



**ARC Barks & Meows**  
 P.O. Box 62605  
 Fort Myers, FL 33906

Non-Profit Org.  
 U. S. Postage  
**PAID**  
 Fort Myers, FL  
 Permit No. 407

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www.AnimalRefugeCenter.com

VOL IV 2021

🐾 🐾 🐾 🐾 🐾 **Home For the Holidays** 🐾 🐾 🐾 🐾 🐾

ARC's mission might be to rescue & rehabilitate but the end goal is to re-home our cats & dogs! For some its fast and for others it takes more time than we'd wish but many are enjoying their first Halloween, Thanksgiving or Christmas this year. They are home for the holidays and we could not be happier for them.

Please visit our web-site and share photos of our cats and dogs that are up for adoption on your Facebook page. You never know, a friend of a friend of a friend might just be the one who is looking for one of our fur-babies! Let's get more ARC babies into homes where they can get the best gift of all, the gift of love.



Animal Refuge Center, Inc.  
 P.O. Box 62605  
 Fort Myers, FL 33906

**Membership Application**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

New Member \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_

- \$25 Friend
- \$50 Supporter
- \$150 Patron
- \$ 500 Sustaining
- \$1,000 Krieger Leadership Society
- \$5,000 Guardian
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Cats Wish List**  
 Canned Food  
 Dry Food  
 Temptation Treats

**Dogs Wish List**  
 Biscuits & Treats  
 Nulo Canned & Diamond Dry  
 6' standard leashes

**Shelter Wish List**

**Disposables:** Paper towels, tall trash bags, dish soap, laundry detergent, bleach, Clorox Bleach Wipes, and linens.

**Equipment:** Industrial washable mop heads, brooms, buckets, and dust pans. We can also always use new or nearly new washers, dryers, and pressure washers. We can also always use NEW air conditioners/heaters for our residents' housing. Please contact us for model # details!



You shop. Amazon gives.  
 Your purchases, made through Amazon Smile, can help support ARC. Simply shop on Amazon Smile (instead of Amazon) and select the Animal Refuge Center as your charity to support. A percentage of your purchase will be sent to ARC through the Amazon Smile Foundation!



**Board of Trustees**  
 Wayne Leinen, President  
 Rob Spicker, VP  
 Betty Hughes, Treasurer  
 Amy Pody, Co-Treasurer  
 Lisa Viola, Secretary  
 Peggy Gore, Exec Dir., Trustee  
 Christina Hollis, Trustee  
 Laura Leinen, Trustee  
 Casey Chenoweth, Trustee

**Editor - Betty Hughes**  
 bettyhughes@comcast.net

**A special thank you to our friends at:**

**ALL AMERICAN PRINTING**  
 4621 Bayshore Rd.  
 North Fort Myers, FL 33917  
 (239) 225-2198



*For donating the printing costs of ARC's newsletter.*

*Thank you to Kathie Lynch, Publisher of The Pet Gazette for donating desktop publishing services for ARC's newsletter.*

**Animal Refuge Center, Inc.**  
 18011 Old Bayshore Road  
 North Fort Myers, FL 33917  
 (239) 731-3535

Mailing Address:  
 P.O. Box 62605  
 Fort Myers, FL 33906

Adoptions 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM  
 Weds-Sun (except major holidays)  
 BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

E-mail us at:  
 bettyhughes@comcast.net  
 or visit us at:  
 www.AnimalRefugeCenter.com

**Follow us on Facebook:**  
 Animal Refuge Center  
 Lily and ARC

ARC is a non-profit, no-kill animal welfare organization and sanctuary operated by tax deductible donations and volunteers. ARC also promotes animal welfare advocacy and employs education to teach responsible pet guardianship as well as kindness to all creatures. ARC is a tax deductible, 501(c)3 status organization, funded by individual and corporate donations and memberships, and operated by volunteers.

ARC's General Membership Meetings are held annually on the 3rd Tuesday of both June and December at 6:30pm. Meetings are held at: Home-Tech, 6400 Techster Blvd, Fort Myers, FL 33966

## Embracing the Five Freedoms at ARC

- Freedom from hunger and thirst** by providing fresh water and nutritious, breed/age specific food.
- Freedom from discomfort** by providing clean and comfortable shelter and sleeping areas.
- Freedom from pain, injury, or disease** by providing rapid diagnosis, treatment and preventative vaccines.
- Freedom to express normal behavior** by providing sufficient space, proper facilities and, if desired, company of the animal's own kind.
- Freedom from fear and distress** by avoiding overcrowding and providing sufficient enrichment and safe hiding spaces.

ARC believes that embracing the Five Freedoms for pets supports the physical and mental health of the pets in our care. If you also believe in this philosophy, please consider a donation to their care today!



## BECOME A VOLUNTEER TODAY

And make a difference in the life of a  
**SHELTER PET!**



Details available at [www.AnimalRefugeCenter.com/become-a-volunteer/](http://www.AnimalRefugeCenter.com/become-a-volunteer/)



## Gifts of Love



All gifts to ARC "In Honor" or "In Memory" of a person or an animal are gratefully accepted. Send contributions to ARC, PO Box 62605, Fort Myers, FL 33906. Your listing will be featured in our next issue. Please accept our apologies & notify us immediately if your gift has been overlooked.

**A**lways alive in the minds of their owners, the following pets have been memorialized through donations:

**Memorials for People:**

Georgina Adams  
 Buzz Butcavage  
 Janice Driefer & Charlie  
 Susan Ebert  
 Nancy Lee Fawaz  
 Ron Fritz  
 Denise M. Hancock  
 Denise M. Hancock  
 Denise M. Hancock  
 Denise M. Hancock  
 Denise M. Hancock  
 Lisa Marie Jenkins  
 Phillip Johnson  
 Ted Kielty  
 Farrell & Bob Lotts  
 Ceil Norwicke  
 Gertrude Resch

**From:**

Todd Adams  
 Judy Stewart  
 Mary Lapointe  
 Judith Yevick  
 Clarisse Pelham  
 Don & Rose Marie Caskey  
 Robert Sicker  
 Marilyn & James Weekly  
 Luli & David Westra  
 Mary & David Westra  
 Diane Zahler  
 Richard Walker  
 Todd Adams  
 Michael Walton  
 John Shaw  
 James Norwicke  
 Doug VanOrt, George Cardoza, Rob Shovlin,  
 Bob Gasparini, Monica Caro, Kyle Dunn,  
 Jim Beeman, Jennifer Rose, Stephanie  
 Bywater, Gina Wallar, Allison Hogan  
 Judy Churchill  
 Ronald Sicker  
 Rose & Don Caskey  
 Margaret Eisenberg

Veronica Sander  
 Denise Sicker  
 Betty Smith  
 Carol VanDenberg

**R**eferred for their kind hearts and the joy they bring, the following people have been honored through donations:

**People Honors:**

Alison & James Giesen - Happy 20th Anniversary!  
 Claire Sughrue  
 Frances from NC  
 Tony from MA  
 Claire Sughrue  
 Shiri Marie & John from NH

**Memorials for Pets:**

Archie  
 Bentley  
 Bentley  
 Bentley  
 Dee  
 Missy  
 Watson

**C**ontributions have been received in memory of the following persons for their compassion and concern for animals:

**From:**

Alison & James Giesen  
 Arthur Lehrer  
 Stacy Leherer  
 Sue Ellen  
 Rick  
 Peggy Gore  
 Elisabeth Marrone  
 Laura Noder

**Pet Honors:**

Rok, Ide & Bentley

**From:**

Debbi Redfield

**Pet Sponsors:**

Ella Berne  
 Michele DiRocco  
 Deborah Hart  
 Irma Hudik  
 Stephanie Lacer  
 Prestige Motosports  
 Bernadette Sheeran  
 Kathy Totterdale

Lisa Buckland  
 Adam Farron  
 Ronald Horne  
 Charmed Karma Jewelry  
 Herbert L Martin  
 Robert H Settles  
 Anamarie Tirador  
 Dorothy C Woodward

## Thank You to Our New and Renewing Members

**FRIEND:**

Susan Bakonyi  
 Barbara Rivera  
 Barbara Carr  
 Sandra Rutledge  
 Renate Daughtry  
 Diane Salko  
 Darlene Gerue  
 Patsy Sarg  
 Gary Jones  
 Diane Schilff  
 Geraldine Kerwin  
 Lowell Schulz  
 Susan Kreuzer  
 Robert Settles  
 Susan Leverone  
 Kathy Smiley  
 Mary Lewis  
 Roz Spraez  
 Marie-Louise Miesel  
 Florence States  
 Daniel Morris  
 Kay Vincent  
 Catherine Mulla  
 Patricia Waters  
 Charlene Myers  
 Brian Weightman  
 Marie Radcliffe  
 Judith Weyant

**SUPPORTER:**

Phyllis Bramlett  
 David Irwin  
 Edith Butcavage  
 Allen Kirk  
 Karen Cochran  
 Herbert Martin  
 Nancy Colby  
 Ann Martin Moore  
 Nancy Cooke  
 Leonard Noland  
 Patricia Curtis-Craig  
 William Sherwell  
 Claire Donahue

**PATRON:**

Christine A. Brown  
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 Jeffrey Reed  
 Heather Frushon  
 Cara Solis  
 Alison Giesen

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Mary Bamberger  
 Norman & Polly Ann Bryant  
 Nancy Cook  
 John Lotts  
 Kathleen Molik  
 Dr. Ira Zucker

**KRIEGER LEADERSHIP SOCIETY:**

Susan & Philip Bennett  
 Barbara Braun-Metz  
 Micah Gaar  
 Dr. Stephen Scholle  
 AJ & Lynda Scribante  
 William Watson  
 Jonathan & Evelyn Rose  
 Silverman

## ARC & the Everblades Team

Up to Score BIG!

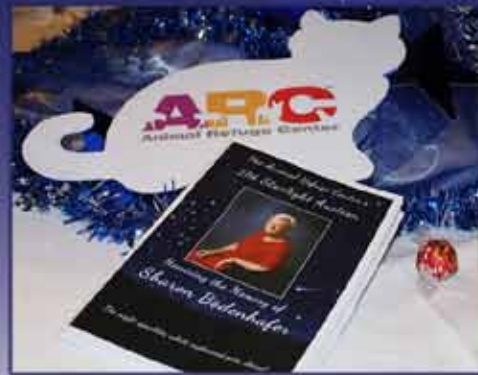
Nickelodeon Night is February 19, 2022! Specialty jerseys, themed after Garfield, will be worn during the game, autographed and then auctioned off through the DASH app. Proceeds benefit ARC! We will also have game tickets for ANY home game for \$15. Email bettyhughes@comcast.net for your vouchers!





# ARC's 27th Starlight Auction

Breaks Records!



The 2021 Starlight auction, hosted by the Sanibel Marriott Resort & Spa, was destined to be different when sponsors came on board early to show their support and broke past record sponsorship levels by October! The excitement continued to build over the next two months with donations of resort stays, jewelry, pet items, household goods, gift certificates, sporting goods and baskets of libations.

On November 27th that eagerness, to celebrate lives saved in 2021 and prepare to save lives in 2022, increased exponentially as over two hundred guests arrived. They came with an energy and steely determination to provide ARC with a solid financial foundation for our 2022 mission. The bidding was at fever pitch levels and generosity was the heart and soul of the evening. This year ARC was blessed to receive a \$50,000 match on funds raised for general operations. In fact, guests raised over \$64,000! In total, \$255,000 was raised for the benefit of pets in need in SW Florida. We are so grateful for our sponsors, donors and guests who made this evening the best Starlight auction in twenty-seven years!

When you are in need of goods or services, please consider giving your business to ARC's sponsors and donors first and be sure to thank them for their support of ARC and their love of animals!

# Very Special Thanks to Our Title, Presenting and Gold Sponsors



Presenting Sponsor  
Robert "Doc" Woods



Presenting Sponsor  
Paul & Rosalie Walton



Lisa accepting for  
Rob & Kathy Totterdale



Title Sponsor  
Chuck Bodenhafer



Gold Sponsor ~ Bonney Leckie



Gold Sponsor  
Dr. Dave & Jennifer Nichols



E G Contracting Company

THANKS SO MUCH TO OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS & DONORS

## SPONSORS

**Title Sponsor**  
Chuck Bodenhafer

**Presenting Sponsors**  
Paul & Rosalie Walton  
Doc's Painting - Robert "Doc" Woods

**Gold Sponsors**  
Bonney Leckie -  
~Century 21 Selling Paradise Realty  
Dr. Dave & Jennifer Nichols  
Sanibel Harbour Marriott Resort & Spa  
E G Contracting Company  
Rob and Kathy Totterdale

**Silver Sponsors**  
All American Printing  
~ Sign-a-Rama N Ft Myers  
Blue Dog Diving - Laura & Wayne Leinen  
Betty & Rich Hughes  
Dr. Alice Jeromin  
Mike & Carrie Meehan  
The Cedar Chest Fine Jewelry  
Ron & Sandra Thurman

**Tellurium Sponsors**  
Animal Eye Doctor  
Anonymous  
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Lisa & Ted Ehrlich  
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Pi Local  
Prestige Motosports  
Tina Marie Interiors  
Larry & Arlene Schuetz  
Zak's Jewelers

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What 2 Wear Consignment  
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Home-Tech

**Bronze Sponsors**  
Mary Accardo & Brigid  
~ Kleinschmidt  
Jana Newman  
Stephanie Wells  
Ellen Puckett  
Experience Family Chiropractic -  
Dr. Omar Clark  
Islandside Animal Hospital  
Martial Arts Training Ground  
Nelson's Port-a-Pit of SWFL  
Val-Ward Cadillac  
Peggy Gore  
Peter & Nancy Koury  
Rick Fox Plumbing  
Mindy & Jeffrey Russell  
Lisa Bernstein  
Dr. Beatriz Dejongh  
Cathy Lewis  
Animal General - Dr. Diana  
-Gonzales Edmonds  
The Law Office of Andrew Marcus



## DONORS

Alison Raimondi  
Amy Melliott-Houser  
Arianis  
Barbara B. Mann Theatre  
Betty Hughes  
Bev & Russ Moody  
Blue Dog Divers  
Broadway Palm Dinner  
~ Theatre  
Cantina Laredo  
Casey Chenoweth  
Charley's Boathouse Grill  
Christina Hollis  
Chuck Bodenhafer  
Dorothy Washburn  
Dr. Terry Sutton & Dr. Barry  
~ Hendon  
Dunkin's Diamonds  
Eagle Ridge Golf Course  
Edison Ford Estates  
Florida Everblades  
Ft Myers Mussels  
Gateway Golf Club  
Huxters Liquors  
Hyatt Regency Coconut Point  
Jean Laack  
Judith Huebner  
Kathy Totterdale  
Keepsakers - D. Ford  
Keg & Cow  
Ken Johnson  
Key West Express  
Kim Whitty  
Laura & Wayne Leinen  
Les Charles Hair Concepts  
Lisa & Ted Ehrlich  
Lunch Box Quilts -  
~ Sharon Raimondi  
Margie Titus  
Matanzas On the Bay  
Michalina's Salon & Spa

Nancy Colby  
Nelson's Port-a-Pit of SWFL  
Nicole Mastroianni  
~ IBK Doggies  
Norman Love Confections  
Outrigger Hotel Ft Myers Beach  
Pam & Ken Relyea  
Pat Tiberi  
Peggy Gore  
Pinchers Crab Shack  
Prawnbroker  
Quilts to the Rescue  
Red Sox  
Sanibel Harbour Marriott  
~ Resort & Spa  
Sanibel Spirits  
Smallicakes Cupcakery &  
~ Creamery Ft Myers  
South Seas Island Resort  
Southwest Florida Symphony  
Stacy Yip  
Studio RK Salon  
Sue Schwebel  
Summerlin-Sanibel Liquor  
Sun Harvest Citrus  
Sundial Beach Resort & Spa  
Sylvia DiFolco  
T.J. Max  
The Cedar Chest Fine Jewelry  
The Saucy Meatball  
Tito's Vodka  
Total Wine  
University Grill  
Useppa Island Club  
Walt Disney World  
West Wind Inn on Sanibel  
Island  
Zulu Nyala

*The Night Sparkled While Orphaned Pets Shined!*



## 'Tis the Season



This time of year, certainly does bring out the best in people and so often ARC is the recipient of seasonal generosity. Nothing fills up our supply building with food, treats and toys like the holidays! We'd like to send our special thanks to the following people for their generous fundraising activities that helps our dogs and cats feel extra special in this season of giving!

Oh, and in case you are wondering, yes, we have more room in our storage building. So, check out our wish list on the back of your newsletter and come on out!



Sandy Knapp raised \$4,400 at her Lani Kai fundraiser.



Nathan and Madison collected food for their birthday.



Stacie Thompson and her little Saints from St. Michaels Lutheran's Church did a supply fundraiser.



Martha Hammond raised \$1,260 plus beds and supplies



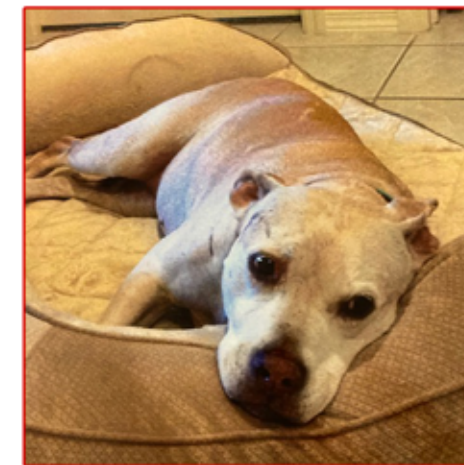
N'Evaeh collected supplies and donations.

## The Love of a Foster Home By Lisa Ehrlich

Many volunteers attend the Starlight Auction, and this year was no exception. However, this year Sylvia DiFolco attended for the first time since 2003 without her beloved mother, Gertrude Resch, both shelter volunteers. Gerti died in September at the age of 91. All our volunteers are special people but Sylvia and Gerti were among a select group who become medical fosters. They willingly took on the task of end-of-life care for Jewels, who was just short of 12 years old and diagnosed with cancer while still awaiting adoption when Sylvia and Gerti came into her life. Though ARC bares all costs of treatment, which can be expensive, nothing takes the place of a home and finally Jewels found a home. Jewels survived 2 ½ years after the diagnosis in large part because she was living in a home surrounded by a loving family. Sylvia recalls that from the start Jewels made herself right at home finding a comfy spot to nap on her new bed and was able to lead the way back to her new home on her first walk. Gerti enjoyed Jewels' companionship while Sylvia was at work. She had Jewels to care for and think about daily and she was never lonely. Jewels needed her. Gerti and Sylvia were overjoyed at being able to bring comfort to an elderly dog near life's end and Gerti and Sylvia loved Jewels dearly.

Some might be hesitant to volunteer thinking that there is no task that fits their circumstances quite right. There are many ways volunteers can support ARC. Gerti and Sylvia found a way by fostering Jewels and for Jewels, this was life-changing and likely life-extending.

Prior to her passing, Gerti expressed her wish that friends and family make donations to ARC in her memory and Sylvia made the first donation of Gerti's memorial funds on the night of the auction. Many were made from Sylvia's co-workers at NeoGenomics. Sylvia is thankful for this generosity, and she knows that Gerti is too. ARC is thankful for Sylvia and Gerti for caring for our Jewels, for making Jewels' last year's her best years, and for their support of ARC. Rest in peace Gerti, we know Jewels was waiting at the Rainbow Bridge and that you are both together again.



*Animal Refuge Center's 7<sup>th</sup> Annual*  
**Purses for Pooches**  
*Presented by*  
**Bonney Leckie - Century 21 Selling Paradise**

**April 9, 2022, 12 p.m.-3 p.m.**  
*at the*  
**Fiddlesticks Country Club**

**Lunch • Silent Auction • Purse Fashion Show**  
**Live Auction • Giveaways**

**Sponsorships available**

Catwalk Sponsor \$1,500	Canine Couture \$500
Puparazzi Sponsor \$750	The Cats Meow \$250
Individual Tickets \$45	

**For more information contact Betty Hughes 239-841-0810**

Help the animals at ARC by cleaning out your closets and donating your previously loved designer purses & scarves.

**Drop off Locations**

**Bonney Leckie, Realtor**

**Century 21**  
SELLING PARADISE  
3409 Del Prado Blvd. S. Ste. 103  
Cape Coral, FL 33904

**ARC**  
Animal Refuge Center  
18011 Old Bayshore Road  
North Fort Myers, FL, 33917

**HOME-TECH**  
*Service That Works™*  
6400 Techster Boulevard  
Fort Myers, Florida 33966

