We are busy making preparations for our 3rd annual Easter Egg Hunt, March 15 - April 1. Each year the event gets a little bigger and we are hoping to have more bunny coverage around the U.S. this year. Prizes: Grand Prize- an MX7, 2nd Prize- an XVenture, and 3rd Prize- a TRX. Plus, there are silver and gold tokens worth up to $100 on a White's purchase.

To learn more about the hunt: https://www.whiteselectronics.com/whites-easter-egg-hunt-2018/?lang=us

Correction: In the Nov/Dec ’17 article “Confessions of a Newbie Digger” by Mary Shafer, a photo was incorrectly captioned as a scabbard drag. It was actually a long 1920’s era shoe buckle.
Dear friends,

Spring hunting is right around the corner! Some of our diehard detectorists have been hunting right through the winter and finds have been steady.

While we all search for those bucket-listers like a gold nugget or a George Washington button, make sure to appreciate all the treasures you dig. Who doesn’t like to find an old license plate, a toy soldier or a Matchbox car? Those relics of yesteryear are great additions to your collection.

Space Rock

Sherman Day found a nice meteorite with his White's MX Sport. He said he was going to toss it but decided to bring it to my shop for an I.D. It’s the real deal & could be worth 10x the value of gold. I have experts looking at it to see what part of outer space it came from.

Bob at Northeast Metal Detectors

**HOW DO I REGISTER THE WARRANTY ON MY NEW DETECTOR?**

Just head to the White’s website, and click on the Tech Support section to Warranty Registration!

https://www.whiteselectronics.com/device-care/warranty-registration/?lang=us

**Sheriff Badge**

Cleaned up the badge from today. Research says they came out in 1959.

D. J. Yost
My metal detector is a time machine. It was my bridge back to late May and early June of 1864 in Cold Harbor, Virginia to the American Civil War, and Confederate General Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia's was in a do-or-die struggle with Union General Ulysses S. Grant's Army of the Potomac.

Researching Civil War sites, especially big battles, is easier than earlier periods because the Civil War was so painstakingly recorded by artists, reporters, and the soldiers themselves.

There is A LOT out there from the National Archives to countless books written since the war. It makes finding areas likely to hold artifacts easier to pinpoint, and once permission is secured, it makes the difference between a bag of relics or a long, buggy day.

I dug Cold Harbor in 2005 with Gary Williams, and old time digger and collector Charlie Burnette. Both had been digging and researching Cold Harbor for fifty years, and they knew the exact troop and trench layouts on the battlefield.

Being a North Carolina boy, I was interested in digging an area occupied by North Carolina troops.

Gary pointed out a section of the trenchline that had been occupied by my Tarheel ancestors.

I started swinging the coil of my White's Blue & Gray along the outer sides of the trench, and immediately began finding distorted, or “shot” bullets one after another. I moved up to the top of the trench and my machine went nuts and I dug a dozen or more fired percussion caps.

I dug so many I moved off to a different area to see if I could find larger items. And I got a
faint hit...but it was the kind of hit your gut tells you to dig. So I started hacking into the sandy soil, and after taking a chunk of earth away, the signal got loud and I knew I was onto something. I was sweating and shaking with excitement. I figured I had an artillery shell and I could not dig fast enough to get it into the light. But I realized as I brushed away the sand that it was not a shell. It looked like a couple of metal rods lying together.

**As I looked closer I saw it was a musket ramrod, and as I looked closer still I saw it was from a British Enfield musket, and it had the bullet worm attached on one end.**

I sat there a few minutes looking at this relic...something so mundane but so valuable to that soldier as he fired round after round at his blue-clad foes. I wondered if he had survived the battle...and even the war.

It was not a valuable find. But it told me a story, and gave me chills as I thought the last person to touch this was the soldier that lost it.

It was a powerful moment for me, and I realized digging was not just finding relics, it was connecting with the past.

**My metal detector is a time machine, and I cannot wait to see where it takes me next.**

Ric Savage is a former professional wrestler and star of Spike TV's American Digger. You can find Ric on YouTube: Ric Savage's Selfie-Stick SoundCloud: https://soundcloud.com/user-522178155/the-savage-turner-rock-express-podcast-nick-searcy History series
Mines to Artifacts

Growing up in southern Illinois I was always fascinated with digging things up. Living in the town of Edwardsville, we were two blocks from an old mine shaft. Me and a friend would always go down to the mine and dig coal and other relics, mostly train related items, bottles etc. When I got in my teens I started artifact hunting. The creeks and fields of Illinois at that time were littered with arrow heads. We were not far from Cahokia Mounds so they were plentiful in our region. So one thing leads to another right? Well it sure does in my case of artifact and treasure hunting.

Artifacts to Treasure

After years of artifact hunting a friend of mine bought a metal detector from a yard sale. I was in my late twenties and I remember asking him, “What the heck is that?” he told me it was a metal detector and of course the first thing I wanted to know was if it worked and all he said was “it better”. So off we go in his yard with this squawking black box with two knobs and a needle. We did not find a thing just a bunch of chirps and scratches, that expedition ended quick. Later on in my mid thirties, I decided to get back in the game and I bought my first brand new metal detector. I read the book and dug, swinging handfuls of dirt under the coil, then BAM! My first silver coin and it was a 1852 O seated half dime. I about had a heart attack. I called my wife yelling for her to look this up and find out how much it’s worth, it was then that I knew I was hooked.

Treasure to Treasure Pro

So a few years go by finding stuff here and there while doing tons of research on metal detectors, reading review after review, I knew I needed to upgrade and needed a deeper detector with a VDI and more.

After reading countless reviews I found it, the detector I needed to succeed in my journey forward. The Whites Treasure Pro, it had everything I needed all the specs fit my terrain here in the midwest fields, parks, you name it and the reviews were great on the machine, all the way to the top notch customer service. Now I’m set, my detector came in the mail and I watched countless videos and clips on how to use it. I was off to find treasure and treasure I found, countless coins, tokens, silver and gold. That detector made me feel unstoppable and I was.
Every weekend I was out hunting, then that turned into everyday.

The Next Level - XLT

Next, I bought the Whites Spectrum XLT and my gosh man, that machine changed my life.

I started finding old coal mines in my area and trading posts, then the finds kept getting bigger and better with more relics. I knew then Whites was my detector of choice there was no going back only forward.

From the lush farm fields to the rocky creeks of Illinois and the mighty Mississippi there are countless acres of land to comb. The Spanish and American Indians roamed this area before it became a state in the year of 1818. You will find many treasures, artifacts, and relics throughout the midwest it’s all out there, all you need is the passion for the hobby and a Whites detector. I created Midwest Relic Recovery on Facebook for people who share this hobby to show their finds and share their experiences.

Hunt it again - MX Sport

This year, I rang in the New Year with the MX Sport. My first impression is that it’s a very powerful machine and very sensitive. I found getting to know this machine was a little tricky, but most features from the Treasure Pro carried over to the Sport. Once I got the MX Sport I decided to go back to all my old permissions and check them again. I am glad that I did, in no time I was pulling out treasures I had missed with my other detectors. The MX Sport is a detector in a league of its own. It’s a deep, powerful weapon of mass detection!
“Will you marry me?”

“Does Tiger answer all the technical questions for you?”

“Are you sure you can keep up with us hiking through the woods with all your gear?”

“Must be easy for you to get permission sites, you’re a girl!”

These are all actual questions I receive on a more or less monthly, if not weekly, basis through Social Media (in case you are interested, the answers, in order, are: No, no, yes, and probably).

No doubt, metal detecting is a male-dominated hobby. When I first started detecting about 3 years ago, I was surprised to find myself in the minority, gender-wise. In the last two years, however, I have seen a surge in female detectorists, much to my delight.

I remember when I first spotted another woman detecting at a group hunt (she was easy to spot from a distance by her bright pink gloves, which I immediately zoned in on. Girl shopping talk ensued, and a week later I owned the same pair).

There are advantages and disadvantages to being a girl in this hobby. Let’s go with the disadvantages first (don’t people always want to hear the bad news before the good news?).

One of the biggest downsides, in my opinion, are bathroom breaks. A man can easily and discreetly relieve himself, whereas us women have to find adequate shelter as the process is more labor intensive. (On a side note, this problem is not limited to metal detecting. I bass fish a lot, and let me tell you, I have perfected the art of balancing myself over the edge of a canoe. Sorry, I realize I am entering TMI territory here).

On an average cellar hole hunt, hiking mile after mile through the forest, I battle poison ivy, bugs with various leg counts (I hate the 8 leggers.) I can deal with beetles and ants, but when I spot an arachnid, all bets are off. Who needs 8 legs anyway!?) mosquitos, deer flies, and other airborne atrocities who hone in on any exposed skin during these breaks.

Women’s bladders are smaller than men’s, so when we survey a potential detecting site, I automatically scan the location for those necessary hiding spots, like big trees or dense shrubs, preferably without thorns.

Another disadvantage is that it is sometimes more difficult to be taken seriously. I can tech talk with the best of them when it comes to my machines. I understand settings, adjusting parameters, the art of reading the ground, and which frequency responds better to certain targets.

I can discuss coils, EMI and ground balancing all day long (sadly, I have actually done this all day long. Which is rather alarming, now that I think about it).

The final disadvantage is perhaps one unique to Social Media. Comments on looks (or perceived lack thereof), weight, and wardrobe often overshadow talk about an amazing find. Yes, I will be hunting in a tank top on a 90+ degree summer day in an open field, and yes, yoga pants are very comfortable and easy to move in, and YES, when detecting in a river or lake, I might even wear a bathing suit, and no, this does not automatically grant anyone the right to discourse at great length on the topic of my anatomy.
For the most part, these comments can be shrugged off easily and no harm is done, but some can linger in a woman’s mind, and don’t we all at least partly detect to escape our everyday stresses and worries?

Don’t get me wrong – this last point has two sides and leads me to a great advantage of being a woman: Asking for permission to detect private yards.

I have hardly ever received a “no” knocking on someone’s door. Maybe they don’t see me in all my 5’4”, 105 lbs frame as threatening, or maybe it’s more difficult to say no to a woman. Either way, it makes permission hunts easier (and I even admit to batting my eyelashes, but only if the homeowner has a stern look on his face and the site looks really good. Like surrounded-by-a-stone-wall-with-a-1760-plaque-above-the-door good).

Let me finish this essay with a few suggestions or ideas, like in those corporate-type brainstorming meetings where no thought is considered too crazy and people sit on bouncy balls instead of chairs.

To the detecting companies (you listening, White’s?): Make more women specific gear. I love my MX7 in orange, but might love it even more in hot pink.

Or how about a waterproof jacket with a tailored waist? Just because we’re out metal detecting doesn’t mean we have to abandon all sense of style, you know. The color options for the TRX Bullseye pinpointer are a great first step.

To all the male detectorists out there: Don’t be shy to talk shop with me or join me on long hikes. I won’t slow you down, I promise. Don’t tell me I am pretty good at detecting for a girl. Is that modifier really necessary?

To all my fellow hunters out there, male or female: I consider you all part of my family. Underneath our rugged outdoor clothes (be they pink, camouflage, or any shade in between), our hearts are filled with the same passion for the best hobby ever. We are not women-who-detect or men-who-detect, we are detectorists.

Just save me from those spiders out there. Please.

“Look what I dug at the cellar hole!!! Silver sash buckle!!! Parts were about 6 feet apart.”

“Dug a trime!!!!!!”

Find Dominique on Social Media—YouTube: The SilverSlingers Instagram: silverslingers Facebook: Dominque Ivy
When a recent request was made to hunt an 1801 original log home that had been renovated twice, I never dreamed that before getting to actually hunt the grounds, my hunting partner Gary Jarnigan and I would get a call to come hunt a root cellar that was “discovered” by the carpenters as they were tearing out the floor. Only two blocks from downtown we made arrangements to hunt the very next day. Upon arrival, we were told the outside entrance had been covered up in the last renovation so the entry point was through the floor joist and crawl through the hole that was recently created so the floor could be underpinned with supports. All in all, it turned out to be an interesting hunt. Who would have thought a .69 caliber minie ball, an antique measuring spoon, two old buttons, some pottery shards and a really old heart shaped locket could be found in the floor of a root cellar. Just goes to prove the old adage of “Seek and Ye shall find”.....

We considered the horseshoe nailed up on the floor joist to be our good luck symbol since the renovation was going on while we hunted and sounded quite intimidating with lumber and tools hitting the floor above our heads!....

Dwight James
One Days Finds
Frankie B.

Tax Token
Jimmy L.

Jan. ‘18 Finds
Tommy J.

1st Gold Coin
John H.

Detector Paid for 7x
Brian N.

Ammo Box
Jason S.

Gold Ring
George H.

Rare Sharpshooter Bullet
Will L.

1876 Half
Ron A.

Cellar Hole Group Hunt
Dominique D.

Diamond Ring
Timothy R.

8th Silver Dollar
John R.

Fishing Reel
Michael M.

Silver Ring
Jeff W.

Burnside Carbine Cartridge
Ted D.

Gemstone Ring
D.J. Y.
the big BEEP-DIG DEAL

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