

a system that would rate the large live shows. Shows would be evaluated to see if they follow the rules of "Project '88" and rated accordingly. "Honestly, I believe a showholder must be in tune with what's going on. These rules (in Project '88) help pinpoint and define all aspects of planning, organizing, and conducting a show." She has been told that she is taking all the fun out of the hobby, but she looks at it more as removing the frivolity, disagreeing with people who say, "It doesn't matter; it's just a hobby." To her, too much is invested in the hobby and too many people are complaining about its current methods to take on such an attitude. As for the actual publication of "Project '88," Carol says, "It could take years. It's all volunteer time." Some people have resigned from the group because they didn't realize the time and effort required. Carol hopes to stay on to see the project through.

With "Project '88," her tack and her QH stallion mold, Carol has little time for much else. She tries to photo and live show when possible, though her entire collection is made up of no more than five OFs and three RRH's, one of which is her QH mold. She has also judged many a show, and has her own methods. When she judges performance class, she looks at the model first—does the model *look* like the horse is jumping? Roping? Tack is judged afterwards, then obstacles. She also notices that things that could be faults in live horse shows can *sometimes* be assets in the model show ring. For instance, a horse "wringing its tail" is usually penalized in the live horse show ring, but he could also be merely flicking a fly from himself

(not a penalty). To add a slight touch of realism, a model might be shown swishing his tail a bit, which Carol says "enhances the realism aspect, without taking much, if anything, away from a good 'performance' in a scene." It is these "deviations" that can lend realism and individual character to the model and photo scenes.

As for the biggest problem the hobby currently faces, it's "lack of organization. If we get our act together...and promote it (the hobby), we can see bigger, better organized shows in ten years." She also foresees "more major events, workshops, and seminars." But she stresses the need to promote the hobby, adding that it offers so many things for people to do. She encourages hobbyists to try out the various hobby arts at some point. "At best you may discover a hidden talent. You may *enjoy* doing it, and if so, by all means *do it*, even if it's not the best. If it isn't, it does make you more aware of what goes into the work and more knowledgeable about what it is you're buying." Furthermore she advises, "Capitalize on the good points and successes and take them a step further." And to the younger hobbyists: "Take heart—often with maturity alone your work will improve!" Carol's inspiring words may be just what hobbyists testing the waters need to hear. And if her efforts to improve upon the hobby are successful, the model horse world will prove even more desirous to those wanting to enter the field. True, the hobby may have its problems but Carol is a woman of action, she looks ahead. And she has a solution: "We can start now. We can be doing something for the future."

ATTENTION ARABIANITES

I am a shameless Arabian fiend. And I KNOW there are many more of you out there...every Arabian class is not packed by coincidence!

I have been wanting to hold, on an annual basis, the hobby's first live US Model Arabian NATIONALS. It will be THE show for Arabians and Arabian fanciers—stiff, fair competition and a chance to carouse with fellow Equus arabicus worshippers. The structure would be a three-day live show—one day each for EXTENSIVE halter, Eng/Sport performance and West/Other performance. There may also be a diverse show for Half-Arabians on one of those days. In the pure-bred show, there would be separate Novice/Veteran and OF/Custom Divisions while in all aspects of competition, strict adherence to Project '88 regulations will be a must. The show would also alternate between coasts like the real thing to allow everyone a good chance to compete. I have a VERY extensive and diversified classlist for all days that I'm sure would make anyone enthusiastic and to really facilitate fair competition. I could just go on and on! BUT I need help and input! In short, I need a co-founder(s) experienced with large live shows and to help formulate, polish, co-ordinate and make the idea into a reality. I wouldn't want to tear my hair out putting it on by myself while breaking my bank with only ten people showing up to compete! Hello out there Arabian lovers! Anyone interested? It would really be an EVENT and a wonderful chance to really test your Arabian! If interested, write (No SASE required) to: Sarah Minkiewicz,

Let's get together and really put on a BASH for the Arabian horse!!