



Georgia Equine Rescue League, Ltd. NEWSLETTER

Helping Starved, Abused & Neglected Horses in Georgia

Quarterly Newsletter

July, August & September 2023

Horses Heal Heroes

By Patty Livingston



The Georgia Equine Rescue League (GERL) partnered with Equine Immersion Project (EIP) from New Hampshire, to host a four-day event September 7-10,

for our military at Ft. Stewart utilizing the healing power of horses.

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Horses Heal Heroes

By Patty Livingston

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Group photo—Day 2

Last September my friend, Amy Cox, and I participated in an “equine immersion” event sponsored by EIP at the Ranger Camp in Dahlonga. (See cover story in our July Aug Sept 2022 newsletter found in our archives.) It was a wonderful experience, but this program and what it does for humans, especially those who may be suffering from the stresses of life, really resonated with me during this 4-day event.

The actual purpose of the event was to show the value of the horse stables at Fort Stewart that are in jeopardy of being closed. The stables have never been used for equine assisted therapy or anything similar in the past. We wanted to show the Army the value of such a program, while demonstrating the proof of concept.

Tara Mahoney is the CEO and founder of EIP and who came up with this brilliant way to help our military, their families, and caretakers. Her contacts were the Chaplains of each Division, including Winn Hospital, which is the location of the Soldier Recovery Unit (SRU) for wounded warriors. The invitation was directed to the caretakers at the hospital to participate in the first two days. The second two days were soldiers who would be deploying in September and their spouses. Each day we had 8 to 10 participants and it was our job to make sure that they were comfortable with their horse and having a good time.

We started with breakfast and a short meet and greet under the tent each morning, where the participants gave a short dissertation of their horse experience and reported on how they were feeling. The horse handlers would leave the tent to go get the horses and

meet everyone in the arena. Tara often let them pick the horse they wanted to work with. She stood in the middle of the large circle, giving instructions on how to approach, holding the lead line, picking feet, etc..

As horse handlers, we were instructed “not to instruct” (unless it was a matter of safety). Tara insisted that we let them have a day where they do not have someone giving them orders and constant instructions. Accomplishments are so much more meaningful when you figure something out yourself and we could clearly see that happening when we met back at the tent an hour and a half later. Our job was also to praise and encourage. The participants who were scared to death to be around horses that morning, were wearing big smiles and spoke with so much more confidence by lunch.

Leading a horse is something that experienced horse people don’t give a second thought about. But for someone who has never had that experience, moving a thousand-pound animal is a big deal. As were all the tasks they were asked to do, including riding bareback around the round pen, each one stepped up and had big smiles to show for their accomplishments.



The Newly Weds came back for a second day.

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Horses Heal Heroes

By Patty Livingston

Continued from page 2

Chris and Bobbie Mosley from Metter, GA, brought their two horses and buggy and provided everyone with an opportunity to experience a ride over the stable property and some even got to drive the team.

After a break for lunch, we were all back out in the arena with the horses saddled. It had been a hot, grueling day and going on a ride was their reward. Big smiles and a more confident participant emerged when we met under the tent for the final time. Tara's team passed out blank pieces of paper and instructed them not to write their name, but to write about their experience that day. They also had an opportunity to speak to the group about their experience. So many remarks went directly to our hearts, and you could see tears in the eyes of all the volunteers who witnessed the transformation.

We had several people who enjoyed their day so much and really connected with their horse that they asked to come back the next day. Luckily, there was a horse available, and we were able to spend another day sharing our horses and spreading the love. By the last day of our event, people driving by were honking their horns and waving to us. I think that is testimony to the fact that we were successful in making the stables' existence known to our military. This experience opened a door to something that will follow them forever, in many ways. It was a wonderful lesson about "Me Time" and the importance of that for our well-being.

After everybody left and we had picked up and prepared for the next day, we would all retire to the VRBO that we had rented for GERL and EIP staff. Of course, we were all sharing special moments that we had experienced with this couple or that person that day, and after dinner we gathered and one-by-one, read the notes aloud. We all had tears. It was the moment we all knew that we were over the target and making a difference with the power of God's most spectacular creature.

We plan to rejoin with EIP in 2024 to sponsor as many as 3 of these types of events for our military. Stay tuned for more updates!



Handling a horse for the first time!



The day ended with a short trail ride.

Horses Heal Hero's

More Photos of Ft. Stewart 4-Day Event



Horses & Warriors Visit Mounted Patrol

By Sara Reams

If you've never visited the Atlanta Police Mounted Patrol, I'd like to tell you about our recent visit. Calvin Center Horses & Warriors make a field trip each year to visit the stables of the Mounted Patrol. The officers, both equine and human, welcome visitors any time their front gate is open; and they offer a fun, informative experience learning about the horses and their work.

The Atlanta Police Department Mounted Patrol Unit serves as part of the Special Operations Section supporting the Field Operations Division with crime deterrence and crowd control. Mounted Patrol works over 100 events each year, including some of Atlanta's largest festivals, parades, Atlanta United matches and Falcons games. They patrol different areas of the city, focusing on those that benefit from the enhanced visibility of equine officers and their human partners.

There are currently 12 equine officers and ten human officers working on the force. Each horse is a police officer, with its own badge. It is most impressive to see a horse tacked up, with the badge prominently displayed on the breastplate.

The horses are mostly Draft/Thoroughbred crosses, many coming from Asbury University in Kentucky. A couple are Tennessee Walkers. All are geldings. They come to Atlanta at @ 3 yrs of age, to be trained on site. Horse ages are in the range of 4-20 years old. As you walk down the stable aisle, you meet each horse individually, and fall in love with each.

Our guides for the morning were Stable Master Kelly, whose job it is to train both the riders and the horses (lucky her – what a job!), and Officers Perez-Gilbert and Tedesco . The horses spend their nights in the field, but are brought into their stalls each morning. Officer Perez-Gilbert brought each horse out for us to meet, pet, and feed treats. Because treats aren't given normally, this was as much fun for the horses as it was for us. Our carrots quickly disappeared! As we spent time with each horse, Kelly and Officer Perez-Gilbert



This is Magnum.

told us about their personalities and distinctive traits. Magnum, @12 years old, was the largest horse, at 18 + hands. A gentle giant. All the horses are bombproof, with several having interesting quirks – such as one who dislikes skateboards. Kelly rides the stables' only full OTTB (off the track Thoroughbred, Jockey Club name Souper True) Thoroughbred, Gambit, who enjoys the time and talent Kelly can spend keeping him happily engaged. Several horses have been on the force long enough to know exactly what is expected of them. Newer horses require a lot of training; and the younger horses often start out anxious. They are given to the more experienced riders. Training consists of daily riding, both in the outdoor arenas, as well as out on the streets.

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Horses & Warriors Visit Mounted Patrol

By Sara Reams

Continued from page 5

Human officers are chosen from the ranks of the regular Atlanta Police force, often with no prior horse experience. Being a mounted patrol officer is quite a job! The stables are open seven days a week, from 7 a.m. – 3 p.m. The morning routine begins with freshening each stall and preparing the feed. Then, when the horses are brought in, the fields are tended to. Horses are groomed daily and bathed when needed or before special duty. The human officers are also responsible for the maintenance of the property, doing lawn-mowing and such.

We learned several things that you might wonder about. Because of the surface of streets throughout Atlanta, the horses wear special shoes that give them a hard cushion, made of a slip-proof rubber-like material. The farrier visits each six weeks. The horses had all had their yearly shots and teeth floated the day before we arrived. Most manes are kept trimmed into what Kelly called a “professional” cut, like rather long bristles. The saddles used are all English-style. The horses eat a variety of grain, with hay as appropriate to the season. Their manure is taken away once a month, where it is used in the production of bio-fuel. Obviously, these horses are well-loved, and taken care of as such.

The expense of the Mounted Patrol is mostly met by the Atlanta Police Foundation, an independent non-profit organization that provides strategic planning, public safety infrastructure investment, innovative technology, career-long law enforcement training, and a variety of community programs designed to assist the Atlanta Police Department in its mission to make Atlanta a safer city.

If you’d like to visit the stables, the address is 1001 Cherokee Ave SE, Atlanta, near the zoo. As long as their gate is open, you are welcome to visit. They welcome individuals as well as groups. Thank you to the Atlanta Police Mounted Patrol for the work you do! We appreciate you!



Legs and Officer Perez-Gilbert.



Gambit (Left) and King (Right) greet while Kelly looks on.

Judge Rules in Baker's Dozen Case

By Patty Livingston

In late September of last year, the Georgia Equine Rescue League (GERL) assisted local law enforcement with a legal seizure of 13 horses from their abusive owner who had starved them to the brink of death.



Handsome with Olivia and Jeffrey Sapp.

As for the perpetrator in this case, it was denial, lies and deception from the beginning. Sadly, she refused to release ownership. It has been quite an experience from the start. We appeared in court numerous times in a civil case against the owner for cost of care. She was ordered by the Judge to make payments through the court, which would have begun on April 1st. She promptly defaulted and hired a lawyer who filed a Motion to Set Aside the Judge's Order. Thus, ensued months of holding onto horses that we could not advertise, adopt out, or castrate.

They became known as The Baker's Dozen, and several articles have been written with updates about them in some of our previous newsletters. They have long ago

settled into various GERL foster homes across Georgia.

After almost a year of waiting, the Judge recently ruled that the owner of the horses was in default since she had not made payments previously ordered, and by that, she had forfeited the horses. They became the property of the County, who promptly signed them over to GERL.

The recent Judge's decision has been a huge relief for GERL, as well as all the caretakers. The horses are a year older now and several have won the hearts of their foster family, where they will remain after being adopted by them. One of the stallions has been castrated and the other two will follow suit in October.

Be sure to check out our website to get more information about The Baker's Dozen adoptables!



OG loves to be scratched.

Meet Ebony.



Blackjack undergoes castration under care of Dr. Eddie Tomlinson.

Court Battle Being Waged Over Cumberland Island National Seashore's Horses

By Kurt Repanshek - September 18th, 2023

The fate of feral horses at Cumberland Island National Seashore is in the hands of a federal judge who must decide whether the National Park Service's hands-off approach to the horses and their impacts is justified.

A lawsuit filed against the Park Service earlier this year argued that the feral horses not only are damaging the seashore's environment and two federally protected species but are not being humanely managed and should be removed from the seashore.

But in asking that the lawsuit be dismissed, the federal agency, represented by the Justice Department, says it has not waived its sovereign immunity from being sued, but that the plaintiffs have failed to show that the Park Service failed to take an action that it was required to take.

The lawsuit also claimed that the horses were adversely impacting critical habitat for loggerhead sea turtles, an endangered species, and interfering with nesting females, trampling hatchlings and eggs, and also impacting critical habitat for the piping plover, another protected species, and so the Park Service's failure to remove the horses is a violation of the Endangered Species Act.

However, the Park Service replied [response attached below] that there was no evidence that its staff at the

national seashore had impacted the two species and that it was "unaware of any cases in which a court has held that a federal agency is liable for a take of one animal perpetrated by another..."

At the same time, the agency acknowledged back in 2018 that the horses were having adverse impacts on the seashore's natural resources.

Studies of horse impacts at CUIS have found that grazing activity, including vegetation consumption and trampling, significantly reduces vegetative cover, growth, and reproduction in these habitats (Turner 1986, Dolan 2002). Grazing also appears to be altering plant species composition and is likely increasing the vulnerability of dunes and salt marshes to erosion and storm damage (Turner 1986, Dolan 2002). In addition to impacts on vegetation, feral horses compact wetland soils, altering soil properties (e.g., infiltration rates) and disturbing vital soil-dwelling organisms (Noon and Martin 2004). The wastes produced by horses contribute to nutrient enrichment or eutrophication of wetlands and waterbodies, and can contaminate waters with pathogens, including *E. coli* bacteria (Noon and Martin 2004). Together, these impacts make wetland habitats less favorable for native plants, fish, herpetofauna, and invertebrates.

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The National Park Service has asked that a lawsuit over feral horses at Cumberland Island National Seashore be dismissed/NPS file

Court Battle Being Waged Over Cumberland Island National Seashore's Horses

By Kurt Repanshek - September 18th, 2023

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The plaintiffs in the lawsuit — Georgia Equine Rescue League Ltd., the Georgia Horse Council Inc., Center for Biological Diversity Southeast Director Will Harlan, Cumberland Island resident Carol Ruckdeschel, and even the horses themselves — counter that the Park Service has a responsibility not to allow the horses to range freely across the national seashore and "has a mandatory, non-discretionary duty to protect the natural resources, wildlife, and wilderness of the Seashore by prohibiting feral horses as free ranging livestock from having access to the Seashore."

They also note that the Park Service in the 1980s removed free-roaming cattle from the national seashore, and recently received \$760,000 through the Biden administration's Inflation Reduction Act to remove feral pigs from the seashore. Allowing feral horses to remain, and continue to impact seashore resources, runs contrary to the Park Service's mandates to protect natural resources and conserve ESA species, the groups maintain.

"Defendants' 50 years of bureaucratic inertia and non-

feasance cannot justify their ignoring the statutes, rules, and regulations designed to protect the Cumberland Island National Seashore," the plaintiffs said in arguing against dismissal [attached below] of the matter.

Additional Traveler stories about the seashore's horses:

National Park Service Sued Over Cumberland Island National Seashore's Feral Horses

The Trouble With Horses On Cumberland Island

Cumberland Island Expansion: Putting the Cart Before the Horses

Cumberland Island's Horses Out Of The Past

- Cumberland Island National Seashore
- Parks in the News



Happy 80TH Birthday!

Happy 80th Birthday to Bob Cooper, a/k/a "Coop", who was one of the loyal volunteers at the Dept. of Agriculture's Mansfield impound barn for many years. Several of the old gang showed up to help Coop celebrate. It was good to see everybody again!

Happy Birthday, Coop!



The best view in the World!



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Puttin' On The Feed Bag Recipe **Cheeseburger Casserole**

Ingredients

- 1 lb. dried elbow macaroni
- 1 lb. lean ground beef (90/10)
- 3 tbsp. unsalted butter
- 1/4 c. all-purpose flour
- 3 c. whole milk
- 1 tbsp. mustard (Dijon or yellow)
- 2 tbsp. grilling seasoning
- 2 tsp. Worcestershire sauce
- 1 tsp. kosher salt, plus more for pasta water
- 12 oz. sharp cheddar cheese, grated and divided (about 3 cups)
- Nonstick cooking spray
- 8 slices American cheese
- FOR THE TOPPING:
- 1 c. panko breadcrumbs
- 1/4 c. unsalted butter, melted
- 3 tbsp. sesame seeds
- 1/2 tsp. kosher salt

Directions

1 For the casserole: Preheat the oven to 425°F. Bring a large pot of water to a boil. Season generously with salt. Cook the macaroni until al dente, 7 to 8 minutes. Drain and set aside.

2 In a large Dutch oven, cook the ground beef over medium heat, stirring occasionally to break into small pieces, until browned and cooked through, 7 to 8 minutes. Using a slotted spoon, transfer the beef to a paper towel-lined plate. Set aside.

3 Add the butter to the Dutch oven with the beef drippings and melt over medium heat. Sprinkle in the flour. Cook, whisking constantly, until lightly browned, about 2 minutes. Gradually whisk in the milk. Cook, whisking constantly, until thickened and bubbly, about 5 minutes. Reduce to low heat. Whisk in the mustard, grilling seasoning, Worcestershire, salt, and 2 cups of cheddar cheese, until melted and combined. Stir in the beef and macaroni. Transfer the mixture to a lightly greased 9x13-inch baking dish. Top with the remaining 1 cup of cheddar cheese, then lay the American cheese slices over top to fully cover the casserole. (Tear the pieces as needed.)

4 For the topping. In a small bowl, stir together the panko, butter, sesame seeds, and salt. Sprinkle the mixture evenly over the pasta. Bake until golden brown and bubbly, 15 to 20 minutes. Let cool for 5 minutes.

GERL goes to UGA for Equine Summit

by Leslie Lambert

On August 19, 2023, the Georgia Equine Rescue League participated in the Equine Summit held at the veterinarian school at the University of Georgia. This conference is planned and held by present veterinarian students.



Cindy Farris, Linda Kundell and Donna Pieper

GERL has attended this conference for quite a few years with the goal of introducing these students to our organization and the programs we utilize to accomplish our mission. GERL maintains its mission of helping

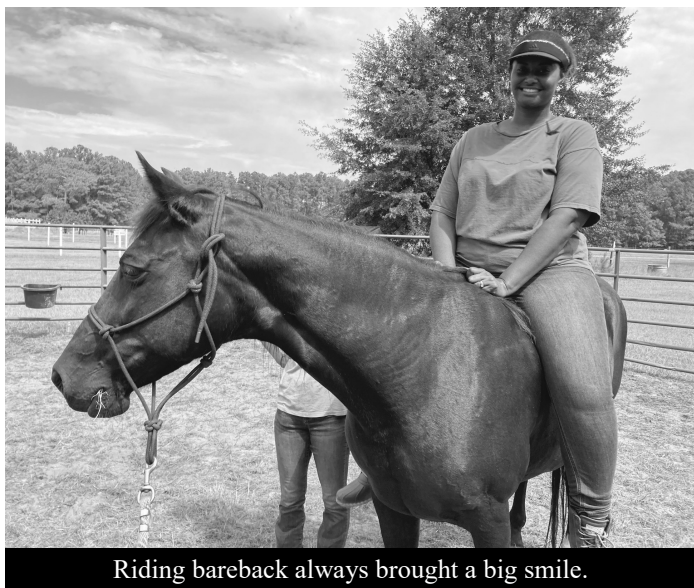
starved, abused, and neglected horses in Georgia. We spent the day introducing the attendants to our feed a horse program, castration program, veterans program, and foster program.

We had a great day interacting with the students and other vendors. I would also like to thank Linda Kundel, Lucinda Farris and Donna Pieper for helping to make this day a success.

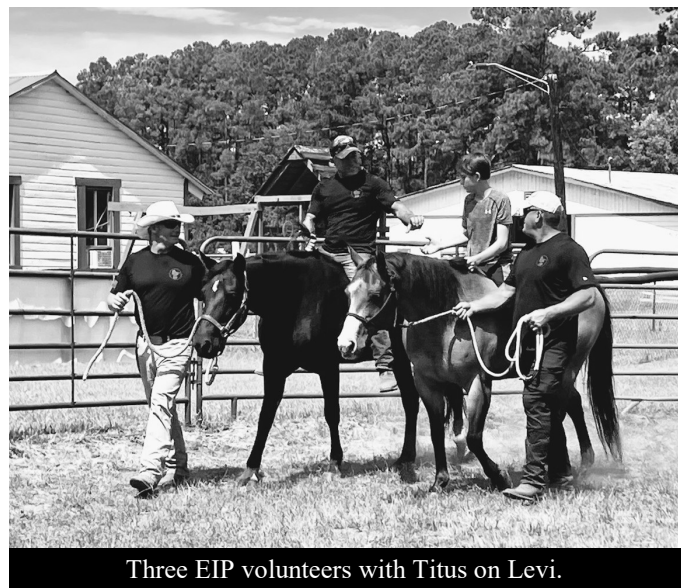


The UGA Equine Summit was well attended.

More Photos of the Ft. Stewart Equine Immersion



Riding bareback always brought a big smile.



Three EIP volunteers with Titus on Levi.

Who's Who

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To report a case of equine abuse, call the Georgia Department of Agriculture's Equine Division
Monday - Friday / 8:30 am - 4:30 pm
(404) 656-3713 or (800) 282-5852
If you would like GERL to assist with an

Interested in becoming an Area Coordinator?

Area Coordinator Director
Patty Livingston
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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 on our impact directly to horses since our last quarterly newsletter:

- GERL spent \$8,906 for feed, hay, vet care and farrier service for our foster horses.
- GERL spent \$1,912 on feed for the horses located at Warrior Ranch in Dublin..
- GERL spent \$2,566 on feed, hay and vet care for Calvin Center Horses & Warriors.
- GERL spent 1,378 on feed and farrier care through our Crisis Intervention Program.
- GERL SPENT A TOTAL OF \$14,761 THIS QUARTER DIRECTLY HELPING HORSES.



Join our Feed A Horse Program



Donations will be applied directly towards feed and hay for horses located in the Veteran facilities that GERL supports, as well as the horses taken into GERL's foster program. 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 on our website @ <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!

A Letter from our Troops

The military personnel who participated in the four-day event at Ft. Stewart were asked to write down their thoughts about their day spent with the horses. Below is one of the many notes that let us know that we were over the target.

This was an overall amazing experience for me and very much needed. It really forces one to face their own emotions because the horses are like mirrors to our emotions. It's a learning experience that cannot be found elsewhere. Therapy is great, but the way a horse can bring out emotions is outstanding. I am convinced the Lord created horses for us as our own source of emotional growth and therapy. I think every individual can immensely benefit from a true interaction with a horse. The world needs more programs like this!



Volunteer Navy Seal Veteran is united with his service dog at the end of the day.

Horses & Warriors Introduces Garth Brooks

Garth Brooks is a mini horse that resides at the Calvin Center and though he was brought onboard for their children's program, it seems that minis fit right in with adults, too. Recently, a veteran who got off the VA bus at the Horses & Warriors facility at the Calvin Center commented that she loved mini horses. The rest is history and Garth was brought out and introduced.

Horses touch our lives. No matter what size.



A Veteran meets Garth Brooks.

Garth loves the attention.

The Calvin Center Hosts P.A.T.H. Conference

The Calvin Center recently hosted a P.A.T.H. conference at their facility in Hampton, Ga. Many PATH certified participants attended and learned new ideas.

This particular exercise demonstrated by Maggie Mae on the right, helps children with reading problems. The horse is simply the "connection" point that encourages the fun way to learn how to read. Each of the balls has an imprinted letter.



Maggie Mae helping out.

Repairs Done at Ft. Stewart Stables

By Patty Livingston

The Georgia Equine Rescue League (GERL) helped provide the Ft. Stewart Stables with a recent facelift to make them more safe in order to accommodate a dozen or so



horses that would be coming in for the four-day event planned for September 7-10, 2023. Big thanks to Leonard and Chris who both board their horses at the stables, for orchestrating the work party that made sure that everything was perfect!



Thank you for your donations

Lauren Norwood
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Welcome New Members

Terry Carr & Family
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 Melissa Palmer

Cumberland Island Horses:

Edith Leckey
 Gene & Nancy Ozburn
 Jimmy Melvin
 George & Charlotte Zubowicz
 Pat & Mark Lusted
 Dawn Hart in Memory of Chole
 Jean Edwards
 Karen Stubbs
 Margaret Wallace
 Rosalee Dormio
 Jeanne Barsanti – in memory of Flame,
 beloved horse of Wendell & Dayle Faulkner

In Honor of

Susan by Dawn Hart
 Barbara Busby from colleagues at Children's
 Medical Services & Children w/Special Needs

In Memory of

All the horses we have loved by Jeanne & Bob Carter
 Amanda Collins by Laura Tate
 Terry F. Byer by The Classic Center Staff
 Terry F. Byer by Sue Gavin\|
 Sara by Erik Wittenzellner

Stallion to Gelding Program:

Pat & Mark Lusted

Feed A Horse

Erik Wittenzellner – In memory of Sara
 Constance Burchette
 Penelope Stiglitz
 Tony Conway

Kroger



Quarterly Check \$84.20
 120 Households



<https://www.facebook.com/georgiaequine.rescueleague>



More participants from Ft. Stewart event.

GERL Volunteers of the Quarter

This Volunteer of the Quarter recognition could only go to Cynthia Anderson and Jacki Moore for all of the work they do for GERL on a regular basis, but particularly for their role in the Ft. Stewart four-day event. They were both instrumental in planning and taking care of the food, drinks, paperwork, directions and anything else that needed attention. They both have other tasks they do such as helping to set up our new flea market and performing the duties of an Area Coordinator. It is only through the generosity of volunteers like Jacki and Cynthia that GERL is able to function at the level it does. Thanks to both for all you do!



Jacki Moore is also a Veteran.



GERL VP Cynthia Anderson & Cat Extraordinaire

GERL Calendar of Events - *Mark Your Calendars!*

November 2023

Stallion to Gelding Castration Month

Participating Vets Across Georgia

Check the GERL website mid-October for participating veterinarians.



December 2023

GERL Christmas Party

TBA

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>



Long-time GERL member
Jan Wilson Turns 80!

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Key, Ashley - Hall, Gwinnett, Forsyth & Jackson
(404) 424-1495 / ashleykey@gmail.com

King, Lori - Walton, & Newton
(609) 517-3335 / ridefree34.5kawa@yahoo.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

Long, Bob - Barrow & Jackson
(678) 409-8893 / bobron945@gmail.com

Perlman, Susan - DeKalb
(404) 824-5522 / seperlman@bellsouth.net

Pieper, Donna - Gwinnett & Walton
(404) 797-3333 / horsesdpl@gmail.com

Pippen, Tasha - Banks, Barrow, Hall, Gwinnett
(404) 713-8598 / trinitystables1736@gmail.com

Raybon, Annette - Paulding, Cobb, Bartow
(770) 713-2244 / raybonta@bellsouth.net

**Roush, Lori - Warren, Hancock, Wilkes, McDuffe, Glascock
and Washington**

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

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 you time.



For updated Area Coordinators:
<https://gerlltd.org/area-coordinators/>

We'd Like To Hear From You!

Do you know any special kids who
deserve a shout out for their good works?

Contact us.

We would like to feature them in an
upcoming newsletter!
gerlpatty@yahoo.com



LET ME SAY THIS...ABOUT THAT

By Patty Livingston, President

The last several months have been a whirlwind of weekly meetings to plan the four-day event scheduled for the first week in September at the Ft. Stewart stables in Hinesville. This “proof of concept” was a total success in many ways, and I am forever grateful to Tara and Kelly and the entire EIP team for allowing us to partner with them.

The Ft. Stewart stables, Bits & Bridle Equestrian Club, has had a facelift with new lumber and a coat of paint that make it more presentable and less likely to close. We turned at least 40 enlisted military individuals on to the fact that they have a stable available to them just outside the gates of the base. The Chief of Behavioral Health at Winn Hospital reached out and would like to set up inpatient groups and cohorts with us in the future, which we will be discussing soon. We are also discussing hosting an event like this at Ft. Benning. We see so many opportunities available within our military.

And let me say this about that, these are the types of events that I would like to see GERL have more involvement in. Working directly with the military is much more rewarding, especially when you are teaching new people every aspect of the power of a horse.

Their testimony written on a blank piece of paper sealed the deal for me!

Another Letter from our Troops

It was a fun day. It was my first time ever interacting with a horse. The idea of being able to connect with a 2 ton animal was crazy to me until this exercise. I really felt at peace when I connected with the horse. I have been struggling a lot with my mental health, but today was like a reset. I am hoping to participate in another event like this again.

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



GERL Receives New Horse Trailer

By Patty Livingston

The Georgia Equine Rescue League (GERL) is often the recipient of donated items from many generous people across Georgia and we are always grateful. Often, we don't know what we are getting until we arrive to pick up, and that was how this story goes.

We received a call on our hotline from a lady named Jeanne who wanted to donate a horse trailer. The information I received was that it was a 3 horse, slant load. I drove to the address to pick it up, assuming that it was a steel bumper pull with a splash of rust. I turned into Jeanne's long driveway and as I approached her house, there sat an aluminum Gooseneck trailer. She and her husband, Bob, donated the trailer in memory of all the horses that she and her family have loved and enjoyed over the years.

We took the trailer to Allison Creek Trailer Services in Bishop to have it checked out and have the GERL logo added. It looks like we have arrived! Huge thanks to Jeanne and Bob for their generosity!



Support GERL by purchasing our merchandise!

Adult Short Sleeve T-Shirt \$20.00



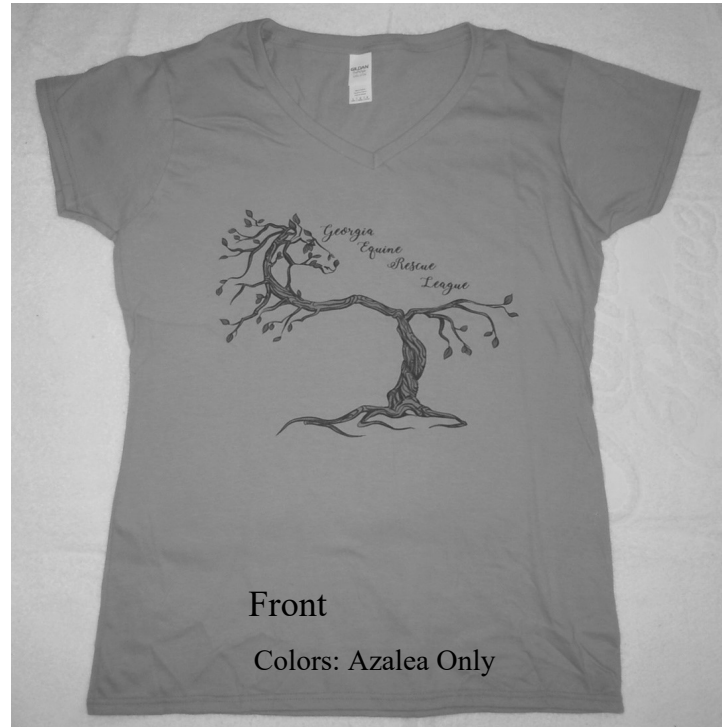
Front

Colors:
Kiwi/Violet/Chalky Mint

Back

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

Gildan Soft style Ladies V-Neck Tee \$16.00



Front

Colors: Azalea Only

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

Sweat Shirt \$55.00



Sweat Shirt with printed logo
Sizes available: M, L, XL & 2X

Colors: Violet/Crunch and Berry/Lagoon Blue

T-Shirt \$16.00



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

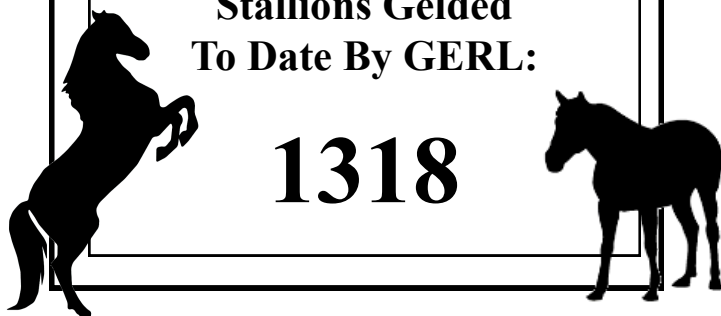
Colors: Mint/Blossom/Melon

Available to purchase on our website www.gerlltd.org

GERL Stallion to Gelding Program.

**Stallions Gelded
To Date By GERL:**

1318



Horses in our Foster Care Program

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

Horse	Age	Color	Ridable	Foster Farm
CoCo	34	Sorrel	No	Petree Farm
Handsome	11	Bay	Yes	Patty Livingston
Luna	4	Gray	Yes	CeCe Calli
Cisco	25	Gold	No	Steven Neal
Sultan	23	Bay	No	Steven Neal
Blackjack	13	Bay	Yes	Patty Livingston
OG	23	Bay	Yes	Patty Livingston
Sable	23	Bay	Yes	Cindy Farris
Ebony	13	Bay	Yes	Cindy Farris
Colts	2	Bay	No	Warrior Ranch

REACH THOUSANDS OF POTENTIAL CUSTOMERS! ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS HERE!

Coverage in our Newsletter and website!

Business Card Page (Color) Annual: \$100.00

1/4 Page: \$150.00 per year (Newsletter/Website/Color)

1/2 Page: \$200.00 per year (Newsletter/Website/Color)

Full Page \$300.00 per year (Newsletter/Website/Color)

(Above 3 ads include a 2" X 3.5" color on the front page of our website)
(Customer supplies business card/photos/graphics)

Contact: ads@gerlltd.org

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.

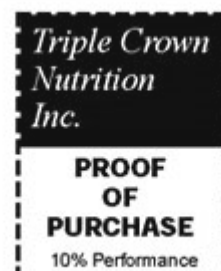
Southern States and Triple Crown Proof of Purchases (POPs) continue to trickle in. We were able to take advantage of the TC offer again this year, which is 1 \$25 VISA gift card for every 12 POPs. Thanks to our TC donors, we had enough for all 12 gift cards! Thank you, again, to our consistent donors 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



Georgia Equine Rescue League, Ltd.



will host the 13th Annual



GEORGIA STALLION TO GELDING CASTRATION MONTH November 2023

Details: Equine Veterinarians all across Georgia are joining together with GERL to host a low cost castration clinic for \$175 per horse. GERL will pay \$75 and the owner/client will pay \$100.00. Check the GERL website mid-October for participating vets and the specific date and location of each clinic. (www.gerlltd.org)

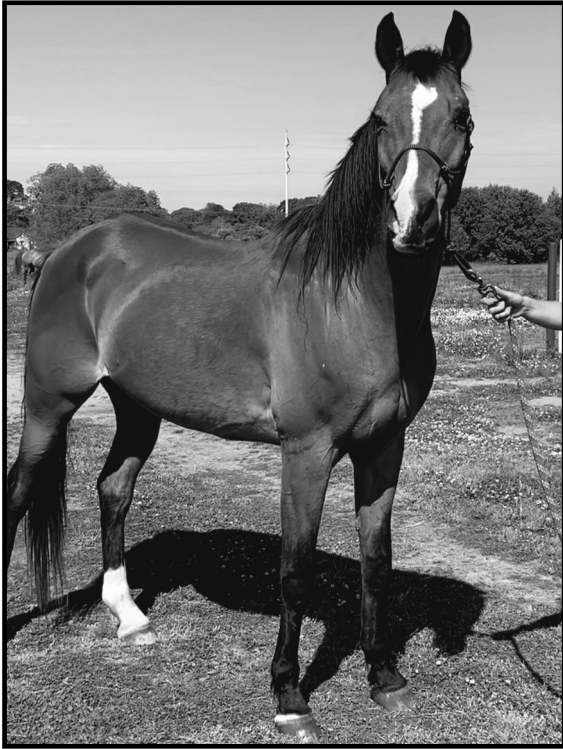
**Call for details:
Marian Finco
(706) 340-4368**



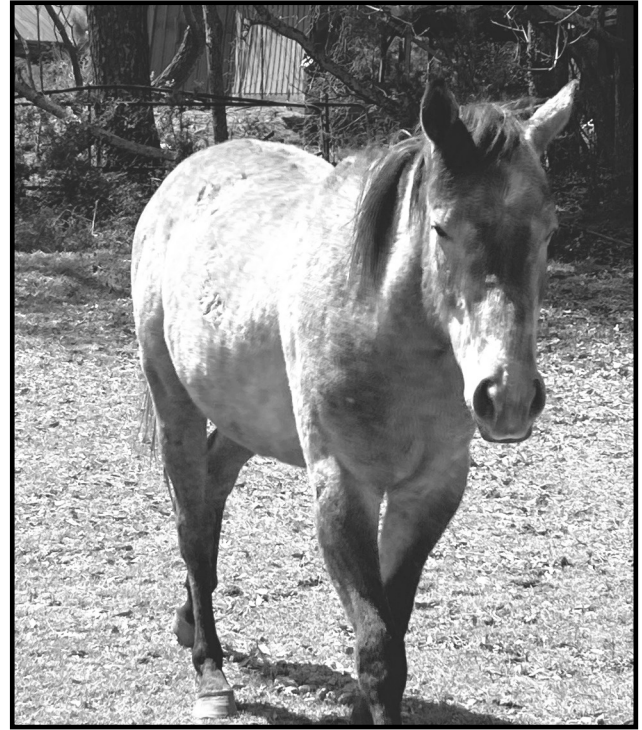
Disclaimers:
No Cryptorchids.
Tetanus required.
Ga. Residents only.

GERL ADOPTABLES

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

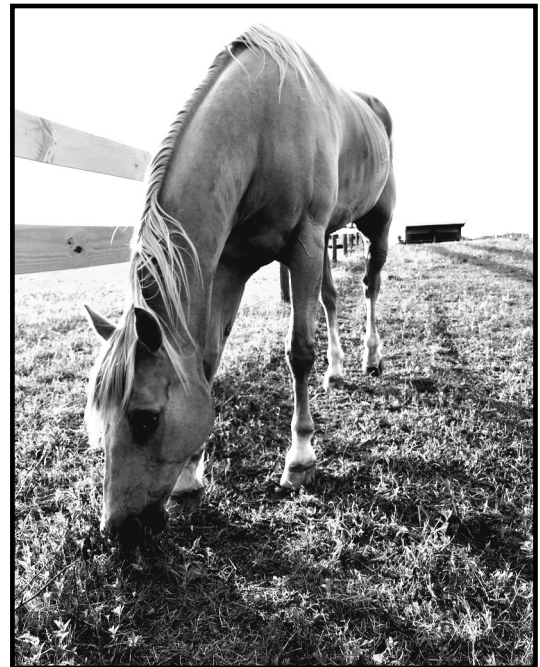


Sultan is a 25 year old Bay Arabian gelding. He is a former show horse that has done his time. Sultan is being offered as a pasture pal. He is a beautiful boy and would look good in any pasture! He has great ground manners is loves attention.



Luna is a 4 year old Quarter Horse filly. She spent two months with a trainer last year. Luna needs someone who is experienced and willing to go slowly with her training from here.

Sizzalena is 20 years old. She is a super smart mare! She has been pastured alone for many years and gets along well with other horses. She comes from AQHA and Tobbiano bloodlines but she was never registered. She was a companion horse with the same owner for 20 years. She is not broke to ride. She learns quickly and is very compliant. Sizzalena will make a great companion horse as she is not a dominant mare. She is current on her vaccines and her teeth have been floated.



Cisco is a 25 year old Palomino QH gelding. He was one of Mickey Farmer's horses. Cisco is retired and being offered as a pasture pal. He is very sweet, not aggressive to other horses and very pretty to look at! Cisco has a lot of personality, too!

What I Learned About Pythiosis

Karen Henderson

Belle, my gorgeous Appaloosa mare, died on May 10, 2015 due to a disease called Pythiosis, aka Swamp Cancer. *Pythium Insidiosum* is the name of the organism. She contracted pythiosis from a pond in South Georgia. Pythiosis claimed Belle's life after a ten-month battle. I raised Belle from day of birth to 11 years old. Belle had access to a wet weather pond on my property for 11 years, but it only took one time to contract pythiosis. Most horse owners have never heard of Pythiosis, like me, until my mare tested positive for it. She had what appeared to be a puncture wound the size of a dime on her forearm and belly that grew to 6" diameter within weeks. The lesions can mimic a summer sore. Pythiosis can also be contracted internally from ingesting the water. Pythiosis is a horrific disease for animals and an everyday relentless battle.

Serum shots are available with chances of recovery being 70-80% if diagnosed within the first 15- 60 days. There is not a preventative vaccine at this time. I encourage livestock, horse and dog owners to think twice about allowing their animals into any type of

pond, swampy locations or low lying areas that accumulate water or flooded areas, especially if the animal has even the smallest wound on it. The disease in horses is becoming more common in Georgia, Florida, Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi and even as far north as Michigan. Also, it is becoming more prevalent in dogs and human cases do exist. Pythiosis does not discriminate. Pythiosis is not a reported disease since it is not contagious. Red flags for pythiosis are sores that have an odor, oozing bloody serum, severe itching resulting in self-mutilation, or does not respond to antibiotics.

Pythiosis can cause fungal-like infection with cutaneous or subcutaneous, gastrointestinal, respiratory or multisystemic disease in various animals. Horses are commonly infected with tumor-like nodular skin masses. If your horse has a lesion that does not respond to general treatment a veterinarian should be contacted immediately. Time is crucial with this horrific disease.



Belle wading in a pond in South Georgia



This wound started out the size of a dime.

A Gift in Memory of the Horses We've Loved

By Jeanne Carter

This gift of the horse trailer was given in memory of all the horses that we've owned and loved over the last 64 years. We are particularly grateful to Elissa Riker, our foundation mare, she gave us generations of her descendants who made us beyond proud. A unique feature among them all was "the look". They all had it. You could spot anyone related to her in any crowd. Among them were multiple Grand Champion Stallions, extensive futurity winners, primarily in halter but also in pleasure. In addition, in 2002, one of her grandsons



accomplished a feat that no other Quarter Horse had at the time. He became the first QH to win on an international level at the GA International Combined Driving Event. Following the cross-country event, he had a substantial lead over all competitors, a truly remarkable accomplishment for a Quarter Horse.

The following portions of the event just solidified his lead even further, and history was made. Quarter



The horse trailer donated by Jeanne



Horses were not considered to be a breed that was suitable to be competitive at that level. With his amateur owner at the reins, against professional drivers from around the world, that myth was destroyed. We remain extremely proud of that accomplishment.

We lost the last mare that we owned in a line of 4 generations on 3-1-2023. She was 32 and was the last of many, many horses that we have been blessed to have bred. It is truly with joy that we donate this trailer to you. We are so hopeful that you will be able to rescue many abused & neglected horses from their circumstances with the use of the trailer.

Thanks & blessings to you for your work.



In Memory of Sara

By Erik Wittenzellner

Sara was an avid horse lover and while she could not actively participate in the last years just do to her life and planning the future with her fiancé she never stopped being a horse girl.

She started riding and taking lessons around 7 years old at Moonlight Stables in Acworth and continued until she was in her teens. Riding in competitions occasionally but she really just loved being there and connecting with the horses and barn life. It touched us all. We have such a connection with that barn it was fitting her celebration of life was held there last month where all her friends and family could get a little taste of what she loved so much.

We are grieving her passing and can only pray that she is hugging the neck of her favorite pony In heaven. We lost a daughter, a brother lost her sister, a husband lost his wife, untold friends lost a a best friend and the world lost a beautiful soul. My donations to the feed a horse program started during that time and means more to me now than ever.



Sara loved connecting with horses.



Sara occasionally rode in competitions.



Sara started riding around 7 years old.

GERL Receives Collection of Hartland, Marx and Breyer Horses

By Patty Livingston

I was recently contacted by Alice Stagg, a long-time GERL member and collector of Hartland, Marx and Breyer horses and famous characters. Alice wanted to donate her collection that started back in 1958 as a child and now included 22 sets. The collection includes famous characters and their horses such as Dale Evans & Buttermilk, Roy Rogers and Trigger, Tonto & Scout, Lone Ranger & Silver, just to name a few.

GERL will be selling these sets through eBay, however, if you or someone you know is a collector, please let them know that they can contact me at gerlpatty@yahoo.com for additional information and pricing.

BIG Thanks to Alice for her generosity!



Some of the collection dates back to 1958.



Zorro and General Custard, just to name a few of the characters in the collection

Luna made her Choice

By CeCe Calli

Seems I talk about Luna a lot. Well she was with me for 16 months. The longest I have fostered a horse for Georgia Equine Rescue League. Luna came to my place with a good amount of baggage. She fought being haltered and her reactions were a bit over the top sometimes. Deep in my heart I know she had a lot to give and a lot to say. Slowly I found out how smart she really was, how forgiving she could be and what a total sweet girl she developed into. We had days that were not good and we had days she was a star. Soon she had weeks she was a star and a day or two it fell apart. Luna's biggest obstacle was she just didn't like a lot of people. Now this is bad for a horse that is up for adoption. But slowly this problem too was overcome.

When it was time for the next phase of development for her, I was a bit nervous. Asking her to accept a saddle truly was her biggest test. So as I worked with her with the saddle pad and got the nerve to throw up that saddle I was shaking in my boots. But dang, big girl did a great job. Even tightening up the cinch was no big deal. So, the next logical step was taking her into the arena with her saddle. Again, she was a star.



Luna loves to steal the other horses' feed bowl.



Luna under saddle.

She didn't mind the mounting block, being tied to the hitching post and walking around and around the arena. I'm no trainer but the trust Luna and I had was just so cool. She didn't mind weight in the stirrup, me laying on her back or working in hand around the mounting block. And maybe once or twice (ok 5 or 6 times) I sat in the saddle and we just chilled.

Luna has made me very proud, and I know whatever her next adventure is she will be a star.

Luna's next adventure started August 30, 2023 as she loaded in the trailer and said goodbye to me heading To Lauren Normans, Norman Farm. Her new adventure begins...



GERL ADOPTABLES

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



OG (Older Gentleman) is a 23 yr old Warmblood Stallion, soon to be a Gelding. He is 16.2 hh, very sweet and personable. OG loves people! He's easy to catch, has great ground manners and stands quietly for the farrier. He has been under saddle, but we are still assessing his riding skills.



Sable - 22 Yr. old Warmblood mare. 16.2 hh. Good ground manners, easy to catch and stands for farrier. She is the boss mare of any herd. Sable rides, but her true riding skills have yet to be determined. She is a nice horse!



Ebony – 13 yr. old. Warmblood Mare. 16.1 hh. This is a very nice horse. She rides, stands quietly for the farrier, and has great ground manners. She won't last long!



Blackjack – 13 yr. old Arabian Gelding. 15.1 hh. Recently gelded and has transitioned nicely. Excellent ground manners, good with the farrier and a great disposition. Blackjack rides, though his full riding skills are unknown. He is a very smart and willing horse.

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“As a convenience you can donate or signup/renew your membership on our website <https://gerlltd.org>”

Sign Up Today to help starved, abused and neglected horses in Georgia!

Sign Up Today to help starved, abused and neglected horses in Georgia!

New Member: _____ Renewal: _____ Date: _____

Name: _____

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Phone: _____

E-mail Address: _____ Referred by: _____

_____ I am a horse owner

_____ Although I do not own a horse, I would like to support the GERL

_____ I am interested in becoming a GERL Foster Home

_____ I am interested in becoming a GERL fundraising event volunteer

Annual membership dues are:

\$35.00 Family _____ \$25.00 Single _____ \$15.00 Junior (12 & under) _____ Age: _____

\$50.00 Club, Organization or Business _____ \$1000.00 Lifetime _____

Misc. Donation: _____

In Honor of _____ for the amount of \$ _____

In Memory of _____ for the amount of \$ _____

Make check payable to: GERL
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With Your Help ... We Will Make A Difference!



Certified 501(c)3 with the State of Georgia

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