

THE GARRETT



SEARCHER™

Spring 2008 Edition

Garrett Metal Detectors

Treasure: An International Appeal



Charles Garrett with one of his GTI metal detectors during a hunt in Utah.

For nearly 50 years, I've searched successfully for treasures around the world. I've hunted parks, caves, ghost towns, battlegrounds, fields, creeks, rivers and under the ocean. Regardless of what I found during each adventure, I was always thrilled with the hunt—the lure of the pursuit of lost treasures.

What thrills me most about treasure hunting these days is the breadth and depth of the hobby's appeal. The growing number of treasure hunting enthusiasts has spawned new metal detecting magazines in countries all over the

world, including Spain, England, Russia, Australia, France, and the Czech Republic, to name a few.

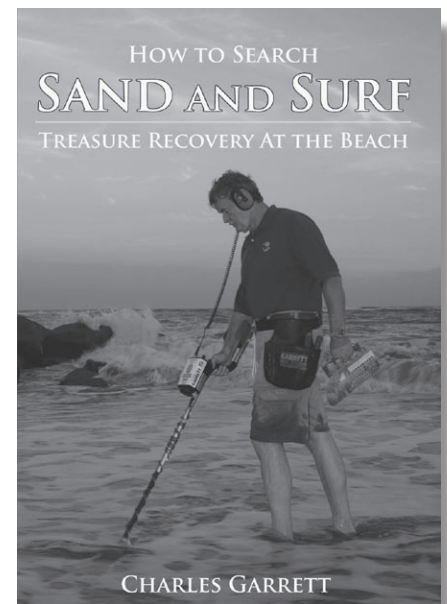
European treasure hunters are regularly unearthing coins, jewelry and artifacts that are many hundreds and often even *thousands* of years old!

As you read through this issue of the *Searcher*, you'll learn about a few of the many discoveries people have made with their Garrett metal detectors and shared with us. Among these finds are stories on treasure caches of various sizes that were recently found in the U.S., in Mexico, and in England with Garrett detectors.

We also highlight another of the exciting relic discoveries of explorer Scott Mitchen, who hunts with the Sea Hunter Mark II.

Speaking of sea hunting, you will want to own a copy of my latest treasure hunting field guide, *How to Search Sand and Surf: Treasure Recovery at the Beach*.

This pocket-sized book is the third in a growing series of "how-to" treasure hunting books that I am pleased to produce for the benefit of those new to our sport and to those who just want to learn some good pointers. For decades, my goal has always been to share as much knowledge as I can with customers, friends and treasure hunters everywhere.



The third book in a popular series of treasure hunting field guides from Charles Garrett, How to Search Sand and Surf, is now available.

As we continue to enlarge our facilities here at Garrett, I look forward to being able to display more of these great treasures in an expanded museum. As always, it will remain free to the public.

Please stop by and see us any time. Let us know what great items you've found.

I'll see you in the field!

Charles Garrett

Ancient Money Cache Found With GTI 1500!

Ian B. of Shropshire County, England—a Garrett user for eight years—has been metal detecting around his hometown area for more than ten years. While he has been successful in digging Roman era historical artifacts and modern jewelry during this time, nothing prepared him for what he would discover in November 2007.

There's no better way to describe Ian's remarkable cache recovery than to use his own words. "After a couple of hours detecting on dry ground and only finding general detector finds of no significant are or interest, I decided to do one more scan down the field," he recalled.

"While doing so I got a good positive signal using my Garrett GTI 1500 detector. I dug down two-three inches and revealed a bronze Roman coin. I then scanned the area and found a further 13 coins scattered in the vicinity along with a bronze ring. The coins appeared to have been fused together at some time."

At the time of this discovery, Ian was searching in Relics mode with his GTI 1500's threshold on level 4 and sensitivity on 12.

Unable to locate any further signals, Ian contacted the local Shropshire Finds Liaison Officer (FLO) and arranged to take the items to him and complete a treasure report—as required in England due to a 1996 treasure act. "The initial examination of



Ian B. of Shropshire County, England, found more than 2,800 Fourth Century bronze Roman coins with his Garrett GTI 1500. The hoard is seen above, along with the remnants of the pot which once housed this cache.

these coins showed that they were Fourth Century Bronze coins of the Emperors Decentius and Magnentius from the period 350-353 A.D.," Ian detailed.

"I felt strongly that after finding the 14 bronze coins and ring that there was the possibility of further finds and maybe a hoard. I had been unable to find any further signals when the ground was dry so returned later after a significant amount of rain. Using my Garrett, I centralized my search over the area where the coins were scattered and picked up a faint signal. I proceeded to dig down scanning the ground as I

dug and the signal was getting stronger.

"Finally at a depth of around one foot, coins were starting to be revealed. I started filling the pockets of my jacket with the coins but then the jacket became too heavy to wear so I had to remove it and continue to fill the pockets while it was on the ground. The deeper I dug down—at this point using my hands—the more coins I found and then fragments of pottery started to appear.

"In the end I was just putting my hand in the ground and was pulling out handfuls of coins.

(Continued on pg. 4)

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How To Find Lost Treasure field guide



ACE Sport Tote Bag

English Cache *(continued from page 2)*



Ian B. poses with his Garrett GTI 1500 and his remarkable Roman cache.

Once I had got the majority of coins out of the pot I gently dug around the pot hoping to get the majority of it out in one piece. However, it was severely cracked and crumbled the largest piece being the base that still had coins stuck to it.

"I scanned the sides of the hole and retrieved a few more coins. I then decided to fill the hole in, knowing that it was

likely that there would be more coins to be found and noted its position. I struggled to carry my detector, spade and my bulging jacket containing the coins and pot fragments back to my car. In the end I had to carry the jacket a few yards and then my detector and so on."

Back home, Ian laid out an old sheet and gently piled the coins and pot shards onto it from his jacket pockets. He contacted his local FLO again "to tell him that I had found hundreds of further coins and the pot. He gave me advice over the telephone not to clean the coins or try to separate the fused ones. He arranged with me a date to view the site so that he could carry out an excavation for the treasure report."

In the meantime, Ian began counting the old Roman coins into piles of ten and rows of ten, which was time consuming as some of the coins were fused together. When the count reached 1,000 coins, "I

was shocked," Ian said. "The pile did not seem to have gone down; then another 1000 were counted and then a further 806."

Ian returned to the location a few days later with the proper finds liaison officer to complete the excavation of the hoard. "During these excavations, a further 35 coins were found, taking the total to 2,855," he said. While he awaits his report from The British Museum, Ian will no doubt be hitting the field again with his GTI 1500.



Join the ACE™ Excitement!

Join the thousands of new people who joined the metal detecting hobby this past year by purchasing an ACE 150 or ACE 250 detector.

With One-Touch technology, an ACE makes treasure hunting as simple as it can be. For example, Cameron, a 10-year-old Dallas-area searcher, stopped by Garrett's factory to show us a cache of 82 coins and paper money that he recently recovered with his ACE 150 in an apartment complex. "It was six inches deep," Cameron said. "I like my ACE because it's so easy to use."

Check out the latest package in Garrett's top-selling ACE metal detector lineup!

ACE™
250
Deluxe Sports Pack

See special offer on page 3!





Sand and Surf Crossword

Put your nautical knowledge to the test solving this puzzle of words inspired by Charles Garrett's new field guide, *How to Search Sand and Surf: Treasure Recovery at the Beach*.

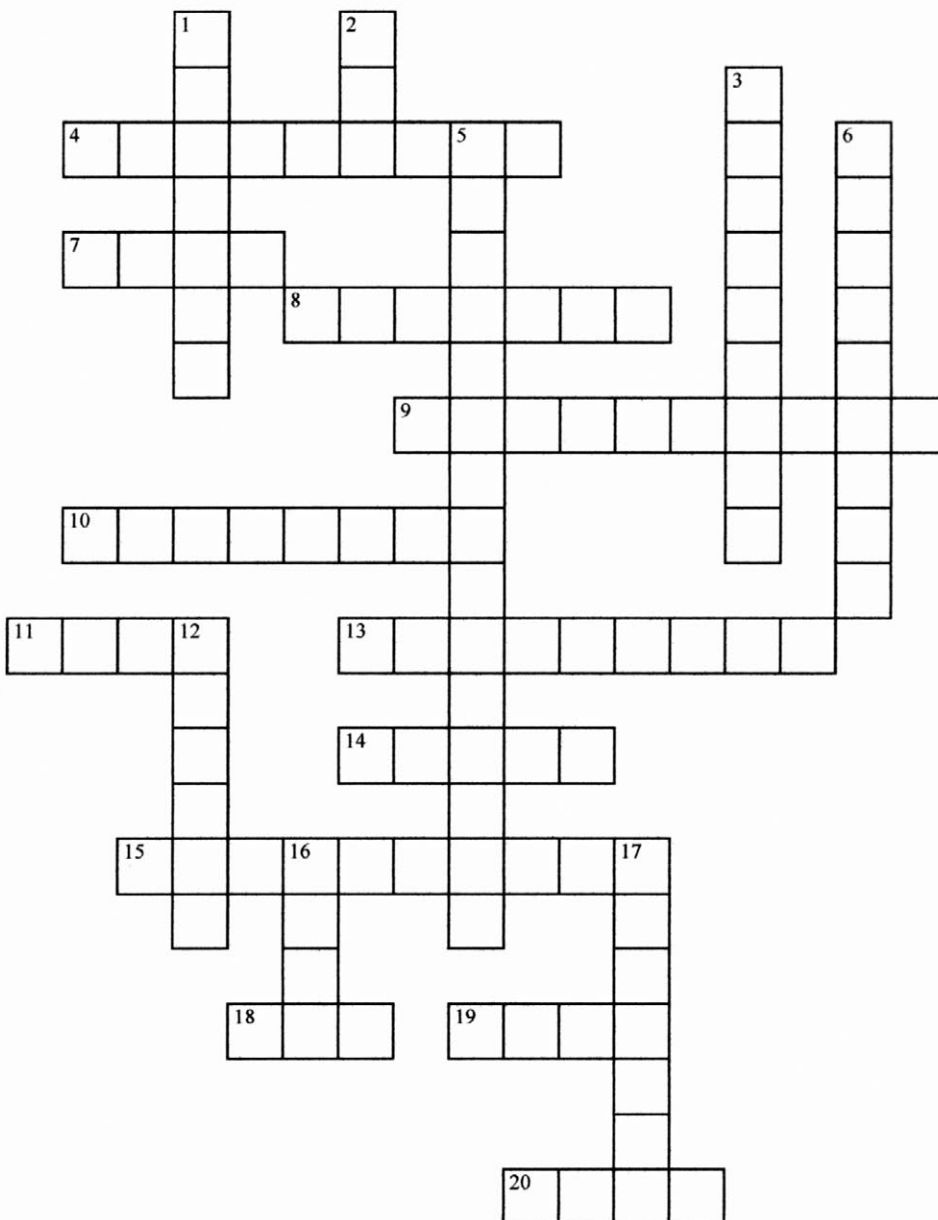
ACROSS

- 4 Floating marine hazard that stings
- 7 Platform extending from shore over water
- 8 Tide at its lowest ebb
- 9 Famous pirate
- 10 Garrett's land and sea detector
- 11 Old Spanish silver coin
- 13 Beach recovery tool
- 14 Structure built into the water to protect shoreline
- 15 Searching accessory that reduces external noise
- 18 ___ Fisher
- 19 Loose, granular particles of worn rock on seashore
- 20 Waves of the sea breaking on shore

DOWN

- 1 Three-masted Spanish sailing ship
- 2 Very low frequency
- 3 Remains of a destroyed ship
- 5 Detector mode handy for beach hunting
- 6 Cream or lotion to protect skin from sun's rays
- 12 Davy Jones' _____
- 16 Ridge or hill of wind-blown sand on beach
- 17 Offshore shoal of sand built by the waves

(SOLUTION ON PAGE 7)



Fabulous Finds

Garrett Owners' Success Stories



Cleve W. sent in these photos of his past year's finds with his Garrett GTP 1350.



Cleve's Collection

When his older model metal detector finally gave out, Cleve W. of Campbellsville, Kentucky, decided to look into getting a Garrett. "After getting on your web page a few times and

looking over your detectors, I felt the GTP 1350 would be the one most suited for me," he wrote in to Garrett.

After one year of using his GTP 1350, Cleve has found jewelry, buckles, bullets, and hundreds of coins. "I have been

very satisfied with the 1350 and find it very simple to operate," he related.

"All I can say is, look out other detectors—you best get there before me and you better know what you're doing!"

A Prospector's Praise for Garrett's GTAx 550

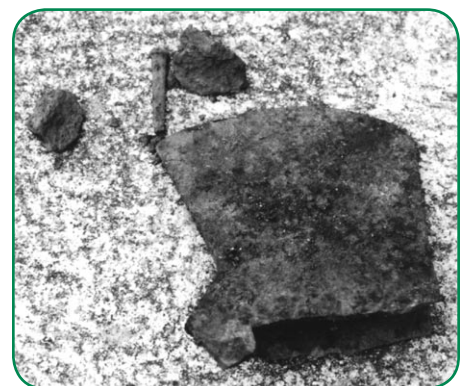
"I spend a great deal of time travelling the deep South searching for Civil War relics and items of value from the past. Even though I can use any model of metal detector made, nine times out of ten I pull out my Garrett GTAx 550 with the three searchcoils I have for the unit.

"I can use one detector to fit any situation I run into. Using the 4.5" coil, I can search a very

trashy area then switch to the 8.5" to use in the open grounds. Georgia ground is extremely mineralized so to break through it I go to the 10" x 14" DD elliptical coil. My Garrett is just like my best friend—it does it all."

— "The Old Prospector," Craig E. Redick, Oxnord, GA

Some of Craig's recent finds with his GTAx 550 include: a nice gold nugget (top photo) found with his 10" x 14" searchcoil; and an axe-head, cut nail and shrapnel from an 1864-era Georgia battle site.



Garrett Dealer Delivers 250th ACE 250!



Donald Hinks (left) presents Charles Rine with the 250th ACE 250 that has been sold at Hinks' Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, metal detector store.

On December 4, Gettysburg Electronics owner Don Hinks celebrated the sale of his 250th ACE 250 metal detector to Charles Rine, who was plan-

ning to give it to a family member as a Christmas present. An avid detectorist, Hinks established his business in 1972 in historic downtown Gettysburg,

Pennsylvania. During the last 35 years, he has sold well over 8,000 detectors. "Each customer coming into the store is thoroughly trained in the use of the detector he or she purchases," said Don.

In all of his years of selling metal detectors, Don has "never seen a single new model metal detector make such a large impact in the metal detector industry" as the ACE 250. Don sums up the main reason this detector has become his hottest seller ever: "No other instrument comes close to having the features of the Garrett ACE 250 at such a moderate price."

Contact the Searcher: We Want to Hear From You!

To make sure that you don't miss any exciting issues of the *Searcher*, we need your help. If you have moved, or are planning to move, please give us your new address. Or if you would like to have your name removed from our mailing list, please make us aware of this as well.

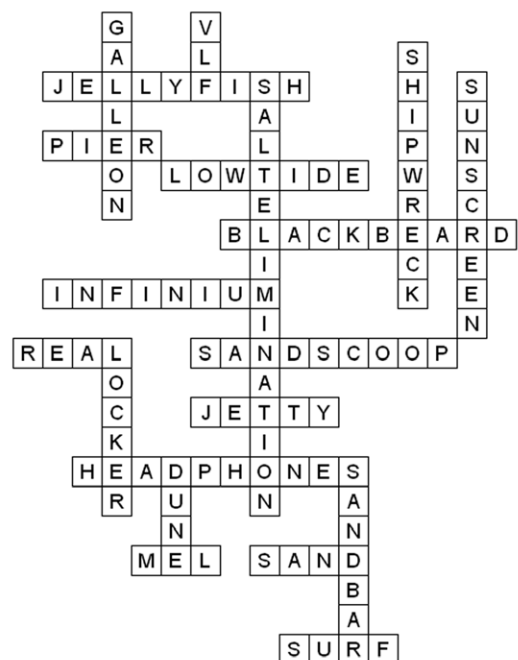
To update your address and contact information, please contact us at:

1-800-527-4011 or sales@garrett.com

Share your best discoveries with The Searcher for future issues!

For info on how best to submit your story and photos, visit: www.garrett.com/hobby/submitastory.htm for details, or send your story and photos to Garrett Metal Detectors at the address on the back of this *Searcher*.

CROSSWORD SOLUTION FROM PAGE 5



Garrett Helps Sponsor Wreck-Diving Expo



During *Wreck Diving Magazine's* week-long 2007 expedition in the Dominican Republic, Bob Marx (center) discusses the use of metal detectors with John Chatterton (left) and Joe Porter.

Garrett Metal Detectors will once again team with *Wreck Diving Magazine* for its Shipwreck Exploration 2008—a week of wreck diving and training at Pirates Cove in the Dominican Republic. During the 2007 “Wreck-Tek Expo,” Sir Robert Marx and fellow wreck explorer John Chatterton offered wreck diving wisdom, while Leigh Bishop, Cris Kohl and Evan Kovacs taught underwater photography and HD videography.

Garrett's Infinium™ and Sea Hunter™ metal detectors will again be available for use during this training and diving exposition.



The Best of Both Worlds

Don F. of Auburndale, Florida, has owned Garrett metal detectors for more than 30 years. He still uses his old Groundhog push-button machine but also has a much newer Sea Hunter Mark II detector.

“I went to the beach on the west coast of Florida and found this necklace (left photo) in about 2 feet of water. I got an appraisal of \$1,500 from one jeweler.

“My old 1977 Groundhog still pops out the coins. I found an 1815 quarter where they were tarring out an old house. At another old house I found an 1854 and a 1894-S half dollar. This has got to be the best hobby.”

Amazing ACE Generates Gold

“I just started metal detecting at the end of August this year. I got the ACE 250 and the first week I found a gold-plated ring near a small pond where I live. A friend invited me to hunt at a soccer field and I found a gold ring. I took it to a jeweler and it was 14K gold, too! I am amazed at the performance of the ACE 250; it is really very easy to use. The next week I found a 14K gold cross and 14k gold chain at the same pond. I really love the Ace!” —Shaun R.,



Scott Mitchen's Ancient Copper Highway

During a recent visit to Garrett's home office, international explorer and Garrett dealer Scott Mitchen showed off some of his latest discoveries. Scott's discoveries of shipwrecks and treasures have been featured on television programs and in print all over the world.

The treasure that Scott is most excited about lately literally dates back thousands of years and is being recovered right here in the northern United States. His team began discovering ancient copper artifacts in a river during the summer of 2006.

Scott has since logged hundreds of hours diving and snorkeling these frigid, and sometimes icy, northern waters in the months that followed. The copper tools include spearheads of

all sizes, fish hooks of the earliest design, hide scrapers, and numerous awls, pointed tools used for boring holes through leather or wood.

"What this site does is change the way history has been taught to us," Scott relates. Working with the Garrett Sea Hunter and the Infinium underwater metal detectors, he continues to discover more of the ancient tools. It was not until November 21 that his relic detecting really hit the jackpot.

The weather in the northern plains was 35° but a dry suit and determination led Scott to an important copper spear. "Upon rotating the artifact, my eyes opened widely and my mouth gaped," he wrote. "This copper spear tip still had the wood inside its socket! I realized this

was an extremely rare find. We would be able to date this piece if I could keep the wood in place."

Scott contacted Garrett Vice President Vaughan Garrett, who agreed to help with the carbon-dating process. The lab results returned with exciting news—the wood from Mitchen's spear was determined to be 3400 years old!

Scott's company, International Explorations, has been hard at work on books and a TV series covering his expeditions, which he hopes to release this year. In the meantime, he is continuing to work this historic site. Scott likens the old riverbed to an ancient copper highway upon which every dive he makes is "like a step back in time."

Scott Mitchen of International Explorations visited Garrett in January to show some of the ancient copper artifacts he is finding with his Sea Hunter. Carbon dating of the wood within one spear showed it to be at least 3400 years old. The photo at right shows a recent haul of ancient copper spears, sitting atop a sheet of ice that Scott had been searching under during the day.



Infinium Gold in Montana

Reese T. of Kalispell, MT, knows that due diligence and a good machine are the winning combination for great results. Such has been his experience in finding gold in Montana during two expeditions he recently described in letters and photos he sent in to the Garrett factory.

One of these involved a week-long trip with two buddies to Confederate Gulch in Montana. Taking his new Infinium LS out for only his third trip in the field, Reese was thrilled when "hard work and luck went my way. I had been trying to find a nugget with another detector for seven years with no success."

On their third day of sluicing and prospecting, Reese "was only detecting about ten minutes when I got a signal on a tailings pile. I pinpointed the target and cleaned it off to see what it was. To my surprise, it was a nice 1.3 gram gold nugget! I was so excited to find it I let out a holler. I feel the Infinium LS had given me an edge when it came to finding the nugget, my first ever."

Months later, Reese found an even larger gold nugget while hunting with his treasure hunting club buddies in the Libby Creek Recreational Gold Panning Area in Montana. The club had used an excavator to dig a sizable hole in the hillside.

"They had a large pile of virgin material to be fed into the highbankers and trommels the next day. I went to work scan-



Reese T. sent in this photo of his first two gold nuggets found with his Infinium LS.

ning the piles and within an hour I got a signal and double-checked it with the Iron Check feature. It didn't sound off, which was good. When I got it cleaned off, I realized I had a beautiful 3-gram nugget shaped like a tomahawk or axe head.

"Again, as I did in Confederate Gulch, I let out a big holler and ran to show some of the other club members. It was the talk of the club that weekend. One of the members asked me how much trouble I have with hot rocks.

"I replied, 'What hot rocks?'

"I let him see for himself with my detector after he located some hot rocks with his detector. To his surprise, he did not get a signal off the hot rocks with the Infinium LS.

"This is a wonderful feature of this detector. I would highly recommend this detector to anyone wanting to find gold nuggets with a detector. I am looking forward to years of detecting with my Infinium LS."

SuperSniper Coil Success

Right: ACE 150 user Dave C. sent in this photo of a man's 14kt gold ring with 12 diamond chips and an emerald in the center. This fabulous find came on Dave's first outing with his new ACE Sniper coil, which also netted him 44 coins in a particularly trashy park area.



Fabulous Finds

Garrett Owner's Success Stories

Mexican Peso Cache

Garrett customers seem to share a love for sharing their great discoveries with our factory. Orlando G.—raised in Guanajuato, Mexico—works in the Dallas area but periodically returns to the Cerro Colorado area in his native country to search for old lost treasure that was hidden many decades ago.

Orlando stopped in recently to show Garrett employees some old coins he found in area parks. He is so impressed with the performance of Garrett detectors that he routinely hunts with an ACE 250, a Scorpion Gold Stinger and a GTI 2500.

“My favorite coin to find so far was my 7-20,” he related. This Mexican one peso coin is given its nickname because of



Orlando poses with the cache of Mexican coins he found using his Garrett GTI 2500.

the dates “07” and “20” which were minted on one side. This 1932 peso is a collector’s item because it is 72% pure silver.

Orlando also brought in coins from a cache of pesos he recently found during one of his trips to Mexico. “I was searching for valuable old treasure when I got this signal,” he said.

After pinpointing the source of his signal and beginning to dig, Orlando found a cache of numerous 20th-century Mexican pesos. He was thrilled with this recovery and hopes that his next big recovery will be a cache of long-forgotten outlaw gold or silver.



Left: Orlando displays some older coins and tokens he has uncovered in city parks using his ACE 250.



Right: The front of Orlando’s rare “7-20” peso (top photo) from 1932 shows the numerals 07 and 20, visible in this closeup. This coin was made of 72% silver content.



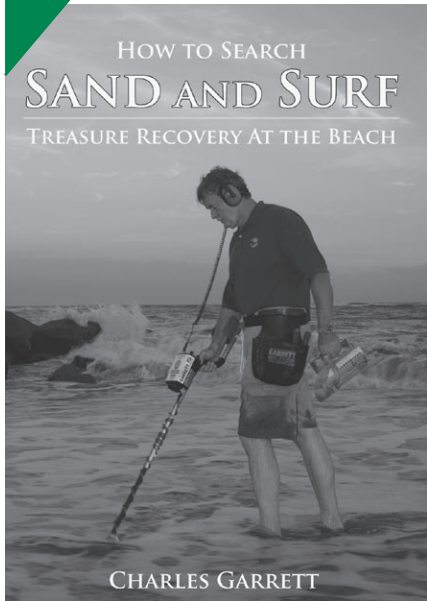


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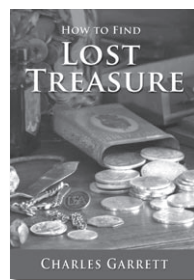
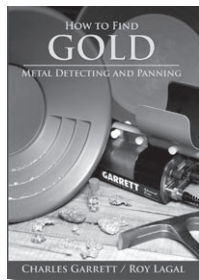


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