

Contact Us

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www.nationalbottlemuseum.org

Trustees and Directors

President: Ellie Dillon

Vice President: Phil Bernard

Secretary: Shirleyan Ebert

Treasurer: Adam Stoddard

Trustee: Barbara Trypaluk

Trustee: Deborah Cangi

Executive Director: Kayla
Whitehouse

Volunteer Director of the JRM
Artists' Space: Fred
Neudoerffer

General Admission: \$5
Seniors: \$4
Children 12 and Under:
Free

National Bottle Museum®

Preserving the History of our Nation's First Major Industry



THE BOTTLE MUSE

Fall 2023

Glass Factory Mountain—Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting

The National Bottle Museum is excited to share that we held the Grand Opening of our newest exhibit, *Glass Factory Mountain: Making Bottles and Making History* on Friday, October 6.

This exhibit has been a work-in-progress for some time now. While there are still minor tweaks that we plan to finish, we are proud to call the exhibit “done.”

Glass Factory Mountain tells the story of Oscar Granger, who moved his family and his glass factory to Mt. Pleasant in search of better resources, and in doing so secured the monopoly on bottles in the area. With the mineral springs at Saratoga in high demand, the Mt. Pleasant and Congressville Glass Works were very successful. On display are some of the tools the glassblowers would have used, representative bottles from



Granger's factories, and images of glass factories at the turn of the century.

Guests to the National Bottle Museum on October 6 joined the official Ribbon Cutting for the new exhibit, lending a hand to museum staff, Trustees, and volunteers, and local politicians, including the Mayor and Trustees of Ballston Spa and a representative from Senator Jim Tedisco's office. After the Ribbon Cutting ceremony, Interim Treasurer

Adam Stoddard wowed the attendees with his extensive knowledge of Mt. Pleasant in a guided tour.

We hope that you will all stop by the museum next time you're in town and check out our newest exhibit!





From the Desk of Board President, Ellie Dillon

Dear Members and Friends,

What a year the National Bottle Museum has had! Increased presentations, new exhibits, tours, and maintenance upkeep have kept this volunteer Board of Trustees very busy.

One of our goals for the year is to increase membership, for members are the backbone of the museum. Please consider renewing now for the 2024 year. We appreciate your support and thank you in advance for your membership. In January we will be kicking off the membership campaign for 2024. We would like to double our current membership as well as attract new board members. An ambitious

goal but we are up to the task!

Another goal for 2024 is to create educational outreach for young collectors and history buffs. The future of the hobby of collecting and the preservation of bottle making history depends on the youth of today. The National Bottle Museum welcomes members of all ages.

Facebook and Instagram have been instrumental for informing the public of upcoming events and exhibits. Follow the National Bottle Museum on social media, join as a member, and visit the museum to see all the changes!

I look forward to meeting you,
Ellie

Digs and Stories from the Desk of Roy Topka



Greetings all. After finishing all the privies dug in one area, I didn't like the fact that on two of the fieldstone lined privies I could not hit bottom due to overpowering rocks and not enough time. I laid siege to both pits removing from the top a

wider area of stone, ultimately finding there was no layer under the bottom rocks of either pit, only a few pontil bottles along the side. Oh well, now I know.

Most of May was spent probing an overgrown area where houses were torn down in the 1970s. For a variety of reasons this was in no way like the last area, and only a cistern and some trash pits were found.

In the following summer months, between heat and rain, over a dozen privies were dug, the few older ones dipped out and most bottles I found were 1880s -1900.

A gentleman let me dig an 1840s-1850 house he was

going to knock down, and a monster size privy was found that went down 9-10 feet. Worked on this all day, finding, unexpectedly, it was disturbed by construction and probably cleaned out into the 1850s use layer. I dug as much of the bottom as I could by undercutting, but ultimately had to fill it in finding only a few whole pontils. One, a "Magnetic Aether By Halstead & Co" decided to stress and crack on my shelf. Not the first time this happened, won't be the last.

Good luck to everyone in your fall digging, and please support the National Bottle Museum.



2023 Annual Meeting



**Adam Stoddard
named Volunteer
of the Year for
2023**

The National Bottle Museum had our Annual Meeting on November 2, 2023.

Trustees, staff, and members reviewed the past year at the museum and voted on Officers of the Board.

Officers were elected for a 3-Year Term.

National Bottle Museum Board of Officers (2023-2026)

- President: Ellie Dillon
- Vice President: Phil Bernnard
- Interim Treasurer: Adam Stoddard
- Secretary: Shirleyan Ebert
- Trustee: Barbara Trypaluk
- Trustee: Deborah Cangi

Renew Your Membership for 2024!

Now is the time to renew your museum membership for 2024!



Renew now for an 18-month membership!

Currently, our memberships run from January -December. However, we have decided to move forward with our membership year beginning in June, to coincide with our Annual Bottle Show and Sale. So if you renew or join now, you will be an active member until the end of May 2025, an 18-month membership!

Thank you to all of our members for your continued support. Your membership supports the museum and enables us to not only preserve bottles and bottle-making tools from throughout history, but to educate visitors on America's first major industry! The National Bottle Museum also provides a research library, a regional art gallery, and the visitor center for the Village of Ballston Spa.

In exchange, membership entitles you to free unlimited admission to the museum, our newsletter, and a 10% discount in our museum gift shop. In addition, this year we will be providing two free guest passes to all new and renewing members so that you can share your love of bottles with a friend!



From the Desk of the Executive Director: Kayla Whitehouse

Hello everyone! We had a very busy summer, and as we entered into fall, traffic slowed down a bit here at the museum. Luckily, that just gave us more time to focus on special events here.

This past quarter had a lot of special events: the 15th Anniversary of the Artists' Space, the Grand Opening of *Glass Factory Mountain*, our *Queens of Quackery* lecture, and an outreach event at the New York State Museum. We

even hosted a local bottle club for their monthly meeting here at the museum – The Capital Region Antique Bottles and Insulators Club!

We're also starting to plan ahead for 2024. We want to get more people involved here at the museum, and get more people interested in the hobby of bottle collecting. We're always looking for ideas, so if there's something you'd like to do with the National Bottle Museum, whether it's a lecture topic you want to hear, a special event you'd like us to host, or maybe you just want to volunteer - let us know!

JRM Artists' Space 15th Anniversary

This summer marked the 15th Anniversary of the JRM Artists' Space! The museum held an Anniversary Celebration, which coincided with the showing of the 2023 Summer Open Call Show—the second-largest show ever displayed in the Artists' Space, with 37 artists bringing together over 130 pieces of art. During the Anniversary Celebration reception and on Saturdays during the run of the Open Call show, artists on display came to talk about their creative process and give demonstrations on their work.

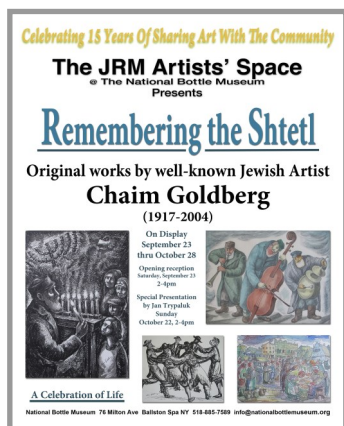
The reception was very well attended, with many of the artists featured in the show, their friends and family, and other friends of the museum. Even Senator Jim Tedisco stopped by to check out the fantastic artwork!

Volunteer Director of the Artists' Space, Fred Neudoerffer, spoke on the past fifteen years and his plans for the future, and he was recognized by the Director and Board of the Museum for his hard work and dedication.

Thank you again Fred, for everything that you do!



On Display and Up Next in the JRM Artists' Space



Currently on Display in the Artists' Space is *Remembering the Shtetl: Original Works by Well-Known Jewish Artists Chaim Goldberg*. This collection features a number of Chaim Goldberg's work, remembering his life in the Shtetl in Poland before World War II.

This show has been extended through November 18, so there is still time to see it!

Up next in the Artists' Space is a display from the Oakroom Artists, which will be on display from December into January.

Make sure to follow our social media for more updates and announcements for the Artists' Space!

State Bottle—Kansas



This Premium fruit jar from Coffeyville is the state bottle for Kansas. It has a unique design, featuring an indentation on the top of the lid which would allow bottles to be neatly stacked in the pantry. It also has an unusual closure, with ramps on the lid allowing it to be screwed tight.

This Premium fruit jar from Coffeyville is the state bottle for Kansas. It has a unique design, featuring an indentation on the top of the lid which

NBM Named Business of the Month

The Ballston Spa National Bank named the National Bottle Museum their Business of the Month in September! Our President and Executive Director set up an informative table in the bank lobby that was up through the whole month of September.



NYSM Family History Day



This year, the New York State Museum held their first-annual Family History Day event. This free event welcomed guests to the NYS Museum for a day of history – with lectures, guided museum tours, exhibits from local historic

sites, and historic objects on display from the NYS Archives. The National Bottle Museum was proud to join the event, and offered information on bottle history and how to tell the age of a bottle.

Patent Medicine Display



Queens of Quackery: Female Proprietors in Patent Medicine is a lecture which was presented by our Executive Director as a part of the I Love New York Path Through

History Weekend. In conjunction with this lecture, we have on display a temporary exhibit on patent

medicines. This display will only be available for a few months, so make sure to stop by the museum to see it before it's gone! And if you missed the lecture, it will be presented again in March for the Winter Lecture Series at the Schoharie Crossing State Historic Site.

Follow our social media for more information as we get closer!

New Bottles in the Collection



The Museum has received a number of large donations this quarter!

Some notable donations include a selection of pharmacy

bottles and tools from the Pharmacists' Society of the State of New York, and a small collection of milk bottles, including one featuring Perky, the Stewarts' Shops lamb mascot.

Many of the pharmacy bottles are currently on display in our front window, and Perky will soon be joining our Ballston Spa bottles display!

Pictured here are some of the other bottles that were donated this quarter.

While the museum does not purchase bottles, nor provide valuations or appraisals, we are always happy to accept donations. If you have any questions about whether a bottle would be a good fit for our collection, please feel free to send us an email with photos of your bottles, and we will get back to you!

Online Museum Gift Shop

NATIONAL BOTTLE MUSEUM INC
Official merchandise



We have an online gift shop for National Bottle Museum gifts and merchandise! This gift shop is hosted online through Bonfire, and purchases made there will be shipped directly to your home address! Many designs available in the shop are only available online, so this is your chance to get some unique Bottle Museum gifts!

Visit <https://www.bonfire.com/store/national-bottle-museum-online-store/> or find the link on our website!



National Bottle Museum

76 Milton Ave
Ballston Spa, NY 12020

518-885-7589

info@nationalbottle.museum.org

www.nationalbottlemuseum.org

Memberships, Donations, and Grants

(as of 11/2023)

GRANTS AND ANNUAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Village of Ballston Spa—Annual Contribution
Ballston Spa National Bank—Exhibit Sponsorship
Town of Milton—Annual Contribution
Stewart's Shops—Holiday Match and In-Kind Donation
4Imprint—In-Kind Donation

MEMBERSHIPS

PATRONS

Capital Region Antique & Bottle Club	Stewarts Shoppes
Hudson Valley Bottle Club	Town of Milton
Somers Antique Bottle Club	Village of Ballston Spa

BENEFACTORS

Caleb Eick	Larry Rutland
David & Donna Dardaris	Sander Bonvell & Liz Kormos
Frank Pankiwicz	Steve Kowalski
Jeff Ullman	The Finger Lakes Bottle Collector's Association
Judy Prevratil	Thomas Paskiewicz

SUPPORTERS

Adam Stoddard	Gerald Dexter	Robert Rasera
Corina Oberai	Janice Badkin	Roy Topka
Dan & Laura Noonan	Jon Sterngass & Karen Welltman	Stephen Dickinson
Darlene Furda	Kevin & Ellie Dillon	Susan Farrow
David Mytych	Mary Alice & Rich Hallett	Terry McMurray
David Smith	Michael Polak	Vance Heroth
David Wright	Richard Hasenauer	Zang Wood
Fran Martone		

FRIENDS

Allan & Nancy Repp	Deborah Cangi	Phil Bernnard
Ann Hauprich	Dee Scotti	Richard Strunk
Anna Goldberg	George and Sara Kolesar	Robert Danison
Anna Scott	James Finnance	Roy Topka
Barbara Trypaluk	Karin G. Welsh	Shirleyan Ebert
Ben Baskin	Linda Brown	Sue Ellen Stine
Darrell Pinckney	Marilyn Bradley	
David Foley	Meg Stevens	



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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL

Annual Membership in the National Bottle Museum is open to one and all in the following categories:

- \$20 to \$49 – **Friends**
- \$50 to \$149 – **Supporters**
- \$150 to \$499– **Benefactors**
- \$500 and up – **Patrons**

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. The Museum is a member of the Ballston Spa Business and Professional Association, the Southern Saratoga County Chamber of Commerce, and the Museum Association of New York.

Members receive a quarterly newsletter containing information on the museum, and the history of glass bottle manufacturing, identification, and collecting. Each June, 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 AND FULL MAILING ADDRESS

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

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

Name:		Phone:	
Address:			
City:		State:	Zip:
Email Address:			
Amount Enclosed: \$	Circle One: New / Renewal	Gift:	Date:
Bottle Club (if any):			