



North American Shagya-Arabian Society

SUMMER 2018

NASS News



Dear NASS members,

We held our yearly general membership meeting on July 31, 2018 via conference call; thank you to everyone who participated. As a result, we have several new board members to welcome, as well as several outgoing board members to thank for their contributions. There are many committees and other opportunities for you to be involved in the promotion and preservation of Shagya-Arabians in North America, and I encourage you

to contact me or another board member. You will find an updated list on our website at www.shagya.net

I hope you've all had many chances to go out and enjoy summer with your horses, whether it be competition or pleasure. When it's time to put your feet up for a few minutes, enjoy this latest issue of NASS News.

Happy trails,
Hallie Goetz, NASS President

Between the Ears



Linda Klee with **Follow Hope** (bay) and friend, Tenmile CA



Candice Colson with **Nike PFF**, North Rim of the Grand Canyon

Journeys

Of Endurance, Armadillos and Friendship by Chris Littlefield, Eastern Region

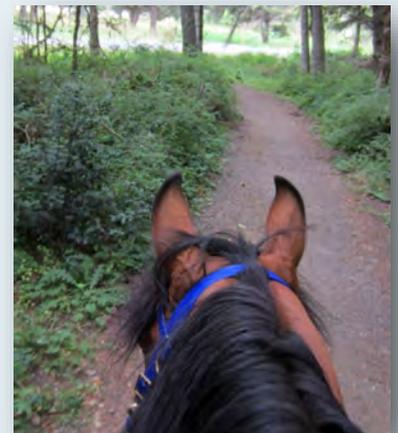


You know it's going to be good when your riding buddy states: "If I die because of an armadillo, put that in my obituary!" I'm happy to report however, that those nearly blind, squeaky creatures did us no harm, although they did try their best.

My friend and I caravanned to Florida for the Winter Gallop at Dunn's Creek, a 50-mile endurance ride. Pulling into camp, we learned that the trails were better than the previous year, but there was a dearth of horse eating armadillos on the trail. Several people had already come off and as we were getting situated, we saw yet another loose horse coming through camp at Mach 9. A dreaded armadillo encounter.

I would be riding **Chiron**, "Indy", who is 16.3 hands, nearly 1200 pounds and fast. I did wonder to myself what speed he would be moving at when he crossed paths with his first armadillo.

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Jackie Brunken with **Rising Star**, McIver State Park, OR

Farm News & New Arrivals

Farm News &

Kerrigan Bloodstock, Eureka CA

Kerrigan Bloodstock attended two events this year. At AHANC/Pacific Slope Championship, **KB Takara Fahim** was AHANC In-Hand Champion and ATH and Pacific Slope In-Hand Reserve Champion in Open and ATH. Other Shagya-Arabians attending were **KB Tomega Fahim+**, owned by Chris Bailey and **KB Shakami Fahim**, owned by Joan Clark.



Welcome to **KB Tomega Fahim (KB Omega Fahim++++// x *Thassia)**.



Ailsa Riegel is the proud new owner of **KB Sandor Fahim (KB Omega Fahim++++// x Samantha)**. She has great plans for him!



Left: **KB Tahara Fahim (KB Omega Fahim++++// x *Thassia)** at ease at the AHA Region 3 Pre-Show and Championship Show.



Right: **KB Tomega Fahim+ (KB Omega Fahim++++// x *Thassia)** at Region 3.

Northeast Shagyas, Danby VT



Welcome to ***Siglavy Bagdady Blanka's** filly **Shagya Sugaree SHG** by **Onyx AF**.



Happy 27th birthday to **Shagya Scherzo AF (*Shandor x *Aminah)**. Scherzo is owned and loved by Libby MacFarlane.



KB Shakami Fahim being show prepped by Chris Bailey and Joan Clark.

Race Rare, France

Our stallion **Under Milkwood** recently spent some time away from the jumping arena to compete in endurance. He trained 3-4 sessions a week with a professional rider and we were delighted with his performance: he came home from every event in fine fettle, shouting for the mares as he came off the trailer, and eating every scrap of feed in sight. In fact, he completed his 30, 40, 60 and 90 kms of competition (50 miles = 80 kms) without ever failing a vet check.

For us, the delight of the year spent competing in endurance was that we discovered new and beautiful parts of France and met nice people on the circuit.



Since then, Woody has not continued with his endurance, but has returned to show jumping, competing in Amateur Grand Prix classes at 1.10m and 1.15 m (approximately 3'6" -4').

Whatever he does, wherever he goes and whoever has the ride on the flat or over fences, a great many people are in love with him for his beauty, talent and superb temperament.



Sterling Shagyas, Blue Jay CA

The beautiful ***Nicolette** gave us a surprise foal this year at age 24. We acquired her several years ago and bred her to Sterling month after month, year after year, trying to get her in foal. As it turned out, she got chronic uterine infections, had cysts and was over 20 years old. Sterling usually gets a mare pregnant with one cover, but Nicky proved difficult, so we finally gave up. Last spring I needed to do a clean out on Sterling and Nicky happened to be in heat, so we used her. I didn't do the usual ultrasound a few weeks later; we were out of town and pregnancy didn't seem an option. I did do a urine test on her and it came back negative.

Nicky lives on a several-acre hillside so I often see her from afar. Early March I noticed she was getting quite a "hay belly", and two weeks later, I thought, "Darn, she really is round." I looked at her udder, but all was normal and we knew she "couldn't get pregnant." The first week in April our ranch manager asked if she could possibly be pregnant. We looked at her udder and she was starting to develop a bag. Yikes! We brought her in and I ran home to check my records: she was 340 days along! After a decade of breeding, one would think I'd be able to see my mare was pregnant, but if you've given up on getting a foal, you don't think that way. Plus she is a large mare who hid it pretty well until the end.

We packed our bags the next morning and headed back to the ranch to wait. We didn't have long: 48 hours later, our long awaited foal arrived, a colt we named **Nicodemus Silver SH**. Nicky is a fabulous mom and this will be her last foal. I think she gave us a wonderful last gift and he is a feisty, spunky guy with a big shoulder and hind end. His barn name is Charley after Adele's late husband. Thank you, ***Nicolette!**



Update: Our dear Nicky passed away just nine weeks after Charley's birth, probably due to a torsion. She sacrificed her life to give us Charley. We found a nurse mare, but unfortunately she dried up. He has decided the milk replacement pellets are pretty good, though, and is thriving.

In Loving Memory

It is with sadness that we say goodbye in this issue to four beautiful representatives of the Shagya Arabian breed in America. Each left an indelible mark and they will be missed.

Sheherezade AF **Melissa Rodewald,** **Northwest Region**

The beautiful ***Sheherezade AF*** came into my life just three short summers ago, joining her half sister ***Hera AF*** here on our farm in SW Washington state. The high scoring mare of her inspection year, Sherry was bred and raised by Adele Furby.



When Adele sold her farm in Montana, Sherry was one of a handful of horses that made the trip to Arizona with Adele and her husband Charlie. She exemplified the breed and all that Adele has put into her breeding program. She was also the kindest, sweetest horse I've ever known.

We dearly wished to continue her legacy with a foal, but life had other plans and she relaxed into her home here on the farm with her half sister ***Hera AF***. The "girls" were raised together as youngsters and to that end, exhibited the sassy bossiness and play so particular to siblings. We threw everything we had at controlling the aggressive sarcoids Sherry developed, but in the end, the only humane choice was to let her go peacefully. Not a day passes that we don't miss her deeply; three years simply wasn't enough.

WS Emilagra **Kathy Richkind,** **Rocky Mountain Region**

Milagra (****Shandor x Echo Daal***) was ***Echo Daal***'s second foal. Echo's first foal had been a lovely gray colt by ****Oman***, but with the breeding to ****Shandor***, my fervent wish was for a chestnut filly with four white socks. Amazingly, I got my wish — hence her name — but within the first day of her life she almost died from a serious systemic infection. For a week she fought for her life at the vet's. After seven days of touch and go, with all her fan club watching (me, my kids, neighbors, vet techs), as we all stood inside her large stall, she slowly rose to her sternum and looked carefully around. With eyes locked on the vet, she slowly got up on shaky legs, wobbled over to him, turned laboriously around and kicked him as hard as she could, then wobbled back to the middle and collapsed down again. We all cheered as the vet drawled, "Well, Kathy, I think she is going to make it!"



She quickly made up for lost time. At two, she was ground driven; at three, she was driving and by four, she was backed and started. She went to her first show after four months under saddle and after that I started riding her. She was a red headed, brave and independent mare, but always confident and absolutely safe to ride.

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****Nicolette and her son Nicolette's Revelation AF*** **Adele Furby, Rocky Mountain Region**

It seems rather poignant that the 24-year-old ****Nicolette*** and her son ***Nicolette's Revelation AF*** should have died within a few weeks of each other, especially since, while ****Nicolette's*** life span can be seen as rather average for a good Shagya-Arabian, her son, nicknamed "Revel", left us at the young age of 12. Revel never had a sick day in his life, nor any type of health or soundness problems despite his somewhat challenging and adventurous life, until the day he died. At 8 a.m. one morning he was hale and hearty and under the excellent care of my friend Lauren Cox; by 4 p.m. that same day, he was put down due to a severe and untreatable colic.



At the time of his death, Revel was about to start a new adventure as a three-day event horse with a young female rider from Scottsdale AZ. She had test-ridden him a few times at his stable and she tried him on her trainer's cross country course, where he once again showed the same natural talent for running and jumping across the landscape that he had demonstrated so well during his successful completion of the 70 Day Stallion Performance Test with the best warmbloods in the country in Oklahoma in 2012.

Revel represents the pinnacle of my 30-year Shagya-Arabian breeding program, and his sire's pedigree combines some of the very best foundation individuals in four generations of my breeding program, including ***Hungarian Bravo***, ***WC Rachelle ox***, ***Rachelle AA***, and his sire ***Shagya Royal AF***. It was heartbreaking to lose Revel when he was so young and on the cusp of a performance career. Thank goodness I have plenty of his high-quality frozen semen in storage!



Revel's dam ****Nicolette*** was born in quarantine at UC Davis. I had been hired by Dave Bulecheck to find an outstanding mare to import to America. He had several criteria — he wanted a mare at least 15.3 hands tall, broke to ride, and who had already had at least one foal. I found several mares in Germany and Switzerland who met his criteria and he sent me over to see them in person on his behalf. I rode ****Nicolette's*** dam, the ***Balaton*** daughter ***Niobe***, at my friend Andrea von Nordeck's place in Switzerland, and there's nothing quite so convincing to a horse breeder and judge and rider as the experience of riding a horse with a really good back — a back that stays up and carries you with relaxed and undulating muscles. ***Niobe*** had one of the best riding horse backs of any Shagya-Arabian horse I have sat upon — the others in this class being ****Nicolette's*** sire ***O'Bajan I-10***, ****Shandor***, and ***Shagya Raja AF***.

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***Nicolette and her son Revel**

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Years later I was able to acquire both ***Niobe** and her daughter ***Nicolette**. One of the lessons one quickly learns in horse breeding is that the quality of the mares is the most important ingredient in a breeding program, and I jumped at the opportunity to incorporate these two mares into mine.

***Nicolette** first gave me a filly by **Starwalker, Nicolatina Star AF**. Nicknamed "Tiny Tina" due to the fact that she was a twin, she became a great-producing broodmare and riding horse for Shelley Child. Her second foal was Revel by my ***Shandor** son **Shagya Royal AF** (out of **Rachelle AA**). Revel was the opposite of his tiny sister — a huge foal, so big my husband Charlie and I barely got him out of his mother alive. Once Revel was extracted from his mom, he was up and running and never looked back until the day he died. Nicky then produced a rather small, pretty and typey filly by **KB Omega Fahim ++++//** named **Niabe AF**, and she was followed by a beautiful average-sized colt by **Shagya Raja AF, Nicolette's Rumi AF**.



After I retired Nicky from breeding I gave her to my friend Shelley and she miraculously produced a promising colt by **Sterling Silver AF, Nicodemus SH**. ***Nicolette** and **Nicolette's Revelation AF** are now galloping together in the clouds, but they have left us with inspirational memories and their precious genetics for the future of our Shagya-Arabian breed.



NASS information table set up at the Pacific Slope Regional Championship Show, Rancho Murieta Equestrian Center, CA. Thanks to Joan Clark, Elaine Kerrigan, Chris Bailey and Robin Minnis for this outreach.

Of Endurance, Armadillos and Friendship

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The trails were typical of Florida with a mix of deep sand, water and single track through pretty palmetto and oak stands. Our first 20 miles went well, although we managed to scare up a small herd of deer and almost ran over an armadillo impersonating a rock. All four horses in our group passed the vet check with flying colors and when we left the final camp, we all remained in the Top 10. It was a lovely last loop with lots of laughing, cantering and only the occasional kamikaze armadillo.

After all four horses passed the final vet check, I decided to stand for Best Condition. Sure, we were 90 minutes behind the first rider in, but it's another vet exam and I like to know how Indy is recovering. Of course, at this point he's coated in dirt. Caked in mud. I curried, I scrubbed, I wiped the sweat from my brow. I did not make a dent. In the end, I had my friend trot him out for me. Although he stumbled here and there (likely due to being a wee bit tired), I thought he looked good. When it came time for Top 10 awards, we found we'd earned second for Best Condition.

With Indy finally set up in front of his buffet of hay and mash, I was able to relax in front of the fire with a big glass of wine and listen as others shared their armadillo tales. I was thankful I didn't have any dramatic stories of crossing paths with the armored creatures and ending up in the sand. All in all, it was a ride to remember.

WS Emilagra 1995-2018

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I wanted to do so many things with her; it was always a struggle to decide. She was bred twice and lost two foals. The third time I bred her to the Trakehner stallion **Feuertanzer** and she gave birth to **WS Elodie**, another fiercely independent chestnut mare. I wish she had had more foals, but I would not risk her.

Between breeding years, Milagra progressed in her dressage career — slowly because I was her trainer — but we overcame that hurdle and got up to third level. She qualified for USDF Regionals three times, with our best place tying for fourth. The victory lap consisted of seven giant warmbloods and one 15.1 chestnut mare with her own cheering section in the stands.

She was also a wonderful trail horse, steady and surefooted, and a mount for friends and family to ride and take lessons on. She was always my horse (or I was her human) and she hated seeing me walk by her stall with someone else. When she colicked for the third time at age 23, I knew there was no surgery for her this time and gave my dear friend the only gift that I could. Truly the best of Shagyas — athletic, versatile, courageous and tough beyond words. I miss her every single day — the horse of a lifetime.

Additional NASS information and contacts can be found at www.shagya.net or by visiting our FB page