

Washington State Animal Response Team

"Helping Animals and their Owners in Disasters"



WASART NEWS

From the President

We're experiencing some exciting new developments in our Community Outreach efforts. The FEMA-sponsored Community Emergency Response Teams (CERTs) have recently added two Animal Response modules to their training curriculum. Late last year WASART was invited by the City of Shoreline to present the new modules to their CERT members. And now we're working with the City of Redmond to assist with their CERT training as well, and with both Renton and Redmond to do one-day hands-on animal sheltering workshops for their community volunteers. These communities have recognized that, in the event of a large-scale disaster in Washington, they're going to have to be largely self-sufficient, at least in the early going. WASART is pleased to assist them in preparing to deal with their own animal emergencies.

And we were pleased for the opportunity to become part of the emergency response effort during the recent snow and ice storm, when WASART was asked by King County Office of Emergency Management (KCOEM) to assist in handling animal issues in the Regional Communications Emergency Coordination Center (RCECC). Two of our members, **Jason King** and **Carol Satre**, each served shifts in the RCECC, logging animal-related incidents and prepared to dispatch WASART responders if the need arose. It was excellent experience for Jason and Carol, and gave them insight into the operation of King County's disaster response organization. We're asking them to share their insights with our members. Jason and Carol join **Ritz Duchesne**, **Gretchen McCallum**, **Bill Daugaard**, **Mary Ann Bentley** and **Denise Steinkerchner**, all of whom have trained and/or have staffed a desk at the Snohomish County ECC, the Pierce County ECC, or the State ECC in Olympia. Their efforts help all our animal friends and their owners when such difficult circumstances arise.

Bill Daugaard
President

February 2012 Pet Dental Health Month



Mission Statement

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

Recent Revisions to WASART's Training Curriculum

As was mentioned in previous newsletters, Core training was originally scheduled for February 4-5, 2012. However, it was postponed due to a lack of registered attendees. If you are planning on attending our training sessions, we need to know in advance. While we do not like to postpone events, it is not financially feasible for us to hold these larger training courses for less than 10 people.

(Continued on page 2)

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The rescheduled date for Core training is **March 10th and 11th** and it will be held at the Redmond MOC Trinity Building, 18104 NE 76th St, Redmond, WA 98052. The cost is \$85.00 for WASART members, \$110.00 for the general public (adults only, please), a minimum of 10 pre-registered participants is required for the course to go



forward, and pre-registration no later than March 1st to registrar@washingtonsart.org is necessary. The registration form is posted on the website under 'Training'.

The Core training is now comprised of two days of training rather than the former single day of training. We have modified the Core training to enable members to deploy as a support member in all areas. You will not be handling animals as a support member but assisting with crowd control, packing and unpacking the supplies and equipment trailer, fetching food and water for the animals, and helping in any way that is requested of you. In order to handle animals or drive vehicles for transport you will still have to complete the full training segment in which you are interested, i.e., Shelter, Field Response, Transport, etc.

If you have completed the single day Core training in the past and would like to be deployable as a support member, you will need to take the second day. For folks retaking the Core training, the fee will be reduced by half. You are welcome and encouraged to attend both days. If you have completed the one-day version of Core and any of the other training segments (Sheltering, Field Response, Transport), you are still fully deployable in those areas. Of course, the Mandatory Independent Study Requirements must always be first completed before being eligible for any deployment, as a support member or otherwise.



This past fall the Training Committee took a hard look at our curriculum and did some pretty heavy revising. Our training has certainly come a long way since we first put this program together! It was determined that members are now required to refresh the courses (Core, Sheltering, Field Response and Transport) within three years of their original training to remain current on information and skills. Further information on refreshing the courses and continuing education can be found in the Training Curriculum. It is

posted on the website under the 'Training' tab. A simplified chart of training requirements is also posted on the website, again under the 'Training' tab.

Upcoming trainings, all of which are open to the public:

- March 3rd - First-Aid/ CPR (Enumclaw, WA)
- March 10th & 11th - Core training (Redmond, WA)
- March 17th - Transport training (Enumclaw, WA)
- April 28th & 29th - Field Response training (Wilkeson, WA)
- June 23rd - Communications workshop (TBD)
- July 28th - Sheltering training (Enumclaw, WA).

If you have any questions about the revised training requirements, please contact me, Cathy Reaney, at training@washingtonsart.org.

Submitted by Cathy Reaney, Training Director

Deployment to Memphis, TN

On January 25th, 2012, I traveled to Memphis with American Humane Association for a 10-day deployment to help with a criminal dog cruelty case. Two women had been traveling from Long Beach, CA on their way to Virginia. A State Trooper in Memphis pulled over the van that was towing a U-Haul trailer, for following another car too closely. What he found in the U-Haul were 145 dogs and one cat. They had traveled nearly 1,800 miles without being walked, or given food or water. One of the dogs had died, but all the others were brought to a warehouse in Memphis. This is the same warehouse used for the sheltering during the floods in that area last year.



I was part of the second of two teams to help care for these dogs – walking, feeding, cleaning, socializing. There were a handful of fractious dogs and several that were being monitored for health concerns. The majority though, were really good dogs that just needed to be loved and spoiled. The cat found a great foster home in the Memphis area and all the other dogs were sent to no-kill shelters in Memphis, Knoxville, Nashville, Birmingham AL, and Boca Raton FL - happy endings for these animals that had been traveling to a very uncertain future.

Submitted by WASART member, Shawndra Michell

WASART's Day of Caring - February 4, 2012

One of WASART's senior members and former Team Leader, Jen Carter, faces health challenges that sap her strength and energy so WASART members decided to tackle some of the tasks that were mounting up.

Team WASART worked through an astonishing majority of the list amidst much good cheer, elbow grease and laughter. Dogs were bathed, kennels scrubbed, long walks for the dogs, storm debris cleaned up, and LOTS of pressure washing! The burn pile is stacked as high as the barn door from the storm debris clean-up. The yard is scooped and raked. Miss Jazz, Buck and Trouble are fluffy clean and all the dogs are enjoying the clean dog beds. By the end of the day, the property looked great, inside and out.



Jen, laughing in the sunshine

WASART's General Membership 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.

Due to Jen's illness, she and her husband had to cut back on their own Equipment Loan Program that is near and dear to their hearts. However, they could not turn down a request for help from a single mother who needed to borrow kennels and



Ritz

dog houses for her Great Danes. Because Team WASART scrubbed and disinfected two full kennels and dog houses, the equipment is now available to help get her Great Danes out of her garage and into roomy kennels.

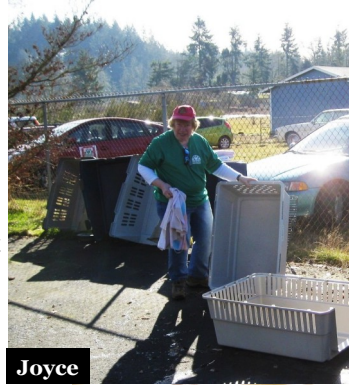
With eight dogs in-house Jen wondered how the 'pack' would handle so many new friends. But with animal friendly WASART volunteers, the only dog issue turned out to be the dogs' disappointment when their new friends did not return the next day. They spent the day looking out the front window, looking

hopeful.



Allison

Team WASART will return on February 25th to help out and again on March 31st and each month thereafter until Jen is back on her feet again. The February 4th team consisted of **Byron Wilkes, Karen Johnson, Dennis Brislawn, Gretchen McCallum, Joyce Moody, Heidi Kuester, Denise Steinkern, Ritz Duchesne** and co-worker, **Allison Drake**.



Joyce



Heidi & Denise



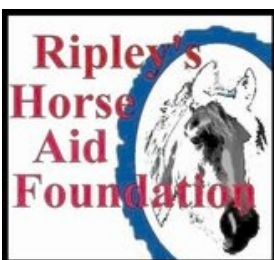
Karen & Byron

Upcoming Events

March 10, 2011. Pet CPR and First Aid Course. 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. at the Kent Senior Center. The cost is \$75.00, class size is limited to 20 students and it is taught by a Certified Pet Tech Instructor. All proceeds benefit Missing Pet Partnership. For more information, contact Annette Lanker at HollyCowCrittters@gmail.com.



Missing Pet Partnership
Search-and-Rescue for Lost Pets



Gelding Clinic in Kitsap County offered by non-profit organization Ripley's Horse Aid Foundation, a Neglect Prevention Charity, on **April 1, 2012**. Open to all Kitsap and non-Kitsap County residents with stallions who need 'attention'. Fee is \$100.00. For more information as to location and particulars, contact Wilma Tronstad at w.tronstad@frontier.com or call at 360-424-8250.

The annual **Partners In Emergency Preparedness Conference** is scheduled for **April 9-11, 2012** at the Tacoma Convention & Trade Center, Tacoma, WA. Early Bird registration (\$275.00) ends on April 30, 2012 and is \$400.00 thereafter. For more information, visit the web-site at www.piepc.org or email dana.colwell@wsu.edu.

