

# Washington State Animal Response Team (WASART)

## General Membership Minutes June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2008

Present were: Mary Ann Bentley, Patricia Vanassa, Lynn Henke, Greta Cook, Gretchen McCallum, Lanette Knapp, Connie Bailey, Paula Bartolus-Young, Barb Birney, Anna Budden, Kathie Burr, Ken Cottle, Bill Daugaard, Carla Dimitriou, Ritz Duchesne, Carrie Gross, Delcie Smith, Carol Swindaman, Renee VandeVoort and Karen Johnson.

The WASART General Membership meeting was called to order by President Gretchen McCallum at 7:08 p.m.

### • Level 1 and 2 Graduation

We went outside of our agenda to accommodate those that drove long distances to attend tonight's graduation ceremony and had the graduation ceremony first point of business for the evening. Present to receive her Level 1 Certificate of Completion was Paula Bartolus-Young. Those present to receive their Level 1 and 2 certificates were: Connie Bailey, Kathy Bailey, Barb Birney, Anna Budden, Kathie Burr, Ken Cottle, Bill Daugaard, Carla Dimitriou, Ritz Duchesne, Carrie Gross, Karen Johnson, Delcie Smith, Carol Swindaman, and Renee VandeVoort. Photos were taken of the first graduating class of WASART as the sweet melody of Pomp and Circumstance was hummed melodically in the background.

### • Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting on May 14, 2008 were approved as written.

## REPORTS

### President - Gretchen McCallum

#### • National Animals in Disaster 2008 Conference

Gretchen reported on the National Animals in Disasters Conference that she had recently attended in Sacramento, CA June 3<sup>rd</sup> through the 6<sup>th</sup>. Also attending were WASART members Denise Steinkerchner and Kristen Schwab. There were 400 attendees and it was a great networking opportunity for WASART. Gretchen made several good contacts. There is another conference planned for next year in Las Vegas, April 6<sup>th</sup> through the 9<sup>th</sup>.

#### • Attorney/Vet Seminar, Olympia, WA

This one-day seminar on June 14, 2008 was sponsored by the Animal Law Sections of the Washington and Oregon Bar Associations and attended by Gretchen, Kathy Bailey, and Kristen Schwab. It was entitled "Regional Disaster Relief for Animals: A Lawyer's Contribution". Presentations were made by Drs. Hansen and Eldridge, the State Veterinarians for Oregon and Washington, respectively, and several other Emergency Management officials from various counties in Oregon and Washington. Options for greater cooperation between lawyers and vets when a regional or state-wide disaster occurs were discussed.

#### • HSUS Horse Sanctuary, Eugene, OR

A press release from the Humane Society for the United States that was attached to the agenda stated that HSUS will open a new 1,120 acre horse sanctuary and rescue facility in Douglas County, Oregon for "abused, abandoned and homeless horses". It will be called The Duchess Sanctuary. No date was provided for the opening but it appeared to be in the near future.

#### • Grant Writing Volunteers

Two non-WASART members have offered to write grants for WASART. They are Mary Ann DeMoss' daughter, Kaila DeMoss, and Wendy Church's sister, Tracy Church. Their offers were gratefully accepted.

#### • Procurement Committee

Ritz Duchesne was introduced at the Chair of the Procurement Committee. Other members of this growing committee are Shamane Herman, Wendy Zabel, Kristen Schwab, Kathy Bailey, and Connie Bailey. Anyone interested in joining this dynamic group should contact Ritz.

#### • Donation

Wendy Zabel made a presentation to WASART of \$720 she raised from her place of employment. She gathered the funds during one month that WASART was the designated non-profit group to make contributions to.

#### • Website Calendar and Volunteers

Casy Cummings is our webmaster. He is interested in finding perhaps three or four volunteers to train to do updates on our webpage on the calendar and

other events. Please contact Gretchen if you are interested in learning how to do this important task.

- **Promotions Committee**

Gretchen put a request out for someone interested in chairing the Promotions Committee. Please get in contact with her to find out more about what is needed to fill that position.

**Vice-President – Greta Cook**

- **Aristotle Rescue**

Greta reported on a rescue attempt of a 14 year old Morgan gelding over in the Auburn area at Lake Moneysmith yesterday, June 10<sup>th</sup>. The horse was down since Sunday afternoon in his home pasture. The team deployed from WASART was Lynn Henke, Mary Ann Bentley, Greta Cook, Dr. Heather Stewart and Gretchen McCallum. When the group was finally able to get "Aristotle" up on his legs, he was too weak to stand and his hind legs just weren't working. The owners might haul him to Oregon State University. They needed to decide if they could get him loaded up in the trailer. OSU is cheaper by far than Pilchuck Veterinary Hospital. During the rescue attempt, the owner ended up getting in the way and was slightly injured. There was no positive diagnosis of Aristotle; however, those on hand were leaning toward either the possibility of EPM or West Nile Virus. The owner had said that she didn't have Aristotle vaccinated last year for the West Nile Virus. Further contacts were made and there were even a couple of vets that were impressed at what the WASART team was able to accomplish. Gretchen will have the final say if the people that we are helping won't get out of the way – we'll be out of there – we need to remember, "SAFETY FIRST". A total of 173 photos were taken of the rescue. We will get at least a few up on the website. We need to get permission from the owners first though.

**Treasurer – Mary Ann Bentley**

- **Treasurer's Report.**

Mary Ann reported that we are solvent and that we are paying our bills.

- **Celebrate the Horse Festival, Puyallup, WA**

Mary Ann requested volunteers for the upcoming, "Celebrate the Horse" event that will be at the Puyallup Fairgrounds on July 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. We also need someone to set up our WASART booth on July

4<sup>th</sup>. Take down of the booth will occur when the event has concluded on July 6<sup>th</sup>. Please see Mary Ann for the sign up list.

**Secretary – Lanette Knapp**

- **Pet First Aid Class, May 17<sup>th</sup>**

Lanette reported on the Pet First Aid class that she and Mary Ann had taken on May 17<sup>th</sup> from Tim Perciful. It was a 4-hour class and there were a lot of valuable tips and information given at this class and they would recommend it to anyone. Tim's website for more information on upcoming classes is <[www.learnpetfirstaid.com](http://www.learnpetfirstaid.com)>

**Training Director – Lynn Henke**

- **WASART Animal Sheltering Class, June 7<sup>th</sup>**

Lynn reported that the WASART Animal Sheltering Class was held at Key Bank on Saturday, June 7<sup>th</sup> from 9am - 5pm. We had 19 attendees. There were a couple of computer glitches; however we got good course feed back over all. Nearly everyone commented on the tabletop exercise and how much fun that was to work out various scenarios and solve. It was a good way to get to know our fellow WASART workers too.

**Membership Officer – Patty Vanassa**

- **Drivers' Licenses and Auto Insurance Policy Information**

Patty still needs driver license numbers and vehicle insurance information from several members. PLEASE get this information to her as soon as possible.

**The abbreviated meeting was closed in due form by President Gretchen McCallum at 8:04pm.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Lanette Knapp  
Secretary

**Next BOD Meeting:**

**Wednesday, July 2nd, 2008, at 7:00 p.m.,**  
Key Bank, 1212 Cole Street, Enumclaw, WA.

**Next General Meeting:**

**September 10, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.,** Key Bank Community Meeting Room, 1212 Cole Street, Enumclaw, WA 98022

**Training/VIP Dates:**

**June 14th, 2008** Pet First Aid Class, Black Diamond Community Center 31605 Third Avenue (Hwy 169), Black Diamond, WA (206-618-5432)

**July 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>, 2008** WASART Booth at Celebrate the Horse Festival, Puyallup, WA (set up on July 4<sup>th</sup>)

**July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2008** - ERV (Emergency Response Vehicle) Training Expo Center in Enumclaw, WA 10am – 2pm

**July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2008** – Potluck BBQ at Greta and Aaron's home after the ERV Training

**Sept. 10<sup>th</sup> 2008** – General Membership Meeting

**September 13-14, 2008** – Level 3 Training Enumclaw, WA

**October 7-9, 2008** HSUS NDART (National Disaster Animal Response Training) – Everett, WA

**November 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> 2008** HSUS EAS (Emergency Animal Sheltering) Training - Everett, WA

**December 10<sup>th</sup>** – General Meeting – Level 3 Graduation

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**January 10, 2009** - Annual Orientation Meeting - Enumclaw, WA

**February 7-8, 2009** – Levels 1 and 2 Training, Enumclaw, WA