

KABAR RAFTAH (nominated in 2007)

by Kristen Howard & Richelle Elchuk



Kabar Raftah was born in 1978. He was a huge chestnut 3/4 Arabian gelding by *Raffod* x *Tahala Crinda* with excellent conformation and an easy temperament. *Kabar* was purchased by Rick Burnside of Owen Sound, Ontario in late 1989 from Jan Worthington and Grace Ramsey of JG Ranch in Illinois, USA. *Kabar* was 11 at the time, and very experienced in the fields of competitive trail and endurance, having completed the 1988 World Championship 100 in Virginia, USA with Knut Nelson of Sweden in 23rd place; and, the 1989 North American Championship 100 in Ontario with Jan Worthington in 12th place shortly prior to Rick purchasing him.

In *Kabar's* first year of competition after coming to Ontario, he was selected to represent Canada at the World Equestrian Games (WEG) in Sweden in 1990 with Rick. *Kabar* did not disappoint and finished in 19th place. Canada was 4th in the 100 mile event!

In 1991, *Kabar* travelled to Nevada, USA and completed the North American Championship 100 with Julie Phair of Paisley, Ontario in 9th place (see Team photo -- *Kabar* is second from the left (chestnut horse with red bridle)).

In 1993, *Kabar* made the trip to Alberta, Canada, and again completed the North American Championship 100 -- this time with Barbara Alkemade of Arva, Ontario.

Kabar crossed the ocean for the second time, and travelled to Europe in 1994 to represent Canada at the WEG in Holland. The start of the 100 mile course consisted of two laps around a racetrack, then over a slippery narrow bridge which caused a tremendous bottle neck and some injuries. *Kabar* and Barbara Alkemade were unscathed and went on to complete in 42nd place. After Holland, *Kabar* was retired from international competition, but still competed in endurance, competitive and ride 'n' tie events in Ontario.

Kabar has completed 3490 AERC miles and 2249 OCTRA miles over the course of 10 consecutive seasons from 1986-1996. Incredibly, *Kabar* has a 100% completion rate including 16 - 100 mile rides! Out of the 49 AERC rides he completed, he was in the top ten 27 times. In 1994, he was awarded the Arabian Horse Association of Eastern Canada (AHAEC) High Point Part Arabian for Endurance and Competitive Trail. Over the years, *Kabar* was named OCTRA Year End Top Ten in both endurance and competitive trail; and, garnered multiple Regional Championships and Reserve Championships in endurance.

Young horses gained confidence from *Kabar's* steady nature, especially during their first long distance competitions.

Unfortunately, *Kabar* is no longer with us having passed away in February 2007, but he will always be fondly remembered.

