

# 2004 MESARD Annual Activities Report

Maine Search and Rescue Dogs membership stands at 21 with 15 certified dog handlers, 14 certified dogs, six trainee dog handlers and 8 trainee dogs. During 2004 MESARD conducted 12 monthly group training sessions and participated in two joint training opportunities with other units. MESARD also participated in the two MASAR statewide training sessions.

MESARD received callouts to 43 separate searches during 2004. MESARD teams drove an estimated 32,200 miles responding to searches and contributed an estimated 1905 man hours related to searches during 2004. These figures do not contain mileage and hours related to training.

## MESARD SEARCHES - 2004

### 01/03/2004 - Burlington Search

Lt. Pat Dorian called on 01/01/04 to set up a search on 01/03/04 at 0700 for cadaver teams to search for a missing suicidal 29 YO male. Subject had been missing since 12/01/03, and his car was located on 01/02/04 on a logging road near Madagascar Pond. Subject was found deceased, buried in ice and snow, by Warden Wade Carter and K9 Buddy at around 1200. Teams secured at 1330. Responding were Keith, Chip, Michele, Spencer, Paul, Nancy, Cindy and Bruce.

**Volunteer Hours = 80      Team Mileage = 1874**

### 01/30/2004 - Newport Search

Paged in the afternoon for a missing 3 YO. Child was found within 30 minutes of the call out as teams were just leaving.

**Volunteer Hours = 1      Team Mileage = 15**

### **03/18/2004 - Levant Search**

Paged at 15:45 for a missing 8 YO autistic child. Call off at 15:58 before teams could respond.

### **03/06/2004 - Acadia National Park Search**

Paged and placed on standby at 17:30 for a missing 21 YO despondent male. Kate worked during the night. Paged at 20:30 to request 6 dog teams to arrive at park at 0800 on 03/07/04. Deceased subject located by helicopter on Great Hill, above the parking area, at 1050. Teams secured at noon. Responding were Keith and Chip, Troy and Irene, Kate, Kelly, Paul, Bruce, Julie, Beth and Spencer.

**Volunteer Hours = 91      Team Mileage = 1845**

### **04/15/2004 - Brunswick Search**

Paged at 16:15 for teams to arrive at scene 0800 on 04/16/04 for a missing 17 YO male last seen walking from a party near a footbridge across the Androscoggin River. Spencer Fuller helped with a water rescue of some young people who got in trouble in their canoe during the search effort. Teams secured at 1600 with no results. Victim was recovered from the river on 05/12/04, about half way between the boat launch where the search effort was based and the power plant downstream. Responding were Spencer, Paul, Michele, Bruce, Jennifer and Julie.

**Volunteer Hours = 65      Team Mileage = 880**

### **04/27/2004 - Norway Search**

Spencer was called at 0005 by a local Warden to look for a missing 35 YO who was despondent. Group paged at 0015 to put the rest of the team on standby for possible am search. Spencer worked assigned areas until victim showed up at his residence at 0445.

**Volunteer Hours = 6.5      Team mileage = 85**

### **04/27/2004 - Northport Search (First Deployment)**

Paged at 1032 for a missing 28 YO who was high on drugs and fled after a homeowner tried to detain him. He was last seen running across a field into the woods. Subject was not located and teams secured at around 1900. Responding were Keith, Chip, Paul, Bruce, Michele, Cindy, Julie, Deb, and Mary.

**Volunteer Hours = 79      Team Mileage = 1265**

**05/02/2004 - Northport Search (Second Deployment)**

Paged at 1405 on 04/30/04 to arrive at 0800 on 05/02/04 for a continued search effort. Subject was not located and teams secured at around 1630. Responding were Paul, Troy, Irene, Jennifer, Kelly, Bruce, Mary, Michele, Cindy, Beth and Julie.

**Volunteer Hours = 145.5      Team Mileage = 2145**

**05/09/2004 - Bangor Search**

Julie Jones was paged to track a 78 YO dementia patient missing from the Fairmont Boarding House. Subject was located the next day at a Bangor homeless shelter.

**Volunteer Hours = 6      Team Mileage = 8**

**05/14 -15/2004 - Verona Island Search**

Paged at 1321 for a missing suicidal 33 YO male who may have jumped from the Verona bridge. Request was for a couple of water search teams. Teams worked until 1900 hrs and were asked to return the next day at 0800 to search more assignments. Secured second day at 1500. Responding were Chip, Mary and Julie.

**Volunteer Hours = 45      Team Mileage = 620**

**05/16/2004 - Flagstaff Lake Search**

Paged at 0345, then again at 0353 for missing despondent female. Her vehicle was located at the family camp. Warden Service aircraft located victim in the water, deceased, at 0730. Responding were Chip, Spencer, Michele and Paul. Teams were redirected to attend monthly training in Harmony at Paul's.

**Volunteer Hours = 14      Team Mileage= 783**

**05/17/2004 - Canton Search**

Michele and Spencer worked the day to assist the Maine State Police CID I in a search for Kim Moreau who has been missing for 18 years. Worked assignments from 0800 to 1700.

**Volunteer Hours = 23      Team Mileage = 135**

**05/31/2004 - Baxter Park Search**

Paged at 0640 for teams to be on standby for three men who climbed out of Roaring Brook Camp Ground and got caught in a snowstorm. Called off at 0657 before teams could respond.

**06/08-09 & 6/13/2004 - Woolwich Search**

Warden Deb Palman contacted Marine Patrol on 06/08/04 concerning a toddler missing and feared drowned in Woolwich. Spencer met with Marine Patrol on 06/08/04 at 1000 at the scene to assess the feasibility of using dog teams. He then searched the area within 400yds of the PLS. Spencer arranged to return the next day with more help. Spencer, Paul, Nancy, and David Hudson started on the 9th at 1000 and worked until 1600 with no results. Spencer and Michele returned to the scene and searched the upper bay, north of the PLS on the east side of the river with no results. Subject was found 3 weeks later about two miles up the Kennebec from PLS.

**Volunteer Hours = 46      Team Mileage = 536**

**06/14/2004 - Enfield Search**

Deb pages at 1600 for a missing 14 YO autistic foster child who had "run away" before. Troy, Irene and Julie had arrived at the scene and others were enroute when the subject called home from K-Mart in Bangor. Teams secured by 1800. Responding were Troy, Irene, Paul, Julie, Debbie, Jennifer, and Kelly.

**Volunteer Hours = 24      Team Mileage = 825**

**06/18/2004 - Waterville Search**

Lt. Pat Dorian called to arrange for cadaver dog teams to assist in a search for a 54 YO male missing since February. Teams arrived at 0800, searched near Colby College and along Messalonski Stream and secured at 1600. The subject was not located and remains missing. Responding were Keith, Chip, Julie, Bruce and Deb.

**Volunteer Hours = 53      Team Mileage = 610**

**07/02/2004 - Crescent Lake Search**

Paged at 0045 for a missing 80 YO male with dementia. Teams worked the night. The subject walked out at 0945 about ¼ mi from the PLS. Everyone secured at 1100. Responding were Michele, Spencer, Cindy, Paul, Mary and Bruce.

**Volunteer Hours = 46      Team Mileage = 786**

**07/03/2004 - Acadia National Park Search**

Paged at 0630 for a missing 16 YO. Michele placed the group on standby while Jennifer Fisk worked at the search. Resolved at 0900.

**Volunteer Hours = 4      Team Mileage = 10**

**07/04/2004 - North Berwick Search**

Paged at 0745 for a missing 12 YO. The subject walked out at 0920 and teams secured at 1100. Responding were Spencer and Michele.

**Volunteer Hours = 11      Team Mileage = 368**

**07/ 07/2004 - Baxter Park Search**

Request for MESARD cadaver certified teams to assist Warden Service and Maine State Police CID III. Human remains had been found at a gravel pit near the park entrance and a search was to be conducted to locate further remains. Teams were fielded at 0800,

numerous bone fragments were found by Warden Service and MESARD dog teams in the area of the pit and the subject's tent site, containing the source of the remains, was located behind the pit. Teams secured by 1630. Responding were Keith, Chip, Spencer, Michele and Deb.

**Volunteer Hours = 58      Team Mileage = 1360**

**07/19/2004 - Hollis Search**

Paged at 0919 by Sgt. Blagdon for a missing 45 YO female. Call off at 0933 before any teams could respond.

**08/02/2004 - Sullivan Search**

Paged at 0500 for a missing 16 YO male. Warden Deb Palman made the find at around 0800 by tracking a mile with Anna. Responding were Keith, Chip, Debbie, Paul, Troy, Irene, Kelly and Spencer.

**Volunteer Hours = 36      Team Mileage = 1169**

**08/03/2004 - Staceyville Search**

Paged at 1720 to place the unit on standby for an elderly Alzheimer's patient missing since 1600 and paged at 1850 to respond. Called off at 1903 before any teams could respond.

**08/11-13/2004 - Jonesboro Search**

Paged at 1030 for a missing 17 YO female. Teams worked assigned areas and secured at 1700 on 8/11/04 with no find made. Paul and Jennifer Rocheleau stayed over and started searching areas again at 0800 on 8/12/04. The subject's vehicle was found that afternoon in the ocean and teams were on standby until they were assigned shoreline search in the late afternoon, finally securing at 2000. Paul stayed over the next day, 08/13/04, and worked more assignments, securing in the afternoon. Responding were Paul, Jennifer Fisk, Jennifer Rocheleau, Kelly and Leslie.

**Volunteer Hours = 73      Team Mileage = 758**

**08/27/2004 - Augusta Search**

Call for a missing person near AMHI. Paul and both Jennifers enroute when called off.

**Volunteer Hours = 10      Team Mileage = 408**

**09/01/2004 - Deer Isle Search**

Paged at 2233 on 8/30/04 to have water search certified teams respond at 0600 to search for a missing male. Subject had fallen from a boat on the evening of the 30th. MESARD teams worked assigned areas until the subject was located by divers at around 1430. Teams secured at 1530. Responding were Keith, Chip, Paul, Troy and Jennifer Fisk.

**Volunteer Hours = 61      Team Mileage = 515**

**09/01/2004 - Medford Search**

Paged at 0818 to search for a woman who may have been abducted. The subjects' car had been found abandoned on the Trestle Rd. Teams worked assignments until 2030 and secured with no results. The woman was later located out of state with her boy friend. Due to the concurrent search ongoing at Deer Isle, the only responding teams were Bruce, Debbie, Nancy, Cindy and Julie.

**Volunteer Hours = 47      Team Mileage = 1095**

**09/07/2004 - Benton Search**

Called at 1930 for a missing 24 YO male last seen on Saturday walking out of his house. Request was for a few of the closest dog teams, the rest of the group is placed on standby. Teams secured at around 2130 when information was received that the subject had been taken by the Fairfield police to a local hospital after asking for help. Responding were Paul, Julie, Spencer and Michele.

**Volunteer Hours = 18      Team Mileage = 415**

**09/18/2004 - Dexter Search**

Paged at around 0515 by Warden Kevin Adam for a search in Dexter. Call off page came at about 0600 before teams had gotten very far from home. Responding were Julie, Paul, Jennifer Fisk, Bruce and Cindy.

**Volunteer Hours = 4      Team Mileage = 60**

**09/24/2004 - Northport Search (Third Deployment)**

Lt. Pat Dorian requested assistance in the continued search for missing 28 YO. Teams worked from 0800 and secured at 1800 with no new evidence located. Responding were Bruce, Irene, Troy, Chip, Mary, Jennifer Fisk, Jennifer Rocheleau, Leslie, Kelly and Beth.

**Volunteer Hours = 130      Team Mileage = 1645**

**09/25/2004 - Bingham Search**

Paged at 1338 for a person missing on an ATV. Paul was the only team responding when the call off page occurred at 1500.

**Volunteer Hours = 2      Team Mileage = 105**

**09/29-30/2004 - Medway Search**

Warden Deb Palman pages us at 1940 on 9/29/04 for a missing 72 YO hunter off the Pinkham Camp Rd. Another page again at 0345 on 9/30/04 from Mike Sawyer to repeat need for teams. Debbie, Paul and Jennifer Rocheleau worked much of the night. Mary and Michele were enroute when the hunter walked out on his own in the morning at 0615. Responding were Paul, Jennifer Rocheleau, Deb, Mary and Michele.

**Volunteer Hours = 39      Team Mileage = 937**

**10/01-02/2004 - Medway Search**

Paged at 0920 for a search for an 84 YO male missing two days. His vehicle was found on 10/01. Teams worked assignments Saturday and Saturday night. Responding were Keith, Chip, Michele, Nancy, Cindy, Leslie, Deb, Bruce Jennifer Rocheleau, Paul and Troy. On 10/02/04, Bruce, Paul, Debbie, Julie, and Jennifer Rocheleau, who all stayed in



the area, continued assignments in this search. In the late afternoon a ground search team located the subject, deceased, only 200 feet from the road. Teams left from this search to respond to the search in Whiting.

**Volunteer Hours = 167      Team Mileage = 4095**

**10/02-03/2004 - Whiting Search (First Deployment)**

Paged at 1525 to send teams for 0700 on 10/04/04 for a 70 YO male, who had been missing for a month. His vehicle, with his deceased girlfriend, had been located on a woods road. Teams arrived at dark and were advised to return in the morning at 0700. Teams worked until mid afternoon on 10/03/04. The subject was not located. Responding were Julie, Bruce, Paul, Deb, Nancy Cindy and Jennifer Rocheleau.

**Volunteer Hours = 112      Team Mileage = 1160**

**10/04-05/2004 – Whiting Search (Second Deployment)**

3 Pages between 1500 and 1546 from asking for more dog teams for Tuesday 0700. Deb, Julie, Nancy, Cindy Leslie and Kelly were at the search this day working part of the day. Troy Morey arrived on the 5th working two field assignments before securing. He was the only MESARD team on scene that day.

**Volunteer Hours = 59      Team Mileage = 975**

**10/10/2004 - Whiting Search (Third Deployment)**

Paged at 0745 and received a group e-mail from Deb to continue the search. Teams worked assignments until 2200. Responding were Michele, Spencer, Chip, Keith, Irene, Troy, Kelly, Leslie, Nancy, Cindy, Mary, Bruce, Beth, Paul and Deb. The subject remains missing.

**Volunteer Hours = 253      Team Mileage = 3118**

**10/03/2004 - Dixfield Search**

Paged by MSP at 0545 for 5 subjects missing in the woods in Dixfield. MSP dispatcher advises at 0720 that the subjects had been found. No teams deployed.

### **10/23/2004 - Sullivan Search**

Paged at 1920 for two 8 YO girls missing since 1630 near Flanders Pond. Warden Wade Carter and his K9 Buddy located the subjects by tracking a half mile at around midnight. The girls were cold but OK. Responding were Troy, Irene, Jennifer Fisk, Kelly, Paul, David Hudson, Jennifer Rocheleau and Deb.

**Volunteer Hours = 53.5      Team Mileage = 950**

### **10/24/2004 - Deer Isle Search**

Paged at 1145 for a missing 6 YO autistic child who had run away from his grandparents home near the high school. The child was found deceased in a gravel pit water hole at around 1220 by family members. Call off at 1240 before teams responded.

### **10/30/2004 - Strong Search**

Paged at 1715 for a missing 70 YO hunter with heart disease in Strong. Subject walked out in the early morning. Paul worked this search.

**Volunteer Hours = 9              Team Mileage = 155**

### **11/15/2004 - Vassalboro Search**

Paged at 1350 for a missing 73 YO hunter whose truck hadn't moved since he was seen hunting in the area two days prior. The subject was located by investigators at his ex-wife's house. He had called 911 to let them know he wasn't in woods but the information didn't get relayed to Warden Service. Responding were Michele, Spencer, Paul and Bruce before the call off.

**Volunteer Hours = 35              Team Mileage = 470**

### **12/05/2004 - Castine Search**

Paged at around 1600 while at scheduled monthly training in Harmony for a missing 65 YO female who hadn't returned home on time. Troy and Irene arrived at the scene and

were fielded with other teams enroute when the subject walked out at 1730. Responding were Troy, Irene, Spencer, Keith, Chip and Paul.

**Volunteer Hours = 6.5      Team Mileage = 320**

### **12/17/2004 - Waldoboro Search**

Paged at 0500 for a missing 72 YO Alzheimer's patient. Call off at 0635 as teams were just leaving home.

### **MESARD TRAINING DAYS**

Maine Search and Rescue Dogs conducted unit trainings once each month during 2004. Several members also attended joint trainings with other K-9 SAR units. Members also trained weekly in smaller regional groups.

#### **January 18<sup>th</sup> - Spencer's in Freeport:**

Attending were: Julie, Keith, Chip, Troy, Irene, Deb, Jennifer, Kate, Kelly, Beth, Paul, Bruce, Spencer, Mary, Scott, Cindy, Michele, Wayne, and New people: Chris Chase, Leslie Howe, Susan Jordan, Jennifer Rocheleau and David Hudson.

#### **February 29th - Keith and Chip's in Harborside:**

Attending were: Keith and Chip, Irene and Troy, Mary, Kate, Sean, Beth, Michele, Jennifer F, Leslie, Susan, Jennifer R, Paul, Cindy, Spencer, Chris, Kelly and David.

#### **March 21<sup>st</sup> - University of Maine campus and Experimental Forest:**

Attending were: Julie, Michele, Kate, Keith, Chip, Paul, Mary, Kelly, Sean, Spencer, Deb, Bruce, Cindy, Leslie, Jennifer R, David and Chris.

**April 16<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> – Working Dog Foundation / NADOI Seminar**

Attended by Michele, Spencer, Deb, Irene, Kelly and Jennifer F.

**April 18<sup>th</sup> - Spencer's in Freeport:**

Attending were: Keith, Chip, Troy, Irene, Jennifer F, Jennifer R, Deb, Michele, Paul, Spencer, Scott, Beth, Nancy, Cindy, Bruce, Wayne, Chris, Leslie and Trainer Jeff Findlay from PA.

**May 4<sup>th</sup> - MASAR statewide training in Unity:**

Several MESARD members attended.

**May 16<sup>th</sup> - Paul's in Harmony:**

Attending were: Deb, Chip, Julie, Michele, Paul, Mary, Kelly, Sean, Spencer, Troy, Irene, Melissa Palo, Cindy, Chris, Leslie and Jennifer R.

**June 20<sup>th</sup> - Kelly's in Acadia National Park, Schoodic:**

Attending were: Julie, Deb, Scott, Paul, Mary, Keith, Chip, Troy, Irene, Kelly, Spencer, Cindy, Wayne, Chris, David, Leslie and Jennifer R.

**July 18<sup>th</sup> - Great Pond in Aurora:**

Attending were: Deb, Michele, Keith, Chip, Beth, Chris, Spencer, Jennifer F, Jennifer R, Nancy, Cindy, Troy, Irene and David.

**August 22<sup>nd</sup> at Camp Agassiz in Poland:**

Attending were: Paul, Troy, Michele, Scott, Paul, Kelly, Wayne, Jennifer F, Jennifer R, Leslie, Nancy, Bruce and Chip.

**September 17<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> MASAR Statewide Training in Presque Isle:**

Attending were: Leslie, Jennifer R, Paul, Bruce, Cindy, Jennifer F. and Julie.

**October 15<sup>th</sup> -16<sup>th</sup> Milton Mills, NH**

Joint training was held with members of DAWGS and NEK-9SAR for area and cadaver training. Attending from MESARD were Spencer, Cindy, Kelly and Michele.

**October 17<sup>th</sup> at University of Maine campus and Experimental Forest:**

Attending were: Deb, Keith, Chip, Irene, Troy, Julie, Paul, Sean, Leslie, Jennifer R, Jennifer F, Spencer, Bruce, Cindy and Michele.

**November 7<sup>th</sup> at Sean's on Mt Desert Island:**

Attending were: Michele, Julie, Deb, Spencer, Keith, Chip, Beth, Paul, Sean, Wayne, Leslie, Jennifer R, Jennifer F, Troy, Irene, Bruce, Kelly, Chris and new applicants Stacey Savoy and John Corriveau.

**December 5<sup>th</sup> at Paul's in Harmony:**

Attending were: Keith, Chip, Troy, Irene, Michele, Julie, Wayne, Nancy, Beth, Paul, Kelly, Jennifer R, Leslie, Spencer, Deb, Bruce, Cindy and John.

**TEAM PRESENTATIONS AND DOG DEMONSTRATIONS**

03/15/2004

Julie gave a demo for Kindergarten & 1st grades (62 children) at St. Mary's School in Bangor.

03/20/2004

Deb and Julie gave a demo for Golden Moments Therapy Dog Center.

06/10/2004

Julie gave a demo for grades K-3 (100 kids) at the Fruit Street School in Bangor.

03/20/2004

Deb, Julie, Michele, Spencer and Paul participate in the K9 demo and presentation at the Penobscot County Conservation Commission Sportsman's Show in Orono.

08/2004

Nancy, Wayne, and Spencer gave 3 separate demos at the Aggassiz Village Camp Ground in consideration for their generosity for allowing MESARD to use their facility for water training day.

09/30/2004

Jennifer Rocheleau gave a demo and presentation for 8 students at the University Of Maine at Machias Residence Hall.

10/17/2004

Julie and Paul gave a demo for Channel 5 News during a training session where the media was present.

11/16/2004

Michele gave a SAR presentation to the Randolph / Pittston United Methodists Women's Club.

12/2004

Bruce and Deb worked at the checkout registers at the Brewer Wal-Mart as a PR and fund raising session.