



## The Federation of Historical Bottle Collectors Board of Directors Conference Call Minutes

April 28, 2011, 6pm PST

**Present:** Gene Bradberry, President  
Bob Ferraro, 1<sup>st</sup> VP  
Ferdinand Meyer, V, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP  
Sheldon Baugh, Director at Large  
John Pastor, Director at Large  
Mike Newman, Treasurer  
James Berry, Public Relations Director  
Richard Watson, Historian  
Jack Hewitt, Southern Region Director  
Ed Kuskie, NE Region Director  
Dave Maryo, Western Region Director  
Martin VanZant, Editor  
Tom Phillips, Show Chair

**Absent:** June Lowry, Business Manager  
Wayne Lowry, Convention Director  
Carl Sturm, Director at Large  
Joe Hardin, Midwestern Region Director

Gene Bradberry began the conference call at 6:10 pm PST. He noted that June Lowry, Wayne Lowry, Carl Sturm and Joe Hardin were not on the call.

G. Bradberry asked that if anyone has an agenda item(s) for the membership meeting to be held in Memphis, to please e-mail him the items as soon as possible. An agenda must be published in the magazine two months prior and should be in the next issue.

Due to the resignation of FOHBC secretary, Randy Driskill, G. Bradberry had contacted Jim Berry, who agreed to assume the position of secretary. A motion was made by Bob Ferraro and seconded by Sheldon Baugh to appoint Jim Berry as Secretary. There was brief discussion noting that Jim is a good choice. A vote was taken by roll call with each member present approving the nomination. There was one abstention.

G. Bradberry introduced Tom Phillips, who is managing the auction for the Memphis show. Mr. Phillips reviewed where we are at this time regarding the auction and gave the following information:

- The auction will be held on Sat. June 25<sup>th</sup> at 7pm with preview from 6-7pm. The auctioneer will be Don Ellis, who has experience calling auctions and is a long-time bottle collector. He is providing his services free of charge, however, we are compensating him by covering the expense of his hotel room and J. Lowry is working with the Marriott on this.
- The target for the auction is 80 lots and at this time, we have 63 lots in-hand and committed. There is a diverse variety of bottles with no duplications. A couple of highlighted bottles so far are a Blue Lick Water in black glass and a Morning Call Bitters.
- We are accepting lots until May 13<sup>th</sup>.

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- We are getting photos done including a detailed description of the bottles for the auction catalogue.
- There is a buyer's fee of 5%.
- The seller's fee is as follows:
  - 15% for items selling at \$50 - \$99.
  - 10% for items selling at \$100 - \$499.
  - 5% for items selling at \$500 - \$999.
  - 3% for items selling at \$1,000 – \$1,999.
  - 0% for items selling at \$2,000 or more.
- For those unable to attend, there was initially going to be absentee bidding but F. Meyer suggested having on-line bidding available through the FOHBC website. The lots will be posted on the FOHBC website where people can place their starting and ending bid. Bidding will be closed on Wed. (June 22<sup>nd</sup>) at 10:00 PM Eastern time. The high starting bid on-line will be the starting bid. (Shipping will be the responsibility of the buyer.) G. Bradberry stated that F. Meyer and Bill Meier have been working with Mr. Phillips to get the bidding on-line process completed. B. Meier will have the capability to know the bidder's maximum bid. Mr. Phillips noted that he is charging \$500 for the on-line bidding service, which amounts to approximately \$6 per bottle. On-line bidding should help increase participation in the auction.
- Payment can be made by cash, credit card or check. With checks, lot(s) will be held until the check clears.
- Anyone can bid on the lots except for the owner and auction personnel.
- If lot does not sell it will be returned to the owner.
- There is a \$12 charge for the auction catalogue. June and Wayne Lowry are preparing the catalogue. June is checking on sales tax, but due to our non-profit status and one- time only auction, it may not need to be collected.
- Promotion and advertising will be published in the next FOHBC magazine (with the early consignments we have) and all lots will be put on the website. Other websites, such as the local Memphis Diggers, will promote the show and auction. J. Pastor will have an article about the digging of the Morning Call bitters in the AB&GC magazine.
- There will also be local advertising for promotion of the show and auction.

G. Bradberry thanked Tom Phillips who has put in a lot of time on this. He also encouraged anyone who would like to include bottle(s) in the auction to contact Tom.

At this point, Mr. Phillips thanked everyone and exited the conference call.

G. Bradberry opened the next order of business noting that there have been several recent resignations and in regards to this, he received an inquiry from D. Maryo

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asking why this is happening. G. Bradberry responded in an e-mail to D. Maryo reporting that June Lowry submitted her resignation as Business Manager and Wayne Lowry submitted his resignation as Convention Director, both through e-mails effective at the closing of the national show in Memphis. D. Maryo felt that everyone should understand that some people are saying other reasons for the resignations, which are different than the reasons given to the Board resulting in miscommunication.

Membership Director, E. Herrold offered his resignation to G. Bradberry, who did have a lengthy discussion with Mr. Herrold, noting that G. Bradberry did not ask for his resignation. However, after thinking about it a bit, Mr. Herrold did submit his resignation.

G. Bradberry spoke to former Northeast Director, Jim Bender, regarding the position and Jim agreed to accept the position. Members S. Baugh and D. Watson both stated that Mr. Bender has many good qualities, is bright and energetic and is interested in the Federation attending many shows. A motion was made by Sheldon Baugh and seconded by Bob Ferraro to appoint Jim Bender as Membership Director. A vote was taken by roll call with all members present approving the nomination.

G. Bradberry then presented Tom Phillips as Convention Director, giving some background information. There was no discussion and a motion was made by Bob Ferraro and seconded by Dick Watson to nominate Tom Phillips as Convention Director. A vote was taken by roll call with all members present approving the nomination.

G. Bradberry then presented Alan DeMaison as Business Manager. Gene noted that Alan is receptive to the idea and wants to do a good job. He is also very computer literate. B. Ferraro and F. Meyer said this was a good choice with D. Watson saying that Alan is honest and fair. A motion was made by Jim Berry and seconded by Bob Ferraro to nominate Alan DeMaison as Business Manager. A vote was taken by roll call with 10 members present approving the nomination. There was one abstention.

In regards to a little confusion regarding these positions, G. Bradberry explained that we need to replace these positions now – Secretary, Membership Director – they will assume their duties immediately and serve until next year's election. The newly appointed Convention Director and Business Manager will take office at the end of the Memphis show. G. Bradberry explained that proposing these names now will allow for a smoother transition and is appropriate to do so. All appointees will serve until the elections in 2012. Gene further stated that at the Board meeting in Memphis, he will present a group of people who will be doing nominations for next year's elections. He wants this information to be published in the Jan-Feb 2012 FOHBC magazine.

G. Bradberry will notify the nominees of their appointments. He said we now have a full slate of officers, with the exception of the Public Relations Director (open due to the appointment of Jim Berry as Secretary).

F. Meyer gave a brief update on the development of the "new" FOHBC website. He reported that the website has needed to be updated and improved desperately. At the time, it is still in the design stages but he is looking at a projected date of June 15<sup>th</sup> to be ready for the public.

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J. Berry questioned members on the letter he wrote in response to negative e-mails received from John Marchese. F. Meyer is skeptical and asked if anyone knows who this is and no one does. F. Meyer said that this type of letter writing is very unprofessional for the president of an organization to do. J. Pastor agrees stating that this is wasted effort and may be more than we realize. Members agreed that J. Berry's response is very well written; however, G. Bradberry would like to contact Mr. Marchese before the letter is sent. All agreed.

Gene noted that Cecil Munsey wanted to be included on this conference call feeling that everyone should be involved. Gene said no, that the Board represents the membership.

A report on the Memphis show was submitted by W. Lowry and presented by Gene. At this time, 84 tables are sold, as well as 12 early admissions. Wayne will send contracts to those who have previously had tables but are not committed yet. Additional displays are needed as well, and you can contact Ed Provine if interested.

Discussion was held regarding the minutes of the Baltimore meeting held on March 5, 2011 and the minutes of the March 31, 2011 conference call. G. Bradberry has forwarded the minutes to board members. He reports they are lengthy and include a dissertation by then Secretary Randy Driskill with his own opinions included throughout. This is highly inappropriate and unprofessional. Minutes should be an accurate account of what transpired without personal input. Gene also noted that these minutes were included in the FOHBC magazine before they were approved by the board, which was also inappropriate. Gene is asking all board members to review these minutes in hopes of having them revised so they are accurate and professional.

Gene discussed the role and responsibilities of the Membership Director (MD). He is suggesting that all memberships (renewals and new) be submitted to the MD with payment who will in turn submit information and money to the Treasurer and cc the Business Manager. All three officers should be working in conjunction with each other. Part of the duties of the MD is to promote the hobby and maintain a current membership list. F. Meyer stated that the membership list as well as the club membership list is currently outdated, along with "old" e-mail addresses and D. Maryo agreed. It is agreed that this information does need to be updated and information is sometimes difficult to get from the current Business Manager.

S. Baugh stated that an updated directory was proposed at March's meeting. Gene will contact J. Lowry to see where this is at. Gene gave a brief report on concerns regarding the membership directory and his inability as President to get information needed. There may be a few members who do not want their names published, however, Board members should be able to have access to information.

Gene asked M. Van Zant if it was possible to add an insert to the magazine for members to update their information. M. Van Zant will follow up to see if this can be done.

Gene also stated that he has revised the name and address in the magazine for submissions of new and renewal memberships to his for the May-June issue. The newly appointed officer's names/addresses changes will be made in the July-August issue.

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D. Maryo reviewed the duties/responsibilities of the MD as written in the by-laws. He said the Membership Director should coordinate the Federation's membership services with the President, Treasurer, Business Manager and the Board. He should be knowledgeable working with a database for check and balances. D. Watson felt that 2-3 people should be accountable, not just one person.

M. Newman and G. Bradberry will draft a proposal of a process for memberships/applications/ renewals and money to include the Business Manager, Treasurer, and Membership Director.

G. Bradberry is not sure what merchandise Kent Williams, Merchandising Director has – does anyone have any ideas? D. Watson thought there are 'tons' of magazines, bottles, and odds and ends. Gene has asked K. Williams to compile an inventory list. Gene is suggesting that the merchandise be trucked to the Memphis show so he can see what there is. It was also noted that J. Lowry may have merchandise, such as shirts and hats.

Articles are needed for the Souvenir Program, please submit if you have any.

B. Ferraro suggested including bottle affiliated websites in the program.

There being no further business at this time, the conference call was ended at 7:35pm PST.