

The Pyramid Society Europe's new Initiative

Summer Meeting of Arabian Horse lovers at the Goschenhof Arabian Stud in Germany

text by: Christina Däubler-Vogelgsang photos by: Joanna Jonientz and Carola Toischel

he Pyramid Society Morocco organized their first Arabian Horse breeders' Forum in Casablanca last April. At the end of the meeting, breeders discussed the wish to meet more often in a casual atmosphere to exchange ideas and show their horses outside of the official and costly international 'show circus'. Christoph Gerbershagen together with his wife Thamar, founder and owner of the beautiful and very picturesque Goschenhof Arabian Stud in Bavaria attended the meeting in Morocco and offered to host the Annual General Assembly of the Pyramid Society at their farm and to welcome all Arabian horse lovers and their horses on June 22nd.

The idea was to give fellow Arabian Horse breeders from all over Europe the chance to bring their own horses and show them to Manfred Hain, international A Judge and member of the Pyramid Society Europe, without any stress of competition. He kindly offered the breeders his expertise and gave them breeding advice from his point of view for the future. All this combined with a casual gathering of Arabian Horse lovers and even potential buyers in a welcoming and friendly setting. Horse owners could also have their horses photographed in front of the stunning background full of flowers and palm trees of the Goschenhof farm: two top Arabian horse photographers, Joanna Jonientz and Carola Toischel were on site to take pictures.



















The Goschenhof Stud is a paradise and a 'study object' for every horse owner/breeder. Christoph and Thamar built this stud from scratch when they bought the abandoned farm about 25 years ago. Every detail in the different barn aisles is thoroughly thought through: for easy handling, utmost functionality and flexibility for any possible need to combine or separate different horse groups or individuals. This may sound valid for any professionally planned breeding farm, but I haven't seen any 'family farm' in my life so far, that combined functionality and beauty, esthetics and taste in such a harmonious way.

All boxes in the main barn have only waist high stone walls with oriental tiles facing the alley, but all separating walls

are wooden panel, that can be removed for cleaning or taken out for larger foal groups for example. You don't see any bars or prisonlike features to keep horses safe, they live more like in a living room atmosphere. And maybe this is the secret, that even the two breeding stallions, PSE Atlanta and his son Abia El Mujid can peacefully live together with the mares and foals in this same barn.

The day started for the Pyramid society Europe members with their Annual Meeting and after a short lunch break the program continued with the presentation of the above mentioned two head sires of the Goschenhof Stud. Their get, two groups of very typey yearlings and two-year-olds were shown happily frolicking together in the showring. Al Batra













Heraldine, Nafisah El Assuad, Rodhani Magnolia

Nedschd Nile Nabilah

Stud's owners Petra and Nigel Nutt presented two mares, the very showy movers Haliya Al Batra and Orea Naomie. Both mares are being bred to Goschenhof's Abia El Mujid this year. Patrick Ricke of Sadiq Arabians showed their elegant white mare Nedsch Nile Nabilah, bred by Gabriele Schuster and Ferdinand Denzinger. Breeder of black Arabians, Raimund Wöhr, Hardyna Stud, presented his exotic four-year-old Har Marsia by Har Baarez with her first colt foal by Da Nafis, always moving in perfect harmony with his mother.

Christina Däubler-Vogelgsang, owner of HANAN Classical Equitation and founder of the Brand HANAN Leather bags for the Sophisticated Equestrian, then showed her three Arabian mares in 'Classical Dressage in Hand'. The Anglo Arabian mare Heraldine is already 24 years old and has been trained to 'High School Dressage' under saddle. Rodhani and Nafisah el Assuad, both Purebred Arabians, 15 years old have also been trained in Classical Dressage with the help of this historic art of teaching riding horses from the ground to prepare them for the rider or to teach them more advanced movement first without the additional weight of the rider.

We all enjoyed this very animated day among friends of the Arabian horse. There were plenty of opportunities to mingle, Lunch with freshly baked Pizza, a sumptuous coffee Break with delicious cakes, tartes and Ice cream and a BBQ dinner



























for all guests staying on for the evening. Arabian Horse enthusiasts could find new and old literature about the Arabian horse, as well as accessories like show halters and the HANAN bags. New friendships were made, many phone numbers exchanged to keep in contact. All of us breeders and lovers of the Arabian horse need gatherings like this, where we can get to know each other face to face. Especially today, in times of difficult markets, poor harvests or unexpected floodings, like the one we just experienced here

in Bavaria with many farms suddenly under water and horses in need to evacuate within minutes. Everyone might need a real-life friend, a fellow breeder or farm owner to run to and stick together. But of course, also to share joy, the birth of a gorgeous new foal, the successful licensing of a young stallion, or simply enjoy the experiences with other breeders - it is so much more gratifying, if we can celebrate it together.



"The circle is getting smaller and smaller and cohesion is needed more than ever".

PSE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

An unforgettable beautiful day

Text: Bettina von Kameke

t has become almost a tradition that the annual general meetings of the Pyramid Society Europe (PSE) take place at a member's stud farm. At the invitation of the Gerbershagen family, the PSE met this year on June 22 at the Goschenhof near Wassertrüdingen.

The facility, decorated with flowers and loving details, enchanted every visitor and created such a warm atmosphere that every guest felt welcome. With the active support of their children, who had already advertised with a pretty invitation poster, and a good connection to the weather gods, everyone experienced an unforgettable day.

The annual general meeting was held in a small circle in the glass pavilion in the late morning, before after a short lunch break, horses brought along and the stud's own horses were presented to the general public for appraisal and assessment by the proven A-judge and member Manfred Hain. The evening ended with many conversations over an opulent barbecue.

On the agenda of the annual general meeting were reports and by-elections. The annual report of President Bettina von Kameke dealt with the difficult situation in the Arab scene. While in the USA the Pyramid Society was dissolved and transformed into a foundation, in Germany the SE breeders are struggling with problems such as drastically increased veterinary costs, extremely tense market conditions and critical feed conditions due to climate change. In Europe in general, things don't look much better, because only in Italy there are still numerous shows and a lot of enthusiasm. This was also noticeable in Morocco at the breeders' meeting in April for some members of the PSE who had participated. Nevertheless, the number of members also decreased drastically in the past financial year, which was also reflected in the cash report of treasurer Gabriele Seidlitz-Oster. The circle is getting smaller and smaller and cohesion is needed more than ever.

Accordingly, the PSE must therefore be cautious in its support of shows and will sponsor a prize for the best SE horse bred by a European in Europe for this year's Egyptian Event Europe in Bergamo as well as for Vichy. Last year's EEE in Vichy was a great success and a further confirmation of a successful showcase of the PSE to the outside world. Bergamo on September 7 will be too.

Two by-elections for board positions had become necessary after secretary Gudrun Irtzing and deputy chairwoman Maya Jones resigned from their offices in December. The president thanked both of them for their commitment and reported that Christoph Gerbershagen had already held the office of one of the two deputies on a provisional basis and was now standing for election for one year. He was elected unanimously, as was Petra Nutt, who would like to actively shape the post of secretary.

The presentation of the horses was opened with the charismatic PSE Atlanta and his son out of Amani Colours



from Royal Colours Abia El Mujid. The mare Haliya Al Batra was judged, who thrilled all spectators with her melting. The bay mare Orea Naomie by The Verdict HG had other qualities and the yearling group of the Goschenhof, all of whom were from the young stallion Abia El Mujid, gave room for discussions of parallels. A mare Nedschd Nile Nabilah bred by Gabi Schuster convinced with her type and Raimund Wöhr had brought a mare HAR Marsia with her colt by DA Nafis.

Christina Däubler showed small insights into the classic work in hand with three horses of different age groups and limitations with impressive pictures. From the Goschenhof there were still two-year-old mares to see, which expressed their inner qualities not only in the ring but also in the playpen next to the spectator tables.

On the occasion of this beautiful event, the Gerbershagen family had called for a 1:4 donation for cbm, the Cristoffel Blind Mission e. V., who wants to build a well for a region in Togo threatened by hunger. It was possible to collect about ϵ 2500, so that with an increase from the state side, four times as much, namely ϵ 10,000, can go to the mission and thus a well can be built in Togo.

Once again, it has been shown that personal commitment and initiative lead to such positive experiences. All visitors to these family event got very close to the horses and the PSE provided background information with CDs and a book table. The horses have done their part and the people have honoured them with their presence.



Thank you to all the participants at the Pyramid Society Europe meeting











