Letter from the President:

Dear Museum Member,

Dear NBM members and friends,

Over the past few years the NBM has made numerous improvements to the physical building and its collections. Much of the work was done by volunteers. The Artists’ Space just celebrated a successful 10th year celebration and the Glassworks Studio recently received a grant to support teaching classes. The museum has been featured on WMHT, (public television in Capital District) listed as a unique museum of NYS and visited by people around the globe! This list of accomplishments emphasizes the growth that the NBM has experienced.

And now is the time to look forward. We are initiating a $50,000 Fund drive to bring us into that future. This is a $50,000 appeal which addresses our needs for growth from a new website to handicapped access and to building improvements. No donation is too small and the appeal will not only tap our loyal members but the community the museum resides in and corporations that support the arts.

This Fall we will initiate this appeal. So please help us look to the future and spread the word that our national appeal is kicking off. There will be more info as we go along.

Again, I urge you to visit the National Museum and see all the changes.

Ellie Dillon
Board President

Board of Trustees

Ellie Dillon, President        Mark Juda
Meg Stevens, Treasurer and administrator        Shirleyan Ebert
Shirley Ebert, Secretary        Roy Topka
Phil Bernnard        Kevin Longacker
The Annual Meeting will be held November 1, 2018 at the National Bottle Museum @ 1:00pm.
76 Milton Avenue, Ballston Spa, NY 12020
If you would like to serve on the Board please contact the museum:
NBM@nycap.rr.com

Congratulations Fred Neudoerffer for 10 years!!

Oh, what a celebration the Museum had when The Jan Rutland Artists’ Space celebrated its’ 10th year anniversary! This was a loaded show with 49 returning artists and 98 pieces of art.

Barbara Kerr, Town Councilperson, State Senator Jim Tedisco and Congressperson Paul Tonko joined Ellie Dillon, Meg Stevens and Jan Rutland Memorial Artists’ Space director, Fred Neudoerffer for the festivities.

Last month we had the pleasure of showing a duet show of Robert and Lori Moylan. “Paintings and Photographs, Two views of the Landscape.”
**Docent in the making!**

Nick Savino used his time wisely while working at the museum this summer and fall. To culminate his time at the museum Nick and other museum aides researched and created a display on the Food and Drug Act. Thank you, Nick and we wish you the best.

**New Exhibit:**

Roy Topka has shared with us local beer bottles from his extensive collection. Come to the Museum to see this engaging exhibit.
On October 5th, the National Bottle Museum® and Glassworks Studio were proud to present our First Annual Rush the Growler Fundraising Event. Special thanks to Argyle Brewing Company of Greenwich, NY, Brown’s Brewing Co. of Troy, NY, and all the local businesses who made generous donations to the event and silent auctions, as well as all our Board Members and volunteers who gave of their time to help make out first event a success!

We proudly welcomed over 50 visitors who enjoyed a guided tour, by our own Roy Topka, highlighting the History of the Growler. The event featured craft beer tastings, apple cider tastings for the kids, live music, raffles, a silent auction, delicious sweet and salty treats, and live flame working demonstrations!

From the Desk of Museum Director, Gary Moeller:

Contact Gary at 518-885-7589 if you would like to donate bottles to the museum. Tuesday is our day to receive bottle donations. Also, when the museum is open, Gary is available to tell you some of the history of your bottle, so drop in!

This quarter the Museum received visitors from Switzerland, Sweden, Germany and the U.K. as well as 30 states. The Museum continues to be a destination nationally and internationally.
The 2018 Saratoga Bottle Show will be held on Sunday, June 2nd at the Saratoga County Fairgrounds in Ballston Spa, New York. Information and table applications will be mailed out after the New Year. If you are a new vendor you may email Roy Topka at rmt556@yahoo.com or Phil Bernnard at explomar@hotmail.com

Digs and Stories: from the desk of board member Roy Topka:

“HERE’S TO BEERS”
Greetings fellow diggers and collectors. I hope the hot summer weather did not stop too many of you from getting out. I do my usual. Up at first light and dig as early as possible. One of my first hot weather holes was over in Troy.

Twenty two years ago I dug a phenomenal hole on the lot I had permission for. There was no time to check the rest of the site as it was turned into a gravel parking lot. Well, after a few years the lot was let go, and it turned into a small jungle.

Under a little dirt is still the hard packed gravel so I have to punch holes thru with my heavy bar. Two possibilities are found close to each other, most likely pits from two different houses. Both are mostly ash and just under 7’ deep. And both are about 4’ wide x 7’ long. A pair of twins. Twin #1 was mostly 1880’s with very few bottles and a few broken pontils on the base, left over from an obvious clean out. Twin #2 taken out the next day and had corners full of older material and a little more on the bottom, but mostly all broken. Found was one iron pontil olive amber porter bottle, at least it was nice & clean! Not to far away a pit was located behind mid 1860’s house. Not much here either… an early 1860’s aqua Kinsella & Hennessey soda and a bunch of complete clay pipes c. 1875-1880. They all looked like they were smoked once and thrown out. There is a difference in appearance in pipes depending on how many times they were used.
Some rehabilitation in Albany led to talking to excavators who were receptive to me looking around for bottles. The area was heavily dug over the years, not by bottle diggers but for things like drainage & retaining walls, and much cement walkways and pads made digging without the area being excavated impossible. The stretch of houses I was digging was also newer by Albany standards, With the structures dating mid 1860's to 1875. This is fine with me. If the area is not dug now it could be lost forever in the bucket of a track hoe.

Out of four pits only one produced older bottles, one stoneware A. Dillon w/cobalt top, several aqua blob sodas which all turned out to have chips, and one J &IEM ink. A different, older area of houses on the same project was checked and a cleaned out pontil age pit revealed one small Amber c.1870 Langley's Root & Herb Bitters and a damaged but rare local beer "Lager Bier Bottled By Joseph Fisher Albany NY". Another pit was located and it to looked cleaned out, with 1870's material on the bottom. One bottle was missed in the cleanout, a plain green pontil soda. While trowling out shards of plates I see a hint of green. First thought was a probable busted Saratoga, but the bottle was not wide enough. A gentle pull and I could see it was a beer. Albany collectors know there is basically one bottle this could be, sure enough, a "Schindlers Lager Beer Brewery Albany NY", and it's mint. Over the years I had dug only two of the aqua Schindlers beer bottles, and they are not exactly common. Schindler was in business only 5 years, from 1874 to 1879. A green one has been on my bucket list for years. A beautiful bottle. Here's to Beers and here's to bottle digging!!!

Thank you for your generosity.
Donations:

Supporter
Marilyn Bradley

Benefactor
Judy Prevatiil
Finger Lakes Club

Heather Longacker - oxygen
Meg Stevens - Display Cabinet
Ken Hahn – upstairs lights

Memberships:

Sue Ellen Stine
Mike Polak
Mark Juda
Peter Murphy
Important

At the annual meeting in November this slate of officers will be appointed for the upcoming 2019 year unless there is a nomination on the floor or by mail and received by November 8th.

Ellie Dillon - President
Mark Juda - Vice President
Shirleyan Ebert - Secretary
Meg Stevens - Treasurer

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I, ___________________________,
nominate __________________________
For the office of _________________________________ for the upcoming 2019 year.

Signature: _________________________________

Mail to: NBM, 76 Milton Avenue, Ballston Spa, NY 12020

We are kicking off our National Appeal this November. Our goal is to raise $50,000 dollars to meet the demands of bringing the museum and its extensive collection into the 21st century. Please give your support.

Please Consider renewing your membership now. Attached is a membership form.
NATIONAL BOTTLE MUSEUM®
76 Milton Ave.
Ballston Spa, N.Y. 12020
(518) 885-7589
www.nationalbottlemuseum.org

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP in the National Bottle Museum is open to one and all in the following categories:
$20.00 up to $49.00 — FRIENDS
$50.00 up to $149.00 — SUPPORTERS
$150.00 and up — BENEFACTORS
$500.00 and up — CORPORATE DONORS

The NATIONAL BOTTLE MUSEUM is a non-profit (501 C-3) educational institution chartered by the Board of Regents of the New York State Department of Education. The museum is not subsidized, but raises all of its own funds and is governed by an elected volunteer Board of Trustees, operating under universally accepted museum policies. Museum is a member of the Ballston Spa Business and Professional Association, and the Southern Saratoga County Chamber of Commerce.

Members receive an annual newsletter containing information on the history of antique bottle manufacturing, identification, and collecting. Each spring, the Museum sponsors a Bottle Show & Sale known as “The Saratoga Show” which attracts enthusiasts from coast to coast in the United States and several provinces of Canada.

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PLEASE PRINT NAME & FULL MAILING ADDRESS

Please make checks payable to National Bottle Museum & mail to:

Membership Chairman
National Bottle Museum
76 Milton Ave.
Ballston Spa, NY 12020

Name: ___________________________ Phone: ( ) __________________

Street or P.O. Box: ____________________________

City: ___________________________ State: ___________ Zip: ___________

Amount Enclosed: $___________ New: _____ Renewal: _____ Gift: _________ Date: ___________

Bottle Club (if any): __________________ Email Address ____________________