

Welcome to this issue of the Washington State Animal Response Team's monthly newsletter! Find out what the President has to say, what deployments we've been on, where the next meetings will be, and where we'll be with upcoming events.

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www.washingtonsart.org

Helping Animals & Their Owners in Disasters

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2013 Meetings

March 9 - Shoreline Fire

Department Station 61, 17525
Aurora Avenue North, Shoreline,
WA 98133

June 12 - KeyBank, 1212 Cole St,
Enumclaw, WA

September 11 - TBD

December 11 - KeyBank, 1212
Cole St, Enumclaw, WA

The next general membership meeting will be in Shoreline from **7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.** The first hour will be spent on WASART business and the final hour on a mini-training session and social time. All general meetings are open to the public and everyone is invited to attend.

From the President

I'm happy to report this month on WASART's continuing relationship with Washington's Search and Rescue community. In addition to our role as a member of the Search and Rescue Volunteer Advisory Council (SARVAC), we have been invited to serve on Steering Team for the 2013 Washington State Search and Rescue Conference (WASARCON). The conference will be held May 10-12 at the Kittitas Valley Events Center in Ellensburg.

The conference this year will include an added emphasis on animals in search and rescue activities. Use of dogs in SAR has always been a popular conference focus, and the K-9 SAR groups will again present several classes. In addition, several training classes will focus on equine behavior and first aid, to give members of horseback SAR teams new insight on how to keep their horses and themselves both safe and more effective on search and rescue missions. And WASART will again demonstrate techniques for rescuing large and small animals in emergency situations, and make SAR groups aware of how we can work together in situations involving both humans and animals. We have all become increasingly aware, as a result of several recent deployments, that when animals get into trouble their owners frequently put themselves in jeopardy, as well, in their attempts to rescue them. WASART has been grateful for the assistance of various SAR groups in several recent rescue deployments.

Greta Cook, Cathy Reaney and I have been attending the WASARCON Steering Team meetings, and Greta in particular has done yeoman duty in organizing and planning the equine and WASART training classes. We're excited about the way the conference is coming together, and encourage all WASART members, as well as other animal advocates to plan to attend.

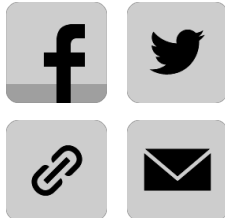
Bill Daugaard
President

Visit our booth at these upcoming events

[Backcountry Horsemen of Washington Annual Rendezvous](#) - March 15-17, 2013 - Ellensburg, WA
[Shoreline Emerg. Preparedness & Safety Fair](#) - April 13, 2013 - Shoreline, WA
[Petpaboza](#) - May 18, 2013 - Auburn, WA

Mission Statement

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



Core Training on March 2-3, 2013 - Redmond, WA

There's still time to register for this foundation course that will start you on your way towards advanced training in Field Response (rescue) (June 8, 2013) and/or Emergency Sheltering (July 13-14, 2013). In CORE, you'll learn about Disaster Stress Management, taught by Mary Schoenfeldt of City of Everett Emergency Management Services, Basic Fire Safety by Captain Robert Torrey of the Redmond Fire Department, Biosecurity, Personal Preparedness, and other topics relevant to disaster preparedness. This course is open to the public. For more information or to download the registration form, visit the website www.washingtonsart.org or contact the Registrar at registrar@washingtonsart.org.

WA State Horse Expo A Great Success



Because of the generosity of dedicated WASART supporters, **Richard Vetter, DVM**, and **Kathy Vetter**, of **Performance Equine Dental & Veterinary Services** in Buckley, WA, WASART staffed a booth at this well-attended annual Expo for the second year in a row. The hugely popular event was held at the Clark County Event Center near Vancouver, WA and was attended by over 8,000 people, 110 vendors, and many well-known clinicians. WASART's booth was staffed by **Ritz Duchesne**, **Greta Cook**, **Connie Edwards**, **Gretchen McCallum**, and **Rechelle Marie Schimke**. So much interest was shown in WASART that a contingent of Oregonians as well as Washingtonians from our more southern counties will be trucking north to participate in WASART's upcoming training opportunities.

Board Member Volunteers with World Vets



In January this year I traveled to Granada, Nicaragua (not to be confused with Grenada) to teach animal surgery to American and Canadian veterinary students at a school built by World Vets for this purpose. The World Vets Granada Hospital is our next step in furthering World Vets' goal to develop advanced training programs internationally to promote animal health and welfare.

In addition to training North American students, this facility employs and trains Nicaraguan veterinarians, who then develop training programs for Nicaraguan students, thus ensuring that our program fosters local expertise as well as international involvement in Nicaragua's animal welfare programs.

World Vets is currently developing a series of international response training courses for animal medical professionals in disaster situations. My experience with WASART has been invaluable in helping me to consult with World Vets in the development of this curriculum, which I will be leading and teaching in July this year. Truly WASART is becoming a leader in disaster response training worldwide!

Granada is a beautiful, old colonial Spanish city, rich in culture and safe for tourists. Prepare to need to diet when you return, because the local food is world class and incredibly affordable. For information on joining a World Vets project, please visit www.worldvets.org

Submitted by Teri Weronko, DVM
WASART Advising Specialist

WAVOAD 2013 Leadership Team

The nonprofit organization, WA Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters, of which WASART is a member, recently elected its 2013 Leadership Team. WAVOAD is a coalition of nonprofit organizations in Washington that respond to disasters as part of their overall mission. The Leadership Team is now comprised of Deb Finley, President; Susan Palaez, Vice-President; Mel Hastings, Treasurer; Secretary, TBA; Jim Truitt and Jay DeBoer, At Large; Andrew Chaddick, Technical; and Jim

Kehoe, Immediate Past President. For more information on this very helpful and necessary organization, please visit the website at www.wavoad.org.

Help Animals While You Shop

Many of us are buying things online these days. The farther out we are from civilization and the busier we are, the easier it is to have your shopping delivered to your doorstep. WASART now has an affiliate account with Amazon, which means if you click through our link, a small percentage of anything you buy helps us help animals in need. This link will take you to something you may want to purchase anyway -- [it's good to have a handcrank radio around for disasters](#) -- but you absolutely don't need to buy it for the donation to work. Bookmark it for later, when you get a chance to buy your favorite books, that new swimsuit, or, hey, if you happen need an extra fridge for the garage, we'd love it if you thought of us. If you appreciate what we do, it's a totally easy and painless way to contribute.

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