

In and around 2005 I did a series of interviews with Dick Watson, Norm Heckler and Tom McCandless for the purpose of creating content for the New Jersey Antique Bottle Club News Letter. In addition, I thought it would be a fun, interesting and educational task. At this time I spoke to Mark about the idea of an interview and he was more than gracious in offering to be interviewed for the bottle club's newsletter. I prepared a set of questions just as I'd done for the Watson, Heckler and McCandless interviews but altered them to fit, more in line, with the collection of American Historical Flasks. Over the years and from time to time, Mark and I mentioned the pending interview and I made the mistake of always thinking that I had plenty of time to accomplish the task. Unfortunately, and to my great sorrow, this is a task that will never be completed. Fortunately, Bob Strickhart was able to interview Mark and his interview will be attached in the interview section of this website. Below are the original questions I prepared in 2005 with no edits.

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**Mark Vuono:** (Mark pick a title – I like: "Like Father Like Son" but we can change to what ever you like.

By: Joe Butewicz

I've asked Mark Vuono for years to grant an interview that could be published in our New Jersey Antique Bottle Club news letter and in the Antique Bottle and Glass Collector magazine. I finally got the time to ..... (I'll write the intro here and send it for your review)

.....and the interview begins:

**What year did your father Charles Vuono start collecting?**

**What was his first flask?**

**Who were his biggest competitors?**

**Do you have more mold variants than Judge Blaské had?  
(Give the number of molds Blaske had)**

**How long have you been collecting on a serious level?**

**Was there any event in particular that got you interested in collecting historical flasks?**

**What happened next?**

**I'm absolutely sure that if you had to pick one category to represents the hobby it would be historical flasks. Do you have any comments about why you would choose historical flasks to represent our hobby of antique bottle collecting?**

**Please comment on building a collection by mold variant as opposed to building a collection bottle by bottle or by color.**

**What is your most memorable acquisition?**

**Is this your favorite piece?**

**What is your favorite flask?**

**As far as your personal collection goes, is there anything specific that you are trying to acquire?**

**What items are you unable to attain that would be a nice addition to your collection.**

**What was the first show or auction you attended?**

**Who sponsored it? A club? An auctioneer?**

**Who do you remember as the first generation collectors or founding fathers of our hobby?**

**Which of them did you and your family know on a personal level?**

**Do you have and fond memories of those early collectors?**

**What was your favorite decade in the hobby?**

**Why?**

**How were the dealings back then?**

**What else was important in the hobby at that time?**

**What was the most memorable auction or sale?**

**Is there any special bottle you remember from that sale?**

**Do you still enjoy a live auction most of all?**

**Why?**

**What is the single most important Connecticut flask you know of?**

**How many JPFs are out there?**

**Of the three Jared Spencer variants which is the rarest in your opinion?**

**How many of each variant are out there?**

**What is your favorite Connecticut Glass House?**

**Why?**

**What do you like about the South Jersey glass and flasks?**

**What do you like about the Baltimore flasks?**

**What do you like about the Philadelphia flasks?**

**In closing, do you have any final thoughts about our hobby?**