



Georgia Equine Rescue League, Ltd.

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

Quarterly Newsletter

July, August & September 2016

2016 Rescue Challenge

By Anne Ensminger

The 2016 Rescue Challenge is now in the history books. From time to time during the planning and anticipation phase, it began to look as if the event would not match the excitement of the first two. However, in the end, nothing could have been farther from the truth.

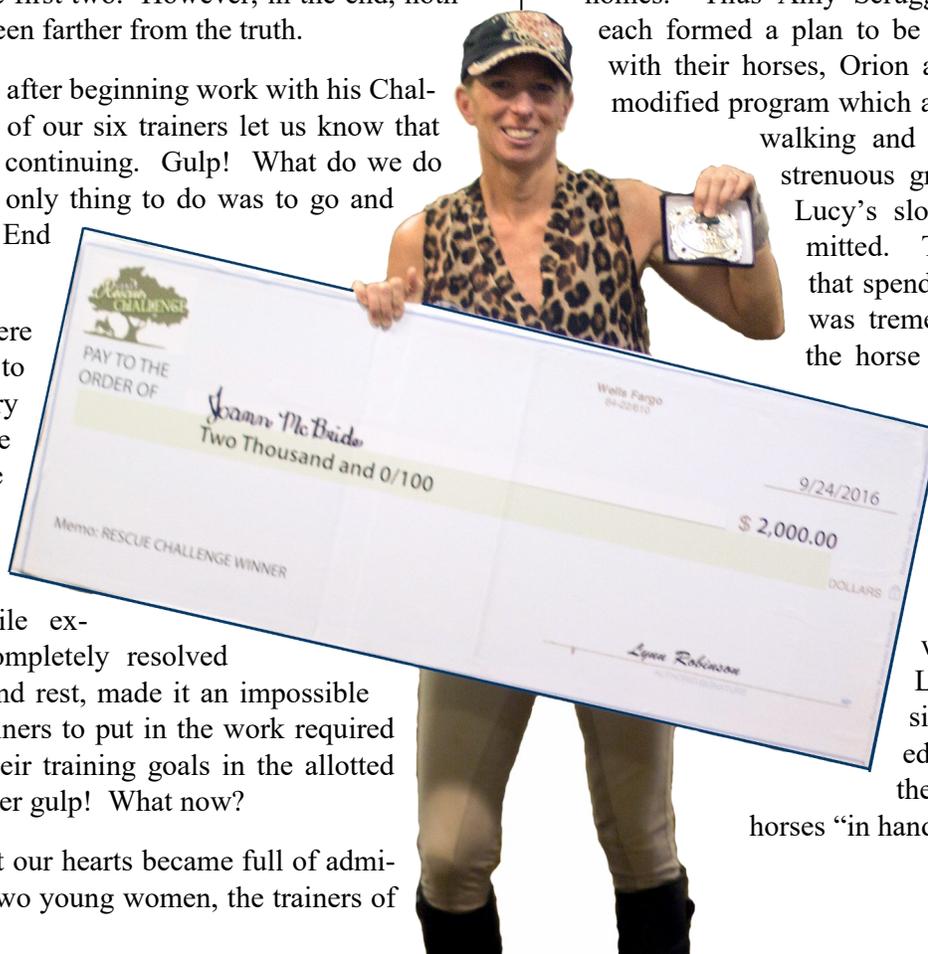
Just a few days after beginning work with his Challenge horse, one of our six trainers let us know that he would not be continuing. Gulp! What do we do now? Well, the only thing to do was to go and get our horse. End of story.

Now there were five. Then, to make a long story short, two of the remaining five Challenge horses sustained moderate injuries which, while expected to be completely resolved with treatment and rest, made it an impossible task for their trainers to put in the work required to accomplish their training goals in the allotted 120 days. Another gulp! What now?

It was then that our hearts became full of admiration for these two young women, the trainers of

the two injured horses. They refused to give up on the GERL horses which had been placed in their care and needed training badly if they were to ever find forever homes. Thus Amy Scruggs and Lindsey Gilleland each formed a plan to be able to continue working with their horses, Orion and Lucy, using a greatly modified program which at first, included only hand walking and then progressed to more strenuous ground work as Orion and Lucy's slowly healing injuries permitted. These young ladies knew that spending 120 days with a horse was tremendously valuable even if the horse was not ridden. Ground

work with a knowledgeable trainer cultivates trust, gentleness, and responsiveness, all necessary for their future saddle training. The Challenge Committee was grateful for Amy and Lindsey's acceptance of the situation and happily granted their wish to compete in the Challenge showing their horses "in hand" only.



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2016 Rescue Challenge

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Now there were three horses which would receive a full slate of training which would include in hand, saddle, and obstacle work. JoAnn McBride of Smyrna would work with Copper Penny, Kacie Eicholtz of Houshton would work with Gypsy Rose, a beautiful mare with only one eye, and Kylie Small of Powder Springs would work with Dudley.

When all was said and done, it was Joann McBride who took first place honors with Copper Penny. She received the coveted Rescue Challenge silver belt buckle (her second!), a beautiful award plaque, and a check for \$2000.00. Kylie Small, (who just turned 21 years old) was thrilled to take second place with Dudley. She was awarded a plaque and a check for \$1000.00. That left third place for Kacie Eicholtz and Gypsy Rose. She received a plaque and a check for \$500.00. Lindsey Gilliland (only 16 years old and the youngest Challenge contestant to date!) and Amy Scruggs did not finish in the money but both did an excellent job and we hope they will try again next year and will be able to compete on an even playing field with horses suffering no injuries during the training period.

Other demonstrations were scheduled throughout the day to both fill time left by the two horses that were not ridden and to add interest to the event. The highlight of the opening ceremonies was an outstanding performance by the Diamond D. Cowgirls Mounted Drill Team of Monroe, GA. These ladies thrilled the audience with a high speed performance of a patriotic theme. They were dressed in red, white, and blue and flew around the arena, doing intricate patterns, on their beautifully groomed horses while carrying flowing American flags. It was a sight to be remembered! By the way, the Diamond D. Cowgirls earned the title of National Champion Mounted Drill Team in 2016.

Nancy Faulconer (well known Georgia horse trainer, great friend to GERL, and former Challenge contestant) put on an inspiring demonstration with her horse, Gamble. Nancy is an accomplished Parelli Method devotee and showed the audience what can be done

with a horse through proper communication. One of Nancy's students, Rachel Bird also performed a demonstration with GERL rescue horse, "Justice". It was amazing to realize that Justice was at death's door only a few months ago and had to be rushed to Auburn Vet School for emergency treatment for recurring colic. He was given very little chance to recover but there he was, a real STAR performing at our Rescue Challenge!

The next demonstration treated the audience to something unknown to most. Two members of the Georgia Horse Archers of Conyers, GA (Kimberly Butler riding "Tadpole" and young Sarah Ann Edge riding "Baby") put on a thrilling example of archery from their very fast moving horses which were ridden without the use of reins, as archers must use two hands to shoot an arrow from a bow. Not only did these two prove to be expert archers but obviously very confident riders as well. We will, no doubt, all be hearing more about this fast growing sport.



Joanne and Copper Penny competing in the Freestyle portion of the competition. They would go on to win!

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GERL Area Coordinators List



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AREA COORDINATORS NEEDED!

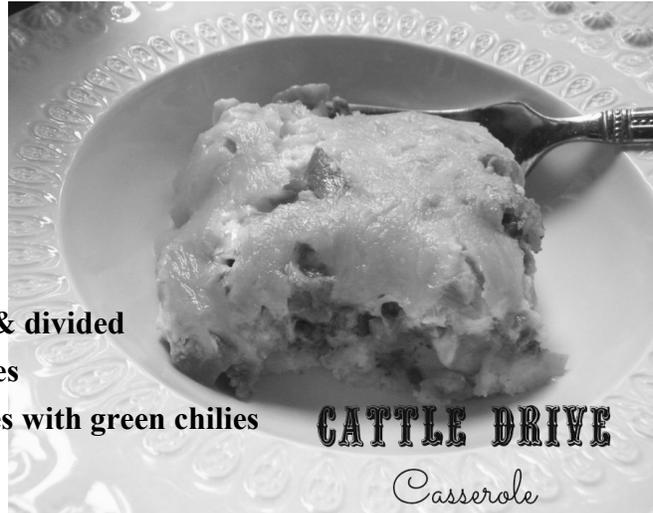
We Need You!! Please consider volunteering to be GERL's horse "go to person" in your area. The types of things that you would do would be performing a "drive-by" to check out a "skinny horse" report in your area. Or, perhaps someone in your area has adopted one of our horses, we would need someone to perform a farm visit for us. Please call Patty Livingston at the number above if you can spare a little of you time.



Puttin' On The Feed Bag Recipes

Cattle Drive Casserole

- 1 1/2 lbs ground beef
- 3/4 cup onion, diced
- 1 bell pepper, diced
- 1 taco seasoning packet
- 1/2 cup sour cream
- 1/2 cup mayonnaise
- 1 cup cheddar cheese, shredded & divided
- 1 sm. can (4 oz) diced green chilies
- 1 (10 oz) can Rotel diced tomatoes with green chilies
- 2 cups Bisquick
- 1 1/4 cup water, divided



1. Pre-heat oven to 350 degrees F.
2. Brown ground beef, drain off grease. Add in diced onion, bell pepper, taco seasoning and 1/2 cup of the water to pan. Simmer approximately 10 minutes until onion & pepper are softened.
3. In separate bowl, combine sour cream, mayonnaise, 1/2 cup cheddar cheese and green chilies, set aside.
4. Stir Bisquick and 3/4 cup water (you may need a tiny bit more water) to make a soft dough. Spray 13X9 baking pan with non-stick spray. Press dough into bottom of pan and bake 5 minutes.
5. On top of biscuit layer, spread ground beef mixture, next add can of Rotel spreading over ground beef mixture, next spread the sour cream mixture and end with remaining shredded cheese sprinkled over the top.
6. Bake 30 minutes.

2016 GERL Calendar of Events - *Mark Your Calendars!*

October 22nd

GDA Equine Auction
Lee Arrendale Prison Equine Facility, Alto

November 12th

GERL Stallion to Gelding Castration Day
Various clinics all over Georgia
(Check the GERL website after Oct. 1st)

December 10th

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 (www.gerlltd.org) to download flyers and directions to some of these events.

LET ME SAY THIS ... ABOUT THAT

By Patty Livingston, President



We have been training law enforcement for 6 years now and it is time to look at some numbers. Are we making a difference? Are there more counties prosecuting neglectors and abusers of Georgia's equine laws because of the training we are providing? We do not know the answer to these questions because we never hear back from anybody in law enforcement after we agree to take the horse(s) off their hands. Of course, if the horse is running loose in the neighborhood and nobody ever comes forward

to claim it, there is no prosecution; but aside from these cases, what about the neglectors and abusers? We have taken many skinny horses into our program that came from an animal control agency and never hear anything about the owner's fate.

I began to be a little suspicious when one county in particular, had asked us to take at least 8 horses over the past few years that were all running "at large", and in fact, they had never prosecuted any of the owners of the horses we had taken from them. That's when it is apparent that we have a case of welfare between a county animal control and GERL. That is not what we're here for and we have recently modified our intake rules to include that we will be asking for restitution for every horse that we take from any animal control agency, going forward. We will also ask for the name of the District Attorney so that we can follow-up on the case. Too many neglectors are getting off Scott free and GERL is picking up the tab.

And, let me say this about that...GERL has received only two restitution checks in the 8 years I have been President. The largest check came from our model law enforcement county, Dekalb County Animal Services, for over \$2,000 for two donkeys we picked up in 2013. The other was for \$45 and I don't remember the county it came from.

Claudine Wilkins, our contact at Animal Law Source, attended our last law enforcement training

meeting in Cobb County back in May and we were able to have a quick chat about our lack of restitution problem. Claudine is the founder of Animal Law Source, whose team has over 25 years of combined experience in criminal and civil law related to animals. She and co-founder, Jessica Rock are both former prosecutors, they have become the state's leading experts on animal law. Her advice to me was "You have to push for restitution". We have not been doing that. We have only been asking them if they are prosecuting the neglector and the answer was usually "yes, the county is".

We have been taking baby steps with our law enforcement training program, hoping that there would be an interest and a decent attendance. No doubt that those of us who have been attending all of the law enforcement training meetings over the years, and I think that there have been a dozen or more, have seen them grow. First, by increase in the number of attendees; Then, we added a new member to our presentation team, Sherwin Figueroa, Asst. DA in Cobb County. At the same time, we extended the number of available POST credit hours we were offering to law enforcement attendees from 4 to 6 hours. We actually have officers reaching out to us requesting a training meeting in their area.

Speaking of which, we do have another law enforcement training meeting coming up on December 1st down in Macon, at the Farmers Market.

Anyway, it is time to change what we're saying when it comes down to taking horses from any county animal agency. We are here to support and help them, not enable. I'm excited to see us take things up a notch by raising our expectations of all animal law enforcement. At the same time, it will definitely be a learning curve for GERL, but we are excited about the prospect of implementing another part of the Equine Get Well Plan. The best part may be that I have four wonderful Board members who feel exactly the same way!



The GERL Board of Directors 2-Day Retreat

By *Patty Livingston*

The GERL Board of Directors met at my house on July 23-24 for a two-day planning retreat, where we covered an aggressive agenda. Since our VP, Tamma Trump, lives in Acworth and our Treasurer, Lynne Robinson lives in Marietta, we had already decided it would be a sleep-over. I didn't realize until I started typing up the agenda that we were going to have to stay rigidly on task in order to discuss all of the things on the list. A couple of big decisions were made with regard to budget. Number one, we have a budget of ten thousand dollars for our Stallion to Gelding program this year; number two, we have a small advertising budget that would allow us to get our message out to more people, especially in South and Middle Georgia. No decision was made as to the specific type of advertising we'll do but we discussed several possibilities including a billboard beside a major highway. An eye catching billboard has long been a dream of mine. Several of us were assigned action items involving research and follow-up concerning possible advertising avenues.

Next we held a lively discussion concerning our Foster/Adoption Program. We had invited CeCe Calli, our awesome Foster and Adoption Coordinator, to join us. We made a decision that we would not take more than 3 horses at one time due to our dependency on foster homes, which are not always readily available. CeCe will be sending out a plea for additional foster homes on social media. We also agreed that, going forward, we will ask any county or city entity for restitution when we are asked to take horses that they have picked up. This, in an attempt to encourage them to pursue prosecution and, at least some form of punishment for neglectful horse owners.

We had a good conversation about all of the GERL fundraisers that are on our calendar and the possibility of making some changes in 2017. We invited our Auction Coordinator, Sue Wrensen, to join us for that discussion and she came with several suggestions, including holding a raffle at the Rescue Challenge to help bring in more money. We also decided that we would add a Derby Party to the agenda for next year's Gene Ensminger Memorial Ride, which traditionally takes place on the first Saturday in May which is also Derby Day. We also voted to accept an invitation from Chucker Farms to reschedule our Annual Polo Match for May 21, 2017. Temperatures are likely to be much more pleasant in May than those in July, the month in which we have hosted the Polo Match in the past.

The GERL Board has been discussing revamping our website for quite a while. We feel it is very important to insure that the site remains fresh and interesting. Several changes have been made recently. We are in the process of creating a promotional video which will depict GERL from its early beginnings through the present time. The video will describe our mission and how we have evolved over the past 20+ years. It will be available to view on our web site and will be shown in many settings where GERL receives invitations to speak about our organization. Our webmaster, Steve DeMoss, joined us for a couple of hours of brainstorming on Saturday. We set a tentative date for completing the video and discussed the message we want to portray. We agreed that a story about a rescue horse that has made a difference in someone's life should be included. We also hold some

lofty goals concerning getting our video on some of the many TV programs that promote animal welfare. In this way, we also hope to introduce and promote the GERL Get Well Plan which was created as a way to help solve the problems suffered by many horses in our country today.

After all of this intense discussion, we were very happy when the pizza delivery man rang the doorbell. That sound signaled the end of our work for the day and gave promise of a laid back meal together before we closed up shop for the evening. We were all aware that we faced another long day on Sunday. It was our plan to start an hour earlier on Sunday morning with another full agenda.

Sunday morning brought smells of Eggs Benedict (one of my favorite things to prepare for breakfast), which filled the house and encouraged everyone to get dressed and report to the kitchen. After breakfast we reconvened our meeting by further discussing prosecution and restitution. We all agreed that after training law enforcement for 6 years, it was time to start asking for, and pursuing restitution.

For the next two hours we reviewed all of our job descriptions and discussed the changes that needed to be made to bring them current. There are a few new jobs that have been created over the past few years that have never had a formal job description created so we discussed, took notes, and made plans for creating them in the near future.

We wrapped up the meeting by discussing our Area Coordinator (AC) program. At one time I was in charge of this program and later turned it over to various designated Area Coordinator Directors. Those appointed Directors often held demanding outside jobs that made it difficult for them to dedicate the required time needed to keep our AC's interested and properly trained. For that reason, I volunteered to take over the responsibility for the AC's, again.

It was 3:00 o'clock in the afternoon before we adjourned. Everyone gathered their things, said their good-byes, and started for home. It was then that I realized the truth in the old saying that "we get out of a job, exactly what we put into it". As always, we grew closer as we enjoyed our time working together. The 2-day face-to-face meeting was just what we needed to get organized and proceed with moving GERL forward. We look forward to the next such experience.



Lynne Robinson, Linda Kundell, Patty Livingston, Anne Ensminger and Tamma Trump.

2016 Rescue Challenge

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Now a word about our Challenge judges. They were three very accomplished horsewomen who agreed, without hesitation, when asked to spend an entire Saturday watching every detail of our contest and choosing the most deserving trainer as the winner for 2016. We feel they got it just right and we truly appreciate the gift of their time and expertise. They were Betsy Moles (well known Georgia horse trainer and clinician with many awards for her work with wild American Mustangs), Elaina Schmersey (winner of GERL Rescue Challenge 2015), and Elizabeth Dabney (accomplished rider and horse trainer, instructor and member of the Diamond D Cowgirls Mounted Drill Team).

Special thanks to Laurie Wilson who is always our ring master and outstanding announcer, working from the back of her beautiful and multitalented mule, Toby Jack. Special thanks also go to Ed Dabney who designed the obstacle course this year. He definitely thought up some unusual, fun and challenging tasks for our contestants!

Many thanks to our volunteers without whom we could never have undertaken such an ambitious project as the Rescue Challenge. We are also grateful to our vendors and sponsors who bring extra interest to the day for many. There were green vests with "GERL Volunteer" on the back, virtually everywhere all day. We are grateful for each one of you.

I would like to mention that the Yeti Cooler, donated by Dr. Jan Smith, raffle was won by a very happy GERL Area Coordinator, Judy McCrory of Waverly Hall, GA. In all, GERL made \$1600.00 on the raffle!

Saving the best for last, Tamma Trump, GERL Rescue Challenge Committee Chair, you did another spectacular job of pulling together the many details of organizing such an event. Well done, Tamma!



Kylie Small turned 21 years old and was surprised by a birthday cake during the Meet & Greet on Friday night.



Lynne Robinson and Cynthia Anderson

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2016 Rescue Challenge



Diamond D. Cowgirls Mounted Drill Team of Monroe, GA provided thrilling entertainment to the crowd.

With flashy horses and costumes, the beautiful Diamond D Cowgirls perform spectacular, high speed, precision drill routines!

These elegant cowgirls sparkle under the arena lights and are followed by fans throughout the south. With their 2015 National Championship title, you are guaranteed a thrilling and entertaining performance!



Amy Cox of "Amy's All Day Diner" served a gourmet breakfast and lunch!



Some of the many volunteers posing for a picture during Friday's setup day. Thanks to all of our volunteers!



The five all-female contestants line up during the Opening Ceremony of the 3rd Annual Rescue Challenge



Dinner at the "Meet & Greet"

2016 Rescue Challenge



Doug Long manned the YETI Cooler Raffle table all day for us. It made extra \$\$ for the horses!



Kylie, Lindsey Gilleland and Lucy posing in a "Selfie"



Kylie Small and Dudley won second place in the competition.



Kacie Eicholtz and Gypsy Rose took Third Place.



Amy Scruggs on Orion.

GERL ADOPTABLES

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



Bailey is a 15 hh 3-4 year old Bay Grade Filly. She spent her first year in a halter tied to a rope and the next couple of years with just the rope tied around her neck. Bailey is learning how to be a horse. She stands like a lady for her grooming and baths, allows her hooves to be picked, and she even likes to be fly sprayed. Bailey is learning how to lead in hand. She loves peppermints and carrots. This girl is going to be stunning and most likely will top out at 15.2 hh or better. If you are looking for a young fresh horse with no bad habits this is your girl.



Cooper is a 20+ year-old Sorrel QH gelding with no health issues. He is 14.3 hands and rides like an old pro. Cooper gets along great with other horses. He came into our program with a cribbing collar, which seems to be very effective, according to his foster dad. He would make a very nice trail horse for light riding or a companion horse. Check this boy out and you'll fall in love with his sweet nature and smooth way of going.



Bella is a 15ish year old 15hh Sorrel Grade mare. Bella came to GERL from Gwinnett County Animal Control with a body score of one and a real bad case of rain rot. Bella's is a tragic story of people trying to help horses but then they get in way over their heads. Bella is a sweet and gentle mare to be around. We have not tried to saddle her. She has an old injury to her ribs that the vet says is not a problem and is well healed, She also has a lesion on her eye that also dose not bother her or require any medication. Bella would make a wonderful pasture pal as she is a middle of the pack kind of girl.



Ransom is a 20+ year-old Sorrel QH gelding. He is 15.1 hands and solid as they come. He is in good health, gets along great with other horses, stands for the farrier and vet and is just a great, laid back trail horse. He already knows what to do and would be perfect for a novice rider. This horse has power steering and smooth gaits. He would make a nice horse for someone wanting to do some light riding or needing a companion horse.



Cody is a 20+ year-old black QH gelding. He is 15.1 hands and in excellent health. He gets along great with other horses, stands for vet and farrier. Cody would make a nice companion horse for anyone looking for a nice old gentleman to grace their pasture.



Justice is a 2-3-year-old Grade bay gelding. He is a sweet boy and his skills are still being evaluated.

Happy Trails

By CeCe Calli

Ethel from our 2015 GERL Rescue Challenge has found her forever home with Chris. Chris runs a therapeutic riding school. Low and behold Ethel who now goes by the name "Hope" loves, loves, loves kids. This little girl has found her perfect place in life, walking and trotting around with a child lovingly in the saddle. We are so proud of you Hope!

Sally has also found the perfect home. She is now BFF with Destiny at Nancy Burkes farm. Nancy's granddaughter helped ease Sally into her new home. What a cute pair they make. Now Sally has all the love she always wanted. Don't you just love happy endings.....

A few months ago we received a phone call regarding Gracie a sweet mare we adopted in December of 2014. The owner had fallen on some hard times and we of course took this sweet girl back in. Turns out Gracie is a wonder under-saddle and was a birthday gift for Molly! Ok every little girl needs a pony and Molly's mom and dad agreed. Even though Molly is a big girl now, she has her pony. Sniff, sniff. Dreams come true, even if you have to wait a few decades.....Happy Trails.

Many Thanks To Our Rescue Challenge Vendors

Equine Safety Zone	Georgia Archers	S. Akins Custom
CCs Country Corner	Ed Dabney	Shane's Rib Shack
Amicalola Veterinary Services	JRV Reality	All Day Diner
Georgia Department of Agriculture	Lazy J Studio	CC's Country Corner
Lazy J Studio	Horse and Ranch Magazine	TLAER
Kel-Mac Saddle Club	Fancy Mount Farm	Carla Gillespie Berry
Chattahoochee Trail Horse Association	Betsy Moles	Jessie Walker Photography
Jane Price Harmon	HSUS	

GERL Attends Cowboy Day in Monroe

by Alice Enix

A yearly event called "Cowboy Day", that is arranged by Georgia's Official Cowboy Ambassador, William R. Holden a/k/a "Cowboy Bill", was held on Sat. Sept 17th at the Great Oaks Assisted Living facility in Monroe and G.E.R.L. was invited to participate, talk about horses and our program.

Several of Cowboy Bill's cowboy friends were there to sing and play acoustic guitar and one 8-year-old docile DUN stallion named "RED" was there, all dressed out with saddle and bridle.

Having this special event with horses and cowboys for these 20 to 30 senior citizens that came to participate was a delight. Getting to meet and know our Official Georgia Cowboy was an honor.



Day of the Cowboy was enjoyed by residents of the retirement home.

Who's Who

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GERL Advisory Board

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

Patty Livingston

(770) 867-0760

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Amazon Smiles Program

For all of 2015, we received \$212. During the 1st quarter of 2016, we received \$111 which is double what we normally received during a quarter in 2015, so it looks like more people used it. During the 2nd quarter of 2016, we received \$285 which is double what we received from the previous quarter and more than we received all year in 2015. That indicates that the word is getting out and more people are using it.

Thank you for supporting GERL through Amazon Smiles.

amazon.com
Smile

You shop. Amazon gives.

Join our 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!



Itty Bitty Before



Itty Bitty After

I would like to make a donation of:

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

**"Feed a Horse"
Program**

www.gerlltd.org

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone #: _____ Email: _____

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

THANK YOU!

*Your donation is
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GERL Meets with Rescues in North and South Carolina

By *Patty Livingston*

I received a phone call in early August from a lady who had volunteered at the GDA Mansfield Equine Impound approximately 15 years ago. Her name is Susan Wallahora and she now lives in North Carolina. She was contacting me to ask if I would be willing to travel to NC and meet with two different equine rescue groups and speak to them about GERL's organization and accomplishments. Susan and I share mutual friends, including Anne Ensminger and Ronnie Pesserilo. She invited me to spend the night at her lovely home since I would be making a three-hour drive.

I immediately accepted her invitation and we worked out all of the logistics over the next couple of weeks. The date of the meeting was set for August 29th. I would be meeting with the first group of people at 4:00 that afternoon. They are known as Foothills Equine Rescue Assistance (FERA) which was formed several years ago. This group is associated with the Foothills Humane Society. Their main focus to this point has been to encourage stallion castration through low cost clinics and to help with the cost of euthanasia when needed. They were eager to learn about GERL and all of the programs that we offer. Of course, my focus in life centers around letting others know about the work of GERL, our successful partnership with the GDA Equine Program, and to promote the GERL Equine Get Well Plan in hopes that others will become interested in emulating what we're doing. I had prepared a PowerPoint presentation to demonstrate the material that I would share with them. I described our ongoing Castration Programs, our Crisis Intervention Program, our Law Enforcement Training seminars, of which we are very proud, as well as our outstanding and successful Foster/Adoption Program. I was pleased to be interrupted at intervals by questions from the audience. That let me know that there was a great deal of interest in what they were hearing. No doubt that they were somewhat overwhelmed with the amount of material that I shared, but I encouraged them to begin with writing an Equine Get Well Plan specific to their State. The same 5 categories found in our "Get Well Plan" can be used for all rescues; only the details of each category and how they would be implemented might need to be revised. After the presentation we all enjoyed a wonderful meal prepared by Susan. She was the perfect hostess. There were a dozen folks in attendance and I was able to eat at a table with several of them and we got to know each other even better. They all have a real concern for horses and a deep desire to improve the deplorable conditions in which many horses must exist. The energy in the room was palpable. We all felt it. Perhaps it was only the wine, but I'd like to think otherwise.

Susan volunteers at Foothills Humane Society and is a foster mom to dogs with puppies. She had a brand new litter that was only a few days old. We enjoyed a trip out to the barn to visit with the pups before retiring for the evening. I was feeling very good about how the meeting went that night and that is the last thing I remember before I fell asleep.

The next morning, we got up early in order to get all of the equipment loaded and drive to the next meeting on time. The second group I would be addressing consisted of 5 people and called

themselves "Helping Equines Restore Dignity" (HERD). They are based just over the South Carolina line. FERA and HERD are approximately 15 miles apart, but located in different states. HERD has not obtained their non-profit status at this time but they have some experience with rescuing several horses which they purchased from a kill-buyer in their area. They have successfully rehabilitated these horses and found satisfactory adoptive homes. However, there was special interest in GERL's Foster and Adoption Program as they are experiencing difficulty in finding enough foster caregivers.

It is always my intent to steer other rescues toward a path of diversification. It is my strong conviction that the problems we are facing concerning horses, originate from the simple fact that there are too many horses as compared to the number of responsible owners. Therefore; we must attack the problem from more than one direction. We must strongly promote a reduction in breeding and the resultant foals. To do this we encourage the castration of stallions and make the public aware of their responsibility to provide basic training for any foal for which they are responsible.

After wrapping up my presentation, I gave Susan a thumb drive with copies of all of the GERL documents about which I had spoken. She will share our documents with both organizations. Having a little extra time, I was thrilled when Susan suggested that we visit the nearby Tryon International Equestrian Center where we had lunch. It is an outstanding new facility for which the horse community in North Carolina should be very proud. Tryon has long been known as "Carolina Horse Country" and now they have this lovely place which will attract prestigious horse events from all over the country and the world. While we were there we viewed the preparations for the Nutrena USEA American Eventing Championships which were to begin the next day. To say the least, I was impressed.

On my drive back home I had 3 hours to digest what had taken place with these two rescue organizations and how receptive they had been to my presentation. I was jacked to the moon! They were openly impressed to learn that GERL has helped pay for the castration of over 700 stallions between our two programs over the past 6 years. If there were 5 or 6 other equine rescues doing what we're doing...Wow! No telling what we could accomplish and how fast!



Kel-Mac Saddle Club Continues to Support GERL

By Patty Livingston

On Tues. Sept. 21, Anne Ensminger and I were once again invited to attend a Kel-Mac Saddle Club monthly meeting. This, the oldest saddle club in Georgia, has invited us each year for the past several years to attend one of their meetings to update them on the progress and activities of GERL. They not only show their interest in GERL by seeking this yearly update, but they vote each year to donate a sizable portion of the monies they raise from their horse shows and trail rides, to our organization.

After an hour of socialization while enjoying the Ryan's (Athens, GA) buffet, I talked for half an hour about our upcoming Rescue Challenge and then had a chance to talk about my favorite subject; the GERL Get Well Plan. All listened attentively and I could see that they were surprised to hear some of the numbers I have gathered through my research into the number of horses in our country as compared to the number of people who will be knowledgeable and responsible horse owners. These two numbers are very far apart which is the simple explanation for the "horse problems" in our state and in our country.

Since every person attending the meeting was a responsible horse owner, it was an opportunity for me to ask them to urge those that they might know, who breed horses irresponsibly, just for the fun of having a baby horse, to stop and think about a plan for the future and the possible life of neglect that the resulting foal might face. There are simply too many horses. We must stop producing them in such large numbers as we see today.

Thanks to Kel-Mac Saddle Club for a lovely evening and for your ongoing support of GERL.



The Kel-Mac Saddle Club members turned out in force for the monthly meeting.

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Christmas in July

By Patty Livingston

From time to time, we receive a “wish list” from the inmates at the Pulaski Prison Equine Impound for saddles, small headstalls, cotton lead ropes and other supplies. I usually go to the GERL Facebook page and ask for donations, but am seldom successful in collecting more than one saddle for them. The inmates work with and ride the GDA horses that will be going to auction after they are rehabbed and some of these horses can be pretty rough with tack.

Recently, the GERL Board of Directors voted to dog-ear \$3,000 to the Pulaski Impound in Hawkinsville for the purpose of buying horse tack and farrier supplies. After the Board’s decision, I called Corey Cravey, the GDA Supervisor for South Georgia, and let him know that if he picked out the items he needed and let us know the contact info, we would make payment arrangements. Imagine our surprise when we received this picture of all of the great tack and supplies that they were able to get!



UGA Horse Owners Seminar

By Patty Livingston

GERL was invited to attend the annual UGA Horse Owners Seminar and set up a booth. The date was August 6th and the location was the UGA Teaching Hospital in Athens. I went over on Friday and set up the GERL booth so that the next morning there would be nothing to do except greet all of the people who would be milling around in the lobby before the first seminar started.

There were approximately 100 people who registered to attend and the students who put this event on every year were delighted.



Patty Livingston taking a ride on the Wells Fargo stage coach.

They offered great workshops, vendors and the Wells Fargo Stagecoach was there giving rides! We also had a tour of the new, state of the art Large Animal Hospital and the Small Animal treatment areas. What a jewel this new facility is!

We had a big time meeting new people and visiting with some old friends. Thanks so much to the UGA students who put this event on each year!



Nancy Bogardt and Linda Kundell man the GERL booth

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GERL Volunteer of the Quarter

By Patty Livingston

The GERL Volunteer of the Quarter is somebody who has been around for a long time. She has been a member of GERL for over 10 years and is also a huge supporter of the Mansfield impound. In fact, she is a former part-time employee-turned volunteer and can be found there on occasional weekend feeding duty. She is always present at the GDA horse auctions and typically helps out with the bidder registration process. By now you may have guessed her name is Nancy Bogardts.

Nancy is also a volunteer at her local animal shelter and is often on social media trying to help place dogs in forever homes. Nancy has several dogs of her own (all rescues, of course!). Being a “city girl”, she has no horses of her own, but she always has a barn full of horses at the Mansfield Impound that enjoy her affection, her gentle touch, and her love. Since Nancy is on social media a good bit, she often posts items about GERL on our Facebook page. She was doing such a great job that one day she looked in the newsletter and right there on the “Who’s Who” page, in black and white, it stated: “Nancy Bogardts – Facebook Coordinator”. She and I had a big laugh about that the next time we spoke, but thankfully, she agreed to carry the title, along with Rebecca Jimenez, who also helps out by posting GERL news.

Just recently, Nancy volunteered to help GERL out by representing our organization in a booth at the UGA Horse Owners Seminar held in July. It was her first time to man a booth for GERL, but I can tell you that she was a pro at it from the start. I think she enjoyed it, too, so I’m hoping that you may see Nancy in another GERL booth sometime in the future.

Nancy is one of the sweetest, best natured, people you will ever meet who has a huge heart for all animals. GERL would like to thank Nancy by recognizing her as our Volunteer of the Quarter. Thanks so much for all you do, Nancy!!



Nancy Bogardts hanging out with some Clydes

A Note from the Secretary's Desk

by Anne Ensminger



Three horses live here on my farm with me and my dog, Mike. Two of the horses are mine and the other one owns me. That horse is my GERL foster horse, Honor. I wrote about Honor several years ago shortly after he came to us at Triple E

Farm as a way to promote GERL's Foster Care Program and also to say how much he means to me.

Honor came into my life in early 2010, after being rescued by two dear GERL friends, from a neglect situation way up in the mountains near Blue Ridge, GA. Suffice it to say that he was pretty rough looking when he arrived and seemed somewhat depressed. A vet check at that time declared him to be carrying a heavy parasite load, but otherwise in good general health. His age was estimated at twenty five years. That is all we knew about Honor except that he is obviously of Arabian heritage.

Since Honor has been here, he has truly bloomed. I look forward to hearing his soft whinny each morning as I make my way to the barn to provide a much anticipated breakfast to all of the horses. It thrills me to see him posing in the way that only an alert Arabian horse can. When the sun shines on his flea-bitten grey coat, it looks like silver. I adore him and pray every night that no one will apply to adopt him. Why have I not adopted him? Because I am 74 years old and love knowing that if I can no longer care for him, that GERL will see that he has everything he needs for the rest of his life.

So. I suppose the reason I am writing this commentary/update about my foster horse and how much I love having him to care for, is that I am once again promoting the GERL Foster Care Program.

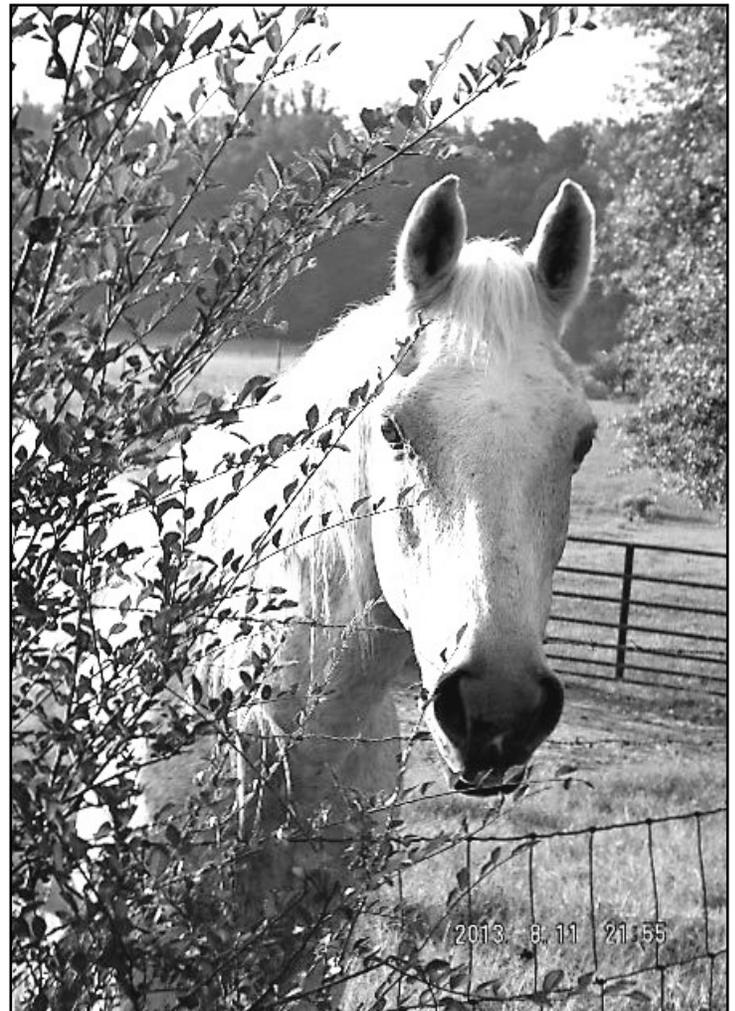
Recently, CeCe Calli, GERL's Foster/Adoption Coordinator, put a plea on the GERL Facebook page for some much needed foster caregivers to agree to be placed on a list of those willing to take on the care of one or more GERL rescue horses on short notice. The response was heartwarming. CeCe has been busy following up with those who have stepped up to help. We are grateful, as the Foster Care Program is our only way of assuring care for horses in need as

soon as they come into our program.

We are often asked, "Where is your facility?" The answer is, "Private farms all over Georgia." Even if some generous benefactor donated to GERL, a beautiful piece of land with fences and barns, there is no way that we could hope to provide the needed staff to care for the horses with available volunteers who are spread out all over Georgia. Therefore; the Foster Care Program is our best option. It works well as long as we have caregivers on standby.

I will not list the details of the minimal requirements to become a foster caregiver but those interested may contact CeCe Calli or me to chat about the requirements, the benefits, and what can be expected from the experience. Our contact information can be found on the Who's Who page in this publication.

Think seriously about it. You may fall in love with your foster horse, as I have.



First Extreme Cowboy Association Competition in Georgia

By Anne Ensminger

It seems that I am always a step or two behind when it comes to learning about new things. I was brought up to date concerning one of the most exciting ways for you and your horse to have fun and develop that communication that we are all seeking with our horses. This activity promotes learning, family closeness, and comradery with others who share our love for the horse.

On July 13th. GERL was invited to set up an information booth at the very first Georgia State Championship Extreme Cowboy Race which was held at Chicopee Wood Agricultural Center in Gainesville. The event was hosted by the Southern Obstacle Challenge Association. I, along with several other GERL volunteers (Kathy Ward, Linda Kundell, and Tamma Trump), arrived early to get ready to introduce GERL and our mission to those attending the event. Little did we know what an enjoyable experience the day would turn out to be.

To see horses traversing obstacles is not new to many of us, in fact, a portion of the GERL Annual Rescue Challenge involves obstacles. The Extreme Cowboy Race is different in that many of the obstacles are very difficult and it is a speed event. Expert horsemanship combined with speed provides excitement for both competitors and spectators.

Extreme Cowboy Racing was introduced about six years ago by RFDTV personality and Texas Cowboy Hall of Fame member, Craig Cameron. Since that time, the sport has rapidly grown, in fact, it is widely known as "the fastest growing equine sport". The Extreme Cowboy Association (EXCA) has been formed to encourage riders of all levels to participate.

The course is approached one rider at a time. There is an eight minute limit to complete all of the obstacles with a three minute maximum time limit to complete any one obstacle. Of course, it was the rider/horse combination with the fastest time and the least number of faults that won. The young riders went first and there was quite a good number of



them. Everyone was dressed just like they were about to enter a horse show class. The horses were well groomed and the tack was shined. Interestingly, there were several Mustangs competing. It was good to see them doing so well and knowing that there are now more trainers who have the expertise to work with Mustangs and their sometimes difficult nature.

The race consists of such obstacles as water crossings, moguls, side-pass, three-steps, bridges, back-throughs, and jumps. There are other interesting obstacles as well. The main criteria for developing obstacles is safety for horses, riders, and spectators. The event clearly demonstrates the communication and trust that can be developed between horse and rider.

We who were there to represent GERL were thrilled to be invited to be a part of this landmark event in Georgia. So many nice folks came by our booth. Some let us know that they are members of GERL and others had questions about the upcoming GERL Rescue Challenge. We received some donations and signed up some new members. The day was a total success.

For more information about the Extreme Cowboy Association or the Southern Obstacle Challenge Association (hosting this event) go to:

www.extremecowboyassociation.com or
www.southernobstaclechallenges.com

GERL Guest Speaker at GDA Inspectors' Meeting

by Patty Livingston

The GERL Board recently discussed several ideas about how to promote our Crisis Intervention program and the idea of introducing it to the GDA inspectors was suggested. Shortly after that I had an opportunity to speak to Mat Thompson, the GDA Equine Manager, about our idea and he readily agreed. He provided me with the date of August 25th, which was when the inspectors would be meeting down in Macon at the Farmers Market to receive new computers. I was beside myself when he told me I would have 45 minutes to speak! Holy Cow! I was only expecting 15 minutes, so I was elated. We decided that there was time for me to cover a couple of other GERL programs and also the topic of restitution. I was so happy; I could hardly wait for August 25th to arrive!

I got up super early on the day of the meeting to get down to the Farmers Market in Macon by 8:30 to set up my equipment. The meeting was scheduled to start at 9:00 and was in the same location where we held our law enforcement training meeting last year, and where we will be hosting a second on December 1st, so at least I was familiar with the location. They had added some nice new technology to their training room since we were there in November and I took advantage of a flat screen monitor mounted on the wall. I had prepared a PowerPoint presentation for the occasion, along with some handouts about our Crisis Intervention program. Of course, you know I had to give a BIG plug for our upcoming Stallion to Gelding Castration Day!

Many of the faces in the room were familiar to me since I have interacted with many of them for almost 8 years now, but there were many new faces in the room and I was delighted to see and meet them. They asked questions because they didn't know anything about GERL. That was because they were from Middle and South Georgia and unfortunately, those are areas that are not heavily populated with GERL presence. It is a pressing goal of mine to change that.

When my presentation was done and I was back in my car on my way back home I couldn't help but feel like I had accomplished something very good that day. I had educated several people in that room about all of the good work that GERL is doing for



GDA Inspectors getting to know about GERL



Patty Livingston promoting her favorite holiday: GERL Castration Day!

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GDA HORSE AUCTION

July 30, 2016

by *Patty Livingston*

The Dept. of Ag horse auction held on July 30th had a line-up of thirteen horses; most rideable. The number of people who showed up seemed promising, but once Mickey (Farmer), our favorite and almost famous auctioneer, kicked off the auction, it was obvious that there weren't enough bidders. Out of 13 horses they were able to sell 8. Unfortunately, Elvis was one of the "no sale" horses. There were a lot of older, but rideable horses that did go to new homes I believe the highest bid for any one horse was \$175. Perhaps that was because there were only a handful of people bidding? Please tell your friends about these auctions. This is a great place to find an older, dead broke horse that many are seeking.

GERL volunteers helped set up a flea market with a lot of donated tack. That brought in a little extra money for the horses.

Many thanks to our volunteers, Kim and Rod Trahan, Mickey Farmer, Yvonne Couget, Steven Neal, Josefina Coots and Caley Coots who help us out with the flea market and the auction!



GERL volunteers gather for a photo.



One of the inmates warming up one of the horses.



A guard and 2 inmates getting ready for the auction.



Faithful GDA volunteers.

GERL Rescue Colt Reaches the Ultimate Endurance Goal

By Anne Ensminger

He certainly wasn't much to look at. He might have been 6 or 7 months old. Just a scraggly, skinny, long legged, red colt in obvious need of care. It was evident that his dam had provided the only attention and nourishment he had ever known. Now she was no longer able to provide for his needs. Her body condition was even more depleted than his and she was already in foal again! She was pushing him away. He didn't understand.

The colt had been born and spent the only life he had known to that point, in a debris strewn, muddy lot behind what can only be described as a very poorly maintained shanty house. The house was no more suited for human habitation than was the small, barb wire fenced back yard, a place suitable for horses. Yet there they kept a stallion and several mares. Of course, the mares were all in foal. The people who lived there never paid much attention to the horses other than to occasionally throw a few flakes of poor quality hay over the fence.

Finally, just before it was too late for these animals, the Georgia Department of Agriculture became aware of the situation and stepped in on behalf of the horses. I must apologize as I do not remember the details concerning the dispersal of the rest of the horses which were impounded by GDA, but I know that GERL agreed to take the extremely thin young colt into our program. Sue Vetch of Covington and her family were gracious enough to foster care for him and that is when he got the name Rusty. Rusty, just plain Rusty. No doubt they chose that name because of his color.

Sue told us that when she and daughter, Danielle went to get Rusty, they had quite a difficult time catching and getting a halter on him. When they finally succeeded and were guiding him toward the trailer, he was so weak, he actually fell down! Sue and Danielle were horrified when some of the dogs that lived there, immediately ran out from under the house and attacked the downed colt. She and Danielle fought them off and literally pushed the colt onto the trailer. They were all happy to leave that filthy place!

Before long, as Rusty progressed in his rehabilitation

and his body began to fill out, it became evident that he was certainly not 'just plain' Rusty. He began to develop muscles in all of the right places, those long legs seemed to get even longer, and his hair coat developed a beautiful shine. Even though Rusty probably missed his mother, he soon began to look forward to the attention and regular care provided by the Vetch family. He thrived and grew.

One of life's indisputable truths is that change in the lives of all creatures is a certainty. And so it was, once again, with Rusty. The Vetch family eventually moved to another farm and regretfully, had to give up caring for him. I believe Rusty was a long yearling at that time. That is when he came to live "temporarily" with me.

I both enjoyed and hated caring for him for about the next year. I say that because, even though my fences have always been adequate to contain the many horses that I have kept on my farm over the years, they were not adequate to insure that Rusty would be where I left him the night before. He would either jump or push down any fence that kept him from socializing with another horse on the property that was other than where he was. Aside from that he was a

pleasure. I tried to look on the bright side by appreciating my new skills involving fence repair. It has come in handy since I lost my sweet husband, Gene.

Although Rusty was pretty good for the farrier, I was never able to convince him that he should accept a tube of wormer administered by my hands. Our vet, Billy Myers, came by a couple of times and took care of that for me. It was Dr. Myers' opinion that Rusty was a Saddlebred/Arabian cross. His long, beautiful neck and his spirit made it easy to accept that assessment of his heritage. It will become even more evident as the story progresses.

As GERL hopes for all of their foster horses, an application to adopt Rusty was received. The potential adopter's farm was inspected and the adopter was interviewed. I delivered Rusty to his new home and felt positive about his situation. After a time, I learned that he was no longer where I had taken him and was again re-homed and adopted by someone else.



Continued on page 25

GERL Rescue Colt Reaches the Ultimate Endurance Goal

By Anne Ensminger

Continued from page 24

What I didn't know until later was that Dan Hallman of Ridge Spring, S.C., an excellent horseman and endurance enthusiast, and his friend, Larry, had visited Rusty to consider his suitability as an endurance mount. Larry advised Dan not to adopt Rusty because of the configuration of the "swirls" in his forehead. It has long been believed that the swirls or whorls, (tufts of hair growing in an unalterable pattern, usually on the forehead), can predict temperament. Rusty's swirls predicted that he would be reactive, unpredictable, and overly energetic. Dan did not feel threatened by any of that. And then there were those eyes. Rusty's eyes spoke to Dan. Those eyes caused Dan to feel that here was a horse with a heart that would not quit.

Thus, Dan took Rusty home and they began the long process of conditioning and training together. It was then that Dan realized that Rusty was gaited! Dr. Meyers must have been spot on concerning Rusty's heritage. As the conditioning progressed, Dan felt that it was time for them to enter an endurance competition. Thus, they began to enter endurance competitions all over the southeast. Dan was pleased with the results and became more and more proud of their accomplishments. He began to hold a dream in his heart that he and Rusty might eventually accomplish a finish in the well-known



and grueling Tevis Cup Ride.

The oldest and most prestigious modern day United States endurance competition, the Western States, or Tevis Cup Ride, has been held annually since 1955. The rugged 100 mile trail runs from Lake Tahoe to Auburn California and must be completed within 24 hours. There are required short rest stops and vet checks along the way to

ensure that each horse is fit to continue. To win the Tevis is comparable to winning an Olympic gold medal but just to finish the race with both horse and rider in good condition is more than enough to satisfy any endurance rider.

This year the top award went to Karen Donley riding her Arabian, Royal Patron. They finished in 16 hours and 33 minutes. It was Karen's 6th. Tevis and her 1st. title. This shows the determination of endurance riders.

Dan and Rusty crossed the finish line at 4 AM on July 24th. to place 67th. out of 87 riders. They are now safely back home in South Carolina and already training for their next endurance ride with an eye toward another Tevis finish in the future. But it will always be their first Tevis adventure that will forever be remembered as the realization of a man's dream which could have never become a reality except for one little rescue horse's heart that would not quit.

Upcoming GERL Meeting with Law Enforcement and Animal Control Officers

By Anne Ensminger

December first of this year will once again find your GERL Board of Directors, a team of greatly appreciated volunteers, and our group of very valued and knowledgeable speakers, at the Macon GA Farmers Market for another of our GERL "Multi County Meetings". This is a perfect facility for such activities and it is donated free of charge for GERL's use.

We hope to fill the large conference room with officers who are realizing that they are finding themselves involved with "horse problems" more and more often. Not knowing how to deal with large animals, not having extensive knowledge of the Georgia Equine Protection Laws, and often not feeling that they should have to spend their time chasing "farm animals" around, we are pleased to educate them concerning these matters.

GERL is very aware of how much we need these officers

with authority to help us in our fight against the widespread neglect of horses. We try to impress upon them, the importance of prosecution of neglectful horse owners. We teach the officers basic horse handling, feed them a big lunch (their favorite part of the meetings!), and urge them to grasp the importance of exactly the same evidence gathering techniques as they use in their other criminal cases. A large part of our schedule for the day involves photos as evidence, chain of custody, and preparation of informational reports needed by the District Attorneys if they are to build successful cases. GERL is constantly working to bring before police and animal control officers, prosecutors, and judges, the fact that if offenders face no consequences, they will never change their unacceptable treatment of horses.

GDA Success Story Update—Elvis

We all remember Elvis, the bay colt which came to GDA last year in extremely poor condition. He had to be in a sling to help him stand for a long time. His rehabilitation was slow but sure. He has now been adopted!



(Elvis meeting his barnyard friends, with New owner
Nina & barn friend, Shay)
Stephen & Debbie Braun & her daughter Nina are Elvis'
new family! They are enjoying every minute with him.
Elvis has new horse buds too.



Elvis & Nina have started taking lessons. They are doing great! They are a great team & I cannot wait until they get further along and start riding! How exciting! Please Debbie keep the pictures & updates coming. We look forward to all of their adventures together! Thank you Braun Family for giving Elvis a Loving Home!

We also want to Thank GERL for all their help & support with his rehabilitation.

Area Coordinator Spotlight – We Need YOU!

By Patty Livingston

During our recent 2-day GERL Board of Directors Meeting, I announced that I would be taking over the position of Area Coordinator Director for both North and South Georgia. This decision was based on several factors. The first being that our Treasurer, Lynne Robinson, is tapped out with the job of Treasurer to be responsible for something else so demanding. Second, former VP, and Area Coordinator Director for South Georgia has resigned and there is nobody to take his position. I agreed to take it over as part of my responsibilities.

I plan to start by kicking off an Area Coordinator Drive. I'm hoping to reach out to like-minded horse people across Georgia who are willing to be the contact person for their county. Some Area Coordinator's (AC's) cover multiple counties, and that is always great, but certainly not required. An AC may go a year or two without ever being contacted. It is all dependent on where in Georgia the horse report or need comes up. The main responsibility of an AC is to perform farm visits on potential foster or adoption homes. The other need is to do a drive-by to check any calls about skinny horses in your area. It's not hard or demanding; ask any current AC.

If you have ever had any thoughts about volunteering and making a difference without putting out a lot of effort, please consider being an Area Coordinator for GERL. We need YOU! To learn more about being an AC, please contact me at:

Patty Livingston
770-867-0760
gerlpatty@yahoo.com

Thanks for your help!

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(Above 3 ads include a 2" X 3.5" color on the front page of our website)
(Customer supplies business card/photos/graphics)

Contact: Lynne Robinson / ads@gerlltd.org



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

DID YOU KNOW YOU HAVE TO RE-ENROLL IN THE KROGER PLUS PROGRAM EVERY YEAR?

During the 3rd quarter of 2016, The Georgia Equine Rescue League has received \$141.99 from the Kroger Plus Program. That is compared to \$133.05 last quarter. We are holding our own from last quarter. It can be challenging to maintain support for this program because many people may not be aware that you must re-enroll in your chosen charity each year. All selections end at the end of September each year and you must select your charity again. 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.

PLEASE CONSIDER SUPPORTING GERL THROUGH THE AMAZON SMILES PROGRAM.

During 3rd quarter of 2016, we have received \$ 103.57 from this program. That is compared to \$285.36 last quarter. The previous quarter was much higher but I know we can increase these proceeds with your help. If you shop on Amazon through their Amazon Smiles program, 0.5% of your purchase is donated to GERL. 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. You also have to begin shopping via that link in order for your purchases to be credited toward GERL. What a great way to support a great cause without spending any of your own money. 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.

WELCOME NEW GERL MEMBERS

New Member	Referred By	From
Brenda & Ronald Allen	GERL	Roberta
Natalie Bricker	Melissa Upton	Oxford
Tina Cleghorne	GERL	Gainesville
Tanya DeVoe	GERL	Clyo
Kim Dobbins	Donna Brown	Conyers
Theresa Folea	GERL	Gainesville
Joe & Sunny Holloway	GERL	Gainesville
Paige Jobe	GERL	Roberta
Dianne Lane & Family	Rebecca Gimenez	Macon
Michelle Valente and Michael Lee	GERL	Alpharetta
Georgia McGinnis & Family	GERL	Alpharetta
Averi Pieper	Donna Pieper	Illinois
Robb Rice	GERL	Woodstock
Josh Rogers	Jessie Murray	Conyers
Mike & Cathy Sigman	GERL	Covington
Dianne Searcy Smoot	Allison Stubbs	St. Simons Island
Karen & Jeff Snyder	GERL	Conyers
Lynn Stallworth	GERL	Gainesville
Tammie Steinbrecher	Tamma Trump	Talking Rock
Lisa Sylvia	GERL	Cumming
Laura Vaughn	GERL	Canton
Valerie Warburton	GERL	Cumming
Valerie Westreicher	GERL	Atlanta
Jerry Winters	GERL	Sulvana

*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

Questions About Your Membership?

If you have any questions about your membership, contact Lynne Robinson at lynne@gerlltd.org or 404-435-5746. She can tell you when your membership expires and how to renew it. Don't forget to pass along your newsletter to someone else who doesn't know about GERL. Help us spread the word!

Donations

Keep Covington/Newton Beautiful
Linda Kundell
Sherry Massey
Dawn Cason
Bonnie Lavoie
Christopher Gregory and Susan

Futrelle-Gregory
Peggy Paris
Lisa Casey
Mike & Cathy Sigman
Paula LeCates
Nancy Scott
George & Rosa Allen

Patricia Stone
Lee & Jill Webb
John and Sarah Hill
Brittany Gilleland
Amy McLean
Leisa & David McCannon

Renewals due for October

Jeanne Barsanti
 Hank Bell
 Linda Brownlee
 Barbara Clark
 Clare Connell
 Ed & Sandra Creel
 Ellen Day
 Barbara Decker
 Jordan Faulconer
 Nancy Faulconer
 Christine Garrett
 Lee Ann Gilson
 Philip & Cyndi Israel
 Sherry Jones
 Kathleen Krueger

Majorie Leder & Greg Argarin
 Karen Lewis
 Rosalee & Sandy Loudon
 Margie Moschetti
 Jean Nash
 Sheila Ogle
 Gene & Nancy Ozburn
 Cheryl Evans Shedd
 Jim & Jeanne Shelhimer
 Amanda Tinkle
 Mary Turner
 Paul & Cheryl Turner
 Jan Wilson

Renewals due for November

John & Laurie Absalon
 Nicole Beyer
 Kristine Bird
 Nancy Bogardts
 Rich & Sue Chalmers
 Lisa Cochran
 Ben & Yvonne Daniels
 Jennifer DeFelice & Family
 Dayle Faulkner
 Robin Garland
 Ron & Sandy Green

Pat & Hugh Hester
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 Tracie McVay
 Lisa Muffley
 Tina Mulvihill
 Doug & Sandy Mundrick
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 Annette Raybon
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 Darcy Sun
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Renewals due for December

Linda & Hoyt Bruce
 Niki Christenson
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 Kim Hampton
 Suzanne Hanks
 Danny & Lesia Hogan
 John Holcombe
 Mona Lisa Johnson
 Mac Kendrick

Susan Perlman
 Cheryl Pritchard
 Michael & Carrie Russell
 Danesa Snell
 Mary E Thornton
 Jimmy & Debbie Wood
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 Micki Zagoria



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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 \$6,563 for feed for the horses at the Mansfield, Arrendale and Pulaski facilities. GERL recently started picking up the expense for the feed at Pulaski which is why the amount is higher than usual.
- ◆ GERL spent \$6,127 for vet care for horses at the Mansfield and Arrendale facilities. Our veterinarian expenses were a bit higher than normal this quarter. One horse had to go to UGA and another one was injured and had to be treated multiple times on site.
- ◆ GERL spent \$1,420 to provide tack for the training program at Pulaski. This is to support the training program so that these horses can go to a great new home.
- ◆ GERL provided farrier supplies to Pulaski which had a price tag of \$494. Hopefully this will cut down on farrier expenses since it will be able to be handled by staff on site.
- ◆ GERL paid \$1,208 to repair equipment at Mansfield. For those who may not know, GERL owns and services most of the equipment, used at the Mansfield facility.
- ◆ GERL spent \$7,087 on our foster horses. This was for feed, hay, vet care and farrier care. Our expenses were a bit higher than normal this quarter, partly because of Orion who had to go to UGA for some testing and treatment.



**GERL Stallions to
Gelding Program.**

**Stallions Gelded
To Date By
GERL:
725**

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

Ben Hudson

Erik Wittenzellner

Lee Hager



Get Well Wishes to
GERL Volunteers
Kim Trahan and Cynthia
Anderson who recently had
surgery.

Foster Horse	Foster Home
Bailey	CeCe Calli
Bella	Bill & Sandy Lynch
Copper Penny	JoAnn McBride
Dudley	Kylie Small
Ransom & Cooper	Steven Neal
Gypsy Rose	Kacie Eicholtz
Orion	Amy Scruggs
Lucy	Lindsay Kate Gilleland
Justice	Nancy Faulconer
Cody	Patty Livingston
Samson	Susan McCullar
Johnny Reb	CeCe Calli

In Memory of

- Andee DeMoss Rogers by Brenda & Ronald Allen
- Ashley Morgan Greene, in honor of her birthday, 6/21, and her love of all animals, by Dawn Cason
- Dottie, beloved horse belonging to Dr. Marisa Craig, by Judy Close
- Gizmo, a much loved barn cat, by Geri Kono
- Poppie by Lee Hager
- Michelle Wilcox by Craig Howard
- Michelle Wilcox, who loved the GDA and rescue horses, by Adam Buuck
- Princess, Sandra Brown's horse, by Dr. Ava Talmage, Amicalola Veterinary Services
- Blaze, Joe and Denise Barnes' horse, by Dr. Ava Talmage, Amicalola Veterinary Services
- Domino, Carol Samples' horse, by Dr. Ava Talmage, Amicalola Veterinary Services
- Scooter, Jane Walker's horse, by Dr. Ava Talmage, Amicalola Veterinary Services
- Ree Masters by Cheryl Hecht
- Dixie, Betsy Gilman's much loved mare and a champion endurance horse

In Honor of

- ◆ Ben Meyers, in honor of his graduation from high school, by Joni Zeccola
- ◆ Vicki Dice, in honor of her birthday, by Martha Woodham
- ◆ John Parker, in honor of his birthday, by Martha Woodham
- ◆ Meghan & Adam Verner by Mary Linda Cotton, Realtor, Coldwell Banker
- ◆ Amy McLean's Mom & Dad by Leisa & David McCannon



Surprise, Surprise!!
by Linda Kundell

We will be having a huge sale of our GERL merchandise to lessen the amount of inventory. We will also be getting new shirts (not tee shirts), vests, pot holders (pot holders – mine are so old that they don't protect my hands any more), etc. for sale. Please check out the for sale merchandise at the Rescue Challenge and any other event that we are attending. Also, we will be trying a new idea for buying what you want. You will be able to buy things through the internet. So don't forget – new shirts – new items, plus a sale to make us all feel better!!

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Sign Up Today! With Your Help We Will Make A Difference!

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Name: _____

Address: _____

City / State / Zip: _____

County: _____

Phone (home#): _____ (cell#): _____

E-mail Address: _____ Referred by: _____

_____ I am a horse owner

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

_____ I am interested in becoming a GERL Foster Home

_____ I am interested in becoming a GERL fundraising event volunteer

Annual membership dues are:

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

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

Misc. Donation: _____

In Honor of _____ for the amount of \$ _____

In Memory of _____ for the amount of \$ _____

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

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

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