

Washington State Animal Response Team

"Helping Animals and their Owners in Disasters"

WASART NEWS



From the President

May was a very busy month for WASART as we were occupied with so many presentations, trainings, attendance at emergency fairs, and demonstrations that I ran out of time to prepare a newsletter. As June looks to be more of the same, I decided to combine May and June's newsletters into one production. The current plan is to have the July newsletter back on track for distribution or on about July 15th. Of course, that could change, too.

This column provides the ideal opportunity to mention just two of the many people who contribute so much to making WASART the well-trained organization it is. **Gary and Chloe Kaufman** of Lands End Llamas in Olympia have generously donated their time, expertise and llamas to WASART's Field Response trainings and annual Mock Shelter Operations Drills since 2008. They are excellent teachers who always provide well-mannered—and gorgeous—llamas for training purposes. I'm convinced that what they don't know about llamas could be written on the head of a pin.

Gary and Chloe are so indicative of the educators and experts who are not members of WASART yet believe in WASART's vision. These folk put that belief into action by assisting with trainings, reviewing articles, giving advice when requested and offering suggestions on how to improve WASART so that Washington's animal communities are better served. We are so grateful to them all.

Gretchen McCallum
President

May-June 2011 Adopt a Shelter Cat Month



Mission Statement

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

WASART's General Membership Meeting—June 8, 2011

Please plan on attending WASART's next quarterly General Membership Meeting and Graduation on **June 8, 2011**. It will be a two hour meeting starting at 7:00 p.m. and after disposing of WASART 'business', will include some WASART members being rewarded for their hard work by receiving Certificates of Achievement.

The meeting will be held in the Community Meeting Room of the Key Bank, 1212 Cole Street, Enumclaw, WA 98022. Come and meet WASART members, join in the graduation festivities, and enjoy some delicious goodies provided by our Hospitality Committee. For more information, contact info@washingtonsart.org.



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 info@washingtonsart.org and website is: washingtonsart.org.

Financial Assistance Sought

Over 35 WASART members have received, and personally paid for, extended 2-3 day training in Large Animal Rescue and Technical Large Animal Rescue techniques from several different training organizations. This training supplements the Field Response training offered by WASART on an annual basis and comes into play when having to pull horses out of bogs, swamps, drainage ditches, up



steep hillsides, out of overturned trailers, etc. These calls are increasing as the WASART name and capabilities become better known. The most recent extraction in which these skills were utilized was of 'Buddy' out of a 15' deep draining ditch in Enumclaw and detailed in the February, 2011 'WASART NEWS' that is posted on the website.



In order for WASART to provide on-going refresher training opportunities so these skills remain honed and so that we continue to meet the needs of the animal communities we serve, WASART's most pressing training equipment need is for an articulated horse on which to practice.

We are respectfully requesting our supporters make a donation towards the purchase of a "Rescue Randy". He is a full-sized, fully articulated training mannequin with portable stand, used for vertical harness and sling training. He has a realistic training weight and size, and provides practical and realistic hands-on training to learn life saving techniques. His cost, which includes shipping and handling, is \$12,950.00. All donations are tax-deductible and can be made through the PayPal site on WASART's website or Facebook page. Please help us continue to be of assistance to our animal friends and their owners by donating generously towards this vital equipment purchase.

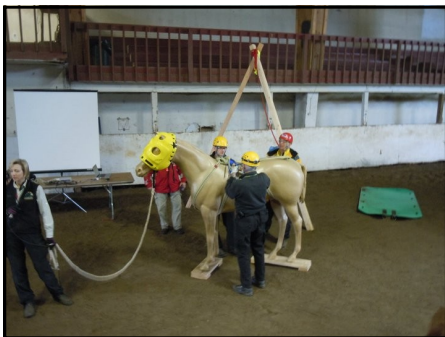
2011 Search & Rescue Conference

WASART was honored to be invited to be among the presenters at the State Search and Rescue (SAR) Conference held May 20-22 at the Cowlitz County Conference and Event Center in Kelso. The annual Conference was attended by approximately 730 SAR members from Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Texas, California, Virginia and Colorado as well as 31 from Iceland, 15 from Canada and one from South Africa. WASART members **Dennis Brislawn, Greta Cook, Bill Daugaard, Ritz Duchesne, Jason King, Lanette Knapp, Fred Knight, Lauri McBeath-Davies** and **Marie Schimke** all participated in the demonstration sessions,



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WASART's General Meetings are currently held each quarter on the **2nd Wednesday of each quarter at 7:00 p.m.** The **June 8th** 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 Kenmore, WA and DuPont, WA locations. More information to follow on the WASART website's Calendar. Everyone is welcome.



given on Friday and Saturday mornings in the Event Center Arena. The team primarily demonstrated large animal rescue techniques. They erected and demonstrated use of a vertical lift tripod, showed various means of using rescue straps to move or assist animals from rescue situations, and demonstrated how to secure and move an animal using WASART's large rescue glide. They also demonstrated how to rig an animal for a vertical lift, using "Stan,"

WASART's static horse model, and also showed how to modify the vertical lift harness and other lifting techniques for use on smaller animals. This was accomplished with the help of a very well-behaved live model rescue dog, **Pocket**, volunteered by **Katharine Kay** of the **Whatcom County's Summit to Sound SAR** unit and one of the Conference attendees.

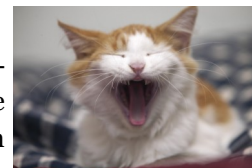


An unexpected award was made to a very surprised **Lauri McBeath-Davies** at the banquet on Saturday evening. She was honored with the '2011 Adult SAR Award' for her volunteer services in support of search and rescue and other organizations. Since 1994, she has helped develop Whatcom County's SAR group, is a member of their swift-water, horseback and 4x4 teams, is an advisor to ESAR (Explorer Search & Rescue), President of the Sound to Summit organization, and an instructor for the American Heart Association. She was described as the 'volunteer's volunteer'. WASART is proud to also count her as a member.

Following the conference, congratulations were received from Bill Gillespie, Search and Rescue Association President, thanking us for our presentation and saying that he had heard numerous very positive comments about the demonstration. The presentation team all felt that the demonstration had gone well, and look forward to participating in next year's conference scheduled for May 19-20, 2012 and hosted by Klickitat County Sheriff's Office.

New Task Force Formed

ROAR (Regional Organized Animal Response) is a task force of concerned animal organizations, agencies and individuals that came together after attending the two day FEMA MGT 364 course on Standardized Credentialing and Resource Typing Management for Animal Emergency Response and Recovery. This training opportunity was held in Auburn, WA on March 31-April 1, 2011 and co-hosted by WASART and King County Office of Emergency Management. The intent of ROAR is to identify and type resources, i.e. volunteers, equipment, supplies, facilities etc., currently available and to identify the resources needed to effectively respond to large scale disasters in the region. Members of the task force currently include Animal Control, shelters, Fire District #44, veterinarians, Public Health departments, emergency managers, Pierce County Animal Response Team, and WASART.



The first meeting since its inception was held May 25th at the Seattle King County Public Health building. The meeting's focus was to identify needs of the attending member's organizations and how we could share information and plans to create a more unified response.

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To that end, Seattle Animal Shelter and Regional Animal Services of King County (RASKC) are reviewing their emergency shelter plans and have asked to compare them with WASART's Emergency Shelter template. The need for ongoing training opportunities to teach and improve volunteer's skills and keep them motivated was a common concern. The attendees were invited to participate in WASART's annual Mock Shelter exercise which will be held at the Enumclaw Expo Center on October 8-9, 2011. The next ROAR meeting to review shelter plans will be held in mid-July. For more information on ROAR, contact dave.nichols@kingcounty.gov or gretacook@hotmail.com.

Field Response Training—May 14-15, 2011

Field Response training this year was held at the beautiful Sunset Lake Camp in Wilkeson, WA and attended by 16 trainees supported by 15+ senior WASART members. The trainees traveled from as far afield as Sequim, Chehalis, and Bellingham for the training. Accommodation was either in a tent, a personal RV, or sharing a rustic cabin with up to five new best friends. Meals were catered by the Camp's staff. Among other classes offered over the weekend, attendees learned basic knot tying and how to rig a recumbent animal on a rescue glide or animal backboard, trailer loading and animal handling using some of the llamas, horses, donkeys, bovines, rabbits, goats, dogs, cats and chickens loaned by WASART members, incident management and base support, Hazmat and biosecurity awareness, advanced fire safety, zoonotic disease awareness, as well as water safety awareness and rope rescue awareness training. Unfortunately, heavy rain on



the second day of training caused a cancellation of the river side practice because the river was flowing too swiftly for the safety of a designated WASART swimmer on whom the attendees were going to practice their throw bag techniques. However, there was plenty of room inside to do so and this task was accomplished with much laughter and enthusiasm and even some accuracy.

As soon as these newly trained Field Response members complete their remaining Mandatory Independent Study requirements and their Core training, if they haven't already done so, they will be placed on the list of WASART members who are eligible to deploy to animal-related emergencies or disasters that require WASART's technical expertise.

The attendees were **Kayla White, Marie Schimke, Michaela Eaves, Deanna and Tim Brix, Bailey Brix, Jarrit Dowling, Ginger Dickson, Denise Wilkes, Chris Hollinger, Jason King, Fred Knight, Jon Mercer, Diane Sarno, Susan Mosby, and Mike Tyler** from Sequim.

Upcoming Events



Washington State Veterinarian, Leonard Eldridge, DVM, will address the **Equine Herpes Virus and NEHV-1 Virus** situation at **6:30 p.m. on Thursday, June 9, 2011** at the Enumclaw Sales Pavilion, 22712 SE 436th Avenue, Enumclaw, WA 98022. The session is co-sponsored by WASART member, **Richard Vetter, DVM**, of Performance Equine Dental and Veterinary and Ron Mariotti of the Sales Pavilion. Topics include the history of the virus, the present event and updates, what is known about EHV, frequently asked questions about the outbreak, how it is being handled and how other states are dealing with the issue.



WASART is working with 'Make a Wish Foundation' to make a little girl's final dream come true. A private party to celebrate her life and all the things she loves . . . horses, pets, farms and friends . . . is the wish of six year old Peyton and WASART is leading the charge to make it happen. Pierce County 4x4 Search & Rescue unit is also generously donating its time and volunteers to make this party a success. But just because this is a private party and not open to the public doesn't mean a person can't contribute to Peyton's legacy. A 503(c)(3) nonprofit organization was recently established 'to bring together children who struggle with their health, mobility or are otherwise limited in their ability to enjoy life, the opportunity to experience the joy of animals'. For more information on Peyton, her story, and the goals and mission of her nonprofit organization, visit www.peytonsranh.org.



Presentations, Appearances, Deployments, etc.

Briefly, WASART members gave presentations to the **Public Educators' Meeting** at King County Office of Emergency Management, Renton, WA, on **April 21, 2011 (Dennis Brislawn and Gretchen McCallum)**; **Metropolitan Veterinary Hospital**, Tacoma, WA, **April 30, 2011 (Gretchen McCallum)**; and for the good folk at the **Environmental Protection Agency**, Seattle, WA on **May 25, 2011 (Marie Schimke and Gretchen McCallum)**.

Other WASART members were also busy staffing WASART's informational booths or being a presence at other activities such as the **Shoreline Emergency Fair**, Shoreline, WA on **May 7, 2011 (Mary Ann Bentley, Amy Adams, and Jill Rucker)**; the **4-H Competitive Trail Ride**, Panhandle Lake, Shelton, WA on **May 14, 2011 (Ritz Duchesne and Karen Johnson)**; and for the third consecutive year, at the annual **Petpalooza** in Auburn, WA on **May 21, 2011 (Lanette Knapp, Sarah Knapp, Heidi Kuester, Ritz Duchesne, and brand new members Kayla White and Diane Sarno)**.

Finally, some members found time to deploy with the **American Human Association** to Memphis, Tennessee in May (**Bill Daugaard and Linda McCoy**), and Joplin, Missouri in June (**Sara Scott**).

A HUGE round of applause to our wonderful volunteers!

