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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](#)



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Helping Animals & Their Owners in Disasters

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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.

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General Meetings

September 13, 2017

[Shoreline Fire Department](#)

Station 61

17525 Aurora Avenue North
Seattle, WA 98133

December 13, 2017

[King County Office of
Emergency Management](#)

From The President

Summer can mean burned paws



Rocks & pavement can burn paws when it's hot out. Hold the back of your hand against the ground for 5 seconds. If it's too hot for you, it's too hot for your dog. If in doubt, leave them home.

WASHINGTON STATE ANIMAL RESPONSE TEAM

The photo in the warning above comes from a rescue of two Malamutes who burned their feet on a hike a couple of summers ago.

With the Solstice upon us, it must mean that summer-type weather will be here to stay. One can dream...

However, it will mean that more people and animals will be outdoors enjoying all that Washington offers. Please remember that pavement can swiftly become too hot for bare [human and non-human] feet to walk on; rivers are moving swiftly and can still be quite cold; and heat in enclosed vehicles can become deadly in a very short amount of time. Here's a great website that lists, by state, the laws that protect animals left in parked vehicles:

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>

Technical Animal Rescue (Awareness)

June 24, 2017

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Grateful Pine Farm
13620 Old Snohomish Monroe
Road
Snohomish, WA 98290

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.

[Table of State Laws](#)

They also have lots of other very useful information.

With dogs being out and about more, it may be a great time to brush up on your paw wrapping skills, just in case. Check out our WASART video here: [Paw Wrapping, Booties, and the Paw Kit](#).

As always - be safe, be prepared and have fun!

Shawndra Michell

President

Rider pinned under horse for four hours, both rescued



Havana watches rescuers Joe C. and Juan Carlos B. as she clears the ledge she'd fallen down.

On June 19th at about 8:00 p.m, we received a call involving a horse that had slipped down a hill, trapping her rider beneath her. Fire crews from multiple departments and medics were already on scene when we arrived, all focused on extracting the rider and getting her medical attention.

The rider was extracted by the fire department and transported out of the area by medics, first by aid car, and then airlifted to Harborview Trauma Center in Seattle. Then it was our turn to focus on

Enumclaw Expo Center
45224 284th Ave SE
Enumclaw, WA 98022

Outreach Events

No registration required.
Stop by and say hello!

July 8, 2017

[11th Annual Poochpalooza](#)

10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Asbery Field
1605 7th Avenue
Marysville, WA

August 26, 2017

[Barktoberfest](#)

9:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Roegner Park
601 Oravetz Road SE
Auburn, WA

September 9, 2017

[Doggiestock](#)

Noon - 6:00 p.m.
Toll Gate Farm Park
1300 W. North Bend Way
North Bend, WA

September 30

[Lake Forest Park](#)

[Preparedness Fair](#)

10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Lake Forest Park Town Center
17171 Bothell Way NE
Lake Forest Park, WA 98155

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,

extricating the horse, about 25 feet below the top of the hill. We teamed up with the fire personnel to haul in our bipod and rigging equipment, then begin set up the system. The call for the fire departments was for all technical rescue fire fighters from Zone 3, which includes south King County, WA, meaning the team included a lot of experience and knowledge. We were fortunate to have many experienced Technician* level riggers on our ad hoc team. Joe C., the WASART member who was the Rigging Lead on the deployment is a Technician level member on WASART's Technical Rescue Team.

Joining us was Steve Latimer, DVM, of [Northwest Equine Veterinary Associates](#). Dr. Latimer would act as the horse's vet, monitoring the health and handling sedation.

We set up the bipod as close to the embankment as was safe, set lift systems opposite the bipod and sent a crew down to rig the horse.

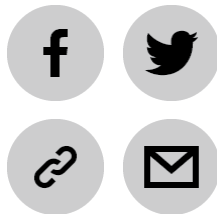
Once everything was in place, we hauled Havana up. When the horse was up, we tilted the bipod back to where we could slowly lower her onto solid ground. As soon as she realized her feet were on the ground, she scrambled to stand on her own, and we pulled the quick release to disconnect the sling.

We let her calm a bit, as the noise of the quick release combined with all the activity had excited her. After a bit, responders and horse handlers walked her out. Then it was time for us to debrief, pack up our equipment, and depart for home. While most of the fourteen WASART responders were home by 1 a.m., some didn't reach home until almost one hour later.

We're so grateful for the excellent team spirit our partners in rescue brought to the deployment. Teamwork is the only way something like this is accomplished.

Last but not least, our thoughts are with the rider.

and emergency response.



We hope she makes a speedy and full recovery.

The National Fire Protection Association statute 1670 dictates three levels of rope rescue. The first and lowest level is **Awareness. The second is **Operations**. And the highest level is **Technician**. Rope Rescue Technicians tend to be the individuals who develop rope rescue curriculum for their respective organizations, while also taking the lead in complex rope rescue operations.*

Bloody beagle eludes searchers, sparks mystery



Many people were onsite to search, but the injured dog was not found.

This deployment started as a call for help with an injured beagle on Mt Baldy, just outside of Enumclaw, WA. When we arrived, we were told the dog was somewhere on the mountain and people had been searching for it but didn't know where it was. The dog had been seen with an injury to its lower face but the person who saw the dog was

not able to get close, so we knew there was an injured dog but not where.

The first team members met at the trailhead, talked to some concerned community members who had been looking to gather what information there was. While we waited for the rest of the team to arrive a small team went up to meet up with volunteers still out in the woods where they'd been searching. In the distance we could hear dogs barking — sometimes one, sometimes two. We did not know if this was the subject or not.

We met the two non-team searchers coming out of the woods, and one turned back around to show us where blood was on the trail. We checked that area while waiting for the rest of the team to join us.

One of our responders onsite also volunteers with King County Explorer Search and Rescue, King County's human search and rescue, so he directed us in a search pattern once the blood trails ran out.

We don't generally do searches. Lost and injured animal behavior is different from lost human behavior and this is not an area we do training in. Our specialty is in extracting an animal in a known location. Sometimes we'll clear dangerous areas for other volunteer groups who don't have the technical rescue training to stay safe. But we were there and there was a decent chance we'd find a dog which had been recently seen. We wanted to give the dog a chance at making it home, as well as help out the volunteers who had already spent much of their day and energy looking.

We fanned out and checked side trails coming down the mountain. We stopped and listened often and watched for blood or paw prints.

Once back at the van, we crossed the highway to locate the dogs we'd been hearing barking and cleared that area.

We discussed our next steps. Nobody likes going home with the thought of an injured dog left behind.

We didn't have a lot of daylight left and sending searchers out in the dark wouldn't be helpful or safe. We contacted Roaming Paws, who had already been out earlier in the day. We made a plan to borrow some of their equipment and set up a live trap in the area where the blood was found.

There were a number of very concerned people discussing the situation on Facebook. By the next morning, the story had gotten around to someone who knew the owners and the beagle. They lived very near the site we'd been searching. In further discussions, the owners, who were not on Facebook, confirmed their beagle had come home bloody. The dog was not injured and the blood appeared to not be its own.

We saw no other animals during our search, and we are relieved the dog made its way home.

Dog found on the Cedar River Trail



WASART responder Aaron C. scans for a microchip.

We received a call for assistance for a German Shepherd-type dog in Ravendale, WA as we were

wrapping up another deployment nearby.

The dog was found on private property that sits along the Cedar River Trail. The owner of the property noticed the dog earlier in the day and had been checking on her throughout the day, expecting the dog's owner to be nearby. As evening came, it was evident the dog's owner was not in the area.

The man called 911 and fed the dog snacks.

We arrived at the trailhead and the owner was gracious enough to allow us to drive around and through his property so the carry out was just up a little incline rather than the 3/4 mile back to the parking area.

We assessed the dog. She's very old and having obvious problems standing. With her difficulty moving and the remoteness of the location, it's unclear how she made it to that area.

She's very sweet. She allowed us to scan her for a chip (none) and she wore no collar. She did not complain when we moved her to a litter, strapped her in and carried her to the truck.

We fed her more treats as she seemed hungry and had a good appetite. We made a little pillow for her from a towel so she could rest between snacks.

Once in the truck, we called the King County Animal Control Officer (ACO). We met the ACO by the trailhead and handed the dog over to her.

The next day a picture was posted by the animal control. The dog was gone that afternoon. We contacted animal control and was told the intake number for the dog was merged with another number already in the system, likely meaning the dog had been reported missing and was retrieved by the owner.

We're happy for the dog and the family.

2017 Training dates



Open House – August 27th (no registration needed)

Fundamentals – September 17th (repeat)

Animal Handling & Assessment – October 1st (repeat)

Communications Practice – Oct 7

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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