



The Federation of Historical Bottle Collectors

FOHBC 2018 Cleveland National Antique Bottle Convention General Membership Meeting Minutes

03 August 2018 7:00am EST

Ferdinand Meyer, V, called the meeting of the Federation membership to order at 7:00am.

Ferdinand welcomed everyone to the FOHBC General Membership meeting. He recognized the FOHBC board members present, those who were not able to attend and the new prospective board members. New members will take office following the close of the convention. Ferdinand also noted that this was his last term serving as President of the Federation of Historical Bottle Collectors. He has served six years (2012 – 2018) as President but will step down to a Director at Large position. The audience applauded and thanked Ferdinand for serving as President.

Ferdinand briefly explained the election process and said that the slate of officers presented for the upcoming 2018 – 2020 term was uncontested. He also noted that a suggestion was made to review the process for uncontested elections and possibly increasing the terms of office from two years to three or four years. During the meeting, the sealed ballot envelopes were opened by Brenda Baugh, Bob Watson and Peter and Heather Jablonski and we thank them for assisting.

Matt Lacy and Louis Fifer talked about the Cleveland National. Matt said he does want to hear from anyone who may have comments, praise or complaints so these matters can be addressed. Matt and Louis briefly went over the upcoming events. There are several displays showing off some wonderful collections and everyone was encouraged to look at and vote for the displays. A display will also be set up where Alan DeMaison can give a demonstration on how he films bottles.

Matt introduced the show photographer, Troy Scafuro, who will be roaming around to all events for photos.

Ferdinand mentioned that without the volunteers, events like this would not have happened. Team Cleveland, which includes many volunteers, was thanked for all their hard work to make this convention a success. We are always looking for others to help with anything they can do including writing articles for the magazine.

Ferdinand discussed the reasoning behind the conventions logos – Cleveland's being the 'Guitar' with the scroll in honor of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. Next year will be the 'Peach' for Augusta which will be our 50th Anniversary. The consortium for the Augusta convention is Ferdinand, Mike Newman, Bill Baab, Marty Vollmer, Eric Warren and Walter Smith. They are beginning to get things in place but it is still in the planning stages. The host hotel is downtown at the Augusta Marriott.

Ferdinand noted that due to scheduling and reserving locations, we have to plan a couple years in advance. So, the 2020 convention location was reported to be Reno. Richard Siri briefly reported on this. At this point, planning for the convention is in the preliminary stages, including displays and shoot-out. The host

hotel, however, will be the Grand Sierra Resort and Casino in Reno, NV. The show has been held here in the past and is a nice facility. The team is in place and some information on this convention is on the website.

Ferdinand talked about the future of the FOHBC events. He said there are many things happening with different types of conventions (comic books, coins, etc.) with thousands of people going to these shows. At the same time, we are having people who cannot afford hotels, can't go to this or that, getting older or getting all their information on the internet, Facebook, etc. It was asked whether we need to continue with these events, do we get out of the 'show' business as there are a hundred shows out there, do we do an Expo every four years, do we skip a year, do we do shorter shows – there are a lot of variables to look at and the Board will be addressing these suggestions. There is no 'one answer fixes all.' There is a group of people who attend these shows every year traveling long distances, there are some who come just for the day.

Those in attendance at today's membership meeting are from our four different regions and were recognized.

The potential merger between *Bottles & Extras* with *Antique Bottle and Glass Collector* magazines was discussed to the membership by Ferdinand. In the recent past, John Pastor spoke with Ferdinand regarding the gifting or selling (for \$1.00) *Antique Bottle and Glass Collector* as he is now more interested in concentrating on his primary business, American Glass Gallery. This matter was presented to the Board and they will further investigate whether this is a possibility or not.

Virtual Museum: Board members include Richard Siri, Sandor Fuss, Ferdinand Meyer, Steve Libbey and Alan DeMaison. Alan explained he has family in several different states, therefore, he has been able to travel to different parts of the country (WA, CA, TX, CT, MI) to do filming of bottles and collections. It does consist of a lot of work to ensure they are done correctly. It is a time-consuming process but definitely worthwhile. Alan's next gallery, after flasks, will be fruit jars. He will be photographing bottles at the show for demonstration.

Ferdinand informed everyone that a challenge has been made for the Virtual Museum – Jeff Wichmann will donate \$5,000 if someone will match his donation. All donations are listed on the website. If anyone is interested in matching Jeff's challenge, please let Ferdinand know.

Two new Hall of Fame members will be inducted into the Hall at tonight's banquet.

The final election tally was completed and listed below. New members were congratulated and given their FOHBC badges.

The 2018 – 2020 FOHBC Board of Directors is as follows:

Matt Lacy, President
Louis Fifer, First Vice President
John O'Neill, Second Vice President
John Pastor, Director at Large
Ferdinand Meyer V, Director at Large

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Richard Siri, Director at Large
James Berry, Treasurer
James Bender, Historian
Andrew Rapoza, Secretary
Linda Sheppard, Membership Director
Lindsay Fifer, Conventions Director
Elizabeth Meyer, Business Manager
Valeri Berry, Merchandise Director
John Fifer, Midwest Region Director
Eric McGuire, Western Region Director
Martin Van Zant, Editor
Brad Seigler, Southern Region Director
Jeff Ullman, Northeast Region Director
Elizabeth Lacy, Public Relations Director

The FOHBC General Membership meeting was adjourned at 8:12am EST

Respectfully submitted,
James Berry, Secretary