THE

VOL.XXX No.3

INTATURE OTTLE OLLECTOR



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Our Cover:

This issue we have a marvelous new figural bottle from Mexico. This is Tope Borrego with his bottle of tequila in his right hand and his pistola in his left. He may not be politically correct today, but he is definitely one all figural collectors will want...let alone all the tequila collectors. He was made and bottled forTequilera Rustica Tope Borrego in Amatifan, Jalisco.

FROM THE EDITOR:

Summer is here and the livin' ain't easy in many part of the land as old Mother Nature seems to have it in for a good many of us this year. Here's hoping that those of you suffering from more than the usual summer heat and rain get some cooler dry days soon.

Last time I wrote about the coming MMBC show in St. Louis so now I have to talk about the past MMBC show. As usual it was a great time with adding lots of new bottles and seeing lots of old friends.

As I mentioned previously, next year is the 25th show and many collectors who haven't attended for awhile are planning on being there. It should be one great bottle time.

And speaking of quality bottle time, many of you have taken advantage of our one dollar per back issue offer and thus are having some good reading. (One must toot one's own horn.) If you do want these back issues and haven't ordered, several issues are in very short supply.

Each issue I like to talk about web sites and have given you a good number of them to look at. Thought you'd be interested in what happened when I recently did a little bottle research using the web.

I was trying to trace down the El Conquistador minis to see who imported them since I knew they had been found in Arizona as well as Mexico. Doing a google search, I immediately found the New Zealand importer which I really had little interest in. In any case, the name Heaven Hill appeared

and since this is a well known Kentucky whiskey and import firm, I was sure I had my needed info.

then typed in www.heavenhill.com and found that this was not where I wanted to be. For your information, this is the website of Frederick's Hollywood, a well-known store whose catalog is near and dear to hearts of teenage everywhere. This of course was another reminder that a little bit of knowledge is a dangerous thing. I'd been aware of this phenomenon ever since a prankster friend told me to check on the famous political site. White House. Suffice it to say that you'll get a very rude screen as there's a great deal of difference between White House and The White House. You've been warned.

Speaking of research, you can probably do a little bit yourself that you weren't even aware of. Every area that sells liquor is serviced by a beverage book or two which is a publication that lists liquors and their prices.

If you visit a store and they know you, ask to see their liquor books to see what miniatures are in your area that they aren't carrying. Remember that the local wholesale house probably no longer has an actual liquor salesman but simply an order taker and that person seldom bothers to show stores new miniatures. After all, how much profit can he/she make on selling a sleeve (10 or 12 pieces) compared to a case of Jack Daniels or Jim Beam, I wouldn't at all doubt that you'll be amazed at what you may find is lurking in the far corners of vour local wholesaler(s).

To give an even better example, you may find out not only what is available, but what is going to be available. A friend in Washington recently asked a store owner if he knew of anything interesting which would be coming in. The store owner replied that he had just placed his order for Christmas and showed my friend the catalog. It seems this year that some of the state run stores in Washington will have more of the little wooden dolls with Russian vodkas inside. This year there will be a Santa and another piece with the American flag on it. The bottles won't be ready for some time, but I'm already anxious.

Now one more topic which deals with research. We've mentioned the new several times about Bottle Musuem in Miniature Norway, but halfway around the world in Osaka, Japan, there is another new mini bottle museum. All I know at this point is that there are 17,000 bottles on display. I will find out more and hopefully report next time.

See you this fall and keep thinking small. -DMS-

LETTERS: We Get Letters

Dear Editor: Why not raise your cost and put this book in color? Take a swing and see. I save the pictures of all bottles so I can see what's out there.

Dr. Edward Meehan, DC Oakmont, PA

Thank you, Dr. Meehan, for putting on paper what many others have said to me personally. The answer is strictly in economics. Some newsletters are doing color printer and/or Xeroxed pages, but for us this would not be feasible. However, if every subscriber was able to bring in a new subscriber, all that money would be plowed back in to the magazine. With more subscribers, we could definitely do more. ..and in color!

Hi, Mr. Spaid: I have been a loyal subscriber of MBC since 1989, issue #91. I can not begin to explain how much enjoyment and pleasure I have collecting I would like to thank you for the information and encouragement for the past years and the many years to come.

Jerry Holt Oklahoma City, OK

Jerry, I surely thank you for your kind words. I just don't know how many more of those future years there will be, but as long as there are people who support the hobby and the magazine (as you do), I'll keep on trying.

Dear Editor: I'm a newer collector and I really enjoy the tequila articles with the pictures of some great bottles for me to search for. Any chance you might do a whole issue on tequila in the future?

Kevin Flaherty Los Angeles, CA

Yes, some of the new tequilas are certainly special and I'm glad you enjoy the articles. As for a complete issue, we've tried that a couple of times in the past, most notably with Zwack, so with some help and a lot of great bottles, it's a possibility.

WHAT'S NEW



I think maybe it's time to change the name of this column from What's New to Around the World in Bottles. Eight different countries are represented in this large group of eighteen bottles. Not so strangely enough, but the only plastic bottles are those from here in the U.S.A. We'll begin with those.

Bacardi is most assuredly the best well known name in the rum business. In fact, more Bacardi rum is poured in the U.S. than any other spirit. Recently the Razz (for raspberry), Vanila (for vanilla) and CoCo (for coconut) all made their appearances. Drinkers of flavored rums have been snapping them up since.

The other two plastics from the U.S. are the Just Desserts Thin Mint Chocolate Cookie and the VooDoo Spiced Rum. The latter is bit more difficult to find: however, the former seems to have made it to a great many states. I first found it and its two sister brands (Crème Brule Chocolate Chip) down in Florida, Let's just say that the two chocolate ones are best found poured over ice cream and not on collectors' shelves

On we go to Canada for the Vidal Ice cube. This is a gorgeous cobalt blue bottle filled with Ice Wine. If you're not familiar with Ice Wine, it mostly comes from Ontario wineries and may be found















just as a wine or as a wine and brandy. This may be the most attractive one released yet.

Now we go all the way south to Costa Rica. Previously three different bottles have been shown but this is a new set of five: Amor Eterno (eternal love) Liqueur, Crema de Albaricoque (apricot), Crema de Melon, Cahuita (coconut rum), and Crème de Menta. They come in three packs with the Crème de Melon in both.

On to Europe where we have four bottles from three countries. Absolut Vanilia is another in the Absolut series, but it is in frosted glass. Going down the continent, we have the Italian Crema di Limone. This is from the Francescano Company and is

another in their series of fancy, frosted glass, wooden-stoppered bottles. A nice one, too.

A bit further south is Spain where we have the Anis Machaquito and the Grand Reserve Vermouth. The Anis is the typical fancy anis bottle with the bullfighter's picture on the label. It is the vermouth however, that is one of the best bottles. If you saw this bottle without its label, you'd think it was one of the excellent Japanese glass pieces. Very thick, elegant glass makes this the one and only vermouth collection.

From Spain we travel east to Jordan. In the past we've shown many bottles from there but these two newer ones, Flamenco Orange



Vodka and Wings Cognac, are very colorful. Since labels with women's photos on them are no longer produced, this Flamenco bottles may be short-lived. Naturally the cognac in the Wings bottle is just bottled in Jordan but produced in France.

Our journey concludes with a rather ordinary bottle...except in one respect. This is a lemoncello; however, it is the only lemoncello I've seen yet that wasn't produced in Italy or Greece. This one is from a small company in Australia!

Thus ends our around the world bottle tour. The next departure will be in approximately ninety days.



TEQUILA





There are many interesting tequilas for you this time. A few are sold here but the majority will be found only in Mexico. (Another example of why it's important to make collector friends in other countries.)

We'll be gin with the two which are possibly the least desirable. These are the plastic Juarez Gold and Silver bottles. These aren't widely dispersed in the U.S. but this set was found in Tennessee.

The Cabo Wabo is a new version which is just a variation of the first two. The second one, the plastic one, didn't seem to achieve much acceptance so someone had the presence of mind to go back to glass. It has wide distribution here.

The remaining two sold here are both excellent. The Hacienda Del Cristero Blanco is a "window pane" type bottle in frosted glass. This beauty may be found on both coasts, don't know about anywhere else. Raicilla Real with the eagle's face on the label has just been found in California (late June). This barrel-shaped bottle with seemingly paneled glass also used by at least one other brand. It's an extremely nice bottle.

Now to Mexico we go. The Zapopan Gold and Silver are not earth-shaking but it is a different brand. The Carmesi is a very elegant, tall thin bottle with a white label. As with many other bottles, it was found in one of the tourist



















The last three are all Los Cristeros. This is when finding bottles out of the U.S. becomes more interesting. We have very strict laws here about everything being either 50 or 100ml and every label must state one or the other. The short one here has no amount listed, the one next to it has 200ml contents shown while the exact same bottle (filled to the same level) lists its contents as 75ml.

For those who have madly chased after the much similar Porfidio bottle with its blown glass cactus, look for these with their incredible blown non-alcoholic contents. The short one shows a flag with a soccer ball (futbol), while the next has an agave cactus and the third something I still haven't figured out yet. Again, will

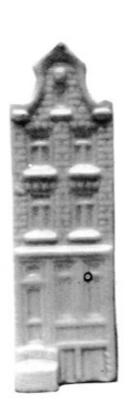
someone please let me know on this one.

Next time another mixture of those found both here and in Mexico.

areas such as Cancun and Cabo San Lucas.

The five bottles which remain would allow appear to be blown glass. The pair of shorter bottles are from a company name which I cannot read so hope that someone will let me know. In any case, these are both 50ml bottles in what is similar to the end-of-day glass which used to be found here in very limited quantities. This occurs when the glass blower looks around to see what he has to work with at the end of the day and thus creates some fascinating swirling colors.

DELFT





Ever wondered what blue and white delft looks like before it gets painted? Well, wonder no more. These two come from the famous Goedewaagen Company in Holland and possibly some of you have the finished products in your collection. These are not part of the

KLM group but are from the twenty-four (four groups of six each) first seen here in the mid-1980's but which may still be found there in The Netherlands. Oh yes...they are all of two euros each in the gift shop.

from



This is part two of our continuing coverage of the new bottles from New Zealand. Last time there were six different names with a baker's dozen of labels and this time we can offer you another six with another thirteen labels. This group also consists of bourbon, whisky, and vodka. Next time you'll see the first of the

Jamaican rums.

The most interesting of the six label types is the Kaiapoi Market Day from Christmas 2002. The label is very colorful and much more intricately done than the others.

So next time some rums and possibly even a couple of malt whiskies.





















MELO'S MINIS

by MIKE OLSON



Did ya like the pre-pros? There will be more but this time we'll look at a mixed bag of bottles ranging from very rare to common. I will show why it's important to pay attention if vou collect variations and then end with a closer look at a couple of recently shown square bottles. Since the article on the square bourbons I have managed to find another brand, but I still can not talk the editor out of his Hunter Bourbon. Oh well, to the bottles.

We lead off with a Canadian from Hiram Walker. It is Marilyn Pure Rye Whiskey at 100 proof. It has a nice green label and a 1928 bonded stamp. The Crosby's Perfection Blended Whiskey has almost the same colored label printed in red and yellow. It is 90 proof and was blended and bottled by General Distiller Corp. of Hartford, Conn.

Next is Maloney's Black Label Kentucky Straight Bourbon Whiskey from Deatsville, Ky. It is 86 proof, 4 years old, has a red and black label and is circa 1960. The same era gives us Old Repeater Kentucky Straight Bourbon. It is 86 proof and from Stanley, Ky. The S & G Deluxe Maryland Straight Rye Whiskey was bottled for Miller's of Baltimore. It is 90 proof,















four years old and is one of the liquor store labels from the 1930's.

The next three should look familiar. The Golden Wedding has the often seen gold foil label, but is slightly different and has the bride and groom instead of the men toasting. The Dant is 86 proof and looks very similar to the common BIB 100 proof version. The Antique has Four Roses on the label which was later dropped.

The last three are super looking Kentucky Bourbons in square bottles and are almost never seen. The Old Yannissee was Bottled by Old Yannissee Distilling Co. Louisville, Ky. It is 86 proof, 8 years old and has a white label in red, gold and black. The Old Spring was Bottled by The Old Spring Distilling Co. Meadowlawn, Ky. It is 90 proof, 7 years old and has a black label with a multicolored center. Last but not least is Sam Clay Bottled by Sam Clay Distilling Co. Lawrenceburg, Ky. It is 90 proof, 10 years old and has a white label printed in red, gold and black.

Finally, the Old Repeater was near the top of my want list for years. All the ones I had ever seen were clear glass flats! I guess I will have to settle for the round variation...for now anyway.

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

SLM





A good many collectors love house or building bottles and everyone is familiar with the KLM houses and possibly even the VIASA house which was another airline linked to KLM. Now a third bottle for a previously linked airline, S L M, has been found.

Black Cat Rum is the contents of this house most probably given away on S L M Airways. The headquarters of both the rum company and S L M are in Paramaribo, Surinam. In 1955 Surinam Airways began domestic flights between Paramaribo and

Moengo. Then on August 30, 1962, the Surinaamse Luchtvaart Maatschappij was officially established.

Today S L M does many links with KLM but is an independent airline with flights to Curacao, Panama, Miami, Brazil, French Guyana, Barbados, and Trinidad and Tobago. As with an American airline which no longer exists, S L M's logo is a proud bird.

If anyone has any more information concerning this bottle, please let us know.

FRORR

by TAIZO SHIRATSUCHI



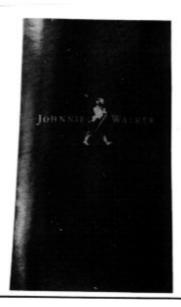






This time I would like to present to you four sample miniatures in boxes from a Japanese importer.

There are two miniatures of JOHNNIE WALKER. BLUE LABEL and 1820. The boxes are blue and Blue Label has a golden line frame. We notice the men in gold are walking forward right. On the inside of the box there is a map of Scotland with some explanations of the Scotch Malt whiskies which are used for each one. The Royal Lochnagar, Glenkinchie, Cardhu, Caol Ila and Talisker are used for the Blue Label while Royal Lochnagar, Clynelish, Cardhu.





Johnnis Walter Blitt Label

最も着りたくもともフレンドこと エファチル製造

定型を収集しませます。のに発達された。 事金をものを最近にでなったしたか。 からまであるまれてもいるとの場合。原 型は、366年におっているとのができた。 さからシアシアを発展しては、267年と、5年 からかになりませたとなった。 できたが、後人のことを受けます。

3 10.000

Old Parr

EXTRA RICH SCOTCH WHISKY









Glendullan and Talisker are used for 1820.

The next is a sample of CRAGGANMORE 12YO. At a glance, you would not know this is a sample of the Cragganmore, as you see. There is "Old Parr" on the box. Yes, the Cragganmore is a main malt for Old Parr. The picture on the inside takes the staff of Distillery.

The last one is a sample of MARTELL CORDON BLEU Cognac. Of course the box is blue. The miniature is wrapped in translucent paper and a small pinbadge is enclosed.

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



Boozeville



"Ja. Would you be wanting just a wee bit of schnapps to make the night hours pass by more easily?", she asked. Naturally, the answer was always yes.

Our Shafer and Vater Frau is a delightful lady. She gives great comfort to all those who possess her...on their shelves, that is.

As you can tell, this is a multicolored piece with the

brightest color being the green base. She has also been seen in blue and occasionally with the words "Kirsch Senglet echter Baselbieter Spezialbrand vom Kienberg". That particular one was filled with genuine Senglet Kirsch (cherry liqueur) from Kienberg.

Possibly there is a whole sub section in collecting just the serving girls of Shafer & Vater.

THE

MACALLAN



Two issues back, The Macallan was featured and some of the newer pieces were shown. At that time, the special bottlings were mentioned. As a follow-up we not only have pictures of some of those special bottlings but also two other new pieces.

The 1966 bottle and the two 1970 bottles were chosen for a particular reason. These are the birth years of my two sons, so at some point in the future, these will be their bottles. There was only one bottling of the 1966 and that was at cask strength 55.5% alcohol at 35 years of age. There were 439 miniatures produced and the original selling price was 92 pounds or roughly \$150.

For 1970 there were two different bottlings. The first was a 32 year old malt at 54.9% cask strength while the second was a 31 year old malt at 52.4% alcohol. These were sold at 66 pounds (app. \$108) and 72 pounds (app. \$119). The reason the second piece is more expensive is that only miniatures were produced while there were 544 of the first piece.

The other distillery bottling shown here is the 15 year old in its own tube. This is one of those bottles which may define the word rarity. According to Amerique, The Macallan importer to the U.S., all the 15 year old minis were to be sold here but were kept in the U.K. to be rebottled because of dwindling stock. The large bottle of 15 year old is no longer produced. Only a small number of miniatures escaped the rebottling fate.

The last bottle shown is a Hart Brothers bottling at 34 years old and also at cask strength. This one may be found in California and a few other states at a general cost of S15-17. Being a collector of The Macallan is an expensive proposition!









RUM



As promised some time ago, here are a group of older French rums. You'll note that some of them have French cities (Bordeaux, Matha, Cognac and Paris) listed on the labels. That is where the bottles were filled and the company which sold them did business. However, all the products inside these miniatures came from the French West Indies, notably Martinique. These were sold throughout France and its possessions.

For some reason, these pictures did not turn out as well as they should. The most difficult to read are the Ronsard rhum Martinique, Rondou's Rhum Martinique, and the most intriguing label with the woman's face, Rhum Reserve Rose-Marie.

The next group of rums will be a series of flasks with startling labels!

















The six shown here are indeed funny bottles. They qualify under the standard which was established when we were all young. They are both funny "ha-ha" and funny "peculiar".

Undoubtedly everyone is familiar with the round and flask bottles from the Par Company of Cincinnati. They may still be found with such glib names as "Blot and Wipe" for Black and White and contain maple syrup, simple syrup or any basic non-alcoholic liquid.

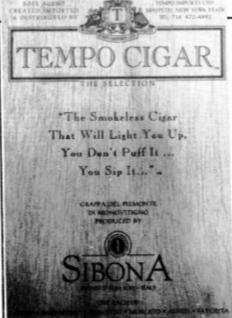
However, this is the only time I have ever seen these labels. A fair amount of effort went into the labels and at first glance they would appear to be genuine. The names Old Salt, Old Tug, Moscow Mule, etc. all seem as if they could grace bottles actually containing whiskey and vodka. It is only when looking for a producer and/or distributor that you know these gist ain't legit!

If you collect funny bottles, now you have six more to look for.



TEMPO CIGARS





Consumed any good cigars lately? You can now (but who would want to break up this marvelous set) thanks to Tempo Imports. This is a set of six Italian Grappas, each from a different grape.

As you'll note on the face of the cigar box, it's "The Smokeless Cigar That Will Light You Up. You Don't Puff It...You Sip It...". The set is imported by Tempo Imports of New York who have also brought us the little glass lightbulbs which may be found in a great many collections.

Who knows...this may start a fad equaling that of the Thin Men.

VODKA

by JOHN SULLIVAN



A short look at the proverbial "from the ridiculous to the sublime". There are nine bottles here: three from the U.S. and six from Eastern Europe. Gosh, can you tell which is which?

The U.S. of course comes on strong with three flavored 99 cent plastic specials which are found in a good many states. These three UV (ultra vodka?) offerings from a Minnesota company are Blue Raspberry, Cherry, and Sour

Apple.

Five of the remaining six bottles are from a Ukrainian company called Olymp. Note the little word at the top of most of the labels. Phonetically it is pronounced "Gorilka" which is the word signifying vodka in the Ukraine.

The last bottle is a new version of Stolichnaya. Personally I'd rather have a new variation of Stoli than several of the UV's. How about you?



from HOLLAND



Every year in Holland there are two giant shows or what we might consider gargantuan swap meets. This April a Dutch collector found the three bottles seen here. Obviously they were produced by Goedewaagen as they would seem to go right along with the set of six palaces.

The Neclenburgh is an unfamiliar name but the other two pieces represent two buildings in the city of Dordrecht. The one that looks as if it might be the city hall is

indeed, the City Hall. The other is the Grote Kerk which I believe would translate as Great Church since "Kirk" or "Kerk" mean church in several languages...including English.

After doing a bit of research (this means two minutes on the computer), I find that there are three more of these pieces. I guess my Dutch collector friend will just have to keep his eyes very sharp at the next giant swap meet.



SCOTCH

David Maund



I'm back with quite a mixture for you this time. There are no plastics and no ceramics and also no distillery bottles. What I do have are a dozen bottles that aren't too often seen.

Let me begin with a pair from our old friends at Whisky Connoisseur in Biggar, Scotland. These are two cask strength bottles of names no longer seen. The Whalligoe 1981 is a 13 year old from the Old Pulteney Distillery. It is 56.4% alcohol by volume so if



one were to consume this mini, it should definitely last for several drinks.

The other bottle is rather a delight because it features a ridiculous error that someone should surely have caught. Note the year of 197. Somehow I believe the last digit got left in the print shop. In any case, this Drumbowie is from Craigellachie.

Hart Brothers bottles are becoming more and more popular and here we have three new ones



















which are available here in the U.K., the U.S. (or so I'm told) and I even believe Japan. They are Cask Strength bottles of 10 year old Glenturret, 14 year old Clynelish, and 26 year old Inchgower. I believe I know of at least eight current issues from Hart Brothers.

It is the remaining seven bottles that are the least seen. This set was done at least a couple of years ago but had eluded me for some time. It wasn't sold in Scotland nor in England. It was done for La Maison du Whisky in France. This

House of Whisky in Paris has become quite well known and provides a great many collectable bottles for our gallic collectors.

Seven different scotch producing areas in Scotland have been designated. Normally I think of five areas but they have broken it down to Island, Islay and Western Isles. A map of each area is shown on the label.

So should you get to Paris you may find some quite interesting pieces at La Maison du Whisky!

MINI WORLD



For years now you could look on the shelves of the better liquor stores and see the large bottles of Grand Marnier. Not just the regular Cordon Rouge but also the Centennaire and the Cent Cinquantennaire. This last one was the one with the oranges drawn all over the bottle.

In late 2002 this set of miniatures first appeared. They were not meant to be sold but were given as gifts to salesmen and various stores. Naturally some have made their way into collectors' hands.

According to the Italian Mignonnette club newsletter, the contents of the 150th Anniversary bottle are actually 50 years old. (I'll drink to that!) Another interesting fact is that there is a fourth bottle with a blue label which was not included in the set.

ROYAL BOTTLES



In the past there have been a good many "royal" bottles, but these are the first two for Queen Elizabeth, The Queen Mother. Rutherford of Scotland has issued a great many bottles but as can be noted, both pieces were very low production numbers with only 100 of each being issued.

The first bottle was produced to celebrate her 100th birthday while the other bottle was unfortunately to commemorate her death a year and a half later.





CLUB DELLE MIGNONNETTES



sole italian association on collections of:

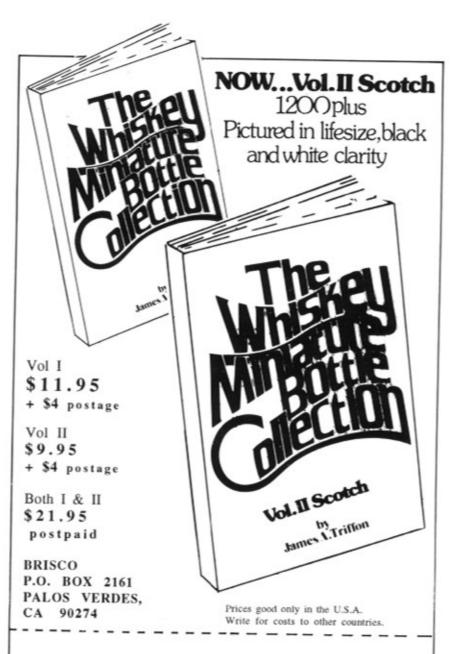
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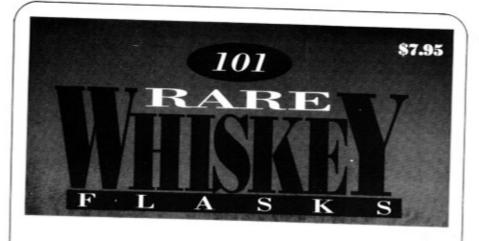
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