

Just For Openers

APR 1991
ISSUE 50

6126 McPHERSON, ST. LOUIS, MO 63112

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1991 CONVENTION

It is not too late to make reservations for the Convention. Take advantage of the low air fares. Give yourself a vacation. Make new friends with opener collectors. Buy-Sell-Trade your duplicates. See beautiful North Carolina.

The Holiday Inn is working with the Hosts to keep JFO members together on the first floor, close to the Hospitality Room.

If you request a non-smoking room, you will be on another floor.

When you make reservations, specify if you want to be in the JFO block of rooms. If you prefer non-smoking, request that they keep you as close as possible to everybody else, even though you will be on another floor.

MORE CONVENTION INFORMATION ON PAGE 15.

WE WELCOME THESE NEW MEMBERS TO THE JFO.

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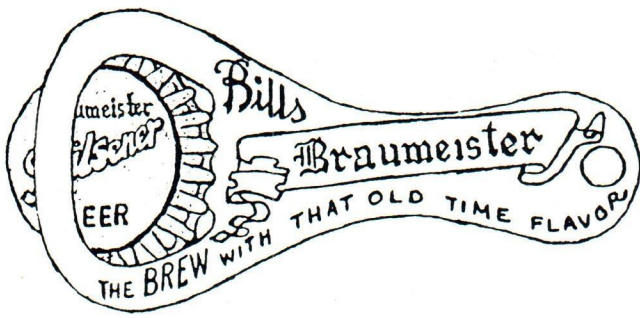
"CORK SHREW"
FROM
MILTON
BECKER



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

TO: BILL MCKIENZIE. REF: JFO 48 Pg.8 and JFO 49 Pg 5
Dear Bill, It was a pleasure to see an "OPENER TRIVIA" dedicated to can openers and answers to Harold Kogut's question in JFO 48. It was nice to print my answer too. But I sure screwed that sucker up. Joe Young and Dick Britton nailed it as a tack puller, leaving me with a hand full of the wrong handle. It just goes to show that I've got a lot to learn and that JFO has an important place in the world. Thanks for the education.
From; Dick Bueschel Mt. Prospect, IL.

What is LONDON DRY C-17-14; What Brew. is Pioneer C-17-23 from. Art Santen

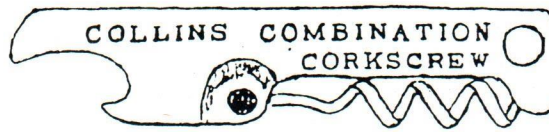
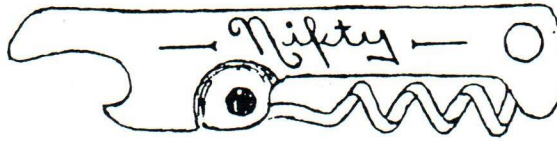


OPENER TRIVIA #22 by Bill McKenzie

In the last issue of Opener Trivia I noted that some of the drawings of the openers had been reduced, but I failed to note the actual sizes of the openers. The actual sizes of those openers are noted in the last paragraph of this issue.

This issue of Opener Trivia will be comprised of a potpourri of trivia tidbits.

I'm sure all of you are familiar with the B-13 type opener which is marked "Nifty" on both sides. Don Bull's A Price Guide to Beer Advertising Openers and Corkscrews says: "The opener was patented by Harry L. Vaughan of Chicago, Illinois. Application for patent was filed August 21, 1915 and Patent #1,207,100 was issued Dec. 5, 1916."



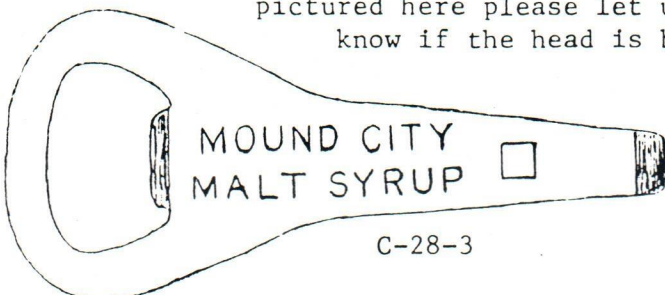
Drawings of the "Nifty" and another opener of the exact same design stamped "COLLINS COMBINATION CORKSCREW" appear above. Notice that the reverse side of the "Nifty" is marked patented while the reverse side of the other opener does not indicate it was patented. Does this suggest that the "COLLINS COMBINATION CORKSCREW" precedes the "Nifty"? Was the "Nifty" originally known as the "COLLINS COMBINATION CORKSCREW"? Could it be a person by the name of Collins originally designed the B-13 type and that Harry L. Vaughan bought the patent rights from him? Does anyone have any answers?

Below and to the right are pictured three similar but different C type openers. Beneath each opener is a side view illustrating whether the opener is perfectly flat or is bent at the head. The Mound City Malt Syrup opener has been classified as a C-28 type while the Schlitz opener has been classified as a C-37 type. Notice that the Stroh's opener is distinctly different from either of these openers.



C-37-1

In our listings there is a C-37-2 STROH'S BOHEMIAN LAGER opener. Check your collection and if you have this opener please let us know which type it is. If it is the same type as the C-type Stroh's pictured here please let us know if the head is bent.

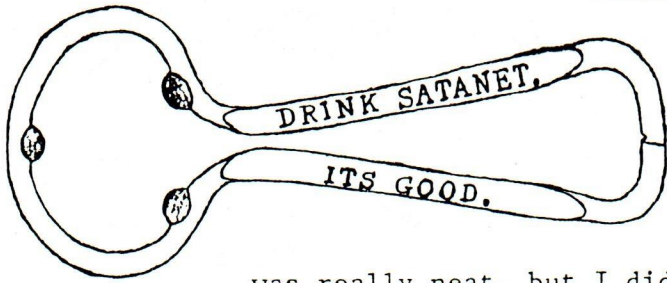


C-28-3



C-37-2 (?)

OPENER TRIVIA



The E-9 type opener on the left is probably from the late pre-prohibition period (1915-1920). The exact same words appear on both sides of this opener.

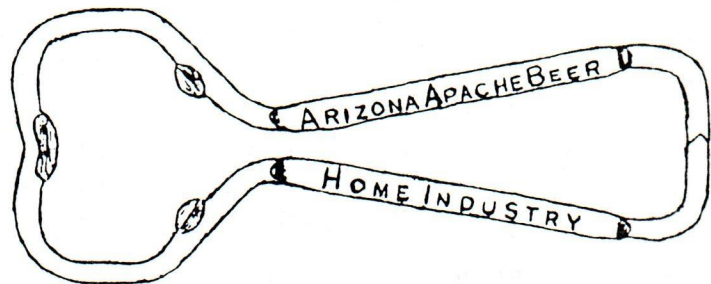
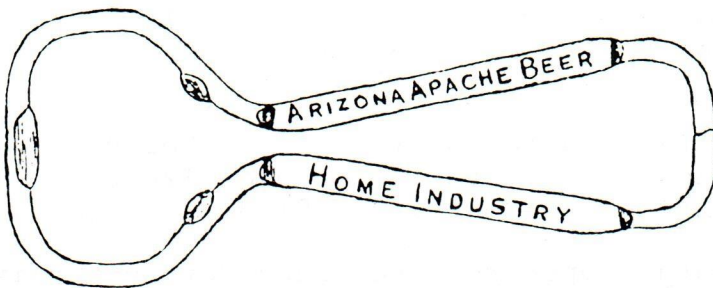
I found this opener interesting because I once saw a bottle of "Satanet". The bottle

was really neat, but I didn't buy it because the label was torn and faded. The part where the manufacturer's name and the ingredients usually appear was missing so I have no idea who made "Satanet" or exactly what kind of a drink it was. From the looks of the bottle I suspect it was a soft drink.

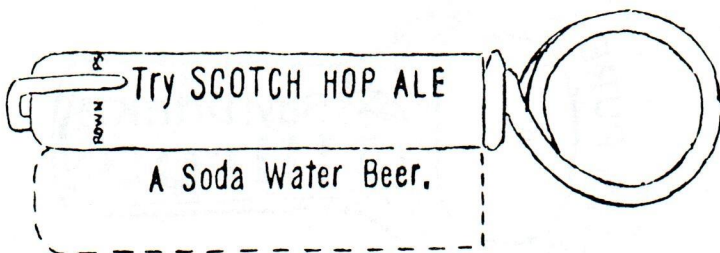
The bottle had a very interesting label picturing what appeared to be Satan holding a glass. Only the upper part of his body was shown and he was facing forward so that you could see he was winking his right eye. The label advertised "Satanet" as "SMOOTH AS SATIN" THE DRINK WITH A WINK.

The one thing I remember about Satan was that his costume reminded me of the Joker you see in some decks of cards. He didn't have horns and his red costume covered all of his body except for his face. He had a white human looking face and the ears of his costume resembled in ways the floppy cloth ears you see on some Jokers.

I wonder how people at that time felt about a drink which pictured Satan on the label? Does anyone know who manufactured "Satanet" and if in fact it was a soft drink?



It's not often you see two varieties of the exact same E-type opener. Illustrated here are an E-14f variety and an E-14h variety (refer to Opener Trivia, JFO #39, July 1988) of E-14-314 Arizona Apache Beer. On the reverse side of each of these openers is Manufacturer's Mark MM 5. I suspect that this was a result of two separate orders being made from the same dies. Do you know of any other examples where there are more than one variety of the exact same opener?

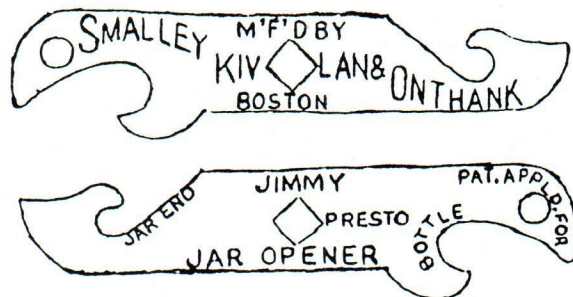


P-19-UL

This P-19 type opener is marked: V.RC DECAPITATOR PAT. MAR. 1, 1910 BLUE SEAL SUPPLY CO., BOSTON. The patent date would indicate that it is pre-prohibition.

Does anyone know who made "SCOTCH HOP ALE" or what "A Soda Water Beer" is? The manufacturer's mark would lend me to believe that it might have been made by a Boston brewer or probably someone in the near vicinity.

Bob Koch (Osceola, IN) found this interesting opener. It appears in ways to resemble a whale. I wonder if it was intentionally made in this shape or whether it just happens to look this way. Notice that it was made by a company in Boston, and Boston is a famous fishing port where whaling was once an important industry (?). Can anyone offer Bob any other information on his opener?



Here are the measurements of the openers that were reduced in the last issue of Opener Trivia. The number of each opener is followed by the length of the opener expressed in inches accurate to plus or minus (\pm) 1/16 of an inch.

- ① $\pm 7 \frac{1}{8}$ " ② $\pm 7 \frac{1}{16}$ " ③ $\pm 5 \frac{15}{16}$ " ④ $\pm 5 \frac{9}{16}$ " ⑬ $\pm 7 \frac{1}{2}$ "
⑮ $\pm 6 \frac{7}{8}$ " ⑯ $\pm 6 \frac{3}{8}$ " ⑰ $\pm 6 \frac{1}{8}$ "

— FINIS —

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE: E-14; E-10; and I-TYPE openers, \$1.00 each or trade.
Roger A Burke 6565 W. 8000 N. Tremonton, UT. 84337


New member wants to build opener collection. Near zero traders now, so I am looking to buy. If you have extras you will part with, send me a list and prices. I have some Beer Cans for trade with openers or other cans.
Jim Colwell 3334 Zion # C9 El Paso, TX. 79904

FOR SALE: F-9, Topaz Beer ice pick-no lift-Good to the last drop- Fortune Bros. Brewing Co.-Telephone Monroe 40. Best offer over \$20.00.
F.D. Donovan 11350 McGirk Ave. El Monte, Ca. 91732

MAJOR EFFORT: To acquire one of all Montana openers/corkscrews. Have extensive inventory of openers for trade, also other Breweriana.
Bill Pattie 37050 S.E. 89th, Snoqualmie, WA. 98060

WANTED: HAEFNER BEER OPENER (Lancaster, Pa.), any type. After 10 years of collecting, I still don't have one. HELP!
Anthony T. Zanghi 2225 Deer Trail Rd. Coopersburg, PA. 18036

WANTED: Opener pictured below.



**WANTED
HIRES
Rootbeer**

PRE 1930 GOOD TO MINT
CONDITION ITEMS

STEVE SOURAPAS

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I'M DREAMING OF THESE OPENERS

A-4-23 Havre Brewing; A-5-54 Great Falls; A-5-4 Highlander Lager
Bill Pattie 37050 S.E. 89th, Snoqualmie, WA. 98060

A-9-5 Poth & Schemm; B-9-3 Hornung; P-8-5 Betz
Arthur S. Johnson Jr. 347 East Orange St. Lancaster, PA. 17602

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Chagrin Valley Times

February 21, 1991 • 40c

Mike Cargile's collection reflects part of history

By KATE RIDDLE

"Almost everyone collects something," says Terry Kovel, who, with her husband Ralph, qualifies as one of the country's experts on antiques and collectibles.

"I'm firmly convinced that collecting is in the genes! Even little kids collect rocks, marbles, baseball cards," Terry explains that nostalgia plays an important part in collecting: people see something that they remember from their childhood, something that brought them comfort or pleasure.

"Collecting is a very personal thing. You can't tell anyone what he should collect. After all, people have to live with this stuff, and take care of it. And sometimes people don't know why or how they begin collecting a particular thing. It just happens."

Michael Cargile is one man who *does* know why he started collecting bottle openers.

"My interest began because I am in advertising," said Mike, who has been in the field for 25 years and is now with Fahlgren Martin. "As a marketing tool, the openers were a great way for beer, soft drink, and paint manufacturers to get their message around. Because openers were such a common, utilitarian object, they were thrown away, or got broken, or lost. And older openers are scarce and valuable since few of the manufacturers using them for advertising are still in business today."

"I bought my first one, a flat metal cap opener, in an antiques store in Massachusetts about ten or twelve years ago," Mike said. "The design patent was issued February 27, 1934, to the Jacob Ruppert Corporation, a New York brewer." Well-worn from use, the opener, formed from a flat piece of metal, is embellished with an ornate scroll design and Jacob Ruppert's advertising logo.

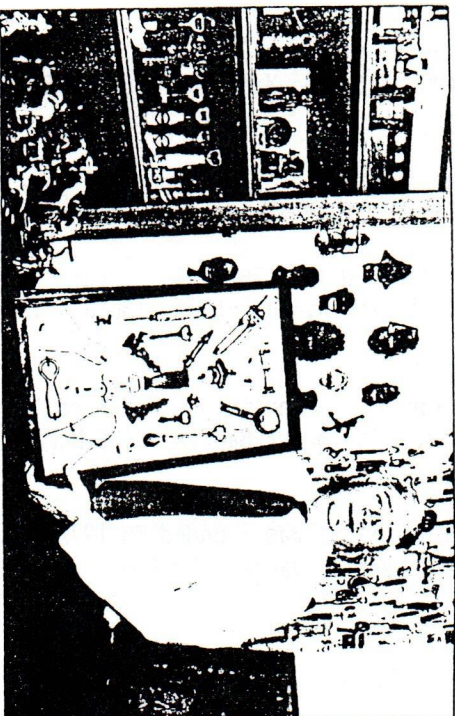
Mike's research on openers reveals some interesting historical facts. "The cap lifter was patented in 1894 by William Painter of Baltimore, who had invented the crimped crown bottle cap in 1892," explains Mike. "From that time on, until prohibition in 1920, every brewer and soft drink manufacturer—and there were more than 1200 breweries in operation in 1914—used the opener as a means of advertising."

Mike discovered that after prohibition ended, the American Can Company made the first cans for beer produced by the Krueger Brewing Company in Newark, NJ, in 1935. The market skyrocketed for the can piercer opener, invented in 1932. Literally millions of these types of openers were given away by beer vendors and soft drink manufacturers.

It has been nearly thirty years since the Pittsburgh Brewing Company introduced the pull tab can in 1962. And now there are twist-off bottle caps which of course require no opener.

Mike Cargile's collection of openers is mind-boggling. He has at least 6,000 examples of the dozen or so different types of openers that people collect. One of the more interesting examples is a spinner-type opener. In the shape of a hand, it can be spun on a bar to point out the buyer of the next round of drinks.

His figural bottle openers, to the knowledgeable eye, look only like figurines. Mike and his wife Susan have been to two figural bottle opener collectors'



Currents/Kate Riddle

Mike Cargile shows off just a portion of his collection of bottle openers.

conventions, both of which were in Pennsylvania. "We were amazed," said Mike. "There were about fifty people there, from all over the country, and from as far away as Montana."

Part of Mike's collection, which he believes to be one of the largest in the United States, was featured as a special exhibit at the 1986 Western Reserve Historical Society Antiques Show. It was at one of those shows that he bought his most expensive find.

a sterling silver opener which comes apart to reveal a cork screw and a funnel.

One of his best bargains is a French mechanical opener with a cork screw for which he paid \$12.00. "I found out later that an identical one sold at auction for more than \$500.00," he beamed.

Does he have a favorite among this vast collection? "It's the one I haven't found yet."

Donald A. Bull, 20 Fairway Drive, Stamford, CT 06903 USA

My books AMERICAN BREWERIES, THE REGISTER OF UNITED STATES BREWERIES, BEER ADVERTISING OPENERS-A PICT. GUIDE are out of print and no longer available.

I HAVE A LIMITED SUPPLY OF THESE BOOKS:

___A PRICE GUIDE TO BEER ADVERTISING OPENERS AND CORKSCREWS by Donald Bull, published 1981, 40pp, pictures over 400 openers and corkscrews. \$5.00

___TAVERN TREASURES-A BOOK OF PUB COLLECTABLES by Charles E. Tresise. An Englishman's look at pub treasures including interesting corkscrews and go-withs. 1983, 176pp. \$10.95

___HISTORY OF THE CARSON BREWING COMPANY by Arnold Millard. Interesting study with many photos. 1980, 102pp. \$9.95

To order above books: Check off books desired, add \$1.50 postage, make check payable to Don Bull and mail to 20 Fairway Drive, Stamford, CT 06903 (Add tax in NY and CT).

ORGANIZATIONS AND NEWSLETTERS (when applying for membership, please mention you heard about the organization from Don and Bonnie Bull):

AMERICAN BREWERIANA ASSOCIATION (ABA) was founded in 1980. Bi-monthly newsletter is filled with info about beer, breweries and breweriana. Send \$20.00 to American Breweriana Association, P. O. Box 11157, Pueblo, CO 81001.

CANADIAN CORKSCREW COLLECTORS CLUB (CCCC) was founded in 1981. Worldwide membership. Quarterly newsletter and summer convention. Send US\$25.00 to Ron MacLean, 4201 Sunflower Drive, Mississauga, Ontario L5L 2L4, Canada.

EAST COAST BREWERIANA ASSOCIATION (ECBA) was founded in 1970. Quarterly newsletter and annual convention. Send \$15.00 to ECBA c/o Gene Fink, 2010 N. Broad St., Lansdale, PA 19446.

FIGURAL BOTTLE OPENER COLLECTORS (FBOC) was founded in 1978. Annual convention held in May. Quarterly newsletter. Send \$15.00 to FBOC c/o Phyllis Elsenach, Secretary, 13018 Clarion Road, Fort Washington, MD 20744.

JUST FOR OPENERS (JFO) was founded in 1979 for beer advertising opener collectors. Annual convention held in April. Quarterly newsletter. Send \$12.00 to Art Santen, 6126 McPherson St., St. Louis, MO 63112.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BREWERIANA ADVERTISING (NABA) was founded in 1972. Quarterly newsletter and annual convention. Send \$20.00 to NABA c/o Robert E. Jaeger, 2343 Met-To-Wee Lane, Wauwatosa, WI 53226.

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13th ANNUAL JFO CONVENTION

APRIL 25-27, 1991

RESEARCH TRIANGLE PARK, NORTH CAROLINA

If you draw lines from Raleigh to Durham to Chapel Hill, North Carolina, you end up with a triangle. In the midst of that triangle a Research Park was created, Research Triangle Park (RTP).

This April, within the boundaries of this hi-tech, research oriented development, JFO members will journey into the past, proud of their antique treasures, envying those in the possession of others.

Openers, corkscrews and breweriana will be tested and examined as closely as anything in RTP's labs.

John Stanley, A JFO member since 1982 and Roger Jarrell who joined JFO in 1990 are co-hosts for this convention being held at the Holiday Inn, Research Triangle Park. They look forward to welcoming you in the Holiday Inn Hospitality Room #163, along with their wives Pat and Janice. (The Hospitality Room opens out to the pool, so that will help you locate your JFO friends.)

Upon arrival, you will be given a welcome bag. The contents will be a surprise to you and to the hosts, for Pat and Janice are in charge of Welcome Bags and delight in keeping secrets. They promise it will be unique!!

For those attending our convention for the first time, this is the usual sequence of events:

By Thursday evening most members have arrived and display their collection in their rooms. (We have been guaranteed that all rooms will be together close to the Hospitality Room.)

This is perfect for visiting your friends and lots of room to room trading.

Friday we go to lunch as a group. Arrangements for that are almost final. Friday evening we have the annual auction. Bring some good pieces to auction.

On Saturday, we have a show which is open to the public from 9 am to 3 pm. Raffle tickets will be sold and drawn for prizes. You guessed it, only Pat and Janice know what they are!!

The ladies did let us see the awards to be given for the best displays. Janice did most of the work on them and promises to give them up although she is very attached.

This year Pat has actually started a collection of her own and it's not openers! Janice will start a new collection too, as soon as the "hosts" are ready for this convention.....

We can't wait to see each and every one of you

***** BRING A DISPLAY *****

13TH ANNUAL
JFO CONVENTION REGISTRATION

THURSDAY-SATURDAY APRIL 25, 26, & 27, 1991

HOLIDAY INN RALEIGH-DURHAM AIRPORT
I-40 AT PAGE ROAD EXIT #282
RESEARCH TRIANGLE PARK, NORTH CAROLINA

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE (PROVINCE) _____ ZIP _____

HOW WILL YOU ARRIVE? CAR _____ PLANE _____ OTHER _____

DO YOU PLAN TO STAY AT THE CONVENTION HOTEL? YES _____ NO _____

DATE YOU WILL ARRIVE _____ APPROXIMATE TIME OF ARRIVAL _____

DATE YOU WILL LEAVE _____ (WE NEED TO KNOW, AS HOTEL MAY NOT HONOR
\$65 SINGLE/DOUBLE RATE BEYOND NUMBER OF ROOMS INDICATED IN THE CONTRACT)

EACH MEMBER PAYS A CONVENTION FEE TO COVER THE EXPENSES OF THE WELCOME
KIT, HOSPITALITY ROOM, SHOW TABLE(S), PRIZES, ETC.

CONVENTION REGISTRATION FEE WITH ONE TABLE	\$30 _____
CONVENTION REGISTRATION FEE WITH TWO TABLES	\$40 _____

HOTEL REGISTRATION FORM WILL BE SENT UPON REGISTRATION FOR CONVENTION

NAME(S) FOR CONVENTION BADGE _____

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