

**Wednesday, May 27<sup>th</sup>**

**1900-2100**

**Workshop SIG #1 – Edgehill**

**The SAR dog-handler team and Science: A new day dawning?**

*Larry Myers, Veterinarian*

The biological and behavioral basis for the effectiveness of the dog in detection will be briefly presented. The study of HRD dog-handler teams performed in *People v. Zapata* will be described and results presented. The preliminary results of tests of reliability of dog-handler teams from various disciplines will be presented along with an analysis of factors associated with high and low reliability. The proposed design for testing reliability of tracking and trailing dogs will be presented and input from the membership will be sought.

**Thursday, May 28<sup>th</sup>**

**1800-1900**

**Workshop SIG #2 – Grand Ballroom, Salon A**

**Meet the Candidates for the Board of Directors**

*George Rice, NASAR Board of Director*

Each year, one third of the seats on the NASAR Board of Directors are open for elections. Those elected to serve can have a major impact on search and rescue nationally. We encourage you to stop by and meet the candidates who will be running for office this year. Ask them questions, get to know them. Your active involvement in the process will help ensure a viable organization in the future.

**1900-2100**

**Workshop SIG #3 – Robinson Center, Room 102**

**Mounted SAR Discussion**

*Jorene Downs, NASAR Mounted SAR Committee Chair*

The door will be open for anyone interested in Mounted Search and Rescue. NASAR has seen a surge of inquiries related to this specialty in the last year and would like to foster a more organized and formalized training and certification process for Mounted SAR. Please join us as we assess the steps to be taken as this field moves forward.

**Workshop SIG #4 – Grand Ballroom, Salon D**

**NASAR SAR Dog Community Meeting**

*Mike Wiederhold, SAR Dog Committee Chair*

This annual SAR Dog Committee meeting will allow participants to learn what has occurred within the Section over the past year as well as plans for the future. All canine handlers, whether NASAR members or not, are invited to attend the meeting.

**Workshop SIG #5 – Grand Ballroom, Salon B**

**Water (Swiftwater/Flood/Dive) Community Meeting**

*Norm Rooker, Water Committee Chair*

This meeting will allow participants to learn what has occurred within the three subcommittee sections; dive, flood and swiftwater. All those interested, whether NASAR members or not, are invited to attend the meeting.

**Workshop SIG #6 - Robinson Center, Room 103**

**NASAR's Tracking Education Task Force Group (TETG) – Progress Report**

*Del Morris, NASAR Tracking Education Task Force Chair*

A presentation on where the TETG is “at to date” as it applies to our primary project of NASAR Course Material and our intended NASAR Course format. We will outline future TETG project intentions and projected timelines. We will have presentation of who makes up the current Committee as well as handouts of ‘Draft’ material that has been approved to be shared. We will outline what is being readied for ASTM submission as potential NASAR Credentialing. We will provide an open platform for feedback and input as well as invitations for other trackers to join this committee or ASTM [as well as other feedback options]. We show how we are doing everything in our power to assure openness and transparency to the tracking community as this project proceeds forward.

**Friday, May 29<sup>th</sup>**

1630-1800

**Water Rescue Demonstration & BBQ**

The water rescue demonstration and exercise as a part of the 2009 National Association for Search and Rescue Conference that will demonstrate the capabilities of the Pulaski County Water Rescue Group agencies and other mutual aid partners from around Arkansas. The purpose of this exercise is to simulate various scenarios such as the response to barge fires, boating accidents, and victims in the water. Fire fighting capabilities, victim rescue techniques, and patient packaging and treatment are some of the planned events. Practicing for a Mass Casualty event on the river that would involve multiple agencies is one of the important purposes of this exercise. This exercise will utilize the Incident Command System and will involve several Fire, Police, Emergency Medical Service, Search and Rescue, and Law Enforcement agencies working together under a unified command.

**Workshop SIG #7 – Grand Ballroom, Salon B**

**Cadaver Dogs in Archaeological Survey: Review of a 5 year study.**

*Paul Martin, Washington County Sheriff's Department*

*John M. Sullivan, Bureau of Land Management*

A missing persons case led to a group of Indian Mounds in the south part of Washington County, Mississippi. No signs of recent activity were detected but the cadaver dog used to search the area did have noticeable body language changes. In cooperation with the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, canine handler Paul Martin and archaeologist John Sullivan began questioning the potential of using cadaver dogs to locate historical and prehistorical human remains. Over the course of five plus years they have sought answers on human decomposition, the human decomposition scent spectrum, and movement of scent in varying soil types and

varying environmental conditions. They have also worked with canines and handlers from across the country in what has become known as the Annual Human Remains Specialized K-9 Training Invitational utilizing known historical and prehistorical burials. Together with canine handler Lisa Higgins they have developed techniques and an understanding of the complex issues in approaching ! the use of cadaver dogs in archaeological survey.

**Workshop SIG #8** – *Grand Ballroom, Salon A*  
SAR Manager’s Tool Kit – Questions and Review

**Workshop SIG #9** – *Grand Ballroom, Salon D*  
**Higgins and Langley Awards Ceremony**

Higgins and Langley Memorial Awards in Swiftwater Rescue were established by members of NASAR’s Swiftwater Rescue Committee in 1993 in honor of Earl Higgins and Jeff Langley. Earl Higgins lost his life during an attempt to rescue a 12 year old boy in the flood-swollen Los Angeles River in 1980. Jeff Langley died during a helicopter incident in 1993. Prior to his death, Jeff had worked to promote the development of a multi-agency swiftwater and flood rescue program in Los Angeles County. Please join members of the Higgins and Langley Memorial Awards Committee in paying tribute to this year’s swiftwater heroes.

**Saturday, May 30<sup>th</sup>**

**Workshop SIG #10** – *Edgehill*  
**ASTM Meeting**

ASTM Committee F-32 on Search and Rescue was created at the request of the NASAR Board of Directors in 1987. The committee has developed standards relating to equipment testing; search management and air, ground, mounted and dog training and methods. Anyone can attend the meetings and offer comments, suggestions or propose new standards activity. New members are welcome to join and be involved in the standards process.

The meeting will begin with a concurrent Executive Committee meeting/ Opening session where ASTM will discuss the agenda and any executive matters.

The three subcommittees will then discuss topics specific to their specialties. There have been several ballots for new and revisions to existing standards since our meeting in November. Most of the revisions and reapprovals of existing standards should pass without controversy, but time will be dedicated to dealing with negative votes on proposed standards.