

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

- [Puyallup Tribe Grant Expands Rescue Options](#)
- [Irene Murakami](#)
- [Feed for Wildfire-Affected Animals Project Begins](#)
- [Election results](#)
- [Annual Exercise Cements Skills Learned Throughout the Year](#)

## Puyallup Tribe Grant Expands Rescue Options



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

**December 9, 2015**  
King County Office of  
Emergency Management  
3511 NE 2nd  
Renton, WA 98056

The next General  
Membership Meeting will be  
held from **7 p.m. - 9 p.m.**

*Since we already had two legs, a third leg and tripod head makes the tripod possible.*

Thanks to the generosity of the Puyallup Tribe, WASART now has two new ways to provide vertical lift during a technical rescue operation for small or large animals.

In addition to the A frame that we have used on several rescues this year, we now have the option to build a monopod or a tripod. These options give us more flexibility in dealing with different rescue scenarios. WASART responders have been training with the new equipment, which will be with us at the Annual Exercise.

Thank you Puyallup Tribe!

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

#### Transport

**November 15, 2015**

10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Enumclaw Middle School

550 Semanski Street

Enumclaw, WA 98022

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.



*The tripod is used to hoist larger animals straight up. The tripod and sling used on the horse were both designed by Dr. Becker, a veterinarian and engineer.*



*The single pole ordered was also ordered with a monopod head. A monopod is used for high-angle redirects.*

## Volunteer of the Quarter

### Irene Murakami



*Irene spends some quality time with a goat during this weekend's Annual Exercise.*

The Volunteer of the Quarter Award goes to Irene Murakami in recognition of her hard work and positive attitude over these past years with WASART. Irene is a prime example of WASART's heart and dedication. Irene, an accomplished baker, recently held a bake sale to purchase Snappy Snares to help WASART's ability to better handle dogs. She's also planned work parties to help fellow members and has coordinated with animal owners so WASART's training attendees can benefit from hands-on practice on live animals.

When asked about her award, Irene said, "You don't always know when, where or who will benefit from WASART's services/training but, it feels great to know it's used and appreciated. And we can all have a part."

Thank you for all your hard work, Irene!

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## Feed After Fire Update

### Feed for Wildfire-Affected Animals Project Begins



*Member Julie S. unloads donations from this summer's deployment in Okanogan.*

Last month we let you know about our Feed After Fire project which allows us to help feed animals whose winter food source was destroyed by the summer fires. Since then we set up an online application so people could apply for help. We've let the dust settle a bit so word had a chance to get around and we could gather as many applications as we thought could use help.

The Feed After Fire Task Force has begun meeting to discuss the strategy and tactics most suited to bringing relief to as many recipients as possible, as well as going through the applications and prioritizing help for winter feeding. The project is just getting under way and we'll keep you informed.

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. Find out more on [www.feedafterfire.com](http://www.feedafterfire.com).

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## Election results

Election time is always bittersweet. We release some board members and welcome others. We're always happy former officers continue on as regular volunteers, and we welcome our new officers and look forward to working with them.

Congratulations to our new officers:

President **Shawndra Michell**

Secretary **Minde Sunde**

Training Director **Lucinda Yerbury**



*A bird? Well elections make for less-than-exciting photos, so we're using another photo from the Annual Exercise. While WASART doesn't handle exotics such as parrots, it is nice to learn about them.*

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## Annual Exercise Cements Skills Learned Throughout the Year



*Unlikely friends – this mini and draft horse are good friends and like to be together. In sheltering animals, it's important to keep animals together that are accustomed to living together.*

The WASART Annual Exercise is a free, two-day full-scale animal shelter set up and operation exercise with live animals. Participants are exposed to all aspects of a large and small animal shelter operation. This year's exercise was held over the

weekend of October 17 and 18, with setup starting on Friday the 16th. Many participants spent one or two nights onsite to gain the full benefit of an overnight deployment experience, in addition to getting to know other responders in the organization, and having fun. This year, in addition to the usual sheltering curriculum, a mock injury to one of our members was staged, along with an emergency shelter evacuation. Much was learned, but the team building aspect was just as important. Both will improve WASART's ability to provide sheltering for companion animals, large animals, and livestock.

A big thanks to the owners of the animals we are fortunate enough to practice with. Nothing beats hands-on experience with real animals. Plus, it's hard to resist the cuteness.



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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