



## Elm Grove Police Department K-9 Unit May 2001 . August 2010



### Qai Vom Schafer See

The Elm Grove Police Department's K-9 unit was officially established on May 29, 2001 with a formal swearing-in ceremony in the Board Room. Many officials and residents of the community were on hand to witness for the first time Captain Gus Moulas take the oath of office on behalf of his new police canine partner. Qai received his badge from Chief Haig (retired). This important ceremony made it official that Qai Vom Schafer See is to be recognized as an official member of the Elm Grove Police Department as a police canine.

However, none of this would have been possible without the great support and approval of the Village Board, as well as the extraordinary and significant private donation from one Elm Grove family. The private funds made it possible to purchase Qai, and provided for the majority of training equipment; specially equipped and dedicated police K-9 vehicle with heat detection safety and bail-out electronics; bullet resistant vest; protective reflective tracking harness; uniforms for the handler; food; veterinary care; and miscellaneous support supplies. Private donations from many sources throughout the community, including two children who for many years spear-headed a lemonade stand to raise considerable funding to maintain Qai, helped support this law enforcement function without the use of tax dollars.

After long research on police canines and training kennels throughout the United States, Steinig-Tal Kennels, (STK), in Campbellsport, Wisconsin was selected because of their reputation in the law enforcement canine community and accreditation through the Fox Valley Technical College in Appleton, Wisconsin. Qai was acquired in January of 2001, after being fully trained as a police canine.

Qai was born on January 10, 1999 in the United States at Schafer Lake Kennels in Lawrence, Michigan. He was bred from two import champion line European (German and Czechoslovakian) German Shepherd dogs. He has the distinct German Shepherd black and tan markings, that are prevalent of the European bloodline.

Prior to the final acquisition of Qai, STK loaned him to his prospective handler, Captain Gus Moulas, on December 23, 2000, for a short period of time. This was an opportunity for the handler to evaluate Qai in an environment other than the training facility. Qai was able to stay with the handler and later visit his potential work-place. It is also very important for the vendor to properly match up the specially trained canine with the police officer handler. As it turned out, Qai seemed



to be a very good fit for his handler, the Department, and community he would eventually serve. Once it was decided that Qai would be the specific canine for the Department, he was allowed to remain living with the handler so that the very important bonding process could begin. While Qai was living with his handler, they would commute weekly to the kennel for training. As a fairly young dog entering police service, Qai would receive additional police training until the start of the Basic Canine Training Course in the Spring of 2001 at STK. In May 2001, after Moulas and Qai completed an extensive training program, the two became a certified police canine team. STK's Basic Canine Training Course is a minimum of 4 weeks (160+ hours) in length and is an accredited training program through the Fox Valley Technical College. The handler and his K-9 partner perform extensive training exercises on such topics as canine obedience; article searching and field searching; courtroom testimony with 4<sup>th</sup> Amendment considerations; obstacle course training; crowd control; and techniques for apprehension and pursuit. There are also written tests that must be completed by the handler. Upon successful completion, the K-9 team is awarded with a certificate from Fox Valley Technical College. To receive this certification, the K-9 team must perform very strict standards that have been developed by STK and adopted by the college. These standards are also very similar to standards set forth on a national level and recognized throughout the country for police canine teams. For years thereafter, on an annual basis, Qai and Moulas continued to certify through the North American Police Work Dog Association (NAPWDA) to a nationally accredited standard.



been developed by STK and adopted by the college. These standards are also very similar to standards set forth on a national level and recognized throughout the country for police canine teams. For years thereafter, on an annual basis, Qai and Moulas continued to certify through the North American Police Work Dog Association (NAPWDA) to a nationally accredited standard.

In addition to Qai's important role as a police canine, he and his handler are available to groups, schools, or organizations for purposes of putting on general demonstrations and to discuss the police K-9 role, as well as child safety with respect to dogs and other safety tips specific to the group audience and interest. Qai is very social and interacts well with adults, children and groups of all kinds.

During Qai's tenure, the team had a vast history of deployments and experiences throughout the State, including travels to Las Vegas for a K-9 competition as well as several trips in May to Washington, DC (National Police Week) to honor those officers who were killed and injured in the line of duty. In every case, Qai flew aboard a commercial airline and was met with great enthusiasm by fellow passengers as well as the flight crew during those travels.







Additional accomplishments include membership in the Wisconsin Law Enforcement Canine Handler Association, with Moulas serving as the Association Secretary for 6 years. In 2009, Moulas was the recipient of a distinguished award, K-9 Handler of The Year. Moulas was recognized for his performance in aiding many agencies across the State in establishing K-9 units. He has been involved in serving on several area department K-9 selection boards as well as consulting to numerous agencies throughout the state on various K-9 subjects.

Upon his retirement Qai will continue to come to work to serve as our official mascot. Qai has been very accustomed to coming to work daily with Moulas as he serves as a police canine.

During Qai's retirement, while he remains healthy, he may be available for appearances and presentations to groups and organizations.

Gus Moulas  
Assistant Chief of Police / K-9 Handler