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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

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From The President

2016 - A Year for Strengthening Partnerships and Skills



In March 2016 we partnered with Summit to Sound Search & Rescue (STS) to rescue a dog stranded on the far side of the Nooksack River.

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 8, 2017

[Milton Public Library](#)
900 Meridian Avenue East
Milton, WA 98354
(entrance at rear of library)

June 14, 2017

Happy 2017 everyone! Last year was busy and successful for WASART. We started off by getting the good news that Anakin, the horse, was healing, getting stronger and stronger, and eventually made a full recovery.

We sent more than 17 volunteers on 40 rotations to work alongside the ASPCA for sheltering of nearly

[King County Office of
Emergency Management](#)

3511 NE 2nd Street
Renton, WA 98056

September 13, 2017

[Shoreline Fire Department](#)

Station 61
17525 Aurora Avenue North
Seattle, WA 98133

December 13, 2017

[King County Office of
Emergency Management](#)

3511 NE 2nd Street
Renton, WA 98056

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

Upcoming training

Register at

<http://bit.ly/WASART2017>

Fundamentals

February 4, 2017

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Kirkland Fire Dept., Station 26
9930 124th Ave NE
Kirkland, WA 98033

**Animal Handling
& Assessment**

March 25, 2017

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Location TBD

**Emergency Animal
Sheltering**

April 22, 2017

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Enumclaw, WA

Paw Wrapping Workshop

May 6, 2017

10:00 a.m. - noon

700 companion animals that had been rescued in a hoarding case, as well as smaller dog fighting seizures. In addition to working closely with the ASPCA on multiple deployments, WASART also worked closely with King County Explorer Search and Rescue (ESAR), Tacoma Mountain Rescue (TMR), King County Search and Rescue, Seattle Mountain Rescue, and various law enforcement agencies. Many of the rescues in which we participated with these organizations were highly technical — including a dog over 150' cliffs, night rescues, and swift water rescues.

Speaking of technical rescue, in May the members of our Technical Rescue Team participated in a four-day advanced training from Colorado-based Rigging for Rescue.

In addition to other amazing rescue organizations, WASART participated in the Cascadia Rising training exercise, which was a simulation of a 9.0 earthquake. WASART was also recognized by the Department of Emergency Management for helping to build disaster-ready communities. We take these honors seriously and are grateful for them.

2016 brought us new opportunities to be creative in our thinking — like using a leaf blower to encourage a cat to come out of a storm drain, and assisting in the extrication of cats from heater vents. Some things we can't train for, but our training is always invaluable in these unique situations.

We also received two generous donations from the AKC ([American Kennel Club](#)) — two fully stocked sheltering trailers. These trailers have all that we need to respond quickly and efficiently in an emergency sheltering situation.

Please do check out our 2017 training schedule and see what may interest you. Thank you for your support in years past. We're all looking forward to an amazing 10th anniversary year for WASART!

Location TBD

Transport

May 13, 2017

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Enumclaw Expo Center
45224 284th Ave SE
Enumclaw, WA

Practical Communications Workshop

June 3, 2017

10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Marymoor Park
Redmond, WA

Technical Animal Rescue (Awareness)

June 24, 2017

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Cumberland Fire Station
Enumclaw, WA

Open House (repeat)

August 27, 2017

10:00 - noon
Tacoma, WA

Fundamentals (repeat)

September 17, 2017

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Redmond, WA

Animal Handling & Assessment (repeat)

October 1, 2017

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Location TBD

Practical Communications Workshop (repeat)

October 7, 2017

10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Fort Steilacoom Park
Lakewood, WA

Annual Exercise

October 14, 2017

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Enumclaw Expo Center
45224 284th Ave SE
Enumclaw, WA 98022

Shawndra Michell

President

Raise the Hoof: WASART's First Annual Fundraiser



2017

MARCH 11

Help us celebrate past and future rescues at [March 11th's Raise the Hoof](#).

Join us for an afternoon of catered vegetarian appetizers, wine, and inspiring stories, all to raise money to help the Washington State Animal Response Team!

- Talk by Dr. Mary Schoenfeldt
- Auction
- 50/50 Raffle
- Pictures with one of our training mannequin horses
- Wine pull
- Bonnie Towne, owner of Lager, one of our rescues

Auction items so far include a stay for a weekend at the beautiful [Mountain Goat Lodge](#) in Salida, CO and a week long stay in Mexico.

March 11, 2017

4 pm-6 pm

\$45 | [Get your tickets](#)

[Point Defiance Pagoda](#)

5801 Trolley Lane

Tacoma, WA 98407

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.



Interested in hosting your own table? Each table can accommodate up to 8-10 people. We have some tools to help you out as well. Contact [Carrie Lee at event@washingtontsart.org](mailto:Carrie.Lee@washingtontsart.org)

Don't think you can manage to round up a whole table's worth? That's fine. Let us know and we'll seat you and your guests at another half table for instant new friends!

Pierce County Animal Advocate Retires



Best wishes to Barb Nelson, center, seen here with WASART founders Gretchen McCallum (left) and Greta Cook (right).

All good things must come to an end and Barbara Nelson's retirement from the Pierce County Office of Emergency Management is just that. After 14+ years, she has decided that it's time to move on to other challenges. We hear there might be a therapy dog program and pooch in her future! She has been a stalwart supporter of WASART all those years and while we really wish she didn't have to go, we wish her all the very best on her new adventure.

Christmas Save at Rattlesnake Mountain



Fresh off the trail, an unlucky dog is given an early gift of going home on Christmas Eve.

On Christmas Eve we received a call for a dog over a cliff on the always popular Rattlesnake Ledge Trail. While on the phone with the King County Sheriff's Deputy, he offered to ask Seattle Mountain Rescue (SMR) to assist since the snowy trail was treacherous with ice.

SMR was able to make contact with the dog, put a harness on it, and raise it up the incline. WASART was on location, prepared to ferry equipment and lend a hand if needed. We are glad to have helped improve a family's holiday by making sure their dog was able to go home with them.

Feb 4 Fundamentals Class



At Fundamentals, students learn a variety of skills to assist during deployments, such as line hauling, shown here.

Right now the Training Committee is working hard to make the upcoming Fundamentals class the best ever.

Fundamentals is the main class a volunteer needs to deploy on a rescue or other mission. Learn what you can do to assist and stay safe in the field, how an operation is run, avoid biohazards inherent in animal rescue, and command structure, radio skills, and most importantly have fun and meet your fellow volunteers through both in person and online segments. (This is not an animal handling class -- that's on March 25th.)

Time: sign-in at 8:30 a.m. Class: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

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

Location: Kirkland Fire Department, 9930 124th Ave NE, Kirkland, WA 98033

Register online here: <http://bit.ly/WASART2017>

Or print and snail mail version: <http://bit.ly/Download-N-PrintWASART2016>

For more info, contact:
registrar@washingtonsart.org.

2017 Training Dates



Open House – August 27th (no registration needed)
Fundamentals – February 4th, September 17th (repeat)
Animal Handling & Assessment – March 25th, October 1st (repeat)
Sheltering – April 22nd
Transport – May 13th
Annual Exercise – October 21st (tentative)
Technical Rescue – Monthly, contact the [Technical Rescue Chair](#) for info

Register for 2017

You can register for 2017's trainings at <http://bit.ly/WASART2017>. Questions? Check with [Training Director](#).

P.S. We have exemptions for veterinarians and search and rescue members. Check with the [Training Director](#) 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) nonprofit organization. Mail us at: WASART, P.O. Box 21, Enumclaw, WA 98022.

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