



A Hot Sale on eBay

Ron Pevahouse of Memphis sent this letter in response to the February AB&GC magazine and commented on what we rarely see at bottle shows. Ron wrote to Ralph Finch: "The articles that you do in the bottle magazine are great. I always look forward to reading them. You have a great way with words. I saw your letter on (rarely seeing) a fire grenade. A few years ago I bought a fire grenade at an estate sale that was a blue one, and from, I think, Central or South America. I sold it on eBay for \$450. I think I paid a dollar for it." Ron also added, "I was in a mall in Little Rock a few years ago and found a pontil Robacks barrel bitters for \$4.50. The great part was when I went to pay for it, the lady said, oh, that booth has 20 percent off so..., I got it for about \$3.50. It is mint.

Ralph Finch, Farmington Hills, Michigan

Today's Find

This jar is something that I've never seen before, let alone have had in my hands to examine. It's a free-blown, almost half-gallon utility-style jar that looks like ones made in the early 1800s. The interesting part is the closure which is a waxed cork or wooden plug that possibly was cloth covered. The jar top was covered with a large amount of wax, not to seal the jar but to accept a stamp with a lot of company information. If I extend the abbreviations the information reads like this. "SUN GROcERY ESTablished, MAR 7, 1832, PHILADA." around a large sun logo in the middle of the top. Any thoughts?

Jeff Vanaman, Clayton, New Jersey



Moore Jar Closures

I enjoyed the Ralph Finch Fislerville jar article in the last issue. The Wilson version probably originally came with a squared clamp which was the early design on the earliest John M. Moore jars.

This example pictured shows the clamp. I don't have any pictures of my Wilson patent jar with the square clamp. Mine came with the rounded clamp which I haven't been able to replace. This information is an assumption on my part. I just assumed the oldest Moore jar would have had the earliest design on the closure.

Jeff Vanaman, Clayton, New Jersey

Cover of the Rolling Stone

When we told Brian Bingham that he made the "Cover of the *Rolling Stone*" (our cover this issue), he replied...*Thank you. It would be an honor to work together on an upcoming article. I use MS Word. You probably hate that, but it is all I have. I am currently at 4,148 words and 21 pages including pictures, timelines and attachments.*" This sounds like a book, we thought.

Brian added that he had a couple of loose ends to investigate and said he would send a draft by the end of the week. *"Does that work for you? Do we have a list of druggists to work from or is that the first task? Just some fun stuff about me. I'm used to making the front cover just not necessarily for the right reasons. See attached. I do all periods of re-enacting. That is me in my full Revolutionary War uniform firing my flint lock musket off the mid-deck of the USS Midway on the 4th of July. There were about 1,200 people on the deck below. As you can clearly see, I put in a little extra powder and scared the hell out of everybody."*

Brian Bingham, Oceanside, California



Some early Houston soda bottles

Ferdinand, I recently added some early Houston soda bottles (see below) to my collection including the two S. Priester variations from Houston (to go with my E. Priester soda I dug several years ago). Simon & Emil Priester came to Texas from Germany in 1852 on the “Creole” when they were still in their teens and Simon opened a bakery in Houston shortly thereafter. Emil moved to New Jersey and fought in the Civil War on the Union side under the alias Edward Preston, then moved back to Houston after the war and worked at his brother’s bakery. Emil subsequently moved to Richmond sometime between 1877 and 1880 and opened a bakery there. Just wanted to share! Best Regards,

Brandon DeWolfe, P.E., Houston, Texas



FOHBC 2022 Club Awards

Hi Ferdinand, Don’t know that you will remember me but we communicated while I was on the Board for the International Perfume Bottle Association. Question, were there writing awards this year? Been a winner myself a number of times, and I know for several years the contest was canceled due to Covid. I know IPBA ran an ad in this year’s convention program but I can’t get a bead on those contests? Thanks

Susan Arthur, IPBA

[FM5] Susan, nice to hear from you. We tried our best to have awards, but, to our dismay, only a handful were submitted this year. As usual, your club’s articles were great. We are trying to figure out what to do as the dust has not yet settled from our recent convention. Would it be OK to reprint some of your submitted articles in our magazine as we have done before?

November – December 2022

[Susan] Hi Ferdinand, thanks for the reply! Sad to hear there was less enthusiasm for the contests. I have no problem with the re-publication but that is IPBA’s publication chair’s call. Don Orban is the man! We members are very proud of our magazine, and it’s been taken to a higher level these last few years under Don’s guidance and Jon’s artful hand. I continue to check in on your website, fabulous job. Wishing you continued success. Cheers.

That L & W Jar! [just placed in the Virtual Museum]

Ferdinand, nice green specimen, that “L & W” jar! But did you ever wonder where the word “ampersand” originated? Traditionally, when reciting the alphabet in English-speaking schools, any letter that could also be used as a word in itself (“A”, “I”, and, “O”) was repeated with the Latin expression per se (‘by itself’), as in “A per se A.” It was also common practice to add the & sign at the end of the alphabet as if it was the 27th letter, pronounced as the Latin et or later in English as and. As a result, the recitation of the alphabet would end in “X, Y, Z, and per se and.” This last phrase was routinely slurred to “ampersand” and the term had entered common English usage by 1837. A fun fact!

Bruce Shephard, Tampa, Florida

Came Across this Young Man

Came across this young man named Declan O’Connell while scouting out a digging site in Pacifica, California. He was super happy to find his first bottle. We need more collectors like this to strengthen the hobby.

John O’Neill, Belmont, California



Doug Leybourne Retiring

To my friends in the fruit jar hobby. It is time for me to retire and devote my time to the many other things I enjoy. As of today, I will no longer be authoring the *Red Book*. *Red Book 12* will, therefore, be the last edition. It has been my privilege to be involved in the hobby in such a special way over the past many years. I am not retiring completely

and will continue to be involved as a collector. My best to you all!

Douglas Leybourne, North Muskegon, Michigan



Welcome Back Kötter Conner

As with all FOHBC online membership applications, you have to fill out the form when you join or renew. We thought we would share the application from Conner Rush from Ridgewood, New York.

How did you hear about the FOHBC? *I collected and dug pretty actively around ten years ago when I was a kid. I was featured in an article in AB&GC etc. and was an FOHBC member then. I took a long break, but now I've found my way back to the hobby and am eager to support it in every way possible!*

Collecting interests: *Mainly local (Essex County, NJ) bottles and salt-glazed stoneware, but I have started picking up "whatever I like" lately, and we'll see where that path leads!*

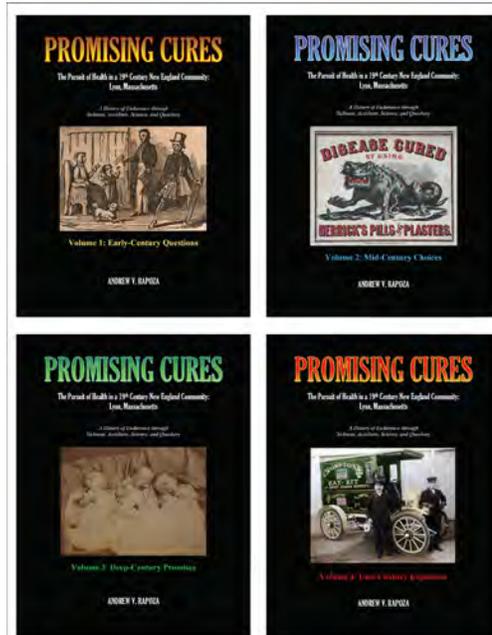
Additional comments: *When I started in 2010 at age 15, I was an active antique-bottles.net forum member, and only started into the local NJ club show circuit after a chance meeting with a local collector. I think many younger and newer collectors don't enter the FOHBC "offline collectors" fold these days because they get all they need on Facebook and Reddit etc. etc. and maybe haven't even heard of the FOHBC. That worries me as a problem for the hobby long term. I'm interested to find ways to bridge that gap. There's hundreds or maybe thousands of collectors in these online communities right now who I'm sure could meaningfully benefit from the FOHBC and participate in return if they only knew what it offers. I'm sure this is on your mind heavily as well but as I'm 27 now I want to make sure as best I can that there will still be people who care about this stuff in another 50 years and the best way I think is to hook people in now and build a stronger FOHBC for years to come.*

New Book from Andy Rapoza

Dear Friends, This note is to let you know that I have finally completed my book! It took over 35 years of research and writing, sandwiched in between my primary responsibilities with family, career, church callings, etc. It's hard to believe that I've finally crossed the finish line, but I am admittedly proud of the result. I hope you will enjoy it.

The book is titled, *PROMISING CURES: The Pursuit of Health in a 19th Century New England Community: Lynn, Massachusetts*. It is a history of endurance through sickness, accidents, science, and quackery. It is over 1,400 pages of text and full-color illustrations, supported by nearly 7,000 footnotes, all of which made breaking it down into four volumes essential.

It has always been a labor of love and I have never undertaken the effort as a profit-making proposition; my satisfaction will be in contributing to people's understanding and appreciation of what our progenitors went through to survive and enjoy their lives. I



have therefore passed on the opportunity to add any royalty to the cost of the book; all of the payment goes to the publisher.

I have a two-pronged publication effort in place:

FREE ONLINE ACCESS: I plan to have the four-volume book offered on a public, free-access website. I am hoping it will be ready for viewing on such a website by November of this year. I will send out an update when the website can be announced.

HARDCOVER & PAPERBACK: I have also submitted the volumes to amazon.com and they are now listed there for sale in hardcover and paperback editions. While waiting for the free-access website, please enjoy taking a peak at the covers and enjoy reading the first several pages of each volume on amazon.com by changing their search field from "All" to "Books," then putting "Promising Cures, Rapoza" in the search field.

I hope you, your family, and friends will enjoy reading parts or all of the book, or simply looking at the colorful pictures! I recommend you read the four-page Preface to truly understand what this book is all about. If you do take a look, I would love it if you would drop me a note; the honor of your response would add greatly to my personal celebration that I finally did it—I became an author! As always, thanks for your interest, support, and friendship over the years. I hope you'll get a chance to take a look and enjoy what you read! Very best wishes.

Andy Rapoza, Conroe, Texas

Auction Price Report "Postage" scare

Our new Auction Price Report would be over two feet thick if printed and mailed to members!



Northeast Region [Charlie Martin Jr., Director]

Our area is a busy “bottle club” region with many great bottle clubs. I trust that as the new NE Region Director, club presidents and show chairmen will connect with me to ensure that the change in reporting “club happenings” will not skip a beat.

Tony Townsend from the Richmond Area Bottle Collectors Assoc. reported that the club’s annual Cookout/Picnic/Bottle Auction was quite popular with all in attendance. The successful day generated additional funds from a raffle and an auction that will benefit the RABCA. Congratulations to all club volunteers that helped make the event so much fun for those in attendance.

Mike Stephano of the Hudson Valley Bottle Club reports that their 35th Annual Mid Hudson Show and Sale was successful. The weather could not have been any better for the August 21st date in Poughkeepsie, New York. Dealers, browsers, and shoppers alike were pleased with the event’s results and came from as far away as South Carolina to attend the show.

Bill Rose, president of the Little Rhody Bottle Club, reported on the club’s Summer Swap Meet held Saturday, September 3, at Leonard’s Antiques, in Seekonk, Massachusetts. The following is a summarized version of his comments. *“Buy, sell, trade, that’s what it was all about for the Club’s second outdoor Swap Meet. Club members from RI, MA, CT, NH and VT participated.” One dealer even traveled from as far away as NY to set up at the meet. This Swap Meet is somewhat unique in that at these Spring/Summer outdoor events, dealers bring their own tables, there is no cost to set up, there is free admission for bottle enthusiasts, and you keep what you make and participate in some good old Yankee bartering for bottles. Twenty dealers set up thirty tables. The site was bustling with activity from 8 am to 1 pm.”*

September 18 was a busy day for two area bottle clubs. The Merrimack Valley Antique Bottle Club held its 47th Annual Show and Sale at the Westford Regency Conference Center. Early buyers were plentiful again this year, with 25 bottle collectors paying a premium of \$20 for early admittance one hour before opening to the general public. One hundred fifty individual bottle collectors paid for admission. Show chairman Kevin Cantrell reported that 41 dealers set up 60 tables. Dealers were pleased with the foot traffic, and business at the tables was brisk. Next year’s show may be held in a new venue, as the Westford Regency has become quite expensive as a host site. The MVABC anticipates that the new location will offer as great a venue with the possibility of extra space for outdoor dealer tables.

Also, that same weekend, Sunday, September 18th, the Greater Buffalo Bottle Collectors Association held its Annual Show and Sale in Depew, NY. Show chairman, Joe Guerra, reports that the 23rd Annual Show hosted 36 dealers who set up 57 tables. Joe reports that a line of customers formed while set up was in process.

At the 9 am opening, a steady stream of attendees kept the dealers busy throughout the day. In all, 145 paid for admission. Club members attended free of charge. The nice weather of the mid-September day added to the show’s great atmosphere.

By the time you read this article, the Coventry Antique Bottle Club will have held its 50th Annual Bottle and Glass Show. Congratulations on reaching such a significant milestone! Not many bottle clubs have been as fortunate. Kudos to all in the club who have worked tirelessly to achieve this historic moment. Hopefully, the show chair will provide a follow-up report on the event’s success.

Toby Dean of the Finger Lakes Bottle Collectors Association reports that their club has joined forces with the Central New York Living History Center to host a Bottle Show/Flea Market. Their first effort back in July was a big success. A second show/sale is scheduled for October 2022. *“The club feels that the flea market format is the best choice going forward, and (they) do not anticipate having another bottle show again. Such are the times, but the main thing is that (they) continue to meet and socialize and make new friends and learn all sorts of interesting data about history through the objects (they) collect.”*

If you are traveling this Fall in the Northeast to be a “leaf peeper,” be sure to allow a little bit of extra time to visit the National Bottle Museum in Ballston Spa, New York. Over the past 40+ years, the museum has grown and expanded its collection and showroom space. The museum is our hobby’s showcase to the world of antique bottle collecting. Most volunteer staff are currently working on a new permanent exhibit featuring Mt. Pleasant Glass Works. The exhibit should be ready soon.

The Saratoga Bottle Show hosted by the National Bottle Museum sponsored a successful 42nd Annual Bottle Show this past June. My wife, Jane, and I were at that bottle show and had a terrific day browsing, buying, and chatting with dealers and friends from all over the Northeast region. Show organizers report that the attendance was down from previous years, but with the price of gas and the ever-present threat of Covid 19, the numbers of dealers and attendees was quite respectable. A great day was had by all in attendance.

No less than 10 Northeast region bottle club show and sale events are scheduled for the Northeast region throughout the Fall. See the show listings in the back part of the magazine and online at FOHBC.org. It is my hope that show chairpersons will forward a summary of the show results to me. Thus, I anticipate show reports will be recapped in future columns.

When sending photos for inclusion in post-show write-ups, identify the individuals in the images. Also, it would be best if you made the individuals aware that you have sent the photos in for publication for either *American Bottle & Glass Collector* or for



posting on the FOHBC's website. Publicity is a critical component for getting the word out to the bottle-collecting community and the general public.

Midwest Region [Henry Hecker, Director]

I am familiarizing myself with the duties of a regional director and will be reaching out to the various clubs in my region for more comprehensive reports in the future. The Ohio Bottle Club has already reached out to me, and I have attended one of their Zoom meetings. I have been a charter member of the Milwaukee Antique Bottle and Advertising Club since 1972 and have frequented many Midwest shows over the years. I have attended several Federation national shows over the years, including the 1976 Bi-Centennial show—what a blowout that was—my indoctrination to the big leagues!

In May, the Milwaukee club received an honor from the Milwaukee County Historical Society at a banquet at the five-star Pfister Hotel in Milwaukee. The award was for the club's fifty years of service to the community, promoting the history of the brewers, bottlers, merchants, druggists, etc., that have left us these wonderful artifacts. We have educated the public at large with our annual shows and informative website: milwaukeebottleclub.org.

We lost one of the great enthusiasts in our hobby and a Milwaukee Bottle Club charter member. In August, Lee Bernard passed away in his sleep at home with his wife Roxanne nearby. Lee and Roxanne made their home in Jackson, Wisconsin, with acres of beautiful gardens. Lee collected fruit jars and bottles for over fifty years and started many of our local collectors in the hobby with his passion for digging, flea marketing, and mucking in lakes and rivers. Lee and Roxanne have been great antique pickers and dealers over the years, and many of us have pieces on our shelves courtesy of their diligent searches. For many years, Lee has faithfully supported the club shows, coordinating the displays. He handled the display awards for some shows as well. Unfortunately, in the last few years, he could not make the meetings because he did not want to drive at night. These last couple of years have been tough on him as his cancer finally wore him down. He maintained a positive attitude these last few months but was realistic of his chances as the chemo became more than he could bear. I am sure he is catching up with collectors who have left us. In Heaven, it is rumored, all the digs are sandy loam, everything is colored and pontiled, and there are no broken "criers." He may be pulling out an amber Millville jar right now!

Southern Region [Jake Smith, Director]

It is unfortunate that the Southern region has not reported any news to me since the last issue. The good news is that we have some shows that will occur from October to December. I hope to get an update or report from show chairs and collectors by next issue. Please email or Facebook message me any updates and re-

ports. I am happy to hear from y'all. Also, if you need anything, please feel free to contact me. Hope to see y'all soon at upcoming shows. Thanks!

Western Region [Eric McGuire, Director]

September 17 was a busy day for bottle shows in the West. Both the Los Angeles club and Northwest club in Santa Rosa had shows that weekend, as well as the show in Aurora, Oregon. Show attendance for all reflected the dispersal of collectors, but I didn't hear anyone complain. Even though the distance between Aurora and Los Angeles is nearly a thousand miles, with Santa Rosa about in the middle, many collectors picked their choice and went. Our president has declared the Covid epidemic is over, but it is still having an effect on attendance.

For those interested in trademark records, I recently posted a listing of 19th century registrations for the State of Oregon. It can be found on the Western Bottle Blog, westernbitters.com, and lists the trademarks associated with bottle products.



VIRTUAL MUSEUM NEWS

The Virtual Museum was a big hit at the Reno Convention. Alan DeMaison shipped his equipment to me (Richard Siri) and took the Amtrak train to Reno, as he doesn't fly. If the Lord wanted people to fly, he would have given us wings; at least, that's Alan's take on it. But riding a train is a nice way to travel if you have the time as it gives you a better look at our country. We had Alan set up right at the entrance to the show. There was lots of interest in what he was doing, and many members wanted their bottle imaged. The general public also took an interest in what he was doing. It's great to have Alan set up at shows; it lets people see the effort that starts a bottle's journey into the museum.

Alan had asked me if I knew someone he could share a room with at the convention, and I set him up with John Burton from Santa Rosa. John has authored several books on local bottles and does his own imaging. John told Alan he uses a background removal program which works very well. Alan tried it and said it was a real game changer for him. How's that for timing?

The FOHBC Virtual Museum (VM) had its annual virtual meeting on September 9 and 16 in two, one-hour webinar sessions. This was an "all hands on deck meeting" with our full Virtual Museum team. On hand were the FOHBC president Michael Seeliger, Virtual Museum founders, Alan DeMaison, Ferdinand Meyer V, and Richard T. Siri, our imagers, researchers and technicians; Brian Bingham, Bob Jochums, Richard Kramerich, Gina Pellegrini-Ott, Miguel Ruiz, Bruce Shephard, and Doug Simms. Absent were imaging assistants Terry Crislip, Chip Cable, and Ron Hands as well as West coast imager Eric McGuire.

We will use this space to report the topics covered and directions