

Washington State Animal Response Team

"Helping Animals and their Owners in Disasters"



WASART NEWS

From the President

This is my last column as President of WASART. My second term as President ends on December 31st and I am very pleased to announce that WASART's current Training Director, **Bill Daugaard**, will take the reins and continue to strongly influence WASART's future growth and progress. I will continue on the Board of Directors but in a more limited role as Past President.

Bill brings a wealth of practical experience to the WASART table. He initially volunteered to provide animal care after Hurricane Katrina, and since then has deployed numerous times not only locally but also nationally, most recently with the Animal Society for the Protection of Animals (ASPCA) to Hot Springs, Arkansas. Bill has provided thoughtful leadership during his two year stint as Training Director, given many presentations on behalf of WASART on Disaster Preparedness for Animals and other topics, and represented WASART's interests well at the frequent planning meetings and consultations to which WASART has been invited. WASART is in good hands and I am confident WASART will continue to thrive under his leadership.

It has truly been my honor and privilege to have been WASART's President for the past five years. WASART grew from an idea generated by the scenes during Katrina of the anguish expressed by pet owners when forced to leave their beloved pets behind during their evacuations. It further developed from an initial meeting around my dining room table with co-founder, **Greta Cook**, in February, 2007 to where it is today: an organization unique to Washington with a rigorous training program that has prepared and credentialed over 300 past and present members to provide emergency shelter care and to rescue/evacuate animals from life threatening situations; an organization that has developed a series of informative presentations on animal-related topics; an organization that is recognized as a State resource for animal-related emergencies and disasters; and an organization that has negotiated protocols for responding to calls for assistance when received from private citizens and Emergency Managers and Coordinators of nearly every county in Western Washington.

I am very proud to be a part of this organization, but I am especially proud of its dedicated and hard-working members who have given so generously of their time, energy and dollars. WASART is where it is today solely because of them. As American anthropologist Margaret Mead once said: "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has".

Gretchen McCallum
President

December 2011

**'Spread Cheer to
Family and Friends'
Month**



Mission Statement

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

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.

Not only was **Bill Daugaard** elected to the position of President at the General Membership Meeting on December 7, 2011, but **Cathy Reaney** assumed the position of Training Director, and **R. Marie Schimke** was elected to a two year term as Secretary. We are grateful to them all for their willingness to take on the hard work these positions entail.



As an example of WASART's continuing involvement in the communities we serve, WASART members have given presentations on various animal-related topics such as Disaster Preparedness for Pets and/or staffed informational booths at various government agency/community-sponsored emergency fairs a total of 11 times in the last quarter of 2011. And these numbers do not include the five deployments or almost-deployments that occurred in the same time period from Stanwood and Sultan down to Tacoma and points in-between. In recognition of the rapidly increasing number of requests for WASART's attendance at such events, long-time WASART member, **Karen Johnson**, has agreed to act as coordinator. Please contact Karen at speakingengagements@washingtonsart.org to schedule an appearance or presentation.

Two members have completed all their required courses and training and are qualified to respond to animal-related situations that require the technical expertise they now possess. **Fred Knight** from our Whatcom County cadre, a member of WASART's Technical Rescue Team and a WASART instructor, and **Kelli Taylor, D.V.M.**, another of WASART's member veterinarians, join the ranks of WASART's growing list of Field Response qualified members who are ready to respond when needed.



2012 WASART Expanded Training Opportunities

The Training Committee has been busy expanding the list of training opportunities for WASART members as well as adult members of the general population. Locations have not yet been finalized for all of the training, but they will be posted to the WASART Calendar or mentioned in this newsletter as they become known. Alternatively, email the Training Director at training@washingtonsart.org.

January 14, 2012—Emergency Sheltering Table Top Exercise—possibly Snoqualmie Fire Station but awaiting confirmation;

February 4-5, 2012—Core—possibly Redmond, WA but awaiting confirmation;

March 3, 2012—CPR/First Aid—Key Bank, Enumclaw, WA;

March 17, 2012—Transport—Enumclaw;

April 28-29, 2012—Field Response—Sunset Lake Camp, Wilkeson, WA;

June 23, 2012—Communication Workshop—Snoqualmie but awaiting confirmation;

July 28-29, 2012—Emergency Sheltering—Enumclaw;

August 4, 2012—CPR/First Aid—Key Bank, Enumclaw, WA;

September 16, 2012—Mock Shelter Table Top Exercise—Enumclaw, WA;

October 20-21, 2012—Mock Shelter Exercise—Enumclaw Expo Center;

WASART's General Meetings are currently held on the **2nd Wednesday of each quarter** at **7:00 p.m.** In 2012, the **March 14th** and **September 12th** meetings will be held in Pierce, Snohomish or Thurston Counties with the exact location still to be determined. The **June 13th** and **December 12th** meetings will be held at the **Key Bank, 1212 Cole Street, Enumclaw, WA 98022 from 7:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m.** All these meetings are open to the public and everyone is invited to attend.

Puppy Mill Deployment, Hot Springs, Arkansas

Following a request to WASART from the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) in June, 2011 to assist with shelter care in Joplin, Missouri—to which **Byron Wilkes, Susan Mosby, Linda McCoy** and **Linden Rowell** responded—the ASPCA again reached out to WASART for more volunteers to help with sheltering over 200 dogs in Hot Springs, Arkansas seized in a puppy mill raid that resulted in criminal charges against the owner. The subsequent deployment began the Sunday after Thanksgiving and extended through mid-December. WASART sent a total of nine members: **Lynn Telford-Zenk, Kate Tegeler, Carol Satre, Linda McCoy, Sarah Knapp, Chris Hollinger, Terry Garcia, Carla Dimitriou** and **Bill Daugaard**, in two separate rotations. The dogs were all small breeds such as Westies, Boston Terriers, Pomeranians, etc., and nearly all were sweet and very hungry for attention and care. The breeding dogs, some with tiny unweaned puppies, had been living in sheds outside a mobile home. Responders found them suffering from various eye diseases, dental disease, skin diseases, fleas, mites and heartworm.



Bill, Carla, Sarah, Linda



Carol and Chris

As always, we gained new knowledge from this deployment. All the team members were very impressed with the feeding system set up by ASPCA; it assured proper feeding, in amount and type of food, for all the dogs, and assured that those with special dietary requirements received the food they needed. We were so impressed with the method that we are now incorporating it into WASART's own Sheltering Procedure.

The shelter layout was a little complicated, laid out initially in separate areas that kept the dogs in the same groupings they'd been in in the puppy mill. That made the shelter a little maze-like and made feeding and cleanup less efficient that they would otherwise have been. Near the end of the second rotation the layout was rearranged and greatly simplified.



Carol, Terry, Kate, Chris, Lynn

At about the same time, about half the dogs were moved out to other shelters within driving distance that had their own adoption programs and a large-scale adoption event was planned for the remaining dogs on December 19 and 20. So, hopefully, all these poor little critters will soon find new, loving homes and much better lives than they've known up to now.

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

This was the first deployment with a national organization for Lynn, Kate, Carol, Sarah, Chris and Terry, and provided valuable experience that can't be obtained any other way. They all agreed that it was a profoundly moving experience, as these emergency deployments always are. WASART is now extremely fortunate to have six more "veteran" responders, ready for future deployments either here in Washington or elsewhere in the nation. WASART's green shirts and logo were very much in evidence in the shelter and in Hot Springs, and we further enhanced our reputation with ASPCA as an organization of hard workers who know what they're doing.



Submitted by Bill Daugaard
WASART Operations Leader

WASART 2012 Membership Dues

To join/rejoin WASART for 2012, please make sure your annual membership dues of \$25.00 per person are mailed to WASART, P.O. Box 21, Enumclaw, WA 98022 ASAP. If you joined WASART after November 1st, your dues covered the remainder of 2011 as well as all of 2012. Membership dues are tax deductible for the calendar year and can be deducted as a charitable contribution under authority of IRS Section 170 (assuming the person paying the dues itemizes their deductions on Schedule A when computing their federal net taxable income). Organization membership enquiries: info@washingtonsart.org.



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 (rescue/evacuation), 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** or **425-681-5498**, email us at info@washingtonsart.org, or view our Calendar at www.washingtonsart.org,