

Ferman Ansel

(November 29, 1939 - July 9, 2010)

In Memoriam

By Lorry Wagner
July, 2010

Ferman Ansel passed from this earth on July 9, 2010, at his home in Middleton, Idaho. His son, Ron Ansel, was by his side.

Ferman spent these last 25 to 30 years interviewing many people, especially breeders, who have been deeply involved in the Arabian horse breed. He also took volumes of video and still pictures around the world. Ferman has been in the process of organizing, cataloging and incorporating his work into his Arabian Horse Legacy (AHL) library for several years. Much of this priceless and irreplaceable information was already available on his AHL website, but volumes more were in the works.



The AHL website is currently shut down, but it is hoped that it can be reopened when Ferman's work is taken over by others.

The picture to the left shows Ferman interviewing one of the Bedouins who rode this mare and with her filly at her side approximately 100 miles to a gathering of the WAHO attendees at a Bedouin camp out in the Syrian Desert. The trip took 3 days. They had just arrived when this picture was taken. These Bedouins were so very proud to show their Arabian horses to visitors from around the world, their hospitality was overwhelming. The lady on the right side of this picture is Katrina Murray, WAHO Executive Secretary.

Ferman attended many WAHO Conferences around the world and could always be seen conducting interviews and shooting videos and still pictures. He was able to obtain many old 16 mm and 8 mm films of very important breeders and their Arabian horses and was in the process of converting same to today's media to 1) preserve same and 2) make this historic material available to us today and into the future.

Examples of some of the collection that was available on the AHL website before it had to be shut down due to Ferman's illness:

Interview with Jeff Wonnell

Interview with Jay Stream

Interview with Mary Anne and John Grimmell

Interview with Wayne Newton

Documentary of Mary Gharagozalou conducting the annual moving of the Shaw of Iran's Arabian horses to the high country pastures for the summer...all on horseback and overnight camps on route.

Ferman's work and collection comprise the world's most complete library on a combination of past and more recent Arabian horse history. This library will be a most valuable tool for future Arabian horse breeders and all those who love the breed. A group of people are working with Ferman's son, Ron, to make this fantastic library available to the public.

Ferman is survived by his children, sons Ronald Lee and Stephen Gene Ansel and daughter Deborah L. Ansel.

Thank you, Ferman, for your many years of dedication to the Arabian horse and especially for building this library. May you somehow know that your work will be finished and prized by not only all of us who had the privilege of knowing and working with you, but future generations who will be guided by your own dedication to the preservation of the legacy and history of our Arabian horse breed. Your contributions to the Arabian horse breed will live into perpetuity!

Thank you, Ferman!