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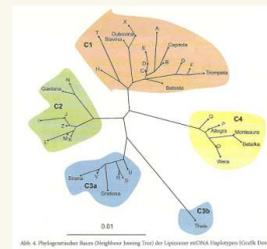


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FROM THE SPANISH RIDING SCHOOL - FEDERAL STUD PIBER



Photo: © APA/Schlager from www.news.at

from Elisabeth Gürtler

Director of the Spanish Riding School
and Federal Stud Piber

Member of LANA's Board of Directors

Mrs. Elisabeth Gürtler kindly sends the following announcements and invitations to LANA members about upcoming events and programs in Austria.

June brings the 4th Fête Impériale, the summer Ball which directly benefits support of the Lipizzan breed. Mrs. Gürtler has long organized, chaired and been the driving force behind the famed Vienna Opera Ball, the premier **Ball of Vienna's winter Ball season**. The Fête Impériale is the only summer Ball, but this summer the Fête/celebration shares the classical enjoyment of wine, food, dancing and Viennese gemütlichkeit. For this Fête, the Winter Riding Hall, where the Lipizzans train and perform, will become a grand ballroom with a lovely parquet floor. You are invited to come and dance where the Lipizzans dance!

Beginning this Spring, the Spanish Riding School will, for the first time in its history, offer to train and teach horses and people not affiliated with the School, the Court, or the Military. The new Training Centre is in the small village of Heldenberg, about 30 miles northwest of Vienna in the Austrian wine country. There will be various training courses and formal courses and seminars for horses, riders, judges and grooms. The new Director of this Training Centre is Chief Rider Andreas Hausberger. Now you, too, may be able to experience and learn in the very best Classical Dressage tradition.

There are further details on the following pages.

FÊTE IMPÉRIALE

June 28th 2013

The Summer Ball of the Spanish Riding School



A summer night dream comes true...

The Spanish Riding School has been the stronghold of Classical Horsemanship since 1572. However, it has not only been a spectacular location for dressage, it has also served as a gorgeous backdrop for numerous court festivities, masked balls and Maria Theresa's popular Ladies' Carousels, making the Winter Riding School both Vienna's oldest and the world's most beautiful ballroom.

The Fête Impériale, an event combining tradition with modernism, was brought to life three years ago as a "Charity for four hooves" in an effort to safeguard the future of the world famous Lipizzans. The net proceeds of the Ball directly benefit the scientific research necessary to preserve and protect Europe's oldest and, sadly, also endangered cultural horse breed.

Just as in imperial times, our guests arrive in horse-drawn carriages, sip an aperitif under St. Michael's Cupola and enjoy themselves until the small hours of the morning - strolling, chatting, eating, drinking and dancing.

The 4th Fête Impériale takes place on Friday, June 28, 2013 and revolves around the theme red, white and red – the colors of Austria!

The baroque Winter Riding School, the Renaissance courtyard of the Stallburg, the Summer Riding School, the two town squares [Michaelerplatz and Josefsplatz] and the Reitschulgasse linking them: everything is turned into a breathtaking ball terrain. This year, famous and prominent Austrians are our guests of honour.

For further information and ticket sales,
please refer to:
www.fete-imperiale.at/en/





Lipizzaner Training Centre Heldenberg

In 2005, the Spanish Riding School moved to its new generous summer quarters in the municipality of Heldenberg (in the capital town of Hollabrunn, in the Weinviertel wine district) with spacious box stalls, paddocks and surrounding woods. Here the Lipizzans are gently and carefully exercised. Since 2005, the young up-and-coming stars of the Spanish Riding School spend their first training years in Heldenberg, gradually becoming accustomed to their training schedule and new surroundings. The fully trained School stallions not only enjoy a respite in Heldenberg during the hot summer months, but are also allowed to relax for an additional 6-8 weeks every year and enjoy the fresh country air and natural surroundings.



The 81 box stalls at the Training Centre Heldenberg are only fully occupied during the summer months. Subsequently, as of winter 2012, the state-of-the-art Training Centre Heldenberg was adapted to facilitate seminars for high level international riders and horse lovers. The Spanish Riding School's outstanding expertise in horsemanship reaches back to the Renaissance period. *"We are very much aware of our responsibility of passing on our expertise in the High School of Classical Horsemanship to international riders,"* states Andreas Hausberger, Chief Rider and Director of the Training Centre Heldenberg.

The seminars at the Training Centre Heldenberg include theoretical courses, clinics for riders bringing their own horses, seminars for professional riders and for dressage judges, as well as classes featuring international experts and advanced training courses for grooms.



[Photos: © Spanish Riding School –
Federal Stud Piber]

The seminar schedule at the Lipizzaner Training Centre Heldenberg includes:

Theoretical courses

A Rider of the Spanish Riding School accompanies the participants during one-, three- or five-day seminars at the Spanish Riding School and the Training Centre Heldenberg. In addition to theoretical riding sessions, their expertise on the proper seat, correct aids, lunge work, training levels of a stallion, history of the Spanish Riding School, etc. is imparted to the participants.

Advanced dressage seminars for high level riders

High level riders, bringing their own horses, have the chance to work together with the Riders of the Spanish Riding School or to have their horses trained at the Training Centre Heldenberg.

Seminars for professional riders

Seminars for professional riders of international Equestrian Federations are held by Riders of the Spanish Riding School with their School stallions.

Dressage judge workshops

During international workshops for dressage judges, the Spanish Riding School passes on its knowledge of the High School of Classical Horsemanship to dressage judges and judge aspirants. All facilities of the Training Centre Heldenberg are also available for the training of prospective dressage judges.

Workshops with international experts

At the Training Centre Heldenberg and the Spanish Riding School, courses and workshops with experts on Classical Dressage, modern dressage, veterinary medicine, horse shoeing, horse equipment, etc. are held. Suitable horses and riders are provided by the Spanish Riding School.

Advanced training courses for grooms

Owners of equestrian centers have the possibility of having their grooms trained at the Spanish Riding School Vienna or at the Training Centre Heldenberg. Minimum stay: 3 months.



Andreas Hausberger,
Chief Rider and
Director of the Training Centre Heldenberg.



In addition to this comprehensive seminar offer, many other attractive local cultural and leisure activities in the immediate vicinity of the Training Centre Heldenberg attract guests from all over Europe and from overseas:

-The exhibition of the directly affiliated old-timer museum impressively presents the entire history of the automobile. Visitors can relive the development of the vehicle from the carriage to the modern sports car.

-Guided tours through the spectacular “Amethyst World Maissau” give an insight into the origins of amethysts, including mining and treatment of these gemstones.

-The beautiful landscape of the Weinviertel, with gently rolling hills, fertile land and vineyards, as well as the numerous wine taverns in the area surrounding Heldenberg, invite guests to relax and to enjoy the local culinary delights.



For further information, fees, dates, venues and registration,

please refer to: www.srs.at/en/training/

or write to: training@srs.at.

Training the Horse for Dressage

Part III: Leg Aids

by Hildegarde Gekiere

Dressage Rider/Trainer of the Classical French/Portuguese School
Founding Member and Former Secretary General of the Lipizzan International Federation (LIF)

In Part One of this series, I described the three main phases in the training of a Dressage horse: Learning, Understanding, and, ultimately, Balance.

In Part Two, I re-emphasized the importance of understanding, and of the patience needed in starting to develop balance, while beginning to use the legs.

In previous installments, I emphasized the actions, reactions, and inter-actions between the horse and the rider's hands. **But that is not the end of the discussion** necessary for a complete picture of Dressage training. While it is important to talk about the delicate use of the hands during the education of the horse, because it is sometimes very difficult for the rider, simultaneously, to keep his/her legs relaxed and not interfering with the movement of the horse, it may be even more important **to discuss further the use and placement of the rider's legs.**

It is, of course, essential to gain suppleness in the back, being able to join the rhythm of the horse with a completely relaxed back, but all effort disappears completely if **the rider's legs are** constantly moving, often with no rhythm or a counter-rhythm. When this occurs, the horse has "to guess" which leg movement actually means something and which is just unintentional, uncontrolled touching without purpose.

The complaint that "my horse is not reacting well to the legs" is a very common complaint of

riders training their Dressage horses. Well, of course the horse does not react well if the rider is concentrating on control of the hands, and totally leaves the legs to follow their own course. It is an essential and continuing rule that neither the hands nor the legs should interfere with **the horse's concentration and movement unless it is** absolutely necessary. This rule must be followed at all times.

Let us explore together the training of the horse and its reaction to leg aids. Keep in mind that even a horse that **has already had a bad response to the rider's legs can be** taught to react better, when the teaching is patient, calm, and controlled. Perhaps the most important of the qualities a rider/trainer must have is control: mostly the control of yourself, of your hands, and of your legs, which is accomplished through concentration, which must not fail for a moment as you train the horse.

Moreover, the aids which you use to signal the horse, whether by hand or leg, must be consistent, and employed in exactly the same fashion during every training session, because if you become careless or casual in the application of the aids, the horse will immediately react - or should we say fail to react out of confusion - due to lackadaisical or careless application of the aid.

[In all photos, the rider is Yentl Durodié and the horse is Romance.]





Be careful with the movements of your body during training and, particularly, do not make useless or inadvertent movements at the beginning of training a very young horse, for the horse is watching you at all times, and even touching your nose could produce a reaction in the horse. This doesn't mean you must be like a statue on the horse's back. Quite the contrary. The horse must learn your body, learn to relax under your body, under the weight and shifting of your body, before the application of any training with leg aids.

At the beginning, the only use of the legs on a very young horse should be to use both legs to tell him he has to go forward (no input should come from the hands at all) using only a slight pressure of the hands to tell him to slow down (no interference with the legs). Please remember one of the most basic and significant tenets of the use of aids: "*Hand without legs, legs without hand*" (Captain Étienne Beudant (1861 – 1949).

Let me try to explore how the horse reacts mentally to a "leg lesson" with a small example. I have to admit that it is a bit of an odd example, but it is very effective and easy to understand. It shows exactly how the horse's mind works when it does not respond well to the leg. I always present this to my students. The horse's reactions are merely a matter of cause and effect.

I begin by asking the student - and you, dear reader - to think of standing in front of a horse, doing nothing. Then imagine if you were to walk along slowly next to the horse, then stand behind him and take a pistol out of your pocket and shoot that pistol into the air. As you might expect, in less than a second the horse will bolt as fast as it can to the other side of the arena!

Did the horse learn anything? The answer is: no, he did not. He just became afraid because of the loud noise and, as is natural, ran away.

But if I repeat the exact same movements from the front towards his back, taking the pistol out of my pocket in the same fashion, I guarantee you that after two or three repetitions of the same movement, the horse will run as

soon as I start moving towards his back. He will not wait for the noise because he knows what is coming! Simple cause and effect! The horse recalls the movement that caused the effect and then runs away in anticipation. As Caesar Milan (working with dogs on his TV show) says: "*please don't try this at home.*" The pistol in the example is just one possible object representing something that might create a movement and noise which the horse can see and remember. Naturally, there might be other, unexpected reactions the horse could have besides my description of the exercise, and that is why you should not try it at home. But I just wanted to make clear how cause and effect are important in the learning process of the horse and, therefore, for the trainer to keep in mind **during the horse's continuing training. This principle of cause and effect is present during every facet of the horse's learning process. It is not only applicable to the horse, but also to ourselves.**



At this point, let us transition from the dramatic pistol scenario to the everyday, normal work of training the horse to the leg aid. From the beginning of training, we want the horse to react correctly and immediately upon the application of the legs. So we have to carefully teach him cause and effect. When you are sitting on the **horse's back, with an equal pressure of both legs** - no hands - ask the horse to move forward. If the horse moves forward, you immediately stop the leg actions and reward him. If the horse does not respond or responds too slowly, immediately give him a very clear and more energetic squeeze with both legs - still with no intervention of opposing hands. Reward the horse if he does react, and repeat the exercise immediately with the initial simple pressure. This is important in order for the horse to understand the reason for the additional attack (pressure). Repeat the exercise again. When the horse starts its forward movement on the initial application of soft pressure, it shows that the horse has already learned

the cause and effect principle. He knows that moving forward on initial pressure is expected, and he also has learned what will occur if he does not react smartly on the initial application of leg pressure.

Parenthetically, if the horse did not react to the push of the legs, nor to the second more vigorous application of the aid, you may have to supplement or reinforce the aid with the judicious use of your dressage whip - again, no hands opposing. Of course, the horse will react to the whip. Every horse does, depending on the dosage. If hard is necessary at first, well so be it! You have to know your horse well, in order to know how much or how little pressure you need.

Repeat the exercise:
Pressure. Reaction. Reward.

If no reaction, stronger attack with the legs, reinforced by a judicious application of the whip. When the proper reaction of impulsion results, reward immediately. Repeat: Pressure, Reaction, Reward. It is not complicated: you only have to stay alert as to when to reward, and when to insist that the horse respond by using a supplementary application of pressure.

So as not to bore the horse, go on to another exercise. Then return to the leg aid, repeating the exercise until the horse reacts to your initial, slight pressure. Again, it is most **important that during this "impulsion" lesson there is absolutely no opposition of the hand!**

And it is also very important to reward the horse when he reacts well to the initial pressure. The best reward is to drop the reins and let the horse relax for a couple of seconds while you reward him with a gentle pat on the neck.

The above has been a long explanation which I hope is clear. Please remember that during training, and forever afterward, it is most important to give consistent signals to the horse so that he does not have to guess what you want from him; otherwise the horse becomes confused, irritated or bored with the work, and he will end up in a state of learned helplessness. He will become apathetic and he will not care anymore. And that is a dangerous state of mind which you yourself caused, all of which results in a very unhappy and confused animal.

Upon re-reading what I have just written, I hope that I have not bored you too. It may seem so simplistic, but it is very, very important to keep in mind the psychological make-up of the horse. And as long as I have not guided you into a state of learned helplessness, then I am successful. While training your horse, you must stay alert at all times and ask yourself the same three questions every day:

- Does my horse understand what I am asking?
- Is he able to execute what I am asking?
- Is he resisting my indications or signals?

You may never come to ask yourself this last question - and, if you do, you have to determine what mental, psychological and/or physical reasons there are for such a state, and then you must go back to the beginning, slowly, patiently starting over until the horse understands your signals.

Remember this simple principle:
the horse cannot be wrong!

You are the guide, you are the trainer. If the horse has descended into a state of helplessness, confusion or irritation, it is you who are sitting on his back, it is you who are directing, guiding. It is you who - inadvertently, intentionally - have brought the horse to this state of confusion. And it is you who must undertake to un-do patiently that state of helplessness and confusion. It is you who must go back to the beginning, help the horse to understand, to respond

correctly to what you wish - and then reward him and yourself.

Fine tuning a horse's training must start from the first moment you begin the work with a young horse. If it is an older horse, it may have some bad habits, poor teaching from a previous trainer. Not to worry. Mistakes that the horse makes because they have been ingrained in him from previous training can be corrected. You have to bring the horse back to the beginning. Have a conversation with him. Even if some exercises are not going smoothly for a while, be gentle and patient as you, starting at the beginning, initiate the learning process all over again. Let the horse have confidence that you are gentle and understanding. When the horse opens up to you, follows your new aids, with understanding and enjoyment - not confusion - you will experience a reward from the horse to you, for your patience and understanding.

To end, I just want to give you a little example to think about! Of course it has something to do with the leg work. Imagine you standing on the floor and someone comes behind you and pushes your shoulder to go forward. You go forward. But the person behind continues to push you. After a few steps you will become very irritated and turn your head to say: *"stop pushing. I'm already going forward."* That is exactly what **occurs after you've given the horse a leg aid to move forward**, and as he moves forward, your legs continue to move, continuing to urge him forward. When the

horse is already moving forward, it is essential that you keep your legs still, quiet. Stop them from giving additional, continuing signals. The horse is already moving forward. **Don't make life difficult for him.** Remember what was discussed in the first installment of this series: learning and understanding are critical in building a foundation in order to work in balance with your horse. Your horse must learn and understand the intentional actions of your legs, and you must learn and understand how to control your legs and use them wisely and clearly as an aid.



Légèreté and Philippe Karl, Part VI

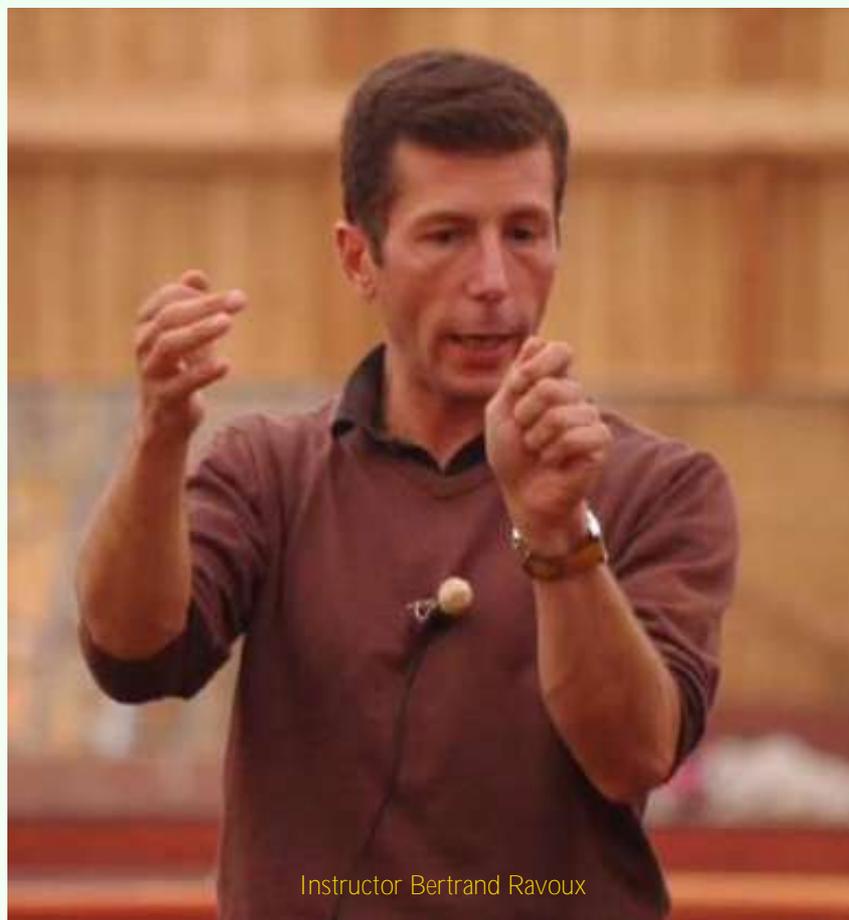
by Sherry Leväaho



The 6th Session of the **Teacher's Course** marked a turning point in the journey for many of the participants, myself and Caspar included. All of the horses (and riders) were seen to have made great strides, sometimes dramatically so. This

was very interesting for the auditors, of course, and provided much fodder for discussion. The instructor for this session was Bertrand Ravoux, one of **Monsieur Philippe Karl's top instructors from the School of Légèreté** in France.

Caspar and I accomplished much during this session and M. Ravoux was able to address our technique in the exercises in more detail, as well as to introduce exciting new exercises. Previously, I had concentrated on keeping Caspar relatively long and stretched in all exercises; however, now that he is reliably stretching to the bit and will extend the neck when requested at any time, I can safely require him to work with a higher neck and with poll flexion. We worked on improving half-pass: exercises including renvers will help Caspar a lot. We worked much more in canter than previously, and introduced exercises designed to encourage Caspar to balance himself, including voltes with quarters to the



Instructor Bertrand Ravoux

inside, first in counter-bend and then with true bend. The voltes were very interesting to ride; when Caspar got a bit excited, I felt like a bullfighter! I am hopeful that we will attend the next session with single changes in our repertoire. We also introduced piaffe, in slight shoulder-in position; here my main task is to maintain activity while keeping Caspar calm (as always).

In jumping practice, I must concentrate on keeping him round, and improving my ability to re-focus and re-balance him when he gets excited. The jumping exercises were simple but useful. One consisted of three fences: one at right angles to, and against, the wall; the other two at forty-five degrees to the inside of this fence, to form a “Y” shape. **This was a fun exercise to jump, and Caspar** really focussed on the job, waiting for me to indicate which fence to jump and he even began changing his leads to prepare himself for the change of direction. At one point, he was cantering practically at walking speed at the approach to the fence. The other exercise was also simple, but deceptively difficult. It consisted of four fences at the four quarters of a twenty-meter circle, ideally jumped at the same tempo, with the same number of strides between. I have since practiced this at home, because it was so challenging: Caspar had a tendency to get excited and it was tricky keeping him round throughout.



During the previous July session, the last lecture focussed on pedagogy, or methods and techniques of teaching. In October, the lecture portion was replaced by lessons with guest riders. After each candidate had



“Caspar,” Favory Fantasia III-1

taught their randomly assigned guest rider, the candidate received an evaluation and feedback from M. Ravoux on their approach, method and style; comments from auditors were also encouraged. Clarity was emphasised, as was precision of terminology. Students should be given as much autonomy as possible to encourage independence in problem-solving, and not dependence upon a hovering instructor. M. Karl and M. Ravoux have both emphasized that they are teaching us to be what they themselves are: “Teachers” and not “Instructors” or “Trainers” (which, when one thinks about it, makes rather a difference).

The Teacher’s Course is two-thirds finished now and the exams are only a bit more than a year away! Much has been accomplished but much also remains to be achieved - discipline is demanded of the candidates, as well as technique, sensitivity, and a rational approach.

[All photos courtesy of “For The Horse.”]

Oberbereiter Andreas Hausberger: A Clinic & the Training Centre Heldenberg

by Susanne Desai



Three years ago marked a major event in my life: I bought my dream horse, Pluto Fantasia.

Last summer marked yet another major event: I attended my first clinic taught by an instructor of the

Spanish Riding School. The instructor was Chief Rider (Oberbereiter) Andreas Hausberger, who is also Director of the new Training Center Heldenberg. It was the 14th annual Andreas Hausberger clinic in Carmel, California.



ABOVE: Jennifer Roth starting 5 y.o. gelding Maestoso Seraphina under saddle; in only the 4th ride, the focus was on slight corrections while maintain a light, steady, relaxed, supportive posture

Several breeds were represented at the clinic, including two Lipizzans. Some riders were new, but many had participated in previous clinics with Herr Hausberger.

One horse had just started under saddle with an experienced rider, another was a schoolmaster with a less experienced rider.

RIGHT: Ariel Thomas working Montfluey in a double bridle

Several horse & rider pairs were working at the Grand Prix level, others were working on beginning collection, transitions or position.



In each session, Herr Hausberger seemed to focus in on the specific issues for each pair, then ask for small changes or small corrections to help them work together in a more correct position or rhythm. After the horse & rider succeeded, Herr Hausberger would exclaim, “*SUPERB!*” and maybe offer a sugar cube.

There is an old saying that only a real expert can explain the basics of any art or science with ease. Oberbereiter Hausberger is an expert. It was amazing to watch him so quickly find solutions for the many training issues. Passing on his knowledge, while helping riders and their horses, seemed to make him glow with energy.

BELOW: Maddie Hays on Zino, working on following the strong trot





ABOVE: Leah Meyers on Divinci; Oberbereiter Hausberger is helping them find balance in Piaffe using the whip as an aid

After a day of instruction, Oberbereiter Hausberger sat down with me for an interview. I asked if he was planning to share his knowledge and the training methods of the Spanish Riding School in the form of a book. He suggested that there were already some books available and he was not now considering writing. However, he was enthusiastic about sharing his knowledge and methods in the new training facility of the Spanish Riding School in Heldenberg.



Heldenberg's stalls and paddocks

This spring, the Training Center Heldenberg will open to outsiders. At last, the Spanish Riding School's knowledge and techniques of Classical Dressage, accumulated over the past 450 years, will be more available to those not affiliated with the Spanish Riding School. Training opportunities will include theoretical courses, advanced

lessons for riders bringing their own horses, seminars for professional riders, workshops for dressage judges, workshops with international experts, and advanced training courses for grooms.

To be considered for riding instruction, you will need to submit a video of your riding with your application forms. Oberbereiter Hausberger and other Riders will decide if you qualify. Training will include the history of classical dressage, the proper seat, the correct aids, lunge work, the traditional training of a stallion, and riding lessons. Advanced dressage lessons can be in private or group sessions. Theoretical courses are 1-day, 3-days or 5-days long; the 3-day course includes 2 days at the Training Center and 1 day at the Spanish Riding School in Vienna, while the 5-day course includes 3 days at the Training Centre and 2 days at the Spanish Riding School in Vienna.



Heldenberg's indoor arena

Young horses for training should be paired with advanced riders, and less advanced riders should be riding well-trained horses. According to Oberbereiter Hausberger, *"the horse tells you when it is time for everything."* Training can consist of fixing existing problems or working on collected exercises such as piaffe and passage. Outside riders must bring their own horses and cannot use School horses. Horses can come for training without riders and there are horses available for sale from the Piber Stud Farm. All training is available in English, German and French. The public has the opportunity to view training at the Training Centre, just as they have been able to view Morning Exercises in Vienna.

The welcoming town of Heldenberg has a population of less than 1,500; for local lodging and travel information, as well as application forms and current prices for training, refer to: www.srs.at/en/training.

Has genetic typing of mare DNA revealed inconsistencies in the old pedigree records?

by Henry G. McIntosh, Pennsylvania, USA

Mitochondrial DNA analysis of the classical Lipizzan mare lines has shown that there are two instances in which two or more mare lines share identical mitochondrial DNA haplotypes. These are mare lines Engländeria and Stornella/Fistula, in the first instance, and mare lines Argentina, Deflorata and Presciana/Bradamanta, in the second.

This sharing indicates that there is a common female ancestor in each of the two above instances.

The other case, involving the mare lines Argentina (Lipizza 1750), Deflorata (Frederiksborg 1767) and Presciana (Kladrub 1782)/Bradamanta (Kladrub 1777), poses a more complex issue. While further extension of the pedigree of Bradamanta might show that she was, indeed, a foal of Deflorata, as they were both in the stud of Kladrub at the same time, the same cannot be argued for Argentina. This line runs from Argentina (Lipizza ~1750) to Undina (Lipizza 1767) to Undina (Lipizza 1782) to Indria (Lipizza 1793) to Aquileja (Lipizza 1803) and shows no generational exchange to Kladrub or Kopčany. In fact, Undina and Deflorata were foaled in the same year, more than 800 miles apart, at Lipizza and Frederiksborg respectively.

Moreover, the book, Der Lipizzaner im Spiegel der Wissenschaft (Brem, Gottfried, editor. Austrian Academy of Sciences, Vienna: 2011), on page 284, states that this mitochondrial DNA line, known as mitochondrial DNA line “Capriola,” is also found in five other of the “new” mare lines, though which ones is not stated. However, chart #7 on page 284 indicates that large numbers of this mitochondrial DNA line “Capriola” are found at Szilvásvárad and Făgăraș, so likely these five are of Hungarian origin.

All of the above facts lead one to the conclusion that there is some misunderstanding or error in the exact line of descent of one or more of the three mare lines involved.

What is the current thinking among those experts who have access to all the stud books and other pertinent documents, as to an answer to this question?

I throw this question open for discussion.

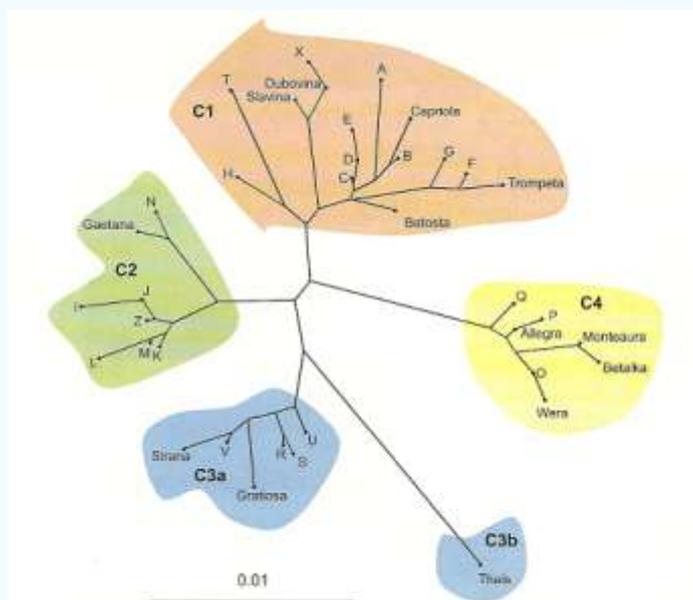


Abb. 4. Phylogenetischer Baum (Neighbour Joining Tree) der Lipizzaner mtDNA Haplotypen (Grafik Dövc).

from Der Lipizzaner im Spiegel der Wissenschaft, p.281

In the case of Engländeria (Kladrub 1773) and Stornella (Kopčany 1784)/Fistula (Kopčany 1771), it may be argued that if further backward extension of these pedigrees were possible, common female ancestry would come easily to light, given the frequent exchange of breeding stock between Kladrub and Kopčany in this period.



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Der Lipizzaner im Spiegel der Wissenschaft *The Lipizzan in the Mirror of Science* (in GERMAN)

Even if you cannot read German, this book is filled with wonderful illustrations. If you can read German, it is a treasure-trove. This 338-page book begins with the historical roots of the Lipizzan, how the studs, the stallion lines and stud families developed, and a history of the Spanish Riding School and Classical Dressage. What follows is a thorough review of the scholarly work that has been done on the Lipizzan, including studies on historical breeding, veterinary issues, morphometric characteristics, color heredity, genetic analysis (including mitochondrial DNA and the mare families) and molecular standardization. Published by the Austrian Academy of Sciences, Vienna.

Melanoma in Lipizzans — what's new? **Not much.**

by Dr. Delphi Toth

When asked recently about melanoma in Lipizzans, Dr. Jaromir Oulehla, long-time Director of the Spanish Riding School and Piber, and member of LANA's Board of Directors, indicated to us that all gray horses, including Lipizzans, are simply prone to develop melanoma. It is an old and enduring problem for the white/gray horse. Dr. Oulehla noted that although research has not added much to our understanding of cause and possible precautions, several new methods of treatment have been tested, some with success.

In humans, a diagnosis of melanoma strikes fear in the heart as it is the most deadly skin cancer and always malignant. One in 50 people will develop melanoma over their lifetimes, and it is the fastest growing form of cancer around the world, especially in young adults. Excessive exposure to the sun is a factor in incidence in humans. Treated early, typically by removal, outcome is excellent. However, if untreated and allowed to grow and spread, melanoma is difficult to treat and often fatal.

How is melanoma different in horses, specifically in gray horses, including Lipizzans? The old barn saying is that *"gray horses die with melanoma, not because of melanoma, so ignore it unless the lumps start to get in the way of chewing, biting, peeing, pooping or reproducing."* Is that true, or is it denial of the seriousness of this common disease?

More than 70% of melanoma in horses is seen in gray horses. In grays, melanoma is found most frequently under the tail (>90%), around the rectum and vulva, and less frequently around the penis, sheath, lips, and eyelids. There may be a genetic pre-disposition to this disease in horses with gray coloring.

In humans, exposure to sun appears to be a predisposing factor. Isn't it odd that melanoma in gray horses occurs most often where the sun cannot shine (i.e., under the tail)?

While the incidence of melanoma is higher in gray horses, the lethality appears to be significantly less than in non-grays. Melanoma in non-gray horses is more similar to melanoma in humans, both in its microscopic morphology and in its tendency to metastasize invasively.

Research should be conducted as to why melanoma occurs more often in gray horses yet tends not to be as lethal or to metastasize as freely. Is it all just genetic pre-disposition, both in getting the disease and then not getting a severe expression of the disease? This research

may be useful to the veterinary world but it may also be applicable to human medicine where light-skinned people are more vulnerable to melanoma, for as yet not entirely known reasons, and the prognosis remains poor without aggressive early treatment.

Newer invasive treatments for reducing the size of melanoma in horses include freezing/ cryotherapy, used instead of a scalpel to remove superficial growths. Lasers are especially useful when the tumors extend deeper below the surface or into less accessible areas.

Newer non-invasive treatments are focused on the immune system. Researchers are trying to develop a vaccine. At this time, the only vaccine treatments involve individualized vaccines made directly from a tumor removed from a particular horse then administered back to that same horse to control widespread development of melanoma in that particular horse. This is clearly still experimental work and cannot be used commonly.

Newer medications include cimetidine (brand name Tagamet). Developed as a histamine H2-receptor antagonist that inhibits stomach acid production to treat ulcers and gastroesophageal reflux disease, cimetidine may slow the growth of tumors and prevent their progression by acting as an immunomodulator. There are few outcome research studies but the use of cimetidine to control equine melanoma is common in the USA and in Europe.

Also under study is the use of Frankincense oil, an ancient medicine that may have significant modern use when injected directly into tumors. Frankincense oil contains boswellic acid, which is known to have anti-neoplastic properties. Studies into the effectiveness of Frankincense oil in controlling melanoma are as yet preliminary.

Also being used to reduce melanoma is chemotherapy with slow release cisplatin beads implanted into the tumors.

So what is the bottom line if your gray Lipizzan develops melanoma? Monitor the tumors? Yes, absolutely! Aggressively intervene at an early stage? Only if your trusted veterinarian recommends it. There are newer options for controlling the tumors - by removing them, or shrinking them, or inhibiting the development of more growth or more tumors.

Dr. Oulehla was correct: there is little new research on the causes of melanoma in gray horses, and just a little progress in management of melanoma in Lipizzans.

Our Lipizzan Stallions go to Bahrain

by Gary Lashinsky



Libby and Gary Lashinsky with new friends in Bahrain

In October of 2010, as Producer of “The World Famous Lipizzaner Stallions,” I was asked to bring our touring Lipizzans to Bahrain for the opening of their newly built Agricultural Park. This was a challenging adventure for us as we only had four weeks to plan this exciting trip.



Tired, with Jet-Lag

We cleared quarantine and started our trip with the horses from Miami, Florida. After a brief layover to change aircraft in Amsterdam, the riders and crew continued on to Bahrain with Lufthansa. Management and company officers flew British Airways through London to Bahrain. The journey was close to 8,000 miles long and took a day and a half before we all arrived in Bahrain late in the evening on the second day of travel.

Upon arriving in Bahrain, the horses were taken to the King’s Royal Stable to rest from this long trip. All crew and staff were taken to hotels arranged by Pico, also to rest. It was quite a trip for all of us! We were given our own private section of the stables to use, with security, as well as an on-call Veterinarian and a Federal Veterinarian for import and export to oversee the health of the horses while in Bahrain.



Rest and rehearsal in Bahrain

We took a few days for rehearsal and opened our engagement with a Royal Performance for King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and his guests; the performance was televised throughout the Emirates.



*Shipping the horses by air,
3 per container*

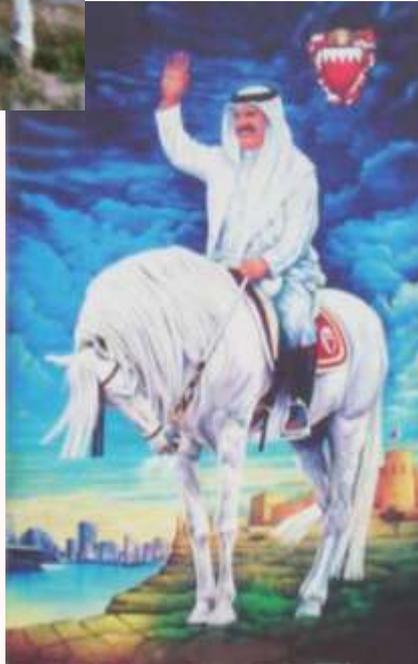
A contract was arranged between “The World Famous Lipizzaner Stallions” and Promoter, Khalid Ahmed Juman, of Pico International in Manama. Manama is the largest city in the island kingdom of Bahrain.

Bahrain is part of the United Arab Emirates, which also includes Abu Dhabi, Qatar and Dubai, and it is the smallest of these independent states. It is also home to the U.S. Navy’s Fifth Fleet stationed in the Persian Gulf.





*The King of Bahrain,
King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa*



The audience was very receptive to the show and to the Lipizzan horses. Our performance was a traditional program, with the Airs, Quadrille, and specialty solo numbers, including one by a Friesian named Tiburon who goes by his stage name of “Elvis.” He presented a high stepping, big band solo, which brought the audience to its feet, including the King, who stood and saluted “Elvis” during the performance.

We all left Bahrain after the show concluded a few days later. Our return to the states was not without drama. Once the horses and equipment were loaded on to the cargo jets, the horses and personnel left Bahrain bound for the USA via Amsterdam. Due to a winter storm in Europe that had closed many airports, we were rerouted to Leipzig, Germany to wait for the weather to clear until we could depart for New York and quarantine at the U.S.D.A. facility in Newburg, N.Y.

During the first show, there was a special presentation which told the story of Bahrain, with the King’s horses, Arabian horses from the King’s stable, hundreds of costumed riders and performers, as well as sheep, goats and, of course, camels. Our Lipizzans had never seen a herd of camels before and they were quite “curious” when the camels passed near them.

The newly constructed 2,500 seat performance arena was packed for all of the performances given by our “World Famous Lipizzaner Stallions.” We performed on a specially prepared soil floor that gave the horses excellent footing.

All returned home safe, sound and a bit tired. Would we do it again? YES! Before the trip I had been concerned about traveling to the Middle East and about the safety of our people and horses there, but everything was handled very well and we all had a wonderful experience in Bahrain.

We are now looking at possible performances in South Korea this summer. That should also be quite interesting and we look forward to telling you about it!





Lipizzan Farms and Breeders

*LANA Member Farms
with horses for sale, stallions standing,
training/instruction/evaluation, boarding, and other services*

»» Arizona ««



Rancho Bosque, LLC

8649 E. Woodland Road
Tucson, AZ 85749
Phone: 520-760-4468
email: info@ranchobosque.com
www.ranchobosque.com

Services: horses for sale, training (dressage, western), instruction & clinics (western, combined training), student apprentice program

»» Arkansas ««



Pine Mountain Lipizzans

309 CR 3633
Lamar, AR 72846
Phone: 479-885-3778
email: pinemountainlips@yahoo.com
Services: horses for sale
Stallion standing: Maestoso Millagra

»» California ««



Circle Lazy K Sporthorses

3664 Homestead Road
Mariposa, CA 95338
Phone: 209-742-7390
email: circlelazyk@yahoo.com
www.circlelazyk.com
Services: horses for sale, horses for breeding, training for pleasure and performance
Stallion standing: Maestoso Precocia

»» Florida ««



The Equine Inn

13150 NW 97th Pl
Ocala, FL 34482
Phone: 352-351-1550
email: stalls@theequineinn.com
www.theequineinn.com
Services: training (dressage, combined training), clinic hosting (various topics, including ground work, long lining, dressage, jumping, western, veterinary continuing education), boarding, overnight horse boarding
Stallion Standing: Pluto Gisella

»» Florida ««



Lipizzaner Stallions

P.O.Box 597
Goldenrod, FL 32733
Phone: 407-790-1163
email: garyl6988@aol.com, EALash@aol.com
www.lipizzaner.com
Services: horses for sale, Lipizzaners retired from "World Famous Lipizzan Stallion Show," also some mares and fillies

» Iowa ««



Medicine River Horse Farm

433 Pleasant View Drive, NE
Solon, IA 52333
Phone: 319-624-2546
email: medicineriverfarms@yahoo.com
www.medicineriverfarms.com

Services: horses for sale, training & instruction (dressage, jumping, work in hand)
Stallion Standing: Neapolitano Juwela

»» New York ««



Mount Helicon

56 Valley Farm Road
Millbrook, N.Y.
Phone: 845-677-9635
email: jni@iannuzzi.net
Services: dressage training, boarding (rough or full)
Stallion Standing: Siglavy Duba (Piber bred)

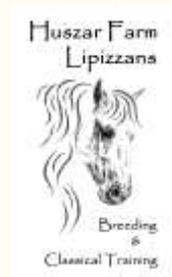
»» Ohio ««



Dulcey Anderson

8504 Linnville Road, SE
Heath, OH 43056
Phone: 740-323-4144
Services: horses for sale
Stallion Standing: Conversano Adina II

»» Ohio ««



Huszar Farm

Valley City, OH 44280
Phone: 330-607-3750
email: HuszarFarm@aol.com
Services: boarding, treatment of rider issues, consultation on the seat, dressage

»» West Virginia ««



Touchstone Acres

Kearneysville, WV 25430
Phone: 304-724-1286
email: info@TouchstoneAcres.com
www.touchstoneacres.com
Services: horses for sale, mare lease, boarding, clinics
Stallions standing: 261 Maestoso Samira XXI (Slovenia), Neapolitano XXIX-18 (Black/Sambata de Jos/ frozen semen from The Netherlands)

**If you would like to list your farm here and on LANA's website,
contact: advertising@lipizzan.org**