

Just For Openers

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



GARAGE SALES/FLEA MARKET TIME.
LET'S MAKE THE MOST OF IT.
GET THOSE ELUSIVE OPENERS!

In the last issue, I failed to mention that JFU is put together with information supplied by our members. I apologize for this oversight and thank one and all for their contributions to make it possible. Also, the intent of the paragraph was to advise that no outside paid help such as "Set-Up", "Print Lay-outs" etc. are used for the format of JFU This is to keep costs down and the subscription to remain at \$12.00

The sketch of the A-9 baseball pitcher opener on the masthead is thru the courtesy of BILL ENNIS of Everett, WA.

-CORRECTIONS TO 1987 MEMBERSHIP LIST-

- CORIELL Tom P.O.Box 3883 Wichita,KS 67201.....316 687-9154
- DONOGHUE John c/o Lewis St. Exc.171 Lewis St. Lynn,MA 01902..617 595-3499
- HOGELAND John E. 912 Brookforest Derby,KS 67037.....316 788-3513
- KING Paul E. 325 N. 3rd St. Columbia,PA 17512.....
- SCHELE Jerry B. 3744 Pineview Dr. Ft. Wayne,IN 46815.....219 483-6350

-CHANGE OF ADDRESS-

- MOTER Jr. Larry 8253 Anderson Ave. Fairfax,VA 22031.....

-WELCOME NEW MEMBERS-

- AUTENREITH L.C. 708 Palo Verde Truth Or C. NM 87901.....505 894-2059
- HAIST Ernie 790 Gravel Hill Rd. Southampton,PA 18966.....215 357-4784
- HORN Harry Y. 3113 Smoky Ct. Sacramento,CA 95286.....916 362-3590
- OWEN Steve 5409 Carmel Ct. Tyler,TX 75703.....214 581-7458

-CORRECTIONS TO 1987 OPENER ADDITIONS-

ART SANTEN, my appreciated overseer, has called attention to the following incorrect number listings:

A-4

Numbering should start with 39 and end with 42.

A-9

#27 should be 26.

HARRIET WALDO advises that B-17-19 is BOHRER not BOHRER'S.

I caught my goof on A-32-3. It should read Ask for Wooden Shoe BEER/etc.

GLEANINGS FROM LETTERS RECEIVED (Edited):

HAROLD KOGUT-Enclosed is an article from the ST. PETERSBURG TIMES about 'Patents and dating'. I found it quite interesting, (and) after reading it, I looked up the patent dates on some of my bottle & can openers to see about how old they might be. This may be of interest to our members.



(What follows, is transcribed from it).

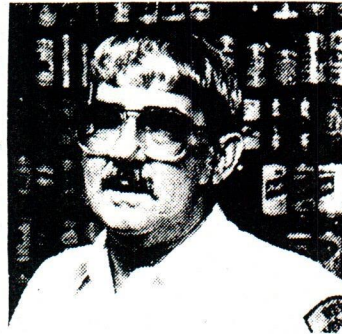
Question: Does a patent number tell when an item was patented in the United States?

Answer: You can learn the exact date of a patent and all the information about the object and who took out the patent by doing research at a major library that has the "Official Gazette of the U.S. Patent Office." You can order a copy of a patent from the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, U.S. Patent and Trademarks, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, D.C. 20231. If you need only a rough date, remember that the numbers were larger than 550,000 in 1896, larger than 1,500,000 in 1926, larger than 2,300,000 in 1946 and almost 4,000,000 in 1976. If you filed for a patent this year it would have a number over 4,600,000.

HAROLD goes on: I paid 20c to \$20.00 per opener for my collection of 600 different ones. I estimate it to be worth \$4.00 each (\$2,400). What value do other members place on theirs and what criteria they use?

BADGE OF SUCCESS

Capt. Vic Keown of the West Overland Fire Department "just hung out" until he was hired and 25 years later, he is still fighting fires. His co-workers recently honored him for his leadership and had two diamonds set in his badge.



VIC KEOWN-I see in the newsletter now & then someone expressing their appreciation for the job you are doing on (with) it. I certainly want to add my name to that list. (Ed's note-Thanks Vic. I am in the process of preparing a list of all "kudos" I've received on the newsletter to acknowledge them all). My beer can collection has taken a back seat to openers since I joined JFO. I like the closeness of the group. Mary Ann (Vic's wife) enjoys JFO, the conventions and our members attending them. What other group can you belong to where a member would send an item out of their general collection & send to you (at n/c) to try to complete your specialized one? I believe I have all the TROMMER openers listed except M-3-27. I will display them at the JFO convention in Alsip, Ill. I also have a pretty good collection of BECKER I will probably bring for our members to enjoy viewing.

GARY DEACHMAN-I really enjoy JFO with a lot of its articles. In my specialty, I have close to 45 different types of BOTTLE shape, stamped or pictured beer openers now. It's growing fast but I have a long way to go to get them all. I am having a lot of fun trading out of my general collection to advance my BOTTLE type ones. Pursuing them will never get boring for me. I have a lot of "B" types to trade for them and sometimes take a loss when I want a BOTTLE type bad enough. I hope all of our members are enjoying hunting for and adding to their collections as much as I do!

OLLIE HIBBELER Jr.-Mailed my registration to LARRY BIEHL for our 9th convention. Looking forward to seeing you and all our members who will attend for a good show and time as the last ones were. (Ed's note-see page 3).

A VERY IMPORTANT CORRECTION TO THE PRINTER'S ERROR IN LARRY BIEHL'S MAILING TO THOSE WHO PLAN TO COME TO THE CONVENTION: THE REGISTRATION FEE IS \$25 PER MEMBER NOT PER PERSON.

HURRY YOU STILL HAVE TIME!

CALL OR
WRITE NOW!



LARRY BIEHL
448 CRANDON
CALUMET CITY, IL 60409
1-312-891-4269

9th ANNUAL 'JUST FOR OPENERS' CONVENTION.

GLEANINGS (continued) LARRY SHERK-The query on Strange Brew (Jan. '87 issue): I was "fortunate" to attend the Premier here in Toronto on August 25, 1983 and to meet the McKenzie brothers at a reception afterwards. The opener was part of the logo for the movie but I cannot recall seeing it used. No cans, only bottles were used in the movie. I never did get one of the bottles, although my boss, a non collector has a case of them but refuses to part with it. Brewery scenes were filmed in what is now the Pacific Western Brewery plant in Prince George, B.C.. Old Fort as it was then known is an independent and is the only brewery that would agree to the use of their facilities for this farce. They even had to build a beer store facade as our Brewer's warehousing refused the use of one of their stores as it involved return of beer bottle with a mouse in it. Movie has been available on video here & recently on pay TV. LARRY writes on: Have been stuck at 891 openers for a couple of months. Hope to make 900 soon. (ED's note: Thanks LARRY. Included with the letter was a photocopy of the movie press release autographed by both: To Larry Doug McKenzie Bob McKenzie. JIM HOLLINGER-I was fortunate to find another unlisted opener (JIM has sent many ULs to me). It is a B-13 Silver Spray Beer. when I bought it on Feb. 22nd, I had no idea where it was from. The second lucky part of this is that six days later, I found a mint beer bottle label which gave me the answer.



CONTENTS 12 FL. OZ.

"It's a great Drink!"

Silver Spray

It was Inevitable! The Genuine Extra-Dry

HAS THE SNAP AND SPARKLE OF CHAMPAGNE

THE FITGER COMPANY COPYRIGHT 1926 REG. U.S. PAT. OFF. DULUTH - U.S.A.

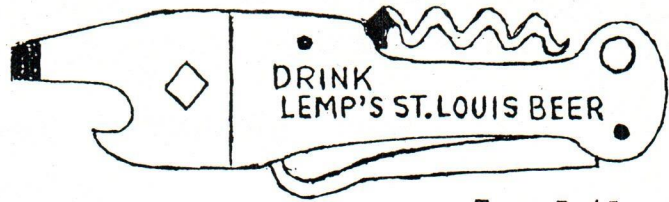


OPENER TRIVIA by Bill McKenzie

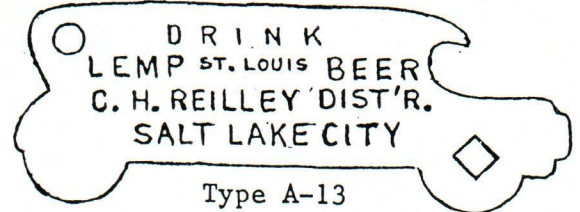
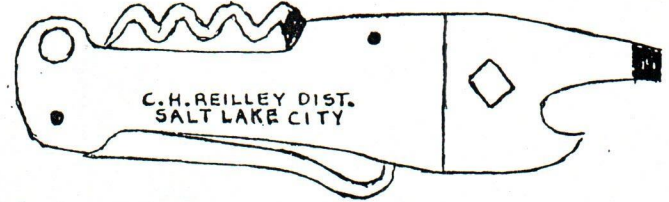
Once upon a time I had an unlisted B-22 type opener with the following inscription: DRINK LEMP'S BEER / C.H. REILLEY DISTRIBUTER I never was able to figure out where it was from, and eventually ended up trading it off. Since that time I have found two other openers from the same distributor. Drawings of these openers appear on the right.

I really don't know what it is between myself and this distributor. The only association I can figure out is that REILLEY is an Irish name and I'm Scotch-Irish.

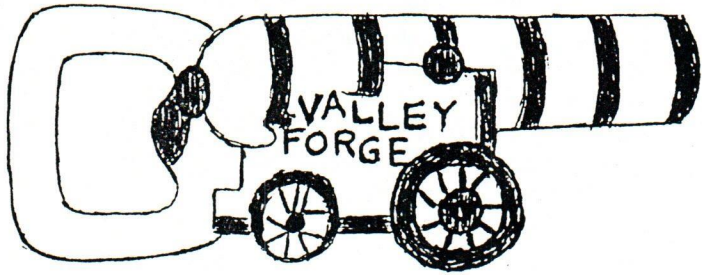
I wonder what nationality Art Santen is, and what kind of beer advertising openers he finds? Do you suppose that C.H. REILLEY ever had an A-40 type?



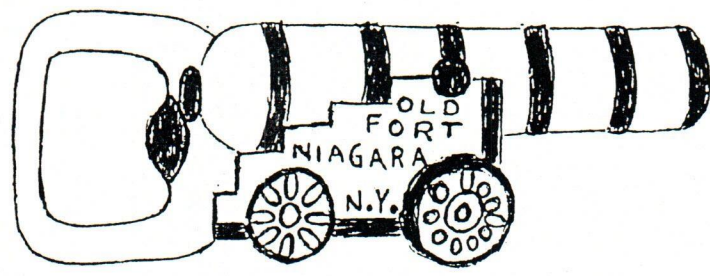
Type B-45



Type A-13

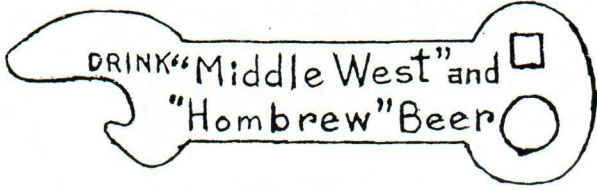


In Don Bull's price guide he has noted of type N-16 that: "This is probably a souvenir of Valley Forge and not advertising for the beer of that name." As further evidence that his summation is correct I am offering a similar opener from Old Fort Niagara, N.Y.



As you can see the dies for the two openers vary slightly. The Valley Forge is made of black metal with a flat reverse. The Old Fort Niagara is made of brass with a slightly concave reverse, marked JAPAN.

Gary Deachman of Denver, Colorado would like to know which brewery this B-21 type opener is from. Do you recognize either of these brands? "Middle West" could be a clue to the area of the country.

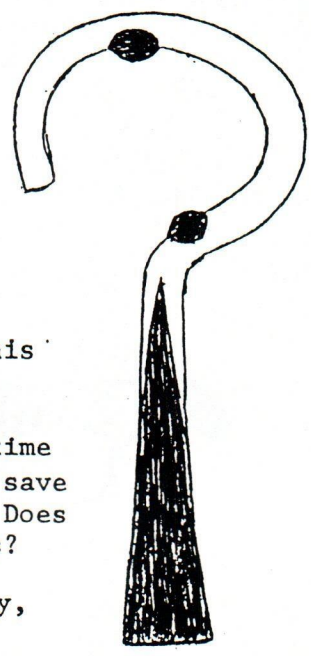


If you have answers or material for Opener Trivia send them to: Bill McKenzie 6360 So. Jellison St. Littleton, CO 80123

This combination opener-screwdriver raises the question (mark, that is) of why there is a gap in the head. There is no evidence that it has been tampered with so I must assume that it was made this way.

Could it have been a war time piece, and they did it to save metal? I'm only joking. Does anyone else have any ideas?

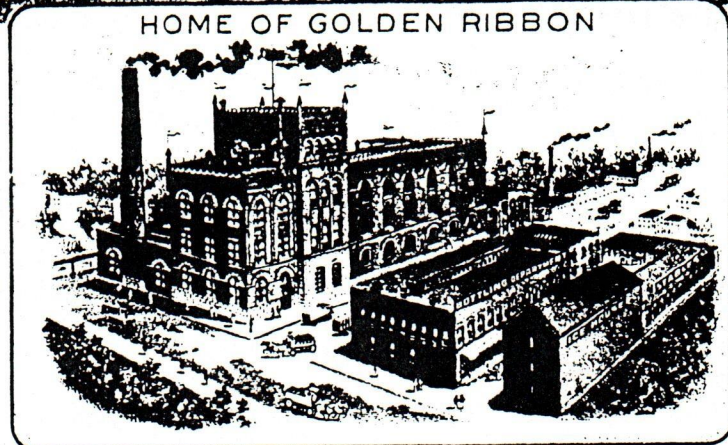
(submitted by Ted Striny, St. Paul, Minnesota)



GOLDEN RIBBON BEVERAGE ASSN.



AMERICA'S
GREATEST
MANUFACTURERS
NON-ALCOHOLIC
BEVERAGES



THE
ORIGINATORS
OF
NON-INTOXICANTS
THAT
TASTE LIKE BEER

HOME OFFICES, COUNCIL BLUFFS, IOWA.
BRANCH HOUSES THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES.

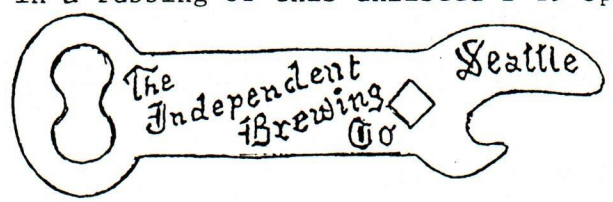
GENERAL OFFICES.
Omaha, Nebr. - Jan - 23 - 1916.

A local breweriana collector-friend is trying to find out some information about this interesting letterhead. Notice that the bottle label makes no mention of containing any alcohol, and that while the home offices of this company are advertised as Council Bluffs, Iowa this letter came from the general offices in Omaha, Nebraska.

Is it possible that with Iowa's history of temperance there was enough of a market for companies to be in business manufacturing "non-intoxicants that taste like beer"? According to Don Bull's book American Breweries the last brewery in Council Bluffs closed in 1888.

NEW FINDS

One of our members sent in a rubbing of this unlisted B-19 opener he recently found.



He made the suggestion that I might include a section in opener trivia where members could send in drawings, photographs, or rubbings of their new finds. I thought this was an excellent idea so I am giving it a try beginning with this issue.

If you have a new find that you would like to share with our other members send in one of the following:

- (1) A drawing which duplicates as accurately as possible the style and size of all words (manufacturer's marks excluded) as they appear on the opener.
- (2) A strong rubbing from which I can redraw your opener.
- (3) A clear photograph.

I will include your new find in the issue following its receipt. I think this could be fun. Why not give it a try?

ANSWERS TO OPENER TRIVIA

* I want to include in its entirety this excellent piece of research on the history of McInnerney's Special Brew submitted by Scott J. Williams of Fairfax, Iowa. THANK YOU SCOTT! This is really outstanding, and I sincerely appreciate the time and effort you took to put it together.

"Several years ago an A-28 McInnerney's was one of my first acquisitions, yet until recently its origin remained a mystery to me. The recent TRIVIA challenge to Iowa collectors compelled me to uncover the following information: At the turn of the century, Iowa City's "McInnery's Buffet" on the southwest corner of College and Dubuque Streets was the largest saloon in the thriving University and commercial town that had been the original State Capitol. Frank McInnerney had started business prior to the Gay Nineties and continued until prohibition came to Iowa in 1916, four years prior to national prohibition.

The McInnerney bar, 150 feet long and reaching all the way from College Street to the alley, was said to be the longest bar in the State. There were 12 bartenders, neatly dressed with black trousers, white shirts and black ties. The brass rail at the base of the bar was shined daily as were the cuspidors. McInnerney was a stickler for cleanliness and everything was spic and span. He insisted on the correct glassware for the drinks served.

McInnerney was the originator of Iowa's "First Capitol Whiskey" and had "McInnerney's Special Brew" prepared by Graf Brothers Union Brewing Company of Iowa City. Old timers remember hearing of customers ordering the beer with two whole eggs beaten up in it. This was considered special in those years... "an egg in your beer".

"Graf's Golden Brew" was the main product of the company that furnished "McInnereys Special Brew". I have not come across openers advertising beer products from Grafs, other than "McInnerneys". William Graf continued a profitable operation as a soda pop company for many years after Iowa went dry in 1916. I have seen B-14 openers for "Grafs Grape-Ola". Graf briefly produced a near beer but it proved to be a failure. Regular beer was still legal in nearby Illinois and was shipped into Iowa illegally labeled as "Crockery" or "Dishes, Handle With Care".

Another Iowa City brewery which became a casualty of the period was Iowa Brewing Company. Its beer was called "Erlanger" with the catchy advertising slogan "The Beer That Made Milwaukee Jealous". Signs featuring this slogan were painted on the sides of many saloons dispensing this beer.

Due to the OPENER TRIVIA challenge, I have finally resolved my curiosity as to the meaning of "McInnerney's Special Brew"

* Don Sherman of Los Angeles, California sent in an interesting photostat of a tin screw box. Don wrote: "Reverse shows 3 sides of a compartmented screw box put out by the Sexauer Company circa 1931. It is tin, red, yellow & blue colors. Thought it might throw some light on the 'Mulekick' subject. The logo w/ mule is interesting. Evidently the company distributed a complete line of plumber's supplies at one time."

* In reference to the I-13 Evangelical Products "Church Key" pictured in the last issue George Lohmiller wrote: "I live in Grand Junction and have only one of these openers myself (where it is I do not know)."

ATTENTION HOLDERS OF 'F' TYPE OPENERS, F-2, F-11, F-12, F-13

The Federal Government has declared all type F-11, 12, 13, and certain F-2 openers to be endangered. To help in the preservation of these openers, they should be forwarded to the undersigned, who will care for them in a warm, dry and loving environment.

In addition to the Type F-11, 12, and 13, the following Type F-2s are especially endangered, and should be forwarded at once:

13, 14, 15, 16, 18, 19, 21, 23, 26, 28, 35, 36, 37,
38, 40, 41, 42

The following listed openers, all F-2s, are not quite so endangered in Arizona, and have offered to venture out if it will help to bring home another opener from the above list:

2, 3, 6, 9, 17, 25, 27, 32, 34, and 1 single F-17-1

If you have gotten this far, you love the F openers as much as I do, so please check a couple things for me:

1. Does anyone have an F-2-15 in captivity now, it was reported the same as F-2-29, only without the -- "since 1872".

2. Same type of question, what about F-2-18, does anyone have one, with the word "Company" spelled out, or are they all really F-2-24s?

I hope everyone has a great collecting year this year. When you see him - don't forget to say 'Thank You' to Ed for all the work it takes to get our newsletter out to us.

Don't forget to keep looking for FLOWER scene postcards with FLOWER FROGS depicted on them for our good friend Don Bull. After all, if they were easy, who would collect them?

SERIOUSLY COLLECTING BREWERY ADVERTISING,
GLASSES, STEINS, MUGS AND OPENERS.
ANTIQUE AND CONTEMPORARY
AMERICAN AND FOREIGN

Leon Phillip Beebe

601 E. MACON DRIVE, ROUTE 7
CORONA DE TUCSON, ARIZONA 85747 (602) 762-5531

ADVERTISEMENT

*Happy Collecting,
Leon*

---WANTED---

Starr-X (0-5) openers. If you, or know of anyone who will sell, call me COLLECT (214) 581-7458 after 6PM C.S.T. STEVE OWEN 5409 Carmel Ct. Tyler, TX 75703.

M-3s (also M-1 & M-2s) ART JOHNSON 155 Hartford Ave. E Mendon, MA 01756

M-19s. SCOTT O'DONNELL Turn of River Rd. Stamford, CT 06905 Phone (203) 968-1051.

Coca-Cola openers, older and unusual types, especially figurals. Tempting prices paid. THOM THOMPSON Huntertown Ro. Versailles, KY 40383

Serious collector wants: TROMMERS M-3-27, BECKER'S B-14-36, B-21-6, B-24-75, E-14-17, F-6-16, F-6-23, F-13-2, I-1-5, I-12-172, I-13-3 J-6-41 VIC KEOWN 10547 Mert, St. Louis, MO 63074.

F type BEER openers. Call or write LARRY BIEHL 448 Crandon, Calumet City, IL 60409 (312) 891-4269. Save postage. Bring to the Convention!

Need just three: Dick's Beer (Quincy, IL) B-18-168, E-4-27 & P-26-3. OLLIE HIBBELER, Jr. Rt. 73 Box 135-20 Lake Ozark, MO 65049. Trade or state price.

Non-beer "A" openers. Trade or buy them. ROGER BURKE 554 S. 4th West, Brigham City, UT 84302.

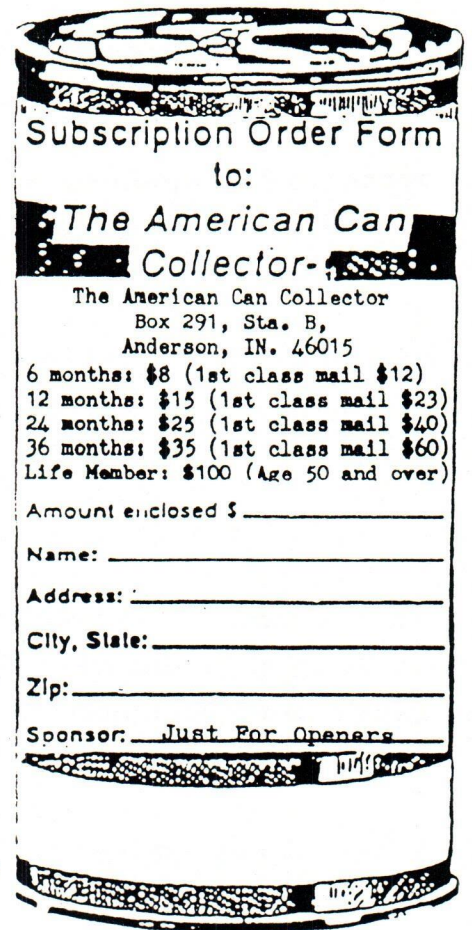
A-9 baseball pitchers. Paying top prices. ED KAYE 968 Greenwood Ct. S Sanibel Island, FL 33957.

----SELLING----

Openers for sale. 14 page list. Some as low as 50¢ each. Send two 22¢ stamps for list. JANTOS 7025 Kevin, Bethel Park, PA 15102.



NATIONAL POP CAN COLLECTORS (NPCC) WE ARE AN INTERNATIONAL CLUB DEDICATED TO THE COLLECTION OF DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN CONES, FLATS, REGULAR & SPECIAL ISSUE SODA POP CANS. WE HAVE BEEN A CLUB FOR 10 YEARS. MEMBERSHIP IS \$15.00 U.S. & \$20.00 FOREIGN. OUR NEWSLETTER IS MONTHLY.



WHY IS A PIC OF A TRAY HERE? A year ago, ART JOHNSON and his wife EILEEN of Mendon, Mass. visited me. Art gave me a "B" type NEW DISCOVERY from Providence Brewery of Rhode Island. When they visited again this year, they brought this photo. Note the opener in it. That is IT!! Thanks Art & Eileen, our members appreciate your efforts for us.