

THE

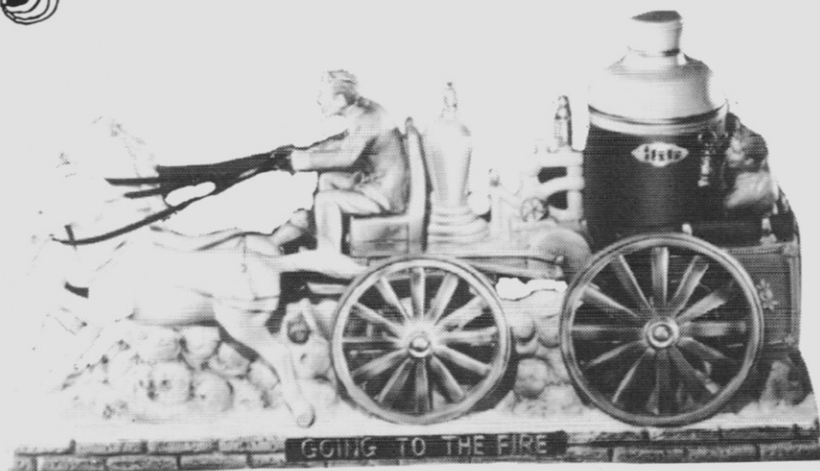
VOL. XIII No. 2
No. 74 1986

MINIATURE BOTTLE COLLECTOR

Mount Hope



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&
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MARCH, 1986

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	EMPTY
Acoma Dancer	F 566
Antelope Dancer	F 67
Bald Eagle	F 75
Barrel Racer	F 32
Big Horned Owl	F 55
Blue Bird Plaque	F 85
Bobcat	F 35
Buffalo Dancer	F 85
Buffalo Stampede	F 22
Chukar Partridge	F 32
Canvasback D.U.	F 17
Green Winged Teal D.U.	F 90
Pintail Duck D.U.	F 75
Fox & Butterfly	F 60
Fighting Gamecocks	F 99
Great Spirit	F 65
Gyr Falcon	F 35
Happy Eagle	F 87
Holstein Cow	F 85
Indian Chief #1	F 85
Indian Chief #2	F 106
Lookout Indian	F 57
Headowlark	F 22
Male Merganser	F 35
Mountain Sheep	F 45
Fighting Pheasants	F 68
Peregrine Falcon	F 71
Polar Bear	F 50
Prairie Falcon	F 42
Red FOX on-a-Log	F 90
Rainbow Dancer	F 35
Red Head Duck	F 60
Shield Dancer	F 37
Stone Sheep	F 37
U.S. Ski Team	F 22
Wild Turkey	F 100
Wolf Dancer	F 45
Ringmaster	F 17
Tom Thumb	M 15
P.T. Barnum	M 15
Badger	M 15
Barred Owl Plaque	M 34
Barrel Racer	M 15
Bobcat	M 15
Bob Cratchit	M 17
Buffalo Dancer	M 17
Buffalo Stampede	M 15
Bull Rider	M 15
Chickadee	M 22
Chukar Partridge	M 15
Canvasback D.U.	M 15
Pintail D.U.	M 22
Widgeon D.U.	M 15
Wood Duck D.U.	M 20
Dall Sheep	M 32
Falcon Dancer	M 40

	EMPTY
Gyr Falcon	M 20
Landlocked Salmon	M 15
Lookout Indian	M 15
Male Merganser	M 19
Moose	M 25
Mountain Sheep	M 18
Passenger Pigeon	M 31
Pheasant in the Corn	M 37
Phoenix Bird	M 25
Prairie Falcon	M 20
Rainbow Dancer	M 20
Redwinged Blackbird	M 20
Skunk Family	M 36
Snow Leopard	M 10
Squirrel Plaque	M 60
Submarine	M 28
Stone Sheep	M 31
U.S. Ski Team	M 8
White Falcon	M 25
Wolf Dancer	M 31

CYRUS NOBLE

Blacksmith	F 37
Burro	F 37
Landlady	F 17
Mine	F 17
Music Man	F 17
California Seal	F 22
Mt. Lion & Cubs	F 77
Oklahoma Dancers	F 22
Buffalo & Calf	HG 55
Gambler	M 10
Walrus Family	M 10

FAMOUS F

Dino Ferrari	F 35
Fireman #1	F 30
1847 Stamp Set (2)	M 20

GRENADIER

King's African	F 15
3rd New York	F 27
Napoleon	F 25
Pancho & Pьерo	F 10
Pancho on-a-Horse	HG 75
Father's Gift	F 17
"Frosty"	F 17
Stonewall Jackson	F 17
Teddy Roosevelt	F 25
Texas Ranger	F 22
Jeanne D'Arc	T 60
Fray Serra	M 10
Father's Gift	M 10
1st. VA. Volunteers	M 15
Mosby's Raiders	M 15
6th Wis. Regiment	M 15

HOFFMAN

Christmas Carol	F 17
Jaguar	F 27
Lion & Armadillo	F 35
Mt. Goat & Funs	F 55
Hooded Merganser	F 22
Swan	F 22
Turkey	200 20
Aixy Afghan	M 8
Billy Boxer	M 8
Fanny Fox	M 8
Percy Poodle	M 8
Scotty Terrier	M 8
Terry Terrier	M 8
Susy Siamese	M 8
Tilly Shorthair	M 8
Tom Cat	M 8
TN Volunteers	F 17
MO. Tigers	F 17
Auburn Tigers	F 17
KS. State Wildcats	F 17

MC CORMICK

Elvis #2 (Pink)	F 30
Elvis #2 (Black)	F 30
Elvis Silver	F 85
Elvis Designer #1	F 150
Bald Eagle	F 67
Stephen Austin	F 20
Alex. Graham Bell	F 20
Geo. Wash. Carver	F 25
Louis Armstrong	F 25
Tom T. Hall	F 25
Hank Williams Sr.	F 25
J. R. Ewing	F 14
Queen Guinevere	F 25
Sir Lancelot	F 20
Huck Finn	F 20
Ben Franklin	F 17
Patrick Henry	F 17
Ben Franklin	M 15
John Hancock	M 15
Patrick Henry	M 15
Thos. Jefferson	M 15
Canada Goose	M 25
Pheasant	M 25
Gambel's Quail	M 25
Wood Duck	M 25
Lindbergh	M 10

SKI COUNTRY

Peregrine Falcon	G 120
Screech Owl Family	G 200
Fighting Pheasants	HG 100
Pintail Duck	HG 100
Red Fox on-a-Log	HG 85
Widgeon	HG 65

	EMPTY
U.S. Marshall	F 27
Pony Express	F 20
Cable Car	F 20
Ozark Ike	F 20
Oak Ice Box	F 20
Packard (Cream)	F 35

MICHER'S

Keystone State	F 12
Peace Candle	F 20
Geo. Washington	F 20
Goddess Selket	HG 65

JON-SOL

Baby Robin	M 5
Blue Jay	M 5
Red Head Woodpecker	M 5

BENEAGLES

White King	M 10
White Queen	M 10

C'S ART

Charolais Bull	F 22
Chipmunk	M 15
Skunks	M 15
Afghan	M 10
Setter	M 10

WILLETT

Surface Miner	F 17
Kentucky Colonel	P 10

POTTER

Gold Panner	F 27
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DAVIESS

1981 Hawaii Am. Leg. F	22
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TURKEY

Turkey & Raccoon	F 50
" #3 (On Wing)	M 10
" #4 (v/Poult)	M 10

COMMON

Oktoberfest	F 40
Yankee Doodle	F 35
Fireman #3 Valliant	F 45
Modern Fireman #1	F 45
" (Fallen Com.)	F 45

LIONSTONE

Fireman #5 60th An. F	25
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MONTAGUE'S BOTTLE GUIDE

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Let's Talk

Well, the word is in! You're happy with the Collectors' Directory. The personal notes and comments at the Chicago show tell me that this directory may have helped a good many collectors...and that's the name of the game. The smaller the globe becomes for collectors, the better off we all are. Those of you who write letters or make phone calls to trade bottles know exactly what I mean.

How many of you bourbon collectors have a McCormick in your collection? Probably not as many of you as would like to have one. Well, maybe you can't find the old one but you can get the new one. What new one, you ask. Ah, the one that was issued recently in West Germany. It's McCormick Whiskey but it's now bottled over there for collectors and drinkers who just want to try it. It's easy to get, just do a trade with a German collector.

The above brings up one of my pet peeves. Namely where are the whiskey miniatures from so many of the major companies? You hear people say that they're not profitable for the various companies; well, read that as not hugely profitable. If the airlines stopped carrying minis, a great many more brands likely would disappear. Today with the major corporations running the majority of companies, a small profit factor on minis is not enough. Monstrous profits are needed.

What is coming out in minis? In the U.S. the answer is every weird variety of schnapps you can think of. Why? They're very cheap, lower tax due to lower proof and they appeal to young drinkers who've grown up on sweet beverages. Oh, well, a small ray of hope may be seen in Canada where a great number of new bottles are out!

--DMS--

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MINIATURE BOTTLE COLLECTOR

Editor/Publisher DAVID M. SPAID

Features

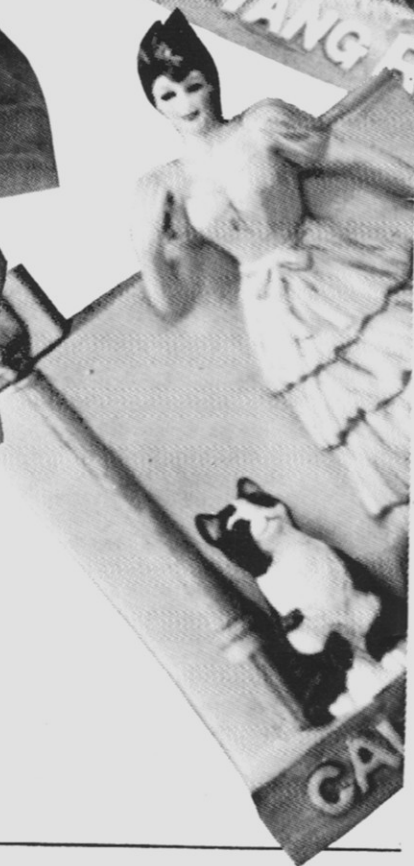
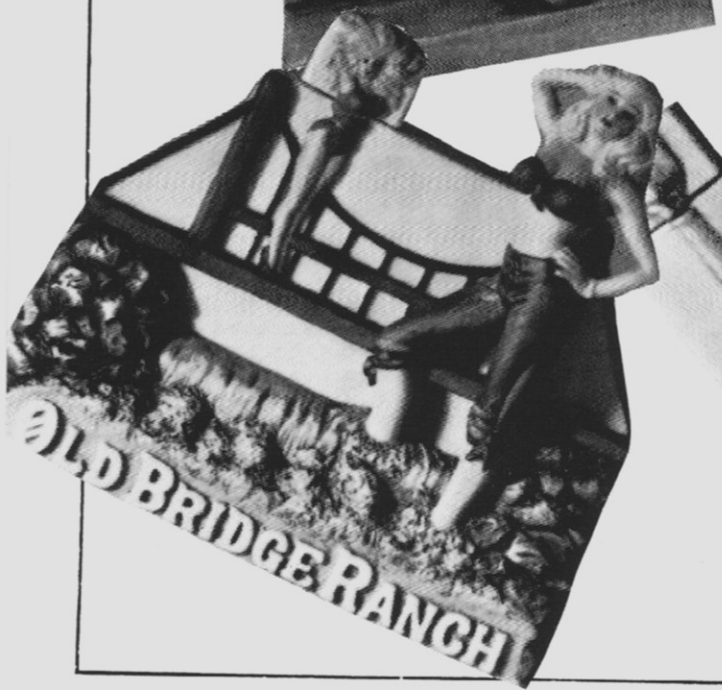
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Our Cover

Previously you've seen some of the Mt. Hope miniatures published in the magazine and even once before one of their bottles was shown on the cover. However, nothing has prepared us for the fantastic work or art known as Going To The Fire. This one is superb...and as usual, this is an unpaid testimonial. It may be one of the most expensive minis you've bought, but it's a must for figural collectors.

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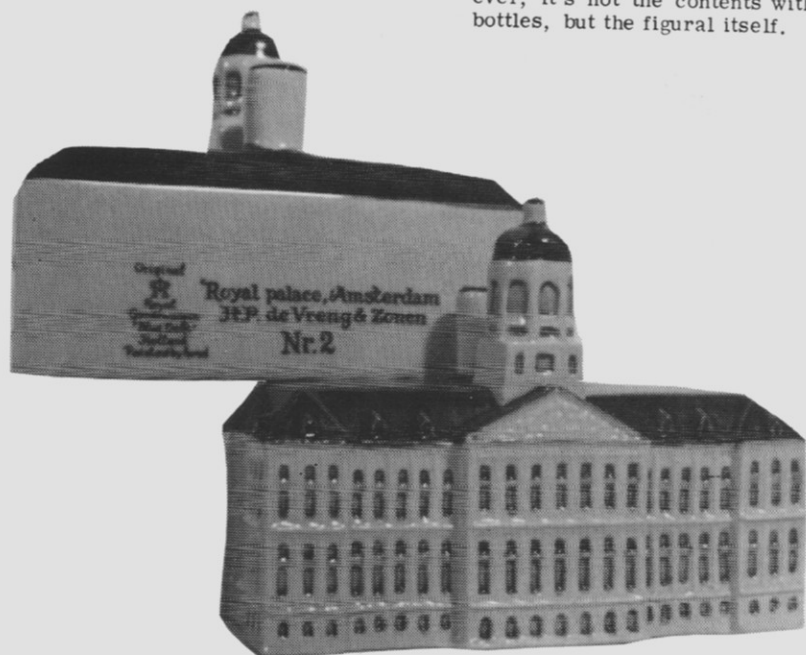
WHAT'S NEW

Old, Odd, or Unusual

Recently two bottles were issued in Holland which a great many collectors world wide will find very interesting. Both were made for Robbert de Vreng and his liquor store in Amsterdam. They were made by Royal Goedewaagen who have been responsible for the excellent blue delft and multi-colored delft houses which have been released over the past few years. Each of these pieces is limited to a run or production of only 500!

The one which looks like a church, is obviously, a church. It's the De Alemaersche-Waegh Church and will be followed later this year by the Westertoren Church. The other bottle is the Royal Palace in Amsterdam. It will be followed by The Drakensteyn Palace which was previously also produced by Rynbende some years ago.

Each of these pieces is filled with either Genever Gin, Whisky, Vodka, or Brandy. For most collectors, however, it's not the contents with these bottles, but the figural itself.





Design & Manufacturing

by

GARY "HAP" SHUSTER

Like most collectors, I had a problem of storage --- for one thing, every time I attempt to build a cabinet to house my minis, my wife finds something else for me to do. For another, the domestic manufacturers aren't using those nice little compartmentalized boxes anymore. Then, too, whenever I go to someone's house, he inevitably says, "bring your duplicates". So I was faced with the burning question, "bring 'em in what?".

Well, I tried the old cardboard box trick --- the one everyone else uses. The one where I jam in as many bottles as the box will hold, then hope each bottle will offer enough of a cushion to its neighbor to keep from getting broken as I navigate over Highway 17's potholes. As you might expect, that was, at best, a partial solution, since every pothole caused a nerve-wracking "CLANK" to emanate from the box. Plus, I found that there was no good way to carry said box once I did arrive at my destination.

To make a long story short, one day the solution appeared, as I was cleaning my garage. We'd just bought some computer furniture, and after working I was left with some single-ply, but very strong cardboard boxes. It suddenly occurred to me that perhaps I could cut them up to make dividers for one of the file storage boxes my wife was fortunate to lift from her last place of employment. (These same boxes can be had from a local stationery store for \$3 each.) So, after some experimentation, here's how you build an inexpensive strong storage box that will

hold 126 minis (not only that, the boxes have built-in handles!).

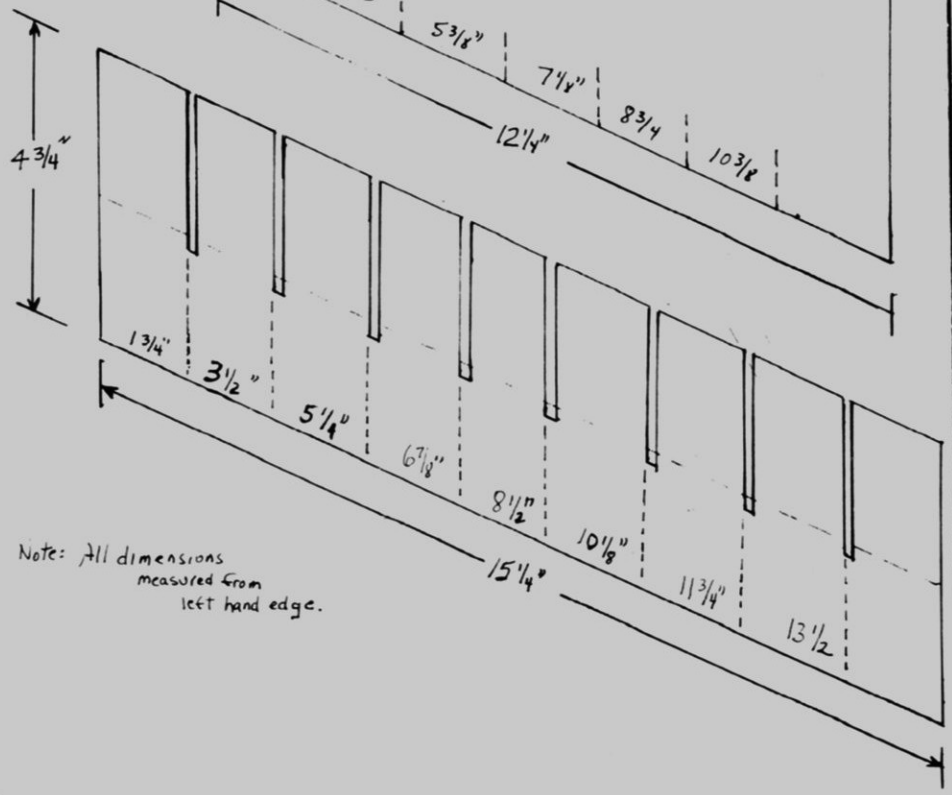
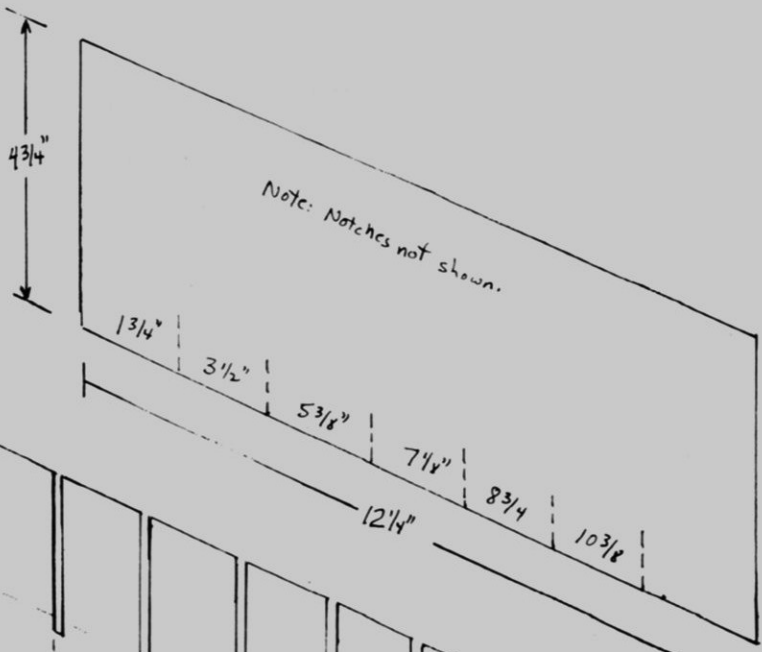
For each storage box, cut 12 pieces of cardboard 15 1/4" x 4 3/4", and 16 pieces 12 1/4" x 4 3/4". I use a radial arm saw to do the cutting; a table saw will work just as well, or, for those with infinite patience, a pair of tin snips. I wouldn't recommend a knife. Knives have a nasty tendency to slip, plus it's difficult to cut a straight edge with one.

Notch each piece of cardboard at the points shown, a little over halfway in; actual dimensions aren't critical as long as the notch is slightly more than halfway. Notches should be cut to the thickness of a piece of cardboard, or for those lazy folks out there, just about the width of a saw kerf (1/8"). Put the pieces together in a cross hatch pattern (like this:) to form the upper and lower dividers. Put the lower divider in, separate the two layers with a single piece of 12" x 15" cardboard, put the upper divider in and fold up the handles. All that remains is dropping the bottles in.

Note that the dimensions given are sufficient to store round and square bottles, with room along the outsides for most sized flasks. For those smart alics who are now saying, "but what about watch bottles?", the easiest way to store those is simply remove one of the cardboard cross pieces.

Well, that about does it. I hope to see all of you at the bottle show in Oakland later this year.

--HAP--



Note: All dimensions measured from left hand edge.



MINIATURE BEERS

by Bob Kay



The two sets of minis from the Camden County Beverage Co. of Camden, New Jersey, rate high on my list of favorites. The stubby three inch set-- Camden Pilsner Beer (NJ-1) and Lord Camden Ale (NJ-3) are much rarer than the four inch set, Camden Lager Beer (NJ-2) and Lord Camden (NJ-4).

Wooden mini bottle shaped openers make super go-withs for any mini beer collection. The Yankee Premium Pilsener (WI-106) pictured was erroneously identified as of Wisconsin origin in my book, when actually this super opener hails from the Lackawanna Beer and Ale Corp. of Scranton, PA. It is especially neat because the mini label has not been found on glass bottles-- only on the wooden opener. I'm the proud owner of a full-size 12 ounce label to 'go-with'.



Foreign mini beers seem to be picking up in interest. The three Castle Brewing minis pictured (Rhod-9 tall) are from Rhodesia. They are somewhat unique as far as recent vintage beers go in that "Castle Brewery" is embossed on the shoulder of the bottles. They are part of a set of twelve which are pictured and described more fully in my book (MBB).

The Atlantic Ale and Beer minis (NC 1 and 2) are among the rarest. They seem to be next to impossible to find. I like them!

The Coors earrings certainly qualify as mini go-withs. What do you think? Will they set a new style?

Till next time... Bob Kay



A Story Behind Every Label

by Joe Levesque

Of all the LIQUEURS in the world, CHARTREUSE stands out supreme. It has been said that the finest CHARTREUSE commands its weight in gold. The shape of the bottle and its simple label are the outward and visible guarantee of its unchallenged pre-eminence. So, what do we know about this liqueur, CHARTREUSE?

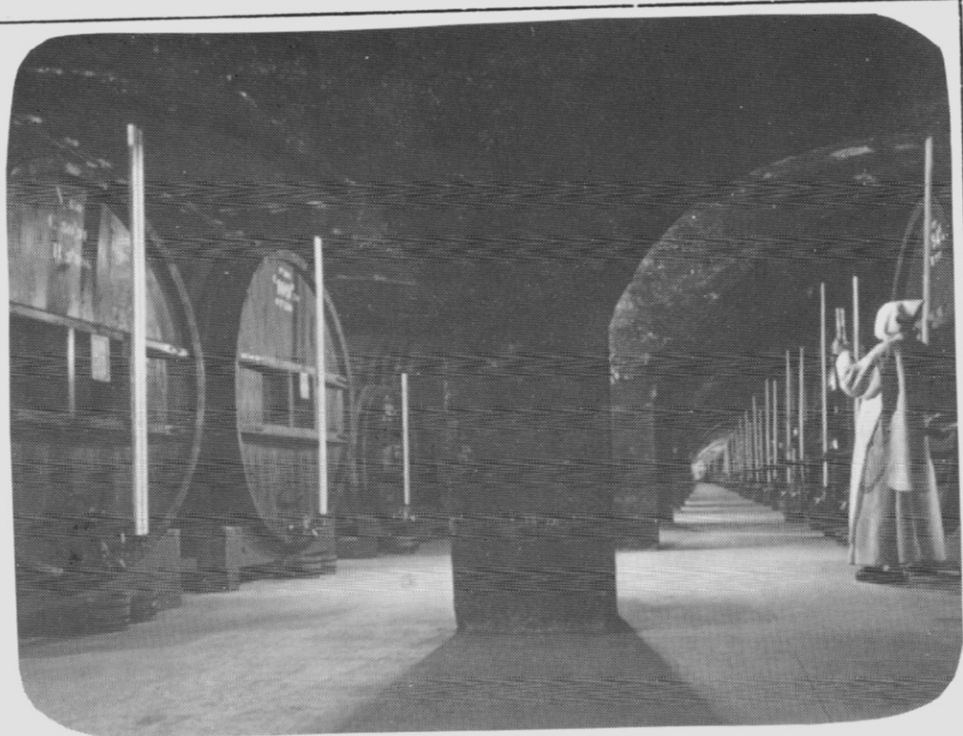
CHARTREUSE is a very high proof liqueur produced by the Carthusian monks, founded by a strange and holy man by the name of St. Bruno in 1084. Seven monks established themselves in an isolated valley then known as LA GRANDE CHARTREUSE, surrounded by high peaks of the French alps. They soon became known as "Les Pere Chartreux" (The Chartreux Fathers) which was translated in English as "The Carthusian Monks". When they produced a herbal elixir and a liqueur in the 1700's, these products were simply called CHARTREUSE.

At the time, there were literally hundreds of monasteries and convents producing liqueurs with all kinds of claims as to their beneficial properties. These are known as "Monastic Liqueurs". CHARTREUSE soon attained a reputation as being the very best. WHY?

In 1848, 30 French Army officers from a local garrison visited the monastery and went on a binge drinking YELLOW CHARTREUSE. They thought it so delicious that they promised to ask for it wherever they were stationed; they kept their word and soon the monks were selling several million litres a year. It became, as it is now, their chief source of income, thanks to the publicity generated by a bunch of rowdy French Army officers.

However, there were many other contributing factors which must not be overlooked. Probably the greatest other factor was that over 90% of Frenchmen claimed a Catholic heritage. For them, a liqueur originating in a monastery provided a greater proof of authenticity than a liqueur produced by an individual person.







The monastery of LA GRANDE CHARTREUSE suffered many tragedies through the years - from several bad fires to downright expulsion by the French Government. In France, religion has run hot and cold for centuries, and in time of extreme passions, the clergy and religious communities were often expelled from their lands and from the country...and CHARTREUSE suffered several such banishments, the last one being from 1903 to 1940.

In 1903, the same French Army which was responsible for so much of their publicity, battered down the monastery gates; hauled the monks from their choir stalls; and escorted them to the borders. Most monks went to Italy, but some took their liqueur recipe with them to their monastery in Tarragona, Spain, where it is still being produced today for the Spanish market.

CHARTREUSE imported in the U.S. before the war was produced in Tarragona, but after WW II all CHARTREUSE imported in the U.S. originated in France. There are many variations of CHARTREUSE labels, enough to form a distinct collection. Many can still be found at bottle shows, flea markets, or traded with other collectors.

The signature of L. Garnier found on the label belongs to a member of the Carthusian Order and not to the Garnier Liqueurs which were so well known in the U.S. before the war. This Carthusian brother was in charge of CHARTREUSE production when paper labels first made their appearance. Brother Garnier designed their first label, and affixed his signature as was the custom of the times to guarantee the authenticity of the product.

--Joseph Levesque--
The Cognac Newsletter



BOY AND GIRL



NAUGHTY BOY



WOMAN'S FACE



WOMAN'S BUST



CHOIRBOY

M
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SAILOR



BEETHOVEN



VENUS RISING FROM THE SEA



GUITAR



BOY ON A LOG



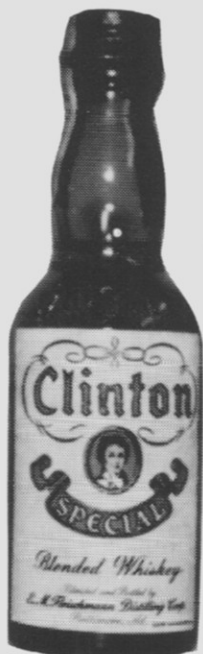
WARRIOR'S FACE

melo's minis

by Mike Olson

In this article I would like to feature eleven whiskies in a variety of round bottles. I do like exotic shaped and/or embossed bottles, but I will always have a place in my collection for the more "normal" types.

The first three bottles were blended and bottled by the EM Fleischmann Distilling Corp. Landsdowne, Maryland. Mr. Fleischmann founded the present day Calvert Distillery (which was later sold to Seagrams) and seems to have a preference for Special and Reserve brand labels. The first bottle is EM Fleischmann's Reserve Blended Whis-



key. It is 86.8 proof, four or more years old, has a blue and yellow label and was made in 1941. Bottle number two is EM Fleischmann's Special Blended Whiskey. It is 90 proof, four or more years old, has a red and yellow label and was made in 1941. The last of these is Clinton Special Blended Whiskey. It is 86.8 proof, four or more years old, has a red and white label and was made in 1941. This bottle claims Baltimore as its home and was distributed by McKesson & Robbins Inc. New York, NY. I have never seen a Clinton Reserve, but would guess there is one.

The next bottle is Family Club Blended Whiskey Blended and Bottled by the Dundalk Liquor Co. Inc. of Baltimore, MD. It is 85 proof, four or more years old, has a red and black label and was made in 1941. Bottle number five is also Family Club Blended Whiskey. It is 80,6 proof, has a white label and was made about 1940. Bottle number six is Our Number 31 Brand A Blend of Straight Whiskies Blended and Bottled by The Weidman Company, Cleveland, Ohio. It is 90 proof, one year and ten months or more old and was made about 1937. The last of this group is Round Table Kentucky Straight Bourbon Whiskey Bottled by S. S. Pierce Co. of Boston, Mass. It is 90 proof, 3 years old, has a black label and was made in 1940.



The next bottle is BPR Reserve Blended Whiskey Blended and Bottled by The Baltimore Pure Rye Distilling Co. Dundalk, Maryland. It is 86 proof, four or more years old and was made about 1938. I have this same bottle in 86.8 and 90 proof variations. Bottle number nine is a later version of BPR Reserve Blended Whiskey. It is 86.8 proof, four or more years old, has a light blue label and was made in 1952.

The next bottle is Ruxton Reserve Blended Whiskey Blended and Bottled by The Baltimore Pure Rye Distilling Co. It is 90 proof, two years or more old and was made about 1939. The last bottle is Maryland Futurity Blended Whiskey Blended and Bottled by The Union Distillers Products Co. Baltimore, MD. It is 90 proof, three or more years old and was made in 1940.

Finally, I think it is safe to say that great mini bottles come in all shapes-- and I like them all!!

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

Until next time. . . MELO



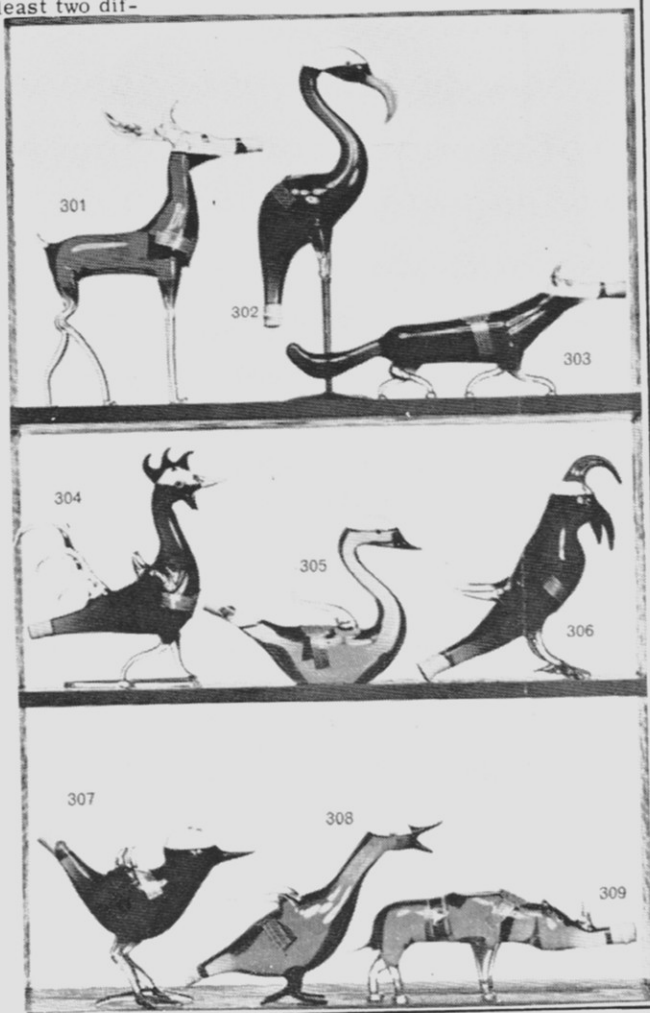
For The Connoisseur

The bottles seen here are Rynbende and date from the late 1960's through the mid 1970's. They were produced for several years and since they were blown glass may be seen in slight variation from collection to collection. These are not particularly rare; however, they are now seen for sale less and less. They are shown so that some of you may date a few of your bottles.

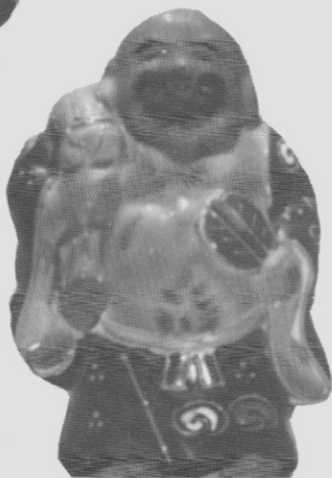
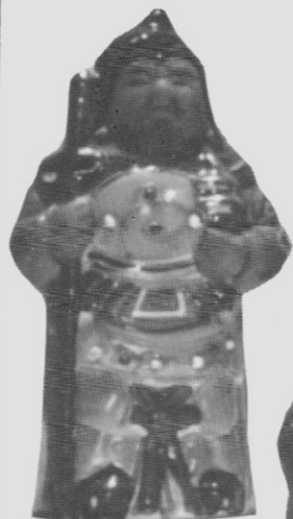
This set was imported by Briones and was available with at least two dif-

ferent types of labels. One was the standard gold label (very similar to the one used by Fortune Teller) while the other was simply a white strip which merely identified the importer and not the producing company.

Of special interest today (and of greater value) are the deer and flamingo (seen on the top row) and the rooster (middle row). These are much more highly sought.



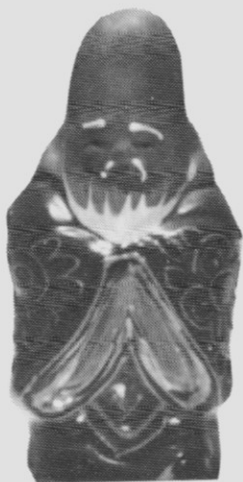
FROM THE
ORIENT



Sometimes bottles come your way which really surprise you. In the late 1960's ('68 to be exact) I remember traveling through Wyoming and stopping at a liquor store which was a haven for bottle collectors in Cheyenne. There for the first time I saw the Kamotsuru Seven Lucky Gods of Japan. They had been made in 1965 and were possibly the first group of ceramics (along with the Koshu Geishas) to be made of Japa-

nese bisque porcelain.

The Japanese could not understand why anyone would want sake in ceramic liquor bottles made to look like the famous seven gods. But they were finally made, sold, and then disappeared. During the years this took, I kept wondering when they might do miniatures of these great characters. Well, a few years ago they did... and they're still selling them.



You're looking at six of the seven gods. For some strange reason, the god of wealth and patron saint of the farmers is missing. He's Daikoku...but you get the idea anyway. These bottles do not come from Japan but rather were made in Taiwan and then sold in Italy to various liquor companies. So, the label you might have on a set of these characters might conceivably be quite different from what a fellow collector would have.

So that you know who's who in this lucky gallery, they are: Bishamon, the god of the Military - notable for the

sword seen in his right hand; Hotei, the god of Wealth and Wisdom - the bald fellow with the sake belly; Jurojin, the god of Longevity - seen with the staff in his left arm (which is rumored to contain all the wisdom in the world); Ebisu, the god of Fishermen - note the large, red fish under his arm; Fukurokujin, the god of Wisdom - large head, many brains; and Benten, the Goddess of Art and Music - our token from the distaff side.

Hope you've liked a look at something a little different in figurals!

SCOTCH For The Connoisseur

by Roy Holden



When deciding on bottles to feature, it's always difficult to think which ones might be new to collectors. Let's face it: to feature six bottles year in and out would be impossible and with such good books out in the U. S. A. and Italy it makes it more than difficult. I hope the six bottles in this edition are fresh to some of you collectors. Might I say that anyone with all of them is truly a lucky person... myself included.

When I first started my articles a few years ago, I showed a bottle of O. E. which does not appear very often. In fact I've had that one three times to trade. However, the bottle of O.E. featured in this issue is the only one I've ever seen. It's main characteristic is the red thistle on the label. Like the O.E. mentioned first, they were put out by James Rintoul of Edinburgh

in the 50's. Both have cork tops.

Golden Heather, a beauty also from the 50's is a brewery bottle which I like very much. Brewery bottles or not, these are the most sought after bottles today and thirty years ago they were in most towns in England. Today no British collector needs to be reminded that they are gone and the once proud local ale, now belongs to the big breweries who don't even do miniatures of any kind. Other collectors around the world probably haven't realized what has gone on. I bet a trip to Peterborough itself would hardly turn up a bottle of this brand in most households... and to think that Paten & Co. produced the bottle from there in the 1950's. The most striking thing about the label are the red letters of G and H for Golden Heather.

Addison Special Reserve, our third bottle (like the rest), can't be found anymore. Yates took over the Addison Company, but in the last twelve months the shop has changed to a wine bar in Church Street, so once again another firm goes.

There are several variations of this particular bottle. I only live twenty minutes away from Preston and guess where I first found a mini? It was at a bottle show in Italy, just shows what a universal hobby we all participate in.

Since I've started delving into my brewery bottles again, let's feature another Scotch Plaid. We're in Yorkshire again and it must have some of the most sought after Scotch there. Moors & Robson's of Mull put this brand out like our others in the 50's. A colorful label again, the Plaid is in red, green and blue and the bottle has a cork cap.

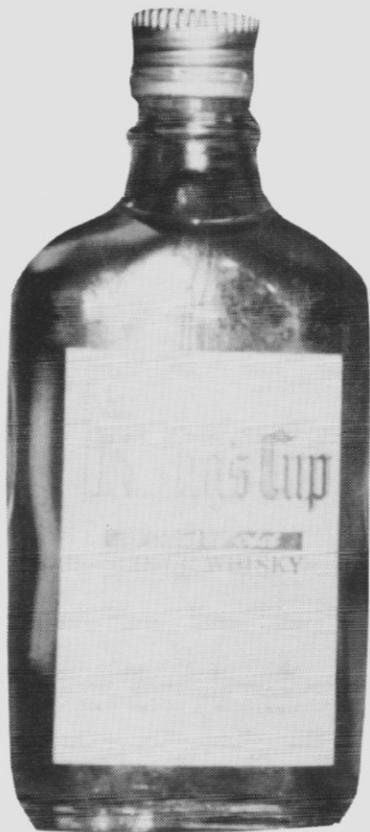


Just to add a little depth to my last statement, here's another brewery bottle from Mill and yes, you've guessed right, it's a Yorkshire. McBride's Mature is a beauty, the name is also embossed in the glass on the other side of the label. Again, this is from the 1950's from the Mull Brewing Company. This one, like many others from that era, is a brown flask.

To end this particular issue, I am featuring a bottle which I am sure some will have (not like our previous five). It falls into the "King" group of bottles which we all like collecting and was put out by Ronald Morrison of Edinburgh. They were great ambassadors for our hobby in the 60's and even the 70's.

I am also sure you all can easily see my reasons for continuing to say in my articles that the Brewery bottles are the real finds in Scotch miniatures today. Let's hope that I'll be able to show you more in the next edition of MBC.

--R. H. --



opinion.

Last summer, the COGNAC NEWSLETTER introduced a new "Mail Auction" covering a great variety of miniature liquor bottles from many various countries. The publication uses "exact size photocopies" to show the bottles for auction, and so far has been quite successful. After seeing the prices realized, many collectors seem to feel that "Mail Auction" is setting new standards and new prices for miniature liquor bottles in America. Realistically, as editor of the COGNAC NEWSLETTER and its "Mail Auction", I do not subscribe to this trend of thought because each one of us has paid and will continue to pay different prices for practically the same bottles.

When a collector goes to a neighborhood liquor store and pays \$2 for a miniature, then that miniature is worth exactly \$2. But if the same collector hops on a plane and flies all over the country, and buys one hundred \$2 bottles, what is the value of each one of the newly acquired bottles? Each one of us must answer this question for ourselves, 'cause we each have our own criteria and our own standards.

It has often been said that "the value of a miniature liquor bottle is whatever a collector is willing to pay for it". No one will argue with that, it sounds logical - but much depends if you are a seller or a buyer, and it depends on both. If you are a seller, it depends on how badly you want to sell. If you are a buyer, it depends on how badly you want to buy.

At one time or another, all of us have grown tired of looking at the same bottles on our shelves. So we shuffle them around, sometimes we get them out of sight, and at other times we simply "unload". If we decide to dispose of these bottles, each one of us will apply a different value to our bottles, depending on circumstances.

If we seek to "add" to our collection, each one of us is susceptible to pay a different price for a comparable bottle. For example, someone specializing in a category and finding a bottle bearing

a rare brand name, is susceptible to pay more for it than a general collector would.

Some collectors will argue that the only true cost of a bottle is the dollar price you originally paid for it. If that is your criteria... then it's O. K. But try to convince a collector who has flown across country to five different cities and returned home with just a handful of bottles.

In the insurance business, the value of an item is determined by the replacement cost, less depreciation. What is the replacement value of a miniature bottle? What is depreciation? Again, each one of us will probably come up with a different answer, and they may all be justified.

Realistically, there are no standards or fixed values in the Miniature Liquor Bottle collecting hobby. Each one of us must determine for ourselves how much we are willing to pay for a bottle, and how much we are willing to pay for finding the bottle. Some of us may place ads in magazines and newspapers. Those ads must be paid for, and a lot of dead-end correspondence must be undertaken. Some may correspond and exchange with other collectors. Again, it requires a lot of correspondence and you often end up with unacceptable bottles.

Others may enjoy travelling to other States, liquor stores, or Bottle Shows. And some may feel that "Mail Auction" is more reasonable for them because they cannot afford to travel or do not have the time to travel, and there are no expenses involved in "Mail Auction" except one postage stamp.

"Mail Auction" represents a new dimension in bottle hunting, but in the final analysis, bottle collectors themselves will set the standards and prices, and they will be different in each situation and for each one of us.

--Joseph Levesque--
"Mail Auction"
The Cognac Newsletter



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Midwest Miniature Bottle Club: Verne Brinker, St. Andrews Woods, 836 Tam O'Shanter, Bolingbrook, IL 60439.

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

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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 Mrs. Ada Felske, 2380 Lawton Drive, Lemon Grove, CA 92045.

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

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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.

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

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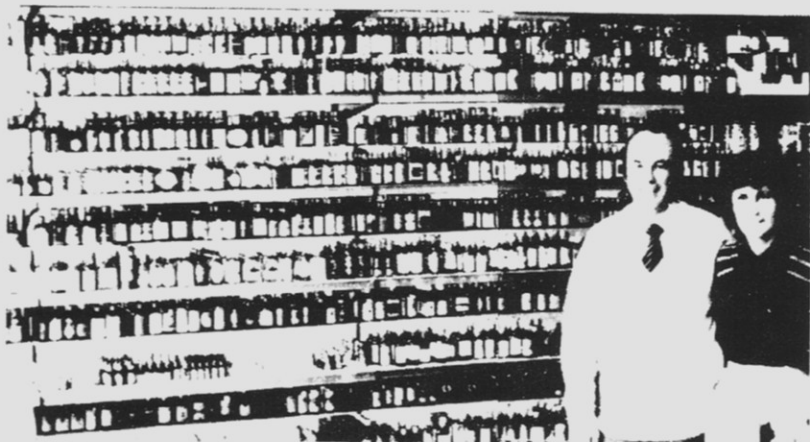
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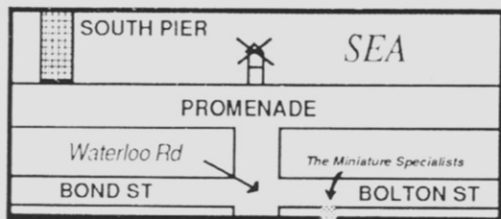
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