



BART – The Organization

Basic Animal Rescue Training (BART) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization based in Minnesota which is operated by volunteers in the veterinary profession and supported by community donations. BART's mission is to empower firefighters and other first responder personnel with the training, knowledge base and equipment necessary to safely and effectively handle domestic animals encountered in emergency situations, in order to help preserve human health, safety and well being. BART offers classes to first responders (firefighters, police, paramedics, EMTs and Community Emergency Response Teams) teaching restraint and handling of pets, horses and livestock, as well as patient assessment/first aid and CPR for companion animals. The departments undergoing training receive an emergency medical kit that contains all the materials and supplies covered in the small animal course. Large animal kits are available for purchase by departments that have been trained.

BART – Training and Coursework

Classes begin with a 30 minute orientation and awareness lecture which lays the groundwork for building a bridge between the fire/EMS and veterinary communities. Public and occupational health and safety are emphasized and local, state and national animal emergency resources are covered. The majority of the course time is devoted to hands-on training with both live animals and models used to teach restraint and handling, patient assessment and first aid and pet CPR. Classes last 2-3 hours and are limited in size to maximize hands-on training. Many large departments schedule multiple classes to train their personnel. Contact us at info@BasicAnimalRescueTraining.org, or 612 282 1894 to schedule training.

BART SAVES LIVES!

BART has trained and equipped over 1,500 fire/EMS personnel in Minnesota since December 2004

Available Courses

BART-SA (Small Animal)	This is the first BART course developed and was designed for firefighters and first responders, focusing on basic life support and small animal (SA) response. The course is a two hour class beginning with a 30 minute orientation and awareness lecture. The majority of the course time is devoted to hands-on training with the fire/EMS personnel rotating through three stations: restraint and handling, patient assessment/first aid and CPR.
BART-CR (Community Responder)	This class is similar to BART-SA but is designed for Community Emergency Response (CERT) Teams and other community level responders who do not have the medical training and resources (for example the ability to provide oxygen support) that the first responders have.
BART-LA (Large Animal)	This course teaches equine and livestock restraint and rescue and was requested by many departments that took the BART – SA class. It is an optional one-hour supplement to the BART – Small Animal and BART – Community Responder Classes, or can be taken as a 2 hour stand-alone course. This course is designed for both CERT Teams and first responders.

BART – The Leadership

BART President and Founder Dr. Janet Olson has worked in the companion animal veterinary profession for over 16 years. She has practiced in a private, small animal referral clinic for the past eight years, providing her with extensive critical care experience. She is currently doing a cardiology residency at the University of Minnesota College of Veterinary Medicine. Dr. Olson received the prestigious Minnesota Veterinary Medical Association's Veterinary Service Award in 2007 in recognition of her accomplishments developing and leading this veterinary community outreach program. In addition, Olson is married to a member of the New Brighton Fire Department.

BART Vice President Dr. Karina Burger brings broad large animal and emergency planning experience to the program as she has practiced for eight years as a large animal and equine veterinarian. In addition, Burger was employed as an Emergency Planning Veterinarian during which time she helped develop and lead the Minnesota Veterinary Reserve Corps.

BART coordinates and collaborates with other emergency preparedness efforts in the state through the Minnesota Animal Disaster Coalition (ADC), which is made up of representatives from federal, state, and local agencies and volunteer organizations active in animal emergency preparedness and response. Both Olson and Burger are Minnesota ADC members.

BART is endorsed and supported by the Minnesota Veterinary Medical Association and Minnesota Veterinary Medical Foundation. BART is also financially supported by the American Veterinary Medical Foundation, and has received letters of support from the Minnesota Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, the Minnesota Department of Health, the Minnesota Animal Control Association, Veterinary Medical Assistance Team – 5 (VMAT-5) and the Minneapolis Fire Department.



Bart's Story

Basic Animal Rescue Training (BART) is dedicated to the honor and memory of Bart, a German Shorthaired Pointer who was owned by a firefighter in New Brighton, Minnesota. Bart was removed from a house fire after suffering extensive smoke inhalation. The firefighters on the scene, who included Dr. Olson's husband, did not have the knowledge base or equipment to effectively help him. Bart the dog died that day. The BART organization was developed to honor the memory of Bart and to ensure fewer families will suffer a similar loss.

BART – To Donate

Basic Animal Rescue Training is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization supported entirely by charitable donations and grants. BART has offered all the training for free and has also raised the necessary funds to donate the medical kits. Due to the strong growth of the program and the challenge of raising sufficient funds to support this growth, BART encourages the departments trained to help raise the funds to support their training. Donations are tax deductible to the full extent of the law.

To make a donation, make checks payable to BART and send to:

Basic Animal Rescue Training
158 New Brighton Road
New Brighton MN 55112

Donations can also be made online on our website at:
www.BasicAnimalRescueTraining.org

BART – The Volunteers

BART classes are taught by volunteer veterinary professionals, including veterinarians, veterinary technicians and students in these programs. BART has recruited and trained over 100 volunteers to assist with the training; 6-8 volunteers are needed to teach each class. To become a volunteer, contact us at info@BasicAnimalRescueTraining.org or call 612 282 2608.

BART – National Expansion

BART has received training requests from several states and is exploring national expansion and forming chapters. If you are interested in bringing BART to your area, contact us at info@BasicAnimalRescueTraining.org or call 612 282 2608.

In honor and memory of Bart



BART – Financial Contributors (\$3000 or more donated)

American Veterinary Medical Foundation
Bloomington Custom Embroidery
Hugh and Julie Thibodeau
Minnesota Horse Council
Minnesota Veterinary Medical Foundation
Pfizer Animal Health
Veterinary Hospitals Association



*Endorsed by the
Minnesota Veterinary Medical Association*

BASIC ANIMAL RESCUE TRAINING

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Bridging the Fire/Emergency Medical Services & Veterinary Professions



Teaching First Responders Basic Animal Life Support