

**THE**

VOL. XII No. 5  
No. 71 1985

# **MINIATURE BOTTLE COLLECTOR**

**Ski  
Country**



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NOVEMBER, 1985

**BARGAINS**  
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SKI COUNTRY		EMPTY	HOFFMAN		EMPTY	EMPTY					
Badger	F	22									
Bald Eagle	F	75	Moose	M	25	Christmas Carol	F	17	U.S. Marshall	F	27
Barrel Racer	F	32	Mountain Sheep	M	18	Jaguar	F	27	Pony Express	F	20
Big Horned Owl	F	55	Phoenix Bird	M	25	Lion & Armadillo	F	35	Cable Car	F	20
Bobcat	F	35	Prairie Falcon	M	20	Mt. Goat & Puma	F	55	Ozark Ike	F	20
Buffalo Dancer	F	85	Rainbow Dancer	M	20	Hooded Merganser	F	22	Oak Ice Box	F	20
Buffalo Stampede	F	22	Redwinged Blackbird	M	20	Swan	F	22	Packard (Cream)	F	35
Chukar Partridge	F	32	Snow Leopard	M	10	Turkey	M	200			
Canvasback D.U.	F	17	U.S. Ski Team	M	8	Alfy Afghan	M	8	<b>MICHTER'S</b>		
Mallard D.U.	F	25	White Falcon	M	25	Billy Boxer	M	8	Keystone State	F	12
Pintail D.U.	F	75	White Tailed Deer	M	76	Fanny Fox	M	8	Peace Candle	F	20
Widgeon D.U.	F	22	Peregrine Falcon	G	120	Percy Poodie	M	8	Geo. Washington	F	20
Fox & Butterfly	F	60	Screech Owl Family	G	700	Scotty Terrier	M	8	Goddess Selket	HG	65
Great Spirit	F	65	Fighting Pheasants	HG	100	Terry Terrier	M	8	<b>JON-SOL</b>		
Gyr Falcon	F	35	Pintail Duck	HG	100	Suzy Siamese	M	8	Baby Robin	M	5
Harpy Eagle	F	87	Red Fox on-a-Log	HG	85	Tilly Shorthair	M	8	Blue Jay	M	5
Indian Chief #1	F	85	Widgeon	HG	65	Tom Cat	M	8	Red Head Woodpecker	M	5
Lookout Indian	F	57	<b>CYRUS NOBLE</b>			TN Volunteers	F	17	<b>BENEAGLES</b>		
Meadowlark	F	22	Blacksmith	F	37	MO. Tigers	F	17	White King	M	10
Female Merganser	F	25	Burro	F	37	Auburn Tigers	F	17	White Queen	M	10
Male Merganser	F	35	Landlady	F	17	KS. State Wildcats	F	17	<b>C'S ART</b>		
Mountain Sheep	F	45	Mine	F	17	<b>MC CORMICK</b>			Charolais Bull	F	22
Fighting Pheasants	F	68	Music Man	F	17	Elvis #2 (Pink)	F	30	Chipmunk	M	15
Polar Bear	F	50	California Seal	F	22	Elvis #3 (Black)	F	35	Skunks	M	15
Prairie Falcon	F	42	Mt. Lion & Cubs	F	77	Elvis Silver	F	85	Arfman	M	10
Red Fox on-a-Log	F	90	Oklahoma Dancers	F	22	Elvis Designer #1	F	67	Setter	M	10
Rainbow Dancer	F	35	Buffalo & Calf	HG	55	Bald Eagle	F	20	<b>WILLET</b>		
Stone Sheep	F	37	Gambler	M	10	Stephen Austin	F	20	Surface Miner	F	17
U.S. Ski Team	F	22	Walrus Family	M	10	Alex. Graham Bell	F	20	Kentucky Colonel	P	10
Wild Turkey	F	100	<b>FAMOUS F</b>			Geo. Wash. Carver	F	25	<b>POTTER</b>		
Wolf Dancer	F	45	Dino Ferrari	F	35	Louis Armstrong	F	25	Gold Panner	F	27
Ringmaster	F	17	Fireman #1	F	30	Tom T. Hall	F	25	<b>DAVISS</b>		
Tom Thumb	F	15	1847 Stamp Set (2)	M	20	Hank Williams Sr.	F	25	1981 Hawaii Am. Leg.	F	22
P.T. Barnum	M	15	<b>GRENADIER</b>			J. R. Ewing	F	14	<b>TURKEY</b>		
Badger	M	15	King's African	F	15	Queen Guinevere	F	20	Turkey & Raccoon	F	50
Barred Owl Plaque	M	34	3rd New York	F	25	Sir Lancelot	F	20	" #3 (On Wing)	M	10
Barrel Racer	M	15	Napoleon	F	27	Huck Finn	F	17	" #4 (v/Poult)	M	10
Bobcat	M	15	Pancho & Fierro	F	10	Ben Franklin	F	17	<b>COMMON</b>		
Bob Cratchit	M	15	Pancho on-a-Horse	HG	75	Patrick Henry	M	15	Oktoberfest	F	40
Buffalo Stampede	M	15	Father's Gift	F	17	Ben Franklin	M	15	Yankee Doodle	F	35
Bull Rider	M	15	"Frosty"	F	17	John Hancock	M	25	Fireman #3 Valliant	F	45
Chukar Partridge	M	15	Stonewall Jackson	F	25	Patrick Henry	M	15	Modern Fireman #1	F	45
Canvasback D.U.	M	15	Teddy Roosevelt	F	22	Thos. Jefferson	M	15	(Fallen Comr.)	F	45
Pintail D.U.	M	22	Texas Ranger	F	22	Canada Goose	M	25	<b>LIONSTONE</b>		
Widgeon D.U.	M	15	Jeanne D'Arc	T	20	Pheasant	M	25	Fireman #5 60th An.	F	25
Wood Duck D.U.	M	20	Fray Serra	M	10	Gambel's Quail	M	25			
Gyr Falcon	M	15	Father's Gift	M	10	Wood Duck	M	25			
Landlocked Salmon	M	15	1st. VA. Volunteers	M	15	Lindbergh	M	10			
Lookout Indian	M	15	Mosby's Raiders	M	15						
Male Merganser	M	19	6th Wis. Regiment	M	15						

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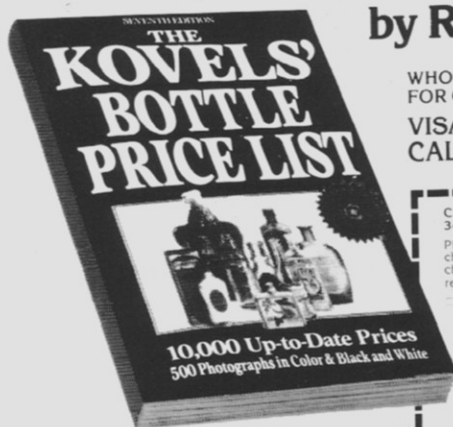
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# Let's Talk

Back again! At the end of 1985 my best to all and may 1986 bring those special bottles you've been searching for.

On a nice up beat note, the bottle collector directory seems to be going swimmingly. After the "test run" in the last issue, a good many collectors got out their pens and filled out the questionnaires. I won't say that the post office box has been packed to the brim every day; however, it's a great start...so keep 'em coming! The questionnaire this issue is on page 24 and this is the last time if you want to be included for 1986. Since this issue will get to some of you after the first of the year, even though it's due to be mailed on December 13th, the deadline for the questionnaire has been extended to February 1st. Don't forget!!

While I think of it, since this little column has mentioned Sempé Armagnac the last two times, we'll make it a third. The Limoges Crowns went on sale here in November and they're something every collector who likes beautiful bottles should definitely have.

As would seem to be the normal case now, we've had trouble with pictures again and the article about new glass whiskies from Germany is put off for now. And, in the very near future (hopefully next time) Bob Kay will return with a new series of beer articles. Jim Triffon is also sharpening his pencil for a new group of glass stories. Roy Holden's scotch article got squeezed out this time, but he'll definitely be back next time.

A note from a couple of collectors: Ed Carter and Don Prose. The State of Virginia is now selling plastic minis of the Virginia Whiskey and Vodka. Be on the watch.

Until next time, my best.

--DMS--

THE

Vol. XII No. 5  
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# MINIATURE BOTTLE COLLECTOR

Editor/Publisher DAVID M. SPAID

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Your last chance for the '86 directory.	

## Our Cover

On the cover this time is the newest Christmas bottle from Ski Country, the Cedar Waxwings. This, along with the Blue Winged Teal, which is shown elsewhere in this issue, are the last two bottles for 1985 and possibly the last two bottles which Ski Country will issue with whiskey contents. All collectors have noticed the increase in price of all figurals and these two may be the end of an era.

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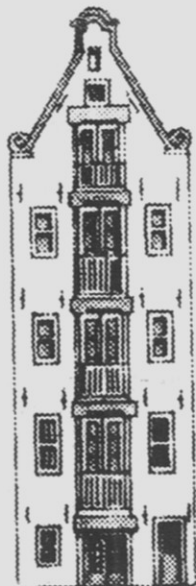
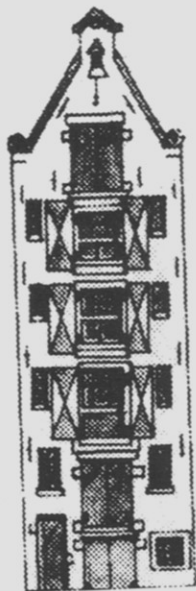
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# FROM JAPAN

by TAIZO SHIRATSUCHI

For viewing and reading pleasure, I present eight new bottles for this article. There are three brands with two types each of Cognac and two Scotches.

I will begin with the Cognac HINE Napoleon and VSOP. They are very familiar ones in Japan and now appear with the new labels trimmed in gold. The label of the Napoleon is black while the VSOP is reddish brown. There are Japanese letters meaning the Especial Brandy on the bottle of each of the labels. Both are 9 cm tall and contain 43 ml at 40 percent alcohol.

The second Cognac is BOUTELLEAU. These are Napoleon and VSOP and are plain green round bottles which are actually samples. The first has a reddish brown label while the latter one is deep blue.





The third pair of Cognacs are ANNE MARIE which are also distilled by the Boutelleau Company. The Napoleon is in a green frosted glass with a gold label and the VSOP is a clear bottle with a black label. I have heard that Anne Marie was named after the wife of the President of Boutelleau. Can this be true, Mr. Levesque or Mr. Jinkens?

All four of these cognacs are 40 percent alcohol and have a 4 cl capacity.

Finally there are two Scotches, the LANGS SUPREME and VAT 69. The LANGS is fancy in design with a short, rectangular, clear glass bottle which is 9 cm tall. The corners are chamfered in an octagonal shape. The label is gold and black printed with a brown belt in the center.

Vat 69 also has a new neat label with a thin gold belt on the top and bottom of the label. Both whiskies contain the normal 50 ml and 43 percent alcohol.

I hope you are pleased with these new bottles. Until the next issue...

--T.S.--



# WHAT'S NEW

## Old, Odd, or Unusual

Time to take a good look at some of the older and seldom seen figurals again. Let's begin with the two glass pieces.

If you haven't recognized him yet, it's Felix the Cat. He is definitely not a candy container as some people have argued. There may be a candy container of Felix, but this isn't it! This Felix dates from the 1930's. Some of the bottles have "Germany" embossed in the glass while others do not. In any case, this is a bottle all non collectors immediately gravitate to when they see your collection.

Next we go to Spain for the soccer player. This contains Brandy El Futbolista which is certainly easily figured out. This was made for Huas de J. Sunpau of Barcelona. I have only seen one other example of this figural and that was about fourteen or fifteen years ago. On that particular bottle the paint had been worn off; however, on



this specimen the ball is brown and the player wears blue shorts with blue and white shirt and socks. This piece could be from the 1930's to the 1950's. Can anyone date it?

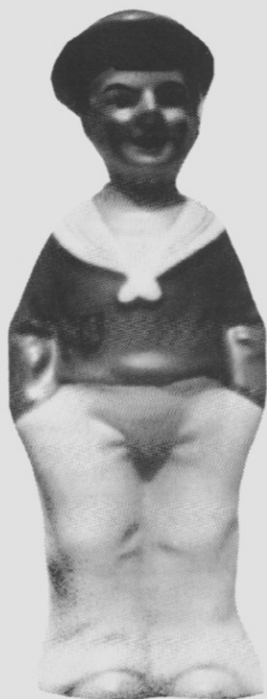
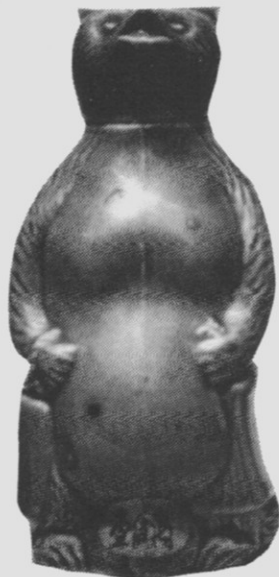
In the ceramic bottles we have representatives from widely disparate areas. The pieces themselves are from Brazil, Germany and Japan. Not too difficult to guess which is which, is it?

Smokisan, our only ceramic animal, is not a bear. I've pictured him once before many years ago and the story as I understand it, goes like this. He is called The Mocher by some because of his habits. You'll notice in his right hand (or attached to his wrist) there is a bottle or liquid container. In his left hand there is a ledger. Smokisan loves to drink sake so he begs his favorite liquid from everyone. However, since he doesn't want anyone to think badly of him, he writes down his borrowings in the ledger. The only problem is, he never pays anyone back! This piece is quite old and many Japanese collectors have been unable to date it.

Moving to Europe now we come to our sailor boy. Since he is marked Germany on the bottom some collectors have thought him an old Giveaway. This just isn't so though! This one contains Polar Rum by Fritz Lehment of Kiel. It's an extremely well done ceramic with bright, vivid colors complete to the red button (which doubles as stopper) on top of the cap. This particular piece came from a collection in Germany which also contained many bottles from the 1930's; however, I would not estimate this bottle to be that old.

Our last bottle is from Sao Paulo, Brazil. Since I'm not up on Portuguese I can't give you a translation of the label which is embossed on the back. The monk is all in brown and I've never seen another. Who can add information?

Hope you've liked seeing these five seldom seen pieces. --DMS--



# GLASS



Many of you have been collecting for a good many years and thus will remember the phonies or fake bottles which appeared first about ten years ago. Originally there were only counterfeit ceramics... Driolis, Luxardos, etc. but then two and three years later the ridiculous glass bottles made their appearance.

It wasn't bad enough that fake Drioli bottles contained Cherry Brandy and not Brandy. Now glass scotches were arriving at 86 proof, not proof, and labels which were obviously shrinks of the larger versions were also available.

Well, this time it's not the Italians who are playing games. 1984 saw the introduction of some very interesting bottles from currently the world's

counterfeiting center, Taiwan. I don't know how well this enlargement will turn out, but the bottles themselves are excellent. They were found by Japanese collector, Kazuyuki Imafuji.

The molded glass piece is an excellent ship with a Logan Deluxe Scotch label. The only problem is the label states: By Appointment Tomer Muesy The Queen. Oops! My favorite thing about this piece is the counterfeit tax strip on the back. It's obviously a color xerox and a terrible one at that.

The other two bottles are perfect replicas (at least to my eyes) of larger ceramics from Nikka which are available in Japan. I'd always hoped Nikka would make minis of the two pieces, now they ALMOST have.



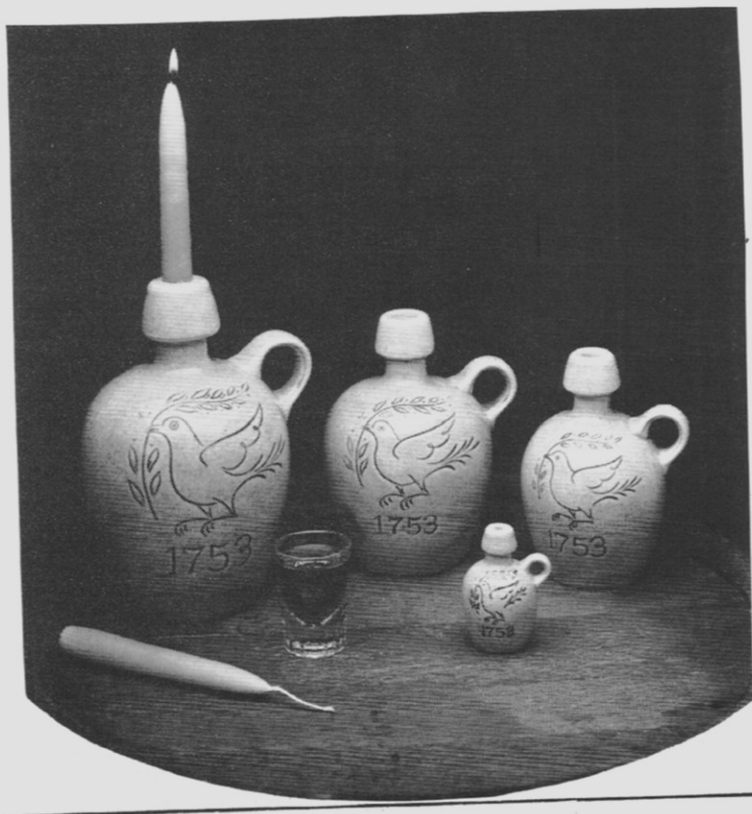
# MICTER'S DISTILLERY

Previously we've shown you several of the jugs from Michter's Distillery of Schæfferstown, Pennsylvania. There have been several small white ceramic jugs including (if memory serves) one for the Bicentennial as well as a very well done glass bottle. Actually the label was well done... a "straight" glass bottle is a straight glass bottle.

Now Michter's has issued a 50 ml 1753 jug. Some are also calling it the Peace jug due to the cobalt blue dove on the front of the bottle. As the flyer states: "The '1753' jugs are reminiscent

of those first brought by the local farmers to the distillery where they were filled with whiskey directly from the barrel. The '1753' porcelain jugs are finely detailed in relief with the peace dove and laurel commonly used for decoration during those times. The stopper is designed to hold a candle which makes this decanter not only a beautiful one but functional, too."

A final note. This miniature is available only from the distillery store and only 1200 were produced.



# melo's minis

by Mike Olson

In this article I would like to feature ten Rye Whiskies. There have been many articles done in the past on Rye Whiskey and most of these have made several points. First, Ryes are scarce and for whiskey collectors they are extremely desirable. Also, they were produced in limited numbers with most being distilled in the states of Maryland and Pennsylvania. The following bottles are all amber glass, except for

number six. Also, all are fairly well known.

Bottle number one is Sherwood Maryland Straight Rye Whiskey distilled and bottled by the Sherwood Distilling Co. Westminster, MD. It is 84.6 proof, four years old and was made in the mid 1940's. The next bottle is Sherwood Straight Rye Whiskey from the same company. It is 90 proof, four years old and from the late 1930's.



The next bottle is Guckenheimer Straight Pennsylvania Rye Whiskey, distilled and bottled by Pennsylvania Distilling Co. Inc. Logansport, PA. It is 100 proof, distilled in January 1934 and bottled in the Fall of 1934. The fourth bottle is Briggs Old Fashioned Straight Rye Malt Whiskey distilled and bottled by the Baltimore Pure Rye Distilling Co. Dundalk, Maryland. It is 100 proof, BIB 1935-1940 and distributed by Kraus Bros. & Co. of New York, NY.

The fifth bottle is Dundalk Maryland Straight Rye Whiskey distilled by the Baltimore Pure Rye Distilling Company and bottled by Dundalk Liquor Company Inc., Baltimore, MD. It is 90 proof, three years old and from the late 1930's. The next bottle is the clear glass version of Dundalk Maryland Straight Rye Whiskey. It is 86 proof, 8 years old and was made in 1947.

The last four bottles were all distilled by the Frank L. Wight Distilling Co., Loreley, Maryland. The first is Wight's Old Reserve Maryland Straight Rye Whiskey. It is 100 proof, six years



old and BIB 1941-1947. Bottle number eight is Miller's Old Time Straight Rye Whiskey bottle for Miller Bros. 119 W. Fayette, Baltimore, MD. It is 90 proof, four years old and was made in 1940. This was probably a "house" bottle and could be somewhat rare. The next bottle is Wight's Maryland Straight Rye Whiskey. It is 90 proof, four years old, copyright 1936 and was made in 1940. The last bottle is Frank L. Wight's Original Maryland Straight Rye Whiskey. It is 100 proof, four years old and was BIB 1936-1940.

Finally, I think it's fair to say that eastern state collectors have a big advantage over the midwesterners in the search for Rye minis.

As always, if anyone would like any further information on any bottle pictured, please feel free to contact me (507) 454-1499.

Until next time... MELO





# A Visit To Boozeville

by Lloyd McLeod



Like most small towns in the early 1900's, Boozeville has a few serious drinkers. These fellows however will only drink when they are alone...or with someone.

The Giveaway bottles shown here were made just for these heavy drinkers so they wouldn't have to drink alone. The flasks are both inlaid with a mirror so that you can look into the mirror and complete the picture on the flask.

One is multicolored and is printed **THE GOOD FELLOW WHO DRINKS WITH ME**. It is 4 inches tall, made in Germany and has the number 3652.

The other flask is also 4 inches tall, all brown and is imprinted **HALLO TWINS**. It shows a monkey with his arm around a man with a mirror for a face. It was also made in Germany and has the number 3678.

Thanks to Keith Holt of Adrian, MI, for sending in these nice photos for this Boozeville article.

All that's left to say is: "Here's looking at you!" --L. M. --



# MEET THE COLLECTOR:

by

GARY "HAP" SHUSTER

One of the largest collections on the West Coast, if not the whole United States, belongs to Kermit McFadden of San Leandro, CA. As this article is being written, Mac's collection contains slightly more than 8500 bottles, down from 8700 because, as Mac says in a delightful Missouri drawl, "Just got rid of all my mini beers --- needed the room."

Mac says he became interested in collecting about 10 years ago, when his sister gave him a mini of Brown-Foreman 1870. Shortly thereafter, Mac and

his wife, Mrs. M., drove to Reno, and while Mrs. M. was attempting to make enough to at least pay for the trip, Mac was paying a visit to one of the liquor stores on Virginia St. He bought "... one of everything. Then I got to thinkin' that maybe I ought to get somethin' for tradin', so I went back and bought one of everything again. Those guys looked at me like I was crazy. Spent around \$200 in there. Y'know somethin'? That bellhop sure earned the \$2 I gave him for takin' that Pullman case down to the car. Must have weighed





200 pounds." Mac still drives to Reno a couple of times a year, just to go bottle shopping.

Mac is interested in all facets of mini collecting, although his favorites are brandy, whiskey and scotch, in that order. For those interested in numbers, his collection breaks out as follows (figures are approximate): 1000 whiskey, 900 scotch, 1400 gin, 900 brandy (including 290 Cognac and 70 Armagnac), 250 vodka, 170 tequila, 450 rum, 1050 wine (including 90 vermouth), 300 prepared cocktails, and 1500 liqueurs. His collection also boasts 600 figurals, although "...I'm not really that interested in figurals, it's just that ever' time I buy a collection I get some o' them, too." Mac's some o' them, too" include a full set of the brothels, a full set of Cyrus Nobles, and the McCormick 1776 Patriot Set (with presentation case, if you please).

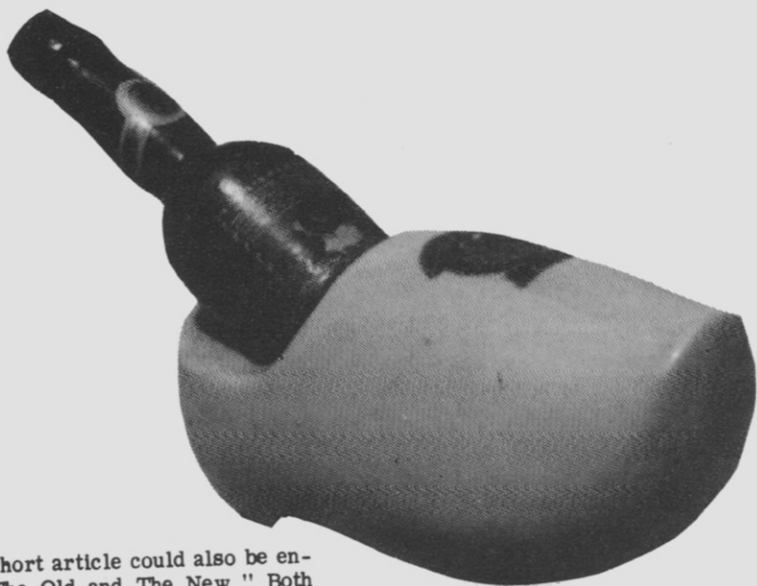
Mac currently has active swapping partners in both Germany and Japan, and several others throughout the U. S. He has a simple philosophy regarding bottle swapping: "A bottle for a bottle. I'm not in this to make money, so if I've got something you need and you've got something I need, that's all that's necessary." He has also gotten his sister interested, and currently her collection runs to more than 2000.

Mac has requested that his address and telephone number be printed, together with an invitation to all collectors that they are welcome to drop in and visit. As Mac says, cheerfully, "no purchase necessary. We never close."

Kermit McFadden  
1124 Lucille Street  
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# For The Connoisseur

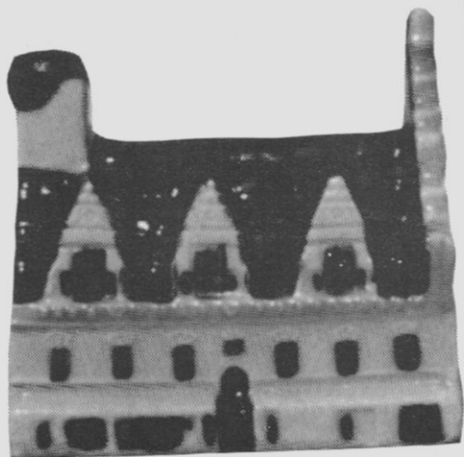


This short article could also be entitled "The Old and The New." Both are from Holland, both from well known companies and both from major ceramicists who have made a great many miniatures in the past.

The old here is represented by the Bols bottle in a shoe. Now doubtlessly there are those saying, "no big deal, I've seen this bottle before." However, very few people actually have. You see this is not a bottle inserted into the shoe, this is one complete ceramic made by the Revol company in France. This piece is also available with "different" bottles in the shoe, different meaning the type of liqueur contained within. At least with American collectors, this is indeed a rare bottle.

The new item is not so rare but still quite attractive and a nice addition to any delft collection. The company is Balen which has issued a good many bottles in Holland in the last few years. The contents are Jenever and the bottle itself represents a church (I believe) in Haarlem, Holland. The polychrome delft piece was made by Goedewaagen which has made innumerable bottles down through the years including the recent three sets of delft and polychrome delft houses.

That's the long and the short of the old and the new!



# RAINTREE

## Miniatures

The second decanter in the Las Vegas Hotel/Casino Series has been issued in commemoration of the Sahara Hotel. Entitled THE PRINCESS OF THE NILE, the figural bottle portrays an Egyptian princess in gold headdress seated in her royal hand-carved chair with a pet cheetah at her side. The wine urn on the floor near the princess' feet serves as the stopper for the 50ml capacity bottle.

"We attempt to represent the theme of the hotel in our decanters if we can," said Al Halpern, designer of the line of Raintree mini decanters. "The Princess of the Nile reflects the Sahara Hotel's recent change from an African desert motif to the era of ancient Egypt.

"The first decanter in the series, THE GRAPE GIRL honoring Caesars Palace, featured Caesar on his trysting couch being fed grapes by one of his handmaidens. That was a take-off on Caesars Palace actual logo so it was a natural for their Roman motif."

Made of fine Oriental bisque porcelain and hand-painted, the Sahara bottle has been issued in a total production of 1,200 and no more will be produced. Each bottle is sequentially numbered by hand to authenticate the total production and is accompanied by a matching numbered certificate.

Negotiations are under way presently with other Las Vegas Hotels and Casinos so that the successful series will be continued.



# A Story Behind Every Label

by Joe Levesque

These two French ladies are full size 40 cl and miniature 5 cl, and represent a study in contradiction. They are dressed up in their Sunday best, yet they have on some paraphernalia which defies logic, at least to this writer.

On their heads, they have a peasant's bonnet to protect their hair, yet a "Sunday" hat sits on top of this bonnet. They wear a shawl, a dress with petticoats and have a bouquet of vervaine in their hands, and then an apron over their dresses with a superimposed V embossed on the apron. This superimposed V is the logo for PAGES, a liqueur firm in south central France, and stands for their renowned specialty: VERVAINE DU VELAY.

VERVAINE is a medicinal herb, and VELAY is an area of France. Even today, peasants will gather vervaine, make an herb tea, and drink it after meals or just before going to bed. It is especially effective for digestion.

PAGES has domesticated this medicinal herb and grows it on their own plantation. The dried herbs are macerated in clear brandy, distilled, rectified and then they are ready for bottling. VERVAINE is well known in France and is always served as an after dinner drink to help digestion. PAGES has been very successful with it and has been producing it since 1859. As with most herbal liqueurs, it is produced in yellow or green.

These two beautiful ladies in frosted glass were introduced in France after WWI, and continued to grace liquor store shelves till after WWII, but have disappeared from the scene for the past twenty years or so.

On second thought, these ladies must be carrying a bouquet of VERVAINE in their hands and must be hurrying home to brew their herb tea. Ah!...for the good old days.

--Joseph Levesque--  
The Cognac Newsletter



# Ski Country



## *Ski Country*™ 1985 Limited Edition Banded Waterfowl Decanter

There are two new bottles to show you this time. The Christmas or Holiday bottle, the Cedar Waxwings, is on the cover while the Blue Winged Teal is on the facing page. Naturally both bottles come in the larger 750ml size also, but it's the nice little mini we're concerned with. There will be 1200 of each of these two bottles and similarly to the fate of the most recent issues, they'll disappear quickly.

The holiday bottle has always been quite successful; however, the duck pieces are all but guaranteed total success because of the interest from people who are not normally bottle collectors. The Blue Winged Teal is the 1985 Banded Waterfowl decanter which was again designed by Dennis Goldacker and made exclusively for the Mississippi Valley Duck Hunters Association of St. Louis. Keep a good watch for this one, you won't get many chances to add it to your collection!







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Orange County Miniature Bottle Club: c/o Mrs. Ada Felske, 2380 Lawton Drive, Lemon Grove, CA 92045.

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Tokyo Miniature Bottle Club: c/o Mr. Kazue Daimon, Corp. Daimon, 4-440 Ikebukuro, Toshima-ku, Tokyo 171, Japan. tel 03-983-0688.

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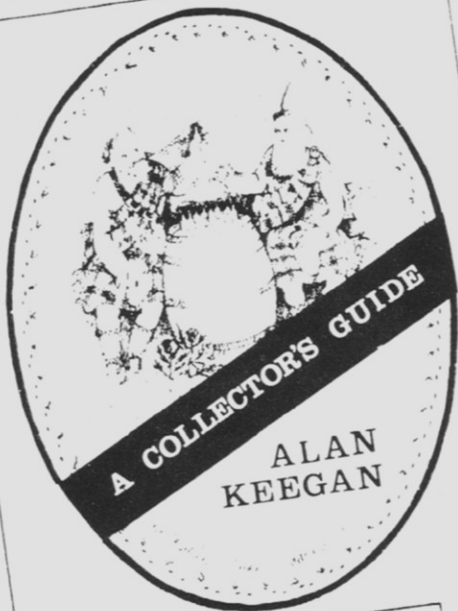
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**HELP:** I want to insure my collection. Ineed any information on prices of full miniatures, mainly straights. Would like to hear from other beginners on miniature bottle collecting information. Mrs. Dorothy Adams, 16225 Rhyolite Circle, Reno, NV 89511.

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