



Georgia Equine Rescue League, Ltd. NEWSLETTER

Helping Starved, Abused & Neglected Horses in Georgia

Quarterly Newsletter

January, February & March 2019

Five Horses Rescued

By Gloria Bell, GERL Area Coordinator

The initial call I received was from a dog rescue association volunteer named Charlotte who was working with a family trying to find homes for many dogs (and other pets). The volunteer communicated that this was a hoarding situa-

tion involving many animals and a young lady who lived alone and continued buying pure breeds of all kinds, kept in the home and in pens stationed all around the outside premises. I was informed there were also horses on the property that needed new homes. After explaining the scope of GERL, based on the explanation of the situation, I offered to go to the property and take pictures and assist in developing a flyer to help them find the

horses caring homes. It was clear this woman was overwhelmed with the dog situation. I also knew this would also give me an opportunity to see the severity of the situation.

I arrived at the property in a torrential downpour and was met by the resident's mother, who had driven over to meet me. There were three mares and a colt in the front yard. I

took photos while sinking at least a foot in mud that created a ditch surrounding the hay the horses stood in while eating. There were five horses in total. All the mares were in good body condition, but none were up-to-date on Coggins or

vaccines, which just complicated the situation that much more. After completing the photos of the horses in the front, I was taken to the back of the property where an older stallion was being kept out of sight and clearly forgotten. There was nothing but standing mud and water; no protection, no food. At first sight of the horse, my heart sank as he was very thin, cold and wet. The day before it rained all day and that night it was 30 degrees.

He came straight over to us clearly wanting help and food. I took the pictures and knew this was a rescue situation. He had a body score of 2. The entire grounds were covered with animal feces, diarrhea, and dogs crying and barking in pens out in the pouring rain. While everyone always says they've seen worse, this was bad enough and no less important. Witnessing all that I saw was validation, *responsible human behavior was entirely absent.*



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Five Horses Rescued

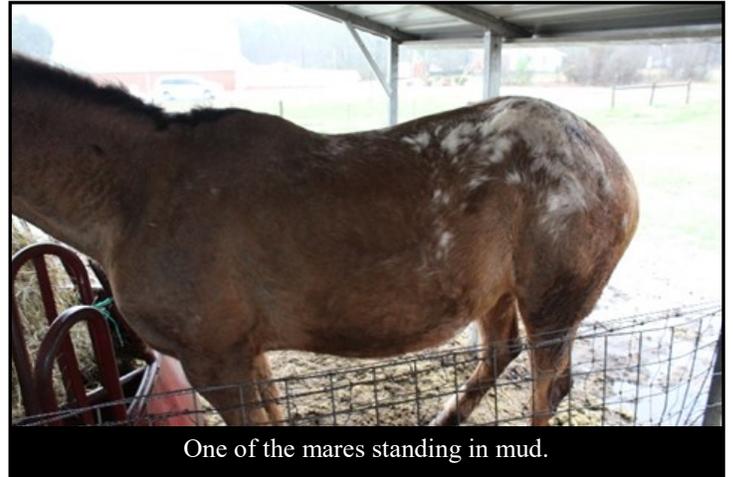
by Gloria Bell, GERL Area Coordinator

I immediately called Patty Livingston who provided considerable feedback and suggested that we run this case through GERL's Crisis Intervention program where GERL pays for specific services (hay, feed, vet care, etc.) needed and identified via an application. She explained that this program was originally designed to enable horse owners to keep the horses in their home by receiving temporary help with the care of their horse. However, most of the time, the owner should not own a horse. It was simple, the animals were not being fed consistently and some not at all and they needed to be re-homed, but first we needed to get a vet out there to pull blood and give vaccines.



The mother was trying to get all the animals released to prevent the county or state from getting involved (while dealing with a daughter that was in denial), as it was clear her daughter had lost all logic to the condition of the animals and the potential health risk. My goal was to get the horses and other animals off the premises to safe places before the issue became more complicated. I offered to come out and help feed the animals until we could find homes. I was able to feed the animals on the outside daily, tried getting a goat to come out of one enclosure to eat and discovered he was dead. I learned later he had been there since Christmas. I continued communicating to Charlotte, the dog rescuer, and the mother, who was also the land owner, as I came and went. I also made it clear that the dead animal needed to be removed, as well as the remaining dogs that were suffering out in the cold weather.

The situation had to be handled carefully for various reasons; an illness, a hoarding situation and many unhealthy, deprived animals. Because animal hoarding is



usually complicated with an illness, it usually goes without penalty. I had no idea what this fragile owner might do while watching her animals being taken away one by one. I clearly felt her pain and I am not now, nor would I judge the situation or her. What I knew was the young lady's heart was broken and my concern for her was not far from the urgency in helping the animals.

With the assistance of Charlotte, I received a full release for all five horses and began calling multiple horse rescues and others I knew were involved with horses. I kept Patty informed of the situation. Everyone that I was in contact with, worked to help re-home these horses. I was so heartbroken about the entire situation, I decided that unless someone was head over heels for each and every horse, they couldn't have them. I immediately became very protective of them all. Each interested person followed the application process and received information of the requirements. I spent a great deal of time vetting everyone and working through Patty.



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Five Horses Rescued

by Gloria Bell, GERL Area Coordinator

Continued from page 2

While in process of securing new owners, the vet came out, performed coggins testing, vaccinations and checked if the three mares were pregnant, as they certainly looked it. The vet bill for all five horses was paid by GERL. Many of the potential owners or those referring questioned if the mares were pregnant. The pregnancy results were negative, so we were able to finalize news owners and organize transportation. Slider, the older stallion, was the first to be picked up by a highly experienced, big hearted, “get out of my way of any hurting horse” kind of HERO. She and her husband (confidence written all over them) drove across Georgia in the horrific weather to pick him up. GERL offered to pay 100% of the cost of castrating.



This young colt is now called “Justice” and he is now at his forever home.

While I never imagined that I would have a horse any time soon, the colt with no name, has been named (*Justice*) and has a home with us. An amazing gentleman and trainer that has a boarding farm a few miles from our home, transported the colt, after he was finally loaded. Two very strong men (my husband and Randy) were physically challenged that day, by a strong colt. As soon as he has settled in, he will be castrated, thanks to GERL.

The three beautiful mares were picked up the following day by a team of experienced, horsemen/women that had love and experience. The capable woman that was happy to take two of the horses, decided she wanted to keep the three of them together, as they have been for a long time. The mares followed direction and loaded on a trailer that had plenty of room for the massive beauties. As I watched the big trailer pull down the road, all emotion of the entire experience surfaced, and I was so relieved and felt so much joy for



The three mares went to the same forever home.

these beautiful animals and the amazing people that helped.

While my prayers continue to go out to the family that are dealing with illness, loss and hopefully, healing, I know in my heart that good intentions were there, but unfortunately, they were completely blinded to the neglect. Just removing the animals and then thinking, ‘OK, the case is over’ – that’s never a solution because that hasn’t gotten to the base of the problem.”

Today they are all settled in blissful and safe new worlds. Their days are full of sunshine even when it rains, frequent, consistent, healthy meals, and a peacefulness that they are starting to count on. They enjoy being touched, groomed and even cuddled. The stallion was just castrated at 22 years of age and he did well. The new owner provides updates and pictures. The colt will also be gelded in the coming weeks when he is ready. No more breeding, just letting these guys enjoy their life.



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Red

By Patty Livingston

The GERL hotline receives a lot of calls that are from family members who have an old horse that used to belong to their Grandpa or their Dad, who passed away. They probably started out calling the Department of Agriculture (GDA) or their local Animal Control for help. Both would probably give the caller the GERL hotline number.

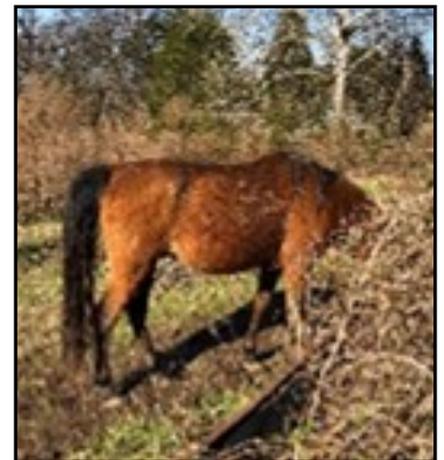


This is just such a story that involved a twenty-year-old Arabian stallion named Red. Our hotline volunteer provided me with the contact information of Jason, the son of Red's owner, who passed away nine years ago. Before I had a chance to call Jason, he was calling me directly on my home phone. He filled me in on the bad state of affairs his mother was in. His mother and brother had been able to take care of Red since his dad's death, but his brother was recently diagnosed with liver cancer and his mother was now in her eighties and physically unable to take care of herself. Jason and his partner had to move into his mother's house to keep her from losing it in foreclosure proceedings and to help with his brother who was very ill. I asked him

about the horse, hoping that it was broke to ride. He told me that his dad was working on breaking Red when he passed away. For some reason I'm not sure about, the GDA inspector for that territory was also involved with trying to help Jason. It didn't take long after talking to Jason to learn that he was NOT a horse person and knew absolutely nothing about this horse except that it was a "boy" and he thought he was 20 years old. The urgency of the situation was that it was cold and wet and Red didn't have adequate feed or hay always available because of their own financial burdens. They had very poor pasture with mostly weeds. I tried to get a sense of the horse's body score, but finally gave up. I decided to treat this case through our Crisis Intervention program and sent Jason our application right away so that I would have the name of his feed store. The next morning, I called his feed store in Rockmart and paid for several bags of Senior feed and square bales of good hay to last for a couple of weeks. Jason picked it up and I'm willing to bet that Red had a celebration that night.

The following week I made a phone call to see if there was any way that the horse could be picked up by the GDA since he was a stallion. Finding a foster home that can accommodate a stallion is like looking for a needle in a haystack. We had nowhere to put him. And, he needed to be castrated in order to be suitable to go to a "forever home". Since the GDA equine inspector was already familiar with this case, it became a matter of scheduling a date for pick-up, which occurred a week later.

Red has now been vaccinated, castrated and going through rehab to put on some weight. Jessie Murray, the Mansfield barn manager, tells me that Red is very sweet. He will be offered for sale at the next State equine sale in a few months.



2018 Marty Paulk Cheerleader Award Winner – Tamma Trump

by Patty Livingston

The GERL Board had absolutely no qualms about our selection for the Marty Paulk Cheerleader Award when it came time to choose candidates. As soon as Tamma was nominated, the entire Board of Directors readily agreed on the choice. Tamma has worked tirelessly as the event coordinator for the annual Rescue Challenge event that GERL hosts every Fall. She does a jam-up job of handling matters concerning the trainers, the facility and everything that goes with project managing a large event. She has been instrumental in the success of this event since our first year back in 2014.

Tamma has much leadership ability, having served as President of the Cherokee Saddle Club for many years. Their loss was our gain when she became more involved in GERL in 2013. She is very active in all things horses, including serving as the Vice President of the Georgia Horse Council.

Over these years, Tamma has become more to us than the GERL Vice President and Rescue Challenge Coordina-



tor. She is our sister, our friend and our partner. Marty Paulk would certainly approve of our choice for the 2018 award recipient. Tamma Trump *IS* the essence of what Marty was all about.



GERL President Patty Livingston stands with Tamma Trump, the 2018 Marty Paulk Cheerleader Award Recipient.

Spotlight on Our Area Coordinators

Susie Bond



My name is Susie Bond. I am the GERL Area Coordinator for Newton, Greene, and Morgan counties. I got hooked on horses at an early age. Today, between my 2 grown daughters and me, we

have 9 horses, 1 pony and six dogs on our farm in Social Circle. (I only own 1 horse and 2 dogs)! My girls all barrel race and we love the trails, too.

I have volunteered since 1999 for the Georgia Department of Agriculture, helping almost every week with their many horse chores, auctions and the annual GDA/GERL work days at the GDA's Mansfield Equine Impound barn. Through GERL, I have met some forever friends. The GERL website offers many answers to lots of your questions, but if I can help you with anything, please don't hesitate to call. "With your help, we will make a difference"!

Susie Bond
Area Coordinator for
Newton, Morgan & Green Counties
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GERL Helps Resolve Equine Repeat Offender Neglect Case

By Patty Livingston

I often write about the impact of repeat offenders of animal neglect and cruelty. It is my desire to concentrate our law enforcement training meetings to show the cost of the repeat offender and how to zero in on a solution. For the past 10 years I have come to know about several such equine owners because somebody is usually reporting them to our hotline or Facebook. It is typical for them to live in squalor and have multiple animals. One thing they have in common is that they will NOT agree to “owner surrender” their animals, regardless of the fact that they don’t have two nickels to rub together!

Before Thanksgiving I received a phone call from a concerned citizen who lived in Brantley, a small town in Southern Georgia. She was calling to report two horses that were visible from the road that locals had been complaining about for years. One was thin. One was not. The thin horse was old. Both had foundered sometime in the past as evident from the condition of their feet. The older horse laid down a lot and seemed to be depressed, according to passerby’s. There was no grass in the small pen and there was also a report of no hay. The owner’s name was well known by this caller and she asked me if I could do something to help these horses. I made a phone call to see if there was already an open case and there was not. I opened a case and asked that the inspector do a welfare check. They were familiar with the two horses at the address because the State inspector had been out on previous occasions. The owner was never willing to release his horses, in-

stead, he would comply by putting out hay and buying feed. He always stayed within the limits of the law. Years passed and here we were, five years later, with several of the locals up in arms.

Of course, this visit from the inspector was no different; the owner started complying and feeding his horses, again. The county sheriff’s office was also involved in the scenario, as is now the practice of the Department of Agriculture. The deputy was doing his best to gather photos and information to prepare a case, but these things take time. It was now after Christmas and both the State and County had been back out to check on the horses. The old horse had gained twenty-five pounds, showing evidence that the owner was complying.



By this time, I had a second “concerned citizen” calling me about this case and she was not a happy camper. At first, she acted like the lack of action on behalf of the horses was my fault. I quickly explained to her that GERL is not the GDA, nor are we associated with the GDA and their decisions. We were simply a non-profit organization that pays for the hay, feed and vet care for the horses that are brought in by the State. She calmed down some, after hearing this. It appeared that everybody in this small town knew everybody. She reiterated to me that this situation with these two horses had been going on for years and they were determined to get these horses some help. I promised her that I would follow-up with the County and State to see what was happening.

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GERL Helps Resolve Equine Repeat Offender Neglect Case

By Patty Livingston

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I made some phone calls and found out that the State had already been to the property with a trailer, prepared to pick up both horses, but the owner refused to sign them over. Their hands were tied while they waited for the deputy to obtain a warrant. In the meantime, the deputy had submitted his case to the Early County Magistrate Court Judge. He told me that “she” (the judge) refused to grant them a warrant to take the horses and their hands were tied. I offered GERL’s financial assistance to him since I knew that the horses did not have a Coggins or vaccines. He took my name and number, thanked me and hung up. I had not asked for the name of the Judge but when I called the “Concerned Citizen #2” back and relayed the information, she told me that she knew her and that their mothers were good friends. She promised to call her right away and get back with me. Geeez. This was beginning to turn into a “Peyton Place”.

Over the next couple of weeks, the deputy called me a couple of times to give me the name of the local veterinarian who was going to come out and pull blood for a Coggins and give vaccines. As it turns out, both horses were in bad need of a dentist, so the vet floated both horses. Of course, “Concerned Citizen #2” also knew the deputy on a personal basis so she had been calling him. Things were moving along now.

I got to be good friends with Terri, the assistant to the vet. We stayed in constant contact while they were out there checking the horses over. She was also familiar with this long-term neglect case and was as sick as all the other “concerned citizens” about the length of time that they had witnessed these horses suffering at

the hands of their owner. Of course, she knew them all by name.

In the meantime, I had yet a third “concerned citizen” calling me about this situation. Her mother still lived in Early County and she lived in Cobb county. She traveled back and forth a good bit and was very familiar with the two horses. She was also familiar with the Judge and “Concerned Citizen #2”. I suggested that they all get together and meet with the Judge, the Deputy and the State Equine Supervisor to get things sorted out.

They did that several days later and it came to an excellent conclusion. After a little bit of pressure from this small group of folks, the Judge signed the warrant but elected to call the owner and give

him the news and a final opportunity to sign the horses over. He decided to sign them over in lieu of going to jail. A cousin of Terri’s, the lady at the vet office, was able to go and pick up the two horses after they were vetted and a negative coggins was in hand. I obtained the name of the feed store where he traded and paid for 200 pounds of Senior feed and several bales of hay on GERL’s nickel. With several of us networking with horse rescues and other individuals in the area, a local rescue did take both horses into their program.

It was the perfect ending to a situation that had gone on much too long. It took a team of determined people that made it happen. As for GERL, all we did is play the role of “orchestrator” and sprinkled that with money by paying for hay, feed and the vet bill. It was the perfect ending! (May I say that again?)



GERL ADOPTABLES

For adoption fees and additional information, please contact CeCe Calli, Adoption Coordinator. (706) 371-6804 / adopt@gerlltd.org



Pleasure Lane is a 16-year-old black/white Paint QH gelding. He is a sweet boy and is rideable although he is a bit rusty, so he needs a strong rider. He has been a pasture ornament for much of his life and really needs a job. His current foster is working on his ground manners. This is a nice horse! Check him out!



Chad is a 15.1hh 14 year old Sorrel/White Paint. He is very affectionate and loves to be groomed. While Chad has some problems under saddle, we believe with some work and consistency he will be able to move past his fear of being ridden. Chad is a very sensitive horse and is very subtle with communication. He needs an experienced owner who will be tuned into him.



Ladybug has a gentle soul and is very easy to handle. She gets along well with other horses. She leads well and is very willing. She stands quietly for the farrier and the veterinarian. She does require a pill once a day for Cushing's.



Lula exhibits a gentle nature with no vices or health issues. She is easy to handle on the ground and leads well. Lula is a bit shy around her face but very loving after you begin to show her attention. She is fine with shots and stands for hoof trimming by a farrier who is patient with her.

Visit our website for up to date adoptable horses: <https://gerlltd.org>

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Patty Livingston (770) 867-0760

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AREA COORDINATORS NEEDED in MIDDLE AND SOUTH GEORGIA!

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

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

YOUR KROGER PLUS CHARITY SELECTION WILL END SEPTEMBER 30, 2018 !! DID YOU KNOW YOU HAVE TO RE-ENROLL YOUR CHARITY IN THE KROGER PLUS PROGRAM EVERY YEAR?

During the 4th quarter of 2018, The Georgia Equine Rescue League received \$139 from the Kroger Plus Program. That is compared to \$141 last quarter and \$142 the quarter before that. For now, it looks like we are holding that level of support. Thank you so to those who continue to support us quarter after quarter, year after year. Back in 2014 when we first rolled out this program, we received \$268 for one quarter. That means we still haven't reached that initial level since we rolled out this program. 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://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.

As of February 2019 GERL has received \$2,625.99. That is very encouraging, thank you to those who always go to the Amazon Smile link and support GERL while you do your shopping. 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 <https://gerlltd.org>. Our thanks go out to all of you who have chosen to support GERL through these programs.



Puttin' On The Feed Bag Recipe



Prep
30 m

Cook
1 h 5 m

Ready In
1 h 35 m

- 1 tablespoon ground cumin
- 1 tablespoon chili powder
- 1 tablespoon paprika salt and pepper
- 3 pounds baby back pork ribs
- 1 cup barbeque sauce



1. Preheat a gas grill for high heat, or arrange charcoal briquettes on one side of the barbeque. Lightly oil the grate.
2. In a small jar, combine cumin, chili powder, paprika, salt, and pepper. Close the lid, and shake to mix.
3. Trim the membrane sheath from the back of each rack. Run a small, sharp knife between the membrane and each rib, and snip off the membrane as much as possible. Sprinkle as much of the rub onto both sides of the ribs as desired. To prevent the ribs from becoming too dark and spicy, do not thoroughly rub the spices into the ribs. Store the unused portion of the spice

mix for future use.

4. Place aluminum foil on lower rack to capture drippings and prevent flare-ups. Lay the ribs on the top rack of the grill (away from the coals, if you're using briquettes). Reduce gas heat to low, close lid, and leave undisturbed for 1 hour. Do not lift the lid at all.
5. Brush ribs with barbecue sauce, and grill an additional 5 minutes. Serve ribs as whole rack, or cut between each rib bone and pile individually on a platter.

GERL Volunteer of the Quarter

by Linda Kundell

I met Pat Allen a few years ago. She had just moved to the area and wanted to meet people. I introduced her to the Georgia Equine Rescue League. Later, in a conversation with Pat I mentioned that we needed volunteers to help us with GERL. Since then she has attended several annual meetings and other GERL events. She is now a familiar face. She is a lot of fun to be with and we have enjoyed each other's company over the years.

GERL has a tack booth at an antique mall in Monroe called Pickers Paradise. Sorting through and cleaning the donated tack has been a big chore that had fallen on Patty Livingston and me. One day Pat volunteered to take a huge box of leather tack home with her for a good cleaning. When she brought it back it looked brand new; we were totally surprised, and it really helped our sales. She is a very artistic person and painted some tack boxes that were donated, which made them more marketable and we were able to sell both. Pat knows a lot about tack and horses. I pick her brain about lots of things. I found out that Pat is also good at mending torn blankets, which is a very tedious job. She has been to Pickers Paradise a number of times to help me display things. She has an artistic talent that shows in everything she does. Her husband, Terry, has come along a couple of times and he was able to secure a nice wall on the concrete wall of our booth so that there is more places to hang tack. What a nice bonus to get his building talents, along with Pat!

Just recently I was getting ready to sort out some tack to sell at the Lee Arrendale prison horse auction. I called Pat and whined that I needed help. She came over and we set to work. She called me later that day



Pat Allen, doing what she does best...selling tack.

and said that she would go to the auction with me. Despite the windy, brisk day of the auction, she jumped right in and set up the flea market and sold tack until we closed. It was a very satisfying day to go home with less in the trailer than what you arrived with.

I'd like to take this Volunteer of the Quarter section to say thank you to Pat Allen for her help. She found her niche and stepped up to help. She is a trail rider, a volunteer and a special friend.



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
Cynthia Anderson—Secretary
(770) 713-9887 / secretary@gerlltd.org
Linda Kundell- Alternate
(706) 769-6395 / lindakgerl@gmail.com



Adoption & Foster Coordinator - CeCe Calli
(706) 371-5804 / foster@gerlltd.org
Volunteer Coordinator—Leslie Lambert
gerlvolunteers@gerlltd.org
Auction Coordinator - Sue Wrensen
(770) 331-6947 / swrensen@comcast.net
Stallion-Gelding Coordinator
Marian Finco / (706) 340-4368 / mhfinco@aol.com
Triage Teams - Open Positions
Public Relations Coordinator - Position Open



Event Coordinators
Poker Ride—Amy Cox
Rescue Challenge Coordinator - Tamma Trump
(770) 655-0819 / mswhinney@juno.com

Social Media Coordinator
Nancy Bogardts / a4dognight@hotmail.com

Grant Writer / Position Open

Merchandise Coordinator - Linda Kundell
(706) 769-6395 / lindakgerl@gmail.com

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

amazonsmile
You shop. Amazon gives.

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support GERL every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to GERL.

On your first visit to AmazonSmile smile.amazon.com, simply select Georgia Equine Rescue League to receive donations before you begin shopping. They will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation to GERL. We appreciate your continued support!

If you haven't already, please sign up and then ask your friends and family to sign up and support GERL through the AmazonSmile program. <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/58-2080606>

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!

...or Pay online <https://gerlltd.org>

**"Feed a Horse"
Program**

<https://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!*

The Story of Hemi

By Leslie Lambert

In 2010 I started my search for a young horse that I could train, along with a trainer. I had been involved in the GERL since 2000 and decided if I could I would adopt a foster and go from there. I had fostered a horse in the past and knew how GERL took care of their fosters, so I figured if I could find the right horse I could have that horse ready to go across country by the time I retired. You see that is my bucket list, to see the USA on the back of a horse.



Hemi was a GERL horse that was adopted by Leslie Lambert in 2010

I found Hemi (AKA hay baler) being fostered up in Alpharetta. He was 3 years old and green broke, of good size, well-mannered and I thought perfect. So, we went through the process of adopting Hemi and left on vacation. We were aware that he had issues but were determined to see if we could make it work.

Upon our return we went to Alpharetta and picked him up. It took about 2 hours to load Hemi, but eventu-

ally he was home. We gave him a couple weeks to settle in and know that he was in a safe environment. So now on the day before thanksgiving, Jacki was brushing him, and he kicked her, at that moment we decided to get help. We had a trainer come pick up Hemi that night.

For the next 8 months Hemi remained with the trainer. In that time, we found out his wither was broken. We resolved that problem but, in the process found out that Hemi was deathly afraid of needles and from that day on he went to UGA for his annual care.

Hemi did progress and he was doing all three gates. He came home I kept working with him and our trainer. He was going on trails and working well. There were still moments where he would become unpredictable and those could be hairy to say the least. In October of 2015 I was riding Hemi at my farm and his stifle got stuck. He threw a buck and I came off and broke my rib. After that I lost my confidence and was unable to be comfortable riding Hemi. He had come far enough that I knew he needed to go on and be somebody else's horse.

I made the decision to take Hemi to New England where I knew more connections and entrusted him to a dear friend, Jennifer Allen, who I knew would do her best to help Hemi to find his home. It was a 24-hour drive of which he did fantastic, came off, went in his stall and started eating hay. 2 weeks after I left Jen called to say a gentleman wanted to purchase Hemi and use him as a catch horse at the track. Jen being a harness horse trainer would still be close to Hemi and indirectly so would I. Hemi did well for awhile but then he kicked a race horse and that was the end of his career as a catch horse.

He was then sold to a woman at the track for her younger sister. When I found out I was concerned that he would not be good for a 10-year-old. I asked Jen to please get a number for the girl's mother. I wanted her to know Hemi's history of neglect and abuse which surely shaped some of his more difficult behaviors.



The Story of Hemi

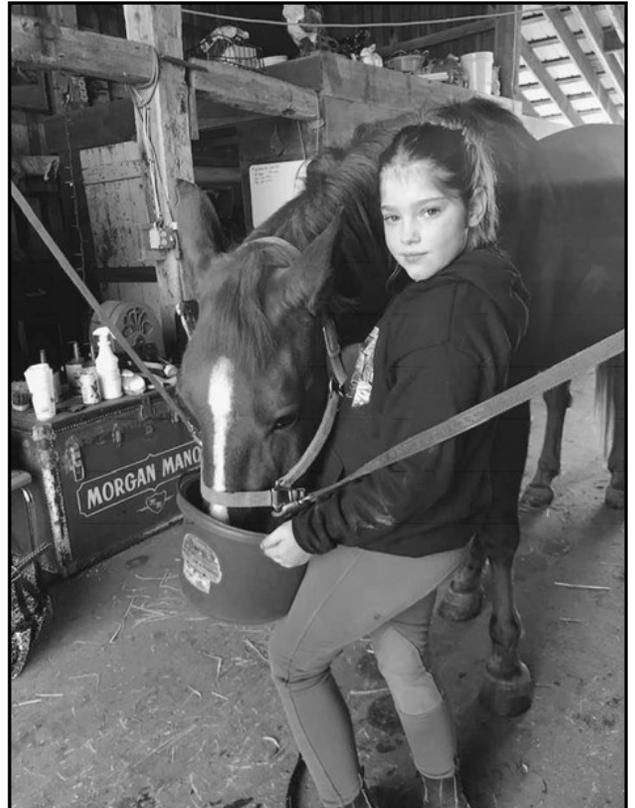
By Leslie Lambert

When I did reach her mother, she told me that her daughter was adopted and had come out of a horrific situation, including all the kinds of abuse you can think of. Hemi had found his person they bonded immediately, and he has been with her for 2 and a half years. They ride regularly and she is learning on him and has progressed to canter.

There were many along the way who told me to give

him back to GERL but I knew he could be alright if he could just find the right situation. I was glad I had the time and resources to help Hemi find his forever home. Hemi also taught me so many things. Hemi made me a better rider, a more patient rider and even though we could not stay together he gave of himself.

I hope to see Hemi soon. I am so looking forward to it. So that is the story of Hemi.



Hemi bonded with this 10 year old little girl, immediately. They have been together for over 2 years now and they ride regularly.

No hour of life is wasted that is spent in the saddle.



Five Horses Rescued

by Gloria Bell, GERL Area Coordinator

Continued from page 3

THE HEROS: Thankfully there are wonderful, compassionate people who act when they see animals in distress or suffering. **Thanks to these HEROS (listed below), they are amazing and continue to find room for “one more” when the neglect and abuse gets worse every day.**

Patty Livingston

Patty was always available, and I had her guidance throughout. She is so knowledgeable and has a BIG, BIG heart, regardless of how tough she has to be.

Charlotte Kuehn (The Dog Rescuer) She called us to get help for the horses. She is an Angel.

Leader of the Rescue Pack

<https://www.leaderoftherescuepack.com/>

Rescued over 1,300 dogs in the Northeast (Connecticut) from Georgia, Tennessee and New York Shelters.

Charlotte partners with founder of Leader of the Rescue Pack in the N.E. to re-home dogs the are in need of rescue. Charlotte has been instrumental in re-homing all the dogs for the current situation to homes locally.

Lee & Phil Rast (Lee was my contact)

Red Clay Equine Sanctuary

Lee is an Area Coordinator with GERL (I wasn't aware she was a coordinator at the time I called). Lee was very helpful, she referred the new owner of the stallion who at a moment's notice came and rescued him.

<http://redclayrescue.org/>

Red Clay Ranch Equine Rescue and Sanctuary, Inc. of Georgia is Accredited by the Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries.

Lee was amazing support and a wealth of knowledge. She was willing to take the mares or at least one, however, with the response of loving and capable rescuers, we were able to keep her freed up for the possible of home other horses.

She referred us to the Stallions new owner who drove across Georgia at a moment's notice to get him.

Susan Clegg

Experienced Horse Owner, Rescuer, Animal Advocate
Dahlonega, GA

Just who the stallion needed. Her and her husband were on the road to pick up the stallion. You can tell by her demeanor, she knows what she is doing, she's so calming and takes control. She was referred to us by Lee Rast.

Rhonda Jackson

Begin Again Farms
Ellerslie, GA

<http://beginagainfarms.com/>

While she is maximum capacity, she never stops helping, giving advice and taking in “one more”. I have personally

seen her jump in her truck and drive anywhere to get a horse in need. Her farm is truly a rescue and sanctuary of love and compassion. She was willing and ready to take the colt as a rescue until we found a forever home.

Andrea Otwell

Board Member of the Troup County Saddle Club

She provided excellent advice from the beginning of my contacting her and has the three mares all together with her, a forever home. The day they came to get the mares, she brought along very experienced and capable friends and one being a trainer and a junior trainer (2 years old). Tracy (experienced rider), Daniel (Trainer) and Little Noah (Trainer in Training)

Randy Ramsey

Ramsey Farms

Trainer and Boarding Facility (Georgia)

Randy was also highly experienced and a wealth of knowledge. He agreed to board the colt for us until we have a pasture and facility ready. He went to pick up the colt and I was thankful we had an experienced trainer with us. Justice, the colt, is pretty calm and good but loading him on a trailer was definitely a sight to see. Justice will have a forever home with Chet and Gloria Bell. He currently has his own stall in a wonderful barn with 6 other horses.

There were so many others that offered to take the horses and provided advice, to name a few:

Lori Wood, Member of the Troup Saddle Club

Brandi Key, Bowden, GA

This was my first horse rescue, you need not worry about a lack of experience with horses. Skills can be taught, I learned a lot; however, the qualities I found most valuable were kindness, compassion, common sense, ability to work with people and *love for animals*.

Thank you all again for your love, kindness and support!
God Bless you all!

Gloria Bell

Area Coordinator, Coweta and Fayette Counties

Gloria Bell, REALTOR®

Real Estate Agent

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices

Georgia Properties

Newnan/Coweta Office – Serving Atlanta Surrounding Areas

1201 Lower Fayetteville Road, Suite 100

Newnan, GA 30265

770-254-8333 Office

706-392-7520 Mobile

Gloria.bell@bhhsgeorgia.com

Sometimes we just do not have the words to describe the depth of our emotion...and something that lies a little deeper but remains undefined. The few words that do come to mind are commitment, empathy...and heartbreak.

Continued on page 17

Five Horses Rescued

by Gloria Bell, GERL Area Coordinator

Continued from page 16



Justice loving his new home.



Slider is beginning to gain weight.

Kourtney Has Her Second Hernia Surgery



Kourtney after her second hernia surgery.

Thanks to all of the kind folks who donated towards Kourtney's recent hernia surgery. You may remember the story of a 3-year-old mare named Kourtney and 5 other horses that were legally seized from their owner late last year. The yard was little more than a large mud pit where the horses lived. Walking in the deep mud caused four of the six horses to have hernias. Kourtney's first hernia surgery did not heal properly, and she had to go back to the UGA Vet Hospital where she underwent another surgery. Thanks to all of our generous supporters who provided the funds to help with Kourtney's recent operation and a special thanks to Lucy Hight's "Uncle Mack". She has been returned to the Mansfield impound barn where she is healing.

Mavis Goes to Her Forever Home



Mavis brought \$350 at the recent GDA horse auction held recently at the Lee Arrendale State Prison Equine Impound.



JOIN THE GEORGIA HORSE COUNCIL

ALL BREEDS. ALL DISCIPLINES. ONE VOICE

MEMBERSHIPS START AT JUST \$45/YEAR AND INCLUDE:
\$1,000,000 EXCESS EQUINE LIABILITY INSURANCE
EDUCATIONAL EVENTS
MEMBERS-ONLY DISCOUNTS



Contact us for more info:
www.georgiahorsecouncil.com
info@georgiahorsecouncil.com

Please visit our website for articles, membership application and general information: <https://gerlltd.org>

GERL Calendar of Events - *Mark Your Calendars!*

April 27, 2019

Andee Rogers Memorial Poker Ride
Fausett Farms, Dawsonville, Ga

October 5, 2019

GERL Rescue Challenge
UGA Livestock Arena, Athens, Ga

November 2019

Stallion to Gelding Castration Days
Various clinics all over Ga

December 14, 2019

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 for up to date information on events: <https://gerlltd.org>



LET ME SAY THIS...ABOUT THAT

By Patty Livingston, President

In our last newsletter I spoke about my pending meeting with Agriculture Commissioner Gary Black. I have since had that meeting and I must say that it was “informative”. Commissioner Black assured me that they have no immediate plans to close the Mansfield impound. That is a good thing. Other than that, I came away with the certain knowledge that those in the meeting had no idea how many thousands of dollars GERL contributes to their impound program each year, nor does that give us any right to question any of their policies. He told me that his department would be taking on a regulatory role with regard to equine neglect or abuse cases. The State inspectors would be turning their cases over to the County for prosecution and the DOA would be serving in an advisory role.

For the past 8 years I have put a lot of effort trying to convince the Department of Agriculture to embrace and promote (or at least, read!) our Equine Get-Well Plan. During the meeting, I found out that they have their own agenda and I respect that. Although it has not happened in the way that I would have liked, I do see a lot of common ground in our respective goals for this program. Educating law enforcement and involving them in equine neglect and cruelty cases, is an example.

A week after the meeting I received an email from Mark Murrah, the Department of Agriculture Animal Protection/Equine Manager, letting me know that my request to have the inspectors do a follow-up visit on the horses sold at auction was denied. That had been one of my main reasons for requesting the meeting. I was disappointed by their decision but will cling to the Serenity Prayer as I “accept those things I cannot change”. He said that their legal department had confirmed that they have no legal authority to perform the inspections and that they had redrafted their contract to

reflect this. He also said that they will investigate any legitimate complaint alleging that the equines are not receiving humane care.

On a more uplifting note, I was recently pleased to receive an invitation, along with 5 other equine leaders around Georgia, from Dr. Cobb, the GDA State Veterinarian, inviting us to participate on a new Equine Health Advisory Committee. This committee would meet several times a year for the purpose of generating recommendations that address Georgia equine issues and needs, current regulatory concerns and future industry direction. Currently, Equine Infectious Anemia; Equine Piroplasmiasis; Temporary Coggins Reports; Certificates of Veterinary Inspection (CVI); Extended Equine CVI; and Animal Identification are hot topics that need discussion. The goal is to establish a plan and be prepared to do what is best for the Georgia equine industry. I accepted his invitation and am honored to be a part of this important panel.

I must remind myself since my meeting with the Commissioner, that the many things GERL does for the GDA is not all that we do for horses in Georgia. While we have worked very hard since our inception to support the GDA impound program, we also maintain a very active foster care program of our own in which we rescue, rehabilitate and find homes for many horses with a variety of needs. GERL has changed in a number of ways over the 10 years I have served as President. It seems that, as time has passed, we have more and more of our eggs in the GDA basket. I realize that I cannot control or influence the decision-making that goes on with a government entity, nor do I wish to. GERL has other programs and goals that don't necessarily have anything to do with the GDA and let me say this about that...I expect there will be a shift in the amount of energy and attention we will expend in the future to obtain those goals!



A Note from the Secretary's Desk

by Cynthia Anderson



This Quarter has flown by and as usual Patty and the other members have been hard at work. We started off this year with our annual meeting in Winder had a very informative presentation on Pasture management and a delicious pot luck. Thank you to everyone that attended and brought the wonderful food.

cue groups. This situation really brings to light the importance of the Department of agriculture's equine division and impound facilities and the need to support them. It also reinforces the need for rescue groups to work together and to work with county and state governments.

The GERL annual Andee Rogers Memorial Poker Ride at Fausett Farms Horse Trails in Dawsonville, Georgia is scheduled for April 27th and registration is open on the GERL website. This is a change to have some fun and get together with people that share you interest in horses. So, plan to come on out have some fun.

If you are reading this newsletter for the first time; please consider volunteering at some of our events and joining our hardworking group of volunteers. Remember, as Elizabeth Andrew says *"Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart."*

Patty met with Gary Black, commissioner of the Department of Agriculture for some clarification relating to the equine division. The Department of Agriculture addressed a case in Grovetown where 40 horses were in need of help. 15 of those horses were taken to the Mansfield impound with the rest being dispersed to other res-

GERL Board of Directors Approves Equine Shelter for Oconee County Animal Control

The Georgia Equine Rescue League (GERL) Board of Directors recently met and approved three thousand dollars for a shelter consisting of an 18X28 foot metal carport with one side and panels for a temporary holding facility for Oconee County Animal Shelter.

I was originally contacted by Sherry Aycock from the Oconee County Animal Shelter about the need for an equine shelter. I put her in touch with my friends at Bar G Horse & Cattle in Bishop to discuss the needs of the shelter. Bobby Griggs was able to draft a tempo-

rary shelter on paper that was later used to obtain approval from the GERL BOD. I called Sherry back later to let her know that everything had been approved and she was very thankful. *"This is a blessing not just us here at the Shelter but for our County Thank you all so much."*

Everything is on go and the shelter has been ordered. Stay tuned for an update and photos in our next newsletter!

Please visit our website for articles, membership application and general information: <https://gerlltd.org>

GERL's Multicounty Meeting

By Cynthia Anderson

Christopher Bussey, Animal Services Supervisor from LaGrange, Ga invited GERL to hold a multicounty meeting in his area. So, on July 18th in LaGrange Georgia GERL is hosting what we call a "Multicounty Meeting" They are in reality a free training class for animal control and police officers around the state. GERL invites Animal control and police offices from approximately 20 counties surrounding the area where the meeting is to be held. GERL then introduces information on GERL, our mission and what support we can provide to the counties. Matt Thompson talks about the role of the Department of Agriculture in investigation equine neglect and cruelty. He gives a demonstration on own to handle horses at large, how to body score horses. Kevin Hearst provides the do's and don'ts on how to investigate animal cruelty, and Jessica Rock, Director for Legal Advocacy & Law Enforcement Support, Atlanta Humane Society presents information on prosecution of animal cruelty.

GERL tries to host two of these very important multicounty meetings a year. We feel that educating and supporting local animal control and police officers is one way GERL can help put a stop to animal cruelty and neglect in the state of Georgia.

Did You Know?

According to research, there is a link between human violence and animal cruelty. Animal cruelty is connected to many forms of human violence including domestic violence, elder abuse, child abuse, and crimes such as murder, arson, and rape. One study found that in 88% of homes with abused children, animal abuse or neglect was also occurring. And a comprehensive study of over 3500 domestic violence victims across 11 metropolitan cities in the U.S. found that pet abuse was one of only four significant risk factors for domestic violence among an urban population.

Psychologists and social workers understand that animal cruelty, domestic violence, elder abuse, and child abuse intersect. Taking animal cruelty seriously actually puts law enforcement and prosecutors in a better position to uncover other crimes. Animal abuse is a significant indicator that there is something wrong in the abuser's home or life. Sometimes animal cruelty is more visible to neighbors (such as leaving a horse tethered to a tree) than human violence. An animal control officer might be the only person who can uncover other crimes and alert authorities.

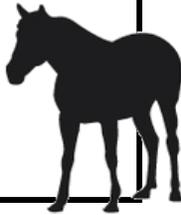
Failing to address animal cruelty today also creates a cycle of future violence. A 2009 study of the link between domestic violence, child abuse, and animal abuse found "a robust link between witnessing animal abuse and perpetuating cruelty towards animals...Furthermore, individuals who witnessed animal cruelty were eight times more likely to be perpetrators." Children who are simply present in a violent home are more likely to abuse animals later in life.



GERL Stallion to Gelding Program.

Stallions Gelded To Date By GERL:

1006



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

Carol Royer
John Lynn
Constance Burchette
Erik Wittenzellner

Horses in our Foster Care Program

CeCe Calli—Foster Care Coordinator
(706) 376-2410
foster@gerlltd.org

HORSES	FOSTER HOME
Chad	Rylee Nash
Cooper	Steven Neal
Ladybug	Steven Neal
Lula	Pollyanna
Pleasure Lane	Blake & Lori Hoffman
Ransom	Steven Neal
Wyatt	Beverly Bass
Woodrow	Patty Livingston
Spirit	Patty Livingston

The Horse That Disappeared
The Tale of the Wind Horse - A Choctaw Legend

At the time when day and night were still deciding who comes first, there lived a horse that will never be seen again. The horse was not one that would become extinct as the dying buffalo, for this horse had no enemies. The reason that this horse would not be seen again was because of LOVE. It is a story that begins this way:

The horse, who was called Wind Horse, was the fastest and gentlest of all the Indian ponies. He felt no fear. There was no one who would harm him. If there was a wounded Indian or one that needed a ride, Wind Horse was there to care and to carry him. Because of the kindness of Wind Horse, there are no more like him.

One day, Wind Horse was feeling the good feeling of being free. He heard a cry for help. He ran to the edge of the forest and saw an Indian child caught in a bear trap. The boy's foot was cut off and the child could not move. Wind horse went to his side and as the boy leaned against him, Wind Horse bent down to let the boy get on his back. The child had no name and could not believe that this beautiful horse would come to him as a friend. All his life he had lived alone, for he was crippled and nobody wanted him. As he rode with the wind on the back of the horse, he could feel the good feeling that Wind Horse had felt. It was as if he were whole and he was with family.

Wind Horse knew that the boy's wound was not one that would heal. He was taking the boy to the place of the Indian Hunting Ground where all were made whole and had no fear or need. Wind Horse felt sadness that one as young as this boy had to go there but he knew that it would be for the best. As they traveled, the boy noticed that the trail was always changing. First it was as when the boy had been hurt, then it was as when he had been happy. Then it was the time when he had not been born. Soon, he saw things that he did not recognize. The boy became more close to Wind Horse for he began to fear.

Wind horse had seen the times and had seen the boy and his life pass before him. He had felt the feelings of the boy. Wind Horse knew that if he continued to ride, he would not be free anymore because the feelings of the boy were now becoming his own feelings. Wind Horse was the last of his race, the race of horses that would feel the feelings of the rider.

Should the rider remain on a Horse of Wind, he would share the fate of the rider, for then a bond would be made that would not and could not be broken. Wind Horse knew of this bond and, as a result, always put down his rider before any bond was made. This time, Wind Horse knew this would be his last ride.

As they traveled, the boy began to talk to Wind Horse and he listened to the hopes of the boy that someday he would run with the leaves that blew across the ground. He listened as the boy wished for someone to care and love him even with his bad leg. As Wind Horse listened, he began to feel the love for the boy that the boy had wanted to give to a friend. Yes, the horse thought, this is my last ride for I have found one that needs the feelings that I can give. Since I am the last of my race, I will spend the rest of my time with the one that can and will give the feelings that I need.

Continued on page 23

Continued from page 22

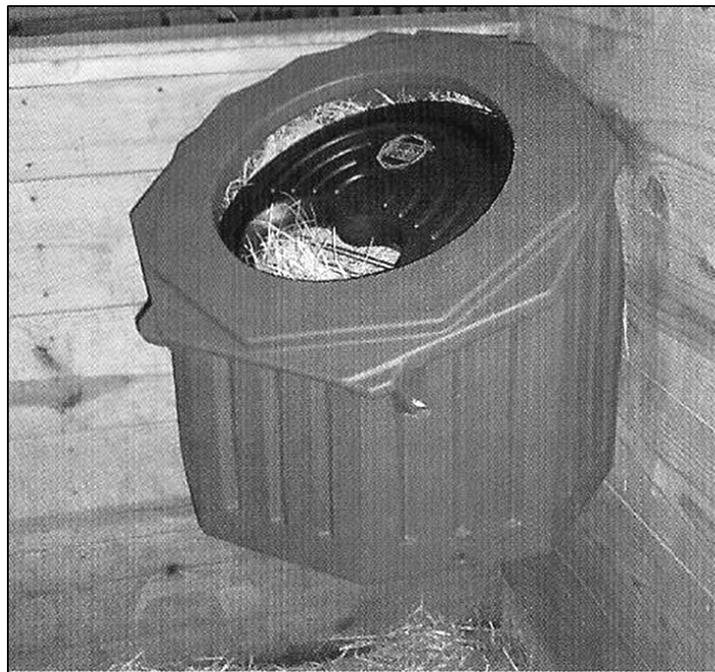
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As they walked into their new world together, the Indians left behind felt a great sadness. Even they could not fathom what was happening, the feelings of great loss and unhappiness was all around. Wind Horse could hear the cries of despair, but he knew that with the passing of many suns and moons, he would soon forget him and his race.

Wind Horse had made his last journey. He would miss all his travels and the friends that he had made and helped along the way. He prayed to the Great Spirit to send a reminder to the Indian people of the friendship that they had shared. As Wind Horse prayed, the Great Spirit made it so - the horse was given to the Indian people as a gift to be treasured for the bond of friendship. (Teresa Janice Pittman).

GERL has top-of-the-line Controlled Feeders for Sale \$150.00

Contact: Patty Livingston 770-867-0760



Cargill Announces new Ultra Premium Line of Horse Feeds

Cargill Feed has a new ultra-premium line of horse feed, ProElite which has now been incorporated into the SHOW program. Triple Crown POPs will also be accepted.

Please save Proof of Purchase seals from ProElite and Triple Crown and send them to:

Ginny Scarritt, 4835 Kendall Court, Atlanta, GA 30342



With *Your* Help we...*Will* Make A Difference!

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

Please save Proof Of Purchase seals from bags of these Southern States feeds, Legends & Reliance and Triple Crown.

and send them to:

Ginny Scarritt

4835 Kendall Court * Atlanta, GA 30342



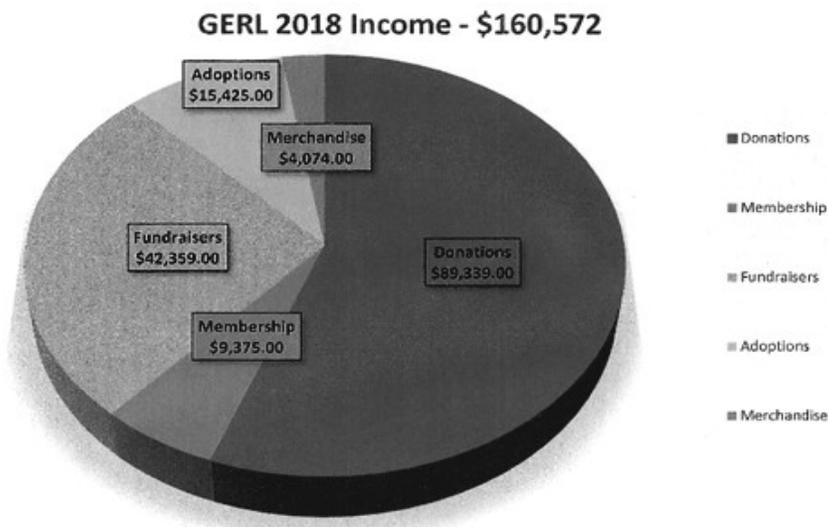
In April, 2018 GERL received \$787.50 from our Proof of Purchase Program. Please keep those POP's coming!

LET'S TALK ABOUT THE MONEY—2018 ANNUAL REPORT



We raised \$42,359 at FUNDRAISERS.
 We received \$9,375 in MEMBERSHIPS.
 We received \$30,750 from FOUNDATIONS/TRUSTS/GRANTS.
 We received \$52,044 in OTHER DONATIONS.
 We received \$8,978 for our FEED-A-HORSE PROGRAM.
 We received \$15,425 in ADOPTION FEES.

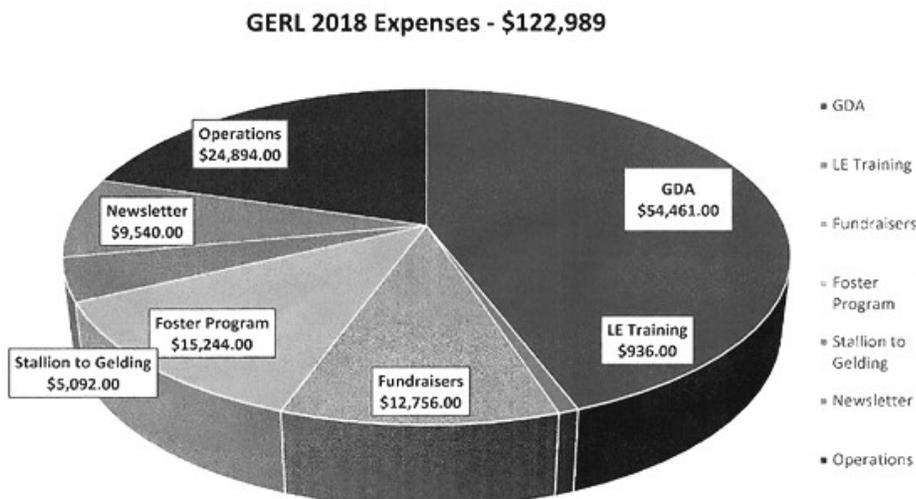
TOTAL INCOME FOR 2018 WAS \$160,572



LET'S TALK ABOUT THE MONEY

We spent \$54,461 on goods and services for the GDA HORSES;
 We spent \$12,756 on FUNDRAISERS.
 We spent \$15,244 on GERL FOSTER CARE.
 We spent \$9,540 on the GERL NEWSLETTER.
 We spent \$936 on LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING & CRISIS INTERVENTION.
 We spent \$5,092 on our STALLION TO GELDING PROGRAM.
 We spent \$24,894 on OPERATIONS (Insurance, Postage, Fees, Travel, etc).

TOTAL EXPENSES FOR 2018 WAS \$122,989



GDA Success Story

Gene, a 2 year old miniature donkey Jack and Louise, a 1 year old grade walking horse filly, had very thick winter coats that gave the false appearance of a higher body condition score than they actually were. Louise was approximately, 12 hands and weighed 383lbs. Gene was approximately 8.1 hands and weighed 158lbs. Both youngsters were not really social yet, but that was about to change!



As they began their recovery everyone who visited the impound learned how lovable they were. They really were attached to each other, too. Both Louise and Gene have quickly become farm favorites! All our visitors and care takers enjoyed these two!. Even Tuffy!



We finally found these two love bugs THE perfect loving home! Meet the Stokes Family, Middle photo, left to right, Luke, Rory, Lily & Emma Stokes and Now, Gene and Louise Stokes! Thank you all so much for adopting these two!



We want to Thank GERL again for all their help & support with his rehabilitation & Thank you Laura Stokes & her sweet family for giving Gene & Louise a loving home!



The GERL Annual Meeting Marks Another Successful Year

by Patty Livingston

The Georgia Equine Rescue League (GERL), held their annual meeting at the Winder Lion's Club on Saturday, February 9th. As is the routine by now, I spent all day on Friday loading up the flea market and other materials in the back of my horse trailer in preparation



Pretty ladies: Kate, Pollyanna Chavez, Margaret Clower, CeCe Calli & Valerie Puryear.

for the meeting. When I pulled in, I was grateful to see a small group of people waiting to help unload. Sue Wrensen already had the silent auction set up and a few people were milling around checking out all of the goods.

We started out by sharing a delicious potluck lunch, followed by our guest speaker, Kylee Jo Duberstein, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Equine Science Department of Animal and Dairy Science at the University of Georgia, who spoke about pasture management and nutrition. She gave a very informative presentation, providing our audience with great information about maintaining a healthy pasture.

Immediately following the presentation, I kicked off the financial part of the meeting. GERL had a very successful year in 2018 and was able to spend \$77,000 directly on helping horses in Georgia. We made a total of \$160,572 and had \$122,989 in expenses. We were able to reduce the amount of expenses in a couple of areas, such as fund raising and our foster program. Income was up in memberships, adoption fees, Feed A Horse program and fund raising.



Our guest speaker: UGA Professor Dr. Kylee Jo Duberstein spoke on the topic of pasture management and nutrition.



GERL President Patty Livingston presents the Marty Paulk Cheerleader trophy to the 2018 winner, Tamma Trump.

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The GERL Annual Meeting Marks Another Successful Year

by Patty Livingston

Continued from page 26

- ◆ We spent \$77,007 assisting horses in 2018:
- ◆ We provided the GDA with \$54,461 in goods & services.
- ◆ Mansfield Impounds - \$44,438
- ◆ Lee Arrendale Prison Impound – \$6,330
- ◆ Pulaski Prison Impound - \$3,693
- ◆ We spent approximately \$2,644 to assist individuals with lost jobs and health issues to feed and vet their horses.
- ◆ We spent \$5,092 on castrations.
- ◆ We spent \$15,244 on GERL foster care.



After the business portion of the meeting, it was awards time. The coveted Marty Paulk GERL Cheerleader Award went to Tamma Trump, who is GERL’s Vice President and most importantly, she is the GERL Rescue Challenge Event Coordinator. She was totally surprised at the announcement, but the award couldn’t have gone to a more deserving person.

The meeting adjourned, and everybody began the task of packing up and cleaning up before we left the building. Big thanks to Bob Long for securing the Lion’s Club for us, again, this year!



Group Photo: GERL Annual Meeting loyal supporters who always appreciate a great “potluck lunch”.



Clay & Brenda Smith, Thomas Threatt, Betty Sue Hearin & Mickey Farmer



Cynthia Anderson, GERL Secretary



Everyone enjoyed a great potluck lunch before the meeting began.

GDA Horse Auction at Lee Arrendale Prison Equine Impound

by Patty Livingston

There hasn't been a horse auction at the Lee Arrendale Prison Equine Impound in Alto, GA., in over a year. The auction scheduled on March 16th would be the first in 2019. It was nice to see the familiar faces when I arrived to set up. Tina Turner, a regular volunteer for GERL at the Alto auctions, is the first person that I saw. It was good to know that I was going to have help unloading all the food and coolers. Linda Kundell and Pat Allen arrived just ahead of me and they were pulling the GERL cargo trailer with all the flea market items. We all got busy setting everything up, while people started arriving for the auction.



Cindy Farris and Leslie Lambert.

There were twelve horses slated to be in the auction. Several were familiar to me because they had been in previous auctions. Mavis, the little orphan filly that was sponsored by a 9-year-old Lucy Hight, was going to be in this auction. She is 10 months old now. I worried that she wouldn't get a bid because history has shown that unbroke or even green broke horses don't usually get bids. Olivia, the 18-year-old mare that had to have one of her eyes removed, was also in the line-up. It is rare that someone will bid on a one-eyed horse, even if it rides.

The auction started with Captain Dennis Gallman, the supervisor over the Lee Arrendale Equine program, riding a Dun mare around the arena with the American Flag while his wife sang the Star-Spangled Banner. That was followed by a prayer and then the auction was kicked off by our favorite, almost famous auctioneer, Mickey Farmer.



Linda Kundell and Pat Allen – Flea Market Queens

The first horse, a 16-year-old Thoroughbred Mare that rides, went for only \$100. The next two hors-

es didn't get a bid and were returned to their stalls. Next up was Mavis. I held my breath, waiting for someone to raise their hand and bid. Much to my surprise, Mavis ended up going for \$350.00. She is a pretty little thing and I'm hoping that the lady who bought her will enjoy her.



The Gallmans and friends



Our favorite auctioneer, Mickey Farmer



Captain Gallman on Buffy

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GDA Horse Auction at Lee Arrendale Prison Equine Impound

by Patty Livingston

Continued from 28

Sadly, six of the remaining horses didn't get bids and were returned to their stalls, including Olivia. The Dun mare named Buffy was the last horse to come into the arena. Captain Gallman was riding her and he really showed the audience what great training she had by spinning her in circles and showing off her agility. The bidding went higher. There was a bidding war that was finally won by a lady who paid \$1,375.00. Wow! That was downright exciting to watch!

As soon as the auction was over everybody starting scattering to get their trailers and load their horses. It was a sad day for the eight horses that didn't sell. At least it felt that way to me. Mainly, because I knew that those eight horses, including two donkeys, should be signed over to GERL (or some other rescue) to get them out of the State's barns. Most of them have been around too long and nobody seems to want them. GERL doesn't have foster homes to take them. It is a constant dilemma that has no easy answer, but one thing that I know works is to form a triage team whose job is to get the horse rehomed. That means that this team of people visit each horse and perform an evaluation of their training and ground manners. They also have a videographer who shoots video footage of the

horse. Another member of the team gets on social media and the phone and markets the horse. I haven't been able to get a group of people together to perform this task in the past, but after watching what happened at the auction it really needs to have a higher priority.

There were a couple of new people who attended the auction and I could see that it really bothered them that these horses didn't get bids or that several went so cheap. It was truly an eye-opener for them. One was a relatively new volunteer who ended up with cooking duty. Her name is Tasha Pippen and she immediately went home and started to network with other horsey folks to help find homes for some of the horses. As it turns out, she was able to find a new home for Olivia and is currently working on rehoming the two donkeys. We need a team of people like Tasha Pippen who will help market and rehome these horses that are not the pick of the auction.

I want to thank all of our volunteers to showed up on a chilly morning to help us: Leslie Lambert, Tina Turner, Cindy Farris, Linda Kundell, Tasha Pippen, Pat Allen and Terry Turner.



GERL Volunteers: Tasha Pippen, Linda Kundell, Cindy Farris, Terry Turner, Tina Turner, Leslie Lambert and Pat Allen

GERL Rescue Challenge



*2018 GERL Rescue Challenge winner
Tinker Moffitt with Dreamer*

October 5, 2019

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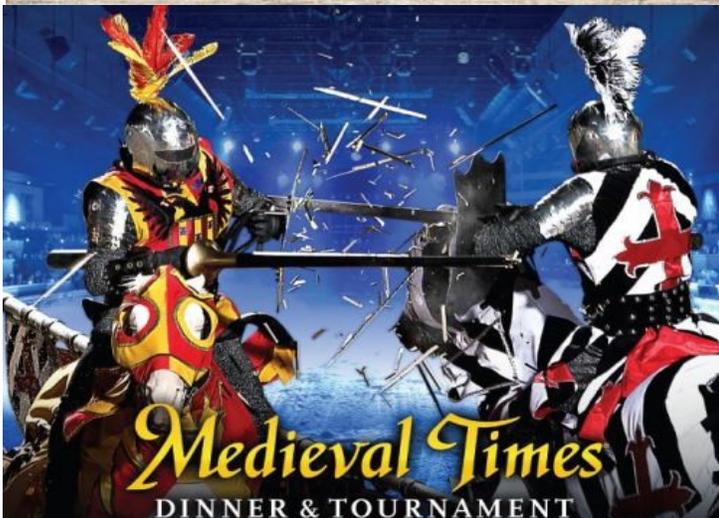
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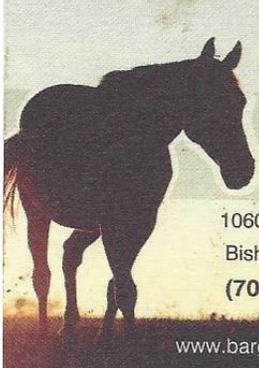


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