



## MNK9SS Board/Team Meeting January 2021

**Start: 8:15am**

**Members Present:**

**Melissa Burns  
Katelyn Croteau  
Mark Falk  
Sheila Prior  
Kyle Simon  
Doreen Tierney**

**Old Business:**

- **Board of Directors:** Katelyn Croteau/Canine Coordinator, Kelly Jahnke/Vice President, Sheila Prior/Treasurer.
  - **What types of things would you like to see more of from the board? Any suggestions?**
  - If you haven't yet done so, please vote for the board member positions via Survey Monkey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/QHJTFJW>
- **Treasurer's Report:**
  - Ending balance as of December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021 is \$5,155.89
  - See attached financial schedule for recent deposits/subtractions.
- **Vice President's Report:**
  - No old business to report.
- **Canine Coordinator's Report:**
  - 2020 was a big year for us! MNK9SS had our first HR find from the George Floyd protests; 3 total deployments, a LF EMAC request following the Iowa Derecho.
  - We raised a lot of funds and received many donations/grants! A total of \$10,000.00 was raised to send handlers to the CSS course in Texas!
  - **Handlers attending the CSS course this spring: Tammy Elkin, Doreen Tierney, Kyle Simon, and Katelyn Croteau.** This will finish our 2020 goal of sending all MNK9SS handlers through the course. Funds will be made available when new handlers join our organization so they can also attend this course and become certified Canine Search Specialists.
  - 2020 presented us with many challenges, especially navigating a pandemic, but it was our most successful year! It saw us grow financially, in members, and included trips to Texas and Kansas.
  - **A big thank you to everyone for your hard work! Let's keep that momentum going for 2021!**



## New Business

- Website changed from [www.mnk9ss.com](http://www.mnk9ss.com) to [www.mnk9ss.org](http://www.mnk9ss.org)
- Melissa continues to manage our social media accounts (Facebook and Instagram), she keeps up with all the social media trends and does an excellent job!
- New HR sources are coming!
- **Give a warm welcome to new member Doreen Tierney and K9 Reia!**
- **Recruiting new members! (MNK9SS has a 10 handler maximum)**
  
- **Training Updates**
  - Please keep in mind that Dawn Falk at Cloud Nine offers free classes to any of our USAR canines. Agility, obedience, etc., can all be beneficial to your dog.
  - Superfit K9: [www.superfitcanine.org](http://www.superfitcanine.org) (LF and HR)
  - K9 Sensus: <https://www.k9sensus.org/training-courses> (LF and HR)
  - Ohio Center for Forensic Training and Education: [https://thecfte.com/?fbclid=IwAR2dMz2-xQ79dT6iC\\_rVc9wchI5M8Dorn5dksxE4I6HktTreG3Z8\\_btDEFU#courses](https://thecfte.com/?fbclid=IwAR2dMz2-xQ79dT6iC_rVc9wchI5M8Dorn5dksxE4I6HktTreG3Z8_btDEFU#courses) (HR)
  - HRD Specialized K9 Training: <https://www.hrdspecializedk9.com/events> (HR)
  - SDONA: <https://www.sdonal.org/events.html> (LF and HR)
  - Sonja Nordstrom: <https://www.Sonjasdogtraining.com> (HR)
  - Sonja Heritage: <https://www.facebook.com/HeritageK9> (LF and HR)
  - National Disaster Search Dog Foundation: <https://searchdogfoundation.org/workshops/> (LF and HR)
  
  - **K9 Redden Memorial Training Scholarship:** <https://www.calvarycanine.org/scholarship> \$500.00 scholarship to attend a seminar of your choosing.
  - **Cindy McArthur Memorial Training Scholarship:** <https://www.sdonal.org/cindy-mcarthur-memorial.html>, scholarship to attend a SDONA seminar.
  - **National Disaster Search Dog Foundation:** \$1,000.00 grant for non-SDF handlers.
  
- **Type I and II Testing Opportunities**
  - Testing opportunities should pick up this spring; we are still navigating COVID and that is continuing to present difficulties primarily due to different state mandates.
  - Option to bring in an evaluator (Robin Greubel from NETF1).
  - **What would you like to see added to training? How can we (as a team) better help prepare you and your dog for testing?**
    - Incorporate more multiple finds, incorporate distractions (i.e. Kansas Fall Ball scenarios), mock deployments/tests.
  
- **Donations/Fundraising**
  - Katelyn has begun applying for grants to update equipment (Firehouse Subs, Gary Sinise Foundation, etc.).
  - 2021 Goal# 1 is to receive \$10,000.00 to put towards updating equipment.
  - Goal# 2 is to set aside funds so new handlers can attend the CSS course.
  - 2021 Budget is: \$10,000.00.
  - Other recommendations for funding? Grants? Donations?



- **Uniform/Equipment Needs(?)**
  - Items MNK9SS currently provides: 2 Long sleeve uniform shirts, K9 vests, rappelling harnesses.
  - What items are on your wish list? What equipment would you like to see MNK9SS provide?
  - Wish list items include: Updating coats, sweaters, BDU shirts, CoAxsher packs, N95 respirators, K9 emergency first aid kits, decon kits, dog boots, and helmet lights.
  
- **Upcoming Important Dates**
  - Travel training trip to Florida to train with FLTF 1&2: March 4<sup>th</sup>- 7<sup>th</sup>, is in the works!
  - MNTF1 is going to be conducting a reformatted ORE starting in February. The ORE will consist of three 48 hour scenarios with the dates of:
    - **February 26<sup>th</sup> -27<sup>th</sup>, Session 1**
    - **April 16<sup>th</sup>- 17<sup>th</sup>, Session 2**
    - **April 30<sup>th</sup>- May 1<sup>st</sup>, Session 3**
  - Each session will consist of four, 12 hour operation periods:
    - Alpha 0800-2000 (Day 1)
    - Bravo 2000-0800 (Day 1)
    - Charlie 0800-2000 (Day 2)
    - Delta 2000-0800 (Day 2)
  - Due to COVID, participants will be kept in small groups and adhere to COVID best practices. No “off-pile” component and BOO will not have a sleeping component. There will be no intermingling of operational teams; anticipate +1 hour gap between teams coming off/going on the pile, which ensures separation and allows for decon of equipment/site.
  - **Scenario Overview:**
    - **Session 1 will be held in Rochester. Location is the Regional Public Safety Training Center and will be a simulated collapse of a concrete/steel structure (parking ramp). It’s a relatively compact/dense training site (Inside area: 28x40, 2 stories tall. Outside area: 40x40, 2 stories tall).**
    - **Session 2 will be held in Dakota County, details TBD, likely involve breaching/breaking/shoring and probable large area search component.**
    - **Session 3 will be. Held in Minneapolis/St. Paul, location is TBD but there are multiple decommissioned industrial sites being considered. Will be similar to Session 1, but on a less dense site.**
  
- **Other:**
  - **What changes would you like to see to MNK9SS? Any comments, concerns and suggestions?**

Meeting ended: 9:46am