

Canine Search Solutions Newsletter

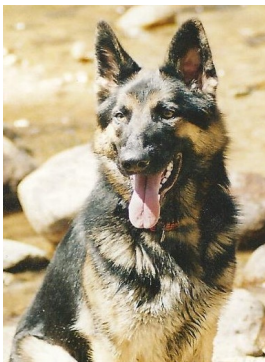


EXCELLENCE AND INNOVATION IN HUMAN REMAINS DETECTION

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January 2014

2013 Canine Search Solutions Efforts



2013 led to Colorado's first search warrant that incorporated a cadaver dog's indication.

During this year, Canine Search Solutions responded to a total of 32 cases. The breakdown of these cases were 12 homicides, 11 cold case homicides, and 9 other or accidental deaths. Most of the cold cases were from the 1990's, however the oldest

one was from 1947. Two cases led to landfill searches, which were needless to say very tiring and strenuous on both the handlers and dogs.

The majority of our cases were in WI and IL. A single case in IN, CO, and Canada.

Additionally, we re-visited four missing person cases in WI, IL, and Canada.

Carren and K9 Molly assisted LE in Colorado in obtaining a search warrant. This is believed to be the first time in Colorado legal history that a cadaver dog's indications were incorporated into a search warrant application.

Three HRD handlers returned to Saskatchewan, Canada to continue the search efforts in

the Saskatchewan River. Sandy Vernlund and K9 Rowdy-SD, Sue Veith and K9 Biba-IL, and Eric Peterson and K9 Eve-SD all participated in the effort.



Death Investigation School 2013

In February, City of Madison Police Department hosted its first death investigation school for law enforcement. It was held at the department's new training center. A unique addition to the school was introducing the use of HRD dogs as an investigative tool. The feedback from partici-

pants was very positive on the topic and requested Carren be given more time in future classes.

Additionally, Carren, Theresa Christ, and Alyssa Palmer provided two four-hour classes to on going Madison Police Department education. The time was di-

vided between classroom and actual crime scene scenarios that officers investigated. K9 Molly and K9 Tazer were utilized at the scenes.

Special points of interest:

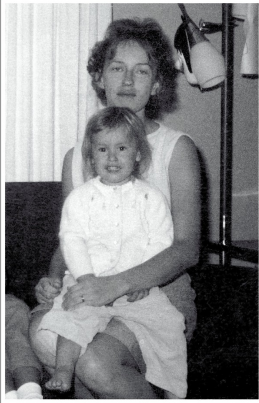
- CANINE SEARCH SOLUTIONS RESPONDED TO A TOTAL OF 32 CASES IN 2013
- THE 1ST ANNUAL CSS WORKSHOP WITH GATEWAY SEARCH DOGS WAS A SUCCESS!
- CARREN AND K9 SLIM RECEIVE WLECHA MERITORIOUS TRACK OF THE YEAR AWARD

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Canine Search Solutions Newsletter

Fundraiser for Lakeview Veterinary Second Chance Fund



Jeannette and Linda Zapata

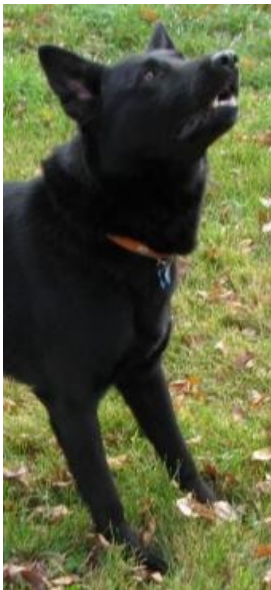
Lakeview Veterinary Clinic is Madison Police K9 Slim's sponsored vet. The clinic had sought out the Madison Police Dept's K9 Unit, offering to sponsor a dog. K9 Slim and Carren were matched with Lakeview since 2010. As a result of this success Capital K9 who fundraises for the MPD K9 Unit, located other area vets to sponsor all the K9's for MPD.

In February, Lakeview Vet in

collaboration with Carren held a fundraiser that all proceeds benefited the Second Chance Fund. Approximately 80 people attended a week night event in which Carren presented about her use of HRD dogs in criminal investigations. Technical assistance was provided by HRD handler Alyssa Palmer. HRD handler Theresa Christ and Linda Zapata joined Carren in presenting an intimate look into the disappearance of

Jeannette Zapata. The cold case was re-opened by MPD in 2004. Linda Zapata's sharing of her mom's murder investigation touched many attendees that evening.

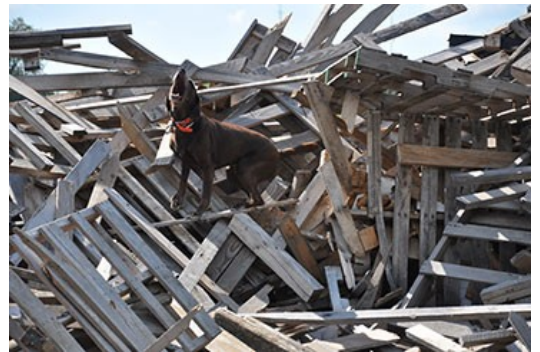
Second Chance Fund assists pet owners with financial aid for costly procedures. The event was a huge success and the proceeds will provide assistance for several years to come.



1st Annual CSS Workshop Hosted by Gateway Search Dogs

The workshop was held in St. Louis, MO area on May 10-12. Sgt. Chris Boyd of the Madison Police Department, provided tracking and area search training. Carren Corcoran and Theresa Christ conducted HRD training. The HRD teams were challenged with actual crime scenes that Carren and Theresa have seen in the field. Although the

event was very successful, plans for a 2014 workshop have been put on hold due to such a high volume of cases.



2013 Certifications

Certification is always a nerve wracking time of year. It's hard to determine what is more difficult, testing for the first time with a new dog or testing for the fifth time with an old, seasoned dog!

Congratulations to everyone who achieved their national certification this year!

A special recognition to the new teams:

- Solon McGill and K9 Izzy
- Heidi Thaves and K9 Makita
- Teri Clyse and K9 Finn
- Eric Peterson and K9 Eve



2013 WLECHA MERITORIOUS K9 TRACK OF THE YEAR

The Wisconsin Law Enforcement Canine Handler Association Meritorious K9 Track of the Year was awarded to, Lafayette County Sheriff Deputy Fred Norder & K9 Cody, Green County Sheriff Deputy Cody Kanable & K9 Ike, and City of Madison PO Carren Corcoran and & K9 Slim. A triple homicide occurred in the spring of 2013 in Lafayette County. Over 48 hours the three handlers conducted approximately a 6

mile track of the homicide suspect.

Investigators had uncovered the gruesome and senseless homicides and sought the path the suspect had taken from his abandoned vehicle to the crime scene.



Madison Police Department Tracking School

In 2013 Sgt. Chris Boyd and PO Carren Corcoran of the City of Madison K9 Unit provided man-trailing/tracking classes for approximately 30 WI patrol K9 handlers.

Boyd and Corcoran are instructors for INBTI (InterNational Bloodhound Training Institute) which was established by retired sheriff deputy and K9 Handler

Kevin Kocher.

Kocher has authored a book entitled, How to Train a Police Bloodhound and the Scent Discriminating Patrol Dog. The book has been translated in five different languages to date.

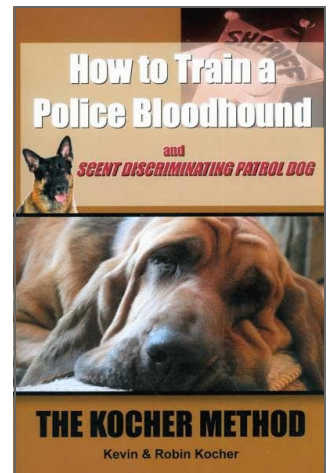
Kevin's book provides an in depth method to train a scent specific tracking dog.

Sgt. Boyd traveled with Kevin to Prague and Latvia in 2013 to assist in training dogs.

Handlers who have attended the course, continue to share the successes they have had as a result of the training.

More classes will be held in 2014. For more information see:

bloodhoundtraining.com



MEET ALDO



City of Shawano Police Officer, Heidi Thaves began handling dual purpose patrol dog, K9 Aldo in 2013. Thaves and Aldo traveled to the U.P. of Michigan for training.

Upon returning to Wisconsin, Thaves and Aldo attended a Madison Police tracking

school in 2013. Aldo loved the training and excelled upon returning to the City of Shawano. Aldo has found several bad guys on tracks.

Additionally, Heidi Thaves handles HRD K9 Makita. Thaves has found her calling handling working dogs.

COMING SOON:

CHECK OUT THE WEB SITE FOR A NEW PAGE FOCUSING ON INFORMATIVE K9 ARTICLES

CANINE SEARCH SOLUTIONS

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Simple Guidelines for K9 Nutrition

You all may have noticed that many pet food and treat recalls have hit the news all over the nation. If you have questions about what you are feeding your partner follow these easy guidelines:

- *Read the Ingredients. Look for specific meat sources.*
- *Shop "Made in USA," avoid anything made in China especially.*
- *Grain Free is best. Treats with grains should be given in moderation, and avoid anything made with corn.*

- *Research the food and treat brands you have for your pet. Have they been on recall lists before? Do they sell other products that are not of high quality?*

Need more Info? These web sites are helpful to determine what is best for your partner:

dogfoodproject.com

dogfoodadvisor.com

Still have questions? Email Alyssa Palmer at apalmer@cityofmadison.com

Don't forget to keep checking the web site for updates!
WWW.CANINESEARCHSOLUTIONS.COM

Kayla Berg...Missing Since 2009

By Carren Corcoran



On 8/11/2009, Kayla Berg disappeared from the City of Antigo, WI under suspicious circumstances. Bitty and I became involved in the search for Kayla in Dec. 2009, and have covered many miles since then.

Detective Sgt. Dan Duley and PO Misti Servi of the City of Antigo Police have tirelessly continued to seek answers to Kayla's disappearance. Chief Eric Roller provides ongoing support of their efforts.

Kayla was 15 years old at the time of her disappearance. She would be 19 years old at the time of this writing and I wonder what she would

have accomplished.

I rarely request to meet family, however I felt compelled to learn more about Kayla. In the fall of 2013, Det. Sgt. Duley made it possible for Bitty and I to meet Kayla's mom, Hope. Hope had just returned from a weekend retreat for parents of missing children (Project Jason) and shared that the retreat was very helpful. I learned as I suspected, that Kayla loved animals. Bitty upon meeting Hope gave her a sweet dog kiss and I couldn't help but feel that Kayla and Bitty would have been fast friends.

Words cannot express the

honor I feel assisting Det. Sgt. Duley and PO Servi. I wish every missing persons case had the caliber of people Kayla has looking for her.

A special thanks to handlers, Sandy Vernlund & K9 Rowdy, Theresa Christ & K9 Tazer, and Heidi Thaves & K9 Makita.

We will not stop searching for Kayla.

~Carren

To learn more
about Project Jason
visit:
projectjason.org