

# Al Majlis News

## THE INSTITUTE FOR THE DESERT ARABIAN HORSE

November/December 2007

Volume 4 Number x

*A precious legacy of the past, the Desert Arabian is in danger of extinction by the end of the 21st century. At The Institute for the Desert Arabian Horse, we strive to protect and conserve the cultural legacy and genetic integrity of the Bedouin-bred Arabian horse through historical and scientific research, education, standard performance evaluations, international collaboration and conservation projects. All interested and dedicated individuals and preservation efforts, both formal and informal, are welcome into our tent.*



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### Calendar of Events

February 14-17, 2008

- Summit in Scottsdale to incorporate grass-roots ideas and expert information.

Spring-Summer 2008

- Regional meetings to develop recommendations. Special events to pilot ideas including conformation assessment and heritability clinic at Michigan State University.

Fall 2008

- Develop final recommendations, program, and educational materials.

February 2009

- Presentation and kick-off of Platform for Change at Scottsdale

### 2008 SYMPOSIUM FREE TO ALL DONORS

To gather as many supporters as possible for this important discussion, the Symposium is FREE to all who have donated \$50 or more to the Institute during 2007 or who make such a contribution by January 31, 2008. The registration fee for all others is \$25. Dinner on Saturday evening (Pinnacle Peak Patio; see [www.pppatio.com](http://www.pppatio.com)) is optional and the cost is not included in the registration. See page 6 for details

Go to [www.desertarabian.org/donation.html](http://www.desertarabian.org/donation.html) to make a secure donation on-line, or send your check, payable to The Institute for the Desert Arabian Horse, to 2410 Sam Browning Road, Lebanon, KY 40033. All donations are acknowledged in writing.



## Fall Clinic and Schooling Show at Susar Farms

By Susan Mayo

We had a smaller turnout than last year (six horses/riders) due to the fact that two of my clients were sick, and two others who had signed up had truck trouble and broke down on the way. Nonetheless, we had a good time on Saturday going over the particular requirements for various classes offered in shows and practicing skills to make performances better. We worked on both Western and English rail classes (pleasure and equitation) and also practiced typical patterns that might be asked in equitation classes.

We had a couple of very green horses so we did a lot of work on just being in the arena with strange horses and not freaking out when someone canters up behind you! Actually, it was our very greenest horse—Treff Haven Lamir owned and trained by Sarah Willis and only under saddle about three

months—who took home the Challenge Trophy for winning the most points in the show. Lamir only showed in walk trot and trail classes, but in very large classes he did exceptionally well against horse and riders teams who have been showing together for years. These are Open Shows, and we have folks competing who also compete on the A level with Tennessee Walking Horses, Quarter Horses, Arabians, Peruvian Pasos, Thoroughbreds, and Warmbloods. The classes where Lamir placed well were very large, and they included all of the above as well as the ever-present "mixed breeds" that show up at Open Shows.

All of our Clinic attendees did well at the show, placing in their classes and practicing their skills. It was beautiful weekend to be enjoying your horses and friends.

## Obituaries

Long-time Davenport breeder and master horseman Ed Skinner passed away November 11, 2007. Skinner's Ranchito Arabe in Littlerock, CA was a focus for Davenport breeders in Southern California for more than 35 years. A master horseman who spent countless hours riding the trails and wild lands of the high desert, Ed was also the one person all could count on to "be there" whenever human or horse was in need. The family has requested those who wish to remember Ed make donations to the Davenport Arabian Horse Conservancy in his name (1736 S. Farmingdale Road, New Berlin, IL 62670).

Two noted breeders of Egyptian Arabian horses leave the scene. Douglas B. Marshall of Gleannloch Farms, Sioux Narrows, Ontario, Canada, passed away at his home on September 27, 2007. Mr. Marshall was the founding president of The Pyramid Society.

Jarrell McCracken, owner of Bentwood Farms, once the largest Egyptian Arabian herd in the world, passed away on November 7, 2007, in Waco, TX.

More complete tributes to these foundation breeders of Straight Egyptian Arabian horses will appear in a later issue of *Al Majlis News*.

# Drinkers of the Wind

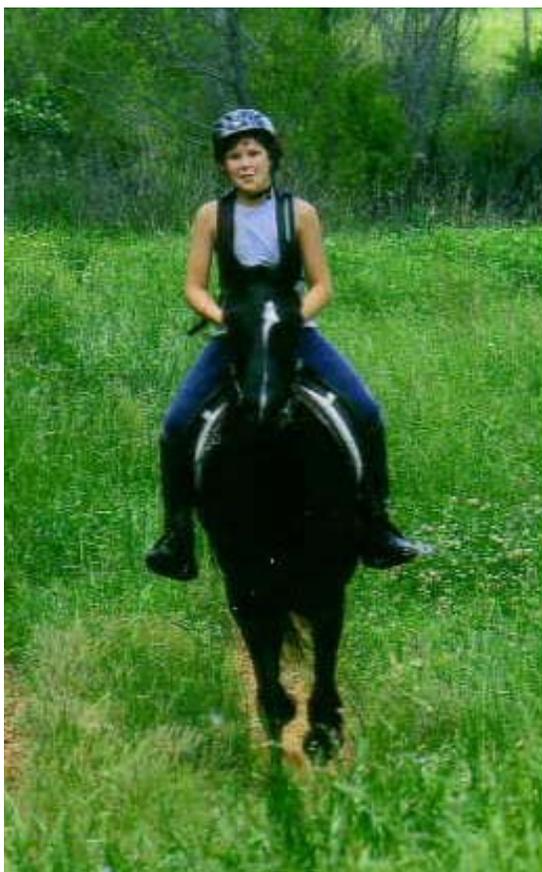
By Susan Mayo

Drinkers of the Wind Performance Challenge has had a great start with over thirty participants competing for the Top Ten North American Asil performance horse honors. The top winner will receive the Schimanski Trophy and a Championship ribbon, and the other unranked top ten will receive Top Ten Ribbons.

If the 2007 competitors would like to continue in 2008, they should contact Susan Mayo at [susarinc@verizon.net](mailto:susarinc@verizon.net) and simply ask to be carried forward into 2008. New competitors will need to fill out the entrance form that is published on the Institute Web site or here on page 4, and send it to Susan Mayo at 5493 Edwards Rd., Denton, Texas 76208.



DB RIFAIMA  
Wildcatter Shoot



Jared Huffman and LA CIMMERII, endurance,  
photo by J.Adame



Lucy Estbrook on ELBERETH TOS, endurance,  
2007 Hog Scramble 75 miles,  
photo by J.Adame



# Drinkers of the Wind Enrollment Form

## *Annual High-Point Award Enrollment Form – 2008*

To register your horse, fill out this form and return it to the Award Secretary  
Susan Mayo, 5493 Edwards Rd., Denton, Texas 76208.  
Form must be signed by the owner.

### **Horse**

Registered Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Registration Number (circle one: AHA or CAHR) \_\_\_\_\_  
Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sire: \_\_\_\_\_ Dam: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Owner**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Rider/Driver (if different from owner) \_\_\_\_\_

Please describe the type of competitions you plan to enter

\_\_\_\_\_

I have read and agree to all the rules and terms of the award as described at  
[www.desertarabian.org](http://www.desertarabian.org)

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature

Print Name

\_\_\_\_\_

Date



## FLASH—Babson Blood in Historic Lease-Exchange of Stallions

By Tzviah Idan

**Albadeia Stud** of Giza, Egypt and **Ariela Arabians** of Bnei Zion, Israel are pleased to announce an historic two year lease-exchange of stallions which will coincide with the start of the **2008** breeding season. This is the first such lease agreement to ever take place between these two countries.

Albadeia's stallion **Simeon Sharav** [Asfour x Simeon Shuala] will travel from Egypt very early next year to spend the entire 2008 and 2009 breeding seasons at Ariela Arabians in Israel. Ariela's stallion **Laheeb** [Imperial Imdal x AK Latifa], soon to arrive in Poland, will travel to Egypt in July 2008 after completing prior breeding obligations, and will stand at Albadeia through March of 2009. **Al Hadiyah AA** [Laheeb xThe Vision HG], now on lease to La Movida in Austria, is slated to arrive in Egypt in July of 2009 to stand at Albadeia until early 2010.

Nasr Marei, owner of Albadeia Stud commented, "We both believe that this cooperation will serve to enhance both of these two major breeding programs one step further. Both breeding programs have already proven themselves by producing horses of exceptional quality with major achievements worldwide, including World Champions. We believe in evolving and in bettering what we have."

"The achievements of Eitan Wertheimer and his very talented farm manager, Chen Kedar, are well established. Ariela is relatively new in the world of Straight Egyptian horse breeding, and yet, in a very short time Ariela has become one of the most important programs in the world. The "Old" and the "New" have gotten together in a collaboration that WILL work for both. I am quite thrilled and full of anticipation to see the outcome at both sides of the borders."

Ariela farm manager Chen Kedar added, "In the late 1980s I first visited Albadeia Stud. This was the fulfillment of a dream as over the years I had read everything I could find about their breeding program, which was then already some 50 years old. I had the chance to meet Nasr, his brother Hassan, and their family, and to experience firsthand the genuine warmth and generous hospitality of the Egyptian people. Entering this beautiful farm with the pyramids and sand dunes in the immediate background was absolutely unforgettable. It felt like walking right into a tale of the Arabian nights. Could there ever be a better place to breed straight Egyptian horses?"

"We see the present opportunity as a chance to share some of Ariela's bloodlines with one of the most prestigious and oldest breeding programs in the world. This is an extraordinary opportunity for all of the stallions involved to breed some of the world's finest mares - mares that they, under ordinary circumstances, would never have met. For years we have been trying to incorporate Asfour blood into our program. Thank you, Nasr, for making this dream come true."

**Editor's Note:** In doing research for the Institute's upcoming publication, *The Babson Influence: A Retrospective*, we found the tremendous extent to which Babson blood has gone around the world. All three of the stallions involved in this historic exchange have Babson blood: Simeon Sharav through his dam's sire, Simeon Shai+, and Laheeb who is tail-female to \*Bint Bint Sabah. We congratulate the stud owners on this historic exchange. The full text of Tzviah's message, with photos, can be found at [www.straightegyptians.com/forum/index.html](http://www.straightegyptians.com/forum/index.html) under the Topic "Egypt & Israel Exchanging Stallions."



## Symposium Announcement

**SAVE THE DATE --- PLAN AHEAD --- SAVE THE DATE --- PLAN AHEAD**

JOIN US IN SCOTTSDALE - FEBRUARY 16, 2008

The Annual Symposium on Preservation will be held February 16, 2008, in Scottsdale.

Featured speaker will be Gail Goodman, long-time asil breeder of desert Saluqis, writer, and editor of the definitive book *Saluqi: Coursing Hound of the East*. Why a Saluki breeder? Because, as the Institute begins a year-long development of its strategic plan, we want to engage those who think about the larger issues of asil breeding.

Among those issues: how can we identify the original traits of the Desert Arabian horse that we want to retain? How we can ensure healthy genetic diversity? How do breeders balance conservation principles with "standards" and the marketplace?

These are issues that have challenged breeders of Saluqi's and about which Gail Goodman is a world-wide authority. Her long residence in the Middle East and her work with the Navajo Nation in Arizona provided unique opportunities to develop skills in ethnographic research as well as quantitative data collection and analysis; skills that she has brought to bear on her thinking about breeding of Saluqis in the asil traditions of Arabia.

Ms. Goodman has graciously agreed to allow the Institute to post the introductory essay for the Saluki book on our Web site. It will be a point of significant reference in the conversations she shares with attendees.

Expand your thinking; contribute your ideas. Join us for a stimulating day in Scottsdale. Activities begin at noon and extend through dinner. Check the Institute Web site for detailed schedule.

Location:

Directly across from the Scottsdale show at The Horizon Center  
15444 N. 100th Street (intersection with Frank Lloyd Wright St.)

See venue information and map:<http://www.scottsdaleaz.gov/parks/horizon.asp>

### **MAKE YOUR OWN HOTEL RESERVATIONS**

Because the Symposium will be held at a meeting facility adjacent to the Scottsdale show and not in a hotel, attendees should make their own reservations at the hotel of their choice.

### **STAY OVER TO SEE PERFORMANCE AND SPORT-HORSE CLASSES**

A number of performance classes, and both Sport Horse In-Hand and Sport Horse Under Saddle classes, are on the Scottsdale schedule for Sunday and Monday February 17-18. Hang out with your preservation breeder friends and attend the Scottsdale show.

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## Strategic Initiative

### KEY ISSUES for Developing the Institute's Strategic Plan

The February 16, 2008, gathering in Scottsdale will initiate a year-long series of conversations regarding key issues in conserving the Desert Arabian Horse. These issues were developed from past Symposia, the 2007 survey of breeders, and input from Institute Advisors. The input of breeders, researchers, and scholars from around the world will be integrated into the Institute's Strategic Plan.

#### YOUR INPUT IS IMPORTANT.

**IN SCOTTSDALE:** join us on February 16 to have your views heard (see announcement elsewhere in this issue).

**ON-LINE:** These issues will shortly be posted on the Institute Web site where you can submit your comments electronically.

**AT REGIONAL GATHERINGS:** Volunteer to host a regional meeting during 2008 where small groups of interested breeders can discuss these issues with a representative of the Institute (contact Anita Enander, [anita@atanda.com](mailto:anita@atanda.com), for more information).

#### KEY ISSUES:

##### A. Conceptualizing "Preservation" as a Discrete Activity

(Do you Mean what I Mean: When you say "I'm a preservation breeder," what do you mean?)

Does "preservation" have a clear and specific meaning apart from simply breeding horses from a given group. In the scientific community? Among breeders? What distinguishes preservation activities from other activities using the same group of horses?

Are there levels of importance or urgency in preservation – some animals more in need of preservation than others? If so, on what

basis are these established?

Are there existing models in the literature of the livestock conservation that might provide a basic conceptual framework for better understanding equine preservation?

##### B. Characterizing the Objects of Preservation - Characterizing the Herd

(What is it about the Desert Arabian that we want to preserve?)

Is there a taxonomy of distinguishing characteristics that can be identified for the Desert Arabian and that can be tracked in a preservation effort?

What do we know now of the status of these characteristics among Desert Arabians – genetics, phenotypic features, strains, dispositional traits?

What current genomic tools can be brought to bear on describing the current herd?

##### C. Assessing the Impact of Social, Economic and Biotechnological Factors on Preservation

(Has the overall environment for preservation breeding changed over the past 25 years?)

How have changes in our social environment – life-style, urbanization, media – changed the environment for preservation?

How have demographic changes in the equine breeding community – census, age, gender, etc. – altered the effort?

Has the national and global economic situation had an impact on preservation breeding?

Have developments in biotechnology – cryopreservation, embryo-transfer, and related reproductive techniques, etc.—had a significant impact on preservation?

##### D. Defining the Desired Results/Outcomes of Preservation Efforts

(If you don't know where you are going, any road will get you there)

What is it we want to achieve in a preservation breeding program?

What are the observable/measurable outcomes

## Strategic Initiative

to be achieved in the preservation effort?

### E. Describing Effective Preservation Strategies

(What works and what doesn't work in Preservation Breeding?)

Are there defined "best practices" for preservation breeding of horses?

Are there models in livestock conservation that might suggest alternative strategies for equine preservation?

Are there practical examples of successful preservation that merit review and consideration by breeders?

### F. Evaluating Success

(How do you/we know if what you/we are doing is working?)

By what means are preservation efforts to be evaluated?

How can an evaluation strategy be implemented on a broad scale?

Whose responsibility would such evaluation be?

### G. Creating Capacity

(Does anybody really care?)

What is the current status of the breeding community?

What factors seem to have contributed to the present situation?

How might we expand the cadre of active preservation breeders?

What draws a breeder into preservation breeding?

What would a breeder need to know in order to be effective in preservation?

### H. Maintaining Economic Value

(How can we create/promote/maintain a market for the Desert Arabian?)

What basic principles of marketing pertain to preservation breeding?

What skills do preservation breeders need for marketing in the current environment?

Do they have them now; if not, can these skills be developed? How?

### REGIONAL MEETINGS --- STRATEGIC INITIATIVE --- HOST A GET-TOGETHER

To engage the greatest possible number of breeders in developing its Strategic Plan, the Institute Board of Directors is planning to travel throughout the US to meet with groups of breeders who aren't able to travel to the annual Symposia held in Scottsdale each February. The purpose of these meetings is to discuss key issues (see pages 5-6 in this issue of *AI Majlis*) and to provide breeders with an opportunity to convey their ideas directly to Institute representatives. Of course, the chance for preservation breeders to get together socially is always guaranteed fun.

If you are interested in hosting such a get-together, please contact Anita Enander ([anita@atanda.com](mailto:anita@atanda.com)) or 650-941-5407.

## Tax Deductible Donations

**Make your tax deductible donation to the Institute today!**

If you have not already done so, please remember The Institute for the Desert Arabian Horse is an IRS approved 501(c)(3) charity organization and all donations and contributions are fully deductible to the extent provided for under the law. Suggested donation levels can be seen on our Web site at [www.desertarabian.org](http://www.desertarabian.org) although we would be most grateful for whatever donation you might be able to afford. You can use the easy PayPal feature on our Web site or mail your check directly to our Business Office:

The Institute for the Desert Arabian Horse  
2410 Sam Browning Road  
Lebanon, KY 40033

*Great works require great support, so we are in great need of your most generous support in order to carry out our important work.*



## **THE BABSON INFLUENCE: A RETROSPECTIVE**

Perhaps the most significant and far reaching single importation of Desert Arabian Horses into the United States has been the least chronicled ... until now! Drawing on over 100 historical articles, as well as upon previously unpublished materials and photographs, The Institute for the Desert Arabian Horse is undertaking to publish *The Babson Influence: A Retrospective*, an invaluable 500 page hard cover book of historical significance.

Weaving together reprints, excerpts, and new material from Judy Forbis, Joe Ferriss, Mary Jane Parkinson, Walter Schimanski, Carol Schulz, Carol Lyons, Marshall Partlow, Walter Farley, Mari Silveus, R. J. Cadranell, Michael Bowling, Elizabeth Dawsari, Bev Davison, Arlene Magid, Carrie Woolverton, Cheryl O'Donnell, Jill Erisman, Barb Fields, Sandra Jones, Carolyn Coletts, Charlene Custer, Diana Johnson, Debra Schrishuhn, Anita Enander among others, the Institute is creating a comprehensive narrative of Henry Babson, his life, his farm, his unique horses and the extraordinary impact they have had upon the Desert Arabian horse breeding community in this country.

The book will chronicle not only the straight Babson Egyptian herd, but the huge variety of Babson Blends that have emanated from those progenitors and the worldwide distribution of Babson-influenced bloodlines throughout the Arabian breed, such as those incorporated into programs at Anchor Hill, Char Shar, Rudalero, Jackson, Foster, Pritzlaff, Ansata, Rancho Bula-kenyon, Simeon Stud, Masada, and others.

Population charts will be included that list ALL of the Babson Egyptian horses from the original imports to the 2007 foal crop, an important genetic resource for contemporary breeders desiring to add the extraordinary genetics of the original Babson importation to their own breeding programs.

**Last Chance to order your pre-publication copy NOW at only \$55 Postage Paid!**

The post-publication price goes up to \$65 **plus** shipping. Although it is too late to have your name included in the book as a Contributing Sponsor, we will keep the \$55 pre-publication price available until the book goes to the printer.

Just send your name and address along with your personal check or money order payable to "The Institute" (or your credit card number and expiration date) in the amount of \$55 to

Jon Michael  
2888 Rush Branch Road  
Bradfordsville, KY 40009

Update from the Editors: A book of this magnitude takes tremendous effort to coordinate and produce. We are still awaiting some materials from our Gallery Sponsors and contributing authors. We are working feverishly to ready the manuscript for the printer soon after the New Year holidays, and wish to thank all of our supporters for their generosity and patience.



**Publications Available Through the Institute**

# The Institute for the Desert Arabian Horse\*

[BabsonBook@desertarabian.org](mailto:BabsonBook@desertarabian.org)

PRESENTS AN ESSENTIAL REFERENCE BOOK IN PROGRESS  
IN CELEBRATION OF THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE 1932 BABSON IMPORTATION

## THE BABSON INFLUENCE: A RETROSPECTIVE

\_\_\_\_\_ YES, I wish to order \_\_\_\_\_ copies of The Babson Influence at the low pre-publication price of \$55.00 U.S. **LAST CHANCE FOR THIS PRE-PUBLICATION PRICE**

**PERSONAL INFORMATION** Please complete the form below. All information is required unless otherwise noted.

Name First \_\_\_\_\_ Initial \_\_\_\_\_ Last \_\_\_\_\_

Farm Name \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ FAX \_\_\_\_\_ (optional)  
Cell \_\_\_\_\_ (optional)

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP/Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_

Web site address (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

**PAYMENT INFORMATION**  Enclosed is my check made payable to the Insitute  
 Please charge my credit/debit card

Name on Card: \_\_\_\_\_ Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code: \_\_\_\_\_ (final three digits on reverse of card)

**TOTAL ENCLOSED/AUTHORIZED: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ U.S.**

**RETURN THIS FORM WITH PAYMENT TO THE INSTITUTE, 2888 RUSH CREEK RD, BRADFORDSVILLE, KY 40009**

\* The Institute is a tax exempt, tax deductible, IRS approved 501(c)(3) public charity incorporated in the State of Delaware

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## INSTITUTE FOR THE DESERT ARABIAN HORSE

### *Donor Levels*

Charter .....	\$1,000
Benefactor .....	\$500
Sustaining .....	\$150
Advocate .....	\$50
Basic .....	\$25

For those desiring a longer term commitment, we offer:

Lifetime Distinguished ....	\$10,000 or more
Lifetime Distinguished, 1st Installment (X 4).....	\$2,500
Lifetime Patron .....	\$5,000
Lifetime Patron, 1st Installment (X 5).....	\$1,000

Significant bequests from estates and wills are most sincerely welcomed and appreciated. Please contact the Institute for information and guidance.

## How to Contact The Institute

E-mail:

[office@desertarabian.org](mailto:office@desertarabian.org)

Web site:

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

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