

Introduction

That's a good question! Let me tell you about treasure hunting. Let me tell you about the fun, the excitement, the genuine pleasure that can come from finding coins, jewelry, relics, gold nuggets and countless other valuable items. And, I'm *not* going to tell you about "metal detecting." In fact, with today's modern instruments you need very little knowledge of "metal detecting" in order to find treasure. Touch just one control on a modern computerized detector and begin hunting. It's that simple. Don't believe anyone who tells you differently!

It wasn't always so. Not too many years ago using a metal detector effectively required specialized knowledge. You gained this expertise either through training or through hard work in the field, or perhaps a combination of the two. Some of my early books sought to provide such knowledge. Thus, they were essentially extensions of metal detector instruction manuals. These books, thankfully, are out of print.

A simpler approach is now welcomed by all. This *Treasure Hunting Text* provides all the information you'll ever need on the basic techniques of using a metal detector. It also includes suggestions about research that can help you select and discover various types of treasure, as well as

methods for recovering them. More importantly, however, the book seeks to describe the real enjoyment that can come from finding treasure and to explain how you can easily achieve such pleasure. Moreover, this book is written especially for men and women, boys and girls, who have never hunted with a metal detector.

I have written many books, articles, training manuals and the like that deal with all aspects of treasure hunting with a metal detector. Most of these pertain to a single facet of the hobby, such as coin hunting, searching for gold and ghost towning, to name but three of my most popular books. This one, however, is written to present an overview of treasure hunting and to provide a basic knowledge of all aspects of the hobby.

Treasure Hunting for Fun and Profit is divided into three sections. Chapters 1 and 2 explain the hobby and give you *all* the information you need to begin hunting. That's right — after reading these two chapters you'll be ready to hunt with a computerized detector. Chapters 3 through 12 take you deeper into the hobby with discussions of hunting for various types of targets, which will enable you to specialize in as many areas as you desire. These chapters also include information on where to hunt, clothing and equipment, health and safety, special advantages of the hobby for children and older individuals and a brief discussion of laws affecting treasure hunting.

Finally, Chapters 13 and 14 will provide you information that will enable you to hold your own in any discussion about hunting for treasure with a metal detector. I'm tempted to say that these final two chapters offer a true "course" in metal detecting. But, if you're like me you've passed all the courses you intend to take and don't plan on

any others. So, let's just say that these final chapters close out a book that contains all the knowledge you'll ever need to become an expert treasure hunter.

I should know because I've been a treasure hunter all my life. For half a century now I've used a metal detector, and I can assure you that finding treasure with a detector has never been easier than it is today. This is especially true with today's brand-new instruments that offer *Imaging by Garrett*. These marvelous detectors tell you the size of a detected target *before* you dig it.

Almost daily I hear stories of treasure hunting successes that proclaim marvels of metal detectors, both old and new. Some of these stories are retold in this book.

The hobby is a grand and glorious one for so many whom I've known over the past half-century. I can only wish that you will find the same joy that they — and I — have experienced. Read on to learn all about it!

And, maybe someday...

I'll see you in the field!

Charles Garrett

*Garland, Texas
Autumn 1998*