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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

- [Katrina's 10 Year Anniversary](#)
- [Blitz](#)
- [Paw Wrapping Tutorial and Kit](#)
- [Upcoming Trainings](#)

In a large animal rescue, much of the more expensive equipment needs to be replaced for safety reasons.

It's only possible because of you.

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General Meetings

September 9, 2015

Milton Public Library
900 Meridian Ave East
Milton, WA 98354
(park at rear of library)

The next General Membership Meeting will be held from **7 p.m. - 9 p.m.** The first hour is spent on WASART business and the

Katrina's 10 Year Anniversary



WASART got its start in the tragedy of Katrina. Photos like this speak to the devastation in people's lives and hearts. Photo by [Daniel Lobo](#), under Creative Commons license. Changes made: photo cropped.

One week from today I'll depart for New Orleans, headed back to that wonderful city to help commemorate the tenth anniversary of Hurricane Katrina and the largest animal rescue mission ever undertaken. Katrina was the event that caused me to become involved in animal rescue, and changed my life in profound and permanent ways. The hurricane

final hour 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

August 22, 2015

[Technical Animal Rescue \(Awareness\)](#)

Enumclaw, WA 98022

August 30, 2015

[Core](#)

18080 NE 76th Street
Redmond, WA 98052

September 20, 2015

[Field Response Training](#)

Foothills Veterinary Clinic
28512 112th Street East
Buckley, WA 98321

October 4, 2015

Emergency Sheltering
30609 SE 352nd Street
Enumclaw, WA 98022

Upcoming events

[Scrub-a-Mutt](#)

Saturday, **August 22, 2015**

11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Strawberry Athletic Fields
6100 152nd Street NE
Marysville, WA 98271

[P.A.W. \(Pet Appreciation Week\)](#)

Saturday, **September 19, 2015**

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Del's Feed & Farm Supply
320 North Lewis
Monroe, WA 98272

and resultant flooding took the lives of more than 1,800 people, and an estimated 100,000 animals. It was impossible to experience the devastation and suffering there and not be permanently affected.

I'd had a long association with New Orleans before Katrina, so the television scenes of the destruction and loss there, both for humans and animals, were more than I could just sit and watch. I felt I had to do whatever I could to help there, so set out as an untrained and inexperienced volunteer with a local animal rescue group immediately after the hurricane, and again six months later. While there I met amazing people that later became life-long friends; we didn't really know what we were doing, but did the best we could. We brought back a commitment to become better prepared and qualified to help animals in desperate situations. We resolved to train, and took classes in animal rescue and emergency sheltering from Humane Society of the United States (HSUS), American Humane Association (AHA) and United Animal Nations (now RedRover), along with courses in emergency response from FEMA.

We became aware of a new organization, WASART, which had started up in the aftermath of Katrina and the disastrous flooding in Lewis County in 2007. We were impressed by their efficiency, organization and commitment to training, and decided that we could put our new-found knowledge and skills to best use by joining them, which we did in 2008.

Since that time, it has been my very great pleasure to watch as WASART grew from its embryonic beginnings into a well-trained and skilled organization of nearly 150 people throughout Washington, and even into British Columbia and Oregon, that has won the acceptance and respect of the emergency response community and the private citizens with whom we've interacted. It has been especially gratifying to see a new generation of capable and energetic members develop and step into leadership roles. They assure me that WASART's future is in good hands.

Lake Forest Park
Emergency Prep. Day
Saturday, **September 26,**
2015

Lake Forest Town Centre
17171 Bothell Way N.E.
Lake Forest Park, WA
98155

[Auburn Barktoberfest](#)

Saturday, **October 10, 2015**
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Roegner Park, 601 Oravetz
Rd SE
Auburn, WA 98092

I deeply hope that we never again have to face the aftermath of a cataclysm like Katrina; but if we do, I'll take comfort in the knowledge that WASART will present Washington's impacted communities with an asset that did not exist before that awful event in 2005.

Bill Daugaard
President

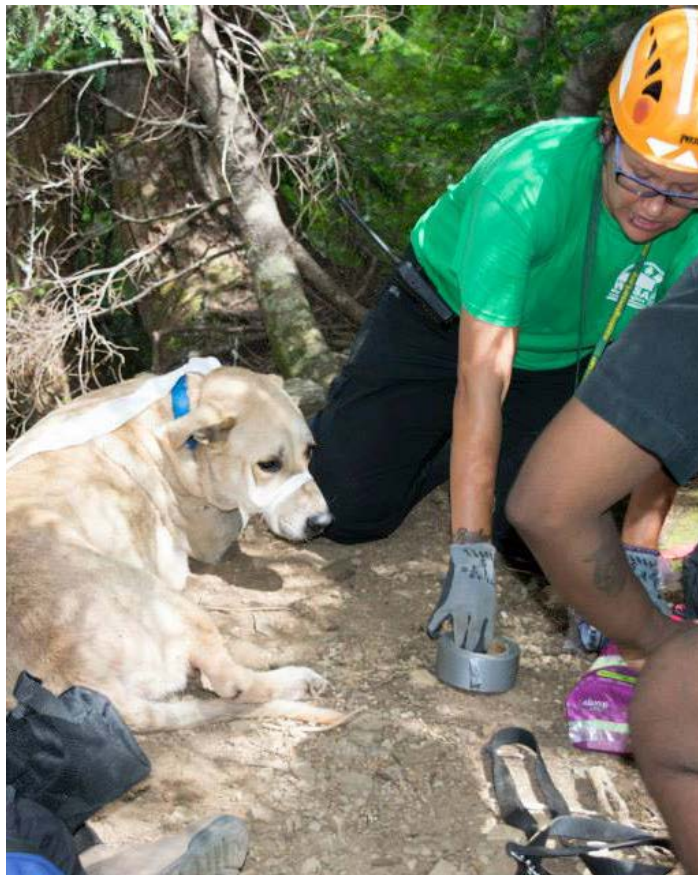
Did you know we're often available to talk to your group about WASART or disaster prep?

Mission Statement

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



Blitz



After reaching Blitz, the team put an emergency muzzle on him, irrigated his paws, and bandaged him for the hike back down. Interested in learning how to wrap paws? [We made you a video.](#)

The call came in about Blitz at 10:00 p.m. on the night of July 22nd. A woman and her dog had been hiking in the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest in Granite Falls, WA and needed help due to injuries to the dog's paws

which prevented him from walking. Having the call come in at night is helpful, as it gives us the opportunity to prepare and get a really early morning start.

The first to leave home for the 80 mile trip the next morning at 06:00 a.m. was Lucinda Y. who was driving WASART's box van loaded down with rescue supplies and equipment. Although traffic slowed the equipment truck and the rest of the team, they were able to meet at the Weeden (or Weden according to some sources) Creek Trail trailhead around 11:00 a.m. There, they met up with the owner and her roommate and at around noon, after loading up with rescue equipment, began the hike up the four miles to where the dog waited. The first mile or so of the trail wasn't too bad. It was fairly flat and an easy going walk. It was the next three plus miles, where the elevation gain was about 3,000 feet, that was challenging.

When they arrived at the location where the dog named Blitz was waiting, the team assessed his injuries then wrapped his paws with what's become the winning combination of this summer's dog rescues – surgical gloves, duct tape or vet wrap, and maxi pads or panty liners. In most cases, this allows the dog to walk out on its own. However, Blitz didn't cooperate and would not walk on his newly padded and bandaged feet.

Fortunately, the team had packed a soft litter, which is essentially a large bag with no sides but with loops to slip sticks or poles through for carrying. They put Blitz in the soft litter and began to carry the 90 lb dog down the steep trail. They took plenty of breaks and had some help from other, younger, hikers. Helping as well was the owner and her roommate.

Near the bottom, Blitz perked up and showed interest in the creek when they rested there. His owner said playing in the creek is one of his favorite things. He wasn't quite ready to walk yet, though, so the team, owner, and helpers carried him a bit farther to the straightaway that was the last mile where he was able to walk the rest of the way out.

Everyone made it back to the trailhead at about 7:00 p.m. and then departed for home while Blitz and his household headed to the vet.

It was a long, tiring and strenuous day but ultimately very successful and reminded the team yet again of the importance of ensuring their pooch friends' feet are protected by booties when walking over rocks or on hot

pavement. A video of the procedure needed to wrap a dog's paws for walking is posted here: [Paw Wrapping](#).



Back at the trailhead, everyone is relieved to have safely made it back.

Paw Wrapping Tutorial and Kit



We made [a video](#) showing paw wrapping, building a Paw Kit, and prevention.

After all the paw injury callouts we've experienced this year, we had some requests to have [a video](#) showing how it was done. We teamed up with Summit to Sound Search and Rescue and their search dog handler (and professional working dog trainer) to make it happen. The video also discusses prevention and what should be in a Paw Kit.

At about the same time as WASART team members were making the the Paw Wrapping video, members of the Equipment Committee were cleaning, performing maintenance on, and restocking WASART 2, one of our response vehicles. We do this on a routine basis to make sure that we have the supplies and equipment that we need to respond, that the equipment is ready for use, and that the vehicle is ready for the road.

While we were restocking and reorganizing the animal first aid kit, we decided that it would be nice to have a sort of sub-kit just for paw wrapping. So we made one containing: duct tape, Elasticon bandage, emergency/space blanket, exam gloves, gauze sponges, Kling gauze, a leash, saline solution, sanitary maxi pads, scissors, socks, Vet Wrap, wound ointment, and a muzzle.

With the hot, dry weather we are having, more responses for injured paws seem likely. The Paw Kit makes it easy to quickly grab what we will need and hit the trail without delay or forgotten items.



The new paw kits are ready to go.

Upcoming Trainings

A promotional graphic for upcoming trainings. It features two Alaskan Malamutes in the foreground, one looking towards the camera and the other slightly to the side. In the background, a person in a yellow jacket is visible. The graphic has a green and black color scheme. Text on the left side reads "UPCOMING TRAINING 2015". Text on the right side lists the trainings: "TECHNICAL ANIMAL RESCUE AUG 22", "CORE AUG 30", and "FIELD RESPONSE SEPT 20". At the bottom, there is a sign-up link: "SIGN UP: [HTTP://BIT.LY/WASART2015](http://bit.ly/WASART2015) • REGISTRAR@WASHINGTONSART.ORG" and the WASART logo, which includes the text "WASART Washington State Animal Response Team".

How to Register

Register online: <http://bit.ly/WASART2015> If you prefer to download, print, and send via email or mail, click the following link and follow instructions on the form: <http://bit.ly/Download-n-Print-RegistrationForm> For more information, contact registrar@washingtonsart.org. For general information about the course, contact training@washingtonsart.org.

Technical Animal Rescue Training Aug 22 • Enumclaw, WA

Learn how to rig a horse for lift with the Becker sling or firehose, put an emergency muzzle and lift harness on a dog. This is a great class if you want to learn the more technical aspects of emergency animal rescue.

Tuition: \$30.00 WASART members
\$15.00 for WASART members (repeat)
\$60.00 for non-members

Core Training
Aug 30 • Redmond, WA

The main class you'll need to deploy, Core teaches you team structure and how to deploy in a non-animal handling capacity. This class is mandatory if you wish to deploy with WASART.

Tuition: \$65.00 for WASART members
\$32.50 for recertifying WASART members
\$95.00 for non-members

Field Response
Sept 20 • Buckley, WA

Field Response is the class you need to deploy in the field and handle animals. The best part of this class is you work with live animals of all kinds, and learn how to handle and interact with them. Even if you aren't planning to deploy with WASART, it's pretty fun to spend a good part of the day with a large assortment of companion animals and livestock.

Tuition: \$65.00 for WASART members
\$32.50 for recertifying WASART members
\$95.00 for non-members

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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