6126 MCPHERSON ST. LOUIS, MO. 63112

(314) 863-6798

OPENER CONVENTION - PAST

In this issue of the JFO, we will relive the Frankenmuth Opener Convention. Those of us who attended the convention received a surprise in the mail. This was a first in the JFO Convention history, it did not lose money. The refund was accompanied by a full page explanation that only those who attended could appreciate.

OPENER CONVENTION - FUTURE

I wish to thank John & Pat Stanley for those of us who need 6 - 8 months advance notice to plan our vacations.

12th ANNUAL JFO CONVENTION; APRIL 26-28, 1990; SHERATON UNIVERSITY CENTER; DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA; HOSTED BY JOHN STANLEY.

IN MEMORY OF ROY SCANLON

The JFO and all of it's members wish to offer our sympathy to Kazue Scanlon on the death of her husband Roy on April 5, 1989. Roy was one of the oldest members, he first appeared in the Jan. 1982 membership list. He was one of the most friendly and enjoyable persons to talk with. Ray and Kazue attended many of the past Conventions and were missed at the Convention in April.

LETERS TO THE EDITOR

Many thanks to all of you for the card and your notes on it. A special thanks for the commemorative opener, it's a beauty. Looking forward to seeing you all in No. Carolina. Peg & Bob Van Vactor.

I had two member visitors. Art Johnson (with his charming wife Eileen) of Mendon, MA, and Stan Summers of Rochester, MI. We each had a productive Opener rap session. Any member visiting my area has an open invitation to do the same.

My "B" type auction has been postponed due to only a few responses to my to my ad last issue. Ed Kaye

CLASSIFIED ADS

Older Cincinnati, Covington KY, Newport KY, Hamilton OH, openers. Need a Brass Kauffman Brewing Co. from Cincinnati. Henry Smith 5459 Woodhaven, Cin.OH 45248.

Wanted: Any SE US Brewery Openers, any Beer Openers with "Agents For", any NC Openers, any E-9 Soda, and any A-23 or B-32 Beer or Non-Beer, have a nice trade list. John Stanley, 605 Windsong Ln. Durham, NC 27713. 919-493-9802.

Wanted: Lexington Brewery (Dixie Beer) and Coca-Cola Openers. Want to buy older openers. Have many A, B & C Brewery Openers to trade. Thom Thompson 123 Shaw Ave., Versailles, KY 40383.

Wanted: These Pennsylvania Openers: A-35-17 Pottstown, B-1-18 Hohenadel, B-21-122 Ortlieb (Mauch Chunk, Pa.), B-37-1 DuBois, F-16-1 Wacker and H-10-3 Haefner; Traders available: A-20-30 Bushkill, B-31-5 Kuebler, D-11-1 Hagerstown, F-7-1 Columbia and N-10-1 Krueger. Anthony Zanghi, RD.1 Box 404-F14, Coopersburg, PA 18036. Results of Zang's Mini Auction: A-20-7 Seitz-22.00; E-6-49 Sterling-25.00; and, I-7-40 Stroudsburg-14.00.

Trading heavy for A-9's. I have 20 of the 34 listed. Need your help in obtaining the rest. Which do you have for me? Ed Kaye 1478 Albatross Rd. Sanibel Island, F1. 33957.

OPENER TRIVIA - ADDENDUM

The following soda openers are from the collection of Bill Ennis. Bill has collected soda openers about as long as he has collected beer openers, and after seeing the last issue of Opener Trivia he sent in photostats of some of his favorites to share with us.

Bill writes: "I've found about one soda per four beer openers. In reviewing openers in my collection I have 73 different brands of ginger ale, which would indicate that it was probably the most popular soft drink in the early 1900's. By brand name in order of frequency of finding a new opener: (1) Coca-Cola (2) Canada Dry (3) Seven Up (4) Pepsi-Cola (5) Dr. Pepper (6) White Rock / Orange Crush."

I want to personally thank Bill for his contribution to this issue of Opener Trivia. I'm sure anyone who collects soda openers would cherish having some of these in their collection.



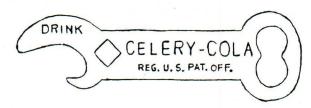
Opposite side reads: DRINK FAN TAZ



Opposite side reads: WILLOW SPRINGS BEVERAGE CO. OMAHA, NEBRASKA



Opposite side reads: MORELAND & MYERS DIST. PHONE OSAGE 7043



Opposite side reads: BOTTLED BY SANITARY BOTTLING CO.





DRINK 7 UP LITHIATED LEMON FOR HEALTH OR THE 7 HANGOVERS BIRRELL BOTTLING CO. SALT LAKE CITY.



DR. BROWN'S CELERY

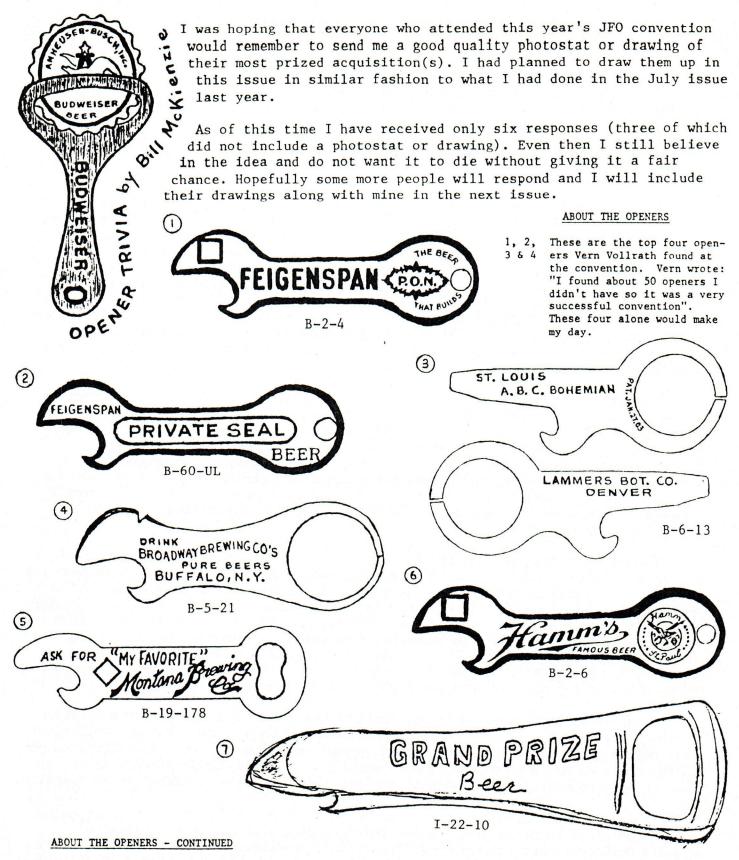
Opposite side reads: SCHULTZ SPARKLING BEVERAGES

Lehr & Herb, Thanks

for a great JFO Convention XI!

THE GREAT SAAZER HOP

Opener reads: THE GREAT SAAZER HOP TEMPERANCE BEVERAGE BODY QUENCHES THE THIRST ON SALE EVERYWHERE UREEKA BEVERAGE CO. BOSTON, MASS. "EVERYBODY'S DRINK" UREEKA



- Harriet Waldo's favorite opener. Harriet has never been in Montana, but as a teenager her father lived there. She wrote: "So somehow it was neat to find this opener". Harriet also added that her favorite trading partner at the convention was Bob Stahly. She noted that Bob was very generous on his trades often giving her five or more openers for one of hers.
- 6 & 7 Bob Stahly's two favorite openers. Bob wrote: "I now have all but 5 of the I-22's, and it's fun to fill in the spaces. I made a trade with Harriet Waldo and somehow she seems to get the better of the deal". Bob, Harriet told me that she is looking forward to seeing you at the convention next year. She heard North Carolina is on the coast, and the fishin' is real good down ther.

JFO ANNUAL MEETING, A SUCCESS STORY!

Report by: Joseph C. Paradi

This was my third JFO Meeting, I missed last year's meeting in St. Louis. We got back home two days ago and I am still wound up about the occasion. Herb Danziger and Lehr Roe were the hosts of this event, and what hosts they were. Absolutely every thing went off beautifully. Let me tell you about some of the events I took part in. But, before I go into details, let me state that Camille Danziger and Joan Roe were just fabulous, I am sure that they worked very hard to make all this the great success it was.

Well, to start with, on Wednesday the 19th of April, Bob and Peg Nugent arrived at our house. This was the start of the "JFO Weekend" because the Nugents and my better half, Monika and I left together the next morning for Frankenmuth. The drive from Toronto is about 5 hours if you don't stop at every Antique store that's open, we stopped at several with minimal luck. Upon arrival we hardly dropped the bags in our rooms and we headed for the hospitality suite where the reunions were in progress, the beer was also being sampled. It was excellent beer too, brewed right in Frankenmuth. No one wasted any time and the trading, buying and selling was in high gear immediately. Judging from the action I saw and my own success, I would say that this was one of the most productive Thursdays for all. I finally got to bed around midnight, exhausted.

Next morning was free if you wanted it or you could tour the Carling brewery right next door. The Youngs, Nugents and ourselves chose to visit the nearby Mfrs'. Outlet Mall. Many bargains were available and we took advantage of some. Back at the hotel for lunch and more trading, etc. At 2:45 p.m. we assembled at the Frankenmuth Brewery. This is a 50,000 barrel a year German style brewery which produces beer according to the German purity laws by a German Brewmeister. And the product is a very fine dark Ale, Pilsner and a great Bock beer. The owner himself conducted a detailed tour for us and we all enjoyed the information. Tasting followed, of course.

This was the big evening, the Auction was the highlight. Vern Vollrath and Gary Deachman did an exceptional job and I recall that they sold all the items on hand but one. It was a spirited occasion as always and it was warm, crowded and cosy. After the auction, several of us went to dinner. As Bill McKienzie arrived late Thursday night, he did not unpack his large collection of traders as yet. So after returning from dinner several of us refused to leave his room until he unloaded his car and we could look over the goods. Even though Bill said that he did not have much in the way of corkscrews, my interest, he sure had a whack of cap lifters! In any case, the trading went on and on and on well into the night. A really successful day.

Saturday morning we all got busy setting up for the show and public exhibition. In the past, we never had many outside people attend these shows, but not this time! Well before 10:00 a.m., the show opening, people were lined up outside waiting to get in the door. We had a phenomenally successful show with 49 public attendees! An all time record, congratulations again to the organizers for a very effective ad campaign.

The traditional displays were judged with the top award going to Harriet Waldo, the second place to Ollie Hibbeler and third to Dick Britton, congratulations! Captain Corkscrew (Art Santen) showed up in an incredible get-up loaded with all kinds of corkscrews and a very fitting story to go with it. He had the dreaded "Cork Disease" with which he infected several innocent ladies who all got cured by their appropriate husband who had the necessary "screw" for the cure.

The business meeting was held right after the show and it was unanimously agreed that John Stanley will host next year's AGM in North Carolina. We packed up and loaded the corkscrews into the cars for the trip home. The whole group went to dinner together and had an excellent time. The food was good, the company great and everyone was very happy about the three days with JFO folks. After dinner the hospitality suite got some action and the keg of beer that served us so well during the entire time finally gave up its last glass full. A fitting end to a great event.

Sunday morning after breakfast, we said our Good Byes and headed home. The ICCA/CCCC group was well represented by Joe and Jackie Young, Bob and Peg Nugent, Don Bull and of course, the organizers Herb and Camille Danziger, Lehr and Joan Roe and Monika and I. If you were not there, you missed a great event.

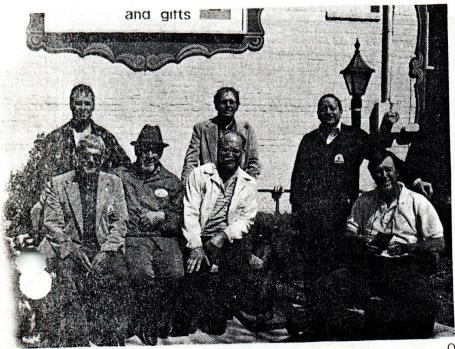
See you all in North Carolina next year.



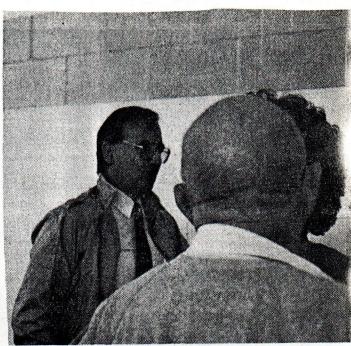
Banquet Restaurant



Convention Hosts



Past Convention Hosts



Owner of Frankenmuth Brewery giving the tour



lst Place - Harriet Waldo



Display by Pat Stanley

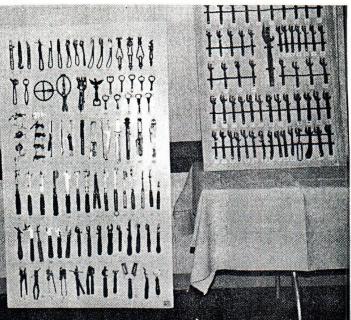


2nd Place - Ollie Hibbeler



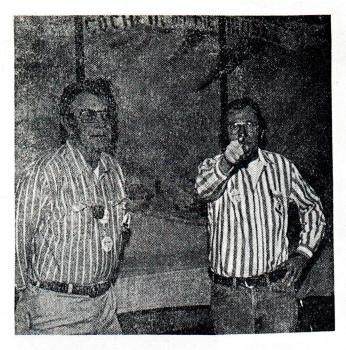
Part of Ollie's Display

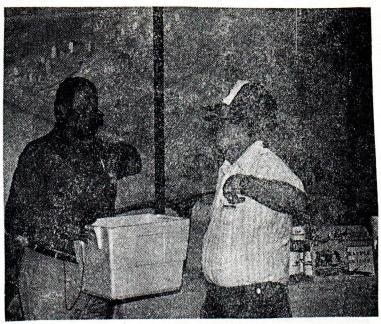


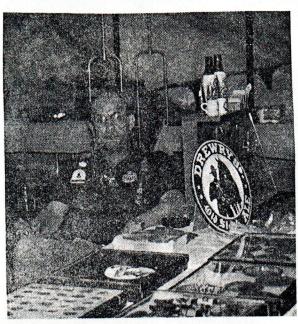


Part of Dick's Display 3rd Place - Dick Britton

JULY 1989

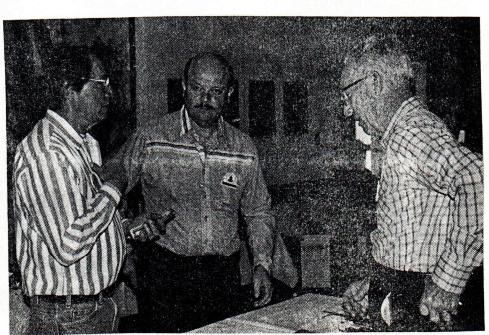




























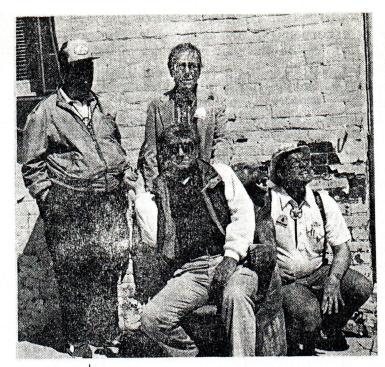


JULY 1989













THE LEGEND OF CAPTAIN CORKSCREW

This afternoon we are honored by the presence of the Legendary Captain Corkscrew. Remember all the times that you have asked a seller at a Flea Market if he had any corkscrews, and he said somebody was just here five minutes ago and bought up all he had to sell? Well, that was Captain Corkscrew, unfortunately, while traveling the world looking for corkscrews, he caught the dreaded cork disease. A cork will stay in his mouth until he is cured. The only cure is that a person who loves him must use their personal corkscrew to remove it from his mouth. Now in his wandering through this convention, if anyone loves him, please try to cure him. His wife uses a corkscrew to remove the cork from his mouth. Aha! I think he has found somebody who loves him. Yes, he is cured! He then kisses her. But wait! It looks like he is a carrier of the disease. But since he loves her, he can cure her - IF he can find a corkscrew. He scratches his head for an idea - he found one - not an idea, a corkscrew. Captain Corkscrew uses corkscrew on hat to cure her. Now that she is cured, are there any volunteers to see if he is still a carrier? Camille comes up and Capt. Corkscrew puts cape over her and gives her the disease. Capt. Corkscrew says, "Is there anybody in this room who loves this woman?" He looks at Herb. Herb says, "Don't look at me, I like her the way she is". Finally Herb cures Camille. Next Capt. Corkscrew passed the disease on to Shirley Hibbeler and Pat Stanley, whose husbands came up and cured them. Captain Corkscrew wore his black cape covered with 140 different wood handled corkscrews. His hat was covered with 10 different brewery corkscrews. Also, the hat was pierced by a large corkscrew. Captain Corkscrew left the convention cured, but he may appear again wherever corkscrews are to be found.











JULY 1989

Beer

wire or

The following four pages of pictures and articles is the best way that we can show our appreciation and friendship to our fellow collector.

Breweriana's second cousin ust tor openers,

D

By SHIRLEY NYGAARD

n Eileen Kaye needs a bottle

she doesn't panic. If she can't

ne in the kitchen drawer, she

for four years. The hob cousin to breweriana,

THE SPORT of opener collecting hasn't caught on with the verve that can collecting has, not yet at least. A newsletter to bottle opener collectors called "Just for Openers" lists about Kaye had been a collector of model lanes and rocks until he decided that e needed a new hobby, so he decided n openers. Others with the same

g of anything related to

THE EARLIEST OPENERS were actually corkscrews for beer bottles with corks, Kaye said. Later, in the late 1800s, when the crown type lid

In the 1930s, after prohibition, beer can was introduced, bring

ye explained that for many breweries depended upon such sa sopeners and can piercers for pulk of their advertising. When gent into a liquor store to buy you could pick up an opener or

The "News" advertises available and those that are

The "News" runs the gamut of items from brewerians to political buttons postcards to teapots.

piercer that had the name of the brewer on it. Sometimes, openers would be included in a case of beer.

rummage and gu quarter or

KAYE'S PIERCER collection in-cludes openers with advertisements for Budweiser, Ballantine, Pabst, Dobler, Coors, Siag, Weidemann's, Edelweiss and "Friendly" Grain Belt

But in 1963 the bottom fell out of the can piercer market with the advent of the pull tab can. There was no longer any need for an opener.

along with it the can piercer. It was the can piercer that became the best medium for brewer's advertising.

Kaye estimated that in the 1950s, 200 nillion can piercers were produced

There's the spinner typelike a pointing hand. Not emove the top 9

hoop type, otherwise known as i wire type, and then there's the witype opener that used to be near i Coke machine.

of others. Don Conn., another

In addition to the piercers are the peners or top lifters. There's the ED KAYÉand his neatly arranged collection of more than 500 bottle on a pegboard on a basement wall.

JULY 1989



COLLECTOR

OF THE ISSUE

EDWARD R. KAYE By Mili Backus

who, by the time he was sixteen, knew exactly where he was going and had the grit and determination to make it on his own, which he proceeded to do in record time.

A self-taught electro-mechanical engineer, Ed Kaye's first ED KAYE has come a long way from the Chicago or-phanage where he grew up. He was a bright, ambitious lad Unusual Man-An Unusual Hobby

into a close association, lasting forty-two years, It was first interrupted by WWII with the Air Force in England, and the last seventeen in Golden Valley, Mn., as a manufacturer's rep., calling on customers in Minnesota and western full-time position was with Bodine Electric Co. It turned

Anything Kaye tackles is accomplished speedily and extremely well. An intense man, Ed has always had a hobby For years, he was interested in model planes and enjoyed lapidary work. He collected rocks and semiprecious stones and assembled all the necessary equipment to polish and turn them into beaufild pieces. However, he reached that a point of "where do! go from her?", when his lovely wife, Eliten, suggested he find a new hobby. When Ed asked, "What should it be—beer can openers?", under standing Eliten answered, "Why not?" And so began a new engrossing hobby.

The year was 1975, when Ed started to research bottle and can openers (church Keys), which is a second cousin to breweriana (the collecting of anything related to beet brewing). Kaye was fascinated by the sheer rembers of different collections.

ferent kinds of church keys and the history surrounding

bringing into being the can piercer, Kaye estimates, a million were given out at the 1932 World's Fair. He also guesses that in the early 1969s, 200 million can piercers were produced annually. In 1963, it all changed with the advent of stance, the earliest openers were actually corkscrews for beer bottles with corks. In the late 1800s, when the crown-type lid was invented, bottle openers became available. After prohibition (in the '30s), the beer can was introduced, the pull-tab can. Kaye is full of stories about how they evolved. For in-

Kaye's collection of piercers includes openers with ads for Budweiser, Ballantine, Pabst, Dobler, Coors, Stag. Weideman, Edelweis and "Friendly" Grain Belt Beet—of every conceivable style and historical period, including a few bottle openers with square holes, used to open carbide few bottle openers with square holes, used to open carbide headlights in the early 1903. He also

type that resembles a hand with a pointing finger with a raised dot on its side. It was often placed dot side down on a table or counter and spun. Whomever the finger pointed to when the spinning stopped was expected to buy the next has a couple he can't discover how they were used.

In addition to the piercers are openers or top lifters.

There's the hoop-type (wire) and the wall-type opener that used to be found near Coke machines. There's a spinner-

map display of Minnesota with everyone else..... wheelings and dealings He was enjoying the all day welcoming guests. not stand by the sign openers. Ed Kaye shows off his No...Ed did

One of the rarer specimens is the Rheingold Brewery's combination opener and can handle (Kaye has one of the first of these) that was outlawed in 1960 by the New York Police, which considered as deadly weapon and ordered a half-million openers dumped into the foundation of a brewery under construction

Olympia Brewing Co. Remember, at the turn of the century, a beer drinker's opener was a vital tool. Olympia served as a clearinghouse for lost keys between 1906 and 1912. Each Olympia church key owner was registered with the Brewery and an inscription on the opener requested that lost keys be returned to the brewery so they could be returned to A favorite anecdote of Kaye's revolves around The Olympia Brewing Co. Remember, at the turn of the century,

Here's one that Kaye bets most readers are not familiar Here's one that Kaye bets most readers are not familiar with—the "Beer Nail". It is described by Helle's of Liver-more, California, as "the world's most unusual bottle more, California, as "the world's most unusual bottle more. durability opener. It is an enormous spike, which not only removes bottle caps like gangbusters, but is also a conversation piece. The Beer Nail is made of a quarter-pound of solid steel and is lustrously electroplated with a lough finish for

co-collectors Ray Brauner and Donald Bull have around co-collectors Ray Brauner and Donald Bull have around 3400 and 4000, respectively. At the 5th annual openers convention in 1983, in Indianapolis, Kaye was warded the 2nd Annual Phil Fouch award for achievement in Opener 2nd Annual Phil Fouch award for achievement in Opener 2nd Annual Phil Fouch award for achievement in Opener 2nd Annual Phil Fouch award for achievement in Opener 2nd Annual Phil Fouch award for achievement in Opener 2nd Annual Phil Fouch award for achievement in Opener 2nd Annual Phil Fouch award for achievement in Opener 2nd Annual Phil Fouch award for achievement in Opener 2nd Annual Phil Fouch award for achievement in Opener 2nd Annual Phil Fouch award for achievement in Opener 2nd Annual Opener 2nd Annu Kaye's collection of over 2400 openers is impressive, but

first brewery to use keglined cans was a small one—Gott-fried Krueger's, Newark, New Jersey. Those first cans were filled with either Krueger Beer or Krueger Cream Ale and shipped to the Richmond, VA area. They were an immediate success. Within two months, the Brewery couldn't satisfy the public's demand for canned beer. 1985 marks the 50th Anniversary of beer in cans. The

he became aware of the need to bring collectors together, In 1981, "The Breweriana Openers Collector's Club (BOCC) was organized, dedicated to "the preservation and discernination of information about beer bottle/can openers." It has grown bigger and better every year. As Kaye delved deeper and deeper into bottle/can openers, often trading with other collectors all over the country.

Presently, Ed Kaye is editor and publisher of Just for Operners, a newsletter for beer bottle opener collectors that has a circulation of 165. He is also co-author, with Donald Bull, of The Handbook of Beer Advertising Operary and Corkscrews fon alphabetical composite, published in October, 1984. The volume contains over \$00 illustrations and 9,000 listings, plus provisions for notes, in a convenient \$9/x 8/9 format. It is a reference book that no opener/corkscrew collector can resist owning. To prove this point, 110 handbooks have been sold in the first three



Ed Kaye, Golden Valley, is one of the few 'church key' collectors in the nation

hurch key' just for openers thes, nearly half a million of m were dumped into the foun-ion of a Rheingold construction

rn twist-off caps and pull volutionized the canned bevindustry in the 1960s, the berichurch key" began a slow

There are still a few around—in the heat for upwining boilies, or in farwer, for perfecting cans of oil—oil they are headed the way of the upy whip and 30-cents-a-gallon

Naye a Golden Valley sales reppontative, is one of about 200
spik in the United States who
claime in collecting cas and bot
openers, particularly those proed by brewerles
ed calls his diversion an offshoot
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top beer can has provided

Kaye said that in the late 1800s, with the invention of the crown top for bottles, cap pullers and lifters—along with wire and hoop openers—a:ppeared

he heart of Kaye's collection is dreds of conventional piercers. he with an engraved advertisent, such as "Budweiser Means

o The first beer openers, which appeared in the mid-19th century, were conscrewed all beer builts back then were scoped with corks. Keys has about null a dozen of those rare items. Moderation" and "The Beer That Made Milwaukee Famous"

"Here's one - I don't even know to we they used it." Kaye said. er aning to a contorted hunh of te rel that resembled avant-garde;

etermine

Prohibition neared its are ware an appeared With it Kappiercern. Kaye said a ing warm were given away tendirid's Fair

Openers. They have printed cata-logs with listings of every type of known opener, who has them and how much they are worth. pener production reached its in the 1950s when more than million per year were pro-

of them stowed place," he said kie boxes, tool

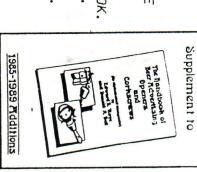
FOR OPENERS IS NOW AVAILABLE JAN. 1985-1989 ISSUES OF JUST ADDITIONS THAT APPEARED IN THE AS A SUPPLEMENT TO THE HANDBOOK. ORDER FROM: ED KAYE PRICED AT \$6.00 EACH POSTPAID. THE ALPHABETICAL COMPOSITE OF SANIBEL, FL 33957 1478 ALBATROSS RD.

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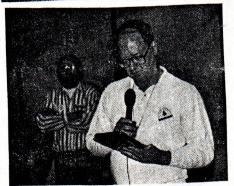


OPENER CONVENTIONS









1989-Art Santen giving Ed Kaye the 2nd Phil Fouch Award.



Collector of Flot Figural U.S.A. Beer Havertising Openers 1478 ALBATROSS RD. SANIBEL ISLAND FL 33957

PUBLISHER OF

JUST FOR OPENERS MEMBER ABA, NABA & ACC



Just For Openers Is Motivation For Some Collectors

When twist-off caps and pull tabs revolutionized the canned beverage industry in the 1960's, the beloved "church key" began a slow slide to near oblivion.

There are still a few around — in kitchens for opening bottles or in garages for piercing cans of oil — but they are headed the way of the buggy whip and 30 cents-a-gallon gasoline.

Ed Kaye of suburban Minneapolis is one who saw the opportunity. He is one of about 200 people in the United States who specialize in collecting can and bottle openers, particularly those produced by breweries.

breweries.

Kaye has more than 600 openers, seemingly of every concelvable style and historical period, including a few bottle openers with square holes that were used to open carbide tanks for automobile headlights in the early 1900s.

The heart of Knye's collection is centered in hundreds of conventional piercers each with an engraved advertisement such as "Budwelser Menns Moderation" and "The Beer That Made Milwaukee Famous."

Famous."

The first beer openers which appeared in the mid19th Century were corkscrews. All beer bottles
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with corks. Kaye has about
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Kens.

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1800's with the invention of
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peared along with wire and beop openers.

In 1932, as Prohibition neared its end, the beer can appeared. With it came the first piercers. Kaye said a million of them were given away at the 1932 World's Fair.
One of the purest openers.

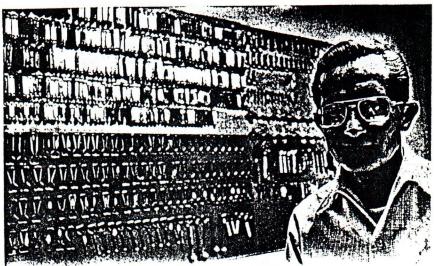
One of the rirest openers

a specimen Kaye lucks

is a combination opener
and can handle mude for
the Rheingold Brewing Co.
in 1960. The New York
Police Department declared
it a potentially bethal weapon and asked the company
to stop making the opener,
according to contemporary
reports. It is reported that
nearly a million of them
were dumped into the foundation of a Rheingold construction project.

Few openers in Kaye's collection are worth more than \$2.50. He makes new finds by trading with other collectors and attending garage sales. — KB.









To honor Ed, I have broken a rule that I made. The JFO opener for this month is not a registered type. According to Ed "This is the only one ever made."