



SPCA Wildlife Care Center to Host 16th Annual Fundraising Gala on January 12: 'FIRE & ICE'

Gala Co-Chairs are Janet Buhl & Coleen Darni-Sotiré

(Fort Lauderdale, FL – November 1, 2007) The **SPCA Wildlife Care Center** (WCC), today announced that **Janet Buhl** and **Coleen Darni-Sotiré** will serve as co-chairs of the organization's 16th annual gala: **FIRE & ICE**.

The fundraising event will be held on Saturday, **January 12**, at the **Fort Lauderdale Grande Hotel**, 1881 S.E. 17th Street, and will include:

- + Entertainment by the lively and popular South Florida band, **Hot Brass Monkey**.
- + A silent auction with more than 100 exquisite items, including original artwork, autographed sports memorabilia, certificates to hot restaurants and health spas, prestigious trips and more.
- + A cash raffle for \$1,000 and \$500.
- + A luxury raffle for a Holland America Cruise.
- + A pre-gala VIP reception aboard a 100-foot yacht for major sponsors and supporters.

"As co-chair for the 16th Annual SPCA Wildlife Care Center Gala, It gives me great pleasure to invite friends and guest to our yearly fundraiser an evening that promises elegance, charm and surprises, with excellent food, drinks and entertainment that will delight you. Let's show our support to this great cause by coming together at this event and bringing aid to the animals that need our help," says Janet Buhl. "Funds raised at this event directly benefit the nearly 14,000 animals admitted to our facility each year."

Gala co-chair **Coleen Darni-Sotiré** of Shades of Light Gallery will do the design for the event, which promises a series of surprises to that will awaken and delight the senses. She also co-chaired and designed WCC's successful galas in 2007 and 2006.

Honorary committee members for the gala include:

- + **Gertrude Maxwell**, founder and president of Save-a-Pet (the winner of the first Tri County Region Humanitarian Award)
- + **Kevin Boyd** of Boyd & Powers
- + **Steve Chaney** of Mortgage Professionals
- + **Linda Corley** of WPBT
- + **Kathryn Fox-Winokur**
- + Artist **Bruce Helander**
- + **Ron & Nancy Hummel**
- + **Debbie Igoe**
- + Broward County Commissioner **Ilene Leiberman**
- + **Tracy Mandart** of Janney Montgomery Scott LLC
- + **Cindy Morgan**
- + **Kirsten & Ross Parker** of Native Visions Gallery
- + **Joan Weiss**

Committee members include **Jeffrey Arciniaco, Gail Blount, Marcy Celentani, Toni Daby, Jessica Dietrich, Anne Ennis, Danielle Giacco, David Hall, Lynn Henderson, Emily Hirschman, John Karr, Ethel Lipoff, Amy Loebel and Ardath Rosengarden.**

The SPCA Wildlife Care Center is now soliciting program ads and more Silent Auction items for the gala. In addition, there are a variety of sponsorships and underwriting opportunities available, including Presenting, Diamond, Ruby and Sapphire.

Individual tickets to FIRE & ICE are \$250 and \$2,500 for a table of 10.

For tickets, sponsorship information or to donate auction items, please contact WCC's **Ethel Lipoff** by phone at **954.524.7154**, by email at rsvp@wildlifecarecenter.org, or register online at www.wildlifecarecenter.org.

About the SPCA Wildlife Care Center: □

Serving the South Florida Tri-County Region, the mission of **the SPCA Wildlife Care Center** (WCC) is to rescue, rehabilitate and release native wildlife that has been harmed or displaced; to treat and place certain domestic, exotic and farm animals; and to educate the public toward co-existence with all animals. With 4.5 acres of property, three full-time ambulances, 70 employees and 600 volunteers, the WCC is home to up to 900 injured, harmed or orphaned wildlife at any given time. Last year alone nearly 14,000 sick, injured and orphaned animals were admitted to the SPCA Wildlife Care Center.

Over the past 38 years, the **SPCA Wildlife Care Center** has grown to be the largest facility of its kind in the nation. Located at 3200 SW 4th Avenue in Fort

Lauderdale, the WCC recently announced its first multi-million dollar capital campaign to fund a new, state-of-the-art wildlife hospital and education center to serve South Florida. For more information, please visit www.WildlifeCareCenter.org.

Cutline to Attached Jpegs:

Janet Buhl

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