



The Federation of Historical Bottle Collectors FOHBC Breakfast Membership Meeting Minutes Chattanooga National

August 1, 2015, 7:30 am EST

Ferdinand Meyer, V, called the FOHBC Membership Meeting to order at 7:30 am EST.

Welcome - Ferdinand Meyer V, President

Ferdinand welcomed everyone to the FOHBC Chattanooga National Show and Membership Breakfast Meeting and thanked them for attending. This was our first attempt at a membership breakfast/meeting and it was a very good turnout. In previous years, the membership meeting (held on a Friday afternoon) was poorly attended. It was assumed that most members were not at the show yet; so the board made a change.

FOHBC board members were introduced. Ferdinand thanked Chattanooga National co-chairs John Joiner and Jack Hewitt for putting in many hours for the FOHBC show. The FOHBC Board of Directors spends a lot of time as well making sure all our t's are crossed and i's dotted to present a great show.

Ferdinand talked about the Federation to the membership. He explained three major components of the Federation. **First** is the magazine, Bottles and Extras; a high quality 72-page magazine which is the product of good, quality work. **Second** is the shows; they consist of seminars, shoot-outs, banquets, auctions, etc. At least 75% of vendor tables must be antique bottles, jars, blown glass, insulators, stoneware, marbles, related advertising and new items to assist in the hobby of bottle collecting in making an effort to stay away from "flea market" items. **Third** is the Virtual Museum. This project continues to be worked on. Alan DeMaison, former FOHBC Business Manager, will be manning a table with donations accepted.

Review of the 2015 Chattanooga National Bottle Show

Ferdinand went over the schedule of events for this weekend's show; seminars, dealer registration, early admission, auction, etc. All information is listed in the Souvenir Program.

Review of upcoming FOHBC Shows

A quick report was given on the **2016 Sacramento, Calif. National Antique Bottle Convention**. This will be our first "convention" expanding events throughout 2½ days. Ferdinand briefly explained some of the ideas and events that will be organized. Contracts have been available for a week now on the FOHBC website and will also be available at the registration desk this weekend. Members are encouraged to reserve their hotel room as well as your table contract completed as soon as possible.

The **2017 Springfield, MA, National Antique Bottle Convention**. Jim Bender and Bob Strickhart will be the co-chairs for this show. We are expecting a good attendance with up to 400 sales tables available. Other events are currently in the process of being worked out.

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2018 Midwest National Convention. Louis Fifer, Convention Director is currently in the process of researching venues for the 2018 convention. Ferdinand said that all updated news is posted on the website daily.

FOHBC / Next Generation

Ferdinand explained that for the past year and a half, the FOHBC board has been studying and thinking about what the future holds for the our hobby and bottle world. Many discussions were held regarding the change in the way things have been done, are being done and will be done – including costs, bottle/antique shows, increased use of the internet (auctions, e-bay), smart phones (ability to look something up), computerization, production costs, printed magazines (which the FOHBC Bottles and Extras, is losing money), etc.

Discussion: Jim Bender took on the responsibility of investigating other options in order for Bottles and Extras to continue and be cost effective. He explained that he compared income through advertising with the cost of printing the magazine. We try to keep advertisements to a minimum to produce a quality magazine. It was conveyed that after studying this information, the magazine was costing \$32 to produce, a loss considering a membership is just \$30. Life membership was initiated years ago to help sustain the federation. At this time, approximately 170 life members receive the magazine at no charge, therefore, this cost must be absorbed. Additional income for the FOHBC, particularly from our shows, helps keep us afloat, but if we had to survive with just the magazine, we would be finished - it does not make money.

Several suggestions were made to be prepared for the future:

Offer a digital membership - having the magazine online - therefore decreasing publishing/ mailing costs.

Discontinue mailing Bottles and Extras to membership clubs.

Increasing FOHBC membership rates.

Re-instituting Life Memberships.

Offering a three-year membership (one per three-year period) for digital memberships).

A proposal to increasing membership rates is made as follows:

Regular Standard Membership	\$40
1 st Class Membership	\$55
Canada Membership	\$60
Other Countries	\$80
Clubs	\$75

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Three-Year Membership, Standard \$110

Digital membership \$25

(Associate membership will continue at \$5; Not available with Life or Digital Membership) and re-instituting Life Membership

Re-Institution of Life Membership

Three levels of Life Membership for single members only:

Level One or A \$1000 Includes all benefits of a regular membership. No promise of a printed magazine for life.

Level Two or B \$500 Includes all benefits of a regular membership but you will not receive a printed magazine, but rather a digital subscription. Note - in the future, a Level One could become a Level Two.

Level Three or C Earned or Honoree. The Board would have the option of bestowing an honorary Life Membership. This person would continue to join the FOHBC at the regular membership rate. The Board will determine how this honor is earned.

After discussion, the membership agreed by show of hands to hold a two-part vote on the proposal.

Motion: Alicia Booth made a motion to approve the proposal of increased membership rates, as written above. The Motion was seconded by Helen Forbes. The membership, by majority show of hands, approved motion. Motion passed.

Ferdinand further stated that the increase will take effect on September 1, 2015. It was also noted that only one, three-year membership can be purchased at a time. An associate member's charge is \$5 per year, i.e., a 3-year membership with associate will be \$90 (\$75 plus \$15).

Motion: Randee Kaiser made a motion to approve the re-institution of Life Membership in three levels, as written above. Motion was seconded by Steve Ketcham. The membership, by majority show of hands, approved motion. Motion passed.

Again, Ferdinand thanked everyone for attending and hopes everyone enjoys the show.

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

Respectfully submitted,

James Berry, Secretary