

Washington State Animal Response Team

"Helping Animals and their Owners in Disasters"



WASART NEWS

From the President

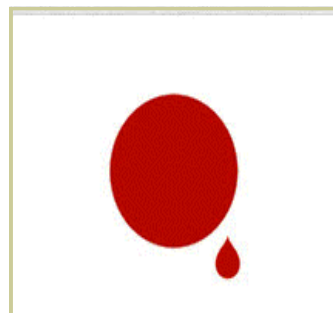
It is with great sadness and shock that we view the terrible earthquake and destruction in Japan. As an animal-welfare nonprofit organization, our first concern is for the people of Japan and their animals. WASART is in contact with major international animal relief organizations to explore deploying to Japan when conditions are safe to do so. However, as a small, all-volunteer organization, neither WASART nor its individual members have the resources to fund this major undertaking. We need the aid of our supporters to allow this relief mission to take place.

We have established fundraising through PayPal on our website and Facebook to assist this effort. The money raised will be used first to help send our volunteers to Japan under the auspices of a larger animal-welfare organization. We will be taking our own supplies and equipment on the journey. Any funds that are in excess of travel expenses, or if the team does not deploy, will be donated to an animal-welfare organization already active in Japan. All donations are tax-deductible.

In anticipation of your generosity, personally and on behalf of every WASART member, I thank you for your contributions to this humanitarian endeavor.

Gretchen McCallum
President

March 2011 Remember Japan

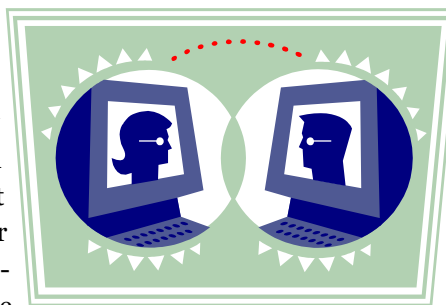


Mission Statement

To help animals and their owners through disaster preparedness, education, and emergency response.

WASART General Meeting Update

The first WASART General Meeting to be held via WebEx teleconferencing appears to have been very successful. On **March 9, 2011**, Gretchen McCallum conducted the meeting from Enumclaw while eight members gathered around Bill Daugaard's computer at the meeting site in Kenmore, another three clustered together in Olympia, and 13 more joined the meeting on their individual computers. Finally, one enterprising member joined via her Smartphone and another while on vacation in California.



While the June and December General Meetings will continue to be face-to-face meetings in Enumclaw (because they are also Graduation meetings), the September 14th meeting will be personally hosted by WASART's Secretary, **Ritz Duchesne**, at the Girl Scout Headquarters in DuPont, WA. It is hoped we will again be able to use the Kenmore location for that meeting to accommodate our north-of-Seattle members but that decision has yet to be finalized. All in all, we were very happy with the result and attendance. Yay for technology!

WASART NEWS is a publication of the Washington State Animal Response Team (WASART) published on or about the 15th of each month. WASART is an all volunteer, 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. The mailing address is: WASART, P.O. Box 21, Enumclaw, WA 98022, e-mail is animalresponseteam@gmail.com and website is: washingtontsart.org.

A Trip to Best Friends Animal Sanctuary



Best Friends is an animal sanctuary located on 3,800 acres in Kanab, Utah. On any given day it is the home to over 1700 animals including dogs, cats, parrots, horses, donkeys, sheep, pigs, rabbits and much more. The animals come to the sanctuary from far and wide. But once they are there, the staff at Best Friends makes sure that nothing bad will ever happen to them again. Many of the animals stay there for life although rehabilitation and adoption are major goals.

Many of the animals are the outcasts of society - unwanted, lame, too traumatized by past abuse, or too old, handicapped, or ill. I can however attest to you without any hesitation that Best Friends is a unique home and haven. There's just nothing else like it anywhere.

That is partially why I went there to take an intensive eight day training class on how to establish and run a sanctuary. I wanted to learn from the BEST. I also found Best Friends to be a great place to re-energize. The sanctuary is set in the high desert and rests in between beautiful limestone and sandstone formations. Wildlife is abundant from herds of mule deer, wild turkeys, quail and jack rabbits so it easy to walk or just sit and reflect in this wonderful natural setting.



If you are looking for a wonderful place to learn and re-energize, please consider volunteering or attending a class at Best Friends. Their website is www.bestfriends.org.

Submitted by Byron Wilkes.

Sheltering Course Postponement

As the minimum of ten registrants required for a WASART course to take place was not realized, the Sheltering course originally scheduled for **March 12-13, 2011** in Shoreline, WA was postponed to later in the year. The specific date and location is still to be determined. Keep checking the WASART website or Calendar for more information or email training@washingtonsart.org.

WASART Training Opportunities

Most training opportunities are now open to the general public (but you have to be a WASART member to be eligible to deploy)! Adults only, please.

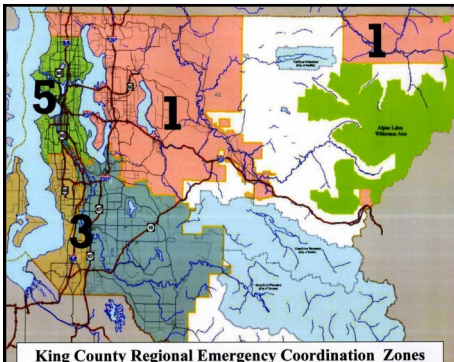
April 9, 2011: Base Support and/or **WASART Trailer Training**, Cumberland, WA. Open to WASART members only. Free. Register at amy@lostpetresources.com.

May 14-15, 2011, Field Response, Sunset Lake Camp, Wilkeson, WA. Live animals, class-room instruction and hands-on training. Overnight camping in RVs or cabins, catered meals, etc. Registration deadline is May 4, 2011. See flyer on page 4 for more information.

WASART's General Meetings are currently held each quarter on the **2nd Wednesday of each quarter** at **7:00 p.m.** The **June 9th** and **December 14th** meetings are currently scheduled to be held at the **Key Bank, 1212 Cole Street, Enumclaw, WA 98022** from **7:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m.** However, the **September 14th** meeting will be held via teleconferencing and personally hosted at a Kenmore, WA and DuPont, WA location. More info to follow on the WASART website's Calendar. All are welcome.

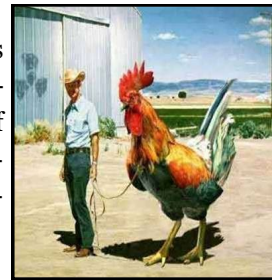
Community Outreach Events

Because of the generosity of WASART members, **Richard Vetter, DVM**, and **Kathy Vetter**, who donated booth space and equipment for WASART's use, WASART members were able to staff a booth at the 2011 Horse Expo held at the Clark County Convention Center **February 18-20, 2011**. **Ritz Duchesne** attended all three days of the Expo and was assisted by **JoDee Craigmile-Nilsen**, **Gretchen McCallum** and **Marie Schimke**. They estimate they personally spoke about WASART to approximately 1,000 of the 5,000 attendees.



On **March 16, 2011**, WASART's President, **Gretchen McCallum**, and Vice-President, **Rory Keller**, were invited to give a presentation on WASART's capabilities at the monthly meeting of the Zone One Workgroup at the King County Office of Emergency Management. Zone One is comprised of representatives from approximately 22 cities in north-eastern King County, who meet regularly to formulate plans on how best to respond to emergencies and disasters affecting their jurisdictions.

WASART Team Leader, **Heidi Kuester**, presented a 2.5 hour class to animal control officers on **March 16, 2011** on "Livestock Assessment, Handling and Control". The class was part of a series of courses offered to animal control officers by the Washington Animal Control Association at their annual academy held at the Criminal Justice Training Center in Buren, WA.



Eight WASART members gave generously of their time to staff a WASART promotional booth at the Cabela's 'Spring Great Outdoors Days' promotion in Lacey, WA on **March 19-20, 2011**. Saturday, March 19th, saw **Gretchen McCallum**, **JoDee Craigmile-Nilsen**, **Carol Satre**, **Amy Adams** and **Lanette Knapp** at the booth followed the next day by **Joyce Moody**, **Hollie Smith**, and WASART's Training Director, **Bill Daugaard**. The booth generated a lot of interest from Cabela's customers especially in regards to disaster prepared-

ness for animals.

While not exactly an outreach event, Advising Specialist, **Dennis Brislawn, J.D.**, just completed a two-day Basic Public Information Officer Course in Bremerton, WA offered by the WA Emergency Management Division. Dennis will now be able to work more effectively with WASART's Public Relations Team in spreading the word about WASART. The current Public Relations Team is comprised of **Penny Jorgensen** (website), **Sara Scott** (Facebook), and **Rachael Millikan** (media).



FIELD RESPONSE TRAINING

Offered by the Washington State Animal Response Team
a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization



www.washingtonsart.org

Tuition Cost: \$85.00 for WASART members; \$110.00 to the general public (adults only).

Camping & Meals Cost: TBD

Pre-registration and pre-payment required. **Registration deadline: May 2, 2011.** Minimum 10 attendees required for course to be held.

Dates: May 14-15, 2011

Time: 8:30 a.m.— 5:00 p.m.

Location: Sunset Lake Camp,
Wilkeson, WA.

Large and small animals will be used for this course. Learn about animal assessment and trailer loading techniques as well as site assessment, water rescue awareness, hazardous materials, technical rope rescue awareness and other courses designed to help you safely and effectively deal with animal related incidents in the field.

Registration form shortly available on the WASART Calendar.

Mail form and check to: WASART,
P.O. Box 21, Enumclaw, WA 98022

More Information:
training@washingtonsart.org