

# Washington State Animal Response Team

*"Helping Animals and their Owners in Disasters"*



## WASART NEWS

### From the President

Easter deployments seem to have become traditional for us, and this year was no exception. I want to express WASART's special thanks and gratitude to **Seattle Mountain Rescue, King County 4X4 Search and Rescue, and the King County Sheriff's Office** for their outstanding support and cooperation during the rescue of Ana, the Russian Terrier, from the top of Mt. Si in North Bend, WA (story following). Without their participation this challenging rescue might not have been possible. It's an honor to be able to work with these extraordinary organizations.

Earlier in the month, **Michaela Eaves, Marie Schimke** and I all attended the All-Hazards Stakeholders Summit sponsored by Emergency Management Magazine. The keynote address was again given by Garry Briese, Local Program Integrator for the Denver Wide Area Recovery and Resiliency Program. Garry's address this year, "Followership: The Mirror Image of Leadership" was the follow-on to his last year's address on Leadership. He offered several observations well worth considering:

The actions of followers determine the success of leaders; if followers don't want to do it, it won't happen.

Leadership is not what happens in the few big moments, but in the many small moments.

Leaders make bad decisions in moments of crisis; they need people to speak up and question them.

The character of an organization is shown in the way it treats the followers who speak independently.

Garry summed up by describing six characteristics of good followership:

Be honest and tell the truth.

Be supportive.

Give your boss the benefit of your knowledge.

Take the initiative – don't let problems go unsolved. (Provide solutions, not just problems).

Be aware of your own biases.

Keep the leader informed.

It seems to me that most of those characteristics would also describe good leadership. Since most of us find ourselves in both leader and follower roles, we'd all benefit by taking Garry's advice to heart.

Bill Daugaard

President

April 2012

**Animal Cruelty  
Prevention Month**



### Mission Statement

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

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## Rescue of Dog on Mt. Si, North Bend, WA—April 8-9, 2012

On a beautiful late Easter Sunday afternoon, and the following equally beautiful Monday morning, WASART participated in the rescue of Ana, a 100 lb. black Russian terrier, from the top of Mt. Si at 3,500 feet. We teamed with Seattle Mountain Rescue (SMR) and King County 4X4 Search and Rescue Unit (4X4 SAR) to retrieve her. WASART was initially called out Sunday afternoon by King County Sheriff's Office after the dog's owner, a young woman named Eva,



SMR photograph



SMR Team on top of Haystack

was forced to leave Ana when she refused to descend the steep, snow covered shale slope of The Haystack, at the top of the mountain. **Jason King** and **Julia Olszewski**, two members of WASART's Technical Rescue Team (TRT), hiked to the base of The Haystack, where they met up with Eva, assessed the situation and attempted to locate Ana. They were unable to locate her, and determined that it was too risky to attempt a

rescue that night because of the high winds and icy conditions on the trail. The group returned to the Base Camp and a rescue effort was planned for the next morning. A call to the King County Sheriff's Office SAR Coordinator advising of the situation resulted in SMR and 4X4 SAR being alerted, and all teams assembled at the Base Camp Monday morning.

SMR deployed its rescue team, along with TRT members **Greta Cook**, **Linda McCoy**, **Michael Durkin** and **Bill Daugaard**, Whatcom County SAR member **Ed Honcoop** and Eva, all of whom hiked in from the snow line. It was an arduous hike on Spring snow conditions



that were at times waist deep. The SMR team climbed to the top of The Haystack, where they found Ana on a ledge, cold and anxious. They secured her and lowered her by ropes through a snow chute (the safest path); The WASART team and Eva collected her at the base of The Haystack, and hiked back out with her to the snow line, where the 4X4 SAR unit drove them back to Base Camp.

We commend Eva for her critical thinking in asking for help to get her faithful companion down from the top of Haystack. By recognizing the skills needed to get Ana off Haystack were beyond her skill set, only the dog needed help and this situation did not turn into the rescue of both. Welcome home, Ana.

Also participating in this rescue were WASART members, **Amy Adams**, **Rory Kelleher**, **Michaela Eaves**, **Gretchen McCallum** and **Denise Steinkerchner**.



Attending the Technical Large Animal Rescue training taught by Drs. Rebecca and Tomas Gimenez fulfilled a long standing goal of mine – to meet and train with the Gimenez's who are based on the east coast. The course was hosted by USRider Equestrian Motor Plan and Eastern Kentucky University and held on the EKV campus at the College of Justice and Safety. The dates were March 30, 2012—April 1, 2012.



The three day training teaches fire and rescue personnel, first responders, veterinarians' animal control and horse enthusiasts about techniques and procedures to assist large animals involved in transportation accidents, barn fires, confined space, mud, flood water and helicopter rescue scenarios.



Instruction covered the use of some equipment that WASART uses on a regular basis such as fire hose rescue straps, webbing and the rescue glide as well as equipment that I have only read about such as the mud and water lance, the strop guide and the Nickopolous needle. The classroom teaching was followed by realistic hands on training with their specially trained demonstration horses and llama.

We practiced lifts, drags, rolling a horse, unstable ground (mud) rescue during a downpour, and a night search and rescue of a downed horse that needed to be strapped to a rescue glide and drug out. We also got to hang out in a barn filled with smoke to see just how hard it is for a fire fighter in full bunker gear to approach a scared animal and halter it with heavy gloves and lead it out.

This was the third time I have taken Large Animal Rescue training and was by far the most comprehensive. I was familiar with much of the information from previous courses and books but the hands on practice with live animals really helped clarify a few questions and issues I had not been able to resolve to date. The A-frame lift, mud rescue evolution and barn fire segment were very helpful to experience.



Their mantra – keep it simple = use the simplest equipment and techniques to get the job done safely were drilled into our heads. The ability to see different equipment in use, discuss various rescue techniques and network with like-minded folks from around the world was a privilege.

Stay tuned for WASART's upcoming Introduction to TLAR training coming later this summer which I will be teaching with the assistance of other WASART senior members who have also taken TLAR or Large Animal Rescue advanced training.

Submitted by Greta Cook  
Operations Leader

WASART was invited to participate in the FEMA Region 10 ESF 6 Mass Care (Sheltering) subcommittee for Regional Interagency Steering Committee (RISC) held in Boise, Idaho last month. **Greta Cook** represented WASART via teleconference. Of the 60+ partners attending the meeting in person, via phone or webinar, WASART was the only animal response partner attending the meeting from the four states (Washington, Idaho, Oregon, and Alaska) that comprise FEMA Region 10.



The meeting sought input on the Cascadia Subduction Zone course of Action (CSZ COA). This is a response plan to a massive earthquake and tsunami event that may impact the region. The need for coordination, cooperation and collaboration among partners for the limited resources that all will need to care for the human and animal population impacted by such an event was the focus. The upcoming Evergreen Quake exercise series will be an opportunity to gather additional information in the pursuit of planning response and recovery measures.

### Upcoming Events

**May 5, 2012—Emergency Preparedness & Safety Fair**, Shoreline Central Market, 15505 Westminster Way North, Shoreline, WA. 10:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m. Sponsored by the City of Shoreline. For more information, contact 206-801-2260 or [shorelineoem@shorelinewa.gov](mailto:shorelineoem@shorelinewa.gov).



The annual **Petpalooza** will be held on **May 19, 2012** from 10:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m. at the Game Farm Park, 3030 “R” Street, Auburn, WA. It is sponsored by the City of Auburn and will feature lots of dog related activities, live entertainment, a petting zoo, an agility area, pony rides, etc. For more information, contact 253-931-3043 or [kpachciarz@auburnwa.gov](mailto:kpachciarz@auburnwa.gov).

For a change of pace, the 2012 **Emerald City Reptile Expo** will take place on **June 2-3, 2012** at the Seattle Center Exhibition Hall, 305 Harrison Street, Seattle, WA. Sponsored by the Pacific NW Herpetological Society, there will be an adoption fair, touchable animals for show and tell, educational presentations by veterinarians and other organizations involved in conservation. For more information, contact [contactus@pnwhs.org](mailto:contactus@pnwhs.org) or visit [www.emeraldcityreptileexpo.com](http://www.emeraldcityreptileexpo.com) or <http://pnwhs.org>.



WASART's General Membership Meetings are currently held on the **2nd Wednesday of each quarter** at 7:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m. The **March 14th** meeting was held in Shoreline and the **September 12th** meeting will be held at the **American Red Cross Mount Rainier Chapter, 1235 South Tacoma Way, Tacoma, WA**. The **June 13th** and **December 12th** meetings will be held at the **Key Bank, 1212 Cole Street, Enumclaw, WA 98022**. All these meetings are open to the public and everyone is invited to attend.

The next Washington State Search & Rescue Conference is scheduled to take place in Goldendale, WA on **May 14-17 2012** (pre-conference classes) and **May 18-20, 2012** (conference classes). Members of the Washington State SAR community as well as SAR members from other states, Canada, Iceland, and other countries regularly attend this very informative training opportunity. Members of WASART's Technical Rescue Team will, for the second time, again do two presentations on rigging horses and dogs for rescue and staff an information booth for attendees interested in partnering with WASART on animal-related activities. For more information, visit [www.wasart2012.org](http://www.wasart2012.org).

**WASHINGTON STATE  
SEARCH & RESCUE**



**2012 CONFERENCE  
KLICKITAT COUNTY, WA**

## **FIELD RESPONSE TRAINING**

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



[www.washingtonsart.org](http://www.washingtonsart.org)

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

**Camping/Cabin & Meals Cost:** See registration form.

Pre-registration and pre-payment required. **Registration deadline: April 21, 2012.** Minimum 10 attendees required for course to be held.

**Dates:** April 28-29, 2012

**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 available on the WASART website's Calendar.**

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

**For more Information:**  
[registrar@washingtonsart.org](mailto:registrar@washingtonsart.org)