



# Georgia Equine Rescue League, Ltd.

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

Quarterly Newsletter

April, May and June 2015

## The 7th Annual Gene Ensminger Memorial Ride

*By Patty Livingston*

Just like the previous six years, the first weekend in May would find most of the GERL Board and many GERL volunteers in Round Oak, GA at the Gene Ensminger Memorial Ride. The "Gene Ride" is always fun but this year, it was REALLY fun! As I have said many times, this event now runs pretty much like clockwork. Following our new one-day format gives us an opportunity to, not only make as much money as we traditionally make on a weekend ride, but also allows the ride staff to kick back and enjoy much of the weekend. Even though the actual event takes place on Saturday, staff and attendees are welcome to arrive on Thursday PM or Friday AM and stay through Sunday or even Monday. Many did just that.

Just like the previous six years, my truck and trailer were loaded down with auction stuff. By the time I arrived at Ron and Adriane's farm on Friday night it was already 6:00, so I drove directly to my campsite. I was impressed with the crowd of folks who had decided to come and join us for the weekend. The weather was perfect, with a little cool breeze as a bonus. We were in for a treat!

I got my camp set up in nothing flat and headed up to the pa-

vilion with my dessert donation for the pot luck supper. As soon as I got there I saw that Auction Coordinator, Sue Wrensen, already had the silent auction set up and had also assembled many items for the live auction. She and Marge Mabey had gone out for a late ride and they got back just in time. Nobody wants to miss potluck! Everybody got their fill of the pot luck offerings and scrumptious desserts before heading back to their camps to feed horses.



Emma Dees was the winner of the 50/50 raffle.

After getting horse chores done I returned to the pavilion with my truck which as loaded with display boards as well as auction and flea market items. The display boards are heavy and take a long time to set up, but I haul them around, religiously. I want to display the pictures of Gene Ensminger and what he was about for the people who didn't know him. I want them to know that we all drive to Round Oak for this event every year to honor his memory by raising money for the horses that he so dearly loved. Another board displays pictures of all of the previous winners of the prestigious Marty Paulk Cheerleader Award. Again, I want to remind everybody of Marty Paulk and the legacy she left behind.

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Everyone who knew her can attest to the fact that she was the epitome of the model cheerleader. She never tired when it came to promoting GERL and working for horses in need.

Ray Ziebell was the first to step up and offer help with unloading my truck. Thirty minutes later, we had both boards up and all of the pictures attached. By this time it was getting late and there were just a few stragglers hanging out at the pavilion with us. We figured out how to shut off all of the lights and retired to our trailers for much needed socializing with dear friends before bedtime.

Things started buzzing early Saturday morning. Some campers were out walking their dogs while having their first cup of coffee. The pavilion was already full of activity as volunteers started arriving.



Chip Grant, Joan Grant, Jaye Kuhn and Ray Ziebell

There was a lot going on in the kitchen, of course. Jaye Kuhn had the coffee going. Linda Kundell arrived with the cargo trailer and LaVon Kern was manning the flea market.

The organized ride, led by Ron Cook, left camp at 10:00. They planned to ride for several hours before returning for lunch. In the meantime, the silent auction was opened, as was the flea market and there were a few people milling around perusing the live auction items. The kitchen crew was hustling and bustling with activity. There were even a couple of men helping in the kitchen! Love it!

Miss Anne had her usual spot near the entrance so that she could run registration. Lynne Robinson had arrived all the way from Kennesaw that morning to help. Ray Ziebell surprised everyone when he hung a very special banner displaying a lovely picture of Andee Rogers, near the registration booth. We recently lost Andee, if you didn't know that. Her absence was definitely felt by all for the entire week-end. She was a founding member of GERL, an enthusiastic volunteer at all GERL events, and rarely missed a Gene Fest. I got very emotional just reading the banner and feeling our loss all over again. Her husband, Mike Rogers and his band, typically play for us at Gene Fest. Earlier in the week, we received a surprise call from Mike letting us know that he would be there with his band on Saturday evening and wanted to play. Everybody was delighted and looking forward to seeing him.

*...Gene Ensminger Memorial Ride Continued on page 7*

## **A Great Big “Thank You” to our Gene Fest Volunteers**

*Written by Lynne Robinson*

Putting on an event requires lots and lots of volunteers. GERL is very lucky to have so many wonderful people willing to give up a beautiful Saturday to help us raise money for the horses in Georgia. Jaye Kuhn and Ray Ziebell did the majority of the planning for this event, but lots of other people stepped up to help: Pierrette Ziebell, Patty Livingston, Anne Ensminger, Linda Kundell, LaVon Kern, Sue Wrensen, Joan Grant, Chip Grant, Tex Findley, Carol Royer, Donna Pieper, Diana Kelsey, Mickey Farmer, Teresa Day, Emma Dees. I think there were also some ladies who helped in the kitchen that did not sign the volunteer sheet. Thank you for all your help! Of Course Ron and Adriane Cook, our wonderful hosts, always lend a helping hand.

I have tried to mention everyone that signed our volunteer list as well as others that I saw helping out. If you jumped in and helped us but your name has been missed, please know that we appreciate your efforts on behalf of GERL. It is always difficult to keep track of everyone the day of a busy event and I never want to miss anyone when thanking those who give their time to GERL.



# GERL Area Coordinators List



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# Puttin' On The Feed Bag Recipes

## Strawberry Salad

- ✓ 16 oz. vanilla yogurt
- ✓ 8 oz. tub Cool-Whip, thawed
- ✓ 1 box No-bake cheesecake mix
- ✓ 1 bag mini marshmallows
- ✓ large container fresh strawberries, washed and sliced



### Feed Bag Recipe Submissions

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

Please submit your recipe to:  
[recipes@gerlltd.org](mailto:recipes@gerlltd.org)

Combine the yogurt, Cool Whip and the DRY MIX from the cheesecake kit. (Save the graham cracker crumbs for another use.) Fold in the marshmallows and the strawberries. Chill and serve. Easy, pretty, and DELICIOUS!!

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

### July 19th

GERL Polo Match, Chukkar Farm, Milton, GA

### September 26th

GERL Rescue Challenge  
UGA Livestock Arena, Athens, GA

### November 7th

Andee DeMoss Rogers Memorial Poker Ride  
Dawson Forest, Dawsonville, GA

### November 14th

GERL Stallion to Gelding Castration Day

### December 12th

GERL Christmas Party, Bethlehem, GA

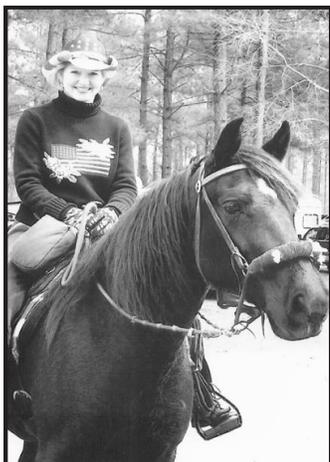
Mark your calendars so that you don't miss any of these wonderful events that will benefit GERL. It's a guaranteed great time, a benefit for a wonderful cause and a way to see old friends and meet new friends!

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



## LET ME SAY THIS ... ABOUT THAT

By *Patty Livingston, President*



The GERL Board was recently contacted by the Humane Society of the United States to help with an equine situation down in middle Georgia. The owner was an elderly woman with 5 horses and over 40 dogs. For that reason, there was also a dog rescue organization involved and included in all of the emails that would follow, before the situation was under control. GERL was specifically being asked to pay for euthanizing and burying two of the horses, which were both in their thirties. We have a Crisis Intervention Program which is designed to help with this type of equine support to the public. The guidelines do require that a farm visit is performed by one of our Area Coordinators (AC) and the Application is completed and signed by the horse owner. We started making phone calls to get the ball rolling and discovered that our ACs in that region were out of town and wouldn't be available to do the farm visit. I quickly shifted gears and reached out to somebody else that we knew in the area. Long story short, the lady we asked to do the visit actually has her own equine rescue nearby. She agreed to do the farm visit for us and started making contact as soon as we were able to provide the information.

The Board approved the application as soon as it was received via email and all of the folks at the other end (the rep from HSUS, the dog rescue folks and the equine rescue lady) were all busy; either with the dog situation or the other 3 horses that needed groceries, vaccinations, feet trimmed and teeth floated. And, of course, coordinating the vet visit and burial of the two old horses.

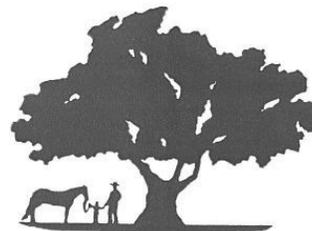
In the days that followed, the deed was done and the two old horses were out of their misery. GERL paid the bill and exited the scene. I received a nice thank you email from the rep with HSUS and the dog rescue lady. I thought about how nice it is to be able to pick up the phone and reach out to other equine

organizations and become acquainted with such willing and knowledgeable people. It really was the perfect rescue scenario. There were several bearing the burden in lieu of one.

I received an email a few days later from the HSUS rep, requesting a face-to-face meeting. A couple of weeks later, we met for lunch. I had previously spoken to her on the phone and told her about GERL's Get Well Plan and of course, I had to mention our newest program/fundraiser...The Rescue Challenge. I provided her with our website link so that she could check it out. She sent me another email asking if she could share the Plan; she thought it was fabulous! Wow! Nice to get that kind of recognition. Of course, I said "yes, please share!" I've been dying for others to take notice for 4 years now.

I'm not patting myself on the back when I say this, about that...it is not rocket science! It is a simple 5 step, common sense plan that apparently, no one else has ever thought of. That's almost unimaginable to me. I've noticed that sometimes the most effort (and money) go to issues/areas that benefit the smallest percentage of horses. I truly believe that putting a plan in place that, hopefully, will survive long after we're gone, is the solution. There are so many more situations out there today, just like this one with the elderly lady. I believe that it will take years before we will see a positive change in the equine market. And, as I've said many times...GERL cannot be the only rescue organization working towards the solution.

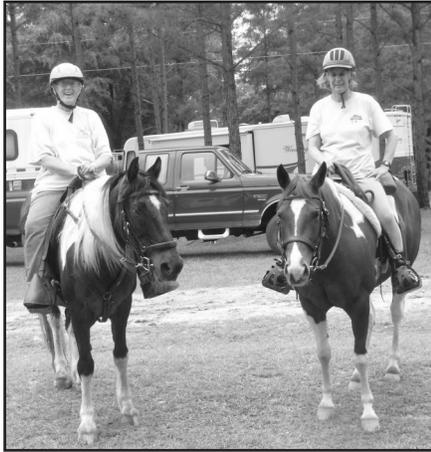
Anyway, the rep told me that HSUS was very interested in a wholesome solution and she was going to send them a copy of our Get Well Plan. She is not as active in the equine side of the rescue business, but she's interested in networking and education. Both good things. I'm hoping to see more rescues get on the band wagon and work together with law enforcement and animal control agencies in our State to build some momentum. That's downright exciting to think about!



## 2015 Spring Ride at Mingo Trails Saddle Club

By Anne Ensminger

Of all of the fund raising activities sponsored by GERL, the Mingo Spring Trail Ride has become my favorite. This is not to take away from how dear the Gene Ensminger Memorial Ride is to my heart, but I have absolutely NO duties to perform at the Mingo Ride. I just show up, pay my money, and settle in for some great riding on my perfect horse and wonderful fellowship with some great people.



Mingo Saddle Club is a beautiful facility located near Toombsboro, GA. There are hundreds of acres of sandy, wooded trails. Even those who prefer mountain riding can hardly fail to appreciate the peaceful, restful nature of the trails at Mingo.

The members of Mingo have welcomed GERL to hold a ride at their facility for the past two years and it has now become a much looked forward to, annual event. The facility has a covered pavilion where we can enjoy meals together, hold our auctions, or try our hand at becoming a star as we get up the nerve to reveal a long hidden singing talent by joining in the nightly karaoke. Some of us even enjoy an occasional twirl around the dance floor. The resident Mingo "D.J." is always on hand to provide music for that opportunity. If karaoke or dancing is not your thing, there is a HUGE fire ring with chairs all around where you can just sit and talk about the day. Last, but not least, there is a wonderful playground for the children right next to the pavilion.

There are ample, level, water and electric sites for as many participants as we can imagine ever needing. Concerning accommodations for your horse, you are welcome to high line or put up your electric corrals near your camp site. There is a limited number of 12'x12' panel corrals available for \$5 per night. You clean when you leave. These are available on a "first come, first serve" basis with no reservations accepted ahead of time.

We schedule this event in April each year. Our GERL Vice President, Eddy O'Hern, the GERL Chaplain, George Lilly, his wife Janice, and GERL member, Sarah Schelkopf make all of the arrangements for this ride and do whatever it takes to insure its success. They are the reason that I have no duties for this ride and I join everyone else in GERL as we thank them from the bottom of our hearts!

As is our new policy for trail rides, this is a one day fund raiser. It is always on a Saturday but many of us arrive as early as Thursday and some stay until Monday morning. Breakfast and lunch are usually available in the pavilion for a nominal fee.

A wonderful pot luck dinner is served on Saturday evening. There is a guided ride on Saturday morning but the trails are so well marked that riding on your own is quite safe.

This year, we had to work our schedule around two thunder storms which blew in on Saturday. It REALLY rained hard but the sandy ground absorbed the water quickly and we never missed a beat.

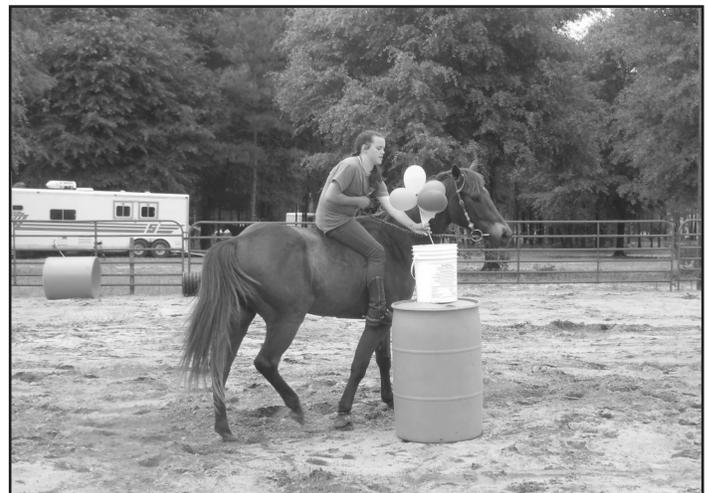
After the morning ride and lunch on Saturday, there are always games involving your horses in the arena. What fun! These games are not just for the young people. Everyone is welcome to participate. My favorite of the games is designed to see how "joined up" your horse is with you. You, (on foot) must try to get your horse to follow you through a simple course of easy obstacles without the benefit of a lead line. In fact, you cannot touch your horse! Treats or voice commands (begging) may be used. You think you know your horse, but you may not! The other games are just as fun and there are prizes (not to mention the GLORY!) for every winner.

There is still time for another ride that evening after the games if you have the energy. Fun things start happening early that evening in the pavilion so we dare not stay out on the trails too long.

Sunday morning finds many of us attending Cowboy Church where we enjoy an inspirational message brought by George Lilly before we saddle up for a last ride. Then it will be another YEAR before we can do it all again!

Before I close, I would like to make mention of the fact that Kel-Mac Saddle Club (the oldest saddle club in Georgia and a huge supporter of the work of GERL) has designated this ride as one of their organized rides for the year. They hold numerous family rides and horse shows throughout the year, raise money, and then give the money to deserving horse related organizations at the end of each year. GERL has been honored to be among the recipients of their generosity for many years.

I report on the Mingo ride in hopes of encouraging some new folks to join us next year. We have lots of room and it is a fun, fun way to spend a lovely spring weekend with your horses, your family, and to make new friends. The reason many of the same folks show up at our GERL rides year after year is that they are great fun and they insure that many horses in need, receive care and often a new beginning.

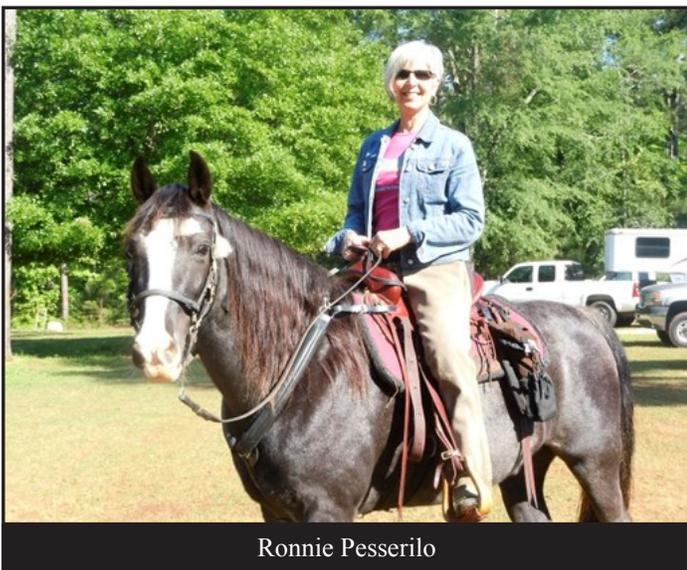


*Gene Ensminger Memorial Ride Continued from 2*



Betty Evensen and Donna Pieper stand beside Andee's banner advertising our annual Poker Ride on November 7th

Mickey Farmer, our favorite auctioneer, and his sidekick, Thomas Threat, arrived together shortly before lunch. Their arrival usually signals the beginning of the party! Dear old friends Ken and Susan Archer, Duane and Betty Evensen, as well as Brian Dees, daughter Emma, and Brian's mother, Liz Dees were all in attendance. It was good to see them at Gene Fest once again! Ever faithful Ronnie Pesserilo was also present, helping out wherever she could and adding as much to the event as she and husband, Jack had often done together. Jack passed away earlier this year and his presence was greatly missed by all. There were a lot of other people there that we hadn't seen in a while. I heard more than one say that it felt much like "the good old days".



Ronnie Pesserilo

After lunch we closed out the silent auction and Mickey kicked off the live auction with a bang! After the gavel fell on the last auction item, we called Emma Dees up to draw the winning ticket for the 50/50 raffle. Eight year old Emma was the only kid in the crowd and definitely took her job seriously. Can you believe that she pulled out her own ticket?! Emma was so sweet as she, without hesitation, donated all of her share of the money (nearly \$100!) back to GERL! A very nice and unexpected thing for a child to do. Thanks, Emma!

After the auction was over, the clean-up began. We have a great group of volunteers who always jump in and help and we were finished in no time. We couldn't do this without them!



Gene Fest Auction



Gene Fest Volunteers

*Gene Ensminger Memorial Ride Continued on page 8*

*...Gene Ensminger Memorial Ride Continued from page 7*

People started leaving the pavilion to head back to their camps. Some took naps but many saddled up and went out for another ride on the beautiful Oconee National Forest trails. It was nice to be able to kick back and do as we pleased after all of the work was done. I felt like we had done very well with what I estimated that we had taken in that day. It would help castrate 60 horses! It would also buy grain for the GDA Mansfield Equine Impound for 3 months. I was very pleased

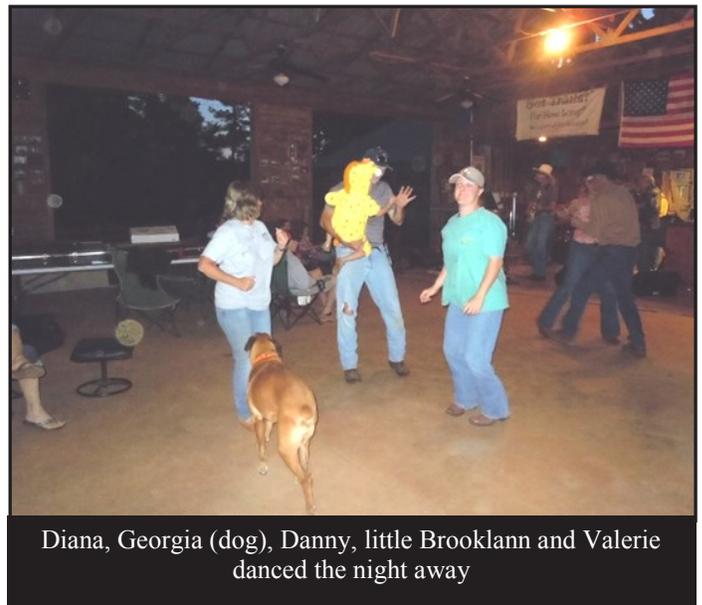


Happy Hour starts early at Gene Fest!

After a couple of hours, Mike Rogers and his band started arriving and setting up their equipment. It was so good to see Mike, again, and to learn that two members of his new band were his two sons, Heath and Garrett...all grown up. Many members of the crowd had known Heath and Garrett since they were young boys. It was neat to see them all together doing something they obviously enjoyed as a way to honor An-dee's memory and to help make money for the horses as well.

Everyone came back up to the pavilion when the band started playing. There were a good many dancers on the dance floor throughout the night. One little dancer, in particular, little Miss Brooklann, danced every single dance, I think. She's the one in the yellow giraffe costume. Certainly says something for youth!

After the band stopped playing, packed up all of their equipment and drove away, a group of us "hard cores" met at the pavilion for a friendly game of "Screw Your



Diana, Georgia (dog), Danny, little Brooklann and Valerie danced the night away

Neighbor". We played last year and had so much fun. We had actually been looking forward to playing all day. As I always say, it's the most fun you can have with \$3 and a deck of cards! Duane Evensen won the pot this year. I think he may be hooked now!

On Sunday, I drove home with a big smile on my face. We had done well and it was a perfect weekend. In closing, I want to say "thanks" to two of the most wonderful people I know and they are Ron and Adriane Cook. They have graciously hosted the Gene Ensminger Memorial Ride at their beautiful farm since it began 7 years ago. We have become good friends and we are very appreciative of their generosity and kindness.



Pat Dean, Sue Wrensen, Pierrette and Ray Ziebell, Diana Kelsey, Duane Evensen and Marge Mabey

## Heritage Day – Vision of the Past

By Alice Enix

Our beloved equine were necessary and important to survival in the 1800s. It took a lot of animals to live. The William Harris Homestead Historical Foundation (1825), raises awareness of life in the 1800s by hosting an event every three years called “Heritage Day - Visions of the Past”. I only recently heard of the William Harris Homestead and Heritage Day.

The event was held at their location on Highway 11, in Monroe, Georgia. This old family farm is still in the Harris family and the event depicts the daily lives of the people who lived in the 1800s. Highlighting the 18th and 19th century with native American Creek re-enactors, a Civil War re-enactment, plowing with mules, pony rides, 19th century crafts and music; there were all sorts of plants growing with explanations concerning what they were used for, whether for healing, comfort or just staying healthy.

The opportunity to host a booth on behalf of G.E.R.L. on Heritage Day was offered to me while delivering some wormer and goat feed to a neighbor. That is when I met the President of Harris Homestead Historical Foundation. Our conversation about animals led to me mentioning my involvement with G.E.R.L. and her invitation.

The weather for Saturday, June 13th, was perfect. The GERL booth was located on a busy corner at the main intersection of the event, and under a shady tree. To attract attention, I placed a group of 35, very colorful, donated Beanie Babies on our table along with a beautiful Western saddle and pad. Many children wanted to stop by to see the Beanie Babies and touch the saddle. With the GERL banner, display board full of pictures, and informational pamphlets to distribute, I was proud of the booth.

The number of people with whom I spoke concerning our organization, the number of brochures given, and the money from our donation jar, made me feel that Heritage Day was a great success for GERL. I am very pleased that I was allowed this opportunity. “Heritage Day - Vision of the Past” was not only educational, but also a good promotion for G.E.R.L., and I thoroughly enjoyed meeting many new people in my area.



Alice Enix in the GERL booth at Heritage Day

## Area Coordinator Spotlight

- John R. Absalon -

I grew up in New Jersey, in a New York City suburb. My formative years included participating in high school sports, but only occasional activities with horses. I began riding as a child on horses owned by relatives and boarded at an upscale stable. My early equine education included the care and training of horses. I was not able to own horses until later, as a settled adult. My interest in horses became stronger as I completed formal equestrian training at Santa Fe, NM, and Houston, TX.

My wife Laurie and I adopted two horses from GERL: Silver, a handsome palomino Quarter Horse gelding and May, a pretty Paint Horse mare. They were adopted after our first two horses, Stetson and Santana, passed. Silver is full of attitude and is probably the fastest horse I've ever ridden. He has come a long way from the scared, skinny kid he was when he arrived at our farm.

I have an interest in speaking to community, civic or service organizations about topics such as equine welfare and GERL. Thus far, I have given GERL presentations to Rotary Clubs International and have scheduled several more talks to other groups. After many years working with equines, I have learned quite a bit and want to share that knowledge with others. Retirement has given me more time to do that.

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# GERL ADOPTABLES

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



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



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



**Bella** is a 20ish 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 way over their heads. Bella is a sweet and gentle girl to be around, we have not tried to saddle her. She has an old injury to her ribs that the vet says in not a problem and is well healed, She also as an osculation 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 20ish Sorrel Grade gelding. What a sweet boy he is and smart. We were told that this boy is awesome under saddle. He really needs some good groceries and a bit of toning up. He gets along very well with other horses. This is one special boy.



**Jacca** is a 15 year old 15hh Gray Grade soon to be gelding. He was taken in with a body score of 2. Once he gains a bit of weight, he will be gelded. Jacca, for all he has been through in his life, is a sweet boy. We were told that he has been under saddle. We will check out his manners once he has gained proper weight and realizes people are here to help and not hurt.



**Dudley** is a 14+hh Palomino 7ish year old soon to be gelding. Dudley was found just wandering the streets of Fulton County. He's a bit shy but he is realizing all people don't hurt you. Dudley will be gelded as soon as his body weight allows. This is one beautiful boy. As soon as his weight is right, we will see what his manners are under saddle.

Please visit our web site  
for the most up to date  
list of adoptable horses.  
[www.gerlltd.org](http://www.gerlltd.org)

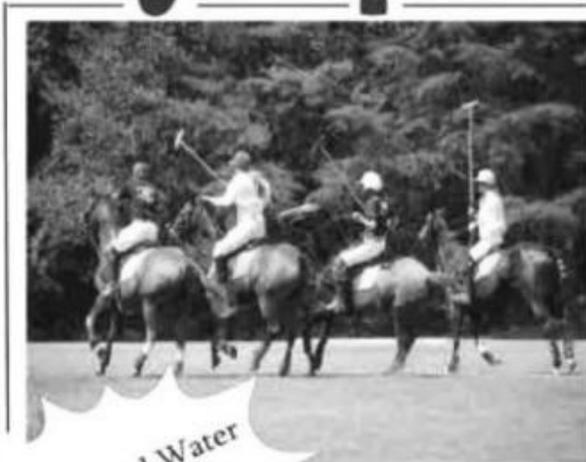
**GERL MEMBER, JACK CASHIN  
OF CHUKKAR FARM AND POLO CLUB**

is again hosting an

# Exhibition Polo Match

All Proceeds to Benefit

# Georgia Equine Rescue League



COME ON OUT AND ENJOY THE FUN!

BRING A LAWN CHAIR AND A PICNIC BASKET.

ENJOY WATCHING EXPERT HORSEMANSHIP.

LEARN MORE ABOUT THIS EXCITING SPORT!

Flea Market

**SILENT AUCTION**



Cold Bottled Water  
and Soft Drinks  
Available

Hamburgers  
&  
Hotdogs

Admission: \$15.00  
Per Person

**Date: Sunday, July 19, 2015**

**Time: Gate opens @ 1 PM Match @ 2 PM**

**Where: Chukkar Farm and Polo Club**

**1140 Liberty Grove Rd. Alpharetta, GA**

**Driving Directions: <http://www.chukkarfarm.com>**

# Who's Who

## Georgia Equine Rescue League, Ltd.

### Board Members

#### **Patty Livingston, President**

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

#### **Eddy O'Hern - Vice President**

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

#### **Lynne Robinson / Treasurer**

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

#### **Anne Ensminger / Secretary**

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

#### **Tamma Trump - Alternate**

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

#### **Adoption & Foster Coordinator - CeCe Calli**

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

#### **Volunteer Coordinator—Kim Trahan**

gerlvolunteers@gerlltd.org

#### **Auction Coordinator - Sue Wrensen**

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

#### **Online Auction Coordinator - Alice Enix**

info@watercoolerproducts.com

#### **Stallion-Gelding Coordinator**

Marian Finco

(706) 340-4368 / mhfinco@aol.com

#### **Public Relations Coordinator - Bob Long**

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

#### **Event Coordinator**

Jaye Herrington / jaye@gerlltd.org

#### **Facebook Coordinator**

*Position Open*

#### **Grant Writer - Donna Harrison**

#### **Rescue Challenge Coordinator - Tamma Trump**

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

#### **Merchandise Coordinator - Linda Kundell**

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

#### **Flea Market Coordinator – LaVon Kern**

l.kern@att.net

#### **GERL Chaplain—George Lilley**

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

#### **Website / Newsletter Layout - Steve DeMoss**

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

#### **GERL Advisory Board**

Billy Myers, DVM

Rhonda Veit, DVM

#### **To report a case of equine abuse, call the Georgia Department of Agriculture's Equine Division**

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

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

If you would like GERL to assist with an Equine Abuse case call (770) 464-0138

#### **Interested in becoming an Area Coordinator?**

#### **Area Coordinator Director, South GA.**

##### **Eddy O'Hern**

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

#### **Area Coordinator Director, North GA.**

##### **Lynne Robinson**

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

## **GERL Sends our Love to Cynthia Anderson**

We at GERL want to mention the struggles with which our dear friend, Cynthia Anderson has dealt for well over a year. They involve health problems and they are personal. Cynthia has bravely endured each hurdle presented to her and she has thankfully and gracefully prevailed. With her wonderful husband, Daniel, by her side, Cynthia has exhibited constant faith, hope, and courage, while never once losing her whacky sense of humor. Over time, Cynthia has been a valuable friend to GERL and to Georgia horses. We pray that she will soon be back with us on the trail!



# Feed A Horse Program

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

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

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



**I would like to make a donation of:**

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

**"Feed a Horse"  
Program**

[www.gerlltd.org](http://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!***

## We Need Your Help! Auction Items are Needed.

We have upcoming events that 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.

### Thank 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](mailto:swrensen@comcast.net)



# Tandy

April 16, 1983 - April 14, 2015

You will never be forgotten  
For though we are apart  
You are always and forever  
Alive within my heart.

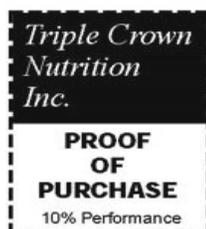


## Please Help! GERL receives money for the following ...

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



Tandy is a mare that lived the best possible life, thanks to owner, Gloria English. She received the kind of love and care that we wish for all horses. We at GERL send our most sincere condolences to Gloria. We know the extent of her broken heart.

# GERL Volunteer of the Quarter

By Patty Livingston

Many of us at GERL know Marian Finco as one of the volunteers with the Kel-Mac Saddle Club in Athens. Kel-Mac is one of the oldest saddle clubs around and are notorious for their work with youth in the show arena. Putting on horse shows takes a lot of dedicated volunteers, as you might imagine. Kel-Mac has supported GERL with a large financial donation on several occasions, which is awarded at their Christmas banquet each year. Miss Anne and I usually go together and over the years we've learned who the "worker bees" are in their organization. Marian Finco was right in the middle of all that was going on and it was obvious she was passionate about Kel-Mac and what they do. She is also very involved with ACTHA and attends many of their rides, with her horse, Baby.

Several years ago, I had the pleasure of speaking at one of the Kel-Mac meetings when Marian was present. After learning more about GERL and the overwhelming horse problems in our country, Marian decided to support GERL by becoming a member. She has been a regular at our Annual Meeting for the past few years; even bringing some new folks with her on occasion. She was an invaluable volunteer at the Rescue Challenge last November. Marian recently mentioned to me that she would like to help GERL out more and asked if there was anything that I needed help with. Well...she saw the article I wrote in the last newsletter where I mentioned several jobs. We talked about the Stallion to Gelding (S2G) programs and low and behold, Marian is now GERL's Stallion to Gelding Coordinator!

She volunteered to take on the coordination of the annual castration day in November, in addition to the regular S2G program.

It seems that I no sooner got the words out of my mouth, telling her that we don't get a lot of castration applications in the summer months, when suddenly we had 3 requests to process in about a 2 week span. It didn't rattle Marian one bit. I am very grateful to her and what a relief it has been not to worry about this, anymore. Thank you to Marian Finco, our Volunteer of the Quarter!



## GERL Receives \$5,000 Grant from ASPCA

It was our lucky day when Donna Harrison found out we were looking for someone to assist us with applying for grants. Our previous Grant Writer, Cynthia Anderson, sent Donna some information about possible grant possibilities and Donna was off and running. She started the process in February and by May, we had received a \$5,000 check in the mail from the ASPCA to help cover the cost of our Stallion-To-Gelding Program.

We consider our Stallion-To-Gelding Program an essential part of the "Get Well Plan" that Patty wrote several years ago. We have castrated over 600 stallions since we started the program. This program costs us from \$8,000 to \$10,000 every year, so this grant money will enable us to continue this very important program.

We would like to thank Donna Harrison for all her hard work in obtaining this grant for us. We would also like to thank Cynthia Anderson for supporting this process by giving Donna the information she needed to have such a successful outcome.

# GEORGIA EQUINE RESCUE LEAGUE



2014 GERL Rescue Challenge Winner JoAnn McBride and Faye Dunaway

## TOP GEORGIA TRAINERS

## COMPETING WITH GERL HORSES

## SHOWCASING THEIR

## ABILITIES IN 120 DAYS OF TRAINING.

**List of Horses, Trainers  
and Judges on page 24, 25 & 26**

SEPTEMBER 26, 2015  
STARTS @ 9:00 AM

### UGA LIVESTOCK ARENA

2598 S. MILLEDGE AVE.  
ATHENS, GA 30605

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

FIRST PLACE \$2000.00  
SECOND PLACE \$500.00  
THIRD PLACE \$250.00

LIVE AUCTION  
SILENT AUCTION

FOOD AVAILABLE

### VENDORS

COST OF BOOTH  
\$30.00

VENDORS CONTACT:  
VENDORS@GERLLTD.ORG

# 20th Anniversary



# POKER RIDE

## In memory of Andee DeMoss Rogers

TO BENEFIT THE  
**GEORGIA EQUINE RESCUE LEAGUE**

**Saturday**  
**November 7, 2015**



Draw The Lucky  
Hand and Win  
a \$100.00.

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

\*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



A donation of \$25.00 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** 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!** Please call Anne Ensminger @ (770) 464-3348 or [mis-sanne612@bellsouth.net](mailto:mis-sanne612@bellsouth.net) for further information. Come ride against horse abuse and help us raise money for the starved and abused horses in Georgia. **ALL PRIZES WILL BE**

# Bella

*By Susan McCullar*

As I drove away from the Gwinnett County Animal Shelter with Bella in my trailer, all I could think was "Why do I have to keep doing this! Why do people keep starving these precious horses!" Another rescue with a Body Score of 1 with nasty rain rot fungus all over her back. I could count each rib and see every bone in her haunches -- a true "anatomy lesson" I call them. She is 15- 2 hands and weighed about 950 pounds. Yet, she is a sweet, loving soul wanting only nourishment and loving care. As my husband always says, Bella had hit the jackpot! Headed home with Miss Susan for yummy Miracle Feed from Godfrey's, lots of grass, fresh water, and loving care!

Bella is a pretty sorrel Quarter Horse with pretty flowing gaits as she moves across the pasture, happy with life. She has gained over 150 pounds and looks very healthy with a shiny coat.



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

The Amazon Smiles program is a new awards program that we rolled out toward the end of 2014. We haven't received a check so far this year, so we are reaching out to you to ask for your support. 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.

During the first and second quarter of 2015, The Georgia Equine Rescue League has received \$326.38 from the Kroger Plus Program. Many people may not be aware that you must re-enroll in your chosen charity each year. Please go to <http://www.krogercommunityrewards.com> to enroll or re-enroll GERL as your chosen charity. If you have not chosen GERL as your charity in the past, please consider supporting GERL through this program. The Kroger Community Rewards Program is an easy way for you to support GERL. All you have to do is go to <http://www.krogercommunityrewards.com> and link your Kroger Plus card to Georgia Equine Rescue League. This does not affect the shopping rewards that you receive through the program.

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

## Wish List from the Pulaski Prison Inmates

*By Patty Livingston*

I see the Pulaski Prison inmates at every GDA Equine sale held at Mansfield. The most recent auction held on June 13<sup>th</sup> was no different, except we had a nice saddle with a pink padded seat to give to them. It was a donation from Scott Harris who bought it at our recent Gene Ensminger Memorial Ride auction. Pat Dean threw in a brand new headstall. To say they were pleased is an understatement!

They mentioned that they had a “wish list” of items that they needed at their impound and I have reprinted it below. If you have any of these items in your barn that you aren’t using, please consider donating them to GERL for the Pulaski Prison Impound.

- 
- ✓ English Saddle (with girths)
  - ✓ Lunge Lines
  - ✓ Riding gloves/Thin work gloves
  - ✓ Cotton Lead Ropes
  - ✓ Nose band and Tie Down
  - ✓ Snaffle Bits/Short Shank
  - ✓ Crops
  - ✓ O-Ring Screws (Big enough for lead ropes)
  - ✓ Small Fleece Girths (24” – 28”)
  - ✓ Bosal Hackamore/Mecate
  - ✓ Small Headstalls
  - ✓ Short Shank Pelham w/permanent chain attachment



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## New GERL Merchandise

*By Linda Kundell*

By the time you are reading this, I should have some very nice sweat shirts in the trailer. They will be available at the GERL Rescue Challenge. Remember how cold it was last year? Well, we have changed the date so it should be warmer but just in case, the sweat shirts will be ready for you.

The new design t-shirts are really pretty (O.K., I’m taking a bow since I did the design. Thank you for the applause!!)

We still have vanity plates, travel mugs and a few other odds and ends for sale.

I’ll be at the Polo Match in July with the trailer full of goods. Come and watch the match (well, O.K. just come and visit with me!!). Just remember that all the money that you spend on “stuff” goes to feed horses, pay vet bills, etc. Hope to see you soon. Linda, the Merchandise Queen (Now that I think about it, that just isn’t as nice sounding as the Sparkle Queen.)



## A Note from the Secretary's Desk

by Anne Ensminger

I have been serving the GERL organization for a long, long time. Our present membership database states that I joined in 2003 but I think it was long before that. For many of those years, I have been a

member of the Board of Directors. This position allows me to be privy to more information about the nature and actions of my fellow human beings than I care to know.

It is hard for me to believe that any horse owner can wake up each morning and go about their daily business while their horse is hungry or standing in misery. Of course, there are those who also mistreat other animals in their care and even their children. It is the horses, however, that claim most of my concern. Heaven knows, there are others to worry about pets and children. We can only do so much and I choose to spend my energy trying to make it better for horses in our state.

We often receive calls from those who want to report the mistreatment (this includes cruelty, poor care, terrible living conditions, and even starvation) of horses in their area. We have several ways to look into every complaint. We frequently involve our Area Coordinators (located all over Georgia) who visit the site and investigate on GERL's behalf. Having no legal right to enter private property without being invited, we are happy to have a good working relationship with the Georgia Dept. of Agriculture, Equine Division and most local law enforcement and animal control agencies. These agencies have more authority than we at GERL. Between all of us, we can usually reach some kind of resolution on behalf of the horse(s).

More and more often, we are receiving calls from people who own one or more horses and find that they are unable or unwilling to care for them any longer. These calls, unfortunately, come after the animals have declined to a very poor physical condition. Many of these animals have had no training and are too frightened to allow the human touch. These horses have truly been neglected even if they are in good physical condition. They can be a danger to themselves and to those who may agree to take on their care. Sadly, we are often presented horses suffering from chronic conditions such as COPD, Founder, Cushing's and Navicular Disease. Some have physical deformities resulting from birth defects or untreated injuries in the past. Much too often, neglected horses have had no foot care for years. Their feet may have grown so long that their tendons have been stretched to a point which causes permanent lameness. Horses suffering these conditions are very difficult for the owners or for GERL to place. We at GERL must often make some tough decisions concerning the way these cases are handled.

We can most often rehabilitate horses that simply need some decent food or hoof and dental care. We are very fortunate to partner with some wonderful foster homes which provide such care. These horses are frequently easily re-homed.

Thanks to our Foster caregivers, we do enjoy many success stories and those are what keep us determined to continue our work.

It is the wild, frightened, and chronically ill and injured horses that cause our hearts to be broken. We never seem to have our questions answered concerning why anyone would own a horse for which they cannot, or are not going to provide at least basic care. Why would they own several such horses?

Why would anyone not having satisfactory facilities, own a horse that is tethered by a dog chain to a post in the ground with no shelter from the cold, the sun, or storms? Why would this owner openly tell us that he "fed the horse about once a month"? After all, "the horse had grass to eat" (yeah, in a 30 ft. circle with more manure than greenery all around the post). This is a true event which we dealt with recently. Could this owner not see that the horse's body condition declined every day? I pray it is simple ignorance. GERL recently took this animal into our Foster Program. He is, and will be a stallion until his body condition improves to the point that it will be safe to castrate him. The owner expressed his wish to "get a colt out of him".....sigh. We will be able to find this one a home but what about the many that are impossible to place?

I'm thinking of a mare being rehabilitated in our Foster Program at the present time. She has a huge indentation in her side. No doubt several ribs were previously broken and simply healed as they were left. It looks as if a strong wind had blown the poor mare into a telephone pole sideways. On top of that, she came to us in "skin and bones" condition. Our only hope for this sweet mare is that someone will take her as a pet or a companion animal. I seldom have faith that such a home can be found but, thankfully, I have been proven to be wrong many times.

Very recently we received a request from a lady who discovered that an injured horse had been placed in her pasture without her knowledge. This was actually the 6<sup>th</sup>. time this had happened to this lady over the years! She was able to find homes for the others but this mare had a severe problem with her hind legs and it was determined by a local veterinarian that the mare was in a great deal of pain. Not having money to pay for providing the much needed final kindness for this mare, the lady requested GERL's help. Of course, we paid for this poor mare to be put out of her misery. It was one of our precious GERL members who insisted on paying for the burial. All concerned with this event grieve the death of this innocent animal while knowing that we will never know the circumstances which brought her to such an end. Sadly, euthanasia is a word that I have had to learn to spell and I find that I must frequently use.

I guess I write about all of this to let everyone know that the business of horse rescue is not always fun or successful. That "warm and fuzzy feeling" that comes from truly helping an animal does not come to us every day. The cases that have happy endings, make our hearts soar but the horses that we cannot help, cause our hearts to break. We have always known that we can't save them all but that is little comfort when we are constantly exposed to the stupidity and ignorance of people who have no business owning a horse. At age 73, I don't suppose I will live to see a day when this practice is no longer permitted. It seems that we have lost many of our freedoms in America but wouldn't it be wonderful if the right of horse ownership by those not deserving, could somehow be next?

## Update on Blaze and Glory

*By Patty Livingston*

You may remember Blaze and her baby, Glory, who were featured in our September, 2014 newsletter. Both were adopted by Marion and Dottie Sherrill, who sent me these recent photos of Blaze and Glory. Can you believe how big Glory has gotten? She is as big as her mom now!



Blaze and Glory – September 2014



Glory (left) and mom, Blaze – June 2015

### In Memory of:

Dr. Rick Hinton by Mel Young, Meg Steinborn, Diana Hoglund, Kathy Kennedy, Janet Stadt, Susan Bianconi, Joni Nawrocki, Christine Dowling, Darcy Wiborg Weber.

Dr. Rick Hinton by Chelsey Jones Cantrell and Delores Jones

Dr. Rick Hinton by Bobbie Byers

Dr. Rick Hinton by Mickey Farmer

Dr. Rick Hinton by Jack and Azalee Kapiloff

Jack Pesserilo by Mickey Farmer

Andee DeMoss Rogers by Mickey Farmer

Andee DeMoss Rogers by Diana Kelsey

Andee DeMoss Rogers by Denise Zavat

Hershey and Fancy, pets that belonged to Jeanne Barsanti, by Marian Finco  
Taffy, Penny and Missy, pets that belonged to Mary Ann Parks, by Marian Finco

Brandon Gooch, beloved son, by Alice and Mike Day

Ted Red, horse owned by Carolyn DeWitt by Patricia Lane Petelle

Goodness Gracie, a horse owned by Lyn Cocksedge by Patricia Lane Petelle

Eagle by Sonny and Kay Hinote

Bill and Louise Benfield by Rita Benfield

Mary Ann Topper's horse Hershey by Jane Estes

Kaitlyn Chandler's horse Domino by Holly Breaux

## Training A Horse to Electric Fence

Horses that lean on fencing, charge the fence line, or even simple cribbing can all ruin even the nicest rail fence, and can rack up some hefty vet bills! In response, many fed up horse owners and boarding facilities have brought in partial or full electric fencing systems with the safety of their animals and property in mind. Theoretically, a good zap or two should keep horses clear of the fence line, and with some upkeep, electric fence can be an excellent long-term solution for many different facilities.

Many owners allow the horse to find out about the fence themselves. Eventually it is likely that the horse will meet the fence and learn not to touch it. The safety of this method is questionable, however. In situations where a horse puts his head between the wires and leans to nibble the grass on the other side of the fence, a sudden shock may cause him to jerk his head up or jump back, which introduces the risk of entanglement and other injuries. This method can be especially dangerous if no one is present to observe the horse's reaction, and assist if the horse gets hung up in the fence or injured as a result. Ensuring proper visibility and training to the electric fence may help owners avoid this kind of situation altogether.

### Increasing Visibility

The very first step that owners or boarding facilities can take to ensure their electric fencing is as safe as possible is to choose a fence with high visibility. Choosing electric rail, rope, or tape varieties instead of wire is an easy way to increase visibility of your fence.

If you are using T-posts, you may purchase white covers or bright yellow caps, which can also double as insulators and reduce the risk of impalement on these posts. Another simple method to increase the visibility of electric fence is tying neon ribbon tape in various locations along the fence line.

These strategies will give your horse a clearly defined enclosure and fence line, making them less likely to run into the fence while playing, bolting fearfully, or at night.

**Introduction to the Fence: Walk the Line** When bringing a horse into their newly fenced enclosure, it is wise to hand walk them around the entire perimeter of the fence so they can get an idea of their boundaries in a controlled environment. You may

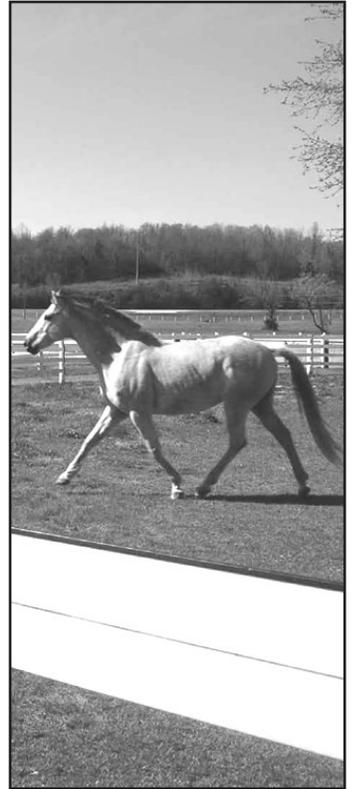
take a gloved hand and pluck the fence a bit now and then just to bring the horse's attention to it and the sound it makes when it moves.

When you turn your horse out on his own in the pen or pasture, watch him closely. Some owners will actually detach a section of the fence and touch it to their horse so they can get an idea of the feeling of the electrical shock, but being so close to a horse that may react quite violently to the sensation could mean opening yourself to the risk of being kicked, struck, or trampled. There really is no way to guess how your horse will react to the new sensation, so keeping a safe distance is best.

### Other Methods

Another method that brings the advantage of distance between yourself and the horse is standing outside of the fence with a bucket of grain or handful of grass, and coaxing the horse closer to the fence. It may seem cruel to coax a horse towards something that will cause them physical pain, but it is one of the safest ways that you can control a horse's interaction with the fence and monitor their reaction at the same time. Some horses may need to touch the fence more than once to learn not to touch it, so if the horse comes back for grain again after the first time of being shocked, you may repeat.

It is very important to watch your horse closely and check them as often as possible when they are becoming accustomed to any new fence, including electrical fence. Regular testing of the electrical current traveling through the fence and tightening of any loose fencing should be performed for maintenance and safety. Nothing will "un-train" a horse faster than the discovery that the fence has lost charge and that they can lean on it or touch it without being zapped. The horse will test the fence more in the future if it is not properly maintained with a current running through it, increasing their risk of injury. Proper introduction and maintenance can make your electric fence a safe option for many years to come.



# GDA Success Story

This is the story is about all the people that DONATE their valuable time, money & bodies to the GA Dept of Agriculture Equine Impound Program. The Program was started many years ago and GDA currently has 4 Equine Impound Facilities within the state. Pictured below are all the people that give the GDA Impound Program so much needed help, love and care!



Bob Cooper Tractor Operator Extraordinaire



Tanya Kingsly & Susie Bond



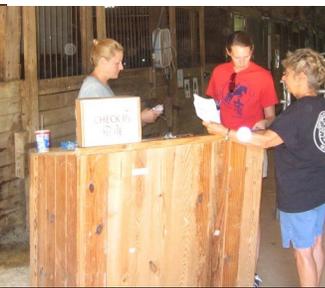
George & Margaret



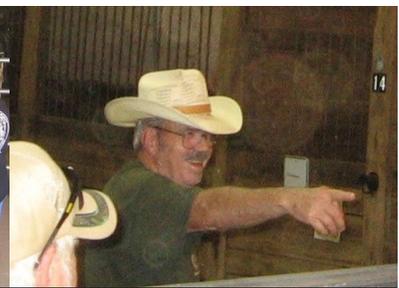
Allison hand grazing



Mickey Auctioneering



Nancy checking in buyers



Starr Archer makin' sales happen!

We have so many regular Volunteers & some occasional ones that just do specific projects or sales. They are humble in their service and are not recognized enough for all the work, sweat & tears they put into this equine program.

## We would like to thank them all individually:

### Regular Monday Volunteers

George Bailey  
Beth Porter  
Judy Sophianopoulos

### Regular Tuesday Volunteers

Charlie Carroll  
JB

### Regular Wednesday Volunteers

Ginger & Tony Shryock

### Regular Thursday Volunteers

Bob "Coop" Cooper  
Susie Bond  
Tanya Kingsley

### Regular Friday Volunteers

Allison Bartliff  
Frank Mann (RIP - Passed away & greatly missed)

### Weekend & Sale Volunteers

Nancy Bogarts \* Starr Archer \* Mickey Farmer \* Teresa Burns \* Annie & Craig Mitchell \* Jordan Mitchell \* Matt O'Hearn  
Josh Rogers \* Amanda Sinclair \* Kay Bassett \* Carol Deoffinger (RIP passed away & greatly missed)  
& COUNTLESS GERL VOLUNTEERS & MEMBERS

*We cannot say enough to thank our volunteers! THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!!!*

# Rescue Challenge 2015

## Participating Horses



### << *Meet Red Man*

This beautiful bright chestnut gelding is a freeze branded BLM Mustang. He is 15 hands at the wither.

### *Meet Peaches* >>

Peaches is a 3 year old 13.2 Grade Roan filly. Owner surrendered to GDA March 17, 2015 with a body score of about 2.



### << *Meet Ethel*

This 3 year old, beautiful little Pinto mare was admitted to the GDA Pulaski Equine Impound Facility in May of 2014.

### *Meet Wizard* >>

Wizard is a black/dark bay Arab cross gelding. He is 14.3 and only five years old.



### << *Meet Falcon*

This lovely 15.1 hand, 7 year old bay gelding came to GERL through the Georgia Dept. of Agriculture Equine Impound Program.

### *Meet Johnny Reb*>>

Johnny Reb is a 3 year old, 15 hand, black gelding. He and his dam came to the GA. Dept. of Agriculture Equine Impound Program in January of this year.



**Buy Tickets Online>> [www.gerltd.org](http://www.gerltd.org)**

# Rescue Challenge 2015

## Participating Trainers



### Joyce Lewis

Joyce started riding as a young girl in Venice, Florida. Formally trained in Dressage, she competed in many events throughout the Southeast until joining the United States Air Force. After that, her equine interests on hold, Joyce concentrated on establishing a career in business and raising a family in Las Vegas, Nevada.



### Elaina Schmersey

Introducing Elaina Schmersey:

Owner of Fancy Mount Farm, Elaina has been teaching and training for over 25 years. Using horses to help others discover the positive power inside themselves, Elaina works to build confidence and knowledge that can achieve success in the horse and rider team. This success is created by a stress free experience through positive reinforcement training methods.

Elaina is currently active in AC-THA and has been hosting shows in her area and competing in GA and TN to earn her Bronze Medal in 2015.



### Jordan Faulconer

This young woman grew up surrounded by horses. Together with her mother, Nancy, Jordan has helped to build a very successful and lovely training and teaching equine facility near Eatonton, GA. Since finishing high school, Jordan has become her mother's full time "right hand" at Cloud 9 Ranch. There they train horses for the public, offer riding and training instructions to both young and adult students, and vigorously promote the Parelli Program.

This will be Jordan's second time to compete in the GERL Rescue Challenge. She won the Youth Division last year with "Halle Berry" and has since found the perfect forever home for that sweet and beautiful young mare.



### Nancy Faulconer!

Nancy Faulconer has always loved horses. As a young woman, she did the traditional thing and finished college, married the man of her dreams, began her family, and happily settled into adult life. It was not long, however, until she felt the unmistakable pull that needing horses in our lives can exert. She opened a small backyard boarding business with just a few horses. That was the beginning of something much larger.

Time passed and Nancy was delighted to learn that daughter, Jordan, also held a great love for horses. Over the years, they began learning about, and working with horses together and have built a very successful horse training facility near Eatonton, GA which they call "Cloud 9 Ranch".

Visit  
[www.gerlltd.org](http://www.gerlltd.org)  
 for more  
 information.



### Kylie Small

Kylie has been riding and learning about horses since she was 8 years old. She is now 19 years old and is a student at Georgia Highlands College in Cartersville, GA. Highly trained in Natural Horsemanship, Kylie has competed in both Western and English Pleasure events. Her list of awards boasts the coveted "Excellence in the Equine Field" Award x 2, Northwest Georgia Horseman's Association Queen, and she has reached the level of State Champion.

Kylie is known to be a very cautious and patient trainer of both horses and riders. She has worked for years with Shelly Phillips at High Country Stables where she helped with summer camps

trail rides for young people while always learning the most effective ways to work with horses.



### Trey Anderson

One of the six trainers chosen to participate in the 2015 GERL Rescue Challenge is Trey Anderson. Trey is the oldest son from a family which has been involved with horses since he was born. Specializing in breeding Arabian horses of the rarest straight Egyptian bloodlines, they own and operate Sun Valley Arabians near Lizella, GA.

Trey, is the "cowboy" of the family and has years of colt starting and training experience with all breeds. By the way, his mother (Holly Anderson) let us know that Trey is an exceptional Country Line Dancer and instructor, as well. The family is very proud of, not only his extraordinary talent working with horses, but also his dance competition wins!

I am very excited to be involved with GERL as they are helping horses in exactly the same way that I have been doing, except on a much larger scale. I look forward to the opportunity to show what I have learned from the horses over the years.

# Rescue Challenge 2015

## Participating Judges



### Ed Dabney

Ed Dabney is an internationally acclaimed horse trainer and clinician. He is an author and producer of multiple horse handling videos. His philosophy combines a lifelong respect for the horse with classical riding and natural horsemanship. Closely associated with the movie industry, Ed has been head wrangler, actor, supplier of horses for, and horsemanship instructor to other actors on many well-known current movies. He and wife, Colleen, along with daughter Elizabeth, work and train out of a beautiful facility near Monroe, GA. They board and train horses, teach riding, and hold clinics aimed at producing a true partnership between horse and rider. Ed's life is filled with many more exciting adventures including equine expos, European horseback trips and guided trail riding/camping trips to the American west in which his students are included. Be sure to check out Ed's website at [www.eddabney.com](http://www.eddabney.com).



### Joann McBride

Joann McBride is a third grade teacher and part-time horse trainer. She became familiar with the natural horsemanship training method in 2007 when she was experiencing difficulty with her horse, Archie. She was considering selling him when she began working with a wonderful natural horsemanship trainer who taught her the importance of being a leader and how to establish a relationship with her horse. Joann and Archie now do a little bit of everything including obstacle competitions, dressage, jumping, horse soccer, trick training, and cow sorting. In 2012, Joann took a break from her career as a teacher and managed GB's Stable in Smyrna and did lessons and training. In 2014, she was paired with a three year old filly named Faye Dunaway in the GERL Rescue Challenge and won the event.



### Betsy Moles

Betsy's horsemanship journey began when her parents enrolled her in a riding lesson program at a local barn when she was 11. She rode with the Georgia Southern Equestrian Team (GSUET) during college where she served as the Secretary for the first two years and as the President the next two. It was during that time that Betsy started her study of dressage under the direction of the team coach, Christine Manka. She competed successfully for four years at the intermediate level on the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association (IHSA) circuit. As an alumni she qualified for nationals in western stock seat and reining pattern and finished third and fourth respectively in 1998. During college Betsy also trained and competed western pleasure on the Bulloch Horseman's Association circuit and gained experience working with Studs and learned about running a stud farm, she also had the opportunity to work with the weanlings and yearlings and do some colt starting. In 2005 she relocated to Woodstock GA, and expanded her horsemanship education by spending three months at the Parelli ranch in Ocala, FL. In 2009 she decided to challenge her horsemanship skills by participating in an Extreme Mustang Makeover in Florida. They placed fourth overall and her additional high placing in four of the other mustang events that she attended earned her four invitations to The Mustang Magic from 2010-2013 where Betsy had the opportunity to compete against the best mustang trainers across the U.S.

# The GERL Rescue Challenge Auction

*By Patty Livingston*

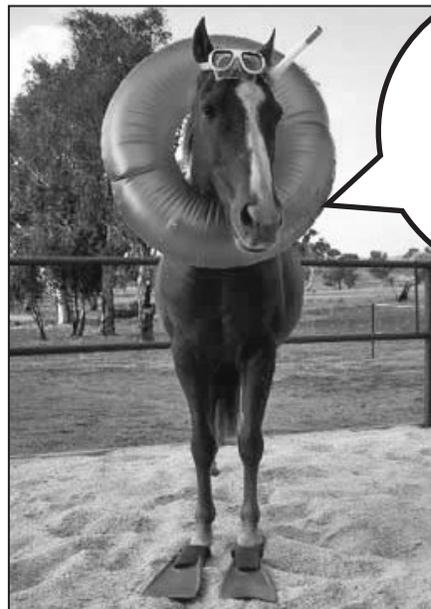
I am in charge of the auctions for the Rescue Challenge. I have already started to make and gather high quality items. I have been buying auction items for many years and my house is full of things I've purchased. I've decided that I will part with many of these items in order to bring a variety to the Challenge auctions. Dr. Jan Smith has donated a lot of nice items, as she does for every auction we hold at GERL events.

If you have some nice items that you would consider donating to the Challenge auctions, please contact me at [gerlpatty@yahoo.com](mailto:gerlpatty@yahoo.com). I would love to include them in our auction. Auctions are the bread and butter for GERL and I want this one to be spectacular!



## Foster Horses

Starr / Chris Altizer  
Honor / Anne Ensminger  
Lucky / Tiffany Bergdorf  
China Doll / Tamma Trump  
Toby / Nancy Faulconer  
Bella / Susan McCullar  
Jacca / Patty Livingston  
Dudley / Tara Payne



Too hot to  
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swimming!

# WELCOME NEW GERL MEMBERS

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

*If you have any questions about when you need to renew, contact:  
Lynne Robinson: [lynne@gerlltd.org](mailto:lynne@gerlltd.org) or 404-435-5746*

Join or renew on our website: [www.gerlltd.org](http://www.gerlltd.org)

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## Donations

UGA Horsemen's Association  
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 Anne Ensminger  
 Erik Wittenzellner  
 Peggy Paris  
 Lisa Casey  
 Bonnie Lavoie  
 Sherry Massey  
 Artini's, Inc., Athens, GA  
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 Debbie Powell  
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 Southern States POP donation, collected by Ginny Scarritt  
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 Justine Peddle  
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 Ric and Wanda Baxter  
 Jeri Kono  
 Nancy Fitzgibbons  
 Charles & Tanya Cochran  
 Karen Johnson  
 Marjorie Patterson  
 Krista Willis  
 Julia Lynn Pignolet  
 Paige Beckum

## Renewals due for July

Rosa Allen  
Susan & Ken Archer  
Cindy Russell Bounds & Family  
Thomas & Shirley Brady & Family  
Ricky Brawley  
Margaret & Jeffrey Clower & Family  
Dr. Gisela Dalton  
Kelly Diodati  
Kit & Cliff Duncan  
Beth Eavenson  
Lewis & Jennifer Eberhardt  
Katie Lott Ellis  
Anne Ensminger  
Bill & Kathy Evans  
Debbie Ferrell  
Paul and Elaine Frevele Jr.  
Ernie & Leslie Gassmann  
Pam Glover & Family  
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Alex Greenberg, DVM  
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Jeanette Jenkins

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Tom & Karen Komatz  
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Shelley MacMillan  
Michael Manlapas and Family  
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JoAnne Medlock  
Nancy & Dick Mittendorf  
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Donna Nunnally  
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Jennifer Tucker & Scott Smith  
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Kay Watson  
Martha A. Woodham  
Michele Trammell Woods  
Susan and George Wrensen  
Royston Animal Hospital

## Renewals due for September

Cleon Akins  
Danny & Jody Brooks  
Teresa Brown & Family  
Lamar & Kathy Chandler  
Tommy & Tonia Epps & Family  
Alice Farrar  
Betsy Gilman  
Chip & Joan Grant  
Bob & Shirley Guhl  
Mary Joe Hanes  
Elizabeth Johnson & Family  
Abby Jordan  
Debbie Lindstrom & Family  
Lance & Tracy McClain  
Betsy Moles  
Marla Morris  
Gene & Nancy Ozburn  
Cathy Spivey  
Rita Uglenbrock & Family  
Laura Williams  
Michelle Williams

## Renewals due for August

Amy Aronson-Friedman  
Kim Bowen & Family  
Cynthia Brayton  
Paul & Susan Carlson  
Debbie Crowe  
Kay Fletcher  
Kathy Hansen  
Cator Hartley  
LeAnn Householder  
Sherry Jones  
Victoria Joyce  
Adrienne Kies-Bouchiollon & Family  
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Beth Miller  
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Carole Paige  
Abigail Pulling  
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Sally Raczkowski  
Jacquelyn & David Rose  
Jean Roten  
Judy Sophianopoulos  
Chatty Stover  
Sue Hope Ware  
Jones Webb  
Julia & Charlie Williams

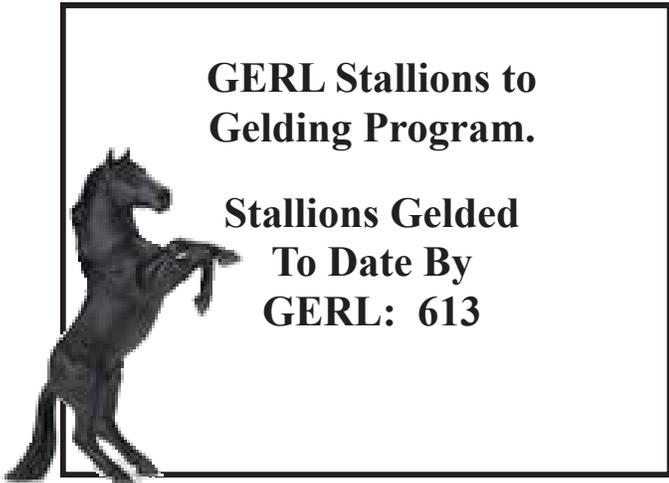
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### Questions About Your Membership?

If you have any questions about your membership, contact Lynne Robinson at [lynne@gerlltd.org](mailto: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!



## Stallion-Gelding Thank You

The American Society For Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA)

## In Honor of

GERL received a donation from Alice Stagg in honor of all our wonderful GERL volunteers. Thank you Alice for honoring all of our volunteers. GERL could not carry out it's mission to help abused and starving horses without the support of our volunteers and our loyal donors.

## GDA and Other Quarterly 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 \$4,386 for feed for the Mansfield Impound for the current quarter.
- ✓ GERL paid \$1,521 for vet care for horses at the Mansfield Impound .
- ✓ GERL paid \$279 for vet care for the Lee Arrendale Prison Equine impound.
- ✓ GERL paid \$1,162 for feed for the Lee Arrendale Prison Impound for this quarter.
- ✓ GERL spent \$3,272 on our foster horses during this quarter.



## Thank you to our Rescue Challenge Supporters

We would like to thank the following individuals for their financial support of our GERL Rescue Challenge. We could sponsor this event without the assistance of our friends and supporters.

Dr. Jan Smith  
Anonymous  
Linda Kundell

## Thank you for donating to the "Feed a Horse" Program

John Lynn  
Mary Alice and Ben Hudson  
Carol Royer  
Erik Wittenzellner

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Referred by: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I am a horse owner

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