

FOHBC National Bottle Show Report

By Marianne Dow

The 2010 FOHBC National Show was fabulous! The showroom in the Roberts Centre in Wilmington, Ohio was huge, brightly lit, with nice wide aisles. We had plenty of room for the 297 sales tables, the 20 great displays, and all the dealers and shoppers. No gridlock! Lots of smiles!

Sadly, Show Chairman Jamie Houdeshell became ill a few days before the show, and was unable to attend. But all his advance work, planning, and coordinating paid off. He was missed, but with us in spirit. Especially at the bottle auction, which was Jamie's pet project. The man loves his bottles! All of his efforts in getting some really good bottles consigned were well rewarded. The auction grossed just shy of \$20,000.

Jamie put together a great team. Show Co-Chairman Joe Hardin and Chief-Coordinator Patty Elwood stepped right

up and took charge. Each have put on many a bottle show, and their experience showed. They calmly handled all the final arrangements with the show venue, from making sure the showroom was laid out correctly, to running the banquet and auction events. Right at their sides were Jamie's parents, Jim and Mira Houdeshell, Richard Elwood, and John and Margie Bartley, all doing whatever had to be done. They all deserve a round of applause.

The team was also at the ready to welcome the early-bird buyers, getting the dealers to their assigned tables without a map, all while signing up new FOHBC members and fielding hundreds of questions. Many other people volunteered, and spent a lot of time helping at the registration desk. They were all wonderful, and their efforts greatly appreciated. THANK YOU to everyone who contributed.

The show was an all-around success. FOHBC Treasurer Alan DeMaison, who handled the money over the course of the three days, commented that "...this might just be the most profitable National Show in years."

The 3-day event had many activities. Marianne Dow "live-blogged" much of it, taking photos and e-mailing them

to the Findlay club website as the events progressed. You can see the pix at finbotclub.blogspot.com

Friday saw the FOHBC Board meeting, with the election of new officers. Many dealers and collectors showed up and registered in the afternoon. There was lots of mingling and visiting, and connecting with old friends. We had well over 100 attend the evening banquet. Compliments to the chef -- the food was actually tasty! Sheldon Baugh gave a talk about the Ohio Shaker communities, and showed some bottles from his Shaker collection. Jeff Wichmann and Scott Grandstaff and Kitty Roach were inducted into the FOHBC Honor Roll.

Saturday morning started bright and early with the seminars, along with the displays being set up in the showroom. The educational seminars were well attended, and ran until noon. Jerry McCann, Brad and Eva Booth, John Wolf, John O'Dell, John Pastor, Ferdinand Meyer V and Jeff Wichmann shared their extensive knowledge in their fields, and some illustrated with items from their collections.

Saturday afternoon was what we all had worked and waited for -- SHOW TIME! Dealer set-up and early-bird admissions started at 1 p.m. Early-bird admissions brought in nearly \$3,000, on top of the table rents. The big beautiful showroom was well-received. Lots of *oohs* and *aahs* when it was first seen, turning to even more excited exclamations when the wonderful displays were viewed. And then the amazing merchandise was put out. The hunt had begun! Incredible bottles were there, from \$1 bargains to six-figure bitters bottles. Wow!

In what seemed like a blink of an eye, but was really a few hours, the showroom was closed. Everyone went to the auction preview, to see the bottles, and do more visiting. Many stayed to bid on the bottle that had caught their eye. Many others



Jamie Houdeshell
Show Chairman



The showroom

went out to dinner in chatty happy groups. The adjacent hotel had comfortable chairs in the lobby and the weather was nice enough that lots of us sat outside on the patio, talking and laughing till late at night, too excited to sleep.

Finally Sunday morning came, and everyone was back to the showroom, ready to wheel and deal. Early-birds had the room to themselves, and ran around looking for treasures until 9 a.m., when the general admission started. The rest of the show ran smoothly, and the vibe was great. Lots of well-deserved



Another view of the showroom



Joe Hardin, Show co-chairman holding up a piece of stoneware during the auction



Some of the Jelly Jammers Club members.



It wasn't all bottles - we had advertising and paper dealers too.
I love the litho calendar with the children - so colorful.

compliments were given to the show committee, whose hard work finally came to an end in the late afternoon.

On behalf of Jamie, Joe, Patty, the show committee, and the Findlay Bottle Club, our heartfelt thanks to all of you who supported our show, and the FOHBC, by volunteering your help, buying tables, admission tickets, setting up a display, doing a seminar, consigning your bottles, contributing an article or buying an ad in the souvenir program.



2010
Canyonville Oregon
Jefferson State
Antique Bottle,
Insulator
&
Collectible Show

Website:
www.ecandm.com/canyonville/

Saturday October 16, 2010
Free Admission 9 AM – 3 PM
Seven Feathers Casino Resort
I5—Exit 99
Dealer Set-up / early admission Friday 12 - 7

Walkin Appraisals!
Onsite live auction action!

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