



Georgia Equine Rescue League, Ltd.

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

Quarterly Newsletter

October, November & December 2016

Another Successful Stallion to Gelding Campaign

By Anne Ensminger

It is our hope at GERL that all of our members and many others who are also concerned about the growing number of unwanted horses in our state (and in our nation), are aware that each November, GERL partners with local veterinarians all over Georgia to provide low cost stallion castrations. Basically, the stallion owner pays \$50 and GERL pays \$50. The horses are transported to a designated location for the service. The veterinarians agree to perform the procedure for \$100. There may be additional charges since a current tetanus immunization and Coggins are required preoperatively. Many stallion owners also request that "wolf teeth" be removed while the horse is anesthetized.

One day in November of each year has traditionally been designated as "GERL Stallion to Gelding Day" ever since this very important part of the "GERL Get Well Plan" was implemented in 2010. Over time, our Castration Day has, of necessity, become Castration Month. Each participating vet or vet clinic still performs the low cost castrations on a certain day but they choose a day which best fits their schedule; therefore, the castrations are being performed throughout the month of November. Dates, locations, and

times for each Castration Day are listed on the GERL Web Site (www.gerlltd.org). Stallion owners must make appointments directly with the vet most convenient to them.

This year, GERL received a \$5000 grant from the American Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) to help with the cost of this event. It is not the first time that ASPCA has donated to this important program and we are truly grateful.



And, you can't make me!



Well...maybe you can, but you better bring an army.

Continued on page 2

Inside this issue:

- Let me say this ...about that...Page 5
- Kel-Mac Saddle Club Donation...Page 7
- ASPCA Joins Hands With GERL...Page 14
- GERL Volunteer of the Quarter...Page 19
- Welcome to Mini-Ville...Page 23
- GDA Success Stories...Page 26

Georgia Equine Rescue League, Ltd.

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Another Successful Stallion to Gelding Campaign

By Anne Ensminger

Although, to have your stallion castrated during this event, is the most cost effective, GERL also helps with the cost of the surgery at any time during the year. GERL will pay \$75 toward the cost of having your stallion castrated by the vet of your choice. For more information, please contact Marian Finco (Stallion to Gelding Coordinator) at mhfinco@aol.com.

I always attend the Castration Day at Countryside Hospital for Animals near Jersey, GA. I was joined this year by Leslie Lambert and Jacki Moore (our Volunteers of the Quarter). There, the surgeries are performed by Vet students from the University of Georgia School of Veterinary Medicine. The students are advanced students and are supervised one-on-one by Staff Vets from Countryside or Instructors from the Vet School at UGA. The students are very excited for this opportunity to practice their surgical skills and it is easy to see that they will all make outstanding practitioners in the future.

There were 12 stallions castrated at the clinic I attended at Countryside on November 19. This number included some darling Mini Horses and a couple of “very spirited” (wild!) donkeys. The surgery went well for each of the animals and they all went home to face a much better life for having had this experience.

Seventy-eight stallions were castrated during our Stallion to Gelding Month this year.



GERL would like to list the participating veterinarians for 2016 along with our sincere expression of deepest gratitude.

1. Amicalola Vet Services - Talking Rock, GA
2. Town & Country Animal Hospital – Mt. Airy, GA
3. Wanda Thompson, DVM – Royston, GA
4. Countryside – Jersey, GA
5. New South Equine Services – Good Hope, GA
6. Barrow Vet – Social Circle, GA
7. Maggie’s Menagerie – Ila, GA
8. Big Spring Equine Services – Watkinsville, GA
9. King Equine – McDonough, GA
10. Barnesville Equine – Barnesville, GA
11. Fulton Equine – Griffin, GA
12. Piedmont Equine – Madison, GA
13. Philomena – Leesburg, GA



Area Coordinators List



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

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

Amy Aronson-Friedman - Lowndes
(229) 834-2455 / aaronson@valdosta.edu

Rita Benfield - Douglas, Haralson, Carroll
(770) 330-0877 / rita.benfield@yahoo.com

Susie Bond - Newton, Morgan & Greene
(770) 464-4353 / gerlsusie@att.net

Cynthia Brayton - Rockdale & Henry
(678) 490-6266 / leaper12@hotmail.com

CeCe Calli - Hart, Franklin and Elbert
(706) 376-2410 / LCEStables@aol.com

Dotti & Jack Carter - Towns
(706) 896-4997 / (706) 835-5677
frogleap@windstream.net

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

Tanya Kingsley—Jasper, Butts, Monroe, Jones & Putnam
(706) 468-0794 / twkings@gmail.com

Linda Kundell - Oconee, Morgan, Oglethorpe, Athens & Clark
(706) 769-6395 / kundell@bellsouth.net

Bob & Judy McCrory - Harris, Meriwether, Marion, Chattahoochee, Talbot, Troup & Muscogee
(706) 582-3268 / ridgeway12@charter.net

Marla Morris - Lamar, Upson & Pike
(404) 692-9196 / georgiashebear@yahoo.com

Tracie McVay - Harris and Troup
(706) 718-3993 / traciemcvay@aol.com

Lee Rast - Dade, Walker, Catoosa, Chattooga, Floyd, Gordon and Bartow
(404) 964-5665 / rastla@aol.com

Annette Raybon - Paulding, Cobb, Bartow
(770) 445-8655 / raybonta@bellsouth.net

Linda Tucker - Jackson & Barrow
(678) 770-7704 / lindahoschton@aol.com

Debbie Whitworth - Elbert & Hart
(404) 805-4409 / rlw73dpw@gmail.com

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

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

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

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

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

Marge Mabey—Hall
(770) 906-0655 / margemabey@gmail.com

Alice Farrar—Jones
(478) 451-7999 / alice.farrar@gmail.com

Nicci Beyer—Candler, Evans, Tattnell & Toombs
(478) 494-5066 / nicolebeyer271@gmail.com

Area Coordinator Director
Patty Livingston (770) 867-0760
gerlpatty@yahoo.com

AREA COORDINATORS NEEDED!

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



Puttin' On The Feed Bag Recipes

Pizza Pull-Apart Bread



INGREDIENTS

- 1 roll Pillsbury pizza crust
- 1/4 c. pizza sauce
- 4 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 1/2 c. shredded mozzarella
- 1/2 c. grated Parmesan
- 1/2 c. sliced pepperoni
- 1/2 tsp. dried oregano



1. Preheat oven to 400°. Roll out pizza crust on a floured work surface.
2. Spoon a thin layer of pizza sauce and top with garlic.
3. Trim sides so you have a clean square.
4. Sprinkle mozzarella and Parmesan all over the sauce.
5. Top with pepperoni.
6. Slice dough into squares and stack on top of each other.
7. Place sideways in a greased loaf pan.
8. Bake until pizza crust is cooked through, 30 minutes.
9. Turn out on a serving plate and serve



2017 GERL Calendar of Events - *Mark Your Calendars!*

January 21st

GERL Annual Meeting
Winder Lion's Club
Winder, GA

March 4th

Andee Rogers Memorial Poker Ride
Dawson Forest, Dawsonville, GA

May 6th

Gene Ensminger Memorial Ride
Round Oak, GA

June 4th

GERL Polo Match
Chukkar Farm, Milton, GA

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

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

LET ME SAY THIS ... ABOUT THAT

By Patty Livingston, President



As we close out the 2016, I've taken a step back to think about what we have accomplished, and perhaps more importantly, what is ahead? The message is pretty much the same as last year and the year before that. We are holding a good course consisting of fund raising events, law enforcement training meetings and goodwill to Georgia horse owners, among a multitude of other things

we do. I say all the time that it takes an army, and it does.

The GERL Board and the multitude of other volunteers who help us put on these events are running at peak. Most of us do multiple jobs. Not because we want to, necessarily, but because there isn't anybody else to do it, in many cases. We are always trying to think of ways to make our jobs easier and the only way is to recruit the specific volunteer needed. We recently did that to ease up the burden that Miss Anne has been experiencing for a few years now. It was difficult for her to give up any part of her job (for some reason :-)), but we finally convinced her that if someone else were handling the membership portion of her job it would indeed lessen the burden. That's when Jacki Moore and Leslie Lambert entered the picture and offered to take over the membership portion. They are a prayer answered, for sure! Miss Anne has worked as GERL's secretary for 13 years and her writing abilities are beyond "nice". If you have every received a letter from Miss Anne, you know what I'm talking about.

I wrote a project plan for GERL in 2010 that was tailored to fix Georgia's horse problems. There are things in that plan that would sit dormant for three or four years, or however long it took for someone to come along who would own it, as far as acting as the project lead. That happened with the birth of our Rescue Challenge event. Had it not been for Tamma Trump, it would still be just a goal on a project plan.

Linda Kundell resides over our merchandise and is burdened with the responsibility of the GERL cargo trailer and all of the stuff in it. Bless her heart! Linda was also responsible for the volunteers for our hotline this year. Linda needed some relief and Nicci Beyer reached out to her and volunteered to take it over for 2017. What a great surprise for Linda, and she didn't even have to beg!

We are without an Education Director, again, which means all of the Board members have to orchestrate the law enforcement training meetings. Out of the blue, I got an email from Lee Rast, one of our Area Coordinators, and she requested that we plan on having the next training meeting in her area which is Catoosa County. She volunteered to set it up and handle all of the details for us! How about that for another prayer answered?!

BTW, we just recently added a couple of new Area Coordinators. Marge Mabey and Alice Farrar recently joined our ranks as ACs for Hall and Jones counties, respectively.

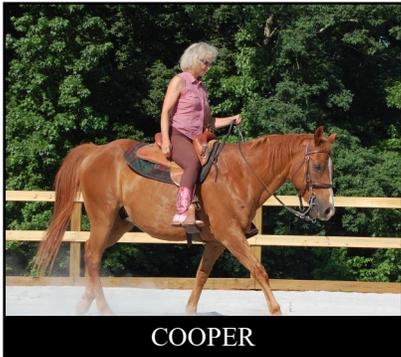
And, let me say this about that...we love our volunteers and are happy to have folks come out and help, no matter how seldom or for what period. We're all in this together and it's going to be a long battle to solve our horse problems! Please come out and join us in 2017!



Happy Trails

By CeCe Calli

Sometimes things just don't work out with horses. Such is life. For Johnny Reb, things are finally working out very well. Johnny Reb was formerly adopted by some great folks but he was a bit too playful with his pasture mate so he came back into our Foster Program. Along came Rose, who had wanted Johnny since the 2015 Challenge. Rose Dormio came to my farm excited to meet the boy she had dreamed about for over a year. I have to tell you it was love at first sight! So

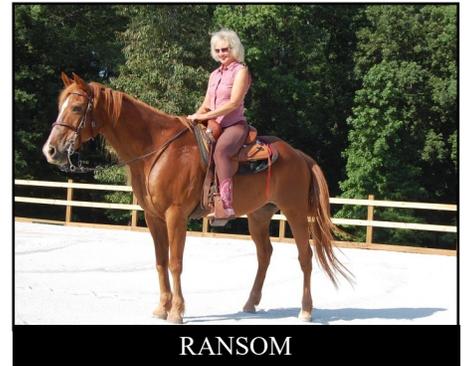


COOPER

now Rose has her dream boy as well as Jackson, also adopted from GERL. Reb and Jackson are definitely living large now.

I received a call from Audran & Joyce Johnson who were

looking for a couple of horses for some light riding and just to hang out with. You see Audran is a real By God Texas Cowboy and was really missing his days with horses.



RANSOM

With grandchildren to consider I hooked them up with Steven Neal who was fostering Ransom and Cooper. BAM! Ransom fell head over hoof with Joyce and Cooper quickly became Audran's new BBF. It's not often that we adopt 2 horses into one family at the same time. We at GERL just love knowing that these two long time pasture and barn mates will live together happily ever after with a great family.



GERL Southern States Proof of Purchase (POP) Program

Participating in the Southern States Proof of Purchase (POP) Program has been one of GERL's more profitable partnerships for a long time. For 2016, GERL received \$629. That is down from 2015 which was \$1,030. To help us get that number back up, please consider participating in this program. If you already buy Southern States feed, you are already halfway there.

For those of you who are not aware of this program, it is very easy to participate. Simply save the POP's from your Southern States feed bags. Each POP is worth twenty five cents. They add up in a hurry. Please mail them to Ginny Scarritt, 4835 Kendall Court, Atlanta, GA 30342. Ginny will collect them and send them to Southern States.

My thanks to Ginny for handling this for GERL. Many years ago, she approached the GERL leadership team and suggested that we get involved with this program. She has coordinated the program ever since. As a result, GERL has received \$9,984 since 2009. So you see, this is one more way that you can support GERL without costing you anything except the cost of a few stamps.



Kel-Mac Saddle Club Donation

By Patty Livingston

On Sunday, December 11th., Anne Ensminger and I attended the annual Kel-Mac Saddle Club Awards Banquet which always takes place at Bonner's Triple B Restaurant just outside of Buckhead, GA. Kel-Mac knows where to go for some great food!

This was the 5th year in a row that Anne and I had been invited to attend this event. We were once again there to receive one of six donations which are usually given to Georgia organizations that promote horses and family oriented activities involving horses. This year they also included an empty stocking fund, a very deserving recipient.

This saddle club raises money all year by putting on horse shows and trail rides. At their awards banquet, many of their members receive awards for their participation in Kel-Mac activities and the remaining funds are divided among their chosen beneficiary organizations.

This year, GERL received \$1000.00 and we are extremely grateful. Other organizations benefitting were Friends of A.H. Stevens State Park, Madison County Equestrian Drill Team, The Calvin Center (Horses and Warriors Program), Morgan County Sheriff's Empty Stocking Fund, and Heritage Park in Oconee County.

If you and your family are interested in finding a wholesome group of folks who love family oriented activities involving their horses, please consider joining Georgia's oldest saddle club, Kel-Mac.



Miss Anne (Left) and Patty Livingston (Right) receive a check from Kel-Mac Treasurer, Gloria Belvan



Briar Murray pitches in to help at the Mansfield Impound, where his mom, Jessie Murray, is Barn Manager. Check out Briar's shirt (as he stands beside a recent impound).



GERL Christmas Party

By Patty Livingston

The day of the GERL Christmas party was very cold, but no rain was in the immediate forecast. It would be perfect bonfire weather. I had been working for two weeks to get all of the decorations and lights up in preparation for the party. I purchased the food earlier in the week and it was the first time I can ever remember the day of the party being so laid back. Thomas Threatt, Mickey Farmer and Mickey's granddaughter, Chelsey, arrived an hour early to light the bonfire before everyone else started arriving.

The crowd was smaller than usual this year, but we still had a house full and some of the best food in town. It was good to see folks that I hadn't seen in a long time and we even had some new faces in the crowd. This annual party is always a good time to spend time catching up with friends. Thomas and Mickey provided hours of entertainment for those who hung out by the fire. We didn't see much of either of them until the end of the evening when they finally came in to fix themselves something to eat.



Everybody enjoyed the great food!

Susie Bond, Dave Kingsley, Cecil Sayers,
Tanya Kingsley and Bob Long



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



Linda Venable
and Chelsey Truelove

Diana Kelsey, Tanya
and Dave Kingsley



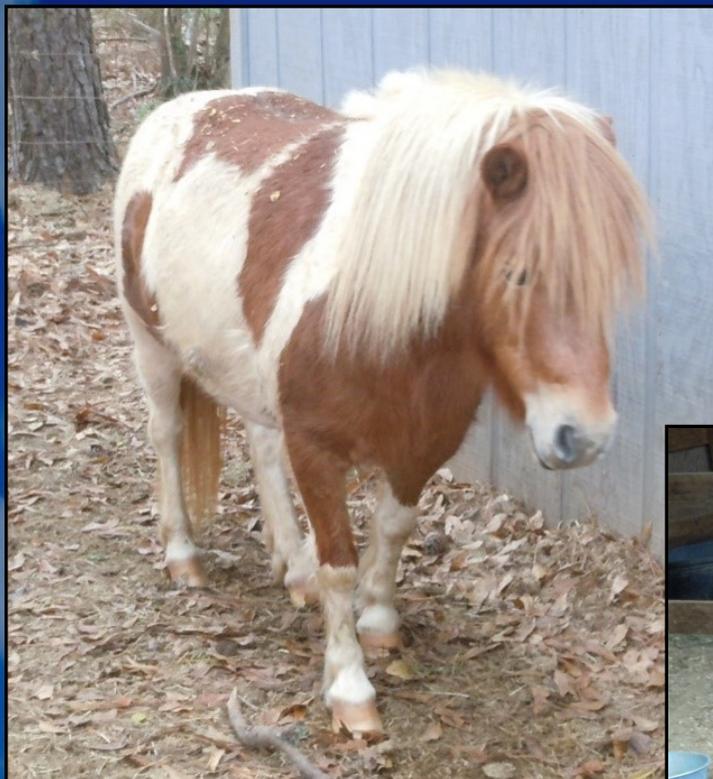
Yvonne Daniels
and Thomas Threatt



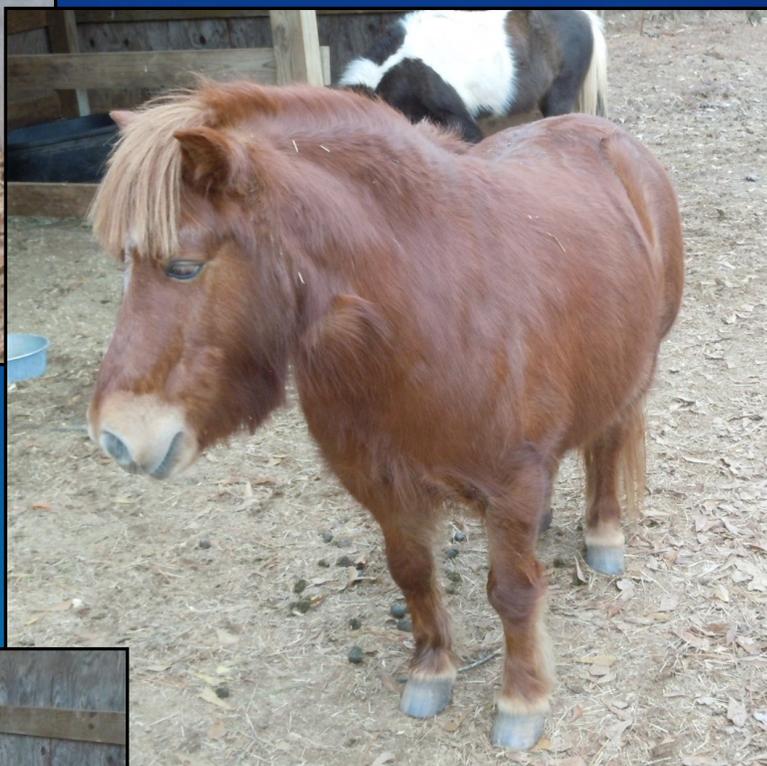
Sue Wrensen, Jolene Schwartz &
Tanya Kingsley

GERL ADOPTABLES

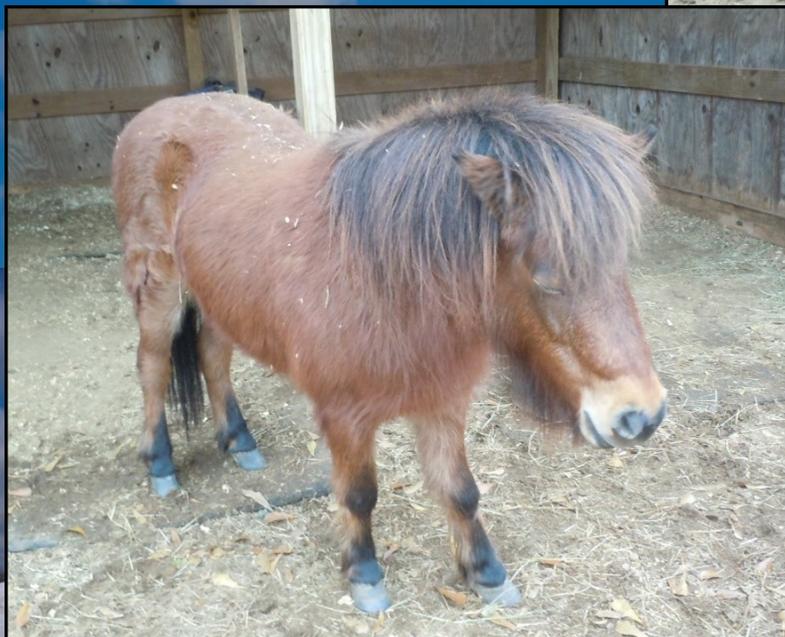
For adoption fees and additional information, please contact CeCe Calli, Adoption Coordinator. (706) 376-2410 / adopt@gerlltd.org



Pinky (Left) is a 5 year old Paint Mini mare. Pinky is mother to Mayson. She is very sweet . Due to the lateness of her arrival (as well as the other minis that came with her), we have not been able to get her height and weight yet. Pinky was rescued in 2013 together with the others from a farm in central Tennessee. She came into the GERL program because of health issues with her adoptive mom.



Shrek (right) is a 5 year old Chestnut Mini Gelding. He has a great personality and loves attention. He is very loving and respectful.



Mayson: (Left) is a 2 1/2 year-old Bay Mini gelding. He has a great personality and loves attention. He had eye enucleation shortly after birth due to an under developed eye duct. Despite being one-eyed, he does well. He is low man on the totem pole. He is very sweet and needs a loving home.

GERL ADOPTABLES

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



Justice is a 2-3-year-old Grade bay gelding. He is a sweet boy and his skills are still being evaluated. He has had a lot of work with his ground manners.



3 Putt is a 4 year-old mini paint gelding. He foundered in 2015, but he seems to have recovered well. 3 Putt is the Omega in he herd. He was not a starvation case when he came into GERL's foster program.



Blue is a 3 1/2 year-old QH gelding. He is broke to ride , He is 15.2 hh and weighs approx. 1200 lbs. Blue is the Omega in he herd. He was purchased at a GDA horse sale at the Mansfield impound back in 2014. He is a nice horse, but the owner's unexpected health issues forced her to give him up. Blue was last ridden in Sept 2014. We have not had a chance to evaluate his riding abilities. Call CeCe for details: 706-371-5804



©Van Slider

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

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

So far during the 4th quarter of 2016, The Georgia Equine Rescue League has received \$ 154 from the Kroger Plus Program. That is compared to \$ 141 last quarter. The grand total for the year is \$533. That is compared to \$ 656 for 2015. We have lost some ground but I know we can make it up if everyone who supports GERL and shops at Kroger will go online and choose GERL as your charity. It can be challenging to maintain support for this program because many people may not be aware that you must re-enroll in your chosen charity each year. All selections end at the end of September each year and you must select your charity again. Please go to

<http://www.krogercommunityrewards.com>

to enroll or re-enroll GERL as your chosen charity. If you have not chosen GERL as your charity in the past, please consider supporting GERL through this program. The Kroger Community Rewards Program is an easy way for you to support GERL. All you have to do is go to <http://www.krogercommunityrewards.com> and link your Kroger Plus card to Georgia Equine Rescue League. This does not affect the shopping rewards that you receive through the program.

PLEASE CONSIDER SUPPORTING GERL THROUGH THE AMAZON SMILES PROGRAM.

During 4th quarter of 2016, we have received \$ 117 from this program. That is compared to \$ 103 last quarter. The grand total for 2016 is \$ 617. That is compared to \$ 212 for all of 2015. We have tripled the usage of this program in one year. That is great news for all the horses. My thanks to all of you who made that happen. If you shop on Amazon through their Amazon Smiles program, 0.5% of your purchase is donated to GERL. In order to support GERL through the Amazon Smiles program, all you have to do is go to <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/58-2080606> and choose Georgia Equine Rescue League as your charity. You also have to begin shopping via that link in order for your purchases to be credited toward GERL. What a great way to support a great cause without spending any of your own money.

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



Who's Who

Georgia Equine Rescue League, Ltd.

Board Members

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

Tamma Trump - Vice President
(770) 655-0819 / mswhinney@juno.com

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

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

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

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

Stallion-Gelding Coordinator
Marian Finco

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

Public Relations Coordinator - Position Open

Event Coordinators

Jaye Herrington / jaye@gerlltd.org

Ray Ziebell / razfences@msn.com

Facebook Coordinators

Nancy Bogardts / a4dognight@hotmail.com

Rebecca Geminez / delphiacres@hotmail.com

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

Website / Newsletter - Steve DeMoss
(678) 427-5771 / steve@gerlltd.org

GERL Advisory Board

Rhonda Veit, DVM

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

Monday - Friday / 8:30 am - 4:30 pm
(404) 656-3713 or (800) 282-5852

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

Interested in becoming an Area Coordinator?

Area Coordinator Director

Patty Livingston

(770) 867-0760

gerlpatty@yahoo.com



Quote of the Week

"One reason why birds and horses are happy is because they are not trying to impress other birds and horses."

~Dale Carnegie

GERL RESCUE CHALLENGE VIDEOS

We are finally in a position to get all of the video footage that was shot during our 2016 Rescue Challenge event sorted and uploaded to You-Tube. Our webmaster will be working on getting the page set up with hyperlinks to the videos. Stay tuned!

Join our Feed A Horse Program

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

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

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



Itty Bitty Before



Itty Bitty After



I would like to make a donation of:

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

"Feed a Horse"
Program
www.gerlltd.org

Name: _____
Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Telephone #: _____ Email: _____

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

THANK YOU!

*Your donation is
tax deductible!*

ASPCA Joins Hands With GERL: Grant Request Honored!!

By Donna Harrison, GERL Grant Writer

“ Re: Georgia Equine Rescue League

We are pleased to inform you that the above-referenced organization has received a \$5,000.00 grant from the ASPCA for the project Stallion-to-Gelding Castration Program ... We look forward to working with you! “

Imagine how we felt when the announcement of this wonderful, generous award reached us! And it is not the first time that the ASPCA has helped us fund this very important program, unique to Georgia (thanks, Patty!!!) For several years, our Rescue League has applied for, and received monies to help promote, continue and expand our effort to reduce the birth of unwanted foals through voluntary castration of stallions by responsible owners. Over time, volunteer grant writers associated with GERL have served as petitioners, having helped raise many thousands of dollars to offset the costs of GERL’s gelding program. We all are dismayed by, and we all want to prevent unwanted breeding and the resultant foals which may end up improperly cared for, inhumanely used or even sent to slaughter for lack of opportunities for a useful life. As of the end 2015, the GERL Stallion-to-Gelding Castration Program in Georgia is responsible for gelding over 725 stallions. This fall’s event will increase that number. The program is a very important part of GERL’s Get Well Plan..

I have been witness to some traumatic situations endured by horses, young and old. Some have not survived. Because of my emotional limits, I choose to serve these magnificent creatures by standing in the shadows and doing what I can to procure funding for education to promote humane and sensible treatment of horses. As the current GERL Grant Writer, I have learned so much. I would like to inform you of the importance of GERL’s involvement with specific programs to large grant providers such as the ASPCA, look for when making decisions as to which groups they will award financial assistance. GERL is already associated with Amazon Smiles, the Kroger Plus Community Rewards Program, Guidestar, Dover Saddlery, and Good Search in a small way. We need to greatly expand our involvement with these programs. The reward for GERL can be much greater than it is at present and will almost certainly increase our chances of obtaining philanthropic grants. Information concerning these programs and how you may become involved, can be found of page 11 of this publication. Should you be a direct donator to the ASPCA itself, please make a note on your check – even better, accompany it with a handwritten note of thanks for what they have done, and continue to do for GERL.

In 2017, I would dearly love to help plan and host the First Annual Georgia “Help a Horse” Day. This is an ASPCA event. It is a national effort on behalf of homeless horses and those who care for them. “Help a Horse Day” provides the perfect opportunity to let your community know how they can be a part of this mission! “Help a Horse Day” greatly increases awareness of the existence of these animals and their needs. It is a NATIONAL platform from which to spread our message. It serves as a way to engage your community. It raises, not only awareness, but funds as well. By participating we have a chance to share in \$50,000.000 of prize money – every penny of which we could use to help horses here!!!

This is not a one-man (or gal) undertaking. I need your help and your commitment. Please, please email or call to let me know if you are willing to help. Without your support, I can’t do this. Don’t forget! It’s in April. April. April.

Horse Hugs,

Donna H.
wereoutriding@aol.com
(770) 905-7091



CTHA

www.ride-ctha.org



**Dedicated to the Future
of Horses on Trails**

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Left Photo: Holly and Gracie united after a long separation. They first came into GERL's foster program in November 2012. They were impounded by Paulding County Animal Control, along with two older geldings. Holly is Gracie's baby. She was over a year old and still nursing on her mother when we went to pick her up. They were placed in separate foster homes in order to wean Holly. She was adopted out, but unfortunately, she was recently returned to GERL's program.

Last Law Enforcement Training Meeting of 2016

By Anne Ensminger

Our GERL President, Patty Livingston, is a very wise lady. It didn't take long after she took over the leadership of GERL for her to realize that to simply rescue starved and abused horses would never solve the problems caused by overbreeding and lack of consequences for abusers in one of the only states in our country to actually have LAWS to protect equine. Certainly, to identify and do something to help the unfortunate animals that fall into the hands of those who either cannot, or will not properly care for their horses, has long been a major part of our mission. However, it has become clear to GERL that more must be done. Not only must we discourage overbreeding of horses in our state but we must encourage punishment of those who ignore or do not honor Georgia's equine protection laws. They must face appropriate consequences which includes legal prosecution, stiff fines, having their horses taken away and be forced to pay restitution for rehabilitation of the horses, or even going to jail for their cruel actions.



Mat Thompson

To watch the morning news while we drink our coffee on any given day, makes us painfully aware of just how busy are our law enforcement officers. On top of that, they now have to face the fact, as never before, that they may even be in mortal danger while trying to do their jobs. It is understandable that they might feel that to enforce our equine protection laws, must go to the bottom of their list of priorities.

Thankfully, since GERL has been meeting several times each year with law enforcement and animal control officers in an effort to gain their help in our fight against equine abuse, we have never heard that feeling expressed. In fact, I believe those who attend our Multi County Meetings, leave with a new found determination to gladly work equine cruelty cases and see that abusers are punished. For that we give all of the credit to our three outstanding instructors who are tops in their field. Many of the officers have never even been close to a live horse. No wonder they are reluctant to approach a horse found running loose near a busy road. If they are called upon to carry out such a duty, I'm

sure the training they receive at our trainings, will help them feel much more at ease.

Thus, for our last Multi County Meeting of 2016, we returned to the Macon Farmers Market Meeting Facility on December 1st. Patty Livingston, Linda Kundell, and I prepared for the meeting and we are grateful to Susie Bond for volunteering to help. There were 28 attendees.

Georgia Dept. of Agriculture, Equine Manager, Mat Thompson actually brings two horses from one of the GDA Equine Impounds so that the officers might learn how to safely and properly approach and halter a horse. Mat demonstrates how to use a weight tape as a way to evaluate equine body condition and even gives a hands on lesson on how to convince a horse to get into a trailer. Each officer has an opportunity to approach the horses and work with them.



25 law enforcement and animal control officers attended the class



Miss Anne hanging out with Easykeeper II



Linda Kundell, Jessie Murray, Miss Anne and Adriane Cook



Hi there, Handsome!

Last Multi-County Meeting of 2016

By Anne Ensminger



Snickerdoodle cookies are the BEST!

Investigator Kevin Hearst of DeKalb County Animal Control gives a detailed and most entertaining lecture concerning the care which must be taken any time an officer is required to enter private property, he speaks on the intricacies of effective evidence gathering, and reveals some of the problems officers may face when dealing with dangerous animals and angry animal owners. He gives excellent suggestions on how to diffuse potential volatile situations. Lastly, he presents a lab in which the officers form teams and work together to solve an abuse case from actual evidence gathered during a previous case. This is all very serious but, at the same time, fun and educational for all.

Then it is time for Sherwin Figueroa, Esquire, Asst. D.A., Cobb County to speak. She is an experienced prosecutor, a great speaker, and a true animal lover. She presents details to the officers describing how those who investigate animal abuse cases can best provide the information a prosecutor needs to insure a successful outcome. She loves to see animal abusers get what they deserve and impresses on the class, the importance of the thoroughness of the report she receives from them in order to make that happen. After her lecture, she gives out her business cards to the officers and

encourages them to contact her if they have problems getting cooperation from prosecutors or judges in their county concerning animal abuse cases. She is willing to make some calls and be an advocate for the officers. We at GERL feel that is way beyond what might be expected of her and we are grateful.

We are proud of, and grateful for each of our speakers. None of them receive any remuneration for their time or travel. It is simply their genuine concern for animals and their willingness to share their knowledge and experience that causes them to agree to remain a part of our team. They easily hold the interest of our attendees all day and we are certain that, because of them, the officers go home with a much better understanding and acceptance of their role in ending the widespread equine abuse which we face today.

We ask for volunteers from our membership each time we hold one of these meetings. I would encourage our members to come and help out any time you are available. You will greatly enjoy the program and learn so much about the police work involved in animal cruelty cases.



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GERL Volunteer of the Quarter

By Anne Ensminger

Our volunteer(s) of the quarter this time are Leslie Lambert and Jacki Moore. I don't suppose a great number of our GERL members know Leslie and Jacki. That is because they are always quietly working in the background but they never stop doing anything they can think of to help GERL.

I met them years ago when they agreed to foster an old horse for GERL. They knew that "Vandy" would never be adopted because of his age but they also knew that he had been the heard stallion for a gentleman who raised very nice Quarter Horses years ago. The horse was eventually gelded and taught this gentleman's grandchildren to ride. Now his owner was dying and wanted desperately for his much loved horse to be cared for in his last years. Leslie and Jacki fostered that horse on behalf of GERL for quite a few years until he died in his mid to late thirties this past year. They never submitted a bill to GERL for the outstanding, loving, and complete care they showered upon him during that time.

Whenever there is a call for volunteers and either, or both of them are available, they are there. It was a great help to have them at the recent Stallion to Gelding Day at Countryside Hospital for Animals near Jersey, GA. on November 19th. of this year.

A few years ago Leslie and Jacki adopted a horse through GERL. That horse, ("Hemi"), turned out to be a "trial", to say the very least. He would walk all over his handler and was not safe to ride. He was even found to have some minor lameness issues. I thought that perhaps they should return him and get another horse but they refused to give up on him. They felt that he would end up being passed around from home to home and may even been mistreated because of his unacceptable behavior. Of course they were right but I could hardly help thinking of their safety.

In the end, they found a wonderful trainer who shared their concerns for the horse's future and who wanted to take on a real horse training challenge. They all knew it would take time and patience. No doubt, it took quite an amount of money as well, even though their trainer charged as little as he possibly could. Now, several years later, Leslie is riding that horse regularly and has even bought a cart and is enjoying driving him!

They also adopted "Tony the Pony" after he competed in the first annual GERL Rescue Challenge. Tony was to be for their young nephews but it turns out that the children's mother is enjoying riding Tony so much that they may have to look for another pony for the little ones!

About to retire from her years of work in the medical field, Leslie, who has a nice trailer and truck, wants to start an equine transport business. She will be on call for safe transport at any time of the day or night. She will accept both short and long haul assignments. If you ever have a need for equine transport, you can always find Leslie's business card in the GERL Newsletter.

Most recently, Leslie and Jacki have agreed to take on part of my duties as GERL Secretary. They will be processing new memberships and renewals. When asked to do this, they never hesitated even though it is quite a time consuming chore.

Thank you Leslie and Jacki for your love of horses and your willingness to be of help to GERL whenever you are needed.



Leslie donated her services by picking up a load of minis..

A Note from the Secretary's Desk

by Anne Ensminger



Not my usual style but I suppose I must start with the bad news first. December 9th. started out by bringing happy memories of that day in 1986 as my brand new husband, Gene, and I celebrated his birthday while on our honeymoon.

The happy memories of 1986 were quickly put on hold when, on the same date of this year, I went out to the barn early to feed my horses. It was the first really cold morning of the season. My much loved foster horse, Honor, stood quietly in his stall (I wrote about Honor and how much he meant to me in the last edition of our newsletter). Where was the familiar nicker he always gave as I approached? That was just a passing thought until I poured his grain into his feed bucket and watched as he showed no interest. I knew that something was terribly wrong. As the day progressed, I went to the window many times to check on him as he stood quietly in the sun just outside of his stall. By the afternoon, he still had not shown any interest in his feed. Even though he showed none of the classic signs, colic had to be suspected. I called the vet. The usual colic protocol was followed, including a large dose of pain medication. The doctor remarked that the old horse was in much more pain than he was showing. Within an hour of the vet leaving, I called him back. Honor's respirations were very rapid and I knew that he was in extreme pain. We gave him final peace as his pasture mates looked on and I quietly cried.

Sadly, that is not the end of the bad news for December 9, 2016. As the vet was leaving, I mentioned that I would call Randy Barton first thing in the morning to come and bury Honor. That is when I learned that Randy had suffered a massive heart attack on that very day and was not expected to survive. Another blow to my heart. Randy Barton had been the "go to" person in this area for any handyman, livestock handling, or

large equipment work for years. Besides that, he was a friend.

As I slowly walked back to my house, I felt that sleep would not come easily that night. I was chilled and depressed as I sat down in my comfortable old chair and covered up with my little electric throw. That is exactly where first light found me the next morning. I opened my eyes and gave thanks for the few hours of refreshing sleep that I had been granted by God, who always knows exactly what we need.

With the help of my vet, I was able to find someone to come and give Honor the respectful burial he deserved. The sweet old horse now rests in a beautiful spot on my farm where I can go to remember him until my own ashes, and those of my Gene, are scattered in the same area one day.

As expected, my friend, Randy did not make it. My thoughts, and those of many in this community, are with his family as they grieve this sudden and unexpected loss. The void in all of our lives left by Randy's passing, will be impossible to ever completely fill.



Thankfully, for the most part, the end of year news for GERL is good. We enjoyed a very successful year during which, we gained memberships, held several major and profitable fund raisers, sponsored two Multi County Meetings with Law Enforcement and Animal Control Officers, and were able to support the Dept. of Agriculture's Equine Program on an even higher level. While our ultimate goal of ending equine starvation and abuse sometimes feels pretty far away, we seem to be ever closing in on it. Of course, we work very hard to raise

much needed funds to support our work, but it is our members and supporters who are so faithful and generous that give us strength.

Speaking of strength, our GERL President, Patty Livingston, has undergone two successful hip replacement surgeries during the past year. She came home within hours of her surgery both times and was in the saddle in only weeks after the first operation. Since her second replacement was only days ago, we will give her a little time before expecting her to mount up again. We wish you perfect results and rapid healing, Patty!

And so, on we will trudge as we face together whatever it takes to continue helping horses in 2017.

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January 21, 2017
Winder Lion's Club
354 E. Broad Street, Winder, GA 30680



You are invited to attend!
Pot Luck—Please bring your favorite dish to share!

AGENDA

Please come a few minutes early if you are bringing a dish and plan to join us for lunch.

- 10:00 - Arrive and Set up
- 12:00 - Potluck
- 12:30 - Introduction by President Patty Livingston
- 12:45 - Guest speaker - TBA
- 1:15 - General Meeting
- 1:30 - Volunteer recognition
 - Marty Paulk Cheerleader Award
- 2:00 - Close Silent Auction
- 2:30 - Adjourn

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Paulding County Saddle Club Raises \$618 for GERL

Written by Lynne Robinson

My phone rang a few weeks ago and it was Annette Raybon. Annette has been a member of GERL for many, many years and also serves as our Area Coordinator for Paulding, Cobb, and Bartow counties. I am also an Area Coordinator for those counties, so Annette and I tag team when we can.

Annette told me that the Paulding County Saddle Club had a donation to make to GERL and would like someone to attend their annual Christmas party to accept the donation. The saddle club had an auction and the proceeds were to be donated to two charities, GERL being one of them. Normally Annette would have gone because she is a member of that saddle club, but she had a scheduling conflict. I told her I would love to attend and wrote it on my calendar.

On Saturday, December 10th, I headed to the party, looking forward to some good food and the opportunity to make new friends. The treasurer, Nicole Carlisle, met me at the door and introduced me to the President, Kathy Gilroy. She then invited me to sit with her and her husband Bryan.

Kathy opened the meeting and presented a check to GERL in the amount of \$618. I was pleased to accept it on GERL's behalf, knowing it will go a long way to helping horses in great need.

After the presentation, we ate a wonderful catered dinner and then there was time for a few crazy games. One challenge was to see how many balloons you could stuff in a pair of pantyhose and still get it on your head.

My thanks to the Paulding County Saddle Club for supporting GERL. We could not do the work we do without you.

Welcome to Mini-Ville

By Patty Livingston

I've just returned from a trip to Gordon County (extreme North Georgia) where we picked up 4 mini horses and a 4-year-old gelding. They weren't coming from a situation of neglect or abuse; they were being rehomed due to the owner's health issues. Steven Neal picked me up at 9:00 am and off we headed to North Georgia. I was recovering from hip replacement, so I was happy to ride shotgun. It is quite a trip, and nobody wants to do it alone. Throw in a ton of Christmas traffic and you have a nerve-racking situation.

Leslie Moore and her friend Judy, pulled a separate rig which is where all four minis would ride. The gelding would be riding on Steven's trailer. I had been excited to get the minis because I have a mini named Garth Brooks that I bought at one of the GDA horse

auctions last year and he is alone right now. I thought it would be fun to have a small herd, at least on a temporary basis. After all, they would be going to new loving homes where they would have a wonderful and hopefully useful, life.

It felt like Christmas when I woke up the next morning, excited to go outside and spend a little time with my new wards. And, of course, I wanted to let them meet Garth Brooks. They did great and got along well with each other. Garth seems to enjoy his new friends. It wasn't long before all of my neighbors started calling me to let me know how much they liked all of the minis running around in my front pasture. I must admit, they are about the cutest things in the whole wide world!



GDA Horse Auction at Lee Arrendale Prison Impound

By Patty Livingston

I had to get up early to load up all of the flea market stuff that we had accumulated for the GDA horse auction. I had hooked up the GERL stock trailer to transport everything, which was loaded to the gills by the time I was ready to leave. This GDA auction was located at the Lee Arrendale prison equine impound up at Alto. It had been over a year since they had hosted a horse auction there and we were going all out with cooking and serving hamburgers and hotdogs, selling GERL t-shirts and a flea market. I was hoping that there would be a good turn-out so that I wouldn't have to carry everything back home.



Ruth Wilson and granddaughter, Avery, chat with Mickey Farmer.

When I arrived at the impound there were several familiar faces, including Tina Turner and CeCe Calli, who immediately jumped in and started helping to unload my trailer. They laid out a huge tarp and arranged the flea market items by their value. We had a huge assortment of horse blankets, old tack, buckets, feeders and almost anything else a horse owner could use. CeCe volunteered to be our cook for the day and she

got busy setting up tables around the huge grill that the prison had brought there for us to use. Kim and Rod Trahan arrived with their 2 grandsons and the oldest volunteered to help CeCe in the kitchen. Miss Anne Ensminger had brought the GERL cargo trailer that was full of t-shirts and other merchandise.

I must say, it was a pretty impressive display when everything was finally unloaded and the flea market opened for business. Miss Anne volunteered to be in charge of the flea market and it wasn't long before she had several customers who started combing through all of the boxes. Our favorite (and almost famous) auctioneer, Mickey Farmer, arrived and sat with me while we waited for the auction to start. It was a beautiful day, although a little breezy, and we were all hoping for a large turn-out of people who would take home all of the horses that were to be auctioned off that day.



The flea market was a great success!



Jessie Murray, Mat Thompson & Adriane Cook

Continued on page 25

GDA Horse Auction at Lee Arrendale Prison Impound

By Patty Livingston

Continued from page 24

At 11 o'clock the auction started and we held our breath as each horse was brought into the arena, hoping for a high bid. There was a pony in the auction that brought in the high bid of the day. He was child-safe and there were several people who had come with the hopes of taking him home. Most all of the horses sold by the end of the auction and we had a mad rush for food before all of the spectators started for home. Many of them went through the flea market one more time to get in on the "special sale" that Miss Anne was offering.

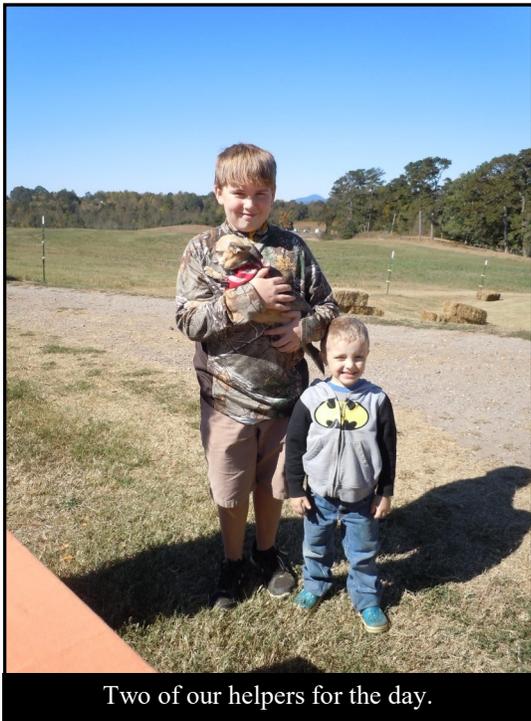
The last of the food went to feed the inmates who volunteer at Arrendale, including their volunteer fire department crew and the ladies who work with the horses. They were all very grateful to GERL and thanked us for what we do for their equine program. Of course, we are all grateful to have the program as part of Georgia's Equine Get Well Plan. This is one of the things that I think makes Georgia the model for other states to emulate!



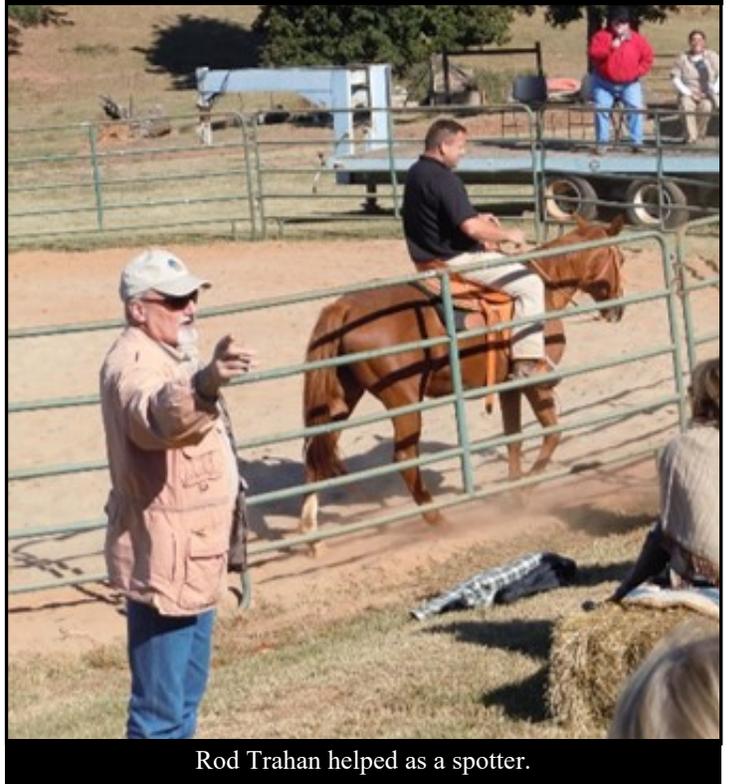
Folks seem to enjoy a flea market at our auctions.



CeCe & her hamburger flipping helper!



Two of our helpers for the day.



Rod Trahan helped as a spotter.

GDA Success Stories

By Jessie Murray

“May”, was brought in to the GDA Mansfield Equine Impound on 7/19/16. She was accompanied by two other donkeys. One Jenny, which we named June, & one jack, we named July.

On July 26, we had Dr Veit check them all out. It was then that it was discovered that May was pregnant! At the time of the pregnancy check, May’s foal was about the size of a small house cat. May was immediately put on Mare & Foal feed. There were discussions concerning her due date and when we should take her off of the pasture. Well, we thought we had more time but Mother Nature had other ideas. May had her baby in the early morning hours of September 26, 2016.

The beautiful baby, which we named “Sweet Pea” was perfect. Momma May was perfect. Everything was just perfect. This is not always the case in pregnancies with emaciated equine. We have worked daily with Sweet Pea to get her to be very people friendly. She is progressing into a little pocket pet! Momma May, being quite stand-offish and a little on the grouchy side, has turned into a very sweet donkey.

We’ll keep Sweet Pea’s education going & let you all know how she is doing in the future.



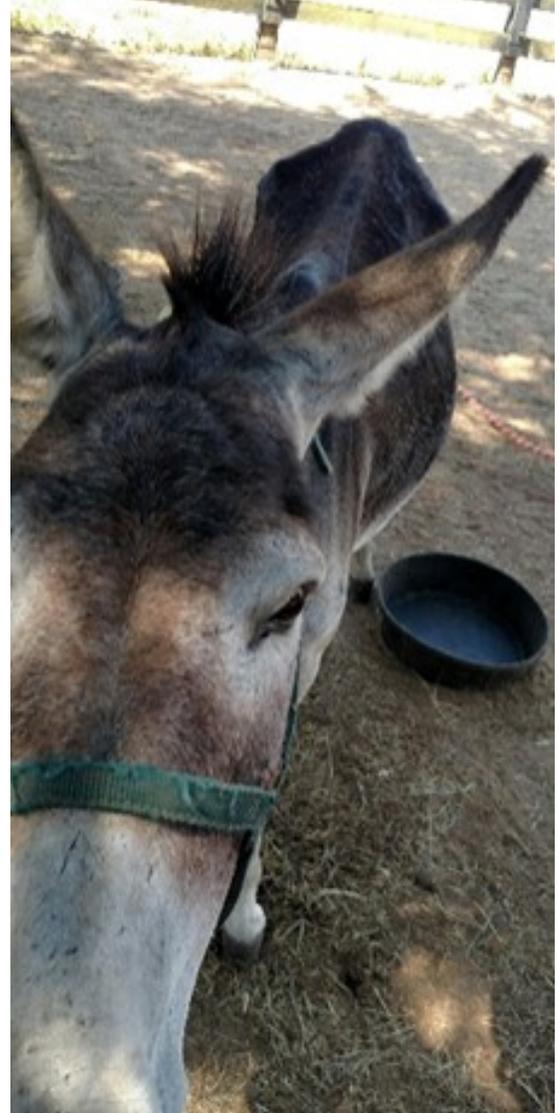
Sweet Pea



Sweet Pea and her mama, May.



Sweet Pea wearing a halter.



Momma May was very skinny when she first came in.

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WELCOME NEW GERL MEMBERS

New Member	Referred By	From
Heather Askew & Family	GERL	Roswell
Cindy Burt & Family	Teresa Day	Monroe
Kathy Cuiffi	Deb Hilty	Covington
Tonia Epps & Family	GERL	Winterville
Wendy Grage & Family	GERL	Snellville
Beth Kemp	GERL	Atlanta
Tierney Langdon & Family	GERL	Loganville
Ariane & Benjamin Reeves	GERL	Conyers
Caroline Williams	GERL	Milner

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Questions About Your Membership?

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

Donations

Herbert and Marian Haley Foundation UGA Horsemen's Association Paulding County Saddle Club Dr. Jan Smith Sherry Massey Bonnie Lavoie Christopher Gregory and Susan Futrelle-Gregory Peggy Paris	Lisa Casey Nigel Pritchard and Carolyn Evans, Simply Dun Farm Penelope Stiglitz Barbara Brown Charles & Kelly Howser Ed Dabney, Gentle Horsemanship LLC Gwen Patterson Michelle Wright Vicki Dice	Laura Parker Molly Peevy Carrie Stryker Tina and Terry Turner Ellen Day Lily Page Nancy Fitzgibbons Valerie Warburton Marcia Geraci Karen Johnson R. W. Wallace Micki Zagoria
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Renewals due for January

Natalie Baddour
 Rita Bandt
 Virginia B. Bilbo
 Susie Bond
 M. K. Brabson
 Meghan Cameron
 Rhonda Cangemi
 Judy C. Close
 Eugenia Collins
 Yvonne Couget
 Nancy Cox
 John & Teresa Day
 Leeanna Dick
 Teresa Dobrosky
 Joseph & Judean Drescher
 Danny Edmondson
 Brenda Fayard
 Lee Hager
 Phillip & Lisa Henson
 Susan Heuke
 Diana Kelsey
 Karen Kight
 Marilyn Kirkover

Patricia Kitchens
 Leslie Lambert & Jacki
 Moore
 Marge Mabey
 Moira McCracken
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 Dee Allen
 Kristina Behringer &
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 Cindy Russell Bounds &
 Family
 Constance Burchette
 Lisa & Jeff Carroll
 Josefina Coots
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 Jane Estes
 Debbie Frampton
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 Dianne Searcy Smoot
 Alice Stagg
 Penelope Stiglitz
 Carl & Jean Strickland
 Karen Stubbs
 Becky Summers
 Dante & Claudia To-
 maselli
 Althea Walker
 Kathy Ward
 Kay Williams
 Lynn Williams

Renewals due for February

CeCe Calli
 Jack & Dotti Carter
 Jane Harmon
 William Hatcher
 Karen Henderson
 Melanie Herron
 Dell Keeble
 Lynn Marie Marascalco
 Joe & Leslie Martin

Carleen Mauk
 Chantelle Noble
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 telle
 Terry & Tina Turner
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**Condolences to the family of Randy
 Barton. He was a fine man and will
 be missed by many!**



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GDA and Other Updates

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

- ✓ GERL paid \$ 5,229 for feed for the horses at the Mansfield, Arrendale and Pulaski facilities. .
- ✓ GERL spent \$ 6,603 for vet care for horses at the Mansfield facility.
- ✓ GERL provided 521 bales of hay to Mansfield at a cost of \$3,386. This hay is shared with the other GDA equine facilities as needed.
- ✓ GERL spent \$ 3.782 on our foster horses. This was for feed, hay, vet care and farrier care.

GERL Stallions to Gelding Program.



**Stallions Gelded
To Date By
GERL:
811**

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

Erik Wittenzellner
Constance Burchette
Sherri Sharpe
Carol Royer



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

In Memory of

- Tetley, beloved dog of Gloria English
- McCue by Ric and Wanda Baxter
- Nuggett owned by Kelly & Bart Smith by Robin and Brian Mead
- Niena, beloved mare, by Jeanne & Jim Shelhimer
- Ferrero by Beth Kemp
- Belle, beloved Belgium Draft owned by Donna and Keith Mosely by Judith Close
- Kylie, beloved horse owned by Pat Leland, by Jeanne Barsanti
- Moose, remembering at Christmas, by Lindsey Adams
- Buddy, owned by Danielle Barns of Hoof Haven Farm, by Dr. Ava Talmage
- Diane Mciver, a good friend taken too soon, by Sandi Jernigan
- Jasmine owned and loved by Kathy Ward



In Honor of

- Friends at Top Hat Barn by Tammy Pearson
- Ryan by Carol Wheeler
- Rosie, Rally and Nuggett by Ric and Wanda Baxter
- Mickey Farmer by Jill Williams
- Lee Ann Gilson for Christmas, by Lindsey Adams
- Shelley's Crittercare/Judy Usury by Terry Gibbons
- Brian Hancock for Christmas by Craig LaBay
- Rebecca Gimenez by Larry Spires
- Rebecca Gimenez and Thor by April Polk
- Alice Krendel by Phyllis Kozarsky
- Kim Hampton, by all her employees at SRG
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