



# Georgia Equine Rescue League, Ltd.

With Your Help ...  
We Will Make A Difference

Volume #171

[www.gerlltd.org](http://www.gerlltd.org)

November 2009

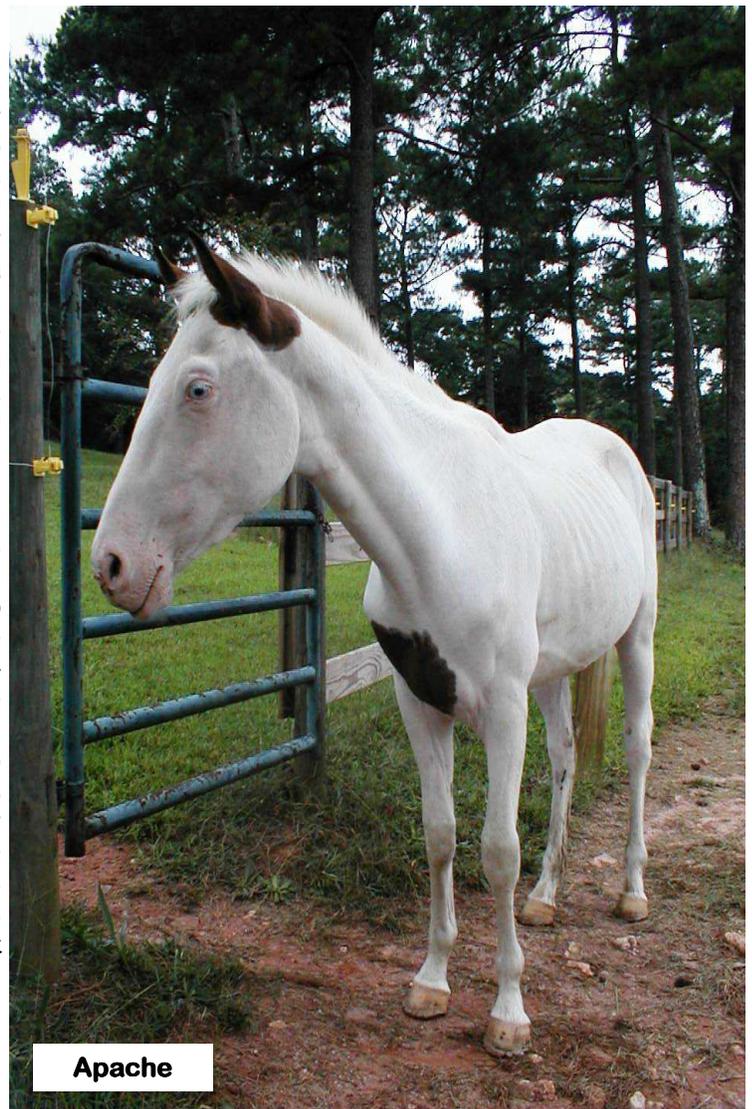
## GERL Helps With White County Rescue

By Patty Livingston

It was a Friday afternoon in mid-September. My horse trailer was hooked up and I was headed to Jake Mountain in Dahlonega for the weekend. I was about two hours away from leaving when I received an email from Pat Cooper from the White County Humane Society in Cleveland (Georgia). She had a situation with two horses that needed to be removed from their present location due to neglect. There apparently was a squabble between two friends and the horses were on the losing end. One horse was a young stud paint and the other was an eight year old pregnant mare.

We do not have a foster home on our list who can take a stud in a hurry but I knew that the horses could go to Diana Demoss' on an interim basis. I called and asked her if she would pick them up so that I could salvage my weekend plans to ride. She agreed to do that, as well as house them. Ray Ziebell is the nearest Area Coordinator to White County. We decided to call him to see if he could pick up the horses in Cleveland and take them to Diana's farm in Good Hope. Ray, as always, was happy to assist. I then called Pat to tell her that Ray was on his way to meet her at the farm in White County. I was feeling pretty good with myself at this point. I had been able to negotiate all of the details within two hours and was going to be able to make it to Jake Mountain before dark.

(continued on page 9)



Apache

**Who's Who**  
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William Baker, DVM  
Jennifer Baker, DVM  
Michael Chisolm, Esquire

**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**

**Newsletter Editor - Betty Evenson**  
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**\*Please submit all newsletter materials by the**  
**10th of each month for submission in the**  
**following month's newsletter.**

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frogleap@windstream.net  
**Charles & Linda DeVane - Brooks, Thomas**  
**& Cook Counties**  
(229) 263-7714 / (229) 560-0844

**\*If you are interested in becoming an Area Coordinator**  
**for a county not listed here, please contact**  
**Ronnie Pesserilo (770) 466-4515 or gerlrone@bellsouth.net.**

## **LET ME SAY THIS ... ABOUT THAT** **By Patty Livingston, President**

In the last few newsletters we've written about rescues involving Animal Control agencies. One was about four starved horses that we picked up from Paulding County Animal Control and the other was two horses from White County Animal Control. Since this is all new for me, I can't help but notice the various levels of involvement or abilities that each agency may have. In some counties, such as Paulding, they have a small fenced area where they are able to put a few horses for a short period of time. I seem to remember that they also had a trailer available. In other counties, they are no livestock facilities and they are totally dependent on other "outside" to help in equine abuse cases. Yet, other counties have no interest in expanding their canine/feline shelter to include horses. When it comes to equine, their protocol is to call the Georgia Dept of Agriculture.

The problem here is that the GDA doesn't have the resources or funds to follow-up with every single reported case of horse neglect or abuse, in a timely manner, by themselves. We've mentioned before that a GDA Inspector is typically responsible for 15 or more counties and some counties are without an inspector right now because of recent budget cuts. With winter coming on I'm afraid that the worst is yet to come for the plight of Georgia's unwanted horses. I know that the GDA has good working relationships with many county animal control personnel. But, let me say this, about that ... if we don't get more counties involved with the enforcement of the Equine Humane Care Act it will be an overwhelming problem for years to come.

When GERL and the GDA recently met to share policies and procedures we discussed taking a show "on the road" to share with law enforcement and animal control agencies to make them aware of the current situation with Georgia's horses and to explain how they can help. The GDA mentioned sponsoring an upcoming training opportunity called "Technical Large Animal Emergency Rescue Awareness" scheduled for late October. Many county agencies were invited to attend at a cost of \$125 per person. I learned that many of the local animal control personnel wanted to attend, but were not able because of the lack of funds. The GERL Board decided that this would be an excellent use of funds and a great way to help these agencies engage in horse rescue at a higher level. I contacted Robin Easley, GDA Field Supervisor, and offered to pay for tuition for three animal control agents to attend. This was in addition to the four GERL Area Coordinators that also attended. Large animal rescue takes a different kind of experience and there aren't a whole lot of people around who can be called in emergency situations involving equine. It was an excellent opportunity that doesn't present itself very often.

In the beginning of this year the GERL Board approved a \$3,000.00 budget for a temporary equine holding area for Dawson County Animal Control. It consisted of panels and a metal carport, which is all that is really needed to house a few horses temporarily. Dawson County has not gotten around to grading out the site for this holding area yet, but it was our hope that it could be shared with surrounding counties' Animal Control agencies. I hope that we can see this come to fruition sometime in the future. I'd also like to engage with more county agencies to learn their policies in regards to equine abuse cases. I think it is important that we help support any county law enforcement or animal control agency. Finding those agencies that have the capacity and the willingness to help take on more responsibility is the goal. If we can help fill their needs, the horses win!



## **A Note from the Secretary's Desk**

**By Anne Ensminger**

Just one more word about Marty Paulk, a wonderful friend and past Secretary to GERL. Marty recently passed away. Even in death, her humor shone. I, along with several other GERL members, attended Marty's memorial service. As her beautiful daughters got up to share memories of their mother, they told of Marty's last requests concerning her funeral. She left an envelope marked, "To be opened when I do the Big Froggy and croak". How like Marty! Nuff said.

The new GERL Feed a Horse Program is off and running and is quite a success. The concept is simple. It is estimated that the GDA cost for rehabilitating one starved horse is \$150 per month for 5 to 6 months. GDA has the facilities and the personnel to take care of these horses but they need money to buy feed, dental, foot, and veterinary care. GERL has asked our members to "adopt" one these horses and pay these costs. Even donations to pay part of the cost are greatly appreciated. The response has been heart warming. Many of our members want to help the horses in a direct way. This is a way for them to know that their donations will be earmarked for a specific purpose. It feels good to know that one horse is receiving needed care because of your sacrifice. As always, all donations to GERL are tax deductible.



I hope our members are noticing the huge amount of activity recently taking place in this organization. I get emails almost every day, as a member of the GERL Board of Directors, discussing how various needs might be met. The other members of our Board travel many miles each month to check on horses or transport them to foster homes. The GERL phone lines are very busy with requests for help. Each request is considered. Emails and phone conferences are common as we investigate circumstances and decide how we can best help these people and their horses.

We can never adequately express our gratitude to our foster homes. They take all kinds of horses, give love and care, and never expect or receive any kind of notoriety. They do not know how long they will be charged with the care of these animals, nor do they ask. They just do it, one day at a time.

I also want to mention that GERL is often asked to provide information booths at numerous horse related events. I do not know of any of the requests that have been denied due to lack of volunteers to operate the booths. For our volunteers to take a day (usually a weekend day) out of their life, travel to pick up needed equipment, set up the booth, and talk with many people about our work is HUGE. Each time such a booth is presented, GERL prospers by acquiring new members and generous donations. Our volunteers are our life-blood and we appreciate them very much!

I would also like to remind our membership that GERL continues to look for Foster and Adoptive Homes. Never has our need been greater in these two areas. Horses are being abandoned and given up because of job losses or other financial hardships that are the result of the present economy in our country. GERL is now frequently called upon to help these horses, therefore, we are in need of help from our membership as never before. Can you offer a horse a temporary home until a permanent home can be found? Are you interested in adopting a GERL horse?

If you have answered yes to either of these questions please contact Donna Pieper, our Adoption Coordinator at (404) 797-3333 or [gerldonna@bellsouth.net](mailto:gerldonna@bellsouth.net). Let Donna know what you are able to foster and if you are looking to adopt, what sort of horse would work for you (mare, gelding, young horse, old horse, pet, or riding horse). If you have made such an offer in the past and have not been contacted, rest assured that you WILL get a response from Donna. The need is great. Please help us meet this need and help these horses!

## GERL Calendar of Events

### Christmas Party

December 12th in Bethlehem  
\*Details on page 15

### Horse Show

sponsored by The Pampered Pony  
November 7th  
\*Details on page 23

### Gene Ensminger 2nd Annual Memorial Ride 2010

April 30th - May 2nd  
to be held at Ron & Adrian Cook's  
Round Oak, 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!**



Dear GERLs

We have received two more checks from Southern States for a grand total of \$1,174.45, and I've just submitted a request for another \$280.45!! I continue to be grateful for the support this program has received. I want to thank those who continuously mail me POP's, as well as the following new donors: Ed Merritt, Wendee McGuffee, Tina Davis, Sarah & Manuel Lopez, Ellen Eaton, Mickey & Sabrina Wilson, Nancy Janosik, Connie Keener, Judy Close, Daniel Hutchins, Denni Mack of Koweta Arabians, Margaret Korges, and Diane Caruso. My apologies if I've left anyone out, but you ALL have my sincere gratitude.

If anyone out there is thinking of changing feeds, please consider Southern States' brands – you'd be getting great nutrition for your pampered pet, as well as helping to raise money for those not-so-pampered ones – the abused & neglected horses of Georgia.

Please keep those POP's coming!

Ginny Scarritt

Editor's Note: See page 6 for the details of this POP program. Thank you Ginny for coordinating this program for GERL!



**A  
Horse Lover's  
Catalog**

**(800) 332-9251**  
**thebarndoor.com**

**If Your Name Is Listed Here, Your Membership Is Due For Renewal!  
This Will Be Your Last Newsletter Unless You Renew.**

Nancy Bogardts  
Judith Clark  
David & Terri Elsberry  
Elaine Hargadon  
Sally Hart  
Peggy & Barbara Hawley  
Rena Hinson  
Gina Lance  
Greg and Kristi Lindsay  
Manuel and Sarah Lopez  
Rosalee & Sandy Loudon  
Susan McCullar  
Nina Murphy  
Michael & Patricia Petelle  
Gail S. Posey  
Lisa Kelley Schindler  
Karen Squazzo  
Valerie Warburton

Oxford  
Bloomingtondale  
Temple  
Waleska  
Rutledge  
Covington  
Covington  
Dacula  
Lavonia  
Palmetto  
Conyers  
Madison  
Loganville  
Marietta  
Cedartown  
Cumming  
McDonough  
Ballground

**Please continue to support GERL ...**

**Junior Membership \$15 (12 and under)**

**Single Membership \$25**

**Family Membership \$35**

**Business, Club, etc. \$50**

**\*Membership form is on the last page of this newsletter**

**Please mail your check to:  
GERL . PO Box 328  
Bethlehem, GA 30620**



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

**Please save Proof Of Purchase seals from bags  
of these Southern States feeds –  
Legends, Triple Crown & Reliance  
and send them to:**

**Ginny Scarritt  
4835 Kendall Court . Atlanta, GA 30342**

**ALL money raised goes directly to GERL!**

**Thank You  
Dr. Ken Marcella**

for providing our membership  
with such informative  
articles each month.

See page 13 for this month's article



**YOU ARE INVITED!**  
**to take advantage of**  
**HUGE SAVINGS!!!**

**THE BARN DOOR, INC.**

**A Horse Lover's Catalog**  
**www.thebarndoor.com**



**Invites you to our**  
**Christmas Warehouse Sample**  
**& Inventory Clearance Sale!**



**Friday, December 4th - 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.**  
**Saturday, December 5th - 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.**

**DO YOUR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING WITH US!**

\*Bring this flyer with you and receive  
10% off of regular priced, in-stock items  
(pick up here and pay no shipping charge)!

The Barn Door is your source for unique gift items for horse lovers of all ages including home décor, jewelry, bedding, handbags, clothing, art and much more!

**We receive many samples and one of a kind items that you  
will never see in our catalog. We will also have deeply  
discounted clearance items (up to 80% off)  
for your purchasing pleasure!**

LOCATED IN WAREHOUSE BEHIND FAJITA GRILL  
388 Hwy 53 E - Bldg #100 . Dawsonville, GA 30534  
(706) 265-4281 - Call for directions or for additional details.



# “Feed a Horse”

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!



Before



After

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

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

**“Feed a Horse”  
Program**

[www.gerlltd.org](http://www.gerlltd.org)

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

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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

**THANK YOU!**

***Your donation is  
tax deductible!***

**GERL Helps With White County Rescue**  
(continued from the cover)

The next morning, CTHA Work leader, Debbie Crowe, showed up in my camp a little before nine with a message from Diana. Ray and Pat had not been able to catch the pregnant mare, so, they have to leave her for now. Ray did have the little stud, but had taken him home with him instead of going to Diana's. The plan was to bring him to Jake Mountain on Sunday and I would take him home with me. I was happy with that plan as I was still going to get to ride.

Ray and I made arrangements to meet at my camp at 3:00 the next afternoon. When he unloaded "Apache" I was shocked. He was so skinny and he had a very deep shelf below his spine. It was hard to believe someone could do that to an animal. Both of these horses originally came out of a sale barn in Tennessee. His Bill Of Sale said he is a Medicine Hat Paint. He is almost all white except for brown ears and a brown spot on his chest. He does have a brown ring around one very blue eye. His Coggins says he is three, but I don't agree. He appears to be much younger but we would leave proper aging to a veterinarian. He unload beautifully from Ray's stock trailer and reloaded quietly into mine. He never batted an eye and I was very impressed with his demeanor.

An hour and a half later we arrived at my farm. I unloaded Apache and put him in my front pasture. I then unloaded my mare and took her up to the barn to join my other two horses. They all stood at the fence and stared down at the new arrival in the pasture below. Poor Apache wanted to be with them and he continued to graze right around the same area so that he could keep his eye on the other horses.

The next day I sent an email to Pat Cooper letting her know that I had the stud at my house and would wait to hear from her as to when she would be able to go back out catch the mare. She called me a few hours later to say that they had her on a trailer and that we could come and get her. Holy Cow! Of course, I'm still hooked up to my enclosed trailer and would need to change over to the stock trailer. I was not anywhere near ready to leave. I told her I'd call her right back with a plan.

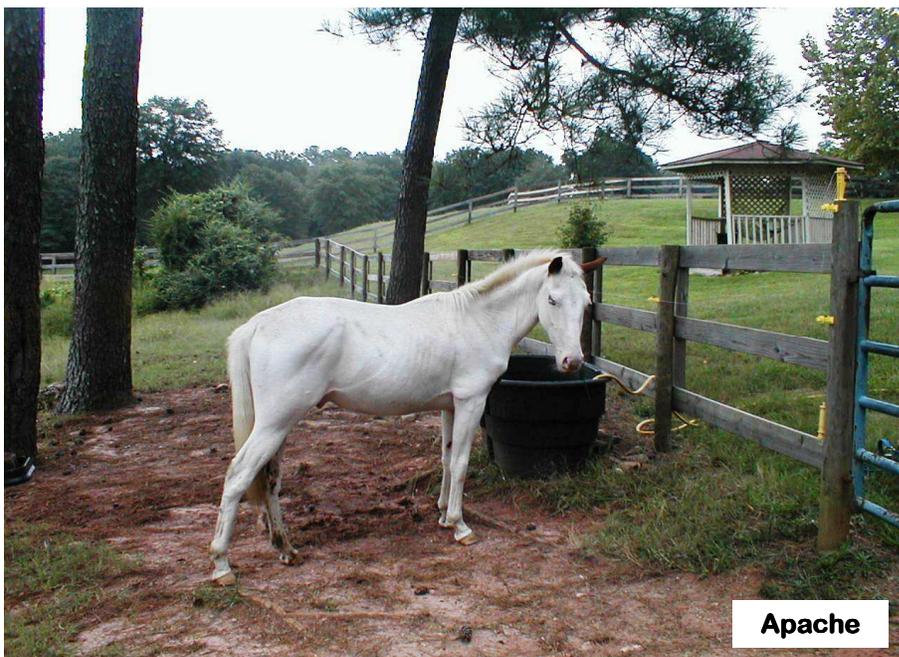
I immediately called Diana on her cell and asked her if she could drop what she was doing and meet me at my house and drive to Cleveland with me to pick up the mare. She agreed and we were on our way.

(continued on the following page)



## **GERL Helps With White County Rescue** (continued from the previous page)

We arrived at the barn after only one wrong turn. (We're improving!) So far, this plan is going like clock-work. The mare, Cheyenne, is in a stall in the back of the barn. When approached she immediately moved to a back corner. I was already told that she had laid her ears back and acted aggressive when they tried to catch her before, so I was not really sure what to expect at this point. She was still wearing a halter and there was a short rope hanging from it. She is definitely pregnant and very skittish, but doesn't act aggressive towards me. I eased up and caught the hanging rope and she immediately followed me out to the waiting trailer. We had brought feed with us and found that she would do



almost anything to get it, including getting on the trailer. We got the paperwork, left a stack of newsletters with Pat and headed back to Bethlehem. I was thinking about where I was going to put her when we got back to my house. She looks to be in her last trimester of pregnancy, so, I didn't want to put her on fescue grass. I don't have a lot of fescue, but the little that I do have is in the pasture where her pasture mate, Apache, is living.

It was dark by the time we arrived home and we decided to move horses around so that we could turn Cheyenne out on a fescue free pasture. I got Apache out of his pasture and tied him to the side of the trailer where Cheyenne could see him. Since they had been pastured together they were old friends, and it helped to camp them while we moved my three horses from the barn pasture to the front pasture. And, that's how it came to be that my horses lost their stalls to the new-comers.

It has been neat to watch them get into a routine. I typically feed at 8:00 every morning and 6:00 in the evenings. Within two days Cheyenne knew the routine and was always standing at the gate waiting for me. I work from home and am able to walk outside periodically to check on them. They both come when they see me approach. Cheyenne wants to be close, but she is leery about being touched. I cannot walk down the short hallway between the two stalls without her backing out. She definitely has a fear of being boxed in and will leave her food to get away. She has been injured sometime in the past and you can easily see that she limps if she breaks out of a walk, which she seldom does. There is a big knot on the inside of her front left knee that seems to be calcified. Unfortunately, I believe that is probably why she was bred since she doesn't appear rideable. I was afraid that I'd never get the halter back on her if I took it off, but I did. It took some time, but she finally let me. It was two and a half weeks before I saw Apache run for the first time due to his lack of energy. That was a good thing to witness and know that he was starting to feel better. I taped him after he had been at my house for three weeks and he had gained 40 pounds. The deep shelf that he had was starting to fill in and he is definitely on the road to recovery (and being gelded). I forget that he is a stallion because he is such a sweet boy and displays no aggressive behavior.

I told one of my friends that I had two foster horses at my house and she told me that she couldn't believe that it hadn't happened before now. Quite frankly, the reason I guess it hadn't is only because somebody else beat me to it! It is one of the most gratifying things I have ever done and I'm sure that there will be many more Apaches and Cheyennes for me to foster in the future.

## WELCOME NEW GERL MEMBERS

### Referred By:

Charlene Baldwin  
William & Jill Berman & Family  
Danny & Faye Burton  
Ben & Yvonne Daniels  
Doug & Sylvia Lewis

Douglasville, GA  
Canton, GA  
Midland, GA  
Clarksville, GA  
Monticello, GA

GERL  
GERL  
Jennifer Johnson  
Patty Livingston  
Clifford Herrington

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## Thank You For Renewing Your GERL Membership

Joanne Campbell  
Tammy Croghan & Phil Connor  
Teresa Day  
Debbie Dorman  
Jim Holland  
Evelyn Illescas  
Diane Kirby  
Margaret & Richard Korges  
Joray Lockridge  
Greg & Cindy Masey & Family  
Bob & Judy McCrory  
Mike & JoAnne Medlock  
Ed & Sara Merritt  
Gary & Jeana Mullen  
Gene & Nancy Ozburn  
Tammis & T.E. Pennington  
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Sandy Stephenson  
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Murrayville, GA  
Blue Ridge, GA  
Statham, GA  
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Braselton, GA  
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Alpharetta, GA  
Snellville, GA  
Blythe, GA  
Gillsville, GA  
Oakwood, GA  
Rome, GA  
Dallas, GA  
Bethlehem, GA  
Dawsonville, GA  
Griffin, GA



### GERL Attends Georgia Day of the Cowboy at Horsetown

By Tanya Kingsley, GERL Area Coordinator

We had a beautiful day at Horse Town in Snellville for their annual Georgia Day of the Cowboy event. The weather was just perfect and we were able to set up the booth under a big shade tree. Ronnie Pesserilo and I set up the booth. Patty came later and Susie Bond came around lunch time to help.

There were cowboys having shoot outs and a Counting Horse. He could actually count when you showed him a \$5, \$10, or \$20 dollar bill. I'm still trying to figure out how the man Q'ed him! It was interesting to watch. He was funny at some of his tricks. They also had pony rides, cowboy and cowgirl singing and cowboy poetry. There was good food and games for the kids, too. We sold quite a few t-shirts and got some donations, and of course, talked to a lot of folks about what we do.

Thanks to Horse Town for inviting us to come.



## **GERL Volunteer of the Month November, 2009 By Patty Livingston**

Everyone who knows her would agree that Donna Pieper is the epitome of the meaning for the word “volunteer”. I’ll bet that if you looked it up in Webster, it would clearly say “Donna Pieper”. All kidding aside, she is a source of energy to be reckoned with, which is why she is our “GERL Volunteer of the Month”.

Donna has been a member of GERL for many years. She has served on the Board of Directors and in numerous other capacities for the organization. She rarely misses a GERL event.

As many of you already know, Donna presently serves as our Foster and Adoption Coordinator. She does a fabulous job of placing all of the horses that enter the GERL program. This sometimes necessitates moving them a couple of times before they find their “forever” homes. Donna always has the plan all lined up, as well as the players. She maintains a list of people who are looking for horses and tries to pair that with a list of horses that are looking for people. She is excellent at matching up the right horse with the right owner.



Over the years, she has completed the Large Animal Emergency Rescue Course, as well as other courses to help improve her knowledge in new areas pertaining to horses. She is a wealth of knowledge concerning horses and I have come to admire and trust her judgment in so many areas. She consistently volunteers to provide a GERL booth at many types of events. She recently hosted a GERL booth at Fort Gordon in Augusta. It was a hot air balloon and horse event to benefit service men and women. The GDA and GERL each had information booths set up for the entire weekend. The rains that fell could not dampen Donna’s spirits because, not only was she enjoying telling new people about the work of GERL, but she is also a great hot air balloon enthusiast!

I remember the first time I met Donna. We were at Dawson Forest for a GERL Poker Ride. This was quite some time ago when there were hardly any overnight campers attending the ride and most people did not have the huge, fancy trailers many of us now enjoy. There was Donna driving her huge motor home with her horse trailer in tow. I was so impressed that she handled that big rig as if she was a pro.

Donna and her significant other, Keith Fleming, are often seen riding together on various trails all over the state and beyond. Donna rides a great big black TWH named Ponch. She has several adorable grandbabies that are her joy. Something interesting about Donna is that she is a twin. She has an identical sister who lives in California. Her twin is also into horses and has several of her own.

Donna not only volunteers for GERL. She is also very involved with The Rockdale Trail Blazers and CTHA. She is not just a card-carrying member of those clubs, either. She serves in a volunteer role with Rockdale as their Public Relations contact. Anybody who knows Donna knows that she is a perfectionist in many ways. When she does something, you can bet that it will be done right!

**By: Kenneth L Marcella, DVM  
Chattahoochee Equine  
Canton, GA**

## **Up Tight- Flexure Deformities in Foals**

Almost as soon as the New Year's foals begin hitting the ground, the calls start coming in. Some foals will be born with very upright legs, joints that are much too straight and do not bend properly and even heels that will not touch the ground. These foals are commonly said to have "contracted tendons". We now know that it is not really the tendons that have contracted but these problems are due, instead, to a shortening of the entire "musculotendinous unit". The musculotendinous unit encompasses the tendon, its associated muscle(s) and the areas where these structures attach to bones. This entire unit is shortened in relation to the surrounding bones and the joints involved are therefore held in a somewhat closed or flexed position. The proper term for this condition in the horse is "Flexure Deformity".

Flexure deformities are either congenital (present at birth) or acquired (foals born normally but begin to show this condition as they grow and develop). Congenital flexure deformities have been suggested to occur because of uterine malpositioning (an abnormal positioning of the fetus while in utero that does not allow it to move its limbs and results in cramped, flexed joints at birth), nutritional mismanagement of the broodmare during gestation (allowing too rapid fetal growth or inappropriate growth of bones versus tendons and ligaments because of dietary imbalances relating to protein, calories and minerals), exposure to some viruses (an Influenza effect has been postulated) or a possible genetic factor. These foals have been described as "ballerinas" because they walk on their toes and their heels (usually only the front feet are affected) do not touch the ground. Within a very short time the toes of these foals become painful and the stretch of the deep digital flexor tendon attached to the back of the heel adds to that pain. The deep digital flexor tendon is the musculotendinous unit most commonly involved in these toe-touching foals. The young foals become reluctant to bear weight and they do not move and exercise. If the congenital deformity is in the fetlocks or carpi (knees) these joints tend to buckle forward even though the hooves are flat on the ground. Exercise and movement usually stretch out these tight tendons and a large number of congenital flexure deformity cases self-resolve within a few days with simple turnout and exercise. Slightly more severe cases can become worse in a hurry because deformities can be self-perpetuating problems. Exercise might help the foal but the foal's toes are so sore that it will not stand and exercise so the problem

gets worse.

Acquired flexure deformities usually reflect problems with abnormally rapid growth of bone compared to slower tendon/ligament development. These periods of rapid growth are related to developmental patterns so flexure problems of the deep digital flexor tendon (DDFT) affecting the coffin joint tend to occur between 6 weeks and 6 months. The development of the radial bone and the superficial digital flexor tendon (SDFT) tend to show problems in the fetlock joints around ten months to one year. Flexure deformity involving the knee can occur from one to six months though growth of all foals is unique and these time sequences can be variable.

Acquired deformities are influenced by genetics-large rapidly growing foals tend to have more problems, and by nutrition- overfeeding or excess nutrients are implicated in growth imbalances. Pain from injury or trauma can also cause imbalanced use of one limb over another, leading to a flexure deformity as well. These foals with acquired deformities may exhibit clinical signs ranging from mild stiffness or lameness at certain gaits, a reluctance to trot or canter, inability to stand and graze normally, to a square or boxy-looking foot, upright legs or even joints that buckle forward. Early recognition of these flexure deformity conditions is key to the success of the many treatment options available.

Many foals respond to simply being exercised. Physiotherapy-manually stretching the legs two to three times daily can be helpful while some clinicians advocate hopping- holding up one leg and encouraging the foal to hop forward on the other to stretch tendons. Many veterinarians utilize intravenous administration of relatively large doses of Oxytetracycline, which has been postulated to affect calcium utilization in the tendon and to affect cross-linking within the fibers resulting in softening and stretching. Many types of bandages and splints have been used for flexure deformity conditions to help place the joints in correct position and encourage stretching of the tendons. The Dynasplint, a jointed, stainless steel tubing brace that allows normal limb movement while still providing tendon stretch has been very successful in treating many cases of flexure limb deformities (Thoroughbred Times Nov 12, 2005).

(continued on the following page)

## Up Tight- Flexure Deformities in Foals

(continued from the previous page)

Some horse owners do not have the time for intense physiology, they are aware of the potential for adverse reactions with Oxytetracycline use, and they worry about bandage pressure sores and splint rubs with those methods of treatment. For this large number of owners, the most commonly utilized means of treating flexure deformities still involves some method of trimming the hooves and providing for toe extension. Farriers will generally attempt to slowly lower the heels to provide stretch to the flexure tendons. An extended toe is applied to act as a level and allow the foal's own weight to slowly stretch the tendons. These toe extensions are commonly built out of aluminum plates, fiberglass and resin, or various epoxy-like materials that bind to the hoof and can be ground down and shaped into the correct angle and amount of extension. A novel method of flexure tendon deformity treatment utilizes standard hoof trimming with specially cut polyvinylchloride (PVC) pipe pieces attached with epoxy. These pipe pieces are inexpensive and can be quickly and easily sized and cut. They attach to the hoof wall quickly and provide good strong support for extension. They are well tolerated by the foal, and improvement is generally noted within days. Overall results will vary depending on the severity of the condition and the amount of time prior to initiating treatment. Most foals require a few applications to completely resolve the condition.

A small percentage of foals will not respond to conservative treatments and will require surgical intervention. In these cases, the inferior check ligament (a very dense, tight supporting ligament branch in the mid cannon area) is severed resulting in tension release and stretching of the musculotendinous unit. Follow up on these surgical cases still usually involves correct trimming and some type of toe extension.

“Despite the recent advances in breeding, nutrition and farm management, flexure deformities continue to be seen at an alarmingly high rate”, says Dr. Steven O’Grady of Northern Virginia Equine, a veterinarian and master farrier. “Interaction between veterinarian and farrier is necessary for a successful outcome when treating flexure deformities”, continues O’Grady, “regardless of whether treatment is conservative or surgical”. Early recognition of these conditions by the breeder/owner and quick utilization of one of the many techniques for treatment can also be a difference maker in the long-term confirmation, health and athletic potential of that foal. Owners seeking an easy, effective conservative treatment might consider PVC pipe extensions one such method of treatment

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# **"Oh Come All 'Ye To Bethlehem" GERL Christmas Party!**

**Saturday, December 12<sup>th</sup>**

**Time: 7:00 PM - 11:00 PM**

**Bring: Your favorite covered  
dish, BYOB & lawn chair**

**Where: 61 McElhannon Road, SE  
Bethlehem, GA 30620  
(770) 867-0760 (home)**



*There will be good food, good friends and even a  
bonfire (weather permitting). Bring your lawn chairs.*

**Directions from Gainesville: take Hwy 60 thru Gainesville to Hwy 124. Turn right onto Hwy 124 and go approx. 3 miles to light. Turn left onto Hwy 53S to Winder. Follow Hwy 11S by turning left at McDonald's in Winder. Go approx. 1½ miles (bear right) at Blockbuster. Go approx. 5 miles to Hwy 316. Cross over 316 and go 1.5 miles through Bethlehem. Turn left on McElhannon Rd. Go through 4-way stop; First house on the right.**

**From Atlanta: From 85S exit onto Hwy 316 towards Athens. Go approx 23 miles to Hwy 11 and turn right. Go 1.5 miles and turn left onto McElhannon Rd. Go through 4-way stop; First house on right.**

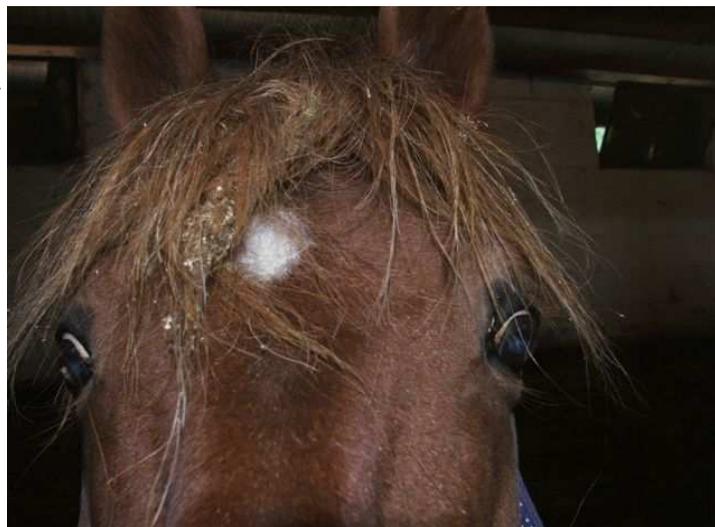
**RSVP: (770) 867-0760**

**Don't forget to bring your Christmas cards with you  
to mail from the Bethlehem Post Office.**

## **In Memory of Marty Paulk – Every Equine’s Friend**

I was honored when my supervisor Robin Easley called me to say the horse I had been working with was picked to be sponsored by GERL in memory of Marty Paulk. I have also lost a loved one to cancer so this is a special memory for me as well. I think this horse would have touched Marty’s heart. So let me tell you about the horse named Marty.

Marty had been a case given to me when I began working for the Dept. in 2008. This was an open case that had been worked with by the previous inspector. The first visit I had was in the fall and Marty appeared to be in fair body condition. He had hay and a creek on the property. The small pasture was overgrown with weeds and had been overgrazed so no grass remained. I had several visits where Marty still had hay and remained in fair condition. Then as my visits progressed Marty began to lose weight and either there was no hay or very old and moldy looking hay. Marty is one of those horses that we as inspectors always remember. I was always greeted with a nicker and he would follow me to the fence wanting every moment of attention he could get from me. Notes were left and phone calls made to the owner, but it made no difference in Marty’s condition. He continued to lose weight. With times as they are and with no funding and donations dwindling, I was worried about Marty’s fate.



My last visit with Marty was on a dreary rainy day and this day I will always remember. I whistled for Marty as I crawled between the barb wire fence. He always came running when he would hear me as he was eager for attention and looking for a treat. This day I whistled several times and no sign of Marty. I knew something was wrong. As I walked up to the small shed he was standing under there was no nicker of greetings as he always gave me. Instead his head was lowered and his spirit gone. I weighed Marty soaking wet who was now at a body score 1.75 - 2.00. As I left he followed me to the fence and as I drove off in my truck he followed me all the way around the fence line to the bottom road. He had never done this before so trying not to be teary eyed, which was impossible, I stopped and petted him and promised I would be back with a trailer. Hopeful we could bring one more horse into the impound barn that was quickly filling up. I called Robin.

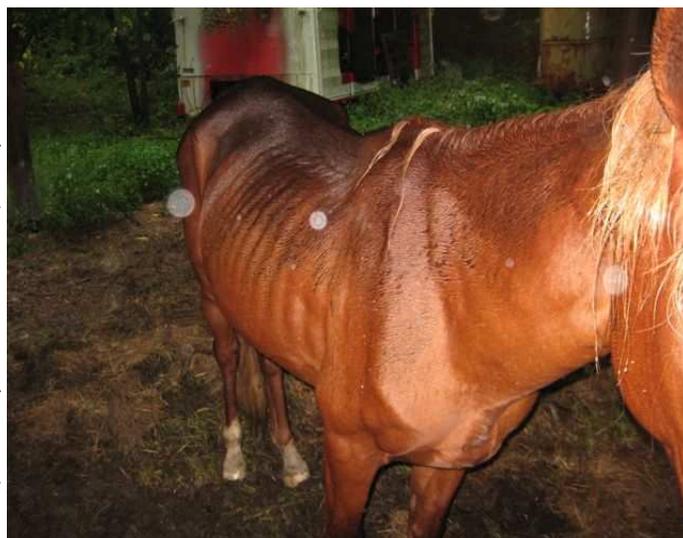
My next two days were spent on the phone with the owner who turned over ownership. On the third day since my last visit we showed up to pick up Marty. I was worried because I had forgotten grain to coax him on the trailer so I stopped by the feed store, which by the way is less than a mile from Marty’s pasture, and bought some. It was a beautiful sunny day and when Adrienne and I got there I whistled for Marty. This time he came trotting up eagerly. We walked him up the side of the road to the trailer and not needing any coaxing at all he stepped right up on the trailer. I felt such a sigh of relief as the trailer door shut. And I’m sure Marty did too. Marty will be one of those horses out of the hundreds we see that will always be special to me. He always made it hard to just walk away. Unfortunately there will be many more Marty’s but hopefully we can continue to try and make a difference in their lives.

Paula Sewell  
GDA Equine Inspector  
(continued on the following page)

## **Marty's Arrival at Mansfield** (continued from the previous page)

As the horse trailer came rolling in the driveway at the Mansfield Impound barn, the ground shook with the hoof beats of the welcome committee coming down the fence row to gawk at the new arrival. As Marty stepped off of the trailer the neighing and dancing began.

For the duration we have been acquainted with him in the field, to our knowledge he has not seen or been around another horse. He didn't know what to do – he couldn't decide if he was scared of the other horses, if he wanted to go meet and greet, or if he just wanted to put his head to the ground to eat the grass in the yard. In her normal patient style, Adrienne just held the end of the lead line and let him turn a few circles, prance around a little, and get settled down. We escorted him into the barn for the arrival check in process.



Marty is an 11 year old sorrel stallion and appears to be of a gaited breed. He weighed in at 739 pounds, is 14.2 hands high, and a body condition score of 2. His hooves were long and chipped, his forelock and mane matted with burr and briars, and his tail had formed not just one, but two “baseball” bats. Paula made everyone promise not to cut his tail, she says she can work her magic and get all of the knots out leaving a long, flowing tail (stay tuned, we'll see). Marty settled into a stall for the night, munching on hay and looking out at the horses who quickly became his new friends.



Within the next few days, Dr. Lowder from UGA and his vet students came to the barn for a castration frenzy. Marty was one of the chosen. I don't think he minded because it meant that in a short time he would be turned out in the pasture to run and play with the other geldings. Marty has progressed quickly and it will not be long until he will be ready to sell and move on to a new forever home. I hope that “Marty” will be bought and loved by someone as gracious, kind hearted, and devoted to horses as Marty Paulk.

Robin Easley  
GDA Field Supervisor

## Donations Made to GERL In Memory Of Marty Paulk

Dear GERL

Last week I attended my best friend's funeral. We had been through quite a bit together over the years - joys, tears, fears ... she was always there for me. She always made me feel special. She took time out of her day to cook for me, come to my world, we would go to lunch, late night phone calls - just everything. She was a very special lady.

On one of the saddest days of my life, after Marty's funeral, I had to laugh and smile. I was only one of hundreds that she made feel very special. I heard so many stories, most of them I had never heard before, and all were about her acts of kindness.

I am still crying daily and missing her terribly but I have come to realize that I am the blessed one, for anyone who did not know her, her death is their loss.

Here is my donation for the sweet memory of Marty Paulk.

Mary Fox Waits  
Dahlonaga, GA

Dear GERL

Marty Paulk became one of my most cherished friends within GERL. Our organization has lost a treasure but heaven has gained another angel.

She taught me about horses in her no-nonsense style, and also how to get through my mother's death in 2007. Although many miles separated us, having Marty as my friends and mentor was one of life's great blessings. GERL is what Marty believed, a voice for the horses in need.

Please accept this donation and put to good use my memorial to a **hell of a woman and an advocate to our horses.**

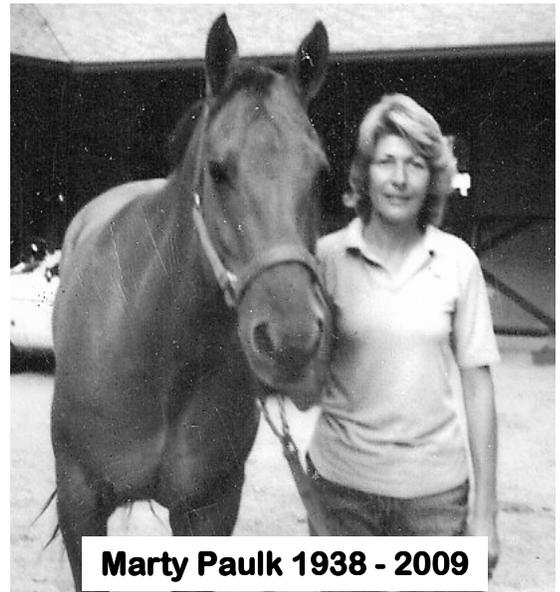
Julia Williams  
Savannah, GA

Dear GERL

I am enclosing a small check in memory of Marty Paulk who I had met some years ago when my daughter owned a horse and completed locally.

One day I received a call from my daughter at UGA - so excited because Druanne was coaching their riding team. As fellow horse lovers I just wanted to add to what I am sure will be many other responses.

With love to the Paulk family and the horses they have loved!  
Jane Kundra



**Marty Paulk 1938 - 2009**

Dear Friends

Please find enclosed a donation on behalf of one of your supporters, Martha Paul (Marty), who recently passed away. Since she did wonderful work for your organization, I would like to honor the request of her family in contributing to your cause.

David P Coley  
Bethlehem, GA

# Donations Made to GERL In Memory Of Marty Paulk

Mr & Mrs Joe Reynolds  
Alpharetta, GA

Nan Buckner / Snooty Fox Tack Exchange  
Alpharetta, GA

John & Eleta McCormick  
St Mary's, GA

Julia Williams  
Savannah, GA

Robert & Marilyn Allen  
Milledgeville, GA

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Daniel Hutchins  
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Bethlehem, GA

Althea Sargent  
Norcross, GA

Amy Wolanski  
Nashville, TN

Michael & Pamela Saba  
Tewksbury, MA

Mary Fox Waits  
Dahlonega, GA

David Coley  
Bethlehem, GA

Dear GERLs

Thank you so much for remembering our wonderful mom, Marty Paulk. The plant arrangement that GERL sent to her funeral was beautiful.

Druanne and I are trying to be strong through this difficult time in our lives but we miss her so much!

I know mom is happy to know that lots of horses will be helped from the donations people have sent to GERL in her honor.

Thanks again,  
Missie & Druanne



## **Pryor Mountain Update, II**

*In their "model roundup" BLM injures the most famous wild horse in the world.*

**By John Hutcheson**

LOVELL, WY, Sept 26, 2009. On Saturday at noon, 57 wild horses from the Pryor Mountain Wild Mustang Herd, made famous by the PBS Nature documentaries were auctioned off to the highest bidders in BLM's "National Adoption Day." Through the efforts of the Cloud Foundation, some family units were kept intact but all were shipped elsewhere never to again see the mountain fastness that had been their home from birth. For those that were fortunate enough to be released back onto the mountain it was equally sad. "We were up on the mountaintop yesterday and the cruelty of this massive roundup has not faded away," explained Ginger Kathrens, Volunteer Executive Director of the Cloud Foundation. "Cloud is lame on his right front and his filly-daughter is still extremely sore. It was painful just watching them walk to water." One of Cloud's mares, also injured, appears to have a possible stifle injury. His four-year-old daughter, Firestorm, has significant difficulty walking at all. "I think they will recover but it is hard to know and winter is just around the corner," Kathrens continues. In the past 15 years all roundups in the Pryor Mountain Wild Horse Range have occurred later in the year when the horses were lower down on the range.

This roundup took place in early September when nearly all the mountain horses were the furthest away possible from the trap site. Foals less than one month old were forced to run over 12 miles along with their families to the BLM corrals at the base of the mountain. This roundup was scheduled early due to contractor availability, BLM desire to remove all horses from Commissary Ridge outside the designated range (a plan not revealed to the public until day one of the roundup) and National Adoption Day. The BLM held adoption events across the country: "This is a significant event and will raise awareness for mustangs" said the BLM. So "why did they have to pillage this little herd for 57 more horses to adopt out when there are 31,750 wild horses in holding already is beyond me," said Kathrens.

Legislation directing the BLM "to develop a new comprehensive long-term plan for wild horse populations by September 30, 2010" passed the Senate on Sept. 24, 2009, according to a press release from the legislation's sponsor, Senator Mary Landrieu (D-LA).

The Secretary of the Interior, Mr. Salazar, unveiled his

new plan as a "national solution to restore the health of America's wild horse herds and the rangelands that support them by creating a cost-efficient, sustainable management program that includes the possible creation of wild horse preserves on the productive grasslands of the Midwest and East."

That sounds good on the surface but when you examine it carefully it has the potential to empower the BLM to manage the horses to extinction. The BLM's plan includes blocking reproduction, creating "gelding herds", removing wild horses from their historic ranges, and creating manned, staffed preserves where they can be "show cased" to the public.

As Ginger Kathrens succinctly phrased it: "it takes the wild out of wild-horse herds. They're families in sophisticated societies. Creating gelding herds and preventing them from reproducing is managing them toward extinction."

At the turn of the century, there were approximately 2 million wild horses in America, there are only 33,100 mustangs left now on the western ranges according to the BLM. Today, there are 180 existing, unmanned federal Herd Management Areas (HMAs) (in English "wild-horse areas") in the West. That is a loss of 15% over the last 15 years. Despite the 1971 law, demand by ranchers, energy companies, and homeowners means wild horses run in ever tighter circles.

The 1971 Wild Horse Act, was aimed at preserving the horses where presently found. This was reaffirmed last August by the US District Court for the District of Columbia in its decision to prevent the capture of Colorado's West Douglas herd. The Court stated in part: Congress did not authorize BLM to manage the wild horses by corralling them for private maintenance or long-term care as non-wild free-roaming animals off the public lands.? The Court deemed removal for long-term care to be contrary to Congress intent to protect the horses from capture as components of the public lands.

Ms. Kathrens, the wild-horse advocate, said that instead of taking the horses off the wild land, the government should put a priority on reducing the millions of head of cattle that graze on public lands, so that horses would have more room. " In 2006, cattle and

(continued on the following page)

## “PUTTIN ON THE FEED BAG”

Simple Shrimp Salad - Submitted by Mary Greene (I don't measure, I just "eyeball" it and taste)

Shrimp - either whole or cut up I used 3-4 cups of whole  
Finely chopped Vidalia onion (preferred when in season) - 1 small to medium  
Finely chopped celery - 2-3 ribs  
Juice of 1 lemon  
Mayonnaise to taste  
Salt and pepper, if desired  
Garnish with chopped parsley

Note: “Puttin On the Feed Bag” is a new recipe sharing idea that we recently added to our newsletter. Last month, Leisa McCannon’s Key Lime Cake was featured. If you have a special recipe that you would like to share with our readers please send it to [gerlpatty@yahoo.com](mailto:gerlpatty@yahoo.com).

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### **Pryor Mountain Update, II**

(continued from the previous page)

sheep consumed twenty times as much forage on BLM land as wild horses and burros. How can a species that constitutes only half a percent of large grazing animals on public lands be a scapegoat time and time again for range degradation? As a rancher himself, surely Mr. Salazar is aware of the millions of head of private cattle that graze the same public range as America's few thousand wild horses. Yet, Mr. Salazar wants to continue removing wild horses from their rightful Western range. Over 30 million dollars will be spent in fiscal year 2010 to capture over 12,000 wild horses and burros!

I have to say that I would rather eat feedlot raised beef than I would to see the horses in the feedlot and the cattle on the wild lands.

As the American Wild Horse Preservation Campaign Team wrote:

“While we applaud the government’s efforts toward a more humane approach, Secretary Salazar’s new initiative is another step toward the privatization of America’s iconic wild herds and away from the survival of the American wild horse in its natural state as an integral part of the Western landscape. More than ever, a moratorium on roundups is in order until actual numbers of wild horses and burros on public lands have been independently assessed, and legally-mandated range studies have been conducted.”

Questions Congress should be asking include:  
Will the new BLM preserves be established for the benefit of the 32,000 horses currently held by BLM, or will they constitute an outlet for further roundups?  
Will the remaining Western herds be managed in the wild at genetically viable levels?

Mr. Salazar is not on the moral high ground and we are right back where we were when I told you that the only place you would be able to see a wild horse is either in the BLM’s pens or on film because they are going to be like the reservation Indians, simply gone because man wanted money.

Bottom line is that the ROAM Act needs to be passed so that the horses can reclaim the more than 19 million acres they have lost since being granted federal protection. And we need to be real careful about the wording as the BLM may have some different interpretations than we do of what a “healthy” horse is. We let the fox in the hen house in 1971 by tasking the BLM to “manage” the wild horse herd.

Maybe it is just this old cowboy, but I believe wild horses should be viewed in the wild behaving as wild horses do in functioning bands. Captive, gelded, non-reproducing herds don’t begin to convey the majesty of these icons of the West. It smacks of the buffalo in the pen at the road side gas station ... picnic supplies, curios.

John M. Hutcheson, Dahlonega, GA

Please write your congressman and tell him to push to get the ROAM Act up for a vote.

Please paraphrase my article to construct your own letter. If you as a horseman won’t write a letter or make a call, who will?

Thanks,  
Hutch

**Thank You For Your Donations  
And Continued Support**

Nancy Fitzgibbons  
Linda Gettle  
Country Supply  
Debbie Dorman  
Whit Payne  
Charlene Baldwin

**Thank You Wal-Mart of Loganville  
For Awarding GERL With A  
\$1,000 Community Grant**

We would like to extend a big THANK YOU to Loganville Wal-Mart Manager John Day and his wife, GERL member Teresa Day, for their help in securing a \$1,000 grant from the Wal-Mart Foundation.

**Get Well Soon**

Carey Seigel who is recovering at home after surgery



**Thank You For Donating  
To Our  
Feed A Horse Program**

Janet Bryant - Alpharetta, GA

Tim Hoon - Marietta, GA

Bob & Margaret Wallace - Shady Dale, GA

Chris & Heidi Hook - Toccoa, GA

**Thank You To Our Foster Homes**

**Scott Sauerbier & Family**  
for fostering Dallas & Tidbit

**Jean Long**  
for fostering Lucky

**Susan McCullar**  
for fostering Butterscotch & Paulie Girl

**Ronnie Pesserilo**  
for fostering Stormy

**Bob & Shirley Guhl**  
for fostering Lobo and Tyree

**Patty & Nick Howard**  
for fostering Ekyra & Rosie

**Tiffany Bergdorf**  
for fostering Afire Extinguisher

**Donations In Memory Of**

Satin  
by Ed Merritt

Scott Hutchins  
by Daniel Hutchins

Gail Kincaid  
by Robert & Marie Tipps

Maurice O'Brien  
by Richard & Margaret Korges

Jodie Boyd's stallion Work of Art  
by Patty Livingston

Jill Williams' gelding Junior  
by Patty Livingston

Sue Kerr's gelding Trigger  
by Patty Livingston

**Thank You For Your Change Jars**

**The Stock Market  
Conyers, GA**

**Pampered Pony  
Monroe, GA**

# THE PAMPERED PONY 1ST ANNUAL HORSE SHOW BENEFIT



**FOR THE GEORGIA EQUINE RESCUE LEAGUE**

**COME SUPPORT THIS GREAT CAUSE—YOU CAN MAKE A  
DIFFERENCE!!!!!!**



Where: Morgan County AG Center, Hwy 441, Madison, GA

Open Horse Show to include Halter, English, Western, Trail, Fun  
Classes and Running Events! All breeds welcome!!!

All proceeds from show will be donated to The Georgia Equine Rescue  
League to Help Starved And Abused Horses throughout Georgia.

We need volunteers, class sponsors, donations for concessions and the  
Silent Auction.

Show sheet can be emailed upon request. Call Anne-Marie or Elisabeth  
770-267-5664 or email: [anne-marie@pamperedponytack.com](mailto:anne-marie@pamperedponytack.com)

**DATE: SAT. 11/7/09 CONCESSION STAND ON  
TIME: 9:00AM SITE!**

\$1 per person donation to watch the show

Entry Fee: \$6 per class

Current Coggins Must be Shown at Check In



Silent Auction will be  
held during the show!  
Donations being ac-  
cepted now!

# GERL ADOPTABLES

**Stormy** is a 7 year old Welsh/TB cross gelding, 14 hands, with good ground manners. With continued training, he will be a wonderful horse for a smaller adult or an experienced youth rider. Currently he has about 30 days of professional training and has been perfect on two recent trail rides. We are looking for a responsible home that will continue his training using the calm techniques that he has been started with. He is a lovely mover with a ground covering trot and canter. If you are interested in adopting a beautiful horse, full of potential, and willing to continue his training, Stormy is your horse.



**STORMY**



**Fire Extinguisher** is a 6 year old registered Arabian and stands 16 hands. He was injured during his training as a 4 year old. This has caused a slight limp, but he appears to trot and canter in the pasture without pain. Because of the injury, he will be adopted as a companion only horse - he is great with other horses, including older horses. He is very sweet and was one of the favorites at the State Impound Barn. His Sire was the Reserve National Park Champion and his Grand Dam was also a Champion.

**Paulie Girl** is a flashy 5 year old paint pony mare (mother of Tidbit). As you can see from her picture, she is gorgeous and stands at 13.2 hands. She is well socialized and gentle to handle,. We will be working with her to determine her level of saddle training.



**Paulie Girl**

**For adoption fees and additional information please contact**

**Donna Pieper, GERL Adoption & Foster Coordinator  
(404) 797-3333 / gerldonna@bellsouth.net**

# GERL ADOPTABLES



Butterscotch

**Butterscotch** is a 13.3 hand, 3 year old sorrel mare. She is gentle to handle and enjoying her pasture mates as she gains weight during her rehabilitation. Butterscotch is looking for her forever home where she can begin her next level of training.

**Tidbit** is a beautiful paint yearling pony filly ready to find a new forever home. She is very friendly and gentle to handle. Her current foster home continues to show her human love, while she learns her horse etiquette from her pasture mates. She has started her training on a lunge line.



Tidbit

**Dallas** is a 5 year old paint gelding. He is very gentle and has recently been started under saddle. He stands well to be groomed and saddled, as well as for mounting. Dallas is currently being worked on a lunge line and continuing his training under saddle.



Dallas

**Charmer** is a 7 year old Tennessee Walking Horse Gelding. Charmer has been ridden on trails, but during the past year, he did not have much riding or handling due to the health of his owner. He currently resides at the home of trainer Tanya Kiselyova who is continuing his training to make sure he is safe and pleasant on the ground and under saddle. For additional information and pictures, visit [www.equinoxhorse.net/Charmerproject.html](http://www.equinoxhorse.net/Charmerproject.html).

**For adoption fees and additional information please contact**

**Donna Pieper, GERL Adoption & Foster Coordinator  
(404) 797-3333 / [gerldonna@bellsouth.net](mailto:gerldonna@bellsouth.net)**

# GERL ADOPTABLES

**Tyree and Lobo** were both stated as 15yo bay geldings when we brought them into the GERL adoption program. Based on our vet's assessment, he feels they are closer to 10-12yo. They stand at approx 14.2-14.3hh and stocky (easy keepers). These boys are both VERY sweet and gentle to handle, but have no previous riding experience to our knowledge. There are no physical issues with either gelding that would prevent these boys from being trained under saddle. We will be looking for either companion homes or homes that have the facilities and time to train them properly. These geldings will be adopted out individually.



Tyree

**Ekyra** – 9 year old bay arabian mare, approx 14.2hh and **Rosie** – 4yo sorrel arabian mare, approx 14.1hh (Ekyra's baby) – These two mares will be adopted out as companion horses only due to a confirmation issue. Although it is not mandatory that they stay together, it would be ideal. These two have never been separated and due to an eye injury, Ekyra is blind in her right eye and seems more secure with Rosie around. At the time that GERL received these two into our program, they had been handled very little. After a short 4-6 weeks with 'clicker' training by Tanya Kiselyova, they run to the fence and are easily approached and haltered. They are very well socialized with both other mares and geldings. Ekyra and Rosie are both sweet girls, love to be brushed and handled, and looking for the special forever home.



Lobo



Rosie



Ekyra

## Stormy Update

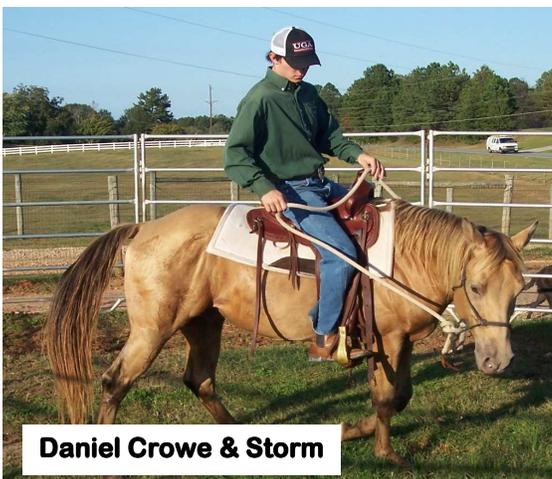
By Ronnie Pesserilo



**Daniel Crowe & Storm**

Stormy is progressing beautifully now that we are getting some professional help from Daniel Crowe. Even though he is a very kind and gentle horse, Stormy had received no early training and lacked the respect and discipline needed to be a truly successful riding horse. GERL took on the responsibility to make sure that Stormy would be a safe horse both on the ground and under saddle.

Daniel Crowe has worked Stormy three times so far and the results are amazing! Stormy is paying attention to his handler at all times now, is a very good student and is enjoying the attention he receives. Daniel is doing a wonderful job with Stormy and can be reached at (678) 361-7353 for any of your training needs.



**Daniel Crowe & Storm**

This past weekend I took Stormy to Watson Mill Bridge State Park for the CTHA Poker Ride. We rode out with a group of 7 other horses with the understanding that I was riding a very green horse and would need the patience and support of all the other riders at all times. I was extremely proud of him as he walked off with the rest of the horses as calm and quiet as if he had been doing this for years. He was the smallest

of the group but his walk is very forward and ground covering and he had no problem keeping up with the Missouri Foxtrotter who was ahead of him. He kept his distance from the horse in front of him, just as he was asked to do and when he decided to trot unasked he was very willing to go back down to a walk when corrected. Half way through the ride, Donna Pieper and I switched horses and she rode him the rest of the ride. She was just as thrilled as I was with his behavior and attitude.



**Ronnie & Storm**

I know Stormy is going to be a wonderful horse in time and as the old saying goes "after a lot of wet saddle blankets".



**Ronnie & Storm**

**Please contact Adoption Coordinator,  
Donna Pieper at [gerldonna@bellsouth.net](mailto:gerldonna@bellsouth.net)  
or (404) 797-3333  
for more information about Stormy  
or any other GERL adoptables**

## 2009-2010 Hunting Restrictions on Trail Use

By Larry Wheat

State Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) have hunting periods (or controlled hunts) that are generally much shorter than the general statewide hunting season. WMAs may restrict, or prevent, use of their designated trails and roads for equestrians and mountain bikers during these controlled hunt periods. Refer to the official Georgia 2009 – 2010 Hunting Seasons & Regulations or go to [www.gadnr.org](http://www.gadnr.org) for other WMA restrictions or information on other WMAs not listed below, or for directions to a WMA.



General Deer Seasons in Northern Georgia are:

Archery: Statewide Sep 12 – Oct 9; Archery Only Counties Sep 12-Jan 1; Extended Archery Jan 2 – Jan 31

Primitive Weapons: Oct 10 – Oct 16

Firearms (Northern Zone) Oct 17 – Jan 1 (There are further restrictions in several counties)

Turkey Season statewide is Mar 20 – May 15

<u>WMA</u>	<u>Game Species</u>	<u>Controlled Hunt Dates</u>	<u>Trail Restrictions</u>
Allatoona	Deer & Bear Firearms	Oct 17 – Dec 6 Dec 26 – Jan 1	Closed all day Oct 17-18, closed before 10:00 a.m. other days
	Archery Deer & Bear	Sep 12 – Oct 15	Closed before 10:00 a.m.
	Turkey	Mar 20 – May 15	Closed before 10:00 a.m.
Blue Ridge (Jake/Bull Mountains) * Some of the trail system is on National Forest land outside the WMA, and thus has general seasons.	Deer & Bear Firearms	Oct 8 – 10 Nov 25 – 28 Dec 16 – 19	Closed all day (unsure of this as not stated, usually not closed in National Forest)
	Archery Deer & Bear	Sep 12 – Oct 6	Closed before 10:00 a.m.
	Turkey	Mar 20 – May 15	Closed before 10:00 a.m.
Clybel (Charlie Elliott Wildlife Center)	Deer Firearms	Oct 9 – 11 Oct 28 – 31 Nov 18 – 21 Dec 10 – 12 Dec 18 – 20	Closed all day
	Archery Deer	Sep 12 – Oct 2 Nov 23 – 29	Closed before 10:00 a.m.
	Turkey	Mar 20 – 28 Apr 3 – 11 Apr 17 – 23 May 1 – 7 May 10 – 15	Closed before 10:00 a.m.
Cohutta	Deer & Bear Firearms	Oct 8 – 11 Dec 2 – 6	No restrictions
	Archery Deer & Bear	Sep 12 – Oct 6 Oct 12 – 16	No restrictions
	Turkey	Mar 20 – May 15	No restrictions
Crockford-Pigeon Mountain	Deer & Bear Firearms	Oct 16 – 18 Nov 11 – 14 Dec 9 – 12	Closed all day
	Archery Deer & Bear	Sep 12 – Oct 14 Oct 19 – Nov 9	Closed before 10:00 a.m.
	Turkey	Mar 22 – May 15	Closed before 10:00 a.m.

**2009-2010 Hunting Restrictions on Trail Use**  
**By Larry Wheat**  
**(continued from the previous page)**

Dawson Forest	Deer & Bear Firearms	Oct 9 – 10 Oct 29 – 31 Nov 11 – 14 Dec 2 – 5	Closed all day
	Archery Deer & Bear	Sep 12 – Oct 7 Oct 11 – 16 Dec 6 – 13	Closed before 10:00 a.m.
	Turkey	Mar 20 – May 15	Closed before 10:00 a.m.
John's Mountain	Deer & Bear Firearms	Oct 30 – Nov 1 Nov 24 – 28	No restrictions
	Archery Deer & Bear	Sep 12 – Oct 16	No restrictions
	Turkey	Mar 20 – May 15	No restrictions
Lake Russell	Deer & Bear Firearms	Oct 10 – 12 Nov 6 – 8 Nov 25 – 28 Dec 31 – Jan 2	No restrictions
	Archery Deer & Bear	Sep 12 – Oct 8 Oct 13 – 16	No restrictions
	Turkey	Mar 20 – May 15	No restrictions
Oconee	Deer Firearms	Oct 10 – Nov 15	No restrictions
	Archery Deer	Sep 12 – Oct 9 Nov 16 – Jan 1	No restrictions
	Turkey	Mar 20 – May 15	No restrictions
Pine Log Mountain	Deer & Bear Firearms	Nov 18 – 21 Dec 10 – 13	Closed all day
	Archery Deer & Bear	Sep 12 – Oct 16	Closed before 10:00 a.m.
	Turkey	Mar 20 – May 15	Closed before 10:00 a.m.
Warwoman	Deer & Bear Firearms	Dec 10 – 13 Jan 7 – 10	No restrictions
	Archery Deer & Bear	Sep 12 – Oct 16	No restrictions
	Special Bear Only (Unsure if archery or firearm)	Oct 21 – 25	No restrictions
	Turkey	Mar 20 – May 15	No restrictions
<b>Following are not WMAs but are popular equestrian riding areas</b>			
Cobb County 1,400-acre park on Corps of Engi- neers land	Archery Deer	All of Sep, Oct, and Jan	Closed before 10:00 a.m.
		All of Nov and Dec	Closed all day
F. D. Roosevelt State Park	Deer Firearms	Dec 8 – 9	Closed all day
Hard Labor Creek State Park	Deer Firearms	Nov 3 – 4	Closed all day

## Don't Deworm Horses In The Dark

### Fecal egg count tests help identify potential parasite resistance, deworming needs

**Duluth, GA** - Worried about resistance? Concerned that your parasite control program isn't working as well as it used to? With questions like these, it can pay to incorporate fecal egg count reduction tests (FECRT) into your deworming program this fall.

"While FECRTs aren't a definitive test for resistance, it's a good start for evaluating what parasite loads your horses are carrying and what deworming products you should be using," says Hoyt Cheramie, DVM, MS, manager, Equine Veterinary Services for Merial. "Without basic knowledge about the parasites present, horse owners may be deworming in the dark - and perhaps wasting money on products that aren't appropriate."

A quantitative fecal egg count test examines the number of eggs in a small sample of manure to help indicate parasite levels within an individual horse or group of horses. (1) When performed both before and after parasite control products are used, it can help horse owners and their veterinarians evaluate the product.

"For the best information possible, getting your veterinarian involved should be the first step," Dr. Cheramie says. "FECRTs can be easily misinterpreted if samples are improperly collected, handled or analyzed. Work with your veterinarian to ensure FECRT analysis and additional tests are properly conducted by a veterinary clinic or by independent, reputable laboratories. Don't rely on dewormer manufacturers' labs to perform these diagnostics. Even in the cases where Merial needs to conduct an FECRT, we rely on independent, university-based parasitologists."

Veterinarians will analyze the results to determine the type of parasites<sup>1</sup> and any variability in egg output between horses or between fecal egg count tests if these tests have been performed previously. Veterinarians consider these factors, among others, like the age of the horse, when making deworming recommendations.<sup>(2)</sup>

In addition, horse owners shouldn't expect information on tapeworms as there is no reliable diagnostic test for active tapeworm infection.<sup>(3)</sup>

"After reviewing the results, don't be surprised if your veterinarian recommends a new deworming product or no product at all," Dr. Cheramie says. "There is well-documented evidence that some entire classes of dewormers may not work against key parasite threats."<sup>(4,5,6)</sup>

For even greater confidence in your parasite control program, look for products that offer a product satisfaction guarantee and manufacturer's backing. Some also offer a number to call for personal support with any product questions or concerns.

"Even when using a dewormer that works, the goal of today's equine parasite control program isn't to eliminate all worms. The important considerations are reducing parasite transmission, keeping worm burdens below harmful levels and treating clinically affected horses. While not perfect, FECRTs are the best start to shedding some light onto the performance of your current equine deworming program."



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\_\_\_\_\_ 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 \_\_\_\_\_

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