

VOL. XIX No. 5
No. 113

THE MINIATURE BOTTLE COLLECTOR

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RARITIES



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MINI BOTTLE INTERNATIONAL



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B

Let's Talk

This issue is packed with eleven articles, show info, and as much as the pages would allow. The Fred Hawley article was so well received from last time that Fred will be back in #114. In that issue you may also expect to find out about the Tobermory Distillery from the Isle of Man. In 1993 you'll also see articles on bottles from the South Pacific...how about Bali?

Received an interesting letter from Kermit McFadden of San Leandro, CA, in regard to the reprinted column from the Australian newsletter. Here's what Kermit had to say:

"Do I have fun? Am I greedy? Am I a collector? Am I a Hoarder? Am I a Horsetrader? You will have to be the judge as to what I best qualify as.

"In my own judgement of myself, I qualify in all the above categories, plus more you could name.

"I belong to Ski Country, MBC, Lilliputian Club, Midwest Club, No. Cal Club...but WHY? Is it to be a good collector or Hoarder? My answer: to increase my knowledge of who, what, where, when, etc. and to be able to buy-sell-trade in mini bottles of my mini price range to buy as well as my happy hoarding feeling of getting wine, liqueur, gin, etc. that I 'think' I do not have.

"If the shoe-fits-wear-it, they tell me. I have boots, tennis shoes, mocasins, Florshiemis, and do you know my feet still hurt at times. Am I a shoe hoarder? Boy, that word hoarder makes my feet hurt, and now I have no shoes on."

As I stated above, it's an "interesting" letter, and we welcome all the letters we can get. See you in February.

--DMS--

THE

VOL. XIX
No. 113

No.5
1992

MINIATURE BOTTLE COLLECTOR

Editor/Publisher DAVID M. SPAID

Features

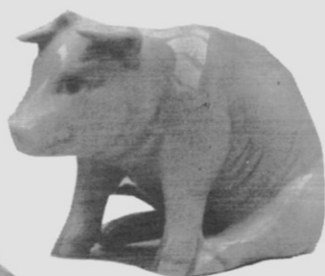
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Our Cover

Okay, so we missed the election. However, what better year than to have a donkey and an elephant on the cover. Naturally this time the donkey is on top. These two are part of a very large number of Dekuyper bottles issued back in the 1930's. You've never seen them? Well, welcome to the club. Read all about them in Tony Natelli's article on page 19.

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WHAT'S NEW



Our favorite type of article again this time...the potpourri. One of the bottles you can't buy anywhere which will possibly "drive some of you to drink". Let's begin with that one.

Last time we had an article by Fred Hawley of Northern California. Fred decided that it would be nice if everyone who came to the Lilliputian West Coast Show Banquet would have something a bit special to take home. Since Fred had a supply of Old Fiddle bottles, he had a special label produced and so 50 bottles were given away by Fred at the banquet. (Not to be outdone, his wife JoAnn was able to get a supply of miniature perfumes one of which was also given to each person who attended the banquet.) Many big thank-yous to the Hawley's!!

Since that was a fancy bottle, we'll turn to another extremely well done piece. I'm speaking of the little decanter Earl Grey Liqueur. This one is available back east and is a must as the photo doesn't do it justice.

Available in Northern California as they were found in stores when collectors attended the show there, are the Germain-Robin Reserve and the Janneau Grand Armagnac VSOP. Previously we've featured the other Germain-Robin. These brandies are made in California and are plainly excellent.

The Rosolio Alla Pesca is from Francescano of Italy. This is a peach-flavored liqueur in an interesting bottle with cork closure. So far it has only been found in Europe.



Finishing up we have three new Mexican bottles, two tequilas and one mezcal. The Sauza Commemorative (what John Wayne always drank...if you're into trivia) is available throughout the U.S. and looks to be a big winner. Pull off the tab, consume the contents and you have a nice advertising shot glass!

The other tequila has been available only in few areas of Mexico for well over a year now. This is a replica of the large Cuevo 1800 bottle except this miniature actually improves upon the bottle as it has a wooden stopper.

The remaining mezcal has a nice tag on it. But don't worry, those are pesos, not dollars. This is the fourth version of Dos Gusanos within the last few years and probably the most standard bottle in either shape or



WHAT'S NEW



size. If you collect bottles with “things” in them, this is a natural.

Sometimes it's nicest to save the best for last. Probably most of you already have this bottle as it's due to have wide exposure. This is the Wild Turkey Rare Breed. Except for the closure, it's exactly the same as the large bottle down to the embossed Wild Turkey above the label. It is 55% alcohol or 110 proof and also shows the day it was filled. In this case 08/12/92 may be read above the embossment. This is definitely in the running for glass bottle of the year!

Next time, more potpourri!

A Visit To Boozeville

By Lloyd McLeod



It has been raining in Boozeville for the past two days, but now the sun is coming out. This fellow is happy to see the sun shine. He is also happy to see the rain...in fact, he is just a happy-go-lucky type of person. That's why they call him "Sunny Boy".

This Giveaway bottle was filled with whiskey and given to a good customer...usually a happy customer! After drinking the contents, he was an even happier customer.

This is a very rare bottle and a collector will probably only see it in a photo. Another type is known though that is all brown with a mirror for the face. This one is 5½ inches tall with #3711 incised. It has a brown wood grain back with a multicolored front. The raincoat is yellow while the umbrella is red.

All of us thank Ron Danese for sharing this one with us.

"Um, boy, that is sure a good nip. I wonder if the bartender filled it with Sunny Brook?"

CREAM

of the



Usually we have two or maybe three new bottles to show you. And then the articles are few and far between because of the paucity of bottles issued. Well, tighten those seat belts, we have five different ones for you this issue. And they (naturally) hail from all points of the globe.

Penny Lane Strawberries and Cream and Carrington's Peaches & Cream both come from South Africa. They are sold not only there but also in several areas in Europe. The bottles are identical. Both are considered wine aperitifs in South Africa because of the low percentage of alcohol. Here we would undoubtedly still call them liqueurs.

Possibly the most interesting of the group, not only because of its bottle shape, is the Boulard Creamlight...aka Calvados Cream Liqueur. So now Apple Brandy has

entered the arena. At 36 proof this is one with more alcohol than our previous two, but still less than many others.

The Gressy Coffee (Original Coffee Cream) is a new flavor in a 50ml bottle but still one which apes its big brother the straight Gressy. This one is also found in several locations in Europe.

Finally we come to Millwood Whiskey Cream. This is a product of Holland which came to us via Japan. Note that whiskey is spelled with the "e" which would normally mean that it's made with bourbon, not scotch. Wanna bet?

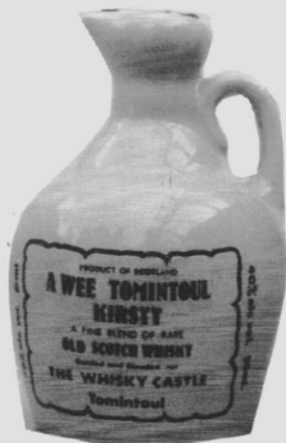
No others are on the horizon so this cream of the crop will have to suffice for some time. When "some time" is up, more new ones will appear!

Crop



SCOTCH

David Maund



Can't help myself. When I saw how much interest there was for the new scotches at the Lilliputian West Coast Show in Northern California, I decided I'd show you some of these new ones which were so sought after.

I'll begin with the two flagons as there are only the pair. Both are produced by Rutherford in Glasgow. The golfer is noteworthy because to my knowledge it's the only one with a decal like this that isn't part of a set. The Kirsty flagon was made for the Whisky Castle so

it is what I've heard Americans call a customer specialty.

The next four bottles are also ones made especially for off-licenses. The Preston Guild Royal Charter are made for our old friends at the Wee Dram in Blackpool. Both bottles are numbered; however, the blend doesn't tell how many total pieces were produced while the malt (16 years old Glen Rothes) states that only 180 pieces were issued.

The two bottles for The Nest, an off-licence which was honored as Off-Licence of the Year, is in Lon-



don's West End. Both of these are limited to only 120 pieces which have now completely made their way to collectors. One is the 1966 Lochside while the other is the 1967 Deanston.

The remaining three malts all contain 10 year old Bowmore Islay Malt Whisky. But as you see, it's not the contents but the labels which make these to desired. Don't think I've yet mentioned this company in St. Andrews. It's Miniatura Collectives. 1992 saw the release of their first bottles and I'll show you some of

their first bottles and I'll show you some of their golfing ones (well it is St. Andrews) in an upcoming issue.

Allow me now to relate the information on these bottles. The first is Black Mike Treble (III) F Squadron. "Aircraft 'Mike' has been specially painted to commemorate the 30th Anniversary of the Heyday of the Black Arrows and the last year of operational service of the Phantom FG1 with the RAF. Reproduced from a limited edition print of 500 copies by Artist Ian Kennedy." 582 bottles were issued.

SCOTCH



The next bottle in the RAF Collection is the Fighting Cocks. "A new painting has been commissioned by the squadron to mark its 75th Anniversary in its recent participation in Operation Desert Storm entitled Kuwait Cap. Reproduced from a limited edition print of 250 copies by artist Dugald Cameron." 1,000 bottles were issued.

The last bottle is Tiger Squadron. "The third print in the Phantom series is 'Phantom Finale.' The print depicts a 74(F) Squadron Phantom FGR2 used for the 1992 aerobatic

season. The aircraft is seen pulling up over RAF Wattisham. Reproduced from a limited edition print of 500 copies individually numbered and signed by the artist Ian Kennedy." 914 of the piece were issued.

Don't know how many more will be issued. Just know they'll be in my collection!

--D.L.M.--

Glass!

ROWLEY WINE

A few months back, we received information from The Rowley Wine Company Ltd. of Durham, England. The labels were interesting but not nearly as the contents of the different bottles. The following is taken from one of the company brochures.

"The Rowley Wine Company has pleasure in inviting you to partake of a harvest of traditional fruit and country wines, specialty wines and our own unique 'wine style' Reinette, fermented from a special blend of select apple juices.

"The Company is nurtured by its namesake, the village of Rowley, which nestles on the edge of the breathtaking, heather-clad, high Pennines, overlooking the beautiful valley of the River Derwent. Called 'bright water' by the Romans some 2000 years ago, this river forms the border between wild Northumberland and the 'County Palatine of the Prince Bishops of Durham.'


"Traditional recipes are used to bring out the finest flavour from nature's glorious bounty of berries, flowers, fruits, honey, plants, vegetables and even trees.

"These wines have gathered much mystery and superstition over the

years. Many believe that Birch Wine is a cure for baldness. The bush of the Elderberry is supposed to protect you or your property from lightning. It is also said that Christ was crucified on a cross made of elderwood and that Judas hanged himself from an eldertree. Mead is a wine made from honey and was often drunk at festivals and weddings; ancient wedding feasts used to last a month or a moon, hence today's 'honeymoon.' It has even been suggested that more than one of the wines in the range has been known to create strange romantic desires.

"Rowley Wine as founded by ex-steelworkers, Mike Heywood and Stuart Skelton, in the early eighties after the closure of the famous Consett Steelworkers in 1980. Rowley Wine was incorporated in 1986 when Trevor Jewitt joined the business have come ashore from serving as 1st mate on the supertankers, to marry and to pursue his other love, of wine making!"

Twenty-two different styles are available and are sold in sets of 6 miniatures each in a wooden rack. Turn the page for some of the most delightful wine names you're ever likely to encounter!




Rowley
WINE COMPANY LTD.

TRADITIONAL
Birch Wine

A crisp clean Dry white wine
Fruit Base Grape Juice and Birch Sap

14-5%vol. 5c l.

The Rowley Wine Company Ltd., Dorwestside D888 7N1




Rowley
WINE COMPANY LTD.

TRADITIONAL
Gooseberry Wine

A Medium white wine with a wonderful bouquet
of gooseberries
Fruit Base Grape and Gooseberry Juice

14-5%vol. 5c l.

The Rowley Wine Company Ltd., Dorwestside D888 7N1




Rowley
WINE COMPANY LTD.

TRADITIONAL
Dandelion Wine

A light pleasant Medium Dry white wine
Fruit Base Grape Juice and Dandelion

14-5%vol. 5c l.

The Rowley Wine Company Ltd., Dorwestside D888 7N1




Rowley
WINE COMPANY LTD.

TRADITIONAL
Sloe Wine

A rich and full flavoured Medium wine
Fruit Base Grape Juice and Sloes

14-5%vol. 5c l.

The Rowley Wine Company Ltd., Dorwestside D888 7N1




Rowley
WINE COMPANY LTD.

TRADITIONAL
Strawberry Wine

A smooth Sweet strawberry wine
Fruit Base Grape and Strawberry Juice

14-5%vol. 5c l.

The Rowley Wine Company Ltd., Dorwestside D888 7N1




Rowley
WINE COMPANY LTD.

TRADITIONAL
Damson Wine

A delicious Medium Dry pink blush
Fruit Base Exclusively Damson Juice

14-5%vol. 5c l.

The Rowley Wine Company Ltd., Dorwestside D888 7N1




Rowley
WINE COMPANY LTD.

TRADITIONAL
Cherry Wine

A Medium Sweet red wine of succulent cherries
Fruit Base Grape and Cherry Juice

14-5%vol. 5c l.

The Rowley Wine Company Ltd., Dorwestside D888 7N1




Rowley
WINE COMPANY LTD.

TRADITIONAL
Elderberry Wine

A super soft Medium Sweet red wine
Fruit Base Grape and Elderberry Juice

14-5%vol. 5c l.

The Rowley Wine Company Ltd., Dorwestside D888 7N1




Rowley
WINE COMPANY LTD.

TRADITIONAL
Raspberry Wine

A lovely soft Medium Sweet red wine
Fruit Base Grape and Raspberry Juice

14-5%vol. 5c l.

The Rowley Wine Company Ltd., Dorwestside D888 7N1




Rowley
WINE COMPANY LTD.

TRADITIONAL
Ginger Wine

A spicy deep amber Medium wine
Fruit Base Grape Juice and Ginger

13-5%vol. 5c l.

The Rowley Wine Company Ltd., Dorwestside D888 7N1




Rowley
WINE COMPANY LTD.

TRADITIONAL
Norfolk Mead

A Medium Sweet amber wine with the taste of
country honey
Fruit Base Grape Juice and Honey

14-5%vol. 5c l.

The Rowley Wine Company Ltd., Dorwestside D888 7N1




Rowley
WINE COMPANY LTD.

TRADITIONAL
Punch

Generly best with equal parts of Punch and Wine
to make a warming, spicy cup.

14%vol. 5c l.

The Rowley Wine Company Ltd., Dorwestside D888 7N1




Rowley
WINE COMPANY LTD.

TRADITIONAL
Cowslip Wine

A fresh Medium Dry white wine
Fruit Base Grape Juice and Cowslip

14.5%vol. 5c l.

The Rowley Wine Company Ltd., Derwentside D988 7N0




Rowley
WINE COMPANY LTD.

TRADITIONAL
Parsnip Wine

A superb Medium Dry white wine
Fruit Base Grape Juice and Parsnip

14.5%vol. 5c l.

The Rowley Wine Company Ltd., Derwentside D988 7N0




Rowley
WINE COMPANY LTD.

TRADITIONAL
Rhubarb Wine

A light pale Medium Dry white wine
Fruit Base Exclusively Rhubarb Juice

14.5%vol. 5c l.

The Rowley Wine Company Ltd., Derwentside D988 7N0




Rowley
WINE COMPANY LTD.

TRADITIONAL
Peach Wine

A Sweet amber wine with the flavour of fresh peaches
Fruit Base Exclusively Peach Juice

14.5%vol. 5c l.

The Rowley Wine Company Ltd., Derwentside D988 7N0




Rowley
WINE COMPANY LTD.

TRADITIONAL
Apricot Wine

A Sweet press of apricots
Fruit Base Exclusively Apricot Juice

14.5%vol. 5c l.

The Rowley Wine Company Ltd., Derwentside D988 7N0




Rowley
WINE COMPANY LTD.

TRADITIONAL
Orange Wine

A Medium Sweet amber wine with great depth and zest
Fruit Base Exclusively Orange Juice

14.5%vol. 5c l.

The Rowley Wine Company Ltd., Derwentside D988 7N0




Rowley
WINE COMPANY LTD.

TRADITIONAL
Redcurrant Wine

A Medium Sweet blend of ruby redcurrants
Fruit Base Grape and Redcurrant Juice

14.5%vol. 5c l.

The Rowley Wine Company Ltd., Derwentside D988 7N0




Rowley
WINE COMPANY LTD.

TRADITIONAL
Blackcurrant Wine

Minerals of blackcurrants in a Medium Sweet style
Fruit Base Grape and Blackcurrant Juice

14.5%vol. 5c l.

The Rowley Wine Company Ltd., Derwentside D988 7N0




Rowley
WINE COMPANY LTD.

TRADITIONAL
Blackberry Wine

A rich and fragrant Medium Sweet red wine
Fruit Base Grape and Blackberry Juice

14.5%vol. 5c l.

The Rowley Wine Company Ltd., Derwentside D988 7N0




Rowley
WINE COMPANY LTD.

TRADITIONAL
Black Beer & Quina Wine

A dark Sweet Wine, full of mystery.


14.5%vol. 5c l.

The Rowley Wine Company Ltd., Derwentside D988 7N0



Rowley
WINE COMPANY LTD.

The Rowley Wine Company Ltd., Derwentside D988 7N0



Rowley
WINE COMPANY LTD.

The Rowley Wine Company Ltd., Derwentside D988 7N0

DOMAINE CHARBAY



The three bottles you see here are very special. They are hand blown and numbered creations from Domaine Charbay of St. Helena, California. They are Calvad'Or, Grappa di Marko, and Nostalgie. The first is the California apple brandy, the second a grappa/eau de vie named after the maker's son, and the third is the Black Walnut Liqueur.

The makers are Miles Karakasevic and his wife Susan. Miles has created a dessert chardonnay or Charbay, which is a combination of chardonnay and brandy. To say that these bottlings are rare and

beautifully done is an understatement. These are extremely magnificent liqueurs. To give you an idea of both the quality and the rarity, a one litre hand blown flask sells for \$499.00! AND, it's worth it. Each one comes from a single barrel and is possibly the quintessential liqueur being sold today in the U.S. If you're fortunate enough, a few bottles may be left. We'll break a long standing practice and give you their address: 4001 Spring Mountain Road, St. Helena, CA 94574. Remember, this is an article, not an ad, no one paid for this testimonial.

FIGURATIVELY SPEAKING

By Tony Natelli



Of all of the great figural companies since Prohibition, those of the John Kekuyper and Son Distillery of Jersey City, New Jersey, are the rarest, least known and most valuable.

Many collectors have never seen one and even most great figural collections don't contain any.

These bottles were produced at a china factory in Southern Ohio in 1937 and sold, mostly containing Creme de Cacao, in Florida during

the late 1930's.

It has been claimed that up to 100 different ones exist. Pictured here are two dogs, a cat and a bull. Seen on the cover are the donkey and elephant, but others reported include a skier with skis, other dogs, a horse, and a chick. Many have gold highlights. Many also come in unusual colors such as green, blue, pink, purple, etc.

--T.N.--

melo's minis

by Mike Olson



In this article I would like to feature three flats from Medley, plus a nice selection of Barton products. All of these bottles are Kentucky Straight Bourbon Whiskey and most were produced during the 1950's. This time period was kind of a watershed as some of the long established brands ceased miniature production. At the same time a number of new brands were introduced into the miniature market. Also, the bottles had begun to evolve into the rather plain format we have today.

Anyway, bottle number one is Medley Bros. Distilled and Bottled by Medley Distilling Company, Owensboro, Kentucky. It is 100 proof and was BIB 1945-1949. The

other Medley Bros. is 86 proof, 6 years old, has an orange label and is circa 1950. The last of these is Five Brothers which is 86 proof, 4 years old and from the same time period.

The next seven bottles were Distilled and Bottled by Barton Distilling Company, Bardstown, Nelson County, Kentucky. The Barton is 90 proof, 6 years old and from 1955. The Kentucky Gentleman is 86 proof and from 1954. The Old Cummins is 100 proof, BIB 1951-1955 and has a light yellow label.

The first Colonel Lee is 100 proof, was BIB 1950-1954 and has a yellow label. The next Colonel Lee is 100 proof, was BIB 1953-1957 and has an orange label. The Barton



Colonel Lee is 86 proof, four years old and has a 1960 Oregon tax stamp. The last two bottles claim Colonel Lee as Distiller and Bottler and are 86 and 80 proof respectively.

Finally, I have always thought that some of the bottles from the 1950's are a lot rarer than they are perceived to be. This is probably also true for variations of the common brands from the more recent past.

As always, if anyone would like to correspond with me, please feel free to do so.

Until next time...

--MELO--



BEER, BEER, BEER

by JOHN WYSS



Obscure mini beers from the far East are today's topic of discussion. Now, some collectors may be all but excited with these specimens, but their scarcity these days has more than a few of us scrambling to acquire them.

To date, the two minis pictured are the only beers "Made in Japan" that I have in my collection (hint, hint). These beers are often generically labeled as BREW-23 (as catalogued in R. Kay's *Miniature Beer Bottles & Go-With* book). However, I can now account for four completely different beer labels which are all accompanied with similar champagne minis. Additionally, all four variations come in the "standard scale" size of 2". All the beers are made of brown glass creation and have cork stoppers with a gold paper wrap or hard seal-

ing wax. I would estimate that these beers were produced at least 40 years ago. Their age, limited regional availability, and fragile paperthin glassware define their survival rate.

Here are the "Made in Japan" variations which have now been identified: Brewers Canadian Beer Company (illus.), National Beer Company, and Brewers American Beer Company (in Kay's book). There also exists a Sapporo Lager which is a ceramic bottle.

In closing, I would love to hear from any one who may have come across any other far East mini beer variations that I have not listed. This information is needed for my on-going research and would be deeply appreciated.

Cheers!

--J.W.--

WHAT'S NEW...Part II

By Butch Jones



I thought I would share a few new minis that I found on my recent vacation in Tennessee.

These minis were found in several towns around or near Lynchburg (home of Jack Daniels). The vodka I remember was found in Nashville.

The first two are grain alcohols. The first is Golden Grain distilled by the County Line Distillers of Bardstown, KY. This plastic mini has a gold label with red and black letters. The second mini is Gem Clear. This 190 proof grain alcohol is in a clear

round glass bottle and is bottled by The Quality Control Distiller of Lawrenceburg, KY.

The rum comes next. It is Westerhall Plantation Rum in plastic. It is bottled at 86 proof by the Westerhall Distillery, St. Daniel's, Granada, West Indies.

The last mini is the Luksusowa Vodka. It is 80 proof and comes in a clear glass bottle. The vodka is bottled in Poland and imported by Adamba Imports of Maspeth, NY.

'Til next time...

--B.J.--

MINI WORLD

PLASTIC BOURBONS



Sometimes you can go for long periods of time with nothing new, and then all of a sudden...gangbusters! Now some of you are purists who don't want anything to do with plastic bottles; however, there are definitely some winners here.

Four of the six are available now in various parts of the U.S. while two are not. Let's look at those two first. Obviously you've picked out the Black Jack and Sam Cougar. These are two bourbons shipped in bulk to Australia and bottled there. This is the same as we do with cer-

tain scotches such as the Scoresby and others. If you go to Australia you won't find these in every corner liquor store. They are difficult to obtain even there...possibly because of poor distribution

Now let's return to the U.S.A. Earlier in these pages you saw Seagrams Mount Royal. This was test marketed in upper New York state. This new one though isn't just a different label, it's Mount Royal Light. This is actually a cheat. It's not bourbon, but Canadian Whisky...and with just one third fewer calories. Now c'mon, who are



we trying to appeal to here? Good luck, Seagrams, this is one gimmick I don't think is going to get you a larger share of the drinking audience. Now maybe if there were a few million collectors all the bottles could be gobbled up that way.

The other three bottles are available in different markets. California and Nevada for the Jim Beam Seven Year Old (actually made for transportation) with the Calvert in Indiana and who knows where else. The Old Grand-Dad (which incidentally is one of the nicest labels they've ever done) is

also seen in California and will be a national roll-out if it conforms with previous issues.

As you can see, the future of the "general" or "average" bottle would appear to be in plastic. Who knows, possibly in fifty years or so collectors will be looking back at us as the incredibly fortunate ones who still had a few glass bottles. But no matter your feeling about plastic bottles, you're still looking at some great labels! AND, the contents are still whiskey!!

Bottles & Extras

Box 154 , Happy Camp, Ca 96039
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featuring:

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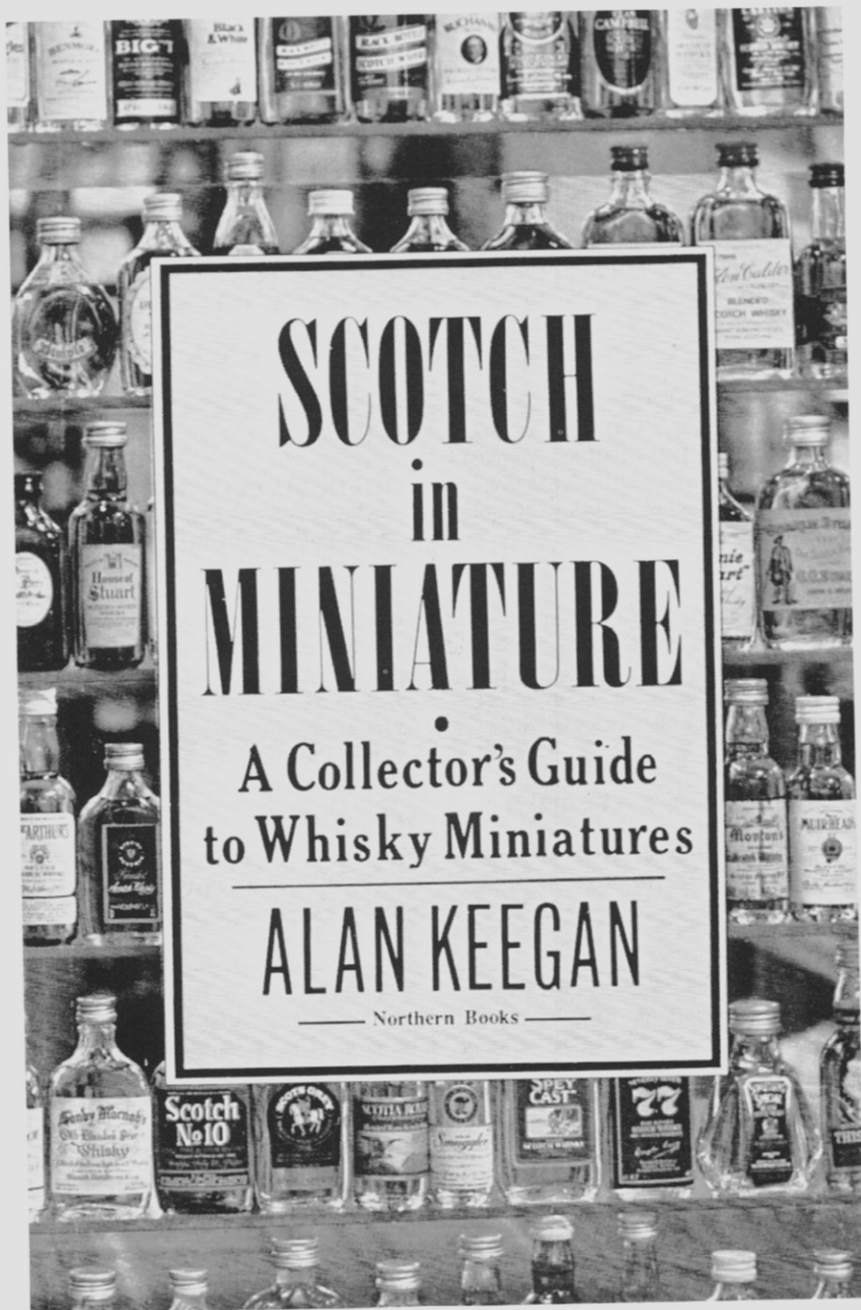
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WANTED: Marco Liqueur Bottles complete with stoppers, also Remy Martin Louis XIII mini. Contact Steve Franco, 33 Kearny St., San Francisco, CA 94108 or call (415) 392-1104.

FOR SALE: Mini Wild Turkey numbers one and two, empty \$10 the pair postpaid or three pair for \$25! Lester Martin, 144 Bell Street, Stanford, KY 40484.

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FOR SALE: Rutherford P51 Mustang jug as well as a few other Rutherford scotch jugs. \$12 plus \$3 UPS. David M. Spaid, P.O. Box 2161, Palos Verdes, CA 90274.

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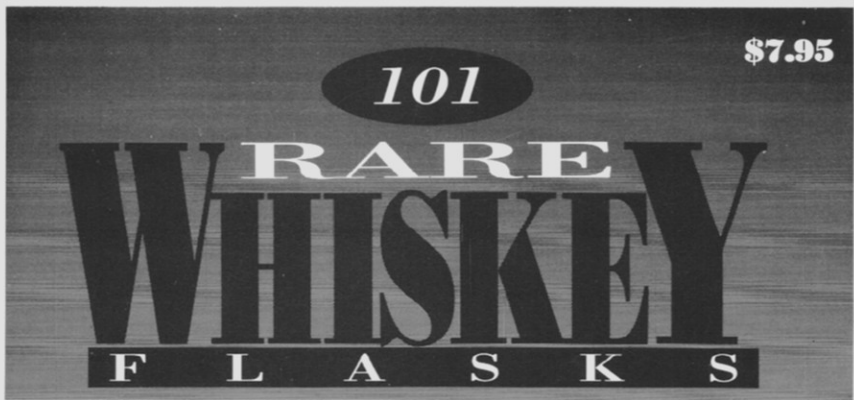
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