The Forgotten Spanish Riding School:  
The Royal Hungarian Spanish Riding School of Budapest

A Special Lipizzan at Fiesta Texas 2007
Books, Blogs & Research
Equine Therapy
Tulipan and Incitato Lines
There once was a Spanish Riding School in the city known as the Queen of the Danube, Budapest, capital city of Hungary. Podhajsky called the Budapest School and its Lipizzans the “sister school” of the Vienna Spanish Riding School.

When I was a child in Holland, my great-uncle Géza told me wonderful stories. The most wonderful story of all was that he had been the last Commander of the Royal Hungarian Spanish Riding School in Budapest, from 1932 until 1945. He was a Huszár of the Royal Hungarian Cavalry. The most intriguing part for me was that he was a real Knight, a Hungarian Vitéz. He must have been the last Hungarian Knight to arrive by airplane in the lowlands called the Netherlands. His name was Lieutenant Colonel Vitész Géza Hazslinszky-Krull von Hazslin. I thought that to have a great-uncle from Hungary was wonderful because I often dreamed about the endless Hungarian Puszta, the Hortobágy, the vast great plains where Hungarian cowboys (the csikós) rode with herds of horses. As a child I fantasized about living in such a wild world of horses and cowboys.

Through inheritance of Uncle Géza’s belongings, including many documents and photographs, I have gained much insight and information about that “forgotten” Spanish Riding School and about Hungarian history and culture which are steeped in horses and the traditions of Huszárs, csikós, Lipizzans, carriage driving and high level dressage artistry.

I remember that Uncle Géza always had with him a neat leather folder full of pictures of horses and horse-events. They were old, almost faded, black and white pictures of horses of the past, of his beloved 22 Lipizzaners of his Spanish Riding School. They were also pictures of his teachers and friends and his family, pictures of a long gone era before World War II. One picture he took out of his leather folder to show me was a saddle without a girth,
consisting of a simple pad with a set of golden stirrups. He explained that the use of stirrups was spread into Western Civilization by the ancestors of the Hungarians in the 6th century. The Magyar and Avar riders’ use of stirrups greatly increased the riders’ ability to stay in the saddle and control the mount, increasing the animal’s usefulness in communication, transportation and warfare. Historians have long considered the invention of stirrups as equivalent in importance to the invention of the wheel and the printing press, and as one of the basic tools used to create and spread modern civilization.

One day, as my lesson ended, my uncle detached the girth from my saddle. My eyebrows frowned as I thought, “What is this going to be now?” He asked politely but directly for a leg up. Then he gently took up the reins of the double bridle and without any outward visible sign, they walked away. Collected walk, a few steps of piaffe, walk on long reins — all done on a plain English saddle without a girth! It is like a film I have always in my head. I will never forget that moment --- canter right, change of lead, and he ended with a pirouette to the right and a pirouette to the left on the centerline --- all without a girth! As we had our small drink after riding and, as usual, discussed the happenings of the lesson, I asked him how he could ride without a girth and I asked where he learned that? He lit one of his small favorite cigars and said, “We call that Riding á la Patrac.” It is a Hungarian tradition. The Hungarian csikós’ simple girthless saddle, called a Patrac, is a felt or leather pad with rings to hold the stirrup leathers. The csikós gallop over the ground at full speed, cutting in and out among the herd. Further, they mount from the ground by holding the pommel area, putting the left foot in the stirrup and swinging up, as with any other saddle. Stirrups were necessary, but not a girth. Hungarian horsemen are respected around the world for their daring and skill and also for their love and respect of the horse, and my uncle was part of that tradition.

Before World War I, the Austro-Hungarian Empire was the second largest country in Europe and was ruled by a Dual Monarchy (Kaiser of Austria and Koenig/King of Hungary, or “K und K”). The chaos of World War I had suspended the Royal Hungarian Riding Schools. Then, the Treaty of Trianon, ending World War I, ripped apart the Hungarian Empire, chopping off 2/3 of its territory and giving big pieces to create other countries. This played havoc with the Austro-Hungarian stud farms and with the Royal Riding Schools. These studs and schools had been managed and coordinated by the Ministry of Agriculture of the Empire and staffed by the military. It took much to recover and re-organize.

Beginning in 1922, the Royal Hungarian Babolna Stud, which remained in territorial Hungary, supported the establishment of the Hungarian Spanish Riding School within the Orkénytábór Riding and Driving Training School which was well outside of Budapest. The riders-to-be began learning also the training traditions of the Spanish Riding School of Vienna. From August 1930 until August 1931, Uncle Géza was sent to the Spanish Riding School of Vienna, to study riding as a military scholar. Also there then were Swedish Crown Prince Gustav Adolf and Wilhelm Viebig, the uncle of Prince Bernard of Holland. Those three eminent horsemen stayed friends their entire lives. In 1931, Lt. László Hanthy, who was born Ladislaus Haidekker, was also sent to Vienna for a year as a scholar in dressage.

I have the original examiners’ report on Rittmeister Géza von Hazslinszky, as he was addressed in Vienna. The report is signed by Count van der Straten, first Oberbereiter Wenzel Zrust, second Oberbereiter Ernst Pollak and Zsigiszmund Josipovich. My uncle thought it was a dream for a rider to get such critiques, of both practical and theoretical horse knowledge, from such masters. In appreciation for his artistic riding skills, in 1931 my uncle received a portrait by the famous Austrian Imperial horse painter, Ludwig Koch, together with his judges’ protocols, as a token of mutual friendship and respect for man and horse and their artistry.

The Director of the Babolna Stud was Tibor Pettkó-Szandtner von Feldsödriethoma, the author of the authoritative treatise on driving
and the culture of driving. (N.B., the LANA Store has a limited number of copies of this rare book, translated into English, for sale through our website: http://lipizzan.org/merchandise/merchandise_pages/hungarian_driving.html.) The noted Hungarian Cavalry General Zsigiszmund Josipovich, who is renowned for his comments in the classic book, Reitkunst im Bilde, by Ludwig Koch, joined Hazslinszky, Hanthy and Pettkó-Szandtner to become the founding members and head trainers of the newly established, Royal Hungarian Spanish Riding School of Budapest.

On the 1st of September 1933, they had seven Lipizzaner horses, two stallions and five geldings, three of them worked well: Őrgróf (Siglavy Trója from the Táta Stud), Ördög (Neapolitano Capriola from the Biedermann Stud) and Örökös (Pluto from the Jászóvár Stud). In 1934 they bought four more stallions, including the sterile Maestoso XIX-5 from the Gyöngyös Stud. In 1935 two other stallions came to the school, a Favory and a Pluto.

Commander Hazslinszky and the Riders shown and named, from left to right
András Bondor, András Halmai, József Lászay and Imre Magyar became riders/trainers after completing special training courses. Oberbereiter Ernst Lindenbauer of the Spanish Riding School in Vienna served as a monitor for quality and consistency between the two sister riding schools. Regular interaction and exchange of pupils was frequent between the two schools, the sister Spanish Riding Schools of Austria and Hungary.

The first public performances were held in February of 1938, in Budapest, at the National Riding Hall in the Medieval Castle of Buda. Performances were held every evening between 6 and 8 p.m. for two weeks. The opening music was Strauss’ “The Blue Danube,” and it seemed that the white Lipizzaner horses danced with the rhythm of the music. The riders wore the traditional blue and red uniforms of the famous Hadik Huszárs. The throatlatch of the bridles had hanging dschelengs (a Persian token in a form of a half moon with some horsehair or women’s hair) and on the front pieces and nosebands there were ornamental leather decorations called cathapharcs, a relic from the time when war horses wore metal head protection. As the horses were ridden by subaltern officers of the Hungarian Honvéd (National Guard), the schabrackes (saddle pads) and the other tack were chosen to be similar to those in use in the SRS in Vienna. In addition, since the Austrian Republic had abandoned the yellow and black of the Imperial colors, retaining only red and white, the Hungarian Spanish Riding School also used the bright red colored schabrackes with one single line of golden embroidery to indicate the simple but honorary rank of Lieutenant Huzsár of the Royal Hungarian Horse Guards. This color and basic decoration pattern remains in use in Vienna.

In 1941, the horses and riders of the Vienna and Budapest Spanish Riding Schools held a joint performance in the Manège in Vienna. Uncle Géza said, “It was a great and overwhelming success.” The Hungarian and Austrian schools celebrated the existence of two traditional Classical Dressage Riding Schools in the former Empire. “We rode each others’ horses,” he sighed and added, “Reitkunst ist die schoenste aber auch die schwierigste aller Kunst” (Equitation is the most beautiful but also the most difficult of all the arts). The color painting at the beginning of this article was a gift to Colonel Podhajsky from the Spanish Riding School of Budapest at the time of this joint event. The original hangs in the Wagenburg of the Royal Palace in Vienna.

On the 24th of March, 1945, close to the plains village of Makkoshetye, the Communist Russian Army waged a tank battle against the Lipizzan horses and riders. The riders and grooms were killed or taken as POWs back to Russia. Four of the Lipizzaners were put into rough harness to pull the heavy munitions wagons toward battle in Vienna and disappeared into further combat. Eighteen stallions of the Royal Spanish Riding School were slaughtered and made into stew for the common and unappreciative Russian Army. Thus ended the Spanish Riding School of Budapest. The only good to come out of this was that it provided a critical warning for the Spanish Riding School of Vienna. Colonel Hazslinszky was able to warn his friend and colleague, Colonel Podhajsky, that the threat from the Russian Army was dire and everything should be done to protect the Lipizzaners from the same fate of annihilation as the Russian Army marched west toward the Lipizzaners of Vienna, already on the run from their home.
In April, the Southwest Andalusian and Lusitano Horse Club held their annual Fiesta Texas show in a new location: the Will Rogers Coliseum in Fort Worth, Texas. When the 2007 show moved into this premier horseshow venue, Open classes were offered to attract other breeds of horses to show resides the Iberians. What a show it was! During the week-long events, there was a USEF-recognized dressage show, Iberian and Open classes of infinite varieties, a raffle, a silent auction, and a Saturday evening extravaganza performance that rivaled even the IALHA’s Nationals!

Fiesta Texas was a wonderful opportunity for some of the Southwest Lipizzan Association horses to appear at the show. Among the non-Iberian “romantic breeds” represented during the week’s activities, there were two Lipizzans that promoted the breed: 16 year-old Conversano II Reba III, aka “Roy”, and 7 year-old Samba (M. Calcedona III x Halina). Fort Worth doesn’t see many rare horse breeds nor Lipizzan appearances because it is in the heart of “stock horse” country. Then again, shows don’t usually see a horse participating in it with a story like Roy’s either.

The fact that Roy was able to be at this event was very poignant and significant on a personal level. He is a special Lipizzan, and not just because he’s adored by the Arce family: he is a very, very lucky horse indeed! He spent a lifetime of circus performing, which perhaps isn’t the worst career a horse can have, but upon his “release” from the Big Top he fell onto hard times. He and another Lipizzan stallion were malnourished and neglected, living in pitiful conditions, until they received intervention from a Lipizzan angel, Cathy Funk, who introduced Roy to the Arce family. (According to Cathy, the other stallion has since found a wonderful home too.)

Roy came to live with them, recuperating from the neglect, and learning to be the trail buddy and dressage partner for “tweenager” Meighan. This noble horse never wavered his kind temperament during any of his experiences: he accepted each new situation with wisdom, dignity and patience (Including his gelding!), and he was steady and loyal to all of his new people. Roy even wriggled his way into “Dad” Arce’s heart in spite of his resistance to the “horse bug” that afflicts some of the other family members!

Roy was filling out, enjoying life with his new family and pasture mates until he began to slow down and lie around the pasture late 2006. He became lethargic very quickly, and upon the vet’s examination, a large tumor was discovered inside his rectum that threatened to block his intestine. He became anemic, weak and strained to defecate. Roy’s vet determined that there was not surgical option for Roy, and it seemed that the Arces were facing Roy’s demise very quickly.

A Special Lipizzan at Fiesta Texas 2007
by Katharine Arce

“Roy” when he arrived showing years of neglect
It seemed so unjust that Roy’s beautiful spirit, one that had allowed this horse to live through so many previous difficulties, was going to leave so soon. There didn’t seem to be any hope and no where to turn… until the “new” vet at the clinic suggested something “alternative”. Thank goodness for everyone involved that she did!

This veterinary “angel” had joined the Arce’s regular equine-care clinic only 6 months prior, and she happened to be the only one on the staff who was studying Eastern Veterinary Medicine. She suggested that Roy try acupuncture and Chinese herbs --as crazy as it sounded --but the Arces agreed. So, to make the story short: Roy received 6 weeks of acupuncture treatments and was on herbs for about 3 months. In March 2007 he was examined and his tumor had shrunk 70%! His energy level was up, his anemia was gone and he was filling out even more than he had prior to the discovery of the tumor. He was another horse completely!

The Arces were ecstatic with the change in his condition. Since Roy had been feeling so well, they decided to “pull out all stops” and show him in all that he could in the Fiesta Texas show. Roy was entered in Romantic Halter, Romantic Costume, and the Romantic Liberty class! He won blue ribbons in all of his classes! Once again, his kind temperament shone in the midst of the horseshow environment too. Meg was uncertain as to how he’d handle the commotion, but he was a doll for her.

In the arena, when Roy was in front of a crowd, there was no doubt that he absolutely loved it! (Flashbacks to his performing life perhaps?) He was very happy to be dressed up in his pirate costume during the Romantic Costume class, and he even did a “mini-levade” to show off. His unsuspecting owner rode it out just fine…. but the audience gasped, and got an extra thrill at seeing the Lipizzan show off even if just a tiny bit.

If he could talk, Roy would surely say that the highlight for him had to be the Liberty class. The Arces had never done a Liberty class before, but Roy acted like he knew exactly what to do! During this class, music plays for 90 seconds after the horse is taken off his halter, and then the horse is judged for the brilliance of his action as he moves around the arena. In order to win a Liberty class, the owner has 90 seconds to halter the horse when the music is stopped. The music itself is selected by the owner, and Meg opted for the Moldovan song, “Dragostea din Tei”, otherwise known as the “Numa Numa” song. It was perfect!

When Roy’s music began playing, he initially blasted to the gate, but he quickly figured out that it wasn’t going to open. Then, he blew around the arena and gave everyone a vision of Lipizzan energy! He cavorted, he cantered, he extended his trot, shook his neck and circled around probably like he was back in the circus! Meg was able to get him haltered in time, and they ended up winning that class too.

Perhaps during the Liberty class Roy felt that he was back under the Big Top, showing off, and getting to let out all of the energy that he had repressed the entire day. Regardless of what he was thinking, he was beaming, and so was his kid! One of the biggest ironies of this weekend was that there was a clown on the show grounds that day. Roy had to have his photo taken with the clown. He didn’t even blink!

On the quieter side of the show, back on the barn aisle, the Lipizzans hung around in their stall as people walked by and picked up SWLA flyers and Lipizzan breed information. Had the visitors to the Lipizzan stalls known the story of Roy’s past, they’d be shocked that the horse in front of them --the very one that they were admiring for his sweet nature, beautiful head, and deep eyes-- had suffered through so much in his lifetime. They would never know that less than 2 years prior the horse was nearly starved and that he’d fought a tumor only months prior! For the Arces, the private knowledge was the most incredible triumph of the entire weekend: Roy was still there after so many months of uncertainty and worry! During the rest of the weekend they got to talk to many people, meet new friends, and show people that Lipizzans are real, and that they are indeed superb, all-around horses.

The Lipizzan breed community can be proud of the opportunity that Roy and Samba had to show in such an exquisite environment, together with their Iberian ancestors. Thanks to efforts of the SWALHC show committee, the Arce family was able to celebrate their horse’s new “lease on life”, and this horse was able to radiate his spirit for others to meet the Lipizzan breed! Perhaps next year’s Fiesta Texas will find even more Lipizzans participating in the Open classes? God willing, Roy will be there again too.
Lipizzaner Judging Course
Bad Tatzmannsdorf (Austria), May 12, 2007
by Atjan Hop, General Secretary, Lipizzan International Federation

In the superb surrounding of Karl Reiter’s Supreme Hotel in Bad Tatzmannsdorf (Burgenland-Austria) the first part of the Lipizzaner judging course took place on Saturday May 12, 2007.

Organized under the auspices of the Lipizzan International Federation (LIF) by the experienced Austrian Mr. Franz Schröder (with his 84 years LIF’s most active representative), almost 30 competitors from 9 different countries, including Australia, joined this course. Also participants of the Austrian, Croatian, Romanian and Slovakian Lipizzan state studs were present.

LIF’s Secretary General Atjan Hop led the audience in two languages (English and German) through the program, starting with the complete breeding history of the Lipizzaner breed. Not only the former imperial stud Lippiza, the origin of the race, was mentioned, but also the broad Lipizzaner history within the Austro-Hungarian state and military studs, and several private stud farms of ancient Central European nobility. All exterior varieties within the breed were explained by the history of the breed.

Dr. Karl-Heinz Kirsch (Germany), just as Mr. Hop one of LIF’s founding members since the first start in 1984, introduced the specific Lipizzaner exterior characteristics. Common baroque exterior and specific Lipizzaner features were shown. He also explained the differences between judging a horse during a show or championship, and with studbook entries. An example of a standard protocol was introduced.

Mr. Franz Schröder (Austria) emphasized the legal aspects of studbook keeping and selections, due to EU-Regulations (the majority of)

Austrian Grand-Prix dressage rider Franz Kapaun shared his experiences with the audience concerning the use of Lipizzaners in the modern dressage sport. Within the main frame of the exterior characteristics of the breed, sufficient functional characteristics are present to select a type for the modern dressage sport, without meddling with the origin of the breed, as Mr. Kapaun described.

The long day was closed by the judging of two Lipizzaner stallions of various types in the stables of the host, Mr Karl Reiter (former president of the Austrian Private Lipizzaner Breeders Association). Dr. Kirsch and Mr Hop explained the several characteristics of their exterior, and Dr. Kirsch gave an example how the horses would be judged during a championship and with a studbook entry.

All participants of this first issue of the judging course will receive a Certificate of Attendance. Next meeting will be organised in the Austrian Federal Stud of Piber in the October 2007. The intensification of the knowledge of the Lipizzan breed in theory and practice will be the main issue. Next year a visit to the Hungarian stud Szilvasvarad, and other studs will be scheduled. If the participants would like to subscribe for the final examination, also a trainee period, visiting several national selections and show, will be committed.

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Visit www.lipizzan.org/store.html
for saddle pads, apparel, new books and DVDs.
Books, Blogs & Research
by Sandy Heaberlin

It is amazing to read some of the chatroom and blog material on the Lipizzan horse. Misconceptions about the breed abound – its history, its development, its trainability, its availability.

I started researching the Lipizzan horse long before the world-wide web replaced my family’s set of Funk & Wagnall’s Encyclopedias. At the age of ten, I fell in love with the Lipizzan horse after watching the Disney movie Miracle of the White Stallions. History and English assignments offered many opportunities to research the Lipizzan horse and World War II. Through the writings of Col. Alois Podhajsky, Mathilde Windisch-Graetz, General DeCarpentry, Heinz Nüenberg, and Franz Ackel, I became an avid book collector as I added more non-fiction books by Col. Hans Handler, Brig. Gen. Kurt Albrecht, Dr. Jaromir Ouehla, Dr. Milan Dolenc, Heinrich Lehrner, and Emil Bührer to name only a few. Fictional childhood favorites Marguerite Henry, Felix Salten, and Vernon Bowen and later on, Mary Stewart and Arthur Heinz Lehman were added to the collection.

Many people never pick up a book, relying on videos and DVDs for information obtained from watching an hour or two of video. So much information is not included in a forty-five minute DVD. The development of the Lipizzan horse is rich in history. Romanticism and fantasy aside, I loved (and still do) the Disney movie but it didn’t take long to figure out that the Disney timeline had been tweaked. The best thing I can say is that while figuring out the real timeline, I acquired a love of history and became acquainted not only with military archives but also with Gen. George S. Patton, Col. Charles Reed and other historical figures, both American and European, from Charles VI to Maria Theresa to Empress Elizabeth (Sissy). From there it was a small step to form an appreciation of Victorian furniture and baroque palaces.

I learned that long ago, that the Lipizzan herd once comprised of palomino, piebald, bay, chestnut and black coats but the monarchy preferred the schimmel coat (black skin with white hair) so today chestnut coated Lipizzans can be found at the Sambata de Jos studfarm in eastern Europe, and bay and black Lipizzans are found in the predominately agricultural countries of Romania and Hungary. Schimmel translates to gray – which includes a delightful range of various shades of gray from the pure silver-white to flea-bitten coat – and in most countries around the world, most Lipizzans obtain their snowy white coats with only an occasional individual remaining bay or black.

This baroque breed was originally built to be 14 h. to 15.2 h., although the LIF breed standard now stretches the height to 16 hands. In Europe, Lipizzans are prized as much for their driving ability as their dressage. Once upon a time, European nobility considered a four-in-hand Lipizzan driving team as the Maserati of their day. Lipizzans are superb at upper level dressage – the collected movements and yes, the airs above the ground, if you have the urge to fly – with or without your horse – depending on your mount’s sense of humor that day and your riding ability.

Young Lipizzans require the same amount of discipline, care and attention as any other young horse. Regular visits by the vet and farrier are mandatory and yes, they need to lead and have basic ground manners regardless of age. Contrary to popular belief, the Austrian Piber horses do not run wild, untouched by human hand, before the select few go to Vienna at the age of three and a half. Pictures and videos show the Austrian horses at liberty on the mountainside, but these same horses are under the close, watchful supervision of experienced grooms on the mountains and the horses are handled regularly.

Lipizzans mature slowly. No matter how big and strong the horse looks like, you do not ride them at two or three years of age. But why in today’s society do you see Thoroughbreds and Quarter Horses competing heavily in different venues at the ripe old age of two years of age? What makes the Lipizzan so different? A few dozen books later and the opportunity to have conversations with people who have spent their lives working with the horses, you discover that while the horse might physically look ready to ride, the growth plates on the ends of the bones close late in Lipizzans. Nor are the horses mentally ready to begin work.

This is why the horses do not go to Vienna until the fall or winter of their third year, and why it is young assistant riders who first mount the young stallions at the Spanish Riding School of Vienna. The young assistant riders first mount the horse because the young riders generally are lighter in weight, and the lighter weight is less harmful to the young horses’ back. While none of the SRS horses are assigned permanently until the horses have been put under saddle, it is true that most of the time the horses remain with one rider until training is complete. However, it is not without precedence that the SRS riders exchange horses among themselves if horse/ rider personalities do not work out. Also, some, but certainly not all, of the finished horses become schoolmasters to teach a new generation of riders.

So many little tidbits of information are found in books, everything from the SRS rider’s rank by looking at a saddle pad to just how horrible the Renaissance bits really were. Through books, you can explore the development of the Hungarian and Italian (Slovenia) Lipizzans and how the breed developed its traditions. Several years ago, I put together a list of research materials and articles that were used as the basis for The American Lipizzan: A Pictorial History. Out of curiosity, I took that list and have been adding to it over the last few weeks and have discovered that somewhere along the line, I’ve acquired nearly seventy additional books on the Lipizzan horse, fifteen or so juvenile books, plus over ninety magazine articles plus twenty-five or so reference books, studbooks, interview notes, plus VHS and DVDs.

Locating books on Lipizzans is a challenge but no less than trying to find a choice European Lipizzan DVD in a format other than PAL. It just takes some work. While books by Jan Hohmann are still available, many of the books by Podhajsky, Decarpentry, and Handler are out of print, but that certainly does not mean that the books cannot be found at the library. Lipizzan enthusiasts can find many out-of-print books available through book search engines such as Alibris or eBay. Enjoy the videos and DVDs, but don’t miss out on the printed word. There’s so much more out there than you know.
Equine Therapy to Help Soldiers Heal
by Carolyn Starks, Chicago Tribune staff reporter (Reprinted from Chicago Tribune)

Marge Tautkus Gunnar believes her therapy horses have a healing power that could help wounded veterans.

So she turned to Tammy Duckworth, director of the Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs, a veteran who lost both legs after her helicopter was shot down in Iraq.

With a $100,000 grant from the state, Gunnar is poised to offer programs next month at the sprawling BraveHearts Therapeutic Riding & Educational Center in McHenry County for veterans, particularly those whose limbs have been amputated or who are paraplegic.

The grant will help the center, near Harvard, expand its indoor arena and provide funds to support its programs, which will be free to veterans.

The state sees the program as a worthwhile effort to help veterans of all ages, a spokeswoman for the Department of Veterans Affairs said.

Initially, participants will be drawn from patients at the Hines VA Hospital near Maywood, but Gunnar also is asking local groups to help her find veterans of any age who want to get more control over their lives and bodies.

Gunnar and her husband, Rolf, a retired cardiologist, opened the farm four years ago as a therapeutic riding center. They have about 30 students, ranging in age from 5 to 76, who are “physically, mentally and emotionally challenged,” Marge Gunnar said.

“I am an ovarian cancer survivor. Part of what helped me heal was my connection to my horses,” she said.

The couple also are developing a carriage-driving program for veterans who cannot ride on horses but still could benefit from equine therapy.

Rolf Gunnar, a former chairman of medicine at Loyola University’s Stritch School of Medicine, said healing comes in many forms.

Therapeutic horses can help “improve strength, balance, coordination and self-esteem,” he said.

BraveHearts Therapeutic Riding & Educational Center is always looking for new students, volunteers and donations. For information, call (815) 943-8226 or visit www.braveheartsriding.org.

Lipizzan Evaluations - Midwest and East Coast

In answer to numerous requests made by east coast and Midwest LANA Lipizzan owners, LANA is looking into the possibility of offering members the opportunity to have Lipizzans evaluated at either a central location or individual farms in December.

A 3-panel group, consisting of Dr. Jaromir Oulehla, a translator and scribe will travel to a limited number of east coast and Midwest farms or a central location in an area established by individuals who wish to have their horses evaluated. The evaluation results will be forwarded to the American Lipizzan Breeders organization and recorded in LANA records for inclusion in studbook records.

The cost of the evaluation depends on the number of horses evaluated at any one site as well as the close proximity of the sites within an area. It is anticipated that prices will average $150 per horse. While higher than the average cost of other evaluations held around the country, bear in mind there is no travel involved for the horse which can be evaluated in familiar surroundings.

Before more work is put into the project, the Committee needs to establish who is definitely interested in having their horses evaluated and an approximate number of horses at each farm, whether it is 1 horse or 20. If there is insufficient interest, no evaluations will be held. If you are interested in having your horses evaluated or arranging for a centralized location for your area, please contact Sandy Heaberlin at sandy@lipizzan.org.
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Tulipan & Incitato

In addition to the six classical stallion lineages which were developed at Imperial studfarms, two other Lipizzan lines were formed at private studfarms owned by Hungarian nobility within the Austro-Hungarian monarchy.

The Tulipan

The Tulipan line originated at a private Jankovic family studfarm in Terezovac (Croatia/Slovenia). Since the end of the 17th century, this noble Hungarian family acquired their own Spanish stock and bred their own baroque horses. However, at the beginning of the 19th century, like the imperial Lipizza and Kladrub studfarms, the family no longer imported their own horses directly from Spain but purchased stock from the Lipizza imperial studfarm. In the late 19th century, other family members established their own studfarms at Cabuna (Slovenia) and Oreglak. From these bloodlines, they produced a new line, which called after the founding stallion, Tulipan, a black baroque stallion born in Terzovac around 1800. The sire of this Tulipan was Kedves, of Spanish origin, and the dam was a mare of Spanish or Lipizzan background. Lipizza purchased horses from Terzovac which was considered one of the premier private studfarms in Europe until the studfarm closed after World War I. Following World War I, the many of the Tulipan horses were transferred to Stancic and were later moved to Lipik and later to Djakovo. The black stallion Tulipan Mardahat (b. 1925 Stancic) was used for breeding in Croatia and this stallion can be found in almost every Tulipan pedigree.

Today, the Tulipan line is found primarily in the Hungarian, Romanian, Croatian and Serbian Lipizzans and during World War II, a Tulipan stallion was used at the Spanish Riding School.

The Incitato

The Incitato line originated in the mountainous area of Hungary (now Romania) from the Count Pal Bethlen stud. The founding Incitato stallion was born in 1802, his sire was the Romanian Siebenburger stallion Curioso and his dam a Spanish born mare, 532 Capelano.

The Hungarian studfarm, Mezohegyes, purchased Incitato in 1815 where he was used as a breeding stallion to both the Spanish breeding herd as well as the Lipizza herd which had been evacuated there in 1809-1815. In the following years, 23 of Incitato’s offspring were used as breeding stallions in Mezohegyes. Around 1840 a Mezohegyes Incitato stallion was used at the Spanish Riding School and is thought to have been used as a breeding stallion at Lipizzan between 1847 and 1850.

Incitato lines were found at Babolna in Hungary (1807-1923) and again at Szilvasvarad and Topolcianky. Still the Incitato line was not found at the old Imperial studfarms except through Pluto Fantasca II’s granddam, 83 Incitato XXII, and through her the Incitato line is presented in the Pluto line today. Today Incitato bloodlines are found primarily in Hungarian and Romanian Lipizzan stock.

The description of the Incitato and Tulipan lines comes from various sources including Lipizzan International Federation. Special thanks to Atjan Hop, Secretary General of the LIF, for supplying photos. The lineage (right) is from Der Lipizzaner by Heinz Nürnberg, 1993.
Tulipan Zverka “Osit”

For many years, LANA, as well as its predecessor organizations, attempted to work with the Lipizzan International Federation (“LIF”), to resolve pedigree issues for Tulipan Zverka “Osit.”

Here is a little background on this stallion. Born in 1959 and bred by R. Bakar, Novi, Karlovci, Yugoslavia, Tulipan Zverka “Osit” was imported to the United States by Josef Vogt and produced several offspring out of primarily Austrian-bred mares and who, in turn, produced offspring. This Tulipan stallion had not one, but two very large holes in his pedigree which, to this day, remain open.

On the stallion side of the pedigree, the sire of this stallion was Tulipan Ozit. The first hole comes through the mare line Ozit, whose dam, Osica is labeled as “country bred mare from unknown Province” and thereafter the pedigree is blank from this mareline. Now, an even bigger hole appears through the Zverka line, the dam of this stallion. Zverka’s dam is also labeled country bred mare from unknown province (unrecognized) and all information stops there. Additional, this unknown mare’s sire is labeled as “probably” 1565 Tulipan Sallo II. Thereafter both top and bottom lines on the pedigree remain blank.

Because of these holes, this Tulipan stallion and his progeny are not eligible for inclusion in the purebred section of either the international or national stud-books. A question has been raised: if the progeny were crossed exclusively with recognized, purebred Lipizzans, even to five and six generations away from this stallion, would the offspring be eligible for inclusion in the purebred section of the studbook. Sadly, the answer is no.

The Lipizzan studbook is closed. The LIF’s position remains firm and unchanged. Tulipan Zverka “Osit” was a countrybred stallion with some Lipizzaner blood in his veins or in other words, a crossbred, and a typical example of the use of purebred Lipizzans within the breeding of working horses in former Yugoslavia. When Serbia was composing its studbook, there was some slight hope that these holes might be filled in if purebred Lipizzans had been used. However, it was discovered that these holes concern local farmer horse breeding, which contained no breeding history within the traditional, strictly defined Lipizzaner breed. As a result of these findings, there is no doubt that Tulipan Zverka “Osit” was a crossbred with some Lipizzaner blood and not eligible to become an “approved breeding experiment.” At the present time, all Tulipan Zverka “Osit” offspring are being registered in the Appendix area of the Lipizzan Pedigree Trust records.

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**Incitato sen.**
1802, Siebenbüger

**Incitato VII 301**
1819, Mezohegyes

**Incitato XX, 363**
1834, Mezohegyes

**Incitato XXII, 784**
1856, Mezohegyes

**Incitato I**
1867, Mezohegyes

**Incitato II**
1880, Fagaras

**Incitato IV**
1904, Fagaras

**Incitato V**
1924, Bábolna

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**Tulipan sen.**
Teresovác

**Tulipan-Fáczány**
Teresovác

**Tulipan-Vörösdaru**
Teresovác

**Tulipan-Leánysszony**
Teresovác

**Tulipan-Arárhogy**
Teresovác

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**Tulipan I, Titania**
1909, Teresovác

**Tulipan Ira**
1912, Teresovác

**Tulipan Acordia**
1925, Teresovác

**Tulipan I, Titania**
1909, Teresovác

**Tulipan Burkus**
1909, Teresovác

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**Romanian line**

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<th>Tulipan Ira</th>
<th>Tulipan Titania</th>
<th>Tulipan Burkus</th>
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**Yugoslavian lines**

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<th>Tulipan Titania</th>
<th>Tulipan Burkus</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>1912, Teresovác</td>
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<td>1925, Teresovác</td>
<td>1909, Teresovác</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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REGISTRY UPDATE

**Forms Required for Embryo Transplant & Transported Semen**

Visit the LANA website at [www.lipizzan.org](http://www.lipizzan.org) to see the new forms for Embryo Transplant and Transported Semen.

These forms are to be used for all stallion collection and for mares bred with cooled, transported semen and embryo transplant.

Embryo Transplants require Transfer enrollment forms for both Donar and Recipient Mares. Embryo Recipient Mares of non-Lipizzan origin must be DNA’d and a special DNA form for these mares is required.

The use of these forms go into effect immediately.
BREEDER’S CORNER

Rabensberg Lipizzan Ranch
PO Box 1388
Flagstaff, AZ  86002-1388
Phone:  928-380-0159
Email: jgliege@earthlink.net
Services:  Stallion standing, horses for sale, boarding, instruction, training
Stallion standing: Maestoso Primrose

The Lipizzan Connection
3275 Stonyvale Road
Tujunga, CA  91042
818-353-1616
E-mail: lipizzan_connection@msn.com
www.lipizzanconnection.com
Services:  stallion standing, horses for sale
Stallion standing: Pluto II Dixana

Castle Lipizzans
275 Woodcreek Rd.
Bethlehem, CT 06751-1013
(P) 206-266-7008; (F) 203-266-5480
E-mail: scastle275@aol.com
Services:  Stallion standing, horses for sale, boarding, clinics
Stallions Standing:  Conversano Brentna I, Siglavy Flora-8

White Stallion Ranch
1053 Van Arsdale Street
Oviedo, FL.  32765
(P) 407-366-0366; (F) 407-366-8099
E-mail: glashinsky@lipizzaner.com
Web:  www.lipizzaner.com
Services:  Stallion standing, horses for sale, boarding, instruction, training
Stallions Standing:  Siglavy AgaI, Siglavy GidraneI, Siglavy BonavistaI, Pluto VirtuosaI

The Waltzing Horse Farm
130 Musk Road
New Berlin, NY  13411
607-847-9606
E-mail: waltzinghorsefarm@gmail.com
Web:  www.waltzinghorsefarm.com
Services:  stallion standing, horses for sale, boarding, instruction, clinics
Stallions Standing: 499 Conversano BarbarinaI, Pluto II Dixana II

Kar-Mel Lipizzans
110 E 700 N
Alexandria, IN  46001-8739
765-644-3904
Email: thull@iquest.net
Web: hullhome.com
Services:  Boarding, instruction, training

Huszár Farm
PO Box 426
Valley City, OH  44280-0426
Phone:  330-607-3750
E-mail: oraclesin@aol.com
Services:  Boarding, horses for sale, instruction, training, driving

Silver Meadow Farm
224 Isaac Tharp St
Pataskala, OH  43062-8962
740-973-6225
E-mail: sheaberlin@yahoo.com
Services:  horses for sale

Four Pillars Farm
229 Old Stage Road
Chillhowie, VA  24319
(P) 276-646-5310; (C) 561-723-7019
E-mail: shannonsimpson@comcast.net
Web:  www.fourpillarsfarm.com
Services:  stallion standing, horses for sale, instruction, training
Stallion standing:  760 Favory IV Delta

Touchstone Acres
901 Old Leetown Pike
Kearneysville, WV  25430
(P) 304-724-1286; (F) 304-724-1285
E-mail: kamdonnelly@aol.com
Web:  www.TouchstoneAcres.com
Services:  stallion standing, horses for sale, boarding, clinics
Stallion standing:  261 Maestoso Samira XXI

Noble Lipizzans
P. O. Box 1056
Graham, WA  98338
253-847-6299
E-mail: noblelipizzans@gmail.com
Web:  www.noblelipizzans.com
Services:  stallions standing, horses for sale, in utero pre-sales (mare lease), instruction
Stallions Standing:  Favory II Candita, Conversano Antiqua, Neapolitano Slatana II

Lipizzan Association of North America
P. O. Box 1133
Anderson, IN  46015-1133
www.lipizzan.org

HAUTE ECOLE NEWSLETTER

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740-967-0038
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Melody Hull, Editor
765-644-3904
mel@lipizzan.org

RATES (members)
B&W Full Page, $75; ½ Page, $50; ¼ Page, $30.
Color: Full Page, $195; ½ Page, $125; ¼ Page, $75.
Classified Ads: 20¢ per word – 31 word min. – $10
Breeder’s Corner:  06/07 - $75 - 4 issues & website

RATES (non-members)
B&W Full Page, $125; ½ Page, $100; ¼ Page, $80.
Color: Full Page, $300; ½ Page, $200 ¼ Page, $120.
Classified Ads: 40¢ per word – 31 word min. – $20

DEADLINE 2007/2008 Newsletter
1st Newsletter:  Aug. 30, 2007 deadline (pub. Sept.)
2nd Newsletter: Nov. 30, 2007 deadline (pub. Dec.)
3rd Newsletter:  Feb. 28, 2008 deadline (pub. Mar.)
4th Newsletter:  May 31, 2008 deadline (pub. June)
PayPal/Credit Cards/Checks made payable to LANA, include SASE for return of photos, and send ads and articles to: Sandy Heaberlin.  224 Isaac Tharp St., Pataskala, OH 43062

1 Imported from Austria  2 Imported from Slovenia
**EVENTS**

**July 7-8, 2007:** White Horse Vale and Ritter Dressage Open House and Dressage Celebration. Contact June Boardman, (509) 773-5222, email: whv@gorge.net or Shana and Thomas Ritter - (360) 631-1101 / 1102, email: ritter@classicaldressage.com.

**July 8-10, 2007:** SRS Bereiter Herbert Seiberl Dressage Clinic at the Cheff Therapeutic Riding Center. Contact jorie@dressageclinics.org for more information or 616.283.4741.


**July 12 - 14, 2007:** SRS Bereiter Herbert Seiberl Dressage Clinic at Blue Water Stables in Bridgeport, MI (near Frankenmuth). Contact Jorie Sligh at jorie@dressageclinics.org for more information or 616.283.4741.

**July 12-16, 2007:** SRS Bereiter Rudolf Rostek clinic at Secret Ravine Lipizzans. Contact Lori Green at 916-663-9557 or www.SRLipizzan.com

**July 18-22, 2007:** SRS Bereiter Harald Bauer clinic with Maraland Dressage Clinic at Caves Farm in Owings Mills, Maryland. Contact Melanie Adams at 443-220-6058 or Madams8550@aol.com.

**July 18-22, 2007:** SRS Bereiter Andres Hausberger at the 9th annual dressage clinic at Across The Diagonal Farm. Contact Jennifer Roth jrdressage@gmail.com 831624-2848

**Sept. 8, 2007:** LANA annual meeting - Tempel Lipizzans, Wadsworth, Illinois (Lipizzan Symposium Sept. 7-9, 2007)

**Sept. 10-12, 2007:** Dominique Barbier classical dressage clinic. Silver Sands Bridle Club in New Smyrna Beach, FL. Contact Jean & Denis Thornton, equivale@earthlink.net; 386-985-2103

**November 2008:** Spanish Riding Schol returns to the United States Arizona, California, Oregon & Washington.

**LATE NEWS**

**Congratulations** to Ingun Littorn who was appointed Vice President of the LIF at the meeting in Kelebija. A full report will appear in the next issue of Haute École. The rest of the newly elected Board consists of President Karl Reiter (Austria); Vice-President (Andor Dallos (Hungary), Treasurer Wim Doove (Belgium), and General Secretary Atjen Hop (Belgium).

**CLASSIFIEDS**

**Purebred Lipizzans For Sale**

**Tokata:** (Conversano II Aloha II x Takoma), 2004 filly with an adorable face, excellent disposition, good classic conformation, big trot, placed 4th in breed class June 2006. $9,500.

**Aloka:** (Siglavy XI-6 x Altamira), tall 2005 filly with phenomenal movement, quiet manner; placed 2nd in breed class June 2006, by Jozsef, a rare black Lipizzan $8,500.

**Favory Altamira:** Elegant, gorgeous 2006 colt (829 Favory VII Andorella x Altamira) with beautiful head and eyes, good movement and bone, $7,500.

**Adena:** filly foaled 4/10/07 (261 Maestoso Samira XXI x Altamira) well balanced & correct with super, springy trot, $7,500.

**Balinna:** lovely filly foaled 5/6/07 (261 Maestso Samira XXI x 280 Betalka V) with pretty face, good conformation & bone; both parents recently imported; excellent broodmare prospect, $9,500.

Contact 304-724-1286; kamdonnelly@aol.com www.TouchstoneAcres.com
Join Us on July 7-8, 2007 for the White Horse Vale Lipizzans & Ritter Dressage Open House and Dressage Celebration. Two full days packed with activities, including Classical Dressage Exhibitions, numerous Educational Lectures and Demonstrations, Lipizzan Stallion Presentations, Sales Horse Showcases, Farm Tours, and a Saturday Evening "Party with the Riders of White Horse Vale," all in scenic Goldendale, Washington.

An Event you won't want to miss!
Open to the Public - Free Admission.

See websites, email, or call for more information. Please R.S.V.P. by July 15th. (bring your own chair)

Photos by Sara Stafford

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Lessons - Training - Clinics - Riding Vacations - Horses For Sale - Lipizzan Stallions at Stud
2109 N. Columbus Avenue, Goldendale, Washington 98620 (2 hours East of Portland, Oregon)

White Horse Vale Lipizzans
June Boardman, Owner
(509) 773-5222  whv@gorge.net
www.whv-lipizzans.com

Ritter Dressage
Shana and Thomas Ritter, trainers
(360) 631-1101/1102  thomasritt@gmail.com
www.classicaldressage.com