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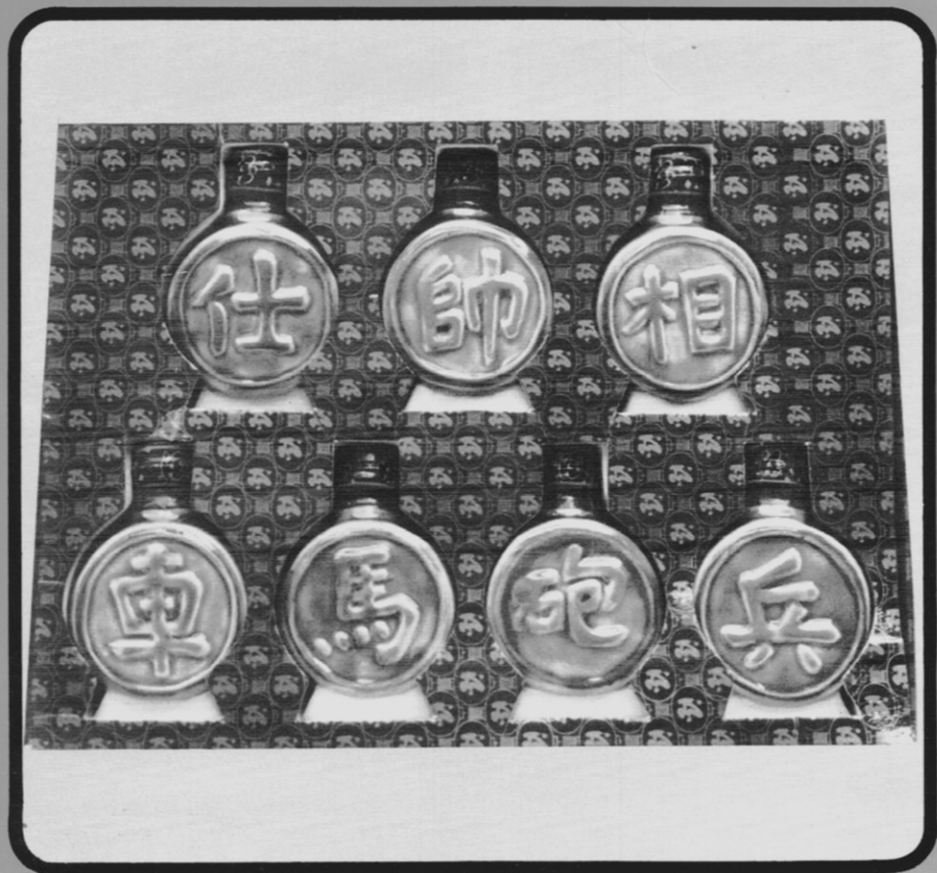
VOL. XXIII

No. 2

No. 134

1996

MINIATURE BOTTLE COLLECTOR



The Federation of Historical Bottle Collectors
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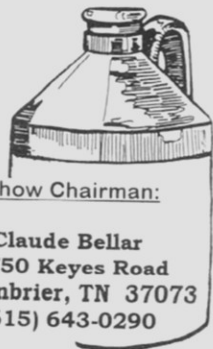
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California residents please add 8.25%

Let's Talk

There's a whole bunch new this time. As promised, we are now on-line . . . The Internet . . . World Wide Web . . . the whole enchilada! In case you just can't wait to see what our "non-printed" mag looks like and you can get to the Internet, then here's our address:

<http://mediapulse.com/mbc/>

Remember, computers are exacting and non-forgiving. If you make an error in typing that address, you won't find us.

Once you've found us, you'll see quite a different magazine and not just because it's in color. The articles are not the same and you'll find some new areas.

Giving credit where it's due, this all came about because son, Scott Spaid, had the desire, drive and ability to make it happen. Beside all this, he'll be doing a beer article for our cyberspace version (but John Wyss will be continuing here).

In the first couple of days, there were 35 hits on our site. Some such as David Smith from New Zealand just saying hello and many kind words but others who turned out to be those folks who never knew anyone else collected.

If you'd like to know more about all this or maybe even have an inclination to have your own site, you can write Scott at MediaPulse, 413 Lynn Drive, Nashville, TN 37211 or e-mail him at:

spaid@mediapulse.com

See you next time.

—DMS—

THE

VOL. XXIII No. 2
No. 134 1996

MINIATURE BOTTLE COLLECTOR

Editor/Publisher DAVID M. SPAID

Features

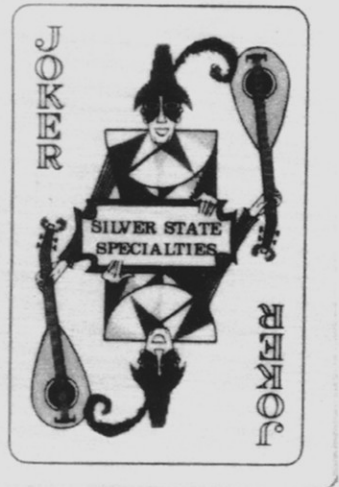
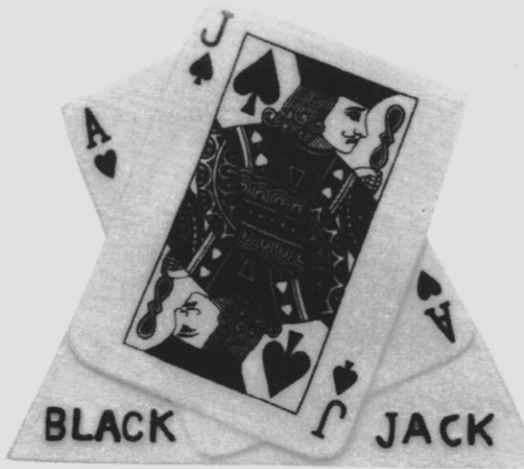
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Our Cover

The bottles on the cover this time are about as new as you can get. This set of seven was issued in March in Hong Kong. The bottles contain rice wine and are a product of the Sam Seng Wine Company of Hong Kong. This is called the Chess Set as the calligraphic characters correspond to the names of chess pieces.

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SILVER STATE SPECIALTIES





An even dozen bottles have now been issued by Silver State Specialties. Available only in very limited quantities as most of the bottles go directly to stores throughout Nevada, this is the easy way to add these bottles to your collection. The Mitt and Las Vegas Horseshoe are now in extremely short supply; so, don't delay!

- Royal Flush - Club\$11.95
- Royal Flush - Diamond\$11.95
- Royal Flush - Heart\$11.95
- Royal Flush - Spade\$11.95
- Royal Flush set of 4\$39.95
- Joker\$11.95
- Jack of Hearts\$11.95
- Queen of Hearts\$11.95
- King of Hearts\$11.95
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- Pair of Horseshoes\$24.95
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CHIISAI BIN

P.O. Box 90245

Los Angeles, CA 90009

WHAT'S NEW



We'll begin with this south of the border bottle. The Liqueur D'Aristi has just about the most colorful label you can find on a bottle today. It shows a native making an offering to a seated dignitary with the pyramids in the background. The liqueur is a mixture of honey and anisette.

Next is another in the long line of flavored drink. This is a new Gordon's Gin with a mint flavor. Just another attempt to

appeal to younger drinkers.

Now we have the Korbell Spiced Brandy and the DeKuyper ButterShots. I don't know about you, but I think it would be fun to take all of these "weird" schnapps and mix them together. You know butterscotch with root beer, peach, apricot, watermelon (yup, watermelon) and finish up with some cinnamon. Oh, I forgot all the berry ones. Well, it would be quite a

drink.

Now to a piece for you whisky collectors. This is the Black Velvet Reserve 8 year old Canadian Whisky imported by Heublein. We've had a great many different Black Velvets but this is a very nice label.

All of the above were found in Las Vegas recently but we'll jump to the east coast where Vic Visalli found the set of McClellands' Malts...a Highland, Low-



NEW



land and Islay.

Finally we'll go to Japan for two of the bottles released for St. Valentine's Day gifts. Suntory issued this whimsical glass bear and also a perfume-type X.O. Brandy with satin glass bow. Wonder if a U.S. company will ever do anything interesting for any reason!

Next time the Johnnie Walker Gold, a super new Mescal, and lots of others. --DMS--

TALKING POINT



The bottle shown here is a lovely vase; red and gold with blue and white flowers. It was sold by Miniature Specialties in the late 1940's to the early 1950's. It contained Maraschino Cordial.

Would this bottle look good in your collection? Or would you pass it up because of its contents?

Along with Manhattan, Southern Sales and a few other companies, non-alcoholic cordials such as this Maraschino

were used in filling their bottles. Are they less desirable today?

It seems to some people they are. Recently there has been talk about bottles with non-alcoholic contents as cheating the public.

If you feel cheated, kindly bring your 50 year old bottles to a show near you. Your Mannattans, Southern Sales, Miniature Specialties, and McCormick Marilyn Monroes with cordial contents won't stay unsold long.

SCOTCH

David Maund

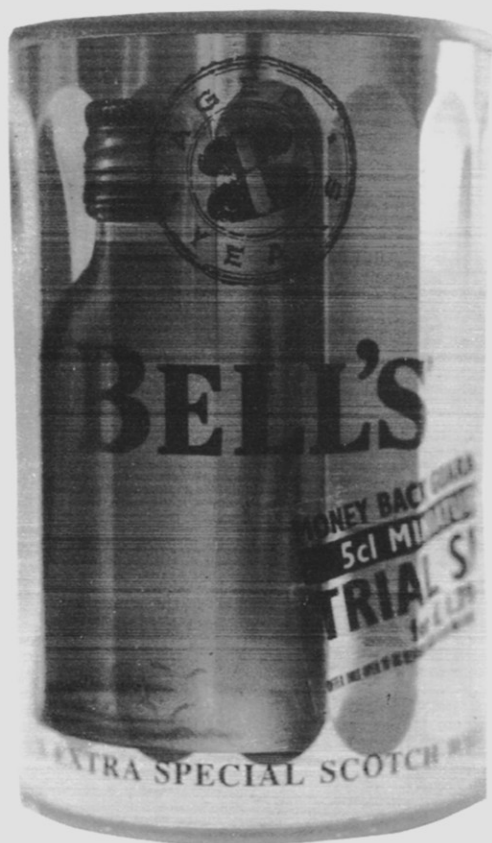


The end of 1995 brought us quite a few interesting bottles and I thought you'd like to know about some of them.

I'll begin with the only ceramic. Rutherford of Glasgow issued another Christmas bottle to follow their Santa, tree, etc. of the past. These Snowmen have their own bottle and seem to en-

joy a bit of Christmas cheer. Rutherford have issued several other excellent flagons in the last quarter of '95, but you'll see those another time.

Sainsbury stores introduced a package which contained not only a Royal Elgin 21 year old Single Highland Malt but also an Edinburgh Crystal glass. All



this for only £9.99

In the packaging department, Bells brought out a most fashionable gold tin containing their regular miniature...but what a great marketing idea.

Springbank issued both their 30 year old and a 100° mini. Don't be misled by the 12 year old on the latter. It's actually a

mixture of 25 and 30 year olds. I understand the 30 year old has been exported to the States, but I don't believe the 100° has.

Drumguish and The Knockdhu are two Highland Single Malts. The former comes in a holiday tube which makes it even more attractive.

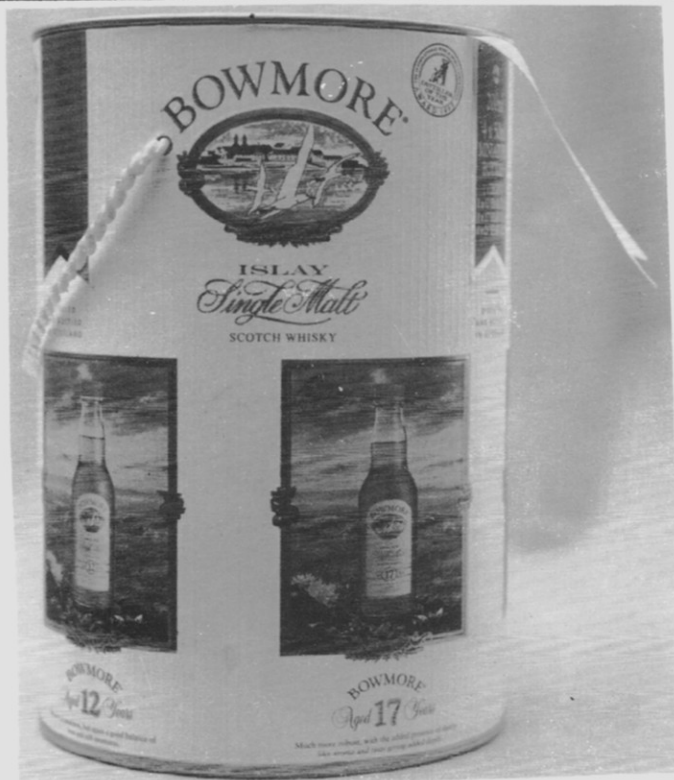
Finally we have the set of four



Bowmores. I've been told these were made for the duty free shops in the Far East; however, some tins ended up at an ASDA supermarket in York. They may have been elsewhere, but no one has mentioned any sightings. This is the first time the 17 year old and 21 year old have been bottled in miniature. As a point of interest, the 720ml

size of the Legend and the 21 year old have paper labels, whilst the 12 year old and 17 year old have silk screened labels. All the miniatures have paper labels.

Thus ends our holiday party of 1995 bottles. There were others, but possibly another time.
--DLM--



melo's minis

by Mike Olson



In this article I would like to feature the Golden Wedding Brand in Carnival Glass bottles Distilled and Bottled by Jos. S. Finch & Co. Schenley, Pa. Finch was a subsidiary of Schenley and manufactured many brands during the early 1930's. The carnival glass bottles were produced in both a Rye and a Bourbon and the later ones also came with pull off caps.

Bottle number one is a Rye with its original box. It is 92 proof and is from 1934 as is the matching Bourbon. The next pair are 95 proof and were bottled January and February 1934 respectively.

Bottle number five is 90 proof and the label was adopted Sept. 15, 1935. The labels on the next pair were adopted July 25, 1935 and they are 90 proof. The last Rye has a matching Bourbon (not pictured), is 90 proof and the label was adopted July 20, 1936.

When I first started collecting over twenty years ago, these miniatures were very popular and commanded a premium price. Today, these bottles, while still popular, have not seen an astronomic increase in price as have some of the other rare brands.

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



COGNACS

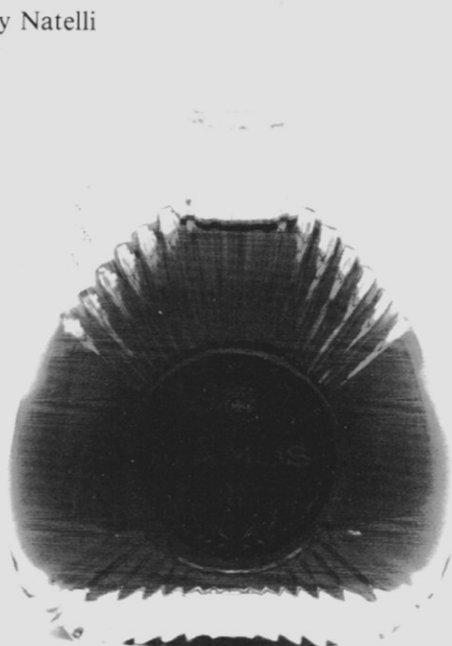
By Tony Natelli



Many collectors, myself included, collect "fancy" miniatures (which could mean crystal, decanters, unusual shapes, etc). Every type of whisky, liqueur and wine feature some, but by and large, the most attractive and desirable are those produced by the cognac firms.

CAMUS is one which has at least five different "fancy" miniatures on the market, some of which contain different grades of their fine cognac.

Our first picture is their magnificent crystal decanter with stopper (named Jubilee)

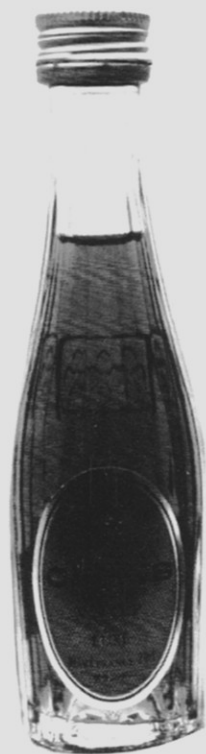


that is an absolute knockout and one of the very few crystal miniatures available.

Number two, also a decanter-type, contains their top grade Extra Cognac and also comes with a stopper. The next, another glass decanter with stopper, has X.O. Superior as its contents and is a beauty as our picture clearly shows. This was introduced in 1994 but prior to that the earlier and entirely different X.O. bottles were available.

Finally, our fifth and last bottle also comes in two sizes (3 cl and 5 cl). This is found containing either Grand V.S.O.P. or V.S.O.P. Deluxe. It has a screw cap but is a ribbed bottle and a nice counterpart to the others.

CAMUS



VODKA



It seems only fitting that in an issue with a tequila article that there also be a vodka article. And we surely have some fascinating ones for you this time. We'll be hopping all over the world for these too.

A fantastic label to begin with. This is CANE JUICE, Caribbean Vodka with natural flavors from...Belize. It's available here in California and will no doubt hit other markets.

Two others found in the U.S. currently are EVERCLEAR from the David Sherman Co. and a new KAMCHATKA. As with Cane Juice, these are all plastic.

Staying in the Americas, we'll jump down to Brazil for the KEGLEVICH and ORLOFF. Can't do that backward "R". Keglevich is an Italian Stock brand but is produced in Brazil.

Now we'll go east to England.





The United Kingdom has both SELEKT and VIRGIN. Yes, this is the same Virgin that has the airline, super stores, soda pop and whatever else may be in Richard Branson's portfolio.

Before we get to vodka's birthplace, we travel southeast to Jordan. Here we find VIATKA and PRIMANOFF. The former is bottled under license in Jordan from a British firm while the

latter is produced locally by Zumot Distillers.

Finally we have two from Mother Russia herself, RUSSKAYA and PYATIZVEZDNAYA. Russkaya has been around for many, many years in a variety of labels, but Pyatizvezdnaya (to pronounce it is to love it) is a definite new one.

Hope you enjoyed the round the world vodka journey.

CIDER BRANDY

Every once in a while you run into something rather unique. What you're seeing here is just that. As far as is known, this is the first ever Cider Brandy.

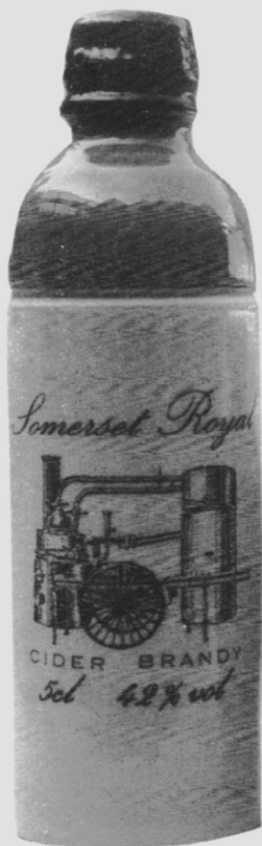
The brand name is Somerset Royal and the stoneware one-handed crock is by Buchan. The "contraption" depicted as part of the label is actually their still. We'll let the company speak for itself:

"In 1987 we started distilling. Our aim was to produce a fine brandy by combining the best traditions of Calvados and Lambic with the maturing techniques of Scotland, and the uniquely flavoured apples of Somerset.

"Her Majesty's Customs recognized our determination and in 1989 rewarded our company with the first full cider distilling licence in recorded English history.

"We hope that Somerset Royal Cider Brandy does justice to the orchards and the people who have helped us in our quest."

Wish there were an extra to taste!



THE

DICKENS MINIS

by JACK SULLIVAN

My particular favorite mini series is the not-quite-oldie series from Pick Kwik Wines and Spirits of Derby, England, that feature scenes from Charles Dickens novels. Transfer printed on white semi-porcelain from John Humphreys Pottery of Staffordshire, England, these mini jugs are notable for the elegance and detail of their drawings.

Shown here are several examples of the minis whose art work marvelously recreates Charles Dickens' characters. Transfers are in black, dark blue, light blue and russet. I know of eight different (but there may well be others). Each has a legend on the base with clues to the Dickens novel the mini relates to. Appropriately, several refer to the **PICKWICK PAPERS**, as follows:

"Mr. Pickwick addresses the Club"

"First Appearance of Sam Weller"

"Mrs. Bardell faints in Mr. Pickwick's arms"

Others show scenes taken from Dickens' **OLIVER TWIST**:

"Oliver Introduced to the Respectable Old Gentleman"

"Mr. Fagan and his pupil recovering Nancy"

"Mr. Bumble degraded in the eyes of the paupers"

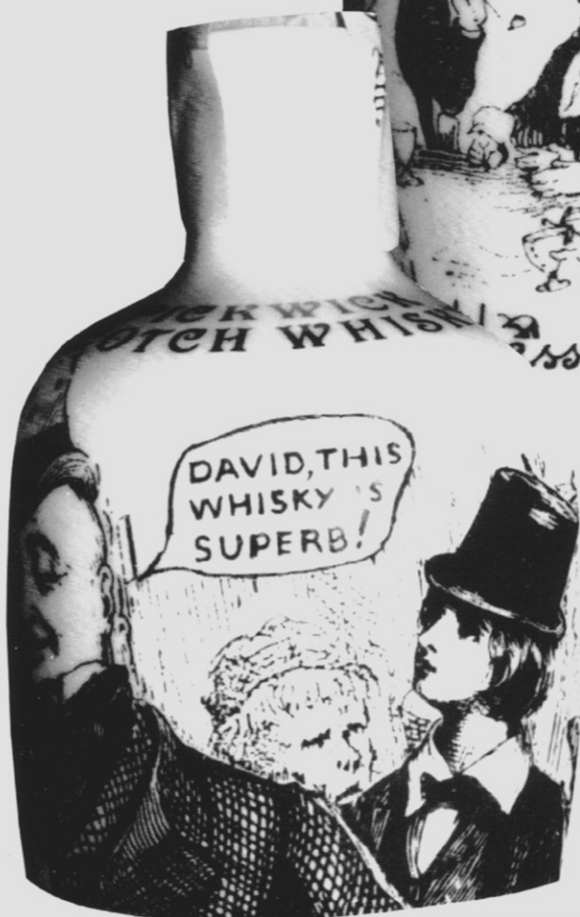
"Master Bates explains a technicality"

The eighth and perhaps the most interesting is a takeoff from **DAVID COPPERFIELD**. It shows Mr. Micawber (a notorious drinker) saying to his young companion, "David, this whisky is superb". The detail on the underglaze transfer is outstanding.

Each mini jug on the rear has a small picture of Mr. Pickwick and a bottle (glass) of Pickwick Scotch Whisky. It also bears the legend: Specially blended and bottled in Scotland for Pick Kwik Wines and Spirits, Mickleover, Derby, England.

Several in my collection have a paper label over the cork that says: World-wide Exclusive Distribution by Mini Bottles (U.K.) Limited. The Pick Kwik firm also has been known for sponsoring a limited series of Royal Doulton mini pottery recreations of Dickens' and other characters during the 1980's.

--J.S.--



USQUAEBACH

by

TONY NATELLI



USQUAEBACH, one of the great scotches in the world, has expanded their miniature line which prove to be a joy to collectors (and scotch drinkers) worldwide.

While most collectors are familiar with their famous brown and tan jug (I first wrote about it in 1978!!), there are six others that comprise a complete Usquaebach mini collection.

The **Black Jug**, pictured here with the original two tone version, was released in 1993 in honor of the brand's 225th anniversary. It was produced in

very limited quantities (rumor has it as around 100-150) and is quite rare today. It was never in general release and is considered quite a prize.

The **Crystal Decanter** with stopper is a spectacular bottle and can hold its own with even the great cognac miniatures. A 1980's release, alas, it is no longer produced and is a truly great miniature.

Two **Usquaebach Special** are next. The twelve year is brand new and sold only in Japan while the Non-Aged is sold in the U.S.A. and should not be difficult to find.



The **8 Year Blend** and a **15 Year Malt** complete the Usquaebach line. The 8 year old sports a beautiful black and gold label, highlighted by a big red "8" in the middle while the 15 year old malt is their first venture into the world of malts. Hopefully it won't be their last.

Twelve Stone Flagons (Carol and Stanley Stankiwicz, two

good friends), the owners of Usquaebach, have informed me that their **American Biker Bourbon** should be available in miniatures toward the end of this year.

A special thanks to John Haller of Twelve Stone Flagons for some of the information contained in this article.

--T.N.--

WHISKEY HERITAGE

by BUTCH JONES



Two nice old whiskey minis this time. The first is an OK Bourbon. The bottle is a clear flask and contains 100° bourbon. This minis from Tijuana, Mexico and is a pre-pro.

The second bottle is one some of you may have seen before. This Father Time is also 100° proof whiskey but by Hiram Walker & Sons Limited of Walkerville, Canada. It has a 1927 tax stamp: Hope you like these old gems. --B.J.--



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GREAT LAKES MINIATURE BOTTLE CLUB: c/o Paul Murray, 19745 Woodmont, Harper Woods, MI 48225.

MBC

CLASSIFIED ADS

Free to subscriber's each issue. One ad limit per subscriber. Please limit your ad to fifty words or less.

FOR SALE: Miniatures from Jordan: Whiskies, gin, vodka, cognac, scotch, arak (ouzo), etc. Write Mitri Manneh, 11333 Lorene Street, Whittier, CA 90601 o(310) 692-2928

FOR SALE: James MacArthur & Co. Ltd. are pleased to announce two limited edition bottlings. 1. Tall Ships Race July 1995. Single malt scotch whisky @ 43%vol, 500 bottle edition. Price US\$7 plus US\$4 packaging & postage. 2. Set of five tall Still label miniatures at cask strength. Presentation box in a 200 set edition. 21 y.o. Ledaig 54.2%, 21 y.o. Teaninich 57.2%, 22 y.o. Glen Keith 51.2%, 27 y.o. MacDuff 53% and 27 y.o. Springbank 49.1%. Price US\$55 plus US\$10 packing & postage. Cheques to: James MacArthur & Co. Ltd., 20 Knights Templar Way, High Wycombe, Bucks HP11 1PY England.

FOR SALE: Have over 2000 bottles, 50's-60's-70's in all categories: bourbon, scotch, rye, gin, rum, vodka, ceramics, etc. CHEAP! CHEAP! CHEAP! Will sell separately. Send one 32¢ stamp for each list you want or 6 stamps for all nine lists. Also selling older full liquors for 40¢ to 75¢ each. Paul Stookey, 3015 W. St. Rt. 571, Troy, OH 45373 or call (513) 698-3392.

WANTED: Schafer and Vater porcelain figural schnapps bottles with or without trays and shots. Also interested in any information you would like to share with me about Schafer and Vater. Peter Spirito, 362 Eagle Drive, Jupiter, FL 33477.

WANTED: Manhattan, Meiers & Chateau Rosard mini ceramics. Will buy any amount, color, or shape. Please write or call if you have any! Connie & Glenn Hackman, 11757 Whisper Bay Court, Carmel, IN 46033 or call (317) 846-3629.

WANTED: Scotch & Irish Whisky jugs in either large or miniature size. Haven't found much of late, so "make my day". Of course, I'm also still looking for those giveaways too. Lloyd McLeod (360) 892-6337.

FOR SALE: Those new lists of jugs, scotch and misc. are now ready. The 1995 Rutherford jugs are in and that Christmas one from last year is a dandy and the Art Masterpieces may be the nicest pieces they have produced yet. So, don't sit on your hands, write for those lists now. David M. Spaid, P. O. Box 2161, Palos Verdes, CA 90274.

FOR SALE: 300 plus old figural collection. A few are Bols Lobser Claw and Creel at only \$25 for both; Rosard Blue Elephant (star label) \$30; Bottle Beautiful Winnie Mae plane, 1918 National Car, and Indy Racer only \$30 each. Lots more. Phone (541) 664-6555 before 7pm PST, or write Juanita Rubio, 4326 Old Stge Road, Central Point, OR 97502.

NOTICE: I am a collector of boxing memorabilia and of bottles related to boxing. I am currently looking for a few boxing bottles in any size. They are as follows: Joe Louis, Jack Dempsey, Max Baer, and John L. Sullivan Whiskey bottles. Do you have any of these for sale or can you help a fellow collector in finding one or all of the above? I would really appreciate any help. I look forward to your letter. Bill Pollock, 4267 Fox Hollow Circle, Casselberry, FL 32707 or call (407) 695-9140.

FOR SALE: Exceptional collection - collecting for 28 years but must liquidate now. There are 1,700 pieces, one third of which are figurals. Will sacrifice all for \$10,000. Seven custom display cabinets also available. Serious inquiries only, please. Tony Peraino, 2150 Basswood, Carlsbad, CA 92008 or call (619) 729-8276.

FOR SALE: I have approximately 1,100 small liquor nips all full from 1960 to the present for sale. They must be seen to be believed. Price \$1,100 - no deals or cut backs on bottles. Write or call Bob Erickson, 36 Leonard Street, North Attleboro, MA 02760 or tel (508) 699-8281.

NOTICE: Number two in the Hamms Bear series, The Brown Bear, is here (see the full page ad elsewhere). Santa's Helper will be retired soon and number three, The Seattle Bear with baseball cap, is in the works for this summer. You'll kick yourself if you wait until the price climbs higher and higher.

WANTED: Figural fish and related sea item bottles (i.e. ships, dolphins, shellfish, etc.). Call or write Dennis Hill, 181 Erie Drive, Naples, FL 33942 or (941) 597-4739.

FOR SALE: 3,000+ minis, all kinds, mostly older ones and some pre-pros. No listing. Send me your want lists & SASE. John Briskie, 7202 Harbor View Drive, Leesburg, FL 34788 or call (904) 787-6670.

WANTED: Still looking for good Irish Whisky, gin, rums, etc. (no liqueurs, please) Will trade anything I own or pay top dollar. I also have some great Irish labels for trade. Bill Orr, 1680 Glenwood Drive, Twinsburg, OH 44087 or call (216) 425-2365.

WANTED: VODKA!! Serious collector will to buy or trade mini vodkas. Write Rod Nykolynshyn, 8820 - 138 Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta, T5E 2A8 Canada.

NOTICE: Yes, I'm still buying and selling pre-prohibition and variation mini beers. Call me at (313) 337-9965 or write to John Wyss, 1941 Grantwood Drive, Iowa City, IA 52240.

YOUR AD SHOULD BE HERE

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SATURDAY 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.



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