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Nuggets of News and Knowledge

June 2019

Whether you are new to gold prospecting or an experienced old-timer, whether you have just started swinging a metal detector or have been digging targets for years, get the most out of treasure hunting with these nuggets of news and knowledge— tips, ideas, new products and more!



How to Detect Old Homesteads

Is there an old homestead or barn that you'd love to swing your detector at but you're not sure how best to go about it since there's bound to be lots of trash mixed in with the treasure? First, be sure you have permission from the property owner. Even old abandoned buildings that are half falling down are owned by someone. After you have the OK to hunt, follow this advice from the late Charles Garrett— use a smaller size searchcoil, use minimum discrimination, and scan slowly.



- The use of a smaller size DD search coil configuration will provide you with the best ability to separate good targets from adjacent trash. Use a detector that has a visual target display and be sure to learn how your detector identifies targets both audibly and visually. Try to correlate the audible and visual signals before making a decision on digging a specific target.
- You will probably hear a steady reporting of sounds on old sites littered with iron junk. You can reduce the number of these signals by increasing your iron discrimination settings. Be aware, however, that the use of too much iron discrimination can cause you to miss good targets that are being masked by iron trash. Use as little discrimination as possible. You might be surprised at what others have missed on an old home site where they searched using maximum levels of discrimination. [Tips continued here...](#)

3 Garrett Detector Anniversary Specials

Nugget of Knowledge

Is it Real Gold in Your Pan?

Fool's gold, iron pyrite, mica... no matter what you call it, at first glance it looks like real gold and sparkles like real gold in the sunlight or when viewed under water, but how do you know FOR SURE if those gleaming flakes are worth something... or exactly nothing? Real gold retains its yellow sheen even in shadow, whereas fool's gold does not. Also keep in mind that gold is one of the heaviest elements known. Pure gold has a density (specific gravity) of about 19, which means that it weights about 19 times as much as an equivalent amount of water. On the other hand, mica, often mistaken for gold, has a specific gravity of about 2.3. Real gold sinks to the bottom of a gold pan; flakes of mica typically float. Gold is soft and malleable. It can be cut with a knife and



Garrett is celebrating their 55th anniversary by offering 3 special packages that include either an AT Pro, ACE 300 or ACE 400. In addition to the detector, you get a Pro Pointer AT Pinpointer, Keepers Treasure Box, and Vaughan Garrett's full-color *Favorite Finds*

book. Limited time offer! [Check out these 3 special anniversary packages here.](#)

48" Highbanker Kit = **FREE Shipping!**

Sometimes called a power sluice, a highbanker is a very flexible piece of equipment when you're gold mining in areas with a good amount of water. This highbanker kit, which is made in the USA, includes everything you need: 10" wide x 48" long x 3" high sluice made out of strong .080 gauge 5052 aircraft aluminum with unique elongated 45 degree z-riffles that are great for trapping gold. In the bottom of the sluice is 12 inches of black matting for fast gold ID, followed by 36 inches of miner's carpet. Expanded metal riffles helps keeps the gold in the box and prevents the rocks from knocking it loose. Sluice stand has 18" high legs. Aluminum Hopper Dredge Box is 14" x 14" x 10" deep and has a 2" dredge inlet, a spray bar with built-in adjustable water flow and pressure port controls. Grizzly bars inside the hopper keep out big rocks and sticks and other debris. Hoses and Adapters also included: 6 feet of clean up hose with valve, 25 feet of 1.5" layflat house, 8 feet of intake hose. Also includes 1.5" female pin lugs, 1.5" x 1" bushing, 1.5" adapter, and 4 hose clamps.. Ships **FREE!** [Details here.](#)



History Nugget: Gateway to the Klondike Gold Rush—Skagway, Alaska

"Ho! for the Klondike. Stick to the trail and mush on!" Those were words to live by in 1897 and 1898 when more than 100,000 fortune-seekers used Skagway as their "jumping off point" to the gold fields some 600 miles beyond. To gain insight into the extraordinary Gold Rush that peaked and plummeted within just two



short years, a visit to Skagway is a must. No need to stock up on pickaxes and bags of beans and flour beforehand as was required of the first stampedeers, but you might want to bring a spirit of adventure and a camera.

Back-dropped by snow-capped mountains, Skagway today (formerly spelled

won't splinter. You can even "dent" it with a pin. Fool's gold, though, is hard and flaky. [Click to read more...](#)

Alaska Paydirt



For

well over 100 years, fortune-seekers from all over the world have risked life and limb to get their hands on paydirt found in The Last Frontier. If you'd like to get some of this rich Alaskan paydirt without traveling north, bags of Gold Rush Paydirt can be shipped to you via Priority Mail! Gold & Gem paydirt also available. [Browse paydirt bags here.](#)

Portable Highbanker Trommel Ships **FREE!**



Looking for a versatile gold mining machine— classifier, highbanker, trommel all in one— that will get the gold? Want one light-weight machine that will do it all? Made in the USA!

- 13" x 13" x 6" hopper so you can feed it with a shovel
- 5" diameter x 16 inch length trommel barrel with classifying screen
- Top box is 21" x 7" x 3" with 1/4" classifying plate
- Bottom sluice box is 36" x 8" x 3" and includes light weight leg attachments with four

Skaguay or Skagua, as it was known by the Tlingit Indians, meaning “windy place”) is the year-round home to about 920 Alaskans. The small town’s gold rush era architecture and history are well preserved. Six blocks of downtown have been designated as the Klondike Gold Rush National Historic District and are managed by the National Park Service, so there’s a good bit of yesteryear mixed in with modern gift shops and museums. Join a free ranger-led walking tour of the historic district, or pick up a self-guided walking map. It’s easy to explore on foot— just head down Broadway along the rough-hewn boardwalk.

The best place to begin your visit is at the Klondike Gold Rush Visitor Center, housed in the historic White Pass and Yukon Route Railroad Depot at Second and Broadway. Watch the 30 minute film "Gold Fever: Race to the Klondike" in the auditorium, then take a look at the exhibits and artifacts on display. Nearby at Third and Broadway is the Mascot Saloon— an authentic saloon museum containing more interesting displays and dioramas. To learn about Skaguay’s founder, visit the historic Moore House and Cabin at Fifth and Spring Streets. The driftwood-encrusted building on Broadway bearing the letters AB for Arctic Brotherhood dates to 1899. It once was the first social order established by gold miners, but now it’s the most-photographed place in town. It’s also pretty impressive to note that a few businesses such as Kirmse’s Curios, first opened over a century ago, and are still thriving. Look for their advertisement painted high on the rocks above town.



If you get thirsty for more than knowledge while in Skaguay, stop in for a sarsaparilla or other cold beverage at the lively Red Onion Saloon. It used to be a brothel, but now you’ll just find good, clean fun. Have a look at the museum on the top floor, or better yet, take a walking tour of the town with a “working girl” and learn about the ladies’ very important role in the Klondike Gold Rush, as well as hear a few ghost stories. You are certain to learn a thing or two from the likes of “Madame Lacy Knickers” or “Madam Ella Vagoodtime” or another talented actress turned tour guide!

For an amusing encounter with Skaguay’s history, board a sunny yellow Skaguay Street Car on Second

Avenue. The authentic vehicles were created in 1923 for President Warren Harding’s visit to Skaguay. Since then, tourists wishing to see “all points of interest” (as proclaimed by the advertising painted on the side) hop aboard for a 90-minute narrated tour. While driving in and around town, a costumed guide brings Skaguay’s wild and lawless past to life. [Article continues here...](#)



There has never been a better time to get involved in the Modern Day Gold

corner adjustments; inside the sluice are 5 different Gold Hog brand mats

- 12 volt 2000 GPH pump includes 3 feet of 1 1/8" flex hose.
- MORE!

Ready to take your gold recovery to the next level? It's simple— run more material, get more gold... FASTER!

Check out this [Portable Highbanker Trommel](#).

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