

# Florida SARC News

News, Updates, and Important Information from FL SARC to our volunteers and supporters

Because the ENTIRE Family Matters!



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## From the Manager's Desk



*Steve Carriere*

Email: [scarriere@sPCAflorida.org](mailto:scarriere@sPCAflorida.org) Cel: 863-577-4602

Greetings, SARC team! since our last newsletter, we:

- Coordinated more volunteer support for the Humane Society and ASPCA
- Completed a Hurricane Heroes fundraising campaign
- Received two donations to conduct Level 1 courses in Volusia and Marion Counties
- Completed two Level 1 Zoom classes
- Participated in two public educational events in Polk County
- Participated in the 2023 SART Planning Conference
- Met with county emergency managers throughout the state
- Updated over 930 volunteer records
- Responded to Hurricane Idalia
- Launched our Ambassador Program

**But WAIT, There's MORE! Stay tuned for news about the State of Florida's 2024 Disaster Exercise in Jefferson County FL!!**

If you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions, please feel free to contact me. Thank you again for all of your support and hard work

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# HURRICANE IDALIA RESPONSE

Shortly after reaching Category 4 status, Hurricane Idalia made landfall north of Cedar Key as a Category 3 storm on August 30th. The storm contained sustained winds of over 111 MPH, bringing heavy storm surge, flooding and wind damage to many rural areas. Nine counties in FL experienced major damage from the storm, while many others were impacted by storm surge and interior river flooding.



SARC volunteers (R to L) Steve Hutra, Carol Christopherson and her mom Ann with a load of food donated by First Coast No More Homeless Pets, enroute to Taylor County.



Several pallets of 12 total donated by the Greater Good Charities and delivered to Suwannee County to sustain their local animal shelter and animal control facilities

FL SARC activated in support of ESF 17 response efforts with our SART partners, initially supporting remote logistics and donation coordination in Suwannee and Taylor counties. One pet friendly sheltering request was received for Union County, while SART team members and SARC helped coordinate transport for over 12 dogs at a rescue in Levy County severely damaged in the storm.

SARC demonstrated exceptional flexibility and remote capability coordinating a major donation delivery, performing pet friendly sheltering operations, mobilizing volunteers, and assessing county requests to take for action and support.

Thanks to Andy Bass, Lisa Sears, Leslie Long, Steve Hutra, Carol Christopherson (FL SARC), and Karen Slomba, Keegan Speera, Kris Abel and Leianna Tucker from our SART partners, and staff from SPCA Florida for their support during this short response!



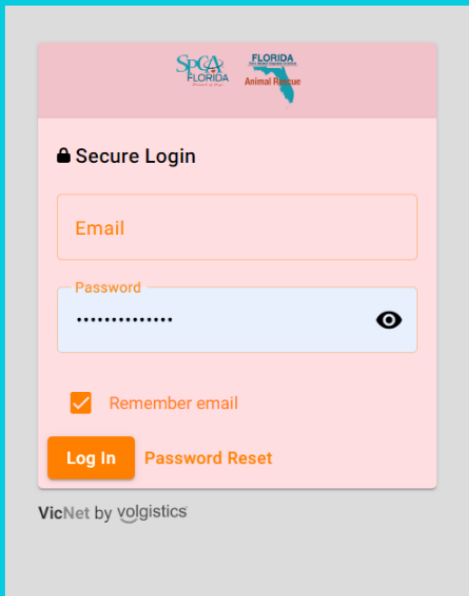
# NEW SIGN ON LINK !

On September 27th, the old volunteer sign in link you've been using to access your volunteer profile is no longer valid. Click the **NEW VOLUNTEER LOGIN** link at [www.flsarc.org](http://www.flsarc.org), or copy and paste this link to your browser, and then bookmark:

<https://www.volgistics.com/vicnet/27451>



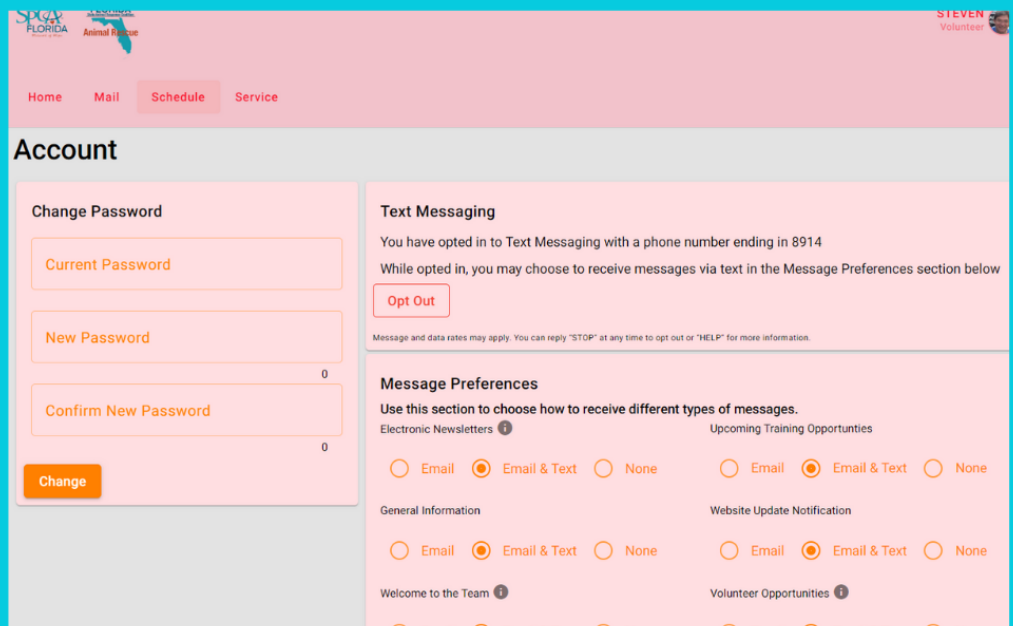
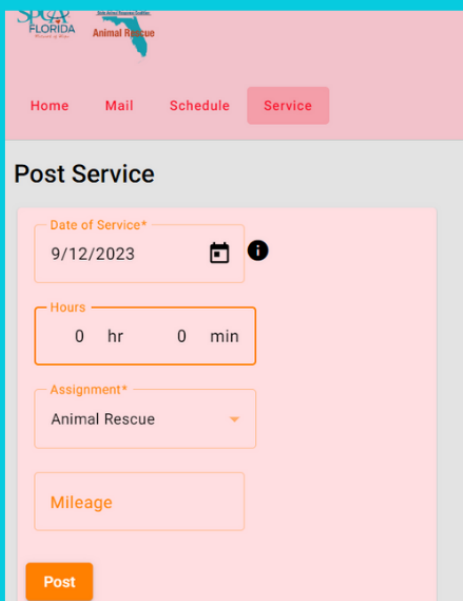
## Your new sign on page looks like this:



Once logged in you will see four tab options: Home, Mail, Schedule, and Service. Under Mail, you will see SARC messages you received based on your email preferences. Schedule is any time you enter in your profile which you are available for any SARC duties. Service is simply adding volunteer hours you perform any SARC duties.

Your current email and password will still work with the new sign on. If you don't remember your password, click Password Reset. If you aren't sure of your correct email address, send an email to [volunteer@flsarc.org](mailto:volunteer@flsarc.org) and we will help you regain your access.

After you log in, you can also update profile information, communication preferences, and change your password and personal information by clicking your profile icon in the upper right hand side of the page:



## Humane Society and ASPCA Volunteer Opportunities



The **Humane Society of the United States** and the **ASPCA** provide SARC volunteers deployment opportunities throughout the year. Recently we deployed three SARC responders: **Shannon Ricker, Darlene Wright, and Bridget Greenough** to Maryland to help support daily shelter operations. Thank you for answering the call!

Contact the SARC manager if you have any questions about these opportunities!

## ESF-17 and SART Partner Visits with County Emergency Management

SARC continued to rebuild and establish relationships with county emergency management partners throughout the state. Each visit helped educate managers and staff about our pet friendly emergency and disaster sheltering courses, our capabilities within SARC, and how we could partner to host workshops on setting up and operate an emergency shelter scenario. One highlight of these visits was the opportunity to visit the Monroe County Emergency Management Staff in the Florida Keys and provide them the opportunity to help bring training to the Keys! Stay tuned for more information.



# AMBASSADOR PROGRAM LAUNCHES!

Back in the day SARC attempted to establish an ambassador program statewide. These ambassadors, would help SARC grow and be the local faces of the organization. They would meet with local emergency management, animal shelters, and other partners promoting classes, building relationships and looking for volunteer opportunities for the program.

We are proud to announce that the program is returning! Several volunteers answered the call to represent SARC in their county areas. We still have many areas to represent, so if you are interested, please email me or call for more info. Please welcome our new ambassadors!

**John Porche**

*Okaloosa/Santa Rosa/Escambia/Walton*

**Marty Epstein**

*Leon, Wakulla, Franklin, Gadsden, Liberty, Gulf*

**Paula Carroll**

*Jefferson, Jefferson, Madison, Taylor, Hamilton, Columbia, Baker, Union, Suwannee, Lafayette, Dixie, Bradford*

**Desiree Bauman-Smith**

*Orange & Osceola*

**Bridget Greenough**

*Broward and Palm Beach*

**Paula McPhaul**

*Nassau, Duval, Clay & St John's*

## Volunteer Profiles Project Update

Since January we tracked down about 90% of class and certificate records for our disaster responders. We've tied that information back into as many profiles as possible. **We still need many to submit your ICS Certificates for Awareness or Operations Deployment eligibility, and to provide Tetanus vaccination dates.** Go to [www.flsarc.org/volunteers](http://www.flsarc.org/volunteers) to find out more about what is needed. Send any documents to our volunteer admin email, [volunteer@flsarc.org](mailto:volunteer@flsarc.org).

On that note, we want to send out a HUGE thank you to Lisa Sears who is stepping down as our volunteer administrator. Thank you for helping with this project and for your dedication to us these last several months! If anyone has an interest in helping and learning about our database management responsibilities, contact the SARC Manager to discuss this opportunity.



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### Upcoming Training

Open to the Public!

#### Level 1 Awareness

Saturday, October 14, Halifax Humane Society, Daytona Bch, FL

Registration: [https:// bit.ly/HalifaxLv1](https://bit.ly/HalifaxLv1) Discount Code: SARC



#### Level 2 Operations

Thursday and Friday, October 19 & 20

Volusia County Emergency Operations Center, Daytona Bch, FL

Registration: <https://conta.cc/47AIDNp> Discount Code: DAYTONA



#### Level 1 Awareness

Saturday, November 4th, Green Clover Hall, Ocala FL

Registration: <https://bit.ly/SPCAofOCALA> Discount Code: SPCAOCALA

