

St. Louis

2019

m&m's COLLECTORS CLUB

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The M&M'S® Dispenser

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St. Louis – 21st Annual Convention Highlights!

The members that drove to this year's 21st Annual Convention had to go through an obstacle course to reach the Embassy Suites hotel. The downtown area had an underground explosion / electrical fire the night before which closed most of the main streets around our hotel. Most everyone also had rain to contend with while unloading their cars.

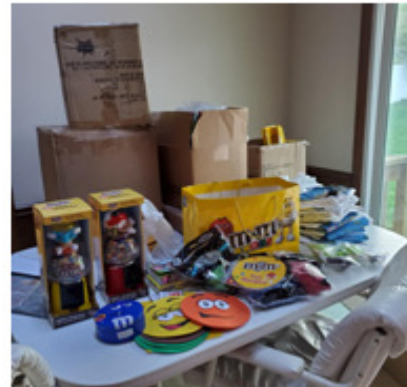


There was a large number of members who arrived early and gathered the day before.

Registration was on Wednesday night. Everyone received their name badges, door signs, t-shirts and registration packets. Included in the packets were: Caps and Scarves from Belgium, Easter Treat Boxes from Canada, Ponchos (handy, since it rained all week), Miss Brown Pin, Rocker Magnets (put it on the fridge & "rock" it back to hold paper or pictures under it), M&M'S® Brand stampers, pens and various other plush and M&M'S® Brand advertising items.

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Registration



Thursday afternoon was our Welcome Party. The tables were decorated with balloon centerpieces (Thanks to Marla) & M&M'S® Brand treat boxes. We welcomed several new members this year – they all received our banquet gift from last year and M&M'S® Brand Milk Chocolate Candies from Australia (Lamington, Neapolitan & Raspberry). We all introduced ourselves and then had some cake & punch. We introduced a “Let’s Mingle” game designed to get to know each other better. The object was simply to talk to each other to see what you had in common. We played a few rounds of LCR to win some M&M'S® Brand prizes. The evening brought more games & more opportunities to win **More Photos on Page 4**

Welcome Party

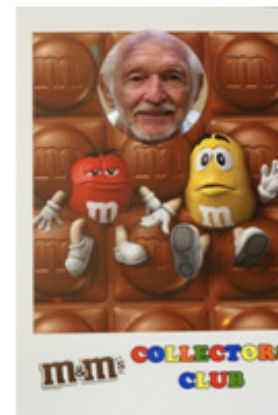
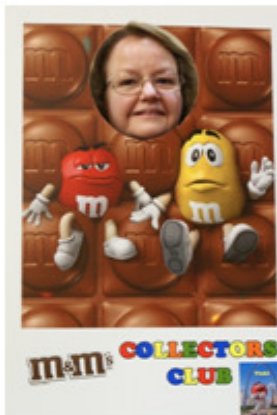
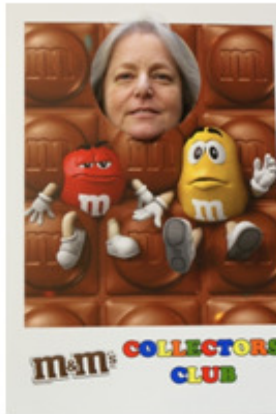


Welcome Party Continued

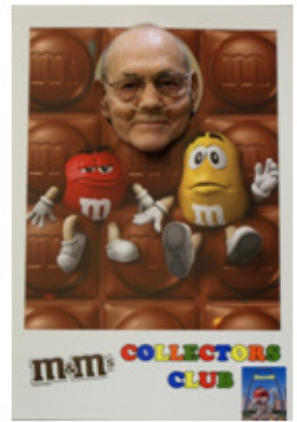
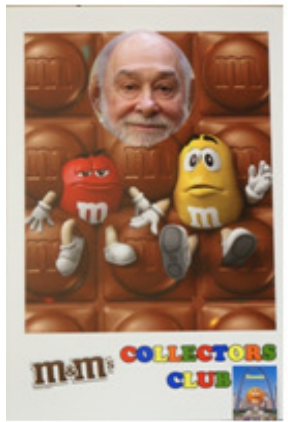
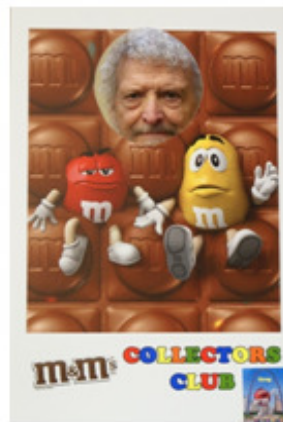
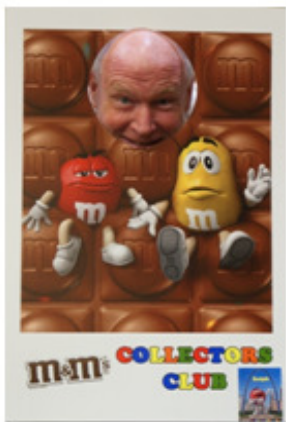
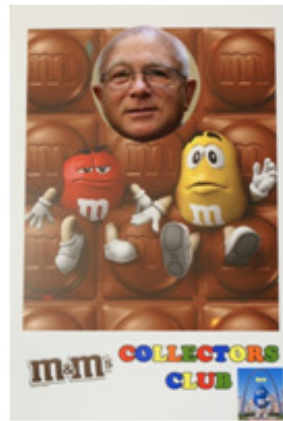


M&M'S® Brand prizes! In case you didn't open your t-shirt package, it is a good-quality, *highly wrinkled* JH Design t-shirt.

Throughout the convention, we had the opportunity to get our picture taken with M&M'S® Brand Red & Yellow Characters and become "Stuck in a candy bar" with them. Thanks to the Bantz's, we have plenty of photos of everyone!



WE'RE STUCK ON YOU!



**WE'RE
STUCK
ON YOU
TOO!**



Business Meeting; Cleveland, Ohio; Silent Auction & Pasta Dinner Night

Friday afternoon we had a short Business Meeting and talked about next year's convention being planned for Cleveland, Ohio. Afterwards, we had a Silent Auction - this is a good opportunity to win an item without someone knowing who is bidding against them.

Friday night was Pasta Dinner night. The tables were decorated with M&M'S® Brand wreaths (thanks Jo Ann) and another t-shirt. There was also a "present" at each table. In order to get to eat dinner, each table was supposed to complete a 250 piece puzzle. The difficulty of the puzzle was deceiving! After about 50 minutes, we let everyone eat. The pasta was delicious! And the dessert bar with tiramisu & cannoli was top-notch! We played a version of Ellen DeGeneres' game "you bet your wife", where you basically are given a category & come up with the most items in that category. Oddly, even though Larry Foss' table got 35 each time, they didn't win... We also played a game where the object was, if you rolled "doubles" you got to take a prize from several prizes in the middle of the table, or from one of your fellow collectors. A couple of tables had a great time stealing from each other.



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Kentucky Derby Hat Preparations



On Saturday afternoon we held our regular auction. Greg Brown is a fantastic auctioneer! His helpers, Dennis Taylor, Ralph Corner & Jo Ann were comical too! This is a great opportunity to get items from Europe, Australia and Asia! There were many treasures in this year's auction! Several of the items were unique store display items. Our mystery chest contained a rare Waterford Crystal Mars employee award item. **Continued Next Page**

Saturday Auction





Bob Hawkes proudly displays his Waterford Crystal Mars, Inc. Award which was in the Mystery Box he won in the auction. The group of items pictured right was the items in the Club Wide Raffle won by Greg Brown. Congratulations to both members!!



Banquet

Saturday evening was our Farewell Banquet. Jo Ann & Bill did an awesome job on the Centerpieces! Everyone seemed to enjoy the dinner. Ooey Goey Butter Cake was created in St. Louis, so that was on the dessert menu. The Tribe Tin Boxes (thanks to Bob & Karen) match the Tribe Tins from the convention last year. We awarded the prizes for the "Let's Mingle" game and played for a few more M&M'S® Brand prizes. The Club-wide Raffle winner was drawn by Sara Landis & it was Greg Brown. The Banquet Gift this year was a set of cups from the personalized M&M'S® Brand collection at M&M'S WORLD® and a glass picture with our favorite Characters & Club Logo on them.

It was great to meet some new members! We also appreciate all of the regular members that come to the conventions to support the Club! Thanks to our Non-USA members who pay so much more and travel so long, to get here – a lot of great items we couldn't get & lots of M&M'S® Brand Flavored Milk Chocolate Candies (hot cross buns, tropical, crispy caramel) we wouldn't get to try without you! Thanks to all the people who bring items to sell in your rooms – you help make the conventions fun for everyone!

Lastly - Firsthand, I know the hallways were loooong & the parking situation was not ideal. But, I heard this from many of our members... The hotel staff in every area (from the Valet / Front Desk to the cleaning staff to the people who took care of the 4th floor food area, the guys who served our food & even security), went out of their way to help us have a great convention. Everyone was pleasant & friendly! They made an effort to start conversations and seemed to be happy we were there. I sent a letter to the hotel on the club's behalf thanking their entire staff. See you next year in Cleveland!

~ Carolyn

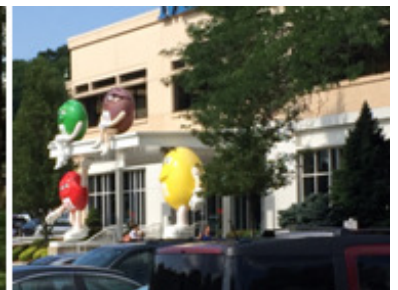


Thank you Carolyn!

Jo Ann Thanked Carolyn at the convention and presented her with a few Thank You Gifts for her hard work and planning of the 2019 Convention. There's a lot of personal time and work involved from locating a hotel, events planning and purchasing gifts to trying to stay within a budget. Sometimes its not all that easy. Thank you Carolyn!

NEWSLETTER TIMING

I would like to thank Bob and Sandy Bantz, Jo Ann Bellamy, Carolyn, Anne Davis, and Jill Flynn for helping me with the newsletter by providing pictures and information. Sandy took most of the pictures at the convention and it was a little difficult at times since she was on crutches. I realize the newsletter is late. Sometimes it takes time to gather all the information, edit it, and layout due to everyone's schedules and things they personally have going on especially during the summer months. We will try to get things rolling on a better schedule. Once things are finalized for next year's convention in Cleveland, Ohio, we will send the information out to you in a separate newsletter so you can start planning. - Ralph



While in New Jersey in July, my sister and I drove by the Hackettstown, Plant and discovered Mars, Inc. was having a Sponsorship Day Event for various sponsors such as NASCAR, NFL, etc. Amongst the visitors was Kyle Busch.

Summer and Fall Items Spotted



Top L-R: Vote candy wrappers from Canada, New Honeycomb flavor from Australia, Cookie Dough, Cookies at Burger King. **Row 2:** Toffee Winning Flavor! M&M'S® Brand MINIS® Muscle Bars. **Row 3:** Haunted House Tin spotted at HyVee stores, Various candy wrappers for Halloween. **Row 4:** Hazelnut Spread Flavor ads and candy wrapper from Canada, 2016 Plastic Halloween Pail Jill Flynn found. **Row 5:** Several Danglers, Reusable bags and set of Cappuccino mugs from Europe. **Row 6:** Welcome mat seen in Canada, Original candy tube Jill Flynn received as a gift from her son, Comic Books from Comic Con in San Diego.

M&M'S® Chocolate Candies Announces English Toffee Peanut As Winning Flavor In 2019 "Flavor Vote" Campaign

NEWS PROVIDED BY
Mars, Incorporated
Aug 07, 2019, 09:00 ET

HACKETTSTOWN, N.J., Aug. 7, 2019 /PRNewswire/ -- M&M'S® Brand fans have spoken, voting English Toffee Peanut as their favorite taste experience in this year's M&M'S® Brand Flavor Vote campaign. Beginning this month, English Toffee Peanut will officially join the M&M'S® Brand line-up in stores. The quintessential English Toffee Peanut flavor tastes as elegant as a trip to Great Britain itself, featuring a delicious combination of sweet toffee and savory peanut, covered in milk chocolate and wrapped in the brand's signature colorful crispy shell.

"We love inviting our fans to partake in the flavor innovation process and influence the M&M'S® Brand products they see on shelves," said Allison Miazga-Bedrick, Brand Director, M&M'S®. "We were thrilled to see so many of our passionate fans engage in the campaign and cast their votes, with English Toffee Peanut as the overwhelming fan-favorite!"

Earlier this year, M&M'S® Brand launched three new, internationally-inspired M&M'S Peanut flavors with its 2019 Flavor Vote campaign: Mexican Jalapeño Peanut, Thai Coconut Peanut and English Toffee Peanut. The brand asked fans nationwide to take a "mini vacation with their mouths" by trying each peanut flavor and voting for their favorite to remain on store shelves.

M&M'S® fans nationwide can find M&M'S® Brand English Toffee Peanut on mms.com and on shelves at retailers nationwide in Share Size (2.83 oz.) and Sharing Size Stand Up Pouch (8 oz.).



M&M'S® Glampground Becomes the Sweetest Stop on the NASCAR Circuit

Kentucky and Bristol to Feature Branded Glamping Experience

HACKETTSTOWN, N.J., June 4, 2019 /PRNewswire/ -- Today, M&M'S® unveiled the M&M'S® Glampground, a first-of-its-kind, all-inclusive glamping experience that will provide race fans at Kentucky Speedway and Bristol Motor Speedway with an unforgettable weekend. The M&M'S® Glampground will deliver on the colorful fun M&M'S® is known for, combined with the unforgettable experiences and access that only the "Official Chocolate of NASCAR®" can provide.

Beginning today, fans searching for the ultimate way to experience the Quaker State 400

presented by Walmart at Kentucky Speedway can reserve their spots in the M&M'S® Glampground by visiting <https://www.kentuckyspeedway.com/MMSGlampground/>. Located in the infield, the M&M'S® Glampground will provide a turnkey, VIP option for race fans looking to experience the race like never before. From glamping tents to garage tours, the M&M'S® Glampground will be a weekend filled with five-star amenities allowing new and seasoned race fans to experience NASCAR in an entirely different way.

Of course, an M&M'S® party is not complete without an appearance from NASCAR's "Candy Man" Kyle Busch, the 2015 Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series Champion and driver of the No. 18 M&M'S® Toyota. Busch will visit the M&M'S® Glampground in Kentucky and Bristol, joined throughout the weekend by wife Samantha. Other NASCAR drivers and personalities will make appearances throughout the race weekend.

"M&M'S® always does so much for the fans, but if I wasn't racing, I'd probably book myself a spot in the M&M'S® Glampground," said Kyle Busch, driver of the No. 18 M&M'S® Toyota Camry. "I am so excited to swing by and check this out and meet all of the M&M'S® and NASCAR fans that are going to be attending at both Kentucky and Bristol."

"We are delighted to unveil the M&M'S® Glampground, the first ever sponsor-branded luxury camping experience at a NASCAR race that we know all fans of M&M'S® and NASCAR are going to love," said Allison Miazga-Bedrick, Brand Director, M&M'S®. "This is going to be a race experience like no other and we look forward to welcoming both returning and new race fans to the Glampground in Kentucky and Bristol. We encourage all fans to get their tickets now, with the experiences we have to offer they aren't going to hang around for long."

At Kentucky, the M&M'S® Glampground will be located in a private area in the infield, with each M&M'S® Glamping package for two priced at \$500.00, and featuring the following incredible amenities:

- One 12x14 glamorous camping tent (choice of one queen bed or two singles)
- Bathrooms with private showers
- VIP valet service, including a dedicated shuttle for transportation around the track
- Breakfast, lunch and dinner catered by popular local restaurants for Friday and Saturday
- Wi-fi and charging stations to keep every moment sharable
- Two Kentucky Speedway Bluegrass Club weekend tickets
- Two Cold Passes for access to the Kentucky Speedway garage
- One FanVision and two headsets, allowing you to listen to race and driver communication
- Activities throughout the weekend, including garage and pit tours, tailgate games, movies and more
- Events and appearances by M&M'S® Racing team members and other famous racing personalities
- Unlimited colorful fun that only M&M'S® can provide!

M&M'S® Glamping packages for the Bristol Motor Speedway M&M'S® Glampground will be available later this summer.

To find out more information about the M&M'S® Glampground fans can visit the M&M'S® Racing Facebook page.



Photo above is at Bristol.