

Just For Openers

NO. 31.

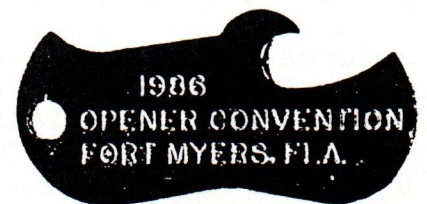
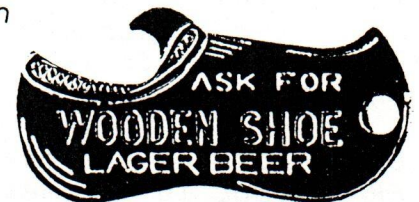
JULY 1986



968 GREENWOOD CT. SANIBEL ISLAND, FL 33957 (813) 472-0004

July and the next few months will be a bee-hive of activity for us opener/corkscrew collectors. The flea markets, garage sales, breweriana shows etc. getting into high gear help dispel the "cabin fever" syndrome we've had. Actually, our season began with the JFO convention held in Fort Myers, FL the 24th, 25th & 26th of April. It was well attended, and as the hosts, EILEEN & I sincerely thank the following (in alphabetical order) who attended and made it a success:

- BIEHL Larry & Fran - Calumet City, Illinois
- BURIK Lena - Sanibel Island, Florida
- DANZIGER Herbert & Camille - Birmingham, Michigan
- GAUVIN Paul - Manchester, Connecticut
- GEYER Alan & Betty Ann - Sarasota, Florida
- HIBBELER Ollie & Shirley - Lake Ozark, Missouri
- KEOWN Vic & Mary Ann - St. Ann, Missouri
- KOGUT Harold & Dorothy - St. Petersburg, Florida
- MANCUSO Philip & Gail - Boynton Beach, Florida
- McADAMS Bill - Melbourne, Florida
- McKIENZIE Bill - Littleton, Colorado
- NUGENT Bob & Peg - Hillsboro, New Hampshire
- PARADI Joseph - Ontario, Canada
- ROE V. Lehr & Jo-An - Dundee, Michigan
- ROSS Rolla & Eloise - Fort Pierce, Florida
- SANTEN Art & Dorothy - St. Louis, Missouri
- SCANLAN Roy & Kazue - Midlothian, Illinois
- STAHLY Bob & Marge - Streator, Illinois
- STANLEY Jr. John - Winston-Salem, North Carolina
- STRINY Ted & Mil - St. Paul, Minnesota
- VAN VACTOR Bob & Peggy - Stanberry, Missouri
- VOLLRATH Verne & Laverne - Janesville, Wisconsin
- WALDO Harriet - Jefferson City, Missouri



Random photos of the activities are shown elsewhere in this issue. You will note that the 3 best display awards are in the shape of the A-32 Wooden Shoe opener. First place went to BILL McKIENZIE, second went to ART SANTEN and the third to BOB STAHLY. The plaque clocks are the work of KEN KEOWN (son of VIC & MARY ANN KEOWN) as is the unexpected and greatly appreciated Service Award presented to me by the KEOWNS.

The souvenir convention opener is also in the shape of the A-32 (see page 3, Oct. '85 issue). It will be listed in the 1987 additions as A-32-3 Ask For Wooden Shoe Lager / 1986 Opener Convention Fort Myers, Fla. Being a limited edition of 100, I can only guarantee delivery of the remaining 28 to members who send their check for \$6.00 to me with the earliest postmarks-limit is one per member. Bear in mind, that the A-32-2 Ask For Wooden Shoe Lager / Minster Sesquicentennial 1832-1982, went for \$32 in JOE CARDONE'S auction even 'tho 7,000 of them were produced.

Another item that every member should consider, is a cap (one size fits all) with the JFO patch on it. LARRY & FRAN BIEHL, with myself, had them made in time for the convention and sold well. You should be able to spot them on some of the photos. The caps are available thru me at \$7.50 postpaid. Wearing it will identify you as a collector who is knowledgeable about what you are seeking without someone trying to "con you" with inflated prices. Showing your JFO membership card will also be in your favor.

An interesting sidelight to the convention was reported to me by an attendee whose prize in the raffle was an IRTP (Internal Revenue Tax Paid) painted label 7 ounce amber beer bottle. It was in the carry-on luggage for the flight home and the security X-Ray showed it as a "possible incendiary". As it turned out, it was permitted aboard.

No negative comments were expressed (other than the hotel's mix-up on the rooms which was corrected to our satisfaction) about the convention. What keeps our club a cohesive and congenial group is an excerpt from this letter: "While Jo-An and I are well aware how much work goes into an event like this, we have to tell you how much we enjoy seeing those who by now have become old friends. Thanks again for your thoughtful planning and all the work". Signed - LEHR & JO-AN ROE. I won't get into details about the convention. JOSEPH P. PARADI in his letter tells it like it was. It is reproduced in it's entirety elsewhere in this issue.

Don't miss out on the 1987 convention which will be hosted by LARRY & FRAN BIEHL in Calumet City, Illinois. It is planned for April 23, 24 & 25. Let's all plan to attend - especially you Midwesterners - and make this one as good as those eight others were before. Look for details in future issues.

Welcome new members since the April issue:
BORSH Ronald G. 22 Biscayne Rd. Pittsburgh, PA 15239.....
HORAN James F. 6 Satin Ave. Nashua, NH 03062.....603 889-9170
VanWhy Chester H. R.D.6 Box 34 East Stroudsburg, PA 18301.....
Change of address:
HENNECH Mike 2721 Stark Fort Worth, TX 76112.....
ZANGHI Anthony 200 Hellertown Ave. Quakertown, PA 18951..215 538-7417

Most every member knows that I am trying to complete a collection of the type A-9 baseball pitcher (see my want ad in this issue). My inquisitive nature led me to write to JIM HOLLINGER as to why he has the A-9 on his collecting card. His answer:

You asked about the significance of the A-9 Baseball Pitcher on my collecting card. Yes there is a specific reason for the A-9 Type on my card. Upon graduation from high school in 1961, I signed a contract with the New York Yankees as a pitcher. Baseball has always been a favorite sport of mine both as a participant and spectator. I played in the New York Yankee farm system for three years. My minor league stops included Auburn, New York of the New York-Penn League; Idaho Falls, Idaho of the Pioneer League; Shelby, North Carolina of the Western Carolina League and Fort Lauderdale, Florida of the Florida State League. I spent my two spring trainings at Lake Wales and Haines City, Florida. I was released in 1963. This is why the A-9 Schell's opener is on my card. I do not have any A-9 types other than the Schell's Deer Brand Beer. Of more recent history is the completion of my twentieth year at 3M Company as of October, 1985.

Continuation of JIM HOLLINGER'S letter:

I use various methods for cleaning my openers depending on the original condition. The various steps used in cleaning include:

Navel Jelly - For very poor condition openers. Openers such as this usually are not worth the effort due to excess pitting.

Fine Wire
Brush

- Fine wire brush is used in a drill press for removing spotty rust areas. A fine wire brush does not scratch the opener finish.

Polishing
Compound

- Automobile paint scratch and blemish remover is used with a soft cloth to buff all openers. This removes dirt and discoloration.

Paste Car
Wax

- All my openers receive a coat of car wax as the final step. This returns the original sheen of the plating as well as it leaves a protective coating against further corrosion.



**JIM
HOLLINGER**

3208
Perrot
Lane
Burnsville
MN 55337

612/890-6835

Collector
of
Beer
Advertising
Openers

Member JFO



I have noticed questions and comments in a couple JFO Newsletters concerning the origin of K-B breweriana. Enclosed is a copy of a coaster or blotter (full size) for Tooths Gold KB Lager. The original has a gold colored can with the letters KB in red. Either this will shed some light or confusion to the question.

ED'S Note: Thanks Jim. Well done!! Wasn't his letter interesting? Why don't YOU write to me about why YOU picked a certain type opener or corkscrew for your collecting card or about something that would be of interest to your co-collectors? I need feedback for the newsletter.

Why does your editor want to complete a collection of the type A-9? My wife Eileen is an ardent baseball fan and she suggested I collect them.

Getting on with answers to the Oct. 1985 questionnaire: OCCUPATIONS:

Accounting clerk	Draftsman	Paramedic/firefighter
Aerospace engr. USAF	Doctor of Medicine	Parts manager
Aircraft worker	Editor/Publisher	Pharmacists (2)
Aluminum can mfg.	Engineers (9)	Physicians (2)
Apparel sales Repr.	Engineering mgr.	Pipe fitters (2)
Appliance repair	Farmer/cattle feeder	Plastics marketing
Architect	Farming	Plumber
Ass't plant mgr.	FDA investigator	Postal clerks (2)
Assoc.Prof. (U of MN)	Finance manager	Printers (4)
Auto worker (GM)	Financial planner	Professor-lithography
Bar owner	Firefighter/Captain	Publisher
Boiler operator	Flea market operator	Quality assur. tech.
Carpenter	General managers (2)	Railroading (2)
Chemist (3M Co.)	Geologist	Real estate sales
City recorder	High school counselor	Receiving clerk
Civil engineer	Horticulturist	Retirees (36)
Claims adjuster	Humane officer	Sales (7)
Collator operator	Insurance agent	School principal
Colonel (U.S. Army)	Land surveyor	Self employed (3)
Computer coordinator	Lithographer	Service station owner
Computer programmer	Machinist	Steelworker
Computer syst. plan'r	Maintenance welder	Students (4)
Corp. V.P. / Author	Management consultant	Teachers (3)
Data process systems	Manager pension cons't	Teamster
Dean of Engineering	Mechanical assembler	Technologist (AT&T)
Dental lab technician	Millwright	Truck drivers (2)
Dentist	Office managers (2)	
Dep't mgr. retail	Office supervisor	
Distributor (food)	Paper inspector	



St. Louis Opener Club Report: The May meeting was held at JOHN GOFF'S home. We give our grateful thanks to ED for a delightful and well run convention. We also bless LARRY BIEHL for sponsoring the next convention in the Chicago area. VIC KEOWN & ART SANTEN were the envy of the meeting when we showed pictures of the convention (the

others could not attend). JOHN'S health is improved and plans to attend the next one.

ROBERT CLARK states that he had been associated with breweries for 38 years and wishes he started collecting their openers sooner.

ART SANTEN volunteers to take photos of NEW DISCOVERIES. Send them to him at 6126 McPherson St. Louis, MO 63112. Note: If you take photos of yours, send them to me with complete descriptions including length & width. ART also suggests that New discoveries be shown in the October issue so that they can be listed in the Jan. issue with the other new additions. To accomplish this, I would have to have the photos before Sept. 1st. Let's give it a try.

THIS ALSO APPLIES TO MY RECEIVING ALL OTHER INFO AND ADS BY SEPT. 1st.

Do not forget the 22c stamp when writing for an answer to a question.

Another sidelight to the convention: LARRY BIEHL heard some commotion from across the street of his hotel room. It turned out to be a promotion for a local FM station wherein they were giving away gasoline. He joined the line and got his free tankful.

Early "No Opener Needed" Cans

By Dennis W. Gordon #520

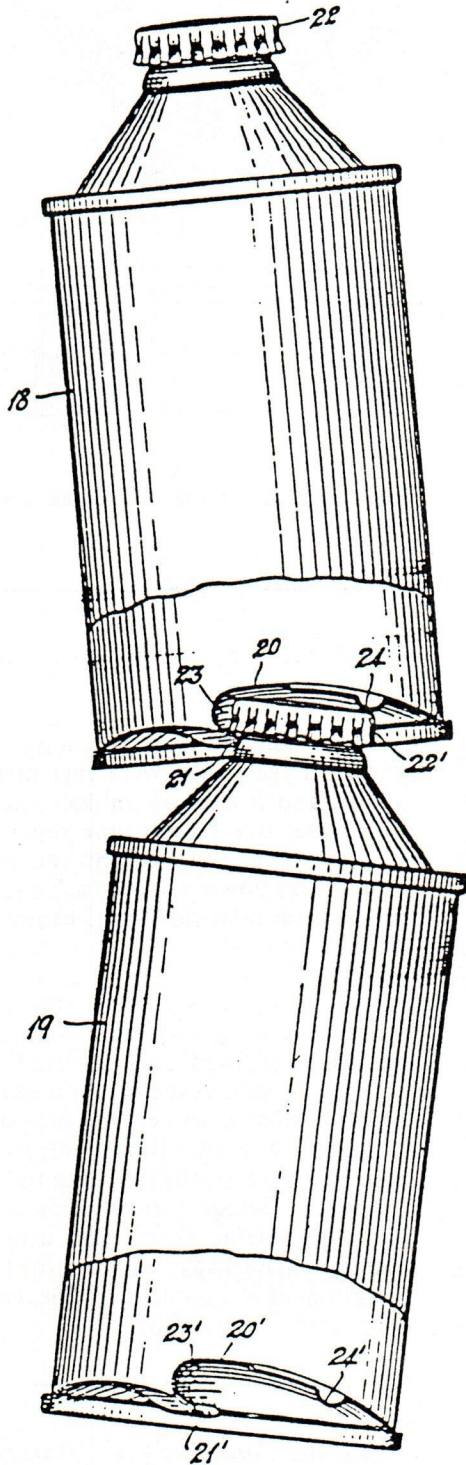


Fig. 1

Two cans arranged so that the cap of one is secured by the opener on the bottom of the other.

While the famous Iron City "new easy-open snap top" beer can of 1962 is, of course, accepted by collectors as being the first with a pull-top opener, it appears that there were earlier cans not requiring a conventional opener. Several years before that Iron City can, Pabst and a few other brands were marketed in low-profile quart cone-top cans which could be opened by prying off the caps with the bottom rim of another can. Instructions were given on the side, and one such can (#1021) is illustrated in color in Jack Martell's *Cone-Top Collector's Bible*.

Even before the debut of these cans, however, a U.S. patent was awarded for a much different type of can with its own built-in opener. On January 31, 1940, Gerard C. Deane of New York City applied for a patent for two different cans having this feature, and on June 29, 1943, Mr. Deane was granted U.S. patent #2,322,843 for these cans. Especially interesting is that both of them were cone tops.

The need for containers having their own openers was well expressed by the inventor, whose application reads in part: "Cap removers or bottle openers exhibit almost human perversity at times when they are most needed. They are easily lost or mislaid . . . (and) not likely to be found in the places where they are required. Anyone who has attempted to negotiate the removal of a 'crown' cap with an appropriately devised cap remover will readily appreciate the value of such devices and will understand the social necessity of their accessibility."

With the problem defined in this manner, the solution was to construct a container not requiring an item often unavailable. And so, "The invention is a solution of the above-posed problem. It is founded upon the well known fact, appar-

ently unrelated to the problem, that the object most commonly present upon occasions when a cap remover is desired, but missing, is another container of the same or a similar nature as that which it is desired to open."

The result was to create two new types of cans, one having a hook-type opener at the bottom while the other has a re-designed top allowing for the cap of another can to be secured by the rim of the body of the

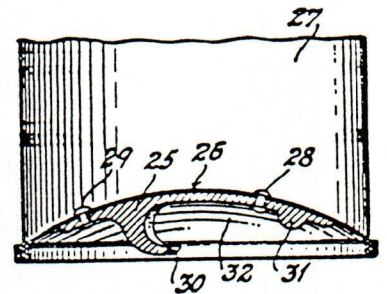


Fig. 2

Cross-sectional view of the bottom of the can showing the opener itself (#30), the fulcrum (#31), and the rivets (#28, #29) used to attach the opener unit.

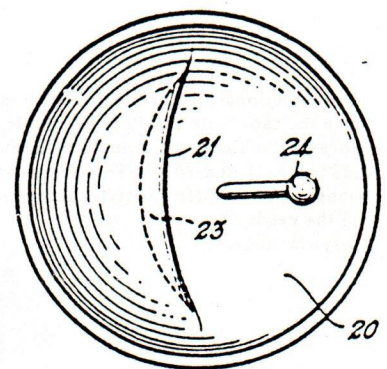


Fig. 3

A view of the bottom showing the thin edge of the opener (#21), the recess (#23), and the fulcrum (#24).

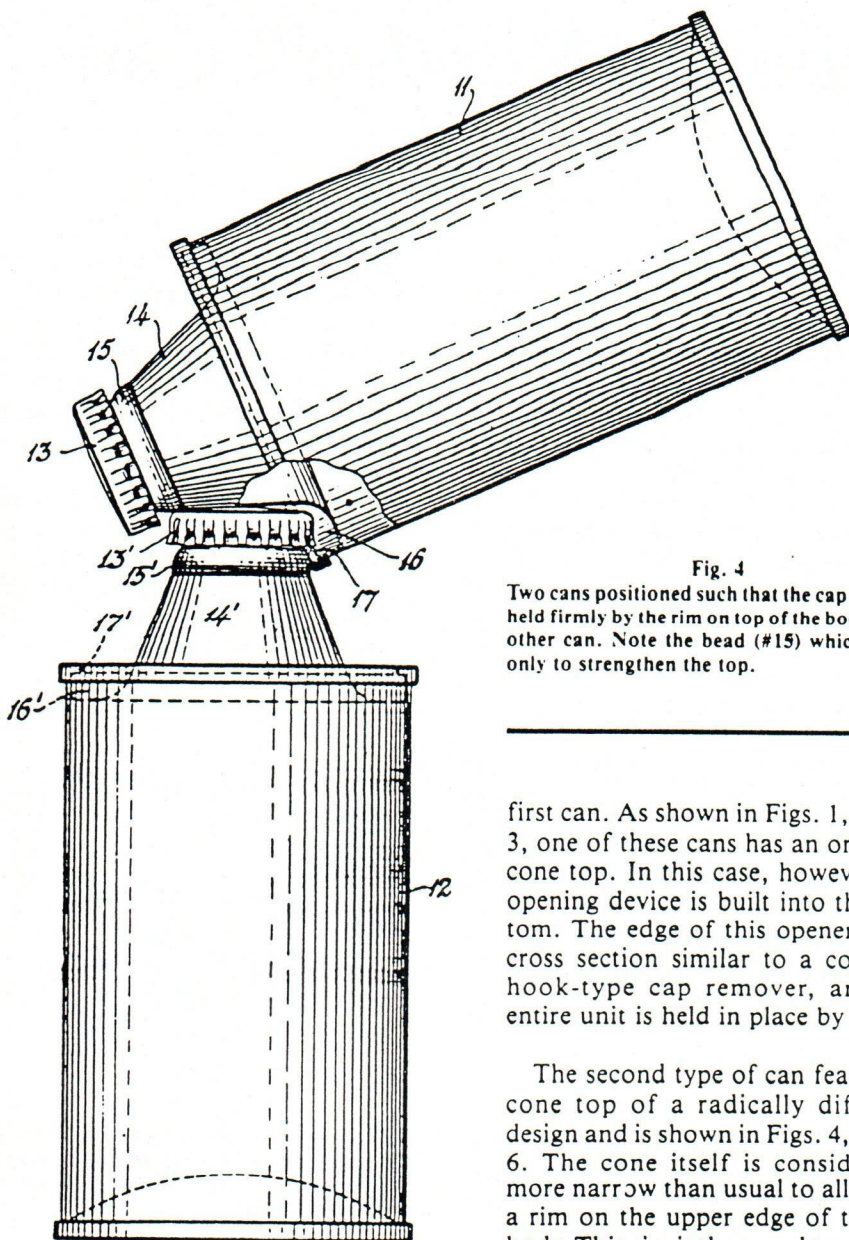


Fig. 4

Two cans positioned such that the cap of one is held firmly by the rim on top of the body of the other can. Note the bead (#15) which serves only to strengthen the top.

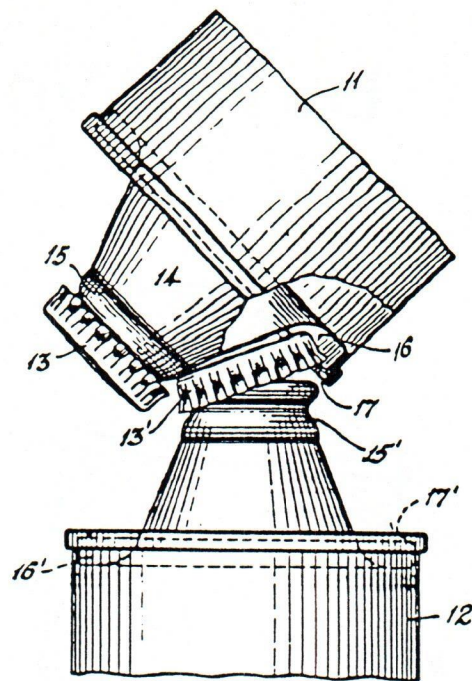


Fig. 5

Same two cans just after one can has been opened.

first can. As shown in Figs. 1, 2, and 3, one of these cans has an ordinary cone top. In this case, however, the opening device is built into the bottom. The edge of this opener has a cross section similar to a common hook-type cap remover, and the entire unit is held in place by rivets.

The second type of can features a cone top of a radically different design and is shown in Figs. 4, 5, and 6. The cone itself is considerably more narrow than usual to allow for a rim on the upper edge of the can body. This rim is then used to grip the inside edge of the cap of the can being opened while the exterior surface of this cap is secured by the cone. Extra strength necessary to keep the cone from collapsing is supplied by the bead (#15, Fig. 5). A quick snap of the upper can should

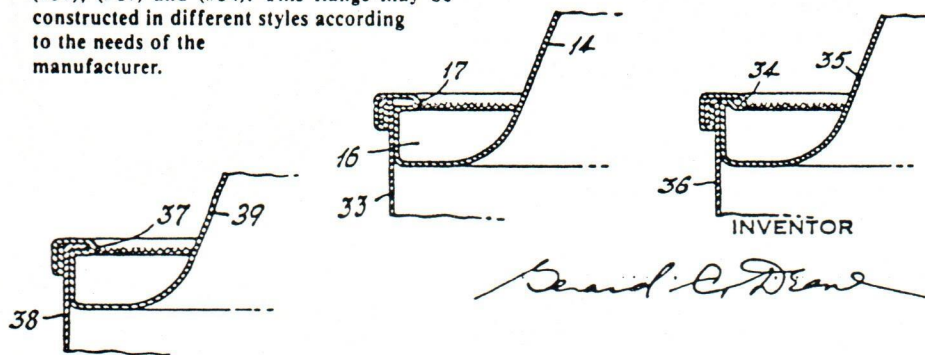
be all that is necessary in order to open it.

Today, some 40 years later, it is not known if these cans were ever produced, and it may be unlikely that they were, due to war-time restrictions on the use of steel. So far, no example is known, not even as a prototype or as a World War II camouflage can.

Then, too, there is the possibility that if they were manufactured their use was confined only to liquids other than beer, as the patent makes no mention at all of beer but only of "liquids" and of "liquid refreshments." However, the reference to ". . . picnics, bridge parties, midnight raids on refrigerators, and other social gatherings where liquid refreshment is dispensed . . ." leaves little to the imagination.

(Dennis Gordon, a.k.a. "Warsaw Strohs," is a chemist from Madison, WI. A BCCA member since 1972, Dennis has been writing book reviews for the News Report for over four years.)

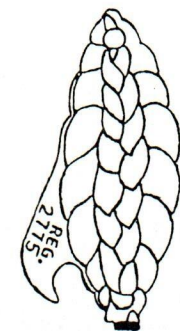
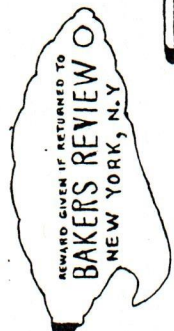
Fig. 6
Cross-sectional view of the rim which serves to grip the cap. Note carefully the subtle differences in the flanges. Compare them at points (#37), (#17) and (#34). This flange may be constructed in different styles according to the needs of the manufacturer.



OPENER *Tri*♥*via*

by Bill McKenzie

side view



REDUCED Actual Length = 2 9/16"

What purpose, other than a screwdriver or bottle opener, was type B-6 designed for?

This interesting A Type appears to be made in the form of the head of a wheat plant. Does anyone know anything about the Bakers Review?

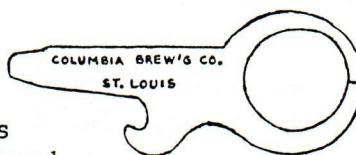
What brewery produced McInnery's Special Brew?

The Bowns Lift A Lid can opener was in many ways very similar to other can openers. The thing that made it unique was that the point which pierced the top of the can had a hook on it to lift the lid. The double arrow points to this hook as viewed from the front and side of the opener. The drawing of the front view has been reduced to 64% of original size.

The specimen from which the drawings were made is marked PAT. PEND.. This leads me to believe that this can opener never received a patent, and probably was a short-lived venture.

Another dream ("No More Cut Fingers with BOWNS Lift A Lid Automatically lifts the lid for you - it's safer!") now history.

front view



ANSWERS TO LAST ISSUES QUESTIONS

Don Bull and Ed Kaye were both very helpful in providing information on the A. J. Cermak opener.

Don writes: Anton Cermak was mayor of Chicago from 1931 to 1933. He was a Bohemian immigrant who vehemently opposed prohibition. Cermak brought the following resolution before the American Legion leaders:

"That it is the sense of the City Council of the City of Chicago in meeting assembled, that the Congress of the United States of America and the State of Illinois, amend and modify existing prohibition laws under their respective jurisdiction and within their proper powers which will permit the manufacture, sale, and distribution of wholesome beers and light wines, and that all governmental revenue derived from such permission be set aside as a separate fund for the payment of bonuses to ex-service men."

Based on this resolution, the Legion called for repeal of the 18th Amendment.

Cermak was leader of Tammany Hall in Chicago politics (corrupt politics). As early as 1926 he was lobbying for the wet cause in Senate committee hearings for the enactment of Repeal. His statement was: "The law is inconsistent with itself, prohibiting liquor as a beverage and yet authorizing its use as a beverage for medicinal, sacramental, and religious purposes".

Cermak was born in 1873 and died in 1933 - a victim in an assassination attempt on President-elect Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Ed was living in Chicago at that time and still has a vivid memory of the event. He added that the assassination occurred at a Democratic convention in Miami, and that Cermak was shot by a man whose name he believes was Zangara. He says the old 22nd St. in Chicago is also known as Cermak Road.

My sincere thanks to Don and Ed.

I was surprised to learn from the questionnaire that there were so many of you who specialize in corkscrews. I would like to feature "screws" in an edition of JFO. I will need all the feedback on them that you have-how and why you chose them, about your collection and any info that is pertinent.

I have heard of two complaints (thru a third party) that your editor (1) did not list the additions that were sent. (2) that payment for an ad was sent but the ad did not appear. To answer: (1) all lists are checked against previous listings so it appears that I did not receive them. (2) I would like to see a copy of the cancelled check. The two members know who they are and I would appreciate their sending grievances to me and not "gripe" to someone else.

There has been a controversy over the E-10 & E-14. Some go by the picture in Beer Advertising Openers while others go by the lengths in the Price Guide. Personally, I go by the Price Guide (E-10 = 3-1/4" E-14 = 3-1/2"). All your comments will be appreciated on this.

-----WANTED-----

Fishing lures with beer advertising cash/trade BOB VAN VACTOR
Rt.#1 Box #3 Stanberry, MO 64489

Etched factory scene shell glasses in top condition cash/trade.
RAY FREDERICK 9801 Dahlia Ave. Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410

Coca-Cola openers, especially figurals. See past issues for my ads for amounts offered. THOM THOMPSON Huntertown Rd. Versailles, KY 40383

Texas openers, especially Mitchell, Superior, Grand Prize, Blue Bonnet and Southern Select. MIKE HENNECH 2721 Stark Fort Worth, TX 76112

Cigar box openers or cigar related beer openers cash/trade. GLEN ENLOE
10530 E. 9th St. Independence, MO 64053

Pennsylvania beer openers, especially A-21-34 Trainer, B-37-1 DuBois & B-39-1 Bushkill cash/trade. ANTHONY ZANGHI 200 Hellertown Ave.
Quakertown, PA 18951

Bottle shaped openers such as A-27, 28 & 29, L-2, 4, 5, 6 & 7, M-46, N-54 & 55, H-8s. Also with bottles STAMPED on them such as A-25, 26 & 38, C-12, 13 & G-1 and with bottles PICTURED on them as E-5, M-1 & 2. Types I don't have: A-22 & 43, C-2 Tech, C-24 U.S., L-7, M-46 & P-65. Will trade heavy for them. Also sodas or whiskies in any of the types.
GARY DEACHMAN 877 Mobile Aurora, CO 80011

A-9 baseball pitcher #s 1,5,7,8,10,11,14,15,16,19,20,21,23 & 25. Will pay top price for each. ED KAYE 968 Greenwood Ct. Sanibel, FL 33957

Do not tape any opener or identify it by type & number unless it is "peelable" tape. The residue from "Scotch" type or non-peelable has to be removed. I use nail polish remover to get rid of it.

-----SELLING-----

Syroco wood corkscrew waiter. Expertly repainted. \$25.00 postpaid.
RAY FREDERICK 9801 Dahlia Ave. Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410

State of the Art Collector Books Presents: SODA BOTTLE CAPS w/pictures \$6.00 plus \$1.50 postage & handling. Send for free brochure to: THE SODA MART Dept. J-1 Ridgecrest Dr. Goodlettsville, TN 37072



JOSEPH C. PARADI
CORKSCREW COLLECTOR

2181 Stillmeadow Road
Mississauga, Ontario, Canada L5B 1X5
416-270-9835

Mr. Ed Kaye
968 Greenwood Court.
SANIBEL ISLAND, Florida.
U.S.A. 33957

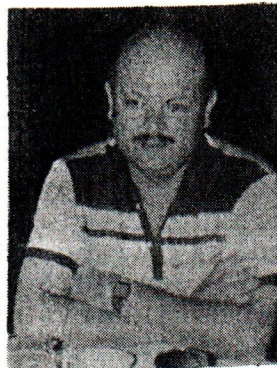
May 1, 1986.

Dear Ed:

I want to thank you for all the effort you and Eileen went to in hosting and arranging for a fantastic JFO convention. While this was my first JFO convention, it definitely won't be my last. I found you all as delightful people and your hospitality was superb. I enjoyed myself immensely and will not forget the good times I had.

Henry Bodnar asked me to write a report for the Canadian Corkscrew Collectors Club (CCCC) Newsletter. I am pleased to enclose a copy for your information. As you see from this piece, I am encouraging our members to belong to the JFO as I found it very useful and interesting. I hope to see you again in Chicago next year.

Thank you for everything and good hunting.



Convention photo of Joseph taken by your Editor.

REPORT ON THE JUST FOR OPENERS (JFO) CONVENTION
April 24-26, 1986. By Joseph C. Paradi

Henry Bodnar was unable to travel to Fort Myers, Florida for the 1986 JFO Convention and he asked me to report on the events at this very interesting occasion. For those CCCC members who are not members of the JFO, I can warmly recommend membership in this organization of very fine people. I had the good fortune to meet about 20 JFO members and many of their wives, a really terrific time for all of us who attended. Ed Kaye and his wife Eileen were the hosts for this Convention and they have done a tremendous job in arranging everything. Things could not have gone more smoothly, on behalf of everyone, thank you Eileen and Ed.

Most of us arrived on the afternoon of the 24-th, Thursday. No time was lost as several members began the trading, buying and selling while they were enjoying their first COORS opened by a finger ring, not one of several thousand openers on hand. I was fortunate to have concluded a deal, probably the first of the day, for a French Zig-Zag and a Williamson bottle with Bill McKenzie from Denver. There were four Corkscrew collectors present, who are incidentally all CCCC members, and with my exception, also ICCA members. These were: Bob Nugent and his wife Peg, Lehr and Jo-An Roe, Herb and Camille Danziger and of course yours truly. The trading action went well into the night on Thursday, my room mate Bill McKenzie had a brisk business with the about 3000 items he brought along. To give you an idea of how many items were there, Vern Vollrath told me that he weighed his traders and it came to 180 lbs of openers, corkscrews and cap lifters. He had to put all this on the floor of his car as it represented another passenger weight. Most of the items were Beer openers, but there were many can openers and a whack of corkscrews.

Friday was a free morning after the opening breakfast. Most attendees spent the time sightseeing, trading, shopping or just soaking up some rays us Northerners have not seen during the winter. Peg and Bob Nugent and I decided to explore the local Flea Markets and Antique shops. I picked up 3 or 4 small items but there were no real interesting finds. This area of Florida appears to have no large interest in either Corkscrews or beer openers. Anything there was, Ed Kaye has probably collected by now. The traditional Auction took place at 4:00 p.m. with Vern Vollrath as auctioneer, a job he did exceedingly well. Following the auction trading went on till the early hours of the morning interrupted by an excellent dinner our four CCCC members had at a small restaurant nearby.

Saturday was SHOW TIME and more deal making. I was out of money by then, so Peg Nugent and I revisited the local Flea Market and found one dealer who had the phantom "large tray of corkscrews" back at the warehouse, i.e. we got absolutely nothing. The Saturday show was arranged so that every attendee was given a table where they could display pieces for sale or for show only. Several lucky draw prizes were awarded. Also there was a prize for the best display which my friend Bill McKenzie won. We parted company late Saturday afternoon pledging to meet again in Chicago. Exact date is not yet available, but Larry Biehl, host for the 1987 convention will notify all in good time. I hope you can all make it there next year, I will.

Ed's note: Thanks Joseph. Very good coverage!



- A W A R D S -



BILL MCKIENZIE



ART SANTEN



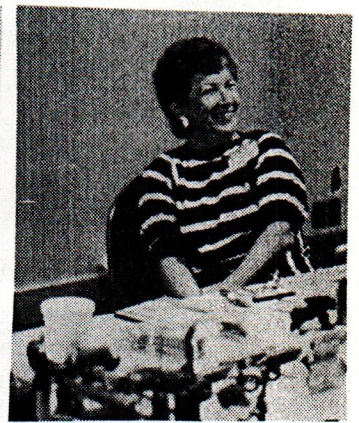
BOB STAHLY



ART SANTEN ED KAYE VIC KEOWN



LENA BURIK EILEEN KAYE
OLLIE HIBBELER



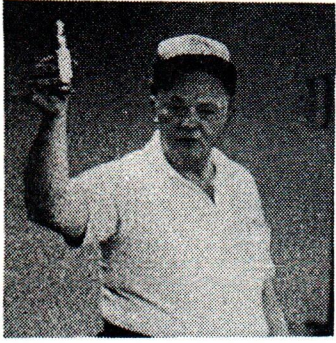
MARY ANN KEOWN



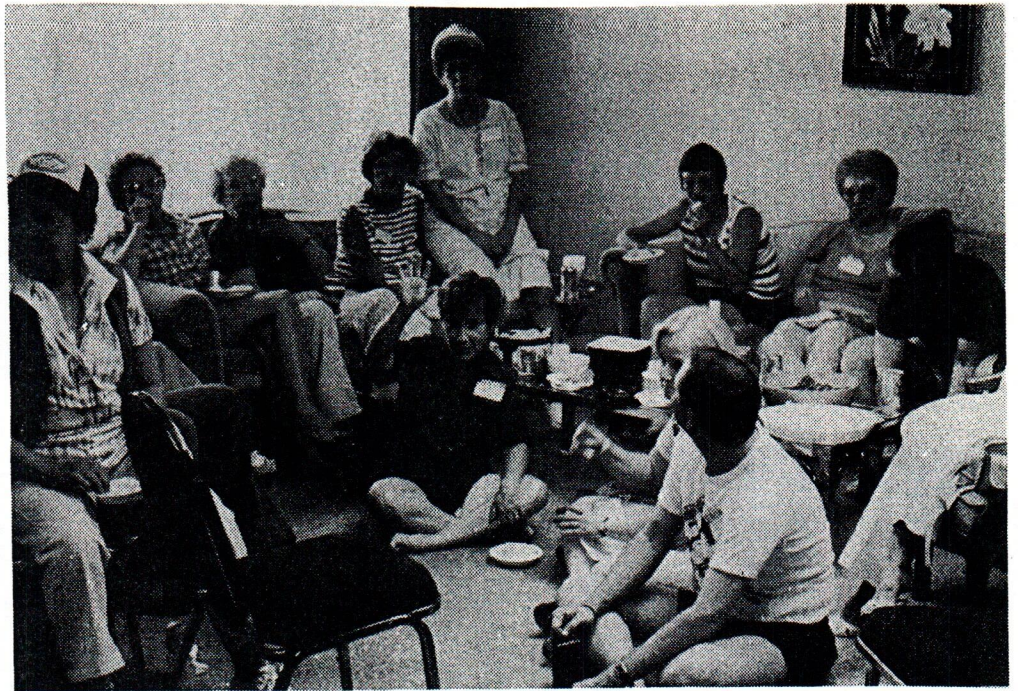
GAIL & PHILIP MANCUSO ALAN GEYER



FRAN BIEHL TED & MIL STRINY



VERNE VOLLRATH
WHO WILL BID 5?



I WILL!



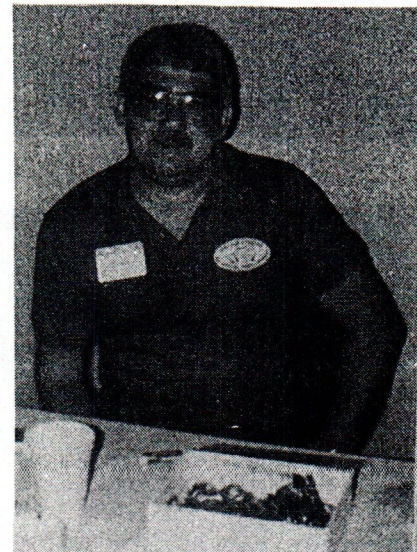
JO-AN & LEHR ROE



KAZUE & ROY SCANLAN



1987 CONVENTION HOSTS
LARRY & FRAN BIEHL



VIC KEOWN
NOTE THE JFO
PATCH ON SHIRT