

Tracking Workshop

with JOHN RICE

Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 23-24, 2019

Workshop to be held at Frenchman's Bar Riverfront Park, 10 minutes west of Vancouver, WA, on the Columbia River.

John Rice calls his tracking approach *Following Ghosts* because it is fundamentally different from most tracking "techniques." *Following Ghosts* supports and depends on the relationship between dog and handler. These workshops provide eye-opening moments of understanding that will forever change how handlers see their dog.

The *Following Ghosts* approach is built on the understanding that long before we begin teaching them, dogs already know how to track, air-scent and trail, and they also know how to discriminate between scents. Our job as handlers is to help the dog do these things for us, in specific ways, in specific places, for specific reasons, while including the handler as part of the team.

About John Rice

Please read this webpage for full information: <https://suzanneclothier.com/john-rice/>

John started with scenting dogs in the early 1980's in his job as a Forest Ranger. His Search and Rescue K9 and police K9 background provides a deep understanding of the dog's innate abilities, and how dogs work with scent under a wide (and often wild) variety of conditions. He has a unique gift for reading scent conditions and anticipating what dogs will need to do to resolve any scent problem. This gift extends to teaching his students to be keen observers of the dogs and specific conditions, and to understand how scent works and affect the dogs. AKC's first VST judge Ted Hoesel called "one of three or four people in this country who actually understand tracking."

John Rice's unique approach to tracking and scent work is ideal for beginners or advanced handlers, for experienced or novice dogs of any breed. His Search and Rescue K9 and police K9 background provides a deep understanding of the dog's innate abilities, and how dogs work with scent under a wide (and often wild) variety of conditions. He has a unique gift for reading scent conditions and anticipating what dogs will need to do to resolve any scent problem. This gift extends to teaching his students to be keen observers of their dogs and specific conditions, and to understand how scent works and affects the dogs.

John respects each dog as an individual. He believes in finding the best approach for that dog — no recipes or "one size fits all" plans. John's experience means he can work effectively with handlers and dogs at any level. These workshops are for *any* interested handler with any (or) no experience, and provide meaningful hands-on learning, with or without a dog.

John lives on an upstate New York farm with wife Suzanne Clothier (WHAT!!!), and their considerable animal family of dogs, cats, parrots, tortoises, horses, donkeys, Scottish Highland cattle, pigs and chickens.

The **Following Ghosts** workshop is appropriate for dogs and handlers with no tracking experience, limited experience, or lots of experience. You will learn!

At a **Following Ghosts** tracking workshop, handlers learn how to:

- start dogs on tracking
- develop their dog's tracking skills (duration, complexity, transitions, surfaces, commitment)
- track almost anywhere, almost anytime — town or country, variable surfaces
- read their individual dog's body language when scenting/working
- lay good tracks
- set up good problems for the dog to solve
- "read" the terrain and scent conditions
- use handling & equipment to support their dog
- make sure that training is enjoyable for the dog at all times
- trust in and respect the dog's natural abilities
- understanding of scent, terrain, air currents, and what affects the tracking
- rapid skill development through emphasis on complexity and transitions

LIMITED SPOTS WITH DOGS AVAILABLE!!

JOHN RICE RECOMMENDS ATTENDING WITHOUT A DOG FOR THIS WORKSHOP! Attendees without dogs are **active participants**, working just as much as dog/handler teams, if not more: laying tracks, assisting handlers and working with the group exercises. They will be paired with working teams and will be expected to attend both days. Reactive dogs may not participate, but the handler is welcome to audit this event. You still will be actively participating and working exercises even if you do not attend with a dog.

With Dog Spot: \$295 **PLEASE EMAIL JOAN TO SEE IF THERE ARE ANY SPOTS LEFT joana@zoiedog.com**

Without Dog Spot: \$155

If you are interested in a spot with your dog, please contact Joan Armstrong by email prior to sending in a registration: joana@zoiedog.com Those spots are strictly limited, with a waiting list in case someone can't make it.

Make checks out to “Dog Days”. Print and mail registration form with payment in full to:

Joan Armstrong
Dog Days Dog Training
7206 NE 37th Ave., Unit A
Vancouver, WA 98665

Name: _____

Best Phone:() _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Check what you are signing up for:

_____ Without dog \$155

_____ With dog \$295. Please contact Joan Armstrong by email prior to sending in a registration: joana@zoiedog.com

If you are attending with a dog, let us know the level of experience of the dog and you!

No refunds after Nov. 1, 2019