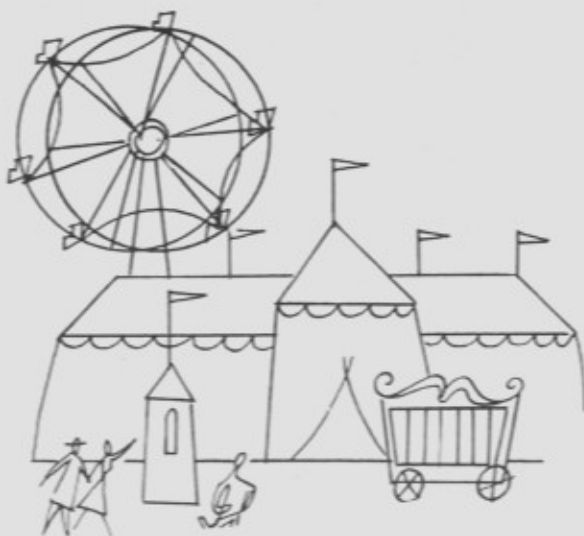


the miniature bottle collector



**The
Circus is Coming!**

Times Square Liquor Store

715 8th Avenue-at 45th. St. New York, N.Y. 10036

SCOTTS



NEW



FIRSTS



EXCLUSIVE
EAST COAST
DEALER

for
LUXARDO
ANIMALS



SKI COUNTRY BOTTLE CLUB

of SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA



JOIN NOW!
SPECIAL
CLUB
MEMBERS
PRICES



MEMBERSHIP \$5.00

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

CHECKS PAYABLE TO:

SKI-COUNTRY BOTTLE CLUB of SO. CALIF.
c/o Zee Guidotti
3148 N. Walnut Grove
Rosemead, CA. 91770
(213) 288-3441



VEGAS
VIC

says:

STARDUST

come to the

Hotel Liquors

* Minis and Beams *

ASK FOR SID

The CREAM Of The CROP

NEVER BEFORE OFFERED!



From Ireland:

1969 Gallwey's Irish Coffee Man \$9.25

Guinness Stout 3 Pack...new \$10.00

From Scotland:

Rutherford's Scotch ceramic wall
plaques, 5 different \$ 6.50@

From Italy:

Duca d'Asti new ceramic soldiers \$ 7.50@
or set of three different \$20.00

Duca d'Asti leather covered
soccer ball \$ 7.00



all
ppd

HAROLD GOETZ
1690 NORTH POINT, SAN FRANCISCO,
CALIFORNIA 94123 ph. 415-922-9733

all
ppd

The BIG Journal of LITTLE Collectibles.

September-October 1974 Vol. 1, No. 5

The Miniature Bottle Collector

EDITOR: David M. Spaid

GRAPHICS: Mary L. Spaid

- 4....LET'S TALK
Garnier, names, and a puzzle.
- 5....M.B.C.
Lots of new bottles.
- 6....ISAIAH'S FROM JAPAN
Our third look.
- 10....FASCINATING FIGURALS
Drioli this time.
- 13....LIONSTONE
Watch the birdies!
- 16....SMALL SUDS
Some little "old" beers.
- 18....ABOUT ARGENTINE MINIS
Sprinkling Spritzers.
- 19....KOBY'S KOLLECTABLE KOLUMN
More Magnificent Manhattans.
- 20....SKI COUNTRY
Pass the peacepipe in '75.
- 22....BIMALS
Bimals?
- 24....PORCELAIN SNUFF BOTTLES
A return to the Orient.

Copyright (applied for) 1974. BRISCO PUBLICATIONS. Published bi-monthly in February, April, June, August, October, and December. Single copy \$2.00; yearly Subscription \$9.00. Mailing address: P. O. Box 2161, Palos Verdes Peninsula, California 90274. Manuscripts must be accompanied by return envelopes and postage. Publisher assumes no responsibility for the return of unsolicited manuscripts or art. All rights reserved.

p6



p16



p20





LET'S Talk

"Franco Luxardo was with us and expressed great displeasure when he saw an idea which had been submitted by the Luxardo Co. to the ceramic manufacturer and then produced for them was also being made, with minor changes, for another company.

"Paul Garnier wanted to issue a set of miniature dogs for 1972. The designer in Italy was notified and samples were made. Our photo shows three stages of development of the Col-lie dog. One is smaller in size than that finally chosen, and one has the stopper in view, disguised as a tree stump. The final design chosen has the opening in the base of the bottle."

Thanks once again for some very interesting info, Connie. I know a great many collectors who'd be happy to have even one of those two different dogs...yours truly included.

I've received several letters recently which have been very, very complimentary to the magazine but which have all raised one gripe. That is, the magazine only comes out every other month. Almost every letter makes some reference to the fact that it should be a monthly. Well, there are many reasons why it isn't a monthly now. Some of these are: expense, articles, time, and most of all, the U.S. Postal Service. Naturally mailing first class is out of the question as each copy would cost forty or fifty cents per issue. If all goes well, this will be the first issue to be mailed bulk rate and incredibly enough, some of you should get them faster. The same issue has taken anywhere from four to twenty-three days to get to two different people living only a few miles apart in Michigan. As I write this, five weeks after #4 was mailed, there are still people on the East Coast who have not received it. At any rate, if it ever becomes in the least bit feasible, this will become a monthly.

First off, I must make an apology for a little slip I made in the last article. The excellent photographs which appeared along with Al Cembura's article on South American collecting were taken by Les Avery. So please forgive my omission, Les. And, before we go any farther, I'll tell you that the picture which accompanies this article was also taken by Les.

Speaking of the Avery's, here's our "Memo From Connie" for this issue. She writes: "It's interesting to observe the development of ideas for bottle designs. Often the first submitted is rejected, but sometimes changes are suggested until one is finally accepted and is then put into production.

"We visited such a ceramic plant in Italy and were introduced to the designer for the plant. To our amazement, we saw a number of variations of a single idea - such as the Napoleon issued by Garnier in 1969. Garnier had asked for this particular bottle. Perhaps he saw the variations and made his choice. Anyway, one wonders if the ceramic company used any of the examples for another company. In fact, anyone who is knowledgeable about bottles can think of similar designs.



M B C

by

Mary Aiken

Here I am, back again. This time it's not so long between articles, but, oh, boy, have I got news for you. Unfortunately, news is about all I've got because pictures just aren't available as of yet. But let's start with what many of you may have expected when I wrote about the WonderWorld Slot Machine last time. Since there are so many good things in the hopper, it's been decided that there will be no more fiddling around with decals that just don't work and there won't be a WonderWorld Slot. I think most of you know that with three different Slots already that a fourth won't be missed too much.

Now on to bigger and better things. Several of you readers have written and asked when the Globe bottle for Las Vegas would be available. Well, I can tell you that the production has been going on and you can expect them anytime. The hold-up was in the approval by the government. The picture you've seen in these pages was of the original mock-up which was not approved. The reason for the Federal "no-no" was that the bottle incredibly held too much...three ounces in all. Now the bottle is somewhat smaller but only holds two ounces and I'm certain you'll give it much more approval than the government. The water or blue portions of the globe have been changed from a dark blue to an azure blue which sets off the land or tan portions. Everything else has remained the same.

After the Las Vegas Mini Club Globe, you'll be seeing a real winner. All of you who've been to Las Vegas are familiar with many of the landmarks there and our next bottle is a

read landmark. In fact, it is The Landmark. Yes, contracts have already been signed for a miniature version of The Landmark resort hotel. This is a very uniquely-shaped building and as soon as we've got a picture, you'll see it here.

While we're still in Las Vegas, let's go from The Landmark to The Dunes. If you can remember driving down the Strip or seeing any of The Dunes advertising, one character is always evident. So naturally, he's the subject of the next bottle. Of course, I'm talking about the Sultan and I've been told that "we're going to make this one even cuter than the two Foxes." So those of you who already have the Foxes will know just how great this bottle should be. Again, no picture, but wait until next time.

Well, we've certainly spent more than enough time in Las Vegas though, haven't we. So we'll take our leave and I've just got to tell you one last thing. You see, M.B.C. is really going to the dogs. Yes, I've heard so many people say that recently the greatest amount collectors' miniatures are "for the birds." So, if you're tired of all those bird bottles, we'll go to the dogs. And that is exactly what M.B.C. is doing. The first in a series of dog bottles will be a miniature poodle and it will probably be followed by a German Shepherd. The primary market place for these dogs will be Colorado but you may rest assured that they'll be in other markets too. At any rate, I'll be back next time with some more information and by then, just lots and lots of pictures.

Until next time, happy collecting.

--mary a.--

ISAIAHS

DAVID M. SPAIN

This is our third excursion into the Isaiah bottles of Japan. For many, the bottles pictured this time will not have quite the desirability of those which have been discussed in the past two issues; however, for others, those in particular who appreciate beautiful workmanship and unique design, these bottles will be the high point of our look at Isaiahs.

All the bottles pictured for you have their strong points and everyone will have his or her favorites. To write about each one in a detailed description would really take up much too much space, so I'm going to let some of the bottles speak for themselves. However, I do want to tell you about my particular favorites and also give you the information the company has supplied concerning certain bottles.



B-6

B-1



A-12

A-11

My favorites first. I can't really say that I have any one bottle which I hold above all the others; I can say that there are some which I feel are absolute knockouts. Taking them in order, we come first to number A-3, the Blue and White Canteen. The beauty of this piece is actually overwhelming. The design is incredibly intricate and the blue and white colors make this a truly elegant bottle. Since workmanship is a characteristic high on my list, numbers A-11 and A-12 must come next. Both of these bottles have dragons carved into the porcelain which circle the entire bottle. A-11 is a dark blue while A-12 is a much lighter shade of blue. The bottles may appear similar in our pictures; however, they are distinctly different both in shape and dragon design. My final favorite is number B-12 which is one of the set of twelve which was issued initially several years ago. This is the Blue Pitcher of Greek which most people feel has to be a piece of Wedgwood when they first see it. This bottle is also unique because of its interesting stopper which is the head of a Greek soldier.



C-3



C-2



A-4



C-1



C-7



C-8



B-9



B-7



A-8



B-5



B-10

B-11

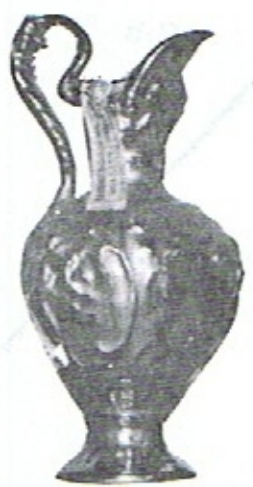
B-12



C-6

Now for some information about the inspirations for some of the bottles. Most of the bottles were taken from museum pieces and are faithful recreations. Here is the information given by the company on selected bottles.

- A-2 from 500 - 300 B. C.
- A-3 early Ming Dynasty, found in the Freer Gallery of Art, Washington
- A-4 15th Century
- A-6 from 700 - 600 B. C.
- A-9 Archaeological Museum, Teheran
- B-1 Shang Dynasty, Freer Gallery
- B-2 Jomon Period, 1500 B. C.
- B-3 Southern Sung Dynasty, Wooden Statue, 12th Century
- B-6 late Chou Dynasty, Freer Gallery
- C-3 circa 750 B. C.
- C-7 1300 A. D.



B-8



A-5

Almost needless to say, but if I could read Japanese there would be all kinds of information available on these bottles. But, as I said above, all the bottles really speak for themselves and I'm certain almost any collector would have a great difficulty passing even one by if given the opportunity to purchase. It's a very lucky collector who can boast of having the entire set.

--DMS--



A-2



The Isaiah Guide



A-10



A-6



B-2



A-1

1. A 1 Chuen Tripod Wine Cup
2. A 2 Ting
3. A 3 Blue and White Canteen
4. A 4 Flask, Blue and White
5. A 5 Carved Red Lacquer (Kō-Rō)
6. A 6 Covered Wine Vessel With Interlacing Dragon Design
7. A 7 Tutankhamen
8. A 8 Mosque Lamp
9. A 9 Drinking Horn
10. A 10 Conical Rhyton Showing Athletic Contests
11. A 11 Ten-qu
12. A 12 Vase
13. B 1 White Earthenware Jar
14. B 2 Jomon Pottery
15. B 3 Kuan-Yin
16. B 4 Taj Mahal
17. B 5 Carved Red Lacquer Pitcher
18. B 6 Pien-hu
19. B 7 Pitcher of Medici (Gold)
20. B 8 Pitcher of Medici (Silver)
21. B 9 Pitcher of Medici (Violet)
22. B 10 Pitcher of Greek (Green)
23. B 11 Pitcher of Greek (Pink)
24. B 12 Pitcher of Greek (Blue)
25. C 1 Pot of Egypt (Brown)
26. C 2 Pot of Egypt (Blue)
27. C 3 Sepulchral Amphora from Dipylon
28. C 4 Gun Fighter
29. C 5 Panda
30. C 6 Pot of Holland
31. C 7 Pot of Turkey (Blue)
32. C 8 Pot of Turkey (Pink)
33. C 9 Mermaid
34. C 10 Meetles
35. C 11 Accordionist
36. C 12 Peacock
37. D 1 Coconut Club
38. D 2 Mother of Pearl
39. D 3 Bongo
40. D 4 Turtle
41. E 1 Iyomante
42. E 2 Ishikari River
43. E 3 Ski
44. E 4 Prayer



Fascinating Figurals

In my opinion, over the years the most consistently desirable miniatures have been produced by Luxardo, Drioli, Rynbende, Bols, and Garnier. Readers of this column know we have discussed a couple of these distilleries previously and we definitely will eventually cover all of "The Big Five" companies. A complete collection of all of the bottles released by any of these distilleries is next to impossible to obtain but even a partial collection is sure to make any collector happy.

The Francesco Drioli Company (established in 1759) is located in Mira (Venice), Italy, and its miniature ceramics date from approximately 1956 through 1972. As with other famous companies, the earlier bottles are generally rarer and more valuable. One problem with this rule applying to the Drioli Company though is that some of its bottles were reissued, notably the Jazz Set of 1960. Drioli now claims it will not be producing any more miniatures but if the company does, there will definitely be no more reissues. So, if this is true, we've got the "bad news and good news" as the saying goes.

by **Tony Natelli**

Over the past seventeen years, especially from 1969-1971, at least five dozen miniature jugs and vases were issued and sold in Italy as well as being exported to Great Britain, Bahamas, Cuba, Japan, South Africa, and other countries including the U. S. (1969-1972). The majority of these earlier items were produced in San Marino by a company or companies who also manufactured some of the older Luxardo gems. The main San Marino company is no longer producing bottles which is a great shame since the bottles appear to have been of the highest quality of any Italian factory. A complete list of these jugs isn't known as every now and then some others, previously unknown, turn up seemingly from nowhere. Some collectors boast of 70 or more and are aware of others they're missing, so as many as a hundred may exist.



Around 1959, Drioli began producing figurals and some that appeared at that time were a gondola, samurai warrior, train engine, two Chinese men, and the original English Range (which was reissued in 1969, minus one bag-piper and plus one policeman). In 1960, the Jazz Set, issued as the original Dixieland Jazz Band and, consisting of five male musicians and a female singer, made its initial appearance and until its reissue in 1971 was the most valuable and desired set of Driolis known to collectors.

Two sets which haven't been reissued and probably sold in the early 1960's were the six natives (which include a male bongo player, a female limbo dancer and four women holding various sized trays and jugs) and the TV sets or 3D figurals. These include a cowboy, a cat with a birdhouse, an artist at his easel, a professor at a blackboard, an Indian maiden, and perhaps a drunk on a lamppost. Two toy soldiers (one carrying a rifle, the other beating a drum) and an Indian girl with a jug were also issued but not imported at around the same time. Some of these bottles, most notably the English Range, toy soldiers, samurai, and the policeman were originally issued by Barsottini but the Driolis are much more familiar to collectors.



The 1970 ceramics which were sold here included an elephant, four Orientals, a donkey, two vases, a pitcher, and a Venus and turkey. Both the last two are reminiscent of, but not as attractive as, the Luxardo versions. 1971 saw the previously mentioned Jazz Set reissue, six African dancers and a group of six Hippie musicians. All of the 1969, 1970, and 1971 miniatures were sold in the U.S.A. in ample quantities and were well received by collectors. Most collections boast of numerous Drioli ceramics and it is hoped that they change their minds about discontinuing miniatures (as long as there are no reissues) because they are extremely popular with collectors and are reasonably priced.



Rumors persist that Drioli also produced both a sputnik miniature and a set of Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs (entirely different from the Barsottini set) but no collector has turned up with them. It might be that these were made as mock ups and rejected by the company... a situation which often occurs.

As with other members of "The Big Five" distilleries, Drioli also produced a Venetian glass set of amphoras from the early 1960's that wasn't imported here and some rather large Murano glass animals issued in 1969, 1970, and 1971. Some of the 1969 pieces were issued ten years previously and included a dog, mouse, duck, and chicken. The cat replaced the chicken in the 1969 series. The 1970 bottles were mounted on a large base (which contained the liqueur) and this combined with the large size and high shelf price did not sit well with many collectors. A set of dice or one die was the highlight of the 1971 Murano set. Some of the Venetian glass, which came with silver overlays, were rumored to have turned up in the Caribbean during the past few years.

I'd now like to qualify my remarks in the opening paragraph regarding "The Big Five." While some other distilleries, such as Fratelli Vlahov, M. A. B., Droz, Barsottini, Brams, Cazanove, Bal Tabarin, and St. Galmier, to name some, have produced miniatures which may equal even the best of "The Big Five", the fact that these five have done it time and again over such a long period of time is what I was referring to. The Fratelli Vlahov Olympic Set, for example, can hold its own with any figural miniature or set; however, as far as is known, it's the only set this company ever produced. When you think about the fact that some of the companies cited have produced over one hundred different miniatures over periods in some cases of up to forty years, I think my point is clear, especially regarding consistency. I'd also like to point out that the comments in all of my articles reflect my personal opinion and like any opinion, are open to debate. To quote Margaret Wolfe Hungerford (Molly Brown), "Beauty is in the eye of the beholder."

--T. N.--





LIONSTONE BIRDWATCHING

DAVID M. SPAID

Remember way back to our May-June issue when we told you all about the four birds which were going to be sold in glass domes? Well, somehow those glass domes just didn't make it. So, after my little fiasco with the other two Lionstone Lions, this about puts the icing on the cake. However, I don't have any bad news to tell you about these bird bottles. All of these bird bottles are currently being sold in various states at various prices.

I bring up the prices because I originally stated that the Fancy Birds (the set of four) would sell for \$29.95 each, plus tax. This information was given to me by various sources and was definite. The question is, how is the \$19.95 Las Vegas price tag explained. I don't have any idea except that I've heard that some prices got mixed and many bottles went out much lower than they were supposed to. That's all well and good, especially for the collectors who bought the bottles. However, if these Fancy Birds went out at a lower price, why did the set of six Tropical Birds go out at prices ranging from \$12.95 to \$15.95 (each) in Las Vegas and then \$9.95 in Colorado? I think these are questions a great many collectors wonder about and the questions certainly are valid. As soon as I receive any information from Lionstone, you'll read it here.

The ten bird bottles themselves have met a mixed response. Literally everyone who sees the four Fancy Birds is entranced by both their beauty and workmanship; however, the full spectrum of reactions is given by those who see the six Tropical Birds. Quite frankly, I personally feel that the \$29.95 cost of each of the set of four is much more reasonable than the cost of the Tropicals at two-thirds less. But taste is taste, wait until you see them before you make any judgements. And something which might help you judge is the number of bottles available. There were 1200 sets of the six Tropical Birds and 600 sets of the four Fancy Birds. Naturally, these figures were made prior to shipping and then much breakage often occurs.

As of this writing, the nine Circus pieces have not been released. I was told a few days ago that they should arrive at any time from Japan and would then be filled and rushed out to the market. However, this is an old story as many things which have been shipped often still take months to reach your liquor store shelves. There have been some minor changes in the designs on some of the pieces, but no major surgery has been performed.

I felt that this time the most important item of business though was simply showing you the pictures of all the birds. The only other piece of news I have for you this time is that not all of the bottles will turn up containing Lionstone Bourbon, some will hold a new chocolate mint liqueur. That will make the bottles that extra percent more interesting...if only because of a new and different label.

--D.M.S.--



Tropical Birds





Fancy Birds





by

jeanne

fugina

Almost everyone else drinks more beer than we Americans. While we produce almost one-quarter of the world's malt beverages, we drink less per person than most other countries. In gallons per person, per year, here's how we look:

BELGIUM	34
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	34
LUXEMBURG	33
AUSTRALIA	27
WEST GERMANY	27
UNITED KINGDOM	22
DENMARK	19
AUSTRIA	19
SWITZERLAND	16
CANADA	16
U. S. A.	15

Seems strange, doesn't it? Maybe it's the way we drink it. We seem to like it cold (about 38 degrees). We generally twist off a cap or puncture a can and drink as quickly as possible. When we pour it in a glass, we do it carefully down the side of the glass to avoid foaming.

The European, on the other hand, we are told, generally drinks it at about 45 degrees temperature. He drinks it slowly (but apparently frequently) and almost always pours it into a glass. He pours into the center of the glass because it increases flavor and bouquet and levels out carbonation which may produce noises which apparently are no longer socially acceptable over there.

We Americans seem to suffer from beer storage problems and some of the answers American brewers have come up with may contribute to taste problems in our beer. A lot of our beer has had chemicals called "adjuncts" added to stretch out the time beer will stay in a bottle or can without deteriorating. Without these "adjuncts", beer will start to "get old" in a month or two at the most, depending on the temperature it is stored at.

Speaking of old, think maybe that's why so many of our beer labels refer to old? Here are some of those "old ones" in our collection.

Picture one shows two medium size Old Exports and a tall Old Milwaukee. The Old Exports are from the Cumberland Brewing Company of Cumberland, Maryland. The Cumberland Brewing Co., originally founded in 1877, was bought out by its neighbor brewery, The Queen City Brewing Co., in 1959. The first Old Export pictured has a decal label and is tan, black and bronze. We consider this one rare and price it at \$10. The second Old Export (the more common of the two) has a white, red, and maroon paper label (price \$6). The Old Milwaukee, which comes from the Cavalier Distributing Company of Richmond, Virginia, is an ultra rare mini beer. The bottle is green and the decal label is a colorful orange, tan and greenish blue (\$10+). Picture two shows two Enterprise Brewing Company Old Tap stubbies and an Eagle Brewing Company medium size Old Dutch. The Enterprise Brewing Company of Fall River, Mass., is no longer in op-



PHOTO 1



PHOTOS

2

3



eration. The Old Taps are both decal labels and both are black, red, white and gold colored (\$8-10). Because of the blackish labels, the pictures of these two bottles leave something to be desired. The Old Dutch from the Eagle Brewing Co. of Catasauqua, Pa., no longer in operation, is very rare as mini beers go. It has a tan, red and black paper label (\$10+).

Picture number three shows three Old Shay's from the Fort Pitt Brewing Company of Jeanette, Pennsylvania, no longer in operation. The Old Shay beer is medium size and has a red, gold and white foil label. The ale (middle bottle) is a medium and has a black, red, gold and white foil label. The stubby has a black, red and silver decal label, and like the other Old Shays pictured are relatively common (\$5-6 each). One reason they are probably fairly common is that we found 12 sets (ale and beer mediums) in a little "old lady's" basement. She'd had them for years she said, but couldn't remember how she came by them. Bob said not to try to explain what we were doing in a little old lady's basement. . . . See you next time.

--Jeanne--

about argentine mini's



by
alfredo spinelli

The siphon is a bottling system which has been highly used throughout the world for years. The first miniature siphons (made in Argentina), came out for sale in 1968. The first brands that appeared pleased the collectors very much. Due to that success, new brands appeared one after the other. Up to this day, there are about 45 different brands and many of them are completely sold out. These miniatures are bottled under the license of the "soda" factories owned by the respective brands. All these siphons were fabricated in two types of bottles following the line of the larger bottles. The cap is of plastic and does not function. Four of these brands are sold in packs of six each while the others are sold separately.

In 1971, the first protected (jacketed) siphons were produced. They are of the same size and shape as the regular ones but they have a protective "jacket" of aluminum; a faithful copy of the standard size siphon. These also are sold in cartons of six.

--A. S.--



Koby's

KOLLECTABLE KOLUMN

Though our Manhattan collection is rather small (24), I hope you will enjoy looking at some of them. About a year ago, I learned of a 400 bottle collection that "belonged" to a man that I have known about 20 years and who lives about six blocks from me. I could barely wait until nine at night to call him. After the usual greetings and small talk, I finally told the man my reason for calling. He asked me to come over the following Sunday night to examine them and do some more talking. You can imagine where we were that Sunday night. Out of the whole collection only about 50 bottles were of interest to us. However, it had to be the whole lot or nothing, "if I am going to sell them" was the answer. I waited three more weeks and called again. "Bring your check book and some boxes" was his answer this time. It took us about 5 minutes and we were packing the bottles.

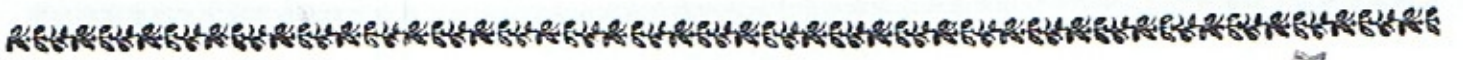
Lucky are the collectors who own some of the Manhattan clear glass blown items. Speaking as one collector, their workmanship is beyond words and praise. Even though our collection includes such items as Snow White & The Seven Dwarfs, the Luxardo Apothecary Jars, and many others, I often just sit, look, and wonder why another American company or distillery cannot produce even in limited quantities such objects of beauty.

The first Manhattan pictured is the Alligator. The contents are Creme De Raspberry, non-alcoholic. He measures 5 3/4 inches in length and one inch wide across his body. The tail is the stopper or opening which has a cork covered with a plastic red cap. The contents are dark gold. His legs are green and somewhat uneven so that he sort of tilts to the left. His mouth or jaws are molded onto the body as are the legs.

manhattan



bob koby



ଓଝର ଢେପାଟାଝର





23



31



19

guide

- ___ 1. MAJESTIC EAGLE
- ___ 2. SNOWY OWL
- ___ 3. PEACOCK
- ___ 4. GILA WOODPECKER
- ___ 5. RED SHOULDERED HAWK
- ___ 6. RAM
- ___ 7. LEADVILLE LADIES
- ___ 9. CALIFORNIA CONDOR
- ___ 10. GOLDEN EAGLE
- ___ 11. MALLARD DUCK
- ___ 12. CANADIAN GOOSE
- ___ 13. PEACE DOVE
- ___ 14. COLORADO SCHOOL OF MINES BURRO
- ___ 15. ELEPHANT ON A DRUM
- ___ 16. FOX ON A LOG
- ___ 17. HARPY EAGLE
- ___ 18. AMERICAN OSPREY
- ___ 19. GREAT GREY KANGAROO
- ___ 20. OREGON CAVE MAN
- ___ 21. THE RINGMASTER
- ___ 22. CLYDE
- ___ 23. AUSTRALIAN BLACK SWAN
- ___ 24. RED-HEADED DUCK
- ___ 25. MOUNTAIN LION
- ___ 26. RACCOON
- ___ 27. GREAT HORNED OWL
- ___ 28. CLOWN BUST
- ___ 29. TINY TIM
- ___ 30. CIGAR-STORE INDIAN
- ___ 31. SAGE GROUSE
- ___ 32. BLUE-WINGED TEAL
- ___ 33. BONNIE



BIMALS

by Darwin Williams

This is the first of a series of articles on one of my favorite areas of miniature bottle collecting, the pre-prohibition miniature, in particular, the BIMAL (blown in mold, applied lip) miniature. These are identified by mold seams which stop on the neck of the bottle, and do not extend over the lip.

Early "bottles" were free blown, that is, the hot glass was shaped by hand to form the type container wanted. Later, molds were introduced. Initially, the body of the bottle was blown in the mold, and then after the mold was removed, the neck of the bottle would be finished. Two methods by which this was done was to either simply cut the bottle from the blow tube (sheared lip), or to apply a glass ring to the neck (bimal). These hand methods are the ones most frequently run into in the miniatures.

About 1910, the Owens bottle making machine was perfected, and the production of bimal miniatures dropped off. In 1919, prohibition was passed, and the production of liquor bottles in the United States was halted. After prohibition, liquor bottles were made by machine.

The above history of glass bottles in the U.S. is sketchy. For a more complete history, refer to *Collecting Bottles* by Cecil Munsey, or *Spirits Bottles of the Old West* by Bill and Betty Wilson, or any other of the fine books available on antique bottles.

The type of miniatures I will be dealing with were generally made during the late 1890's through around 1910. They were made as advertising pieces, used as salesman samples, and given away or sold by the companies as souvenirs. In general, they are faithful repro-

ductions of the larger bottles. I limit myself to bottles which actually contained some form of beverage, such as beer, whiskey, gin, and so on.

The first bottles I would like to deal with are in the two categories of bimal miniatures that I enjoy the most. They are miniatures of the San Francisco Bay Area, and in particular, they are miniature beers.

Photo #1 shows, from left to right, a Red Lion beer, a Fredricksburg tip tray, and a Tivoli beer. In the second photo is shown an Augustus J. Lang miniature (the reverse of the Red Lion beer), a Fredricksburg miniature (the reverse of the Tivoli), and an Oakland Bottling Company miniature.

From information appearing on the tip tray, it appears that Augustus J. Lang brewery owned Fredricksburg, or at least at the time this tray was produced. Lang produced under the Red Lion label, and Fredricksburg used the Tivoli label.

The Red Lion (Lang) miniature was produced in 1906, an interesting year in the history of San Francisco. This information appears on the label.

The Fredricksburg (Tivoli) miniature comes in two variations, both are actually shown in our pictures. The variation is that the version with the label is made in a "four piece" mold, while the one showing the embossing is from a two piece mold. The two piece mold is the particular bottle that Jean Fugina referred to in her first article as having traded off. To date, the only label I have heard of on a Fredricksburg miniature is the Tivoli label.



PHOTO 1



PHOTO 2

Byron and Vicky Martin, in their book Here's to Beers, make reference to a miniature embossed "Fredricksburg Property of Brewery San Jose Cal". I am not certain if this is another variety of the Fredricksburg miniature, or if it is the same as the one I have described here. They do not list a second miniature, which would better seem to match the one I show, so I don't know if this is the same bottle or not. The only Fredricksburg miniatures I have seen have been the same as is shown here.

The full sized versions of the Fredricksburg bottle were produced from 1893 to 1906. It is probable that the miniatures were produced during the later portions of this time period, probably around 1905. Of the two variations, the four piece mold is the older.

The last miniature shown in photo #2 is an Oakland Bottling Company miniature. I have no information as to when this bottle was produced, but it is quite likely that it was made around the same time as the others. Oakland Bottling Company was not a brewery, but rather, they would buy their beer from other companies and put it into their own bottles.

The only other miniature beer from the San Francisco Bay Area that I have seen to this date is the Weiland's beer miniature pictured by Jean Fugina, again, in that first article. This miniature appears to be a cruder bottle, and correspondingly older. The Martins make reference to a Rainier Beer, S. F., miniature, but the only versions of the Rainier miniature that I have had and seen, and will show in a later issue, make no reference to San Francisco. It is my hope to someday find a National Beer miniature, since this San Francisco company made a nice series of tip trays, and I enjoy having the miniatures and tip trays that match. However, I have never heard of a National miniature.

As a note of interest, all the bottles shown are 5 1/2 inches tall.

This concludes the information I have on the San Francisco beer miniatures. Next we will start to examine some of the whiskey miniatures of the San Francisco Bay Area.

--D.W.--



PORCELAIN
SNUFF
BOTTLES



M. A. SPAID

When the Portuguese established a colony at Macao in the mid-Sixteenth Century and started to trade various commodities with the Chinese, they no doubt had never thought that one of these commodities, namely tobacco in the form of snuff, would be so well received and used by the Chinese. I'm sure the Portuguese did not have the remotest idea that four centuries later there would be antique collectors searching for the containers in which the Chinese carried their snuff.

Since snuff is a very finely powdered tobacco it was necessary to have a container which was small enough to carry on one's person and still hold the snuff intact. And, also a container which would not allow the snuff to lose its aroma and moisture.

The Chinese had the ideal container at hand, small glass and porcelain bottles and vases which had been put to other uses for many centuries. All that was necessary was a spoon of ivory or silver, the shank of which had been passed through a cork and securely fastened to a semi-precious stone top. This made the ideal snuff bottle as it was small enough to carry in the cuffed sleeve of the Mandarin costume.

I think one of the most interesting types of bottles is the porcelain bottle decorated in blue (derived from cobalt) or various shades of red (derived from copper), green and grey. The Chinese, having made fine porcelain ob-

jects for centuries, found no problem in molding small bottles. After the material was molded, it was fired in a kiln and came out with a biscuit finish. It was then decorated by the artist, covered with a transparent glaze and refired.

A very interesting feature of these bottles is the fact that often the design used to decorate them told a very interesting story or legend. These tales have been passed from father to son for many centuries. As one rotates a bottle, the story unfolds.

Other designs used on many of these bottles are the earliest symbols used by the Chinese. The Dragon which depicts benevolence is a good example. It was frequently worshipped as the Chinese believed it would bring rain. The Dragon is always shown pursuing the flaming pearl which designates power. Many other animals, birds and insects are symbolized in legends and stories and each has its significance. The Tiger signifies courage, the Horse perseverance, the Bat happiness, the Cricket courage and the Butterfly love. The fish generally depicted by a Carp signifies wealth. The Cock-eral signifies good luck as it crows to announce the coming of a new day. The Crane and Pine Tree signify longevity. These are just a few of the many symbols and their meanings as used by the Chinese on art objects such as the Chinese snuff bottle.

--M.A.S.--

LEFT: Lohans or Buddhist Gods. Painted in "famille rose" enamels. 1820-1850.
 RIGHT: Porcelain, decorated in underglaze blue on a beige, crackled ground. 1820-1850.



LEFT: Porcelain, decorated in underglaze copper-red with a continuous design of a dragon chasing a flaming pearl amidst clouds and fire at base. Approximately 1760-1830.
 RIGHT: Porcelain painted in "famille rose" enamels with fire cockerels amidst fungi in landscape.



LEFT: Porcelain blue and copper red decoration with coral and silver top and silver spoon. Yung-Chang Period, 1723-1735.
 RIGHT: Porcelain, blue and copper red decoration with crab at bottom.



Porcelain, decorated with blue underglaze of the 100 Sons design on beige crackled ground. Six character mark Chien-Lung 1736 to 1796. Coral and silver-top ivory spoon carved in the shape of a hand.

LEFT: Porcelain, decorated in underglaze blue and copper-red with a continuous design of fishermen and a pavilion in a riverscape. 1800-1860.
 RIGHT: Porcelain, painted in iron red enamel with eight seals. The base with the four-character seal mark of the Tao-Kuang Emperor in red enamel. 1820-1850.



KOBY'S COLUMN, KONTD.

The Giraffe is 7 1/4 inches high and contains Apricot Cordial, non-alcoholic. The body, neck, and snout or mouth are one part. The legs, ears, horns, and stand are all molded onto the body. As you can see, the opening is in the mouth where the cork is located... again covered with a red plastic cap. The contents are brown in color.

The Swan is truly a masterpiece of workmanship. It is so true to life that you almost feel it is alive. The glass blower must have been a master of his profession. The Swan measures 4 1/2 inches in length and 2 3/4 inches across. The contents are Creme De Menthe, non-alcoholic. Only the wings are molded onto the body. Again the cork is in the tail but covered with a clear plastic cap. The contents of course are green. The wings are clear but have a slight red shadow painted on. A TRULY MAGNIFICENT BIRD in my humble opinion.

'Til next issue and a few more Manhattans. We'll get to those American bourbons I promised a little later.

--Bob Koby--

SKI COUNTRY minis

Eagle \$20; Peacock, Hawk, Condor, Mallard Duck, Caveman \$12@; Ram, Golden Eagle, Goose, Burro, Peace Dove, Harpy, Clyde, Kangaroo \$13@; Woodpecker, Elephant, Ringmaster, Osprey \$15@; Ladies of Leadville \$20. All bottles are postpaid.

Ruth Jones
2740 S. Cherokee,
Englewood, Colo. 80110

chip's nips BOYLSTON, MASS. 01505

WHERE ELSE CAN YOU FIND OVER 500 DIFFERENT MINIATURE LIQUOR BOTTLES... RIGHT ON THE STORE SHELVES. BRANDS INCLUDE: GARNIER, BORGHINI, LIONSTONE, FAMOUS FIRSTS, HOUSE OF KO-SHU, LUXARDO, RYNBENDE, GRENADIER, RIEMERSCHMID, AIDEES OF TORQUAY, BENEAGLES, ISAIAH, CORFINIO, HUNDREDS OF STRAIGHTS.....

and

ARGENTINE

bottles!

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR ANYTHING SPECIAL? We also have a secret hoard of old, valuable bottles. Maybe we have that bottle for which you've been searching. Please send 25¢ and SASE for our complete list.

OUR NEW SHELF-TYPE BOTTLES INCLUDE: Glen Grant Malt Scotch, Kopke Tourist Port, Kopke Variety Port, El Toro Marguerita, and Blackforest Kirschwasser.



LET'S TALK, CONTD.

Before we go on, here's a puzzle for you sent in by Jan Keim of Medina, Ohio. She asks, what is this the formula for:

$$\frac{3.5 G + 2}{4 [H_2O < 32]^3} + 3 \left(360^\circ \right) = M$$

C'mon, work on it. If you really get stuck though, you'll find the answer not too cleverly hidden on p. 28.

Now we come to the embarrassing part of this article. In number 3, I asked all those who wanted to be listed as "lonely collectors" to write in. Since the response was slight, I held off until this issue. Well, would you believe that only one letter was sent which asked that the writer be listed. Quite frankly, I'maghast. So once again my clarion call goes out, let's hear from you folks out there in miniature land. But until I do hear from you, here's the people who'd love to hear from you too.

Mr. Ivan F. Belknap
16703 Sunderland Road
Detroit, MI 48219

Mr. Richard Garcia
24824 Muir Street
Hayward, CA 94544

Mr. & Mrs. Al Bemstein
6117 North Hoyne Avenue
Chicago, IL 60659

Mr. Herman B. Hoffman
Cedarbrook Hill Apts.
BPH - 12
Wyncote, PA 19095

Mrs. Janet Keim
6471 Spieth Road
Medina, OH 44256

Mr. & Mrs. Bob Koby
18200 Goldwin
Southfield, MI 48075

Mr. Richard Liddle
1553 Richmond St.
Lincoln Park, MI 48146

Mr. Lester Martin
P. O. Box 1075
Lexington, KY 40501

Mrs. Babette Neuwirth
6113 N. Wickwood Road
Peoria, IL 61614

Mrs. James A. Robinson
4010 Ecuador Drive
Pasadena, TX 77504

Mr. Edward Ryan
Lazy Days
Washington, NY 10992

Mr. & Mrs. Wm. Schaffer
2030 Featherbed Lane
Baltimore, MD 21207

Mr. & Mrs. David Williams
2900 Dunaire Drive
Charlotte, NC 28205

I guess that's it, except for the fact that the Famous Firsts and Grenadier articles got pushed back once again due to space limitations. So, next time...for sure. --D. M. S.--

**NEXT TIME:
FAMOUS
FIRSTS**

JERRY COHEN'S

**BOTTLE COLLECTORS'
LIQUOR SHOP**

FOR BOTTLE COLLECTORS ONLY
LARGEST MINIATURE SELECTION

1850 LAS VEGAS BOULEVARD NORTH
NORTH LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89030

It's a miniature paradise...with the largest selection found anywhere. Go 1 1/2 miles north from downtown Las Vegas. You can't miss it.

CLASSIFIEDS

Rates: \$2.00 for Classifieds under 50 words, \$3.50 for ones up to 100 words. Ads over 100 words are considered display advertising. Display rates are available upon request.

FOR SALE OR TRADE: Miniature figurals, glass bottles, beers, tip trays. SASE for individual lists. **WANT** beers and figurals for our collection. Jean Fugina, 1741 - 63rd Avenue, Sacramento, Calif. 95822. ph.916 422-3226.

WANTED: BIMAL Miniatures, especially from San Francisco Area Companies. Also Drioli miniatures...have same to trade. Darwin Williams, Box 758, Kentfield, Calif. 94904.

BEERS: Over 200 miniature beer bottles, cans, steins to sell or trade. Send a long SASE for a four page list to Bill Odell, 20422 79th Ave. W., Edmonds, WA. 98020.

FOR SALE: All full and mint - Luxardo Mud Bucket (never imported) \$12; Drioli Indian Maiden TV Screen, \$20; Bols Lobster Claw & Creel, \$35. Ron Souza, 21730 Gail Drive, Castro Valley, CA. 94546 or 415 582-7177.

Puzzle Answer: A martini - 3.5 parts gin + 1/2 part vermouth over 4 times water at less than 32 degrees (ice) cubed + stir 3 times = Martini!!

MINIATURE COLLECTORS

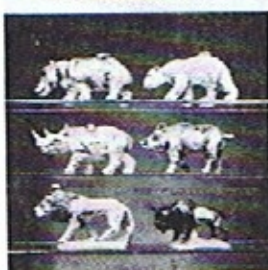
The Miniature Bottle Mart

A Newspaper Devoted Exclusively to the Collector of Miniature Liquor Bottles
24 Gertrude Lane, West Haven, Connecticut 06516

"THE LARGEST PUBLICATION OF IT'S KIND
IN THE WORLD"

SUBSCRIPTION.....\$6.00 A YEAR

Bob Snyder
BOTTLES IN
MINIATURE
VOLUME III



Price \$6.00

VOLUME III

BOTTLES IN MINIATURE

A third book showing 750 additional miniature whiskey, beer, wine, and pop bottles of yesterday and today with price guide. Thirty pages of full color.

ROBERT E. SNYDER

4235 W. 13th / Amarillo, Texas 79106

Bottles in Miniature Vol. I - \$4.00

Bottles in Miniature Vol. II - \$4.75

Dealer Discount

BACK



ISSUES

**EACH
only \$2 ppd.**

THE miniature bottle collector

P. O. BOX 2161

Palos Verdes Peninsula, Ca. 90274.



A GUIDE TO MINIATURE BOTTLES

SPECIAL OFFER for MINIATURE BOTTLE COLLECTORS

Sections #1, #2, and #3.....\$6.00

Special Binder.....\$1.00

The three sections now include 172 Giveaways, 137 Garnier, 53 Luxardo, 77 Rynbende, 25 British Isles, and 60 Miscellaneous bottles.

Order from: CEMBURA & AVERY PUBLISHERS
 137 Arlington Ave., Berkeley, Ca. 94707
 Calif. residents add 5% tax.



Mini World III

OVER 1100 BOTTLES LISTED AND PRICED.

AVAILABLE NOW

only \$2 ppd.

THE miniature bottle collector
 P. O. BOX 2161
 Palos Verdes Peninsula, Ca. 90274.

