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A few individual pieces are available. Write for details.

Let's Talk

A couple of topics to get out of the way first. One is that the last issue was not number 7 of volume 28. It was number 1. We only go 1-6 in any year. The other item is our postal service.

If anyone should go "postal", it should be those people who mail third class publications. To quote Rodney Dangerfield, "we don't get no respect". Thus it is taking up to five weeks for some of you to receive the magazine. Our apologies that it takes so long, but if it really bothers you, that's why we have a first class rate available.

I guess it doesn't matter how many times you say something. Two people who have subscribed for some time asked me, "Do you have a website?" After my apoplexy lessened, I calmly mentioned that we did and have been on line for several years. In case you don't remember, the address is

www.bottlecollecting.com

Lots of interest about last issue's cover. The Remy Martin Louis XIII is much desired and coveted. I just isn't available in either version unless you can get a collector to part with it and then it will cost you the proverbial pretty penny, arm, leg, and maybe even, firstborn. Or something like that.

For you ceramic collectors, we're going to be showing some older ones soon, so hang in there.

Two months will fly by quickly. Until then, keep thinking small.

— DMS —

THE MINIATURE BOTTLE COLLECTOR

Editor / Publisher DAVID M. SPAID

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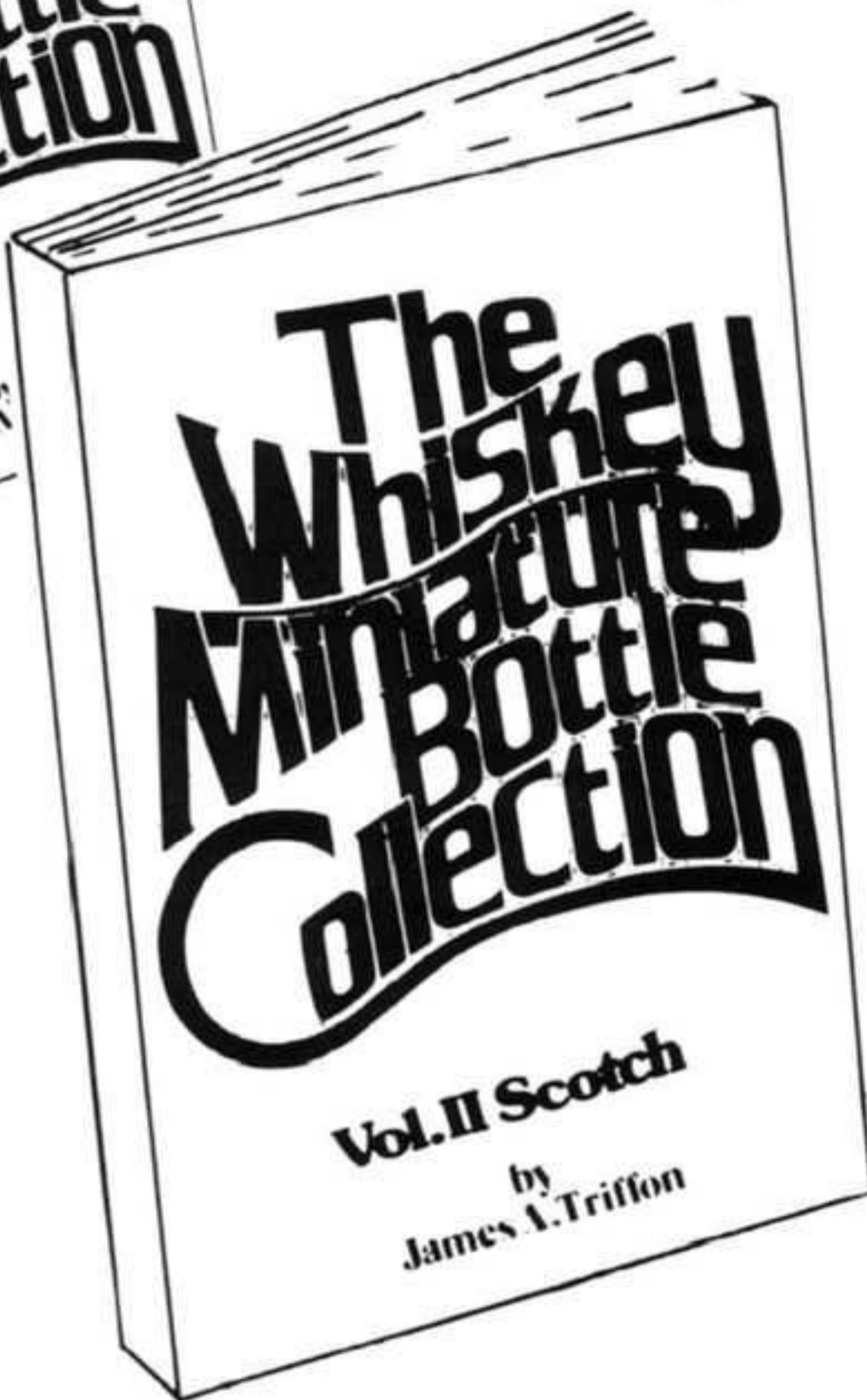
Our Cover

Our cover this time features a very, very colorful duck from the Italian Luxardo Company. This is one of their figural bottles which is seldom seen as it was a low production and also exported only to the U.K. Luxardo made some wonderful sets including the fruits and chess pieces. All are wonderful additions to any collection.

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Hamm's Ted, The Carver



Dear Hamm's Collector,

This is the newest pair of salt & pepper shakers, Ted the Carver, to celebrate our favorite Hamm's character. Naturally though it will be known as the Totem Pole Bear. If you saw this at the February show in Minnesota you know how cute it is. If you're seeing it for the first time, we're giving you two views of the same set. This set is now available, earlier than we thought. Only 800 sets were produced thus making this the smallest quantity of our trio: canoe, teepee and totem pole.

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WHAT'S NEW



We've got eleven really good ones this time...and they come from all over the map. Only one of them is a PET, so see if you can guess which one just from the pictures.

We'll begin with the terrific set of Milagro (miracle) Tequilas. The Silver is clear glass, the reposado is cobalt blue and the añejo is frosted glass. These extremely corked bottles will be at home in any collection. Naturally from Mexico but they're sold here in California.

Now on to a trio of whiskies...which could not be more different. From Scotland we have the new Dewar's White Label.

Nothing great, just a label change. It's available throughout the U.S. Gentleman Jack you certainly know, but not in its new bottle. And, it's a much nicer bottle than it used to be. It was found by Jim Crawford in Kentucky.

The last of our trio is the Old Potrero Single Malt Straight Rye Whiskey. There is also a Malt Spirit in the same bottle. The larger counterparts of these have been sold now for about three years and they are the pet project of Fritz Maytag (yes, that family) who also is behind Anchor Steam Beer. Not only are they exact replica minis, they must also be noted as possibly



being the most expensive U.S. produced whiskey minis ever. Several of the few places in the state which carry them list the bottles at between \$12 and \$14 each. Yikes, remember when we could buy the "fifth" for that?

On to two new rums. The Foursquare is a spiced rum from Barbados. Right now it's only sold there but since it has the U.S. warning label, it undoubtedly will be here. If you guessed this was the plastic bottle, you're right. The other rum is the Dillon Dark Rhum from Martinique. This is a slight label change for them but it's nice to see the company selling in the



U.S. This one was found in Minneapolis.

Next two bottles found in New York by collector Derman Villegas. These are the Cristal Aguardiente from Columbia in a nice frosted glass bottle and the Pellisson Pineau des Charentes from France. The latter makes use of a very old style label for its Pineau which makes a lovely aperitif if you've never tried it.

Finally we come to the Remy Silver. Produced in France and found in Hong Kong, this is a mixture of cognac and vodka. I find that bizarre...how about you?

--DMS--

from

Cyprus



No, they're not perfume or cologne bottles, they are exactly what they say. These are the Torso bottles from Cyprus. As you can note, they contain Rose Brandy and Rose Liqueur. Interesting...I would have reversed the contents.

The other interesting point is that these could not be sold in the U.S.A. Once again protecting us

from our baser instincts, these would not be approved as liquor containers. Disregarding the male, any hint of the undraped upper female anatomy is enough to send those Washington minions running around like Chicken Little. Strange isn't it that no one has ever had any trouble getting a gun decanter approved!

ABSINTHE

If you travel to New Orleans and wend your way down to the Old Absinthe House, you'll not only have a drink to quench your thirst, you'll also be drinking in a great deal of history.

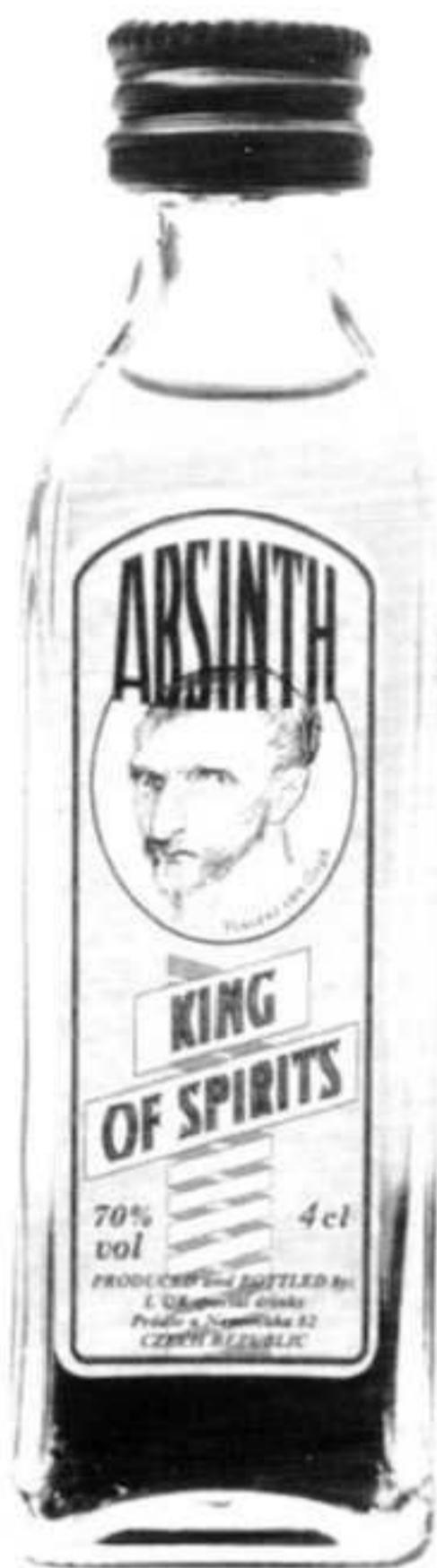
If you stand at the bar, you'll notice a great many pits and cavities in the wood. This came about because the liquor would spill over the edge of the glass and eat away the wood. Forget about what that could do to your stomach because some current soft drinks can do the same damage. Nope, where absinthe did its damage was to your brain.

Absinthe used to contain wormwood and the story goes that not only would it rot your brain but drive you mad to boot!

So sometime back, about seven decades or so, the righteous of the world decided that it was downright scandalous and wrong to allow anyone to have their brain eaten away by drink. So as the story goes, Absinthe was banned from almost every country in the world. The only places where a soul who was determined to go mad from liquor could enjoy a quaff or three were Andorra and China. Not exactly around the corner.

Previously we've printed pictures of some of the older miniatures; however, what you're seeing here are now available in France, England, and the Czech Republic. Large bottles of absinthe may be found here in the U.S.A., but so far no miniatures.





That nasty old wormwood has been removed from the list of contents but the high proof remains for most of the bottlings. The two similar bottles are from the Czech Republic while the other two were produced in France.

They range in proof from the "King of Spirits" at 140 proof to the French bottles at 110 proof. The King of Spirits features a

picture of Vincent Van Gogh on its label (now you obviously know why he cut off his ear) while the French Trenet shows a maiden gesturing to the plants which are used in the ingredients.

If you just can't wait to taste it, you can still get a bit of the experience. Chew up a licorice stick and then take a swallow of Everclear. It'll clear your sinuses!

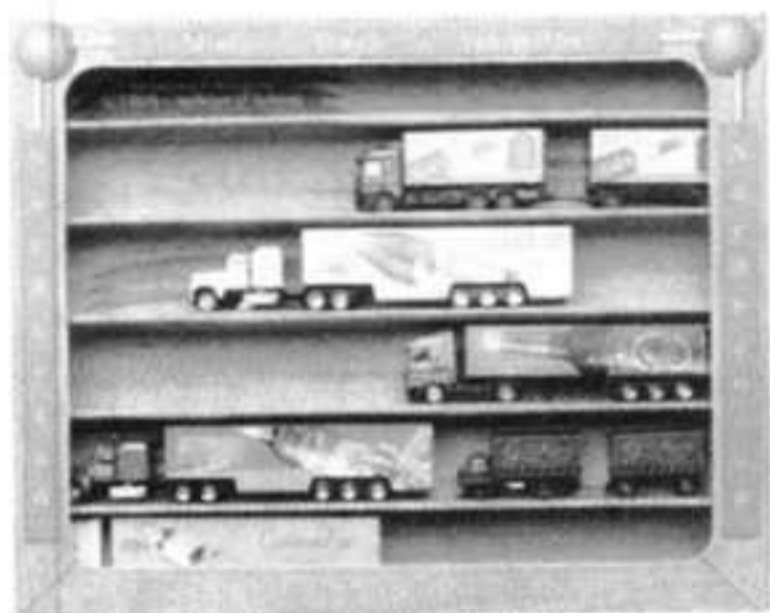
MINI

WORLD

by **Ivan Uhlík**

Truck Garage

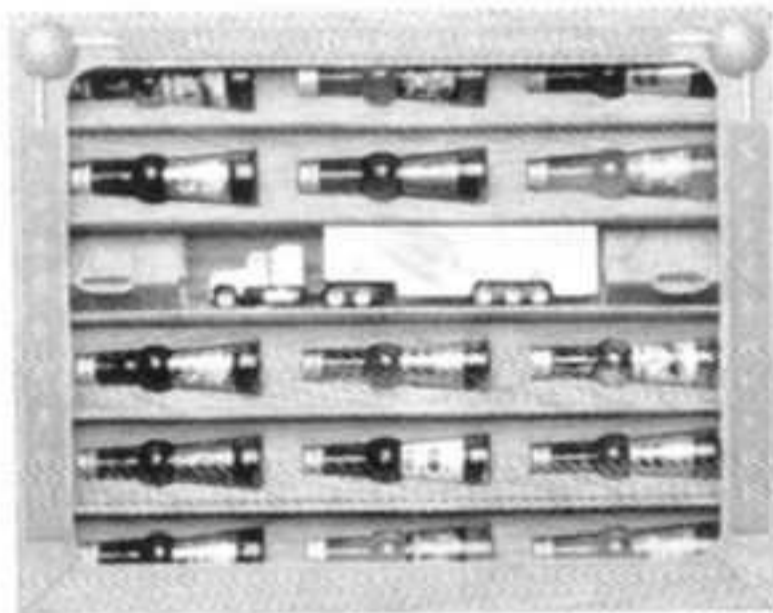
ab Oktober



nachher

This time I have some information for you which I think you'll find interesting. In the pre-Xmas market in Eastern Germany last year there was a great offer for collectors of both miniature bottle and truck models.

The "korn" distillery Nordbrand GmbH. at Nordhausen created a large box, some 42 x 33 x 5 cm, entitled "Minis - Truck - Sammlerbox" (Miniatures & Truck Collector's Box) which was filled with fifteen miniature bottles and a truck model. The miniatures were clear glass shaped bottles at 20 ml,



vorher

and the model truck a Ford 9000 with advertising painting for "Goldbrand" brandy blend. The bottles were filled with Nordbrand liqueur and spirit brands like "Almeister Halbbiter 35%, Feige Vodka & Fig 18%, Goldene Aue Korn 32%, Goldkrone Brandy Blend 30%, Pfefferminz Likor 20%, Saure Kirsche Likor 16%, Saurer A[p]fel Likor 16%, Waldmeister Likor 18%, Zaraska Black Vodka & Black Berries 16%, and Zaraska Red Vodka & Red Orange 17%.

Now we have satisfied two kinds of collectors. --Ivan Uhlík--

Pfefferminz Ford 9000
ab Oktober



Weizenkorn Scania
ab Oktober

Goldbrand Ford 9000
ab November



VODKA

by JOHN SULLIVAN



Not too many to show you this time, but there are certainly a couple of interesting new ones for you. I've also tried to keep a mixture of things available here in the U. S. as well as those I've found in Europe.

Only two of the five this time are found here in the States. These are the Inferno Pepper Flavored and the Monopolowa; however, neither is actually produced here. The Inferno is from Canada and has been around for maybe a year or two. However, 2000 was the first time it was imported. Monopolowa (think "v" when you see the "w" is from the J. A. Baczewski Company of Vienna, Austria. Not nearly as

exciting a label as our floating peppers on the Inferno.

Recently I had a business trip to Spain (actually met another vodka collector there...but that's a story for another time) and on the way home I had to go through London. With a one night stopover, I headed to a liquor store in Soho and then out to Knightsbridge for a stop at the little liquor counter in Harrods.

The shop in Soho gave me a new Polmos Polska in a nice squat bottle. I wondered at the time at how many different vodka miniatures the Polish State Company Polmos has issued...at least scores, maybe hundreds. I



was much more taken with the little shot glass which contains 4cl of Swedish Svenska. It's so clear it may all but disappear in the picture, but I hope not.

On to Harrods for the prize of the trip. This is the Russian Standart which as you'll note comes in its own little bag. Not a standard straight glass bottle but one of nice design, good label and it's frosted glass. What more could I ask for!

Next time I'll tell you about my trip into San Francisco and finding the new Chopin and Belvedere bottles. —J.S.—



MELO'S MINIS

by MIKE OLSON



In this article we'll check out two California Reds plus a Belle. We'll also look at an older bottle from American Distilling and finish with a rare Thin Man. A number of years ago a list of California whiskeys was published in several publications devoted to our hobby. While this is very helpful, I've found that it is far from complete. I am still seeing bottles which are totally unknown to me. I think this is due to the fact that most California bottles were only sold in local areas and in limited quantities.

Anyway, the first bottle has been shown before, but certainly deserves another look. It is **RED ROBIN** Straight Bourbon Whiskey Bottled for Distillers Distributing Corp., Los Angeles and San Francisco. It is 90 proof, was bottled Summer 1934 and has a

black label with white, red and green. Bottle number two is **RED SERGEANT** Bourbon Whiskey A Blend Bottled for California Liquor Association, Oakland. It is 85 proof and has a white label printed in red, black and brown.

Next is **MOUNTAIN BELLE** Blended Bourbon Whiskey Bottled by Three G Distillery Corp. of Burbank. It is 90 proof, 2 years or more old and has a multi-colored label. The Three G company was one of the larger distillers which also produced Valley Falls and Old Cask along with other great minis. Bottle number four is **FRONTIER** Straight Whiskey Distilled by American Distilling of Pekin, Ill. It is 90 proof, from 1934 and has a light yellow label printed in black, green and brown.

The last bottle is **OLD MR. BOSTON** Kentucky Straight



Bourbon Whiskey in the famous Thin Man bottle. I have never seen this one before and would be interested in hearing from anyone who has it in their collection. Contact me at melosminis@home.com or write to me.

Finally, I saw a Robin Hood Bourbon Whiskey which I would love to have. It is a California bottle with a little picture of Errol Flynn (Robin Hood) on the label. Wild!!!

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

FROM JAPAN

by TAIZO SHIRATSUCHI

This time I would like to present to you some scotch whisky miniatures which appeared during the second half of 1999 to the first half of 2000.

The first is **THE MACALLAN** 12yo. This cork top miniature has the same label as the UK version except there are some Japanese letters which mean "whisky".

OLD PARR 12yo changed its label from Deluxe to Extra Rich and had a picture on the back of the bottle of the Cragganmore Distillery, not a portrait of Mr. Thomas Parr. It is a brown glass bottle containing 50ml at 43% alcohol.





THE FAMOUS GROUSE, the next bottle, also appeared with a new label. But now, as many of you know, this label is very familiar in the EU market: Spain, France, etc.

The fourth bottle is **PRINCE SPECIAL** which is available only at the Prince Hotel in Tokyo. This time they changed the label of their Hotel Whisky. I introduced the previous bottle in 1985 (please see MBC #67).

A related company of **JR** (cf. MBC #154) imported a new Scotch Single Malt, the Speyburn 10yo and offered it only at a part of the kiosk and train of Shinkansen (bullet train). This one has a



different label from the UK and USA versions, especially the right side picture of salmon.

The last bottle is very, very interesting. It is the **JOHNNIE WALKER 1820 SPECIAL BLEND**. It was launched in March 2000 only in the Japanese market. It uses Cardhu, Talisker, Royal Lochnagar, Clynelish, and Glendullan as the key malts. It is a clear glass reverse trapezoid square bottle. And further, this miniature was only available as a trading sample in a very limited quantity, so it is very, very hard to get.

Until next time..... —T. S.—





TREASURES OF THE PAST

by
BUTCH JONES



The three whiskies shown in this article all belonged to Pat McMullen. He allowed me to photograph them during my last visit and thus be able to share them with you. I know I would love to have them in my collection. How about you?

The first mini has a great label. It's **FOUR HORSEMEN** and the label is green and yellow with four horsemen in the middle playing polo. The clear flask contains 90 proof blended whiskey. This was blended and bottled by General Distillers Corporation of Hartford, Conn.

The second one is **COPLEY CLUB**. The clear flask again

contains 90 proof blended whiskey. It was bottled by Quality Distillers, Inc., L.A. Calif. This is also a very colorful label. The outside is red with yellow inside and black letters. If you look closely, you will see a crown with a knight on horseback on either side.

The last mini is **DOMINION SIX**. The label is black with white letters. This clear flask also contains 90 proof blended whiskey. As you've probably guessed, this is also a California whiskey. It was blended and bottled by Sontag Drug Stores, Los Angeles, California.

'Til next time..... --B.J.--

GIRO, OLD HEROLD AND HORSES

By **Tony
Natelli**



Two European Distilleries, Pedro Giro of Spain and Old Herold of Czechoslovakia, have been very good to, and are well known by, miniature bottle collectors world wide. Both are still producing quality minis which are very much in demand.

Pedro Giro Vodka and Giro Gin are very, very recent, if not current. The same is true of the two Giro Gins (bottles 2 and 3) in our second photo. I believe the last bottle is the most recent, but all of these might still be marketed, depending on the locale. The one exception, Giro Gin (first bottle,

second photo), a real beauty, is circa 1950's. There is also a (plastic) Giro Rum (not pictured) available. Two older Giro Vodkas, also circa 1950's, exist and both, like the rum, picture a horse and rider. Both vodkas have large magnificent labels.

Old Herold, Grain Whisky, Vodka Jemna, Gin and Rum are shown. The vodka and rum are new and there may be others unknown to us at this time. The whisky and gin are considerably older and might be due for a label change. —T.N.—



SCOTCH

· David Maund



I recently took a short holiday in Scotland and naturally came back with some new bottles. I presume some of these have been around for a few months; I just can't say which.

Only one of the eleven pictured is a PET bottle and I was surely surprised when I found it in Edinburgh. It's the Drambuie Cream Liqueur which is a perfect replica of the large bottle (which of course is glass). I believe this one is being test marketed so whether it makes it past Edinburgh we'll have to wait to see.

At the same store I found the Loch Lomond. If memory serves, I've got this name as a blend, too. Nice label though. Also found the two in tubes there. I believe the Speyburn is in the States but The

Speyside I'm sure isn't. If you ever take The Whisky Trail, be sure to stop there. Very nice little shop.

Next I walked to the Castle where I found the two with the humorous labels: Tam's Dram and Gargoyle's Gargle. Both were bottled for Historic Scotland and I think are done specially for the Castle Shop. Tam's Dram is quite special as it celebrates "The One O'Clock Gun". The story is on the back of the bottle. I'll put the Gargoyle's Gargle up there with the Inebriated Newt (if you remember that one).

Coming down from the Castle, I stopped at the Whisky Museum and came away with three: Loch Ness, Arran, and Bruichladdich. The first is a new label, the second another bottling from the new



SCOTCH



distillery on the island, and the third a very nice label change from a well known company.

My last two bottles are special as I got them from a friend there. These are the 18 year old Highland Park and the 33 year old Balblair. He got both these by buying the large bottles. He doesn't collect, he just enjoys his drams. I get to enjoy them to but up on a nice glass shelf.

Hope to see many friends in St. Louis this year. I'll be back next time with more interesting ones.

-DLM-

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WANTED: Complete set of WF finest Dutch Liqueurs, miniature glass animals - Anno 1679, Wynand Fockink, Amsterdam, Holland. Write to: J. B. Bhandari, B. U. Bhandari Auto Ltd., Mumbai Pune Road, Wakdewadi, Pune 411 003, INDIA or email bubhandari@vsnl.com

WANTED: Irish whiskey collector looking for new and different bottles. Will pay top dollar or trade multiple bottles of any type or category. Contact Bill Orr, 1680 Glenwood Drive, Twinsburg, OH 44087 or email me at shamrock@stratos.net

FOR SALE: Both my collection of about 1,000 straights (all types) and my figural, glass and ceramic minis about 500 including Beneagle, Dioli, Dug's, Famous Firsts, Garnier, Hawaiian Distiller's, Hoffman, Inca Pisco, Isaiah, House of Koshu, Lionstone, Luxardo, McCormick's Elvis, Maryily and J. R. Ewing, McLech, Meiers, Michter, Mohawk, Old St. Andrews, Potters, Raintree, Ski Country and many more. Write to Sandra Twaddle, 435 3rd Street N.E., New Philadelphia, OH 44663.

WANTED: Still looking for Garnier blown glass, Anglo Swiss Clown, Gagliano Pagoda, Hine Stags and other duty free Larsen and Camus bottles; Luxardo Clown, Pear; Manhattan fruits, Inocchio bottles, cart, blown glass, novelty bottles, baseball; Papillons, Drambuie Castle/Books, Robj Bottles, Jataca, Rynbende Ballerina, bukldog, pink elephant and some houses; Southern Sales, Elvis, Lionstone Shootout at the O.K. Corral, James Bond 007, etc. I have a traders/sales list. Contact: Robert Waldman, 5730 Chancellor Blvd., Vancouver, B. C. V6Y1E5 Canada. Phone (604) 228-8989 or email to rw007@home.com

WANTED: The following scotches imported to the U.S.: McWade's Special, Tasters Choice, Pride of Scotland, Royal Geogel, Balfour's, Bagpipe, MacNivens, G & W, and The Glasgow Cross. Premium price will be paid! Contact Bill Shuck, 3730 No. Olney St., Indianapolis, IN 46218 or phone (317) 547-1683.

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 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

FOR SALE: Approximately 55 Ski Country minis—includes Majestic Eagle \$75; Flycatcher \$25; Pheasant in Corn \$22; Fox on a Log \$80; North American Indian Tribes Set \$70; Butterfly Maiden \$18; Jenny Lind (yellow) \$70; some club bottles and many more. Send large SASE for complete list to Paul C. Zaiserl, 721 W. 13th Street, Cedar Falls, IQ 50613 or call (319) 266-6862

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.

WANTED (TRADE OR BUY): I am looking for any type of miniature liquor bottles made or bottled in **EL SALVADOR, UGANDA, or ZAMBIA**. I will pay top dollar or trade multiple minis for any mini bottles from any of these countries. I have over 130 countries available for trade. Contact Jim Crawford at (513) 467-9113 or e-mail me at shooter@fuse.net

FOR SALE: To go along with Vincent, we know have Belvedere and Chopin vodkas as well as the new Casa Noble ceramic tequila. If you'd like a list, you'll have to send an SASE. David M. Spaid, P. O. Box 2161, Palos Verdes, CA 90274.

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