

**THE**

VOL. XX No. 6  
No. 120 1993

# **MINIATURE BOTTLE COLLECTOR**

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# Let's Talk

A goal has been reached. Now a new goal must be established. The former has to do with the fact we've been going now twenty full years, while the latter...That's right, I'm not even going to put it in print.

"They" say our reach should always be beyond your grasp, so the new goal is a lofty one. Hopefully one of these days I'll be typing it again right here!

A phenomenon in miniature bottle collecting currently is the amount of miniature perfume bottles and the number of people who collect them. Next time we'll feature an article which will combine two different miniature bottle fields. We hope you find it intriguing.

Next time those South African bottles will surely make it as well as an article about the new bottles from Wales, and Holm Hars will return with items from a German company. Naturally we'll have the regulars around too.

This time we've got some nice surprises. Scott Reinhart shows us the new ones he found on a short vacation this past summer while Lloyd McLeod has another humorous giveaway flask for your enjoyment. And, Jim Crawford has done a very nice piece of research on dating bottles through the various federal tax strips. He will be back again soon with another informative article. Finally for this issue, take a long look at all the items shown by Tony Natelli. This Pascal Dumont company surely has collectors in mind. They should continue to provide delights for our collections well into 1994 and beyond.

Well, after twenty years of doing this you'd think I'd run out of things to say in this column. You'd be right! Only...this issue catches us up and we'll again be back on a calendar year. Next issue will be January-February 1994!  
See you next year!

--DMS--

THE

VOL. XX  
No. 120

No.6  
1993

# MINIATURE BOTTLE COLLECTOR

Editor/Publisher DAVID M. SPAID

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## Our Cover

In the past you've seen a good many varieties of Rutherford jugs or flagons. Although Rutherford issued a goodly number of this type of bottle this year, these two rightfully deserve an end of the year salute. What nicer little present could you find than to give one of these to a fellow collector? The spirit of the season is surely imbued in these pieces. Happy Holidays!

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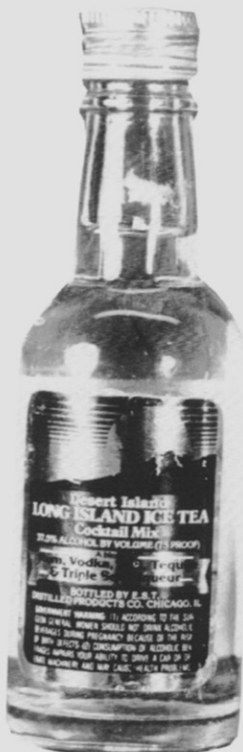
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# WHAT'S NEW

By Scott Reinhart



It was a long summer but we did manage to get away on one small vacation. This was a five day drive through upper New York State. We stopped in Lake Placid and all the bottles shown here come from stores there. It was nice to find quite a few new ones.

Here's the rundown:

- 1) KLAR-EIS is a glass bottle from Germany. The government warning is on the back label. Labels are die-cut foil with bright colors.
- 2) DESERT ISLAND LONG ISLAND ICE TEA is a glass bottle from E.S.T. of Chicago. The label is foil with black overprint.
- 3) SMIRNOFF CITRUS TWIST LEMON VODKA. This is a new variation of Smirnoff in a plastic bottle. Label has the government warning on the front.





- 4) BUTON SAMBUCA is an Italian glass import. Government warning is on a stick-on back label.
- 5) STRUMMER'S FRUITED RUM is a plastic import from Jamaica. The foil label has an orange top which fades into a brown bottom.
- 6) TANQUERAY STERLING CITRUS VODKA is a frosted glass bottle. It's a foil label with white overprint.

## WHAT'S NEW

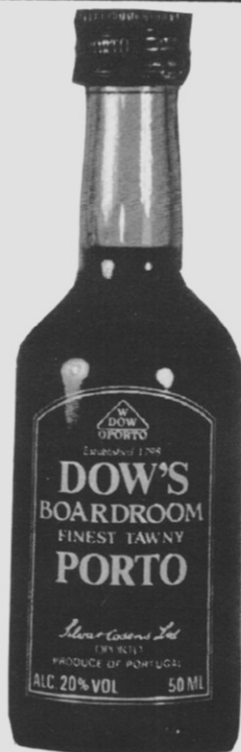


7) BEEFEATER DRY GIN is a new label on a glass bottle. The government warning is on the front label.

8) DOW'S BOARDROOM PORT is a green glass bottle with silk screen label and no government warning.

9) SAN FRANCISCO COOKIES 'N CREAM LIQUEUR comes in a plastic bottle. Great picture of the bridge on the label.

We found some others new to us, but they'd already been pictured here!



# A Visit To Boozeville

by Lloyd McLeod



You are looking at a typical Boozeville resident. He points to a sign that says: Drink and the world drinks with you. Swear off, and you drink along.

This is also a typical Boozeville quote. But what is the meaning? If you swear off, do you still take a nip in secret?

We must remember these people don't have TV or shopping malls to fill their spare time!

This saloon giveaway was made with great detail. This one is all brown and a classic "pocket" flask. It also comes in blue and multi-color.

"Sure is a slow day...nothin' to do. So if no one is looking, think I'll just take a small nip. Ummmm, boy that's good! But that flask sure doesn't hold a heck of a lot!

--L.M.--

# DATING MINIATURE BOTTLES



(Ed note: The dating of miniature bottles has never been the easiest of tasks. Of course if there is a dated state decal/stamp on the bottle, your task is much easier; however, that is seldom the case.

Collector Jim Crawford has done a good deal of research and put all his information together for us. This is the first article of various facts. In the future, Jim will present his work with the various state beverage tax stamps.

From 1873 to 1929, the Illinois Glass Company's trademark was an "I" inside a diamond and "I. G. Co." on the bottle bottom. The one or two digit number to the right of the trademark indicates the year the bottle was made.

From 1918 to 1929, the Owens Bottle Company's trademark was a circle inside a square. The one or two digit number to the right of the trademark (again) indicates the year the bottle was made.

On January 16, 1920, Prohibition began in the United States. It lasted until December 5, 1933.

In 1929 The Owens Bottle Co. and the Illinois Glass Co. merged into a new company called the Owens-Illinois Glass Company. The new company used a trademark of an "I" inside a diamond with a circle around the "I". In September 1954, the trademark was changed to an "I" inside a circle. The numbers to



the right of the trademark still refer to the year the bottle was made.

All 100 proof liquor (Bottled in Bond) bottled in the U.S.A. contains the season and year the liquor was distilled and the season and year the liquor was bottled. These dates appear on the Federal Tax Seal Strip.

Starting sometime in 1945, the Federal Tax Seal Strips contained the word "SERIES" just to the left, and "111" just to the right of the eagle's feet.

Effective September 1, 1977, the "LESS THAN 1/2 PINT" phrase was removed from the ends of the Federal Tax Seal Strips when the government went to the metric system of measure. The words 'BUREAU OF AFT' appear on the top left and top right of the seal strip. Also the words "TAX PAID" were added to the bottom left and "DISTILLED SPIRITS" was added to the bottom right of the Federal Tax Seal Strip.

In late 1979, U.S.A. distillers moved from ounces and 1/10 pints to 50ml as the standard unit of measure.

In 1982, the Federal Tax Seal Strip was again modified when the word "DISTILLED" replaced "TAX PAID" on the bottom left and the word "SPIRITS" replaced "DISTILLED SPIRITS" on the bottom right side of the Seal Strip.

Effective December 1, 1982, the green and the blue (Bottled in Bond) Federal Tax Seal Strips were discontinued.

Effective July 1, 1985, the "Deficit Reduction Act of 1984" repealed the use of Federal Tax Seal Strips on liquor bottles.

Starting November 18, 1989, government health warning labels were required on all liquor bottles sold in the United States. This regulation does not apply to alcoholic beverages produced, imported, bottled, or labeled for export from the U.S. or for delivery to a vessel or aircraft as supplies to be consumed outside the jurisdiction of the United States.

In 1990 U.S.A. distillers moved from "Proof" to "% Alcohol" as a standard unit of measure.

# "SPECIAL" COGNACS

By Tony Natelli

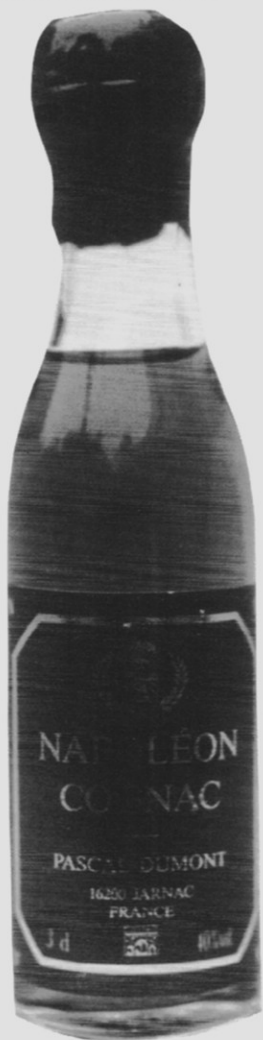
## PASCAL DUMONT

Mark this name, Pascal Dumont, down on your list of "must have" miniatures!

This firm from Jarnac, France, has a slew of "fancy" bottles for collectors to search for.

The first is this beautiful decanter which comes in clear, frosted, green and black glass. (This is the black glass version.) Respectively, they contain 3 Star, V.S.O.P., Napoleon, and X.O. Cognac. This particular shape was created in 1937 and is a "top shelf" item.





Their regular range of glass miniatures also feature some interesting shapes, including Napoleon (high "Charentaise" shape) and Fine Cognac ("Nathalie" shape).

They've also got some very unusual figurals, including a Double Decker Bus (containing Scotch!) and (4) Limoges Arc de Triomphe (white, blue, green and grey). These contain Fine Cognac, V.S.O.P., Napoleon and X.O. in that order.





There is also a ceramic Roman Amphora, a Car, and a Fishing Net Ball. This latter piece will be found with either various liqueur contents or Pineau Charentes.

These minis are sold in France and Hong Kong.

Pascal Dumont is also just now coming out with some beautiful crystal miniature decanters. These will be the subject of a future article.

--T.N.--



DUG PICKING'S  
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**SALT WELLS**



Leading off the ceramic bottles of 1994 is the new SALT WELLS Brothel from Dug Picking. This bottle celebrates the coming of the Air Force to Northern Nevada. The bottle is available now and as with the more recent issues from Dug, less than a thousand of these were produced. As an added bit of info, we'll say that this is but the first of several excellent bottles from Dug for 1994!

# Glass!



You've got to go back a year and half to issue #112, and when you do you'll find the article on the Madras bottles from Guadeloupe. In that article, the following question was raised - "...eleven bottles here which makes one wonder if a twelfth is lurking somewhere."

That question can now be answered. Not only was there a twelfth, there was a thirteenth and on and on. Actually the count here is now up to nineteen. There are eighteen bottles normally for sale while the extra one was made produced for Air France and is just on the airline.





Pictured for you here are six more of the bottles. That makes a total of seventeen so there is still one elusive liqueur which has eluded the camera.

One of the interesting things about these six is that the labels are all different and not just the same basic one as shown in 112. As usually seems to be the case, it is a great shame these can't be done in color as they are very, very well done.

As previously, all the bottles are 5 cl while the alcoholic contents vary in strength all the way to the two rums which are one hundred proof. In case you don't want to strain

your eyes, the six bottles contain the following: Caraibe Coco, Punch aux Pruneaux, Rhum Vieux, Rhum Madras, Punch Planteur and Punch Shrub.

Now I don't know about you, but there are two of these I'd really like to taste. The Prune Punch has to be a taste thrill and, of course, I'm still wondering about Shrub.

The man to thank for these pictures is Jacques Rollet who lives in Paris. Jacques is fortunate enough to get to travel to a number of exotic ports. Let's just be happy that he collect bottles when he drops anchor!

# SCOTCH

David Maund

I trust you enjoyed the older bottles I showed last time. There are a great many old ones in volume one of our Scotch books (pardon my small advert). This time though I'm back to the new bottles (lots of them in our volume two out next year).

The first bottle is especially nice as it commemorates the publication of a new book on scotch malts. The Malt Whisky Association has published *The Malt File* as of August 1, 1993. There were 250 of these bottles issued to celebrate the new book. Unfortunately, we don't know which particular Islay malt was used: however, it was 15 years old which in itself makes it rather good.





Every year the UK Mini Bottle Club has its AGM (Annual General Meeting) in Blackpool. The Wee Dram shop there makes a special effort for us and in the last few years has issued several unique bottles. This set of three is of Blackpool Trams. Going from left to right, they are the Standard Car No. 40, the Dreadnought No. 59, and the Bolton Tram No. 66. Only 180 sets were produced and interestingly enough, each contains a different Single Malt. No. 40 has a 12 year old Longmorn, the No. 59 a

12 year old Glen Albyn, and the No. 66 a 14 year old Glenbury. A nice little set.

The next two were issued by Miniatura Collectives, a company in St. Andrews, Scotland, we've seen work from previously. The first is the Strathspey Railway containing a Tamanulin 10 year old Single Malt. It celebrates the Caledonian Railway Steam Train No. 828. (Could this be the first in a series?)

The other bottle has the very colorful label. The Highlander on the label is in his military best dress.

# SCOTCH

By Maund



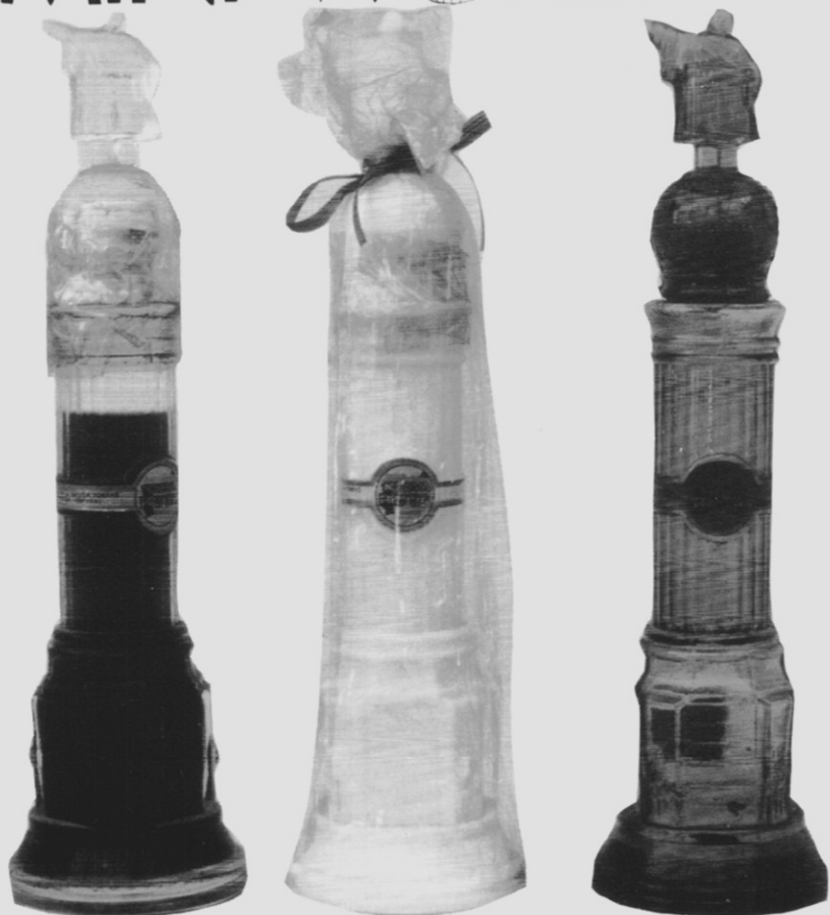
This is called Pìob Mhor and contains 10 year old Tullibardine Single Malt.

Finally we have a new name for you, Largiemeanoch. This squatty fellow contains a 19 year old Single Islay Malt which was distilled for Arthur J. Bell, the Whisky Connoisseur. There is a club you can join to receive this bottle and several others due to come out soon. If you're interested, write to me care of the magazine.

I'll return with more water of life in '94!

--D.L.M.--

# MINI WORLD



You say to-may-toe, someone else says ta-mah-to. We say Columbus, the Spanish say Colon. No matter what you call this bottle, it is still majestic. This molded glass piece has been around for a great number of years. Back in the mid-1970's it was thought this was pre-WWII bottle, but possibly it's from the 1950's. Maybe we'll have to find a collector from Spain to tell us.

From the left to right, these three are clear glass, milk glass, and green glass. All of the bottles are the

product of Distillerias J. Selga Torres of Manresa, Spain, and each contains Nueva Ruta, a Brandy. Standing eight and three quarters inches tall, this is a two part bottle with the Columbus figure and dome of the ball covering the top of the column.

The question now remains, how old is this bottle and did it come in any other colors. Okay, that's two questions. How about someone with an answer!

# melo's minis

by Mike Olson



In this article I would like to feature G & W Mill Farm Straight Whiskey. This was one of my first "prized" bottles when I got serious about this crazy hobby. Mill Farm is relatively common and probably does not get the respect it deserves. I would rank this bottle in the must have category for any whiskey collector. Keeping in mind what Dirty Harry said about opinions, let's get to the bottles.

Leading off is a Bourbon at three years old and 90 proof. This label has been cut off and is the same as the following pair which are 2 years old and

90 proof. All three bottles are from the early 1940's. Bottle number four is one year old, 90 proof and has a 1936 Illinois tax stamp. Next is the only Rye Whiskey in the group. It is one year old, 90 proof and is circa 1937. The last bottle is four years old, 86 proof and is from 1948.

Finally, Gooderham & Worts in association with Hiram Walker and Jas. Barclay produced a legion of fine bottles during the 1930's and '40's. It seems the rest of the world has taken a page from America's history.

Until next time. . . M E L O . . .





# TWO TOUGH ONES

By John Wyss



Today I have pictured two very elusive mini beer bottles. It seems that the only way either one of these specimens pops up is when a major collection is broken up or if you have just hit the "mini lottery".

Bottle number one is Goetz Country Club Beer from M.K. Goetz Brewing Co., St. Joseph, MI (circa 1958). This beer is listed as MO-83 in R. Kay's "Miniature Beer Bottles & Go-With's", but was not previously pictured in the book. A Goetz in good condition is especially tough to find considering its fragile foil labels and its very limited production. This bottle was only available as the centerpiece in an aluminum keg cap advertising piece. The combination made an interesting ashtray for the lucky

person or proprietor in need of a keg of Goetz Beer back in 1958. By virtue of age alone, one might not think this beauty is too scarce, but I can account for more than a few advanced collections which are void of this true "sleeper".

Our second bottle is a rare 4 inch Koppitz with a neck label. This item is not listed in Kay's book, however, I did picture a similar 4 inch Koppitz without a neck label in a former M.B.C. issue. To date, I can only account for two of these rare mini beers in collectors' hands. This is a fine example of the type of mini beer variation that I personally love to collect and enjoy documenting for all to see (hint, hint).

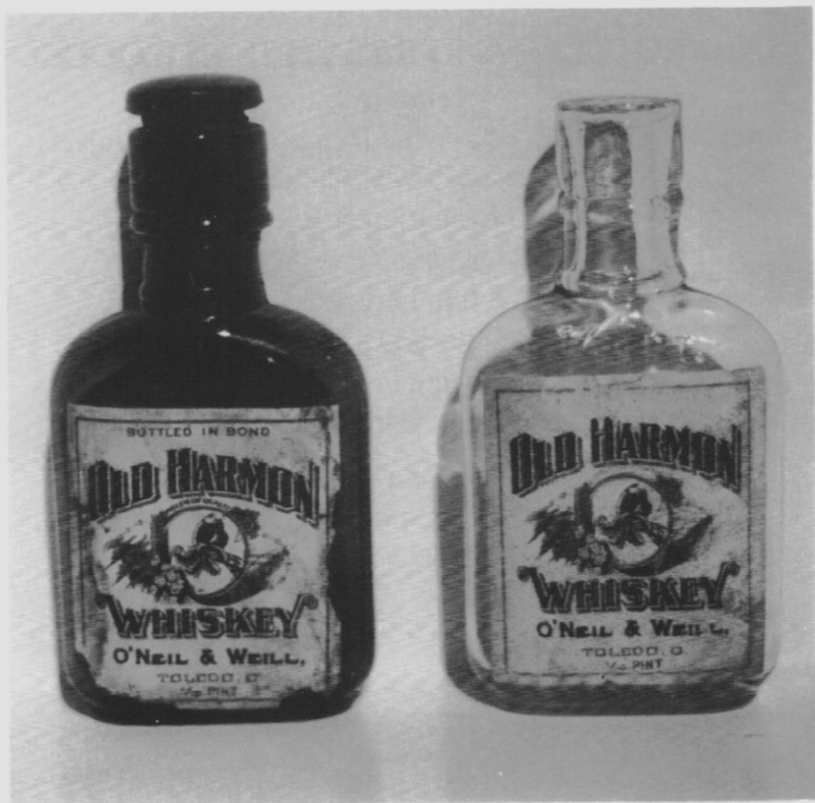
Cheers!

--J.W.--

# WHISKEY HERITAGE

by

"BUTCH" JONES



One of the thrills of this hobby is finding new minis that you didn't know about or expect. That is the case of the two minis in this article.

I purchased mini number two, the clear glass version of Old Harmon from our editor, David Spaid, at the October 1993 Los Angeles Lilliputian bottle show. I already

owned mini number one as I'd already purchased that one from David several years ago. This pair is a great addition to any collection. AND, did you notice that number one is Bottled In Bond while number two is not?

'Til next time.

--B.J.--

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