

THE

VOL. XII No. 2
No. 68 1985

**MINIATURE
BOTTLE
COLLECTOR**

SKI COUNTRY!
DUCKS UNLIMITED!!



JON-SOL, INC.

3108 W. MEINECKE AVE.
MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN 53210

FEBRUARY, 1985

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Bull Rider	F	22	Pony Express	F	27	1st. Pennsylvania	F	25	FAMOUS F		
Chuker Partridge	F	32	U.S. Marshall	F	27	Napoleon	F	10	Dino Tetari	HP	35
Canvasback (DU)	F	17	Ben Franklin	F	17	Stonewall Jackson	F	25	Fireman #1	P	30
Gyrfalcon	F	47	Patrick Henry	F	17	Frosty the snow man	F	17	Stamp Set (2 BtIs)	M	20
Harpy Eagle	F	87	Stephen Austin	F	20	Texas Ranger	F	22	U.S. DIST. PROD		
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Mountain Lion	F	22	John Hancock	M	15	King's African Reg. Q	10	10	White Queen	M	10
Prairie Falcon	F	42	Patrick Henry	M	15	Pancho-on-a-Horse	HG	75	C'S ART		
Red Tailed Hawk	F	57	Thos. Jefferson	M	15	1st. Va. Vol. (INSSA)	M	15	Charolais Bull	F	22
Stone Sheep	F	37	Chas. Lindbergh	M	10	Moseby's Raiders "	M	15	Chipmunk	M	15
U.S. Ski Team	F	22	Game Bird Series	M	25	6th Wis. Reg. "	M	15	Afghan	M	10
Woodland Trio	F	22	Canada Goose	M	25	Fz. Serra	M	10	Setter	M	10
Ringmaster	F	17	Pheasant	M	25	Father's Gift	M	10	WILLETT		
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P.T. Barnum	M	15	Wood Duck	M	25	Jaguar	F	27	Ky. Colonel	F	10
Radder	M	15	CYRUS NOBLE			Mt. Goat & Puma	F	27	Barrel & Stand	HG	15
Barrel Racer	M	15	Blacksmith	F	37	Monk & Choir	F	17	POTTER		
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Widgeon (DU)	M	15	Mt. Lion & Cubs	F	77	Billy Boxer	M	8	DAVIES		
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Male Merganser	M	19	Bear & Cubs	HG	55	Percy Poole	M	8	Indy Turbo Trans-Am	F	32
Gyrfalcon	M	20	Buffalo & Calif	HG	55	Scotty Terrier	M	8	WILD TURKEY		
Landlocked Salmon	M	15	Mt. Lion & Cubs	HG	55	Terry Terrier	M	8	Turkey #3	M	10
Lookout Indian	M	15	Gambler	M	10	Cat Series No. 1.	M	8	Turkey #4	M	10
Phoenix Bird	M	25	Walrus Family	M	10	Samy Siamese	M	8	JIM BEAM		
Prairie Falcon	M	20	OLD COMMON			Suzie Siamese	M	8	Sigsgoon	F	15
R.W. Blackbird	M	20	Oktoberfest	F	40	Tilly Shorthair	M	8	BROOKS		
Snow Leopard	M	15	Yankee Doodle	F	35	Terry Tiger	M	8	A.H. Dick Racer	F	25
White Falcon	M	25	Firemen	F	45	Tom Cat	M	8	JIM BEAM		
			#3 Valiant Vol.	F	45	College Series.	F	17	SIGSGOON		
			Modern #1	F	45	Tenn Volunteers	F	17	BROOKS		
			#4	F	45	Mo. Tigers	F	17	BROOKS		
			MICHTER'S			Auburn Tigers	F	17	BROOKS		
			Keystone State	F	12	KS State Wildcats	F	17	BROOKS		
			Peace Candle	F	20	Clemson Tigers	F	17	BROOKS		

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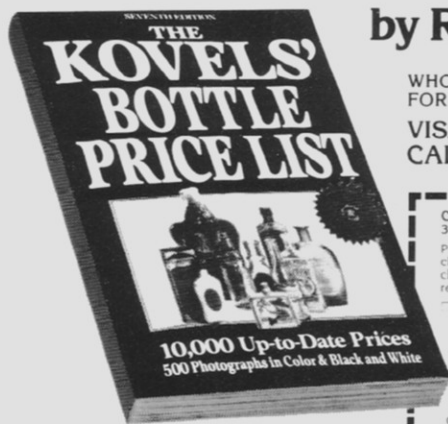
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Let's Talk

This is a most sad column to write. In the last few weeks, our hobby has lost two of its foremost collectors: Linus Earl of El Monte, California, and Don Wodicka of Racine, Wisconsin. Both these men were known far and wide for both their collections and their interest in the hobby. They will be more than missed!

The initial response to our WHO'S WHO IN MINIATURE BOTTLE COLLECTING has been slightly better than anticipated. The individual responses have been quite good; however, only one club was heard from. Now, even if you think your club might have sent in your name, drop us a line yourself just to make certain.

The questionnaire on page 25 is a modification of one sent in by Bill O'Fallon of Carbondale, Illinois. It's simple, it's to the point and allows you to give a good deal of information with a minimum of effort. If you're one who would never tear up a magazine, please make a xerox of the page and send it in. All you can do is increase your knowledge of collecting and you might even meet someone in your own area!

In the issue this time are several of our regulars; however, some of your favorite columns might not be here. Jim Triffon is on the mend and will be back hopefully in the next issue. Bob Kay, when I saw him at the Chicago Show, assured me that more articles are on the way. And, Lloyd McLeod has had an article in for some time now but yours truly must get a decent picture of the bottle which accompanies the article.

I'm looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the West Coast show in June. And, don't miss the KQED Beer Festival in San Francisco on July 6th!! --DMS--

THE

Vol. XII No. 2
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MINIATURE BOTTLE COLLECTOR

Editor/Publisher DAVID M. SPAID

Art Director/TED OTIS

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Our Cover

We hadn't heard from Ski Country for quite a little while. Now we've got some real beauties beginning with this Male Bufflehead Duck from the Ducks Unlimited Series. Of all the Ski Country bottles, the Ducks Unlimited Series seems to be the most popular with both collectors and duck lovers. However, if you're not smitten with this fellow, turn to the center of the magazine for two more beauties!

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CHIISAI BIN

Take a look at our new Dickens' characters and one of the new attractive vase sets, the Seagulls. Unfortunately, we can't bring you these in color, so you'll just have to take our word for it! They are excellent! As stated, the Seagulls are just one of the new sets of vases which were extremely well accepted at the Chicago Show recently. If you're not on our list, drop us an SASE as we're readying the newest brochure.

SEAGULLS..



PICKWICK SET



melo's minis

by Mike Olson

In this article I would like to feature two distillers who produced blended whiskeys in black and red label variations. This practice enabled the distiller to market two different products. The "black" label usually contained a higher percentage of straight whiskeys and was therefore considered to be of higher quality.

The first of the distillers, Schenleys, produced their variations from 1937 until about 1942. Production was discontinued during World War II, which saw the end of many brands.

Brown and Forman marketed their variations under the King label and produced the bottles in their Louisville, KY plant. The black label was produced from the early 1940's until the mid-1950's, while the red label, which appears at the same time, seems to end in the late 1940's.

Even though these miniatures were produced for relatively short periods of time, many have survived and are available to collectors.

Bottle number one is Schenleys Black Label in a clear round bottle. This style label was adopted July 10, 1937. It is 90 proof, four or more years old, has a 1940 Florida tax stamp and was bottled by Schenley Distilleries, Lawrenceburg, IN. The next bottle is Black Label in an amber tear drop shaped flask. It is 90 proof, two and a half years or more old, has a 1936 Illinois tax stamp and was bottled by Jos. S. Finch and Co. Bottle number three is Red Label in a clear glass tear drop shaped flask. It is 90 proof, two and a half years or more old, has a 1937 Illinois tax stamp and was bottled by Jos. S. Finch.

Continuing on, the next bottle is a Red Label in a clear glass round bot-

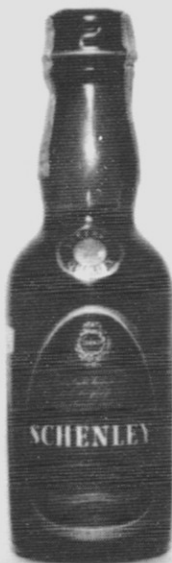
tle. It is 90 proof, four or more years old, was made about 1939 and bottled by Schenleys. Bottle number five is Red Label in a round amber bottle with a new label adopted May 9, 1941. It is 86 proof, five or more years old, has a 1942 Wisconsin tax stamp and was bottled by Schenleys. The last of the Schenleys Red Labels is a clear glass tear drop shaped flask. It is 86 proof (which was printed over 90 proof), four or more years old and was made in 1941.

The first of the King Black Labels is a clear glass flat bottle. It is 86 proof, fifty-seven or more months old and was made about 1941. The eighth bottle is King Red Label and is also a clear glass flat bottle. It is 86 proof, four or more years old and was made about 1941. The next one is King Red Label in a round amber bottle. Interestingly enough, it has the same labels as bottle number eight.

The tenth bottle then is King Black Label in a round amber bottle. It has the same labels as bottle seven! The next one is King Black Label in a round amber bottle. It is 86 proof, four or more years old and was made in 1947. Bottle number twelve is King Red Label in a round amber bottle. It is 86 proof, five or more years old and was made in 1947. The last piece is King Black Label in a round amber bottle. It is 86 proof, four or more years old and was made about 1948. This last label was used on a clear glass round bottle (not pictured) which was produced until the mid-1950's.

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

Until next time. . . . MELO





CREAM of the Crop

"Our new St. Brendan's Irish Cream Liqueur," says Thomas Kaminsky, president and chief executive of the newly formed St. Brendan's Irish Cream Liqueur Co., New York, "which we are now introducing into New Jersey, Maryland, Massachusetts, and Florida is the first northern Irish cream liqueur and the only one to contain both genuine Irish whiskey and Irish cream. The whiskey is from Ireland's oldest distillery, Bushmill's, and the cream is from St. Brendan's Irish Cream Liqueur Co., Derry. The other Irish cream brands use Irish neutral spirits."

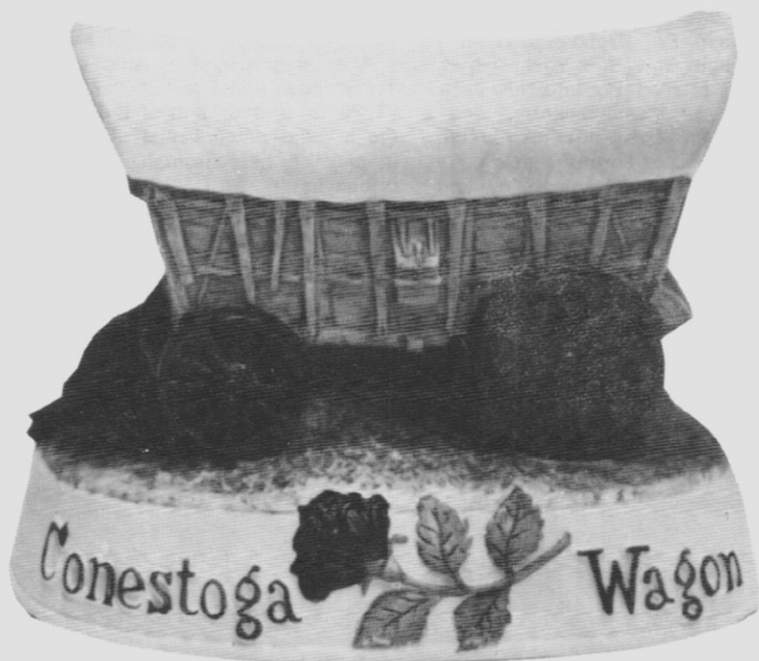
"Furthermore, the retail price of St. Brendan's will be between \$1.50 to \$2.00 more than that of Baileys, now the highest price brand. Hence, our theme: 'The price is high, but the taste is heaven.'"

The above was taken from a recent issue of the English magazine, Wine and Spirits. The miniature is not too easy to come by, but it was first found (as far as is known) in Arizona in November of 1984. And, it's delicious as well as extremely attractive in the frosted, cognac-type bottle!



MOUNT HOPE

Estate & Winery



Last time we had the second in the Mt. Hope Firefighter series to show you, this time it's the Conestoga Wagon. This is a recent issue of only 1200 pieces and they've just quietly slipped into collectors' hands in the last few weeks. This is a highly colorful bottle which should be more than well accepted by figural collectors everywhere. If your local dealer does not carry it, write to Mt. Hope!

Scotch For The Connoisseur

by Roy Holden

Once more Spring is here and we have six more miniature Scotch to warm your collectors' hearts...the bottles themselves, not their contents. Starting with bottle number one, we have Stratton's Special. I featured a variation of this a couple of years ago. The one featured in this article is a lot rarer, it was produced in the early 1950's in Bolton, Lancashire. This is just twenty or so miles from where I live here in Southport.

Brewery bottles have been featured many times in my articles and Gold Ling by Hurst of Halifax is another beauty. Yes, it's another from Yorkshire, too. I am certain you can see by the bottles I've featured in the past three years that the remarks I made about Yorkshire being a fine county for Scotch miniatures has been well proven. In fact, the cream of desired bottles of miniature Scotch are still to be found in England, from the hundreds of brands put out forty or so years ago by small breweries, wine shops, grocers, off-sales, etc. for promotion of their businesses.

I have featured House of Lords before, but the one pictured in this issue was released by Donald Bain in the 1940's. It is not quite as rare as Henry Simpson's House of Lords from one of my earlier articles.

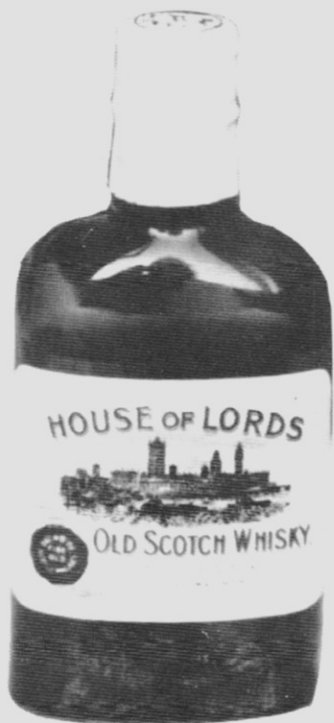
Many of you U.S.A. collectors who have visited these shores twenty or thirty years ago would have seen the many Lyons Corner Houses as they were called. There was one in particular on the corner of Trafalger Square and the Strand. The Trocadero brand is one which would have been sold there and it's similar in shape to Glayva from the 1950's. Quite a good bottle to have in any collection today.

Over the past fifty years, Hedges and Butler have introduced many brands mostly for the U.S. market, more recently in Japan. Royal Palace is one of their more rare brands and is not found too often today. It came out just before the war in the late 1930's.

Well, time and space call the tune again and our last bottle is from another firm who have introduced all kinds of miniature bottles in the past fifty years. The bottle featured is also found as a micro-mini. Taplows Mountain Music really adds a "classic" touch to one's shelves. The bottle featured has all the usual characteristics of Taplows miniatures whether Port, Sherry, or their ordinary blended whisky, just called Taplows.

Hope you have enjoyed the six bottles in this issue. I'll be back in the Summer with six more!

--R. H. --





FROM JAPAN

by TAIZO SHIRATSUCHI

First may I present the two bottles from THE NIKKA WHISKY DISTILLING CO. The Kashiwa distillery of Nikka bottled SUPER NIKKA and G & G WHITE whiskies with the special labels for selling only in Kashiwa City. At the time the miniatures were released for only the Kashiwa Chamber of Commerce and Industry. They were used as a gift set to be given to guests as a souvenir.

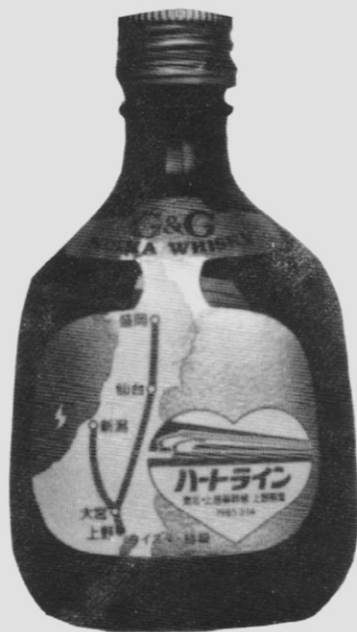
The first bottle is SUPER in a pear clear glass and has a white and light blue label with gold letters. The second, G & G WHITE, in in an oval clear bottle with a blue and white label which is trimmed in green. Both contain 50 ml at 43 percent alcohol and have a green oak leaf which is the emblem of Kashiwa City on the labels.

The third bottle, NIKKA G & G BLACK, was released to commemorate the new run of the bullet train lines, the Tohoku and the Joetsu Shinkansen, from OMIYA to UENO, Tokyo. It is in a black oval bottle of 50 ml contents. There is a map of the north part of Japan drawn with the Tohoku and Joetsu Shinkansen routes and two green designs of the train in a heart shape on a silver background label. It is available in a very limited area along the two Shinkansen lines.

The last bottle is CLASSIC Whisky from SUNTORY LIMITED in a clear round bottle which is 10.2 cm tall. This bottle has a white main label with black and red letters and a red neck label. It appeared in March following on the heels of February issuance of ELK.

-- T. S. --





Ski Country



By now many of you will already have the new Ski Country Club Seagull bottle. This is an excellent piece and possibly the prize of the entire group of club bottles. So far this one has been kept completely in the hands of collectors and are not appearing in dealer's price lists. If you didn't order one through the club, this time you may not get lucky.

The other two bottles haven't been shown yet to our knowledge. Both will make their appearances shortly and undoubtedly will quickly disappear into collectors' hands. The Ducks Unlimited Male Bufflehead is a most unique duck. In fact, we found him so unique, we put him on the cover this time!

The new Owl though must be the winner. With all the excellent owls which Ski Country has done through the years, this one has got to be the best. When you see the life-like detail of this bottle, you'll have to agree!



W. J. L. 1888

Ski Country Guide



- | | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. MAJESTIC EAGLE | 76. DRUM EAGLE | 140. DEER DANCER |
| 2. SNOWY OWL | 77. MALLARD DUCK FAMILY | 141. BARREL RACER |
| 3. PEACOCK | 78. KING EIDER DUCK | 142. BUFFALO STAMPEDE |
| 4. GILA WOODPECKER | 79. MUSKIE | 143. RINGNECKED PHEASANT |
| 5. RED-SHOULDERED HAWK | 80. SCREECH OWL FAMILY | 144. MOUSE |
| 6. RAM | 81. RED-TAILED HAWK | 145. DUCKS UNLIMITED |
| 7. LEADVILLE LADIES | 82. WHITE FALCON | WOOD DUCK |
| 9. CALIFORNIA CONDOR | 83. BARN SWALLOW | 146. ANTELOPE DANCER |
| 10. GOLDEN EAGLE | 84. BOB CRATCHIT/TINY TIM | 147. PASSENGER PIGEON |
| (aka MOUNTAIN EAGLE) | 85. FIGHTING PHEASANTS | 148. JAGUAR |
| 11. MALLARD DUCK | 86. SAW WHET OWL | 149. GYRFALCON |
| 12. CANADA GOOSE | 87. BALTIMORE ORIOLE | 150. SQUIRREL PLAQUE |
| 13. PEACE DOVE | 88. BLUE JAY | 151. WHOOPING CRANE |
| 14. COLORADO SCHOOL OF | 89. RED-WINGED BLACKBIRD | 152. MALE MERGANSER |
| MINES BURRO | 90. BASSETT HOUND | 153. GREEN WINGED TEAL |
| 15. ELEPHANT ON A DRUM | 91. PENGUIN FAMILY | 154. FALCON DANCER |
| 16. FOX ON A LOG | 92. COYOTE FAMILY | 155. FOX & BUTTERFLY |
| 17. HARPY EAGLE | 93. ARKANSAS LABRADOR | 156. THE SURVIVOR |
| 18. AMERICAN OSPREY | 94. SKUNK FAMILY | |
| 19. MOUNTAIN LION | 95. MRS. CRATCHIT | |
| 20. GREAT GREY KANGAROO | 96. PIN TAIL DUCK | |
| 21. OREGON CAVEMAN | 97. LOOKOUT INDIAN | |
| 22. THE RINGMASTER | 98. BLACK LABRADOR | |
| 23. CLYDE | 99. SNOW LEOPARD | |
| 24. AUSTRALIAN BLACK SWAN | 100. CHUKKAR PARTRIDGE | |
| 25. RED-HEADED DUCK | 101. INDIAN CHIEF #1 | |
| 26. CLOWN BUST | 102. INDIAN CHIEF #2 | |
| 27. SAGE GROUSE | 103. SCROOGE | |
| 28. GREAT HORNED OWL | 104. SCISSOR-TAILED FLY- | |
| 29. BONNIE | CATCHER | |
| 30. TOM THUMB | 105. FOX FAMILY | |
| 31. INDIAN DANCERS (6) | 106. GREAT SPIRIT | |
| 37. RACCOON | 107. WYOMING BRONCO | |
| 38. WOOD DUCK | 108. PEREGRINE FALCON | |
| 39. SKIER (Red) | 109. WIDGEON | |
| 40. SKIER (Blue) | 110. NEAR MISS | |
| 41. TIGER ON A BALL | 111. RIVER OTTER | |
| 42. LION ON A DRUM | 112. EAGLE DANCER | |
| 43. JENNY LIND (Blue) | 113. U. S. SKI TEAM | |
| 44. JENNY LIND (Yellow) | 114. CANADA GOOSE FAMILY | |
| 45. CIGAR STORE INDIAN | 115. ELK | |
| 46. WILD TURKEY | 116. BUFFALO DANCER | |
| 47. CONNECTICUT ROBIN | 117. MEADOWLARK | |
| 48. MOUNTAIN GOAT | 118. BULL RIDER | |
| 49. LIPIZZAN | 119. WOOD DUCK PLAQUE | |
| 50. PALOMINO | 120. EASTER SEAL EAGLE | |
| 51. BABY SNOWY OWL | 121. DALL SHEEP | |
| 52. BLACK-FOOTED FERRET | 122. DESERT SHEEP | |
| 53. BLUE-WINGED TEAL | 123. RUFFED GROUSE | |
| 54. BROWN TROUT | 124. MALLARD 1981 | |
| 55. SPECTACLED OWL | 125. BOBCAT | |
| 56. P. T. BARNUM | 126. BADGER | |
| 57. DONKEY POLITICAL | 127. BARRED OWL PLAQUE | |
| 58. ELEPHANT POLITICAL | 128. PRAIRIE FALCON | |
| 59. BIRTH OF FREEDOM | 129. MERGANSER | |
| 60. PRAIRIE CHICKEN | 130. BALD EAGLE | |
| 61. SUBMARINE | (aka EAGLE ON WATER) | |
| 62. BROWN PELICAN | 131. WOLF DANCER | |
| 63. IVORY-BILLED WOOD- | 132. PHOENIX BIRD | |
| PECKER | 133. CANVASBACK DUCK | |
| 64. PHEASANT | 134. CHICADEES | |
| 65. CARDINAL | 135. MT. SHEEP | |
| 66. HAWK EAGLE | 136. STONE SHEEP | |
| 67. TROUT #2 | 137. WHITE-TAIL DEER | |
| 68. END OF THE TRAIL | 138. FIGHTING GAMECOCKS | |
| 69. NORTH AMERICAN | 139. RACCOON PLAQUE | |
| INDIANS (6) | | |
| 75. LAND-LOCKED SALMON | | |

NEW

- 157. BLUEBIRD PLAQUE
- 158. MOUNTAIN GOAT FAMILY
- 159. POLAR BEAR
- 160. GOLDEN PHEASANT
- 161. RAINBOW DANCER
- 162. SEAGULL PLAQUE
- 163. OSPREY FAMILY
- 164. MALE BUFFLEHEAD DUCK

CLOWNIN' AROUND



Three new 50 ml porcelain miniature bottles have been issued by Raintree to complete its six-piece Clown Band set. The new pieces include a clarinet-playing clown, a clown with a french horn and a drummer.

Extra details have been designed into these bottles to make them "more than ordinary" bottles and at the same time make them attractive to collectors.

The clown with the clarinet has a hole in his shoe allowing his red socks to show through the hole and he has his sheets of music strewn about at his

feet; the pot-bellied french horn player is accompanied by a singing dog; and the drummer is getting some assistance from a trained chimpanzee who is holding the drum aloft for the clown.

Only 1200 of each bottle have been produced and each one is sequentially numbered to authenticate the limited edition.

The three earlier bottles in the Clown Band set included a clown with a saxophone, a female guitar-playing clown, and a trumpet player.

VODKA

by George Lisenko

This time I've selected a few vodkas that aren't seen in many collections.

The Ivan Sergiu "Stefanof" black glass dice figural is extremely difficult to obtain. In fact it may be the rarest of the vodka figurals. I once paid \$40 for it in 1972 from a fellow collector. Twelve years later I had to give over \$100 to replace the one I had. It is an Italian bottle from the 1950's and is the same mold as the Buton Milk Glass stacked Poker Dice.

The next one pictured I got from Harold Goetz. As many of you know, Harold bought a huge collection of approximately 14,000 bottles in South America this year and I was fortunate enough to get this one from him. The name is "Skaiorioji" and it comes from Hanover, Germany. It was produced in the 1940's by Teucke & Koenig. This tall, round, cylindrical mini has the most colorful label of all my 1,300+ vodkas. The label itself is very colorful but what it depicts is incredible. At the top it shows six Russian dancers

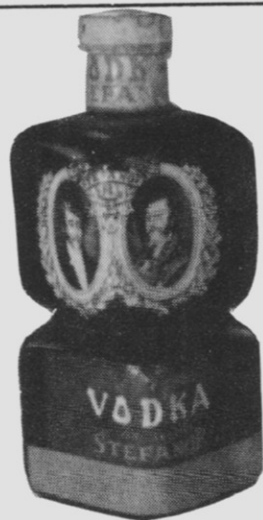
drinking and playing the balalaika, in the middle are the three famous horses (the Troika) with sled and driver, and at the bottom are six slaves bound by a rope. This last obviously represents the times of depression.

"Russian Vodka" sold only in Russia is out next picture. This fine mini barrel is very colorful as it's painted with yellow, orange, blue and black stripes. This is certainly in the high range in my collection.

Our next mini comes from Spain, a yellow colored shotgun shell put out in the 1950's by Villa Montana Destileria in Barcelona. This one is again rarely seen in collections.

The last bottle is from Holland and is a very nice looking mini, although I do not consider this to be a good label. So far I will say it is one of the poorest looking labels I have ever seen! Please note: "Special Dutch Wodka", 40% 5CL and that's it?? Looks to me like someone printed this label in a garage!

That's it for this time. --G. L. --



A Story Behind Every Label

by Joe Levesque

These two Henri Vallet Mexican Liqueurs were purchased at the Los Angeles Miniature Bottle Show last year and have an interesting "Bibulous Monk" medallion on the labels. The close-ups show basically the same scene, but executed by two different painters. At one time or another, we have all seen one version or another of this scene.

There are a number of clues which tell us that these monks are Benedictines. The Benedictine rule is practical, moderate and humane. Nowhere is the spirit of this rule better illustrated than in Chapter 40, "The Measure of Drink."

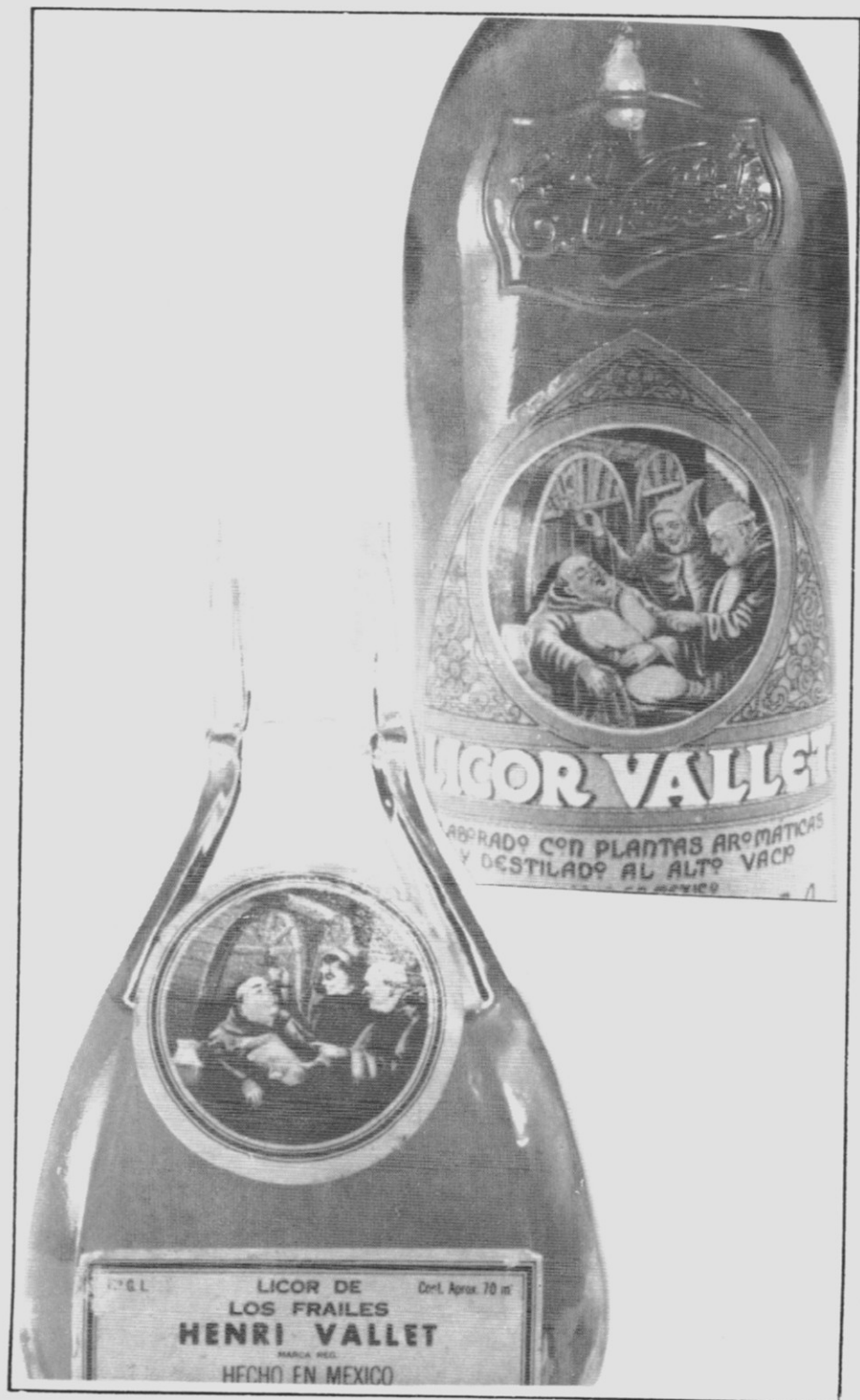
Each man has his own gift from God, one this and another that. We are therefore hesitant in deciding how much others should eat or drink. Keeping in mind the weakness of the less robust, we consider that half a pint of wine a day is sufficient for everyone. None the less, those to whom God has given the gift of abstaining should know that they will be rewarded in heaven. But in a case where the locality or the work or the heat of summer may make a larger allowance necessary, the abbot must decide, taking care that there is no excess or drunkenness. Indeed we read that wine is not a drink for monks, but since monks cannot nowadays be persuaded of this, let us at least agree to drink sparingly and not to take our fill, as "wine maketh even the wise to fall away".

Our fat, wise, old monk has indeed fallen away. On the first medallion, he is in the nether world. On the second, he has come back to this world, much to the amusement of his confreres.

--Joseph Levesque--
The Cognac Newsletter







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