

## **Tasting Notes for January 16, 2011 Monthly Meeting**

by Keith Wilson

This evening's first whisky was the Brechin 28 yo distilled in 1977 and bottled at 53.3 %. Purchased for \$282 AB, that is in Alberta dollars, this is a rare find, a North Port distillery own bottling in 2005. North Port opened in 1820 and was demolished in 1983, and has had mixed reviews of its product.

This is pronounced "Breekin" (thank you Lawrence) and was an unknown distillery to me.

**Appearance:** The colour of the whisky is light liquid sunshine, with longish legs.

**Aroma (undiluted):** Malt, oak, lemon, grass, doughy, with more leather/tobacco developing later on. Some members found hairspray, green apples, and fruity, floral notes

**Aroma (dilute):** Adding water did not change the makeup too much, this whisky can hold a bit o' water. Some noted pear, banana and gooseberry.

**Flavour:** Very complex and creamy, nice mouth feel. Smokey, woody, peppery, tobacco, leather, fruity and oily, with some saying it was better with water.

**Finish:** The finish was long and slightly bitter, with salty, dry, peppery tobacco notes.

**Development:** Very nicely matured, one said. Seems to be a good balance.

**Comments:** Absolutely lovely, class act, very good, I really liked this and scored this high. The club score averaged 85.5 and Jim Murray gave this whisky a score of 78.

Our second whisky of the evening was the Banff 33 yo, Celtic Heartland produced by Jim McEwan of Bruichladdich, bottled at 48%.

**Appearance:** The whisky was a light red gold colour .

**Aroma, undiluted:** An interesting whisky, with rope, moss, raisons, pine, oily, gumboot, fruity and salty aromas being reported. Others found toffee, floral notes, honey, oak and vanilla.

**Aroma, diluted:** more toffee, salt, vanilla, almonds, walnuts with salty, briny notes and fruit reported by some of us.

**The flavour:** Lots of fruit, black pepper, candy apple/floss, licorice, spice and citrus notes. Some smoke.

**The finish:** medium finish with some drying and cherry noticed by some.

**Development:** Pretty consistent, good balance.

Jim Murray scores this at 93, but the club gave this a score of 84. Most agreed this would not be worth the price of \$380?? but it has kept it's character very well for the length of time in the wood.