

American Mantrailing Academy

P.O. Box 113 Greencastle, IN 46135 • (765)720-8940 •

www.americanmantrailing.com



I wanted to take the time and personally thank everyone that made our first year a very successful and beneficial venture. Successful in that we have began building a team with high standards and ideals, learning from each others experiences and endeavors. Beneficial in stepping out and making ourselves known in the communities and with the Emergency Management Agencies as a team of dedicated professionals with a sole purpose of making ourselves and others more proficient in the mission of searching for the lost or missing. This year we have had our ups and downs. However we were on the upside far more than the downside. Locally we have made friends

with the Fair Board who could not stop talking about the K-9 Demonstrations, the Humane Society for our participation in the Paws on Parade, the Clay County Sheriffs Posse, Volunteer Fire Department Ground Search Teams while attending our 8 Hour Man Tracking Courses, The Girl Scouts of America who afford us the awesome facility to conduct our academies and to Bob and Val Gruener and all the bikers and supporters who participated in the 2nd annual BIG DOG RIDE. This could not be possible without the generous support that we receive from members who join and hold a membership for the sole purpose of supporting our free training so that teams can attend regular, structured, monthly training at no cost. We have had free training twice monthly, and have attracted teams from Ohio, Illinois, and Kentucky to attend. We have had two academies and have had teams from Ohio, Wisconsin, New Mexico, Indiana, Kentucky, Rhode Island, and Iowa,

In our first year we have attracted members from across the United States i.e., AZ, CA, FL, GA, IA, IL, IN, KY, NM, OH, RI, and TX, and have been consulted for training from a team in Kenya. I cannot say enough about the extreme dedication of the instructors, and the extreme patience of the participants who at times had to wait out weather, or for us to catch up to our agenda.

Through it all we gained fifty (50) members in 2009, of which twenty-seven (27) earned a national certification with their assigned canine by proving themselves on a prescribed evaluation and being held to a high standard.

What most members have found that is different with our organization is that when it comes to certification we issue nothing. Everything is earned by merit, dedication, knowledge and hard work. It might also be noted that I don't think I have ever set a certification trail that met the minimum standard. If anything it was at the maximum. This is because I have seen far too many people who call themselves professionals hand out certifications like they were business cards.

I have attended seminars where everyone who paid received a certificate and credit for completing the course. I have witnessed Master Trainers from other organizations certify K-9 Teams without ever seeing the handler or canine, and in one case, even over the telephone.

That is called putting the dollar ahead of the standards. The only people they are deceiving, are themselves. At American Mantrailing Academy I can assure you this will never be the case. It is disrespectful to the profession and degrading to those who work and train hard to earn certification.

At AMA we stand behind our certifications and never under estimate the realization that the requesting team, or more important the person we are searching for is a loved one and far more important than just having our name on a piece of fancy paper.

I am proud of what we have started. I look forward to working with each of you in the upcoming year. I thank you for your dedication and effort, and for making this team... ROCK!!!

I wish you and yours a very Merry Christmas and a sincere hope that 2010 is a very good and happy year for you and your family.

Tony M. Keith
American Mantrailing Academy

Inside this issue:

PUPS FOR SALE 2

SNICKERS 3

AMA
WORKSHOP 4

2010 AMA
SPRING
SEMINAR 5

AMA
TRAINING 6

AMA 2010
TRAINING
DATES 6

Inside Story 6

German Shepard puppies

Full blooded the Sire is a Police Work Dog. The Dam is a beautiful German Shepherd. Both have great dispositions. The pups come with a health certificate. They will have their wormings and 1st 7 in 1 shot.
 \$ 300 each.
 will be ready by 12/20



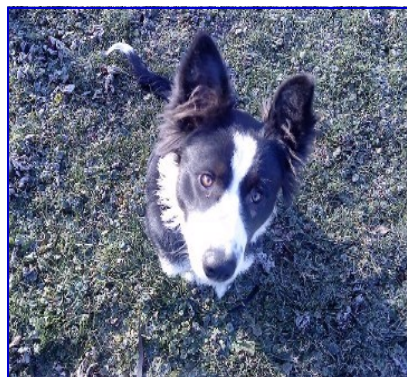
Bloodhound puppies

Full blooded the Sire is **Otis** from **AMA**. The Dam is **Betty Boop** who is certified as an Expert Man Trailer through AMA all are red. Both parents have great dispositions. The pups come with a health certificate. They will have their wormings and 1st 7 in 1 shot.
 \$ 300 each.
 will be ready by 1/14/10
 Please contact Penny Action



Forever home needed for Jazzy

She is a beautiful Border Collie / Aussie. She is 6 months old and has a drive times 10. She is 6 months old and current on all of her vaccinations. We just need to find her a good home where she can run and burn off energy. She needs a place with cattle, goats, sheep, or horses so she can have something to herd. Or someone who has the time and facilities to make her a **SAR** dog. She definitely has the drive for it.
 If interested please contacted **Tony Keith**



Sergeant Snickers

SAN DIEGO — He got a medal when probably all he really wanted was a doggy bone, but Snickers the search-and-rescue beagle posed proudly with his award anyway.

The 8-year-old pooch received the engraved bronze medallion after being awarded an honorable mention in the 2009 American Kennel Club Humane Fund Awards for Canine Excellence, officials with the San Diego County Sheriff's Department said.

Snickers, who is also known as Sergeant Snickers, began training when he was just 11 weeks old and started working for the department about nine months later.

His first search was for Jahi Turner, the 2-year-old San Diego boy who was reported missing in April 2002. Despite exhaustive searches, including an extensive operation at the Otay landfill, the toddler's body was never found.

Snickers so impressed another dog handler in that search that he and his owner, Pam Medhurst of San Diego, were invited to training exercises outside the county.



He was dubbed "Sergeant" when a search-and-rescue coordinator said he was so good as his job that he should be given a promotion.

"We are extremely fortunate to have Snickers and his owner, Pam, on our search-and-rescue team. Snickers and Pam are critical to the mission of finding the lost and missing in San Diego County. We couldn't do the job without them," Sheriff William Gore said.

Snickers refrained from commenting.

The American Kennel Club began presenting the ACE award in 2000 in an effort to highlight the meaningful contributions that dogs make in people's lives. Dogs in five categories — law enforcement, search and rescue, therapy, service and exemplary companion dog — win the award each year, and five in each category receive honorable mention.

BY **DEBBI BAKER**,
UNION-TRIBUNE
STAFF WRITER
ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED NOVEMBER 18, 2009 AT MIDNIGHT, UPDATED NOVEMBER 18, 2009 AT 2:08 P.M.

Merry
Christmas





AMERICAN MANTRAILING ACADEMY

Presents

Man Tracking Workshop

American Mantrailing Academy presents a **Man Tracking Workshop** focusing on the skills needed to follow a trail using clues in the environment. The class is appropriate for Search and Rescue Personnel, Fire Fighters, Police, EMTs and Ground Search Teams.

Instructors for the course are Tony Keith and Dave Wheeler. Keith and Wheeler have a combined total of 50 years in finding escaped felons.

The course will be comprised of both classroom and field instruction. Basic and Advanced skills will be covered in this class. Those participants completing the course will earn a Certificate of Completion.

DATE: Saturday / January 16, 2010
TIME: 8 AM to 4 PM
LOCATION: Bellmore Fire Station - State Road 36 and State Road 59 In Parke County
FEE: \$40 Per Person Due By December 31, 2009
(Fee Includes Lunch and All Materials)

AMA will be happy to schedule a Custom **Man Tracking Workshop** for your Team of 15 or more participants. Contact us.

Registration: www.americanmantrailing.com/tracking.html



AMERICAN MANTRAILING ACADEMY 2010 SPRING SEMINAR

May 9th through May 14th 2009

The American Mantrailing Academy offer two bi-annual seminars. The first of these is being held May 09 through 14 2009. The training will be held at Camp Na Wa Kwa in Poland, IN. The address for Camp Na Wa Kwa is 7865 E County Road 300 N Poland, IN 47868.

Early check-in is available on Sunday May 9, 2009 between 4pm and 9pm. The academy will begin Monday the 10th at 8am sharp. For information on pricing please visit the fee section at AMA website. During the academy you will receive training in basic mantrailing, advanced mantrailing and urban mantrailing. You will also have real life scenarios, class time and demonstrations from vendors in useful fields.

Camp Na Wa Kwa offers many benefits to the American Mantrailing Academy. As previously mentioned we are now able to include your lodging fees in the price of the academy. The dormitory building is very nice, modern and air conditioned. It contains the classroom, full kitchen and private bathroom with showers. We will also be able to conduct the majority of training on-site on their nearly 280 acres of land. This will cut down on fuel consumption and travel time in order to let us spend more time training. If you are not interested in staying at the camp we still have a block of rooms at the Super 8 Motel in nearby Cloverdale, IN, for a discounted rate of \$55/night.

There is a lot of high quality, exciting, training planned. We don't want to give too much away but you really don't want to miss this. If you're interested please check out our website. 24 hour on call veterinary services provided by Dr. Holscher of the Airport Veterinary Clinic.

For more details and registration see AMA website.



AMA training December 19, 2009

By Penny Acton

It was **snowing** and **sleeting**, the temp was in the 20's, the wind was blowing and YET, **12 people showed up** for AMA's free training, including a new member from Peoria, IL.

Several people met at 7AM for coffee and training started at 8AM. We trained until 1PM than broke for lunch than back to training until 4PM.

We had two members certify at **Expert Mantrailing**, they are,

Paul Baty and **K-9 Jersey**, **Ed Carr** and **K-9 Daisy** (our newest members).
Congrat's to both and their K-9 partners!!

Ron Rowe brought a new K-9 partner with him, Corti along with K-9 Clarence.

It may have been cold and nasty all day, but we still a GREAT DAY of training! Everyone went home cold, wet and **happy!!**

In attendance was: Tony Keith, Skylar Lyon, Paul Baty, John Holcomb, Cenon (T) Heim and his daughter Sierra, Chris Templeton, Keith Clark, Brain Webster, Ron Rowe, Penny Acton and Ed Carr.

AMA 2010 TRAINING DATES

January 2010

Saturday, January 16

Tuesday, January 26

February

Tuesday, February 9

Saturday, February 27

March

Tuesday, March 9

Saturday, March 27

April

Tuesday, April 6

Saturday, April 24

May

Thursday, May 27

June

Saturday, June 19

Tuesday, June 29

July

Tuesday, July 13

Saturday, July 31

August

Saturday, August 14

Tuesday, August 24

September

Tuesday, September 7

Saturday, September 25

October

Saturday, October 9

Tuesday, October 19

November

Saturday, November 6

Tuesday, November 16

December

Saturday, December 5

Tuesday, December 14

