6 Secrets to Avoid Sharks

While not a big problem here in the upper Midwest, you never know what may swim upstream
1. Avoid wearing shiny metallic objects.
2. Don’t swim if you have open cuts or wounds (you may just want to stay out of the water as well)
3. Swim with other people, not with pets; seems like the more ‘others’ would reduce your risk
4. Avoid schools of fish & seals … their favorite snack when no humans about
5. Don’t swim at night or in murky water
6. If do spot one, exit smoothly (right); cause they enjoy frantic splashing

Remember, these are secrets!

Rivers Meander

The Mississippi is no exception. Its “meander belt” is 50 miles wide in places. At times it shifts far enough east or west that it muddies the state borders it conceived & leaves owners without their home state. The U.S. Army Corp of Engineers tries to minimize the river’s meanderings … but the river flows at 93,000 cubic feet per second (cfs) at its low point … and 2.3 million cfs at high point; a massive flow impossible to control.

The Gold (fish) Standard

The ol’ goldfish in the bowl may seem fairly ubiquitous, but turns out they have quite a history. First raised by Chinese Buddhist during the Tang dynasty (think 7th century), the gold fish are all descendants of the gibel carp. They became symbols of peace, friendship, & good fortune. By the 10th century they were prized as pets (here boy); and by the 16th century they were being bred for variety: color, shape, eyes, tails (and of course, the bowl). The hobby moved onto Japan & came to the United States in 1850. Today there are hundreds of organized breeding clubs throughout the world. Some variety of goldfish sell for thousands of dollars.

(Don't overfeed the fish!)

“...the only way to do great work is to love what you do. If you haven't found it yet, keep looking. Don’t settle.” Steve Jobs (2005) Stanford University commencement
Ahhh! Treasure! Buried treasure may be the stuff of tales of old, the reality is it’s more real now than ever. Odyssey Marine Exploration (out of Tampa) has recovered the SS Gairsoppa shipwreck, located in the North Atlantic, 3 miles down (deeper than the Titanic). The 412’ ship was torpedoed in Feb ’41 (WWII) by a German U-Boat on its way to Liverpool from India. The cargo of silver ingots was worth $630K then, $36M today, now stored in an undisclosed location. Odyssey keeps 80%, the British 20% (their ship). Want in on the action, Odyssey is traded over the counter; their stock went up 13% last year. Want your own treasure, it’s estimated nearly 3M shipwrecks in the world.

Ahh! Matteee

Auto Facts
- 90% of drivers sing in the car.
- That ‘new car’ smell is made up of over 50 organic compounds (non-toxic!)
- Driving straight up (at 60mph) it would take 6 months to get to the moon.
- 60 million cars are made in a year; One billion are in active use today.
- Toyota makes 13,000 cars/day; Ferrari 14
- The oldest surviving car built in France (1884) sold at auction in ’11 for $4.6M
- Holding a remote car key to your head doubles its range; the skull is an amp!
- A Ferrari Formula 1 racing car can drive thru a tunnel upside down at 120 mph.
- Don’t try this at home … or on the road!

Odds & Ends
- Bentley, Maserati, & Lamborghini (you know, those upscale cars) have all announced the production of an SUV model. Buuckle Up!
- Too rich for your blood … how about a Ferrari FXX pedal go-kart for the little one? 72K
- Dozens of Japanese commuters pushed a 32 ton train carriage away from the platform to free a woman who had fallen into the an 8” gap between the train & platform.
- Prince George Alexander Louis of Cambridge (that new royal baby) is 3rd in line to become King of England, continuing a 1000+ years of history & succession.
- Oreo is keeping up summer with its bright pink & green watermelon flavored filling between two gold wafers. … Where’s the milk?