



Object of the Newsletter

To promote the appreciation of fine Scotch Whisky (and the drinking of it) amongst my friends and to spread the word on the joys of single malt. By the way, I do not profess to be an expert, I am merely expressing an opinion on the whiskies I am tasting. “Slange.”

This issue I look at Aberlour “Camp Esther” private reserve 1983, which I had to good fortune to taste at the Queen Mary Highland Games in Long Beach.

My wife and I paid a visit to the Clan Logan tent and were made very welcome by Jim Logan. We spent some time talking and more importantly for this newsletter, Jim let me try some of the “Camp Esther,” a very rare release of around 350 bottles.

This was an impressive whisky made all the better by the company in which it was savored. I don’t know what the chances are of getting to taste it again as it’s so rare. My hope is that next year when I go to Scotland to hike the Speyside Way that I’ll come across a bottle.

For those of you thinking, why is he telling us about a whisky that we probably can’t get, my apologies.

I hope you find solace in the following comment: I haven’t come across a bad Aberlour yet, in fact I would recommend Aberlour whiskies to everyone, they may not be as rare as the “Camp Esther” but I’m sure that, like me, you will enjoy them.

Tasting Notes;

Color - Dark gold

Nose - Toffee, Stewed fruit, vanilla

Palate - Creamy toffee, vanilla, honey

Finish - Long with honey and a hint of spice

If you have a personal favorite and you would like it to feature in future “Slange” newsletters, please let me know. I can be contacted at my website <http://www.scot-talks.com>

*“Slainte Mhath”
Paul Bissett*



A wee bit of History

At the Queen Mary Highland Games, Long Beach California Jim Logan showed me true Highland hospitality by welcoming me into his clan tent. As we chatted, he gave me sample of the Aberlour "Camp Esther" private reserve 1983 single malt scotch whisky .



Jim on the left, with me cradling the Aberlour

Fishing Story

I went fishing this morning but after a short time I ran out of worms. Then I saw a cottonmouth with a frog in his mouth. Frogs are good bass bait.

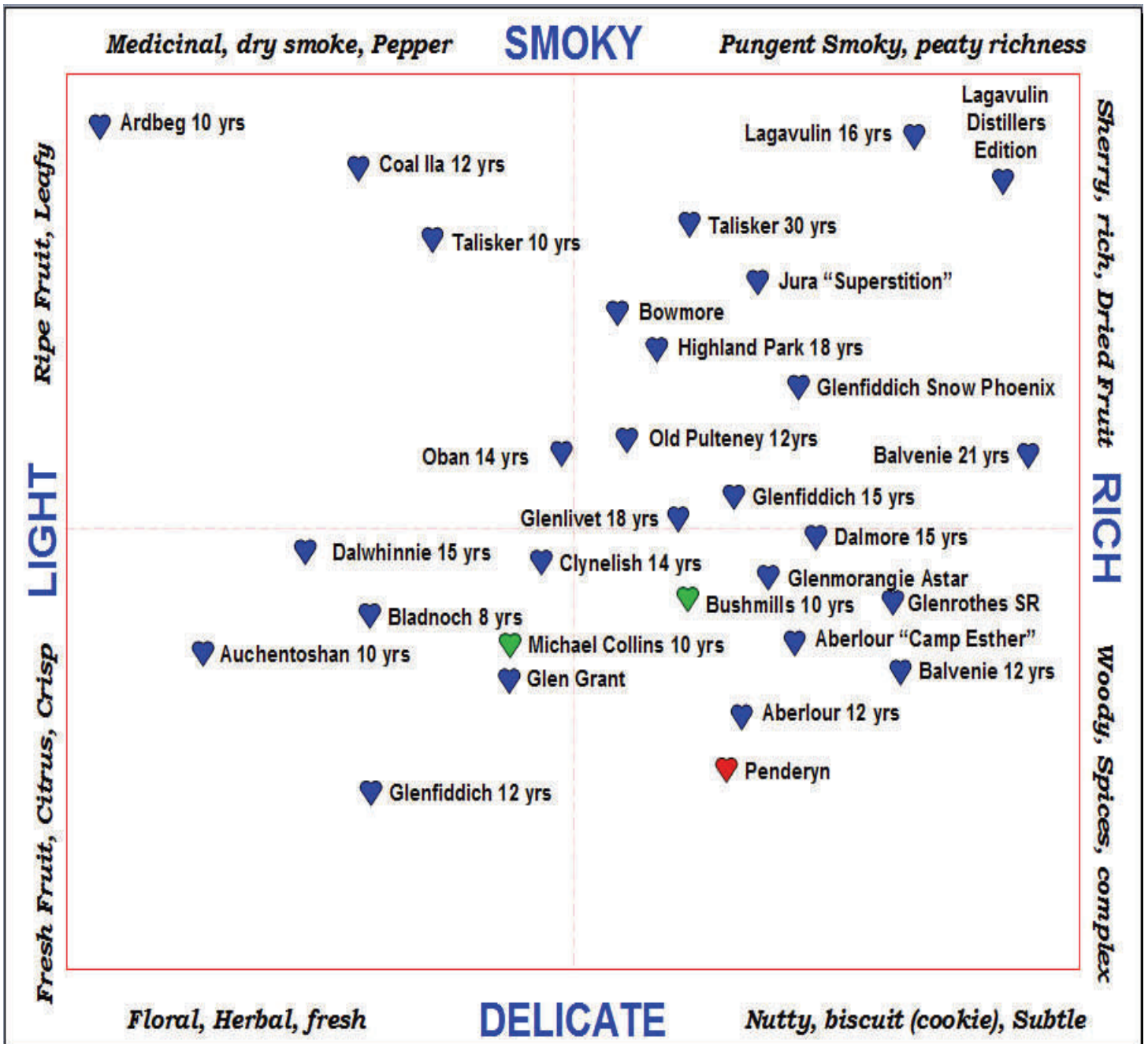
Knowing the snake couldn't bite me with the frog in his mouth I grabbed him right behind the head, took the frog, and put it in my bait bucket.

Now the dilemma was how to release the snake without getting bit. So, I grabbed my bottle of scotch and poured a little whiskey in its mouth. His eyes rolled back, he went limp. I released him into the lake without incident and carried on fishing using the frog.

A little later, I felt a nudge on my foot. It was the snake, with two more frogs.



Below is a simple guide to help you choose your single malt Whisky, and the flavor notes you should expect from it. Being Scottish I recommend you find a likely candidate and try it in a bar before buying the whole bottle. With each issue of the newsletter I will add in another Whisky to the flavor map. This Issue; **Aberlour 12 year old**. For more information go to <http://aberlour.com>





Clan Logan <http://www.clanlogansociety.com>

The surname Logan is, likely derived from the lands of Logan in Ayrshire, Scotland. The earliest record of the surname is of Robert Logan, who is recorded as witnessing the resignation of the lands of Ingilbristoun in 1204. Walter Logan, Lord of Hartside was a sheriff of Lanark in 1301, and in 1298 had received a grant of the lands of "Lus" from Robert Bruce. This Walter Logan appears twice on a roll of landowners forfeited in 1306 by Edward I for supporting Robert the Bruce.

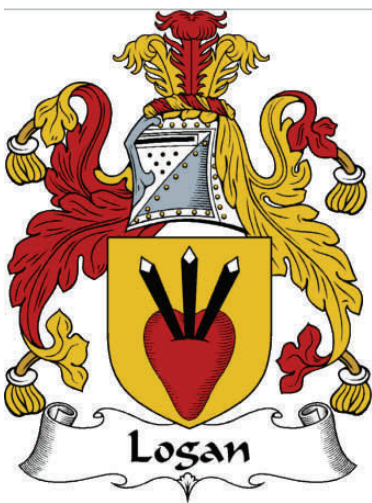
In 1330 two Logans of note were killed in Spain while accompanying Sir James Douglas in his quest to take the heart of Robert the Bruce to the Holy Land.

The leading Logan family's principal seat was in Lastalrig or Testalrig, near Edinburgh. Sir Robert Logan of Restalrig married Katherine Stewart, daughter of Robert the second of Scotland and later in 1400 Sir Robert was appointed Admiral of Scotland.

Sir Robert Logan was one of the hostages given in 1424 to free James the First of Scotland from being held in England. Robert's son or grandson, John Logan of Restalrig, was made principal sheriff of Edinburgh by James the Second of Scotland.

In 1555 Logan of Restalrig sold the superiority of Leith (the principal seaport of Edinburgh) to the queen regent of Scotland, Marie de Guise.

The last Logan to possess the barony was Robert Logan of Retalrig, who was described by contemporaries as "*ane godless, drunken, and deboshit man*". The famous writer Sir Walter Scott described him as "*one of the darkest characters of that dark age*".



Clan Logan Crest



Clan Logan Tartan