

by Monica Calanni Rindina photos by Mike Ferrara

Ithough seemingly tarnished by cold, wet weather, the 2009 U.S. Nationals in Tulsa, Oklahoma was graced by an emergent sun, transforming the backdrop for the show into a beautiful, brisk autumn atmosphere. The show grounds were handsomely appointed. In addition to convenient seating tables were setup ringside for patrons to relax and watch the show, each farms' stalls were charmingly decorated for the event.

This year's show was marked by amazing competition quality, both in performance and halter classes. Halter competition was particularly exciting, DA Valentino and Battle Hill Farm dominating the major championships. DA Valentino offspring won both Filly (Valori TRF) and Colt (Vitorio TO) Yearling Breeders Sweepstakes Championships! In an admirable achievement, Battle Hill Farm bred three of the eight major Halter Champions: Felisha BHF, Dulcinea BHF, and Falcons Lovenote BHF.

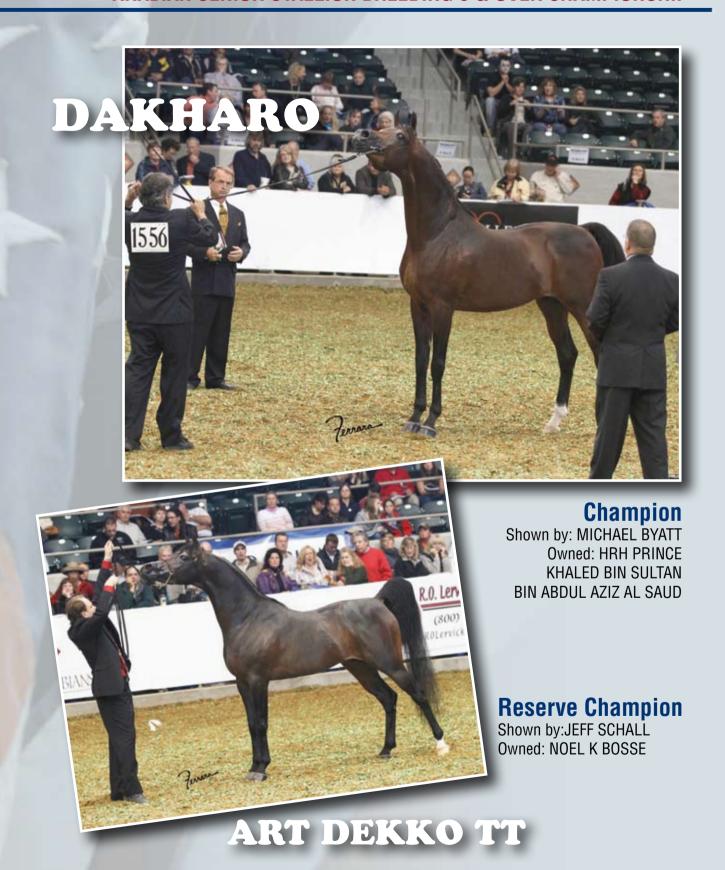
There was a distinct buzz in the crowd anticipating all three incredible horses. International Champion Dakharo did it again winning the coveted title of Champion Sr. Stallion, adding to his already impressive show career! The stallion Bey Ambition was a special surprise, winning the Futurity Colt Championship. Perfectly prepared, he absolutely lit up the vocal crowd, clearly in agreement with the judges assessment of quality. To top things off, the Marwan Al Shaqab son Aria Impresario returned from his 2007 Yearling Colt Championship to claim the title of Champion Jr. Stallion.

As the final Saturday evening of the show coincided with Halloween, many of the participating farms hosted extravagant parties celebrating the excitement of the show and the playful fun of the holiday.

Spectators, trainers, and exhibitors were all invited to dress-up and enjoy a great night among friends. A wonderful conclusion to an excellent show.

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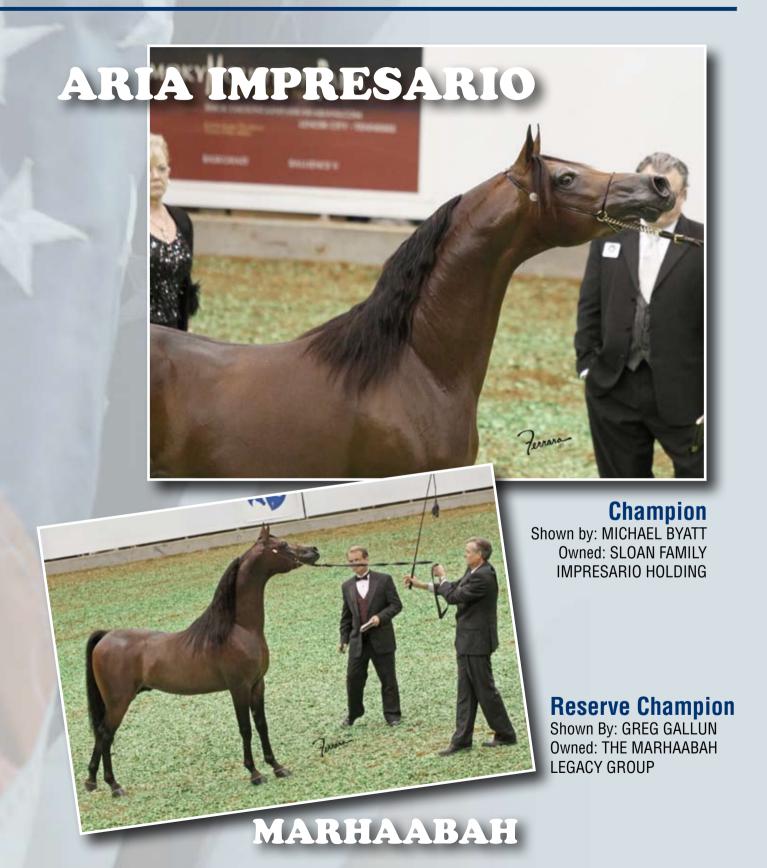
ARABIAN SENIOR STALLION BREEDING 6 & OVER CHAMPIONSHIP



ARABIAN SENIOR MARE BREEDING 6 & OVER CHAMPIONSHIP



ARABIAN JUNIOR STALLION BREEDING 3-5 CHAMPIONSHIP



ARABIAN JUNIOR MARE BREEDING 3-5 CHAMPIONSHIP



Champion

Shown by: RINALDO LONGUINI Owned: CARLOS & CHRISTIANE

ROIZNER

Reserve Champion

Shown By: MICHAEL BYATT Owned: HH PRINCE ABDULLAH BIN FAHAD AL SAUD

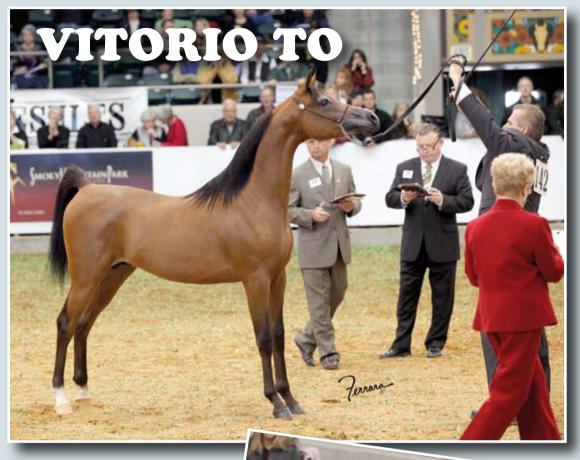


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ARABIAN YEARLING FILLY BREEDERS SWEEPSTAKES CHAMPIONSHIP



ARABIAN YEARLING COLT BREEDERS SWEEPSTAKES CHAMPIONSHIP



Champion

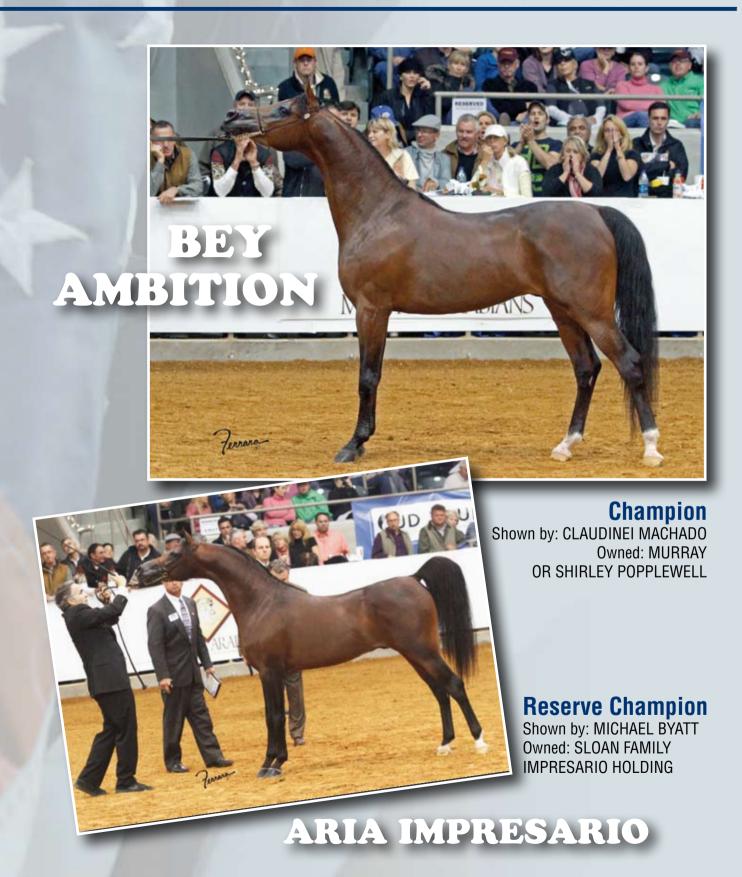
Shown By: STEVE HEATHCOTT Owned: STONERIDGE ARABIANS OR OAKRIDGE ARABIANS

Reserve Champion

Shown By: RODOLFO GUZZO Owned: ROBERT L & DIXIE L NORTH FAMILY TRUST



ARABIAN FUTURITY COLT BREEDING CHAMPIONSHIP



ARABIAN FUTURITY FILLY BREEDING CHAMPIONSHIP



Champion

Shown By: KEITH KRICHKE Owned: BATTLE HILL FARM

Reserve Champion

Shown By: ANDREW SELLMAN Owned: CLAIRE & MARGARET LARSON

