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No. 155 1999

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Let's Talk

I guess my carrying on last time hit a few other readers the same way. Lots of agreement on this nasty habit of companies hanging bottles around the necks of the 1.75l bottles. I've even seen one which hangs upside down from the large bottle so the label on the mini was upside down. I must admit that it makes a nice conversation piece...however.....

This issue seems to be rather an international one. A good many bottles from Ireland, Scotland, France, Cyprus and Korea dominate the magazine. Remember if you travel, you can look for them; but if you have traveling friends it gives them something specific to look for. Who wouldn't like to have the three on the cover this time?

Last time I didn't mention the internet, so well correct that now. Remember our web sites

www.bottlecollecting.com

and that should open a whole new world of other sites after you've taken a good luck at all our bottles which are presented in color.

For example, the web site of Don Bergseng now features color shots of several hundred giveaway and Shafer & Vater bottles. And, of course, there are those company web sites from all the well know bourbon and scotch producers. Of course Alec Bargman's Vodka site will tell you a great deal about hundreds of Vodkas. So if you're not on-line, your surely missing out.

See you about Thanksgiving. Keep thinking small.

— DMS —

THE MINIATURE BOTTLE COLLECTOR

VOL. XXVI No. 5

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Editor / Publisher DAVID M. SPAID

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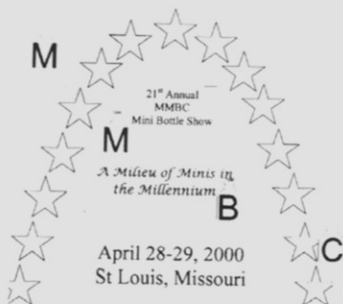
Our Cover

The three bottles on the cover this time are from the French firm Damblat. Founded in 1859 by Jean Damblat, this traditional family company has been producing quality Armagnacs for 140 years now. Previously a few miniatures have been marketed as well as some porcelain large bottles. Now this excellent set of three is also joined by a miniature molded glass Eiffel Tower which will be seen in a future issue. Each bottle contains 50ml of Napoleon Armagnac.

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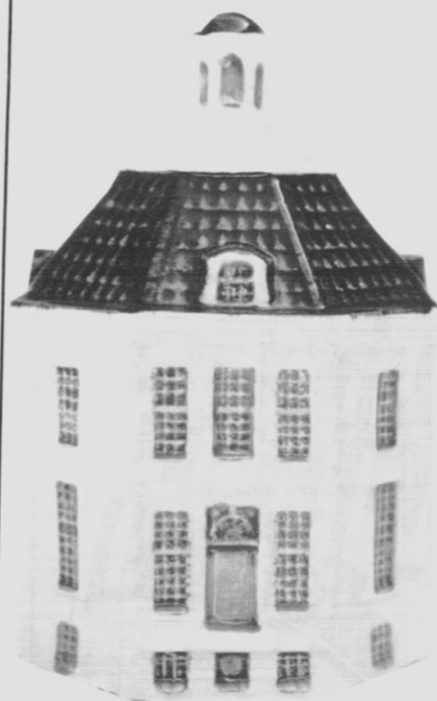
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WHAT'S NEW



Last time we had the delft Royal Palace for you on the cover, so thought it only correct that we follow up with the Drakesteyn. This one is not a KLM although it was manufactured by the maker of many of the KLM Canal houses. This is the well known Royal Goedewaagen Company of Holland. Both sides of this piece are shown and the label and other markings are on the back. It has gin contents and is a non-import.

Now we'll look at some glass bottles which have been imported and are available in various

markets. Since many of you now enjoy collecting all the new vodkas which have come on to the market in the last few years, you should look for both the Cristall and (my favorite) Jan III Sobieski. This one is named after the old Polish King and is made from Dankowski Rye! Oddly enough, it is produced by the Kritsall Moscow Distillery which also produces the Cristall, but for another company. The Cristall has a nice clean label; however, the Sobieski is nicely embossed and beautifully done.

We'll go from two vodkas to



three tequilas. The Mexico Viejo is a non-import but may be easily found in Baja California; the two Sauzas are both available in the U.S. The shorter Extra Gold is a PET bottle without too much to recommend it while the Conmemorativo is a new label on an old favorite.

The Lemoncello from Gioia Luisa of Italy is a very well done bottle and label. It has been available for some months. If you try this one, keep it in the freezer compartment of your refrigerator for a while. It makes a marvelously clean and





refreshing drink.

From the New York area come two more glass bottles, the Passoa and the Imoya. The former is a liqueur while the latter is a South African VSOP Brandy. Both are definitely worth searching for.

Now, the final bottle. Usually I try to save the best for last, but barring that, how about the worst for last. Another one from the folks who brought us Hot Sex, we now have Kick Ass Mudslide. This is a mixture of cream, rum, coffee, chocolate and natural flavors. Who knows...maybe it tastes better than it reads! --DMS--

from

FRANCE



An interesting pair of figurals for you this time. They are a clear glass bear (could we guess he's supposed to be a Russian bear?) and a green glass Christmas tree complete with tiny ornaments.

The bear has the company name Clouet while the other only says Grande Collection Mignonnettes. However, they both come from Jarnac, France and suspicions are that they are done just for us collectors by a specialty company. The Kiroff Vodka bear though surely makes a nice addition to any vodka collection.

SCOTCH

David Maund



Since I've already heard several comments about the Millennium Bug bottle, I thought I'd return this time with a few other specialties as well as some very nice ones which are quite difficult to obtain.

To begin, I can state that all bottles this time are indeed glass and no PETs are lurking about. Personally I've always thought of the word consort having a slightly different meaning, but the Chieftain's Consort is merely a nice decanter full of scotch. The

Emblem is simply the Thistle and both of these bottles are from The Scottish Collection in Edinburgh.

The next two are also from The Scottish Collection and these are Double Scotch or "A Hair of the Dog" and Bottoms Up. The latter continues the usual type of label seen on these bottles...one that "aims" for humour.

Fort George is produced by Historic Scotland (which quite frankly usually does a much better label than this) while Braemora

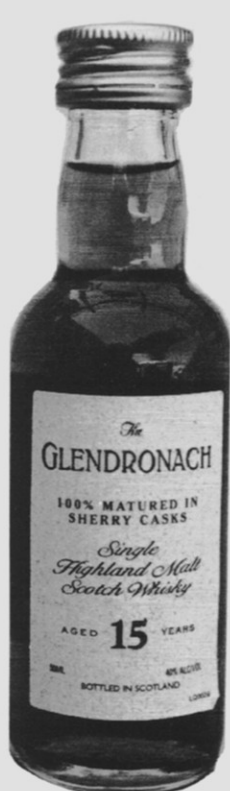


1983 is from our friends at the Whisky Connoisseur. The Woodpecker on the second bottle is particularly attractive.

Now we come to some bottles which I find much more interesting. The first group is the set of Glen Cairn which was sold at Christmas last year by Tesco. For those of you who don't know, various UK outlets offer special bottles often at Christmas and this set of five disappeared in collectors' hands very quickly.

Each of the group is a single malt from the five regions of malt scotch.

Two bottles now which are also specialties but more difficult to find. The Clydesdale Dalmore 1990 is one of a series of Clydesdale bottles, all of which were produced in very low numbers. Then this last March Signatory issued this next bottle of 1988 Morklach for the 1999 Whisky World in Germany. This bottle was highly sought by all the European collectors.



Finally we come to two very plain labeled bottles which are a bit of an enigma. To my knowledge these are the only bottlings of Scapa 12 and Glendronach 15. Each has a U.S. importer listed on the back, but the bottles were sold

in Holland! Possibly someone can help me on this, but it would be nice to know more.

To finish up the year next time I'll try to have some of the seldom seen great bottles of the past.

--D.L.M.--

REJECTS



Well, they're not really rejects, just bottles which got pulled from the shelves for being in...shall we say...poor taste. These two are from a much larger set which was sold in New Zealand and then a very small quantity of the others were brought into southern California.

These are actually plastic shot

glasses which contain various liqueurs. Orgasm is a Peach Schnapps with Orange while Dirty Girl is a tropical fruit liqueur & Rum. It appears that the folks from NZ are trying to give some of the naughtier bottles from Germany a run for their money. (Thanks, Ian, for smuggling this pair out so they could be seen here.)

KOREAN FOLK LIQUOR

aka LEE GANG-JU



Available earlier this year in Korea, this ceramic set of four is quite an addition to any collection. Since ceramic mini bottles have been in short supply these last few years, this set is even more interesting.

The four pieces come in a

wooden box and each piece is recessed into a velvet-covered piece of semi-hard styrofoam. The bottles all contain 50ml of this "Korean Folk Liquor"...whatever that might be. Possibly we'll have some answers for you in a future edition.



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By Robert E. Kay

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WAYNE ANDRUS



Wayne and Dee Andrus

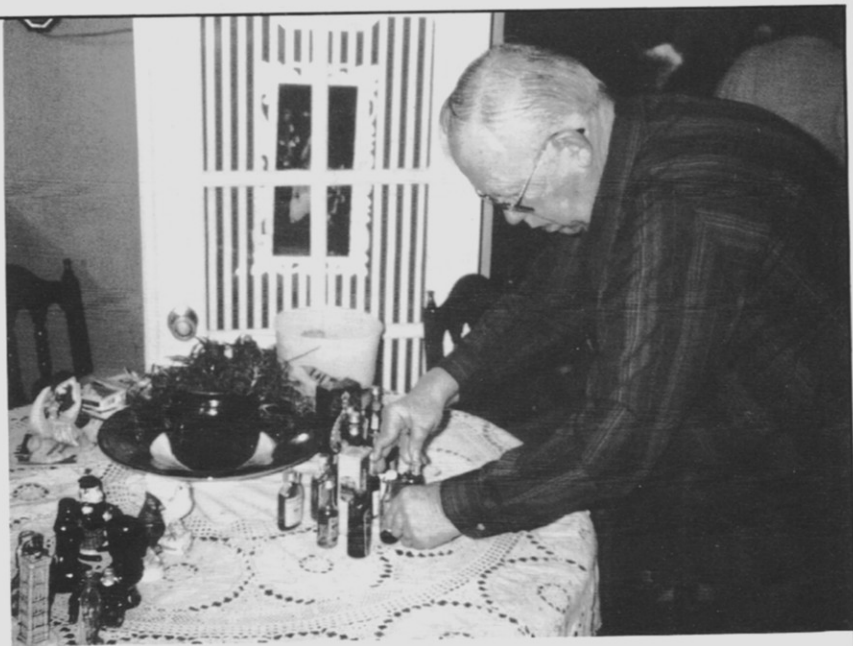
In 1974 Wayne Andrus began collecting miniature liquor bottles when his wife was given a small selection. Being a collector at heart, Wayne wanted to see this small collection grow...and indeed it did.

His association with the Northwest Miniature Bottle Club began in 1978. It was then that his mini bottle collecting began to overshadow his other collections. The antique license plates, gasoline globes/pumps and chauffeur badges all took a back seat to bottles. Wayne served as president of the NWMBBA several times and has been the club's bottle

chairman for nearly ten years now. He subsequently became a member of other mii bottle clubs such as the Lilliputian Club and the Midwest Mini Club. The MBC publication led Wayne to other collectors, bottle shows, and other sources for acquiring mini bottles.

By 1991 the collection had reached the eight thousand bottle mark. At that time though, they were packed for a family move from town to country where the collection still resides. It has now reach an estimated ten thousand pieces.

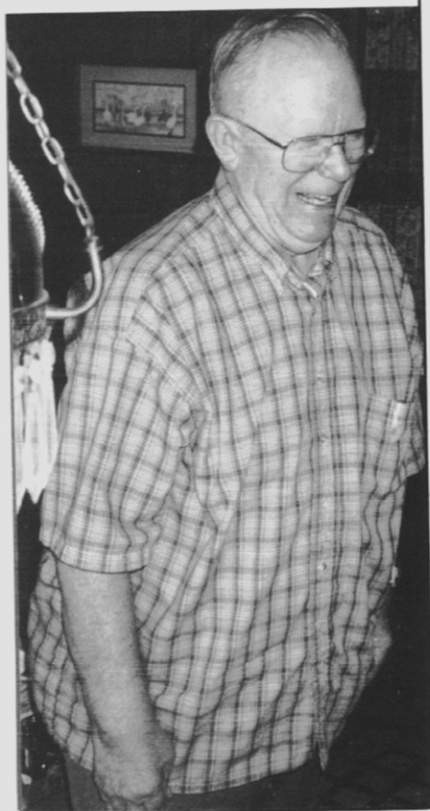
At one point Wayne felt that his collection might possibly get out of



Wayne with new treasures.

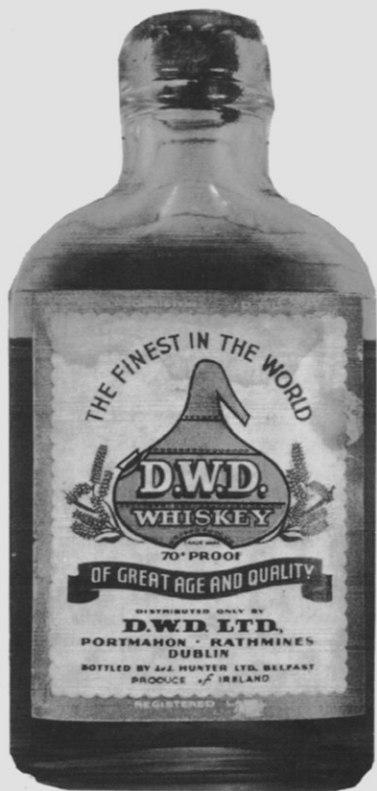
hand. He thought the solution would be to specialize. But in what...whiskey, scotch, vodka, beers, etc.?? Maybe painted label bottles or brightly colored labeled bottles would keep the collection in hand. Wayne could not settle for any one category. His most recent solution for this dilemma was to build a new home for all the existing and any new bottles. This solution is in progress and an new home should be completed by the end of this year.

What is his favorite bottle? Why it's the one he holds in his hand at any given moment!



IRISH WHISKIES

by TONY NATELLI
and
BILL ORR



Eight magnificent flasks are pictured and all are old, next to impossible to find and "top of the world" miniatures by any standard.

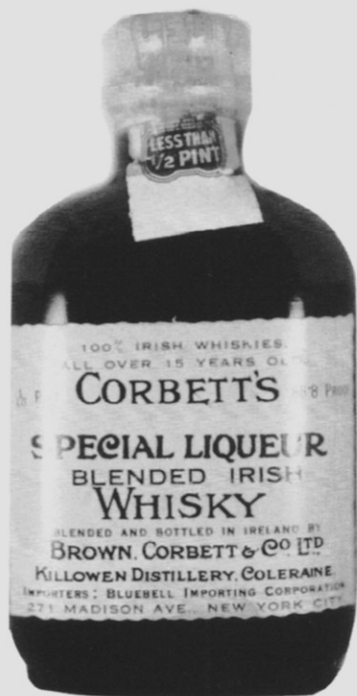
BALLYBOY, BENT'S, and D.W.D. are followed by HENRY THOMSON, and HENEKEY'S. All are non-imports and with the exception of Henekey's, go back to



the 1930's. Henekey's appears to be a 1940's item and should be a well known name to Scotch collectors for some fabulous miniatures (White Seal, Squires, H.R.H., Old Vatted, etc.) some 40-50 years ago.

INNISBAWN, JOHN J. MURPHY'S and CORBETT'S were early 1930's imports but are

IRISH !



not much easier than the first five. Innisbawn has one of the all time great laels showing three men in a field in bright red and green. Although it bears no import mark, I've seen three or four of them which makes me believe it was imported for a short time. -T.N.-
-B.O.-



TREASURES OF THE PAST

by
BUTCH JONES



This time I would like to feature something a little different and something that probably most of us do not have in our collections. What you see are 12 wines from Brazil. The labels are very colorful. Each bottle contains .021 of the respective wine. These wines were produced by the Castro Winery. I would date these in the late 1930's or 1940's.

Following is a list of wines shown in this picture:

1. Barbera Maduro
2. Vinho Branco de Mesa
3. Barbera Vinho Tinto de Mesa
4. Clarate Vinho Persado
5. Clarate Especial Vinho
6. Moscato Frizante
7. Vinho Casto Clarate Rosado
8. Grignolino
9. repeat of #3 above
10. Casto Verbieara
11. Rosado Licorese
12. Gatinko Vinho Tinto de Mesa

from

CYPRUS



Shown here are a select group of bottles, one ceramic and six glass, from Cyprus. These bottles and others from Cyprus are now in the hands of many collectors throughout the world because of a collector who lives there, Mr. Nicos Zevlaris, of Nicosia. As has been mentioned in these pages previously, if you trade with other collectors you can add some truly



interesting bottles to your collection.

In any case, the bottles shown are a mixture of brandies, liqueurs, and ouzo. The one thing I can tell you is that the light label of Five Kings Brandy is the older version.

In the future we'll show you some vodkas and even a scotch or two!!

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MELO'S MINIS

by MIKE OLSON



In this article I would like to feature a pair of seldom seen bourbons, plus we'll look at the glass bottle variations used by Eastern distillers. The variations I am showing are all from the Dundalk Liquor Co. of Baltimore, but can be found in others such as Union Distillers Products and the Crosse & Blackwell Co.

Anyway, we lead off with 8 Ball Whiskey. This bottle should be familiar, but is unusual in that the cheap paper label is still white, while most of these turned dark.

The first Toast of Maryland Rye is an amber bottle with a short, straight neck. Next is another amber bottle but with a taller, curved neck. The last of these is the clear glass variation.

The first of the two bourbons is Trenton Kentucky Straight Bourbon Whiskey Bottled by Samuel Hunin & Sons, Chicago, Ill. It is 90 proof, two years old and has a 1936 Illinois tax stamp. The last bottle is Kentucky Rose Straight Bourbon Whiskey Distilled by Crown Spirits Co. Chicago. It is 90 proof, six months old, has a green label with red and has a 1936 Illinois tax stamp.

Finally, the Crown Spirits Co. also produced the much sought after Old Camel Whiskey. The Kentucky Rose does not seem to have the same rarefied stature, but I would be hard pressed to choose between the two.

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



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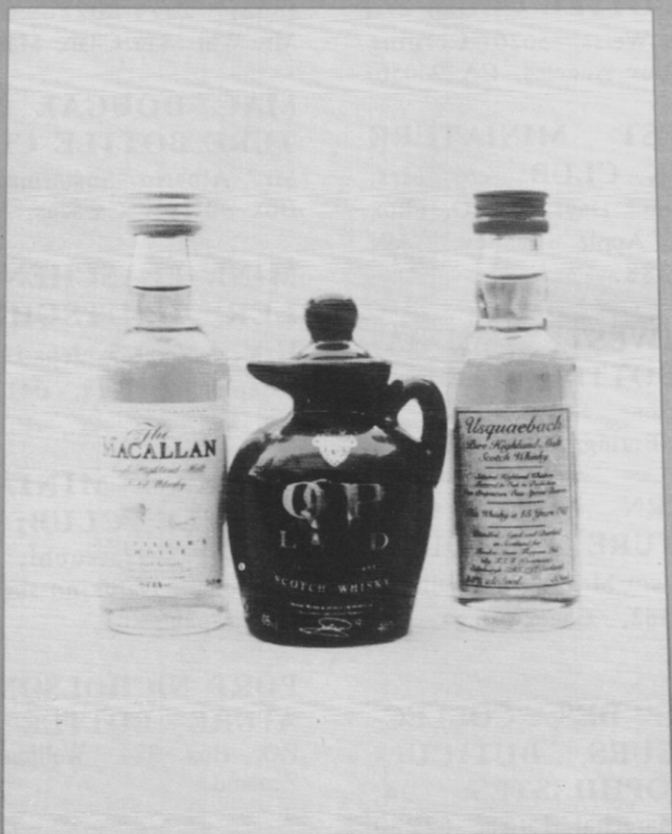
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