

# Canine Search Solutions Newsletter



EXCELLENCE AND INNOVATION IN HUMAN REMAINS DETECTION

Volume 1, Issue 1

December 2012

## 2012 Led Us All the Way to Saskatoon!



2012 searches led Canine Search Solutions to four different states and went international with a challenging search in Saskatoon, Canada.

Over the course of this year, Canine Search Solutions responded to a total of 25 searches. The majority of the searches were specifically crime scene or criminal in nature. We responded to four water cases as well. Also, there were three cold cases from the 1990's. Not only were there a variety of searches,

but Canine Search Solutions responded to several different states as well as an international search.

There were 19 searches conducted in WI, 3 searches in IL, and a single search in WY, KY, and Canada.

One of the more exciting and challenging searches for 2012 was the opportunity to assist the city of Saskatoon, Canada and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police for a drowning. Carren Corcoran and Sue Veith, along with their K9 partners, Bitty and Beba were happy to jump at this opportunity. The job was simple, search the South

Saskatchewan River in order to recover a drowning victim.

However, it never stays that simple...

Carren and Sue were told that this notorious river had numerous drowning victims in it from throughout the years. An added challenge for the dogs and handlers, when they are attempting to find just one specific victim.

Overall, a great job done by both handlers and dogs!

## Update: Check Out the New Web Site

The new web site is up and running! Check out the new look and updated information. A huge, huge thank you to Sandy Verlund for designing and getting the web site going.

New Emails for contact information:

Carren - ccorcoran@caninesearchsolutions.com

Theresa - tchrist@caninsearchsolutions.com

Alyssa - apalmer@caninesearchsolutions.com

## Special points of interest:

- CANINE SEARCH SOLUTIONS RESPONDED TO A TOTAL OF 25 CASES IN 2012
- SANDY IS THE CADAVER DOG CHALLENGE WINNER OF 2012!
- NEW WEB SITE IS UP AND RUNNING, CHECK IT OUT FOR UPDATES
- TEACHING IN CANADA NEXT YEAR, EH?

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**Looking for a place to donate to for the Holidays?**

- ARF Rescue
- John Francis Foundation
- Great Plains Search Dogs

# Canine Search Solutions Newsletter

## Canine Search Solutions 4th Annual Workshop



The Canine Search Solutions 2012 workshop was sponsored by Great Plains Search Dogs and hosted at Inspiration Hills, IA. The workshop took place October 25-28. The workshop was led by Carren Corcoran, Theresa Christ, and Sgt. Chris Boyd. Carren and Theresa focused on working with the Human Remains Detection dog teams. Sgt. Chris Boyd from Madison Police Department, taught trailing and air scenting.

There were 8 Human Remains Detection dog teams and 6 trailing teams that attended this year's workshop.

During the workshop Carren invited all the dog teams to participate in the Cadaver Dog Challenge. Congrats to Sandy Vernlund and K9 Rowdy who was this year's winner! A very close second goes to Marsha Patterson and K9 Libby.



INTRODUCING  
THE USE OF  
HUMAN REMAINS  
DETECTION  
DOGS IN DEATH  
INVESTIGATIONS  
FOR LAW  
ENFORCEMENT  
PERSONNEL.

## Death Investigation School 2013

City of Madison Police Department is hosting a Death Investigation class, which will have a portion where it will focus on how Law Enforcement can use HRD dogs as a tool in their investigations. Carren Corcoran will be teaching this particular segment.

More information will be posted at [caninesearchsolutions.com](http://caninesearchsolutions.com)

This class is for Law Enforcement personnel only.

Dates: Feb. 18, 19, 20 & Feb. 25, 26, 27



Kavik  
2008-2012

## Meet Hela

As most of you know, Alyssa suffered a terrible loss of her working partner, K9 Kavik. Kavik was unexpectedly lost to bloat in September 2012. While it has been a struggle for many of us to understand why Kavik died so young, it has helped with the addition of Alyssa's new young hopeful, Hela.

As Alyssa puts it, "Hela has some pretty big 'paws' to fill."

Hela was a rescue from Randolph County Humane Society in IL. She is a Belgian Malinois out of the breeder Mastock Malinois in IL.

I think the most unique part of this, was we learned later on that the day Kavik passed over was the exact day that Hela was turned over to rescue.

For now, Hela is enjoying being sassy and running the West Police District where she stays while Alyssa is working.



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## Looking Forward to 2013

Mark down in your calendars for the following dates and keep checking back on the web site for updated information.

### Death Investigation School - MPD Training Center

February 18, 19, & 20, and February 25, 26, & 27

### HRD Presentation - Saskatoon, Canada

\*In talks to present about HRD dogs at the University of Saskatoon, date to be determined.

### Canine Search Solutions 5th Annual Workshop

Hosted by Great Plains Search dogs and being held in the fall.

### 1st Annual CSS Workshop with Gateway Search Dogs

This will be held in the Spring in St. Louis, MO.

## WAWP 2012

In February 2012 the Wisconsin Association of Women Police held their annual conference in Madison, WI and was presented to sworn Law Enforcement personnel.

Sgt. Matt Schroedl of Madison Police presented on search strategies for missing persons. The instruction also involved table top scenarios for the 40 participants at the

conference.

Carren Corcoran provided a crash course on the use of Human Remains Detection dogs for investigating missing persons cases.

On the second day, the participants were provided a suspicious missing person case. Eight HRD dog teams from SD, IL, MN, and WI were utilized in sniffing five potential crime scenes that

were set up for the conference.

At the end of the day, investigative teams were asked, "Who dunnit?" based on the information provided by the HRD dogs.

Many Law Enforcement left very impressed with how useful an HRD dog team is as an investigative tool.

## WLECA AWARD

Carren Corcoran and Madison Police patrol dog K9 Slim, received the Wisconsin Law Enforcement Canine Handler Association Award for Meritorious Track in 2012.

For more information about the challenging 4-mile track go to CSS web site and



Madison Police Dog K9 Slim tracked an alleged killer for 3 hours across almost 4 miles.

## Special Thanks:

To Sgt. Chris Boyd of the Madison Police Department K9 Unit. Sgt. Boyd tirelessly, makes time off duty to join HRD training and offer her dog knowledge and expertise.

To Gene and Sandy Ralston, for always believing in good HRD dogs and providing such incredible opportunities.



## DID YOU KNOW?

ONE OF THE BIGGEST THREATS TO HEALTHY PAW PADS IS THE SALT USED TO MELT ICE ON DRIVEWAYS, ROADS AND SIDEWALKS. PROLONGED CONTACT WITH DEICERS CAN LEAD TO CHEMICAL BURNS ON DOG PAWS.

To K9 Kavik thank you for your endless energy and enthusiasm. You did 6 incredible searches before you left us. We won't forget you, rest in peace.

