



Hello, my name is **Denis Atam**. I was born in Munich, Germany, grew up and lived/worked there for the first 36 years of my life.

During the summer of 1980 my wife and I felt in love with the Shagya-Arabians.

This was because of an endurance ride in Germany, where we both helped as veterinary assistants.

That race was won by a Shagya-Arabian (Ibn Galal VI) and because we were both so fascinated by this stallion and his appearance, character and performance, we decided to buy our first Shagya-Arabian (Gadir), an offspring from Ibn Galal VI.

Later we became enthusiastic endurance riders ourselves and participated with our Shagya-Arabians in many endurance races throughout Germany and also nowadays again here the US with great success.

In 1998 we moved to the Middle East for 3 years, but then decided to move to the US (State Washington, Lake Chelan) in 2001. We brought 5 of our Shagya-Arabians from Germany along with us.

We really enjoy riding our Shagya-Arabians. Our breeding goal is a lean & sporty type Shagya-Arabian primarily for the purpose of endurance riding. In 2009 one of our mares (\*Nadjsha IDA) was sold to an endurance professional, who took her with him to the Middle East (Qatar) to be trained at one of the Sheik's stables, which speaks for itself.

I gained a lot of experience from having worked for Microsoft as Senior Manager in different roles and geographies for 20 years. My lovely wife Irmi is managing our 85 acre farm estate, which consists of an apple & cherry orchard, a vineyard, and of course our horse facilities. Please check out our Web-Site: **Lake Chelan Shagya Arabians** at [www.shagya.us](http://www.shagya.us) for further information. We are also the proud owner of a Shagya stallion: **Shagya US**, who is successfully competing in Dressage, which proves the great versatility of this breed.

In 2009 we opened our Winery (**Atam Winery LLC**) in the Lake Chelan Valley, where one of my lifelong dreams finally came true. I think it is the perfect combination – breeding Shagyas & making Wine.

My objective is to support and preserve the Shagya-Arabian breed and especially promote them here in North America.

I am currently obtaining additional credentials & certifications in order to become an ISG recognized & certified judge for Shagyas.

I would love to get to know you and attract & engage more people for the Shagya-Arabian breed.

I am always open to listen to your input and how we can make ASAV a great & successful and even better organization than it is already.



Denis Atam