



The Federation of Historical Bottle Collectors Board of Directors Conference Call November 14, 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 Vice President
John Pastor, Director at Large
John Panek, Director at Large
James Berry, Secretary
Richard Watson, Historian
Gary Beatty, Treasurer
James Bender, Membership Director
Tom Phillips, Convention Director
Sheldon Baugh, Merchandising Director
Pam Selenak, Public Relations Director
Dave Maryo, Western Region Director
Alan DeMaison, Business Manager
Randee Kaiser, Midwest Region Director
Jack Hewitt, Southern Region Director

Absent: Jamie Houdeshell, 2nd Vice President
Gene Bradberry, Director at Large
Martin Van Zant, *Bottles and Extras* Editor
Ed Kuskie, Northeast Region Director

Agenda 1: Stability with the Four Legs of the FOHBC - Ferdinand Meyer V

Ferdinand talked about the other “legs” of the FOHBC - it is not just about the *Bottles and Extras* magazine. There is a ton of information out there through other means including:

- FOHBC website/facebook - digital group followers.
- Digital Newsletter - still a work in progress as it was reported that several members are not getting this.
- FOHBC National Bottle Show – a great, multi-day show with special events.
- Virtual Museum - still a work in progress.

These different means of communication and getting tons of information out to people includes all of the above.

Action Taken: No action taken.

Agenda 2: Lexington, Kentucky, Show Update - Tom Phillips

To firm up the plans for the 2014 Lexington National Show, Tom reported that in late October, he, Jamie Houdeshell, Sheldon Baugh and Randee Kaiser travelled to Lexington and

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met with representatives from the hotel, the convention center and the local visitors bureau. They completed an on-site assessment of the facilities including the exhibit hall; rooms for the seminars, board and membership meetings, banquet, auction and the bottle competition event.

Tom explained that they spent a considerable amount of time coordinating the “Run for the Roses” event. The committee wants to make sure that this event is done as well as it can be. This includes the room set-up, the availability of all in attendance to see each bottle entered, and announcing of all entries into their respective categories. To this extent, Tom explained that the committee is suggesting the purchase of a custom-made, lighted display cabinet to use for the bottle battle. This cabinet would be the property of the FOHBC to use at its discretion. It will also be used after the bottle competition for a display. Jamie Houdeshell volunteered to store the case and ensure transportation to the subsequent shows.

Tom then stated that to make sure everyone in attendance at the bottle battle is able to see all entries; the committee is suggesting the purchase of a projector and screen. Obviously, this is something that could be used again and again.

These improvements made to the bottle battle, now and in the future, will improve the quality of the event and ensure everyone is able to participate and enjoy it.

Gift certificate prizes for the “Run for the Roses” will be awarded to Win (\$100), Place (\$50) and Show (\$25) for each category which will be redeemable at the show for purchases.

The committee will return to Lexington in April. The remaining aspects of the show (i.e., souvenir program, banquet, seminars, etc.) will continue to be worked on.

Jamie Houdeshell will be the announcer at the bottle competition. He will keep the crowd informed and engaged in everything that is going on during the event. The entries will be show-cased in the cabinet with video to the projection screen so all are able to see.

Action Taken: Dick Watson made a motion that the FOHBC purchase a custom-made, lighted display cabinet (approximate cost of \$1,000-\$1,200), an Epson projector, and a projection screen (approximate cost of \$2,500). Motion was seconded by Bob Ferraro. All members present approved the motion.

Information regarding the committee’s trip to Kentucky has been put on the FOHBC website, facebook page and Peachridge Glass site. Ferdinand also noted that an article will be in the next issue of *Bottles and Extras* and each subsequent issue promoting the show.

Contracts have been slow coming in; however, this is expected to pick up after the first of the year.

Other information for the Lexington Show:

To go along with the theme of the Kentucky Derby, there is a possibility that there may be a “Hat” competition during the cocktail hour before the bottle competition. Details are not specific at this point.

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It was also noted that Jim Bender will conduct two presentations on reproductions of historic bottles at 10:30 am and 1:30 pm on Sunday, August 3rd. There is a lot of interest in this topic.

Agenda 3: Chattanooga, Tennessee, Show Update - Tom Phillips

Tom said after Lexington, he drove down to Chattanooga and met with Jack Hewitt and John Joiner (who will be serving as show co-chairpersons). They began the same process for the 2015 show by assessing the location, convention center, setting up the seminars, etc. All is a work in progress at this point and will continue to be.

Jack Hewitt gave a brief report on other attractions in the area, such as a museum, which is interested in working with the Federation on the possibility of assisting with an event(s). This matter will be looked into and more information will be obtained and given at a later date.

Action Taken: No action taken.

Agenda 4 - 2016 Convention Update - Tom Phillips

The 2016 Convention is scheduled to be held in the Western Region and is the first year of the new show format. Tom has sent the proposal letter to 17 Western region clubs for interest in hosting the 2016 show. The deadline for clubs to submit their intention is December 15th. After December's deadline, Tom said the next step would be to receive proposals by the end of February, early March. The show committee will then evaluate and make recommendations to the Board. Tom did state that there is interest from several areas.

Action Taken: No action taken.

Agenda 5: Current Life Membership Questions - Alan DeMaison

Alan has forwarded lists to Board members. He explained the difference between the current list and a past 1997 Directory. He also has a 2001 list with Life Members marked. On the 2013 list, he compared names. Alan highlighted names in red where there are discrepancies or questions. Yellow highlights indicate that names have been added (may not have been there when first added to the Life Membership list).

Alan feels that the names in red should be eliminated. Those in yellow will need to be addressed. He will follow up with these.

Action Taken: Members are asked to review the Life Membership list for further discussion. It was suggested to place a statement in the magazine asking for information from members regarding past membership lists.

Agenda 6: Life Membership Recommendation - Jim Bender

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Jim reported on the findings of the committee (Bob Ferraro, Alan DeMaison, Jim Bender) regarding reinstating FOHBC Life Memberships.

The committee suggested:

- The cost of an FOHBC life membership be \$650;
- This can include a husband and wife if married at the time of purchase. If single at the time of purchase, a spouse will not be added if the person marries. If a life member passes away, the spouse will continue to be a life member until their death (if included);
- A Life Membership is not transferrable;
- A foreign life membership would be offered a digital membership only;
- The next number would be 335 based on the current list;
- No special treatment/discounts will be given to a Life Member;
- A certificate will be given (not a card) designed by Ferdinand;
- These funds should be placed into a special membership account.

Jim explained that memberships will not be promised a hard copy of the magazine; the future may have the magazine only available in digital form. There is an opportunity for this proposal to be voted on at the Board Meeting in Lexington, Kentucky. However, before any final decision is made, Jim is suggesting that we need to know what the exact cost of the printed magazine is.

Action Taken: As many variables of income/expense are involved with the magazine, further investigation into this will be completed. Alan DeMaison will work on this.

Agenda 7: Digital Membership Option - Jim Bender, All

Jim explained that we must look ahead into the future. He gave examples from a recent show he attended stating that many people were either on their I-phone, smart phone and/or tablet looking up information (for prices, ebay auctions, etc.) as they were “shopping bottles.” Others are completely digital (mostly the younger generation). We need to keep in mind the option of having a digital membership.

Action Taken: The use of digital options for FOHBC memberships still needs to be investigated as this is what the future holds. We will continue to discuss this and we should not be put off. It was reiterated that the magazine will continue to be produced.

Ferdinand is suggesting that this option be available by the Lexington National show.

Agenda 8: Board Procedure Lists - Ferdinand Meyer, All

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Ferdinand has asked that board members to write procedures for tasks they current perform for the Federation. At this point, he has received a couple.

Action Taken: Ferdinand again requested that Board members document what procedure they use when completing a board function and forward to him for discussion at the next conference call.

Agenda 9: Honorary Board Positions - Ferdinand Meyer V

No information available at this time.

Action Taken: Ferdinand will attempt to have information available for the next conference call. No other action taken.

Agenda 10: Board Candidate Update/Elections - Ferdinand Meyer and Pam Selenak

Pam has been and continues to work on nomination to fill about 6 Board positions. If there is any interest or if anyone is aware of someone who may be interested, please let her know.

Action Taken: The slate of officers for 2014 elections needs to be ready for publication in the January/February *Bottles and Extras* magazine.

Agenda 11: Bylaw Question - Ferdinand Meyer V

It was brought to Ferdinand's attention regarding a by law that states, "The Board of Directors may fix reasonable compensation for themselves, committee chairpersons, national convention officials or contractors for the business of effecting the mission of the Federation." The word "themselves" was questioned.

Action Taken: Ferdinand will follow up with Gene Bradberry regarding the appropriate protocol and will report at the next conference call.

Agenda 12: *Bottles and Extras* - Ferdinand Meyer V

Deadlines have been moved up due to the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. Ferdinand said that more articles are needed; if someone has shown interest previously to write article(s), please contact them and encourage them to make the attempt.

Action Taken: The editor and editorial committee are working hard to meet these deadlines.

Agenda 13: Newsletters - Ferdinand Meyer V

Several Board members are not receiving the newsletter.

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Action Taken: Ferdinand will follow up to see why.

Agenda 14: Advertising - Ferdinand Meyer V, Alan DeMaison

Coinciding with trying to figure out just how much it costs to publish *Bottles and Extras*, members talked about advertising in the magazine and said they do not know exactly how much income is derived from advertisements. Alan reported on the variables that are involved with advertising in *Bottles and Extras*.

Action Taken: Alan will prepare a report for the next conference call.

Agenda 15: Communication Protocol - Ferdinand Meyer V

When responding to communications, i.e., e-mail, please reply to “all,” keeping all board members apprised of discussion. Keep politics out of communications. Please use the topic (or subject line) to reference what you are discussing; it is easier to file and find by subject.

Action Taken: No action taken.

Agenda 16: Open Discussion

Treasurer, Gary Beatty reported that all bills have been paid up-to-date. The financial report/funds has not been received from the Manchester National show. Tom Phillips will follow up.

The group discussed articles for the magazine. Publishing decisions are made by the editorial committee.

Tom Phillips will follow up with an incident he discovered through an ad placed in the *Antique Bottle & Glass Collector* magazine. The incident happened in Manchester and Tom stated that no one involved with the show was informed.

The conference call was ended at 11:05 pm EST

Respectfully submitted,

James Berry, Secretary