

20 QUESTIONS

... about your life with Arabian horses ... with KIM KELEMEN



1 What is your current involvement with Arabian horses?

We own, breed, show and pleasure ride our Arabian and half Arabian horses.

2 How many years have you been around horses? *45 years.*

3 They say, "the Arabian horse finds you". How did the Arabian horse find you?

My Dad brought me home my first Arabian horse for my 11th Birthday. She was a yearling H/A filly named "Excelebits Lady" I broke her myself and was involved with our local 4H club with her. She gave me 3 foals and I owned her until she passed away at our farm age 28.

4 Who is or has been your favorite horse companion?

"Scotty So Hotty" Scott is a H/A gelding that we bred, raised and showed H/A English and Native Costume. He is a great character and is tons of fun to ride!

5 Who has been your (horse) mentor?

Bask. I feel the "Bask" lines are extremely athletic, intelligent as well as beautiful. They have heart and all of my "home bred" horses have "Bask" in their pedigree.

6 What is your favorite horse book? *Black Beauty.*

7 What is your favorite horse movie?

Secretariat. Great story of a horse with huge heart and a determined woman with a great dream.

8 What are some 'Arabian horse activities' in which you participate?

Arabian Horse Shows, Aurora Arabian Horse Association Treasurer & Show Chairperson and we love trail riding in the mountains.

9 What would be your most memorable experience or moment with an Arabian horse?

Winning 2007 US National Reserve Champion in H/A AATH in Albuquerque when it was announced "bred, owned and shown" by myself.

10 What has been your greatest achievement with your Arabian horse(s) so far?

Breeding a quality level of horse that can compete at a National level and being able to share it with my Daughter. Seeing her & our "home grown" horses have success at a National level has been very rewarding.

11 Which horse do you consider to be your "dream" horse, either past or present?

Serendipity KK. "Sara" is a black H/A mare that we bred that I had success with in both main ring and halter. I am very proud of her.



12 Horses are amazing teachers. What has your horse taught you that has helped you become a better person?

Physically, our horses have given me strength and balance on and off their backs. Mentally, they have taught me patience & hope.

13 What is the best thing about working and playing with your Arabian horse?

It wouldn't be one specific thing ... I love to watch the horses on our farm in all their stages, birth until retirement. From the first touch, you gain their trust and from that point on you both learn EVERYTHING about each other.

14 What would you say to a person considering buying a horse to encourage them to purchase an Arabian?

Investigate what you want. Go to shows, rides or to where ever you have interest in. Watch and learn so when you are ready to buy you have the knowledge of the kind of horse partner you want. It's then you can make a good, well informed choice for both you and your horse.

15 What is your advice to someone, "brand new," considering becoming involved with horses?

Seek out informed people specifically with "Arabian" horse knowledge. Not all breeds behave or train the same. Enjoy your horse partnership and don't get too serious. Remember why you're doing it. Have FUN!

16 Is there a favorite reference book you'd like to share?

I don't really have a reference book. I think it's more about seeking knowledge from reliable sources all the way from nutrition, care to training. We have some great, really fantastic trainers in our immediate area and Alberta. Be well informed.

17 What is the one thing you'd like to do that you haven't done yet?

I would love to find that perfect Purebred to take cattle sorting and penning. It would do my heart good to have success and be competitive with the Quarter horses in that industry.



18 What about 'kids" and an Arabian horse?

Kids and Arabians are great together. The sensitive nature and intelligence of the Arabian horse is a great teacher. Arabians are a caring mount. Again, do your homework in order to have a good "match."

19 Why do you think you get such a “rush” being around or riding your Arabian horse(s)?

There is nothing more satisfying then having a good ride and knowing your horse is happy. My personal “rush” comes from riding and feeling that obedient, willing power beneath you. I love it when Arabians’ “blow” and show off. Their spirit, beauty & elegance always bring a smile to my face.

20 What are your words to live by?

“Knowledge is power” and “No act of kindness no matter how small is ever wasted.”

Is there anything else you’d like to add?

Have fun and enjoy the “ride.” ■