



Tom Haunton's new book opens info door to Booz, cabin bottles

By Bill Baab

"Tippecanoe and E.G. Booz Too!"

Ever wonder about the origins of the 19th century E.G. Booz whiskey bottle? Was it responsible for today's alcoholic term "booze?" And was it really a public relations promotion during the 1840 presidential campaign of William Henry Harrison?

Not according to Thomas C. Haunton, a collector, researcher, historian and authority on antique glass. He also is the author of this updated version of his 2006 book of the same title, which is still the go-to book by collectors of cabin-shaped bottles. They'll definitely want to "go to" this new book to take advantage of the information it contains.

Turn page after each of the 135 pages and you're greeted with color photos of each Booz bottle original and reproduction with a ton of information on each. There are more than 200 vivid photos. Every example has been assigned a McKearin number as did George and Helen McKearin in identifying historic flasks in their book, *"American Glass,"* published during the 1940s.

Haunton sheds light on some of the myths surrounding the Booz bottle, such as the story that it came into being during Harrison's successful run for the presidency in 1840. That was a mathematical impossibility since (1) brother Booz would have been only 16 years old and (2) the original bottles were blown by the Whitney Glass Works in the late 1850s.

The author examines the Tippecanoe and North Bend cabin bottles blown by the Mount Vernon (N.Y.) Glassworks as well as the Jacob s (no apostrophe) Cabin Tonic Bitters attributed to the Whitney Glassworks.

Then there are all the varieties of the Booz bottles, including the recently discovered (2013) inside-thread-in-the-neck example that took a glass stopper patented in 1861. It came to light when purchased in a lot of two bottles in a Philadelphia auction for \$2!

Almost as fascinating as the originals are the nearly 70 reproductions pictured, ranging in age from the 1930s to as late as 2001. Most collectors, unless they are well-heeled, can't afford original Booz bottles, but there are some affordable repros in existence that look just as good.

Many of us who have been involved in the bottle hobby love it not just for the bottles, but for the books it has generated as new information comes to light. This one is worth every penny of the \$60 (plus \$3 media mail shipping).

Order from the author **Thomas C. Haunton** at: 47 High Street, Wilmington, Massachusetts 01887 or contact him at: tchaunton@comcast.net

