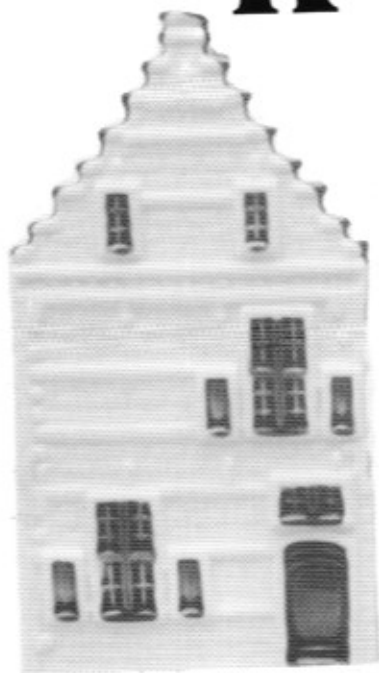


VOL. XXX
No. 173

No. 1
2003

THE MINIATURE BOTTLE COLLECTOR

K L M



Federation of Historical Bottle Collectors, Inc.

Bottles & Extras

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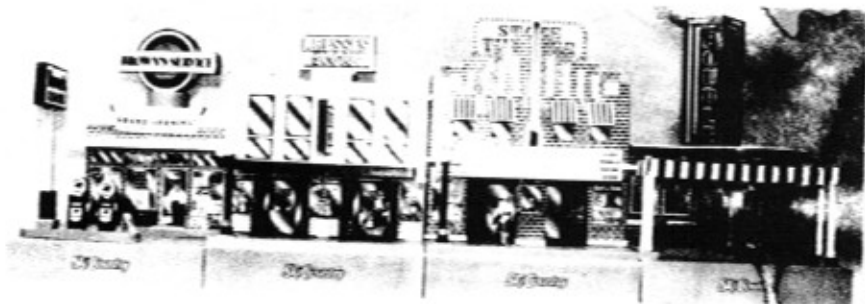
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THE MINIATURE BOTTLE COLLECTOR

Editor / Publisher DAVID M. SPAID

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Our Cover:

This time we feature for you two of the recent KLM bottles. On your left is number 82 which was issued in October of 2001. Number 83 became available this past October. The other bottle is no longer produced but was given for a short time to couples who flew on KLM for their honeymoon. This was a very low issue which brings very high prices on the collectors' market.

FROM THE EDITOR:

This is year number thirty and with issue number 176 at the end of the year, *The Miniature Bottle Collector* will have completed three decades of keeping you informed on what's happening in the miniature bottle collecting world.

I was looking back through some older issues the other day as I had just made the decision to clean out an area to put up more shelving. As an aside, this is why I'm making the offer on the inside back cover. In any case, I digress.

The older issues were interesting not just for the bottles that were shown (and there were thousands) but for the books, the club activities, the shows, and all the allied bits of information that were contained in them. Prices, of course, is one area that should almost be considered whimsical.

My point here is that collecting has sustained many of us through thick and thin, bitter and sweet, or however you choose to say it. In the article this time about collector Jerry Maushard, the idea is presented that there is always something to do when we have a collection.

This year we may have to take even a bit more involvement with our collections as these are uncertain times to say the least. What the next few weeks and/or months will bring may be unsettling. So have a bit of faith in your hobby and if possible become more involved.

Naturally one way of doing that is by getting together with others. Various clubs around the U.S. and the world can always use a new member. And, of course, if you can possibly make the MMBC show in St. Louis the end of April, you'll come away a new collector. Happy and probably amazed.

You can also come away pretty amazed if you sit at the computer and go to some of the websites that we talked about last time. Well, those are there for your perusal but thought you'd like to have a new batch. Here are three for you to spend some time with:

www.minivodkaguy.com

www.Edible.com

www.celorio.com/tequila

Two of these three will show you spectacular collections while the third, Edible, will show you some bottles you might not think would belong in the "edible" category.

In the articles this time, we have our regulars and an addition of Eric Hjerseing and Jack Sullivan. Next time John Sullivan (no relation to Jack) and Taizo Shiratsuchi will be back with us.

Until then...keep thinking small.

--DMS--





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WHAT'S NEW



What's new...or not so new? I guess you would have to say that PET or plastic bottles are not only here to stay, but are here with a vengeance. If you look at the American products being introduced, almost everything seems to be in plastic. Only the "backward" rest of the world continues to use glass.

I've recently heard a number of people say that they don't want any more plastic bottles. If they mean it, they will only be adding a very occasional U.S. bottle and lots of

foreign ones. Only one recent new issue (Buffalo Trace - shown elsewhere) produced here is in glass. With that griping out of the way, let's look at new bottles.

There are ten new ones for you this time, three are glass and seven plastic. Nine of the ten bottles are sold here in the U.S.

1. Ten High Kentucky Straight Sour Mash Whiskey. This is a new label and a not very exciting one at that.
2. Paul Masson Mocha Caramel Cream Liqueur. Sounds like an



intriguing taste, doesn't it.

3. Paul Masson Chocolate Hazelnut Cream Liqueur. Another liqueur trying desperately to capture a segment of the Bailey's market.

4. Hiram Walker Raspberry Sourball. I believe this is one of a set...none of which would be for my palate.

5. Brogan's Irish Cream Liqueur. Aha, if you use Irish Whiskey, you'll have an entirely different taste. You will, won't you?

6. Ciclon. Whee, rum-tequila-lime juice all mixed together. I guess the



spelling cyclone was already taken.

7. Conch Republic Rum Co. Light Islamorada Rum. This was made for South Florida a while back. There is a dark version available also. Nice label on both of them.

8. Captain Morgan Private Stock Rum. Hooray, a glass bottle from our neighbor Puerto Rico.

9. Camus Borderies Cognac. This came from France via Hong Kong where it originally was hung around the neck of a larger bottle. The bottle has been seen before but never in this satin finish. This is a

truly nice one.

10. Cognac Frapin Extra. The nicest new bottle around. Exact replica of the larger bottle, this is a beautiful new shape and extremely elegant bottle. It comes boxed with a price tag (tax included) just a bit under \$40. Why is it quality always costs more?

That's it for this time. Hopefully next time we'll have more glass bottles for you. —DMS—

A Visit To **Boozeville**



Who's that stumbling around in the hallway? Someone trying to fit his key into the lock and missing every time. Yes, take a good look at that face.

Well, in this age of incredible graphics and an unlimited budget, we could undoubtedly put a reflecting finish there where the face should be. However, the Germans who produced this bottle

just used a little round mirror.

The name "What a Night" is actually found on three distinctly different Shafer and Vater bottles. The other two are figurals while this one as you'll note is a flask.

This bottle is also found in multicolor and with a face there instead of the mirror. There are several "mirror" flasks such as this and all of them are quite clever.

MEET THE COLLECTOR:



(Ed. note: this originally appeared in Peoria, Illinois, Journal Star on November 21, 2002.)

For 26 years they've worked together six days a week, 10 hours a day, and all but a few weeks of the year. So when they're at home and Janie Maushard gets sick of her husband, Jerry Maushard, lurking about, she csts him from the room with a suggestion that's somewhere south of subtle:

"Don't you have something to do downstairs with those little bottles of yours?"

"There's always something to do (with the collection)," said

Mausahrd, the owner of Central Fixture Co. and an avid collector of a common and inconspicuous item you probably never once considered to be even remotely collectible. "So I just go downstairs into "my" area and putter around."

With those little bottles of his.

Here's the deal. Maushard collects bottles. Little bottles. Little bottles with liquor in them. Lots and lots of little bottles with liquor in them. He can't help himself.

"I've made contact with people all over the world who collect these things, but I've never run into anyone else in this area," Maushard said. "I'm the only nut

Jerry Maushard of Peoria, Illinois



in town.”

If you start with the premise that anything is potentially collectibles – so long as the things has been around for awhile and comes in lots of varieties – then there is nothing interestingly weird about having thousands of miniature liquor bottles on display in your basement. What might be considered inherently weird, however, is the following fact:

Maushard doesn't drink liquor.

“I'm not a drinker,” he said.

Which brings us to the only question that matters in this story:

Why?

We'll start at the beginning, because it's easy to trace the origins of the Maushard collection.

July 11, 1959. Rhinelander, Wis. A vacationing Maushard drops into the House of Spirits on his 21st birthday looking for something to commemorate the special day.

“I was looking for a keepsake, something to remember the day by,” Maushard said.



"I bought five miniature bottles that looked interesting to me," he said. "I paid 50 cents apiece."

A hobby was born.

Now, just to make certain we're all together here, the bottles Maushard collects are the kind sold on airplanes after the seat belt light is extinguished and the drink cart has blocked access to the bathrooms. The replica-in-miniature bottles of liquors like Smirnoff vodka, Tanqueray gin and Chivas Regal Scotch that a number greater than 99.99 percent of all customers open, pour and instantaneously and permanently erase from their consciousness. Maushard, on the other hand, buys them, never opens them and keeps them on shelves that line the walls of his Peoria basement.

The five original bottles grew to 10 after a couple of business trips by plane. Then, before he knew it, he had 20, then 40. Then 140, then 400.

Now he has nearly 4,000 different bottles.

"Like any collector will tell you, it's the thrill of the hunt," Maushard said, "I'm not going to pay any price for any bottle. You learn what they might be worth, and you try to get a deal. That's the fun of it."

One section of his basement – the one with the fireplace, pool table, television and exercise equipment – has one wall with rows of shelves that run the length of the room. Two shorter walls are also completely filled with bottles. A tidy workshop just off a second, larger basement room contains six, 16-foot shelves along one wall and three more shelves at the short wall around the corner. There are hundreds – hundreds – of bottles in that room alone.

And he has historic bottles of local significance. Still affixed to a bottle of Hiram Walkers Deluxe –

contd. on p. 33

EXPLORER by Eric Hjersing



Explorer is the "peoples" vodka of Sweden. It is and has been for several years the most selling liquor in Sweden. It even beats the more internationally famous Absolute Vodka. When it was launched in the late 1950's, it was to be marketed all over the world, and mainly in the U.S.A., hence the name Explorer. Unfortunately, the world market of the late 1950's wasn't ready for a Swedish Explorer. The launching in the U.S.A. can't be described as anything else but a disaster. In Sweden though, Explorer was a huge success and still is.

Explorer itself is a high quality, unspiced vodka. The taste is clear, soft and rounded with a certain

corn quality and a light sweetness. It is perfect as a base for all kinds of drinks.

Explorer Gran has a pure, clear water color and a fresh scent of spruce twigs and resin. It also has a certain gin character and is suitable for mixing with tonic or in a martini.

Finally, the Explorer Lingon has a fresh, pure taste with a berry flavor of lingonberry and raspberry. The color is red and it is used mostly as a drink ingredient. To serve the favorite drink "Little Red Riding Hood", mix Explorer Lingon, bitter lemon and a slice of lime. Some enthusiasts prefer it with just some crushed ice.

--E.H.--

MELO'S MINIS

by MIKE OLSON



In this article we'll look at some nice "waffle" embossed bottles from the Overbrook Company of Baltimore, Md. I have always liked these bottles, but then...what don't I like. Some of the brands came in round variations, but we'll just look at the flats this time. These bottles were sold mostly in Maryland and perhaps a few eastern states. The good part is that they were produced in fairly large numbers and can occasionally be found.

We lead off with Washington Club Straight Whiskey. It is 90 proof, 4 months old and has a yellow label printed in green and black. The Washington Club Bourbon is also 90 proof and has the same colors with a little red trim.

Next are a pair of Washington Club Ryes with yellow labels printed in red and black. Both are 86 proof with the first one being 2 years 6 months old. The second one is 3 years old and the top of the



MELO'S



label has been trimmed off.

The Overbrook Reserve is A Blend of Straight Whiskies. It is 90 proof, 3 years old and has a yellow label printed in red, black and gold. The next three are Maryland Straight Rye Whiskey which have black labels with red and white. The 2 ½ and 3 years old are 93 proof, while the 3 ½ year old is 90 proof. The Southern Bar and Green Spring are both Blended Whiskey at 90 proof and are the two rarest of the group. The Southern Bar has a tan label

printed in red and brown while the Green Spring is done in shades of green.

The last two are both Maryland Straight Rye and were bottled for the Williams Wine & Liquor Store of Baltimore. Both are printed in red and black with the colors reversed.

Finally, there has been a little action in pre-pros on the internet and I hope to show a few in future articles.

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



THE MACALLAN



For many who actually drink the contents of larger bottles, particularly scotch bottles, the name The Macallan is one which is appreciated far and wide. Notice it's not Macallan, but The Macallan. If you alphabetize, it goes under "t".

The Macallan miniatures are also sought with great vigor. We have two to show you this time and also quite a bit of information about new miniatures which are just becoming available.

The 26 year old is an OB or original bottling from a few years back. Each bottle was numbered and as you can see, this is number 0191. It came in a box, not in a tube as have some of the 18 year old miniatures. The value of this one today is just south of \$50!

Now speaking of the number fifty, we'll look at the other bottle. This is the Golden Jubilee crystal bottle made to celebrate 50 years since the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II in 1952. In keeping with the concept of "50", there are 50 different bottlings of The Macallan vatted to produce this whisky. And, there were only 50 numbered bottles produced. This is number 22. In case you're interested, there were also 50 bottles of the larger size produced. The miniature sold for 125 pounds (approx. \$200 at this writing) while the larger one went for 650 pounds (approx. \$1,000). Both come in elegant boxes as shown here.



Now, if you're really, really going to collect The Macallan miniatures, you have to know about the new aged ones which are now being sold through the company itself. Go to the website www.themacallan.com where you may order *The Definitive Guide to Buying Vintage Macallan*. The cost is ten pounds or roughly \$16. In this book you'll find the following miniatures: 1937 (two different), 1938 (two different), 1939, 1940 (two different), 1945, 1946, 1948, 1949 (two different), 1950 (two different), 1951, 1952 (two different), 1953, 1954, 1955, 1958, 1959, 1964, 1965, 1966, 1967, 1968 (two different), 1969 (two different), 1970 (two different), 1971 (two different), and finally, 1972 (two different). Now here's

the fun part...if you buy just one of each of the above in its nice little wooden box, you'll only have to pay between \$9,000 and \$10,000. Now that would be dedication!

Several collectors are buying their birth year or the birth year(s) of their children, if it's one of those which are available. The least expensive is one of the 1971 bottlings. It will only set you back about \$100. Now...who said miniature collecting is an inexpensive hobby?



TEQUILA



We've squeezed in as many as possible this time. All have been produced within the last two years so may be considered current.

The set of tall Espolons are available here as they've been purchased in Florida and Northern California. Watch for them as they make a great companion set with the short ones shown last time. The local Southern Cal wholesaler has them in stock...but can't find them in the warehouse! How's that for an excuse.

Only one of the Casa Nobles is sold here, for the rest you have to go to Mexico...and be lucky. These

are three ceramics and one glass bottle.

The King of Tequilas or El Rey actually has a crown for a stopper. It's a nice bottle, but a bit large at 150ml. Oro Azul is a tall frosted glass and has been on the market less than six months.

The bottle with the wood stopper is Revolucionario. Maybe it's the idea that is "revolutionary" as the bottle and its contents are not.

The last bottle is a nice short round one named Buen Pais. The metallic label is difficult to read but this is one of the more interesting little ones.



CORNISH MEAD



A person's perspective on collecting certainly changes with age. If you've collected for a number of years, the "old" bottles were those from the 1930's. Now if you look at the ads listing bottles or collections for sale, "old" seems to be all the way back to the 1960's. The Cornish Mead bottles shown here are really a case in point.

These were talked about as old figurals from those long ago bygone days of the 1970's. Depending on your age, it may only be a slight lengthening of yesterday.

CORNISH MEAD



At any rate, here they are....the foxes, the rabbits, the frogs, and the mice. These are Mr. & Mrs. In each case, of course. If memory serves, these were the last of the Cornish Mead bottles.

The only thing no one was able to figure out was why you put the label across the animal's body when most of the bottles had a pedestal base just perfect for a label. Maybe that's the type of clever thinking that led to the demise of the company.

Glass!

by

Arnaldo Barreto



Previously I have shown you some bottles from Cuba, now I have several more.

#1. Brandy Tres Toneles Perfecto. Produced by Empresa de Bebidas y Licores de Ciudad de Cuba. 36%.

#2. Habana Club Anejo 3 Year. This one was not shown last time.

#3. Ron de Cuba Corsario refino 35% produced by Destileria Sevilla and Corsario Palms, el cai urbano noris 36%. These have a ship on the label.

#4. Bucanero 38% anejo and Carta Blanca. Compania Tecnoazucar de Cuba.

#5. Conde de Cuba, shown in the Lilliputian Club bulletin previously.







#6. Conde Cuba 3 years 38%, also from Tecnoazucar. And Relicario Blanco 3 year from Tecnoazucar.

#7. Reliacrio 5 and 7 years.

#8. Aguardiente de Cana. "Green Label" 40% from Tecnoazucar. Santero 40%. This is one of my favorites because it shows a santero on the label. This is a kind of witch which is very common in Cuba as part of their culture and tradition.

#9-#11. A set of six Mulata (women with black hair) and also means a mix of African and Spanish people. Again they are from Tecnoazucar and are aguardiente, elixir de ron, ron silver dry, anejo, blanco, and dorado.

I hope you have enjoyed these very difficult to obtain Cuban bottles.

-A.B.-





WHISK(E)Y



Since we have a column for vodkas and tequilas, one for whiskies or whiskeys is long overdue. What we have here are a group of eleven which are sold in various parts of the world even though they may not be sold in



their "native" countries.

The one which doesn't fit this category is the new Buffalo Trace Kentucky Straight Bourbon Whiskey. This is a marvelous bottle with a great label. It is also a replica of the larger version.

The other bourbons shown here are not sold in the U.S. Kentucky Star is sold in Austria. This shape bottle says that the bourbon is shipped in bulk and bottled there as the shape is used for a variety of local Austrian bottles.

Four Roses is a brand familiar to all of us, but only in Japan will you find this bottle. This is also true for the Old Kentucky bottles. One was sold four years in Japan while the other made its appearance there just a few months ago. It was produced for only one store.

Now we have three more bourbons all of which are found only in New Zealand. These are John Brown, Courage Under Fire, and Silver Dollar. The last two have labels which would have made them quite appropriate in the 1930's.

Since we're talking about New Zealand, the Wee Beastie Scotch Whisky is also only found there. But you'll have to go to Germany and France if you want to find this nice 18 year old Chivas Regal.

Saving the most unusual for last, we have the First Watch Whisky which is Canadian Whisky but bottled in South Africa. Now that's an interesting stretch. This could have been "What's New, part II"; however, it was felt these deserved their own designation.



from

SPAIN



For those of you looking for something a bit different, here it is...or they are. These three bottles are from Barcelona, Spain. They didn't last long in the stores because they were made to celebrate the local Barcelona futbol (that's soccer to us) team.

The labels are quite colorful and

each bottle contains 12 year old Napoleon Reserve Brandy. And incidentally, for those who think the French have the brandy/cognac liquor concession all tied up, you haven't tried Spanish brandies!

This set was found by collector Fred Hawley while visiting Spain a couple of years ago.

3 Oldies from I.W. (Harper) Bernheim by Jack Sullivan



Maybe it was because Isaac Wolfe (I. W.) Bernheim immigrated to the United States in 1867 with just \$4 in his pocket that the founder of one of America's most famous distilleries and whiskey brands liked to give things away. But first Bernheim appropriated something: a name. When Isaac and his brother Bernard began distilling operations in 1897, after years of being whiskey dealers and distributors, they decided to use "I. W.'s" initials with a name that some think was derived from the town of Harper's Ferry, W.Va. where John Brown staged his famous raid. Other commentators have a different story. Regardless, the world famous I. W. Harper bourbon was born.



With whiskey sales eventually netting him millions of dollars, I. W. Bernheim became revered in Kentucky as a philanthropist and civic-minded resident. He also was a highly canny marketer for his products. Among innovations, he pioneered in the "give away" mini whiskeys, in bottles and most particularly small ceramic jugs of which three examples are shown here. The first, at right, is just over three inches tall, stoneware with an unusually white glaze. The label is black and applied with a roller over the glaze. It makes clear from the beginning that it is a give-away saying: "Compliments..I W Harper Nelson County...Kentucky."

The middle jug is 2 and 3/4 inches high, two-toned stoneware with an underglaze label. It advertises Harper's "Gold Medal Whiskey". The third example is also two-toned

stoneware, brown top and a beige body. Almost 3 and 1/2 inches high, this mini jug contained a swallow of I. W. Harper's "Old Continental" whiskey. The label is in the shape of an acorn that became a symbol of the Bernheim distillery. The brand was registered by the firm in 1906.

The Bernheim Brothers made whiskey until Prohibition. The firm later sold the I. W. Harper name to Schenley distilleries who continued to market the whiskey worldwide. Today both the brand and its founder are highly respected in whiskey legend and lore. And the minis the company gave away by the tens of thousands remain to remind us of Isaac Wolfe, who arrived in America with \$4, "stole" a name, and made restitution by contributing generously to the people of his adopted country.

-J.S.-

contd. from p. 12

made in Peoria - is the original state of Illinois liquor stamp, dated 1937. Same for a bottle of Guckenheimer Whiskey A Blend made in the American Distillery in Pekin.

His oldest bottles date back before Prohibition which began in 1919 - a bottle of Paul Jones whiskey and a Kellerstraus rye, distilled in Kansas City.

"They're my pride and joy," he said.

They're worth about \$50 each.

"That's kind of what's nice about the hobby," he said. "It's not outrageously expensive, although my wife may disagree about what's outrageous."

Maushard attended his first collectors' show in St. Louis last

year. There were upward of 50 sellers who had set up displays, and hundreds of people in attendance. He stopped at every display looking for pre-Prohibition bottles and discovered a total of four for sale out of tens of thousands of bottles. He bought one, then returned for two more only to find they had been sold.

"They are extremely difficult to find," he said.

No one in his family shares his love for the bottles, which means there have been some discussions about what to do with thousands of tiny liquor bottles after Maushard's little bottle-buying days are over.

"I told my wife, 'Get half what I paid for them and know that the other half pays for the enjoyment I got out of them,'" he said.

SCOTCH

David Maund



Many nice newer bottles to show you this time. With all these bottles, there is one common thread. Yes, they are all glass but they all have something else in common so take a moment to look them over and see if you can figure it out.

Hopefully some of you deduced that not one of these bottles actually was bottled by the originating whisky distillery. I brought almost all of these bottles with me to the show in Reno last October and I must say, made a few scotch collectors rather happy.

The Harrods bottles rather speak for themselves. This pair has been on sale there at the great London store for several months now. The labels do change every so often so if you have some Harrods scotches, compare the labels. As usual, the 5 year old is the blend while the 12 year old is the single malt.

A very nice label will be found on the 10year old Milton Duff. Originally I thought that this was a distillery bottling; however, after reading the fine print, I discovered that it was indeed a Gordon and





Macphail bottling. Certainly doesn't diminish it any though.

The pair of Hart brothers are interesting in that they may be found both here in the U.K. and in the U.S. Both are Cask Strength bottlings. The 29 year old is Glen Grant while the 30 year old is Balmenach. The first is a sherry wood offering while the second is from a port wood cask.

The group of three shown here all contain Drumguish single malt and were bottled by our old friend, The Whisky Connoisseur in Biggar, Scotland. These three are taken from a complete set of eighteen. Each one of the labels commemorates a specific hole from

a specific golf course. If you can't read it, the first one is from Prestwick Old Course, Prestwick, Scotland.

The remaining four bottles are all Old Malt Cask offerings from Douglas Laing & Co. of Glasgow, Scotland. From left to right, they are 12 year old Rosebank, 16 year old Bunnahabain, 19 year old Port Ellen, and 26 year old Linlithgow. These are seldom seen in England but rather easy to spot in Scotland. However, if your travels take you through Heathrow Airport, you'll find them at the Whiskies of the World stand in duty free.

That's all for now. I'll be back in the Spring. —D.L.M.—

MEZCAL



Taking a break from tequilas, we have a few Mexican mezcal bottles for you. Usually you can find Senor Gusano (that's the worm) inside, but you'll only find it in two of these bottles.

Don Silverio is a nicely embossed bottle in an interesting shape "con gusano" La Penca is a common shape but also "con gusano". El

Caxcan is a frosted bottle containing mezcal reposado but with no worm.

Saving the best for last, we have Divino Mezcal. This is a numbered, quite special bottle in that it does not contain a worm but a small pear. AND, I'll take a pear to a worm any day.

ABSINTHE



It seems that quite a few of you have been interested in the absinthe bottles we've shown in the last couple of years. So this time, here are four of the newest. All of these were found in London...that hotbed of absinthe activity.

This is the first time we've had a ceramic to show you though. The Staroplatecky has been shown previously in a straight glass bottle. This one from the Czech Republic is also notable in that it's 10cl or 100ml.

Two of the other bottles are also

from the Czech Republic. The Sebor and the Red. The former is a slightly different shape while the latter is found in the same bottle as several other brands.

The most interesting is the gaudy Hapsburg which comes from Bulgaria. Not only does it have a nice red picture label but it sports a wonderful back label which warns you against letting this bottle get near heat. Since it's approximately 170 proof, that certainly does make sense.

Now we go back a few issues when to when we showed you La Fee. This is the one that uses the eye on the label. Several collectors commented on that eye so with a bit of research, here's the answer which comes SauceGuide, a British publication of last year.

"Made in Paris to a 19th century recipe containing wormwood and flavoured with anise, hyssop and other aromatic herbs, La Fee is endorsed by Marie-Claude Delahaye, founder of the Absinthe Museum in France and turns cloudy with the addition of water. La Fee's label is dominated by an illustration of an eye, Sarah Nixey's eye to be precise. Yup, she was La Fee's "Eye Model".

So a bit of the new and an addition of some interesting info on a bottle show earlier. When they make 'em, we'll show 'em.



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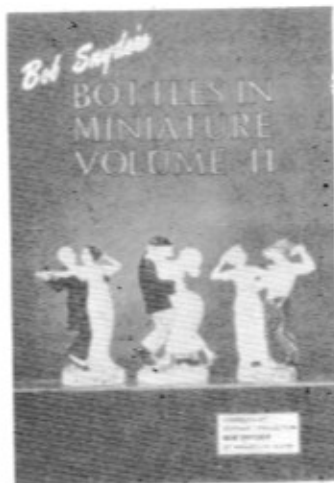
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