

ATAA Newsletter

Articles:

SANA West RBS	1
Horses and Leopards	2
ATAA News	2
2019 Conference	2
Online, Searchable ATAA Database	2
Plan for Registration Project	2
2019 ATAA Budget	4
ATAA Awards 2019	5
Turkmenistan Trip	7
Registration Survey Results	7
2018 Incentive Fund Recipients	8
Education and Conservation Breeding Strategies for Small Gene Pools	9
Breeding Healthy Horses in a Small Gene Pool	10
Line of Sere	12
Registration Report	13
Line Breeding and NFS	13
Endangered Equine Alliance	13
Manual of Methods	13
Storing Genes for the Future	13
Featured Artist	11
Yukon Permafrost	15
Dressage at Devon 2019	17
Incentive Awards 2019	19
Meet the Judges	22
Classifieds	23

SANA WEST RARE BREEDS SHOW

May 9—12th, 2019: The Akhal-Teke Association of America (ATAA) and the Equus Survival Trust (EST) are co-sponsoring the Stewardship Awards of North America (SANA) during the Western States Horse Expo in Sacramento, CA. Not only will there be well over 20,000 spectators coming to the Expo, the Expo has agreed to publicize the SANA West Rare Breeds Show. The ATAA and EST will be looking for participants to exhibit their rare equines, volunteers to work at the show, class and clinic sponsors, show sponsors and more. All breeds listed on the EST website's Conservation list are welcome and of course all Akhal-Teke and Akhal-Teke crosses are welcome, ATAA registered or not. Check out the ATAA website for more [details](#).

Horses and Leopards in Turkmenistan

By Tatjana Rosen, ATAA member

I had the opportunity to travel to Turkmenistan to participate in the meetings and festivities to celebrate the Akhal Teke horses for 3 years now. But since I am a wildlife biologist working since 2008 in Central Asia on the conservation of snow leopards, my fascination with Turkmenistan did not stop with Akhal Teke horses and the beautiful dogs that often accompany them, the Alabai and Tazy: for years I wondered about the conservation status of the

You want to bring your horse!

Yes! The more horses that come the better. So far, we have Akhal-Tekes (of course!), Hackney Horses, American Cream Drafts and a plethora of ponies! Check back often to see what other breeds are coming. The Western States Horse Expo is already advertising for the Rare Breeds Show and we hope to get a large turnout. There will be ribbons in each class, classes with donors may have additional donated prizes. Classes and Clinics are listed on pages 20 and 21.

continued on page 20

Persian leopard, whether Asiatic cheetahs can still be found and whether in the Kaplankyr plateau and Karakum desert, sand cats still make an appearance.

I dreamed of finding all these answers while riding on the back of an Akhal Teke. Sure enough, a little part of my dream came true this past December 2018, thanks to an agreement between the State Committee on Environment Protection and Land Resources of Turkmenistan and a UK-based NGO called the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) I was able to travel to Turkmenistan with the

continued on page 6

West Coast Rare Breeds Show, May 9th-12th [here](#).

2019 ATAA Conference in Clarksburg, Ontario, Canada, hosted by Giles and Katrina Ardiel, dates TBA

AHA/ATAA Distance Championships October 25-27, Vinita, OK

Dressage at Devon AT In-Hand classes September 24-29, Devon PA

[Akhal-Teke Association of America - ATAA](#)

Breeding Reports due by December 31st, see the ATAA Website for more information.

2019 ATAA Conference:

Hosted by Giles and Katrina Ardiel of Akhal-Valley Farms, Clarksburg, Ontario, Canada. Dates TBA - watch the ATAA website for details!

Online Searchable ATAA Database Update:

ATAA member Yorke McGillivray and her fiancé Matthew Harris have generously donated their time and expertise updating our ATAA Database to an online and searchable one. Matthew reports:

The new fully online database will include a number of features. Namely, you will be able to search horses with ease, either by name, or a list of other characteristics, such as color, year born, country of origin, etc. Looking up the pedigree of horses will be a snap, when you land on a horse page, clicking on a parent will show you a quick view of that horse, you can do the same for any horse 3 generations back. This will allow you to see a lot of information about the horse's line without ever leaving the main horse's page! Yorke McGillivray is using her studies as CSU for creating an algorithm for calculating inbreeding coefficient for all the horses as well. This will give you yet another way to evaluate the health of the horse.

Other notable features include; List of awards/recognitions the horse has been given, a quick view of children of the horse, easy sharing of the horse on Facebook / your favorite social media site.

As for updates:

All the data is loaded into the system, using an archival system to ensure nothing is lost during the transition from the old database to the new. PDF generation of reports

ATAA News

is working; however, stylization is still needed. Login System is working; however, password reset is still a work in progress. The major roadblocks to overcome are getting the photos from the old database into the new database. Once the photos are uploaded, working with the experts on lining up the data correctly will be next. After that the entire system should be ready!

I expect everything to be complete before March!

Plan for VNIIK Registration Project:

Committee: Pat Johnston, Amrita Ibold, Betsy Wandler, Cathy Leddy and Tish Saare

Introduction: In the fall of 2017 the ATAA Board of Directors sought to address the alarming number of ATAA registered purebred Akhal-Teke horses that are not registered in the closed mother studbook (VNIIK) held in Russia.

Some of the North America active breeding horses are as many as three generations removed from VNIIK registration and will be considered part bred horses as far as the closed Russian studbook is concerned. This would be a great loss for the North American Akhal-Teke population, and devastating for breeders.

In order to help address this issue, the ATAA board secured a grant from the WWW Foundation through the Equus Survival Trust (EST) for VNIIK registration related purposes — DNA collection and testing, obtaining identification photos, data collection to complete forms, and assistance with associated fees to help register purebred horses with the closed Russian Studbook. The grant funds will also be used for educational materials — creating and producing flyers, DVDs, banners, web articles and resources, exhibition/seminar support, and

competition incentives for the ATAA and its members/ horses.

The Plan to Address the Problem:

1. Assess the problem - what are the barriers to VNIIK registration.

The ATAA board developed a survey to explore why Akhal-Teke horse owners have not registered their breeding stock with VNIIK, the closed Russian Studbook, as well as solicited suggestions from Akhal-Teke owners as to how the ATAA can remove barriers that are hindering VNIIK registration. This survey was distributed widely. (Education component) See survey results on page 7.

The ATAA also published articles on the shrinking US Akhal-Teke population, importance of registration in a closed studbook, how a breed is defined through registration, breeding in a small, closed population and Russian Studbook Registration: Education and Assistance Grant. (Education component)

Work closely with the Russian Studbook staff to assess what can be done to bring unregistered horses into the closed studbook (VNIIK). The ATAA Registrar, Amrita Ibold, works with Nadegda Abramova in Russia. Akhal-Teke that prove their purebred lineage to VNIIK through DNA testing can be registered in VNIIK.

Previously unregistered purebred ancestors will be "noted" in VNIIK with a foal registration number for a fee of approximately \$41 per unregistered ancestor or *continued next page*

Registration Project continued from page 2

parent.

This is instead of a full blown VNIIK passport of each unregistered parent/ancestor of \$186 each.

Identify horses that need to be

registered. We have a preliminary list of horses with Pending VNIIK registration and a list of horses whose VNIIK registration has been pledged. We expect this list to grow as the program gets underway and gets momentum. See addendum 3 Breeding Horses needing VNIIK registration.

Prioritize horses for registration. – our goal is to have all North American breed-able (intact mares and stallions) Akhal-Tekes registered with both VNIIK and ATAA.

- . Foals registered with both VNIIK and ATAA in the year they are born, cost: \$160 VNIIK, \$50 ATAA. Total \$210 To be paid by the horse owner.

All other purebred Akhal-Teke horses VNIIK registered NOT in the year it is born, cost: \$180 VNIIK, ATAA (if not already registered), \$100 Total \$280. To be paid by the horse owner.

- c. The grant will pay for the fee for the unregistered parents.
 - i. The unregistered parents will get "noted", at around \$41 additional fee per horse.
 - ii. Noted horses (unregistered parents) do not get a passport.
 - iii. We must have noted horse's DNA and photos.

The committee will then develop a script, e-mail, and contact list of horse owners to explain the program, answer questions and offer assistance. Need to develop a contact list of horse owners, including e-mail and phone numbers. (Education component)

Organize volunteers to contact those horse owners. ATAA Secretary can reach out initially people via e-mail. Volunteers can make phone calls to follow up on e-mail.

For anyone with a long list of horses needing registration:

The priority will be to register the youngest horses first

- a. Every applicant is evaluated by the committee, just like we do with the NFS, given an estimation of fees
- b. Every applicant is given a coupon code for tracking and accounting purposes

12. Run this program for:

- a. 3 months with a cap of using \$4500 from WWW grant, assistance with photos, DNA collection, and paperwork as necessary.
- b. Review at the end of this period and decide to continue as is or adjust program.

Track all applicants for grant on Google Docs transparency is key.

ATAA Ad in the March Issue of Endurance News!

The ATAA (and several members, including Tim Floyd, Cathy Leddy and anonymous) have paid for a half page ad in the Yearbook Issue of AERC's Endurance News.



Class and Clinic sponsorships for the SANA West Rare Breeds Show are now open! Or, donate an amount for general expenses. Every little bit helps, let's make this show fantastic!

<http://www.akhal-teke.org/sponsor-a-class-or-donate-for-sana-west.html>

2019 ATAA Budget

Expenses	Actual 2017 Expense	Actual 2018 Expense	Proposed 2019 expense
Insurance	\$661.00	\$631.00	\$661.00
Website	\$67.80	\$137.33	\$140.00
Professional Services, Reg. Agent/Trademark	\$474.00	920.25	\$500.00
Printing/Mailing/Supplies	737.22	\$761.00	\$800.00
1 Year Subscription to Adobe Pro	\$0	\$0	\$200.00
Awards			
Member Awards	\$250.00	249.05	\$500.00
Incentive Fund	\$1000 (2016 awards)	\$1999.56 (2017 awards)	\$3000.00 (2018 awards)
Other ATAA Awards (DAD)		\$200	\$200.00
Advertising			
DAD	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
Livestock Conservancy Ad	\$75.00	\$75.00	\$75.00
Other Print Ads	\$272.00	\$372.00	\$500.00
Promotions	\$500.00	\$0	\$500.00
Brochures	\$0	\$0	\$500.00
WEG/Conference	\$671.79	\$14,826.09	\$0
Russian Registration Fund	\$0	\$0	\$19,000.00*
DNA/NFS	\$1434.00	\$1015.00	\$1500.00
Bank Fees		\$17.00	\$20.00
Silent Auction Purchases			\$300.00
VNIIK Registration Payment		\$2,915.00	\$3,000.00
West Coast Rare Breed Show		\$0	\$5,205.00 (\$1,000 for just in case)**
DSLD testing/sample collection		\$0	\$1,000*
USEF membership		\$0	\$200
Total Expense	\$6642.81	\$24,618.28	\$38,301.00
Income	Actual 2017 Income	Actual 2018 Income	Proposed 2019 Income
Membership	\$3766.63	\$4311.49	\$4,300.00
Registration	\$1707.70	\$6,278.08	\$6,000.00
Conference	\$200.00	\$0	\$250.00
Donations	\$621.38	\$350.59	\$500.00
Logowear/Painting Pony	\$85.69	\$20.62	\$50.00
Silent Auction	\$841.10	\$361.66	\$500.00
Registered Breeder		\$120.38	\$150.00
ATAA Add in Paper?		\$45	
WEG Donations		\$11,059.29	
RBS Donations/Entry fees			\$6,650.00**
Total	\$7222.50	\$22,547.11	\$18,400.00***
From 1 st Grant – VNIIK Reg		\$19,000	
From 2 nd Grant		\$19,000	
From 3 rd Grant			\$4,750.00
Total with Grants		\$60,547.11	\$23,150.00
Net Income		\$(2,071.17)	
Net Income with Grants		\$35,928.83	

Current assets as of 12/31/2018:

Checking Account: 12/31/2018: \$2,944.73

Savings: 12/31/2018: \$56,650.11

Total assets as of 12/31/2018: \$59,594.84

*Expenditures that would be funded by grant money.

**Total estimates for the West Coast Rare Breeds Show are included. The BOD voted to set aside \$1,000.

**The projected expenditures exceed the projected income. However, we will be using the 1st \$19,000 grant for the VNIIK Registration Project and \$1,000 from the 2nd grant for the DSLD Project. If the grant is figured in, then projected income exceeds projected expenditures by \$99.

2019 ATAA Awards

2019 has a new award! Remember, these are all by nomination – nominate yourself or others. Betsy always comes up with great prizes.

Guidelines and Rules:

- The awards outlined below are for ATAA members and ATAA registered horses (purebred and crosses) except if stated otherwise.
- A current board member may be asked to step in for a tie-breaker (that is not personally involved with a particular category).
- All awards will be chosen based on nominations from ATAA members (a paragraph or more explaining why the individual person and/or horse should be chosen for that award). **An owner may nominate their own horse.**
- Individualized award will be given out to each award recipients (1 recipient per category).
- Nominations are due on September 15, 2019 by midnight (MST) and will be announced in the last ATAA Newsletter of the year.

send nominations to: betsysee@gmail.com

Volunteer Awards:

1. Community Involvement- promotes the ATAA and the Akhal-Teke to those outside of the breed (example: local 4-H or Pony Club)
2. Event Attendance/Breed Promotion- a member that actively helps the ATAA at one or more horse function(s) (example: exposition or show)
3. Publicity- contributes article(s) to one or more ATAA newsletters.

4. Breed Preservation- a person or organization that contributes to the preservation of the Akhal-Teke breed. *does NOT need to be a member or affiliated with ATAA* New for 2019!

Horse Awards:

1. Endurance Award: A registered horse that actively competes in recognized endurance or CTR rides.
2. Dressage Award: A registered horse that actively competes in schooling shows and/or USDF recognized shows.
3. Eventing Award: A registered horse that actively competes in schooling shows and/or USEA recognized events.
4. Jumping Award: A registered horse that actively competes in schooling shows and/or USEF/USHJA recognized events.
5. Horse of the Year: A registered horse that is a great ambassador to the breed and ATAA by actively competing in any discipline(s) and/or is producing offspring that are actively competing in any discipline(s).

Questions?

Contact Betsy Wandler at betsysee@gmail.com



October 25-27, 2019, Vinita, OK

The ATAA is happy to announce that we have partnered with the AHA to bring our members a National Distance Championship! You must be an ATAA member and your horse must be ATAA registered. This will make you eligible for this year's Incentive Fund Awards of \$5000!!!

Please let us know if you will be competing!



<https://www.arabianhorses.org/competition/national-events/distance-nationals/>

Introducing at stud

Wepaly Gulki

Sephard Shael x Pekhimi, 2013 Black 16 hand

ATAA/VNIK registered



Frozen semen only, \$1200 stud fee/multiple mare discounts

Esler Arabians, 916-652-8937, Eslerarabians@gmail.com

Eslerarabians.net

Tekes and Leopards, continued from Front Page

goal of training protected area staff from four different nature reserves to set camera traps and to set some camera traps together to detect the presence of Persian leopards and other wildlife lurking in the Kopet Dag and Sunt Hasardag mountains of Turkmenistan, west of Ashgabat.

To my great joy and surprise, I quickly discovered that Hojamurad, one of the key science advisors in the Sunt Hasardag Reserve is also an Akhal Teke breeder. We spent hours in the evening scrolling through photos of his horses, learning of the challenges faced in caring for them, including depredations by wolves. We discussed what a wonderful opportunity it would be to build some tourism opportunities around horseback riding, as an incentive for preserving the breed and wildlife conservation as well.

The following day, as we set out to explore some leopard habitat, a little part of my dream came true: Hojamurad announced we would be horseback riding through a long section of the Reserve. One of his rangers brought Melegush, a sweet and young buckskin Akhal Teke stallion, which I got the pleasure to ride, while Hojamurad and my colleague from Norway, John, rode two other horses, one also Akhal Teke and the other Jomud. We rode through incredible terrain: first, a long canyon littered with striped hyena tracks. We then climbed up and rode along the rim, passing waterfalls and encountering our first sign of leopards: a mom with her young cub following a busy trail used by Urial sheep.

During our stops to rest and kindle the fire to make some tea, we talked about how Akhal Teke horses retired from the races could be used by Reserve rangers for patrolling as well as the potential appeal of horseback riding in this beautiful Reserve. Some of our conversations also focused on natural horsemanship, horse health, tack and safety.



Photos of Tanya (author) on Akhal-Tekes horses exploring leopard habitat.

In the process I thought that the cumulative expertise of the International Akhal-Teke Association could be harnessed to address these issues. While promoting the Akhal Teke breed abroad through sports is important for its recognition, perhaps there is also an opportunity to support the importance of Akhal Teke horses in Turkmenistan itself: economic revenues from tourism can be important in motivating people, including outside the race and sports circle, to keep them. Akhal-Teke based trekking tourism can also be a powerful way to promote the beauty and biodiversity of Turkmenistan.

Before I left, Hojamurad told me of his long family history, intertwined with that of generations of Akhal Teke horses. He described how in 1879 his great grandfather rode off on his Akhal Teke horse for the first battle of Geok Tepe in Turkmenistan, when the Russian military launched an attack on the Akhal Tekke Turkomans. His grandmother waited for his return: the horse returned alone without the grandfather – who died in the battle.

I hope many more people get to experience the beauty of this country and its people: doing so while riding an Akhal Teke is a once in a lifetime opportunity.



Is Turkmenistan's Horse Celebration Week on Your Bucket List?

By Olwen Busch

Well, it's on mine! I rode my first Akhal-Teke in Kazakhstan in 2012, but no one could speak enough English to tell me what breed this poor, old broken-down nag was. It was the homeliest horse I had ever seen; but had amazing impulsion and wonderful gaits. A local artist who specialized in sketching horses finally told me the breed.

In Ashgabat, Turkmenistan I had the very good fortune to see a beautiful Teke stallion under saddle at a roadside overlook sight. The trainer was trail riding him because he was evidently recovering from leg injuries. So, the die was cast, and I am now the proud owner of an AT mare from Canada who looks like the twin sister of the wounded stallion. She is currently showing in Level II Dressage classes at USDF/USEF recognized shows in Florida. We also ride her on trails in FL and NC, sometimes with hounds' present.

I, my dressage trainer, and a friend who has competed in both endurance rides and dressage have arranged a custom tour through Turkmen Tours in Turkmenistan for this year's Horse Celebration (April 22-29). Turkmen Tours has given us until March 15 to add more people to our tour, reducing the cost per person somewhat. We would welcome up to 4 additional travelers. The price per person for 3 people is \$1,200; the price per person for 7 travelers would be \$1,000. The price includes a Letter of Invitation for a visa, internal flights and transportation, guide services, entrance fees for museums, etc., and lodging with breakfast.

We have arranged an Akhal-Teke ride of 1 to 2 hours at the Alaja Farm in Geokdere and will visit another AT farm in Geokdepe plus the Akhal-Teke Horse Complex of the President of Turkmenistan. We have also arranged for shopping expeditions to the bazaars with an emphasis on finding traditional trappings for both horses and riders.

If you are interested in joining us, please contact me by [email at buschtravel@gmail.com](mailto:email@buschtravel@gmail.com) or **call or text me at 1-904-655-3824**. I will send you the complete Turkmen Tours itinerary as a pdf.

For travel info on Turkmenistan download for \$4.95 a very helpful eBook (pdf) with a good map from shop.lonelyplanet.com. Once on the website, search for Turkmenistan and it will display: Central Asia - Turkmenistan (PDF Chapter).

There is also an insightful Turkmenistan guidebook available through Amazon: Turkmenistan by Paul Brummell, published in 2005 by Bradt Travel Guides. The author has served as the British Ambassador to both Turkmenistan and Kazakhstan.

ATAA Registration Survey Results – description of Registration Plan on page 2.

Results: 36 people answered our survey and respondents had from 1 purebred Teke to over 10. Most responded that their horses were intact and under 20 years old (79%)

79% answered that at least some of their horses were ATAA registered.

66% answered that at least some of their horses were VNIIK (Russian) registered.

49% said that at least some of their Tekes were both ATAA and VNIIK registered.

We then asked:

If your horses are NOT registered with VNIIK, why not? Answers:

- The registration process is confusing
- Registration is not important to me.
- Too expensive
- Too complicated or cumbersome
- Difficult to fill out paperwork
- Difficult to get good photos
- Difficult to do drawings
- Previous generations not VNIIK registered

There were several comments showing lack of knowledge about what a closed studbook is and why all purebred Akhal-Tekes should be Russian registered. This can be addressed by education.

We asked:

If any of your Tekes are not ATAA registered, why not?

- Cumbersome and expensive
- To register would require registering horses that don't belong to me.

The ATAA BOD has looked at the responses and made plans to:

- Simplify registration applications for both ATAA and VNIIK – in process
- Educate breeders and owners as to WHY they should register in a closed studbook (various articles in this issue and in the Fall 2018 issue)
- Made a plan for our first use of the WWW grant money – under ATAA News on Page 3.
- Continue studying and talking to members to do the best we can for our breed.

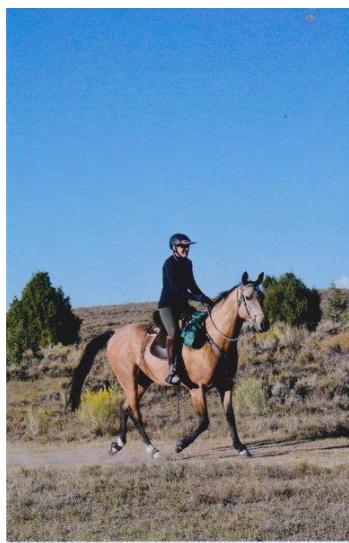
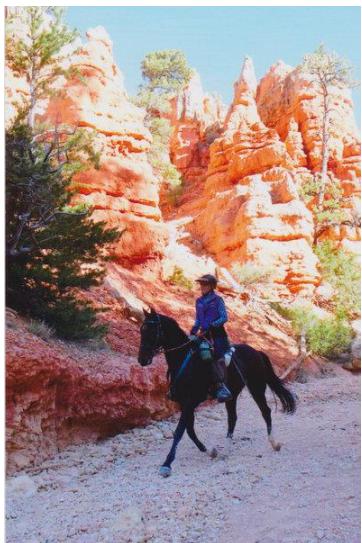
2018 Incentive Fund Recipients- \$3000 to share

8

Jas Shearer-McMahon – **\$999.99**

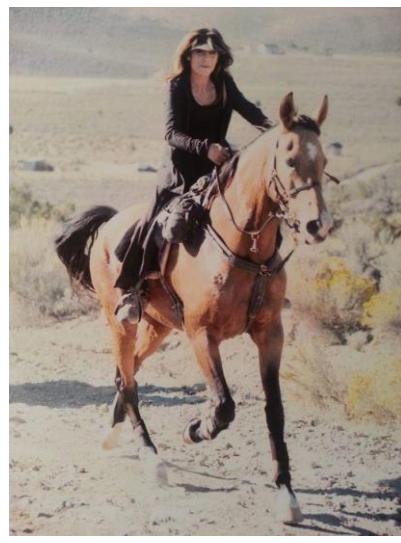
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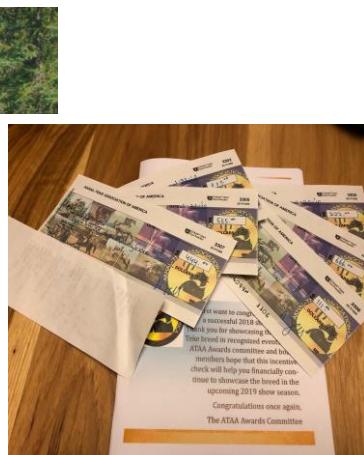
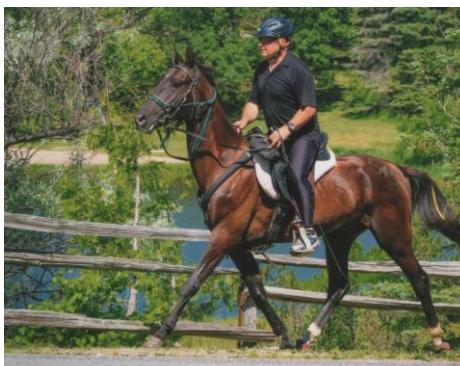


Janine Esler/ Emery Rhodes- **\$666.66**

With Ged



Jim Rawski and JC Darius- **\$555.55**



Mary Curran and Hendrix - **\$444.44**



Laura Spears and Diesel - **\$222.22**



*Thank you to
Incentive Fund
Chair, Catrina
Quantrell!
Competitors,
Watch for
these checks
to be arriving
soon.*

Melissa Harlinski and RDF Bavaria -
\$111.11



2019's Incentive Fund is \$5000!!!! To share. Make sure you and your horse are eligible.

Breeding Strategies for Small Gene Pools

By Gus Cothran

Rational for Genetic Conservation

- Breeds represent unique packages of the genetic diversity that make up the total gene pool of the domestic species.
- Breeds that have small population size are at risk of loss of genetic variation.
- Loss of variation can lead to specific genetic diseases, heritable defects, reproductive problems or general reduction of overall vigor and extinction of the breed.

Genetic Variation in Small Populations

- Small populations are subject to loss of genetic variation.
- Loss of genetic variation can be due to selection, inbreeding or random processes.
- Loss of variation can lead to specific genetic diseases, heritable defects, reproductive problems or general reduction of overall vigor and extinction of the population

Genetic Variation in Small Populations

- In a small population, loss of genetic variation is inevitable.
- The key concern is to minimize the rate of loss of genetic variability. The most important factor is the Effective Population Size or N_e . This is basically, the average number of individuals that contribute genes to the next generation.
- The generally accepted safe rate of loss is 1% per generation

Minimum Viable Population Size

- From a theoretical standpoint, the N_e that will keep the rate of loss at 1% per generation is 50 because the expected loss is $1/2 N_e$.
- N_e is generally 1/3 to 1/4 of the census population size.
- This has led to the common use of about 150 as the recommended population size for rare breeds.

Minimum Viable Population Size

- 150 is a minimum number and something of a compromise.
- Conservation genetics principles stress that the maximum number possible should be the goal because non-genetic factors must be considered.
- Each population must be considered individually as the situation for each can be unique.
- Genetic testing can give baseline information.

Genetic Diversity

- Can be measured as the proportion of genetic markers that are variable within an individual or within a breed.
- It also is important to understand how diversity is partitioned within breeds of a species.
- In the big picture, breeds that have variants not well represented in other breeds have more value in conservation of total species diversity.

Minimizing Loss of Genetic Variation in Small Populations

- Even founder genetic contribution
- Even reproductive contribution of individuals within sexes
- Lengthen generation interval
- Avoid close inbreeding
- Population subdivision
- Cull defective animals
- Introductions

Even founder genetic contribution

- Founders often are not known so this principle cannot always be followed specifically.
- Other recommendations that follow can substitute for this concept.

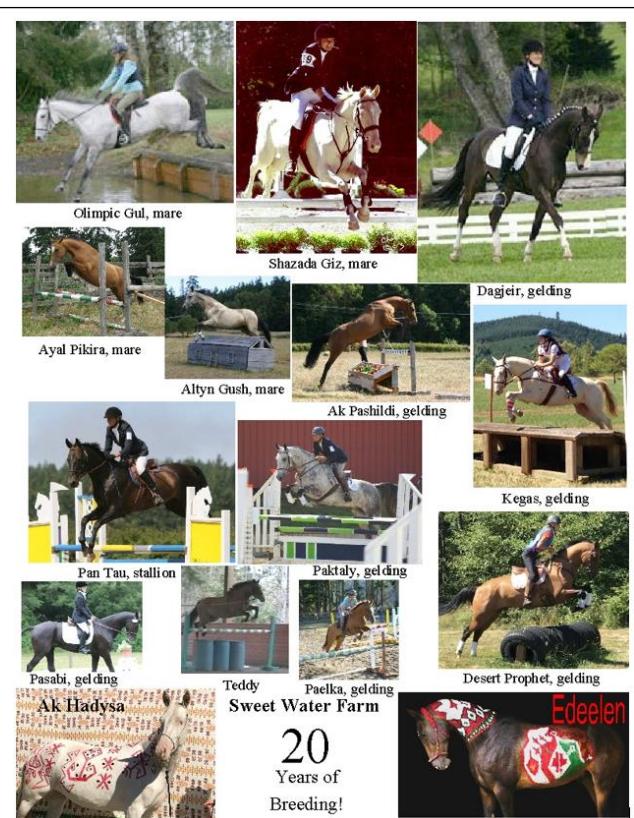
Even reproductive contribution of individuals within sexes

- This is mainly a male issue.
- Highly fecund males can cause a rapid loss of variation, increase in inbreeding level and increase in the probability of genetic disease.
- Removal of such males after a few generations should be considered in management plans

Lengthen generation interval

- In wild populations this is best achieved by removal of young individuals when removals are needed.
- This both preserves the genetic variation present at that time and lengthens generation interval.
- Lengthening of generation time and moving toward an increased age structure are ways to preserve variation that do not involve increased population size.

Continued on page 10



Breeding Strategies continued from page 9

Avoid close inbreeding

- Difficult in populations where exact relationships are not known.
- Best done by elimination of highly productive males from the breeding pool.
- Genetic testing can give estimates of inbreeding levels

Population subdivision

- Each subdivision is a reservoir of different subsets of genetic variation.
- Each subpopulation will lose variation, but it will be different in each, thus preserving most of the total.
- Mixing of individuals from different subdivisions can restore variation

Cull defective animals

- Natural selection will normally take care of severely defective individuals.
- Can be difficult to determine what is genetic but if the same conditions are frequently seen it is likely genetic.
- Should not be used to select for specific types or colors as this will speed up loss of variation.

Gene Flow

- Genes from outside populations can restore variation.
- The number of introductions depends upon the current variation situation.
- One or two successful introductions per generation can restore variation over time and prevent loss of variation.

Conclusions

- Small populations will lose genetic variation, and this can be detrimental to the population.
- Management must be aimed at reducing the rate of loss of variation.
- Each population represents a unique set of circumstances.
- Genetic testing can provide important information for making management decisions.

CONCLUSIONS

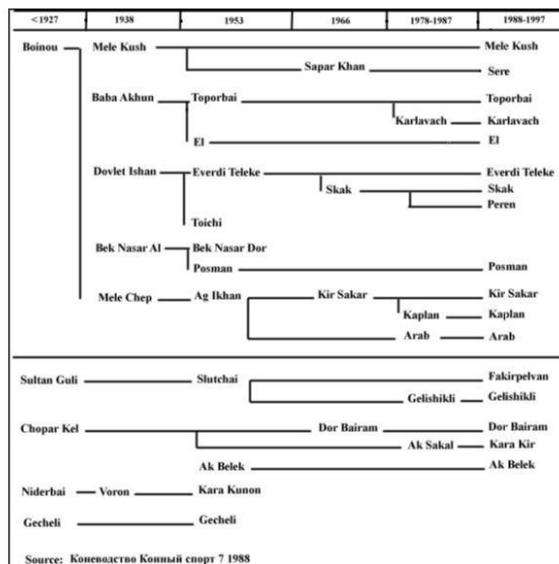
- Rare breeds harbor significant portions of the total species diversity
- Genetic marker analysis has value for monitoring genetic diversity but does not measure all aspects of diversity
- Population size is the main threat to rare breeds, but its effect can be mitigated by sound conservation and breeding practices

Breeding Healthy Horses in a Small Gene Pool

By Amrita Ibold

Breeding is more than meets the eye of a handsome stallion and a pretty mare. Even if you look at the pedigree and it does not show inbreeding (Fancy word is line breeding), a pedigree that does not highlight immediate parentage does not mean it is not so.

When Russia set up the closed studbook in the early 1940ies or so, they created the following sire lines in the drawing below.



Source: Коневодство Конный спорт 7 1988

Since stallions can produce much more offspring than mares, it makes sense to follow the sire lines and watch for repeat lines.

A pedigree with Peren lines and Karlavach, Sere, Skak....it reads as a diverse pedigree, but in reality they all go back to a single sire, Boinou.

A pedigree with Gelishikli, Peren and Dor Bairam, for example, has 3 unrelated start up stallions.

The difference in the 2 examples is the first pedigree has a low count of genetic diversity, and a higher probability on defects.

The second pedigree is refreshing the pedigree with genetic diversity, having less chance of defects, and maintains the health of genetic markers.

It is that simple.

Over the years sadly 2 sire lines have seized to exist, Niderbay and Gecheli.

continued on page 12

Featured Artist

Mercedes Yrayzoz Caballitos de Yrayzoz

How did you get introduced to the Akhal-Teke breed?

For me it was love at first sight. A friend tagged me in some photos of a perlino Akhal-Teke and I was instantly captivated by its unearthly, dreamlike presence. I was floored by this horse! Straight away my artist imagination was chomping at the bit, wanting to capture this incredible horse with my pencil. First, however, the research side of me needed to find out everything and anything I could find on this breed. So, I devoured everything I could on their history and their country of origin.

What about the Akhal-Teke inspires you artistically?

All the exotic and unusual characteristics of the Teke inspire me; from their lean, greyhound appearance, to their swan-like curved necks, to their straight and tapering teacup muzzle profiles to their hypnotizing hooded eye. These are the qualities that inspire and drive my art style. I enjoy capturing and accentuating that hooded eye, that leanness and that curved neck. I like to incorporate a lot of the Turkmen designs as well, like their carpet motifs or 'Gul' as they are called. These geometric designs make up a lot of the backgrounds in my art.

What do you hope to inspire with your art?

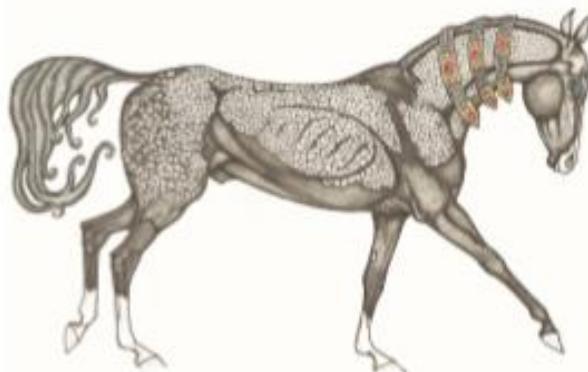
I hope to inspire other equine artists and enthusiasts to discover the unique beauty of these amazing horses. There is still so much misinformation out there due in part from old horse books and just general misunderstanding of their unique anatomy and attributes. I hope to help, one day, the Akhal-Teke eclipse the magic and popularity of the Arabian! I know it's a huge dream, but Akhal-Teke enthusiasts are growing in numbers, they have reached Australia and here in Western Australia we can already boast of one purebred Akhal-Teke!

What makes Akhal-Tekes unique to you, and how do you capture the breed's distinctive characteristics in your art?

I'm often asked by people unfamiliar with the breed, what is it about Akhal-Tekes that inspired me to begin illustrating and painting them with such passionate fervour? Simply put it is their ethereal beauty, their history, their myths and legends and that incredible dragon-like hooded eye. Understanding where the Akhal Teke is from and how it impacted equine history helps me capture their essence. I love the legends surrounding this ancient breed, such as the poem about melding three creatures together; the snake, the cheetah and the falcon to give birth to the Akhal Teke! I love watching their fluid, snake-like movements. Their incredible agility and versatile nature is a constant inspiration to me.

What about the Akhal-Teke inspires you artistically?

My art is very stylistic as it gives me more freedom with regards to concepts and ideas to play with. For example, in my research of the Akhal-Teke, I learned about their traditional tack. The bridles, collars and saddles, especially the collars, are exquisite works of art. Inlaid with cornelian stones and hammered silver, the intricacy of these designs inspired me to add these to my Akhal-Tekes. For example, I designed a knight chess piece to look like an Akhal-Teke clad in the traditional bridle and collars (pictured). Tokhtamysh, Geli Stud's famous Akhal-Teke stallion, was the inspiration behind my Yin Yang Teke, and my Akhal-Teke Dancer was inspired by the flowing lines of a moving Akhal-Teke.



Country: Australia, WA, Perth

Website: <https://rdbl.co/2FTqaBO>

Favorite Mediums: Ink pens, acrylic paint, hard pastel pencils

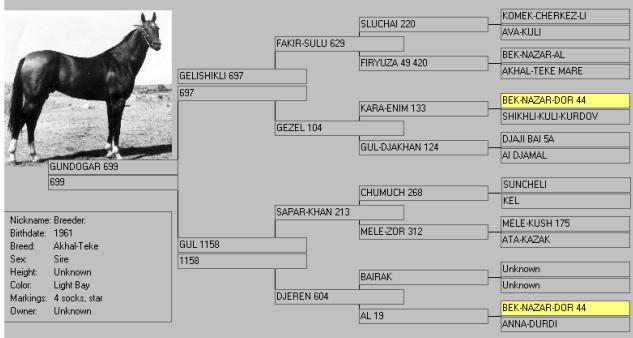
Interviewed & Edited by
Yorke McGillivray

Breeding...continued from page 10

As a marketing tool some prominent breeders have declared their sire a "new line", like the Gundogar and the Sovkhoz II.

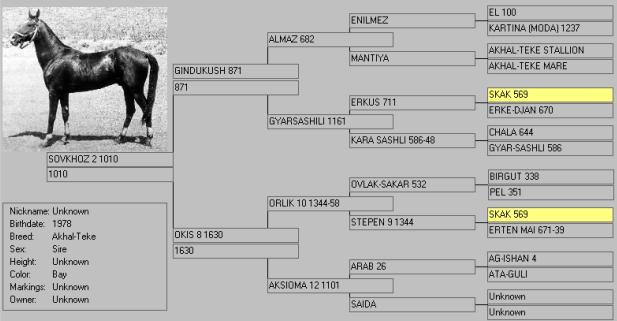
Gundogar line comes from the sire line Gelishikli, so widely used at one point the rumor was that no pedigree could be found without a Gelishikli line in it. Unfortunately, the result was to change the name to the great grandson of the stallion Gelishikli to his grandson Gundogar.

Pedigree of GUNDOGAR 699



Same as for the El line, naming the offspring Sovkhoz II as a "new line".

Pedigree of SOVKHOZ 2 1010



As for the mare lines, now days they are being mentioned although much harder to trace since this is a relatively new trend. The closed studbook did start with a roughly 300 registered Akhal-Teke mares.

For the modern breeder and wanting to make sounds breeding decisions, count the sire lines in your pedigrees, use the line schematics and try to have as much diversity as possible!

Line of Sere

From Akhal-Teke Inform 2006, *translated by Olga Piotrowska*

Golden buckskin stallion 919 Sere was born in 1965 in kolkhoz "40 Years of TSSR" located near Ashkhabad by 579 Synok (Sapar Khan line) and out of 1195 Enysh (Toporbai line). His pedigree does not contain any inbreeding until five generation. Sere passed away in 1984 at Stavropol Studfarm.



It was big and powerful stallion with good bones, extraordinary and noble head on long, muscular neck, well developed and deep chest and very good croup. Among his weaknesses it should be mentioned: weak loins, flat wrists, not so dry joints and – which is unusual in this breed - lush hair. Sere raced in Ashkhabad at age 2-4 yo, started 28 times and he won 7 times including Derby of collective farms (kolkhoznoe derbi). He was champion of the breed in 1978.

Nowadays, an old line of Sapar Khan is represented only by descendants of Sere who differ significantly from the representatives of original line in terms of exterior features. During Sere's breeding career there were enough good offspring to start research of creating his own sire line in 1988.

In the ranking of sire lines, Sere's line took 9th place (53,55 points) in category of offspring's quality. Among stallions from this line the best stallion was Meidanli (56,93 points). However, in the category of quality and influence in second generation, Sere's line is on the top with result 56,13 points. Individually in this category the best was stallion Yanichar and behind him – line founder Sere.

Analysis of compatibility Sere's line with other lines showed that stallions have the best connection with mares from lines: Ak Sakal, Arab, Gelishikli and mares – with stallions from Posman, Sovkhoz II and Toporbai lines.

Now, line of Sere has four generations and those horses are connected with similar exterior features and work abilities, which gives the hope that this line will survive many years.

The Sere's line is the most perspective in Russia and Azerbaijan. In Russia we have promising sons of Serasker and colts: Azanchi by Chakan and Asman by Koldun. In Azerbaijan, in turn – two full brothers Anadyr and Alam. Furthermore, in Kazakhstan growing up an excellent colt Sapfir born in 2002, by Serasker and out of World Champion mare – black Polyn.



Registration Report

by Amrita Ibold

It has come to my attention this winter that too many horses are being inbred. If you ask in Russia at the big Studfarm they say it is ok to inbreed.

I got really worried about the future of the AT in general and asked our lab (Texas A&M who does all our DNA testing), for our registry for help.

My questions were forwarded to Doctor Gus Cothran and he urged me to call him.

I made a list of questions, and in short, here they are and the answers from Dr. Gus Cothran.

Q: is line breeding the same as inbreeding?

A: G.C. -Yes

Q: is a sire line really a line in a breed that breeds true to type?

A: G.C. - No, in 3 generations it is gone.

Q: Naked Foal Syndrome, AT's are the only breed that has this, is it due to inbreeding?

A: G.C.- Yes

Q: A sire 60 years ago who had DSLD, can it still be passed on today?

A: G. C. -Yes

Q: Are club feet, DSLD, Mares herniating their belly before birth to just name a few ailments we have in the breed due to inbreeding and genetic?

A: G. C. - Yes

Q: Is the AT population high in genetic variety?

A: G. C. - No

Dr. G. Cothran is writing an article on the last herd analysis he did of all the hair DNA samples he has received from the ATAA. He said we are at an alarming point of no return if we don't start out breeding to more unrelated horses to keep the gene pool healthy.

The report may not be ready by the time the newsletter gets printed.

Dr. G. Cothran wrote an article on strategic breeding in a small gene pool that is to be found in this newsletter.

Dr. G. Cothran warned me that if we don't change our ways now we will see more and more problems in the breed.

I passed his article on to Maria Mostar who works part time at VNIIK, where the closed studbook is held. She speaks perfect English and will warn breeders in Russia about the consequences of inbreeding.

The reason we have to be more diligent in the AT breed is because the closed studbook started with perhaps 600 horses.

Popular stallions like Gelishikli for example already were inbred.

And on top of that Gelishikli became so popular that 10 years or so every pedigree had Gelishikli in it, more than once.

Even today it is not uncommon to have Gelishikli tracing back on the sire 4 times and the dam side 5 times, meaning the foal traces back 9 times to Gelishikli. It is a depletion of genetic variety and will compound on good traits and bad equally.

Pedigree of Gelishikli, the yellow bands highlight in breeding.

The good news is, the ATAA is working on a new data base with access to pedigrees for members. The ATAA is also looking into importing frozen semen from stallions unrelated to horses in the USA for breeders to buy.

Dr. G. Cothran and his team is at the verge of finding the gene for DSLD, clubfeet and more.

Rare breeds have had far lower numbers than our current population, but they were managed carefully and made full recoveries.

We should be able as well, by educating breeders, and making sounder breeding decisions.

We all need each other, we all need to outbreed, we all need sound horses to succeed, if one succeeds, we all succeed, because we are a small family.

The yellow bands highlight inbreeding.

Pedigree of GELISHIKLI 697



Line Breeding and Naked Foal

Syndrome

By Amrita Ibold

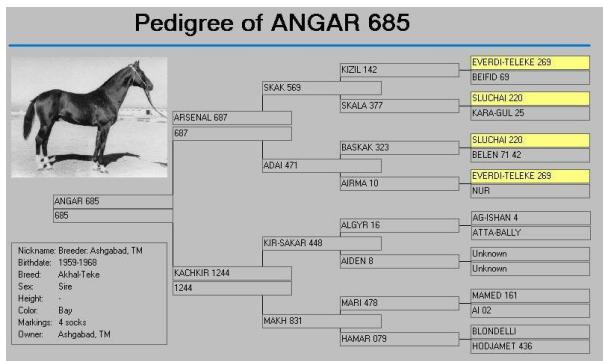
Line breeding.... Personally, I hate that phrase because it is a fancy word for inbreeding. "But I'm emphasizing on the very typy face", a breeder will tell you... or his race record.

What we DO know about inbreeding is this: for example; when the rich in Europe only married their children to the rich, to keep wealth in the family, they ended up having to marry off children so closely related that their offspring was infertile or in worse cases, mentally ill.

What we know about the Akhal-Teke breed and its **continued on page 14**

Line Breeding and NFS, continued from page 13

small startup population is this: we are the ONLY breed that has the Naked Foal Syndrome. With NFS testing and working with VNIIK, we now know the common ancestor who passes this deadly gene on. Meet 685 Angar, a stallion born in Ashgabat in 1959.



60 years later, horses with Angar in their pedigree still pass on the NFS.

Breed a sire to a mare whom are both affected, and you have a high chance a foal will be born that will suffer a miserable death.

Why do people inbreed? In the USA most cases are ignorance and lack of dedicated breeders who understand the downfall of inbreeding. Lack of available stallions in the USA 20 years ago...In Russia....money perhaps? Since government run farms got privatized and farms struggled to make income?

Would you happily marry your daughter to your cousin?...well...you know the answer.... why do it to your horse!

Endangered Equine Alliance (EEA)- Preservation News from Patricia Johnson

Many horse and donkey breeds face the threat of extinction more so today than at any other time in history. Thanks to the grant from the USA Equestrian Trust, the effort to stabilize equine breed decline and secure the remaining diversity began in 2017. It started with collaboration between Texas A&M University, Virginia Tech, and The Livestock Conservancy that brought together representatives from approximately 50 endangered horse breed associations and registries to participate in the first National Endangered Equine Summit. In February 2018, the Akhal-Teke Association of America (ATAA) participated in the Livestock Conservancy's (Conservancy) Endangered Equine Alliance (EEA) www.endangeredequinealliance.org.

The EEA represented thousands of horse owners. Together with leaders of the scientific, rare breed, and horse communities, the group was tasked to

identify what they believe are the leading causes of breed population declines, decide what actions may be taken to stabilize the loss of breeds, and develop a list of achievable and fundable action points. Attendees are developing long lasting partnerships that will serve to strengthen and revitalize efforts long diluted by many small groups working independently.

The Conservancy has been rolling out products from the EEA. The first of which is a summary of the conference and the action plan "Conserving Equine Diversity: Time for Action," that was developed with the input of 2018 conference attendees. This action plan can be found at <https://livestockconservancy.org/images/uploads/documents/ConservingEquineDiversity.pdf>

Manual of Methods for Preservation of Valuable Equine Genetics

In the fall of 2018, Texas A&M University and The Livestock Conservancy published [Manual of Methods for Preservation of Valuable Equine Genetics](#), a much-needed guide for veterinarians, breeders and horse owners to conserve valuable genetic materials from horses and donkeys. These samples of sperm, eggs or tissue may represent the last remaining genetic information from a valuable horse, bloodline or breed.

The manual was created as a resource for owners and everyday veterinarians to understand how to properly collect vital tissues in ways that minimize loss and maximize resources for conservation. The tissues can then be sent to specialized facilities that can "work the magic" to utilize and preserve what could be irreplaceable genetics for the future.

Authors Kindra Rader, Charles C. Love, Charlene R. Couch and Katrin Hinrichs provide detailed information and emergency protocols for veterinarians and owners that make it possible for any veterinarian or horse owner to preserve priceless genetics—even after the animal's life has ended."

Originally conceived as a resource for conserving rare equine breeds, the manual contains detailed protocols for saving sperm, eggs and tissue samples from live animals and post-mortem emergency situations. Many of the techniques are directly applicable to the conservation of other mammalian species. The manual is available for free to download on the Livestock Conservancy's website and is being widely promoted among equine health and conservation organizations.

continued on page 17

Yukon Permafrost Provides New Clues to Horse Evolution

Reprinted from 'Nature' with permission from Grant Zazula. Thanks to Nancy Schmidt for finding this.

DNA molecules can survive in fossils well after an organism dies. Not as whole chromosomes, but as short pieces that can be reassembled like a puzzle. Sometimes enough molecules survive so that the full genome sequence of extinct species can be resurrected. Over the last few years, the full genome sequence of a few ancient humans and archaic hominins have been characterized. But so far, none dated back more than 70,000 years and this was thought to be near the limit of ancient DNA research. New research, from fossil horses recovered from very ancient Yukon permafrost has changed that story.

When University of Alberta researcher Duane Froese, from the Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, found an unusually large horse fossil in the Yukon permafrost, he knew it was important. Froese has spent years visiting Yukon placer gold mining exposures to understand the permafrost and Ice Age environments that supported megafauna populations including mammoths, horses and bison.

But unlike the small Ice Age horse fossils that are common across the unglaciated areas of Yukon, Alaska and Siberia that date to the last hundred thousand years, this fossil was the size of a modern domestic horse, and he had seen these large horses only a few times at geologically much older sites in the region- but none had been so remarkably well preserved in permafrost. Now in a new study, published in the journal *Nature*, this horse fossil is rewriting the story of horse evolution as this ancient horse has its genome sequenced.

Froese and his colleagues had dated the relict permafrost at the site from volcanic ashes in the deposits and knew that it was about 700,000 years old representing some of the oldest known ice in the northern hemisphere and that the fossil was similarly old. On a hunch the team extracted collagen from the fossil and found it had preserved blood proteins and that short fragments of ancient DNA were present within the bone that showed the horse fell outside the diversity of all modern and ancient horse DNA ever sequenced consistent with its geologic age. So now, after several years of work a draft genome of the horse has been assembled and it's providing new insight into the evolution of horses.

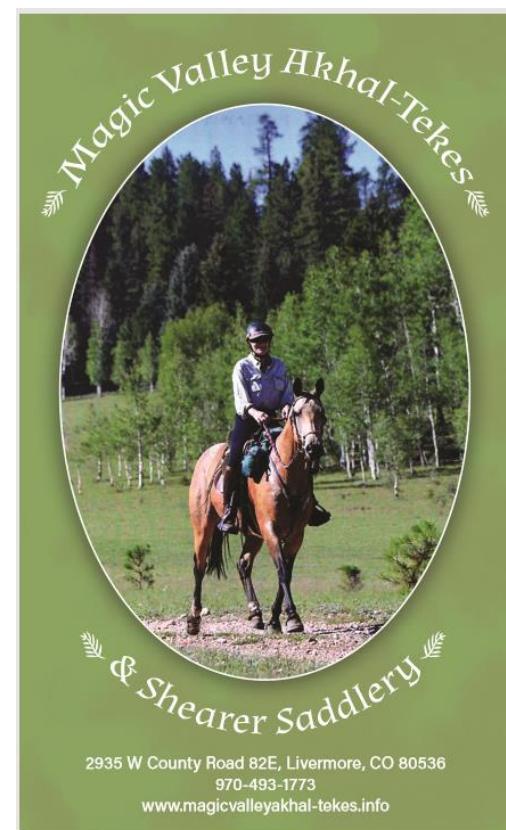
Yukon Palaeontologist, Grant Zazula, a contributor to the study, showed that the horse fell within the caballid line of horses which includes all modern

horses and the last remaining truly wild horses, the Przewalski's Horse from the Mongolian steppes. Dr. Zazula was impressed 'that a fossil recovered from a gold mine in the Yukon could tell us so much about the evolutionary history of horses in North America. This is a real testament to the remarkable archive of ancient history that is preserved in Canadian permafrost'.

While these lines of evidence came together, what was so surprising is that ancient DNA shouldn't survive so long. As Beth Shapiro, an evolutionary biologist and ancient DNA expert at the University of California, Santa Cruz, and collaborator in the study said: "It bends, if not breaks, the rules that govern DNA decay and pushes back the time in which DNA is recoverable by nearly an order of magnitude. Had it not been frozen for the entire duration of that 700,000 years, I doubt that any recoverable DNA would have survived. As a consequence, it's a real treasure!"

The 700,000-year-old horse genome along with the genome of a 43,000-year-old horse, six present day horses and the donkey have allowed the research team to estimate how fast mutations accumulate through time and calibrate a genome-wide mutation rate. This work, led by Ludovic Orlando and Eske Willerslev of the University of Copenhagen, has revealed that the last common ancestor of all

continued on page 16



Merdan – Metman x Aishet, Available via frozen semen only.

Yukon Permafrost, continued from page 15

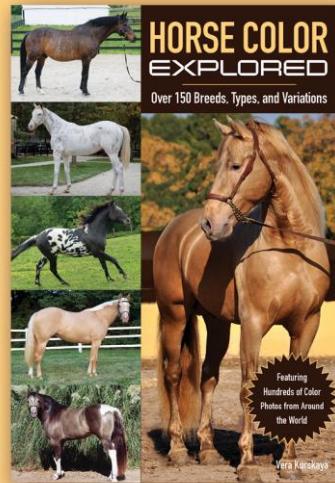
modern equids, including donkeys, horses and zebras, was about 4-4.5 million years ago. Therefore, the evolutionary radiation underlying the origin of horses, donkeys and zebras reaches back in time twice as long as previously thought. Additionally, these new genomes revealed multiple episodes of severe demographic fluctuations in horses in phase with major climatic changes, including severe losses in diversity during previous warm periods in the Arctic and when horses were domesticated.

The results also put a happy ending to a long discussion about the so-called Przewalski's Horse from the Mongolian steppes. This horse population was discovered by the Western world in the second half of the nineteenth century and rapidly became threatened. It almost became extinct in the wild by the mid-1950s but has survived until now following massive conservation efforts. The evolutionary origin of this horse, that shows striking physical differences compared to domesticated horses, as well as an extra-pair of chromosomes, remained a mystery. The researchers reveal now that the Przewalski's horse population was isolated from the lineage leading to the present-day domesticated horses about 50,000 years ago. They also show that pure Przewalski's Horse lineages, with no detectable levels of admixture with domestic breeds, are still living today. This suggests that the Przewalski's Horses are likely genetically viable and therefore worthy of conservation efforts.

The Government of Yukon and all Yukoners are proud to highlight the important contribution that the Yukon mining community makes to ice age research. Every summer, placer gold miners unearth incredible ice age fossils such as mammoths, camels and horses, from the ancient permafrost. Gold miners such as Stuart and Nancy Schmidt, who's mine on Thistle Creek produced this remarkable 700,000-year old horse, work closely with researchers to ensure these fossils are protected and made available for scientific study. All these invaluable fossils eventually make their way in the Government of Yukon's fossil collections in Whitehorse, where they are used in public education and studied by researchers from all over the world and learn more about our ice age history.



The very latest on horse color genetics



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Incentive Fund reminders!

Remember, to participate in the 2019 Incentive Fund Awards (\$5000 to share), you must have joined or renewed your Individual or Ranch memberships by March 31st, 2019 and your horse MUST be ATAA registered – pending registration is not good enough!

DRESSAGE AT DEVON 2019 – CASH PRIZES!

The ATAA is sponsoring the AT In-Hand class again at Dressage at Devon, the PREMIER horse show in N. America. This year the ATAA will give out CASH PRIZES to winners!

2018- 1st place



Sabine Desper and Adamek, Shenandoah Farms

2018 -2nd place



Sabine Desper and Kurizma, Shenandoah Farms

This is excellent exposure for our breed to the equine world at large. In previous years, ATs have competed in many under saddle classes besides the in-hand class, alongside warmbloods, Friesians, and other breeds and have done well! Let's keep the trend going!

Date: September 24th-29th, 2019, Devon PA

Plan now to bring your Tekes to DEVON in 2019!



continued from page 14

Livestock Diversity: Storing Genes for the Future

There is no larger assembly of preserved genetic material from animals that provide food and fiber than that in the National Animal Germplasm Collection. Located in Fort Collins, Colorado, and composed mostly of cryogenically frozen sperm and embryos, the program includes nearly a million samples from 26 species.

The germplasm collection includes common domesticated species such as pigs, chickens, cattle, sheep, and farmed aquatic species like trout and catfish, and also less common domesticated species like bison, elk, and even yaks. Bison, in particular, are gaining popularity as livestock in the United States, with about 400,000 now being raised for meat. "There may not be a strong bison breed association right this minute keeping track of pedigrees but storing the bison's genetic diversity before any genetic bottlenecks develop is well worth doing," says geneticist Harvey Blackburn, who leads the Agricultural Research Service's (ARS) National Animal Germplasm Program (NAGP).

Until recently, the NAGP did not store genetic material from horse breeds. However, through the efforts of the Livestock Conservancy and their Endangered Equine Alliance program, The Conservancy worked with Dr. Blackburn to now accept rare breed equine genetic material (including frozen semen) from breeds listed on The Livestock Conservancy's Conservation Priority List - of which the Akhal-Teke is listed Threatened. This collection would be for long term storage purposes and only used for exceptional need for conservation breeding. In order to have equine genetic material stored at NAGP, the agency requires that requests are first submitted to The Conservancy. Shipping containers for germplasm are available for use at no cost but owners are responsible for the shipping costs of them traveling to and from the NAGP facility.

Jeannette Beranger
Senior Program Manager
The Livestock Conservancy
PO Box 477
Pittsboro, NC 27312
919-542-5704 ext. 103
www.livestockconservancy.org

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Outstanding performance horse and stallion prospect, purebred Akhal-Teke palomino colt Swan Altyn Kamat is available now as a weanling with ATAA, VNIIK, and USEF registrations.

Contact Swan Farm Akhal-Tekes for details:
swanfarmdexter@gmail.com
www.swanfarmakhaltekies.com

**23rd
 2019 ATAA Yearly
 Conference and Membership
 Meeting**

**Hosted by Giles and Katrina Ardiel,
 Akhal-Valley Farms, Clarksburg,
 Ontario, Canada**

Dates TBA

**Come enjoy the hospitality of our
 neighbors to the north!**

**Watch the ATAA website for
 details!**

We'll see you there!

www.akhal-teke.org

ATAA Gifts!

For that special Teke loving someone in your life – give them an ATAA Friends membership! \$25 by check and \$27 on the ATAA website via PayPal. They will get all the newsletters, mailings and emails.

ATAA Logowear at The Painting Pony

Over the years, the ATAA has tried a few different versions of Teke Logowear. We did up a bunch of sweatshirts (and there were supposed to be ball caps too) which sold ok, but not great. Also, our poor 'Logowear Chair' Tish Saare ended up with boxes of items she had to ship out.

So, we hemmed and hawed and tried to figure out a way to offer ATAA Logowear to members without us having to:

- a) Do the design work
- b) Find the best prices
- c) Keep items in stock
- d) Ship them out and take care of any returns.

After a lot of looking at different websites, online stores and talking to people, we came up with a simple solution: Let someone who ALREADY has an online store do the work!

The ATAA now has a line of Logowear at the online store "The Painting Pony"! run by one of our own Teke people, Jessica Drake.

The Painting Pony offers all sorts of equestrian (and other) themed items, from clothing to household items and a line of ATAA Logowear designed just for us!

Another great benefit of this store is that the ATAA receives a percentage of every sale made where the customer enters the ATAA coupon code, 'ATAA' at checkout! We have already received several checks for our portion.

So, when you are thinking about doing a little bit of shopping or when you just have to have some ATAA logo stuff, please check it out!

One of the AT themed items for sale at [The Painting Pony](http://ThePaintingPony.com)



THANK YOU TO EVERYONE THAT CONTRIBUTED TO THIS NEWSLETTER – THAT MAKES A HUGE DIFFERENCE!

WE CAN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU!

Volunteers Needed!

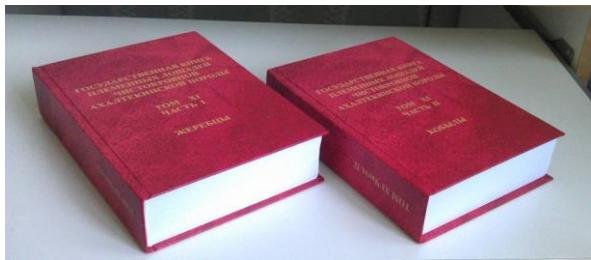
Volunteers will be needed for the SANA West Rare Breeds Show! If you are planning on coming, please let us know what you would like to do. We will need: Ring stewards, Scribes, jump course set up and take down, obstacle course set up and take down. Barn manager (help assign stalls to exhibitors), Ribbon runners, announcers and many more jobs! Please let one of the organizers know:

Tish at saare@zetabroadband.com

Cathy at c.leddy@frontier.com or

Victoria at equussurvivaltrust@yahoo.com

The 11th Russian studbook is now for sale!



Stallion book and mare book.

Horses registered from the year 2000 to 2013.

All in Russian, it has more color pictures than ever before.

They are \$175 for both plus shipping to your door.

Contact Amrita Ibold if you would like to order a set.

ibolds@rockisland.com

Incentive Awards Program 2019 - *\$5000* to share! EVEN *MORE* MONEY

The incentive program will only be available for people competing in recognized events (we have been discussing this and look forward to comments from our members regarding schooling and or open shows) If you have comments, please send them to Catrina, email address below.

To participate:

- 1) Must be a member in good standing with the ATAA by March 31st of that year.
- 2) Horse competing must be registered (**not pending**) with the ATAA either as a pure or part bred.
- 3) Send in 2 or more pictures from the event (must be 375kb or bigger) (if you placed please send a picture with your ribbon and/or prize)
- 4) Sign a release that the ATAA may post photos and results to our website and use photos in promotions for the ATAA
- 5) Email the link to the results page for the event
- 6) ***Just sending photos in for the newsletter and/or website is NOT enough (but we appreciate it)***

At the end of the year the ATAA will send you a check, so the more you compete the larger your share of the "jackpot" will be. The amount you receive will be divided out of the set amount in the awards fund and therefore will depend on how many people participate in the Incentive Program. The Incentive Program does not depend on you placing or earning points, it is completely about competing in recognized events in all disciplines and sending in the above listed information to the association.

**Contact Catrina Quantrell for more information and send your results to her at:
godscavalry@gmail.com**

SANA West Rare Breeds Show from front page

We can't do this without your generous donations! Donate to help sponsor the entire show or sponsor a specific class or clinic. We estimate that this show will cost us around \$6000 to put on. Please help us show off our lovely Rare Breeds! Click [here](#) or go to www.akhal-teke.org and look under 'SANA West'

We will have clinics in Jumping, Dressage, Obstacles and In-Hand Presentation going on during the show—a great way to get more exposure for your horses with some great clinicians. There will also be many other clinicians at the Western States Horse Expo!

If you would like to volunteer, contact a one of the [organizers](#), who will direct you to the right place. Or, go to www.akhal-teke.org and look for the SANA West information.

Not only will the Rare Breeds Show be going on, but also many other events! Equus Masters, Clinics featuring top trainers, seminars and so much more!

Our Tentative Schedule

Thursday, May 9th

Clinic 200: 12 pm to 3 pm: Jumping Clinic with Nicole Fowler

Clinic 300: 4 pm to 7 pm: Dressage Clinic with Sue Bartholomaus

Friday, May 10th

Jumping (timed event): 9 am- 12:00 pm: Judge, Nicole Fowler

Over Fences: Open Pony Jumper

Class 100: 1'6" – 1'9" Open Fences (Open Pony)

Class 101: 2' – 2'2" Open Fences (Open Pony)

Over Fences: Open Horse Jumper (Up to 8 fences)

Class 102: 1'6" – 1'9" Open Fences (horse)

Class 103: 2' – 2'3" Open Fences (horse)

Class 104: 2'6" Open Fences (2'6" spread)

Class 105: 2'9" Open Fences (2'9" – 3' spread)

Class 106: 3'3" Open Fences (3'3" – 3'6" spread) -sponsored by Kevin and Mary Curran

Class 107: 3'6' Open Fences (3'6"- 4' spread)

Lunch: 12:00 to 1 pm

Dressage: 1 pm - 6 pm: Judge, Sue Bartholomaus

Class 108: Intro Level – Pony

Class 109: Training Level – Pony

Class 110: 1st Level – Pony

Class 111: 2nd Level and up – Pony

Class 112: Intro Level – Horse

Class 113: Training Level – Horse

Class 114: 1st Level – Horse

Class 115: 2nd Level – Horse

Class 116: 3rd Level – Horse

Class 117: 4th Level and up - Horse

Western Dressage, Not to start before 3 pm

Class 118: Intro TOC

Class 119: Basic TOC

Class 120: Level 1 TOC

Class 121: Level 2-4 TOC

Saturday, May 11th Judge: Dr. Molly Nicodemus

Clinic 400: 9 am—12pm: Obstacle Clinic with Dr. Molly Nicodemus



Costume Classes 1 pm

Class 122: Open Costume—Open to all participating breeds at the RBS

Class 123: Akhal-Teke Costume -Sponsored by Lucille Le Corre

Akhal-Teke In-Hand Classes

Class 124: Get of Sire

Class 125: Produce of Dam

*1st and 2nd in each class below qualifies for Junior Championship

Class 126: AT Foals of 2019 (with dams) *

Class 127: AT Yearlings, born 2018*

Class 128: AT 2-year-old fillies born 2017*

Class 129: AT 2-year-old colts and geldings, born 2017*

Class 130: AT Junior In-Hand Champion, 2 years and under – 1st and 2nd qualify for AT In-Hand Championship, Class 136

Lunch: 12:00 to 1 pm (approximately)

Class 131: AT Cross Colts, fillies and geldings, under 3 years, born 2016 and after

Class 132: AT Cross Mares and Geldings, 3 years and up, born 2015 and before

*1st and 2nd in classes below qualify for Akhal-Teke In-Hand Championship

continued on page 21

SANA West RBS continued from page 20

Class 133: AT Top Ten Best North American Bred, born 2015 and before* Sponsored by Cascade Gold Akhal-Teke

Class 134: AT Geldings and Stallions 3 years and up*

Class 135: AT Mares, 3 years and up*

Class 136: AT In-Hand Championship – Sponsored by Pleasant Grove Akhal-Teke



Anikit – Winner of the AT In-Hand Championship in 2016

Akhal-Teke Ridden Classes:

Class 137: AT cross Ridden mares and geldings, 4 years and up

*1st and 2nd in classes below qualify for Akhal-Teke Ridden Championship

Class 138: AT Ridden Stallions and Geldings, 4 years and up* - Sponsored by Lucille Le Corre

Class 139: AT Ridden Mares, 4 years and up*

Class 140: AT Ridden Championship- Sponsored by Pleasant Grove Akhal-Teke

Sunday, May 12

9 am–12 pm Judge: Dr. Molly Nicodemus

Class 141: Obstacles, in-hand open

Class 142: Obstacles, Ridden open

Lunch 12 pm to 1 pm

1 pm– 4 pm

Clinic 500: In-Hand Presentation Clinic, Dr. Molly Nicodemus

Contact for participation or more information:

Tish Saare, Show Coordinator: saare@zetabb.com or (530) 400-9909

Cathy Leddy, Co-coordinator; Akhal-Teke Breed Captain: c.leddy@frontier.com or (425) 870-9789

Victoria Tollman, Breed Coordinator: equussurvivaltrust@yahoo.com or (336)-352-5520



Silver Hill Akhal Tekes

SH Kazahk-Meleka
AAKTSO209 August
2018 buckskin AT Sport
horse filly! (MV Mele-
Chus x Kazahk-Yurek
RHR)

Visit us at www.silverhill-tekes.com

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406-696-8431

betsysee@gmail.com

Also offered for sale: In
utero foal (MV Mele-Chus
x Amerka) Due spring
2019!

In utero foal: MV Kiyasa x
MV Mele-Chus due spring
2019 (96%AT/4%TB)



SANA West Class, Clinic and General Sponsorships

Class or Clinic Sponsor - \$50—on ATAA and EST website and during sponsored class and your name under the sponsored clinic or class in the Show Program. See which classes and clinics are available online.

Copper Donor—\$100—mention in Rare Breeds Pavilion and on ATAA and EST Website, in the Show Program and receive a souvenir program.

Silver Donor -\$250 – mention in Rare Breeds Pavilion and on ATAA and EST website, a business card sized black and white ad in Show Program, receive a souvenir program.

Gold Donor - \$500 – mention in Rare Breeds Pavilion and on ATAA and EST website, a business card sized color ad or 1/4 page black and white ad in Show Program and a souvenir program.

Platinum Donor - \$750 – mention in Rare Breeds Pavilion and on ATAA and EST website, 1/2 page color ad in Show Program and a souvenir program.

Diamond Donor - \$1,000 and over – mention in Rare Breeds Pavilion and on ATAA and EST website, a full page color ad in Show Program and a souvenir program.

Questions? Email or call Cathy at c.leddy@frontier.com, 425-870-9789

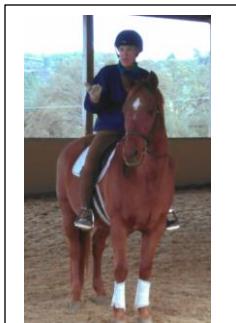
Jumping Clinician and Judge, Nicole Fowler



Nicole Fowler has always had horses in her blood. Her mother rode hunter/jumper until she was 6 months pregnant, and Nicole started riding at 2 years of age. She has competed in Eventing, driving Welsh ponies and Miniatures, parades, TWHs,

sidesaddle, dressage and hunter/jumper. She has trained and shown her own Thoroughbreds from off the track to many championships in the hunter/jumper ring. In her capacity as a trainer and teacher, she has taught people of all ages and backgrounds to ride. Her teaching philosophy is simple - give students a strong foundation, then go beyond the fundamentals. Riding just isn't about hopping on – it's about all aspects of caring for your horse, and therefore, getting the most out of your ride. Nicole received her SAHJA (Sacramento Area Hunter Jumper Association) judging card in 2009 and her California State Horseman Association English judging card in 2015.

Dressage and Western Dressage Clinician and Judge, Sue Bartholomaus



Sue Bartholomaus has been a well-known hunter/jumper and dressage rider, teacher, and trainer for almost four decades here on the West Coast. Before that, as a native of New York and later Virginia, she rode and taught extensively in these disciplines, as well as Eventing and Foxhunting.

It was the importation of her first German Warmblood stallion in 1977 to start her breeding program at Cross Fields Farm that caused her to narrow her personal focus on higher level dressage. Starting the Farm's resulting young horses encouraged her interest in studying Natural Horsemanship and she has been teaching that, in addition, since 1990. A lifelong learner, Sue is often described as an "eclectic teacher" due to her very extensive equestrian background. She believes that good horses come in many packages and can be used and enjoyed in more than one discipline, regardless of breed. Cross-training is to

everyone's benefit, both mentally and physically, so in addition to attending clinics with renowned dressage or jumping instructors, it would not be unusual to see her with her students—generally in their English saddles astride their FEI Warmbloods, Thoroughbreds, QH's, Mustangs, even the occasional gaited horse—at a Trail Trials, cattle sorting, roping clinic, Cowboy Dressage show, or camping for a long weekend in the High Sierras

Obstacle and In-Hand Presentation Clinician, Obstacle and Akhal-Teke Judge, Dr. Molly Nicodemus



Dr. Molly Nicodemus, Associate Professor of Animal & Dairy Sciences, is the head researcher for the Gaited Horse Locomotive Research Program at Mississippi State

University. Originating from the McPhail Equine Performance Center at Michigan State University, Dr. Nicodemus's research on equine gaits has been able to grow and develop addressing many different breeds of horses performing gaits the horse industry is less familiar of. Dr. Nicodemus completed her bachelors at Missouri State University where she competed on the horse judging and equestrian teams along with interning for multiple horse trainers learning to train and show cutting and gaited horses. Working on her master's program at Sam Houston State University, she began her research on gaits of the performance horse while working as a professional judge and trainer. As a part of her dissertation research at Michigan State University, she was the first to research the three-dimensional motion of gaited horse breeds. During this time, she became actively involved with the local horse community giving clinics and demonstrations concerning the gaits of the performance horse; and when not busy working with the horse community, she was assisting with coaching responsibilities for the collegiate horse judging and equestrian teams. At Mississippi State University she continued her coaching responsibilities with the collegiate teams along with teaching multiple equine courses ranging from horsemanship courses to equine evaluation courses. During that time period, she was the first to document kinematics in the western pleasure, country pleasure, hunter pleasure, and park horses along with various gaits performed by gaited horse breeds. When she is not teaching college students or researching equine gaits, Dr. Nicodemus trains her own horses and coaches youths for competition at stock breed shows. Her horses and youths have produced multiple national and world championships including holding the title for the past three years for Top Performance Horse and Top 13 & Under Youth in the Palomino Horse Breeders of America.



Classified Ads

Horses For Sale

For Sale: *Delguli*: Gindarkh x Dogoni, registered 2009 mare, AAKT 490. 15-1, Well-built and absolutely sound, proven broodmare, four white socks and a star. Under saddle for several years, both on trails and in the ring, where she shows a cat-like aptitude for jumping. Beautiful mover, powerful impulsion, sweet temperament. \$ 12,000.00, in Lexington, VA.

Contact: Sally Mann,
sallymann51@gmail.com or 540-463-3628, leave phone message or text to that same number.

For Sale: Magaryf (Maruk X Fergan) 2008 Purebred bay gelding, frozen semen available. Has been started under saddle., Miss Nike, 2011 Bay AT X Arab cross filly; Raísa, 2012 Bay AT X Arab filly. All Ak Sakal line. Details on DreamHorse or Equinenow.com. Website: www.oasisakhal-tekes.com. Email: jacquemunn@aol.com

ATAA Website:
www.akhal-teke.org

ATAA Facebook page:
<https://www.facebook.com/Akhal-Teke-Association-of-America-348256698548515/>

Horses For Sale

For Sale: Ivy: Gallo x Iashma, 2013 purebred mare. Chestnut, 15 hands, \$7000. Amera: Salam x Asalari, 2017 purebred filly, chestnut, \$6000. 2018 purebred colt, Gallo x Kamiah, bay, \$5000. 2018 chestnut colt, Kevlin x Alyeshka, \$5000. All are registered with ATAA and VNIK or have registration pending. More foals due 2019, contact Tish at (530) 400-9909,
saare@zetabb.com

<https://www.pleasantgroveakhaltekes.com>

Classified

Each ATAA member will receive one ad in the ATAA Newsletter Classifieds.

Individual membership: 30 free words per issue. Family membership: 60 free words per issue. Farm membership: 1/4 page ad

If that amount just isn't enough, you can buy more ad space.

Full Page: \$75 per issue

Half Page: \$50 per issue

Quarter Page: \$35 per issue

1/6 Page: \$10 per issue

Business card: \$8 per issue

You can pay via check or on the ATAA website with the PayPal button on the membership page. Just make sure you add a note with your payment, so we will know what it is for.

Send Ad copy to ATAA newsletter, 21314 129th Ave SE, Snohomish, WA 98296 or c.leddy@frontier.com

Ads due by the end of the month before publishing.

Astrachan - 1990 - 2019

Melechan x Forgona, Bred by Eberhard Sprandel

owned by Cascade Gold Akhal-Tekes



He lives on in his offspring.



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Cindy Sither
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Pleasant Grove Akhal-Teke



Arin (photo above) is a shiny cremello from the Gelishikli line.
Frozen semen only.



Kevlin (photo right) is a stunning palomino and is available for live cover.

We are proud to stand three excellent purebred stallions.

We have quality purebred horses for sale.

Gallo (photo right) is a metallic bay stallion from the Skak line.
Available for cooled shipment.





Jack and Tish Saare
Pleasant Grove, CA
(530) 400-9909
saare@zetabb.com
pleasantgroveakhaltekes.com

Please see our website for more photo and information.



ATAA Newsletter
21314 129th Ave SE
Snohomish, WA 98296
Winter 2019