



The Egyptian Event Europe August 2017

The Pyramid Society Europe Celebrated its 30th Anniversary in
Castel Dyck near Düsseldorf / Germany

by MONIKA SAVIER

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1987 - 2017 The Pyramid Society Europe Celebrating their 30-year-Anniversary with an Egyptian Event held in Dyck Castle, Germany

The yearly Egyptian Event Europe is sure to be the most important show for Straight Egyptian Arabians in Europe. This year, it was a jubilee show celebrating the 30th anniversary of the founding of the Pyramid Society Europe, a non-profit registered association according to German law and comprising almost a hundred members right now. For the breeders of Straight Egyptians, PSE offers their services as an umbrella organization all across Europe, and successfully at that. Organizing the EEE show, which is the most outwardly attractive activity of the society, is in the hands of Heike Hain, Vice President of PSE, and her family. Every year, she is actively supported by many of the society members and the board, such as Bettina von Kameke - the president - , Michael Ponnath, Gabriele Seidlitz-Oster, and Maya Jones. The EEE showcases the very best Egyptian horses from across Europe and the Middle East. With splendid weather, a wonderful breeders' party on Saturday night, this show was a must-do visit for anyone with an interest in the Straight Egyptians and their breeders from all over the world.

There were almost 80 horses participating in the EEE this year. The main event is an ECAHO-affiliated title show, the Egyptian Event Europe, which might be said to be a kind of European Championships of the Egyptian Arabians. Traditionally, it is much attended by participants from those countries that mainly breed Egyptians, which means Kuwait, Qatar, UAE, and Egypt. There is a decreasing number of horses from Europe, due to the dominant position of the Middle East Arabians who succeed in making quite sure that it is increasingly rare for Europeans-owned Straight Egyptians to win one of the championship titles. Apart from a few exceptions, it's mainly the top horses of the greatest SE studs of the world who divide the victories among themselves. That's a bitter experience for Europe – after all, there were so many Arabian horses who found a new home in Europe (and in the USA) during the last century, and who were enthusiastically integrated into the regional traditions of horse breeding. Here in Europe, Arabian horse breeding is usually a hobby of small family studs in rural areas – it is hard for these small breeders to finance breeding on the high show level required for the EEE. So for many of the European breeders, it's a small comfort to know that most of today's top horses and champions are still bred on the basis of former German EAO imports who continued to be improved by small family-owned studs for generations. During the “return and renaissance development” (Dr. Nagel, 2003) in the last twenty years, their offspring were re-sold to the Middle East. Which is where they make up the major part of the genetic basis of those horses who have written today's success stories for the studs along the Gulf. The EEE with its current champions mirrors this historic development.

In spite of these differences concerning the chances of taking home one of the coveted titles, it is exactly the EEE that is a great festivity, every year, for all breeders of Egyptian Arabians. Most of them have first met many years ago, a number of transnational friendships evolved, people bargain, debate, exchange, purchase... it's a vast social network, and it's not just a digital one, but during events like this one it's an analog one being well maintained. The EEE is, for many, an important landmark for surveying the international breeding scene, with the common denominator being the Straight Egyptians. There was a recurrent impression that on principle, every winner was cheered by everybody. The audience was impressed by the good quality of most of the horses – after all, there were many of the best Arabian horses of the Arabian world making their appearance. The brilliantly beautiful ambience of Dyck castle near Duesseldorf, a medieval water castle surrounded by blossoming parks, fruit trees, and rampant nature, was a reminder of the historic role horses played, having been the most noble companion of man even at the age of chivalry.

As a special feature, amateur classes had been organized, intended to integrate the family farms and the hobby breeders without exposing horses and owners to the pressures and cost of professional show training methods. A good idea in principle, but the participants could be counted on the fingers of one hand. The

THE EGYPTIAN EVENT EUROPE 2017

by Fabio Brianzoni, *Desert Heritage Magazine*

The Egyptian Event Europe, this year at its second German edition, was held at the Dyck Castle in Juechen, close to the city of Düsseldorf. Over its 30 editions the event has been improving and also this year the Egyptian Arabian horse elite participated to this event perfectly managed by Mrs. Heike and Mr. Manfred Hain with the support of Pyramid Society Europe.

On 27th August Mr. Judith Forbis, who has devoted her life to the straight Egyptians, opened the event with a seminary.

At 1 p.m. it was the time of a riding performance by German State

Stud Marbach and then the classes of the European Straight Egyptian Championship started with filly and colt foals. 11 classes scheduled for Saturday. Mrs. Bettina von Kameke, President of the Pyramid Society Europe, opened the Gala Dinner reminding to all guests the celebration of the 30th anniversary of the Association. The lavish venue, the elegant catering and the Castle made the atmosphere suggestive and magic.

On Sunday morning all the staff entered the ring again for the final Championship. The judges invited for the 30th edition were: Dr. Santoro Francesco (Italy), Mrs. Ann Norden (Sweden), Mr. Dhari Al Mejhem (Kuwait), Mr. Soheil Sanati (Iran) and Mr. Marc Veray (France). Ring Master Mr. Sten Schroll (Denmark), music by Mr. Lars Grootswagers (Netherlands). Speakers, who are always important for the good result of a show, were Mrs. Nabila Al-Ali (Kuwait) and Mr. Eric Blaac (Belgium). Dr. Abdelwahab Bin Ali Amira (Uae), Mrs. Kerstin Wisniowski (Germany) and Mr. Gijs Eggink (Belgium) were the DC.

Many tiles compose a good show and Mr. Manfred and Mrs. Heike Haine know them well. Amongst these, the importance of the photographer in the ring who must be delicate but accurate to catch the moment of horses and handlers as well as the people in the VIP area. Here's the pictures by Joanna Jonietz. Enjoy.



Fabio Brianzon and Joanna Jonietz, photographer



small number of „pasture horses“ in the amateur classes, presented as they were alongside the highly specialized, professionally trained show horses, did not stand a chance of calling positive attention to themselves, Show business is show business, after all, the criteria for show success are quite clear-cut, and in their statutes, the PSE even makes some additional requirements as compared to ECAHO shows, as the judges will double the score for „type“. The amateur classes would have been better able to perform their function if they had taken place in a different setting and with different criteria for evaluation. As things were, it's just as if during a Formula One race, some solar-powered cars were taking to the track alongside the bolides. Ridden classes might be an alternative – if you look at the show scene with a critical eye, you could contrast it with more creative presentations, advertising your ideas to different target groups that way. This might be an important task cut out for Pyramid Society Europe: organizing an Amateur EEE offering a different set of classes at another time of the year.

People



People



People



People



Championships

CHAMPION: FOALS



Gold
FA NILE SUDAN
(Safeer by Sibilla x Sabayah Al hauri)
Breeder: Florio Sabato, Italy
Owner: Florio Sabato, Italy



Silver
EMIRA BINT MUHANED
(Muhaned Al Rayyan x Gatsbys Tia Marie)
Breeder: Jane Frazer Brown UK
Owner: Jane Frazer Brown UK

Bronze
NAILA ALBADWH
(Ansata Nile Echo x Hadara Albadwh)
Breeder: Rashed Alajmi, Kuwait
Owner: Albadwh Stud, Kuwait



Championships

CHAMPION: YEARLING FILLIES



Gold
SHEIKA AL FALA
(Jamil Al Rayyan x Maysuna Guasimo)
Breeder: Al Fala Stud, KSA
Owner: Al Fala Stud, KSA

Silver
MEHAIRJA AL RAYYAN
(Al Adeed Al Shaqab x Nashua Al Rayyan)
Breeder: Al Rayyan Farm, Qatar
Owner: Al rayyan Farm, Qatar



Bronze
AMBERA AL SHAQAB
(Ansata Nile Echo x Dawlah Al Shaqab)
Breeder: Al Shaqab Stud, Qatar
Owner: Al Shaqab Stud, Qatar



Championships

CHAMPION: JUNIOR FILLIES



Gold
HANAYA AMIRAH
(Kenz Al Baydaa x Ameerat Al Hejra)
Breeder: Nayla Hayek, Hanaya Arabians, Switzerland
Owner: Nayla Hayek, Hanaya Arabians, Switzerland



Silver
AB FARIDAH
(DF Malik Jamil x Bint Farid Nile Moon)
Breeder: Al Babtain Arabians, Kuwait
Owner: Al Babtain Arabians, Kuwait



Bronze
TURKIZ AA
(Al Ayal AA x JPJ Talsasha)
Breeder: Ariela Arabians, Israel
Owner: Al Baydaa Stud, Egypt

Championships

CHAMPION: JUNIOR COLTS



Gold
EZZ AL DANAT
(ShamekhAl Danat x Shalwa)
Breeder: Al Danat Stud, Kuwait
Owner: Mohammed Al Omar, Kuwait



Silver
HILAL AL WAAB
(Sinan Al Rayyan x Sharubi HP)
Breeder: Al Waab stud, Qatar
Owner: Al Rowdha Stud, Qatar



Bronze
ABHAA HARRAN
(Ajmal Farid x Noelya)
Breeder: Ahmad Al Babtain, Kuwait
Owner: Ahman Al babtain, Kuwait

Championships

CHAMPION: SENIOR MARES



Gold
SHALWA
(Sinan Al Rayyan x Al Galyla)
Breeder: Essam Al Roumi, Kuwait
Owner: Al Danat Stud, Kuwait



Silver
WADAD ZAMANI
(Laheeb x Zena Al Buraq)
Breeder: Osman Al Kasasi, Israel
Owner: Nayla Hayek, Hanaya Arabians,
Switzerland



Bronze
DOMNIA
(Frasera Mashar x Royal Emira)
Breeder: Dubai Arabian Stud, UAE
Owner: Dubai Arabian Stud, UAE

Championships

CHAMPION: SENIOR STALLIONS



Gold
ASFOOR AL WAAB
(Barraq El Aliya x Sara Aljazira)
Breeder: Sh. Abdullah Bin Khaled
Al Thani, Qatar
Owner: Dubai Arabian Stud, UAE



Silver
ADHAM SAQR
(Imperial Madori x Ameera Saqr)
Breeder: Omar Saqr, Saqr stud, Egypt
Owner: Al Farida Stud, Egypt



Bronze
NADEED AL NAIF
(Ebtiyaj Al Naif x Arqah Al Naif)
Breeder: Al Naif Stud, Qatar
Owner: Nayla Hayek, Hanaya Stud,
Switzerland

Championships

BEST IN SHOW FEMALE



1st
WADAD ZAMANI
(Laheeb x Zena Al Buraq)
Breeder: Osman Al Kasasi, Israel
Owner: Nayla Hayek, Hanaya Arabians, Switzerland

BEST IN SHOW MALE



1st
ADHAM SAQR
(Imperial Madori x Ameera Saqr)
Breeder: Omar Saqr, Egypt
Owner: Al Farida Stud, Egypt

BEST EUROPEAN HORSE



1st
F TAYYAR IBN AL LAHAB
(Al Lahab x F Tahanie Bint Shamaal)
Breeder: Hansjuergen & Inge Friedmann, Germany
Owner: hansjuergen & Inge Friedmann, Germany

Championships

AMATEUR CLASS



Gold
Rheemah Al Jabal
(Salaa Maysan x Latifa)
Breeder: Al Jabal Arabians, Switzerland
Owner: Al Jabal Arabians, Switzerland



Silver
Nasheetah
(Musab x Naga)
Breeder: Haupt-und Landgestüt Marbach, Germany
Owner: Haupt-und Landgestüt Marbach, Germany



Amateur Class Junior Stallions
Gold
Azeem Al Aqaba
(KP El Araby x Aisha Al Aqaba)
Breeder: Waltraut Hobein, Germany
Owner: Waltraut Hobein, Germany



Most Classic Head
Winner: Nadeed Al Naif
(Ebtiyaj Al Naif x Arqah Al Naif)
Breeder: Al naif Stud , Qatar
Owner: Nayla Hayek, Switzerland

Judith Forbis looking back: Inspiring Lessons From Life With Arabian Horses



It was not just that PSE, the Pyramid Society Europe, celebrated their 30-year-anniversary. It was also that Judith Forbis, flown in from the USA as a speaker for the EEE, had reason to celebrate, for it is now 60 years that she has been devoted to the history, present, and future of those Arabian horses from Egypt, with great success and international recognition. After a number of working stays in Turkey and Arabian countries, she teamed up with her husband Don to found Ansata Stud in the USA. In addition, she was a major motivator and founding member of the *Pyramid Society* that was set up by North American breeders in 1969. Douglas B. Marshall became their first President, with Judith Forbis elected Secretary of the society. In that function, she had a determining influence on the definition of what is a Straight Egyptian. Her substantial experience in breeding, imparted by way of a startling number of talks, essays, and books published, contributed to the Straight Egyptians now being defined and bred on as a treasured „breed within the breed“ all over the world.

As to founding PSE in Germany, Judith was a role model even then, as her highly successful work in breeding straight Egyptian „Ansata horses“ fascinated a lot of breeders, with quite a few doing their best by basing their own breeding on Ansata

stock. However, what’s most important for her in her work is living with and befriending Arabian horses – and entwined with that, the communication and friendships that developed between breeders of Arabian horses in the course of the years, while the horses themselves had long since outshone the breeders’ community as true citizens of the world.

With her talk for the EEE, she did what she has been doing from the start: try and motivate people to „believe in the magic of your dreams“.

“First and foremost -it is important to ask: what do we all have in common? What is the glue that for thousands of years has bound Arabian horse breeders and horsemen together? The answer is **LOVE!** Why do I put this first? **Because LOVE lasts**”.

It was along the lines of this initial credo – even if “love” is ever convincing as an emotional catchword, it may appear somewhat romantic as a defining basis for the Arabian Horse industry – that Judith Forbis developed the ideas of her catching lecture. (It can be accessed on the PSE website in both English and German.)

She delves back into childhood experiences, her adolescent life in Turkey, her adventurous life with Don (who sadly passed away in 2008), and her work as a publisher and author, which allowed her to meet the world – and allowed the world to meet Ansata Stud.



Breeders and fans who had expected more down-to-earth know-how for successful Egyptian horse breeding were probably somewhat astonished when during analyzing the landmarks in her life as a breeder, Judith put the emphasis on delivering her more unearthly or transcendental insights. She illustrates her main points of *conceptualizing your dream, developing a vision (dreams of the past, realities for the future), realizing your dream*, and finally, *perfecting the dream*, by way of telling examples out of her own history. Eventually, she urges everybody who was able to realize his or her dream to *share the dream* just as Mohammed Al Marzouk from Kuwait did, to whom she dedicated the last part of her talk. „Realizing his countrymen and the Bait Al Arab State Stud of Kuwait would benefit from the use of Ansata Hejazi, Mohammed shared with them Hejazi ‘s services without charge.“ It may make European breeders think that it would be a good thing if stallions from the Middle East were to share their success with European breeders...

As a conclusion to her talk, Judith offered this advice: “In closing, I’d like to summarize some lessons I’ve learned by living with horses - and their owners most of my life.”

“Our Creator gave us dominion, not domination, over animals. Understand that love is the divine inspirational and motivating force in the universe. Love lasts. As a man thinketh, so is he. Like attracts like. Progress is born of experience. Breeding horses is an art and all the arts are interrelated - all have truth, beauty, harmony, rhythm, balance, dimension, substance, and form. Always give back to the industry from which you have taken - the world loves a cheerful giver. Never give up. Be a light on the hill. Go the extra mile. Stay in touch with the roots of your beginnings. Muck a stall. Groom and pet a horse. Sweep the barn. Smell the hay. Go horseback riding. Be impeccable with your word. Don’t take things personally. Never make assumptions. Always do your best. No breeder is an “island” unto himself. Remember - we need each other if this breed is to prosper in this fast-moving technological age.”

“And last, but not least - **BELIEVE IN THE MAGIC OF YOUR DREAMS AND THEY WILL COME TRUE. THEY DID FOR ME, THEY HAVE FOR OTHERS, AND THEY WILL FOR YOU.** “

Be that as it may - as Straight Egyptian breeders, we owe a lot to Judith Forbis. Her breeding concept, her horses with the Ansata look spread all across the world – they have influenced and enriched our studs and the pedigrees of our horses. Today, her horses are part and parcel of the history and success of the Straight Egyptians all over the world. Thank you for that.

30 Years Pyramid Society Europe A Short Historical Background

Prof. Dr. Siegfried Paufler
Honorary President of Pyramid Society Europe e.V.

The sense and purpose of the Pyramid Society is the purebred preservation and promotion of Egyptian Arabian horses, known in the English language under the name “Straight Egyptians”. These horses have a historical and breeding background of hundreds of years.

The Pyramid Society does not say that “straight Egyptian” Arabians are better than other ones. However, they go back to best, strongly selected desert horses and have very desirable qualities as vitality, pride, beauty and nobility.

The prophet Mohammed recognized the great importance of the easily satisfied, efficient, strong, noble and medium-sized horses of the desert of Nejd on the Arabian peninsula. These horses form the actual basis for the contemporary present purebred “Straight Egyptians” were brought to Egypt after 1811 by the sovereigns Mohammed Ali (1769 - 1848), Ibrahim Pasha (1789 - 1848) and Abbas Pasha (1813 - 1854) or they were bred from these three men. The Viceroy Mohamed Ali captered many





Mourad, former head stallion of El Zahraa
(Photo by: Boisselle)

horses during the Wahhabite war, later the royal family spent immense sums of money to get the very best horses out of the desert. Mohammed Ali, who started breeding with his horses in his stud of Shoubra near Cairo, was a lover and connoisseur of the noble horses from the desert, this was also his successor Ibrahim Pasha. Under his statement the studgrooms started to register the pedigrees, their importance and meanings.

It was, however, the grandson Mohammed Ali's, Abbas Pasha, who placed the actual foundation for the future. He was pure-blood fanatic! His stud in Heliopolis near Cairo housed horses of his grandfather and his uncle. A great part was in addition bought also by himself from Bedouins. He was also the leader of all other studs of the family of the Viceroy, because he did not have only a great love of the horses but also great knowledge about horsebreeding and managing. Because of his interest in the genealogical origin of horses he instructed persons of his confidence with the task to collect all information about his Arabian horses in the origin field at the Bedouins. The results of these enquiries were adhered from Ali Gamal al Din el Shamashirgi Bey (called "Al Lallah") in the 'Abbas Pasha Manuscript' for all times. Gulsuen Sherif translated this manuscript into the English and published it with the aid of the known American breeder Judith Forbis. The extensive work gives to the breeders of "Straight Egyptians" a background knowledge about the Bedouins, their horses in general and in particular about the ones of Abbas Pasha. The preservation of these unique inheriting-measures, this valuable gene pool's, we owe to the continuing breeding of the desert horses on the pure Bedouin basis until into our time.

In the following time the Egyptian breeders were particularly the royal family, among others Ali Pasha Sherif, Khedive Abbas Hilmi, Prince Ahmed Kemal, Prince Mohammed Ali and Prince Kemal el Din. The horses were collected to a great part in the Royal Inshass-Stud. In 1908 the "Royal Agricultural Society" (RAS) was founded, which controlled the horse-registration. She was renamed later in the "Egyptian Agricultural Organization" (EAO) and maintains the state stud "El Zahraa" which is still existing and flourishing today in Heliopolis / Cairo with approx. 400 horses.

Also Lady Anne Blunt who maintained a stud in Egypt and England must not be forgotten. She gave essential impulses to the "Straight Egyptians" and to the worldwide population of Arabian horses.

From the EAO outstanding horses were bred through intensive selection at the stud of "El Zahraa", due to purposeful breedingpolicy and outstanding knowledge of the stud managers, particularly in the time of the great horse-breeder Tibor von Pettko-Szandtner. This provided, to find the best and most typey Arabian horses of the world only in Egypt that all connoisseurs thought unanimously. The royal stud of Wuerttemberg (now Marbach) imported 1852 and 1860/61 Egyptian Arabians

from the stud of Abbas Pasha, then, in the year 1930, again from Prince Mohammed Ali.

In the year 1955 further top animals were bought in "El Zahraa": Hadban Enzahi (Nazeer x Kamla) and his half-sister Nadja (Nazeer x Nefisa). The Prince Knyphausen acquired at the same time Ghazal (Nazeer x Bukra) and Moheba (Sid Abouhom x Halima).

They all made history and formed the basis of the "Straight Egyptians" in Germany.

The American Henry Babson was one of the most farsighted breeders which bought already 1932 Egyptians from the stud of the Prince Mohammed Ali and bred already 1932 these Egyptians in a straight line. Judith Forbis came with her husband Donald on recommendation of Carl Raswan to Egypt after they had searched for the classical Arabian horse in the whole Arabian desert. In the stud of the EAO they found the long searched, noble Arabians for their stud. They received the stallion Ibn Halima (also by the 'century stallion' Nazeer out of Halima) and bought several top mares.

After that, certainly thanks to the numerous newspaper articles written by Judith Forbis on the subject of Egyptian Arabians, a regular hunt onto the typey and noble Egyptians started in the USA. Led by the dollar multi Douglas B. Marshall, who fetched against the fantastic offer of the Russians the unforgotten Morafic (Nazeer x Mabrouka) for America, the "Straight Egyptian" population expanded. Most Egyptians were sold in that time into the USA. At second place of the importing countries Germany followed. Here Dr. Hans-Joachim Nagel was in the late sixties-and early seventies one of the first private breeders who achieved particularly noble horses from El Zahraa and started with these a stud in Europe. Through this a strong increase of the "Straight Egyptians" followed in many countries. Under these conditions it was obvious to from a union that supported the pure breeding of Egyptian Arabians.

Already 1969 North American breeders joined and "The Pyramid Society" was set up. Douglas B. Marshall became their first president and supported "The Pyramid Society" particularly financially. Further members of the first executive board were James Kline (Vize-President), Judith Forbis (Secretary) and Willis H. Flick (Treasurer). In the year 1976 this organization published the second volume (the first is not available anymore) of the 'Reference Handbook of Straight Egyptian Horses', in which approx. 500 horses were registered.

In the year 2000 volume XI was published. In Germany the first Egyptian horses were registered in the 'AsilAraber'-book 1977 with approx. 60 horses. It was handed over by the Asil Club. In this organization are included horses which were bought direct from the Bedouins in the Arabian desert. In 1987 finally the 'Pyramid Society Europe' was set up. This association published in the year 1990 their own book, the Almanach I, a list of the members and their approx. 450 "Straight Egyptian" horses. The name "Straight Egyptian" became in the meantime a term in the entire world.

The "Pyramid Society Europe" wants to give support to the breeders of these horses. Before years for example the hypothesis was set up, that the linebred Egyptian Arabians needs desert Arabian blood for crossbreeding to avoid degeneration. This completely is ad absurdum through the development of the last years. With worldwide exchange of high quality breeding animals and a mare basis of more than a thousand, degeneration or inbreeding depression also in future are not to be expected. Of course one must select also with the Egyptians. Here is a main point for the work of the "Pyramid Society Europe". Only the best, most typey and healthiest horses are suitable for breeding. Through membership and collaboration with the "Pyramid Society Europe" all owners of "Straight Egyptian" Arabian horses should contribute with their knowledge and spent money for this purpose. Only with a large group we can effectively support this valuable culture and preserve it for our coming generations.



PSE Honorary President Dr. Siegfried Paufler in discussion with the German breeders Cornelia Tauschke and Siegfried Manz.