

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. [View this email in your browser](#)



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Helping Animals & Their Owners in Disasters

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## 2013 Meetings

**December 11**

### Membership Meeting

KeyBank, 1212 Cole St, Enumclaw, WA

The next General Membership Meeting will held in Enumclaw, WA from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The first hour will be spent on WASART business and then Newfie dog, Moses, and his family will be present to chat about his rescue on October 2nd (see the October issue of the '[WASART NEWS](#)'). And, of course, some social time, too. All general meetings are open to the public and everyone is invited to attend.

## 2014 Meetings

**January 11**

### Annual Orientation Meeting

Have you ever wondered what WASART does? Or how you can help or participate? If so, attend one of the two Annual Orientation Meetings from **10:00 a.m. - noon** and find out. Two

## From the President

### Pulleys, Ropes, and Enthusiasm



*Volunteers practice pulling a litter and person up a hillside.*

I'm very excited about the positive direction of our Technical Rescue Team. The TRT has a number of new members that are bringing lots of energy and resources to the team, along with impressive technical skills and desire to learn and improve. The team just completed a weekend of advanced rope rescue training (see the story below). The TRT trains to be able to handle situations that are pretty unique in the rope rescue world: they have to be prepared to deal with loads far larger than those faced by most rescue teams. Using rope systems to rescue a 2,000 lb. horse is a truly daunting challenge, requiring heavier equipment and innovative techniques to execute successfully. I'm truly pleased to see the team's enthusiasm and thirst to improve, and know it will continue to develop as a highly effective rescue unit.

I also want to give special thanks to member Keith McCamish for his recent efforts at repairing and upgrading WASART's corral panels' trailer. Keith replaced rotted floorboards and improved the trailer's tie-down system to make it easier to secure the panels to the trailer for safe transport. The trailer is an important piece of equipment; Keith's work has improved it significantly and is greatly appreciated.

Bill Daugaard  
President

locations for your convenience:

Shoreline Fire Department,  
Station #61 (north)  
17525 Aurora Avenue North  
Shoreline, WA 98133

Lakewood Towne Center (south)  
City Hall Council Chambers  
6000 Main Street SW  
Lakewood, WA 98499

Did you know we're often available to talk to your group about WASART or disaster prep?

## Mission Statement

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



## Giving Tuesday with RAZOO



*Zoe thinks it'd be faboo if you joined her for Giving Tuesday on RAZOO.*

Thanksgiving is a time to be grateful for all we have. After sharing our hearts and homes with loved ones, we venture out into the world to start the holiday season. A new tradition, Giving Tuesday, has started in the last few years. After two days of post-Thanksgiving shopping, Giving Tuesday (December 3rd) is a national day to give back to the community.

Our goal is to raise funds on Giving Tuesday that will help WASART purchase rescue equipment, respond to emergencies and save lives throughout the coming year. You can find out more about the campaign and about Giving Tuesday [here](#). Stay tuned for more information in December! We'll remind you via Facebook and Twitter.

## Honing Skills, Strengthening Team



*The Technical Rescue Team does more than learn skills when they train. As the team that deploys in situations such as a dog over a cliff, the team builds team spirit and strengthens trust during tough trainings such as Ropes 2.*

Thirteen members of the WASART Technical Rescue Team (TRT)

participated in the Rope Rescue 2 course, instructed by Jim McNutt on November 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>, in Enumclaw, Washington. This course built upon the skills learned in the previous Rope Rescue 1 course on September 28-29, 2013, with additional focus on the rescue of human subjects and several more advanced rigging techniques.

Saturday consisted of classroom lectures, litter handling exercises, and building a portable high-angle redirection to facilitate edge transitions when working with heavy loads. Sunday began with a brief recap in the classroom, then moved outdoors to the field. First, we trained in building and operating a system to raise and lower an attendant with a litter, using a high-angle redirection. Next, we built a Kootenay (high-line) system to safely lift and transport a subject across a ravine. Finally, we trained on open-air rappelling using a tactical belay.

The training was a resounding success with excellent team-building and a host of new skills and capabilities for the TRT to deploy on the next mission.

Submitted by Chris Black  
TRT Member

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## Formerly Neglected Horse Gets New Life Helping WASART



*Rosie stands in her enclosure, patiently waiting for volunteers to practice horse handling skills on her. Rosie is one of the horses seized last year with nearly 40 other horses from a neglect case. She has been adopted by a WASART member.*

WASART's Field Response qualified and Technical Rescue Team members train, train, train so that when the call for assistance is received, they're competent, confident, and ready to provide the skills needed to remove an animal from a life threatening situation. Some of that training involves learning how to rig a dog or a horse for rescue.

Through the Technical Large Animal Rescue (TLAR) classes offered twice annually by WASART, a number of tools assist the participants in learning these techniques. For instance, WASART uses Stan and Titan, our static horses as well as the Blue Mare or the Faux Filly, as she's also called.

But the star of WASART's training aides is Rosie, a gentle, patient, kind, huge Clydesdale mare. She is more than willing to be walked through the country roads from home to the nearby training location and to stand quietly while trainees practice rigging her into a rescue harness, often multiple times.

If there was some way we could let Rosie know how much we appreciate her patience, we would do so. But Rosie seems to think that an occasional apple or carrot during the training exercise works for her. We'll make sure to have a supply on hand when next we need her expert services.



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## WASART Partners with the ASPCA on Spokane, WA Horse Seizure



*Sixty-three horses were seized on Nov 15 in Spokane, WA. Eleven were found to be in critical condition and moved to receive medical attention.*

Sixty-three neglected horses in Spokane, WA were seized by the [Spokane County Regional Animal Protective Service \(SCRAPS\)](#) on November 15th. When [The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals \(ASPCA\)](#) was called to assist with the sheltering, daily care and eventual placement of the animals, ASPCA reached out to WASART for volunteers to help care for the horses, as they did in September's canine seizure. WASART volunteers assisted (and continue to assist) in the care of hundreds of dogs seized in a three-state dog-fighting ring. To date, WASART volunteers have deployed 21 times, some for two or three rotations, to help care for these dogs.

Local authorities have issued a warrant for the arrest of the property owner on charges of animal cruelty in the first degree and transporting or confining animals in an unsafe manner. Her whereabouts are unknown.

Besides local Spokane and WASART volunteers, agencies assisting the ASPCA with care and sheltering include [Days End Rescue](#) (Woodbine, MD); [Code 3](#) (Longmont, CO); and [Equine Emergency Rescue Unit](#) (Overland Park, KS).

The ASPCA also provided SCRAPS with a \$5,000.00 grant for much needed feed and medical care for the emaciated horses, along with additional financial assistance. Donations to the ASPCA and to SCRAPS would be helpful as medical attention for these horses will be extensive.

While the circumstances of this situation are distressing, WASART is grateful to the skilled volunteers who have responded to the ASPCA's call for assistance.

More information can be found here: <http://bit.ly/1bZAWOO>

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