November 4th through the 6th of 2005, in Columbus, OH, started out as a convenient time and place for all three Lipizzan organizations—LANA, USLR, ALBA—to hold their annual meetings since this was the first site of the Spanish Riding School’s tour of the states and everyone involved with Lipizzans wanted to make the SRS feel welcomed and appreciated at their first venue. What transpired, however, was a resounding and unanimous decision from members of all three groups to continue to hold annual meetings in conjunction with each other. This is a landmark change in policy, attitude, and commitment.

FRIDAY: REGISTRATION, ALBA, USLR, RECEPTION, AUCTION--

Much of the credit for this feeling of goodwill stems from the way the group meetings were opened to everyone from any Lipizzan organization. As most will remember, the event packages from which you could choose included package A which offered attending all meetings, lectures, and the reception for a set fee. Sandy Heaberlin, LANA director, and June Boardman, ALBA coordinator, are responsible for this forward thinking innovation, and the USLR followed suit. Almost everyone in the over 170 Lipizzan enthusiasts coming to the convention choose this option. And perhaps the convivial tone was initiated during registration when each attendee received a commemorative black and red tote bag with a white Lipizzan engraved on the side—again another positive feature. Inside, the participants found their schedule for all events and an identification badge which would allow them access to all meetings and educational and social functions. In this open admittance policy, LANA, USLR, and ALBA members discovered that the groups had more in common than in opposition.

The American Lipizzan Breeders Association (ALBA) led the way on the morning of Friday, the 4th, with a two hour session. One of this organization’s accomplishments was the publication of the Studbook of Evaluated Lipizzan Breeding Stock in North America, 1995-2005. After the lunch break, the United States Lipizzan Registry (USLR) took over the Harrison Meeting Room at the Hyatt Regency. USLR Manager Nancy Stockdale deserves the Purple Heart for bravely attending this meeting after only days out of surgery for an emergency appendectomy. She had to be whisked to the emergency room that evening with infected stitches, is presently recovering at home, and everyone admired her courage and dedication.

People from all three groups had been in attendance at both meetings, got to meet people face to face, and discuss Lipizzan interests. By the time that evening’s semi-formal reception dinner for the SRS riders approach, LANA, USLR, and ALBA members were beginning to feel comfortable with each other. “We ought to meet like this more often,” and “We have so much in common” were the themes already being repeated. The guests of honor, the SRS riders, received their own commemorative tote bags which included a copy of the Lipizzan issue of the magazine The Horse of Kings and of the book The American Lipizzan: A Pictorial History. The seating arrangement for the dinner did not have the riders sitting on a dais in front of everyone. Rather the riders spread out among their American friends, sitting and conversing with them at the large round tables. After a brief welcoming speech by American promoter Gary Lashinky, everyone enjoyed an excellent meal of roast beef, chicken, various breads
and steamed vegetables, and a selection of yummy desserts. Who could guess that the highlight of the evening was yet to come.

The auction, the proceeds of which would benefit all three organizations —another new feature—was a smash success. John Gliege was impromptu auctioneer, and Melody Hull, Galya Edwards, and Dulce Anderson volunteered to do Vanna White’s role in displaying and showing items to attendees. The SRS riders elected to stay and participate, bidding on the more interesting pieces. Some of the rarer items actually initiated bidding wars between contestants. Everyone was having a good time and enjoying the camaraderie when a copy of The Imperial Horse, a rare, out-of-print book on the history of the Lipizzan, came up. Rival bidders vied for procession, and the amount bid at one point even exceeded the price listed on e-Bay. That is when someone suggested that the riders autograph the book, which they were very willing to do. Interest and emotions were catapulted out of sight as the riders stepped forward to sign the inside cover. That book alone brought over $800. Several other items were also autographed, including one of the tour’s posters, and these pieces continued to excite the crowd, stimulate bidding, and eventually helped to raise over $4000 by the end of the evening.

SATURDAY: LANA, DR. POHL, CHIEF RIDER RIEGLER, CLINIC, PERFORMANCE--

Saturday morning, it was the Lipizzan Association of North America’s turn to present its business to a mixed audience of LANA, USLR, and ALBA members. There were quick discussions of reports and goals achieved, and briefly, plans were set for next year. Under new business, Registrar Tom Hull received everyone’s attention when he announced that available for purchase on CD was the complete LANA database of thousands of Lipizzans. The five copies he brought sold out quickly.

LANA’s meeting was hastened along because the former director of the SRS Dr. Werner Pohl had graciously offered to give a Power Point presentation on the history, new developments, and changes at the Spanish Riding School and the Piber National Stud. Of course, this took precedent over a mere business meeting. The large Delaware Meeting Room was packed with American Lipizzan lovers. Dr. Pohl’s presentation was filled with details, graphs, maps, and pictures which held the audience’s attention. A question and answer period followed that allowed for further discussion of sire lines, mare families, building additions, and economic restructuring.
After the lunch break, Lipizzan devotees returned to hear Chief Rider Johann Riegler lecture on the purpose of classical dressage, the three core duties of the SRS, an overview of the horses’ training, and the training/educational program from “eleve” to rider to chief rider status. Herr Riegler proved to be an entertaining as well as instructional speaker, offering to quite informally respond to the many questions from his American audience.

Saturday was capped off by the first performance of SRS on their 2005 American tour. However, another innovation preceded this event. For this commemorative tour, the Spanish Riding School of Vienna, Austria, give a one hour presentational clinic on the classical art of training. This was offered at this venue to members of the American Lipizzan organizations. At other sites the clinic was to have been for USEF and other equestrian organizations. For Columbus, ticket holders were required to come two hours ahead of the performance and were told to sit in the lower mid-section for the clinic. There was an hour break between the clinic and performance during which attendees could eat or purchase merchandise. Chief Rider Riegler instructed American equestrians on the stages of training while horse and rider combinations demonstrated. The segments included early handling, training through “campaign school” (grand prix), use of ground work in hand to develop collected movements, and riding errors that are detrimental. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed learning parts of the methodology and seeing these formal riders handle, during the early phase especially, some difficult, unexpected movements from the very fresh, energetic, young stallions.

In attendance for the 7:30 p.m. performance was Colonel James Patton Totten, grandson of General George S. Patton. The SRS’s tour had been scheduled at this time to commemorate Gen. Patton’s rescue of the Lipizzan breed at the end of World War II, and the Patton family were given the first row seats in the royal box—what would be “C” or the judge’s stand in a competition dressage arena. In talking with the family beforehand, James, his wife Jody, son, and daughter-in-law were thrilled to be part of the festivities. Col.Totten admitted to always distancing himself from his grandfather’s legend and, while knowing of the Lipizzans and SRS, never having seen a performance. However, after the whirlwind two days of press conferences and interviews, and attending Herr Riegler’s lecture, the reception dinner, and now the gala event, James and the rest of the family confessed to more fully appreciating what Grandfather George did for horsemen, historians, and the Austrian people and culture. The Patton family had made sure they were dressed appropriately and were even practicing their curtsies and salutes for the finale. The appreciation was reciprocal. As the narrator during a segment of the performance outlined the events which saved the Lipizzan breed, the audience, as one, rose to its feet with thunderous applause and wild cheering for the American general’s rescue and the colonel’s presence at the evening’s event.

Sitting in the royal box with the Patton family were other notables: Dr. Werner Pohl, former director of the SRS, Dr. Delphi Toth, and Dr. Leslie M. Kozsely. Dr. Kozsely had been selected to train in dressage with Col. Podhajsky at the SRS in Vienna in 1942. He rode in the school quadrille and remained close to Col. Podhajsky during the SRS’s years away from Vienna. Being a part of this commemoration was a special thrill for the eighty-three year old Hungarian Cavalry veteran and long-term Lipizzan owner and competitor in driving. Dr. Delphi Toth was the coordinator and host for the Patton family and Dr. Kozsely during Friday and Saturday’s Lipizzan convention events. Additionally, it was Dr. Toth, working behind the scenes since April, who made the arrangements for Patton family members to be present in each city of the tour. Delphi’s anonymous efforts will have, therefore,
enhanced immeasurably each audience’s appreciation of the performance.

**SUNDAY: LFA, CHANGE, COMMITMENT, PERFORMANCE**

For most attendees, the culmination of the convention’s meetings was the Lipizzan Federation of America’s on Sunday morning. The LFA is the umbrella organization which represents LANA, USLR, and ALBA to the world and national equestrian organizations, specifically the Lipizzan International Federation (LIF) and the United States Dressage Federation (USDF). This was the first LFA meeting open to the public.

With the large room filling as the morning progressed, several basic concepts were explained to observers. The LFA is structured so that each American organization can send as many representatives as it wants, but each organization has just one vote. That means that an organization’s representatives must form a consensus and give its one vote to the rest of the body. Since there are three organizations, there is never a tie. There are no LFA officers. A moderating chairperson is chosen from among the representatives present. John Gliege was chosen as this year’s moderator. Representing LANA were John Gliege, Melody Hull, Tom Hull, and Sandy Heaberlin. Representing ALBA were Ingun Littorin, June Boardman, and Leonard Boardman. Representing USLR was Cele Noble and Carole Gauger.

It should be mentioned that the above representatives, with the exception of Cele and Carole from the USLR, have been meeting annually for almost ten years, first as a mediation group known as the 20/20 and later incorporated as the LFA. Because of this long-term commitment and involvement, these people know and trust each other even when debating, and so have formed a working cohesiveness. For this reason, the tone of the meeting was positive cooperation. Indeed, after the meeting was over, the representatives as a group and as individuals received for their ten year dedication to purpose the thanks, handshakes, and words of appreciation from individuals and the audience as a whole.

One of the pieces business conducted quite easily was the decision as to a logo to represent the LFA on everything from letterheads to awards. The ‘crowned “L” in shield’ was chosen and will appear on saddle pads and blankets in the near future. Kerry Scott volunteered his company to be directly involved in production and distribution when the legal hurdles have been met. A rather difficult topic, that of mandatory microchipping, was discussed with cool logic. It was agreed to wait for the USDA to decide which format and procedure it preferred.

As to old business, the LFA has achieved the goals it has set so far: the continuation of annual LFA meetings, the writing of by-laws, representation to the LIF and USDF, sponsorship of USDF All-Breed Awards and
classes at Devon, and the sharing of pedigree data between organizations.

While many observers were pushing for the unifying of more projects, a conservative approach was thought to be more advisable. Still, the goals for this coming year include: an exchange of pedigree data every quarter, and an exchange of DNA information, a review of Lipizzans with duplicate names, voting on by-laws, and LFA updates through the year for the organizations’ newsletters. A special project that LFA has on the drawing board for 2006 is a three panel member evaluation to take place August 12th-13th, at the Eden Park facility in Sunbury, Ohio. Johann Reigler has already confirmed, and further developments will be passed along to the organizations.

Finally and most importantly, there was the decision for all FOUR groups—counting the LFA—to hold their annual meetings in conjunction with each other at a mutually agreed-upon place and time. This landmark decision can only foster the continuation of the good-will felt at this convention and can only result in the same working cohesiveness exhibited by LFA representatives.

This ground-swell toward unification of all common projects is what the LFA representatives past and present have been waiting for. Perhaps another goal for the LFA to achieve is a continuation of this enthusiastic support from the grass-roots memberships. Who knows where it might lead LANA, USLR, and ALBA members in future years.

The first American Lipizzan Convention ended appropriately with the Sunday afternoon SRS clinic and performance. The clinic started at 12:30 and the performance at 2:30 p.m. As at Saturday’s performance, Sunday’s audience was knowledgeable—applauding the more difficult “steps and movements” as well as the spectacular airs above the ground—and appreciative as a whole. The ticket holders seemed to be a mixture of dressage, western, English, and hunt seat aficionados as well as lay people who admire horsemanship as art.

As a note of appreciation, the success for this three-day event must be attributed to Sandy Heaberlin, a long-time Lipizzan owner, who has proven over twenty-plus years of service to be a tireless, dedicated worker in three of the organizations attending: USLR, LANA, and LFA. Sandy organized the events, helped develop the innovations, kept lines of communication between the groups open, corresponded with the promoters, the ticket agency, and the hotel, did the mailings, oversaw finances, scheduled the speakers, rooms, and food, and kept the rest of us informed, focused, and involved. Thank you, Sandy.
INTERESTING TIDBITS OF INFORMATION:

1. The SRS brought 40 people—including 10 riders, 10 grooms, assorted managers, liaisons, and security—and 30 horses.

2. The horses flew from Frankfort, Germany, aboard 2 modified Boeing 474s. This is standard practice with the School to divide the horses onto 2 planes so that if anything disastrous happens with one aircraft, part of the School’s horses will survive.

3. After arriving in the states, the horses spent 37 hours in quarantine, proceeded to Eden Park, Sunbury, Ohio, for another two day stay, and were settled in Nationwide Arena by Thursday, November 3rd.

4. It took 3 semi-tractor trailers to haul the horses and 2 for the equipment.

5. And speaking of hauling—the sand placed over the top of the clay base in the arena, walkway, and warm-up area was called “K” sand. It was purchased from Fibar in Maryland and delivered in 19 large dump trucks. After the last performance at each venue site, the sand was unloaded, hauled in the dump trucks and shipped to the next venue so that the footing would be consistent throughout the tour.

6. NBC’s Today show had a press conference with the School Friday morning, and various parts of the performance were demonstrated for taping. Col James Patton Totten was interviewed along with Chief Rider Riegler. Afterward, informal pieces—grooms feeding the horses, braiding the manes, brushing their coats, and fluffing the straw in the stalls—were also filmed. Today planned to air the story on Sunday, November 13th.

7. After this tour, Siglavy Mantua, the 26 year old, solo stallion, will be permanently retired.

8. The natural birch whips carried by each rider are actually individual saplings grown specifically for the School. They are cut at a certain age and height, tied together, and hung to dry. Thirty hours before use, they are soaked in water for flexibility.

9. The birch switch held upright during the solo segment represents the saber or sword, which harkens back to the military connection of European riding schools.

10. The natural birch whips carried by each rider are actually individual saplings grown specifically for the School. They are cut at a certain age and height, tied together, and hung to dry. Thirty hours before use, they are soaked in water for flexibility.

11. The narrator for the program Troy Tinker has a beautiful singing voice.

12. The riders’ cream-colored leather breeches do get dirty.

13. The School does not use or train the leg yield.

14. While the reins of the double bridle are held 3 and 1 for “steps and movements,” they are held 2 and 2 for the airs above the ground.

15. Most of the horses are fed a mixed grass hay and clean, whole oats.

16. The School has some taller horses now because people have become taller. (Riegler)

17. The $15-$20 program was a knock-out, a beautiful compilation of the history of the breed, School, and studfarm; review of WW II rescue with pictures; an interview of Vito Spadafino, a soldier who took care of the Lipizzans at Hostau, complete with snapshots taken at the time; short biographies of the riders (a much needed addition); training approaches by Krzisch and Riegler; more detailed explanations of the parts of the performance; even information about the composers of the music used. This was all enhanced with many recent detailed, color photos on most pages. The program was a “must-have” and well worth the price.

18. For any newcomers: the riding school in Vienna, Austria, is named “Spanish” because the horses originally imported in 1580 were from Spain, part of which the Habsburg dynasty controlled at the time.

19. Johannes Hamminger is the stable manager; he has his own separate brown uniform. The grooms were in uniform blue and gray work clothes.

20. The three chief riders are Johann Riegler, Klaus Krzisch, and Wolfgang Eder. The riders are Herwig Radneter, Andreas Hausberger, Jochen Rothleitner, Harald Bauer, Rudolf Roster, Christian Bachinger, and Herber Seiberl.

21. Herr Riegler does the public relations because his English is very fluent.

22. For the reception dinner Friday evening, the riders were in street uniform: navy blue blazer, light blue shirt, dark pants, black shoes, and a dress tie with little white Lipizzans.

23. The Austrian flag was draped on the outside of the arena’s two pillars.
24. Before the entrance of the riders, both national anthems were played, first the Austrian and then the United States.

25. For any competition dressage followers: the SRS riders stress emphatically the difference between German dressage and Austrian dressage. While they may speak the same language, they don’t use the same training method. (Riegler)

26. Furthermore, Chief Rider Krzisch says that there are “trainers” and there are “artists.” “An artist endeavors to present the movements in perfect unity with the horse and to make them convincing through effortlessness and composure.”

27. American producer Gary Lashinsky formulated a very accurate analogy: “The Spanish Riding School is considered the Harvard of the equestrian world...”

The minutes from the LFA’s and the respective organizations’ business meetings can be found elsewhere. Photos for this article and others of the Lipizzans performing were taken by Tom Hull, admitted to Friday’s press conference. Melody Hull, author of this article, has owned Lipizzans for nineteen years, is a former USLR treasurer, is presently one of LANA’s trustee/directors and representatives to the LFA.
Neapolitano IV LaSada II
(Neapolitano IV Rockrose x LaSada (Pluto Bona II))
“Sabian”
5 year old purebred Lipizzan stallion. Started under saddle and in long lines. Lunges well and works at liberty. Well-mannered. Ready to begin serious work.

2005 Foals

Kamara
(Neapolitano IV Rockrose x LaMara [Pluto Pia x Samara])

Neapolitano IV IV LaSada III
(Neapolitano IV Rockrose x LaSada (Pluto Bona II))

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When most think of Lipizzans they think of riding, especially dressage. But in many European countries and for some in North America, Lipizzans are considered the premier driving horses because of their intelligence, honesty, strength, endurance and elegant movement. In pleasure driving, in combined driving and in driven dressage, Lipizzan singles, pairs and fours-in-hand consistently place in the top ribbons in local, national and international competition, including world championships.

Among the successful whips, or drivers, of Lipizzans there are several who live in the USA. One is well-known to us: Dr. Leslie Kozsely, who trained in dressage with Colonel Podhajsky in Vienna when he was a young Hungarian cavalry officer, and who went on to found the American Four-in-Hand Training Center in New York.

Another whip, who is a new member of L.A.N.A., is Mr. Joe Kasza of Grass Valley, California. Joe Kasza, also a native of Hungary, came to the United States after the 1956 Hungarian Revolution. He grew up surrounded by horses in rural western Hungary, near the Austrian border. His interest in driving and breeding for driving has grown since his retirement from a career as a businessman. He is able to devote his efforts to traveling to Europe to import fine Hungarian Lipizzans, to training and enjoying pleasure driving, and to competing these horses in driving events. He delights in starting the training himself, working with the young stallions and geldings to teach them driving in the classical Hungarian tradition.

His latest import is a proven breeding stallion, Maestoso Csongor, a 15-3 hand purebred whose bloodlines represent the best of the old Simbata de Jos Romanian lines and the old Hungarian mare line, Magyar Kanca (Mezőhegyes, 1790). This past fall Csongor was bred through transported fresh cooled semen to his first American mare, a 19 year old imported Piber mare who settled on the first try. A foal is expected at Huszár Farm Lipizzans in August of 2006. Csongor will be standing at stud through the Woodland Stallion Station in northern California this coming spring. Individuals interested in adding this new blood to the North American gene pool may contact Joe Kasza directly.

(Top photo: Joe Kasza driving a pair of Lipizzan stallions to a Hungarian hunting vehicle; Middle: Joe Kasza driving a pair of Lipizzan stallions through a hazard in a Combined Driving Event in 2005; Bottom: Dr. Leslie M. Kozsely driving 7 Lipizzans (5 stallions and 2 geldings) to a Hungarian shooting trap in 1982 in Walnut Hill, New York.)
Castle Lipizzan Latest Imports
By Susan Castle

I am pleased to report that our four (4) fillies arrived the same weekend as the annual meeting. We were on pins and needles waiting for their arrival, and their flight was delayed, but they finally arrived into New York’s JFK Airport on Saturday, November 5th.

We traveled to New York to pick them up after their mandatory stay at the quarantine station. When I went to the quarantine office to complete paperwork, the agent at the counter said, “Oh more Lipizzans! We just had thirty (30) of them come through here.” Knowing she was probably speaking about the Spanish Riding School, I asked them how they liked the Lipizzan stallions. She replied, “Oh, they were very good and very low key until the head of the group arrived in his uniform, and then the stallions became very animated, and you knew that they knew it was time to get ready for their performance or journey to their performance. They looked really energized.”

Her associate chuckled and reported that our fillies had been very good, but that they were a little energized themselves since they’d been cooped up for about seven (7) days since the start of their journey. I privately wondered just how much excess energy they would have and how they would load. We told the agent we had a three-horse slant-rig and that we intended to make two trips, with two fillies per trip so they would have a little more space. She handed Keith and I our paperwork and we went outside to wait for our fillies. Their pick-up point was a large enclosed parking lot with about six (6) rigs in queue, ranging from a stock-horse trailer from Toronto, Canada to a large, commercial hauler.

We expected we would have quite a while and chatted with a mother and son from Toronto who told us their Fresian import would not get into their trailer, so they were forced to make arrangements with the commercial hauler waiting in queue. I worried a little more. After all, it was a somewhat chaotic scene for any horse, and it must be very strange for young fillies who had literally just come off the mountainside; their first view of America was JFK Airport and their second view would be a large concrete parking lot, with trailer rigs everywhere, people standing around in groups, dogs barking, etc. How would they react?

After a 15 minute-wait, the first of our four (4) imported fillies emerged into the sunlight: Bellissima and Capra. My fears were groundless. They walked out in classic Lipizzan fashion, slowly and elegantly, and they surveyed their surroundings calmly and serenely. We were amazed at their calm and confidence. They walked into our three-horse slant trailer like it was home. They tied and were excellent all the way home. We unloaded them, walked them to their recently-constructed “Austrian chalet” about 400 feet away from our main barn, and Keith left to pick up the other two. I gave them hay and water, played with them a bit and then left them to relax, the tops of their dutch doors open to the outside.

I went into the house, did a few chores, and about thirty (30) minutes later walked outside to pick up the mail. It was then I heard whinneys from the mares and stallions at the “main barn” and looked up to see one steel-grey head and one brown head looking down at me. The little Houdinis had got out of their new barn, and were having a great time visiting everyone and exploring our pastures -- after being cooped up for seven days, who could blame them!

As you might expect, they were definitely not interested in getting back into their barn for the time being. As they didn’t yet understand English, I tried the horse person’s usual bag of tricks... carrots, grain, apple pieces, but nothing worked. They wandered around me, sniffing and munching grass, but I could not catch them nor coax them into their new barn! I spent the time watching them and then put “clip locks” onto their stall door latches, so they wouldn’t be able to escape again. Without a doubt, they would be attracted by their friends, so I waited until Keith returned with Medina and Fabiola. As soon as he pulled into the drive area, my escapees came to visit. Keith grabbed Bellissima, I took her from him, and we led a parade of Austrian fillies up to their new chalet.

Three days later, I can report they are settled in nicely and they really are gorgeous. They are elegant and athletic, and very curious and intelligent. We are pleased to be able to introduce new lines to the United States once again.
546 Conversano Mima (499 Conversano Barbarea x 30 Mima / Siglavy Alda)

15.1h Grey Approved Lipizzan Stallion owned by Jane Boardman and standing stall at Ritter Dressage for 2006. Outstanding in every way. Bred in Fibel, Austria, and imported from the Spanish Riding School. Exuberant gaits and personality, siring foals equally as outstanding as himself. Paces on his excellent bone, superb conformation, uphill center, happy and friendly personality, and kind intelligence.

2006 Stud Fee: $1500.00 LFG; Fresh, cooled, shipped semen available.

Polo III Ambrosia (313 Polo III Belvedere x Ambrosia / Neapolitanus Oda)

14.2h Grey Approved Lipizzan Stallion owned by Flor Lusna-Byrne and standing at stall at Ritter Dressage for 2006. Brilliant gaits are correct in every way with enormous expression and activity. Unsurpassed intelligence, willingness, and trainability. Many awards and championship wins from Training through Third Level - and schooling Prix St. George for 2006. Foals are consistently just as impressive as he is - average foal score: 86%.

2006 Stud Fee: $1400.00 LFG; Frozen and fresh, cooled, shipped semen available.

Maestoso II Catrina (442 Maestoso II Primavera x Catrina / Siglavy Superba)

15h Grey Approved Lipizzan Stallion. Charismatic, classical-type stallion known for his classical dressage exhibitions throughout the Pacific Northwest. Extremely gentle and willing to please. Siring foals with excellent bone and substance, powerful movement, and wonderful temperaments.

2006 Stud Fee: $1100.00 LFG; A.I. only - fresh, cooled, shipped semen available.

Maestoso II Shana (Maestoso II Ambrosia x Shana / Siglavy Dalsa)

15h Grey Approved Lipizzan Stallion. Correct, harmonious conformation with great bone and substance. Three expressive, correct gaits, particularly his beautiful uphill center. Excellent temperament, kind disposition, and friendly personality. His pedigree, through his dam's side, makes him uniquely advantageous to breeders who are looking to diversify their genetics without compromising the classical, breed standard.

2006 Stud Fee: $1100.00 LFG; A.I. only - fresh, cooled, shipped semen available.
NEW ARRIVALS AT TEMPEL LIPIZZANS!

The Tempel Lipizzans’ family is growing rapidly as the New Year approaches. On November 30, the newest member of the Tempel Lipizzans, yearling Pluto Distinta, arrived from Piber. This is the first time in many years that new bloodstock has been imported to the farm. He will join the rest of the young herd as soon as he has cleared a short quarantine at the Tempel Farms Annex.

2006 will also be an exciting year for the farm as nine mares are currently in foal. Several of these mares are in foal to the award winning sire, Favory VII Andorella, who captured the All-Breed Award for Third Level with an average score of 68.556 percent. He was also the 15th highest scored horse of any breed at Third Level, earning a prestigious Horse of the Year certificate through USDF. He is ridden by Sarah Hippenstiell. His first two offspring were born this past season, one filly and one colt. Another award-winning Lipizzan in competition this year was Conversano II Bellanna who earned the All-Breed Award at Grand Prix and won the USDF Region 2 Championship at Grand Prix as well. He is ridden by Linda Leffingwell. Both pairs were coached by the Tempel Lipizzans’ head trainer, Jochen Hippenstiel. Spectators who attend the 2006 Tempel Lipizzan performances can look forward to watching some of the new youngsters frolicking in the arena during the Mares and Foals segment of the performances. The Tempel Lipizzan performances will open this year on June 21 and run every Wednesday and Sunday through August 30. For more information, contact Courtney Tripp at 847-244-5330 or tfcourtney@aol.com.
Lipizzan Association of North America
Board Minutes
November 5, 2005 - Columbus, Ohio

The first order of business was the Treasurer’s Report. As of Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2005, the amount in the checking account was $5,165.33; as of October 31, 2005, the checking account balance is over $13,294, but Melody Hull noted that we haven’t paid for anything relating to the annual meeting. A question from the floor asked how many members, we responded over 200.

Sandy Heaberlin gave the report on the newsletters and co-op ads. Last year’s purchase of the new computer program, which designs the newsletter and the co-op ads so that the organization no longer is required to pay set up and design charges, saves the organization quite a bit of money as the work is now done in-house. Gross advertising revenue for 2004/2005 year was $1,719.30 for the newsletter and $1,220.00 for co-op ads. Advertising revenues from Haute Ecole paid for the printing of the magazine, and some of the postage. The last issue of the newsletter was done in color and the positive response generated from the last newsletter ensures that we will continue to print in color. Its going to cost a little bit more to print in color and we are going to add a second rate structure for color ads, but again, the organization will not make money on our advertising from our members.

Co-op advertising in some of the magazines has become cost prohibitive. Dressage Today or EQUUS insertion charges for a full page color ad is $2,705 and black and white runs $1,685 (2004 Display Section Rate figures). Lesser size ads are marginally more affordable ($2,055 for color and $1,280 for black and white for 2/3 size ads) but we cannot put as many farms on a smaller page and again run into the problem of a 9 line listing running between $270 to $170 per farm. We successfully ran several co-op ads in Horse of Kings which was considerably more affordable but the magazine ran into production issues due to a relocation across the country and the 2005 Florida hurricane season.

Tom Hull began his registrar’s report by announcing to the members that it was time for another studbook. The new studbook will be issued in disk format with searchable pdf files. Prior studbooks were printed in hardback copy which tied up a considerable amount of money in printing and binding costs. The Board agreed that the cost of the new studbook will be $39.95 for LANA members and $49.95 to the general public. The initial run of CDs were printed in hardback copy which tied up a considerable amount of money in printing and binding costs. The Board agreed to raise to $15 in the 2006/2007 calendar year as it is the last year for the LFA breed evaluation. The positive response generated from the last newsletter ensured that we will continue to print in color. Its going to cost a little bit more to print in color and we are going to add a second rate structure for color ads, but again, the organization will not make money on our advertising from our members.

Delphi Toth gave the merchandise report. Initially money from the treasury seeded the merchandise account. We are now at the point where what we get in is paying for the purchase of new merchandise. The merchandise account is has a balance of around $2,000. Delphi explained that we used to carry many of the things from the Lipizzan Museum gift shop but the Euro/Dollar exchange rate has severely limited any recent purchases because you can’t sell a VHS or DVD for $80. We are trying to add some more art work, much like the etched art, sold at auction, more books, and trying to get more Lipizzan special related items. Anyone with ideas or suggestions of artists should contact Delphi directly.

Sandy Heaberlin gave the co-op advertising and promotion summary. We’ve done co-op ads for Horse of Kings for the last four issues and last year participated in Equine Affaire in both Columbus and Massachusetts. The problem with Equine Affair is that the organization doesn’t make money on it. While the merchandise sold does offset the cost of the booth, once the merchandise is sold, you still need to then retap the main treasury to repurchase merchandise. There is not enough profit margin in merchandise to both pay for the booth and restock merchandise. Susan Castle and Keith Duly have done Massachusetts Equine Affaire for several years, and LANA has paid for the booth and borne the cost of shipping brochures and merchandise. The Directors opted not to do the 2005 Massachusetts expo this year because it is the weekend following the annual meeting. The Columbus, Ohio Equine Affaire is usually handled by Tom and Melody Hull and Sandy Heaberlin. All Equine Affaire events – Massachusetts, Ohio and California will be put on hold for 2006 so that the directors and members can put their efforts into a successful LFA breed evaluation to be held in August.

LANA will continue providing as many 4-color brochures to any member who requests them for local breed promotions and events. However, we haven’t got to the point where we can ship merchandise to local events because any profit margin is negated by shipping, damage and loss.

Melody Hull advised that we have not been selling American Lipizzan through Barnes & Noble rather than eBay for the past six months.

LANA has set up a PayPal account to take care of full dues. The Friends membership has been very successful in the past two years and is for non-horse owners, kids, retirees who want to receive a newsletter. Because of production and postal increases, the Board agreed to raise to $15 in the 2006/2007 cal-
John Gliege gave the LIF report. The International Lipizzan Federation met in June at Piber, Austria where representatives enjoyed a gala celebration hosted by the Austrian National Studfarm. Artjan Hop of Holland is now the Secretary General of the organization. The United States representatives listened to reports from various countries about their problems. Tim Foley joined the United States contingency this year after the entertaining and educational opportunity. Because of the change in their administration, a lot of the LIF activities were deferred for a year as the LIF is trying to get back on course. The highlight of the meeting was the evening gala production at Piber which had horse exhibitions from the major European studfarms. It was Johns’ opinion that future LIF activities will be held so that more people can be brought together to revitalize and add new blood to the organization.

There being no further business, the floor was opened for questions, comments and suggestions:

Marge Tautkus from Heartland Lipizzans told the members about her not for profit therapeutic riding and driving center for children and adults with disabilities. She is looking for a donation of a sound, sane retired horse. The program now runs only on Saturdays and is looking toward purchasing other property. The work is currently done strictly by volunteers and the organizations’ long term plan is to offer day camping for children who have life threatening disorders. Since the last article in the LANA newsletter, Marge advised the organizations suffered growing pains, you know board members come and go, and the organization is in the process of expanding our advertising.

Carole Gauger asked if LANA was aware that the Lipizzan horse is the only breed not represented through the U.S. Equestrian Federation and the American Horse Show Community. It was her opinion that the breed needs to be recognized so that the breeders will have a venue for Lipizzan horses to have classes all over the United States. There was discussion about the number of horses needed at recognized shows and the number of Lipizzans horses registered each year. Rebecca Dabbs agreed to forward the USEF requirements to Sandy Heaberlin who would forward them to the Board for consideration. John Gliege will head up the new USEF committee. Committee members are Chris Bell - windmnt@world.net.att.net; Lisa Simmons - lkkellyinc.com; Rebecca Dabbs - jabbs@sutx.rr.com; Andrea Gagliano - luvmylippy@yahoo.com; and Vicki Sherridan - icepndfm@aol.com. Further discussion was tabled so that USEF matter could be brought up at the LFA meeting on Sunday.

Sandy gave the report on the panel evaluation set for August 2006. Back in April 2005, the original thought was to have a national breed evaluation similar to what is done in Austria where the panel consists of a head rider, the director and the stud manager. A 3-member panel was selected to eliminate the premise of a single individual’s opinion and location/farm bias. The idea was broached to Dr. Werner Pohl in April 2005 who accepted the project with the original panel consisting of Dr. Werner Pohl, SRS Chief Rider Johann Riegler and a third person to be decided. The European judging panel selected the dates based on their availability and indicated that because of other commitments, they would be willing to evaluate horses brought to one location. By summer, several host sites were evaluated and discarded. The Kentucky Horse Park could not accommodate the dates selected by the panel and the facility was expensive. Eden Park Equestrian Center in Sunbury, Ohio was ultimately selected and a contract signed. Eden Park is a gorgeous facility where the stallions from the Spanish Riding School stayed following their quarantine. It has huge indoor and outdoor facilities, and stabling that can easily accommodate a great number of horses. In August, LANA invited ALBA and USLR to join in the evaluation and both organizations accepted. The initial thought was to tell the respective memberships about the panel evaluation at the annual meeting but the political developments in September 2005 in Austria altered the original plan and now leaves details to be ironed out. Once the panel is reconstituted, we also hope to include the first apprentice judging program, initially for 5 or 6 people, who can be trained and ultimately recognized as judges. If the panel evaluation approach proves successful, the organizations may jointly set up future panel evaluations at different locations around the country in future years.

As Laura Weiner was not at the meeting, Melody Hull brought the members up to date on the California horse rescue. In the summer of 2005, Debbie Johnson, a former LANA and USLR member, died unexpectedly. Debbie owned a number of Lipizzans which were left in limbo and in dire physical straits. Laura Weiner was instrumental in organizing people rescue these horses, seeing that they got proper veterinary assistance and placed in supportive homes and she was asking for donations. LANA donated money for expenses. A member from the floor advised that they have found a lot people who took the horses. The stallion who had leg problems has been taken care of, young horses are being handled and homes found for the horses. Over $7,000 was raised.

A discussion of support for domestic Lipizzan owners and horses ensued. The United States Lipizzan community has in the past frequently raised funds which were directed to Europe when they put a call out for money and support. We were fortunate that the hurricanes in Florida and Louisiana didn’t cause more damage to the farms and members than they did. That is not to say the United States Lipizzan community is going to forsake its European brothers, but the occasion may arise where we need to take care of some of our own at home.

Melody Hull reported on Louis and Lana Mayer from Slidell, Louisiana who have been involved with Lipizzans since the middle 1970s. The last newsletter reported on their survival from Hurricane Katrina. While Lana and Louis survived the hurricane, they essentially lost not only all of their possessions but their house as well. The LANA registry is accepting contributions which will be sent directly to Lana.
For Sale

PLUTO II DIXANA, 20 years, Pluto Bona II x Dixana, lease only to breeding farm

MARINA, 15 year old mare (Pluto Bona II x Martina) excellent producer, lease only.

CONVERSANO MARINA, 2004 colt by Imported Spanish Riding School stallion (Conversano Barbarina x Marina [Pluto Bona II]). Very elegant.

CONVERSANO MARINA II, 2005 colt, same breeding as above. Magnificent prospect for breeding stallion, and/or upper-level dressage horse; very correct & excellent gaits.

PLUTO BELA, 2003 colt by (Pluto II Dixana x Bela [Neapolitano Rexana]).

PLUTO ROMA, 2004 colt by (Pluto II Dixana x Roma [Imported Piber mare]). Beautiful black, with big expressive eyes. Excellent mover.

Contact Carole Gauger, 319-362-1006 or LipizzanMI@yahoo.com

Bela (1995 mare) (pictured at 2) (Neapolitano IV Rexana x Bonamora [Pluto Bona])

Belamilana (1984 mare) (pictured at 13) (Siglavy III Roxana x Belamira [Pluto III Platana])

Marina (1990 mare) (Pluto Bona II x Martina) (Conversano Barbarina x Marina [Pluto Bona II])

Conversano Marina II) (pictured at 2 mos.) (Conversano Barbarina x Marina [Pluto Bona II])
**Favory VII Andorella**

Highest Scoring Lipizzan -
USDF All-Breed Award for Third Level 68.556%

1998 Stallion by Favory V Jacinda out of Andorella -
Maestoso III Belorna, 15.2 hands
2005 Region 2 Reserve Champion Third Level
Qualified for 2004 FEI 6 year-old National Championships
Stud fee $1,200

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**Favory VI Bellanna**

1998 Stallion by Favory VI Brenna out of Bellanna -
Siglavy III Roxana, 15.3 hands
Qualified for 2004 FEI 6 year-old National Championships
2004 Dressage at Devon: Champion Lipizzan, Second in FEI 6 year-old class with 7.3
Stud fee $1,000

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**Siglavy VI Garbo**

1997 Bay Stallion by Siglavy V Marcia out of Garbo-Neapolitano IV Fantasca, 15.2 hands
Stud fee $1,000

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**Neapolitano V Anita**

1997 Stallion by Neapolitano V Primrose out of Anita - Conversano II Andora, 14.3 hands
Second Level in 2004 with scores in the high 70’s
Stud fee $1,000
and Louis to help them rebuild their lives.

Location sites for the 2006 annual meeting were discussed. Las Vegas and the northwest were suggested and it was the consensus at the meeting that the members would like another joint meeting. The Board agreed to see what locations were discussed at the LFA meeting on Sunday.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned so that Dr. Werner Pohl could make his presentation.

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**lanA Registered** – pedigrees of all horses registered with LANA.

**North American Research** – Pedigrees of all known horses born on or imported to North America, which can be proven 5 generations. This is used for research on other horses.

**LANA Partbred** – pedigrees of all partbred horses registered with LANA.

**LANA Get of Sire** – Offspring of all known stallions in North America.

**LANA Produce of Dam** – Offspring of all known mares in North America.

**AKA List** – since many horses originally had numbers preceding their names and farms in Europe had a habit of changing names of horses as they changed farms, we have an “Also Known As List”

**DNA Test** - results of all DNA tests we have received.

COST: $39.95 (LANA members); $49.95 (non-members) PLUS $5.00 SH

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Lipizzan Federation of America
November 6, 2005 - Columbus, OH

Present: LANA: Tom Hull, Melody Hull, Sandy Heaberlin, John Gliege; ALBA: Ingun Littorin and Leonard and June Boardman; USLR: Cele Noble and Carol Gauger

For the first time since inception, the LANA, ALBA, and USLR members attended the annual meeting of the LFA representatives. John Gliege acted as Moderator and spoke to the group at large by explaining to the viewing members that the Lipizzan Federation of America is a corporation of corporations. The LFA was formed to be the umbrella organization over LANA, USLR and ALBA to effectively constitute a single voice on the international scene and to also work toward joint cooperative endeavors between the three organizations.

The LFA representatives introduced themselves and it was explained that each organization, regardless of number of representatives at the table had one vote. In addition, the members were advised that the people sitting at the front table had full rights to speak for their organizations and make decisions. There would be no going back to individual organizations after the meeting to rehash the meeting. John Gliege explained that the decision making structure of the LFA was by consensus because when we began, there were a lot of issues brought before the representatives that were controversial to begin with and we decided that we needed to hash them out among ourselves and come up with a consensus decision. It was a process that has proven very productive thus far.

The first order of business was to approve the last set of annual meeting minutes. Upon motion made by Sandy and seconded by Melody, the minutes were unanimously approved.

A set of the draft bylaws were circulated. Sandy Heaberlin agreed to circulate a second set through email. Cele, Carole, Tim and Nancy would be the contact people for USLR for the 2006 year. Each group was to review the bylaws and get back to John Gliege with comments and changes by January 31, 2006.

In 2005, a microchipping committee consisting of June Boardman, Sandy Heaberlin and Muffin Smith was established to review the different identification programs. (It was explained to the floor that microchipping was not going to be an option, all organizations would simultaneously request that members microchip every horse they owned once the program was implemented) Recently, the committee learned that the USDA was planning to implement a National American Identification System which will enable the USDA and state agencies to track back the movements within the last 48 hours of any diseased or exposed animal. The new program is intended to ensure rapid disease containment and maximum protection of American animals as well as identification. Because the government has not yet set the criteria for a national microchipping system, the group decided to put the project on hold so that the system ultimately selected would meet government criteria.

Tom Hull brought the representatives up to date on registration matters. The USLR and LANA have exchanged data. He advised he was able to import USLR data and since he has heard nothing back from USLR, assumes that they also had no problems importing LANA data. The only thing that had not been exchanged was the DNA information because the hard copies of the LANA DNA information had been destroyed during Hurricane Katrina. Since then the University of Kentucky has provided an electronic copy of the LANA DNA data base which has now been loaded into the LANA data base as well as the copies of the LANA studbook which is available on disk. He proposed that the USLR and LANA exchange DNA information if the University of Davis, California can provide the same. LANA and USLR are exchanging data about every three months, March 31st, June 30th, and so on.

Ingun asked a resolution concerning the problem of duplicate names. Tom replied that nothing has been worked out yet. The horses are assigned a unique ID number in the LANA data base so duplication is a problem insofar as the LANA records are concerned for research purposes. Tom indicated that he thought there was only a small number of horses that are affected with duplicate names and proposed that he and Melinda work out a policy and get back to the group by January 31st. There was a short discussion of Roman and Arabic numbers as well as problems that arise when breeding a mare to two different stallions of the same lineage who produces colts. These items will be addressed if possible but because of the diversity of breeding stock in the United States, it may not be possible to come up with a naming criteria that will indicate, by name alone, which stallion sired an offspring without someone actually looking at a pedigree and the process becoming too complicated.

The next issued discussed was a LFA logo. Sandy advised that over 38 logos had been circulated to each group since the last meeting. The three logos in front of the representatives are the ones each group particularly liked but no consensus was reached. The purpose of a logo would be one that would be simple enough to reproduce on saddle pads, awards, ribbons or clothes. The first logo was too complex and not easily produced. The L with the horse, while very attractive on paper, doesn’t reproduce well on saddle pads; it has too many angles and wiggles all over the place. LANA’s preference was the Crown L.

A discussion ensued around the LANA copyright trademark Crown L logo with the advice that LANA had the right to assign it to the LFA should it be selected. The group agreed that it would take a consensus of the LFA for the logo to be used in merchandise production as it is something that can make money for the organizations. Individual members of each group could use the logo in advertising or on farm jackets but would be denied permission to mass produce the logo on items for resale. John indicated that a simple, straight forward royalty agreement would be used for any manufacturer who would utilize the logo for mass production for items like saddle pads and coolers.

The logo was opened briefly for discussion from the floor. It was pointed out that while some of the people in the room would identify the Crown L as belong to LANA, the outside public, the Crown L will represent Lipizzan, which is what it was designed for in the first place. The LANA representatives indicated that should the Crown L be selected as the logo for the LFA, it would assign it to be used to the LFA. It was the consensus of the group to accept the Crown L as the LFA logo. Sandy agreed to forward a copy of the Crown L logo to Kerry Scott for the Devon cooler.

John and Ingue provided the group with an update on the LIF meeting. This LIF is about 20 years old and is comprised of Lipiz-
LIP in the middle.

governments over the initial horses as well as their offspring, with the
a lot of negotiations over there between the Serbian and the Croatian
issues as a result of the war in Y ugoslavia where the Croatian horses
pedigrees. At the moment, the LIF is working with Serbia who has ap
cause 60% of their horses did not meet the LIF standards for their
performance scores, is strictly voluntary.

places of birth. Any other information, including evaluation or perfor
mation. Ingun does not believe that the database, at least at first, will
be open to the general public. Many differences need to be worked out
including pedigree inconsistencies, many of which originate from old
handwritten pedigrees. The breed standard has been set as have the
LIF statutes. The LIF is working on establishing some type of perfor
mance testing although that is not the nature of the breed. This issue
has been raised in the United States as well. In Europe, the Corperni
cus research project was completed a few years ago. The Corpernicus
Project involved EU funding and was a very in-depth DNA study on
the Lipizzan breed. As a result, the Lipizzan breed is probably one of
the most studied and while there is a lot of research paper out there
from the various five universities involved -- Budapest, Vienna, Bern,
Libianca and another one -- the LIF has yet to publish the results of
the study.

Recently, it has come to the LIF attention that Europe may be los
some of their bloodlines and they may have to come to the United
States which now has the largest a population of Lipizzans horses in
the world. This population is something that the LIF is going to have
to start paying attention to. There is also an interest from the LIF of
having a meeting here in the United States at some time, but we will
need a hub where it is cheap for the European representatives to fly
into. A meeting of this magnitude will take a lot of organization and
volunteer involvement.

The group decided that it would broach the topic of having a future
LIF meeting held in the United States the next time the LIF meets in
Europe. It is now a requirement by the LIF that any country applying
for admission must provide a studbook, which must be approved by
the General Secretary, and it was the United States that turned in one
of the first studbooks. Future volumes will be given to the new Gen
eral Secretary of the LIF, Artjan Hop from Holland. John and Ingun
explained to the members that the LIF requires each member country
to provide a studbook consisting of pedigrees, family lines, birthdates,
places of birth. Any other information, including evaluation or perfor
mance scores, is strictly voluntary.

Ingun also reported that certain countries have had difficulties be
cause 60% of their horses did not meet the LIF standards for their
pedigrees. At the moment, the LIF is working with Serbia who has ap
plied to become a member. Serbian private breeders have unresolved
issues as a result of the war in Yugoslavia where the Croatian horses
were taken over there. They’ve been breeding in Serbia, and there is
a lot of negotiations over there between the Serbian and the Croatian
governments over the initial horses as well as their offspring, with the
LIF in the middle.

June and Leonard reported on the second international group, the
International Lipizzan Union which is a membership, rather than or
organization based entity (This sentence may be confusing. Are you
stating that it is a volunteer membership as opposed to a registry/
database entity where you must qualify to join?). For those mem
bers unfamiliar with ILU, June explained that it is for those private
breeders who are dedicated to the maintaining and breeding of the
classical type of Lipizzan horse. The ILU met last year and they had
just received an inquiry form Una Harley from Great Britain about
having a meeting in London again in February but dates have not yet
been confirmed.

Ingun advised that the United States is held up to the Europeans
as an example of cooperation since the LFA represents the Lipizzan
community in North America. Many of the European countries have
both state and one or more private breeding organizations for each
country; these various groups do not get along. The Europeans are
very impressed that the United States has a democratic group willing
to work together.

On behalf of Tim Foley, Cele asked whether (1) the LFA would
be interested in getting the Lipizzan group registered with the USEF,
(2) is there any interest in publishing a joint newsletter, (3) the status
of the evaluations for August, and (4) the possibility of another joint
meeting.

Sandy advised that at the LANA annual meeting, Rebecca Dabbs
volunteered to pass on the information she had gathered on the USEF
membership criteria to LANA. The LANA board had been asked by
its members to ascertain the USEF membership criteria and see if the
Lipizzan horse could be recognized by the USEF. Once information
arrives, it can be passed on to the LFA groups as well. It had been
mentioned at the annual meeting that there might be a problem with
the number of Lipizzan horses born each year and the number of
shows or classes required each year. If this is the case, perhaps the
LFA would be interested in seeing if there is a problem and investi
gate a way to circumvent these issues. The group agreed to look into
USEF membership criteria.

Sandy gave the report on the panel evaluation set for August 2006.
Back in April 2005, the original thought was to have a national breed
evaluation similar to what is done in Austria where the panel consists
of a head rider, the director and the stud manager. A 3-member panel
was selected to eliminate the premise of a single individual’s opinion
and location/farm bias. The idea was broached to Dr. Werner Pohl
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about the panel evaluation at the annual meeting but the political de-
developments in September 2005 in Austria altered the original plan and now leaves details to be ironed out. Once the panel is reconstituted, we also hope to include the first apprentice judging program, initially for 5 or 6 people, who can be trained and ultimately recognized as judges. If the panel evaluation approach proves successful, the organizations may jointly set up future panel evaluations at different locations around the country in future years.

The question was raised about a resolution of scoring issue for geldings at evaluations. June pointed out that according to the proper scoring procedures, a gelding’s total scores should be divided not by 100% but by 90% to get a fair median score.

The next topic of discussion was the meeting site for 2006. Devonwood in the Portland area, Las Vegas and Chicago locations were discussed. The Chicago site would be held in abeyance for a potential future LIF meeting. Sandy will talk with Tempel Farms at a later date to see if they would be interested in hosting such an event. Also the timing was a concern as LANA’s year end is in June and the USLR’s year end is in October. Kerry Scott broached the timing issue of the meeting by advising that he would contact the USLR board after the meeting to see if a change of bylaws can be implemented to allow the annual meeting to be held at a time different than the fall. Carol pointed out that the original purpose of holding the USLR meeting in November was to give the members who earned USDF awards recognition and trophies. As the LFA is now hosting the awards, there are no more individual organizational awards so it was felt that this stumbling block could be resolved by USLR. By consensus, the group agreed that the next meeting would again be joint, open to the members who attended their respective annual meetings and be held at whatever date and site chosen by LANA/USLR and ALBA.

The possibility of joint publications was discussed. Ingun pointed out that when LFA, was started, it was agreed to take one step at a time. The LFA has worked hard on getting the registries together and has made very good process which is not yet complete. For the LFA to be successful, there must be a limit on the number of projects undertaken each year. Although this meeting had an audience, the LFA usually has met in small groups, and past and current meetings have been very positive with projects completed each year. It was a concern that if too many things were undertaken, the efficiency and the progress would be reduced. Several projects for 2006 are going to take quite a bit of work, including resolution of registration issues, the limited expansion into merchandising, and the 2006 evaluation. It was the consensus of the group that this issue be tabled as a long-term goal.

Someone from the floor suggested an LFA directory and website with a directory. The group pointed out that the LFA has no individual members. It does presently have 3 organizations. The group agreed that the idea had merit, but the idea would be also tabled as a future project.

Again the query from the floor wanted to know how specifically again the LFA functioned and why wasn’t there a five year plan to merge all organizations. First Mel explained that they should consider the LFA as a congress, that you take your issues to your legislatures and the legislatures decide and vote. Also, Ingun explained that 15 years ago, a group of people from each organization met for the first time and it was named the 2020 organization – primarily in the hope that by 2020 we would be one organization. Meetings occurred with more or less success before the three groups decided once again to send representatives to Las Vegas. John and Leonard explained that Al Saiz came up with the idea from the Native American society of reaching decisions through consensus. This has worked very well for the LFA where each organization has one vote. Whether it was the fact that a consensus within each organization had to be reached before any “baby step” could be taken or the threat of all of us being locked in a room together made the system work, it does and the process is so easy where we don’t have a lot of disagreement any more. Melody remarked that one of the reasons that we have had progress is that in the past 15 years, it has been pretty much the same group of people who have persevered. Those individuals have gotten to know each other as friends rather than some name across the country who owns horses and that a trusting relationship has been established, not that there was one at the very first meeting.

The biggest stumbling block from the very beginning was registry issues. Tremendous progress has been made, but a deadline for something that is a really big issue is not the answer. The LFA is an umbrella organization, not a membership organization. The work pool is limited, especially with all the regional clubs and national organizations. John pointed out that the initial and ultimate goal was to find the similarities among the organizations and work through the differences to establish one group. We have discovered that we have a great many more similarities in 2005 than we did in 1992. Once the differences have been worked out, the focus will shift to several different areas: a registry, a breeders group and then a more ore less general membership group that will involve itself in the advertisement, in the show ring, in the tracking of the show horses, and breed promotion. We eventually hope to bring these three categories under one organization name and split those duties then under one organization name. That’s where we are going. But first we have to get all the segments from each group into one ball, under one organization and then we will split out the functions.

So yes, the LFA has a plan which includes that all of the registrations are appropriate to the international standards that we signed up to participate in. This is a slow process because occasionally Tom and Melinda have to work through the records on a horse-by-horse basis to make sure that the records are not only right for us but correct for international standards. Tom Hull pointed out that one of the biggest problems was record exclusivity. He said he looked at the pedigrees as data and factual information and couldn’t figure out what the secret was. With the publication of studbooks and distribution of information, one of the biggest stumbling blocks was removed. Our goal is to get rid of the differences on those three levels so we are under one entity so that all of our member resources are combined in one location and then we can split out the three activities.

Great strides have been made since the first meeting in Las Vegas. The LIF wanted only one organization to represent the North American Lipizzan community. This was the very first thing accomplished by the LFA. When the USDF wanted one organization to represent the Lipizzan breed, the first thing we did to avoid our respective members fighting over which organization they were going to align with was to have the LFA represent the Lipizzan community – and the criteria for all of our members was that the horse has to be registered – with one of the organizations – and the
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For more information, contact Joe Kasza of Grass Valley, California
(530) 268-3138
owner had to be a member, again with one of the organizations. A question arose from the floor that they believed LANA and USLR could not merge their records. Sandy pointed out that this was a wrong preconception and assumption. This issue had been taken care of at the very first meeting in Las Vegas and there was absolutely no reason why any merging of data could not take place and in fact it already had taken place. The LFA will be working with some heavy issues for 2006 and that includes fixing some dissimilarities and the antiquated attitude of some of our respective members; however, we feel that a single entity is the way to the future.

Several members from the floor expressed appreciation for the work performed by the LFA representatives and said it had been an education to see how things evolved and the progress accomplished. The LFA advised the floor that they understood the fact that the members are impatient but that by working through the registrations, exchanging data, sharing information, we continue to grow, move forward and evolve.

Meeting was adjourned.

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CLASSIFIEDS

**TRIBELLA.** 2003 Grey Lipizzan Filly. Maestoso Canada -x- Tribecca (Pluto II Balmora IV -x- Triesta). Classical type filly. Lovely movement and beautiful head and neck. $9,000.00. Ritter Dressage. email: lipizzans@classicaldressage.com or call (360) 631-1101.

**ODETTA.** 1993 Grey Lipizzan Mare. Pluto III Belvedera -x- 374 Odessa. Spectacular mare with gorgeous movement. Dam of 6 outstanding foals. Also broke to ride and in dressage training. Ride, breed, or both! Currently open for 2006. $17,000.00. Ritter Dressage. email: lipizzans@classicaldressage.com or call (360) 631-1101.

**CARMELLA.** 2000 Grey Lipizzan Mare. Siglavy Sagana II -x- Cierra. Beautiful with good gaits for dressage. In dressage training. Sire was a successful cross-country horse, and she shows jumping talent, too. Very sweet and personable - likes to cuddle. $15,000.00. Ritter Dressage. email: lipizzans@classicaldressage.com or call (360) 631-1101.

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Missing some past issues of HAUTE ECOLE? Originally printed issues available for 1999-2005. Xerox copies of issues prior to 1999 also available. Cost $1 per issue. Make checks payable to LANA, and send request to: Sandy Heaberlin 224 Isaac Tharp St., Pataskala, OH 43062
Rare Breed & Dressage Horse Expo
a Resounding Success

By Rachel Wehrheim

Fun, education, and entertainment were the goals that the Iowa Lipizzan Association, Inc. established prior to the 2005 Rare Breed & Dressage Horse Expo that was on October 22nd and 23rd at the Iowa Equestrian Center (Kirkwood Community College) in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. This year’s event met these goals with an outstanding response from the general public and horse community.

Every seat was filled for the three performances and the educational seminars and dressage clinic also were well attended. For those who had attended the Rare Breed & Dressage Horse Expo in prior years, many thought this year’s event was the best one to date. A number of spectators commented that the expo performances were better than what they had seen at the Kentucky Horse Park.

The performances were very diverse and entertaining. From the daredevil trick riders to the precision of the Kirkwood Drill Team to the beauty of the majestic Friesians, each act appealed to the audience in a different way. Perhaps the most unique performance was given by the Waterloo Mounted Police where they demonstrated some of the tactics used to desensitize their horses. The most unique and rarest horse breed represented was the American Cream Draft Horse. The breed originated in Story County, Iowa and is the only native Iowan breed. Currently, there are only 300 American Cream Draft Horses in the entire United States.

Vitor Silva was the featured dressage clinician. Vitor, a native of Portugal, is devoted to the art of classical dressage. He established Sons of the Wind School of Equestrian Arts in Merrimac, Massachusetts in order to share his knowledge and skill with students of all levels.

Vitor worked with every rider on her position in order to help her achieve harmony with her horse. A rider that is not in balance or does not have an independent seat cannot be effective in her communication with the horse. The audience members were able to see a transformation with each horse and rider from the beginning to the end of each lesson. It was a rewarding clinic for everyone.

Special thanks to goes to the exhibitors, sponsors, clinicians, volunteers, and spectators. We could not create these special memories without you. To view photos of this year’s event please visit our website at www.geocities.com/ialipizzan/expo05.html.

Gene and Rachel Wehrheim take a moment with their Lipizzan stallion, Neapolitano Juwela. (photo by Nancy Wehrheim)
QUALITY LIPIZZANS FOR SALE

TRYPHENA
2003 Lipizzan Mare
(Favory Ilka I x Triesta)
Very sweet, very smart, loves people, started on the lunge, will make a great mare for any discipline.
$8,000.00

PHILENA
2005 Lipizzan Filly
(Neopolitano Slatana II x Thistla)
Gorgeous filly, very sweet, loves attention. Beautiful movement. $10,000.00

Two Lipizzan broodmares free to an approved home. For more information, please contact us for additional information.
Debbie and Mike Palmisano
410-875-4075/ e-mail: dpeli1856@aol.com