



Georgia Equine Rescue League, Ltd.

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

Quarterly Newsletter

January, February and March 2015

Minis! GERL's Newest Adoptables

By Patty Livingston

When CeCe, our Foster and Adoption Coordinator, contacted the GERL Board about bringing three miniature horses into our foster program, I was a little surprised. It seems that these ponies were running loose and someone opened the gate in a nearby pasture and put them in. There were pictures attached to the email that originated from the Rockdale County Animal Control, which is where 3 of the four minis had been taken. The fourth one was going to stay with the person who owned the pasture where they had been stashed to get them off of the road.

We do not get mini horses in our program that often. The reason is that they are so cute and small, there is almost always somebody who wants them. These minis were not starved or neglected. Their feet are in good shape, as well as their body scores. It was surprising that the owner never bothered to look for them.

I talk about the over-whelming number of unwanted horses we have in our country all of the time. We don't

typically think of a mini horse as being unwanted, but I believe that due to the number of minis we have seen at our castration day clinics for the past two years, they are very plentiful. I know several people who are "into" minis and they all own stallions and mares and have a breeding program. Apparently, there is a market for the offspring. But I don't know that to be a fact. I have never been to their farms, but understand them both to have quite a large number of minis "available". I recently saw an ad on the internet from someone selling miniature horses, and the ad stated: "over 65 years breeding the miniature horse." Think about the number of minis they have reproduced in 65 years! And, that's just one farm!

Miniature horses are very common and it is not necessary to spend a large amount of money to buy a miniature horse from a breeder, these days. I saw on the internet where thousands of pet-quality miniature horses are sent to slaughter every year. That is a very sad thought.

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Georgia Equine Rescue League, Ltd.

P.O. Box 328
Bethlehem, Ga. 30620
770-464-0138
<http://www.gerlltd.org>
reply@gerlltd.org

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Miniature horses are hardy and adaptable, but they do experience a few health issues mostly because of their small size. They are more likely to founder, develop colic and suffer from toxic weeds or foreign objects they may find in the pasture and ingest.

On-average, miniature horses may live one-third longer than large horses. This size-longevity relationship is the same for dog breeds. For example, a Rottweiler may live to be 12, while a Chihuahua may live to be 18 years old. I was shocked to learn that minis can live to be as old as fifty! OMG! Almost warrants a mention in your will!

Throw their longevity into the equation of over-production and you start to see problems.

So...back to the call about the minis... the GERL Board approved them coming into our foster program, CeCe waved her magic wand and produced a foster home that was able to take all of them, which was a bonus. She then worked with Rockdale County Animal Control to get them delivered as soon as a negative Coggins was received.

CeCe came up with some names and nobody had any objections, so the minis are now known as Ahern, which means Lord of the Horse in Galic; Galen means “little bright one” in Galic and Finnian, means “white headed” in Galic. We are already getting calls about these cuties, so I doubt that they will be available long. CeCe says that she already has people lined up to adopt them and I’d venture to say that they will have new forever homes before this article is in print!





GERL Area Coordinators List



John Absalon - Bartow, Floyd, Gordon, Cherokee, Paulding.

(770) 546-9672 / sanstet@bellsouth.net

Cynthia Anderson - Baldwin & Putnam

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

Amy Aronson-Friedman - Lowndes

(229) 834-2455 / aaronson@valdosta.edu

Rita Benfield - Douglas, Haralson, Carroll

(770) 330-0877 / rita.benfield@yahoo.com

Susie Bond - Newton, Morgan & Greene

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

Cynthia Brayton - Rockdale & Henry

(678) 490-6266 / leaper12@hotmail.com

CeCe Calli - Hart, Franklin and Elbert

(706) 376-2410 / LCEStables@aol.com

Dotti & Jack Carter - Towns

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

frogleap@windstream.net

Marion Cobb - Forsyth

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

Shalee Cooper - Grady and Decatur Counties

229-221-7397 / painthorses3@gmail.com

Charles & Linda DeVane—Brooks, Thomas & Cook(229) 263-7714 / (229) 560-0844

Christy Graw - Wayne County

(912) 271-8640 / christy.graw@yahoo.com

Joan Hall—Cobb, Dekalb, Gwinnett, N. Fulton.

(256) 975-7865 / georgiahorsebackrider@gmail.com

Heatherlee Hammonds—Monroe, Bibb, Crawford

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

Debora Hines - Thomas, Colquitt and Mitchell

(229) 403-9386 / equineharmony@rocketmail.com

Tanya Kingsley—Jasper, Butts, Monroe,

Jones & Putnam

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

Linda Kundell - Oconee, Morgan, Oglethorpe, Athens & Clark

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

Maria Land—Walton

(770) 207-0280 / marialand01@comcast.net

Bob & Judy McCrory - Harris, Meriwether, Marion, Chattahoochee, Talbot, Troup & Muscogee

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

Marla Morris - Lamar, Upson & Pike

(404) 692-9196 / georgiashebear@yahoo.com

Eddy O'Hern - Houston, Bibb & Peach

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

edofern@bellsouth.net

Lee Rast - Dade, Walker, Catoosa, Chattooga, Floyd, Gordon and Bartow

(404) 964-5665 / rastla@aol.com

Annette Raybon - Paulding , Cobb, Bartow

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

Nicki Thigpen - Warren, McDuffie & Columbia

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

Linda Tucker - Jackson & Barrow

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

Jessica Wheeler - Berrien, Lanier & Cook

(229) 237-0655 / jdwheeler09@gmail.com

Debbie Whitworth - Elbert & Hart

(404) 805-4409 / rlw73dpw@gmail.com

Michelle Williams - Spalding

(404) 290-8115 / michelle@kuntrylivin.com

Rose Williams—Barrow, Gwinnett, Morgan, Oconee. (770) 267-8683

Sue Wrensen - Cherokee

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

Lynne Robinson—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

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

edofern@bellsouth.net

Area Coordinator Director, North GA.

Lynne Robinson

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



Puttin' On The Feed Bag Recipes

Hot Fudge Pie

- ✓ 1 stick butter, softened
- ✓ 1 c sugar
- ✓ 2 eggs
- ✓ 1 tsp vanilla
- ✓ 3 TBS cocoa powder
- ✓ 1 tsp salt
- ✓ ½ cup flour



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@gerltd.org

Preheat oven to 350. Using electric mixer, cream butter and sugar together 2 to 3 minutes. Add eggs, one at a time, and vanilla; mix well. Add dry ingredients and mix til blended. Grease 8 inch pie pan, pour in mixture, spread evenly. Bake 30 to 35 minutes, until center is set. Fantastic with a scoop of ice cream!

2015 GERL Calendar of Events - *Mark Your Calendars Now!*

April 25th

Spring Trail Ride, Mingo Trails, Toombsboro, GA

May 2nd

Gene Ensminger Memorial Ride, Round Oak, GA

July 19th

GERL Polo Match, Chukkar Farm, Milton, GA

September 26th

GERL Rescue Challenge

November 7th

Andee Rogers Memorial Poker Ride
Dawson Forest, Dawsonville, GA

November 14th

GERL Stallion to Gelding Castration Day

December 12th

GERL Christmas Party, Bethlehem, GA

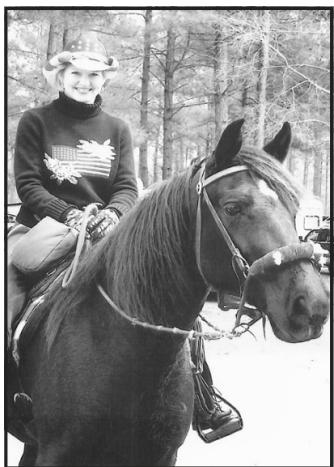
Mark your calendars so that you don't miss any of these wonderful events that will benefit GERL. It's a guaranteed great time, a benefit for a wonderful cause and a way to see old friends and meet new friends!

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



LET ME SAY THIS ... ABOUT THAT

By Patty Livingston, President



Another year has passed and I was amazed at how much we have accomplished, as I prepared the presentation for the annual meeting. Even though we get a Treasurer's report at each Board meeting throughout the year, I am still pleasantly surprised when it comes to seeing the bottom line.

Financially, we saw an increase over last year, as well as a huge increase in membership. Perhaps that is our greatest accomplishment. I have had a goal to have 500 GERL members for at least 5 years. Thanks to Lynne Robinson, our Treasurer, that goal has come to fruition.

GERL's goals are pretty much the same each year. We're always going to support the GDA impounds and we're always going to fund-raise. We are in a good place as far as refining our programs and knowing what works and what doesn't. The goal is to grow and build a huge network of horse people who are helping to solve our horse problems.

GERL continues to do good work in other areas besides just being a rescue organization, and people are starting to get the message. And, let me say this about that... I think GERL is a pretty unique Rescue. Not just because of the number of years that we have been around, or the fact that we are the only Rescue who supports the GDA, but because we have a network of horse people who can help in almost any area of our State. None of this would be possible without our volunteers. They are the foundation of this organization and a very precious commodity, at that!

So...now that I've buttered things up a bit, I'm looking for a couple of new volunteers to take on a few relatively easy jobs. One of those positions is vital to our Stallion to Gelding program because someone has to receive and review the applications that come in from people wanting GERL to help pay for their stallion's castration. It's not hard. All you have to do is contact the applicant and their veterinarian to explain our program and confirm payment. It does require some computer skills, as well as people skills.

And, speaking of Stallion to Gelding, the annual S2G Castration Day that is held the second Saturday of November has been handled exclusively by me since its inception four years ago. I really need some help with this program to ensure that it runs smoothly and timely. All of the work is done from a computer and a phone and does not require a large amount of time.

The other job that needs someone's personal touch is orchestrating all GERL communications with regard to our events to ensure that flyers are sent out and posted (in a timely manner). This work would also be done from a computer and a phone. This is another task that I do, and lately, I haven't been doing a very good job. I have found that my (paying) job is demanding too much of my time to keep so many balls in the air. Having said all that, if you have computer skills and a little free time, please reach out to me and let me know. I would be so grateful for your help.

I am looking forward to another year of growth within GERL. It is downright exciting to think about where we are going in the future to help Georgia's horses!



G.E.R.L. SPRING TRAIL RIDE

WHEN
April 25-26, 2015

WHERE
Mingo Trails Saddle Club
3888 Little Sandy Creek Road
Toombsboro, GA

Registration starts at 8:00 AM Saturday
Over 100 water and electrical hookups at \$10 per night
Clean bathrooms and showers
Limited number of paddocks available at \$5 per night
21 miles of fun trails
Guided trail rides at 10 AM and 2 PM
Horse games at 2 PM
Pot Luck, Auction, Music and 50/50 Raffle - Sat. night
Cowboy Church on Sunday at 9 AM

ALL AGES EVENT

ADMISSION
\$20 GERL members
\$25 non-GERL members
\$10 Ages 7-16
Free for children under 7

SPONSORS
Jeffers Horse Supply
Sew for You
Tractor Supply
Horse.com
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BENEFITING
The Georgia Equine
Rescue League, Ltd

FOR INFO EMAIL
Eddy O'Hern at
edofern@bellsouth.net

NEGATIVE COGGINS
Required to participate!!

Georgia Equine Rescue League, Ltd



With your help...we can make a difference.

A DAY AT MINGO FRONTIER DAYS AND POW WOW

WOW! What an awesome day we had at MINGO Trails this past weekend. (3/14/15) The Frontier Day and Pow Wow was the best one yet. We set our both up close to the pavilion which put us right in the middle of all the activities. There were folks there from all over the south east. There were folks from Georgia, Florida, South Carolina, North Carolina, Alabama and who knows where else. There were a lot of venders there with a lot of cool stuff to buy. It sure made for on great big awesome day. Manning our both was; myself, Sarah Schelkoph, Georgia Lilley and Janice Lilley. I like to give a Great Big Ole thanks to all that helped. We tried a bit of a different approach in the booth this time. We rented a popcorn machine and had baked goods for donations. We thought the popcorn would go over really well but it was a bust. However, the baked goods went over great. Thanks to all the bakers that helped out with the goodies. We brought in more funds this time than we have in a while, getting a total of \$198.00. We had one member renew her dues, sold 3 shirts and a hat. We also handed out a huge number of our flyers for the Spring Ride. We have had a lot of folks tell us they are excited about the Spring Ride this year and our expectations are high that we are going to do the best we ever have with the ride.

We were a bit disappointed that all the Indians didn't show up this time but after hearing of the health issues with the Chiefs wife it's understandable. Janelle was the only Indian there this time and if you know Janelle you know that she always makes it a party. We love you Janelle.

I also want to thank Billy and Terrie Bissette and also the entire Duke family for their hospitality. As usual they were the best. And we are looking forward to being with them again April 25 and 26 for our GERL Spring Ride. As our rides are always the best of fun and times.

For those that didn't make it to the Frontier Days and Pow Wow you sure missed a great time. Saturday afternoon the clouds parted and the sun came out and we could not have had a better day. So put it on your calendars for next year and plan to attend. And of course put our Spring Ride on your calendars too.

See you all at the Spring Ride!
Eddy O'Hern



Booth and Volunteers



Goodies to Sell



Sarah Schelkoph, Janice Lilley, Eddy O-Hern
and George Lilley

G.E.R.L. Annual Meeting 2015

By Patty Livingston

This was the first year that there wasn't a huge storm brewing the day of the GERL annual meeting. No rain in the forecast, either. I felt that we were going to have a bigger turn-out than usual, just for that simple reason. The annual meeting is the only meeting where the members or interested parties are invited to attend. It is the one and only meeting where we give an accounting of our accomplishments and goals. And, it is the only meeting where we recognize our wonderful volunteers for all of their hard work from the previous year. Of course, turning it into a pot-luck, adding a silent auction and flea market are just extra embellishments to help raise a little money and entice more people to come.

Unfortunately, this year we had less people show up than the year previous when we had some awful weather. I have learned not to take anything personally. GERL has been having an annual meeting for years and I remember attending very few of them, prior to becoming a Board member. I guess it's just not something that a lot of people feel is important. So, we try not



Ray Ziebell and Mickey Farmer wait for the meeting to start.

Tamma Trump is our alternate Board member who also now holds the important title of "Rescue Challenge Coordinator/Lead". We couldn't have put this event on in 2014, had it not been for Tamma. I think everybody who attended that event would agree that it was a top-notch fund raiser. It brought in the highest profit to GERL than any other event we have every hosted. Tamma is also very active within our foster program, as it seems that she is always willing to step up and agree to foster a "problem horse" that needs special attention either medically or technically (training).

Anne Ensminger has agreed to be the GERL Secretary for the 12th year in a row. Everybody knows Miss Anne, and the personal touch that she puts into every note or article that she writes for GERL. If you have ever received a simple "thank-you" from her, I know you know what I mean. We get emails and cards all of the time that contain comments about the wonderful note they received from Miss Anne and perhaps is the reason they remain a member of GERL. She is truly an asset that helps set us apart from other clubs and organizations. She is also, typically, the first person to be seen at the registration booth of any fund raising event.

Lynne Robinson is our Treasurer and is filling that position for the second year now. She is also the Area Coordinator Director for the Northern part of the State, is very active in helping with the quarterly newsletter, as well as helping to host Multi-County Law Enforcement meetings. She is a great speaker and advocate for GERL and has stepped up and filled in for me whenever I am not available. Lynne has been instrumental in moving GERL to the next level with new ideas and energy.



Danielle Christ, Sue Vetsch and CeCe Calli pose for a picture

to concentrate on the people who don't come, but focus the attention on the ones who do.

The GERL Board of Directors were all in attendance, despite three of them having quite a drive from middle Georgia, north Georgia and east Egypt! We were fortunate to have all five Board members from 2014 agree to continue in the same capacity in 2015. We are running like a well-oiled machine now. We have made some adjustments to our curriculum over the last couple of years that have proven to be great decisions. For instance, making all of our fund-raisers, including trail rides, one-day events.

Our Vice President, Eddy O'Hern, located down near Perry, has a great group of volunteers down there who orchestrate the Mingo Trail Ride each year. This year they are going to host a Multi-County Law Enforcement meeting in their area. Eddy is also serving as the Area Coordinator Director for the southern part of the State and stays pretty busy checking out calls about horses himself, or ensuring that the Area Coordinator located in a particular area is checking it out.



Debbie Whitworth, Jan Yann, Susie Bond, Marian Finco and Pat Allen

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...GERL Annual Meeting continued from page 8

We also have some great volunteers who give of their time and energy over the years to ensure that our events and programs run smoothly. I would like to take this opportunity to recognize and thank them for their service.

Sue Wrensen, for instance. She has been in charge of our auctions for at least 6 years now. That is not an easy job and I love her for agreeing to fill that position, year after year. She also serves as an Area Coordinator for Cherokee County and readily raises her hand to volunteer to help with multi-county law enforcement meetings or other needs in her area.

CeCe Calli has been doing a wonderful job handling both foster and adoption of our horses. She was a big part of the Rescue Challenge, helping to secure the horses that would participate to pre-screening interested adopters. CeCe and has agreed to continue in this capacity for 2015.

Linda Kundell is our Merchandise Coordinator, as well as being in charge of the GERL hotline volunteers. Both are time-consuming jobs and Linda juggles both like she's been doing it all of her life. She is the first person to raise her hand to go pick up or deliver a horse for us. Linda is also the GERL Area Coordinator for Oconee, Morgan, Oglethorpe and Clarke Counties.

Jaye Herrington has held the position of "Event Coordinator" for a few years now. Last year we decided to mix things up a little and have more than one Event Coordinator. Jaye would only serve as Event Coordinator for the Gene Ensminger Memorial Ride at Round Oak since that is the area that is most convenient to where she lives. The other events would have an "event committee", consisting of a group of volunteers who live in the area where the event is being held. This idea was the brain child of Ray Ziebell, who stepped up and volunteered to be in charge of the Poker ride, since that event is in his area. We're hoping that this idea will work out better for Jaye and our other volunteers who have had to drive all over the place to work at an event. Big thanks to Ray for his idea and for stepping up!

Bob Long has been handling our public relations for 3 years now, despite holding down a very demanding job in the past. He has recently retired from his job and has agreed to stay on in the capacity of GERL's Public Relations Coordinator.

Sue Vetsch volunteered to take on the position of Education Coordinator last year and, thankfully, has agreed to continue doing this job in 2015. Much of it has to do with helping to promote and host our multi-county law enforcement meetings that are such an important part of what GERL does today.

LaVon Kern has been handling the GERL flea markets for the past couple of years and is quite proficient at it. Holding flea markets at our events has enabled us to bring in extra money, and nobody is complaining about that!

Kim Trahan is our new Volunteer Coordinator and she comes with lots of practice as a volunteer. Her services date back to years past when she was a very active member of GERL. We are so happy to have her help this year. You can't talk about Kim without mentioning her wonderful husband, Rod. He is always right there, offering his help wherever needed.

Heatherlee Hammonds has handled our Stallion to Gelding program for at least 3 years, and she did a great job. Due to some changes in her world, she has recently resigned. I want to thank Heatherlee for the hours she gave to GERL by helping out with this important program. And now, we need to see about finding someone else who could step up and take this on.

George Lilley is our Chaplain. He and his wife, Janice are also a big part of the working committee who organize the annual GERL/Mingo Trail Ride down near Dublin. They have been a breath of fresh air for all of us who attend. Things are always under control, and all we do is show up and ride!

We have had the good fortune of having Cynthia Anderson as our grant writer for the past few years and she has done a great job. Unfortunately, she is going through some health issues right now and is unable to serve in this capacity, any longer. When one door closes, another one opens....and we just had a new volunteer step up and agree to take over our grants, and her name is Donna Harrison. I want to welcome Donna to our GERL family and thank her for volunteering.

Ginny Scarritt has been collecting Southern States Proof of Purchase seals for GERL for over 7 years now. What a testimony to her dedication!

We also have a group of 33 volunteers who represent GERL as Area Coordinators and are located all over the State. This is a very dedicated bunch, who continue to volunteer in this capacity year after year, fielding horse issues in their area. Many Animal Control offices have these people on speed dial, knowing that they can count on them with their horse issues. There are lots of people who volunteer and I could continue listing them, but you know who you are and I hope you know how much we depend on every single volunteer who raises their hand to do something.

I'm looking forward to a full calendar of events in 2015, and am very grateful to all of our volunteers who make GERL look good!



Jeanne Barsanti and Tanya Kingsley



Your GERL 2015 Board of Directors: Patty Livingston, President, Eddy O'Hern, Vice President, Tamma Trump, Alternate, Lynne Robinson, Treasurer, and Anne Ensminger, Secretary.

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.



Holly is a sweet 3 year old Arab cross mare that loves attention, she is easy to work with and is very quick to learn new things, she has been under saddle since August 2014 and took to the work like she had been doing it her whole life.



China Doll is a 10 year old Grade mare. She was trained by Danielle Perry for our GERL Rescue Challenge. China has a lovely walk, trot and canter. She has a very level head and will try hard to complete the task



Meet Toby, trained by Stacey McCoy. He does great out on the trail, the only spook I have gotten out of him, was a runner, coming down a hill behind him. Goes anywhere, crosses water, bridges, over grown trails. Down trees that come up to his chest, he will step over, or jump if asked. He willingly loads on strange trailers, and backs off quietly.



Andee DeMoss Rogers

1953-2015

We doubt there is anyone in this organization who has not heard that Andee DeMoss Rogers passed away on September 7, 2015. Even if you did not know Andee personally, you probably know someone who knew her well and thought very highly of her.

Out of a growing awareness and a deep concern for the way that many horses were (and still are) treated by cruel and uncaring owners in our state, Andee and several other ladies founded Georgia Equine Rescue League, Ltd. in 1992. They held a deep determination to end all mistreatment of horses. Since that time, Andee has been an integral part of, and an active supporter of GERL's mission in many, many ways. She was a recipient of the Marty Paulk Cheerleader Award, a testimony to her never-ending commitment to GERL. She will be greatly missed by all at GERL and everyone who called her 'friend'.

Who can explain the deep love for horses that we who simply must have them in our lives, hold in our hearts? Being aware that Andee joyfully carried the "horse disease" gene, her own mother is at a loss to explain it. It's a thing that just IS. In Andee's case, it seems to have been a trait that she was very pleased to have passed on to three generations of her horse loving family.

Appropriately, Andee's last day was just as she would have planned. It was a beautiful early winter day and she was preparing her beloved mare, Sierress, for a trial ride. They would be joined by two of Andee's dearest friends. They never mounted their horses that day. Even if it was not her last thought, we take comfort in knowing that Andee had pondered this little prayer many times; "Of all the things I have accepted in life, I pray silently that God will never let me know the last time I ride a horse". That was Andee.



What GERL is NOT

By Anne Ensminger

Our members know that GERL has been helping Georgia horses in need for thirteen years. We are largely a fundraising organization. We raise money for the purpose of rescuing starved and abused horses from terrible situations. We provide rehabilitation, vet care, basic training, and find new homes when possible.

What we are NOT, is an equine RETIREMENT facility. We do not feel that GERL has a responsibility to relieve horse owners of THEIR responsibility, just because they no longer WANT an animal.

We must use our available funds and foster homes to do the most good, for the most horses. Difficult decisions must sometimes be made concerning whether or not we take a particular horse into our program. Two factors are the most common reasons we refuse a horse. If the horse is a danger to caretakers, other animals, or themselves, we cannot shoulder such liability. If a horse is in chronic or intractable pain, we will not let them suffer. Beyond those two reasons, we will do whatever is necessary to make right whatever wrong they have suffered.

Who's Who

Georgia Equine Rescue League, Ltd.

Board Members

Patty Livingston, President

(770) 867-0760 / gerlpatty@yahoo.com

Eddy O'Hern - Vice President

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

Lynne Robinson / Treasurer

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

Anne Ensminger / Secretary

(770) 464-3348 / missanne612@bellsouth.net

Tamma Trump - Alternate

(770) 655-0819 / mswhinney@juno.com

Adoption & Foster Coordinator - CeCe Calli

(706) 371-5804 / foster@gerlltd.org

Volunteer Coordinator—Kim Trahan

gerlvolunteers@gerlltd.org

Auction Coordinator - Sue Wrensen

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

Online Auction Coordinator - Alice Enix

info@watercoolerproducts.com

Stallion-Gelding Coordinator

Position Open

Public Relations Coordinator - Bob Long

(678) 409-8893 / housek9@windstream.net

Event Coordinator

Jaye Herrington / jaye@gerlltd.org

Facebook Coordinator

Position Open

Grant Writer - Donna Harrison

Rescue Challenge Coordinator - Tamma Trump

(770) 655-0819 / mswhinney@juno.com

Merchandise Coordinator - Linda Kundell

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

Flea Market Coordinator – LaVon Kern

l.kern@att.net

GERL Chaplain—George Lilley

(478) 320-5625 / nightstars@cox.net

Website / Newsletter Layout - Steve DeMoss

(678) 427-5771 / steve@gerlltd.org

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 Rosinson

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

IMPORTANT REMINDER!

Spring is here (at last!) and new, very rich vegetation is rapidly emerging. The danger of founder (laminitis) is greatly increased during this period. Please do not let your horses have 24/7 access to pasture if they have a history of founder, Cushing's, or are overweight. In fact, it is best to limit the time that ALL horses are allowed to graze at this time of the year. Two to three hours, late in the day, is sufficient. Laminitis is very painful and often causes permanent lameness. Don't let it happen to your horse(s)! If you are not familiar with this problem, please research it or ask your veterinarian's advice.

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!**

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

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

Please save Proof Of Purchase seals from bags of these Southern States feeds ...

Legends, Triple Crown & Reliance

and send them to:

Ginny Scarritt
4835 Kendall Court * Atlanta, GA 30342



Update on GERL's Kroger Plus Community Rewards Program and Amazon Smiles

The Amazon Smiles program is a new awards program that we rolled out toward the end of 2014. We just received our first check from the Amazon Smiles Program in the amount of \$111.79. In order to support GERL through the Amazon Smiles program, all you have to do is go to <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/58-2080606> and choose Georgia Equine Rescue League as your charity. Once you have chosen your charity, every time you shop on Amazon through the Amazon Smiles program, 0.5% of your purchase is donated to GERL.

During the first quarter of 2015, The Georgia Equine Rescue League has received \$144.86 from the Kroger Plus Program. Unfortunately we have lost about half of our participants. We are down to around 50 households participating. We did have over 100 households participating in 2014. This may have occurred because many people are not aware that you have to re-enroll in your chosen charity each year. Please go to <http://www.krogercommunityrewards.com> to enroll or 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 Kroger Community Rewards Program is an easy way for you to support GERL. All you have to do is go to <http://www.krogercommunityrewards.com> and link your Kroger Plus card to Georgia Equine Rescue League. This does not affect the shopping rewards that you receive through the program.

You can find links to both of these programs on the GERL website at <http://www.gerlltd.org>. Our thanks go out to all of you who have chosen to support GERL through these programs.

GERL Volunteer of the Quarter

By Anne Ensminger

Ray Ziebell is our Volunteer of the Quarter this time. We can hardly honor Ray without mentioning his sweet wife, Pierette, who is always working in the background to help with anything Ray is doing.

Many of us in GERL have seen attendance dwindle at our fundraising events over the years. We attribute this to the fact that there are so many more equine related groups and events offered, that difficult decisions must often be made as to which to support.

Not willing to accept this reality, Ray held memories of a time when the GERL Poker Ride attracted so many riders that the trucks and trailers would not all fit into the Dawson Forest Equestrian Trail Head parking lot. They were lined up on both sides of the entrance road. Yes, those were indeed, "the good ole' days".

The fact that the GERL Poker Rides have, in recent years, attracted less participants, bothered Ray. He was determined to do something about it so he stepped up and volunteered to head up the 2015 GERL Poker Ride!

Ray began designing and distributing flyers announcing and describing the ride, which he placed all over Dawson and adjoining counties. It was Ray's thinking that most Poker Ride participants would come from upstate unless they were some "die hard" GERL supporters who always support our rides no matter where they live. He and Pierette began to pass the word to individuals and groups about our ride and inviting them to come.

Next Ray arranged to have a beautiful wooden saddle rack built by someone he knew who was known to produce outstanding pieces. He drove many miles to pick up the saddle rack and announced that it would be raffled at the Poker Ride.

Meanwhile, there was the menu to plan. An outstanding lunch after the ride has long been a trademark of this event. For many years, Mr. Alan Brown has supplied most of the food for our Poker Rides. This year was no exception. Ray drove all the way to somewhere near Egypt to pick up the donated food and then made arrangements with several friends to keep the frozen meat and scrumptious deserts in their freezers. Wanting to do even more, Ray made plans to prepare beforehand, one or two types of soup or stew. He wanted no rider to leave this Poker Ride with an empty spot in their tummy.

The much anticipated ride was to take place on March 7th. It would have been the 20th. anniversary of the

Dawson Forest GERL Poker Ride. As agreed by everyone associated with the planning, this special ride was to be designated as the Andee Rogers Memorial Ride. Ray had a special banner with Andee's picture made to honor Andee's memory.

All was ready and then came the snow to upstate Georgia. Ice laden trees began to shed limbs and numbers of trees fell. Many homes lost electric power for days. It snowed yet again and as it began to melt, mud was abundant in the entire area.

With only days to go until our Poker Ride, the Board of Directors and others met to decide what to do. It was wisely decided to postpone the 2015 GERL Poker Ride because of the terrible condition of the Dawson Forest trails. To hold an organized ride with many participating, would only add insult to injury as far as the trails were concerned. An alternate spring date could not be obtained because of various hunting seasons in Dawson Forest. We certainly did not want to have the ride in the hot summer season.

In the end, no one was more disappointed than Ray Ziebell who had worked so long and so hard to insure the success of this fundraiser. It has now been decided that our Poker Ride (The Andee Rogers Memorial Poker Ride) will take place exactly as Ray had planned but it will take place in the fall. The date will be November 7th. (first Saturday in November). Surely it won't snow! The November temperatures are usually excellent for riding and camping with our horses so we hope that all who had planned to attend Ray's ride in March, will mark the new date on their calendars.

In conclusion, we at GERL are deeply grateful to Ray Ziebell (and Pierette!) for the many hours already given to this project and the many more it will take to make it happen in November!



GEORGIA EQUINE RESCUE LEAGUE



2014 GERL Rescue Challenge Winner JoAnn McBride and Faye Dunaway

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

For more information visit: www.gerltd.org

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



SEPTEMBER 26, 2015
STARTS @ 9:00 AM

UGA LIVESTOCK ARENA

2598 S. MILLEDGE AVE.
ATHENS, GA 30605

ADMISSION:
ADULTS: \$15.00
CHILDREN: \$8.00
(12 AND UNDER)

ADULT DIVISION

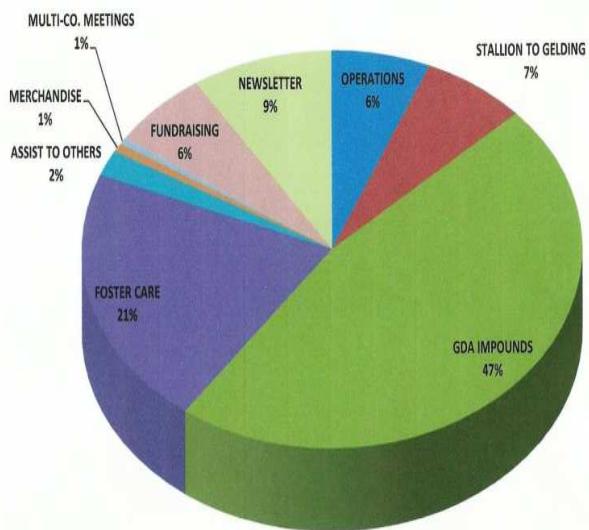
LIVE AUCTION
SILENT AUCTION

FOOD AVAILABLE

VENDORS
COST OF BOOTH
\$30.00

VENDORS CONTACT:
SUEVETSCH@GMAIL.COM

2014 EXPENSES - \$123,304



Let's Talk About The Money

We spent **\$94,297** assisting horses:

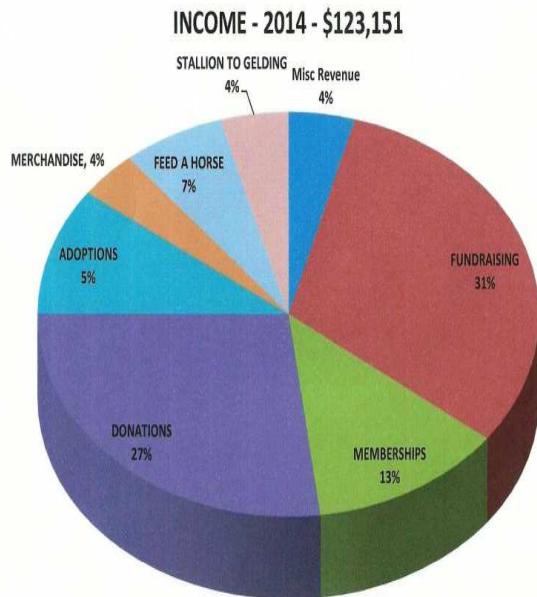
- We provided the GDA with \$57,401 in goods & services.
 - ✓ Mansfield and Decatur Impounds - \$45,301
 - ✓ Lee Arrendale Prison Impound – \$6,674
 - ✓ Pulaski Prison Impound - \$5,320
- We spent approximately \$961 to assist individuals with lost jobs and health issues to feed and vet their horses.
- We spent \$ 1,610 to assist Georgia Animal Control agencies with the care of impounded horses.
- We spent \$8,302 on castrations.
- We spent \$26,023 on GERL foster care.
- We spent \$27,666 on Education and Promotions
- We spent \$6,489 on FUNDRAISING EVENTS.
- We spent \$575 on MULTI-COUNTY MEETINGS.
- We spent \$1,553 on MERCHANDISE.
- We spent \$11,163 on the GERL NEWSLETTERS.
- We spent \$7,886 on OPERATIONS (insurance, postage etc.).

TOTAL EXPENSES FOR 2014 WERE \$123,304.

Let's Talk About The Money

- We raised \$34,313 at FUNDRAISERS.
- We received \$13,695 in MEMBERSHIPS.
- We received \$29,710 in DONATIONS.
- We received \$13,250 from a Foundation Grant.
- We sold \$4,168 in MERCHANDISE.
- Feed-A-Horse Program brought in \$7,220.
- Stallion to Gelding Program brought in \$4,818.
- Adoption fees brought in \$11,200.

TOTAL INCOME FOR 2014 WAS \$123,151



"In riding a horse we borrow freedom."

- Helen Thomson



A wonderful start to 2015 for our Foster Horses

By CeCe Calli



Red Rocky, the super gelding trained by Samantha Schrader for our Rescue Challenge, has also found the perfect forever partner in Tori Anderson. Tori & Red are off to do great things, you will be hearing more about them!

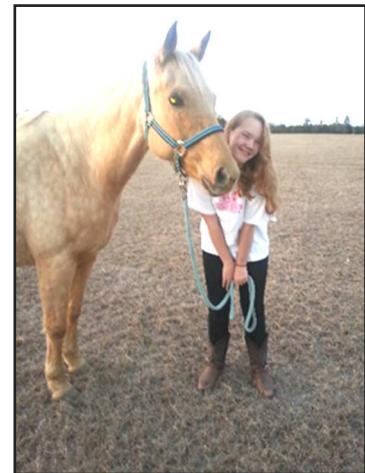


Jessie James has also at long last found a forever home he is now the best buddy of George & Charlotte's beloved mare. Jessie was a super horse on the racetrack in his early life. Happy Trails. You are a great and lucky horse!

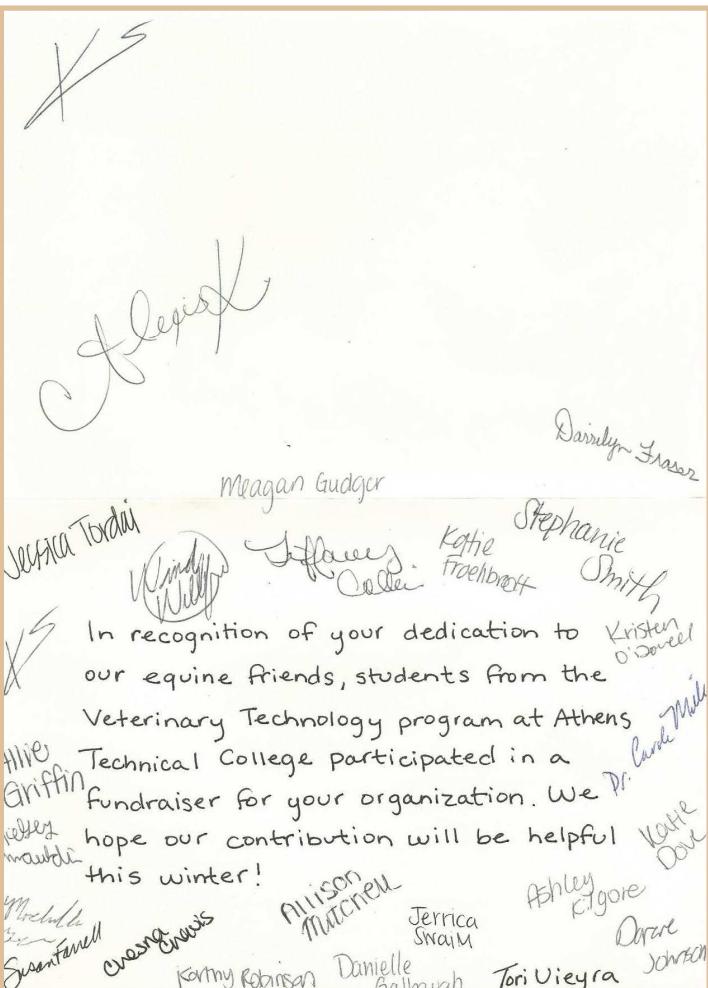


Winter is coming to a close and I'm sure we all are happy to see this one go! Snow, ice, mud and more mud.....

Butter, our beautiful Palomino mare, came to us from the Georgia Department of Agriculture (GDA) with a laundry list of problems. Foster mom, Tammy Trump and her undying fortitude, healed Butter of her wounds and issues. Butter begins a new chapter now with her forever home with Nicci!



Thanks for your donation!



GERL AREA COORDINATOR SPOTLIGHT

*Sue Wrensen
GERL Area Coordinator*

Finding GERL about 12 years ago has been life changing for me. Never before did I know that there were so many horse-lovers in North Georgia with the passion to help horses in need. I recall and still experience the excitement and anticipation of our fund-raising fests. Besides financially supporting the cause of neglected horses, they were/are always so much fun.

Under Brian Dees I became an area-coordinator for Cherokee and still hold this position. The past 3 years I have set-up and conducted our event auctions. Working now under Patty Livingston, a friend and riding partner of many years, adds to my enthusiasm. Her leadership, professionalism, patience and kindness never ceases to amaze me.

I cannot think of a better organization to be involved in if you love horses and their well-being. I do remember what it felt like to be the new person. Don't let "not knowing what to do" stop you from joining our AC team in your county. A team of 2-3 per county helps the 'newbees' get started without intimidation or fear. Call your area rep. today for a perfect way to transition into the best horse league in the country. We are a great organization with great leadership and your involvement will help more horses get the care and life they deserve. What an amazing animal God created for our joy.

On a personal note, many of us work full-time and carry heavy responsibilities. But helping horses is a joy and will add to your life. I teach school full-time, co-teach a Bible study weekly and have 2 grown children and a husband besides my 3 horses to take care of. Knowing I have A GERL event adds to the joy of life .Knowing I have even a very small part brings personal fulfillment. The part I never expected is that at each and every event I get to know another GERL member just a little better .Get involved! Feel free to call me, Sue Wrensen, if you are hesitant and need encouragement.

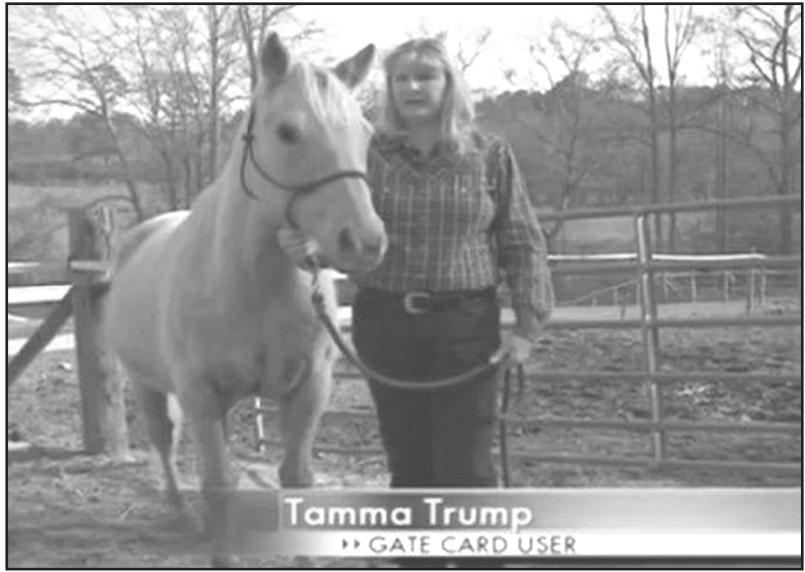
Sue Wrensen
swrenson@comcast.net
770-331-6947



GERL Leader Interviewed by Channel 2 News

We are proud to let GERL members know that Tamma Trump, GERL Board of Directors member, was interviewed and appeared in an early February investigative report by Channel 2 News concerning the benefits and possible misuse of the GATE (Georgia Agriculture Tax Exempt) card. There have been well over 3000 of the cards issued to those associated with agriculture in our state. As owner of a horse rescue facility and boarding stable, Tamma qualifies for the tax break provided by the GATE card.

While Channel 2 failed to expose widespread misuse of the privilege of using the GATE card, they did bring attention to the possibility of inappropriate use. Tamma appeared with GERL rescue horse, Butter, and pointed out that her GATE card tax savings are tremendously helpful in assuring the financial success of her equine associated business.





A Note from the Secretary's Desk

by Anne Ensminger

After the tremendous success of our November 2014 Rescue Challenge, I was secretly looking forward to some "down time". What was I thinking?! I should know that the

wheels of fund raising for horse rescue, never stop turning.

While most of our efforts are successful, we sometimes hit a bump in the road. Such is the case concerning our well planned (thanks to Ray Ziebell!) and highly anticipated Poker Ride at Dawson Forest on March 7. It was designated as the Andee Rogers Memorial Ride and we felt assured of a great turnout. The food was ordered and the venue had been reserved well in advance. Plans were in full swing and we were getting excited. Then came the snow. Then came MORE snow. We learned that many trees were down in Dawson Forrest and that all horse trails in, and around Dawson County were closed. On top of that, our small hope for a weather miracle was dashed by the gloomy weather report for the five days preceding our planned ride. Rain, rain, and more rain was predicted.

That did it. In the interest of good trial stewardship and rider safety, we had to make the wise decision to postpone the "Andee Ride". The truth of the matter is that Andee would totally agree with our decision and our reasons for making it. She would have taken her usual easy going, accepting position and told us that, "No worries! We all have until eternity to get this done". So get it done, we will, Andee! We hope those who were planning to join us for Andee's ride will watch for our announcement of a new date.

On to other business.....One thing on the very top of our list of "wants" in recent times has been for someone with experience in such matters, to step up and volunteer to search out and write some grants on GERL's behalf. We all work very hard planning and putting on several fund raising events each year. Our faithful members and friends are very generous with both their time and their money, however, we knew we needed to, and could do better for the horses. We know there are money grants 'out there' for which we qualify but lacking knowledge concerning how to find and apply, we have historically failed to receive but a few. Our first grant writer, Cynthia Anderson, has been dealing with health problems which have forced her to resign her grant seeking efforts. We truly enjoyed working with Cynthia and we learned a great deal from her.

We are thrilled to report that, not one but TWO ladies have stepped up to give grant writing a try for us. They are Donna Harrison and Annie Mitchel. Cynthia has agreed to do all she can to transfer knowledge of what she has been working on and to help them get started. We are excited by their confidence and looking forward to some good news resulting from the grant applications they will file.

Other than that, we are just beginning to realize the tremendous benefits of social media as a tool to help our organization grow and prosper in many ways. One of our members who is vigorously encouraging GERL to expand our use of Facebook, is Dr. Rebecca Jimenez. Now that we have some grant writing underway, perhaps we can gather the courage to jump into a new learning experience! By the way, since our dear Andee Rogers has passed away, we are seeking someone who would be willing to manage our GERL Facebook page and keep it up to the minute, as Andee did so faithfully.

Meanwhile, the Rescue Challenge 2015 Committee has already had two meetings to plan an even better Challenge for this coming year. It will be earlier in the year this time, in the hope that it will not be nearly as COLD as it was last November 15th. Oh, the poor vendors who had their wares set up under the arena roof but completely unprotected from the cold and WIND. We were so sorry for them but most of them stuck it out until the bitter end!

We have several fund raisers in the meantime, including re-planning for the Andee Rogers Memorial Ride in Dawson Forest (date to be announced), and our annual Polo Exhibition Match at Chukkar Farms (Alpharetta) in July. I personally, always greatly look forward to our GERL spring ride at Mingo Trails Saddle Club near Toombsboro, GA. That will take place the weekend of April 25th. That wonderful place has more than enough electric sites, lots of easy sandy trails, and a generally great atmosphere. Don't miss that one if you want a relaxing family camping experience with your horses.

Lastly, I just want to say that it seems that recently we have heard of way too many of our dear friends, as well as some treasured horses and pets that have come to the end of life. Such loss comes to each of us from time to time and it leaves behind grief and loneliness which can be hard to bear. All the more reason for us to cling to, and comfort each other as we realize that we are not going to be here forever. I hope that each of us will promise ourselves that whatever time we have left, that we will do some good for this world during every one of our remaining days. I choose to spend my time, not only enjoying my own wonderful horse, but also in ways to benefit many other horses not as fortunate as mine. Thankfully, there are those who have a special caring for other animals, children, old people, sick people, homeless people, and the list goes on. Whatever your special passion, please put that caring to work. Let's make a difference while we can!

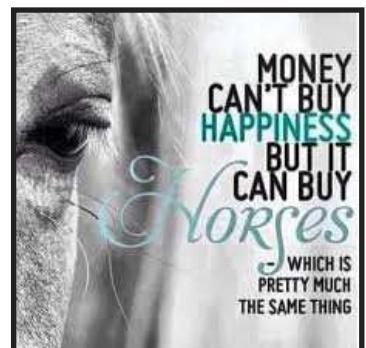
In Memory of:

- Carol Doefferinger by Lorri Smith, Judy Carpenter, Alissa Muscarello, Georgia and Margaret Bailey, Pat and Ron Hinson, Beth Withers, Nancy Bogardts and an anonymous donor.
- Lobo, Chaparrita & Valentino, beloved horses of Chayo Aguilar, by Catherine Bleakley
- Smokey, a beloved barn cat at Hunters Glen by Geri Kono
- Eleanor Foster by Marge Mabey
- Jack Pesserilo by Diana Kelsey
- Jack Pesserilo by Bobby and Catherine James
- Jack Pesserilo by Margaret Clower
- Eleanor Foster, Marge Mabey's beloved Mother, by Margaret Clower
- Dr. Rick Hinton by John Turner
- Dr. Rick Hinton by Lee Myers
- Andee DeMoss Rogers by Lee Myers
- Andee DeMoss Rogers by Patty Livingston
- Andee DeMoss Rogers by Cator Hartley
- Andee DeMoss Rogers by Paula Grassi
- Andee DeMoss Rogers by Kim Finney
- Andee DeMoss Rogers by Nicole Coots
- Andee DeMoss Rogers by Abby Jordan
- Andee DeMoss Rogers by Dennis Southern
- Andee DeMoss Rogers by Leigh-Ann Morefield
- Andee DeMoss Rogers by Susan Prugh
- Andee DeMoss Rogers by Nancy Bogardts
- Andee DeMoss Rogers by Edie Leverette
- Andee DeMoss Rogers by Gloria English
- Andee DeMoss Rogers by Lynn Garrett
- Andee DeMoss Rogers by Julia Williams
- Andee DeMoss Rogers by Empire Fire Protection
- Andee DeMoss Rogers by Elizabeth Gilman
- Andee DeMoss Rogers by the Kelly Family: Paul, Lisa, Colt and Hunt
- Andee DeMoss Rogers by Sundowner of Georgia, Debbie and Lamar Mullinax
- Dr. Rick Hinton by Kim Griffin, Nancy Schwartz, Rhonda Bailey, Jane Range, Judy Cole, and Rozzy Black from Wauza Winds Farm
- Dr. Rick Hinton by Robin Neill
- Dr. Rick Hinton by Stratford on Lanier Homeowner's Association
- Andee DeMoss Rogers by Thomas Threatt
- Andee DeMoss Rogers by Suzanne Spikes
- Andee DeMoss Rogers by Wayne Aldridge
- Kevin Hines by Mary Jane McNeill
- Jack Pesserilo by Joanne Medlock
- Andee Demoss Rogers by Joanne Medlock
- Donna Pieper's horse Poncho by Joanne Medlock
- Andee Demoss Rogers by Susan Hansen
- Dr. Rick Hinton by Marilyn L. Kirkover
- Dr. Rick Hinton by Debra E. Vidzes
- Dr. Rick Hinton by Marcia L. Clemons
- Dr. Rick Hinton by Kapers Titlow
- Dr. Rick Hinton by Kathy Clemons
- Aladdin & Isaac Green by Steven Neal

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.



Our Love of the Horse Guaranteed Joy – Sometimes Heartbreak

By Anne Ensminger

GERL often receives donations in honor, or in memory of a horse, pet, or person who is, or was, special to the donor. At the beginning of 2015, GERL received a very generous honor donation from a lady (I will not use her name because I do not have her permission), who took the time to write an account of the reason she was moved to do SOMETHING for a special friend who had suffered a loss that will never let his heart heal completely. As friends, we have all felt that kind of helplessness.

When we first received her letter, we were stunned as we could only imagine how we would feel if faced with a similar circumstance. This is a true story and many who are familiar with the facts will recognize the subjects and totally understand our deep concern.

The story involves a gentleman from Mexico who owned a very beautiful, athletic stallion. I assume, from some of the untold details that the stallion was a Paso Fino. That horse was his pride and joy. He spent many hours riding and training Lobo. Over the years, he collected many stud fees from mare owners who wished to own a horse just like Lobo. There were numerous offers from those who wanted to buy the horse but the owner loved the horse so much that, even though the offers were tempting, he could not imagine life without Lobo.

This gentleman also owned a lovely, gentle mare named Chaparrita. She was a barn favorite and always took care of her riders.

A few years ago, Lobo was stricken with a form of progressive paralysis in his front legs.

The veterinarians knew of no cure. Everyone who knew about this, was devastated.

Before it was too late, in an effort to preserve his beloved horses' legacy, Lobo was paired with Chaparrita

and as a result, she produced a gorgeous colt which was named Valentino.

Meanwhile, Lobo's disease progressed to the point where he could no longer walk, run, or even lie down. The difficult decision was made and his owner gave him the final kindness of a dignified and painless end to his suffering.

The young colt, Valentino, became everything for which his owner could have wished. His training progressed rapidly because of his intelligence and the many hours of attention he received. He was just like Lobo; beautiful, kind, and well mannered. This story which held such hope, ends on Thanksgiving morning 2014 with the tragic barn fire at Vintage Farm near Woodstock (Cherokee County), which destroyed the barn and killed 15 horses, among them Chaparrita and Valentino.

I cannot imagine the devastation felt by the owners of Vintage Farm or any of the horses which were lost. We hope with all of our being that they will not let this tragedy interfere with their determination to rebuild and to find other special horses to fill that void which surely must exist in their lives.

After his tragic and profound loss, Chao Aguilar went back to his native land to be surrounded by, and seek the comfort of his family. We wish God speed for his safe return and for his healing.

Pondering all of this, made me go out to my barn and hug each of my horses as I realized what an important part of my life they have always been, and will always be.

Thank you for your wonderful donation and sharing Chao's story, C.B.

New Tank Tops and T-shirts for GERL

By Linda Kundell

We have some new t-shirts and tank tops. Of course, all the usual items are also ready for sale (vanity plates, coffee mugs, etc.). We all have to make choices about what we will wear when we ride, clean horses, clean out our trailers (yuck is for getting the dirty clothes out), and the thousand and one other things that we have to do. I hope that you notice that I didn't put shopping in there. The only time I enjoy shopping is when I am buying horse tack or at least checking it over to see if I should buy it. Not that I need it, of course, but because I want it. I wear GERL things to the Rescue Challenge, Poker rides, etc. I am an advertisement all the time. If we all wear shirts with logos on them, that is a good way to let people know that we are here and we work hard to help the unfortunate horses that we rescue. So if you have any ideas of items that GERL people might like, please let me know. You can always call me at 706-769-6395 (of course, I might be out riding) or kundell@bellsouth.net (of course, I might be out riding). Life is so wonderful when you have horses in it!!

GDA Success Story

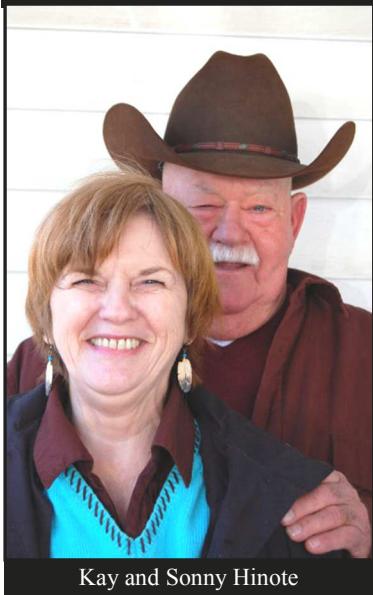
This is the story of Ellie. She came to the Mansfield Impound facility on February 28th, 2014. Upon arrival to Mansfield, she came in at a body score of 2.0. She was covered in severe rain rot. She arrived with 15 others.

Ellie is currently in great body condition, body score of 5.0+! Ellie was sold at the GDA Impound Auction on September 13, 2014. She was purchase by one of our new volunteers, Jordan Mitchell. Jordan's boyfriend, Matt, an advanced beginner, is enjoying Ellie very much. Jordan says that Ellie is an absolute dream and a great all around horse and has had some extensive training.

THANK YOU Georgia Equine Rescue League!!!



More Pictures from the Annual Meeting



Kay and Sonny Hinote



LaVon Kern



Sue Wrensen

Georgia Department of Agriculture Horse Auction - March 14

There were twelve horses on the auction list who would be auctioned off and hopefully, go to their “forever home”. The auction was scheduled for Saturday, March 14th at the Mansfield State impound facility. It had been raining (a lot) during the night before the auction, making everything a mud hole. But, other than a heavy mist at times, the rain held off for the auction. The auction is held inside the barn, anyway, so there’s never a fear of calling it off.



MacKenzie Wright and Rod Trahan, GERL Volunteers

There was a small number of people when I first arrived with the GERL cargo trailer, loaded with flea market items and t-shirts. The Pulaski State Prison van was parked and everybody was still inside. It was too early for them to start saddling the horses. Rod Trahan, our Volunteer Coordinator's right hand, was already there, as was MacKenzie Wright, our newest volunteer. Willie and John who work at the Mansfield impound, as well as GDA volunteer Starr Archer, were already walking out to help me back into the doorway of the barn to unload everything. It's amazing how quickly things happen when there's a lot of available hands! We had the flea market set up in no time flat with a few signs and some tape. We also set up a coffee and donut table, hoping to boost revenue a little.

We don't cook hamburgers and hotdogs at the auctions, anymore. We found that it wasn't profitable and was a whole lot of work. If the auction could draw more people that could change, but judging from the



Inmates warming up horses while guards look on

small crowd that attended this auction, it won't be anytime soon.

It wasn't long before all of the inmates and guards came walking up to the barn, carrying their tack. After they got the horses saddled, they brought them out to the big arena area in front of the barn and started warming up. This allowed all of the potential buyers, who were lined up along the fence, to check out each horse to see how they would respond under saddle, and pick out their favorites. The registration desk was open and a few people made their way over to register to bid. After a while, the inmates and inspectors brought the horses back into the barn and put them into their stalls to wait their turn to go into the bidding area.



Several people lined up to register

...continued on page 25

...continued from page 24

The first horse to be auctioned off was a 12 year old black TWH that rode. He brought \$50. It made me very sad. I was sitting behind the table where the coffee and donuts were set up, behind the small crowd of lookers and registered bidders. I decided that it best if I didn't watch the bidding. It was easier for me to focus on the fact that they were going to a new home, rather than how incredibly low these saddle broke horses were going for. I busied myself with selling coffee or collecting money from the flea market customers. Periodically, I would hear auctioneer, Mickey Farmer, yelling "SOLD!", which was somewhat comforting.

When all of the horses were sold, Mickey thanked the crowd for coming and everybody started to disburse. There were several people with big smiles leading their horse out to their waiting trailers. That is always a welcome sight. We are all just very happy that they are going to their new homes, making room for the next bunch.



What a pretty boy!



The Marty Paul Cheerleader

Award 2014 Winner

By Patty Livingston



Dr. Jan Smith proudly holds the trophy, while grandson, Logan, and Tuff observe.

Dr. Jan Smith was the recipient of the Marty Paulk Cheerleader Award for 2014, and, honestly, she could have been the recipient on any given year as she has been a true cheerleader for GERL for many, many years.

I remember years ago when she was in charge of the GERL auctions. She orchestrated a huge live auction at the Gwinnett Civic Auditorium, with the help from her office staff. It was a pretty big deal. Mickey Farmer was the auctioneer and there were some great auction items to be had. In fact, there was so many items that it lasted for hours. She raised thousands of dollars for GERL and left a BIG pair of shoes to fill when she retired from doing the auctions. In years even previous to that she was buying stock trailers for the GDA or computers, or whatever they needed to get the Equine program going.

Today, Jan continues to support GERL in so many ways. She is notorious for providing us with all of the beautiful Coach and Dooney & Bourke purses for our auctions, not to mention art work, condos to Vail Colorado and Disney World. Many of the auction items we had for the Rescue Challenge came from Jan. She was also instrumental in helping us out financially with the Rescue Challenge by donating the money for the winners.

She prefers to stay in the background and never wants public recognition for her generosity. In fact, I know that when she reads this article she will probably want to choke me! (Just kidding!) She is one of the most generous and loyal cheerleaders that GERL has had the good fortune to attract so many years ago and, personally, I am so very glad she is part of the GERL team! Congratulations, Jan!

Trigger

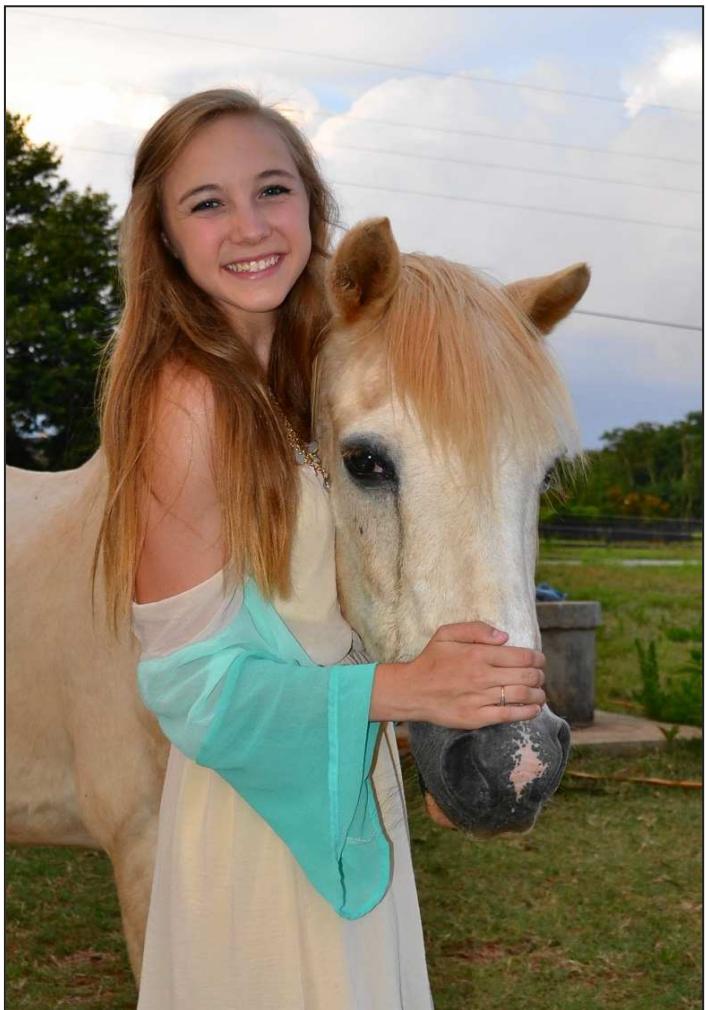
Sadly, we must report another equine obit. Trigger has passed away. No, not THE Trigger but one of the sweetest horses that has ever entered GERL's foster program. His before and after pictures are featured on the GERL website home page. Patty Livingston and Diana Kelsey said he was about the skinniest living horse they had ever seen when they delivered him into the care of Susan McCullar for rehabilitation. He was eventually adopted by young Marie Hayes some years ago and began enjoying all of the love and care he could ever want. Trigger's story is a true representation of the kind of endings we at GERL want for our foster horses. We pray for such happy endings for all of them.



Trigger on Pick-Up Day



Trigger on Pick-Up Day



Trigger with Marie



Trigger – After Rehab

Update on Southern States Proof of Purchase

I believe we are beginning our 8th year of collecting the Southern States POP's. We have raised \$8,300.10 for the horses and I'm about to send off for another check request for \$304.25. Since I last wrote for the newsletter I have the following new donors to thank: Hawk View Farms, Debbie Crowe, Beth Hinton, Dr. Sarah Pallas, Joan McGinley, Debbie Mullinax, Carol Royer, Denise Schmidt, Nancy Ozburn, Sherry Irwin, Beverly Fletcher, Ondrea Culp, the Archers, Jenny Fox, Patty Livingston, Diana Kelsey, & Lynne Robinson. I hope you will all keep 'em coming! To those of you who've been mailing them to me for 7 years, God bless you & the horses you keep! GERL continues to do everything they can to help the starved, abused, and unwanted horses of Georgia. It seems the need gets greater & greater. Please continue to send in your POP's & spread the word too. Let's give every horse in Georgia a chance at a happy, healthy life.

With my sincere gratitude,
Ginny Scarritt

Dr. Rick Hinton 1953 – 2015

The equine community of north Georgia lost a great friend and wonderful veterinarian on February 16, 2015 when Dr. Rick Hinton passed away. As a practitioner of veterinary medicine for over 30 years, Dr. Hinton cared for great numbers of large and small animals and made many friends who join GERL in mourning his passing.

We are thankful to Dr. Hinton's family for designating GERL as a recipient of donations in his memory.

Foster Horses

Wizard / Steven Neal
Starr / Chris Altizer
Toby / Nancy Faulconer
China Doll / Danielle Perry
Honor / Anne Ensminger
Lucky / Tiffany Bergdorf
Holly / Lee Ann Gilson

In Honor of:

Donna Pieper *by Steven Horn*
Top Hat Dressage *by Joan Zeccola*
Dr. Jan Smith *by anonymous*
Biggie, Holly Bailey's beloved
companion of 33 years,
by Jane Estes
Florence Roberts *by Judy Bradberry*

WELCOME NEW GERL MEMBERS

New Member		Referred By	From
Gary	Brockmiller	Kim Trahan	Marion, VA
Bill	Cox	Kim Trahan	Atlanta
Laura	O'Neal	GERL	Greenville
Cyndy	Piha	GERL	Athens
Lig	Quigley	Ray Ziebell	Gainesville
Debbie	Liggett	Ray Ziebell	Gainesville
Emile	Trahan	Kim Trahan	Monroe

Renewals due for June

Art and Elizabeth Bartlett
 Carl Berman
 Jackie Brown
 Jeff & Nancy Clark
 Mark & Lynn Garrett
 Becky Keeton-Williams
 Margaret & Richard Korges & Family
 Penny Kwirant & Family
 Amy & Mike Lanier
 David Lee
 Mike & Tracie Merson
 Margaret & Sam Middione
 Margie Moschetti
 Nancy Scott
 Sarah Sharpless
 Bob & Katae Simpson
 Leslie Thomas
 Mary Ann Topper
 Lee & Jill Webb
 Tommy & Ruth Wilson

In Memory of:

Erwin Topper by Patricia Smith
 Erwin Topper by Nancy Ellanson
 Erwin Topper by Douglas Beachem
 Erwin Topper by Jane Estes
 Erwin Topper by Mrs. Jerry R Luther
 Erwin Topper by Jo West
 Glory by Barbara Decker
 Bars for Joyce & Jim Nolter by Joanne Medlock
 Hi Cotton by Pat & Hugh Hester
 Jessie by Jo West
 Valerie Puryear's beloved dog Otter by Marian Finco
 Stetson by John and Laurie Absalon
 Our angel ponies by Lenore Threlkeld
 Tara, our mini, by Michael & Carrie Russell



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

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

Renewals due for April

Phyllis Bowen & Family
Tanya Cochran & Family
Jacqueline Conort
Lisa Creedon
Deborah Dickinson
Peter & Louise DiTomaso
Marian Finco
Verleen Flraig
Deborah Galloway
Marcia Geraci
Brittany Gilleland
Ron & Sandy Green
Elaine Hargadon
Mary Pat Hill
Beth Power Hinton & Family
Mary Alice & Ben Hudson
Joan Huff
Al Chambliss & Evelyn Ikner
Maxine Little
Bill & Sandy Lynch
Tina Marshall
Sharon Martin
Steve & Ann McCloskey
Bob & Judy McCrory
John McHugh
Anne Mitchell
Beulah Newton
Eddy O'Hern
Tara Lin Payne
Michael & Patricia Petelle
Cheryl Popiel
Debbie Powell & Family
Art and Julie Schwab
Becky Shivers
Robyn Smith
Rhonda Veit, DVM
Brenda Vostreys & Family
Valerie Warburton
Julie Williams
Rose Williams
Dr. Tom Wilson
BG's Toy Barn
Tifton-Tift County Animal Shelter

Renewals due for May

Susan Allen & Family
Ric & Wanda Baxter
Amelia & Wayne Bolton
Susie Bond
Cindy Brooks
Marian & Dean Campbell
Judith Clark
Ron & Adriane Cook
Laura Crump
Gloria English
Alice Enix
Lee & Wendi Griffin
Laura Hedelson
Gary & Lori Janes
Sam & Linda Jeanes
LaVon Kern
Geri Kono
Leslie Lambert & Jacki Moore
Susan Lang
Ray & Mary Margaret Lee
Michelle & Wesley Lyle
John Lynn
Laura McCracken
Susan McCullar
Carlos & Debbie McDonald
Mary Jane McNeill & Family
Melody Milbrandt
Brian & Elizabeth Mitchell
Patricia Myler
Susan Prugh & Family
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Ronnie Schmucker
Jennifer Smith & Family
Melissa Spatz-Schwartz
Shari Spokes
Karen Stubbs
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Nancy Tyndal
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Don & Tina Vollrath
Craig & Susan Waldron
Matt & Suzanne Watson
Becky White
Fran Wilde





GERL Stallions to Gelding Program.

**Stallions Gelded
To Date By
GERL: 610**

Stallion to Gelding Coordinator Needed

If you have some free time and would like to do something to help GERL, perhaps you might consider handling this program. It does require some computer skills, as well as people skills. Please contact Patty Livingston at gerlpatty@yahoo.com if you are interested.

Thank you for your donations

Herbert and Marian
Haley Foundation
Top Hat Dressage
Tina Marshall
Moira McCracken
Leeanna Dick
Dawn Cason
Melissa Schwartz
Phyllis Kozarsky
Bob and Jan Collins
Jane Harmon
James and Jeanne
Shelhimer
Susan Mead
Bonnie Lavoie
Nancy Fitzgibbons
Donna Springer
Barbara Rush

Christopher & Susan
Gregory
Charlotte Zubowicz
Beverly Fletcher
Diane Kirby
Martha Shepherd
Leslie & Joe Martin
Judean & Joe
Drescher
Lauren Norwood
Claudia Tomaselli
Sherry Massey
Robert W. Cooper
Jake Gower
Patricia Stone

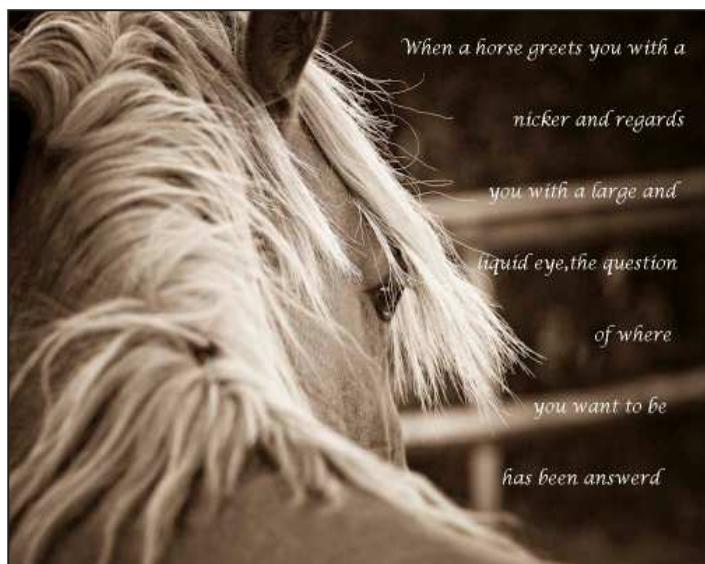
GDA and Other Updates

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

- ✓ GERL paid \$3,850 for feed for the Mansfield Impound for the current quarter.
- ✓ GERL paid \$4,824 for vet care for horses at the Mansfield Impound for the current quarter.
- ✓ GERL paid \$600 for hay for the Pulaski Prison Equine impound.
- ✓ GERL paid \$880 for feed for the Lee Arrendale Prison Impound for this quarter.
- ✓ GERL spent \$2,572 on our foster horses during this quarter.
- ✓ GERL accepted 3 mini horses into the foster program from Rockdale County Animal Control.

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

Carol Royer
Lee Hager
Erik Wittenzellner
Richard Naylor



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

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I am interested in becoming a GERL fundraising event volunteer

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Misc. Donation: _____

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