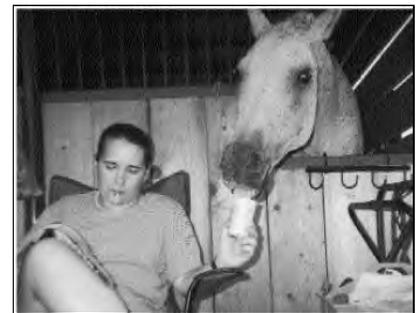


Special Recognition Award for an Imp

PF Impulse +/, a purebred Arabian gelding, received the Special Recognition Award from the International Arabian Horse Association for his accomplishments as a dressage horse.By Patricia Lasko

PF Impulse+/, known as Imp, a purebred Arabian gelding owned by Tricia Ziebell of Mukwonago, Wisconsin, received the Special Recognition Award from the International Arabian Horse Association (IAHA) for his accomplishments as a dressage horse in open competition. The award is given to an Arabian, Half-Arabian or Anglo-Arabian that has reached an outstanding level of achievement.



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"This award is very special," says Ziebell. "I think it gives Imp a great opportunity to show people that Arabians can be competitive in dressage." Imp consistently scores in the mid-60 percent range at Second and Third Levels. He has won local and regional awards and was third at Third Level in the 2000 U.S. Dressage Federation (USDF) All-Breeds Awards for IAHA and Arabian Sport Horse Association.

But Imp has been more than a successful dressage horse for Ziebell. "He has always been there for me during some rough times of my life," she says. "When I lost my brother in an accident, Imp was there for comfort and to let me hug him and just sit with him in his stall. When I had heart surgery in 1996, he almost knew he couldn't nuzzle me in that area of my chest and would nuzzle me everywhere else. He would even put his head over my shoulder in his way of a hug. Also, he loves to eat whatever I eat, whether it be bananas, licorice, strawberries or watermelon."

Four years ago, Ziebell bought Imp and began working with trainer Joann Williams, a USDF silver medalist. This year, the pair is showing at Fourth Level. Active in her local dressage club, Great Lakes Dressage and Combined Training Association, Ziebell has been a USDF delegate and organized the awards program for several years.

"I also volunteer with the dressage portion of our local Class A Arabian shows by scribing, figuring/posting scores and setting up/tearing down the arena. I also have been a scribe for many of the local dressage shows over the years when I am not showing with Imp and as time permits. I think showing that some Arabians can do dressage is the most important part of our story.

I think Arabians are agile, smart horses. They can make dressage look very elegant and have an easier time doing some of the patterns a larger horse has difficulties with. Arabians are

willing to try and work with you, but they cannot be bullied."

This article first appeared in *Dressage Today* magazine.

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