

NASS 2024 Radautzer Annual Award

This Breed Award is named after the horses from the famous Austrian military Shagya-Arabian stud farm of Radautz (located in present-day Romania) and the European tradition of giving a horse who showed exceptional courage and stamina the highest praise when described as being “tough as a Radautzer”.

Carol Federighi writes:

“*Lily Creek Believers Journey* (*Lily*) was bred by Donna Coss and then went as a youngster to Kathy Johnson-Blood in Wisconsin. When *Lily* was about 10 years old, Kathy decided that *Lily* was too much horse for the quiet trail rides she was focusing on and began looking for a new home for *Lily*. Because Donna is my mother-in-law, Kathy thought of me and my husband, Brian, and reached out to us. While we were not in the market for a new horse, I fell in love with her pretty head and gentle demeanor, and we ended up taking her home to the Washington, D.C. area to see if she wanted to be an endurance horse.’

Obviously, it has worked out and she turned into a fantastic 100-mile horse. She’s all business out on the trail, steadily focused on getting down the trail and taking care of herself while (as the picture shows) keeping up with the leaders with energy and panache.’

We did have one scary experience in 2022 when she escaped in the early morning from her pen at the Carolina ride and went on a self-guided tour of the South Carolina countryside for ten hours. But when we found her she didn’t have a scratch on her and didn’t even look like she broke a sweat during the whole excursion (unlike her mom, who had been a wreck).’

Lily Creek Believers Journey

NASS/ShA-09-338

Lily Creek Bataan x Lily Creek Diva Dance

Owner: Carol Federighi

Breeder: Donna Coss

153 points



Carol Federighi and *Lily Creek Believers Journey* Becky Pearman photo

We started 2024 by doing the three-day 100 ride at the Homestead Resort, which gave us a jump start on fitness for the rest of the year. After we finished ninth in the 75 miles at the Biltmore Challenge, my husband rode *Lily* in the 55 mile ride at the Old Dominion because I had foolishly bought Chris Stapleton concert tickets for that weekend. Finally, the highlight was completing the Vermont 100 in sixth place – with my grandson crewing. It was a tough race as we rode most of the last 70 miles or so by ourselves and *Lily* had decided at that point (possibly taking her cue from the human runners) that she was going to walk up every hill. There was no convincing her otherwise. We made up time by charging down the hills and making steady progress on the very few flat stretches. It’s a beautiful ride and *Lily* was a great companion to share the course with.”

Remaining contenders and placings:

2. *Lily Creek Kong* (NASS/P-Sh-09-302) owner: Cameron Gaytko, 123 points
3. *My True Companion* (NASS/P-Sh-10-260) owner: Jacqueline R. Debets, 102 points
4. *Valentine* (NASS/P-Sh-19-296) owner: Cameron Gaytko, 91 points
5. *SA Admiral* (NASS/P-ShA-15-297) owner: Marlene Moss, 79 points
6. *CH Fancy Finesse* (NASS/P-ShA-16-303) owner: Cameron Gaytko, 78 points
7. *SA Alamo* (NASS/P-ShA-12-281) owner: Marlene Moss, 69 points,
8. *Lily Creek Legacy* (NASS/ShA-08-292) owner: Carol Federighi, 48 points
9. *SA Rhythms Skyscraper* (NASS/P-Sh-20-305) owner: Carol Federighi, 45 points
10. *Wineglass Ripple* (NASS/P-ShA-06-214) owner: Chris Littlefield, 39 points
11. *SA Jeeka's Jessica* (NASS/P-Sh-09-287) owner: Robert and/or Anna Sawyer, 34 points
12. *Theo the Wonder Horse* (NASS/P-ShA-11-293) owner: Rachel Miura, 30 points
12. *SA Fiona* (NASS/P-Sh-13-298) owner: Robert and/or Anna Sawyer, 30 points
14. *Lily Creek Bakari* (NASS/ShA-08-339) owner: Brian Coss, 15 points