Warren Friedrich and Mike Bryant steal the show!

## The FOHBC Banquet

by Ferdinand Meyer V

The much anticipated, traditional FOHBC awards banquet was special this year with Warren Friedrich dominating the event and getting the distinguished Hall of Fame award and giving the keynote lecture. Mike Bryant, representing the San Diego Antique Bottle and Collectibles Club, also made six trips to the stage to collect awards!

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Ferdinand Meyer V, President, FOHBC, outlining new direction and the strengths of our great hobby



The event started off with cocktails and then moved to an opening greeting and welcome from Marty Hall, Reno Expo show chairman. Bob Ferraro gave the banquet invocation and turned the mike back to Marty Hall and Alan DeMaison who coordinated the table by table movement to the banquet dinner spread where an incredible arrangement of food and desserts were displayed and awaited all guests. This process worked well and it seemed like everyone was really pleased with the outstanding meal, which was organized and provided by the host hotel, Grand Sierra Resort & Casino.





After dinner, Warren Friedrich was introduced and gave a rather engaging talk on "The Early Glassworks of California". The stage was then turned over to Alan DeMaison who announced the new FOHBC Board members for the 2012-2014 term. This included the addition of John Panek and Jamie Houdeshell, who filled a vacant position and also replaced the outgoing Carl Sturm. Thank you to Carl Sturm for his many years of fine service. The last position, President was announced, and I was called to the stage. I could hardly contain my excitement with my new Federation role and I went on to give a talk about where I see

the hobby and the Federation headed. (please read my President's message in the front of this issue). I also asked for a moment of silence to honor my good friend, bitters mentor and past FOHBC board member, Ed Herrold, who suddenly passed away a day or so earlier.



Next on the agenda was the announcement of the two FOHBC Hall of Fame awards. Pam Selenak introduced Warren Friedrich who received this distinguished award. Ferdinand Meyer V presented the second Federation Hall of Fame award to Jack Sullivan, of Alexandria, Va., (not in attendance) who is a prolific researcher and writer for our hobby and the Federation. The final major award was given to Tom Phillips, FOHBC Conventions Director. Tom received a much deserved, President's Award from outgoing president, Gene Bradberry. Way to go Tom! Tom gave a little talk and got the crowd fired-up for the 2013 FOHBC National in Manchester, New Hampshire.



We then moved to announcing the club awards. This included the Montana Bottle Collectors Association getting First Place in the 2012 Show Poster Contest, Erich Webber and Bill Henness, designers. The San Diego Antique Bottle and Collectibles Club getting



Mike Bryant and the San Diego Antique Bottle and Collectibles Club clean up with award plaques. Mike is flanked by his wife Dixie (left) and Pam Selenak.

Second Place, Mike Bryant, designer, and the Los Angeles Historical Bottle Club getting Third Place, Dave Maryo, designer.



The Greater Buffalo Bottle Collectors Association won First Place in the 2012 Newsletter Contest for "Travelers Companion," Craig Maefs, editor. The San Diego Antique Bottle and Collectibles Club won Second Place for "The Bottleneck," Mike Bryant, editor. The Washington Bottle and Collectors' Association won Third Place for "Ghost Town Echo," Scott Gibbons, editor.



Winning First Place, 2012 True Story with "1962 California Dig Yields Port Angeles Flask," published in the "Ghost Town Echo," newsletter of the Washington Bottle and Collectors' Association, was Rurik Kallis, author. Coming in Second Place was "Old Bottles Exploding In Popularity," published in several magazines and newsletters, Steve Ketcham, author. In

Third Place was "I Told Her I'd Do It," published in "The Bottleneck," newsletter of the San Diego Antique Bottle and Collectibles Club, Terry Monteith, author.

The First Place 2012 Research Story was "Milk Bottle Rim Codes," Carol Serr, author. This story was published in "The Bottleneck," newsletter of the San Diego Antique Bottle and Collectibles Club. In Second Place with "The Gazosa Beverage Company," published in "The Bottleneck," newsletter of The San Diego Bottle and Collectibles Club, Mike Bryant, author. Third Place was awarded to Scott Gibbons, author, for "Looking For Closure?" It was published in the "Ghost Town Echo," newsletter of the Washington Bottle and Collectors' Association, edited by Scott Gibbons.

Winning First Place for best 2012 Fiction Story was Mike Bryant, author, for "Ask Aunt Blabby by Blabbygail Butinski," published in "The Bottleneck", newsletter of the San Diego Antique Bottle and Collectibles Club.

This pretty much concluded the festivities for the long, eventful evening. Elizabeth and I have been coming to these banquets ever since I first started attending national shows in 2003. This event certainly lived up to all that was promised and expected.

