



Georgia Equine Rescue League, Ltd.

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

Quarterly Newsletter

July, August and September 2014

Rescue Challenge 2014

By Anne Ensminger

This being the last GERL Newsletter before the first annual GERL Rescue Challenge, we want to utilize our cover story to generate even more excitement about the largest and most important event this organization has ever undertaken.

If you are a GERL member, friend, or Georgia horse enthusiast who has been living under a rock for the past months during which plans for the Challenge have taken shape, we would like to describe the event and invite you to attend.

Realizing that many of the horses in our Foster Care Program remain with us for much longer than they should, and knowing that the reason for this is that they have little or no history of quality training, we set out to enlist the help of some outstanding horse handlers in our state. We chose nine of our foster horses and invited nine Natural Horsemanship trainers to work with one horse each for a period of four full months. At the end of this time, the trainers will come together for a judged competition. There will be an entire day of demonstrations by each trainer to showcase

the achievements of each horse. Immediately after the competition, all nine of the horses will be adopted to the highest bidder at auction. Since these are GERL horses, protocol dictates that

each adoptive home be pre-approved. Applications for pre-approval can be found on the GERL website at www.gerlltd.org. If the winning bidder is not pre-approved, their facility will be inspected for safety by a GERL representative before the horse is released to them.

GERL hopes to gain, first by being able to place nine of our horses into great homes and secondly to raise funds to continue our various programs which help starved, abused, and abandoned horses in our state. The event will take place on November 15, 2014 at the UGA Livestock Arena located at 2598 S. Milledge Ave. – Athens, GA 30605. It will begin at 9 A.M. and end when the last horse is sold. It will be a FULL day. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$5 for children (12 and under). Please join us and help make this event a huge success.

Multiple vendors selling products of interest to horse enthusiasts will display their goods throughout the day. GERL will host a silent and live auction of quality donated items. Food vendors will be on site all day.

Following is a description of each of the participating trainers, each of the horses, and each of our three well known and honorable judges.

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Rescue Challenge 2014

Participating Horses



<< Meet Rocky Tony the Pony >>

This three year old cremello pony gelding has been in GERL foster care since November of 2011. We are confident that his upcoming training for the Rescue Challenge will make him into a wonderful child's mount.



Meet Faye Dunaway >>

Faye is a last minute substitute for Butter who can not participate due to a severe back issue. She is a 3 year filly that has not been handled much.



<< Meet Red Rocky >>

Red Rocky, a young quarter horse gelding, was a body score 2.5 when he came into our program. He is said to have some trust issues.



Meet Dixon >>

Dixon is a rescue, in every sense of the word. He was reported running at large near Oxford, GA on April 27th. 2014.



<< Meet Little Joe >>

This thirteen hand, very pretty 12 year old Paint/Quarter Horse/Welch Pony gelding originally entered the GERL Foster Program in July of 2011.



Meet China Doll >>

This 8 year old bay QH mare was part of a large seizure by GA Department of Agriculture in 2012. Her Henneke body score was two at that time.



<< Meet Miss Holly Day >>

Holly is a beautiful bay 3 year old Arab cross mare. She came from Paulding County Animal Control and has had very little training.



Meet Halle Berry >>

This 3 year old bay filly was picked up on the road by Hall County Animal Control with a body score of 3. This young mare is ready for saddle training.

Rescue Challenge 2014

Participating Trainers



Meet Jenny Fox!

My name is Jenny Fox and I entered this competition because I am dedicated to helping horses and I have always looked forward to new projects. I would like to support the GREL program and hope that my efforts will result in a healthy placement for a rescue horse.



Meet Lee Ann Gilson!

Lee Ann, an A graduate from the U.S. Pony Club, has been riding and competing for over 30 years. She also manages and owns In Unison Farm LLC, a boarding and training facility in Adairsville, GA. She is an avid Eventer and has worked with all kinds of horses over the years.



Meet our youngest trainer!

Jordan Faulconer

Jordan is a Parelli level 4 student and her mom's right hand partner in running Cloud9 Ranch in Eatonton GA. She enjoys teaching horse owners to "Put their heart in their hand and touch their horse with their heart". Jordan has a lot of experience with troubled and rescued horses. She is good at identifying the issue and helping to solve it.



Meet Danielle Christ!

I am Danielle Christ and I cannot remember when horses were not an important part of my life. At a very young age, I found great satisfaction in working to raise money for GREL and GDA to help with the care of starved and abused horses. Some time ago, I was honored when asked to represent the youth of Georgia by speaking at Equine Day at the Capital on behalf of equine welfare.



Meet Stacy McCoy!

I am Stacy McCoy, of Allison Creek Farm, a small family farm located in Oconee County. We offer a diverse range of equine services including boarding, training, and private lessons, training clinics, and trail riding. Of special interest is our obstacle course comprised of interesting challenges used to bring you and your horse to a new level of confidence.



Meet Joann McBride!

My name is Joann McBride and I deeply feel that every horse with a problem deserves a second chance. I became familiar with the natural horsemanship training method in 2007 when I was experiencing difficulty with my horse, Archie. I was even considering selling him.



Meet Samantha Schrader!

Samantha's unique blend of training has produced a holistic approach to horsemanship, she calls Hybrid Performance. Her philosophy is based on the gentle techniques of classical dressage, horse psychology and the science of equine biomechanics. Samantha finds beauty in all horses and cultivates their natural brilliance in training.



Meet Nancy Faulconer!

Nancy always loved horses. After college she got a job, and got married, but horses kept pulling her back. She began a small backyard boarding business and had a horse or two. Concerns for safety led her to the Parelli program. She has been a licensed Parelli Professional since 2008.



Meet Danielle Perry!

I'm a Dressage Rider, Trainer, L Judge and clinician. I am an USDF Bronze & Silver medalist and also an L Program Graduate with Distinction and working on my USEF little R application. I do lots of types of clinics - Ride a Test, Western Dressage, Pony Club, etc.

Rescue Challenge 2014

Participating Judges



Ed Dabney

Ed Dabney is an internationally acclaimed horse trainer and clinician. He is an author and producer of multiple horse handling videos. His philosophy combines a lifelong respect for the horse with classical riding and natural horsemanship. Closely associated with the movie industry, Ed has been head wrangler, actor, supplier of horses for, and horsemanship instructor to other actors on many well-known current movies.

He and wife, Colleen, along with daughter Elizabeth, work and train out of a beautiful facility near Monroe, GA. They board and train horses, teach riding, and hold clinics aimed at producing a true partnership between horse and rider. Ed's life is filled with many more exciting adventures including equine expos, European horseback trips and guided trail riding/camping trips to the American west in which his students are included. Be sure to check out Ed's website at www.eddabney.com.



Eric Gray

Eric Gray of Blackthorn Farms in Cumming, GA is a well-known and respected horse trainer, clinician, and farrier. Eric's list of credentials and accomplishments began when he was only four years old. He has trained and shown gaited and walking horses to great success over the years. He achieved AFA Certified Farrier status in 1998 and has been the official farrier for many championship horse shows. Beginning in 2005, Eric began to be influenced by Pat Parelli, Dennis Reis, and other natural horsemanship trainers and clinicians and was selected to compete in The Extreme Mustang Makeover where he placed well. Since then Eric has participated in horsemanship clinics under such notables as Ken Norjaka, Dennis Reis, Fran Hancock, the legendary Ray Hunt, and Master Horseman Buck Brannaman. At present, Eric is an outstanding clinician in his own right and greatly enjoys helping horses and riders to become more confident. With a special interest in, and talent for training Mustangs, Eric is deeply involved in promoting the welfare America's breed. www.blackthornfarms.com



Amanda Johnson

Amanda Johnson grew up in Texas. Her life has been molded by her love of horses and she has excelled in quite an array of various activities involving many types of horses. Once Amanda discovered her passion for training, she wanted to ride with as many great horsemen as she could. She has trained with and been influenced by Pat Parelli, BF Yates, Dell Hendricks, Tim McQuay, Dick Pieper, and Tom Curtin. She continues to ride with others and learn. Amanda likes to say she uses "Practical Horsemanship methods because it makes sense to the horse and you don't need fancy equipment to get it done. "Everything I do with a horse has a reason behind it, and that ends up being the building block for further training. I will always adjust my training program to fit the horse, I don't adjust the horse to fit my training program." Amanda rides, trains, and teaches out of West Georgia Riding Academy and Saddle Club near Roopville, GA. Her many outstanding accomplishments include high placement in the Extreme Mustang Makeover in 2010 and the Mustang Million in 2013.





Puttin' On The Feed Bag Recipes

Easy and Elegant Shrimp Bisque

Perfect for the holidays!

2 cans tiny shrimp, drained
8 oz. cream cheese, cubed (reduced fat Neufchatel can be used)
8 oz. Velveeta, cubed (2% can be used)
2 TBS butter
1/2 sweet onion, chopped fine
1 cup milk (2% can be used)
1/3 cup dry white wine
1/4 tsp dill weed
cracked black pepper



Feed Bag Recipe Submissions

Putting On the Feed Bag is popular in our Newsletter. Do you have a wonderful, easy recipe that you would like to share?

Please submit your recipe to:
recipes@gerlltd.org

In a 2 qt. saucepan, sauté the onion in the butter over medium heat until clear, about five minutes. Reduce heat to low.

Stir in cream cheese and milk; cook until cream cheese is melted, stirring constantly.

Add Velveeta, shrimp, wine, and pepper to taste. Cook over low heat, stirring often, until Velveeta is completely melted. Sprinkle with dill and serve. Makes five 1 cup servings. Freezes well.

2014 GERL Calendar of Events - *Mark Your Calendars Now!*

November 8th - GERL Stallion to Gelding Castration Day - Various Castration Clinics Across Georgia

**November 15th -
GERL Rescue Challenge
UGA livestock arena—Athens, Ga**

**December 13th
GERL Christmas Party
Bethlehem, Ga**

January 10th—GERL Annual Meeting

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.





GERL Area Coordinators List



John Absalon - Bartow, Floyd, Gordon, Cherokee, Paulding.
(770) 546-9672 / sanstet@bellsouth.net

Cynthia Anderson - Baldwin & Putnam
(770) 713-9887 / gomasifat@yahoo.com

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Cynthia Brayton - Rockdale & Henry
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edoher@bellsouth.net

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Linda Tucker - Jackson & Barrow
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Jessica Wheeler - Berrien, Lanier & Cook
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Rose Williams—Barrow, Gwinnett, Morgan, Oconee. (770) 267-8683

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

Lynne Yates—Cobb, Paulding, Bartow, Cherokee, Douglas and Fulton
(404) 435-5746 / lynne@gerlltd.org

Ray Ziebell—Dawson & Pickens
(770) 354-0293 / razfences@msn.com

Area Coordinator Director, South GA.

Eddy O'Hern

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edoher@bellsouth.net

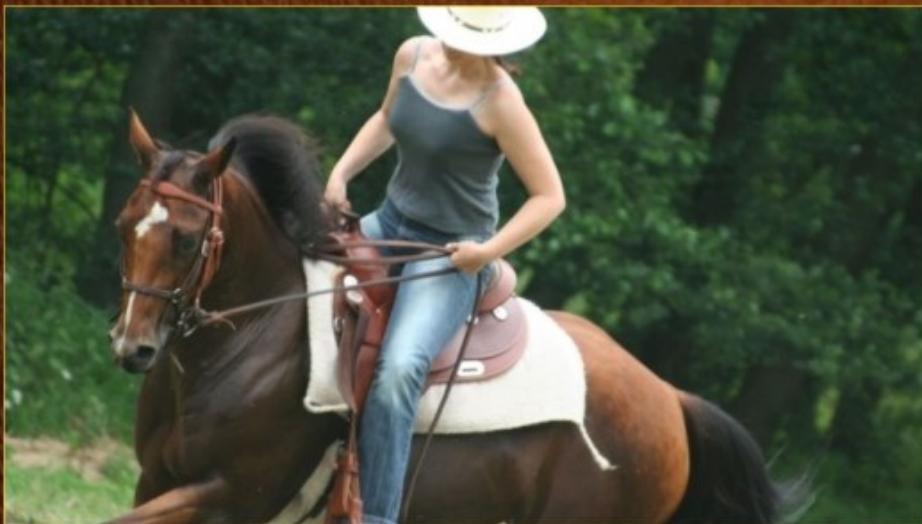
Area Coordinator Director, North GA.

Lynne Yates

(404) 435-5746 / lynne@gerlltd.org

GEORGIA EQUINE RESCUE LEAGUE

TOP GEORGIA TRAINERS



COMPETING WITH GERL HORSES SHOWCASING THEIR ABILITIES IN 120 DAYS OF TRAINING.

Trainers: Danielle Crist, Jordan Faulconer, Nancy Faulconer, Jenny Fox, Lee Ann Gilson, Joann McBride, Stacey McCoy, Danielle Perry and Samantha Schrader.

Judges: Ed Dabney, Amanda Johnson and Eric Gray

Horses will be auctioned immediately after the competition.

For info on pre-approval, please contact:

GERL Adoption Coordinator, CeCe Calli at foster@gerlltd.org.

Visit: <http://www.gerlltd.org> for more information
and to purchase your tickets.

Georgia Equine Rescue League, LLC * P.O. Box 328 * Bethlehem, Ga. 30620



NOVEMBER 15, 2014
9:00 AM TO 5:00 PM

UGA LIVESTOCK ARENA

2598 S. MILLEDGE AVE.
ATHENS, GA 30605

ADMISSION:

ADULTS: \$12.00
CHILDREN: \$5.00
(12 AND UNDER)

ADULT AND YOUNG ADULT DIVISIONS

FIRST PLACE ADULT
\$1000.00
FIRST PLACE YOUNG ADULT
\$500.00

LIVE AUCTION
SILENT AUCTION

FOOD AVAILABLE

VENDORS

COST OF BOOTH
\$25.00

VENDORS CONTACT:
VENDORS@GERLLTD.ORG

GERL ADOPTABLES

For adoption fees and additional information, please contact CeCe Calli, Adoption Coordinator.
(706) 376-2410 / adopt@gerlltd.org



STARR is a bay 8 year old Mustang. He is doing very well with his ground manners and gets along with other horses. Starr has very sensitive skin and bugs really bug him. He is looking for that person that can take him to the next level of his training under saddle.



BUTTER is an 11 year old Grade mare. She is a beauty. We are evaluating her to see if she has been ridden. She has great ground manners and is easy to be around.



BOOTH is a 14 year old Sorrel Grade Gelding. He is broke to ride. He came to us via GDA. So if you are looking for a great gelding to take you to your dreams he's your boy. Booth leads, stands quietly and grooms quietly. He does get along with other horses and tends to buddy up.

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



BLAZE & MORNING GLORY: Glory was born September 12, 2014, surprise. This little filly and her mom are doing just fine. Blaze and Morning Glory will be available for adoption after weaning. Or if you have a mare and foal that needs company, they can be adopted together. Blaze has been under saddle but would need a good tune up after her maternity leave is over.



AMBER is a 20ish Sorrel Grade Mare. She is very sweet on the ground and gets along with other horses. Amber was found loose on the street of Henry County with a body score below 2. She is now fully recovered from her misadventure and ready for that perfect forever home. GERL has not evaluated Amber under saddle. She would make a great addition to your family as a pasture pal for your horses.



JESSIE JAMES is a 15 year old Chestnut Thoroughbred gelding. He is a great horse on the ground and gets along well with other horses. Due to an old fracture in his hock area Jessie is not ridable. Jessie will need to be grained and hayed, hot bloods don't always do well on just pasture. Jessie is a very special guy.



GERL ADOPTABLES

For adoption fees and additional information, please contact CeCe Calli, Adoption Coordinator.
(706) 376-2410 / adopt@gerlltd.org



MOSES is a 20ish Sorrel gaited Grade Gelding. He is working under saddle and just as sweet as they come. Moses seems to be a been there done that kind of guy. He is in great health with no health or lameness issues. He stands 14 hands and is more than ready to ride you into your dreams.



My friends here are watered, fed, vetted and ready for a new home... just saying.

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

It has been one year ago today that we met you and this beautiful boy!!! Now weighing in at 1100 lbs he looks wonderful and has filled our lives with joy! We had the vet do all kinds of blood work on him last month and he is as healthy as a horse! lol. Sweetest guy you will ever meet.

Thank you for bringing him into our lives.

Love you Patty!

Sandy, George , and Shannon



Rhythum and Shannon
A Match Made in Heaven

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

A Damaged Heart, a Poem

by Bethany Thomas

Below is a poem written by Bethany Thomas. She volunteers at Cherokee County Animal Control. Several months ago, Cherokee County impounded several horses from their owner due to starvation and neglect. One of the horses was Copper, a beautiful stallion who had to be kept separate from the other horses until he was well enough to be gelded. GERL provided a shelter for Copper and we all hoped against hope that Copper would gain weight and have his chance for his happily ever after. Tamma Trump, a member of the GERL board, also volunteered there and spent time with Copper. Unfortunately, the starvation damaged his heart and Copper only lived 5 months after he was rescued by Cherokee County. Bethany wrote this poem in honor of Copper and we are proud to share it here with you.

He came to us with others, every age and every size.

But he was very special, I could see it in his eyes.

At first we could not touch him, His face was filled with fear.

So it took time for him to trust, for him to let us near.

When, one day, he was there alone and had more room to run,

We were able to spend time with him and taught him to have fun.

He learned that he was safe and loved, and every need was met.

And the joy that his life brought to mine, I will not forget!!!

The four months that I cared for him, I treasured every minute.

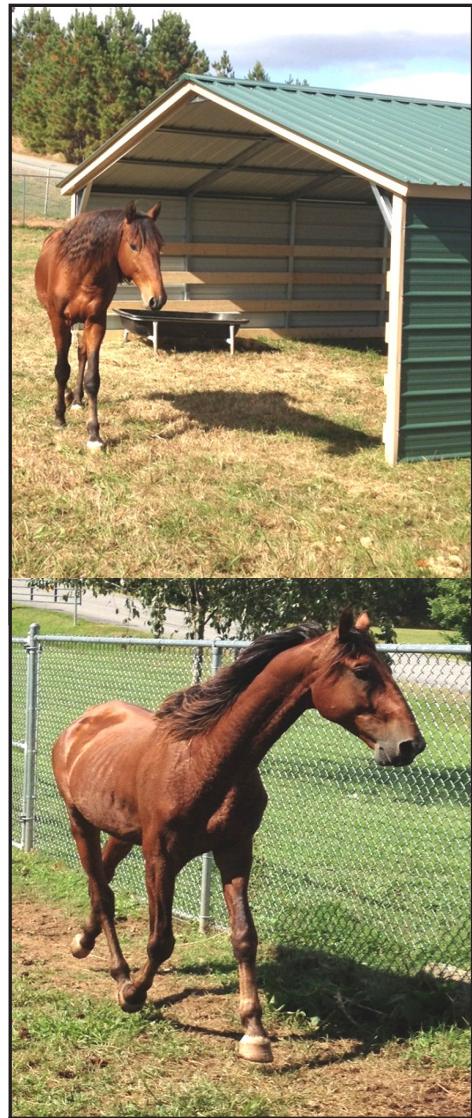
Now it breaks my heart to have a day without him in it.

From everything that we could see, He was strong and gaining weight.

But doctors found a damaged heart which would decide his fate.

The lessons that I learned from him, No one can ever measure.

And my heart is the broken one, without my Copper Treasure!



Please Support the GDA Horse Auctions

By Patty Livingston

GERL receives calls all of the time from folks looking for "bomb-proof" horses for their kids or for themselves. We do have rideable horses in our herd of fosters and some of them may fit the bill for "child safe". However, I want to point out that the Georgia Department of Agriculture Equine Division usually schedules a horse sale about every four months to empty their impound barns of the horses that they have brought in and rehabilitated. Many of these horses are exactly what so many people are looking for, yet they never show up at an auction. Y'all, this is the best kept secret around!

Many of the horses are coming from the Pulaski Impound where the inmates ride and work with them. The inmates at the

Arrendale impound also work with the horses in their facility. The auctions are typically held in two locations: The Mansfield Impound and the Lee Arrendale State Prison Equine facility in Alto.

Please come out and support these auctions. If you're not looking for a horse, perhaps you know somebody who is. Please spread the word. GERL advertises the GDA horse auctions on our web site, our Facebook page and we also send out an email blast to everybody on our distribution list. BTW, a little birdy just told me that the next auction is tentatively scheduled for November 6th at the Mansfield Impound, so please come out and support the GDA!

High Meadows Camp Knighthood Project

By Emma Manlapas

My name is Emma Manlapas, and this summer I attended High Meadows Day Camp in Roswell, GA. At our camp, the older campers can move up through four (Knighthood) levels in each class. I was working on the highest level (Knight) in Animal Care. To achieve this level, one of the tasks I had to complete is a camp wide fundraiser for an animal rescue of my choosing. I chose the Georgia Equine Rescue League for the great work they do with horses. I am extremely thankful to High Meadows Camp as a whole for allowing me to do this fundraiser through them and their hundreds of campers. I would also like to thank Andy, Katie, and Sarah, my counselors, and my friends at High Meadows for all of their support. My mom and dad helped too, by helping me edit emails and documents like this one, and for my first donation. Also, thank you Ms. Brown for helping me complete all four levels over the past three years. Most importantly, I thank the GERL and especially Ms. Yates for permission to run my fundraiser and for all the work they do to help equine.

I would like to thank the following people who contributed to GERL on behalf of my Knighthood project:

Michael Manlapas

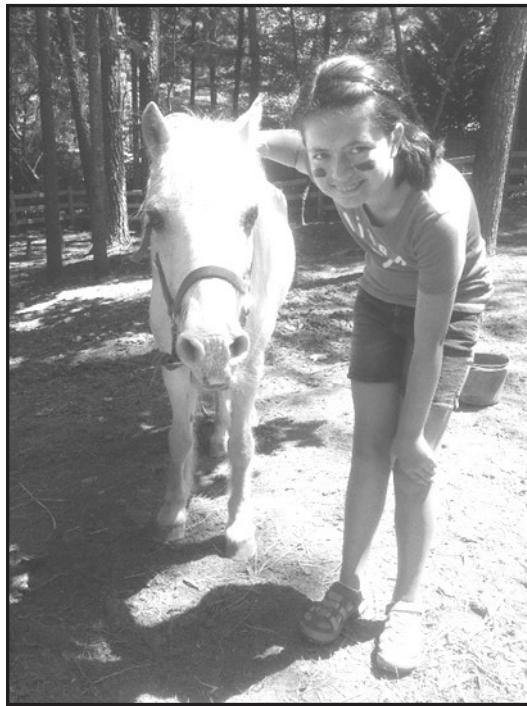
Scott Ferraro

Kelly Andrews

Heather Tawes

Mary Katherine Holloway

Note from GERL: We would like to thank Emma for supporting GERL through her High Meadows Camp Knighthood project. She raised \$95 for GERL. We are putting these funds to good use providing feed, hay and care to horses in need.



Dr. Jan Smith

By Miss Anne

Dr. Jan won't like seeing any public mention of her generous history with GERL. She is a very busy professional woman, a wife, and now a mother. She has always loved horses and is actually quite an accomplished horsewoman. In recent years, Jan has not been able to find the time to ride as much as she used to but she and her husband, Bobby, always keep a couple of good horses "just in case".

I first met Jan and Bobby many years ago at a GERL Fall Fest at the R-Ranch near Dahlonega. As always, they were big spenders at the Saturday night auction but the thing I remember most was that Jan provided tetanus inoculations, at her own expense, to all who attended that event. She very thoughtfully provided this service because she held a well-founded concern for those who work around horses and barns.

Before and since that time, Dr. Jan has been a wonderful supporter and cheerleader for both GERL and the GDA Equine Impound Programs. While I don't want to reveal many details, because I know she would not like to be singled out

for all of the good things she does for equine in our state, I will just say that Dr. Jan Smith has been very generous to this organization on many, many occasions over the years.

When she heard about our upcoming Rescue Challenge, she was immediately totally "on board" with the concept and began asking how she could support the event. As I said, I am not permitted to reveal details but you may be sure that Dr. Jan Smith has played a huge role in making the Challenge possible and has contributed some very desirable items for the live auction which will be held on Saturday evening (Nov. 15, 2014) just before the Challenge horses are auctioned.

Dr. Jan, husband Bobby, and little Logan will be attending the Rescue Challenge. I doubt that she will permit us to recognize her presence or her contributions, but if you know Dr. Jan, just go up and say a quick 'thank you' for her long and ongoing support of GERL. She definitely deserves, at the very least, a warm handshake or a hug!

The Store

By Linda Kundell

I still have lots of vanity plates, shirts, caps, denim shirts, polo shirts, travel mugs, and some small items. At the Rescue Challenge in November we will be selling a special shirt to commemorate the event, plus I will have a new design shirt for sale. I have priced everything low so that every GERL member can have something to wear or carry or put on your truck. After all, what horse person doesn't want a t-shirt with a beautiful horse on it? This is a sure way to advertise our organization. Every one of us needs to get the word out that we are here and we are active.

As always, if you have an item that you think would be just right for us to sell, please let me know. I have had some really good ideas from members.

I really want to support this organization. Every time I hear about an abused, underfed or abandoned horse, I am ready to work even harder. How can anyone do such horrible things to an animal that cannot care for itself? That is truly beyond me. My two Tennessee Walking horses are the love of my life. Well, my husband thinks so and he's usually right about things. He is a wonderful husband who supports me in my work with GERL so I think that he is wrong about who is top dog around here. He is number one, but the horses are a close second!



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



Honorariums

Marie Babcock

by Fowler Drive Elementary School
Trotting For The Ta Ta's Benefit Ride
by Maud Brodd

Hope, our rescue horse
by Kathy & Rob Russell

Emma Manlapas with High Meadows Camp
by Michael Manlapas

Emma Manlapas with High Meadows Camp
by Scott Ferraro

Emma Manlapas with High Meadows Camp
by Kelly Andrews

Emma Manlapas with High Meadows Camp
by Heather Tawes

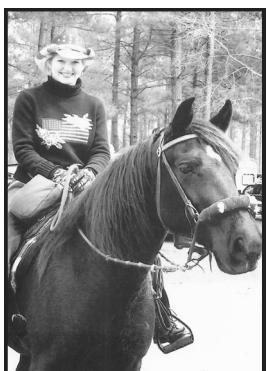
Emma Manlapas with High Meadows Camp
by Mary Katherine Holloway

Rita Uhlenbrock
by Juli Williams



LET ME SAY THIS ... ABOUT THAT

By Patty Livingston, President



I have been struggling with the exact words that I wanted to use to convey something through this article that means very much to me. Not just because it was "my little baby" (project), but because it is the main solution to our horse problems. What is it, you ask? It is the annual Stallion to Gelding Castration Day.

GERL hosts this event the second Saturday in November every year. We invite equine veterinarians all across the State to participate by castrating for \$100 per horse, with GERL paying \$50. We helped pay for the gelding of 117 stallions last year!

I'm struggling with the verbiage because it is of a financial matter, and you know you better pick the right words when portraying the message to be delivered. I always feel that honesty is key. I recently had a conversation with our Treasurer, Lynne Yates, and she advised me (and the rest of the GERL Board of Directors) of GERL's financial situation and the fact that we are paying out approximately \$5,000 to \$7,000 per month in bills, mostly for the support of the GDA impound barns. In fact, I was surprised to hear that we are spending sixty percent of our annual income on maintaining the GDA horses, equipment and other maintenance expenses.

Don't misinterpret what I'm saying. Supporting the GDA is what GERL does and has done for the past twenty years and as long as we are able, we will continue to do so. The horses that the GDA takes in need good grain to bring them back to health. We provide them with a good Senior feed and anything extra that they require. This year the vet bills have been extremely high. This is due to the condition of many of the horses that have come into the State's program; particularly, if they were part of a larger herd. Many come in with horrible proud flesh wounds, bites from stallions and other aggressors. Teeth issues, lameness, you name it. This is a necessity that we gladly provide.

Lynne also suggested that we may have to cancel or cut back on our upcoming Stallion to Gelding Castration Day that is scheduled for November 8th.

I believe my heart stopped when I read it. But, after digesting the details of our outgoing vs. our incoming, I understood completely why, as GERL's Treasurer, she was giving this advice. However, there was just no way that I could cancel without at least trying to bring awareness and raise the money through donations. I know there are a lot of people out there who agree that this program is worth supporting.

The Stallion to Gelding Castration day helps provide castration for approximately 100+ horses every year. Multiply that times \$50 per horse and you have your basic cost of \$5,000. GERL also reimburses each vet for the drugs that they use to help with their expenses, which runs approximately \$300 - \$500. This will give you an idea about what this program costs GERL for just one day. We also offer another castration program where GERL pays \$75 towards the castration of any stud and they use and pay whatever their vet charges for this procedure. It pains me to say, this program has just been put on hold.

Male horses become sexually mature at around two years of age, and are able to produce a virtually unlimited number of foals. It is difficult to know exactly how many foals are produced when the situation is controlled by humans because there are so many different types of breeding practices. So far, GERL has helped 465 stallions make nice geldings between our two castration programs. Let's assume that each one would have reproduced 3 offspring. Multiply 365 times 3; it prevented 1,395 new births. This helps to realize how much this program matters.

GERL has not been able to attain a grant for the past two years and it has hurt. We have other programs that have been put on hold until we build up our cash flow. We have 8 veterinarians who have already registered to participate in the S2G Castration Day. The GERL Board has decided to close off the registration to any more vets at this time. We will concentrate on raising funds to support the 8 clinics. This is reasonable thinking. I have been thinking of creative ways to fund this event without breaking anybody too much. One idea was to ask people to consider "Sponsoring a Stallion" by paying the \$50 for his castration. They could go to our website and donate from there. Social media is definitely in the mix, and let me say this about that...I have the determination to believe that we can pull this off! And, with your help we ARE making a difference!

Feed A Horse Program

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.gerltd.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!**

Patty Speaks to Kel-Mac Saddle Club

By Anne Ensminger

GERL has been invited to attend many Kel-Mac Saddle Club functions. Sometimes we are asked to speak about the activities of GERL but usually we are there to receive a very generous donation from that group. They have been very supportive of our work over past years.

This time, GERL President, Patty Livingston was asked to speak to members attending the monthly meeting of the club to tell them about the upcoming Rescue Challenge. I tagged along to keep Patty company and to enjoy visiting with the wonderful Kel-Mac members. They are a very active and hard working group who support family activities involving horses.

We were thrilled that they specifically requested to hear about the very important November 15, 2014 Rescue Challenge. Some Kel-Mac members are also GERL members and some Kel-Mac members are participating trainers in the Challenge so naturally, they have great interest in the event.

As is so easy for Patty, she could have talked all night but she managed to put her thoughts into the 35 minutes allotted for her talk. Everyone was totally attentive and many let it be known that they already have tickets to the Challenge and are looking forward to the day. There were several questions which inspired more discussion. This has a way of assuring a speaker that their speech was interesting to their audience.

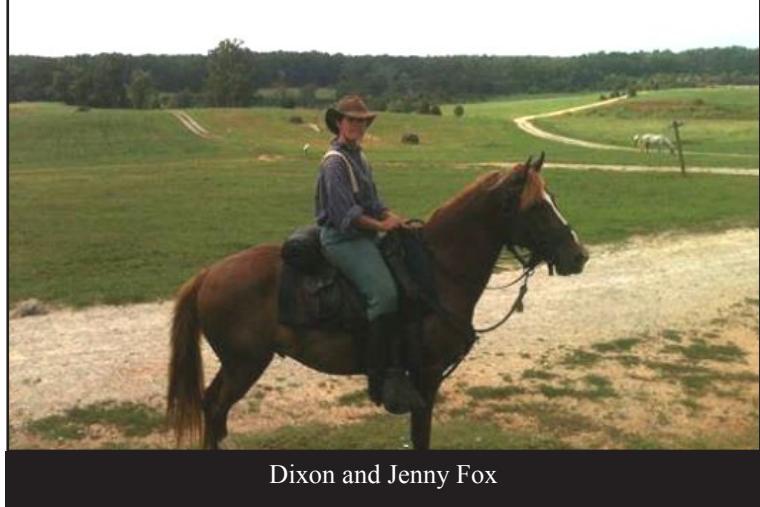
Information concerning the GERL Rescue Challenge is available at www.gerlltd.org. and elsewhere in this publication. With only 400 available tickets, we urge everyone who plans to attend, to purchase their tickets soon! After a day of the nine participating trainers exhibiting their GERL rescue horses in hand, over obstacles, and under saddle, the animals will immediately be adopted to the highest bidder at auction. Since these are GERL horses, protocol requires bidders to be pre-approved if they want to take their horse home immediately. If a winning bidder is not pre-approved, their facilities must be inspected (for safety) by a GERL representative before the sale is complete.



Patty Livingston (second from right) is joined by the Kel-Mac officers



Faye Dunaway and Joann McBride



Dixon and Jenny Fox

UGA Horse Owners Seminar

By Linda Kundell

August 9th was a nice day. I would have gone riding but I had said that I would go to the UGA Seminar for GERL. The folks who put on the Seminar are very fine people. They had emailed me about two months before the event and asked GERL to set up a table (of course, they actually set up the table and even had two chairs for me) and talk to people. I jumped at the chance. I had gone the year before and had a good time.

Well, this year was even better. I talked to lots of people and handed out lots of information about the Rescue Challenge coming up on November 15th. Some individuals said that they were definitely coming, some said that they hadn't heard about it and some had already brought tickets. I received some donations (thanks to everyone who donated) and sold some shirts, travel mugs and, of course, my favorite vanity plates (thanks to everyone for buying). That money will come in handy when we need to feed horses or have vet or farrier work with our rescue horses.

I also took some time to eat lunch and visit with people in the line. The sponsors paid for my lunch and it was very good. I

love chicken. Of course, they had a good dessert and I enjoyed every mouthful.

I also had a friend from Jessup, Georgia show up. I didn't know that Phyllis Bowen

would be there. She spent some time with me at the table and we had a chance to catch up with each other. During the day Wells Fargo (one of the vendors) offered rides to the participants. That was the first time that I rode in a stage coach. I'm guessing that the old time stage coaches were not anywhere near as smooth and easy to ride in as this modern day coach. The coach was pulled by four horses and it was really nice to see the driver and the horses and how they interacted.

While I was off having a ride, my friend stepped up and manned the table for me. Since she is a GERL member she was able to meet and talk to people. She brought a vanity plate and will put it on her truck.

I met new people, enjoyed talking to old friends and checked out all the vendors. I had a great time!



Get the Gift That Gives Back!

The 2015 GERL Wall Calendar

\$5.00 is donated to GERL for each calendar purchase

\$24.95

www.gerltd.org



Nancy Falconer works with Rocky

Why is Dixon named Dixon

Lynne Robinson Yates

I don't know about you, but I often wonder how rescued animals get their names. Many years ago, I rescued a stray dog by the name of Mazda. When I asked the rescue group how they came up with that name, they told me that it was "car" week. They had a shelter full of animals with car names: Pinto, Caprice, Ford....you get the idea.

As you know, we have foster horses and donkeys come into our foster program rather frequently. Sometimes we know the horse's name but sometimes we have to come up with a name. By the time I find out that we have a horse in our foster program, it has usually already been named. I have been biding my time and waiting for the opportunity to name one of our rescue horses.

I am a "The Walking Dead" (TWD) fanatic. TWD is a TV show about a zombie apocalypse. I have been doing a countdown until the fifth season premiere for 2 months. My son and I always watch it together but he recently told me that his work schedule may change and he may not be able to watch it with me. I told him in no uncertain terms that he was on his own and that I would be parked in front of my TV at 9 pm on October 12th.

My favorite character on "The Walking Dead" is Daryl Dixon. He is the cross-bow toting hero of the show and a true survivor of the zombie apocalypse. He is a fan favorite and the battle cry to the producers of the show is "If Daryl dies, we riot." In case you don't know, TWD fans are quite rabid.

I recently rescued a stray dog and I hoped to name him Dixon. I must admit that I was disappointed when his foster mom told me that he already knew his name was Rocky and that perhaps it was best if I don't change it. In my heart, my dog's name is Rocky Dixon, with the Dixon part being silent.

The very day that Rocky's foster Mom told me that I shouldn't change his name, we had a GERL meeting to discuss a horse that was coming into our foster program and would be in the Rescue Challenge. He was found running at large and was in need of some TLC and some groceries. During the meeting, CeCe Calli, our Foster Coordinator asked what he should be named. I immediately said, with much passion, we MUST name him Dixon. I was so glad when the others on the call were kind enough to go along with me.

I have been following Dixon's progress on our GERL Rescue Challenge Facebook page. As a GERL volunteer, I remain unbiased and support all of our GERL horses equally. That being said, there is a special place in my heart for a handsome boy that I named Dixon.



GERL Volunteer of the Quarter

By Anne Ensminger

We want to recognize another member of the GERL Board of Directors as our Volunteer of the Quarter. Tamma Trump of Little Brook Farm near Acworth is very deserving of this recognition. Tamma is a quite knowledgeable horsewoman and has been a true asset to our Board.

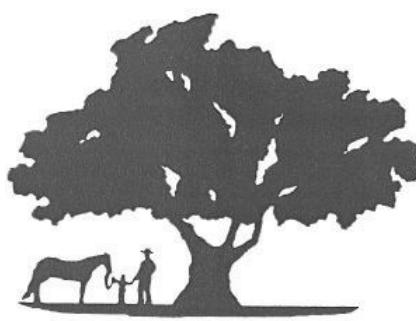
She is one of our outstanding foster caregivers as she is not only willing to provide space for a foster horse when called upon, but she also works for a veterinarian and has large amounts of experience and expertise in caring for sick and injured animals. Tamma, with the help of her employer, Dr. Ava Talmage, and many of her barn boarders and friends, was able to save the life of a precious starving mini mare earlier this year. We all anxiously followed the tense early days of Quickstep's rehabilitation and shared the joy of her complete recovery and adoption into a loving home. Previously, Tamma fostered a young blind-since-birth mare named "Hope". Astonishingly, the mare, under Tamma's guidance, learned to respond to many voice commands which will be of help to her for the rest of her life. After taking care of Hope for a very long time, Tamma was able to find a suitable adoptive home for her. To watch either of these mares leave Little Brook Farm was bittersweet to all involved with their care, especially Tamma. At present Tamma is fostering a beautiful Palomino mare named Butter. She came to Tamma with a very serious and slow healing laceration of a hind leg. Tamma's tender love and persistent care of the wound has resulted in miraculous healing.



It cannot go without mention that Tamma hosted a Betsy Moles Groundwork Clinic at Little Brook Farm on behalf of GERL in September of this year. The clinic was a huge success and resulted in a very generous donation from Betsy to GERL.

As if her wise counsel to our GERL Board of Directors and her excellent care of GERL foster horses was not enough, Tamma, earlier this year, also accepted the HUGE job of GERL Rescue Challenge Committee Chairman and has done a wonderful job.

Our most sincere gratitude to Tamma Trump for her hard work on behalf of GERL and all horses.



GERL Could Use a Little Help

For the first time in GERL's history, we have received a "caution" from our Treasurer. When individuals or organizations realize that they are spending more than they are taking in, it is certainly time for caution.

In recent history, GERL has accepted the responsibility of buying almost all of the feed and hay used by the four GDA Equine Impounds. We took this step to insure that the GDA Equine Program will continue to exist and thrive. This has amounted to an expense of near \$5,400 per month. Expenses for horses in GERL Foster Care run approximately \$2,300 per month. These are two GERL programs that are costly but which we feel are "top of the list" in importance.

November is the month we sponsor our annual Stallion to Gelding Day. On this day, as a way to discourage arbitrary breeding, we pay half of the expense for castrating any male equine. That critical program which leads in importance, the components of the

'GERL Get Well Plan' is in danger for this year.

GERL is NOT insolvent. We are not going anywhere and we will continue to help Georgia horses in need, in many ways. However, we realize that we must "tighten our belts" and ask for even more help from our members and friends. All donations to GERL are tax deductible and may be sent to GERL – P.O. Box 328 – Bethlehem, GA 30620 or via PayPal to www.gerlltd.org. Any amount will be greatly appreciated.

We have one other urgent need and that is for someone knowledgeable about writing grants who would be willing to search and apply for monetary grants for which GERL might qualify. As much good as GERL does, and has done for the welfare of Georgia horses over the past twenty years, we are certain that we are eligible to receive help from a number of available grants. It's just a matter of locating and applying for them. If you think you can help in this way, please call Lynne Yates at (404) 435-5746.

Kroger Plus Community Rewards Program: Important Re-Enrollment Announcement

Did you know that you have to re-enroll your chosen charity each year? GERL supporters who have chosen GERL as their designated charity on their Kroger Plus card will need to re-enroll GERL for the 2014-2015 program year beginning 9/1/2014. Please go to <http://www.krogercommunityrewards.com> to re-enroll GERL as your chosen charity. If you have not chosen GERL as your charity in the past, please consider supporting GERL through this program.

The Georgia Equine Rescue League has received \$664 from the Kroger Plus Program so far this year calendar year. GERL is very grateful to everyone who has chosen GERL as their designated charity to receive donations from the program.

GERL currently has 98 households participating in the program. Imagine what GERL would be receiving if 200 people were signed up? 300 people? Even more? The Kroger Community Rewards Program is an easy way for you to support GERL without having to spend a dime. All you have to do is go to <http://www.krogercommunityrewards.com> and link your Kroger Plus card to GERL. This does not affect the shopping rewards that you receive through the program.

GERL Volunteer Coordinator Needed

The volunteer coordinator will be responsible for securing volunteers for all GERL events and booths that require assistance.

What are the requirements?

You must have a computer and be proficient using email.

You must be a self-starter, meaning that when you are asked to get volunteers for an event, it has to be done in a timely manner and followed through until the event is over.

You should have access to the Internet and know how to create a Google Excel spreadsheet.

You do not have to attend events, but it is always a plus to have the Volunteer Coordinator present at large events.

You do not have to live in a specific area in the State, 99% of this job is done on the computer!

Please contact Diana Kelsey @ diana@gerlltd.org or 770-267-0867 if interested!

Your Donations Tell A Story

Lynne Robinson Yates

People who know me well know that I love stories. I love to tell them and I love to hear them. I am always on the lookout for a good story. Before I became Treasurer of GERL, little did I know that wonderful stories were waiting to be found inside an envelope with a donation check for GERL.

I became the GERL Treasurer in January of 2014. Our previous Treasurer, Diana Kelsey, was kind enough to give me a great training class and then I was off and running.

When I received my first packet of mail from Patty, I went through and started processing the donations. I wasn't thinking about stories at that point; I was thinking about doing some bookkeeping and then making a deposit. I was thinking about cutting a check for that large feed bill that just came in. After a few minutes however, I realized that I was looking at a packet full of stories.

From that first mail packet, through these 9 months of receiving and processing the mail, I have come to understand that each donation GERL receives has a story. Sometimes, a note or letter is included with the donation. I have read stories about loss, about rescue, about grief, about hope, about gratitude and about celebration. Even if the donation does not include a note, I know that it reflects something deeply personal to the person giving it. I know there is a story behind every donation, even if I don't know the details.

Many donations are in memory of, or in honor of, a loved one. Sometimes the loved one is a spouse, a dear friend, a family member or a beloved pet. We have had both adults and children request donations to GERL instead of receiving a present. We have received donations from

clubs that sold baked goods, sold crafts, or collected donations at an event. There is no end to the creative ways that supporters have found to raise funds for us.

Sometimes GERL receives donations in lieu of flowers when a GERL supporter has passed away. When I see those donations, there is always a bit of sadness involved as well as the gratitude I feel that the family thought of GERL at such a time in their life. It is such a great honor.

There are GERL supporters whom I have never met, but I feel that I know you because I see your name on donation checks over and over and over again. I try to tuck your name away in my memory bank so that I can hug your neck should I ever see you at a GERL event. I make sure that I list your name in our newsletter so that everyone can know how generous you have been. Even so, I still want to hug your neck. I want to hear your story.

As I receive and process your donations, I get to know you. I know of your grief and loss. I know of your celebrations and your birthdays. I know of your love for a rescued pet. I know you, and yet there are many that I have not met. There are many generous supporters that I could pass on the street and would not recognize because we have never met. It seems strange to know so much of your story, but still be a stranger.

Thank you for sharing your stories with me. Many of you have donated many hours of time and many, many dollars and, for that, I thank you from the bottom of my heart. I also want you to know that I love your stories.



Horse Time vs. Human Time

Written by Tim Hayes, author of *Riding Home: The Power of Horses to Heal*.

Someone once said that God invented time to keep everything from happening at once. In fact humans invented time in order to help bring order, meaning and understanding to their unique existence.

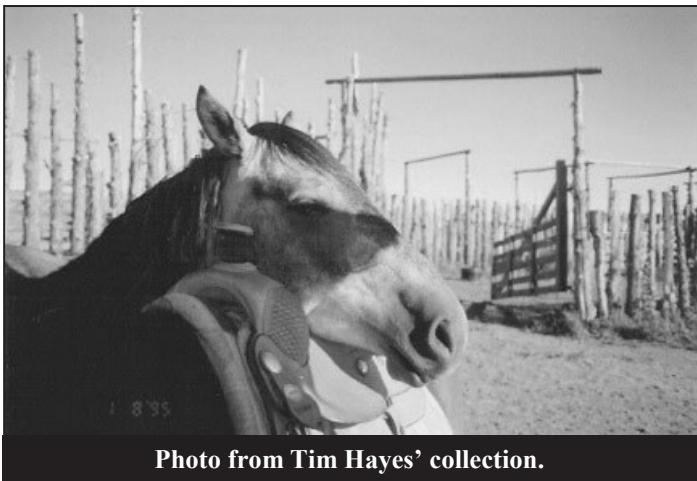


Photo from Tim Hayes' collection.

As far as we know humans are the only animals with recognized self-awareness, rational thinking and therefore a mental concept of time. Other animals may be aware of the physical changes in day and night, summer and winter and thus able to respond to these changes, but it is only us humans that will ever know if we are "late." A horse for that matter never thinks: "oh my, I'm running out of time." Understanding and remembering this significant difference will have an enormous impact on how you and your horse get along and the success you will achieve in your horsemanship and riding.

Today more than ever humans live by the clock. We fit every minute of our lives into a schedule. We create agendas with predetermined requirements as to how much time it will take to achieve satisfaction in everything we do. However when we think something must happen within a certain amount of time and doesn't, is always a set up for stress, tension, anger, frustration and disappointment. Being "late" is one of many examples that can illustrate both the difference and the importance of Horse and Human time.

EXAMPLE: If I ride on Wednesdays at 4 pm and don't get to the barn until 3:55 pm, I may rush to groom and tack up my horse so I can get in as much riding time as possible. Knowing that I am "late" I think I'm using up valuable riding time while getting my horse ready to ride. This thought makes me anxious and tense. Instead of presenting myself to my horse as a happy, calm, relaxed friend and leader, I show him a partner who is anxious, frustrated, preoccupied, and tense. The quality of my grooming and saddling that is usually a nice way to connect with my horse is now a signal to him that something is not right with his human partner. My

horse does not know I'm late because "being late" does not exist in his world. All he knows is that I'm anxious and not relaxed.

As we start to ride I feel a resistance coming from my horse. He's communicating to me with his body (the only way he knows how). He's telling me: "Your body feels tense and that makes me anxious. I'm not feeling very safe and comfortable with you on my back right now, can you do something to change what I'm feeling from you...can you help me?"

I think: "Oh that's great. Not only am I going to run out of riding time, but I'm going to have to struggle with my horse and his bad attitude." I do what many people do; I blame the horse for the problem. I begin to feel angry and frustrated and my cues become rough and heavy-handed. This is frightening for my horse. He thinks: "not only is my partner anxious, he's hurting me!"

At this point my horse will usually do one of two things. He'll either emotionally and mentally shut down, brace himself and do everything he can to tolerate me until the ride is over. This is how humans create dullness in their horses. Or my horse will ask me to leave (read: buck me off). This is how humans get hurt. Natural Horsemanship is seeing and understanding every situation from the horse's point of view. It's taken me years and many mistakes to remember the enormous impact time, or the nonexistence of time, has on me, my horse and my horsemanship. And like everything else I've had to do to get my horse to be better; I had to be better. I had to change my behavior first.

Now when I get to the barn and I'm "late," I change my agenda. I adjust to fit the situation. Instead of doing 20 minutes of groundwork and 40 minutes practicing flying lead changes, I might just practice some groundwork or take a nice leisurely ride with the time I have left. If I'm "very late" I may just spend time with my horse and let him graze.

By putting myself on "horse time," I show understanding and respect for my partner who lives in the moment and has no schedule or agenda. Then no matter what we do we are spending quality time together not just physically but emotionally and mentally. Our relationship becomes stronger, my horsemanship gets better and neither of us ends up frustrated, disappointed, dull or hurt and...we usually have a great time.

Tim Hayes 2014

Love is what we give our time to – Children know this — so do horses.

Natural Horsemanship articles by Tim Hayes are at:
www.hayesisforhorses.com

For clinics, classes or private sessions, contact Tim at:
tim@hayesisforhorses.com or 800-959-3101

His book, *Riding Home: The Power of Horses to Heal* can be found on Amazon.com.



A Note from the Secretary's Desk

by Anne Ensminger

Rescue. It's a gratifying, rewarding business, except when the need gets to be more than can be met. Your GERL Board of Directors, of which I am a member, met last evening. Our Treasurer had prepared a beautiful, detailed

presentation so that we could know, beyond a shadow of a doubt, where GERL stands financially. The news was not the best and was fraught with cautions.

The bottom line is that, for the past three or so years, GERL has spent more than we have made. What business or personal budget can continue on such a path? The answer is that we must find more ways to raise funds and we must curb some of our very ambitious and costly programs for the time being.

Thankfully, CeCe Calli, GERL Foster/Adoption Coordinator, tells us that we have only eight horses in foster care at this time. It is doubtful that three of those will ever be adopted because of previous injuries which prevent them from being riding horses or because of advanced age. Then, of course, there are the nine Rescue Challenge horses which will hopefully, go to new homes in November. It has been very costly to support those nine during the four months they have been with their wonderful volunteer trainers because we have spared no expense to see that they have had all of their health and physical needs met so that they will stand the BEST chance of being adopted into perfect homes.

We definitely feel that we must maintain a financial balance adequate to care for the horses in our Foster Program but until further notice, we will not be accepting additional horses into that program.

GERL has been purchasing feed and hay, and paying for most veterinary care for horses impounded by Georgia Dept. of Agriculture, Equine Division for quite some time. That has been a HUGE monthly expense. We will be meeting with GDA to discuss ways we might cut down on those expenditures.

Our very important Stallion to Gelding Program is in jeopardy for this year (over the STRONG protestations of GERL President, Patty Livingston). She vows to find a way to fund the program and the rest of the Board will do all in our power to help.

Our Crisis Intervention Program is suspended until further notice. It is particularly sad that we must take this action with winter approaching. Freezing temperatures mean a sudden reduction in available forage and the added burden of increased calorie consumption needed to maintain body temperature in winter. It

is painful to think of any horse being cold AND hungry!

GERL has never, and is not now, without hope. We are genuinely excited about our upcoming Rescue Challenge. Because of this event, attention will be called to our organization and the importance of our mission. Nine of our rescue horses will be auctioned on November 15, 2014, immediately after a full day of being exhibited by their trainers. Each trainer is anxious to demonstrate the training levels the horses have reached after four months of intense work. It is our great hope that the horses will demand generous adoption fees while finding placement in wonderful homes.

We also have high hopes that the silent and live auctions, as well as GERL merchandise sales during the Rescue Challenge will produce a boost to our finances.

Meanwhile, remember that we will have two weekend fund-raising trail rides in the spring of 2015. One will be the Gene Ensminger Memorial Ride in Round Oak, GA and the other will take place at Mingo Saddle Club near Toombsboro, GA. Information concerning these rides can be found in our GERL Newsletter or online at www.gerlltd.org. We will also sponsor our annual Poker Ride in Dawson Forest in early spring, as well as our annual Exhibition Polo Match at Chukker Farms near Alpharetta, GA in July.

We ask that anyone seeking a horse to ride or to serve as a companion animal, please check to see if any of the horses in GERL Foster Care might meet your needs. We also ask that if you are considering an end of year monetary donation to reduce your tax burden, you will keep the needs of GERL in mind. All donations to GERL are 100% tax deductible.

GERL feels very fortunate and is deeply grateful to members and friends who send donations to our organization. The money is always well managed and used only in ways that insure care for horses in need.

Besides requesting donations, we have one other GREAT need. We are earnestly hoping to find an experienced grant writer to seek and secure monies available to organizations such as ours. As GERL President, Patty Livingston says, "Considering all of the good GERL does, and has done for over twenty years, to benefit horses needing help in Georgia, I am certain that there are philanthropic individuals and organizations out there who are interested in helping a group like GERL. We simply must find them."

Be assured that GERL is not going anywhere. We are here for the "long haul". We are helping horses and we will continue helping horses. We are simply in a financial slump and we are asking for help. Send donations, attend our fund raisers, adopt a GERL Foster Horse, agree to work with one of our foster horses to provide training which will insure usefulness and a permanent home, volunteer to help with our events, write pertinent articles for our newsletter, share your ideas concerning rescue and fund-raising, and if you have any experience in obtaining grant monies, please step forward!

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GERL Advisory Board

Billy Myers, DVM

Rhonda Veit, 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?

Area Coordinator Director, South GA.

Eddy O'Hern

(478) 328-8308 / (478) 397-1135

edohern@bellsouth.net

Area Coordinator Director, North GA.

Lynne Yates

(404) 435-5746 / lynne@gerlltd.org

GDA and Other Updates

For those of you who like to know where GERL spends your donated dollars, below is an update since our last quarterly newsletter:

- ✓ GERL recently paid \$6,029 for feed for the Mansfield Impound for the current quarter
- ✓ GERL recently paid \$351.66 for repair of the John Deere tractor at the Mansfield Impound
- ✓ GERL paid \$1,984 for vet care for horses at the Mansfield Impound for the current quarter
- ✓ GERL recently paid \$1,120 for hay for the Pulaski Prison Equine impound
- ✓ GERL recently paid \$4,544 for hay for the Mansfield Impound
- ✓ GERL paid \$2,042 on hay and feed for the Arrendale Prison Impound for this quarter

Rambo

By Anne Ensminger

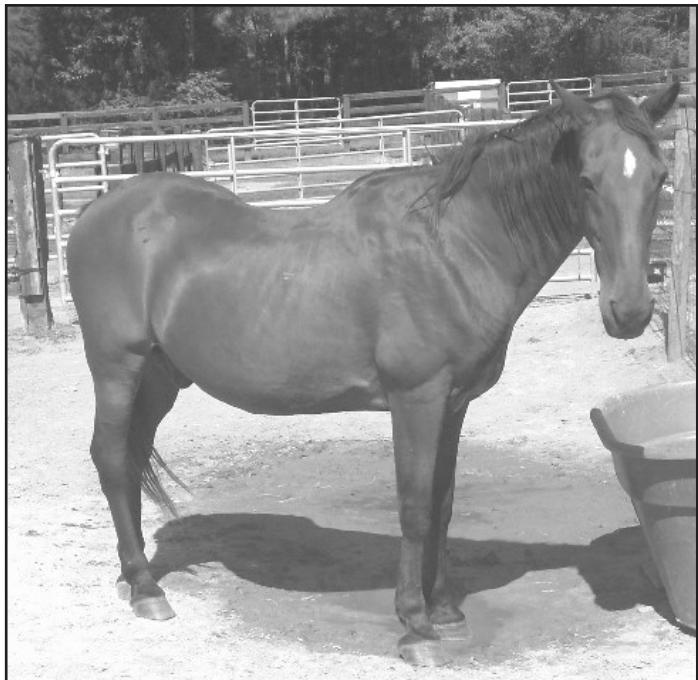
Sometimes rescue doesn't turn out the way we would like. GERL has faced this more than once, as has Georgia Dept. of Agriculture with their Equine Impound Program. A starving horse is rescued and is admitted to one of our programs. Everyone involved with the care of said horse, provides all possible needed care to insure successful rehabilitation. Then what?

GERL tries very hard to place our rehabilitated horses into adoptive forever homes as either riding horses or as companion animals. GDA has the same goal except that their horses are sold at auction after rehabilitation. Both organizations monitor the horses after placement for one year to insure that the horse is receiving proper care and is thriving.

But what if nobody ever steps up to adopt a GERL rescue horse or what if a GDA rehabilitated horse receives no bids? Since GERL, nor GDA was ever intended to serve as a "retirement home" for horses, at some point, a difficult decision must be made.

GDA Inspector, Jessie Murray and all of the volunteers who serve at the GDA Mansfield Equine Impound are desperately seeking a home for Rambo. He is a 22 year old bay gelding that is between 14 and 15 hands tall and is in good flesh. He is up to date on his Rabies, West Nile, Eastern and Western Encephalitis, Tetanus, and Rhino Flu inoculations, his feet have recently been trimmed, and his teeth floated. Sadly Rambo suffers from chronic uveitis (sometimes referred to as "moon blindness"). He is NOT blind but requires medication (Optimmune) in both eyes every three to four days. This is most likely the reason that Rambo has received no bids in recent GDA Auctions.

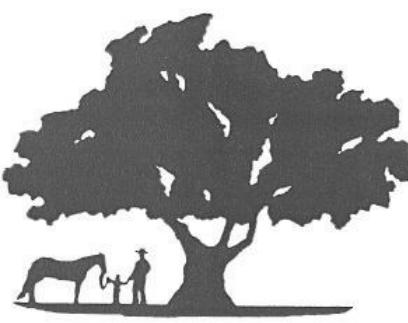
Jessie writes that "Rambo really needs to find a home soon". She and the volunteers feel strongly that "Rambo deserves to live out the rest of his life as God intended. He's the sweetest, lovable old man and a favorite at the Impound". They have not ridden Rambo but he has been a good



patient for his eye medication and any other treatments. If his ridability is a concern for a potential adopter, they will evaluate that and provide full disclosure.

This horse is otherwise healthy and has no lameness issues. He would be an outstanding pasture pet for someone who just wants to care for a deserving animal or he would be the very best companion animal to another horse.

If you have room in your heart and in your pasture for Rambo, please contact Jessie Murray at (770) 787-4603 or Jessie.Murray@agr.georgia.gov.



Blaze Delivers a Big Surprise

By Patty Livingston

Imagine my surprise when I received a text message from my neighbor while I was out of town, telling me that Blaze, the mare that I foster, had a baby that morning. I had noticed that Blaze had a big belly, but we'd had a lot of rain and I had pretty good pasture that accounted for her "grass belly". Finally, the realization that she wasn't kidding hit me. It made my trip home a bit more exciting thinking about how neat it would be to have a foal around.

The next day I went outside with my camera to get some pictures to go with the birth announcement I intended to send to CeCe, the GERL Foster and Adoption Coordinator, as well as the Board members. My neighbors gave her a couple of names. The one that suited me was "Morning Glory". I decided to call her "Glory", and I think it suits her, nicely. She has a large bald face that catches your eye. And, what a little cutie!

In the two weeks that followed, I had no idea how



popular little Glory would become with neighbors and drivers passing by. I could easily see Blaze and Glory from my office window. I could also see my entrance gates and often there would be somebody sitting out there trying to contact me to tell me that they thought something was wrong with the baby horse (because she was lying in the pasture). Once a



guy in a truck turned around and went to a neighbor's house to tell them that he could not get in touch with me. I ran outside and yelled across the road that the foal was ok, as evident by the occasional movement of her little tail. I thought about having a sign made after I had gotten up from my desk for the third time in one day. The sign would say "Shhhhhh. She's Just Sleeping". Little Glory has brought much excitement to Bethlehem!



Multi County Meeting for Law Enforcement held at the Walton Ag Center

By Sue Vetch

On September 4, 2014 we held one of GERL's periodic trainings for Law Enforcement and Animal Control Officers. Since I was responsible for organizing the event, I have to say I was nervous. Without the help of Lynne Yates I would not have known what to do. A huge Thank You to her for all of her guidance. Miss Anne took care of the registration and that was also a big help. We were grateful to have over 20 officers in attendance.

If you have never seen what goes into one of these presentations you should volunteer and attend the next one in your area. Lynn did a great job with the GERL presentation. She gave a short history of our organization and outlined the programs we provide to help horses in many ways.

Lynne's presentation was followed by Mat Thompson, GDA Equine Director. He spoke about the basics of handling and interacting with horses, explained how to body score a horse, and gave an outline of the responsibilities of the GDA Equine Division. Mat did a great job of pointing out why we need more Law Enforcement involvement in equine abuse cases.

After his lecture, we all went outside for some hands on work with two horses from the GDA Mansfield Impound. At this point, everyone became even more attentive. GERL had provided all of the officers with weight tapes and part of Mat's demonstration included instructions about how they are used. It was easy to see that many of the officers had not been that close to a horse before. Many began asking questions once they were around the horses. Many of the officers were given donated halters and lead ropes in the event that they encounter a loose horse. We are very grateful to Tractor Supply in Monroe for donating several new lead ropes. When everyone had taken a turn practicing haltering, weight taping, and body scoring, it was then time for lunch.

The volunteers had prepared some awesome food. Linda Kundell brought Black Bean Soup and Brownies. Anne Ensminger brought Vegetable Soup and Crackers. Cynthia Anderson

brought a great salad. We had Lemonade donated by Chick Fil A in Monroe. My daughter, Danielle and I brought the breakfast food. Rose Williams helped us out as well.

After lunch Kevin Hearst who is a Field Supervisor/Chief Cruelty Investigator for DeKalb County spoke. Let me tell you

no one was sleeping during his presentation! He knows his stuff. He did a great job of detailing how to investigate and collect evidence for abuse cases in order to insure successful prosecution.

The final speaker was Ms. Sherwin Figueroa. She is an Asst. District Attorney for Cobb County. Sherwin is an outstanding speaker and is all about prosecuting abusers. She informed the officers how they can help their District Attorney's Office prepare successful cases against abusers by thorough documentation

including photographs, and protecting evidence. She let it be known that she is willing to share her vast experience dealing with abuse cases with any law enforcement agency or District Attorney's office in Georgia.

All I could say was WOW at the end of the day. I am proud to have accepted the job of GERL Education Director. It is GERL's goal to sponsor three Multi County Meetings per year. I look forward to being involved with the next one. I cannot overstate the importance of our volunteers. I can't imagine such an undertaking without them. I also want to thank the Walton County Extension Office for letting us use the Walton County Agricultural Center near Monroe for our meeting.

Once again thanks to everyone that helped and I pray I did not forget to mention someone. If you are interested in helping to put one of these meetings together in your area give me a call so we can decide on the dates and make sure all of our speakers are available.



Why No Agenda Time Works

By Joe Camp, author of *Born Wild-The Soul of a Horse*



You might remember that, for me, the most important element in Monty Roberts' Join Up is that the choice to join up, to trust, belongs to the horse. It is not forced by the human. And when the horse makes that choice freely, of its own free will, everything changes. No-Agenda Time takes longer than Monty's Join Up (which usually works for him in 30 to 40 minutes). Our No Agenda experiment with our new mustang Saffron took 35 days, but when it happened everything changed, like a flash, right before our eyes. Everything! As if she had just flicked a switch.

When we adopted her she had never willingly touched or been touched by any human. She would eat hay near my feet so long as I was sitting down, but if I stood up she was gone. And if I dared to attempt to touch her she was gone. And she came to us pregnant with a baby conceived in the wild.

Before we picked her up we had already decided to do absolutely nothing with her until, by her own choice, she had accepted us. Until she had told us very clearly that she trusted us. We began No Agenda Time on her second evening here. We chose No Agenda Time because I believe that the more fearful the horse, or the more abused the horse has been in the past, and/or the less experienced the owners (us), the better it is to have less contact and thereby less chance to make a mistake. Also I'm lazy and No Agenda Time is definitely the lazy person's Join Up.

Had we introduced our first mustang, Noelle, to No Agenda Time right at the beginning and made no moves to attempt anything with her that could even possibly evoke a fear response until well after she had, of her own free will, committed to trust us, I believe things would've been very different with her. But No Agenda Time had not entered our imagination at that time. And I made mistakes with her that caused fear, lots of it, and cost us years.

What we didn't know then is that every fear of human is caused by a human. The current human, or some past human.

Somewhere. At some time. And therefore can be associated with all humans. (See Born Wild – Chapter 29).

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to meet a horse who had never seen a human before? Never been roped and jerked and pulled around by one. Never been physically forced to do things it didn't want to do. Or was afraid to do. Never been frightened out of its wits by a human. Or chased by screeching men on other horses. Or poked, kicked, and whipped. Or electric shocked into submission.

Kelly Marks wondered.

And she set out to find such a horse.

What she found in Namibia were wild horses who had no reason to believe they should be afraid of the humans they encountered because they had never encountered one. And as long as Kelly and her team never once did anything that even approached causing the horses to be afraid, they were never afraid. Never reactive. Kelly could rub them anywhere, even in their ears. And teach them. And ride them! (See the documentary: <http://vimeo.com/33062665>)

That is simply the best lesson ever! Do not ever do anything that could cause your horse to be afraid of you.

Unfortunately we didn't understand this when our Noelle arrived. Still she taught us a huge lesson. She taught us about No Agenda Time. We just didn't realize it at the moment. Without the history with Noelle, exactly as it happened, Saffron would never have experienced No Agenda Time. Nor would she be where she is today.

Firestorm was born three days after Saffron arrived and we were already doing No Agenda Time. Every evening we sat in folding chairs in the paddock with mama and her new baby... and completely ignored mama. There was always a great deal of contact and imprinting going on with the baby, but no con-



tact with mama at all. We placed hay close to our chairs and Saffron would munch it with very few apparent worries.

I believe that No Agenda Time is best accomplished sitting down, for several reasons. You are less threatening seated than you are when standing. Staying seated naturally restricts your mobility, thus your activity. The less you move around, the less threatening you are. And the less mobile you are the better the chance that you will not look at the horse, or attempt to touch the horse.

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Obviously the horse must be at liberty. A lead line compromises her free will to choose. And No Agenda Time should be with only one horse at a time (unless it's a mama and baby :). Placing good hay nearby, hay that the horse really likes, causes the horse to draw closer than she might otherwise do, and the closer she is with nothing bad happening, the more she will relax and begin to believe that you are a safe haven. We do not use alfalfa in our regular feeding regimen because, in quantity, it is not good for any horse. But they love it and it's different than their regular grass hay so we use it in small quantities for occasional treats, like a condiment, or as an enticement in an emergency when we need a horse to move somewhere quickly, and we use it in No Agenda Time.

With Saffron we started the alfalfa placed maybe six feet away from us. When she got comfortable with that we'd creep it closer, to maybe five feet away. Then over time we'd move it even closer until it was eventually only a couple of feet away. All the while completely ignoring her, showing her no interest and making no contact whatsoever. She grew more and more comfortable.

No Agenda Time can be accomplished with only one person and a good book, maybe ear buds and some good music, or maybe doing homework... but I definitely prefer it with two people in conversation. That seems to emphasize the fact that the horse is being ignored. Left out. It's one thing to be buried in a book and quite another to be chatting, laughing, and not even trying to include the horse, and I believe at some level that resonates. It might sound weird but I believe the horse reaches a point of wanting to be included. And, too, Kathleen and I are our own best friends and we really enjoy being down in the paddock with a couple of small jelly jars of wine catching up on each others' day.

No Agenda Time proved to be one of the very best things that could've happened to our relationship with Saffron. On various occasions, she reached up and sniffed both of my knees... and my gloves... and more than once asked for a breath exchange.

I sniffed back but understood that she was just exploring. It's important to know that there was nothing in that desire to sniff that said I'm ready to trust you forever. She had not yet made that choice. She was working her way in the right direction, but only building through baby steps. I made no attempt to engage her in any way and merely continued my conversation with Kathleen. In other words I was leaving it completely up to her. Rather than make a mistake I chose to make no move whatsoever until she almost literally grabbed me by the shoulders and screeched *Okay, already!!! I'm in!!!*

In other words, please do not jump the gun. Make your horse say it loud and clear.

There was a time, not too long ago, when I could not have resisted trying to push the envelope. Reaching out, trying to touch her. Forcing myself on her. But I sat on my hands, figuratively speaking. Because the moment of Join Up had not yet occurred.

It wasn't easy.

I know I tend to say some things over and over but this is so important. *Relationship First* continues to be the key. And the relationship is not set until the horse makes the choice, of her own free will, to say *I trust you to be my leader*. And that's when everything changes for the better.

How long will No Agenda Time take?

When we started with Saffron we committed to take whatever time it takes. And, for it to work, you must make that kind of commitment. The horse, its history, you, the paddock all are involved in how long it takes. I know friends who have accomplished this type of Join Up in a month by just sitting alone in the middle of a pen, studying for college classes. Once a day, maybe an hour a day. And then there's our Noelle who has already taken much longer than a month, but she has so much to overcome, and she is making progress.

On a recent evening it was all quiet and nice until Noelle caught the rim of the tub with her lip and it lifted maybe two inches off the ground. Before the sound of the tub's plop back onto the pea gravel had dissipated Noelle was halfway across the pen.

We hope we can recapture what we had with her before the move to Tennessee, and take it further. But it will be on her time, not ours. By her choice, not ours. Meanwhile we are thanking God daily for Saffron. And Miss Firestorm. And that very special surprise on the evening of my birthday. Day #35.

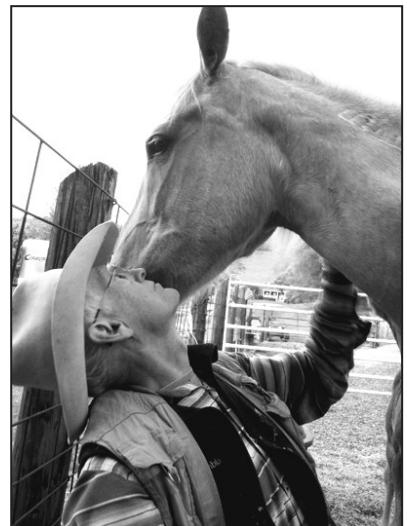
We settled into our chairs in the paddock in front of the barn for our ritual No Agenda Time. Baby Stormy, now one day shy of a month old, came right up for a rub and a sniff and promptly dropped onto Kathleen's feet for a nap. That, too, was becoming ritual. Miss Saffron was munching hay near our feet, appearing even less concerned than usual about being close to us.

I was doing my best to ignore her, which, remember, is what No Agenda Time is all about. But every once in a while, when she would get really close, I'd use that as an excuse to break the rule.

"She wants me to touch her," I might plead. "I can feel it."

"You know the rules," Kathleen would say.

Two fingers onto her cheek for little more than a second was the best I had ever done. Only once. If pressed, she would walk away. If I stood up she would walk away.



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We usually use Monty Roberts' Join Up to begin relationship. But the good things that occurred when we spent this sort of time with Noelle after her Malachi's death encouraged us to try it with Miss Saffron. We'd been at it for a month, sitting in the same place every night, since the day Stormy was born, which was three days after Saffron arrived; and we had promised ourselves that once started we would pay no attention to time. We would take whatever time it took.

We hadn't been sitting long on this birthday evening when there was a crunch behind me on the pea gravel covering the paddock. A close crunch. I glanced up at Kathleen.

"Is she close?"

Kathleen's eyes were widening. She nodded.

"Very."

My heart was skipping beats. I wanted so to turn and see. Kathleen was easing her iPhone out of its holster. And suddenly there was this marvelous tickle. Whiskers on my neck. And a warm breath in my ear. Then a rub, cheek to cheek so to speak.

I was frozen in place for a long moment. I didn't want to blow it. Finally I couldn't resist. I turned slowly... and kissed her on the nose. Then reached around and scratched the off side of her face.

"Hello Miss Saffron," I said softly.
"Welcome home."

She blinked. And blew me a long slow breath. I returned it. Kathleen's phone camera was clicking away. "Happy birthday," she said. "I told her it was today."

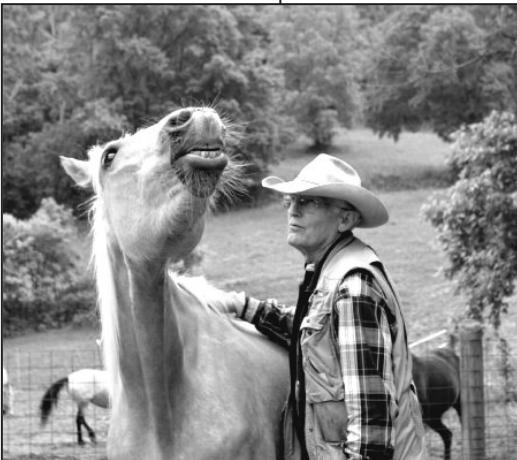
My hand began to sneak up her face to the top of her head, sliding over to scratch the base of her ear. A thumb slid inside and rubbed and rubbed. Miss Saffron purred.

I didn't know what to think. The best progress I had ever had with any of our horses was incremental. A little at a time. Even now, four years after Noelle came to us, I could barely touch her ears. And only then on *some* days. I wondered if I should attempt to stand up. My hand slid down her neck, rubbing and scratching as it went. I felt like a school kid on my first date, trying to sneak my hand onto her shoulder.

I scratched back up her neck and eased into a standing position as I went. Saffy took no notice. Suddenly I hit a sweet spot and she responded in ecstasy, stretching, reaching for the sky.

Yes please! More, more!

I scratched all the way down her back to her tail bone, slid down her hip, and underneath to her tummy and her belly button, then back forward, and down her front leg to her hoof. I was tempted to lift it, but probably chose wisely not to. This was enough for the moment. Leave it all positive.



Dropping back into the chair I turned to Kathleen with my mouth gaping open. Saffy rested her chin on my shoulder and actually dozed off.

"I've never seen anything like this," I said. "A few moments ago I couldn't touch her. And suddenly... like she just flipped a switch... she's in."

"All in," Kathleen grinned. "Like I said. Happy birthday."

That's the day we discovered with Miss Saffron that negative marks on a slate from previous humans can be erased. Wiped clean. It just takes time. We allowed Saffron to take the time that she needed to clean her own slate and when she was done, like the wild horses Kelly Marks found in Namibia, she was able to experience trust without fear.

Which is why we spent that 35 days doing absolutely nothing with Miss Saffron except to feed her, and be available. And, for 32 of those days, be sweet and loving to her new baby.

How do you know which method to use? A traditional Monty Roberts Join Up? Pat Parelli's method? Or No Agenda Time? I would say if you *know* that the horse has had some bad experiences with humans who came before you, I would use No Agenda Time. If you *know* the horse has had good experiences with previous humans and is familiar with halters, maybe even has been ridden, perhaps try the traditional Join Up. With any mustang – my opinion only – I would use No Agenda Time. Had we known when Noelle came to us what we know today, and had we used No Agenda Time back then, I believe things would be very different today.

Try it. But let the horse make the choices. Don't be an opportunist. Let it roll along like a family conversation and ultimately the horse will begin to feel very safe and trusting, and one day that switch will flick on and everything will be different. In an instant. And how terrific that feels.

As I write this, we are back at it with Noelle. Take two. We will report.

Oh, and once the relationship is in place, of the horse's choice, once she has said *I trust you to be my leader*, then you must be a good leader. See Leadership Second.

**The highly acclaimed best selling sequel to the
National Best Seller
*The Soul of a Horse – Life Lessons from the Herd***

You can see more of Joe Camp's blogs by visiting <http://www.thesoulofahorse.com>

Big Things Come in Small Packages

By CeCe Calli

Just like the Phoenix

How this little mare found the courage and will to survive is a testament to all of us. Quickstep came into Tamma Trump's life like a rocket. She had a body score of 1 and did not have the strength to even get up. Tamma spent untold hours and days just trying to get this little bit of a horse to survive. A mini horse sling was fashioned so Quickstep's legs might regain the power to hold her up. It was touch and go, but GO, Quickstep did! A week went by, revealing a little improvement. Two weeks went by with even more improvement. After more weeks of love and intensive care, Quickstep suddenly "burst out of the darkness" of her near death experience. She began kicking, playing and, to the amazement of Tamma and all of us, she was definitely enjoying life again.

We are very happy to report that this "Little Darling" has found her perfect, forever home with Kathy Duffy and her family. Some tears were shed on the day that "Little Darling" (Quickstep's new name) left Tamma's farm but it is an answer to prayer for all of us to know that she is now living large with Kathy and all of her new friends. By the way I have seen a few photo's of Little Darling and I think she has gone "Diva" on us. She now has a Pink halter, pink lead rope, new blanket, her own stall, and the company of a Dressage horse Kathy brought over from Germany. Ta Da!

Whisper and you will hear.

After our big donkey, horse, and zony round up early last winter, and consequent adoptions, (I still have nightmares of concern for those animals), GERL was surprised to realize that we still had two of the mini donkeys in our program. All of the other donkeys had gone to adoptive homes right away. These two were just so stand offish and shy that no one even took notice of them. Eventually, Bill and Sandy Lynch took both donkeys to foster. I have known a few people who have the gift of communication with equine, but Bill is an enthusiastic novice with donkeys. He took these shy and scared little ones and brought them out of their self imposed, lonely prison. He worked on their trust issues from ears to hooves. Several people came to check these two out, but Bonnie & Clyde hung back, never making a connection with any of them. That is until Linda McDaniel came by. To the surprise and delight of Bill and Sandy, Bonnie & Clyde immediately took to her. Linda has the love and understanding that only a true "donkey whisperer" possesses. As you can imagine, Linda adopted Bonnie and Clyde and they are a perfect match! Thanks so much to Bill & Sandy and of course, a big Thank You to Linda! Happy trails Bonnie & Clyde.....

Update on Membership Drive

Lynne Robinson Yates

In last quarter's newsletter, I told you about our membership drive. Anyone who is an active member as of 10/31/2014 is eligible to be included in a drawing for \$200 cash. The drawing will be held at the GERL Rescue Challenge on November 15th.

I am pleased to report that we have increased our membership by 80 members. We now have 430

members. Our goal is to reach the 500 mark. Please encourage your friends and neighbors to join us in our fight against equine abuse and neglect.

My thanks to all of you who have renewed your membership or become new members. Your membership dues go directly to provide for horses in need.

GDA Success Story

This is the story of Ethel. She came to the Pulaski Impound facility on 5/1/14. Upon arrival to Mansfield, she weighed 402lbs. She did well for a little while. She began getting down and not being able to get back up. We knew then it was time to put her in the sling. She was in the sling for 2 months and was taken out daily for grazing and to get her muscles up. As time passed, she became stronger and stronger.

We knew it was time for her to come out of the sling for longer and longer lengths of time, especially when we'd come in early mornings and she'd be so excited she'd be bucking while in the sling! We had lots of help w/her recovery. Pictured below are all the people that gave her some much needed help, love and care!



Ethel @ 1st Arrival



Ethel snug in her sling

Ethel is currently 606Lbs! She has had a full recovery and is ready for her next step into training. We are so thankful to all those who volunteered to assist in her survival! We cannot thank GERL enough, whom was essential in the recovery of this lil mare. She was a huge challenge! THANK YOU Georgia Equine Rescue League!!!



The boys from Charlie Elliot Wildlife Ctr



Gilmer County Saddle Club came to visit Ethel



Ethel Today!

GERL 4th Annual Polo Match at Chukkar Farm

By Patty Livingston

I drove over to Milton, pulling the GERL cargo trailer with Linda Kundell riding shotgun and her granddaughter stuffed in the back seat among a full load of auction items. The drive to Milton is a long one so I was happy to have the company.

Sue Wrensen was already busy setting up many of the silent auction items when we arrived. Several volunteers greeted us and immediately began helping us unload and arrange the items we brought. In no time, we had the t-shirt and food area ready for business. . Donna Pieper volunteered to cook the hotdogs and hamburgers and Judy Sophiandopoulos



It was an exciting game.

helped. Lavon Kern had the flea market under control and several people were milling around, checking out the goods.

We have been hosting the polo match for the past 4 years now and it is something I always look forward to, despite the amount of work involved. Jack Cashin, owner of Chukkar Farm, is most generous when it comes to GERL. He is always willing to support our organization in any way that he can and I am very grateful. Jack's daughter, Cara, is one of the polo players every year and her husband, Kellum, is the announcer.



Jack Cashin, our gracious host.



Loyal GERL volunteers: LaVon Kern, Cynthia Anderson and Sue Wrensen



It was a warm day, but the horses didn't seem to mind.

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We had a nice turnout, despite the warm weather. I enjoyed seeing some old friends that I hadn't seen in a while. The view of the polo field is beautiful and I couldn't think of a better place to be at that moment while we enjoyed our lunch.

After the match was over, everybody got in gear and started packing everything up. The polo players were in the barn taking care of their sweaty horses. We were doing our best to work in front of the large fans while we packed. Pretty soon, everything was loaded (and I do mean loaded) and we headed back towards the East side of town. It was a very satisfying day and I was happy with our results. Thanks, again, to Jack and his family for making this possible!



Jacki Moore and Cindy Farris enjoy the polo match.



Grabbing a quick bite.

Mickey Farmer

By Anne Ensminger

Yes, we have honored our dear friend, Mickey Farmer in the past. GERL has awarded him every accolade imaginable. He has won the coveted GERL Cheerleader of the Year award as well as the GERL Volunteer of the Month award. None of this could possibly come close to being enough. Mickey is one of those people who works quietly in the background. That is, he works quietly until it is time for him to grab the spotlight! That is when Mickey Farmer shines for GERL.

Mickey is a professional auctioneer and a very good one. He is the jolliest person anyone could imagine, which adds immeasurably to his auctioneer's chant. I have tried unsuccessfully to imitate that chant many times. It always includes some combination of quick words and incorporates a bada, bada, bada (whatever THAT means!) thrown in here and there. I asked him to teach the words to me a long time ago and he said he would, but then he would have to kill me. Maybe I will just continue to enjoy hearing Mickey say the words.

One important part of every GERL fundraiser is almost always an auction. Mickey has donated his services for our every auction over many years. Not only does he donate his auctioneering talents to GERL, but to Georgia Department of Agriculture for their periodic horse auctions as well.

Always seen riding a fine horse or the shiniest motor cycle, Mickey is rarely seen when he is not surrounded by many friends who love to enjoy his company. I have never seen Mickey in a bad mood. He has a way of creating excitement and hilarity each time he takes the stage to raise money for either GERL or GDA or when he just takes a seat around the many campfires we have all enjoyed together over the years.

Mickey has one steadfast rule and that is that only after the auction during our camping weekends, does Mickey allow himself to enjoy his evening meal, his "baby" (don't ask!), and one or two Coronas.

What a bright light Mickey Farmer is to this organization! Once again, GERL would like to simply say THANK YOU to our wonderful, longtime friend.



September 2014 GDA Horse Sale

By Anne Ensminger

As usual, GERL was well represented at the most recent GDA Horse Sale which took place at the GDA Mansfield Equine Impound Facility on September 12th. GDA personnel, some of their faithful volunteers, as well as the prison inmates who work with the horses, are always on hand to facilitate the auction but GERL is pleased to attend and simply provide support for their efforts. Of course, GERL member and longtime supporter, Mickey Farmer donates his outstanding services as auctioneer for most GDA sales. Many of us are anxious to see the horses knowing that GERL has bought feed, hay, and needed vet services during their impoundment. It feels great to see them completely rehabilitated and going to new homes where they will receive the love and care all horses deserve.

If you are a horse enthusiast and have not attended one of these auctions, please put it on your list of things to do. Yes, these horses are ‘rescue’ horses but they are FAR from being junk horses! This sale presented several gorgeous animals. Most were shown under saddle. None of the horses demand bids that match their much greater value.

GERL President, Patty Livingston, found herself writing a check for a beautiful bay roan Quarter Horse gelding. It’s hard to resist such value at such a low price. We wish Patty great success with her new horse!

We would like to encourage more people to come out and support this very worthwhile program which has saved many, many horses over the years from starvation and mistreatment. GERL is proud to partner with them to insure the continuation of the very important Equine Program at GDA.

Dear friends of the Mansfield Impound Barn and of Carol Doefferinger

By Nancy Bogardts

To honor the memory of Carol, a dedicated and long time volunteer at the Mansfield Impound Barn who recently passed away, I have set up a Go Fund me page. The monies collected will be given to the Georgia Equine Rescue League in Carol's memory.

Carol loved the horses at the impound dearly...she gave each one a pet name, frequently joked about putting the top down in her car so that she could take this one or that one home with her and loved nothing more than being able to pet and love on the horses. She grieved when some weren't able to survive the neglect that had brought them to the impound and celebrated the signs of renewed health and energy enjoyed by the ones who made it.

Carol had a full time job as a gifted language arts teacher at Edwards Middle School in Rockdale County but spent nearly every Sunday morning for the past five years volunteering at the impound. Sadly, health problems forced her to retire from the school system in May and she passed away on July 1st of this year. She was a supporter of the Georgia Equine Rescue League for many years as she knew that GERL provides the bulk of the funding of feed and veterinary care at the state equine impounds.

I would like to present GERL with a gift to help continue the work that Carol loved so dearly.

Here is the link for the Go Fund Me page, please consider



making a donation in Carol's memory, in honor of any horses you have come to love via the work of the dedicated staff and volunteers at the impound or to fund GERL.

Thank you so much,

Nancy

<https://www.youcaring.com/memorial-fundraiser/let-s-help-the-horses-in-memory-of-carol-doeffinger/243606>

Betsy Moles, True Friend to the Horse

By Anne Ensminger

Betsy Moles (Natural Horse Solutions/Canton, GA) spends her every waking moment helping horses and the people who love them. While Betsy loves and respects all horses, she holds a special place in her heart for the American Mustang. Betsy has successfully competed with numerous Mustangs (America's Horse!) in Mustang Makeover and Mustang Magic competitions. Training wild Mustangs is not for the average backyard horse trainer. Her long experience with natural horsemanship methods, combined with her gentle ways, has earned Betsy top honors as a recognized Georgia horse trainer encompassing all disciplines.

On September 7, 2014, I was privileged to participate in her Respect and Ground Control Clinic which was held at Little Brook Farm near Acworth, GA. I was joined by eleven ladies, much more advanced in horse handling than I, for a fun and informative day spent with Betsy and our horses.

After an intense day of working with each clinic participant, each one very satisfied with their progress and the day's learning experience in general, Betsy announced that she was donating a portion of the day's clinic fees to Georgia Equine Rescue League. Realizing how far Betsy had to drive to hold this clinic and how hard she worked all day, made me more appreciative than usual for the nice check she presented to GERL. Thank you so much, Betsy Moles!



**"Honestly darling, I don't know how
you can spend so long looking at shoes"**

Get Well Wishes for Special GERL Friends

Pat and David Dean, our love and concern for you both is great while David struggles with serious health issues.

Ronnie and Jack Pesserilo, at last we are getting positive reports about Jack's return to health and normal activities after surgery.

Cynthia Anderson and husband Daniel, we hope you both feel our love and our sincere wishes for a rapid recovery after Cynthia's upcoming surgery.

Bob Long has suffered a stroke and has been hospitalized but he is due to return home soon. Our love and wishes for a rapid and complete recovery go out to you, Bob.

WELCOME NEW GERL MEMBERS

New Member	Referred By	From
Ricky Brawley	GERL	Blue Ridge
Jackie Brown	Tamma Trump	Ellijay
Jeff & Nancy Clark	Sue Vetsch	Loganville
Jane Goff	GERL	Marietta
Jeanette Jenkins, Above The Rest Cabins	GERL	Morganton
Abby Jordan	GERL	Fairburn
Becky Keeton-Williams	Penny Kwirant	Whitesburg
Amy & Mike Lanier	Sue Vetsch	Conyers
Margaret & Sam Middione	GERL	Cumming
Beth Miller	GERL	Eatonton
Margie Moschetti, Control Specialties	Patty Livingston	Gainesville
Donna Moseley	Paula LeCates	McDonough
Donna Nunnally	GERL	Canton
Jordan Ozburn	Anne Ensminger	Oxford
Abigail Pulling	GERL	Ringgold
Sally Raczkowski	GERL	Kennesaw
Jacquelyn & David Rose, Rose Equestrian	GERL	Canton
Jean Roten	GERL	Newborn
Sarah Sharpless	GERL	Pine Mountain
Bob & Katae Simpson	Sue Vetsch	Monroe
Leslie Thomas	GERL	White
Michele Trammell Woods	Maria Pruden	Black Creek
Jenny Fox	Margaret Clowers	Madison
Kelly Diodati	Tamma Trump	Marietta

If you have any questions about when you need to renew contact:

Lynne Yates: lynne@gerlltd.org or 404-435-5746 / Join or renew on our website: www.gerlltd.org

Thank You For Your Foster Homes

Steven Neal/Amber & Booth
 Patty Livingston/Blaze and Glory
 Tamma Trump/ Butter
 Ann Murphy/Moses
 Tara Payne/Jessie James
 Chris Altizer/Starr
 Anne Ensminger/Honor
 Tiffany Bergdorf/Lucky

Rescue Challenge Horses in Training
 Big Rocky/Samantha Schrader
 Dixon/Jenny Fox
 China/Danielle Perry
 Faye Dunaway/JoAnn McBride
 Halle Berry/Jordon Falconer
 Holly/Lee Ann Gibson
 Little Joe/Danielle Crist
 Little Rocky/Nancy Falconer
 Toby/Stacy McCoy

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

Renewals due for October

Barbara Clark
Ed & Sandra Creel
Barbara Decker
Deborah Harrell & Family
Peggy & Barbara Hawley
Connie Hogan & Family

Rosalee & Sandy Loudon
Gary & Jeana Mullen
Jean Nash
Shirley Thomas
Jan Wilson & GoKart Bailey

Renewals due for December

Herbert Anderson, Jr.
Chris Avery
George & Barbara Bullock,
Ret. A.F.
Betty Sue Hearin & Family
Jane Hillegas
Mac Kendrick
Steve & Maria Land
Carleen Mauk
Debra McCoy & Family
Ed & Sara Merritt

Cella Nelson, Georgia Horse-
back Riding
Jessie Parker
Philip & Lee Rast
Michael & Carrie Russell
Karen Squazzo
Lenore Threlkeld
Bill Thro
Cindy Wauhop & Family
Casey Whitaker

Renewals due for November

John Absalon
Denise Arnold
Nancy Bogardts
Danny & Valarie Edmondson & Family
Pamela Erdman, MD & Family
Jim Holland
Majorie Leder & Greg Argarin
Doug & Sandy Mundrick
Annette Raybon, Paulding County 4-H
Laurie Wilson

Thank you for donating to the “Feed a Horse” Program

Mary Alice / Ben Hudson
Erik Wittenzellner
Sherry Massey
Karen Johnson
John Lynn

We are always looking for people who want to join the GERL family and help us stop equine abuse.

The following is a list of volunteer opportunities.

“Like” our GERL page on Facebook and encourage your friends to “like” us. Share our stories on your page. Sign up for the AmazonSmiles Program and choose GERL to receive a donation every time you shop. It is a free program for you and you can sign up at <http://www.smile.amazon.com>. Specify GERL to receive benefits from your Kroger Plus card.

- Sign up at <http://www.kroger.com/communityrewards>.

Make GoodSearch.com your home page and list GERL as your charity.

Become a member of GERL.

Participate in online auctions and auctions at events.

Participate in GERL trail rides and other GERL events.

Volunteer at GERL events and/or at GDA equine facilities.

Assist with transporting GERL horses to foster homes.

Store hay for the winter.

Give presentations to local civic groups.

Provide a foster home or adopt a GERL horse.

Volunteer to do site visits to approve prospective foster or adoptive homes.

Become an Area Coordinator for GERL.

Donate hay, feed and equipment.

Donate tax-deductible dollars so that GERL can continue to rescue animals in need.

Report suspected abuse cases to the Georgia Department of Agriculture Equine Division by calling: 404-656-3713 or 1-800-282-5852.



GERL Stallions to Gelding Program.

**Stallions Gelded
To Date By
GERL: 495**

Stallion-Gelding Thank You

Dr. Jan Smith
Alice Stagg

Jeanne Barsanti

Thank you to our Rescue Challenge Sponsors and Supporters

Dr. Jan Smith, Northeast Georgia Physician's Group
Linda Kundell, Flintlock Farm

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New South Equine Medicine

Dover Farrier Services

R-Ranch in the Mountains

Holly Breaux, DVM, Animal Chiropractic Care
Southern States

Barbara Rush Fine Art

Nag Horse Ranch

Watkinsville Service Center

Amicalola Veterinary Services

Berger Allied Movers

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Clear Water Troughs

Dr. Rebecca Gimenez,

—Technical Large Animal Emergency Rescue.

The Sparkle Queen

Rucker Horse & Pets

Wanda Griffioen

Chattahoochee Trail Horse Assn.

Jeanne Barsanti

Thank you for Helping

Charlotte Zubowicz, for Quickstep
Jeanette Jenkins, for GDA supplies
Susan Brookshire, for Patrick

In Memory of:

Wayne Schmitz by Sue Vetsch

Aladdin by Steven Neal

Goldie by Margie Moschetti, Control Specialties

Chester by Patti & Phil Henry

Michael P. Medlock by Joanne Medlock

Stephanie Kickbush by Kelly Futral

Ree Hillye Masters by Tracy Masters

Blue Ribbon Red by Lisa Sikes

Stephanie Kickbush by Valerie Puryear

Erwin Topper by Lake Lanier Association, Inc.

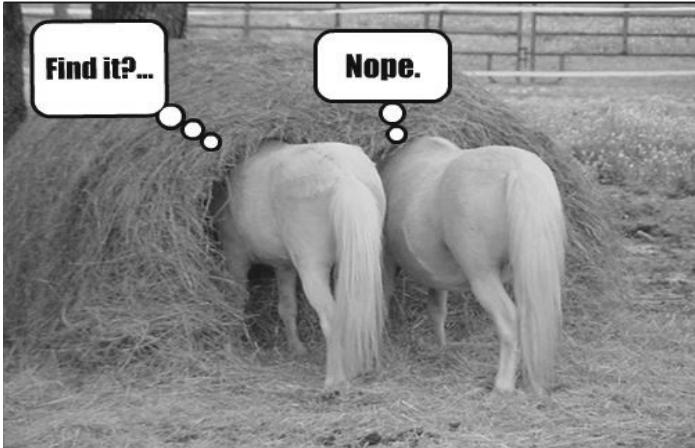
Julian Lawson by Anthony and Rosemarie Russo

Erwin Topper by Betty Mallernee

Erwin Topper by Dru and Fred Stowers

Erwin Topper by Anne Brodie Hill

Erwin Topper by Renate Wald



Thank you for your donations

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I am interested in becoming a GERL fundraising event volunteer

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