

Museum of Clean: Exploring the Past, Present, and Future of the Cleaning Industry

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SPEAKERS

Tim Clagg, Grant Aslett

Tim Clagg 00:02

Welcome to the Business of Cleaning Podcast your number one source of information on the commercial cleaning industry. We release new episodes monthly live from the Janitorial Manager studio located in Toledo, Ohio. I'm Tim Clagg the Marketing Communication Specialist here at Janitorial Manager and your host of the Business of Cleaning Podcast. Happy International Cleaning Week, we're delighted to have a very special guest this month, Grant Aslett, the director of the Museum of Clean located in Pocatello, Idaho. Welcome to the show Grant. The first thing I want to get your opinion on is the growth of International Cleaning Week. We've seen state officials putting indoctrinations out there and marking that whole week, March 24 through the 30th, on the calendar representing International Cleaning Week. What does that mean to you as somebody who's been in this industry, your entire life and somebody like you and your father who have devoted your entire lives to the industry? How important is this?

Grant Aslett 01:30

I was doing some training last week, and one of my key points in the cleaning industry was to stand out. You know, unfortunately, in the cleaning industry, we do it at night, we clean at night, everybody wants to forget about the janitor, even in schools, you know, it's like the school janitor, whereas you know, it's kind of, we're trying to be hidden. So that was one of my key points. To talk to the contract cleaners is to stand out, and do something that stands out. Of course, that's, you know, the whole mission of the museum is to stand out in the industry and help people recognize the importance of cleaning. So, I've been involved the last couple of years, especially with that ISSA, reached out because they petitioned Idaho, where the museum is, to have the governor sign it and the Governor did the same thing cleaning it that just kind of went and they refused or just said you know, we're not going to sign that proclamation. So, they reached out to me and said, hey, could you know, could you reach out and see if they would reconsider? So, we reached out to the governor. And they did, this just right after COVID, and they did reconsider. The governor is in western Idaho, and the museum is in eastern Idaho. So, it's three and a half-four-hour trip. So, we convinced the governor to come over and visit the museum and sign the proclamation at the museum. So, we got the mayor of the different towns and all the media and

stuff. So, I mean, this happened a couple of years ago. And so, we got the governor to sign it every year. You know, kind of brought him along, but now, now this year, they were I mean, that was on their list. And they called me and said, "Hey, we're doing this again?" We didn't get him in the museum last year, we went to his office, but this year, we just had them sign it and post it on so but it was kind of interesting because all of a sudden, the governor, of course, once you start talking to him, they everybody has roots in cleaning. They were a janitor at school, or they helped out cleaning in their business, you know, a family business or whatever. So, it was interesting how the governor told some stories about connecting to the industry. And actually, my dad did a bunch of talking, or some speaking for the governor when he was involved in some community and some youth years ago. So, it was a great connection. But it's amazing how many connections we have with cleaning and cleaning week just helps us expand that a little bit and helps people recognize the importance of cleaning in our lives, especially during and through and after COVID. Of course, we recognize that importance all along, and now people are starting to understand that a little bit more. National, International Cleaning Week helps us connect to that even better.

Tim Clagg 04:40

And how important is that it started as National Cleaning Week here in the United States. But now due to popular demand, it is an international week. So how important as it continues to grow is it to get that representation throughout the world? And ISSA last year, celebrating their 100th birthday. That was quite the celebration in Vegas last November. But a big part of your life for over the last decade has been the Museum of Clean. Opened in 2011. But the idea began some 30 years prior, when your father stopped at the Edison Museum in Detroit, Michigan. What kind of opened his eyes to conclude to open a Museum of Clean?

Grant Aslett 04:57

Well, you know, we're concentrated on our own little, spare some time. So, we kind of forget that, you know, I mean, we've done you know, in the US we've, not mastered cleaning by any means, but we, you know, manage it better and, you know, in our hospitals and different things, but, you know, you recognize how many people die around the world every year, just basic, just basic sanitation, hand washing, things like that. So, we've done a pretty good job. So, as we reach out and look around the world, it's like, everybody needs this, even at the handwashing levels that educate people on how sanitation is an important part of our life, from just basic sanitation to, you know, facility to care and sanitation. So, you know, and ISSA course, they're, they're involved in that pretty heavily. And they've kind of done that with their organization over the years kind of said, hey, we're, we're an international corporation, or industry and foundation now, association versus just, you know, our little cleaning bubble.

Grant Aslett 06:43

I think he says there was a hammer museum or some weird, weird museum that he walked into, I think he was on a scouting jamboree, or something, a national jamboree. And so, you know, a bunch of scouts generally tried to keep him busy, and all the different things. So they, they walked into this hammer museum, which, you know, I think there are 25,000 museums in the country, and we recognize the Smithsonian and the natural history museums, some of the big ones that we hear about and see advertised, but there's just a lot of roadside museums. So, as he went in there, and again, you know,

you go back to that standout, you know, he's always looking for ways to stand out, and he's, you know, it kind of dawned on him, like, there's nothing like this. The industry wants, people want to hide the industry, we need to, you know, we need to, you know, stand out and so that's kind of got something in his brain and, and then he came across some antiques and old vacuums and different things, he started throwing them in, you know, in our collection. And then from that, I guess we'd probably go into that but he searched out and bought a large pre-electric, it was a collection somebody had from Europe and the United States. So pre-electric vacuums, so that was before we had electricity and that that ranged, I think we have one of the four original first patented vacuums and that was patented back in 1867. And suction type vacuum, it was manually you know, created its suction. But we have one of the only ones in the world known today, and there were just a ton of types of vacuums in history, pre-electric.

Tim Clagg 08:40

What I find so interesting, is that purchase kind of was the kickstart that got this thing going. How in the world do you gather information, the resources, this purchase was made in I believe 2005, 2006. So where do you go to turn to make this kind of purchase and how do you develop those relationships when you're looking to make this kind of a unique purchase because when you think about it is a very unique set of instruments that you are looking for to fill into the museum.

Grant Aslett 09:17

There aren't that many, most people throw away everything. It's interesting now you go around and you go to antique shops and stuff. And it's amazing all the things we collect and now with eBay and the internet and we can find things and connect up and so you know these people are opening their old barns that have been closed for 40, 50, 60 years and finding stuff like "woah!" But normally when somebody goes to their house after a parent or somebody dies, they you know, they store everything away. But now you know for unique antiques, you know, people get hundreds and hundreds. So unfortunately, in the cleaning industry, a lot of people throw all that stuff away. So, we don't see a lot of, you know, a lot of things in the industry. So it was, it was interesting that somebody had the vision to, you know, actually collect something and get a collection. And so, it was just kind of unique, came together. And, you know, my dad's philosophy, I think in business and everything is, you know, he wasn't great, or he wasn't prone to invest in stocks, and you know, a lot of that stuff, he always put his money back into the business and grow the business. So, he saw an opportunity to take some profits and different things and, and buy something unique and give back to the industry. So, he took a chunk of money at the time, probably back in the day when, when growing his business and, expanding, that it was a pretty big chunk of money.

Tim Clagg 11:06

Preserving that history is so important, whether it's passing down family heirlooms, or taking pride, like you guys have in the industry, to preserve those memories, as you said so many people didn't think anything of at that time, and just threw it to the wayside. So, you guys play an important part in history and help keep the history alive for the men and women who have worked in this industry. Take us through, what it means to you guys to be able to give back, when you guys have had so much success as a family, you and your father, in the industry.

Grant Aslett 11:43

Well, he recognized that years ago, and we recognize the importance of the people working in the industry, a lot of people look down on janitors. He tells a bunch of different stories about being 'the guy' and was like; "You be good, or you are going to end up just like him" pointing over to the janitor. Instead, it should be the other way around. The pride and especially, as we look more at sanitation. That's always been a key part of his, he has his goal is to recognize the workers and the cleaning workers. He has some great stories about that throughout the years, but he used to do a lot of training and a lot of speaking that would elevate the training. You're one of the icons in the industry on the green cleaning side of things. Steve Ashton, pulled me aside, and he was just saying how "what an impact" those messages had back in the day. Back when he was starting, since has become one of the leaders in the industry. That was from that attitude years ago - from my dad and from what we did. So that's been our whole history and the cleaning, and the museum is kind of an extension to that to say "Hey, the industry is important, but all the people that work in the industry, and how important they are too."

Tim Clagg 13:14

How important is it for just a casual observer coming into the museum who might not necessarily know a lot or have a perceived prior notion in their mind before stepping into the museum, and then you see people come away and say, "Wow!" and then they have a newfound respect to the cleaner in the industry and the technology advancements over time. I'm sure you could share those stories. Do you have any off the top of your head that you've seen during your time with the museum?

Grant Aslett 13:47

It's interesting, and it's funny! That's a great observation you pulled out of there. So, for the people who know the West, the museum is in Pocatello, Idaho. Now, we're a little out of the way when it comes to it. Roadside museums are all over but you know Pocatello isn't the biggest travel. If you're headed to Yellowstone National Park, it's kind of that way. So, we get, if you know the West Salt Lake City, we're about two and a half hours straight north of Salt Lake City, but we're on that road to Yellowstone. So actually, the museum itself gets a lot of those travelers that have no idea about the industry they're just the type that will stop off at any weird museum and, just take it in, whether it's an hour or two hours or whatever. It's amazing, because like you said, we helped ISSA celebrate its 100 years, and we brought, a small portion of the museum down to Las Vegas, and we set it up at the convention. Of course, the industry goes wild when they see all that stuff, they're looking at a buffer that's 120 years old, that I mean in terms of electricity, you know in 1899, I mean, you could barely find a building that had electricity. So that was, you know, pretty amazing. So, the industry is looking at that, and going wild looking, but it's the observation you made by the people walking in a cleaning museum, not knowing what to expect. Then after going through, just being blown away, and all the connections they start to make in their own life, that are related to cleaning. A lot of them, of course, go back to their household cleaning and stuff, but all of a sudden, they look at where they work, where they shop, where they eat, restaurants - all those things come back has those connections to cleaning. So, it's amazing when they walk out, the new respect they have for cleaning.

Tim Clagg 15:53

Especially from another aspect, a lot of younger people, a lot of children, that next group that possibly could become involved in the industry, introducing them to that history, and involvement at a young age is crucial is important to kind of set the tone for possibly the next future, the next wave of industry workers, because this is an industry average age around 55. Now there are more options than ever before, as you know, talking with other guests in the past, the forecast for where the industry's future is headed is positive and bright with so many opportunities. So you could get a kid from a young age coming through the museum that really catches on and decides this is what they want to do because this is a skilled trade industry.

Grant Aslett 16:46

Yeah, unfortunately, we don't get too many people. It's funny, we have some people whose kids come in. There's a handful of people who say "My son, from the earliest age, was just obsessed with vacuums, and I'm worried about that". I call him a vacuum savant, you know, it's just that passion. Unfortunately, we don't have that draw yet that, these little these kids coming in saying I want to be a cleaner. That comes in different ways. A lot of the people who are professionals entering our industry had got involved in maintenance and different aspects of building maintenance, and building care, and they just fit in that mold. So typically, it's hard to inspire and that's the one thing we're trying to do, but one thing we have done with the museum is we have school kids come in for field day, and it's amazing, you know, we have 30-40 kids, and all of a sudden, the light goes on for how important cleaning is and cleaning their room is. We have a bunch of letters, saying "What happened to my kid, he went on this field trip, and he's cleaning his room now." It does have an impact, and we're trying to teach kids whether it's just washed their hands better, to clean up their room and pick up after themselves. We say, "Hey, if you're old enough to mess up, you're old enough to clean up!", As young as they are, we try to teach them that it's their responsibility to clean up after themselves and keep a nice, clean, sanitary thing. And as soon as you can - teach them how to clean the bathroom! Basic cleaning in the kitchen. We usually say "Oh, I had the 24-hour flu", you know, I've talked to medical people who say "No such saying it's usually some food thing that we picked up in the kitchen", because we didn't clean the kitchen well enough. So we're inspiring and were making an impact, but unfortunately, we haven't had too many come in and say "Okay, that's my life mission. To be a cleaner" but we are making an impact in the cleaning world.

Tim Clagg 19:12

You guys are on the right path and your family is such an iconic family in the commercial cleaning industry. Obviously, your father started his company Varsity Contractors, has done 1000s of seminars, he's been on Oprah, Regis, and Philbin- QVC as well. And you got an opportunity as a young man growing up to go in the field and have those experiences, how important and what were the memories of learning in the field from your dad that helped you have a successful career in this industry?

Grant Aslett 19:46

Well, like I tell people, you can't pick your family. Well, you can't pick your father's profession either. So, he happened to be a cleaner so I just grew up knowing that was normal and that was just a great profession to be. So, I never had that look on the cleaners like "Oh, they're below us". So that was always my impression. I remember going on jobs when I was 9, 10 11. I mean, I don't know if I was that much help but as I grew up, and when I was in high school, I did a cleaning route, they had the little

phone buildings, it was when we had the dial-up phones, and stuff, and they had fallen CDOs, central dialing offices, and that's the on these little towns, they had these little buildings that everything went through for these towns, so we'd have to go in and clean them either two times a month or one time a month. So I had a route when I was in high school, but I went around the rural communities and cleaned these things up. I think, when I was younger, one of varsities contracts was to open up the Grand Canyon, yes, they would take the national parks, you know, Bryce Zion and Grand Canyon in southern Utah, Northern Arizona, and they would open them up from the season, especially Grand Canyon because they would because it was not such a high elevation, they would close that off. So you wouldn't even get in there, you know, some of the other ones, you can get in and do some stuff in the winter, we would be the first crew, I mean, he would have to plow away the snow, and we'd be the first crew. And there was always a caretaker grab us and because I hadn't seen anybody for four or five months, we would clean the whole park, all the cabins, the lodges, all the windows, carpets, and everything. And then like two weeks later, they would open the gates to all the things I remember cleaning guiding, and we would work 16-hour days cleaning carpets and, I even got to hang over the edge of Grand Canyon, as we clean those big windows, those picture windows that you stare out of the lodge overnight, incredible. So I'll say the safety mechanisms weren't that great back then. So I was risking my life when he was sort of bumping up the luck in the seventh one or the eighth one, whatever they call it the world and, clean that window.

Tim Clagg 21:14

Also in our introductory conversation, I thought this was very interesting. You guys did a lot of work with portion packs and training. You guys actually at night would go into various prisons, and train the prisoners how to be able to operate those packs. That shows me how dedicated you guys and your family are to the industry to help everyone, from all walks of life.

Grant Aslett 22:53

I did that for several years, I'd go into prisons, and we would use a portion back at the company had the packs. And it worked in prisons, because if they use the bottles, prisoners get pretty creative. they would fill it up with water and pour out salmon. I don't know what they were trying to do! Again, I can't imagine you could do much with some of the cleaners but the portion packs worked well because they could count them and one pack went in one bucket or one spray bottle. So, they needed training and, a lot of people just sold them the products, but I was involved in a whole system. So, I would actually go in, I'd be in there one or two in the morning when they didn't have traffic on the floors, and we teach them how to clean those floors. In fact, in Idaho, I made a bet with the warden up there. I said, "You know, you let me train your guys, your inmates, and I'll have the best floors in the industry". I mean, every single prison warden that walks in and looks at your prison. I've convinced the inmates by saying "Hey a lot of you are in there and you can't do much, but if you could have nice shiny floors, you're going to be the warden's favorite!". It meant a lot to me because a lot of people just like janitors, treat prisoners like "Hey, you're in there, you're the scum of the earth", but several came to me afterward and said, "Hey, I appreciate you treating me like a human being and treating me and training me and helping me do these things". So that meant a lot to me that not only was I just doing my job selling cleaners in there, but actually they appreciated it. It's the attitude, the family, or whatever, just might interest cleaners So it meant a lot to me that they would pull me aside and say "Hey, appreciate you treating me like a human instead of just a number" you know, like somebody, and we had training

programs to help people that when they got out that that could be a professional part of their life after they got out. So I had great training.

Tim Clagg 25:11

And that's great because like, once you're released, you're expected to rejoin the workforce rejoin society, and you were preparing, and giving them an added skill that they could put on their resume to earn a job, once they got out. We're talking with Grant Aslett, director of the Museum for Clean and Cleaning consultant in the commercial cleaning industry. Trust and authenticity are two important factors in virtually everything we do, whether it's business, whether it's getting up reading a newspaper, reading our news for the day, and museums, certainly have consumers trust of over 90% trust rate. How important is it first, Grant to have that high success rate in percentage with visitors? And how do you guys continue to expand to raise that number in the future?

Grant Aslett 26:05

Yeah, it's something I didn't realize, but after working with the museum, and kind of creating, and helping the museum grow, you realize that of all the industries of all the things we deal with- the fire guys, and the police used to have this super high trust level. And now everything, it seems like society is trying to pull everybody down, those trust levels have gone down and down. Teachers, a lot of them have expressed this or it's hard to see, you know, of course, politicians, some politicians are in the, 9 or 10%. So, it's actually very unique to have an avenue, where you have a high trust level, a part of that is it's authentic when you walk into a museum, you're looking at history. You're looking at real history, so you can't fake that, it's like, you see it, and then this is what they used in 1945 or 1952. You can tell that story, and when you tell those stories from that history, they can see and witness and hold and feel. When somebody comes in the museum and we have a couple of things that you can use, it goes "Wow" you know? That trust level comes from the authenticity of a museum. And knowing that, hey, you're watching, you're looking and you're, you're seeing that the actual history is right in front of your face. I think most museums, honor that trust level. And so with the museum, we've recognized that we can tell stories, and connect with people through those museum stories that nobody else can do. If I came on your podcast, and I was representing a company, that trust level goes way down, because "oh, he's just trying to sell me something", but through a museum, we can tell stories and connect, like nothing else. So it is a bigger responsibility to maintain that trust level. But it's easier to do that with a museum because you have the history right in the front end.

Tim Clagg 28:40

I believe what separates the museum acclaim from other museums, is in historical museums, you can't really touch a lot of things, a lot of the exhibits, you guys encourage there's a ton of interactive displays, exhibits, products that everybody walking through, can get firsthand experience to be able to interact, or work out one of those older displays.

Grant Aslett 29:12

That's a great point, and that was one of my dad's visions is to have it as interactive as possible. Yeah, we're not going to let somebody touch our 1867 one-of-a-kind, we do have, like I said, a bunch of those pumper vacuums. That, people can actually try and use and handle, we have a window that people actually can squeegee with and interact and it's just part of what we try to do. For a while there, we had

a squirt bottle. You know, people could play with squirt bottles and see how to adjust it. "Oh, that's a mist. That's a spray." Yeah, just some education staff. I'm trying to do a little bit more of that, but it we try to make this as hands on as possible. We've partnered with a group that that are doing a part of the museum. So even more so educating and getting people involved in different aspects of how things work, and especially playing.

Tim Clagg 30:25

You guys are home and have one of my favorite things there when researching about the museum, it's home to the world's largest janitor, Big Don, standing over 20 feet tall. My understanding is there are only a few of these still remaining in the world stand over 20 feet tall, it's indoors in the exhibit, where and how were you guys able to find one of these rare hidden gems?

Grant Aslett 30:58

You go back to what I talked a little earlier about standing out, how do you stand out? And when people walk in different museums, usually there's something that kind of gives them a shock or they remember so, part of that standing out is how do we stand out and that giant janitor came from in the 50s and 60s, I think early they used to make these big muffler man they would put them in front of these muffler shops as a big tall guy then he would hold a muffler in front of him. So it was a display and a lot of those muffler shops went out of business. But these guys kind of have toppled over set and backyards, thrown out in fields. Then several years ago people started looking for him and collecting them so that there's actually a club that goes around and visits all the revised muffler men or you know some Paul Bunyan guys with axes and stuff. So we were lucky to find one that was in pretty great, pretty good condition. I think hauled him from Kansas or Oklahoma or something on a big truck and put him back together, painted him up, and then turned him into a janitor. So now he holds the world's biggest mop, but because he's kind of a hidden gem, we have it's a pretty unique situation. He's kind of hidden behind another exhibit and you walk around the corner and all sudden you look and we named him Don now of course and honor my dad, but he's a janitor now has a uniform on and holds his giant mop. But again, it stands to do something that stands out, and that was that was one way in the museum that we could stand out a little bit more and have people have an experience. And we actually get people that don't come for the museum as much as they come to sign off because they have old books and they asked you and you we sign the book saying "Hey, you visited". We haven't numbered and certified. We went around the country, but he happens to be the biggest janitor in the world.

Tim Clagg 33:22

I marvel at the yesteryear of marketing. I mean, just the ideas from the 40s all the way up. And everybody thinks marketing nowadays, I love those figures that, you know, Sinclair the dinosaur, right? That's where my brain goes. And I've just marveled at the old-school market and it's just such a great tool to utilize and have stand out. The museum is dedicated to being focused on being green 80% of the prior Museum, prior building, which was actually built, I believe in 1916 was recycled much of it done by recovering the brook brick and wood. What are some other areas the museum is doing to focus on going green overall?

Grant Aslett 34:12

So we decided when we built we kind of we took the original building that was built. It was it's a tank that was built in 1916. I mean, they built it, I can't remember what they were. I think it was an old Salt Lake hardware building that expansion out of Salt Lake City, Utah, and then for years it was used as a creamery place but the walls and everything had insulation big thick insulation so we got it with all of that stuff. We recycle, I think we were one of the highest, they call them brownfields or whatever all the things that came out of there. In fact, you talked about the bridge and we collected. We used a ton when we put a little annex on that building, but we also added pallets and pallets, and we sold them off instead of just going in the landfill, we actually used them. I've been involved in a couple of projects down in Salt Lake on a remodel with a film studio when we actually pulled a bunch of those bricks and laid it around the film studio. We have some of our 100-year-old walls, basically 110-year-old walls in this film studio. All that goes into the landfill, we reuse it. And the way we built it, the concrete report, we did some special things with concrete, we put in big rain collection tanks. So it collects all the rainwater, even though Idaho doesn't get a ton of rain. But it's amazing when we fill those up, and we use that for irrigation. Just in looking at the lifecycle of the building, a lot of these buildings are built to last 20,30, 40 years, you go to Las Vegas, and you see some of these casinos. I mean, their lifecycle is some of those casinos are 30 years younger, right? You've written all them in 30 years, we build brand new fancy things, you know, we expect this building to be here another 100 years. So it'll be 200 years old. And we have our rooftop garden where we plan and build it that way. But I think within the next year or two, we think we got some funding to put that rooftop garden in and such. We just looked at it like anything, that we need to be responsible. On some of the green stuff, I think, is greenwash, and goes too far and, doesn't make a difference. But everything we did we did it to make a difference. And so as you walk through the museum, the heating and the electricity we use is way down just because we designed it and managed it that way. So, it's easier sometimes to go the cheap route and not do those things and say, "Hey, I don't care, I'm going to be gone in 40 years. The building's gone, I don't care." Well, we want this, it might not be a museum in 100 years, but it definitely will be standing.

Tim Clagg 37:26

And the legacy continues to grow. What educational programs and initiatives are you guys looking at in the future aimed at raising awareness and appreciation? For cleaning professionals and for cleaning history? Have you guys kind of sat down and thought, Okay, well, maybe, we've got the products now we can raise awareness towards that appreciation for the people in the industry?

Grant Aslett 37:56

Yeah, so, Shelburne Museum, and it's primarily been funded by my father's, legacy, selling some businesses that don't stop. So it's part of his legacy, but he's handing it over to the industry as he's 89 this year. He's still plugging along, still does some tours in the museum and he's still getting along and doing his thing because it's his thing. But it is being handed over to the interstate, this is an industry opportunity to chat, tell the story, and educate and as you said, bring more, bring more quality people into this industry who want to be in the industry, and make it a profession. I'm working on a couple of projects now just tell you one, it's kind of in the process, I call it a life of a germ. It's an education program for fifth and sixth graders. So eventually it was successful. We'll go into these grade schools and teach fifth and sixth graders, bam, basic cleaning. When you come to the museum, you'll learn some of that stuff, but we want millions of grade school kids to learn sanitation and stuff. So, I call it like kind of a germ. So it's a project that's kind of starting out, but we've done some work on it, and I

eventually will take it out. Hopefully, we'll have to run out and get some money from Procter and Gamble or Clorox or some of the big companies, you know, to help fund that but educate because initially when you're opening it up museum lot of times, it's you're so focused on that physical museum. You know, the vision has always been international or international, but sometimes you get too focused on just surviving as that small little museum of physical museums. So that's one project we're working on. That's kind of interesting and Will William bet millions of school kids over the next 10-15 years?

Tim Clagg 40:04

You guys have already expanded, we talked about what's the overall goal and impact as you guys look, to continue to showcase your father's legacy, the industry, what is the goals and expectations as a whole, as you guys continue to move forward and, and continue to grow the history? Well,

Grant Aslett 40:28

One thing that you talked about earlier, it's the industry and the cleaning world, internationally, and how important it is to our lives. We just can't a lot of people, like I said before, when people go into a museum all sudden, they see all the connections. So to help people understand those connections, and bring cleaning up to that professional level, so we're not hitting in the back, went through two or three airports in the last week. It's amazing how well a good example is, you know when they redesigned the Salt Lake City Airport, they designed it, so they hid all the plugs. So even the cleaners didn't even think about the cleaners, how they needed to access electricity, or the vacuums and stop. And so even today, we don't include that cleaner in the, in the design process, how important that is, we have buildings that they designed the janitor closet, like two stories down back in the, in the freight elevator. So to get access to your cleaning, chemicals, and equipment, you're like going through how, you know, three-quarters of the building, so and we're starting to see a difference in that. But so our vision is to upgrade the profession. So, we have more people wanting and make it a profession to be part of the profession. We want to connect like international cleaning when the governor can sign that proclamation. And the more and more governors that say hey, and then all sudden like last year, we had the people from Boise State University several hospitals, cleaning people in the governor's office and the governor able to look them IDI and in thanking the people that clean the capitol in Idaho and, and have that recognition. So it's a long process, but we're all in it together. But you know, the museum has unique angles, I do that with that trust. So, we're going to continue to tell the story Connect. Again, we'll go to the trade shows and, and display the museum outside oppo the download, the more the most we can do so people can see and touch and feel that rather than just read about or hear about it, grant,

Tim Clagg 42:50

We appreciate everything that you guys are doing. And we're so glad to have you on during international cleaning week. Appreciate you taking the time to share those insights, the knowledge on the Museum of Clean, where can people go to get their tickets from your guy's website? And how can they follow the museum on social media? If they're in your guy's neck of the woods?

Grant Aslett 42:51

Yeah, museumofclean.com is our website you go on there and it has some stuff. Again, we're actually in the process of, with my dad's age and stuff, he wasn't much into social media and stuff. So he

focused more on the physical part of it, but so there's a new focus in the last year or two, that hey, we need to be more accessible on social media and out there. I've done a little bit on connecting the industry. And now they're bringing the museum guys to say different things. So if you go to museumofclean.com, kind of check-in I think we have a Facebook page and Instagram page, not much activity, but we'll see a ton going forward because we like to actually put some, absolute emphasis on that. So the best place to go into museumofclean.com and connect. If you have any questions, you sent me if they want to reach out to me, you can kind of go through my, emails, I think gaslan@museumofclean.com. So, we're always willing to connect up and anything we do and we appreciate what you're doing. I've been on a couple of podcasts and a couple of things, but boy there isn't. We need way more people telling the story and connecting the outside world to the importance of cleaning.

Tim Clagg 44:38

It's been a pleasure to be able to tell your guy's story that has expanded so long in the industry and it's continuing to grow I can't wait to touch base with you again that will complete this month's episode of The Business of Cleaning Podcast. Be sure to subscribe to us on Spotify, Apple Podcasts, Amazon Podcasts, or wherever you get podcasts from. Also, be sure to leave us a five-star review in your comments from everyone at Janitorial Manager our guest Grant Aslett I'm Tim Clagg saying so long until next time