



Georgia Equine Rescue League, Ltd. NEWSLETTER

Helping Starved, Abused & Neglected Horses in Georgia

Quarterly Newsletter

April, May & June 2021

Georgia Horse Fair 2021

By Nancy Cox

The GHF2021 was held on April 17, 2021, at the Georgia International Horse Park in Conyers, Georgia. This one-day event was jointly hosted by the Georgia Horse Council and the Georgia Equine Rescue League.

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Georgia Equine Rescue League, Ltd.
P.O. Box 328
Bethlehem, Ga. 30620
770-464-0138
<https://gerlltd.org>
contactus@gerlltd.org

Georgia Horse Fair 2021

By Nancy Cox

Continued from page 1

There were 32 Clinicians/Performers with 80+ horses, over 50 vendors, and 10 sponsors, two of which were “presenting sponsors”: Triple Crown Feeds and GoHorse.com. Over 1,200 ticket holders attended, with roughly half the tickets being purchased online before the event, and the rest were walk-up sales the day of the event.

The day’s experience went smoothly, with the weather cooperating and the widespread venue enabling comfortable ‘distancing’ and safe Covid transmission prevention. Attendance was steady throughout the day and until the final session, which was our GERL Rescue Challenge finale. Our vendors enjoyed heavy, steady traffic all day and reported to us that they had a very successful event.

The event was produced by a 100% volunteer team. We are grateful for the generous donation of time by our volunteers and our event performers. They made the event possible!

The event was action packed with five venues running concurrently, leaving attendees to make difficult choices! The Main/Covered arena showcased a variety of top trainers from a range of disciplines, plus the Parade of Breeds and the GERL Rescue Challenge Finale.

Outdoors, we had two clinician arenas, and the early phases of the Rescue Challenge. We also had a classroom track featuring Veterinarians, UGA experts, and more, with attendance full all day!

Our Peace@Home/Waypoint Ranch sponsor gave a full day demo of their ranch training methods with veteran trainers that have found a 'second career' with horses after retirement.

The day was a huge leap of faith by the event staff, the performers, and vendors/sponsors, but we pulled it off and had a great, fun, horse filled day!

A final note: We know people keep wondering about "next year" and we'll see. Being 100% volunteer driven, it is all about assembling the right team that can take on the event. It is a lot of long hours, endless details and follow up, and ability to adapt and adjust. If



that sounds like something you are interested in doing, let us know!

Please see the Georgia Horse Council Facebook page for photos and news about the event and its participants and the georgiahorsefair.org website for digital copy of the program and other info about the event.



Georgia Horse Fair 2021

By Nancy Cox



Georgia Horse Fair 2021

By Nancy Cox



RIP Chief

By Sara Reams

He was indeed a horse worthy of his name. I was the first to see him, as we pulled up to the pasture where these rescues had been living. He was at the side of a group of horses, all standing at the gate. While the others moved around us, Chief continued to stand there, keeping an eye on everything. It was apparent that he was in charge. His watchful eyes, his alert ears, his very presence - all said that he was making sure that we were no danger.

As we made our choice to take him to his new home, Calvin Center, he was haltered and tied to the trailer. At this same time, someone on the other side of the field put something over the fence that attracted all the other horses. Running to the fence, they left Chief alone. He bravely stood there, watching the others, but accepting his new fate with calm dignity.



From that first day, as a rescue coming to us through the generosity of GERL, Chief had our hearts. He

knew that he was part of our Horses & Warriors veterans' group, coming to the gate as soon as we began to gather. While he could be a serious worker, he also allowed himself to be dressed as a poodle, winning first place in our Halloween contest! There was just something about him that drew people to him. He was always ready to please. I always thought he had the kindest, wisest eyes.



In the pasture, he was the "muscle" to our old herd leader's brains. They formed a fast friendship after a few rocky days at first. He fit so well into our herd, continuing to maintain his serious presence, with kindness.

As a lameness showed itself, we immediately called in the veterinarian, who kindly did extensive testing. Results showed Chief had exacerbated a previous leg injury-- not by trauma, but just by being a horse in the field. Although it was hoped through kindness and time it would heal, Chief was stressed with the stall rest. Every day he showed us his strength. Unfortunately, despite the wonderful care and love he was receiving, he told us it was time to say good-bye.

We miss Chief greatly. We are ever grateful to GERL for giving us the opportunity to have him as our friend. He is buried in the field next to one of his friends, our dear Chess. Rest in peace, our strong Chief.

Sara Reams
Calvin Center Horses & Warriors

The 2021 GERL Rescue Challenge

By CeCe Calli

Change is usually a good thing. It is scary at times, but good. The 2021 GERL Rescue Challenge was representative of that scary good change. The Georgia International Horse Park is a huge venue compared with UGA's Livestock Pavilion where the event was previously held. There were so many horses, vendors, and attendee everywhere! Luckily our GERL horses were the bomb and made the day a big success.

Cassy Hoban and Braveheart pulled it off and won the Challenge. Yes, that little "never been touched" feral horse stepped up and showed his stuff. Braveheart came into our program as a stallion and was later gelded. He is as his name implies - brave, but curious and really wanting to trust. Braveheart made the right decision and trusted Cassy to show him the world can be a pretty cool place. He showed his true personality when he tried to eat Cassy's hat during the award ceremony.

Riley Watson and Jazzy Cat amazed us all. Jazzy came from a bad situation involving a herd of forty Paso Finos. They ranged from stallions and mares in foal to unhandled young fillies and colts. Jazzy was in foal when she was impounded by the state and sadly, the foal did not survive. Horses suffer grief as well as humans and this put her into a bad place. Riley was able to help her heal and show this girl the light. Jazzy has the cutest gait and showed she is one tough chick.



Rylee Nash and Kourtney



Rescue Challenge Judges: ???, Ann Harris and Tinker Moffitt

The 2021 GERL Rescue Challenge

By CeCe Calli

Rylee and Kourtney were just so solid! Kourtney had some issues to overcome. When she came into our program, she had a hernia that needed surgery. Off to UGA she went. Recovery was a slow process for her (belly hernia are beasts). Kourtney went through a few setbacks and returned to UGA for further treatments. GERL gave her time to heal and heal she did. Kourtney was soon ready to go and Rylee did a fantastic job helping her progress. Kourtney proved to be a trusted trail mount, enjoying playing in any water she came to. During her freestyle Rylee proudly carried our American Flag (which brought tears to many) and I think Kourtney was pretty proud too.

A special thanks to our three judges, Ann Harris, Marsha Henry and Tinker Moffitt. I could not have done this without your help. I am so grateful to all of you for giving up a day in your busy world.

I can't forget about our fabulous arena crew - Leland Hammond, Angie Hammond, Brian Green, Jeffery Daniels and Jimmy Melvin. You guys rocked it! How you followed my crazy directions is beyond me. Thank you to Angie who came to my place to help load the trailer with all the obstacles that went to the Challenge.

Last but never least, thank you to my big brother, Danny. He came to Georgia from his home in California to

help his sister. Thank you for keeping me from jumping off the mountain. I have the best big brother ever!

April 21 was a fun day. Our GERL horses shined like the sun, and our volunteers did a great job. The Georgia Horse Fair was a huge success. Thanks to everyone for helping our horses.

At the time of this writing Braveheart and Jazzy are still available for adoption. Contact me at 706-371-5804 for your chance to have one of these spectacular horses in your barn.



Riley Watson and Jazzy Cat – Second Place



Cassy Hoban and Braveheart - the winners of our Rescue Challenge competition

Selena has Found her Forever Home

By Debbie Wright

Selena is such a joy. Losing all my horses left a void. A friend told me about Patty and gave me the article about Selena.

She has fit in well with the other farm animals. I now have the three S's. Sparky the donkey, Spotty the goat, and our new addition, Selena.

Selena is all that Patty had said she was. She loves to be groomed and treats are a need of hers. She will go to the pocket to show you where they are and that she deserves one. She has filled the void and I know she is just a pony, but God has a place for all his creatures.

Thank you, Patty, for bringing me such a joy.



Kourtney Goes to Her Forever Home

By Christina Warren



Kourtney, who we now refer to as Izzy, has not skipped a beat after being brought to her new home, following the GERL Rescue Challenge. She gets along beautifully with our pony and older mare and does not just "tolerate" our four children, but actually seeks out and enjoys attention from them. Izzy has happily hit the trails with me without hesitation, both with and without friends. She is continuing to learn with every week that passes and is teaching me as well! She recently went on her first camping trip with the whole family at Watson Mill Bridge State Park and did not even flinch when I decided to pony my daughters on their pony for their first official trail ride. Adopting her has been an absolute blessing and she has quickly become a member of the family. We are so grateful to have her and look forward to the years ahead! Thank you GERL!

Area Coordinators

Absalon, John - Bartow, Floyd, Gordon, Cherokee, Paulding.

(770) 546-9672 / sanstet@bellsouth.net

Anderson, Cynthia - Baldwin & Putnam

(770) 713-9887 / gormaisfat@yahoo.com

Aronson, Dr. Amy - Lowndes

(229) 356-7991 / aaronson@valdosta.edu

Beasley, Hugh—Coffee, Bacon, Jeff Davis, Telfair, Ben Hill, Irwin, Berrien and Atkinson

(912) 381-4219 / hugh01@windstream.net

Bell, Gloria – Coweta and Fayette

(706) 392-7520 / gloria@decorinsights.com

Benfield, Rita - Douglas, Haralson, Carroll

(770) 330-0877 / ritabenfield@gmail.com

Bond, Susie - Newton, Morgan & Greene

(770) 464-4353 / bond97@att.net

Brayton, Cynthia - Rockdale & Henry

(678) 490-6266 / leaper12@hotmail.com

Brock, Allen - Franklin, Madison, Hart, Stephens, Elbert, Banks, Jackson, Clarke, Oglethorpe, Habersham, Rabun

(706) 255-6595 / astunt1@yahoo.com

Calli, CeCe - Hart, Franklin and Elbert

(706) 371-5804 / gerlfoster@aol.com

Carter, Dotti & Jack - Towns

(706) 896-4997 / (706) 835-5677

frogleap@windstream.net

Copeland, Helen - Forsyth & Dawson

(770) 361-5053 / outlawstar10@hotmail.com

Dale, Rhonda - Paulding

(770) 769-0445 / rhondajdale@hotmail.com

DeVane, Charles & Linda—Brooks, Thomas & Cook

(229) 263-7714 / (229) 560-0844

Farrar, Alice—Jones

(478) 451-7999 / alice.farrar@gmail.com

Farris, LeeAnn—Harris, Meriwether, Talbot & Muscogee

(706) 580-6382 / purplepeach1972@yahoo.com

Fayard, Brenda—Pike, Lamar, Upson & Spalding

(770)856-2144 / Fayardb@bellsouth.com

Folea, Theresa - Forsyth

(770) 307-7625/770-205-5852 / tfolea@gmail.com

Gavitt, Heather - Brantley, Ware, Pierce, Glynn & Bacon

(912) 548-3301 / heathergavitt79@gmail.com

Grage, Wendy - Gwinnett, DeKalb, Walton & Rockdale

(404) 660-6646 / wgrage@me.com

Greene, Brian—Walton

(404) 660-6420 / brian.e.greene7@gmail.com

Hammond, Angie - Elbert, Madison, Franklin & Hart

(762) 338-8786 / ahammond1023@gmail.com

Jacobi, Lynn - Henry, Butts, Newton & Rockdale

(954) 857-5217 / Ljacobi1953@gmail.com

Jones, Debra & Walter -Wayne, Long, Liberty, Appling & Glynn

(912) 424-9707 / walterdebra97@gmail.com

Kingsley, Tanya - Jasper, Butts, Monroe, Jones & Putnam

(706) 468-0794 / twkings@gmail.com

Kundell, Linda - Oconee, Morgan, Oglethorpe, Athens & Clark

(706) 769-6395 / lindakgerl@gmail.com

LaPierre, Alex - Clayton, Houston, Dougherty, Floyd

(678) 262-8843 / pkperformancetherapy@gmail.com

McVay, Tracie - Harris and Troup

(706) 718-3993 / traciemcvay@aol.com

Muffley, Lisa - Clarke, Oconee and Madison

(706) 540-6153 / cuebie2@gmail.com

Pippen, Tasha - Banks, Barrow, Hall, Gwinnett

(404) 713-8598 / trinitystables1736@gmail.com

Rast, Lee - Dade, Walker, Catoosa, Chattooga, Floyd, Gordon and Bartow

(404) 964-5665 / rastla@aol.com

Raybon, Annette - Paulding, Cobb, Bartow

(770) 713-2244 / raybonta@bellsouth.net

Reffner, Taylor Monroe – Bryan, Chatham and Bulloch

(912) 665-2502 / tmmonroereffner@gmail.com

Roush, Lori—Warren, Hancock, Wilkes, McDuffe, Glascock and Washington

(706) 699-0230 / cfdancingstar@aol.com

Robinson, Lynne - Cobb, Paulding, Bartow, Cherokee, Douglas and Fulton

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

Santoriello, Charles - Fayette, Cowetta & Spalding

(404) 626-6294 / csanty541@yahoo.com

Scruggs, Amy—Cook, Lowndes, Colquitt, Thomas, Berrien and Lanier

(520) 403-8949 / amy.scruggs1981@gmail.com

Uhlenbrock, Rita—Bulloch, Chatham, Effingham

(912) 667-5151 / ritarae819@gmail.com

Whitworth, Debbie - Elbert & Hart

(404) 805-4409 / rlw73dpw@gmail.com

Williams, Michelle - Spalding

(404) 290-8115 / shelly19629@gmail.com

Wrensen, Sue - Cherokee

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

Ziebell, Ray - Dawson & Pickens

(770) 354-0293 / razfences@msn.com

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 (770) 867-0760 if you can spare a little of your time.

BIO's online: <https://gerlltd.org/area-coordinators/>

**PLEASE CONSIDER SUPPORTING GERL
THROUGH THE
AMAZON SMILES PROGRAM.**

As of May 2021 GERL has received \$5,759.92 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.

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You shop. Amazon gives.



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Contact us for more info:
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info@georgiahorsecouncil.com

Puttin' On The Feed Bag Recipe

Watermelon Fire and Ice Salsa

INGREDIENTS

- 3 cups chopped watermelon
- ½ cup chopped green bell pepper
- 2 tablespoons lime juice
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh cilantro
- 1 tablespoon chopped green onions
- 1 tablespoon chopped jalapeno pepper
- ½ teaspoon garlic salt

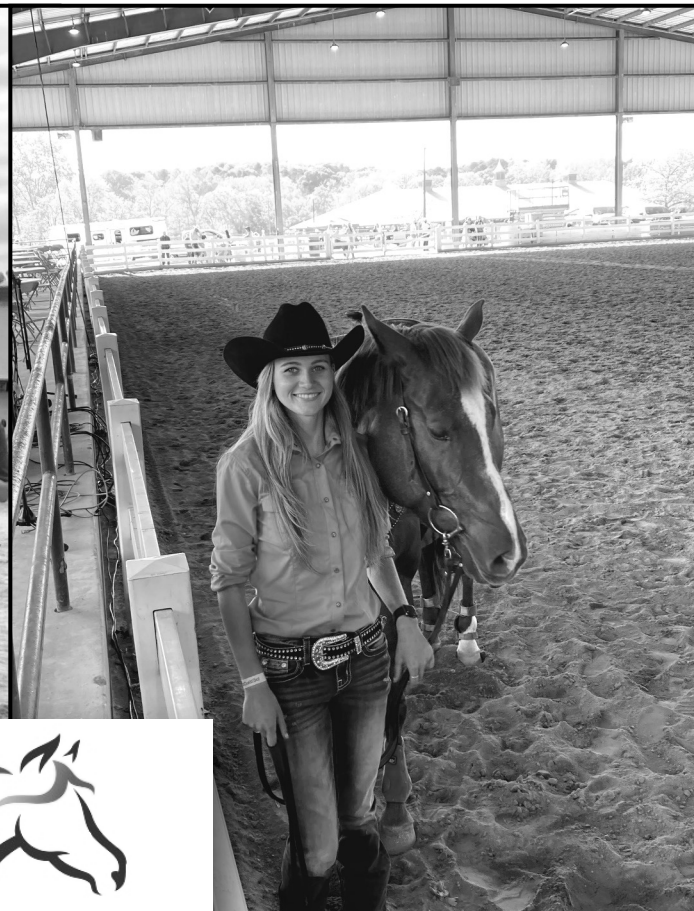
Directions

Step 1

In a large bowl, combine the watermelon, green bell pepper, lime juice, cilantro, green onions, jalapeno and garlic salt. Mix well and serve.



More Photos of the Georgia Horse Fair 2021



GEORGIA HORSE FAIR
International Horse Park



Who's Who

Georgia Equine Rescue League, Ltd.

Board Members

Patty Livingston - President
(770) 867-0760 / gerlpatty@yahoo.com
Cynthia Anderson - Vice President
(770) 713-9887 / gormaisfat@yahoo.com
CeCe Calli - Treasurer
(706) 371-5804 / foster@gerlltd.org
Lisa Muffley—Secretary
(706) 540-6153 / cuebie2@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
Public Relations Coordinator - Sarah Lopez
Flea Market Coordinator - Jacki Moore
jmoore77@hotmail.com>

Event Coordinator
CeCe Calli / Rescue Challenge Coordinator
(706) 371-5804 / gerlfoster@aol.com

Social Media Coordinator
Nancy Bogardts / a4dognight@hotmail.com

Education Coordinator - Cynthia Anderson
(770) 713-9887 / gormaisfat@yahoo.com

Grant Writer—Lisa Clark

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

Pickers Paradise Coordinator - Linda Kundell
(706) 769-6395 / lindakgerl@gmail.com
Website, Newsletter & IT Services - 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

Where Does the Money Go?

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

- GERL spent \$6,058.00 for feed, hay, farrier and veterinary services for our foster horses.
- GERL spent \$4,091 on feed for the therapy horses at Calvin Center in Hampton, GA.
- GERL spent - \$1,493.66 for castrations performed by veterinarians participating in our 2020 Stallion to Gelding Castration Days.

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 donate online @ <https://gerlltd.org>

**"Feed a Horse"
Program**

<https://gerlltd.org>

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

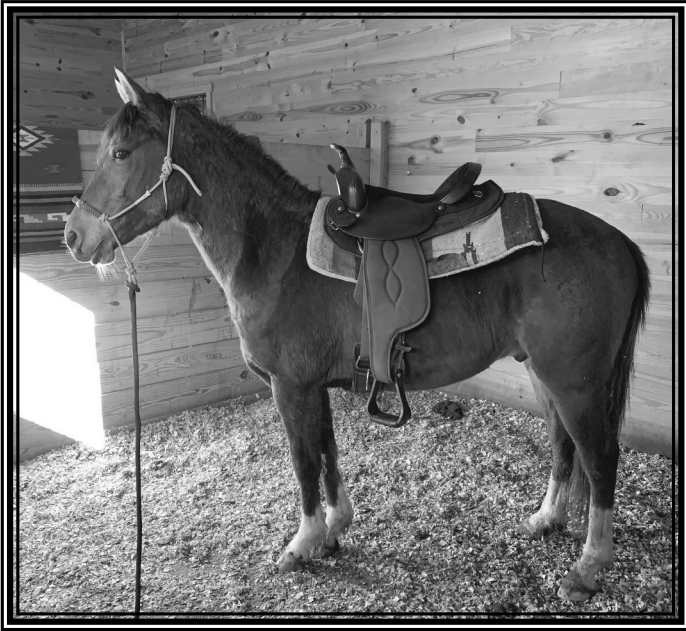
Make check payable to:
GERL
Mail to: P.O. Box 328
Bethlehem, GA 30620

THANK YOU!

*Your donation is
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GERL ADOPTABLES

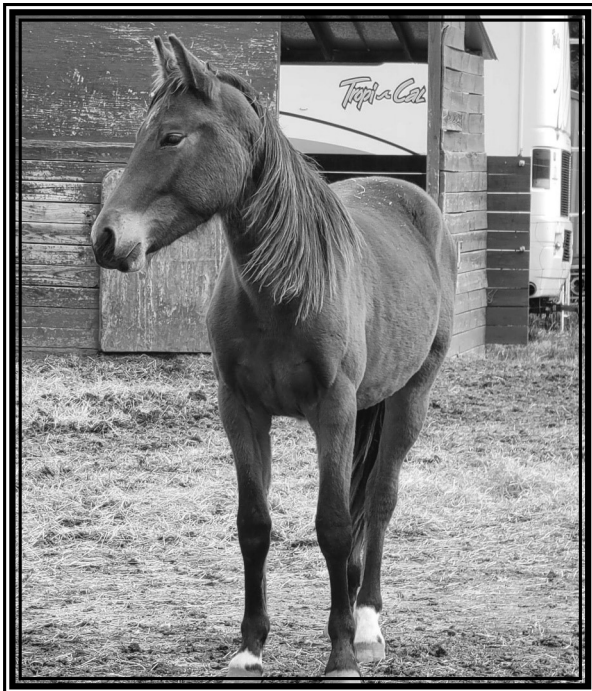
For adoption fees and additional information, please contact CeCe Calli, Adoption Coordinator. (706) 371-6804 / adopt@gerlltd.org



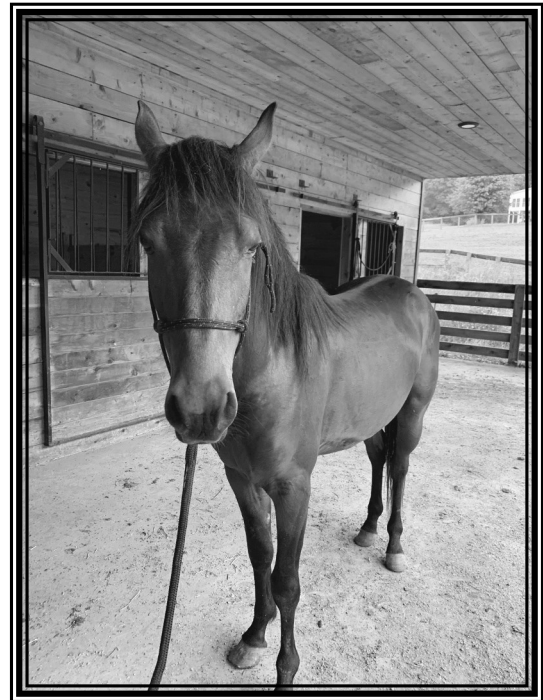
Sox is one of the “Six Amigos” herd of feral horses that GERL brought into the foster program. He is approximately 14.0 hh, 4-year-old Grade gelding. He is currently spending time with a trainer to be broke to ride.



Jenny is one of the “Six Amigos”. She is approximately 13.2 hh, 2 1/2 year-old Bay Grade mare. She would be perfect for someone who wants to start with a fresh slate with their horse.



Forrest is also one of the “Six Amigos” . He is approximately 13.2 hh, 3-year-old Bay Grade gelding. Super cute! He is currently spending time with a trainer to get him started.

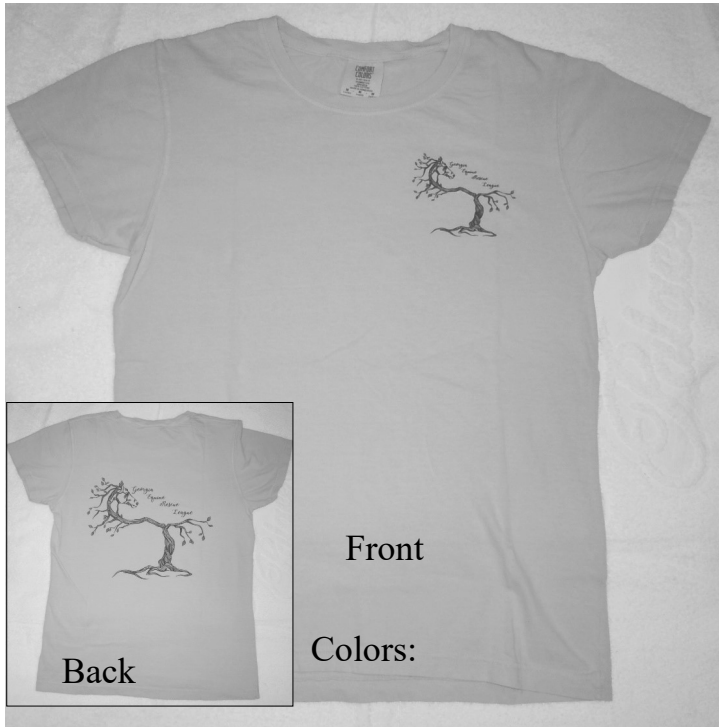


Braveheart is one of the “Six Amigos” herd of feral horses that GERL brought into the foster program 2 years ago. He is approximately 14.0 hh, 4-year-old Bay Grade gelding. He is the winner of the 2021 Rescue Challenge.

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

Support GERL by purchasing our merchandise!

Adult Short Sleeve T-Shirt \$20.00



T-Shirt with printed logo on front/back
Sizes available: M, L, XL & 2X

Gildan Soft style Ladies V-Neck Tee \$16.00



V-Neck T-Shirt with printed logo on front
Sizes available: M (6-8), L (8-10), XL(10-12) & 2X(12-14)

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T-Shirt \$16.00



Colors: Mint/Blossom/Melon
T-Shirt with printed logo on front/back
Sizes available: M, L, XL & 2X

Available to purchase on our website www.gerlltd.org

Thank you for your donations

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In Memory of

Belle, Beloved horse of Nancy Foy by Dr. Ava Talmadge

Cowboy Bill Holden by Rick Carnes

Susan Bozeman's beloved horse, Toccoa, by Bob and Margaret Wallace

Little Dynamite by Debbie Butler

Nancy Stein Ferebee by Spencer Ferebee

Residual Income

Kroger Quarterly Check \$88.10

Your AmazonSmile charity received a \$402.77 donation

Triple Crown Nutrition, Inc. - \$300.00

Welcome New Members

Kayla Bolien

Julia Darley & Tim McGovern

Donna Wight

Tamara Crull

Tracy Fedak

Jeffrey Daniels

Ashley Key

Trish Strong

In Honor of

In Honor Of: Girl Scout Troop 19054 by Rachael Gorbutt

Rohara Alexandria by Chilton Taylor



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

Update from Unbridled Joy

By Cindy Burt

We are excited to provide an update on our partnership with GERL to implement our “Horses Heal Veterans” program at the H. Reyno Petree leased property in Bethlehem, Georgia. Our meeting with Ben and Kenda Petree to plan this working Veterans’ Ranch on their beautiful property went well, and we are planning our first volunteer day in September (to be determined). This will be to help with the demolition and conversion of the present chicken houses to a barn and paddock for our therapy horses to provide a healing plan for the veterans in our community. We are also looking forward to helping GERL place horses they may have in need of a home in our equine program. By training local veterans in natural horsemanship, we can help horses that come to GERL become more adoptable. Learning these skills and the empowerment it provides has shown to facilitate healing in our military heroes that may be suffering from PTSD or having trouble acclimating to civilian life. Observing the progress in the horses also provides an outlet for veterans to be of service to their fellow veterans.

We are also proud to have finished construction on our ADA approved wheelchair ramp at our headquarters location in Bold Springs. This provides the ability to continue riding sessions for those in need while we get the Veterans Ranch ready to serve our community. Our first client and inspiration for Unbridled Joy is one of the people who benefits from the ease of mounting from this ramp. We’d like to share that story with you.

Unbridled Joy, Inc., a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, was founded in 2015 by Cindy Burt in honor of Velvet, a Shire cross horse she had rescued in 2013. Velvet came to Cindy suffering an old injury in which barbed wire had wrapped around her leg and had been left untreated for quite some time, resulting in lymphedema and flare ups of extreme swelling and fevers. She was terrified of people; her lips would quiver and her eyelashes would flutter while shaking her head when she became nervous. Cindy earned her trust with kindness and patience but realized she would never be rideable due to her leg injury. She was content for Velvet to be a happy and loved horse, and enjoyed watching her munch in the pasture with her com-

panion Arabelle.

Cindy had a visit one day from two friends, Chrissie and Kristen, a young lady living with autism. Despite instructions to introduce themselves to the horses calmly, Kristen approached Velvet in an excited and boisterous manner. Alarmed at first for their safety, Cindy noticed that Velvet had no fear of Kristen whatsoever and actually seemed to melt into her arms as Kristen embraced her huge draft horse head. Watching the connection and pure bliss between girl and horse made an impact on Cindy’s heart and inspired her to explore the idea of equine therapy. She learned that rescued horses that had experienced past trauma often had a gift to relate to humans who were struggling with issues such as PTSD, alcohol and substance abuse, and physical and mental disabilities.

Unbridled Joy has come full circle with Kristen. She was our inspiration to help those in need by partnering with horses. Kristen then became our first client four years later. She has been consistently doing sessions with our sweet Paint, Shawnee for the last year.



Veteran Dennis Walters

What's Up in the Equine World

By Cynthia Anderson

There is a lot going on in the equine world and you need to be aware of it. On June 15th I dialed into a virtual meeting with the Coalition of State Horse Councils. This was the first time I participated in one of the meetings. I was just supposed to report on how the Georgia Horse Fair went and what was up next for the Georgia Horse Council. What I learned from the other states was eye opening.

I learned education is the focus. Horse councils across the United States hold Expos or Fairs that are typically a 3-day event. They focus on trying to educate the public on horses. I was also surprised to learn that a representative from the coalition of State Horse Councils attended the Georgia Horse Fair. We received a very positive review of our event. They liked that the Georgia Horse Council partnered with GERL and that we did provide many educational opportunities.

Another thing we need to be aware of is that many of the western states, especially Colorado, are fighting a battle that is moving our way. Activists are trying to initiate cruelty legislation directed toward livestock. What the voters do not realize is that it will affect the care of all animals. While cruelty legislation sounds good, this is very extreme, and it will have a very negative affect on the equine industry and

on all companion animals. Luckily, Colorado Initiative 16 was struck down by the Colorado Supreme court. I would suggest that you take a close look at Colorado's initiative 16 because this type of legislation will be introduced here before you know it. We need to make sure that any animal cruelty legislation introduced in Georgia is scrutinized very closely and explained to the general public.

The other big topic is multi-use trails and camping in state and national parks. Motorized vehicles are not allowed on multi-use trails. Bike riders are trying very hard to get state and national parks to allow ebikes on multi-use trails. The question here is if ebikes are allowed, is this going to open the door for other motorized vehicles on the trail? Camping is another issue. Some parks do not require reservations at their designated equine campsites. They allow non- equine campers to use the sites on this first come first serve basis. We have several in Georgia that do not require reservations. Many of the horse councils along with Back Country Horseman are pushing for all parks to have campsite reservations for equine camping. This is to avoid a drive of several hours with your horse and trailer only to find no available equestrian campsites.

Now more than ever we need to be aware of what is going on in the horse world around us. Changes are coming our way. We need to make sure that these changes are positive for the horse enthusiast in Georgia.



Sent: Monday, April 19, 2021 1:42 PM
To: Nancy Cox <ncox4208@gmail.com>
Cc: gerlpatty@yahoo.com
Subject: Re: Georgia Horse Fair - THANK YOU!

On behalf of the Georgia Paso Fino Horse Association, I want to thank both of YOU for coordination this year's Georgia Horse Fair. We are so happy to see the Fair return to Georgia!

We all had a wonderful time and very much appreciate the opportunity to participate and spotlight our breed and enjoy and learn from all the other great demos, clinicians and educators.

I especially appreciate all the hard work you and your volunteers put in to this, keeping us well informed, answering my 100 questions and welcoming us in every way.

Thanks for everything and I'm happy for you that it was a great success!

Sincerely,

Lu Ann Lackey
Georgia Paso Fino Horse Association

Horses Help Veterans Grants

By Cynthia Anderson

GERL is moving forward with our newest program “Horses Heal Veterans”. In April the GERL “Horses Help Veterans Grant” went live. Now we need to get the word out about the Grant and get it moving forward.

The Horses Heal Veterans grant is designed to help organizations cover the cost of the veterans’ equine therapy sessions. It consists of five (5) one thousand dollar grants. This grant is available to any 501-C3 that offers equine therapy to veterans suffering from PTSD.

As anyone looking for a grant knows, the hardest part about applying for a grant is finding a grant. The question now is how we let people know this grant is available. Unless they are directly tied to GERL or they happen to pick up a newsletter, how are they going to know we have this funding available? We want

to make this information readily available to organizations that help veterans through equine therapy programs.

Over the past few weeks I have been trying to answer this question. After much research it seems one solution is to post our grant on sites like grantwatch.com, geogia.grantwatch.com, or freegrantsforveterans.com. These sites are commercial sites. This means that a monthly fee is charged to the organization listing the grant. The sites are free to the grant seekers. However, I could use your help. If anyone has any other ideas about getting the word out please let me know. You may email me at gomaisfat@yahoo.com Together we can make this program successful and help our veterans.



GERL Calendar of Events - *Mark Your Calendars!*

Fall of 2021
GERL Annual Meeting
Winder Lion’s Club
Winder, GA



November 2021
Stallion to Gelding Castration Month
Participating Vets Across Georgia
Check the GERL website Oct 1st for participating veterinarians.

TBA - Sept 2021
Petree Ranch Work Day
H. Reyno Petree Ranch
Bethlehem, GA



December 11, 2021
GERL Christmas Party
61 McElhannon Rd. SE
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

The dust has long settled on the Horse Fair that GERL and the GHC hosted in April. It was so well attended that it surprised us all. Many people have let us know how much they enjoyed it and hope that there will be a repeat. As a result of the great turnout, the Georgia Horse Council will be able to write a check to the Georgia Equine Rescue League for \$10,000 from the proceeds taken in at the horse fair. That is a very nice shot in the arm for GERL and will allow us to extend more help through our many existing programs.

After over a year and a half of meetings and planning for the event, we have shifted to a low gear. It has been very nice not to have a calendar full of fundraising to contend with. That being said, we do have a lot of work to do in the world of horses and Veterans.

After six months of waiting, the papers have finally been signed off on the portion of property that will become the future home of the H. Reyno Petree Veterans Ranch, located in Bethlehem. A workday at the ranch will be underway soon. There will be a lot of manual labor involved with tearing down an old chicken house and turning another into a barn. We have discussed waiting until it cools down some, so September would most likely be a suitable time to pull everything together. Keep a watch out for the communications that will be coming out in the month of August announcing details about the workday and be sure to tell your friends, too!

On another good note, GERL has been very busy adopting out horses in our foster program. It has

been amazing how just the perfect person for each horse has appeared and fell in love. Many of these horses have been in our program, or the previous Georgia Dept. of Agriculture (GDA) equine program, for as long as 2 years. At least three of the horses were previously adopted out and were returned for one reason or another. In this newsletter alone, there are five success stories of horses that have recently been adopted, and we currently have one pending that will be delivered at the end of the week. And, let me say this about that... that is what this is all about - rehoming horses.

We still have four of the original Six Amigos in our program. They have been around for 2 years now. Braveheart has had 120 days with a trainer and was the winner of the 2021 Rescue Challenge. He is a beautiful horse. We cannot understand why no one seems to be interested in adopting him. We recently sent two of the Amigos to trainers in hopes that they can get started under saddle soon. And, we still have Jazzy Cat in our program. She won second place in this year's Rescue Challenge, but we have received no calls about her, either. In the 13 years that I have been doing this, I cannot remember having so few horses in our program.

Our horse supply may be low right now, but we will work with what we have to find them the perfect homes, regardless of how long it takes. We know from experience that there IS someone out there looking for just the right horse!



Update on Jenny

By Angie Hammond, foster mom

Jenny was just 9 months old when she came into the GERL foster program, along with 5 other feral Arabian/cross horses, more than 2 years ago. She has come a LONG way since I got her. She has been sacked out with a number of different things and has had a saddle on her a few times. I have used a rope around her belly to practice cinching up a girth. I can do almost anything with her with no halter. I finally moved Jenny to the pasture with my horses and she has become a different horse. They have been teaching her how to be a horse and in the last month she has really come around. She is more willing to let other people touch her now.

I believe that Jenny will be a good English horse prospect because she has a nice, floaty trot.



Jenny at 9 months old

Jenny now – 2 1/2 years old

GERL Donates to Christian Veterinary Mission

By Dr. Lee Myers

Christian Veterinary Mission (CVM) is a not-for-profit organization that supports overseas missionaries, Christian Veterinary Fellowship (CVF) clubs for veterinary students, and short-term mission opportunities. The supplies donated by GERL will be used by the University of Georgia CVF on their annual mission trip to the Fort Apache Reservation in Arizona. With the exception of last year due to the COVID pandemic, the UGA CVF students have participated in two-week short-term mission

help serve the animal health needs of the Native American communities.



Drs. Lee and Billy Myers loading donated medical supplies for their Mission.

CVM exists to share the love of Christ through veterinary medicine. Working in communities worldwide, CVM equips and encourages veterinary professionals and students to build relationships with others through the use of their veterinary knowledge and skills so that lives are transformed. To learn more about CVM and to learn how you can become a partner, visit

<https://www.cvm.org>.

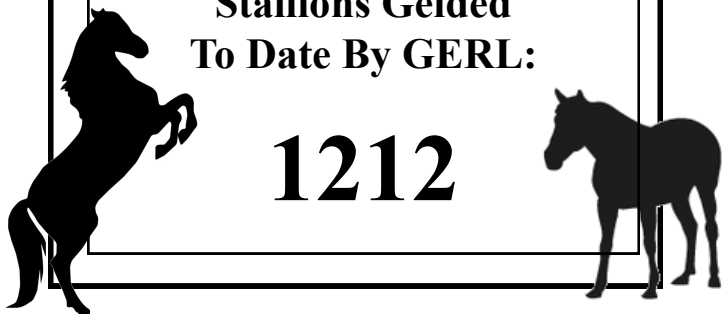
Drs. Billy and Lee Myers
Associates with Christian Veterinary Mission

trips each summer since 2006 to provide the Navajo and Apache Tribes with veterinary services, such as vaccinations, equine castrations, sheep deworming and castrations, and dog and cat spays and neuters. CVM greatly appreciates the donated medical supplies to

GERL Stallion to Gelding Program.

**Stallions Gelded
To Date By GERL:**

1212

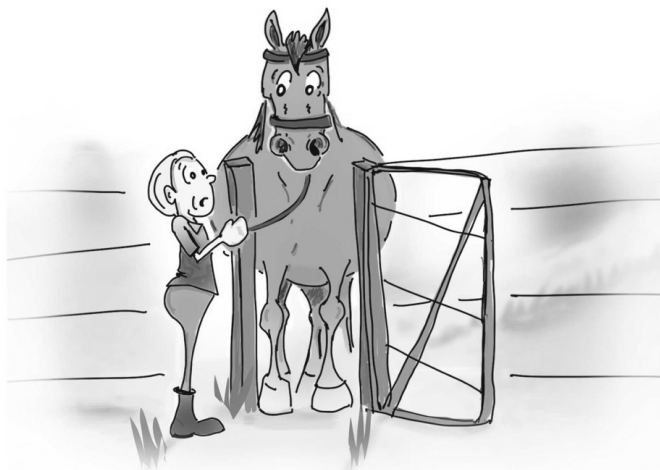


Horses in our Foster Care Program

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

Horse	Age	Color	Ridable	Foster Farm
Sox	4	Sorrel	No	CeCe Calli
Ransom	28	Sorrel	No	Steven Neal
Cooper	26	Sorrel	No	Steven Neal
Braveheart	4	Bay	No	Cassy Hoban
Forrest	2	Bay	No	CeCe Calli
Jenny	2	Bay	No	Angie Hammond
Jazzy Cat	9	Bay	Yes	Riley Watson

HORSE MANAGEMENT REQUIRES PLANNING



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

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.

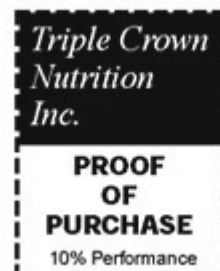
Southern States and Triple Crown Proof of Purchases (POPs) continue to trickle in. We were able to take advantage of the TC offer again this year, which is 1 \$25 VISA gift card for every 12 POPs. Thanks to our TC donors, we had enough for all 12 gift cards! Thank you, again, to our consistent donors and thank you to our newest POP donors: Rebecca Testerman, Suzanne Cottingim, A. Wester, Grace Kanavage and the Roberts on Commercial Rd. in Athens.

Please clip your Legends, Southern States, Triple Crown and ProElite POPs and send 'em my way! Let's do our part to end the suffering of many Georgia horses and put them on the path to their forever homes. Thank you for your support!

Ginny Scarritt

and send them to:

4835 Kendall Court * Atlanta, GA 30342

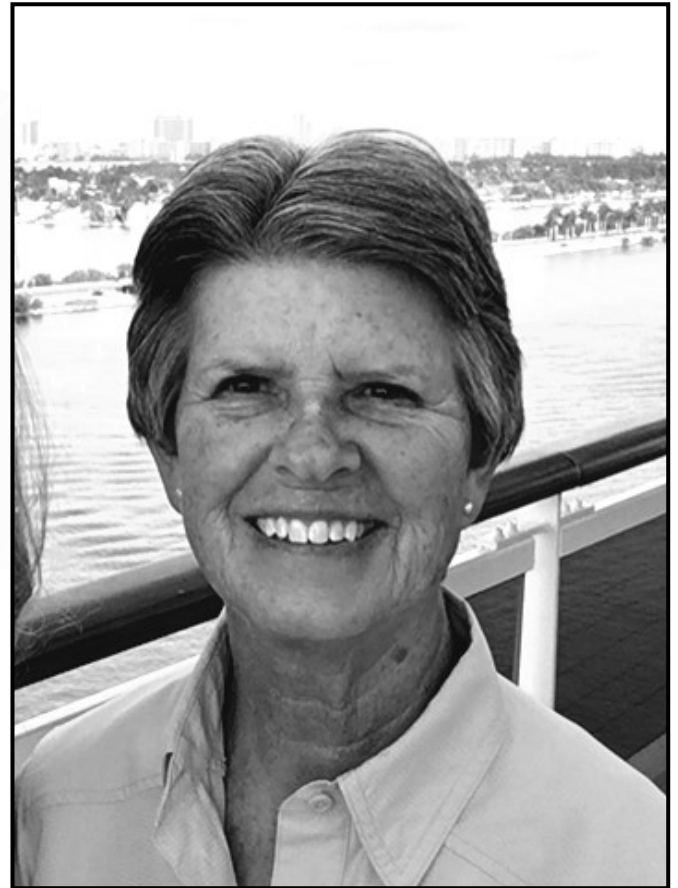


Spotlight on Our Area Coordinators

Debbie Whitworth

I've been a member of GERL for so long that I don't remember when I joined (well over 20 years). I was actively riding up until about 3-4 years ago when most of my riding partners quit riding and I got busy with granddaughters (that were more into softball than horses). I have owned horses for the last 37 years but I am down to my last one, a TWH that turns 30 this year. I still have 3 boarding horses, but the owners never ride. I have been into trail riding for the last 20 years, but our family was into Hilltoppers Pony Club, dressage, combined training and games. We also had summer day camps, taught lessons and leased horses when we lived in Lawrenceville, GA. My husband is a retired farrier, so horses have really been a family affair for many years. I live in a very rural area now on the eastern edge of Georgia and can check on neglected/abused horses as needed.

Debbie Whitworth
GERL Area Coordinator - Elbert & Hart Counties



More Photos of the Georgia Horse Fair 2021



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

Turner and Lula Are Adopted!

by Patty Livingston

Turner was featured on the cover of our Jan Feb Mar 2021 newsletter and at that time he was skinny and very scruffy looking. He turned out to be a handsome guy and quite the love bug. He did have a catch in his giddy-up though; sticky stifle we guessed. Since Turner didn't seem to be a riding horse, we decided that he would be best suited as a pasture pal.

Lula was recently returned to GERL from her former adoptive owners due to personal reasons. We gladly accepted her back. She and Turner became joined at the hip from the moment I put them together at my farm. She was the boss and Turner knew and respected that. Lula spent the majority of her earlier life as a broodmare, but sometime along the way, someone broke her to ride. My "go to girl", Rylee Nash, came over and we did an evaluation on Lula, including saddling and riding her.

Out of the blue, Tony Ciralo called looking for a couple of horses to put in his empty pasture. He was tired of looking out his window and seeing no horses. He called CeCe Calli, GERL's Adoption Coordinator Extraordinaire, and the adoption of both horses was in motion. I was so happy that Turner and Lula were go-

ing to be adopted together.

Within the week, Tony arrived at my farm, wearing a cast on his foot all the way past his ankle, the result of a previous horse accident, complete with screws and plates. I realized that he probably was not going to be much help with the loading, so I called Rylee. She arrived within 15 minutes, and we loaded the two horses on his trailer and off they went to live at Club Ciralo!



We received a spay/neuter grant from

BISSELL Pet Foundation

*Georgia
Equine
Rescue
League*



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by following their work in action:

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facebook: Cathy Bissell & Bissell Pet Foundation
website: bissellpetfoundation.org

BISSELL PET FOUNDATION®
Until every pet has a home.

GERL Castration Days Coming Up!

Don't forget to tell your stallion-owner horsey friends about our annual Castration Days coming up in November. It is an excellent opportunity to get your stallions castrated for a huge discount.

Check our website on October 1st to see the list of Georgia equine veterinarians who will be participating by hosting a low cost clinic. GERL will pay for half of the cost of the castration.

Don't miss out!

Update on Valor

by Patty Livingston

You might remember reading a story about Valor, now known as Tanner, in one of our quarterly newsletters. He was one of the 22 Henry County horses that were seized from their owner for cruelty and neglect a couple of years ago.

Tanner was very skinny when we first picked him up and it took several months just to get him to a point where you could look at him without crying. He had gained a good bit of weight when he was adopted by Marion Cobb, but he was still missing a topline.

Marion provides photos of Tanner from time to time and I enjoy seeing how far he has come. He recently sent me these photos of Tanner one year apart. What a transformation! Marion has the patience and kindness that a horse like Tanner needs and it makes my heart very happy to see them riding the trails together.



Tanner – Sept 30, 2019



Tanner – Sept 30, 2020

Update on the Remaining 4 Amigos

by CeCe Calli



Sox and Savannah

GERL picked up 6 feral horses a little over 2 years ago. Two of them were adopted, leaving Braveheart, Sox, Forrest and Jenny. I am very happy to report that the 2 of the horses, Sox and Forrest have gone into training.

Sox (in photo) is with 16 year old Savannah Thompson. Despite her young age, she has done a wonderful job with Sox and he really likes her.

Forrest is being trained by Cassy Hoban, who won the 2021 GERL Rescue Challenge back in April with Braveheart.

BTW, Braveheart is still available for adoption!

Please follow our Facebook page to get updates on both horses as they work towards finding their forever homes!

Everyone Has a Dream

By Tracy Fedak

Everyone has a dream that they think will never come true but secretly keeps it in their heart. Mine was owning a horse. But how can a city girl with no horse experience living in the suburbs do such a thing? This is just another one of those instances that if you want something bad enough, you can make it happen.

My last kid graduated high school. We sold the suburban house and bought a five-acre farm with a barn in Ellijay and I contacted multiple rescue agencies to find a match for this very green beginner. I needed to put all my trust with someone who could find the horse for me, and Patty was the one to make this girl's dream come true. She was awesome to work with and then picked me to have the opportunity to adopt this beautiful horse, Ginger.

She is an 18-20 year old gaited Tennessee Walker and sweet as can be. I have had her for only two weeks and there is already a bond between us. She is starting to feel safe, and we are building the trust. I spend so much time with her just sitting and talking in my

runout barn or I will take walks with her on a lead around the property. The riding won't happen until I get a saddle and a trainer. It seems that she has had a lot of training in the beginning but was another victim of abuse once the owners were "done" with her. She

was starved to where her body condition scoring was a 1 and she also had rain rot...

Again, we have come a long way since she was delivered. She didn't eat the way a horse should eat for the first few days and the drinking wasn't good either. I was so worried but gave her the space and time that she apparently needed. Now, she is right on track and on her way to getting back to a normal weight. Patty says it will probably be around three more months.

Everything is

working out so perfectly! I can't stop smiling! I needed this in my life and lots of people helped me make it happen. Patty being one of them. Thank you, Patty!

Tracy Fedak



Betty Lou Has Been Adopted

By Patty Livingston

Betty Lou was one of the last three horses that came from the Lee Arrendale State Prison Equine impound. She had been there since November of 2019, during which time the inmates were not going to the impound to work with or feed them. The chore of feeding was put on their cattle man and finally, they called the Georgia Dept. of Agriculture (GDA) to come and pick them up. They were delivered to my farm in August of 2020.

Betty Lou demanded attention from the start. She was the queen bee of the small herd of three and everybody knew it. She is very flashy, and I would often see people driving by my farm pull over and get out to pet her. She did not often allow the other horses to receive any human attention.

During the Spring I noticed a white SUV pulling into my driveway on a regular basis. They were there to pet Betty Lou, of course. One day I was able to meet the young woman who had apparently fallen in love with this sassy mare. Her name is Kristen and I invited her to come inside my yard and visit with Betty Lou. Kristen and her family were regular visitors after that and within a few weeks, Kristen approached me about adopting Cinnamon, as she is now known. These two are a great match, and I can't wait to get photos of Kristen and Cinnamon as they grow together.



Cinnamon and Kristen



Kristen;s Family



6 year old Colton visits Maggie Mae

Just Darling

by Kathy Duffy

One morning in July of 2014 I sat down with my coffee, opened up Facebook like I do every morning, having no idea my life was about to change. Someone had tagged me in the GERL Newsletter on an article titled “Critical Need, The Rehab of Quickstep”. I don’t know why I was tagged other than the story touched a friend and knowing my love for horses and rescue they thought it would touch me too. The article did more than that.



I had just purchased a Warmblood named Charming. Once he was at my farm I discovered he liked to play with my other gelding and our goat very roughly. So, now they needed to be pastured separately. Charming was not happy being alone, but I did not want or need another large horse.

The article on Quickstep kept nagging at me so I reached out. Tamma Trump was fostering the pony at her farm and answered what seemed like 101 questions graciously. She had questions of her own, wanting Quickstep to go to the right home. We scheduled a meeting, and I took my horse trailer just in case the meeting went well. Ha! It was love at first sight and I couldn’t get that pony on the trailer fast enough! When the little mare’s hooves hit the ground on my farm both geldings fell in love too.

For the first few days I kept Charming and Quickstep separated, to meet over a fence line only. I will admit I was a little worried about the size difference from 17 hands to just over 12. In those days I did something a lot of horse people will disagree with, I changed her name. Quickstep did not suit her. She was, is, and forever will be, Darling. Once Darling and Charming were turned out together, they were an instant herd with an inseparable bond. Neither have ever kicked, bitten, or harmed the other in any way.

Seven years later and their little herd has grown. There are now three goats and a solid black barn cat that seems to lay about in whatever pasture they are in. I call them the “Misfit Herd” because no two are the same species or size. It doesn’t bother them; they love one another all the same. A lesson many people should learn.

Speaking of learning, I have written a children’s chapter book titled *Tails from Southern Seasons Farm*. The first book in the series is called *Ryder and Piper the*



Puppy, to be released in fall of 2021. The book is dedicated to the GERL and the Feral Cat Program of Georgia (FCPGA). Darling is one of the characters in the first book and she will be returning in future books in the series. Part of the proceeds from the book will be donated to both charities. I believe

in paying it forward and I cannot think of a better way to thank GERL for the love, laughter and companionship that has been given to us with the adoption of Darling. She has made our life better and will be cherished forever. After all, she is Just Darling.



Another Update on Annie Oakley

By Patty Livingston

When Sonya Jahn and her daughter, Mischa, came to my house this past December to visit Annie Oakley, I had no idea of what was to come for this tiny little girl and this young green horse. The entire story of the reunion appeared in our Jan Feb March 2021 newsletter. Since that time, Mischa and Annie have burned up the saddle with various activities that no one would have guessed possible in such a short time. I believe that this is a match made in Heaven and always look forward to receiving updates on these two from Mischa's mom. It reminds me of why we do this!



Annie Oakley displaying her ribbons.



Micha and Annie Oakley are solid partners.



Volunteer of the Quarter

By Patty Livingston

The volunteer of this quarter could go to no one other than Nancy Cox for the tremendous leadership and pure awesomeness she displayed while putting on the best one-day horse fair event that Georgia has ever seen. She worked tirelessly for a year and a half pulling everything and everyone together. She is a real project manager who stayed on top of every single detail of planning the horse fair. Nancy gave up a good portion of her time and energy and it was evident at show time. We received so many nice compliments from people who attended the fair and most of the credit must go to this hard-working lady, Nancy Cox. Thank you for stepping up to do something that most people would not touch with a ten-foot pole!



Ginger Finds her Forever Home

By Patty Livingston



Ginger – before rehabilitation

On March 30, 2021, I picked up a 20-year-old Tennessee Walking Horse (TWH) mare that had been starved by her owners. She was painfully skinny, and we immediately got her on good senior feed and alfalfa pellets. When the veterinarian came to check her over, she thought Ginger was too malnourished to vaccinate at that time. In April she was moved to a farm in Conyers where she had plenty of pasture. Huge thanks to Clarissa Winslow for her generosity! This really helped Ginger gain the weight back much quicker. Pretty soon she had gained a respectable amount that allowed us to put a saddle on her to access her riding skills. For a 20-year-old horse she still has a log of “go”, but it was clear, she has “been there, done that”.

It was just a couple of weeks later that Tracy Fedak contacted GERL about finding her first horse. Her kids were in college, and she had recently retired. It was

always her dream to own a horse one day. She and her husband had a farm in Ellijay, and she was finally going to realize her dream.

She drove all the way to Conyers to meet Ginger. Rylee Nash met me there and she saddled Ginger up and rode her so that Tracy could see her gait. Tracy got on her and Rylee led her around to get used to being so high in the air. Ginger is every bit of 16 hands and Tracy is a tiny little thing, so it was a very emotional experience. Tracy knew before she left that day that Ginger was the one and she would be adopting her. Leslie Lambert delivered Ginger to Tracy’s farm the following week and I’ve been told that Tracy is still on Cloud Nine!



Tracy and Ginger meet for the first time.



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