

2024 Region 14 Award Nominees

PUREBRED ARABIAN HORSE NOMINEES

AFIRES ROYALTY+//

Henry is absolutely thrilled and humbled to be nominated as Region 14 Horse of the Year. At 18 years of age, Henry had an exceptionally busy year which he proudly boasts normally could have only been handled by a horse half his age. With the ever so talented Leah Beth Golladay at the reins, Henry was the 2024 Unanimous Midsummer Show Hack National Champion in a stunningly beautiful class filled with National Champions. They also were 2024 US National Top Ten in both Arabian Show Hack Open and Arabian Ladies Side Saddle Open, overcoming a thrown shoe that took off a huge chunk of his foot in the first few minutes of the SF/F of the Arabian Show Hack Open, having placed second in their Section. Despite his foot being wrapped (to keep the shoe on because of the missing chunk of foot) with so much tape that it looked comically oversized, and that almost with his first stride the tape started to unravel (with no ability to call another time out without being disqualified), Henry performed all gates with balance and precision completely unfazed and was awarded a US National Top Ten in the deeply competitive class.

With his “person” of the past four years, Susan Racey (at least she thinks she is), Henry was 2024 Midsummer Native Costume AAOTR Reserve National Champion and Arabian Country Pleasure AATR Choice Top Ten (third) as well as 2024 US National Top Ten in Arabian Side Saddle AAOTR and Arabian Native Costume AAOTR. Henry is very proud that he was at least Top Ten in every National class and at least Top Five in every Regional class in which he competed in 2024. Beyond the victory passes, Henry's joyful spirit and determination to always “do it right” truly shines through during every show, making the experience a blast for everyone involved.

However, Henry's proudest moment in 2024, was the birth of his first child, the gorgeous Henrietta RA, out of the exceptional Mare, Luv Me Do (Aftershoc X Miss Alliance). Since her birth, Henry has been telling anyone who will listen “I told you so” and thinks that we would all be fools to not breed him on a regular basis. Henry sees himself as just your typical Arabian stallion: extraordinarily beautiful, smart, versatile, strong, loyal and charming.

In his spare time, Henry loves giving riding lessons to up and coming stars of the future, like Miss Olivia Golladay and Miss Tessa Phillips. For all of his hard work, Henry only asks (demands) his weekly trail ride and an endless amount of peppermints.

While Henry is incredibly proud of his nomination and wants to express his gratitude for the recognition, he also hopes to keep the family spirit alive; if he doesn't clinch the title, he

secretly wishes (at least sort of) for his younger brother Skyfire to take home the honors instead. Regardless of the outcome, Henry is proud of his accomplishments and excited for what the future holds as he hoping to add appearances in the Select and Youth divisions in 2025

B REMBRANDT+!

11 year old Arabian Gelding

What discipline(s) does your horse show in during 2024 –How many years have you been competing with your horse? If you did not show, what events were you involved in?

Sport Horse Under Saddle and Sport Horse Show Hack, shown by the family since he was 5 years old starting out with a very successful Hunter Pleasure career before switching to Sport Horse Under Saddle.

Tell us about you and your horse's accomplishments and honors you have achieved together in 2024?

2024 Sport Horse Nationals: Top Ten in Show Hack ATR and Sport Horse Under Saddle AOTR Jackpot.

With ISABELLE MACLAREN in Sport Horse Under Saddle Walk-Trot, Remy and Isabelle received 4 Regional Championships, being undefeated at all regionals attended (13, 15 and 16).

With LUCY MACLAREN in Sport Horse Under Saddle JTR, Remy and Lucy received 3 Top Fives.

With Jackie MacLaren in Sport Horse Show Hack, Remy and Jackie received 1 Regional Championship and 2 Reserve National Championships.

For a 2024 total of 5 Regional Champions, 2 Reserve Champions, and 3 Top Fives.

In addition to showing in 2024, Remy goes on trail rides and attended the local county fair and showed with Isabelle in 4-H Walk-Trot classes, receiving a First Place in both Pleasure and Equitation. As one of a very few Arabians that appear at the county fair, Remy has been a standout ambassador showing what the breed can accomplish with young riders.

What, if any, obstacles have you or your horse encountered during your competition or outreach efforts?

Doing walk trot classes were new for Remy in 2023, and he really came into his own with Isabelle in 2024 in learning to help a young rider around the arena.

What makes your horse special to you, and what plans do you have for your horse in the future?

Having bred, raised, trained and shown by the family, Remy is truly a family horse living at home and being shown by the whole family. Isabelle has claimed Remy as her heart horse and the bond that they share is special.

GROOVIN++//

2011 Purebred Gelding
Baske Afire out of a Hey Hallelujah daughter

What discipline(s) does your horse show in during 2024 –How many years have you been competing with your horse? If you did not show, what events were you involved in?

Groovin showed some sport horse show hack classes and one sport horse under saddle class but showed mostly in the dressage ring.

Tell us about you and your horse's accomplishments and honors you have achieved together in 2024?

Groovin's accomplishments for 2024:

Sahiba Spring Show - First place - sport horse show hack, sport under saddle atr, second level and third level (undefeated in his first show back)

Medallion- first place - sport horse show hack, third level and fourth

National Dressage Pony Cup Championship (open USDF competition for horses under 16 hands)- Champion Fourth Level Amateur small horse division against all breeds, Champion Purebred arabian of the show, Arabian/Half Arabian Sport Horse Alliance High Score Award Winner (highest scoring arab/half arab at the show)

Region 14- Regional Champion in fourth level and sport horse show hack

SHN - National Champion Third level ATR

- National Champion Fourth Level Open

- Reserve National Champion Third Level Open (tied for Champion)

- National Top Ten Sport Horse show hack (3rd) and Fourth level amateur (3rd).

USEF Year End Awards - National Champion Third Level Amateur

- National Champion Fourth Level Amateur

-National Champion Fourth Level Open

-Reserve National Champion Third Level Open

National Dressage Pony Cup Year End Awards (based on average of scores for the year)

- National Champion Third level amateur small horse division

-Third place fourth level amateur small horse division

Groovin had an amazing year back in the show year. Definitely a year of what dreams are made of. Groovin never placed lower then third in any class or year end awards for the year which is a huge accomplishment. Groovin also spent a weekend at Breyerfest in July

helping to promote the Arabian breed. He enjoyed letting kids love all over him and being the center of attention.

What, if any, obstacles have you or your horse encountered during your competition or outreach efforts?

2024 was Groovin's return to the show ring after almost a 2 year hiatus due to two different injuries. You never know when you are bringing a horse back after that long if they will be on top of their game and come back just as strong as they were before the injuries. I only showed Groovin in third and fourth level this year due to him still needing to gain a lot more strength to show the FEI levels. I didn't want to push too hard too fast and risk injury. Groovin came back better than ever and it was definitely a year to remember.

What makes your horse special to you, and what plans do you have for your horse in the future?

Groovin is the type of horse that will leave a mark on my heart for the rest of my life. He is the little horse that can and proves that size doesn't matter. Not only does he compete and win at the arab shows but he competes on the open USDF circuit where he continues his winning ways. He is that ride or die type of horse. I'm currently working on all the Grand Prix movements with Groovin. So the big goal is to ride down centerline in the Grand Prix with him in the future maybe the 2026 show season. This year the goal is to return the FEI ring and show the Prix St George and Intermediate 1.

HEAVENLEI SKYFIRE WA

Well, well, well! It's about time they finally recognized what I've known since birth: I'm Region 14 Horse of the Year material, and frankly, I'm surprised it took them this long to nominate me. I mean, just look at me! With my sleek coat, four perfect white socks, impressive stature, powerful stride and that undeniable charisma that turns heads wherever I trot, it's a wonder they didn't name the award after me years ago. I've dazzled crowds, outperformed every rival, and even had the foresight to grace them with my presence. Winning the Region 14 Horse of the Year is not just a formality; it's my destiny.

I know, I know, it took teamwork to win three Country Pleasure Driving National Championships and a Buckeye Country Pleasure Driving ATR Championship in 2024, as well as a 2024 Regional Championship and Midsummer National Top Ten in Arabian Native Costume Open. But, let's keep things real. Basically, my Mom's idea of contributing to our team was finding a pretty outfit to wear and smiling at the judges. Just look at our picture ... who appears to be doing all of the work? Don't get me started on Jimmy Stachowski Jr. Yes, we practiced a lot, and yes, he has serious skills. However, we all know why he chose me

as his “wingman” for Youth Nationals. Simply, I am the ultimate “Chick Magnet” and he knew I would get him noticed by all the beautiful exhibitor girls... and I definitely delivered for my bro. I do however, have to give a shout out to my cool peeps, Peter Stachowski and Leah Beth Golladay, who long ago (over six years) realized that their job is simply to let me do me, which is exactly what my future plans for 2025 entail.

Now, let’s talk about my brother, Henry —bless his heart, who has also been mistakenly nominated for the Region 14 Horse of the Year. Although I am confident that his chances of winning are slim to none, I can’t even imagine the horror of him taking home the title if I don’t. The very idea sends shivers down my long spine! He may be much shorter and, let’s face it, not nearly as charismatic as I am, but somehow, I can picture him prancing around like he owns the barn if he were to win. The thought of him basking in such prestigious glory is simply unbearable. If the voters have any sense at all, they’ll recognize the superiority of my talents and charm. So here’s hoping (expecting) they see it my way.

HEIRS MAXIMUS - no bio submitted

PARYSA

What discipline(s) does your horse show in during 2024 –How many years have you been competing with your horse? If you did not show, what events were you involved in?

Parysa was introduced to us as a 2 year old while working and training for Nathaniel Newton! She was always my favorite and we bonded very quickly. Then as a 4 year old 8 years ago Nathaniel Newton blessed me with the ownership of my best friend!! She was often put on the back burner due to other clients horses or just plain old life complications. But in the beginning of 2024 we said this was going to be her year, and it definitely was! She showed at all levels of shows in Halter, SHIH , Leadline and SHUS. She also was the SHIH representative at Breyerfest. She showed open, amateur and junior classes.

Tell us about you and your horse’s accomplishments and honors you have achieved together in 2024?

To say Parysa had an amazing year would be an understatement! 2024 was a dream come true for Makayla and I and will definitely be the year we will never forget! Her accomplishments speaks for themselves.

Class A Shows

-SAHIBA

Arabian SHIH Mares ATH 1st

Arabian Mare Halter ATH 1st

Arabian Mare Champion

Supreme Halter Champion

-Bluegrass Fall Festival
Arabian Mare Halter 1st
-Arabian Legacy Value Show
Arabian Mares SHIH Open and ATH Hunter Type 1st
Arabian Mares Dressage Type Open And Ath 1st
- Region 14 Championship
Arabian Mare Halter Unanimous Champion
Arabian Mare SHIH Open Reserve Champion
Arabian Mare SHIH ATH Champion
- Sport Horse Nationals
Arabian Mares SHIH Hunter Type Open National Champion
Arabian Mares SHIH Hunter Type ATH. National Champion
Arabian Mares SHIH Dressage Type ATH Reserve National Champion
Arabian Mares SHIH Dressage Type Open. Top Ten
Parysa and Makayla Mott was undefeated in Amateur Halter and Amateur SHIH Hunter Type. It's not to often we see a Halter Champion also be a SHIH Champion but she did it!!

What, if any, obstacles have you or your horse encountered during your competition or outreach efforts?

Parysa is a wonderful horse to train but she is a mare and has "mare-ish" days! Which can sometimes lead to personality conflicts but, she still gives her all at everything she does! She absolutely loves doing any and all out reach demos. She loves the kids and all the attention she receives while being there. She is a once in a life time kind of horse that we are blessed to own!

What makes your horse special to you, and what plans do you have for your horse in the future?

Parysa is special because of her sweet and quiet demeanor which makes her a perfect all around family horse! She has gone to fair shows, demonstrations and higher levels shows. You can take her anywhere and she is the same willing mare every time. This being said she will now go on to be the perfect partner for my grandson Kason Mott!

SW ZINO - no bio submitted

VEROCCO+//

Verocco, or "Rocco" as we call him is an 8 year old Purebred Arabian Gelding

What discipline(s) does your horse show in during 2024 –How many years have you been competing with your horse? If you did not show, what events were you involved in?

I've had Rocco since 2020, when I brought him home at the age of 4 (he's affectionately known as my 'rash COVID purchase'). Rocco is a true all-rounder, competing in a variety of disciplines including Hunter Pleasure, Dressage, Sport Horse Under Saddle, Sport Horse In-Hand, Side Saddle, and Hunt Seat Equitation!

Tell us about you and your horse's accomplishments and honors you have achieved together in 2024?

"In February 2024, I welcomed my first child, and Rocco played a key role in helping me get back in the ring (probably even before my doctors officially gave the green light!). Throughout 2024 Rocco earned Regional Championships in Training Level and Sport Horse Under Saddle. He then went on to nationals, where he earned a Reserve National Champion title in Training Level, along with numerous top-ten finishes in Hunter Pleasure and Sport Horse Under Saddle.

What, if any, obstacles have you or your horse encountered during your competition or outreach efforts?

My postpartum recovery presented a significant challenge for Rocco and me this year. After not riding for most of my pregnancy, I was out of shape, lacking stamina and muscle. Rocco really had his work cut out for him as he helped me regain my strength and get back on track. Additionally, Rocco was originally trained as a western horse and was a stallion before I purchased him in 2020. This background added another layer of complexity as he navigated the hunter and sport horse world, but it also contributed to his incredibly willing and fun-loving personality!

What makes your horse special to you, and what plans do you have for your horse in the future?

Rocco is truly the most fun horse to bring along, and he will always hold a special place in my heart. What makes him so exceptional is how gentle he is with my daughter. His future plans include lead line and eventually walk-trot with her. With his heart of gold, I can't wait to watch them grow up together!

HALF-ARABIAN HORSE NOMINEES

A MAJOR CRUSH

2019 Half-Arabian Mare (Major Mac V x So Easily A Winner)

What discipline(s) does your horse show in during 2024 –How many years have you been competing with your horse? If you did not compete, which events or outreach was your horse involved with?

A Major Crush (Sophie), and I have been showing western pleasure since August of 2023!

Tell us about you and your horse's accomplishments and honors you have achieved together in 2024?

Through the 2024 show season, together we earned three regional top fives, two regional championships, one reserve regional championship, and one top ten at nationals!

What, if any, obstacles have you or your horse encountered during your competition or outreach efforts in 2024?

After nationals of 2024, my challenge has been learning the curb. Sophie and I are both learning together, just like before. Having the same, yet different horse has been tricky, but we are picking it up quickly. She learns from her mistakes, and I learn from mine. We are both new at this, but she takes care of me like I take care of her!

What makes your horse special to you, and what plans do you have for your horse in the future?

Sophie is truly the best partner I could ever ask for. We have learned so much together, starting from the bosal together in 2023, all the way to the show bridle for the upcoming 2025 show season! Sophie is special to me in too many ways to even count. She can be your typical moody mare in her stall, but loves doing her job just as much as I love riding her. She is NOT a picky eater when it comes to food, drinks, and treats. This year at Region 12 and U.S. Nationals, Sophie was the first horse that three children of spectators have ever got to pet. She was the most kind, quiet, and gentle I have ever seen her be. She has true passion and dedication in everything that she does, and that is hard to come by. To grow with her, and experience this journey throughout life together is more than a blessing that I will forever be thankful for! She is one in a million to me!!

BRING IT+!

Bring It+/ ("Matthew")
17 year old
Half-Arabian Gelding

What discipline(s) does your horse show in during 2024 –How many years have you been competing with your horse? If you did not compete, which events or outreach was your horse involved with?

Reining, Ranch Riding and Ranch Rail, shown primarily by LUCY MACLAREN. Lucy and "Matthew" have been showing these divisions together since 2020.

Tell us about you and your horse's accomplishments and honors you have achieved together in 2024?

In 2024, Matthew received 2 Regional Champions and 3 Regional Reserve Champions in Ranch Riding in both ATR and Open, and 3 Regional Champions and 1 Regional Reserve Champions in Ranch Rail Pleasure in both ATR and Open, and 2 Regional Champions in Reining ATR, for a total of 7 Regional Champions and 4 Regional Reserve Champions in 2024. On the local level, Matthew and Lucy showed at the County 4-H horse show receiving 8 first place plaques, earning them the high point Western Horse for the entire show. This included winning Lucy and Matthew's favorite class of freestyle reining to the Ghostbusters theme song.

What, if any, obstacles have you or your horse encountered during your competition or outreach efforts in 2024?

Matthew has a habit of getting injured. On the eve of heading to the Ohio State Fair for the Jr. Fair Horse Show, he decided to get hurt in his stall which earned him a month of stall rest to recoup in the height of summer horse shows. Like the trooper he is, Matthew came back with less than a week of riding to earn his almost clean sweep during county fair, while being the only Arabian showing in western and ranch related classes.

What makes your horse special to you, and what plans do you have for your horse in the future?

Matthew is at the grand old age of 17 and will continue to do his thing in ranch and reining for as long as he is able with his kids. We are blessed that we have been given this time with him and will enjoy him even in his retirement years as this is his forever home. With the number of career ending injuries that he has sustained and come back from during his lifetime, we have been blessed with his athletic abilities and his kind nature that he shows

all of those who ride him in the family. He is truly one in a million horse that has been a perfect ambassador for the breed not only at Arabian shows, but also at Equine Affaire and the local and state 4-H shows that he attends in which he gets attention from everyone he crosses paths with

HE'S BUCK NAKED - no bio submitted

HOMETOWN GIRL+++//

Hometown Girl+++//

2017 Half Arabian Hanoverian Chestnut Mare

What discipline(s) does your horse show in during 2024 –How many years have you been competing with your horse? If you did not compete, which events or outreach was your horse involved with?

I have had Hometown Girl+++// aka Reba since she was born. I am the proud breeder of this wonderful mare. I have been competing her since she was a yearling. Reba competes in sport horse in hand and under saddle but spends most of her time in the dressage ring.

Tell us about you and your horse's accomplishments and honors you have achieved together in 2024?

Reba had a very successful show season 2024:

Stonehurst Show - First places in sport horse in hand, sport horse under saddle and won her second level debut in second level

Region 13 - Champion sport horse in hand ATH, under saddle AOTR, second level ATR
- Reserve Champion second level AOTR

- Supreme Champion half arabian sport horse in hand

Region 14- Champion - sport horse in hand ATH and open, Top five training level ATR

SHN - National Champion Sport in Hand Mares Dressage Type Open

-National Champion dressage training level AAOTR

-National Top Ten - First Level AAOTR (5th), First Level open (4th), Training Level ATR (3rd), Sport in hand mares dressage type ATH (5th)

One of the highlights of the season though was watching Reba help make a little 13 year old girls dream come true. In June, I answered an ISO ad on facebook. A parent was looking for a horse that their daughter could possibly show at SHN. I offered Reba for sport horse in hand. Bailey and her mother were going to be at Region 14 so I told them Bailey could show her at 14 for practice before SHN. Bailey showed Reba to a Championship in the ATH SHIH class which was her first championship win at the regional level. Next came SHN and Reba helped Bailey earn her first National placing, a top ten (5th) in SHIH ATH. I

loved watching Reba show Bailey the ropes of sport horse in hand and the connection she had with Bailey. This was the first time that Reba had ever been handled by a kid and she never put a foot wrong. It was an amazing moment watching my horse that I bred help a little girls dream come true.

What, if any, obstacles have you or your horse encountered during your competition or outreach efforts in 2024?

In 2024 we had set backs due to saddle fit. We started off the spring strong winning her debut in second level at the Stonehurst show. From there we to Region 13 where we had successful show but problems started with saddle fit. A new saddle had been ordered for her in March and we were having some major delays and unexpected situations that keep the saddle delayed for months. After Region 13, Reba had to have time off being ridden because the saddle was causing issues. The saddle arrived right before Region 14 which left a only a couple weeks to prep before SHN. After only a couple weeks back into work Reba was able to have a very successful SHN.

What makes your horse special to you, and what plans do you have for your horse in the future?

Reba is special to me because she is the first horse that I have bred. There is definitely a special connection when you bred them, raise them, train them and also show them. I plan on continuing Reba's training up the levels in dressage. We plan on showing second level seriously this year and will hopefully be working on polishing up third level this year so we can be ready to show third in 2026

REWRITE THE STARS

(Twilight Solstice x Written In The Stars)

Half Arabian Mare

Four Year Old

What discipline(s) does your horse show in during 2024 –How many years have you been competing with your horse? If you did not compete, which events or outreach was your horse involved with?

We primarily showed halter and sport horse in hand, but we started our under saddle career in 2024. We showed sport horse under saddle and training level dressage. She has been shown since she was 5 months old.

Tell us about you and your horse's accomplishments and honors you have achieved together in 2024?

This year was pretty special! We've shown her in hand for a couple of years, though this year we took supreme sport horse in hand at two different shows! We also showed under saddle, which we ended the season showing training level dressage for two 3rd place finishes and a score of 64% for both! She also won three divisions with the KAHABA program, which were halter, sport horse, and our open division. She was also champion in hand horse and reserve champion under saddle horse for KAFHS.

What, if any, obstacles have you or your horse encountered during your competition or outreach efforts in 2024?

Honestly, just very basic baby stuff. She'd only been in true work from April 2024, and did her first under saddle show in June 2024. Which that class she was completely by herself in the Alltech arena at the horse park. She's a pretty calm, reliable young horse already!

What makes your horse special to you, and what plans do you have for your horse in the future?

She's extremely special to me as she is my first homebred. I'm not a breeder, and the original goal for her was to just be a bigger version of her mom for trail riding. When she was born, she showed way too much potential to have her be just a trail horse (though we trail ride a lot anyway!), so we decided to direct her toward showing. For 2025, we're aiming for SHN and hoping to do well at training level and in the dressage prospect class! Regardless of how she does, she's always going to be special to us!

SF RUMOR HAS IT

12 Year Old Half-Arabian Mare
(Bask Afire x Isabel's Supreme Lady)

What discipline(s) does your horse show in during 2024 –How many years have you been competing with your horse? If you did not compete, which events or outreach was your horse involved with?

Rumor shows in the HA English Pleasure division and this was our first show season together - and my first year ever showing in this division.

Tell us about you and your horse's accomplishments and honors you have achieved together in 2024?

In 2024, we accomplished a lot together. We started off the year getting to know each other at Spring Show and having great rides. At Region 13, we went Reserve Champion!

What, if any, obstacles have you or your horse encountered during your competition or outreach efforts in 2024?

I had some challenges as I learned the fast pace of the english division. Rumor was a great teacher as she is much more experienced in this division than me! I learned to trust her, and myself. With that, we ended the year making it to the finals at the US Nationals. We got to show on Saturday, on green shavings, and with all the energy that the final night brings!

What makes your horse special to you, and what plans do you have for your horse in the future?

Rumor knows what she wants. She is confident, and gives 110% every time we enter the arena. I aspire to be more like Rumor!

SS BLACK JACK - no bio submitted

WE WILL ROCK U

Half Arabian

10 year old Gelding

What discipline(s) does your horse show in during 2024 –How many years have you been competing with your horse? If you did not compete, which events or outreach was your horse involved with?

Half Arabian Western Pleasure since he was 4 years old

Tell us about you and your horse's accomplishments and honors you have achieved together in 2024?

He was the Unanimous 3-year-old Futurity Champion in 2018 and has gone on to win 2 National Championship, 2 Reserve National Championships and 11 National top 10 awards

What, if any, obstacles have you or your horse encountered during your competition or outreach efforts in 2024?

I bred him and when he was three, he has live saving colic in the spring and was off from May until September. He had a second Colic Surgery as a 7-year-old in July. We learned that he has an issue with Alfalfa and only eats Timothy now. I have had steady showing, and he has had training for the last two years and I was rewarded with a Reserve National Championship at Mid-Summer Nationals in 2024.

What makes your horse special to you, and what plans do you have for your horse in the future?

Besides the fact I bred him and was present when he was born, Stone is a big puppy dog at heart and loves people and kids.

CARETAKER OF THE YEAR NOMINEES

BRINLEY CREEK

What farm(s) are you associated with and what is your primary duties with Arabian/Half Arabian horses?

IIB Farms

How do you see yourself as being helpful not only as a groom at events, but in other helpful ways?

Being a groom is so much more than tacking and prepping horses. I'm your cheerleader, photographer, water bottle holder, you name it! And yes, I'm always gonna give your horse extra treats!

What are your roles that go beyond grooming, but may be helpful behind the scenes?

Being a groom means you jump in anywhere you are needed. That may mean cleaning stalls, helping riders get organized, making sure the tack has an extra minute of shining, etc. There are so many moving parts when it comes to making sure both horse and rider are beautiful and confident going in to the arena, and my job is to do whatever it takes to make that happen!

What enjoyment do you get being in a supportive role? What is your sense of accomplishment?

As a show groom, you basically get adopted into a barn family during the show. You get to know the horses and the clients. For me, I love watching when a horse or rider has the "Lightbulb Moment" and everything comes together. Of course, leading the horse with roses back to the barn is a great feeling, but so is getting to be a part of the little victories!

What are your future plans or goals with Arabian/Half-Arabian horses?

This year, I plan on getting back into the show ring. I do still plan to groom of course

ALEXIS MAAR - no bio submitted

KATIE MLOSTEK - no bio submitted

TERRY SCHAFFER

What farm(s) are you associated with and what are your primary duties with Arabian/Half Arabian horses?

CRS Training Center. Owner and caretaker of the farm.

How do you see yourself as being helpful not only as a groom at events, but in other helpful ways?

We recently acquired a horse farm for our daughter to continue her training career out of. I am essentially the one man maintenance man for the farm. We have done a number of updates and improvements, particularly in the past year, and are proud that we are able to keep the beautiful farm Richard Sekeley built in the Arabian community.

What are your roles that go beyond grooming, but may be helpful behind the scenes?

I am Treasurer for Region XIV and President of BAHAA.

What enjoyment do you get being in a supportive role? What is your sense of accomplishment?

I enjoy helping and seeing others succeed. Our involvement with Arabian horses has provided so much to our family that I want to help others experience. Hopefully we can make some dreams come true for others.

What are your future plans or goals with Arabian/Half-Arabian horses?

I will continue to help on the farm, at shows and in roles with BAHAA, Region XIV and AHA to promote Arabian horses.

KIERSTYN SCHMIDT

What farm(s) are you associated with and what are your primary duties with Arabian/Half Arabian horses?

Esser Valley Arabians. My primary duties consist of helping getting horses ready for show

How do you see yourself as being helpful not only as a groom at events, but in other helpful ways?

I also show, so I know it's important for the horse and rider to stay calm. I believe my demeanor is always even and calm. I don't overreact to stressful situations and I think that benefits the horse and the rider, well as the trainer.

What are your roles that go beyond grooming, but may be helpful behind the scenes?

I make sure to keep things organized in advance, trying to keep things clean, make sure tack is ready.

What enjoyment do you get being in a supportive role? What is your sense of accomplishment?

I've really enjoyed this job. I love helping a team get ready to show and watching them knowing I was part of making them look their best.

What are your future plans or goals with Arabian/Half-Arabian horses?

I am a junior in college majoring in animal science with minors in biology and chemistry with the goal of going to vet school. Equine is the field I am pursuing. In addition to that I plan on to continue showing, with the goal of going to US Nationals.

TABITHA TAYLOR - no bio submitted

SUZY ZECH

What farm(s) are you associated with and what is your primary duties with Arabian/Half Arabian horses?

Not affiliated with a farm. We are a amateur family that show our own horses. We have been showing Arabs/Half Arabs for over 40 years.

How do you see yourself as being helpful not only as a groom at events, but in other helpful ways?

I do shows with my daughter Caitlin Heinz and help with hauling, loading, packing, set up and tear down, grooming and moral support and any other jobs that need to get done.

What are your roles that go beyond grooming, but may be helpful behind the scenes?

I'm a horse show Mom and that always lead to a lot of other jobs

What enjoyment do you get being in a supportive role? What is your sense of accomplishment?

That everything I do helps support my daughter to accomplish the goals that she has set for her and her horses and having a successful show.

What are your future plans or goals with Arabian/Half-Arabian horses?

To keep going to shows and helping out. I still love going and seeing old friends and making new ones.

ADULT AMATEUR NOMINEES

LAUREN ASHE - no bio submitted

SARA ERWIN - no bio submitted

DONNIE FLANIGAN - no bio submitted

CAITLIN HEINZ

What discipline(s) do you compete in?

I compete mostly in dressage but do show some sport horse under saddle and in hand.

List some of your accomplishments as an amateur in 2024 and tell us how long you have been involved with horses as an amateur exhibitor.

I have been involved in Arabian horses my whole life. I was 3 or 4 years old when I did my first lead line class. My horses are kept at home and my horses are all amateur, trained, owned and shown. Two of the three of my show horses are horses that I bred.

2024 was an amazing show season for me. Here are the highlights of the season:

Sahiba Spring Show - Champion Half Arab SHIH, Supreme Champion Half Arabian SHIH with my yearling, The Dancing Queen CH

Region 13 - Hometown Girl - 3 regional championships, a reserve regional champion, Supreme Champion Half Arabian Sport Horse in Hand

-The Dancing Queen CH - 1 regional Championship and 2 top fives

National Dressage Pony Cup Championship (open USDF dressage competition for horses under 16 hands) - Groovin - Champion Fourth level Amateur Small horse Division, High Score Purebred Arabian Award, winner of the Arabian Sport horse Alliance Perpetual Trophy for the High Score Arabian/Half Arabian of the show

Region 14 - Hometown Girl - 1 regional championship and a top five

- Groovin - 2 regional championships
Sport Horse Nationals - The Dancing Queen CH - Reserve National Champion Yearling
-Hometown Girl - 2 National Championships, 4 National Top Tens
-Groovin - 2 National Championships, 1 Reserve National Championship (Tied for champion), 2 National Top Tens
USEF Year End Awards - Groovin - 3 National Championships and a Reserve National Championship
National Dressage Pony Cup Year End Awards - Groovin - Champion 3rd Level Amateur Small horse Division, 3rd place fourth level amateur small horse division

What are your future plans and goals for competition?

My future goals include getting to ride down centerline in the Grand Prix on one of my own self trained horses. I would like to earn my gold medal. I also want to continue to try all my horses up the levels on dressage.

BROOKEMARIE JARVIS

What discipline(s) do you compete in?

Saddleseat

List some of your accomplishments as an amateur in 2024 and tell us how long you have been involved with horses as an amateur exhibitor.

I've been riding since I was two years old. And I became an adult amateur in 2011. After a hiatus of four years, I was third in the Half Arabian English at Buckeye. And reserve champion in the Purebred English Open at Region 14. I came home with two top tens in Purebred and Half Arabian English at US Nationals this year.

What are your future plans and goals for competition?

My biggest desire is to be a positive ambassador for the Arabian breed. The love, compassion and empathy of an Arabian is something unique. After a challenging couple of years, the one thing that helped get me through was the love that my two Arabian mares provided unconditionally. As I get older I have less and less goals for competition, for me it's about basking in the blessing of my horse's presence in my life and sharing that joy with others.

JENNIFER JONES

What discipline(s) do you compete in?

Sport horse under saddle/in hand. Dressage training through 2nd level, western dressage. English Pleasure

List some of your accomplishments as an amateur in 2024 and tell us how long you have been involved with horses as an amateur exhibitor.

2024 was a great year! My first first bred, born, trained baby, Interstellar +/, earned a National Championship in western dressage at Sport Horse Nationals, along with 3 Top 10s in all of his very large dressage classes. Eliana +++/ and I earned a National Champion Sport Horse Mare in Hand at Midsummer Nationals, along with many Top 10s. My other baby, Dare To Be Royal, earned 2 Top 10s in English pleasure. I'm so grateful to have such amazing horses in my life. I have been involved as an amateur since I started and Lead line and was just a baby and I plan on continuing to show horses indefinitely 😊

What are your future plans and goals for competition?

Continuing forever!! Hopefully my dressage horses can move up the Levels, Rebbel Yell coming back to the competition ring, and who knows what else I will come up with

HOLLY KRATZENBERG

What discipline(s) do you compete in?

Sport Horse - Under Saddle and In-Hand, Dressage

List some of your accomplishments as an amateur in 2024 and tell us how long you have been involved with horses as an amateur exhibitor.

I began showing Arabians when I was 12 or 13, took a hiatus for college and getting my career started, but then came back to it about 15 years ago. I've shown in Hunter Pleasure, Trail, Showmanship and Halter, but now I concentrate on Sport Horse and Dressage, mostly in Region 14 and Region 13. Last year, with my then 7 year-old mare, Ruby Soleil+++/, we earned numerous Top Fives, both in-hand and under saddle and few regional Reserve Championships. We then went on to compete at Sport Horse Nationals, earning 3 Top Tens, including a 3rd and a fifth. Ruby also earned a reserve championship in Western Dressage Basic with Sue Machin in the stirrups. But my favorite shows are often the local shows because I think we learn the most at those shows and have the most fun!

What are your future plans and goals for competition?

Ruby Soleil+++ is in foal to Perez and will have her foal in April or May of this year, so Ruby is getting the year off in 2025 to raise her baby. She will be back in the show ring in 2026. If I can get him in shape, I may take my purebred gelding, Kentucky Moonshyne+ back onto the dressage court for some Western Dressage. Or I may just take 2025 to play with Ruby's baby and dream of future showings! Either way, I love spending time with my Arabian horses!

JACKIE MACLAREN

What discipline(s) do you compete in?

Sport Horse Under Saddle, Sport Horse Show Hack and Ranch Riding Rail Pleasure

List some of your accomplishments as an amateur in 2024 and tell us how long you have been involved with horses as an amateur exhibitor.

I have been showing as an Amateur exhibitor since leaving the youth division in 1997. I have shown in many divisions, most of my time spent in western pleasure and hunter pleasure. In 2024 I showed in Sport Horse Show Hack, Sport Horse Under Saddle and Ranch Riding Rail Pleasure, earning 2 National Top Tens, 4 Regional Championships, and 2 Regional Reserve Championships.

What are your future plans and goals for competition?

The divisions I show in depend on the horses that we have. Next show season my kids and I plan to continue to show at regionals and Youth Nationals in the Sport Horse, Ranch and Reining divisions.

MAKAYLA MOTT

What discipline(s) do you compete in?

I compete in Halter, Sport Horse In-Hand, Sport Horse Under Saddle, and Hunter Pleasure.

List some of your accomplishments as an amateur in 2024 and tell us how long you have been involved with horses as an amateur exhibitor.

I have been involved with horses all of my life, but I started showing Arabians 13 years ago. I accomplished so many goals of mine in 2024. It was my first year back in the show ring

after having my son. I competed at local shows with our mare Parysa and was undefeated in Arabian Mares Halter ATH and SHIH Mares ATH.

We then went to the Region 14 Championship show and I was Champion in the SHIH Mares ATH and Reserve Champion in SHIH Mares Open. We finished out the year at U.S Sport Horse Nationals and we were Champion in SHIH Mares Hunter Type Open and ATH, Reserve Champion SHIH Mares Dressage Type ATH, and Top Ten SHIH Mares Dressage Type Open.

I was beyond happy to accomplish all of that in one year. Parysa is such an amazing horse to show in hand and she makes it look so easy. I couldn't have asked for a better partner.

What are your future plans and goals for competition?

I'm planning on competing with some different horses this year. I am hoping to get back in the saddle a little more, and show in some different disciplines.

ALEX MYSIW

What discipline(s) do you compete in?

Show Hack, Country, English, Park

List some of your accomplishments as an amateur in 2024 and tell us how long you have been involved with horses as an amateur exhibitor.

US Nationals HA/AA Park AAOTR National Top 10
US Nationals HA/AA English Show Hack AAOTR CH Top 10
Region 14 HA/AA Park ATR CH Reserve Champion
Region 13 HA/AA English Show Hack Champion
Region 13 HA/AA Country English Pleasure Reserve Champion

I have been riding horses for 28 years of my life. When I was 4 years old, my parents found therapy for my sister using horses to help her balance and continue making her stronger. She had a seizure disorder and it was a fantastic way to spend quality time with all of us together. She would ride her horse and then I got the itch to try riding horses myself. I immediately fell in love and have been riding ever since.

Since my mom and my sister's passing, I still get to ride horses as a family event. My amazing wife, Rachel Fenton, and my Dad, Jerry Mysiw, have been incredible in always coming to shows or practices and advising me on little things to think about when I am

riding. I am thankful for these two to always be there to support me, even if sometimes it can be hard after showing at Regionals and Nationals without Mom or Natalie around.

I am incredibly honored to get to show my horses, It Must BLove KP (Country and Show Hack) and Just Heirmagine OF (English and Park), and thankful to Sharon Blendinger and Victor Botha for the work they have done to get my guys ready this past year. These two trainers always challenged me and my horses to continue to push the envelope. Because of it, I was able to have my strongest showing as US Nationals yet.

What are your future plans and goals for competition?

I plan on having horses my entire life, as they have been a part of my life for 28 years now, and it will bring me one step closer to Mom and Natalie. I look forward to riding at Region 14 and Nationals this year to continue to push what my horses and I can do.

Moving forward, my goal is to always compete at a high level and work with my horses to continue refining our craft. In Show Hack, for example, it is always about pushing the envelope and getting an inch shorter in my collected gaits, or an inch bigger stride at the extended. Because of the amount of precision that goes into it, I'm always focused on the teamwork that goes into riding with my horses. I like working on the communication that goes into the way I ride, whether it focuses on where I put my weight in my seat, how my core should react to improve my horse's gait, etc. I don't focus on winning a class, even though that is what makes it all the more fun. There are so many good competitors, I have found the most passion by improving what my horse and I are capable of as a team.

LOCAL EXHIBITOR NOMINEES

JENESE BRIEGEL

How long have you been involved with Arabian or Half Arabian horses and how did you get started?

I have loved horses since I was a little girl, riding double on the trails with my mom on her Arabian stallion, Royal Amigo. And now all these years later I'm training and riding on his descendants and sharing them with my mom, my friends, and the public! I competed in open Hunter over fences and Jumpers in the 1990's on a half Arabian daughter of mom's stallion. My mom and I took our Arabians and Half Arabians to multiple parades a year in the 1990's-2000's. I've even had my half Arabians on stage for a musical!

I showed in the first Sport Horse Nationals in 2003 on a leased purebred. I started my current 3 Arabians in the San-N-Tone winter schooling series, then built up to USEF rated shows in Kentucky and Ohio, Region 13 & 14 shows, and SHN with Reserves and Top Tens! Along the journey we've gone on trail rides, to training clinics, and to a variety of

competitions and disciplines including dressage, Western Dressage, Trail (In Hand, English, Western), Ranch, Sport Horse In Hand, Native Costume and Liberty! It's been a great journey!

What do you love most about showing at a local level? Do you have any accomplishments you'd like to share from the 2024 season?

Being able to sleep in my own bed! I also love getting to know and cheer on the other riders, trainers, and organizers—it feels like a supportive family. The relaxed atmosphere makes it a great place to learn, grow, and try new things.

In 2024, Ttotally Awesome +++++// (Totally) and I won 4 championship classes at the Liberty Festival in Kentucky, including Novice Liberty Horse, 2 Training Level Bridleless classes, and Advanced Obstacles at liberty. We also did online liberty shows, which was a great experience, and we did a fun liberty freestyle show in Crestwood! A Royal Gift + (Gift) and I had a great time at the Spring Show doing Trail and Level 2 Western Dressage, and a Freestyle Dressage demo (We were cowboy minions!). Distinctly Diamonds (DD) and I did a Kentucky Trail Obstacle Challenge Series fun show and earned our lifetime high score together Stonehurst's Bluegrass Dressage Value show in November!

What are your future plans for showing?

I would love to show at USN sometime in Trail in Hand! My horses love that class so I'm hoping it gets added! This year I'm looking forward to trying out the new dressage show in March.

ANGELA GEORGE - no bio submitted

LOANN LODWICK HAINES

How long have you been involved with Arabian or Half Arabian horses and how did you get started?

I have been involved with Arabian Horses all of my life. My grandparents started our farm in 1934.

What do you love most about showing at a local level? Do you have any accomplishments you'd like to share from the 2024 season?

I love showing at local shows to help promote the Arabian Horse. I believe our family has exhibited our Arabian Horses at our Brown County Fair since the 1950s. People from the county gather each fall at the fair and watch the horse show.

What are your future plans for showing?

I plan to continue showing our horses locally this year. We are excited to be expecting a few foals in the spring

BETSY HOFFMAN

How long have you been involved with Arabian or Half Arabian horses and how did you get started?

I want to thank you for reading my biography and thanks for the nomination.

I have had Arabians for most of my life. My family got our first Arab when my Dad traded some carpenter work for an Arab gelding and that started my love for the Arabians.

I was an active 4-H member and had one of two or three Arabs in the county. Sometimes it was tough showing against the quarter horses. I also showed in the open shows about every weekend. I've been showing for 65 years.

What do you love most about showing at a local level? Do you have any accomplishments you'd like to share from the 2024 season?

The local shows are a lot less stressful than Regionals and Nationals and there are more classes to show in. I believe the exhibitors are having fun and there's support of each other. I really like seeing new people show and the Academy classes are great. This year I showed in county pleasure, costume and halter.

What are your future plans for showing?

I have some health issues currently so I probably won't show this year but hope to next year.

CAITLYN LAUER

How long have you been involved with Arabian or Half Arabian horses and how did you get started?

My very first lease horse was an Arabian 24 years ago, and then I got my first half Arabian almost 14 years ago now. Our first purebred Arabian came almost 7 years ago now. It was pure luck my first lease horse was an Arabian, and I fell in love then. When I went to college. I ended up friends with Blair Cecil, who was also into Arabians. The rest became history!

What do you love most about showing at a local level? Do you have any accomplishments you'd like to share from the 2024 season?

I love showing locally since I love showing the public just how wonderful our horses really are. It's a lot of fun showing at regionals and nationals, but showing at local fairs really introduces our horses to an entire different group of people. My horses are always extremely calm prior to entering the ring, so I'm always inviting people up to love on them. We've changed A LOT of people's minds about owning Arabians!

Accomplishments from this year would be winning supreme sport horse in hand at both SAHIBA spring show and the Bluegrass Dressage show at Stonehurst, bringing my older mare back into work and winning her riding classes at the NKHN show, and then taking a second out of six or seven horses at the Alexandria fair in native costume! We just play with the costume since we're a dressage horse wearing the costume, but the crowd LOVES it at the fairs, and the guests love coming up and seeing the horses in their costume!

What are your future plans for showing?

This year we will primarily stay local again, though we will be showing at SHN again. We will never miss the Alexandria fair as that is local to us, and we're always going to go have fun at the NKHN show!

LUCY MACLAREN

How long have you been involved with Arabian or Half Arabian horses and how did you get started?

I was born and raised with Arabian horses. I am 14 years old and have been attending horse shows for 14 years and showing for 12 years, starting in lead line at the age of 2 years. I joined 4-H has an 8 year old and have shown on the 4-H level ever since. In addition to showing Class A shows and 4-H shows, I have recently joined a YEDA team and started exploring showing horsemanship as a team member.

What do you love most about showing at a local level? Do you have any accomplishments you'd like to share from the 2024 season?

I love showing what an Arabian can do at a show with multiple breeds. So many think that the Arabian horse is limited in certain disciplines and I love to prove them wrong. In 2024 I took my Half-Arabian horse to our county fair and showed at the 4-H horse show in western showmanship, ranch riding, ranch pleasure, ranch horsemanship and reining. We won most of our classes beating out many quarter horses and other stock horse breeds. In an area

with very few Arabians on the local level, my Half-Arabian and I took home the High Point Western Horse for the entire show, including western pleasure and ranch horses.

What are your future plans for showing?

Next year we plan on continuing to show at YEDA shows, the 4-H level as well as the class A level. For the past 2 years we have qualified for the Ohio State Fair, but due to my horse being injured just before the State Fair, we were unable to attend in 2024. I hope to continue to qualify for the State Fair 4-H horse show and showcase what an Arabian can do in the open Ranch and reining divisions.

JACK REED

VOLUNTEER NOMINEES

BRINLEY CREEK

How long have you been involved with Arabian or Half Arabian horses and how did you get started?

I have been involved with Arabians for over 15 years. A teacher in my elementary school had an Arabian gelding that she introduced my sister and I to. The rest is history!

What events or shows are you involved with as a volunteer in 2024?

I manage the 2 shows hosted by the Bluegrass Arabian Horse Association. I have been on the BOD for many years, and am currently serving as the club's treasurer. I am our club's 2nd delegate and attended Convention for the first time in 2024.

What makes you want to continue to volunteer at these events and why?

The answer is pretty simple— I love the Arabian horse! Isn't that why we all do it? I love being able to give back to the breed and to the community that has always been there for me.

DAVID CUSAC

How long have you been involved with Arabian or Half Arabian horses and how did you get started?

I have been involved with Arabian and Half Arabians horse since 1968. It all started with one Half Arabian gelding that our family got. With my oldest brother Mark, we worked together

going through 4-H, as my brother went off to college, I took over full responsibility and continued with 4-H and on to local shows. Then soon acquired another half Arabian mare and went on to class A and regional shows as well as working for Jack Hines , Sunny Brook Stable. From there i have worked at notable farms , ANSATA ARABIANS, ZODIAC ARABIANS, GEORGIAN HILL, KARHO ARABIANS , CHAUNCEY'S ARABIANS, CRESCENDO ARABIANS, ZEKAN ARABIANS AND THEN my own stable ...as well as working at several saddlebred and Morgan farms.

What events or shows are you involved with as a volunteer in 2024?

I have been involved with our local class A shows, region 14, SPORT HORSE NATIONALS, AND US NATIONALS.

What makes you want to continue to volunteer at these events and why?

The Arabian industry has been my whole life , so continuing to help keep the Arabian industry moving forward.

LINDA FERRIS

How long have you been involved with Arabian or Half Arabian horses and how did you get started?

I first started with Arabians in 1970 when I was asked to ride 3 Arabians to keep them conditioned. Two years later, I moved across the state and one of the horses went with me. And, there has been an Arabian in my life ever since.

What events or shows are you involved with as a volunteer in 2024?

In 2024 I volunteered at the OHAHA Spring Show, Buckeye, Region 14 & Silverama and US Nationals. I also volunteered at Equine Affair and Breyer Fest.

What makes you want to continue to volunteer at these events and why?

I enjoy spending time with my Arabian "family" and after a long winter I look forward to the Spring Show to catch up with everyone

JENNIFER LEWIS

How long have you been involved with Arabian or Half Arabian horses and how did you get started?

I've been involved with Arabians for over 25 years. The first horse I leased was an Arabian and I was hooked.

What events or shows are you involved with as a volunteer in 2024?

SAHIBA Arabian Spring Show, Region 14, Sport Horse Nationals, Kentucky Horse Park Breeds Weekend

What makes you want to continue to volunteer at these events and why?

It's fun to watch your friends succeed and be a small part of making an event successful.

ROXANA REED - no bio submitted

CINDY RYAN - no bio submitted

ERIC SCHULTZ

How long have you been involved with Arabian or Half Arabian horses and how did you get started?

I have been involved with the Arabian Horses since I was a youngster in 4-H. I purchased my first Half Arabian Gelding at age 14 for \$500 from my 4-H advisor, and former Region 14 Treasurer, Mary Halbisen-Einsel. I tagged along to many horse shows with Mary & Dutch back in the day. I helped with in/out gates, running errands, helped with ribbons at time. Anything I could do to get to go to a horse show until I was able to compete at a show.

What events or shows are you involved with as a volunteer in 2024?

2024 Equine Affaire - volunteer to help with Region 14 booth.

2024 - Ringmaster - OHAHA Spring Show

2024- Ringmaster - Buckeye Sweepstakes Show

2024 - Ringmaster - Medallion Show

2024 - Ringmaster - Region 14 Show

2024 - Ringmaster - National Show Horse Finals

What makes you want to continue to volunteer at these events and why?

I want to continue to be involved with the Arabian Horse as much & as long I can. Although I may not currently be showing, the events / shows I get to ringmaster/volunteer at allow me to be involved in our industry. I get to see the best trainers, riders and horses in the country competing as well as appreciate the beauty and versatility of the Arabian Horse.

I am thankful for the nomination amongst this great group of nominees. It is an honor and much appreciated!

DEBBIE SWIGART

How long have you been involved with Arabian or Half Arabian horses and how did you get started?

In 1990, I started taking riding lessons with a friend who had Arabian horses. One thing led to another and I got my gelding BW Alashawn in 1991. "The rest theysay is history."

What events or shows are you involved with as a volunteer in 2024?

In February, I helped with the OAATS Award Banquet. Then in May, I scored Dressage classes for SAHIBA's Spring show. I scribed Dressage and Sport Horse for KARABS Medallion show and at the Silverama/Region 14 show. I helped at Breyerfest, both at the booth and with our horse demos for three (3) days. In October, I worked as the Pavilion Gatekeeper at U.S. Nationals in Tulsa. Also I'm the Region 14 secretary and web site manager which keeps me busy too.

What makes you want to continue to volunteer at these events and why?

I've loved horses since I was five (5), but didn't get one until I was in my mid-30's. Since then I've loved being with people who also love these wonderful animals. These folks have become my "horsey family" and I've always enjoyed being involved vs. just sitting in the background. I'm now retired and have more time to stay active helping with horse events.

ARABIAN ENTHUSIAST NOMINEES

JEFF CALDWELL

How long have you been involved with Arabian or Half Arabian horses and how did you get started?

For over 30 years I have been an active owner, breeder and exhibitor of Arabian horses. It all started when I began working at Lasma, cleaning stalls in the mare receiving center,

when I was 18-years old. I have competed successfully in Sport Horse and main ring and also in competitive trail. I have managed several USEF recognized breed horse shows. I helped start the Arabian breed demonstration at the Kentucky Secretariat Festival and other all breed activities where our Arabian breed has exposure. I have been a club president as well as a secretary for many years and know the challenges our clubs face. I've been a USEF certified trial course designer. I've attended the AHA Judges School to broaden my knowledge of the judging of our Arabian and Half-Arabian horses. I've been a delegate for the AHA convention for several years and served on the amateur committee. I was the region 14 secretary for four years and served as the First Vice Director for four years working closely with our director and executive committee, before being elected as the Region 14 Director in January 2019. Outside our own Arabian breed, I hold a licensed judge's card for the Rocky Mountain Horse Association and have been honored to be selected to officiate as one of the senior judges at their International show several times. I am also a Certified Equipment Steward for that breed and have been officiating in that capacity at several of their shows. I also score for several of our AHA Regional shows as for the MOS scoring system needs. My exposure to other breeds helps broaden my knowledge and exposes me to how various breeds show and promote their horses.

What non-competitive events within your club of region do you participate in during 2024?

Meet an Arabian Horse Event

Why is being an Arabian enthusiast important to you?

My love and loyalty for the Arabian Breed

What are some examples from 2024 that you have advocated for the Arabian horse breed?

To get them out into the general public to expose how beautiful & magnificent they really are.

CHERYL DECKER - no bio submitted

KARA HATZAI

How long have you been involved with Arabian or Half Arabian horses and how did you get started?

40+ yrs (yikes!) We had Arabian horses when I was growing up

What non-competitive events within your club of region do you participate in during 2024?

I participated in several trail rides and hosted one trail ride within my club.
Was a volunteer,
co-chair for two of our horses
Organized annual banquet

Why is being an Arabian enthusiast important to you?

Arabian horses are so important in our world today. People are easily checking out with electronic devices and we need to remind them how important it is to connect with people and animals like horses. The connection you feel with horses is so therapeutic and healing. I want everyone to feel that connection. That happiness it brings...

What are some examples from 2024 that you have advocated for the Arabian horse breed?

I have participated in trail rides that were open to all breeds. It was great fun to take my beautiful Arabian mare and show what a tremendous athlete and solid trail horse she is. I attended the USEF banquet which also was a huge highlight for the Arabian breed this year as several Arabian breeders, trainers were recognized for all of their hard work. It was great to be a supporting the Arabian horse and community at this event.

DONNA LASSANSKE

How long have you been involved with Arabian or Half Arabian horses and how did you get started?

I have been involved with AHA since the 1990's . I became interested in Arabians when I bought a half Arabian in Wisconsin

What non-competitive events within your club of region do you participate in during 2024?

Kentucky Horse Park Arabian Demo as a supporter for the event. Volunteer in the Region 14 booth at Breyerfest. Attending Meet the Legislators event sponsored by KEEP

Why is being an Arabian enthusiast important to you?

The comradery of the Arabian community and the various activities the breed has to offer

What are some examples from 2024 that you have advocated for the Arabian horse breed?

I am honored to be nominated for the Region 14 Enthusiast Award for 2024. I have been with the Arabian Horse Association for many decades and support my Arabian club SAHIBA and KAHABA as an engaged individual in many of their activities. I am kind of a 'behind' the

scenes person, whether cheering on the Arabian exhibitors at the KHP Arabian Demonstration, which is done annually, serve as the EMT at the SAHIBA Spring USEF/AHA rated show, volunteer at the Region 14 booth at Breyerfest, and support my club at shows etc (better known as the 'grunt' if its setting up or tearing down, I follow orders really well). I am also the liaison between Kentucky Equine Education Project (KEEP) and the KAHABA organization. I have attended the KEEP Meet the Legislators at Frankfort for the last two years post Pandemic. This is a legislative/lawmaker meeting with representatives of the equine industry of Kentucky. Breed representatives attend this function, and I am the Arabian representative. In particular, I represent KAHABA, as it is this group that is very active in Kentucky supporting the Arabian breed, whether it be in breeding of Arabian or Half Arabian horses or promoting the Arabian breed in a variety of events within the community. The Kentucky Breeders Incentive Fund (KBIF incentive program) is also a function of KAHABA along with promoting the Arabian breed to the community in a variety of events. I enjoy attending the AHA annual convention whenever possible and have been at the last two conventions. In addition, I am secretary for two Arabian clubs, SAHIBA and KAHABA.

In conclusion, I want to give thanks to individuals who assisted me in my endeavors associated with the Arabian breed and in my nomination for this award.

LINDA LAUFER - no bio submitted

VENITA PROFFIT - no bio submitted

CINDY RYAN - no bio submitted

ERIC SCHULTZ

How long have you been involved with Arabian or Half Arabian horses and how did you get started?

I began involvement in the Arabian Horse Industry as youth in 4-H. My parents helped me purchase my first horse at age 14, a weanling Half Arab Gelding that became my first home grown show horse. That was the point I became more involved & wanted to be more & more involved over time.

What non-competitive events within your club of region do you participate in during 2024?

2024 - Volunteer at the Equine Affaire

Why is being an Arabian enthusiast important to you?

It is important because we all have the enthusiasm & love for the Arabian Horse or we may not be involved. I am honored to be nominated and recognized amongst this great group of individuals. I have been fortunate to meet and work with so many amazing people in the Arabian Horse Community. I have become friends and learned so much from great mentors, owners; riders; trainers; Show Managers; Show Committees; Show Secretaries/and Staff or Volunteers. All of you are tremendous assets and contribute SO much to the Arabian Horse and this is a reason to keep enthusiasm for the Arabian Horse Industry. It is also important to help anyone with an Arabian Horse feel like they contribute to the history & preservation of the Arabian Horse and its future.

What are some examples from 2024 that you have advocated for the Arabian horse breed?

As mentioned, in 2024, I was able to volunteer and attend for the first time in many years, the Equine Affaire. I absolutely have to thank everyone that coordinated, participated and supported the event. The Arabian horse representation was outstanding! I found the day at the booth just fly by. Quite a number of people throughout the day stopped and asked questions or were in awe with the horse in our booth or just talked about their Arabian horses at home. It was a great networking event that I was so glad I was able to help with even if just one day.

SPORT HORSE & DRESSAGE NOMINEES

AARON HARDY

Do you do your own work with your horse(s), or do you work with a sport horse instructor? Do you consider yourself an Amateur or a Professional in the Sport Horse & Dressage area of competition?

This was my first year competing as a professional in the sport horse ring, I've had a great group of mentors that have been by my side for the last several seasons, and finally declared professionalism in January 2024. Previously in 2021, 2022, 2023 I had competed as an adult amateur.

How many years have you been involved with horses, and, in particular in the Sport Horse & Dressage divisions?

I was born and raised in the horse world, but started working with Arabian sport horses four years ago, and I have finally found my home within a breed that I enjoy so much. The versatility of the Arabian horse is nothing like I've ever experienced in my life.

What are your accomplishments in the Sport Horse & Dressage divisions from 2024?

2024 was one of the most rewarding years. I won three unanimous national championships at the 2024 sport horse nationals , a reserve national champion and an additional 10 top tens. Also, we had a very successful year at the class A and regional level with the same group of horses that I took SHN in 2024. Blessed is an understatement of how I feel about 2024.

What sense of accomplishment do you have as Sport Horse & Dressage exhibitor? What is your sense of fulfillment?

I pride myself on my feeding conditioning and the overall turn out of the horses that I take to shows, I believe that my love for the breed is what helps me accomplish everything that we have achieved

CAITLIN HEINZ

Do you do your own work with your horse(s), or do you work with a sport horse instructor? Do you consider yourself an Amateur or a Professional in the Sport Horse & Dressage area of competition?

I'm an amateur owner who keeps my horses at home. I do all my own training and riding. I do take lessons from a dressage trainer.

How many years have you been involved with horses, and, in particular in the Sport Horse & Dressage divisions?

I have been involved with horses my entire life, my mom had Arabians when I was born. I have been riding sport horse and dressage since 2007.

What are your accomplishments in the Sport Horse & Dressage divisions from 2024?

I showed my 3 personal horses this year in sport horse and dressage (2 of the horses I bred myself). My homebred yearling showed at her first show and ended up winning Half-Arabian supreme sport horse in hand at the Sahiba show. Region 13, I took two horses and we came home with 4 regional championships, 1 reserve championship and 2 top fives. My mare, Hometown Girl also ended up winning the half arabian sport horse in hand supreme championship. I had the honor of showing Ruby Soleil in sport horse hand where we came away with a reserve regional championship. In July, I attended the National Dressage Pony Cup with Groovin where we won the fourth level amateur small horse division. We also won the High Score Arabian Sport Horse Alliance award awarded to the highest scoring purebred or half arabian at the show. At region 14 where I took 2 horses, we came home with 3 regional championships and 1 top five. The show of the year was Sport Horse Nationals where I took my 3 horses and had the privilege of catch handling two other

horses. I catch handled Ruby Soleil to a top ten HA sport horse in hand dressage type ATH and Ar-raquis to a Reserve championship in dressage type stallions ath and a top ten in stallions hunter type ath. My own personal horses (Groovin, Hometown Girl, and The Dancing Queen CH) came home with 4 National Championships, 2 Reserve National Championships, and 6 top tens. USEF year end awards, Groovin was National Champion in Third level amatuer, Fourth level open, fourth level amatuer and reserve national champion in third level open. For the National dressage pony cup year end awards, Groovin was Champion third level amateur and third in fourth level amatuer. It was an amazing year and couldn't have asked anymore from my horses.

What sense of accomplishment do you have as Sport Horse & Dressage exhibitor? What is your sense of fulfillment?

When you spend months (sometimes even years) working towards a certain movement in dressage and the movement finally comes together and it feels like it's so effortless it definitely gives you a big sense of accomplishment. What I love about dressage is that there are many things that can make you feel fulfilled or like you accomplished something from getting that square halt to getting your first clean line of tempi changes. It's also really fun to watch and feel how the horses development over the years.

What are your future goals and plans in the Sport Horse & Dressage division?

My future goals are to keep moving my horses up the levels. One is getting close to the Grand Prix and is currently working on the movements required for that level so a big goal is to definitely ride down centerline in the Grand Prix. I would also like to earn my gold medal in dressage.

LORIE HENDERSON

Do you do your own work with your horse(s), or do you work with a sport horse instructor? Do you consider yourself an Amateur or a Professional in the Sport Horse & Dressage area of competition?

I have been a trainer since I was a young adult. I have competed in most Main Ring classes and have been in the Arabian sport horse world more than 20 years. I feel very honored to be nominated for this award, thank you all!

How many years have you been involved with horses, and, in particular in the Sport Horse & Dressage divisions?

I bought my first Arabian when I was 17 and have had Arabians for 45 years. I have been in the Arabian Sport Horse world for 20+ years.

What are your accomplishments in the Sport Horse & Dressage divisions from 2024?

I won several Regionals and several Top Tens with two very green beginning fillies this year. My kids won a ton of Dressage and Sport Horse classes this year on my horses. One of my most successful years to date!

What sense of accomplishment do you have as Sport Horse & Dressage exhibitor? What is your sense of fulfillment?

I love developing young horses, and it is a wonderful feeling when you have a great ride on a baby, get called out for an award, and the owner is screaming and going crazy. It's just the best!

What are your future goals and plans in the Sport Horse & Dressage division?

I will be in it for life. I love this division, especially for my kids, no politics, just talent, and they love to try to improve their scores! Great way to develop young kids and horses!

CAITLYN LAUER

Do you do your own work with your horse(s), or do you work with a sport horse instructor? Do you consider yourself an Amateur or a Professional in the Sport Horse & Dressage area of competition?

I'm primarily on my own, but I am extremely grateful I'm able to take lessons roughly once a month with my wonderfully kind and patient trainer! My trainer is strictly open dressage, but is very supportive of me in the Arabian world since she's seen this is where my people are. I'm also very much an amateur rider!

How many years have you been involved with horses, and, in particular in the Sport Horse & Dressage divisions?

I got started 24 years ago through lease horses at a dressage barn. I took a few years off for college, and then my husband bought me my first horse before we got married over 13 years ago. I've only ever really known the dressage and sport horse world, though we do dabble in some non sport horse and dressage events too!

What are your accomplishments in the Sport Horse & Dressage divisions from 2024?

This year we stayed local, and we had a great time! We showed the SAHIBA show with our homebred filly and did well. I also catch rode a really awesome gelding for some friends and

stepped into the western dressage ring for the first time ever earning a second and a decent score! We showed at the BAHA Legacy show, and while it wasn't a huge show, we had a blast and received some nice scores in sport horse in hand, earning us supreme half Arabian horse. We also debuted under saddle with a really nice ride for a first timer. We did a lot of fair type shows, and then finished our year at the Bluegrass Dressage show at Stonehurst. We again took supreme half Arabian horse there, and also debuted in dressage with two scores of 64.808% for training level! Which felt like winning a major show since it was her maiden year showing under saddle!

What sense of accomplishment do you have as Sport Horse & Dressage exhibitor? What is your sense of fulfillment?

I like to walk out knowing my horses and I have demonstrated our partnership. Every show I want to improve on things we lacked prior, and maintain a happy horse throughout. I like dressage because while it is a competition with others, it can be a bigger competition with yourself and constantly striving to be better than you were. So my sense of accomplishment is knowing I was a better version of myself than I was before!

What are your future goals and plans in the Sport Horse & Dressage division?

My plan for the future is to bring two of my horses to SHN this fall. One will be in second level, and my young horse will be showing in training level and the dressage prospect class. My biggest goal will be to make the jump to third level (in the weakest link in that jump!) and to also bring our older horse back out into the dressage ring. We've been working hard and we think the goals may be achievable this year!

JACKIE MACLAREN

Do you do your own work with your horse(s), or do you work with a sport horse instructor? Do you consider yourself an Amateur or a Professional in the Sport Horse & Dressage area of competition?

I am an Amateur that did not work with any trainer or instructor during the 2024 year, although I have had help from hunter trainers in the past. And I am always asking friends and fellow amateur for help and advise.

How many years have you been involved with horses, and, in particular in the Sport Horse & Dressage divisions?

I have been involved in showing Arabian Horses since I was a teenager, and showing on the local, regional and nation level since 1995. Sport horse has been a newer division for me, although I have shown it periodically throughout the years. I started showing my current horse in Sport Horse Under Saddle in 2022.

What are your accomplishments in the Sport Horse & Dressage divisions from 2024?

In 2024, I received 1 Regional Championship and 2 Reserve Champions in Sport Horse Show Hack, while spending most of my time at Regionals assisting my children in their JTR and Walk-Trot classes. I attended my first Sport Horse Nationals on my own, while meeting and being supported by an amazing group of Amateurs, coming home with 2 Top Tens in Sport Horse Show Hack ATR and Under Saddle AOTR.

What sense of accomplishment do you have as Sport Horse & Dressage exhibitor? What is your sense of fulfillment?

I have a sense of accomplishment in stepping into a new division and learning how to navigate it with success that I am very proud of.

What are your future goals and plans in the Sport Horse & Dressage division?

Future goals are always to learn and improve. I came home from Sport Horse Nationals with a list of things to work on and have a goal to return in 2025 having made improvements.

BETHANY MILLER

Do you do your own work with your horse(s), or do you work with a sport horse instructor? Do you consider yourself an Amateur or a Professional in the Sport Horse & Dressage area of competition?

Yes I own and train my own. I am a professional

How many years have you been involved with horses, and, in particular in the Sport Horse & Dressage divisions?

For about 10

What are your accomplishments in the Sport Horse & Dressage divisions from 2024?

I competed at multiple local shows with two young horses that I had trained. Becoming the regional 14 first level champion and second level reserve champion. My other horse head training level regional champion and first level reserve champion.
And champion in Sporthorse under saddle HA

What sense of accomplishment do you have as Sport Horse & Dressage exhibitor? What is your sense of fulfillment?

Bethany Miller trains exclusively dressage and sport horse riders. From 4 to 94 she introduces new people to her highly trained and friendly Arabians. Instructing on proven national champions, as well as on the younger horses she is successfully bringing up the levels, her riders learn complete horsemanship and develop an affinity for Arabians. Bethany has successfully led her interscholastic equestrian team to zone finals their first three seasons in a row, furthering to promote the proud breed.

What are your future goals and plans in the Sport Horse & Dressage division?

To get my bronze medal this next year. And bring my IEA team to nationals.

WILLIAM OAKLEY - no bio submitted

ARABIAN AMBASSADOR NOMINEES

LORIE HENDERSON

How long have you been involved with Arabian or Half Arabian horses and how did you get started?

I have been an Arabian owner for 45 years and I bought my first Arabian when I was 17. I had always wanted one and the Walter Farley Books and Breyer horse statues helped steer me that way. I grew up horse crazy, in a tech household, but was fortunate to have a junky stable not too far from my house. most of my friends had ponies, so I rode junk horses constantly for years, ate a lot of dirt, got stepped on kicked but when I was riding them, I was riding the Black stallion in my head! I worked 3 jobs starting at 13 just for a horse, got a real job at 16 with my other little jobs and bought my unbroke 2 yr old mare at 17. She was easy to get under saddle, and ride. Went to work for 2 prominent Arabian Farms when I was 21, and the rest is history! I still have my first mare in my show string, 5 generations later, and breeding for the 6th this year, so I still get to ride my first mare everyday! I am honored to be chosen for this award, thank you all.

What are some examples of ways you have positively promoted, and educate the public on the Arabian horse within your community in 2024?

I brought a group of horses to Breyerfest and worked in the booth as well. In March I took a mare to a local school where 700+ students got to touch her, I talked to them about riding and the breed. They all went home with AHA coloring pages, wrist bracelets, and a way to contact me. In June, I took a group of horses to the Kentucky Horse Park for demos and

meet and greets for Arabian Days. I have been promoting the Arabians my whole life, and regularly host girl scouts, birthday parties etc. Over the years I have promoted at Breyerfest since 2010, Equitana, WEG, KY Horse Council Youth Roundup, U of L Ag Day, Tractor Supply Meet a Horse Days, Schools, Retirement Homes, anywhere we can. It is the most important thing we can do for our horses!

Why is being an ambassador to the breed important to you?

Without Breed Promotion we can't advance the breed. We are small by comparison to other breeds such as TB's, AQHA's, Walkers, Warmbloods, so it is imperative that we educate the public about our wonderful, kind, beautiful horses, and really highlight that they are the perfect family horse. This is something I started doing as a kid, and have continued doing for decades. As a trainer, I keep my lesson program full do to the promotional events we attend.

NATACHA LESBURGUERES - no bio submitted

JACKIE MACLAREN

How long have you been involved with Arabian or Half Arabian horses and how did you get started?

I attended my first class "A" horse show in 1993, showing on the Regional and National level since that time. outside of the show ring, my family and I have continued since that time to bred, raised, trained and promoted the Arabian Horse.

What are some examples of ways you have positively promoted, and educate the public on the Arabian horse within your community in 2024?

In 2024, I have attended on behalf of AHA Region 14 various events promoting the Arabian Horse. I attended the Ohio Equine Affaire, with 2 of our family horses along with my children participating in the breed booth and the breed demonstrations. I attended Breyerfest with my family volunteering in the breed booth talking to many visitors sharing stories of their experiences with the Arabian Horse. Outside of the AHA Region 14 promotion, my family and I continue to support my children through their promotion of the Arabian horse by showing on the 4-H level with our Arabian horses, showcasing the abilities of the Arabian horse and their potential with the younger generations.

Why is being an ambassador to the breed important to you?

My family and I love attending horse shows. Our horse shows would not exist without us all continuing to grow the breed and those that are involved. That growth starts from home with

our youth and other horse crazy friends. As an Arabian horse lover, I love sharing how amazing our horses and our horse shows are with others.

BETHANY MILLER

How long have you been involved with Arabian or Half Arabian horses and how did you get started?

Bethany started riding Arabians at a farm in Summer SC when I was 7. This is where her love for the breed began, then when she was 17 she started showing. She started showing them in 2016 when moving to Louisville KY.

What are some examples of ways you have positively promoted, and educate the public on the Arabian horse within your community in 2024?

Bethany Miller trains exclusively dressage and sport horse riders. From 4 to 94 she introduces new people to her highly trained and friendly Arabians. Instructing on proven national champions, as well as on the younger horses she is successfully bringing up the levels, her riders learn complete horsemanship and develop an affinity for Arabians. Bethany has successfully led her interscholastic equestrian team to zone finals their first three seasons in a row, furthering to promote the proud breed.

Why is being an ambassador to the breed important to you?

I love this breed so much and I want everyone to be able to experience the amazing Arabian horse

PEPPER PROFFIT - no bio submitted

DANNY THOMPSON

How long have you been involved with Arabian or Half Arabian horses and how did you get started?

Passion for Arabian Horses: A Lifelong Journey

My fascination with Arabian horses began in 1995, thanks to my parents' involvement with the breed. As a teenager, I developed a passion for riding and showing halter, driven by a desire to learn and improve.

I was fortunate to learn from experienced mentors and immersed myself in equine publications to expand my knowledge. A pivotal moment came in 1996 when I attended the US National Championships, an experience that deepened my appreciation for the breed.

Throughout my journey, I've had the opportunity to show Arabian horses at various levels, including local, district, and state 4-H competitions, as well as Class A shows and Open All Breed events. These experiences have not only honed my skills but also fostered a lifelong commitment to promoting and celebrating the majesty of Arabian horses.

What are some examples of ways you have positively promoted, and educate the public on the Arabian horse within your community in 2024

2024 Highlights: Promoting the Arabian Horse Breed

I'm proud to share my contributions to promoting the Arabian horse breed in 2024:

- Breyerfest Organization: Helped organize the event, creating engaging handouts and materials that showcased the breed's versatility.
- "Disciplines" Page: Developed a concise page highlighting the Arabian horse's diverse abilities and disciplines
- "Against All Odds" Pamphlet: Created a compelling pamphlet featuring inspiring stories of iconic Arabian horses, including Witez II, Ronteza, and Bask Elect+/. This pamphlet tied in perfectly with Breyerfest's theme of "Against All Odds".
- Social Media Promotion: Produced daily Facebook Reels that reached over 12,000 views and generated numerous shares across social media platforms.
- Virtual Breyerfest and TikTok: Partnered with Deneb and content creator Cedar the Fainting Goat and Virtual Breyerfest to showcase Arabian horses online, expanding our reach.
- Kentucky Horse Park Breeds Weekend Demo: Participated in this local event, providing a hands-on experience for visitors and promoting the Arabian breed.
- Barn Visits and Lessons: Opened our barn for visitors to meet Arabian horses and take lessons, further promoting the breed.
- Homeschool Education: Shared knowledge about Arabian horses with a local homeschool family, inspiring the next generation.
- AHA Local Level Committee: At the end of 2024 I joined the Local Level Committee furthering my commitment to promoting the Arabian breed.

Why is being an ambassador to the breed important to you?

Promoting the Arabian horse breed is essential for sharing its rich history and unique characteristics with newcomers. As one of the oldest and most influential horse breeds, the Arabian has a fascinating story that spans thousands of years.

By sharing the Arabian horse's remarkable history and highlighting its exceptional qualities, we can inspire a new generation of enthusiasts to appreciate and cherish this incredible breed. Connecting newcomers with local breeders, trainers, or owners can provide them with hands-on experience and personalized guidance, helping to build a stronger, more diverse community of Arabian horse enthusiasts.

As an ambassador for the breed, I'm passionate about promoting the Arabian horse and putting newcomers in touch with local resources, whether it's myself or someone else in their area. Together, we can ensure the Arabian horse remains a beloved and iconic breed for generations to come.

TRAINER/ASST TRAINER NOMINEES

SHARON BLENDINGER

Which training facility do you work at or represent?

Stachowski Farm

How many years have you been training horses and what disciplines do you specialize in?

45 years English and Hunter divisions

What achievements have you accomplished personally in 2024, and what are some of the accomplishments of your clients/exhibitors in 2024?

National champion half Arabian country pleasure futurity. Multiple top 10's at US nationals. Regional champion open half Arabian country. Haley Waldschmidt with American hustle won 3 buckeye championships, 3 regional championships, 2 youth National Championships and 1 reserve national championship. Alex Mysiw with It must B Love won 1 regional championship, 1 reserve championship and top 10 at nationals. Other amateurs won multiple regional championships and top 10's at nationals

What philosophy guides you as professional? And, what are some major challenges you experience and how do you overcome them?

My goals are to make nice, happy, simple to ride horses for my riders. They need to have fun or they won't be there to support us as trainers.

What are your future plans as a trainer?

Just keep going!

VICTOR BOTHA - no bio submitted

LEAH BETH GOLLADAY - no bio submitted

MARY LODEN

Which training facility do you work at or represent?

I am the Owner and Head Trainer at Legacy Pines Performance Horses in Springfield Ohio.

How many years have you been training horses and what disciplines do you specialize in?

I have been professionally training horses for 25 years. I specialize in the Sport Horse and Working Western divisions, but I am disciplined in many other areas as well.

What achievements have you accomplished personally in 2024, and what are some of the accomplishments of your clients/exhibitors in 2024?

2024 was a year of firsts and green horses for me to show. I had one horse that started a new discipline and showed his first year under saddle with me. He did extremely well finding his way through the Dressage arenas and showed us that he really likes this new job and arena. Every show was working on building more trust in that I was going to help lead him through new adventure. He finished the year strong, earned some regional roses and is happily working on improvements for this show season. I had a young, green horse that also had his first season out under saddle. While I never expected much he surprised me with every ride and was consecutively in the ribbons, even winning some Reserve Championships in Western Dressage at his second show. One of my other horses rose to the expectations I set for him under saddle this year, having a great season and won his first SHN Top 10 in Western Dressage at only his second National show. I don't ever feel like wins make or break your success, to me it is always about the horse and the ride that we had at that moment.

We had a fantastic show season and I am so blessed with my team. The support that it takes to be this successful comes from my husband, family, friends, and clients. My clients success, win or lose, is my success and I love celebrating with them no matter what the outcome is. We can always learn from our rides or runs, and even if they didn't win a ribbon they learned something and that is something to celebrate. I am so proud of what we accomplished last year and my clients. Without them, none of this is possible.

What philosophy guides you as professional? And, what are some major challenges you experience and how do you overcome them?

I always put the horse first. I am their advocate to the owner, vet, and chiropractor. I do my best to make sure the horses care and training is top shelf, and the best to my available resources. Many will say, I live, breathe, and sleep, the care of the horses in my barn, even on my days off and they are correct. I am very cautious to remember each horse is different and they do not all fit into the same training box. This allows me to have a unique personal relationship with each horse based on its own personality.

I think right now as professionals and owners, we are all experiencing the same hardships. Some of the challenges I experienced in 2024 is the same as I am sure most barns and small farms are experiencing and that is the continued rising cost of everything in our industry from supplies all the way to show fees.

What are your future plans as a trainer?

I truly believe that we never stop learning, and I will continue to build on my knowledge in all areas I can. By promoting, breeding, and lessons I continually try to bring in new people to our breed and show them the versatility of our wonderful horses.

SUE MACHIN

Which training facility do you work at or represent?

Steeple Pointe Stables

How many years have you been training horses and what disciplines do you specialize in?

30 years - Dressage

What achievements have you accomplished personally in 2024, and what are some of the accomplishments of your clients/exhibitors in 2024?

Client Horses ridden/shown by me -National Reserve Champion Western Dressage Basic open, Top 10 First level Dressage Open, National Top 10 in hand 2yr filly
My horse-Regional Top 5 I1 Dressage , Regional Top 5 level 4 Western Dressage (then he was injured and could not compete at nationals for the first time in 8 years)

What philosophy guides you as professional? And, what are some major challenges you experience and how do you overcome them?

My Philosophy for training is to instill the basics in every horse and rider, and to build on their skills to improve their strength and knowledge to the best of their ability.

What are your future plans as a trainer?

To continue helping clients and their horses to be the best they can be, and to continue upgrading my skills to be the best I can be

MARTHA RATTNER

Which training facility do you work at or represent?

Rattner Bloodstock LLC/ Train Robbery Farm

How many years have you been training horses and what disciplines do you specialize in?

I trained my first horse in the summer of 1972. I used that income to show at the large class A shows in our area. The shows of that day were huge in entries and I could not get enough of being there to see it all. Buckeye had 2000 horses and Indianapolis almost that many. I rode any horse that someone was willing to let me ride. I groomed horses for days just to be able to ride in a class any class just so I was showing. Rick Moser was my best friend and we were so lucky to be able to work and help at Burr Hill Arabians. It was a great start for both of us. There are not many divisions that I haven't been involved with over the years. I was a saddle seat kid and rode American Saddlebreds before I started showing our Arabians. The versatility of the Arabian breed suited me more because I love all things horse. I learned to train harness horses before I could drive a car. I've ridden and shown a lot of very talented English horses many of them were horses that helped shape the Arabian breed. I've been lucky to work for the very best our breed has seen both as breeders and trainers. Varian, LaCroix, DeLongpre', Nichols and in my early years Jim Warden and James A Fisher. Dixieland, LaCoix Ltd, NDL and Colonial Wood. I've had riders who are now great trainers of today like Kellie Wendling, Crystal McNutt and Natacha Lesburgueres. The amateurs Theresa Marie Schimmel, Mia Schimmel, Rebecca Reed, Katie Pelphrey and Jennifer Schwing were so successful and talented. I've been blessed with the best all the way around. It was easy to learn with the mentors I was fortunate to work with. So much knowledge to share and we all thrived because we hung on every word. I've learned from different disciplines and instructors of different skills. The two trainers who have been the greatest influence on my work are Jim Bowman and Clarke Vesty. They are the best of any breed anytime anywhere no question. I've done this so long I could go ten more paragraphs to explain what I have learned and who I learned it from. I also learn a lot judging and watching other trainers present horses both In Hand and under saddle. After spending nine years riding with a legend like Don Harris every day I learned a few secrets about showmanship from the greatest showman to ever ride in a horse show arena.

What achievements have you accomplished personally in 2024, and what are some of the accomplishments of your clients/exhibitors in 2024?

I can't begin to explain anything about 2024 without expressing how many times we ran out of wall space for awards. Last season was one of if not the most successful that I have had in my career. One thing is for certain we won more with less horses than ever before. I've invested a great deal of my time with coaching from dressage instructors and trainers over the last twelve months. I do a work program online Dressage Rider Training (DRT) which has been a game changer for me.

Our schedule this year included all of our Kentucky Value Shows except the one that was in conflict with Region 15/16. I spent over two weeks at WEC for Medallion, Region 13 SH and Region 13. Kelly Alcorn was my partner in crime and we stalled together. We got through a lot of classes and had a good time. One of our most successful shows in 2024 was our own Region 14 horse show. Tonya Taylor and Kaley Thacker held things together during the many times the show unraveled on us ! Twice we were soaked to the skin in rain. This resulted in classes being moved to different rings at different times some of which we had to scratch. Turned out to be a good thing for a few horses and not so much for another. Either way the garlands for all of the horses kept coming thanks to these ladies and Tonya had the show of all shows herself ! We could not have done anything like we did without the help of Alexis Maar and Missy Heater Walsh they made Region 14 shine !

Virginia Godwin, Jennifer Jones along with Missy kept all of my crew feeling great for all of the shows this year.

THE RESULTS are in.....

Patsy Khline+/ USN Top Ten (fourth) AWWA Ranch Challenge Incentive
Region 15 Champion In Hand Trail
Champion Trail Junior Horse
Reserve Champion Western Trail
Region 16 Champion Ranch Riding
Champion Western Trail
Reserve Champion In Hand Trail ATH (Bill Ellzey)
Reserve Champion Trail Junior Horse
USEF Champion Working Western
Region 14 Champion Trail Junior Horse
Champion Sport Horse Under Saddle Junior Horse
Reserve Champion Trail In Hand
USEF Champion Western Pleasure
USEF Champion Working Western

Over The Moon V++++// USN Top Ten AWWA Ranch Challenge (25 entries)
SHN Top Ten Sport Horse under Saddle HT (35 entries)
SHN Top Ten Western Dressage Level 1 (27 entries)
Region 13 Reserve Champion Western Dressage Basic

Reserve Champion Sport Horse under Saddle
Region 15 Champion Trail In Hand (Bill Ellzey)
Champion Western Trail
Champion Ranch Riding
Champion Conformation Ranch (Bill Ellzey)
Top Five Working Hunter Over Fences
USEF Champion Working Western
Region 16 Champion Ladies Side Saddle
Champion In Hand Trail
Champion Western Trail
Champion Ranch Rail
Champion Ranch Riding
Champion Conformation Ranch (Bill Ellzey)
Reserve Champion In Hand Trail ATH (Bill Ellzey)
Top Five Working Hunter Over Fences
USEF Champion Working Western
USEF Champion Specialty
Rosehill Alwaysalady++++// National Champion Sport Horse Mare Hunter Type
Also won 2023,2022,2021 this was her fourth consecutive win
and a big thrill for her connections
Silverama Western Dressage Qualifications from 11 entries
with a score of 71.538 for the win !
Region 14 Top Five Western Dressage Basic
USEF Region 14 Champion Western Dressage

Zorrado+// Region 15 Champion Western Pleasure AAOTR (Henrietta Ellzey)
Region 16 Reserve Champion Western Pleasure AOTR (Henrietta Ellzey)
USEF Region 16 Champion Western Pleasure Amateur (Henrietta Ellzey)
USEF Region 14 Reserve Champion Western Pleasure Open

SW Zino++++// National Champion First Level Dressage (33 entries)
National Champion Western Dressage Basic (26 entrues)
National Champion Western Dressage Level 1 (17 entries)
From Western Pleasure to Dressage in less than a year. Three rides resulted in three
National Championships. And he returned back at Regionals and Nationals for more
Western titles.
USN Top Ten Western Side Saddle
Region 14 Champion Western Dressage Basic
Champion Western Dressage Level 1
Champion Ladies Side Saddle Western
USEF Champion Western Dressage
Region 13 Champion Dressage First Level

Champion Western Dressage Basic
Reserve Champion Ladies Side Saddle E &W
USEF Champion Specialty
USEF First Level Dressage

What philosophy guides you as professional? And, what are some major challenges you experience and how do you overcome them?

I've always been an avid reader. I love pedigrees and history. Most of all I love horses and all things horse. I learn something almost daily that I did not know about horses. I am 100% horse person and not so much a people person. My horses always come first. I enjoy teaching people who want to learn something that there was once such a huge supply of and has dwindled today. I am not a big fan of instant gratification and instant return. Learning horsemanship skills has no limit and it's forever. I have little patience with a know it all when it comes to horses. And I have zero tolerance for those who refuse to focus on details. I was meant to be in Lexington, Kentucky where I have the access to great Equine Hospitals and podiatrist care that is the top in the country. In my horse show world I have the best of the best in support for the care of these horses. . Lee Hunter handles all of our massage care. Virginia and Missy handle therapy along with Jennifer Jones who did a great job for us this year. We use chiropractic and also Bemer to aid our performance and In Hand horses. When you have great people on your team it is a lot easier getting good results. This year Eric Franklin joined our home team and helps Ben Lee handle all the work at home. Kaley Thacker and Tonya Taylor did the shows along with Kelly Alcorn and her crew as stunt dudes during Region 13. Alexis Maar has been such a huge help with doing my braiding and the clipping for the majors. Her work is amazing. Problems come up and they are easy to solve when you have the people with you that can solve them. Thanks to all who helped make 2024 a great memory.

What are your future plans as a trainer?

We have a Thoroughbred breeding program that we will continue. My passion has always been for Anglo Arabians as well as other Half Arabians. We are going to expand our breeding to include Anglos and other crosses for Sport and Working type horses. I want to include some of our horses from the track when they retire. We plan to take the ones who are suited over fences and the others we will use for Dressage, Western Dressage and Ranch. This week we are collecting and freezing semen on our young Westfalen. Next month we have an Anglo due from our Thunder Gulch daughter in foal to Wall Street B. There is lots to look forward to at our farm. We have made many improvements to prepare for more visitors because we plan to breed and market affordable pleasure and amateur friendly horses that fit well with our local horse community. We have so many opportunities here to exhibit with working western. Western Dressage, Dressage and Hunter Jumper

without leaving our zip code. Our goal is to put Train Robbery Farm and Rattner Bloodstock in the middle of it.

TONYA TAYLOR

Which training facility do you work at or represent?

High Hopes Training Center

How many years have you been training horses and what disciplines do you specialize in?

I've been training horses my whole life! I have trained many different breeds of show horses over the years. I grew up training and racing Standardbreds. The Arabian horse was introduced to me while I was training and showing Saddlebreds 25 years ago. We bred a Saddlebred to an Arabian stallion and our first half Arabian was born and went on to be a Region 14 Reserve Champion Hunter horse. I was then hooked on Arabians and never looked back. The amount of talent and versatility of this breed was perfect for my family! I train all Arabian and Half Arabian disciplines from main ring to sport horse, but I specialize in Halter and other in hand classes. I also specialize in Western, Hunter, English and SHUS divisions. Most of the horses I have trained have all been shown by their amateur owners, and the ones I own myself have been shown by my daughter Makayla Mott.

What achievements have you accomplished personally in 2024, and what are some of the accomplishments of your clients/exhibitors in 2024?

Parysa was shown primarily by my daughter Makayla Mott at several local class A shows where she was Champion or Reserve Champion in Halter and SHIH. But she was undefeated in all her amateur divisions in both. We then went to Region 14 and was Champion in Mares Amateur SHIH and Reserve in the Open Mares SHIH. We were overwhelmed with joy but, the highlight of the show was on the same day she showed back a few hours later in Mare Halter and was the Unanimous Champion! The crowds support was overwhelming!! Then at the last minute we decided to go to Sport Horse Nationals. Parysa was shown by Makayla Mott National Champion in ATH Hunter type SHIH. National Champion open hunter type SHIH. Reserve National Champion ATH Dressage type mare SHIH, and also had a top 10 in Dressage type mares SHIH open. This was an amazing year that Makayla and I will never forget!!

What philosophy guides you as professional? And, what are some major challenges you experience and how do you overcome them?

I always say go big or go home!! 2024 started with a lot of excitement knowing my daughter Makayla Mott was returning to the show ring after having my grandson. She was

determined to put in the work and I was going to have the mare in the best condition possible. But sadly our excitement was short lived! In March my dad's health started to decline. He was in and out of several hospitals and then in May at the SAHIBA show he was hospitalized for the last time. He was diagnosed with dementia and had cancer. This was extremely hard on my family due to the fact it took two of us at all times to care for my dad while in the hospital. When I was in the barn training the horses was what gave me peace during this difficult time. My friends were amazing during this time and my family stepped up to help us in every way possible. My dad passed away on May 30th. The loss was overwhelming, the horses was the one thing my dad and I had in common and something we did together my whole life. Shortly after he passed, I became obsessed with being at the barn and working the horses. I felt close to my dad there and it helped me deal with our loss. This passed year was extremely successful and I felt the whole time he was with us and was extremely proud of his daughter and granddaughter! I dedicated last year to my father James William Schulte and will continue to make him proud.

What are your future plans as a trainer?

My plans for the future are to continue to strive to be the trainer I know my father thought I could be. I plan to have new horses and clients showing in 2025 that I'm extremely excited about, and it won't be long before the 3rd generation of my family will be in the show ring. Showing horses with my family and friends means the world to me. My goal is for all of them to have the time of their lives and be successful.

YOUTH OF THE YEAR NOMINEES

ABIGAIL BROWN

How many years have you been riding and competing with Arabian/Half-Arabian horses?

I have been riding for 5 years now at Firelight Arabians. In those 5 years I have overcome challenges, given back to the community through horses, participated in breed promotion and so much more. A couple of years ago I did a Kindness Project, where I went to a nursing home to brighten the residents' day with a horse. I show in Dressage, Sport Horse Under Saddle, Sport Horse In-hand, Halter, and this year I am adding on Side-Saddle and Show Hack. I had a great Youth Nationals show and Regionals. At Youth Nationals I won 2 top tens. At Regionals I earned 2 Top four, 3 Reserve Champions, and a Champion. Additionally, I achieved my Rider of Merit and my Horseman of Honor this year. Lastly, I look forward to serving as Region 14 Youth Secretary.

What divisions did you compete in for 2024?

What are your achievements in competition for the 2024, in and out of the show ring?

What are your future plans in the Arabian horse community and competitive world?

WALT DAVIS

How many years have you been riding and competing with Arabian/Half-Arabian horses?

3 years

What divisions did you compete in for 2024?

- A/HA/AA Intro to Dressage Walk/Trot 10 & Under
- A/HA/AA Intro to Dressage
- A/HA/AA Sport Horse Under Saddle Walk/Trot 10 & Under
- A/HA/AA Sport Horse Equitation Walk/Trot 10 & Under
- A/HA/AA Walk/Trot Pleasure 10 & Under

What are your achievements in competition for the 2024, in and out of the show ring?

2024 SHOW RING HIGHLIGHTS:

-SAHIBA ARABIAN SPRING SHOW: Champion in Sport Horse Equitation Walk/Trot 10 & Under. Also recognized at this show for having the highest youth dressage score in the state of Kentucky.

-MEDALLION: Highest dressage score for the entire show with an 81.25.

-REGION 13: Top 5 in Intro Dressage Walk/Trot 10 & Under

-REGION 14 CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW: Reserve Champion in Sport Horse Under Saddle Walk/Trot 10 & Under

-BLUEGRASS DRESSAGE AND SPORT HORSE FALL SHOW: Highest dressage score for the entire show with a 72.81.

OTHER SEASON HIGHLIGHTS:

-Demo Rider for Arabian Days Exhibition at Kentucky Horse Park

-Demo Rider for Breyerfest

What are your extracurricular activities at school? Are you involved in horse club functions? Do you volunteer at horse activities, both riding events and promotional events?

Promoting the Arabian breed was a new highlight of the 2024 season, expanding the love of the horse beyond the show ring. Demos and volunteer work took place at both Arabian Horse Days and Breyerfest at Kentucky Horse Park. Horse Club membership and function attendance with SAHIBA aided in this opportunity for promoting the Arabian.

At age 10, extracurricular activities outside of the barn include serving both our church (Highview Baptist) and homeschool community (including Cross Academy), several times a week.

What are your future plans in the Arabian horse community and competitive world?

To continue to promote and showcase the breed to the best of my ability, maintaining a commitment of hard work and dedication to the sport.

LUCAS FEDDERS

ELLIE KAUFMAN

How many years have you been riding and competing with Arabian/Half-Arabian horses?

5 years

What divisions did you compete in for 2024?

Dressage - Training and First Level; Equitation, and Hunter Pleasure, Sport Horse Under Saddle both Hunter and Dressage types.

What are your achievements in competition for the 2024, in and out of the show ring?

I'm grateful and blessed for the amazing opportunities and success in my riding career that I achieved in 2024. Highlights include my first Youth National Champion title with my wonderful lease, SRC Homerun VE, 2 National Reserve titles with both SRC Homerun VE, and my outstanding purebred, Verocco. Other accomplishments in the ring included being named Regional Champion eleven times across multiple regions, including unanimous champion in region 5 with a wonderful horse named Countdown to Fame CF. Outside of the ring, I learned a lot about myself as a rider. I learned about pushing myself when I felt like giving up. I focused more on my faith and look forward to working on new goals and through new challenges in 2025!

What are your extracurricular activities at school? Are you involved in horse club functions? Do you volunteer at horse activities, both riding events and promotional events?

When I'm not riding, I enjoy playing basketball for my middle school team, drawing, attending and volunteering at local horse shows, and spending time with friends and family.

What are your future plans in the Arabian horse community and competitive world?

In addition to competing and volunteering at shows, I hope to be able to get involved more this year at some of the community and promotional events.

LUCY MACLAREN

How many years have you been riding and competing with Arabian/Half-Arabian horses?

Having been born in an Arabian horse family, I have been showing Arabian/Half-Arabian horses since I was 2 years old when I started in lead-line.

What divisions did you compete in for 2024?

Currently I am showing in Ranch Riding, Reining and Sport Horse Under Saddle. I have previously shown in western pleasure and hunter pleasure.

What are your achievements in competition for the 2024, in and out of the show ring?

In 2024, I received 6 Regional Championships, 4 Regional Reserve Championships, and 7 Top Fives over 3 Regional shows. On the 4-H level, I qualified for the Ohio State Fair and received 8 First place plaques at the 4-H horse show at the county fair, winning the High Point Western Exhibitor for the show with my Half-Arabian, Bring It ("Matthew"). I also attended the Ohio Equine Affaire as an ambassador for the Arabian Horse and enjoyed showing off Matthews talents as a reining horse. My favorite moment/memory from 2024 was winning the freestyle reining for the second year in a row at the Hartford Fair, performing to the Ghostbusters theme song.

What are your extracurricular activities at school? Are you involved in horse club functions? Do you volunteer at horse activities, both riding events and promotional events?

At school, I am a member of the Johnstown Big Red Band and a Global Scholar. I have recently joined a YEDA team and am keeping busy on the weekends during fall and winter attending YEDA horse shows. During 2024, I volunteered at the Ohio Equine Affaire booth and breed demo with my horse and volunteered at Breyerfest in the breed booth. I am a

member and the Youth Director for the Ohio Arabian Horse Association (OHAHA) and volunteer at the OHAHA Spring Show.

What are your future plans in the Arabian horse community and competitive world?

I plan to continue to volunteer at our Regional and club events throughout the year. In the show arena, my goal is to attend my second Youth Nationals in the Reining, Ranch Riding, Sport Horse Under Saddle and Reining Seat Equitation divisions to round out my time in the 14 and under age division.

OLIVIA REYNOLDS

How many years have you been riding and competing with Arabian/Half-Arabian horses?

I have been riding Arabians for 4 years, and showing them for 3.

What divisions did you compete in for 2024?

I competed in JTR, ATR, and Open classes (respectively) in Dressage 1st and 2nd level, Sport Horse Under Saddle, Sport Horse Show Hack, Hunter Pleasure, Sport Horse Under Saddle Jr Horse, and Hunter Pleasure Jr Horse.

What are your achievements in competition for the 2024, in and out of the show ring?

I was blessed with the chance to show two horses in 2024, one of which was in her first year under saddle and showing. I received national titles in Sport Horse Show Hack Open (top 10), Dressage Second Level JTR (top 10), and regional titles in SHUS Jr Horse (champion), Dressage First Level ATR (champion), Dressage Second Level Open (top 3), and Sport Horse Show Hack ATR (top 3). I also had 6 other wins at recognized shows in SHUS Jr Horse, Hunter Pleasure Jr Horse, Hunter Pleasure ATR, First Level ATR, and Dressage Second Level, as well as 22 other placings. On top of these achievements, I also earned my Rider of Supreme Honor Champion. Outside of the show ring, I also earned a 34 on the ACT, was accepted to multiple colleges with scholarships, kept a 4.0 GPA, graduated high school as valedictorian, and remained on the Deans List now that I am attending college.

What are your extracurricular activities at school? Are you involved in horse club functions? Do you volunteer at horse activities, both riding events and promotional events?

I am involved in various honors programs within my school, as well as pre-career clubs in both the healthcare and engineering fields. I am part of the college IHSA team, which holds weekly meetings on top of riding and participates in campus-wide promotional events for

outreach and to get donations to sponsor riders and horses (in hopes of making the team more accessible to all students). While being a full-time student, I am also taking additional online classes to hopefully earn my bachelor's and my masters in a year or two less than it traditionally takes.

What are your future plans in the Arabian horse community and competitive world?

In college, I am riding with my school's IHSA team, and when I am home, I enjoy riding Arabians again. While I am not in a position to show while in college, I intend on getting back into the competition world as soon as I am able to again.

TALISA THOMAS

How many years have you been riding and competing with Arabian/Half-Arabian horses?

I was born into horses and can't remember a time I wasn't in the barn or riding.

What divisions did you compete in for 2024?

Hunter Under Saddle and Country English Pleasure

What are your achievements in competition for the 2024, in and out of the show ring?

My Top and favorite 2024 achievement included Unanimouson a dear friend's horse that was a catch ride. I watched this horse grow up and even had the chance to buy him as a weanling but I was only 11. Along with that, I also achieved a Reserve in a Purebred Hunter class and a Top 5.

Outside the ring, my 4H Hippology team won State and then was selected to join our State team to compete and win at Eastern Nationals.

What are your extracurricular activities at school? Are you involved in horse club functions? Do you volunteer at horse activities, both riding events and promotional events?

Since I was 9, I've competed with my 4H team in Hippology, Horse Bowl and Horse Judging. This past year I qualified again for our State Team and chose to commit 100%. We, then had weekly meetings and labs at the University of Illinois. We competed in November at Eastern Nationals in Louisville where our team then won! I also am involved in Midwestwhere our judging team competed at Arabian Nationals along with a few other contests.

I enjoy helping and volunteering with our local 4H horse kids. I live in the middle of farm country where horses....especially Arabians, are not seen. I love taking my horses to grass shows or events where the community can see our gorgeous breed.

I also volunteer at our local equine college with judging events for the junior exhibitors.

What are your future plans in the Arabian horse community and competitive world?

My future plans definitely include horses.

Ultimate goal would be to own my own facility with the hopes of training.

HALEY WALDSCHMIDT - no bio submitted