

# Scent Detectives

Volume 2, Issue 1

Winter 2008

## Greetings!

In this issue of *Scent Detectives* we bring news of successful lost pet recoveries, updates on our pet detective training program, and information on the continued development of our nonprofit organization.

In 2008, Missing Pet Partnership expanded our training program to include a 2½-day course for rescue group volunteers, feral cat caretakers, shelter workers, and others who want to volunteer in their communities to reunite lost pets with their families. Also, instead of offering our seminars only in central California, MPP will be holding our 2008 seminars in five locations throughout the United States: Grand Rapids, Michigan; San Jose, California; Seattle, Washington; Swanzey, New Hampshire; and Longmont, Colorado.

If you haven't looked at our Web site in a while, then come for a visit at [www.missingpetpartnership.org](http://www.missingpetpartnership.org). Our new site features information about lost pet behaviors, our revised training program, our history and qualifications, and our international pet detective directory.

And finally, Missing Pet Partnership is an all-volunteer, nonprofit organization that relies on public donations. In spite of our progress in developing a fantastic training program that has helped reunite lost pets with their families, we need donors! The donations that MPP has received each month lately have just not been enough to pay our bills. Please become a regular donor and help MPP help companion animals and their guardians. Visit our Web site SUPPORT page at <http://www.missingpetpartnership.org/about-support.php> or send a check or money order to:

**Missing Pet Partnership (MPP)**  
**P.O. Box 2457**  
**Clovis, CA 93613-2457**

We hope you enjoy *Scent Detectives* as you learn more about pet detectives, search dogs trained to find lost pets, and our vision for developing lost pet services in all communities.

Scent-cerely,

Kat & Dogs  
Kathy "Kat" Albrecht  
Founder, MPP



*Founder Kat Albrecht with MPP K9 Zeke*

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## Training Schedule

In 2008 MPP will hold MAR Technician and Lost Pet First Responder courses in the following cities:

**Grand Rapids, Michigan - May 16-22, 2008**

**San Jose, California - June 20-25, 2008**

**Seattle, Washington - August 8-13, 2008**

**Swanzey, New Hampshire - October 10-15, 2008**

**Longmont (Boulder), Colorado - November 7-12, 2008**

To request registration materials, send email to [question@pethunters.com](mailto:question@pethunters.com) and specify which seminar you're interested in.

## Missing Pet Partnership

Our mission is to reunite lost pets with their owners/guardians. To achieve our mission, Missing Pet Partnership (MPP) provides unique lost pet recovery tips to pet owners as well as educational materials to the staff and volunteers of animal shelters, rescue groups, and animal welfare organizations. MPP launched the first-ever pet detective academy that trains both volunteer and professional pet detectives to use search dogs and CSI-like investigative techniques to recover lost pets. Ultimately, MPP plans to launch a program for animal shelters expected to reduce the euthanasia rates of stray dogs and cats as well as develop an academic partnership to study the distances that dogs and cats travel when lost. Our long-term goals include building a national training center near Seattle, Washington where we'll train dogs to locate lost pets and then issue them to shelters, veterinarians, and entities that offer lost pet services.

### Board of Directors

MPP thanks the following members for giving so much of their time and themselves.

#### Officers

Ann Joly  
Kathy Pinto

#### Directors

**Lori Wieber**     **Kat Albrecht**  
**Matt Elvin**     **Vicki Wooters**

### Contact Us

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#### Editors

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## Tracking Our Progress



The Board of Directors and volunteers at Missing Pet Partnership have been busy over the past six months with various projects, partnerships, and programs. Here's a quick look at what MPP has been up to:

**DOG DETECTIVES** - MPP founder Kat Albrecht's new book *Dog Detectives: Train Your Dog to Find Lost Pets* was released in November 2007. This is the first book to fully describe the endlessly fascinating "pet detective" profession. Hopefully this book will facilitate the training of many more dogs capable of tracking lost pets in communities throughout the United States and abroad.

**Lost Pet First Responder Course Developed** - MPP developed an abbreviated (2½-day) "Lost Pet First Responder" training course designed for those interested in volunteering to coordinate searches and help find lost pets in their own communities. This course is perfect for trap-neuter-return (TNR) groups, rescue group volunteers, shelter workers, animal behaviorists, and anyone who loves companion animals. For more details and registration information visit [www.missingpetpartnership.org/training-schedule.php](http://www.missingpetpartnership.org/training-schedule.php).

**HomeAgain's Pet Detective Training** - Missing Pet Partnership has partnered with HomeAgain to develop the first-ever lost pet recovery online training module. Designed to train HomeAgain's new group of volunteer PetRescuers, this self-study program includes many of Missing Pet Partnership's philosophies on how and where to search for missing dogs and cats. This training is free to the public and available at [www.petdetectivetraining.com](http://www.petdetectivetraining.com).

**On the Move** - In April 2008, Missing Pet Partnership will be moving our training operations from Fresno, California to Seattle, Washington. Our plans include the launch of a volunteer lost pet recovery team; the rescue, fostering, training, and distribution of pretrained MAR search dogs; and ultimately the building of a national training center.

**Pet Detective Blog** - MPP founder Kat Albrecht now writes a weekly Pet Detective Blog for HomeAgain. Check out her untold lost pet recovery stories and her take on the evolution of the pet detective industry at [www.homeagainpet.com/petdetectiveblog.html](http://www.homeagainpet.com/petdetectiveblog.html).

## Making a Difference

*Goldie was once lost, but now she is found. That is because after Goldie escaped her guardian, Karen Johnston from San Diego, California, found Missing Pet Partnership's Web site and followed our instructions on how to create giant, fluorescent posters to recover missing dogs. Here is Karen's story in her own words:*



Our littlest dog, "Goldie," jumped the fence a week ago to chase a mailman. She was then frightened by a neighbor trying to catch her as we were gone. I came home from work about 2 hours later and started searching. I made posters and checked shelters daily. Finally after finding your website I made new posters according to your specs (found at [www.missingpetpartnership.org/recovery-posters.php](http://www.missingpetpartnership.org/recovery-posters.php)) and within 2 days I had multiple responses which led to bringing her home. I fully endorse the 22"x27" signs and I can't thank you enough. I can't say she is good as new, she went through some trials, but she is home and we are so very happy. You know your business, you profiled her exactly and that too helped in her capture. Everyone, this website contains the best advice you will ever find!

## Pet Detective Case Files

*We thought you'd enjoy reading an article that appeared in the Laramie Boomerang about a lost dog investigation solved by MAR Technician Cathy Orde and her search dog Zoe. To learn more about Cathy and Zoe, visit [www.coldnoseinvestigators.com](http://www.coldnoseinvestigators.com).*



*Cathy Orde and Zoe*

### Rescuers Add Pet Recovery

By Carrie May  
Boomerang Staff Writer

Easter Sunday couldn't have been much more emotional for Vicki Doll of Centennial. At about one p.m., her Bichon Frise, Elway, got away from her. By 3 p.m., he hadn't returned. And by 6 p.m., the whole neighborhood was searching for Elway.

"We thought we could hear him off the river, but we couldn't get to him," Doll said. "I had pretty much (resigned myself) that we weren't going to find him." That is when someone suggested calling Cathy Orde and her pet search and rescue dog Zoe.

"We grabbed Zoe and we went (to Vicki's)," Orde said. "People were waiting for us. They had Elway's blanket, so I gave Zoe the scent of the blanket and she started tracking." Zoe went down through a creek bed and through the woods, through a sage brush area and through another creek. She went up to the creek and circled around a spot where Elway had stopped to get a drink of water. Zoe then found Elway on the North Fork of the Little Laramie River caught in the rocks. His leash was caught, and Orde said he was nearly strangled.

"If we wouldn't have found him, he wouldn't have made it through the night," Orde said. After the ordeal, Doll felt like she had experienced her own holiday miracle. "It was truly a miracle. He would not have lived the night," Doll said. "My dogs are a big part of my life. I had lost him, and I'll always remember Zoe and Cathy (for finding him). It was quite a miracle. He is a sweetheart."

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Cathy and her husband, Curt, added Zoe to their growing brood of search-and-rescue dogs in April 2006. The two are also the owners of human search and rescue dog, Moose, and therapy dog, Josie. Zoe, a three-year-old golden retriever and survivor of Hurricane Katrina, is a certified missing animal response technician and a member of the Missing Pet Partnership of Fresno, Calif. While on rescues with Moose, Orde said she was frequently asked if she could search for pets. "When people would ask if Moose could find their lost pets, it just kind of broke my heart because I could hear the urgency and pain in their voices," Orde said.

Orde said she didn't want to train Moose to find pets with his extensive responsibilities for finding humans. And, she added, Zoe has a natural pull toward animals. "She loves to track and she's got an excellent nose, but she really enjoys animals," Orde said. "I thought we'd do what she likes to do naturally." Zoe is able to track other dogs, cats, small pets like gerbils and rabbits, birds, horses and other animals, Orde said. She is also certified in narcotics K-9 and can work to detect drugs in businesses and for law enforcement. With Zoe, Orde will help people find lost pets, do pet profiling, physical evidence searches, high tech detection, trailing services, trap and reunite, attract and capture, help with fliers and do shelter checks.

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## International Impact

Since 2005, Missing Pet Partnership has trained over 100 pet detectives throughout the world. MPP-certified MAR Technicians can be found in the United States, Canada, Mexico, Japan, and Ireland.

In February 2008, MPP Founder Kat Albrecht and a small group of pet detectives were filmed by RTL-TV, a Europe-based television network (see [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/RTL\\_Group](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/RTL_Group)). The five-minute segment features Albrecht conducting presumptive blood analysis testing, evaluating a dog for MAR work, and using a cat detection dog to search for a lost cat. It will air this summer in France, Hungary, Australia, Germany, the United Kingdom, Spain, the Netherlands and Croatia in approximately 200 million homes!



**Missing Pet Partnership**  
*Search-and-Rescue for Lost Pets*

STAMP

**Please support MPP by sending a tax-deductible contribution!**

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