



FOHBC's PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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On Thursday, July 28, the Board of Directors held a conference call and selected the following to fill unexpired terms of offices that had been vacated. The selections were unanimous.

Mike Newman, our current treasurer, had indicated before the convention that he would have to step down due to his wife's ill health. After speaking with several members, the selection of Gary Beatty, of North Port, Fla., was made to fill the position of treasurer. Gary has been in bottle collecting for many years and actually previously served as a Federation officer including some time as treasurer while Dick Stockton was president. Gary is originally from Ohio and still collects Ohio bottles. He is currently serving as a Baptist minister in Florida.

A great big thanks to Mike Newman for stepping in and filling this post and doing a great job of it. Mike made an excellent report of our finances at the Memphis convention and his work is greatly appreciated.

The next appointment was Randee Kaiser of Holts Summit, Missouri to the position of Midwest Region Director. Randee has been a longtime collector and is an enthusiastic supporter of the Federation. He, along with Mike Elling, is currently doing a column for *Bottles and Extras* on Applied Color Label sodas. Welcome aboard, Randee.

The next position is Public Relations Director. This position was vacated when Jim Berry moved to the Secretary's position from that of P.R. Director. Pam Salenak, of Orange, Calif., comes highly recommended for this slot and we welcome her on board as well. She served as show chairman for the 2009 National Show in Pomona, Calif. We are glad to have her expertise with us and she will be working closely with the Business Manager, Membership Director and myself to promote the Federation.

I as reflecting the other day on the paths the Federation has taken over the years and ran across a copy of our First Edition of *Bottles and Extras* after taking it over from Scott Grandstaff and Kitty Roach. The issue was March 1995. It is amazing how far we have come in building a premier magazine chock full of great and varied content. Looking at the first issue reminds me of just how much effort goes into this publication each issue.

I want to personally thank not only our Editor, but people like Bill Baab who helps to edit the magazine each issue as well as the many contributing writers for their time and effort spent in developing, researching and producing such quality articles. A hearty thanks to all of the contributing writers! Speaking of the magazine content, it was decided by the Board of Directors to stop printing the regional reports in the magazine. Instead, they will now be available online as an integral part of our new Web site, www.FOHBC.org, starting with this issue. This space will now be utilized to

print more articles submitted by our many talented writers.

I would like to take a moment and encourage each member of the Federation to consider starting a club in the area where you live. A club is what helps keep this hobby vibrant and moving forward. There is nothing more exciting than the formation of a new club and then holding a bottle show. I can reflect back on the time when our local club, the Memphis Bottle Collectors Club, held our first show in September 1967. We had just formed our club in February of that year and had an informal show at a local flea market in July. Our first attempt at a real show as in September. I was the Show Chairman (and it seemed like almost perennial after that) and it was a great feeling to host a show and have collectors from many other states come. Many lasting friendships were developed from that early beginning. If you would like to start a club in your area, contact us and we can give you some ideas on starting one as well as a sample set of bylaws to help you get started. You may contact me or Membership Director Jim Bender.

Speaking of clubs and shows: We had a great show and convention in Memphis this year and everyone seemed to have a great time. A hearty thanks to all who helped make this show a success. Special thanks goes to Wayne Lowry for doing the reservations and table layout, June Lowry for doing the souvenir program and auction catalog, Tom Phillips and Ron Pevehouse for doing the auction setup, Bill Meier for the online part of the auction, Ed Provine for the displays, Don Ellis for being the auctioneer, and the many member of the Memphis Bottle Collectors Club for their efforts in the many, many ways they contributed to making the show a huge success.

A special section in the magazine this month is devoted to highlighting the show. A great big thanks to Ferd Meyer for coordinating this.

At the Federation banquet, Bill Baab was inducted into the Federation Hall of Fame with his many accomplishments being acknowledged. Additionally, there were three President's Awards presented (there usually is only one given each year). This year, they went to Ferd Meyer for his work on the Web site, Tom Phillips and Ron Pevehouse for their untiring efforts in making the Federation 2011 Auction a success. Congratulations to you, Bill and many thanks to Ferd, Ron and Tom.

Well, I have gone a little long this time, but just wanted to share these thoughts with you.

Don't forget our Expo 2011 in Reno, Nevada. See the ad in this issue of the magazine and information also is available at www.FOHBC.org.

As always, Let's Keep the Fun in Bottle Collecting.
Gene Bradberry, President, FOHBC