

THE

VOL. XXV No. 2

No. 146 1998

MINIATURE BOTTLE COLLECTOR



HAMM'S



Patterned to replicate the 1970's HAMM'S Bartender Bear, this new miniature is sure to take its place as one of the most sought after beer collectibles. Only 2,000 pieces were produced by WADE Ceramics in England. After the success of the Santa's Helper Bear in 1995 and the Seattle Bear in 1996, the Bartender Bear will undoubtedly be the hit of 1997! Order yours today.

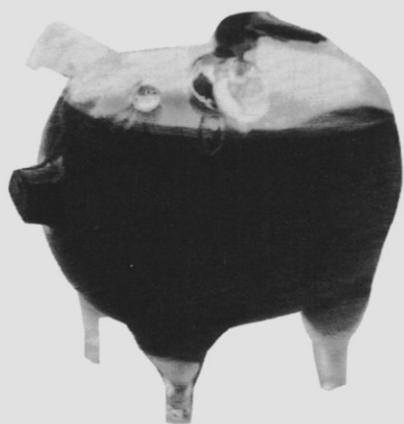
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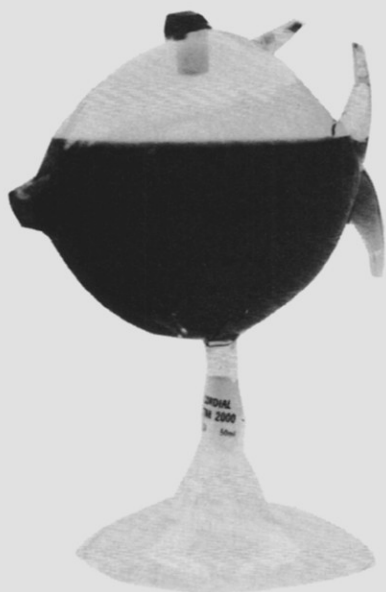
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Let's Talk

Spring has sprung and all that. It's almost time for the show in St. Louis. If you aren't going and you could, you'll miss a great get together.

The tables are all sold which means there will be thousands of bottles to choose from. And as I mentioned last time, the friendships forged during the shows and even more important.

Sad to announce that at this time there does not appear to be a show in the offing for the West Coast this year. The Lilliputian Club is working on it and we'll keep you posted.

Lots of mail came in these past two months but not one of them mentioned the error in the last issue. If you looked in the table of contents last time there was a listing for "A Visit to Boozeville". No such article...it will appear in #147.

We do have quite a good selection for you this time. And there's a nice mixture of the old and the new.

Next time we'll have the article and pictures on the Princess Diana bottles as well another look at some more of the Irish Whiskies from Bill Orr and Tony Natelli, and Jacques Rollet promises to picture more fabulous rums for us.

In conclusion since I always mention the Internet (remember we're "bottle-collecting.com", you might check on this site: "eBay.com"). This is an auction site for collectors and you can easily spend hours there. Take a peek and see.

Keep thinking small.

— DMS —

THE MINIATURE BOTTLE COLLECTOR

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Editor / Publisher DAVID M. SPAID

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Our Cover

We have a pair of jugs (or flagons) for you this time and neither one is from where you might think it came from. The Princess Di jug is from MBC Bottles in the Czech Republic and you'll read the entire article here in the next issue. We'll just tease you in saying it's one of three, all different! The other piece is the Q & P Land which is a 12 year old Malt Scotch but made for a company in Spain. In our opinion it's one of the best scotch (or anything) jugs to ever be issued. Note the embossing and stopper.

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Patterned to replicate the 1970's HAMM'S Bartender Bear, this new miniature salt and pepper set is sure to take its place as one of the most sought after beer collectibles. Only 1,200 sets were produced. After the success of the first two salt and pepper sets, this pair of comical bartenders will no doubt be the most sought after. Order today and don't miss out. The first pair sold out 1000 sets in just three months!

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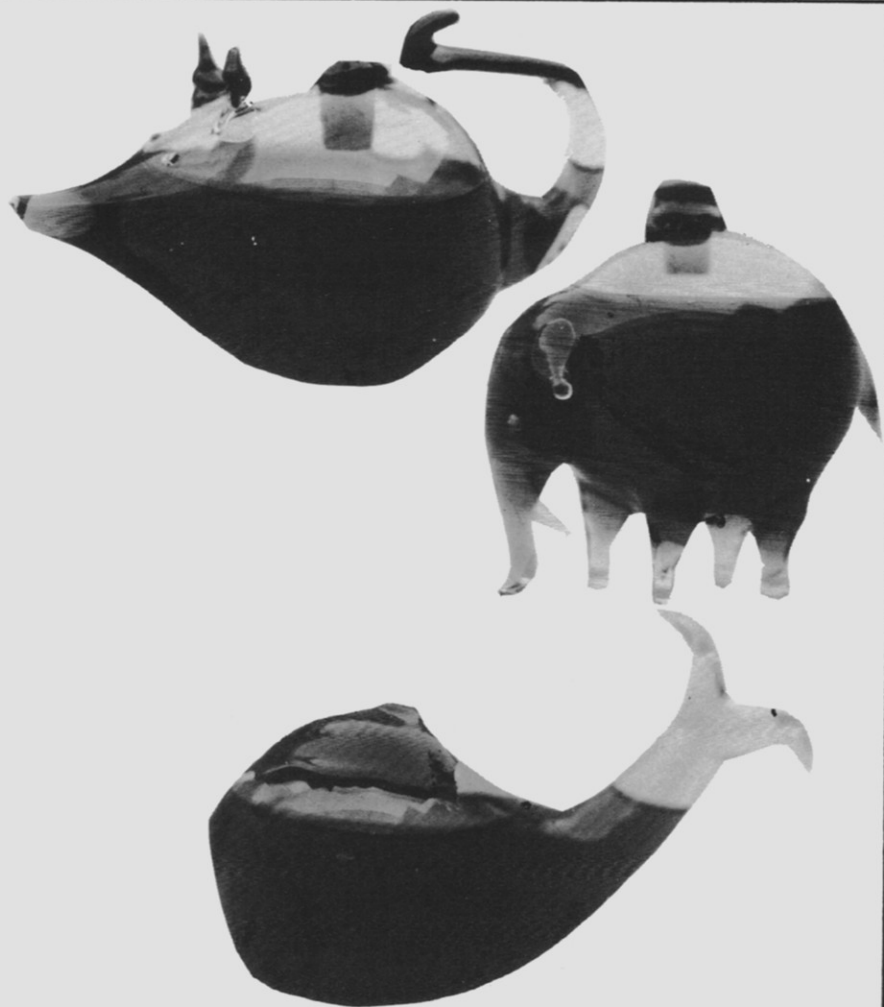
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WHAT'S NEW



Time for the bi-monthly hodge-podge (melange and potpourri already being overused). This is somewhat of an ironic grouping in that the quintessential American bottles aren't sold here while all those interesting foreign bottles are.

So what am I talking about? Well, the pair of Johnny Drum Kentucky Straight Bourbon Whiskey bottles have been found in Frankfurt, Germany and Edinburgh, Scotland. They aren't for sale in the U.S. And did you notice the spelling of "Wiskey" with its missing "h"? This



has already been corrected and the new labels are now on the bottles. Or is the pair shown here an imitation pair? We won't know until there's some corroboration.

The remaining six bottles are all sold in various parts of the U.S. Let's attend to the PET bottles first (that's the correct euphemism for plastic). The ABC is a vodka made for the ABC stores in Florida. It's been around for any number of

years and this is just a new label variation. The Skol Gin also popped up in Florida at the ABC stores. There's a rumor that a Skol Vodka also exists, but can't confirm that one.

The other two incredibly exciting (yawn) PET bottles are the new label Emmets Classic Cream from Ireland and the Hiram Walker Sambuca. Both of these were found in Las Vegas.



In parts of the midwest and south you'll find our two glass bottles, Puccino Cappucino Coffee Liqueur from Italy and the McGowan's Irish Coffee Liqueur from Ireland. Now if you just mixed the Emmets Cream Liqueur with the McGowan's Irish Coffee Liqueur...you could forget the coffee.

It appears that Irish Liqueurs are rather "big" right now. There's a Celtic Crossing which is found

both in Washington and North Carolina. We'll have that one for you another time.

Remember when you travel that each state and sometimes individual area has bottles that other states and areas do not. As a bizarre case in point, I was recently shown a Southern Comfort Silver which had been made only for one state in India That's what makes our hobby such a delight!

--DMS--

MONACI della CERTOSA



If you've been collecting for any number of years, you may have seen these two beauties; however, we've got to travel back a generation to when they were issued in the early 1970's.

At that time there were probably thousands of new bottles being produced each year in Italy. This company had issued various ceramics in the form of monks, animals, etc.

The apex of their achievements though was when they filled these Murano glass bottles with their liqueurs. These two happen to be blue but the same shapes (with different painting and designs) were also produced in red. This is actual applied gold which has then been hand painted.

If you should find these at a show, don't hesitate!

VODKA



It appears to be a pretty neat time to be collecting. We haven't had much in the way of our own bourbons in the last few years; however, vodkas and tequilas in absolutely excellent presentations are being issued monthly. (Witness the new LaPiz in the Tequila column.)

Three of the pieces shown here are currently available in the U.S. These are the Gilbey's, the Fleischmann's, and the Argent. The first two were found in Florida and are merely new label variations. However, the Argent is brand new and sold on the east coast

(unearthed by our intrepid searcher, Vic Visalli). It is an American brand, distilled and bottled here. The bottle itself is black with a silver (argent) star. Vic also just found a new chocolate vodka which we'll picture later.

Another great bottle hunter, not in Africa, but in Russia, Siberia, the Ukraine, et al is John Sullivan who found the vodka with the man's picture on it. This is quite unusual as the Cyrillic is handwritten instead of being printed. Vodka is the word directly below the picture. More colorful than almost any of the vodka label from

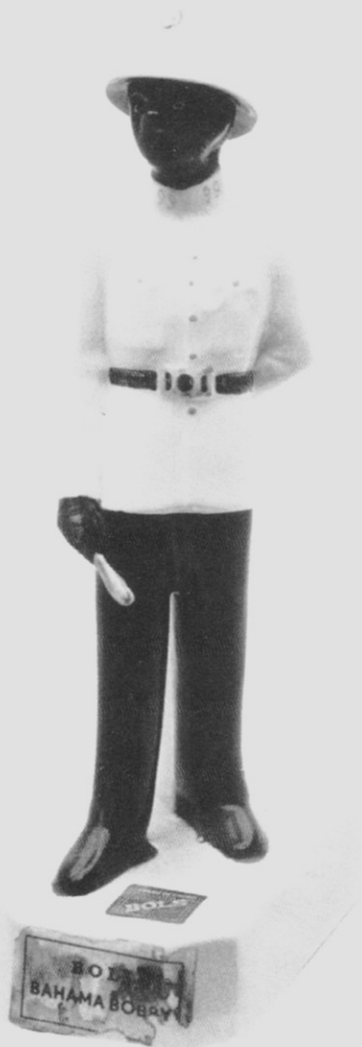


that part of the world.

Our last two come from collector Nicos Zevlaris who lives on the island of Cyprus. The Samichoff comes in both a red and a blue label and is a quite straight forward vodka label. But now take a good long look at the Nikifskaya Vodka. Does it remind you of another vodka whose name even rhymes with this one? Think about it and then make a comparison.

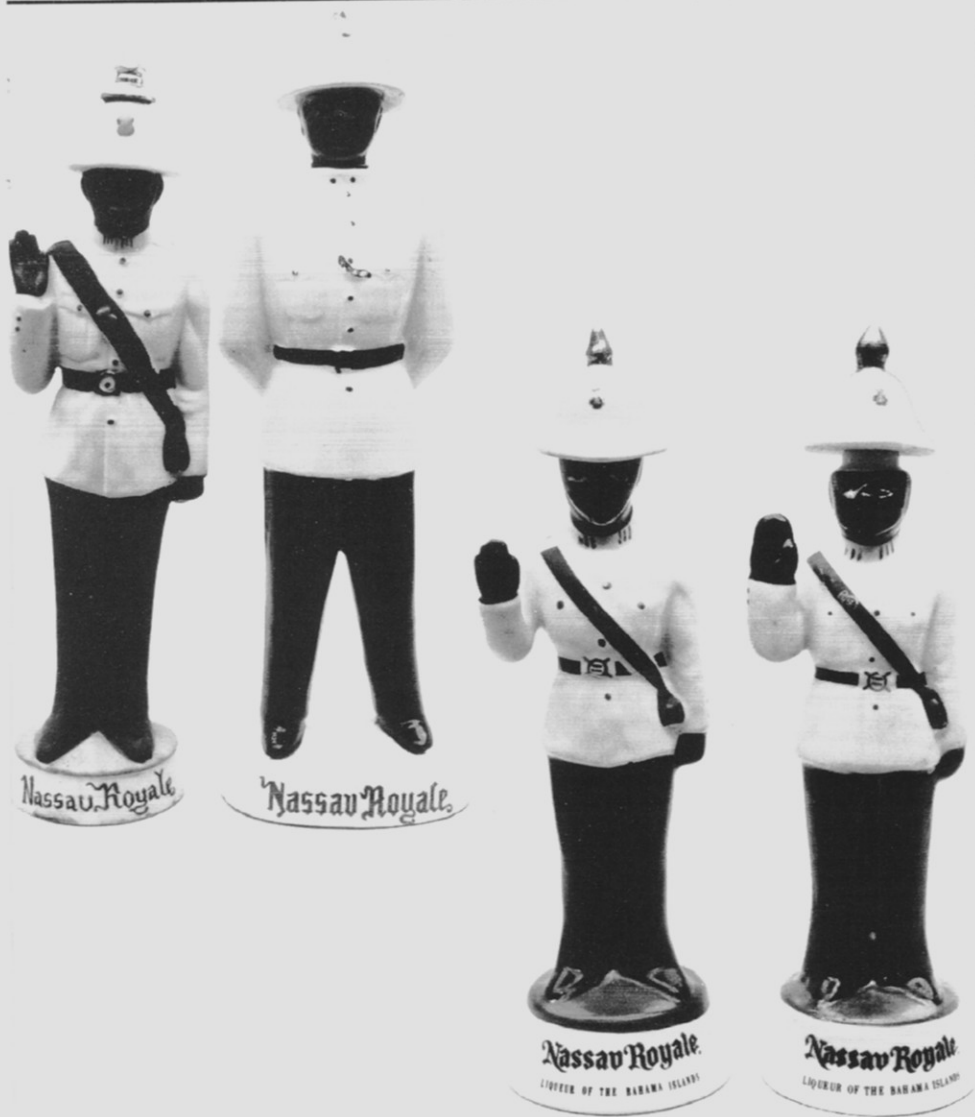
Finally from collector Gene Wall in North Carolina comes word that Teton Glacial Vodka will be available in a mini soon. Let's hope it's glass!

BAHAMA BOBBY



It all began back in the 1950's when the Bols Company was providing specialty bottles of ceramics and blown glass throughout the islands in the Caribbean. The set of Uncle Sam, John Bull and Maryanne had been successful so the Bahama Bobby was issue in Nassau. This "grandfather" has since seen four more generations as shown here.

Next in line came the Nassau



Royale (a very nice liqueur) Bobby also in high-glaze finish. This is the other one standing with his legs spread. The 1970's gave birth to his companion in bisque finish which is extremely well done. This was the first of the pieces with the right hand raised.

The remaining two represent the 1980's and the 1990's and it's plain to see the degeneration of the workmanship. The 1980's

version has an upraised hand with discernible fingers and facial features while the '90's man is much less distinct.

Nevertheless, it's a very nice series of a particular piece which will undoubtedly be with us for some time. It would be nice though if a new mold were completed as even we tourists reach a point where we won't buy inferior goods.

from

HONG KONG



Recently three different presentations became available in Hong Kong. Above you can see one of these groups. The others will appear in future issues.

This boxed set of four ceramic vases with high proof wine contents shows four different concepts: Etiquette, Justice, Sincerity, and Endurance. Two of the bottles have been turned to show different backs while all share a common front, yet in different colors. This is a nice addition to the Asian area on your shelves!

TEQUILA



A very quick look at four new ones: two sold in Los Angeles and two from Tijuana, Baja California. The two from Baja are the pair of 7 Leguas, Reposado and Blanco. Nothing spectacular, but nice labels.

What's spectacular is the Lapiz in cobalt blue glass. This is a triangular bottle with a wooden stopper. Absolutely smashing! It's the sublime, the Parranda is the other half of the equation. Clever label but presented in plastic...for specialists only!

A Visit To Boozeville

by Lloyd McLeod



(Ed. note: Lloyd is taking a short hiatus so this time it's something a bit different.)

More and more collectors seems to be looking for the German give-aways or porcelains, so this time you get to see several bottles. The idea of the tableau works because it gives everyone the opportunity

to see different sizes and variations.

On this page we have three different sizes of our Prohibition Lady in blue. The tallest in the rear has a music box and measures 11" while the shortest in front comes in at 6 1/2". There is a still shorter 5 1/2" version which has a completely different saying



on the front: "God Save Miss Francis Willard." For those of you wondering who Francis Willard was, she was a guiding light of the Women's Christian Temperance Union earlier this century.

The second group of bottles features the multicolored Indian Chief. The Indian Head drinking glass in front is one of the set

which also included a blue tray. Obviously the tray was meant for another piece...but it wasn't. The back of the large multicolored chief is in **blue**, not brown! This design was used repeatedly in the other colors as well as in the non-bottle whimsies. One day we'll show you a group of whimsies which compliment the bottles.

THE

HILLBILLY MINI

by JACK SULLIVAN



The last bastion of political incorrectness may be our images of the mountain people of the Appalachians and Ozarks, the Americans some people call "Hillbillies". We can be forgiven some of our national lack of sensitivity, however, because the regions themselves have gloried in the special lives of mountain folk and offered up souvenirs that confirmed the stereotypes.

Hillbilly mini-jugs, virtually all of them sold at tourist spots in mountain tourist destinations from the 1930's until recently, have their own special interest. The

22nd Century is unlikely to continue the legends of pipe-smoking women, barefoot whiskey-swigging males, and moonshine. Today hill people have satellite dishes, SUV's, and send their kids to college.

The minis shown here, however, provide cartoon images of an earlier era. "Kentucky Hillbilly Country" depicts a rural scene in which "Ma" is sitting in a rocking chair on the front porch of the family shack, while "Pa" lies drunk in an outbuilding while tending an illegal still. Give it an Academy Award for hitting all the Hillbilly



stereotypes. Because the transfer is fairly fancy and under the glaze, I date this item from the 1950's.

The Ozarks produced their own variety of Hillbilly mini. The first one shown here depicts a bearded mountain man with beard and pipe and the legend...Corn Likker...Ozarks. It never really held anything alcoholic but was sold in Arkansas to tourists who never even got within sniffing distance of an illegal still. But when they went home, these flatlanders had something to show their neighbors about the exotic mountaineers they really never got to meet. This jug also comes attached to an ashtray.

The last two minis also are Ozark products. One jug represents "Ma" and the other "Pa", both apparently products of the Ozark

Hillbilly Village, a tourist destination. Both are hand painted on a stoneware base, but each has a distinctive shape. Ma is the taller mini and shows the lady smoking a pipe with the words, "Moon Shine"> Pa is bearded and smoking a pipe with the words "Ozarks Home Brew". As with the other jugs shown here, neither of these items bears a pottery mark.

Hillbilly mini-jugs are of relatively recent vintage and have no real antique value but are unlikely to be reproduced any time soon. As a result, in the Century just ahead these items may well acquire special historical interest just because they demonstrate how Americans once chose to characterize their fellow citizens who lived in mountain settings.

--J.S.--

from

GUATEMALA



The set of four rums seen here is from the Botran Company in Guatemala. They are shown in ascending order: Extra Light, Etiqueta Blanca, Oro and the 12 year old Añejo. We don't see many bottles at all from this part of the world, so this set is a nice addition, particularly to a rum collection.

In the future we hope to have other bottles from Guatemala to show you. There may be some special tequilas which we'll have in the future.

ARMAGNAC



The Marquis de Montesquiou name is one very well known in the Armagnac world. If you have at least two armagnacs in your collection, one of them is bound to be this brand.

Since Armagnac is allowed to age date its bottles, you can find wonderful old "vintages" which go back before 1900. In fact a Southern California liquor store advertises a 1900 armagnac as the

drink to have on the millennium.

You don't have to go back that far though to find quality. This set of five age-dated pieces were put on the market last year and have been quite successful. The oldest is the 1963 and the youngest a 1972. I can find a special reason to try any one of these years; however, they'll remain unopened on the shelf!



TREASURES OF THE PAST

by
BUTCH JONES



The five scotches featured this time are all from the 1930's and are not normally seen for sale or trade.

The first is one of several I have by Daniel Crawford. This is the Daniel Crawford Old Matured Scotch Whisky. This scotch is contained in a green flask and was produced by Daniel Crawford and Son Ltd., Glasgow, Scotland. Number two is the Dawson's Old Curio Brand Blended Scotch Whisky. The green bottle is filled with 12 year old scotch. The next one is Waldorf Astoria Private Stock Blended Scotch Whisky. This clear flask contains 8 year old, 86°

blended scotch. It was blended and bottled by the Alexander Montrose Co. of Glasgow, Scotland.

In our second picture we have Hedges & Butler 250. The bottle is brown and contains 91° Liqueur Blended Scotch Whisky. This was blended and bottled by Hedges & Butler Ltd, again of Glasgow, Scotland. Last we see Crabbie 12 year old Special Reserve B lended Scotch Whisky. The scotch is 86° and was blended and bottled by John Crabbie & Co. Ltd of Leith, Scotland.

Hope you enjoyed these super scotches from the past. Until next time.....
--B.J.--



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MELO'S MINIS

by MIKE OLSON



Hey, some easy ones this time. We'll look at **Pride of Baltimore Blended Whiskey** bottled by Montebello Liquors, Inc. of Baltimore, MD. I really like sailing ships so this brand is a natural for me. I think one can argue the case that the labels on this brand got better looking over the years. Also, there is a Bourbon and a Blend that came in a four bottle boxed set from the early 90's...which I forgot to photograph!

Anyway, bottle number one is 80 proof, has a foil label and is from the 1980's. Bottle two is eighty proof, four years or more old and from the late 70's. The Pride of Baltimore is printed in black, while the next four are printed in blue. The flat is eighty proof and six or more years old. The next bottle is 80.6 proof, five or more years old

and from 1971.

In the second picture, bottle number five is 86 proof, five or more years old and from the 1960's. The next bottle does not have a ship on the label, is 86 proof, five years or more old and is from 1958. The first amber bottle is 86.8 proof, four years old, For Sale in Maryland only and is from 1951. The last of these is 86.8 proof, has the same white label printed in red, is five years old and from the early 50's.

Finally, I wonder if this brand was produced in a miniature prior to 1950. If anyone has any information on this, I would be interested in hearing from them. And how many collectors have the ceramic sailing ship which the brand issued in the 1980's?

Until next time. . . M E L O



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(Ed. Note: The telephone number has been corrected.)

FOR SALE: Rare and distinguished collection of over 2,000 miniature gin bottles plus over 500 bottles in the shape of houses and buildings.

I am selling my unique collection of 2,000 different gin bottles from 64 different countries. All bottles are in very good condition, many are very new. The bulk of the collection is ten to fifty years old while some of the Dutch bottles are over 100 years old. I began collecting in 1962.

To purchase this collection, send a certified check, bank draft or money order in U.S. dollars to Hamilton Stanford, 32859 Seagate Drive, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275. For further details, phone (310) 541-0194. Add freight of 50 cents per bottle to cover shipping and handling.

Bottles and houses will be sold by lot number only; lots will not be broken.

Included in my collection are a computerized list in two volumes with illustrations and containing about 240 pages. The computer disc will be included with the complete collection.

Some of the items are as follows:

Lot 23A: set of 6 Godewaagen Gouda canal houses in blue delft, fitted on a matching tray. This set offers a complete replication of the six types of roofs and gables on an Amsterdam canal. Price \$150.00.

Lot 23B: the same as 23A except in multicolor delft instead of blue. Price is also \$150.00.

Lot 23C is the complete set of blue delft canal houses produced for KLM, numbers 1-75. The price of this set is \$1600.00.

Lot 23D is a set of 6 Keisergracht canal houses for \$125.00.

Lot 23E is a set of Herengracht canal houses for \$125.00.

Lot 23F is a set of six Prinsengracht canal houses for \$125.00.

Lot 23G is a set of six Singelgracht canal houses for \$125.00.

Lot 23I is a set of five large windmills for \$95.00.

Lot 23J is a set of six operating wind mills in blue delft for \$150.00.

Lot 23K is a set of six operating wind mills

in multicolor delft for \$90.00.

Lot 23L is a set of 3 miscellaneous large dutch canal houses, very old for \$75.00.

Lot 23M is a set of six rare blue delft misc. buildings from Rotterdam, Haarlem, etc. The set of six is \$185.00.

Lot 23N is a set which was never sent to the distillery by Godewaagen-Gouda, thus it was never filled. It is a multicolor set of six each representing a different city: London, Paris, Amsterdam, Venice, Antwerp, and Stuttgart. All are on a fitted tray. The price is \$175.00.

Included in my collection are 500 different U.S. gin bottles, many with 1933-1934 tax stamps. Also there are over 400 gin bottles from Holland including some of the oldest bottles available for collectors. There is even a set of five pewter bottles containing gin, all of them old and rare.

Lot 1 is my complete set of 500 U.S. gin bottles for \$1600.00.

Lot 2 is the group of five pewter gin bottles for \$100.00.

Lot 3 is 400 Dutch gin bottles for \$1200.00.

Lot 4 includes five guildings containing curacao: Casa Penha, Chobalobo Mansion, one old Dutch style large canal houses hand-lettered Le Louvre, one faded yellow canal house and one other. This is an exceptional group for \$195.00.

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FOR SALE: An exceptional number of excellent old German giveaways as well as many new bottles. If you're looking for a Johnnie Walker Swing miniature, I've got them. Let me hear from you. David M. Spaid, P. O. Box 2161, Palos Verdes, CA 90274.

WANTED: I'm still looking for those bottles with horses and especially for those old rums with Negroes, natives and pirates. Tony Natelli, 103-25 68th Avenue, Forest Hills, NY 11375 or call (718)896-0175 or fax (718) 896-6764.

WANTED: Souvenir mini-jugs and half-pints with a hillbilly theme. Jack Sullivan, 4300 Ivanhoe Place, Alexandria, VA 22304. Ph (703) 370-3039. e-mail: oldjugman@aol.com

WANTED: IUSA whisky mini decanter collector is looking for Hoffman mini whisky decanters such as: Animal Band, Military Band, Dogs, Ducks, Birds, Pets, animals, etc. I have the following to swap: Larsen Cognac Mini Viking Ships, KLM Miniature Blue Delft Canal Houses, several blue delft miniatures, Hooghoudt miniature jenever houses. Please write to: V.V.A.M. Tjoe-A-On, P. O. Box 671, 3100 AR Schiedam, Holland or fax (011) 31 10 246 92 33 (from the U.S.).

FOR SALE: I have a large number of very interesting bottles to sell which belonged to my late husband, Barry Kaplan. These include Inca Piscos, Garniers, Luxardos, Rynbendes, cognacs, Isaiahs, Murano Driolis, duty-free specialties, etc. You can write me, Jan Pieper, at 6429 Quantum Lane, Las Vegas, NV 89130 or e-mail me at rdjrp@mail2.theonramp.net

FOR SALE: 1628 miniatures: assorted liqueurs, scotches, ryes, cognacs, etc. from many countries. Dick Robinson, 43 Lake Linnet Close SE, Calgary, Alberta, Canada T2J 2H9 or call (403) 278-6702 or e-mail me at rrobinso@cadvision.com

FOR SALE: 755 mini bottles, 99% full. Includes antique (1948), foreign, blown glass animals, ceramics and ordinary. Will sell only as a complete collection. For list e-mail Safaree@aol.com or call Fred Wilcox at (360) 357-9420.

FOR SALE: Miniatures from Jordan: whisky, gin, vodka, cognac, scotch, arak (ouzo), etc. Write Mitri Manneh, 11333 Lorene Street, Whittier, CA 90601 or call (562) 692-2928.

WANTED: Tequilas, malt scotches, beers, gag bottles and NY liquor-liqueurs. Willing to buy or trade the same, either singles or collections. Write Randy Austin, 535 Fairview Ave., Baldwin, NY 112510 or call (516) 378-7166.

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