



Georgia Equine Rescue League, Ltd.

With Your Help ...
We Will Make A Difference

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September 2010

Pumpkin

By Doris Buckley, Habersham / White County Area Coordinator

I would have never guessed that when I went out to my car to have lunch on Friday 7/9/10 it was going to be so busy. I was on the phone speaking to Johnny Dayton with the GA Dept of Ag to confirm that there was an open case on the White County horses that I had been receiving calls about. I was beeped in by Jason Smith the Animal Control Officer with Habersham County. Jason told me that he needed my help. My first thoughts were "oh no not again".

Jason explained to me that earlier he was out on a case with Johnny in Clarkesville near the Fairgrounds. He told



me that they had been receiving 911 calls of a dead horse in the field and they went out to investigate. Jason found a red roan Appaloosa down but alive. When he saw the poor condition this horse was in, he contacted the Sheriff's office to try to locate the owner. Jason also called in Dr. Gray with Cornelia Veterinary Hospital, as well as Johnny with the GDA. I was told they got some badly needed water into this horse but that he could no longer walk to his water. My first thoughts were it's been in the 90's all week. When I inquired about why he couldn't walk they told me his hooves were overgrown by at least 8 inches. Jason explained to me they reached the owner, an elderly man that was out of town and in exchange for prosecution, the owner was willing to give up the horse. Johnny felt that the horse's hooves were in such poor condition, they would have to euthanize him. Dr. Gray took X-rays and said he would send a full report. Without hesitation, I offered my help and told Jason I would pick him up. I asked that Jason meet me at the horse's location, as I wanted a witness and permission to do this. (continued on the following page)

Pumpkin
(continued from the cover)

After work I headed home and picked up the trailer and took a good friend, Dianna Neal, with me. At first we saw a horse, and we both said it doesn't look bad, but then our eyes saw another. The first thing out of my mouth was "oh no, there it is". Dusty, the horse we came to rescue, was standing near the fence, and he was so very thin, he looked like a stick from the front. My first thoughts were "why?" there he was standing in a lush field of grass with a bunch of cattle. I got the trailer turned around and Jason showed up and we went into the field. Dianna and I were sickened by the sight of his hooves. It took us over 30 minutes to coax him to walk one step at a time until we could reach the trailer. He knew we were helping him. Jason told me they thought he was 25 to 27 years old but he still had a beautiful sparkle in his eye. We drove home to our stables with our emergency flashers on and drove very slowly so he would not lose his balance. I knew how weak he was. When we got home it presented another challenge because he had to back out and his hooves were catching the back of the trailer. After 20 minutes of trying I had to take the chance to turn him. Luckily we have a stock trailer but he was so tall and long that I didn't know if he could pivot on those feet. He managed but almost fell in the process and I felt so bad but we got him off. He quickly settled in to his stall with about 6 inches of shavings and sucked down a bunch of water.

We quickly realized we also had to doctor him on pressure sores he had from laying down so much. His hips caused "bed sores" on both sides that kept being ripped open by lying on the hard ground. Alushield we have found to work the best in keeping a Band-Aid on him. If you never have tried it for a wound that cannot be wrapped it works great.

I have been fortunate to have a boarder, Dianna Neal that happens to work for Pete & Ivy Ramey, www.hoofrehab.com. In fact one of Pete & Ivy's DVD's "That's my horse #1" was filmed at our stables Mountain Rose in Clarkesville. He filmed over a year working on Roxy an off the track Thoroughbred using rehabilitative hoof care to treat her poor hoof conditions. My first thing I said to Dianna was do you think you can call Pete and ask him if he would be willing to help with this poor horse. Pete felt badly that he couldn't come out till Monday but I knew if he hung on this long he would make it till Monday.

We soon realized that everyone was calling him Pumpkin. It was a name that just fit him as we talked to him to take baby steps to move him from the barn to a paddock we set up for him. We had to put his

hay, water and feed high to make sure he didn't have to lean too far forward to eat. He was a body score I would say of a 2 to 2 ½. All along I was praying that he just had severe overgrowth on his hooves and once he would be trimmed he would find relief.

Pete came out on Monday to find Pumpkin lying down. He had been up and down 5 to 6 times a day because of the pain of standing. Pete found it easier to trim him lying down and went to work to give him his first trim probably in years. He actually had to start with a saw just to get the worst of it off. I was so anxious that day to come home from work to see his new feet. Unfortunately my happiness fell short to hear that Pete felt he had severe laminitis and one of the worst cases he has seen. I knew though if anyone was going to save Pumpkin it would be Pete. By Monday we had Pumpkin smiling for treats and he loved his feed and all of that had to come to an end. Pumpkin's diet had been changed to Coastal Bermuda hay, small amounts of grass and water only. A friend of ours, Sue Crane makes Nicker Treats which are a low starch/ low sugar horse cookies she sells for horses with insulin resistant issues.

She was happy to donate cookies for Pumpkin and that made us feel some better having a treat to give him again.

Each day we are seeing some improvement in Pumpkin. He is slowly gaining his strength back. The weight and the hooves will probably take a year's worth of work and we know it is going to be a long slow process. It will only be possible to partially rehabilitate his hooves. Radiographs show extensive calcification in the pastern region and significant remodeling and absorption of the coffin bones. Because of his insulin resistance he will never be allowed on lush pastures again. He receives Bute for the bad days he has had walking. He is now on hoof supplements. Richard my husband has been a great help in all of this as well and he is growing attached to Pumpkin. He has taken a lot of the Pumpkin's care on as well. Pumpkin has loved all the visitors he has had and probably the first attention he has had in years. He has allowed me to give him a bath and groom him and is quite comical at times. However when he is in pain he has shown that he knows how to kick. I have to be careful of that as well and warn others. He moves when he feels like it and Pete tells us the more he moves the better for his circulation, the hoof healing process, and for developing his wasted muscles.

(continued on page 7)

GERL Area Coordinators

Rita Benfield - Douglas, Haralson, Carroll Counties
(770) 489-0212 / ritabenfield@yahoo.com

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

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

**LeighAnn Holton - Glynn, McIntosh, Wayne,
Brantley & Camden Counties**

(912) 267-0912 / jpi_associates@comcast.net

**Bob & Judy McCrory - Harris, Meriwether, Marion,
Chattahoochee, Talbot, Troup & Muscogee Counties**
(706) 582-3268 / ridgeway12@aol.com

Lynn McMinn - Gwinnett, Walton, Oconee Counties
(404) 372-9245 / lynn.mcminn@yahoo.com

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

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

Susie Bond - Newton, Morgan & Green Counties
(770) 464-4353 / gersusie@att.net

Kriston Glushko - Polk & Floyd Counties
(678) 757-1138 / krgs@earthlink.net

Cambria Moon - Haralson, Polk, Floyd Counties
(770) 597-4438 / info@willowhillfarmllc.com

Victoria & Mark Eubanks - Banks & Franklin Counties
(706) 335-0122 / Victoria_is@yahoo.com

Judy Ricketson - Lowndes County
(229) 300-9926 / gerljudy@hotmail.com

Deborah Stewart - Bartow County
(678) 721-0712 / deborah4768@att.net

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

Marion Cobb - Forsyth County
(404) 625-0346 / macobb@bellsouth.net

Dotti & Jack Carter - Towns & Union Counties
(706) 896-4997 / (706) 835-5677

frogleap@windstream.net

**Charles & Linda DeVane - Brooks, Thomas &
Cook Counties**

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

Christina Gilham - Coweta & Heard Counties
(770) 605-6753 / spotnotfarm@bellsouth.net

Doris & Richard Buckley - Habersham & White Counties
(770) 365-7198 / rdbuck@windstream.net

Rosa Allen - Habersham, Rabun & White Counties
(706) 782-5969 / (404) 316-9417 / rpallen@windstream.net

Debbie Whitworth - Elbert & Hart Counties
(706) 283-0802 / (404) 805-4409 / rlwdpw@hotmail.com

Cynthia Brayton - Rockdale & Henry Counties
(404) 374-2980 / cebrayton@comcast.net

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

Nicki Thigpen - Warren, McDuffie & Columbia Counties
(706) 755-4375 / daydreamfarmga@yahoo.com

Suzanne Economopoulos - Fulton County
(404) 948-1041 / (770) 377-4363 /
zan2970@mindspring.com

**Kristen Hopkins - Toombs, Montgomery, Emanuel,
& Candler Counties**

(912) 614-7893 / hopkins.kristen@gmail.com

Marla Morris - Lamar, Upson & Pike Counties
(770) 584-9554 / georgiashebear@yahoo.com

Cathy Hackle - Twiggs, Bleckley, Wilkinson Counties
(478) 957-3875 / chackle@windstream.net

Eddy O'Hern - Houston, Bibb & Peach Counties
(478) 328-8308 / (478) 397-1135 / edo-
hern@bellsouth.net

Ann -Maxwell Searcy - Fannin & Gilmer Counties
(706) 838-4268 / (cell) 770 363-4589 /
am@eastwestmorgans.com

BJ Morris - Fannin & Gilmer Counties
(706) 838-4268 / (706) 663-8717 /
bj@eastwestmorgans.com

Debora Hines - Thomas & Mitchell Counties
(229) 403-9386 / dhines@mchsi.com

Michelle Williams - Spalding County
(770) 229-4892 / (404) 290-8155 / shelly@kuntrylivin.com

**Angela Hughes - Pierce, Bacon, Appling,
Tattnall, Long & Liberty Counties**

(912) 202-8554 / info@helphorses.net

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

Darla Money - Gordon, Whitfield & Murray Counties
(678) 986-3386 / dmoneycat@yahoo.com

We Apologize For The Errors In The June / July Newsletter

The picture of the school kids were visiting the Decatur Impound - not the Mansfield Impound

Charles Griffin (not Griffis), owner of Dick Tracy Trailer Sales in Covington has been a 2010 Event Sponsor

Thank you for your donation Alison Mercer (not Mercen)

**Although we work hard to proof our newsletter layout before it goes to
print, sometimes an error or typo is missed.**



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

I recently read that the American Horse Council performed a comprehensive study of the equine industry in the United States. The study, performed in 2005, estimated 9.2 million equine in this country at that time and today's estimate is 10 million.

Based on statistics gathered from equine facilities (primarily breeding facilities), it is estimated that of the 10 million horses in the United States, 35.7% were born in the last five years. That would mean that there are approximately 714,000 new foals born each year. We are breeding more horses than the market can absorb. To a large extent, the finger of blame can be extended toward the backyard breeder--the person who has a mare or two and arbitrarily decides to raise a few foals. In some cases the breeder has no definite plans for the future of the young horses produced; he or she just desires to raise a few foals because the mares are present and perhaps there is even a stallion conveniently on the premises. Sometimes these horses turn out to be excellent animals which receive training and the breeder is able to sell them for a respectable price. In many instances, however, they simply exist on the farm and the owner eventually loses interest in the animals' well-being.

A stallion has the potential to sire hundreds of foals in his lifetime. Sperm production begins as early as 12 to 14 months of age in most colts, and stallions will typically remain fertile beyond their 20th year of age. It is estimated that less than 1 percent of each year's colt crop is good enough to become breeding stallions. This is one reason that GERL is strongly encouraging the castration of most colts. The second reason is that stallions are testosterone-driven animals and can be aggressive and potentially dangerous to other horses and people. GERL finds that it is much easier to place male horses which have been castrated.

I went online to do more research about stallion castration. I used the search phrase "Stop Stallion Reproduction" and I got over 1600 results. I scrolled through 4 pages of links to various sites and 90% of them were associated with helping the breeder with

the reproduction of offspring. I was never able to find the type of information for which I was looking. I wanted to know if other equine organizations were actively encouraging castration by offering free or cost reduced castrations. I then tried the search phrase "Horse Castration" and amazingly got 402,000 results. Still, most of them were informative articles about caring for the horse post operatively. Finally, after searching for over 3 hours I found a couple of links to organizations which offer free gelding services. One was in Minnesota and the other in North Carolina. We at GERL have patterned our program after the one in North Carolina. The difference is that they only offer castration for stallions that are being used to reproduce. Therefore, a stallion which may not be considered as a candidate for their program because he has never been used for breeding, could be sold to a new owner who might fall into the "back yard breeder" category.

I have mentioned our Stallion to Gelding program many times in the past, but I don't believe that I have ever dedicated an entire article to the subject. I think it is time that I did. We recently added a new page to our website which introduces and describes the GERL Stallion to Gelding Program. An application is available on that page. All you have to do is download the application, fill it out and send it back to GERL, along with a couple of pictures of your stallion. After your application is approved, we will contact your veterinarian to arrange payment. At this point, owners are notified to set up an appointment.

We have already gelded 17 horses through this program, with 10 currently pending. Fortunately, we have not had to turn anyone down who has applied, even though we do not currently have grant funds to pay for the castration of horses. We continue to pay the first \$150 because it is something that we believe in so strongly. I feel that it is very important that more attention be given to equine castration than ever before as a very good way to help control the over abundance of horses in our state.

We currently have two vaccination clinics on our calendar for South Georgia, where there is the highest incidence of EEE. My plan is that we will gain experience from these first clinics and, as a result, we will learn what works and what doesn't. We hope there will be many more such clinics to follow. It is our plan to also sponsor castration clinics if the vaccination clinics meet our high expectations for success.

(continued on page 30)



A Note from the Secretary's Desk **By Anne Ensminger**

GERL members and readers of this newsletter know that this organization has been helping starved, abused, and abandoned horses in Georgia since 1992. During that time, not only has the need for our help grown, but the work needed to

provide that help has increased proportionately. There are five members of the Board of Directors and about that many additional key members who take the lead in specific areas of our work. Then there are our eight hundred "every day members" who support us with their membership dues, donations, and sweat equity. They are the real backbone of GERL. Every one of our members is greatly appreciated but in these extraordinary times, there is need for them to help even more.

First I would like to remind our members and friends that your eyes are the first hope for horses you discover which are suffering from neglect or abuse. We in Georgia are very proud that we are one of the few states having laws that protect equine. These laws are largely enforced by the Georgia Department of Agriculture but local Law Enforcement and Animal Control agencies also have the legal right and obligation to intervene on behalf of equine in need. Sadly, at this time, many of the county agencies do not have personnel, equipment, or the knowledge to deal with horses, however, GERL is working with them and they join us in being interested in finding ways to remedy this.

We have long listed the phone number for Georgia Department of Agriculture, Equine Division, in our newsletter where citizens can call to report cases of equine neglect or abuse. FYI: (404) 656-3713 or (800) 282-5852 Monday thru Friday 8:30 AM until 4:30 PM) GDA has experienced Equine Inspectors who will follow up on all calls. These Inspectors have the legal right to enter private property and issue citations. Since GERL has no such legal rights and it is very important for GDA to receive a first hand description of the problem as well as exact directions to the location of your complaint, we ask that you call them directly. To call GERL with such reports only delays the response. The folks at GDA are always very polite when you register a complaint and, even though they require you to give your name, your identity is always strictly protected.

GERL encourages you to report cases of abuse and then continue to observe the situation, while remem-

bering that, as in all matters involving government regulation, the Inspectors must follow a protocol. They will first, if the situation warrants, issue a citation and warning to the horse owners and give them instructions concerning how they can better care for their animals. The Inspector will then follow up with another visit to insure compliance. If the owners do not show that the horses are receiving proper care, GDA will then impound said horses, rehabilitate them, and eventually sell them at public auction into, hopefully, better situations.

All of this sounds very simple but it is far from simple. GERL has had to accept the fact that living conditions for equine is very loosely covered by the accepted standard for care. Shelter, beyond a tree or the side of a building for shade, is not required by law. Lack of even minimal shelter, in the absence of other factors, would not be considered to be cause for impoundment. Debris or large amounts of wet mud and/or manure in the environment are not cause for impoundment, even if this is extremely deplorable to concerned horse lovers, me included.

Hay and clean water are basic requirements. As frustrating as it is, we must caution folks who are reporting such cases, to refrain from throwing hay over the fence or providing more than minimal water for the animals. If an Inspector arrives to find hay and water available, their hands are tied and, unless the animals are in very bad condition, the Inspector will not be unable to use their full authority to help these horses. When horses are impounded by GDA, it is then time for GERL to enter the picture. Occasionally, GDA calls on us to take a horse that, for one reason or another, they know they can not offer at public auction. Astoundingly, we have found homes for a number of crippled and blind horses. We also contribute heavily to feed, hay, and impound facility maintenance on behalf of GDA. We geld all impounded stallions and pay for vaccinations for all impounded horses as well. GDA, Equine Division knows that GERL is there to help in any way needed.

I beg you to PLEASE use your eyes on behalf of the horses. Call and report cases of starvation and/or neglect. Write down the date and the name of the person to whom you spoke when you made your report. If you don't see the situation improve within an acceptable time, call again to check on the case. Be proactive! Follow up! These horses can not speak for themselves!

(continued on the following page)

A Note from the Secretary's Desk (continued from the previous page)

Another thing....., GERL desperately needs more foster homes. Due to budget cuts, the GDA has been forced to reduce the number of horses they are permitted to impound. GERL is sometimes asked to take horses after GDA has successfully persuaded their owners to willingly surrender them before the owners face prosecution. GERL also takes horses seized by county Animal Control agencies which do not have facilities to house them. We never know when these requests will come and we must be ready with temporary places to put these animals. It is especially difficult for us to find foster homes for stallions. All stallions which come into the GDA Impounds or the GERL Foster Care Program are eventually gelded but sometimes this must be delayed because of legal ramifications.

We do not require a fancy environment for our foster horses. Safe fences, good food, minimal shelter, and plenty of clean water are basic requirements. A willingness to handle, or at least check on them daily, is desirable. GERL will pay all expenses for foster horses. Foster caregivers often elect to keep accurate records of expenses and take a tax deduction for that amount instead of asking for reimbursement. If you choose to do this, GERL will furnish documentation of the care you provide but it is up to you to keep accurate records of your expenses and be able to verify with receipts.

Foster homes always have first refusal to adopt their foster horse when it is time for it to go to a permanent home.

Having the experience of fostering three horses to date, I can tell you that it is quite rewarding to see a very thin horse with a dull coat and sad eyes, begin to gain weight, put on a shiny coat, and most of all, to see that brightness return to those eyes!

Thank You Dr. Ken Marcella

for providing our membership with such informative articles each month.

See page 17 for this month's article



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

Thank You To Our Foster Homes

Belinda & Hannah Carruth
for fostering Aurora

Dotti & Jack Carter
for fostering Big Man (aka Beau)

Diana & Steve DeMoss
for fostering White Cloud, Grant & Snowball

Anne Ensminger
for fostering Honor

April & Stoney Goss
for fostering Highway

Lisa & Randy King
for fostering Lil Lady

Patty Livingston
for fostering Red Man

Tiffany Bergdorf
for fostering Lucky

Allison Altman
for fostering Maggie Mae, Buck, Sonny & Bono

Sue Crane
for fostering Bandit

Alline Jones
for fostering Jenna

Patty & Nick Howard
for fostering Eryzeka & Rosie

Steven Neal
for fostering Leroy, Smokey & Sable

Susan McCullar
for fostering Cheyenne & Gray Baby

Kim & Dan Smith
for fostering Hay Baler

Debbie & Robert Whitworth
for fostering Darla & Spanky

Tamma Trump
for fostering Hope

Jacki Moore & Leslie Lambert
for fostering Vandy

Cheryl Popiel
for fostering Charity

Valerie Puryear
for fostering Thunder

**Pumpkin
(continued page two)**

Since I have had him at our place I have met a few people who were seeing this horse daily in the field where he was and thought it was skinny because it was old. One important lesson as an Area Coordinator that I have gathered from this, is that things don't always appear as they are at first. No one from the road would have ever seen his feet. He was staying in one spot because he couldn't walk anywhere, and if he had stayed another day he probably would have died from dehydration. His urine was so dark when we brought him home that his kidneys were failing. It took about 5 days to re-hydrate his system again. Also if you see a horse repeatedly laying down in the same spot and staying down over and over again there is something seriously wrong. Pumpkin now lies down in his stall at night and maybe takes an afternoon nap outside but for the most part he remains standing now and that has allowed his sores to start healing. I have also learned that there is more than one kind of abuse since I have witnessed now not only no hoof maintenance or vet care but also tethering for weeks on end in the same spot. I try to be more alert as I drive by any horses. I have also started folders on others that we are keeping a close eye on and updating the GDA with current photos.



Pete may cast Pumpkins front feet to give him some extra cushion in the next few days. I have watched this process before with Roxy with some remarkable results. Pumpkin will never have to suffer without water again, and has finally figured how he has more "normal" feet to walk on. He overcompensated for the long "flipper feet" he had for a few days even after they were gone. I hope to someday find a permanent home for him with little grass, lots of hay and a lot of love and care so that he can retire and live his life out happily.



GERL Attends GDA Pulaski Impound Auction In June



Charles DeVane, Leigh Ann Holton, Eddy O'Hern, Diana DeMoss, Steve DeMoss



Working hard or hardly working?
Steve DeMoss, Eddy O'Hern, Trevor Sargent, Leigh Ann Holton

Nadia gets a home!

Congratulations to Larry Durden of Covington, GA.

Larry was granted full ownership of Nadia after a one year period of monitoring. As you can see, the mare has received excellent care and is in top condition!



Many thanks to Emily Harpster of Snellville, GA for her loving foster care of this lovely mare.

“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!



I would like to make a donation of:

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

**“Feed a Horse”
Program**

www.gerlltd.org

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone #: _____ Email: _____

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

THANK YOU!

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



Dear GERL

Hey there! I hope this finds ya'll well!

I wanted to update everyone on Lobo and Tyree. With help from my daughter, Tyree is now going on the trail..He loads, bathes, and other things with his head down. He even comes to the gate to get the halter on so he can have his turn at work. I put 4 shoes on him without sedation! He was really quiet (better than some of my clients!).

Lobo is still going well. He really likes working. So far I haven't be able to wear him out. Of course he has 4 shoes on as well. He is getting pretty quiet now Still working on the neighbors donkeys. He is not sure WHAT they are!

So ... when anyone wants to come up we will all go on a trail ride. We are working about 2 hours at a time, but looks like they can go much farther! They're Arabians!! I have plenty of room for trucks/ trailers to park.

Pictures are attached. It is hard to get both of them in the same picture. My legs only fit around one at a time!

Hope to see you soon. Let's ride!
Robert

Pictures at top: Robert Chambless with Lobo and Tyree. Pictures at right: Bob & Shirley Guhl - Thank you Bob & Shirley for fostering Lobo and Tyree while they awaited their forever home with Robert Chambless.



**GERL
HAPPY
ENDINGS!!!**

Remember Rusty?



Karen has been granted her ownership release for Rusty. Congratulations, Karen and Rusty!

Rusty came to us as a very underweight yearling. He had been in foster care for quite some time when he was finally adopted by Karen Marsh of Covington, GA.



July 20, 2010

GERL Volunteers of the Month September 2010 By Dotti Carter

I am sure when Doris and Richard Buckley signed up to be GERL Area Coordinators for Habersham and White Counties at the beginning of this year, they did not expect the flurry of activity they experienced in July.

It all started with the report of a starving Paint mare in White County. Doris and I agreed to meet on the square in downtown Cleveland to go take a look. The situation definitely needed attention and a resolution, at this time, is ongoing. Little did we know it would be the beginning of a very busy month and I hope the beginning of a very long friendship.

Shortly after this, Doris accepted responsibility for planning a luncheon for women from Habersham County involved in both small animal and equine rescue. I was invited to represent GERL. The goal of this group is to work to strengthen the animal cruelty laws in Habersham County with an emphasis on tethering laws for horses. The guest of honor was Andrea Harper who was running for Habersham County Commissioner in District Two. Andrea did win her seat in the election a few days later. This group of strong women will have a great ally in their corner to help improve animal welfare in their county.

Within just a few days after the luncheon, reality began to set in for Doris concerning how some people treat horses. On July 9th, Doris received a call from Habersham County Animal Control regarding an aged Appaloosa gelding with severely overgrown hooves – so overgrown he could not walk to his water source. He was malnourished, dehydrated, and very weak. After managing to arrange for “Pumpkin” to be released to GERL, Doris and her husband Richard personally took him into their care. He is now receiving love, proper nourishment, regular veterinary evaluations, and hoof care by famous author, lecturer, and barefoot hoof specialist, Pete Ramey. Pumpkin could not be in better hands.

Shortly after this, Doris and Richard became aware of a very sad situation involving an Arabian gelding in White County that had been purchased at auction for a few dollars with the intention of fattening him up and selling him for a profit. This plan would have been successful if it had only included feed, hay, clean water, and few tubes of wormer. However, that was not the case and the little horse’s physical condition continued to decline. After some persistent persuasion, he was eventually released to GERL by his owner and that is when Doris contacted Sue Crane who gra-



ciously agreed to foster “Bandit”. Sue is a true Arabian enthusiast and was instrumental in coordinating the recent adoption of Tyree and Lobo by her farrier. Thankfully Bandit is now on the road to recovery, will be completely rehabilitated, and adopted into a loving home. Check out “Bandit’s Blog” on Sue’s website at www.equusdreams.com

Near the end of July, the saddest situation of all was revealed to Doris and Richard’s attention. A small bay gelding with a body score of one or less was reported to be tied in a pit (yes, a pit!) in the mountainous back woods of White County. The pit was located on the side of a mountain, accessible only by four wheel drive vehicles. It would have been impossible to get a horse trailer up there.

“Pedro” died before he could be removed from the deplorable conditions in which he was forced to live but on the last day of his life, Doris and Richard worked all day in extreme heat to make arrangements for GERL to obtain ownership while they formed a plan to get him out of there. They managed to provide hay and water, had him examined by a veterinarian, and most importantly, lovingly provided kindness and encouragement to the little horse. Help came too late for Pedro. There was nothing more that Doris and Richard or GERL could do for this horse but we all came away with a hugely strengthened resolve to find a way to end this kind of cruelty.

GERL would like to thank Doris and Richard for all of their hard work over the last few weeks. They never hesitated to jump in to do what needed to be done. I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know Doris and Richard while working with them so closely over the last month and I am very proud to name them as September’s Volunteers of the Month for GERL.

GERL Needs Poop Scoopers!

I am sure that most of you are experienced in this area! I am also sure that you think that we are asking for stall cleaners! **WRONG!**



We would like to “hire” some reporters for our newsletter. We need you to get out there and get the “scoop” from GERL members, foster parents, adoptive parents and others that may have a success story they are just waiting to tell. We are looking for anyone that would like to be more involved, but just haven’t found their niche. There are so many stories to be told! These “scoopers” need to be self motivated and willing to go that extra mile for GERL! You don’t have to have above average writing skills to do this! We are all just regular folks and we need your help!

Please contact Anne Ensminger
if you are interested
in being on the Poop Scooper Squad!
(770) 464-3348
or
missanne612@bellsouth.net

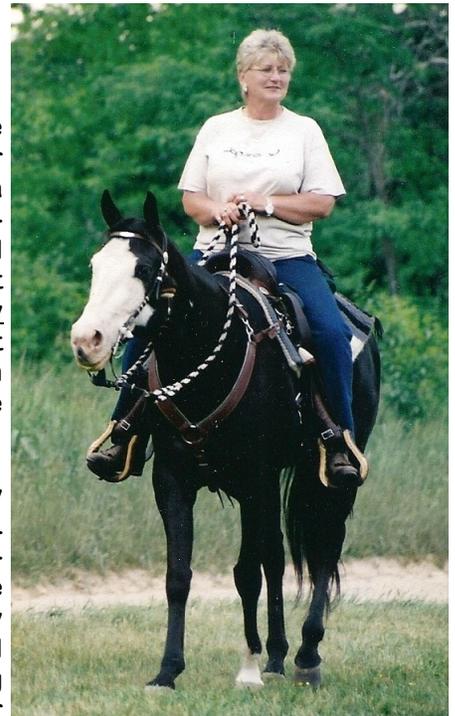
Sylvia Mooney 1942 - 2010 By Anne Ensminger

Georgia Equine Rescue League has lost another great friend. Sylvia Mooney of Jersey, Georgia (she always chuckled and informed people that she was from Alcovy Mountain, which is just across the street from her house), lost her battle with cancer on July 21st.

Sylvia is one of the very first members of GERL and was a lifetime member. She introduced me to the organization many years ago. We were trail riding buddies for a long time until she began her second of three battles with cancer.

Many GERL members and friends will remember meeting Sylvia on the trail, riding her beautiful Paint mare, Maximum Satisfaction (“Maxine”). She and her family rarely missed a GERL event and were always first to volunteer their help.

Our sincere condolences to her husband, daughters, son, and grandchildren who loved her very much. We like to think that she is sitting on Maxine right now as she watches over all of us from heaven.



TIMOTHY and/or ORCHARD ALFALFA HAY FOR SALE

Let us be your source
for excellent Midwestern Alfalfa-Mix horse hay
at an extremely competitive price.



We offer several varieties of hay (lower to higher % of alfalfa with a Timothy / Orchard grass mix). Samples have been tested & lab analyses confirm that this is excellent horse hay. We work directly with the grower to bring this hay to Georgia & the SE. Contact us for pricing, samples, etc.

HORSE HAY DIRECT, LLC
Betty K. Evenson
(706) 265-5045 . (706) 265-9708 . gerlbetty@aol.com

Mansfield Impound Workday – July 31st

By: Patty Livingston

To say that our recent workday at the Mansfield Impound was a success is definitely an understatement. We had over 40 people, ranging from age 4 to 72, show up in the boiling temperatures. Weather-wise, we were actually blessed because it was overcast and for a little while we felt a fine little mist. That lasted until about 11:00 when the sun popped out and the scorching began. We had coolers with ice water soaking towels and bandannas for the workers to put around their necks to cool them down.

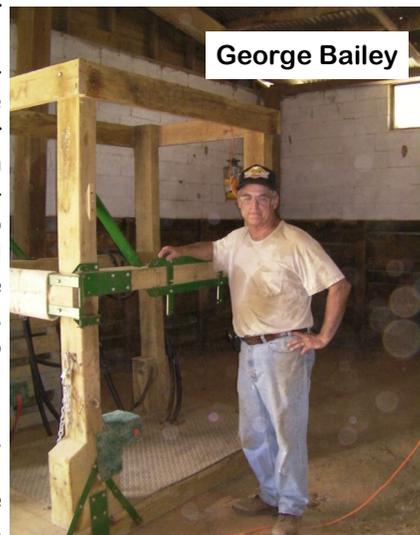
Willie Moore and Starr Archer worked on welding all of the gates which were many. Ken and Shane Stevens headed up the construction crew that built the 3 run-in sheds. Jason Marler, Allen Davis, Dan Huling, Jeremy Wyman and Paul Reid were a part of the “Dream Team” crew who slaved out in the hot sun all day and accomplished the huge feat of getting the sheds finished. Kudos to all of the guys, who wouldn’t stop working, even to eat lunch.



Dream Team #2, Scott Harris, David McCannon, and Dave Kingsley, with the help of “tool assistant and ladder holder”, Leisa McCannon, worked together to get the new electrical wiring run for the new office trailer which was purchased by GERL back in April. We didn’t have the actual moving of the trailer on our list of tasks to do that day because we didn’t think that it was possible to get the electric and plumbing all set up in time. The next thing I saw was Scott Harris hooking up his truck to the new trailer and Dave Kingsley hooking up the tractor to the old one. Things started to get downright exciting, and to think that this was all taking place before lunch was even ready! Tom Murray and Monteya Wright jumped in to help Scott and Dave get the trailer set up and Starr Archer

later moved to the project to hook up the plumbing. No doubt, many talented people attended this workday.

Meanwhile, chores were going on inside the barn. Susan and Paul Reid, Susan Archer, Barbara Cumming, Linda Kundell, Cynthia Brayton, Shannon and Allie Marler, Tucker Shull, Ken Archer and Jennifer Kowley were all busy knocking down spider webs, bleaching and cleaning the stalls and cleaning up the tool/tack stall. Our youngest volunteer, 4 year old Allie Marler, made us all smile as she set about her job with broom in hand. Summer Stevens volunteered to straighten up the tool shed outside the barn. Boy, what a challenge that was to take on!



Jessie Murray, Diana DeMoss and I worked on replacing some broken fence boards in the paddock areas. Shannon Marler came behind us with the black paint to make everything match, again. It was definitely team effort that made everything flow so well and look so nice. Everybody rotated to various projects during the day in an effort to get everything on the list checked off.

Ken Archer and grandson, Tucker Shull, spent a good many hours with weed eaters in their hands. What a dirty job, but somebody had to do it! Kudos to both of them who made the fence lines look so nice and neat. Tanya Kingsley came behind them with the roundup. Mansfield employee, Nancy Bogardts, and regular Saturday volunteer, Greg Macey, were busy feeding and watering the 32 horses that are currently at the impound. I couldn’t help but notice how much work is involved in taking care of that many horses at one time. The water containers were all emptied, cleaned and refilled. Hay and feed were delivered to each paddock housing horses. These two often tackle this chore all by themselves. What dedication it takes!

(continued on the following pages)

Mansfield Impound Workday – July 31st
(continued from the previous page)

Sherry Stevens was the chief cook for the day. She stood over a hot grill, cooking hamburgers and hot-dogs for at a good, long time. Many people brought food to contribute and it was a great meal. All of the hamburgers, hotdogs, buns and condiments were donated by Ingles Grocery Store in Madison. It was a wonderful time to gather and socialize with each other. We had a great view of the workers moving the new trailer into place while we ate. It was certainly something to witness. We had a good laugh at all of the concrete blocks that were atop the old trailer, holding down the roof! No doubt it was time for a newer one to take its place.



Jessie Murray,
Frank Mann and
Mat Thompson



Nancy Bogardts &
Susan Archer sorting blankets

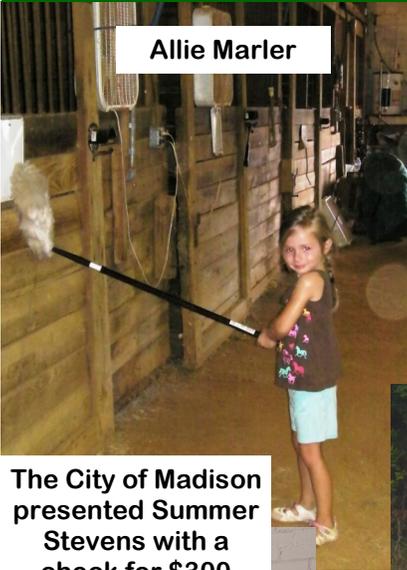
Successful workdays don't only require the efforts of many volunteers, but they also require the generosity and willingness to help from many others who are behind the scenes. In fact, without them there might not be a workday, at least not one of this magnitude. I'd like to recognize all of the businesses who helped. The City of Madison gave a check for \$300 to help with the expenses. Madison Rental donated the use of the auger. Ken Stevens, owner of Georgia Roof & Building Panels, donated labor, and materials for the new run-in sheds. He worked tirelessly, as did his crew, earlier in the week putting the roofing frames together. And, as I mentioned, Ingles in Madison donated much of the food for our lunch. Lowes in Madison also donated materials for the run-in sheds. If you happen to live in the area of

these businesses, please remember to thank them for their generosity and let them know how much you appreciate it by giving them your business. Oh yeah, don't forget to mention how much the horses love their new sheds!



Photo at Right
The hardworking
crew who got
it all done!

Mansfield Impound Work Day



Allie Marler

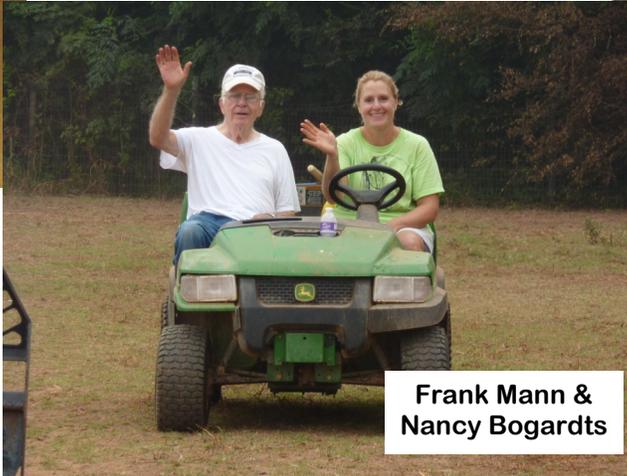


Barbara Cumming at Task Board



Diana Demoss

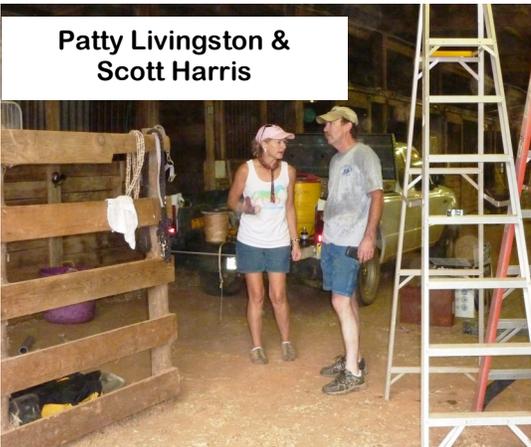
The City of Madison presented Summer Stevens with a check for \$300



Frank Mann & Nancy Bogardt



Run In Dream Team



Patty Livingston & Scott Harris



Summer Stevens cleaning the tool shed



George Bailey

Mansfield Impound Work Day



Ken Archer & Tucker Schull taking a break



Scott Harris prepares the old trailer



Linda Kundell, Cynthia Brayton & Susan Reid



Shannon Marler



Tom _____
He's too sexy for his rake!



Sherry Stevens
cooking lunch



David Kingsley

Mastitis in the Horse

By: Kenneth L Marcella, DVM

Mastitis is a relatively common occurrence in large animal practice but it tends to be seen in cattle and small ruminants (sheep and goats). It is rare in horses for reasons of both anatomy and management. The mare's udder is divided into halves, with each half containing two quarters, similar to a cow. The cow, however, has individual teats for each quarter while the mare's two quarters feed into a single teat with two openings. The udder of a mare is much smaller than that of a cow. The teat openings and the teats themselves are also smaller. Smaller openings make it more difficult for bacteria to enter the udder and set up an infection. Even when engorged with milk, the mare's udder remains well tucked up between the hind legs. This reduces the risk that the teats will be traumatized or contaminated by the environment, compared to the large, low hanging teats of a cow. Frequent nursing by the foal, normally several times each hour, ensures that the udder will stay well drained and prevents the build up of bacteria in and around the teats which also reduces infection risk. Additionally, a mare's teats and udder are rarely handled by owners once the foal has initially started to nurse. By not handling mare's teats, the transmission of bacteria from human (contaminated hands in a stable situation) to horse is also greatly reduced.

When a mare does develop mastitis, though, it can be a serious problem and though unusual, practitioners should be aware of the signs of this condition and the steps that should be taken to treat it. Mastitis in horses is most likely to occur during weaning time as the udder still contains significant amounts of milk but the foal is removing less and less of it. The mare's udder at this time will be swollen and painful as it begins to "dry up" and mastitis can be noted up to 8 weeks post weaning. Mastitis can occur in mares that are not lactating as well. Rarely maiden or barren mares will develop udder infections from trauma or insect bites, which can be a significant source of infection in some areas of the country. Mastitis should always be on the differential list for a hot, swollen painful udder, regardless of the lactational status of the mare.

The clinical signs of mastitis in the mare can vary from very obvious to very subtle depending on the severity of the condition. In general a hot, swollen and painful udder is the classic presentation of mastitis. Even well behaved mares will resist the nursing efforts of their foals and some mares will aggressively kick and keep their foals from contacting the udder. Not only does the foal lose its food supply or possible take in infected milk, it may be seriously injured by the mare as well. These consequences make it imperative

that owners and handlers recognize early signs of mastitis and seek veterinary attention.

In subtle infections, mares may initially show little signs of irritation at nursing but may stand awkwardly or off balance and try to rest one hind leg. She may hold one stifle away from her body and move stiffly. The mare may be thought to be lame in the early stages of an infection. Since only one side is usually infected, a foal may actually continue to nurse and avoid the abnormal teat for some time, making mastitis even harder for an owner to notice. The un-suckled teat will become more swollen, however, and soon traditional mastitis signs will be noted. Mares may be so infected, though, that they become quickly depressed and anorexic. They will exhibit elevated temperatures and, in some rare circumstances, the udder can quickly be completely destroyed threatening the life of the mare.

The milk from a mastitic udder will be grossly abnormal. It can vary from watery to thick and often contains white to yellow flecks or pieces of thicker material. A milk sample is very important and a bacterial culture allows the practitioner to use appropriate antibiotics for each individual case. Twenty eight cases of equine mastitis seen at the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital at the University of California-Davis were reviewed by Dr. Pat McCue. Milk sample cytology showed large numbers of neutrophils in 72% of the samples and aerobic bacteria in 71%. *Streptococcus zooepidemicus* was the most common isolate in this review (37%) but gram negative bacterial species were also seen (42%). After evaluating this data, Dr. McCue concluded that the probability for antimicrobial susceptibility in cases of equine mastitis indicated that a trimethoprim-sulphonamide combination would be active against 75% of the isolates. This gives the practitioner a reasonable drug of choice for initial treatment until obtaining results from milk cultures. Interestingly, this study also showed that 71 % of these mastitis cases occurred during the summer fly season. This can be seen as indicating that insect bites, fly irritation and bacterial transmission may increase the rate of udder infection in the horse. However, because most mares foaling early in the year will normally reach their weaning period, with increased incidence of mastitis, during the summer fly season anyway, this data must be carefully interpreted before any strong insect-mastitis link can be proven.

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Mastitis in the Horse

(continued from the previous page)

In addition to the use of appropriate antibiotics, the removal of infected milk from the udder will help to eliminate the infection. Frequent hand milking is suggested but good hygiene, a gentle touch and caution are needed since this process may be painful to the mare. Milking out the affected quarter 4 to 6 times daily is recommended. Hot packs may be applied to the udder 2 to 3 times a day and, along with gentle massage, this should help reduce swelling and lessen pain. Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory medications are certainly justified and many practitioners also infuse antibiotic preparations directly into the udder. There have been no studies that show that these preparations in the horse quicken the resolution of mastitis infection, over appropriate systemic antimicrobial treatment, but their use has also not been shown to be detrimental. Most uncomplicated equine mastitis cases are significantly improved in 3 to 5 days and the udder should return to normal in 7 to 10 days. Owners should supervise nursing sessions during the early treatment period to protect the foal until the pain has lessened and the mare again becomes tolerant.

Good basic broodmare management is the best method for prevention of mastitis in the mare. Avoid unnecessary handling of the mare's udder and teats and make sure that hands are well washed when handling is necessary. Keep the mare's environment as clean as possible. Be aware of the appearance and nature of the mare's udder, especially at weaning time. Watch the udder closely post foaling and, if the foal experiences problems and reduces food intake for any sustained period of time, be careful that an udder infection does not develop. It may be necessary to milk out a mare while her foal is being treated for any number of early life issues. Be watchful of insect problems and instruct owners and handlers to always call for assistance if any early mastitis problems are suspected. Early detection and aggressive treatment will go a long way toward keeping serious mastitis problems in the mare a rarity.

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Thoroughbred Times

Ashland Farm's 2nd Annual Summer Pace

By Ginny Scarritt

While many of you were taking part in the Foxhall Farm GDA Benefit Trail Ride on Saturday, June 5th, I was able to man a table for GERL at Ashland Farm's 2nd Annual Summer Pace. Ashland Farm is a spectacular facility in Walnut Grove, Georgia.

I wish to thank Clay & Lucy Calhoun for allowing me to come and Lynn Hennelly for orchestrating my visit. Ashland Farm raffled off a free entry fee for an upcoming show & raised \$90 for GERL. Congratulations to Gail Ford of Winder! In addition, I sold \$50 worth of t-shirts and collected \$21 in cash donations. Many people were introduced to GERL and the wonderful work you do. The "Before & After" pictures spoke for themselves.



We Want To Hear From You!

We welcome our member's contributions to our newsletter.

Are you a foster home for GERL horses? We would love to hear about your foster horse(s) and what the experience has been like for you.

Have you adopted a horse from GERL? How about sending us an update with photos and a short story about you and your new family member?

Have you taken a great trip that involved horses? Many of us camp and ride at some really wonderful places and we are sure that our members would like to hear more about these and other horsey trips.

WELCOME NEW GERL MEMBERS

Referred By

Norman & Linda Alter
Cynthia Anderson
J.B. Bader & Family
Carol Moore Demme
Elizabeth Hamilton
Andrea Harper
Angela Hughes
Alline Jones
Victoria Savage & Robert Kendrick
Nanci Mallow - Natural Release Massage
Ann Murphy
Jennifer Pebbles
Mike & Roxanne Perkins & Family
Toni Powell
Valerie Puryear
Sue Tomsic
Mark & Susan Tyre
Michelle Williams

Winston, GA
Milledgeville, GA
Cumming, GA
Blairsville, GA
Dublin, GA
Demorest, GA
Screven, GA
Monroe, GA
Loganville, GA
Ball Ground, GA
Monticello, GA
Vienna, GA
Covington, GA
Marietta, GA
Athens, GA
Valdosta, GA
Monroe, GA
Williamson, GA

Stricklands & Connort
GERL
Ray Ziebell
Jack & Dotti Carter
GERL
Doris Buckley
GERL
Diana, Becky, Leisa
GERL
Facebook
Tanya Kingsley
Laura Fokes
GERL
Michael Chisolm
Heather Wages
GERL
GERL
Jack & Dotti Carter

We Need Your Help! Auction Items are Needed

We have upcoming events that will include auctions.

We need you to help by donating auction items. These items can include new or used tack, home décor items, gift certificates, etc. Remember... our auctions are only as successful as the items that we have to offer.

Do you have a beach house? A cabin rental? Do you have a timeshare that you do not use? Perhaps you would consider donating a few nights or a week for one of our upcoming auctions? It's tax deductible and benefits a great cause.

Thanks You In Advance For Your Support!

If you have items to donate or have additional questions please contact

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



WITH YOUR HELP ...

We Will Make A Difference

Feed Bag Recipe Submissions

Do you have a wonderful, easy recipe that you would like to share?

Putting On the Feed Bag is a new section in our newsletter and we want your suggestions.

Please submit your recipe contributions to gerlbetty@aol.com



Puttin On The Feed Bag

Broccoli Salad



- 2 - 3 Stalks Broccoli
- 1/2 Cup Golden Raisins
- 1/4 Cup Pecans
- 1 Cup Mayonnaise
- 1/2 Cup Sugar
- 1/4 Cup Apple Cider Vinegar

Clean and trim broccoli and set aside.

Mix the dressing - mayonnaise, sugar and apple cider vinegar. Add the dressing to the broccoli and mix well (a zip lock bag works great for mixing and storing until you are ready to serve). Add the raisins and pecans!

- *To enhance the taste mix and let marinate for several hours.
- **To change the taste a bit you may add cooked, crispy bacon.

Submitted by Jackie Cobb

TRAILER NEEDED FOR MANSFIELD IMPOUND!

4 Horse Gooseneck Aluminum Stock Trailer
Center Divider and Dressing Room

Contact Patty Livingston @ 770-867-0760
gerlpatty@yahoo.com

Remember Rusty?



This colt came to us as a very underweight yearling. After being in foster care for quite some time, he was adopted by Karen Marsh of Covington, GA.

Karen has just been granted the final release for Rusty. Congratulations! Karen and Rusty



July 20, 2010



Dear GERL

This letter is for some very special people who were so supportive during my “dark” days after the loss of my horse, Clarice, on November 15th. I cannot adequately convey how much your caring meant to me early on in my grief, and how it continues to mean so much to me still.

Whether your support came in the form of a precious gift of remembrance for me personally, a donation to the Georgia Equine Rescue League, and/or a solid shoulder for me to lean on (and saturate with tears), everything that everyone offered has made a tremendous difference in my life, and in the life of another ...

I decided that in order to cope with my loss, I needed to give of myself in some way, so I went back to the Critical Care Horse Impound in Decatur to volunteer again, where I was first “chosen” by Clarice 16 years ago. Several weeks went by, and I faithfully went to the Impound every weekend to groom, feed, handle, and help many starved and abused horses.

On Christmas Day, I chose to run the Impound alone in the afternoon so that Mat, the manager, could be home with his family. I wasn’t in the mood for Christmas anyway. When I arrived, Mat was leaving and he said, pointing to a specific horse that was in a stall, “Don’t get attached to this one”, implying that he probably wouldn’t make it. The horse had been so hungry that he had eaten rocks and dirt just to fill up his belly, and he was in a lot of pain. The manager left, and I went into the stall to spend quiet time with this one horse. I decided that if he was going to leave this Earth, he would leave knowing how it felt to be loved. He was lying down, and I sat and held him, crying, singing, humming, telling him he was beautiful, and stroking his head and mane for the longest time, just as I did when Clarice passed away. When darkness set in, I knew I had to leave, and I gave him one last dose of pain medicine to help him be comfortable. I cried all the way home, missing Clarice so much, hurting for the little Christmas horse, being angry with humans who neglect their animals..... so many feelings kept swirling, and I couldn’t wait until midnight so Christmas would be officially over.

The next morning was my regular day to volunteer at the impound. I dreaded the drive. I dreaded the turn into the gravel driveway to the barn. Tears came up before I was halfway there, but I still needed (and wanted) to go and help the other horses. At the end of the driveway, I stopped and stared in disbelief. I leaped out of my car, and at the same time a horse



called to me from the paddock. The little Christmas horse was standing outside in the sun, looking at me and nickering! I couldn’t believe my eyes. The manager came out and said it was “some kind of miracle” that he lived through the night and was bright and perky. I had only seen the little horse lying down, and now that he was standing, he was just awesome. He kept nuzzling me and I kept loving on him, thanking God for reaffirming my lifelong belief in miracles.



The little Christmas horse chose me, and I have chosen him back. He came with the name “Ice”, and as a dear friend profoundly pointed out... his name is the last three letters of Clarice’s name. On February 25th, I brought my 2-year old “Ice-man” to his new home. He is in the stall that Clarice was in, and her spirit is so much a part of his personality that it cannot be a coincidence. Ice is kind, and funny, and trusting. He is mine, and I am his.

(continued on the following page)

Who's Who Georgia Equine Rescue League, Ltd.

Board Members

Patty Livingston, President

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

Ken Archer, Vice President

(770) 554-1381 / gerlken@bellsouth.net

Diana Kelsey DeMoss / Treasurer

(770) 267-0867 / gerlnaners@windstream.net

Anne Ensminger / Secretary

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

Steven Neal / Alternate

(706) 342-3422 / gerlsteven@bellsouth.net

Area Coordinator Directors

Jack & Dotti Carter

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

frogleap@windstream.net

Foster Coordinator - Becky Gregory

(770) 207-4762 / gerlbeck@aol.com

Adoption Coordinator - Heather Wages

(770) 267-0785 / gerlheather@yahoo.com

Events Coordinator - Susan Archer

(770) 554-1381 / susangerl3@bellsouth.net

Volunteer Coordinator - Leisa McCannon

(770) 267-6912 / gerlvolunteers@yahoo.com

Web Master - Steve DeMoss

steve@gerlltd.org

Newsletter Editor - Betty Evenson

(706) 265-5045 / gerlbetty@aol.com

*Please submit all newsletter materials by the 10th of each month for submission in the following month's newsletter.

GERL Advisory Board

Billy Myers, DVM

Kenneth Marcella, DVM

William Baker, DVM

Jennifer Baker, DVM

To report a case of equine abuse,

call the Georgia Department

of Agriculture's Equine Division

Monday - Friday / 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

(404) 656-3713 or (800) 282-5852

If you would like GERL to assist with an

Equine Abuse case call (770) 464-0138

If you are interested in becoming an Area Coord.

for a county not listed here, please contact

Jack or Dottie Carter (706) 896-4997 / (706) 835-

5677 or frogleap@windstream.net

Dear GERL / Iceman

(continued from the previous page)

Without donations like the ones that many people made to the Georgia Equine Rescue League in Clarice's honor, there likely would not be much hope for many horses. My "Christmas horse" might not have come into my life. Without the support and compassion of so many people in my life, I might not have had the strength to return to the impound and help these magnificent creatures survive, which I will continue to do every Saturday.

Mat and John at the Critical Care Impound are amazing, caring, and patient with the horses and volunteers. They keep me motivated to continue my volunteer work, and express their appreciation all of the time. Their work is both rewarding and probably too often, heart-breaking, yet they have dedicated themselves with passion to this incredibly important mission to save as many horses as possible. Nobody needs to thank me for volunteering at the Impound, as I consider it a privilege and an honor to be there.

"Ice" and I are both grateful for so much. Every life we touch, be it a person or an animal, can make an important and lasting difference. We are all creating our legacy on our life's journey. Thank you to all of those people and animals who continue to enrich my life and my legacy.

- Alison Mercer

Education Coordinator Director Needed

Responsible for 13 Regional Educational Coordinator Leads to ensure that Area Coordinator training is implemented in each region.

Will also interface with Area Coordinator Director

Leads. Communicate and implement the GERL's education plan that will include vaccination and castration clinics, 4-H meetings, training for local law enforcement and animal control agents.

This position requires a very energetic and organized person!

If you are interested in learning more about this very important opportunity within GERL please call Patty at (770) 867-0760.



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

Hank Bell
 Tammy Croghan & Phil Connor
 Teresa Day
 Debbie Dorman
 Marc & Gaylin Hasbrouck
 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
 Robyn Placek & Austin Jones
 Sharon & Kristen Smith
 Sandy Stephenson
 Ron & Dea Williams
 Charlene Baldwin
 Danny & Faye Burton
 Ben & Yvonne Daniels
 Doug & Sylvia Lewis
 Debbie Lindstrom & Family
 Linda Magness
 Pat Marks
 Lynn Petersen
 Richard Sauerbier
 Roger & Mariellen Schultz
 Shari Spokes
 Chatty Stover

***Membership form is
on the back cover**

**Thank You For Renewing Your
GERL Membership**

Betty Altman	Ball Ground, GA
Robert & Barbara Arnold	Box Springs, GA
Greg & Tiffany Bergdorf	Roswell, GA
Kim Bowen & Family	Cartersville, GA
Debra Sellers	Rydal, GA
Robert & Diane Caruso	Blythe, GA
Lisa Creedon	Snellville, GA
Steve & Pam de Lyra	Dawsonville, GA
Pat Dean	Canton, GA
Barbara Decker	Dahlonega, GA
Bill & Kathy Evans	Savannah, TN
Ray Gary, Jr., Attorney at Law	Acworth, GA
Linda Gettle	Cartersville, GA
Robert & Becky Gregory	Good Hope, GA
Charles Griffis, Jr.	Covington, GA
Mary Joe Hanes	Locust Grove, GA
Betty Sue Hearin	Lawrenceville, GA
Allen & Nicole Holsomback	Conyers, GA
Bill & Alison Ibsen	Roswell, GA
Liza Karsai & Alan Goot	Woodstock, GA
Gerri Kono	Alpharetta, GA
Michele Leach	Covington, GA
John Lynn	Social Circle, GA
Carlos & Carol Martel	Mineral Bluff, GA
Jacki Moore & Family	Conyers, GA
B.J. Morris & Ann Maxwell Searcy	Blue Ridge, GA
Pennie Peck	Covington, GA
Ellen & Margaret Petree	Winder, GA
Stan Reich	Cumming, GA
Scott Sauerbier & Family	Dacula, GA
Lisa Kelley Schindler	Cumming, GA
Judy Sophianopoulos	Atlanta, GA
Melody Sorrells & Family	Loganville, GA
Charles & Linda Stephens	Winder, GA
Shirley Thomas	Monroe, GA
Mike & Teresa Tyler & Family	Monticello, GA
Sandra Wedlake	Suwanee, GA
Julie Williams	Alpharetta, GA

GDA UPDATES

Below are some of the improvements and services that GERL has paid for in the past few months.

- \$ 3,800 – purchase of used office trailer for Mansfield Impound.
- \$ 1,300 – Mansfield Impound workday materials
- \$ 700 - gravel and rock delivered to Decatur Impound.
- \$ 2,456 - gutters and underground drain systems at Decatur Impound
- \$ 3,500 – Alfalfa/mix hay delivered to Alto Prison Impound due to lack of storage in other impounds.
(project on hold)
- \$ 1,500 – 1/2 electricity to impound area at Pulaski Prison Impound
- \$ 1,644 - Spray and fertilizer for Mansfield Impound pastures
- \$10,000 - donation from Foxhall benefit to go towards vet care for all impounds

Good Bye Two Socks Jack By Pierrette Ziebell

15 years ago Ray's trusty Appaloosa gelding was diagnosed with EPM and was going to take several months to recover and a full recovery was not guaranteed.

If you know Ray, you know that he is all about the Native American Culture. There was a 12 year old Mustang for sale in Cumming and Ray decided to take a look ... Need I say more?

"Jack" looked like a Draft / Andalusian cross. When he and Ray met he was standing handsomely in the middle of a huge pasture with a pond and an abundance of grass. He was alone, overweight and his hooves were long and untrimmed. The owner promised that he would get the farrier out that week.



Not sure that we wanted another horse, we waited three weeks before visiting Jack again. His hooves had not been trimmed and we were sure that the combination of him being overweight and the abundant grass in his pasture would have dire consequences for him. We didn't think about it further ... we brought Jack home to our farm that same day.

From day one Jack was the most gentle, dependable, loveable and healthy horse. Ray rode Jack on many trails for many years. He was a very safe mount and got along well with everyone he met. He was a full-blooded Mustang. His paperwork shows that he was captured in Oregon when he was just ten months old.

Jack crossed the rainbow bridge on July 17th. He was nearly 27 years old. Many great memories were made on the back of Two Socks Jack. He will be in our hearts forever.

Editor's Note: Many of you met Jack at our Poker Rides and Fests. He and Ray were often dressed up in festive Native American attire. RIP Two Socks Jack. Our condolences to Ray & Pierrette Ziebell.

Thank You Steven Neal

Steven has done our website work for the past 1.5 years. He reworked the site and has done all of the maintenance and updates. Due to time constraints, Steven will remain on the GERL board but has handed the website duties off to Steve DeMoss.

Thank you Steven for all of your hard work!



Welcome Steve DeMoss!

Steve has taken over as GERL Webmaster. Steve has many, many years of computer and website background. He built the original GERL website many years ago.

He has already made many changes and additions. Take a look at gerlltd.org.

Welcome back Steve!



In Honor Of Those Who's Lives Were Cut Short ... They Have Crossed the Rainbow Bridge

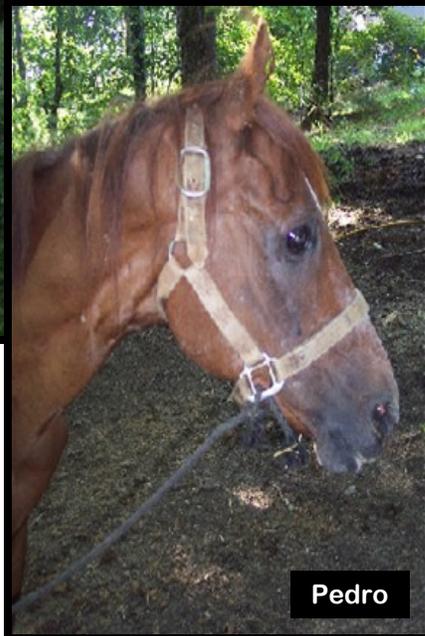


Chico



Mulberry

Editor's Note - The horses pictured here are horses that GERL has recently been involved with but despite everyone's best efforts, didn't make it.



Pedro



Unis

A Horse's Prayer ... To Thee My Master, I Offer My Prayer

Feed me, water and care for me, and when the day's work is done, provide me with shelter, a clean, dry bed and stall large enough for me to lie down in comfort. Talk to me, your voice often means as much to me as the reins.

Pat me sometimes, that I may serve you the more gladly and learn to love you. Do not jerk the reins and do not whip me. Never strike, beat or kick me when I do not understand what you want, but give me a chance to understand you.

Watch me, if I fail to do your bidding, see if something is wrong with my rigging or perhaps my feet are sore due to shoes that do not fit me correctly, that you know is very painful. Keep me well shod so my feet do not pain me that I may serve you more efficiently. Examine my teeth when I do not eat.

I may have an ulcerated tooth.

Blanket me when I come in all heated up and sweating, cover me with a sheet to help protect me against flies and mosquitoes.

And finally, O my master, when my useful strength is gone, do not turn me out to starve or freeze, or sell me to some cruel owner to be slowly tortured and stoned to death; but do thou, my master, take my life in the kindest way and your God will reward you here and hereafter.

You will not consider me irreverent if I ask this in the name of Him who was born in a stable.

Author Unknown

The GERL Store



Ladies contoured fit, cap sleeve, ribbed T. 90% cotton, 10% poly. S-XL. \$14.00
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Chester

By: Patty Henry

Chester was already on the road to recovery when he arrived at our farm in May. Andee Rogers and her husband, Mike, had put weight on him, wormed him and trimmed his feet nicely. I noticed right away as he walked off the trailer that he was good natured even though he had been through some rough times.

As time went by, it was a real joy to watch that rough, ugly coat brush away and find the beautiful bay underneath. After a while, Chester became more energetic and went from slowly walking across the field to a nice canter and joyful whinny at feeding time.



Yes, he is a senior - 28 years old - but he is very sweet and calmly accepts bathing, clipping, picking up his feet and vet care.

Chester has become a much loved member of our family and we have decided to permanently adopt him. No matter what has happened to him in the past, the rest of his life will be as happy and comfortable as we can make it.

Patti & Phil Henry

The Madison Lowe's and Georgia Roof & Building employees loading materials for the Mansfield Run-in Sheds



Red Man

By Anne Ensminger

I have been gladly responsible for the care of a GERL foster horse for the past three weeks. My efforts have been aided by GERL members and neighbors, Leisa and David McCannon as well as Kathy and Lamar Chandler. Patty Livingston will take over his care after today.

Red Man is a five year old Mustang stallion which came to us as the result of seizure by a county Animal Control agency. I am not permitted to say which county, as this case may be eventually litigated. Other horses were involved in this case and are being kept in separate foster homes. The bottom line is that they are safe and being well cared for.

The reason I write about Red Man is that, I have become quite fond of him. He is a perfect gentleman. We have not tried to determine if he is trained to the saddle but it

is hard for me to imagine that someone would have spent as much time as I know it took to develop the ground manners this horse displays, and then let his physical condition deteriorate to a point where he had to be taken from them.

After all litigation is exhausted and GERL is granted ownership of Red Man, he will be gelded and will be available for adoption. You can believe that the potential adopter will have to meet Miss Anne's high standards! (I hope that statement does not intimidate Red Man's future perfect partner). In the mean time, GERL will insure that he is brought back to a healthy weight and that he receives the very best care.



2010 GERL Calendar of Events



Vaccination Clinic
September 25th
Veterinary Care - 2405 US Hwy 41 S - Valdosta, GA 31601

Fright Fest - 2010
October 29-31
Jake Mountain - Dahlonega, GA

GERL Christmas Party
December 11th
Bethlehem, GA



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

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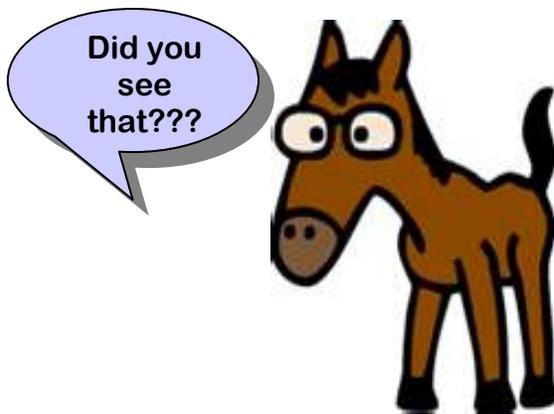
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**Let Me Say This ...
(continued from page 4)**

And let me say this, about that...none of this is possible without the financial support of our members and supporters. The monies gathered from our regular fundraisers have been much lower this year. Our auctions are bringing in about half as much as they have in the past. We know that this is just one more sign of the tough economy from which many are suffering. We also know that "when the going gets tough, the tough get going". For that reason, we are diligently seeking grant funds to help us continue to be able to offer our vaccination and castration programs, which we feel are so important. We are also hosting extra fundraisers this year as a way to bring in every possible dollar.

Of course, we continue to hope that we can appeal to our members and supporters for help with GERL programs already in place. We always need more foster and adoptive homes. Our "Feed a Horse" Program which allows individuals to contribute to the care of one or more GDA impounded horses continues to be a huge success. More information about this program is available on our website at www.gerlltd.org.

As always, with your help we WILL make a difference! This is not just an overused slogan. We believe it with all of our hearts!



Dear GERL

I had been thinking of fostering horses for awhile and after a weekend with GERL at East Fork Stables in Tennessee on April 23, 2010, I knew that was in the plan. I joined the Rescue League April 30, 2010. Things moved quickly after that.

I received my three neglected equine friends on an already hot day, May 27, 2010. GDA equine inspectors, Adriane Altman Cook (my sister) and Marei Hunder, who had been working this case, delivered these horses from Columbia County, Georgia, from owners who released ownership to the GERL.

I received a 15 year old mustang mare with her six week old colt and a 20 year old gelding. The 20 year old gelding was the most pitiful thing I had ever seen. My mom wanted to call him "BONES". I have to say here, my mom has been instrumental and a trooper. She is very involved with helping with these rescue horses. I think she could touch the "baby" Buck Wild before I could.

We decided to name bones "BONO" and for the first week I was just glad he was still standing every morning when I went out. Today is August 2, 2010 and "Bono" looks MUCH better. He is finally starting to fill out and fit his skin. Bono took a lot of scratches, bites and mistreatment from the other horses where he was, as he is a very docile equine. He is getting his strength back and can almost run again. He is safe now. I believe Bono will prove to be a children's backyard horse, a babysitter. He is very sweet and appreciative of the care he is now receiving. We plan on starting to ride him soon.

We call the little Stud colt "BUCK", short for Buck Wild. It took two months to make friends with this baby, which had evidently never been touched. It took much help from friends and family to even get the 1st halter on. He is learning well and we have plans to wean and castrate him in the upcoming month. Buck continues to work on trust issues. He get's better every day. He still needs lots of teaching & guidance but I feel he will be a FINE horse one day. Buck Wild" should be up for adoption in October. We'll keep you posted.

"MUSTANG MAMA" – We call her "Maggie May", is a different story. She is very set in her ways and I don't think she has ever been handled much. She required sedation for her feet to be trimmed and medicine in her ears. Hopefully, she will come around, in time. She's not a mean horse, but just doesn't want to be fooled with.

It has been a challenge and an honor to be a foster home for GERL horses. I thank Adriane, Marei and Robin for all their hard work. Thanks to my brother-in-law, Ron Cook (farrier), who took on their neglected feet.

I also want to thank Becky Gregory & Tanya Kingsley - and the whole GERL organization.

"Proud to be part of the team"
Thank you and Happy Trails
Allison Altman

GERL ADOPTABLES

Lobo and Tyree were both stated as 15yo 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 keep-ers). 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.

ADOPTED



Lobo & Tyree



Leroy

Leroy 5 year old bay Thoroughbred cross gelding, 15-2 hh. Gentle to handle. We have been advised that he has been trained to ride, but we have not accessed his level of training. Good looking horse!

Smokey 1 year old dark bay Thoroughbred cross gelding, 13.3 hh. Sired by Leroy. Needs someone to work with him. Will be a wonderful horse.



Smokey



Snowball

Snowball 11 year old white Welsh pony, 11.1 hh. Easy keeper, very gentle. She needs an abundance of shade due to her delicate skin! Lead line only. Not trained to ride. Looking for a loving family to spend her days with.



Hay Baler

Hay Baler 1 year old chestnut Thoroughbred cross gelding, 13.2 hh. Sired by Leroy. Loads, leads, stands for farrier. Foster parents are working with him daily. He would make a wonderful project for anyone who wants to start their own horse.

For adoption fees and additional information please contact Heather Wages, GERL Adoption Coordinator (770) 267-0785 / gerlheather@yahoo.com

GERL ADOPTABLES



Star

Star 16 year old saddebred cross black mare, 14-2 hh. Gentle to handle. Her pasture mate for the last 12 years has been Mercedes. They came into our program due to the owner's financial hardship. Never starved, never abused.

Mercedes 20 year old flea bitten gray Arabian/Q.H. mare, 14-2 hh. She was ridden by children. Pastured with Star for the last 12 yrs. Very nice horse. Ready to go!



Mercedes



Thunder

Thunder 20 + sorrel Arabian cross gelding, 14.1 hh. Great trail horse. He came in as a starvation case and has been completely rehabilitated. Maybe you can provide Thunder with his forever home.



Highway

Highway 5 year old sorrel Q.H. gelding, 15 hh., 1000 lbs. Blind in right eye, but gets around great. Loads, clips, great with other horses, great ground manners. Not broke to ride, but is a willing and smart pupil. His foster parents continue to work with him in the round pen. Adopt Highway and take him "on the trail" to success!



Big Man

Big Man 14 year old Beautiful black & white spotted saddle horse gelding, 15 hh. He is insulin resistant, which means that he can not be on a rich pasture and needs to be on Safe Forage feed. Due to laminitis and an old stifle injury, he is best suited as a companion horse.

For adoption fees and additional information please contact
Heather Wages, GERL Adoption Coordinator
(770) 267-0785 / gerlheather@yahoo.com

GERL ADOPTABLES

Cheyenne 10 year old strawberry roan pony mare, 13.2 hh. Easy keeper. Due to a front knee injury she would be best suited as a companion only. We believe that this mare has been severely abused in the past, which has made her very shy. She needs TLC every day to overcome her fears.



Cheyenne



Gray Baby

Gray Baby 16 year old flea bitten gray Mustang mare, 14.2 hh. She has a very sweet disposition. She is broke to ride, for an experienced rider. She is currently in training at Ed Huie's farm in Illa for fine tuning.



Sable

Sable 1 year old bay Thoroughbred cross gelding, 14 hh. Sired by Leroy (see page 31). Sweet boy, ready for training.



Lil Lady

Lil Lady 14 year old chestnut Arabian mare, 14.1 hh. She broke to ride but has not been handled much. She will be suited for an experienced rider ready to take her to the next level of training.



Hope

Hope 4 year old sorrel Q.H. mare, 14.2 hh. She has been blind from birth and constantly amazes her foster mom on how well she gets around. She loves to be brushed, loads and knows many voice commands. She is very smart, willing, very trusting and is ready to start her training. Hope will need a home that can accommodate her special needs.



Cancun

Cancun 13 year old sorrel Q.H. gelding, 15 hh. He is proud cut, rides well but needs a strong, capable owner.

For adoption fees and additional information please contact Heather Wages, GERL Adoption Coordinator (770) 267-0785 / gerlheather@yahoo.com

Benefit Polo Match a Great Success
By Anne Ensminger

Stepping out in faith is not a new thing for GERL. I suppose it can be said that we have been doing that since 1992 when a very small but determined group of ladies formed the Georgia Equine Rescue League, their hearts full of concern for the widespread mistreatment of horses they were seeing.

Anne Ensminger, Diana DeMoss
 Becky Gregory & Leisa McCannon



We are quite accustomed to organizing fundraisers but to undertake a fundraiser built around a Polo match was out of our “comfort zone”, to say the least. Still, long time GERL member and supporter, Jack Cashin, was able to convince us to give it a try. How could we turn down his kind offers to host a match at his beautiful farm with 100% of the proceeds to benefit GERL? With a 70% chance of rain predicted, our volunteers began arriving at Jack’s farm early on the long anticipated day. We were greeted by the sight of rolling pastures with beautiful horses peacefully grazing. As we drove down the welcoming lane to the Polo field, we were amazed as we saw the lovely Chukkar Farm facility revealed in its entirety.



**GERL Presents
 GDA With a Check**

When the gates opened at 1 PM and people began to arrive, we were thankful that the skies remained overcast and we were frequently kissed by a soft breeze but not one drop of rain fell. Most of those attending joined us in our excitement of seeing a Polo match for the first time and learning more about this ancient sport which originated over 2000 years ago in China and Persia. Polo was an Olympic sport until 1939 and is now, once again recognized by the International Olympic Committee. Few are not aware that the game has long been favored by noted members of the Royal Family of England.



**TLAER Team from
 Milton Fire & Rescue**

(continued on the following page)

Benefit Polo Match a Great Success
(continued from the previous page)

The match began at 2 PM and was expertly announced by Kellum Tadsen, Jack Cashin's son in law. He provided very interesting and informative running commentary.

Besides the Polo match, the day held a fascinating half time demonstration performed by members of the TLAER Team from the Milton Fire Department. This group of dedicated firefighters, thoroughly trained in Technical Large Animal Emergency Rescue is very proud of the equipment they have been able to acquire entirely through fundraisers and donations. They rightly decided that it was especially important for this service to be made available to the Milton/Alpharetta area which is truly "Georgia's Horse Country".



Half time also provided an opportunity for a check for over \$10,000, representing the proceeds of the June 2010 Foxhall Farm Ride, to be presented to the Georgia Department of Agriculture Equine Program. The check was accepted by Mary Greene, GDA Equine Program Director.

Sue Wrensen, GERL Auction Coordinator, worked very hard to present a small silent auction made up entirely of donated items that brought in some extra funds. Special thanks to GERL member, Kay Watson, her friends Robin Foster and Susan Griswold, and Jessica and Gabriella, two of the girls they regularly instruct in leadership development. As their way of helping, they donated bottled water and soft drinks which they sold during the day to benefit GERL.

Thank you, Jack Cashin, for your contribution to GERL through allowing us to benefit from this exciting event at your beautiful Chukkar Farm and Polo Club on a lovely day in August.



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PRESENTS

FRIGHT FEST 2010

OCTOBER 29, 30, 31

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**REGISTRATION FORM
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 FRIGHT FEST 2010
 JAKE MOUNTAIN - DAHLONEGA, GA**



All riders and non-riders must be registered by Oct. 15th.
 Registrations received after that date will not be guaranteed a camping spot.

Camping is primitive. High lines are provided at most sites. Water truck will be parked on site for your horse. Portable pens are allowed, but space is very limited.

The terrain at Jake Mtn. is suitable for all riding levels. We recommend that your horse be shod. In order for us to park everyone in an orderly fashion, we need to know the length of your rig, from the front of your truck to the rear of your trailer. *Please mark the box below that best suits the size of your rig:*

Short (30' & under) Medium (31' - 45') Long (46' & over)

If you are camping with a group, please make a note on this form. We will do our best to put you together. It will also help if you arrive together.

Negative Coggins is required—*no exceptions*.

You will receive an information packet through the mail on the week of the ride. Please bring it with you! This packet will contain directions to Jake Mountain, a waiver that must be filled out by you prior to arrival at camp and a trail map. For further information or questions please contact Patty Livingston @ 770-867-0760 or gerlpatty@yahoo.com.

GERL MEMBER? Yes No Single Family

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No. of Adult Campers/GERL Members:	_____	X \$55 ea. =	_____
No. of Adult Campers/ Non-Members:	_____	X \$65 ea. =	_____
No. of Children/GERL Members:	_____	X \$15 ea. =	_____
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Make check payable to: GERL Mail to: P.O. Box 328 Bethlehem, GA 30620		50% non-refundable deposit	
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Our Thoughts & Prayers Are With You

Mooney Family
as you mourn the loss of your wife, your mom, your
meme, your friend and long-time
GERL member, Sylvia Mooney.

Thank You For Donating To Our Feed A Horse Program

**Carol Royer
Constance Burchette**

Thank You

To all GERL members, supporters
and volunteers!

**WITH YOUR HELP ...
WE WILL MAKE A DIFFERENCE!**



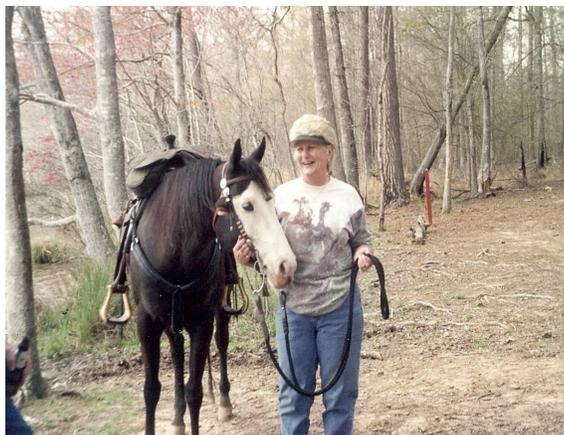
In Memory of Sylvia Mooney

Thank you, Sylvia, for being there for me when I needed a
shoulder, a kick in the butt, encouragement, love, a Mom, a
best friend, a sister, a partner in crime.

There is so much more to our friendship that I can't put into
words. Most of all, thank you for accepting Kristen and I (and
Trevor) into your family with open arms. I love you, forever!
TA TA!

To the Mooney's: You are the family that we never had. We
love you more than we will ever be able to show you. Thank
you for sharing Meme with us!

Naners



Donations In Memory Of

Blelsema TA Glory
by Barbara Decker

Ginger
by Lisa Kelley Schindler

Cy
by Robert & Diane Caruso

Jerry Livingston
by Ellen & Margaret Petree

Radical
by Elizabeth Hamilton

In Memory of Unis ...
the sweet, beautiful, two month old filly who
died at Decatur Impound despite the heroic
efforts of staff, volunteers and vets.
by Judy Sophianopoulos

Donations in Honor Of

Max & Callie
by Elizabeth Hamilton

Thank You For Your Donations And Continued Support

Thanks to Ed Merritt and friends from
Jasper who donated a truckload of tack
and supplies for the impounds
and GERL auctions!

**Nancy Pahl
Tatiana Kiselyova
Nancy Fitzgibbons
Susan Crandall
Mike & Roxanne Perkins
Betty Altman
Jacki Moore
Linda Gettle**

Get Well Soon

Jack Cashin!

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A destination for discriminating horse enthusiasts---and their horses. Relish the twenty mile view from the screen porch, the handmade furnishings and local art work, and ride the 6 miles of on site trails or the 40 miles of public trails on Crockford/Pigeon Mountain. Your horse is welcome.

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10% of the rental fees of horse rescue members will be donated to their rescue group.

Carol Moore Demme
Artist

Represented by several fine galleries

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Cell: 706.897.7692
706.835.2176
Blairsville, GA 30512
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Membership Application

New Member: _____ Renewal: _____ Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

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County: _____

Phone (home): _____ (cell): _____

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 \$ _____

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