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**S.P.A.Y.-L.E.E. Inc.**

(Society to Protect Animal Young-  
Legislation- Education, Enforcement, Inc.)

P.O.Bo 61335

Fort Myers, Fl. 33906 (change address)

(239) 936-2727 (message) or 939-3680

www.SPAY-LEE.com

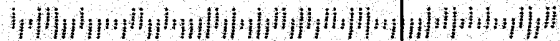
WINTER 2017

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

*We're on FACEBOOK  
spay-lee animal welfare*

*A Non-Profit, Charitable, Tax Deductible, volunteer animal welfare society*

33972-353210



**ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP**

- ( ) \$15.00 Single
- ( ) \$25.00 Family
- ( ) \$50.00 Business
- ( ) \$100.00 Patron
- ( ) \$500.00 LIFE

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE (s) \_\_\_\_\_

mail: SPAY-LEE Inc  
P.O.Box 61335  
Ft Myers, Fl. 33906

**ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

**MONDAY- DECEMBER 18, 2017**

**IGUANA MIA RESTAURANT - south of**

**Edison Mall on us 41 1 PM...**

*we're trying this for time and location- when we held our annual meeting at Golden Corral in the evening very few members attended. So we'll try this for now....*

**HURRICANE IRMA REPORT and PROGRESS  
NOMINATION TO REELECT SHARON BRANDT**

**AS VICE PRESIDENT**

**NOMINATION TO DIRECTOR AT LARGE-**

**MONICA SEIF ORIFICE**

**POSSIBLE HUGE FUNDRAISER WEEK OF**

**APRIL 22, 2017 -**

**WE WISH YOU ALL A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS  
AND BLESSED NEW YEAR. 2017 HAS BEEN A  
CHALLENGE TO OUR TENACITY BUT WE WILL  
ALL SURVIVE - GOD WILLING...**

**S.P.A.Y.- L.E.E, Inc**  
**239 936 2727 (message line)**  
**or 239 939 3680**  
**(if the land lines are working)**  
**www.spay-lee.com**  
**facebook: spaylee animal**  
**welfare**

**PRESIDENT: Judie Piccola**  
**VICE PRESIDENT: Sharon**  
**Brandt**  
**SECRETARY: Shirley Stewart**  
**TREASURER: Anna Jako**  
**DIRECTOR at LARGE:**

A non-profit, Animal Welfare Society operated by volunteers, funded by tax deductible donations.

- \* Provides information/referral for low cost pet sterilizations
- \* Work to secure a low cost facility for Lee County
- \* Assist in helping needy pets
- \* Work for animal welfare
- \* Education
- \* Shelter/foster rescue animals where possible
- \* Adoption to qualified homes
- \* Prevent Cruelty to Animals

Serving pets and people of Lee, Collier and Charlotte Counties

PURSUANT to Fl. Dept. of Agriculture, Division of Consumer Services: "A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Division of Consumer Services by calling Toll Free within Florida: 1-800-435-7352 Our Registration Number CH 7658 Registration does not imply endorsement, approval or recommendation by the State: There are no professional fundraisers. 100% of all donations accrue to the organization, officers receive no compensation. Portions of this statement are required by law.

## President's Message

I must apologize for the brevity of this newsletter. Things have been quite a mess since September 2017 and there's not enough time in the day to get it together.

What happened on September 10? Well, we had a "hurricane party" at my home and our location in Buckingham. Friends who resided in potentially dangerous areas (canals, Cape Coral, flood zones) came here to wait out the storm in our non-flood zone. There were 8 humans, 16 birds, 8 cats, and 23 dogs in the house watching TV and following IRMA'S path.

At 3 PM the "robocall" informed me that we were under mandatory evacuation. HUH????? IRMA was due at 6 PM.....

We withstood the first half of rain and wind fairly well - a few trees were uprooted likely because of heavy rain earlier in the month that loosened up the root systems. By the time the "eye" was arriving, we noticed the water levels at about 6 inches.

With a prediction of a 40 minute "eye", five of us decided to check on the dogs and cats at the barn which in the distant past had flooded a few inches. We waded through the several hundred feet to the barn and found the large dogs standing in about 3" of water and the small dog room starting to get wet.

We started moving the dogs to the house where the folks there were moving anything that could hold a dog into bedrooms, living rooms, hallways wherever. By the time we made the third trip the water outside was at knee level on the humans. The dogs were practically swimming.

On our fourth trip, the "eye" which was supposed to last for 20 more minutes- blinked. Wind and rain came back with a vengeance, and we had at least 2 more trips carrying dogs. The trees were breaking all around us and the water was by now thigh high as we brought the last dogs and humans in. I heard an explosion at a wire line that fell about 10 feet behind us, and waited a second to see if I was dead yet.

And then, the generator coughed and died. Actually nine times. Nine times we got it running- in the middle of a hurricane.

continued.....

I don't remember exactly when it was that someone looked outside to see the calm, water covered landscape - and said, "it's rising". And it did. Drowning 7 vehicles parked beside the house. And into the house, and into the barn, and into the aviary.

In the house we slogged around in 4" of water for 3 days. In the barn the cats managed to live on top of cabinets, cat condos and the walls of shelving. In the aviary my birds lived on top of the cages where they were accustomed to spending most of their time anyway. All of the animals and humans survived this experience.

Our thanks to the Tice Fire Dept. rescue who came to evacuate the humans who wouldn't go without their pets, so they managed to take the oldest humans and their pets up to Buckingham Road where they met their "rides" home. Amy and Dana managed to float a "floating dock" down to us and they managed to transport a couple more of our stranded friends and their furry friends. on Wednesday, Animal Water Rescue from ASPCA, Miami Dade Animal Control, Animal Care from Iowa (I think) and Lee County Animal Services managed to catch up the stranded birds and cats from their water surrounded perches where they spent 3 days while two of us waded through waist high water to feed them and clean litter boxes twice a day. After the animals were rescued, the dogs were all examined by a veterinarian from Miami Dade Animal Control and Lee County Animal Services took responsibility for the care of the 9 birds and 24 cats until we could make arrangements for their care.

On Friday, we reclaimed my birds and several kind folks offered to accept some of the cats and dobermans still at LCDAS. Naples Cat Alliance graciously accepted the remaining cats and cared for them for the next week until we could clean and disinfect our "cat room". Thanks to Gina Stancel for driving to Naples on a Sunday to pick them up.

I would love to thank the people who pitched in to help us get through this disaster but I know I will miss many- some whose names I never did get and others whose names I don't remember ...but I'll try- Carolyn Kimbrell, Randy, Mike Haber, Diane Malone (from Chicago), Brian, Domenic, Monica, her mom, Maggie Tanzer, MaryLou and Charlie and Cheryl (who've been coming at least weekly for 6 weeks doing incredible work hauling horribly filthy stuff out of the barn to "debris piles" and organizing the linens and beds as well as pressure cleaning the barn), Vic, Paul and the other fellow, Amy Kolb and Jinx Ferrell who were out there pressure cleaning the dog rooms several times. And then we met the Mennonite Disaster Services folks who "mucked out" the house and over a period of several weeks took out the damaged furniture (almost all of it was damaged) - carpets- linens- kitchen and bathroom cabinets and Lord only knows what else. FGCU's baseball team sent about 24 of their players about 9 days after IRMA who spent hours cutting up and hauling to the road many of the destroyed trees.....there were a LOT of them. A team of 3 medical first responders from Sarasota came down on a Saturday and hauled out a lot of the debris from the barn.

Silks by Mu was closing their huge store on Tamiami Trail and DONATED two refrigerators and a fabulous commercial grade washer and dryer - most appreciated since we lost two washers and dryers, a freezer and 2 refrigerators- of course, stocked with frozen ground turkey that we'd purchased a week before when it was on sale and scads of frozen marrow bones.

continued...

Pete Orifice of Architectural Structures usually builds things like outdoor kitchens, but made a special gift to the cats by designing and building an outdoor cat area- much appreciated by the confined kitties - some must live out there soaking up the sun and fresh air. And we needed to replace the kitchen sink so Pete framed out a counter area and set the new sink. So now we can wash the food dishes. Whew.

We ran out of time needed to put debris out for FEMA pickup and couldn't afford the pick up services prices. So we're on the third dumpster rental - the first was filled with my furniture and home debris by Kate and Allen Whittington, the second by a young man doing community services. I hope we get by with just one more.

I know there were many people who pitched in and helped us but I just can't recall the names. Please be assured that your assistance was most certainly appreciated and God knows who you are.

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A very grateful THANK YOU to Shirley Stewart, Sunny Dowling, and Lorraine Mills who purchased 5 of the chain link kennels from Tractor Supply to replace some of the destroyed kennels. These give the dogs -especially the bigger ones- an opportunity to be outdoors for a good part of the day instead of being inside all of the time. Many of our old existing kennels were rusted or broken or squished.

Thanks to Shirley for coming out here every Friday for weeks to help sort through the damaged or displaced paperwork and awards and photo albums.

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### MEMORIALS

Among the lost paperwork were the notations for memorials for the past 9 months. I am sorry that I am unable to identify the donor's names but for these people- memorials acknowledge their lives and loves.

A. Joseph Piccola, D.O.	founder member of SPAY-LEE
June Luthringer	Myron's beloved wife and mom to Peanut - an old orphaned chi
Martin DeSomma	Dorothy's dear husband- our long time supporter
Ransom Reed	Cecelia's husband - best friend and fellow animal lover
Rebecca Ranker	Shirley Stewart's 105 year old mother, loving cared for by Shirl...

Max golden boy cared for and loved by his pet sitter- Herb Lord

### HONORING

Chuck and Mary Danellian's 50th wedding anniversary - beautiful wedding and beautiful people. Animal welfarists known to the animal community for their dedication and activism. They requested any gifts to SPAY-LEE and honoring Scarlett- the most recent dobermann that they'd adopted from us.

*C'mon out to meet us Monday... we'd love to introduce you to Monica Seif Orifice- who came to volunteer to take horrible laundry to the laundromat and now is our Kitty Kaptain- Such a switch. Monica just loves the kitties and cares for them EVERY DAY- sometimes with her mom- Maggie.*