

THE

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MINIATURE BOTTLE COLLECTOR

OLD & RARE



Federation of Historical Bottle Collectors, Inc.

Bottles & Extras

% J. Carl Sturm, 88 Sweetbriar Branch, Longwood, FL 32750-2783
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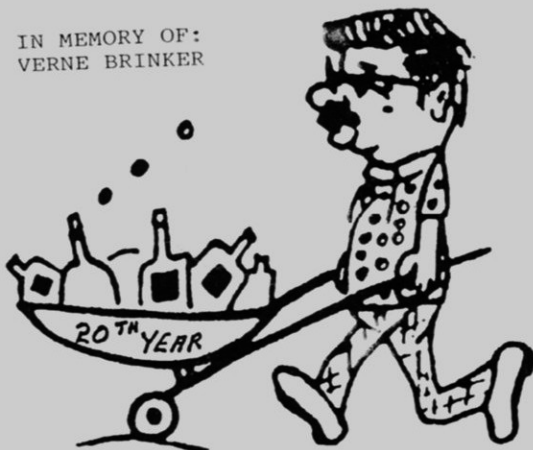
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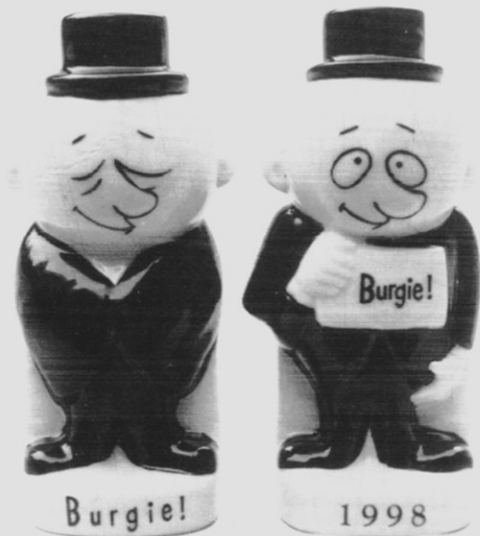
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Let's Talk

Welcome to Fall. No Halloween or Thanksgiving type bottles to greet you; however, we do have nice orange cover.

Since we always try to have ten articles for you, we had to do a bit of shuffling this time. Melo's Minis will be back next and a couple of regulars normally seen may be held back because of space limitations. It isn't too often that we have as long an article as the Scotch one this time.

Hope you've been checking out the web site, not only to see the changes but also to check on the number of collections available. Don't know whether it's a buyer's or seller's market, but there surely are a lot of bottles out there trying to find new homes. Remember, the web site is

bottlecollecting.com

And while we're on the subject, don't forget the following:

user name: MBC

password: ancientage

In case you haven't picked up on it yet, we're using whiskey names for our passwords. Let's see, with six issues a year we might run out of names by the fourth millennium!

Want to draw your attention to the Midwest Mini Bottle Club's 1999 show ad. As with the last few years, it will be held in St. Louis and this will be a very special show. It's the 20th anniversary show so be prepared and block out your time accordingly now. It's never too early...last year both the show tables and rooms were sold out!

See you the end of the year. Keep thinking small!

— DMS —

THE MINIATURE BOTTLE COLLECTOR

Editor / Publisher DAVID M. SPAID

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Our Cover

Thought it was high time that we featured some nice older glass bottles on the cover for you. Even though most collectors are raving over malt scotches, we should never take away from the importance of the older blends, particularly those in flasks. These two "Highlanders" are apparently from the 1950's, but could be older. How about if one of you scotch lovers gives us the real "skinny" on these bottles?

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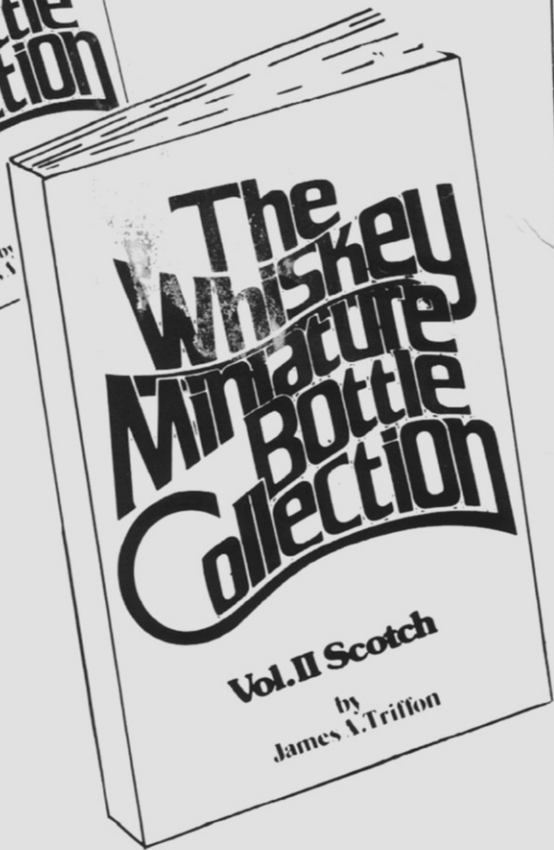
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WHAT'S NEW



Have a lot of new ones this time and most all of them you can seek out and find. Some are glass but most are plastic. Let's start with the set of **CRUZAN RUMS: COCONUT, PINEAPPLE AND BANANA**. Nice colorful labels for this Virgin Island rum (remember you can see them in color on the web site). These are plastic and were found in New York.

Our intrepid east coast "hunter", Vic Visalli, also found the plastic **TRAVELERS CLUB VODKA**. Now if ever there were a vodka made to be slipped into your pocket and

taken into the hotel room, this is it. There has to be some way to beat paying those prices on the bottles in the mini bar!

The last was a rather plain label; however, **TWISTED SHEILA'S LIME TEQUILA** has a great label on a plastic bottle. This one was found in San Francisco.

The **SEAGRAM'S EXCEL GIN** is contained in a very nice round glass bottle. It was (maybe still is) test marketed in Atlanta, GA. A fine looking product, it has not been reported as being seen anywhere else.

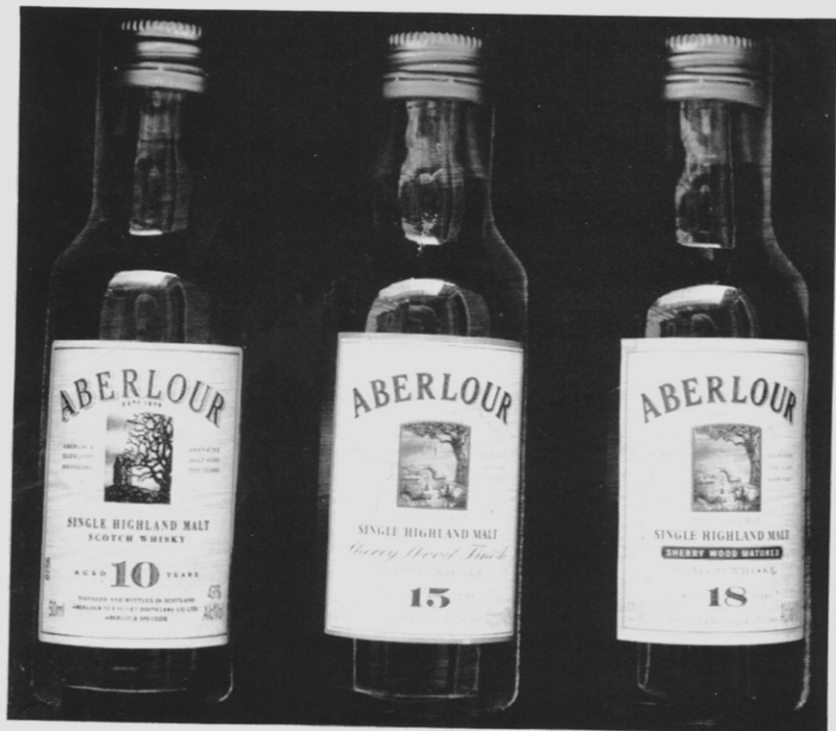


Now we come to the whiskies. The **JIM BEAM BLACK** is a nice addition to all the Jim Beam bottles, even if it is in plastic. The label is nothing to write home about but then Beam doesn't make that type of label. This is in several areas around the U.S.

The **VIRGINIA GENTLEMAN STRAIGHT BOURBON WHISKEY** may or may not be sold at this time. This was a sample bottle for a new higher proof whiskey. It's very colorful and much nicer than the regular Virginia Gentleman.

Finally the set of **ABERLOUR SCOTCHES**. I found this on the





shelf of a local liquor store and was delighted with it. Told a lot of collectors about it and they all wanted a set so I ordered a case of the sets. Then I was told that no one could find them at the wholesale house. At last the truth came out. This was a salesman's sample set which was given to the store and it promptly decided to make a very large profit as there is no profit larger than that on an item for which nothing was paid. So if you ever see a set of Aberlours, grab it!

See you at the end of the year.

--D.M.S.--



A Visit To Boozeville

by Lloyd McLeod



Last time we talked about that great May Day Dance that was held in Boozeville. Two of the locals who got caught up in the festivities really wanted to show you how they strut their stuff. In fact they got so carried away that they entered two contests, the Castle Walk and the Matchitche. Trouble is they only knew how to do one dance!

I thought you'd enjoy seeing a pair of dancers with different

names. So many times you see bottles listed in either the Wanted or For Sale categories and you're not certain what they are. I knew that these dancers both existed; I just didn't know it was the same piece. Both are highly colorful with her as a blond and him as a redhead.

Possibly next time I'll show you another set or two of characters who were seen at the dance.

--L.M.--

BEEFEATERS, GUARDS, etc.

by Tony Natelli



The real Beefeater of England is a majestic, world renowned figure of great admiration. Many miniatures, usually gin, have been found, over the years, portraying him, Guards, Grenadiers, etc. A group of sixteen is the subject of this article.

BEEFEATER GIN is, of course, the most famous and two versions plus a **BURROUGH'S SLOE GIN** comprise our first picture. The second bottle is the one known world over and has remained basically the same for at least fifty years. Numbers one and three were not sold in the U.S.A.



THE BRITISH GRENADE, KING'S GUARD, and OLD PENSIONER all contain gin. Grenadier was imported here for a very short time, the other two were sold in Italy and all are circa the 1970's and early 1980's.

COLDSTREAM, OLD DRAGOON, and TAYLOR'S keep this theme going. All gin, non-imports, numbers one and three were sold in England while the Old Dragoon was exported to Portugal. Taylor's is probably from the 1940's/1950's era and is a prior version of the Old Pensioner from our second picture. Coldstream and Old



Dragoon appear to be from the 1970's/1980's.

GARDENS, GOOD MORNING and DRUM BEATER gins are next. Garden is a current mini from Jordan(!), Good Morning is from 1970's Italy, and Drum Beater was exported from England to Germany some 20-25 yrs ago I'd guess.

Our fifth picture is of four scotch, SCOTCH GUARD, CARNABY

STREET, HIGHLAND CAPTAIN, and OLD GUARD. All are known to collectors. The Highland Captain will be the most difficult to find. Scotch Guard and Carnaby Street were sold in Germany while the Old Guard was sold in France.

All sixteen feature great labels and truly capture the majesty and pageantry of the Beefeater or Guard.

--T.N.--



TREASURES OF THE PAST

by
BUTCH JONES



This month's article has two ceramic figurals by Manhattan and one by the Miniature Specialties Company of New York and Miami, Florida.

The first is a yellow vase by Manhattan. The front has a Grecian lady holding a lamp. She is wearing a blue gown. The bottle is filled with a blackberry cordial.

Number two is a very unusual piece. Until I acquired this from Pat McMullen, I had never seen it. It is a white ballerina in a green tutu.

There is an applied rose at the base. This exquisite ceramic was produced by The Miniature Specialties Co. in the 1940's. The bottle is filled with a Creme de Menthe Cordial.

The last mini was also produced by the Manhattan Co. This violin is gold trimmed and is very similar to the one that is red trimmed. This one is filled with Creme De Menthe Cordial. Printed on the back is "Kankakee".

"Til next time.

--B.J.--

"WHISKEY" MINIS from PADEN CITY

by Jack Sullivan



Recently I have become interested in Paden City Artware, a West Virginia pottery that operated for forty years on a production of tourist "schlock", that included a range of miniature whiskey jugs that never held anything more intoxicating than Appalachian air.

Unlike most of its competitors who never marked their wares, Paden City Artware -- or P.C.A. as it was known -- seems to have signed the base of every piece with one or another variations of a potter's ID. While the mark confirms an identification, P.C.A. items -- which seem to show up in every flea market

and collectibles' mall east of the Mississippi -- are similar in appearance. Just look for a souvenir jug with the name of a town or tourist attraction in gold over a glazed stoneware. Some of the glazes, particularly on P.C.A. mini creamers, are colorful but the majority of its wares are brown and off-white with gold trim and lettering.

Souvenir jugs must have been big sellers because P.C.A. made them in a whole range of shapes and sizes ranging from half-pint down to minis. Shown here are some of them, marked "Pure Corn" or "Mountain Dew", feigning that



they held some hillbilly "white lightning". Note that these items were sold far from the mountains in seaside towns like Cape Cod, Mass. and Rehoboth Beach, Del., or in Williamsburg, Va., which is about a half-hour drive from the Atlantic Ocean.

Paden City Artware also used the mini jug shape for "pencil parkers", toothpick holders, and salt and pepper shakers. Shown here are a pair of S & P ceramic jugs from Busch Gardens in Williamsburg.

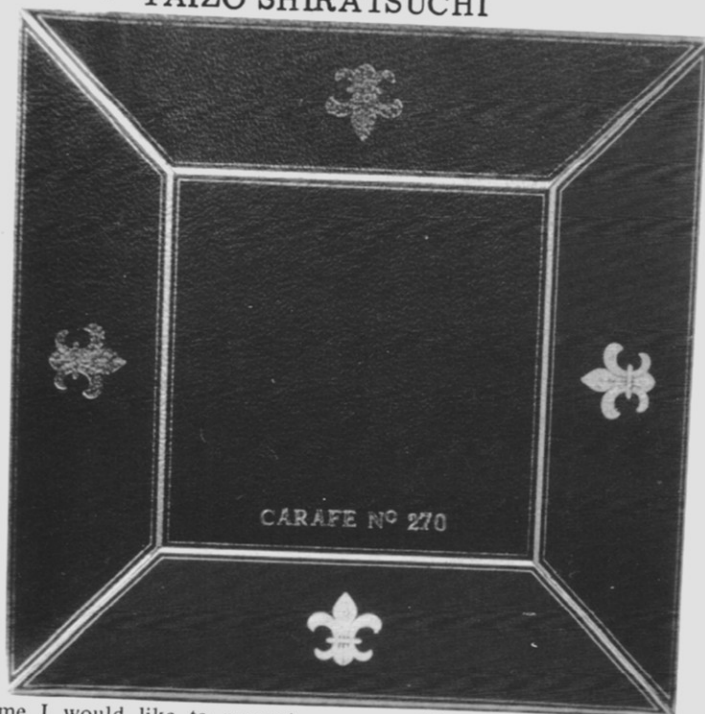
The pottery was founded in 1940 by William Ford and Lyle Mitchell of Paden City, a small Ohio River town. Using their

initials, at first the partners called the company "F and M Artware" but in 1956 they changed the name to that of their home town. Despite what seems to have been lots of output, P.C.A. remained a "boutique" operation, employing about 15 people to turn out its highly specialized wares. The first closed its doors in 1985 after almost three decades of producing souvenirs...cheap souvenirs.

Yet Paden City Artware left behind a legacy of minis that -- who knows? -- may have similar appeal for collectors one hundred years hence that the 19th Century minis hold for us now. --J.S.--

FROM JAPAN

by TAIZO SHIRATSUCHI

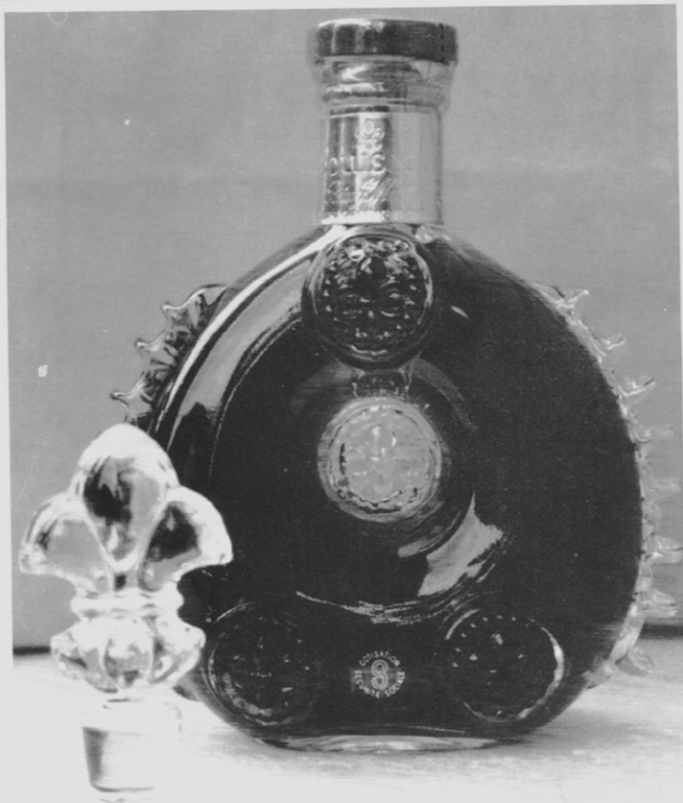


This time I would like to present to you two very interesting Cognac miniatures from **REMY MARTIN**.

One is the **REMY MARTIN LOUIS XIII** Grande Champagne made of Baccarat. Only fifteen miniatures appeared at a Duty Free shop in Narita Airport, Japan, and sold out very quickly. Then in September 1997, thirty miniatures were imported and sold at the same shop and at a Duty Free shop in Kansai Airport, Japan. There were fifteen miniatures for each shop.

The red trapezoidal case framed with the golden line has the carafe number on the top and the off-white linen has many fleur-de-lis woven inside the bottom. The outer carton box is white and has "Louis XIII de Remy Martin".

The other bottle is the **REMY MARTIN 1738 Accord Royal**. The regular one (large size) has been available on the Duty Free market since October 1997 and on May 1, 1998, it became available on the Japanese market. The miniature appeared at the French



Festival in Mitsukoshi Department Store, Nihonbashi Tokyo. (The Year of France in Japan is a year beginning from April 1998.) Until May 11, a limited quantity was sold each day and the miniatures sold out completely. Of course, it was never available at the other stores. It was named for the Accord Royal (to cultivate the grapes freely in spite of the general control for overproduction) which was received from Louis XV in 1738. The bottle is 5cm tall in a clear glass and contains 5cl at 40% alcohol.

Until next time. . . --T.S.--



SCOTCH

David Maund



Since I have been talking about sets in the last two articles, I thought I might start you off with the second largest set I know. The largest is the group of Scottish names and I have no idea how many there are of those. However this group only numbers 24. This is the set of Great Scots issued by The Whisky Connoisseur in Biggar, Scotland

To avoid needless eye strain, the list is featured below. I'll be back



next time with either all new bottles or a mix of old and new...haven't decided yet!

1. Charles Edward Stuart
2. Mary Queen of Scots
3. John Knox
4. Robert Burns
5. John Paul Jones
6. David Livingstone
7. Thomas Carlyle
8. King James V
9. 5th Earl of Montrose
10. Adam Ferguson



11. John Logie Baird
 12. Field Marshall Keith
 13. Robert Louis Stevenson
 14. James Hogg
 15. James Watt
 16. David Hume
 17. Sir Walter Scott
 18. Henry Dundas
 19. James Boswell
 20. Henry Bell
 21. J. M. Barrie
 22. Flora MacDonald
 23. Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
 24. Alexander Graham Bell
- Do you know your history?

--D.L.M.--





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TEQUILA



In issue number 147 we showed you a nice group of tequilas. And in number 148 we had two more. But this time we've outdone ourselves...ten in all. Well, if you're picky, only four or maybe four and a half.

Let's take care of the half or whatever. Look at the two 30-30 bottles. Nice rifle, but presented on two completely different bottles with two completely different labels. The round one though is the Azul or blue agave. Did the same company make them? Quien



sabe? Remember, these come from Mexico.

Next we'll look at two imports, the **MEZCAL DEL MAESTRO** and **CITRUS MEZCAL DEL MAESTRO**. The slogan is "Four generations without compromise.". I don't know, but isn't adding citrus flavor and honey a bit compromising to the taste of tequila. Nice bottles though...found in San Francisco.

The two remaining sets of three are both shown in order: Blanco, Reposado, and Anejo. The **DONA**



CARLOTA bottles are all frosted and very nice. Oddly enough the percentage of alcohol is only 38%. As nice as they are though, the set of CONQUISTADOR bottles are the big winners with me. Each with its own color of glass, these would also appear to be blown bottles. The large size is imported to the U.S. but so far all of these and the Dona Carlotas have only been seen in Tijuana.

If this keeps up, we'll have to have a What's New column just for tequilas!

RAUCH

by HOLM HARS



Today I will tell you something about the Dr. Gerald Rauch Company and I can show you the newest minis they produce. The distillery was founded in 1969, has 105 employees and is a specialist for miniatures. Every day 600,000 minis are filled and the total output is only 80% with the little bottles.

The whole factory is very modern and has its own spirit museum (only a few minis) with a cafe. The Rauch Co. produces altogether more than 60 different spirits, most in miniature (at 0,021 & 0,041). Within the last few years the firm has grown and grown and has taken over some others producers like Gräf, Herold and Mahr.

Shown here are the following:

1. Gräf's Winter Pflaume (Winter

Plum), Liqueur with cinnamon 20%, 0,021, glass

2. Gräf's Rotes Teufelchen (Red Devil), Liqueur with currants, 20%, 0,021, glass

3. Gräf's Sahne Traum (Cream Dream), Whisky-Cream Liqueur, 17%, 0,021, glass. This bottle is the new version of the "Dino" from MBC #144.

4. Gräf's Ice Pfirsich (Ice Peach), Liqueur with Vodka, 20%, 0,021, glass

5. Gräf's Birnli echt cool (Pear really cool), Liqueur with pears, 15%, 0,021, glass

6. Ski Edition, Vodka-Fruit-Mix-Liqueur, 16%, 0,031, PET

7. Board Edition, Vodka-Cranberry-Liqueur, 16%, 0,031, PET.

Until next time. . .

--H.H.--

FROM OREGON

by Grace Neubaumer



You don't often think of Oregon as a place where many liquors and/or liqueurs are produced, but that may all change. Previously in these pages one or two bottles from CLEAR CREEK DISTILLERY have been shown; however, now there are seven different ones available either at the distillery or in Oregon State Liquor Stores.

Pictured for you here are five different ones plus a label variation of the Apple Brandy. The complete set consists of the

following:

- Pear Brandy
- Apple Brandy - 2 year
- Apple Brandy - 4 year
- Grappa Moscato
- Marc de Gewurztraminer
- Kirschwasser
- Oregon Brandy

In large size they also produce McCarthy's Oregon Single Malt Whiskey, a three year old which is made in the "classic Scotch tradition". Let's hope they do it in a mini some time soon! --G.N.--



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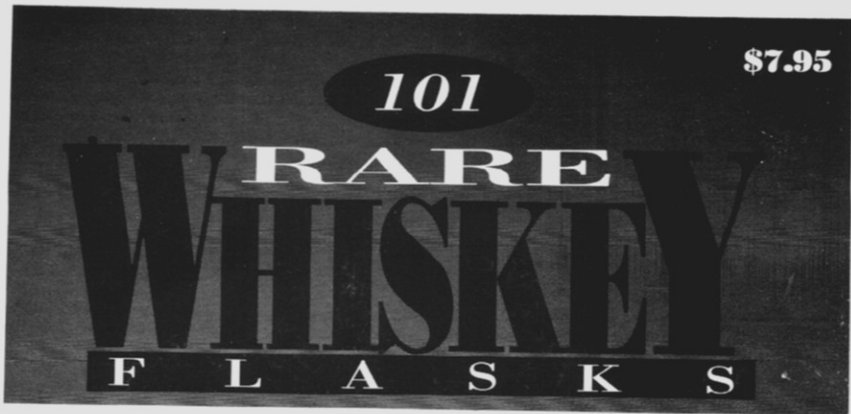
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