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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](http://www.washingtonsart.org)

Helping Animals & Their Owners in Disasters

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From The President

## Looking Forward to a Safe Year of the Dog

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 14, 2018**

[King County Office of Emergency Management](#)

3511 NE 2nd Street  
Renton, WA 98056

**June 13, 2018**

[Shoreline Fire Department](#)

17525 Aurora Avenue N  
Shoreline, WA 98133

**September 12, 2018**



*Gater the German Shepherd helps get us started on a safe Year of the Dog.*

Lots going on already this year for WASART, and I'm especially excited about this year's annual fundraiser –Raise the Hoof: Paws Up for WASART (see below for details). This is a great time for friends, family, volunteers, and others from our

[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>

**February 10, 2018**

**Open House (free)**

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

[King County Office of  
Emergency Planning](#)

3511 NE 2nd Street  
Renton, WA 98056

**March 3, 2018**

**Base Support (f/k/a  
Fundamentals)**

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

[Remlinger Farms](#)

32610 NE 32nd  
Carnation, WA 98014

**March 4, 2018**

**Operations Support (f/k/a  
Animal Handling &  
Assessment)**

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

[Remlinger Farms](#)

32610 NE 32nd  
Carnation, WA 98014

**April 7, 2018**

**Emergency Animal  
Sheltering**

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

30609 SE 352nd

community to come together, break bread, and share our love of animals. I do hope to see many familiar and new faces there this year!

In the Chinese New Year, this is the Year of the Dog. Apropos for us, and I wish all of you much happiness, prosperity and good health this year. Also, may we all live up to be the people our dogs believe us to be

In peace,  
*Shawndra Michell*  
President

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## The High Cost of Safety



*Technical rescue member Dr. Dahl practices litter management.*

One of WASART's major ongoing expenses is the need for frequent replacement of equipment for our Technical Rescue Team. Technical rescue, especially when animals and their rescuers are suspended by ropes, is an inherently dangerous business. During our rescue missions our top priorities are human safety and then animal safety. So when humans and/or animals are hanging on rope rescue systems, it's absolutely essential that we know that the ropes and all the other hardware and software elements of that system are

Enumclaw, WA 98022

**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

**May 19, 2018**

**Technical Support**

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

Location TBD

**June 2, 2018**

**Transport**

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

[Enumclaw Expo Center](#)

45224 284th Avenue SE  
Enumclaw, WA 98022

**August 26, 2018**

**Open House (repeat)**

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

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!

completely reliable.

WASART's special capabilities for large animal rescue put us in unusual circumstances in the rescue world. Washington's highly capable technical rescue teams, whether Search and Rescue, Mountain Rescue teams, or Ski Patrol rescue teams, are incredibly skilled and experienced. The major difference between their missions and WASART's is in the size of the loads we are trained to handle. Raising a 2,000 lb. draft horse out of a ditch or up a cliff is not part of their mission, but it is part of ours. So we require heavier equipment, both ropes and hardware, than the human rescue teams.

What we have in common is the necessity that all of our equipment be safe. Rescue gear lives a hard life. Ropes are dragged through mud, sand, and brush. Carabineers or brake racks may get dropped onto rocks or pavement. Though we never want it to happen, all the elements of a rescue system may be subjected to severe shock loads. So we are very particular about the condition of our gear. We establish strict life limits on all our "software" – ropes, webbing and Prusik cord. If they are only subjected to normal use, our rescue ropes have a maximum life of 5 years, provided they show no evidence of excess wear or damage. (They are inspected carefully after each use, and cleaned if necessary.) Our webbing and Prusiks must be replaced every year, or whenever damage is noted. Any item of hardware (carabineers, brake racks, pulleys, rigging plates) that is dropped onto a hard surface from a height greater than 3 feet must be retired immediately.

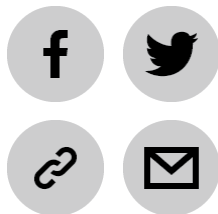
Because of the great stress to which our rescue ropes are subjected when they are used to raise or lower a large animal of 1,000 lbs. or more, they must be retired after that deployment. Should a rescue system be subjected to a shock load, none of its elements can be used again. This equipment is all expensive, and therefore its frequent and

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Did you know we're often available to talk to your group about WASART or disaster prep?

### Mission Statement

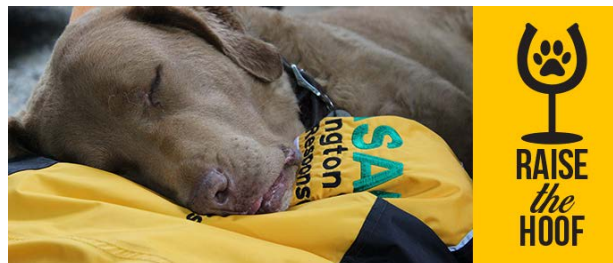
To help animals and their owners through disaster preparedness, education, and emergency response.



regular replacement is a cost that WASART must bear now and in the future. It is an ongoing challenge to our finances. If you'd like to donate, please know your gift allows everyone, human and animal alike, to go home safe. If you'd like to gift us ropes directly, feel free to [contact](#) us for the details.

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## Raise the Hoof Fundraiser March 24, 2018



March 24, 2018

The Washington State Animal Response Team cordially invites you to our second annual fundraiser, Raise the Hoof, celebrating past and future rescues. We have a fun afternoon planned and hope you can make it!

- Wine and catered vegetarian appetizers
- 50/50 Raffle
- Auction of experiences and items
- Wine pull
- Guest speaker Julie Anderson
- In beautiful Titlow Park

### [Titlow Lodge](#)

8425 6th Ave  
Tacoma, WA 98465  
4 pm-7 pm • \$45

Questions? [event@washingtonsart.org](mailto:event@washingtonsart.org)

\$40 before March 7, 2018  
\$45 after March 7, 2018  
\$50 at the door

Buy tickets here:

<https://raisethehoof2018.brownpapertickets.com/>

## 2018 Training Dates



**2018 TRAINING**

Sign up at <http://bit.ly/WASART2018>

**OPEN HOUSE**  
Feb 10  
Aug 27

**BASE SUPPORT**  
(Formerly Fundamentals)  
Mar 3  
Sep 15

**OPERATIONS SUPPORT**  
(Formerly Animal Handling & Assessment)  
Mar 4  
Sep 16

**EMERGENCY ANIMAL SHELTERING**  
Apr 7

**ROPES 1**  
May 5-6

**TRANSPORT**  
Jun 2

**COMMUNICATIONS PRACTICE**  
TBD

**TECHNICAL SUPPORT**  
(Formerly Technical Animal Rescue)  
May 19

**ANNUAL EXERCISE**  
Oct 20 (tentative)

WASART  
WASH STATE ANIMAL RESCUE ASSOCIATION

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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**Register:**

<http://bit.ly/WASART2018>

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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