

Adventurers

Transparent and intangible as sunlight, yet always and everywhere present, (the desert) lures a man on and on, from the red-walled canyons to the smoke-blue ranges beyond, in a futile but fascinating quest for the great, unimaginable treasure which the desert seems to promise. Once caught by this golden lure you become a prospector for life.

-- Ed Abbey

Today thousands of people are joining the ranks of recreational prospectors, not just because gold is selling for over a thousand dollars an ounce, and an ounce of gold will sometimes fit in a thimble, but for the adventure. We tell our non-prospecting friends and relatives (and maybe ourselves) about the price of gold knowing that they can relate to the quest for money even if they can't relate to the quest for adventure.

There are several web sites devoted to Indy Gear, the clothes and accouterments that Harrison Ford uses in the four *Indiana Jones* movies. Thousands of people buy exact replicas of Indiana Jones's hat, jacket, shoulder bag, etc. The same is true for fans of the two *Lara Croft* movies. According to geocaching.com, "Geocaching is a high-tech treasure hunting game played throughout the world by adventure seekers equipped with GPS devices."

Relic hunters, treasure seekers, geocachers, prospectors, and others, all share the adventure gene. We love those adventure stories about lost treasure, and... they're all true. Some people don't believe them because the treasure hasn't been found yet, or at least no one has come forward and said they have found it, but treasure is being found every day. Lost, stolen, buried, sunken... treasure of one kind or another is being found every day. There are salvage companies pulling gold coins from the ocean floor every day, there are men and women with metal detectors finding treasure every day, and there are prospectors who make a living prospecting for gold, the ultimate treasure.

http://www.treasurecenter.com/treasure_news.htm