

## **SS Charleston "Charlie"**

Caleb x She Can Dance PP

2004 Half Arabian gelding owned by GAHA Member Alexandra Neumann

~ Dressage. We started out together doing dressage and have dabbled a little bit in hunter/jumper and combined training, but dressage has always been our passion.

~ Charlie is very picky when it comes to treats! Besides the usual apples, carrots and sugar cubes, he loves the German Horse Muffins, cherry and grape freeze pops and La Croix water! He loves to be scratched under the chin and loves his forehead and ears very gently rubbed. He'll put his head right in to my chest and rest when I rub under his forelock.

~ I bought Charlie as a green broke 5 yr-old from his breeder, in February 2010. I pulled him out of a field outside of Madison, WI, where he had been started under saddle several months before that. He was given a bit of time off to grow up a bit and so when I started working with him, it was a lot of fundamental work again. I leased him for six months before I decided to purchase him. I've had him for over 10 years now!

~ I've always felt that Charlie embodies the characteristics that we all love about the Arabian horse. He's very smart and opinionated, but with a kind and gentle soul. He'll try to do anything I ask, but he's always got something to say about it (now that he's almost 17, it's usually just a flick of the tail or ears to let me know how he feels!). He's a quick learner and while not always bold, I can trust to him to get us out of tight situations. He's gentle, kind and very affectionate. I often think he could have be one of the nomadic horses that would curl up in a tent with you in desert; guarding your back.

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~ With over 10 years of partnership with Charlie, it's hard to narrow down all my favorite stories and memories of him! He's taken me to countless shows - everything from schooling hunter shows to USDF Regional Championships. We've done clinics, trail rides, eventing derbies, CT events, hunter paces, GHJA Finals and been demo riders. He's my first horse - my heart horse - he's carried me through so many times. From moving from WI to GA, through my pregnancy (rode till 7 1/2 months), as well lots of laughter and heartaches through the years. He adores my 6 yr old son and follows him around like a large black puppy. They love spending time together. I'm truly very fortunate for all that Charlie has given me - and look forward to many more years together!

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