

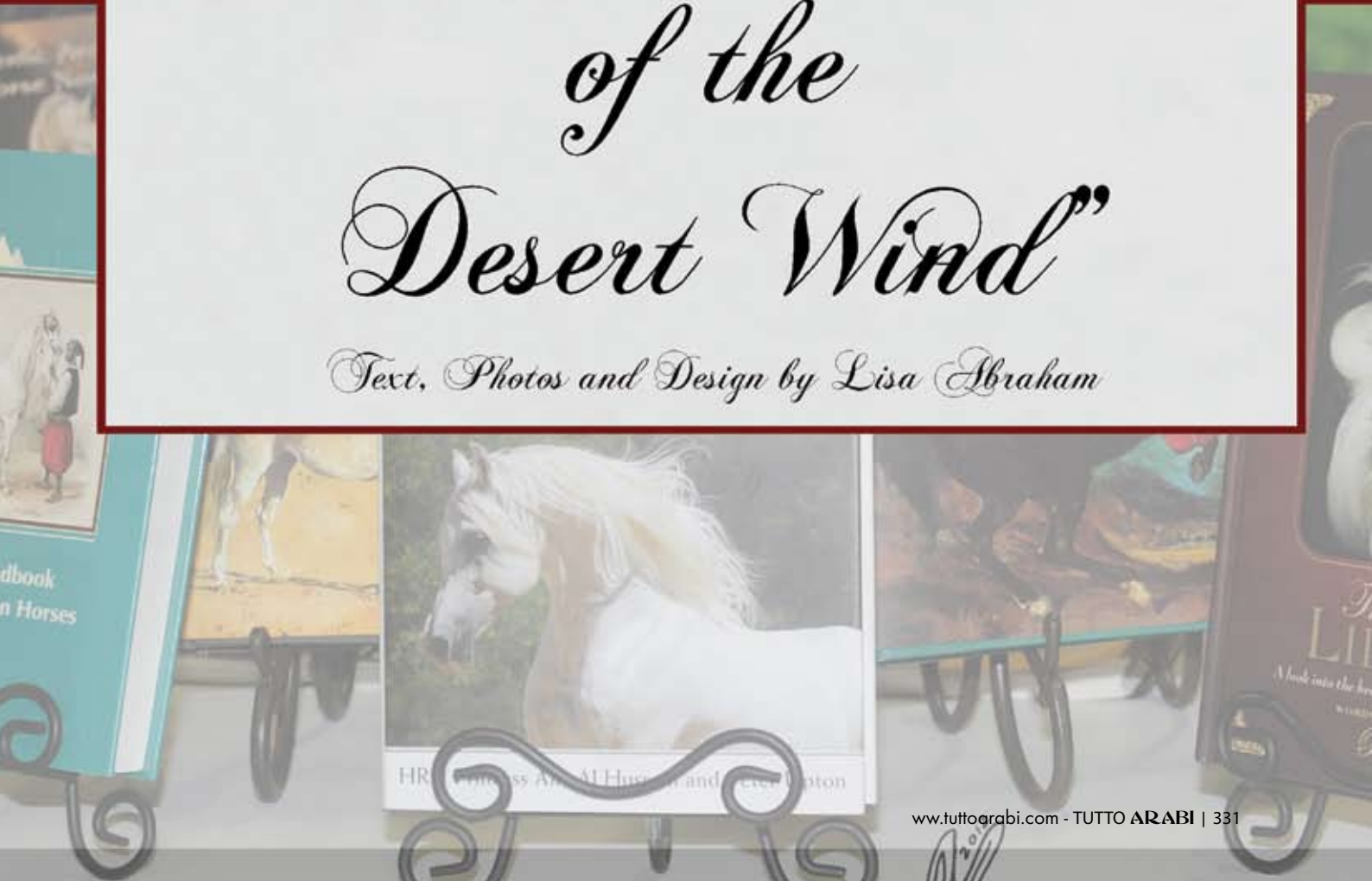


The Pyramid Society's 52nd Annual

2012 US Egyptian Event

*“Born
of the
Desert Wind”*

Text, Photos and Design by Lisa Abraham



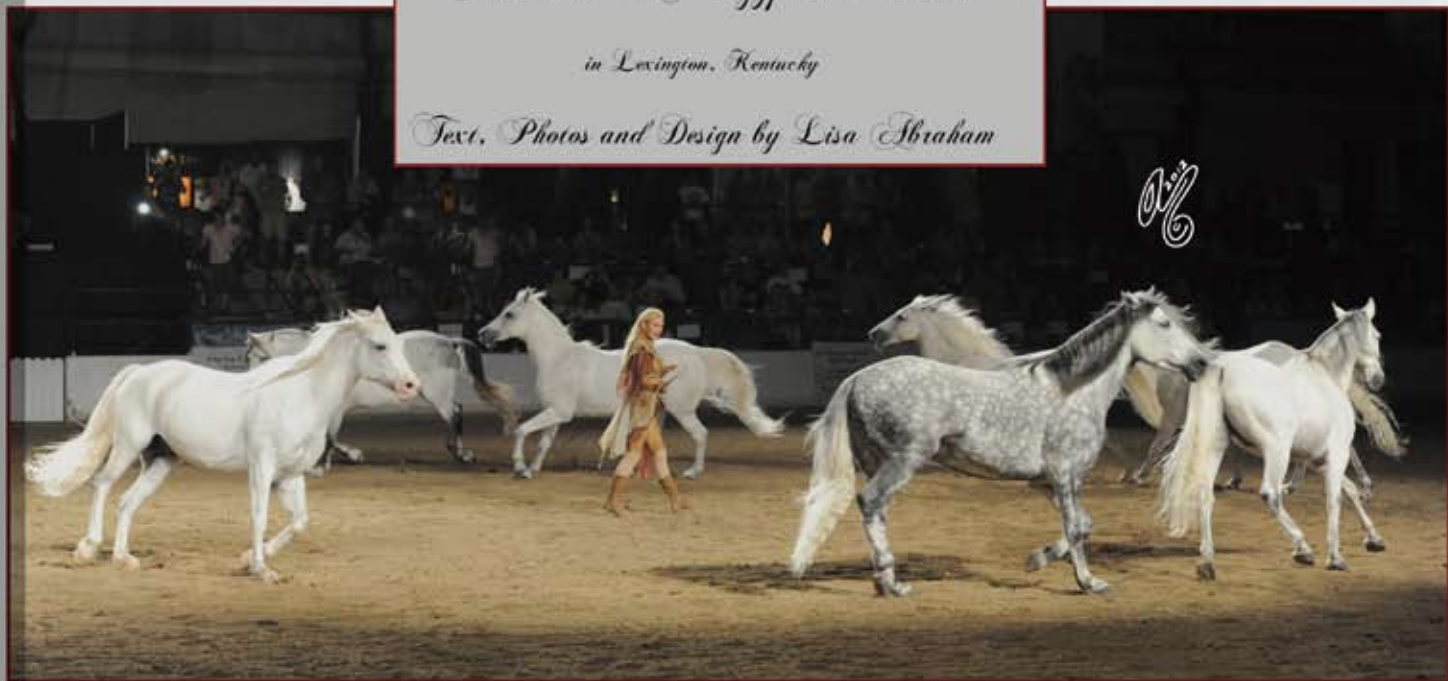


"Born of the Desert Wind"

The 2012 US Egyptian Event

in Lexington, Kentucky

Text, Photos and Design by Lisa Abraham



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The US 2012 Egyptian Event, "Born of the Desert Wind" was a "community celebrated" show, one in which most of us who attended will not forget. This six day event, beginning Monday June 4th, comprised itself of many warm, fun, funny, exciting & memorable experiences. As a community we shared our horses, our stories, our opinions, our tears and our triumphs. And, as a community, we participated in this annual show which began 32 years ago with a group of friends interested in preserving and promoting the Egyptian Arabian horse which, at the time, had little exposure in the western world.

Although the US Egyptian Event is the largest showcase for Straight Egyptian Arabians in the world, it is far more than just a horse show. Through it's many offerings, both educational and social, it promotes, facilitates and inspires "community building". Through thoughtful scheduling, each day offered opportunities to participate in a variety of activities such as daily seminars, barn happenings, meet-and-greets and auctions.

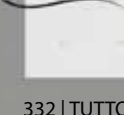
Top Image: The incredible Sylvia Zerbini performing on Championship night with her herd of Arabian horses at liberty.

Image on Opposite Page: 2012 Gold Champion Junior Colt Ghasham Al Shaqab (Al Adeed Al Shaqab X Gazala Al Shaqab) owned and bred by Al Shaqab Member Qatar Foundation of Doha, Qatar

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Educational Opportunities



One of the most admirable efforts of The Pyramid Society is that of the educational offerings at the Egyptian Event. The seminars covered a variety of general subjects including horse preparation, showmanship and nutrition. More specialized subjects included: "The Saluki: Coursing Hound of the Desert", by Mary Beth Rogers; and "Youth Equine & Canine Massage Therapy" by Therapist Mary Ann Watts of Danville, Indiana.

A very memorable seminar was one given by Keri Wright of Cariswood Arabians, titled "More Than Just A Pretty Face: Using the Reference Handbook of Straight Egyptian Horses, Volume XII". Keri took what seemed like a dry, self-explanatory subject and related it, both eloquently and methodically, to his own experiences as a breeder. In doing so, he shared not just his highs, but also his lows—it was very emotional. Several times he himself had to pause to recompose himself so that he could continue. Masterfully, Keri guided us to a place far above the competition, to one of compassion and love—each of us felt it. During the Q&A, Judith Forbis stood up and with emotion evident in her voice shared, "that was one of the best lectures I have ever heard."

Top Image: Keri Wright speaking on the subject of "More Than Just A Pretty Face: Using the Reference Handbook Of Straight Egyptian Horses, Volume XII"

Images on Right: Cynthia Culbertson (top) and Dr. Sandi Olsen presenting The Pyramid Lecture sponsored by Al Shaqab Member Qatar Foundation titled: "A Gift From The Desert: The Art, History and Culture of the Arabian Horse"



Progressive Barn Parties

Traditionally the Barn Parties have been a wonderful opportunity for us to get together, not as competitors, but as a community. It's a fun evening consisting of organized parties, more food than one could ever eat, beverages-a-flowing and, of course, horse presentations of all types.

Curt Westley and Allison Mehta of Talaria Farms are known for their generous soirees. Curt shared, "I think the Talaria party was terrific-interesting, entertaining, short and attended by lots of serious breeders. For the first time, we were able to get away afterwards to attend a couple of other parties. Given the limitations of time relative to the territory to cover, the progressive style is a great way for people to maximize the evening's offerings."



Top right: Sidon SMF (Ali Sarouk X Shaboura), owned by Silver Maple Farm, being presented in the Barns 5-7 party.

Middle Right: The bunch from Barns 8-12 led by Mike and Cindy Stylianos of Achaean Arabians. Even Judith Forbis and The Pyramid Society Executive Director Anna Bishop joined in the fun!

Bottom Right: The gang at Paradise Arabians out of Dalton Georgia! Misty, Matt, Wanda & Gary Kensworthy. Every year their party has a theme --this year it was a '60's one - Peace Y'all!

Top Left: Again in the Barns 5-7 Party, Tara Carpio presenting the much loved stallion, The Bandero (Alixir X Arabella MCA), owned by Tom or Gail Chasteen.

Bottom left: The Winner of the Most Classic Head Female, TF Delfinia (Botswana X Deyzi Ameera) greeting her admirers at the always delightful Talaria Farms Barn Party. And yes, that's Jody Cruz of Rancho Bulakenyo and Marion Richmond of Simeon Stud sitting in the front row!



The Heirs Apparent



Signature



2012 marked the first year for **The Heirs Apparent** presentation which showcased up-and-coming Jr. SE Egyptian Stallions from the ages of 3 -to- 5. After the stallions were trotted in for individual presentation, the arena was opened for up-close and personnel viewing. It was exciting!

Top Image: Sidon SMF (Ali Sarouk X Shaboura) owned by Silver Maple Farm

Right: Stallions Ansata Royal Qasim (Ansata Qasim X Sherifa Tamria) owned by Michael Farkas and Abraxas Crown Prince (ET Crown Prince X Ansata Fayrouz) owned by Mohammad Kuraan



Signature



Signature

EBC Challenge Live Auction of SE Stallion Breedings



Top Image: Azim Al Amaar (Amaar Al Rayyan X Imperial Maysama), owned by DeShazer Arabians, being presented. His breeding was purchased by Bob Miars of Miars Egyptian Arabians for \$5,100.

Middle: Abraxas Crown Prince (ET Crown Prince X Ansata Fayrouz) owned by Mohammad Kuraan. Two breedings were sold for \$1600 each-one to Eastern Star Arabians, the other to SC Desert Star Arabians.

Bottom Right: Steve & Mauri Chase of Chase Arabians, Bridgette Orwig of Pure Gold Arabians, Ali Al Misned of Al Shaqab, Fahad Saad Al Qahatani of Al Shaqab, Judith Forbis of Ansata Arabian Stud, Hank DeShazer of DeShazer Arabians, Abdulla Al Kuwari of Al Shaqab, Mohammed Al Sulaiti of Al Shaqab, Christie Metz of Silver Maple Farm and Gail Mailloux of Twin Silo Farm.

The EBC Live Stallion Auction is always one of the week's highlights. As this year's auction was scheduled on a lighter class day, energy was high! For the festivities, the arena was converted into a lively auction house with a staging area for the auctioneer & horse presentations.

The auction raised an impressive total of \$197,350--\$22,000 more than in 2011! In 2011, the highest selling breeding went to Laheeb Al Nasser for \$15K. This year, for a record amount, the highest selling breeding sold to the globally loved Thee Desperado for \$21,000 to Ruel and Virginia Gober!



"An Arabian Night in Black and White"



An Arabian Night in Black and White was an elegant event. Everyone traded in their show duds for gorgeous formal wear and came to have a good time—and of course, buy some art!

One of the evening's surprises was a lovely gift from the 2012 Gala Sponsor Sheikh Khalid H.A. Gahtani of Salayel, from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. All Gala attendees received a collection of exquisite prints representing Oriental and Islamic art and architecture during the Mamlouk era. This collection has been reprinted from a rare book in the Salayel Arabian Horse Library.

The Art Auction was a success, as was the entire evening. Last year the highest purchase amount was \$9,500, at which price two separate pieces were sold. This year, a bronze of "Nazeer" donated by its creator Karen Kasper, sold for an impressive \$20,000 to Rena Norcross, while a painting by Ali Al Mimar titled "Freedom in Spring", sold for \$15,500 to the DeShazers. In total, the auction raised \$75,700--\$24,200 more than in 2011!

Top Left Image: Judith Forbis presenting the gift from the exclusive 2012 Gala Sponsor, Sheikh Khalid H.A. Gahtani of Salayel. **Top Right:** Karen Kasper and Judith Forbis with "Nazeer" – the highest selling item at \$20,000. **Right Middle:** Christie Metz of Silver Maple Farm, Cynthia Culbertson & Marion Richmond of Simeon Stud. **Right:** Carolee & Keri Wright of Cariswood Arabians



Gala and Fundraiser

Art Auction Raised
\$75,700!



Auctioneer Greg Knowles of Arabian Expressions keeping those bids coming in!



Middle Image: Original painting by Sherry B. Akers -- sold for \$4,000.

Right: "Freedom of Spring" by Ali Al Mimar -- sold for \$15,500.

Image Left: Custom made halter set by Nancy Gates of Heirloom Arabian Halters -- sold for \$2,500.



2012 Trustees' Award



Dear Rhita,

You taught me to see the inner soul of the horse, not just it's outer beauty. You taught me to instill confidence in a young horse through encouragement, not force. I admire how you achieved acceptance as a prominent female trainer in the earlier years without sacrificing your manners and charm. YOU COMMANDED RESPECT WHILE ALWAYS REMAINING A LADY. Because of your knowledge, patience, kindness and devotion, our Arabian Horse community is a far better one. You are a class act and an inspiration to all who have known you or have seen your heart warming smile in the show ring. I appreciate all you have taught me and the many, many happy years we have shared training and showing our wonderful Egyptian Arabian Horses. I love you very much and appreciate you for all you have done.

-Steve Diamond



Another function of the Gala is to recognize a recipient for The Trustees' Award, one of The Pyramid Society's highest honors. It is an award chosen by Board of Trustees which "seeks to acknowledge and formally recognize the lifetime of achievements and the passionate dedication of it's recipients - both to The Pyramid Society and to the Egyptian Arabian Horse." Past recipients include Anna Bishop, Donald and Judith Forbis, Barbara Griffith and Dr. Hans Nagel.

This year the Trustees chose to give two awards: one to Rhita McNair, a long-time trainer and showman of Egyptian Arabians, most memorably at Gleannloch Farms; and the other to Judy Sirbasku & her husband, the late Jim Sirbasku, of Arabians Ltd. in Waco Texas.

Top Image: Rhita McNair and Judith Forbis **Middle Right:** Board of Trustee members Christie Metz, Dr. Joseph (Jody) Cruz and Judith Forbis with Rhita McNair





Dear Judy,

You have been a tireless patroness of the Egyptian Arabian Horse. You have remained dedicated to the Abbas Pasha tradition of caring for the Arabian horses that excite the imagination and never deceive the eye for beauty. You have perpetuated a unique gift that God has lent to us and in the process, you have brought unimaginable joy by sharing that gift with others.

Any honest person with a shred of knowledge of Egyptian horses would agree that your breeding has influenced Arabian horses throughout the world.

Each of us is forever grateful to you. Thank you and we love you.

~David Gardner



Right Image: Judy Sirbasku and David Gardner

Bottom Right: Board of Trustees members Christie Metz and Dr. Joseph (Jody) Cruz, Pyramid Society President Henry Metz, Board of Trustee member Judith Forbis, Judy Sirbasku and David Gardner

Directly Below: Jim Sirbasku's favorite bourbon was Kentucky's own Maker's Mark, so with special thanks to a group of guys led by Hank DeShazer, all gala attendees were invited to a shot in Jim's memory.



2012 Egyptian Event Photographers



The US Egyptian Event is a photographer's paradise! Not only is it the world's largest showcase for Straight Egyptian Arabians, it also takes place in one of the most beautiful equine facilities in the world, the Kentucky Horse Park.

Top Image: How's this for a line-up of superstars? (l-to-r) Scott Trees, Cookie Serletic, Lisa Abraham, Suzanne Sturgill, Jenni Ogden, Polly Knoll, Don Stine and Randi Clark. Photo by Richard T. Bryant



Image Directly Above: Suzanne Sturgill doing her thing

As part of her tremendous body of work, **Judith Forbis's** contribution to the world of Arabian photography is both immense and irreplaceable!

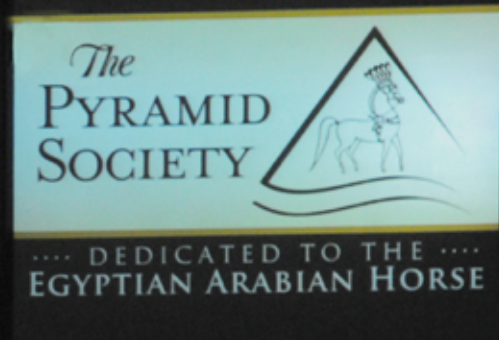
Image Left Middle: Judith with Scott Trees

Bottom Left: Having a lively discussion on digital perspective with legend Polly Knoll

Immediate Left: With 2012 EE Official Show Photographer Don Stine



Classes



Imtasha (Imtaarif X Aniya), shown by Ricardo Rivera, in the Senior Mare Championship Class

The 2012 US Egyptian Event was an exciting show! Many of the world's top SE's competed neck-n-neck as the classes were big and the quality deep. In total, 307 horses competed representing countries all over the world.

Because of the huge payoffs, the Egyptian Breeders' Challenge Classes are two of the most competitive and exciting of the show. These are the yearling colts and fillies who are the progeny resulting from breedings won in previous **Egyptian Breeders' Challenge Auctions**. Amongst the winners, the fillies had a jackpot of \$55,795 to divide while the colts shared \$55,715. For the Filly and the Colt Classes, Rock Creek Arabians, home to Arabians LTD and owned by **Judy Sirbasku**, shined the brightest as both winners were progeny of their stallions.

The two major standouts in the Championship classes were sires Al Adeed Al Shaqab (Ansata Halim Shah X Sundar Alisayyah), owned and bred by Al Shaqab Member

Qatar Foundation of Doha, Qatar and Ashhal Al Rayyan (Safir X Ansata Majesta), owned and bred by Sheikh Abdulaziz bin Khalid Al Thani of Al Rayyan in Doha, Qatar. Al Adeed Al Shaqab sired two of the four the Gold Champions, grandsired another Gold Champion and sired one of the Bronze Champions. Ashhal Al Rayyan sired both the Gold and Silver Senior Male Champion Stallions.

Although the show was stacked with highlights, Unanimous Gold Champion Stallion Hadban Al Shaqab, owned & bred by Al Shaqab Member Qatar Foundation and leased by Dr. Joseph (Jody) Cruz of Los Osos CA, deserves special mention as he was this year's only Unanimous Champion. He is also now the second US Egyptian Event Gold Champion Stallion to have been produced by Sundar Alisayyah (Ruminaja Ali X Imperial Sayyah). Since the US Egyptian Event in Lexington, Hadban Al Shaqab has also become the US Region 2 Supreme Champion Stallion.



Egyptian Breeders' Challenge: Fillies



First

Amirah Gemaal DB

(Bellagio RCA X Silk SWA)

Earned \$22,318

Owned by Dreamco Breeders LLC (USA)

Won \$22,318!



Second

Insignias Rosebud

(Insignia DeSha X Pirouettes Rose)

Earned \$12,274

Owned by Mians Egyptian Arabians (USA)

Won \$12,274!



Egyptian Breeders' Challenge: Colts



First

Premonition RCA

(Thee Desperado X Mishaa's Kiss
RCA) Earned \$22,286

Owned by Rock Creek Arabians (USA)

Won \$22,286!

Second

Nour Al Kamar MH

(Imperial Al Kamar X Binte Aziza MH)

Earned \$12,257

Owned by Dr. Joseph Cruz (USA)

Won \$12,257!



Junior Filly Championship



Gold

Layali Al Shaqab

(Farhoud Al Shaqab X QR Annah Ferrari)

Owned by Al Shaqab Member Qatar Foundation

Silver

DeSha Bahreyn

(Laheeb Al Nasser X Bint Katyah)

Owned by Nalya Hayek of Switzerland



Bronze

MVA Rae Of Colours

(True Colours X Thee Rae Of Hope)

Owned by Jane Washburn and Laurie Emery (USA)



Junior Colt Championship



Gold **Ghasham Al Shaqab**
 (Al Adeed Al Shaqab X Gazala Al Shaqab)
 Owned by Al Shaqab Member Qatar Foundation



Silver **AJ Thee Luca**
 (Thee Desperado X HED Caramba)
 Owned by Manuel F. Durini



Bronze **Nour Al Kamar MH**
 (Imperial Al Kamar X Bint Aziza MH)
 Owned by Dr. Joseph Cruz (USA)



Senior Mare Championship



Gold

Hooria Al Shaqab

(Al Adeed Al Shaqab X Hanouf Al Shaqab)

Owned by Al Shaqab Member Qatar Foundation

Silver

Black Pearl WP

(Thee Desperado X RS Cherokee Rose)

Owned by Manny Viera (USA)



Bronze

Dawlah Al Shaqab

(Al Adeed Al Shaqab X Badawieh Al Shaqab)

Owned by Al Shaqab Member Qatar Foundation



Senior Stallion Championship



Gold **Hadban Al Shaqab**
 (Ashhal Al Rayyan X Sundar
 Alsayyah)
 Owned by Al Shaqab Member Qatar Foundation, Leased by Dr. Joseph Cruz

Silver **Suhal Al Nasser**
 (Ashhal Al Rayyan X Konouz)
 Owned by Luis Miguel Muzquiz (MEX)



Bronze **Al Hadiyah AA**
 (Laheeb IASB X The Vision HG)
 Owned by Fazenda Floresta LLC

