

THE

VOL. XX No. 2
No. 116 1993

MINIATURE BOTTLE COLLECTOR

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Let's Talk

It isn't difficult to note that this issue is rather late, a month to be exact. And there may be even more errors in this issue than usual. This was a most difficult one to do for me because my mother passed away the end of May. So, I dedicate this issue to her, Audrey P. Spaid.

She was 83 and lived a good, long life filled with collecting. (Now you know where my collecting "disease" came from.) She was never a real bottle collector, but she was always on the lookout for me whenever they went to antique shops and/or shows. My first German Giveaway she found for me in 1967.

Her collecting loves ran quite a large gamut. Everything from match covers and sugar cubes from wherever she'd been to swizzle sticks, old movie magazines, daisy and button glass, and copper lustre pieces. The swizzle sticks she particularly enjoyed these past few years.

Of all the collections though, she was probably most proud of her calendar plates. These are still issued today, however she was most involved with those from the turn of the century to about 1925. I suppose as a kid it was watching the delight that finding a special calendar plate brought her that possibly started me off with baseball cards and a variety of things. The many happinesses of collecting were well instilled.

Thanks, Mom.

--DMS--

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MINIATURE BOTTLE COLLECTOR

Editor/Publisher DAVID M. SPAID

Features

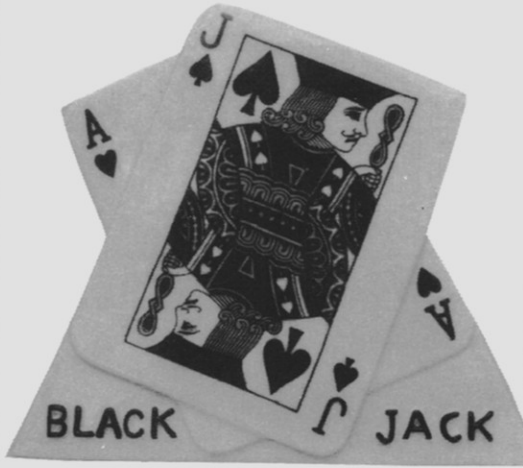
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Our Cover

The cover bottle this time is the new 1993 Dug Picking brothel, Kit Kat Ranch 25th Anniversary. There's some real humor with this one with those eyes keeping watch on our Miss in her WWII Betty Grable pose. Dug has also just issued the second in the series which was begun with the Julia Bulette bottle. And there should be a Reno Air Races bottle later this year.

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WHAT'S NEW



Have quite a bunch for for you this time. And we'll begin with those which you can find possibly in your local outlet.

GODIVA LIQUEUR is rolling out across the U.S. Great bottle (hot on the heels on Canton Liqueur) with an incredible taste. Buy two, this one you've got to sample. Also found almost everywhere on shelves is the new ABSOLUT KURANT. If you like you vodka with a bit of flavor, this is the one for you. Of course, you don't consume it! Final-

ly, SOMERS GIN is available. A new gin..who woulda thunk it!

Since we always seem to have a scotch for you, here are two new ones. The jug is from Glen Fionn and is the latest from them. Golfers should take note. The other scotch is USQUAEBACH. Yes, you know of it in the little jug and the beautiful crystal, but this new glass one is finally in production. Don't know where it's going to be found yet; however, if it isn't here in the U.S. fairly soon, I'll be one surprised collector.



While we're on the subject of whisky, you're looking at HALBERD from Czechoslovakia. Produced last year prior to the division into two countries, this is a beautifully labeled bottle, and it's quite limited even in Eastern Europe.

Our last two bottles are from Greece. Greece...yes, Greece. We don't often have goodies from there even though a great many bottles are produced. The "gentleman"

contains OUZOUNIS OUZO. This is an excellent example of what can be done with a glass bottle when it is well merchandised. The remaining bottle is the ceramic MARATHON WINE. This is made to commemorate the Olympics and if you look closer over on the far left, you'll see the Olympic rings. This company thinks ahead, note the 1996 Atlanta info.

Well, next time more good mix.

--DMS--

IF MINIS COULD TALK...

By Fred Hawley



Like their names, these bottles have led wandering lives. Just like gypsies they have wandered into my collection.

The bottles I am talking about are eight beauties, circa 1930's from Bohemian Distributing Company of Los Angeles, California.

Bottle number one is Golden Oak Straight Bourbon Whiskey, 93 proof, 2 years old, distilled in Kentucky. It has a pale yellow label with gold and black printing.



CALIFORNIA GOLD



The second bottle is Old Artisan Brand Straight Rye Whiskey. It's 100 proof, 18 months old and distilled in Maryland. It has a light green marbled label with gold and black printing.

Bottle number three is Southern Host Brand Straight Bourbon Whiskey 100 proof, 8 months old and distilled in Pennsylvania. It has a light blue label with dark blue and red printing.

Next comes Royal Taste Straight Bourbon Whiskey. It is 90 proof, 18

IF MINIS COULD TALK



months old and also distilled in Pennsylvania. The label is white with orange and black printing.

Bottle number five is Courier Distilled Dry Gin. This one is 85 proof and distilled from cane products. It has a white and light blue checkerboard label with green and red printing.

The sixth bottle is another gin. Specifically it is Silver Knight Distilled Dry Gin. Coming in at 90 proof, it is distilled from imported juniper berries. The label is blue and





white with silver printing.

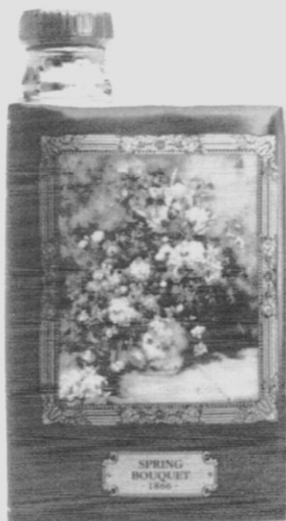
Next is Royal Taste Martini Cocktail at 60 proof. This is with a white label with orange and black printing.

Finally we have another Royal Taste. This time it's California Brandy at 85 proof and 2 years, 9 months old. It also has a white label with orange and black printing.

I think Bohemian bottles have some of the most interesting and well designed labels around. I hope you agree.

"SPECIAL" COGNACS

By Tony Natelli



Now in its fourth generation, the House of Camus is the world's largest family-owned and managed cognac company. And by far, Camus produces the most and perhaps finest glass and porcelain miniatures.

Founded in 1863 by Jean Baptiste Camus, the company has long adhered to one singular goal - to make cognac of premium quality. Now not only do they produce premium cognac but also premium bottles. Their Napoleon and Van Gogh books are staples in almost all collections and these, as well as their glass decanters, have been well documented in this magazine.

Now they have outdone themselves with their latest issues in the Grand Masters Collection. Introduced just this Spring, there are three Limoges porcelain books featuring Renoir paintings. These are SPRING BOUQUET 1866 (blue), AFTER THE BATH 1888 (green), and MOULIN DE LA GALETTE 1876 (cream). The only word is magnificent. Look for these in DFS duty free stores in Los Angeles, Honolulu, Hong Kong and several spots in Asia and Australia.

Another time we'll have the Extra and Grand V.S.O.P. glass bottles.

--T.N.--

HOUSE OF CAMUS



FROM JAPAN

by TAIZO SHIRATSUCHI

This time I would like to present to you some new Pure Malt Whisky miniatures which were available only as samples from SUNTORY LTD.

The first is the KIOKE-JIKOMI. Kioke means a wooden tank. This whisky is fermented in wooden washback which is made from Douglas fir. It is 10 years old. The red Japanese letters under 1981 on the label tell that this whisky was distilled directly by a flame.

The next is KODARU-SHIAGE. Kodaru is an old cask, so this was matured in an old sherry-wood cask. And also we know that this Malt was filtered through the charcoal from bamboo as we read the red letters under the 1991 on the label.





TARUDASHI-GENSHU, the third bottle, is a very interesting one. This is the cask strength of 58% alcohol and yes, TARUDASHI means "From the Barrel". The regular bottles were available only from 200 casks and each was numbered on the label. They were sent directly to the customer from the distillery and not sold in the liquor stores.

The last is YAMAZAKI 18 year old. The YAMAZAKI is familiar to

us as the 12 year old. The label which has the two big Japanese letters "YAMA-ZAKI" is the same type, but the 18 year old's label is black, framed in gold and golden letters.

The above four samples use the YAMAZAKI 12 year old bottles. The last two, especially, were available only in very limited quantity and it is very, very hard to get them.

Until next time...

--T.S.--

MICRO MINI BEERS OF MEXICO

By John Wyss



Today we have an assortment of "micro-mini" beers from Mexico. The beers pictured are (approximately) a mere three inches tall. Evidently, there were micros produced by an unidentified company in Mexico in addition to the Astrid Company which makes theirs in Argentina. Samples of both are shown here. Both types of bottles have unprinted metal caps and are filled with colored water.





#1 — Corona Extra - clear plastic bottle, plastic label

#2 — Corona Extra - clear glass bottle, enamel label

#3 — Corona Light - clear glass bottle, enamel label

#4 — Tecate - brown glass bottle, foil label

#5 — Carta Blanca - brown glass bottle, enamel label

#6 — Chihuahua - clear glass bottle, enamel label

#7 — Pacifico - brown glass bottle, paper label

#8 — Dos Equis - green plastic bottle, paper label

#9 — Victoria - clear plastic bottle, paper label

#10 — Victoria Modelo - brown

plastic bottle, paper label

NOT PICTURED

#11 — Superior - brown plastic bottle, foil label

#12 — Tecate - brown plastic bottle, foil label

#13 — Clara - Clear plastic bottle, decal label

All the plastic bottled beers were found in Mexico and are several years older than the more recently issued glass bottles from the Astrid Company. These nifty little beers would make a nice addition to any collection.

CHEERS!!

--J.W.--



SOCI T  DES PRODUITS

Marnier-Lapostolle

“The Grandest of them all” by R. Meissner

MARNIER-LAPOSTOLLE....I would venture to say that this is a name that would appear in just about every bar, bottle shop, nightclub, restaurant and just about every home all over the world that has any liqueurs in them at all. You say the name doesn't sound familiar...well...think of the word GRAND...yes, Marnier-Lapostolle sounds grand...still nothing yet, huh. O.K., let's see...Grand and Marnier-Lapostolle...that's it! GRAND MARNIER!!! I'm sure all of you are familiar with the classic bottle with the red ribbon and wax seal and its wonderful, almost mesmerizing contents. You open the bottle and your senses are thrown into complete abandonment.

The expert blend of wild bitter orange and the finest, No, the Grandest cognac has been entreating the palate of the world for well over a century. How about a little lesson in history...Let's travel back in time to 1827 where in the peaceful setting of Neauphle-le-Chateau the Lapostolle family distillery had acquired a reputation for producing fine liqueurs. Jean-Baptiste Lapostolle, the founder, had built a rich and loyal following for the distillery. His son Eugene, however, not content with what his father had accomplished, set out and managed to secure a part ownership in production of exceptional brandies of that region in about the 1870's. It was Eugene Lapostolle's son-in-law, Louis Alexandre Marnier-Lapostolle who discovered the blend of wild bitter oranges with the finest cognac could produce a new liqueur of distinction....GRAND MARNIER!!!!

Grand Marnier is produced at Neauphle-le-Chateau, however, the heart, or the cognac, is aged at the Chateau de Bourg. Here again is a place rich in history dating as far back as 1607...built by a page of King Henry IV, it had owners such as the Comte de Moissens, Pierre Salomon, Marquis de Girac, Marquis de Neville. It also served as a prison during the French Revolution. It was purchased at the beginning of this century by the Societe de Produits of MARNIER-LAPOSTOLLE, which also owns the Chateau de Sancerre The Chateau de Bourg occupies a privileged situation within the confines of the famous vineyards of Grande and the Petit Champagne and a few kilometres from the famous towns of COGNAC and JARNAC. Well enough of history, let's get on to what this article is all about...the Best of the BEST!!

On the right are the 3 different grades of cognac produced by the Marnier-Lapostolle firm. #1 is the Cognac Marnier, #2 is the Cognac Marnier VSOP. #3 is the Cognac Marnier XO. All 3 of these minis belong in your collection. The XO is a hard one to find. At the moment, I was only able to get it from France.

They each come in their own presentation box.



On the left is the mini of the Armagnac XO, again a hard one to find, it also comes in its own little box.

On the right is the mini of the Pineau de Charentes by Marnier-Lapostolle. It is another toughie to find.



(Note: Many cognac firms like the fancy type of bottle. Marnier-Lapostolle has the right idea, clear glass to show of the product, nice label, and a very well done package. You shouldn't hide our product behind coloured or frosted glass. I only wish these photos could do the bottle justice.)



50 ml
Cordon Rouge



50 ml
Creme

The Cordon Rouge or RED label Grand Marnier is the one you will find most often all around the world. A new variation on an old theme is the Creme de Grand Marnier. If you like creme type drinks... this one is above all the rest. Served slightly chilled it is beyond compare.



30 ml
RED



30 ml
YELLOW

Grand Marnier also comes in a YELLOW, or Cordon Jaune...It is made with a brandy base instead of cognac. You will only find it in a few select countries and only in a 30 ml size.

On the far left is the 30 ml RED and on the immediate left is the YELLOW.



On the left is the 30 ml version of the Cherry Marlier. This is a most delightful liqueur with a strong hint of cherry. It once again is one that you will see in most bottle shops around the world.

(note: it is not available in the 50 ml size.)

The bottle on the right is the La Grand Passion 50 ml. This is a passion fruit based liqueur. More of a ladies drink. If you like passion fruit then this liqueur is a must.

Limited availability in a few select countries. But a very nicely done bottle.



Well, there you have it. All these bottles are the most current in the complete range of products from the great firm of Marnier-Lapostolle. They make a great collection within a collection.

I would like to thank Jean Benoist LION of Societe Des Produits Marnier-Lapostolle for providing me with all the great bottles pictured here.

Next time the great classic oldies and unusual bottles of Marnier-Lapostolle. See you next time.

melo's minis

by Mike Olson



In this article we'll get to the real nitty-gritty of variation collecting. I would like to feature twelve examples of OLD AMERICAN Straight Rye and Straight Bourbon Whiskey from American Distilling Co. of Pekin, Illinois. I am sure most of you are familiar with the many different brands and prolific number of miniatures produced by American over the years. I have limited this exercise to six more or less matched pairs in clear glass round, embossed bottles which date from the early 1940's to the mid-1950's. There are more of these which are not shown and some of the older labels can be found in a flat variation.

Anyway, the first pair are Bottled in Bond and probably the rarest of the bottles. They are BIB 1939-1943 and BIB 1936-1940 respectively. The next two pairs are 5 years old and four years old and are the last of the "newer" style labels. These are followed by a pair of 3 year old at 86 proof. The last two pairs are two years old or 20 months old and are 90 proof.

Finally, it seems lately that variations are almost the only bottles I can add to my collection. But I still get a kick out of finding them. As always, if anyone would like to get together to discuss bottles, please feel free to contact me.

Until next time...

MELO...



Glass!

JAS. MONNIER & CIE
By Holm Hars



Today I will show you some minis of Jas. Monnier & Cie. Wiesbaden. The firm closed its doors just a few years ago. Each bottle contains 0.021 and has a metal pull tab (a different color for each bottle). The five bottles are as follows.

1. Old Kentucky Dream,

Straight Bourbon Whiskey, 43%.

2. City Club Dry Gin, 40%.

3. City Club Lemon, 32%.

4. Gold Brantwein 3 Stars, 32%.

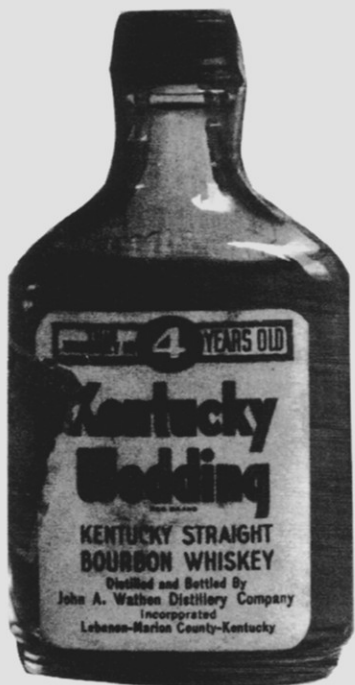
5. Diplom Wienbrand 5 Stars, no % listed.

WHISKEY HERITAGE

by

"BUTCH" JONES

Kentucky Wedding



Just one bottle for you this time. As you can see, it is a KENTUCKY WEDDING, 4 year old Kentucky Straight Bourbon Whiskey. It is a clear flask. The whiskey was bottled and distributed by the John A. Wathen Co. of Lebanon-Marian County Kentucky. The tax stamp is from Wisconsin.

'Til next time...

--B.J.--

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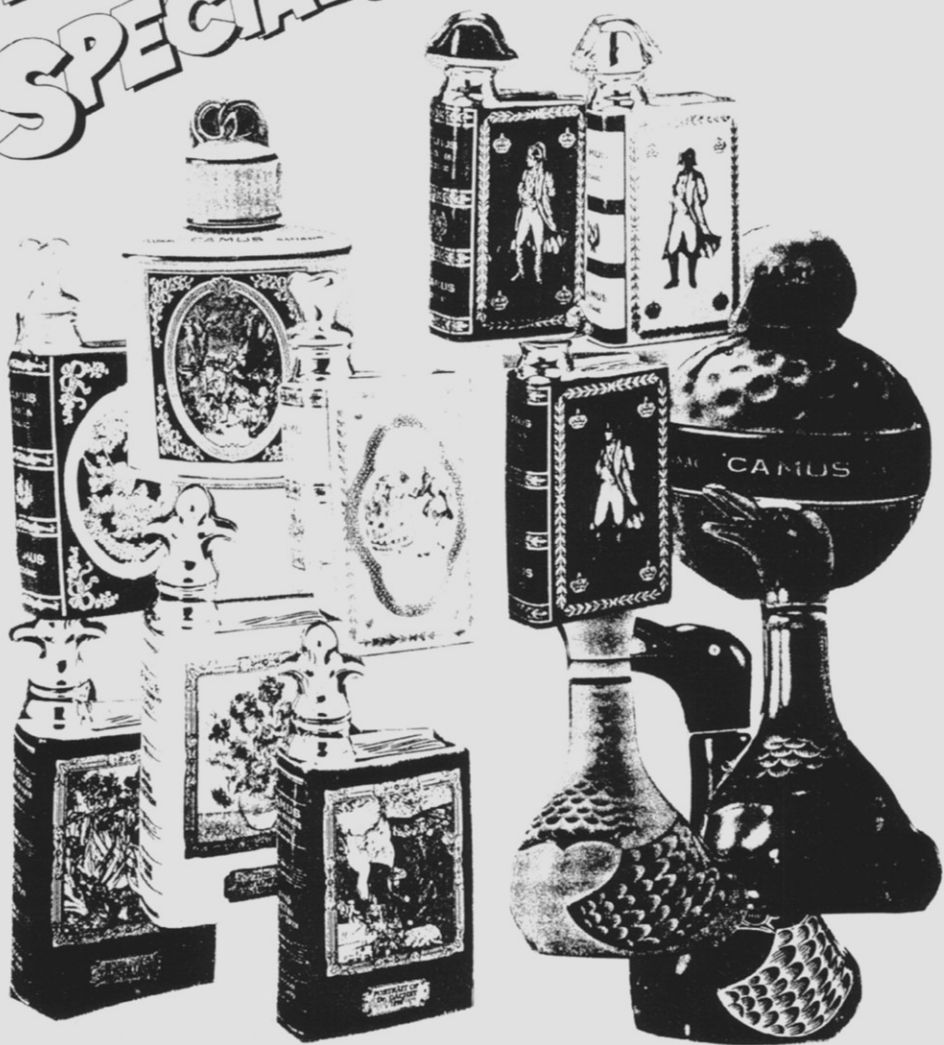
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FOR SALE: Whole collection of 600 plus minis, glass and ceramics, \$1,000.00. Four custom-built display cabinets in tiers, mirrored with lighting. These will hold 600 bottles, \$1,000.00. Write to: C. Haber, Box 619, Pacific Palisades, CA 90272 or fax (310) 456-9458. (Partial inventory and photos available.)

NOTICE: Miniature liquor bottle collectors checklist booklet. Over 500 minis listed by category and alphabetized. Great for monitoring your collection. \$4.95 ppd. Hollygil Company, 8035 Donna, Westland, MI 48185.

FOR SALE: Approximately 62 Ski Country minis. Includes the Majestic Eagle, Peacock, Wood Duck 1974, Banded Blue Wing Teal, Northern Snowy Owl, Fox on a Log, several Jenny Lind (yellow), North American Tribes set and also the 4/5th size club bottles, a full set. Send SASE (29¢) for a list to: Paul C. Zaiser, 721 W. 13th Street, Cedar Falls, IA 50613 or call (319) 266-6862.

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FOR SALE: Just got them in...the new Kit Kat 25th Anniversary and the '93 Firefighters bottle, second in the series which began with Julia Bulette. \$33.95 each plus \$4 shipping for one or \$5 for the pair. Chiisai Bin Imports, P.O. Box 90245, Los Angeles, CA 90009 or call (310) 370-8993.

WANTED: Remy Martin Louis XIII miniature and any cognac/armagnac miniatures which were produced prior to 1980. Write Man's Chan, Room 1101, Sunbeam Comm Bldg., 469 Nathan Road, Kowloon, Hong Kong or fax to (852) 780-7491. Please attach with photocopy to show the minis.

WANTED: Looking for pottery souvenir mini jugs and other pottery souvenir items from the 1920's through the 1940's. These may be from cities, states, parks, businesses or holidays. What do you have? Mark Coleman, 1463 Bolkinwood, Freeport, IL 61032 or call (815) 233-2540.

WANTED: Mini beers - still looking for many different bottles such as: Wagner, Spearman, Ambrosia, Nectar, Manhattan, Topper, Old Union, Old Craft, White Cap, Hochgrove, Jung, Potosi, Pennsy, Harry Mitchel, Magnolia, Southern Select, and 1884 Brand. And, of course, any other interesting bottles you might have. Mike Ginn, 1770 Lorenzen Drive, San Jose, CA 95124 or call (408) 448-7108.

NOTICE: Miniature liquor bottle collectors' checklist booklet. Over 500 minis listed by category and alphabetized. Great for monitoring your collection. \$4.95 ppd. Hollygil Company, 8035 Donna, Westland, MI 48185.

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