

## Federation of Historical Bottle Collectors

### FOHBC Membership Breakfast Meeting Minutes

29 July 2022, 8:00 am, Reno, Nevada

President John O'Neill called the meeting to order and welcomed FOHBC members.

#### 2020-2022 Board of Director Members:

**Present:** John O'Neill, President  
Elizabeth Meyer, Business Manager  
Ferdinand Meyer V, Director at Large  
Eric McGuire, Western Region Director  
Michael Seeliger, Second Vice President  
Richard Siri, Director at Large  
Alice J. Seeliger, Secretary

**Absent:** Jeff Wichmann, First Vice President  
Jake Smith, Southern Region Director  
James Berry, Treasurer  
Henry Hecker, Midwest Region Director



Alice J. Seeliger  
FOHBC Secretary  
N 8211 Smith Road  
Brooklyn, Wisconsin 53521  
aliceajscreative@gmail.com

#### Call to Order (O'Neill) Welcome, President's Message

John O'Neill welcomed all who were in attendance for the Membership Meeting. Roll call was taken for board members. He thanked the board members for their service.

O'Neill thanked all of the participants in Reno 2022, especially Bev and Richard Siri, DeAnna Jordt, John Burton, Eric McGuire, Bella Alucema, Ferdinand Meyer V, Elizabeth Meyer, Alan De Maison and all of the exhibitors and dealers.

Being President of FOHBC for the last two years seems like he served in a war time situation, but he was determined to make lemonade out of lemons and has helped the Federation navigate through several great enhancements including:

**AB&GC magazine merger.** This was 10 years in the making. John Pastor decided he did not want to do the magazine anymore and offered it to the Federation. After working out all the details, the first AB&GC magazine published under the auspices of the Federation was the March-April 2022 issue. This was a very good move since the Federation was in a tough spot with having to cancel shows due to Covid-19 resulting in less operating income. Combining the magazines brought the Federation's membership up to just under 2,000. As reported by Jim Berry, Treasurer, during a Board Meeting report the previous day, the Federation is in a solid position financially.

**Virtual Museum.** Emails are being sent out on a frequent, consistent basis with the new bottles that are being added to the Virtual Museum. Posts are added to the FOHBC Facebook page highlighting the VM. Members are encouraged to visit the Virtual Museum to experience all it has to offer.

**Auction Price Report.** This just went live two days ago! It is open only to FOHBC members. It includes bottles that have been sold by major auction houses over the last 10 years and is a great research resource. It has already brought in new members.

#### Introduction of 2022-2024 President, Michael Seeliger

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O'Neill introduced Michael Seeliger who will be the 2022-2024 FOHBC President and invited him to share some of his vision for FOHBC.

### **Michael outlined what he will be focusing on including:**

1. Helping members understand what's available to them through FOHBC membership.
2. Adding historical knowledge, research, reference materials to the FOHBC website to ensure it is not lost. Personal interviews of collectors will be a big part of this. He stated "Every bottle has a story" and wants collections to be photographed before they are scattered about.
3. Setting up a Bylaws review committee to make recommendations to the board for updating bylaws to enhance the structure and operation of FOHBC. He solicited volunteers to undertake this task.

Michael is looking forward to serving as FOHBC President and invited members to participate as much as possible and volunteer for assignments as needed.

### **Ferdinand Meyer V Report**

At the current time, FOHBC is reaching approximately 1% of prospective members. We need to get more people to visit the Virtual Museum. The Auction Price Report, newly activated on line just a few days ago, is bringing in members.

He emphasized that new tiers of membership are needed. FOHBC needs to be more inclusive.

There will not be a show in 2023.

The next show will be **Houston 2024** and he gave an overview of this and encouraged everyone to think ahead and plan for the show. Display ads have been in the AB&GC and Reno 2022 Souvenir program that give more information. FOHBC has a unique partnership opportunity and the board has approved Ferd leading the effort. Ferd also hinted at another special event "Glass in the Grass" –bottle sales under the pecan trees at his home before the show.

Ferd thanked John O'Neill for getting the magazine merger and Virtual Museum initiative passed by the board.

### **Presentation of 2022-2024 Board of Directors**

Following Bylaws protocol for non-opposed slate of officer positions for the 2022-2024 Board, Alice Seeliger, FOHBC Secretary, presented the 2022-2024 Board of Directors:

Michael Seeliger, President  
Jeff Wichmann, First Vice President  
Position Open, Second Vice President  
Alice Seeliger, Secretary  
James Berry, Treasurer  
Elizabeth Meyer, Business Manager (non-voting position)  
Ferdinand Meyer V, Director at Large  
John O'Neill, Director at Large  
Richard Siri, Director at Large  
Position Open, Historian  
Position Open, Northeast Region Director  
Henry Hecker, Midwest Region Director  
Jake Smith, Southern Region Director  
Eric McGuire, Western Region Director

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Position Open, Conventions Director  
Position Open, Public Relations Director  
Position Open, Membership Director

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Alice J. Seeliger  
Secretary

*The foregoing conveys our understanding of items discussed and decisions reached during this meeting. The FOHBC will assume these notes correct and as a matter of record unless notice to the contrary is brought to our attention within one (1) week of the issue date of these meeting notes.*

Respectfully submitted,

Alice J. Seeliger, Secretary