked out to be about \$20 a piece. A \$20 donation works

out to be a little over 5 cents a day. It's a better deal than your trip to Starbucks. We certainly thank the club. So, as a member of the FOHBC, please consider a \$20 annual donation to the Virtual Museum. We also received a \$500 donation from Joel Bartsch and \$100 from John Mathieu and thank them too, along with any other donors this past period who have stepped up and helped us out.

We have two new FOHBC board members that have also joined our Virtual Museum team. This means they get frequent reports on new bottles added to the museum and related news. They will also be assisting our effort. The first is Michael Seeliger who will be helping us develop the museum research library. His primary goal is to document the past great collectors, collections and shows. No small task. Jeff Wichmann, our second new board member, will be providing his expertise and knowledge with marketing our organization and museum. Great news for sure.

We've started populating two new galleries since our last report. As of this writing we have five (5) exciting pieces in our Foods & Sauces Gallery including a 'Baker & Cutting Glass & Pickle Mfrs San Francisco' bottle (pictured below) that was the first bottle manufactured in the west. We also have six (6) soda water bottles in a new gallery. For now, we are grouping them by region and hope by the end of 2021, to populate each region, northeast, midwest, southern and western with excellent examples.

Miguel Ruiz, our museum technical consultant, is still working from his wife's family home in Almaty, Kazakhstan in central Asia. Miguel works with Ferdinand in Houston. We wish him well. He reports that he is hunkered down like most of us and we are fortunate to have the Internet which keeps him in regular contact using email and Zoom conferencing.

We are getting to the point where we will be leaving our Beta testing 'construction mode' with the museum and hope to share our project with the top glass museums and related institutions in the United States, both for promotion and for possible assistance financially. Sometime in the first quarter of 2021, we hope to have 500 pieces in the museum. That is great progress for a little over a year with all the distractions we have had.



The FOHBC Virtual Museum is the greatest thing to ever happen in bottle collecting. No other corner of the collecting world has a museum like ours that has outstanding rotating imagery that you can view or manually control to inspect every nuance of a bottle or glass piece. We have the best researchers providing support information and the story behind each piece. This is all accompanied with the best of the best support imagery. This museum will be a resource for decades to come. If you want to join our team please let us know. We are always looking for important examples, researchers, support images and of course, financial assistance.





VIRTUAL MUSEUM OF HISTORICAL BOTTLES AND GLASS

Phase 1 Goal:
\$30,000
ACHIEVED



Phase 2 Goal:
\$30,000

— \$30k
— \$25k
— \$20k
— \$15k
— \$10k
— \$5k

PLEASE HELP US FILL OUR JAR!

Current Operational Account: \$9,435.20 - Development Gifts to date: \$35,811.98

FOHBCVirtualMuseum.org



For gift information contact: Alan DeMaison, FOHBC Virtual Museum Treasurer,
1605 Clipper Cove, Painesville, Ohio 44077, a.demaizon@sbcglobal.net

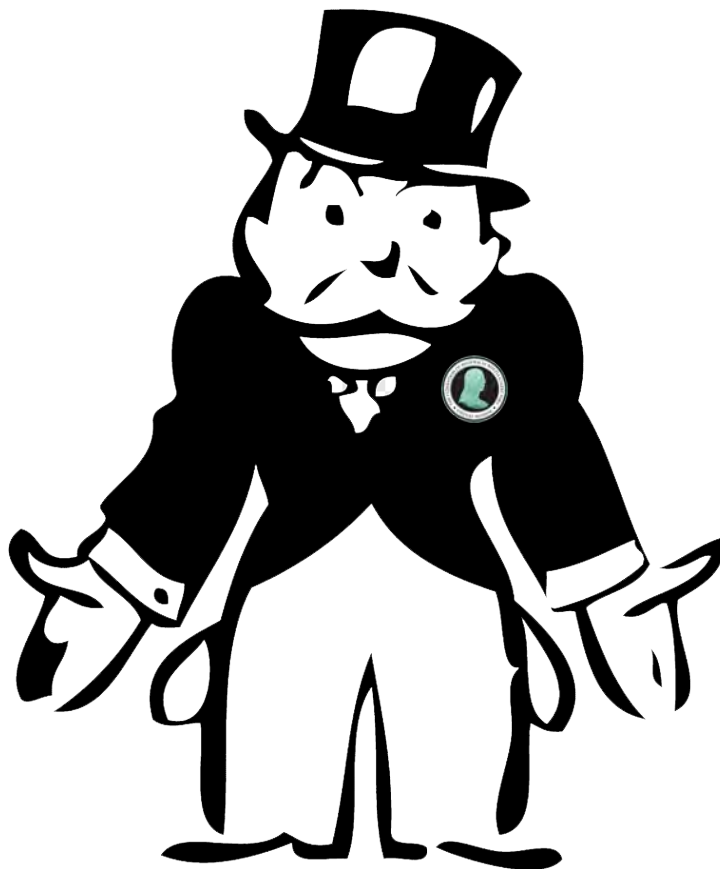
21 November 2020

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

We survive with your generosity!

We have opened the museum as we build and are
doing so with free access due to the Coronavirus
that is keeping so many of us away from our
hobby. Come visit us and support us if you can.

Thank you!



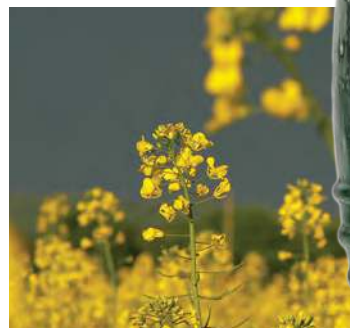
We Need Your Donation to Stay Open!

The FOHBC and the Virtual Museum team thank our many
donors who have helped us raise almost \$36,000 to date.
We have close to \$9,400 in available funds to continue devel-
opment 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.



Shriver's Baltimore Oyster Ketchup
FOODS & SAUCES GALLERY



G K Mustard
FOODS & SAUCES GALLERY

EVERY



BOTTLE



LIEUT. GEN. WINFIELD SCOTT.
GENERAL IN CHIEF OF THE U. S. ARMY.

General Scott's Artillery Bitters
BITTERS GALLERY



GIV-34 Frigate Franklin and Masonic Arch Flask
HISTORICAL FLASK GALLERY



GI-94 Franklin - Dyott Portrait Flask
HISTORICAL FLASKS GALLERY



Henry Verhage Cincinnati Ohio
SODA WATER GALLERY

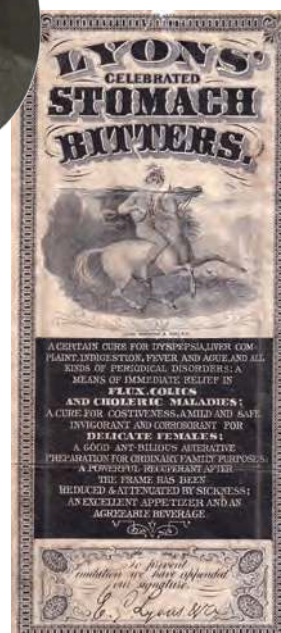
HAS A



STORY



The Ladies Favorite
JAR GALLERY



E. G. Lyons & Co. Manufacturers
BITTERS GALLERY