

Welcome to this issue of the Washington State Animal Response Team's bi-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](#)



Helping Animals & Their Owners in Emergencies

- [How to Help with the Wildfires](#)
- [Wiley_Dog on Mailbox Peak Trail](#)
- [Nash Over the Cliff](#)
- [Double the Gift for GivingTuesday](#)
- [2019 Training Dates](#)

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 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/WASART2019>

Calendar and events, including training descriptions
<https://wasart.org/calendar/>

February 9, 2019

Open House
Time TBD
Kent, WA

March 9, 2019

Base Support
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Carnation, WA

March 10, 2019

Operations Support

From The President

How to Help with the Wildfires



October saw a rescue of a dog over a cliff at Seattle's Discovery Park.

There's so much going on with WASART and animals in general this edition. We have again, been requested to deploy our volunteers to provide assistance with the California wildfires. Even for those not able to respond in person, there are ways that you can help. Here is a good link for you to check out different ways to help:

[How To Help The Victims Of The California Wildfires](#)

On a happier note, our annual fundraiser is coming up soon - March 2nd - to be exact. Please do mark your calendars and join us! There will be much more information on it as we get closer.

Sending our very best to everyone impacted by the wildfires. Stay safe everywhere, and know that WASART will be here to help when needed.

Shawndra Michell,
President

Wiley, Dog on Mailbox Peak Trail

April 13-14, 2019

Ropes 1

time TBD
Issaquah, WA

May 18, 2019

**Technical Animal Rigging
(Awareness)**

Time, location TBD

June 2, 2019

Transport

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
[Enumclaw Expo Center](#)
45224 284th Avenue SE
Enumclaw, WA 98022

June 8, 2019

Emergency Animal Sheltering

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
30609 SE 352nd
Cumberland, WA 98022

August 25, 2019

Open House

Time, location TBD

September 15, 2019

Base Support

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
[Foothills Veterinary Hospital](#)
28512 112th Street East
Buckley, WA 98321

September 16, 2019

Operations Support

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
[Foothills Veterinary Hospital](#)
28512 112th Street East
Buckley, WA 98321

October 18-19, 2019

Annual Exercise (free)

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



Check out [more photos from Wiley's rescue](#) at our new blog!

On October 16, 2018 at 10:30 p.m. WASART teamed up with [King County Explorer Search and Rescue](#) (ESAR) to assist with a dog who needed help down Mailbox Peak Trail.

German Shepherd Dog Wiley, a two year old weighing 130 lbs, was fatigued and unable to walk more than a few feet at a time, so we took a litter and wheel up the trail to ferry him down. We put a lift harness on him, secured him to the litter, and then made our way down the trail. Between our two organizations, we had around 10 volunteers to complete the operation. Wiley rode comfortably down, always keeping his owner in sight.

We made it off the trail about 2:30 AM, packed up the gear with the help of ESAR, held a quick debrief. All WASART responders were home by 4:30 a.m., and we're so thankful for the volunteers from both organizations who stayed out late/early. It was great hiking weather and we got to help out a stranded dog as well.

Thank you, ESAR, for being great rescue partners!

Nash Over the Cliff



Check out [more photos and a video](#) on WASART's new blog.

On Monday, October 29, 2018, WASART received a call for a dog over a cliff in Discovery Park in Seattle.

Members of the Technical Rescue Team (TRT) arrived on scene near the tip of the park and walked up the very short trail where Nash, a one year old Lab-Mastiff cross, was about 25 feet down the cliff.

conscious and alert. He appeared unharmed, although unhappy about being separated from his people, who waited on the trail above.

Much of the TRT arrived before the rescue equipment trailer, so they sized up the situation. They had some equipment with them and they set up safety lines and attached them to harnesses so they could safely approach the edge and look over.

Once the equipment trailer arrived on site, responders ferried up ropes, harnesses, pulleys, and all the other hardware needed to accomplish a rescue.

The team decided on a rappel. Since the distance was short, the litter, which was normally used to move an animal up a cliff face, was left in the trailer. Instead, the decision was made to fit Nash with a lift harness.

The way a rescue of an animal over a cliff usually works is for one or two TRT members to go over the edge on ropes. The person retrieving the dog for this response was Dr. Jeff, a veterinarian and a long-time member of the TRT. Above, a team works to manage the ropes and the situation in general. For this, there were five or six other people taking care of ropes and safety and yet more waiting on the haul teams to pull up Dr. Jeff and Nash.

Dr. Jeff rappelled safely to Nash, who wasn't immediately sure about his new visitor. Dr. Jeff built a rapport with him pretty quickly and rigged a lift harness out of the webbing he had with him. While that was going on, the team above was readying the rope setup to lift. The team finished this about the time Dr. Jeff called that he was ready with Nash.

Luckily there were a generous number of haulers, including four WASART members for whom this was their first response after completing training.

The lift went well and soon Dr. Jeff and Nash scabbled over the crumbling edge of the drop-off just as it was getting dark. Nash, tired from his ordeal, wanted to lay down immediately but saw his people on the trail and made his way over to them as soon as he was attached to a leash and released from the lift harness.

The team deconstructed the site, carried the equipment back to the trailer, debriefed and departed. Everyone was home by 10:30.

[Double the Gift for GivingTuesday](#)



Twice as many rescues are in the future with our matching donation.

We're looking forward to GivingTuesday this year on November 27! We have a donor who will be matching donations until the end of the year up to \$5,000. If you are looking for a great present for someone who has everything, making a donation in their honor, that is doubled when you give, would be a great way to go. You can donate here: <https://wasart.org/gifting>.

But you don't have to wait until November 27th. If you donate now, up until November 27th, your donation will be matched by our generous donor!

To help out, we'll send you a card for you to give the recipient with our thanks. Just let us know if that's the case at info@washingtonsart.org and we'll send it right out!

2019 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.

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 Time TBD
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Operations Support

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Time TBD
Issaquah, WA

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WASART NEWS is a publication of the Washington State Animal Response Team (WASART) published bi-monthly. 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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