

NASS NEWS

North American Shagya-Arabian Society

Summer 2020

Message from the President

Greetings NASS Members!

In these times, with so many affected by the Covid-19 virus, we at NASS sincerely hope and pray that you are all well and healthy. We hope that our fellow horse lovers are enjoying their beautiful Shagya-Arabians everyday; it's a wonderful way to reflect and graciously appreciate our ability to have something positive in our lives.



My first year as President will close on July 29, 2020, when we have our annual member's meeting and the results of the Board of Director's election are announced. The first part of my time as President, I had a learning curve, but I am still learning something every day and would love to serve as NASS President for 2020-21. Keep an eye out for the election ballot coming your way soon by email or USPS. Up for election are three Directors at Large, each to serve a three-year term.

Also at the executive meeting immediately prior to the annual member's meeting, the new BOD will be voting for our officers: president, vice president, treasurer/secretary. Our treasurer/secretary is most instrumental in keeping the organization rolling. Beverly Thompson has filled this position for eight years, and has notified us that she is willing to serve for an additional two years. Until then, we will be keeping an eye out for prospective volunteers. (continued on back page)



Rexanne Star AF and Shagya Raina moments after foaling

Journeys

A Full Moon Foal

by Melissa Rodewald, NW Region

I'm finding it hard to catch my breath in the 36 deg. barn at 2:45 on an early May morning. The light from the year's last supermoon illuminates the darkness like a beacon, allowing me to see my finger poised above the vet's number on speed dial on my phone. My husband and I are alone in the cold, and our beloved mare *Rexanne Star AF* (*Starwalker x Shagya Regine AF*) has just gone down to give birth. I have been on foal watch for the last three nights, the culmination of 11 months of waiting and a lifetime of dreaming. And yet I ask myself, "How the heck did I get here?"

My journey was no different from many of yours: I was a horse crazy kid who would do anything to just breathe in the scent of a warm muzzle. Although I grew up on a sailboat, my mother understood the aching need to be around horses and did everything she could to accommodate my passion. I started riding lessons at age eight, loping contentedly in circles on a palomino Quarter Horse, secure in the armchair of a Western saddle. I leased a sweet bay Arabian mare at 14, and had my own first horse (her weanling colt) at 17. After graduation, I traveled to Alaska to spend a season working on a fish (continued on page 5)

Sons and Daughters of Hungarian Bravo: Echo Daal

By Adele Furby, NASS Vice President



Family photo, from left:

Kathy Richkind's Arabian mare *She's the Top* with Fara Richkind

Echo Daal's son *Echoman* by **Oman* with Kathy Richkind

Echo's daughter *Emilagra* by **Shandor* with Mia Richkind

Echo Daal was bred by Minnetta King and is one of NASS's "foundation daughters of *Hungarian Bravo*". *Echo Daal* exerted a significant influence on the NASS Shagya-Arabian breed, producing nine purebred Shagya-Arabians, including two approved stallions and five approved mares during the early days of NASS.

Minnetta and I met at the beginning of NASS, and had a long, cordial and fruitful association. After I acquired *Hungarian Bravo* in the fall of 1984, I was on the lookout for Arabian mares to breed to him. In spring 1985, I spotted Minnetta's ad for mares for lease. I decided to lease two: the grey *May Folly*, who was a full sister to *Dolly's Echo* and *My Egyptian Magic*, a bay **Tubotmos* daughter. When I told the story of *Hungarian Bravo* and the Shagya-Arabians to Minnetta and her husband George they became interested doing some Shagya-Arabian breeding themselves, and bred *Dolly's Echo* as well as *My Egyptian Magic's* daughter, *Magic Shadow*, to *Bravo*. Both mares became foundation mares approved by ISG for Shagya-Arabian breeding in the U.S. after being inspected by Claudio Conrady in the fall of 1985.

Echo Daal's dam *Dolly's Echo* has a very attractive pedigree for Shagya-Arabian breeding, incorporating the best of both "old" and newer desert Arabian blood. The dam line is a combination of the earliest desert imports to America such as **Mirage*, along with the desert Arabian lines that Henry Babson brought to America in the early 20th century, with a dash of Crabbet, mostly desert Arabian blood. (Crabbet Park was an English-based Arabian stud; nearly all the horses bred there other than the Polish-bred stallion *Skowronek* were acquired from the best Bedouin breeders.) This is in keeping with the Babolna

breeding system of introducing only the purest Arabian blood known to be from the desert into Shagya-Arabian breeding.

Dolly's Echo's sire **Fol Yasmeen* was an Egyptian race horse from the Hamdan Stables born in 1959 and imported to Spokane, WA. His grandsire was *Ibn Rabdan*, a progenitor of the same Babson Egyptian lines that are on the dam line. **Fol Yasmeen's* maternal grandsire was *Sid Abouhom*, an original Arabian born in 1936. He, along with the famous *Nazeer*, were both brought into the Egyptian Royal Agricultural Society's breeding program after WW II by the Hungarian General Pettko Szandtner when, at the request of the Egyptian government, he took over the management of the revitalization program of their desert Arabian breeding herd. General Szandtner had been head of all Hungarian horse breeding prior to WW II, and was the world's leading expert on Shagya-Arabians. In 1989 when Dr. Frielinghaus, then President of ISG visited me, he said that Pettko Szandtner had written to him from Egypt to say that *Sid Abouhom* would have been a good stallion for Shagya-Arabian breeding!

In 1987 *Echo Daal* by *Hungarian Bravo* and out of *Dolly's Echo* was born. When *Echo* was a two-year-old in 1989, with the publication of a major article about Shagya-Arabians and the founding of NASS in *Equus* magazine, I got many inquiries from interested buyers. A lady named Lee came to look for a dressage and breeding prospect. When I took Lee and her trainer to Minnetta's, Lee made her choice of *Echo Daal*— and proceeded to pull out thousands of dollars in cash on the spot! We were all a bit shocked by her manner of doing business.

Echo Daal was approved for breeding by Dr. Frielinghaus and Bruno Furrer that fall on the inaugural NASS inspection tour, and Lee bred *Echo* the following spring. I shipped **Oman* semen to her; shortly after the mare was checked in foal I received an urgent call from Lee, telling me her husband was being indicted on a serious charge and she needed to sell *Echo* immediately. I had just received an inquiry from Kathy Richkind looking for a dressage and breeding prospect, and I encouraged her to purchase *Echo*. The following spring, *Echo* foaled a grey colt named *Echoman*. He was eventually sold to Bobbi Head in the San Francisco area, where he became her lifetime beloved riding horse.

In 1995, *Echo* foaled her second offspring, a chestnut filly by **Shandor* with lots of white markings. *Emilagra* became one of **Shandor's* few transported semen foals, as his semen did not ship well. Persistence paid off and Kathy got her lifetime dressage horse. *Emilagra* also produced one Trakehner cross filly, *WS Elodie*, who sold as a hunter/jumper. *Emilagra* passed away last year after a long, useful, and fruitful life.

Two years after *Emilagra* was born, Kathy decided to lease *Echo* to me for further breeding, and so she came to Montana where it was much easier to get her in foal to **Shandor* using live cover. In 1998 she foaled the beautiful grey *Empress Ester AF* by **Shandor*. I was so impressed with the quality and movements of this filly that I made a deal with Kathy, trading her **Shagya II-2's* first filly foal by **Shandor*, *Shagya's Sprite AF*, for *Echo*.

Echo had a strong character, with a confident and rather dominant personality. When she arrived at my farm she decided to work her way to the top of the pecking order. She didn't mind paying the price to get there—despite many minor wounds acquired along the way.



Empress Ester AF and Echo Daal



Empress Estelle AF and Echo Daal

She was smaller than most of my other mares but that did not stop her from asserting herself. She was very strict with her foals, teaching them immediately the limits and boundaries. This meant her offspring developed very good manners with people early on.

The **Shandor/Echo* nick was certainly a golden cross, so I repeated it three more times, with *Echo* foaling two more fillies, *Empress Eva AF* in 1999 and *Empress Estelle*



Emperor Eric AF as a foal

AF in 2000, and the stallion *Emperor Eric AF* in 2001. All four **Shandor* offspring were big, grey, and great movers. *Estelle* was the most refined. *Eric* was approved for breeding as a two-year old but he changed owners a few times and only had one Shagya-Arabian foal prior to gelding. I have lost track of *Eric's* whereabouts.

Eva was sold and had one filly by *Starwalker*, *Bellinzona Gold*, who was approved for breeding. After being shown in dressage, *Eva* was sold to Massachusetts, where she lives with her paternal half-sister *Shagya's Sziszi AF*.

NASS History: Echo Daal (continued from page 3)

I retained *Ester* and *Estelle* for breeding, and they were great producers. The first year they both had colts by *Starwalker*: *Evian Star AF* and *Evanescent Star AF*. The second year they both had fillies by him. *Estelle's* son *Evan* was sold and approved for breeding, but later gelded. *Ester's* big impressive son *Evian* was sold as a riding horse.



Empress Eva AF as a two-year-old

Ester later had a sad fatal accident while on lease, and *Estelle* was eventually sent to the midwest after having another big grey colt by *Onyx AF*, named *Electric Storm AF*. *Storm* was purchased by Meaghan Meyer and was coming along nicely when he was tragically felled by EPM this past February. *Estelle* was leased to Candace Phillips, where she had the grey filly *Miracola Stella* by a Lipizzan stallion, and the grey Appendix Shagya-Arabian filly *Magic Empressa* by Arabian stallion *Magic Domino ox*.

In 2002, I decided not to use live cover with either *Echo* or my other *Bravo* daughter *Rachelle AA*, as both mares, now in their mid-teens, had a tendency to kick. I sent for semen from *Shagya Scherzo AF* (**Shandor x *Aminah*), whom I had sold with some retained breedings. Eleven months later, both mares foaled within 15 minutes of each other! *Echo* had a grey dressage gelding Terry Hey rides in Iowa name *Shagya Emir AF* and *Rachelle* had the bay stallion *Shagya Raja AF*, who became my riding horse and whom I currently stand at stud via frozen semen.

In 2003, *Echo* produced the stallion prospect *Early Star AF* by *Starwalker*. He scored very well as a three-year old—a 7.5—but his owner decided to geld him and sell him as a riding horse. I have not heard any further news.



Early Star AF as a yearling



Echo's Eroica AF

Echo's seventh foal was the bay filly *Echo's Eroica AF*, by *Shagya Royal AF*. I sold *Echo* with *Eroica* by her side to a friend of Shelley Housh (now Shelley Child), who, after a year or two, sold *Echo* to Jamie Buck. Meanwhile *Eroica* was sold to *Evanescent Star AF's* owner. After a few years she was put up for sale and Kathy Richkind bought her, thereby completing the circle back to Kathy!

Echo Daal was a consistent producer of the many qualities we treasure in the breed, including good size, correct conformation, confident personalities, fertility and good rideability. Minnetta has much to be proud of for having produced such a valuable mare for American Shagya-Arabian breeding.

A Full Moon Foal (continued from page 1)



Raina at one month



Two weeks

processing boat, returning with just enough money to buy a new dressage saddle, box it up and take it on the plane with me as I went to my new position as a working student with a USET Olympian on the East coast. Fast forward through many years, numerous adventures (horse related and not) and two precious human children. When a chance inquiry seven years ago led me to Adele Furby who introduced me to the Shagya-Arabian breed, I knew I had finally found my “forever” horses!

In the wee hours of that chilly morning, with us there every step of the way, our very large filly was born. *Shagya Raina* (whose name means “queen”) is the first purebred foal from *Nicolette’s Revelation AF* (*Shagya Royal AF x *Nicolette*). My gentle hands were the first human touch she felt, and my voice was the first human sound she heard before she was even breathing on her own. As she lay quietly and alertly in the straw beside her beautiful mama, I looked in wonder at those wet, unmistakably Shagya ears and knew exactly what the heck I was doing here. Those large, black-tipped ears swiveled to hear me as I whispered “Happy Birthday!” I told her she was safe and that she was loved. And I told her that I am exactly where I need to be. With her.



Notice of Annual Meeting

**NASS Annual Meeting 2020 is scheduled for
July 29 at 8 p.m. Eastern/5 p.m. Pacific**

Via conference call: 1-877-746-4263, Guest dial-in code 2665623

All members are welcomed and encouraged to attend. We would love to hear from you!

Radautzer Award

In order to celebrate the outstanding achievements of horses with Shagya-Arabian blood, the North American Shagya-Arabian Society (NASS) created the “Radautzer Award” in 2011 for NASS-registered horses competing in AERC rides. Named after the horses from the famous Austrian military stud farm of Radautz (located in present-day Romania) a horse with exceptional courage and stamina in Europe received the highest praise if described as “Tough as a Radautzer”



NASS is pleased to announce that *Natalia PFF*, a part Shagya-Arabian mare, owned and ridden by Barbara Ott, won the Radautzer Award for 2019. *Natalia* completed six rides totaling 330 miles, including the Tevis Cup and one 75, placing in the top ten for four rides and earning two best conditions. This is *Natalia*'s ninth year of endurance competition with Barb. *Natalia* and Barbara's award is a fleece cooler in their team colors embroidered with the NASS Radautzer logo. Congratulations!



Earning second place was *SA Alamo* owned and ridden by Marlene Moss. The pair completed thirteen rides in his second year of endurance, mostly 25 mile distances, with seven top ten placings and seven rides as additional days of a Pioneer ride.

Photos above: Barbara Ott and *Natalia*

Photo left: Marlene Moss and *SA Alamo*

NASS Members Team Up from Coast to Coast

Linda Klee in California and Jamie Bratt in Connecticut have never met in person. Yet several years of connection through NASS membership (and Facebook), set the stage for them to team up for a virtual ride n' tie event in April. In response to the cancellation of at least half of the season's events due to Covid-19 travel restrictions, a group of enthusiasts in Illinois organized and promoted the "Quit n' Quarantine Virtual Ride n' Tie". The rules were intentionally flexible to encourage broad participation. Teams could complete nine or 19 miles and divvy up the course as they saw fit. Teams could compete physically together or apart, or even on separate days during the spring.



For extra special effect, Jamie and Linda (with support from her part Shagya-Arabian *Follow Hope* aka *Pretty*), decided to hit the road/trail on the same day: April 25. Conditions were sunny and warm on both coasts. Jamie completed nine miles on foot, and set a new personal pace record, giving it all for Team NASS. Linda and *Pretty* completed ten mounted miles despite a lot of single track terrain. Later that evening the ladies spoke by phone for the first time ever to celebrate the completion and to talk horses, of course.

The swag is still yet to arrive in the mail, but the satisfaction of teaming up with pals and enjoying the great outdoors was well worth the effort.



With granddaughter Alexis. Shagya power!

Linda shared more about her 2002**Oman* daughter out of *Faiths Fantasia* (Trakehner).

"We live in an isolated area in Mendocino County in northern California so the only competitions were a few local schooling shows and endurance which I was not consistent at because of work and being a Mom. So this talented mare was mostly a trail riding family horse and a 'Jill of all trades.' She has packed up into the mountains across swinging bridges, carried the grandchildren safely, did a 50-mile endurance ride in mountains in five hours, ponied colts, done obstacle challenges, jumped logs in the forrest and standards in a ring — all with enthusiasm and boldness. She has a huge heart and is kind and always does what I ask! She has the toughest hooves and crosses any terrain barefoot. Plus, at 18 years, she is very sound and can still fly like the wind! She is worth more to our family than money can buy and I love the heart and versatility of this breed, especially this particular mare!"

Farm News and Member Spotlights



Midwest Regional Director Gabrielle Gordon sent in this recent photo of partbred Shagya-Arabian *Griffin* celebrating his third birthday while relaxing with buddies in Fort Worth TX. *Griffin* is by the French Shagya-Arabian stallion *Under Milkwood*, out of the purebred Cleveland Bay mare *Foxhollow Seashell*.

Gabrielle writes, “It is very fortunate we have access to stallions from all over the world including France and Australia.” She adds that members in her region receive monthly updates. If you are not receiving them, contact her at gordon.gabriellem@gmail.com or 817-905-6519.



Hughes Highland Shagyas, in Kennewick Washington (NW Region), welcomed a purebred Shagya-Arabian colt in April. *Bradley* is by the Tevis finisher **Hadban USA* and out of *Brise*, a beautiful and beautifully moving gray mare. Jamie Hughes says, “This is our first Shagya-Arabian foal in our breeding journey, and the experience could not have been a better introduction. *Brise* is a joy to be around, easy to breed, and one of the sweetest mares I know. She had an uneventful pregnancy, and I think quite enjoyed the experience, as she wouldn’t let baby *Bradley* join the world until day 352!

Bradley is full of personality and character – typical of a Shagya-Arabian. He loves to eat, sleep, hop, and make faces. He adds entertainment to every day and looks forward to seeing what we’re going to do each day. I’m very pleased with this cross and am excited to watch him develop and represent the breed.”

Farm News and Member Spotlights



KB Tomega Fahim+++/



Sire KB Omega Fahim++++//



Dam *Thassia

Kerrigan Bloodstock, SW Region, is proud to announce that *KB Tomega Fahim+++/* completed the performance requirements to maintain his Book I status with NASS for purebred Shagya-Arabian breeding in 2019, at the age of six. He met the requirements in the dressage category with five scores of 60% or higher from at least three USDF recognized judges at First Level (or higher), with at least two scores from First Level Test 3, by nine years of age.

Tomega's sire, *KB Omega Fahim++++//* (a 1996 purebred Arabian), is NASS approved for purebred Shagya-Arabian breeding and permanently placed in Book I with his record in dressage and endurance. *Omega* has achieved, with high honors, up to Grand Prix dressage, including four AHA National Championships at FEI dressage and four USDF All-Breeds championships at FEI dressage. He has earned the highest category of AHA's Achievement Award of Legion of Masters/Excellence (++++//). He has an impressive endurance record of 100% completions that include multi-day endurance. *Omega's* sire, *Amir Fahim+* was a highly successful and respected endurance competitor with a strong base in dressage.

Tomega's dam is **Thassia*, an approved NASS Book I purebred Shagya-Arabian mare imported from Germany. She comes from a long line of well accomplished performance horses. In Germany, she achieved Premium Mare status in ZSAA and completed her performance test. Her sire, *Babudur*, was a very successful dressage, jumping, eventing and endurance stallion. Her dam, *Thirza*, considered one of the best Shagya mares in Germany, not only won her mare performance test, but also passed the stallion performance test with one of the highest scores ever given. She is the only mare of Arabian blood that is registered in all four chapters of the German FN LSTB (all breed broodmare registry) and one of fewer than ten mares, of the thousands of mares in Germany, to accomplish this.

Tomega currently remains in training to continue his performance career and will not be available for breeding in the near future.

Note from NASS President (continued from page 1)



If you are interested, please contact me.

We are looking for members for our Promotions Committee. We need volunteers to plan and implement promotional items, such as shirts, hats, pins, key chains and saddle pads, as well as items to specifically promote our upcoming 35th anniversary next year. We'd love your ideas and hope you plan to join us at the next meeting to express your interest in being a part of this rewarding committee.

As you know, the majority of horse events have been cancelled this year. If you participate in a sport that happens to be ongoing, please send in your documentation for entry in the NASS Performance Awards program. More information, including rules and entry forms can be found on our website at www.shagya.net.

We are pleased to announce a new program, the Bravo Award. This is outside of our aforementioned Performance Awards program and is designed to acknowledge individual partnerships within the membership that don't necessarily fall under the auspices of our Performance program. Maybe it's a first ride, an endurance ride, show or trail ride, or any other accomplishment you feel should be recognized by the membership. If you or someone you know has achieved something noteworthy, contact your Regional Director or a member of the NASS Board of Directors for award nomination.

Please plan to join us at our next quarterly meeting where we will announce our new directors at large and officers: July 29, 2020, 5:30 p.m. PST, 8:30 p.m. EST. Telephone 1-877-746-4263, guest access code 2665623

I look forward to hearing from our membership and can be reached at joanclark1961@gmail.com, at www.shagya.net or by phone at (707) 362-1915.

*Sincerely,
Joan Clark, NASS President*

NASS News is published three times annually for the purpose of keeping members informed of issues pertinent to the North American Shagya-Arabian Society (NASS), its members and its parent organization, International Shagya-Araber Gesellschaft (ISG). We invite submissions, which can be directed to the newsletter editor at NASS_Newsletter_Editor@shagya.net.

The newsletter is mailed to all current members, as well as being posted on the website at www.shagya.net. During a NASS inspection year, a breeding inspection magazine will be published which will include results, scores and official photographs. Horses featured in NASS publications must be registered with NASS and owned by current NASS members.

The tri-annual newsletter, as well as the inspection magazine, will be assembled by an editor. Prior to publication, they will be reviewed by the NASS President and other board members as required to ensure appropriateness of material. Letters, articles and advertisements reflect only the opinion of the author and not of NASS. NASS cannot be held responsible or liable for any wrong or misleading information, and NASS reserves the right to refuse anything submitted for cause.

Advertising in the newsletter is available; details can be found at www.shagya.net

NASS is governed by a Board of Directors who are elected by the general membership. A list of current serving board members, as well as committee volunteer opportunities, can be found at www.shagya.net.

