



North American Shagya-Arabian Society

To: Internationale Shagya-Araber Gesellschaft e.V. Pure Bred Shagya-Arab Society International (ISG) President and Board of Directors: Ahmed Al Samarraie, President; Tamas Rombauer; Walter Huber; Diether von Kleist jun; Franz Hoppenberger; Carin Weiss

From: North American Shagya-Arabian Society (NASS) Board of Directors

Date: March 24, 2008

The NASS Board of Directors (BOD) would like to thank you for your recent communication and informing us when you would be available for requests. After reading the “Resolution of the ISG BOD to the USA-Shagya-Araber Situation” dated 12.02.2008 which was received via email on March 13, 2008 from Ahmed Al Samarraie, the NASS BOD members are very concerned regarding this resolution.

In review, NASS has undergone a tremendous amount of improvement under the leadership of our dedicated BOD spending countless hours reorganizing and restructuring this organization. Through this endeavor, the NASS BOD has grown in strength and unity and is working extremely well together. NASS BOD has completed our 501c5 application for new non-profit status; the NASS website www.shagya.net is functional and better than ever, our committees are well working together and communication with other Shagya organizations are professional and astute.

NASS has an exceptional Registrar that has not only been recognized as a Lifetime Member of NASS but also with ISG – Carol D. Neubauer an extraordinary individual with a vast knowledge of the Shagya-Arabian! A perfectionist in Pedigrees, not to mention the Studbook, she has worked on for numerous years. NASS has at present 451 Purebred and Partbred Shagya-Arabian living horses as of February 2008. The other Shagya-Arabian organization has approximately 100 horses recorded of which two-thirds have already been registered with NASS. NASS has five Regional Directors that represent North America very well. These regional directors are professional not only within NASS, but also in their own careers and businesses as well. They are all more than capable of handling the Shagya communities and membership. NASS is also planning an election soon to expand the BOD with two additional “at large” positions which will allow for another improvement in member representation. Another note is that the presidents of both North American organizations have spoken positively about merging or unifying the organizations, most recently just prior to receiving your letter.

We are very troubled regarding the ISG BOD proposal to consider the acceptance for a new member organization in North America, specifically the United States. Additional organizations “if accepted” would be detrimental to the Shagya-Arabian community here. An example of an **unsuccessful** Registry split was the Trakhener Association in the United States of America. They also split due to differences and internal arguments. Later, they chose to re-unify as ONE organization. They now have grown to over 1,000 members and are very successful marketing this breed. When you look at successful breed organizations throughout the USA, all of the successful organizations are under **ONE Registry**. The North American Shagya-Arabian organizations should use the American Trakhener Associations experience as a positive example of success as a **unified registry** that is thriving at the business of breeding horses.

Here are two links to more information on the The American Trakehner Association and the North American Trakehner Association unification as of January 1, 2001.

<http://www.euodressage.com/news/breeding/trakehner/ata.html>
<http://www.americantrakehner.com/Regulations/RegsIntro.htm>

It is mentioned in your letter that the ISG BOD talked often about the unsatisfactory situation and tried to find a solution. The NASS BOD would like to know the following points in order to defend our situation and position:

1. Exactly what is unsatisfactory with NASS today? We do not know what you mean by our present situation.
2. What are the complaints that the ISG is receiving? The ISG has not submitted these complaints to the NASS BOD.
3. Who has presented this information?
4. NASS has members scattered throughout US and Canada. How would two or three societies be a better option? If Canada, as a separate country, is interested in their own organization, this would make sense, but not in the US.
5. NASS is a current member of ISG. We are ISG members and feel that we deserve support and regular communication from the ISG. NASS has appointed an ISG liaison, who has sent regular NASS progress updates to ISG to improve communication, yet the “Resolution of the ISG BOD to the USA-Shagya-Arabian situation” was a complete surprise to us. Why did this happen?

Again, the NASS BOD would like the opportunity to respond directly to these complaints of the alleged “unsatisfactory” situation and improve communication with the ISG.

In closing, NASS BOD strongly believes that the best success for the Shagya-Arabian breed organization is to be under one registry. We urge you to look closely into the American Trakehner success and use your influence to urge other Shagya-Arabian organizations to unify with NASS. What NASS needs from the ISG BOD is to ***continue to stand behind our organization as the only recognized registry*** as it has these past 22 years. Please “SUPPORT” NASS.

We appreciate this opportunity to respond to the ISG and look forward to continuing this discussion.

Sincerely,

North American Shagya-Arabian Society Board of Directors; nass@shagya.net

Lori Baker, NASS President, NW Regional Director

Gwyn Davis, NASS Vice President

Elaine Kerrigan, SW Regional Director

Kathy Richkind, Rocky Mountain Regional Director

Terry Hey, Midwest Regional Director

Jamie Buck, Eastern Regional Director

Arlene Michaud, Treasurer and BOD Member

(Forwarded to: NASS Membership)