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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](#)


www.washingtonsart.org

Helping Animals & Their Owners in Disasters

From the President

Sheltering Takes Both Volunteers and Training

- [Sheltering Takes Both Volunteers and Training](#)
- [Seasonal Changes Bring Dangers of a "Horse Down"](#)
- [Finding Award Winner "Behind the Scenes"](#)
- [Sept 27-28: Core Training](#)
- [Annual Exercise](#)

Did you know rescuing a dog from a cliff can cost almost \$5000?

It's only possible because of you.

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General Meetings

December 10, 2014

Key Bank Meeting Room
1212 Cole Street
Enumclaw, WA 98022

The next General Membership Meeting will be held in Enumclaw, WA from **7 pm - 9 pm**. The first hour is spent on WASART business and the final hour



Students at Field Response Training pitch in during clean up. Without volunteers at every step of the way, a shelter response would not happen.

The summer's wildfires and the oncoming rain and flooding season remind us of the probability of the need to establish emergency animal shelters for those displaced by disasters. Emergency sheltering deployments are very challenging, because they typically go on for a week, often much longer, and require large numbers of volunteers to sustain. The experience we gained in operating our two shelters in Chelan and Okanogan Counties during the Carlton Complex fire was invaluable, but further reinforced the need to have as many trained volunteers as possible for

is a mini-training session on a subject of interest to members. And, of course, some social time, too. All General Membership Meetings are open to the public and everyone is invited to attend.

Upcoming training

September 27 & 28 - [Core Training](#)

Woodinville Fire Department, Woodinville, WA

October 18 & 19 - [Annual Exercise](#)

Enumclaw Expo Center, Enumclaw, WA

November 8 - [Technical Animal Rescue Training](#)

Cumberland Fire Station, Enumclaw, WA

Visit our booth at these upcoming events

September 27 - Maple Valley Emergency Preparedness Fair. Rock Creek Elementary School
27500 Black Diamond-Maple Valley Road.
Maple Valley, WA
9 am - 2 pm.

October 11 - Zombie Preparedness and Safety Fair at City Hall, 17500 Midvale Ave. N., Shoreline, WA.
9 am - 2 pm.

such demanding missions. With that in mind, I couldn't be happier to announce that Lucinda Yerbury has agreed to become WASART's new Volunteer Manager. Lucinda, the first winner of our Volunteer of the Quarter award, brings extensive deployment experience and a great work ethic to the position, and will do a great job of filling this very important role.

That leads to our upcoming Annual Exercise, to be held October 18 and 19 at the Enumclaw Expo Center. Each Fall we conduct this two-day exercise, simulating as realistically as possible an actual disaster response. We set up and operate an emergency animal shelter, using a wide variety of live animals and realistic scenarios. We're expanding the scope of the exercise this year, adding an emergency rescue and evacuation component for our Technical Rescue Team and Transport unit. The public is welcome to come and observe the exercise, or to participate as "emergent volunteers." We know from experience that, for a large-scale disaster, we'll need help from the general public, and also know that the public will be willing to help. This is a great opportunity to practice making that interaction work.

Our last sheltering deployment was for wildfires in Eastern Washington. But the rains are coming, and with the rains often come the floods. The next deployment may be under very different circumstances, but our objective is to be prepared for it.

Bill Daugaard
President

president@washingtonsart.org

Seasonal Changes Bring Dangers of a "Horse Down"

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.



Horses graciously demonstrate being down. While these horses are perfectly fine, being down too long can have severe and even fatal consequences.

Photo courtesy [Carla Dimitriou](#).

Our most recent WASART call out involved an elderly horse named, Maverick. The horse was reportedly down and unable to move or roll over. WASART members responded to the call and were able to rig the horse using a Becker Sling in order for Maverick's vet, Dr. Dick Vetter of [Foothills Veterinary Hospital](#), to do a thorough exam. It was then determined that Maverick should be euthanized. As sad as it is to say goodbye it is helpful to remind ourselves that elderly horses, horses who are in the wild, horses living in neglectful conditions, any and all horses, often face painful end of life scenarios. As in Maverick's case, having access to good vet care and the assurance of a humane and speedy passing is what all loving horse owners would choose for their pets.

Many of WASART's horse related call outs are similar to Maverick's situation though many have different outcomes. It's not uncommon, particularly during extreme weather, for WASART to get a call for a "horse down." One of the first questions we ask the owner and the first question a vet will ask is, "How long has the horse been down?"

Though horses can sleep standing up, referred to as

“dozing,” horses do lie down. Because horses are herd animals they tend to nap in a prone position when they feel safe either in their stall or in their pastures. A senior horse, or a horse with sore feet due to laminitis, or hoof abscesses, will often lie down for longer periods of time. However, complications can arise when a horse is down too long. Maybe the horse is down due to an injury or a colic, or cast in a stall, or maybe the horse has slipped in mud or ice and is unable to get up on his own. Sometimes a senior horse will reach the age of wear and tear where the horse no longer has the strength, or muscle, to get up again. Regardless of the circumstances, horses that are down too long run the risk of ischemic damage to blood vessels and capillaries. This damage is incurred when blood supply is strangulated to limbs or core and can happen simply through the pressure of the horse’s own body mass weighing down upon itself in a prone position. Cells become damaged the same way they would if a tourniquet is applied. As the blood flow seeks to reenter the damaged vessels further damage may result in what is known as a reperfusion injury. All of this in addition to why the horse was down too long in the first place. Early intervention is ideal but not always possible.

Many WASART members have assisted in these callouts and experienced the suspense of righting a downed horse immediately followed by the worrying and the waiting to see if the horse will be able to stand and walk unassisted. Awareness of this probable instability of a large animal in relation to the responders’ body position is tantamount to maintaining safety standards on such call outs.

How long is too long? According to Dr. Rebecca Gimenez of [Technical Large Animal Emergency Rescue](#), “Once they are down for a few hours all kinds of physiological and pathological problems begin to occur.” Though this time frame may differ from horse to horse, a horse that is down for any extended period of time is a cause for concern. In the case of the senior horse that is down for the count it

becomes the responsibility for the owner to know when to let go.

Finding Award Winner "Behind the Scenes"



Amy Adams, this quarter's award winner, often takes on difficult tasks. In this image, she's tracking equipment going in and out of the trailer, a task that requires organization and patience.

WASART's Quarterly Certificate of Excellence Award Goes to Amy Adams.

We are pleased to announce that the recipient of WASART's quarterly Certificate of Excellence Award is Amy Adams. Amy richly deserves to be recognized for her passion and her high level of engagement throughout many areas of our organization. Amy joined WASART in 2009 and served on the Training Committee for the next two years. Since then, Amy has been an eager participant in logistics, and outreach, as well as the Annual Exercise. She recently gave of her time to work with WASART on the Carlton Complex Fire deployment. Amy has currently become more active in the Safety Committee and is helping to develop a Safety Guide specifically for WASART.

Amy describes herself as a “behind the scenes” volunteer. She recognizes that WASART is a team and she understands the value of the behind the scenes planning and to what extent that planning serves to make WASART an effective team. Amy says she always feels the support of her fellow members, even when working with people she’s just met. She says, “Our training brings everything into perspective.” Amy would like to give a shout out to the hospitality committee for always stocking coffee, fruit, and chocolate. Amy also works to locate lost pets and her dachshund, Harley, is a trained cat detector. Amy and Harley were even on Animal's Planet's *Must Love Cats* for their work finding lost cats. Thank you, Amy. We love having you on board.

Sept 27-28: Core Training



When: September 27-28, 9am – 5pm

Where: Woodinville Fire Department, Station 31,
17718 Woodinville-Snohomish Road,
Woodinville, WA 98072 ([map](#))

Description Cost: \$85, (\$42.50 recertifying members)
\$110 for non-members

This training is the foundational level of all of our trainings.

Core is designed to give students the basic skills and knowledge to deploy with us in a non-animal-handling support capacity, and is a mandatory requirement for WASART members to be able to deploy in an Emergency Sheltering or Field Response animal-handling capacity. During the two-day class, students will be instructed in WASART's

operational policies and structure, as well as Disaster Preparedness, Disaster Stress Management, Basic Fire Safety, Biosecurity Awareness, and Base Camp Support. Students will have hands-on training with a fire extinguisher and be given the opportunity to practice putting out a live fire.

Core is open to both members and non-members who must be at least 17 years old. Pre-registration is required. To register online, follow this link: <http://bit.ly/WASARTcore2> The deadline to register is Sept. 17.

Annual Exercise



When: Oct 18-19, 8:30am – 5pm

Where: Enumclaw Expo Center, 284th Avenue
Southeast, Enumclaw, WA,

The Annual Exercise is structured with the intention of giving all participants the benefit of experiencing a dress rehearsal in terms of sheltering response for a major disaster. Given our geographic circumstances, reality must intrude to consider all possibilities including seismic and volcanic activity, landslide and wildfire. WASART has a response plan but we need as many volunteers as possible to continue to develop and troubleshoot that plan into a realistic workable strategy. If/when catastrophe strikes and a large scale sheltering response is necessary WASART will respond. This training will give you the ability to make yourself invaluable to our communities of humans and animals.

The WASART Annual Exercise is a free, two-day full-scale animal shelter set up and operation exercise with live animals. Participants will be exposed to all aspects of a large and small animal shelter operation.

Participants are encouraged to spend the night onsite to gain the full benefit of an overnight deployment experience in addition to getting to know other responders in the organization and having more fun.

Complete the registration form and send to the Registrar at registrar@washingtonsart.org or mail to WASART, P.O. Box 21, Enumclaw, WA 98022. For general information, go to jobyemail@yahoo.com.

Easy Money

Unexpected Ways to Give to WASART That Cost You Nothing



If you shop at [Bartell's B Card](#) you could be donating up to 4% to WASART at no additional cost to you. The program excludes some items such as alcohol and prescriptions. (See their site for details.) Four percent may not seem like much, but it all adds up. Thanks for helping us save lives!

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. Mail us at: WASART, P.O. Box 21, Enumclaw, WA 98022.

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