

For the love of the Arabian horses

Carrie Brendle turns favorite childhood tale into successful celebration

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Carrie Brendle of Dallas is to Davenport Arabians as Oregon is to rain: The two are intrinsically related and ultimately inseparable.

“I’ve had Davenport Arabians since I was a little girl,” Brendle said. “I fell in love with Homer Davenport’s ‘My Quest for the Arabian Horse, and my best friend’s mother, Carol Lyons, bred Davenport Arabians.’”

In fact, it was Lyons who instilled in Brendle a love of the Davenport Arabian at the young age of 12.

It’s almost always been one of Brendle’s goals to bring Davenport’s quest to the otherwise unknowing public. But when her mentor, Lyons, was diagnosed with lung cancer, Brendle knew that it was time to make her plans official. Unfortunately, Lyons lost her battle with cancer two years ago.

“I promised Carol that I’d make a big deal at Homer’s Arabian Quest centennial,” Brendle said. “I had the entire thing mapped out two years ago.”

Brendle has definitely made good on her promise, as a series of six vignettes chronicling Davenport’s journey was presented this weekend in conjunction with Homer Davenport Days.

“I want people to understand that it is possible that huge dreams people say can’t be done, well, we can make it happen,” she said. “People told Davenport that he wouldn’t be able to get these Arabian horses, but he got them. And a young breeding stock, too.”