

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](http://www.washingtonsart.org)

Helping Animals & Their Owners in Disasters

- [Much Ado About MOUs, Training Chelan and Okanogan](#)
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## From the President

### Much Ado About MOUs, Training Chelan and Okanogan

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 11, 2015**

Enumclaw Fire Department Meeting Room  
1330 Wells Street  
Enumclaw, WA 98022

The next General Membership Meeting will be held from **7 pm - 9 pm**. The first hour is spent on



*Dogs shelter in Chelan's high school during the 2014 Carlton Complex Fire response. In April, WASART will be training with Chelan and Okanogan Counties to prepare for sheltering needs for upcoming disasters such as future fires.*

The most exciting news for me this month is that our new (to us) rescue van is now equipped, staged, and ready to roll out on its first deployment. See the story below for more details, but this is an important new development for us.

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.

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### Upcoming training

**February 28, 2015**

[Communications Workshop](#)

(Members only)

Marymoor Park

6046 W. Lake Sammamish

Pkwy NE

Redmond, WA 98052

**March 7, 2015**

[WASART Core](#)

City of Snoqualmie Fire

Department

37600 SE Snoqualmie

Pkwy

Snoqualmie, WA 98065

**March 14, 2015**

[Pet First Aid/CPR](#)

Cumberland Fire Station

35420 Veazie-Cumberland

Road

Enumclaw, WA 98022

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### Upcoming events

Join WASART at Auburn's **Petpalooza 2015**, scheduled for Saturday, May 16 from 10:00am – 5:00pm. For more info:

<http://www.auburnwa.gov/events>

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Also new and exciting, however, is that the American Humane Association (AHA) has approached WASART about the possibility of entering into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)\* with them for potential support in future operations. Established in 1877 and in continuous service since, AHA is one of America's leading animal welfare organizations. They have deployed to countless disasters and other emergencies all over the United States and internationally, including Hurricanes Camille, Katrina and Sandy, tornadoes at Joplin MO and Moore OK, flooding in Memphis TN and Minot ND, the 2010 Haitian earthquake, and many, many other emergencies over many decades. A number of WASART members are also members of the AHA Red Star Response Team, and have deployed with them many times. We are proud to be affiliated with them, and greatly encouraged at the prospect of having their extensive resources available in the event that we experience a large-scale disaster here that overwhelms our ability to respond on our own.

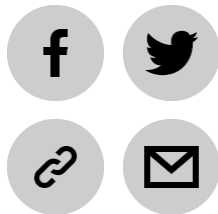
We also have in place an MOU with RedRover, about which I've written before. RedRover is also a widely respected national organization, which specializes in emergency animal sheltering. RedRover was prepared to relieve us at our Chelan and Okanogan emergency shelters during the Carlton Complex wildfires last summer, had our deployments there gone on longer.

In addition to these agreements with these two national animal organizations, WASART also has reciprocating MOUs in place with the 145 signatories on the Regional Coordination Framework in King County, and with Emergency Services Coordinating Agency (ESCA), a coalition of emergency response agencies serving ten municipalities in northern King and southern Snohomish Counties. And we are currently in talks regarding potential agreements with Pierce County Animal Response Team and for sheltering assistance from, and potential training to, Homeward Pet Adoption Center, a non-profit, no-kill

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.



animal shelter serving the greater Seattle area.

In recognition of the losses and hardships experienced by Chelan and Okanogan Counties during last year's wildfires, WASART has offered, and the counties have accepted, to provide emergency animal sheltering training for the emergency management and animal control agencies in the two counties, in April. This training will be provided at WASART's expense, for up to 30 trainees from the two counties. Our ability to provide this training at no cost to the counties is a result of the generosity of the numerous donors that made contributions to WASART as a result of our wildfire deployments, and we are, as always, deeply grateful for those gifts.

So our network continues to grow, expanding our capabilities and gaining us the benefits of association with these important and excellent organizations. It's an exciting time!

Bill Dugaard  
President

*\*[Editor's note: A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is an agreement made in advance that allows agencies to call on each other in time of need without the delays involved in not having an agreement.]*

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## From Trailer to Box Van



*After the purchase of the box van, members got together to build shelves and add lighting to the van. This includes some lovely finish work by Joe C., who does amazing work like this for a living.*

For the past few years, WASART has been operating with two separate rescue trailers in which to haul rescue equipment. Trailer #1 resides in the Enumclaw area and Trailer #2 is located in the Sammamish area. Ideally, the location of the callout and the proximity of the nearest WASART trailer allows a more timely response to the rescue, however WASART does not own a truck capable of hauling Trailer #2. This has been a major sticking point in terms of convenience and response time because it makes us dependent upon the availability of our members who not only own large trucks but who are also capable of hauling the trailer into and out of a rescue site. There have been numerous occasions where responders had to load ropes and other equipment from the trailer into their cars to haul it to the rescue site. This works in a pinch for a dog over a cliff but only up to a point. In circumstances where large animals are involved or, when a rescue involves a long commitment of time, we need the trailer as it houses our rescue glide and a wide range of other supporting equipment. This includes a generator, lights, extra personal protection equipment, cots, tent, blankets, first aid for animals and humans, chain saw, and a long inventory of possible necessities.

Thanks to generous donations from the Snoqualmie

Tribe, Noah's Wish Foundation, Merrill Lynch, the Seattle Foundation and numerous individual donors, WASART was able to purchase a 12' Chevy box van. After several weeks of volunteer effort that included some elaborate carpentry and considerable elbow grease, our Chevy is ready to roll. This past weekend, volunteers moved and organized all of the equipment from Trailer #2 into the box van. The box van is easy to drive and requires less room to park. It not only gives us more room for our large animal rescue equipment but it also provides the necessary space for us to haul our newest member of our WASART equipment family, Rescue Randy, the articulated life-size training horse.

And what happens to Trailer #2? The disposition of Trailer #2 is still under discussion and a resolution will hopefully be reached in the near future.



*One of the great features of the new (to us) box van is the mechanical lift on the back, which was quickly put to use to lift the 440 lb articulated horse up for transport.*

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**Articulated Horse Ready to Help Save Large Animals**



*After years of having an articulated horse on the wishlist, WASART finally has the means to train on our very own. The moveable joints make training for emergency rescue more realistic and prepares the responder more effectively for field work. Here, volunteers put the finishing touches on during the build party.*

Rescue Randy, our 440 lb. life size articulated horse mannequin arrived most auspiciously on Feb. 6. It was on that same day in 2007 that our founders, “The G’s,” aka Gretchen McCallum and Greta Cook, held their first Washington State Animal Response Team meeting around Gretchen’s kitchen table. “Since our initial training with another articulated horse in August, 2007, it has been our dream for WASART to acquire one of our own so that WASART could be better trained to be successful in providing the technical expertise necessary to rescue animals from life threatening situations. With this acquisition, our Technical Animal Rescue (TAR) training program can be expanded and our members’ skill sets enhanced” said McCallum.

Rescue Randy was purchased through Dr. Rebecca Gimenez of [Technical Large Animal Emergency Rescue](#). Made in the United Kingdom by the [RESQUIP Company](#), our Randy is only one of 13 such mannequins in the USA and the only one in the Pacific Northwest.

Though there are numerous human technical rescue organizations in our area, WASART is unique in that the equipment necessary for us to accomplish large animal rescue is rated and designed to assist and extract animals who weigh considerably more than a human or a dog. Previous rescues have included draft horses, who can tip the scales at a ton, and ponies who can weigh as much 850lbs. Our most recent large animal rescue, Bossy the Cow, weighed close to 2000 lbs. Now that we have Rescue Randy there exists a much wider scope of opportunity in which we can hone our rescue skills. Gone will be the days of filling sand bags to simulate the weight of a large animal during technical rope trainings.

Randy is constructed from a high quality abrasion resistant polymer wrapped around a precision cut metal skeleton. He is engineered with locking legs that allow him to stand unsupported and he is waterproof which makes it possible for our team to simulate water, mud, or bog entrapment scenarios. Because Randy's anatomy is articulated to be life-like in terms of joints and joint motion we can also simulate trailer accident extractions and well extractions. Something else we are excited about, Randy comes with a rolling platform that will allow for us to move him easily onto the hydraulic lift of our roomy new box van.

Like most specialized rescue equipment, Randy did not come cheap. However, adding Randy to our growing but not yet complete inventory of rescue and training equipment that allows us to realistically stage and safely practice highly dangerous rescue scenarios is priceless.

### **Help us rename Rescue Randy!**

We have a [naming auction on Facebook](#) from Feb 23 through midnight of Feb 27. (Don't have Facebook? Contact [Michaela](#) for details and we'll proxy a bid for you.) Help us rename our new guy!

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## Core Training

# UPCOMING TRAINING



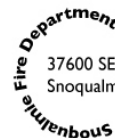
## CORE TRAINING March 7, 2015 • 9-5

Help animals in disasters & emergencies

Core is both online and in-classroom training.

- Hands-on fire extinguisher training
- Basic support knowledge
- Disaster preparedness
- Basic fire safety
- Base camp support
- Biosecurity awareness
- Disaster stress management
- Basic skills & knowledge to deploy

WASART's operational procedures, structures, & policies



37600 SE Snoqualmie Pkwy  
Snoqualmie, WA 98065



Register online:  
<http://bit.ly/WASART2015>

\$65 members (\$32.50 recertifying)

\$95\* general public

\*If joining within 90 days of this class,  
\$30 of this fee goes toward annual dues

washingtonsart.org • WASART is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization focused on animal-related disaster response needs in the State of Washington.

### Sat Mar 7, 2015

Core is the main class you need to deploy on a response. Once your other requirements are out of the way (online self-study FEMA classes, CPR/First Aid, Tetanus vaccination, etc.), you are ready to go.

What you'll learn: Core training is designed to give students the basic skills and knowledge to deploy with WASART in a non-animal-handling support capacity, and is a mandatory requirement to be able to deploy in other fields. The training consists of on-line classes and in-classroom training. Registrants must complete the online segments and the in-classroom training to be credentialed in Core. Links to the online segments will be provided after we receive registration and payment for the in-classroom training; there will not be an additional cost for the online instruction.



[Register online](#) for Core. Questions about the training program? Check out the [training curriculum](#) or contact the [registrar](#). Core is currently offered twice annually, and the next training date is August 30, 2015.

**When:** March 7, 2015

**Class:** 9-5, with sign-in at 8:30 a.m.

**Where:** Eastside Fire & Rescue Headquarters,  
175 Newport Way Northwest,  
Issaquah, WA 98027

**Cost:** \$65.00 members

\$32.50 for recertifying WASART members

\$95.00 for non-members

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## Pet First Aid

### UPCOMING TRAINING

## PET CPR & FIRST AID

**Mar 14, 2015 • 8-2**

CPR & First Aid for pets  
Shelter preparation  
First Aid Kit necessities  
Equine wound care  
Hands-on practice

Cumberland Fire Station  
35420 Veazie-Cumberland Rd  
Enumclaw, WA 98022



Register online:  
<http://bit.ly/WASART2015>

\$75 members  
\$110\* general public



*Photo of Foxxi by Aine, Creative Commons license, changes made: cropping*

## Sat Mar 14, 2015

Learn the basics of pet first aid and CPR for companion animals at this training session. In addition to the information about first aid for companion animals, we will also be presenting Shelter Preparation, First Aid Kit necessities, Equine Wound care and what should be included in To Go Bag Kits for animals. You will get an opportunity to do

some hands-on practice on bandages, splints, and CPR. Bring your lunch as it will be a working lunch and there are no restaurants or fast-food restaurants close by.

[Register online](#) for the in-classroom instruction. Questions about the training program? Check out the [training curriculum](#) or contact the [registrar](#).

**When:** March 14, 2015

**Class:** 8-2, with sign-in at 7:30 a.m.

**Where:** Cumberland Fire Station  
35420 Veazie-Cumberland Road  
Enumclaw, WA 98022

**Cost:** \$75.00 members  
\$110.00 for non-members

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