

The Federation of Historical Bottle Collectors Board of Directors Conference Call June 13, 2013, 9:00 pm EST

Ferdinand Meyer V, called the conference call of the Federation to order at 9:00 pm EST.

Present: Ferdinand Meyer V, President

Bob Ferraro, 1st VP

Jamie Houdeshell, 2nd VP

Gene Bradberry, Director at Large John Panek, Director at Large

Gary Beatty, Treasurer James Berry, Secretary

Pam Selenak, Public Relations Director

Richard Watson, Historian

James Bender, Membership Director Alan DeMaison, Business Manager Dave Maryo, Western Region Director Randee Kaiser, Midwest Region Director Ed Kuskie, Northeast Region Director Jack Hewitt, Southern Region Director

Absent: John Pastor, Director at Large

Sheldon Baugh, Merchandising Director

Tom Phillips, Convention Director

Martin Van Zant, Bottles and Extras Editor

Agenda 1: Membership - Status/Drive - Jim Bender, Ferdinand Meyer V

The current membership stands at 1,281 with the possibility of a new club joining. This will be a busy month for renewals. Digital memberships are down a little at this point. Responses to postcards have not been as effective either. The facebook page is growing; however, people are not converting to actual memberships. We need to find a way to address this.

The project of developing and printing a membership directory is on hold at this time.

Action taken:

No action taken.

Agenda 2: National Show Report - Manchester, New Hampshire - Ferdinand Meyer V

Ferdinand reported on the show in Tom Phillips' absence. He noted that it is a little over a month away.

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The souvenir program has been prepared by Mike George and is just about finished. The program will include an article referencing past shows and a list of all FOHBC Hall of Fame and Honor Roll members. A question was asked regarding the solicitation of advertisers for the program. Specifically, that no member clubs were notified or asked if they wanted to place an ad. This was an oversight on our part and it was explained that each year, someone new is preparing the souvenir program with no guidelines to follow.

Action taken:

Information on advertising in the souvenir program is included on the FOHBC website with the show information. Next year, it will also be published in *Bottles and Extras* as some people do not use the Internet.

The FOHBC show chair has developed guidelines for our national and expo shows. These and any other guidelines will be reviewed and if there are no guidelines for the souvenir program, they will be developed. Ferdinand will work on this.

Raffles: As all are aware, there has been a \$5,000 donation to the FOHBC for show raffles. There will be one, \$1,000 prize raffle to be held on Saturday, July 20th for the early buyers and dealers setting up. Eight, \$500 prizes will be given throughout the day on Sunday, July 21st. Dealers are eligible for these raffles as well. Vouchers will be given to winners as 5 - \$100 certificates to be spent at the show or can be used at the auction. This gives the winner the opportunity to spend in increments of \$100 rather than the full \$500 on a single purchase.

Ferdinand reiterated that per protocol, FOHBC officers, show chairs, and spouses/partners, or their children nor consultants to the FOHBC, are not eligible for the \$5,000 promotion.

A separate raffle to benefit the Virtual Museum will also be held during the weekend of the show.

A \$1,000 anonymous donation has been given and show chairs, Mike George and Maureen Crawford, who have the authority to buy a flask or equivalent piece of glass with the money. Raffle tickets will be available and sold for \$1 each or 6 tickets for \$5. The winner will not have to be present. FOHBC officers, etc., are eligible to participate in this raffle.

This information is on the website and will be in *Bottles and Extras*.

FOHBC Display: Ferdinand discussed with Gene Bradberry and Dick Watson regarding a display for the show. Maureen Crawford will help get it set up.

Action taken:

Gene will forward the video of the Hall of Fame / Honor Roll to Maureen Crawford. Dick will follow up with Maureen to help with the set up.

Pam Selenak has coordinated a schedule for Federation officers to help cover our tables. She will continue to follow up with this.

An update is needed from Sheldon Baugh regarding FOHBC merchandise.

Agenda 3: National Show Update

2014 Lexington, Kentucky - Randee Kaiser gave an update on the show. He has been working with Sheldon Baugh and Jamie Houdeshell along with Tom Phillips. They have reviewed the final draft of the contract and discussed show events.

2015 Chattanooga, Tennessee - Jack Hewitt gave an update on this show. As it is in the early stages of planning, there is continued work to be done.

A site for the 2016 show will be looked at in the near future. This will be the Expo and will be open to all member clubs in the nation to submit proposals to host the show.

Action taken:

No action taken.

Agenda 4: Bottles and Extras - Ferdinand Meyer V and Martin Van Zant

Ferdinand gave the report as Martin was absent. Ferdinand said that they continue to work on getting the magazine out sooner to the membership. Sometimes there have been stumbling blocks, i.e., post office, review process takes longer. The September/October magazine will be a "special issue" as there will be many pages dedicated to the show. Volunteers are needed to write articles - let Ferdinand know if you are interested in doing this and what you will be writing about. Ferdinand will be coordinating this issue with Martin.

The complete set of **Bottles and Extras** is being worked on at this time by Jim Berry. He has received the magazines sent by Kent Williams and Alan DeMaison. An inventory list will be prepared on what magazines are needed to complete 5 sets.

We need to have a standard policy on what we are selling and/or giving away at shows regarding "old" copies of *Bottles and Extras*. Current rate is \$7 per magazine (new); all other past issues are \$3 each per July 2012 minutes.

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Action taken:

Ferdinand will review past e-mails and follow up on this so everyone is on the "same page."

As talked about previously, the FOHBC may be looking at offering a "digital membership" in the future. A discussion will be held at the Manchester show regarding this topic. This is not only a cost savings, but feel it is a convenience and may attract more people. However, there are other concerns/options and this topic needs further investigation.

Agenda 5: Virtual Museum - Ferdinand Meyer V

Ferdinand reported on the development of the Virtual Museum He reported that at this time, he is challenged with time constraints due to many commitments and projects. He is not on schedule at this point; however, he will discuss further and bring everyone up-to-date at the membership meeting in Manchester.

Action taken:

No action taken.

Agenda 6: Facebook - Ferdinand Meyer, V

Ferdinand said that this site is doing very well and has a tremendous following. We need to find a way to get them to join the Federation.

Action taken:

No action taken.

Agenda 7: Business and Finances - Gary Beatty and Alan DeMaison

Gary reported on the current financial status of the FOHBC. He did note that there is a couple of checks outstanding at this time. Alan DeMaison will follow up on inconsistencies with ModernLitho. The spreadsheet with monthly comparisons on financials is very helpful; however, Alan questioned a couple of items.

Action taken:

Gary Beatty will follow up on the discrepancies. A monthly spending comparison spreadsheet will be completed by Gary and forwarded to the board.

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Agenda 8: Regional Director Responsibilities - Ferdinand Meyer V

The Region Directors are responsible to help with memberships and also get information/stories/events from their regions/local clubs for the digital newsletter. They act as liaisons between their region and the Federation, which helps us to keep in contact with these clubs and also with promotion and support for the hobby on a national level.

Ferdinand reported that there has been a 'disconnect' between regional directors and himself. Information is not being received for the digital newsletter. It was suggested to have a bi-monthly conference call with them and possibly include others who are not board members.

Action taken:

Let Ferdinand know by e-mail if you are interested in participating in this conference call. Discussion will include investigating the idea of bringing other people in.

Agenda 9: Bylaws Update - Gene Bradberry

Gene is ready with the bylaws and suggests that the board schedule a conference call before the membership meeting in Manchester (about two weeks in advance) for a final review.

Action taken:

Gene will follow up on scheduling the call. We will be able to review the finished copy and be ready to present to the membership meeting in Manchester.

Those who will not be attending Manchester are John Panek and Ed Kuskie. Ed reported he will participate by phone.

The group reviewed 'reproduction' bottles being circulated and marked as 'old.' It is the responsibility of the Federation to educate collectors about reproductions.

The conference call was ended at 10:30 pm EST

Respectfully submitted,

James Berry, Secretary