

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

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From The President Snow Storm Serves as Disaster Response Opportunity



Responder Kristie O. helps deliver animal feed to snowed in households during the February snow storm response.

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 12, 2019

[Valley Regional Fire Authority](#)

1101 D Street NE
Auburn, WA 98002

The General Meetings are held from **7 p.m. - 9 p.m.** The first

After the snowiest February on record in Western Washington, many of us learned some great lessons. I live at sea level and got between 18-20 inches, and the snow stayed for weeks – unheard of

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/>

Upcoming Training

April 6, 2019

Transport

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

[Enumclaw Expo Center](#)

45224 284th Avenue SE
Enumclaw, WA 98022

April 13-14, 2019

Ropes 1

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

[Martha Lake Fire Station #21](#)

16819 13th Avenue West
Lynnwood, WA 98037

June 8, 2019

Emergency Animal Sheltering

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

30609 SE 352nd

Cumberland, WA 98022

June 30, 2019

**Technical Animal Rigging
(Awareness)**

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

[Grateful Pine Farm](#)

13620 Old Snohomish
Monroe Road
Snohomish, WA 98290

August 25, 2019

Open House

1:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. (2

for my area. For many other areas in the country, this is nothing at all and you're probably laughing at us. But for our low-lying areas, we're not equipped for so much snow, and for it to last so long. I'm hopeful, though, that this was a good opportunity for us all to review our sheltering in place plans, what our emergency kits look like and what we need in order to be self-sustainable for more than a few days, especially without power.

WASART was called out by King County Emergency Management to deliver hay and feed to horses and pigs that were in need of food. Even if it isn't a technical rescue, we're there to help in all kinds of emergencies. In addition to the assistance we were able to provide, we'd like to highlight the help given by our friends in King County Search and Rescue in supporting the efforts of King County Emergency Management. A number of KCSAR volunteers with the 4x4 unit gave rides to emergency management workers to make sure they were able to staff the command center in Renton. It's been a busy and prosperous winter (see below for more details on our recent fundraiser), but I think it's safe to say that we're ready for spring to be here.

Shawndra Michell,
President

Bonus Time for A Horse in Enumclaw



sessions)

[King County Office of Emergency Management](#)

3511 NE 2nd
Renton, WA 98056

September 14, 2019

Base Support

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

[Foothills Veterinary Hospital](#)

28512 112th Street East
Buckley, WA 98321

September 15, 2019

Operations Support

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

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October 18-19, 2019

Annual Exercise (free)

[Enumclaw Expo Center](#)

45224 284th Avenue SE
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Upcoming Events

May 18, 2019

Auburn Petpalooza

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

[Game Park Farm](#)

303 'R' Street SE
Auburn WA 98002

August 24, 2019

Auburn Valley Humane Society Barkfest

9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

[Roegner Park](#)

601 Oravetz Road
Auburn, WA

September 7, 2019

[Doggiestock](#)

11:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

[Tollgate Farm Park](#)

1300 West North Bend Way
North Bend, WA 98405

Bonus couldn't get traction in the gravel and needed some help.

On Friday, February 15 at 12:49 PM, WASART received a call for assistance with a 34 YO Arab gelding in Enumclaw. Bonus (Bo) had lain down in loose gravel and was unable to get enough traction to get himself back up. A call was sent out for responders.

By 2:30 PM, responder Aaron C. was onsite with the equipment trailer and was accessing the situation. Responders Bill V. and Valon M. arrived shortly thereafter.

We developed two rescue plans. First we would try to place Bo in a situation where he would have a better chance of getting up with just a little human muscle power to help. If that didn't work, we would deploy the tripod and sling to help him.

For plan A, we decided to move Bo a few feet to the fence line, where there was about a one foot drop into the adjoining run. The drop, we hoped, would give Bo enough inertia to get to his feet. We did have to take down a section of fence, with the owner's freely-given permission.

While Aaron began to take the fence down, the others started to carry equipment out. We placed the sling and parts of the tripod nearby in case plan A did not work.

When the fence was down, we pulled Bo onto a slip sheet using a forward assist. We had help from the owners and responder Rory K. who had just arrived. Next we pulled the slip sheet & Bo to the edge, with his back facing the small drop-off. We removed his blanket so that it would not hinder his efforts to get up.

Lastly, we looped a heavy strap around Bo's left hind fetlock (the lower leg with him laying on his left flank) and pulled toward his withers in order to roll

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.



him over. He rolled over the slight drop and stood up.

Responders Penny D, Juan Carlos B., and Jon M. arrived on site just as Bo got up. Responders Tammy S., Kimberly T, en-route, were turned around. They all would have been needed if we had to use the tripod and sling.

We like these quick, simple operations. The faster we can get the horse up, the better. This time less than three hours passed between the call and getting Bo to his feet.

We loaded up and headed home. A little later on we heard that the vet had examined Bo and that he appeared to be fine.

Members Assists Training in Medford, Oregon



Students practice rigging forward assists during an awareness-level Technical Large Animal Rescue class.

The Jackson County Sheriff invited WASART to assist [Dr. Rebecca Gimenez Husted](#) teach a large animal technical rescue class in Medford, Oregon on February 2 and 3. The sheriff's department, which sponsored and arranged for the class, invited local horse people, rescues, search

and rescue members, and fire departments to attend the training for free, more than 100 people attended.

Six WASART members traveled south to take part in the training. Three senior members assisted in the training and three less senior and newer members attended the class.

The training consisted of lectures and hands-on techniques. The lectures included topics such as animal behavior, barn fires, euthanization, and response theory and practicality. The hands-on portion walked attendees through different animal rigging configurations, the use of a tripod and other equipment, and extracting an animal from a tipped trailer.

Dr. Gimenez Husted is nationally recognized as a leader in technical large animal rescue techniques.

Base and Operations Support Prepares Newest Members



New members learn how to haul rope as well as other skills during the Base and Operations Training.

On March 9 and 10, we held a very successful Base and Operations Training at beautiful Remlinger Farms in Carnation. Base Support is the only mandatory in-house training to be deployable; graduates are eligible to set up base, manage communications, keep records, and manage equipment. Operations Support takes the next step, familiarizing new members with safety considerations in technical rescue and certifying them to assist the Technical Rescue Team with equipment and animal handling. With our new training format, we were able to cut lecture time

considerably and spend more time familiarizing participants with equipment and offering JITT (just in time training) throughout the weekend.

We would like to welcome two new Training Committee members recruited from Base and Operations, a new Merchandise assistant, and a brand-new member who signed up during class. Welcome! If you missed the classes, don't worry. We offer Base and Operations again in September.

Our next training is Transport, offered April 6, 2019 from 9 am–4 pm at the Enumclaw Expo Center. Transport certifies participants to drive WASART vehicles, including the box truck and trailer. Training includes scout vehicles, safety issues with trailering, and ground spotting. Even if you have no interest in driving one of WASART's vehicles, this is an excellent class and improves safety around the vehicles. And where else will you get the chance to ride in the back of a horse trailer? Now you and your horse will have something else in common.

Ropes 1 Teaches Basic Rope Rescue



A student learns to tie a radium release hitch during a previous Ropes 1.

In response to increasing interest in the Technical Rescue Team, WASART will hold its annual two-day Ropes 1 class on April 13-14, 2019 in Lynnwood, 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, 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.

We hope Ropes 1 attendees will feel confident enough to participate in the monthly practices in a fun and comfortable environment, and, if they aren't WASART members yet, join us as a volunteer.

The tuition is \$150 for non-members, \$100 for WASART members, and \$50 for repeat WASART members. The registration form and further instructions can be found at: [Training Registration](#).

Raise the Hoof Recap



Our third annual fundraiser on March 2nd, Raise the Hoof: Paws Up for Animals, was again a huge success. Between the venue at Titlow Lodge in Tacoma, to the delicious appetizers, wine, live and silent auction items, and the people—it was an amazing event. The guest speaker was Justin Zimmerman, a nationally recognized writer, filmmaker, and professor. His narrative and documentary work has appeared in film festivals across the globe and has been broadcast on public television, where he won two international television awards. Find out more about Justin at [Bricker-Down Productions](#). You can check out Justin's

documentary on [L.A. Animal Services SMART](#) technical animal rescue team in California for free on Amazon Prime: [SMART Documentary](#).

Our own Leo 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 persuaded 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 these key players, we could not have pulled off the event as well as we did. The final numbers for this event were about \$34,500 gross, and \$28,000 net.

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. This event was successful because of that, and 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 2019. We only hold three true fundraising events a year, and you, our members and donors, never fail to show up and support this organization.

Every. Single. Time. Thank you!

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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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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