

Stacie Burkhardt and K-9 Sage

Handler: Stacie (Chandler) Burkhardt
BS Mechanical Engineering, Worcester Polytechnic Institute – 1982
Structural Analyst – Boeing Commercial Airplane Co, WA – 1990 to 2009
Aerospace Engineer – FAA Anchorage ACO – 2009 to present

K-9: Sage
Australian CattleDog / Laborador Cross – July 1998 to Dec 2013

Sage and I were partners in K-9 Search and Rescue from 1999 - 2013. We were initially certified as an Airscent Search team with King County Search Dogs in Washington State in February 2002 and as a Cadaver Search team in November 2002, and continued with cross-training in water, avalanche, trailing and article search. We worked numerous searches for King County and neighboring counties within WA state, several searches outside of WA state, and a number of searches for the FBI. After moving to AK in 2009, we joined MAT + SAR, a search and rescue team based in the Matanuska Valley. The following is a summary of Sage's most notable achievements since joining search and rescue:

June 30 th , 2003	Airscent – Located elderly dementia female in shallow water of Lake Dollhoff, Federal Way (Stage II hypothermic)
July 28 th , 2003	Airscent/Trailing – Located missing rafter on Green River/Flaming Geyser, WA (trailed intoxicated rafts from river to subject)
Nov. 21 st , 2003	Airscent – Located bi-polar male missing from group home, Shoreline, WA
Feb 21 st , 2004	Cadaver – Located remains of man missing since 1997, Woodmont, WA (suicide)
April 4 th , 2004	Cadaver – Located elderly male drown in Green River, Auburn, WA (suicide)
Aug 31 st , 2004	Cadaver – Located remains of female buried in local river, WA (homicide)
May 7 th , 2005	Cadaver – Located remains of male missing for 1 ½ yrs Kanasket Park, WA (suicide)
Feb 4 th , 2006	Cadaver – Located male subject drowned in Duwamish River, WA (homicide)
Dec 23 rd , 2006	Cadaver – Located remains of dismembered female Granite Falls, WA (homicide)

Jan 2007	Cadaver – Located remains of military personnel at helicopter crash, (accident - 2 separate searches) Enumclaw, WA
June 15 th , 2007	Cadaver – Located murder site in house Seattle, WA
Oct 4-5, 2007	Located 2 missing hikers on Pacific Crest Trail Stevens Pass, WA
July 18 th , 2009	Located duffle bag containing remains of female missing for 1 yr Enumclaw, WA (homicide)
July 7 th , 2012	Located drowned male in Matanuska Lake, Palmer, AK

Summary of Training:

Mar 1999	Novice Dog Obedience
May 1999	Advanced Dog Obedience
May 1999	Dog Tricks
July 1999	Canine Good Citizen Certification (CGC)
May 2000	Novice Agility
Jun 2000	Level III (highest) Fitness Certification – King County Search Dogs
July 2000	Pet Partner Team Certification with Delta Society
Jan 2001	Advanced Agility
Jun 2001	K-9 Water Search Workshop, Billings, Montana Sponsored by Absaroka Search Dogs – Instructor Deb Tirmenstein
Sep 2001	Basic Cadaver Class – Kent, WA Sponsored by K-9 Specialty Search Associates
Feb 2002	Airscent Search Certification – King County Search Dogs
May 2002	K-9 Cadaver Search Workshop – Stevenson, WA Sponsored by K-9 Specialty Search Associates
July 2002	Level III Fitness Certification – King County Search Dogs
Nov 2002	Cadaver Search Certification – King County Search Dogs

Feb 2003 Urban Trailing Seminar
Sponsored by K-9 Specialty Search Associates
Kent, WA

Mar 2003 K-9 Advanced Cadaver Search Workshop
Sponsored by K-9 Specialty Search Associates
Kent, WA

Jun 2003 K-9 Water Search Workshop
Instructor: Deb Tirmenstein, Missoula, MT
Sand Point, WA

May 2004 Human Remains Detection Course
Washington State Search and Rescue Conference
Sponsored by Northwest Search Dogs
Enumclaw, WA

Jan 2005 Avalanche Rescue Dog Training Seminar
Wasatch Backcountry Rescue
Little Cottonwood Canyon, Utah

May 2005 K-9 Water Search Workshop
Co-Instructor w/ Deb Tirmenstein
Washington State Search and Rescue Conference
Leavenworth, WA

Jun 2005 K-9 Water Search Workshop
Co-Instructor w/ Deb Tirmenstein
Cody, Wyoming

May 2006 Basic Cadaver Search Seminar
Instructor w/K-9 Specialty Search Associates
Washington State Search and Rescue Conference
Enumclaw, WA

Jul 2006 K-9 Water Search Workshop
Co-Instructor w/ Deb Tirmenstein
Chugiak, Alaska

Feb 2007 Washington Avalanche Search and Rescue Dogs Workshop
Instructors Patti Burnett and Susan Purvis
Snoqualmie, WA

Mar 2007 K-9 Water Search Workshop
Co-Instructor w/Marcy Koenig, K-9 Specialty Search Associates
North Bend, WA

May 2008 PAWS Cadaver workshop
Co-instructor with Andy Rebmann/Marcy Koenig
K-9 Specialty Search Associates
Fairbanks, AK

Jan 2009 King County Search Dogs Avalanche Workshop
Co-Instructor w/Sue Purvis
Snoqualmie Pass, WA

Jul 2009 K-9 Water Search Workshop – Instructor
PAWS, SEADOGS, ASARD, Tok Dog Teams
Wasilla, AK

Aug 2009 K-9 Water Search Workshop
Co-instructor w/Marcy Koenig, K-9 Specialty Search Associates
North Bend/Fall City, WA

May 2010 K-9 Water Search Workshop - Instructor
Sandia Search Dogs
Lake Cabello and the Rio Grande, New Mexico

Jun 2010 K-9 Water Search Workshop - Instructor
Alaska Search and Rescue Dogs
Finger Lake, Wasilla

Apr 2011 K-9 Avalanche Rescue Workshop – Instructor
MAT+SAR, ASARD, PAWS
Hatcher Pass, AK

May 2011 K-9 Water Search Workshop - Instructor
Search and Rescue Dogs of Colorado (SARDOC)
Lake Pueblo and the Arkansas River, CO

Jun 2011 K-9 Water Search Workshop – Instructor
Capitol City Canine Search and Rescue (CCCSAR)
Glendo, WY

Jun 2011 K-9 Water Search Workshop – Instructor
MAT+SAR, ASARD, PAWS, SEADOGS
Finger Lake and the Little Su, AK

Apr 2012 K-9 Avalanche Rescue Workshop – Instructor
MAT+SAR, ASARD, PAWS
Hatcher Pass, AK

Jun 2012 K-9 Water Search Workshop – Instructor
MAT+SAR, ASARD, PAWS, SEADOGS
Wasilla Lake, Finger Lake, Little Su River, AK

- Apr 2013 K-9 Avalanche Rescue Workshop – Instructor
MAT+SAR, ASARD, PAWS
Hatcher Pass, AK
- Jun 2013 K-9 Water Search Workshop – Instructor
MAT+SAR, ASARD, PAWS, SEADOGS
Wasilla Lake, Finger Lake, Little Su River, AK

Recognitions:

King County Search Dogs - 2001

Most Improved Airscent Team

King County Search Dogs - 2003

Ted Jamieson “Member of the Year” Award

American Red Cross - 2003

Awarded the “2003 Hero Award”

NASAR 2004 SAR Conference Scholarship – June 2-5, 2004, Landsdowne, VA

National Association of Search and Rescue Conference Scholarship awarded by King County Search and Rescue Association to member with most volunteer hours.

***William M. Allen Award – The Boeing Company
2003, 2004 and 2005 Nominee***

The award was established in 1987 to recognize Boeing Employees who have made outstanding contributions in their communities through voluntary service. One winner is selected for each of eight regions and a \$5000 check payable to a charitable organization of their choice.

***Association of Pet Dog Trainers (APDT) & TFH Nylabone
Search and Rescue Dog of the Year Award Nominee - 2005***

APDT & TFH Nylabone offer a well deserved prize for the winning dog's Search and Rescue Unit. This award goes to the search unit for demonstrating use of reward based training and showing exceptional search abilities. The award will be a 1,500 donation from TFH/Nylabone to the winning dog's Search and Rescue Unit.

Awards for Canine Excellence (ACE) Nominee - 2005

In 1999, The American Kennel Club took action to express its time-honored respect for the extraordinary canine-human bond, as well as its appreciation for the innumerable ways in which dogs meaningfully contribute to our lives. That initiative gave rise to The American Kennel Club Awards for Canine Excellence (ACE), which celebrated its first presentation year in 2000. Each of the five honorees will receive a cash award of \$1000 and an engraved sterling-silver collar medallion to be presented at the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship.

Awesome Dog Search and Rescue Short Story Contest Winner - 2006

January 2006 Winner - \$50 to King County Search Dogs and \$50 of search and rescue gear

**** Above and Beyond Citizens Honors, WA State Finalist - 2008****

Selected by the Congressional Medal of Honor Society to represent Washington State as a finalist for the Above and Beyond Citizen Award, “the most prestigious civilian award in America”. <http://cmohfoundation.org/citizen-honors/>

Federal Employee of the Year – Civilian Category V – 2010

For volunteer work as a MAT+SAR search dog handler

Awards are issued in recognition of exemplary job performance and contributions to the Government, public, or community.