

▪ CALENDAR OF EVENTS	2
▪ TAKING THE PLUNGE	2
▪ AL-MARAH ARABIAN HORSE GALLERIES	3
▪ SAFE TRAVEL IN WINTER	4
▪ RAE-DAWN ARABIANS	5
▪ 20 WAYS HORSE RIDING BECOMES LIFE ITSELF	6
▪ 20 QUESTIONS WITH ...	7
▪ FUN & GAMES	8

POSTED BY HORSELISTENING.COM

10 Habits of Competent Riders

We can all think of a rider we know that seems to always do well, has calm, happy horses, and steadily improves their horse's physical and mental state in an almost effortless manner.

We watch and admire from afar, but in fact, we can all stand to learn from their regular habits and "way of being" in order to develop our own horse riding mantra.

What do great riders have in common that makes them appealing to watch, steadily develop their riding skills and become role models for others to aspire to emulate?

1. Persistence: Good riders are willing to try, try again. They know that there will be more rides, more days, and the slow and steady approach always wins the "race".

2. Open-mindedness: Good riders know there is something to be learned from everyone, even if to see proof of why NOT to do something. These riders are not discipline exclusive, and are always aware that good riding is good riding, regardless of the saddle or style.

3. Patience: Good riders are willing to wait to reap the rewards. They know that even if something falls apart today, there will be more days to come and small steps even backward are more beneficial than quick fixes or

shortcuts.

4. Quitting: This may seem counter-intuitive, but good riders quit while they're ahead. They ride for short periods of time to their highest ability and then call it a day. They seem to intuitively know when enough is enough.

5. Effectiveness: Good riders seek maximum effectiveness with minimum harm. They make every step count, and they resist overriding the horse for the sake of performance.

6. Self-Improvement: Good riders regularly seek to upgrade their riding skills and general horse education. They are willing to spend time, money and humility in the quest for constant self-improvement.

7. Seeing the Big Picture: Good riders enjoy the "work" and the path as much as they do the goal achievement. They know that each day and each step is as important as the other and is a natural progression in development.

8. Role Models: Good riders know good riding when they see it and seek to surround themselves with those who will not only help them improve on a riding level, but also on a more personal and inspirational level as well.

9. Problem Solving: Good riders can trouble-shoot through problems to come to gratifying solu-

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 10]

Welcome

The Year of the Arabian Horse

This year, 2014, is the "Year of the Horse" according to the Chinese Zodiac Calendar which begins on January 31, 2014, and ends on February 18, 2015.

What a great opportunity to celebrate the "Year of the Arabian Horse". Of course, those of us involved with the Arabian horse know that every day is 'Arabian horse day' and every month is 'Arabian horse month' ... so this year let's share a day (or many days) with our community that this is the Arabian Horse Day. Do something special to get our Arabian horse "out there", face to face with people in your community. It might mean you have an open house at your farm or make an offer to schools to have their classrooms come out and have a picnic at your farm and see the beautiful horses. Maybe it means putting up posters about Arabian horses. "Better in a stall than in the Mall" is a poster we can send you if you'd like to get the message out that involvement with Arabian horses is good for 'kids' ... any age kids from 6 to 96.

Come on ... Let's celebrate the 'Year of the Arabian Horse' ... let's let the world know how special our Arabian horses are.

Gary ■



Gary Millar
President & CEO

Calendar

32nd ANNUAL HORSE BREEDERS AND OWNERS CONFERENCE

Friday, January 10 to
Sunday, January 12, 2014.
Red Deer, Alberta.

Presented by the non-profit organization, Horse Industry Association of Alberta, the conference is a must-attend event for horse breeders, owners and riders with topics of interest for every horse enthusiast.

For more information, please visit
www.albertahorseindustry.ca

59th ANNUAL SCOTTSDALE ARABIAN HORSE SHOW

Thursday, February 13 to
Sunday, February 23, 2014.
Scottsdale, Arizona.

Since 1955 the Annual Scottsdale Arabian Horse Show has set the pace in the Arabian horse world. The first show was held at the grounds of the Arizona Biltmore Hotel which was a beautiful setting for a horse show. The Scottsdale Arabian Horse Show was a first class show from the very first day.

After the show's beginnings at the Arizona Biltmore, Ann McCormick bought 150 acres in Scottsdale and made it into the horse facility known as Paradise Park which served the needs of the show for many years.

Since that time, the show has been held at Westworld in Scottsdale. It has grown from 50 horses to nearly 2400 horses bringing top owners, trainers and breeders from around the world competing for a chance at winning. A win at Scottsdale can mean big money in the breeding barns.

The 2014 Scottsdale Arabian Horse Show is proud to benefit the following charities: Cox Charities & March of Dimes.

For more information, please visit
www.scottsdaleshow.com/shows-events/scottsdale-arabian-horse-show

Tell us about your event, e-mail info@discoverarabianhorses.com ■

Taking the Plunge

From Equine Hobbyist to Equine Business Professional.

It seems to be the dream of just about any horse-crazy girl, making a living working with horses. I guess I've dabbled in it for quite a while, doing some halter training and such with other people's horses, but the coaching and training bit just didn't ever seem to fit me so I've been working a normal-person day job.

Recently, however, I gave my notice at my full-time job in healthcare opting to stay on casual. Daycare fees went way up and they're going up again in May. I sat down with my husband and we had a heart to heart about priorities and stress levels. Through 2013, I found myself regularly working 13 days out of every 14 doing equine first-aid or trick-horse clinics throughout Alberta. Working a demanding day job in a hospital, teaching clinics and trying to somehow magically be a functioning mother to an incredible little girl (oh and training my own horses!) was seriously wearing me out! So when daycare went up, that seemed to be the straw that broke my proverbial back.

So here it is! I'm home – SELF EMPLOYED! EEK!

In truth, it's been wonderful! I am home with my daughter (best thing!) and have more time to spend with my horses (wow!!!) Bookings have been coming in regularly for equine first-aid certification clinics (I'm one of the top instructors with Equi-Health Canada) as well as inquiries for spring trick-horse clinics. I'm even booking a trip to Texas with my husband for March – to teach a course or two!

This new adventure is very exciting and my day planner is already filling up. I may even get to have a show season in 2014! Very convenient as I'll be work-

ing on getting scores for my young warmblood stallion's lifetime licence.

It seems I've found my niche in a kind of unconventional place. I've got a number of friends who are equine massage therapists or chiropractors, a few who went the way of farrier and several who've hung out (or are planning to hang out) a shingle as a "horse trainer". If you're good and can make it go, hey that's great, but it's SO COMPETITIVE!!

When I took the equine first-aid certification clinic (the one I now teach) a year and a half ago, I had no idea it would turn into my career but it was one of those things I knew I wanted to be a part of and it's taken off like a shot for me.



The same with the trick-horse clinics, so many people had asked Caylyn Walker and me to do trick-horse clinics that, when we came together to try it out, it just flowed and it too has been hugely in demand!

I think it's good karma, but I do believe in giving back to the community that supports me. In early March, I have the honour of

training new equine first-aid clinicians and February will see me running a trick-horse clinic for the benefit of the Canadian Standardbred Network at Maple Leaf Meadows (yes, lots of room available!)

I believe in continuing education. March will see an opportunity to take an Equine Assisted Learning Facilitator's course close to home. Haven't a clue where that one will fit into the business plan, but I have no doubt it will be utilized somewhere.

So how does one advertise effectively and build the business? That's my favourite one to talk about. Certainly I can't do the Arbonne thing, network

Arabian Horse Galleries

KENTUCKY HORSE PARK AND AL-MARAH ARABIAN HORSE GALLERIES Designed with younger visitors in mind, this 8,000 square foot gallery is home to a state-of-the-art multimedia, interactive experience showcasing the Arabian breed from its desert beginnings through its emergence across Europe and the journey through America.



Distinguished by the Bedouin settings, the exhibit traces, through art, film, books and interactive exhibits, the importance of the Arabian and how it has changed the world. A popular exhibit, the Black Stallion Experience, features the Arabian horse in literature and film.

Opened in 2010, the Al-Marah - Arabian Horse Gallery is an exciting exhibit that utilizes both interactive technology and historical art and artifacts to teach visitors about the history of the Arabian horse. Beginning with the earliest domestication of the Arabian in the Middle East, the exhibit follows the breed through history as it spread across the world to Europe and eventually, the United States. ■



<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.781782315171626.1073741831.626982870651572&type=3>



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X6Oua2C2ZpQ>



EQUI-HEALTH CANADA is an organization dedicated to helping horse owners and lovers improve the health and safety of horses by providing emergency first aid training to individuals, clubs and organizations across Canada and the United States. Equine First Aid is the first available treatment available to a horse before a veterinarian can attend to the animal.

Our program was born a decade ago, with the vision of educating horse owners in emergency first aid and providing quality training and products in this area. Developed in conjunction with equine rescue organizations, veterinarians, farriers, equine chiropractors, equine massage therapists, back country outfitters and numerous other interested parties, the courses and products provided by Equi-Health Canada are recognized nation-wide. www.equi-healthcanada.com ■

marketing has never been my forte, but I can talk to ANYONE who will sit still about horses. Summer 2014, I've been asked to speak at a workshop put on by my beloved Equi-Health Canada about self-promotion and "closing the deal". Between you and me, I haven't any idea on the latter, but I know about the former! There are a few forms of marketing out there and we all know how fast things can spread (for better or worse) on social media. The proof is in the pudding, however. People talk to people. When a good thing comes through the horse world, it spreads faster than wild fire! People talking to people about me and the work I'm doing has been the greatest promotion

.....
"When a good thing comes through the horse world, it spreads faster than wild fire!"

of all. In fact, when I was at the Horse Breeder's and Owner's Conference in 2013 and had an opportunity to speak briefly with Mr. Dan James (Double Dan), he loved the idea of equine first-aid clinics.

Being able to put yourself out in front of a crowd, make your professional self easily and readily accessible to the horse populous and having a ready smile and the time to talk to Joe off the street about their thoughts and questions is paramount! That's one of the beautiful bonuses of writing this column for the last year.

Certainly my direction as a now equine professional is unconventional. It's

not something I'd ever considered in my previous experience; however, one should never underestimate looking outside of the box. Good news for anyone dreaming of a life in the horse industry! There's more than just the standard and sometimes cut-throat career choices!

My next articles are going to delve into the breeding/competitive side of the horse world. It's going to take a few editions to get all the details out, so stay tuned! ■



Truck & Trailer Safety

Your horse's health isn't the only part of winter travel that you should consider-- severe weather can drastically affect the way you drive your truck and trailer. Heavy rains mean muddy roads, wet streets, or flooded intersections.

You might have to drive through low visibility conditions, such as a white-out during a snowstorm, heavy rain, or hail. In northern climates, snow and ice can slow or even halt highway traffic, leaving you and your horses stranded. Assume your extra responsibility for safety by anticipating all of these risks.

As you drive on less-than-ideal roads, continuously check your truck and trailer's performance. Reduce speed when the road is icy to assure yourself that you still have full control of truck and trailer. If you drive through a flooded intersection or dip in the road, test your brakes before you need to stop for traffic or other hazards to see if they've become wet and "grabby."

Additionally, a heavy horse trailer moving at a good clip can slide a very long way if the tires lose their grip on ice, so you need to drive more slowly and plan even farther ahead on icy roads.

Always use your trailer's safety chains when you hitch up. A strong wind or a slippery road can hamper your control of the trailer, so you want it to remain firmly hitched to your truck even if the primary hitch fails.

Should you use chains on tires? They can cause a rough ride, but Laurie Allred of Ketchum, Ohio, uses them for additional grip on slick roads. "We chain the rear wheels of the pickup, and the brake wheels on the trailer," she says. "That helps keep you from fishtailing."

With proper planning for winter trailering, you can keep your horses (and yourself) safe and healthy. ■

Safe Travel in Winter

You're driving a loaded horse trailer in winter despite rain, snow, ice, and a low wind chill factor. Why? Unfortunately, schedules for breeding, competition, and sale require that horses be transported in all seasons and weather despite increased risks. Another possible reason to haul horses in winter might be to evacuate because of a natural or man-made disaster. Yet another reason might be a medical emergency.

Hauling horses in winter escalates the hazards for driver and animals. The challenges are to maintain your horse's health and arrive safely—and on schedule. The risks of winter require more preparation than the same journey in other seasons. Use common sense in balancing your need to meet a schedule with the hazards of transport.

An important planning step is investigating weather conditions at your destination. "We like to minimize great changes in weather when we can," says David Jensen, DVM, of San Marcos Equine Practice in Los Alamos, Calif., who handles long-distance horse shipping. "Pay attention to weather when you can. Don't ship a horse right after he shows or races in Florida, and then go to colder weather in New York."

Keeping Horses Comfortable The trailer shelters your horse from wind's chill, rain, snow, and hail. However, you can make a horse uncomfortable even in this shelter, especially if you close up the trailer tightly to keep out the bad weather. Analyze each phase of your trip—before you leave, determine how you'll maintain a comfortable temperature inside the trailer.

Jensen explains that horses thrive in cooler temperatures, around 50-60°F (12°C). Overheating is a more hazardous, and a more typical, problem for horses being hauled than getting chilled. Heat inside an enclosed trailer can build up quickly, increasing the humidity. The horse then sweats more, leading to added fluid loss. Also, many people overblanket horses in trailers in cold weather, which adds to their discomfort.

Jensen says that good ventilation inside

the trailer can help keep horses from overheating. This is a must whether you are hauling in winter or summer. Air should circulate, but the trailer should not be drafty with wind blowing directly onto the horse. In frigid temperatures, the open sides of a stock trailer can permit too much cold wind on horses.

"Without proper air circulation, condensation builds up and the horses end up breathing all that moisture in the air, which can lead to serious respiratory problems," says Jack Williams of Beacon Hill Horse Transportation in Wingdale, N.Y.

The first step in providing proper ventilation is to check your trailer's vents. Along with windows, vents aid air exchange and help the trailer "breathe." Ideally, each stall will have a roof vent. The two-way ventilator can be adjusted to scoop air from the front or rear.

"Run the roof vents in reverse (opening to the rear) so they will draw all that steamy, dead air off the horses," advises Dave Dalzelle of Jamco Trailers. "You can get quite a breeze at 70 miles per hour. People often open the vents (forward) and blast air down on top of the horses, right down on their heads or backs. Leave the windows open and reverse the vents."

Another important step is to inspect a trailer's sliding windows. Make sure that they slide easily, aren't cracked, and close completely. As heat increases inside, you want to be able to adjust ventilation by "cracking" a window an inch or two, or opening it fully if it's very hot inside.

Jim McKague of Jamco Trailers says, "Most of today's trailers seal up tightly when you close them. In close quarters, you do get condensation. Don't open your storm doors in winter, but use windows to allow air to escape. The windows should have screens to stop any snow or moisture from coming in with the horses."

Your trailer's insulation also affects the interior environment. Insulation in a double-wall construction keeps

Rae-Dawn Arabians

Their mission is to produce beautiful Arabian Horses with exceptional movement and charisma and share their passion for Arabian Horses with other owners and breeders around the world.



Rae-Dawn Arabians is one of the top equine facilities in the world, producing beautiful Arabian Horses with exceptional movement and charisma.

RD Arabians' World-Class Breeding Program is an international success story and has become one of the fastest rising sources of competitive bloodstock in North America.

Rae-Dawn Arabians farms are located in Saskatoon, SK Canada and Scottsdale, AZ U.S.A.940. ■



<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=240780206090594&set=vb.238603919641556&type=2&theater> or www.rdarabians.com

heat in and cold out, and you might need to adjust the windows and roof vents to compensate.

Watering is another important part of winter travel, as dehydration can be more likely to occur in cold weather. Some horses naturally drink less in winter, and drivers might not want to take the time to locate, haul, and offer warm water to each horse in a trailer. However, hydration is essential to health—plan to stop every three to four hours to water your passengers.

Blanketing If it is very cold, you might need to blanket your horse(s), but cold isn't the only factor. "If there is a full load in the truck, a sheet would be fine," says Williams. Several horses' body heat keeps the inside of a trailer pretty warm. However, "If you only have a few horses on, and the temperature is cold, you may need a blanket, too."

Match the warmth of the blanket to the horse's coat. A horse which is body-clipped will need increased warmth in cold weather, while one with a heavy winter coat might need no extra covering at all.

At each watering stop, check the horses for overheating—don't just peek in to make sure they're still standing. Catherine Kohn, VMD, in the Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences at The Ohio State University, recommends, "Check under blankets fre-

quently—the horse is too hot if he's sweating under the blanket."

"A horse that sweats is damp, and a draft is more dangerous," says McKague. He also advises looking for sweat on the horse's neck and shoulders.

Angelo Duvall of Rock A Doo Farm in Bradford, Ill., hauls Thoroughbreds and Standardbreds. He says, "I prefer them blanketed in the winter, and I definitely have the windows open. Even in the winter, horses sweat because they are nervous."

Getting Ready to Go If you're traveling right after a competition or other equine activity, take care of your horse before you load. McKague advises, "If your horse was worked heavily and heated up, cool him out before you transport—especially if your trailer isn't enclosed."

Horses should be trained to load and unload calmly, despite the weather. This will save both of you a lot of stress and time out in the cold. To make things easier for both of you, load and unload in well-lighted settings to avoid missteps and horses refusing to load into that large, dark cave we call a trailer. If you can, park so the ground near the loading door is dry. This will help keep the ramp and trailer floor from getting wet and slick. If the trailer has a ramp, make sure that the matting isn't slippery or in poor condition

for loading and unloading. Be sure to secure any doors or swinging windows when loading/unloading and traveling by latching them so the wind won't unexpectedly blow an open door shut or vice versa.

What if Weather Stops You? Sometimes you must stay off the road because of bad weather, no matter how important it is to get to your destination that day. Investigate weather and road conditions before leaving so you can plan ahead for potential stops. Have a Plan B before road conditions become impassable.

These locations should have accommodations for your horses out of the weather, and there should be accommodations for yourself nearby. It's good to call ahead to see if stalls and rooms are available if you think you might need to stop.

Duvall frequently hauls horses through the Midwest. "Watch the weather," he advises. "If bad weather is coming, we can search for a layover place. You want to get horses off the road when you know bad weather is coming. We haul quite a lot of racehorses—Thoroughbreds and Standardbreds—as well as stallions, so we want to watch out for the horse's best interests. If I know bad weather or snow is coming, I make it clear that I need an extra day." ■

Disney Horses

The main characteristic that all of these Disney horses share is loyalty. It's obvious that a hero wouldn't want a sidekick that wasn't loyal. Disney does an excellent job of showing a healthy and happy relationship between horse and rider.

Top 15 list:

- 15) BUCK (*Home on the Range* – 2004)
- 14) WIDOWMAKER (*Melody Time* – 1948)
- 13) CYRIL PROUDBOTTOM (*Adventures of Ichabod and Mr. Toad* – 1949)
- 12) BULLSEYE (*Toy Story 2* – 1999)
- 11) ACHILLES (*Hunchback of Notre Dame* – 1996)
- 10) SNOWBALL (*Hunchback of Notre Dame* – 1996)
- 9) PEGASUS (*Hercules* – 1997)
- 8) FROU FROU (*The Aristocats* – 1970)
- 7) PHILIPPE (*Beauty and the Beast* – 1991)
- 6) CAPTAIN (*101 Dalmatians* – 1961)
- 5) SAMSON (*Sleeping Beauty* – 1959)
- 4) KHAN (*Mulan* – 1998)
- 3) MAJOR (*Cinderella* – 1950)
- 2) ANGUS (*Brave* – 2012)
- 1) MAXIMUS (*Tangled* – 2010)

Some Honorary Mentions: Here's to the unnamed horses, the background horses, and the horses that aren't actually horses. Of particular note are Prince Ferdinand's horse (*Snow White*) and the Fantasia Pegasi Family. Fantasia is just too awesome not to mention.

Let Maximus's performance speak for itself: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hwqEBAYCQdc> ■

20 Ways Horse Riding Becomes Life Itself

At first, horse riding is just like any other skill you want to learn. You put some effort in and eventually become more effective as time goes on.

At some point, things begin to change. Somehow, without you necessarily knowing about it, the lessons the horses have taught you start materializing in your daily activities, even when the circumstances have nothing at all to do with horses.

So you could say that horses are our teachers. Not only do we grow in terms of physical ability, but perhaps even more so, we grow in character.

While we develop as riders, we also grow as human beings. Situations that used to affect us one way no longer bother us in the same manner, not because the circumstances themselves are any different, but more due to how we have learned to deal with them.

Then we realize that the true teachers are the horses themselves. All we have to do is learn to listen.

Horse riding becomes life when ...

1. The patience you develop working with your horse becomes the patience you use with your friends and colleagues.
2. The body language you learn to communicate with becomes your source of confidence in group activities.
3. The coordination you learn on the back of the horse keeps you safe from unexpected physical mishaps.
4. Heavy lifting/pulling/pushing/hoof cleaning develops your strength enough to allow you to fluidly function under heavy loads when needed.
5. Facing your fears while on another's four legs teaches you how to have courage in the face of life's many difficulties.
6. You learn to temper your (often over-scheduled) daily routines by slowing down to meet the simplicity of horse life.

7. The leadership skills your horse teaches you carries into your work and relationship interactions.
8. The self-confidence you develop from knowing you can influence a powerful animal seeps into every interaction you have with people.
9. You learn from horses that it's okay for things to get worse, because after things get worse, they always get better.
10. You discover that taking shortcuts might not be to your benefit in the long run; some things have to take the time they need to take.
11. When certain maneuvers get a little difficult (like riding through a corner), all you need is a little extra impulsion to smooth things out.
12. Sometimes, you just have to let go (especially when the horse bucks and bucks)!
13. In general, riding (life) isn't about brute strength – it's about gentle technique and strategy.
14. There is no such thing as a day off – you begin to value the rewards that hard work reaps.
15. The work has to get done whether you feel up to it or not – so it becomes easier to fulfill responsibilities because you know how to get the work done.
16. You understand completely how asking nicely is always better than demanding.
17. There is no such thing as instant gratification. There is only hard work and step-by-step development.
18. Perfection is always aspired to, but rarely reached!
19. The path is more important than the end result.
20. Although we all have our own "conformation faults" that might work against us, we can overcome almost anything with some time and effort. ■



Guess?

ANIMATED HORSES MONTAGE

from The Last Unicorn (Didn't seem to have a name, but was called Lady Amalthea in her human form); Major from Cinderella; Marty from Madagascar; Maximus from Tangled; Pegasus from Hercules; Philippe from Beauty and the Beast; Rain from Spirit: Stallion of the Cimarron; Samson from Sleeping Beauty; Spirit from Spirit: Stallion of the Cimarron.

ANSWERS: Achilles from The Hunchback of Notre Dame; Alivo from The Road to El Dorado; Angus from Brave; Bullseye from Toy Story 2; Buttercup from Toy Story 3; Captain from 101 Dalmatians; Donkey from Shrek; Frou-Frou from The Aristocats; Khan from Mulan; The Unicorn

WITH ... AMANDA PRESTON OF SHIMMER-E EQUESTRIAN

20 Questions

about your life with Arabian horses

1 What is your current involvement with Arabian horses?

More breeding focused currently, but that can always change in the future!

2 How many years have you been around horses?

My very first love was an Arabian horse, I believe I was 3, soooo 22 years? haha.

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

I was fortunate, as a young rider, to have a coach who understood and appreciated the intelligence of the Arabian horse and the versatility. She helped me to teach the horse's mind first and body second.

4 Who is or has been your favorite horse companion?

No fair!! Just one??! I think the honor goes to Bucky (Celebrity Ruler). He's a 23 years young Anglo Arab and owes me nothing. Bucky had been a western pleasure/reiner when I bought him and he quickly trained to FEI dressage.



sage. Bucky is now my most trusted mount for my daughter.

5 Who has been your (horse) mentor?

There's no easy answer on this either. Bucky has taught me more than, I think, any other horse, but each and every one I have had the pleasure to work with has taught me so much!

6 What is your favorite horse book?

Riding Logic by W. Museler, all about riding in the classical style and recommended by my former coach, Otto Sameit (may he rest in peace).

7 What is your favorite horse movie?

I think it would have to be Black Beauty... Docs Keepin Time was an incredible horse in that film and started my interest in liberty and trick horse training.

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

Right now my involvement comes mostly from education, writing my regular article for the DAH newsletter, breeding and otherwise just enjoying my favorite "breed" people!

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

Most memorable hey? Picking just one isn't easy! One of my proudest moments with an Arabian (Pintabian) was being able to take BG Northstar to Northland's for the Farm and Ranch Show and being able to perform a trick demo with him for a group of 4H kids. It makes me so proud to know that he and his new owner, Betty Jensen, are doing so well in the showing ring with 3 Canadian National Top 10's in Sport Horse this year!

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

I think schooling to FEI levels with Bucky, showing him to 4th level and then, years later, confronting my fears of trail riding and taking Mr. Reliable out to an Endurance Rider's clinic and "bush whacking" with him.

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

Without a doubt, my young stallion La-Bamba SE. He's registered Zweibrucker (RPSI) but I think my favorite part of his pedigree is that he's got several crosses back to Ramsez, the Anglo Arabian who was so incredibly influential in the warm-blood world. I have bred him to Amanda Ubell's mare DTD Fancy That for 2014

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 10]

Editor Message

At **Discover Arabian Horses.com** we are always excited to bring you this vital line of communication.

The newsletter is published in November, January, March, May, July, and September and will continue to be sent to you by e-mail blasts. It will also be posted on the DAH website with a link on Facebook.

The newsletter will cover many topics:

- We will feature, *The Arabian Horse in History*, where the generally ignored role of specific horses in history will be presented.
- Will also have a spotlight section where we present information on a specific Arabian horse owner, trainer, barn, program, or event in our industry. What a great opportunity to get to know our fellow horsemen and horse lovers.
- "Activities" puzzles, games for the young and the older ... just play.
- Check out our articles, stories and classifieds.
- 20 Questions ... about your life with Arabian Horse ... with.
- The team is more than willing to work with other horse associations regardless of breed type or discipline to assist them in getting their message out.

Tell us what you would like to see added or if you would like to be added to our e-mail listing, please e-mail:

info@discoverarabianhorses.com ■

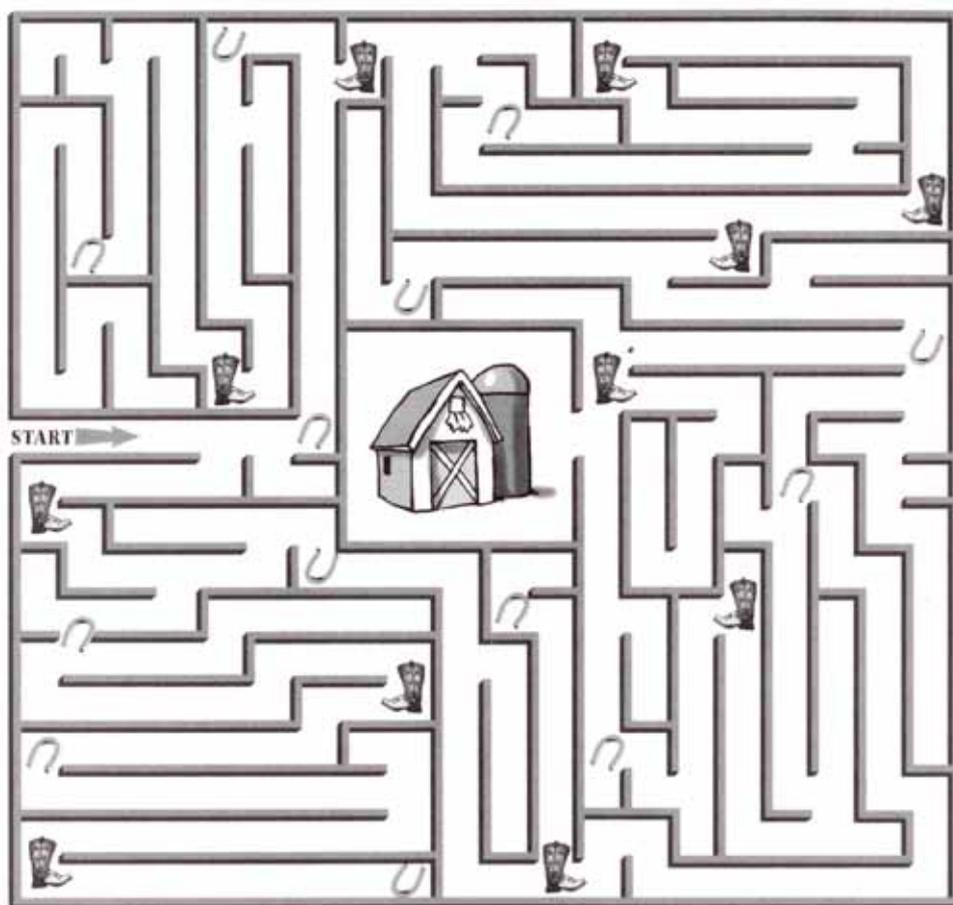
Back to the Barn

You've been riding for about an hour when you realize that you need to be back at the barn in 45 minutes.

"Come on!" says your friend, as she turns off the trail you're familiar with. "I know a shortcut."

"How do you know which way to go?" you ask.

"It's easy," she replies. "The trail markers are riding boots and horseshoes. As long as we don't pass two of the same type of markers in a row, we'll be going the right way." Following her tip, see if you can figure out the right trail back to the barn. ■



Strike Out

It takes only a few strokes of your pencil to turn the words on the left into words that describe horses. The column in the middle tells you how many letters to cross out in each case. ■

Original Word	Number of Letters to Cross Out	Horse-related Word
collect	3	-----
football	4	-----
finally	2	-----
study	1	-----
marble	2	-----

ONE POSSIBLE ANSWER: collect = colt marble = mare stud = study
 football = foal finally = filly



THE YEAR 2014 is considered as the Year of the Horse as per the Chinese Zodiac Calendar which begins on January 31, 2014, and ends on February 18, 2015. It is the Year of the Wood Horse. Wood is related to tree or green, so it is also called Year of Green Horse. 2014 is the jiǎwǔ (甲午) year. The Chinese zodiac calendar comprises 12 animal signs and horse is the seventh among all of them. In Chinese

culture, the Horse is a symbol of nobility, class, speed and perseverance. People born in the Year of the Horse are smart, fabulous speakers who have a gift for getting through to other people. People bearing the horse sign strive towards seeking freedom and happiness. In general, 2014 would be a better year for those people who were born under The Year of the Horse. ■ <http://www.hanban.com/chinese-culture/chinese-zodiac/the-2014-year-horse.html>

App

HORSE SIDE VET GUIDE

Check out the website of Horse Side Vet Guide™, a mobile application for horse owners and equine professionals.



Created by a life-long horseman and equine veterinarian with 20+ years of experience, Horse Side Vet Guide™ helps you partner with your veterinarian to optimize your horse's health.

Far more than a mobile first-aid app, HSVG contains an extensive and growing list of observations, skills, how-to videos, veterinary diagnostics, diagnoses, treatments, and so much more. ■

<http://horsesidevetguide.com>

GIVE IT A TRY

Another Name

Disguised in each word or phrase below is a familiar horse-related term. The key to revealing its identity is to use synonyms - that is, words that have the same or nearly the same meaning as the ones you see.

For example, take the clue **cushionpier**. A synonym for **cushion** is **pad**, and a synonym for pier is **dock**. Put the two together and you get **paddock**. ■

- ① SQUARE BOOTH
- ② OCEANSCONE
- ③ COOL AIR CURRENT EQUINE
- ④ STRIKING SEQUENCE
- ⑤ CIRCLE DISTASTEFUL
- ⑥ PERSPIRATION REMOVER
- ⑦ SODIUM CHUNK
- ⑧ BARN CUT
- ⑨ EXHIBITPERSONBOAT

ANSWER: 1. BOX STALL, 2. SEABISCUIT, 3. DRAFT HORSE, 4. PECKING ORDER, 5. RING SOUR, 6. SWEAT SCRAPER, 7. SALT BLOCK, 8. STABLE CLIP, 9. SHOW-MANSHIP.

ANSWER: The two fathers and two sons were three people altogether: a grandfather, his son, and his son's son.

How was that possible? ■
Two fathers and two sons decided to go horseback riding at the Blazing Trails Riding Stable. When they arrived at the stable, there were only three horses available. Just the same, everyone was able to go on a trail ride together, each person riding a different horse.

The Foursome

To find the solution of these puzzles or to check out more games and activities, check out the Discover Arabian Horses website "For Kids" section at www.discoverarabianhorses.com ■

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7]

foaling. The starts have truly aligned for me with my "Ritchie" boy!

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

To laugh. Having an idea about how something should go is great, but it's best to be flexible and keep my sense of humor close by!

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

I've always found Arabians to be so quick to learn! I've heard so many people complain about "dumb Arabs" but the only problem I've ever found is that those horses are most often smarter than their handlers! Certainly there is nothing that an Arab cannot do. Their athletic ability and eager minds make them superior animals, in my opinion.

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

Without a doubt! If not a purebred, then definitely a part bred! You can find a horse who will succeed and be superior in any discipline you'd like to compete, in any size or colour. Why not just have it in a prettier package (inside and out!)

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

ASK QUESTIONS!!!! I often talk with brand new horse people when teaching my equine first-aid certification courses and I've heard them say so many times, "I have a stupid question..." In my opin-

ion, there are no stupid questions. But I've heard a lot of stupid answers. Ask knowledgeable horse people with a lot of good experience, reputations and references. Then ask another and another! Take clinics, take lessons, learn learn and learn more!

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

My equine first-aid hand book from Equi-Health Canada. Being familiar with your horse and how to treat minor injuries, first-aid for trauma and knowing your horse's vitals can save his life and make a huge difference in his ability to recover from injury.

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

I'll give you 3: Piaffe, Passage and single tempis! I've come so close to Grand Prix dressage training that I could taste it, but I've not yet been able to ride those three movements.

18 What about "kids" and an Arabian horse?

Couldn't be a better match! A schooled and well experienced Arabian horse seems to have more understanding of his young charge than other horses. Of course, I cringe when I hear about young horses and green riders of any breed together, but I think the best teacher for a young rider would be an Arab.

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

Come on, I like the stage! Performance is a thrill and when you're riding or handling something so beautiful and eye catching, how can you not feel the rush?

20 What are your words to live by?

Someone once took their time out to help me, gave me a chance to learn with horses, and asked nothing in return. It's my job to pay it forward.

Is there anything else you'd like to add?

Please check out my website, www.shimmere.com for a list of equine first-aid and trick-horse clinics coming up or to discuss booking your own. ■

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1]

tions. They have many tools in their "tool-boxes" and know there is more than one way to approach a situation. They are always willing to try new things.

10. Horse Listeners: Good riders are expert horse listeners! They are sensitive to the feedback from their horses and adjust their responses accordingly.

It's as simple as that! And now, please take a look at the following video for a much more eloquent description. One of the most revered writers and riders of all time, Charles de Kunffy. He always has a depth of understanding that surprises, even in answer to the most simple questions, and this video is no exception. <https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=392415460777037> ■

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New

Arabian Horse Reading Literacy Project

Come take a look! We have a few new programs including the Family Reading Therapy and Arabian Horse Angel Wings Project.

arabianhorsereading.com

For more information contact Gary Millar at gary@millarcom.com or 780 499 9219