

Best of 2017: Part I

**Garrett Metal Detectors**<sup>®</sup>

# Meet California's "<u>MEGA</u> Cladder"

In 2012, Jason Burns of South Orange County, California, discovered the sport of metal detecting from his brother Robert, an *ACE 250* user. Just a few years later, he has become so proficient at digging coins with his own detector that forum users began referring to him as the "Mega Cladder." By the end of 2017, his clad coin finds alone had reached almost \$7,000.

Jason became hooked on detecting when his brother took him to a local school to try out the ACE 250. "Robert always had the love of metal detecting since he was a kid," said Jason. He quickly tried out the detector and dug a quarter. "This is so cool!" he thought.

With that, Jason began researching metal detectors, and finally decided that the Garrett *AT Pro* was the one he wanted. Unfortunately, his wife did not see the need to invest in his desired Christmas present that year—in spite of his pleas that it would pay for itself in no time.

"So, I decided to purchase the *AT Pro* myself," he said. "I took it to a local park and within minutes, I was getting hits." Once he started to understand the tones and the Target ID numbers, Jason found himself looking for quarters. "I could not believe how much I was finding!" he said. "It soon dawned on me that this hobby can be a large money maker."

Jason soon purchased a Garrett *Pro-Pointer* to speed his ability to find his coin targets. "I soon found that I was pulling in at least ten dollars per hunt," he said. "My luck started to change when I found my first ring, a nice little silver ring. I was so excited."



Above: Jason Burns with one year's total of clad coins he found with his AT Pro.

Below: Rows of quarters Jason photographed at year's end after running them through his tumbler to clean them.



During his first year with the *AT Pro*, he also found gold rings and his first platinum ring. It was only after he found his most valuable ring that his wife Meredith became a believer. "I dug a target that hit in the nickel range, and it turned out to be a platinum ring with diamonds," said Jason. "The ring appraised for \$4,300!"

Although the ring finds are exciting, Jason is primarily a coin shooter. During his first year of hunting in 2013, he accumulated \$750 in clad coins. In 2014, his total coin haul was \$1,050, which he bested in 2015 with \$1,280.

Jason tried his luck with beach hunting a few times, but found that



Finder:Rafal S., EuropeUsing:EuroACEFind:1783 copper thaler coin



Finder: Adam V., Europe Using: AT Pro International Find: WWI German Army Feldzug military badge, circa 1914-1915



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Finder: Ben P., Marble, NC Using: AT Pro Find: Sterling silver United States Navy WAVES pin



Finder: Martin B., Europe Using: *ACE 250* Find: Napoleonic War lion head sword handle buckle



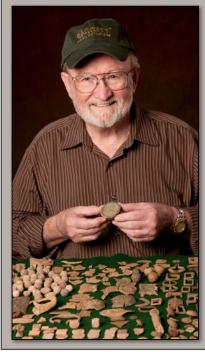
Finder: Cirilo C., Baltimore, MD Using: *AT Pro* Find: Rare key date 1877 Indian Head penny



Finder: Edward T., New Brunswick, Canada Using: *AT Pro International* Find: Returned gold locket, circa late 1800s to early 1900s

## **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. 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.

#### MEGA CLADDER (from page 1)

his main love was hitting parks and schools. "I slowly began to streamline my hunting," he said. "I use small, homemade flags to aid in my hunting. I've learned to grid a field and put in about 20 flags where I get good signals.

"Then, after I've flagged about 20 hits, I go dig all of them. I'm fast with my Pro-Pointer and I find it easier than stopping to dig each individual hit that I get."

Jason says he averages at least \$15 in clad during a 3-hour hunt. He considers himself fortunate enough to have a home-based business that allows him the flexibility to hunt at least three or four days a week.

He eventually purchased a rock tumbler for use in cleaning his clad, which he uses with a special blend of water, aquarium pebbles, rock salt, and white vinegar. "I don't tumble my coins until the end of the year," he says. "And then I take photos of my finds."

One year, he and his wife were able to purchase brand-new furniture for their home with his AT Pro coin finds. His total coin haul in 2016 was \$1,700 in clad, and his 2017 total was nearly as high at \$1,580.

Jason says his favorite finds so far have been the \$4,300 ring and a 1904 Barber half dollar. "The area of California I live in is not really an old town, so I don't find as many silver coins as some people do," he said.

"But, believe it or not, I still get excited to find a clad quarter. I guess detecting just takes me away from reality for a while."

Jason, when your hobby actually pays you more than \$1,000 a year while you're out having fun, who wouldn't enjoy it?

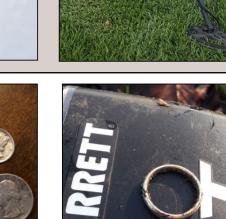






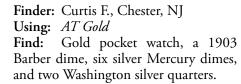
Jason is this platinum ring with diamonds (right), appraised at \$4,300.







Finder: George N., United Kingdom Using: AT Pro International Find: Edward II hammered silver penny, circa 1310-1314AD





Finder: Marco B., Europe Using: AT Pro International Find: Gold ring



Finder: Michael F., Kaufman, TX Using: *AT Gold* Find: Michael's lost gold wedding band recovered 18 years later





Finder: Mike S., Tasmania, Australia Using: *ACE 250* Find: Silver sovereign coin holder



Finder: Ryan G., Exeter, NHUsing: AT ProFind: 1832 Capped Bust half dime



Finder: Scott B., Halifax, Canada Using: *ATX* Find: Gold brooch, circa 1800s



Finder:Brian S., East Dorset, VTUsing:AT ProFind:1787 Draped Bust Connecticutcopper



Finder: Marijan M., Europe Using: ACE 350 Find: Antonius Pius Caracalla Roman coin, circa 198-211AD



Finder: Jason S., Crawfordsville, IN Using: ACE 400 Find: 1864 "small motto" 2 cent piece and three silver Mercury dimes



Finder: Marcin J., EuropeUsing: AT Pro InternationalFind: 1915 gold 2 1/2 dollar coin



Finder: Logan B., San Antonio, TX Using: *ACE 200* 

**Find:** While searching around his Grandpa's Coca-Cola swing, Logan got a good coin signal on his *ACE 200*. After digging a plug, he extracted a nice coin spill—40 pennies and three nickels. He recalls, "It was the biggest coin spill of my life."



Finder: Cody R., Waldo, ME Using: *AT Pro* Find: 1854 Liberty half cent



Finder:David C., Lyndon, KSUsing:AT ProFind:Bronze Chinese marriage coin

garrett.com



Finder: Jeff P., Lake Mills, IA Using: *AT Pro* Find: 18k gold wedding band dated 9/1/1900 and inscribed "Eugene to Lucie"



Finder: Jeff P., Winchester, VA Using: *AT Pro* Find: 1862 Civil War Union soldier's identification disc



Finder:Greg D., Ontario, CanadaUsing:AT Pro InternationalFind:1800s love token brooch



Finder: Duane W., Vienna, WV Using: *AT Pro* Find: U.S. 9th president William Harrison 1840 campaign button



Finder:Ryan M., Forney, TXUsing:AT ProFind:1907 Barber half dime



Finder: Curtis M., Virginia Beach, VA Using: *AT Pro* Find: U.S. Navy one piece button, circa 1800-1820s



Finder: Anibal A., Maldonado, Uruguay Using: ACE 250 Find: 1888 Argentina 5 pesos gold coin



Finder: Martin I., Europe Using: AT Pro International Find: Constans Roman coin, circa 337-350AD

## Gold in them hills!



Finder: Stuart W., Hong Kong, China Using: ACE 350

Find: In January 1947, a small Dakota plane carrying \$15,000,000 in gold bullions and coins to restock the banks crashed near the summit of Mt. Parker in Hong Kong, China. Five to nine million dollars worth of gold are still scattered amongst the hill tops. Stuart was contacted by an English newspaper to help search for some of the gold coins that were left behind.

Stuart recalls, "We went with the reporter so he could take some pictures of us hunting for the lost treasure. Within three minutes of starting our quest the Garrett rang out a sharp high pitched note that was music to all of our ears and out from two inches below the surface came a Mexican 50 pesos gold coin gleaming like the day it was minted."

Congratulations Stuart on your amazing find and thank you for sharing your story!

Finder: Damian S., Europe Using: Euro*ACE* Find: 14k gold wedding ring





Finder:Bill M., United KingdomUsing:AT Pro InternationalFind:1605 James 1st silver sixpence



Finder: Kyle M., South Paris, ME Using: *AT Pro* 

Find: Coin purse with coins, including an 1887 Seated Liberty half dollar, 1894 Barber half, two 1909 Barber quarters, 1898 Barber quarter, 1908 Barber dime, six Indian Head pennies, and two unidentified coins.

Finder: Michael L., East Hampton, CT Using: *AT Pro* Find: 1838 Seated Liberty silver dime





Finder: Patryk S., Europe Using: *AT Pro International* Find: 18k gold ring



Finder:Giuseppe Y., United KingdomUsing:ACE 400iFind:George IV Bullhead shilling



Finder: Tyler C., Ontario, Canada Using: *AT Gold* Find: WWII Canadian Armoured Corps gold sweetheart ring



Finder: Douglas A., Carrollton, OH Using: *AT Pro* Find: Old pistol and a silver 1915 Barber half dollar

Finder: Neal C., Marietta, PA Using: *AT Pro* Find: Mangled 14k gold wedding ring



Finder: Jason C., Willis, TX Using: ACE 250 Find: 10k gold ring with diamonds





Finder: Adrian R., Europe Using: *GTI 2500* Find: Roman Julia Lepedia Spanish bronze coin, circa 44-36BC



**Finder:** David W., United Kingdom Using: *AT Pro International* **Find:** Henry V silver groat coin, circa 1413-1422AD



Finder: Miroslaw B., Europe Using: *AT Pro International* Find: Three ancient Roman denarii coins



Finder: Heriberto C., New Haven, CT Using: AT Gold Find: Spill of 105 silver coins, dated 1946-1964

Finder: Justin S., Claremore, OK Using: *AT Pro* Find: Free Mason member ring, circa early 1900-1905







Finder: Jason, United Kingdom Using: *GTI 2500* Find: King Henry VII silver groat, circa 1495-1504AD



Finder: Christopher N., Summerville, GA Using: *AT Pro* Find: 1905 Louisville, KY United Confederate Veterans reunion badge



Finder:Ivan C., SingaporeUsing:Sea Hunter Mark IIFind:40 grams of gold

Finder: David D., Hurricane, WV Using: *AT Pro* Find: George Washington inaugural button







Finder:Urh L., EuropeUsing:EuroACEFind:1915 Austria ducat gold coin



Finder: Jasja H., Europe Using: *ACE 300i* Find: 1704 Generaliteits gulden silver coin



Finder: Mike W., Anna, OH Using: *AT Pro* Find: German military service medal



Finder: Hasan K., Denizli, Turkey Using: *ACE 300i* Find: Gold ring



Finder: Raja K., Johore, Malaysia Using: *AT Gold* Find: 1512 Portuguese Manuel 1st tin bastardo coins



Finder: Mateusz W., Europe Using: AT Pro International Find: Russian 19th century St. Nicholas bronze icon plaque



Finder:Tim M., Hutchinson, KSUsing:AT ProFind:1922 silver Peace Dollar

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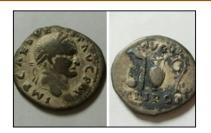


Finder: Aaron W., Charleston, WV Using: *AT Pro* Find: Army distinguished service cross



**Finder:** Garren K., Fort Worth, TX Using: *AT Pro* 

**Find:** Discovered on a Civil War battlefield in Virginia. Garren shared a photo of his James artillery shell after 26 days of electrolysis cleaning.



Finder: Luka R., Europe Using: ACE 400i Find: Vespasian denarius coin, circa 70-71AD



Finder: Juan R., Kingston, NY Using: *AT Pro* Find: 1835 Capped Bust half dime



Finder: Robert C., Pittsburgh, PA Using: *AT Pro* Find: 1984 50 Yen 1/2 ounce gold coin in bezel



Finder:Dylan D., Town of Sullivan, WIUsing:ACE 250Find:10k gold ring with diamonds



Finder: Chris L., United Kingdom Using: ACE 400i Find: Four silver Roman denarius coins

Finder: Patrick O., Norwich, NY Using: AT Pro Find: Hand engraved silver button





Finder: Peppe D., Europe Using: ACE 250 Find: 14k Spanish gold pendant with Patapinta (*the artist's name*) inscribed on the back, estimated to be from the fifth century.



Finder: James B., United Kingdom Using: ACE 300i Find: 1683 King Charles II silver hammered coin



Finder: Tentis M., Supply, NC Using: *AT Pro* Find: War of 1812 Script A, 1st regiment button



Finder: Ursu M., Europe Using: Euro*ACE* Find: White gold plated silver key



Finder: Dave S., Kasson, MN Using: *AT Gold* Find: Gold nugget



Finder: Nazar D., Slovita, Ukraine Using: Euro*ACE* Find: 1615 Sigismund III Vasa of Poland silver coin



Finder: Jeff H., Wallkill, NY Using: ACE 400 Find: George Washington inaugural button missing the shank off the back



Finder:Michael C., North East, MDUsing:AT ProFind:1739 King George half pennycopper coin



Finder: Florin G., Europe Using: ACE 250 Find: Bronze brooch and a Diva Faustina denar coin inside a Roman fibula



Finder: Jorge R., Guanajuato, Mexico Using: *AT Pro International* Find: Emperor Augustine Iturbide's seal button, circa 1810-1822



Finder: Mick H., United Kingdom Using: *AT Pro International* Find: 1873 Queen Victoria gold half sovereign coin



**Finder:** Eduard T., Europe **Using:** Euro*ACE* **Find:** Ancient Dacian silver neck ornament, estimated to be over 2,000 years old



Finder: Frank P., Clinton Township, MI

#### Using: AT Pro

Find: Spill of a lifetime—four Barber quarters, one Barber dime, one Canadian quarter, Standing Liberty Quarter, two V Nickels, Buffalo nickel, and an Indian Head penny.



Finder: Owen W., Burlington Flats, NY Using: ACE 350 Find: 1879 silver Morgan dollar coin found by Owen—his first silver coin.



Finder: Daniel B., Gilbertsville, NYUsing: ACE 250Find: 1837 Hard-times token



Finder: Martin N., Europe Using: *AT Pro International* Find: Viking age gold pendant, estimated to be over 1000 years old



Finder: Jay Dee J., Disputanta, VA Using: AT Pro Find: Civil War Union soldier's identification tag



Finder: Michael H., United Kingdom Using: *ACE 250* Find: Wallet containing six coins, circa late 1800s to early 1900s



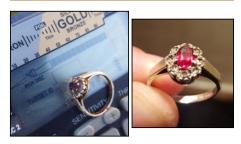
Finder:William C., Leland, NCUsing:AT ProFind:1797 King George III cartwheel

Finder: Brandon S., Swanzey, NH Using: AT Pro Find: War of 1812 infantry officer's button





Finder: John A., Culloden, WV Using: *ACE 400* Find: 14k gold ring with 10 diamonds, appraised at \$1,000 - \$2,000



Finder: Michal P., United Kingdom Using: *AT Gold* Find: Ring found on a quick search before work



Finder: Keith S., Shippensburg, PA Using: *AT Pro* Find: Civil War buckle



Finder: Tommy B., United Kingdom Using: *ACE 250* Find: Gurkha kukri knife with leather sheath



Finder: Ted B., Grimesland, NC Using: ACE 250 Find: Civil War Union camp cook pot with bones still inside



**Finder:** Cody T., Minneapolis, MN **Using:** *ATX* **Find:** Civil War U.S. belt buckle, j-hook, and a minié ball



Finder: Brian F., Hollywood, CA Using: *AT Pro* Find: USA intertwined Artillery bridle rosette, circa mid 1800s



Finder: Damian S., Europe Using: Euro*ACE* Find: Casimir IV silver coin, circa 1447-1492AD





Finder: Paul B., United Kingdom Using: *ACE 400i* Find: Henry VIII hammered half sovereign gold coin



Finder: Clifton B., Guymon, OK Using: *AT Pro* Find: Grandma's ring discovered in her flower bed.



Finder: Brian W., Buena Park, CA Using: ACE 250 Find: Silver diamond ring



Finder: Tom S., Ontario, CanadaUsing: AT Pro InternationalFind: 1831 Coronet large cent



Finder:Roy H., APO, AEUsing:AT ProFind:1380 French jeton coin



Finder: Brittany S., Dinwiddie, VA Using: *ACE 250* Find: 1856 gold 1 dollar coin



Finder:Renars V., EuropeUsing:ACE 250Find:Silver ring and brooch



Finder:Nathan Z., Claysville, PAUsing:ACE 300Find:Monogrammed locket



Finder: Michal P., United Kingdom Using: *AT Gold* Find: Coin cache with five coins inside including a 1696 William III



Finder:Richard P., Watauga, TXUsing:AT ProFind:Platinum diamond ring



Finder: Harald H., Europe Using: AT Pro International Find: Child's Roman bracelet fragment, circa 60-160BC



Finder:Mark S., United KingdomUsing:ACE 400iFind:22k Victoria half sovereign



Finder: Mark B., Europe Using: *AT Gold* Find: Doge Pietro II of Venice gold coin, circa 1567-1570



Finder: Paige G., Indian Trail, NC Using: *AT Pro* Find: Broken toy airplane



Finder: Oscar A., Chihuahua, Mexico Using: *ACE 250* Find: 1732 silver 8 reale



Finder: John S., Shelton, CT Using: *AT Pro* Find: Two Barber half dollars, three Barber quarters, and two Barber dimes



Finder:Cameron M., United KingdomUsing:EuroACEFind:22k gold wedding band



Finder: Lee N., Valparaiso, IN Using: *AT Pro* Find: Three silver quarters—1943 Washington, 1918 Standing Liberty, and a 1908 Barber



Finder: Douglas R., Quito, Ecuador Using: *ATX* Find: Gold nugget specimen



**Finder:** Nicholas A., Vero Beach, FL **Using:** *AT Pro* **Find:** 1830s large cent turned into a love token by a solider from the Second

Seminole War



Finder:Greg S., Cumberland, RIUsing:AT ProFind:1857 Seated Liberty half dollar



Finder:Phil B., Plainfield, WIUsing:AT ProFind:Platinum octopus ring



Finder: Simon O., United Kingdom Using: ACE 300i Find: Edward III silver groat, circa 1351-77AD





Finder: James S., Cambridge Springs, PAUsing: AT ProFind: 1864 Civil War token



Finder:Fernando D., Colonia, UruguayUsing:ACE 400Find:1852 Pedro II gold coin



Finder: Oskar M., New South Wales, Australia Using: *AT Pro* Find: Silver bangle bracelet and three silver rings





Finder: Luka H., Europe Using: *AT Pro International* Find: 1899 Austria one Korona silver coin converted into a ring



Finder: Scott B., Nova Scotia, Canada Using: *AT Pro International* Find: Gold ring, vintage cameo, and two old coins all found in the same hole.



Finder:Rick S., Fulton, NYUsing:AT ProFind:Civil War Shako hat plate



**Finder:** Toth G., Europe **Using:** *ACE 250* **Find:** Rare Avar-age bronze head of a boar, depicting animal patterns



Finder: Nadia R., Quebec, Canada Using: *AT Pro* Find: 10k gold Rosswell ring with red stone



**Finder:** Anton, Russian Federation Using: *AT Pro International* **Find:** 1521 Albrecht of Hohenzollern silver shilling



Finder:John W., Kellyville, OKUsing:AT ProFind:1864 "small motto" 2 cent piece



Finder: James R., Knoxville, TN Using: *AT Pro* Find: Cache of Civil War dropped minié balls



Finder: Jeremiah M., Three Rivers, MI Using: *AT Pro* Find: 1858-O silver Seated Liberty half dollar



Finder:Graeme S., United KingdomUsing:EuroACEFind:Roman fibula brooch



Finder: Stefan S., Europe Using: Euro*ACE* Find: Julia Domna Roman denarius coin, circa 193-217AD





**Finder:** Michigan Diggers, Shelby, MI **Using:** *AT Pro* **Find:** Silver spoon found at a home site built in the early 1900s.



Finder:Morgan W., AustraliaUsing:AT Pro InternationalFind:1878 British half gold sovereign



Finder: Guy M., Columbiana, OH Using: *AT Pro* Find: 1931 P.F.L. brass oration church medallion

## Garrett<sup>®</sup> Users WIN in Vaughan Garrett's Favorite Find of the Month

#### Here are some of the recent winners!

*Visit garrett.com to submit your story. You could be next!* 

Vaughan Ganet

#### October 2017 Winners

U.S. Winner #1 Finder: Brian P., Middletown, NY Using: AT Pro Find: War of 1812 artillery belt plate



 International #1

 Finder:
 Steven E., United Kingdom

 Using:
 ACE 400i

 Find:
 Roman Head Stud brooch



 International #2

 Finder:
 Vania R., Europe

 Using:
 ACE 250

 Find:
 18th century sword guard



International #1 Finder: Tomislav B., Europe Using: ACE 400i Find: Roman gold coin



#### **EDITOR'S NOTE**

The Garrett *Searcher* can be read in digital format by signing up with your email account or by reading or printing it from our website.

Thank you for the tremendous volume of great finds photos that you've been sending in. Because of this response to Vaughan's giveaways, we are unable to publish all of the better finds in a timely manner. But, stay tuned! We plan to include many of your finds in future issues. Thanks for your continued support of Garrett.



- Wireless Freedom allows you to cut the cord to your detector
  Lighting fast! Six times faster than Bluetooth speed
- Allows fast target recovery
  Extended hunting time per charge



(or other items in 2018)

Vaughan will pick a U.S. and international Favorite Find each month. Each winner will receive a free Garrett product. Check garrett.com for the latest!

### U.S. Winner #2 Finder: William M., Parker, CO Using: AT Gold Find: Colorado gold nugget

U.S. Winner #3 Finder: Ray H., Oklahoma City, OK Using: AT Max Find: Rose Gold diamond ring



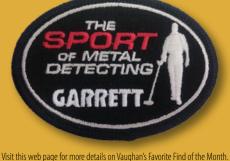
JOIN THE GARRETT SEARCH TEAM!

Everyone who participates in Vaughan Garrett's Favorite Find of the Month will receive a **FREE** Garrett patch.

#### Three options to submit a story to Vaughan:

- 1. Email testimonials@garrett.com
- 2. Mail to: Garrett Metal Detectors Attn: Marketing Department 1881 W. State St. Garland, TX 75042
- 3. Submit your photo and story online by using the "Submit a Story" form:

http://www.garrett.com/hobbysite/hbby\_ submit\_a\_story.aspx



# Garrett<sup>®</sup> Users Z-Lynk Wireless System in Vaughan Garrett's Favorite Find of the Month Vaughan Ganett

Here are some of the recent winners!

*Visit garrett.com to submit your story. You could be next!* 

#### **November 2017 Winners**

U.S. Winner #1 Finder: Andy B., McKinney, TX Using: ACE 250 Find: Civil War Confederate buckle



International #1 Finder: Luka R., Europe Using: ACE 400i Roman two headed horse fibula Find:



International #2 Finder: Lucian L., Europe Using: ACE 300i Find: Iron cross hoard





U.S. Winner #2 Finder: Bob F., Collyville, TX Using: AT Pro Find: Sterling silver elks watch fob

U.S. Winner #3 Finder: Cody D., Rutland, VT Using: AT Pro Find: Extremely rare 1787 Vermont copper variety ryder 15



International #3 Finder: Stephen W., United Kingdom Using: ACE 250 Find: WWII American soldier's sterling silver ring





U.S. Winner #4 Finder: Ronny R., Houston, TX Using: AT Pro Find: 1902 Liberty Head U.S. \$10 gold coin International #4 Finder: Ezequiel R., Argentina Using: ACE 350 Find: Buckle with lion figure



#### **December 2017 Winner**

U.S. Winner #1 Finder: Stone K., Daphne, AL Using: AT Pro Find: Civil War Alabama Confederate sword plate



International #1 Finder: David M., United Kingdom Using: ACE 150 Find: Bronze Age gold clothes fastener, circa 1200BC approximately





## **PHOTOS FROM THE FIELD**







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