

NASDN GAZETTE

--North American Search Dog Network, November 2007--

2008 Seminars

Dates and locations for the 2008 NASDN seminars are set. Once again, we're having two. There will be a mini seminar in Minnesota in the Spring and a week long seminar in South Dakota in the Fall.

April 25-28, 2008
Camp Ripley
Little Falls, Minnesota

This will be very similar to the successful Mini seminar NASDN held at Camp Ripley in 2007.

September 14-20, 2008
Camp Bob Marshall
Custer, South Dakota

This will be NASDN's first Seminar in South Dakota. The people there are working to make it one of our best. We are looking forward to a week of excellent training in a spectacular setting. The Custer area is home to a lot of interesting and historically significant places. People might want to plan a few extra days for some sight seeing.

Mark your calendars now. Registration forms and details will be posted on the NASDN website.

Look for more information on the seminars on page 3 of this newsletter.



Search and Rescue Canine Legal Update and Opinions

By Terry Fleck

Part 1

OVERVIEW:

NASDN will publish two regular editions of this newsletter yearly, plus occasional special editions. Members and non members are invited to submit articles, reviews and other items of interest. Please feel free to contribute.

-editor

2008 Memberships

2007 is going by in a hurry. No need to wait until the last minute to renew your membership. Forms are available at www.nasdn.org. New members are welcome too. Membership applications are on the website.

Photos from the 2007 Spring Seminar in Ohio



Photo by Deb Stanton

Kings Domain is a Big Place



Photo by Sandra Vernlund
Training at Night



Photo by Deb Stanton
Bill Taylor and a few of his Friends

Unlike the police service dog industry, where K-9 handlers are taught the legalities of police K-9, little education exists in the volunteer (non-compensated) SAR dog industry. As volunteer SAR dog handlers have recently

found out, the court system does not differentiate between a volunteer SAR dog handler and a full time police K-9 handler. In fact, police K-9 case law has been used and applied to SAR K-9 in court.

The defense attorneys will attack the K-9 **evidence**. It is important to understand a few issues in the Federal court system, which most states abide by. These issues are:

- The two different descriptions of police working dogs;
- The SAR canine industry standard;
- The three legality principles of police working dogs;
- Documentation (Records);
- Court room testimony.

THE TWO DIFFERENT DISCRPTIONS OF POLICE WORKING DOGS:

Under the Federal court system, there are two different descriptions of police working dogs:

1. HUMAN SCENT DOGS: THE POLICE SERVICE DOG, SEARCH AND RESCUE DOG, TRACKING DOG, TRAILING DOG, SCENT IDENTIFICATION DOG, ETC:

The Federal case law states that when one of these types of dogs alerts to or locates human odor, that alert is **only one reasonable suspicion indicator**.

Reasonable suspicion is defined as a “particularized and objective basis for suspected legal wrongdoing”. In this case, the wrong doing may be a suspect, a track or trail of a suspect or a scent line up.

The dog alert is simply **one** indicator of wrongdoing. Now, the peace officers in charge of the case must develop other reasonable suspicion indicators to develop probable cause. “Probable cause exists when under the totality of circumstances known to the arresting officer; a prudent person would have concluded that there was a fair probability

that the defendant had committed a crime.”

These other reasonable suspicion indicators may be direct or circumstantial evidence.

The bottom line to a K-9 handler is this; **the dog alert must be corroborated by other evidence**.

2. CONTRABAND AND SUBSTANCE DETECTOR DOGS: THE NARCOTIC DOG AND EXPLOSIVE DOG.

The Federal case law states that when one of these dogs alert or locate contraband, the dog’s **alert equals and gives the peace officer probable cause**.

Once the peace officer has the dog alert, which equals probable cause, now the peace officer may apply for a search warrant, search without a warrant, based upon one of the exceptions to the search warrant requirement, or arrest.

However, in order for the alert from a contraband dog to equal probable cause, the dog **must be trained, certified and reliable**.

These three legality principles, **trained, certified and reliable**, apply to both types of dogs. If this case goes to court, the defense **will** attack these three areas. **SAR dogs have already been held to these principles in court**.

The question that remains is the **cadaver or human remains dog**. Is this dog a human scent dog or a contraband substance dog?

I believe this type of dog will be in the contraband

substance dog group, as cadaver and human remains are contraband, illegal to possess. At least one other opinion places cadaver or human remains dogs in this category.

There is no case law, that I’m aware of, that addresses an alert from a cadaver or human remains dog as probable cause to obtain a search warrant, search or arrest.

Therefore, if the cadaver or human remains dog is placed in the contraband substance dog group, that alert would stand alone.

If the cadaver or human remains dog is placed in the human scent dog group, that alert would have to be corroborated by other evidence.

Part 2 will appear in the next issue



Update

In an earlier issue we published a review of the **ChillyDog Cool Vest** from Glacier Tek, Inc. Ray Booska from Glacier Tek was listening and offered a few notes. One comment about the vest is that the standard size is a little large for a mid sized dog. Glacier Tek now offers a the Chilly Dog in a smaller size; smaller price too. We also said that the cooling packs look fragile. Booska offered this photo as evidence of the pack’s durability.



Glacier Tek Cooling Pack and a Ford F-350

A Grandmother's Struggle

By Holly L. McMillan, MD

This patient's 21 year old grandson went missing one evening in July of 2005, after being dropped off by a friend. He lived in a small town, was a good kid and always called so the family was very worried. The grandmother had an existing anxiety condition. When I saw her in October of 2005 her anxiety was worse. She told me her story and that she had increased her exercise and her anti-anxiety medication. This patient was seen again in February of 2006 and was still very anxious and unable to grieve for her grandson. Her anxiety condition continued. The grandson's body was found in the spring of 2007 and the family had a memorial service. The patient's anxiety and depression returned to her baseline.

Holly McMillan is a Doctor of Internal Medicine. She offered this story as an example of how locating the remains of a loved one can have a positive effect on a living person's physical as well as mental health.



Deb's Gems

By Deb Stanton

Glucosamine

Glucosamine is the biggest selling nutraceutical in human medicine. It is primarily used to treat arthritis. People are beginning to use it in their dogs in hopes of reliving pain from arthritis. However, glucosamine is not fast acting, and can take weeks or months to become effective in dogs. There are two types of glucosamine, glucosamine sulfate and glucosamine hydrochloride. Some question what form works best in dogs.

Studies show that both forms work equally well to prevent degenerative joint disease.

Many joint supplements available for use in dogs contain a combination of glucosamine and chondroitin sulfate. Chondroitin helps to prevent the formation of the enzyme that breaks down joint cartilage. Glucosamine and chondroitin work together well.

The dose for glucosamine in dogs is 1,000 milligrams for every 70 pounds of body weight.

Entropion

Entropion is when the eyelids roll in. When the eyelid rolls in, the hairs on the eyelid edge rub on the cornea, causing irritation and tearing, there is usually pain involved. Entropion may be evident in a puppy, or become noticeable when the dog has reached maturity. Surgery is done to correct the problem.

Entropion is thought in some cases to be a hereditary issue. Breeds known to be at risk for heritable entropion are, Bloodhounds, Rottis, Great Danes, Shar-Pei, Chows, and Newfs. Cats have also been known to have entropion.

Home Assessment of Itchy Skin

1) Check for fleas, the presence of pepper like particles when you part the hair, are actually flea poop, if you put one of these particles against a white piece of paper and put a drop of water on it, it will go red, that's because the poop is actually digested blood from your dog.

2) Check for other skin parasites such as lice, (lice eggs show up as a yellowish

nit on the hair shaft) or mange (you need a skin scraping done at your vet's to detect mange mites)

3) If the skin is red, but otherwise okay, you may be dealing with contact, or inhalant allergies, fatty acid supplement or antihistamine may be indicated.

4) Food allergies are also common, you may want to try a diet with sweet potato and duck.

5) If you see crusty areas or pustules, or areas of "wet" hair (hot spots), antibiotics are probably indicated.

6) If your dog has symmetrical hair loss, you may want to discuss hypothyroidism, or other metabolic conditions with your vet.



Notes on the Upcoming South Dakota Seminar

By Jeanne Beroza

The '08 fall seminar will be very affordable and folks should plan to stay in the area the weekend before or after the seminar to enjoy the sights. Bring the family so they can enjoy the sights while we are training dogs.

Camp Bob Marshall is a forest service rustic camp of log cabins, scenic grounds and isolation from the hubbub of everyday life. It is also just 3 miles from the small, historic town of Custer where General George Custer camped and one of his men found the first gold in the hills.

A couple miles away are the huge and impressive Crazy Horse Mountain Carving – a work in progress – Indian museum and gift store. Another couple of miles from that is Mount Rushmore with its museum and gift store. Both monuments are worth a trip by themselves.

Camp Bob Marshall is situated on Bismarck Lake where you can relax and fish in the evening or use the camp's canoes for a trip around the lake for a view of the large granite rock outcroppings filling the area. Just outside the campgrounds is Custer State Park and its thousands of acres of dramatic and varied landscapes, wildlife, and lakes. I have spent days driving guests up the needles highway, viewing Mt. Rushmore through old rock tunnels, touring the plains setting of the wildlife loop trying to get a peek at the herd of 1000 plus bison, the antelope and the not too wild-wild burros. Within the park are many trails for hiking, lakes for fishing, lodges and restaurants, campgrounds and, of course, the traditional gift store for browsing.

South of Custer State Park is Wind Cave National Park with its unique caves and its own herd of bison and acres of prairie dog towns.

A few minutes south of that is Historic Hot Springs with its red sandstone buildings, Evans Plunge – a water recreation facility which incorporates some of the historic hot springs, and the Mammoth Site, an ongoing, indoor, archeological dig.

There's more, tons more in the Black Hills area, too many sights to mention for that matter. If you have lots of time you can visit the Badlands nearby, visit Wounded Knee, or go up to historic Deadwood and see where Wild Bill was killed and also where he and Calamity Jane now lie buried, side-by-side. Spearfish canyon will be beautiful in September; Jewel Cave National Park is nearby, and so on and so on. Custer has a wonderful Chamber of Commerce with maps and brochures for everything you could ever think of.

Because the hills are a tourist friendly area, motels and campgrounds abound, as do restaurants, small stores, gas stations and all those other things you might be looking for as a visitor to the area. Come play in the hills.

On the dog training side, I have not seen a better and more fun place to train than in the hills. Most of the land is wild forest service land. It is accessible. We are welcome. Weather is always changing. One minute the wind comes from one way, the next minute from another way and then, all of a sudden, it dies and you have none. My dogs have had to learn to handle this. Wildlife abounds, they learn to pass it by. We have rock outcroppings galore, mine love to track and air scent in the rocks. We have lakes and streams to play havoc with scent and trees galore – and they're easy to get through – tall pines, open ground. Each little area is a microcosm to itself, different for SAR dog training than the next one.

In September you won't run into ticks. We have few snakes in the area where we will be training. We have the prairie rattler but they live mainly near prairie areas. My dogs are all vaccinated however, and it is never a bad idea to do the same with yours before going out into an area where you might encounter one of the little fellas. We have mountain lions, bobcats and coyotes. You won't see one. You'll wish you did but they make themselves scarce when we come into an area with the dogs.

It'll be warm enough if not too hot to be comfortable at

times and cool at night. The air is dry. Elevation is around a mile high. I'll post pictures on the website but trust me – its an area you and your family will want to visit. Your dogs will love it. Bring the camera so you can take tons of pictures. There's plenty of space for everybody in and near the camp and the camp is flexible in trying to meet our needs.

Hope to see you in the hills next fall. Looking forward to training with you here, in our little patch of heaven.



Spring Seminar at Camp Ripley

By Karla Peterson

Restrooms, you asked? Well we listened to your feedback and we're going to have port-a-potties in Minnesota this spring!

Save this date and join us April 25, 26, 27 and 28 for a visit to Minnesota for NASDN's Spring Seminar. Camp Ripley's rolling hills, open forest and beautiful Mississippi River will provide plenty of room for trailing, air scent and cadaver dogs to stretch their legs and provide handlers with the opportunity to learn from experienced instructors.

Remember to pack your Hawaiian shirt and auction item. Then plan to join in the bidding wars!

Looking forward to seeing you all in Minnesota in April 08!

**More Information at
www.nasdn.org**

Copyrights are retained by the original authors.

Articles and letters to the editor may be sent to
JB30343@navix.net