

# VIRTUAL MUSEUM NEWS

By Richard T. Siri, Santa Rosa, California



The Virtual Museum had its annual team meeting on Tuesday, 08 October 2024. The 1.5 hour Zoom call's primary purpose was three fold as planning for 2025, Finances and Museum goals were discussed.

An overview of the four \$30k fundraising campaigns occurred which is illustrated to the right. The Phase 1 flask filled in December 2013. The Phase 2 jar filled in December 2021. The Phase 3 barrel filled in December 2022. We are about two thirds into raising funds for the Phase 4 medicine bottle. Completing \$30k by year end is the goal.

Alan DeMaison noted VM donations of late including recurring and Houston 24 intake. He noted a \$500 donation by the North Star Historical Bottle Assoc. Alan also suggested a campaign for 2025 to raise \$25k. This will include grass roots, recurring, capital campaign and one-on-one solicitation. Alan suggested contacting members and asking for monthly \$25 donations. Michael Seeliger came up with the campaign slogan "25 from 25 in 25" meaning \$25 (monthly) from 25 members in 2025. This would total \$7,500.

All present discussed forming a committee to identify and contact potential "large donors." It typically takes a special "foundation-type" person to do this task. Bruce Shephard suggested engaging a specialist in this area. Alan mentioned that we have a \$5k matching grant opportunity for \$10k. Raising funds through grants was discussed. Alan gave an overview of his "FOHBC board-approved" research. He found a high potential grant for digital museums and provided a link and asked each VM team member to view, "Inspire! Grants for Small Museums," National Leadership Grants for Museums Inspire! Grants for Small Museums | Institute of Museum and Library Services ([imls.gov](https://imls.gov)). Once a target grant or grants are identified, Alan will start the process of applying. He will need FOHBC assistance. The work is usually date sensitive. Bruce offered to proof and wordsmith any grant applications we develop as he has experience in this area.

The FOHBC Virtual Museum was 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.



Please help us fill our PHASE 4 "Wishart's Pine Tree Tar Cordial" bottle.



Phase 4

— \$30k



Phase 1  
Flask Filled  
Dec. 2018

— \$25k



Phase 2  
Jar Filled  
Dec. 2021

— \$20k

— \$15k

— \$10k

— \$5k



Phase 3  
Barrel Filled  
Dec. 2022



Please help us with our **Phase 4** fundraising capital 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 over **\$112,478** to date.

We have \$9,542 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 website technician averaging \$1,200 a month, we need help. We are continually traveling to collections, so more costs are 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!

Donations to the Museum are always needed to ensure we continue. We are a 501(c)(3) educational organization, so your donation is tax deductible. Please confirm with your tax attorney.



**FOHBC VIRTUAL MUSEUM  
OF HISTORICAL BOTTLES  
AND GLASS**

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

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

