

**THE**

VOL. XXVII No. 6  
No. 162 2000

**MINIATURE  
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# THE DELFT PALACES



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A few individual pieces are available. Write for details.

## Let's Talk

End of the year; end of the century; and, end of the millennium. I thought we'd have our own little grandiose finish so this issue has the largest number of text pages we've ever done. Hope you enjoy it.

Even then one article had to be held until next time. So to begin the new year, century, etc., we'll have a great deal to show you from both south of the border and Europe.

One big disappointment this year was the lack of response to our query of your favorite bottle(s) of the year (or even century). Exactly two people wrote in ideas. So with that mandate, I'll forget the entire thing and give you some of my ideas.

My perpetual winner of the classiest bottles has to be the entire Japanese selection. Year in and year out Suntory, Nikka, et al provide us with beautiful bottles in both glass design and labels.

My winners in ceramics would be Ski Country and Camus. Both companies gave us excellent workmanship and very collectible bottles. Values may be down now, but they're due to rise. Wait and see.

Of course you could make a case for so many other ceramics (Rynbende, DeKuyper, Manhattan, McCormick, etc.) but I'll stick to the above.

Finally, if I had to choose individual pieces for the year, they'd both be in this issue. Vincent Vodka followed by Van Hoo Vodka. When you get the bottles, you'll see why.

So there are my choices... wish I'd had yours. Have a wonderful holiday season. We'll be back in February.

— DMS —

# THE MINIATURE BOTTLE COLLECTOR

Editor/Publisher DAVID M. SPAID

## Features

WHAT'S NEW.....	6
A good many things!	
FROM JAPAN.....	10
Catching up with the new.	
TREASURES OF THE PAST.....	13
Talk about difficult to find.	
PROVENCE.....	14
Finds of the vacation.	
LA SCACCHIERA REALE.....	15
A prize of prizes.	
OLD SAILOR.....	18
Tony continues his themes.	
LILLIPUT BOTTLERS.....	20
The Guinness minis.	
SCOTCH.....	22
Catching up here, too.	
A VISIT TO BOOZEVILLE.....	25
It's not the whole tribe.	
MELO'S MINIS.....	26
Five seldom seen whiskeys.	
DEALER DIRECTORY.....	28
A change has been made.	
CLUB DIRECTORY.....	29
No changes here.	

## Our Cover

We're pleased to be the first to show you a new set of polychrome delft from the Goedewaagen Company of Holland. These Herengracht Canal Houses represent houses 359, 361, 363, 365, 367, and 369 along the canal. They come complete with the delft "street" which they sit on. This piece of delft has been manufactured so that the unique shape of each house fits into its place on the street. Look for these in 2001.

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# WHAT'S NEW

To end up the year, we have a nice grouping for you with the proverbial bits of this and that. Only three shown here are not currently available in the U.S. So let's begin with those.

We actually have a new ceramic figural to start. This is William Wallace, popularized a short few years back by Mel Gibson in the film **Braveheart**. This bottle was found in the Whisky Shop in Waverly Station in Edinburgh. It is marketed in a plastic tube and the labels state that it is from the William Edwards Collection is a Limited Edition and contains 5cl malt scotch whisky in an English porcelain miniature. It's 6 1/2 inches tall and sells for 28 pounds or roughly \$42!!

We'll go from the very large to the very small. The tiny Mozart Liqueur is a 20ml variation I thought you'd like to see. It's sold throughout Europe and also comes in a white chocolate version.

The last one you have to travel for is the Maxim's VSOP Armagnac which naturally hails from Maxim's in Paris...even though this one came from a candy shop! It's a very attractive fluted glass presentation with 50ml contents.



Since we're on French bottles take a look at the two Alize Cognacs. Same bottle just VS and VSOP. This one or ones have been found on both coasts. Again, very nice glass bottles.

Our only plastic or PET bottle this time is the Ron Matusalem. This is surely an old name that will be found in the majority of collections. The label hasn't changed much over the years but this one is interesting because it states that it's in the "Cuban Tradition" of rum making. This one turned up in Los Angeles.

A nice frosted glass bottle is found with O P an aquavit imported from Sweden. Not too many aquavits are found and this is a classy one...tastes good too. Also found in Los Angeles.

# FROM JAPAN

by TAIZO SHIRATSUCHI



This time I would like to present to you some Japanese whisky miniatures which appeared from the second half of 1999 to September 2000.

The first is a very rare miniature, King Whisky KAZE (means wind) from Takara Shuzo Co. Takara is the owner of The Tomatin Distillery Co., Scotland,

and has produced the whisky since 1933 in Japan. The KAZE is the first miniature of King Whisky as far as I know. It is 50ml contents at 37% alcohol and has the words "tasting sample" on the back of the bottle.

The next two miniatures were issued from the Nikka Whisky Co. SUPER CLEAR is another tasting



sample and appeared hanging from the neck of a regular bottle. It is 50ml at 40% alcohol. SUPER EXE (Excel) is available only at EXE 30000 Model Train of the Odakyu Electric Train Co. which runs from Shinjuku in Tokyo to Hakone, Kanagawa. The spa of Hakone is one of the biggest resorts in Japan.

Suntory Co. opened the "Suntory



Whisky House" in the Yamazaki Distillery on April 16, 2000. At this house-shop, the **YAMAZAKI 18yo** appeared. Once it was available only as a sample (cf. The MBC No. 116). The label is slightly different and does not have the letters of Japanese which signify a whisky. **SUNTORY WHITE SUPER CLEAR** is also a sample which was found hanging from the neck of a regular bottle. It states 50ml and 74 proof on the main label.

The newest one is **SUNTORY ZA**. Za means sit and also a seat or position. In this case it imagines some people (friends) are sitting at

the same table to eat and drink. It is clear glass, sloping shoulders, regular tetrahedron with a side measuring 42cm. There are many dimples on the entire surface of the bottle similar to a golf ball. Regarding the New **SUNTORY OLD RICH AND MELLOW**, please see The MBC No. 161.

**KIRIN-SEAGRAM BOSTON CLUB** with white label, our last miniature, is a sister bottle to **BOSTON CLUB** with a black label (cf. The MBC No. 148). It is a "pet" bottle at 37% alcohol and also was found hanging on the big bottle as a tasting sample.

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



## TREASURES OF THE PAST

by **BUTCH JONES**



Let's step back to the pre-prohibition time and feature two whiskies that make a great addition to any collection.

The first one is very simply stated on the black label as **B C** used by all leading Clubs. The brown bottle contained Pure Rye.

The second one is also a rye whiskey. This one is by Chas. M. Zahn Co. As you can see, the bottle is clear and the label is white with blue letters.

Hope you enjoyed this short step back in time to see two super rye whiskies. 'Til next time.....

# PROVENCE



Whenever we take a vacation, I have to look for bottles. This year we traveled to the south of France for the very first time. The bottles were numerous in some areas of Provence and the Luberon, but I was interested in any items from the specific towns we visited and I wasn't disappointed.

Shown here are six bottles all of which are unique for one reason or another. The first is Fuigolet Liqueur which, like Benedictine or any number of other liqueurs, is made by a religious order in the area. Both the mini and the large bottle of this liqueur come with a large sheet with tells of the wonderful, healthy qualities of this

herb liqueur.

The next is Lavande Liqueur. Since the Luberon area is the heart of the lavender growing for the world and the lavender flowers are distilled (for soaps, perfumes, etc) the same way as many liquors, it's only natural to have a Lavender Liqueur. It doesn't follow though that I have to taste it.

The next bottle is one of a series of liqueurs made in St. Remy, a small town made famous by Van Gogh and others. The picture on the label is of Nostradamus and the contents are Liqueur de Chataignes.

Bottles number four and five are different makes of Pastis. The

Provence is the pastis area. Both bottles have excellent labels while the second (the taller of the two) is a cobalt blue bottle.

The last bottle is not only a cobalt blue glass but is etched. A number of different liqueurs come in this bottle and this one happens to be Mirabelle. This was found a nice little liquor shop in Avignon.

I could have brought back easily three, four or even five times as many bottles from the area. However, these representations will help remind us of a lovely, special vacation.

-DMS-



## SCACCHIERA REALE

This should be in **What's New** but it demands its own space. After you've turned the page to the center of the issue, you'll see why.

Imported from Italy by Laird & Company of Scobeyville, New Jersey (surely you remember Laird's Apple Jack?), this regal chess set is produced by Mazzetti d'Altavilla. It consists of 32 individual Murano Venetian blown glass 50ml bottles. Sixteen of the bottles contain Grappa from Grignolino while the other sixteen

have Graspanera Grappa and Coffee.

The set comes in a beautiful wooden case but once set up on the mirrored glass chess board has a plexiglass cover to keep out dust as well as inquisitive fingers.

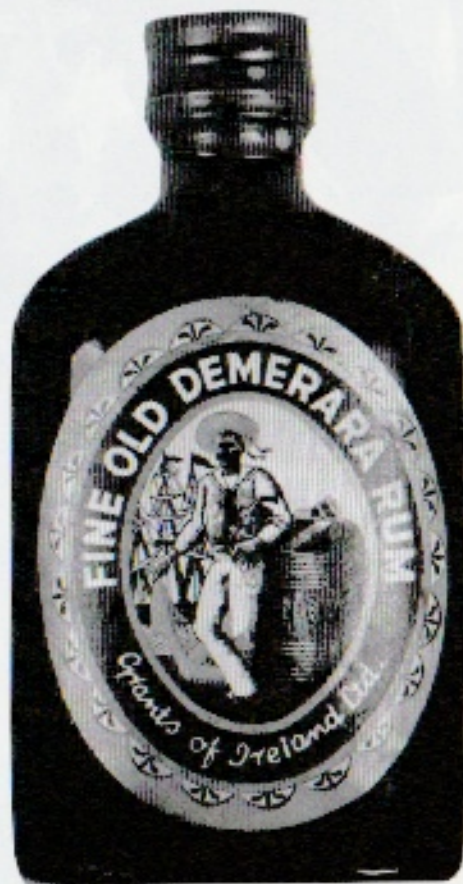
It is magnificent; it is spectacular; it is to die for particularly if you love blown glass; and, it is expensive. After seeing this you'll know why PET bottles shouldn't be tolerated. So, turn the page.





# OLD SAILOR

By Tony Natelli



During the 1950's and 1960's, a number of firms produced a miniature of a sailor, in similar yet different poses, containing rum.

They've been marketed under different brand names such as OLD JAMAICA, SEAFARER, SEA DOG, OLD SAILOR, etc.

Firms such as Milestone Wines, Grant's of Ireland, D. E. Williams, etc. have been the producers.

We've pictured five of them this time but at least two others, probably more, exist.

Fine Old Demerara is the only flask shown and it's followed



by Old Sailor. Seafarer and Sea Dog are next with Fine Old Jamaica being last. All have beautifully bright colorful labels and are fine additions to any rum or general collection.

--T.N.--

# LILLIPUT BOTTLERS

John and Gerry Murray of Galway, Ireland, founded **Lilliput Bottlers** over ten years ago. After spending an initial ten years in the liquor business, they spotted an opportunity in the market when the supply of miniature Guinness dried up.

After exhaustive inquiries to Guinness, the Murray duo found out that Guinness would no longer be producing the product. They immediately contacted Guinness Runcorn in England and entered into negotiations to buy the plant and the rights to produce the famous miniature Guinness.

The "plant" however, proved to be very antiquated and would not suffice. Since the Murrays had plans for their new product, in 1992 they commissioned a company to design and build a miniature bottling plant. This took six months and then a further six months to iron out all the production problems. With this done, they set about securing the rights to bottle other brands and at present have the rights to thirty-six brands with the portfolio increasing all the time.

With all this activity in the early years, it was difficult to release any special or limited edition products; however, this winter Lilliput have been sifting through their Guinness archives and have put together three superb Guinness Collections each containing half a dozen different Guinness labels. (Ed. Note: See their ad in the back of the book.)

These collections will be released on a phased basis with the first of these being the Oval Collection. Other collections will follow this series. Lilliput reckon that they have the entire collection of the miniature labels produced by Guinness but would love to see any label that you think is very rare.



another collectible



# Lilliput Bottlers

FAMOUS MINIATURE REPLICAS



# SCOTCH

David Maund



I thought we would finish out the year in grand style. So I'm including everything that for one reason or another didn't get in earlier this year.

Harrods of course is possibly the most well known department store in the world. I've shown you some of their bottles previously, but this is the new pair which come out a few months ago. These are the 5 year old blend and the 12 year old single malt. Both come in tubes.

A few issues back I had some of the millennium bottles to show you. The one which was missing is



now here. This is the Macphail's 2000 and it's the most expensive of the lot as the ages of the malts which have been vatted to produce this add up to 2000 years. I have no idea how many different single malts went into making this one vatted malt.

Shown with it is indeed a true rara avis. Only 99 of these Bowmore 1964 miniatures were produced and then you had to buy the large bottle to get it? However, it was only a thousand pounds plus. So if you wanted it you had to either buy the entire

presentation or found someone who might be willing to let his go!

Next we have a set of four from the Whisky Connoisseur. I particularly like these as they are sports related. Winners of the British Open, Wimbledon, and the Euro 2000 are all noted. The Sydney Olympics is represented, but you couldn't list all the winners there.

We now have a trio which made their initial appearances this year. There is the 12 year old Deerstalker Single Highland Malt and the 10 year old Old



Fettercairn, also a Single Highland Malt. The Talisman though is a blend, but it has the most interesting label.

And speaking of interesting labels, I leave (not the) best for last. These labels read as if they were made by someone who drinks cognac. Well, they probably were. These VO and VVO scotches were bottled in Hong Kong for local consumption. Everyone there is a cognac drinker...need I say more except Happy New Year!! -- DLM--



# A Visit To Boozeville

by Lloyd McLead



There's no trouble brewing here because everyone has a peace pipe. Maybe they're just passing through Boozeville on their way to a Pow Wow. You can tell by those stern countenances though that they mean business.

I thought sure you'd like to see them so I snapped this picture for you. I've been taking a few other pictures recently and you'll see some more interesting characters here in 2001.

# MELO'S MINIS

by MIKE OLSON



In this article I would like to feature bottles produced for the Williams Wine & Liquor which was located at Baltimore at Liberty St. in Baltimore, Maryland. The two brands were REDWOOD Maryland Straight Rye Whiskey and WILLIAM'S Maryland Straight Rye Whiskey. These bottles turn up occasionally, but it is hard to find them in really good condition.

The first two flats are 90 and 100 proof and have 1939 Maryland tax stamps. Bottle number three is 86

proof, seven years old and was bottled in 1950 by Montebello (Pride of Baltimore) Liquors, Inc. The next bottle is 90 proof, 3 years old and was bottled circa 1940 by Dundalk Liquor Co. The last of these uses the famous Overbrook waffle embossed bottle. I also have this bottle in the Redwood Rye which is not pictured.

Finally, I am no online and can be reached at melosminis@home.com Original, huh!

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



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# MBC

# CLASSIFIED ADS

Free to subscriber's each issue. One ad limit per subscriber. Please limit your ad to 250 words or less.

**FOR SALE:** The new vodka and tequila list is ready (even though it changes daily). The new Vincent is available and it's a treasure, also Thor's Hammer, Mezzaluna, Royalty, Rain, Iceberg. In tequilas there is the set of 30/30, Casa Real, Patron and many others. So if you'd like some of these you'll have to stop sitting on your hands and send a note. It's not a phone kind of thing. David M. Spaid, P. O. Box 2161, Palos Verdes, CA 90274.

**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.

**NOTE:** Collector seeks Rynbende Distilleries miniature delft blue Dutch farmhouses either empty or filled with Cherry Brandy to complete my collection. Missing #2 and #6. If you have any to sell please e-mail me at [Michelle@Dazzling.Freeserve.co.uk](mailto:Michelle@Dazzling.Freeserve.co.uk) or write to me with details: M. Smith, 14 Milton Park Road, Weston-Super-Mare, North Somerset, BS22 8DY, England

**WANTED:** Still looking for those bottles with natives, sea captains, Napoleons, etc. Let me hear from you. Tony Natelli, 3848 Coral Tree Circle #A14, Coconut Creek, FL 33073 or call (954) 972-2108 or fax (954) 972-1596

**WANTED:** Nassau Bahamas Policeman 18" tall; Camus Cognac Books (The Irises, Mouton de la Galette, After the Bath, Spring Bouquet; Gaudier Cognac Concord plane in all three different colors; Rynbende Cow and Policeman, and Scotch whisky mini jugs. **FOR SALE:** Christian Di Mare minis with fruits and vegetables inside; KLM Canal Houses (high numbers); Japanese musical instruments and Scottish Leader ceramic 25yo Scotch Whisky, only available at the duty free in Taiwan. Please call (718) 275-4068 or write to Derman Villegas, 105-25 64<sup>th</sup> Ave., Apt 6-F, Forest Hills, NY 11375

**WANTED:** Puerto Rican collector is looking for a Johnnie Walker Green label. I know it is difficult to find, but can somebody help? Also looking for Caribbean rums and mixed rums. Write to Arnaldo Barreto, 1875 Avenue Las Americas, Ponce, PR 00728 or call (787) 842-9256.

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