Fred Helfers is coming to Sacramento, CA

Tail Wagging Dogs is presenting an NACSW™ authorized seminar

March 12, 13, & 14, 2016

Saturday, March 12, 2016
Understanding Odor and Olfaction

The Nosework dog handler must learn to interpret their dog’s behavior when detecting odor molecules. The handler should have an understanding of the dog’s olfactory system and the odor molecules the dog detects. This seminar is for everyone who has a dog and is interested in how dogs use their nose to detect odors. This 8 hour seminar will cover the areas of Canine Olfaction, how the canine nose works, scent discrimination, factors effecting odors and utilizing your knowledge of Odors and Olfaction in K9 Nosework®.

Sunday, March 13, 2016
Handling Errors (Containers)
Morning Lecture followed by Workshop of 6 Working Teams

This 4 hour lecture specifically focuses on Handler Error and incorporates both video and power point presentations. Experience has shown that by establishing and applying a consistent maintenance training program, the areas of handler error (e.g., leash handling, detailing skills, reading changes of behavior, search patterns, cueing, considering environment) are easily understood and correctable. The experienced canine handler will quickly recognize that there are many situations that can lead to handler error.

Monday, March 14, 2016
Foundation to Finesse
Morning and Afternoon Workshops for Working Teams

In this workshop, Fred will work hands on with teams to improve training, team work and competition. The workshop covers handler skills, reading your dog, and training drills that define patterned searches and handler/dog communication with minimal intrusion on the dog working to an odor source.
Fred Helfers began working detection dogs in the early eighties. After a short stint with the US Border Patrol working on the southern US / Mexico border, Fred got to see firsthand how effective dogs were at detecting contraband. He soon realized that working for the US Border Patrol was not for him and moved to Washington State to work with a municipal Police department, north of Seattle WA. Already training and hunting with Brittany Spaniels, Fred knew that dogs had good noses, but never really knew how dogs worked odor sources.

For over 22 years Fred worked in undercover narcotics and it was during his early years on the department that Fred wrote a proposal for the first drug detection dog for that agency. The proposal was accepted and Fred entered the world of detection dogs. Completing training in 1982 with his first dog Sammy (a Black Labrador Retriever), Fred and Sammy were the only drug detection unit between Seattle and the Canadian Border, and, as such, were very busy. Working as a detective in the drug unit, Fred worked and trained regularly with the local US Customs dog team. For the next 8 years Fred and Sammy worked between Seattle and the Canadian border, detecting over a million dollars in US currency (drug proceeds) and multiple large quantities of cocaine, heroin, methamphetamine and cannabis.

As Fred’s reputation and expertise became recognized, he was approached by many Police agencies to train detection dogs and handlers. So, in 1984, Fred opened a police detection dog training facility on 8 acres north of Seattle WA. His reputation for training drug detection dogs and their handlers had then spread to other states in the Pacific Northwest of the US.

While still working as a police detective, Fred would train detection dogs in the morning then go to work as a police detective. He became President of the Washington State Police Canine Association and for over two terms was able to influence, administer and oversee certifications for drug detection dogs in WA State.

Fred’s passion for detection dogs was widely known by this time and eventually he began training accelerant detection dogs for fire departments in Washington State. Fred trained a little chocolate Labrador Retriever, named Maggie for accelerant detection. During Maggie’s first field application, Maggie and her handler, Larry Micheau was dispatched to a triple homicide fire scene. Fred also went along for the dog application, to assist the fire marshal, Larry Micheau. Maggie detected minute traces of accelerants that proved crucial in the conviction of a woman on three counts of aggravated homicide. Fred testified for over five hours, educating the
court and jurors on how detection dogs were trained and detected odors. Fred was easily qualified and received court recognition as an expert in detection canines.

In 1990, sadly, Sammy passed away due to cancer. It was a great loss for Fred as is the passing of any family member, let alone your partner who is with you almost every day of your life. Fred recognized that Sammy taught him so much about the ability of dogs to detect odors and yet Fred had so much more to learn.

Other Challenges
By the early 90's Fred's reputation for training quality detection canines and their handlers was being recognized throughout the United States and Canada. Fred was approached by the Oregon State Department of Agriculture for a pilot program on insect detection. Fred successfully trained a dog and handler for the detection of Gypsy moth egg mass detection and Japanese beetle larvae detection.

Fred was contracted by the Oregon State Police for drug detection canine training and became that agency’s detection canine trainer for over 20 years.

Other detection dog training challenges soon presented themselves. He was approached by a large utility company wanting to explore the possibility of training a detection dog for the detection of natural gas leaks from their pipeline network. Fred was familiar with the pipeline work done by Canadian dog trainer, Glen Johnson and agreed to an 18 month project. Training a dog to identify the signature odor (Butyl Mercapton) of natural gas was easy and the dog responded readily to the game of finding the odor source. More challenging was to train the dog in both urban and rural environments. After 12 weeks of training the dog was ready to be assigned a handler and placed into the field. After 18 months of highly successful work, identifying gas pipeline leaks throughout the Pacific Northwest, the pilot program was closed down. Fred was perplexed that a highly successful detection dog would be pulled from service; however the answer was very simple. The natural gas detection dog was too effective!

The dog (a black Labrador Retriever) was detecting gas leaks from natural gas pipeline leaks that were located 20 to 25 ft. buried underground. It was explained that the dog was detecting minimal gas leaks of less than 2ppm (parts per million). The cost to the utility company to dig up the pipeline leak was highly expensive versus the minimal hazard to public safety, and or, loss of revenue. So a highly successful dog program was shut down because the dog was simply too good at its job!

By this time Fred had trained another drug detection dog “Corky” and was working her, assigned to a drug investigation task force. K9 Corky worked with Fred for over 8 years, detecting drugs and proceeds of crime (currency) before being retired and spending her senior years as a family dog with Fred and his wife.

More Opportunities
In 1998 Fred organized the formation of the Pacific Northwest Police Detection Dog Association. An association of law enforcement dog handlers formed to promote the training and certification of police detection dog handlers from throughout the Pacific Northwest and Canada. Fred was elected as the founding President of that association.

Because of his extensive background in detection dogs, Fred was being recognized for his expertise by many different police training programs and travelled extensively throughout the United States, Canada and Brazil, conducting training seminars and workshops on detection dog training and handlers.

Fred has also been called upon to judge many different detection dog competitions ranging from the World Police and Fire games in Vancouver, Canada to the most recent judging at the 2014 National Association of Canine Scent Work (NACSW®) National Invitational K9Nosework® trials in Santa Rosa California.

In 2004 Fred retired from police work and closed his kennel / police training facility. Fred turned the business over to a much respected employee and contracts with her to teach canine handler classes to police officers. Over the 20 years that Fred operated his commercial training facility he trained several hundred police canines and their handlers, though training courses, seminars and workshops.
In 2005 Fred was selected to be a member of the Scientific Working Group on Dog and Orthogonal Factors (SWGDOG.org). He was one of 55 national and international scientists, trainers and practitioners, developing public safety detection dog best practices. That work continued for over 7 years. Recently in 2014, Fred was again selected to continue the work of SWGDOG by being accepted as part of a 20 member subcommittee of the OSAC (Organization of Scientific Action Committee) which is part of the US National Institute of Standards and Training (NIST) and governed by the US Department of Commerce.

K9Nosework®

“Inspired by working detection dogs, K9 Nose Work is the fun search and scenting activity for virtually all dogs and people. This easy to learn activity and sport builds confidence and focus in many dogs, and provides a safe way to keep dogs fit and healthy through mental and physical exercise.” (Quote from http://www.k9nosework.com/)

In 2012 Fred was introduced to the sport of K9Nosework® by founder Ron Gaunt. While cautious at first, Fred was overwhelmed and inspired by the passion, dedication and camaraderie displayed by the K9Nosework® handlers and their instructors. He was soon involved as a Certified K9Nosework® Instructor (CNWI®) teaching detection classes, seminars and workshops throughout the United States. Fred’s involvement with Nosework students and their dogs has become such an influence on him that his seminars and workshops are scheduled several months in advance. Fred is excited about conducting Nosework seminars in Australia and working with Marion Brand, CNWI of K9 Nose Time, to further cement the foundation of K9 Nose Work®. Fred is an expat Aussie having been raised in Perth, WA. during his younger years. Fred frequently visits WA to see his family and now with K9 Nosework® training and trialing available here, he will happily have to increase the frequency of his visits.
What you need to know:

Registration is limited to 50 people
(A wait list will be established once the limit is reached)

Dog Policies:
Saturday is a non-working seminar. Please leave your dog at home. There is very limited shade in the parking lot and no interior space for crating.

Requirements for consideration for working dog/handler team spot on Sun/Mon.:

- You must have previously attended Fred’s Odor and Olfaction Seminar.
  (Attending this seminar on Saturday will qualify.)
- Handlers must attend all three days of this workshop.
- Mild reactivity towards other dogs is acceptable, however it is not appropriate for the dogs with reactivity toward people – the presence of many observers would likely be overly stressful. Working dogs should be comfortable being watched by a group of people.
- Dogs must be able to stay quietly in their vehicles out of sight from their handlers.
- Only one dog/handler team per household will be selected.
- Dogs must have passed the Birch ORT.
- Handler will pay $85 for their working spot in addition to the regular 3-day attendance fees. This fee must be paid within 7 days of notification of your selection for a working spot.

There will be 6 Working Teams selected for the Handling Error Seminar.

There will be 12 Working Teams selected for the Foundation to Finesse Seminar.
(6 Teams will work in the morning and 6 Teams will work in the afternoon)

Location:
BMR Auto Center at 900 Riverside Ave., Roseville, CA 95678 (In the building in the back)
When you pull into the parking lot, go to the right and you will park along the fence away from the auto center as it will be open for business during the seminar.
(You can even schedule to have your vehicle’s oil changed during the seminar ♡)

What to bring:

- There will be folding chairs on site, but you may bring your own chair.
- Wear weather appropriate clothes and shoes. We may be working outside.
- Note taking supplies.

Food

We will provide water, snacks and lite breakfast items. Lunch break will be approximately one hour. Please bring your own food. There are food places available nearby but not on site.

Video and Audio Taping
Please sign the photography/video release from below. Video and/or audiotaping is not permitted in general, however, working participants may have one person videotape only their own dog if they wish.
Directions – From the Bay area towards Sacramento on I-80 East and heading from Reno I-80 West

Exit I-80 at the Auburn Blvd./Riverside exit and follow the signs for Riverside Ave. Move into the left (non-turning) lane and continue across Cirby Way. Turn left into BMR Auto just a short way after crossing the intersection. There is a white pipe rail fence in front.

Dog Friendly Hotels near the seminar location:
La Quinta Inn Sacramento North
4604 Madison Ave, Sacramento, CA 95841

Best Western Roseville Inn
220 Harding Blvd., Roseville, CA 95678

Best Western Plus Orchid Hotel & Suites
130 N Sunrise Ave, Roseville, CA 95661

Extended Stay America - Roseville
1000 Lead Hill Blvd., Roseville, CA 95678

Please confirm that the hotel is still pet friendly when making your reservation
Registration Form for Fred Helfers Seminars

Please fill out the form below and sign the cancellation policy, photography and video release authorization form and liability waiver. Please mail the registration package with payment to Lisa Kretner at 5042 Surle Ct., Sacramento, CA 95842 (Priority/Overnight mail must NOT require a signature). You will receive an email confirmation upon receipt of your registration and payment. Please contact Lisa at Lisa@tailwaggingdogs.net if you have any questions.

Name: _______________________________________________________________

Address: _____________________________________________________________________________

City: ___________________________ State: _____ Zip code: ___________

Day of Phone: _____________________________

Email (please print clearly): _______________________________________________

Are you a CNWI™: Yes _____ No _____ (Sat is worth 3 units, Sun/Mon 2 units ea.)
Are you a professional detection dog trainer/handler?
     Yes (please list)________________________________________  No _______

Have you achieved any K9 Nose Work® title level with your dog(s)? If so, please list
________________________________________________________________________________

REGISTRATION FEES (seminar and workshop attendance without a dog)

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<tr>
<td>3 Days (Sat, Sun, Mon)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 Days (Sat &amp; Sun)</td>
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<td>1 Day (Sun)</td>
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<td>1 Day (Mon)</td>
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Prepayment in full is required. You will need to include your check payable to Lisa Kretner with the registration materials.
Teams for Sunday Handling Error and Monday Foundation to Finesse:
All seminar participants who want a working spot on Sunday or Monday must be willing to audit if they do not get selected. We cannot take registrations from people who only want to work a dog in order to attend. At the time of registration, all participants will pay the auditor fee listed above for all three days. If a team is selected, the person will then pay an additional $85 for their working spot on Sunday or Monday. Teams selected for a working spot will be asked to pay for their spot within 7 days of notification. Working teams will be selected based on their skill level and an effort to show a variety of dogs and styles for the learning benefit of all working and auditing participants.

If you would like your dog to be considered for a working spot, please fill in the following:

Dog’s Name: ________________ M/F: _____ Age: _____ Breed: ______________

Level achieved: NW1/Date:_______ NW2/Date:_______ NW3/Date:___________

Does your dog have any behavioral issues (please give details):

Are there any health restrictions for your dog (e.g. allergies, arthritis)? Yes ___ No
If yes, please explain

Which session would you like to work your dog?
Handling Errors – Containers _____
Foundation to Finesse _____
Either _____

Why are you interested in this session?
Cancellation Policy

All cancellations must be in writing and will be confirmed by return email. Your cancellation will not be valid without a written confirmation of receipt from Lisa Kretner.

- Full refund up to February 1, 2016 minus $25.00 administrative fee
- 50% refund up to February 19, 2016.
- 25% refund of seminar fee up to March 2, 2016.
- No refunds for cancellations after March 2, 2016.
- No refund for no-shows.

I have read, understand and agree to the above:

Name (Print)                                         Signature                                        Date_______

Photography and Video Release Authorization Form

I understand that education and public relations are an important part of participating in a National Association of Canine Scent Work, LLC® (NACSW™) or K9 Nose Work® event. I give the NACSW™, K9 Nose Work®, Lisa Kretner, Tail Wagging Dogs and their representatives or agents the right and permission to use my name, likeness, and voice, in all types of advertising, promotional, or educational materials. This right and permission includes, but is not limited to, photographs, video recordings, audio recordings, and all other media in which my name, likeness, or voice may be reproduced. I ask that the above-mentioned use reasonable efforts to give me advance notice of any such use, but such notification is not a condition to release media for educational or public relations purposes.

I have read, understand and agree to the above:

Name (Print)                                         Signature                                        Date_______
Liability Waiver
I understand that attendance at a canine event is not without risk to myself, members of my family, guests who may attend, or my dog, because some of the dogs to which I (we) will be exposed may be difficult to control and may be the cause of injury and/or damage even when handled with the greatest amount of care.

I hereby waive, release, and agree to hold harmless, Lisa Kretner, Tail Wagging Dogs, BMR Auto Center, Fred Helfers, the National Association of Canine Scent Work, LLC and their employees, officers, directors, agents, or contractors, volunteers, and/or agents, for injury and/or damage which I, my family, my guests, or my dog may suffer, including, but not limited to, any injury or damage resulting from the action of any dog(s) during the event or on the facility grounds. In addition, I expressly assume the risk of such injury or damage while attending any event, any other function of Organizers, and/or while on the facility grounds or surrounding areas thereto.

I hereby agree to indemnify, compensate, and hold harmless Lisa Kretner, Tail Wagging Dogs, BMR Auto Center, Fred Helfers, the National Association of Canine Scent Work, LLC and their employees, officers, directors, agents, or contractors, volunteers, and/or agents from any and all claims that may be asserted against them by any person(s) as a result of any action by me or my dog(s) that causes injury and/or damage.

I have read, understand and agree to the above:

Name (Print) ____________________ Signature ____________________ Date ____________