



# Florida SARC News



*Updates from Florida SARC HQ to our volunteers*

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## From the Manager's Desk

Steve Carriere, FL SARC Manager

We really appreciate your support as we do our best to reinvigorate FL SARC! Thank you to everyone for your encouragement and advice these last few months. You have been nothing short of cooperative, supportive and helpful during this time.

Now that we created our advisory committee, we've discussed a number of issues, received honest and in depth feedback from our volunteer surveys, and started instituting changes - some minor - some very noticeable. One major change is going to be the requirement for OPS level responders to have ICS 800. Another change is already happening with our volunteer profile project - reviewing active and inactive accounts and doing outreach with everyone. Finally, we are changing some contact information - beginning 13 June we are no longer using our old Grasshopper cel phone number. I can now be reached directly at the office number, which will also soon be SMS/text capable! Thanks to Jordan Levine for working hard to upgrade our phone system!

We hope you find the information in this newsletter and on our website useful, and that it keeps you informed and engaged with FL SARC. If there is anything you'd like to see in future issues, email [scarriere@spcaflorida.org](mailto:scarriere@spcaflorida.org), or email our freelance contributor, Mary Raiman, at [mraiman127@aol.com](mailto:mraiman127@aol.com)

## Florida SARC

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# NEWS AND HAPPENINGS

## Hurricane Preps - Getting Ready!



SARC was busy earlier this year locating our response equipment, inventorying our supplies, and beginning the process of exercising our tools and generators to make sure we are ready! In May we conducted an inventory of our crates and carriers stored in Bushnell. We still have work to complete there, as well as at our main campus in Lakeland.

We will be putting a call out for some weekend volunteer work opportunities in the next couple of months. If you have some time and availability, contact the FL SARC manager, Steve Carriere, so we can coordinate a day where all of the work can be knocked out and help improve our readiness.

## FL SARC SUPPORTS HSUS

Three FL SARC volunteers helped support HSUS shelter operations in Mississippi in February to support daily shelter care for over 170 cats rescued from a severe hoarding situation.

More recently we were asked to help support daily shelter operations at the HSUS shelter facility in Hagerstown MD. Humane Society International rescued over 200 dogs from a South Korean dog meat farm and took in additional 100+ dogs from a hoarding case in North Carolina. Two volunteers are scheduled to deploy to Hagerstown MD to assist with their care.

If you are interested in supporting HSUS operations, have a current FL SARC profile and are Awareness deployable (Tetanus shot within 10 years, ICS 100 certificate, Awareness Class certificate), please contact the FL SARC manager and provide dates you are available. HSUS will cover air fare, meals, lodging, and incidental expenses.

## SHOP FL SARC!

Our store link is active once again! Head over to

[www.flsarc.org/shop](http://www.flsarc.org/shop)

or click the QR code below with your cell phone or tablet to see what's available!



# SARC AND FDACS - COUNTY ESF 17 VISITS

Beginning in May, Florida's Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, as part of the Florida State Agricultural Response Team (FLSART), began outreach to county emergency management staff in an effort to rebuild relationships and share response capabilities.

The opportunity to re-introduce FL SARC back into the communities has yielded many positive results. One of the most significant outcomes is the opportunity to help counties exercise their disaster sheltering plans, specifically setting up a pet friendly shelter in a simulated, but much smaller scale, disaster scenario.

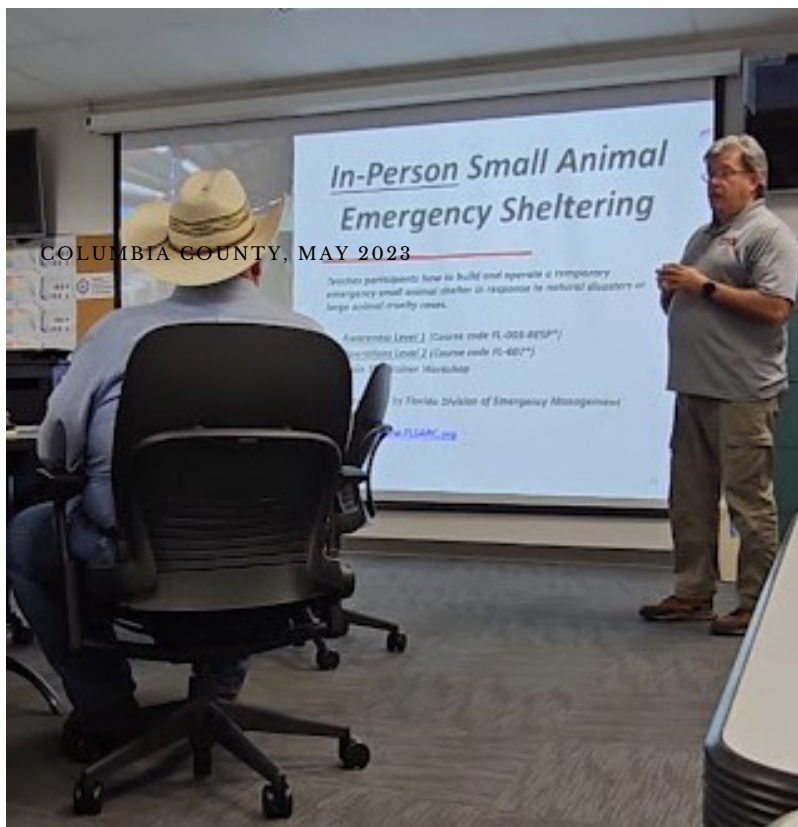
This will allow local governments to see what their sheltering plan might look like when a disaster or emergency hits. More importantly, it gets YOU, our volunteer base, involved in helping these communities before the big disaster strikes! Stay tuned for more information on this potential opportunity!



HERNANDO COUNTY, 31 MAY 2023



ALACHUA COUNTY, 17 MAY 2023



COLUMBIA COUNTY, MAY 2023

## SARC COUNTY VISITS TO DATE:

- UNION
- ALACHUA
- GILCHRIST
- LEVY
- OKEECHOBEE
- COLUMBIA
- JEFFERSON
- HERNANDO
- PUTNAM
- FLAGLER
- WAKULA
- LAFAYETTE
- LEON

# VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT!

Mary Raiman, Contributing Writer

Our first FLSARC volunteer spotlight features **Desiree Bauman-Smith**, a 37-year-young lady originally from Brooklyn, New York. She is the youngest of four sisters and the baby of the family, but her "She-Hulk" nickname might indicate otherwise!

Desiree lives with her husband and flock of animal kiddos: rats named Laslzo and Nandor; Choriza Mona, a "flatulent velvety teddy bear ork", otherwise known as an English Bulldog, and Bernie the "toasty marshmallow bagel 80-lb pitbull". I wonder why I'm suddenly craving s'mores...

Desi says she's "been an animal rights activist and humanitarian since I was 12 and channeled it into my work and life. I love animals more than people-yes, I said it!" Desi's warm and enthusiastic voice keeps her love of animals more than people a well kept secret! Although she is now a vegan restaurant general manager, much of Desi's past experience has been associated with the animal industry, including roles as:

animal control/cruelty officer; animal search and rescue, veterinary technician/assistant; behaviorist; foster; groomer; trainer; adoption counselor; fospice, and euthanasia technician.

After completing her Level 1 training in 2019, Desiree became a FL SARC volunteer, assisted with daily sheltering care for a local event, then completed her Level 2 Operations training in 2020, just prior to the Covid pandemic. Since then she



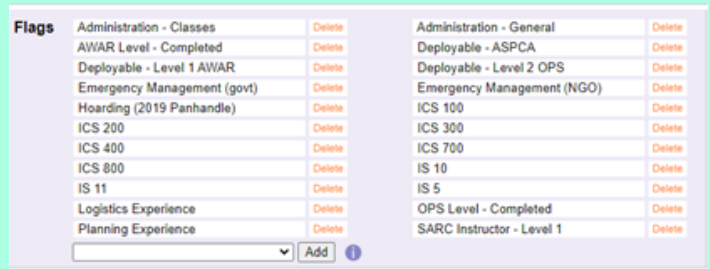
*L to R: Desiree (SARC), Wanda Merling (ASPCA), Adam Jackson (SARC), Travis Jones (SARC/SPCA) Julie Jones (SARC) and Steve Carriere (SARC) supporting sheltering operations for the 2022 Kentucky Flooding Disaster*

deployed to several disaster and emergency sites, including Citrus County FL in 2021, then supported ASPCA shelter operations for the Kentucky floods in 2022. Most recently Desi deployed to Mississippi in February to support Humane Society shelter care operations for 170 cats rescued from a hoarding case

Other deployments included providing support for 200+ Chinese-crested and mixed breed dogs and 200+ cats in Kentucky. Some of her duties included: building and deconstructing cages, loading and unloading vehicles, walking dogs, decontamination, behavior evaluations, and spending time with cats. All these duties were performed hand-in-hand with her FLSARC colleagues as well as with other organizations, "working as a team to get things done".

# Volunteer Profiles Updates

Our volunteer administrators, Patty Powell and Lisa Sears-Lowery, deserve a HUGE shoutout for updating volunteer profiles, nearly 830 "active" volunteers and 330 "archived" volunteers to date. This is a HUGE step to ensuring we deploy trained volunteers who ARE deployment eligible - whether in an Awareness or Operations role.



*Flag annotations example in one volgistics profile*

Unfortunately, SARC has lost many longtime volunteers due to bad contact information. To that end, having correct documentation - contact, vaccination, AND training - will help make it easy for you to deploy. We are working hard to ensure our procedures and requirements are CONSISTENT - whether we support emergency or disaster response here at home, or provide rescue partners nationwide, such as HSUS or ASPCA, with trained volunteers.

When we annotate you as having completed ICS 100, for example, you will now have your ICS certificate uploaded and saved in the document tab of your profile - once we receive it. There will also be a flag annotation in your profile so it can be tied to your documents. See the image to the upper right. To ensure current documents are added to your profile, email them to [volunteer@flsarc.org](mailto:volunteer@flsarc.org).

About 90% of the prior class files we have in our records are now cloud stored. Those same links will soon be added to as many volunteer profiles as possible. This will help alleviate some of the document burden on you. Our administrators are still correcting a wide variety of other responses and issues as we attempt to fix what was wrong, so please help us help you as we work to get consistency in our administration and your training.

## How can you help us help you? What should you send?

Have an ACTIVE Volgistics Profile! Go to this link:

- <https://www.volgistics.com/ex2/vicnet.dll?FROM=27451>

Update any information, including email, contact information, address, vaccination dates, etc. Ensure it is current so you get updated information and deployment opportunities from SARC. If you respond to a deployment request and your information is not updated, we will work with you to get what needs to be updated before you deploy.

Next, in your profiles, you can add any volunteer hours, add training, document contributions in your community or with FL SARC! Use the drop down menu to select the activity, then enter your date and time:

## Volunteer information for [Redacted]

- Home
- Mail
- My Profile
- My Schedule
- My Service History
- Time Sheet**
- Account

### Instructions

To post your hours, enter your service information in the Time Sheet box and then click the "Continue" button.

### Time Sheet

What was the date of your service? February 22 2023

Which assignment did you serve in? Choose one

How many hours did you serve?

How much Mileage?

**Continue**

**Your recent service e**

Date	Assignment	Hours	Mileage
02-07-2023	Administrati		
02-06-2023	Administrati		
01-28-2023	Lead Instru		
10-14-2022	Hurricane Ia		
10-13-2022	Hurricane Ian 2022	7.00	0

For your complete service history select the "My Service History" tab.

**Exit**

These updates are VERY important! They help track how much value your contributions are worth to the community AND help local government meet their 25% disaster cost obligations. It also helps us determine your experience essential to deploying you in more important roles!

If you are not sure about your profile or need to have your access reset, contact Steve, the FL SARC Manager, [scarriere@spcaflorida.org](mailto:scarriere@spcaflorida.org).

# CONGRATULATIONS!!!

Since our last newsletter, FL SARC traveled extensively throughout the state conducting our Awareness and Operations courses. Congratulations to over 60 students who took our courses and are now eligible to deploy as FL SARC responders! A HUGE shoutout goes out to our instructors Andy Bass, Kristi Kalkovic, Michele Newton, Dawn Eyestone, Billy Jean Schanen, and Consie Von Gontard for their efforts in helping our training continue!

## MARCH 5-7

### COLLIER COUNTY Awareness - Level 1

Brian Speight  
Jessica Johnson  
Lisa Kasperek  
Jonee' Willette  
Sidney Cramer  
Patti Graves  
Eulene Chen  
Bridget Bannon  
Twyla Leigh  
Karen Renczkowski  
Dee Lamb

### Operations Level 2

Liz Contreras  
Jessica Johnson  
Lisa Kasperek  
Patti Graves  
Sidney Cramer

## MARCH 11

### SARASOTA CAT DEPOT

Awareness - Level 1

Jeff Donahue  
Derek Balboa  
Barbara Henderson  
Jordan Moberg  
Liliana Vasquez-Loje  
Nikki Weaver

## MARCH 25-26

### FLAGLER HUMANE SOCIETY Operations - Level 2

David Bartlett  
Patti Powell  
Miranda Lucas

## APRIL 15

### JACKSONVILLE FL Awareness - Level 1

Judi Wilkinson  
Jennifer Meister  
Dylan Wulf Michal  
Lopez-Reyes  
Alicia Dease  
Shawn Riggins  
Kristina Gerbers  
Drew Searles  
Jan MacLean

## APRIL 22-23

### SARASOTA CAT DEPOT

Operations - Level 2

Jeff Donahue  
Brian Speight  
Emily Morris  
Diana Lawhorn  
Emily Groenveld

## MAY 20-21

### ST. LUCIE EMERGENCY OPERATIONS OPERATIONS - LEVEL 2

Deborah Bembry  
Tamara Young-Eck  
Julia Young  
Brogan Sublett  
Ashley Cook

## MAY 26

### SPCA FLORIDA Awareness - Level 1

Lani Kurtz  
Ashley Shalack  
Nephali Perez  
Carlos Martinez  
Shelley Thayer  
Amanda Richmond  
Kristin Reiher  
Sandi Pareda  
Martin O'keefe  
Bridget Klein  
Heather Happy  
Claria Galbraith  
Jessica Every  
John Douglas  
Yashira Cordero  
Spencer Conover  
Sarah Caprio  
Odelia Baza  
Ron Altman  
Karie Albright

# Upcoming Training

NEW ONLINE AWARENESS LEVEL 1 COURSES! USE THE PROMO CODE RESCUE TO TAKE \$10 OFF YOUR REGISTRATION!

SCAN THE QR CODE OR GO TO WWW.FLSARC.ORG/TRAINING TO FIND THE CLASS CALENDAR AND REGISTER!

## TRAIN WITH FLORIDA SARC ONLINE!

Florida SARC is bringing back our ONLINE AWARENESS Level 1 Course! Learn how to help animals in emergencies and disasters in this uniquely tailored class for online students!



Join us on Saturday, July 15 and Sunday July 16  
10 AM - 2 PM each day!

Use the promo code RESCUE and receive \$10 off your registration fee!



Scan the QR code to sign up or visit [www.flsarc.org/training](http://www.flsarc.org/training) for more information



## TRAIN WITH FLORIDA SARC ONLINE!

Florida SARC is bringing back our ONLINE AWARENESS Level 1 Course! Learn how to help animals in emergencies and disasters in this uniquely tailored class for online students!



Join us on Saturday, June 24 and Sunday June 25  
10 AM - 2 PM each day!

Use the promo code RESCUE and receive \$10 off your registration fee!



Scan the QR code to sign up or visit [www.flsarc.org/training](http://www.flsarc.org/training) for more information



## TRAIN WITH FLORIDA SARC

Bay County Emergency Services, Florida State Agricultural Response Team and Florida SARC are partnering to provide training on how to save animals and operate temporary emergency shelters.

If you completed our Level 1 Awareness Course and have a current FEMA 100 ICS Certificate, you can register!



Join us on Saturday, June 10, and Sunday, June 11 at Bay County Emergency Services

Use code SART at check out to attend this training for FREE!



Scan the QR code to sign up or visit [www.flsarc.org/training](http://www.flsarc.org/training) for more information



## LEVEL 2 BAY COUNTY