

Bottle Talk

Raleigh Bottle Club Newsletter

February, 2009

Marshall Clements, Editor



Heather Dew Blended Scotch Whiskey Mini Jug

Figural Mini Whiskeys

A SMALL NEW WORLD FOR THE BOTTLE COLLECTOR

by Marshall Clements

During the 50's and 60's my brother-in-law was a mechanic for Delta Airlines. While working in the cabin area of the plane he would occasionally run across a mini whiskey bottle. Knowing my interest in bottles he would pass them on to me. During those years I put together a collection of forty or so full, glass mini bottles.

In the mid 80's, while on vacation in Scotland, my wife and I stopped for lunch at a local Pub. When entering the door you could turn left into the bar or right into the restaurant. Straight ahead was a wall with a large bulletin board where the locals could post their "FOR SALE" items. One of the notes immediately caught my eye... *'Mini Whiskey Bottles For Sale'*. The waitress, who happened to be the wife of the owner, was a friend of the person selling the bottles. After a brief phone call a lady showed up with a large box of mini whiskeys. She had worked as a flight attendant for British Airlines and had collected the bottles from all over the world. After a short negotiation I ended up with the collection. Once the sale was complete everyone joined in and individually wrapped each bottle to guarantee safe travel back to the U.S. This unusual purchase increased my collection to about 150 mini whiskeys.

During my career at IBM I had the opportunity to travel to Scotland, England, Japan, Canada, and areas throughout the U.S. On each trip I would return home with a few more mini bottles. My collection slowly grew to about 300 bottles.

In 2007 I was assisting a family with an estate liquidation. While searching through an inner closet we found over three hundred mini whiskeys neatly packed away. Needless to say, I ended up with this collection. My collection quickly sky rocketed to over 700. All of the bottles in my collection are made of glass and are full, except for evaporation loss. All have their original seal and range between 3 and 5 inches tall.

My personal favorites are the mini figurals. The following photos will primarily be figurals with a few others thrown in because of their interesting or unusual label. I hope you enjoy seeing these unusual whiskeys as much as I enjoyed collecting them.



Hawaiian Minis
Above: King Kamehameha and an Island Surfer
Below: Hula Dancers and Hawaiian Pineapple
All of the Hawaiian minis are filled with Rum.





Dutch Minis

Dutch bottles are often decorated with the beautiful Delft blue design.



Mexican Minis
Tip your Sombrero to
El Toro Tequila and
Margarita.





Some Favorite Mexican Minis

Cusano Rojo is the famous Mezcal with the worm. The question is would you swallow the worm?.....Wimp!

El Cuate Tequila is a bottle that caught my eye because of the label. The bottle is sealed but the contents have completely evaporated.



Paruvian Brandy
Ceramic INCA PISCO mini



Bahamian Liqueur
Ceramic HUTIQUE mini



FRENCH MINI
Beautiful ceramic Creme de Menthe GARNIER



SPANISH MINI
Still in the original sealed burlap sack is 'The Prestige of Sherry from Jarez, Spain ..*DRY SACK*



PORTUGESE MINI
MOBANA Creme de Banana liqueur. Pour that on your morning Corn Flakes.



ITALIAN MINI
TIPO White Dry Wine in the woven basket



WEST GERMAN MINI
Bavarian Herb Liqueur mini with a map of Munich

SCOTLAND MINI BOTTLES
 Scotland is a premier place for the mini bottle collector. They produce a wide variety of beautiful figural mini bottles.



Top Left: Handcrafted, painted pottery jug of Scottish Whiskey.
Top Right: Porcelain USQUAEBACH blended Scotch Whiskey mini jug.
Bottom Left: BENEAGLES blended Scotch whiskey in *Mary Queen of Scots* ceramic figural.
Bottom Right: Two 'THE SPIRIT OF SCOTLAND' figural book whiskies.





Top left: BENEAGLES SCOTCH
whiskey golf ball
Top right: BIG 'T' blended scotch
whiskey barrell

Bottom left: BENEAGLES
SCOTCH curling stone.
Bottom right: CLAN TARTAN
SCOTCH bottled in porcelain
Scottish Highlander Tam



AMERICAN MINI WHISKIES



Two GEORGE DICKEL Tennessee Sour Mash Whiskey mini bottles.



**HENREY McKENNA
Kentucky Straight
Bourbon Whiskey**



**AUSTIN NICHOLS
Wild Turkey Bourbon
Liqueur Decanter**

Below are two special label airline mini bottles. These are from the mid 70's when minis were made of glass.



Front



Back



Front



Back

WANTS AND DESIRES

WANTED:

INFORMATION NEEDED

Bill Baab is undertaking a new venture. He is searching for information on the origin of bottle collecting for a future publication. If you have any information dealing with early bottle collecting or know of anyone that might have such information, please contact Bill at:

riverswamper@comcast.net

...Will pay top dollar for bottles embossed 'Wilmington, N.C'

Sodas Medicines
Whiskeys Beers
Milks

Contact:
Chris Whitehurst
cbw315@yahoo.com

FOR SALE

..... My long-awaited Augusta bottle and pottery book has been published, capping 35 years of research and collecting. 74 well-illustrated pages. "Augusta on Glass" costs \$40 (shipping charges included). Make personal checks or money orders payable to Bill Baab, 2352 Devere St., Augusta, GA. 30904.



..... Will pay reasonable price for glass two Liter soda bottles in very good condition, w/cap and bright color. ACL or Styrofoam.

Marshall Clements (919) 423-8557

blobtop@gmail.com

Upcoming Events

MARCH 14 - BADIN, NORTH CAROLINA NEW

The Uwharrie Bottle Club's 2nd Annual Antique Bottle & Collectible Show & Sale (Sat. 8 AM - 3 PM, Free Adm., Set-up 6 - 8 AM) at the Badin Fire Dept., Hwy 740, Badin, North Carolina. Free parking & appraisals. Food available. \$20 for 8' tables - 48 available INFO: **TODD McSWAIN**, 8649 Eddins-Poplin Rd., Norwood, NC 28128, PH: (704) 474-0552, E-mail: mcswain8649@alltel.net.

** Federation Member Club **

MARCH 21 - DELAND, FLORIDA NEW

The M-T 39th Annual Antique Bottle, Insulator & Collectibles Show & Sale (Sat. 9 AM - 3 PM; Set-up Fri.) at the Volusia County Fairgrounds, S.R. 44 & I-4, Exit 118, Deland, Florida. INFO: **M. PALLASCH**, 7 Monroe Ave., DeBary, FL 32713; PH: (386) 668-4538 or **BILL MARKS**, 3110 Deer Trail, Deland, FL 32724, PH: (386) 736-7958 or Cell: (386) 299-4520, E-mail: bmarks2@cfl.rr.com.

APRIL 18 - LINCOLNTON, NORTH CAROLINA NEW

The 3rd Annual Piedmont Antique Bottle & Pottery Show & Sale (Sat. 8 AM - 2 PM; Set-up 6:30 AM, No Early Adm.) at the James Warren Citizen's Center, 115 W.ain St., Lincolnton, North Carolina. INFO: **JIMMIE WOOD**, PH: (704) 692-7888, E-mail: jwoodacl@hotmail.com or **CHUCK RASH**, PH: (704) 732--0373, E-mail: bottlebrother@hotmail.com; Club Website: www.antiquebottles.com/piedmont.

** Federation Member Club **

APRIL 25 - AIKEN, SOUTH CAROLINA NEW

The Horse Creek Antique Bottle Club's Inaugural Annual Bottle Show & Sale (Sat. 9 AM - 3 PM) at the H. Odell Weeks Activity Center, Aiken, South Carolina. INFO: **GENEVA GREENE**, P.O. Box 1176, Langley, SC 29834, PH: (803) 593-2271, or **MIKE NEWMAN**, 600 Medinah Dr., Martinez, GA 30907, PH: (706) 868-8391..

MAY 1-2 - GRAY, TENNESSEE

The State of Franklin's Antique Bottles & Collectibles Association's 11th Annual Show & Sale (Sat. 8 AM - 2 PM, Free Adm.; Early Buyers/Set-up, Fri. 12 - 6 PM, Adm. \$10) at the Appalachian Fairgrounds in Gray, Tennessee. Johnson City, TN-Bristol, VA area, 150 tables available. INFO: **MELISSA MILNER**, PH: (423) 928-4445 or E-mail: mmilner12@chartertn.net.

** Federation Member Club **

JULY 31, AUGUST 1 AND 2 - POMONA, CALIFORNIA NEW

FOHBC is hosting The Annual National Show, Pomona Fairplex, 1104 W. McKinley Ave., Pomona, CA 91768, Banquet – July 31 (6pm), Dealer unloading – August 1 (8am – 12 noon), Setup and early admission – August 1 (1pm – 5pm), General admission (\$5) – August 2 (9am – 3pm). Info: Pam Selenak, 156 S Pepper St, Orange, CA 92868, ph: 714) 633-5775, email: pselenak@yahoo.com or R Wayne Lowry, 401 Johnston Ct, Raymore, MO 64083, ph: (816) 318-0161, email: JarDoctor@aol.com

**Raleigh Bottle Club
FOHBC Member**



*If you have not yet joined the FOHBC I would strongly encourage you do so. There is no better way to keep up with what is going on in the world of bottle collecting. Membership includes a subscription to the BOTTLES AND EXTRAS magazine. Membership information can be found on the website:
www.fohbc.com*

We invite you to join us at our meetings on the first Tuesday of each month. If you are interested in becoming an RBC member you can go to the web site www.raleighbottleclub for more information. If you want to talk to a club member about joining please give me a call....Marshall Clements 919-423-8557. You will always be welcome.



If you are a collector of painted label soda bottles you need to be a member of the Painted Soda Bottles Collectors Association. A one year membership includes bi-monthly issues of Soda Fizz magazine. This magazine is a must for the soda bottle collector. Soda Fizz is the premier magazine for the collector of painted label soda bottles.

*Send your payment to:
PSBCA -The Soda Fizz
341 Yellowstone Drive
Fletcher, N.C. 28732*

RBC Website

"Take a look"

www.raleighbottleclub.org

**If you have constructive ideas or suggestions please contact Robert Creech at:
raleighbottleclub@gmail.com**

BLAST FROM THE PAST



This photograph was taken near Gonzales, Texas. Based on the "5 cents" cost of a coke and the slogan 'RELIEVES FATIGUE' I would estimate this sign to be from the 1907 to 1910 time frame.

Photo from M. Clements collection

If you have never attended an FOHBC National Bottle Show I would highly recommend you do so. The great displays, the interesting seminars, and the unbelievable number of collector/dealers is something every bottle collector should experience.

2009
FOHBC National Bottle Show

Hosted by the Los Angeles Historical Bottle Club

*California
or
Bust*

Banquet:

**Friday, July 31 6:00 pm
Sheraton Fairplex Hotel**

Early Admission:

Saturday, August 1 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Sunday, August 2 8:00 am to 9:00 am

General Admission: \$5

Sunday, August 2 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

**Pomona Fairplex
1104 W McKinley Ave, Pomona, CA 91768**

**Show Chairman:
Pam Selenak
156 S Pepper St
Orange, CA 92868
(714) 633-5775
pselenak@yahoo.com**

**FOHBC Convention Director
R. Wayne Lowry
401 Johnston Ct
Raymore, MO 64083
(816) 318-0161
JarDoctor@aol.com**