



Lipizzan News

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equine portraits & competitions

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On the Cover

Kirilia with 2023 filly Kakabeka

In April of 2013 Mississippi View Farm (MVF) was changed forever by a little stallion named Neo. He was originally confiscated in a case of animal neglect and was adopted by Kate, becoming the first Lipizzan at MVF. A true ambassador to the breed, after only a short time he proved himself to be kind, intelligent and incredibly talented. Soon Lipi fever swept through the barn and we set about acquiring some mares of our own to breed to Neo.

The mare Kirilia, affectionately known as 'Kiki', was one of the first broodmares to arrive. Kirilia (b2008, Favory II Candita x Filipana) was bred by Chris Bell of Wind Mountain Lipizzans of Springfield, Oregon. Kirilia's 2023 filly Kakabeka was sired by Tempel Farms' imported Maestoso Legény, bringing in valuable outside genetics to the MVF herd. To read more about the story of the MVF Lipizzans please visit: <https://www.missviewfarm.com/mvf-lipizzans>

Now, MVF is home to one of the largest breeding programs of Lipizzans in North America with a representation of many bloodlines in this rare breed. Here at MVF we pride ourselves on being a great place for young Lipizzans to grow and develop.

About the Photographer - Carmel Huppert



Capturing memories, freezing a moment in time so that one day you can look back and smile. That's why I take pictures. My love of horses and art came together with photography and I never looked back. My dad always told me that if I wanted something that it wasn't going to be easy but hard work pays off. I'm thankful everyday for every client, and every opportunity I get.

Learn more: <https://huppertphotography.wixsite.com>

On the Inside Cover

960 Andromeda (848 Pluto VII Andorella x 915 Ada)

The mission of the Tempel Lipizzans is today as it has been since 1958; to promote classical dressage and the Lipizzan breed in the United States through a careful breeding and training program. Our on site public exhibitions and behind-the-scenes tours serve to educate on the history of this classical art through the beauty of synchronized movements, the harmony of partnership between horse and rider and the impressive athleticism and training of the airs above the ground, or haute école movements. The Lipizzan breed is now considered an endangered domestic animal with numbers of less than 12,000 worldwide.

Located in Old Mill Creek (Northern Illinois, just an hour from Chicago or Milwaukee, WI), on the property of Tempel Farms, Tempel Lipizzans is a full time dressage training facility in which experienced trainers adhere to the standards of training established hundreds of years ago in the classical schools of Europe. As of 2015, the Spanish Riding School in Vienna, Austria, after which our American program was modeled, has 450 years of elevating classical equitation and has been added to the list of UNESCO's "intangible cultural heritage of humanity." The foundation of the Tempel Lipizzans breeding program was directly from Piber, the stud farm of the Spanish Riding School.

John Borys

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JOHN BORYS
photography



"The real voyage of discovery consists not in seeking new landscapes but in having new eyes." - Marcel Proust

United States Lipizzan Federation

To preserve, protect & promote the Lipizzan breed throughout North America

USLipizzan.org
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*Our office team is all volunteers. We strive to respond promptly, but please extend us the courtesy of up to 48 hours for a response.

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Invitation to Submit to the Lipizzan News

The Lipizzan News is by our membership, for our membership.

Sharing your stories is what makes the Lipizzan News a valued member benefit.
[Tell us your story!](#) General guidelines:

Photo and Short Story: approximately 100 words (1-2 paragraphs)

One-Page Story: approximately 500 words and 1-2 photos

Two-Page Story: approximately 1,000 words and 3-4 photos

We are looking for your Lipizzan and Special Interest Articles

PHOTO Submissions: 300 dpi, please
(or approximately 3000 pixels x 3000 pixels)

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Email ideas, questions and submissions to **LipizzanNews@gmail.com**

Where to Find Answers to your Questions

The USLF website has been designed to support our members! We encourage you to go online and explore. Below are some frequent questions and the **Menu Item** to click on. And of course, you are always welcome to reach out to the USLF Office using the contact information above!

Registering and Transferring your Lipizzan:
Registry

Registering and reporting for Awards:
Awards

Horses for Sale
Marketplace/Horses for Sale

Membership Directory
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All this and more can be found at **USLipizzan.org**

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Committed to Education

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Spotlight Message

The Spotlight Message highlights work being done by USLF's committees. This Spotlight Message was written by Ruth Metz, of Portland, Oregon. Ruth is currently Chair of two committees: the Genetic Studies and Rare Breed Initiative (GSRBI) and the USLF Nominating and Elections Committee.

NEW USLF PROGRAM TO CONSERVE GENETIC MATERIAL IN DEVELOPMENT

In April 2023 the USLF Board of Directors (Board) instituted a Program for Genetic Material Conservation (PGMC). Initially, the program will be a safety net to prevent the loss of potentially important existing frozen semen that is in jeopardy.

However, the intention is that as the program gets its legs, it will accommodate other genetic material, as is necessary to preserve, protect, and improve the Lipizzan breed in North America. The criteria for determining the inclusion of genetic material are set forth in the Program framework available on the USLF website. These criteria will be applied on a case-by-case basis by a Board appointed Resource Team, with each case ultimately decided by the Board.

While the program will start small, the intention is to develop it and the funding to support it, over the next several years. The urgency of the PGMC cannot be overstated. It is central to the mission of the USLF and for the long term, essential to the preservation of Lipizzans.

The sobering facts of the aging American Lipizzan population beg that the USLF focus attention on offsetting and minimizing the loss of genetic material. Various circumstances contribute to the loss of genetics. In combination and over time, they undermine the diversity of breed genetics. For example:

- A breeding quality horse with bloodlines that is a real outcross but is not being bred.
- The loss of important genetics due to castration of such a stallion.
- Frozen semen from an important stallion that is discarded because of the expense of maintaining it or because the stallion is presumed well-represented by sufficient offspring.
- The lack of awareness and/or knowledge about genetic diversity or breed standards.
- The increasing difficulty of finding barns that will board stallions.

The purpose of the PGMC is to identify genetic material that has the potential to contribute to the preservation, protection, and improvement of the Lipizzan breed in North America in future generations; safeguard this genetic material by collecting, storing, and maintaining it in a manner that makes the material viable for future generations; and utilize genetic material in a manner that benefits the collective Lipizzan breed in North America.

The PGMC has several potential benefits:

- Preserves important Lipizzan genetics now and in the future.
- Makes important genetics known.
- Makes important genetics available cross-regionally.
- Provides an option that is otherwise not now available for Lipizzan breeders.
- Helps prevent high inbreeding coefficient in the breed population to foster genetic diversity.

The Board will appoint a Resource Team for its working knowledge of the breed stock and genetics. It will combine the knowledge, skills and abilities to perform, coordinate, and manage the functions of the program. This includes identification, assessment, shepherding of each individual selected subject, and overseeing the secure storage and use of genetic material.

The Board will initiate and maintain this program with funding, for now at an estimated conservative base level of \$500 per year, with the priority initially being the storage of genetic material, principally existing frozen semen. However, the program will be administered with latitude for what may become necessary and prudent, in keeping with the purposes of the program.

When viewed through the lens of what is necessary for the preservation of the breed, this will be the beginning of understanding the scope of need and the role of the program. Alternative funding paths will be explored, such as donors, grants, and potential partners, individual, organizational, and institutional.

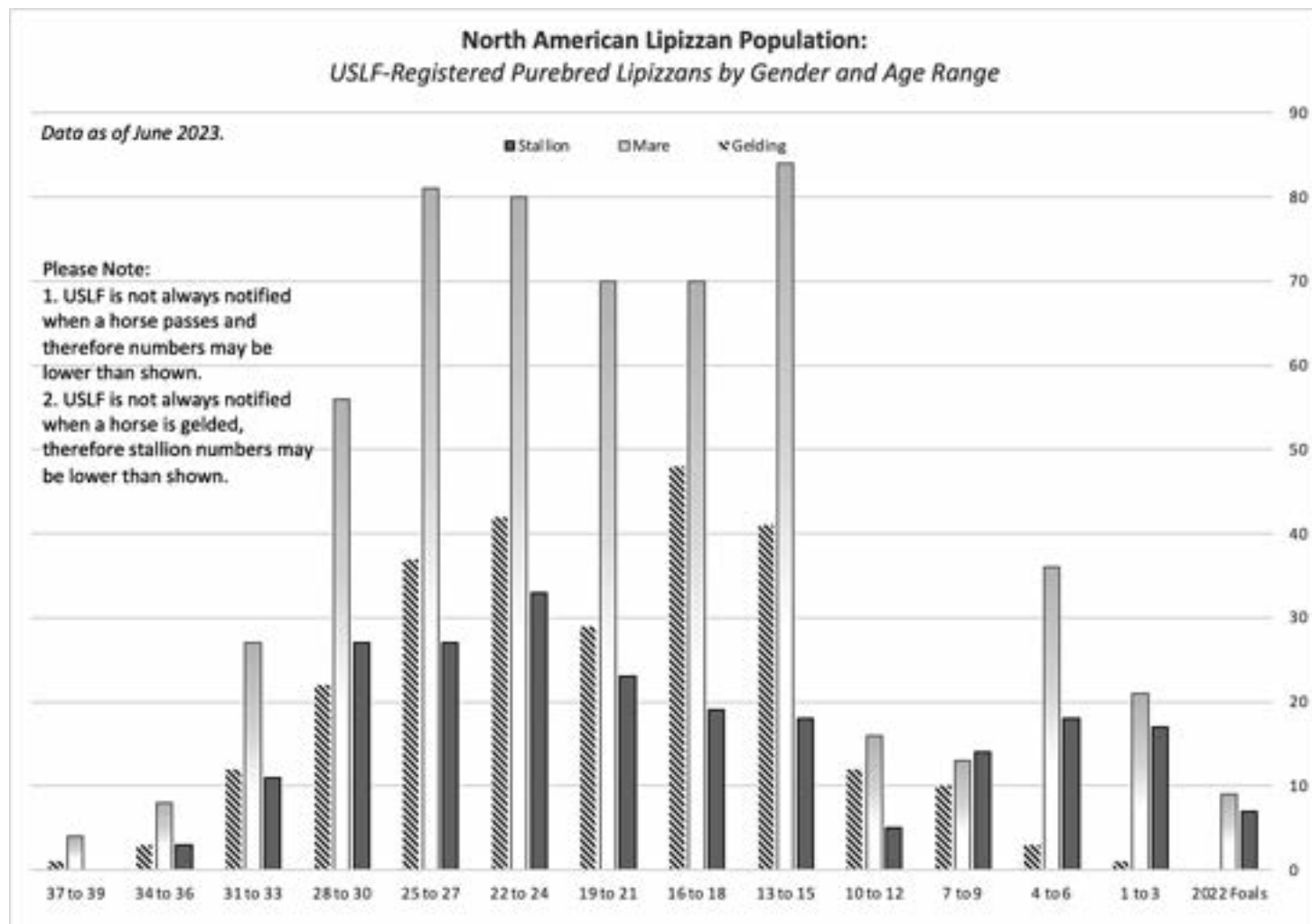
Congratulations to the Board, and thanks to Lisa's foresight and the work of the GSRBI Committee. The program concretely and formally advances the USLF mission. It is a proactive and necessary step to a more diverse and greater reproducing genetic Lipizzan pool, now and in the future. It will also give the USLF solid footing to build a community of people who understand and support the project on principle and with funds.

Ruth Metz

The **Genetic Studies and Rare Breed Initiatives (GSRBI)** was launched by Lisa Kelly Simmons in early 2021. The main goals of the GSRBI are to search for scientific methods to preserve, protect and promote the Lipizzan, considering the unique challenges of a rare breed, and to educate the USLF members about available technologies and methods related to breeding, preserving, and perpetuating genetic material.

After many months of study and consideration with the Board, the GSRBI developed the framework for the Genetic Material Conservation Program. It is a flexible framework for beginning genetic material conservation immediately and for building on the program for genetic material conservation over time. The initial focus is for conserving already frozen semen, on a case by case basis. There will be the continuing need for the USLF to assess and strategically address the genetic preservation of Lipizzans. The Board has set in motion a structure and a process by which this assessment and strategic planning will occur. The GMCP proposal with framework can be found on the USLF website.

What do you think? Do you have ideas you would like to contribute in support of the new program? We would love to hear from you!



Please note this chart reads from our oldest Lipizzans (on the left) to our youngest Lipizzans (on the right). This chart was first presented at USLF's 2018 annual meeting in Olympia, Washington, and has been updated and shared with USLF members a few times since then. This current chart shows the dramatic decline in breeding that started around 2007/2008. What happened then? While the downturn in the economy likely played a factor, what we saw was a number of large herd dispersals that flooded the Lipizzan market. This drove down sales prices and small breeders were less likely to sell their young horses and in turn they were less likely to breed for additional horses. By the time the Lipizzan market returned to a seller's market a few years ago, most of the breeding mares of the existing small breeders had 'aged-out'.

I am encouraged by a new generation of breeders entering the market! However, as a community, we need to be thoughtful about our genetics as we enter an era influenced by the limited breeding of the last decade. -Lisa Simmons, USLF President

A Magical Day With Lipizzans

Dianne Schultheis

It was a beautiful Spring morning in the Pacific Northwest when I arrived at Cameo Haven Farm to begin this magical day. My eighteen-year-old gelding Pluto Sorria "Zeus" would be visiting the family who took care of my wonderful dad during his final years.

For three years before a broken hip limited his mobility, every Friday I would take Dad to the barn with me to visit his best buddy, Zeus. He would stand patiently while Dad carefully brushed him with every brush in the grooming tote, then we would walk slowly around the grounds, Zeus matching his strides with Dad's so they could walk side by side. Every visit would conclude with an apple Zeus took from Dad's hand in two careful bites. When Dad was no longer mobile, I would take Zeus for visits to the home where he lived. They had a special bond, Dad and Zeus, and to see them reunited was an honor and a privilege for me. Dad would be brought outside in his wheelchair and smile broadly as I walked Zeus toward him. Their greetings were tender and loving, Zeus giving gentle snuffles and Dad gently stroking his soft nose.

Dad was cared for by an amazing couple who loved him as a member of their family. Dana and Gabe had two precious little girls who took special care of Dad, reading to him, playing ball, singing and sometimes, just sitting quietly beside him. Those little girls filled his final years with joy and love. Those same little girls fell in love with a Lipizzan and were thrilled by our visits to their home. Zeus, in that characteristic Lippy way, gently and quietly won their little hearts as we taught them the wonder and magic that loving a horse brings. He stood quietly while they brushed his soft, clean coat and lowered his head to receive their tiny stroking hands and give them a loving gaze with his big soft eye. To observe his manner with these little beings made my heart nearly explode!

Dad is gone now, but the gratitude I feel for that family remains and I wanted to do something special for them. So, today, I began early with a thorough bath for Zeus, uncovering his shiny white coat and silky mane and tail. My wonderful trainer, Karen Fitzgerald, used her many skills to adorn Zeus with jewel toned hair extensions in his mane and tail, pink sparkle polish on his hooves and an all-over glitter spray which made him sparkle in the sunshine. He was more spectacular than any Hollywood creation! He seemed to know that he was undertaking a very special and important mission when he stepped onto the trailer and we were off.



Visiting Dad with Pluto Sorria in March 2019.
Photo Courtesy of Dianna Schultheis

The house is located on a quiet cul-de-sac which is easy for parking and free of traffic. He carefully backed out of the trailer and looked around, seeming to remember our earlier visits to see Dad. Just then a neighbor came out of his house and seeing the beautiful, sparkling white horse he smiled and said, "This is something we don't see in this neighborhood very often!" As we approached the house, out came Dana with her little girls who waved and giggled with delight. With them were two more little girls and their mom and then, one by one, three elderly ladies who are in Gabe and Dana's care were wheeled out in their chairs and settled in the shade to watch, a big smile on each of their precious faces. Zeus was eager to meet all of these new friends and was completely comfortable with the squealing little ones and the elderly ladies in wheelchairs. We brought carrots which I helped the little girls give him and they took turns brushing him slowly and gently. The little girls were thrilled to take Zeus for a walk around the cul-de-sac.

Magical Day cont.

I walked by his shoulder and the four little girls, ages about two to five, lined up side by side each taking hold of the lead rope and we all walked together around the neighborhood as though we had done it a hundred times before! Zeus again measured his steps to match those tiny little girl steps, just like he used to do with my old dad. And when the garbage truck came through the neighborhood rumbling and banging, Zeus stood peacefully with his little girls by his side until it was safe for us to continue our walk. The nice truck driver nodded, acknowledged the special visitor to the neighborhood and let us know that he was being extra slow and quiet with his rounds.

When our visit came to an end, Zeus received four little girl hugs and kisses and two handmade little girl thank you cards. Everyone waved as we loaded and headed home. Today, there were no judges, tests, scorecards or ribbons but there were four little girls and three elderly ladies who were all winners. And there was one beautiful Lipizzan who was the Champion in everyone's heart today. That is my All Around Great Guy, friend of little girls and elderly people, courageous, gentle and true, my heart, my Zeus.



Pluto Sorria with his little girls, June 2023.
Photo Credit: Dana Danciu

Online Shows for Lipizzans

There are two upcoming and perhaps ongoing opportunities for Lipizzans to compete online, from your own home!

First, Dressage Shows Online (DSO) has scheduled a special show benefitting the Lipizzan Rescue Foundation. It is scheduled to run from July 21 – 31, 2023. Please visit their website for more information and to enter!

<https://dressageshowonline.com>

They offer classes in Western and Classical Dressage. This is also their Rescue Horse Challenge which is so appropriate since it benefits the efforts of the Lipizzan Rescue Foundation.

Second, Online Dressage International (ODI), is passionate about providing a supportive forum where you and your horse can compete from the comfort of your own barn, accessing the very best of judges' feedback from across the globe and, of course, the chance to win prizes in a range of classes to suit absolutely everyone.

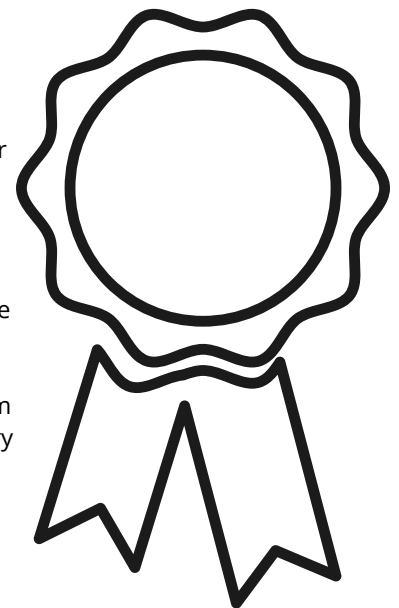
ODI has constructed classes for Baroque horses! Lipizzans, Friesians and Iberian horses will compete! Their website is:

<https://www.onlinedressageinternational.com/onlineshows>

There are rosettes for every competitor (all postage included so hidden extras) and they are always on hand to support and advise every step of the way.

Online competitions were born in the COVID lockdown and continue to provide the benefit of judge's evaluations and an opportunity to compete. It's great fun to have a friend record a ride and then be able to re-watch it as you look at the comments from the judge.

In my opinion, ribbons are a bonus!



Thank you to Kelli Wilkinson for bringing these opportunities to the attention of the membership!

A Study in Contrasts

Cindy Lambert

925 Favory VIII Aurelia II-II, known in the barn as Duey, (he is the second Favory VIII Aurelia II colt) is a 6-year-old gelding. Recently gelded, Duey's personality is emerging. There is not a mean bone in his body and he often gently touches me with his nose as a sign of affection. He is big and strong yet looks to his handler for confidence.

You would think that the above traits suggest that he is meek. This is not the case. Duey has very strong opinions about a lot of things, which shows up as stubborn. If he does not want to do something or wants to do something else, he plants his feet. As part of his gentle nature, once you acknowledge his opinion and apply some mild encouragement, he moves forward.



Duey can be sluggish under saddle but has plenty of energy and enthusiasm on the lunge line. Not too long ago when I was lunging him in the round pen, he bolted, pulling the lunge line out of my hand (see picture – my husband happened to be videoing – this is a still from that video). I tried standing in his path to stop him, but he just turned and galloped in the other direction. After 5 or 6 minutes, the barn manager took pity on me and helped me stop him.

He looks awkward when he walks because his walk tends to be a little lateral, but he is very coordinated and has beautiful movement at the trot and canter. Duey is very handsome and well put together but is missing a front tooth. Thankfully, horses don't smile much, so no one really notices.

He has an innocent look about him, which also makes him seem not very intelligent. However, looks can be deceiving, because behind the innocent look is an incredible brain that learns quickly and figures things out. For example, he learned how to open his stall door. The first time Duey opened his stall door with his nose was when I was behind him and my husband was standing just outside the stall door. Duey slid the door open in the same place I slid the door open with my hand. My husband asked me how I did that when I was standing behind Duey. A few days later, he opened the stall door again, in the same way, just to confirm his new skill.

He loves to interact with both horses and people, but likes to be left alone during nap time (notice the annoyed gaze in the picture). I can't wait to see what else this year will bring.



Photo Credit: Felicia Clements



Above and Top
Photo Credit: Randy Lambert

Upcoming 2023 USLF Evaluation Tour

Lisa Simmons

This September the USLF will be hosting Nidal Korabi, LIF Four Star Judge, as he conducts Lipizzan breed evaluations in Minnesota, Pennsylvania, upstate New York and Massachusetts. Locations were selected based on a survey conducted by the USLF Breeders Committee this last winter, with the primary intention of having as many young stallions evaluated as possible. A huge thank you to the following breeders who will be hosting evaluations:

September 19 **Mississippi View Lipizzans**
Tuesday* Sauk Rapids, MN

September 21 **Flying Changes**
Thursday Shippensburg, PA

September 22 **Waltzing Horse Farm**
Friday* New Berlin, NY

September 23 **Noble Lipizzans**
Saturday Ashby, MA

*At the two locations with the most horses to be evaluated, we will have an hour-long 'Meet & Greet' where Nidal will give a short presentation and take questions from attendees. If permissible, we will be taping his presentation and making it available to all our members.

Questions? Interested in having your horse(s) evaluated at one of these locations? Please call the USLF office and leave a voicemail or email USLFoffice@gmail.com

Volunteers are in the process of making detailed information available on the website. When all details are available we will send an email out to the membership!



Surprising Family Find

Lisa Simmons

My parents, Jeff and Kathy Kelly, have been sorting through old stored boxes. What a surprise to discover this postcard, dated April 15, 1963! Sent by my grandmother Jean Schmidt (deceased) to my mom: *Dear Kathy, We watched these horses rehearsing today. They are certainly beautiful. It's cold here. See you soon. Love, Mom.* It gives me goosebumps to think my grandmother stood in the Spanish Riding School in the era of Podhajsky! It was also possible that she saw Bereiter Karl Mikolka ride. I studied with Karl for 5 years so that is a full circle moment. It also warms my heart to think that three generations (my grandmother, my parents and I) have all had the opportunity to experience the historic Spanish Riding School.



Remarkable Romanian Stallions' Win

Julia Bartha

Julia Bartha's family is a well-known private breeder of Lipizzans in Romania. I first met Julia last fall at the LIF General Assembly. Then, this spring, I had the opportunity to spend time with Julia on Zoom when she volunteered for a Select LIF Working Group I coordinated. I hope you enjoy reading her story of their underdog pair of Lipizzan stallions winning a title! - Lisa Simmons

Below: Elite breeding stallions Incitato X (II-24) and Siglavy Slavonia XXXVI at the World Championships in Hungary in 2015.

Photo Credit: István Vida-Szúcs
At Right: Julia Bartha and Siglavy Slavonia XXXVI's first foal.
All Photos Courtesy of Julia Bartha



Summer of 2015. The carriage driving season went pretty well for the Bartha team, even though the horse pair was fresh and didn't promise much at the start of the competition year.

Eduard, the driver, started working with two grey Lipizzaners in March, with no clear objectives, or perspective, but some hope to get national recognition. At that time, Incitato X (II-24), born in Romania and Siglavy Slavonia XXXVI from Croatia were approved elite stallions, used in the private stud farms for breeding, not for sport. I was the groom and was quite unsure if two stallions would behave well together in the carriage. At the age of 13, the horses seemed very different at first, but after months of hard training they were showing promise of being a good team.



After three national competitions, the Bartha team climbed up on in rank and took the silver medals a few times in a row. It was clear that the horses had natural talent and everyone believed they had a shot at participating at the World Championship (WC), held at Fabiansebestyen, Hungary in September. As proven, Lipizzaners were strong and resilient for the three day driving competitions. If trained properly, this breed could become the perfect athlete, especially for the marathon and cones test.

It was the first World Championships for this pair of horses, but also for the driver and its team. Horse driving existed in Romania for 30 years, but the truth being told the drivers never stood a chance in front of the Western European drivers when participating at the WC. Romanian drivers never had sponsors or fans, and most Romanians don't even know this sport exists. Our family of Lipizzaner lovers always had a great passion and wanted to prove more to the world. Luckily, we had some of the best carriage Lipizzaners to help us to succeed.

At that time, the new horse breed, the Dutch Harness Horse already stole the show at the dressage tests and most of the western European drivers switched their Lipizzaner teams for Dutch horses. For us, the Lipizzan was not only the logical choice because of its athlete skills, but also a family member, a friend, a team mate that brought us years of joy and happiness.

If I look back now, the two greys were not very skilled at dressage. They had no spectacular movements like the Dutch horses, they were not at all easy going and relaxed when performing, but they sure had the will to be the best they could be. We knew right away that we didn't have high chances of being in front of the list after the first day, but we celebrated anyway and hoped for the best for the next day.

For a small team and family like ours, being present at a World Championship was already a victory. I remember how mesmerized I was by all the big shiny horse trucks, all the beautiful horses and the newest carriages and harnesses. These were things we didn't even dream of due to the lack of financial support from our country.

It was the hardest marathon course Eduard had ever driven on. After all, it was the World Championship, so it should have been. The trail was long and tiring for all horses; there were several accidents in the obstacles. After finishing the course, the Bartha team was placed somewhere in the middle. Not bad for a first Championship. All of us thought it was a great start for our young driver and that this opportunity will open many doors for him in the future.

Romanian Stallions cont.

Sunday. Last competition day. As we observed at the national competitions, the team was quite skilled at the cones test, they even won a few gold medals at home. But even though they trained hard for this, the chances of us being at the front of the list were small. After all, some of the best drivers in the world, including the Lazar brothers, were competing against us. The whole Bartha team was anxious, especially the driver and my father, our biggest supporter. At the same time, we had the feeling that we didn't have anything to lose, only the chance to gain some experience. Eduard's hope was to drive the cones course without any knocked down balls, my hope was to just get over this test and let the stallions rest as they should. Like never before, our two grey Lipizzaners found a perfect connection with their driver. The team was motivated, focused and balanced in every turn, sliding gracefully through all gates. For a moment I felt like we were all flying.



Photo Credit: István Vida-Szűcs

I don't know how the 3 minutes passed, I only felt the rush of adrenaline and joy when we crossed the finish line with only 0.33 penalties for the time, but no penalties for the balls. We were in first place, but there were still 50 other teams that had to finish their course. We were happy with our result and we could relax for the rest of the day. After another two hours of competition, we were still in first place. After the last and best competitor, we realized that we had to put the horses back in the carriage for the ceremony, because we had won the Cones test.

I look back in time with pride and happiness. I realize now that when you don't expect much and you remain humble in a situation, then good things are coming. Working hard and being humble is what still defines the team until this moment. The Lipizzaner stallions demonstrated to the entire horse world that they are the perfect athletes, teammates, but also the ideal elite stallions. After retiring from the competitions, they continued their career in breeding and gave beautiful, strong, intelligent foals, perfect in any sport.

As a personal example, I made myself the perfect riding horse from Siglavý Slavonia's first foal.



Gretta's PSG Debut

Laura McDonald

I am pleased to report that Gretta and I successfully debuted at Prix St. George this June in Kalispell, MT. Even with a few bobbles, we managed to earn a score of 60.88%. I am tickled pink to be fulfilling my "Spanish Riding School dreams" by riding my self-trained Lippy down centerline in tails. Many thanks go out to the people who have helped us get here: To my trainer, Sophie Pirie, for her excellent coaching and continual encouragement to improve; To Christel Carlson and Gail Mackie for breeding my lovely mare and selling her to me; And to my mom and SO for providing support and encouragement both at home and at shows. Onward to Intermediaire!

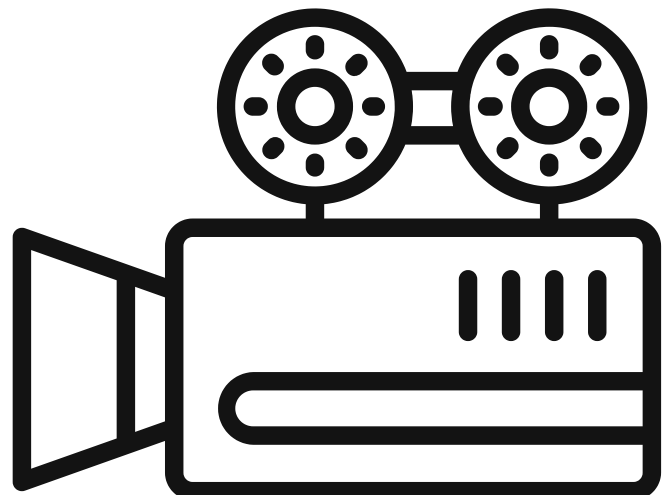
Photo Courtesy of Laura McDonald

Lipizzans in the Spotlight

We wanted to highlight Lipizzans in the spotlight, as these are opportunities to show Lipizzans to the larger public. We have some great photos on page 20 as well of Lipizzans hanging out with celebrities. Katie Langdale and other members have also had some amazing opportunities for their Lipizzans to appear in brand shoots or films. The below photos were taken by Cassidy Brooke Photography for a commercial for the Free Ride/USHJA campaign. Siglavy Presciana II-I "Percy" best boy in the world was the star of the show!



Genola and her morgan friend Clarity Locomotion featured in "Pool Party" on the cover of CSDEA's Cross Country magazine. Safety first for these two as they climb into the pool on a hot summer's day. Photo taken by Carmel Huppert.



Lipizzan Legacy



Conversano Andorra (Teddy)
546 C.Mima x Andorra
Bred by June and Leonard Boardman
Owned and adored by Lynne Warfel

April 11, 2000 - April 9, 2023.



Teddy, Photo Credit: Lynne Warfel



Lynne and Teddy, Photo Credit: Joshua Holt, her son.

My first Lipizzan.

You mended my broken heart by coming into my life as a yearling. You gave me love, friendship and everything you had every day of your life that was all too short. You taught me all about your noble breed and I fell in love with both you and all those like you. I will never stop looking for you in the paddock.

Love you forever, Teddy.

2023 Foals

Rosewood Farm

Photos Courtesy of Katie Langdale



Neopolitano Baldisara "Hughey"

Baldisara x 7021 Neapolitano XI-21



Clara

Castellana x 7021 Neapolitano XI-21



Irene Stephanie duPont

Photo Courtesy of Irene Stephanie duPont

Bola

Siglavy Ballestra x Rima

Editor's Note: Bola will be bay just like her sire and dam!

Tempel Lipizzans

Photos Courtesy of The Tempel Lipizzans

Photo Credits: John Borys



959 Bellatrix

857 Conversano VI Garcia
x 926 Buona Fortuna



960 Andromeda

848 Pluto VII Andorella x 915 Ada



961 Gia

890 Maestoso Batrina x 909 Greta



962 Conversano VI Brigitta

857 Conversano VI Garcia x 931 Brigitta

2023 Foals cont.

Mississippi View Farm

Photos Courtesy of Carmel Huppert



Patagonia

Maestoso Legény x Patrizia-59



Kakabeka

Maestoso Legény x Kirilia

Waltzing Horse Farm

Photo Courtesy of Sarah Casey

Altana

Favory Onikita x Alga-3



Across the Diagonal Farm

Photo courtesy of Jennifer Roth



Maestoso Rubina "Platino"

Maestoso XLIV-17 x Rubina

Sugar Magnolia Farm

Photo courtesy of Brittany Purcell



Favory Amira "Bodhi"

Favory Allura x Amira

Tahoma Sunrise Farm

Photo Courtesy of Sylvia Weber



Neapolitano Panama "Anton"

Neapolitano Pepita x Panama

Celebs

Lipizzans have been both the stars of the show and had the privilege of meeting the stars of the show..



Left: During Bill Murray's New Worlds Tour which touched down in Chicago, he made a visit to Tempel Farms with classical musicians Jan Vogler and friends.

Photo Courtesy of The Tempel Lipizzans



Tempel Farms welcomed Italian conductor Maestro Riccardo Muti who currently holds two directorships: the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and the Orchestra Giavonile Luigi Cherubini. Maestro Muti hails from Naples, near where our Neapolitano line was started. Pictured here: Vincent Buonanno, Conversano Sarissa, Maestro Riccardo Muti, Neapolitano Anita and Esther Buonanno.

Photo Courtesy of The Tempel Lipizzans

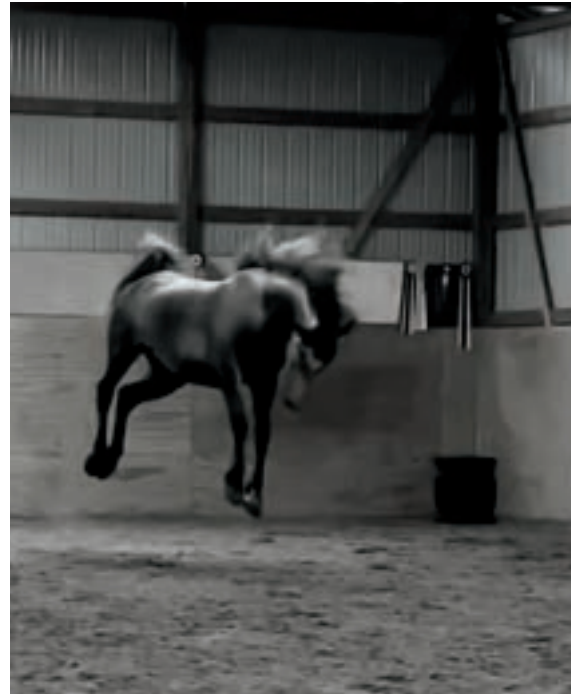
Left: 414 Dido pulling the coach at Disneyland. Other mare pictured is Erie (444 Eria). Right: She also pulled the pumpkin coach. Photos Courtesy of Rennie Squier



Fun and Funny Faces



His Favorite Trick
Horse Name: Pluto Melodina II
Barn Name: Timbell
Owner: Cornelia Hamilton
Photo Credit: Pam Hastings



Susan Benson shared Chaska jumping for Joy.
Photo Credit: Her friend, Susie Lorenz



Above:
Robina (aka Bean) by Favory Allura & Rubina - smiling for the selfie
Photo Credit/Selfie Taker and Owner: Brittany Purcell



Right:
Janet Buckner and Siglavy Presciana II-II take a bow
Photo Courtesy of Janet Buckner

2023 USLF Board of Director Candidates

The Nominating and Elections Committee is pleased to present the following candidates for Board of Directors for the upcoming 2023 elections. Voting begins September 3 and closes October 8.

*~ Election results will be reported at the USLF Annual Business Meeting on October 18, 2023. ~
Committee members are Ruth Metz, Sam Martinson, Kathy Kelly, Rennie Squier, and Mella Smith.
For more information, please contact Committee Chair Ruth Metz (ruthmfmetz@outlook.com)*

Lisa Kelly Simmons *President (incumbent)*

Location: Oregon

Board Position held: President

How long have you been an USLF member?

Since 2007

Introduce yourself by giving a brief description of your journey with Lipizzans:

My Lipizzan journey has been a compelling thread weaving through my life since the late 1990s. First riding and showing, which lead to breeding and importing, to my current favorite activity of spending time with my Lipizzans and watching how they touch hearts. My family currently has four Lipizzans at our ranch in Oregon: two mares Alsea and Gabriola (ages 25 and 30) who have graced our barn for 22 years, a 20-year old gelding Siglavy Acatherina, and our newest family member 11-year old Siglavy Melodia 56-I, imported from the Spanish Riding School in January. Early on I felt compelled to volunteer for the breed in numerous ways and this has provided me exponential returns as I have had the pleasure of connecting with and meeting our Lipizzan community all over North America and Europe.

If asked by someone new to the breed "Why are you so passionate about Lipizzans?" what would you say?

I grew up riding a variety of breeds including a Welsh Mountain Pony, multiple Appaloosas, a Quarter Horse, and a Thoroughbred. After college I would catch rides on various Warmbloods in my trainer's barn. Then one day my trainer asked me to start riding a Lipizzan mare named Nikia. I was hooked. Her kindness, her sensitivity, her willingness, her in-tune-ness was unlike anything I had experienced even as a relatively green mare. As I continued to learn more about the breed, it became my family's mission to contribute to the breed's conservation.

Describe your volunteer and/or Committee experience, events, attended and time spent with the USLF:

I have had the privilege of volunteering in numerous areas of USLF over the last 15 years. Primary areas include serving as USLF President since in 2016, being active on the Registration Committee, Virtual Office Team, USLF Lipizzan News Committee, GSRBI Committee and helping to facilitate USLF Breed Evaluations. Previously I served a term as Director of USLF. Starting last fall, I'm working to develop international interconnectedness by serving as the VP of the Lipizzan International Federation (of which USLF is a member).



Siglavy Melodia I-56 "Astra" and Lisa.
Photo Credit: Diana Jochim

What specific interests, skills, and talents will you bring to the position of director?

I think the greatest strength I bring to USLF is my ability to facilitate communications and build community - both on a national and international level. Over the last 20 years I have committed myself to learning about the Lipizzan breed and finding methods to further conservation. This is supported by my professional background as a Civil/Environmental Engineer. I have owned my own consulting firm since 1999 and understand the passion part of running the USLF as well as applying my business and analytical skills and experience.

If you could tell the world one thing about the USLF and our work with Lipizzans-what would it be?

USLF members inspire me! For such a small organization we have an incredibly large number of members who passionately volunteer their time and skills contributing to the mission: preserve, protect and promote the breed.

Esther Buananno

Director-at-Large (incumbent)

Location: Illinois

Board Position held: Director

How long have you been an USLF member?

I'm Director of Tempel Lipizzans and our business has been a member of the USLF for 12 years, and before that aligned with the USLR for 16 years. I became a representative for Tempel Farms when I became a Lifetime Member of the USLF in 2014, 9 years ago.

Introduce yourself by giving a brief description of your journey with Lipizzans:

I was born into it! My grandparents are the founders of Tempel Lipizzans and my mother and Aunt were instrumental in bringing our farm and horses to the public via performances, tours and hosting North American Young Riders Championships for 13 years. My personal journey began 13 years ago when I started in an administrative role at Tempel Lipizzans. My focus has been on developing our educational programming to make Lipizzan horses and dressage better understood. I'm passionate about excellence in breeding and have dedicated time and resources to continuing this at Tempel Farms.

If asked by someone new to the breed "Why are you so passionate about Lipizzans?" what would you say?

Lipizzan horses are living history and they need active participants in their preservation. After many years of breeding, I'm in awe of the consistency of design and temperament of these horses. They are useful, athletic, versatile, hearty, intelligent and beautiful. To breed them is an honor passed on from many generations of people whose care over time shows in the product of each new foal. I want to pay the honor forward passing on excellent horses and knowledge to the next generation of breeders.

Describe your volunteer and/or Committee experience, events, attended and time spent with the USLF:

I have hosted two Annual Meetings and two Symposiums/Breeding Evaluations at Tempel Farms in the past 10 years. I have attended several LIF General Assemblies and Judging Seminars in stud farms around Europe. I serve on the board of directors and the breeding and historical committees.

**Voting Starts:
September 3rd, 2023**



Esther and her favorite broodmare, Ada
Photo Courtesy of The Tempel Lipizzans

What specific interests, skills, and talents will you bring to the position of director?

As a director, I believe I bring a strong commitment to the preservation of the Lipizzan along with knowledge and experience with management of Lipizzan breeding, raising, training, promotion, and sales. I am passionate about fostering high quality breeding; with each new foal that is born there is a respect for the past and a commitment to the future. In addition, I continue to be interested in finding an archival means to gather our breeds history in a multimedia way that may grow over time with the contributions of many.

If you could tell the world one thing about the USLF and our work with Lipizzans-what would it be?

There is nothing like a Lipizzan horse; it is this which fuels the passionate stewards of this breed.

Jenn Mikulski

Director-at-Large (incumbent)

Location: Maryland

Board Position held: Secretary

How long have you been an USLF member?

8 years

Introduce yourself by giving a brief description of your journey with Lipizzans:

I first saw a Lipizzan at 8 or 9 years old. During a family trip to Florida, my parents took me to a performance of Hermann's Royal Lipizzan Stallions. I was so enthralled by the dancing white stallions that, many years later, when I started collecting Breyer horses, one of my first models was a Lipizzan (the "original" Pluto). I do not come from a family of horse people, so back then, that was as close as I could get to "owning" my own Lipizzan. Later, I took dressage lessons at a barn with a Lipizzan stallion, another Pluto. I'll never forget watching that stallion under saddle. Unfortunately, after a riding accident, I stopped riding and left the barn. But, as it turns out, Lipizzans were destined to be an ongoing theme in my life; 20 years later I returned to riding and dressage and a barn that used Lipizzans as lesson horses. There, I met Conversano Melora II and several other Lipizzans. These days, I am schooling a Lipizzan mare, Casurina, and I'm looking for my next Lipizzan dressage partner.

If asked by someone new to the breed "Why are you so passionate about Lipizzans?" what would you say?

Their grace and beauty, power, intelligence, sense of humor, rich and unique history; what's not to be passionate about? More so than any one Lipizzan trait, however, I am passionate about preserving and promoting the breed. There are far too few Lipizzans in the world today and the breeding herd in North America continues to shrink. To preserve this breed for the long term, we need to protect the current genetics (while staying true to the Lipizzan standards) and creatively and emphatically promote it.

Describe your volunteer and/or Committee experience, events, attended and time spent with the USLF:

I began volunteering with the USLF in 2017 as a member of the Calendar Committee. Since that time, I've served, and continue to serve, on the Membership Committee as Chair, as well as the Annual Meeting, Bylaws, and Merchandise Committees. Over the last two years, as a Board member, I have served as the Secretary of the Board, assisted in managing the USLF office (email and VM), and supported, and sometimes facilitated, Wine & Wisdom events.

In 2022, I also served on the Nominating & Election Committee. I helped organize and participated in the 2020, 2021, and 2022 VAMMS and (finally) for the first time, attended the 2022 USLF Symposium and Lipizzan evaluations.



Jenn and Conversano Melora II "Sebastian"
Photo Courtesy of Jenn Mikulski

What specific interests, skills, and talents will you bring to the position of director?

I am a motivated and dedicated individual who loves to learn. I am skilled at organizing and coordinating tasks and projects, and I can motivate and support others. I'm technologically savvy and I view every challenge or issue with an analytical eye to determine potential benefits and associated risks.

If you could tell the world one thing about the USLF and our work with Lipizzans-what would it be?

While the USLF, as an organization, is passionate about the preservation, protection, and promotion of the Lipizzan breed, it also consists of many passionate individuals, from all walks of life, who are as dedicated to each other as they are to their Lipizzans.

Dr. Judy Downer

Director-at-Large (candidate)

Location: Florida

Board Position: Running for Director

How long have you been an USLF member?

I joined USLF after purchasing my first Lipizzan, Favory Vereina 7 years ago.

Introduce yourself by giving a brief description of your journey with Lipizzans:

After a long career with Quarter Horses, Thoroughbreds and Warmbloods, I decided to venture into Lipizzans based on the experience and adventures of my good friend, Kate Phillips. My two Lipizzans were bred by her. Like many, I watched childhood movies and even saw the Lipizzan show at Madison Square Garden as a child. Both of my horses are quite competitive, and the gelding has won USDF Horse of the Year awards at both Training and Second level, in addition to breed awards and USLF awards at every level up to Third. Not bad for an 8 year old! His half sister has even better gaits and is well on her way to a very successful show career.

If asked by someone new to the breed "Why are you so passionate about Lipizzans?" what would you say?

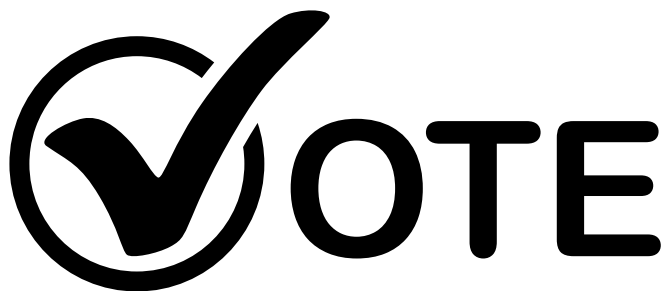
Their brain. Many times I have been in a situation where I think, "If I was on a warmblood, I would be galloping across the field or possibly on the ground, but the Lipizzan stands and watches the scary object, then calmly walks by.

Describe your volunteer and/or Committee experience, events, attended and time spent with the USLF:

I have volunteered to be a speaker for USLF: once on equine nutrition (my Ph.D is Animal Nutrition) and another time on the new dressage attire rules. I have volunteered as a USDF Participating Member Delegate for the past ten plus years. I have held every office in my GMO.



Favory Vereina and Judy
Photo Courtesy of Judy Downer



**Ballots Due:
October 8th, 2023**

What specific interests, skills, and talents will you bring to the position of director?

Between my judging position, my experience competing on the national platform in dressage, and my science background, I am uniquely qualified to bring a diversified vision to USLF. I can work internally and externally with competitors, licensed officials and federation leaders. My lifetime experience with the horse industry can help USLF grow and gain respect.

If you could tell the world one thing about the USLF and our work with Lipizzans-what would it be?

Lipizzans are a unique breed: gaits like a warmblood, ability to collect like a Spanish horse, temperament that is tolerant and safe. The best combination of fun, competitive, safe and happy to work!

The Lipizzan's Place in the Italian Equine Gene Pool

Nicole Link for the GSRBI Committee

In the previous issue of the News, the USLF published an email from Dr. Luca Buttazoni, Director of the Italian State Stud Monterotondo, about the origins of the foundation stallion Conversano. I also submitted a discussion about one of the scientific studies he referenced which showed genetic distance between the Lipizzan and the Murgese horse. Dr. Buttazoni read that issue and sent another interesting (and very recent) study that examined the genotypes of 22 Italian breeds and compared them to each other and international breeds. This study, published by Capomaccio et al in January 2023, showed again that the Lipizzans are noticeably genetically distinct from other Italian breeds.

The authors graphed their results in a variety of different ways, but the graphs usually resulted in Italian breeds falling into 3 distinct genetic groups. The first, "coldbloods," were 148-170 cm tall and used for heavy work in the northern part of the country. The second, "warmbloods," were 115-147 cm tall and used for light work and sport in the central and southern parts of the country. The third group were ponies. Interestingly, the Lipizzan often appeared off on its own, away from these three groups on the graphs. This was the case both when the authors only compared Italian breeds, and when they added foreign breeds into the mix. The authors do note that the Lipizzan is not strictly an Italian breed, but they include it as an Italian breed in the analysis due to the presence of the herd in Monterotondo.

This study also examined the effective population size (N_e) of the seven Italian breeds that were represented by samples from at least 40 individuals. There are many different jargon-filled ways to define N_e , but a higher N_e usually supports a higher genetic diversity. Ten generations ago the Lipizzan had an N_e of 43, but at the current time it is only 20. This is the lowest of the 7 breeds. For comparison, the highest N_e in this study is 132, for the Italian Heavy Draught. The low N_e in the Lipizzan is likely due to the breed's long history with a mostly closed studbook.

The study authors note that their findings suggest several breeds are only distinct in a geographical or cultural sense, not in a genetic sense. Personally, the genetic distinctiveness of the Lipizzan is one of the traits that has driven me to take an interest in its preservation, and I always enjoy the chance to examine new data about the genetic heritage of the breed.

Capomaccio S, Ablondi M, Colombi D, Sartori C, Giontella A, Cappelli K, Mancin E, Asti V, Mantovani R, Sabbioni A and Silvestrelli M (2023), Exploring the Italian equine gene pool via high-throughput genotyping. *Front. Genet.* 14:1099896. doi: 10.3389/fgene.2023.109989

Italian Lipizzans During WWII

Lisa Simmons

*This spring I was asked by Oregon children's author Deborah Hopkinson to serve as the expert reader for a forthcoming nonfiction book for young readers about the Lipizzans in World War Two. **THEY SAVED THE STALLIONS** will be published by Scholastic in 2024. I will share more about the book when it is available. During my review I took a historical question to Dr Luca Buttazoni, Director of the Italian State Stud Monterotondo. I found his answer historically interesting, so I'm sharing his lightly edited response here. - Lisa Simmons*

After the Allied Army landed in Sicily in WWII, the Kingdom of Italy signed the armistice on September 8th 1943.* Immediately, the German Army invaded Italy and set up an illegal, puppet government led by Mussolini. The King fled Rome to the South under the protection of the Allied Army.

However, the northeast regions were put under the direct administration of Germany. This area, named in German *Adriatisch Kustenland* (Adriatic Coast) included the Italian provinces at the border with Austria, Gorizia, Trieste, most of current-day Slovenia and the northwest part of Croatia. This area included Lipizza (which had been under Italian authority since WWI).

On October 12th 1943 the German Army seized all the 179 Lipizzans at Lipizza: 6 stallions, 54 mares and 119 colts and brought them to Hostau (now Hostouň, in the Czech Republic).

After the war and the heroic rescue of the horses by the U.S. Gen. George S. Patton on May 12th, 1945, part of the Lipizzans were given back by the US to the Italian Army on November 18th 1947. Only 80 horses came back: 5 stallions, 42 mares and 33 young born from 1944 through 1946. Most of them originated in Lipizza.

In January 1948, the Italian Lipizzans were taken to the military stud of Fara Sabina. On January 1955, after the Italian Army dismissed mounted troops, the stud was given to the Ministry of Agriculture and it became known as Monterotondo.

So:

1. The Italian Lipizzans were moved to Hostau and then returned after four years;
2. FARA SABINA is just another name for the MONTEROTONDO stud.

*The Armistice of Cassibile was signed on 3 September 1943 between the Kingdom of Italy and the US and UK during World War II. It was made public five days later. *Source: Wikipedia.com*

Traditional Lipizzan Stud Farms



This map shows the approximate locations of traditional Lipizzan stud farms in modern day Slovenia, Austria, Italy, Slovakia, Hungary, Romania, Croatia and Serbia. Modern names are shown in bold. Historic names are provided for reference.

Lipizzan mares and foals at Monterotondo Stud Farm, outside Rome, Italy in 2016. Lipizzans were first brought here in 1948 when it was the Italian military stud of Fara Sabina. In 1955 the stud was given to the Italian Ministry of Agriculture and it became known as Monterotondo. Photo Credit: Lisa Simmons



Member Interview

Dr. Judy Downer, Equestrienne, USEF S Dressage Judge, R Western Dressage Judge, USDF Diamond Achievement, and Scientist

As Interviewed by Janet Buckner

I always enjoy hearing about a rider's decision to choose the Lipizzan as their next dressage partner, especially if that rider has considerable experience with other breeds and disciplines and has a vast knowledge of equines in general. Hence, I reached out to USLF member, Judy Downer, and asked if she'd permit me to interview her. Her answer, not surprisingly, was, "Yes, happy to do so." Somehow, she found the time to patiently answer my questions in between a full schedule of riding, training, teaching, taking care of all things equine at her Starry Night Farm in Ocala, Florida, and flying to hither and yon to judge. I hope you enjoy her answers as much as I did.

Q: So, Judy, first, could you give us an overview of your life with horses?

Thank you, Janet, for asking me to talk about my favorite subjects: horses and dressage! I have ridden my whole life (since 9 years old), traversing through 4-H, Quarter Horse shows, eventing and finally dressage for the past 30 years. I competed as an amateur until I earned my USDF Gold Medal in about 2004, and started the USDF L Program to become a judge about the same time. My first FEI dressage horse was Dux, a Danish Warmblood I purchased in Denmark as a confirmed Intermediare I horse with some Grand Prix movements. I had only competed to Second Level when he was purchased, so he came down to my level. Quickly (within a year) I was showing Prix St. George and won two regional championships and some USDF year-end awards as well. With my newfound education from Dux, I purchased several young warmbloods and developed them to FEI levels. As I was approaching my USEF S Dressage Judge license, I purchased a yearling Lipizzan from Mississippi View Farm. Now I have two "Lippys" - half siblings- in training and showing.

Q: What are some of the breeds you've trained and shown?

A good horse has no special breed or color! I have shown Welsh ponies, Quarter Horses, Appaloosas, Thoroughbreds, Draft crosses, Hanoverians, Danish Warmbloods, Swedish Warmbloods, Dutch Warmbloods, Lusitanos, and Lipizzans. My training system is individualized but focuses on building confidence, connection through the back and adheres to the USDF training pyramid. I am a competitive person by nature and enjoy showing.



Wunderbar
Photo Credit: Heather Black

However, it is the training journey that drives me. Two summers on a ranch in Montana showed me how to challenge the horse with new stimuli to build trust and confidence, so my horses stand tied to the trailer, pull tarps, walk over objects, etc.

To learn more about Judy's riding and teaching philosophy, you might enjoy reading about it on her website: starrynightfarmocala.com. I especially liked her explanation of the "three zones"- comfort, stretch and panic.

Q: After earning your medals and freestyle bars on your Danish warmblood Dux and Wunderbar, a Hanoverian, what sparked your interest in Lipizzans as your next show prospect? Tell me about your two Lipizzans, Favory Vereina "Vern" and Ravenna "Raven".

Kate Phillips and I went through the USDF R judge license program together and became great friends. She had just started her adventure with breeding Lipizzans and encouraged me to purchase one of her young horses (Vern). I was immediately fascinated by his thoughtful approach to life. Things that sent the warmbloods into rapid flight and flee resulted in Vern watching and processing the issue. Once under saddle, there were many days when frightful things that would have resulted in me being launched to the ground from a warmblood became a quiet watchful process, finished with calmly walking away. Raven is the same and at her first show she was mature, focused and walked under saddle past the loud 18-wheeler horse van arriving! This year Vern is 8 and ready to show Fourth level, schooling PSG. Raven is 5 showing Training Level and schooling Second Level.

Member Interview cont.

Q: What have you found to be different about training your young Lipizzans, if anything? Do you find there are advantages/disadvantages in training a smaller, more compact horse? Are there special considerations when teaching a Lipizzan the basics in the dressage training pyramid?

I've only had these two Lippys and many other people would be better at answering this question. However, I will take a stab. Biomechanically they are closer to a German warmblood than a Spanish horse. By that I mean they tend to get behind the leg and have a slower stride frequency. Engagement is easy, but through-ness may be challenging. Vern is very braced in contact and stiff in the poll. Originally his hind legs were slow, but they are getting more responsive now that he is schooling piaffe. Raven is also behind the leg at this point, objects to contact, but when she is compliant, it is lovely. I place that as typical of a horse schooling Second Level and learning collection. So basically, both are strongly opinionated, naturally uphill, enjoy their tasks and curious about life. Small horses are also typically short in the back (more square than rectangular) and therefore are not as easy to bend for lateral work. A key is to enhance bend behind the saddle and try to add that to the bend in the neck and ribs. I really enjoy their mind and I look forward to riding them every day I am home.

Q: Competing on a little sports car compared to a bigger warmblood must be quite a change. You told me once many years ago that dressage was the warmblood's world, so what has been your experience now that you have two beautiful and talented young Lipizzans? You've been very successful with Vern thus far with impressive scores!

Competitive dressage does reward horses with elastic, ground-covering, scoopy gaits – something that small horses just don't offer. Yet, both of my horses are very competitive. Raven was reserve champion in her first show and Vern has placed nationally in both Training Level and Second Level. Vern earned a median score at Training level of 73% and placed 13th in Open Training Level. He was the highest placed non-warmblood! At Second level his median was 65.9% and he placed 3rd nationally in Vintage Cup Professional. Anyone who understands the judging process knows that a well-trained, consistent horse with 3 clear gaits can beat a fancy warmblood that is not yet consistent. Gaits have to be pure but don't have to be expressive. As for size, I have always preferred small horses and to date, have never owned a horse bigger than 16.3 hands. Wunderbar stuck at just under 16 hands and I purchased him at 3 years of age after he failed the stallion inspection in Germany for being too small. He retired sound at 18 after 3 seasons of Grand Prix, came out of retirement at 20 to help a good friend earn scores for her judge's programs, and is being re-retired now at 23 – still sound in limb, but no longer sound in wind or eyesight.

Q: As a USEF S judge, do you have any advice for someone who is considering a Lipizzan for their next dressage partner?

In the US today, we enjoy seeing many different breeds in our dressage ring. Our judge training program (USDF L program, continuing to the R and S license) trains us to evaluate and reward quality gaits and adherence to the training pyramid. Thus, the best trained horse with regular gaits wins unless a horse with exceptional gaits can match the correct training. Not everyone can ride the exceptional warmblood with international quality gaits (I know I can't) and people should choose a horse that matches their ability and gives them confidence and enjoyment. I frequently see competitors "over-horsed" and can tell they are not having fun. They should stop trying to impress their peers and ride a horse that allows them to show off their ability, instead of having a fancy horse that they can't possibly develop into a high-performance horse.

Q: Can you comment on any issues with managing Lipizzans as opposed to other breeds?

Yes! They are easy keepers and since their numbers are very small, I wish we had more data regarding metabolic issues. I muzzle them on lush pastures to help control body weight, but are they sensitive to sugars, fructans or at risk for laminitis? What about osteoarthritis since they tend to have the upper end of body condition scores? Also, my farrier loves their feet, but I always keep my training horses in shoes. How many Lipizzans compete barefoot? I think it would be very helpful to survey our membership to learn about health issues of this breed.

I would like to thank Judy for her insights and wish I had more space to add questions and answers. As an alternative, I'd like to again reference Judy's website for more training commentary, more horse stories (with photos of course) and more on her role as a scientist in developing pharmaceuticals for our beloved equines. It's a must read. Starrynightfarmocala.com



Ravenna
Photo Credit: Q2 Photography

Terry A. Bowman

For some of us drawn to white horses (specifically Lipizzan horses) maybe it's the stories of Royalty riding and owning these special horses created by The Hapsburg Empire over 450 years ago. American history buffs love the stories of General Patton and his 3rd Army rescuing these amazing horses from Hitler and Russia during World War II. Are you dreaming of horses who can fly without wings? Most find this quality in the Lipizzan Breed - the "The Ballerinas of the Horse World."

How do you go about selecting "The One?" You do not, they find you, That's right! You might be thinking you would like to see, ride, and possibly own a Lipizzan? First off, they are rare with less than 1,100 in the United States today. Another interesting quality about these brave and beautiful unicorns in white is that they decide who will dream, touch, brush, care, work with, and ride them. They are looking for an equal, not a master but a human who is not afraid to take the lead with them and find the joy in the intelligence and loyalty of each special individual Lipizzan.

As with every meeting in life, the first one is so very important with a Lipizzan. They will look at you with their big, beautiful eyes and look right into your soul. I can guarantee you will never meet such an extraordinary creature as these horses, as they will capture your heart like no other.

Having had the privilege and honor to be connected to these amazing horses from birth to riding, training, owning, and performing with them for over 30 years, I have a few suggestions for those of you who are being called by the Lipizzan.

First this is a proud, strong horse, so you must always stand tall, walk as you mean business and look this horse in the eye (like you would look at a dear friend). Smile. You are meeting your new best friend. For it is all about respect and love with this horse. Do not be in a hurry to touch him or her. Just stand close enough and to the side to be able to do a proper greeting. Talk with them and they will invite you to touch them or breathe with them. If they invite you to touch them, take note if they like soft or firm rubs? Do they want you to rub behind their ears, on their neck, shoulder, or face? Never pat them like a dog. Soft circular strokes make them happy. If your Lipizzan moves away, never chase them. Do not take offense, understand this is all about the dance with them. You are being invited to entice them. You might try singing softly to draw them closer, or you might try sharing a treat like an apple or carrot. Just one please, and not the whole bag! You eat some first, then offer to share it with them. Eat loudly with relish! Taking turns eating with them. I have not meet one yet who says, "no, thank you." And always take the first and last piece of treat for yourself. If you notice their lips quivering, you are winning them over.

This breed is smart and will **always** tease you, taking note of your response. Humor and a lot of patience is the best response. Do laugh out loud, your Lipizzan will be happy you are in on his joke. Always be the one to feed and water your Lipizzan at least for the first two to three months. They must see that you will be making sure they are properly cared for and that all good things come from you. Consistency, fairness, and fun are the keys to success with this horse. If they are watching you and coming up to greet you the relationship is growing the correct way. Pay attention to the name they wish to be called. If they are not responding to their given name, that is your invitation to try to find the name they wish to be called. The minute you call them by their true name, try not to be surprised when they respond immediately by coming across the paddock, stall, or field to greet you.

Every day is a new day with your Lipizzan. Always pay attention to their wishes for the day as well as your own plans with them. A Lipizzan does not have to let you ride them (please read that sentence again). Understand that a happy Lipizzan will gladly let you ride them every day and enjoy spending everyday with you. An unhappy Lipizzaner might let you on but gives no guarantee you will be allowed to stay on their back for the whole ride. This horse is an athlete and can do maneuvers other horses just dream about. This is called "Airs Above the Ground". Lipizzans do these maneuvers when they are happy, nervous, excited, mad or to try and please you. This horse was not created to always keep all four hooves on the ground. It was created with a big, loyal, brave heart and an intelligent, creative brain. Do not let this happen. If your Lipizzaner is getting bored, your Lipizzan will start trying to train you, just for fun.

How do you know if your Lipizzan is trying to train you? Here are the top four things, but be aware they are intelligent, so there is always more where this comes from. Do they bang on the door of their stall to see if you will run faster to them with their morning grain? Please make them wait until they behave with manners (standing quietly and patiently) and not like they were raised in a barn.

Does your Lipizzan try to lead you with the lead rope, instead of stopping and going on your command? Ground manners are a must. If they are not listening to you on the ground then they will not listen to you on their back.

LRF News cont.

The mounting block dance. Does your Lipizzan stop before, after or go sidewise just as you are getting into the saddle? Please do not get mad at your Lipizzan. Always carry a treat in your pocket so that when they finally get bored with this dance and let you on, you can both enjoy standing quietly at the mounting block enjoying a treat (just one each).

And my favorite Lipizzan training trick, The "Mommy I'm Scared." Most people baby their Lipizzan at some point during the spook with love pats and cooing calming noises and even stopping the horse. You are now rewarding your horse for behavior you do not want, and they are having a really fun time at your expense. Push them forward with voice and body. Do not engage in the spook dance, ignore it and move on quickly with a different pattern, stay relaxed but ready and move on quickly. When you get in tune with your horse you can feel the spook dance coming on. Always play a more creative game with them, immediately change up the ride, have more fun with obstacles etc. Do not stop your horse, do not slow down the horse. Ride on, eventually your horse will listen to you and not be coming up with his or her own game of spook. Remind yourself that these horses were so brave, they were the choice of Knights and Royalty riding into battle for hundreds of years.

Now maybe some of the normal behavior of the Lipizzan leaves you thinking is this the horse for me? There are many ways to love and support a Lipizzan besides owning and riding one. Go to the performances and tip well. The care and upkeep on these living legends is easily over two thousand a month per Lipizzan! The Herrmann's Royal Lipizzaner Stallions Perform every winter in Sarasota Florida and Temple Lipizzans also host clinics and performances in Libertyville outside of Chicago Illinois.

Another way is to donate to the very worthy Lipizzan Rescue Foundation. This amazing Foundation helps save the Lipizzans who need help finding new homes. You can help save a living legend by donating for their care and upkeep. Maybe the horse you help save will be the Lipizzan who calls to you! Feeling like you need to get closer to the Lipizzan (you are definitely being called by one) check out the loving Lipizzans up for adoption or sponsorship at lipizzanrescuefoundation.org. This could be your once in a lifetime chance to help save a living legend.

Photos Courtesy of the Lipizzan Rescue Foundation



Transitions

March – May 2023

REGISTRATIONS

Lipizzan Mares:

Caledonia (b.2022, Mississippi View Farm, Neapolitano Wandosa II x Ceria) by Kate Phillips of Sauk Rapids, MN.

Ceviana (b.2019, Sydney Endow, Pluto Vituosa-47 x Celosia) by Sydney Endow of Hood River, OR.

Graciosza (b.2003, Melody Hill Lipizzans, Maestoso Platana-21 x Sonata) by Lindsay Scott of Hixson, BC.

Mariah (b.2022, L'Egisto Lipizzans, 712 Neapolitano IV Aloha x Millagra) by Julia Wood of Edgewood, NM.

Seneca (b.2022, Mississippi View Farm, Neapolitano Wandosa II x Soja-20) by Kate Phillips of Sauk Rapids, MN.

Tulia (b.2023, Pine Mountain Lipizzans, Conversano II Emma II-4 x Bellita) by Tammy Costas of Kingston, OK.

Lipizzan Stallions:

138 Conversano Lipica IV (b.2019, Barbana Lipizzans, 388 Conversano Allegra XLVI x 233 Lipica IV) by Rochelle Vergalito of Ashby, MA.

142 Conversano Trompeta XVIII (b.2019, Barbana Lipizzans, 388 Conversano Allegra XLVI x 556 Trompeta XVIII) by Rochelle Vergalito of Ashby, MA.

21 Conversano Betalka XL (b.2016, Marjan Kosec, 388 Conversano Allegra XLVI x 510 Betalka XL) by Rochelle Vergalito of Ashby, MA.

Neapolitano Moresca (b.2022, Mississippi View Farm, Neapolitano Wandosa II x Moresca) by Kate Phillips of Sauk Rapids, MN.

Neapolitano Sennia (b.2023, Mississippi View Farm, Neapolitano Wandosa II x Sennia) by Kate Phillips of Sauk Rapids, MN.

XL Lipizzan Mares:

Elsa (XL) (b.1996, Rita Taggart, Pluto Triesta x Unknown) by Kate Phillips of Sauk Rapids, MN.

TRANSFERS

Lipizzan Mares:

Asha (b.2006, White Horse Vale Lipizzans, Favory Ilka I x Antiqua) to Dr. Dawn Wietfeldt of Bardstown, KY.

Bravva (b.2006, Four Pillars Farm, 760 Favory IV Delta x Andiamo) to Tammy Costas of Kingston, OK.

Galaea (b.1992, Capriole Farms, 416 Maestoso II Sabrina x Gala) to Ruth Metz of Portland, OR.

Kellea (b.2019, Melody Hill Lipizzans, Neapolitano Pepita x Kembrosia) to Private of Prince George, BC.

Lipizzan Stallions:

Favory Sennia (b.2018, Mississippi View Farm, Favory Canada x Sennia) to Kate Phillips of Sauk Rapids, MN

Lipizzan Geldings:

Maestoso II Gala (b.1995, Capriole Farms, 416 Maestoso II Sabrina x Gala) to Ruth Metz of Portland, OR.

Maestoso II Serafina (b.2010, Regal Ride Ranch, Maestoso II Catrina x Serafina) to Betty Toussaint of Talent, OR.

Neapolitano Wandosa II (b.2005, Springstone Farm, Neapolitano Fantasia x Wandosa) to Samantha Martinson of Sartell, MN.

Pluto Allegra Doser (b.2004, Green Acres Stables, Pluto II Dixana II x Allegra XXXVI Doser-46) to Tara Thrash of Miles, TX.

XL Lipizzan Mares:

Bellwether (XL) (b.2019, Spearhead Equines, Lord Locksley (TRK) x Biancasara) to Jennifer Parrish of Tompkinsville, KY.

XL Lipizzan Geldings:

Cooperative (XL) (b.2003, Christel Carlson, Conversano Natasha II-I x Three Chances (SWB)) to April and Makensie Stoltz of Medical Lake, WA.

Ninja (XL) (b.2020, Samantha Martinson, Favory Canada x Gambria Eze (SWB)) to Kate Phillips of Sauk Rapids, MN.

Thank you to our Registrar and members for working diligently to make sure all horses are properly registered.

Breeders Directory

The Equine Inn, LLC

Tina N Teegarden
8278 NW 162nd Ct Morriston, FL 32668
Phone: 352-239-1423
Email: Solartnt@mac.com

Standing

Pluto Gisella

Services offered: Full breeding services @ \$600/month plus vet and blacksmith, including: boarding mares & foals, foaling mares, maiden mares, breeding AI-my stallion or your choice. Foals handled daily. Fresh cooled shipped semen Occasional foal for sale

Melody Hill Lipizzans

Lindsay Scott
Hixon, BC, Canada
Phone: 604-861-9777
Email: mylipizzan1@gmail.com

Standing via live cover or frozen semen

Neapolitano Pepita (Bay, 15.1hh)

Conversano Ulyss

Horses/foals occasionally for sale

Mississippi View Farm

Kate Phillips
Sauk Rapids, MN
Phone: 320-980-5564
Email: kate@missviewfarm.com
Web: www.missviewfarm.com

Standing

Favory Canada

Foals and occasional started horses for sale
USEF Dressage Judge, FEI Competitor, Trainer, and Clinician

Sugar Magnolia Farm LLC

Brittany Purcell
Commerce, GA
Phone: 770-713-4278
Web: www.SugarMagnoliaLipizzans.com

Standing

Favory Allura

Four mares available for custom breeding leases



Thank you to our current breeders!
If you're interested in a future Breeders Directory listing, please contact the USLF Office for more information. We'd love to include you in the next issue.



Tempel Lipizzans

Esther Buonanno
Tempel Farms
17000 Wadsworth Road
Old Mill Creek, IL
Phone: 847-244-5330
Email: esther@tempellipizzans.com
Web: www.tempelfarms.com

Standing

890 Maestoso Batrina (fresh cooled) Tempel bred bay Lipizzan Topolcianky/Szivasvarad lines on sire side

226 Favory Naussica (fresh cooled and frozen)

C. Philip bred, France, old Piber and Monterotundo lines
Educational center, training, breeding, exhibitions, horse sales, tours and lessons.

Touchstone Acres

Kathleen Donnelly
Rowland, NC 28383
Email: info@touchstoneacres.com
Web: www.touchstoneacres.com

Standing via frozen semen

Conversano II Aloha II

5599 Maestoso Mefiszto (Black Hungarian Champion)

Maestoso Takoma

Neapolitano Altamira

Neapolitano Samira VI (Imported in utero)

Neapolitano XXIX-18

(Black Romanian GP Stallion/ available USA only)
Breeding & Sales, Mare Lease/Custom Foals

Waltzing Horse Dressage

Sarah Casey
130 Musk Road
New Berlin, NY
Phone: 508-733-4809
Email: WaltzingHorseFarm@gmail.com
Web: www.waltzinghoredressage.com

Standing via fresh cooled semen

Conversano Belamilana (Bay)

7015 Conversano VI-27 (Topolčianky import)

Favory Onikita

Favory Santana

Pluto Pompea-55 (Piber import)

Standing via frozen (ICSI) only

Maestoso Alga

Lipoli Farm
LIPPIZANS
 IMPORTED FROM ITALY



Polly du Pont
 143 Cook Hill Rd.
 Alstead, NH
 pdlpzzan@together.net




*The Lipizzan
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Find more on the website: USLipizzan.org

Horse sales, merchandise, 2023 Stallion Guide, awards information



www.facebook.com/UnitedStatesLipizzanFederation

13 R&B Freestyles have competed at US Dressage Finals!

Rhythm & Blues Freestyles



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Sam is a professional dressage trainer and freestyle competitor. She designs musical arrangements for all levels and experience. She enjoys working one on one with riders to design the perfect freestyle to compliment both their personal style and their horse.

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~ John Ogle

Imperador wearing his custom Ogle Saddlery cavesson bridle. Photo by Meg Brauch

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