



Federation of Historic Bottle Collectors

President :

President's Message

J. Carl Sturm
88 Sweetbriar Branch
Longwood, FL 32750
(407) 332-7689
glassmancarl@sprintmail.com

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Time is passing by much faster than before I took over as President. It seems there is always a deadline of some sort. It isn't only on my part, but on most members of the Board of Directors. All of you members out there should really appreciate your Board Members. You elected a very good group. Start thinking about what kind of a board member you could be. There is always room for newcomers to the offices of the Federation. You have less than two years to consider volunteering.

I spent January 12 through 14 at the bottle show in St Petersburg, Florida. It was a beautiful weekend, the armory was filled with dealers and foot traffic was good. There were quite a few early buyers on Friday and a steady stream most of Saturday. Sunday was slow as most shows have been for some time now. Even though it was slow Sunday, my sales were about the same as Saturday. So, you never can tell. I believe the majority of today's shows are set up on Friday or Saturday followed by a one day show. A few of them have the set up and show in one day.

Wayne Lowry, our Conventions Director reports everything is falling into place for the 2007 National Show.

The show is to be held at the Gateway Center in Collinsville, Illinois on August 17-19, 2007. Collinsville is located about 15 miles east of St Louis on I-55 and I-70. Contracts and Show flyers and will be available in the very near future.

We are in the planning stages for the 2008 Expo but have not firmed up a site yet. I hope to have more information by the May-June issue.

I have had a couple of non-board members comment that they are not happy with the content of *Bottles and Extras*. Our editor can only put into the magazine articles that are sent to her. My suggestion would be that if you don't like the content, write an article of your own and send it to

the Editor. We are always looking for new articles and new writers. If you feel you cannot write, send suggestions to me of the areas that you would like to read about and I will try to find someone who is knowledgeable enough to write an article on that subject. We have a lot of talented people in the hobby and it's just possible that the subject that you want to know about is something that another collector would like to share, but doesn't know that anyone else is interested. We will consider articles from anyone. If they are not well written but the subject has merit, we will find someone to assist you or rewrite your article. Don't just complain, do something about it.

This is the second issue of our now bi-monthly magazine. I believe that we will see an increase in membership because of this change. Your Board members are always looking for ideas to increase membership. If you have any ideas on how to increase our membership please let us know. Sometimes we are looking too hard for new things and let some simple thing slip by. If you have an idea that you think might help us increase our membership drop us a line and let us know about it.

If any of you would like to discuss some facet of the Federation, I will be set up at the Mansfield, Ohio show on Saturday, May 12. I am usually in the center aisle of the main building. If you have a bone to pick or just want to say hello, please stop by. I will keep you informed in this column of shows that I will attend as the time nears for those shows. Of course, you can always email or call me. My contact information is listed above on this page, as well as in the Officer Listing preceding this page, in the magazine each time.

For those of you who have wanted a Federation slide program, there is some bad news: Barbara Hill, who was curator of the slide programs for us, has passed away. At

this point in time we are trying to locate the programs and when we do, we will find another curator so that we can get this option back in working order. We even have a new DVD and CD which will be available. It is of the 37 displays at the National Show in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

If any of you would like to volunteer to handle the Federation slide show programs, we certainly will need a new curator when the slides are located. If you think you might be interested, drop me an email or call me.

Another bottle collector has gone to meet his maker. Claude "Bud" Lee of Bradford, Pa. passed away on October 9, 2006. Bud was a gentle man whom everyone liked. He and his wife Ethel were fixtures at the St Petersburg and Deland shows here in Florida. All of his southern friends will miss his quiet, friendly manner. We wish the very best to Ethel in this time of sorrow.

Show the *Bottles and Extras* magazine to your friends and encourage them to join our organization. Perhaps sell or donate a membership to a local library. Let others know about bottle collecting and the F.O.H.B.C.

Don't forget the Internet. Show dates and locations can be found on our fohbc.com site. Also connections with other collectors and a wealth of information such as published articles etc.

Dig hard or buy wisely and watch your collection grow.

J. Carl Sturm, President, FOHBC

Editor's Note: *The editor of this magazine also plans to be at both the Baltimore and Mansfield show. This will be a great chance to meet, as well as offer comments, suggestions and opinions about the magazine. See you there!*