



ICF e*letter - Spring 2008

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www.k9forensic.org

Institute for Canine Forensics friends - you received this email because of your relationship with the bipeds and the quadrupeds of our Institute.

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Institute for Canine Forensics

ICF is a non-profit organization in Northern California for the advancement of research and education of Forensic Evidence and Human Remains Detection Dog teams.

Mission Statement

To promote and elevate professionalism in the use of specially trained canines for forensic evidence and human remains detection. Additionally, our ongoing research and educational programs are designed to develop advanced techniques regarding the use of canines as a forensic tool, and to better assist investigative and cultural resource management agencies.

We promote the teamwork approach and emphasize cooperation between other experts and agencies in the field. We maintain a Web site and Email list for networking internationally and for the exchange of new ideas and discoveries.

Our intention is the continuance of research projects providing needed information on the canine olfactory capabilities in relation to forensic evidence investigations.

Historical Grave Detection Group

Group has been formed by several Forensic Evidence and Historical Human Remains Detection (HHRD)

dog teams under the umbrella of Institute for Canine Forensics.

In archaeology, an HHRD trained canine with impeccable manners, slow and methodical search style, properly trained and certified, may be the Remote Sensing Tool of the future.

ICF canine trainers are "writing the book" in this field. Certification standards are high insuring that the ICF certified canines are reliable, non-invasive tools to be used in modern archaeology.



ICF in Action

WWII Dive Bomber Crash

John Grebenkemper and Adela Morris

In January 1944, a squadron of Dauntless Dive Bombers was on a training flight near Watsonville. At 10,000', one of the planes developed mechanical problems, caught on fire and crashed south of the Pajaro River. The Navy reported



that the bodies of the two crew members were recovered. However, crash investigations during WWII were cursory due to the large number of crashes during training missions. Pacific Legacy engaged the Institute for Canine Forensics to bring in dogs certified to find historical human remains to look for the remains of the pilot and the gunner...

To read the full story go to: <http://www.k9forensic.org/WWIIDiveBomberCrash.pdf>



Forensic Dogs Help Preserve Native American Burial Grounds

Tom Mills determined that using search dogs for this project would be cost-effective and, most importantly, leave the area undisturbed. Four dogs and their individual handlers from the Institute for Canine Forensics joined with Caltrans staff in May to systematically check the area. Handlers watched as each dog searched the area separately. When a dog "alerted to a scent," identifying a gravesite area, a small flag was placed at the location. The flags were removed before the next dog searched the same area. All four dogs separately identified the same 13 sites during the eight hours the team worked. The areas identified by the team, where some blue and red glass beads were found, were larger than Caltrans staff had anticipated...

To read the full story go to: <http://www.k9forensic.org/caltrans-journal.htm>

Peru Struggles With Its Dark Past

By Dan Collyns

BBC News, Ayacucho

In 40C heat, a non-governmental organization, the Peruvian Forensic Anthropology Team (EPAF), scours the ground next to the still-operational military base. Helping them are North American handlers with dogs that have been specially trained to sniff out human remains.



"We have done a lot of missing person cases in the US, a lot of criminal cases, a lot of missing Alzheimer's patients, children or suicides," said Pat Lamson, one of the handlers from the US-based Institute for Canine Forensics...

To read the full story go to: <http://www.k9forensic.org/Peru2007.htm>

To read the ICF Peru Team Report go to: <http://www.k9forensic.org/PeruNewsletter.pdf>

Prague-Zlicin, Czech Republic - Archaeological Excavation

By Eva Cecil

Summer 2007 - Over one hundred burial sites were excavated by archaeologists on a construction site in Prague/Zlicin, Czech Republic.



As it turned out, one of Nessie's alerts was a pure dog find. After this spot was fully excavated in August 2007, it was discovered that it contained not only the human skeletal remains (1.5 meters deep) but also a beautiful and very special, intact glass bottle, both dated to 450 AD.

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To read the full story go to: <http://www.k9forensic.org/prague-zlicin.htm>

Link to VIDEO: <http://www.k9forensic.org/view-prague-zlicin-2007.htm>

A Four-legged Agent Looking for Cadaver and for Historical Remains



Czech republic is a small country of 10 million people and it is safe to say, that most of them are dog lovers. And as this case shows, amongst the dog lovers good dog news fly fast.

This article is in Czech language; it is from a dog magazine "Psi Kusy", February 2008 issue.

To read the full story go to:

<http://www.k9forensic.org/PsiKusy2008.pdf>

Welcome New Puppies!!!



ELI



Eli Lamson - This is Eli, he is a lab/steamroller mix and is about 10 months old, rescued from death row about 7 months ago. He's a Pisces. What other stuff can I tell ya?

Sorcha Esposito - Is is a Panda? Is it a Puppy?? It's Sorcha! A Panda with Border Collie ears!!! She started imprinting at 7 weeks, now at 11 weeks she's ALMOST ready to test (:>)

Eros Morris - Eros, future ICF HHRD specialist, is one year old. He is a sweet boy with talent for gentle and meticulous work.

ICF's New Mission Ready Team - Congratulation!



David Halverstadt

Historical Human Remains Detection Canine Handler

In 2004, David and his K9 partner, Emma, began extensive training in Area K9 Wilderness Search and Rescue. In 2007, they transitioned to Historical Human Remains Detection and plan to specialize solely in this important and fascinating new field that was pioneered by ICF. They successfully passed the ICF HHRD Test in January 2008.

ICF Video Production

Institute for Canine Forensics creates and produces documentaries in close cooperation

with LFC Studio - www.LFCStudio.com



Historical Human Remains Detection dogs are taught to discriminate between human and non-human items, alerting on the faint residual scent of human bones. HRD dogs do not disturb the scene by digging or retrieving. The dogs are trained to work slowly and methodically. Their most common alerts are passive - sitting or lying down where human remains scent is detected.

Some of our multimedia compilations were used as a resource for programs on the educational TV channel Animal Planet.

A word about DVD media

A production technology in commercial DVD industry is different than the technology the personal computers use to write (burn) DVD discs. Computer generated DVDs may have problems, especially when played on the older players.

A word about MPEG-4

MPEG-4 files are formatted to comply with Apple iPod Video default setting to achieve a good quality playback from iPod to your TV. We ship the MPEG-4 files on the regular data CD ready to copy them directly into the iTunes library.

To view our documentary titles go to: <http://www.k9forensic.org/video.htm>



Thank You

The Institute for Canine Forensics would like to send a word of appreciation to all friends who believe in our mission.

Please, support us if you can, your donation will go a long way. We thank you for caring.

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www.k9forensic.org
