



Keeping Our Eyes Open to the Wonders of Nature

One of the things I love most about working my dogs looking for historic and pre-contact human burials is being in nature. We go places we never knew existed, sacred places we have been given permission to search, and just beautiful wilderness. I am torn between watching my dogs work so I am paying

attention to when they get scent, and observing flora and fauna. I also watch the skies looking for birds. Being in nature you need to use all your senses. When I get home after working, my pictures include unusual plants, flowers, birds, and rocks. Oh! And some pictures of my dogs working.

We recently had the great privilege of working a sacred wilderness area near a river up north near the Canadian border. The above picture shows Lynne's hand, her thumb is pointing to wolf tracks and her fingers are pointing to my dog's tracks. Wow, is all I can say!

~Adela~



Karen and Quincy

ICF is excited to announce our newest certified dog, Quincy. Karen has certified several detection dogs in the past and Quincy is her second ICF Historic Human Remains Detection (HHRD) certified dog.

Our dogs go through a training process that includes many sign-offs they must pass, including temperament, obedience and several scenario-based scent problems. After they have passed a mock test there is a certification test.

Before they can be counted as field-ready they must prove themselves in our field experience sign-offs. Our field requirements show that the dog recognizes scent / burials in actual conditions and not just in training. We believe this requirement is the most important piece to training a HHRD dog. We think of it as getting your degree first, then on-the-job field experience, where you get really good at it. Quincy has proven herself to be an excellent student and is non-stop when working in the field. A truly valuable asset to our team. Congratulations Karen on all your hard work.



Congratulations Nadene and Bodie

Nadene and Bodie have passed their certification for Human Remains Detection with Canine Specialized Search Team (CSST), our sister organization that works with law enforcement. CSST is under the Santa Clara County Office of the Sheriff, and specializes in cold cases looking for human remains. Nadene will also be finishing her certification with ICF in the near future.

The Right Job for the Right Dog



In July 2021 I made a very difficult decision: I decided to stop working Jett. I got Jett as an 8-week old puppy and certified him with ICF as a historical human remains detection dog. He had over 3 years of experience in the field. Jett has the best temperament of any of the dogs I have ever had. He has never met a stranger, and he loves everyone. He was good at his job but ... I could tell he really wanted to do a different job. As you can imagine, this was a very difficult decision to make and caused me much grief. I gave Jett to a friend who trains "Goose Patrol" dogs to chase geese off of golf courses and airport runways. I was told that Jett was the fastest dog to learn his new job. Goose patrol dogs must be very obedient as they are not allowed to chase other wildlife, only geese. They are not there to injure or catch the birds, they only chase the geese, on land or water, so they fly away. Working on a golf course they must be very well behaved so not to disturb people who are playing golf.

Jett now belongs to Andy, the manager at Fountaingrove Club in Santa Rosa. He lives with Andy and his family and stays in the office with Andy when he is not out working. He gets to work several times a day, doing what he loves to do.

I can't wait to go visit Jett and see him working.

~Adela~



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We are happy to talk with you about your project and
how our dogs might help locate human remains or burials.
Call, email, or check out our website.

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