

THE

VOL. XI No. 1
No. 61 1984

MINIATURE BOTTLE COLLECTOR

FROM RAINTREE



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1 NOVEMBER, 1983

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Pass. Pidgeon	F 50
Prairie Falcon	F 40
Ruffed Grouse	F 19
U.S. Ski Team	F 10
Pere. Falcon	G200
D.U. Widgeon	HG 75
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Barrel Racer	M 20
Bobcat	M 15
Bob Cratchit	M 15
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D.U. Widgeon	M 18
Easter S. Eagle	M 20
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Scrooge	M 12
U.S. Ski Team	M 15

GRENADIER

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John Hancock	M 15
Patrick Henry	M 15
Thomas Jefferson	M 15
John Paul Jones	M 15
Chas Lindbergh	M 10
Noble Shriner	M 10

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Jaguar	F 35
Lion	F 35
Lynx & Rabbit	F 30
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Canada Geese	HP 20
Turkey	HP 20
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Tigers (MO)	F 15
Wildcats (KS)	F 15

C'S ART

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Charolais	M 10
Mexican Fighting	M 15
Skunks	M 15

A.S.I.

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1911 Stan. Steamer	F 40

MICHTER'S

Keystone State	F 10
Peace Candle	F 20

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WILLETT

Surface Miner	F 20
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DAVISS

Indy Trans-Am	F 30
Am.Legion Hawaii	F 20

JIM BEAM

Jaguar	F 15
Mare & Colt (Old KY Ed.)	F 50
Sturgeon	F 15

BROOKS

Race Car (Gould)	F 25
" " (Dick)	F 25
" " (Norton)	F 25

COMMON

"A Keeper"	F 25
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CALVERT

Canvasback	F 20
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LIONSTONE

Fire Emblem #5	F 25
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PICKING

Raft	HP 10
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Let's Talk

Welcome to year eleven! In the issue this time we've got a lot of information in both the articles and the advertisements. Note first of all the two bottle shows which have been advertised. The Chicago Show is the largest while the Lilliputian Show is now a close second. Both are well worth your time, energy and money to get there. I'll guarantee you'll have a good time.

Next take a look at who's back with us. Bob Kay has sent in some of the most interesting beer articles you could imagine and you'll be seeing them here all year. Once again Frank Gerlach pays us a visit from Germany with a repeat showing of one of the great bottles of all time.

Speaking of this Remy Martin bottle, a local collector, Bob Meissner, is making a study of this bottle and hopefully will have some news and pictures in the near future. It seems there are quite a few variations to be found.

Since we don't have any pictures in the "What's New" column this time, I'll give you a little rundown. The most interesting bottle I've seen recently is an import from Tbschi of Italy. There are several different new Cream Liqueurs: O'Darby, Myer's, Tresnais from Jim Beam, etc. In the Mrs. Butterworth look-alike contest we have a new Hazelnut concoction from Italy called Florenza. In figurals watch for the new Wild Turkey Eagle and Turkey mini... from the picture, it's a beauty.

Next time we'd like to bring the club addresses up to date, so if your club has had a change, please let us know.

See you in the Spring.

--DMS--

THE

MINIATURE BOTTLE COLLECTOR

Vol. XI No. 1
No. 61 1984

Editor/Publisher DAVID M. SPAID

Art Director/TED OTIS

Features

WHAT'S NEW.....	6
No bottles, just a good editorial.	
MINI BEERS of BOB KAY.....	8
Bob returns with some great ones.	
SILVER COGNACS.....	10
Fred Jinkens is with us once again.	
JUGS.....	11
Vases, amphoras, pitchers, you name it!	
JAMESON IRISH WHISKEY.....	12
Ed Carter features whiskies from Ireland.	
...from FRANCE.....	14
Frank Gerlach with a very special bottle.	
GIRARDOT.....	15
Ever seen these two fellows?	
MELO'S MINIS.....	16
Mike features Chapin & Gore.	
FELT DOLLS.....	18
Well, what else can we call them?	
VIPER BRANDY.....	20
Joe Levesque has a miniature.	
ZWACK.....	23
No bottles, but a good story.	
THE CLUB REPORT.....	28
Lots of news for you here.	

Our Cover

The cover this issue features the new CAESAR'S PALACE bottle from Raintree. Previously Raintree has been known for its clowns, but now there is this splendid new bottle which is destined to become quite a hit. Only 1200 pieces were made and 500 of those won't see collectors' hands. They were purchased by the Las Vegas Casino to be used promotionally. The remaining bottles are rare!

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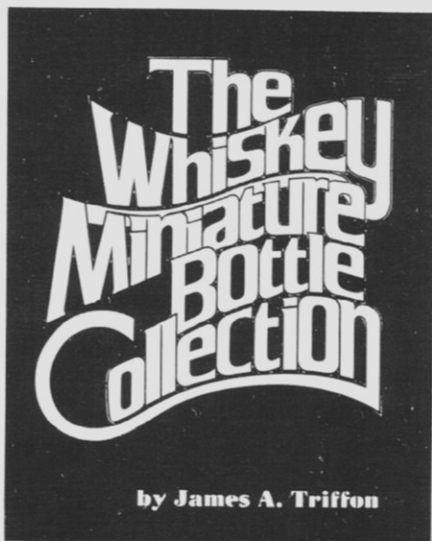
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WHEN MAKING ROOM RESERVATIONS, MENTION



WHAT'S NEW

Old, Odd, or Unusual

by James Triffon

(Ed. Note: This time Jim offers quite a different article. You'll notice that immediately because of the lack of pictures. Basically this is an editorial and one which I personally feel is long overdue to be printed. Remember, The Miniature Bottle Collector is a forum for your thoughts and ideas...we do enthusiastically solicit your editorials and needless to say, your articles!)

Collecting in its most advanced stages is nothing more than a pleasure. The symptoms of the true collector are in the strong instinct to possess and these rarely reach the point of saturation. The rewards are many: among them, the joy of discovery and the pleasure once a coveted bottle or decanter has been secured, and then the sharing of this discovery and happiness with other collectors.

I was first drawn to a fascination of these miniature bottles because of their odd shapes, colors, strange contents and labels. For many years, I purchased all the bottles my limited funds would allow. When the great influx of specialty decanters in ceramic and porcelain came into being some fifteen to twenty years ago, I couldn't resist the aesthetic appeal and the artistic quality in the design. I also began to notice the magnificent glass sculptures and have acquired many examples of this type of bottle art which is almost a thing of the past. Rarely is there a new bottle with an interesting shape or distinguished and colorful art work on the label issued in this country. In this artistic capability, I feel we have failed badly.

Collecting, as often happens, becomes burdensome in size, expenditures, and sheer numbers. Then we tend to become a specialist in one or two of the generic categories of bottle collecting and are able to do justice to all the phases of our selected specialties, such as the many variations in proof, age, color, size, labels, etc.

We should all be concerned at being treated fairly through trading and selling practices, particularly through correspondence. Where there has been a misunderstanding, it has generally been due to a lack of information. Every facet of a bottle should be known to a trader, such as empty bottles, missing or damaged labels, wax covering of caps, nicks or chips in the glass, tax stamps damaged, and finally, is the bottle empty because of evaporation or has it been opened and emptied. This and any other pertinent information that could be helpful should be included. To take time to do this will save future embarrassment and many hard feelings because a bottle/bottles were possibly misrepresented.

Now let's turn to another issue. A price guide is impossible to establish. This should be a "given" to collectors. It is obsolete the day it is printed and becomes a disservice to the collector who bases trades or purchases on it. Prices in many instances have gone into orbit on the older bottles and today there are more miniature bottle collectors than ever... thus the old law of supply and demand is affected.

The final factors in the value of any bottle, in my opinion, are supply, demand, and condition... which of course is elementary. Of lesser importance,

but which still must be taken into consideration, is the fluctuation in value and price from one part of the country to the other. This may be due in part to the availability and release of many of the newer bottles or decanters in one section of the country only. However, it's still something which must be considered.

Putting price aside, we still know that collectors everywhere have experienced the frustrations and difficulties in obtaining a particular bottle or two for their collections. We know that the bottles do exist (having seen them in a private collection or perhaps a photo or possibly in conversation with other collectors. The hunt or search may take years to obtain these rare, unusual and coveted pieces, but when completed, the satisfaction one gets is enormous. There is no end to the hunt and search, as no one collector has every bottle. . . be it a generic specialty or a general collection. There are always bottles seen or heard about that we as collectors did not know existed. This is a great part of the enjoyment and zest of collecting these fascinating decanters.

The new or novice collector in this hobby will find it very rewarding in the contacts with other collectors and of learning what is behind the strange names and places on the label, shapes, colors, contents, proofs, age, etc. For this beginning collector, I would advise you to purchase just what you like or appeals to you and then what the budget allows. Also, be fully cognizant of the fact that there have been many counterfeit bottles/labels produced.

There are bottle clubs in every section of this country, plus several foreign countries. To be a member in one or more of these clubs is to enhance one's knowledge of this hobby, to meet interesting people, and to get the chance to see some fabulous collections.

For myself, I have found many facets in the hobby/avocation, such as cabinet design and construction; lighting (very important and difficult), photography with all of the related aspects and equipment, cataloging or listing of a collection, search and acquisition of books and literature, the liquor industry itself, and of course, the publication of two books on miniature bottles with all the attendant frustrations, labor, expense, and headaches. I suppose this could be called being totally involved, but by whatever name, I have enjoyed every hour that I applied to the hobby and look forward to a few thousand more!

This article has just a few thoughts and ideas that have come to mind and that I have tried to interpret by writing them down on paper. One last thought: COMMUNICATION is the key and the name of the game. That's communication by letters, telephone, attendance and interest in one of our many clubs, and/or in one of the several bottle shows held each year in various parts of the country. If this hobby is to grow and prosper, we must have input and we must COMMUNICATE!

---J. A. T. ---



MINIATURE BEERS

by Bob Kay



The "subtitle" this time is:

TOUGHIES FROM THE EAST COAST

The Stein's Ale and Beer stubbies from Buffalo, NY, make a nice set. The single Stein's Beer created quite a commotion when it turned up. Then it was discovered that it was the same label except missing the gold color. It's probably a printing error which is fine...makes it all the more desirable.

The Doerschuck and Good Host minis are examples of some very tough New York minis. These labels were produced by the North American Brewing Co. which went out of business in 1945.

The four Camden minis are the toughest of the New Jersey minis. These labels were from the Camden County Beverage Co. of Camden, NJ, which closed in 1963. The stubbies are from around 1940 and the four inch version from around 1950.

The Old Glory and Royal Pilsen rank among the scarcest of the mini beers. The Abner Drury Brewery which produced these labels was only in business from the repeal of prohibition in 1933 to 1936.

'Til next time..... Bob Kay.





SILVER COGNACS



Pictured here are two cognacs which come with a silver base. The base of the bottle is not only an attractive addition to the bottle, but serves a very useful purpose... it's also a drinking cup.

Both bottles have the crest of their respective company debossed on the front of the silver base, and they are both flat flask-type bottles. These two pieces seem to be in very short supply, so you'll really have to dig to find them!

--Fred Jinkens--
The Cognac Newsletter



BALLANTINE'S SCOTCH



MICTER'S SOUR MASH



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RUM CARIOCA JUG

STARS



CERTOSINO LIQUEUR



CAZANOVA ANISETTE JUG



EL-AL AIRLINES GIVEAWAY

IRISH

by
ED CARTER



"Usquebaugh" - Water of Life - (or "uige - beatha" in Gaelic) - a Scotch whisky, right? Right...and Wrong! The word means the Irish water of life distilled in the Emerald Isle. The process was an Irish monopoly until about 1600 when the Scots picked up the idea, changed it, improved it and came up with Scotch Whisky.

Irish "Poteen" is still made as a cottage industry - when the wind is strong enough to blow the smoke and odor away before the excise men spot it, "Fancy label" goods are made at only two distilleries: Old Bushmills in North Antrim, and the Midleton complex in East Cork. All the famous Dublin, Cork, and Tullamore brands are produced in Midleton, while Old Bushmills remained unchanged from its original purpose as initiated in 1608. Tullamore Dew has now been discontinued, at least as far as the American market is concerned.

Only a few brands still appear in American potable stores, on the back

bar in the restaurants or under the mirror at our favorite watering hole. The one time favorite imported whiskey has fallen from over 100 brands in the early 20th century to a handful by the 1980's. A recent issue of the wholesale liquor journal on the East Coast lists Dunphy's Original, John Jameson, John Powers, Murphys, Old Bushmills and Paddys as available.

At the same time, a cream and whiskey liqueur has arrived in a dozen forms to be drunk straight or as a shot into a "cuppa cawfee" to jump start an idling circulatory system or to settle a meal or calm a set of jangled nerves. The "water of life" still flows, but the ghost of St. Patrick would probably not recognize it in its most prevalent American form.

So what does this article have to do with miniature bottle collecting? Thanks to Pat McMullen and the articles he sent me, I decided to write an article on Irish Whiskey miniatures. Since I haven't been collecting for forty years



or even ten years but only two, I have less than fifty on hand under nine different brand names. Follow the continuing saga of the little bottles from Eire and we'll both enjoy these articles.

The first group of bottles are by John Jameson Distillery, now a part of the Midleton complex.

No. 1 is a clear, round bottle of 4.6 cl available in a souvenir package at Irish airports, with no proof or age indicated. No. 2 is a round, green 50 ml bottle of 80 proof, but with no age indicated. This bottle is currently available in mini market areas: No. 3 is a New York version of the previous bottle with a bit of glucose added to make it a liqueur. No. 4 is a green flask of 50 ml capacity and 80 proof - a variation of a bottle shown in James Triffon's Vol. 1, page 92. Bottles 4 & 5 were obtained by non-collector friends in Europe.

Bottle no. 6 is a 1/10 pt clear, round at 86 proof and 7 years of age (Triffon p. 90). No. 7 is a variation of the pre-

vious item. Both the last two were obtained from other collectors. Numbers 8 and 9 are the clear and green glass versions shown in Triffon p. 90: 7 yrs old and 90 proof, 1/10 pt. Number 10 is also shown on that page 90: 7 yrs., 86 proof and 1 10 pt. No. 11 is a brown flask, 7 yrs old, no proof stated, 1/10 pt, but seems larger. The last four were purchased from a dealer at the October '83 Skippack show.

Number 12 is a minor variation of number 5, brought back by a friend on a flight from Ireland to the U. S. Number 13 is the Republic of South Africa label version of numbers 5 and 12.

An additional Jameson is illustrated in Triffon, page 92. Efforts to add this one (and others) to my collection continue. Any information, including pictures, on additional Jamesons would be greatly appreciated.

Less words, more pictures on Old Bushmills next time. See you then.

--E. C. --

... from FRANCE

by Frank N. Gerlach



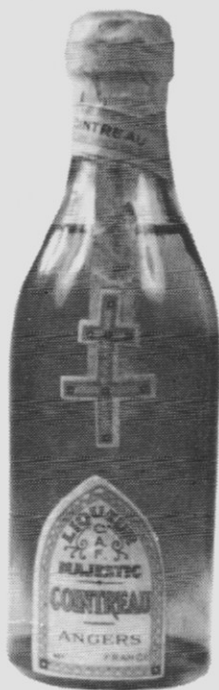
*This Cointreau brandy champagne
was served at the Royal banquet
King George II and Queen Elizabeth
at the baton de Versailles
and was again chosen to be served to
Queen Elizabeth II
during her Majesty's visit to France
in April 1952
R. REMY MARTIN*

Normally you have read my articles about international whiskies. This time I want to show you two very special bottles from France. The first bottle is the most special and I know it has been pictured before; however, it is still such a prize. This is the Remy Martin Baccarat Crystal miniature and is the older of the two versions available. The tag tells everything you really need to know.

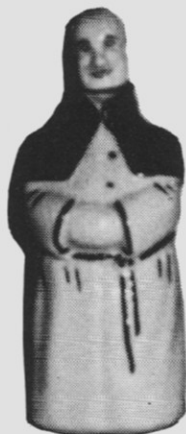
The other piece is a Cointreau bottle I got in a collection. Never having seen it, I wrote the company in Angers, France, and after some time received the following reply: "You are the owner of an old bottle made during the war. It was bottled for a special occasion which today is no longer even known. We have made only a few special bottles and do not even have this bottle in our own private Cointreau collection."

So now my wife has started collecting Cointreau miniatures. Watch out for the oddly shaped Cointreau bottles!

--F. N. G. --



GIRARDOT



Occasionally a surprise comes along. A couple of years back while thumbing through the inventory of a fellow collector's bottles, I spotted two figurals simply designated as "Waiter" and "Monk" listed under the liqueurs section. Not being able to see the bottles as they were boxed away, I wondered just exactly what they were.

After wondering for a considerable amount of time, I was able to get the two figurals as well as a colorful jug from this collection... still sight unseen. Now you win some and lose some in collecting, but this time I had a real winner. The three bottles (jug not pictured) are all products of the Girardot Distillery in Paris. In case you'd like to know, the address is 24 Rue St. -Augustin, but my hunch is the company is long gone. The bottles appear to be

from the late 1940's but I wouldn't be at all surprised to find they were made even much earlier as the waiter in particular is reminiscent of the Robj Art Deco pieces.

The jug contains Curorange which is obviously a curacao liqueur. The two figurals contain Elixir de St. Christophe and the label translated from the French states: "A prodigious digestive made with a base of old Cognac." The waiter stands 5 3/4 inches (14.5 cm) has brown pants, black apron, silver corkscrew, green bottles and white shirt. The monk stands 4 3/4 inches (12 cm) and is entirely in brown and white.

Needless to say I'm ecstatic with the find and only hope sometime to find out more about these bottles and the company which produced them.

--DMS--

melo's minis

by Mike Olson

In this article I would like to feature Chapin and Gore Bourbon and show some of the variations which have been produced over the years. The Chapin and Gore Distillery was founded in 1865 and although I do not have any information on when they started miniature production, I would guess it would have been well before prohibition. After prohibition, they were very active in producing minis for "transportation" and general consumption. This brand, with the possible exception of picture number one, is common and not highly prized by all collectors. The point of this article is that I collect bottle variations and find it very enjoyable to trace the evolution of a particular brand. What follows is a brief history of Chapin and Gore from the 1930's to the 1960's.

Bottle number one is 93 proof, claims Chicago as Home Office, was produced by Distillery No. 19, Dist. of KY and was made in Spring 1930. This bottle is unusual in that it's shaped like a pre-pro corker, but has a lip for the applied cap. Also, this bottle was produced during prohibition, which probably means they were anticipating repeal. Bottle number two is 93 proof, states Chicago, Ill., was bottled by National Distillers Products Corp. (the Standard Oil of Booze) Louisville, KY, has an applied cap and a 1937 Illinois tax stamp. Bottle three is 93 proof, now claims Bardstown, KY as home office, as do the rest, has changed shape from flat to round, has an applied cap and was made in 1948.

Bottle four is 93 proof, has a screw cap and was made in 1955. This bottle has a Minnesota tax stamp (rare - only sold on common carriers) and a private back label which states: Have Fun!!! Imperial Trek Detroit, July 10-12, 1956 Paul G. Johnson, Illustrious Potentate, Zuhrah Temple, Minneapolis, Minn. I am sure this bottle was used for a Shriner train trip and being a member of a fraternal organization, I am amazed that it survived intact. Bottle number five is 86 proof, bottled for Transportation, has an applied cap and was made in 1957. Bottle number six is 86 proof, bottled for Transportation also, has an applied cap and was made in 1964.

Of the last three bottles, number seven is 86 proof, bottled for Transportation, has a "short" neck, an applied cap and was made in 1965. Bottle number eight is 86 proof, has a "short" neck, a pilfer proof screw cap and was made in the mid-1960's. The last bottle (number nine) is 86 proof, has a screw cap and was made in 1963.

As a personal opinion, I think that the large, fancy C & G logo on bottles one, two, and three and the smaller version on bottles four and five was very attractive and added class to an otherwise plain label.

As always, if anyone would like any further information on any bottle pictured, please feel free to contact me.

Until next time... MELO



FELT DOLLS

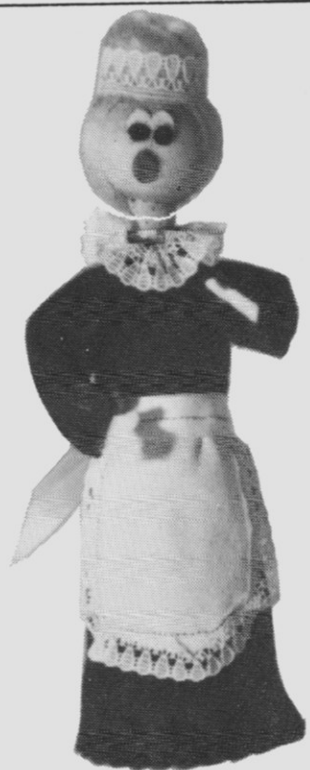
We all look at our collections from time to time and gaze fondly from bottle to bottle. Then occasionally our eye stops to rest on a particular piece which for some reason or another is a highlight. The bottle may be a special ceramic figural or an intricately done glass piece; however, almost never will it be a felt-covered, figural-type glass bottle!

The six bottles shown on these two pages certainly won't ever be a highlight in anyone's collection except from a humorous standpoint. Admiring these bottles is like admitting you watch The Three Stooges or listening to old Spike Jones records. Many of us do those things, we just don't like to admit it! We do take a little secret pleasure occasionally from indulging ourselves in silliness; so it's no wonder that these bottles (and many others like them) have been successful.

Originally these six were part of a set of twenty-four marvelously ridiculous little characters sold in Europe. The heads or stoppers are all the same but the felt costumes which cover the glass bottles are unique and highly colorful. You should see the Bullfighter!

These six are just starting to turn up on the west coast and are found at a very reasonable price. They're guaranteed to bring a smile to your face.





Viper Brandy

by Joseph Levesque

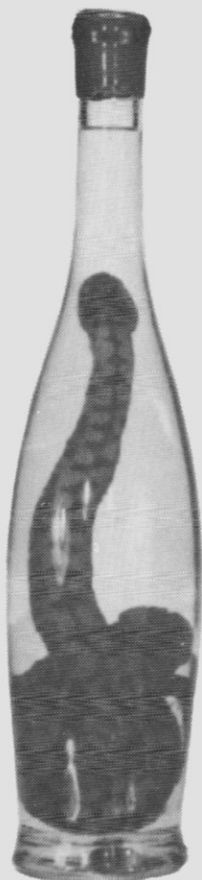
Ed. Note: Recently Joe contacted me concerning the Viper bottles. At this time he had been able to procure a mini Viper Brandy. We thought since the majority of you did not subscribe to Pictorial Bottle Review (where this article first appeared) that you'd enjoy reading the original article now that a mini could be added to the pictures. This is the original article from September of 1981.)

Recently I ran across a remedy left over from several centuries and still actively in use in Southern Europe. It is the practice of pickling venomous snakes in brandy, and drinking the brandy as a remedy for various ills, from stomach aches to snakebites.

In many Mediterranean cultures, vipers were thought to have great healing powers. Medicine made from their bodies were greatly sought after as cures for a variety of ills (and sometimes as aphrodisiacs) a practice that still survives, and this bottle represents one of the last vestiges of this practice and belief. It is a link between the present and the past.

Since the dawn of human thought, poisonous snakes have had a powerful hold on man's imagination and have strongly influenced his belief and actions. Snakes and alcohol, in the form of wine, have been associated with medicine, sex, and religion from time immemorial.

The snake has been a symbol of health for over 4000 years, first appearing in Babylon. Then it reappeared in Greek mythology with a pair of wings and given the name Caduceus, a word derived from the Greek meaning herald's wand or staff. The Caduceus is the official symbol of the U.S. Army Medical Corps, the Public Health Service, and the medical profession in general.



Distilled spirits as we know them today came into being in the 12th and 13th centuries. By the 16th century, the art of distillation was well known all over Europe, where liqueurs and brandies were distilled and compounded by apothecaries and alchemists, and prescribed by doctors only.

In *The Art of Distillation*, published in London in 1651 by John French, remedies in the form of liqueurs and elixirs are offered for some 150 diseases and infirmities, including Baldness, Forgetfulness, Madness, Measles, Pimples, and Venereal distempers! Among the recommended elixirs is Viper Brandy or Wine.

Where the viper and alcohol converged is unknown, but for several centuries French peasants have placed venomous serpents (Vipers) in Brandy or Marc and have drunk it as an elixir or remedy. One very old French lady who I interviewed swore up and down that Viper Brandy was available at the local pharmacy when she was a child at the turn of the century.

Americans may scoff at this "marriage" between the snake and alcohol; however, less than 150 years ago, in the American West, one would imbibe freely of Whiskey to insure immunization from rattlesnake bites. For snake bites in the 1800's, one physician, writing in a leading medical journal of the day, prescribed a half pint of bourbon every five minutes until a quart had been taken. Another physician administered a quart of Brandy and a gallon and a half of whiskey over a 36 hour period. He reported in all seriousness that his patient was seen after recovery looking for another rattlesnake to bite him. These reports represent informed medical opinion of the day in this country, not folk medicine or humor.

During the last months of the Civil War, a snakebitten Confederate soldier was given a gallon of whiskey then worth \$450.00 in inflated Confederate money, over the protests of the quartermaster who felt the remedy was worth more than the man.



By the turn of the century, most of the medical profession had lost faith in the curative properties of whiskey, although its use as a folk remedy lingered much longer.

I was fortunate enough to purchase two bottles of Viper Brandy from a wine producer of impeccable credentials. He is an owner-grower of one of the classical wines of France. Since the French Government will not license such a scientifically unproven "remedy", we must of necessity keep the producer's name anonymous.

If a vineyard worker gets a snake bite, he is immediately given Viper Brandy. When you have been bitten by

Viper Brandy



VIPER BRANDY is an age old peasant remedy still produced in the Burgundy District of France. A recent analysis of its contents indicates it contains certain substances not compatible with modern science. The SURGEON GENERAL has determined it may be injurious to your health.

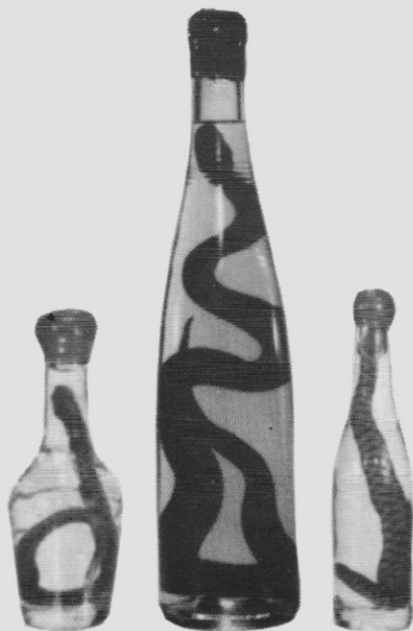
NOT FOR CONSUMPTION BY MODERN HUMAN BEINGS!

a venomous snake and you feel your whole system weakening, I guess you'd drink anything. Personally, I would rather go to a hospital, but I am told that Viper Brandy really works, and if it works, you can't knock it!

Occasionally, vineyard workers will take a drink of Viper Brandy in the belief it will immunize their system against the deadly effect of a possible snake bite. I have personally tasted this 100 proof brandy before it was placed in a Viper bottle, but since I am a city slicker and since my chances of getting a venomous snake bite are rather minimal, I did not see any need of immunization.

The viper of central France is only about 24 inches long, and one inch across. It can be deadly, but today most bites are treated successfully. The female is somewhat larger than the male. The viper is placed alive in a clean bottle and Brandy is slowly poured in the bottle through a funnel until full. The viper reaches for air at the top, and eventually dies in that position. On second thought, it must be an easy death. On the male, as it relaxes in the brandy, a little double sack appears a few inches from the end of the tail. These are the male organs. I had the good fortune of acquiring both a male and female in Viper Brandy. I am told the females outnumber the males 10 to 1.

This bottle is not available commercially for obvious reasons, but it is currently in use in France and I presume other countries as well. It is available if one personally knows the peasants who still use it.



VIPER BRANDY is not an aberration, but a unique and rare collector's item reminding us of the remedies of our forefathers. It has an historical significance in the development of medicine and is a link with mythology and folklore. I shall never pass in front of a hospital or doctor's office where the Caduceus is visible without thinking about my Viper Brandy bottles on the mantle.

ZWACK



l to r: Jim Triffon, Alexa Zwack, Tony Natelli, Ed Neugass, Joe Levesque, Gioia Zwack, Al Manual, David Maund

On Sunday, September 25, 1983, the attendees of the Northeast Mini Bottle Collectors Show had a special treat in being visited by two quite important guests: Ms. Alexa and Ms. Gioia (Joya) Zwack, namesakes of the original Zwack Company of Budapest, Hungary. The Zwack Company produced extraordinary liqueurs and bottles, many of which were made in miniature.

For bottle collectors, meeting Alexa and Gioia was a special pleasure as no contact was expected since this family-owned operation had been taken over by the communist government. Indeed, Zwack operations do still exist, although not on the scale of the original plan in Hungary.

What is most remarkable is that Alexa and Gioia live in New York and are native born Americans!

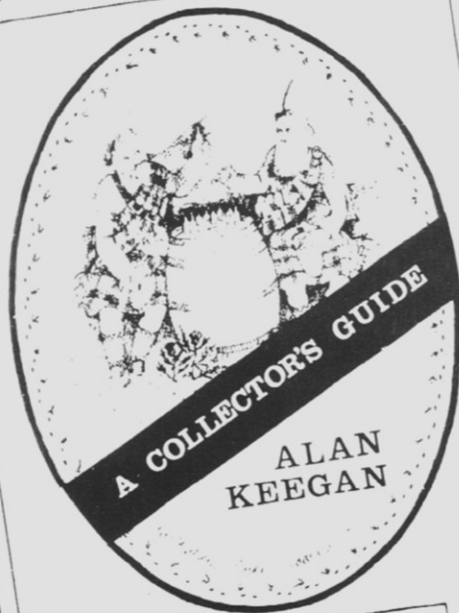
Ms. Alexa Zwack has been kind enough to give us a glimpse of her family. There are nine Zwack forbears. Ms. Micyneni Zwack is a great aunt, living in Europe who is well into her 90's. It has been reputed that her longevity can be traced to her daily use of Unicum (a digestive bitters) which appears frequently in an embossed ball-shaped bottle.

Mr. Peter Zwack (Alexa and Gioia's father) heads Zwack Liqueur operations which are still in operation in Austria and Italy. He is married to Anne who came originally from England. They have six children: Peter (Pebo) Boynton, Iris Master, Jancsi (John) Rogers, Sandor Alexander, Isabela (Pinky) Veronica as well as Alexa and Gioia.

Mrs. Anne Zwack (Alexa and Gioia's mother) is a frequent writer for the New York Times and Gourmet Magazine as well as a collector of Zwack bottles... having both large and miniature sizes.

Alexa and Gioia were guests of Mr. Ed Neugass of Arlington, Virginia. Ed is an avid collector of Zwack bottles and reports that after the New York show, both Alexa and Gioia showed interest in collecting miniature bottles... especially those with the family name. To answer an obvious question, there will be new Zwack miniatures: a 50 ml Unicum, a Viennese Apricot, a Barack Palinka (Dry Apricot Brandy) and a Viennese Pear (Csazar).

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THE CLUB REPORT

Long time no column. Felt this had to be included this time as there's just too much to say. Elsewhere in the issue is an account of meeting the Zwack sisters in New York which was certainly a delight to all in attendance.

New York also had the annual Northeast Mini Liquor Bottle Club collector award. This year the award went to two gentlemen, both of whom have given miniature bottle collecting a big boost. The recipients were Tony Natelli and Joseph Levesque.

Tony has been an avid collector for well over a score of years and has helped our hobby with his publication The Miniature Bottle Mart since 1970. Joe has also been collecting for a number of years and has been instrumental in adding countless French bottles to our collections as well as co-founding the Miniature Cognac Club. Our hats are off to both these men and the work they've done to further our hobby.

Word isn't out yet about the possible show in New York for this year; however, there's a very healthy rumor which suggests that the three eastern clubs (Northeast, Del-Val and Mid-Atlantic) get together and sponsor something in Atlantic City. Sounds good to me!

Speaking of the Del-Val Club, their next semi-annual show will be held in Skippack, PA, on Sunday, April 1st. For all the details, contact Mr. Norm Luber, 653 Parlin Street, Philadelphia, PA 19116.

I believe there may just be quite a few new faces at the next show in Skippack. It seems that yours truly and the

magazine were written up recently in the Philadelphia Inquirer's Action Line column. Since that column appeared, our mail has shown a regular increase from the eastern Pennsylvania and adjacent area of New Jersey.

During the fall of last year, the same thing happened in Minneapolis and we benefitted to the tune of many new subscriptions from collectors. These people now know of other publications, shows, and needless to say, all the clubs. Remember, those of you in the clubs who are concerned with publicity, there are countless numbers of collectors just waiting to find out you exist. 'Nuff editorializing!

The Chicago Show or the 5th Annual Mini Bottle Show and Fair of the Midwest Mini Bottle Collectors' in on April 28th and 29th. (Ad may be found elsewhere in this issue.) The (or maybe I should say "a") highlight of last year's get together was the Friday night auction where unheard of prices were paid for certain items. You wouldn't believe the prices if you weren't there. This auction will once again be held and it promises to be bigger than ever.

The third Lilliputian Show this year will be held on June 9th and 10th but at a new (and larger) location. If the ad didn't make this issue, all the details will be here next time. Last year's show was certainly a landmark for the west coast and this year is already shaping up as a much larger show according to the bottle chairpersons!

Well, that's it for this time. We'll return after the Chicago show.

--DMS--

The Club DIRECTORY

USA

Del-Val Miniature Bottle Club: c/o Mr. Norm Luber, 653 Parlin Street, Philadelphia, PA 19116.

Great Lakes Miniature Bottle Club: Ms. Jean Davis, P. O. Box 245, Fair Haven, MI 48023.

Kiski Mini Beam & Spec. Club: c/o Mr. Joe Balcer, 243 Maryland Dr., Glenshaw, PA 15116.

Lilliputian Miniature Bottle Club: c/o Mrs. Lee Weiss, 5626 Corning Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90056.

Mardi Gras Miniature Bottle Collectors Club of Louisiana: c/o Mr. John Lewis, 5 Yellowstone Dr., New Orleans, LA 70114.

Mid-Atlantic Miniature Bottle Club: c/o Mr. Don Prosize, 6205 Tecumseh Place, College Park, MD 20740.

Midwest Miniature Bottle Club: c/o Mr. Verne Brinker, 3510 South 52nd Court, Cicero, IL 60650.

The Miniature Cognac Club: c/o Mr. Joseph Levesque, 7212 Seminole Terrace, Oklahoma City, OK 73132.

Northeast Mini Bottle Club: c/o Mr. Al Manuel, 1225 McDonald Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11230.

Northwest Mini Club of Portland: c/o Mrs. Darlene Sandstedt, 18845 S.E. Tickle Creek Rd., Boring, OR 97009.

Orange County Miniature Bottle Club: c/o Mr. Jim Triffon, 9452 Luders Ave., Garden Grove, CA 92644.

Oregon Miniature Bottle Club: c/o Mr. Wayne Andrus, P. O. Box 70201, Eugene, OR 97401 ph (503) 343-4622.

FOREIGN

Mini Bottle Club of New South Wales: c/o Mr. Dan Power, Box A-1 PO, So. Enfield 2133, New South Wales, Australia.

Greater Edmonston Miniature Liquor Bottle Collectors Association: c/o Mr. Brian Hutchings, Box 1327, Morinville, Alberta T0G 1P0 Canada.

Club Mini Barman: c/o Mr. Pierre LaSalle, c.p. 126 Rosemont, Montreal Quebec H1X 3B6 Canada.

The Mini Bottle Club: c/o Mr. D. Taviner, The Pines Hotel, 81/82 Marshfield Road, Chippenham, Wiltshire, England.

Club Delle Mignonnettes: c/o Mr. Franco Zingales, Piazza Maria Adelaide di Savoia 5, Milano, Italia.

Miniature Bottle Club of Kobe: c/o Mr. H. Miura, 1-56 Sannomiya-cho, Ikutaku, Kobe-City, Hyogo-ken, Japan.

Osaka Miniature Bottle Club: c/o Mr. Taizo Shiratsuchi, 11 - 2 Hakucho 1-Chome, Habikino-shi, Osaka 583, Japan

The Northern Alcoholicist Club: c/o Ms. Erica Mulder, P. O. Box 60155, Titirangi, Auckland 7, New Zealand.

Port Nicholson Miniature Bottle Club: c/o Mr. David Smith, 86 Rawhiti Rd., Pukerua Bay, Wellington, New Zealand

The Miniature Bottle Collectors Association of Norway: c/o Mr. Fred Ooster, Hoeybraatenveien 21 A, N - Oslo 10, Norway.

Miniflaschenclub Volkarsene v.: c/o Herr Arthur Helfer, Obere Stadtmauer 53, 3549 Volkarsen, West Germany.

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WANTED: Mini Beer Bottles. Collector will buy, sell or trade for hard to find bottles. Michael Ginn, 3770 Flora Vista #1806, Santa Clara, CA 95051 or call (408) 554-9283.

WANTED: One mini bottle of "Bourbon Street Bourbon". Write to: W. "Tibby" Thibodeaux, 2322 No. Claiborne Ave., New Orleans, LA 70117.

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