

February 11-21, 2021
Scottsdale, Arizona, USA

The Scottsdale Arabian Horse Show grows and changes faster than journalists can write about it. The innovations, improvements and great new ideas fall into place almost daily, and those changes seem to grow more dazzling every year. No wonder the Scottsdale show has become the largest equine event of its kind in the world, with more than 2,400 horses coming to town to compete for over \$2.5 million in prize monies. And if that isn't enough, some 300,000 people from 50 countries come to Arizona's Valley of the Sun to participate, to spectate, buy and sell horses, make new friends and have even more fun than they ever imagined. Arabian horse enthusiasts everywhere plan far in advance for the annual pilgrimage. Many will make hotel or motel reservations for next year before they leave town this year. Arabian breeders, owners, trainers, exhibitors and enthusiasts from every imaginable global locale continue to send or bring their finest.

Year after year, the numbers—all the numbers—steadily increase. In this uneasy era when most horse shows are cautiously picking their way across economic minefields, the Scottsdale Arabian Horse Show is prospering wondrously. Anyone who has witnessed the show's exponential growth, even in the last ten years, can only marvel. Sure, Arizona is the perfect escape from the icy winter blahs, but people are making plans to be a part of something very special right here in Scottsdale the Mecca for the Arabian horse.

The Scottsdale Arabian Horse Show

IS CELEBRATING 66 YEARS!

In The Beginning

Somewhere in the inhospitable deserts of the Middle East, centuries ago, a breed of horse came into being that would influence the equine world beyond all imagination. In the sweet grass oasis along the Arabia peninsula, this hearty horse would be known as the Arabian horse. Historically the Arabian has maintained a reputation as the horse of beauty, intelligence, courage, endurance, and romance. Because he was bred and reared in close contact with man from the earliest records and developed an unequalled ability to bond with humans. As the oldest of all the light breeds and foundation stock of most other breeds the Arabian is unique. The Arabian breed is different in that it does not exist as a result of selective breeding, as are most modern light breeds. This breed has been recognized for thousands of years and records have been maintained and cherished over those years to document its purity.

The high intelligence, trainability, gentle disposition and stamina of the Arabian enable it to excel at a wide variety of activities popular today many which are seen at the Scottsdale Arabian Horse Show each year. Competitions in English and western pleasure, cutting and reining, even jumping and dressage provide opportunities for fun and enjoyment. As an endurance horse, the Arabian has no equal. The top prizes at endurance events almost always go to riders of Arabians. In addition, the Arabians' Bedouin heritage is evident in their unequalled ability to bond with humans, making them the perfect horse for family members of all ages.

The Guiding Light(s)

Arabian Horse Association of Arizona president Mary Lou offers some insight into the phenomenon. "I would have to attribute much of the show's continuing success to our Board of Directors' foresight and progressive, out-of-the-box thinking. Their eyes are on the future of the Arabian breed. We constantly tweak and improve what we offer; we want people to participate." Participate, they do. Their motivations are as diverse as the many-faceted show itself.

Visitors to the show's website will note that each day's offerings include something for everyone. While it is debatable whether spectators or exhibitors, and which age groups within those respective constituencies, enjoy themselves more, the show schedule includes some-



thing fun unrelated to competition, every day. On the weekend you can watch for special free activities for the whole family, ice cream social, paint a pony, barn tours, seminars, pony rides, personal guided tours and much more! Children from five to 95 can have a great time with any or all of the foregoing activities. Watch for barn tours and educational seminars to be sprinkled throughout the week.

One Life To Live

Current Arabian Horse Association of Arizona director Sharon Chauncey-Siar has attended the show every one of its 64 years. Her father, the late Tom Chauncey, helped organize and stage the first show. It all started in 1953 when horse fancier Ed Tweed stopped by the stable of Pearl Grey Clyde, the first person to bring a purebred Arabian horse to the Valley of the Sun. At that meeting, Tweed proclaimed that he would bring together all Arabian horse owners in Arizona and start an Arabian Horse Association. Two years later, the inaugural Arabian Horse Show was held at the Arizona Biltmore Resort. The event was organized by an all-volunteer group and consisted of 50 horses and just over a dozen exhibitors, all from Arizona and neighboring states. Following the inaugural event, Arabian horse owner Ann McCormick bought 150 acres of land near Bell Road that became Paradise Park, the new site of the Arabian Horse Show. Due to the amazing success of the event, it outgrew Paradise Park in the mid-1980s and moved on to WestWorld of Scottsdale, a newly developed, much larger facility that proved to be the perfect locale for this incredibly popular show. That ambitious undertaking was almost entirely a volunteer effort. Volunteerism is still one of the show's key elements.



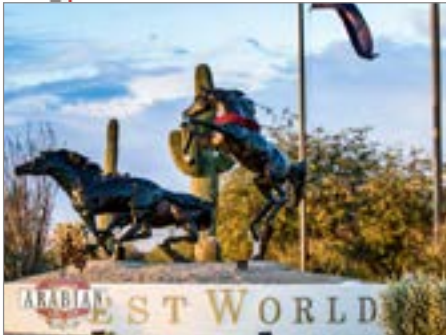
“Everyone volunteers for the love of the horse,” explains Sharon. “We couldn’t do it without them. We have more than 400 volunteers altogether, staffing many of our services and activities. This allows us to reduce expenses in a number of areas. Most of our prices-entries, for instance-are the same as they were 20 years ago. We have absorbed many costs, including judges’ salaries and other expenses, but we haven’t passed those costs on to exhibitors. Instead, we’ve made cuts in other areas.

The show’s yearly fundraising efforts have meant millions of dollars to local and national charities. This year’s charitable contributions again will be divided among Horses Help, March of Dimes, Scottsdale Community College Equine Sciences and Youth For Troops and many other smaller charities throughout the year. “Volunteers from each official charity also help out during the show,” adds Chauncey-Siar.

Janet Cothorn and Bob Leary are the volunteers who head the barn tours and educational offerings. “The seminars and demonstrations and ‘behind the scenes’ barn tours have been a tremendous success for more than a decade,” says Leary. Be sure to take part in a barn tour at the show this year, you will see what it takes to get the horses ready for competition and be able to meet some of the industry’s top competitors.

Scottsdale Show features a glimmering assortment of more than 350 vendors and trade booths, offering everything from lavish jewelry, clothing and works of art, to boots, saddles, gifts and trinkets. Tempting international cuisine courts, ex-demonstrations and unique educational seminars compete for visitors’ attention with the luxurious, exotically decorated stabling areas in which the horses are housed.

As show-goers stroll through acres of anything and everything equine, they will understand why the Scottsdale Arabian Horse Show has become famous for what it calls its Shopping Expo. Spectators and horse people alike can find their heart’s desire among the 350-plus commercial exhibitors’ wares and services. Look for one-of-a-kind sculpture, jewelry, artwork both fun and fine; not to mention practical and impractical footwear, hats and clothing. Insurance providers, saddle, tack and equipment purveyors; fencing, automatic insects-be-gone spray systems salespeople, as well as real estate agents and Ye Olde Gift Shoppe proprietors, will be there in full force throughout the 11-day extravaganza.



“The last few years our barn tours have been very large: they usually start out at the beginning of the week with about 200 people. Well, word got around, the tours became a big hit, and we all worked together to really inform and entertain our audiences. We started small, but on last year’s final tour last year we had more than 450 people!”

A Shoppers Paradise

The Scottsdale Arabian Horse Show is a shopper’s paradise. Almost as famous for its dazzling commercial exhibits area, overflowing with treasures, baubles, bangles and one-of-a-kind beads for every taste and budget, the

Club members estimate that over the years, more than 100 charities have benefited substantially from the event. Set against the beautiful backdrop of the Sonoran Desert, the Scottsdale Arabian Horse Show is a must-see event that is perfect for the whole family. Join us in Scottsdale next February and watch these magnificent horses compete!

Tickets to the Scottsdale Arabian Horse Show can be purchased through TicketMaster www.ticketmaster.com. For more information on the show and for additional Arabian horse activities in the valley visit the Arabian Horse Association of Scottsdale’s website www.scottsdaleshow.com





DATES & LOCATIONS OF THE SCOTTSDALE SHOW

1952 & 1953: Casa Blanca Inn
(North Invergordon Road North of Camelback Road)

1954 & 1956: Arizona Biltmore 24th & Camelback

1957- 1966: McCormick Ranch
Known as Paradise Park, Pima south of Shea

1967 & 1968: Kemper Marley's property at Tatum and Bell

1969 – 1978: McCormick Ranch, Under the Kaiser-Aetnaownership, *after Mrs. McCormick died, the agreement was set to maintain the show there for ten years; at the end of that ten years they started McCormick Ranch development. Pima south of Shea*

1979 – 1988: Paradise Park II (State of Arizona land)

1989–Present: WestWorld (City of Scottsdale)



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