



Federation of Historic Bottle Collectors

President :

President's
Message

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**Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting of the Federations of Historical Bottle Collectors
March 3, 2007, Holiday Inn, Towson, Md.**

Meeting was called to order at 12:05 p.m. by President Carl Sturm. In absence of the Secretary, Ed Herrold was asked to take minutes of the meeting.

Wayne Lowry reported on the National Antique Bottle Show sponsored by the FOHBC at Reno, Nev., in August of 2006, as follows: Final show counts included 266 dealer tables, 284 Early Admissions, 315 general admissions, and 121 persons attending the Federation banquet. The show netted a profit of \$895.49 with the auction making \$869.45. The Reno club was paid \$223.87 or one-fourth of the profits per agreement. Mr. Lowry explained that there had been a problem recording late bids in the silent auction because of "a glitch" in the auctioneer's software. The problem should not be repeated as future shows will each have different auction arrangements.

The 2007 show will be hosted by the St. Louis area bottle clubs and held in Gateway Center, Collinsville, Ill., August 17-19. The Holiday Inn will be the host hotel with special room rates. Greg Hawley—one of the excavators of the Steamboat Arabia sunk in the Missouri River in 1856—will be the banquet speaker.

Mr. Lowry next presented some site options for the 2008 show. In keeping with the Board's previously expressed desire to try to find a site in New England, or at least the Northeast, he reported that he had investigated Boston, Mass., and Providence, R.I., but dismissed them as being both too expensive and congested. He did find a possible location in Burlington, Vt., but recommended against it as being a bit too remote and difficult to get to. Mr. Lowry then presented a proposal to use the Toyota Convention Center in York, Pa., on August 8-10, 2008. After considerable discussion, Mr. Watson made a motion to accept the York proposal. It was seconded by Mr. Ferraro and passed unanimously. Mr. Pastor said that while he supported the York recommendation, he urged Mr. Lowry not to give up his search for possibilities in the Northeast and especially New England.

A written proposal by Cecil Munsey for possible revisions to FOHBC Hall of Fame

parameters was tabled in the absence of Mr. Munsey, because no copy of the original was on hand to determine changes. Mr. Pastor made the tabling motion and Mr. Watson seconded it.

Ms. Hopson-Sathe spoke on the status of the publication of the magazine, reporting that since experiencing cost over-runs in both issues the new printer had published it would be necessary to consider going back to the original printer. There was considerable discussion concerning membership, and the possible use of back issues to entice new members to join. It was suggested that it would be possible to put several years' back issues—perhaps four years—on a single CD or DVD. Mr. Pastor moved that back issues be made available on disc for approximately \$20 each. Mr. Siri seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

This was followed by discussion of the updating of the membership directory which will soon be forthcoming. The meeting was then adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
G. Edwin Herrold

Inductees to the Honor Roll and Hall of Fame determined at the meeting will be promulgated at the National Show in Collinsville, Ill. in keeping with past practices and have been deleted from the above minutes.

The Honor Roll and Hall of Fame Guidelines are currently being rewritten. When they have Board approval they will be printed in *Bottles and Extras* and added to the By-Laws of the Federation.

This issue is being printed by a new printer in Kansas City, Mo. through the diligence and hard work of our Business Manager, June Lowry. What will this accomplish? She has found a printer who can give us the same or better quality with more pages and more color than before at a lower price. Our magazine starting with this issue will be 72 pages with 8 pages of color. Your Board members constantly strive to improve the magazine, the Federation and through education the hobby as a whole.

There has been an increase in membership in the past month which was probably due in part to letters and cards to members who had not renewed their expiring membership. This requires work from board members who physically do the typing, envelope stuffing and mailing, plus the cost of the stamps. I believe another reason is because of the bi-monthly publishing and the quality of our publication. If you have collector friends who do not belong to the Federation, show them your copy of *Bottles and Extras*, and let them know how they can subscribe and our membership will climb still higher. *Bottles and Extras* is a slick, well put together magazine which should sell memberships, which in turn can establish advertising to the point where it will cut our publishing costs.

Your Board of Directors is constantly looking for ways to help grow membership.

If you have a gripe or suggestion to improve the Federation let one of your Board members know what your problem is. He or she will get it to the proper person on the Board and we will take action if we feel it is warranted. Once in awhile someone has a complaint that really has no merit for a radical change in our operation. But, you can be sure that all of your complaints will be brought before the Board for discussion. The Board will not act on problems arising from differences of opinions or personality traits between members.

This is the time of years when many areas have shows. It's a great time to fill up your car with friends (split the gas costs) and take in a bottle show. The shows can use the input at the gate and just maybe you will find a treasure for your collection. At any rate, you will be able to walk among and talk to a lot of friends that you might not have gotten to see. This great hobby of ours is a little bit about bottles and a whole lot about friendships. Bottle shows draw collectors from all over the country and it's nice to have friends from all over.

Remember, dig hard or buy wisely and watch your collection grow.

J. Carl Sturm
President FOHBC