

## SEARCH FOR MISSING UMASS STUDENT October 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> of 2008

Charlie Allen (aka Neo Babson Maximus)

Charlie Allen was 22 years of age when he went missing in Dartmouth, MA on 10/12/2007. He was a senior at UMASS Dartmouth and was experiencing manic episodes due to his bipolar condition.

Law enforcement conducted an extensive 3-day search where he was last observed running into a 4 square mile wooded area in Dartmouth, MA. Despite the thorough search conducted, he was not located. There has been no further communication from Charlie Allen since his disappearance.

On October 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>, 2008 (Columbus Day Weekend) a second search for Charlie Allen will take place in Dartmouth, MA.

The search effort will be conducted by volunteers and headed by private detective John W. Leccese of Orion Investigations and a team of licensed private detectives from Massachusetts (LPDAM).

Partnering with the *Molly Bish Foundation*, a number of professional and dedicated licensed private detectives, all members from the Licensed Private Detective Association of Massachusetts (LPDAM) have agreed to conduct "Pro Bono" investigations/searches on missing children cases through out the state. Individual private detectives and their companies will reexamine cold cases in their area to see if they can develop new leads and new information. They will work closely with the investigating law enforcement agencies involved in the specific case.

Nine canine teams from New England Wilderness Search and Rescue (N.E.S.A.R.) Association will participate in the search. The teams have extensive training, experience and certifications in cadaver searches, air scent searches, water searches, and disasters.

Gail McCarthy is co-founder and president of the Massachusetts Rescue and Recovery K9 Unit, Inc. (MARK9), canine search and rescue (SAR) organization that operates in Massachusetts. Gail also is a canine handler with the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) Massachusetts Task Force 1 (MA-TF1). FEMA's National USAR Task Force has been a major SAR resource in our country for many years. SAR dog teams sponsored by FEMA have responded to many of the recent national disasters including hurricanes "Andrew, Hugo, and Katrina", the Northridge earthquake, Oklahoma City and World Trade Center bombings as well as the September 11<sup>th</sup> attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. Currently, Gail and other SAR teams from Massachusetts have been deployed chasing hurricanes "Gustove and Ike" up and down the East coast traveling over 3200 miles helping people in distress.

Various SAR teams have been asked to participate in searches and recoveries throughout the United States including the 2003 Columbia space shuttle disaster and more recently the 2005 hurricane "Katrina" that devastated New Orleans.

The teams are a nonprofit organization that receives support from private donors, foundations and corporations.

Responding to people in distress has long been an honorable, charitable tradition that consists of teams of professional volunteers who carry on this tradition by donating thousands of hours to train their dogs for the sole purpose of helping others in times of need. All handlers and their dogs are professional, highly trained and certified. All of the dogs are owned by their handlers and all costs incurred during training and responding on missions is the sole responsibility of the handler.

Search volunteers can contact John W. Leccese, Orion Investigations @ [jleccese@yaho.com](mailto:jleccese@yaho.com) (preferred contact) or call 866-477-8275.

For additional information visit [www.findcharlieallen.com](http://www.findcharlieallen.com)

Donations to support the search will be greatly appreciated. Search/Rescue missions such as this would not be possible without your donations. Although we are all volunteers, funding is needed for the lodging of the canine teams that will be traveling from all over New England. Food, water and essentials will also be needed for the many volunteer searchers who participate over the three-day weekend.

Donations can be sent to:

The Charlie Allen Fund  
C/O Bank of America  
191 Merrimack St. Haverhill, MA 01830

or

71 Faunce Corner Rd., North Dartmouth, MA 02747

Thank you