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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

Caution Averts Dog Bites

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A Kentucky neighborhood considers banning a new set of dog breeds. Their current list includes St. Bernards. [Photo by audry_sel, Creative Commons licensed.](#)

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

June 13, 2018

[Shoreline Fire Department](#)
17525 Aurora Avenue N
Shoreline, WA 98133

September 12, 2018

There's been more news about dogs biting humans and breed specific banning lately. Sadly, a Lexington, KY neighborhood is considering adding more dog breeds to their list of banned dogs (I'm quite sure this neighborhood is not the only one!). The new breeds would include Great Danes, Huskies and Pit Bulls (all variations and "any dogs containing characteristics of this breed"). Their list already includes German Shepherds, Rottweilers, Mastiffs, Doberman Pinschers, Alaskan Malamutes, Chows, St. Bernards and Akitas. Doesn't sound at all like a neighborhood I would choose to live in, but it does segue into the dog biting issue and what

[Valley Regional Fire Authority](#)

1101 D Street, NE
Auburn, WA 98002

December 12, 2018

[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/WASART2018>

May 5-6, 2018

Ropes 1

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

[Eastside Fire & Rescue
Headquarters](#)

175 Newport Way NW
Issaquah, WA 98027

June 2, 2018

Transport

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

[Enumclaw Expo Center](#)
45224 284th Avenue SE

Enumclaw, WA 98022

June 30, 2018

Technical Animal Rigging

(f/k/a Technical Animal Rescue
- Awareness)

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

[Grateful Pine Farm](#)

13620 Old Snohomish Monroe
Road
Snohomish, WA 98290

August 26, 2018

Open House (repeat)

1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

could lead others to perceive certain dogs as aggressive.

On average, a single dog bite insurance claim can cost \$37,501, and Washington State has already paid over \$9 million dollars in dog bite claims in recent years. Most homeowners insurance will cover \$100,000 and renters insurance will cover \$30,000, but check yours to be sure (anything over that coverage is the owner's responsibility). And this only covers the financial aspect and not the emotional aspects of the harm caused to someone else, and what could happen to your dog afterwards.

Some of the things that are recommended to prevent bites are having your dog spayed or neutered and socialize it around other dogs and humans. Another important thing is to teach children (and adults, too) to always use caution around dogs, especially those that are sleeping or eating. And always ask permission before petting another dog. And of course, keep your own dog leashed.

If you're reading this, you most likely already know these things. But the more we educate others and remain vigilant in keeping humans and dogs safe, the more likely we are to prevent bites and hopefully prevent more breed specific bans. I agree with the saying 'punish the deed, not the breed'. Here's to us staying safe, keeping others safe and keeping our animals safe.

In peace,
Shawndra Michell
President

WASART Assists Westley, a Tiny Bull

Location TBD

September 15, 2018
Base Support (f/k/a
Fundamentals) (repeat)

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

[Foothills Veterinary Hospital](#)

28512 112th Street East
Buckley, WA 98321

September 16, 2018
Operations Support (f/k/a
Animal Handling &
Assessment) (repeat)

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

[Foothills Veterinary Hospital](#)

28512 112th Street East
Buckley, WA 98321

October 20, 2018
Annual Exercise (free)

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

[Enumclaw Expo Center](#)

45224 284th Avenue SE
Enumclaw, WA 98022

Outreach Events

No registration required.
Stop by and say hello!

May 19, 2018

Petpalooza

10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

[Game Farm Park](#)

3030 R Street SE
Auburn, WA

July 7, 2018

[Poochapalooza](#)

10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

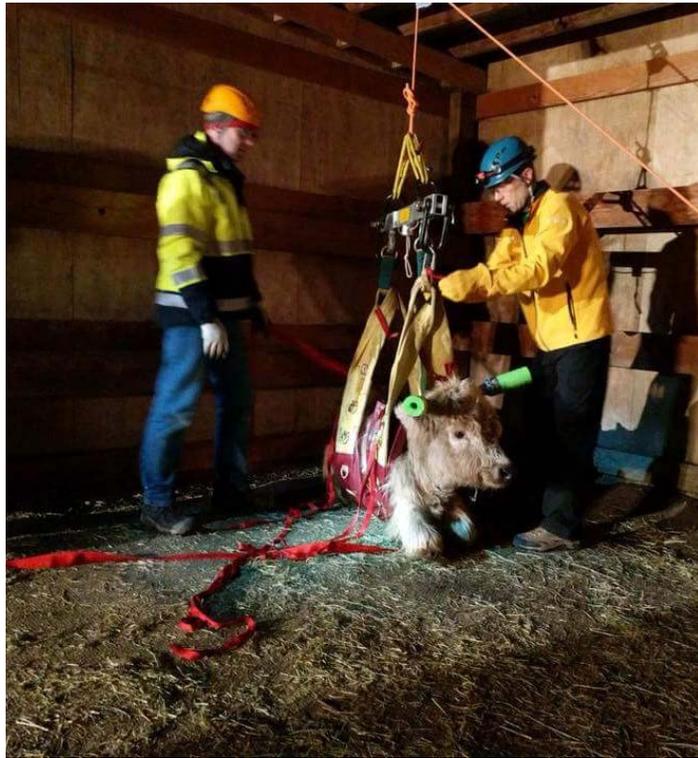
Asbery Field, 4th and Alder
Marysville, WA

July 21 and 22, 2018

[Kla Ha Ya Days](#)

10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

1st and Union
Snohomish, WA 98290



In March, we received a call from our friends at [New Moon Farm Goat Rescue](#) to assist a two year old bull. We had no other information at first, so we had visions of a large possibly grumpy animal nearing 2000 lbs needing a lift.

On our way to the call, we learned more. New Moon Farm and [Skagit Animals in Need \(S.A.I.N.\)](#) had taken in many of the 200 surviving cattle from a [farm where over fifty animals had been found dead](#). The farm had been in a similar situation in 2005. The bull had been down for some time and could not stand.

The Highland cattle New Moon Farm took in were underweight and in poor condition. Westley, the bull we were called out for, was about 400 lbs and 2 years old and so incredibly sweet. He was dwarfed by the rescue glide, that we normally use for horses, as we secured him to it. His legs had very little in the way of muscle mass to help him stand.

We moved Westley to a shed with sturdy beams and lifted him with a raise system. Normally when we raise a large animal, we use straps and some other equipment called a Becker sling. This generally fits horses well. Westley was so small from malnutrition

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.



and neglect that he kept sliding out of the sling. Finally volunteers just did what they could by hand to help him stand.

Westley was unable to keep to his feet, but we'd successfully moved him a bit to get some blood moving. We slipped some bales of hay under him in hopes it would allow blood to flow a bit throughout his legs. Then we packed up and told the awesome volunteers at New Moon Farm we were available the next day should they need us.

New Moon Farm worked very hard to help Westley. They have great veterinarians, dedicated volunteers, and a willingness to do what it takes to help animals including physical therapy and around-the-clock attention. They gave him a bath and all the love he could wish for. [In spite of all the best care, Westley was too far gone.](#)

Our hearts are with New Moon Farm as they work through the pain and continue to provide a refuge for needy goats. We're also wishing the best to S.A.I.N. as they continue to work with other remaining cattle from the Pederson case.

Raise the Hoof



Our second annual fundraiser on March 24th, Raise the Hoof: Paws Up for WASART, was again a huge success. Between the venue at Titlow Lodge in

Tacoma, to the delicious appetizers, wine, live and silent auction items, the people—it was an amazing event. The guest speaker Julie Anderson, the Pierce County Auditor and a good friend to WASART, provided all in attendance with a great perspective on how we see our pets and why rescuing these animals helps rescue the human. We could not have been more thrilled to have her speak, and to entertain us with her sometimes off-kilter Corgi jokes. She also shared memories of the partnership with WASART several years ago when a large number of horse were seized and WASART recruited and scheduled over 140 volunteers, WASART and non-WASARTs, to provide twice daily care for the horses for 11 weeks.

Our own Leo Notenboom exceeded the event and kept us on time and on cue looking quite splendid in his unique and custom made 'supporter' tie. Ken Cottle was auctioneer extraordinaire, tuxedo and all, who got bidders to surpass our expectations at the live auction. In the background 25 WASART volunteers worked to make the magic happen, from setup to tear down. Without the seamless blend of these key players, we could not have pulled off the event as well as we did. The final number for this event was \$18,300.00.

It truly is a humbling experience to witness generosity in action. WASART does amazing things within the community and continues to build upon its experience and reputation. But WASART would not exist without the commitment of our members, our donors, and our supporters. We hope you are as proud as we are! WASART is well on its way to raising the money needed to meet its operating costs for 2018. We only hold three true fundraising events a year and you, our members, and donors, never fail to show up and support this organization.

From the fundraising team at WASART, thank you. We can't do what we do without you!

Jen Carter: On Losing a Longtime Friend



Jen Carter was often found with smile on her face.

Jennifer Carter, long time member and friend of WASART, passed away on February 16th after a long and extraordinarily courageous battle with cancer. Throughout her ordeal, Jen never lost her sense of humor and irony, and endured her struggle

with remarkable grace. With all she went through, she never stopped caring about and loving her gang of rescued dogs. Her email address began with “my12jollydogs...”

A memorial service for Jen will be held on May 5th, from noon to 2 PM, at The Pagoda in Point Defiance Park, 5715 Roberts Garden Road, in Tacoma. We’re hoping that a large contingent of WASART members will attend, and that non-members who knew Jen will be there, too, to show her husband Bruce the respect and honor that Jen and he so richly deserved. It will be a chance to share memories of her and the richness of her life. We already miss her wit and strength.

Sergeant Danny Wikstrom Retires



One of the strengths of the SAR community is the ability to call on one another's expertise. When we work together we can be more effective and safe.

Sergeant Danny Wikstrom was instrumental in

bringing many assets together when people and animals needed help in Snohomish County.

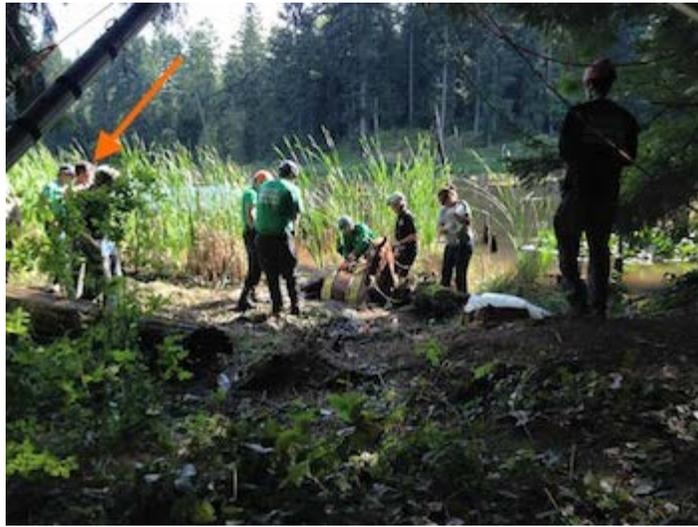
WASART responded under Danny a number of times; he was always willing to help in whatever way he could. I particularly remember a difficult response for a horse who had become [mired in the mud](#) at the edge of a lake in [Lord Hill Regional Park](#). This was a difficult extraction due to the terrain and the need to get the horse out of the cold water as quickly as possible. Danny coordinated SAR volunteers to help on the haul team and carry gear, an ATV group to help haul some of the heavier gear, and he was able to get supplies and medications on-site. (Amazingly, there was a vet and assistant riding the trails in the area, they were able to attend to horse's medical needs.)

At one point Danny actually jumped in the water to assist the WASART team that was rigging the horse.

Due largely to all the assets available, the rescue was a great success. The horse was able to walk out and recovered fully.

To say farewell, about 200 friends, family, and associates gathered at Taylor's Landing on March 24. Some of them spoke on Danny's humanity and sacrifice in support of others. The stories and speeches were all memorable, evoking both tears and laughter from the crowd.

Danny's retirement after serving over 30 years in Law Enforcement with the last 22 years as SAR Sergeant and Air Support Unit Supervisor is very well deserved, but certainly a loss for SCVSAR. He will be missed. (Although we hope to see him around as a volunteer.)



Danny at the Lord Hill response. He eventually joined us in the water.

Training

Ropes 1 Class, May 5-6



Rope rescue is a critical skill for WASART's technical rescue team. This is how we get rescuers safely over cliffs, how we pull horses up embankments, and how we stay safe. To help rescuers get started, WASART will hold its second Ropes 1 class on May 5-6 in Issaquah, WA.

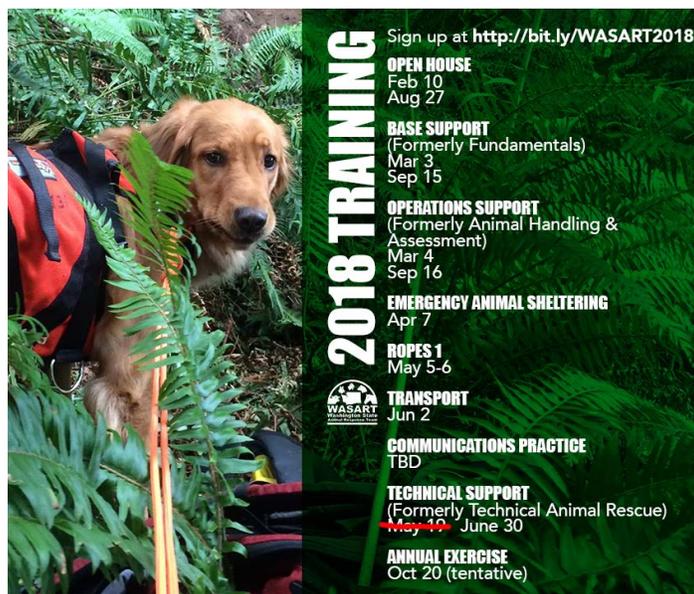
Although our monthly technical rescue practices are open to all members, the Technical Rescue Committee recognizes that the specialized technical

knowledge required to run rigging systems can be daunting. Ropes 1 was designed to introduce members and non-members to the basics of rigging and safety in a fun, low-pressure setting. Students will learn the basics of technical rescue, including knots; mechanical advantage systems for raising, lowering, and belaying; general physics of technical rescue; and safety during a rescue operation. Students will get the chance to learn even more through the hands-on practice.

The class's maximum of 25 students still has a few slots available. Instruction will be provided by the senior Technical Rescue Team members, thus keeping the ratio of students to teachers and equipment low and providing students with plenty of opportunity to practice their new skills. Though students finishing the class are not immediately qualified to set up rigging systems during a rescue, they have taken a huge first step.

The cost is \$60.00 for non-members, \$30.00 for WASART members, and \$15.00 for repeat WASART members. The registration form and further instructions can be found at <http://bit.ly/WASART2018>.

2018 Training Dates



Some of our classes have changed names to better reflect what their function is. If you previously took Core, Animal Handling & Assessment, and Technical Animal Rescue, and your credentials are still current, you do not need to take the newly named Base Support, Operations Support, and Technical Support.

Technical Rescue – Monthly, contact the [Technical Rescue Chair](#) for info.

May 5-6, 2018 • Ropes 1

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

[Eastside Fire & Rescue Headquarters](#)

175 Newport Way NW
Issaquah, WA 98027

June 2, 2018 • Transport

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

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Enumclaw, WA 98022

**June 30, 2018 • Technical Animal Rigging (f/k/a
Technical Animal Rescue - Awareness)**

[Grateful Pine Farm](#)

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Snohomish, WA 98290

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1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m., Location TBD

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Register:

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GiveBig May 9



GiveBig is an opportunity for nonprofits to raise money with a boost from the Seattle Foundation. All day on May 9, donors can donate to a number of 501(c)(3)s. Thanks to GiveBig's shopping cart approach, you can donate to more than one nonprofit at once. [WASART is participating](#), and

we're also rooting for King County Search Dogs, King County Search and Rescue Association, Seattle Mountain Rescue, Wolf Haven International, and The Mountaineers.

Early giving starts April 26th. Here's where you can donate: <https://www.givebigseattle.org/>

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.

info@washingtontart.org - www.washingtontart.org ☎ (425) 681-5498

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