



Georgia Equine Rescue League, Ltd.

With Your Help ...
We Will Make A Difference

Volume #181

www.gerlltd.org

December 2010

Pick Your Battles By Patty Livingston

I often say that nothing surprises me anymore, but recently I WAS surprised. Shocked is probably a better word to describe my reaction. I had received a phone call from a guy in middle Georgia who was pleading for help with two horses that belonged to a neighbor down the road. The two horses were very skinny and he was very concerned for their welfare. As I normally do, I asked him if he knew how to body score a horse and he replied that he wasn't sure. I asked him if he could provide me with pictures and he promised that he would send me some.

In the meantime, he gave me some details about the situation with the horses. It turned out that the owners did not live on the property which consisted of a very run-down house and

a couple of small, very bare, pastures surrounded by barbed wire. They had 3 other horses and a mule that were in very good body condition. The two skinny horses had been given to them by some friends back in the spring and they were reportedly thin when they arrived. Pecking order took its toll on the two new arrivals and they were not able to defend themselves when the two horses that shared their pasture chased them off of their food. Food was delivered daily, but nobody stayed around to make sure that the newcomers got anything.

According to the neighbor who was calling us, "the owners were trying to do the right thing" by giving the horses away. He was unable to take them because he already had several of his own. He had already called the Georgia Department of Agriculture (GDA) and reported the case, but asked that the owners not be prosecuted. Of course the GDA does typically try to prosecute owners who are negligent and they tried to get the man to call the local Animal Control officer in his county to come out. He refused to do so because he knew



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Pick Your Battles

(continued from the front page)

that it would mean trouble for the owners who were very willing to cooperate and sign the horses over to anybody who would take them. By this time, a week had gone by and he was bringing his own hay over to the horses and standing there while they ate to make sure that they didn't get chased off.

He continued to call the GDA inspector, begging her to come out and pick the horses up. Of course, she was telling him that they would be pursuing prosecution which had him turning to me to pick them up. I called and spoke to the inspector and we discussed the situation with the concerned neighbor bringing hay over to these horses and how that negated and prolonged their process for impoundment.



By this time, he had provided some pictures and I had a chance to see how dangerously thin one of the horses had become. He feared that if the situation dragged out too long the gelding wouldn't make it. Honestly, I had the same fear and began to make this a higher priority. I called the inspector and learned that she had received special permission to pick up the horses. I was relieved. Unfortunately, she already had several other cases of very thin horses that she needed to pick up and this case was pushed out to the following week. The neighbor continued to bring his hay and stay with the horses while they ate.



The inspector attempted to contact the owners several times to get them to meet her at their run-down farm to sign the horses over. The owners would never return her calls and due to their lack of response, the State had decided that if they did impound they would prosecute. Also, the inspector was due to go on vacation at the end of the week and it would be another week before she would return and be able to impound. Of course, the neighbor was jumping up and down by this time because he was so desperate to get the horses moved. She let him know that the best thing that could happen for these two horses was for GERL to get involved and take them.

Two days later, GERL Treasurer, Diana DeMoss, and I hooked up the stock trailer and headed south to pick up the horses. The faithful neighbor was there to help. Even though we had both seen

the pictures, we were not prepared for the shocking scene that met us. Trust me, we have both seen skinny horses before, but we had never seen a horse that skinny, still alive and standing. We were anxious to get the horses loaded and get away. Several neighbors stood around gawking at the two horses as we led them to the trailer. They asked if the horses were sick and one passer-by even asked if he could buy the little mare. It was as if they didn't even notice how terribly skinny they both were. We just shook our heads and proceeded with the chore before us. We loaded the palomino gelding first and finally got the mare to load with a little "feed persuasion".

I worried the entire trip about the palomino and wondered if he would be able to endure the long drive back. We finally got to Diana's house around 11:00 that evening and unloaded both horses and put them in her front pasture for the night. Neither of us could stop saying how glad we were that we had gone down there and picked them up when we did, despite the fact that we really knew that the people responsible should have been punished. Sometimes you have to pick your battles and do what is best for the horses and that is what we did. We were dog tired by the time we got done, but both of us had that feeling you get when you know that you have done something good. And, that's what it's all about!

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*Call or email for deadlines

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To report a case of equine abuse,

call the Georgia Department

of Agriculture's Equine Division

Monday - Friday / 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

(404) 656-3713 or (800) 282-5852

If you would like GERL to assist with an

Equine Abuse case call (770) 464-0138

If you are interested in becoming an Area Coord.

for a county not listed, please contact

Jack or Dottie Carter (706) 896-4997 / (706) 835-

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Thank You To Our Foster Homes

Belinda & Hannah Carruth

for fostering Aurora

Diana & Steve DeMoss

for fostering Hot Rod & Nellie

Anne Ensminger

for fostering Honor

April & Stoney Goss

for fostering Highway

Lisa & Randy King

for fostering Lil Lady & Gray Baby

Patty Livingston

for fostering Red Man

Tiffany Bergdorf

for fostering Lucky

Allison Altman

for fostering Maggie Mae, Sonny Bono & Casey

Sue Crane

for fostering Bandit

Alline Jones

for fostering Jenna

Steven Neal

for fostering Smokey & Sable

Kim & Dan Smith

for fostering Hay Baler

Debbie & Robert Whitworth

for fostering Darla & Spanky

Tamma Trump

for fostering Hope

Jacki Moore & Leslie Lambert

for fostering Vandy

Cheryl Popiel

for fostering Charity

Valerie Puryear

for fostering Thunder

Patty & Phil Henry

for fostering Chester

Ken & Susan Archer

for fostering Barley & Cracker Jack

Susan McCullar

for fostering Lizzie & Trigger

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EDITOR'S CORRECTION

On page 30 of the October / November newsletter was a poem by Patricia Hobbs and donation from her as well. The donation was credited to another long-time GERL supporter. We apologize for the mix-up. Thank you Patricia for all that you do for GERL!

Thank You Dr. Ken Marcella

for providing our
membership
with such informative
articles each month.

See page 12
for this month's article





**LET ME SAY THIS
... ABOUT THAT**
By **Patty Livingston,**
President

It is hard for me to believe that another year is almost behind us. This year has been a whirlwind of events, meetings, and trail rides. As I reflect on the goals that we set for GERL at the beginning of 2010, I am proud of how well we did with meeting them. Below are the goals:

- Continue to support/fund all GDA impounds
- Continue to partner with the GDA to help with auctions and fundraising events
- Offer assistance to County Animal Control agencies that impound horses
- Host educational clinics for Animal Control and Sheriff's Depts. as a way to promote equine rescue by these agencies and offer our assistance
- Fund vaccination program for all GDA impounded equine
- Fund castration program for all GDA impounded equine
- Promote Stallion to Gelding program by offering financial assistance to the public for equine castration
- Increase the number of GERL Area Coordinators
- Increase GERL membership to include 750 members
- Replace office trailer at the Mansfield Impound
- Pay for winch equipment for Mansfield horse trailer
- Provide assistance for care of equine to horse owners who have lost jobs or are experiencing illness
- Expand our foster care program and build a network of foster homes
- Increase number of volunteers for GERL and GDA functions
- Promote our mission through education
- Attend horse fairs, meetings and events held by other organizations for the purpose of educating the public & bringing awareness
- Involve more youth in the education process
- Continue to promote castration of stallions
- Create educational handouts/brochures

My reflections reveal that GERL had a very busy and productive year. We committed to helping more horses than ever before and we are certainly doing that with 32 horses in our foster/adoption program. Additionally, we are able to maintain a small network of foster homes on standby.

We hosted two separate vaccination clinics in South Georgia this year, while committing to pay for the vaccination of every horse impounded by the Georgia Department of Agriculture (GDA). We paid for, or helped to pay for the castration of over 30 stallions in 2010 through our Stallion to Gelding program. We also committed to pay for the castration of every stallion impounded by the GDA.

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GERL Stallions to Gelding Program
Stallions Gelded To Date By GERL: 30



A Note from the Secretary's Desk By Anne Ensminger

As usual, when I sit before my computer to write the Secretary's Desk article, my head is full of things I want our members to know but my space is limited so I will just start writing and we will see how far I get.

First, I want to express sincere personal gratitude, as well as that of GERL, to GERL member and long time supporter, Dr. Rebecca Gimenez. She put on a one day "Training for Reality" clinic at Ft. Gordon's Hilltop Stables on October 9th. and donated 100% of the proceeds to GERL. I participated in the clinic and not only learned many new things about the way horses think and learn, but met some wonderful new friends. Thanks so much to Dr. Gimenez and to all who participated!

Another big expression of gratitude must go to Elizabeth Scarborough and her husband of Mansfield, Georgia. They contacted GERL and offered to donate 25 large round bales of this year's hay for the GDA Mansfield Impound. Sadly, the Impound has no equipment to handle 2000 pound bales and therefore, they feed only square bales. Not wanting this offer of precious hay to go unused, we were able to contact a man who has been rescuing horses at his own expense for years. Coincidentally, he had recently suffered a downturn in his financial status (sound familiar?) and was apprehensive concerning how he could feed the horses through the coming winter. We put the two of them in touch and they took it from there. Now, that is how the world is supposed to work!

I have anxiously anticipated this beautiful fall season through the last few months which have been saturated with the Georgia heat and humidity. In my mind, fall is the best time to ride and I have been doing that as often as possible since the weather has moderated. While I and my fellow Board members have stolen a day here and there to ride, the calls for GERL help keep coming. Some days we find it overwhelming as we sort through the many requests and try to put the need in some kind order. We are very aware that we can not take every horse that we are asked to take into our program when people say they can not afford to feed them. We often offer to temporarily provide hay and feed to those who might be able to keep their horses with this kind of assistance. In fact, we

have recently received grant money to be used for just this purpose. More about that later.

Let me tell you about a case that has been tugging at our hearts for over a month. We thought that this would be a case where we could help by providing feed and hay but the situation changed as the days went by.

It started when Rita Benfield took a call on the GERL phone lines from a lady who had quit her job to care for her aging mother with stage five Alzheimer's. They were living on property that was about to be lost to foreclosure. The mother, Virginia, had owned a mare for over 25 years and they could no longer afford to feed her. "Roma" was an advanced age, very gentle registered Quarter Horse mare with arthritis. Every day, it was Virginia's joy to go out to the pasture and just touch "Roma". This daily visit was the only time that Virginia seemed to be in touch with reality or her past.

We at GERL, were very reluctant to take a horse of this age with arthritis into our program since it is rare that we are able to find a permanent home for such a horse. Good sense dictates that we reserve our precious foster homes for horses that we might be able to place in a permanent home.

Though our hearts were not in our decision, we declined to take Roma into our program and simply offered to provide feed and hay with the hope that she could stay where she was, at least until the foreclosure took place.

Things rocked along and Rita kept in touch with the family and even offered to personally pay for any additional needs that Roma might have. Then, a couple of days ago, Rita called to tell us that the well on the farm had gone out and that it would require a few thousand dollars to get it working.

The family could not possibly pay for the repairs. Luckily, they found a temporary place with water, where they could move. Since the new place was in the city, Roma could not go with them.

Without further discussion, Patty Livingston and Diana DeMoss drove to the family farm in Temple, Georgia to get the old mare. She is now safely in quarantine at Patty's home until a negative Coggins can be obtained. We don't know where Roma will end up but all can be certain that she will live out her days in as much comfort as GERL can provide. Patty intends to start her on arthritis supplements right away.

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A Note from the Secretary's Desk (continued from the previous page)

I include a picture of Virginia saying goodbye to her old friend just before Roma was loaded onto the GERL trailer. Patty said that there were no tears as one would expect. Virginia is able to sense all things pertaining to Roma and we are certain that she knows that Roma is going to be okay. We at GERL intend to see to it.

Photo at Right
Virginia says goodbye to Roma,
her friend of 25 years



We're Sorry For Your Loss

Heartfelt condolences to GERL Board of Directors member and friend, Steven Neal, as he mourns the loss of his dog, Sandy. Steven is a true animal lover and goes very few places without his two beloved canine friends, Sandy and Charlie. Sandy will be missed by many.



RJ - Gone But Not Forgotten By Betty Evenson

RJ had been passed around in his early life ... He once belonged to Marty Paulk and I believe she called him Red Bones. Marty sold him and he ended up with someone who did not take care of him and was nearly a starvation case ... and that is when Lisa Carroll bought him. Nearly 30 years ago he came to Lisa & Jeff. She got him fattened back up and made great memories with him!

RJ was steady and true ... and many years ago when we all boarded together (and when I met Jeff & Lisa) he was the horse that we would borrow if we wanted a steady, safe horse for a non-rider. However, he was also the horse that Lisa competed with and showed over 4' fences! We boarded at a rather large facility and RJ was known for jumping the fences and going from pasture to pasture. You never knew which pasture you would find him in, but often if wasn't the one that he was supposed to live in.

RJ was a big strawberry roan with an even bigger heart. He has been retired for many years and lived happily at the Carroll Farm with all of Lisa's other critters -- her other horses, her ancient goats, her very old pot bellied pig and most recently her rescued Llamas. The vets have often asked Lisa what she feeds these animals as they all seem to live much longer than their expected life span.

Lisa and Jeff knew that RJ couldn't make it through another winter and he let them know that it was time ... On November 4th, they said good-bye to RJ. He was 40 years old ...

The day after they said good-bye to RJ, Lisa said to me "Jeff and I were kidding yesterday that RJ was probably the first horse to tell St. Peter not to bother opening the gates ... I'll just jump into heaven." That thought made me smile as that would be just how RJ would feel!

Lisa and I rode a couple of days after that sad day and found great comfort riding and enjoying what we both love most. We were also smiling as we know that Dirty Dan was waiting for RJ and that they are once again enjoying the trails together but this time they are the trails of heaven!

One of the Lucky Ones
By Anne Ensminger

It has been several months since David Adams adopted Sha. She was an older Arab mare which came to GERL as part of a group. They were starving. Because of Sha's age, we thought it would be difficult to place her but that could not have been farther from the truth. When David met her for the first time, it was love at first sight. That love has done nothing but grow.

The mare was taken to his small farm in Hull, GA where she has become the "Queen B" and David tells us that she smiles all of the time. She is now a perfect weight and her coat shines like new money. David has little interest in riding Sha. He enjoys simply brushing and caring for her.

Oh, how I wish we could find a David Adams for every older horse in our care!



Looking for Love - A Story About Breeze

GERL receives emails on a daily basis, most of them are about horses that need our help. We recently received an email from Mike and Carrie Russell, who had recently moved from Macon to Carlton, Georgia. They have purchased a home with 38 acres and were planning to contact GERL about being a foster home, but had some work to do before actually getting involved.

That's when Breeze, a beautiful chestnut Arab, wandered up to their fence, thin and obviously in need of some love and attention. Carrie called all the neighbors and finally found her owner. The first comment from the owner was, "Do you want her?" Carrie's first response was "NO"! After talking to the owner she came to realize that this mare was not going to get the attention she needed, so Carrie did what most of us would do—she told the owner she would try to find Breeze a home.

Carrie contacted GERL and asked for our help finding Breeze a home. Breeze needed medical attention, Coggins and vaccinations which Mike and Carrie were not able to give her at this time. Fortunately, GERL has recently received a grant that allows us to help people in this situation.

Mike and Carrie are feeding and loving Breeze while she recuperates. GERL will help them find Breeze a wonderful home when she is ready to go.

There are so many caring people out there, willing to give as much as they can to a horse "looking for love". Thank you to all of you out there with that spirit of caring.



**TRAILER NEEDED FOR
MANSFIELD IMPOUND!**

**4 Horse Gooseneck Aluminum Stock Trailer
Center Divider and Dressing Room**

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

Donation is Tax Deductible!

"Oh Come All 'Ye To Bethlehem" GERL Christmas Party!

Saturday, December 11th

Time: 7:00 PM - 11:00 PM

Bring: Your favorite covered
dish, BYOB & lawn chair

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



*There will be good food, good friends and even a
bonfire (weather permitting). Bring your lawn chairs.*

Directions from Gainesville: take Hwy 60 thru Gainesville to Hwy 124. Turn right onto Hwy 124 and go approx. 3 miles to light. Turn left onto Hwy 53S to Winder. Follow Hwy 11S by turning left at McDonald's in Winder. Go approx. 1½ miles (bear right) at Blockbuster. Go approx. 5 miles to Hwy 316. Cross over 316 and go 1.5 miles through Bethlehem. Turn left on McElhannon Rd. Go through 4-way stop; First house on the right.

From Atlanta: From 85S exit onto Hwy 316 towards Athens. Go approx 23 miles to Hwy 11 and turn right. Go 1.5 miles and turn left onto McElhannon Rd. Go through 4-way stop; First house on right.

RSVP: (770) 867-0760

Don't forget to bring your Christmas cards with you
to mail from the Bethlehem Post Office.

“Feed a Horse”

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

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

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



I would like to make a donation of:

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

**“Feed a Horse”
Program**

www.gerlltd.org

Name: _____

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

Telephone #: _____ Email: _____

Make check payable to:

GERL

Mail to: P.O. Box 328

Bethlehem, GA 30620

THANK YOU!

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

NOTICE! NEWSLETTER CHANGES COMING!

BY: Patty Livingston, President

Your GERL Board has recently decided that some changes must be made in the area of our newsletter. This is due to the extreme labor intensity, basic costs, and postage. We will be moving to a quarterly newsletter **starting in 2011**.

The releases will be as follows:

Early March

Early June

Early September

Early December

This newsletter is an October / November combination. The next newsletter will be produced in December, 2010. The newsletters will be forty pages in order to capture all of the pertinent events and information between editions. We will also be cutting back on the number that we print. We have always overproduced the newsletter in order to send a package of 25, or more, to each of our Area Coordinators for distribution. Bulk mail prices are very high and we need to reduce this expense. Therefore, we have decided that we will create a static GERL informational flyer/brochure that will replace the bulk mail newsletters currently going to the Area Coordinators. The brochure will be available by the first of the year.

Our plan is to make our newsletters better than ever and something you will look forward to reading. The economy has much to do with these decisions, so, I hope you all understand the need for this change.

Thanks for your continued support!

TIMOTHY and/or ORCHARD ALFALFA HAY FOR SALE



Let us be your source
for excellent Midwestern Alfalfa-Mix horse hay
at an extremely competitive price.

IT'S TIME TO PUT UP YOUR WINTER HAY SUPPLY!

We offer several varieties of hay (lower to higher % of alfalfa with a Timothy / Orchard grass mix). Samples have been tested & lab analyses confirm that this is excellent horse hay. We work directly with the grower to bring this hay to Georgia & the SE. Contact us for pricing, samples, etc. Excellent references available!

HORSE HAY DIRECT, LLC

Betty K. Evenson

(706) 265-5045 . (706) 265-9708 . gerlibetty@aol.com

Management of Equine Ocular Emergencies

By: Kenneth L Marcella, DVM

The same anatomical features that make the horse's vision so unique also make their eyes more prone to injury than those of almost any other animal. Horses have the largest eyes of any land mammal and their side facing position and relatively shallow socket combine to produce an almost 360 degree visual field. This allows the horse, a prey species, to see nearly all the way around its body (there is a small area just behind the tail that is not in the field and a 65 degree area immediately in front of the horse where only one eye at a time can be focused on an object). Horses have excellent night vision and somewhat limited color vision seeing blues and yellows but not colors with longer wavelengths like reds. These large, side facing eyes are routinely being bumped, scraped and generally traumatized however, and ocular or eye problems rate as number eight in the top 10 equine emergency list compiled by Drs. Ann Rashmir-Raven and Richard Hooper of the Mississippi State Emergency Extension Service at the College of Veterinary Medicine at Mississippi State University, the Equine Field Service Team at the College of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania and Dr. Dan Beatty, an equine practitioner in the Chicago area. Their combined data showed that corneal or eye surface ulcers and abrasions, eyelid lacerations and cases of recurrent uveitis (moon blindness) were the issues most commonly seen.

Most eye injuries in the horse are the result of interaction with a foreign object-dirt, sand, small rocks, weeds, burrs, bushes, trees, whips, halters, cross-ties, hooks, latches and countless other items in a horse's natural environment. "The most common cause of corneal disease (the cornea is the transparent structure that makes up the majority of the globe of the eye) is trauma", explains Dr. Cynthia Cook of Veterinary Vision Inc. in California, "and race horses are especially prone due to debris thrown up by the hooves of other horses during training and racing." Some horses are also very susceptible to seasonal allergens and to the bites of many insects, both of which can cause irritation, pain and itchiness. Many ocular emergencies are the result of self-trauma secondary to an itchy eye from some other reason. The horse attempts to provide relief by scratching the eye and a larger problem is created.

Fortunately the signs of ocular problems are easy to spot. Because of the pain involved with these injuries (anyone who has ever had a piece of sand under a contact lens can easily relate) horses will usually hold their affected eye closed. They will exhibit squinting or even muscular spasms around the eye. There will

be a large amount of tears and possibly thick mucous produced and owners will usually notice this discharge before anything else. Because the horse will generally be holding the eye tightly closed it is often impossible to get a more detailed look at the eye without veterinary assistance. If the horse relaxes its affected eye, sometimes in a dark stall, it might be possible to notice redness and swelling of the conjunctiva or the pink tissue that surrounds the eye. The normally small blood vessels found here may be enlarged, swollen and inflamed as well. Swelling of the specialized corneal tissue occurs as a bluish-grey color change in the eye and this may be generalized throughout the eye or localized to the point of trauma. If this swelling and bluish color is extensive enough a functional blindness may result.

Occasionally trauma to the eye may be even more blatant with lacerations to the eye lids and blunt trauma (kicks, interference with stalls and gates) to the side of the face, facial bones and eye. The orbital ridge (called the zygomatic arch) is a thin piece of bone immediately above the eye. This bone is often involved in trauma to the eyes and it should be carefully evaluated and possibly examined with radiography if eye swelling is extensive, trauma to the head/face was involved in the injury or if the injury does not respond to treatment in an appropriate period of time (3-5 days). Eyelid lacerations can be quite dramatic and veterinarians are often presented with strips of remaining tissue that barely resemble a normal lid. Laceration and damage to the upper lid is more serious than similar trauma to the lower lid because more muscle and nerves are located in the upper lid. More eye movement occurs there. Trauma to the medial or inside corner of the eye is also more serious because of the potential for involvement of the nasolacrimal duct located there. The lids of the horse contain abundant blood vessels and this rich supply helps with tissue healing. Eyelid lacerations, even those that present with severe alterations of ocular anatomy, often do very well. Owners and trainers should be encouraged never to cut off or remove any eye tissue following an injury, regardless of how hopeless the repair looks. Occasionally a veterinary surgeon will create a flap out of the remaining pieces that will protect the eye long enough to allow for healing to occur which can then lead to a cosmetic repair surgery at a somewhat later date. Keep the tissues wet and clean until the veterinarian arrives (flushing with water or contact wetting solution is helpful) and keep the horse from doing any self trauma.

(continued on the following page)

Management of Equine Ocular Emergencies (continued from the previous page)

Because a large number of bacteria and fungi are always in the ocular environment of the horse, the chance of infection following trauma is high. "The corneal epithelium of the horse is a formidable barrier to the colonization and invasion of potentially pathogenic bacteria or fungi", explains Dr Dennis Brooks, a member of the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists and a clinician at the College of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Florida. "A defect in the corneal epithelium however," says Dr. Brooks, "allows bacteria and fungi to adhere to the cornea and to initiate infection". A six hour "golden period" has therefore been set as the amount of time it takes for bacteria and fungi to contaminate the cornea and ocular environment. Surgical repair of lacerations or medical treatment of other eye wounds is recommended to be done as soon as possible and certainly within this window of time making owner/trainer recognition of ocular problems and veterinary response time crucial. There are no known contraindications concerning the use of a topical antibiotic solution in cases of ocular trauma or other types of ocular emergencies. A triple antibiotic ophthalmic ointment (containing antibiotics and antifungal medication) is usually considered the first step in treatment and this can be initiated well before the horse is examined by a veterinarian. Early treatment with antibiotic ophthalmic ointment will decrease the ability of bacteria to colonize and will extend the functional period for repair. The majority of ocular injuries in the horse are painful. Flunixin (Banamine) is a drug that is exceptionally good for this type of discomfort and it should be incorporated into a treatment program as well.

Corneal abrasions, lacerations and infections (bacterial, viral or toxic) will usually also be treated with the application of serum in the eye. When there is trauma or inflammation in a tissue, white blood cells respond and the inflammatory response that is set up is largely responsible for the healing process that follows. Unfortunately collagenases are produced by the white blood cells and these enzymes can further damage surrounding tissues. Globulins in the blood serum act as anti-collagenases so many veterinarians treating a case of ocular trauma will pull some blood from

their patient, separate the serum and inject this serum topically on the eye.

The biggest mistake made by horse owners treating a corneal abrasion or ulcer is to not treat the eye often enough. The horse's eye produces a voluminous amount of fluid (even in normal situations and more when injured). A treatment regimen of 4 to 8 times daily is typically recommended but is often not routinely followed. Treatment given less frequently is diluted by tears and flushed from the eye so quickly that minimal antibiotic action is achieved and less than expected results and delayed healing is often seen. Because ocular infections can deteriorate very rapidly, sometimes in less than 24 hours, frequent treatments are crucial and especially so in the early stages of a problem. Any type of steroid ointment is to be strictly avoided until the completion of a veterinary examination since steroids can weaken the strength of corneal immune system and can potentiate infection. Veterinary examination will include a fluorescein staining of the cornea. Normal corneal tissue is impermeable to stain, so placing a small amount of this green dye in a horse's eye can provide visual evidence of damage to the corneal epithelium and a means of evaluating healing over time.

The take-home message concerning equine ocular emergencies is early recognition and early initiation of treatment regardless of the specifics of the trauma or condition. "'Wait and See' won't work for equine corneal problems," says Dr. Brooks and Dr. J. Rowan Blogg, a diplomat of the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists who practices in Victoria, Australia adds that "early repair of eyelid lacerations prevents eyelid deformity, stops corneal drying that can cause further problems and ultimately may help avoid blindness". Owners and trainers need to be attentive to this relatively common source of injury in the horse and to act aggressively when a problem is noticed. Action taken early in cases of equine ocular trauma will ultimately determine the eventual outcome.

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ThoroughbredTimes
August, 2010**

Thank You, Marshia

Many thanks to Marshia Milam-Medford of Walton County who is so passionate about the work of GERL that she wants to introduce the organization to dear friends who share her love for animals. She is giving GERL memberships to many of them as Christmas gifts!



GERL ADOPTABLES



Star

Star 16 year old saddebred cross black mare, 14-2 hh. Gentle to handle. Her pasture mate for the last 12 years has been Mercedes. They came into our program due to the owner's financial hardship. Never starved, never abused.

Mercedes 20 year old flea bitten gray Arabian/Q.H. mare, 14-2 hh. She was ridden by children. Pastured with Star for the last 12 yrs. Very nice horse. Ready to go!



Mercedes



Thunder

Thunder 20 + sorrel Arabian cross gelding, 14.1 hh. Great trail horse. He came in as a starvation case and has been completely rehabilitated. Maybe you can provide Thunder with his forever home.

Highway 5 year old QH gelding, 15 hh, 1000 lbs. He loads, clips, great with other horses and has great ground manners. He is blind in right eye, but gets around great. His foster parents have been working with him in a round pen and exposing him to trail riding. Adopt Highway and take him "on the trail" to success!



Highway



Charity

Charity 13 year old Tobiano Paint mare, 15 hh. Very gentle with a sweet disposition. She has an old injury above her right rear hock that is cosmetic and does not interfere with her range of motion. Foster mom has been riding her in the round pen. She make a great trail horse.

For adoption fees and additional information please contact
Ruth Sarrett, Adoption Coordinator
 (706) 342-4097
ruth@silvercreekfarmonline.com

GERL ADOPTABLES

Sonny Bono is a 20+ year old bay grade gelding, approx. 14 hands. Very gentle, light riding. Sonny would make a great children's horse. Loves attention. Babysitter personality.



Sonny Bono

Maggie Mae is a 16 year old black Mustang mare, approx. 14'2 hands. Stocky build, very pretty. Not sure if she is rideable. Needs TLC and a gentle touch. Foster Mom working with her.



Maggie Mae



Spanky is an 18 month old black grade gelding, should mature to 15'1 hands. Easy to handle. Should make a nice riding horse. Loads, stands for farrier. Good disposition.

Darla is an 18 year old black grade mare, 14'1 hands. Rideable, should make a great trail horse. Loads, stands for farrier. Very nice mare. Looking for loving home.



Darla

Cancun 13 year old sorrel Q.H. gelding, 15 hh. He is proud cut, rides well but needs a strong, capable owner.



Cancun

Nellie is a 6 year old chocolate mini mare with a flaxen mane and tail. 36" tall. Very Gentle, but timid. Has not been ridden. Stands for farrier, loads, loves to be petted and groomed. Sweet pony. Very easy keeper.



Nellie

For adoption fees and additional information please contact Ruth Sarrett, Adoption Coordinator (706) 342-4097 ruth@silvercreekfarmonline.com

GERL ADOPTABLES



Smokey

Smokey 1 year old dark bay Thoroughbred cross gelding, 13.3 hh. Needs someone to work with him. Will be a wonderful horse.

Leroy 5 year old Thoroughbred cross gelding, 15.2 hh. Gentle to handle. He is about to begin professional training with Eddy O'Hern, one of GERL's Area Coordinators. We're receiving lots of calls on this pretty boy. He'll make someone a nice horse!



Leroy

Lil Lady 14 year old chestnut Arabian mare, 14.1 hh. She is a very quiet girl. She has been trail ridden in the past. She will begin her next level of training with Robert Chambless soon. Mr. Chambless adopted Lobo and Tyree in July and has had great success with them. Do you have room on your farm for this "Lil Lady"?

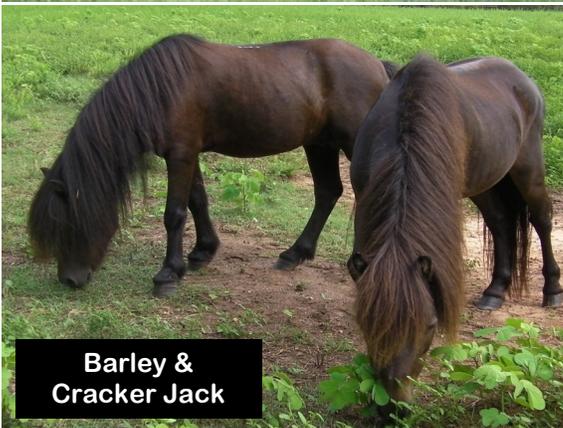


Lil Lady



Hay Baler

Hay Baler 1 year old chestnut Thoroughbred cross gelding, 13.2 hh. Loads, leads, stands for farrier. Foster parents are working with him daily. He would make a wonderful project for anyone who wants to start their own horse.



Barley & Cracker Jack

Barley is an 11 year old pony, black gelding, 40" tall. Gentle, easy to handle, stands for farrier, bathes, clips. Has not been ridden. Might make a good driving team with his brother, **Cracker Jack**. **Cracker Jack** is a 10 year old pony, black gelding, 41" tall. Easy keepers. These ponies will only be adopted together.

Hot Rod is a 6 year old gray & white mini gelding, 36" tall. Gentle, a bit timid. Has not been ridden. Stands for farrier, loves to be groomed. Very sweet personality.



Hot Rod

Very easy keeper!

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(706) 342-4097
ruth@silvercreekfarmonline.com.com

GERL ADOPTABLES



Gray Baby

Gray Baby 16 year old flea bitten gray Mustang mare, 14.2 hh. She has a very sweet disposition. She is green broke and needs an experienced rider. Won't you adopt this pretty girl?

Sable 1 year old bay Thoroughbred cross gelding, 14 hh. Sweet boy, ready for training.



Hope



Sable

Hope 2 year old sorrel Q.H. mare, 14.2 hh. She has been blind from birth and constantly amazes her foster mom on how well she gets around. She loves to be brushed, loads and knows many voice commands. She is very smart, willing, very trusting and is ready to start her training. Hope will need a home that can accommo-

**For adoption fees and additional information please contact
Ruth Sarrett, Adoption Coordinator
(706) 342-4097 / ruth@silvercreekfarmonline.com**

Georgia Equine Rescue League, Ltd. Who Are We?

Georgia Equine Rescue League, Ltd., aka GERL, was founded in 1993 for the sole purpose of helping starved, abused and neglected equine. We support the Georgia Dept. of Agriculture's Equine Division by raising funds to rehabilitate equines that have been impounded by them. These funds also help keep their barns and pastures in working condition. The GDA Equine Division is funded solely by donations.

GERL also has it's own equine rehabilitation program. We rely on the availability of pre-approved Foster homes that so graciously donate their pastures and barns, time and love to equine that we have accepted into our program for rehabilitation. Equine must meet certain criteria to be accepted, typically a body score of 2 (very thin) and under with no other avenue of rehabilitation available to the owners. The owners must sign the horse over to GERL so that we can make critical decisions as to the equines' care and eventual adoption.

All of the equine in our program are vaccinated, put on a specific nutrition program and have all of their

needs provided, including hoof repair and dental, if required.

Once an equine has been rehabilitated, it is put in our Adoption program. All potential adoptive parents are screened and their farms must meet our criteria. Once an equine is matched with adoptive parents and contracts are signed, GERL monitors the adoption for a period of 1 year. If all is well and everyone is happy, the equine is then signed over to the adoptive parents. The equine is always our foremost concern!

Obviously, none of this can happen without your continuing support. Your annual membership is important, as well as any donations made during the year. We are a non-profit organization with 501(C)(3) status, so your donations are tax deductible. You can join and donate online through PayPal to any of our programs at our website: gerlltd.org.

Please help us by spreading the word about GERL!

With your help, we will make a difference!

**Horse Owner's Clinic
At the Cowboy Shop in Roopville, Georgia
By: Cambria Moon**

On October 9th, Christina Gilham, my husband Eric Moon and I arrived bright and early at the Cowboy shop in Roopville, Georgia to take the first shift of this horse-filled event. The weather was warm and sunny, perfect for a day outside and an event like this. As we began setting up, we were greeted by the very friendly folks from Red Horse Stables, Ms. Teresa Rogers and "Cowboy Bob." Not only were they warm and jovial, they were kind enough to offer us one of their pop-up gazebos for the event. With that, we became fast friends and enjoyed each others company for the remainder of the day.



**Hannah Rull
and a 4-H Angel Tree Project**

There were a variety of horse-related vendors present and offering their services: Ken McDonald, a farrier, Dr. Scott Hanson, DVM, Greg Varney, Equine Massage Therapist, folks from the Carroll County Animal Shelter and the great folks from Red Horse Stables along with leather repair specialist "Cowboy Bob." In addition to all the great vendors, BBQ lunch was available along with the musical stylings of a live band. Though there were not droves of attendees, the one's we did encounter were very interested in GERL, what we do, and how they could help. We spoke to several people about becoming members, adopting horses, and even one woman, who attended the Foxhall Ride, about potentially fostering horses. We did receive cash donations in the amount of \$12 during our time there, which we very much appreciated!

A little after lunch, Christina, Eric and I left and our second shift, Ms. Annette Raybon and her 4-Her Taylor Brock arrived. Taylor said, "On October 9th, I attended the Horse Owner Clinic at the Cowboy Store in Roopville, Georgia to help out with the Georgia Equine Rescue League booth. There were many great speakers, but I have to say, the Georgia Equine Rescue League was by far the most impressive out of all of them. Listening to their speakers talk about what these poor animals go through was horrific! But after hearing what they do to save and help these magnificent beasts, just proves how great the GERL organization really is!!!"

Overall, it was a great day for horse owners in the west Georgia area and we look forward to attending and representing GERL in many more events!



Photo at Left

Taylor Brock, talking about GERL. Taylor put together her own poster boards, etc. and has set up booths at various Tractor Supply and feed stores. She is collecting donations and will be donating these to GERL in December.

Bringing Home Baby (or, How I Became Adoption Coordinator) By Ruth Sarrett

Things happen the way they do for a reason. I am firmly convinced of that. Of my four dogs, seven cats, and fourteen horses, most have come into my life for a specific reason, or to meet an urgent need. Usually the need is on the part of the animal, but it has been me that has received the blessing every time, as those of you who have adopted will understand.

My fiancé, Tommy, had zero experience with horses prior to becoming a part of my life. He is a true animal lover, though, and my horses have responded to his gentle manner and faithful care. He has bonded especially with my elderly rescue, a dignified old Percheron named Gandalf, who came from Colorado starved, arthritic and abused. Tommy is also fascinated with the close bond I have with the horses on our farm that I have raised from foals. After much discussion, it was decided that Tommy wanted a foal of his own to raise, and that we would look to adopt one through GERL.

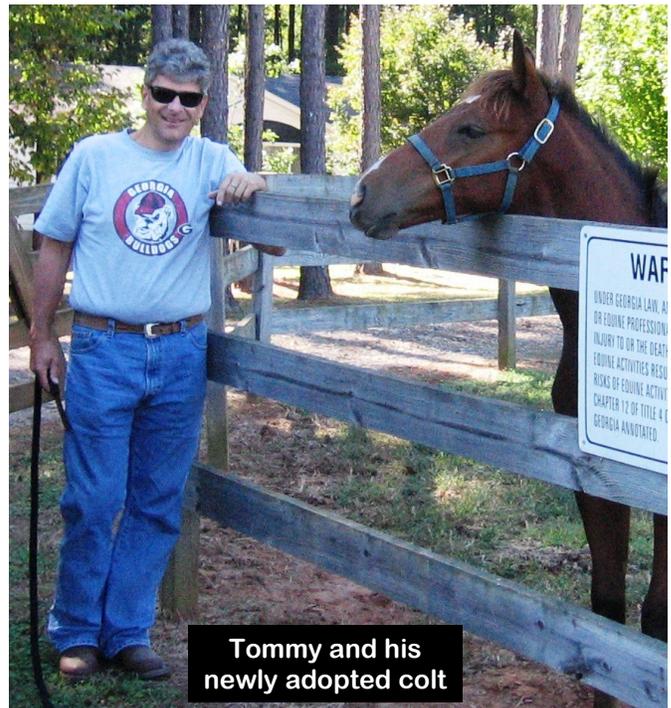
We visited the GERL website and saw that there were several yearlings and many adult horses needing homes, but no foals at the moment. No rush. A few days later the newsletter came, and I read a story about Maggie Mae, a mustang mare, and her colt, Buck Wild. Buck was just coming of age to be weaned, but he had not yet been cleared for adoption. I thought we might just throw our names into the hat and see if we would have a shot at getting the baby.

Things were meant to be. As soon as I made a couple of inquiries regarding Buck Wild, I received a call from Becky Gregory, the Foster Care Coordinator. She had been in touch with Buck Wild's wonderful foster mom, Allison, and she said that Buck had recently been gelded and weaned, and was ready to go! We were approved as an adoptive family, and the wheels were rolling right along.

Now, I have been a GERL member and supporter for years, but I must admit, I never knew exactly how the system worked. When we set up a visit to meet Buck, I asked Becky what we needed to do next. She said that normally we would go through the adoption coordinator, but that the position was currently vacant, so she would be handling our case herself.

That was the "eureka" moment. I had always wanted to do more than just mail a check and attend the occasional fundraiser, but I had resisted getting more involved with GERL because I thought that a deeper involvement meant taking on the role of foster home.

(And believe me, I would love nothing better than to be able to foster! But with so many animals of my own, plus the fact that I get so deeply attached, it's better that I don't.) Was this the opportunity I needed?



Tommy and his newly adopted colt

I asked a few questions and discussed it with my fiancé. He said, "This sounds like the chance that you've been waiting for, to get more involved. If you want to take it on, I'm with you all the way."

So a month later, here we are. I offered to fill the position of Adoption Coordinator, and was accepted. Buck Wild, now known as Ruger, has settled in beautifully at our farm. Tommy is learning new things every day, and he and Ruger make quite a pair, working in the round pen and playing in the paddock. I have a box of files, a stack of memos, and a bulletin board covered with photos of the GERL horses waiting for that perfect home to come along. My to-do list gets longer every day. And I LOVE it! My chance to give back fell into my lap, and over the years I have learned to never pass up an opportunity when it presents itself.

Yes, our pastures over-floweth and our plates are rather full. But we wouldn't have it any other way; the joys multiply each time your heart opens a little more. Tommy summed it up perfectly. A friend of ours, upon hearing about the new addition to our already large four-legged family, said, "You didn't need another horse!" Tommy replied simply, "Of course we didn't. But another horse needed us."

Charity - A View From A Foster Home

By Cheryl Popiel

I was first contacted about fostering Charity in early May. She had been seized by the Department of Agriculture in February with several other mares who were all in foal. However, because of her hock injury GERL was asked to find a foster home to care for her until after the foal born and weaned. The foal was to remain in foster care and put up for adoption; but Charity was to be euthanized.

My husband, Ron, and I arrived at the Mansfield impound facility on the afternoon of Sunday, May 16th. Charity was in a paddock with several other mares and after about ten minutes of her running and bucking Nancy Bogardts and I were able to catch her after herding her into the lane between paddocks. (That was the first time that I questioned whether or not Charity had an injury which warranted euthanasia.) I was relieved when Charity loaded rather easily with me leading and Nancy pushing. The three hour trailer ride to our farm in McIntosh County near Darien, GA was uneventful. However, when we arrived home an issue arrived which we are still working on. Charity would not back off the trailer. Fortunately, my slant load trailer is large enough for her to turn around in. Once we did that she calmly walked off.

Due to her delicate condition and the old hock injury, I was advised to keep her separated from my two geldings. We had divided the small paddock which the stalls open into in half using round pen panels. This small paddock opens up into a 6 acre pasture which was to be solely for Charity and the foal. My geldings had free access to the rest of our 45 acres.

For the first few days Heart and Duffy stayed fairly close to Charity's pasture. However, it was obvious that she was not happy being separated even by a fence line. When they began to wander farther and farther from her she stood at the fence closest to where they were and just watched. If they got out of site she would call to them. At first they would return but soon began to wander farther and farther away. During all of this I was watching her move and was able to observe her at different gaits when she attempted to avoid capture. I saw no lameness and although when resting she almost always took the weight off of her left hind leg I again questioned whether or not she should be euthanized.

It was about two weeks before Charity allowed me to put a halter on her without trapping her. However, she never threatened to kick and once the halter was on she stood quietly and calmly to be groomed and hosed. In fact, I did not even have to tie her. I just

draped the lead line over the stall or ground tied her in the wash rack. Catching her is no longer a problem; although she sometimes walks away when I first approach.



Not knowing her history or training; but knowing that I would need to be able to handle her to be able to handle the foal, I began doing a little ground work with her in the round pen and on a long lead line. Charity did not seem to know what any of that was all about. Again, due to her delicate condition and the unknown issues with her hock, I did not push her much and certainly did not ask for any canter work although she did occasionally break into a canter on her own. Still I saw no lameness when I was working her and there was no indication of soreness the next day. These sessions were usually only about fifteen to twenty minutes long.

After about a month of watching her move, not seeing any lameness and watching her stand at the fence watching Heart and Duffy graze and doing very little grazing herself, I decided that she would be better off turned out with them during the day and separated at night. So I put one and the other in the paddock with her to see how they got along individually. Since there was hardly even acknowledgement of each other, I began letting Charity out with the boys during the day after the morning feeding and everybody was happier.

One of the few times that I had worked Charity up to this point was when Leigh Ann, my area coordinator, came out to see how she was doing. First, I free lounged her in the round pen. This is the only time that she has indicated that she had any thoughts of kicking and actually it was quite funny. She would turn her rump in toward the middle and kind of bow up. I just pushed her out of it and forward. She has not done that since that day. Then I worked her in the round pen in a snaffle bit and long lines for about ten minutes. She was not happy with a bit in her mouth; but soon began to settle. I thought that she did very well for the first time although some of the turns were not pretty. She also stood perfectly still with the lead line on the ground while I tacked her up that day. I did not get on her back.

(continued on page 24)

Thank You For Renewing Your GERL Membership

Natalie Bader
Samantha Ball
William & Jill Berman & Family
Danny & Jody Brooks
Danny & Faye Burton
Amy Cox
Tammy Croghan & Phil Connor
Teresa Day
Charles & Linda DeVane
David & Terri Elsberry
Scott & Cathy Embry & Family
Mark & Lynn Garrett
Joan & Chip Grant
Elaine Hargadon
Donna Harp & Russ Wood
Peggy & Barbara Hawley
Jim Holland
Diane Kirby
Margaret & Richard Korges
Judy Lawson
Majorie Leder & Greg Argarin
Doug & Sylvia Lewis
Dan & Shawn Liburdi
Arline Livingston
Joray Lockridge
Michelle & Wesley Lyle
Linda Magness
Mike & JoAnne Medlock
Ed & Sara Merritt
Gary & Jeana Mullen
Gene & Nancy Ozburn
Willie Perkins - Flying D Stables
Annette Raybon - Paulding County
4-H Horse & Pony
Bill Rogers
Shari Spokes
Doug & Linda Starr
Sandy Stephenson
Chatty Stover
Maybelle & Wendy Truelove
Jeff, Sheila & Kaitlynn Wallace
Larry Wheat

Madison, GA
McDonough, GA
Canton, GA
Dawsonville, GA
Midland, GA
Dawsonville, GA
Stone Mountain, GA
Monroe, GA
Quitman, GA
Temple, GA
Douglasville, GA
Covington, GA
Hull, GA
Waleska, GA
Dahlonega, GA
Covington, GA
Blue Ridge, GA
Greensboro, GA
Bethlehem, GA
Fairmount, GA
Baldwin, GA
Monticello, GA
Canton, GA
Palatka, FL
Braselton, GA
Bowdon, GA
Jasper, GA
Conyers, GA
Jasper, GA
Alpharetta, GA
Snellville, GA
Gillsville, GA
Dallas, GA

Gainesville, GA
Royston, GA
Jackson, GA
Dawsonville, GA
Suches, GA
Gainesville, GA
Locust Grove, GA
Marietta, GA

Puttin On The Feed Bag Carrot Cake

1 1/2 cups Wesson or Crisco oil
4 eggs
2 cups sugar
1/2 teaspoon vanilla



2 cups flour
2 teaspoons soda
1/2 teaspoon salt
2 teaspoons cinnamon

3 cups grated carrots
Chopped walnuts or pecans

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Mix oil, eggs, sugar and vanilla and beat well. Add dry ingredients. Hand mix in carrots and nuts (as many or as few as you like). Pour into greased bundt pan.

Bake for one hour. Let cool completely and frost with cream cheese frosting.

Cream Cheese Frosting

8 ounces of cream cheese (not whipped but in the bar)
1/2 stick butter or margarine
1 box powdered sugar (16 ounces)
1 teaspoon vanilla

Let cheese and butter soften at room temperature (about two hours). Beat butter and cheese together. Beat in sugar and vanilla.

Let cake cool completely before frosting.

Submitted by Jan Vice



Feed Bag Recipe Submissions

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

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

Please submit your recipe contributions to
gerlbetty@aol.com

Be The Boss Of You Breast Cancer Research Ride

By Leisa McCannon GERL, Volunteer Coordinator

On October 2, 2010 David and I had the most wonderful experience helping Susan, Ken and Michael Boss of Boss Brothers Country Store in Loganville, Georgia with this great cause. This event was something that is close to my heart since my best friend and next door neighbor, Sylvia Mooney lost her battle with breast cancer in July. Sylvia was a founding and lifetime member of GERL and I was so excited and grateful that Sylvia's family came out to help. Not only did they help with the ride itself, they also manned the GERL booth after working check-in for the ride. We had an awesome turn out of about 200 supporters with 96 of them being riders. The ride was at Peters Creek Farm in Social Circle and what a gorgeous place this is, with rolling hills and buffalo you can see grazing from the barn. GERL set up a booth as well as Lamar Mulinax of Sundowner Trailers with two of his trailers & Back Care Plus giving free massages. Dr. Gabram from Winship Cancer Clinic was there to speak and answer questions. Purina Mills was the largest sponsor of the ride and everyone that brought a horse received a free bag of Strategy feed. In this economy that was a very much appreciated blessing. Everyone involved would like to thank Purina for their hard work and support. We all enjoyed musical entertainment by "Flat Broke(in Jasper County)" and the food was provided by "Where There's Smoke" of Mansfield.



Mel Sorrels

Our GERL President Patty Livingston, Vice President Ken Archer, Events Coordinator Susan Archer, Treasurer Diana DeMoss as well as several of our members showed up to help out with the event as well as man the GERL Booth. At one point our youngest GERL members were manning the GERL booth. Jackson Mooney (7) and Ava Jacoby (4) were having a great time selling tee-shirts. That was a sight to see.



We raised more than \$13,000 from the riders, live and silent auctions, sponsors and donations. The check was presented to Winship Cancer Clinic on October 27th. We will be putting on this ride again next year the first weekend in October so please mark your calendar and come and join us. You can go to **Trail Ride Raises Money For Breast Cancer Research** on youtube <http://www.facebook.com/l.php?u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.youtube.com%2F&h=0890f> if you want to see how much fun we had.

A Christmas Gift For The Horses



Warm thanks to the memory of Bodacious Bud and Sweetie D.D. for the gift of a brand new \$100 dollar bill sent straight from heaven.

Though gone from this earth, these two live on in the hearts of two wonderful women who continue to see that their Christmas stocking is filled with something that can be used for the benefit of animals which are remain physically with us but just need a little help.

2010 GERL Calendar of Events

GERL Christmas Party - December 11th
Bethlehem, GA

Annual Meeting - January 15, 2011
Golden Corral in Winder

Poker Ride - March 15, 2011
Dawson Forest

Gene Ensminger Memorial Ride
April 29 - May 1, 2011
Ron & Adriane Cook's - Gray, 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 ...

Charity - A View From a Foster Home (continued from page 21)

Two months came and went and without the appearance of a foal. And, although Charity gained some much needed weight, she was not looking very pregnant. Finally, on August 27th. I asked my friend, Lara Bailey, DVM to examine Charity. After palpating Charity, Lara said that she did not think Charity was in foal. This was confirmed that very day when Charity began exhibiting signs of being in season. I must say that I was very disappointed. I have never had the opportunity to raise a foal and was really excited about the prospect. This also presented an issue that I was beginning to prepare for: the euthanasia. I had already planted the seed that I did not think that she needed to be euthanized with Leigh Ann; but I had not communicated directly with GERL president, Patty Livingston. I had mentioned to a friend that I would like Charity to be evaluated by an equine vet, Dr. Mitch Lowery, and to let me know if he was going to be close by. As luck and God's grace would have it, Lisa called a couple of days after we determined that Charity was not in foal and said that Dr. Lowery was going to be at her barn in a couple of days. A few phone calls and emails later and it was agreed that Dr. Lowery would see Charity.

As Dr. Lowery says, Charity's hock is hard to look at. It is big. It is hard. She most likely suffered a fracture that received little or no treatment. The good news is that it is re-modeled bone, it is above the joint, it does not interfere with the joint, it will not get any worse, and Dr. lowery said that it would be a waste to euthanize her. She is certainly suited for pleasure riding. And that is how Charity got into the adoption program.

Of course, now I could hardly wait to get on her back. So, about a week later that is exactly what I

did. This again was uneventful. In fact, it was all I could do to get her to walk. She would take a few steps and stop like she was uncertain as to what to do. We walked around the round pen for about 20 minutes, stopping, starting, changing directions and backing. As of this writing, I have not been back on her; but have continued to do ground work with a focus on the backing. She is smart. She seems to catch on to the ground work quickly and has learned to follow a lead nicely.

Backing, however, has its issues, especially off a trailer. I was able to get her to back off twice one day; but to do that I began backing her up as soon as she had all four feet in the trailer. If she got all the way on, she would not back off. We'll be working on that in the coming weeks. She is already backing into and out of the wash rack and through gates. She has learned to load without being led on. In October Charity, the two geldings, along with our dog, and two cats went to the Blessing of the Animals in Darien. Of course the horses were a big attraction and all waited patiently on the trailer during the activities.

Charity is very sweet. Something that Dr. Lowery commented on several times during his exam. She loads, bathes, stands for the farrier and, although I do not use clippers, I have no trouble trimming her bridle path with scissors. She calls to me almost every time I go to the barn; but don't think that you will be able to bribe her with food. She will not eat anything from your hand. I've tired carrots, apples even watermelon (which Heart and Duffy are especially fond of). She will eat it if you put it in her bucket or on the ground; but not from your hand.

We all, especially Heart and Duffy, enjoy having Charity on our farm and will do all that we can to prepare her for her forever family. It should be special ... she is.

GERL ANNUAL MEETING

*Please join us for our annual meeting on January 22, 2011
To be held at the GOLDEN CORRAL in Winder, GA.*

Meeting for Area Coordinators will begin at noon.

Lunch at 1:00 PM

General Meeting at 2:00 PM





The Christmas Corner



Youth Sweatshirt Navy M-XL \$15.00



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



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



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



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



Otto 6 panel, low profile caps. \$15.00
A MUST HAVE!!
Dark Olive, Pumpkin, Light Pink.
Dark Brown not shown.



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



Adult Sweat shirt 7.8'oz.,
50/50 cotton/poly ribbed
cuffs and waist band.
Forest Green,
Navy (not shown)
S-XL \$17.00 XXL \$20.00



T-Shirts - 100% pre-shrunk cotton.
S-XXL All sizes \$10.00
Blue Spruce, Oatmeal and Cactus



Call Diana DeMoss 770-267-0867 To Order! You can also order from our website www.gerlltd.org
We take Visa, Master Card, Discover & Amex!

GERL Hosts a Second Vaccination Clinic in Lowndes County

By Judy Ricketson

When I was asked to coordinate a vaccination clinic on behalf of GERL in Lowndes County, I was so excited. The date was set for September 25th. Knowing that Debora Hines had planned a very successful vaccination clinic for Grady County this past August, and knowing that Dr. Ali Thornhill of Veterinary Care in Valdosta was willing to help, I arranged for the three of us to meet for a planning session. Debora proved to be a very valuable resource since she had previously planned such a clinic and already had the most efficient process firmly in mind. She and Dr. Thornhill shared many of their great ideas and we soon had the details worked out.

I started spreading the word about the clinic to local horse owners and they seemed enthusiastic. Farmers Supply Feed Store was instrumental in helping us to get the word out by distributing a clinic flier with every bag of horse feed they sold. They also donated a bag of horse treats so that we could give a few to each clinic participant.



Dr. Ali Thornhill giving vaccinations to one of the many horses who were brought to the clinic



Happy tee-shirt customers!

I would like to personally thank Drs. Ali and Noah Thornhill as well as Dr. Meg Heirs for the time and effort they put into making this clinic possible. I would also like to thank Elaine & Steve Ruggiero, Debora Hines, Patty Livingston, and Diana DeMoss for being there to help and to introduce Lowndes County horse owners to the work of GERL.

Photo Right
Charles DeVane,
Judy Ricketson
& Debora Hines

The experience taught me that to be deeply involved with this wonderful organization is much more fun than work, no matter how much effort is required. On Friday night before the clinic, Dr. Thornhill, Dr. Meg Heirs, Elaine and Steve Ruggirro, Charles DeVane, GERL President, Patty Livingston, Diana DeMoss, GERL Treasurer, and I gathered at my house for last minute planning, a great meal, and most importantly, lots of warm fellowship.

Horses began arriving on Saturday morning and before the day was over, we had vaccinated 25 at deeply discounted prices. All went according to plan, horses were protected from some deadly diseases, and everyone greatly enjoyed the experience. I call that a successful vaccination clinic!



Let Me Say This ... (continued from page 5)

Speaking of the GDA, we spent \$3800 to purchase a badly needed new office trailer and paid \$1600 to spray weeds and fertilize the pastures at the Mansfield Impound in 2010. In addition, we held a work day at the Mansfield Impound and helped finance and build three new run-in sheds for three of the paddocks. We paid \$1500 to help pay for electricity to be run at the Pulaski Prison Impound, as well as provided \$3200 for gravel, rock, gutters and an underground drainage system at the Decatur Impound. We spent \$3500 to purchase approximately 600 bales of alfalfa/ orchard mix hay and donated \$10,000 to be used for veterinary care at the GDA Impounds.

We hosted two separate meetings with law enforcement and animal control officers this year to request their help in enforcing equine cruelty laws. Our pilot targeted 10 counties while our second meeting included 20 counties in North Georgia. We provided training to all of the attendees of this November meeting.

We increased the number of GERL Area Coordinators by an amazing 51%! The current GERL membership has increased to just under 500 members!

This year found GERL involved in more fund raisers than ever before. This would not have been possible without several of our members taking initiative and providing the hard work to produce some of these events. Thanks to Cambria Moon, Christina Gillham, their husbands and many friends, we were able to raise an amazing \$10,000 from a one day

trail ride at Foxhall Resort and Sporting Club near Douglasville. Dr. Rebecca Gimenez gave all of the proceeds to GERL from her October "Training for Reality" clinic at Ft. Gordon and Sue Vetch recently hosted the "Spirit of the Horse" at Rocking S Arena near Buckhead, GA. for our benefit. Thanks to Jack Cashin, we were also able to hold a polo match fundraiser at his beautiful Chukkar Farm near Alpharetta, which earned another \$1500.00.

None of this would be possible without the support of every GERL member. I'd like to thank all of our volunteers who give so willingly of their time, as well as those who continue to support GERL, year after year. I especially want to thank the members of the GERL Board of Directors who share and support my goals and dreams for GERL. While we accept and greatly appreciate donations, we are very proud to point out that our members are not afraid to get their hands dirty by working very hard to produce fund raising events.

I am a dreamer by nature. I dream that someday we will have thousands of people supporting GERL and that we will be able to help more horses and support even more programs that help horses. I dream that we will have a great working relationship with, not only the GDA, but with law enforcement across the state as we all work together to end equine abuse. I dream that GERL will set such an example in Georgia that other states will want to emulate our program. I dream of an Alan Jackson concert to raise money for starved and abused horses (I DID say I was a dreamer, didn't I?). I dream of the day when we have a handle on our horse problem in Georgia. And let me say this, about that ... it all starts with a dream!

Horses

"If it is in your blood to love horses, you share your life with them. Our horses know our secrets; we braid our tears into their manes and whisper our hopes into their ears. A barn is a sanctuary in an unsettled world, a sheltered place where life's true priorities are clear: a warm place to sleep, someone who loves us, and the luxury of regular meals. Some of us need these reminders. When you step back, it's not just about horses - it's about love, life, and learning. On any given day, a friend is celebrating the birth of a foal, a blue ribbon, or recovery from an illness. That same day, there is also loss: a broken limb, a case of colic, a decision to sustain a life or end it gently. As horse people, we share the accelerated life cycle of horses: the hurried rush of life, love, loss, and death that caring for these animals brings us. When our partners pass, it is more than a moment of sorrow. We mark our loss with words of gratitude for the ways our lives have been blessed. Our memories are of joy, awe, and wonder. Absolute union. We honor our horses for their brave hearts, courage, and willingness to give. To those outside our circle, it must seem strange. To see us in our muddy boots, who would guess such poetry lives in our hearts? We celebrate our companions with praise worthy of heroes. Indeed, horses have the hearts of warriors and often carry us into and out of fields of battle. Those who know them understand how fully a horse can hold a human heart. Together, we share the pain of sudden loss and the lingering taste of long-term illness. We shoulder the burden of deciding when or whether to end the life of a true companion. In the end, we're not certain if God entrusts us to our horses - or our horses to us. Does it matter? We're grateful God loaned us the horse in the first place."

Author, Anonymous

I have attached this poem in memory of Pumpkin and all of the other horses who have crossed over the "Rainbow Bridge". Doris Buckley

GERL Volunteer of the Month

By Patty Livingston

Our volunteer of the month is Linda Tucker. Linda is the GERL Area Coordinator for Jackson and Barrow Counties. She can be found at most of the GERL fund raisers, camping with her “significant other” Jerry Johnson, and riding her favorite mare, Star. Linda has recently set up educational booths, selling GERL T-shirts and giving out newsletters at the Winder Tractor Supply Horse Day and The Homeport feed store in Winder, who recently had a tack swap to help raise money for GERL. Linda has had several “skinny horse” calls in her area of responsibility and she has handled them promptly and handled them well. She is always willing to go the extra mile to help out a horse in need and has a deep sense of commitment to GERL. Thank You, Linda Tucker! It’s folks like you who make this organization stand out in the equine world.



Susan Archer Wins

Marty Paulk GERL Cheerleader Award

Twice each year, the Marty Paulk Cheerleader Award is given to GERL members or friends who have gone above and beyond all expectations to promote our mission. There are many who deserve to be recognized but sadly, we can only present the awards one at a time. How wonderful that there are so many candidates, that the Board of Directors finds it difficult to choose a recipient!

The award for fall 2010 was received during our October Fright Fest by a very surprised, Susan Archer. It could not have gone to a more deserving person. She has been the GERL Events Coordinator for quite some time. Susan is the lady who makes arrangements for the site and all needed equipment such as tents, tables, chairs, generators, ice, and entertainment for our fund raising events. She always puts her special touch on each one by making certain that the gathering area is appropriately decorated according to the season. Her husband, Ken, can often be heard, good naturedly grumbling about having to transport a load of pumpkins, corn stalks, hay bales, or potted plants. When Susan has worked her magic and all is in place, it is always Ken who is most proud of her efforts. We are very aware that her personal touch is what makes each event unique and we are very grateful that she is willing to share her wonderful talent and provide the hard work required.



A huge thank you to Susan Archer who gives so freely of her time and energy to make sure that everyone enjoys attending GERL events. Additionally, we must mention that she attends all GERL meetings and work days, encourages her family to fully participate, and has been a GERL “foster mom” to several horses over the years, which have needed a temporary place to be safe and comfortable. Susan Archer is a wonderful example of what GERL is all about. Susan Archer has actually been an outstanding GERL Cheerleader since our very beginnings back in 1992 and remains a wonderful example of what GERL is all about.

Honoring Spirit of Poco

We were very moved to receive a letter which contained a check for \$150 from Nancy Tyndal in honor of her horse "Spirit of Poco", aka "Lee". She simply designated that the money be used "to help a horse".

Nancy's letter told how she took a big chance when she bought "Lee" because he had a "sketchy past" and an old knee injury. She went on to say that it turned out to be one of the best decisions she ever made.

Over the years, these two have participated in many fun shows and have ridden trails in several states while their bond and friendship deepened. Lee is now 22 years old and the pair are scheduled for a wonderful trip to ride on the beach in November.

Thank you, Nancy, for honoring "Spirit of Poco" by giving such a generous gift to be used for the care of a horse that may be a "diamond in the rough" such as the one you found!

We Want To Hear From You!

We welcome our member's contributions to our newsletter.

Are you a foster home for GERL horses? We would love to hear about your foster horse(s) and what the experience has been like for you.

Have you adopted a horse from GERL? How about sending us an update with photos and a short story about you and your new family member?

Have you taken a great trip that involved horses? Many of us camp and ride at some really wonderful places and we are sure that our members would like to hear more about these and other horsey trips.

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



**MERRY
CHRISTMAS!!!**

If Your Name Is Listed Here, Your Membership Is Due For Re- newal! This Will Be Your Last Newsletter Unless You Renew.

Due in February, 2011

Jack Cashin
Rich & Sue Chalmers
Judy C. Close
Peter & Louise DiTomaso
Libby Driskell
James Elzey
Dave & Pam Forcier
Christina Gilham
Bob & Shirley Guhl
Lee Hager
Susie Hansen & Scott Harris
Gillian Hayward & Family
Jeff Hetsko
Debora Hines
Nick & Patty Howard
Sherry & Dennis Irwin
Allyne Johnson
Brian & Connie Keener
Karen Kight
Lex & Elaine Kromhout
Chuck May
Leisa & David McCannon
Marshia Milam-Medford
Tim Miller
Nancy & Dick Mittendorf
Debbie & Lamar Mullinax
Beulah Newton
Ken & Brenda Owens
Donna Pieper & Keith Fleming
Heather Russell
Matthew Schwab
Larry & Sherry Shogren
Butch & Sheryl Slate
Robyn Smith
Tony & Shannon Smith & Family
Dr. Sheila J. Smith, D.O.
Darcy Sun
Hoyt "Slick" Tatum
W.R. & Jean Vandeventer
Heather Wages & Family
Bob & Margaret Wallace
Debbie Whitworth
Jill Williams

***Membership form is
on the back cover**

Fright Fest 2010

By Anne Ensminger

Fright Fest was PERFECT this year. Fall in the Georgia Mountains showed its splendor to the fullest and temperatures were just right for riding and relaxing. Approximately eighty people participated in the event and I doubt that even one was disappointed with the experience.

The schedule for the weekend is always predictable but our spirits were fueled by the beautiful weather as well as the excitement of seeing old friends and meeting new ones. I couldn't help but remember Fests gone by when we were all camping in tents, the back of horse trailers, or the beds of our pick-up trucks. Now almost everyone arrives in a living quarters trailer with comparable amenities to those provided in our homes. We are often led to believe that times are not so good but that was certainly not evident at Fright Fest 2010.

Almost everyone was checked in and set up by the time for "pot luck supper" on Friday evening. As always, the food was delicious and plentiful. Fun and shenanigans around several camp fires wore on into the night and laughter from Jake Mountain camp sites could probably be heard all the way to Dawsonville.

Saturday morning found everyone back inside our beautiful three spired tent for a hot breakfast of eggs, sausage, 'hoecakes', French toast, oatmeal, and fruit. Whew! It was GOOD!

Shortly after breakfast, with very full tummies, riders gathered to explore the Jake Mountain trails on their beautiful horses. These horses are some of the lucky ones. They belong to people who enjoy them and take pride in seeing that they receive proper care. As I looked around and admired each horse, I thought how right it was for this gathering to take place for the purpose of calling attention to the many horses which do not enjoy such care and to raise money which enables GERL to rescue and re-home as many of them as possible.

Saturday evening is always the "main event" at our Fests. We did not have nearly as many participating in the costume contest as we had last year but the ones who did dress up provided about as much entertainment as we could stand! We all laughed so hard at the three blind mice (check out the pictures), and the flashy lady who kept raising her dress to show more leg than she had, if you know what I mean! It was all in good fun and such a hoot! Prizes were awarded for best costumes for adults and children but I thought that it was too bad that everyone did not

get a prize.

After the costume contest a "Tex-Mex" meal was served and it was outstanding! Much of the food was donated by local businesses. All was prepared on site by our faithful crew of "kitchen winches" (as they call themselves).

Our superior auction crew had been working all day to arrange items for the silent and live auctions. Silent auction bidding was active right up until it closed at 6:30 P.M. Just as the silent auction closed, our Marty Paulk GERL Cheerleader Award was presented to Susan Archer for service above and beyond the call of duty over many years. As soon as we got Susan's tears mopped up (she's such a softie!), auctioneer extraordinaire, Mickey Farmer began his chant and the live auction was underway. What fun! We had some great items and most sold at bargain prices, as always. We are very grateful to everyone who donated items, to those who bid on them, and to Mickey for continuing to donate his humor and auctioneering talents to our cause. After the auction, the D.J. started to play music and encourage everyone to dance but that was pretty much impossible since the Forest Service had recently spread a new layer of gravel on our "dance floor". Not to be discouraged, one large group started playing a favorite card game; known affectionately as "Screw Your Neighbor" (pardon me!). The music was a perfect background for the raucous laughter always inspired by this game. Even though the name is a bit "off color", the game is appropriate for all ages and was enjoyed by the young people as well as the adults. For those who did not want to play cards, more campfires and more laughter was shared in the camp area. The huge, bright moon made the night seem no less than magical.

Sunday morning after Cowboy Church and another yummy breakfast, many went for one last ride as it was a beautiful, cool morning. The rest of us worked together to clean up and pack up and I realized that this work is just one more part of the fun. Working together toward our common goal of ending equine starvation and abuse is the glue that binds this organization. Most of the time, I am thankful to be caught up in the "glue".

We raised a few thousand dollars for the horses and a great time was experienced by all who attended. There were no injuries. We have to say that Fright Fest 2010 was a huge success.

***Check out the Fright Fest photos
on the following pages!**

FRIGHT FEST 2010



FRIGHT FEST 2010 - OUR CANINE FRIENDS LOVE FEST TOO!



FRIGHT FEST 2010



FRIGHT FEST 2010



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

Larry Gilfillan
Sandra Freeman
Lee Hager
Carol Royer

Donations in Honor Of

Lee by Nancy Tyndal

Fannie by Marjorie Leder

Moses by Hannah Walker

JoJo & Jake the wonderful trail
horses by Linda Kundell

Donations In Memory Of

Sweetie D.D. by Marshia Milam-Medford

Ginger by Jacqueline Conort

RJ by Betty & Duane Evenson

Thank You

Kelly Moore
Dawn Maines
Jan Smith
Carole Paige
Gary & Jeana Mullen
Mark & Lynn Garrett
Linda Magness
William Berman
Jeanne Barsanti
Elise Oppenheim
Donna Harp
Michael Smith
Elise Oppenheim
Mike & JoAnne Medlock
Perspecta Research
Benjamin Stevens
Marie Simrod
Nancy Fitzgibbons
Rita Benfield
Linda Gettle

Many true animal lovers are members of GERL but none are more sincere than Marshia Milam-Medford and her dear friend, Dr. Sheila Smith. These two ladies are HUGE contributors to the work of GERL but they also have many pets of their own which are very dear to them. Their wonderful dog, "Bodacious Bud" recently died and then on Labor Day, their little "Sweetie D.D." passed away. Not surprisingly, they chose to express their grief by sending two very generous donations to GERL in memory of these two well loved dogs. We at GERL would like to extend our heartfelt condolences as well as our sincere gratitude to Marshia and Sheila.

GERL would like to express sincere condolences to LaVon Kern for the loss of her mare Why Lady Why.

THANK YOU

FOR YOUR

DONATIONS

Georgia Department of Agriculture Trailer Stocking Needs

Rope – 10 – 50' and 10 – 100' nylon with strength of 2500 lbs

Orange nylon fencing – 100'

Tow strap (nylon) looped ends for handling horses

Boat hook

Fleece breast collar

Duct Tape

Water Tanks – 5 gal (15 needed)

Shovels

Liquid Soap dish detergent

Identification labels

Leg Handling Cane

Leg Wraps for trailering

Flash Light

Towels – medical, bath, wash cloths

Bar of Soap

Tool Box – wire cutters, wrench, screw drivers, pliers, crow bar, ratchet set



All items can be collected by calling GERL President, Patty Livingston - (770) 867-0760.

16th Annual POKER RIDE

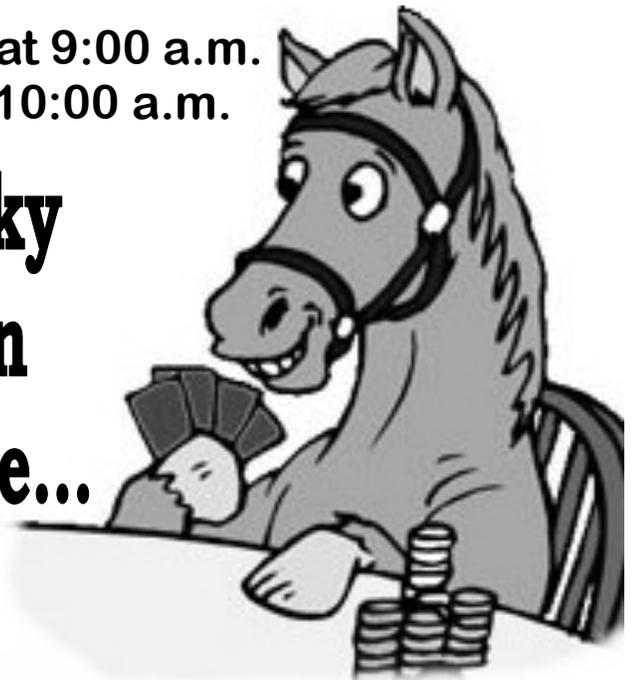
TO BENEFIT THE
GEORGIA EQUINE RESCUE LEAGUE, LTD.

Saturday - March 12, 2011
Dawson Forest - Dawsonville, GA



Registration begins at 9:00 a.m.
the ride begins at 10:00 a.m.

**Draw The Lucky
Hand and Win
A \$100.00 Prize...**



A donation of \$20.00 includes lunch and one poker hand. **GERL MEMBERS WILL RECEIVE 1 EXTRA HAND AT NO ADDITIONAL COST (JUST SHOW US YOUR GERL MEMBERSHIP CARD TO DRAW YOUR EXTRA HAND).** Additional poker hands are available to all for a donation of \$5.00 per hand. You must show us your horse's negative coggins test (yellow original or certified copy only) at the time of registration. Water is available on the trail, but not at the trailer area. *WE RECOMMEND THAT YOU BRING WATER FOR YOUR HORSE!*

Pre-registration is greatly appreciated, but not required. Please call Susan Archer (770) 554-1381 or e-mail: susangerl3@bellsouth.net for registration and further information. Come ride against horse abuse and help us raise money for the starved and abused horses in Georgia. **ALL PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED AT 2 PM!!!** *Dawson Forest has a \$5 trail fee. If you do not have an annual pass you will be required to pay an additional \$5 for this ride. GERL will collect this fee and forward it appropriately.

Lots of Prizes Awarded!

*Directions traveling Hwy 400 North from Cumming. Go through lights at Hwy 369 / Hwy 306 and Jot Em Down Road. Go left on Dawson Forest Road at Dawson Premium Outlet Mall. Cross Hwy 9 and follow signs. Go through gate and turn right into Dawson Forest parking lot.

WELCOME NEW GERL MEMBERS

Referred By

Janet Ackerman, DVM Animal Medical Center	Cairo, GA	GERL
Rosalee Bertucci	Blythe, GA	Rebecca Gimenez
Rebecca Butcher	Reidsville, GA	Website
Jacqueline Conort	Winston, GA	Tanya Kingsley
Carol Doeffinger	Conyers, GA	Nancy Bogardts
Will & Max Dromgoole	Thomaston, GA	Patty Livingston & Diana DeMoss
Robin Easley	Carnesville, GA	GERL
Tommy & Tonia Epps	Athens, GA	GERL
The Tilt Family	Canton, GA	Shari Spokes
Richard & Nancy Finley	Brooklet, GA	Diana DeMoss
Donna Griggs Bar G Horse & Cattle Supply	Bishop, GA	Patty Livingston
Linda Kundell	Watkinsville, GA	GERL
Kelly Lumpkins	Athens, GA	New South Equine Medical
Alison Mercer	Doraville, GA	GERL
Cami Miranda	Blythe, GA	GERL website
Sheila Ogle	Sparta, GA	New South Equine Medical
Elise Oppenheim	Atlanta, GA	Jaye Herrington
Dale & Kelley Overstreet	Douglasville, GA	Ed & Sandra Creel
Peggy Rigsby	Jennings, FL	Dr. Ali Thornhill
Diane Roberts	Athens, GA	GERL
Beth Scarborough	Mansfield, GA	GERL
Michael Smith & Family	Dawsonville, GA	Susan Archer
Benjamin Stevens	Dubois, IN	Anne Ensminger
Rita Uglenbrock & Family	Savannah, GA	GERL
Hannah Walker	Locust Grove, GA	GERL
Randy Watson	Danielsville, GA	GERL
New South Equine Medicine	Watkinsville, GA	GERL

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

WITH YOUR HELP ...

We Will Make A Difference



High Horse Lodge On Lookout Mountain

A destination for discriminating horse enthusiasts---and their horses.

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

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info@highhorselodge.com

10% of the rental fees of horse rescue members



Spirit of the Horse

Sue Vetch had an idea. She wanted to showcase some remarkable horses that had beaten the odds and survived a devastating injury or illness. She also wanted to showcase the UGA veterinarians who saved them. She produced an event called the "Spirit of the Horse" which was held at Rocking S arena in Buckhead, Georgia on November 7th. All of the money raised was to benefit the Georgia Equine Rescue League.



Jack & Dottie Carter, Sue Vetch
& Stacey McCoy and Winston

Stacey McCoy, Extreme Cowgirl Champion, and her horse, Winston, kicked off the event with their story of an injury that threatened to end Winston's life. Stacey and Winston then performed around and over obstacles in the arena to demonstrate how they won the Extreme Cowgirl Challenge. Several others, who own "miracle horses" told their stories and some of the University of Georgia Vets who helped save their lives, were introduced.

There was a petting zoo with baby goats and pot-bellied pigs and several vendors who came out to lend their support. It was a very successful day for GERL and we ended up making over \$500! Thanks so much to Sue Vetch, her volunteers, and Rocking S Arena. We would like to send another big 'thank you' to Dr. Eric Mueller and the vets at UGA who came out and helped to make this event such a huge success.



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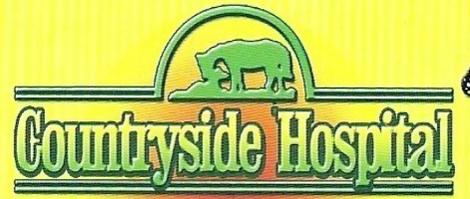


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