



# CANINE FINDS

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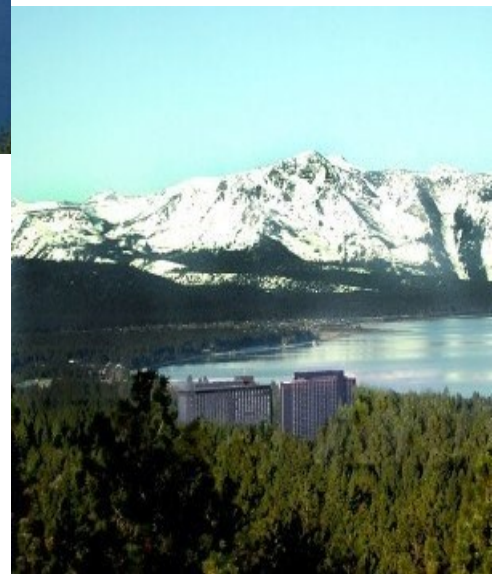
## 2012 NASAR Conference

## Lake Tahoe

### National Conference Lake Tahoe, Nevada June 7-10, 2012

Start planning now to join fellow K9 Handlers at the 2012 National Search and Rescue Conference, June 7-10, at beautiful Lake Tahoe, Nevada. The conference will be held at Harvey's Resort and Casino which has beautiful mountain views.

This year's conference is a combined presentation with the Mountain Rescue Association. Established in 1959, it is the oldest SAR association in the United States and the leading resource for mountain search and rescue. Visit their website at <http://mra.org/>



## Canine Committee

### *How can we help you?*

#### Canine Committee Chair

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The K9 Committee meets monthly via conference call. If you have suggestions or input please let one of us know so we can bring it up at our meeting.

**Minutes from Canine Committee Meetings**—are posted on the website. We update them upon approval by the committee. Find them [here](#).

**Canine Certification Program (CCP)** find the most current CCP [here](#).



## From the Canine Committee Chair

Dear NASAR Canine Community,

2012 is here! The NASAR canine community saw some exciting changes during 2011. The updated criteria for NASAR certification testing has been implemented including new certifications available for Canine Disaster Responders. NASAR's Board of Directors has adopted a program to increase the availability of NASAR instructors and evaluators and Canine has embraced the program as a way to increase the pool of NASAR canine evaluators.

This year, we will continue to use industry standards, NIMS, and legal precedent to guide us in our decisions as certifications and credentials will be asked for by NIMS compliant agencies in the days to come. Those following contemporary court cases know that court precedent with regards to cadaver dog qualifications and credentialing is continually evolving and the NASAR Canine committee is committed to providing the SAR canine community with relevant certifications that will be recognized by user agencies and courts of law.

We are putting together an exciting Conference this year at Lake Tahoe. The pre-conference workshop will focus on HRD and we have some great speakers and instructors lined up for the conference. I would encourage canine handlers and especially canine organizations to start thinking about nominating an exceptional canine for the NASAR Canine of the Year with its \$1000 award. This award can now be given as a lifetime achievement award or on the basis of an individual event and is a great opportunity to recognize an exceptional canine on your team. We strongly encourage organizations to send in a nomination.

There will also be another \$500 grant awarded to help a lucky applicant with the cost of attending the conference. The application for this grant can also be found on the NASAR website.

The Canine Committee is always open to ideas on how we can make things better for you, the canine handler. Feel free to contact any of us with comments and suggestions.

I wish the best for everyone this coming year and hope to see you at Lake Tahoe.

Ann Christensen  
 NASAR Canine Committee Chair



*Last year's Canine of the Year "Moses" and Robin Harbeger.*

## Nominations open for NASAR K9 of the Year

Do you know a dog that did a great job on a search last year? Do you know a great dog and handler team that deserve a nod of recognition? Tell us what makes your canine partner or someone else's canine partner a NASAR K9 of the Year and NASAR will give the winner \$1,000.00. Nominate a worthy teammate!

The dog must have been an active or certified K9 during the calendar year 2011 (dogs that retired during 2011 are eligible). Nomination may be based on a single outstanding event occurring in 2011 or may be based on the canine's cumulative lifetime outstanding career achievements. Submit your 500 word essay and a jpeg photo of handler and canine.

Applications are due by **March 9, 2012**. The winning entry will be announced at the 2012 NASAR Conference. For an application and requirements [go here](#).

## 2012 Conference Scholarship

In November 2004, Pedigree established a \$20,000 endowment within NASAR so that each year a deserving canine handler could attend the NASAR conference with less financial burden.

The endowment is called the Peter A. Cheney Canine Handler Scholarship in recognition of the former President of Mars, Inc. which owns the Pedigree brand.

The NASAR handler who is selected will receive: complimentary conference registration, complimentary pass to the Hospitality Suite, and \$500 toward travel and lodging expenses.

Applications are due by **March 9, 2012**. For an application and requirements, [go here](#).

## Write an Essay?



Yes, you can write an essay. Don't let the idea of putting pen to paper or staring at a blank screen scare you. First, take the dogs out for a run to tire them out and then when they are curled up at your feet, sit down and decide what you want to say.

Jot down a few notes first. Briefly outline ideas for an introduction, main message and conclusion. Pick out the three or four most important statements to become the main paragraphs. Elaborate on each statement with facts, history or a relative story. Write what you feel.





Do have a great shot of your dog working? We want to see it! Submit black and white or color prints, any size up to 9"x12", along with your name, address, phone number and a short bio. Also, include a brief description of the event photographed and how it relates to SAR/emergency response.

All entries will be displayed at the conference in Lake Tahoe June 4th-10th. Conference attendees will vote on the prize winners who will be announced on the NASAR website no later than July 1, 2013. Winners will receive cash prizes!

(First Place: \$100; Second Place: \$50; Third Place: \$25). Submitted photos are not returned. All entrants agree to grant NASAR non-exclusive license for credited use of all submissions in official publications. Photo credits will be given to the photographer when his/her image is used.

Send your contest entries to NASAR, Attn: Photo Contest, PO Box 232020, Centreville, VA 20120-2020. **All entries must be received by May 10, 2012 via mail or you can bring them onsite.**



## See you at the top!

Pre-Conference     JUNE 4-6, 2012

Main Conference     JUNE 7-9, 2012

Post Conference     JUNE 10, 2012

Visit the [Conference Website](#) for schedule and lodging details.

## Canine Vaccinations Required

According to the NASAR Canine Policy, all canines traveling to the NASAR National Conference at Lake Tahoe, must have a current Veterinarian Health Certificate no more than two weeks old.

Current vaccinations (or proof of protective titres) must include (at a minimum): Rabies, Bordatella and DAP (Distemper, Parvovirus and Adenovirus Type 2) . It is also highly recommended to add Frontline or Promeris, Lyme Disease and Lepto.

## AKC Canine Good Citizen® Test

If your dog is coming with you to NASAR's National Conference, your dog must have proof of passing the AKC Canine Good Citizen (CGC) test or equivalent (such as a certification that requires obedience testing).

The CGC simply tests your dog's ability to be in public without causing a nuisance. It is not a strict obedience test, where you need perfect healing or perfect sits. The test is done on lead at all times and you can talk or verbally reinforce commands as often as you like.

Contact your local AKC Dog Club for Evaluators, test dates and more information. The [AKC website](#) has complete information about the CGC pro-



## Conference Bound Canines

If you are traveling to Lake Tahoe with your canine, please indicate you will be bringing a search and rescue dog when making reservations. Please remember to bring a kennel for times when you are not in the room with your dog. All handlers bringing canines to the conference and/or pre-conference events must sign and bring onsite the "Canine Attendance Policy Form" which is available on the NASAR website or by calling 703-222-6277. Canines must meet all of the criteria in order to attend. Please bring all Canine registration paperwork onsite to the conference. Your signed forms will be collected at the Canine Registration Table.

## Cross Country Canines

Emergencies can and do happen when traveling with dogs. Planning ahead is well worth the time. Make a list of contact information for veterinary hospitals along your trip (if driving) and for veterinary hospitals in the area where you will be staying or working dogs.

- Copy of vaccinations and medical records
- Current Veterinarian Health Certificate
- Canine Medications if needed
- Canine First Aid Kit
- Collar with Identification/Contact Tags. Is your dog micro-chipped? Carry chip information with you.
- Crate or kennel and dog beds or blankets for hotel rooms
- Crate in vehicle for dog or seat belt harness
- Bowls, Water, Dog Food and Treats, Toys
- If you allow dogs on hotel bed when you are in the room, bring along a sheet from home to cover the bed.
- Always pick up after your dog. Bring a good supply of "Poopie" Bags and carry a few with you at all times.
- Stop every 2-3 hours to break and exercise dogs.