

DAR

JULY-AUGUST 1977
VOL. IV NO. 4

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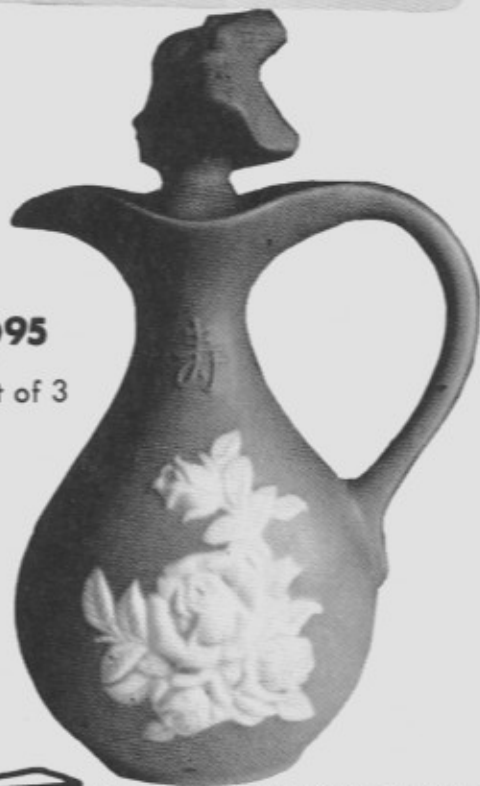
Ask to be placed on our mailing list to receive our bi-monthly NEWS-LETTER.



Mini Wrangler

This is a photo of the finished product of the miniature Wrangler and is the 1977 Pictorial Bottle Review Anniversary Bottle. In a few months the miniature Bronc Buster will be released thus completing all of the Anniversary bottles in both 4/5th and miniature sizes.

As you know, all of P.B.R.'s Anniversary bottles, both large and small, have been completely sold out. Since we wanted the miniature Wrangler to go primarily to those of you who bought the large Wrangler, only 600 miniatures were commissioned to be made in Japan. Orders received so far have been numbered and retained to guarantee that you can also receive the miniature Bronc Buster when it is issued. The Wrangler and Bronc Buster are the smallest amount produced of any P.B.R. bottles. As previously, they are being issued under the MBC label.



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LET'S TALK

Back again with the usual palaver. This issue should be only about one week later than usual because we were behind schedule this time. So if you are receiving this one past the second week in August, the old Post Office is playing games once more.

One of the reasons we're slightly later this time is that a lot of rearranging had to be done to the size of the articles and one short article had to be dropped this time...and two others were postponed. The continuation of the MBC update by Fran Kluever and the series about dog figurals will both be back next time. The article which got bumped dealt with a new ceramic piece cowboy made by Stan Lassiter. This mini-cowboy was designed to compliment the 1/10th pint liquor mini. The bar piece does not hold the bottle, as most do, the bottle is actually an integral part of the bar piece. It's a very attractive novelty item made as a go-with or go-along for the bottles. You can write Stan at 471 So. Taft Street, Lakewood, Colorado 80228 for more information. The cowboy is \$10.95 ppd. and well worth it.

You'll notice that Bill Odell is back with the first part of a two-part article on mini beer history. Since I've already read the entire article (rank hath its privileges), I can say that it's certainly interesting and most comprehensive. And, as promised last time, the new What's New column has been added. Hopefully there will be enough new glass bottles to keep this an interesting column each time. If you know of any new bottles (or better yet have a picture), let us know and you'll see it here so that every one may share it.

A funny thing happened to that Oklehao Surfer (pictured last time) in Hawaii. It, along with the Pineapple, has almost totally disappeared from the shelves. I stopped in Hawaii recently on the way back from a bottle trip to Japan and saw only King Kamehameha and the Hula Girl.

In a recent issue of Pictorial Bottle Review, our sister publication, I mentioned that I thought another state could be added to the list of those allowing miniatures. Now I find out that I was correct. South Carolina now allows minis...but do they allow collectors (SC is only one of two states where this magazine doesn't go)? However, the minis there are quite expensive due to some rather strange laws which state that the miniatures must be sold at exactly double the price at which they come to the wholesaler. Hmmm.

More next time.

--DMS--

THE MINIATURE BOTTLE COLLECTOR

July-August 1977
No. 21 Vol. IV No. 4

Editor/Publisher DAVID M. SPAID

Art Director MARY L. SPAID

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Bill's back...and it was worth the wait!

OUR COVER

Our cover this issue pictures the seven different animals which make up the Lionstone Safari Series. Certainly you can tell by the pictures what the animals are. About the time you receive this issue or shortly thereafter, these bottles will be available. In the very near future we'll present all the Lionstone bottles which you haven't seen in these pages.

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The Club Report

On the Club front there seems to be a goodly amount of news for you this time.

To start, we received a note from Mrs. Rosalyn S. Heying, 203 North 12 Avenue, Waite Park, MN 56387 and she is very interested in organizing a club there in Minnesota. She'd love to hear from anyone else who is interested.

Next we have a report from Ed Ryan about the get together at "Ye Olde Mini Bottle Museum" in Washingtonville, New York. (First apologies though to those who got a wrong direction from the copy in the magazine.) He states: "There was some trading and selling with about six dealers. I was running around so fast hardly had a chance to see the show outside. I would like to thank all the people who came to the Fair and especially to all those who donated the fine gifts. To mention a few names: Jim DeLibro, Thomas and Gene Bird-sall, Bob Strolin, and G.M. of Brooklyn (whose name is not too clear on the guest book, but the stack of bottles is). I've also made up a brass honor roll in scroll style with brass plates listing the individual names of those who've donated. So far we have 21 plates. All gifts remain in the museum and are for display only." Sounds like the proverbial good time was had by all.

I have it on good authority that our own Lilliputian picnic here in July was a huge success. I wasn't able to go due to being out of town, but Mary assures me that the almost 60 people who did attend had a great time.

From Canada comes word of the activities of the Club Mini Barman in Montreal. Pierre La-

Salle writes: "We had our last reunion on May 29th and we sold a lot of straights and figurines. Our next meeting will be held in September and we will have a rum tasting with a Bacardi representative." That sounds good to me. I know meetings I've been to of several clubs where they've had wine tastings have always been a great deal of fun.

The next meeting of the Del-Val Miniature Bottle Club will be history by the time you get this; however, their next mini Fair will be Sunday, Oct. 9th. Mark your calendars now, that's always a goodie.

Speaking of October, the meeting of the Orange County Club (California) will be held here at our home on Oct. 2nd. Anyone from out of town who is interested in attending may contact me through the telephone number now listed at the bottom of the Table of Contents page.

The Kiski Mini Bottle Club of Pennsylvania is moving along smoothly but I seem to have misplaced their most recent newsletter and thus can't pass on any actual news.

That's it for now, see you next time with more club news.

FOR SALE

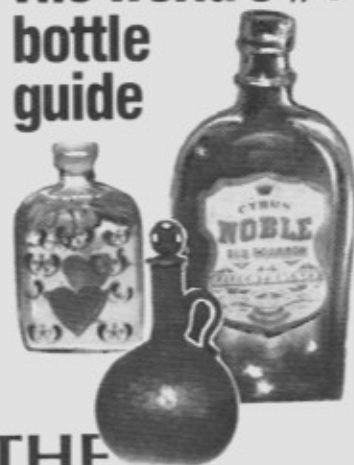
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This month's article focuses on a handsome trio of Gins.

First is a Taplow's Whitehall London Dry Gin, a member of the Gold Seal Family, similar to the Taplow's Mountain Music Scotch featured in the last issue of the MBC. Made of clear glass, it is also 2 7/8" tall and sports a black, gold, red, and white label. Also pictured on the label is the aristocratic gentleman, characteristic of the Taplow's line.

Center and right are a pair of Plymouth Original Dry Gin each different in size and shape, yet

the labels are almost identical, featuring the monk, who also symbolizes the trademark. The labels are blue, tan, brown, white, and black. The round member of the pair is 3 1/4" high while the flask type measures 1" shorter.

Next month I will have an answer to a question asked of me many times, namely, "What is a micromini?" And, I'll have an assortment of gins.

In future articles, I hope to feature micromini rums, vodkas, fruit drinks, and more wines!

--V.V.--

MICROMINIS

By VIC VISALLI



WHAT'S NEW

As promised last time in the "Let's Talk" column, here's the first of what we hope will be many, many new "What's New" columns.

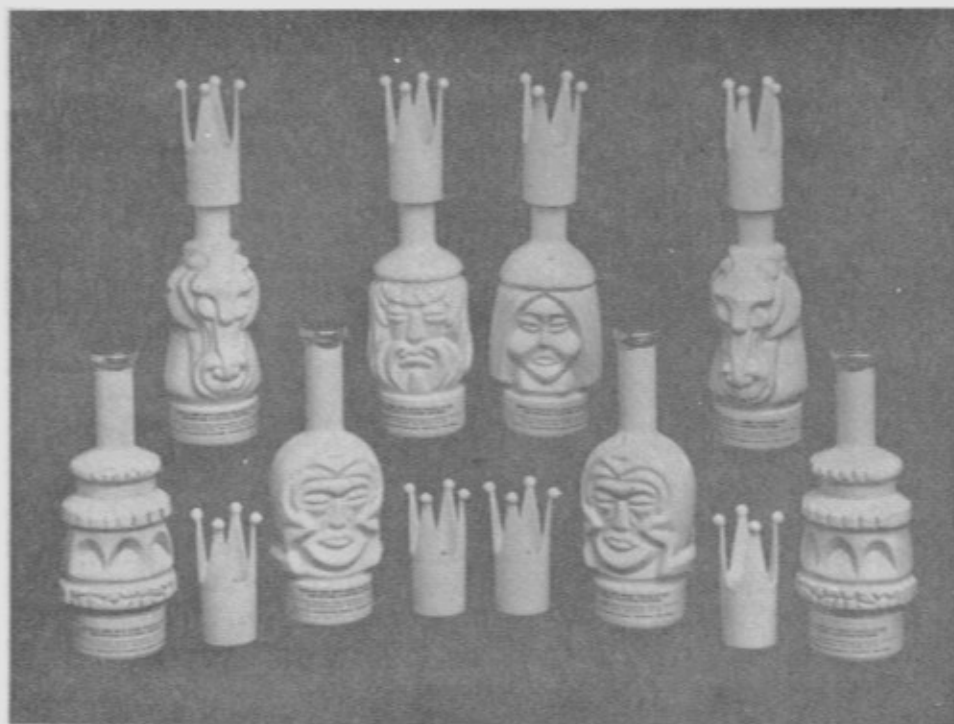
Everything this time is glass which is particularly nice since we seem to have such a proliferation of ceramics being issued almost monthly.

Pancho Villa has two new labels and one new bottle currently available. The new bottle is the Margarita Cocktail which is a short, stubby bottle but contains two ounces. The new label is Pancho Villa dark which replaces the older dark label.

Cafe de Love is the newest offering from the Lionstone Co. of San Diego. It's a coffee liqueur made in Mexico but bottled here in the U.S. The little red heart is plastic and makes the bottle even more attractive.

The figural chess set is an import from Italy which has been sold in the East for some time but is only now making its way across the U.S. The set comes in a box with a chess motif and retails for under \$15. It can be sold in a great many markets as it contains wine. The particular wine you may find quite interesting. It's a Marsala wine with egg added. The set is a product of CE. DI. VI. of Torino.

Other new glass bottles you can watch for this summer are a new tequila from Seagram's, El Charro, and two new entries from Jim Beam: H & R Royalty Scotch and Beamero Tequila. For those of you who have the H & R, even though it states Henderson & Richards, it's still a product of Clear Spring Distilling Co which makes it a Beam.





Week nights are usually very quiet in the little town of Boozeville. But this is lodge night and most of the bankers and businessmen are hurrying to their lodges not wanting to miss the happy hour.

Shown here are some German made lodge giveaways. They are all about four inches tall.



The Elks Tooth flask has BPOE embossed on the front. This stands for Benevolent Protective Order of Elks. Another one has BPOE and Portland 1912 on the front. This was the year that the National Elks Convention was held here in Portland, Oregon. These bottles were probably given to the members of high office during this convention.

On the back of this one is embossed: The Lotus 127 Sixth Street M. Nelson Prop. H.

Weinhard's Rheingold Beer On Draught.

Another one of these with the same front as pictured here has impressed the following words in a circular pattern on the back: Compliments of C. J. Stubling. He was a liquor dealer at The Dalles, Oregon. These were probably made for the same convention as those dated 1912.

Other Elk Tooth flasks were made of clear glass, milk glass, and one of amber colored glass. At least two ceramic types were made in Japan. These are very crude compared to the German flasks.

The next type is the moose flask. It is found in multicolor with shiny glaze, multicolor no glaze (like bisque), and in all brown. These are marked P.A.P. Loyal Order of Moose, P.A.P. stands for Purity, Aid, and Progress.

Next there is the Eagles flask. This type is a plain bottle with no lettering, all brown with white eagle and flag. The one with the letters F.O.E. (Fraternal Order of Eagles) in the upper left corner is all in brown. Near the bottom are the letters L.T.J.E. which stands for Liberty, Truth, Justice, and Equality. I haven't seen this one in multicolor but hopefully there are some around.

The three owls on the blue-grey flask is a mystery. It is made in the same style and size as the moose and eagles. It has three owls on the front and each owl has the letter O on its chest. There must have been a lodge for this one at some time. If there was its name surely had to be the Order of Owls.

Say, we'd better hurry and be on our way or we'll miss the happy hour! --LM--

A Visit To Boozeville

by Lloyd McLeod

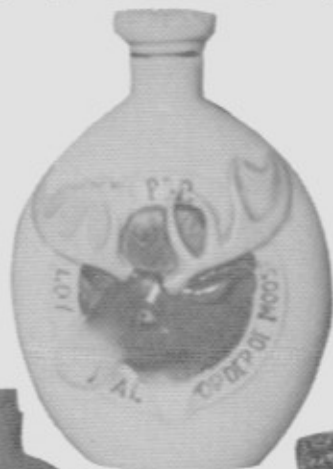


photo by Les Avery



LUXARDO'S TRIBUTE TO RAFFLES

by Connie Avery

I thought both the Luxardo and straight glass collectors would enjoy seeing the new bottle which accompanies this article.

This was found in Singapore at the Raffles Hotel and was made by Luxardo for the 90th anniversary of the hotel. It holds Singapore Gin Sling and the label shows a picture of the famous old Raffles.

The hotel is no longer the

most luxurious hotel in Singapore as it used to be, but it still has the old English atmosphere. They call it "the most talked about hotel in the East."

The swizzle stick from the bar at the hotel represents a leaf from one of the many palm trees which surround the hotel.

The bottle itself is 3 1/2" tall with a red foil cap. It looks very pretty with the red of the Singapore Gin Sling. --CA--



Meet A Scotch Collector

JOHN SULLIVAN

The smiling face greeting you in the accompanying picture belongs to Mr. John Sullivan of Los Angeles, California....our resident Scotch columnist.

We thought it was high time that you got a look at John and some of his bottles and I'm sure you agree.

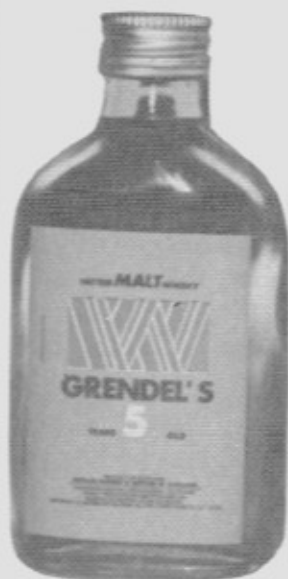
John has been a collector now for the better part of fifteen years and specializes in Scotch but also has a great liking for glass bottles in general. The figurals are sort of few and far between on his shelves...unless of course, they just happen to be Scotch figurals.

As many of you may know,

John has contributed to these pages several times in the past and we hope to have a new list of Scotches from him fairly soon. If he continues to keep coming up with some of the excellent bottles like the ones shown this time, a new list shouldn't be too difficult.

John felt that the main thing collectors are interested in is actually seeing the bottles, so this time you don't get a personal biography, but a good look at some nice rare Scotches instead. Hopefully you enjoy seeing them almost as much as John does having them in his collection!







SKI COUNTRY

by Ruth Jones

I can't believe all the beautiful Ski Country bottles that have come out recently. Even though they are more expensive than the bottles were to begin with, the quality and beauty have increased too.

The Pheasant and Cardinal are both 1200 issues, so don't wait to get those in your collection. They are both beautiful bottles. The Eagle on the Drum is absolutely FANTASTIC. The colors are bright - it is just great!

The set of six North American Indians is in and certainly everyone will want the second set to go with the first. I still like the Dancers the best, but these new ones are very nicely done. Remember, they were on the cover

of the last issue.

The latest word is that the next issues will be the Eider Duck, White Falcon, and the Screech Owl Family. This Owl Family is going to have the appeal of the Fox on a Log and just try finding one of those! The Fighting Pheasants will be out about the same time too.

I will leave some of the others for the next time and hopefully leave room for the Ski Country list. If you think my vocabulary is limited this time, you're right. Fantastic! Beautiful! Colorful! You should be able to find just about the right bottle from all these on your vacation this summer. --RJ--



FOX ON A LOG

NORTH AMERICAN INDIANS



EAGLE ON A DRUM



- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1. MAJESTIC EAGLE | <input type="checkbox"/> 39. SKIER (2) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2. SNOWY OWL | <input type="checkbox"/> 41. TIGER ON A BALL |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3. PEACOCK | <input type="checkbox"/> 42. LION ON A DRUM |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 4. GILA WOODPECKER | <input type="checkbox"/> 43. JENNY LIND (2) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5. RED-SHOULDERED HAWK | <input type="checkbox"/> 45. CIGAR STORE INDIAN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 6. RAM | <input type="checkbox"/> 46. WILD TURKEY |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 7. LEADVILLE LADIES | <input type="checkbox"/> 47. CONNECTICUT ROBIN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 9. CALIFORNIA CONDOR | <input type="checkbox"/> 48. MOUNTAIN GOAT |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 10. GOLDEN EAGLE | <input type="checkbox"/> 49. LIPIZZAN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 11. MALLARD DUCK | <input type="checkbox"/> 50. PALOMINO |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 12. CANADA GOOSE | <input type="checkbox"/> 51. BABY SNOWY OWL |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 13. PEACE DOVE | <input type="checkbox"/> 52. BLACK-FOOTED FERRET |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 14. COLORADO SCHOOL OF MINES BURRO | <input type="checkbox"/> 53. BLUE-WINGED TEAL |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15. ELEPHANT ON A DRUM | <input type="checkbox"/> 54. BROWN TROUT |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 16. FOX ON A LOG | <input type="checkbox"/> 55. SPECTACLED OWL |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 17. HARPY EAGLE | <input type="checkbox"/> 56. P. T. BARNUM |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 18. AMERICAN OSPREY | <input type="checkbox"/> 57. DONKEY POLITICAL |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 19. MOUNTAIN LION | <input type="checkbox"/> 58. ELEPHANT POLITICAL |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 20. GREAT GREY KANGAROO | <input type="checkbox"/> 59. BIRTH OF FREEDOM |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 21. OREGON CAVEMAN | <input type="checkbox"/> 60. PRAIRIE CHICKEN |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> 23. CLYDE | <input type="checkbox"/> 62. BROWN PELICAN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 24. AUSTRALIAN BLACK SWAN | <input type="checkbox"/> 63. IVORY-BILLED WOOD-PECKER |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 25. RED-HEADED DUCK | <input type="checkbox"/> 64. PHEASANT |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 26. CLOWN BUST | <input type="checkbox"/> 65. CARDINAL |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 27. SAGE GROUSE | <input type="checkbox"/> 66. HAWK EAGLE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 28. GREAT HORNED OWL | <input type="checkbox"/> 67. TROUT #2 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 29. BONNIE | <input type="checkbox"/> 68. END OF THE TRAIL |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 30. TOM THUMB | <input type="checkbox"/> 69. NORTH AMERICAN INDIANS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 31. INDIAN DANCERS (6) | <input type="checkbox"/> 75. LAND-LOCKED SALMON |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 37. RACCOON | <input type="checkbox"/> 76. DRUM EAGLE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 38. WOOD DUCK | |



MONDE Miniatures

by S. Sawada

Previously many of you have read of the Monde bottles thanks to a column which your editor did in the Pictorial Bottle Review in January 1973. At that time he wrote about Morozoff bottles but mentioned that the name had recently been changed to Monde. Since that time a good many changes have been made.

We have added many bottles in the last few years and only a few months ago made the addition of five new bottles. Actually these are the five one ounce sizes of the larger bottles. They are numbers 6, 9, 14, 16, and 18 in the picture.

In this picture you've probably noticed two bottles which were previously sold in the United States. These are the Naughty Boy and the Doll. You might be interested to know that House of Koshu name was registered in Japan to the Monde Co. but in the U.S. was registered to Numano International, who imported the bottles.

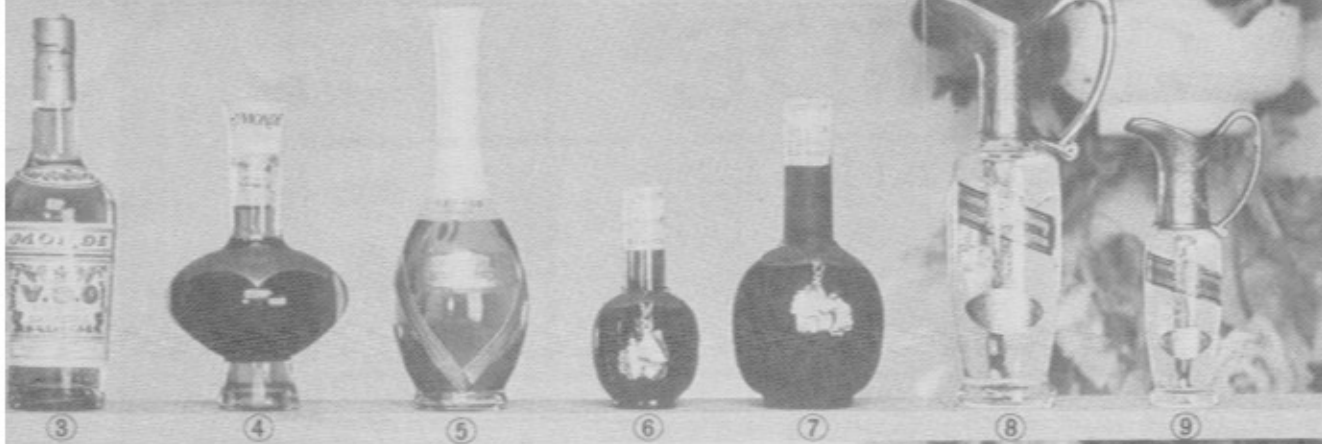
Not too long ago we also introduced the seven glass figurals (shown in the picture) to the Japanese market. These are Venus (19), Diana (21), Sailor (22), Anna (23), Chil-Chil (24), and Anna (26). They have been very warmly received in Japan. --S.S.--



モンテミニチニ

(標準小瓶)

- ① オレンジキュラソー 100ml 390
- ② スロージン 100ml 390
- ③ ブランデーI級V.S.O 100ml 390
- ④ ベーゼントグリーン 100ml 390
- ⑤ ブルーキュラソー 100ml 390
- ⑥ チェリーブランデー 30ml 300
- ⑦ チェリーブランデー 100ml 390
- ⑧ ウオッカ50度 100ml 390
- ⑨ ウオッカ50度 30ml 300
- ⑩ カカオ 100ml 330
- ⑪ ウイスキークリスタル 100ml 390
- ⑫ メロンリキュール 100ml 330
- ⑬ ストロベリー 100ml 330
- ⑭ ストロベリー 30ml 300
- ⑮ 玉露リキュール 100ml 600
- ⑯ 玉露リキュール 30ml 450
- ⑰ アプリコットブランデー 100ml 420
- ⑱ アプリコットブランデー 30ml 350
- ⑲ ビーナス (ブルーキュラソー) 100ml 480
- ⑳ 小便小僧 (ベーゼントグリーン) 72ml 330
- ㉑ ダイアナ (プラムワイン) 100ml 480
- ㉒ マドロス (ストロベリー) 100ml 480
- ㉓ アンナ (メロンリキュール) 100ml 480
- ㉔ チルチル (パーメントナー) 100ml 480
- ㉕ メロンコケシ (メロンリキュール) 30ml 390
- ㉖ マリアンヌ (スイートワイン) 100ml 480





It is often difficult to get a sharp photo of the label when photographing a miniature bottle, simply because the curvature of the bottle affects the photographic depth of field which is so critical with close-up photos. So we shot these as labels only and our regret is that these are not in color because not only are these among the earliest personalized minis issued by Jim Beam, they are also the most colorful.

The lower right hand label, issued for Pacific Southwest Airlines in commemoration of the 200th birthday of the founding of San Diego (PSA's home base),

has for its main theme the painting of Portola Trek. A similar label was used that same year on one of Beam's full size bottles. PSA is an airline that is very familiar to Californians, especially to businessmen and women, as it operates only within California, commuting many times daily between major cities in the state.

The other eight labels represent the complete series of Delta Airlines personalized bottles, each one commemorating a different city in which Delta operates. If you look closely, you can see that the Delta bottles are 90 proof. --AH--

PERSONALIZED Jim Beam MINIATURES

by AL HALPERN

Whiskies...

With An International Flavor

Back once again, but this time with just whiskies from Argentina. And, as you can see, we have two ceramics to go along with the set of five glass.

Let's look at the ceramics to begin. The Forcoll jug is but one of many such jugs the company has issued and most are in the same colors: cream and dark brown. The other jug will probably look familiar to you as it's a Queen's Castle. However, this one was made in Argentina and is slightly different in shape. It doesn't contain Scotch but rather Argentine whisky which is quite similar to Scotch as it uses a malt Scotch base.

The five straight glass bottles I think you'll find most interesting. Lord Hastings and Oxford are both products of La Blanca,

a distributor in Buenos Aires. Lord Hastings uses malt Scotch from Grant, MacDonald & Co. of Glasgow for its base while Oxford imports from Stanley Holt & Son Ltd., also of Glasgow.

The other three (in order: Cattle Brand, M.T.G., and Thomas Becket) are products of Grether Distributors, again from Buenos Aires. And, as with the above, these are all malt Scotch base whiskies. The Cattle Brand is made for members of the Society of Rural Argentina. The meaning of M.T.G. is still a mystery but one which will be probably solved shortly. With the last bottle, I can only surmise that it's a tribute to the famous Thomas a Becket once Prime Minister of England.

More foreign whiskies another time. --DMS--



KOBY'S KOLLECTABLE KOLUMN

by BOB KOBY

To sound like a broken record, it's certainly difficult to write about some of my ex bottles now that they are gone and reside in sunny California. However, I sure liked to look at them when they were on my shelves. The first two bottles I have no trouble at all remembering. These are the Sunny Brook and the Burton's 51. These were from a collection I found in December of 1975. As you can see by the Wisconsin tax stamps, these are definitely old bottles.

Before I go on with the bottles, I want to talk about collecting in general. From what I gather through some correspondence and conversations with other collectors, most people are now concentrating either on beers, jugs, figurals, or the imported figurals. My own preference since I got hooked into this hobby was, and shall continue to be, primarily the old American straights and perhaps some of the jugs.

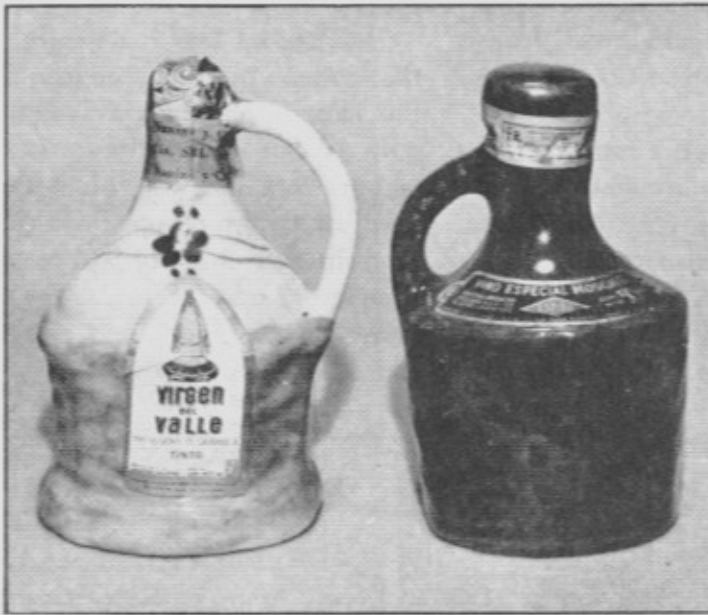
If you examine some of your own glass straights, you will find a great assortment of what I call "funny" name brands. For me they all have or had a story behind those names, even though I cannot contact the distillers to find out why those particular names. Anyway, thought you might like to see three versions of bottle

shapes and three versions of labels by Pete Hagen. The neck label on the Egg-Nog reads "chill-shake-serve." The picture on the Kahven bottle shows



a waiter in Turkish attire serving drinks. The Anisette shows the famous Pete Hagen trademark of the man.

And now a few more interesting gins for your enjoyment. The Caballo Blanco Gin was brought from Spain about four years ago by a neighbor. It's square and is sort of waffled all over. The Carstairs flat and the Ritz are



both very old and you might be interested to know that the Ritz is also a Carstairs product.

For my last two bottles, we come again to my bridge playing opponent doctor who brought them from Argentina. Since I cannot read Spanish, I won't attempt to tell you much about them except that they are both wines. I will ask a question of

you though. I held the following hand against my doctor friend and my partner and I were vulnerable and my opponent doubled me. I had two through jack of Spades, void in Hearts, king of Diamonds, and Ace-King of Clubs. Any bridge players out there send your bids to: Bob Kobay, 18200 Goldwin, Southfield, Michigan 48075. --B.K.--

Your editor finally nagged me into doing this short article for the magazine so I thought you would like to see some figures very seldom seen.

All but two of these bottles I acquired in late 1976 when I purchased a large collection in England. Some I had seen or heard of previously but had never had the opportunity to add them

to my collection.

The three animals are all from the Henry Stratton Co. of Bolton, England. Some of the little yellow chicks were found a few years ago and brought back to the U.S. And, a very few of the Penguins were also found in England. However, to my knowledge this is the first Panda bear... at least with all the collectors

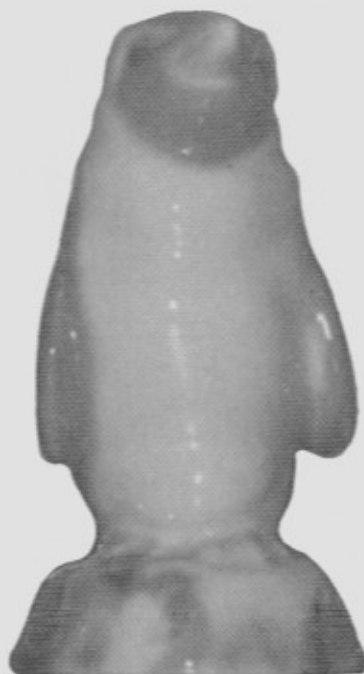
I know.

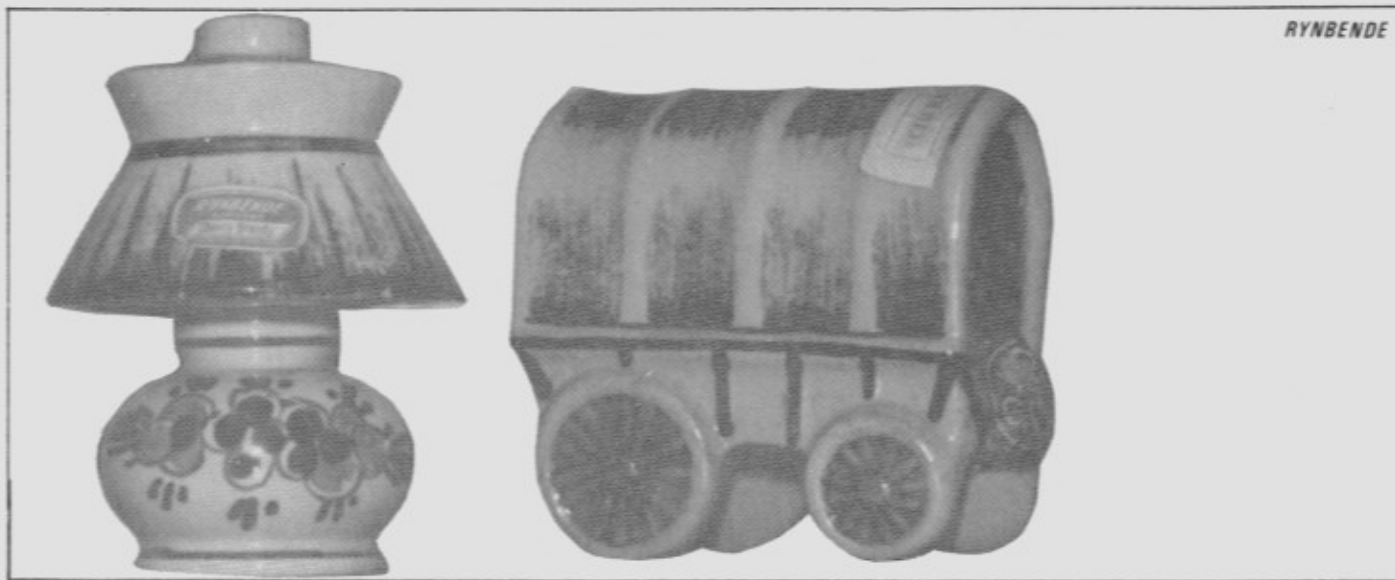
The Panda I feel is definitely the cutest, but the Penguin is the most interesting. This Penguin is but one of three sizes which were issued. This is the smallest of the group while the next in size is about 3/4 of an inch larger and the largest only another 3/4 of an inch above that.

FIGURAL RARITIES

by Harry Goetz

STRATTON





The fellow who looks like a farmer with his pitchfork is actually called The Country Yokel. This one was made by WLS (the Western License Supply) of Torquay, England. Many of you are already familiar with WLS because of the Drunk Russian bottle which was available some years back.

Since many of you I know collect Rynbende bottles, I've in-



cluded two of the rynbende Delft pieces. The lamp has been seen previously by some collectors, but the covered wagon is a very unusual piece. To the best of my knowledge, neither piece was ever imported to the U.S.

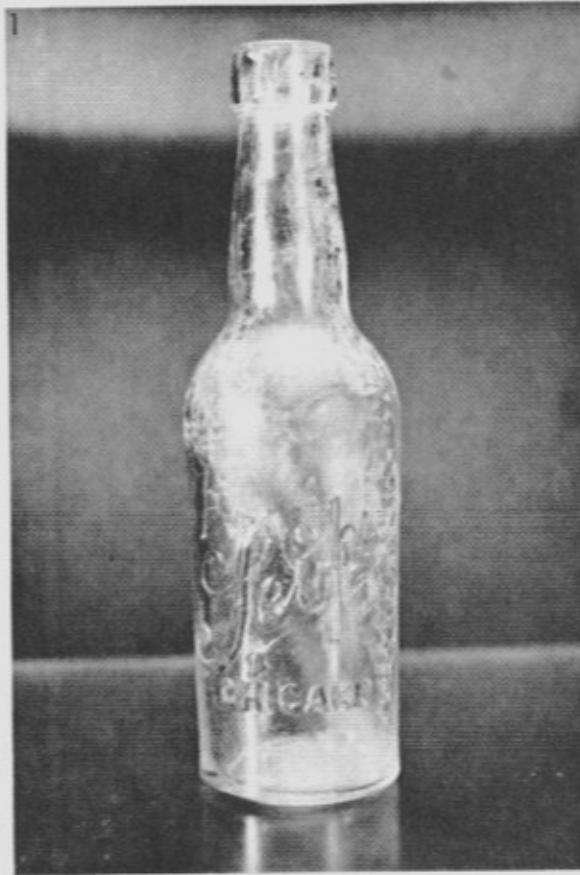
The final set is from the Delatour Company but before they located in the Virgin Islands on St. Croix. These came from Bordeaux, France, and I ac-

quired them at a bottle show about five years ago.

In talking to Mr. Victor Nelson of Delatour about this pair, I found out that there was even a lawsuit involved, hence the rarity of the bottles. Certainly almost all of you have seen them as salt and pepper shakers.

I hope you've enjoyed a short look at some of my bottles.

--HG--



THE HISTORY OF PART I MINIATURE BEERS

by Bill Odell



The first miniature beer was produced sometime between 1890 and 1910. We can establish this date with some degree of certainty as all of the pre-prohibition beers that I have seen are blob tops. The blob tops with either a cork or a ceramic stopper were popular during the years before the turn of the century.

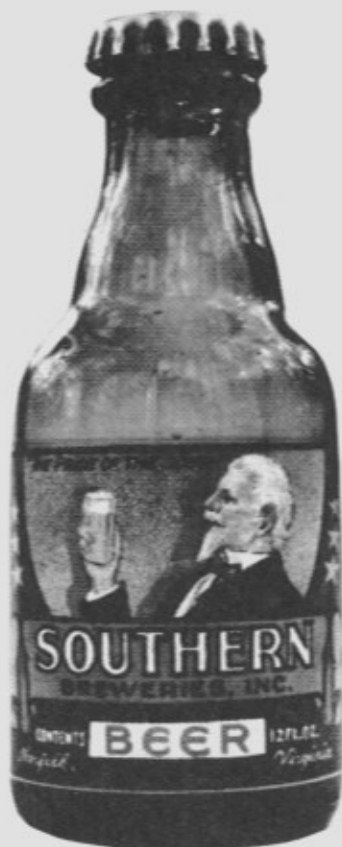
About 1903 the crown top replaced the blob and the metal cap replaced corks and stoppers. I know of at least twenty-four pre-prohibition miniature beers and they are all blob tops. These miniatures, which were all around 4 1/2" to 5" tall, were samples. Almost all of them were embossed with some trade name or the name of the brewery. (For a good view of blobs see Volume I no. 1 p. 14.) Some had paper labels on one side and embossing on the other.

Some of these have survived like the aqua Seipps mini in picture #1, with only the embossing. With beer in them, corks, and a foil wrap, they were expensive and were produced in limited quantities. The Seipps Brewing Company was in Chicago. It was founded in 1872 and continued on for about 18 years until it became the City of Chicago Consolidated Brewing and Malting Company in 1890.

No preprohibition beer is common. Their values range from \$25 to \$40 depending on scarcity and condition. Of course there is always that deal where somebody pays a premium just to add one more beer to the collection.

Prohibition and its approach put an end to beer minis for about twenty years. Early after repeal in 1933, the Muth Company in Buffalo, New York, started producing new minia-

3



tures for advertising purposes. Mini beers as we know them come from this period. Most of the truly rare beers come from the mid-thirties period of the Muth Company. Most of these are decal labeled salt and pepper shakers in four sizes: 3", 3 1/4", 4", and 4 1/4" or stubby, tall stubby, medium, and tall.

Picture #2 shows the two stubby sizes in the Muth series with two decal labeled Primo's from the Hawaii Brewing Corporation. This company became part of the Joseph Schlitz Brewing Company in 1967. Both of these bottles are rare with the 3 1/4" the more difficult to find. Both should be in the \$8-12 range.

Another decal labeled tall stubby (3 1/4") is this Southern from Southern Breweries, Norfolk,

4



Virginia. This very colorful bottle is rare and should be in the \$15+ category. Two other advertising minis from the Muth Company are pictured in #4. These are 3 1/4" wooden, bottle-shaped bottle openers. Usually predating the beginning of beer cans in 1936-37, most collectors feel that these decal labeled openers are as valuable as the glass bottles. As many of these are not duplicated by glass bottles, they certainly are most collectable. These are examples from the Pittsburgh Brewing Co.

This company started as the Franeheim Miller & Company in the 1860's and became the Iron City Brewing Co. in 1888 and part of Pittsburgh Brewing Co. in 1899. The company has been in the red for at least the last three years but is struggling to

5



hang on in competition with the large national breweries. These openers should be in the \$8-10 range.

Later in the 1930's another company appeared to give competition to the Muth Company. This was Bill's Specialty Manufacturing Co. of Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

When Bill's came on the scene many things about miniatures changed. We now begin to see a much greater use of paper and foil labels. In picture #5, we have a 4" medium paper labeled bottle with a non-beer label. This label advertises the Bill's Co. itself. The same is true of the 4 1/4" clear tall decal bottles shown in #6. There is a third version of this bottle as well. The Export should be \$8-10 and the other two \$5-8.

Rather common in the Bill's

series are sets of three from the same brewery. In #7, we see three Schmidt's' paper labeled bottles in the 4 1/4" tall, the 4" medium, and the 3" stubby. Schmidt's of Detroit started as the George Hauck Brewery in 1869. After six name changes, prohibition closed the Champion Brewery in 1920. Reopening as the Schmidt Brewery in 1934, they became part of Associated Brewing in 1955 and closed in 1966. These three bottles are all relatively common and should be in the \$3-6 class.

Other novelties were produced like these Atlas Prager salt and peppers in a wooden rack with a cut out of two inebriated gentlemen leaning against a lamp-post. This would be in the \$5-8 area as this is a common bottle and not too unusual in this form.

--Bill O--



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FOR SALE: Bob Snyder's Bottles in Miniature Volumes I, II, III. Almost mint condition. \$30 ppd. Rick Marek, 88 Kent Pl. Blvd., Summit, NJ 07901.

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