

Washington State Animal Response Team

"Helping Animals and their Owners in Disasters"



WASART NEWS

From the President

Once again, WASART volunteers have responded to a request from one of our partner organizations, the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA), to assist in caring for hundreds of dogs rescued from a puppy mill. Nine WASART members are deploying to Arkansas in three teams commencing on November 27th. **Bill Daugaard, Sarah Knapp, Carla Dimitriou and Linda McCoy** comprise the first team followed at staggered intervals by **Lynn Telford-Zenk, Chris Hollinger, Kate Tegeler, Carol Satre and Terry Garcia** (who is deploying from Chicago). All will deploy for a period of 7-10 days. They have all attended WASART's two-day Emergency Sheltering course and several have deployed with ASPCA and other animal-welfare organizations in the past. At least three were volunteers during Hurricane Katrina.

WASART is proud of its volunteers and appreciates the dedication and hard work they bring to helping our animal friends in need. Our volunteers are taking personal time from work, leaving their families behind, and putting their training and experience to work for the benefit of a partner organization's needy animals. But they will return from deployment with those skills more finely honed for use in Washington State if the need ever arises. Kudos to the responders. WASART appreciates them all!

Gretchen McCallum
President

November 2011

'Adopt a Senior Pet' Month



Mission Statement

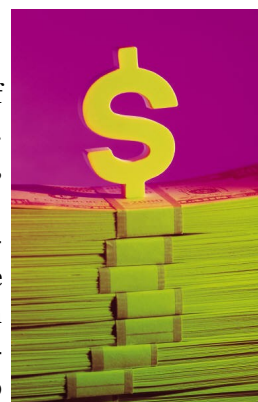
To help animals and their owners through disaster preparedness, education, and emergency response.

2012 Membership Renewal

Membership renewal for 2012 starts November 1st and annual dues of \$25.00 per person must be paid by January 1, 2012 to be current. Checks, payable to WASART, can be mailed to WASART, P.O. Box 21, Enumclaw, WA 98022.

And don't forget that membership dues are tax deductible for the calendar year and subsequent years. Deduct your dues as a charitable contribution under authority of IRC Section 170 (assuming the person paying the dues itemizes their deductions on Schedule A when computing their federal net taxable income). Your volunteer mileage is also deductible at 14 cents per mile.

This advice is not provided by a tax attorney or tax consultant so it is advisable to check with the appropriate person when preparing your federal income tax return.



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.

There's still time to complete the Mandatory Self-Study Requirements and graduate at the General Meeting on December 14th! Many members have already attended Core, Sheltering and/or Field Response courses and WASART is anxious to put you on the 'deployment ready' roster as soon as First Aid, CPR, Blood Borne Pathogens, a Tetanus vaccination is obtained, and ICS 100, 200 and 700 are completed. A colder, wetter winter is forecast and requests for WASART's services will likely increase accordingly. So, please, wrap up these final requirements! You'll be needed!

Recent Developments

The WASART Board of Directors has been particularly busy in past several months. First, **Michaela Eaves** was appointed to fill the vacant Vice-President's position, **Rory Kelleher** was promoted to Operations Leader, and **Mary Ann DeMoss** assumed the position of Chair of the Merchandise Committee. These members bring a wealth of experience to the WASART table, not only in the business world but also in local, national and international animal and human rescue efforts. WASART is a stronger organization because of their willingness to contribute their skills and talents.



The Board also decided, beginning in 2012, that the quarterly General Membership Meetings would be conducted as face-to-face meetings with the June and December meetings being held at the Key Bank in Enumclaw, WA. The locations for the March and September meetings have still to be determined, but it is hoped that one will be scheduled in Snohomish County and the other in Pierce or Thurston Counties. Watch for meeting locations in upcoming newsletters or check the Calendar on the WASART website.

After several meetings by the Training Committee, a revised Training Curriculum was presented for the Board's review. Changes to the Training Curriculum included adding another FEMA class, FEMA IS 800, to the Mandatory Independent Study Requirements, and expanding the previously one-day Core segment to a two-day class. The first day's curriculum would remain the same as previous years' Core training, but the second day's curriculum would include classes in Volunteer Involvement, Trailer and Transport Support, and Base Camp Support/Integrated Command System. Upon completion of the newly revised Core classes and Mandatory Independent Study Requirements, members will be qualified to deploy in all capacities that do not require actual animal handling or driving for animal transport. Members who wish to handle animals or drive vehicles for animal transport then move on to take courses in their chosen category or categories for the 'jobs' for which they wish to be qualified. The Board voted to approve the recommended changes as presented and the revised Training Curriculum has been posted to the WASART website.



WASART's General Meetings are currently held on the **2nd Wednesday of each quarter at 7:00 p.m.** The **December 14th** meeting will be held at the **Key Bank, 1212 Cole Street, Enumclaw, WA 98022 from 7:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m.** This is also the second and final graduation night for members who have completed some or all of the segments of the training curriculum. It is also election night. Everyone is welcome.

Recent Developments (con't)

To more quickly and efficiently respond to requests for assistance from various government agencies and/or the general public, WASART has retained the services of a national answering service. Calls made to WASART's designated number of 425-681-5498 will now be answered 24/7 by a live person who will immediately contact the WASART Duty Officer with the information. The WASART Duty Officer will then make the determination as to the proper disposition of the call.



Although still in the initial planning stage, the Board also voted to begin the process of developing CARTs (County Animal Response Teams) and RARTs (Regional Animal Response Teams). More and more volunteers are joining WASART from non-King County locations and strong interest has been expressed in having cadres of WASART trained and credentialed volunteers in the larger counties or coalition of smaller counties ready to promptly respond to animal emergencies or disasters.

WASART member, **Mike Tyler, D.V.M.**, is spearheading the effort for Clallam County to be one of the first counties to be a part of this exciting expansion. As being trained to WASART's standards is an integral component of this growth, and as WASART usually only offers each of its four training segments once annually beginning in February, 2012, enquiries about establishing a CART or RART anywhere in Washington should be directed to info@washingtonsart.org.

General Membership Meeting, 12/14/2011

All WASART members, and visitors, are expressly invited to attend the final quarterly General Membership Meeting at 7:00 p.m. on December 14th. It will be held at the Key Bank Community Meeting Room, 1212 Cole Street, Enumclaw, WA 98022. Not only will **Bill Daugaard** and **Greta Cook** offer a mini-training on lessons learned at the flooding necessitating their deployment to Joplin, Missouri but voting will take place for the positions of President, Secretary and Training Director. The Elections Committee of **Lynn Telford-Zenk** and **Denise Steinkerchner** have been hard at work soliciting volunteers to run for the positions and preparing the ballots for the election. So come and spend some time with WASART volunteers, enjoy the festivities and learn a little bit about the realities of deployments.



Horse Rescue in Enumclaw, WA—11/9/2011

It started out as a pleasant horseback ride for three friends in the foothills east of Enumclaw when two of the horses spooked while drinking at Second Lake. Both riders came off and the horses went into the lake which was surrounded by boggy ground and downed trees. One horse was able to extricate itself but the other, a seven year old mare named **Satin**, became stuck in the bog at the northwest end of the lake after swimming across the lake several times.



When the WASART Duty Officer, Greta Cook, received the call from the King County Sheriff's Office at 4:00 p.m. requesting WASART's assistance, she immediately began the procedure to activate Field Response trained WASART members.

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

Communication was difficult on the mountain and hiking through the brush and forest was problematic because of the darkness, boggy conditions and downed trees. Greta Cook was the first senior WASART member onsite and assumed the position of Strike Team Leader. She bushwhacked around the lake to assess the situation and found Satin mired in mud, cold, and occasionally struggling to rise but unable to do so because the footing was so poor. Greta ordered a trail to be cut to the horse's location and lights, powered by our generator, to be hung on trees to light the trail. The rescue glide and other equipment were removed from WASART's supplies and equipment trailer and readied for use.

Because of the limited communications, three teams from King County 4x4 SAR unit arrived and set up radio communications.

A veterinarian also arrived and hiked in to assess the horse's condition. Eventually, the horse was able to get up and was led back to the staging area where she was again examined by the vet, blanketed, loaded into a trailer and taken home with the other two horses. The staging area was cleared, the WASART supplies and equipment trailer repacked, and all WASART responders were released to return home by 8:30 p.m.

The WASART responders were **Greta Cook, Ken Cottle, Lanette Knapp, Marie Schimke, Ken Hasbargen, Heidi Kuester, Bill Daugaard, Jason King, Amy Adams**, with **Gretchen McCallum** acting as Call Coordinator.

Also onsite - and greatly appreciated—was **King County Sheriff's Deputy Troy Chaffee, Tim Wandler**, the Hancock security patrol, and members of the King County 4x4 unit (names regrettably unknown at the writing of this newsletter).

This is the result that WASART loves—a healthy horse reunited with its anxious but relieved owner. It doesn't get much better than this!



Washington State Animal Response Team

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ANNUAL ORIENTATION MEETING

Saturday, JANUARY 7, 2012—9:00 A.M.—noon

**Eastside Fire & Rescue Headquarters, 175 Newport Way NW,
Issaquah, WA**

WASART is an all-volunteer, 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization specializing in animal disaster preparedness, response, recovery, sheltering and reunification.



Learn about WASART's goals, ways to be involved, and how to join and be trained. For more information, contact 360-886-7276, email us at info@washingtonsart.org, view our Calendar at www.washingtonsart.org, or wait for updated information in forthcoming monthly newsletters.