

Laurette

photography



My passion for horses...

... has taken me on a remarkable adventure through the 45 years since I first discovered the world of the Arabian horse. Born and raised in a quiet Canadian farmland community, I began my equestrian experience by joining a local 4-H Chapter with my family's horses. The focus was to learn about responsibility and caring for our treasured animals. The kids were all a bit 'horse crazed' so we had a great time learning together. We often spent summer evenings and weekends trial-riding to a neighborhood gathering or into nearby forests.

Those memories are a collection of joyful chatter and moments of serenity as we rode through towering trees on rarely used dirt roads with the sunshine flickering through the leaves and if the season was right, we would stop to pick fresh blueberries. It was a magical time, only now do I fully understand how blessed I was to enjoy those precious days.

When I was barely a teenager, my family moved to cattle ranching country. It seemed appropriate at the time to set my sights on breeding Quarter horses. But that all changed when a friend invited me to attend my first National Arabian horse Show. That day changed the course of my life. I embraced the world of Arabian horses with a commitment that continues to this day.

After college and a colorful litany of life experiences, I am grateful to all the brilliant and talented mentors I have had and the opportunity to work with them. At the height of my involvement, I cared for many of the most treasured horses in the breed, including *Bask++, *Wizja, Fame, Dancing Flame, *Elkin, and Barbary to list only a few. These legends profoundly influenced and forever changed the future of the breed, as well as my life. Being entrusted with their care was an honor and a privilege that I never took for granted. They were as illustrious then as they are in my heart and mind today.

For me, as for others, it is impossible not to be deeply moved by the Arabian horse. The connections we develop with them is so profound, they leave an imprint on our hearts that lasts a lifetime. Each horse, each experience is totally unique. It is amazing what we will sacrifice just to be close to them, to experience their essence - their incredible personality and character, their manifested noble spirit when they snort and blow, or their gentle nature when they softly nuzzle the back of your neck, or the excitement in your heart when they call out to you in recognition. It's so simple and yet so profound. When you fall in love with an Arabian horse, it becomes a love that lasts a lifetime. I truly believe that some of them become a part of our soul.

After many years of working with the Arabians, then traveling to various farms and attending a non-stop stream of horses shows, I found that there were moments when it wasn't enough to just watch them anymore. I wanted to capture those precious but fractured seconds that stirred my heart; the sight of their powerful, animated movement, their look of pride, their incredible beauty. This inspired me to pick up a camera and focus my lens on the essence of these magnificent Arabian horses. It is a challenge that continues today. I still get such a thrill when I capture something really special. And once in a while, there are times that the horses of today take me back to special moments of my past where I again experience the magic of *Bask++, the floating beauty and elegance of *Wizja, and other legends that are gone. With these déjà vu moments I feel my cup of life overflowing with gratitude to the Arabian horse and the blessings they have given me.

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