



Georgia Equine Rescue League, Ltd.

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

2011 Quarterly Newsletter

June, July and August

Pal-O-Mine

By Anne Ensminger

This sad, but at the same time, wonderful story started a couple of months ago when GERL received a call from Walton County Animal Control Officer, Shawn Morris. He had been contacted by officers from another law enforcement agency who were flying over Walton County in a helicopter looking for marijuana plants. They could hardly believe their eyes when they spotted a lone horse which appeared to be a walking skeleton. He was standing in the hot sun, in the middle of a "pasture" which was mostly bare ground and bitter weeds.

Shawn immediately went to investigate and what he found touched his heart so deeply that over the next few days, which included multiple trips to the scene and making himself almost a "pest" to the GERL Board of Directors, Shawn was finally able to get help for the poor horse. Although, in the end, it was GERL which actually rescued this horse, we give all of the credit to the caring and persistence of Officer Morris.

The story goes like this. The horse, a gelding in his mid twenties, had belonged to an older gentleman who, by all reports, loved him dearly. After the man died, "Peanut" was all but forgotten in his pasture where he lived alone for the next ten or so years. The man's widow and his adult son, who lived across the road, did see that the horse had water most of the time but there his care ended. They didn't seem to notice that the animal was getting thinner and thinner or that his long feet were getting badly cracked and broken, or that his sheath was swollen from total neglect. They paid little attention to the insect bites all over his once beautiful, golden palomino coat. Heaven knows, they had no idea that he might have benefitted from an occasional worming, minimal dental care, or a sheath cleaning. When told by Officer Morris that they needed to start Peanut on a diet of hay and grain, they were shocked at the suggestion. After all, he had the entire pasture to himself, and horses eat grass, right? The officer's suggestion that they call a veterinarian to examine the gelding was ridiculous to them; after all, he was not sick!

That is when Officer Morris began to realize that the only hope for this horse was to get him out of there. He called

GERL many times during the next couple of days. He placed the horse's body score at a one and felt that Peanut only had days to live if nothing was done for him. I remember being involved in the phone and email discussions with my fellow Board members. We knew that we had no legal right to intervene and asked Officer Morris to call the GDA. He felt that we did not have time to go through the usual "channels" so he asked if we would take the horse if he could convince the owner to sign Peanut over to GERL. That seemed like the best solution for all involved.

After having to threaten (very gently, of course), the 86 year old woman who owned the horse with the prospect of a large fine and/or going to jail for animal abuse, it was finally decided that GERL could come and get Peanut. Whew!



...continued on page 2

Inside this issue:

GERL Calendar of Events...Page 11

Logo Merchandise...Page 16

A Story of Alf...Page 18

Alice in Waterland and Red Man...Page 25

Polo Match at Chukkar Farm a Huge Success...Page 32

Volunteer of the Quarter...Page 37

Georgia Equine Rescue League, Ltd.

P.O. Box 328

Bethlehem, Ga. 30620

770-464-0138

<http://www.gerlltd.org>

reply@gerlltd.org

...continued from front page - "Pal-O-Mine"

Diana DeMoss and I hooked up her trailer and off we went to the address Officer Morris had provided. When we got there, we were naturally anxious to see the horse and get him to safety but we were also totally disarmed by meeting his owner. She was very frail and seemed to be genuinely concerned for the horse. She pointed the way to the tiny path to Peanut's pasture and we soon learned that everything Officer Morris had told us was true. Peanut stood in his ram shackled shelter (at least he HAD shelter) beside his water tub which was half full of green water and mosquito larvae. The look in his sad eyes broke my heart. His body score was indeed, a one. He stood for us to halter him and then followed us willingly to the backyard for his owner to give him one last pat on the forehead. There was a tear in her eye as she watched Peanut get onto the trailer. I am certain she was remembering days gone by when her dear husband had been so proud to be seen riding that beautiful palomino horse. Diana and I found comfort in knowing that she was confident that GERL would now take the best care of the old horse.

As we left the property, Diana and I looked at one another and we both knew that the "e" word had been in the back of our minds as the kindest solution for this horse but we now knew that was no longer even a consideration. I told Diana that, ignoring the old adage that it is bad luck to change a horse's name, I wanted this gentle, long suffering soul to have a more appropriate name. The name, Peanut, sounded "hokey". We changed his name to Pal-O-Mine and we will call him "Pal".

After a stop at New South Equine in Watkinsville, and a thorough going over by Dr. Rhonda Veit, Pal reached his final destination of the day when we arrived at the lovely farm of GERL supreme intensive foster caregiver, Susan McCullar. If there has ever been a heaven for horses on earth, that is where Pal would now be a temporary resident. He would enjoy Susan's loving care and have the company of other horses for the first time in many years.

Patty Livingston and I visited Pal and Susan a short while ago and found him to be thriving. He has been wormed several



times, had his feet trimmed, and is gaining weight daily. Pal is now strong enough to have anesthesia for dental work and to be given needed vaccinations.

I was so in love with, and concerned for this old horse that I decided to send pictures and ask Andee Rogers to post his story on the GERL Facebook page. I wanted other GERL members to know about Pal. Not only did Andee post the story on Facebook but she sent it out to her extensive email list of friends and acquaintances.

The response was not only surprising but overwhelmingly heartwarming. We began to receive donations earmarked for "the care of Pal" from all over Georgia! Some folks even pledged to send weekly or monthly donations for him! As a result of this wonderful outpouring of love, Pal now has his own account and will not be denied any means GERL can provide, to insure his complete recovery.

The next hurdle for Pal and for GERL will be finding the perfect forever home where he will not only find continuing care but the kind of love every horse deserves. We have no idea how he will be under saddle but we have seen no indication of lameness and thus far, he has displayed a very kind disposition and a willingness to cooperate. I can't imagine that he would not enjoy a good easy trail ride with a gentle, considerate rider. Many now share our dream that Pal will not only be restored to a normal body condition, but that his beautiful golden coat and his great big brown eyes will once again shine!



GERL received an amazing outpouring of love for Pal-O-Mine. At this printing, GERL has received \$1,140.00 for his care. Thank you, from Pal, to all who have donated!

Who's Who
Georgia Equine Rescue League, Ltd.

Board Members

Patty Livingston, President
(770) 867-0760 / gerlpatty@yahoo.com
Ken Archer, Vice President
(770) 554-1381 / gerlken@bellsouth.net
Diana Kelsey DeMoss / Treasurer
(770) 267-0867 / diana@gerlltd.org
Anne Ensminger / Secretary
(770) 464-3348 / missanne612@bellsouth.net
Steven Neal / Alternate
(706) 342-3422 / gerlsteven@bellsouth.net

Area Coordinator Directors - Jack & Dotti Carter
(706) 896-4997 / (706) 835-5677
frogleap@windstream.net

Foster Coordinator - Becky Gregory
(770) 207-4762 / gerlbeck@aol.com

Adoption Coordinator - Ruth Wilson
(706) 342-4097 / gerlruth@aol.com

Events Coordinator - Susan Archer
(770) 554-1381 / susangerl3@bellsouth.net

Volunteer Coordinator - Jacquelin Twiss
Auction Coordinator - Sue Wrensen
swrensen@comcast.net

Education Coordinator - "Open"

Public Relations Coordinator - Bob Long
(678) 409-8893 / housek9@windstream.net

Facebook Coordinator - Andee Rogers
andee@gerlltd.org

Grant Coordinator - Cynthia Anderson

Webmaster & Newsletter Editor - Steve DeMoss
(770) 276-0867 / steve@gerlltd.org

**Call or email for deadlines.*

GERL Advisory Board
Billy Myers, DVM
Kenneth Marcella, DVM
William Baker, DVM
Jennifer Baker, DVM

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
or frogleap@windstream.net

Thank You To Our Foster Homes

Valerie Puryear
Belladama
Debra Young
Ginger
Susan McCullar
Pal-O-Mine
Allison Altman
Maggie Mae & Mattie
Patty Livingston
Captain Jack & Bo
Alline Jones
Jenna & Alf
Tiffany & Greg Bergdorf
Lucky
Kim Smith
Hay Baler
Linda Fears
Roma
Ken & Susan Archer
Barley & Cracker Jack
Patty & Nick Howard
Kyra & Rosie

Jackie Moore & Leslie Lambert
Vandy
Anne Ensminger
Honor
Sharon Wyatt
CJ
Elaine & Randy Bishoff
Smokey
Leslie Gassmann
Tie
Michelle Rabold
Itty Bitty
Barbara Hobbs
Breeze
Susan Prugh
Bette
Michelle Williams
Little Joe
Ruth Wilson
Bud
Susan Richardson
Sable

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

Hats off to Edward dePeterse for his wonderful donation to GERL! Thank you!

Thank you, Nancy Fitzgibbons, for your continuing support of GERL! You are the best!

Thank you to Toi Wall, Apple Butter Treats, for donating a portion of your profits to GERL.



GERL Area Coordinators

Dotti & Jack Carter - Area Coordinator Directors

(706) 896-4997 / (706) 835-5677

frogleap@windstream.net



Heatherlee Hammonds—Monroe, Bibb, Crawford

(478) 952-5942 / mystichorses@yahoo.com

Marjorie Leder—Banks

(706) 778-8271 Cell (818) 203-5017 maleder@aol.com

Rita Benfield - Douglas, Haralson, Carroll

(770) 489-0212 / ritabenfield@yahoo.com

Annette Raybon - Paulding , Cobb, Bartow

(770) 445-8655 / raybonta@bellsouth.net

Susan Wrensen - Cherokee

(770) 331-6947 / swrensen@comcast.net

Leigh Ann Holton - Glynn, McIntosh, Wayne,

Brantley & Camden

(912) 267-0912 / jpj_associates@comcast.net

Bob & Judy McCrory

- Harris, Meriwether, Marion, Chattahoochee, Talbot,

Troup & Muscogee

(706) 582-3268 / ridgeway12@aol.com

Lynn McMinn - Gwinnett, Walton, Oconee

(404)/372-9245 / lynn.mcminn@yahoo.com

Tanya Kingsley—Jasper, Butts, Monroe, Jones & Putnam

(706) 468-0794 / twkings@gmail.com

Susie Bond - Newton, Morgan & Greene

(770) 464-4353 / gerlsusie@att.net

Kriston Glushko - Polk & Floyd

(678) 757-1138 / krgs@earthlink.net

Cambria Moon - Haralson, Polk, Floyd

(770) 597-4438 / info@willowhillfarmllc.com

Judy Ricketson - Lowndes

(229) 300-9926 / gerljudy@hotmail.com

Deborah Stewart - Bartow

(770) 334-2672 / dstewart4768@yahoo.com

Ray Ziebell - Dawson & Pickens

(770) 354-0293 / razfences@msn.com

Marion Cobb - Forsyth

(404) 625-0346 / marioncobbjr@comcast.net

Dotti & Jack Carter - Towns

(706) 896-4997 / (706) 835-5677

frogleap@windstream.net

Charles & Linda DeVane - Brooks, Thomas & Cook

(229) 263-7714 / (229) 560-0844

Rosa Allen - Habersham, Rabun & White

(706) 782-5969 / (404) 316-9417 / rpallen@windstream.net

Debbie Whitworth - Elbert & Hart

(706) 283-0802 / (404) 805-4409 / rlwdpw@hotmail.com

Cynthia Brayton - Rockdale & Henry

(404) 374-2980 / cebrayton@comcast.net

Linda Tucker - Jackson & Barrow

(678) 770-7704 / lindahoschton@aol.com

Nicki Thigpen - Warren, McDuffie & Columbia

(706) 755-4375 / daydreamfarmga@yahoo.com

Suzanne Economopoulos - Fulton

(404) 948-1041 / (770) 377-4363 / zan2970@mindspring.com

Marla Morris - Lamar, Upson & Pike

(770) 584-9554 / georgiashebear@yahoo.com

Cathy Hackle - Twiggs, Bleckley, Wilkinson

(478) 957-3875 / chackle@windstream.net

Eddy O'Hern - Houston, Bibb & Peach

(478) 328-8308 / (478) 397-1135 / edohern@bellsouth.net

Debora Hines - Thomas & Mitchell

(229) 403-9386 / dhines@mchsi.com

Michelle Williams - Spalding

(404) 290-8155 / shelly@kuntrylivin.com

Angela Hughes

- Pierce, Bacon, Appling, Tattnall, Long & Liberty

(912) 202-8554 / info@helphorses.net

Cynthia Anderson - Baldwin & Putnam

(770) 713-9887 / gomaisfat@yahoo.com

Darla Money - Gordon, Whitfield & Murray

(678) 986-3386 / dmoneycat@yahoo.com

Helen Abercrombie - Union

(706) 781-9215 / helenaber1@yahoo.coim

Donna Williams - Union

(706) 781-9111 / dtuttlew@windstream.net

Kim Bruce - Lumpkin

(770) 855-5727 / kimbruce@dahlonega.org

Kathleen Hales - Fayette , Coweta, Henry & Clayton

(770) 713-0684 / chat2kat@bellsouth.net

Michael Sanders - Houston, Bibb & Peach

(480) 241-2383 / mike.hybrid@gmail.com

Cami Miranda - Johnson, Laurens & Emanuel

(706) 833-7545 / camimiranda1@gmail.com

Linda Kundell -

Oconee, Morgan, Oglethorpe, Athens & Clark

(706) 769-6395 / kundell@bellsouth.net

Randy Watson -

Madison, Franklin, Elbert, Oglethorpe & Jackson

(706) 612-0231 / jane.watson@merial.com

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

**A great article about
Lois and Allison Altman from
"The Jones County News" July 14, 2011
Story Headline:**

**"Two caring ladies foster neglected horses here"
(Story and Photos by Debbie Lurie-Smith)**

The needs of neglected dogs and cats are regrettably a common topic in the daily news but a larger four-legged creature is in just as much jeopardy without the fanfare. Horses are the passion of Allison and Lois Altman and their farm is a foster facility for the Georgia Equine Rescue League. They are currently fostering two horses and have success stories about



others such as Casey, a 10-year-old mare who was emaciated when she was rescued and is now back to health and living at another local farm.

Allison and Lois' involvement in GERL seems a natural progression, both because of their love of horses, and the involvement of sister and daughter, Adriane Cook, who is an Equine Inspector with the Georgia Department of Agriculture.

Allison has been involved with GERL for some time. Lois retired from her nursing career in March of 2010 and started taking care of Maggie Mae and Little Mattie who was foaled in early April.

The foal is already spoken for and Maggie Mae is ready for adoption. Lois said she has been working

with little Mattie to teach her to eat and make sure she is halter broken and knows how to load onto a horse trailer.

"I take a chair in her stall and set with her to teach her to eat," the caregiver said. Lois and Allison live in homes next door to each other on the Altman farm. Allison has eight horses of her own in addition to the two being fostered. She said she has had some of her horses for more than 17 years.

Allison said no rescue horse goes to auction. They remain in foster care until they are adopted. GERL pays all expenses for horses in foster care. The eventual adoption fee is based on the cost of the horse's care while being rehabilitated.

Scarlett One of the horses that recuperated at the Altman Farm was known as Casey when she got there and she was in rough shape from a long time of neglect. Four months later she was adopted by Blaine Rankin of Overlook Farm and her name was changed to Scarlett. Rankin said Scarlett is an amazingly gentle horse who really works hard to please.



...Story continued on page 6

...continued from page 5

“Everyone loves to pet her because her hair is so soft and silky and because she has a quiet, serene nature. She is patient and gentle taking treats from little hands even after her ordeal of almost dying of starvation,” she said. Rankin said several young riders have enjoyed riding Scarlett at her barn, and one of her students in particular, Mallory Spear, has really bonded with the horse. “Mallory canters her around, plays mounted games on her, and has even ridden her into the pond,” she said. Rankin said it can be easy to turn a blind eye to the problem of neglected and abused horses because so many of them are far off the road, behind houses and out of sight. “But once you’ve seen a horse starved within days of death, you can’t eat another meal without feeling that you have to do something. Adriane fought tirelessly behind the scenes for months to literally save Scarlett’s life and get her into a good foster home - and Scarlett is just one of many,” she said. “I can’t say enough about the care that Allison and Lois gave

this horse to bring her back to health when many thought she wouldn’t recover. Even though many

financial concerns are supplemented by GERL, the time and energy commitment to helping these rescue horses is huge.”

Rankin said Allison, Adriane, Lois and all of GERL members definitely go the extra mile in every way - and Scarlett is proof that it works. “GERL is one of the few organizations that I can give money to and not worry about how it is being used. I know every penny is going towards helping a horse like Scarlett,” she concluded. Background Georgia’s Equine Act of 1992 created the equine division of the Georgia Department of Agriculture and a flurry of activity on behalf of mistreated horses. Equine inspectors were hired and impound facilities acquired but it was not long before the enormity of task was realized. The cost of rehabilitating the horses being impounded overwhelmed the resources of the department. The equine division of the GDA is charged with enforcement of the laws, which protect equine in Georgia, but 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. Volunteers stepped up to help and GERL was founded in 1993. To date, the rescue league has provided over \$360,000 to support the GDA Equine Division. In addition, GERL has developed programs to help horses in other ways. The league is working with local law enforcement and animal control agencies to ensure 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. GERL is a non-profit organization with 501(c)3 status. All donations are tax deductible. President’s comments GERL President Pat ty Livingston said 48 horses were in the foster program this past winter. She said GERL does not own property and doesn’t want to. “We have 40 foster homes and would not have a program without people like Allison and her mom,” Livingston said. She said the premise is simple. The horses are rescued, rehabilitated, and go out for adoption. The president said the plan is for the process

to take three months but many of the rescues are being kept for a year before being adopted. Livingston said the focus was previously on abuse but the problem has shifted to neglect. “Horses are cheap now and fall into the

hands of people who can’t afford them,” she said. She spoke of a call GERL received about a situation in White County. The home had no electricity, three horses, and all kinds of animals. The people were renters and when cited, simply left. “The problem we face is there is no prosecution. Prosecutors feel like the owners are too poor so nothing is being done,” she said. Livingston said in 99 percent of cases where the horses are impounded, the owners are released. “The horses are signed over to the state with not even a slap on the wrist,” she said. The president said the laws are on the books and just are not being enforced. Livingston said as bad as it is in Georgia, the state is faring better than most. She said there are 9.2 million horses in the world and most are in the United States. Florida has as many horses as the entire country of Germany. Livingston said DeKalb County is the poster county for enforcing the laws to protect horses. She said the county hired an officer to work with animal control, citations are issued, and the courts enforce the laws. “The issue is making people aware, and we have got to get the attention of the decision makers,” she said To make a donation or for more information go to www.gerlltd.org.



Georgia Equine Rescue League, Ltd.
will host the **1st Annual**
GEORGIA
STALLION TO GELDING
CASTRATION DAY
November 12, 2011

Details: Specific equine veterinarians all across Georgia will be participating by hosting a low cost castration clinic for \$100 per horse. GERL will pay \$50 and the owner/client will pay \$50.00. Please check the GERL website (www.gerlltd.org) for participating veterinarians in your area.

Contact for more details:

Patty Livingston
(770) 867-0760



Disclaimers:
No Crypt Orchids,
Tetanus required.

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.



Hay Baler 3 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.



Jenna— 4 year old mare, Sorrel Mustang, 13.2hh. Very sweet, riding nicely, just needs more saddle time. Excellent trail prospect!



“Tie” – 18 year old registered Quarter Horse gelding, dun with beautiful markings and confirmation. Never ridden, companion only.



Smokey 3 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.



Sable - 3 y.o. bay thoroughbred cross gelding, 14 hh. Sweet boy, ready for training. He is handling nicely on the ground.

GERL ADOPTABLES

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



“Bo” – 21 year old sorrel Q.H. gelding. New to adoption program. More information forthcoming. Visit our website for updates: www.gerlltd.org



Itty Bitty - 3 year old line back dun grade mare. 12.2 hh. Very sweet girl. Gets along with other horses. Vet says due to malnourishment she may not be rideable. Will make a great companion 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.**



Bud -- 5 year old small pony gelding, 40" tall, dark bay with a black dorsal stripe. Accepts a saddle and bridle, has had a toddler placed on his back with no fuss. **LOVES** attention, very friendly and curious. Shaggy little doll, **VERY** easy keeper!



Belladama - 26 yr old Bay Quarter Horse mare. Sweet and calm will be a wonderful companion horse.



Alf - 16 Month old Sorrel QH Gelding 12.1hh. Great disposition, loads on trailer, picks up feet. Ready for more training.

GERL ADOPTABLES

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



Bette - 10 years old bay mare. 41 inch tall pony. Sweet disposition. Very refined. Loves to be bathed and brushed. Will be a great pony with work.



Captain Jack— 2 1/2 year old Sorrel QH gelding. 14.1 hh. Broke to saddle and bridle. Nice ground manners. Sweet boy. Loves people and attention. Has accepted a rider without a fuss. Very wiling pupil. Gets along well with other horses. Will make a great trail horse.



Little Joe - 10 year old pony gelding, (Welsh cross) about 13 hh. Beautiful sorrel paint! Good ground manners, adores attention, and will make an excellent companion. Very trusting and has accepted new experiences such as trailering, standing cross-tied, and bathing. Under further evaluation and training.



Sandy,

So sorry to hear about Cha Cha. That's gotta be tough to take. Thinking about you. I will be sending you a picture which I just happened to see online yesterday.

Love you.

GERL was very sorry to learn that Sandy Stephenson has lost her beautiful mare, "Cha Cha". Sandy sent word that she had received a gift certificate from a dear friend for a bracelet made from Cha Cha's tail hair. We agree with Sandy that this is the perfect gift for anyone who suffers such a loss. tailspinbracelets.com



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



Puttin' On The Feed Bag Recipes

Ratatouille

By Tommy Wilson



1 – 2 lbs. andouille or smoked sausage (I like skinless)
 2 – 4 zucchini (unpeeled)
 2 – 4 yellow squash (unpeeled)
 1 eggplant, peeled (optional)
 1 onion (peeled)
 4 – 5 cloves garlic, (peeled)
 28 oz. can diced tomatoes (any style, I like the Italian style)
 2 TBS. Sugar
 Cajun seasoning (try Tony Chachere's)
 Black pepper (fresh ground is best) and Bay leaf

Dice the sausage and put in the bottom of the Crockpot. Cube the zucchini, squash and eggplant and put on top of the sausage. Dice the onion, crush the garlic, and put on top of the veggies. Pour the tomatoes, undrained, over the top of the veggies. Sprinkle the sugar on top of the tomatoes. Add several shakes of the Cajun seasoning and add black pepper to taste. Top with a bay leaf. Cover and cook on high heat for six hours or on low heat for eight. Discard the bay leaf, stir and serve. (You can also cook this in a big pot on the stove top; pre-cook the sausage, then follow the above directions and simmer over very low heat for about two hours or until veggies are mushy-tender.)

Terrific over rice, if desired, or very pretty in a bread bowl! Makes great leftovers and freezes well. Recipe can be doubled; can also be altered to suit available veggies and personal taste.

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:
recipes@gerlltd.org

2011 GERL Calendar of Events - *Mark Your Calendars Now!*

September 17, 2011
9AM—12PM
 GERL is hosting an
Equine Vaccination Clinic

September 23-25, 2011
Foxhall Game Fair
Foxhall Resort & Sporting Club
Douglasville, Ga.

October 21, 22 & 23, 2011
GERL Fright Fest
Dawson Forest, Dawsonville, Ga.



November 12, 2011
 GERL will host the **1st Annual GEORGIA**
Stallion to Gelding Castration Day
 Contact: **Patty Livingston 770-867-0760**

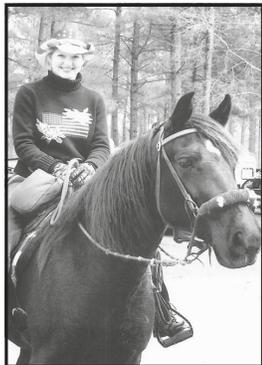
December 10th
GERL Christmas Party
Bethlehem, Ga
Time: 7:00 PM—11:00 PM

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.

LET ME SAY THIS ... ABOUT THAT

By *Patty Livingston, President*



I often research the internet for equine population numbers, hoping to find new figures to indicate how many horses there are in Georgia. I haven't been able to find anything specific to our state, but I have uncovered some other interesting facts in the process. Keep in mind that the estimated numbers are now five years old.

According to a 2006 report, there are 58,372,106 horses in the world. The United States, by far, reports the highest total number of horses with an approximate 9,500,000. Yes, that's 9.5 Million! This data provided by FAOSTAT is similar to the American Horse Council's independent study, which reported a US horse population of 9,223,000 in 2005. This indicates that U.S. equine numbers rose by nearly 300,000 in just over a year.

In the US, Texas reports the largest horse population, with an estimated 978,822. Other leading states include: California (698,345); Florida (500,124); Oklahoma (326,134); Kentucky (320,173); Ohio (306,898); and Missouri (281,255). Do you realize that Florida has more horses than the entire country of Germany? That is mind-boggling to me. Why am I telling you all of this? I am trying to help everyone comprehend how serious our horse problem is, and I don't mean us, as Georgians. I mean "us" as in Americans. I have spoken to people in other states who share our concerns about neglectful new horse owners who, for the first time can now own a horse because of the current low price of horses. Combined with ignorance concerning the cost of maintenance and proper care for a horse, it is a recipe for equine neglect.

I recently received a call from a newspaper reporter from Ft. Wayne, Indiana and he wanted to talk to me about GERL's framework and partnership with the Department of Agriculture. He told me that Indiana has serious horse issues and they are totally overwhelmed with the number of unwanted horses. Two days later I received a call from a retired law enforcement officer in Tennessee who got my name and number from a mutual friend. He wanted to pick my brain to find out what we're doing about our horse problems. He went on to tell me about how difficult it is to get past the "good ole boy" network to obtain help for starved horses. That same week I received a call from a television

reporter down in Savannah who was doing a story on horse rescues and the plight of horses today. He told me that the City of Savannah was finally going to change some ordinances with regard to the welfare of the carriage horses in downtown Savannah. Hallelujah!

This flurry of activity made me realize that we have it better than most states. Georgia has a growingly effective program that has been in place for eighteen years. The program includes laws which protect equine, knowledgeable GDA Equine Inspectors; several impound barns (including recent partnerships with several prison facilities), where seized equine may be taken for rehabilitation and re-homing. We also enjoy an excellent working relationship with our University of Georgia Vet. School. All of this, not to mention the many other horse rescue groups and non-profit equine organizations in Georgia. What other state has all of that?

I recently wrote a "Get Well Plan" which was provided to the Georgia Department of Agriculture and our Agriculture Commissioner. My plan contained five components:

1. Slow down reproduction (Sponsorship of Stallion Castration Clinics)
2. Prosecute and Fine Equine Abusers
3. Disbursement/Disposal of impounded equine (placing them in good homes)
4. Financial (How the present impound program might pay for itself)
5. Education, education, education!

Each component contains detailed information. It is a plan that is flexible, in that each piece of the plan operates independently of the others. However, without all of the components, obtaining the goal will remain out of reach.

"The Horse" magazine did a story last month concerning the unwanted horse problem. I noticed that many of the components of my Plan were also listed in their article. This is not rocket science. The northeast has already been doing many of these things for over twenty years, which is largely responsible for their having a much better control of their dog and cat over abundance. I see no difference for the possibility that the same strategies will apply to the over population of horses.

I have several friends who are involved in a specific canine breed rescue. They will transport a dog two or three hours north to meet another volunteer who will drive it another three hours to introduce the animal to acceptable parties willing to give the animal a good home. I was told that this chain of events is more the rule than the exception.

...Continued on page 13

...continued from page 12

Let Me Say This...About That

Of course, there remains the Mustang problem out West (yes, I intend to stand on this soapbox regularly!). Farmers and ranchers feel that these horses and burrows destroy their fences, eat the grass, and drink precious water needed by their livestock. Therefore, in an effort to control the number of these "Icons of the American West", the Bureau of Land Management annually rounds them up and then trucks them all over the country to sales where they may be bought for as little as \$25. I wonder why the states (Georgia included) are still allowing this. Don't they think we have enough horses here, already? And, charging only twenty-five dollars? Come on! What about birth control?!

I am constantly telling people that this is not about rescuing a few horses; it is about making people accountable and stopping the cycle of over-breeding and neglect. And, let me say this about that...I don't think that this is a time when we have the luxury of doing nothing just because there are inadequate state funds budgeted for enforcement of our equine laws and the consequent care of impounded equine. I think that sheer numbers dictate a need to start doing something to fix our horse problem and that's exactly what I intend to do!

Thank you, *Sarah Hill*, for your monthly contributions to our Stallion-Gelding Program!



**GERL Stallions to
Gelding Program.**

**Stallions Gelded
To Date By GERL: 67**



GERL Invited to Attend Arabian Summer Classic

By Cynthia Brayton

Georgia Arabian Horse Association (GAHA) is a non-profit organization dedicated to serving and promoting the best interest of Arabian horses and Arabian horse breeders in Georgia. They held their 2011 Summer Classic Show at The Georgia International Horse Park in Conyers on June 3rd, 4th and 5th. This event featured Arabian, Half-Arabian, and Anglo-Arabian horses showing in Halter, Performance, Dressage, Sport Horse, and Hunter/Jumper classes.

GERL was invited to participate by hosting an information booth and holding a silent auction with all proceeds going to benefit our organization. Donated items for the auction came from GERL as well as GAHA members and helped us raise a total of \$1000! The auction featured commissioned artwork, saddles, tack, and a variety of fun gift items which received bids from spectators as well as exhibitors.

GERL would like to express sincere appreciation to the officers and members of GAHA for generously providing this opportunity for GERL. The dedicated GAHA staff was a pleasure to work with throughout the show.

Anne Ensminger, Patty Livingson, and myself, Cynthia Brayton, attended this event and greatly enjoyed working with fellow vendors, GERL members Marion Cobb (Area Coordinator from Forsyth County), and LeAnn Householder, representing her equine jewelry business, "Engrave This". They generously donated two beautiful engraved items for the silent auction which proved to be very popular with bidders. Another silent auction item was a leather and silver show halter which caught the attention of a lady who came through the door and immediately bid \$150. This is the kind of monetary support that horse enthusiasts often give to our silent auctions.

Another vendor we enjoyed meeting during the show was Marcie Byrn, owner of Free Rein Designs. Her unique equestrian inspired handbags are made from authentic and vintage horse tack. She was so impressed by what GERL stands for that she became a new GERL member!

We are always seeking donated items for our silent and on-line auctions. If you have items to donate, please contact Sue Wrensen via email at swrensen@comcast.net or go to our website at www.gerlltd.org for details.

“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

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!***

Red Man Finds His Forever Home

By Patty Livingston

Red Man is a six year old mustang who has been living at my house right at one year. He is not my first foster, nor is he my first stallion to foster. GERL picked this skinny little horse up from Gwinnett County Animal Control back in July, 2010. There were a total of five horses that came out of the neglectful owner's property...three mares and two stallions. We were able to take Red Man and a young mustang mare, which later turned out to be pregnant. Red Man was castrated in December and remained by himself in my front pasture for the next six months.

Red Man quickly became one of my favorites with his prankster-like personality. If you walked outside and were visible to him, he would definitely have to walk over to the fence and check

you out and wait for some attention. He also became a favorite of a neighbor who brought him treats every day while walking her dog past his pasture. He was such a smart horse that he would untie himself from the hitching post every time he was put there. It didn't take him long, either. I had an opportunity to watch him do this one day. I was totally amazed at the methodical way that he would pull the quick release loop until he could get it loose enough to drop down the vertical post and then use his feet to pull it apart.



In late June I received a call from GERL Adoption Coordinator, Ruth Sarrett Wilson, who let me know that a lady had called and expressed an interest in meeting Red Man and possibly adopting him. I admit I was a little excited about the prospect of Red Man going to a forever home. After all, my farm is supposed to be a "revolving door" foster home, NOT a retirement home.

When I met Jennifer Toxen for the first time I couldn't help but notice her easy manner with Red

Man, who was being a wiggle worm and couldn't stand still. She didn't use a halter and I was impressed with her ability to get him to do what she wanted in a relatively short period. Jen, as I've come to know her, already

has a nineteen year old mustang gelding named "Saint" who is over sixteen hands high. Red Man is fourteen two hands. She plans to finish Red Man on the trails in Gwinnett which she's been known to frequent. As it turns out, Jen (and Red Man) live in Bethlehem and are only about five miles down the road, making it more likely to run into them on the trails at Harbins Park sometime. Wouldn't that be neat?!

The Store

More items on the website!



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 ring spun 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

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

Update on
Proof of Purchase (POP) program.

This summer marks the 3rd anniversary of our Southern States program and to date we have raised \$4,600.10 !! This money has given so many horses a chance at a better life. We continue to have regular donors sending in their POP's, and I am grateful beyond words for their support. I would also like to thank the following new donors: Mary Margaret & Meg Capinas & Three Fillies Farm, Patricia Hobbs, Gail Carmody, Christine Carroll, Samantha Ball, Richard & Doris Buckley & Mountain Rose Stables, Vaughn Ball, Jackie Moore, Barbara Stoltz & Woodcrest Farm, Tonia Epps & Making Strides, Susan Hansen, Jackie Nabb, Michael & Carrie Russell, Natalie Tucker, Shari Spokes, Kriston Glushko, the Edwards, and Richard & Laura Sauerbier & Little Acres Farm. Please keep sending in your POP's & tell your friends too. Let's give more horses a fighting chance. Together we will make a difference.

ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS!!

GERL has created a beautiful brochure to be distributed to vets, tack and feed stores, grocery stores, etc.

Please call or email Anne Ensminger
@ 770-464-4438;
missanne612@bellsouth.net and she
will be happy to send some to you!

Please help us spread the word about
GERL!

**Thank you for your generous donation,
Ric & Wanda Baxter!**



**GERL would like to thank Jennifer
Peebles for her generous support!**



DeMoss Computer Services

- * Computer Repairs
- * Networking
- * Website Design
- * Virus Removal
- * Software Installation
- * Laptop Repair
- * iPhone Glass/LCD Repair
- * Service and Support

Steve DeMoss
P. O. Box 207
Good Hope, Ga. 30641
Phone: 678-427-5771
steve@demosses.com

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

A Story of Alf...by Rhonda Veit, *New South Equine Medicine*

Alf, a yearling quarter horse colt, was seen on April 14, 2011 for evaluation of his hind limbs. As the pictures show, Alf was afflicted with flexural limb deformities -- better known as "contracted tendons" -- in the fetlocks of both back legs. Alf knuckled over at the fetlock when he walked and was unable to extend the fetlock in a normal stance. This condition is usually congenital (i.e. present at birth), is more common in the front limbs, and can affect the carpal joint (the "knee"), the fetlock, or the coffin and pastern joints. The cause is unknown. Contributing factors may include a genetic predisposition, and infections or exposure to toxins in the pregnant mare. Flexural limb deformities are most often treated in newborns with a combination of leg splints and intravenous ox tetracycline. Ox tetracycline, an antibiotic, is used in this case because of its ability to bind calcium and relax skeletal muscle.

After consultation with the surgery service at the University of Georgia, it was decided that Alf was unlikely to respond to corrective surgery because the condition had likely been present since birth. Splinting also was not a good option because of his age and his limited experience



Limb Deformities



Cured

with handlers. Again because of his advanced age, Alf was not expected to respond well to intravenous ox tetracycline; however, it was decided that this treatment would be attempted because it is inexpensive, non-invasive, and the best option available for this particular case. A guarded prognosis was given. While flexural limb deformities are relatively easy to treat in young foals, it is extremely rare to get good results in an older animal. It was expected that Alf was destined to be a pasture ornament who would likely develop crippling arthritis in his adult life. He would be lucky to achieve middle age.

Alf was given 3 grams of ox tetracycline intravenously for three consecutive days, April 13 through April 15. By day three of treatment, Alf was improving: he could hold his heels on the ground in a normal stance for several minutes before knuckling over. When he was seen again for castration on May 17, he had recovered completely – a rare and remarkable outcome! Alf is currently sound and should have no further complications. It was wonderful to see his dramatic, absolute recovery.

Itty Bitty Moves to Athens

By Patty Livingston

We were in the final stages of planning a multi-county meeting in Winder with law enforcement and animal control for twenty-two counties when I made a note to find at least one skinny horse for the body scoring demo we would be providing. I had just received an email from Paulding County Animal Control officer, Drew Hendrickson, about a very small horse that they had just impounded and he wanted to know if we would take her into our program. She had a body score of one. I thought she would be perfect for the training and arranged to pick her up a week later. They called her “Bitty”, short for “Itty Bitty”. And she was certainly that! She was the size of a foal, but was actually 3 years old.

On the day of the Winder Multi-County Law Enforcement meeting we got there early with the horses and got them settled down in the shade with water and hay to munch on. Michelle Rabold, an Animal Control officer from Athens who attended the training, took a shine to “Bitty” and immediately inquired

about fostering her with the possibility of adopting her later on. She filled out all of the necessary paperwork to become a foster for GERL and we were delivering “Bitty” to her farm within a few weeks.

We are getting wonderful new reports from Michelle about “Bitty” and how much she is growing and gaining weight. We look forward to the day when that will be her forever home!



Our condolences to Donna Pieper

Donna Pieper and her horse, “Major” have been like sugar and cream, salt and pepper, or cake and ice cream for a large portion of his 27 years. Donna recently had to say goodbye to Major and that has been hard. Thank the good Lord for our memories. Since Major’s retirement, Donna has been riding her wonderful gelding, “Paunch” but he is not Major. Major’s special place in her heart is forever. Paunch will, no doubt, earn his place as well. GERL sends our most sincere condolences, Donna.

Thank you, Jimmy Morris

Sarah Hill has let us know that Georgia horse trainer, Jimmy Morris, of Hazelhurst is a true believer in Southern States Legends feed. He buys about ten bags per week and never fails to save the Proof of Purchase seals on each bag for GERL. Jimmy, along with many other GERL supporters, is making a real difference by putting forth this special effort. GERL receives 25 cents for every Southern States POP seal and we remain deeply grateful to Southern States and everyone, like Jimmy, who goes to the trouble to save them for us.

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

GEORGIA EQUINE RESCUE LEAGUE

PRESENTS: FRIGHT FEST 2011

OCTOBER 21, 22, 23



A BENEFIT RIDE TO HELP STARVED, ABUSED & NEGLECTED HORSES

TO BE HELD AT DAWSON FOREST, DAWSONVILLE, GA
26+ MILES OF TRAILS

Guided Trails Rides or
Go Out on Your Own

Pottluck Dinner Friday Night
Bring your Favorite Dish

Breakfast Sat. & Sun.
Dinner Sat. night
INCLUDED!!!



Costume and Best Decorated
Camp Contest - Judging on Sat. afternoon

Dance with D.J.
Sat. Night after Auctions

Cowboy Church Sunday A.M.

Live and Silent Auctions on Saturday Evening
Mickey Farmer –World Famous Auctioneer

Donate Items for the Auctions!

Contact: suewrensen@comcast.net



PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED! WE WILL ACCEPT LATE COMERS ON A
SPACE AVAILABLE BASIS ONLY. DON'T TAKE A CHANCE, REGISTER NOW!
DOWNLOAD REGISTRATION FORM @ WWW.GERLLTD.ORG
QUESTIONS? CONTACT ANNE ENSMINGER @ 770-464-3348

**REGISTRATION FORM
 GEORGIA EQUINE RESCUE LEAGUE
 FRIGHT FEST 2011
 Dawson Forest, Dawsonville, Ga.**



All riders and non-riders must be registered by Oct. 14th.
 Registrations received after that date will not be guaranteed a camping spot.

Camping is primitive. There are trees in most areas for tie lines. Portable pens are allowed. Water truck will be parked on site for your horse. The terrain at Dawson Forest is suitable for all riding levels. We recommend that your horse be shod.

Volunteers will be showing you where to park when you arrive. Camping is on a first come, first serve basis.

Negative Coggins is required—*no exceptions*.

You will receive an information packet through the mail on the week of the ride. Please bring it with you! This packet will contain directions to Dawson Forest, a waiver that must be filled out by you prior to arrival at camp and a trail map.

For further information or questions please contact Anne Ensminger: 770/464-3348 or missanne@bellsouth.net

GERL MEMBER? Yes No

Name: _____			
Address: _____			
City: _____	State: _____	Zip: _____	
Phone: _____	Email: _____		

No. of Adult Campers/GERL Members: _____ X \$55 ea. = _____

No. of Adult Campers/ Non-Members: _____ X \$65 ea. = _____

No. of Children/GERL Members: _____ X \$10 ea. = _____

No. of Children/Non-Members: _____ X \$15 ea. = _____

Not camping but attending Sat. night dinner, auction and dance: _____ X \$10 ea. = _____

Primitive camping: = \$10 Per Rig for weekend = _____

Total = _____

Make check payable to: GERL
Mail to: Anne Ensminger
3662 Dally Rd., Covington, GA 30014

50% non-refundable deposit
due now = _____

Balance Due at check-in = _____

For additional registration forms, go to our website: www.gerlltd.org

Thank You For Renewing Your GERL Membership

Norman & Linda Alter	Bill & Kathy Evans	Denise Mortensen
Betty Altman	Chuck & Carol Ewing	Jennifer Peebles
Susan & Ken Archer	Alice Farrar	Sandi Persson
Ric & Wanda Baxter	Debbie Ferrell	Valerie Puryear
Leo & Ramon Bell	Ray Gary, Jr., Atty. at Law	Stan Reich
Amelia & Wayne Bolton	Jane Harmon	Lisa Kelley Schindler
George & Barbara Bullock, - Ret. A. F.	Stella Herrington & Taylor Ballew	Christine & Barry Sheehy
Marian Campbell	Danny Horne & Pam Kessler	Bill Simpson & Family
Paul & Susan Carlson	Dan Hutchins	Judy Sophianopoulos
Robert & Diane Caruso	Sam & Linda Jeanes	Melissa Spatz-Schwartz
Jillian Chamberlain	LaVon Kern	Craig & Susan Waldron
Barbara Clark	Randy & Lisa King	Lee & Jill Webb
Tanya & Anthony Cochran & Family	Tanya & Dave Kingsley	Patricia West
Ed & Sandra Creel	Bonnie Kirschling	Fran Wilde
Debbie & Jessica Crowe	Geri Kono	Donna Williams
Dr. Gisela Dalton	Dianne Lacefield	Julia & Charlie Williams
Steve & Pam de Lyra	Ray & Mary Margaret Lee	Michelle Williams
Edward dePeterse	Jean Long	Deborah Wilson
Andrea Elmore	Carleen Mauk	Jan & Gaye Wilson
	Ryann McCrory	Anne Wohlert
	Tim Miller	

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

GERL Attends the GAHA Summer Classic Show

By Cynthia Brayton

The Georgia Arabian Horse Association (GAHA), a non-profit organization dedicated to serving and promoting the best interest of Arabian horses in Georgia in addition to promoting the interest in Arabian horse breeding. The GAHA held their 2011 Summer Classic Show at The Georgia International Horse Park in Conyers on June 3rd, 4th and 5th. This event featured outstanding GAHA members and their Arabian and Half-Arabian/Anglo-Arabian horses in Halter & Performance, Dressage & Sport Horse and Hunter/Jumper classes.

GERL was invited to participate by holding a silent auction with all proceeds going to benefit our organization. The donations to the auction came from GERL and GAHA members who helped raise a total of \$1000. The auction featured commissioned artwork, saddles, tack and a variety of fun gift items which received bid from the exhibitors at the show. GERL extends our appreciation to the members of GAHA for their generosity in extending the opportunity to hold our silent auction. The dedicated GAHA staff was a pleasure to work with throughout the show.

Anne Ensminger, Patty Livingston and Cynthia Brayton attended this event and worked with fellow vendors and GERL members Marion Cobb, Area Coordinator for Forsyth County, and LeAnn Householder who represented Engrave This. They generously donated two beautiful engraved items for the silent auction which were very popular with bidders. We met another vendor at the show, Marcie Byrn, owner of Free Rein Designs. Her equestrian inspired handbags are made from authentic and vintage horse tack. She was so impressed by what GERL stands for that she became a new GERL member. One of the silent auction items was a leather and silver show halter which caught the attention of a lady who came through the door and immediately bid \$150. This is the kind of monetary support that horse owners generously give at our silent auctions.

GERL is always looking for donated items for our silent and on line auctions. Please contact Sue Wrensen via email at swrensen@comcast.net or go to our website at www.gerlltd.org for details.



Ms. Patty Livingston
President
Georgia Equine Rescue League, Ltd.

Dear Ms. Livingston,

First and foremost I would like to thank you and may God bless you for your love and dedication to all of the horses which so desperately need your voice to speak for them. Also, thank you on behalf of the Pulaski Impound for all of GERL's continued support. I don't know where we would be without you!

At the risk of going on about myself I will make my introduction brief. I am a 50 yr. old woman presently incarcerated at Pulaski State Women's Prison. I have been here since Dec. 17, 2010. My crime is one of greed. You see, I allowed my need for acceptance through material things to overpower me. This ultimately took me away from all of those "worthless" things but most importantly, from my husband of 27 years and my (our) two beautiful daughters. For that, I will always be ashamed.

Upon entering Pulaski I saw the "horse farm" and having always loved horses, knew that I wanted, no needed to be a part of the Horse Program. I believed at that time being around the horses would be a fun and enjoyable way to do my time. Initially, I was informed by the intake staff that I had too much time to serve but even if that had not been a factor, it was extremely difficult to be accepted into the program. To God alone be the Glory! Through faith and prayer, not only was I accepted into the Faith & Character Program, but within 4 months of entering Pulaski, I was interviewed by Ms. Cravy, the Veterinary Assistant Trade teacher and I became a part of the Horse Program on 4/10.

Fast forward to present time. To say my work with these precious horses has been easy or always enjoyable would be very far from the truth. My deep love and passion for them has kept me going when the tears were too much. The heart break of being away from my family, plus caring for these abused, some near death, horses was, and is still all encompassing. However, they give me more than I could ever give to them. We are alike in many ways, these horses and myself. How could I not do what I do with a soft touch, kind words, and love in my heart and my eyes every day for them? I couldn't. I possess a college degree in Business, years of experience in the corporate world. Yet, the certificate I received last week as a graduate from the Middle Georgia Tech College for Veterinary Assistant means more to me than all of those years of education and experience in the business world. My Vet Assistant degree will, God willing, open doors for me to continue my true passion and purpose, working with horses in need. I have no idea what my future holds. All I know is that if it doesn't include work which lets me express my love for horses I will leave this earth sadly unfulfilled.

It is my hope that I will be released from prison within the next 12 months. As much as I long for that day, it causes me anguish to leave the Horse Program. But again, I pray that I will be able to continue in the free world, this calling to work with horses. I feel that I am a natural with them. People here often ask me how I do it? I answer: it's a "labor of love", pure and simple.

Last week at my graduation ceremony I recited a poem which I wrote. It pretty much says it all and was from my heart. As I ended my poem, the audience was full of tears and I got a standing ovation. Make no mistake though, this was NOT about me. You see even in here, like you. I am the voice for these precious horses. I wouldn't have it any other way. No wonder that around here they call me the "Horse Whisperer" AKA "The Horse Lady".

In closing, thanks again for all you do. Remember as I do, when the going gets tough, just look in their eyes and that's all you need to get through! God Bless You All!

Sincerely,

Robin Darline Farrell
GDC#108/654
Pulaski State Prison
Honor Dorm - E-2
P. O. Box 839
Hawkinsville, GA 31036

Union County 4-H Visits Mansfield Impound

By Dotti Carter, Area Coordinator Director

July 16th started out as a cool and somewhat rainy morning when Michelle Campbell and her group of Union County 4-H members met GERL Area Coordinator, Helen Winn, and me at the Union County Civic Center at 6:30 in the morning. It would be a three hour trip to the Mansfield Equine Impound, a trip that had been in the planning stages since last winter, and we wanted to be on the road by 7:00. The Union County 4-H has a bus especially for these types of trips so the kids rode in comfort behind Helen and me in my car.

Upon arrival, we were met by Georgia Dept. of Agriculture Inspector, Jessie Murray, who served as our tour guide and provided a wealth of information



to all. The group learned the background stories of all of the horses on site and were told which horses would be offered for auction the following week. They also learned the role GDA plays in enforcing the state's equine laws and how GERL has supported that role for almost 20 years.

The kids had a lot of questions and Jessie was a great teacher covering body scoring, feeding a malnourished horse and what efforts are made to make the horses ready for adoption.

After a picnic lunch provided by Michelle, everyone loaded up for the long trip home. We were tired, but all felt it had been a very productive day.



Update on Woody

You may remember a short story in our last newsletter about a young horse named "Woody" that was impounded by Forsyth County Sheriff's Office. They are prosecuting Woody's owner. Woody is being fostered in Forsyth County and GERL is picking up all costs for his rehabilitation. Woody continues to gain weight and is really getting to be a very handsome horse.

Alice in Waterland and Red Man

By *Patty Livingston*

I often have people contact me to ask if they can come over to our “facility” and work with our horses. Of course, I explain that we don’t have one facility where we house our horses and usually end up suggesting that they volunteer at one of the Georgia Department of Agriculture’s horse impound barns. In reality, wouldn’t I love for someone to volunteer to come to my house and pick up poop? I knew this was never going to happen!

This story is about a lady who would walk her dog, a black and white Great Dane named “Daisy”, past my house every afternoon. At that time, I was fostering a mustang named “Red Man” and he would take off running towards this strange sight when he saw her coming with the big dog that closely resembles a calf. She often carried a large basket on her arm that I later found out was full

of goodies for the animals along her route. After several weeks of watching this, I had an opportunity to meet “Alice in Waterland”. Actually, her name is Alice Enix, but her business card says “Alice in Waterland”; very clever, I thought, for a lady in the commercial water cooler business. Anyway, Alice approached me one day and asked if I needed help with my horses and offered to come over and help with chores, including picking up poop! I asked her if she ever owned a horse or was knowledgeable about horses and she told me that she hadn’t been around horses since she was ten years old, but she

always had the love and desire to be around them.

Shortly after that, I decided to call “Alice in Waterland” and invite her to come over and ride with me. She jumped at the opportunity and arrived at my house promptly at the time we had agreed. I saddled Red Man, while showing her how to do everything, and then saddled my own horse. We rode for about an hour and Alice did very well with Red Man, considering that they were both “green”. When we got back to the barn I showed her how to put him in a round pen and work on voice commands and other ground work. After that, Alice came over every day



Alice in Waterland teaching Red man to bow

and spent time with Red Man and it made such a difference in his attitude. He is a horse that loves to learn and be around people. He reminded me of Forrest Gump. He would start running for no apparent reason, and just run and run and run. And, suddenly, he would stop. He was certainly the most entertaining horse I’ve ever met and I was able to get a lot of his antics on film.

It soon became obvious that Red Man was bored with round pen work. I mentioned to Alice that he was the type of horse that could probably learn tricks. Alice got on the internet and did a little research and the next day she started teaching him how to bow. I was very impressed with how fast he picked this up, as well as Alice’s ability to teach him. I learned that you don’t have to be an expert with horses to teach. All it really takes is the consistency of time and the desire. Of course, a willing pupil is also a plus and Red Man proved that he was all that AND a box of chocolates!

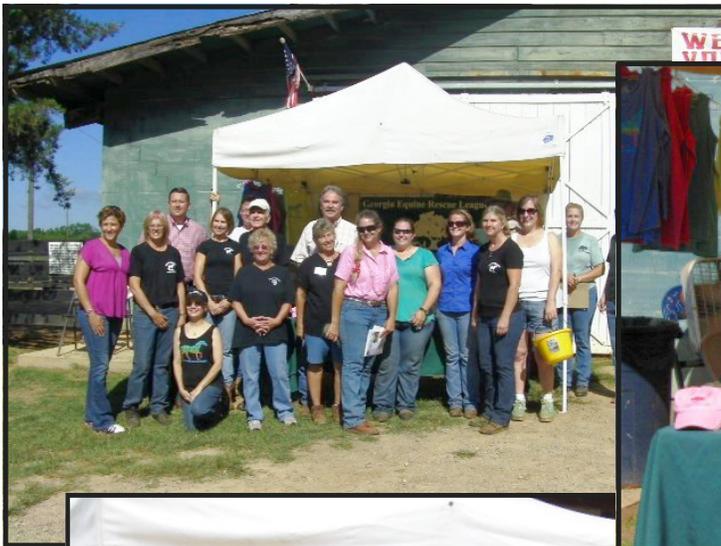
Mansfield Impound Horse Auction Results

By Patty Livingston

A small crowd of people showed up at the Georgia Department of Agriculture's horse auction on July 23rd. It was a hot day and the decision to have the horse auction inside the barn was an excellent idea. There were twenty-two horses listed for sale, many of which had been in one of the three impound barns for at least six months. They needed to go to a new home!

I arrived early to set up the GERL booth and proceeded to sell t-shirts and cold drinks. It was already sticky and hot. Mickey Farmer, our favorite auctioneer, arrived shortly afterwards and began to set up his equipment in the back of the pickup truck located inside the barn. The inspectors and volunteers had also arrived early to help get the horses ready for their big debut.

The auction started off pretty well with the first two horses bringing over five hundred dollars. Unfortunately, the horses that weren't trained to ride didn't receive any bids and were returned to their stalls. Many of us had already seen this happen at other State horse auctions and were disappointed, but not surprised. The Department of Agriculture ended up selling nine of the twenty-two horses and made approximately two thousand dollars.



**Georgia Equine Rescue League, Ltd.
Is Hosting an Equine Vaccination Clinic
September 17th, 2011 9AM - 12PM**

**Grady County Livestock Pavilion
Livestock Pavilion Rd.
Cairo, Ga.**

No Appointment Necessary!

**Limited 4 horses per client
Georgia Residents Only.**

**Includes E/W/T. Rabies,
West Nile, and Coggins.**

**Attending Vets:
*Dr. Janet Ackerman
Animal Medical Center
and
Dr Alex Greenberg
Cairo Animal Hospital***

**Open to all Georgia Residents
GERL is working with your
Grady County Local vets to offer a
HUGE discount of 50%.**

GERL Guest of Honor at Lion's Club Meeting

By Patty Livingston

GERL President, Patty Livingston, and Secretary, Anne Ensminger, were recently guests of the Winder Noon Lions Club, which meets at the Golden Corral in Winder. Patty presented a slideshow to the members that related all of the programs that GERL sponsors. She let them know that GERL is not just about rescuing a few horses. GERL is making a difference by implementing other programs besides the adoption and fostering of horses. Programs like castration clinics, vaccination clinics and multi-county meetings with law enforcement and animal control personnel where they are taught how to handle a horse and about enforcing animal cruelty laws. Even the people in the room who really weren't very interested in horses seemed moved to hear about their plight and the fact that they could be purchased for as little as ten dollars.

After the presentation was over, Lions Club President, Bob Long, presented Patty with a small brass Lion with the Lions Club insignia.



What was I thinking?

By Margaret Clower

Aliya is now four years old and just finished her first 25 mile endurance ride. She is an Arab mare who started life as part of a starving herd of Arabians. Luckily for her, the entire herd was rescued by the Georgia Department of Agriculture when she was close to one year old. It took a year to rehabilitate them and successfully prosecute the owners. Then the horses were finally able to be adopted out to loving homes.

I have been a member of GERL for a long time and was treasurer for five years. I strongly support GERL and GDA in their mission to help horses. I also do endurance riding and love Arabians. So my daughter, Margo and I went to the GDA auction held at Mansfield on Sept. 20, 2008 to see these beautiful animals get a new start in life.

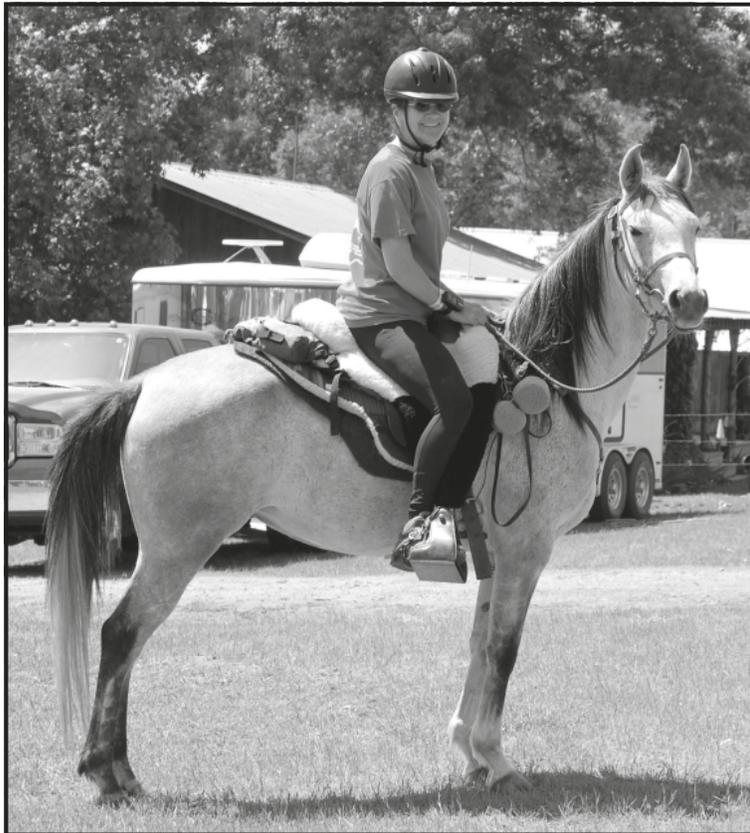
There were 37 horses on the list to be auctioned that day. We had visited with the horses prior to the auction and my daughter, who has a sixth sense pertaining to horses, pointed out this one rose gray filly she thought was going to be something special. All I saw was a small pot-bellied filly with a funny looking head.

Anyway, the bidding started and there was high excitement as they brought out the young ones prancing around, the mature ones with wild-eyed wonder, and the older ones with a look of hey ya'll. All got adopted. Then number 37, the very last horse to be auctioned, came out. It was a little 13.2 hand two year old rose gray Arabian mare. This is the one Margo said was special. The auctioneer started asking for bids, but nobody raised their hand. He begged someone to raise their hand to bid. Margo and me looked at each other and then my hand just went up.

Now, 'let me say this about that,' as Ms. Patty Livingston always says. Although I knew nothing about

training babies and I had little experience with mares, here I was taking on a barely two year old untrained mare. As the Derks Bentley song goes, "Well I know what I was feeling But What was I thinking"?

When we went to get her at Mansfield the barn helpers suggested all sorts of ways to catch her and get her into the trailer. But, Margo just took a lead rope and halter out and 'Alya,' as they called her, kindly let Margo take her out of the pasture. While Margo was doing that a man loading a young colt came flying by on the end of a lead rope with the colt ahead of him racing around the yard. PHEW, lets not let that happen to us! So, getting on the



trailer was slow, but I was determined to be methodical as my good friend and former GERL President, Brian Dees had previously instructed. You could see in Aliya's eyes she wanted to do the right thing. She was just scared. We finally succeeded.

I followed Brian's starting tips at home. Aliya was full of young spunk, but showed us in many ways how much she appreciated her new home. She came running and knickered everytime she saw us. I learned she loved for me to blow in her nostrils & talk to her. I can see she IS a special girl, with an

affinity for people.

We took Aliya to a Brian Dees Horse Training For Safety clinic in November. She was apprehensive with the other horses, but showed no aggression. The first day was ground work. Then while the others rode their horse on the second day, my friend Zoe Carlin and I used driving reins on the ground with Aliya. She did excellent.

I worked with Aliya for that next year on the ground. Then in October 2009 I took Aliya to a Brian Dees Colt Starting Clinic. Two entire weekends horses and partners worked. The first weekend we worked on the ground. I have a picture of her with cones on both ears & her head.

Continued from page 28... "What was I thinking"

Then for 2 weeks we practiced. When we came back for the second weekend we learned more, worked more, and then finally mounted for a short trail ride. Exhilarating! Aliya was great for the entire experience. I was nervous, but with Brian's excellent calm teaching methods all the horses and partners passed that weekend. We mounted and rode without incident.

For the next two years I rode and worked with Aliya, falling in love with her along the way. She has attended the GERL Gene Ensminger Memorial Ride for the last two years working on trail and camping skills. We have done some obstacle courses and worked on desensitizing. We have steadily worked on improving fitness, stamina, and endurance.

This June, 2011 at four years old I felt she was finally ready for a 25 mile endurance ride. My friend Zoe Carlin rode my steady-eddy endurance horse Stormy on her first endurance ride, while I rode Aliya on her first ride. Our good friend and longtime GERL and GDA supporter, Betsy Gilman crewed for us which lightened our load and made it that much more fun.

We started in the back after everyone had gone. We stayed at a steady pace and walked down hills and over rocks. Aliya used to jump creeks, but today she crossed stream after stream, and even crossed a big flowing river! At the first vet check she ate and drank like a seasoned endurance horse. We finished with flying colors, smiles all around. I was so proud of Aliya and Zoe.

Well I guess I know now what I was thinking. I was perhaps thinking, maybe it will be OK, and you know what? It has been more than OK. Aliya has endeared herself to humans and horses, with her interesting personality, her bravery on the trail, her love of people, and especially her kind disposition. Those folks that walked away that day, or did not show up for the bidding that day, do not know what they missed. Aliya was well worth it and continues to be a wonderful part of our family. She seems to appreciate us as much, or more, as we appreciate her. I highly recommend you try it with an adoption of your own. It has definitely changed our life for the better. Ezekiel 34:28-29



Incoming Mail...

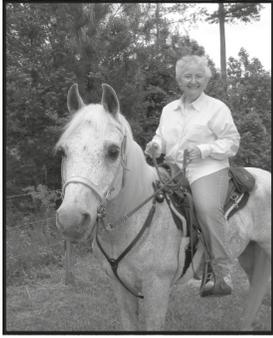
Dear GERL,

I read about Pal on Facebook and had to send money to help with his care. I have 3 horses and 1 mule. I love them dearly. I cannot understand for the life of me, the ignorance of some horse owners. Please be sure this money goes to help Pal.

Thanks you and God Bless,

Sincerely,

Jo Moore



A Note from the Secretary's Desk

By Anne Ensminger

There will always be change. Not original words of wisdom, but words that pop into my head very often concerning my work with GERL. Our mission used to be pretty straight forward. We were always very aware of our legal limitations (and still are) thus it was largely up to the Georgia Department of Agriculture, Equine Division, to take care of case investigations and the impoundment of horses needing help. GERL worked very hard to support that program financially (and still does) and by providing volunteers to help at the GDA Impound Barns. Oh, from the beginning GERL maintained a Foster Care Program but we took in very few horses and they were mostly "nice" horses which were given to us by people who no longer had a need for them and, rather than go to the trouble to market them, gave them to us so that we could sell them for the profit and the donors could take a nice tax deduction.

Today, things are not nearly that simple. We no longer take "donated" horses (not the same as horses in need which are "signed over"). Because of the changing climate in horse rescue which now uses up much more of our time, we have had to re-place the responsibility back onto the shoulders of horse owners for doing what it takes to find satisfactory homes for their horses which are no longer needed or wanted.

Because of budget restraints, the GDA has periods when they are not permitted to pick up horses. We respect their physical responsibility and wish the leaders of our country would follow their lead. Meanwhile, just because the GDA is in one of those periods when they are not picking up horses, does not mean that there are not horses in our state which desperately need help.

Now that GERL has reached out to local law enforcement and animal control agencies in many Georgia counties, we now get calls from them almost daily with reports of starving horses which they have picked up or they are willing to pick up if we will provide help feeding them or take them into our Foster Care Program. Each case is considered separately and decisions are made according to the circumstances. Your Board of Directors has made some tough decisions and we often long for the "good old days" when there were more happy endings.

What do I mean by that? I mean that when we get a call about a horse that is very old, has a severe injury or chronic condition which limits their quality of life, or is dangerous to humans and other animals, as sad as it is, we must make the decision not to accept that horse into our program. We are charged with an awesome responsibility involving how to use

available GERL money wisely. If we agree to spend unlimited amounts of money on a horse needing surgery for an injury, with no guarantee that the horse will ever regain usefulness or quality of life, then we have less available funds to help a potentially healthy horse which needs only to be returned to a normal nutritional state to have a chance for a bright future. Of course, each case is individually considered and decided. "Old" does not mean useless, "injured" does not mean that healing will not occur, and "dangerous" does not mean that gentle and effective training will not yield positive results.

That last category, "dangerous" is the most difficult for us. We do have GERL members and friends who will step up to work with our untrained horses but they are rare. At a minimum cost of \$500 per month, we send only the most promising animals to professional trainers. Many times, thirty days is a mere "drop in the bucket" toward the training a horse requires to become trusting of humans and safe for us to offer for adoption. Wild American Mustangs, with their inborn fear of humans, are always the most difficult animals with which we must deal.

Another HUGE factor responsible for changes in the way we operate, involves the advent of widespread use of the internet. We receive many calls about horses which are found on Craig's List. Truly there are some very thin and pitiful horses offered for sale or for free on Craig's List. We just keep our "fingers crossed" and monitor those situations. It is our feeling that to become involved in those cases would absorb much of our time and energy which could be better spent without our "borrowing trouble". Also, many horses listed on Craig's List are located outside of Georgia. We have always limited our concerns to horses located within our state. If we can just keep up with the need here at home, we will be accomplishing our mission. Yes; those horses found on Craig's List do need a new home because the owners are either irresponsible, or are unable to care for them. The owners are, at least TRYING to place the horses. It is the low down "scum" who ignore the fact that they are starving their horses and do nothing about it that we throw our energy towards.

GERL is now on Facebook, thanks to Andee Rogers who manages our account. It is a wonderful and easy way for people to stay in touch with us and has doubled the number of concerns brought to our attention. Where will it all end? I have no idea but I can live with the fact that GERL cannot save all of the horses if I know in my heart that we save MANY of them and that we make good decisions, if not always easy ones, about how to best help GDA with their growing Impound Program as well as for which horses GERL is able to most effectively make a difference in their lives. I daily say to myself, "one day, one horse at a time" and recite the Serenity Prayer in my mind.

Parelli Jamboree

By Diana DeMoss

GERL attended the Georgia Parelli Jamboree on July 23rd at the Georgia International Horse Park in Conyers. We set up a booth and handed out literature, talked to people about GERL and sold GERL merchandise.

We had the largest volunteer turn-out of any booth we've set up in the last couple of years! I'd like to thank Jacequin Twiss, our volunteer coordinator, for doing such a fantastic job rounding people up for this event!

Jacquelin single handedly put up the canopy (wish we had pictures of that) and stayed ALL day. She had a lot of company! Volunteers were scheduled in 2 hour slots, but most of them stayed and just enjoyed getting to know everyone.

GERL encourages our members to help spread the word about GERL by volunteering for events and booths. This is a great way to become friends with people that share your passions.

The Ga. Parelli team held a trail ride on July 24th, asking that everyone give a donation for GERL. We want to thank them for helping us help horses in Georgia!

A big THANK YOU! to all of the volunteers! GERL could not make an impact on starved and neglected horses in Georgia without you!



Polo Match at Chukkar Farm a Huge Success

By Patty Livingston

If you were anywhere in the Atlanta area on the weekend of July 17th you were most likely trying to find something to do outside because the weather was unusually pleasant with temperatures in the eighties. What better place to be than on the beautiful property at Chukkar Farms watching a polo match and having a picnic. We had a large turnout for the Second Annual GERL Polo Match fundraiser hosted by long-

time GERL member Jack Cashin. The pavilion area was full and people were actually sitting out on the lawn on blankets. Who would have thought that was bearable in the middle of July?

GERL Auction Coordinator, Sue Wrensen, got there early to set up the silent auction which gave everybody an opportunity to get some great deals on a few saddles, tack and other items. Jim Squire, the polo announcer, provided an excellent play by play accounting of the action on the field, as well as explaining the game of polo.

We had a very successful day, bringing in a total of \$2,000 overall. A huge thank you goes to Jack Cashin for his generosity and support to GERL!



GERL Multi-County Law Enforcement Meeting

By Bob Long

I was up early on the morning of June 28th as this was going to be a busy day. After months of planning the day of the multi-county law enforcement meeting had finally arrived. The air was full of excitement and, of course, it was going to be another hot steamy Georgia day. After taking care of my k9 gang I rushed over to the Winder Lions Club building to get the air conditioner on and get ready for the arrival of GERL members and the participants. GERL President, Patty Livingston and Secretary, Anne Ensminger, arrived with the horses. Anne set up registration while Patty attended to the horses. Lynn McMinn also brought her older horse. We had five horses, including "Bitty", a very skinny little mare who had just come into our rescue program. We had invited twenty-two counties to attend and before too long the parking lot began to fill up with Sheriff's cars and Animal Control vehicles. So we were off and running. The coffee was brewing. Barrow County Sheriff, Jud Smith was there to welcome all. Patty welcomed everyone on behalf of GERL and introduced GERL members and staff.



Mat Thompson of GDA gave a presentation about Georgia Equine Laws and Horses "101". With the hot temps the hands on labs were held in mid morning with Mat doing all the training. He demonstrated how to catch a horse, halter the horse and lead. He also talked about color, body parts and used a



life size plastic horse named "Easy Keeper" for the demos. The officers were divided into 4 groups to have hands on experience with the horses. They were required to catch and halter, and load onto a trailer. A Barrow County News reporter was there to cover the event and take photos. They published a great article about the multi-county law enforcement meeting and GERL.

Next was the important part of the day, lunch. A wonderful spread was put on by the Masters Table of Winder and was sponsored by Jared Skelton of A-Actions Bail Bonds and Fred Phillips of 24/7 Express Ankle Monitor Service, both of Lawrenceville. Community Bank and Trust of Winder provided bottled water.

After lunch it was back to class, no time for siesta, as Mat continued with his power point demonstration. The subject of how much does a horse weigh



and how to perform a body score were addressed. Kevin Hearst of DeKalb County Animal Control was there to do a presentation on prosecuting animal cruelty and evidence gathering. Kevin has a unique way of keeping your attention during his presentation. A question and answer period was followed by the presentation of certificates. It was good session and I know I learned some new things as I hope some the participants did.

A great deal of thanks should go to the many GERL members who helped make this event a success. Many gave their time to come and work the event. To each I say thank you, we appreciate your efforts.

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 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.



"Oh Come All 'Ye To Bethlehem"

GERL Christmas Party!

RSVP: (770) 867-0760

***Bring:* Your favorite covered dish,
your own drinks & lawn chairs.**

***Where:* 61 McElhannon Road, SE
Bethlehem, GA 30620
(770) 867-0760 (home)**

**For more information
& driving directions:
<http://www.gerlltd.org>**

**Saturday, December 10th
Time: 7:00 PM - 11:00 PM**



**Memoriams
September 2011**

In memory of Jerry & Eddie by Bill & Kathy Evans.

In memory of Ginger by Lisa Schindler.

Our sincere sympathy to Lisa Creedon on the loss of her old gentleman "Mr. T."

In memory of Cy by Robert & Diane Caruso. "We miss his charisma".

In memory of Imp by Carleen Mauk.

Heartfelt sympathy to Victoria Eubanks for the recent loss of her brother, Michael Karpowski. Loved ones will always be with you in your heart.

GERL extends our deepest sympathy to Dorinda Hennings for the loss of her daughter.

A special thanks to A-Action Bail Bonds and 24/7 Express Ankle Monitoring of Lawrenceville for donating to GERL for food for the Winder Multi-County Meeting!

**GERL is proud to announce
you can now DONATE
on our website using Paypal!**



*Easy and secure,
just go to www.gerlltd.org*



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

**Carol Royer
Shirley Thomas
Susie Hansen
Constance Burchette**

Thank You For Your Donations

Danny & Debbie Britt
Danny & Stephanie Edmondson
Caroline Angelo
Bruce Perry
Pat West
Tanya & Anthony Cochran
Denise Mortensen
Betty Altman

Denise Mortensen
Michelle Gibson
Dwyer Kris
Susan Gardner
Dorothy Cameron
Susan Day
Jennie Hollis
Kit Duncan

**In Honor of Tara
by Roxanne Fatica**

**In Honor of Spy
by Anna Wohlert**

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

WELCOME NEW GERL MEMBERS

New Member	Referred By	Location
Lindsay Bush	GERL	Marietta, GA
Carla Carrabino	Marian Figley	Palmetto, GA
Alice Conolly	GERL	Woodstock, GA
Roxanne Fatica	GERL	Macon, GA
Linda Fears	GERL	Jackson, GA
Heatherlee Hammonds	GERL	Forsyth, GA
Faye Kent	Facebook	Atlanta, GA
Tamara Kline	GERL	Monroe, GA
George Lilley & Family	GERL	Warner Robins, GA
Vickie Lummus & Family	Cynthia Anderson	Newnan, GA
Jessa Madosky	GERL	Thomasville, GA
Joe & Leslie Martin	GERL	Crawfordville, GA
Linda McCauley	GERL	Snellville, GA
Michelle Rabold	Patty Livingston	Winterville, GA
David Rape	Andee Rogers	Perry, GA
Michelle Rutledge & Family	GERL	Good Hope, GA
Denise Schmidt Painted Acres, Inc.	GERL	Monroe, GA
Liz Sherman	GERL	Tignall, GA
J.B. Smith & Family	Ondrea Culp	Stone Mountain, GA
Amy Sperrazza	GERL	Dawsonville, GA

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



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

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

<http://www.gerlltd.org>

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

GERL Volunteer of the Quarter

By *Patty Livingston*

Our GERL volunteer of the quarter is most definitely a person whom we have come to rely on to get things done. Her name is Cynthia Brayton and she also happens to be our Area Coordinator for Rockdale and Henry counties. Cynthia has been instrumental in helping to make sure that any reports of equine neglect in her area are checked out and handled appropriately. She has built a relationship with the Rockdale County Animal Control employees and is always willing to help them, whenever needed. Cynthia has also been the first person to volunteer to sit on GERL booths at several locations, including the recent Georgia Arabian Horse Association Summer Classic Horse Show and the Parelli Classic Show, both held at the International Horse Park. She is always willing to volunteer her time and energy to help set up an auction, shop prices for rubber stall mats or drive to pick up donated fence posts and auction items. One thing that Cynthia is especially good at is getting donations, and she can absolutely come up with the loot after an afternoon of contacting local vendors in her area. She grew up around horses and is a very knowledgeable horsewoman. On top of all of that, she has a great sense of humor and fun to be around. Thank you, Cynthia, for all you do for GERL and the horses!



Twister

By *Anne Ensminger*

We rarely have any idea how people know to contact GERL when they are experiencing horse related problems but I suppose that after nineteen years, word is getting around that we can most likely help. Case in point: Mr. Merle Ballentine of Henry County, called our "hot line" several weeks ago to say that he had been more or less forced to take over the care of his neighbor's horse because, sadly the neighbor was in jail. Mr. Ballentine, knowing very little about horses, saw a need and made the decision to meet that need. He had taken excellent care of the sweet Spotted Saddlebred gelding for quite some time when he began to notice a problem with the horse's hind legs. He feared that it was something serious and was hoping that GERL could help.

Henry County A.C., Cynthia Brayton immediately traveled to Mr. Ballentine's home to have a look at "Twister". Realizing that the problem was indeed serious, Cynthia let Mr. Ballentine know that Twister should be examined by an equine veterinarian. Soon after, a visit from Dr. Robin Barrow confirmed that the gelding suffered from a neurological, as well as a tendon condition which could not be medically or surgically corrected. She felt that Twister was in pain and that his quality of life was greatly impaired. That left a very difficult decision squarely on the shoulders of Mr. Ballentine. The thought of what must be done brought tears to the older gentleman's eyes and after giving his permission, he said his farewells to Twister and went into his house. He had become quite attached to Twister and while this was very difficult for him, he could not let Twister continue to suffer.

Without hesitation, another neighbor, Jake Carter of Southern Belle Farm, knowing of Mr. Ballentine's heavy heart, volunteered to bring his equipment and bury Twister that very afternoon.

I tell this sad story because I hope you will join me in feeling refreshed as we are reminded that neighbors are still neighborly in our country. The concern that Mr. Ballentine showed for Twister, his willingness to take on such a responsibility when his neighbor was incarcerated, as well as the fact that Cynthia Brayton and Mr. Carter took time from their busy day to help, reaffirmed in my heart that the American spirit of community still flickers. Rest in peace, Twister. You are now free from pain. Mr. Ballentine's heart will mend and we hope that he will always know that he did the right thing from beginning to end.

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 or visit www.gerlltd.org*

Membership due October

Samantha Ball
William & Jill Berman & Family
Danny & Jody Brooks
Danny & Faye Burton
Amy Cox
Tammy Croghan & Phil Connor
Charles & Linda DeVane
David & Terri Elsberry
Mark & Lynn Garrett
Joan & Chip Grant
Jim Holland
Margaret & Richard Korges
Judy Lawson
Majorie Leder & Greg Argarin
Doug & Sylvia Lewis
Arline Livingston
Joray Lockridge
Linda Magness Crabapple Hills Farm
Mike & JoAnne Medlock
Ed & Sara Merritt
Gary & Jeana Mullen
Annette Raybon Paulding County 4-H Horse & Pony
Bill Rogers
Shari Spokes
Doug & Linda Starr
Sandy Stephenson
Chatty Stover
Maybelle & Wendy Truelove



Membership due November

Cindy Beall
Scott & Cathy Embry & Family
Elaine Hargadon
Donna Harp & Russ Wood
Peggy & Barbara Hawley Barlyn Farm
Nancy Janosik
Doug & Sandy Mundrick
Willie Perkins Flying D Stables
Jeff, Sheila & Kaitlynn Wallace
Larry Wheat



*As a convenience
you can renew your
membership on our
website using
PayPal.
www.gerlltd.org*

Membership due in December

Rita Bandt
Nancy Bogardts
Pam Borst
Sandra Bryant
Doris Buckley
Joanne Campbell
Jack Cashin Chukkar Farm & Polo Club
Rich & Sue Chalmers
Clare Connell
Carissa Gilman & Family
B.J. & Chris Heffner

Phillip & Lisa Henson
Nick & Patty Howard
Larry Howell
Sherry & Dennis Irwin
Karen Kight
Gina Lance
Richard & Paula LeCates
Rosalee & Sandy Loudon
Tammerly MacDonald
Lance & Tracy McClain
Ann McCloskey
Susan McCullar
Marshia Milam-Medford
Debbie & Lamar Mullinax
- Sundowner of Georgia

Jean Nash
Tammis & T.E. Pennington
Michael & Patricia Petelle
Lee & Kim Raines & Celia Horvathe
Carol Royer
Art and Julie Schwab
Dr. Sheila J. Smith, D.O.
- Family Practice Clinic
Karen Squazzo
Bob & Dorothy Thomas
Lenore Threlkeld
Jacquelin Twiss
Susan Webster-Chiarelo

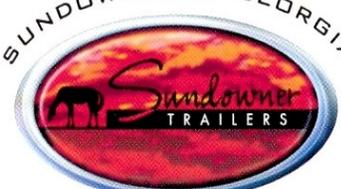
BUSINESS CARDS



R.A. FENCING
FOR HOME & FARM
R.A. ZIEBELL & CO.
SPECIALIZING IN HORSE SAFE FENCING
All Types of Wood-Vinyl-High Tensile Wire-Decorative Gates-Masonry Entrances

ELECTRO-BRAID 770-894-3939
FENCE Dealer
Heritage Vinyl Products
RAY ZIEBELL
OWNER

Email: razfences@msn.com



SUNDOWNER OF GEORGIA
Sundowner
TRAILERS

DEBBIE & LAMAR MULLINAX

1575 Access Road
Covington, GA 30014
www.sundownerofgeorgia.com

Toll Free: (877) 786-8724
Tel: (770) 385-0419
Fax: (770) 788-0574
Email: trailers@sundownerofgeorgia.com

HORSEMEN'S
Feed & Supplies
1744 Hwy. 42 South
Indian Springs, Ga. 30216
678-774-8666



Horse - Cow - Goat - Chicken - Dog - Cat

Located just North of Indian Springs Bridge on the left.



Horse Authority
Blanket Wash & Repair
Since 1999

horseauthority.net

Allyne Johnson
Alpharetta, GA

770-857-8863
horseauthority@yahoo.com

Horse Hay Direct, LLC
Quality Horse Hay
Directly from the Grower



Specializing in Midwestern hay
(Timothy / Orchard / Alfalfa mixes)

Pick up in Dawsonville, GA or we can deliver.
Order by the semi-load and save!

Betty K. Evenson
(706) 265-5045 . (706) 265-9708
gerlbetty@aol.com



Prudential

Tina Turner, CRS, GRI
Realtor

1070 Historic Hwy. 441, Suite A
Demorest, Georgia 30535
www.tinaturnersells.com

Cell: 706-499-6944
Office: 706-778-4171
Fax: 678-928-4159

GERL would like to express sincere condolences to JoRay Lockridge for the recent loss of her mare, "Annie". JoRay and Annie have turned many a barrel in their years together and we know that JoRay now has a big empty spot in her heart.



Georgia Equine Rescue League
PO Box 328
Bethlehem, GA 30620
(770) 464-0138
www.gerlltd.org

PRST STD
US POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT #1037
STONE MOUNTAIN, GA

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

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