

# THE

VOL. XXI No. 3  
No. 123 1994

# MINIATURE BOTTLE COLLECTOR



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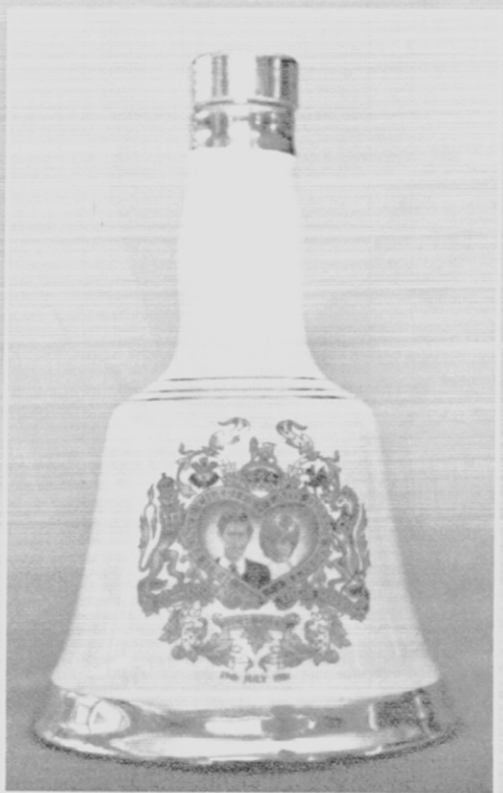
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# Let's Talk

This is not a happy column to write. I must report to you the death of a very special collector. On May 3rd, Jim Triffon passed away at his home in Carson City, Nevada.

Over the last ten plus years, Jim had struggled with both cancer and heart disease. However, in all that time, Jim never lost his enthusiasm for bottles, all his many friends from the bottle-collecting ranks, and his desire to learn more and more about all types of ceramics and glass, both old and new.

Jim's two volumes of books on whiskeys (with and without the "e") will continue to delight collectors throughout the world. He will always be known through his books by legions of collectors who never had the privilege of meeting him.

The bottle collecting world has lost a special friend with his passing. Bottle collectors and people interested in liquor can lift a glass to Jim Triffon, a most missed absent friend.

DMS

**THE**

VOL. XXI  
No. 123

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1994

# MINIATURE BOTTLE COLLECTOR

Editor/Publisher DAVID M. SPAID

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## Our Cover

This time the cover features two old scotches found at the show in St. Louis in April. This is somewhat of a "Scotch issue" or at least as close as we've come to one. The color in the center of the book is also new and hopefully we'll do it again soon. So enjoy the old and the new...and everything else in between!

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# WHAT'S NEW

First off, let's take care of last time. Yes, the case of the missing Black Velvet. Thanks to a very nice picture from collector Don Prosis, we now have the Black Velvet. Great label, lousy plastic bottle. So far this appears to be in only a handful of states.

Now, since we've done a bottle from our northern neighbor, let's look at some from our southern one. We've had a few letters with positive comments on the tequilas, so here are three more current ones. All are glass which is surely something. They are Santa Rita and the Patron Reserve. I also include the Mezcal, so the new label of Gusano de Oro is also included. This one of course has its extras: an attached salt bag and Senor Gusano (Worm) inside.

We'll go now to California for a set of four liqueurs from the Paramount Company of Los Angeles. As you can see from one of the two pictures, these come in a great tin. This is one of the few times I've seen interesting packaging here in the U.S. It appears the Japanese and the Scots don't have a patent on cleverness and creativity. There isn't anything exciting about the liqueurs themselves (they do taste great!), but it is nice to see this type of work.



Finally we have a set of three new plastics. (We'll have a good many more plastics next time.) These currently may be found in a majority of states. They are the Christian Brothers Frost White Brandy and Spiced Brandy and the Yukon Jack Snakebite. The last has the most marvelous label which won't really show up. Just take our word that the rattler is primed to strike.

See you next time with some bottles found at the St. Louis show.  
--DMS--



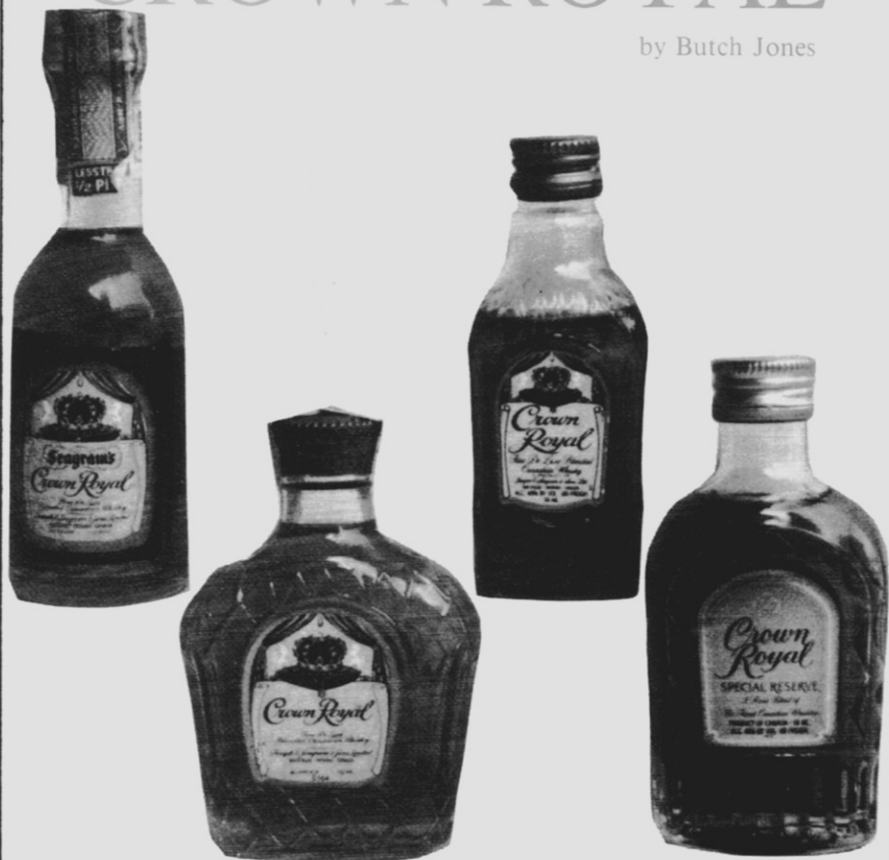


# NEW



# CROWN ROYAL

by Butch Jones



A great deal has been written about the Seagrams Company over the past ten years. However, little has been done concerning one brand. I want to take a few moments to talk about one particular whisky produced by Seagrams - - Crown Royal.

Pictured are four variations at least one of which should really interest you. Bottle number one is a clear round version from the 1950's. It contains 80 proof whisky. Bottle number two is the

traditional crown with a 1966 tax strip and like all the others is also 80 proof. The third mini is plastic and at one time was found on the airlines.

The last one is one I believe very few people have seen. It is a clear, rounded flask with 80 proof Special Reserve Blended Canadian Whiskies. This does have the new government warning label on the back. So far it's been spotted in Hawaii, Florida and Missouri.

"Til next time...

--B.J.--

# melo's minis

by Mike Olson

In this article I would like to feature two super flats plus we'll take a democratic look at four Blended Whiskeys from E. M. Fleischmann, including an executive sounding Clinton. One of my greatest pleasures in this hobby is when I acquire a virtually unknown Kentucky Bourbon from one of the many small distilleries which briefly existed during the 1930's. This is my favorite category and considering that America was in the midst of the great depression, the quality of these bottles is truly amazing.

I also like rare variations from well known distillers and/or bottlers. The former is represented by Pogue's Old Time Kentucky Straight Bourbon Whiskey Distilled and Bottled by The H E Pogue Distillery Co. Maysville, Kentucky. It is 100 proof, BIB 1934-1938 and has a gold and white label printed in orange and black. The latter is the seldom seen High Bridge Straight Rye Whiskey Bottled by Kolmar Inc. Cincinnati,

Ohio. It is 90 proof, 2 1/2 years old, was distilled in Maryland, has a tan label printed in red and black and is circa 1937.

The Fleischmann bottles are circa 1941 and all have nice looking labels. The first two were blended and bottled in Baltimore, Maryland, while the last two claim Landsdowne, Maryland as home. The Clinton Special is 86.8 proof, four or more years old, was printed in red, gold and black.

The first E. M. Special is 90 proof, four years or more old and has a tan label printed in red, gold and black. The other Special is the same proof and age, but has a light yellow label. The last bottle is Fleischmann's Reserve at 86.8 proof, four or more years old and with a light yellow label printed in blue, red, gold and black.

Finally, it's unfortunate that these bottles can not be shown in color. They definitely lose much of their charm when viewed in black and white.

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



# HERM. G. DETHLEFFSEN

by HOLM HARS



Today I will show you some bottles from the company of Herm. G. Dethleffsen of the little town of Flensburg. The main product of this firm is Bommerlunder, a clear spirit with herbs. Currently Dethleffsen owns many well-known firms like Nissen, V. Cramm, Hansen, Balle and Andresen and is also an importer of international spirits.

Some years ago they put

together a white suitcase with twelve different minis and a bottle of Sangria (0,75 l). This suitcase was produced in only 100 pieces and was given to representatives. These reps would then give the cases to very good customers as a gift. After many telephone calls, I got one of these 100 suitcases and there were some minis inside which were only available in this case. The following eight were those only



seen in the suitcase.

1. Double Q Blended Scotch Whisky 40%/70 proof.
2. Burke & Barry, a fine selected blend of American and Canadian Whiskey, 40%
3. Osborne, Medium Dry Sherry, 17% (plastic bottle)
4. Osborne, Brandy Veterano, 36.5%
5. Medley's Black Label, Bourbon Whiskey 43% (promotion sample)
6. Romanza Cream, Amaretoo Cream Liqueur 16% (promotional sample)
7. Romanza, Amaretoo Liqueur, 21.5%
8. Bommerlunder, very old bottle specially bottled for Lufthansa Airlines.

The other minis in the case are still available in the shops today.

Until next time... -H.H.--





# LOMBARD BRANDS

When you turn to the center of this issue, you'll see the first magazine presentation of Lombard Brands Jewels of Scotland Scotch Whisky Miniatures. This set of ten exquisite crystal pieces are now being sold in the U.K. and hopefully will be seen in the U.S. and Asia later this year.

Each of these bottles contains 50 ml of 25 year old Springbank Single Malt Whisky. Each is signed by the craftsperson and no two miniatures are identical. As you can see, the bottles are presented in royal blue suede presentation boxes with certificate.

In future issues you'll see a good deal more of the bottles from this company as there are a number of other straight glass aged blends and single malts, a set of four crystal pieces named The Marina Collection and three 100ml crystal pieces.

As a bit of background, the following is material provided by Mr. Richard A. Lombard-Chibnall, company Sales Director. "Lombard Brands is the

export and duty free sales company for Lombard Scotch Whisky, a family owned and independent company.

"The Lombard-Chibnall family, owners of Lombard Scotch Whisky, have been involved with the Wine & Spirit Industry since the nineteenth century. The family has an ancestry of breweries in England, cork factories in Portugal and vineyards in France and Spain. They proudly retain Lombard's as an independent company in a fiercely competitive market.

"The Lombard-Chibnall family are the direct descendants from 'Chibnall of Astwood', traced to c. A.D. 1450.

"Lombard's entered the market as suppliers of bulk whisky to blenders. Administration was established on the Isle of Man as they developed a stock base that enabled the company to later expand. The early 1980's witnessed Lombard's diversifying

Turn the page for a colorful look.

# Jewels of Scotland

## Scotch Whisky Minatures

This miniature collection has been prepared for these with a flair for the unusual and tasteful. We commissioned Master Glassmakers to make this collection in decorative and masterly sculptural form by the unusual method of lampwork and free blown - no moulds are used in these particular designs. The stoppers are airtight and hand-ground to fit. All bottles are signed and dated on the bottom by the craftsman.

Contains 25 year old Single Malt Scotch Whisky 43% vol. 50 ml.





to the cased goods market thus gaining control of the utilisation of mature stock. The bottling and blending operation was based, as it still is, within the central region of Scotland.

"The natural progression to their own label product range aimed to re-create the pre-war image of whisky and to re-establish traditional whisky values. At the same time Lombard's realized an opportunity to enter the white spirits market and include in their range of bottlings premium gin and vodka. (Ed. note: The vodka mini should be available later this year also.)

"Today Lombard's are

adopting 'Niche Marketing' strategies and specialising in bottling their own premium brands of Scotch Whisky, Gin and Vodka targeted for Duty Free and export markets. Lombard's lay down their own fillings at the distilleries and hold their own stocks.

"Lombard's objective is to establish their brands at the premium end of their respective target markets and to create a strong brand image."

You'll no doubt agree that there will be bottles for all types of collectors. And...nothing has been mentioned about their full size decanters. Just wait!

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# FROM JAPAN

by TAIZO SHIRATSU



This time I would like to present to you a few American Whiskey miniatures which were released last year in Japan.

The first is RED & GOLD 15 year old Bourbon Whiskey which was imported by a medium-sized liquor and food wholesaler Hiroya. As the name suggests, it has a beautiful gold and red label, a diagonal red belt on a golden background and golden RED & GOLD on a red rectangle. It is a normal, clear, round bottle which contains 50ml at 101 proof alcohol.

Suntory launched two new premium Tennessee and Bourbon Whiskeys, JACK DANIEL'S MASTER DISTILLER and EARLY TIMES PREMIUM. Both have been

developed only for the Japanese market with cooperation between Suntory and Brown Forman. Jack Daniel's has a black label with golden letters while Early Times is purplish-brown with yellow letters. Both are 11cm tall, clear, square bottles which contain 50ml. Jack Daniel's is at 45% while Early Times is at 43% alcohol.

The Bourbon market in Japan is large and an especial favorite with people in the younger generation. Many new whiskey products have been developed for Japan, but unfortunately there are only a few bourbon miniatures available.

Until next time...

--T.S.--

# MINI WORLD



Back in the 1950's and 1960's the Senior Curacao Company from the Island of Curacao in the Dutch Antilles had their excellent curacao liqueur imported into the U.S. After that you had to go to Curacao to get the different glass bottles and then in the 1980's a set of several different delft vases or urns.

Well, it's the 1990's and Senior Curacao has once again issued some bottles. These three were found three years ago by some Michigan collectors who were on a cruise of the West Indies. Each ceramic represents an actual house on

the island of Curacao.

The most detailed of the bottles is the Casa Penha. This one was produced in Holland by Royal Goedewaagen in their "Poly Delft". This company has made many scores of excellent bottles through the years.

The house which appears to have a thatched roof is Cunucu House while the other one is Chobolobo Mansion, the home of Senior Curacao. Both of these bottles were produced by Dutch Antilles Ceramics. Would you be terribly surprised to learn that all three contain Senior Curacao?

# SENIOR CURACAO



# SCOTCH

## David Maund

After a nice rest in the sun in Fiji and on to New Zealand and Australia, I'm back in the dictating chair. In front of me I've got some bottles I'm quite delighted with and some I and several others are quite upset about.

Let's begin with the bad news. These to me are the three bottles done for The Scotch Malt Whisky Society. You've seen their bottles in these pages previously; however, this is the new set of three which is completely different than anything issued previously.

You'll note these are numbered 12, 33, and 49. Now there have been numbers on the bottles in their earlier incarnations, but this time you must refer to a Society mailer to even find out if the bottles are Islay or Highland or ???

But on to more positive ideas. The next set of three is a continuation of the bottles being done by Miniatura Collectives in St. Andrews, Scotland. The first contains 10 year old Auchentoshan while the other two have 10 year old Tamnavulin. The first is another in the 25 years of U.K. Air Defence with a picture of the McDonnell Douglas Phantom II. This should suit the U.S. collectors quite nicely. The two remaining ones



have the Panavia Tornado and the Sepecat Jaguar T1A.

The last set of four I've included simply because I enjoy their labels. Two of these are from hotels whilst the fourth is one issued by The Master of Malt for the members of the Malt Whisky Association. This is the third bottle shown, the Hogmanay Dram which contains Tomintoul 17 year old Single Speyside Malt.

The two hotel bottles are from The Salutation Hotel in Perth (the home of Bells Scotch) which contains 10 year old Tullibardine and The Marine Hotel of North Berwick, Scotland, which contains 10 year old Bowmore. The final bottle is Blair Castle. Nothing special.

Next time possibly a large grouping of the new labels from Cadenhead or maybe even some more new ceramics. --DLM--





# MORRISON/ BOWMORE

by Tony Natelli



One of the great Scotch firms is Morrison-Bowmore Ltd. of Glasgow who produce some of the finest miniatures to be found today.

Our first picture shows three Bowmore's including the rare "Sailboat" version as well as the current 10 year and 17 year old varieties. Also included are a Glen Garioch 8 year and an Auchentoshan 21 year old. Other aged versions of these last two are also generally available. There is also a very rare Bowmore 7 year old miniature, much desired by collectors. Morrison Bowmore

now own the Cairn's Brands, which include Auchentoshan and which are also much in demand.

Next is a rather scarce Bowmore 10 year Jug produced in 1990 for the National Garden Festival.

Three different Rob Roys and a Sword's complete this grouping. The first is the oldest while number three is the newest. They're all very attractive, as is the Sword's. The James Sword firm is also now owned by Morrison Bowmore and advanced collectors will remember great



1930's minis including Sword's Reel, Sword's Three Reign's, The Gauntlet and The Glasgow Cross, all produced by James Sword.

Some other current miniatures out there to be found are the following: Bowmore Legend - 1965 12 year, Glen Garioch 10 year 1984, and Auchentoshan 10 year, no age, and 12 year among others.

A few of these will be shown in future articles as well as some private labels, of which there are many bottled by Bowmore Morrison. --T.N.--

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**WANTED:** Pottery mini-bottles wanted by collector. Meier, Chateau Rossard, Manhattan, Alta labeled examples. Pottery figural bottles such as the pig, cat, elephant, baseball, horse, and tank with or without labels. Write to Mark, 1463 Bolkinwood, Freeport, IL 61032 or phone me at (815) 233-2540.

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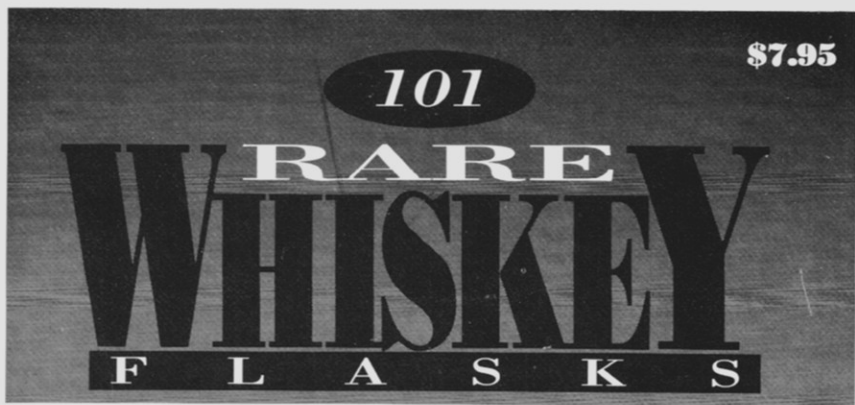
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