

Canine Finds

A publication of the SAR Dog Section, National Association for Search and Rescue

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December 2006



Happy Holidays

FUTURE NASAR BOD MEETINGS

January 20-21, 2007 Chantilly, VA; new Board members seated

Stay informed. Watch the NASAR website for minutes of the September 16-17 meeting in Charlotte, the November 15 teleconference and of future meetings.

Message from the
SAR Dog Section
Chair

All About 2006

Here we are again, winding down another year with NASAR, and we would like to share with you some of our SAR Dog Section accomplishments in 2006:



- The 2nd Pedigree SAR 2006 Canine Handler Scholarship went to Chellie (Kalei) Suzuki.
- Kai and Keith Hernandez decided to sponsor two NASAR canine handlers for 2007. So the 2007 Hernandez K9 SAR Sponsorships went to Doug Pinkerton and Terry Larkins.
- NASAR's Paws for Recognition representatives were K-9 Quanto and his handler Art Wolff.
- Canine Disaster certification programs received BOD approved.
- The Avalanche certification program received BOD approval.



Dates: 5/31/07 - 6/2/07
Location: [Charlotte, NC](#)

- NASAR Canine Certification Programs were revised to meet or exceed NIMS credentialing, and received BOD approval.
- With our new programs, we upgraded most all Canine SARTECH™ Coordinators and Evaluators, one level. They have until December 31, 2007, to test and pass that level in order to be compliant.



- We are going to realign the east and west regions to better match the rest of NASAR. This means that as of January 1, 2007, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Arkansas and Louisiana will all be part of the Western region.
- ART magazine – Kris has been getting some very good articles in with contributing articles from both Mary Jane and Mike.
- NASAR Canine SARTECH Resource Database Update - The Canine Resource Database is a resource for law enforcement and other SAR personnel seeking to locate certified canine resources in their area. The database is open to all canine/handler teams that have achieved a NASAR certification. After its debut on the NASAR web site late last year we have listed over a hundred canine/handler teams from twenty-five states and Canada. The database is updated quarterly. If you have a NASAR certified canine and would like to be added to the database, please contact Mary Jane Boyd at mjb5778@sbcglobal.net for information. The next update will be in January 2007.
- Good news regarding the NASAR K-9 Classifieds. We went from having a limit of ten classified advertisements to being virtually unlimited. This



means that more dogs can stay on the website for longer. There is no way of telling exactly how many dogs have been placed through the site but Mike knows conservatively of at least six, because he was contacted by the folks afterwards.

- ACE program - This program has been extremely difficult to revive. Mike has had long conversations with flight attendants and it is not encouraging. The program will never be the same as it was before. Because of the new security procedures with airlines, the pick up and drop off of the pups is very difficult. Mike has contacted numerous (30+) ground transport companies with no interest in helping with the program. He is still working on it but if anybody has any ideas or contacts he could follow up please, let him know at wicawacka@yayhoo.com.



- NASAR Pre-Conference 2007 - we currently have 'Building the HRD Alert' with Patty Gahagan and 'Advanced HRD Scenarios' with Jonni Joyce. In addition, the three day Conference K-9 track is currently scheduled to include an update on SWGDOG from Dr. Furton, Talks on Search Strategy, Katrina & Rita Raised Issues, Wind Movement, SAR and the Media, Canine Injury and Prevention, and Forensic do's and don'ts. We will also be having some hands-on classes including olfactory testing with Dr. Larry Myers, hands-on clicker training for the SAR Dog and hands-on testing of K-9 drives. More information for the conference can be found at the NASAR website. We recommend early registration for the pre-conference classes, as there are only a limited number of slots available. Any questions, please contact Darcy at djandcompany@att.net.

- As far as regional updates are concerned, both regions have added approximately ten new coordinators and evaluators this past year. There appear to be more teams scheduling tests and utilizing the SAR Dog grant. Remember, it is there to be used.
- We are still working with CKC and their donation of money to the K-9 section from the sale of bracelets. These funds are deposited into the grant fund for training/testing.
- Norma has been elected to the Board of Directors and will be resigning as the Western Regional Field Projects Coordinator. In her stead, Mary Jane has accepted the task, and will start her training in January. We would like to give a BIG THANKS to Norma, for all of the help, direction and support she has given the SAR Dog Section! Thanks again Norma! You are the best!

In closing, I just want to take the opportunity to thank all of you, again, for YOUR hard work, and I would like to challenge you --- to get involved! Help make the NASAR SAR Dog community the best it can be!

Happy Holidays – See you in 2007!

Janet Yatchak,
NASAR SAR Dog Section Chair



THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE

Deputy Sheriff Matt Williams & K-9 Diogi of the Polk County Florida Sheriff's Office were shot and killed on Thursday, September 28, 2006. The partners were pursuing a suspect who had fled on foot during a traffic stop.

Another deputy had stopped the vehicle for a traffic violation and the suspect fled on foot into an adjoining wooded area. Deputy Williams and K-9 Diogi arrived moments later and began searching for the suspect with the other deputy.

The suspect opened fire on the deputies as they tracked him, shooting Deputy Williams eight (8) times, killing him. K-9 Diogi was also shot and killed. The other deputy was shot once in the leg.

Later in the day, the killer emerged from the woods and fired at a Lakeland Police Department Officer who was advising residents to stay away from the area. The officer returned fire as the killer fled back into the woods.

The killer was located by SWAT team members the following day. He was hiding underneath a fallen tree that had been covered by underbrush. The man was shot and killed by the officers when he failed to obey their commands and displayed a firearm.

Deputy Williams was 39 and a 12 year law enforcement veteran. He is survived by his wife, daughter and two sons.

Information obtained from The FOP STAR, official publication of the Fort Lauderdale Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #31

Editor's note: If this sort of thing can happen to a trained and armed police officer and apprehension K-9, what can happen to a SAR handler and their passive K-9? Perhaps this is something to bear in mind when considering conducting criminal searches. This is different than the realization that every search should be treated as possibly having a criminal connection, i.e. foul play involved. In assisting law enforcement, pre-planning is essential as is the determination of the risk/benefit factor.

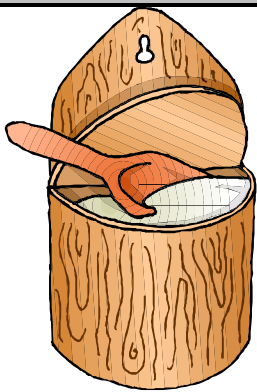


Greetings from Home

No matter your politics and/or feelings regarding the War in Iraq, the men and women of our nation's military serving in that foreign country will be away from their families this holiday season. If you go to the web site at (<http://www.letsaythanks.com/>), you can pick out a thank you card and the Xerox Corporation will print and send it to a soldier who is currently serving in Iraq. You can't pick out who gets it, but it will go to some member of the armed services. It is FREE and only takes a second.

One in every 1.67 children featured in the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children photo distribution program is recovered as a direct result of someone recognizing the photograph.

U. S. Federal Bureau of Investigation



SWEETENER DANGER

Reported in the *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association*, there is clinical evidence indicating that canine consumption of Xylitol can cause precipitous drops in low-blood

sugar, bleeding disorders and severe liver damage, including liver failure. In the data collected, every dog that accidentally ingested Xylitol grew ill, and some had to be euthanized due to the severity of the damage.

Xylitol is a sweetener commonly found in sugar-free food products, like chewing gum, baked items and candies, as well as toothpastes. You will want to take particular care not to leave these products within the reach of your companion animals.

Authors of the report stressed that all members of families with dogs should be aware of the possible negative health consequences. Consumers should be aware that any product claiming to be sugar-free may contain Xylitol. The researchers also noted that there was no information available as yet to indicate the same kind of reaction in cats.



FIRE DOG

A nursery school teacher was delivering a station wagon full of children to their homes when a fire truck zoomed past. Sitting in the front seat of the fire truck was a Dalmatian. The children started discussing the dog's duties, "They use him to keep crowds back," said one youngster. "No," said another, "He's for good luck." A third child brought the argument to a close. "They use the dogs," she said firmly, "to find the fire hydrant."

