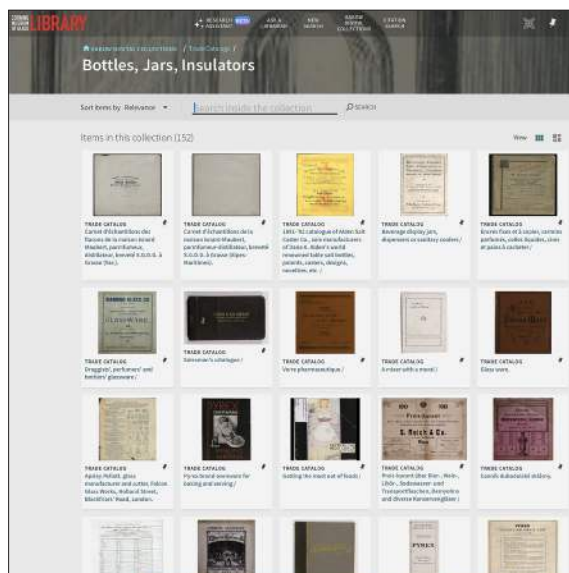




## The motherload of trade publications for Bottles, Jars & Insulators

I just came across this: *Bottles, Jars, Insulators* on the Corning Museum of Glass website. There are 152 items in the Rakow Digital Collections in the Museum library. [Editor: Hyperlinked in digital version or Google]

Brian Bingham  
Oceanside, California



## More on the H24 Drake's Plantation Bitters

The answer to Jack Klotz's question in the previous issue about clear edges on the repro Drake's Plantation Bitters is that the old bottles were drawn out of furnaces, each with their color glass in them.

The H24 repro bottles are drawn out of a clear glass furnace, then rolled in frit to color the glass, then heated to make a colored glass blob, dipped again in clear glass to gather another batch of glass over the colored glass—and the glass is then blown in the mold. Truly, the color is only on the inside of the glass, and all the bottles are clear outside. The glasshouse where these were made would never have enough furnaces to have individual glass colors in each furnace. If you ever watch the *Blown Away* program on Netflix, you will see that this is how they color all their glass. Jack does not have a unique bottle; all of them are like that if you look closely at them. Some show it better than others. The lip treatment is a gather of glass that is rolled in frit and melted and applied directly to the neck of the bottle. That is all color.

Michael Seeliger  
Brooklyn, Wisconsin

## Dr. Petzold's German Bitters

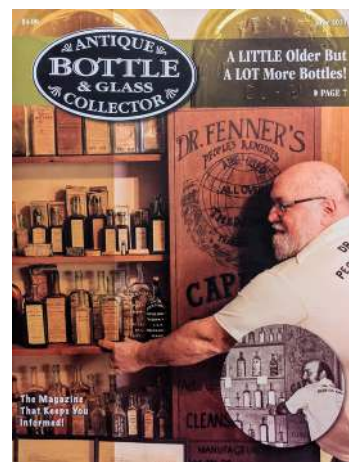
Hi there, this may be a strange email, but I recently purchased an antique dosing glass for Dr. Petzold's Genuine German Bitters. Coincidentally, my last name is Pezoldt, and I happen to collect (primarily Italian) bitters. I have an extensive knowledge of cocktails as well. Naturally, I was curious if this was somehow still an existing brand, so I looked into the history and came across your website with a catalog of labels and displays. It was an interesting read! I'm curious if, anywhere in your research, there was an inkling of a recipe that popped up along the way. It would be very interesting to try to approximate what it may have tasted like. Thanks in advance!

Chad Pezoldt  
Bethlehem, Pennsylvania

## Dr. Fenner's People's Remedies

Hi, Mike; here are two photos for your webinar presentation. I have a third photo to send you in another email, probably tomorrow. [Editor: See Member Photos this issue] Some great history here. I collected Dr. Fenner's People's Remedies since 1972. In 1978, I built these two wooden ends to look like Fenner medicine boxes and displayed my collection of bottles at the 1978 Detroit Show. I also displayed this collection as it grew at St. Louis (1976), Buffalo, Rochester, Akron, Chicago, Steubenville, and other shows.

Check out the photo on the AB&GC June 2021 cover. I sent John Pastor my 1978 photo of me reaching for a bottle at the show. The photographer wanted to see the back of my Fenner shirt, made by my wife. So I struck the same pose, the shirt being slightly tight 43 years later, and suggested that John use it for the cover. He was absolutely delighted with it. The three paintings at the top of the photo have nothing to do with Fenner.



The 2021 June issue was one-half of my 13-and-a-half-page article with 32 photos. The July issue was the second half of the article, with the rest of the photos.

My Fenner collection of 140 bottles, many with boxes and contents, is now in the Darwin R. Barker Museum in Fredonia, New York, just a couple of blocks from where Fenner made his many medicines. They also received my entire research file in two two-inch albums and five other two-inch albums filled with

Fenner paper items. All seven binders had detailed covers, table of contents, and many notes on many pages. All pages were in archival plastic—over 450 items in all. I also gave them about 20 of the magazine issues (sets of two) to give or sell to people.

Items the museum did not get include the large poster (upper left), the ten very rare large advertising cards depicting Spanish American War vessels (along the floor), and the three green variants of Fenner's Kidney, Liver, and Bladder Cure/Remedy (in front of the white poster board). Maybe these will go to the Barker Museum down the road. Since then, I have found three very rare Fenner bottles, which I'll give to the museum soon.

Around seven of his medicines survived the 1906 Pure Food and Drug Act. In fact, I bought a bottle of Fenner's Golden Relief in a Fredonia drug store in the 1980s. I assume you have the June and July issues with my Fenner article in them. Please give them a look before you do the program. Regards,

Vince Martonis  
Gerry, New York

### MAFJBC - January Show Update - Video & Interviews

Dear club members and select guests, Matt Andrick, our public relations point person, passes along this important note: *Exciting Hobby News! Check out this announcement from Ball State University! This is great news for the hobby!*

Students and faculty at Ball State University's Virginia Ball Center for Creative Inquiry are producing a documentary about Ball Jars and collecting, particularly as they relate to Muncie and East-Central Indiana.

Ball State students and their professors will attend the 2025 Midwest Antique Fruit Jar & Bottle Club Convention to record video and conduct preliminary interviews. Don't be alarmed if you see our crews out and about. If you'd prefer not to be on camera, just let us know! We also welcome attendees to sit for short audio or video interviews during the convention to discuss their interests in collecting. Audio interviews will take place on Thursday and Friday, while video interviews will take place on Saturday. If you are interested in sitting for an interview or contributing to the project, please email Jim Buss, Director of the Virginia Ball Center for Creative Inquiry: [james.buss@bsu.edu](mailto:james.buss@bsu.edu). Regards,

Joe Coulson, MAFJBC Secretary/Editor  
Englewood, Florida

### Dale Chihuly – Gilded Yellow Venetian with Lilies

We often muse about the skilled gaffers with lily pads, stringing, etc. What would those 19th century blowers think about Chihuly's abilities. How he do dat? Estimated 15-25k. Editor: Leland Little Auctions, Lot 2108, Dale Chihuly (American, b. 1941), Gilded Yellow Venetian with Lilies. 1991, blown yellow vase with silver leaf and teal blue wrap lip and foot, (13) applied spiral twist yellow flowers to all sides, signed

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and dated to the lower side. 20 x 19 x 19 in. The Contemporary Art Collection of Francine & Benson Pilloff, Chapel Hill, North Carolina. Exhibited: GLASS TODAY, Cleveland Museum of Art, 1997, p. 45 and featured on the event poster.

Kim Kokles  
Garland, Texas

### Provenance

I've been reading some older magazines and one article in particular has sparked a question and an idea. The article was by Jeff Mihalik in the Jan-Feb 2022 issue of *Bottles and Extras* titled "*Provenance Lost*." It didn't really catch up to me until later when I decided to try to get my Ravenna flask documented for the Virtual Museum at the Houston 24 Expo. I slept on it (the idea, not the flask!) and thought how right Jeff was in his article. I had sold my best bottle ever back in 2018 to one of the biggest cure collectors and other than a verbal request and promise to give me credit for the start of provenance, as being first one to hold the bottle after digging it up in 2012, there is no other "evidence." If he croaks from a "widow maker" in the middle of the night I have no confidence there will be any record of "chain of custody." It's an important enough bottle to deserve that much, though far from a cobalt Fish Bitters.

That said, I am wondering if there isn't a way to include in the Virtual Museum a short paragraph or two describing known lineage or the discovery of the glass imaged. At first I nixed the idea as I am certain you already have enough on your plate when it comes to adding to the museum, but then after sleeping on it again, (I do a lot of sleeping these days, sometimes nights too!) I figured there aren't that many well-documented finds of the quality the museum offers.

Jeff Mihalik, Rick Weiner and a handful of serious old-time diggers can relate to and understand this angle and from my perspective the backstory is often more fascinating than the history of the bottle originator or manufacturer. Using the cobalt Fish Bitters as a horse medicine feeder for example. Here and in other historic towns, homes of historic interest have a historic write-up and is embedded in a QR code included on the historic placard on the structure. I would also suggest including any unique features of note that would separate from other examples. My flask of mention has several unique such features that taken singularly would set it off from any other example. Sadly not every bottle has such uniqueness involved in its being, which begs the question how to uniquely identify more permanently than a simple auction-style sticker glued to the base? Would be nice if there was a database that one could take a picture of an item and assign it a corresponding ID and list it for posterity.

Any thoughts on any of this appreciated. Lastly, I must urge every digger, young or old, to read Mihalik's story "*Digging 60 or How Crazy Are We?*" from the Nov-Dec 2012 *Bottles and Extras* issue. That is one of the most serious dig stories I ever heard of never mind actually read with pictures! Pretty crazy!

Jack Klotz  
Louisiana, Missouri

