

THE

VOL. XXIII No. 5
No. 137 1996

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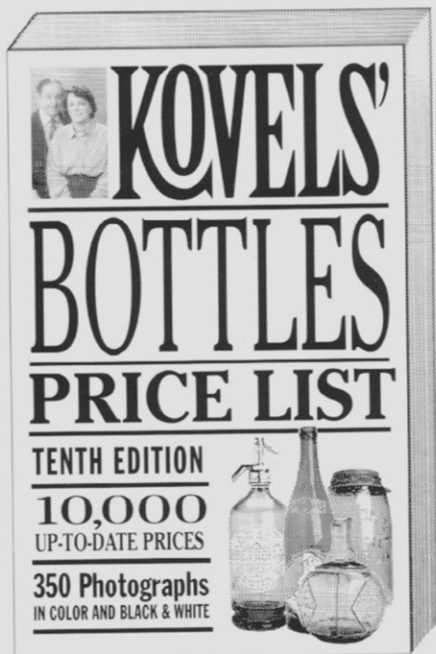
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Let's Talk

Got a very disturbing note from Norm Luber of the Del-Val Mini Club. He states: "Just a note to inform you of the death of Del-Val Mini Bottle Club. We voted to disband on 8-5-96, effective 12-31-96."

As is often the case, it appears that those who have worked for the club and been it's heart or core wanted others to share in the duties and responsibilities. And as is even more often the case, the others were perfectly content to let everyone else do all the work.

I do get on the soap box from time to time and this is one of those times. There are a large number of collectors (unfortunately in most hobbies) who want no part of any of the work. They like to come to meetings and watch programs prepared by others. They like to read bulletins they would never dream of contributing to.

My favorite excuses: I don't know how to use a camera - and - I don't know how to write. Well, neither did anyone else until he or she tried.

You'll notice quite a change on the Club Directory page this time. Those empty spaces were filled just a short time ago. Think about it.

Remember to update your mailing address with me if there have been any changes. As of October 1st, every mass mailer has to verify zip codes of all the "mailees". If you're caught with incorrect zip codes, it's curtains!

See you in December.

—DMS—

THE

VOL. XXIII No.5
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MINIATURE BOTTLE COLLECTOR

Editor/Publisher DAVID M. SPAID

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Our Cover

The set of bottles on the cover this time was issued last year in France. It was released to celebrate the first one hundred years of cinema...or, the movies. These labels are replicas of movie posters from five films: L'arroseur Arrose, The Kid, The Children of Paradise, Beauty and the Beast, and The Big Sleep. They contain five liqueurs and were issued by Bell'or.

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WHAT'S NEW



I've been out there beating the bushes as it were and unearthing some new items for you. The fact that many of you might happen to have these by the time you get the magazine is a good sign. It shows that bottles are getting good general distribution.

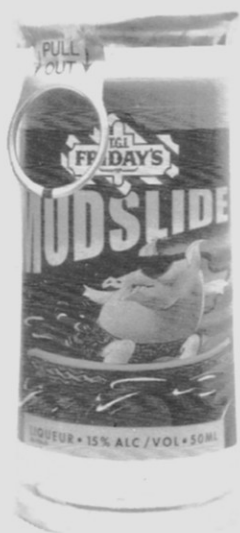
In fact our first bottle is already in the northeast, the south and the west. It's **OBLIO** Sambuca imported from Italy in both the regular and the black. Only the regular is shown as the dark label with dark contents won't reproduce well.

Next is a new version of **BACARDI OLD** or **ANEJO**.

Nothing fascinating here, just a new take on an old favorite.

GOLD RUSH though is a strange one. This popped up in a tiny store in Bardstown, Kentucky. I thought it was a Goldwasser but it turned out to be a Cinnamon Schnapps from Lewiston, Maine. However, it still was full of little gold flakes. Except for goldwasser and certain elegant sakes, this is the only liqueur I know of with real gold flakes in it.

Both Kentucky and Tennessee stores were showing three of the four new ones from T.G.I. Friday's. What's missing is Watermelon or so





I've been told and that wasn't going on the market until August 1st. **HOT CINNAMON** and **MUDSLIDE** are funny, clever labels; however, it's **OATMEAL COOKIE** which is my delight. All of these are quite low in alcoholic content so I plan on having an "oatmeal cookie" after dinner some night quite soon.

Next we have two new labels for two old timers, **GENTLEMAN JACK** and **JIM BEAM**. Jack Daniels has changed to white lettering on all sizes of this bottle and Jim Beam of course needed to change as they couldn't keep

using the 200 years old label when it's indeed 201. Jack is glass; Jim is plastic.

A few issues back the glass **CAYMANA** was shown. Now we have the plastic **CAYMANA**. Rarely will you see such a change within a year's time, but then also rarely will you see the same product imported from Europe and then from the West Indies. Of course, it looks much more "legit" coming from the West Indies. Well, doesn't it?

Next time a group of new ones from St. George of California and many other new ones! --DMS--

VODKA

by JOHN SULLIVAN

When is a Russian Vodka not a Russian Vodka? The answer is when it's made in China. The Tiger Brand comes from Tientsin, China, and was produced in 1945 at the end of the war.

I wonder how long the P. H. Victoria Company was in business? My guess is that it wasn't nearly as "western" as its name would have you believe. In large letters the label on the back of the bottle states clearly that this is one of the best VODAKS money can buy. In China fifty-one years ago, it just might have been the best darn vodak available! --J.S.--



FROM JAPAN

by TAIZO SHIRATSUCHI



This time I would like to present to you some Cognac miniatures which have appeared in Japan.

The first four miniatures are from **MEUKOW**. They are XO, NAPOLEON, and VSOP. As you see, they are very fancy. They have a carved jaguar on each. The XO is a clear bottle with a golden jaguar while the Napoleon is a dark green with a clear jaguar and the VSOP a clear bottle with a clear jaguar. These were issued in 1995 and then some months later a new Napoleon was launched with a dark green jaguar just like the black one. All bottles are 10.5 cm.

50ml at 40% alcohol.

VILLENEUVE miniatures are also very fancy as you'll note. These cognacs were released only on the Japanese market by Brugerolle & Co. NAPOLEON is a dark blue glass while the BRILLIANT is clear. There are silver and orange letters on the blue labels with golden belt frame, neck labels too. They are 12 cm, 50ml and 40% alcohol.

The next miniatures are two **HENNESSY**, VSOP and PRIVE. The VSOP has a new label with Hennessy in a dark color framed on the label. Privé was launched





during the private consumption time at home. The miniature was only available as a sales promotion. For example, we could only get it by buying a large bottle and then only for a two day period at only five supermarkets in Osaka!

The last bottle is **COURVOISIER VSOP ROUGE** which has a see-through label with a red rose. This was introduced this year only in the Japanese market. This fancy slim clear glass miniature is 11.5 cm, 30ml at 40% alcohol.

Until next time...

--T.S.--

DELAMAIN



Located in the city of Jarnac, just a few miles from Cognac, the firm of Delamain continues to produce some of the finest cognacs available. The miniatures you see here are the complete range which Delamain markets. For well over two hundred years, these cognacs have made Delamain a name well known to connoisseurs throughout the world.

After a partnership, Delamain became a family firm in 1920. The mother of the current chairman, Alain Braastad, was a Delamain

and the family tradition continues as Alain's son has recently finished his university studies and is with the firm.

Returning to the cognacs, the Pale & Dry is 25 years old, the Vesper 35 years, while the Tres Venerable is 50 years and the Reserve of the Family is 55 years old. There may be a new label for the Family Reserve and if there is you'll see it here in the magazine.

So in your lexicon of cognacs, put Delamain up there above the rest. It's where it deserves to be!

CREMAS d'ESPANA



Sometimes you get that feeling that something good is going to happen. For the first time I was visiting Spain and it was a whirlwind three days in Barcelona. After seeing many of the landmarks (and it is a wonderful city to visit), I wanted to find some liquor stores.

After visiting five or six and being totally underwhelmed, I had given up finding anything except some truly average liqueurs and less than desirable glass figurals known around the world for the

last twenty years.

On the way to dinner, I spied a store while the car was stopped at a red light. After yelling to pick me up after you've gone around the block, I darted out of the car and into the shop. Knowing I had only a couple of minutes, I scanned the shelves and this was when that good feeling came. There in front of me was one set of five different cream liqueurs. Grabbing them and hardly even seeing what they were, I was back on the curb to await the car. Later that night I



drooled over my treasures. Shown here are those creams which have now been added to my shelves.

You'll notice that the bottles say Castle and Montserrat. However, the fine print on the Castle bottles also lists Montserrat and all the bottles are 4cl and 34 proof. It doesn't matter though as these five are great ones to add to a list of cream liqueurs.

The three Castle bottles are Crema de Maduixa, d'Avellana, and Pinya Tropical. If words such as Maduixa are totally unfamiliar to you it's because these names are

language written and spoken in northern Spain and part of southern France. Maduixa is a strawberry, avellana is a hazelnut and the pinya is a pineapple.

I confess total ignorance with the Crema d'Aromes del Montserrat. Just what those aromas are maybe we'll never know. However, the Crema Catalana is a dessert very similar to Creme Brulee. I know some of you cream collectors wish there had been duplicates in that store and I do too. If there had been, this is surely one that I'd love to sample.



TREASURES OF THE PAST

By Vic Visalli

Pictured in this article are two very interesting bottles that are not seen too often. Both are flasks dating back to the 1930's. The Morgan Pacer Blended Whiskey sports a turquoise label with a silhouette of the horse, sulky and driver. The Justin Morgan Blended Whiskey has a buff and black label. Both are products of the Green Mountain Distilleries, Burlington, Vermont.

According to *Horses of the World*, published in 1923, a Massachusetts tavern keeper moved to Vermont "about a hundred years ago". With him he took a "wonderful little stallion which has perpetuated and made famous the name of his master - Justin Morgan."

The breeding of this horse remains one of the unsolved mysteries but it has given the world a new breed, long and favorably known as Morgans.

The type of horse which has descended from Justin Morgan's bears little resemblance to a Barb or Arabian and none at all to the Thoroughbred. Nor are the Morgans typical to any family in their gait. There is no evidence to show the Morgan matched in running races. The Morgan was dark bay in color with black mane and tail. As pictured in the Justin Morgan Blended Whiskey, the Morgan possessed a short back



MORGAN HORSE BOTTLES



with a close ribbed round body with a deep wide chest and small, well-shaped feet.

Another interesting fact is that, being of no established breed then registered, the mares used to mate with Justin Morgan's can not be traced with certainty.

These same photos were sent to the G H Farm, members of the Morgan Horse Breeders Association in 1989, and I received a most gracious reply. The Morgan Horse Breeders Association remains very active today. --V.V.--

SCOTCH

David Maund

MINIATURA COLLECTIVES



Two communities of Fisher Folk plied their trade in St Andrews, one from Ladyhead on the cliff top, the other from the Royal George Fisher Homes, named after one of the first steamships built.



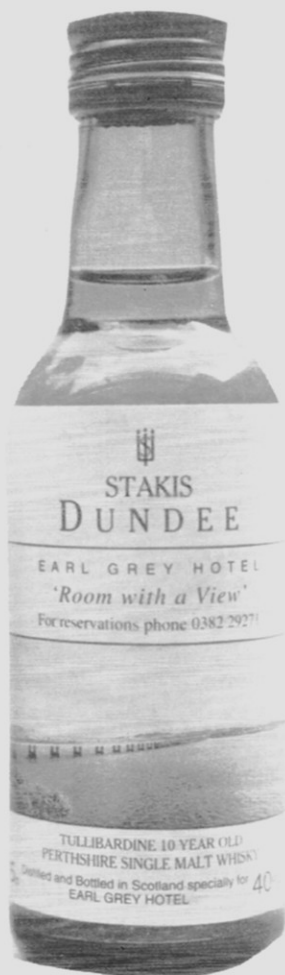
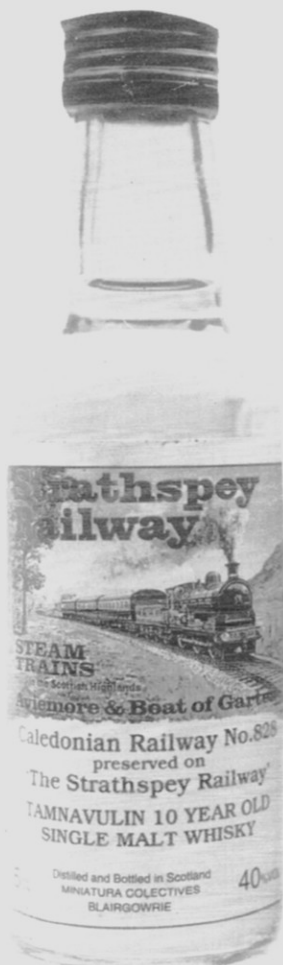
Trains used to stop during Open Championships when putting was in progress on the 16th green. Henry Cotton and Reg Whitecombe the holder putt out during the Dick Burton Open

Several years ago some bottles appeared from a small company in St. Andrews, Scotland. This new company was named Miniatura Collectives and it has specialised in some excellent personal labels. I've pulled two from my collection to photograph and the rest of what you see here are some labels supplied to me by a very charming gentleman, Iain Gow.

Some of the bottles these labels go on will be found only at the hotel, bar, etc. which they advertise. Iain will not allow any bottles to be sold to the general public if the hotel, bar, etc. is using

it currently.

After some thirty years in the wine and spirit trade mainly with single malt whisky, Iain is leading Miniatura Collectives to some fascinating new levels. Just take a look at all the labels shown here and I'm certain you'll agree. In the future I'll keep you up to date on the new offerings. Oh, as a last note, if you're traveling in Scotland, you won't find Miniatura in St. Andrews any more. Everything has been moved to Blairgowrie in Perthshire! That's certainly a new offering. --D.L.M.--



Built around 1388 the pier was destroyed during the great storms of 1655, repairs were carried out in 1656 using building materials from the Castle and Cathedral.



The grand old man of Golf, Tom Morris Snr., Open Championship Winner 1861-62-64-67, seen here with Freddie Tait putting out on the 18th green.

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5cl

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HANS PRANG

by HOLM HARS



Today I will show you three bottles from the Hans Prang Company. This firm was located in Hamburg but has been closed for several years now. In former times Hans Prang was the producer of Campari for Germany.

- 1, Whisky - 43%, 0,04 l (produce of Germany)
2. Doppel-Korn, 38%, 0,04 l

3. Jamaica-Rum-Verschnitt, 40%, 0,04 l. This bottle has a burned in (silk-screen[?]) label and was used as a ration bottle in restaurants. After drinking the contents of the bottle, it was cleaned (hopefully) and then refilled for the next guest.

Until next time.

--H.H.--

A Visit To Boozeville

by Lloyd McLeod



The gentleman arrived with his walking stick and he's ready for a good size drink. It's not beer or wine but it's probably gin and it's being served by a lovely young maiden who possibly will set his mind to thoughts other than the gin she's pouring.

Of course he's in the American Bar. The one place in Boozeville where no matter how you're dressed you're always welcome.

This German giveaway is in

green and white, but a pink and white version also exists. It's in the Wedgwood type Jasperware style which means there might even be a blue and white version. It stands five inches without stopper and has the familiar crown marking on the bottom.

Yes, the American Bar is the place to spend a long winter's evening and speculate about many things...including the pourer of the gin!

--L.M.--

MANHATTAN

by
BUTCH JONES

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For
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Bridge Prizes
Back Bars
Collectors

Manhattan Miniatures

MANHATTAN COMPANY

Continuing on from last time, I want to show and describe some of my favorite miniatures. These are the ones produced by Manhattan Distributors, Inc.

The Manhattan Company produced a variety of different miniatures during the period 1938-1954. I won't describe all of the different types in this article, but here are more of the hand painted glass bottles.

Many of you I am sure have some hand painted minis in your collections or at least have seen them. The five featured here are very special for two reasons: 1) I obtained them from Bill Costas' collection and 2) they come in their own box. As you can see in the first picture, these hand painted minis were produced by Manhattan Miniatures for party favors, bridge prizes, back bars, etc.

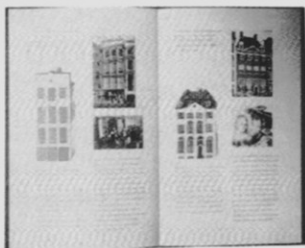


and collectors. The box is silver.

The five miniatures pictured here are all pinch bottles. The first one says "Don't Drink the Water, while the second shows a girl in a tub and reads "Bath Time Gin". Number three features a nude girl saying "Don't Forget the Bottle." Next we have that rooster once again chasing a chicken and reads "It's Business I'm After". The last

mini shows a couple standing at a bar. The saying is "How About a Short One". This one makes more sense when you realize the man is very short. All five of these are marked "Hollywood, Calif." and contain a non-alcoholic Scotch flavoring.

Hope you have enjoyed our second look at some of my favorite miniatures. "Til next time... --B.J.--



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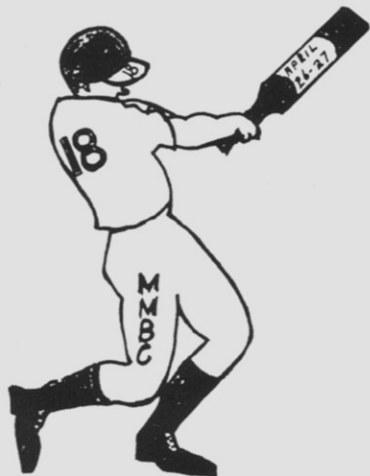
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