



S.P.A.Y.-L.E.E., INC.

P. O. BOX 6577, FORT MYERS, FL 33911

P.O.BOX 61335. FT.MYERS,FL. 33906

2016 NEWSLETTER  
NOV. 2016

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT, CHARITABLE, TAX DEDUCTIBLE, ANIMAL WELFARE SOCIETY

ON THE WEB' [www.spay-lee.com](http://www.spay-lee.com)  
FACEBOOK: SPAY-LEE ANIMAL WELFARE

Thank you - MOST SINCERELY, for your support for all these years. We wish you a HAPPY AND BLESSED CHRISTMAS and A SUPER NEW YEAR.

OUR ANNUAL MEETING IS **DECEMBER 19TH** (THIRD MONDAY) AT @ 6:30 pm- GOLDEN CORRAL...ON COLONIAL..WE'LL BE THERE FOR DINNER ABOUT 6 PM...COME JOIN US. OFFICER ELECTIONS FOR PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY ARE UP. WE'LL ASSUME JUDIE AND SHIRLEY WILL AGREE TO KEEP ON THE JOB. HOWEVER, ANY OTHER NOMINATIONS ARE ACCEPTED -THE MAJOR REQUIREMENT IS NOMINEES ARE SPAY-LEE MEMBERS., AND OF COURSE BE WILLING TO DEVOTE A HUGE PART OF THEIR LIVES TO HELP US WITH OUR ANIMAL WELFARE COMMITMENT.

SEE YOU THEN.....

PLEASE CHECK OUT OUR MONTHLY FUNDRAISER - KARYN'S QUARTER AUCTION FROM THE HEART ON THE 4TH TUESDAY AT THE SALVATION ARMY FELLOWSHIP HALL MCGREGOR AND DAVIS DRIVES. **EXCEPT NOVEMBER 15TH AND DECEMBER 13TH AT 6 PM...**

PURCHASES AT AMAZON SMILE HELP US... see page 3 please

**S.P.A.Y.-L.E.E. Inc.**  
**P.O. Box 61335 \***  
**Fort Myers, FL 33906 \***  
**(239) 936-2727 (message line)**  
**or 939 3680**

*\* indicates NEW ADDRESS*

**PRESIDENT:**

Judie Piccola

**VICE PRESIDENT:**

Sharon Brandt

**SECRETARY:**

Shirley Stewart

**TREASURER:**

Anna Jako

**DIRECTOR AT LARGE:**

vacancy

A non profit Animal Welfare Organization- 501 (c) (3) tax deductible, operated by volunteers  
....provide information/referral for low cost pet sterilizations  
....promote low cost NEUTER clinics  
....assist in helping maintain health of needy pets  
....work for animal welfare  
....education  
....shelter/foster when possible  
....adoptions to quality homes  
....prevent cruelty to animals

**MEMBERSHIPS**

**\$15 SINGLE**  
**\$25 FAMILY**  
**\$50 BUSINESS**  
**\$100 PATRON**  
**\$500 LIFE**

**ANNUAL MEETING**

**GOLDEN CORRAL -Colonial Blvd**  
**3rd Monday December 19 -dinner**  
**at 6:00 or so, meeting at 6:30**

**BOARD MEETINGS 1:00PM**

**fourth Sunday of March, June, September-** welcome to attend- call for site.

Pursuant to Fla. Dept of Agriculture Division of Consumer Services

"A copy of the official registration & financial information may be obtained from the Division of Consumer Services call TOLL FREE in Fla: 1-800-435-7352 Our Registration # CH 7658 Registration does not imply endorsement, approval or recommendation by the State"

There are no professional fundraisers engaged, 100% of incoming donations benefit the organization, officers receive no compensation.

Portions of this statement are required by law.

**President's message**

We really want to THANK YOU!!!! YOU have been the benefactors that helped keep us operating so far this year. Sadly the cost of doing rescues (the kind that WE do) has become so out of control that we barely manage.

If we accept an animal, we get whatever medical needs done. Sadly, some of these guys have major medical conditions that have put their expenses close to \$1000 per dog. We max out adoption fees at \$450 for those unusual cases, and it's difficult to explain to potential adopters why a fee is \$300 or \$375. Fortunately memberships and donations help somewhat to offset the losses we incur with the extreme situations.

And one of our mission statements says we assist in helping maintain health of needy pets. This is our "OUTREACH" program which averages \$800 a month for the pets of people who are unable to provide emergency lifesaving vet care: (blocked cats, cats or dogs encountering motor vehicles, dogs shot by some misfit just for fun)

Then there are the LIFERS- cats and dogs not suitable for adoption but who seemingly enjoy life here. Sometimes amazingly someone will adopt one of the lifers - and it's cause for leaping with joy for all of us. Dale was one of them. And Bonita, So is Beckie the yorkie, and many others with existing medical issues.

Currently we are able to pay most of the invoices in a timely manner. We have applied for GO FUND ME and GIVING GRID and sought out grants, with minimal results. You might have noticed Karyn's QUARTER AUCTION is our ONLY consistent Fundraiser.

If y'all have any super ideas to help we'd sure appreciate your sharing.....

Thanks to the numbers of volunteers who are assisting with the adoption process by "working" offsite adoption events every weekend, transporting adoptees to vets or pet stores, doing the home visits for prospective adoptees, bathing day before every weekend offsite event ... THESE FOLKS ARE OUR BEST FRIENDS for sure.

And after all of this is said and done, we are grateful for having been able to help save the lives of over 2213 dogs and cats over these years.

BLESSINGS to you all, and THANK YOU for your partnership with us in the mission to save as many as possible. Have a wonderful Christmas and fantastic New Year

## REMEMBER

Our fundraisers.... **QUARTER AUCTIONS...** Karyn Brook's (KARYN'S EVENTS.COM) hosts monthly fun times to raise much needed funds as well as donations of needed items- paper towels, canned cat food, Dawn detergent, bleach, and other goodies (donated items for raffle) which this year brought in almost \$4,000 up to November. We SO MUCH APPRECIATE Karyn, her vendor group, and all of you who come and participate and help us just about every month. This is a lot of laughs and can be relatively inexpensive- you'd need \$3.00 for a paddle \$5 for two; probably 2 \$10 rolls of quarters for bidding and maybe something from \$1 to \$5 to \$10 for the 50-50 raffle tickets...money to purchase goodies from vendors (who offer items for quarter bidding) oh an maybe another \$6 to \$10 for dinner depending on your choices - usually from Nico's from Naples.

Usual dates - fourth Tuesday at Salvation Army Fellowship Hall- McGregor and Davis Drives, opens at 6 PM- starts at 6:30... **BUT HOLIDAY DATES are NOVEMBER 15th and DECEMBER 13th**

**WOWauctionsite.com**- conducts a 2 week online auction throughout the year- They do charitable and private individual participations- with a final bid by 7 PM on the designated Wednesdays ...check it out at their website. They also donate a % of their net proceeds to participating charities depending on the number of "votes" generated when accessing the website- click on NonProfits at the website top, charities are listed on the right side- select SPAY LEE and "VOTE" - you can do this every day. Check out the great buys, too. I mean REALLY GREAT BUYS- but you have to have the time on Wednesday evenings to be involved with bidding for the items you want. IT IS REALLY WORTH THE INVESTMENT OF TIME AND ENERGY.

**AMAZON SMILE**- purchases benefit SPAY-LEE at <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/65-0417180>- an easy way to help us- if you buy at Amazon, you can help us- by using the address above- check to be sure it says SPAY LEE - Please.....

On line donations can be made through **GOFUNDME** or **GIVING GRID**- check out facebook

**FACEBOOK:** SPAY-LEE Animal Welfare - it's great reading too hanks to Robin Soulligne

From Secretary Shirley Stewart.....

**Christmas is almost here--share the Holiday spirit!!**

Do you have any (small) new gifts that you will never use? Gather them up and donate them to S.P.A.Y.-L.E.E. for their Quarter Auction. They can be taken to any of our adoption sites on days we are there. How about nice gift baskets you no longer want--S.P.A.Y.-L.E.E. can use them.

Do you have a Beauty Parlor/Barber Shop who would give items for a basket, or a gift card. How about your grocery or other businesses you use. Restaurants, gym, spa. How about bottles of wine and/or wine glasses? We make up gift baskets from your donations and all proceeds from these baskets come back to SPAY-LEE...

Do you have any parties coming up that you could request donations for S.P.A.Y.-L.E.E. instead of gifts? How about a donation jar at your place of business? See if your child would like to have a party to benefit the critters.

Folks, we need your help. We receive no government financing. Our officers receive no compensation. Although we are a 501C3 rescue, we have not found any grants for which we can qualify since we do not have a rescue facility (our homeless pets are fostered). We need funds to continue our work. Each donation, large or small, matters.

We would be most grateful if you would pass this on to all your friends, family and email buddies. Your considerations will be so very, very appreciated.

Sometimes it doesn't pay to plan ahead. Last spring we ordered \$1500 in stationery- letterhead, envelopes, flyers.... just lovely. This August the Post Office notified us tht our P.O.Box address was changing- WHAT??????- We have until next August after which any mail sent to the OLD address will be returned to the sender..

SOOOOO- please note the new address- it is incorrect on all the beautiful flyers and likely will be since we order a huge load of them. I keep forgetting to change it on our adoption paperwork. My bad!!!  
it is NOW

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Thanks much to Michelle Twist at Reale Edge Real Estate who engineered a fundraiser at Bike Nite in the Cape last month- it was a pumpkin smashing event and they raised over \$500 to donate to help with our "pet projects". We REALLY appreciate their help!!!!!!!

**THANK YOU - a VERY BIG THANK YOU** -to Kimberly Morris, Esq. of Jones, Haber and Rollings Law Firm for proving the validity of our adoption contract!!!!!! In May we had a call from Falls Church animal control stating that a dog with our microchip in it was picked up running down a 6 lane highway with a labrador retriever. The little dog was our "Valentino", adopted from us in February 2012. He was about a year old. Seems the little guy was given away on Craigs List in about October 2012 to a total stranger who was "disabled", never had him to a vet for vaccinations or heartworm preventative, and who moved to Virginia in October 2015. Apparently she lived in a type of rooming house where people would leave doors open and Val (now Romeo) got out often. She found Romeo at the animal control but had no way to prove she was his owner.... like no vet records maybe!!! Animal Control released Romeo to our volunteer in Maryland (Robin) since we were his legal owners...(LOVE THOSE MICROCHIPS)..(THIS IS WHY WHEN WE ADOPT AN ANIMAL OUT THE CHIP STAYS REGISTERED TO US -everywhere except in the county where the new owners have him licensed to them)....

Our contract includes LIQUIDATED DAMAGES if the contract is violated. Kim entered the Small Claims case against the original adopter who GAVE HIM AWAY in violation of the contract into the Lee County Court System. We won. Our contract is legal and ENFORCEABLE. The Case # is 16-SC-2495. UPDATE: Valentino/Romeo/ is now YODA and lives the good life with Chichi (13 yr. old skipperke) and humans consisting of 2 teenaged daughters and Mom and Dad in beautiful Maryland.

DID YOU KNOW- YOU CAN REPORT A POTENTIAL CRIMINAL ACTIVITY ANONYMOUSLY?????? DID you know, DOG FIGHTING isn't "fun" ...not for the dogs anyway. BUT - it's connected with gambling, drugs, physical violence ( not only violence against the dogs- some people get in the way, too). So it's understandable when follks don't want to report anything they suspect - because of the potential retribution from the criminals. SO- Put on your Big Girl or Boy Pants- and if you SUSPECT something "off" call

**CRIME STOPPERS 800 780 TIPS**

THE DOGS CAN'T MAKE THAT CALL....

"I FOUND THIS DOG (or CAT)...I want to find it a home... Can you take it?"

ANSWER: No

"I DON'T WANT TO TAKE IT TO ANIMAL CONTROL...THEY'LL KILL IT... Can you take it?"

ANSWER: No

There's a Lee County Animal Control Ordinance- it's the law -and it states all stray animals MUST be turned over to LCDAS.... Within 24 hours. There is a "window" of 3 days to do this before the "finder" is in violation of a county ordinance. Some people have a major aversion to following this law, because they mistakenly believe all stray animals are euthanized. Not so.

Here's the thing...there could well be a distraught owner searching for their pet. That is the first place people are told to search. Most owners will check daily for their pet.

People think the animal will be euthanized if not claimed within the 3 days time frame (5 days if microchipped). Not so.

*The finder may apply to adopt the animal if not claimed.*

*A rescue may speak to intake the animal if not claimed and not considered adoptable*

*If the shelter is overcrowded often a rescue can intake animals even from the adoption floor to make room for others*

*Shelter managers send out notices just about daily asking rescues to consider unadoptable dogs or cats.*

AND- adopting from animal control provides LEGAL ownership of the specific animal.

MUCH BETTER than after you get attached and spend money in vet fees and someone shows up at your doorstep with photos or vet records and demands their pet back. That's a pickle you DON'T want to find yourself in.

As an aside - we accepted a dog that was confiscated as a cruelty case because the perpetrator/owner wanted her dog back and she knew it was at animal control. After that, we had LEGAL ownership of the dog since it went through animal control, and she did not get that dog back. Dog's happy. Former owner - maybe not.

About 40% of our dog intake (cats usually were from owners or ferals) originated as strays at animal control over the past 2 years. The balance is usually owner turn ins (OTI's) and some former breeders. Our costs are usually less to get a former animal control dog to adoptability except for some extreme cases requiring major surgical procedures. OTI's often are at least neutered although that's not the majority of intakes. Generally our discounted vet costs range from \$225 - \$275 when a dog needs all of the necessary vet services. We provide the microchip. The former breeders are much more expensive since they need ALL medical services, even if they are relatively young, and often have issues not noticed on intake - like blood in the urine- horrible teeth, eye injuries, lumps and bumps - quite scary on females suspected of having mammary tumors. One of our recent intakes was found to have a birth defect on the neck of her bladder- called an AVM (Arterio-Venous Malformation) which according to the pathology report "could or could not cause future damage" .... WOW!!!!!! She was our "million dollar baby".

So 16 members requested newsletters be emailed. We'll try real hard to try to do that- might need some computer savvy help or maybe y'all will be getting a mailed copy too- because we are too dense to figure it out maybe????

**MEMORIALS**

**BARBARA THOMAS** .....of Fort Ogden, Fl. former WINK employee who was very fond of all animals. A friend of SPAY LEE's since 1994 and dearly missed..... by her friend Karen Skinner and sadly by SPAY -LEE

**MARGARET (PEGGY) DUNN**..... founder and president of PEKE's AND PALS rescue in North Fort Myers, a former nurse who dedicated her life to the little ones by SPAY-LEE

**EMMA ARGENTO** ..... beloved of Vic, and by all her knew her... by Mr and Mrs. Carsob Spittler

**FLUFFY & TREASURE** ..... always remembered, BY Grace Golling

**MAX**.....Golden Retriever friend of Herb Lord II....

**MOSES** came to us from DeSoto County Animal Control as an unadoptable stray in September 2012. He was 5 years old, heartworm positive, tapeworms, had skin,ear, and teeth issues and a torn mouth. He was skin and bones. So what the heck were we doing with this dobe? Seems he was such a sweet boy that a volunteer there wanted to save him and contacted dobe rescues to see if she could find him a lifeline. That was us.

Seven months later he was heartworm negative and was practically hysterical (constantly ran circles in the outdoor pen) at being here instead of a real home with a real family. Kind of hard to place this big, skinny (he was then) overactive dog.

Tenee Mondragon was so moved by his situation that she adopted him and he managed to move into her family -which included one small girl and a few other dogs. Mo managed to gain some weight (to 135 pounds) and would let little Missy (aout 40 pounds) walk him on leash, and love him to the moon and back. When Missy wasn't around, Mo would be attached to Gus.

Moses was diagnosed with bone cancer a few weeks ago and was released from any pain a short time later. There will never be another Moses Dobe...and we are grateful that these folks saw the treasure in this big, old dobe when so many people ignore the needs of the older dogs, especially the old dobes.

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When we're asked to take in an animal, we do have limitations. We initiated rescue by taking dobermanns and worked with other dobe rescues. We still do dobermanns.

We have room for small dogs- started out being a chihuahua or three when friends who did chihuahua rescue, Nancy and LeClair, died ...and no one stepped up to take in chi's. We'd get up to a dozen chi's at any given time. So we limited intake to dogs under 10 pounds. Then there were some needy ones who were 11- 14- and 20 pounds. Ever see a 20 pound chihuahua????? And we'd stretch our rules a bit. Right now, in residence, we have 34 cats, 2 "cholos" (Mexican Hairlesses), 5 dobermanns, and a mix of chihuahuas (w/ JRT, Min Pin, pug maybe?, hairy thing, whatever), bichons, shih tzus, maltese, and more "whatevers". It looks like about half are lifers...BUT we thought that before and had miracles happen!

THANKS JOJO CARTER - the washer was desperately needed- dryer too but we don't have the right plug to plug it into... Hanging washed stuff up is fine most of the time anyway. YOU ARE SUPER!! Anybody getting a washer for Christmas- please remember we kill machines with 6-9 loads a day.... We take in stray washing machines, too....