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*Ottawa Outlook, nee North Hero News and World Review …. ……. Mostly stuff no one else would print.*

December 17, 2013 `````` (2014 Letter # 1)

Beer Bottling Brouhaha.

First *“Hi All”* in 2014! HI ALL!

As 2013 closed down, Lucille & Ken had a phone call from Art Ward, an old friend … actually an old, old, old friend of Ken’s, (5th grade). The opening lines of the conversation were typical of friends approaching 90.

*(“Was sort of afraid to call you, afraid you might be dead.”)*

He inquired as to how our wine making operation was going. We responded that it was going fine with over 100 good batches on the books, Art then asked if I still made beer. Oh Boy, … Ghosts from the past.

Hazardville, Ct, 1960.

Big family, not much money, made my own beer in the cellar.

Not all that religious but Methodist Church had a wonderful choir.

Jefferson family supplied 4 voices.

Ken and the other tenor had a portable chess board and had an ongoing game during the sermon.

Methodists don’t drink. (We would include a footnote here but we’ve forgotten how to do it.)

Minister made regular house calls.

One day Ken’s first wife, Velma, and the minister were having tea upstairs when the current beer batch decided to make its presents known,

Pow, … Pow, ..Pow, Pow!

Minister investigates and sees beer bottles blowing their caps all over the cellar.

Needless to say, Velma was not too happy.

Conclusion: End of beer bottling.

Golly, … hadn’t thought about that in years..

Perhaps a bit of a disrespectful way to start a New Year, But hey, … hope you all have a great 2014.

From Ottawa, Lucille & Ken