



THE PYRAMID SOCIETY EUROPE PRES

THE EGYPTIAN EVENT EUROPE AND THE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS FOR GERMAN

1 - 2 September 2018
Castel Dyck in Juechen,
near Dusseldorf, Germany



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BRED STRAIGHT EGYPTIANS



THE PYRAMID SOCIETY EUROPE, based in Germany, has an ambitious aim: They wish to underline their leadership in the world of the European and in particular of the German breeders of Straight Egyptians by way of positive action. Not least because the Gulf states give financial support by sponsorships, but also because many of the breeders there have arrived in the future by now as far as the quality of the horses is concerned, PSE addresses the breeders from the Gulf states as well as those from Germany to achieve that. Which is why there were two title shows organized by PSE this year, the German Championships for Straight Egyptians, and an open show, the world-renowned Egyptian Event Europe. These two breeder / target groups, however, are hard to bring into the same fold, as the organizers were to experience once again this year. The “Egyptian Even Europe” title show is the crowd puller for the Pyramid Society Europe in that, with its tradition and its high profile of popularity.

And yet it was another year in which the show management centered around Heike Hain worked their magic to produce an impeccable event, from venue technologies to the barns, from the arena and the perfectly groomed VIP areas to the no-cost shaded seats for all other spectators.

The location, the castle Dyck near Dusseldorf, has everything to offer that is necessary for a relaxed transnational meeting of breeders, and what makes the location even more interesting for horse lovers is the fact that it features almost a thousand years of history with horses. The castle owners had knighthood bestowed on them early on, so the castle always needed barns and stables, pastures and paddocks. There is written evidence that in the first half of the 17th century, the stables and the watch rooms were re-built. Today, the horses' traces are everywhere, such

as in the former stable and tack room buildings, which have been converted to top-notch seminar rooms for today's requirements, and also in the castle's hotel. In addition to its horse tradition, the time-honored water castle offers 60 hectares of parks that are protected as sites of historic interest and are part of a European Garden Heritage Network.

This year, however, there were a markedly fewer horses enrolled, with the international breeders also present in unusually limited numbers with their horses. Of course, this had an effect on the number of visitors as well. For the general public interested in culture and horses, Arabian horse shows are hard to make sense of. Which may be one reason why the international crowds of visitors failed to materialize where not even that critical mass of die-hard local fans is entirely present anymore, since live streaming has been invented and they can watch the show from their cozy homes.

For those who came anyway, it was a well-made and successful show, a motivating supportive measure for breeding our horses, as analogous communication got rolling fine, improving personal contacts with fellow breeders. On German soil, this is not an easy thing to do, as the Breeding Association for Straight Egyptians does anything but formulate common-ground positions. The overall mood was further encumbered by a dominantly apparent separation of the VIP area from the open-access public visitors' areas, which were very nicely and cozily designed and decorated as they were. De facto this separation is a rather more symbolic problem on shows, a tradition adopted from the Arabian countries where vertical hierarchies are taken for granted. Increasingly, however, breeders in Europe question this concept – one reason being that Arabian horses in particular have contributed again and again





Dear Desert Heritage Readers,
on September 01 and 02, the third edition of the “Egyptian Event Europe” took place at the Dyck castle in Juechen, a small town near Dusseldorf, Germany. As always, it was spotlessly organized by the Hain family who dedicated a lot of their time to the realization of the event, and we also offer thanks to Mrs. Bettina von Kameke, President of the Pyramid Society Europe, active organizer and breeder.

The castle of 1091 is the center of Salm-Reifferscheid-Dyck, an independent territory located between the ancient electorates of Cologne, Guelders, and Julich. The small territory was called “Dycker Ländchen” and is still recognizable by its unique cultural landscape. Today this pearl has been transformed by the last heir of the Reifferscheid family, the Countess Wolff-Metternich, into a foundation, to

guarantee the future of the castle as an environmental education center.

For describing this show, a lot of positive adjectives are needed, such as elegant, prestigious, well organized, and with attention to people and horses, but ... unfortunately it suffered from the effects of several shows coinciding during the weekend. This overlapping of shows seems to develop into a custom of late, but this is not only a blow to the organizers, but to the whole world of the Arabian horse in its wide variety. In fact, often we find ourselves having to decide and divide our time to cover the largest number of shows in one weekend, and the same goes for the media, handlers, owners, sponsors, judges and especially horses. So let us always trust in a better future that will never forget about the most important condition of a show: quality!

The Egyptian Event Europe gave us some fantastic days. With perfect weather and finally cooler days after a hot summer, the German National Championships for the Straight Egyptian Arabians Horse kicked off, followed by the European Championships for Straight Egyptians.

The judges for this new competition were Mrs. Renata Schibler (CH), Mr. Christian Moschini (IT), and Dr. Nagham Aldabbous (KUW). The disciplinary committee was formed by Mrs. Kerstin Wisniowski (DE) and Mrs. Christina Keyser (NOR). Streaming, scoring and music were delivered by the Arabian Horse Global Network. For the “Egyptian Event Europe” the number of judges was increased to five, as in addition to those of the German Nationals there were Mrs. Martine van Hee (BE) and Mr. Nashaat Hegazy (EGY). Ring Master for both shows was Dr. Mohammed Mohssen (EGY). As speakers, Mr. Volker Raulf (DE) and Mr. Guy De Fontaine (FR) had been won. As I said before, I hope that next year will be well divided in terms of dates, and that every interested breeder will be able to participate in all the shows, just as if in a big family, without having to choose who and where.

I leave you to the photos of the champions and spectators, made by Mrs. Joanna Jonientz and our representative Mrs. Monika Savier.

Fabio Brianzoni

to bridging the gaps between different classes of society and to promoting communication, even on an international scale. After all, breeding good horses is not a privilege of rich people. It's open to guess what are the reasons: why the event was not the great events

MICHAEL PONATH, member of the executive board of Pyramid Society Europe, Ponath Arabians, Germany



Heike Hain and the Pyramid Society Europe have created and organized a new title show, the "German Championships for Straight Egyptians" - however, where have all the horses been?

That's the big question – all the time before, there have been complaints that with the great influence of participants from the Arabian world in the European Championships for the Straight Egyptians, there was hardly a chance left for the German participants. And now when they are offered a show just for them, nobody shows up for it. That's a great pity. I think that finances play a great part, and also a certain awe or shyness when faced with the prospect of presenting your horse yourself for a big event, while at the same time, many horse owners don't want to entrust their horse to a trainer's care. We need to find a concept that provides room for breeding to go on developing.

There were suggestions of distributing the prize money among all participants. What do you think of that?

I am sure that would help. That ought to be the next attempt when trying to organize financial support.

Shows have a bad reputation in Germany because of disputable training methods. However, nobody takes a lot of action in order to improve the methods, not even the breeders. What can be done?

That's a valid argument, yes – however, it was not applicable here, as everybody could have presented his horse just the way he liked and then take his prize

this year, whether it was scheduled for the right date at all, whether shows today ought to be organized differently, or whether there is not more money available in Europe for participating in stock shows... Some participants gave me their answers in short interviews:

home. Maybe that's a typically German feature, grumbling but not wanting to take action and do things in a better way. There were alternatives this year, in Bavaria, and the Noble Festival in the Netherlands. They were well accepted and it was easily apparent that the community, the come-together of the breeders, was the most important feature there. Within the Pyramid Society, we still need to do more work to establish the National Championships, which doesn't just mean more promotion activity. There also needs to be more communication with and involvement of the breeders, who are the ones who need to be convinced of the idea. This year's experience will not discourage us, just on the contrary, we are going to implement ideas on how to approach and include the breeders by new incentives.

Maybe there also needs to be more outright communication, making clear that for the National Championships, "optimizing" the horses and excessive preparatory training are not necessary?

On the whole, we need to bring the horses themselves back into focus more strongly, and we need to re-awaken the breeders' passion for breeding on and improving the Straight Egyptians and present them for stock shows. We also need to remind our members that the Pyramid Society is an association of people. It is not the job of the executive committee to organize all activities, with the members settling back on their sofas and watching events, live-streamed, from their homes. Among others, we need to think about how to revive and stimulate the activities within our association, and I am sure this will include showing and presentation events in different versions.





INGRID TIETZE, Intisar Arabians, Austria

What was the show like for you?

Quite good! However, there were fewer horses and spectators than last year, and maybe there will be even fewer next year, until there may be no show any more.

How to bar that downswing, then?

REGINA WIFLING, Hamadi Arabians, Germany

How did you like the show?

I liked it very much here, today as well as yesterday when they held the German Championships for the Straight Egyptians.

Why is it that there were so few horses presented for the German Championships?

It's a great pity there were so few horses there, I was really shocked to see that.

Is it possible the Germans like to grumble instead of act?

Maybe it will take them another year, to have more time for taking a good look at the show to be sure this is what they want.

Hm, after all, there was enough time to take a carrot and train your horse for a stand-up at home, there was not any pressure for optimizing the horses, the breeders were among themselves...

... but they hardly ran with it. They won't even go and attend the Aachen show as spectators. We need to find a way to bring the breeders, the small ones in particular, back to the shows, as even the communication that is

By factoring the European breeders into the equation to a greater extent. Not everybody can afford to act as a sponsor and then take his place in the VIP tent. Prize money is one idea to start with, as not everybody can fork money into the training and transport of several horses. I got a first and a third place, and I like to present my sires, but there needs to be more engagement towards the breeders' benefit. If there is, I'll be here again next year.



possible there is so important. We need meetings again, places where we can compare and compete. That's hard to do for small breeders at big international shows where other horses take the top placings.

Maybe that's because there is not enough prize money for participants?

Well, prize money is always an incentive, but still, some breeders just don't dare to show their horses because they are afraid of the confrontation. What we need is more time for communication, as that will help to get over peoples' shyness by making room for discussing the things our horses have in common.

ROBERT SCHLERETH,

Ex Show Trainer,
Al Qusar Arabians,
Germany



What do you think, what are the reasons why so few breeders in Germany will participate in shows?

The cost is certainly in the foreground. You have to give the horse into training for at least two months, then there are the transportation costs, next you travel to the location with your family, you need hotel accommoda-

tions – all in all, that's about three to four thousand Euros spent for a show weekend with a horse. Most of the breeders are people on average wages, they simply cannot afford it.

You might take the speculative view, however: if everything goes well during the show, the costs will be just an investment into the horse, and they can have a positive impact on the stallion breeding fee or on the price of sale, can't they?

I'm skeptical at that, as the market in Germany is quite wrecked. The only horses to be sold are those with superior pedigrees and good type. For mediocre horses, it's quite a bit harder to find a buyer, and there

is also no sense in betting or speculating on them.

But still, a show title or at least a class win can be quite helpful, can't it?

With so few horses starting, there is not much value in a title. And when there are many horses in a class, there is a great risk of ending up somewhere in the middle without getting anything back for the effort.

But the digital market enables you to have better advertising for your horse, doesn't it? You offer videos and photos, and you communicate that your horse is valuable to you, even if you don't win with him. Don't you ever sell horses on the phone or via Facebook?

Most of the people who are interested will visit our farm because they want to see the horses. Repeat customers, people who purchased horses from us before, they will

GERARD PATY, Stud
Manager Al Rashediah
Farm, Bahrain



How did you like the show?

I love this show, it's fantastic, a good atmosphere, they have good prizes and good judges – I just wish there was more support, more people would come.

Why, do you think, aren't there more people here?

Maybe the organizers ought to promote a bit earlier in the year, and maybe the timing was a little off for the visitors from the Middle East. It's the end of the European show season and they are leaving for home. I don't

PETRA WAGNER,
Breeder UJW Arabians, Germany

How did you like the show?

Perfectly organized, everything fits just great, even the weather, and I met a lot of good people.

Why do you think there were almost no German horses here for the German Championships?

That part of the show is still in its beginnings, I think. It

sometimes buy a horse on the phone, but that's only because they trust us from experience, and they know our horses.

What might be an alternative for shows?

Events on a more casual basis, such as the Noble Festival in Lochem, or organizing an Open House yourself. I simply don't want to see the bad stuff any more, some horses rolling their eyes at their handler and trying to get out his reach because they are afraid of him. Everybody knows what kind of stand-up training they must have experienced. And as a breeder, you even have to pay for that kind of training. As long as show judges accept this kind of display, there will be an ever decreasing number of breeders to attend shows – because those who like their horses won't go there. The shows ought to change, because then the breeders will come back, bringing their horses with them.

think the US shows have a big influence on spectators for European events.

Do you think more breeders would come if the cost were lower for them?

Probably yes, and more horses would also bring more spectators.

There are hardly any of the "big people" here, do you think opening the VIP tent for everybody would be a positive signal?

Yes I do, and in particular, opening it for the sponsors would be a good idea in my opinion. They are important to the show, they give the prize money and entice people to come. The same with the breeders, training and preparing a horse for the show costs a lot of money, and it would probably be a good signal to them.

was a good start, smaller trainers were motivated to come, it's a kind of grass-roots movement that started to roll here - I am optimistic about it, we are going to see more horses next year. I will bring mine too, unfortunately they are not well right now.



I got the impression the German visitors did not get in the mood – things only started rolling, with more liveliness and applause, when the international event attracted visitors from different cultures.

I think because the German Nationals were held at the beginning of the whole show, things still had to get going. And Germans do tend to keep their emotions under control, I agree with you in that.

What do you think of prize money in order to stir the German breeders up?

I am not in favor of prize money of the magnitude that

ANN CAROLINE DYEKJAER,
Dyckjaes Stud, Denmark

What do you say, all in all, about the show?

A very nice atmosphere, a lot of horses I appreciated to see, but not many horses overall.



Why weren't there more horses, what do you think?

There were other shows this weekend. And maybe the smaller breeders from outside of Germany find it hard to come, they might need more support and a feeling that it is worth the effort, that they have a chance to be among the winners. And for having a



is offered for the top placings. The money needs to be distributed to all the horses starting in a class, so everybody will get some. Even the last-placed one must get some money, as we need the last places, too, for a show to exist. The spectators need to be better motivated, as well as the E Community on Facebook, as we need the comments and also the support so the show gets increased acceptance. It's not just the super sponsors we need, but also the supporting opinions of the smaller breeders. We have to take them along with us, and the small trainers with them, they also need to be motivated.

good show, you need others to be there. Maybe we don't need a VIP tent, it looks very nice, but I think people would be happier if they could get the money that was spent on that as prize money instead. That might be one way of getting more people into a show world that is closing ever more on itself.

Do you experience a grassroots movement of small breeders?

It's a really good thing when breeders come together at a local or regional level, just sitting together, really supporting each other. There is nothing like that in my area, unfortunately. Getting the feeling you are part of something might give you more motivation to even start things such as going to shows. People spend a lot of money on breeding, their weekends, their time – they ought to get more joy from that.



THE GERMAN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS FOR STRAIGHT EGYPTIAN ARABIANS.

DEAR BREEDERS IN GERMANY, WE NEED TO TALK.

The background story: In Germany, apart from a few big studs Arabian horse breeding is usually a hobby of small family studs in rural areas. For them, it's difficult to finance breeding on an elevated „show level“, and many call the show circus into question and look for novel options in the public relations field. The number of local horses participating is ever on the decrease, owing to the dominating impact of the Middle East Arabians who more or less make sure that the chances for European-owned Straight Arabians to win a championship title are getting ever more rare. Apart from a few exceptions, it's mainly the top horses from out of the greatest SE studs in the world who shuffle the top placings among themselves. Many small breeders in Europe just have the poor comfort of knowing that, if nothing else, most of today's top horses and champions from the Middle East are bred based on time-proven Egyptian lines that have been cultivated and improved, for generations, in the small family studs of Germany and Europe, later to be sold back into the Arabian countries.

By now, this market is mostly stocked, and the European studs need to adjust their breeding goals to suit new buyers from other countries. Presenting their horses on the occasion of a Straight Egyptian show, with additional livestreaming, might be a model of doing public relations – however, this concept has not been used at any substantial extent yet. Organizer Heike Hain had offered participation in amateur classes even last year, so as to provide the German participants with a platform for presenting their horses without needing to go with the „optimization craze“ and the professional

training circus of classical show horses. However, those few Arabians who were presented among the highly specialized and professionally trained show horses did not stand any chance of drawing positive attention, as a show is a show – a spectacle relying on optical effects, not a charity event for horses freshly off their pastures. The criteria for the success of winning a championship are quite clear-cut. The criticism was clear-cut too: „We want a proper show for the horses from Germany, not a sideshow.“

The idea: PSE and Heike Hain reacted, presenting a different concept for this year's event. They organized a proper show, a German Championship for Straight Egyptians with a presentable title to be bestowed. A reasonable initiative by the Pyramid Society Europe, in principle, broadening their society's sphere of action. If successful, this idea might serve as a blueprint for further European countries that breed a considerable number of Straight Egyptians, such as is the case in Italy. In order to cushion transportation and enrollment costs, there was also substantial prize money offered. Everybody was with that concept – but the German breeders hardly brought any horses. Grumbling is easy. But what about taking fresh action? Did the German breeders give up already? Or is it that they still wait and see, pondering whether this new proposition is one that fits them?

Still, the organizers were not exactly dissatisfied with the results. „Learning by doing“ might be the best slogan for summing up Heike Hain's opinion. „I give my thanks to all those who took part in the event. We are going to fine-tune the concept until it is really fitting“, she said. So there's fresh hope for next year here...



NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS FOR GERMAN BRED STRAIGHT EGYPTIANS

JUNIOR FILLIES



1st ZL MAYRAH BINT MAYDARA
Lilly & Detlef Franke, Germany

2nd EOS AURORA
Gestuet Eulenthal, Germany

3rd 2 HAR BASALLA BINT BASARA
Raimund Woehrl, Germany



JUNIOR COLTS



1st SAIF AL MAJD
Rashed Almajdeli, Germany



2nd MAYMOUN AL AQABA
Waltraut Hobein, Germany

THE CHAMPIONSHIPS

SENIOR MARES



1st HAMADI MALIKA MUNJA
Regina Wifling, Germany

2nd GE MAYSOUN
Klaus Buchberger, Germany

3rd HAMADI M SEE EZZAINA
Regina Wifling, Germany



SENIOR STALLIONS



1st MASHOUR HALIM
Michael Ponnath, Germany



2nd AMUN AL AQABA
Waltraut Hobein, Germany

THE 31ST EGYPTIAN EVENT EUROPE, A HIGH END MEETING FOR STRAIGHT EGYPTIANS

Out of twelve countries and three continents, the horses had traveled to the Egyptian Event Europe for competing at the Championships of the EEE for Straight Egyptians. Most of them were known from the show ring already, having won titles before. Which was true for the typey winner of the Junior Filly Championship, Rayyanah Al Maale, a daughter of NK Nabhan who proved himself an extreme type inheritor during the recent two years on Dr. Nagel's Katharinenhof. The filly had won prizes already in her home country, Kuwait, for her breeder and owner Khaled Al Enezi of Al Maale stud. However, her competitor, the silver champion filly Rayah al Danat by Al Adeed al Shaqab out of Ajmal Sharifa, also knew how to play to the gallery. The Bronze champion filly Salma Al Rashediah (Suhail Al Nasser x Sallamah Ezzain) had come in from Bahrain and was another impressive sight.

Among the junior colts, it was D Ra'ouf who was made champion. He is a son of Royal Colours and bred and owned by Omar Al Babtain in Kuwait. Royal Colours had been leased to Kuwait by Dubai stud and has succeeded in producing an impressively great number of young show winners there, with D Ra'ouf being one of them. The Silver Champion was from the United Kingdom: MH Maarius I, bred and owned by Lady Josephine Anderson. He is out of Maartine, while his sire is Muhaned Al Rayyan, a son of Ashhal Al Rayyan. The Bronze Champion title went to a colt bred by Waltraut Hobein in Germany, Maymoun Al Aqaba, whose sire is home-bred Amun al Aqaba by Authentic Ibn Nawaal, and whose dam is El Thay Minya.

The title of Champion Mare was awarded to the perfect

mare Noor Al Rayyan who also took the Best-In-Show-Female Trophy home with her. She is a daughter of Ashhal Al Rayyan out of Ansata Nefer Isis and was bred by Al Rayyan Farm in Qatar. Her owner is Sheikh Mishaal Al Thani. Spoiled by success already, Deem Al Rashediah from Bahrain became the Silver Champion. She is an Ansata Nile Echo daughter out of Farid Nile Dream. Bronze Champion Labibah AA by Nader Al Jamal and out of Latifah was bred by the Ariela Farm in Israel. It's Dana Al Meslemani who is her owner.

The Gold Championship title for the stallions was awarded to a horse from Egypt, Al Farida Stud: Bebars Al Farida (Imperial Bareez x Salma by Royal Colours) was the happy victor. It was a tight win, but he finally took a one-point lead in front of Zain Al Dean who had won the class before and received the highest score of the show. He is a son of Laheeb out of Jowhara Al Okab and was bred Talaat Feysal Abu Dahash in Israel. Still, nobody was able to take the "Best in Show - Male" trophy from him. The Bronze Championship title went to Bashir Al Rayyan, an Ansata Nile Echo son out of G Shafaria, owned by Fahad Al Sulaiti in Qatar and standing at stud as a sire in Italy.

A nice day in late summer drew to its end. It was still hot enough to get oneself a cone of ice cream, and to stroll along under the shady trees to see the horses in the pre-ring or to chat with friends. It had been fun and pleasure to see all these high end Arabians here, and it is much to be hoped that next year, the show will go on in Castle Dyck – maybe with an expanded concept and a date with no other events competing.





EGYPTIAN EVENT EUROPE

FOALS



Gold
ZL RHODORA BINT BUKRA
Lilly Franke, Germany

Silver
TOPIS IKNATONIA
Piet Lavrijsen, Belgium

JUNIOR FILLIES



Gold RAYYANAH AL MAALE
Al Maale Stud, Kuwait

Silver RAYAH ALDANAT
Al Danat Stud, Kuwait

Bronze SALMA AL RASHEDIAH
Al Rashediah Stud, Bahrain



THE CHAMPIONSHIPS

JUNIOR COLTS



Gold D RA'OUF
Omar Al Babtain, Kuwait

Silver MH MAARIUS
Dame Josephine Anderson, UK

Bronze MAYMOUN AL AQABA
Al Aqaba Stud, Germany



SENIOR MARES



Gold NOOR AL RAYYAN
Sh. Mishal Al Thani

Silver DEEM ALRASHEDIAH
Al Rashediah Stud, Bahrain

Bronze LABIBAH AA Dana
Al Meslemani, Qatar



**BEST IN SHOW
FEMALE**

NOOR AL RAYYAN

SENIOR STALLIONS



Gold BEBARS AL FARIDA
Al Farida Stud, Egypt

Silver ZAIN AL DEAN
Talaat Feysal Abu Dahash, Israel

Bronze BASHIR AL RAYYAN
Fahad Al Sulaiti, Qatar



**BEST IN SHOW
MALE**

ZAIN AL DEAN