



**The Federation of Historical Bottle Collectors
Board of Directors Conference Call Minutes
September 20, 2012, 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
Jamie Houdeshell, 2nd VP
Gene Bradberry, Director at Large
John Panek, Director at Large
John Pastor, Director at Large
James Berry, Secretary
Richard Watson, Historian
Tom Phillips, Convention Director
James Bender, Membership Director
Martin Van Zant, B&E Editor
Alan DeMaison, Business Manager
Dave Maryo, Western Region Director
Randee Kaiser, Midwest Region Director
Ed Kuskie, Northeast Region Director
Jack Hewitt, Southern Region Director
Pam Selenak, Public Relations Director

Absent: Bob Ferraro, 1st VP
Gary Beatty, Treasurer
Sheldon Baugh, Merchandising Director

Agenda 1: Reno Financial Wrap-Up - Alan DeMaison

Alan DeMaison reported. He has not fully reviewed the Reno show report; therefore, he will not recommend approval of the report at this time. He does state, however, that the Federation will have made a profit when all numbers are in and tallied.

Action taken:

Show information will be reported when the final report and review have been completed.

Agenda 2: 2013 National Manchester Show Update - Tom Phillips

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Tom reported on the current status of the show. At this point, 102 sales tables have been paid with 8 phone confirmations (110 out of 254 available). Thirty banquet tickets have been paid and 26 room reservations have been made.

Other events to be held during the show were discussed. This discussion included having a speaker for the banquet (to be kept to a minimum amount of time) and holding a shootout, as this was considered a success in Reno.

Questions were asked on who would be allowed to attend the shootout and how the events would take place. One suggestion made is to improve the setting for the shoot out so everyone will have a chance to watch. As far as who would be able to attend the shootout, those attending the banquet, paid early admission, paid sales table and Federations members would be approved to attend and this was approved by board members.

Action taken:

Approval was given by board members to hold the shootout at the Manchester show. Tom explained that Mike George is working with the Radisson to see what options are available to hold the shoot-out in an adjoining room following the banquet, as well as what the categories are (2-3) and who would be the judges.

Agenda 3: 2014 National Lexington Show Update - Tom Phillips

Tom said a press release has been sent confirming the Federation's 2014 National Antique Bottle Show will be held at the Lexington Convention Center in Lexington, Kentucky on August 1-3, 2014. The Hyatt Regency will be the host hotel. Tom has signed contracts in place for both venues. Randee Kaiser and Sheldon Baugh will be serving as co-show chairpersons with Gene Bradberry and Tom Phillips available as consultants. Information will be published in the next Bottles and Extras and hopefully we can alert other clubs of this date so shows will not coincide on the same weekend.

The South will be the next region for the 2015 National Show and Tom will begin with that process within a few months.

Tom explained concerns regarding the "day" of the actual show and discussion was held. Attendance varies on Saturdays and Sundays according to the regions.

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To clarify for our national shows, early admission will be on Saturday and general admission will be on Sunday. Board members agreed with this.

Agenda 4: FOHBC Bylaw Update - Gene Bradberry, Dave Maryo, Ferdinand Meyer

Ferdinand explained that due to changes that have been made recently, in the way communications involving the Federation is done; i.e. through the web site including the Internet - the Federation Bylaws do not consider this mode of communication.

As a result, Dave Maryo has reviewed the Federation Bylaws. He explained how much of the Federation's information is put out in digital form and according to the bylaws, information is to be published in the magazine.

After careful consideration, Dave suggested that the magazine format be changed slightly to allow possibly two pages to publish in condensed form a summary of meetings, business news, and regional reports. A link to the Federation's website could be added giving the option of viewing complete reports on the website. We estimate that there are a number of members who do not use computers and rely on the magazine as their primary means of communication.

This change would follow the Bylaws as stated.

Action taken:

Ferdinand Meyer and Martin Van Zant will work on this change allowing up to two pages for Federation news and regional reports in the magazine.

It was suggested for Board members to review the Federation Bylaws. Gene Bradberry will send a copy of the latest edition to members. Discussion will be held at the next conference call.

Agenda 5: Bottles and Extras / Website Update - Ferdinand Meyer, Martin Van Zant

Martin reported that they continue to work on getting the magazine out a little earlier. This month, the November/December issue should be ready for mailing by October 18th. Brief discussion was held on concerns regarding the postal service delivery. Once the magazine is mailed, it is out of our hands. Second-class mail usually takes a few days longer than 1st class. When member portals are up and running, Ferdinand can post the magazine on-line for a brief period of time (it cannot be downloaded).

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The website is up-to-date and the member portal is being prepared for testing. At this time, there is no financial expense to the Federation for the website.

Action taken:

No action taken.

Agenda 6: Virtual Museum Update - Ferdinand Meyer, Alan DeMaison

Ferdinand has started design work at no cost to the Federation; however, he did state that a cost would be incurred if he needs to utilize Bill Meier.

Alan has been working on an organizational and financial plan to present and discuss with board members. This project will require a Virtual Museum Board; a project plan/procedure; a separate financial account; plan for soliciting and accepting donations to fund the museum. Alan explained some of his thoughts regarding donations where Federation members could make a monetary donation or pledge (using a payment plan) and be awarded with some type of benefit (to be decided).

Action taken:

Approval was given to Alan DeMaison to continue with this project, i.e., work on a donation letter, developing a procedure and plan, create a separate financial account, etc. Information will be forwarded to board members and will be discussed at the next conference call.

Agenda 7: FOHBC Newsletter Status - Ferdinand Meyer, Alan DeMaison

Ferdinand continues to work on developing a Federation newsletter to send via e-mail. The newsletter is expected to include up-to-date Federation news and information as a way to stay in touch with our membership. He is not sure at this point whether it will be monthly or every other month.

Action taken:

Ferdinand will present a draft to the board when he develops the first newsletter.

Agenda 8: Financial Update

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Gary Beatty was not present on tonight's call. The report was given by Alan DeMaison. A financial report was sent to board members and was reviewed by Alan. When the financial report from the Reno show is completed, Alan stated that the balance would increase.

Action taken:

No action taken.

Agenda 9: Public Relations Update - Pam Selenak

Pam reports that she is getting many new members signed up after talking with them face-to-face. We need to find ways to keep these members, not just using the magazine as a benefit. Other benefits are outlined in the membership form, however, Pam is interested in possibly giving new members some type of "thank you" for joining. She also would like to get more East Coast people to join. Club memberships also have benefits, such as insurance coverage for shows, events, digs.

Ferdinand feels that having the access to so many of the other members is a bonus.

Pam inquired about having business cards to hand out to people. It was agreed that a few board members could benefit from having business cards. Business cards can be made on the computer using a program. Gene Bradberry will follow up on this as he may have business cards that were previously done.

New board members inquired as to having Federation letterhead. Gene Bradberry has stationary and envelopes and will send new directors who request it.

The Most Educational ribbons have been sent to Pam to handle as Public Relations Director. Jim Berry previously sent them when he was Public Relation Director. Ribbons are sent to Federation clubs who request them.

Membership Report: Getting and keeping new memberships was discussed. Ferdinand suggested having a 'membership drive' through the board and set goals, i.e., 2,000 members. We need to ensure that once members join, we want to keep them. Currently, the membership is at 1,135. Most people who do not rejoin forget, no longer in the hobby, or economic reasons.

Action taken:

Gene will send out stationary to those who request it and follow up with information on the business cards.

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It was suggested that updated membership lists be sent to all board members so they are aware of who is a member and who is not as they work on getting new memberships and others to rejoin.

Agenda 10: Any and All Other Business

Hall of Fame/Honor Roll process: Nominations will soon be starting for next year.

FOHBC Contests: Since Carl Sturm will no longer be handling the contests, the group discussed replacing this position. Jim Berry will e-mail Carl to ask if he would send the procedure that he uses for these contests, as well as who the judges are.

When information is received, this will be discussed at the next conference call.

The Federation's 'Who to Contact' list will need to be revised.

Regional Directors: Ferdinand would like to get the regional directors back on track regarding getting information from their regions for input in the Federation newsletter as well as the magazine. He will be holding a conference call with the regional directors soon.

The conference call was ended at 11:10 pm EST

Respectfully submitted,

James Berry, Secretary