

## We Train for Precision

When we survey a project we use pin flags to mark the exact spot where the dogs alert. Many times the next dog to work that location will alert at a slightly different spot, anywhere between a few inches to a few feet. Clients sometimes ask us if the dogs are getting cues from the other dogs and only alerting because there are flags. This is a question that we have asked ourselves in the past. We use a training exercise to insure that our dogs are neutral to flags.

We routinely set these training exercises that contain random flags. For this exercise we placed a small human bone near but not next to the flags. Bailey (pictured above) is alerting on the small human bone. She has been taught to have a focused stare alert at the location of the strongest scent. Exercises like this keep our dogs honest and they learn that flags are not the important factor, they only get rewarded for being on target scent.

~ Adela ~



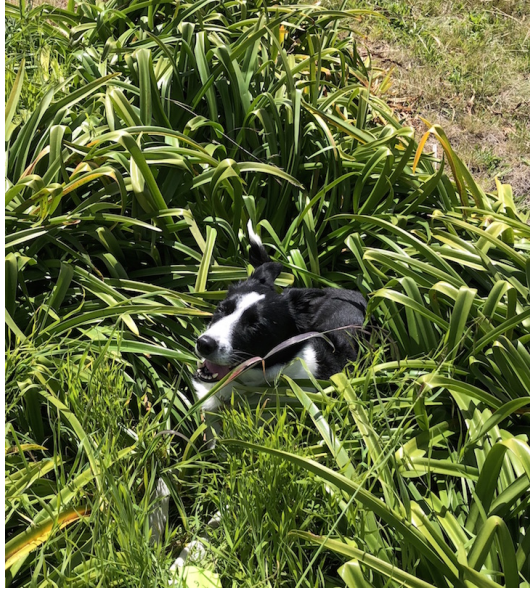
Echo alerts near an old wooden grave marker

## Mt. Hope Cemetery, Pescadero California

We are very lucky to have several historic cemeteries close to where we live. The Mt. Hope cemetery is one I have used for many years to teach my dogs about finding historic burials. We had the pleasure of being contacted by the Mt. Hope Cemetery Committee asking for our help. They had several areas that did not have marked graves and wanted to make sure those areas were available for possible new burials.

~ Adela ~

Below, Piper alerts in plants and Jasper alerts as old wooden markers



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## Agility Training for the Real World

Training for agility is an important part of the total detection dog. Sometimes it may be a challenge to get to our search area. We need the dogs to be confident in their ability to work in challenging conditions. A dog who is stressed and does not feel safe, is not doing his job of detection, he is in survival mode. Recently on a project we had to access our search area by climbing down long, steep open-grate stairs. Even though our dogs, who are trained in agility, did not really like them, they were totally willing to climb them, up and down.



Lynne E and Jasper



Agility training.

On the left Piper is walking on an elevated horizontal ladder. Right Karen encourages Echo to walk slowly on a swinging bridge.

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**Please don't miss out on this unique workshop it's coming up fast.**

**CEMETERY PRESERVATION WORKSHOP**

# Integrating Technology for Montana's Historic Cemeteries.

A three-day workshop focusing on the many technologies available to preserve, restore, and locate burial sites. From light detection and ranging (LiDAR) to ground penetrating radar (GPR), from burial detecting dogs to drone photography, and from archival research to using complex databases, we will showcase it all! Hosted by the **Montana History Foundation**, with generous funding from the National Park Service, this workshop will provide an overview of the many technologies available for cemetery historians and preservationists.

**Where:** Radisson Colonial Hotel  
Helena, Montana

**When:** June 21-23, 2018

**What:** One day of classroom sessions &  
Two days of hands-on demonstrations and tours

**Who:** Anyone interested in historic cemetery preservation

**Cost:** \$125 per person / \$65 for students

**Register:** <https://www.mthistory.org/cemetery-workshop/>.

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

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**(650) 503-4473**

**[www.ICFK9.org](http://www.ICFK9.org)**

We are happy to talk to you about your project and how our dogs might help locate human remains or burials. Email or call us.

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