


# THE VENDING MACHINE

Dispensing news and views of the vending industry

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 "adopt a pet today" 

by Tony L. Buckholz

## THANKSGIVING TRIVIA

With Thanksgiving right around the corner, we thought you might be interested in the following information regarding the tradition of the wishbone. Wishbone breaking is a tradition dating back to the Etruscans in 322 B.C. Believe it or not, it started with a hen and not a turkey.

The Etruscans believed that a hen could tell the future. If a man wanted an answer to a question he would draw a circle on the ground and divide it into 24 letters of the alphabet. Grains of corn were placed in each section and the hen was set free in the circle. It was believed that the hen would spell out words by picking up kernels of corn from different sections.

After writing the message, the fowl was sacrificed to a special Deity, and its collarbone was hung out to dry. (Imagine what would happen if the hen predicted bad news!!) Once the collarbone was dry, two people got a chance to make a wish by snapping the dried bone. The person with the larger end of the bone got their wish. It became known as a "lucky break".

## THE ORIGINAL BOOZE VENDOR

E.M. Statler was a very successful hotelier in the early 1900's. So successful in fact that in 1954 Conrad Hilton eventually bought his company for \$111 million, which at the time was the largest real estate transaction in U.S. history. There is a book titled "A Bed for the Night" by Rufus Jarman which details Statler's life and his remarkable hotels.

It seems that Statler, while a very young hotel clerk, invented "a refrigerated device that carried bottles of ale on an endless chain until a customer deposited a coin in the slot, which tripped the mechanism and released one of the bottles. The device was welcomed by houses of ill repute in the area, since an ordinance had been passed prohibiting such places from selling liquor and beer. The ordinance however did not cover the dispensing of ale by mechanical means".

Eventually it was discovered that the device could be beaten with coins attached to horse hair tails. The coins were inserted far enough to trip the mechanism, and then withdrawn. This was apparently the end of Statler's foray into the vending profession as the book continues on about his outstanding hotel career. His vending device though, was probably the forerunner of the many bottle and can machines now in wide use throughout the country.

## THE SCOOP ON ICE CREAM AND PERSONALITIES

We have always thought there was a connection between our customers' taste buds and their personalities. Maybe we are correct. According to research at the University of Hawaii School of Medicine, a preference for certain ice cream flavors indicate these different personality traits:

Chocolate - *Sentimental, nostalgic, and traditional.*

Vanilla - *Personable, proud, and popular.*

Strawberry - *Compassionate, easy going, and down to earth.*

Butter Pecan - *Romantic and Personable.*

Neopolitan - *Flexible, experimental, and able to compromise easily.*

Coffee - *Self confident and competitive. A take charge person.*

Mint Chocolate Chip - *Bold and high achieving.*

Chocolate Chip - *An optimist...full of life.*

Rocky Road - *Adventurous, exciting, enjoys challenges.*

## YOU ALWAYS HAVE OUR EAR

Don't forget that here at Goodman Vending we consider communication with our clients a top priority. We are family owned and care about our customers. We want to hear about any questions and/or concerns you may have regarding the various services we provide. Our management staff, including our owners, is always available to meet with you at any time.

### DEEP THOUGHTS

- ? Why do we choose from just two people for President but 50 for Miss America?
- ? How is it that we put men on the moon before we figured out it would be a good idea to put wheels on luggage?
- ? Why do you have to "put your two cents in" but it's only a "penny for your thoughts"? Who the heck is getting that extra penny?
- ? Why is it that people say they slept like a baby? Don't babies wake up every 2 hours?

If I agreed with you, we would both be wrong.