



Now that Jasper has passed his driving test his next requirement will be how to make the client reports.

We Wish to Honor our Friend and Fellow Dog Handler



We wish to honor our friend and colleague, Dick Taylor, and let him know what he has brought to our life. His words of wisdom, kindness, and teaching skills are with many of us. Too many times we honor people at their celebration of life... too bad that person could not hear the wonderful stories and tributes their friends and family said about them when they were alive. Dick is alive and well, but in the arm-chair quarterback position. He loves reading our newsletter and seeing what his friends are up to.

If we are lucky, we meet a person that stands out and makes a difference in our lives. For many of us in the search dog world, that person is Dick Taylor. He joined a canine search and rescue team after he retired from his executive work life and wanted to pursue his love of the outdoors, hiking and his dog. I became one of his sponsors, but it was clear his experience in the wilderness was more extensive than mine. All I could do was guide him in training a dog and how to

negotiate the path to becoming a certified dog handler. Dick went on to be an avid wilderness searcher, instructor for other handlers in map and compass, backpacking and navigating the wilderness. Dick worked a live-find / cadaver dog and specialized in high elevation and back country search. Dick was famous for his words of wisdom, stories and his willingness to help anyone, his love for life always showed in his never ending smile.

All of us have Dick stories and all we have to say is "remember the time Dick ..." and we all smile and wait to hear what story will be told again. He was most notable for being very organized and prepared. Always having the right equipment and/or the tools for emergencies and making what you needed in the field; he believed you can make or fix almost anything using duct tape, string and sticks. His vehicle was very well organized, as well as all his packs and go-bags, so he was always ready. Because he searched for missing or lost people he was called out any time of the day or night. Urban legend has it that, on an early AM call out Dick grabbed his highly organize gear, jumped in his car to head to the search and at some point he realized he had forgotten his dog.

Thank you Dick for being in our lives.

~Adela and all your search friends~



Vicksburg National Military Park

In September 2022 ICF was contracted by PaleoWest, Inc. to work a small area of approximately .7 acres of the 40-acre Vicksburg National Cemetery in Vicksburg, Mississippi. ICF worked this project in January 2023.

Beginning in January 2020, unprecedented rainfall caused severe landslides, impacting historically significant landscapes, including Civil War era burial sites in the national cemetery. Additional storm activity in 2021 contributed to further impacts. After nearly three years of planning, large scale recovery of the affected burials was set to begin in Spring 2023. The goal of ICF's investigations was to determine if some of the affected burials in the lower

portions of the affected area had been displaced or were largely still in place underneath the overburden from the landslide.

Prior to the arrival of the ICF team, NPS personnel removed saplings and other vegetation that covered the landslide during the ensuing three years. The steepness of the landslide was a challenge, along with the stumps from the saplings and gullies filled with dead leaves from several Fall seasons.

A day and a half of work on the affected sections suggested that most, if not all, of the burials in .7 acres investigated were still in place and had not been displaced by the landslide. Archaeological investigations of the area investigated by ICF are set to begin later this summer. It was a pleasure to work with PaleoWest, Inc. and NPS personnel and we hope to do so again in the future.

Lynne



Karen and Quincy, and Lynne and Piper working on the steep landslide portion of the work area.



Adela and Jasper working the lower portion of the landslide area.



Karen and Quincy working the steep slope of the landslide.



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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 us out on facebook or our website. (You can find past newsletters there, too.)

Please feel free to pass this newsletter along to anyone who might be interested.

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