

ARIZONA SAR CONFERENCE 2013

April 19-21, 2013

Salvation Army Camp, Heber, AZ

K9 Track

**Must show proof of affiliation with a government agency to attend, all classes are 1st come 1st served
Pre-registration info will be provided as soon as it is available from AZSAR Coordinators**

Friday, April 19th

0800-1200: **Beg/Int HRD fieldwork**¹- Bill Dotson, Search Dog Organization of North America

0800-1200: **Beg/Int/Adv Tracking/Trailing fieldwork**²- Vi Brown & Karen Paquette, SRDI, Tucson, AZ

0800-1200: **Beg/Int/Adv Problem Solving for Area K9s class & fieldwork**¹- Mary Berry, Sandia Search Dogs, NM & Delinda VanneBrightyn, Taos Search and Rescue

1200-1300: LUNCH

The following classes are continuation of am classes:

1300-1700: **Beg/Int HRD fieldwork**¹- Bill Dotson, Search Dog Organization of North America

1300-1700: **Beg/Int/Adv Problem Solving for Area K9s fieldwork**¹- Mary Berry, Sandia Search Dogs, NM & Delinda VanneBrightyn, Taos Search and Rescue

1800-2000: DINNER

Saturday, April 20th

0800-1200: **Adv HRD fieldwork**¹- Bill Dotson, Search Dog Organization of North America

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1800-2100: DINNER / AWARDS / RAFFLE

Sunday, April 21st

0800-1200: **AKC CGC Evaluation**²- Cindy McArthur and Diane Christian, Coconino County Sheriff's SAR K9 Team, Flagstaff, AZ

¹This is an 8 hour, 1-day class limited to 10 students.

²This is a 4 hour, 1-day class limited to 10 students.

2013 AZSAR K9 Track

Instructor Bios

Mary A. Berry, DVM began her hobby of Search and Rescue (SAR) dog training in 1986 and has successfully certified trailing, wilderness area air scent, cadaver, and disaster dogs. She was a cofounder of Cibola SAR and later founded Sandia Search Dogs in 1999. She was a member of the New Mexico disaster FEMA team from 1993-2007 as a dog handler and team veterinarian. SAR deployments include hundreds of wilderness missions and deployment to the Pentagon for 9/11, and to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita with the disaster team. She has presented “SAR Dog Problem Solving”, “Canine Directability”, “Stress and the Working Dog”, and “Field First Aid for the Working Dog” to canine handlers at the New Mexico annual SAR conference and other venues.

Vi Brown, experience includes: Horse Team 1965/6, Civil Defense 1967/68, Southern AZ Rescue 1969 to present. She joined Southwest Rescue Dogs in 1992 and was Training Chairman 1994. Her first dog Patches trained in tracking, evidence, HRD and water retired at age 15. Her second dog Snoopy, trained in area, HRD, evidence and water.

Diane Christian has resided in Northern Arizona since 1980 where she retired from law enforcement as a detective sergeant in 2004. In 1992 she obtained her first Bloodhound, Nitro, and trained her in tracking and HR detection work. Prior to losing Nitro to cancer Diane obtained another Bloodhound, Rajah, which she trained in tracking. Diane traveled nationwide with both Nitro and Rajah attending training seminars and in getting them certified in tracking. Toward the end of her law enforcement career Diane switched gears and partnered up with Kai, a Belgian Malinois/Shepard mix and a very high energy Czechoslovakian Shepard named AXIS. Kai was trained in Bomb detection and police protection. Axis was trained for bomb detection and trailing. Diane attended Adlerhorst Training Facility in Riverside, California for over 5 months. After retirement she started her new career as an elementary school teacher in a small rural school and joined Search and Rescue. Since joining Search and Rescue Diane has trained two additional canines. The first canine, Koda, developed seizure problems and was retired early in her training. The second canine is Tank, a Bloodhound/Lab she rescued from a shelter in Los Angeles. During the summer of 2012 Tank achieved his NASAR Canine Sarteck I and II Trailing certifications. Diane taught the trailing course and co-taught a Scent Dynamic course during the 2012 New Mexico State SAR Conference.

Bill Dotson has been training dogs for 41 years and training, deploying and instructing SAR Dogs for 35 of those years. Bill was a founding member, operations leader, operational K9 handler and training director for California Rescue Dog Association. Bill and his dog qualified in the Swiss Disaster Dog Association as an operational team - a coveted “K-Team”. Bill was an operational member and Search manager for numerous homicide searches of Dog’s East, Inc. He was a founder, operational leader and trainer for the international disaster response of the Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance – Agency for International Development. He responded to international disaster missions in Armenia, El Salvador and the Philippines as the team leader and dog handler. Bill was a member of VATF2 – FEMA from 1992 to 2007 and served as training director and dog handler. He helped to develop the FEMA standards for K9’s. He responded to the Murrah Building bombing and numerous hurricanes including Katrina. Bill has presented many seminars on 4 continents, including developing, selecting the dogs for and training a USAR team in Izmir, Turkey. Breeder and trainer of Malinois and Dutch Shepherds. Founder and President of Search Dog Organization of North America (SDONA - www.sdona.org) bringing international training and testing to North America. Bill is one of the most respected trainers in the United States today.

Cindy McArthur, a professional dog trainer since 1977, holds a Master of Education degree from the University of Arizona. She began her SAR career in 2000 as a dog handler with the Yavapai County Sheriff's Response Team Search Dog Unit, where she held the offices of Canine Evaluator, Training Coordinator and eventually Strike Team Leader. In 2005 her two eldest dogs, Nitro and Levi, jointly received the Association of Pet Dog Trainers' *SAR Dog of the Year* award. Since 2006 she has been a certified Wilderness First Responder, and in 2007 she was inducted into the Yavapai County Sheriff's Search Management Unit. In 2008 she earned her NASAR SARTECH II certification and currently holds SARTECH II Evaluator status. In 2009 Cindy and her youngest dog, Inspector Gadget, were the recipients of NASAR's Peter A. Chaney Canine Handler Scholarship. In late 2009 she moved to Flagstaff, AZ and joined the Coconino County Sheriff's SAR Canine Unit. She is currently their Canine Evaluator and Co-Training Coordinator. In 2011 she also became a distant member of the K-9 Search & Rescue, Inc in Dolores, Colorado and their AZ Division Supervisor. In 2012 she was awarded Member of the Year by Coconino County Sheriff's SAR. Her dog Nitro was posthumously awarded the NASAR 2012 K9 of the Year. She currently owns and handles (3) Golden Retrievers who are both Area and Human Remains Detection dogs, collectively holding (11) NASAR Canine SARTECH and HRD certifications. Cindy is a NASAR Canine SARTECH Lead Evaluator for Area and HRD Land and an AKC CGC Evaluator.

Karen Paquette Tucson, AZ, joined Southwest Rescue Dogs, Inc., in 2004, became Mission Qualified in 2005; K9 Matilda (Australian Cattle Dog) joined SRDI in 2005, and went on to certify in Air Scent, Cadaver, Water Recovery and Evidence.

Delinda VanneBrightyn is a 10-year member of Taos Search and Rescue (TSAR), which operates in the mountains, and high desert landscapes of Taos, New Mexico, all over the State of New Mexico and points into Southern Colorado. She has served as Training Officer for 6 years and as a Director of the Board (7 years). Her current serving positions are: K-9 Unit Leader (8 years) and President of the 501(c)(3) organization (1 year).

As a ground and K-9 search specialist, Delinda handles K-9 Zatoichi, a GSD, which she has trained in air scent (generic and scent specific) and trailing. Zatoichi is proficient in both live find and human remains. They work through TSAR for NM State Police for off-road initiated missions and for other law enforcement agencies for homicide and missing persons.

For the past 7 years, Delinda has taught dog behavior in her community of Taos, with specialties in altering aggressive and fear-based behaviors, building focus and drive, and teaching patience in drive techniques. She is recognized in Taos County as the go-to person for dog behavioral issues and teaches both privately and through community sessions. Delinda served as President of Stray Hearts Animal Shelter for 3 years, bringing the live release rate of that shelter to 97.3% and placing the shelter on firm footing with the community and town government.

Besides specializing in the K-9 search modality, handling and dog behavior techniques, Delinda's other SAR specialty lies in navigation, where she has developed GPS/compass/computer techniques to increase POD and search effectiveness. She has regularly taught navigation at ESCAPE, the Annual New Mexico State SAR Conference. In 2012, she led a 2-day training exercise for a 30-member unit of the US National Guard in ground search techniques and navigation in the mountains of Taos.

Delinda works by day as a sculptor, casting in glass and bronze. Her works are in private collections across the United States.

2013 AZSAR K9 Track **Course Descriptions**

Beg/Int/Adv Problem Solving for Area K9s

Instructor: Mary Berry

Assistant Instructor: Delinda VanneBrightyn

This class will begin with a short classroom session to cover the basic progression of training an area air scent dog. Afterward, canine/handler teams will be divided into training groups based on their stage in training as determined by demonstration of off-leash control of the canine, an effective reward system, and a solid alert/indication by the canine. Field work for the rest of the day will be led by two instructors and customized for the training level of each team. Beginning and Intermediate teams will work on developing their reward system and building a solid alert using motivational exercises and easy search problems. Advanced teams will work on more complex search problems, develop a search plan and alter it as necessary, augment the search using GPS, and use directability of the canine to increase search efficiency. This class will be repeated the next day for a new set of teams.

Beg/Int/Adv Tracking/Trailing fieldwork

Instructor: Vi Brown

Assistant Instructor: Karen Paquette

The Tracking/Trailing class agenda will include some practical, hands on scent theory demonstrations at the outset. This will be followed by fieldwork with the dogs on various tracks.

Beg/Int HRD fieldwork

Instructor: Bill Dotson

This class is for dogs and handlers with both little experience with HRD and dog/handler teams with some experience. We will concentrate on the "final response" and searching tactics. We will discuss proper handling of HRD training materials as well as their storage. We will progress each dog/handler team as far as possible.

Adv HRD fieldwork

Instructor: Bill Dotson

Assistant Instructor: Cindy McArthur

We will concentrate on searching techniques and tactics. This class will be exposed to double blind searches. Be ready to be challenged as a team!

AKC Canine Good Citizen Evaluation

Instructor: Cindy McArthur

Assistant Instructor: Diane Christian

Please remember if your dog eliminates during the test he/she will be disqualified so take time to accomplish this before coming into the testing area. Your dog must have a leash and collar (buckle, martingale or slip only) on during the test. No harsh corrections or food are allowed in the testing area. Remember to encourage and praise your dog, you should be having fun together!

The AKC CGC includes the following items which are listed in the order they will be tested:

Item 1: Accepting a friendly stranger

Evaluator will approach and speak to handler with dog in sit position. (Dog is in control with loose leash without excessive corrections)

Item 2: Sitting politely for petting

Evaluator says “May I pet your dog” and pets dog lightly. (Dog may stand up but not lunge, jump or shy away leash must be kept loose)

Item 3: Appearance and grooming

Handler supplies dog’s brush/comb; evaluator softly grooms dog, lightly examines ears and each front foot is gently picked up. (Some squirming is ok but not struggling and pulling away)

Item 4: Out for a walk

Evaluator calls for right turn, left turn, about turn and 2 stops. Handler may command, talk to and praise dog throughout test. (Loose leash required but dog need not be perfectly aligned, dog must be attentive to handler)

Item 5: Walking through a crowd

Handler and dog walk around and pass close to at least 3 people and possibly one well-mannered dog. (Dog may show some interest but must continue to walk with handler with loose leash, handler may encourage and praise dog)

Item 9: Reaction to distractions

Dog will demonstrate confidence when faced with common distractions, one visual (jogger) and one sound (pan being dropped or hit). (Dog may show casual interest or appear slightly startled but must not panic, handler may reassure dog during distractions)

Item 6: Sit and Down on command/Staying in place

Prior to test 20 foot leash provided by evaluator will be attached to dog. Dog needs to 1) sit on command and 2) down on command then 3) stay in a sit OR down position. Handler will be instructed to command stay and leave dog in either down or sit position, walk to the end of the 20 foot leash then return to dog and wait to hear the evaluator’s instruction to release the dog. (Handler may use more than one command but not force the dog into position)

Item 7: Coming when called

When the evaluator instructs to do so, Handler will walk 10 feet from the dog, turn to face the dog and will call the dog, the test is complete when the dog comes to the handler. Handler will then reattach the dog’s leash. (If the dog follows the handler the evaluator may distract it so the handler can get 10 feet away, handler may call dog 2 or 3 times and use encouragement but dog must come on it’s own without use of attached 20 foot leash to pass the test)

Item 8: Reaction to another dog

Two handlers approach each other with their dogs from about 15 feet away, stop, shake hands and exchange pleasantries, and continue on. (Dog should show no more than casual interest in the distraction dog and must stay back from the other dog/handler, as the handler leaves the dog must not turn around to pull towards the other dog)

Item 10: Supervised Separation

Evaluator will hold the leash of the dog while owner goes out of sight for 3 minutes. Evaluator may talk to and pet the dog but will refrain from giving excessive attention or playing with the dog. (Dog does not have to stay in position, but must not continually bark, whine, pace, show signs of agitation, extreme stress or pull on it’s leash trying to get away)