

THE

VOL. XVII No. 4
No. 100 1990

MINIATURE BOTTLE COLLECTOR



MINI BOTTLE INTERNATIONAL



AUCTION MAGAZINE

A Magazine for miniature liquor bottle collectors featuring interesting articles in every issue, combined with a miniature liquor bottle MAIL AUCTION featuring hundreds of bottles from all over the world, including Whiskeys, Rums, Vodkas, Cognacs, Liqueurs, etc.....
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Let's Talk

Last time I made mention of a special issue. This time, hopefully you'll think this one is as special as I do. This is the century mark. No, it isn't my century (although there are times when I feel it might be), but the magazine. Issue number one made its appearance in December of 1973 although it had a Jan.-Feb. 1974 date on it. So, a mere 100 issues later, here we are.

When that first issue came out, there were only a couple of clubs in the world and no one had ever seriously considered having a bottle show. I'm proud to say that the magazine has helped change both those characteristics. The hobby today has come a long way in the last seventeen years, but it's still got a long way to go.

Yes, that's right. We surely can't be complacent now. Any hobby is only as good as the people who stay involved. That's the essence of my philosophy. Get involved and stay involved. If you have a club in your area, be a leader, not a follower.

After 100 issues, I'm running out of gab. So for the next 100, how about letting us hear from you. I've never known anyone who has regretted it!

See you in 1991!

—DMS—

THE

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MINIATURE BOTTLE COLLECTOR

Editor/Publisher DAVID M. SPAID

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Our Cover

It's certainly not difficult to tell that this is a special cover this time. Not only do we have an entirely redesigned cover (don't worry, the old one will return next time), but we thought a splash of color was in order for the holidays. The Santas include a couple of giveaways, a Bols (St. Nick), an R.S., and a Mexican Anglo Swiss Vintager. Now, here's the question: Can you tell which is which? Turn to p. 12 for more info.

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WHAT'S NEW

Old, Odd, or Unusual



The potpourri is back. There are seven new bottles this time, some of which are available in the U.S. while others are not. Let's begin with two which may be found in a variety of spots around the country.

These two are the **CAMPARI CORDIAL** and the **TRUFFLES WHITE CHOCOLATE LIQUEUR**. Campari has been around for eons as an aperitif but only recently has this new liqueur been available. After tasting it, I'll stick to the aperitif. But, if you like chocolate, and I mean sticky, gooey, sweet-beyond-your-wildest-dreams chocolate, then Truffles White Chocolate is for you. The

bottle's okay, but the liqueur is incredible. Something else that's incredible is the fact that Heublein made the bottle in glass, not plastic.

The third bottle, **BRENNIVIN**, has been brought in from Iceland. Now, do you have any bottles from Iceland? I didn't, so that's why this bottle is now in my collection. I believe it's an anis type liqueur.

I mentioned the last bottle coming from Iceland because many collectors like to have a bottle from as many countries as possible. Another collecting "angle" is saving bottles with specific dates on them. For those of you who do that these next four scot-



ches should be a special treat.

These were available from dealers at both the Chicago and Burlingame shows this year. The first is THE WHISKY OF 1990. This is "A Unique Blended Scotch Whisky Created by Whyte and Mackay." It's a nice multicolored label and is a "true" miniature in that a full size bottle also exists.

Next is the 1990 ST. ANDREWS OPEN. This is also a blend made for the St. Andrews Golf & Craft Shop. Unfortunately the actual type of scotch it contains is not known

The last two bottles are both 10 year BOWMORE Islay Malt done

for special events. Initially we have the one for the Blairgowrie Highland Games which were held September 9, 1990. The other bottle (with the tube) is for the Centennial of the Forth Bridge. This is a limited edition of 5,000 pieces all of which were to be sold through the Peter Dominic chain stores in the UK.

So there you have seven new bottles for the Nineties. Next time you'll see the 1990 best bottle winner, at least for the U.S. This is the new Blanton's. Wait until you see it!

SMALL TALK

by

Harry Ford, Jr.

My second article on 1940's lemon gins from Holland will showcase seven clear glass case bottles. All of these bottles have lead foil caps and corks. All of the bottles are 4¼" high, except for the first described which is 5" high.

"Fijnproever" means connoisseur and is the trademark as illustrated by this Dutch gentleman who is raising his glass to view the clarity of this lemon gin. The distiller is Duys & Co. of Schiedam, Holland.





The Magnolia Gin is from P. Van-Gents of Schiedam, and appears to be a newcomer to the business since starting late in 1855.

Prima means first-rate and has a picture of a goblet on the yellow and red label. The foil label has Wenneker & Co. (again) from Schiedam in 1730.

The Genuine Hollands "Lemon" brand looks like an export label; however, as with almost all of my gins from this period, none show any proof or bottle contents/size. The liquor industry was obviously more powerful than the governmental bureaucracy. This bottle's back label is from Adrianus Van Den Eclaart of Schiedam.

SMALL TALK



The Boll & Dunlop's company of Schiedam, est. 1821, has an old Dutch gentleman on the label.

The Van Berckel & Co. of Delft appears to have a Papegaai or Parrot as its trademark.

Finally, the beautifully colored Zwann or swan label is from the J.J. Meder & Zn Co. of Schiedam.

Perhaps the lemon-flavored gin was a precursor to the multitude of tutti-frutti flavored schnapps we are seeing today? Maybe it was a way to get your vitamins in your favorite drink? Or could it have been a way to hide the taste for those who had not acquired a liking for the pure OUDE GENEVEER?

Good bottle hunting.

—H.F.—

CREAM of the Crop



For all of you who collect liqueurs, these articles on the new cream releases are especially exciting. However, this time you've got to dust off the typewriter or take pen in hand. Not a one of these three bottles is currently available in the United States. All may be found through the kind efforts of a UK collector. And, that's where the correspondence comes in. Make use of the want ads where collectors are always looking for pen pals.

Enough editorializing and on to the bottles. As is easily seen, all three are

brand names you're most familiar with; however, there's not a plastic bottle in sight. Two glass and one new ceramic variation are the bill of fare. Those who collect scotch will also be happy to know that their favorite liquid is the whisky base for each of these.

So, be on the lookout for DEVONSHIRE PEACHES AND CREAM, COLUMBA CREAM and a very nicely done new shape for the HEATHER CREAM.

— DMS —

Deck the halls



We'll get down to bottles shortly, but first a few notes on this special issue. Since this is number 100 and seventeen years have gone into this endeavor, I thought it would be nice to just once have a color cover. So with the aid of Gary Anderson and Lyngate Printing, you're holding a very special issue.

The MBC has existed all this time because of the continued support of all our subscribers. Now you all know how collecting and collectors in any hobby fluctuate. People who announce that they've looked for years for a magazine and they think we're the greatest thing since sliced bread often fail to renew, as twelve months later they are no longer collecting.

With that in mind, it's time for me to honor those subscribers who have

been with us through thick and thin for all 100 issues. At times I thought this might be a large number and then I wasn't so sure. When the records were consulted, thirty-one subscribers have been with us from the very start. They are (in alphabetical order):

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Without all you subscribers, the magazine wouldn't be here. So, an extra special thank you to all of you who have been with us all these years.

Now, it's bottle time. The remainder of the Santa/Father Christmas bottles are here on these two pages. Hope you enjoy them all. These are by no means the only Santas around, but they are some of the most interesting. Let's take a look at the five shown here.

Taking the molded glass piece first, we have an Anis Elmo from Abente of Portugal. Guessing at the age is the only thing we can do and in all probability it's from the late 1940's or early 1950's. That strange looking stocking cap is actually made of felt and is just a nice little add on to the bottle.

The remaining four bottles are what Lloyd McLeod writes about in his column, *A Visit to Boozeville*. These are German Porcelains or

Giveaways. The three flasks are highly prized but the best of the group is the little 4 1/4" piece. The other two are 5 1/8" and 6". These are multi-colored and the bottle our Father Christmas holds says *Prosit* on it. That's *Cheers, Bottoms Up*, etc. in English.

The last bottle is in blue and comes in at least two sizes. This larger one measures in at 8". Santa or Father Christmas has his bag of toys, but he also has a little something to keep the cold away on that long journey he has to make.

Once again, these bottles as well as the ones on the cover are only a few of the wonderful Santa Claus/Father Christmas bottles available. Just start looking...and get lucky! — DMS —

Collectors' Choice

By Stan Dalen



Here are two whiskeys of the same brand, and both probably from the 1930's, that have more differences than the containers that they come in.

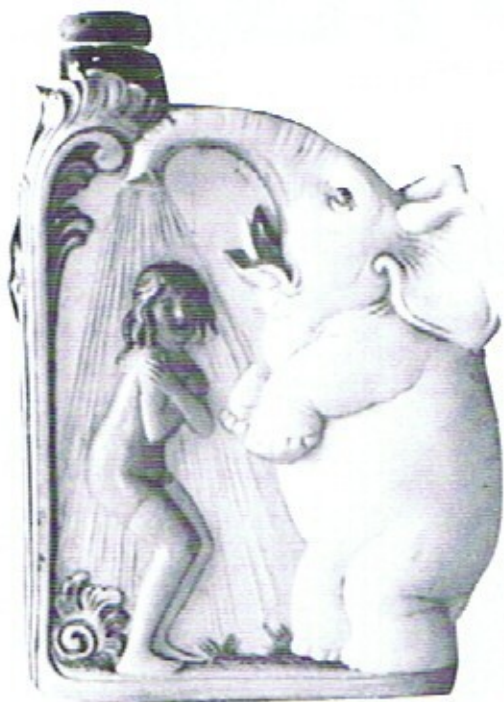
The ceramic jug contains Hannah & Hogg Straight Bourbon Whiskey, 90 proof, and is bottled for Hannah & Hogg of Chicago, IL.

The clear glass bottle, in the shape of binoculars, contains Hannah & Hogg Kentucky Straight Bourbon Whiskey, Bottled in Bond, 100 proof, and is bottled by Hannah & Hogg Distillery Company, Bourbon Springs, Bardstown, Kentucky.

As the French say, Vive La Difference.

A Visit To Boozeville

by Lloyd McLeod



In the early days of Boozeville, plumbing in houses was almost non-existent. There were a few who lived down hill from a spring. Now they could run water down to a storage barrel by gravity.

Here is a Boozeville girl with a good idea. She has her own built-in shower. Today we take it for granted that water will be there when we turn the handle.

This giveaway bottle didn't hold

water. It is a whiskey giveaway in multicolor with the girl in yellow and the elephant in white. Any giveaway collector who has this one in his/her collection is indeed lucky.

This bottle doesn't hold much so I guess I'll just empty the rest of it into my glass. Hmmm, gee, that's really good. You know, I swear that elephant is turning a little pink!

— L.M. —

FROM JAPAN

by TAIZO SHIRATSUCHI



This time I would like to present to you some of the Japanese whisky miniatures which appeared in the first half of 1990 in Japan.

The first two bottles are from the Mercian Co. Ltd. Yes, on September 1, 1990, Sanraku Co. changed the company name to Mercian which was already very famous as their wine brand. Karuizawa Distillery was built in 1956. KARUIZAWA EXCEED 12

year old is Malt Whisky and KARUIZAWA 25 Malts is a vatted (combination of) twenty-five different scotch malts but based on the Karuizawa malt. EXCEED has a golden label trimmed in gold while 25 Malts is white trimmed in gold with "25 Malts" also in gold. Both bottles are 8.5cm tall in clear cutting glass with brown cap and contain 50ml at 40% alcohol.



The third bottle, **SUNTORY EXCELLENCE**, is a fancy bottle as you see. **EXCELLENCE** was released in 1989 to commemorate the 80th anniversary and we were waiting for this miniature anxiously. It is 10cm tall in clear glass contains 50ml with 40% alcohol. The label is reddish brown framed in gold.

Next is the **BLACK NIKKA** which has appeared with a new label, however slightly changed. There is added only "Special" on the label.

The last one is a very interesting **THE BLEND OF NIKKA**, The 10th Anniversary of the Osaka Miniature

Bottle Club. The O.M.B.C. had the 10th Anniversary meeting in the Hotel New Otani in Osaka on April 14, 1990 with your editor and his wife in attendance. The label was issued only in 192 pieces under the supervision of the Nikka Distilling Co. There is a golden leaf of ginkgo with a green shadow on the tan label. A ginkgo is the prefectural tree of Osaka and this leaf of ginkgo is also the symbol mark of The Ginkgo Pavilion in EXPO 90 which was just held in Osaka. Of course, we used this mark by permission of Osaka Prefecture.

— T.S. —

MINI WORLD

by

SCOTT T. REINHART

Please refer back to the last issue for basic information on some of these bottles. This is a continuation of what I talked about then. Not too much more to say, so just let me show you some pictures.

— S.T.R. —



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MINI WORLD



Licor de Morango
Licor de Ginja
Licor de Maracuja





Licor de Anís (Clear liquid)

Licor de Anís (Dark green liquid)



Licor de Amora

Licor de Ananaz

Licor de Banana

melo's minis

by Mike Olson



In this article I would like to feature some nice California whiskeys from the 1930's, plus a couple of Canadians from the same era. I have separated my Canadian bottles into three categories. First are the minis which are bottled in the U.S. using whisky imported from Canada in bulk. I place these in virtually the same class as American whiskeys and treat them as such in my collection. Next are the minis bottled in Canada and imported and sold in the U.S. I also collect these, but do not place as high a priority on them. The last category contains the bottles made and sold only in Canada. I have a few of these, but do not go out of my way to obtain them.

The first of the California bottles is Green Mill Kentucky Straight Bourbon Whiskey Bottled by World Importers, Inc. San Francisco, California U.S.A. It is 90 proof, 2 years and three months old, distilled in Kentucky and has a bright gold label (which did not photograph well) printed in red, black and green. This is followed by Golden Oak Straight Bourbon Whiskey Bottled by Bohemian Distilling Co. Los Angeles, California. It is 100 proof, 15 months old, distilled in Kentucky and has a light yellow label printed in gold, black, brown and red. This bottle is nicely embossed as is the next bottle which is Three Rivers Straight Bourbon Whiskey Bottled by San Angelo



Wine & Spirits Corp. Los Angeles, California. It is 90 proof, 2 years old, distilled in Illinois and has a light and dark brown label with red and gold.

Bottle number four is somewhat unusual to say the least. It is Vancouver Club Canadian Whiskey Distilled by United Distillers Ltd. Vancouver, Canada, Imported by J & J Dunbar & Co., Seattle, Wash., Bottled for Pacific Bottlers Supply Co., Seattle, Wash. and Bottled by The Old Monastery Co. Seattle, Wash. Got all that? It is 90 proof, 4 years 6 months old and has a light tan label printed in black and red.

The other Canadian is Monogram Whisky Bottled in San Francisco, California. It is 90 proof, 7 years old,

has a white label printed in gold and black and has a Territory of Alaska tax stamp. The last bottle is Billie Taylor Brand Kentucky Straight Bourbon Whiskey Distilled at Frankfort, Kentucky and Bottled by Westco Liquor Products Co., San Francisco U.S.A. It is 90 proof, one year old and has a yellow label printed in red and black.

Finally, it's nice to note that the Vancouver Club was purchased sight unseen for five dollars. I think it was probably worth the price. As always, if anyone would like any further information on any bottle pictured, please feel free to write me.

Until next time. . .MELO. . .

the g-r-r-eatest

by

"BUTCH" JONES



Wie Gehts! The bottles in these pictures were obtained in Germany during my tour of duty in 1980-83. These chess pieces were obtained in two liquor stores in the town of Bernkastel-Kues, Germany. These bottles are just a few of the many figurals made by the Scheibel Company. Picture No. 1 shows the king and queen while the remaining three bottles are the pawn, castle, and knight. Hope you enjoy them.

For The Connoisseur



Recently this set of three delft pieces from Holland was issued. The three are a product of "Export Distillery Andros" in Tilburg - The Netherlands. Each bottle states that it is an Andros Liqueur and the same orange liqueur called Brabantine is contained in each. In fact, the only difference among the three is that of the pictures. The one with the Windmill presents a different windmill on all four sides and the one with the sailing ship shows four different sailing ships. The one with the child depicts a child or children at play in four different games.

For those of you who love the blue and white bottles, these three are a must. Now all you've got to do is go to Holland!



Jerry Cohen

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ington, New Zealand.

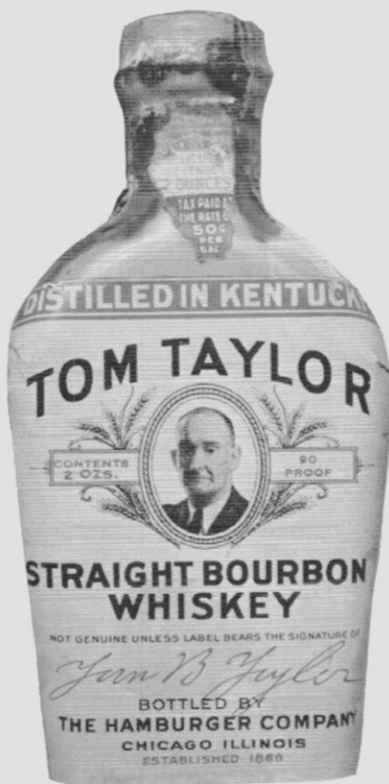
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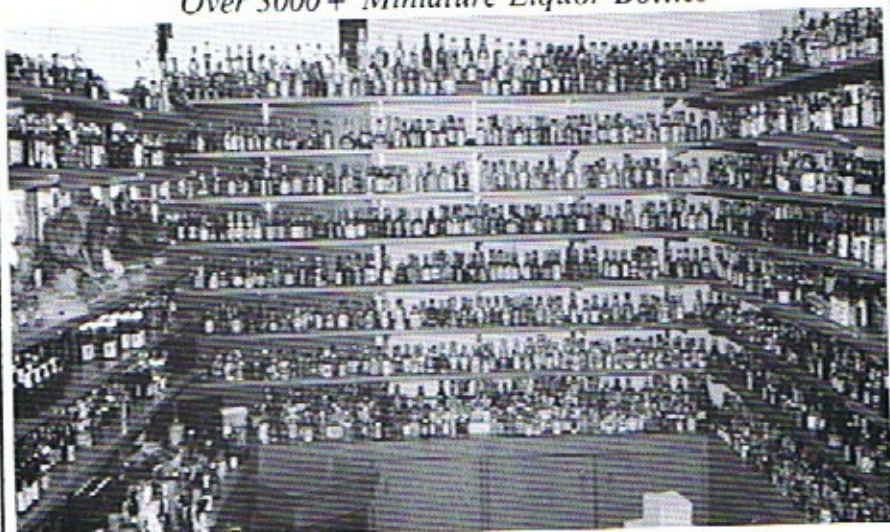
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