

# THE GARRETT SEARCHER

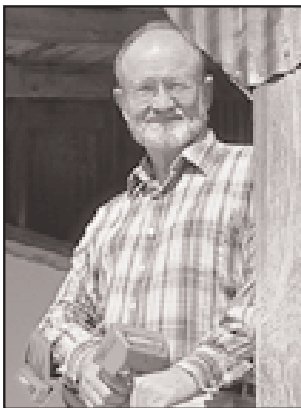
TREASURE SEARCH & ELECTRONIC RECOVERY

Spring 2003



## A conversation with Charles Garrett

# Let's Talk about the Infinium LS



**Q. Why did your company develop the Infinium LS Metal Detector when you already offer such a wide variety of quality instruments?**

A. It was demanded. Many of our long-time customers expressed a real need for a detector that would overcome the difficulties of hunting over highly mineralized ground. That's the purpose of the Infinium LS. It's certainly not meant as a replacement for any of our fine existing detectors.

**Q. Where was such highly mineralized ground being encountered?**

A. Literally all over the world, especially in mountainous environments where gold nuggets, deep caches and relics remain undiscovered because of this high mineralization.

**Q. Where in the U.S., specifically?**

A. The Rockies, Alleghenies and Sierra Nevada areas. It's in the Rockies and Sierras where most of the gold in the U.S. is located, although some is still being found in the southern Alleghenies. Because many of the great Civil War battles were fought in the Allegheny region, relic hunters had long been limited to shallow hunting because of mineralization.

**Q. Where else in the world?**

A. Treasure hunters have always had difficulties with minerals in certain gold regions of the Australian outback. I have encountered this personally as long ago as 1978. Severe problems with minerals have also been experienced in mountainous and other areas of Italy and similar countries. Of course, small pockets of mineralized soil can be found all over the world.

**Q. Won't your GTI and other Garrett detectors find treasure effectively in mineralized ground?**

A. Absolutely! In areas of normal or low mineralization our GTI detectors especially will prove just as good and even

better than all other detectors. When mineralization levels become high, however, the Infinium will achieve greater depth with much less interference from the minerals. In fact, no other detector from any manufacturer will hunt deeper under such conditions.

**Q. How would a detector user know that he or she is experiencing high mineralization?**

A. It's not difficult at all, believe me. Anyone who's searched with a metal detector for any length of time, especially in mountainous areas, or has "mysteriously" experienced lost depth can answer that question as well as I. Difficulty with ground balance, discrimination and erratic operation are leading symptoms. These problems can occur with any detector. Of course, some depth is occasionally lost with detectors that don't offer manual ground balance. As I said, however, with experience a treasure hunter generally knows when mineralization is causing a problem.

**Q. The Infinium LS, then, is recommended only for veteran metal detector hobbyists?**

A. Oh, no. Remember, I said that this detector is for anyone who wants to find gold nuggets, deep caches or relics in mountainous regions or other areas with high mineralization. There will be times when just about every active hobbyist is introduced to mineralized soil when his or her detector "just doesn't seem to be operating properly."

**Q. How about hunting in areas with normal mineralization? Is the Infinium versatile enough to be effective here?**

A. Certainly. Every Garrett detector bar none is designed to be a universal treasure finder that can locate coins, gold, silver and jewelry anywhere.

**Q. Speaking of versatility, how effective is the Infinium LS as an underwater detector?**

A. Outstanding! Capabilities of this detector in water depths to 33 fathoms are second to none. Normal high mineralization of salt water doesn't interfere with its precision and deepseeking abilities.

**Q. Because of its specific design to overcome high mineralization, is the Infinium difficult to use?**

A. Not at all. Of course, there is a learning curve with any detector, but simplicity of operation is another keynote of every Garrett product. Just set discrimination and an audio level, and the Infinium is ready to hunt. Of course, you may want to make ground balance adjustments because of the levels of mineralization being encountered.

**Q. Do you foresee good demand for this new detector?**

A. Oh yes, we're already experiencing such demand. Of course, the Infinium isn't designed for every treasure hunter, just those treasure hunters who demand maximum depth to insure finding maximum treasure everywhere they hunt, regardless of mineralization. Good hunting!



**Charles Garrett Will Explain...**

# How Detector Technology Helps You Find Treasure

Charles Garrett will soon begin sharing observations on the current technology of metal detection, utilizing the expertise he has acquired over the past half century. A series of "Tech Sheets" authored by Mr. Garrett will appear in trade magazines and be available on Garrett's web site and in the Searcher.

In announcing the new program, Mr. Garrett emphasized that this activity was merely a continuation of his writing efforts begun more than 30 years ago which have resulted in literally dozens of articles and best-selling books.

"I began writing because there was just no literature available on the hobby of metal detection," he explained. "This new series will seek to correct some of the misinformation that's now circulating."

Mr. Garrett said he plans to discuss metal detector technology from A to Z, and to point out how good technology is the key to finding treasure.

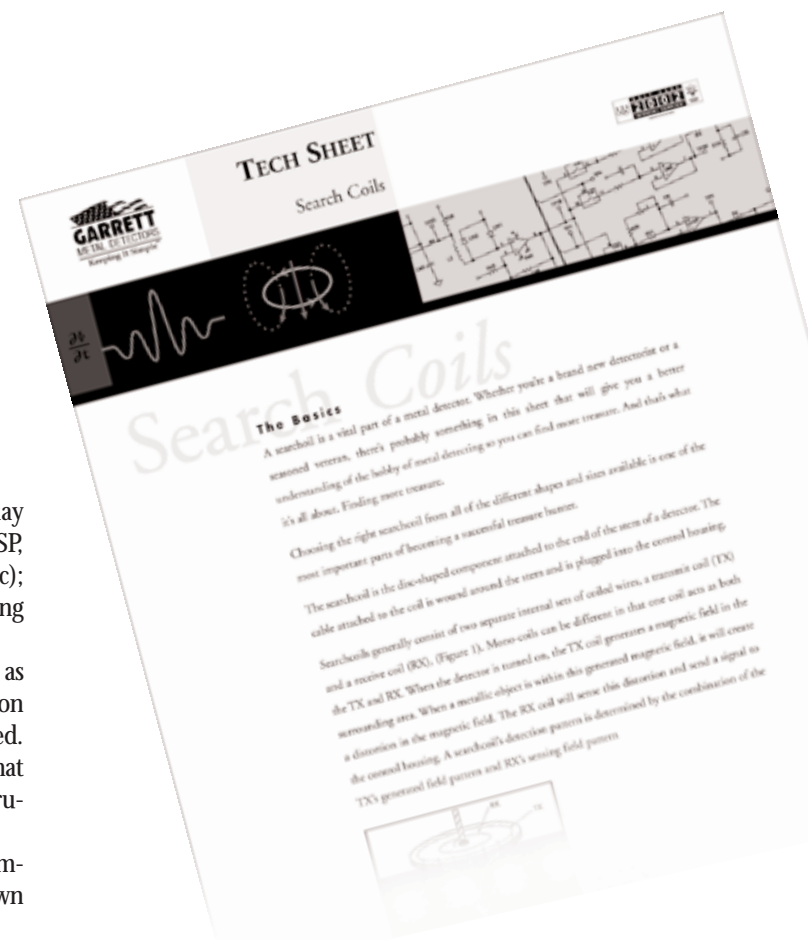
The series will begin with a discussion of modern searchcoils, and continue by covering such topics as types of detector circuitry and their advantages and disadvantages;

transmitter/receiver technology; processing & display technology; advanced electronics (microprocessors, DSP, digital vs. analog, continuous wave vs. pulse induction, etc); mechanical design; beach, surf and underwater detecting technology; detector ergonomics and aesthetics.

"I plan to comment on specific Garrett features, such as Treasure Talk and Scan Track, and to explain my views on what kind of detector you should buy," Mr. Garrett stated. "I may amaze a lot of people with my recommendation that you don't necessarily need to buy the most expensive instrument."

Another subject that Mr. Garrett looks forward to commenting on is why a dedicated hobbyist should ideally own more than one detector.

"We'll have a lot of fun, and I hope those that read the articles will learn more about this wonderful hobby," he concluded.



**To Help You Find More Treasure**

## Garrett Dealers Offer Sale Packages

### "The sale of a lifetime!"

That's how Charles Garrett describes the Spring Specials now being offered by Garrett dealers through July 31. This sale truly includes opportunities for every hobbyist to improve his or her treasure-finding arsenal with savings of up to \$249.95 on Garrett's one-touch detectors and searchcoils.

Headed by the amazing GTI 1500, called "the ultimate coin finder," this sale also offers packages featuring the GTAx 750 for those experienced treasure hunters who want to upgrade their equipment and two of Garrett's famed Treasure Ace detectors, hailed as the finest ever designed for those just starting out in the hobby.

With Garrett's exclusive Treasure Imaging, the GTI 1500 indicates the size and depth of every target before a digging tool is put into the ground. No longer can beverage cans masquerade as quarters...not when you're hunting with the GTI 1500 whose Power Master DSP circuitry provides 20% more scanning width and depth.

With Graphic Target Analysis (GTA) and GTI, you'll know the size of your target and have a good idea of its identity before deciding whether to dig or not.

To help find more treasure, the GTI 1500 detector is priced at an amazingly low \$899.95 for this sale, and comes equipped with two imaging searchcoils, 9 1/2 and 12 1/2 inches in diameter.

A second searchcoil is also the Spring Sale bonus with the GTAx 750, and this searchcoil is something special -- a 10 x 14-inch Power DD searchcoil. This new coil from Garrett is specially designed to hunt deeper and to be more sensitive in difficult soil environments. Sale price for the detector and two searchcoils is \$599.95, a savings of \$179.95.

Of course, the GTAx 750 includes features acclaimed by treasure hunters everywhere who have made Garrett's GTA instruments the world's largest selling metal detectors over the past decade. These treasure-finding features include Graphic Target Analysis, which helps identify every target, an ID cursor which reveals coin depth in pinpoint mode, notch discrimination for precise selection (or rejection) of targets and many others including Garrett's acclaimed Power Master circuitry for added depth and sensitivity.

Two Treasure Ace detectors round out what Mr. Garrett has termed "the very best packages in Garrett history." Various models of Treasure Ace detectors have drawn praise for many years as the ideal quality instrument for a beginner in the hobby. Ace detectors offer the same Garrett microprocessor technology and full-range discrimination as more expensive models and are backed by Garrett's industry-leading customer service. Of course, many hobbyists find either Ace detector ideal as that second "back-up" instrument that many dedicated treasure hunters like to have.

The Treasure Ace 100 package is ideal for the beginner, offering a set of high quality Garrett headphones and Charles Garrett's basic text *Treasure Hunting for Fun and Profit*. Study of this book and a few hours of field experience enable any novice to become an accomplished treasure hunter. The Ace 100 package is offered at only \$179.95, a savings of \$39.90 from regular prices.

For the treasure hunter with a little more experience or someone who wants to begin using a Garrett detector to find more treasure the Treasure Ace 300 package presents an excellent opportunity. The 300 offers an LCD with target ID and Garrett's exclusive Treasure Eye to make pinpointing easier along with microprocessor circuitry and full-range discrimination. The 300 also allows the operator to adjust sensitivity for best results. Along with the 8 1/2-inch searchcoil, the package also contains a 12 1/2-inch Crossfire II searchcoil. At \$299.95, that's a \$139.95 savings.

# How Old Is Your Garrett?

How old is your Garrett detector?

What do you own -- advertisement, buyer's guide, old accessory -- that might be considered a Garrett "relic?"

Charles Garrett is now writing a history of the company that he and his wife Eleanor founded nearly four decades ago. He knows that many of you have been loyal to Garrett for many years and would appreciate your help. Furthermore, he is willing to pay for it.

If you have any old photographs, advertisements or stories about the Green Machines in "the good old days," Charles will reward you for sending them to him.

A special reward will go to the person who owns the oldest Garrett detector that is still discovering treasure.

"Just a minute," Charles interrupted. "We have the very oldest Garrett -- my first Hunter -- in the Garrett museum. But I'm offering a prize to the person who still uses the next oldest Garrett detector."

If you believe that your detector may be the one Charles is seeking, send us its serial number along with a photograph of you hunting with it.

Also, send along those other relics, stories and pictures. Prizes will be awarded to those who help Charles with his history. One of them may go to you! Please have your submissions to us by August 31, 2003.

Send your materials to:

Garrett Metal Detectors

Attn: Mary Penson

1881 West State Street

Garland, Texas 75042-6797 U.S.A.

Or, e-mail your photos and stories to: [maryp@garrett.com](mailto:maryp@garrett.com)



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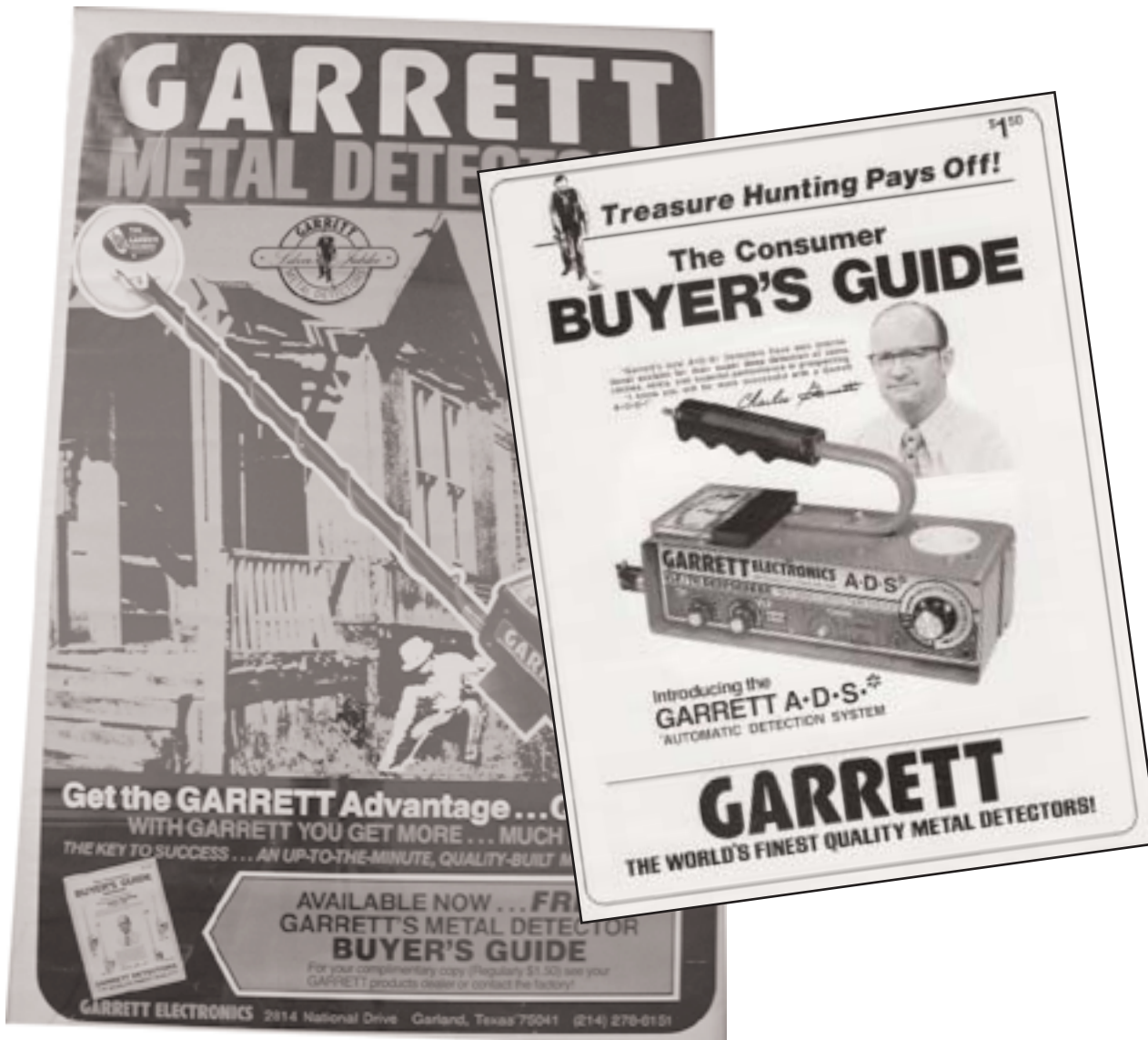
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# Advice On Treasure Hunting In Rugged Hawaiian Surf

*These comments received from one veteran metal detector enthusiast about his recent experiences finding treasure in the Hawaiian surf are pertinent for every detectorist.*

I use a neoprene shorty suit while in the water. The water in Hawaii is warm, but it can get chilly if you are fully submerged for some time. I also find the suit helps cushion the weight belts to prevent chafing. I use two weight belts totaling about 40 pounds. Next time I plan to have a suit with long legs to protect my knees while down on the bottom.

I wear an old pair of tennis shoes and socks while in the water. There are lots of rocks and coral that can chew your feet up, not to mention spiny animals like sea urchins. This seemed to work very well and I would do the same thing again. I have a mesh bag that I attach to the arm of the detector for targets I retrieve that also has worked very well. It has a hoop metal opening that makes it easy to drop items in the bag, and yet I have never had a problem with anything getting out of the bag. I have a mask and snorkel that I have used for dredging and diving for many years that continues to give good service. The snorkel is a U.S. Divers model that features a water catch and drain system near the top that sheds water caught by waves going over the top. A good idea for surf work! Finally, a good pair of neoprene gloves to protect my hands while digging holes or holding on to coral.

The only item I wish I had was a small rock pick. Every once in awhile I would find items that worked down into deep holes in the dead coral bottom. I had to abandon some of these as the items were too far down in the small cavities. A small rock pick would have allowed me to open the holes up to find those items... whatever they were!

Safety warning: surf conditions can be dangerous, and it is important to be completely comfortable in the water and to have a realistic knowledge of your limitations. Because I have made hundreds of scuba dives and have thousands of hours on hookah diving systems, there is little that could happen that would cause me to panic. Do not attempt rough surf conditions without being sure of yourself and your equipment.

Where to hunt? Well, on the beach itself there is a zone up above where everyone sits. Lots of coins there. But if jewelry is the goal you need to get into the body-surf/boogie board zone. And that is pretty much where the waves are breaking. A rock or coral base with no more than about a foot of sand on it would be preferred. You do want some sand to hide items when dropped, but too much and items sink beyond detector range. The sand gets stirred a lot in this zone, and so your targets will get deep pretty fast.

Areas where lots of tourists are in the water will generally be more productive than areas the locals frequent. It's a more affluent crowd and one that is more ignorant of the effects of water on jewelry! Just make sure you take time to watch people a lot. Just sit on the beach and watch people at play and where they are doing it. Any of those areas have potential, and the more vigorous the play, the better the potential!

**"Areas where tourists frequent are the most productive."**



## Proud of Garrett in England



In England Rod Metz is proud of his GTI 1500 and speaks highly of the outstanding customer service he has received from the company. He discovered this rare Celtic Gold Stater in a plowed field.



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# Amazing Discovery Reported By Novice Treasure Hunter

**HAMPSTEAD, NH-** Steve Pearsall is new to the metal detecting hobby, but he's already singing the praises of Garrett -- and boasting of the incredible discovery of Spanish treasure in New England.

Steve got "hooked" on the hobby when he borrowed a friend's spare detector and went out with him to hunt an old county fair ground. "Even though this old detector didn't really have very good discrimination and I spent a lot of time digging up trash, I still found enough interesting things to have had a great time," Steve reported. "I was hooked and wanted to get a detector of my own."

After doing a lot of research online, Steve settled on a GTAx 550 as the best detector within his budget for a beginner. On his first day out with the detector he went to a local baseball field and found about 25 coins, mostly dimes with a few quarters and pennies mixed in. "I was amazed to only dig up about three or four pieces of trash after spending so much time digging up trash with my buddy's old detector," Steve said.

The next day he went to hunt in a grass field behind a local elementary school. The third target he came across rang up a loud and clear bell tone and showed up on the GTA target ID as a silver dollar eight inches deep. "It's still hard for me to believe that it was a 1796 Spanish eight-reale coin, minted in Lima, Peru," Steve commented. "I bet you can imagine how happy I am with my new Garrett detector now. I still can't believe that I was able to find a coin this old after only using the detector for five hours. What a great detector!"



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**"I bet you can imagine how happy I am with my new Garrett Detector now!"**

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## Detector Discovers Rare Coin in Bermuda

Bermuda Firefighter Arthur Raynor has uncovered what he believes to be one of the rarest coins anywhere in the world -- an example of the earliest currency minted for that island. Mr. Raynor unearthed what is thought to be a "Hog Shilling," dating from 1616, one of some 40 existing examples of "Hog Money." The coin features a wild boar on one side and a ship, the Sea Venture on the other. The Sea Venture is Sir George Somers' ship which ran aground in 1609, leading to the discovery of Bermuda.

If proven to be genuine, this rare coin is believed to worth in excess of \$2,000, depending upon its quality. "Hoggies," as they are called, were minted for use in the Bermuda Company's store and probably went out of use by 1626 at the very latest, according to Dr. Edward Harris, director of the Bermuda Maritime Museum. The last time Hog Money -- named after the wild boars which inhabited Bermuda at the time of its discovery -- was found was in 1996.

Mr. Raynor found the coin with a metal detector near a fort in St. George's, but did not realize the significance of his find until he examined it more closely. "I was shocked and surprised," he stated. "I've found thousands of coins since I began metal detecting in 1983 and I've always been hunting

for one of these. I also have a Spanish Real (dollar), but this will now be the top of my list."

Between 1612, when the Island was settled, and 1616, tobacco and the Spanish Real were used as currency in Bermuda. Hog Money was minted in London in 1616 for use exclusively in Bermuda and was the first currency developed by the English for use in a colony. After it went out of circulation, the Spanish dollar and later English money was used on the Island until 1793 when Bermuda again received its own designated currency.

Dr. Harris said that Hoggies are important because almost 200 years elapsed between Hog Money and anything else with Bermuda on a coin. "They were the first Bermuda coinage," he pointed out, "the first coinage made by England for an overseas colony, and they are one of the most rare coinages of the Western Hemisphere. It is always good to have more additions to such a small collection of national heritage."

He noted that Hog Shillings were made by the Bermuda Company to be spent in the company store and they were

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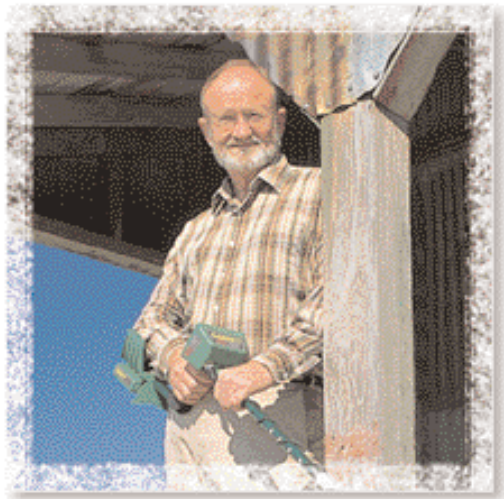
**"...one of the most rare coinages in the Western Hemisphere."**

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not particularly popular at the time. The expression "Hog Money" may have been more in derision than the fact they had hogs on the coins.

Mr. Raynor said that the Bermuda Monetary Authority wants to have first chance to buy the coin if it is genuine, an offer which he will be happy to accept, because he wants the valuable coin to remain in Bermuda.

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*Charles Garrett*

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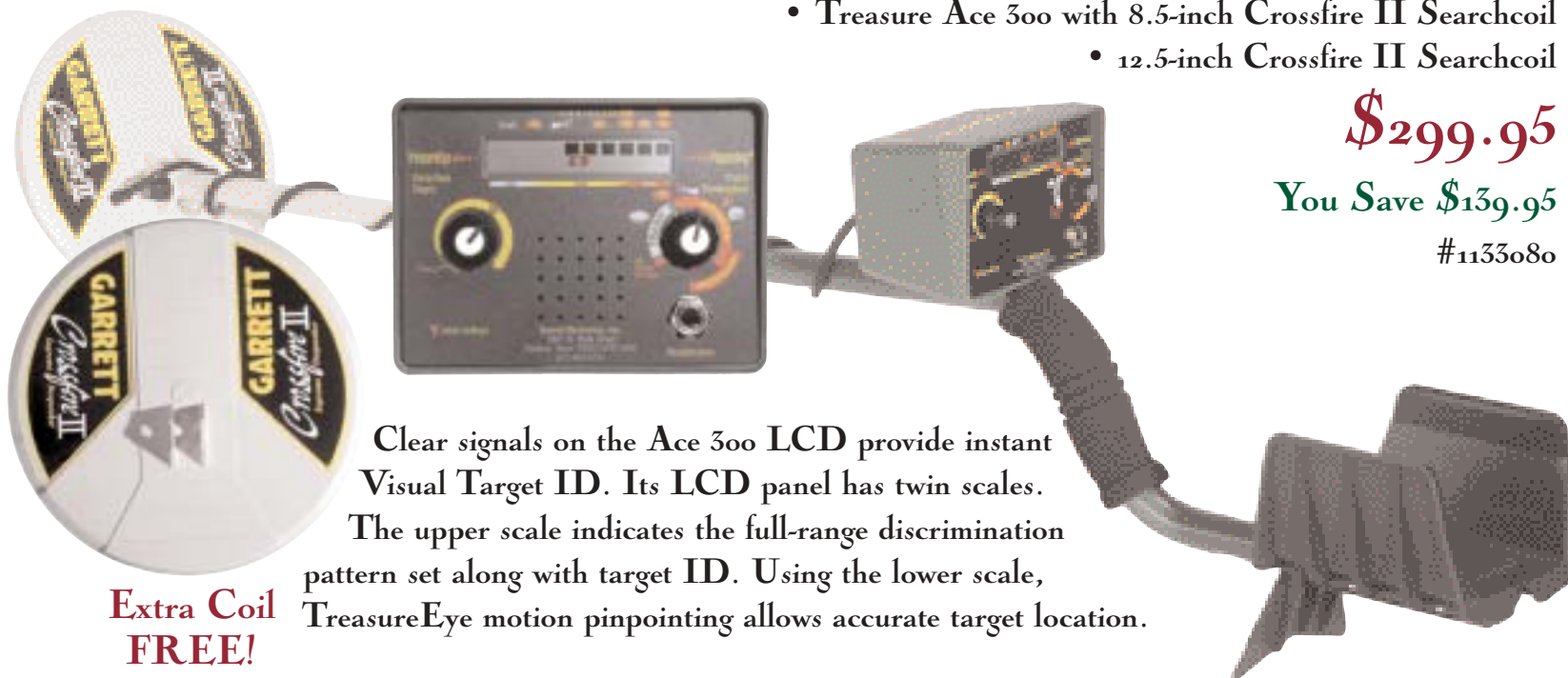
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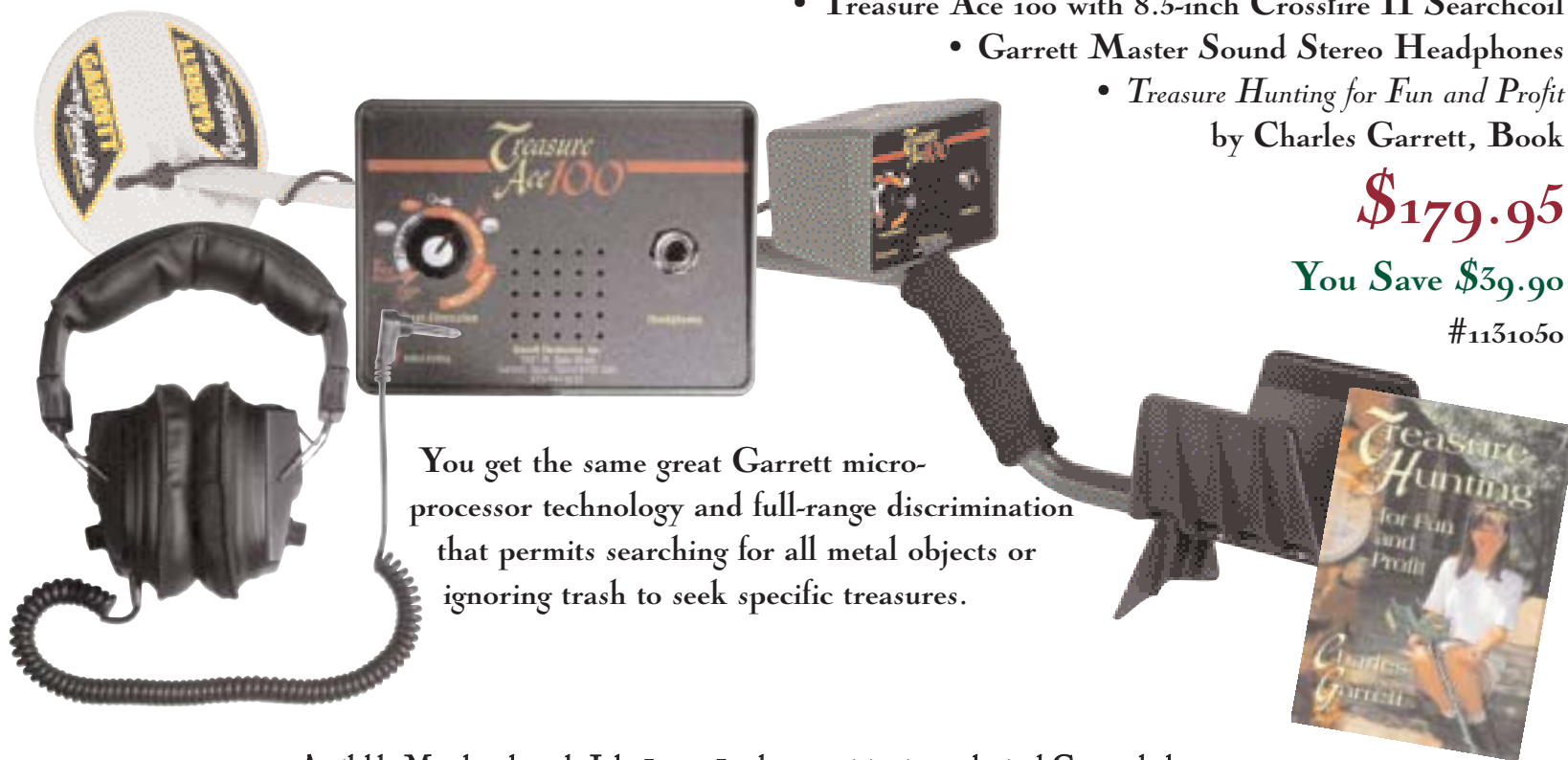
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# RV Treasure Hunters Like the GTax 400



Mark and Mary Pickerell have joined the community of full-time RV treasure hunters, and their Garrett GTax 400 has proved to be a popular detector among this group.

Treasure hunters for two years and "dedicated to the hobby," the Pickerells became full-time RVers just a few months ago, and they find Garrett metal detectors quite popular among travelers.

Mark recalls that he and Mary became treasure hunters in a quest for the legendary "pot of gold" that would solve their financial problems. It soon became evident to them, however, that this was "unrealistic and getting into the hobby should be done for pleasure and for the love of preserving historical items," they say.

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# “THE INFINIUM *LS*. NEW FOR 2003. NOWHERE ON EARTH WILL ANY DETECTOR GO DEEPER.”

—CHARLES GARRETT



“L” for Land, “S” for Sea



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*Charles Garrett*

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# Garrett adds DVD to videos library

Technological progress is the name of the game at Garrett Metal Detectors. And, its Video Division is no exception.

Garrett's entire library of instructional and entertainment videos will soon be available in the DVD format as well as on traditional VHS tape.

Vaughan Garrett, manager of video production for the company, points out that this project is merely another way in which the entire organization is remaining abreast of the latest developments in technology and in customer service.

"We want to make certain that our videos are of the highest quality possible, not only in content but in their technical aspects," Vaughan stated. "DVD offers a better image than VHS which is important in the display of our products and all of their features," he noted. "In addition, many of our customers prefer to view the videos on computers."

Although it was necessary for the company to add new equipment to facilitate the conversion of VHS tapes to the DVD format, Vaughan observed that this was customary at Garrett. In the past decade the company has invested literally millions of dollars in the addition of new equipment and facilities, particularly in engineering and production.

Vaughan said that all of Garrett's videos would continue to be available in VHS format as long as customer demand exists.



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***For use with GTA/Master Hunter CX Series***

# Infinium LS Finds Treasure in the Surf

By Steve Herschbach

In Hawaii I found the Infinium *LS* to be a very good salt-water unit. The key for anyone using the Infinium around salt water will be to set discrimination properly. I cannot overemphasize this point! It is the single most important adjustment for making the Infinium work in salt water, and my initial lack of knowledge in that regard cost me precious hunting time.

In fact, the Infinium discrimination control can be more properly thought of as a sensitivity control, and the key is to back the sensitivity down to a level that gives stable operation. Don't be concerned about losing sensitivity. I think I proved the Infinium retains plenty of power. But if you are picking up the saltwater itself, you certainly will have little luck in detecting anything else.

Before taking it into the surf I gave the Infinium *LS* a try on the beach. When I found that I was getting noise off the salt sand at the end of my swings, I remembered the note in the owner's manual about this very thing. It instructed that the discriminate control be advanced to reduce these signals.

I was about to say "false signals," but they are nothing of the sort. The Infinium is a particularly sensitive pulse induction detector. If you tune PI detectors up for their best sensitivity to small gold items, you run into the area where saltwater also starts being detected. The Infinium at its zero discriminate setting picks up wet salt sand and saltwater. It is not a false signal, just a response to a low conductive target a less sensitive unit would not detect at all.

This effect is enhanced by the 14" coil, which "sees" a large volume of material. By advancing the discriminate control to the point at which the salt effect is tuned out you get stable operation. In theory this also means that some depth of detection or target strength will be lost on smaller low conductive targets like gold earrings. I suggest testing the Infinium at various discrimination levels to determine the effect on all target responses.

I adjusted discrimination to the very edge of stable operation. In other words, I was running with a bit of

background noise. Some people might prefer to eliminate such noises entirely, but I am used to running "on the edge," so to speak. I found the Infinium with 14" coil and discrimination set at the 3-4 level gave background sounds on the beach. I proceeded to dig coins and a small toe ring. As I have found in the past, the Infinium really likes nickels. When I use the Infinium, I always seem to find a higher percentage of nickels than I would normally with a VLF detector. The Infinium is optimized for targets that fall in the nickel range, like most gold items.

I then took the Infinium into the surf, and I do mean surf! I had on 40 pounds of weights for stabilization because when I get a target, the weights allow me to duck to the bottom and stay put while excavating the target.

I use the "fanning" method of blowing sand away with my hand. I've tried scoops, but frankly I've got my hands

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**“In two days I found more nice rings than I’ve found in any other water detecting I’ve ever undertaken”**

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full just hanging on to the detector while working in high-energy surf.

I had heard that the 14" coil might be a problem in the water because of its size. Untrue! The Infinium is weightless underwater and the feel was good. I had no problem using it in very rough surf, and in fact often was forced to brace myself on the bottom with the detector. We are talking adverse conditions at their worst, and the Infinium did fine.



I found a discrimination setting of 5-6 was required underwater, and even then the coil needed to be kept parallel to the bottom. When I did get a target, the coil would turn and point off into the water. It could then "see" more salt water, and signal. But I was so busy holding on and digging targets I really didn't notice this.

But lo and behold, the deep targets started coming...and the rings! My first real surf dive of about three hours with the Infinium produced three beauties. An 18K gold and platinum ring was first, followed shortly by a 14K gold ring. Then a lull while I dug a few coins and nails (the Infinium does pick up large elongated iron objects) and then a GREAT BIG GOLD RING! I was over a foot down, and expecting a big chunk of trash, when up pops a large class ring. It is a 14K gold ring that looked incredibly large underwater, and is the most massive ring I have found to date.

After a break I hit the water again, and up comes an 18K gold ring with a deep blue faceted sapphire and 100% platinum band! The depths were all in excess of what I feel I was attaining with a similar competitive PI detector. I just don't think a VLF detector with a 10" coil has much chance versus any PI detector with a 14" coil in saltwater environments.

The following morning I found an extra wide 14K gold band, and I was ecstatic. It seemed that I could not miss with the Infinium. In two days I found more nice rings than I've found in any other water detecting I've ever undertaken.

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## Test Team Member Reports on 7-Inch Infinium Searchcoil

New equipment ideas and prototype models are continually being tested by members of the Garrett Test Team. Steve Herschbach, longtime Garrett dealer in Alaska, is one of those doing the testing. The following comes from his report on a prototype 3x7-inch elliptical coil for the new Infinium *LS*:

"Although there is little inherent difference sensitivity-wise between the 14" and 7" coils, there is a tremendous difference from a practical standpoint. Gold nuggets are rarely found in nice flat ground. Combine the little bit of

extra sensitivity with the ability to keep the little coil right on the ground and I feel the smaller coil will find many nuggets the 14" would miss. I was happy to note that the 7" coil also seems impervious to false noises from bumping which is an issue with many VLF coils. That means I can get down and dirty with this coil, rubbing it in the soil and knocking little rocks aside.

"Even though I still feel that a 14" coil will serve a larger number of people, I'd personally buy this small coil also in a heartbeat. I actually had a great deal of fun coin detecting

with it since it pinpointed so well. Another thing is that the small coil is much more resistant to outside noise. In town it is difficult to find a frequency that is quiet with the 14" coil. In fact, there is always at least a little extra noise. The 7" coil was very quiet and will obviously work much better in areas where electrical noise is an issue. Finally, I hipmount, and the unit with the 7" coil is feather-weight."



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1881 West State Street  
Garland, TX 75042-6797 U.S.A.  
1-800-527-4011  
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