



Federation of Historic Bottle Collectors

President :

President's Message

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This issue's Presidents message will be somewhat abbreviated with the time challenges and a fast approaching deadline to go to press. However, I would be remiss if I did not take this opportunity to thank everyone involved in helping to make the 2005 National Show the great success that it was. Please be sure to see the pictures, news and notes on both the show and the auction later in this issue.

I am especially proud of the local West Michigan Antique Bottle Club, as well as other volunteers from around Michigan, who "gave it their all." They all worked so very hard to help ensure that the event was a success!

The Federation's Banquet on Friday evening held in the stunningly beautiful and ornate Gerald R. Ford Room at the host Amway Grand Hotel, was perhaps one of the most successful banquets on record with a full one-hundred attendees pre-registered; the room filled to capacity, and a spillover crowd of people lining the back of the room. We had a rather unique and exceptionally well received program with Bob Ferraro, Jim Hagenbuch, Norman Heckler, and Dick Watson, serving as our

"Masters" of the evening. They each did a fine job reminiscing about their experiences in the hobby, fielding questions posed by the audience and providing their own unique perspective on the hobby's past, present, and future. We are very grateful and indebted to each of them for sharing their experiences and expertise with us all.

The Seminars on Saturday morning were perhaps some of the best that we have had the pleasure of hosting. There were eight different seminars covering a wide array of topics. The seminar presenters are to be commended for doing a wonderful job and sharing their knowledge and expertise.

Displays at the 2005 National were a special treat as well. The show boasted a total of more than thirty different displays encompassing thirty-seven display spaces and totaling the equivalent of almost 300 linear feet of exhibits! I would like to personally thank all the exhibitors who made the significant effort to share a part of their collection and knowledge at the 2005 National Show. Thank you, as I know everyone who attended certainly enjoyed viewing the fabulous array of exhibits.

The entire weekend was designed to

provide folks an opportunity to broaden their knowledge and to enhance their enjoyment of the hobby. I would like to thank all the collectors, dealers and friends who attended the show and who participated in the weekend. Thank you for being a part of the show and for making it a great weekend to remember.

One addition aspect of the National Show that I would like to mention was the annual FOHBC Board Meeting. Your board of directors hosted their annual meeting on Friday morning and discussed a number of important issues and recommendations, some of which if adopted, will involve amendments to the current By-Laws. I hope that each of you took the opportunity to vote your opinion on the ballot issues in the most recent FOHBC Newsletter. We are here to serve you, and rest assured that your opinion is valued!

We welcome your comments, articles or suggestions. We want to hear from you. Please send us your input and any recommendations that you may have for the Federation and for the promotion of our wonderful hobby.

Just some of what is coming in future issues:

Shield F - The Mark of Quality
A Tale of Two Machines and a Revolution in Soft Drink Bottling
The F H G W Mark
The First Simplex Screw Cap (for Fruit Jars)
Western Whiskey: Saloons and Retail Merchants
About Sanborn Maps
Bottling Wisdom: The Motto Jug
The Bethesda Spring Water Bottle Story
Brewing in Medford, Oregon

And more...

Don't miss any of them !