

**The American Shagya Arabian Verband, inc., Jump Start 2011, is a continuation of the successful Jump Start Program of the preceding years, which ASAV offers to its members and mare owners as a promotional plan to invigorate the Shagya Arabian breeding program in North America. This promotion will rejuvenate a national Shagya horse breeding program and further create a fund raising campaign for ASAV.**

The owners of purebred Arabian mares, Thoroughbred and Warm Blood mares should be interested in an outcross to a Shagya stallion, as the breed has a centuries old record of producing sport horses that have won FEI events and Shagya blood can be found in many Stud books around the world. **The Anglo Shagya cross is particularly appealing to those seeking a Hunter/jumper with great talent and the conformation of the Thoroughbred, but the mind of a breed known for its quiet, calm demeanor.** There are many advantages of incorporating Shagya blood into a sport horse breeding program. ASAV has a registry book for the Anglo Shagya, a cross that is the exact same breeding as **RAMZES, the progenitor of the "R" line, illustrious in dressage and grand prix jumper lines. His dam was a purebred Shagya, "Jordi"!**

The purebred Arabian mare owner will be interested in producing a half-Arabian sport horse eligible for the AHA Sport Horse classes and at the same time producing a foal that is taller, has more substantial bone and has exceptional gaits. These foals may also be eligible for purebred Shagya registration.

The year was 1789! The Austria-Hungarian monarchy desired an elite horse the would be useful as a Cavalry mount. This ideal horse would be prepotent for its type, and thus could be used to improve other native breeds. This new War horse was created by crossing quality mares with desert Arabian stallions, mainly from Syria. And what a success! The so called **Araberrasse Horse**, later know as the **Shagya Arabian** breed was born. They are definitely a breed and NOT a strain of the purebred Arabian, as recognized by WAHO.

The desired agility, hardness, stamina and frugality of the Bedouin horse, as well as its Arabian type, beauty and amiable character was kept. However, the Shagya has improved sport horse qualities: increased bone, a longer more sloping pelvis, prominent withers, improved coupling and a better top line. **Shagyas are not just large Arabians, nor are they elegant imitation Warm-bloods!** Shagyas must be seen to appreciate their elegant and free-flowing movement, coupled with their proud, yet steady, down to earth, workmanlike temperament.

They have charisma and animation, but are very calm and not flighty. They are so eager to learn that it is a challenge to train them, as they normally attempt whatever they are asked to do.

The commanders of the State Stud farms were able to select breeding stock from superior mares and stallions and even these prospects were subjected to rigid testing. Mares and stallions had to pass **480 mile rides in ten days** across plains, forest and mountains. Most stallions sired 90 foals or more, before even being considered as Chief stallions. The Army took the less desirable horses for their remount horses.

Eventually stud farms such as the **Babolna State Stud, in Hungary** defined the Shagya's sport horse qualities and genetic strength through effective culling. During the 1930's the Hungarians bred as many as 3000 Shagyas annually and they were known as the elite horse of Europe. Judicious line breeding and out crossing to purebred Arabians about every four or five generations assures genetic predictability.

This rigorous selection, coupled with the progeny testing, produced a **classic genetic prepotency** that is still holding true to this day. The stud books have survived for MORE than **200 years**. The breed was severely depleted during WWII but is now beginning a comeback. A purebred Shagya gelding, **HUNGARES, WON THE 100 MILE 2006 WEG ENDURANCE RACE IN A TIME OF SEVEN HOURS.** Endurance riders are recognizing this breed for it's powess, and many are appearing in international endurance records. Even with only 4000 world-wide population, the breed has an excellent record in competitive events, including the European Warmblood 100 day stallion test! In 1982, the Shagya stallion, **Koyano, by Neron** actually won a 100 day test, as did **Nasrullah**, the sire of one of the Lily Creek import stallions, **\*DANTE**.



**SARVAR PFF**  
Shagya stallion,

**\*Oman**, was licensed for breeding by the ISR after completing the 100 day test in the U.S. and his breeding can be found in many U.S. horses. In the past few years, a number of purebred stallions have been imported from Europe and the breed numbers are finally on the rise in the U.S.

The Shagya is an excellent choice for anyone desiring a mount that is versatile and will excel in many disciplines. It has the ability to succeed in dressage or jumping and if one wants to simply hack out on the trails, one could not have a better companion, than the noble and loyal Shagya Arabian. They are simply amazing horses, unique among the horse world and this is confirmed by anyone who is fortunate to own their own SHAGYA!

**Mare owners can find the JUMP START booklet with photographs, of the stallions being offered, by going to:**

**[www.shagyaregistry.com](http://www.shagyaregistry.com)**