

THE

VOL. XXVIII No. 6  
No. 168 2001

# MINIATURE BOTTLE COLLECTOR



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Federation of Historical Bottle Collectors, Inc.

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# Let's Talk

So ends year number twenty-eight. If all goes according to plan, next year will see us make quite a few changes with the magazine. We're "exploring our options" as the saying goes, so you'll just have to wait a couple of months to see. We made a huge change between our fifth and sixth years...and we may do it again!

But while you're waiting with baited breath, turn to some of the marvelous glass bottles shown in this issue. A big hello to Arnaldo Barreto of Puerto Rico for his first article on Cuban bottles currently available.

Now it is my very sad duty to report the passing of two fine collectors and very good friends. Since the last issue we have lost both Bill Shuck and Tony Natelli. Tony's last articles will be in the next few issues. Next time there will be a special article and remembrance about Tony. Both Tony and Bill will be greatly missed.

Once again we have to make mention of our website as we have new subscribers each issue. It's

[www.bottlecollecting.com](http://www.bottlecollecting.com)

and some changes will be made there soon also.

Finally, after the events of September 11th, we should all realized that it is the friendships and people we know and have known in the hobby that are so important. The bottles are marvelous, but the collectors are the true treasures.

Happy Holidays...and keep thinking small.

— DMS —

# THE MINIATURE BOTTLE COLLECTOR

Editor / Publisher DAVID M. SPAID

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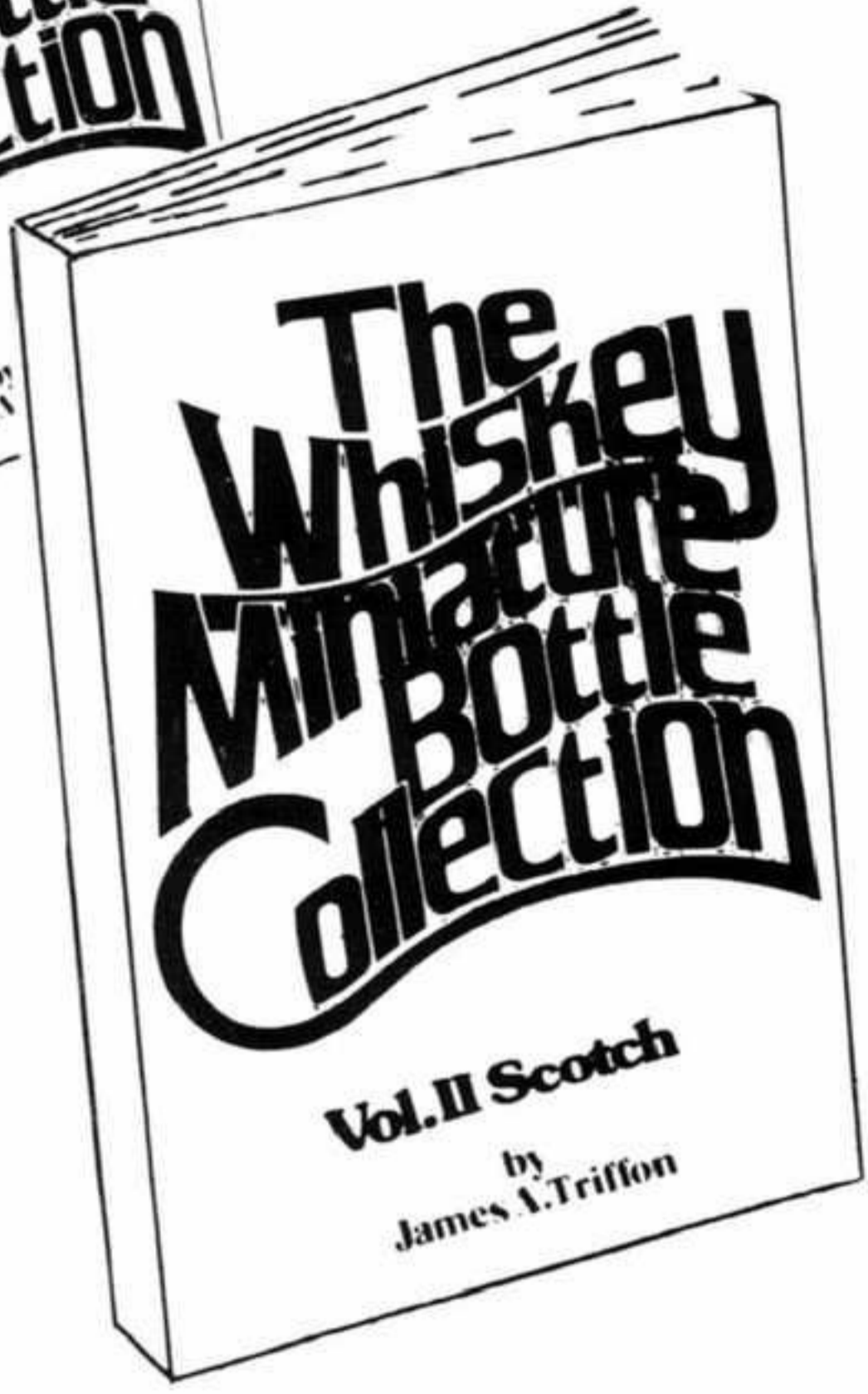
## Our Cover

How many times have you seen a vintage year given to a cognac. If you answered, "Fewer than there are blue moons in a decade or even a generation", you'd be correct. Since Thomas Hine was originally an Englishman, for scores of years casks of cognac would be shipped to England and then bottled there under the Hine name. Occasionally some of these would be given vintage years and marked "Early Landed". These three miniatures are the first vintage year cognacs to be offered for sale to collectors.

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# WHAT'S NEW



It's end of the year time. Or should we call it a hodge-podge review of all the new bottles which for some reason or another didn't get shown in the rest of the year. We jump all over the globe for these bottles, too.

Instead of ending with a favorite, I'll begin with one. This is the Sea Wynde Pot Still Rum. As the label states, it's a blend of rums from Jamaica and Guyana. It's 92 proof and that little extra alcohol makes for a very nice dark rum. (Remember, my rule is one to

display, one to taste except in the case of Tuky's Watermelon Tequila which you'll see next time.)

The Leyden Gin is a well-known bottle but the two flavored ones in plastic, Leyden Cassis Gin and Leyden Citron Gin are not. Note the VIP Introduction label. These were the initial bottles given at a banquet to note the launching of the Dutch gins.

Two more plastic bottles which may be found throughout the U.S. are the E. &J. (Gallo) White Brandy and Peach Head Peach liqueur.





There are also other flavors available of the latter.

From Lebanon comes the Gantous & Abou Raad. This glass bottle is being sold in several markets and is unique in that it doesn't have any of the necessary government warnings such as pregnant women should not drive large farm machinery after imbibing. You know the ones.

It's accompanied by Oro di Mazzetti Liqueur from Italy. This actually contains 23k gold flakes. Usually the Germans have this





particular area covered but someone has seen fit to import this new one from Italy.

The third bottle in this group is the Vermeer Dutch Chocolate Cream. This is a nicely done plastic bottle with embossing. The contents are everything you could yearn for if you're a chocoholic. This one is now on both coasts...don't know about in between.

Finally we come to three whiskies. The first is a new Wisers' Rye in plastic from Canada. C'mon

now, how many new ryes do we see? Average bottle though. Second is the 1989 Aberlour Single Malt which is the most difficult to obtain bottle of all this time. If memory serves, this one was done for Spain.

Last we have a birth bottle for Irina done by Connoisseur in Scotland. This was sent to me by Massachusetts collector, Dick Cotton, and I have a strong hunch this just might be Dick's granddaughter. And that's what makes a very special bottle!

# Tequila



I guess this should really be called "What's New II". Since there were so many, it seemed better to put them all together in one place. There are nine tequilas here and as evenly as possible they split between those sold here and those sold only in Mexico.

Let's begin with the five only sold south of the border. The two least exciting are the Campo Azul which is a reposado and is about the plainest label in the plainest bottle around; and, Sarape Blanco. For you who have never seen "sarape" spelled this way, it's just

an acceptable variant of the "sarape" we usually see. A much nice bottle.

Moving on and up, we have Puro Sangre which is pure blood and what you can't see is the horse head picture on the label. Pardon the bad photo. This is an embossed bottle with a very pretty label.

Now we have Puente Viejo and this one borders on being called a fancy bottle. Nice embossing and good glass work. But in this group, the absolute winner is the Cava Antiqua. This is a blown glass bottle with an applied glass handle



and wooden ball stopper. Add to that the fact that the label is made from leather. The large bottle of this is available in the U.S. but the minis in both 50ml and 100ml are only in Mexico.

Now we come to those which are sold here. The little Trancas (when found) comes in a couple of labels; however, it's the blown glass bottle with kick-up that most impresses.

Two more impressive glass bottles are the pair of Don Eduardos, the anejo and the silver. These are beautifully done glass with large cork stoppers. So far they've been seen in Washington,

California, and Tennessee.

Our last one this time is the Hussong's Cantina ceramic jug with matching ceramic stopper. There are several stories about this bottle but none have been completely verified. What we do know is that it isn't terribly new, was produced by McCormick, and sold almost exclusively at the cantina in Baja California. Some will still be found...but you've got to look hard!

More tequilas soon as several others have been introduced here since these were photographed. Wait until you see Lago Azul!



# The

# CRUISE

by

Vic Visalli



Remember way back to when you were in junior high school? There was always some English teacher who assigned a theme of "what I did on my summer vacation". So, I decided I'd show you what I found on my vacation this year.

Flo and I took a Caribbean cruise which hit a number of ports including St. Thomas, St. Martin, and Jamaica. I was able to come back with ten new plastic bottles and one glass which was the nicest of the group.

By now everyone has the Bacardi (for Orange rum). However, I don't think too many have the flavored Finzi bottles from Jamaica. The first is a pine- apple

rum and the second another orange rum. They depict two tourist scenes. Guess for whom these were made.

The Southern Comfort is a new label for me and I haven't seen it in the States yet but I'm certain it will pop up. But the Caribbean Six Pack is one which certainly won't be seen here. The two Tortuga bottles from the Cayman Islands are rather nice and I don't believe I'd seen the Special Barbados rum before this set. The Don Q, Appleton Special and Cruzan are all label variations also not available here.

Now, what did you find on your vacation? --V.V--

**CARIBBEAN SIX PACK**

PUERTO RICO
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from

# CUBA

by

Arnaldo Barreto



Today it is very difficult to obtain new bottles from Cuba in the U.S. because of the embargo. However, here are ten bottles produced in Cuba by two different companies.

The first two are **Ron Santa Cruz Carta Blanca** 38% Vol. 5cl and **Ron Perla Carta Blanca** 36% 5cl. Then we have **Havana Club Silver Dry** and **Havana Club Anejo Reserve**. The Silver Dry is 40% Vol. Now comes the interesting part concerning these bottles.

In the last MBC magazine was shown the plastic version of the

Anejo Reserve. However, the glass bottle in our photo is a product of Corp. Cuba Ron S.A. and you can see on the top of the label that it was produced in Cuba. The plastic one shown previously was produced by the Bacardi Corp. which acquired the label from the good will of a former owner of Havana Club in Cuba when he left the island after the revolution. Now both companies claim the right to use the brand and it has ended up in court. It will be interesting to see who gets the legitimate right to use the brand in the future.





The remaining six bottles are all produced by Empresa de Bebidas y Licores Ciudad de La Havana. These are Ron Legendario Carta de Oro 40%, Ron Legendario Anejado 38%, Aguardiente Tipo Cazalla 49%, Licor Triple Sec 40%, Licor de Platano 38% and Vino Vermouth Blanco Dulce "Domani".

If you travel to Cuba you can find the bottles; however, remember the difficulty is in bringing them through customs.

--A.B--



# MELO'S MINIS

by MIKE OLSON



Hey, it's hip to be square (or so the song says). In this article we'll look at a dozen Kentucky Straight Bourbon Whiskeys in square bottles. These bottles were mainly used during the 1960's and many are quite hard to find. This may be due to very limited distribution or maybe it was just the times and they were not saved.

Anyway, these bottles were covered in a 1995 three-part article by Fred Hawley, which can be found in MBC #126-128. At the time they were published, I was missing a number of them in my collection. I have since obtained several, but I'm still lacking a couple of them. I guess you can't get them all, but I try like hell!

Bottle number one is Rosewood's Anniversary which has a nice colorful label and may be found occasionally. The Sam Clay and Old Yannissee are probably the

two rarest and both have great looking labels. The Old Joe is another which can be found, sometimes with an export revenue strip.

The Old Distiller and Distiller's Bond have gold labels with red and black. The Distiller's Gold and Kentucky Gold have almost identical labels and are fairly rare.

The Kentucky River is another nice looking bottle which turns up every once in a while. The Boone's DeLuxe though is another very rare bottle with a green label with red and white. The Wildcatter was probably a tone time production run, but quite a few have survived. The last of these is McCormick which is not a Kentucky Bourbon. This bottle is most commonly seen in the round variation, which I also have.

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

# FROM JAPAN

by TAIZO SHIRATSUCHI



This time I would like to present to you some changes in miniatures of the NIKKA HI (HI HI) Whisky from the Nikka Distilling Co. Ltd.

The HI HI NIKKA was launched in 1964, but it is uncertain if the miniature was available at the same time. It has a plastic cap cover and a back label painted with a person called 'Hige no

Nikka' (Bearded old man of Nikka). (A) The next is (B) a variation without a neck and back label, but with a cap cover too.

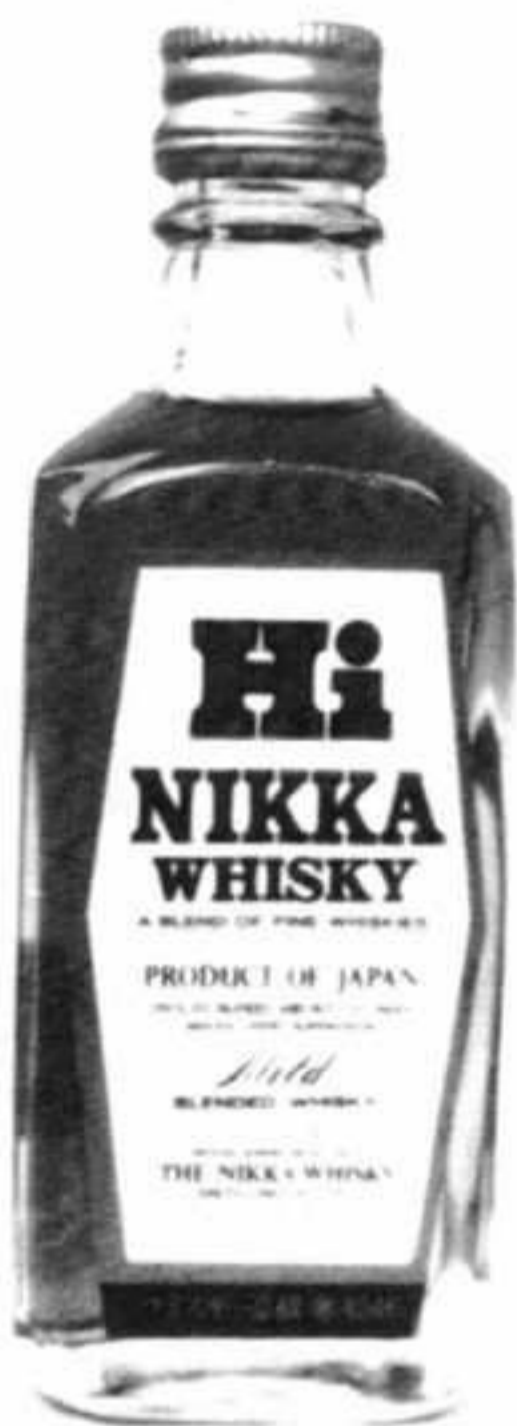
The next two HI HI have the words in red, not black. There are two variations (C) and (D). In 1976 Nikka changed the brand name from HI HI NIKKA to HI NIKKA MILD. This one has a red "HI" on





50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the founding. It has no golden frame and a white "HI" on the red bert. There is a black space at the lower part of the label and the regular bottle has 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary at the same space. This was in 1984.

In 1986 or 1987 the HI NIKKA DELUXE was issued and it has a golden frame and a red bert with white "HI" (J). The Japanese classification system was repealed in April of 1989 and the label was



an off white label. One has a cap-top painted by black (E) and the other by brown.

HI NIKKA DELUXE MILD appeared in 1978 with a black label and a red "HI" (F). One has "A BLEND OF FINE WHISKIES" in the center of the label (G).

Next (H) is a commemorative bottle of Nikka Whisky Distilling



## TREASURES OF THE PAST

by  
BUTCH JONES



Two Japanese Giveaways are featured in this article. The first is the French Maid. You have probably seen this one before. One thing different about this version is that she is carrying a pitcher of scotch whisky. Versions without the tray tend to be smaller and

thinner.

The second bottle is just what you see, a brown boxing glove. The ties are dark brown with the glove being a lighter brown. This one is about 4 1/4" in height.

'Til next time. —B.J.—



changed (K). There is only a Japanese word which means Whisky, while the Japanese word which means "second class" disappeared.

The last one is a NEW BLEND HI NIKKA. It is a 12.5cm tall clear plastic container of 100ml at 39% alcohol (L). All the other HI (HI HI) NIKKA are clear rectangular glass bottles, 10.5cm tall with 50ml contents at 39% alcohol.

Until next time. —T.S.—



# J & B

by

Tony Natelli



By any standard, J & B Scotch is among the top selling and most popular scotches in the world. We'll look at a variety of the variations now.

The eight known versions are pictured here for you:  
**J & B RARE**, the most popular and well known sold in most of the world's markets. **J & B SELECT/Black Label** was seen in certain U.S.A. stores and may or may not still be available. **J & B 10yr** was sold here during the 1930's, and perhaps the early 1940's, and shows up in collections now and then. **J & B JET 12yr/Black Label** was sold in Canada and, like J & B Select, may or may not still be found.

In photo number two, we have:  
**J & B EXCEPTION 12yr Malt.**

This is the most recent, but conversely the rarest J & B miniature. It was available in France only attached to the full size bottle and very little is known about it. Our final three bottles are variations of **J & B RESERVE**, none of which were sold in the U.S.A. And, again, availability is "iffy", as far as our knowledge is concerned.

All three contain 15yr old scotch and are very similar with slight color and lettering difference.

J & B also produced, in full size, the following:

- A) **J & B ULTIMA**
- B) **J & B 20yr old**

There is no evidence that miniatures of these two ever existed. But we can always hope!!

--T.N.--

## A Visit To **Boozeville**



We thought it only appropriate to have a Father Christmas with us this issue. There are various Christmas and/or Santa bottles to be found in shops, shows and on-line; however, this particular one is seldom seen.

So far he has only been seen in blue and in this smaller size of 6

5/8" or 168cm. It does appear as if he's completely ready for his yearly trek. After all, he has his pack on this back, a small tree and of course, a bottle of schnapps to keep him warmed on his way.

If you're truly fortunate, one of these years he'll make a visit to your home...and stay!

Volume II

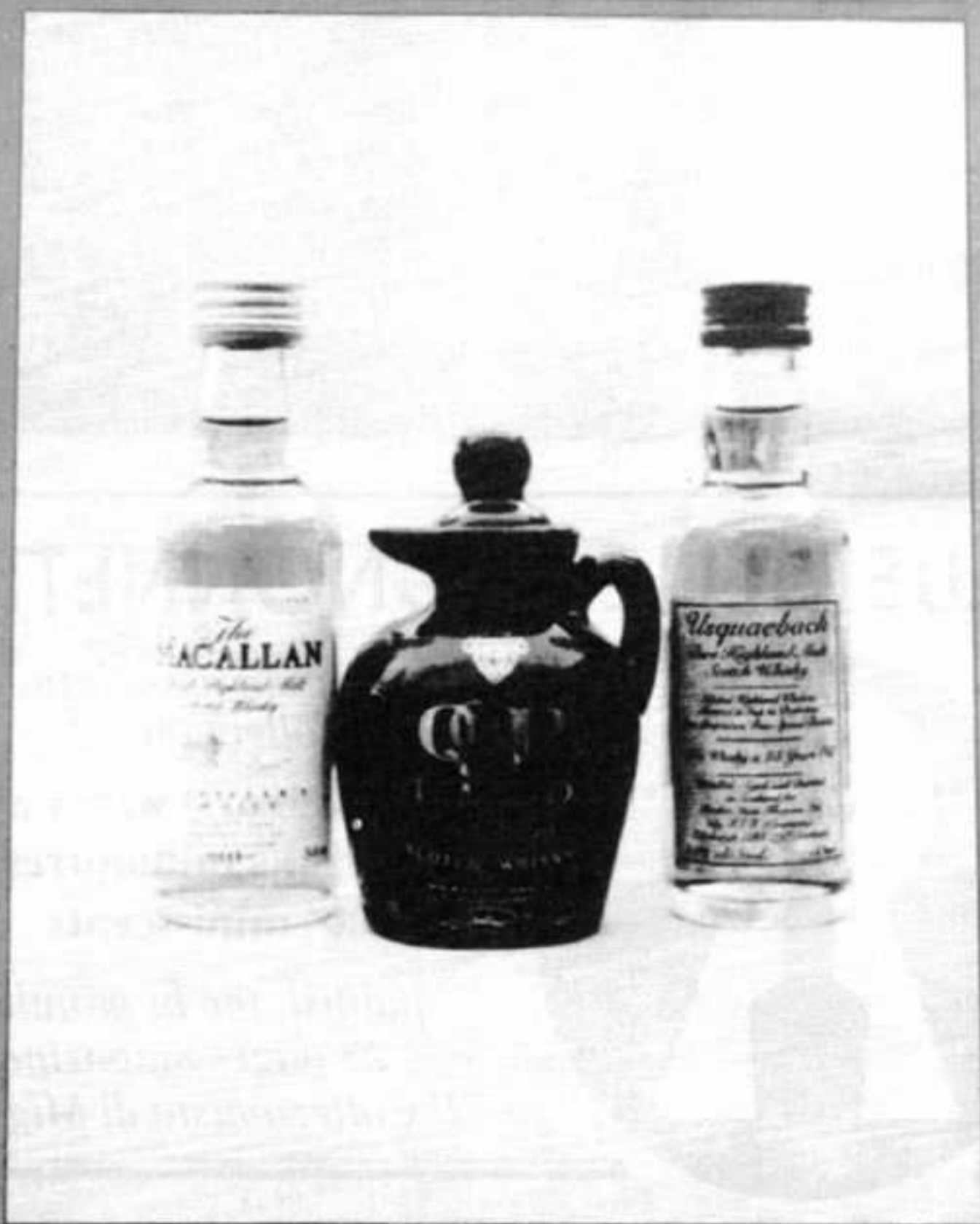
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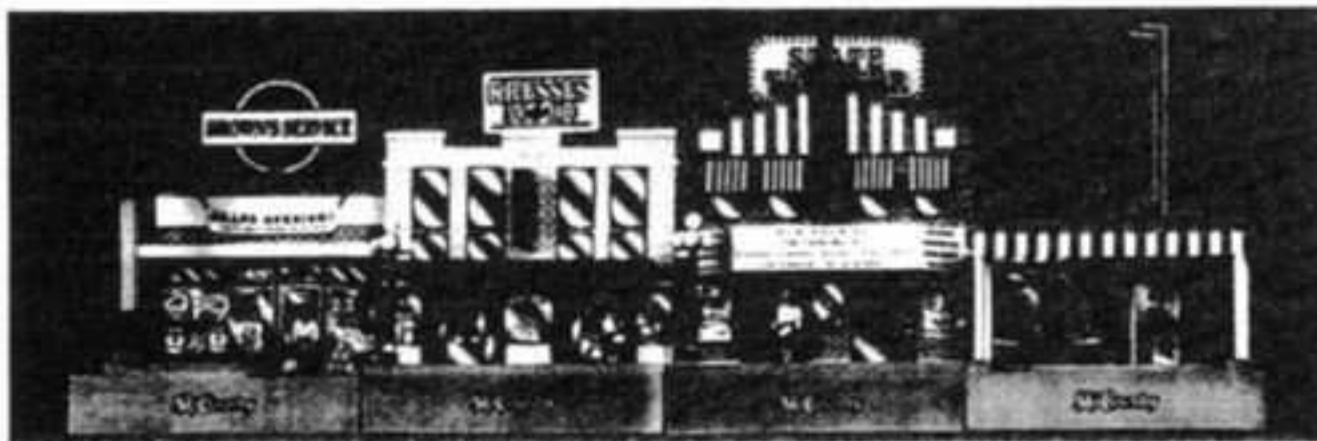
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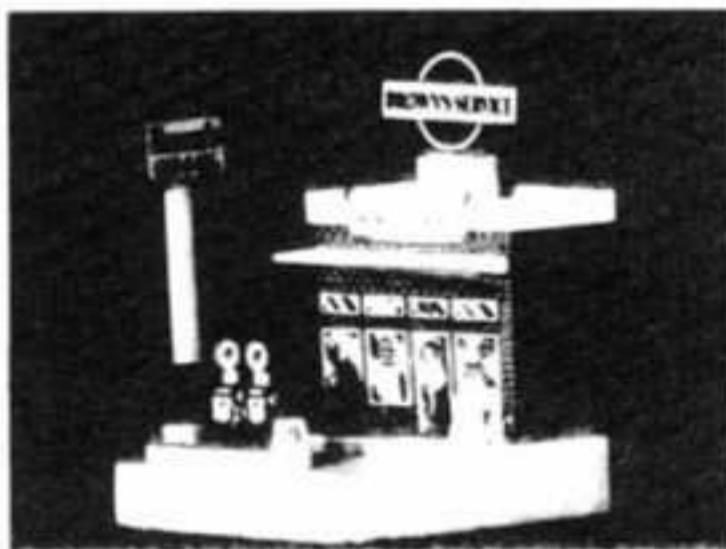


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**WANTED:** Figurals - The Northwest Miniature Bottle Club is seeking figurals for our monthly raffle. We are not seeking the esoteric or exotic. If you have some figurals to sell, please contact Jack Kelly, 2703 39<sup>th</sup> Street, Gig Harbor, WA 98335 or call (253) 851-3225 or e-mail taster@harbornet.com

**FOR SALE:** I have 40 mini Ski Country bottles for sale. Please send a SASE for the list of bottles and prices. Jim Fennely, 520 54<sup>th</sup> Street, Sacramento, CA 95819

**WANTED - RUMS and ANYTHING FROM CUBA.** I have a large rum collection. If you are in Florida, I am one hour from Disney in Cocoa Beach. Come see my collection. Have rums to trade or sell. Tom Beasley, P. O. Box 667, Cocoa, FL 32923 or call evenings (321) 784-2475 or fax (321) 453-3680.

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**FOR SALE:** The new list is up to date with the newest tequilas and many others. How about Herradura Tequilas, Lago Azul in cobalt blue glass, a new set of Zwacks on special. And, of course, the Hussong's Cantina Tequila Jug (\$12 plus shipping). Send an SASE for list and prices. David M. Spaid, P. O. Box 2161, Palos Verdes, CA 90274.

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**FOR SALE:** 5,000+ piece mini-bottle collection. 1,400+ figurals, 700+ Jim Beam Custom Label minis, 3,000 assorted straights. All or part. For more information, Jim Scarborough, Tampa FL (813) 238-2112 or email homoheights@yahoo.com

**WANTED:** Pre-prohibition mini bottles. Send list of what you have with price to Jerry Maushard, 1130 N. E. Glen Oak, Peoria, IL 61603 or fax (309) 688-4137.

**WANTED:** Still looking for Garnier Blown Glass, Anglo Swiss Clown, Gagliano Pagoda, Hine Stags, Duty Free Larsen and Camus bottles, Manhattan Fruits, Pinocchio set, blown glass, novelty bottles, baseball, papillons, Robj bottles, Rynbende Ballerina, Pink Elephant, KLM Houses, Southern Sales, Elvis, Lionstone Shootout at OK Corral, James Bond 007, etc. I have a trade/sales list also. Contact Robert Waldman, 1102-1835 Morton Avenue, Vancouver, B.C. V6G 1E5 Canada or tel (604) 228-88989 or email rw007@home.com

**WANTED;** MBC Magazines #'s Voll#2 and Vol 2 #1 & 2. Have for sale or trade MBC Magazine #'s Vol 1 #3, Vold 2 #3-4-5, Vol 3 #6, Vold 4 #2-3-6, Vol 5 #1,2,6, Vold 1 2 #1. Jim Scarborough, Tampa, FL(813)238-2112 email homoheights@yahoo.com

**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 (TRADE or BUY):** I am looking for any miniature liquor bottles made or bottled in the AZERBIJAN, BRITISH HONDURAS, CORSICA, CRETE, CEYLON, IRAQ, or SURINAM. I will pay top dollar, or trade multiple minis for mini bottles from any of these countries. I have over 150 countries available for trade. Contact Jim Crawford at (513) 467-9113, or e-mail me at shooter@fuse.net

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