

# South American Shagya-Arabian Inspection Tour & Cabalgata 2008

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The South American Shagya-Arabian Inspection tour was part of a very well organized 2 week roundtrip starting in Caracas, Venezuela – visiting several places of interest, then crossing the border to Bogota, Columbia and coming back where we started. Over the last years several – horses previously standing in North America – were imported to South America such as the impressive stallion **KS Tradition** (Sire: Tatjanus, Dam: Obeida I) first imported from Germany by Donna Coss and then sold to Columbia, or the mare **Stefvani** bred by Valerie Bullock and also the stallion **Bravado**, both sold to Venezuela.



**Gertrud von Fedak** met her husband Stefan von Fedak, a Hungarian business man during a trip in South America. They got married 49 years ago and raised together 5 children. Gertrud felt in love with the Shagyas when she bought the mare **Galaya** and imported her to Venezuela. Over the next couple of years she imported several other Shagyas and founded the Shagya-Arabian breed in South America. Together with several other Shagya



enthusiasts they founded the **ASOARABE**, the registry, which has over 70 Shagyas registered today (ASOARABE is a member of the ISG). One example for the successful breeding work by Gertrud is the outstanding stallion **Galan** (Sire: Bravado Dam: Galaya). The von Fedak's have over 50 horses at their hacienda and they use their Shagyas in almost all disciplines (trail, endurance, jumping, carriage, and even for tourists tours). Despite all the political circumstances, difficulties & challenges the von Fedak's continued with their efforts and can be considered as the founders of the Shagya-Arabians in South America.

On Saturday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2008 **Dr. Walter Huber**, his daughter **Dorle Huber** and **Dr. Elmar Mauch** flew in from Germany, **Denis & Irmi Atam**, who came from Seattle all meet at the villa of the von Fedak's in Caracas. The next day we had a sightseeing tour through Caracas, the capitol of Venezuela.



Our journey continued the following day and brought us to the von

Fedak's "**Rancho Alegre**" a most beautiful place about 3 hours west of Caracas.

The von Fedak's started to build an exotic flower garden with over 2,500 different varieties, which today is considered the largest exotic flower plant all over Latin America.

While doing some improvements on their land they discovered the ruins of an ancient capuchin mission "**Senora del Carmen**" from the 18th century, which they decided to rebuild authentically.



Over the last decades they created a "Garden of Eden", which became famous place and is a tourist attraction today.



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During the next couple of days we explored those exotic flowers on horseback – always finding new and for us unfamiliar flowers. To quote **Dr. Walter Huber** “it’s a paradise on earth and I wish I could spend the rest of my life there”.



During those days the preparations for the “**Cabalgata 2008**” were in full motion. It is an annual event which started 16 years ago initiated & organized by Gertrud von Fedak and a very strong & committed team (Malu, Elizabeth ,Otta-Emme). Riders from all over Venezuela and recently even from abroad are joining this great event. It is a 20 to 25 mile ride with lots of fun during the day and especially during the evening. There is authentic life music during the lunch break and there are several other stops where people socialize,

but of course there is serious riding in between. The field has to cross several waters/rivers and it is always interesting & fun to see which line each rider takes – some got more wet & muddy than they expected.



There was a big celebration in the evening. The Cabalgata was combined with the Carnival ceremony they had that weekend. Everything was organized perfectly. There was more life music and even a special show at midnight from a group of drummers.



The following day, together with **Dr. Jose Luis Canelon Perez**, we continued our journey to Bogota, Colombia. Our first inspection site was hosted by **Rodrigo Acosta**. The farm is located at an elevation of 9000ft. with a beautiful view/ scenery over the valley.



**Zahir** a 2 ½ year old stallion (no final score given, because of lameness), cannon bone 18 cm, height 146 cm. Sire: Genuino Dam: O’Pastora.

*Long framed young stallion, still in development lacking stallion expression. Nice head. Long neck. Top neck line low set into the wither. Distinct whither. Good back and loin, muscles not developed yet. Front legs are a little bit behind the knees. Pasterns and hooves are not straight. Hindlegs correct. Walk, trot and canter could not be assessed, because of lameness. He is promising to become an elegant riding horse. Should be presented again.*

We also saw a very nice filly out of KS Tradition & a Thoroughbred mare at the farm.



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The next stop was the place of Ger-tud von Fedak's daughter Franziska called "El Vergel", which means "The Garden", where we inspected the following horses:

*Scores are given for: Type, Head, Neck, Body, Legs, Walk, Trot, Canter*



**Fabian** Score: **7.88** (8, 8, 8, 8, 7, 8, 8, 8) cannon bone 21 cm, height: 154 ½ cm – approved.

Sire: Bravado Mare: Farah Diva. *Mature impressive stallion with attractive gold bay color. Harmonious frame. Good top line. Strong bones with distinct and dry joints. Legs could be more correct. Left front leg toes out. Right hind leg toes inward. Hindlegs are correct. Well defined hocks. Good ground covering walk. Elastic trot with rhythm. Balanced canter.*



**Shaman** Score: **7.13** (7, 7, 7, 7, 6, 7, 8, 8) cannon bone 19 cm, height 151 cm. Sire: Nisos Dam: Shaje.

*Wiry young stallion, still developing. Head will become expressive. Neck good. Body correct, but unharmonious. Weak fundament and not straight enough. Walk not ground covering (nervous). Nice trot and canter, but could be more relaxed. He has a good potential for future development. For the time being not approved, because he didn't fulfill the height requirements yet and therefore should be presented again.*



The inspection team Dr. Jose Luis Canelon Perez, Venezuela, Dr. Walter Huber, Germany and Denis Atam, USA worked very well together to assess the horses according to international ISG breeding rules & regulations.



Then the mares were inspected. **Giogia** Score: **7.00** (7, 7, 7, 7, 8, 7, 7, 6) cannon bone 20 cm, height 150 cm – approved. Sire: Ghazzir Dam: Gallarda.

*Typical Ghazzir daughter. Long neck. Good long whither. Currently the croup is higher than the whither. Sloping shoulder. Correct fundament with good muscle definition. Distinct joints. Pretty good walk and trot. Currently canter short and flat.*



**Osiris** Score: **7.63** (8, 7, 7, 7, 8, 7, 9, 8) cannon bone 19 cm, height 150 cm – approved Sire: Galan Dam: Omara.

*Pretty head. Long neck. Well defined whither. Sloping shoulder. Good back activity. Sloping croup. Distinct and correct fundament. Walk pretty good. Expressive trot with very good rhythm. Ground covering canter.*

Then we moved to the next site which was the beautiful place of **Diana Gáviria & Eduardo Uribe**.

**Apaparis**: 18 month old filly Sire: KS Tradition Dam: Lily Creek Stefvani



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We also saw a beautiful & promising 3 months old colt. Sire: KS Tradition Dam: Lily Creek Stefvani



The next Shagya we inspected was one of the highlights of this inspection tour: KS Tradition.



**Stallion: KS Tradition Score: 8.38** (9, 9, 9, 9, 7, 7, 8, 9) cannon bone 20 cm, height 154 ½ cm – approved

Sire: Tatjanus Dam: Obeida I.

*Wonderful dark brown stallion of real Shagya type with masculine head. Long and good set riding horse neck. Very nice and balanced back. Very good and impressive top line. Tail carried nice and relaxed. Well muscled hind legs. Strong and well defined fundament. Walk a bit short. Trot with rhythm and cadence like a real athletic sport horse. Uphill canter. Ground covering.*

*In Europe he would be considered at a National Stud as a Primary Stallion. He is a win for this breed.*



**Stallion: Genuino Score: 7.38** (8, 8, 8, 6, 7, 7, 8, 7) cannon bone 21 cm, height 155 cm – approved.

Sire: Nisos Dam: Gazali.

*Big framed masculine stallion with nice head and long neck. A little bit too deep in his back. His hindquarters could be more muscled. Strong fundament. Cannon bones slightly offset. Walk could be more ground covering. Good trot with action. Active canter, but lacking propulsion. Typical Shagya stallion.*

The last day before we all headed home we spent a day on the beach at the Caribbean Sea.



A big thank you to the von Fedak family, their friends and all the people that helped to make this great tour to an unforgettable event for everyone.

During the 2 weeks in South America we also had the opportunity to fly to Barcelona (Venezuela) and received a warm welcome from Jorge Anez Dagar. They showed us their impressive Shagya-Arabians and the work they do at their farm.

