



FOHBC PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



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Time is just zooming by. Just when we finish one BOTTLES and EXTRAS issue or a Federation National Show, there is another to work on. Kind of like painting the Golden Gate Bridge, end-to-end each year. As soon as they finish they start again. Actually that is fiction. While painting is considered a primary maintenance task, only routine touch-ups are performed in the course of a year.

Of course we have our structure and frame too for the magazine. We know that it is 72-pages and has front and back covers. We know there are constants like the President's Message, Shards of Wisdom, Membership News, Bottle Show Listings, Advertising and the Membership Directory etc. What gives BOTTLES and EXTRAS real character though is the articles. We need you, our membership, to step up and consider writing an article. Your piece could be about your collection, something historical, fictional or fun. Remember our magazine title, "BOTTLES and EXTRAS". The word "Extras" was purposely selected many years ago to offer a wide range of possibilities. Our staff here can help you with your ideas and images too. Just give it a try! Oh, and in this issue, we added color to the Membership News as a trial. It will cost more but looking at bottles and glass in black and white is less than desirable. Also, keep in mind all you regional and local show chairs, you can get a 50% discount if you advertise within BOTTLES and EXTRAS that is if you are a member club.

The financial report for the 2015 Chattanooga National is due any day now as the co-chairs, John Joiner and Jack Hewitt pay the final bills, receive a few outstanding payments and balance the books. It looks like we did good and we will keep you posted when the report is filed.

This past September 11th, I had the pleasure of meeting with the 2016 Sacramento National Antique Bottle Convention & Expo team at the Lions Gate Hotel in Sacramento for another planning meeting. Attendees, besides myself and Coco (my Weimaraner), were Richard and Beverly Siri (Chair and Co-Chair), Eric and Lisa McGuire (Eric is Western Region Director), Warren Friedrich (Table Sales) and Jennifer Irwin (Lions Gate Hotel). We spent four hours walking the McClellan Convention Center, Lions Gate Hotel and meeting in a hotel conference room. You can see the meeting notes on the Sacramento National page on the Federation web site. Lots of work here. Please consider volunteering as we need help in many areas. This is an immense undertaking.

Speaking of the 2016 Sacramento National, we are nearing 50% sales of dealer tables so you better make your commitment sooner rather than later. We will sell out. The buzz is tremendous for this show. The hotel rooms are also limited on base. There are officer homes, executive suites, 1 and 2 bedroom suites and standard rooms available. Get your reservations early for there are only 122 available rooms, which include the homes and suites. In the event that we sell out at the Lions Gate Hotel,

we are contracted with two other hotels in the area in which you will be given the same rate with free shuttle to and from the convention center and hotel. All information can be found on our FOHBC web site.

There will be an American Bottle Auctions and Peachridge Glass sponsored open house reception at the historic Lions Gate Hotel Generals House on Thursday evening, August 4th from 5:30 to 7:30 pm. This event is for dealers who have bought tables, their assistants, displayers, seminar givers and those with early admission passes. There will be a cash bar and dinner barbeque for all the guests. This event occurs prior to the Sacramento Shootout, which will be held at the Lions Gate Hotel Club Ballroom. We also have a gentleman's agreement with Fred Holabird with Holabird's Americana Auctions to be our official Sacramento National auctioneer. Can't get much more appropriate and cooler than that!

Our entire event will be held at the privately owned McClellan Conference Center at the decommissioned McClellan Air Force Base. McClellan Air Force Base (1935-2001) is a former United States Air Force base located in the North Highlands area of Sacramento County, 7 miles northeast of Sacramento, California and 20 minutes from Sacramento International Airport. For the vast majority of its operational lifetime, McClellan was a logistics and maintenance facility for a wide variety of military aircraft, equipment and supplies, primarily under the cognizance of the Air Force Logistics Command (AFLC) and later the Air Force Materiel Command (AFMC). McClellan Airfield is also the home of the Aerospace Museum of California. The museum itself was originally set up as the McClellan Aviation Museum in 1986 (before the McClellan AFB closed). It was chartered by the National Museum of the United States Air Force and in 2005 it changed its name to the California Aerospace Museum.

Sacramento, as many of you know, is the place where our hobby began. After John and Edith Tibbitts organized the Antique Bottle Collectors Association of California, the event attracted so much interest nationwide that Charles Gardner (and Tom Hicks) became early members. That evolved in 1969 into the FOHBC. Before that, there were a number of individual collectors like Edwin LeFevre (who wrote an article on bottle collecting for the Saturday Evening Post of 10/19/1929), Gardner, Harry Hall White and some of those who are in our Hall of Fame and Honor Roll.

Also, please focus on the fact that the FOHBC 50th Anniversary is coming up in 2019. Bill Baab has a wonderful idea that is outlined in Member News of this issue. Check it out and let us know your thoughts. As a matter of fact, please send any of your comments, ideas and constructive criticism to myself, any of the board members or the BOTTLES and EXTRAS editor. We want to hear from you.

I also want to thank Rick and Cherry Simi for their wonderful hospitality and for their spearheading the annual Downieville Antique Bottle Show this past 11 and 12 September. This was probably my fifth annual visit. What a great little town that was founded in late 1849 during the California Gold Rush, in the Northern Mines area. It was first known as "The Forks" for its geographical location at the confluence of the Downie River and North Fork of the Yuba River. Jerry Forbes and I rented a cabin overlooking these two rivers for a week. What a great way to relax and talk bottles. Bottle Shows can be so much fun if you build around the event.