

## In Memory of Eleanor Paxton Smith Garrett Mother. Entrepreneur. Educator.



Read more



Finder: Will C., New York Using: *ACE Apex* Find: Very rare and valuable 1798 reverse of 1796 Large cent



Finder: Brandon O., Pennsylvania Using: *ACE 400* Find: 1912 silver Barber dime and a 1912 silver Barber quarter



Finder:Jan L., MexicoUsing:AT ProFind:WWII Nazi paratrooper ring



Finder:Mustafa N., TurkeyUsing:AT Pro InternationalFind:Small bronze statue



Finder: Mark R., Ohio Using: *AT Pro* Find: 1933 Worlds Fair token



Finder: Moises G., MexicoUsing: ACE ApexFind: 1787 silver Carolus III coin

Finder: Bram V., Europe Using: AT Gold Find: Silver Spanish reale, circa 1474-1504



Vaughan Garrett's FAVORITE FIND OF THE MONTH

#### SHOW US YOUR FINDS!

The Vaughan Garrett Find of the Month competition will continue, and we believe this is a great time to submit your stories and photos. Vaughan has decided to give away the **NEW** ACE Apex metal detector.



Click on the links below to see the most recent winners!

U.S. winners

International winners

Vaughan Garrett

## **Unexpected Treasure**

Story by: David N. Thatcher, Sr. Retired Detective Lieutenant

During my 30 year career as a police officer, I developed numerous contacts and made many friends both within and outside of law enforcement that continue to this day. Many of those relationships were established as a result of my crime scene training and expertise in the use of metal detection equipment which I made available to local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies on a regular basis.

One such friendship arose almost seven years ago when I was befriended by a local police officer who expressed great interest in the hobby and purchasing a metal detector. Before long, Keith, an avid outdoors man, bought a Garrett *GTI 2500* and without hesitation we set off to explore several of Rhode Island's historical village sites where I showed him some of the finer points of "Treasure Hunting 101".

Not long after, Keith left law enforcement to pursue his dream of buying a lumber mill and being his own boss. Despite the demands of his new business Keith still managed to find time to explore the less traveled paths and metal detect.

Keith, now a father, has a new sidekick that loves to keep him company both at work and play (exploring and treasure hunting)—his 4  $\frac{1}{2}$  year son Kole. Late last fall before New England's record snowfalls, I accompanied Keith and Kole on a trip to an old abandoned mill site. Keith fired up his *GTI* 2500 and I quickly put my *AT Pro* into action and before long we were detecting artifacts of every size and description.

Several weeks ago I received a call from Keith asking me if would be willing to visit Kole's Nursery School and meet with his classmates to discuss my childhood hobby of metal detecting. Fellow treasure hunter Steve Moore and his employer, Garrett Metal Detectors, have been supportive to me over the years when I have conducted similar lectures for school children and in providing training sessions to law enforcement personnel.

I arrived at the Greenwich Village Academy preschool in West Greenwich, RI, with my vehicle fully loaded. I had my metal detector, assorted digging tools, half a dozen display cases with my best artifacts recovered over the past 30-plus years, and bags of Garrett goodies my wife and I separated the night before for each of the 35 students.

I'm not sure who was more excited about my presentation the students or the teachers who milled around the display cases, which showcased artifacts from the colonial period up to modern period rings and jewelry. When the entrance door to the classroom opened, the smiling children anxiously entered in an orderly fashion, and took their places on a rug sitting in a circle fashion with legs "crisscross-apple sauce."

When Ms. Rosemary, the school's director, introduced me and stated I was there to teach them about treasure hunting, every face lit-up like a Halloween Jack-O-Lantern. Ms. Rosemary then instructed the children to stand up. In unison, they rose to their feet, automatically faced the direction of the United States flag, placed their right hands over the hearts, and began reciting the Pledge of Allegiance with me following suit. I generally have a commanding voice but this simple act of patriotism coming from these children nearly brought me to tears. Immediately following they began to recite a prayer which is customary before the beginning of each class and school day which in fact did make my eyes water.

Viewing these two simple acts, the Pledge of Allegiance and Morning Prayer, were an unexpected treasure for my eyes and ears as this was common practice when I was in elementary school several years ago.

The children resumed sitting in a camp-fire circle. I had Keith's son, Kole, help me with my presentation. A short while later, I asked the students if they wanted to learn how to operate a metal detector and dig their own treasure—which was met by a chorus of voices shouting "yes." We proceeded outdoors to the sand-filled playground with the children lining up in pairs of two, with one child donning headphones and grasping the metal detector (with help) as the other slipped into a pair of gloves and brandished a digging trowel.

I visited the playground prior to the arrival of the students and hid coins of various denominations several inches below the surface of the fine beach sand making it easy to detect. Within minutes, you could hear the excitement as quarters, nickels, and dimes popped to the surface under the pressure of a frantic trowel wildly brushing back sand in every direction. Some of those students waiting for their turn could no longer restrain themselves and made a beeline towards the recovered coins. After everyone had a turn many of the students asked to go again though time would not permit.

I had promised the class that they would walk away with two things: knowledge and goodies. And now that the knowledge part was behind us, it was time to hand out goodie bags. If the look on young Kole's face is any indication of approval at the bags contents, then they, too, must have seen the look of satisfaction on my face as I joined them earlier reciting the Pledge of Allegiance and daily prayer. It would be hard to determine who actually walked away with the bigger treasure on that day at the Greenwich Village Academy. Was it the children or "Mr. T" (me)? I think it was both.





Finder: Jim W., Wisconsin Using: AT Pro Find: 1863 Civil War token from W.P. Emmert Grocery in Freeport, Illinois



Finder: Michael B., Europe Using: *ACE 300i* Find: Twelve William the 3rd silver sixpence hoard



Finder: Ken C., Massachusetts Using: *ACE Apex* Find: 14k gold ring with emerald cut yellow diamond



Finder:Henk B., EuropeUsing:EuroACEFind:Box full of WWII bullets



Finder: Matthew C., Texas Using: *AT Pro* Find: Part of a silver nail clipper stamped by Navajo Native Americans



Finder: Mark Y., Europe Using: ACE Apex Find: Silver hammered Henry VI half groat

Finder: Ron R., Vermont Using: AT Pro Find: 1866 copper two cent piece





Finder: Francisco R., Europe Using: ACE 250 Find: 1607 Philip III Spanish bronze 4 maravedís coin



Finder: David F., Washington Using: AT Max Find: Harley Davidson motorcycle buckle



Finder: Matthew C., Europe Using: *AT Pro International* Find: Significant vesica shaped Priory seal matrix



Finder: Todd C., Ohio Using: *AT Max* Find: 1919 U.S. Navy 10k gold baseball medallion



Finder: Craig K., Europe Using: ACE 250 Find: Silver Virgin Mary religious medallion



Finder: Ty H., Illinois Using: ACE 200 Find: 14k gold pink tourmaline and diamond ring

Finder: Patryk S., Europe Using: *AT Pro International* Find: Small antique gold ring





Finder: Andrei B., Europe Using: ACE Apex Find: 14th century Ottoman coins and rings



# **FAMILY FUN!**

Do you know where you can get permission to metal detect away from the crowds?

This could be the answer to getting the family outside, exercising, and having more fun together.





Finder: Jacob G., Michigan Using: ACE 300 Find: Men's stainless steel wedding ring



Finder: Jan L., Europe Using: *AT Pro* Find: 1769 silver Danmark, 1 speciedaler coin



Finder: Heriberto C., Connecticut Using: *AT Gold* Find: Three early 1800s large cents





Finder: Bill W., Using: ACE 300 Find: Gold plated Russian Orthodox cross



Finder: Stephanie I., South Carolina Using: *AT Max* Find: Three silver Spanish reales and a silver cufflink

Finder: Ralph D., Tennessee Using: ACE Apex Find: U.S.M.C. pin



#### **Exchanging Finds for Gold**

Finder: John B., Canada Using: *AT Max* and *ACE Apex* 

John recently shared with us, "Today, I cashed in about 500 quarters, 2,000 dimes, 48 silver nickels, several half dollars and a silver dollar. Also included about 50 foreign silvers and maybe 30 miscellaneous valuable non-silver coins. My total was \$3,550.00. I am pleased with that amount! Those coins carried a lot of memories, caused a lot of adventures and kept my body in somewhat reasonable shape. And, I still like to search for coins today. Silver is getting hard to find, so I concentrate on one and two dollar coins, and still look forward to an annual gold coin purchase."





**Finder:** Bill E., New Hampshire **Using:** *ACE Apex* **Find:** 1788 New Jersey colonial copper coin



**Finder:** Miroslav S., Europe Using: *AT Pro International* **Find:** Celtic axe head, estimated to be over 2000 years old



19 mining association 76

#### 2022 SCHEDULE

DIGGER'S DIRT PARTIES STANTON, AZ | APRIL 6 – 10 BLUE BUCKET, OR | April 27 – May 1 LOUD MINE, GA | JUNE 8 – 12

DIGGER SPECIAL ESCAPADES OCONEE, SC April 21 – 24 | Gold N BBQ #1 BURNT RIVER, OR May 6 – 8 | Old Rusty's Chomp'N #1

> DIGGER'S DETECTOR TRAINING & HUNTS

STANTON, AZ | APRIL 21 - 24



SCOTT RIVER CAMP | MAY 19-22 DUISENBURG CAMP | OCT. 20-23

DIGGER'S PUSH DIGS

STANTON, AZ | February 18 – 20 STANTON, AZ | March 11 – 13 LOUD MINE, GA | March 18 – 20 DUISENBURG, CA | March 25 – 27 BURNT RIVER, OR | April 1 – 3 VEIN MOUNTAIN, NC | April 22 – 24 DUISENBURG, CA | May 20 – 22 OCONEE, SC | May 20 – 22 BLUE BUCKET, OR | May 27 – 30\* STANTON, AZ | May 27 – 30\* BLUE BUCKET, OR | June 17 – 19 VEIN MOUNTAIN, NC | June 17 – 19

DIGGER'S EXPEDITIONS DESERT CHAOS | DUISENBURG, CA WEEK #1: APRIL 23 - 30 CLASH OF THE TROMMELS | BURNT RIVER, OR WEEK #1: JUNE 11 - 18 | WEEK #2: JUNE 18 - 25

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PECTORS

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**PUYALLUP, WA** March 26-27 | WA State Fair Events Center

PORTLAND, OR April 9-10 | Portland Expo Center

CONCORD, NC April 30 – May 1 I Cabarrus Arena & Event Center

COLUMBUS, OH May 14-15 | Ohio Expo Center & State Fair

> POMONA, CA July 23-24 | Pomona Fairplex

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#### **Garrett's Code of Detecting Ethics**

Charles Garrett always urged his fellow searchers to conduct themselves as responsible treasure hunters and to leave their hunt areas in better condition than they found them. Please follow your local directives during the current health crisis, but when you are able to safely enjoy detecting, here are just a few of his keys to good conduct in the field:



- Never trespass or hunt on private property without permission.
- National and state parks/monuments, etc. are absolutely off-limits.
- Always fill in every hole that you dig.
- Do not leave litter or other discarded junk items lying around.
- Always carry out all rubbish and dug targets with you when you leave a search area.
- Use reasonable caution in digging toward any target, particularly in areas where you are uncertain of the ground conditions.
- Keep informed on and obey all local and national legislation relating to the discovery and reporting of found treasures.













To find your local Garrett dealer, visit garrett.com or call 972-494-6151