

LOST & FOUND

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[left and above] Last summer at the 2022 National Road Yard Sale in central Indiana I found this bottle at a garage sale. It was on a table with other modern glass flower vases. It turned out to be a rare iron pontil Noyes figural wine bottle from Hollywood Plantation near Natchez Mississippi, dating from about 1850. I put a picture of it on Facebook and before we even stopped at the next sale, my phone started ringing from collectors interested in the bottle. To be fair to all interested parties I sold the bottle by eBay auction and it brought \$3,100. Crazy how a bottle that rare from Mississippi showed up in Indiana, in perfect condition, for a dollar...170 years later. — Jay Kasper



[above] Construction workers in Italy's capital, Rome, had quite a surprise recently whilst carrying out sewage system repair work in the city. They stumbled across a marble statue of an ancient Roman Emperor! Not only that, the life-size sculpture was found to be posing as the classical hero Hercules. Experts think the statue is that of Emperor Decius, who ruled Rome in the third century, and plan to put the statue on public display once it has been restored. — BBC Reuters



[left and below] This super-rare orange Lamborghini was found at the end of an Oregon dirt road in a barn on an 800-acre rural ranch in 2000. The 1969 Miura S was preserved in original condition and is a model some call 'the most beautiful car of all time.' When

the owner died in 2005, Jeff Meier was notified by the estate, and was able to acquire the Miura at market price. In a 10-year period, he took the car from being a "barn find" to a first-in-class winner at the Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance [widely regarded as the most prestigious vintage car show in the world] in California. Lamborghini was founded as a car maker in 1963. —

The Wall Street Journal



[left] A 100-year-old islander has recently revealed how he was one of the men who smuggled bottles of Scotch from the wreck of SS *Politician*, the "Whisky Galore" ship. Willie Macleod from Stornoway, Lewis, was part of the salvage team after the ship ran aground close to Eriskay in the Hebrides in 1941. It was carrying 40,000 cases of whisky. The story was told by Compton Mackenzie in *Whisky Galore*, the 1947 novel that was made into a film twice, in 1949 and 2016. — *The Times, UK*

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[left] Seven Class of 1846 bottles were offered for sale at an auction in Spencer, Massachusetts today (08 March 2023). They were found cleaning out an old home nearby. The price was around \$1,200 each. One or two had some damage. — Richard Aucoin



[left] This exceedingly rare and important Bristol Improved soda water bottle was recently found at a second-hand store in Detroit, Michigan. Believed to be one of only two recorded, this example does not appear to have ever been in the ground. Beyond the obvious rarity, it's a 'looker' with very large, impressive lettering and embossing around the entire bottle. — John Pastor, American Glass Gallery

[right] Just picked this Constitution Bitters from a basement in Ohio. — Daniel Baldwin



[left] This massive gold bullion bar was recovered from the SS *Central America* shipwreck. Inscribed on obverse "No. 708 32.15 Oz 882 Fine \$586.17," reverse "708" right side "Kellogg & Humbert Assayers" (outlined with rectangle). It measures 1-5/8 x 1 x 2 inches. Two assay chips removed from opposite corners. As it turns out, this ingot is accidentally metric. The 32.15 troy ounces stamped on the bar equals one kilogram. — SS *Central America* Collection



[above] In 1660, a ship carrying a treasure trove of luxury goods sank off the coast of Texel, the largest island in the North Sea. Nearly four centuries later, little remained of the wooden unidentified Dutch merchant ship. But as the silt and sand covering the wreck washed away, broken chests began to appear in 2010. Inside were remarkable objects, the likes of which had never been seen before including chests full of clothing, textiles, silverware, leather book bindings and other goods that likely belonged to people from the highest social classes centuries ago. Some of the most stunning items include two virtually intact lavish gowns—a silk dress and another one interwoven with pieces of silver that was likely a wedding dress that is pictured above. — Museum Kaap Skil, Netherlands



[above] Archaeologists have unearthed the remains of an ancient tavern that's nearly 5,000 years old in southern Iraq, the University of Pennsylvania recently announced. The find offers insight into the lives of everyday people who lived in a non-elite urban neighborhood in southwest Asia around 2700 B.C.E. Inside the public eating space—which included an open-air area and a kitchen—researchers with the University of Pennsylvania and the University of Pisa found an oven, a type of clay refrigerator called a *zeer*, benches and storage containers that still held food. They also found dozens of conical-shaped bowls that contained the remains of fish. — Smithsonian Magazine