

# 20 QUESTIONS

*... about your life with Arabian horses ... with MCLAUGHLIN FAMILY*

**"I love to ride these horses anytime and anywhere ... living the dream with our Arabian horses. I love and cherish them." Grandma Diane, daughter Candace and third generation rider Alana (11 years old).**



**1** What is your current involvement with Arabian horses?

*Diane: My current involvement is that I am showing and starting my young horse MS Centaur. Also have bred our mare to Spitfyre VF for next spring.*

*Candy: I compete in Amateur Western Pleasure and like to trail ride.*

*Alana: I participate in lots of Arabian horse shows throughout the summer and I do all of my lessons on arabians.*

**2** How many years have you been around horses?

*Diane: I have been around horses since childhood. Too many years to say.*

*Candy: Since I was about 10 years old.*

*Alana: I have been around horses my whole life and the first time I was on the back of a horse I was only 1 year old.*

**3** They say, "the Arabian horse finds you". How did the Arabian horse find you?

*Diane: The Arabian horse found me through my daughter Candy.*

*Candy: I started taking riding lessons at a stable down the road that bred and showed them.*

*Alana: My family has had arabian horses since before I was born so I've grown up with them.*



**4** Who is or has been your favorite horse companion?

*Diane: My favorite is of course Billy Bob.*

*Candy: All of them! They have all been special and had something great to share and teach me.*

*Alana: My favorite horse companion is Billy Bob.*



**5** Who has been your (horse) mentor?

*Diane: My mentor is my husband, Lorne. He is the best horseman I know.*

*Candy: Everyone you ride with or watch has something to share!*

*Alana: My horse mentor is my aunt Candace. She has been giving me lessons for many years and I would like to grow up and be able to ride just like her.*

**6** What is your favorite horse book?

*Diane: No one favorite but read every horse book I could get my hands on numerous times.*

*Candy: Black Beauty, even though it still makes me cry.*

*Alana: My favorite horse book is Arabian Legends.*

**7** What is your favorite horse movie?

*Diane: The Black Stallion.*

*Candy: Man from Snowy River.*

*Alana: I love the movie Flicka, but I also have many other favorites.*

**8** What are some 'Arabian horse activities' in which you participate?

*Diane: I show of course but I believe any activity is an Arabian one. Have used our Arabian horses for cattle penning, gymkhana, roping, cattle drives, mountain rides and anything else in between.*

*Candy: Showing mostly, but I've spent many hours in the mountains on them, cattle penning, you name it and they can do it!*

*Alana: I do lots of arabian horse shows and I ride in 4H with Billy Bob. We've done cattle penning, trail riding and lots of other fun things too.*



**9** What would be your most memorable experience or moment with an

Arabian horse?

*Diane: My most memorable moment so far was last year at Canadian Nationals when Billy and I went Top 10 in the Western Pleasure Select on what was to be our retirement ride.*

*Candy: The first time I went Champion at Regionals, it took a long time to get there but so worth it.*

*Alana: My favorite memory happened a few years ago when Billy Bob and I were doing an exercise trotting over poles, we got going a bit too fast and he decided to jump clean over top of the poles instead. That was*

*unexpected, but exciting!*

**10** What has been your greatest achievement with your Arabian horse(s) so far?

*Diane: Winning The Sandra Lynch Trophy 5 times.*

*Candy: Finishing 3rd in the Amateur Owner Western at Canadian Nationals with Billy Bob.*

*Alana: My greatest achievement was at the Region 17 show in Calgary this past July, Billy Bob and I won a unanimous championship in Walk/Trot Hunter Pleasure 10 & under.*

**11** Which horse do you consider to be your “dream” horse, either past or present?

*Diane: My dream horse is of course BILLY BOB.*

*Candy: I've never really picked one, hummmm lol.*

*Alana: My dream horse is Billy Bob! I love him!*

**12** Horses are amazing teachers. What has your horse taught you that has helped you become a better person?

*Diane: I have been taught that you must have patience and understanding.*

*Candy: Work hard will pay off and patience.*

*Alana: My horse has taught me patience and understanding. I've learned how to ride and how to care for a horse. Everything I know about horses was learned by working with Billy Bob (full arabian) and Bubba, who is half arabian, and lives at the farm now.*

**13** What is the best thing about working and playing with your Arabian horse?

*Diane: It is totally rewarding partnership.*

*Candy: Their personalities, they may be more spirited than other breeds but it is so worth it!*

*Alana: Billy can sometimes be tricky, but he's a lot of fun and he's my good old reliable buddy. He's the best horse to work with.*

**14** What would you say to a person considering buying a horse to encourage them to purchase an Arabian?

*Diane: They are the most understanding and lovable equine partner.*

*Candy: They are a great animal, they love people and there are so many disciplines that there is one out there for almost everyone.*

*Alana: I would tell them how great arabians are and how much fun they are to work with.*

**15** What is your advice to someone, “brand new,” considering becoming involved with horses?

*Diane: If they are brand new to horses to realize it is life long commitment just like any other animal. If they are not a 100% sure it is for them they should take lessons or lease a horse to start.*

*Candy: Take lessons first to decide what you like before purchasing.*

*Alana: If someone was new to horses, like many of my friends, I would tell them everything I know. Sometimes it's a bit scary but it's a very rewarding experience working with horses.*



**16** Is there a favorite reference book you'd like to share?

*Diane: Not much of a book learner more of a hands on type person.*

*Candy: I don't read so much, I prefer to watch or participate in clinics. Watching in real life is always better.*

*Alana: I would recommend Arabian Legends, to share the history of the greatest Arabian horses.*

**17** What is the one thing you'd like to do that you haven't done yet?

*Diane: One thing I would like to do. See one of our home bred horses win Red Roses.*

*Candy: One day I'll get a country horse ;)*

*Alana: When I get bigger, I would really, really, really like to attend the Equine Sciences program at Olds College.*

**18** What about “kids” and an Arabian horse?

*Diane: As my three grandkids would say “They are the Best.” All three have learned to ride on our Arabian horses.*

*Candy: They are amazingly kind and forgiving. My niece and nephews are learning on our arabians and it's great.*

*Alana: I feel that if you put a kid with a new horse and leave them for about an hour and a half, they would most likely be friends afterwards.*



**19** Why do you think you get such a “rush” being around or riding your Arabian horse(s)?

*Diane: They give me a rush because they are a part of our family lifestyle.*

*Candy: They are always happy to see me!*

*Alana: I get that rush when we get our work done and then I can play around with him after. I love to work with my horse, it always makes me feel good and I especially love to canter!*



**20** What are your words to live by?

*Diane: Enjoy your horse no matter what you do with them.*

*Candy: "There is something about the outside of a horse that is good for the inside of a man." ~ Winston S Churchill.*

*Alana: I live by the words "You can't buy happiness but you can buy a horse, and that's pretty much the same thing!" ■*