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# T H E G A R R E T T SEARCHER

Treasure Search & Electronic Recovery

Spring 2001

## Garrett on Target at Relic Shootout

**LEWISTON, Idaho**— Veteran detectorist Charlie Weaver of Lewiston, Idaho, used a Garrett detector to find the most items in the recent Grand National Relic Shootout annual competition hunt. The event was held at the site of the Battle of Brandy Station in Virginia, the largest cavalry battle of the Civil War.

Using a GTI 2500 Mr. Weaver is considered today to be one of the best cache hunters in the hobby. In the Virginia hunt the Garrett instruments helped him find over 100 Minie balls and Williams cleaners. The cleaners were a load with a zinc bottom that soldiers used to clean the barrels of their rifles. He also found a knapsack hook, pistol shells and a handful of Minie balls with a star stamped on the bottom.

Mr. Weaver participated in the hunt as a member of the Garrett team all of whose members performed well.

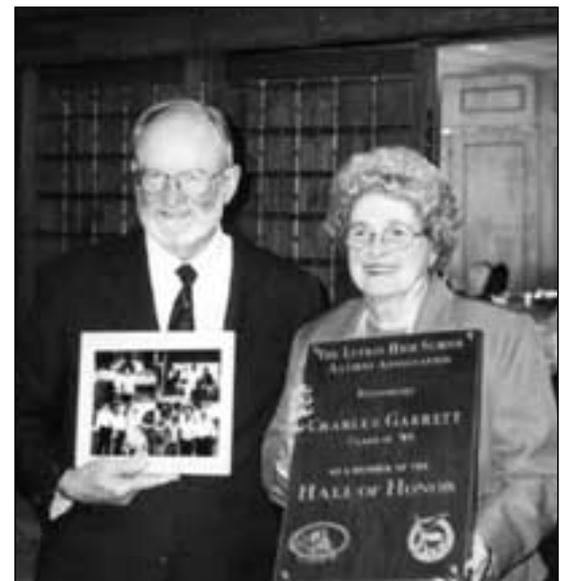
Sue Weaver, Charlie's wife, used a GTI 1500 to find more items than all other women competing in the hunt.

In a visit to Garrett headquarters where he inspected the company's Treasure Room and manufacturing facilities Mr. Weaver discussed the company's detectors. "The GTI 2500 is the most versatile detector I've ever found in my many years of treasure hunting," he commented. "All of its coils perform flawlessly, from the four-inch size that can easily find spilled coins to the Eagle Eye, which has located metal objects for me many feet deep."

Discussing the new Eagle Eye Depth Multiplier, Mr. Weaver said, "I know that cache hunters worldwide will appreciate this equipment. Combined with the GTI 2500 it will reach way down into any soil to find targets of all sizes and determine size and depth very accurately."



Garrett team members Charlie (left) and Sue Weaver discuss Civil War finds from the recent GNRS competition hunt with Charles Garrett at company headquarters.



Charles and Eleanor Garrett at Mr. Garrett's induction into the Lufkin High School Hall of Honor, Lufkin, Texas, as a member of the graduating class of 1949. Mrs. Garrett displays the Hall of Honor plaque, awarded to Mr. Garrett on March 16, 2001.

### Charles Garrett Honored by Lufkin HS

Charles Garrett, founder and President of Garrett Metal Detectors, was inducted into the Lufkin High School Hall of Honor in March. Mr. Garrett was a member of the Class of 1949 at Lufkin High.

In accepting the award, Mr. Garrett confessed his humility yet stressed the debt he owed to his high school and the city in which he grew up in Southeast Texas.

"Lufkin High in the 1940s was a good place to go to school, and Lufkin was a good place to be," he said.

Mr. Garrett noted that he and his wife Eleanor, who helped him found and develop the metal detector company, still have close ties to the Lufkin area. "We've been all over the world," he said, "but we've never strayed far from here."

# Treasure From Revolutionary Days Found

By Don Meadows

**GROTON, Connecticut** — When I purchased my GTI 2500, I was an impatient treasure hunter. I knew that my talent and such a fine detector would easily attract coins and artifacts.

Three frustrating weeks later, when I was ready to take up gardening as a hobby, I got smart and remembered Charles Garrett's comments about research. Little could I suspect that my efforts would result in a find from Revolutionary days described as "historically very significant" by our state archaeologist.

It all began when I went to the library as Mr. Garrett suggested and read a book on local history. I then took my GTI 2500 to the old mill, the old campground and the Sunday picnic site. Guess what I found? Not a thing.

But I didn't give up. I decided to search the trails near the sites and encountered an overgrown road that proved to date back to the 1700s. When I swept my coil the detector immediately answered with "Size C at one inch." With little hope I turned the earth and encountered a shoe buckle. I took the find into my hands and could feel the history. I next found a beautiful old button, size B at three inches.

Then I saw what some might describe as a large hole in the ground. But stones had fallen into the hole, and they did not look natural. Here's where research paid off because I decided it was an old foundation.

Well the next few days found me out in this area every day. I found one of the first line of coins minted in the United States, dated 1787. I found a button from a New Jersey cavalry unit that stormed nearby Fort Griswold. I dug up what probably was a slave tag with the name "Royce Gray."

I found shoe buckles, home-cast lead shot, the glass top of a pre-industrial kerosene lamp and a button from a uniform of the Episcopal Academy of Cheshire, dated 1794.

I am by no means a professional treasure hunter, but I knew that I had discovered something important and I remembered what Mr. Garrett had said about the creed of the treasure hunter.

So, I called the state archaeologist, Nicholas Bellantoni. At first he didn't seem interested since he told me that he gets lots of calls that turn out to be nothing. But he visited my site, and his mouth flew open. He told me he felt like

## Nuns Surprised By Detectors

**LIVONIA, Michigan** — After Tom and Sherry Klisz of Livonia, Michigan, received permission to search with their GTA 1000 at a Catholic school where they work and began finding silver, they were startled by the appearance of a nun who came from an old dormitory building. She asked what they were doing, and they showed her their permission slip.

She then laughed and told the pair that the dorm was a home for elderly retired nuns. Several with poor eyesight obviously had reported to the younger sister that Tom and Sherry were picking nightcrawlers off the lawn with sticks.

Of course, when the sisters were younger they never saw a metal detector and "worm gathering" was something they had done as children.

"We all had a good laugh," said Tom, and shouted back to the sister as she returned to the dorm, "The early bird catches the worm, or should we say silver."

the kid in a candy store as he identified the area as perhaps one of the first habitations in the State of Connecticut.

In a front-page newspaper article Mr. Bellantoni said that my site looks like an important reserve of pre-Revolutionary War objects. He said it is an unusual discovery, not because of the litter of old buttons, buckles, coins and the like, but because these were found next to an undisturbed foundation, dump site and stone animal pen dating to the 1600s or early 1700s.

He described my stone foundation as the remnants of a very small house with a farmstead associated with it and dated the artifacts at least as early 18th century. "There are some intriguing suggestions that this might have been occupied by one of the servants of one of the local farmers, or it might have been a yeoman farmer," he said.

All of you who are hunting today with a Garrett detector can trust me. The history is out there waiting for us!



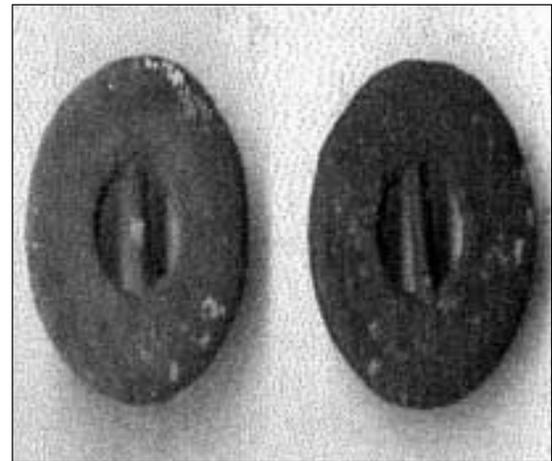
A Key and a shoe buckle, found by Don Meadows in the woods off Hazelnut Hill Road in Groton.

## GNRS Hunter Praises Garrett

William L. Schrontz, another Garrett user who participated in the GNRS hunt at the Brandy Station battle site, sings the praises of Garrett detectors as he prepares for the 2001 hunt.

"Prior to the hunt I had no intention of using a Garrett," he said. "Upon making the Garrett team I purchased a GTI 2500 and was pleasantly surprised at the short learning curve. Now, I have sold my old (competitive brand) detector and have no plans of switching from the GTI 2500. In fact, I was so impressed with the easy learning curve of the 2500 that I purchased a GTI 1500 for my wife."

In preparation for the 2001 hunt Mr. Schrontz plans to hunt with the new 12 1/2-inch imaging coil on land near the Pee Dee River in South Carolina where Gen. Sherman's troops built a pontoon bridge during the Civil War.



Coat Weights from the 1700's.

## Winter Offers Metal Detecting Opportunities

**MILWAUKEE, Wisconsin** — Most metal detector hobbyists in Wisconsin simply look at the snow drifts and wait for spring. But not Eddie Miller of Milwaukee.

His brother's business involves moving cars in and out of a garage, and on a cold, snowy day he dropped a car's key into the snow. It was the only key he had for that car which also was protected by an anti-theft device.

Because a replacement key from a locksmith would take time and cost well over \$100, he spent 30 minutes searching through the snow. What to do? Garrett to the rescue.

Eddie has two Garrett detectors but was hesitant to expose his GTA 550x to 10-degree temperatures. He

instead instructed his brother on the use of an Ace 300 with which the brother quickly found the lost key — along with assorted bolts and washers.

Why didn't he discover the key himself while pawing through the snow? When he dropped the key, it had hit the ground and skidded through the snow under the rear tire on the opposite side of the car.

"The inexpensive Ace not only saved my brother money but also the inconvenience of having another key made." Eddie said. "Now he looks forward to the spring when he can buy his own Garrett and join me in finding our Pot of Gold."

## GTAx 550 Brings Bliss to Bride

**WESTLAKE, Ohio** — Larry Holloway of North Coast Metal Detector in Westlake, Ohio, welcomed a sobbing young woman to his shop who wanted to know if his Geiger counters could find a lost ring. Larry explained that he sold metal detectors, not Geiger counters, and that they certainly could find any kind of metal object.

The young lady had lost her ring nearby in a three-foot snow drift while getting in her car. As she cried, she explained that she had just gotten engaged and was soon to be wed.

Never one to stand in the way of romance, Larry took a GTAx 550 from his display case and followed the young lady to her car, next to which the GTA promptly found the missing ring.

"You don't know how happy this had made me," she said to Larry and then proceeded to cry harder than when she had come into his shop.

Ain't romance wonderful!

# Spring Sale Offers Savings of over \$200

Spring Specials offer savings of up to \$200 on several packages of quality Garrett detectors and other products.

The GTI 2500 Pro Package, the GTI 1500, the Treasure Ace 100 and the Sea Hunter MKII can all be purchased from March 1 to June 30 at special prices along with quality Garrett accessories.

Veteran treasure hunters are acclaiming the new GTI 2500 Pro Package as "just what we needed." This new treasure hunters' delight from Garrett combines the GTI 2500, called by Charles Garrett the finest detector ever manufactured, with search coils, headphones and a handsome carry case — everything needed to find treasure. This package which includes both 9 1/2-inch and 12 1/2-inch imaging searchcoils is now offered as a Spring Special for \$1,199.99, which is \$200 below the normal prices for the individual items in the package.

What a great opportunity for the professional treasure hunter to equip him and herself properly!

A Spring Special especially designed for the coin hunter offers the GTI 1500 imaging detector, called the ultimate coin-hunter by Charles Garrett, along with a set of high quality Garrett headphones, a carry bag and Mr. Garrett's best-seller *Successful Coin Hunting*, which has guided countless coin hunters to valuable targets. The book has been specially revised to include instructions for finding coins with GTA and GTI detectors. This special is priced at \$899.95, a savings of almost \$110 from regular prices.

The fledgling treasure hunter can begin his career properly while profiting from the Treasure Ace special, which offers this outstanding "beginner" detector with microprocessor controls and other Garrett features, along with a set of headphones and *Successful Coin Hunting*. All of this is priced at only \$179.95, a savings of almost \$40.

Now that it's time again to hunt for coins and jewelry in the surf and on the beach, the Sea Hunter special is especially attractive. The new Sea Hunter MKII with its new and improved target discrimination is accompanied by a diving head light, a diving hand torch and a stainless steel sand scoop — all that's needed for outstanding recoveries in and near the water.

This package is offered at \$749.95, almost \$90 below the regular prices for the individual items.

Hobbyists can now find more treasure with two new search coils from Garrett. Designed for the GTI and Sea Hunter detectors these new coils will significantly expand the capabilities of these already outstanding instruments.

## The GTI 2500: Built for Greatness

By Charles Garrett

Why am I so totally convinced that the GTI 2500 is the finest metal detector ever built—the ultimate treasure-finding instrument? Let me tell you about its development.

As the Garrett Metal Detector company grew from a single instrument on my garage workbench to become the world's largest manufacturer of metal detection equipment, one goal continually motivated all of us involved with this growth — to help detector users discover more treasure and to locate it more easily.

We wanted hobbyists to spend more of their valuable time finding treasure and less time digging up junk.

Over the past four decades this goal has led to a real evolution in treasure hunting detectors...from BFO instruments that now seem truly primitive to today's GTI 2500 with its almost unbelievable TreasureVision. Of course we always built detectors that would hunt deeper than competitive models, but,

in the early days we also specifically sought better discrimination to help Garrett users avoid unwanted targets. I'm proud of the success our engineers achieved with the ADS instrumentation that was proved by the popularity of all these Master Hunter detectors during this evolutionary period. In fact, many treasure hunters still swear by them!

I truly believed that Garrett became known as the "expert" in metal detector discrimination.

But, while proud of our efforts, we remained unsatisfied and sought further improvements.

More than ten years ago, Garrett introduced our GTA line of detectors, designed to aid the treasure hunter even more in analyzing each target he or she encountered. Over the past decade we have regularly improved the GTA instrumentation as the detectors proved increasingly popular. Today more GTA detectors are used to search for

treasure than any other type of detector—from any manufacturer.

So, today we have the GTI 2500 with cutting edge technology that stands as the product of more than three decades of discrimination research and modernization. From the graphic identification of all targets to unsurpassed depth capabilities and hunting versatility the GTI 2500 does it all. No matter what you demand from a metal detector you can expect the GTI 2500 to deliver it.

The GTI 2500 offers so many features, but one of the most amazing of these is Garrett's patented Scan Track. Even experienced hunters realize that they sometimes miss treasure with any other detector by scanning too fast or too slow. Not with the GTI 2500, which automatically adjusts to any hunting style. In addition the GTI 2500 also adjusts itself automatically to ground conditions, even as they are changing.

You won't miss a target with the GTI 2500. And, because you'll immediately know the size and depth of every target — even when you're hunting in the deepseeking All Metal mode, you will find more treasure and waste less time digging junk.

You can take my word for it because I've proved the versatility and capability of the GTI 2500 for myself in the field!



GTI 12 1/2" deepseeking coil

### New Searchcoils



Sea Hunter Mark II 10"x14" elliptical coil

Veteran treasure hunters have their requests fulfilled with the introduction of a 12 1/2-inch imaging coil for the GTI detectors. Professional hunters have clamored for this larger coil since the GTI was introduced two years ago.

The new 10"x14" elliptical coil for the Sea Hunter Mark II answers similar pleas from hobbyists seeking treasure in surf and deep in the ocean. This new larger searchcoil provides extraordinary deepseeking capability to locate deeply buried targets beneath the water's surface.



# The Most Enduring Treasure

By ROY ROBERTS

**LONDON, Ontario** — Helping someone in need has become the greatest reward I have received from metal detecting. Finding objects lost by others has permitted my hobby to perform a valuable often unexpected service.

During my first three years of detecting, I enjoyed reasonable success with my Garrett detectors, but I never experienced the joy of recovering a personal item and returning it to its owner. Finally, I found a ring, and through research was able to place it on the finger of a man who had lost it 17 years before.

He and his wife were ecstatic. The local newspaper was alerted and my good deed was featured. Then came the unexpected — a flood of calls from men and women who had lost a variety of objects, some for more than 15 years.

Other hobbyists and I responded to these challenges, and we recovered 50% of the lost articles, which often resulted in the owners of these items suddenly gaining a respectful attitude toward metal detecting, especially since I make no charge for my services.

When I arrive on the scene of a lost item, I ask the owner to show me how he lost the precious memento. With my Garrett detector I then try to mimic their every movement and activity. Many have told me that I have a sixth sense about recovering lost items, but I think it is a combination of experience, common sense and a good instrument.

I purchased my first metal detector after considerable research and chose a Garrett. Next, I invested in acquiring books from the Garrett Treasure Hunters Library which contain valuable lessons from the manufacturer himself, Charles Garrett. I am now the proud owner of three Garrett detectors, and I credit them and Mr. Garrett's books for whatever success I have achieved.

Knowing exactly what I am seeking and how it will sound on my detector is a major factor in determining my approach to finding a lost treasure. Small items like pendants and earrings will often fall into the foil range. If an

item is small or has been lost recently, I use the 4 1/2-inch Super Sniper searchcoil to eliminate masked signals from trash and provide more precise pinpointing. This coil is also good for hunting close to wire fences, steel poles and concrete with rebar and wire. I use the standard 8-inch coil when I have to cover more ground or if there is an absence of trash. I overlap my swings as I precede in a systemic pattern of the search area.

Notch discrimination is another option I find quite effective, especially when I can match a lost earring with its mate. On well-manicured lawns and gardens I use an electronic pocket probe for more accurate pinpointing. This eliminates unnecessary digging, which was particularly helpful when I was new to the hobby.

Because I am so confident of the abilities of my Garrett detectors, when I cannot find an item, I believe that 99% of the time it was not lost in the designated area or is undetectable because of its metal content. Some individuals assure me that the object was indeed lost "here," but I have found these items in other locations. And, even when I cannot locate the object in question, it is reassuring to the person who lost it to know that a thorough search was conducted.

In addition to the usual array of rings, necklaces, earrings and bracelets I have found a rare Ping-Eye-2 golf club from a creek, pieces of a meteorites in a backyard, car keys and a pager lost in snow. I have assisted four museums in recovering artifacts for their public displays.

My success rate for recovering lost items is now 68%. When I upgrade my capabilities with the new Garrett imaging detector with Treasure Vision I look forward to increasing this percentage. I know that treasure hunting expeditions are seldom the same, and I must try to take full advantage of the capabilities of my detector. My success has been achieved by using the right coil, a minimum of discrimination and digging all targets. I also tip the front of the coil up about twenty degrees for more surface

coverage when covering a lot of ground to find an item on the surface.

Although I indicate that my services are free, people often insist on rewarding me. If they persist, I usually charge \$5-\$10 to pay for travel and batteries. I have been taken out for breakfasts and lunches and have received boxes of chocolates, old coins, homemade bread and cookies and countless thank-you cards and letters.

One of my prized rewards is a little Guardian Angel pin given my by the person who received my first traceable find. The owner refers to me as her guardian angel, and I often think back to that pleasant experience when I look at the pin on my carry bag. I use t-shirts and business cards to advertise my services, and I distribute an information packet on metal detecting that I hope will create more public awareness and possibly a new hunting partner.

The most enduring reward, however, is the knowledge that I am helping someone in need even as I pursue the thrill of the hunt and enjoy my hobby. I am always on call and look forward to the next challenge.



1832 one-penny copper token from Nova Scotia discovered by Roy Roberts during excavation.



Searching for a lost bracelet for a fellow church member.



Searching for a valuable ring lost at a public pool.



Recovering jewelry with great sentimental value lost the previous year in a soccer field.

# New Garrett 2001 Buyers Guide

How Charles Garrett began with one man's vision and expanded it to become the world's leader in metal detection highlights the 2001 Buyers' Guide from Garrett Metal Detectors.

A complete line of high quality instruments designed to serve every hobby and treasure hunting need is presented in the 28-page publication, the largest catalog ever produced by Garrett. Detectors are described that are designed to satisfy novice hobbyists as well as veteran treasure hunters.

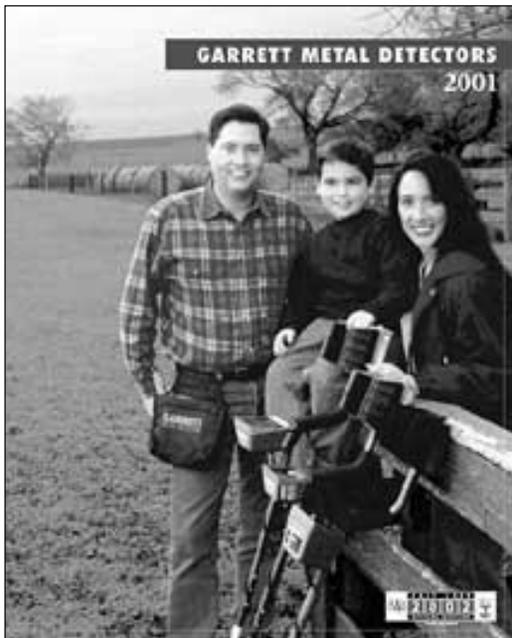
Prominently displayed are the 10 Garrett exclusive features that make the top detector of this company's line, the GTI 2500, the ultimate technological masterpiece. Because many of these features are embodied in other instruments manufactured and sold by the Company, each Garrett detector is second to none in its particular treasure hunting niche.

"We will not be satisfied until every treasure hunter in the world benefits from our quality and performance," said Mr. Garrett in the customer letter that opens the new Guide. In addition, he wants hobbyists to benefit from "the breadth of our product line, the knowledge in our books and videos and the care we give to customers."

Leader among the Garrett detectors is the GTI 2500, described as "the most advanced, most versatile detector you can own." This instrument incorporates more than a quarter-century's worth of metal detector technology.

Only with this detector from Garrett can a treasure hunter "see" the real size and depth of all detected targets.

A companion detector designed with the serious coin-shooter in mind, the GTI 1500 boasts all the key benefits of the GTI 2500 but at a lower cost. An especially popular feature of this detector permits the hobbyists to avoid digging those pesky aluminum cans. These cans may look like a coin to other detectors target-ID systems, but not to Garrett's patented "TreasureVision," which alerts the treasure hunter to the exact size of every target. Is it a can or a coin? TreasureVision provides the answer.



For a free Buyers Guide 2001, call 1-800-527-4011 or visit [www.garrett.com](http://www.garrett.com).

Garrett's GTA detectors have proved the world's most popular over the past decade and four models of this instrument, the GTAx 1250, GTAx 750, GTAx 550 and the GTAx 400 are fully described in the new catalog with the features of each clearly outlined.

Garrett's Treasure Ace models are described as the "entry-level detectors that are the real thing." Rounding the complete Garrett line are the Master Hunter CX Plus, especially designed for use with the Company's deepseeking depth multipliers, the new Sea Hunter Mark II, with new and improved discrimination

and the Scorpion Gold Stinger Garrett's gold-finding detector that has proved so successful over the years.

The complete line of Garrett gold pans, treasure hunting accessories, Ram treasure hunting library and Garrett videos complete the new catalog.

## Garrett at the Olympic Games

When officials of the 1984 Olympic Games in Los Angeles determined that metal detectors would be required to protect athletes and spectators properly, they chose Garrett, the world's most respected manufacturer of metal detection equipment, to provide the instruments.

Thus began a successful relationship between Garrett and the Olympic Games that will continue in Salt Lake City next winter where Garrett has been named Official Supplier of security metal detectors of the 2002 Winter Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games and the 2000, 2002 and 2004 U.S. Olympic teams.

Last year's Games in Sydney, Australia, proclaimed the "best ever" by the International Olympic Committee, were secured by Garrett with the largest installation of walk-through, handheld and ground search metal detectors in history. Almost 1,000 Garrett walk-through detectors performed their security task flawlessly. In fact, at the conclusion of the Games Olympic officials in Sydney proclaimed Garrett to be "a national treasure."

Garrett equipment has safeguarded every Olympic Games including those in Seoul, Korea, 1988, Barcelona, Spain, 1992, Atlanta, Georgia, 1996, and Sydney in 2000.

It is no surprise, therefore, that Garrett officials have already been called to Athens, Greece, to help plan security for the 2004 Olympic Games.

## Garrett on the Web

Help and advice from Garrett Metal Detectors is more available than ever now on Garrett's new website, [www.garrett.com](http://www.garrett.com). From product information and treasure hunting advice to club, competition hunt and Olympic game news, the Garrett website is as close as a mouse click.



Garrett Metal Detectors website, [www.garrett.com](http://www.garrett.com)

## Garrett on National TV

A national television commercial campaign gave millions of current and potential treasure hunters the opportunity to see new Garrett metal detectors in action. Three separate commercials were run on the Outdoor, Travel and Discovery channels. The commercials feature a young couple, left; a cache hunter, center; and a family, right. All of the television spots featured the ease and simplicity of using new Garrett computerized detectors, plus their ability to hunt deeper and more accurately than competitive detectors.



Garrett Television Commercials: "Young Couple"



"Cache Hunter"



"Family"

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# Four Generations of Treasure Hunters

By **Kenneth Hutton**

**ROYCE CITY, Texas** — Treasure hunting with a metal detector has been a family affair for the Huttons, beginning with my father and continuing now to my grandchildren — four generations.

My father, Mark Hutton, was no sports fan and never cared for hunting or fishing. Yet he and I had numerous good times in the field hunting with a metal detector that left me with so many pleasant memories.

Back in the 1960s my metal detecting interest centered around organized hunts, large cache hunts and exploring Padre Island on the Texas Gulf Coast. I'm certain that I completely overlooked or improperly worked some prime coin-hunting areas. I had many parks and schools within walking distance, yet I never checked them out. Because metal detectors were somewhat rare and quite crude when measured by today's computerized standards, virgin hunting sites existed everywhere.

As my prowess with a detector increased, I interested my family in relic hunting or digging in old ditches for antique bottles. My mother and father even joined my family for a week in a tent on Padre Island. We camped on the very "Treasure Island" sands where cannibal Indians, Spanish explorer and Civil War soldiers had once lived. It's easy to see why this long strip of sand beaches and towering dunes has long been a metal detector hobbyist's dream.

During my working years I never let a conversation go very long without bringing up my interest in history and the hobby of metal detecting. Many were the days I spent with someone twice my age trying to locate a spot where Bonnie and Clyde hid out after a robbery or where someone hid a life's savings and died before recovering it. I filled my files with stories of treasures I could search for when I retired.

But time and circumstances change over the years. My interest in metal detecting waned, and I failed to keep up with the high tech changes taking place in the market.

Happening on the subject of detectors and treasure hunting on the Internet, a long lost love returned. After

some research I bought a Garrett GTAX 1250. "Boy, have they made some changes," I exclaimed. Being able to identify a coin and pinpoint its exact depth just about blew my mind.

I compare it to driving in a new car after coming out of a 1940s model without power brakes, power steering, automatic transmission, etc. A big improvement!

With my father long since passed away, I needed to get a hunting partner and tried to interest my son Steven and

his son Andrew. I kept showing them my finds and explaining what the new detectors would do, but didn't make much progress until I mentioned a story about gold located in our home county where Steven had played as a boy on his grandfather's farm.

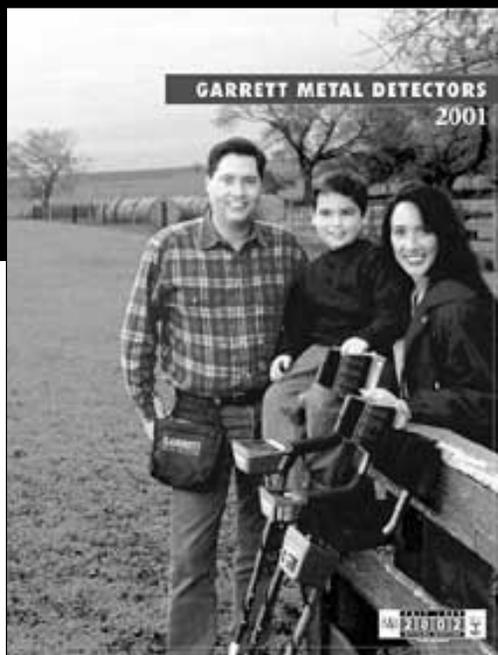
He began talking about getting a detector, and sure enough, he soon owned a GTI 2500.



Author's Grandson, Andrew McNeal, testing his detector before a hunt.



Kenneth Hutton looking over some notes dropped from a Coast Guard plane while he was being evacuated from Padre Island in the 1960's.



**Get your free copy  
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[www.garrett.com](http://www.garrett.com)**

# Persistence Pays Off

By Frank J. Colletti

*EAST MEADOW, New York* — Finding a rare Colonial coin was certainly an experience to remember for me. What I and all metal detector hobbyists should also remember is that this find came as the result of my persistence in searching a site that I determined had outstanding potential.

The coin was a 1788 Connecticut copper cent, of which there are less than 75 specimens. A similar coin was sold at auction early last year for \$2300.

Let me tell you how I came to find this precious object:

The school was set back from the main road, and all its fences were covered by brush. Perhaps that was why I had never noticed it before finding it on a county map. Gates were kept locked except when the athletic fields were in use, and I had to make several visits before I found them open and received permission from a maintenance man to hunt on its grounds.

"Have fun," he urged, but neither he nor I could suspect how much "fun" the outcome would bring.

I began searching with my Garrett GTI 1500 in the end zone of an empty soccer field and quickly found several clad coins before encountering silver in the form of a dateless Standing Liberty quarter at three inches. Perhaps I had found virgin ground at last, but the return of the school's soccer team to the field put an end to my efforts.

I paid close attention to this school and several weekends later I found its gates open and the soccer field empty. Perhaps this was to be my day!

I soon recovered a Winged Liberty (Mercury) silver dime, but this was followed by only trash. Then suddenly I detected another Mercury dime along with three silver Washington quarters. I knew I had found a good site that hadn't been worked over.

My next finds proved that site indeed had good history to it. First came a small old button followed by a George III copper. Although centuries in the soil had obliterated the coin's date, I knew that they were circulated in the late 18th century. That really got my blood flowing because any site that mixes silver coins and jewelry with historical coins and relics has to be a great area.

Alas, soccer practice again ended that day's hunting expedition.

Early the next morning I resumed my search and even though I was rewarded by two silver rings, I was disappointed. I had hoped for another British copper to prove that the first was no fluke.

It wasn't long before another copper appeared at six inches on my Treasure Vision and was promptly placed in a small tube of water I carry as part of my hunting kit.

I let my finds soak for a while before I investigate them.



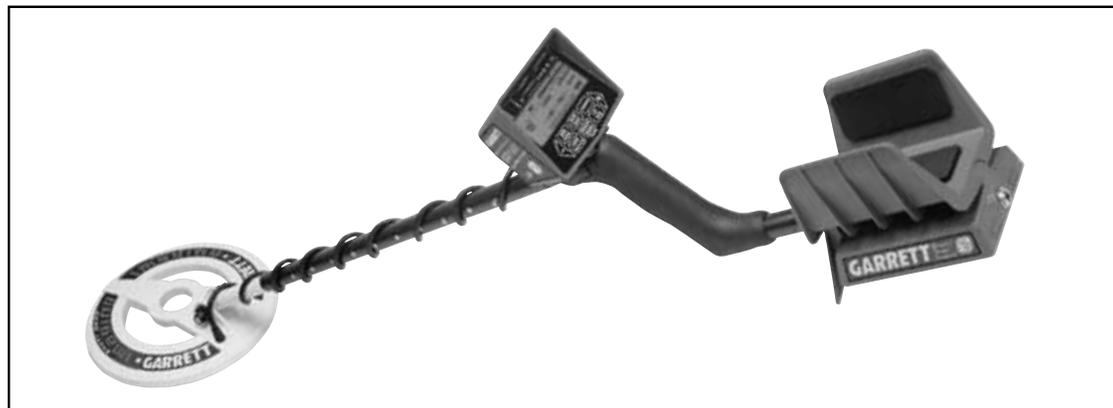
Most of the soil will naturally fall off and no harm can come to the coil or item. Later cleaning revealed the outline of a draped bust large cent but no other details. Still I knew that it could be more than two centuries old.

Then soccer practice began again, and I moved off the field to a small hill where spectators could sit while watching a game. Within 15 minutes I hit silver with a Washington quarter, but this was followed by a frustrating hour when my only find was a nice old button. It appeared to have no great value except to indicate the history of the field that my earlier finds were not flukes.

Then I got a quarter hit and began thinking of age and hoped for a Barber quarter. But I was disappointed to find only another large copper coin. I placed in my water tube and ceased hunting for the day.

When I cleaned my finds that night, I began to realize what I had found. Using Breen's *Encyclopedia* I determined that I had a Connecticut colonial copper. Then I corresponded with a *Coil World* columnist who graciously examined and verified my find.

I will never forget that little hill and the pleasure of discovering that rare coin. It was indeed a red letter day for me.



## What are you waiting for?

Find treasure, help a friend locate a lost keepsake, just have fun!

**Garrett  
GTI 1500**

# New Sea Hunter Hits the Water

As the days grow longer and warmer, beaches and the water beckon to treasure hunters once again. Hobbyists in the south are already finding rings, coins and other jewelry near and in the water, and the time will soon be right for such hunting all over the country.

Technology from the most reliable name in metal detection has created a vastly improved detector for finding treasure under the water or on the beach. Garrett's reliable and rugged Sea Hunter has been acclaimed for a generation, but the Mark II is totally new with features that enable it to avoid trash like no other beach-hunting or submersible detector.

With its convenient stem-mounted configuration the new Sea Hunter Mark II is ideal for hunting on the beach or in surf. The detector itself can be mounted either above or below the stem or on the treasure hunter's hip.

In addition to the standard discrimination found on detectors Garrett's exclusive *Discrete Trash Elimination* mode enables the Sea Hunter Mark II to find gold rings without wasting time on pulltabs or similar trash targets. Patented microprocessor-controlled circuitry makes this possible.

Microprocessor-controlled pulse induction circuitry enhances treasure recovery by eliminating interference from salt water and most minerals. Garrett's exclusive new *Discrete Trash Elimination* mode goes far beyond standard detector discrimination in avoiding trash targets. Yet, the new Sea Hunter Mark II will still be able to find tiny gold rings while eliminating pulltabs.

Over the years Garrett's famed Sea Hunter set an enviable standard for submersible detectors. Famed salvors have relied on it to find treasure deep beneath the water all over the world, and its rugged features have been praised by search and recovery teams. Now the Sea Hunter Mark II adds a new dimension to underwater metal detection with its amazing *Discrete Trash Elimination* mode.

Garrett's exclusive Scubamate mounts this amazing new detector on a sturdy platform ideal for finding treasure in water depths to 200 feet. A single grip facilitates easy handling. Salvors can now zero in on recovering treasure while

not wasting time with trash.

The new Sea Hunter Mark II from Garrett is lightweight, yet will stand up to the most rugged use. Whether in high surf or deep beneath the water this instrument's patented microprocessor circuitry operates flawlessly, protected in a double O-ring sealed compartment. A separate compartment contains the detector's batteries, designed to facilitate easy replacement.

Garrett's innovative computerized technology has pro-

duced 8-inch and 10x14-inch epoxy-filled searchcoils that are reliable for both beach and underwater service. Headphones will operate at maximum efficiency in water depths to 200 feet.

Only Garrett with its extensive experience in manufacturing computerized detectors could produce this amazing new treasure-finder with discrimination that is effective on the beach or down to 30 fathoms deep. Now valuable dive time can be spent finding treasure, not trash. If you liked the Sea Hunter, you'll love the Mark II.



This FMDAC event drew more than 700 to Atlantic City, New Jersey.

## Finds 1812 Large Cent

**NORTH TROY, New York**—Relic hunter Richard T. Hoenig of North Troy, New York, reports finding a nice 1812 Classic Head large cent graded EF45 with his GTAX 1000 detector. In discussing the coin Mr. Hoenig said that "the veins show in the leaves on the reverse and there is hardly any corrosion."

Mr. Hoenig describes himself as only a "weekend warrior" as a treasure hunter, but he says, "when I retire I'll be out there a lot more, God willing and the creeks don't rise."



## Treasure, Treasure Everywhere

It was an everyday occurrence for veteran beach hunter Bill Stott of Bradenton, Florida, who has been sweeping his Garrett detector's coil across Gulf Coast beaches for more than dozen years. For Mrs. Mary George of Peoria, Illinois, it was a miracle ordained by Saint Anthony, patron saint of lost things.

Last fall Mrs. George was heartbroken when the heavy surf on Anna Maria Island literally swept the ring off her finger. Her husband had given her the ring on their first wedding anniversary 29 years before. With her sister and brother-in-law, Mrs. George searched unsuccessfully for days until time came for her to return to Illinois.

"I thought my ring had become fish food or would end up in Texas or somewhere," she said. "I could only pray to Saint Anthony."

Luckily for Mrs. George, her sister is a nurse in a hospital where Bill Stott's son Danny works. On hearing of the mishap, the young man discussed it with his father and described the ring's inscription, "All My Love All My Life."

It was just another day at the beach for Bill, who describes his finds as "nickels, dimes, pennies, quarters, silver rings, gold rings and trash rings."

He had found the lost ring several months before, only a few days after Mrs. George lost it in the surf.

Of course, returning the valuable keepsake presented no problem to Mr. Stott since he always tries to track down the owners of such items that he finds, including a \$7,000 diamond ring.

When told about the prayers to Saint Anthony, Mr. Stott could only say that he was happy to be of service. He continues to comb the beaches with his Garrett detector, sometimes walking more than ten miles a day.

"I was glad," he said. "It always makes me happy to find the people that own the things I find."



Part of the fun of treasure hunting is the variety of things you can find.

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# Into Each Life Some "Son" Must Shine

By Jack Lowry

**PART TWO**—In part one our adventure ended with a great measure of success!! The money hidden in the house was found and the obligations to search there ended. Now to the yard.

Rain finally fell in the Dallas area, which gave a welcome respite—and time to plan future searches of the property. On a lined pad the grounds were sketched and landmarks inserted as well as indications for promising areas discovered in our conversations with Annabelle and her daughter. Some of these were the approximate location of the clothesline poles, the old garden plot, the barn, chicken coop, and an old fence row, which was not readily noticeable. The "Chic Sales" location and trash dump areas were noted for searching at a later date. The pathways, fences and bushes made it very easy to divide the property into manageable sections for searching.

Business, travel and other pursuits kept us off the site for over a month but the time finally came to begin our property search. This by the way coincided with the ground being slightly less hard than concrete and the temperature near 100 and humidity at about 85%.

Our plan was to work two sections at a time and then swap sites, searching all open areas before returning to covered areas like the shed and barn; the garden, flower beds, pathways and the driveway would also be hunted later. This plan, while it may seem unconventional, allowed us to cover a lot of area quickly and with some detail. In fact, it did just that but more importantly it gave us more time to thoroughly search those areas of greatest probability of having coins, relics, and small caches. In the back of my mind, there was no problem believing there could be hidden stashes, having already discovered one in the house. If one is good, more might be better.

The weekend finally came and our search began. Starting in the front we scanned and re-scanned the yard finding a total of 66 cents including a silver dime and a steel penny from 1943. Everything else was relatively current and shallow. Nothing in fact was deeper than 4 inches. And those were near the driveway and sidewalk junction.

Two evenings later we searched the area north of the drive back to the shed. Not a single item of value or a coin was found, but we did find lots of nuts, bolts and washers. This area, particularly that near the shed, gave new meaning to the term "shade-tree mechanic". The south and back yards were the next to be searched, the coming weekend.

Our plan was to finish searching the entire yard and the open areas on this trip. These were areas that did not hold great possibilities in our estimation and for the most part that was proven. The original family was one with two daughters so there were few games played in the yard. I guess you young ladies either don't lose coins or have very deep pockets from which nothing escapes. Searching the back yard did yield just over \$2.00 in coins; one a quarter from 1956 was the only "good" item. We were amazed at the lack of trash and junk metal encountered.

We truly began to question our detectors. My GTI 1500 and Craig's GTax 750 were remaining much too silent to be comfortable. A precautionary change of batteries provided nothing different. However, switching to the "Zero mode" from "Relics" showed just how much small metal trash we were passing over. Both of us dug the next 10 tar-

gets encountered and found not a single item of value.

Now the open and less promising areas had been covered to our satisfaction while locating less than \$3.00. Having found so little in our searches dampened our enthusiasm for the areas to be searched over the next week.

Monday afternoon and evening sweat was falling from our brows so heavily, we commented on how refreshing the rain was. The temperature in Dallas was 108 and humid. Thus the sweat, but so much fell that digging seemed to be easier in the moist ground. Oh, that we began in the garden and flowerbeds didn't hurt too much. What shade that was available was most welcome but much too scarce. Annabelle was sure by this time we were either addicted to detecting, or certifiable, or both. As long as she and Annie made "mercy trips" with lemonade and iced tea we really didn't care what she thought. We hardly noticed the heat as we both had discovered small caches of silver coins. Craig found his first in the sun exposed garden area. Mine, found some ten minutes later squelched his gloating and was in the shade near the corner of the house and much closer to the refreshments. He, Craig, said it was only fair that I search near the house so that I could fall in the shade in case of a heat stroke.

He learned the hard way this time. Both caches had been broken open, probably during cultivation and the contents scattered. Craig really worked, digging 57 silver coins and only two pieces of iron—The jar lid, at depths of 6+ inches. They were all recovered in just over 2 hours. In the "cool" shade the 1500 and I recovered 71 silver coins and several pieces of silver tableware in about the same time. While resting – in the shade—we decided to swap sites for the rest of the evening. We each found one additional coin before dark.

The heat was so bad that we could not hunt for the next month even though most of the remaining areas were enclosed or well shaded. When the heat broke however, we were ready to go.

The barn proved to be the opposite of everything I had expected. The dirt floor was relatively free of metal however, the walls, loft and exposed joists were covered almost solid with baby food jars, tin cans and old oil cans partially filled with nuts, bolts, washers, screws and nails of all sizes and description. This was not as disappointing as it might seem. I learned a lot about the old man as this proved to me that he was organized, very organized, methodical and very much the person not to throw any-

thing away. He kept everything it seemed where he could get to it easily. And, I surmised he was not above hiding his better and more valuable items nearby, where they could be easily recovered. How I wished he had left a map! I just knew that there was more to be found and it had to be soon as we were almost out of places to search. At least to be searched for the first time.

Searching the feed room yielded only a loose board in the floor and a suspicious cavity in the ground. Nothing but a small hole but some large hopes ensued. With two caches found and this hole there had to be more. Searching the barn again and the feed room gave no further indications of treasure. So it was on to other venues. While Craig searched the shed I put my attention to the chicken coop. It had been vacant long enough that the aroma was non-existent, still it was messy and filled with little "critters". The coop wasn't very large but filled on three sides with nesting boxes and trays for water on the front side beside the doorway. Scanning the dirt floor, walls and nest boxes yielded no signals for about the first two minutes. Then on the floor at the wall nearest the house came a sound that made the search worthwhile. Scraping the dirt and overburden away to a depth about two inches, a Mason jar was uncovered containing more coins. In my haste the jar broke, however the ground was fairly easy in which to dig and the complete find was recovered. This was a cache of 50 half dollars.

By this time Craig was completing his search of the area without success. Further searching through the weekend yielded only a few current items. By now the entire area had been searched with the results noted above. We decided to call it quits and go on to other places. There were parks and playgrounds we (Craig) hadn't harvested in quite some time and the thrill had just about gone from this place.

Sunday afternoon Craig and I sat on the front porch with Annabelle and Annie drinking lemonade and showing our finds. The coins looked fairly impressive on the table. We were well aware of the agreement made when this adventure began, but we honestly made the offer to let the girls have the coins as they really belonged to them. They would have none of that however and after a second glass of lemonade we gathered up and left. We would be coming back in the future to search further, Craig perhaps more often than I. There is always the possibility that something was left behind.





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