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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

Bright Highlights in a Rainy Month

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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.

[Donate](#)

General Meetings

March 9, 2016

Shoreline Fire Department
Station 61
17525 Aurora Ave North
Shoreline, WA 98133

June 8, 2016

Location TBD - South
Sound Location



Unconcerned, Anakin munches on some hay while he is rigged for lifting.

Happy December, everyone!

Congratulations to Juan Carlos Benedetto for being elected serve as a Member at Large, on the Search

September 14, 2016

King County Office of
Emergency Management
3511 NE 2nd
Renton, WA 98156

December 14, 2016

Location TBD

The General Membership Meetings are held from **7 p.m. - 9 p.m.** The first hour is spent on WASART business and the 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

Orientation

March 12, 2016
Location TBD

Core & Field Response

April 16-17, 2016
Locations TBD

Emergency Sheltering & Transport

June 4-5, 2016
Locations TBD

Orientation

August 27, 2016
Location TBD

Core & Field Response
(repeat)

September 17-18, 2016
Locations TBD

Upcoming events

January 16, 2016

and Rescue Volunteer Advisory

Council (WA SARVAC) board! Incidentally, WASART is the first non-SAR organization accepted as a voting member on this prestigious state-wide board, and we are proud to have our efforts recognized by our SAR partners.

WASART was recently mentioned briefly on KOMO4 News regarding the rescue of Anakin, the downed horse near Winlock, WA. A more detailed article on this deployment follows below and we were pleased to have been able to send a well-trained team to Lewis County to assist with this successful operation. While Anakin is doing very well under veterinary care, the cooperation and resourcefulness of the local community members as well as members of a horse rescue and dog rescue organization was outstanding and resulted in this patient horse finally receiving the care he deserved. Thanks to all of the other volunteers who were on stand-by to assist for both lifts.

Here in Washington this month, we're already seeing record amounts of rain, and more snow than last year. Be sure you're as waterproofed as possible and have your winter go-bags ready to go.

However you and your families celebrate the holidays this month, I wish you all the very best. May they be filled with joy, peace, laughter, love, good health and safety in all your travels.

Happy Solstice!

Shawndra Michell
President

Anakin, a Horse with an Amazing Backstory

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
[Puyallup Dog Fanciers Show](#)

Puyallup Fairgrounds
110 Ninth Avenue SW
Puyallup, WA 98371

January 23, 2016

8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
[Monroe Tractor Supply Grand Opening](#)

13650 Roosevelt Road SE
Monroe, WA

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.



Just in time for Star Wars, we had a rescue of a horse named after a Star Wars character. Like the character, Anakin has an amazing backstory. See the link at the end of the article for more!

On Saturday December 5, WASART was called to assist in raising a horse who was down in Winlock, Washington. A woman had rescued two horses only a couple of days before from a situation where neither horse was getting enough to eat. The thinner one, an 18 year old Thoroughbred gelding named Anakin, was down and could not get himself up due to his depleted condition, lack of muscle, and the cold weather. It has been cold and raining a lot in western Washington, which only worsened the situation — cold muscles do not work well.

Fortunately there was a WASART team about an hour away with the rescue van, WASART 2. They diverted to Winlock and, with the help of neighbors, the Becker sling, and the Häst tripod, were able to get the horse up and standing on his own — a good sign. Anakin was checked by a vet and his rescuer planned to continue working to get him back to a normal weight.

Then Monday, Anakin was down again. About 11 a.m. WASART responders headed back to Winlock. An attempt was made to roll him, so that his legs were on the downhill side, as that will often give a horse a chance to stand on their own. After this was unsuccessful, the team set up the tripod and the sling again. We were able to raise him, and he stood on his own.

Throughout the rescue effort Anakin was calm and munching hay if there was any within reach. For those of you unfamiliar with horses, most do not like things going on above them; Anakin did not seem to care. He was also producing manure, a very good sign.

Meanwhile, others were were working to find a better situation for Anakin, who will need extra care while he recovers. It would be too much work for one person to handle on their own. Fortunately [Save a Forgotten Equine \(S.A.F.E.\)](#) offered to take him.

Once he was up and seemed stable on his feet, we removed the blankets so that his condition could be evaluated, then we replaced them with clean, dry blankets. Once Anakin demonstrated that he could walk around without much trouble, we started breaking down the lifting equipment and stowed it in WASART 2.

After all that Anakin had been through, we all agreed that immediately hauling him all the way to S.A.F.E., in Woodinville — about a two hour drive under good conditions — was not the best idea. Fortunately a neighbor just down the road provided a dry arena where Anakin spent the night, a much shorter and less stressful trailer ride.

On Tuesday Anakin made the rest of the journey to S.A.F.E. They report that his outlook is positive. S.A.F.E. will see that Anakin is brought back to a normal weight under close veterinary supervision.

A big thanks go to the caring person who rescued him, her friend who found him in that situation, Valhalla Canine Rescue (who live just down the street and were there to help with haul lines), and S.A.F.E.

It turns out that there was a reason that Anakin was so calm amidst all the activity. Read his amazing backstory S.A.F.E. researched here: <https://www.safehorses.org/?p=21600>

On a related note, the second horse, Silver, was neglected as well, just not as much as Anakin. His rescuer doesn't think she can give him the care he needs to return to good health, and is having a hard time locating a rescue for him. If you can help Silver, please contact: Michaela at public-info@washingtonsart.org to be put in touch with the rescuer.

Feed After Fire Update

Wrapping Up



A cat in Omak patrols the hay at AgTech, the local feed store serving as the distribution center for the Omak/Okanogan Long Term Recovery Organization efforts.

The current version of Feed After Fire is looking to be wrapped up in time for the new year. Most of the funds have been spent in Okanogan County, as detailed in last month's update. This month we can add that we've delivered some much needed hay to people in Ferry County. Anything that is left over will be added to the Omak/Okanogan Long Term Recovery Organization efforts, including a kind donation from the [Washington State Veterinary Medical Association](#) to assist in the effort.

About the Feed After Fire Project

Thanks to a very generous gift, WASART will be able to provide both domestic and wild animals with feed for the winter in areas devastated by the wildfires in Washington State. The project is being called Feed After Fire and will be in force as long as the funds and needs are there. The money was gifted by a donor who wishes to remain anonymous.

Find out more on www.feedafterfire.com.

Volunteer of the Quarter

Julie Shipman



It can be challenging to find time to volunteer under the best circumstances. Julie is always a great asset, even being from far-away Eastern Washington.

Julie lives in Wenatchee and has been instrumental in our responses, trainings, and feed distributions there. Julie has excellent follow-through, had great ideas, and is kind to animals and people alike.

We're proud to have her represent us in eastern Washington!

Volunteer(s) of the Quarter

Aaron Cook



Volunteer of the Quarter Aaron Cook (standing) helps break down the tripod rigging during the recent Anakin deployment.

Aaron Cook began volunteering for WASART after his retirement. He dedicated himself to learning and has recently stepped up to a leadership role as the head of the Technical Rescue Committee.

We appreciate Aaron's clear way of thinking, amazing problem solving skills, and willingness to respond to deployments.

Thank you for your hard work, Aaron!

Gifts that Support WASART



There's still time to order your cards and ornaments! We have a number of ornaments pre-made and ready to ship. The cards are blank inside so they can be used for more than the holidays -- thank yous, congratulations, birthdays, or just to say hello!

Both the ornaments and cards were designed by WASART member Michaela Eaves and Laurie Cinotto of the [Itty Bitty Kitty Committee](#).

Here's the link, enjoy! <https://wasart.myshopify.com/>

2016 Training Dates

2016 TRAINING	ORIENTATION March 12
	CORE & FIELD RESPONSE April 16-17
	EMERGENCY SHELTERING & TRANSPORT June 4-5
	ORIENTATION August 27
2016 TRAINING	CORE & FIELD RESPONSE September 17-18

WASART
Washington State
Animal Response Team

Here's an overview of the training dates. Links to register coming soon!

2016 will see some updates to the approach the training committee takes. The goal is to have one weekend of training and then the volunteer is ready to deploy. That weekend is the Core & Field Response weekend (listed below).

Locations are still being determined and dates for Technical Animal Rescue and the Annual Exercise are TBD as well.

Questions? Check with Training Director [Lucinda](#).

There is also a monthly training for those wishing to be training on the technical rescue team. Contact Aaron at trtmanager@washingtonsart.org for details on those.

Orientation

March 12, 2016

Location TBD

Core & Field Response

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Locations TBD

Emergency Sheltering & Transport

June 4-5, 2016

Locations TBD

Orientation

August 27, 2016

Location TBD

Core & Field Response (repeat)

September 17-18, 2016

Locations TBD

PS: We have exemptions for veterinarians and search and rescue members. Check with [Lucinda](#) for details.

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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