Gary Moeller has been a valued employee of the National Bottle Museum for 23 years. He has been an avid supporter of both the National Bottle Museum and the community of Ballston Spa. There isn't a day that goes by that the phone doesn't ring for Gary by someone seeking an answer to a bottle related question. And Gary knows the answer. Or if he doesn't, he dips into the museum research library until he does! Tours will not be the same without Gary's Insight! Gary's passion and loyalty to the museum is unmatched and his retirement will leave a void. The Board of Trustees and volunteer staff will miss Gary immensely but support his decision to retire and spend some time with his chief supporter, Bernice. So wishing you the best, Gary!
The permanent exhibit of Bottles of the USA will soon be getting a facelift. It will become an interactive exhibit highlighting state and matching bottle. (Thank you Adam Stoddard.) Can you help? We still need bottles from North Dakota, North Carolina, New Mexico and Alaska.

Phil Bernnard, Vice President of the National Bottle Museum Board of Trustees researched an article published in the ANTIQUE BOTTLE & GLASS COLLECTOR on the Ellenville Glassworks. (September 2020)

Currently Mike Stephano’s collection of Ellenville Glass is on exhibit at the museum.

Excerpts from article:

“Ellenville Glass Works was originally founded in 1836 on the Round Out Creek in Ulster County, N.Y. This is about ten miles west of New Paltz, N.Y. There seems to be a controversy about how long it lasted, but 1897 is given as the fire draw-down date. There are local people that say it continued to 1922, but no marketable product was successfully produced at that time…….”

“Once they got the kilns going, they were making about 65,000 bottles a year. During that time, their customers were Dr. Townsend, Lydia Pinkham, Shenks and Swaims Pulmonic Syrups.......... In 1845, original owners sold the glassworks .....output went from 65,000 bottles a year to 300,000 bottles annually.”

The annual meeting of the National Bottle Museum will be held at the Museum on Thursday, November 12th at 5:00pm

Renew your membership on line! Easy Peasy!

Go to nationalbottlemuseum.org and follow the link.
Saratoga Auto Museum is searching for a Saratoga COESA bottle to add to their collection of varieties of Saratoga water. They are creating a static Bottling Plant exhibition to compliment the history of their building. If you have one to lend or donate please either contact the National Bottle Museum or the Saratoga Auto Museum directly at: info@saratogaautomuseum.org

Thank you.

Past Saratoga Bottle Shows - 2021 is Coming!

The Jan Rutland Memorial Artists’ Space at the NBM
Director: Fred Neudoerffer
fred@neustudios.com

Upcoming Exhibits

Oakroom Artists – Annual show, October 27th through January 9th.

Galway Central School Art Program, January 16th through mid February.

We want to thank all of the great regional artists who have shared their passions and their art with us over this past year. We also want to thank all of our gallery artists and guests who have generously donated to help keep the gallery, as well as the museum, moving forward.

We look forward to seeing new art in the coming year by artists new to the gallery as well as those artists who are already a part of our experience.

Contact us:
Tel. (518)-885–7589
Email: info@nationalbottlemuseum.org

Research Library at NBM

Thank you for your generous donations and memberships. We are a Museum staffed by volunteers. Please come and visit and see the changes. Our next project is to refresh signage throughout the museum. We also just completed a self guide which allows you visit each exhibit at your own pace. Thank you Meg Stevens who worked tirelessly to put it together.

76 Milton Avenue
Ballston Spa, NY 12020

WWW.NationalBottleMuseum.org
Info@nationalbottlemuseum.org
Greetings all. This summer has not been kind to me, yea yea privy digging has been In the toilet. Most everything dug in July and August has been trash pits, so I'm going to talk a little about shovels, hence the picture (#1) of a nice hand painted marble. What does a marble have to do with shovels? Everything. A shovel dug the original 3' deep pit in the 1860's, re dug it around 1910 go throw more trash in, and finally dug it out in August of 2020. I am not getting into terminology of what is a shovel or what is a spade, call it whatever you want. As a digger your concern is function and durability. I will mention one term and that is lift, which is the relation of the angle of blade to the handle. Note the short handle shovel in picture #2 (high lift). This type of shovel is good for maybe scooping & transferring material, but if your trying to lift and throw dirt out of a privy it will all fall off the back of the blade into your face. Most shovels you buy today, excluding special purpose applications, are a low to medium lift, or combination; with a straighter handle in Relation to the blade. Anyone who digs knows it takes a little getting used to, especially in the confined spaces of a privy or digging into an old city dump. Not like digging in you garden or shoveling sand into a wheelbarrow. For successful digging a combination of durable shovels is a must. Ok, first thing first do not buy cheap light duty shovels. The blade will be thinner steel, smaller, and probably only one rivet securing to handle. For myself I have seen no real advantage to fiberglass or steel handled shovels. Good old ash is fine. Just about everything in the stores today are hollow back blades, which fill up with dirt. You can still order shovels with a welded plate across the hollow, or best yet obtain a forged shovel for the ultimate in strength and no mud accumulating hollow. A new forged blade shovel will run you fifty dollars, the blade will last a long time but the handle will eventually go. I've bought them new but look for them at yard sales.

Four different digging shovels are best. Most holes are started off with your standard long shovel. This is under ideal conditions when there are no obstructions around. Then as you get deeper you switch to your short handle "D" grip shovel, my current one is about 44" long. If your privy or hole is big enough you may not need anything else, or if there is two or more diggers you switch to bucket & rope. Two diggers are not always an option, and as your getting down in a narrow privy that dirt has to get out if the hole. My next shovels you would think every one would have, but I've been surprised by the number of diggers who don't have these, which are nothing more than longer shovels cut down. My next shovel I switch to is about 36" long (picture #3) And this usually gets me to the bottom of most holes. The sloppy looking duct tape is to smooth over bolt heads sticking out. Hey, it works. It's all about maneuvering the contents of the hole so you can lift past your shoulder to throw. Last but not least is my roughly 31" "privy shovel" (picture #4). Note the grip is off set on the handle. Experience has shown this keeps your arm and grip at a better angle for a long throw out the hole. A plain cut down shovel will not work as well. When doing a lift to shoulder to throw in a narrow hole with fluffy ash expect blowback on you, sticky mud may not throw off well. The thing to remember is these shorter shovels will get you down when longer ones are useless, until you reach a point when you have to bucket out. Picture #5 is an Amsterdam, NY stone liner dug early this September, a narrow hole that went 7 foot. This would have been impossible to dig without the last two shovels.

Please remember you should dig with a partner, especially if you are digging over your head and are unfamiliar with doing so. No dig is worth compromising safety. Good luck and good digging.
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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 — BENEFAC TORS
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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 memberships include: The Museum Association of New York, The Southern Adirondack, Ballston Spa Business and Professional Association, and the Southern Saratoga County Chamber of Commerce.

Members receive our newsletter containing information on the museum and upcoming shows. 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.

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

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Renew your membership online at Nationalbottlemuseum.org