



Baltimore Antique Bottle Club, Inc

BALTIMORE BOTTLE DIGGER

May 2026

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Hello everyone,

Bottle collecting and digging are wonderful hobbies! I have met a lot of great people over the years who share these interests. While in High School, I met and befriended an older couple named Albert & Mary Fulk at a bottle dump we were all digging. We quickly became close and they soon took me and my friends, Jim and Henry, under their experienced wings. Every Saturday, rain or shine, we would go out with them searching for old bottles. I remained friends with Albert and Mary well after college and beyond. Albert collected Hutchinson bottles and while I was away at college, he found an old store dump. He dug hundreds of DC hutches - enough to fill two 42 gallon barrels! When he retired, he and Mary moved to West Virginia. By this time, I was married, and Cathy and I went to visit them. Albert and I went digging and we found the main city dump for Terra Alta, West Virginia. The dump was from the 1890's to 1910's and I found several hutches, an amber Coke, and lots of other neat bottles. On our way out of the dump, I stepped on an Oakland, Maryland hutch. How cool is that?

The message I'm trying to impart is that if we want our hobby to flourish with current and future generations, we need to set an example like Albert and Mary Fulk did. We need to share our passion, knowledge and expertise by taking new enthusiasts, collectors and younger diggers under our wings. We are all just caretakers of these incredible treasures and one day they will be passed on to the next generation.

Happy Hunting & Digging,

Tom

CLUB WEBSITES

<https://www.baltimorebottleclub.org/>
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/baltimorebottleclub>

MEETINGS & SPEAKERS

All meetings held at:
Towson Presbyterian Church
400 West Chesapeake Ave
Towson, MD 21204

Presentation Schedule
(subject to change)

May 8, 2026

Chris Rowell, Early Baltimore
Beers & Sodas
Board Meeting

June 12, 2026

Club Elections

July 10, 2026

TBD

August 14, 2026

Club Picnic

September 11, 2026

TBD

October 9, 2026

Shawn Peters, Stoneware

November 13, 2026

TBD

This newsletter of the Baltimore Antique Bottle Club, Inc. is published monthly January through December. It is sent to all members who are in good standing, the Federation of Historical Bottle Collectors and other clubs on an exchange basis. Permission is granted to quote or reprint any article or matter published herein provided proper credit is given and rights are not otherwise prohibited. Items for inclusion in future issues are welcome and should be forwarded to the editor, John Lowry, at jlowryxp@gmail.com or mailed to 4116 Queen Mary Drive, Olney, MD 20832 by the 20th of each month. Submitted material may be edited for content spelling and grammar.

4/10/26 MEETING MINUTES

Submitted by Rita Miller, Secretary

- * The regular meeting of the Baltimore Antique Bottle Club, Inc, was called to order at 7 pm at the Towson Presbyterian Church by President Tom Robusto with 25 people in attendance. It was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.
- * The Treasurer's Report was given by Karen Lease. 6 bottle books and 22 T-Shirts were sold at the show.
- * Shawn Peters gave a very favorable show report. We had 981 paid admissions to the event. Only four vendors were issued refunds. The Baltimore Banner did an article on the show. (Link to the article is available in the March newsletter and on the club website).
- * Andy Agnew announced the April "Theme Bottle" entries - which were submitted by Alex Hertzman, Tom Robusto and Andy Agnew.
- * The evening's first program was "Show Finds from the BABC Bottle Show" with remarks from Micah Dolina, Bob Ford, Andy Agnew, Shawn Peters, Rick Lease, John Lowry, Chris Rowell and Tom Robusto.
- * The 2nd program of the evening was an enlightening presentation by Bill Thomas about the Gillinder Glass Company and the "Art of Glassworks".
- * There was a break for Pizza, Soda and socializing.
- * The "Raffle Bottle" and "Badge Bottle" drawings took place. The Raffle bottle was a cobalt "Kickapoo Sage Hair Tonic" and the Badge bottle was a "Schenck's Pulmonic Syrup".
- * A vote was taken by the Board to continue the Keith Miceli Scholarship.
- * The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.



Officers 2025-2026

President.....Tom Robusto
Vice President.....Rick Lease
Secretary.....Rita Miller
Treasurer.....Karen Lease
Membership.....Chuck Meyer

Show Chairman.....Shawn Peters
Co-Show Chairman.....Micah Dolina
Sargeant at Arms.....Dave Davenport

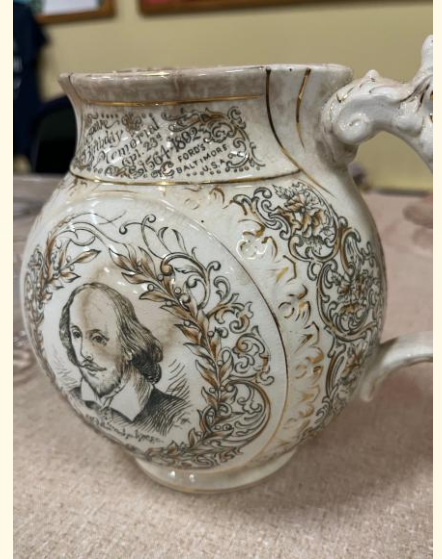
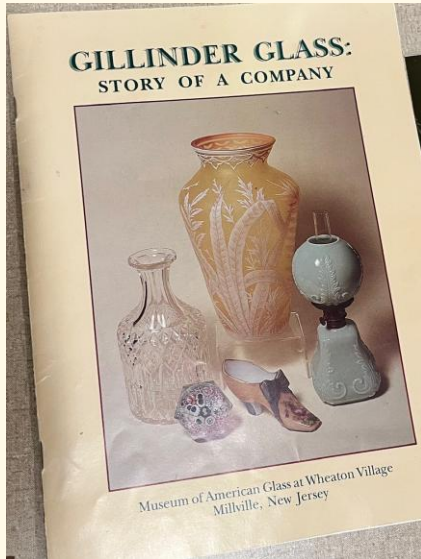
Board Members 2025-2026

Alex Hertzman
Bob Ford
Andy Agnew
John Lowry

THE GILLINDER GLASS COMPANY

THE ART OF GLASS WORKS

Presented by Bill Thomas



- ❖ William Gillinder came to America in 1854 and settled in Baltimore in 1857.
- ❖ His company was one of the most important glass makers in history.
- ❖ In 1861, he moved to Philadelphia and teamed up with Edward Bennett. They started “molding” glass and created many pieces for the US Centennial.





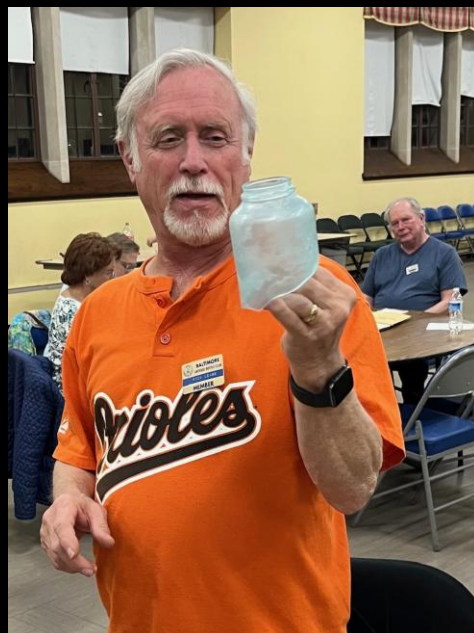
- ❖ They made Peg Lamps to transition from candle lighting to oil lighting.
- ❖ They also created cameo glass which was very popular in Europe.
- ❖ The company still exists and is based in New York. They make glass for airport lighting.
- ❖ Charles Gillinder, a descendent of William Gillinder is still alive.





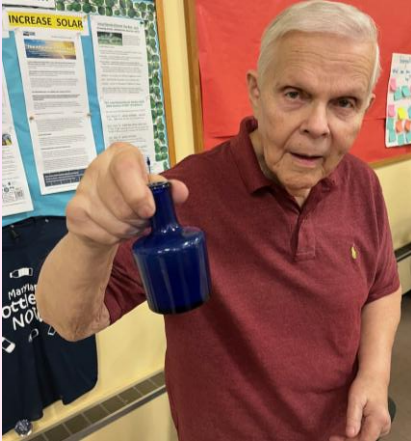
BEST FINDS FROM THE SHOW

- Micah Dolina picked up a beer bottle from Havre de Grace.
- Bob Ford found a book of labels and a John Cristof from Columbia, a Roland Park Country Club from 1910.
 - Andy Agnew purchased a late 19th century comic pumpkin seed flask.
 - Rick Lease has the remainder of a pint H&S fruit jar that would be worth \$6,000 if only it was complete.
- Shawn Peters acquired an 1820's Buckley's little brown jug, an unmarked Baltimore stoneware from N Gay Street.
 - John Lowry got a stoneware beer bottle from J.A. Lomax from Chicago, circa 1870.
 - Chris Rowell bought a pontiled Baltimore bitters bottle from Robinson & Lord / Baltimore 1850's.
 - Tom Robusto acquired Truly Cream Sodas from 1860-1870 – popular, but very rare collectibles.



RAFFLE & BADGE BOTTLE WINNERS

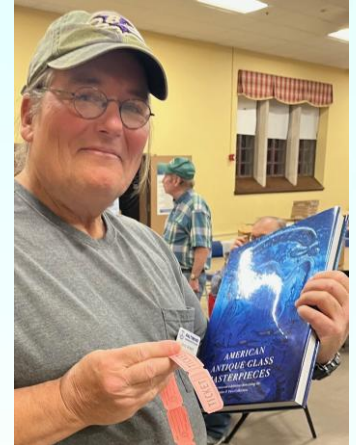
RAFFLE WINNER



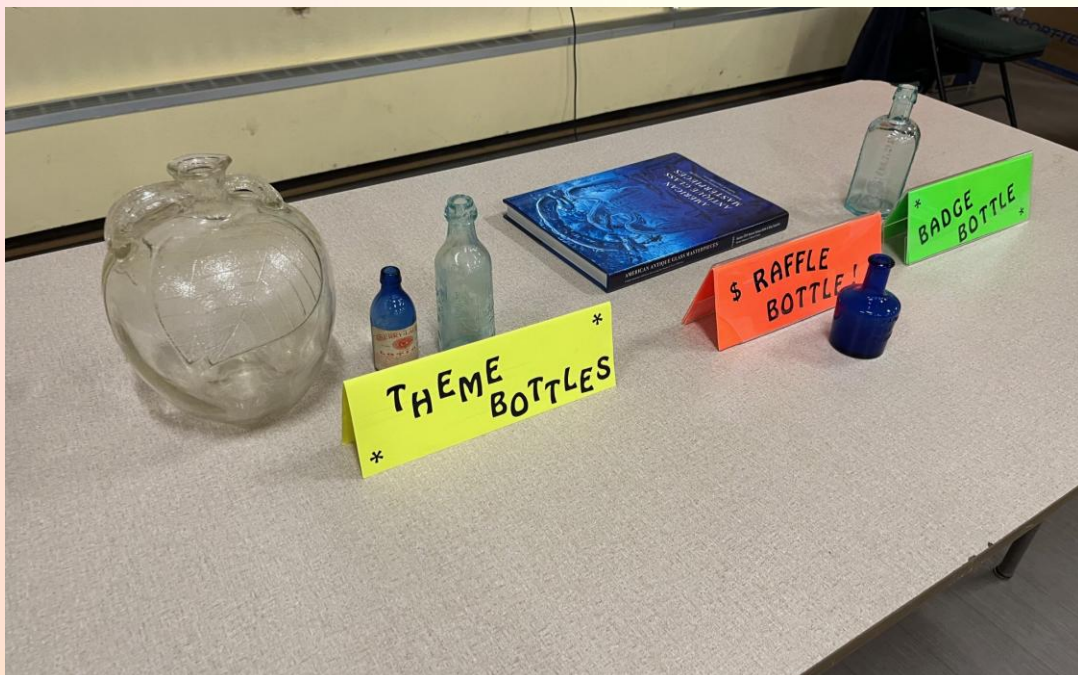
**RAFFLE BOTTLE
WINNER:
Bill Thomas**



**BADGE BOTTLE
WINNER:
Glen Mansberger**



**RAFFLE WINNER:
Dave Hefner**



- Alex Hertzman – apple shaped bottle that could have held juice, vinegar or cider – the start of the Apple computer company
- Andy Agnew – cobalt medicine bottle 1880's – the first human eye transplant
- Tom Robusto – a pictorial blob top soda bottle from New York City 1880's – St. Patrick's return to Ireland



BOTTLE BRAIN

Question:

Are there any general rules to follow on privy digging?



Photo courtesy of Henry Waskey

Answer:

The following are the established Ten Commandments of bottle digging:

1. Thou shalt not dig privies alone.
2. Thou shalt not desecrate sites of potential historical and archaeological significance, such as the privies of former presidents.
3. Thou shalt not probe or dig without the owner's permission.
4. Thou shalt not destroy artifacts by digging with savage and reckless abandon.
5. Thou shalt not covet thy digging partner's bottles.
6. Thou shalt make immediate and proper restoration to the property.
7. Thou shalt put preservation above profit.
8. Thou shalt share finds with the property owner.
9. Thou shalt maintain records of each privy dug so that future generations might know of it.
10. Thou shalt retain a dignified demeanor at all times, even in the presence of broken pontiled Baltimore sodas.



ATTENTION: There will be a Board Meeting after the regular meeting on Friday, May 8.

NEWS & NOTES

**** All meetings are being held on the second Friday of the month at 6:30 pm in our new location!
Towson Presbyterian Church
400 West Chesapeake Ave**

- ❖ All members are encouraged to bring in a bottle that corresponds to an event that happened in the month of the current MEETING. Events in history for the month are included at the end of each newsletter to provide ideas. The bottle does not have to be spot-on, but should somehow relate to the events outlined.
- ❖ Suggestions for topics in upcoming newsletters? Email John Lowry, at JLowryRXP@gmail.com.

SOME UPCOMING BOTTLE SHOWS

Check out the
Federation of Historical Bottle Collectors' website
for additional upcoming bottle shows <https://fohbc.org/events/>

May 2 @ 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

State of Franklin Antique Bottles & Collectibles Association's 28th Annual Show & Sale
Appalachian Fairground 100 Lakeview St, Gray, TN, United States, Appalachian Fairground Gray, TN off I-26 at Exit 13

May 3 @ 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

55th Annual Genesee Valley Bottle Collector's Assn Bottle and Antique Sale, Roberts Wesleyan University Voller Athletic Center 2301 Westside Drive, Rochester, NY, United States

May 3 @ 9:00 am - May 4 @ 2:00 pm

9th Annual Dunkard Valley Antiques & Collectibles Show & Sale, Mylan Park Mon Center 270 Mylan Park Lane, Morgantown, WV, United States

May 9 @ 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Mansfield Antique Bottle Show
Richland County Fairgrounds 750 N Home Road, Mansfield, OH, United States

May 9 @ 9:00 am - 3:30 pm

6th Annual Alabama Bottle & Advertising Show
Gardendale Civic Center 857 Main St., Gardendale, AL, United States

May 15 - May 17

Shupp's Grove Bottle Festival May 2026
Shupp's Grove 607 Willow Street, Reinholds, PA, United States, Shupps Grove May 2026 Details and Registration Form Additional 3 Day Shows Coming: July 17 - 19, 2026 and September 18 - 20, 2026

May 16 @ 8:00 am - 2:00 pm

Little Rhody Bottle Club Swap Meet
Leonard's Antiques 600 Taunton Avenue, Seekonk, MA, United States

May 16 @ 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Nouvelle Orleans 4th Annual Antique Bottle & Collectibles Show & Sale, Mandeville Lions Club 720 Lafitte Street, Mandeville, LA, United States

May 17 @ 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Washington County of Washington, PA Antique Bottle Club's 52nd Annual Show & Sale
Alpine Star Lodge 735 Jefferson Avenue, Washington, PA, United States

May 17 @ 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Historic Batsto Village's Spring Antiques & Bottle Show, Historic Batsto Village Wharton State Forest, Rt. 542 Pleasant Mills Road, Hammonton, NJ, United States

May 31 @ 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

46th Annual Saratoga Antique Bottle Show & Sale
Saratoga County Fairgrounds 162 Prospect Street, Ballston Spa, NY, United States

June 5 - June 6

5th Annual Chattanooga & North Georgia Antique Bottles & Advertising Show, Dalton Convention Center 2211 Tony Ingle Pkwy, Dalton, GA, United States

June 6 @ 8:00 am - 1:00 pm

Upstate Collectible and Antique Show
West End Baptist Church 400 Overbrook Drive, Gaffney, SC, United States

MAY BOTTLES



RAFFLE

Giveaway whiskey bottle in the shape of a figural corn cob. 1890s-1900. About 7 inches long.

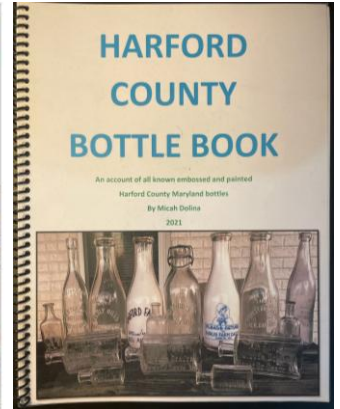
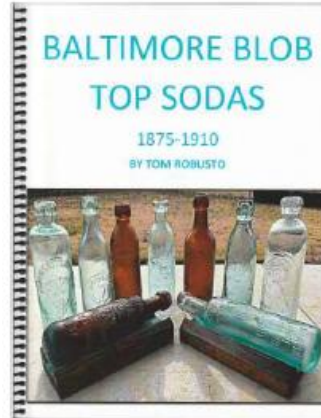


BADGE

Lantern candy container, early 20th century

Bottle Books

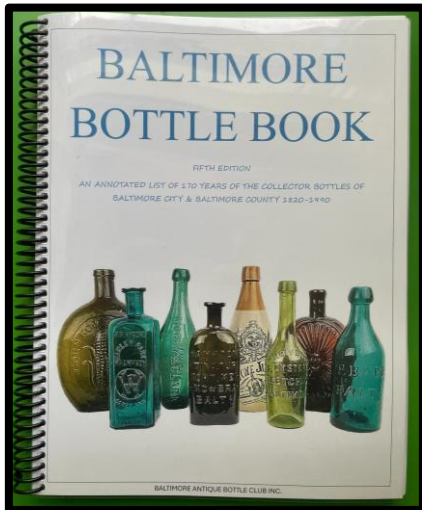
Check out these books written by BABC members, Tom Robusto and Micah Dolina



REMEMBER TO WEAR YOUR BADGE AT ALL CLUB MEETINGS

CLUB MERCHANDISE

Books and shirts will be available at all club functions



Baltimore Bottle Book \$35



Baltimore Bottle Club Shirts – Sizes S-3XL Available - \$15

Please contact Rick or Chuck with ideas to maintain and grow membership in the Club.

THINK THEME BOTTLES – THIS DAY IN HISTORY

HISTORICAL EVENTS IN MAY BY DAY (<http://holidayinsights.com/history>)

May 1 England releases the first 1st adhesive postage stamp. (1840) The first wagon train leaves Independence, Mo for California. (1841) “Buffalo Bill” Cody’s first Wild West Show. (1883) Construction begins on the first skyscraper, the 10-story Home Insurance Company building in Chicago, IL. (1884) The Empire State Building is dedicated. (1931) The cereal “Cheerios” hits store shelves. (1941) Slugger Mickey Mantle hits his first home run. (1951) Mr. Potato Head hits the toy shelves. (1952)

May 2 The U.S. stops minting the 20-cent coin. (1878) Good Housekeeping Magazine first hits the newsstands. (1885) Jack Benny’s first radio show premieres. (1932) Lou Gehrig plays in his 2,130th game, a baseball record that will last for 57 years until Cal Ripken comes along. (1939)

May 3 Christopher Columbus discovers “St Iago”. It is later renamed Jamaica. (1494) Joe DiMaggio makes his major-league debut with 3 hits for the NY Yankees. (1936) Margaret Mitchell wins the Pulitzer Prize for “Gone With the Wind”. (1937) Digital Equipment Corporation sends the first bulk unsolicited commercial emails... spam is born! (1978)

May 4 Manhattan Island is sold! Native American Indians agree to the deal in exchange for \$24 in cloth & buttons. (1626) The phonograph plays for the first time at the Grand Opera House. (1878) Atlanta Penitentiary has a new resident after Al Capone is convicted of income tax evasion. (1932) The Academy of Motion Pictures founded. (1934) Soap operas “Another World” and “As the World Turns” premiere. (1964) Margaret Thatcher becomes the first woman Prime Minister of the United Kingdom. (1979)

May 5 Kublai Khan the grandson of Genghis Khan becomes ruler of the Mongol Empire. (1260) Mexican forces under Benito Juarez defeated French troops in the Battle of Puebla. Today, we celebrate this battle as Cinco de Mayo. (1862) North Bend, Ohio gets on the map. It’s the site of the first US train robbery. (1865) The New York Stock Exchange crashes, causing the “Great Panic of 1893”. (1893) Cy Young pitches the first perfect game in modern baseball history. (1904) Alan Shepard rides “Freedom 7” to become 1st American in space. (1961) Senator Robert F. Kennedy is assassinated. (1968)

May 6 John Deere produces the first steel plow. (1833) The Paris Exposition opens with the just-completed Eiffel Tower as its centerpiece. (1889) John Yale, Jr. receives a patent for the Yale lock. (1915) Future Baseball Hall of Famer Babe Ruth hits his first home run. (1915) The Dirigible Hindenburg explodes into flames at Lakehurst, NJ. (1937) Chunnel linking England & France officially opens. (1994) Entrepreneur Elon Musk forms SpaceX. (2002)

May 7 The first inaugural ball is held in honor of George Washington and his wife. (1789) George Eastman patents the Box Camera. (1888) The World’s largest pearl (6.4kg.) is discovered in the Philippines. (1934) Big band leader Glenn Miller records the “Chattanooga Choo Choo”. (1941) Germany signs an unconditional surrender at Rheims, France, ending WWII in Europe. (1945) The Beatle’s last album is released – “Long and Winding Road”. (1970) The maiden voyage of the space shuttle Endeavor. (1992)

May 8 The U.S. Post Office is established. (1791) Richmond, Virginia is named the capital of the Confederacy. (1861) George Selden files the first patent for a gas-driven automobile. (1879) V-E Day, Germany signs unconditional surrender. (1945) Mad Magazine hits the newsstands. (1952) The World Health Organization announces that Smallpox has been eradicated worldwide. (1980)

May 9 A “Golden Spike” is driven into the railroad tracks at Promontory Summit, Utah. It connects the tracks of the Union Pacific and Central Pacific railroads, creating the first Transcontinental railroad. (1869) The syrup for Coca-Cola is invented by Atlanta Pharmacist John Styth Permerton. (1886) The lawnmower is patented. (1899) President Woodrow Wilson decrees Mother’s Day. (1914) Americans Richard Boyd and Floyd Bennett become the first to fly over the North Pole. (1926) The first birth control pill is approved by the FDA. (1960)

HISTORICAL EVENTS IN MAY BY DAY (continued)

May 10 The first U.S. Navy ship, named "United States", is launched. (1797) The first Mother's Day is observed in Philadelphia, PA. (1908) The first color pictures of Earth from space are sent back from Apollo 10. (1969) Nelson Mandela becomes South Africa's first black president. (1994)

May 11 Einstein presents his theory of General Relativity. (1916) General Electric opens the world's first television station in Schenectady, NY. (1928) BF Goodrich manufactures the first tubeless tire. (1947) Jay Forrester patents computer core memory. (1951)

May 12 The flush toilet is patented. (1792) Mormon pioneer William Clayton invents the odometer while crossing the western plains in a covered wagon. (1847) The first National Hospital Day is celebrated honoring the birth of Florence Nightingale. (1921)

May 13 Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's first opera "Apollo et Hyacinthus" premieres in Salzburg. He wrote it when he was 11 years old. (1767) The Rolling Stones record the now-infamous song "Satisfaction". (1965) The Beatles' movie "Let it Be" premieres. (1970) "Mr. October", Reggie Jackson becomes the first major league ballplayer to strike out 2,000 times. (1983)

May 14 A party of settlers led by John Smith established the first permanent English settlement in the New World at Jamestown Va. (1607) Delegates gather in Philadelphia to draw up the Constitution of the United States of America. (1787) Physician Edward Jenner develops a vaccine for smallpox. (1796) Vaseline petroleum jelly slides onto store shelves for the first time. (1878) The first U.S. space station, "Skylab" is launched. (1973) The last episode of Seinfeld is aired. It's a sad day in May for millions of Seinfeld followers. (1965)

May 15 President Abraham Lincoln establishes the Department of Agriculture (USDA). (1862) Regular airmail service is inaugurated (between New York, Philadelphia & Washington, DC. (1918) Nylon stockings hit the market for the first time. (1940) "If I Had a Hammer" by Peter, Paul, and Mary wins a Grammy. (1963)

May 16 Mississippi River steamboat service begins. (1817) Charles Hires invents Root Beer. (1866) Joan of Arc is canonized as a saint. (1920) Michael Jordan is named "NBA Rookie of the Year". (1985)

May 17 "And They're Off!" as the first Kentucky Derby is held at Churchill Downs. (1875) "The Wonderful World of Oz" is published. (1900) Alaska becomes a U.S. territory. (1884) The first "Running of the Kentucky Derby" is held at Churchill Downs. (1954)

May 18 Napoleon Bonaparte becomes Emperor of France. (1804) The Republican party nominates Abraham Lincoln for president. (1860) Grumman's Chinese Theater opens in Hollywood, CA. (1927) Gene Roddenberry suggests 16 names for Star Trek Captain. The list includes Kirk. (1965)

May 19 Ann Boleyn, second wife of English King Henry VIII is beheaded. (1536) Ringling Brothers circus premieres. (1884) American actress Meghan Markle marries England's Prince Harry in a ceremony at Windsor Castle and becomes the Duchess of Sussex. (2018)

May 20 The fountain pen is patented. (1830) Thomas Edison says Americans prefer silent movies over talkies. (1926) Hubble Space Telescope transmits photographs from space. (1990)

May 21 Captain Bartholomew Gosnold is the first to see Martha's Vineyard. (1602) The Confederate States make Richmond, VA its capital. (1861) The American Red Cross is formed. (1881)

HISTORICAL EVENTS IN MAY BY DAY (continued)

May 22 The opening battle in England's 30-year "War of the Roses". (1455) The courts try and acquit former Vice President Aaron Burr of treason. (1807) The Great Train Robbery. (1868) The steamship Savannah departs Savannah, GA to Liverpool, England on the first trans-Atlantic crossing by a steamship. (1819) The Wright Brothers receive a patent for their "flying machine". (1906) Canned rattlesnake meat goes on sale in Florida. (1931) First reported sighting of the Loch Ness Monster. (1933) The debut of "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood". (1967) After a 94-year run, the Orient Express takes its final trip across Europe. (1977)

May 23 Benjamin Franklin invents bifocals. (1785) Associated Press News Service Begins operations. (1900) Legendary bank robbers Bonnie and Clyde Barrow are shot to death in a police ambush in Louisiana. (1934) Cliff Notes are first used by U.S. schoolchildren. (1958)

May 24 The Continental Congress unanimously elects John Hancock as its president. (1775) Mary Hale of Boston authors the nursery rhyme "Mary Had a Little Lamb". (1830) Samuel Morse opens the first telegraph line between Baltimore, MD, and Washington, DC. (1844) The Brooklyn Bridge formally opens. (1883)

May 25 Ford ceases production of the Model "T". (1927) President John F. Kennedy announces a goal to put an American astronaut on the moon before the end of the decade. (1961) Gateway Arch in St. Louis is dedicated. (1968) The original movie blockbuster "Star Wars, Episode IV" hits theaters in a big way. (1977) First National Missing Children's Day. (1983) A SpaceX Dragon becomes the first commercial spacecraft to dock at the International Space Station. (2012)

May 26 Lewis and Clark are the first to see the Rocky Mountains. (1805) During WWII, the trapped British Expeditionary Force evacuates the European mainland from Dunkirk, France. (1940) Michael Jackson marries Elvis Presley's daughter Lisa Marie Presley. (1994)

May 27 Achsah Young is the first woman executed as a witch in Massachusetts. (1647) Richard Gurley Drew receives a patent for cellophane tape. (1930) The San Francisco Golden Gate Bridge opens. Over 200,000 people go across it on opening day. (1937) The British Navy sinks the German battleship Bismarck. (1941)

May 28 A group in San Francisco led by John Muir form the Sierra Club. (1892) Dodge Brothers Inc. and Chrysler Corporation merge. (1928)

May 29 Famous Abraham Lincoln quote: "You can fool some of the people all of the time, all of the people some of the time, but you can't fool all of the people all of time". (1849) The U.S. adopts the official flag of the President of the United States. (1916) Albert Einstein publishes his Theory of Relativity. (1919) Bing Crosby sings "White Christmas" into the record books. It is the biggest-selling record of all time. (1942) Sir Edmund Hillary is on top of the world. He is the first person to reach the summit of Mt. Everest. (1953)

May 30 During the Hundred Years' War, 19-year-old Joan of Arc is burned at the stake. (1431) James Boyd patents the fire hose. (1821) The brassiere is invented. As we understand, it received a lot of support. (1889) Supreme Court Chief Justice William H. Taft dedicates the recently completed Lincoln Memorial. (1922)

May 31 U.S. Copyright law is enacted. (1790) Dr. John Harvey Kellogg patents "flaked cereal". (1884) 3M Company inventor Richard Gurley Drew receives a patent for Scotch tape. (1930) John Lennon and Yoko Ono record the song "Give Peace a Chance". (1969) Completion of the Trans-Alaska pipeline. (1977) Seinfeld television comedy show premieres. (1990) The television reality show "Survivor" premieres. (2000)



Baltimore Antique Bottle Club, Inc.



www.baltimorebottleclub.org

2026 MEMBERSHIP FORM

NAME _____

- RENEWAL NEW MEMBER
- INDIVIDUAL FAMILY

SPOUSE'S NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____

STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____ (for email notifications and newsletter)

PHONE NUMBER: _____

WHAT TYPE(S) OF BOTTLES DO YOU COLLECT? _____

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

Meetings are held on the second Friday of each month at the Towson Presbyterian Church, 400 W. Chesapeake Ave., Towson, MD 21204. The meetings will take place from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. but attendees are encouraged to arrive as early as 6:00 p.m.

Dues are \$20 for an Individual or a Family Dues Enclosed: _____

PLEASE SEND FORM AND CHECK TO ADDRESS BELOW.

Make checks payable to: Baltimore Antique Bottle Club, Inc.

Mail check to:
Chuck Meyer
BABC Membership Chair
P.O. Box 36061
Towson, MD 21280-6061

OR bring this form and payment to a meeting and give to Chuck Meyer or Karen Lease, Treasurer

To be completed by Membership Chair:

Date Received: _____ Cash: \$ _____ Check: \$ _____ # _____