

Dog Talk

The official *unofficial* newsletter for FEMA dog handlers

December 2008

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Training Opportunity- "Teaching Focused Scenting"

"Teaching Focused Scenting" is a three-day course to be presented by Elizabeth Kreitler and Konnie Hein at the Gemini Dogs canine training facility in Littleton, MA on January 16 through January 18, 2009.

This course introduces a method of live find canine training developed by Kreitler and Hein based on the training method of nationally known detection canine trainer Randy Hare of Alpha K9. The fundamentals of this method are centered on positive reinforcement through operant conditioning (using "the game" as motivation and reward) through which the detection canine learns to distrust its eyes and ears and focus solely on scent. No corrections are used in this method and the canine is allowed to teach itself what actions bring reward. Canines exposed to this method become obedient to the source of the target odor (in this case live human scent) while ignoring distractions and incidental movements of the handler. Focused, energetic, single-minded, and enthusiastic are all trademark characteristics of canines taught using this method. These are essential attributes of a reliable live find canine. Canines started in other training methods also can be easily re-trained in this method to improve focus while searching.

Following is a link to a video showing a dog trained exclusively with the Focused Scenting method:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a-zHyHxru9s>

The three-day course includes one day of classroom instruction and two days of active training. Individuals also can register without their canines and attend at a reduced cost.

Cost: \$ 225 for participants with canine for 3 days, or \$85 per day with canine for less than 3 days, with a max of 15 participants. \$80 for auditor for 3 days with unlimited auditors welcome or \$35 per day for less than 3 days.

Please email me at k9riot@yahoo.com for registration forms and detailed seminar information.

Regards,
Konnie Hein, MATF-1, CTF-1



Texas Training Opportunity

Howdy Canine Coordinators!!

Please pass along to your handlers that the on-line registration for our FEMA Training Weekend January 10-11, 2008 hosted by TX-TF1 at Disaster City, College Station, TX will start at **1230 (Central) on Monday, November 24th**. Please select the following link to access the registration page and additional information (ie: what to bring, lodging). The fee is \$25 and that covers lunch for both days and some administrative costs. It should automatically link you to the page and will include the course number.

The link is here: [FEMA Disaster Canine Workshop](#)

If for some reason the course number does not appear, please go to <http://teex.org> and click on REGISTER at the top of the page, then input the following:

Class Number: UR TNG13S 6



We have **limited enrollment to 35 handlers with canines** to ensure all get plenty of opportunities to work. Once the available slots are filled, you won't be able to register. If we get cancellations after that, I'll send an email to let you know. In addition, continue to check periodically to see if slots have opened up. **Please coordinate with your handlers so that we limit each Task Force to 4 handler/canine teams.** You may register all 4 handlers during one session. The information you will need from them to do so:

- Social security number or TEEEX ID number (if they have previously registered for TEEEX courses)
- Address
- Payment method and card number (payment on one credit card is for all students when registration is completed)

Note that once the course is full you will not be able to access the registration information again so you should print out the course information screen after registration is complete.

Please adhere to the following requests:

- The weekend is open to FEMA US&R personnel only.
- If you are registering WITHOUT a canine (and we encourage STM's and handlers without dogs to attend) please DO NOT register on-line. Email Rebecca Mills at rebecca.mills@teexmail.tamu.edu and she will take care of your registration.

If you have any difficulty registering, please contact:

Kendra Zak

TEEX US&R

Task Force Administrative Coordinator

Phone: 979-458-0857

- **Limit each Task Force to 4 handler/canine teams.** There is no limit for handlers or STM's without canines.
- Only 1 dog per handler.
- Dogs in heat may not attend.
- If you have to cancel, please contact Rebecca so that she may open your slot to someone else.

Task Force's Cooperative Agreement Statements of Work specifically states that the training of canines is an allowable cost. Collaboration of TF members is also encouraged in the Statement of Work. This event will have many evaluators and instructors attending and they will be available to assist others in their groups when asked. The types of training opportunities at this event will prepare canine teams for certification and deployments.

There are several airport options to travel to College Station. You can fly into Easterwood Field in College Station from Dallas/Fort Worth (DFW) or Houston (IAH). There are smaller, commuter planes. You can also fly into Austin (AUS), DFW or Houston, rent a vehicle and drive to College Station (2 hrs from Houston, Austin and 3 hrs from DFW).

If you have any questions about the weekend, please email me or call at 817-300-9637. Due to this on-line process, I cannot hold slots for anyone so it's truly first-come, first-served.

See you in Texas in January! We are looking forward to seeing old friends and meeting new ones!

Susann Brown
Canine Coordinator
TEEX/US&R
TX-TF1

COURSE FULL SO INFORMATION ONLY



2009 K-9 Down
Registration Open!

**Don't Miss Out On
Special Rates For
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FVS
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& Cancer Treatment Center
A 24-Hour Critical Care Facility

NYC
veterinary
specialists
24-Hour Emergency Care

NC STATE UNIVERSITY



K-9 Down events are specialized training workshops for dog handlers and emergency professionals who respond to injured canines.

**Book Early & Take Advantage
Of Special Rates!**

Raleigh, NC - February 7 & 8, 2009

Early Registration Ends January 7th

Tampa, FL - February 28 & March 1, 2009

**Early Registration Ends January 2nd
Final Registration is February 6th**

New York City, NY - May 16 & 17, 2009

**Early Registration Ends March 20th
Final Registration is April 24th**

**Visit the K-9 Down Website for More
Information and to Register Online**



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☆☆☆☆ Kudos to..... ☆☆☆☆

DOGTALK is pleased to announce that the following Canine Search Teams have recently gained certification (or re-certification) as FEMA US&R Canine Search Specialists:

☆ Irvine, CA Results – June 2008

Lisa Samsel & Raiden (CA-TF5), Ann Wichmann & Sirius (CO-TF1), Mary Lehman & Casey (NM-TF1) and Steve Driscoll & Blaze (FL-TF1)

☆ Fremont, CA - September 2008

Thomas Carney & Gypsy (CA-TF3), Davis Doty & Jester (CA-TF5), Christopher Burr & Ruby (NV-TF1), Justin Evans & Sydney (NV-TF1), Shawn Winder & Bak (UT-TF1), Justin Poarch & Worsley (UT-TF1), Jeaneen McKinney & Dually (AZ-TF1), Deresa Teller & Ranger (CA-TF1), Craig Orum & Kirby (UT-TF1), John Dean & Tug (AZ-TF1).

☆ Las Vegas, NV – October 2008

Mark Lepino & Cassie (NV-TF1), Michael Berry & Pierce (MD-TF1), Darren Bobrosky & Ranger (CA-TF4), Adam Skiver & Dually (AZ-TF1), Sean Oliver & Libby (WA-TF1), Crystal Cockcroft & Dart (CA-TF6).

☆ Beverly, MA- November 2008

Kevin Racette & Uber (MA-TF1), Rose DeLuca & Faza (PA-TF1), Karen Meadows & Ace (VA-TF2)



Please forward any news, scheduled events, letters to the editor, or other info you want disseminated via **DOGTALK**, the underground canine newsletter to Anne McCurdy: amccurdy@clarian.org



Effective: 1 January 2009

NATIONAL URBAN SEARCH & RESCUE RESPONSE SYSTEM 2009 ROTATION MODEL – Revised: 21 Oct 2008										
IST	REGION	1st Rotation	2nd Rotation	3rd Rotation	4th Rotation	5th Rotation	6th Rotation	7th Rotation	8th Rotation	9th Rotation
JAN	W	WA-TF1	CA-TF6	CA-TF2	CA-TF7	CA-TF5	CA-TF4	CA-TF1	CA-TF8	CA-TF3
	C	NV-TF1	IN-TF1	MO-TF1	TX-TF1	UT-TF1	AZ-TF1	TN-TF1	CO-TF1	NM-TF1
	E	VA-TF1	MD-TF1	FL-TF2	OH-TF1	NY-TF1	FL-TF1	PA-TF1	VA-TF2	MA-TF1
FEB	W	CA-TF6	CA-TF2	CA-TF7	CA-TF5	CA-TF4	CA-TF1	CA-TF8	CA-TF3	WA-TF1
	C	IN-TF1	MO-TF1	TX-TF1	UT-TF1	AZ-TF1	TN-TF1	CO-TF1	NM-TF1	NE-TF1
	E	MD-TF1	FL-TF2	OH-TF1	NY-TF1	FL-TF1	PA-TF1	VA-TF2	MA-TF1	VA-TF1
MAR	W	CA-TF2	CA-TF7	CA-TF5	CA-TF4	CA-TF1	CA-TF8	CA-TF3	WA-TF1	CA-TF6
	C	MO-TF1	TX-TF1	UT-TF1	AZ-TF1	TN-TF1	CO-TF1	NM-TF1	NE-TF1	NV-TF1
	E	FL-TF2	OH-TF1	NY-TF1	FL-TF1	PA-TF1	VA-TF2	MA-TF1	VA-TF1	MD-TF1
APR	W	CA-TF7	CA-TF5	CA-TF4	CA-TF1	CA-TF8	CA-TF3	WA-TF1	CA-TF6	CA-TF2
	C	TX-TF1	UT-TF1	AZ-TF1	TN-TF1	CO-TF1	NM-TF1	NE-TF1	NV-TF1	IN-TF1
	E	OH-TF1	NY-TF1	FL-TF1	PA-TF1	VA-TF2	MA-TF1	VA-TF1	MD-TF1	FL-TF2
MAY	W	CA-TF5	CA-TF4	CA-TF1	CA-TF8	CA-TF3	WA-TF1	CA-TF6	CA-TF2	CA-TF7
	C	UT-TF1	AZ-TF1	TN-TF1	CO-TF1	NM-TF1	NE-TF1	NV-TF1	IN-TF1	MO-TF1
	E	NY-TF1	FL-TF1	PA-TF1	VA-TF2	MA-TF1	VA-TF1	MD-TF1	FL-TF2	OH-TF1
JUN	W	CA-TF4	CA-TF1	CA-TF8	CA-TF3	WA-TF1	CA-TF6	CA-TF2	CA-TF7	CA-TF5
	C	AZ-TF1	TN-TF1	CO-TF1	NM-TF1	NE-TF1	NV-TF1	IN-TF1	MO-TF1	TX-TF1
	E	FL-TF1	PA-TF1	VA-TF2	MA-TF1	VA-TF1	MD-TF1	FL-TF2	OH-TF1	NY-TF1
JUL	W	CA-TF1	CA-TF8	CA-TF3	WA-TF1	CA-TF6	CA-TF2	CA-TF7	CA-TF5	CA-TF4
	C	TN-TF1	CO-TF1	NM-TF1	NE-TF1	NV-TF1	IN-TF1	MO-TF1	TX-TF1	UT-TF1
	E	PA-TF1	VA-TF2	MA-TF1	VA-TF1	MD-TF1	FL-TF2	OH-TF1	NY-TF1	FL-TF1
AUG	W	CA-TF8	CA-TF3	WA-TF1	CA-TF6	CA-TF2	CA-TF7	CA-TF5	CA-TF4	CA-TF1
	C	CO-TF1	NM-TF1	NE-TF1	NV-TF1	IN-TF1	MO-TF1	TX-TF1	UT-TF1	AZ-TF1
	E	VA-TF2	MA-TF1	VA-TF1	MD-TF1	FL-TF2	OH-TF1	NY-TF1	FL-TF1	PA-TF1
SEP	W	CA-TF3	WA-TF1	CA-TF6	CA-TF2	CA-TF7	CA-TF5	CA-TF4	CA-TF1	CA-TF8
	C	NM-TF1	NE-TF1	NV-TF1	IN-TF1	MO-TF1	TX-TF1	UT-TF1	AZ-TF1	TN-TF1
	E	MA-TF1	VA-TF1	MD-TF1	FL-TF2	OH-TF1	NY-TF1	FL-TF1	PA-TF1	VA-TF2
OCT	W	WA-TF1	CA-TF6	CA-TF2	CA-TF7	CA-TF5	CA-TF4	CA-TF1	CA-TF8	CA-TF3
	C	NE-TF1	NV-TF1	IN-TF1	MO-TF1	TX-TF1	UT-TF1	AZ-TF1	TN-TF1	CO-TF1
	E	VA-TF1	MD-TF1	FL-TF2	OH-TF1	NY-TF1	FL-TF1	PA-TF1	VA-TF2	MA-TF1
NOV	W	CA-TF6	CA-TF2	CA-TF7	CA-TF5	CA-TF4	CA-TF1	CA-TF8	CA-TF3	WA-TF1
	C	NV-TF1	IN-TF1	MO-TF1	TX-TF1	UT-TF1	AZ-TF1	TN-TF1	CO-TF1	NM-TF1
	E	MD-TF1	FL-TF2	OH-TF1	NY-TF1	FL-TF1	PA-TF1	VA-TF2	MA-TF1	VA-TF1
DEC	W	CA-TF2	CA-TF7	CA-TF5	CA-TF4	CA-TF1	CA-TF8	CA-TF3	WA-TF1	CA-TF6
	C	IN-TF1	MO-TF1	TX-TF1	UT-TF1	AZ-TF1	TN-TF1	CO-TF1	NM-TF1	NE-TF1
	E	FL-TF2	OH-TF1	NY-TF1	FL-TF1	PA-TF1	VA-TF2	MA-TF1	VA-TF1	MD-TF1
JAN	W	CA-TF7	CA-TF5	CA-TF4	CA-TF1	CA-TF8	CA-TF3	WA-TF1	CA-TF6	CA-TF2
	C	MO-TF1	TX-TF1	UT-TF1	AZ-TF1	TN-TF1	CO-TF1	NM-TF1	NE-TF1	NV-TF1
	E	OH-TF1	NY-TF1	FL-TF1	PA-TF1	VA-TF2	MA-TF1	VA-TF1	MD-TF1	FL-TF2

