Welcome - Ferdinand Meyer V, President

President Ferdinand Meyer V, called the membership meeting of the Federation of Historical Bottle Collectors to order at 7:30 am. Ferdinand welcomed everyone to the breakfast membership meeting and thanked them for attending. From all appearances, it was a great turnout with good weather as the breakfast occurred on the Lion’s Gate Hotel patio.

The various events for this year’s Sacramento National Convention were reviewed. Ferdinand noted that most of the Sacramento local team was at the McClellan Conference Center orchestrating dealer unloading. Ferdinand talked about the FOHBC, where we are and where we are going.

BOTTLES and EXTRAS was discussed. Times are changing with technology and the Internet. All articles are digitally archived on the FOHBC web site. We are selling digital memberships. The bi-monthly magazine is full of great articles and other bottle-related information. We want to keep it that way and not use too much advertising.

Ferdinand encouraged everyone to write articles on their experiences in collecting, digging, attending shows, meeting people -- whatever interests you, would also interest someone else. Jim Bender has attended many shows in the northeast and writes up many articles with pictures. It is then put on the FOHBC web site and other online locations. The audience was asked to do the same. The FOHBC has an editorial staff that can proof read and provide the design layouts.

Due to a tight printing schedule, the Sacramento Convention feature article will not occur in the September/October 2016 issue of BOTTLES and EXTRAS. The November/December issue will carry full coverage of the event.

Ferdinand explained the election process and noted that ballots were being counted during the breakfast. He also encouraged anyone interested in becoming active with the Federation for the next election in two years. Due to requests, he has agreed to remain as President for another two years.

Ferdinand introduced the current board members in attendance; others are not able to attend the breakfast as they are working the tables for registration. Also introduced was our show photographer, Gina Pellegrini, who is volunteering her time.

At this time, Ferdinand introduced Jim Bender who is co-chair for the 2017 Springfield National Convention. Jim, along with Bob Strickhart as co-chair, has been working on this convention for about a year now. Jim discussed specific events, i.e., the auction, table sales (booking now), hotel rooms (reservations confirmed), etc. Other events were briefly discussed. There will be a table on the Sacramento showroom floor for Springfield where dealers and/or attendees can reserve tables, banquet tickets, early admission etc. Members were asked to stop and see Jim Bender and Jim Berry at the table for more convention information. It was noted that that if you make your reservations now, you can avoid the rush closer to the convention date.

Ferdinand introduced Louis Fifer, who is co-chair for the 2018 Cleveland National Convention, along with Matt Lacy (Midwest Region Director) who was absent. Louis is also the Federation’s Conventions Director. Louis gave a brief overview of the 2018 convention. Both Louis and Matt continue to work on planning events and other aspects of the show. It was noted that both have experience putting on bottle shows in the Ohio area.

Ferdinand talked about “belonging” and being part of the Federation. He encouraged all present to maintain their membership with the FOHBC. Memberships help provide revenue and also provide many extra benefits to individuals as well as clubs who want to be part of something great.
The FOHBC board agrees that our conventions are not necessarily about making money first, it is the experience for our members, guests and doing something positive for our hobby. Making money is ‘icing on the cake.’

RFPs (request for proposals) have been sent out to member clubs in the southern region for the 2019 National Convention. This is our 50th year anniversary, so we should be doing something special. At this point in time, there has been some interest shown to host the convention.

Other discussion included the remainder of features for the show including merchandise and memberships (new and renewals), which can be purchased, displays, seminars and the Virtual Museum. Ferdinand explained that Virtual Museum director, Alan DeMaison, is now experimenting with photographing bottles. A meeting was scheduled in Houston between Alan, Ferdinand and Elizabeth.

The recent update to the Federation bylaws was approved.

**FOHBC Elections**

Ferdinand reported that the ballots have been tallied and new officers have been elected. The new slate will take office after the Sacramento convention. The following results list the new board members and positions for 2016 – 2018:

- **President** Ferdinand Meyer, V
- **First Vice President** Sheldon Baugh
- **Second Vice President** Gene Bradberry
- **Secretary** James Berry
- **Treasurer** Gary Beatty
- **Historian** James Bender
- **Merchandise Director** Valeri Berry
- **Membership Director** Linda Sheppard
- **Conventions Director** Louis Fifer
- **Director-at-Large** Ron Hands
- **Director-at-Large** Steve Ketcham
- **Director-at-Large** John Pastor
- **Midwest Region Director** Matt Pastor
- **Northeast Region Director** Bob Strickhart
- **Southern Region Director** Brad Seigler
- **Western Region Director** Eric McGuire
- **Public Relations Director** Alicia Booth

The FOHBC Membership Breakfast Meeting was adjourned at 8:09 am PST

Respectfully submitted,

James Berry, Secretary