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NSDA PODCASTS
This month’s Podcast features an interview with Deborah Palman, discussing how to work with agencies having jurisdiction.

Deborah Palman retired in 2008 after 30 years service as a game warden with the Maine Warden Service, the Law Enforcement Division of the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. Twenty-eight of those years were as a K-9 handler and over 25 were as the K-9 Administrator and Trainer for the Warden Service K-9 Unit.

Deborah is a certified Master Trainer with the International Police Work Dog Association (IPWDA) and can offer certifications through IPWDA for cadaver detection, wilderness air scent search, evidence or article search, tracking, trailing, and water search. She is a Level II certified trainer with the United States Police Canine Association (USPCA).

Deborah is also a Maine Criminal Justice Academy (MCJA) certified K-9 trainer. She can offer credentialing through the MCJA if the dog handler is a MCJA certified law enforcement officer.

You can listen (and subscribe) to the Search Dog PODCAST through iTunes and also find the PODCAST on Podbean at www.saroc.podbean.com.

Please send questions, feedback and suggestions to podcast@n-sda.org

And the PODCASTS stay up indefinitely. Stay tuned.

Eva Briggs

HERO DOG AWARDS FINALISTS ANNOUNCED

Search and Rescue Category Winner
KOBUK TO THE RESCUE! Read his story at http://herodogawards.org/vote/
NSDA Charity Partner, KOBUK – FINALIST FOR SEARCH AND RESCUE CATEGORY

On 7/9/2014 KOBUK found Ruth Brennan when 146 people had been searching all day for her in the hot, humid 88° July day! Volunteers from the Maine Association of Search and Rescue, Maine Search and Rescue Dogs, and many other organizations were all in the woods trying to locate Brennan. Celebrate today, as a life was saved thanks to everyone who was involved in the search for Ruth Brennan.

It is this commitment by everyone to locate the lost person and recover them for their family and loved ones that makes me proud to be a member of MASAR and MESARD, and that we are a resource for the Maine Wardens Service.

Voting continues for the 2016 "Top Dog" of all the eight hero dogs and read the other seven hero dog stories. They are all AMAZING HERO DOGS! Vote for the dog that you believe should win the overall Top Dog award.

Voting will remain open until noon Pacific Time on August 24th. Then we all fly to Hollywood on September 8th for the award gala on Saturday September 10. The recording of this gala will air on the Hallmark Channel the end of October, and I can let you know the date.

Kubuk and Elizabeth

Each of the eight Hero Dog Awards finalists will win $2,500 for their charity partners, and the 2016 American Hero Dog will win an additional $5,000 for their charity partner.

Go to http://herodogawards.org/vote/ AND VOTE – every day

A BIG THANK YOU

The NSDA Board would like to thank our other Charity Partners, Maxwell and Piglet for their time and efforts and for choosing NSDA as their Charity Partner. We wish all three could have been chosen for the great work that they do.

WHEN YOU SHOP ON Amazon.com

Look first at smile.amazon.com in support of the National Search Dog Alliance
RETURNING NSDA BOARD MEMBER

Jen Skeldon, Director and NSDA Secretary
Idaho
Jskeldon@n-sda.org

Jen Skeldon is currently working her first search dog Kato, a Belgian shepherd mix from the pound. Jen and Kato are part of Idaho Mountain Search and Rescue Unit based in Boise, Idaho. K-9 Kato holds NSDA certifications in Area Search and Land HRD. Jen's previous dogs have been therapy dogs, also trained in herding and were obedience competitors.

Jen currently manages a vegetation database for US Geological Survey. She specializes in rangeland resources, ecology, and federal land management.

Year-round she can be found hiking, swimming, and skiing with her two dogs. In her free time, Jen enjoys exploring new areas, spending time with family, training her dogs, and volunteering with refugees in Boise.

NEW SAR DOG NEWS EDITOR JOINS NSDA STAFF

Soraya Heydari will be taking over the duties of Editor for the SAR DOG NEWS beginning with the next issue.

In a NSDA poll, the newsletter was listed as one of the two most valued services that NSDA provides. We hope our readers will help Soraya learn more about our profession and about search dogs and their handers.

For the first couple of months articles, photos and information will be submitted in the same manner as before, until she can get up to speed.

Welcome Soraya.

Norma Snelling

SWIMMING MAY BE GOOD FOR YOUR DOG

By Susan Bulanda

A recent study by Tate Preston and Dr Alison Wills, at the Hartpury University Centre, UK has shown that dogs who suffer from elbow dysplasia may benefit from hydrotherapy. The study was done on a small sample of dogs, however the dogs with elbow dysplasia and the control group both showed a significant improvement in their range of motion, stride frequency and stride length.

The two breeds that are most affected by elbow dysplasia are Labrador Retrievers and German Shepherds.

BODY OF WEST VIRGINIA FLOOD VICTIM FOUND
on resort property

Tina Alvey REGISTER-HERALD REPORTER       July 2, 2016

The body of one of three Greenbrier County female flood victims, missing and presumed dead, was recovered Saturday morning, according to Sheriff Jan Cahill.

“We are not releasing an identity until it is confirmed, but we are confident this is one of the missing people we have been searching for,” Cahill said.

“The body was found at 10 a.m., with the help of four cadaver dog teams, in a massive debris field at the edge of Howards Creek on (The Greenbrier) resort property,” he said. The body has been sent to the state Medical Examiner’s Office.

Saturday morning’s discovery brings the official death toll in Greenbrier County to 13, with two females — one from the greater White Sulphur Springs area and the other from the Leonard-Cordova area of Renick — still unaccounted for and presumed to have perished in the June 23 flood.

“It’s a sad time, but it does give us some closure for the family,” Cahill said. “And it makes us more optimistic about finding the other person missing from White Sulphur Springs.”

He noted that cadaver dog teams from all over the state and beyond its borders have been part of the search for many days. The teams involved in this most recent recovery are from Pocahontas County, Cincinnati and Kentucky.

Massive flooding slammed parts of West Virginia on Thursday, a result of widespread thunderstorms. According to abcnews.com, multiple deaths have been reported in the state, as well as damage to homes, buildings and public infrastructure. Multiple counties were affected by the floods including Greenbrier County, home of The Greenbrier Resort, which was set to host the PGA Tour's Greenbrier Classic in July.
## Testing, Training Seminars & Conferences
Reach over 1,350 SAR K-9 handlers. List your Tests, Training seminars and conferences in the SAR Dog News

Contact Editor Norma Snelling at:  snelling@olypen.com

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<th>Email/Phone</th>
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<tr>
<td>Aug 18-19</td>
<td>Area, Land HRD</td>
<td>Camp Edwards, WA</td>
<td>Chris Trepstra</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cpt@treefrog.org">cpt@treefrog.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 15-18</td>
<td>Trailing II, III, Gun Source Residue</td>
<td>Show Low, AR</td>
<td>Michelle Denton</td>
<td><a href="mailto:k9arldy@gmail.com">k9arldy@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 29-30</td>
<td>Land HRD</td>
<td>Sarasota, FL</td>
<td>Janet Wyatt</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Nevermore34241@verizon.net">Nevermore34241@verizon.net</a> 941-922-3161</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 9-10</td>
<td>Area, Land HRD</td>
<td>San Diego, CA</td>
<td>Leonore Cethaml</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sargoldenk9@earthlink.net">sargoldenk9@earthlink.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 15-16</td>
<td>Area, Disaster, Land, Water, Trailing</td>
<td>Atterbury, IN</td>
<td>Heather Suedkamp</td>
<td><a href="mailto:hsuedkamp@aol.com">hsuedkamp@aol.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug 5-9</td>
<td><strong>NSI K-9 Land HRD</strong> Beginning, Intermediate, Advanced</td>
<td>Seymour, IN</td>
<td>Maryln Allen Adams</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mallenadams@NSK9ta.com">mallenadams@NSK9ta.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug 6</td>
<td><strong>SAR100 Crime Scene Operations Blood Borne Pathogens</strong></td>
<td>Camp Atterbury, IN</td>
<td>Lillian Hardy</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lhardy@dhs.in.gov">lhardy@dhs.in.gov</a> 812-526-0013 206-890-0462</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 19-20</td>
<td><strong>Scenarios Workshop (Info here)</strong></td>
<td>Cody, WY</td>
<td>K.T. Irwin</td>
<td><a href="mailto:leonberg@tctwest.net">leonberg@tctwest.net</a></td>
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<td>Aug 27-28</td>
<td><strong>K9410 Land Cadaver Techniques K9s Advanced</strong></td>
<td>Camp Atterbury, IN</td>
<td>Lillian Hardy</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lhardy@dhs.in.gov">lhardy@dhs.in.gov</a> 812-526-0013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 9-11</td>
<td><strong>California SAREX 500+ Attendees from CA &amp; other states</strong></td>
<td>Fresno, CA</td>
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<td>Sept 13-14</td>
<td><strong>K9320 Basic Intro Disaster Search Techniques</strong></td>
<td>Camp Atterbury, IN</td>
<td>Lillian Hardy</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lhardy@dhs.in.gov">lhardy@dhs.in.gov</a> 812-526-0013</td>
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<td><strong>Disaster Techniques Intermediate</strong></td>
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<td>Sept 18-23</td>
<td><strong>CSAR 2016 Seminar Air Scent, Trailing, HRD, Water Recovery</strong></td>
<td>Rosholt, WI</td>
<td>Wisconsin Lions Camp</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sarbuddy@sbcglobal.net">sarbuddy@sbcglobal.net</a> <a href="mailto:k9_specialty@yahoogroups.com">k9_specialty@yahoogroups.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 25-30</td>
<td><strong>2016 All Breed Canine Multi-discipline</strong></td>
<td>Holiday Lake Appomattox, VA</td>
<td>Tim &amp; Suzy Perry</td>
<td><a href="mailto:olddominionsar@hotmail.com">olddominionsar@hotmail.com</a> 615-452-9116</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Bob Urban</td>
<td>440-413-1973</td>
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<td>Oct 5-9</td>
<td><strong>Land HRD</strong></td>
<td>Seymour, IN</td>
<td>Maryln Allen Adams</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mallenadams@NSK9ta.com">mallenadams@NSK9ta.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 5-6</td>
<td><strong>NSDA Seminar To be Announced</strong></td>
<td>Camp Atterbury, IN</td>
<td>Lillian Hardy</td>
<td><a href="mailto:llhardy@dhs.in.gov">llhardy@dhs.in.gov</a> 812-526-0013</td>
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**Scenarios** is 3 days of blind problems using land and water cadaver, air scent, evidence, and trailing. The teams work through several searches per day and are given information from a reporting party at the beginning of each scenario just as they are on actual search. They do not know if their subject is alive or dead. They must strategize and work together to locate the subject or victim. Actors are used. Contact: K.T. Irwin leonberg@sbcglobal.net

For more Evaluator information contact Heather at: vankuturidgebacks@gmail.com For more Testing information, contact Rena at: davefe@cableone.net

**IDAHO**
Mollie McLam and K-9 Kobi
Area II and Area with Large Source HR

**BECOME NATIONALLY CERTIFIED**

For testing/certification information, contact Rena at davefe@cableone.net
K-9 PTSD

PTSD is a well known syndrome in people, but did you know our canine companions can also develop it? Retraining and holistic remedies can help them feel better.

PTSD is a well-recognized condition in many military personnel, firefighters and police officers who have undergone traumatic experiences. According to the National Institute of Mental Health, the condition has been defined as “an anxiety disorder that can develop after exposure to a terrifying event or ordeal in which grave physical harm occurred or was threatened. Traumatic events that may trigger PTSD include violent personal assaults, natural or human-caused disasters, accidents, or military combat.”

Recently, it has been found that dogs as well as people can suffer from PTSD. In fact, it’s estimated that about 5% of military dogs develop the disorder. It’s easy to understand why bomb detection dogs, or search and rescue dogs used to find bodies after disasters, might be subject to PTSD. However, what many people don’t realize is that civilian dogs can also fall victim to it. If a dog goes through a natural disaster like Hurricane Katrina, or is abused, neglected, abandoned, or loses his human caretaker, he could develop PTSD. Many rescue dogs fall into this category.

Treatment hinges on retraining

Treatment for any dog suffering from PTSD includes retraining, which revolves around convincing him that the world is not a bad place.

• Provide the dog with a safe place of his own, whether it’s a room or a crate. This safe place needs to be quiet and away from everything. It needs to contain the dog’s favorite, familiar toys, food bowl and a piece of your clothing, so he realizes he is not truly alone. Chew toys are also a good idea.

• Routine is important for these dogs. They need to realize the world is an ordered place. If you have a dog that suffers from PTSD, he needs to be fed and walked at the same times every day. Introduce new things very gradually so he has a chance to become used to them. This process requires a lot of love and patience.

• Exercise and play are other important facets of therapy. If dogs with PTSD are given the opportunity to run and chase other dogs, play with their people, retrieve, swim, or run an agility course, they recover much more quickly. If the dog can relearn how to have fun, treatment is much more successful.

• Along with retraining, many holistic approaches and treatments can help. Start with a high quality diet containing all the vitamins and minerals canines require. A holistic or integrative veterinarian can help you develop the right diet for your own dog. The diet should be supplemented with Omega 3 fatty acids, as these nutrients naturally boost the “feel good” hormones that fight depression.

• Herbs and nutraceuticals1 can also help dogs with PTSD. L-theanine and melatonin can be especially useful. Both are readily available and safe for most dogs. Specific canine forms of L-theanine can be purchased. Chinese herbs have also been used for anxiety and aggressive

A combination of the of the words “nutrition” and “pharmaceutical”. The term is applied to products that range from isolated nutrients, dietary supplements and herbal products, specific diets and processed foods.
disorders in canines. Combining herbs and acupuncture is an effective treatment for anxiety and PTSD.

- Dog pheromone collars or infusers have proven effective for anxiety problems, while flower essences such as Bach’s Rescue Remedy can be used along with training and other modalities.

- In conventional medicine, retraining is often combined with drug therapy. Many of the drugs used to treat separation anxiety are also used for PTSD. Clomipramine, fluoxetine and amitriptyline are the most commonly used pharmaceuticals for this condition.

**Cure or management?**

Can a dog with PTSD be cured using any or all of these methods? In some cases, dogs seem to return to normal, but in others, the problem needs to be managed throughout the animal’s life. According to Dr. Nicholas H. Dodman, director of the animal behavior clinic at the Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University, PTSD can go on for years and is never truly cured. “It is more about management,” he says. “Dogs never forget.”

Animalwellnessmagazine.com/post-traumatic-disorder-ptsd-dogs/

**CAN VETERAN COMBAT DOGS CURE POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS?**

Gale Scott  K-9 COP June 17, 2016

Reuniting dogs and soldiers? Talk about a feel-good project.

An American Medical Association delegation’s proposal to support reuniting retired combat dogs with their handlers looked like an easy winner. Who could object to seeing battle-weary canine heroes returned to their human partners?

But today at the AMA’s annual meeting when the measure came up for discussion, there was strong opposition. One issue is that the resolution assumes that such reunions are therapeutic for service members suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). That assertion did not sit well with delegates representing the American Psychiatric Association (APA).

“PTSD is a very serious matter, however it is grossly unclear there is evidence that military service dogs contribute [to healing],” said a delegate from the APA. Others objected that the US Department of Defense already has adopted a plan that handlers be given first right of adoption when a combat dog retires.

Representing the US Air Force, delegate Col. Daniel Shoor said these dogs are also considered service members and, that like their human handlers, the dogs too can develop PTSD from their combat experiences.

Shoor, Chief of Medical Modernization and Chief of Air Force Medical Modeling and Simulation Training, said studies done at Lackland Air Force Base in Texas, where many of the dogs are trained, showed that happens to about 10% of the dogs.

In an interview after the meeting, Shoor said that, as a dog-lover himself, he understands that there are many situations when a dog handler
with PTSD being reunited with his combat dog would be therapeutic. Also, he said, there are certainly cases where it would be helpful to a dog suffering from PTSD to be reunited with a handler who did not have the disorder. “But what if you have a dog with PTSD and a handler with PTSD,” he said, “Then you’ve got two service members who need help.” So far there’s no research on how that would work out.

He and others pointed out that combat dogs, referred to as working dogs by the military, are not service animals trained to help people with disabilities. Their training is centered on finding battlefield hazards and other combat-related tasks. Delegates from the APA were also concerned that the measure would be a diversion from the serious and difficult task of finding effective PTSD treatments.

At last month’s meeting of the APA in Atlanta, GA, helping these veterans and service members was a major concern. Even Gen. Robert Neller the top commander of the US Marine Corps asked for psychiatrists’ help in coming up with better treatments and advocates, including former Massachusetts’ First Lady Kitty Dukakis, urged the Veterans’ Administration to consider making better use of electroconvulsive therapy as a treatment for patients suffering from PTSD and at risk of suicide. But others who spoke at this afternoon’s meeting said the concept of reuniting veterans and combat dogs was worth a try.

Illinois delegate Ken Bush urged his colleagues to approve the resolution. “PTSD is skyhigh,” in returning service members Bush said. “Anything that could be done to help service personnel is so important that with or without evidence we should support it.”

Shoor, though officially opposed the resolution, said that he understands why people would think these reunions would help. When it comes to the bond between dogs and humans, “We like to say that love goes up and down the leash,” Shoor said.

See more at: http://www.hcplive.com/medical-news/can-veteran-combat-dogs-cure-post-traumatic-stress#sthash.PZTTj0yP.dpuf

Opinions expressed in the column below are those of the editor and not necessarily those of the National Search Dog Alliance

Many people are specialists in their field. A common fault however is to then become close-minded about other’s opinions. Many dog handlers and trainers come to believe that their way is the best and only way to train a behavior. Others are close minded in order to protect their turf or maintain power and control over newer team members.

There are those in other fields who are not only glued to what they were taught but also have a financial and prestige interest in maintaining direction and control.

Could this be the case with the American Psychiatric Association (APA)? It is human nature many times to act in your own best interest rather than in the interest of others.

Are there any of our readers who doubt that dogs have empathy for their handlers and can be an extremely calming influence? It is something that does not necessarily require specific training or is counter to other training they have received.
Heat Exhaustion and the SAR Canine: The Go/No Go Decision

By Nancy Smith, JD and Andrea S. Mullen, DVM
K-9 Search Handlers, Arizona Wing Ground Team, Civil Air Patrol

When learning of the Ecuadorian rescue dog that lost its life searching for victims of the April 2016 massive 7.6 earthquake, sadness and empathy were immediate. But before reaching the end of the tale labeling K-9 Dayko as a “hero,” judgment arose because it is evident the handler worked the dog to an avoidable death.

Social media commentators were quick to condemn the handler that worked his dog to exhaustion and ultimately death. Yet, the last of the seven people pulled from the rubble after being found by Dayko was undoubtedly grateful for the sacrifice, whether borne of a conscious handler decision or a negligent disregard of the dog's condition.

The decision when to stop working a SAR dog can be easily second-guessed. But who hasn't wondered if their dog needs a rest and then continued to work-- even five minutes longer-- hoping to clear just one more area in hopes of imminently finding the subject? Who hasn't at least thought about working a bit longer to a better stopping place or to reduce inconvenience to themselves or others? Who hasn't convinced themselves “my dog is fine” based on little more than a hunch egged on by their dog's unbridled willingness to work?

Make no mistake, Dayko is like many other canine heat exhaustion victims. Your dog WILL follow you and work to its death. Emergency room veterinarians know all too well that summer hikes with well-meaning dog owners result in all-too-common heat-related deaths.

Only half of dogs with heatstroke survive, according to Lori E. Gordon, DVM. “Heat stroke patients are given a guarded prognosis due to the systemic complications that may occur. One study found factors associated with increased risk for death included DIC, hypoglycemia, and acute renal failure,” Dr. Gordon wrote in her treatise entitled, “Hyperthermia and Heatstroke in the Canine.”

Those who recover may appear to be back to normal, but they do not come out unscathed. Dogs that have experienced severe heat stress are probably more susceptible to get it again, perhaps an unknown time bomb for the handler. See, “Heatstroke in Dogs,” by Janet Merrill, MS, DVM.

Heat exhaustion, or “hyperthermia,” is when the heat production of the dog is more than the heat loss. With normal body temperatures ranging from 99.8° to 102.8°, dogs will run into problems losing enough heat in outside temperatures of 85°F and higher. Problems arise when the environmental temperature is higher than the dog's body temperature. When the outside temperature is the equivalent of 102°F or higher, it matches the dog's natural body temperature and starts to impede the dog's ability to cool itself naturally. Open mouth breathing, followed by panting, tongue extension, tongue redness and curling progressively show the dog's efforts to cool down, together with seeking shade, water and cool surfaces.

Handlers can be fooled, however, into thinking that the weatherman's version of the temperature is accurate. But 85°F can easily see your dog working in a reality of hotter than 102°F. The critical internal dog temperature number to avoid: 104°F.

The dog's willingness to work is not an indicator of their condition. As Dr. Gordon notes: “Canines have been known to continue to search even when their temperature had risen into the critical range of 105.8°F/41°C. They literally would work until they dropped; handler recognition and monitoring are critical to determine when to stop a search.
DEGREES OF CANINE HYPERThERMIA

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<td>102.8-104°F</td>
<td>Mild</td>
<td>Rest and restore</td>
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<td>104-106°F</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>Provide veterinary treatment</td>
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<tr>
<td>&gt;106°F</td>
<td>Severe</td>
<td>Seek emergency veterinary treatment</td>
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The go/no-go decision may be the most important in protecting a SAR dog from heat exhaustion. The temptation is to put all those hours of training into real-world use at any and every opportunity. Saying “no” may mean the difference between life and death for your canine team member. Like Dayko's handler, once in the field faced with risking your dog or finding one more victim, the temptation may be too great not to push a bit further and risk your dog's life.

The prolific canine SAR author Christy Judah recommends avoiding working dogs in “extreme” temperatures: “above 90 degrees or below 32 degrees.” Training a Search and Rescue Dog for Wilderness Air Scent Detection, 2014, Coastal Books. She advises:

“If the weather conditions put you or your dog in danger, decline the request. You should also consider what temperatures your dog is normally at rest... a dog kept in the air conditioning all the time will have more difficulty searching in warm to hot weather.”

Handlers in locations such as the desert Southwest may be deceived by the belief that their dogs are “used to the summer heat,” which often exceeds 100°F for long stretches during the summer. It takes up to 20 days for a dog to acclimate to warm or hot temperatures. Acclimating may be impacted, however, by how much of the day is spent outdoors. Most desert residents house their dogs indoors in air conditioning during the hottest times of the day.

Surviving in hot temperatures is different from exercising in hot temperatures. “Muscle metabolism accounts for up to 80% of the body's overall heat production during exercise,” according to Dr. Gordon. Put another way, 80% of the energy used during exercise is converted to heat. SAR dogs are actively searching, creating their own muscle heat while actively breathing heavily to detect odors of live or dead subjects.

Indeed, dogs can generate enough heat from their own exercise to experience heatstroke regardless of the outside temperature. “It has been reported in sled dogs running at subzero temperatures on sunny days,” Dr. Merrill reports.

Give up the notion that “my dog is different.” Yes, individual dogs will vary and dedicated athletic dogs have been shown to tolerate higher body temperatures. But these variations are found in racing greyhounds (104°F to 106°F) and the long-distance sled dogs (104-108°F), the endurance champions of all canines. A daily walk or hike-- even a long one-- doesn't make your SAR dog the equivalent of these exceptional canines.

Determining the temperature for your working conditions isn't as easy as just looking at the weather report. When is 90°F actually 115°F? When the weatherman says it's 90°F, that temperature is measured in the shade, over dirt or grass, at least five feet above the ground, according to the National Weather Service. The NWS heat index table converts that 90°F to 100°F when the humidity is 60%. The NWS also warns that “work in direct sunlight adds up
to 15 degrees to the heat index.” Do the math: a 90°F day with 60% humidity becomes 115°F if you are working in direct sunlight.” Studies have shown that 86°F results in asphalt heating to 135°F. These numbers have been calculated for humans, not accounting for ground radiating two feet upward to a running dog generating muscle heat and driving its internal temperature skyward.

Both high and low humidity can negatively impact the dog's natural ability to cool down. The dog's primary cooling system relies on the evaporation using the tongue and nose, just as humans cool by the evaporation of sweat from the skin. The intricate folds of nasal tissue that help our dogs smell so keenly also act like a car's radiator, passing air over moist tissues to aid in body cooling. High humidity impedes evaporation, resulting in the heat index telling us what we know-- when it's humid, it feels hotter than the thermometer states.

Low humidity has it's downsides as well. Evaporation is so rapid, the body can't keep properly hydrated. Panting dogs are loosing fluids through rapid evaporation in low humidity, becoming dehydrated.

Not surprisingly, no one really knows what impact this cooling process has on the effectiveness of the SAR dog's ability to continue working. At least anecdotally, some trainers note that increased panting has a detrimental effect on the ability of the search dog to perform its duties.

Illustration 1: Outdoor Working Dog Index reflects values of the National Weather Service "Heat Index," adding 15°F for exposure to direct sunlight for canines working outdoors, as recommending in guidelines for human working conditions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OUTDOOR WORKING DOG HEAT INDEX*</th>
<th>Relative Humidity (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Dayko's final working day in April in Ecuador at the massive earthquake was reported at 88°F with humidity at 75%. That is the equivalent of working at 103°F in the shade and 118°F in the sun-- both in excess of a dog's normal body temperature of 102.8°F. Although they may have started in cooler temperatures, conditions and working muscle heat made heat exhaustion inevitability for Dayko.
If you are on a mission and find yourself in hotter conditions than predicted, close monitoring of the dog's body temperature, short search periods and frequent rest/restoration breaks can keep your dog healthy. Once in the field, you may be unable to render the degree of care required to save your dog and may be unable to extract to get adequate emergency veterinary care to save the dog.

**VISUAL GUIDELINES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Observation</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Panting</td>
<td>CAUTION</td>
<td>• Rest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Shade seeking</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Remove from heat;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Water seeking</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Monitor body temperature to 102.8°F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Wind/breeze seeking</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Activity avoidance</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tongue pink and extending 2-4 inches</td>
<td>EXTREME CAUTION</td>
<td>• Remove from heat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Rest in cool, windy shade for minimum of 40 minutes or until normal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Place cool water (not ice) to neck, under front leg and groin.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tongue curled and red</td>
<td>DANGER</td>
<td>• Initiate cooling procedures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Evacuate and seek veterinary treatment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gums red to purple; capillary refill &lt; 1 second</td>
<td>EXTREME DANGER</td>
<td>• Initiate immediate cooling procedures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Evacuate to emergency veterinary treatment</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The best test is to actually monitor your dog's temperature in the field. Carry a thermometer, use it frequently. Set a timer to check at frequent intervals. Remember, the time to learn to use a thermometer, like any other SAR tool, is during training-- not in the field during a mission.

“Search periods should be as short as possible; fifteen (15) minutes has been shown to be the absolute upper limit in outside temperatures in excess of 86°F/30°C,” according to Dr. Gordon. She recommends frequent rest periods in the shade and wind with plenty of water: “Rest period between should be at least forty (40) minutes, as body temperatures fall slowly.”

Staying hydrated is as essential for the canine as for the human search team member. Handlers must carry enough water for both themselves and their dogs. Remember, water weighs 8.5 pounds per gallon, the amount you should carry for your dog if it weighs 50 pounds or more. The maintenance hydration for a dog is 2-4 ml/kg/hr and up to twice that for a dog working in heat. Oral electrolytes popular for humans are of questionable value for canines.

**CANINE WATER REQUIREMENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dog weight</th>
<th>Maintenance</th>
<th>Working in Heat</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>40-50 lbs</td>
<td>1.5 quarts</td>
<td>3 quarts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50-60 lbs</td>
<td>2 quarts</td>
<td>1 gallon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-80 lbs</td>
<td>2.25 quarts</td>
<td>1.25 gallons</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
- The SAR watchword applies to our four-legged companions: do not let your search dog become a subject.
- Humane handling compels making the best handler decisions so avoid needing to use team resources to evacuate the dog.
- Stopping to treat and rest the dog may save the dog's life but removes the team from being a constructive part of the search during recovery.

For more details on the veterinary aspects of canines hyperthermia, see:

1. “Heatstroke in Dogs,” Janet Merrill, MS, DVM.
2. “Hypertermia and Heatstroke in the Canine,” Lori E. Gordon, DVM, MA at once US&R

**Dog vs. Bee, Wasp or Hornet**

Although most dogs have a protective covering of fur over their skin, a bee sting hurts them as much as it does us. Besides being painful, it can trigger an allergic reaction. Following shows how to recognize signs of trouble and relieve the pain if a bee, wasp or hornet stings your K-9.

Dogs most often get stung on their noses or in their mouths, after snapping at and/or eating buzzing insects. If you didn’t see your dog get stung but he’s running in circles, yelping, whining and/or pawing at his face and rubbing it on the ground, the K-9 probably did get hurt.

Canines can experience a variety of reactions to bee stings. In mild cases, you may notice them scratching, rubbing, licking or biting at the area stung. The skin may look red.

More serious signs include the aforementioned swelling in the head or neck area, severe pain, hives, vomiting and difficulty breathing. A severe allergic reaction to a sting can result in anaphylactic shock, and it is an emergency. Some K-9s may collapse or die if they are extremely sensitive or if they are stung many times.

An allergic reaction to a sting in the mouth or throat can cause swelling that compresses the trachea, making it difficult or impossible for the dog to breathe. If you know that your dog has been stung on the face and starts swelling up within a few minutes, seek veterinary help at once.

Otherwise, try to find where your pet was stung. Part your dog’s fur to get a good view and see if you can find the stinger. Using a fingernail, credit card or the dull blade of a butter knife, try to scrape the stinger out. Do this as soon as possible after the sting to reduce the amount of venom that enters the wound. Avoid using tweezers or any kind of pinching motion. This can release more venom from the stinger’s sac.

After scraping out the stinger, apply a paste of baking soda and water to the area. Meat tenderizer mixed with water can also help to break down the irritants in a sting. Try to prevent your dog from licking at the area and rinse the skin clean after 15 minutes. (But don't waste time with this if your dog has facial swelling or difficulty breathing.)

For minor swelling, or to help control severe swelling while you’re on the way to the veterinary hospital, your pet may benefit from a dose of Benadryl (diphenhydramine). Check with your veterinarian to learn the appropriate amount to give your K-9 and make sure it contains only diphenhydramine and no other additives.

Source: Vetstreet.com by Dr. Marty Becker Dvm | July 11, 2016
ODE TO A SEARCH DOG

One, two, three, four, seven, eight, nine, ten but one more puppy Was in that warm little pen

My front feet came up and my back feet did too But I held onto that rope It was all I could do

With four walls and a top and its own front door gate it looked like a box. She called it my crate

Number eleven was me, I was ready for life No idea did I have I would cause Partner such strife

Then the tests were all over Lady praised me and said I was number one in the litter and it went to my head

The toys were short lived I chewed them all up and ripped them to shreds I was a bored little pup

When seven weeks old A lady came to the house She said she would test us With keys and toy mouse

I let all the pups know I was head of the pack I was only going forward I'd never look back

But I learned the next week and the weeks after that I'd get praise and a cookie every time that I sat

They threw down the keys Right in front of my nose It startled me so For a moment I froze

So when She came to the house And said, my Partner she'd be I cocked my head wondering Did she really mean with me?

I learned when she called I must come or no treat This was a hard Partner I was trying to beat

Then I pounced on those keys They shook with a rattle For a minute or more We had a great battle

She scratched my ears She watched me play She talked of my test How I'd gone all the way

But I wouldn't forget I was number One pup I was not going to be one to ever give up

Eyes flashing and wild the next was a mouse, Beeping and running around this room in the house

So in her car we went for a ride On a trip down the road I was filled with such pride

Then one day in the yard She just ran away Behind a big tree And there she would stay

Some brothers barked, some sisters went running Not me, let me at him So with all of my cunning,

Rolling me over was the first mistake that she made I was determined to stay in the place where I laid

I chased her and found her with my great long nose She was obviously pleased and then she arose

I pounced on its tail I chewed and I fought The end of this mouse was all that I sought

This Partner was so stubborn but she had gentle hands too She turned me on over No other options would do

We played it again, and again and again Each time a bit farther Each time I would win

Next was a rope in front of my face I grabbed it and pulled it, all with great haste

She gave me a warm den stuffed with soft toys I didn't know then it would bring me great joys

Then one day she held me And said, Now "Go Find" As her friend ran away. Did they think I was blind?
ODE TO A SEARCH DOG continued

I watched her friend go
and chased after a bit
Then raised my nose to the air
On her scent I did hit

I followed it in
right to her bush
So glad to see her, I jumped
and gave her a push

Further and further
the Hiders ran away
But the games only made
this puppy's great day

I learned to come back,
in front of Partner I'd sit
To keep up with me
she'd better be fit

Then she would follow me
back to where "Hider" had gone
Now Partner threw my reward,
my very own red kong

Harder and harder,
"Hiders" would hide
Up in trees, under logs,
behind rocks and in holes
But each time I went out
I met Partner's goals

There were times, I admit
with squirrels or with rabbits
It was just too tempting
Partner said it was bad habits

Still I would challenge her
to be first out the door
Each time she said, "Wait"!
with my butt on the floor.

I grew older and bigger
could go play all day long
looking for "Hiders"
For my reward, the red kong

It was really great fun
when we went to the school
and saw all the kids.
They thought I was cool

Partner talked about how
you should tell that you're going
when you walked in the woods
someone should always be
knowing

I showed off at the fair
and the parades through the town
Sometimes I'm afraid
I would act like a clown

I still run in the woods
but now I do tire
So as I get older
I like to lay by the fire

And dream of the chase,
the play and the fun
When Partner and me
were team Number One

We see the Vet
more often these days
I seem to have problems
In so many ways

The Vet’s a nice lady
I get my own special treats
While she and Partner talk
Then Partner takes a seat

Partner sits on the floor,
puts my head in her warm lap
I’m so sleepy I’ll just lay here
And take a long nap.

Flicker
COMMENTS AND CORRECTIONS

The SAR Dog News welcomes comments and corrections from readers on the articles published. The following is from reader Len Troman who is a long standing, experienced handler and K-9 trainer. Opinions expressed by Mr. Troman are his and not necessarily those of the National Search Dog Alliance. Referring to the SAR Dog News article, DOUBTFUL DOG BEHAVIOR May 15, 2016:

In reading a recent edition of the NSDA News, I noticed some discrepancies that I wanted to address.

First was the article from Goodhousekeeping.com. They got some of the signs of K-9 body language wrong. Granted these signs are generalities and will be exhibited by many, if not most dogs, but on some of them, they got it wrong.

A sketch\(^2\) of a dog with his tail up, the fur on his shoulders erect, ears up and forward and his lips curled up, exposing his teeth accompanied this text, "If he's growling at another dog and his hair is standing up and/or he is walking very stiffly with his head up and tail up, they're trying to display a sign of dominance."

The problem is that for most dogs, this description is not one of dominance. Usually, growling is a sign of insecurity or fear.

Next came this, "If a dog's tail is high, stiff, and moving very fast - almost as if it's vibrating - it's a sign of aggression called 'flagging'."

Flagging is when the dog's tail is carried very high. Usually the higher across the dog's back it is (except for those breeds that carry their tail in that position normally), the closer he is to physically attacking. But movement of the tail at that point shows a lack of confidence, again, insecurity or fear.

Tail movement can tell a lot about what a dog is thinking. A confident dog will move his tail back and forth in a wide sweep at a moderate speed. Very fast, back and forth movement signals insecurity or fear.

But what really caught my attention was an article from K-9 Cop Magazine entitled "Handling Source Material for the HRD Dog." The article was perhaps correct in that "Contamination of source material is perhaps the number one cause of K-9s failing in the field." But the article went wrong when the author wrote this: "Use of medical quality latex gloves is essential when handling human remains not only for source contamination reasons but also for the handler's protection."

If you always wear latex gloves when handling your training aids, you will be protected from any bio hazards that may be present but your dog will soon learn to find latex by itself since that scent will always be present on your training aids.

The article was illustrated with ten model hands wearing several different colors of latex gloves.\(^3\) Probably it's best to stick to natural colored gloves as the dye that gives various gloves their colors, has an odor that a dog can detect. No sense in complicating the scent picture. It just gives you more that you have to later proof the dog away from.

You are far better off to rotate your use of gloves through latex, nitrile, plastic, rubber and any other disposable material that you can find that will afford you protection. Sometimes you

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\(^2\) Editor’s note: sketch was the choice of SAR Dog News and not Goodhousekeeping.com

\(^3\) Editor’s note: Again the illustration was the choice of SAR Dog News and not K-9 Cop magazine
should use sterilized metal tongs (they can be sterilized by boiling, although some like to use a pressure cooker to ensure cleanliness) so that there is no foreign odor present at all.

During your training, you should hide gloves made of all of these materials by themselves to ensure that your dog is not finding them. Many of them will have a stronger odor than minute sources of HRD and will be easier for the dogs to find. Just about every dog will take the easy way if it's offered to him.

Another place the article was in error was here, "Also when traveling with source material, do not keep it inside the vehicle along with the K-9 as this may anesthetize the dog's sensory perception of this scent. A result would be the dog's inability to find small quantities of human remains."

I've heard this before. Each time I've asked for some scientific evidence to back it up, but no one has ever provided it. I've never found anything in the literature that talks about "anesthetiz[ing] a dog's perception of any scent." I think it's an urban legend, but if someone reading this has any such evidence, I'll be happy to look at it.

Many LE (Law Enforcement) narcotic detector dog handlers travel with their training aids in their vehicles at times. I've never heard of any of them having any difficulty and more than likely, their sources emit less odor than most kinds of HRD.

**SMELLING DOESN'T JUST PERCEIVE A SCENT – IT CHANGES IT**

"If you have ever caught a whiff of a bakery when you walk down the street, you have picked up a filament. In some areas, odors get dragged away, leaving a blank space. This blank space is called intermittency. Small disturbances like a quick sniff are the tugs in the smelly tug of war." So whenever you're in a garden and you stop to smell the roses, just remember that every sniff you make is changing the aroma for someone else."

"Science producer Nsikan Akpan takes a look at how smells work, how they move and how every sniff we take changes the odor itself." Read more at [http://www.pbs.org/newshour/bb/smelling-doesnt-just-perceive-a-scent-it-changes-it/#.V2ntVwOlH04.email](http://www.pbs.org/newshour/bb/smelling-doesnt-just-perceive-a-scent-it-changes-it/#.V2ntVwOlH04.email)  
June 21, 2016  PBS NEWSHOUR

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CALIFORNIA WILDFIRES

The Erskine, CA. fire has been responsible for killing two people. 1500 structures were threatened and 285 homes were destroyed. The wildfire burned more than 48,000 acres of land, and more than 1,800 firefighters battled the blaze. The fire has claimed at least two lives and burned more than 200 homes and other buildings.

Rich Pedroncelli, AP

12 dogs from California were sent to Kern County to assist in building searches. The dogs are trained and certified through the California Rescue Dog Association (CARDA) to search for human remains.

Diesel, a search and rescue dog from the Santa Clara County Sheriff's Department, searches the rubble of a home, June 26, 2016, destroyed by a fire that swept through the area near Lake Isabella in Squirrel Valley, CA
To my loyal readers – Do you have any subjects that you would like me to cover? Send them to me at susanb21@juno.com with K & B in the subject line.

This month we will look at a very sweet dog that I once considered using for SAR work, the Braque du Bourbonnais, (pronounced brock-do-bor-bon-NAY). This medium sized French pointing dog ranges from 40 – 57 lbs. and was an established breed in France as early as the 1500’s. I was fortunate in the early 1990’s to meet Beth Cepil from Pennsylvania who imported three dogs from France and started a kennel.

The Braque du Bourbonnais (BdB) is a very versatile breed that is not bred to hunt specific game but can be trained for a variety of game. What I especially liked about the breed is their sweet, calm and devoted nature.

The BdB is a powerful dog and known for its intelligence, willingness to learn (biddable) and ability to handle all types of terrain. They hunt mostly with their heads up air-scenting but can be trained to do scent specific work. A point that would be a natural indication for them for SAR work. They have all of the qualities that make a great SAR dog. Currently they are registered with the FCI and UKC and AKC. The breed club is: Braque du Burbonnais Club of America, email: villagelock58@comcast.net.

The BdB is also a wonderful all around pet for the home if they are given enough exercise, since they are a high energy dog, but not as high energy as a border collie for example. They are good with children, the elderly, and accepting of strangers. They have few health issues, which is uncommon: entropion, pulmonic stenosis of the heart, ectropion and hip dysplasia.

Some of you may wonder why I never did use a Braque du Bourbonnais. At the time I wanted a larger dog that offered some personal protection advantages and chose instead, the Beauceron.
THE LAST HOWL
By Sue Wolff

Opinions expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of the National Search Dog Alliance.

One of the hardest things I’ve ever had to do in SAR was to say, “No”.

All of us who volunteer in SAR are givers and “no” is not in our vocabulary. So why have to say “no”?

The first time I had to say “no” was due to lack of manpower. Our team was already working two searches when a third call came in. The requesting agency’s representative was stunned into silence when I told him we could not respond. After explaining our manpower shortage, he understood. My major concern was that, if we promised to respond and couldn’t, we would further imperil the endangered person. Promising what you can’t deliver will also ruin your team’s reputation.

Then there’s always the search that shouldn’t be. The lost dog request was always one that was hard to turn down but would not be a productive search. While there are excellent teams out there that do look for lost dogs, I always had to explain that we only searched for missing people.

One of the biggest “no’s” is self-deploying. It’s always hard to sit by and see all the media news regarding a missing child, an adult who didn’t show up for a meeting or a person who fell off their boat. If there’s a call for volunteers, then response is valid. Showing up unannounced often repels the emergency management personnel and your team has made a drive only to be sidelined and/or sent home. Telling a family member of a missing person to have the law enforcement agency call the search team directly is always difficult and may make that person angry. They probably will calm down when they are given a reasonable explanation i.e. the agency needs to know all responders, they may have enough help at the moment, etc.

Then there’s always “things that you don’t know about the search” which is another reason for not self-deploying. The teenager that’s been missing since Christmas ran off with her boyfriend. The missing man was Treasurer of a local organization, stole all their funds and disappeared. The child is a habitual runaway and the police are treating this as the same unless they find out otherwise. These are also good reasons for only taking requests for responses from a reliable agency.

So you can see that, like life, just learn to say “no”…but with a very good reason.