



A broken top soda bottle from Pennsylvania found at a Civil War site in Virginia, is believed to be the remains of a ritual for protection, left by an Union soldier. "Witch bottles" are more commonly found in England and date typically from the 16th and 17th centuries. They were used superstitiously as a protection or fear of witchcraft ritual. This bottle found is believed to be a "witch bottle" because of its presentation coinciding with tradition: a glass or ceramic bottle filled with bent pins and nails buried under the hearth of his house. Tradition states that once the evil-force was dead, the bottle would break. (Live Science)



This GI-117 flask recently sold at Pook and Pook Auction in Pennsylvania for \$19,520.00. It brought this exceptionally strong price despite the presence of a small hole in the base corner. However, it is an extremely rare and desirable bottle to flask collectors. (informational credit to Chris Hartz; photo credit: Pook and Pook Auction)

An older story first published in 2010, but worth sharing again: a three-year-old spending the day metal detecting with his dad in England found a 500-year-old gold pendant. There is a religious decoration on the pendant that is 73% gold and weighs 1/3 of an ounce. What a father/son afternoon! (BBC and CBS news)



Congratulations to the guys who unearthed this rare Rivaud's Cocktail Bitters bottle, Louisville, Kentucky! That's a great day in the dirt! (credit: Chris Capley via Facebook)



Every collector has a story of their first antiquity interest. Not every collector can claim that story as a 9-year-old. A 9-year-old boy in Maryland shares his story of his unique interest in family heirlooms and antiques with PBS and The Charlotte Observer. His collection is most inspired by his grandparents and great-grandparents, with many items from the turn of the 20th century to WWII. The future of the antiquing hobby lives on in boys like him! (Maryland boy, antiques enthusiast could appear on PBS show, by Mary Grace Keller; thecharlotteobserver.com)



Archeological discovery was found among the tragedy of the recent and devastating bush fires in Australia. On the known site of the Budj Bim Cultural Landscape is a 6,600-year-old aquaculture system used at one time for the capturing of short-finned eels for trade and food. Unknown areas of the highly-technical channels were recently uncovered from high grass and vegetation during the wildfires, and will continue to be surveyed and studied for greater understanding of the culture of the ancient inhabitants. (smithsonianmag.com)



Reactions on the popular PBS show Antiques Roadshow often vary from the shell-shocked to the gleeful squeals. In a more recent episode, the reaction of a veteran when finding out the worth of his treasure literally brought him to his knees. Video can be found online of the gentleman falling to the ground when finding out his Rolex purchased in 1971 could be worth \$400,000. His investment of approximately \$350, the decision to not wear his watch as intended, and keeping the original paperwork with the watch led to the increased monetary worth. His authentic reaction is priceless. (NBCnews.com)

