What a winter! Today in Cleveland it started out at minus 3, moved down to minus 4, then shot up to 7 before it started to cool back down. On top of all of this, it continued to snow. I always thought when it was that cold it did not snow. This winter we have created the new term of snowfarming. This is the process of removing snow and planting it somewhere else. Somewhere like the corners of the parking lots at the malls. There will be toboggan runs in July in some of these places. I am sure glad I am in Florida.

This is the second year that the BCCA is presenting awards for domestic and foreign bottles of the year. We have the opportunity to nominate the three choices in each of these categories. I would ask that you look back through last year’s issues of the BCCA magazine and select up to three US and three foreign issues that you would like to nominate. If you would send me your nominations (billjv@aol.com) and rank them in order of preference, I will tabulate the results and submit them to the BCCA for publications. When you send your pics, you need to include the magazine issue and page and bottle number for each bottle. Deadline for submission is the first week of March. If you are like me, unless you do it now when this if fresh in your mind, you will forget to do it. Let’s get a good representation for the membership to vote on. Thanks in advance for you input.

Where are all the new bottles? Apparently AB got so busy trying to decide whether they were going to go with Kanye West instead of the Clydesdales for the Super Bowl ads that they did not have enough time to devote to new product ideas. Miller has a few hockey issues and a new generic, Coors seem to be on hiatus, and Bridge Brews and Leech Lake have out produced all of them. All of this should make it easy to have all of them all by the time we leave Convention. On the other hand, there is an explosion of foreign issues. Looking at the eBay auctions and the
Facebook page brings back memories of the days Andys, Bobs, Bean and Bacon Days, and all the Iron City cans. Do you collect these? Just like the foreign cans, the designs of these bottles seem to be more colorful and creative in design. If you do collect them, this Canvention may offer a unique opportunity for all in attendance. Most of us have a pretty good selection of US issues going back to the beginning of the aluminum bottle. There will be many foreign collectors in attendance who do not have these bottles and have brought their own local bottles. Sounds like a prescription for some big trades – or at least we can hope.

Chapter Website vs Facebook: We have two great tools at our disposal for the buying, selling, and trading of our bottles. We also have one tool that provides the complete listing with pictures of all bottles ever produced, a roster of members of the ABC chapter, and a forum for discussion about the hobby. Of course the second is our Chapter site. Facebook has a great reach across the globe, but it offers little protection in any bottle transactions. I would like to think that our hobby is populated by some honest people, but odds are there are some profiteers out there who will try to take advantage of the distance between them and you, as well as the anonymity of the internet. I have a request and a suggestion for all of you who use Facebook as a tool to procure bottles for your collection. Why not send an application for our chapter when you ship your cans. It should not be a hard sell. For $5.00 US you get a year’s membership, our newsletter which anyone who has a translator program on their computer can read, as well as access to full use of our website. It sounds like a win-win situation for everyone and a plus for our hobby.

We still have plenty of t-shirts in all sizes and colors. Look for an order form somewhere in the newsletter or get in touch with me via email or phone.

I have to go close the windows as it is starting to get chilly outside so I will close for now. I hope I see you somewhere before Canvention. If you are ever in the Cleveland area (after the first of April) I would love to have you over for a beverage and some hobby talk.

Happy collecting, Bill

Editor’s note: I spoke to BeerDave who informed me that there are still twin size hotel rooms left at the Canvention hotel (Hilton Milwaukee City Center) at our rate of $119.00 per night. More information will be posted on the BCCA website and the BCCA magazine. If you want to get a jump on these, you can call the hotel direct at (414) 271-7250 and be sure you mention you are part of the BCCA. If you go online, be sure to enter BCCA where they have a place for Group Code. For both, be sure to let them know you want parking at the BCCA rate of $10 per day verses the normal $25 per day. If you have any problems or questions, e-mail BeerDave at beerdave@fuse.net or call him at (859) 750-4795.

Don’t Forget! We are also on Facebook!

Find us at www.facebook.com/groups/abcchapter or type abcchapter in your Facebook search box
New Members: We are happy to welcome the following new members to our chapter:
Ron Schwinnen #239; John Doran #240; David Vitale #241; and Mark Rodgers #242.

Twitter: The ABC Chapter has finally jumped on the Twitter bandwagon. Any and all relevant tweets about aluminum bottle collecting/bottling/etc. will be tweeted when found. Keep up with the latest news and happenings for aluminum bottles. We can be found by searching abcchapter on Twitter.

Chapter T-Shirts: Don’t be left out at your local shows or CANvention as the best dressed CANnoisseries will be wearing their chapter t-shirts. You can get yours at any time by simply sending an email to Bill Viancourt at billjv@aol.com or giving him a call at 440-476-7505. We have shirts available in sizes from Med to XXXL and shirts come in Royal Blue, White, Grey, and Wine with the ABC logo on front and either the logo or our QR code on back. Shirts are $15 each or 2 for $25. Shipping is $5.00 for any order of 1 or 2 shirts. Check out the order form on the back page.

Dues: The ABC Chapter dues, as always, are still $5 per year. If you haven't renewed for 2015, contact our treasurer to keep yourself in good standing.

Forum/Facebook: The ABC Chapter website is the best reference for cabottle collectors. If you have a cabottle that isn’t shown, please contact Brad ASAP. Our Facebook page is extremely popular and should be a useful tool for gaining new members. The Facebook page can be found by simply typing abcchapter into your Facebook search box.

Join the BCCA and your first year in the ABC is free!!

The ABC is an active at-large chapter of the Brewery Collectibles Club of America, BCCA. The BCCA is a national organization of collectors specializing in any kind of Breweriana. The club boasts a membership of 3500+ and hosts a National CANvention yearly. Perks of belonging to the BCCA include a subscription to Beer Cans & Brewery Collectibles-the high quality magazine, a membership roster, access to members only areas of the website, the right to attend the National CANvention, to name a few.

ABC Chapter members receive three information packed newsletters, a membership roster, members only forum areas and several other perks offered from time to time.

Check it out at www.bcca.com or give them a call at 636-343-6436. After you join, let us know at www.abcchapter.com and your first year at the ABC is covered!
ST. LOUIS (Feb. 10, 2015) – Bud Light, the brand behind the wildly successful Bud Light Lime Ritas, is introducing a new cocktail-inspired product to the growing Bud Light portfolio: Bud Light MIXXTAIL. Bud Light MIXXTAIL is an 8%* ABV cocktail-inspired beverage available in three flavors – Long Island, Firewalker and Hurricane – that combines the great taste of America’s favorite cocktail flavors with the uniquely smooth and refreshing finish expected from a Bud Light.

“With Bud Light MIXXTAIL, consumers spoke and we listened. We created a cocktail-inspired beverage to quench consumers’ demand for more variety, mixology and easy, convenient cocktail solutions. MIXXTAIL’S bold cocktail taste makes it the perfect pregame in a bottle,” said Alexander Lambrecht, vice president, Bud Light. “We believe Bud Light MIXXTAIL will be the perfect companion brand to our popular Bud Light Lime Ritas. Together, these brands will help us continue to lead the FMB category.”

Like the cocktails that inspired it, Bud Light MIXXTAIL is best served over ice. The new drink will be available in 8-packs of 11.5 oz. recloseable aluminum bottles and single-serve 16 oz. and 25 oz. cans beginning Feb. 16……

For more information on Bud Light MIXXTAIL, visit www.BudLight.com.

*6% ABV version of Bud Light MIXXTAIL is available in Maine, Mississippi, New Hampshire, and Tennessee

Excerpts taken from newsroom.anheuser-busch.com press release.
Elblogoferoz-Golden, the most popular beer of the Brewery Company of Canary Islands and the Santa Cruz de Tenerife Carnival official sponsor, adds one year to Tenerife quintessential party, launching a new edition of 113,500 aluminum bottles that include two original designs, being one "The return of Jenni" and the other "The Empire of the tale". This is the fifth consecutive year in which this original format in aluminum reach consumers in Tenerife with a great reception by the public, supported with the launch with a fun television commercial.

Excerpts from www.elbogoferoz.com

Translated from Spanish.

Thanks to Cristian De Antoni for the following pictures

Bridge Brew has completed releasing all of their 7 cabottles. They actually have 14 types of beer so stay tuned.

Sun King Brewery continues their endless variations with three more.
As the story always seems to go, again we have a couple championship bottles to discuss. Last year, for some reason unknown to me, we were denied a bottle when the Blackhawks won the Stanley Cup. Luckily A-B saw fit to release a Bud Light for the L.A. Kings championship. Very nice design with southern California type references on the bottle, palm trees, Hollywood sign, Tower Records, etc.

In addition to hockey and football, Bud Light now seems to be the sponsor for the NBA, relieving Budweiser. The Bud Light San Antonio Spurs bottle is the first Bud Light for an NBA champion we’ve seen since the 2008 Celtics bottle. Simple design incorporating the Spurs logo on a Cool Twist bottle.

First glance at the Bud Light Super Bowl bottle would lead one to believe someone screwed up on the production line. A very busy bottle with the Super Bowl logo stashed in with the slogans they’ve plastered all over the bottle. Bring your game, catch the cameraman, wow the crowd, blah, blah. Not really sure what they are trying to convey here as the campaign they ran was ‘Up for Whatever’ which directly referenced a bottle design they did not release.

Sticking with sports bottles, we’ll cover a couple unintended releases that had been missed. From 2010 the earliest of the ‘Loser’ bottles was thought to be the Budweiser Rangers bottle. Even though the Yankees never even made it to the World Series that year someone had great expectations and a bottle was produced. Other than the logos, the bottle is the same as the Rangers and even has the same GAN number.

We covered the Budweiser Fall Classic bottle for the 2013 World Series in the last issue. The year before Budweiser produced a Fall Classic bottle for the 2012 Series with a slightly different design which was also never released. Maybe, just maybe, they’ll figure it out and actually run a bottle for just the World Series! It seems to work for Bud Light and the Super Bowl, so why not?

A Michelob prototype bottle showed up out of nowhere. The bottle is similar to the production bottles of years past except it has no brewery info on front panel and other than the exal.com on the back panel, it’s blank. Bottle is also slightly larger than 16 oz, probably closer to 18 oz. Nice that someone at Exal finally removed it from their desk drawer for us to see.
Budweiser in China is always pretty good at putting out their staple bottles. This year, the Year of the Sheep (or Ram) is celebrated with two bottles. The 473 ml export bottle took a significant change going with a gold bottle which will definitely stand out along side all the other ‘Year of’ bottles.

New this year Budweiser added a 355 ml bottle to go along with the 473 ml Year of the Sheep bottle. Same design as it’s larger brother except in red with gold designs. No GAN, bottle was made in China.

A surprise bottle from China is the 355 ml Brewing Celebrations bottle. Bottle is similar to their 355 ml release of a year ago, red with gold bowtie, except one panel was replaced with the Brewing Celebrations tagline and Limited Edition added to the neck. Again, no GAN, bottle made in China.

A series of ‘Sensation’ concerts were held and to go along with them, several commemorative bottles have been released. From Mexico, two 473 ml Bud Light Sensation ‘Into the Wild’ bottles were released. The overall design is similar to the Smooth and Refreshing design with some leopard or zebra type patching on the bottles. The Sensation tag line was also added to the bottom of the front panel on each bottle.

In Canada, Bud Light Platinum must have stepped up to sponsor the event as they released a 340 ml bottle. The white design is an eye catcher and in addition to the ‘Into the Wild’ tag line they added ‘Celebrate the Night, Unite in White’, which is their whole theme, along the bottom. Unlike the Mexico bottles, which are somewhat easier to find, this is a tough one. They were only to be released at select Sensation events but as usual, a few slipped out and are circulating around.

An additional Budweiser FIFA World Cup bottle was confirmed out of Canada. Much different than the previous Canadian version. This one is similar to the common variations and doesn’t have the French writing. Sold as singles worldwide in the commemorative tube.

Finally a quick correction from last issue. The Budweiser FIFA bottle for Singapore was listed has not having an import sticker. Unfortunately several bottles were sold out of Singapore via eBay where the seller thought removing the stickers was a good thing, oh well…….
It is an immense pleasure to be back writing a few lines so those collectors of CABottles from around the world can view newly issued releases, although on this occasion unfortunately there have not been many. Here we go...

**AUSTRALIA**  
Bandicoot Blonde and Pale Ale

The Australians are characterized by giving us pleasant surprises, not only in their delegations participating in the CANventions, but in its production of CABottles. Few but good. Admire these two beauties.

**MEXICO**  
Bud Light Sensation

Mexico is close enough to the United States, but at the same time far enough to have their own offerings.  
At the Monterrey festival: SENSATION, appeared with two new releases (the last discovered recently) of the traditional Bud Light. Here is the release with their difference specified in the bar code.

**SPAIN**  
Doradas Carnival

The manufacture of DORADA of the Canary Islands of Spain has not stayed quiet with his recent award made two CANventions ago with his set of super stars.  
Now, Carnival 2015, returns to fight with this set (now only two bottles instead of three), always so appealing and desirable.
SPAIN
Mahou Real Madrid

The following is a curiosity of the edition of Mahou for the Real Madrid soccer team, in their match against Barcelona at Madrid's Santiago Bernabeu Stadium.
This bottle was given only to VIP boxes and was almost impossible to get it out of the stadium. On the side you can see the figure of a player at the same level as the rest of the players. But soon after, the bottle was sold in other parts of the world such as Mexico and Hong Kong in very limited editions, with the difference that the player is located above the rest of the players. Here are the pictures of both to appreciate the difference.

CHILE
Miler Draft

The small Miller began to seek other horizons and was already presented in Chile. A classic bottle coming for the first time out of USA, Canada and Mexico.

ECUADOR
Budweiser RISE

For information of CA bottles collectors, attached is a sticker image of the importer of the Budweiser RISE distributed at the Soccer World Cup in Brazil, for the market of Ecuador.
LITHUANIA
Volfas Engelman

Good news is the arrival of these beautiful specimens to a new country, Lithuania. Two flavors with a different cosmetics but on the same style. Welcome and we hope for many more for the market.

GERMANY
Warsteiner

What else could you say about the high quality of design and production that is historically Warsteiner. Not surprisingly, this set is really fantastic with an attractive aesthetic worthy of top artists. We could say that when they appear on the market MAKE NOISE!
Leech Lake Brewery
By Jim Friesen, OC/OC#2, ABC #93

Editor’s note: The following article is from the OC/OC Chapter’s 2014 3rd edition newsletter. Looks like the Leech Lake Brewing Company (LLBC) is closing. From the LLBC Facebook page:
“As you've no-doubt assumed, the $1000 limitless growler offer didn't meet with enough... exuberance... to be adopted. So, LLBC's assets are being liquidated, and the brewery will close once the last ounce of beer is poured from the taproom. The existing inventory will continue to be bottled and sold to liquor stores while it lasts, but I will no longer supply to draft accounts.
To those of you who expressed interest in the limitless growler offer, thank you very much! Your support for LLBC is appreciated more than you know. Sorry I couldn't brew up 'more participation. Cheers, and take care."

I recently discovered, with a bit of help from Dave Vogl, that Minnesota had a small brewery hidden away in a small city in the northern part of the state. This brewery is small, and started operation about four years ago. At first, the main supply of beer was made in glass bottles & kegs, then also, was made available in growlers. In the past few months, some of the beer has been also available in aluminum bottles. The first beer available in aluminum bottles was 3 Sheets Imperial Caramel IPA. It was followed by four other brands: Loon’s Eye Red Irish-Style ale; Loch Leech Monster Scottish Ale; 47 degree North IPA; and Blind-side Pale Ale. There are two other brands that are supposed to be made in the future, which are Minobii Extra-Special Bitter and Driven Snow Robust Porter. All seven beers were brands that were originally available in large glass bottles.

Finding the aluminum bottles is difficult. The brewery is quite small and is having trouble keeping up with the demand, and there are limited liquor stores that actually carry the products. There are three liquor stores in Walker, Minnesota that carry the beers, (200 miles from Saint Paul), and I have heard rumors that the brewery would like, in the future, to expand their brewing capacity and their distribution. At any rate, the aluminum bottles are quite colorful, and I have heard that the beer is tasty.
Greetings all,

Please remember that contributions are always needed for the following:

any information for Chapter Tid-Bits or any news articles that pertain to cabottles, (Thanks Brad and Cristian for your contributions).

We still need volunteers for the “My Collection” articles; columnists for “Micros in Bottles”; “What’s New”; and “Soda Bottles” columns. For any of these, please e-mail me at abc174dv@gmail.com

The Milwaukee Canvention is looking like it will be epic in its size and diversity. During the 1st Brewery Collectibles World Convention in Martin, Slovakia, I was privileged to present the BCCA bid to host the 2nd Brewery Collectibles World Convention in conjunction with the Canvention. During the presentation, there was a woman from Russia who listened intently, her smiling and nodding help get me through it. I found out late that she did not speak a word of English. Despite my poor public speaking skills, the bid was accepted (actually it was already a done deal).

Brad and the ABC officers are working on some great presents for ABC members at the Canvention. Brad is pretty much doing all of the work, so as usual, so we owe a lot of gratitude to Brad.

The BCCA needs our help in getting new members. With the allowance of non-BCCA members into our chapter, this is a good opportunity to grow our membership.

Cheers,
Your Interim Editor
Dave Vogl
ABC #174, BCCA #5560
The web site for renewing your BCCA membership or joining is at:
http://www.bcca.com/membership/options.asp
Don’t forget to tell your friends.

Joining the BCCA can easily be done on the internet using a 2 step process.

1. First select the option above and you will be directed to an application form.
2. Once you have submitted the form you will be redirected to the payment page (Payments are processed via Paypal)

A Paypal account is not required to pay online - they just process the payments.

Don't have a Paypal account?
Use your credit card or bank account (where available). Continue

Print and Mail an Application form with your Payment (check or money order) - Coming Soon!

These options are for NEW Memberships only, renewing members please click here.
Chapter T-Shirts

If you would like to purchase a chapter shirt, please send an email to Bill Viancourt at billjv@aol.com or giving him a call at 440-476-7505.

Cost: Shirts are $15 each or 2 for $25. Shipping is $5.00 for any order of 1 or 2 shirts.

Size:  Medium _____ Large_____ X-Large _____ XX Large _____ XXX Large _____

Color:  Royal Blue_____ White _____ Grey _____Wine _____

Design on back: ABC logo _____ ABC QR code _____

Your Name: ___________________________________________

Shipping Address ___________________________________________________
_______________________________________
_______________________________________
_______________________________________