



# Georgia Equine Rescue League, Ltd.

With *Your* Help...We *Will* Make a Difference!

2011 Quarterly Newsletter

March, April and May

## Finding Tucker

By Anne Ensminger

If two pictures are worth two thousand words, nothing more needs to be said after you see the 'before' and 'after' pictures of this horse. However, the happy ending to his story involves the efforts of many and I would like to give you a short synopsis of what I know of it. How something like this can happen, I will never know, but it does. It happens more often than people, who are simply going about their daily lives, could ever imagine.

This story began on a hot day late last summer when I was made aware by my friend Dennis Bryant, of a very thin horse being kept in a bare lot near his home. He was wondering if anything could be done on behalf of the poor animal. Another friend, Leisa McCannon and I drove to the location to check it out and what we saw broke our hearts. The horse was "grazing" near the road. I use quotation marks because there was absolutely nothing except bitter weed for the horse to "graze". He was, indeed, very thin. It was easy to adhere to the GERL rule not to go onto private property when investigating a cruelty case. The owners of this poor horse had made no attempt to hide their criminal negligence which should have caused them great shame. It was easy to take pictures from the road without stepping one foot onto their property.

I could hardly wait to get home to call the Georgia Department of Agriculture, report the case, and email my pictures. I was told that they would send an Inspector out to investigate. Well, when!/? If the Inspector had been in route at the very moment,



it wouldn't have been soon enough to sooth my anxiety at realizing that someone could let a horse's condition decline to such a level.

Thankfully, within a short time, I was able



to learn that the horse had been seized by GDA Inspectors and taken to the Mansfield Equine Impound. I could now relax somewhat as I knew that he was in very good hands.

Time went by but I could not get the horse off of my mind. Around that same time, we at GERL learned that the Mansfield Impound was under strict quarantine because of an outbreak of Strangles. That meant that, as much as I wanted to, it would be best if I did not attempt to visit "my" horse.

I waited, what seemed like forever, until it was safe to visit the Impound. What I found made my heart soar! The wonderful staff and volunteers at the barn had given "my" horse the barn name "Kaput" (I guess because he was almost kaput when he arrived there!). As luck would have it, Kaput, on top of all of his other problems had contracted the highly contagious Strangles bacterium and suffered a severe case but, in the end, had come through it with flying colors. Looking at him now, one would have trouble believing it was the same horse about which I had been so concerned for the past few months.

Kaput now stood before me, body score perfect, revealing his lovely conformation. In full winter coat, he was beginning to shed but his hair still shone in the sun. He walked up to me and let me rub him all over. His very gentle nature, the reason he was a favorite with the Impound staff, was evident.

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It was then that the “other shoe dropped”. I learned that the Inspectors had evaluated his saddle experience and found him to be quite advanced BUT they also discovered lameness in his left front foot. The veterinarian had injected the joint and he seemed to be going sound. What could the problem be? Of course all of this would be disclosed before the bidding began but would that mean that he might not find a good home? There was a very good chance that the lameness was temporary and the result of a minor accident in the pasture. What kind of bidder would be understanding about that and be willing to take a chance on this wonderful horse? My heart was in my throat. Oh, how I did not need another horse!

Just then the bidding started and there was “my” Kaput in the ring! There was a bid of \$200. Who was bidding on “my” horse? I strained to see who it was. Was it that lovely lady with the blond ponytail standing beside a young boy? Yes it was! They seemed excited. I liked the look of them. It all went so fast! There were a few more bids but all too soon, the gavel fell and Kaput was sold to the pretty lady and the boy. Somehow I just knew it was going to be alright.

I couldn't wait to speak to them...to tell them what a big part of my heart their horse held. It soon became clear to me that he was already a part of their hearts as well. Her name is Stephanie Emory Doolittle and the young man is her son, Jackson Emory. Stephanie trains Thoroughbreds but they are a bit large and strong for Jackson so he had been saving his money to buy a horse of his own. He and his mother had visited the Impound days before the sale and had decided that Kaput was just the right size and disposition for a young rider. He was also beautiful. They attended the auction solely to bid on Kaput. So now the best part of the story begins. Kaput is in a comfortable paddock on their farm near Monticello. He wears a new red halter and has a lovely new name. Jackson will call him

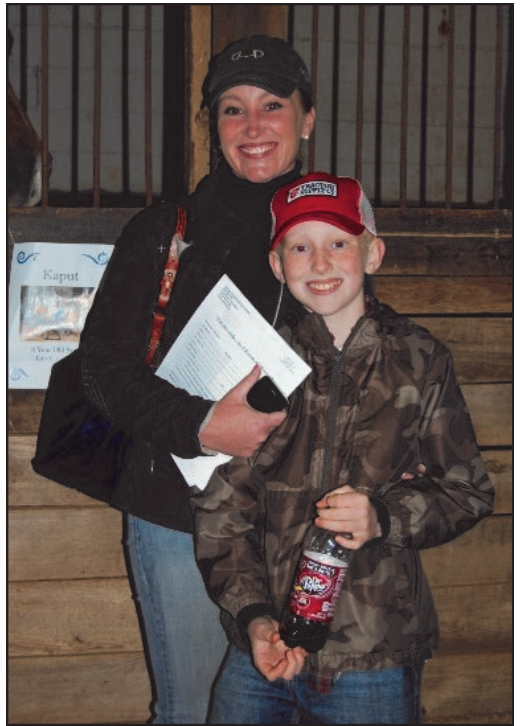


Tucker which is the surname of his late great grandparents. I like that.

As of this writing, Tucker has been ridden by Stephanie and earned rave reviews. It is certain that he is the right horse for young Jackson. Tucker will never know another day of hunger or the weakness that comes from

carrying a heavy parasite load. His feet will be regularly trimmed and he will have veterinary and dental care as needed.

He got to this place only because there were people who cared and because there are laws in Georgia to protect equine from owners who would let the condition of a horse decline to



the point of near starvation. He got there because the staff and volunteers at the GDA Impound gave him the kind of excellent, knowledgeable care they give to hundreds of starving horses that come through their program each year. I am proud to be a part of GERL, an organization that works very hard to support the GDA Equine Impound Program which insures that horses like Tucker get a second chance after they have suffered unconscionable neglect at the hands of uncaring owners. The GERL Feed a Horse Program has been responsible for the purchase of large amounts of feed and hay for the GDA Impounds. We sincerely thank those who regularly contribute to this very important program and I hope that the story of Tucker will make each of you smile. As for me, my heart is full of joy as I realize that Tucker is going to be okay and, as a bonus, I now have two new friends in Stephanie and Jackson. I will be permitted to follow the story of Jackson and Tucker and see just exactly where it leads. That feels good to me.

My joy at seeing what a wonderful job the Impound staff had done to rehabilitate Kaput, was soon tempered by the realization that since he was now totally rehabilitated, he would be scheduled for sale in the upcoming GDA auction, just weeks away. Who would buy him? Would they give him the care he deserved? Would they be kind to him? Would it be necessary for ME to add him to my small herd of four which was about all a 68 year old woman could manage? Must I now start to worry about him all over again!?

Auction day arrived and it was raining cats and dogs. I arrived early with my GERL friends who were to help with the auction. There was a surprisingly good crowd and the driveway was lined with horse trailers. Kaput was housed in a stall with a very pretty Paint as he waited to go into the auction ring. OMG! He was to be FIRST in the sale line-up!

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*\*Call or email for deadlines.*

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To report a case of equine abuse,  
call the Georgia Department  
of Agriculture's Equine Division  
Monday - Friday / 8:30 am - 4:30 pm  
(404) 656-3713 or (800) 282-5852

If you would like GERL to assist with an  
Equine Abuse case call (770) 464-0138

Interested in becoming an Area Coordinator?

Contact Jack or Dottie Carter  
(706) 896-4997 / (706) 835-5677  
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**Thank You To Our Foster Homes**

**Greg and Tiffany Bergdorf**

for fostering Lucky

**Anne Ensminger**

for fostering Honor

**Patty Livingston**

for fostering Red Man

**Jacki Moore**

**& Leslie Lambert**

for fostering Vandy

**Dr. Pattie Barnes D.V.M.**  
for fostering Curious George

**Donna Williams**

**and Helen Abercrombe**

for fostering Ladybug

**Leslie Gassman**

for fostering Bo and Tie

**Kim Smith**

for fostering Hay baler

**Allison Altman**

for fostering

Maggie Mae & Mattie

**Alline Jones**

for fostering Jenna and Alf

**Barbara Arnold**

for fostering Breeze

**Steven Neal**

for fostering Bossy and Sable

**April & Stoney Goss**

for fostering Highway

**Patty & Nick Howard**

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**Lisa & Randy King**

for fostering Lil Lady

**Ken and Susan Archer**

for fostering

Barley and Cracker Jack

**Shelley MacMillan**

For fostering Captain Jack

**Debra Young**

for fostering Ginger.

**Marla Morris**

for fostering

MayDay and Popcorn

**Ruth & Tommy Wilson**

for fostering Bette and Bud

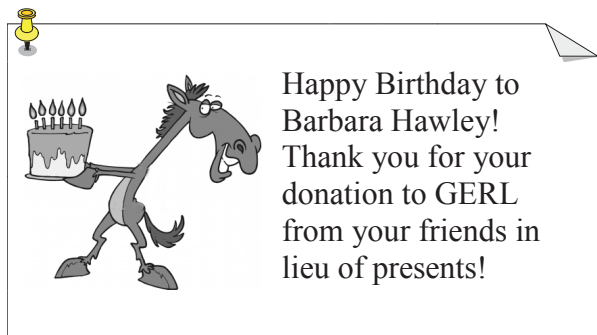
**Elaine Bishoff**

for fostering Smoke

**Linda Fears**

for fostering Roma

**With Your Help... We Will Make A Difference!**



Happy Birthday to  
Barbara Hawley!  
Thank you for your  
donation to GERL  
from your friends in  
lieu of presents!



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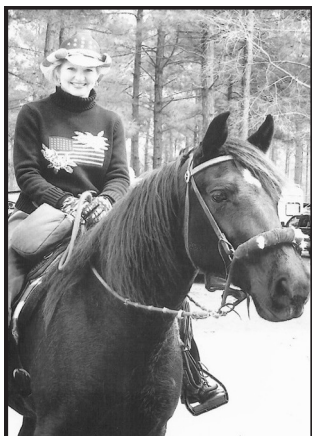
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**With *Your* Help...We *Will* Make A Difference!**

## LET ME SAY THIS ... ABOUT THAT

*By Patty Livingston, President*



I am well into my third year as president of GERL and recently realized that it's taken two years to get in the groove, knowing that this is supposed to be a three year term. So much has been accomplished and we have grown in every area. I also realized that I am

more passionate than ever about my role as president and have a huge desire to improve Georgia's horse problems. When my feet hit the floor every morning my brain starts turning, always thinking of ways to improve things or fix problems. There is no doubt in my mind that this is a task that I am supposed to do. In fact, I often say that everything that I have ever done in my life has prepared me for this job.

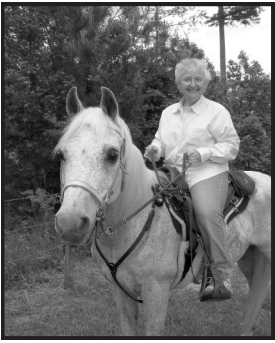
Reducing the number of horses that are born in Georgia is definitely one of the solutions and I recently had an idea to create an annual castration day all across Georgia. It will be called "Stallion to Gelding Day" and will take place sometime in November. The plan is to send out an invitation to equine veterinarians asking if they would like to host a low cost castration clinic in their area on that designated day. The UGA School of Veterinary Medicine and the Georgia Department of Agriculture (GDA) would also be partners in this endeavor. The pre-vet students would participate under the supervision of the licensed vets in some cases. Of course, my idea is just coming off of the planning board, however, I have some specific thoughts and ideas on getting this implemented in 2011.

Making the GDA impounded horses more marketable is another new idea I've been toying with. I just returned from the GDA horse auction at the Mans-

field impound. The State had about twenty horses in the auction and a good many were good riding horses. Of course, there were several that were not broke to ride or too young to ride and it was very clear that those horses were not desirable when they were returned to their stalls as a "no sale". Thus, my idea of creating a new program called "Train the Trainer" where we ask local horse trainers to donate an afternoon at the prison impound to train the prisoner's who work with the horses. Most of the participants in the prison equine program come with no horse experience, but if they had a trainer come to the prison and teach them how to work with the horses to make them more marketable, I feel sure that the results would be evident at auction time. This would also give the women prisoners a level of confidence that would help improve their chances of never coming back once they are released. For the non-prison impounds, we could solicit for horse trainers to come out to those impounds and work with the horses on a voluntary basis. I even have some specific ideas on creating a fund that would pay them for their out-of-pocket expenses such as fuel, just to make the idea more palatable.

Without the support of the GERL Board members and other volunteers who donate their time to GERL, none of this would be possible. I know that Miss Anne and Diana are already wearing multiple hats, and the extremely busy schedule that GERL keeps has all of our tongues hanging out at times! The truth of the matter is that we are bumping up the pace every year with new programs and new events.

So, let me say this about that...we are in desperate need to find some volunteers who are willing to take the lead on orchestrating some of our events and projects. I hope that if you are currently in a position and want to get more involved in a very worthwhile cause, that you will contact me and let me know your thoughts and time constraints. Thank You!



## A Note from the Secretary's Desk

By Anne Ensminger

Just about the time that the Georgia Legislature passed the Humane Care for Equines Act in 1992, the Equine Division of the Georgia Department of Agriculture came into being and there began a long overdue flurry of activity on behalf of mistreated horses in our state. Equine Inspectors were hired, enthusiastic horse loving volunteers stepped forward to help, and two Equine Impound facilities were acquired. Horses suffering from many forms of abuse and/or neglect were seized by GDA State Inspectors and taken to these Impounds where they received desperately needed care until they were fully rehabilitated, at which time they were sold into much better situations than those from which they came. Nice story, isn't it? Oh, if that were only the last chapter.....

Because it was soon realized that the cost of operating this new program far outdistanced available state resources, Georgia Equine Rescue League was formed and began to hold fundraisers largely for the benefit of the GDA Equine Program. Oh, if that were only the last chapter.....

Over the years, there have been disagreements within the GDA Equine Division and between GDA and GERL, people have been hired and fired, volunteers as well as GDA personnel have become disillusioned and moved on, and still the basic program has survived. GERL remains the GDA Equine Division's single largest outside supporter. Over the years, the number of horses needing help has soared. Oh, if only the last chapter had come before this point in the story.....

Now, after over 40 years with Tommy Irvin as Agriculture Commissioner, Georgia has a new Commissioner of Agriculture in the person of newly elected, Gary Black. What will that mean for horses in Georgia? At this point we do not know but GERL is very hopeful that Mr. Black will enthusiastically embrace GDA's long running, very important, Equine Impound Program. We hope that he will use his power to support not only the continuation, but the improvement of this very beneficial last hope for many horses. We hope that he will join with us in realizing the importance of prosecution and the levy of heavy fines for equine abusers. Not only would this serve as well deserved punishment for those who commit this CRIME, but we hope that a way can be found for fines collected to go directly toward defraying the cost of oper-

ating the entire Equine Program. End of story?....oh, wouldn't that be wonderful!

While the GDA Equine Division suffers severe budget problems and our new Agriculture Commissioner is experiencing the on-the-job training which he must undergo, we at GERL are very aware that hope is not a strategy. We join with other active rescue organizations in our state to do all in our limited power to help as many horses in need as possible. However, a very real concern lives deep in our hearts that Mr. Black will need more help than seems to be available to him involving our state's justice system.

Recent Example: I will try to make this short.....In late September 2010, close to forty equine suffering varying stages of starvation, were seized from the property of James T. Goss near Clarksville. He was appropriately charged with "failure to provide humane care" for these animals. Some of them had to be euthanized because they were beyond help. Others were placed in foster homes in the area and have benefited from over 6 months of rehabilitation, often at the expense of the foster caregivers. To view a pre settlement account of this case and pictures of some of the horses involved, go to <http://www.pet-abuse.com/cases/17213/GA/US/>

Results from this case have recently been revealed. Astonishingly, Mr. Goss was allowed to plead "nolo contendere" to the only ONE COUNT of abuse brought against him. He received a fine of \$275 (who gets THAT?) and a one year period of non-reporting probation (this requires very little effort on the part of Mr. Goss!). He will be required to attend "horse care classes" (Where in the world are those classes offered?!) His horses will be RETURNED TO HIM (!) and GDA will be required to inspect his property and check on the horses every 30 days for one year. It seems to me that the GDA Inspectors are suffering the most severe penalty in this case in the form of extra work, which they do NOT need. All of this, not to mention concerns for the morale of Animal Control personnel who worked so hard finding people to care for the horses and building a case against the offender. There were evidentiary photographs as well as statements and laboratory reports from veterinarians which were not admitted into evidence, and eye witnesses who were never called to testify!

I end this writing by saying that I speak only for myself as I simply express my opinion that THIS IS JUST NOT RIGHT! Where is the justice for the Animal Control officers involved, attending veterinarians, foster caregivers, those who contributed money, feed, or hay, and ESPECIALLY, where is the justice for the horses?

## Betty Evenson Then and Now

We wonder how many of our present members realize that Georgia Equine Rescue League was the 1993 “brainchild” of one woman who holds a truly genuine and deep concern for horses in her heart. The story is well known to those of us who have been around since GERL’s inception. Betty Evenson, along with a few friends who shared her desire to do something about the widespread cruelty and neglect suffered by too many Georgia horses, formed an organization which was designed to do everything that diligence and hard work could do to change the plight of many of those horses.

Betty served as President of GERL for the first eleven years. That fact alone represents duty “above and beyond the call of duty”. She established an all important working relationship with the Equine Division of the Georgia Department of Agriculture and was instrumental in obtaining our coveted 501c3 status. An excellent organizer, Betty established three large annual fund raisers which are still held each year. Our very important and successful Foster Program is a product of her vision and hard work. We hope Betty feels great pride in the realization that under her leadership, thousands of horses have been directly or indirectly helped over the years.

When she realized that her family, her profession, and her right to enjoy her own horses needed to become a priority, Betty made the difficult decision to step down. Brian Dees took over for the next few years and, much to Betty’s delight, GERL continued to thrive. When it was time for Brian to move on, now President, Patty Livingston agreed to carry the GERL banner. At that point, Betty once again became very involved with the work of GERL in the form of Newsletter Editor. She has done an excellent job for over two years and given uncountable hours in that capacity to satisfy her continuing desire to help horses. It is once again time for Betty to find some time for herself so she has decided to pass her newsletter duties off for now. Thankfully, Steve DeMoss has the experience and a willingness to try to fill Betty’s shoes.

Take a well deserved rest, Betty, but never forget that Georgia Equine Rescue League is deeply grateful for your past service. You coined our motto, “With Your Help....We Will Make a Difference” and you have.

An anonymous donation has been received in honor of Dr. Billy Myers of Countryside Hospital for Animals, Jersey, GA. His quiet and comforting manner has blessed many who have been forced to face the loss of a special pet or horse.



Happy Birthday, Delores Higgins! Your 2011 GERL membership has been paid for you by Richard & Paula LeCates!

Special thanks to Taylor Brock, Paulding Co. 4-H Horse & Pony Club! Taylor’s 4-H project was about GERL and she regularly sets up displays and change jars around her community to educate the public about abused and neglected horses!  
Taylor, you are the best!!  
GERL

Thank you, Nancy Fitzgibbons for your generosity to GERL! Your consistent donations are so appreciated!

In memory of a special horse owned by Rita Uhlenbrock, Midnite, by Julia Williams.

# 16th Annual POKER RIDE

## GERL Poker Ride a Huge Success!

*By Patty Livingston*

Since the past several GERL Poker Rides have been wet and muddy with very few people showing up with horses, it was almost too good to believe that this year we were going to be favored with a nice sunny, beautiful weekend. People actually started arriving at Dawson Forest on Thursday and setting up camp. When I arrived on Friday and ran into a small traffic jam out on the road I was pretty happy. When I turned the corner into the parking lot and saw at least 15 rigs already there, a big smile was definitely on my face. The poker ride gremlins weren't around!

I had brought two of our rescue horses with me and I tied them out in front so that they could be seen by all and immediately started setting up my camp. It was wonderful to see some faces from the old days when we used to cover the entire parking lot with trucks, trailers and horses. I decided to saddle up and go for a short ride before dark and visit with some of the other campers.

The next morning turned out to be beautiful and it brought out more poker ride participants. I watched happily as vehicles pulling horse trailers continued to pull in and register. The concrete pad where the food tent, t-shirt sales and registration were all set up was a mass of activity. Riders started leaving camp to ride the poker ride course. I was one of the last riders to leave and quickly found a group to go out with when I realized that my horse wasn't going anywhere without other horses.

We took turns remarking about the great weather we had been blessed with and how long it had been since we had been able to ride on a GERL Poker Ride. Everybody was wearing a smile when we finally arrived back in camp to enjoy a delicious lunch and check out our poker hands.





The first place winner with four of a kind was Carol Sauers, who won the \$100 prize. The second place winner with a flush (cards of the same suit) was Laura Homans. We also recognized 9 year old Peyton Place with a prize for the youngest rider on the oldest horse, a 29 year old Arabian named Cowboy. Door prizes were awarded to many of the participants who were invited to go to a table and pick out their choice of prizes that had been donated. If you enjoyed the poker ride, please remember to thank the volunteers. They are the life blood of every successful organization and without them nothing would happen. We ended



up making approximately \$3,000.00 on the poker ride registrations and merchandise sales! It WAS a great day!!



# The Store



Otto 6 panel, low profile caps. \$15.00  
A MUST HAVE!!



Ladies Polo's  
S-XL \$20.00  
XXL \$24.00  
White,  
Light Blue,  
Yellow Haze,  
Heather Grey



Dark Olive, Pumpkin, Light Pink  
Dark Brown (not shown)



Men's Polo Shirts  
S-XL \$20.00  
XXL \$24.00  
Light Blue,  
Yellow Haze,  
Heather Grey



Adult T-Shirts  
100% pre-shrunk cotton.  
S-XL \$12.00 XXL \$14.00  
Violet, Lime, Brown, Royal  
Caribe, Charity Pink, Oatmeal



Adult T-Shirts - 100% pre-shrunk  
cotton. S-XL \$12.00 XXL \$14.00  
Blue Spruce, Oatmeal and Cactus



Ladies contoured fit, cap  
sleeve, ribbed T. 90%  
cotton, 10% poly. S-XL.  
\$14.00. Deep Heather,  
Raspberry, Black, Teal



Adult Vest Black  
13.5oz., 100% spun poly.  
Lycra trimmed armholes  
and hem.  
Front pockets. XS-XL  
All sizes \$27.00



Adult L.S. T's 100% pre-shrunk cotton.  
S-XL \$15.00 XXL \$18.00  
Black, Cobblestone, Chocolate,  
Cardinal Red



Ladies Denim L.S. Shirt,  
6.5oz., 100% cotton.  
S-XL \$25.00  
XXL \$27.00  
Stone Wash Blue



Men's Denim L.S. Shirt,  
with front pocket,  
6.5oz., 100% cotton.  
M-XL \$25.00  
XXL \$27.00  
Stone Wash Blue



Ladies contoured feminine  
body. Super soft 1 by 1 baby  
ribbed knit, 5.8oz. 100%  
combed ringspun cotton.  
Chocolate, Navy, Pink and  
Light Blue.  
S-XL \$16.00 XXL \$18.00



Youth T's. 100% preshrunk cotton.  
Grey is 90/10. S-XL \$10.00  
Royal Blue, Black, Heather Grey,  
Azalea



Ladies Bella tank top—  
fashion fit. 100%  
cotton. S-XL \$12.00  
Black, Frost Pink



Ladies tank top, Comfort  
Colors, 100% pre-shrunk  
cotton. S-XL \$14.00  
Celedon, Seafoam, Flo Blue,  
Raspberry

Call Diana DeMoss 770-267-0867 to order! You can also order from our website @ [www.gerlltd.org](http://www.gerlltd.org)

## Kel-Mac Saddle Club

By Anne Ensminger

On March 15, GERL President, Patty Livingston, was invited to speak to those attending the monthly meeting of Kel-Mac Saddle Club in Athens, GA. I tagged along for the ride, happy for the opportunity to greet old friends and meet new ones. We were both warmly welcomed by all and treated to a delicious meal.

This club is very family oriented. They produce several horse shows and trail rides each year for the enjoyment of their member families and other horse owners. At years end, the profits from these events are given to various organizations involved with equine rescue, equine related programs for children or the handicapped, as well as state parks that support trail riding and camping. GERL has been the recipient of their generosity multiple times.

Patty was thrilled to have an opportunity to speak to such a group of horse enthusiasts concerning the

current sad state of affairs involving many horses, not only in Georgia, but across the nation.

There was a relatively small turn out for this meeting. In her always positive way, Patty used the size of the group as an opportunity for informal group discussion as she presented information and listened to what they had to say. Subjects ranged from the state of the economy which is negatively affecting horses, closing of the slaughter houses, GERL's Castration Program which discourages indiscriminate over breeding, to Patty's passion for encouraging prosecution and the levy of heavy fines for equine abusers. The end result was a feeling of unity as all went away with a renewed determination to do their part to insure improvement in the plight of Georgia's starved, abused, and unwanted horses.

Thank you Kel-Mac Saddle Club ([www.kel-mac.org](http://www.kel-mac.org)) for your ongoing support of the work of GERL and for the way that your organization continues to recognize the value of shared interests and activities involving horses, for families.



## Incoming Mail...

Ondrea Culp writes:

Dear GERL:

Wanted to drop a little line along with my renewal. I have been a VERY inactive member for a few years now. I've always wanted to get more involved, but just could not find the right fit. I found that fit last December '10—January 11 with the help of Susan Wrensen and Patty Livingston. I have been traveling 100 miles (round trip) to the Georgia Dept. of Agriculture, Decatur Equine impound at least once a week to volunteer.

Thank you so much for helping me contact the wonderful man who runs the impound, Mat Thompson. I LOVE, LOVE, LOVE volunteering at the impound! I found my "niche". Mat, John and the volunteers I've met are truly wonderful!

Thanks again!

## Castration Clinic

*Countryside Hospital for Animals*

*By Anne Ensminger*

It was April 16, the morning after another night of severe Georgia spring thunder storms, when a group of truly dedicated people gathered for a very unusual



event. The sky was overcast, the temperature was cool, and the wind blew relentlessly. In spite of the weather, a group of excited students from the UGA College of Veterinary Medicine, one of their instructors, Dr. Richard Fayer-

Hosken, and the entire staff from Countryside Hospital for Animals near Jersey GA, gathered to join with GERL to put on an equine castration clinic.

GERL has been organizing these clinics all over Georgia for the past year. It is our feeling that this is an important avenue for us to pursue in our quest to find ways to reduce indiscriminate and irresponsible breeding of equine in our state. The way it works is that GERL negotiates a special price for each castration

with local veterinarians. It is then agreed that GERL will pay half of the cost for each procedure and the stallion owner will



be responsible for the balance. The result is a price that is hard to resist for owners of stallions which are not meant to be breeding animals.

This particular clinic was, by far our largest undertaking of this type to date. The doctors and staff at Countryside put forth an extreme effort to insure the meticulous organization and planning required to

make such an event run smoothly. There were drugs and supplies to procure, advertisement, appointments to make, paperwork before, during, and after the clinic, and arrangements



for UGA vet students to participate. It did not go unnoticed that the entire Countryside staff was present on a Saturday and cheerfully working overtime. There were 13 equine safely and successfully castrated during the clinic. All surgeries were performed by junior and senior veterinary students under the supervision of Dr. Fayer-Hosken and the expert and experienced doctors from Countryside. The question of the day for the students was "What is the most dangerous part of this procedure?" Answer: Anesthesia. Thankfully, any danger from anesthesia was avoided. At one point during the day, there were five horses undergoing various stages of the procedure, with five teams of budding surgeons, instructors, and helpers working all at the same time! GERL would like to express tremendous gratitude to Dr. Billy Myers and the entire Countryside staff of veterinarians, clinic personnel, and volunteers for their continuing support of our organization and for their hard work to insure the outstanding success of this event.



## “The Rescuer Mentality”

By Ruth C. Wilson, Adoption Coordinator

I have often wondered what makes some people callused and some sympathetic, some helpless and some driven to help. Some people, sadly, have become immune to the daily suffering around them. The “fixers” of the world see not only the problem, but see themselves as part of the solution. Sometimes a situation seems so overwhelming that most people shake their heads and walk away. Others try to help take care of their own little corner of the world, convinced that one bit of change for the good is better than no good at all.

My husband and I are both adopted, and we both have the “rescuer mentality.” We can’t turn our backs on innocent, neglected animals. Therefore, we have wound up with a pasture (and a house!) full of them. Tommy believes that this trait has been ingrained in us both from childhood. His theory is that we, each being adopted, perhaps feel subconsciously “rescued” ourselves, and we want to pay it forward, so to speak. I don’t know if I buy into that wholeheartedly, but it is certainly something to consider.

Tommy was a paramedic and a volunteer fire chief for seventeen years, so he came to the rescue, literally, of people in crisis situations. Me, I just dragged home any animal that looked like it needed me. (My kids apparently inherited this gene; I have several dogs and cats that “found” their way to us via my younger daughter.) I have been blessed to have the room in our home and in our hearts for many needy animals. Our most recent addition was a skinny, mangy, four-pound doll baby; we found her begging in front of a roadside café in rural Alabama. Didn’t matter that we were on our honeymoon; we picked her up and brought her home, where she fit right in to the menagerie! (We named her Honey Sue, for *honeymoon souvenir*.) It was never a question of us “needing” another dog, it was the fact that another dog needed us.

Anyone who has donated to the GERL or another rescue organization, who has adopted a shelter pet or taken in a stray, who has volunteered at the Impound barn or the local Humane Society, congratulations (and condolences)! You have the rescuer mentality. Thank heaven you are putting it to good use!

## High Horse Lodge On Lookout Mountain

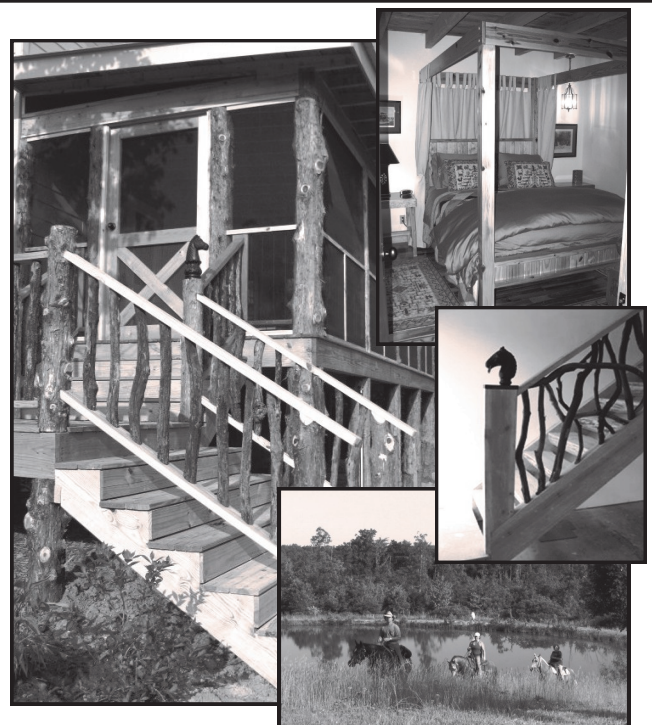
A destination for discriminating horse enthusiasts – and their horses.

Relish the twenty mile view from the screen porch, the handmade furnishings and local art work, and ride the 6 miles of on site trails or the 40 miles of public trails on Crockford/Pigeon Mountain. Your horse is welcome.

[www.highhorselodge.com](http://www.highhorselodge.com)

[info@highhorselodge.com](mailto:info@highhorselodge.com)

*10% of the rental fees of horse rescue members.*



# “Feed a Horse”

Starved and neglected horses impounded by the Georgia Department of Agriculture need your help! Donations will be applied directly towards feed and hay for impounded horses. Currently, the cost for rehabilitating a horse is approximately \$150 per month, per horse.

Make your TAX DEDUCTIBLE donation through the Georgia Equine Rescue League, Ltd. “Feed a Horse” program. We need your help so that these horses can live.

Get involved! Ask your friends, family, co-workers and others to help raise money to feed the horses!



**I would like to make a donation of:**

- \$150.00 per month for 4 months to rehabilitate one horse.
- \$600.00 one time donation to rehabilitate one horse.
- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per month to help rehabilitate the horses.
- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ any donation is gladly accepted!

**“Feed a Horse”  
Program**

[www.gerlltd.org](http://www.gerlltd.org)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

*Make check payable to:*  
GERL  
Mail to: P.O. Box 328  
Bethlehem, GA 30620

**THANK YOU!**

***Your donation is  
tax deductible!***

# GERL ADOPTABLES

For adoption fees and additional information please contact Ruth Wilson, Adoption Coordinator (706) 342-4097 / gerlruth@aol.com



**Barley and Crackerjack:** 40" black ponies, cute as buttons! A matched pair if there ever was one! Barley is 11, Crackerjack is 10. Not ridden. These boys are gentle and easy to handle. They clip, bathe, and stand nicely for farrier. The brothers will only be adopted AS A PAIR.



**Jenna**  
4 year old mare, Sorrel Mustang, 15 hh. Lunging well and ready to try a saddle.



**Red Man** 5 year old gelding, sorrel Mustang, 14.3 hh. This beautiful boy is being ridden and doing great! Loves attention, loves to be brushed. Will make a great trail horse for someone experienced.



**Hay Baler** 2 year old gelding, chestnut thoroughbred cross, 14 hh and growing. Hay Baler is a handsome boy who has had lots of ground work done in his foster home. Loads, leads, stands nicely for farrier.



**Smokey** 2 year old gelding, dark bay Thoroughbred cross, 13.3 hh and growing. Half brother to Hay Baler and Sable, this handsome boy will make someone a wonderful horse! He is sweet but a bit shy and needs someone patient to love him.



**"Bo"** – 21 year old sorrel Q.H. gelding. New to adoption program. More information forthcoming. Visit our website for updates: [www.gerlltd.org](http://www.gerlltd.org)

# GERL ADOPTABLES

For adoption fees and additional information please contact Ruth Wilson, Adoption Coordinator (706) 342-4097 / gerlruth@aol.com



**Lil' Lady** 14 year old mare, chestnut Arabian, 14.1 hh, very refined. This pretty girl is sweet and quiet, has been trail ridden, needs some refreshing on her riding skills. Suitable for an experienced rider ready to take her to the next level.



**Belladama** 26 year old bay Q.H. mare. Sweet and calm. Will be a wonderful companion horse!



**Lizzy**— 7 year old sorrel Quarter Horse mare, 13.2 hands. Currently at the trainer.



**"Tie"** – 18 year old dun Q.H. gelding. New to adoption program. More information forthcoming. Visit our website for updates: [www.gerlltd.org](http://www.gerlltd.org)



**Highway** 5 year old gelding, stocky sorrel QH type, 15 hh. Loads, clips, wonderful ground manners. Has extensive ground training. Terrific trail horse potential! Blind in one eye but is not affected by it.



**Sable** 2 year old gelding, bay Thoroughbred cross, 14 hh with lots of growing to do. Sable is a very sweet boy ready for some formal training. Thoroughbred heritage!

# 2<sup>ND</sup> C R RANCH

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## VOLUNTEER & BOOTH COORDINATOR NEEDED

GERL gets many calls from groups and organizations asking us to be present at a show, function, retail store and others. We need help!

This person will receive the calls from these groups, gather all the information for their event, place the event on our calendar and coordinate volunteers to work the event. This may include coordinating volunteers to man a small GERL booth to coordinating volunteers for every aspect of a large fundraising event. Coordinator must have access to a computer and have an email account.

Please contact Diana DeMoss for more information:  
(770) 267-0867  
or  
[diana@gerlltd.org](mailto:diana@gerlltd.org)

## Please Help! GERL receives money for the following ...

Please save Proof Of Purchase seals from bags of these Southern States feeds ...  
Legends, Triple Crown & Reliance

*and send them to:*

Ginny Scarritt  
4835 Kendall Court  
Atlanta, GA 30342



## *DeMoss Computer Services*

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Good Hope, Ga. 30641

Phone: 678-427-5771

[steve@demosses.com](mailto:steve@demosses.com)

**With Your Help...We Will Make A Difference!**

# Georgia Equine Rescue League, Ltd.

## Who Are We?

Georgia Equine Rescue League, Ltd., aka GERL, was founded in 1993 out of a deep concern for the growing number of starved, abused and neglected equine in our state.

While the Georgia Dept. of Agriculture, Equine Division is charged with enforcement of laws which protect equine in Georgia, there are no state funds allocated for the care of animals which are seized and impounded by GDA Inspectors due to neglect. That program is forced to rely heavily on public donations. To date, GERL has provided over \$360,000 to support the GDA Equine Division.

In addition, GERL has developed programs to help horses in other ways. We are now working with local law enforcement and animal control agencies to insure more widespread enforcement of equine protection laws. This effort involves the training of officers regarding proper horse handling and providing temporary equine holding facilities where needed. Other GERL programs are described in this brochure.

GERL is proud of our many success stories but we are aware that none of them would have been possible without the ongoing support of our members and others who share our love and concern for horses. The continuing success of GERL depends on annual membership dues, various donations from individuals and other organizations, as well as the time and energy of our many volunteers. We are a non-profit organization with 501 (c)(3) status. All donations are tax deductible.

We invite you to join GERL and/or to donate online via Paypal at [www.gerlltd.org](http://www.gerlltd.org). We accept checks via mail at our Bethlehem address. Please help us spread the word about GERL!

*With your help, we will make a difference!*



### AREA COORDINATORS NEEDED



ACs are GERL members who agree to be a contact person or representative for GERL in their area of the state. They may follow up on abuse calls, inspect prospective foster and adoptive homes, participate in educational activities concerning proper equine care, or generally represent GERL in a number of other ways. AC training is provided and ongoing.



### EDUCATION PROGRAM



GERL never misses a chance to educate the public concerning the proper care of equine, the growing horse problem in our state and the nation, as well as to spread the word about the work of our organization. Our Board of Directors and Area Coordinators often speak at schools, 4-H meetings, horse clubs and fairs, or to any group that invites us.



### FUNDRAISING



Fund raising is an ongoing GERL effort. We hold three to four major fundraisers each year and regularly take advantage of other opportunities. Two of our fundraisers include silent and live auctions. We are constantly seeking donated auction items and volunteers to help with these events.



### FOSTER PROGRAM



GERL members agree to foster rescued horses until they are completely rehabilitated and a new home is found. Needed care is provided by foster homes and all expenses are paid by GERL or, since GERL is a 501(c)(3) organization, foster homes may donate all expenses and receive a tax deduction. Some of these horses need extensive care and others need only minimal care.



### ADOPTION PROGRAM



GERL members agree to foster rescued horses until they are completely rehabilitated and a new home is found. Needed care is provided by foster homes and all expenses are paid by GERL or, since GERL is a 501(c)(3) organization, foster homes may donate all expenses and receive a tax deduction. Some of these horses need extensive care and others need only minimal care.



### VACCINATION PROGRAM



In an effort to protect Georgia horses from disease, GERL encourages regular vaccinations. We hold periodic Vaccination Clinics all over the state where we pay part of the cost of this care. The clinics are open to all horse owners. In addition, we pay the full cost of vaccinations for all horses in GERL Foster Care and horses impounded by the Georgia Department of Agriculture.



### GERL MERCHANDISE



We sell quality GERL logo merchandise! All proceeds go to GERL programs. Visit our website for a complete line of products: [www.gerlltd.org](http://www.gerlltd.org).



### CASTRATION PROGRAM



GERL strongly discourages the practice of "back yard" breeding of horses without regard to the future of resulting offspring. There are already many more horses than there are responsible owners to care for and enjoy them. We regularly join with local vets or the UGA Vet School to sponsor Castration Clinics where stallion owners bring their stallions for castration at a greatly reduced cost. Dates, locations, and other information concerning the clinics are announced on our web site, [www.gerlltd.org](http://www.gerlltd.org).

## GERL Attends Morgan County Equifest

By Cynthia Brayton

The annual Equifest was held in Madison, Georgia on a beautiful April 30th and GERL was there. This is a free horse festival designed to showcase the amazing variety of horses and their owners. This year's EquiFest featured different riding disciplines, demonstrations and an all breed exhibition. The love of horses was the common bond among everyone there.

Lizzy, a beautiful sorrel mare, who is being fostered by Jacquelin and Phil Twiss, made her debut at Equifest. Jacquelin led Lizzy into the arena and she was an immediate hit with everyone in the audience. This beautiful mare made quite an impression with everyone who saw her throughout the day.



Jacqueline said that she and Phil were at a GERL meeting and remembered Adoption Coordinator, Ruth Sarrett Wilson, commenting that GERL needed a trainer for a foster horse. Jacquelin immediately responded to Ruth and said, "I'll do it." She

explained that Phil and she take OTTBs and retrain them. At that time, Lizzy was being fostered by Susan McCullar, who rehabbed the skinny little horse that had been rescued by GERL. The Twiss' took Lizzy home a few weeks later. Jacquelin said that when they got her, Lizzy had three responses -- Kick, Bite, Run. Lizzy can now be ridden and she can also jump.

In the compassionate care of Phil and Jacquelin, Lizzy has rehabilitated and thrives in her loving home. She is a testament to what rescue horses can become. Phil and Jacquelin have given her so much love and care - she has a special bond with both of them.

Three of GERL's recent success stories were also at EquiFest this year. Two foster ponies, Bette and Bud, were rescued in January from a garage where they were surrounded by engine parts and fed livestock feed every couple of days. They went into foster care with Natalie Thorn from Hampton who gave them a second chance. The ponies are healthy and their once very sore feet are now healed. Currently they are with Ruth Sarrett Wilson and her husband, Tommy, at Silver Creek Ranch. They are receiving train-



ing and continued great care.

Bette and Bud were very shy around people but Tommy, the "horse whisperer" started walking Bud outside the stalls and let him eat grass. Inside the barn, children were gathered around Bette. A young man in a wheel chair reached out to her and she lifted her nose toward him -- a real connection was made in that moment. Throughout the day Ruth and Tommy led Bette and Bud around all over the Morgan County Ag Center grounds. Children and their parents stopped to pet and admire the ponies. After Bette and Bud's experience at EquiFest they are shy ponies no more.



Very special thanks to our GERL volunteers: Jacquelin Twiss, Bob Long, Elaine Bishoff, Melissa Spatz-Schwartz, Linda Kundell and Danny and Debbie Britt.

"Let a horse whisper in your ear and breathe on your heart. You will never regret it." *Author Unknown*

## Union County 4-H Vaccination Clinic



March 5th was a cold, rainy and very windy day but the Union County 4-H Vaccination Clinic was a great success. Donna Williams and I manned an awareness table for the event that lasted from 10:00 in the morning well into the afternoon. Union County's new covered arena was the perfect venue allowing the horses to be processed in a orderly fashion by local veterinarians and several UGA vet students. Horse owners were provided with vaccinations, coggins testing, feet floating and a scale was provided for those horses brave enough to step up on it. Horse owners from Union, Towns and Fannin counties took part in the clinic.



**We're excited  
to announce  
the GERL  
ONLINE AUCTION!**

**www.gerlltd.org**

Visit our website and join  
our email list to get  
notification of our next  
auction dates and times!

**In Memory of:**

Sincere condolences to Marshia Milam-Medford and Sheila Smith (Covington, GA) for the loss of their last precious canine pet, "Pup-O". Thank you, Marsh, for a generous donation for the horses in Pup-O's memory. He would like that.

---

We are saddened to learn of the death of Steven Neal's constant companion, his beautiful Collie, Charlie. To have the joy brought by our pets, is well worth the grief that we must endure when they are lost. Charlie will be missed by many.

---

GERL would like to express sincere condolences to Camden County GERL member, Miriam Luedke, for the loss of her mare, Honey. Spring, 2011 has marked the loss of many dear horses and pets. We celebrate the memory of each life as we cherish the joy they brought.

---

GERL was sad to learn that Jack and Dottie Carter recently lost their wonderful old Appaloosa mare, Dixie. She had been a member of the Frog Leap Farm family for many years and leaves a big hole in the hearts of those who remember what a fine lady she was.



Condolences To  
Thomas Threatt On his  
recent loss of Jett

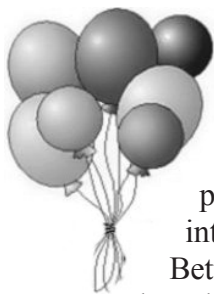
**GERL Membership Stickers**

In an effort to cut GERL operating costs, we will no longer automatically send GERL stickers with membership renewals. New members will receive them as usual. At a cost of nearly fifty cents each, and with the certain knowledge that many of them end up in a drawer or thrown away, we will only provide them to established members by request.



We want all members to proudly display GERL Stickers on their vehicles and other places, so if new stickers are needed, please email [missanne612@bellsouth.net](mailto:missanne612@bellsouth.net) or send a request to 3662 Dally Rd. S.E. and let Miss Anne know how many you need. They will be mailed immediately and free of charge.

**With *Your* Help...We *Will* Make A Difference!**



## Best Wishes from Barlyn Farm

We celebrated Barbara Hawley's 50<sup>th</sup> birthday. Fun and food was had by all. Thanks to Peggy, Whit, sister Ann and brother-in law John Creamer from Ohio, helped with the party. Visiting with new and old friends, and making Somores around the fire helped her turn into an old grey mare. Barb requested donations to GERL; we collected \$120.00. Thank you Betty Hull, Jean Cole, Betty & Frank Jakes for your kind donations. Heidi Young donated a brand new black halter and lead rope to help our four legged friends. A handful of used halters were also donated. "Thanks Rick Segars from old goat to another for the bottle of Goat Cream (great for the sore joints). Thank you for all the well wishes and a great birthday – Ride On!" Sincerely, Barb

## NEW EQUINE FACILITY IN COOK COUNTY

Animal Control Agencies in Adel, GA, (Cook Co.) and Lakeland, GA, (Lanier Co.), with financing provided by the Georgia Equine Rescue League (GERL), have constructed a temporary Equine Impound Facility on the Adel Animal Control property located off of I75 in Adel. The facility will provide temporary housing for approximately four horses at a time and will be shared not only by Cook and Lanier Counties,



but will be available for emergency use to surrounding counties.



Officers John Westberry and Don Gandy, being aware of the need for such a facility, took advantage of funds offered by GERL to build the much needed impound. The hope is that this will serve as an example to other counties in South Georgia.

*By Judy Ricketson*



Thank you, Henry Co. 4-H Club! They won a contest sponsored by The Stock Market and voted to give GERL 1/2 of their winnings! Thanks for your dedication to the horses!

### In loving memory of Nancy Ferebee

Dennis Allen  
Lee Carlisle  
Bill Bohon  
Suzanne Bollman  
Ga. Dressage & Combined Training Assoc.  
Rodger & Deborah Wrege  
Reiner & Anne Pagel  
Leeanna Dick  
Ellen Dennis & Family  
Jeanette Nelson

## Thank You For Renewing Your GERL Membership

Allison Altman  
 Steve & Debbie Arsua  
 Judy Berringer  
 Virginia B. Bilbo  
 Diane Bond  
 Judy Bradberry  
 Cynthia Brayton  
 Kathy & Lamar Chandler  
 Judith Clark  
 Margaret & Jeffrey Clower & Family  
 Tomas & Ginger Concepcion  
 Patti Cornelius  
 Ondrea Culp  
 Elizabeth Dees  
 Deborah Dickinson  
 Peter & Louise DiTomaso  
 Libby Driskell  
 Kit Duncan  
 Suzanne Economopoulos  
 Gloria English  
 Allen Ensminger  
 Nancy Fitzgibbons  
 Verleen Flaig  
 Kay Fletcher  
 Katie Ford

Sandra Freeman  
 Betsy Gilman  
 April Goss  
 Lee Hager  
 Gillian Hayward  
 Ronja Henderson/Dick Habbinga  
 Dorinda Hennings & Family  
 Delores Higgins  
 John & Sarah Hill  
 Jane Hillegas  
 Tim Hoon  
 Catherine & Bobby James  
 Jim Januzelli  
 Allyne Johnson  
 Jennifer Johnson  
 Larry & Ellen Kinnon  
 Sammy & Marie LeVert  
 Kelly Lockerman & Rick Gerhold  
 Bob Long  
 Mary Loudermilk  
 Shelley MacMillan  
 Greg & Cindy Masey & Family  
 Elizabeth & Brian Mitchell  
 Nancy & Dick Mittendorf  
 Marla Morris

Steven B. Neal  
 Beulah Newton  
 Eddy O'Hern  
 Carole Paige  
 Krista Pezold  
 Donna Pieper & Keith Fleming  
 Debbie Powell  
 Cheryl Pritchard & Family  
 Susan & Paul Reid  
 Virginia Scarritt  
 Martha Shepherd  
 Robyn Smith  
 Nicki Thigpen  
 Thomas Threatt  
 Marya Tietz  
 Tamma Trump  
 W.R. & Jean Vandeventer  
 Althea Walker  
 Valerie Warburton  
 Larry Webb & Family  
 Ashley Whitener  
 Tommy & Ruth Wilson  
 Martha A. Woodham  
 George & Charlotte Zubowicz

***With Your Help...We Will Make A Difference!***

### Mansfield Impound

Patty and GERL volunteers:

Thank you guys so much for all of your help on Saturday. You guys never fail to come through for us when we need you. These sales could not go as well and smoothly as they do without everyone's help. From the folks that help handle horses to the concessions and t-shirt booth, to Mickey and Jack (our auctioneers extraordinaire!), everyone is so helpful.

Please pass the word of appreciation along to all. You guys are amazing!

Courtney Farnon  
 Equine Inspector  
 Georgia Dept. of Agriculture



## The DONKEY: Stubborn or Steadfast?

By Deb Kovac

The most commonly asked question about donkeys & mules is of course, "Aren't they stubborn?" To answer this, let's take a look at the donkey. Since the mule is half donkey, the donkey will give you some insight into mules as well.

What would you think about a foal that doesn't flee from the lunge whip the first time you rap him? How about a foal, that when confronted with new objects, stands perfectly still until he/she deems the object benign? How a foal that will remember his/her lesson despite a "vacation" of a month or more? Wouldn't you be impressed with his common sense and intelligence? This is the donkey foal.

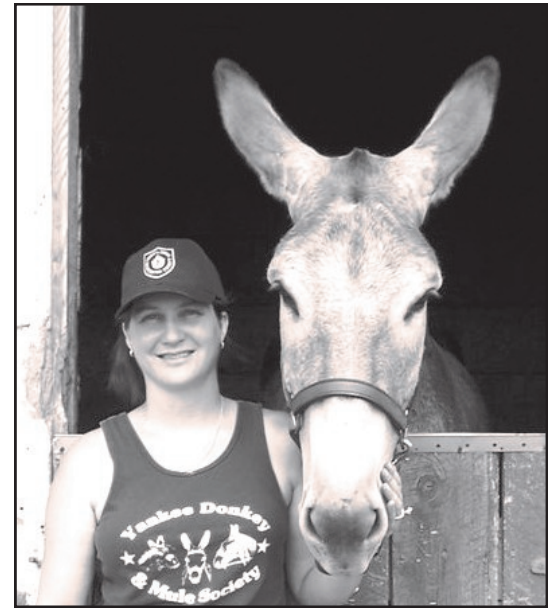
Donkeys are not horses, they are donkeys. Their inherent reactions to stimuli are very much different from those of the horse. They have similar physical characteristics, but their psychological make-up is quite different. You would never make the assumption that your horse training skills would work with an elephant would you? Assumptions have left many horse people with a bad taste in their mouths when dealing with donkeys. They simply dismiss the bad experience and feel that the donkey is being stupid or stubborn.

To understand the differences between horses and donkeys, one needs to look at the evolution of both species. Horses are plains animals, survivors were those that fled from the unknown. The plains offered the horse a plentiful food source as well. Horses could remain active all day long and not be in danger of starving. Donkeys evolved in a much different environment. They are from the north east portion of the African continent, an arid, rocky and treacherous environment. Fidgety donkeys would expire during severe droughts and flighty ones would perish after suffering falls due to the rough footing. In summary; the horses' biggest fear is being eaten. The donkey's biggest fear is FALLING. A horse will show concern by being fidgety and flighty, the donkey may be terrified but it will freeze and show little sign of internal panic. In fact, a restrained donkey that can not escape from a scary situation will often times lay down to protect their stomach. Not a very horse like reaction to an attack, is it?

Let's break down some basic training differences. The donkeys' biggest fear is falling, not pain. If they are concerned about their safety they will stop and evaluate. If you decide to force them to perform by using a whip, they will then perceive the situation as dangerous and will be-

come absolutely immovable! This explains why they use mules for the Grand Canyon. Think about it. Donkeys push into pressure. When you think about it, it makes

sense; something pushing against you makes you unbalanced and possibly could cause you to stumble. So a donkey's untrained response to pressure is to resist and not be forced to be off balance. To teach a donkey to move away from your leg, you simply have to ask for the behavior as you turn, causing the body to eventually swing away. A well trained saddle donkey is able to perform leg yields under saddle and even side pass, just like a horse. Donkeys have terrific memories. I have ridden a maiden donkey, then put it away for four weeks and have it remember everything we covered on its first ride. Not only did we continue with a new lesson, she showed less anxiety about having a rider on board. It seems she actually had time to "think about it". Just remember: if you do something that upsets the donkey; beat them for not moving, physically force them into a frightening situation or inflict any type of pain, that donkey may never work for you again. Donkeys develop very strong emotional bonds. The first step to training a donkey is simply letting it decide for itself that the handler is a trustworthy person. I had a donkey that was difficult with his feet. I simply continued to groom him and take him for walks. A few weeks later, he picked up all four feet as though he had been having them handled daily. He decided that I was worthy of his trust. Remember, picking up any equine's hoof requires them leaning and being off balance. That's a lot to ask of a donkey. Once a donkey feels comfortable with you, it will allow you to do many things, including climb on board and go for your first ride. Chances are that ride will consist of just standing around with the nervous donkey standing steadfast until it realizes it can hold you and not fall over while walking. A few steps are a major accomplishment.



...continued on page 24

So with all this neat stuff about the donkey, why don't we see more being ridden? Well, donkeys aren't COOL. In the United States they are social outcasts. Also, the fact that the largest of the breeds, the Mammoth Jackstock, standing at 15 hands or so, are difficult to find. Training a donkey requires a willingness to think outside of the "horse box", yet every lesson learned is done with little repetition and will be remembered for a lifetime.



*Deb Kovac, with over 35 years of horse training and showing experience has been an avid long eared equine enthusiast for 10 years. Founder of the Yankee Donkey & Mule Society in Massachusetts. The YDMS' goal was to educate the public about the endearing qualities of the donkey. Her personal Mammoth Jackstock gelding, "Mud Creek Apollo" has earned many awards at both horse shows and donkey/mule shows. Now a Georgia resident and a full time Animal Welfare Officer, Kovac spends most of her time volunteering for local rescues both equine and canine. Feel free to contact her at [dkovac@NorthPineEquine.com](mailto:dkovac@NorthPineEquine.com) or check out Apollo's adventures at [www.APOLLOtheDONKEY.com](http://www.APOLLOtheDONKEY.com)*

## A New Baby for GERL!

While we at GERL strongly support an end to "indiscriminate back yard breeding", we can hardly help joyously welcoming the first foal born to a mare in our Foster Program since the present Board of Directors took office. Dam, Maggie Mae, is a beautiful black American Mustang which came to us last year, one of a group.

Little "Mattie" (True Grit) was foaled in early April at the farm of Allison Altman, Gray, GA. This lovely black filly with three high stockings and very unusual face marking will be adopted by Tommy and Ruth Wilson. They previously adopted her brother,



Ruger, and spoke for this foal as soon as they learned that there would be a full sibling to their colt.

The mare, Maggie Mae, will be for adoption as soon as Mattie is weaned. Black, with four socks, a small forehead star and the Mustang freeze brand; this mare is lovely. Because of her beauty, Maggie Mae would normally be very easy for us to place. However, like many BLM Mustangs, she has trust issues with humans. She handles well on the ground and has been worked in the round pen while carrying a saddle but has not been ridden. At this time, we recommend her for an experienced horseperson only.

## Cooling the Horse

*Lecture Notes as Relayed by Janice Raddatz.*

I recently had the opportunity to hear Dr. K. Marcella speak at Dover Saddlery on "Cooling the Horse." Some of you know that Ken Marcella has vetted many endurance rides and has quite a bit of knowledge in this area. I found much of what he shared to be different from what we had been told not too long ago. New studies (especially from the 1996 Atlanta based Summer Olympics) have changed the thinking concerning treating hot horses. The information applies to endurance, dressage, hunter/jumpers, trail horses or any horse that is ridden hard. I will share the basics.

A horse has a lot of muscle mass and very little way of getting that mass cooled once it becomes heated. The horse can get hot in a desert without much sign of sweat, in the arena on a hot and humid southern summer day, or out on a trail while still wearing a winter coat on an exceptionally warm January day. Signs of heat are sweat, labored breathing, and increased color in the mucus membranes of the mouth, but not necessarily all of these at once. The best way to cool a horse is through EVAPORATION. A sweat blade may be used to quickly remove accumulated moisture. If possible, the horse should be sprayed with water (any temperature) and the water should be immediately scraped off. Spray-Scrape-Repeat. This promotes accelerated EVAPORATION. Misting fans were used extensively at the Atlanta Olympics (I remember walking through them - lovely.)

Interesting was the discovery that the use of wet towels and blankets actually HINDER the horse from cooling and is no longer recommended. Also no longer recommended are cold wraps, as the wraps will eventually hold in heat. If cold wraps are used, they should be applied for less than 15 minutes and removed. "Ice works better than wraps." It would be beneficial if you could teach your horse to stand in a bucket of iced water in order to cool the legs. Yes, Dr. Marcella said you could treat a horse's legs with

ice after every hard workout to avoid possible leg inflammation. If sponging, start at the highest point (not the belly) and allow the water to trickle down over the body before scraping it off. Using a water hose is great if you can scrape at the same time. Continuous spraying is not advised if you cannot continually scrape. A good trick is to tie an old sock around the upper leg so that when you pour water over the body of the horse, the sock is soaked and the water dispersed to the entire leg more evenly than is possible when spraying only one side of the leg.

Dr. Marcella also told us some interesting things about lather, that foamy white sweat that gathers between the horse's legs and accumulates on other parts of the horse that rub together. The lather contains an ingredient (maybe he said an enzyme?) that actually helps the horse to sweat, and so to cool. It actually contains an oil remover which allows the body to sweat more effectively. Lather is good stuff. Next they will be bottling it to sell to those who want their horse to sweat more!

While sweating is good for the horse, it should be remembered that the lost fluids must be replaced. Providing adequate drinking water is a must, and electrolyte replacement should be considered.



**GERL Stallions to Gelding Program.**

**Stallions Gelded To Date By GERL: 55**



**GERL MEMBER, JACK CASHIN  
OF CHUKKAR FARM AND POLO CLUB**

is again hosting an

# **Exhibition Polo Match**

All Proceeds to Benefit

# **Georgia Equine Rescue League**



Cold Bottled Water  
and Soft Drinks  
Available

\$15 Gate Fee  
Free Parking



**COME ON OUT AND ENJOY THE FUN!**

**BRING A LAWN CHAIR AND A PICNIC BASKET.**

**ENJOY WATCHING EXPERT HORSEMANSHIP.**

**LEARN MORE ABOUT THIS EXCITING SPORT!**

**SILENT AUCTION**



**Date: Sunday, July 17, 2011**

**Time: Gate opens @ 1 PM Match @ 2 PM**

**Where: Chukkar Farm and Polo Club**

**1140 Liberty Grove Rd. Alpharetta, GA**

**Driving Directions: <http://www.chukkarfarm.com>**



## Puttin' On The Feed Bag Recipes



Grease a 9 x 13 pan. In a small saucepan, melt peanut butter and butter over low heat until smooth. In a medium bowl, combine dry ingredients. Add beaten eggs and vanilla. Stir in peanut butter mixture. Press dough into the greased pan and bake in a preheated 350 oven 25 to 30 minutes, until edges brown and draw away from the sides of the pan. Cool and cut into bars. Great trail-riding snack! Kids love 'em! *By Ruth Wilson*

**Peanut Butter Bars**  
1/2 cup peanut butter  
(smooth, crunchy, or fresh-ground)  
1 stick butter

1 cup white sugar  
1/2 cup brown sugar  
1 cup flour  
1 and 1/2 tsp. baking powder  
1/2 tsp. salt

2 eggs, slightly beaten  
1 tsp. vanilla

## Feed Bag Recipe Submissions

Do you have a wonderful, easy recipe that you would like to share?

Putting On the Feed Bag is a new section in our newsletter and we want your suggestions.

Please submit your recipe to:  
[steve@gerlltd.org](mailto:steve@gerlltd.org)



## GERL Featured Volunteer for this Quarter

*By Anne Ensminger*

My first introduction to Greg Masey came years ago when he and his teen aged daughter, Lindsie, attended a GERL event and asked if they could help. Somehow they ended up being involved with the preparation and serving of the food. Since that time it has often been my pleasure, when arriving at a GERL function, to see that Greg is there and already hard at work making certain that none of the participants leave hungry.

Even though Greg and Lindsie did not own a horse, they shared a love for them that all of us at GERL completely understand. That love of horses and Greg's desire for Lindsie to learn the rewards associated with helping others is what originally brought them to us and still binds us in our shared goal.

Even though Lindsie has now reached those teen age years which introduce many interests beyond horses and the family, Greg continues to volunteer at the Mansfield Equine Impound as needed and to attend GERL events to offer his help. In recent times, he has even managed to procure some needed food items from his employer and from other merchants.

I personally, have a deep appreciation for people like Greg Masey. He is one of those quiet, behind the scenes, kind of guys who works deliberately and ceaselessly. He never expects recognition and is always looking for the next opportunity to be of help. Greg Masey, GERL salutes you and your volunteer spirit!



## The Georgia Equine Rescue League Meeting with South Georgia's Law Enforcement and Animal Control Officers

By: Amy Aronson-Friedman, Ph.D.

On Saturday, March 26, local area law enforcement and animal control officers attended GERL's first south GA multi-county meeting held in Moultrie, GA. GERL officers presented information to area law enforcement and animal control officers educating them on GERL's mission of combating the problem of equine abuse, starvation, neglect and abandonment throughout the state.

Because the problem of equine abuse, starvation, and abandonment has reached epic proportions in Georgia due to the closing of slaughterhouses, continued in discretionary breeding practices, hoarding of equine, and a failing economy and because the Georgia Department of Agriculture's Equine Division, which has traditionally been charged with enforcing Georgia's equine protection laws, is grossly understaffed, it is imperative that more outreach and education be conducted to help combat this continued problem of equine abuse and neglect.

The goals of the multi-county meetings were four-fold: 1) To meet with interested law enforcement and animal control agencies throughout Georgia to ask for their increased participation in enforcing humane care for equine laws; 2) To offer GERL's support and assistance to law enforcement and animal control agencies that are willing to become involved in protecting equine; 3) To educate law enforcement and animal control personnel on how to evaluate situations concerning possible starvation or inadequate care for equine, as covered by law; and 4) To build a network of contacts among GERL, GDA, law enforcement, and animal control to resolve problems relating to equine.

This south GA multi-county meeting was a first attempt at outreach to educate those working locally in the area of animal control. Presentations were made by Officer Kevin Hearst of Decatur regarding increased law enforcement efforts in the northern part of the state and more severe penalties and prosecution of offenders of equine cruelty and abuse. Officer Hearst informed the attendees that more counties are beginning to pay attention to this problem of neglect, cruelty and abuse and those present were briefed on policies, procedures, and available resources to assist them in prosecuting cases.

During lunch, Robin Easley educated attendees on proper equine care and management by presenting a vivid power-point demonstrating varying degrees of cases of abuse and neglect. Participants were also shown how to body score, catch and load a horse with some of them practicing hands on.

This first time meeting was highly informative and a huge success! As a result and with \$3,000 worth of



financial assistance from GERL, both the Lakeland and Adel, GA Animal Agencies have recently gotten together to erect a holding facility in the area. GERL thanks Judy Ricketson, Area Coordinator for Lowndes County, and her local volunteers, who helped put this event together. GERL looks forward to hosting more multi-county meetings of this nature and plans to make this an annual event in South Georgia.

### DRAMA-FREE HORSE HANDLING, CATCHING, AND LOADING

#### BASIC EQUIPMENT NEEDED TO CATCH A HORSE:

Bucket with food, halter, and lead rope. If no halter is available, use a rope to make one loop over nose and one behind the ears. If you have no equipment, you might be able to put a belt around the horse's neck to lead it. It is very important that you stay quiet. Do not raise your voice or wave your arms. The more excited you are, the more likely they are to leave. If they think you just want to feed them, they might let you catch them.

**BACK UP PLANS:** Try to keep the horse in sight if you cannot catch him. Most horses do not spend unnecessary energy and can find their way back to their own pasture. As you know, a horse can cause considerable damage to a car and vice versa. My primary concern would be stop oncoming traffic if a horse is near a road.

#### TRAILER AND KNIFE.

Horses are more likely to volunteer to get into a stock trailer than any other kind of trailer because stock trailers are open and spacious compared to other types. A stock trailer does not require a horse to learn to back off the trailer. If the horse does not seem to know how to back up, turn it around and let it come off the trailer forwards. This is not one of your options with a two-horse trailer.



Horses do not respond well to force; it typically causes them to shut down and refuse to cooperate. The more force you use, the more resistance you will create. Most important things about loading are that you recheck the trailer is correctly hitched and that lights and brake are working. Never tie a horse inside of a trailer until after you shut the trailer back door. It is amazing how fast they can run backwards. When they run backwards after they are tied, they will hurt you and/or themselves. After you have shut the doors, tie the horse and open the door just enough to let yourself out quietly. Don't forget to reclose the door when you leave the trailer.

## **HORSES CAN HURTYOU AND DO NOT RESPOND WELL TO FORCE.**

Because of their size and power, a horse can easily hurt you without even trying. The absolute most important thing if you to remember nothing else: **NEVER WRAP A LEAD ROPE AROUND YOUR HAND. YOU CAN LOSE FINGERS. MAKE A LOOP AND WRAP YOUR HAND AROUND THE LOOP. SEE PICTURES.**

Always use as little pressure as you can. The calmer and quieter you are the more the horse is going to want to be with you. The higher your energy, the more likely you are to get hurt. You should always approach horses with quiet confidence. Never raise your voice. Horses do not understand words. They understand tone, volume, and body language. They know a calm and confident leader when they see one. You can fake confidence.

When handling horses always carry a sharp knife so that you will be able to cut the rope and free the horse if it gets into trouble. Horses frequently get into trouble. Not all horses know how to tie. Their first and natural reaction to feeling restrained is to pull away. The next thing they will do is jump forward. Therefore, whatever is between the horse and the solid object it is tied to will be smashed. Make sure that isn't you. (picture of knife)

## **HOW TO TIE A HORSE.**

When you are dealing with a loose horse, you will not know for sure that it has been taught to tie. A horse is not born understanding how to be led or tolerate being tied. Young horses may not have any idea what you are asking and will pull back. You cannot drag them, but if you put another rope around their rear they will move forward to get away from how that feels.

It is always best to have someone hold the horse instead -- if you have a choice. When you do tie them, never tie a knot in the rope. Always loop the rope and end with a quick release "dangle" that you can quickly pull to free the horse in an emergency. Knots invite chaos especially if you have forgotten your knife.

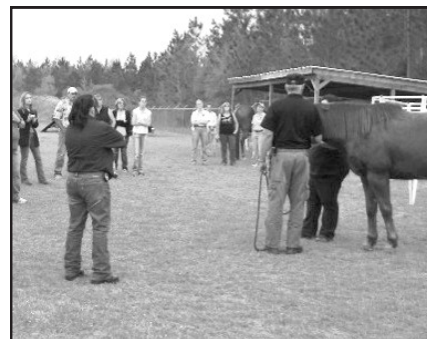
## **TYPES OF HALTERS**

There are two basic types of halter; the rope halter with lead attached and the usually nylon but sometimes leather halter that has a ring for attaching a lead rope. Both have advantages and disadvantages. The rope halter will not break which can be a good thing or a bad thing if a horse flips over backwards. Rope halters are also not as easy to put on. They usually come with a lead rope. There are four steps to putting on a rope halter correctly.



Most people are more comfortable with the less complicated nylon or leather halter. They usually have two buckles, one that goes under the left ear and one that goes under the jaw. You only need to undo one or the other of these buckles to put this halter on the horse. The buckle on this halter will break if the horse pulls back hard enough which can also be a bad thing. For example, when they pull back, break the halter, run away, and you have to catch them again. You will need to attach a lead rope in advance. It isn't a good idea to try to handle a horse without a lead rope because you will have no leverage and they can pull you around at will like a rag doll. Here is a picture of a nylon halter and how to arrange it on your left hand before you attempt to put it on the horse.

A third type of halter is called a shipping halter. It is one piece and is harder to break than a nylon or leather halter. Whatever type you use, things will always go better if you prearrange any kind of halter onto your left hand in the reverse order of how it goes on the horse before you approach the horse.



*...continued on page 30*

...continued from page 29  
**HALTERING A HORSE**

With the halter arranged on our left hand, preferably behind your back, approach the horse with your right hand as you walk toward the horse from the side, just behind the shoulder. Don't reach out, try to get next to them with your body first. Do not walk directly to the front of a horse's face unless they are walking quietly toward you first. Horses are more accustomed to avoiding that approach and will more readily bolt and flatten you from that direction. Do not grab the horse, or its mane or tail. Most horses have learned to quickly duck away from such an attempt. Chasing the horse around attempting to catch its nose with the halter is counter productive.

The single most important thing to know about haltering a horse is that you must never wrap the rope around your hand. We know one person who had their thumb removed suddenly that way. If a horse decides to leave, it will. The majority of horses have not learned "to give to the rope" and they can easily drag a big person, even three people, off their feet. Horses do not like unexpected things to happen. If they find themselves connected to a person they are dragging along the ground they will probably just pick up speed. If you cannot hold on, just let go, it was not met to be.

Remember that regardless of the type of halter you use, halters are not horse hand-cuffs to be administered by force. Horses, like deer, are prey animals and respond to fear with flight. Other horses are more used to being handled and will be grateful someone showed up to help them. Your biggest challenge with these horses will be to get their heads out of the feed bucket long enough to get a halter on them. Horse behavior is unique to horses and each horse is an individual. Horses do not usually come when you call them unless they know you. They do not like flapping or noisy objects. Whistling or calling does not help.



We have made almost every mistake you can make with horses and survived. Most of what we know about handling horses, we have learned the hard way. Some things we have learned from other people instead of experiencing the consequences directly. The most important thing we have learned is that no horse is worth a person's life or safety. Be careful out there.

## **6th ANNUAL RESCUE DAY TRACTOR SUPPLY CENTERVILLE GA. SATURDAY 9 APRIL 2011**

WOW! What a day we had at Tractor Supply in Centerville. We got there and set up by 08:30 along with 10 or more dog rescue groups, a mobile veterinarian shot clinic, and a dog grooming van. Helping me was Catrina Watson, Tiffany Bowman and Dorinda Hennings one of our newest members. Since we had the help we did, we were able to get out and talk to some of the other groups that were there. It was a fun day for sure.

Tiffany brought her horse Soleil and he was a big hit with everyone. We had an estimated 100 people come by our booth and we answered many questions and handed out lots of our News Letters and some of our new pamphlets. There were 3 individuals that requested information about fostering and several about adoptions. We collected \$125.35 by donations and selling 2 caps and 2 shirts. Having Soleil there was definitely a crowd pleaser. Soleil was a rescue horse that Tiffany adopted while living in Virginia.

We talked to everyone that came by and got the news of GERL's existence out to a lot of folks. While talking to folks I was reminded that GERL is not that well known in this area. So, I am looking into ways for us to become better known. Of

course I'm always talking about us every where I go. I very seldom get into a conversation with anyone that I don't find a way to bring it up. Some folks say I'm possessed about it, I say YEP. After seeing how horses are treated in Georgia we all should be.

I would like to give my thanks to Catrina, Tiffany, Soleil and Dorinda for all their help through out the day. With your help we had a great day.

Also, thanks to Patty and Anne for meeting me in Forsyth with the GERL trailer.

Eddy O'Hern  
Lead Coordinator Region 12 GERL



# GERL ADOPTABLES

For adoption fees and additional information please contact Ruth Wilson, Adoption Coordinator (706) 342-4097 / gerlruth@aol.com



**Ladybug** -- 6 year old back walking horse mare. 14.2 hh, sweet, cute little girl! Perfect for an intermediate rider who wants a smooth gaited horse.



**Romona ("Roma")** Registered buckskin Quarter Horse mare with papers. 25 years old and 15.2 hands. Some arthritis in front leg. Gentle nature, Good pasture mate. COMPANION ONLY.



**Popcorn**—Sorrel and white paint mare with blue eyes, age 8, 15 hands Sweet mare, has been ridden but will need patient intermediate rider to bring her to full potential. Pretty girl, will make nice trail horse!



**Mayday**—Grulla and white paint mare, age 7, 15.1 hands. Riding nicely! Very pretty mare, sweet disposition. With a little work should be an "anyone can ride" horse..



Ronnie Pesserilo



Allison Altman



Ken Archer

# THE 3rd ANNUAL GENE ENSMINGER MEMORIAL RIDE

By Patty Livingston

After much planning and preparation, the GERL Board members and several other volunteers set off for Ron and Adriane Cook's beautiful piece of paradise in Round Oak, Georgia. It was Thursday and we couldn't have ordered better weather. There was a nice breeze blowing through the huge pavilion that kept things pleasant, despite the task of unpacking and setting up that was going on.

It was good to see some old friends, again. We had a smaller crowd this year, but that proved to bring everybody closer together. As part of tradition, Anne Ensminger and her cousin, Bonnie Wacker, handled GERL registration and welcomed everybody with a big smile. And, of course, what would Gene Fest be without the Bluegrass concert provided by Mr. Gene's daughter, Perri and her husband, Dan Walden? Gene's son, Allen Ensminger, was also in attendance and brought his Goddaughter, Desirra, along with him. Everybody seemed to have a great time

As usual, we had a great potluck dinner Friday night. Instead of our annual "cake walk", we decided to play Bingo after dinner this year.



That brought in a few extra dollars for GERL and provided a lot of fun. Afterwards, a game of cards called "Screw Your Neighbor" had at least fifteen folks captive for the better part of 2 hours. I have no idea where you can go and what you can do to have so much fun and for only \$3.00!

Ron Cook took the organized rides out every morning and everybody enjoyed the beautiful riding weather. They have great trails that are shady and follow a creek bed. Adrian Cook rode drag to ensure that everybody arrived back to camp.

Fireman Allen Orr, owner of Pigs n Plugs Bar-B-Q (get it?) out of Loganville, did the catering this year with the help of his firemen buddies, Chris Bach and JD Crowe. They served up the most delicious BBQ and fixings that would make your grandma proud! I was told that JD

drove all the way from Cleveland to help with our event. They also prepared breakfast on Saturday morning that was equally as good.

Of course, our favorite, almost famous, auctioneer, Mickey Farmer, handled the auction and was as funny and entertaining as ever. I swear, he really can squeeze blood out of a turnip! We also had a silent auction and a flea market going on, so, there were plenty of places for people to spend their money. We did pretty well on our auctions, bringing in approximately \$2300.

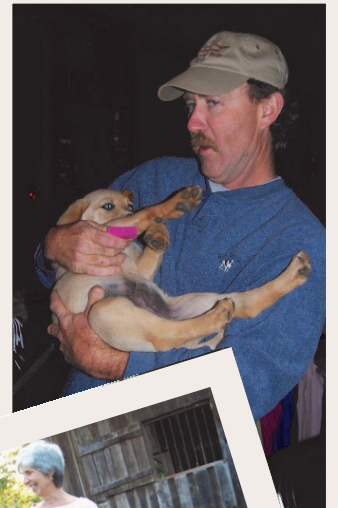
After the auction was over DJ Dave took over the pavilion with some great dancing music. Everybody had a great time either dancing, trying to dance or just watching other people dance. I remember several party girls ending up in the center of a circle dance at some point. And, I definitely remember looking up and seeing Ms. Anne dancing with Clifford Herrington with the biggest smile on her face.

Sunday brought another day of beautiful weather. The small crowd who got up early to attend Cowboy Church would definitely have made Mr. Gene very proud. Judy McCrory delivered a great message, sang and played the guitar, beautifully.

Some folks stayed to get in another ride before packing up and going home, while others jumped in and started helping to tear down all of the tables and chairs right after breakfast was over. It was one of the most memorable and relaxing fests we've put on and I received many emails to attest to that fact on Monday morning!



# THE 3rd ANNUAL GENE ENSMINGER MEMORIAL RIDE



With *Your* Help...We *Will* Make A Difference!

**If Your Name Is Listed Here, Your Membership Is Due For Renewal!**

**This Will Be Your Last Newsletter Unless You Renew.**

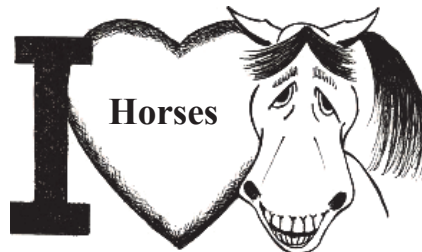
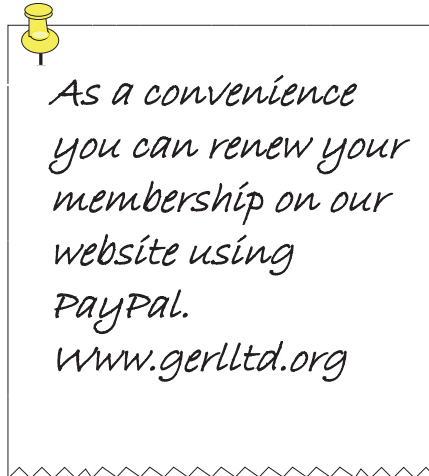
*\*Membership form is on the back cover*

**Membership due June**

Rita Benfield & Mike Wade  
Cindy Russell Bounds  
Paul & Susan Carlson  
Marion & Jackie Cobb  
Sue Crane  
Brian & Cathy Dees  
Edward dePeterse  
Debbie Ferrell  
Peggy Giddens  
Kriston Glushko  
Emily Harpster  
Sonny & Kay Hinote  
Joan Huff  
Max & Runelle Laseter  
Nancy Pahl  
Gene Rowsey  
Melissa Spatz-Schwartz  
Shirley Thomas  
Craig & Susan Waldron

**Membership due August**

Cynthia Anderson  
Rui & Lorraine Beato  
Debra Sellers & Maria Boyland  
Tedd & Susan Bryant  
William and Janet Bryant  
Constance Burchette  
Gail Carmody  
Adriana & John Clark  
Marsha Earp  
Bill Ford  
Linda Gettle  
Alex Greenberg, DVM  
Albert & Margaret Hill  
Katie Hogge  
Lara Homans  
Lew-Anne MacArthur  
Shelley McGinness  
B.J. Morris & Ann Maxwell Searcy  
Whit Payne  
Pennie Peck  
Valerie Puryear  
Jackie Sawyer  
Judy Sophianopoulos  
Melody Sorrells & Family  
Sandra Wedlake  
Jeff & Sandi Williams



**Membership due in July**

Norman & Linda Alter  
Betty Altman  
Robert & Barbara Arnold  
J.B. Bader & Family  
Greg & Tiffany Bergdorf  
Kim Bowen & Family  
Jack & Dotti Carter  
Robert & Diane Caruso  
Lisa Creedon  
Steve & Pam de Lyra  
Pat Dean  
Barbara Decker  
Carol Moore Demme  
Bill & Kathy Evans

Ray Gary, Jr., Atty at Law  
Robert & Becky Gregory  
Charles Griffis, Jr.  
Elizabeth Hamilton  
Mary Joe Hanes  
Andrea Harper  
Betty Sue Hearin  
Allen & Nicole Holsomback  
Angela Hughes  
Bill & Alison Ibsen  
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Mike & Roxanne Perkins & Family  
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Lisa Kelley Schindler  
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Julie Williams  
Michelle Williams

Steven—we appreciate the loving care you give our foster horses! Your generosity is a blessing to GERL! Thank you!

Thank you, Sonny Hinote, for soliciting a nice donation from BDR Pizza, Inc., dba Cooley's Pizza in Grayson!!!

In memory of Red, owned by Wayne Hand, by Julia Williams.

In memory of Martha Shepard's beloved horse, Cotton, by Sandra Freeman.

In loving memory of Ree Hilley Masters  
Glenda Morris, J. & D. Huggins, Jean & Donna Salem

In memory of Skip, a great therapy horse, by Judy Bradberry

Condolences to Mr. John Corder on the passing of "good ole Fred" by Marshia Milam-Medford

In Memory of:  
Gene Ensminger by Jim & Jeanne Shelhimer

In memory of:  
Dan and R.J. by Marcia Geraci

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Danny & Stephanie Edmondson

**Thank You For Donating  
To Our  
Feed A Horse Program**

Sarah Hill  
Carol Royer  
John Lynn  
Constance Burchette

**With *Your* Help...We *Will* Make A Difference!**

# WELCOME NEW GERL MEMBERS

New Member	Referred By	Location
Barbara Allen	GERL	Cumming, GA
Jim & Fran Archer	GERL	Snellville, GA
Amy Aronson-Friedman	Judy Ricketson	Valdosta, GA
Harriann Ayers	GERL	Bishop, GA
Mitchel & Margo Brown	Debora Hines	Boston, GA
Linda Carroll	Marshia Milam-Medford	Ellabell, GA
Tim Cherry	GERL	Citra, FL
Kristi DeLung	Eddie O'Hern	Hawkinsville, GA
Gretchen Denio	Countryside Vet	Conyers, GA
April Dixon & Family	GERL	Savannah, GA
Laine Dreher & Family	GERL	Hillsboro, GA
Lee Edmondson BB & T Insurance Services	Susan Archer	Loganville, GA
Danny & Stephanie Edmondson & Family	Diana DeMoss	Good Hope, GA
Lucinda Farris	Leslie Lambert	Jackson, GA
Kim Folger	GERL	Winder, GA
Karin Galvin	Tamma Trump	Roswell, GA
Marcia Geraci	Nicki Thigpen	Norwood, GA
James Larry Hale	Marshia Milam-Medford	Mountain Grove, MO
Stephanie Hutcherson	GERL	Atlanta, GA
Nancy Krause	GERL	Cumming, GA
Bill & Wanda Lane	GERL	Jackson, GA
Tara Lin Malcolm & Family	Countryside Vet	Conyers, GA
Wendy Scott Marston	GERL	Fort Valley, GA
Darrell Martin	Allison Altman	Gordon, GA
Boyd McLocklin	Ms. Livingston	Statham, GA
Sister Patti Moore	Marshia Milam-Medford	Stockbridge, GA
Dave Morris & Family	Nicki Thigpen	Martinez, GA
Blaine Rankin	Allison Altman	Gray, GA
Wayne & Sophie Riggs	GERL	Madison, GA
Carol Sauers BOCA Walk In Tubs, Inc.	GERL	Marietta, GA
Jim & Jeanne Shelhimer	GERL	Covington, GA
Vanessa Sims-Green	Patty Livingston	Atlanta, GA
Joel & Alice Stagg	GERL	Seale, AL
Tracy Thomas	Marshia Milam-Medford	Grayson, GA
Jennifer Tucker	GERL	Atlanta, GA
Krista Warren & Family	GERL	Athens, GA
LTC Gary & Lynn White	GERL	Moultrie, GA
Chuck & Donna White	Bob & Judy McCrory	Roberta, GA
Edward Holloway & Britney White	Bob & Judy McCrory	Roberta, GA
Erma Wilson	Marshia Milam-Medford	Covington, GA

**With *Your* Help...We *Will* Make A Difference!**

# “Woody”



Forsyth County is prosecuting Woody's owner, who is also responsible for the death of 3 horses and a cow.



A volunteer holds the lead rope of "Woody" while a TV camera and news reporter cover the story for the evening news. Woody was rescued by the Forsyth County Sheriff's office in April and is currently being fostered by a Forsyth County non-profit organization. GERL is picking up all costs associated with his care and rehabilitation.

## UGA Horseman's Association Hosts

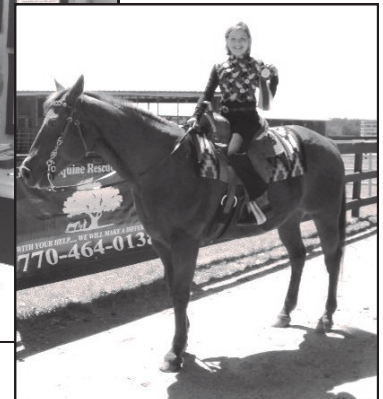
### *Bulldog Classic Horse Show*

The University of Georgia Horseman's Association hosted their Bulldog Classic Horse Show at the UGA Livestock Arena in Athens on Saturday, April 2nd. GERL was invited to attend and set up a booth and was also the recipient of part of the funds raised at this annual fundraiser.

Despite the low turnout, it proved to be a great opportunity for the kids who did attend. They were able to compete in small classes and all walked away with ribbons and a huge smile.

The GERL booth was well represented with loyal volunteers Elaine Bishoff, Melissa Spatz-Schwartz, Bob Long, Morgan Wilson, Becky Gregory, Fran Archer and Margo Clower. Special thanks to Linda Kumdell and Tina Turner for setting up the booth prior to the event.

GERL would like to thank the University of Georgia Horsemen's Association for donating a portion of their proceeds from the Annual Bulldog Classic Open Horse show held on April 2nd. We appreciate all of your efforts and hope that you will continue to think of us in the future!



## **We Need Your Help! Auction Items are Needed.**

We have upcoming events that will include auctions.

We need you to help by donating auction items. These items can include new or used tack, home décor items, gift certificates, etc. Remember... our auctions are only as successful as the items that we have to offer.

Do you have a beach house? A cabin rental? Do you have a timeshare that you do not use? Perhaps you would consider donating a few nights or a week for one of our upcoming auctions? It's tax deductible and benefits a great cause.

### **Thanks You In Advance For Your Support!**

If you have items to donate  
or  
have additional questions please contact:  
Sue Wrensen / (770) 331-6947  
[swrensen@comcast.net](mailto:swrensen@comcast.net)



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## **2011 GERL Calendar of Events**

**May 28, 2011**

**Brass Town Valley Resort - Horsin' Around  
Hiawassee, Ga.**

**June 3-5, 2011**

**Georgia Arabian Horse Association  
Silent Auction to benefit GERL  
Int'l Horse Park, Conyers, Ga.**

**July 9, 2011**

**Foxhall Trail Ride Benefit  
Foxhall Resort & Sporting Club  
Douglasville, Ga.**

**July 17, 2011**

**GERL Polo Match  
Chukkar Farm - Milton, Ga.**

**July 22-24, 2011**

**Parelli Jamboree  
Int'l Horse Park, Conyers, Ga.**

**Sept 23-25, 2011**

**Foxhall Game Fair  
Foxhall Resort & Sporting Club  
Douglasville, Ga.**

**October 28th - 30th, 2011**

**GERL Fright Fest  
Western Saddle Club, Rome, Ga.**

Mark your calendars so that you don't miss any of these wonderful events that will benefit GERL. It's a guaranteed great time ... a benefit for a wonderful cause and a way to see old friends and meet new friends!

*Visit our website to download flyers and directions to some of these events.*

## ***Mark Your Calendars Now!***

**With *Your* Help...We *Will* Make A Difference!**

# BUSINESS CARDS



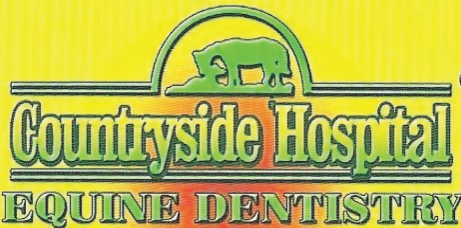
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## Membership Application

New Member: \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City / State / Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (home): \_\_\_\_\_ (cell): \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Referred by: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I am a horse owner

\_\_\_\_\_ Although I do not own a horse, I would like to support the GERL

\_\_\_\_\_ I am interested in becoming a GERL Foster Home

\_\_\_\_\_ I am interested in becoming a GERL fundraising event volunteer

Annual membership dues are:

\$35.00 Family \_\_\_\_\_ \$25.00 Single \_\_\_\_\_ \$15.00 Junior (12 & under) \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

\$50.00 Club, Organization or Business \_\_\_\_\_ \$1000.00 Lifetime \_\_\_\_\_

Misc. Donation: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_ for the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_ for the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to: GERL  
Mail to: GERL - P.O. Box 328 - Bethlehem, GA 30620

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