

USLF

LIPIZZAN *News*

Summer 2020

A Quarterly Publication of the United States Lipizzan Federation

Year 39

Cover Price: \$9



Maestoso Tropina

Maestoso Tropina is owned and ridden by Anne Titus

Photo by www.reddoor.me

See the cover story on page 4 of this issue!

Inside this Issue:

- Perseverance & Resiliency!
- Preservation
- Siglavy Stars
- Breyer Models
- and sooooo much more ...

BREAKING NEWS!!

The fall issue deadline has been moved up to **AUGUST 1!**
Don't miss it!

“Moving Forward”

As you may have heard, because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the USLF will not be publishing a 2021 Lipizzan Calendar.

But the USLF continues to move forward!

We hope that the USLF calendar returns for 2022, but in the interim, the USLF is investigating other fundraising options so that we can continue our work to preserve, protect, and promote the Lipizzan breed.

In fact, a small team of USLF volunteers has been hard at work putting together some new & exciting USLF merchandise.

Interested? To get a preview of what is on the horizon, read on!

In the next few weeks, for your consideration, we will be offering the following items:



First, the USLF embroidered polos return in FIVE COLORS! The USLF will be offering Port Authority Core Classic Pique polos in these colors (Coastal Blue [pictured]; River Blue Navy, Pink Azalea, Gusty Grey; and Lime Green), EMBROIDERED with the USLF logo in antique gold or black and white. The polos are made of 60/40 cotton/poly pique, with a flat knit collar and cuffs and side vents. Ladies' and men's sizes range from: XS to 6XL.

Next, the USLF is excited to again offer **PRI cotton twill dressage saddle pads embroidered with the USLF logo in Blue and gold.** These saddle pads measure 25"x21", with a spine length of 23". The new saddle pads come in several color options: Navy with Navy trim; Navy with White trim; Grey with Black trim; and Black with Black trim. We also have a few White pads remaining.



Finally, the USLF's merchandise committee is hard at work, designing **new T-shirts and hats, also with the USLF logo** (or a variation thereof), which may look something like this:

These designs are still "under construction," but we hope that they will be available for purchase soon.



Visit the USLF Store at www.lipizzan.org to see what's available for purchase there RIGHT NOW.

And that's not all! For the fall and early winter, we are planning on **embroidered vests, and jackets!**

So stay tuned to the USLF website, Facebook pages, LIPIZZAN NEWS, and email, for information as to when the above items will be available for purchase. And keep this in mind - many of the upcoming new items will be "limited edition"!

As always, thank you for your contributions and your support. The USLF relies on its membership to fulfill our mission. When you purchase and use USLF merchandise you are also helping to raise awareness for our noble breed.

Save the Date

October 24-25, 2020

Coming to a Screen Near YOU

VIRTUAL
USLF Annual Meeting
& Member Discussions

More Information to Follow





UNITED STATES LIPIZZAN FEDERATION

COMMITTED TO EDUCATION AND PRESERVATION/PROMOTION OF LIPIZZANS THROUGHOUT NORTH AMERICA

PO BOX 310 · CRESWELL, OR 97426-0310

2019-20 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Lisa Kelly Simmons, President (Oregon)

Lynn Smith, Vice President (Oregon)

Ellen Chappell, Secretary (Oregon)

Muffin Smith, Treasurer (Virginia)

Jennifer Roth, Director (North Carolina)

Katherine Arce, Director (New Mexico)

Kate Phillips, Director (Minnesota)

Sarah Casey, Director (New York)

REGISTRAR

Rennie Squier (Oregon)

OFFICE CONTACTS

503-589-3172

(Please leave voicemail)

USLFOffice@gmail.com

for all inquiries

(Board Members may be contacted via the USLF Office)

LIPIZZAN NEWS Staff

Editor: Carol Eilers / aplznoats@aol.com

Layout: Carol Eilers

News Committee Members:

Katherine Arce (Chair), Lisa Simmons, Ruby Blum, Lauren Self, Caryl Richardson

Please submit questions, advertising requests, articles for consideration,

Lipizzan Legacy stories, Book Reviews, Calendar info, etc., to lipizzannews@gmail.com

COPYRIGHTS of each article or photo held by its contributor.

lipizzannews@gmail.com

DEADLINES: February 15 • May 15 • August 1 • November 15

ADVERTISING RATES:

Please contact the USLF office for current rates, at
USLFOffice@gmail.com

or

visit our website, at:
USLipizzan.org

Advertising rates are listed there.

USLF BREEDERS DIRECTORY (\$75/year) includes:

- USLF NEWS: Listing in the Breeder's Directory for 4 issues
- USLF Website: Listing in the Breeder's Directory on the Website

AND MORE . . .

Ads must be **pre-paid** AND received prior to the printed deadline.

Email high-res (300+ dpi) TIFF, JPEG, and/or PDF (press quality) files to
USLFOffice@gmail.com

HORSE REGISTRATION FEES:

Registration (newborn to six months)	\$40
Registration (older than six months of age)	\$100
Transfer of Ownership	\$15
Late Transfer (more than six months after date of sale)	\$25
DNA Parent Verification	\$47
Duplicate Certificate	\$25

The above fees are for members only.

For additional fees, please contact the USLF office.

MEMBERSHIP RATES

Join at USLipizzan.org

Lipizzan Owners:

Individual Membership	\$64
Family / Partnership Membership	\$89
Business Membership	\$64

Non-Owners:

Lipizzan Enthusiast	\$35
Legacy (Former Lipizzan Owners)	\$35

NEW DEADLINE for AUGUST: ~~August 15~~

August 1!!

- On the Cover -

Maestoso Tropina by Anne Titus, owner / rider

Photo by www.reddoor.me



This is Maestoso Tropina, my School Master. I met him at a riding clinic 10 years ago. When I asked the owner if I could simply just sit on him, which to me was the equivalent of shaking hands with a Rock Star, she said, "Why don't you ride him in a session?"

I was so overcome with excitement that I was barely able to ride! He was magnificent! I could only own a horse like that in my dreams. I remember his owner telling me that this Lipizzan was her mount, and she would never sell him. I was disappointed, even though the possibility of owning him, or any Lipizzaner for that matter, did not seem like a realistic goal at that time.

Meanwhile, I learned that the last foal in the woman's breeding program, Conversano Toscana II, was on the ground. After several sleepless nights, I decided I must have him! During one of my trips to the farm to visit Conversano, I noticed Maestoso was not there. He had been sold, and I was heartbroken.

When it was finally time to bring six-month-old Conversano home, imagine my surprise when I spotted the handsome Maestoso once again! I was told he was not compatible with the new owner and had been returned. I could not stop thinking about him! I decided to pick up the phone and ask about purchasing him. What could it hurt to ask? A short time later I was at the farm again, loading up Maestoso Tropina!

Maestoso is now 22 and still teaching me. Conversano will be 10 August 1, 2020. He has been under saddle just over three years now and we are working in 1st Level Dressage. I will be eternally grateful to have been trusted to own and care for these incredible creatures!

Advertisers in this Issue . . .

ADS / Driving	43	Mississippi View Farm	37
Breeders Directory	41	Red Door Equestrian, photography	44
Chocolate Lipizzans / Stephanie du Pont	16	The Lipizzan Connection / Gjerset	29
Lipoli Farm / Polly du Pont	29		

Inside this Issue . . .

Bay Lipizzans		MALA News	7
Richardson	37	Membership	39
du Pont	36,38	Mystery Rider	7, 40
Congrats Tim Foley	43	NEXT DEADLINE - AUGUST 1	6
Cover Story	4	New Members	
Laurels / Gretta	6	Larkin	9
Leapin' Lips / Horse Illustrated 1987	18-21	Richardson	28
LIF Announcement	35	Photo Requests	43
Lipizzan Legacy		Preservation / Martinson	30-31
Crowhurst	34-35	President's Message / Simmons	5
"Lolita"	29,31	Siglavý Stallion Line diagram	24
Toomey	32-33	Siglavý Superstars	22-25
Lipizzans in Quarantine		Stallion Behavior / Weiner	42
Freestyles / Mussman	12-14	Super Models (Breyer) / Buonanno	26-27
Lauren Self	8	Transitions	40
Perseverance / Larkin	9	USLF INTEL	42
Photography / Chappell	10-11	USLF & SAFESPORT	6
Resilience / LRF	15-16	Volunteer / LeGrand	27
Sombras / Gibson	17		

Message from the President

In just three months, our world and life as we know it have dramatically changed. Personally, I have tried to stay focused on the silver linings, the positive opportunities for "doing things differently." Admittedly, this is not always easy and like everyone I have watched myself go through a range of emotions relating to the cascade of events affecting us on a global level.

Shortly after 'stay home' came into effect the USLF Lipizzan News Committee worked together to identify the theme of this issue: perseverance. The Lipizzan breed and its centuries of caretakers have a long well-known history of overcoming steep challenges. As evidenced by the pages of this issue, we did not have to look far to see this *resiliency of spirit* showing up within our membership.

Over the last three months, I have witnessed our board, our volunteers, and our membership 'leaning in' to the USLF mission with extra and unified energy. A good example is our monthly board meetings. In addition to our Directors, we regularly have several committee chairs as well as member guests in attendance. I recently received a guest's feedback on our May board meeting: "I thought that was a great meeting. Lots of good energy and ideas being discussed."

USLF volunteers have thoughtfully considered potential impacts in all areas of the organization from current events and made some strategic changes. These include:

- A detailed review of the 2019-2020 budget, with adjustments to projected income and expenses. I'm happy to report that USLF is operating solidly in the green, with approximately 50 percent of our income realized during the first half of the fiscal year with spending at just 19 percent of projected expenses.
- A pivot in approach to merchandise. In consideration of the economic climate, the Calendar Committee made the decision to cancel the 2021 calendar and is now teaming up with the Merchandise Committee to expand logo and creative merchandise offerings. These new offerings are located on our website in the USLF Store. If you have ideas for items to offer, please let us know! And please visit the store often as our volunteers are energized and plan to keep the product offerings rotating with fresh items and designs.
- An opportunity to hold OUR FIRST **virtual annual member meeting!** Please reserve the weekend of **October 24-25, 2020.**

As usual, with the generous number of photos, and content from our members, this issue of the NEWS is packed with



Lisa Kelly Simmons

Lipizzan goodness. We have personal stories on how Lipizzans are handling their human members in quarantine; an interview with Kate Phillips, Director and Chair of the Breeders Committee on breed preservation; a 'how to' on taking quality photos of our horses from professional photographer and Director Ellen Chappell; a focus on Siglavy Lipizzans; a couple of wonderful tributes and more. This issue concludes our presentation of the genealogy charts of the six stallion lines in North America. In putting these together, it is apparent that these do not tell the whole story of our rapidly diminishing genetic pool in North America. We will be exploring this topic in future issues.

In closing, I would like to turn our attention to honoring a couple of our long-time members.

First, we would like to celebrate the life of Chris Crowhurst. Many in our community have at one time or another felt the ripple of her quiet and consistent messaging – either through her art or through her writings - around the beautiful spiritual connection available to all of us with our noble equine partners. May her radiant joy live on through all of us. She is missed.

We also lament the loss of Mary Beth Toomey, a lifetime USLF enthusiast member. She was a talented artist who loved the breed, and so beautifully depicted our horses in her paintings and her drawings.

Second, in April the Board of Directors unanimously named past President Tim Foley a Legacy Member* to recognize his many years of meritorious service to the Lipizzan community of North America. From the letter Tim was sent, "Your involvement in and leadership of the United States Lipizzan Registry as a President and Director and as acting President and Director of the Lipizzan Federation of America ranks you among the most dedicated and hardworking of our Lipizzan membership." Tim is only the second person to receive this designation.

Together we are moving forward into a new normal. I am hopeful that through our shared love for our breed, our compassion for each other, and a healthy dose of "Grace and Grit," we will be able to welcome every silver thread as a catalyst for doing things differently and securing the future of our breed.

Wishing safety and health for all,

Lisa Kelly Simmons

* The first recipient of the prestigious Legacy Member honor was our own Carole Gauger.

Don't Miss the

DEADLINE!

The
DEADLINE
for the fall issue of
the NEWS has been
changed!!
It is now
AUGUST 1
not August 15!!



Congrats!

The USLF
recognizes your
outstanding
achievement!

Gretta

2019 Lipizzan Laurels
Second Level Champion

Lara McDonald, Owner & Rider

USLF and SAFE SPORT

As part of our obligation as a USEF Affiliated Partner, the USLF Board is pleased to let our members know the Board has successfully completed its Safe Sport Training. The Board encourages all members to know their obligations to promote a Safe Sport environment.

On February 14, 2018 the U.S. Senate signed into Federal Law, S 534, the Protecting Young Victim's from Sexual Abuse and Safe Sport Authorization Act of 2017 which became effective immediately. The bill imposes general requirements on youth-serving amateur athletic organizations including child abuse prevention training for adult members who have regular contact with minor athletes. This requirement extends beyond USEF to all amateur sports organizations participating in interstate or international athletic competition and whose membership includes any adult who is in regular contact with minor athletes. In equestrian sports, there are no horse shows that exclude children. Therefore, it was approved by the USEF Board of Directors on August 28, 2018 to require all USEF Competing Members, 18 years old and older, to complete the SafeSport Training. This includes amateurs, professionals, juniors who are 18 years old and older, and owners who have an annual, three-year, or lifetime membership.

For more information about Safe Sport please visit https://www.usef.org/forms-pubs/hvcC53_cGRY

Disclaimer: The United States Lipizzan Federation and the **LIPIZZAN NEWS** do not necessarily endorse, nor are they responsible for, the contents of any ad in this publication. Neither that information nor any opinion which may be expressed here constitutes a solicitation or endorsement for the purchase or sale of any securities.

Likewise, the United States Lipizzan Federation and the **LIPIZZAN NEWS** do not necessarily endorse opinions or concepts expressed in any of the editorials found herein.

LIPIZZAN NEWS is published quarterly.
Cover Price: \$9/issue



Regional Announcements from MALA

MALA (Mid-Atlantic Lipizzan Association) is working hard to encourage a larger membership base in these times of COVID 19, so MALA will be giving complimentary memberships to those who are interested. The \$45 due fee will be waived. Membership includes many benefits, such as a \$10 discount to sponsored clinics, newsletters, social and business contacts, and the opportunity to showcase one's horse with MALA associated events.

Membership applications are still expected to be filled out and returned to:

Margaret Smith
55 Key West Street
Moneta, VA 24121

Donations are very welcome.

MALA is also pleased to announce a new membership program for youth! This pilot program is designed to encourage and build strength in our children with horse enthusiasm. (Youth members do not have to own a Lipizzan). This program will include two newsletters, discounts for MALA-hosted clinics, members-only horseshows (designed to show off their skills), and year end awards. These children, and their subsequent influence, are the key and assurance to the future and survival of the horse industry.

Come join in the fun!

Contact us via **Facebook**, or email president **Sue Ott**, at sueott14@yahoo.com



Mystery Rider

Who is this issue's MYSTERY RIDER?

Do you have a guess?
Look for the answer on
page 40 of this issue.

For even more fun, please submit your
OWN photos, for inclusion in this
section of the NEWS.

Lipizzans (and their people) in Quarantine

How do you COVID?

by Lauren Self • Lynne Glazer, photographer

Lauren and Stella with XL Miss Chesterfield*

*Miss Chesterfield is a 22-year-old XL Lipizzan, sired by Siglavy Patrizia-74 out of a thoroughbred mare.



Lauren and Favory Fantasia III-1
(716 Favory III Sabadilla x Fantasia III) b2002

Stella on
XL Miss
Chesterfield

Stella on XL Miss
Chesterfield

Stella and Luke with XL Miss Chesterfield

This is how we did COVID quarantine...

As the country came to a halt, and we were to be "sheltering in place," our family was extremely blessed to have our barn in which to "shelter." This word "shelter" took on a whole new meaning during this time. Prior to COVID, the word "shelter" meant to me, a warm and safe place to get out of the weather; whatever weather that may be. Be it heat, rain, wind, or snow, shelter is where you would seek to be. That still holds true, but now it has an additional and very special meaning to me and my family. Shelter had also become the refuge to "get away to." We could leave our physical home and flee to the barn! This was not something new to us, but because now it was the **Only Place Outside the Home** we could go to, made it **Extra Special**. It was like getting back to the grass roots of it all, soaking in every minute of barn chores and time with our horses. There were longer rides with much less asked of either us, which led to more spiritual time and connection between horse and rider. The pressure to practice and perform was gone. Just therapeutic bonding and pure joy, which was very needed during this crazy time of not knowing and of fear.

Horses heal us. They always have and they always will.

Lipizzans (and their people) in Quarantine

Lipizzan Perseverance

by Elizabeth Larkin, owner

Photographer Laura Edwards @lauraslens45

913 Athena, (Sire: Maestoso Legeny; Dam: 859 Aurelia II), a five-year-old mare, felt surprised and uncertain when the news of the COVID-19 pandemic swept the nation. Athena's human friends needed to develop a plan for her care and training during the progressive limitations. The concern and anxiety of "Team Athena" impacted Athena and she initially appeared apprehensive and worried. As her human friends discussed how to take care of Athena, Athena listened very attentively. All of us noticed that Athena quickly came to terms with the impact of the virus on her life.



The plan, according to Athena, would be that she would persevere in her training with Olivia Pilch, USDF Bronze Medalist. In Athena's mind, she wanted to focus on things she could control. By using self-discipline, she would focus on developing her athletic abilities. As a result, she worked diligently in her personal development, keeping up her energy, and exhibited a commitment to keep pushing herself.

These photos of Athena, with Olivia Pilch up, show the Lipizzan power of concentration, love of hard work, and determination to succeed in all circumstances. During this emotional time, Athena truly was an inspiration and a role model.

Elizabeth Larkin

913 Athena and I met in the winter of 2019 at Tempel Farms in Old Mill Creek, IL. Since her barn name was *Princess*, I knew that she had to be special. After a few rides, we decided we were a team, and so it was that on a cold day in December I picked up the beautiful, intelligent, and athletic Athena. Since December 2019, Athena and I have been working diligently with our trainer, Olivia Pilch, USDF Bronze Medalist. All members of Team Athena are excited to be new members of the USLF and looking forward to a great future.



Laura Edwards Photography

Lipizzans (and their people) in Quarantine

Photographing your Lipizzan Horses

by Ellen Chappell

With the pandemic keeping me on the farm, I am spending more time photographing my Lipizzan mares, Arria and Terra-Blanca. I thought that it would be fun to share with you some of what I have learned. While I now have professional equipment, which does help, this is geared more towards the enthusiast photographer.

Photography is a creative process. I usually plan my shoots, but sometimes just grab a shot or two with my smartphone. Light is a critical component - pay attention to the weather and time of day. It is best to shoot when the natural light is good. This often means in the morning or evening, or on a cloudy day. Midday on a sunny day corresponds to hard light, which is not flattering. The sun is a point light source when it is high in the sky. Clouds or a lower sun angle make it diffuse. Light from a diffuse source is more flattering for our horses and their handlers. I typically shoot with the sun, or light source, at my back, but early in the morning (blue hour) and right before sunset (golden hour), one can shoot into the sun, but try to position yourself about a 45-degree angle to the sun. This can produce a dreamlike effect. An additional benefit of having a person between you and the sun, is that they will not squint. Horses don't squint, regardless. Isn't that amazing!?



I love this shot of Terra-Blanca and Tony. It's a quiet moment shared. but in the moment, the look on his face tells me he is enjoying himself. The mares adore him.

You can also turn out the horse or photograph in the barn. I do lot of shooting in the pasture and turnouts, and too love to capture expression. To do this, watch the horses' (and the humans') body language. Are they relaxed? Are they feeling playful? Are they looking like the powerhouses that they are? Are they enjoying a lazy day grazing in the pasture? Are they interacting with another horse, human, or pet? Another word of advice - be patient and wait for good moments.

Pay attention to the background. It should not be distracting. Your beautiful Lipizzan should be what draws the viewer's attention, not the fence or building. It is not always possible to avoid distractions though, and elements of a background can add to the image and make it interesting. Initially, I was so focused on what the horses were doing that I would cut a head in half with the skyline. I have learned to try to avoid this. Sometimes you just need to change your angle.

Regarding composition, there is a lot of information available here. Try to divide the picture into nine areas using the Golden Ratio of 1:1.6. Look to put a point of interest, for example an eye, on one of these lines. Even better, put it at an intersection point. If the horse is looking left, give it room to go left. If the horse is looking right, give it room the go right. Don't cut a joint in half when you have partial bodies in the picture. Give the subject room to breathe unless you are doing a closeup. Include the withers and part of the chest in a front crop if you can. Do try to get faces in focus. Most photographers will tell you that the eye is the most important focus point.

Indoor arenas and barns are a challenge, being low light situations. Smartphones have short focal length, and a wide-angle lens. They let in a lot of light fast. Some even have zoom capability. For a slow-moving horse, in an arena, a phone may be a good bet. When you use a phone or standalone camera with a short focal length, there will be distortion. What does that mean? That means the proportions will be off on the horse. It is a good thing to be aware of, but if it does not impact what the photo will be used for, go for it. In fact, with the Facebook, people are used to seeing distorted photos. They almost seem 'normal.'



I was set up for a shoot with Arria and my husband, Tony Cruz-Uribe. The background is busy, but the barn is in the distance, and I can adjust the angle. I like Arria's stance, her ears are up, and Tony is paying attention to her.

When the light looks promising, I go to the barn and groom whoever I want to photograph. This does not mean they get a bath each time, however, but just a good brushing with some green spot remover will suffice. I also wipe down the tack. For horses in a field, I generally do not worry about grooming, unless I am going after a special look.

It is nice to have a handler/assistant to help, which is usually my husband these days. The assistant can hold the horse, help with getting ears up, and/or be in the picture. I like to get the horse interacting with its handler, hoping to capture the connection between them. After all, that's what having horses is all about! My husband is a bit reluctant when I ask for help,

Lipizzans (and their people) in Quarantine



Terra-Blanca in the indoor arena - she's coming to say hello. This was taken with my camera and zoom lens. The proportions are pretty balanced. In general, what is closer to the photographer shows up larger.

If you are looking for a new camera system, try to find one with accurate, fast auto focus capability, high frames per second, and get a longer zoom lens. Horse proportions are more correct when shot at longer focal lengths. If you have a phone or camera with a short focal length, e.g. 35 mm, you can minimize distortion by taking side views. Full front and hind views make the distortion larger. For example, we have all seen the face shots with the long noses, or shots where the head looks big and the chest and/or hind end small. Some of these are awesome shots though! My intention is not to discourage you from using what you have, but to encourage you to take the best



This is a side shot of Arria taken with my smartphone. While the proportions are not perfect, the distortion is minimized.

shots with it, all while understanding your system's capabilities and limitations.

I am not going to go into a lot of detail about camera systems for photographing horses or basic camera operation. There is information available on the web. For settings, I typically shoot with a fast shutter speed, a wide - but not too wide - aperture, and as low as ISO as possible to get the exposure I want. I do not shoot in burst mode but watch for the right moment. The timing will lag behind what you see through the viewfinder. I do use continuous focus mode (CFM) and keep the white balance (WB) on auto, but sometimes set it. If needed, WB can be adjusted via editing. I use Lightroom and Photoshop for post processing, but there are simple editing programs available. Most smartphones have them built in.

There are many situations I have not covered including, but not limited to, conformation photos for sales or breeding ads, and performance photos under saddle or in harness. There are times when investing in professional quality photos makes sense. Another of these is wall-quality art and portraits.

I encourage you to have fun, see what your camera - including your smartphone - is capable of, and enjoy your beautiful Lipizzans. They are a most noble and



Everyone enjoys an action shot. Here is a closeup of Terra-Blanca playing in the roundpen. The focus is on the eyes.

photographic breed! When you get a picture you like, consider sending a full resolution .jpg file of it to Jenn Mikulski at jamuslf19@gmail.com. The USLF is always looking for good photos to use to promote the breed. People can reach out to me via email at fruitfarmrd@gmail.com if they want to discuss any of this.

Happy Shooting!



This is a close up of Arria's eye. They say the eye shows the soul of a horse.

Lipizzans (and their people) in Quarantine

Flirting with Freestyles

Senior Teams Learn New Things

by Steph Mussman

After my dance partner, Siglavy Aga-50, and I earned our USDF Gold Medal, many people posed the question to us: "What will you do now?" What a question! I accepted the challenge to do the next thing! When Aga was 19 years of age, we decided to pursue our USDF Freestyle Bars. So as Aga entered his "gentleman" years, we took on the new challenge of putting together and riding a Freestyle for the first time!

Aga and I took on 2018 as the year of Freestyles! In that one year, Siglavy Aga set a USDF record as the first horse and rider team ever to earn all three (Bronze, Silver, and Gold) Freestyle Bars in one year, with one horse. The USDF Freestyle Bars, are similar to the USDF Medal program. Freestyle Bars are earned by successfully achieving multiple scores over 65% at each level: Bronze (First, Second, & Third Levels), Silver (Fourth Level), Gold (Intermediate & Grand Prix).

With the "new normal" many people are taking on new challenges that they might not have had time for in the past. We thought we would share some of the things that we learned along the way, so you too can dance your way through quarantine.

Creating a freestyle involves three main components: choreography, music choice, and technical performance. There are many extremely talented people that provide services to develop choreography and music for an individual freestyle. A complete professionally choreographed freestyle with personal music development may cost in the range of \$800-\$1600. However, putting together your own freestyle is an entirely realistic project!

Choreography

Choreography is a great place to start when developing your freestyle. Before you begin, read through the freestyle required movements, allowed movements, and USDF tests of the level. This will give you a great springboard from which to start. From this information, you can glean the movements needed in your freestyle, as well as other elements that could be included. It is important to review tests of that level and below, as movements above the level are not allowed (Sorry! No bonus points!) and result in deductions. This can be tricky in simple ways! For example, know what transitions are allowed at each level. In First Level, for example, you cannot do a walk to canter transition. Also prohibited, would be a canter to halt transition to begin or end your freestyle. That movement can be included at Third Level.

Take some time to consider your horse and your partnership - what are the things that your team does well and the things that may be more difficult. If your horse performs one movement particularly well following another movement, plan that into your choreography to show off your horse to his/her best ability. If your horse does a better half-pass following a shoulder-in, plan these two movements in sequence, to best show off your partnership. Likewise, think of the things that you and your



Steph Mussmann and her favorite dance partner, Siglavy Aga-50 (19 year old Lipizzan, Piber, by Siglavy Dagmar out of Aga 89).

horse may have more difficulty with and work them into your choreography to show them off to the best of your ability. Think about a best-case scenario, when you are training at home. What kind of exercise do you do at home to prepare and set up your horse for success with that difficult movement? If your horse's weakest point is the flying change, but they have more success when that change follows a half-pass, make sure to utilize this to your advantage, and choreograph those movements to follow one another. A freestyle is a fantastic way to develop a test that truly is made to your horse's best advantage.

Another factor when developing your choreography is to consider the elements that would add to the degree of difficulty. Movements can earn a higher degree of difficulty if they are performed in configurations exceeding the minimum requirements (for example a steeper degree of half-pass or flying changes on a curved line), more difficult transitions (like lengthen stride in trot to walk), riding one-handed, or a difficult combination of movements (two or three elements in sequence without significant strides in between, like extended canter to a pirouette to a line of changes). Keep in mind that increasing the degree of difficulty can both be rewarding and negatively impacting. If the degree of difficulty is performed well and enhances the performance, the score can be rewarded with extra points. If, however, the chal-

Freestyles; continued on page 13

Lipizzans (and their people) in Quarantine

Freestyles; continued from page 12



Siglavy Aga-50 & Steph Mussmann perform an Intermediate I Freestyle for their USDF Gold Freestyle Bar.



AT LEFT: Siglavy Aga-50 & Steph Mussmann perform a 2nd Level Freestyle for their USDF Bronze Freestyle Bar.

AT RIGHT: Siglavy Aga-50 & Steph Mussmann perform a Grand Prix Freestyle.



lenge is too great and exceeds the horse's ability to perform the movements with good technical quality, the score will be negatively impacted. So, choose where to add elements of increased difficulty wisely. A movement performed with superior technical quality may score higher than the same movement in a higher degree of difficulty combination, but performed less correctly due to the added challenge.

Finally, the best choreography advice that I ever received from a judge was to create a pattern that was easy to follow. A judge does not want to be sitting in a box, trying to figure out what movement a horse and rider are demonstrating. Patterns do not need to be mirror images right and left, but short sequences of movements repeated to each direction can be easier for a judge to follow. This being said, freestyles should not be test-like. They allow the rider to create patterns and utilize the arena in ways that may not be typical in tests. Don't be hesitant to utilize quarter lines, put a free-walk on a circle, or create half-diagonals. Be creative! Also, don't be afraid to add in a "joker line." A joker line is an extra bit of music in your performance in which you can repeat a movement that perhaps you made a mistake on previously, so you can have a chance to do it better and make up the points. For example, many people add an additional diagonal in their choreography as a joker line in case they missed a change in a line of tempis.

Once you have developed a choreography that you like, ride through it to see if it flows as well as you imagined. When you are happy with how the choreography works for you and your horse, have someone video your freestyle in a full-size arena. During this video session, if you can, start outside the arena at a specific letter (usually F or K) and don't forget to raise your hand to start the music (so you can get the timing right!). You can use this video to identify the duration of each segment of music that is needed. Watch the video and make notes of how much music you need from hand start to halt, from halt to next gait transition, and so on. These timings will help you in the next step of music development.

Music Development

Developing the soundtrack to your freestyle is often the most daunting part of freestyle design; and the reason so many people don't try putting a dance together. Again, there are a lot of resources out there to help you to make the process less scary!

Choosing the right music is extremely important. Your music should enhance the performance. The right music with an upbeat tempo can make a lazy horse seem more energetic, while music with a fast melody (even if the tempo matches the horse's rhythm) can make a horse appear quick and rushed. The music

Freestyles; continued on page 14

Lipizzans (and their people) in Quarantine

Freestyles; continued from page 13

should also reflect the presence of the horse in the show ring. For example, if you have a big moving warmblood, big dramatic music can be brilliant. If you have a horse without big movement (like my lovely little Lipizzan) music that is more fun, playful, or sweet might be a good option.

The music choices for all three/four gaits should flow together well and be of the same genre. Furthermore, music that has a theme or tells a story is a great way to get audience interest. Themes could be music used in a movie, songs that all have to do with a common thing, or even a specific instrument tying the pieces together. Themes could even match, or tie into, the horse's breed or name; for example, music from Aladdin for an Arabian horse or Christmas music for a horse named Noel, might be good choices.

Music should add interest; not just be background music. Initially, you may use music without truly editing it to match your movements; however, freestyles that will score higher are those in which the music accentuates the movements of the horse. Good examples of this include music with crescendos for extended movements, melodies that change with tempi changes, or lighter delicate music for canter pirouettes. Use the phrasing of the music to emphasize different movements of your freestyle.

OK, so you chose music... now how do you put it all together?! If you are good with computers and music editing, there is free music editing software, such as Audacity. Use your timing measures from the video to add each piece of music and edit to your satisfaction. If, however, computers are not your thing, there are people to help! There many services which provide already prepared music for freestyles. Some of these services also provide you with a choreography! And these do not have to be expensive (one service offers pre-made freestyles for as low as \$30!). The next step up in customization is services that offer samples and themes for music from which to choose, or you can submit your own music that you would like utilized. They can then piece together your music based on the timing measurements that you recorded from your video. This minimum customization can run as low as \$75. For more money (now getting into the \$350-700 range), there are services that will take your music selections and, using your video, tailor the music specifically to your ride, with accentuations for different movements (like extensions) and even subtle indications of upcoming transitions to help you prepare. Don't be afraid to put music together yourself or "tweak" pre-made music to better fit you and your horse.

Performing a Freestyle

I thought that once I had the choreography and music done, showing a freestyle would be the easy part. Boy was I wrong! Surprisingly, riding a freestyle is much harder than just riding a test! Not only do you have to remember the "test," you also have to listen to the music, adapt to the music as you ride, all while not forgetting to ride the movements technically correct! The best advice for riding a freestyle is to know your music like the back of your hand. Play the music in your car as you drive, and ride through the test in your mind. Be so familiar with the



Siglavý Aga-50 & Steph Mussmann perform their first freestyle, a 4th Level Freestyle, for their USDF Silver Freestyle Bar.

music that you know exactly where you should be in the arena at any given moment of the music. This will help you be able to easily adjust during the test when need be. Inevitably, there will be moments that you get ahead or behind your music, the key is not to panic! If you know your music well, you can adapt as you ride the test, by cutting a corner to make up time if you are behind, or go wide on a turn and collect a bit more if you are ahead of the music. Be adaptable! The more you listen to your music, the easier it will be (another great reason to pick music that you like! You'll be listening to it non-stop all season!).

Be prepared for the show! I bring my music on CD in multiple formats (WAV, MP3, and Audio CD), so it will work with whatever format the show office is utilizing. Also bring two copies of your music... just in case! Don't forget to go to your sound check and walk out into the middle of the arena and near the judge's box to hear the volume level of your music. Do not blast the judge with loud music (this will certainly not reflect well in the score!).

Have Fun

Freestyle is an extremely fun way to really dance with your favorite dance partner! If you haven't tried to develop a freestyle before, I encourage you to get out there and try it! There are many resources to make it a very feasible adventure. Remember to have some fun! Choose music you like. Show off the awesome things that your horse can do. Enjoy the ride and smile!

Fun Facts about USDF Freestyle Bars*

- Only 136 riders have ever earned their Gold Freestyle Bar
- Only 49 riders have ever earned ALL 3 of their USDF Freestyle Bars (Bronze, Silver, & Gold)
- Only 7 riders have earned ALL 3 USDF Freestyle Bars on ONE horse
 - Two of which were Lipizzans = Belladiva & Siglavý Aga
- Only 1 horse & rider have earned ALL 3 USDF Freestyle Bars in ONE YEAR = Siglavý Aga

*Statistics as of January 2019

Lipizzans (and their people) in Quarantine

Resilience

by Lauren Self
Lipizzan Rescue Foundation Horses



When you think of all the diverse breeds of horses around the world, nothing epitomizes “resilience” like the Lipizzan breed does: The Lipizzan breed is a true survivor of disasters and conflicts. This gem should be forever cherished, preserved, and defended, to the best of our abilities. The horses in the Lipizzan Rescue Foundation are no different in those respects. They all have a story, and each horse in the rescue needs our help.

One resilient horse stands out to me the most. You may remember a gelding who recently came into LRF, called “Frankie.” Frankie unfortunately was very underweight, with additional health issues that only compounded his sad situation. Once fully rehabbed in mind and body, Frankie went into training to further his education and widen his adoptability window.

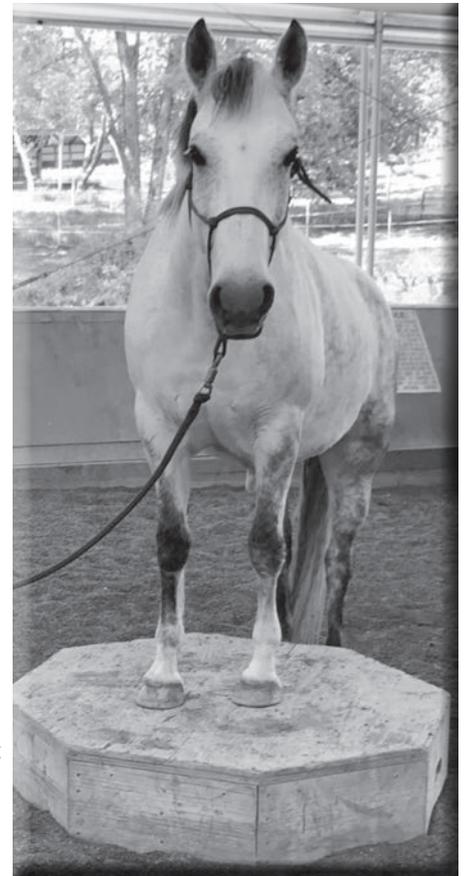
It was not long after his refresher in riding was completed that Frankie received the fantastic opportunity to be a breed representative at the prestigious Kentucky Horse Park. With the amazing help and support of the USLF, the LRF adopted Frankie to the Park. This was Frankie’s time to shine! He settled in nicely and began training for his new career as a breed representative. This included desensitizing walks around the park to prepare for future meet and greets with the visiting public, as well as working in the show arenas where the grandstands would be filled during performances.

Sadly, Frankie never got his big day in the spotlight. COVID-19 hit the country and the Kentucky Horse Park was forced to close to the public during this time of crisis. Without knowing when they would reopen, the park reached back out to the LRF about Frankie. In his best interest, the LRF decided Frankie needed to find his forever home now, and he is again available for adoption through the rescue. Please go to the LRF website to apply for his adoption, volunteer, or donate to Frankie’s future, at LipizzanRescueFoundation.org.

The LRF has two additional resilient mares to feature for adoption. Zenni and Ducky are both very lovely ladies that equally deserve their very own “happily ever after.”

Both Zenni and Ducky are listed on the LRF website. There you will find the adoption application and some additional information on each horse listed above as well as other very deserving horses

If you are not able to adopt or



Zenni is a lovely 14-year-old Lipizzan cross mare who rides well and knows her groundwork. Her favorite job is trailriding, and she requires soft hands and a balanced rider. Perhaps you can be riding off into the sunset with Zenni?



This is Frankie at the Kentucky Horse Park.
Photo by Cindy Evans-Yates

Two Bay Lipizzans FOR SALE

ARQUEBA,
14.3 hands • Born 2014



Siglavy Ballestra 6/25/2005 - Stephanie duPont Whitefish, MT	828 Siglavy VI Garbo 5/20/1997 - Tempel Farms
Rima 7/21/2008 - Lipoli Farm Airstead, NH	Ballestra 6/29/1988 - Lynda Davidson
	Pluto Tucok-44 3/20/1999 - Piber
	Rowena 9/13/1990 - Red Rock Lipizzans

SIGLAVY RIMA,
expected to mature at 15 hands • Born 2018



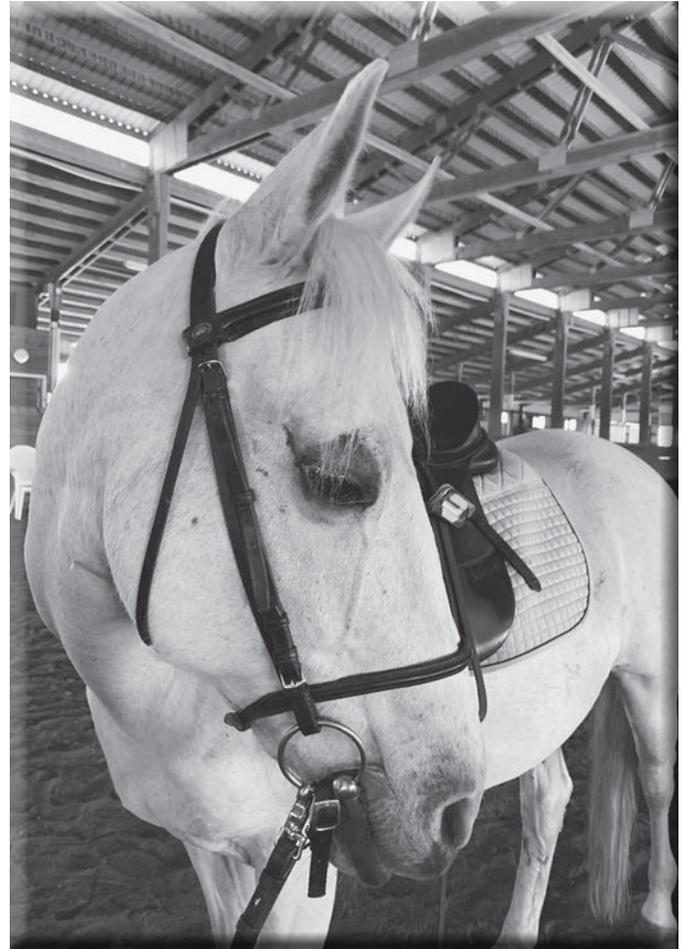
Both horses are well-mannered
and easy to handle for vet and farrier.

They are currently being trained to drive
and are well-accustomed to traffic,
livestock, etc.

Stephanie du Pont
Montana
406.249.6216

Resilience; continued from page15

foster, there are other ways to help LRF. Did you know that you can donate to the LRF without sending any money directly? Simply choose the Lipizzan Rescue Foundation on Amazon Smile every time you make a purchase! In doing so, each time you shop Amazon, they will donate a percentage to the rescue. How great is that!?! All of us at the Lipizzan Rescue Foundation thank you for your continued support. Together we can better the lives of every Lipizzan in the rescue!



Ducky is a Lipizzan cross mare anxiously awaiting her perfect partner and forever home. She is 15 years old and rides well. Her best fit in a rider would be an experienced partner with a kind hand. Ducky's visible scars indicate a difficult past, but they do not scar her loving and sweet personality in the least. Her beauty shines through! Will you be Ducky's forever safe and loving partner?

GOOD NEWS!! Since this article was written, Ducky has won the lottery in being adopted into her forever and loving home!

Please Renew Your
USLF
Membership

Sombras says, "Keep Smiling!"

Sombras

Owned by Melanie Gibson

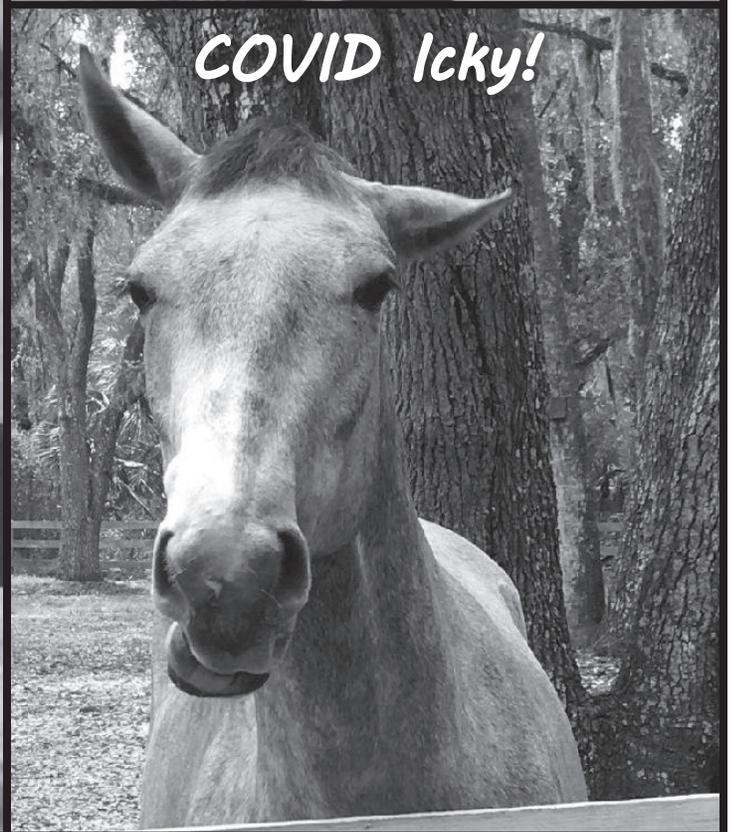
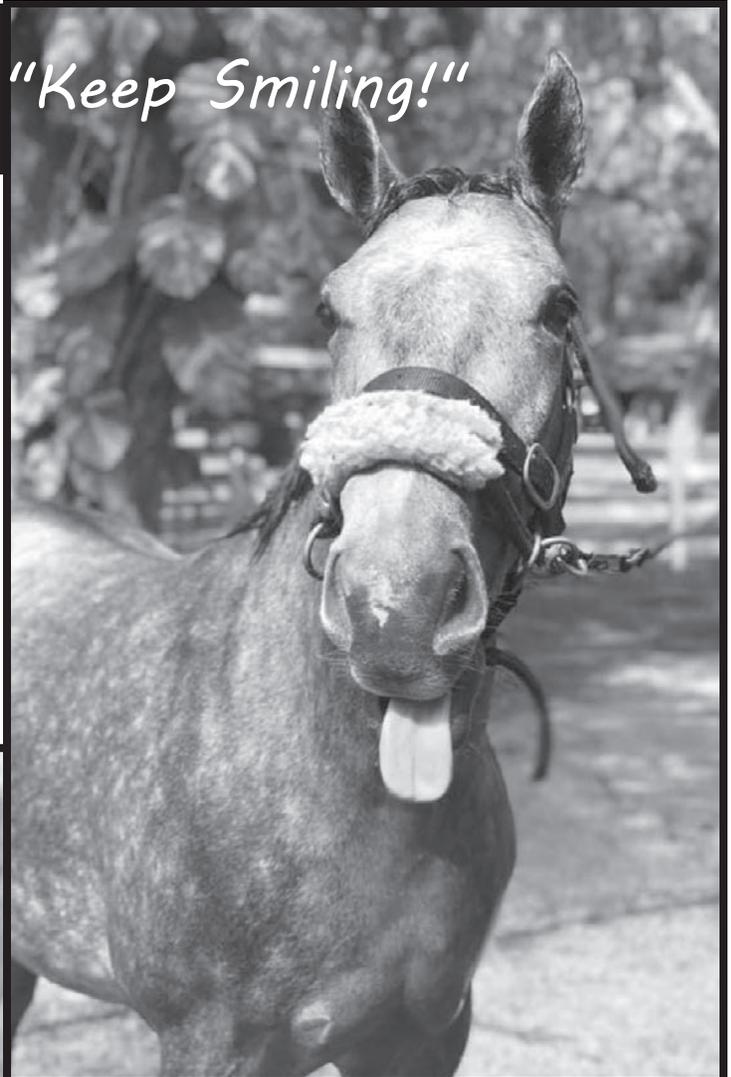
Registered name: SHADES OF SILVER FALL

DOB: 09/11/2017

Sire: MAESTOSO CARA MIA

Dam: SHADES PENNY NICKERS (AQHA)

Photos by Olivia Gibson



Leapin' Lipizzans!

They may be ballet dancers in horseshoes, but members of this mighty breed can do far more than just jump for joy.

By Betsy S. Siino, used with permission
photos by SALLY BARNETT

We speak of an animal's sixth sense, although it is an enigma we have never seen nor touched nor harnessed. We simply believe that animals can pick up scents, sounds, and emotions that we cannot. The Lipizzaner, considered by many to be one of the most intelligent of horses, seems indeed to be endowed with this gift. Passed down through the blood of mares and stallions gone by, it is a gift that has protected the breed through the fiercest of human conflicts.

Dare we suggest that the Lipizzaner's deeper sense has for centuries been sustained by ghosts? Call them spirits, call them guardian angels, but let us venture to believe the fantasy that the high-flying Lipizzaner has been protected by shimmering equine spirits that float and soar with the grace of eagles. These shining spirits, invisible to the mortal eye, lift their charges up toward the heavens and keep them safe from harm.

This is not to say that humans have made no contribution to the Lipizzaner's survival. For centuries these silver steeds and their human handlers have enjoyed a partnership unique to horse and man. Armed with a bond of trust and respect, they have combated anything that politi-

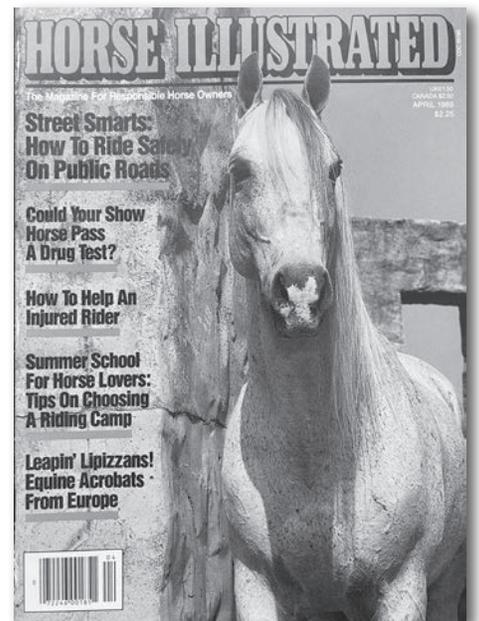
cal turmoil, natural disaster, Napoleon, or even Hitler could hurl at them. Together, they met seemingly insurmountable challenges.

The Creation

The Lipizzaner breed began with a royal edict issued in 1580 by Austria's Archduke Charles. He established a stud in the Lipizza region of Karst, a region now belonging to Yugoslavia, to create a horse elegant enough for the nobility, yet sturdy enough for military service. When designing this breeding program, the archduke looked to Spain.

Earlier, in 1565, the Spanish Riding School had been established in Vienna, Austria. By showcasing the poetic talents of elegant Spanish horses, the school perpetuated the skills of classical horsemanship (known as *haute école* dressage). This influence in mind, Archduke Charles imported nine stallions and 24 mares from Spain. Discovering just the right balance of Spanish (primarily Andalusian), Italian Neapolitan, and native Karst horse bloodlines, the Lipizza stud produced the Lipizzaner, a breed marked by extraordinary athletic prowess and gentle dignity.

Lipizzaners, also known as Lipizzans, have changed little in the past 400 years. They were once found in a variety of colors, but white and gray now dominate. An



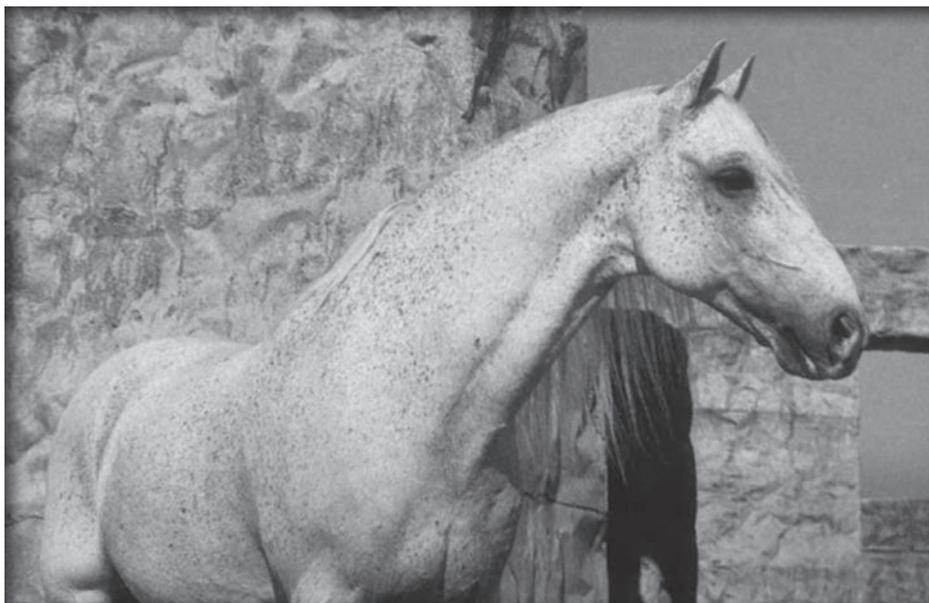
astonishing sight is a pasture of Lipizzaner mares and foals. Passing by, one will see a sea of white mares peppered with small dark foals. Lipizzaner foals are born dark, but as they mature, they change color (five percent remain dark). The foal's dark hair gradually gives way to silver-gray or white by the time the youngster reaches four or five years of age.

Lipizzaners stand 15 to 16 hands tall. They are compact, graceful animals with frames of hard muscle and bone. The heavy shoulders, steely tendons, hard hooves, short legs, and powerful quarters provide the horse with the propulsion it needs to move through the ballet movements of the *haute école*. Although only a few Lipizzaners are destined for such glory, this physical build makes them equally adept as saddle and driving animals.

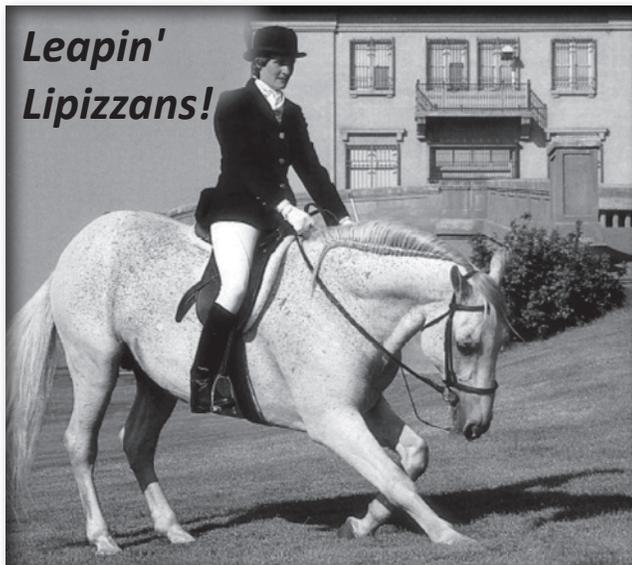
But there is more to the Lipizzaner than its physique. Part of the Lipizza stud's plan was to breed extraordinary temperament, as well as strength, into its horses. The Lipizzaner character is one of wit, gentleness, sensitivity, and courage. Showing off its large eyes and a slightly convex profile, it holds its head high, as if fully aware of its noble roots.

Turbulence

As time and generations of nobility passed, the elite of Austria grew increasingly enchanted with both the Spanish Riding School and the horses from Lipizza. In 1735, the two became forever linked with the completion of a baroque palace in Vienna, commissioned for the school by Austrian Emperor Charles VI. Previously, the school had used only Spanish horses, but when the Lipizzaner stallions made



The Lipizzaner's large eyes and convex profile add to its noble image.
The horse is kind, generous and extremely athletic.



**Leapin'
Lipizzans!**

Considered one of the most intelligent of all horse breeds, the Lipizzan uses its brain to complement its brawn. The horse generally proves to be very easy to train and willing to learn.



No, he's not a statue, nor was he a visitor to England's Stonehenge. Siglavy Saganova II, a 17-year-old stallion owned by Greg and Margaret Gill of Highland Stables in Beaver Creek, Oregon, strikes a stunning pose at Maryhill Museum's Stonehenge replica in Washington. The stallion is a former liberty horse who performed with both the Ringling Brothers circus and Circus Vargas.

their debut there in 1735, the school became the breed's own. To meet the new challenges levied by this glamorous marriage, in the 18th and 19th centuries the Lipizza stud established six stallion-based bloodlines. These remain the breed's foundation to this day. But his period also marked a new era of despair for the Lipizzaner.

It began with Napoleon's invasion of Lipizza in 1797. With the French armies approaching, the stud was evacuated to Hungary. When danger passed, the horses and breeders returned to a home that had been completely destroyed, along with all the records documenting the breeding program of the past 200 years. The stud was rebuilt, only to be destroyed once again in 1802 by an earthquake.

Having survived these two catastrophes, Lipizza again fell prey to Napoleon's hunger for power in 1805 and 1809. Both invasions required the evacuation of the stud; its second exile lasting six years. During this time, the Lipizzaners suffered through illness and harsh living conditions that challenged the horses' mettle like never before. Breeders feared the Lipizzaner's end was imminent, but the horses were not so easily daunted.

When at last the horses returned to Lipizza, their numbers again increased, as did their fame in Eastern Europe. The horses led a relatively tranquil existence for the next several decades. Then

World War I broke out. Located in the heart of the coveted Austro-Hungarian Empire, Lipizza was awarded to Italy at the end of the war. Half the Lipizza horses were rescued and transferred to the new National Stud at Piber, Austria, near Vienna, and life went on ... until the war that almost spelled the end for this courageous breed broke out.

World War II

Austria was one of Adolf Hitler's first conquests of World War II as he set out to dominate Europe. Naturally, this had a profound effect on the Lipizzaner and the Spanish Riding School. Even Hitler and his commanders were enchanted by these

equine dancers, so a plan was drafted to establish a stud in Hostau, Czechoslovakia (then also under Axis domination), to perpetuate the breed.

While many of the Lipizzaner stallions remained in Vienna, approximately 500 horses from Austria, Yugoslavia, and Italy were sent to Hostau to form the new stud. But of course, the war did not go as Hitler had planned. In February 1945, Allied leaders from Great Britain, Russia, and the United States began negotiating the divisions of political influence that would take place once the Axis powers fell. The breeders in Hostau, predicting Soviet

Continued on page 20



As these two Lipizzans show, the generations of careful breeding have resulted in a strong breed type. There are few breeds that are as prepotent in conformation type as the Lipizzan.

Leapin' Lipizzans!

dominance of Czechoslovakia, feared for the future of their Lipizzaners.

The Hostau breeders knew they had to act quickly. But they needed help. The Russians, moving westward, had reached Budapest, Hungary. They would soon enter Czechoslovakia and confiscate the Hostau horses the Austrians had named "living baroque art with the blessed temperament." If so claimed, these horses would be forever lost behind the soon-to-be-lowered Iron Curtain.

The Hostau staff thought of the Americans. Hostau veterinarian Rudolf Lessing and stud director Lt.-Col Hubert Rudofsky began negotiations with American Col. Charles Reed to determine whether anything could be done to save the horses from Russia's grasp. Fortunately, many of the American officers located in the region were former cavalry officers who had retained a deep devotion to horses. Not the least of these was their commander, Gen. George S. Patton, who on May 7, 1945, was in Vienna.

In Vienna, the director of the Spanish Riding School at that time, Alois Podhajsky, was confronting a similar dilemma. He knew he must convince Gen. Patton of the current threat to the Lipizzaner. After introducing the general to the school's stallions, Podhajsky, in a dramatic presentation, asked the general to put the school under the protection of the American Army. His request was granted.

Several days later, the Hostau negotiators made the daring decision, with permission from Gen. Patton, to evacuate the Hostau horses to American territory, even though the Hostau region of Czechoslovakia was now supposedly off-limits to the Americans. On May 15, 1945, seven days after the Axis powers formally surrendered to the Allies, the Hostau rescue began. Foals and other horses that could not travel on foot were loaded into trucks. The rest of the Lipizzaners were herded in small groups along public roads under guard of U.S. soldiers. The equine refugees behaved impeccably and were soon reunited with their Viennese brethren.

Once safe in post-war Austria, the Lipizzaners confiscated from other countries during the war were sent back to their home countries. The Austrian Lipizzaners were sent to Upper Austria,

where they remained for 10 years while Vienna recovered from the war. By 1955, the horses had been returned to Piber, and the stud regained prominence, as did the Riding School under the direction of Podhajsky.

The Lipizzaners, with the help of those wily ghosts, no doubt, had escaped extinction again.

Post-War Peace

Although training at the Spanish Riding School puts great demands on its horses and riders, the trainers choose patience and kindness over violence or humiliation in schooling. Most Lipizzaners live into their 30s, and remain agile and strong throughout their long lives, so training is slow and methodical.

The young stallion that shows potential for meeting the great demands of this ultimate ballet begins training at age four. (Only stallions perform at the school.) Training proceeds at a snail's pace to forge a bond of trust and respect between horse and rider. Gradually, the two perfect classic trots, canters, walks, *piouettes* and *passages* – exercises known as "school on the ground."

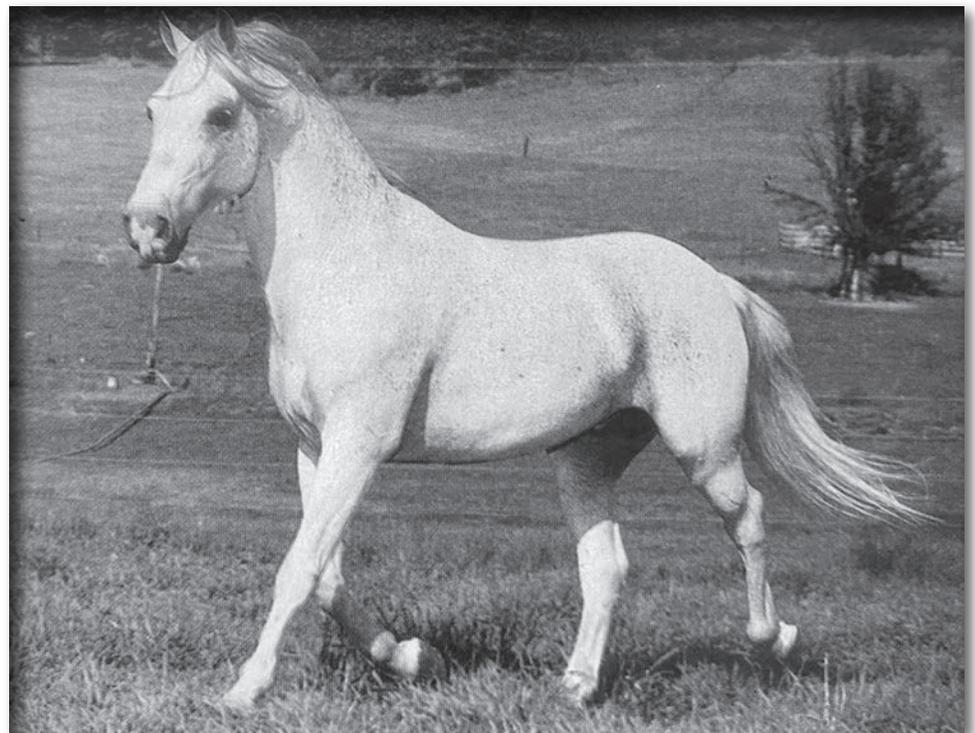
Only a select few of these animals will graduate to the "airs above ground." The most breathtaking of these movements is the *capriole*, in which the athlete leaps into the air, soaring as high as it can,

kicking out with its hind legs. In a word, the horse flies.

The Lipizzaner has 400 years of history to prove what kind, gentle training methods can accomplish. Training simply refines the horse's natural gifts, but a trainer is careful to keep the horse's spirit intact, as well. This is no new, radical philosophy. In their book *The Imperial Horse*, authors Hans-Heinrich Isenbart and Emil M. Buhner cite Greek historian Xenophon: "A dancer who is forced to leap around with a whip and goad is no more appealing than a horse treated in the same way."

"All the movements of classical dressage are based on natural movements," says June Boardman, a Washington Lipizzaner breeder. "I'll never forget the first time I saw one of my horses suddenly do a *capriole* while he was just out running in a field. I almost fainted."

It is the Lipizzaner's irresistible *joie de vivre* that drew Boardman to the breed in the first place. "Like any little girl who loves horses, I fell in love with the breed when I saw *The Miracle of the White Stallions* [a 1963 Walt Disney movie chronicling the World War II rescue of the Lipizzaners]. Several years later my husband and I visited the Spanish Riding School in Vienna. We came home, started looking for Lipizzans, and eventually purchased five mares and fillies."



Despite its strong build and athletic appearance, the Lipizzaner is an elegant horse with elastic movement. The horse's powerful body is tempered by a quiet mind.

Leapin' Lipizzans!

The Boardmans compete with their horses in dressage, the sport they consider a natural niche for this breed.

The Lipizzaner is ideally suited to the quiet, subtle communication required of the classic dressage partnership.

"Dressage is one of the fastest-growing events right now, and many people are seeing that they don't need a 17-hand horse to do it. This is a very docile, willing breed," says Boardman. "For 400 years only the stallions that achieved success in upper-level dressage were selected for breeding."

Lipizzaners also excel in driving events and just about anything else asked of them. They are now being seen more and more on the show circuit in events from hunter to jumper to pleasure. According to Boardman, this is only the beginning.

"We think the Lipizzaner's future looks very good. It's an exciting breed to be involved with because right now we're on the ground floor. We are just starting to take off."

Dr. Jaromir Oulehla, current director of the Spanish Riding School, also foresees a bright future for American Lipizzaners as long as American breeders proceed carefully. "It is now without question that our horses are the best leisure horses of good character," he said at a Michigan lecture in 1986. "The potential of these horses is shown daily at the Spanish Riding School in Vienna. I don't think it is very useful to have beautiful-looking, exclusive horses in the stables that can only be used as exhibits or show pieces. We use our Lipizzaner horses. We know what they are able to give, and we also know that children as well as elderly

people get along very well with them."

The Lipizzaner's story rivals the most dramatic epic. But the question remains: How was this horse, made of flesh and blood like any other horse, able to emerge from its war-torn past unscathed? Is it a sixth sense? Or is it ghosts? Let us assume that yes, there are mystical equine spirits guiding these great horses, schooling them in the ancient *haute ecole* and soothing them amidst the thunder of guns and bombs. Sadly, the spirits have learned that human history inevitably repeats itself. Few stories illustrate this as clearly as that of the Lipizzaner. Perhaps someday, for all our sakes, the ghosts may rest peacefully. But for now, these old soldiers remain their progeny's touchstones, reassuring them with their ancient wisdom and guarding against the turbulent echoes of history.

Thank you Barbara Gjerset, for loaning us your copy of this historic issue of *Horse Illustrated*. Such a wonderful article, highlighting the Lipizzan breed's perseverance! Readers should keep in mind that this article was written over 30 years ago. Consequently, some references and understandings having changed or evolved over the years.

persevere (verb) to persist in anything undertaken; maintain a purpose in spite of difficulty, obstacles, or discouragement; continue steadfastly.



Martina and Pluto Martina

This photo from 1988 exemplifies the long history of thoughtful Lipizzan breeding in North America.

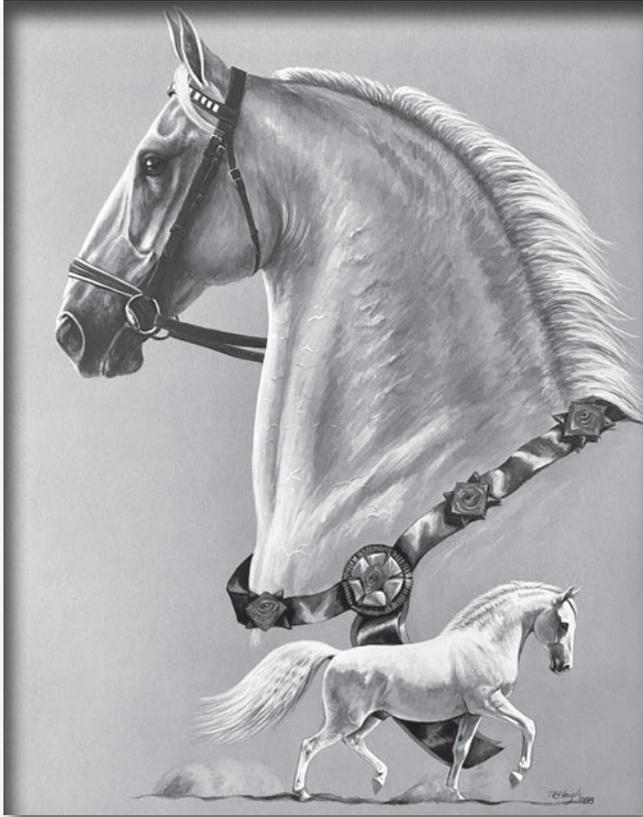
Photo provided by Carole Gauger, Legacy Member.

*We salute all our members
- breeders, owners,
enthusiasts and legacies -
for your dedication to the
preservation of the
Lipizzan breed.*

SIGLAVY SUPERSTARS

These are two Siglavy stallions who have not only influenced the Lipizzan breed by producing a large number of quality offspring, but have also been outstanding ambassadors for the breed.

Siglavy Dalea b1974, El Capitan Ranch



Sired by the imported stallion Siglavy Capriola VII-11, b1968, Piber (imported by El Capitan Ranch in May of 1970), Siglavy Dalea is the only known offspring of his dam Dalea (b1967, Raflyn Farms).

Siglavy Dalea (Johann) was sold by El Capitan Ranch when he was a year and a half old. He passed through a couple different owners until in 1985, Barbara Gjerset went into a partnership with Susan Newcomb and Laura Leafgren and managed to buy Johann. Eventually Barbara bought Susan and Laura out and became Johann's sole owner. Interestingly, Barbara had tried to purchase Johann's dam from El Capitan Ranch when she was pregnant with Johann but could not convince them to sell her the mare.

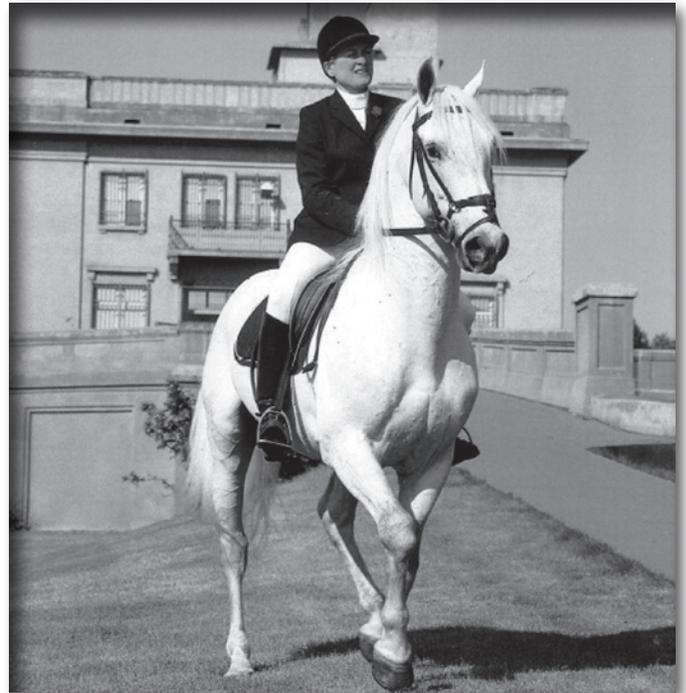
In 1987 Barbara organized the first west coast Lipizzan show at the LA Equestrian Center. 46 Lipizzans attended from as far away as Texas, Arizona, Washington, and Oregon. Dr. Jaromir Oulehla judged the breed classes and Dr Rolf Vlaten judged the rail classes. The LA Times published an article about the show, featuring Siglavy Sagana II, another of our historically significant Siglavy stallions (see at right). There were around 1000 spectators for the two-day show. Fourteen stallions showed in the stallion class and Johann showed to his very best and won the class. He also did very well in the rail classes. Following the show, there was a banquet dinner during which the guests were treated to a violin performance by a young woman from Arizona whose father

had strung her bow with tail hairs pulled from Johann's tail!

Johann's most exceptional characteristic was his temperament. Small children were safe hanging on his legs and running around him. And he was always kind and polite to handle.

Siglavy Dalea sired 54 purebred Lipizzans and 2 XL Lipizzans that are recorded in the USLF database. We know there are more offspring out there which were never registered or reported. Truly a prolific sire for the breed. Siglavy Dalea died on November 8, 2000.

Siglavy Sagana II b1972, El Capitan Ranch



(Pictured above; from the *Horse Illustrated* article that ran in 1989, and featured on pages 18-21 of this issue).

Sired by Siglavy Primavera 63, b1961, Piber (imported by El Capitan Ranch), out of 67 Sagana-40, b1959 (imported by El Capitan Ranch in May of 1970).

As a three-year-old, Siglavy Sagana II (Sig) was sold to Don McLennan who trained circus animals. While with Don, Sig performed with Circus Vargas and the Ringling Brothers Circus. Sig was purchased by Greg Gill as a gift for his wife Margaret in 1981 and registered at that time with the USLR.

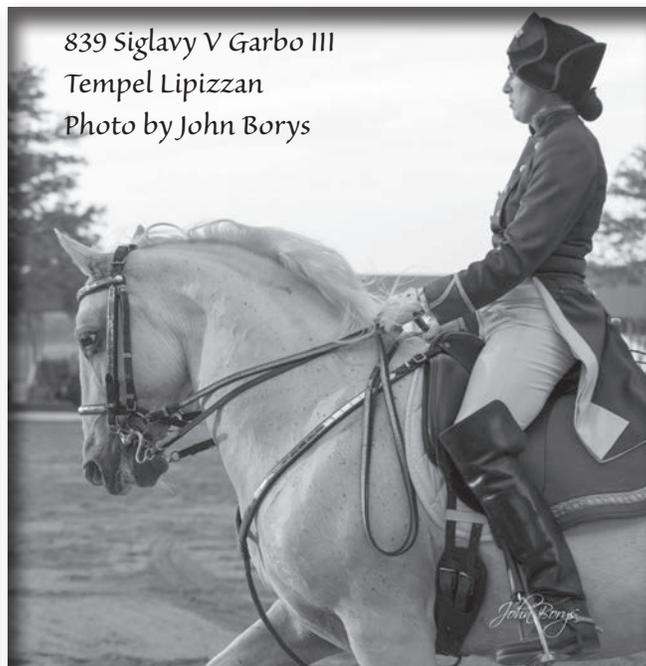
Margaret taught Sig to jump and do the movements of dressage and was soon showing him in three-day-eventing. The pair travelled to the 1987 Lipizzan show in Burbank California and performed a liberty demonstration for the crowd in attendance there. Margaret and Sig performed many other demonstrations over the years introducing many people to the Lipizzan breed. Sig also has the distinction of having a book about him published. "I, Siglavy" was released in 2018.

Siglavy Sagana II sired 17 purebred Lipizzans and seven XL Lipizzan offspring that are known to the USLF. He died in 2003 at the age of 31.

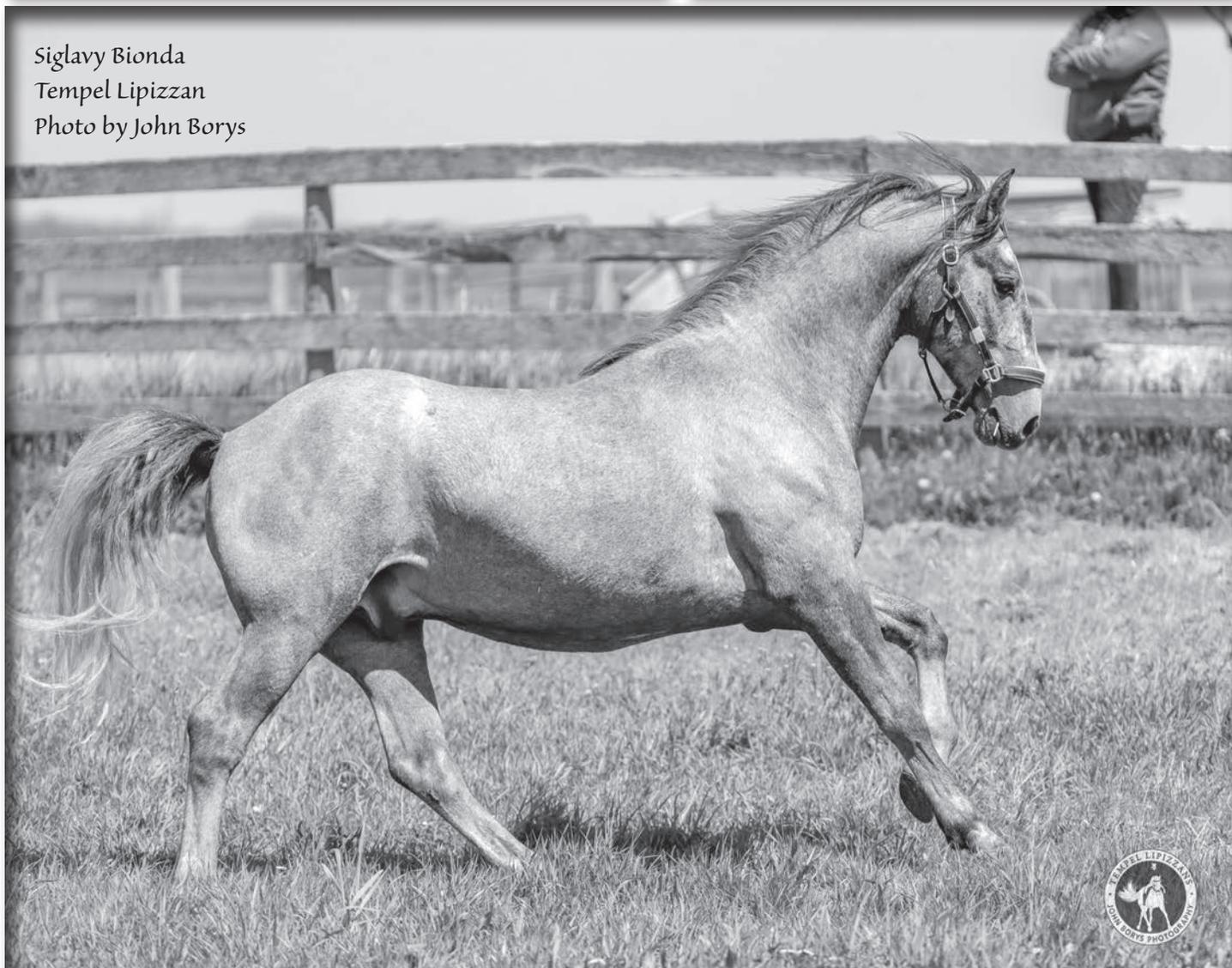
SIGLAVY SUPERSTARS



Siglavy IV Marcia
Tempel Lipizzan
Photo by Mary Phelps



839 Siglavy V Garbo III
Tempel Lipizzan
Photo by John Borys



Siglavy Bionda
Tempel Lipizzan
Photo by John Borys





Siglavy Stallion Lines

in North America*

Siglavy Traga IV
b1889 Lipizza

Siglavy Slavina III
b1893 Lipizza

Siglavy Capriola
b1899 Lipizza

Siglavy Miramar
b1901 Lipizza

Siglavy Capriola
b1911 Fogaras

Siglavy Monterosa
b1907 Lipizza

Siglavy Capriola IV
b1933 Topolčianky

24 Siglavy Strana
b1913 Lipizza

835 Siglavy Herze
b1926 Vukovar

Siglavy Capriola VII
b1944 Babolna

1457 Siglavy II Brezovica
b1931 Piber

906 Siglavy Gaetana III
b1941 Lipik

853 Siglavy Allegra XI
b1940 Lipik

Siglavy Capriola VII-11
b1968 Budapest

Siglavy Dalea ♦
b1974 El Capitan Ranch

311 Siglavy Serena III
b1952 Kutjevo

4 Siglavy Gratosia
b1959 Siroko Polje

S. Americana ♦
b1992
The Lipizzan
Connection

S. Americana II
b1997 The
Lipizzan
Connection

S. Angelica II-I ♦
b1991 Lipizzans West

S. Belisaria
b2005 Swift Silver Lipizzans

135 S. II Belinda
b1968 Tempel

118 S. III Roxana
b1967 Tempel

445 S. II Sandra
b1976 Tempel

714 S. V Marcia
b1985 Tempel

S. Malina ♦
b1991 Lindale Farm

828 S. VI Garbo
b1997 Tempel

S. Sonora ♦
b2002 Royal View Farm

S. Ballestra
b2005 Stephanie duPont

S. Glenya
b2007 Xhalt Equestrian Center

196 Siglavy IV Bona
b1951 Wimsbach

197 Siglavy III Morella
b1951 Wimsbach

216 Siglavy Trofetta XXXVIII
b1950 Lipik

Siglavy Beja-6
b1964 Piber

324 Siglavy V Africa
b1964 Piber

Siglavy Primavera-63
b1961 Piber

5 Siglavy Batosta XIX
b1958 Kutjevo

S. Patrizia-74
b1989 Piber

526 Siglavy Dagmar
b1991 Piber

S. Flora-8
b1990 Piber

Siglavy Sagana II ♦
b1972 El Capitan Ranch

125 Siglavy Toplica XIV
b1972 Djakovo

S. Gidrane-38
b1999 Piber

S. Aga-50
b1999 Piber

Siglavy II Tamara IV
b1993 Highland Stables

Siglavy XI
b1981 Djakovo

Siglavy XI-6
b1968 Szilvásvárad

S. Rheanna ♦
b1998 Blue
Fountain Farm

S. Rona
b2000 Blue
Fountain Farm

S. Rebecca II-I ♦
b2005 Bright
Angel Ranch

Notes:

Bold = imported stallion.

♦ Stallion has USLF-registered purebred offspring born in the last 20 years (2000-2009);
no registered offspring born in the last ten years.

Box = stallion has USLF-registered purebred offspring born in last 10 years (2010-2019).

*This diagram reflects all imported Siglavy stallions with USLF-registered purebred descendants born in the last 20 years.

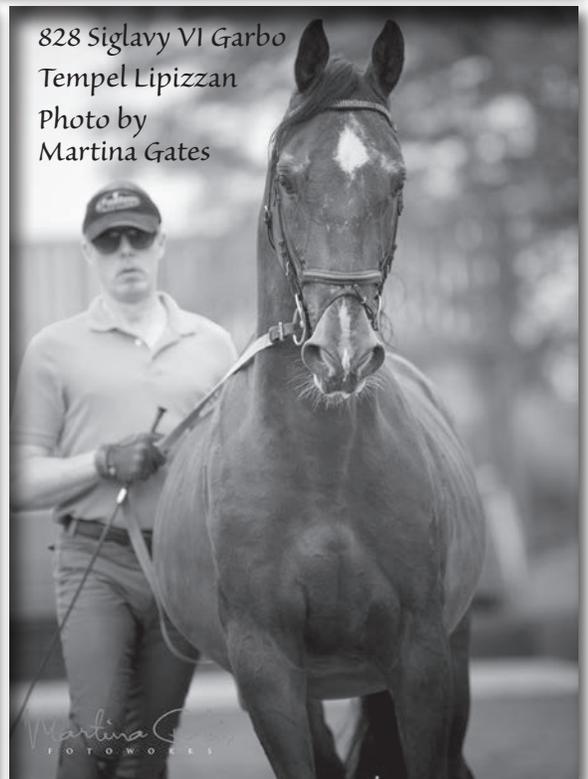
SIGLAVY SUPERSTARS



118 Siglavy III Roxana
Tempel Lipizzan



428 Siglavy IV Damita
Tempel Lipizzan



828 Siglavy VI Garbo
Tempel Lipizzan
Photo by
Martina Gates

Super Models

The story of the 2020 Breyer Model of Lipizzan Mare and Foal from Tempel Farms



By Esther Buonanno

In early 2019, Breyer Horse, manufacturer of model horses, stated an interest in having a mare and foal Lipizzan model for 2020. They wanted horses with a story that would highlight the history and talents of the breed. They hoped the foal could be modelled after a current stallion who exhibits an Airs Above the Ground movement.

They selected our talented 889 Favory VI Airiella II and his mother 817 Airiella; both his sire and dam come from generations of athletic "Airs" horses at Tempel Farms. 889 Favory VI Airiella II was slated to perform the courbette at Breyerfest 2020 in Kentucky.

889 Favory VI Airiella II - by Esther Buonanno

The making of the model required photos of 889 Favory VI Airiella II as foal, and of his dam, 817 Airiella. At that time, his sister, 859 Aurelia II, had just given birth to a colt, so we were also providing video footage of a newborn foal bearing a strong resemblance to him.

The box presenting the models was designed to give the backdrop of the pristine pastures and performance facility at Tempel Farms. Photographer John Borys kindly provided his images to accompany our 2020 Breyer model. (Breyer box photos below)

The culminating event to present 2020 models was set to be Breyerfest 2020. The current preventative regulations restricting public events due to COVID-19 have forced Breyerfest 2020 to move to a virtual event. Tempel Lipizzans will participate in this event in the name of the Lipizzan breed with a virtual tour and training session at Tempel Farms.



889 Favory VI Airiella II - by John Borys

The courbette is a movement in which the stallion balances himself on his hind legs and then makes a series of forward jumps, keeping the hind legs together and the forelegs off the ground.



889 Favory VI Airiella II 2009-2019

While the Breyer model was being built, 889 Favory VI Airiella II was struggling with complications due to a vascular issue in his hind legs. He became quite ill. Despite the hope and care of our staff and work with many expert veterinarians, we lost our beloved stallion on May 21 of 2019 at only 10 years old. It was heartbreaking for so many of us who had watched him grow, then watched his brilliance in training and his first year performing in the Airs Above the Ground segment of our performance. We had thought it was only the beginning.

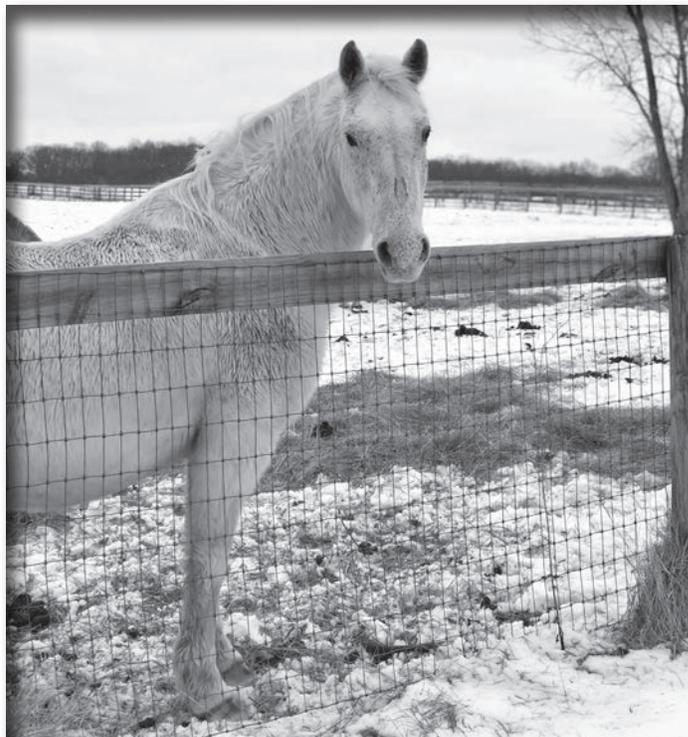
It would be logical to think that what makes a good Airs Above the Ground horse is one that jumps in the air in defiance as well as for play. However, we have observed this athleticism and spark in many of our Lipizzans. What separates a great Airs Above the Ground horse is exceptional trainability and intelligence, as was the case with 889 Favory VI Airiella II.

A year later, when the model was revealed, it was a most gratifying and comforting remembrance of a legendary horse.

817 Airiella

817 Airiella, a brood mare with nobility and an athletic build, produced six highly trainable, athletic, and intelligent foals. As a mother she was notable for producing particularly independent offspring. We have attributed this trait to her mothering – she was not very doting, often letting her foals fight their own battles with their playmates. She was the only offspring of 224 Neapolitano VI Serafina, a stallion trained for the capriole movement. She is of the mare line Almerina, which was established in 1769 in Kladruby, Czech Republic.

Airiella is now 24 years old and is very happily living out her days at Tempel Farms; she shows little interest in her new celebrity status as a Breyer horse model.



817 Airiella with her furry winter coat in her retirement pasture with the other retired brood mares. - photo by Esther Buonanno

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Tracy LeGrand
Membership Chairwoman of USLF

Tracy writes:

In 1968, I first discovered the Lipizzaner horse in [Encyclopedia Britannica](#). I spent hours as a child, viewing that picture, and I still have that set of encyclopedias! I first saw the Lipizzans in person when a Lipizzaner Stallion show came to Fort Worth, Texas. From that point on I wanted to know more than just what the encyclopedia could teach me. Once I discovered the rarity of the breed, my new goal was to ensure its future and preservation.

Currently I am owned by the Lipizzaner mare, Patina (Maestoso Calcedona III x Paloma II) and three Cleveland Bay mares: Buttercup, Cleopatra, and Mirage. The Cleveland Bay is also rare, as their population was devastated during World War I. They were used to pull artillery in the war, and while they were highly successful in their operations, they suffered many casualties. (At one point in the 20th century there were only four Cleveland Bay stallions remaining!) I hope the successful preservation of the Lipizzaner and Cleveland Bay breeds will continue for years to come. I genuinely believe both rare breeds are worth saving!

I try to do my part in preservation by volunteering for the USLF. The duties of the membership chair are to promote membership throughout the year, monitor membership types to encourage participation, report monthly to the Board of Directors on membership activities, and announce the name, location, and horse

owned (if applicable) for the new members. On a quarterly basis I generate the membership list that is used for the mailing of the newsletter. Membership cards are not distributed, but are available for printing off the website, accessible under the "Members Only" selection. If you ever have questions about membership, you are always welcome to send them to USLFOffice@gmail.com.



Tracy with Patina

WELCOME

NEW MEMBERS - *Caryl and Elizabeth*

CARYL RICHARDSON and THEO - *A Match Made in ...*

"He's here!"

That's the text I sent far and wide on Monday, May 11, at about 9:30 in the evening. The "he" in question is *Theo*, or more formally, *Favory Abiqua II*. I think I have, quite literally, found the horse of my dreams.

I am sure that I'm not the only one in this crowd who was pretty much born loving horses. I don't remember a time when I wasn't fascinated with them. When I was about three years old my mother noticed that I had apparently invented an imaginary playmate. That playmate was a horse. As the years went by, that horse took on more distinct form and personality and evolved into *Lightning*. *Lightning* was exquisitely beautiful with a pearly white coat, a noble demeanor, and sometimes he could fly. We would appear out of nowhere and win the race or save the day or rescue the baby, then disappear, leaving imagined onlookers in awe and wonder.

Lightning and I kept frequent company during my childhood. But as a teenager, when I started riding flesh and blood horses, *Lightning* was retired. Horses are in my blood, and though I tried for a while to do "grown up" things for work I eventually followed my passion. I have been teaching riding professionally, and as I gained skill, also training horses, for a good part of my adult life.

Dressage is my passion. I love that the word "dressage" actually means "training." I love the training. And over the last few years I have become more and more interested in pursuing the work of the grand masters of the past. In particular, I have come to believe deeply in preparing the horse very thoroughly from the ground before riding so that by the time I do ride, the horse is well on his way to being a supple, symmetrical and strong dressage horse in mind and body—a pleasure to ride.

The more I did this kind of work, the more intrigued I became with the baroque breeds. And the most interesting of those to me, was the Lipizzan. The more I learned about them, the more I became convinced that a Lipizzan was for me. As my wonderful old Hanoverian gelding aged out of work, I started to look for my special Lipizzan partner.

As you all know, Lipizzans are fairly rare. I was assessing my options, thinking about perhaps buying a youngster, when I got a call from Lisa Kelly Simmons. Her friend Kimry Jelen had a Lipizzan gelding in Oregon and was looking for the perfect match for him. At first, I discounted the idea. I live in Vermont - such a long way from Oregon. And I had been thinking about buying a youngster, not a 13-year-old. But when I saw photos of him, I thought . . . he looked just like . . . could it be? *Theo* was the embodiment of my childhood friend, *Lightning*!

The more I learned about *Theo*, the more videos I saw, the more Kimry told me about him, the more he seemed just right for me. And the more he reminded me of *Lightning*. Clearly, he was meant for me, and I for him. He's here now - just where he belongs - thanks to Lisa Kelly Simmons, matchmaker extraordinaire, and to *Theo's* fairy godmother/guardian angel, Kimry Jelen.

We're just beginning our journey together, just beginning to forge a partnership. Every day I'm newly amazed at *Theo*, at how well we fit together, at how much his personality delights me, and his beauty takes my breath away. I don't expect him to live up to my childhood fantasy of *Lightning*. *Theo* is his own self and I am loving getting to know him. But maybe, just maybe, *Lightning* was a portend, a promise of *Theo* coming into my life one day. And seriously, though *Theo* is extraordinary, he can't actually fly. At least he hasn't so far . . .



And...

Welcome to New Member Elizabeth Larkin (story page 9)

lipizzan legacy - Tribute to an LRF Lipizzan Legacy - LOLITA

By Lauren Self

I first met Lolita on March 24th, 2018, the day I went to pick her up, along with her long-time pasture mate, Lexa. They had lived together for nearly 20 years, and in the same field, for that entire time. Both were retired broodmares in their mid-twenties, and well-bonded, although Lexa was clearly the boss mare. They had strongly relied on each other for companionship and survival.

Their owner had passed away, leaving these two lovely ladies - the last two horses from a once very impressive Lipizzan breeding facility. Thankfully, with their best interest in mind, the Lipizzan Rescue Foundation was contacted.

It was a surprise to me to learn of this Lipizzan farm. Living only 45 mins away, I had no idea a successful Lipizzan breeder was so close.

I was honored and excited to be the first to meet these deserving mares. I was even more excited to bring them home, as I had volunteered to be their foster until a forever home was found for them.

Entering the pasture, both mares noticed me immediately, but it was Lolita who was the first to approach me. This is where our bond began. She was noticeably swaybacked from being a momma so many times and under-muscled due to age, but in typical Lipizzan style, she was noble and brave. You could only imagine what she looked like in her prime! I'm sure her offspring hold similar beauty and heart.

Once I got them home, both mares settled in quite well. I was impressed at how quickly they trusted me and adjusted to their new location, considering they had not left their home in so many years. Lolita immediately allowed me to groom her and welcomed the tour of her new digs. She was trusting, but

you could tell she wasn't super comfortable with the human touch and being fussed over. This made me a bit sad, as you could tell she was such a kind soul and completely deserving of it all. I made it my mission to change that! I wanted her to feel comfortable when receiving love.

After many months in my foster care, Lolita and Lexa were adopted together to an approved home. This was their time to shine - the happy ever after they both deserved! Unfortunately, however, Lexa tragically passed away, at which point the adopter returned Lolita to the LRF. Thank goodness this sad story still has a happy ending, in the form of an adopter who was more than qualified and ready and willing to be Lolita's happy ever after. Lolita was quickly booked to ship to her final, and loving home.

Lolita arrived at Lynne Glazer's oasis in the Riverside County mountains a few days later. Like Lolita, Lynne's mare, Maya (another LRF alumni), had recently lost her long-time pasture mate. Both mares were in need of an older Lipizzan mare companion, and this duo fit the bill to a "T". They hit it off well from the start! The two older brood mares had lots to talk about and bond over and both were adored by Lynne and her gelding, Danny. Lolita quickly discovered the beauty of having her very own human. A human at her beck and call. A human that brought her carrots daily and was always willing to give scratches whenever desired. This was the life!

Sadly, Lolita had some underlying medical issues that she battled. At first, we were unaware of these issues. Once her issues were noticed, immediate action was taken to fix and heal her aging body. Lynne took exceptional care of Lolita and Lolita bounced back. Unfortunately, this victory was short-lived, as Lolita's body was failing her. The heartbreaking decision was made to set her spirit free, knowing Lynne and the LRF had done

continued on page 31



Lolita is on the left and Lexa is on the right

The Lipizzan Connection

BARBARA GJERSET

—

(818) 353 1616
barbara@
lipizzanconnection.com

SIGLAVY DALEA

Lipoli Farm

LIPPIZANS

IMPORTED FROM ITALY

Polly du Pont

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

AMERICAN RIDING INSTRUCTORS ASSOCIATION

Lipizzan Preservation

By Sam Martinson

Preservation is a topic that has come up a great deal over the last few years. As someone fairly new to Lipizzans, I have found the topic of preservation, along with the concerns about genetic conservation, to be extremely interesting and important aspects of breeding. The 2019 Census showed us alarming numbers when it comes to the North American Lipizzan breeding population. As concerns for the continued preservation of the North American herd grows, I took the opportunity to have a conversation with the Kate Phillips, the Director of the United States Lipizzan Federation's Breeder's Committee, and discuss what conservation and preservation of the breed means to her.

In addition to being the Chair of the USLF Breeders Committee and a USLF Director At-Large, Kate Phillips is a USDF "R" judge, international clinician, FEI coach, and competitor. She has over thirty years of breeding experience and owns and operates Mississippi View Farm Lipizzans (MVF).

As a member of the breeders committee you are viewed as a Steward of the Genetics. What does that mean to you?

KP: I began my Lipizzan breeding program seven years ago. I have been fortunate enough to gather together a number of mares of tremendously varying backgrounds. As I began to look at these varying pedigrees, I realized I would not only be producing for my own riding and sales program, but also laying the foundation of the future of the breed. After working with USLF, LIF, and traveling to Europe, I realized that I needed to have a broader goal of genetic preservation. One needs to recognize that genetic preservation as a breeder has to do with protecting the next generation. My focus as a breeder is the direction of the North American herd, not the direction of the individual. This is where our evaluators come in, to help us look at our horses with

clear eyes so we can make informed decisions when it comes to breeding for the future.

People talk a lot about preserving the genetics of the US herd. What steps do you believe need to be taken in order to achieve this?

KP: North America has had a narrowing of the genetics in the last fifteen years as our breed population has become smaller and older. It has become quite clear that we need to try to find the mares that match up to the LIF standard and hopefully preserve some of the genetics from them. Obviously, importation is going to be limited because of cost. We need to encourage people who have older high-quality mares, which they may not be utilizing, to consider breeding them or working with a local Lipizzan breeder to produce a foal. This is especially important on mares who have shown good character, a show record, outstanding conformation via the evaluations, and under-represented genetics.

What do you feel are the greatest challenges facing conservation in the United States?

KP: The greatest challenges are an aging mare population, and the cost of producing a foal and raising it properly. Foals are much more expensive than just the costs to get them on the ground. You can't depend on people coming to buy a weanling. Weanlings are very beautiful; however, for the next three years they often have limited salability until they are under saddle. A breeder must be able to potentially absorb the cost of training. Other challenges I see are the distance between stallion farms (we're a big country), and a lack of ability to collect and ship semen. Also, much of our frozen semen has not been well-tested and thus results could be unreliable.

Lipizzans are considered a rare breed in the United States. As a breeder, how do you balance quality vs. the need to preserve specific lines?

KP: This is a really difficult but good question to ask. When I look at my mares, I try to look at their strengths and weaknesses and pair them as well as I can to stallions I have available. The real truth, however, is in those foals. One must be able to overcome as much barn blindness as possible to make decisions regarding further breeding of that mare. Honestly; I have had a number of surprises both in a positive and negative direction. For example, I have one very common mare, who is consistently out-producing herself. That being said, we *are* limited in the availability of semen to move reliably around this country. That can make choosing a stallion difficult.

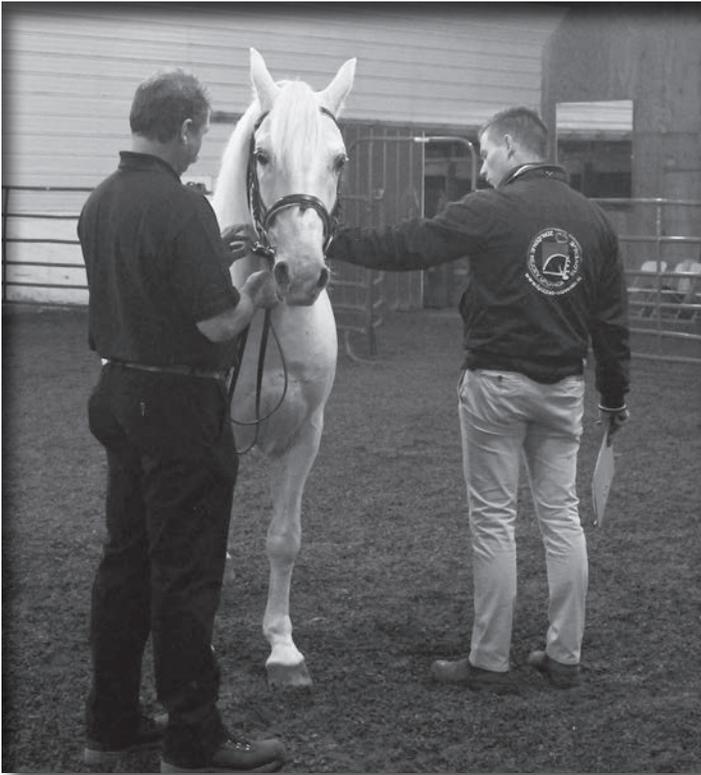
How does the current horse market affect breed preservation?

KP: I think we are in a positive place right now because I see a need for smaller talented horses. Dressage judges today are being presented with a larger variety of athletic, talented horses across many different breeds, and I believe the Lipizzans fit well into this market. That being said, there is a business side to conservation, as the market decides which horses survive. As stewards we must recognize the type that can fit the demographic needed here in North America.

In what way does the preservation of Lipizzans in the United States differ from the stud farms in Europe?



Favory Sennia II (b2019 by Favory Canada), bred by Kate Phillips at Mississippi View Farm



Dr. Klemen Turk at the 2018 USLF Breed Evaluations held at Mississippi View Farm

foals each year. It also means they are mandated by the state to breed horses to preserve the genetics that an American breeder might not choose to breed. Fortunately, although I try to make sure I preserve individual mare's/stallion's genetics, I am not obligated to breed every line and can breed for more high-quality animals, rather than just the genetics.

If you were put in charge of a \$100,000 endowment to the USLF, what would you do to ensure the continued protection of the US Lipizzan herd?

KP: The first thing I would do is set up a frozen semen bank of available stallions so that that semen is preserved in case the owners are no longer able to stand them and support the cost of maintaining the frozen semen. I would import a couple of high quality, proven stallions (both through foals and competition record) from different stud farms and make them available to our breeders at a reasonable cost.

If you were a single mare owner, what would be the most important things you would consider when choosing a stallion?

KP: Rideability, rideability, rideability. Breed for yourself and breed what you would want. I encourage people to look at their mare and say, if I were going to ride this foal, what would I enjoy? I always go back to character. Character is what makes them rideable and ensures success of the offspring. The reason I say this is because Lipizzans are classically going to go to Adult Amateurs, and character is the single most important thing for them, unlike the international Warmblood market where gaits are the most important thing. Most of those high-powered young warmbloods will be going to professional trainers to train and compete.

What do you think the average Lipizzan Enthusiast can do to contribute to preservation?

KP: Volunteer to help USLF and support our breeders, even if it's something as small as sharing their posts online.

KP: The LIF state Stud Farms are not just barns that have mares and stallions. They each define a National Stud by encompassing all the lines - both stallions and mares - that are approved in that country, as well as being funded and controlled by the country of origin. My trip to Europe in 2018 was a real eye opener for me. In having to continue to produce mares and stallions in every line, the Stud Farms are producing incredibly large numbers of

"LOLITA;" continued from page 29

all we humanly could to save her. On May 25th, 2020. Lolita crossed the rainbow bridge to join her longtime pasture mate, Lexa.

Fostering is not always rainbows and sunshine, but it is always worth it to me. Every horse I foster has taught me things I needed to know and left with a piece of my heart. It is tough to rehab, love with your whole heart, and let go. I will be forever grateful to have played a small role in Lolita and Lexa's lives and they will forever hold a very special place in my heart.



Lolita, left; and Maya, right.
Photo by Lynne Glazer



Lauren Self with Lolita. "We were at the shipping company before she left for Lynne's. This was the last time I'd see her."

Lipizzan legacy



Mary Beth Toomey Equine Artist

Mary Beth Toomey, 1948 – 2019

By Carole Gauger

Mary Beth Toomey, one of the most brilliant animal artists of our generation, has passed away. Her art exhibit at the Kentucky Horse Park was a highlight of her life and a tribute to her vast talent. Her painting of my

foal, Pluto Balmora VI, was an award winner at that prestigious event.

Mary Beth came to Starmount Stable to work with me and my Lipizzan horses in early 1991. I soon found she was also a dedicated animal rescuer. She brought with her a beautiful Afghan hound, a blind Mallard duck called "Stevie Wonder," and three injured swans that she was rehabbing.

Our friendship was a match made in Heaven. Very few people rescue all animals as Mary Beth and I did for most of our lives. I had a pet raccoon at the time that had lived with me for four years.

Mary Beth was also as dedicated to caring for all the horses in the stable as I was. She would start feeding the 35-40 horses before I arrived at the barn at 7 am. Almost every morning we would collect semen from one of my stallions and/or breed one of my mares. While I drove the cooled semen shipment to the airport, Mary Beth would begin cleaning stalls. She would also have the first horse on my daily list saddled and ready to go when I returned to the stable. We would work one horse after another all morning long with other helpers cooling out the hot horses.

I found Mary Beth to be very adept at riding young horses that were barely started in their training, and that was a great time saver for me. She would give the young horses experience on a trail ride through the woods and around the half-mile race-track while I worked the dressage horses in the ring.

After the swans' wings were healed, we enjoyed watching Mary Beth turn them loose on my pond. Thanks to her dedicated care, they were able to return to their wild lives.

Sadly, my pet raccoon killed Stevie Wonder, the blind duck, but Mary Beth's kindness even extended to Rocky the raccoon. She told me not to get rid of Rocky because he was just doing



Mary Beth rehabilitated three injured swans while at Starmount Stable. We turned them loose in my pond when they were healed. "Stevie Wonder" a blind duck, is on the right.

what came naturally to him. Mary Beth really was a kind soul that understood animals!

After these long, physically tiring days (which never included a coffee-break), somehow Mary Beth would find the energy in the evenings to paint portraits of horses, dogs, or children's portraits for parents!

As we saw Mary Beth's artwork emerge week by week, with portraits of different animals or children, we realized we had a treasure in her talent!

She gifted me with a headshot painting of my beloved Pluto Bona II that is more lifelike than a photograph. It is one of my prized possessions to this day.

The United States Lipizzan Registry asked her to create a poster to be used as a fundraiser. She was happy to help promote the organization that was saving and promoting Lipizzans in this country. She designed three magnificent posters, Capriole, Courbette, and Piaffe, which are treasured by Lipizzan lovers across the country, two of which are pictured to the right.

Besides all her other great qualities, Mary Beth also was a fantastic cook! Every now and then she would create some elaborate dish, to share with all of us that worked with her. Those

USLR News

Year 31
Winter, 2010

COVER PRICE: \$4.00



COVER IMAGE:
Pluto Bona II ('Beau')

United States Lipizzan Registry

Mary Beth's painting of my beloved Pluto Bona II, was featured on the front cover of the NEWS during the winter of 2010!

were always the best meals we had on the farm!

Mary Beth Toomey was an extraordinary and unique woman in every aspect of her life. We were privileged to have known her and to have spent those years with her at Starmount Stable.

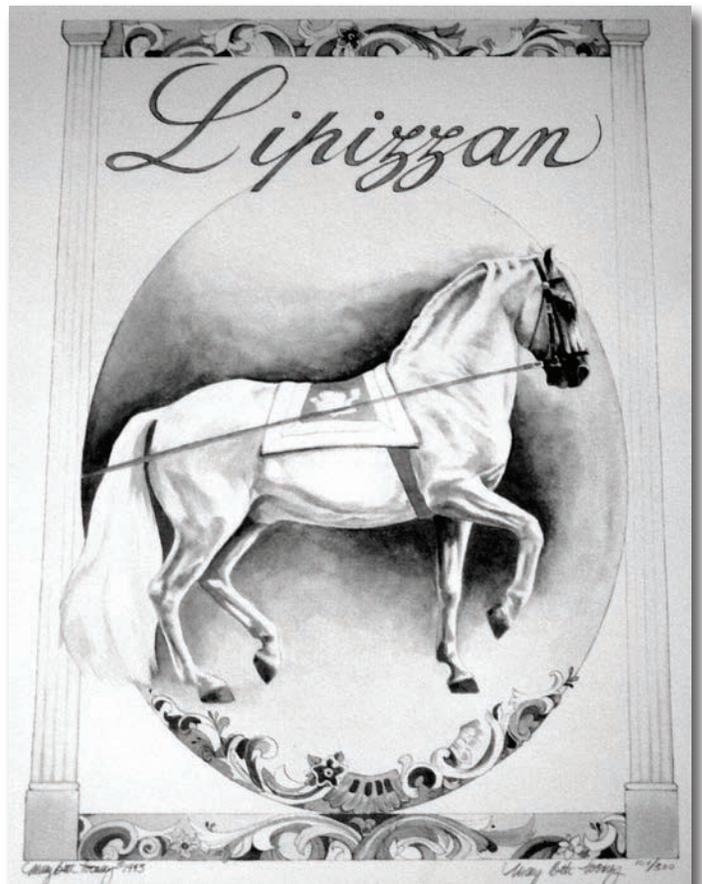
After I retired and sold my farm, Mary Beth moved to Ivory Farms in White Lake, Michigan, to continue caring for a stable full of horse,s as well as creating more magnificent art treasures for clients, including illustrating a manual for the American Assn. of Riding Schools.

The stroke that she suffered on Christmas Day took a beautiful soul and extraordinary talent from all of us. Float forever free now, Mary Beth.



*"Pluto Balmora VI"
The First Day*

Another favorite is Mary Beth's painting of my Lipizzan foal, Pluto Balmora VI, an award-winning painting at the Kentucky Horse Park.



Chris Crowhurst

Artist, Horsewoman, Great Friend

by Chris Bell, Springfield, Oregon

On May 5th of this year, the Lipizzan community lost a passionate supporter. Chris Crowhurst died suddenly on that day, only three weeks after a diagnosis of terminal cancer.

It was a shock to many; to me, many friends in Florida, and to friends across the country. She had known she had stomach problems but thought it was something else, and being the devoted horsewoman that she was, still rode three horses a day. She wasn't rich or living in luxury. Chris worked four days a week as a hairdresser, lived in a forest on about five acres, cared for her four horses and ten cats herself, tended an organic vegetable garden and did her artwork as well! Many didn't know that Chris had a Masters in Fine Arts from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. Her simple home was filled with her paintings, as she was a prolific artist.



Chris had trained with riders from the Spanish Riding School in Vienna, who regularly gave seminars in Florida. She rode at a high level and yet she was quirky, intuitive, and not really interested in showing. She loved Lipizzans and she loved dressage but didn't feel the need to compete. She had nothing to prove. To her it was an art form that she loved, and she was curious about how to reach each individual horse and communicate with him or her.

I met Chris 15 years ago when she came out to Eugene, Oregon, to attend a yoga seminar. She decided to call up Lipizzan breeders and see some of their horses. When I met her, I immediately liked her. At the time, I had three stallions at a boarding facility where my Belgian trainer, Baudouin Hallet, was based. I invited Chris to come and watch my trainer work. I was feeling discouraged because the gals I knew at that barn, who had been riding all their lives (unlike me who had to start as an adult) were disparaging of my trainer and didn't see what I saw in his work.

In the beautiful arena, Chris and I stood watching Baudouin work my stallions, Conversano Canada, and Favory Canada (both bred by June Boardman). They are very different stallions in temperament and conformation, and Chris watched



intently for a long time. Finally, she turned to me and said, "He's the real deal. You have yourself a great trainer; something really rare." I felt so relieved. In Chris I found a great and true friend, someone with an integrity, sensitivity, and vision I deeply respected and valued. And I knew she loved horses and cared most of all about their well-being.

Later, I sent her one of my last colts, Favory Isa, and I visited her in Florida. She had a strong-minded mare, Finada; Roc, a colt out of Finada; an accomplished Arabian horse in his 30's; and Tavia, the Lipizzan I had sent her. Chris was totally dedicated to her four horses. She lived in a forest, rode her horses on the trail by herself, and trained them slowly and carefully. After Baudouin moved to Florida, she left her old trainers and trained with him. This year he had told her, "If you don't have the money to pay me, I will come and help you for free." That was how much he valued her, her approach to horses, and her sensitivity as a rider.

Chris was only 70 years old when she died. Before she left, she had found homes for all her horses and her ten cats. When I talked with her, she seemed her old self, calm and peaceful. "I don't think I'm going to get out of this," she told me, "so I'll just live with my friend Ruth, do my art, and look out the window at my horses until it's time to go."

Chris, you will be sorely missed.....



The USLF and LRF wish to recognize the life of Chris Crowhurst and her generous support & contributions to the Lipizzan horse.

Thank you, Chris, for your unwavering dedication to the people and horses of these organizations and for sharing your colorful, creative spirit with us all.



Announcement from LIF

(www.lipizzan-online.com) • March 27, 2020

LIPIZZAN HORSE BREEDING TRADITIONS NOMINATED AS INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE OF HUMANITY

From the foundation of the stud farm in Lipica in 1580, the breeding of Lipizzan horses spread through geographical areas of today's Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Hungary, Italy, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia. For more than 450 years and through the changing political systems, the element has always united bearers, practitioners and communities from eight countries. They are the first caretakers of the Lipizzan horse breeding, based on a trustful bond between human and horse, and of a shared cultural heritage.

The Lipizzan horse is characterised by longevity, excellent stamina, good and strong character, learning ability and athletic capabilities. Years to decades of training and knowledge transfer are necessary to obtain the skills and knowledge of a Lipizzan horse breeder. Up until today, this well-known horse breed forms an intrinsic part of rituals, festive events and equestrian sports, and plays a special role in the everyday cultural and social life of communities in rural areas, near state stud farms and private breeders.

Living heritage unites eight countries in Europe.

The wide range of cultural and social practices, knowledge and skills, oral traditions, festive events and equestrian sports linked to the breeding of Lipizzan horses, has prompted Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Hungary, Italy, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia to nominate Lipizzan horse breeding traditions for inscription on UNESCO's Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

The Lipizzan horses have played a symbolic role in these countries over centuries and continue to represent various communities until today. These horses form an integral part of local celebrations and festivities like traditional weddings, carnival processions, autumn parades, folklore events, horse breeding displays, the tradition of driving the horses down from the Alpine pastures in early autumn, and the blessing of horses on different occasions. They are used iconically on various items or artefacts like coins, bank notes, escutcheons, labels, postage stamps, and they play an important role in representational and ceremonial

events. Their symbolic value is further conveyed through oral histories, as well as through folk songs, and testifies of a close emotional connection between practitioners and horses. The element also plays a role in the life of the larger community concerned, e.g. in hippotherapy, sports (riding, carriage driving) and performances inspired by the Classical Horsemanship of the Spanish Riding School in Vienna.

The joint nomination of these eight European countries highlights a shared heritage that unites communities and states at the local, national and international level. It underlines that the 2003 Convention encourages the joint safeguarding of intangible elements across linguistic and national borders, thereby promoting dialogue and understanding. The inscription on UNESCO's Representative List will strengthen the cooperation and networking of all stakeholders involved in the safeguarding of the element.

The preparation of the nomination brought together representatives of the state stud farms and private breeders, intangible heritage professionals, cultural experts and researchers, as well as local communities. The process was coordinated by the Ministry of Culture of Slovenia.

The Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (UNESCO)* will evaluate the file during its 16th session in December 2021.

Links for national registrations

Austria: <https://www.unesco.at/kultur/immaterielles-kulturerbe/artikel/article/das-wissen-um-die-lipizzanerzucht-wird-als-immaterielles-kulturerbe-der-menschheit-eingereicht>

Croatia: <https://www.culturenet.hr/default.aspx?id=96834>

Slovenia: <http://www.nesovnadediscina.si/sl/register/tradicionalna-reja-vzreja-lipicancev>

***UNESCO is the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. It seeks to build peace through international cooperation in Education, the Sciences and Culture. For more information, please visit www.en.unesco.org**

A Horse Crazy Girl

By Stephanie du Pont, Whitefish, MT

As a young girl I thought about horses obsessively. I was one of those girls who drew pictures of horses, ran like a horse, dreamt of horses, and wanted to grow up to be a horse. My beautiful and exotic cousin, Polly, invited me to go alone and visit her castle in Italy. When I was told her place had horses, I instantly wanted to go. My mother went with me to get a passport, we packed presents for my hostess (Betty Crocker brownie mix, peanut butter) bought a ticket, and waited.

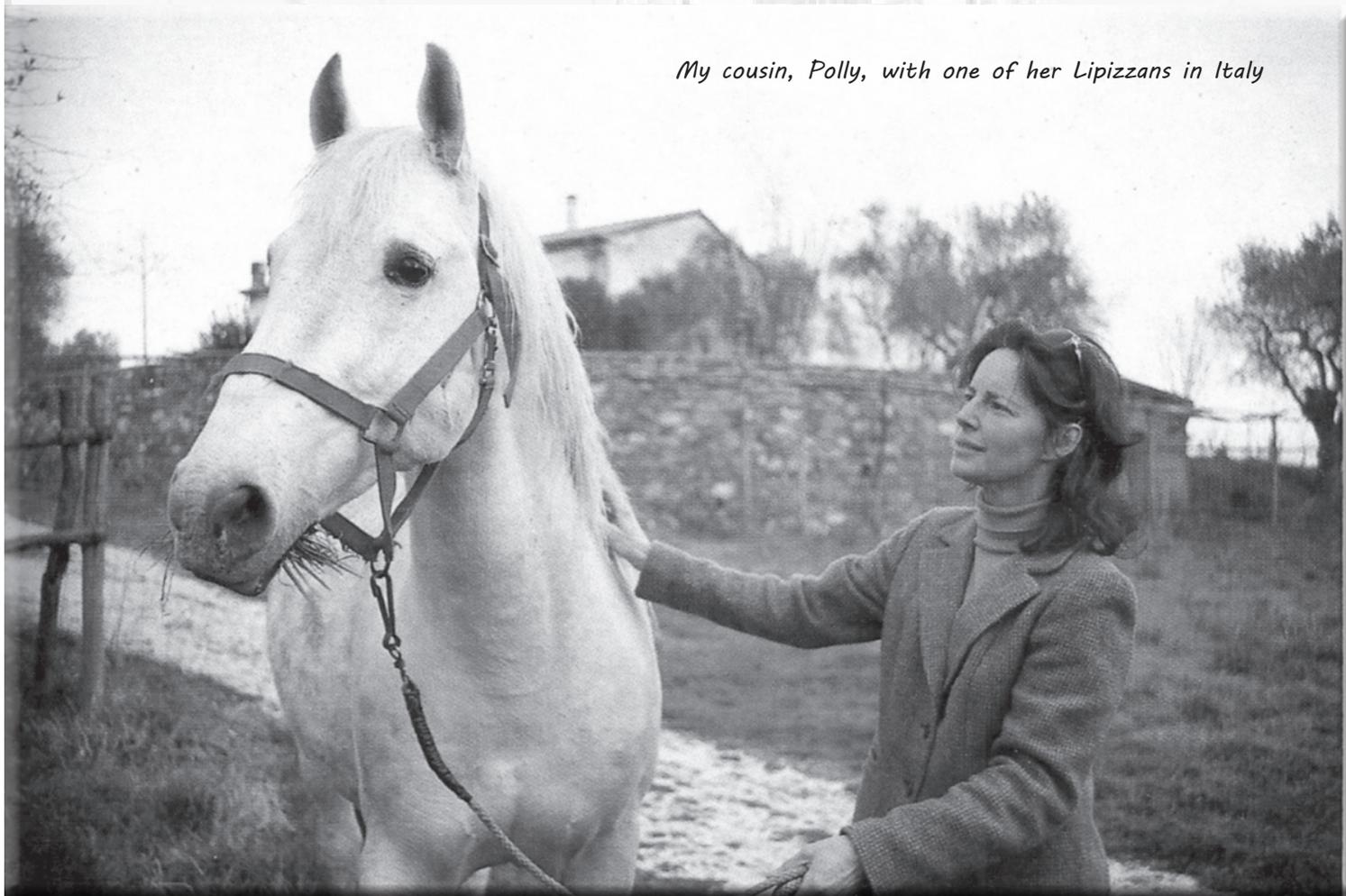
The Alitalia flight took nine hours, and for all nine of those hours I harried the stewardesses. I was 11 years old and left in their care as the singularly most excited child in the world. Polly's friend, Manuel, waited at the airport in Rome to pick me up. I had never met him before, but the stewardesses were quick to lead me through customs and straight into Manuel's arms. He drove an amazingly fast tiny white open-top race car. The speedometer would jump from 0 to 100, pressing us deep into the leather seats. For several hours we weaved out of Rome and north up the Italian countryside. We swerved through traffic like I had never seen before. At one point the road became single lane and we startled a flock of tiny songbirds, hitting one with what scant windshield there was. The bird was dead on impact but that was not the most incredible thing. In the next town through which we passed, while we were waiting for traffic to let

us go, a well-dressed elderly man jumped in front of Manuel's car and scooped the poor crushed bird into his pocket. With a brief "Grazi" he stepped out of the way.

Finally, the weather cooled down and the vegetation became low-growing and suited for high altitude. Finally, we arrived at the "farm." The "house" was several centuries old, with the stable built in the basement and a dirt floor in the spacious airy kitchen. Polly was standing with friends at a homemade wooden fence looking down a steep mountainside with white horses dotting the brush. By a windmill at the bottom was obviously a water trough, with the interest of about six horses. There were hundreds of horses in the pasture, and the first time I saw them the entire angelic host from GOD himself started singing in my head.

Rather impatiently, Manuel shouted down the mountainside, "Pluto - Vienni Qui, Vienni Qui, Pluto!!" And that is when I fell in love for the first time. A white stallion answered his call and carefully made his way up the mountain to us. He was huge to my child-like impression, and intelligent. He was sovereign among his mares and could come to Manuel knowing he would never regret the invitation. I was put on his back and he gently led me through the whole herd, introducing me to every mare and her

continued on page 38



My cousin, Polly, with one of her Lipizzans in Italy

Bay Lipizzans—It's All in the Family

by Caryl Richardson

Lipizzans are almost always grey, but the key word here is "almost."

As we know, there are a few born without the genes for a greying coat. For good luck, the Spanish Riding School famously includes a stallion with a non-grey coat color in their lineup of performing stallions.

Here in the US, even with our small numbers, some bay Lipizzans and the occasional black can be found. One place you can find bay Lipizzans is in Whitefish, Montana at the home of Stephanie du Pont Hannigan and Michael Hannigan.

Stephanie became interested in Lipizzans when she was a young girl. When she was 11 years old, she visited her older cousin, Polly du Pont, who was then living in Italy and raising Lipizzan horses. While in Italy, Stephanie had the opportunity to ride a Conversano stallion. On another visit, Stephanie rode a four-year-old Siglavý colt. The beauty and gentleness of these stallions made a big impression on her and were the start of her love affair with the Lipizzan breed.

Fast forward to the present day and we find Stephanie and her husband Michael in Montana, where they are breeding bay Lipizzans. As it turns out, Polly not only introduced young Steph-

anie to Lipizzans, but also played a significant role in helping Stephanie become established as a breeder.

In 2004 Polly, then living in Alstead, NH, and breeding Lipizzans at Lipoli farm, bought the bay mare Ballestra from Lynn Cruz Malpass. Polly liked bays and thought it would be a good idea to breed some. She bred the mare to the bay stallion 828 Siglavý VI Garbo at Tempel. Once confirmed in foal, Ballestra was sent to Stephanie. That breeding produced Siglavý Ballestra (828 Siglavý VI Garbo x Ballestra) fondly known as "Bola."

A few years later Polly found herself very impressed with the type and temperament of a bay Lipizzan broodmare, Rowena (524 Conversano II Erica x 554 RONALDA), owned by Carlie Beisel. Polly acquired Rowena and bred her to Pluto Tücsök-44, a bay stallion imported from Piber, which produced a lovely bay filly, Rima. Polly surmised that Rima would make an excellent match for Siglavý Ballestra and in due time sent Rima to Stephanie.

Stephanie and Michael currently have two young horses from that pairing, Siglavý Rima, a two-year-old colt, and Arqueba, a four-year-old filly. The early training of these youngsters uses methods based on a Native American style of horsemanship which helps develop them into calm, confident horses.

Cheers to those bays, for good luck!



Mississippi View Farm

Standing Proven Performance Stallions • Young Horses Available

missviewfarm.com

Horse Crazy Girl; *continued from page 36*

foal. He brought me back up that steep hillside and let me off with the other humans.

There was a second stallion living in a stall in the basement, with plenty of sunlight from the west. One could ride him in there, but we were all afraid to try because he had given up his mares to Pluto and he was angry. One of my jobs was to soak beet pulp for him and cut grass for him to eat. The two stallions were alternated for the mares each year and they had fought, severely injuring each other. There was a rivalry and we were all cautious not to let it happen again.

Polly had an ex-stallion she called Conversano, and he was my riding horse. He was very well-trained but had quite the attitude, thinking he was still a stallion. Conversano was willing to be caught, fine to wear a saddle and carry me about, but very clever at avoiding the bit and bridle. In fact, I don't think the bit and bridle worked any better than just hanging a mess of strings on his head. Truthfully, a net on his head worked more reliably. Conversano was considered a work horse, so I would get up very early in the morning, tack up Conversano, and ride to the wind-mill water pump to fill two water cans and bring them to the kitchen. After that I could cut fodder for the trapped Napolitano in the basement, after which I was allowed to ride anywhere the stallion wasn't. That was blissful.

Polly set the place up to operate seamlessly, so that we could wake up early or late and eat what and when we liked. I became hooked on hard Italian bread with mozzarella cheese. I longed for orange juice and was offered orenchadda soda instead. Every night we had a fancy outdoor dinner together with all the people staying there. Polly is a fantastic cook and we ate really well.

But life there was not always a bunch of fun and games. Polly had asked me to please keep an eye out for the mares and foals when I was out and about. One morning Pluto came to the fence

and sidled up to the fence and I could not resist getting on him. Instead of calmly walking off he broke into a gallop down that steep trail straight to the ditch at the bottom of the ravine. Sadly, in that pit was a dead foal. Pluto refused to leave, and stayed with the foal. I had to walk up that steep mountainside to tell Polly she lost one.

The herd's perfection is one thing I clearly remember and marvel at the sturdiness and good health of my own small herd of Lipizzaner today. Hard living on that mountainside made for excellent horses.

The second year In Italy I was given a stallion to ride, along with Conversano, if I wanted. My stallion was a dark coal grey four-year-old Siglavy. Polly called him a colt, but I could see underneath, and he was a stallion! I took a picture! I was told to train Siglavy, but Siglavy already knew everything, so I looked really good on him as I clung to his withers as he galloped and jumped objects, trotted in tight circles, and halted within inches of spectators.

I wanted a horse like Siglavy to take on the horse show circuit back home in America. He was really athletic and willing to please beyond any horse I had ever met. Siglavy taught me how to ride inoffensively. He demonstrated how to be with a horse and not offend them. As if he were psychic and could project thoughts into his rider's head, we would agree to look over the ledge or cross the wooden bridge. I think he must have been able to read my thoughts and we had a great partnership, which causes me to dream of him 40 odd years later. I have always hoped to find a horse friend like Siglavy; and after many years of failure with other breeds, Polly sent me a Siglavy stallion just like the wonderful Siglavy from all those years ago in Italy. Actually, my Siglavy stallion will stay dark but that suits me well for stalking through the woods with him. We are invisible.

Author Stephanie du Pont, page 36, lives in Whitefish, Montana with her husband, Mike, and four children: two daughters and two sons. In addition to raising approximately 20 milking goats, she has a bay stallion, a bay mare, and two bay get - a filly and a colt. She rides Siglavy bareback through the woods, and if it is a cold Montana winter day, she just pulls a black garbage bag over her coat.



Please Renew your USLF Membership!

During the months of January through April, 58% of our membership renewals were due. Of those, 12% were past due. The remaining 42% of renewals are due from May through December.

Even though we are facing uncertain times, and some of us are facing hardships, please strongly consider renewing your continued support of the USLF, whose mission is to “preserve, protect, and promote the Lipizzan breed.”

Membership Table

Month	Number of memberships up for renewal
Jan	7
Feb	7
Mar	49
Apr	73
May	33
June	9
July	8
Aug	18
Sept	9
Oct	7
Nov	6
Dec	7



TRANSITIONS

MARCH 2020 - MAY 2020

REGISTRATIONS:

Lipizzan Mares:

910 Aria (b.2013, Tempel Farms, Maestoso Legény x 868 Adelena) by Carylee Hammer of Ceadarburg, WI.

Olena (b.2019, Bit O' Heaven Farm, Favory Canada x Onikita) by Sonya Wells of Arlington, WA.

Omeara (b.2019, Bit O' Heaven Farm, Favory Canada x Onika) by Deby Robinson of Yelm, WA.

Lipizzan Stallions:

Maestoso Cara Mia II (b.2015, Circle Lazy K Ranch, Maestoso Precoccia x Cara Mia) by Elissa Callison and Lucia Sorria of Canby, OR.

Pluto Betalka XXVII (b.2016, Janez Peternal, 397 Pluto Betalka XXIV x 211 Betalka XXVII) by Brenda Howell of Spencer, NY.

XL Lipizzan Mares:

Thalia (XL) (b.2019, Katherine Glynn, Gaudi (KWPN) x Theodora) by Katherine Glynn of Belvidere, SD.

TRANSFERS:

Lipizzan Mares:

Akira (b.2009, KC Ranch Lipizzaners, Maestoso Fadra x Astorria) to Alison Smith of Granada Hills, CA.

Andromeda (b.2016, Mistral Lipizzans, Neapolitano Maestina x Arriva) to Kim Nylander of Durham, NC.

Cara Mia (b.2004, White Horse Vale, 546 Conversano Mima x Cara) to Jennifer Hartmann of Kensington, CA.

MYSTERY RIDER, REVEALED (from page 7)

Did you know the answer? Our summer issue's Mystery Rider is Barbara Gjerset!

Barbara Gjerset, of the Lipizzan Connection, has been a breeder of Lipizzans for 30 years! Barbara has been a member of USLF since the very beginning of the Registry and she is a former Board member. She was also a founding member of ALBA (American Lipizzan Breeders' Association), which eventually combined with the USLR to form the USLF. Over the years she has served as a Lipizzan show manager during the 1980s at the LA Equestrian Center in Reno, and Pebble Beach.

As a representative from the USA, Barbara attended many LIF meetings in Europe, as well as being in attendance at the Lipizzan Gala at the Spanish Riding School in 1998 and the 450th Lipizzan Gala in Vienna, 2015.

The first photo was taken in 1963, in Burbank, California.

Barbara was on a wonderful Saddlebred English Pleasure gelding, named "Chief McDonald." They showed in Quadrille competitions and parades with a ladies' riding club called the Women's Cavalry.

In the second photo, Barbara is riding the Lipizzan mare, Kristela. Kristela S11/1986 was foaled at Disneyland in Anaheim, California. Her sire was Siglavy Deja (El Capitan Ranch) and her dam was Kana (Tempel Farms). This photo was taken during a show where Kristela won High Point at the Del Mar Lipizzan Show, judged by Dr. Rolf Vlatten, MD. Kristela also won first place in both the In-Hand Breeding and English Pleasure classes.



BREEDERS' DIRECTORY

Chocolate Lipizzans

Stephanie du Pont
Whitefish, MT 59937
Phone: 406-249-6216
Email: chocolatelipizzaners@gmail.com

Standing:

Siglavý Ballestra (Bay)

Young stock 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)

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:

Neapolitano Wandosa II

Favory Canada

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

Pale Moon Lipizzans

Stephanie Hevener
4845 Peeksville Road
McDonough, GA
Phone: 540-400-5163
Email: PaleMoonLipizzans@gmail.com

Standing:

7021 Neapolitano XI-21, Imported stallion from Topolčianky

The Lipizzan Connection

Barbara Gjerset
3275 Stonyvale Rd
Tujunga, CA 91042
Phone: 818-353-3556

Email: Barbara@lipizzanconnection.com

Web: www.LipizzanConnection.com

Horses occasionally for sale

Touchstone Acres

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

Standing via Frozen Semen:

Maestoso Takoma

5599 Maestoso Mefiszto (Black Hungarian Champion)

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.waltzinghorsesdressage.com

Standing via fresh cooled semen:

Conversano Belamilana (Bay)

Maestoso Marina

Pluto Pompea-55 (Piber import)

Maestoso Alga - Available with frozen (ICSI) only

USLF Vision Statement

The USLF is a thriving organization, strengthened by a diversity of ideas coming from an engaged membership who is committed to sustaining a genetically-sound North American Lipizzan population. Furthermore, the USLF is considered the foremost authority on the breed in North America and is highly regarded within the international Lipizzan community.

USLF Mission Statement

To preserve, protect and promote the Lipizzan breed.

Ellen Chappell, Secretary

1. The Board has spent time discussing how the pandemic impacts our organization and members. We understand that it is an unprecedented time and are looking for ways we can do things differently to support the Lipizzan breed and our community.
2. We will be moving the Annual Meeting online this year! While the format and logistics are still being worked out, we are excited that it will allow more members to participate. We are not locked into a date yet. We are looking at October. Stay tuned for further details.
3. Due to the pandemic, we will not be offering a 2021 Lipizzan Calendar. Instead, the Merchandising Committee is working to extend USLF Merchandise offerings. More information can be found in this issue. Please consider purchasing one or more items to help us maintain our operating budget.
4. Mella Smith has graciously volunteered to chair the Nomination and Election Committee. The Board is very excited to have someone with this much experience in this critical role. Thank you, Mella!
5. Auctions are another important USLF fundraiser. The Board has decided to form an Auction and Fundraising Committee. Please contact the USLFOffice@gmail.com if you are interested in volunteering. It will be a fun way to contribute!
6. Unfortunately, the Kentucky Horse Park has closed indefinitely. The Lipizzan gelding, Siglavy Darla III, who the USLF partnered with the Lipizzan Rescue Foundation (LRF) on, has gone back to the LRF. He will be looking for his forever home, along with other Lipizzans who are up for adoption. This is a good time to help the LRF in any way you can.
7. The North American Studbook is online, and the initial response has been fantastic! If you have not checked it out yet, we encourage you to go to <https://www.uslipizzan.org> to do so. You will need your member-only login to access it.
8. This is a reminder to get your foals and other Lipizzans and Lipizzan crosses registered. Information can be found on our website, <https://www.uslipizzan.org/registry#!form/Registry>.
9. If you received this issue, your membership is up to date. Thank you! The LIPIZZAN NEWS is just one of USLF's great member perks! Our organization is only as strong as its members.
10. We are always interested in stories and quality photos for the LIPIZZAN NEWS. The NEWS has an email address for submissions. It is Lipizzannews@gmail.com. There are also new advertising options and rates. For additional information about those, email USLFOffice@gmail.com.

CHANGING A STALLION'S BEHAVIORAL BRAIN

BY LAURA WEINER

The purpose of this type of training is not to teach a trick or a dressage movement; it is to maximize a brain auto-response and minimize stallion behavior. This also works great on alpha mares.

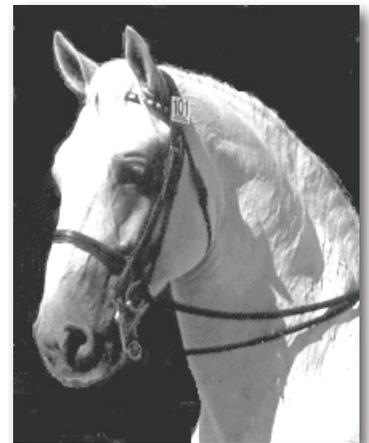
The goal is to be able to lead or ride your stallion past mares on the other side of a fence or in an arena with composure and fairly quietly – no yelling; no more than a very low hum hum sound.

Some horses need to begin their first training session wearing a stud chain and receiving little treats for each small success; others progress quickly without either. The same way each Lipizzan has his/her own individual personality, make appropriate adjustments to ensure a calm, quiet training session.

Start in a quiet arena at a halt in hand. As you softly say “down, down,” repeatedly, jiggle the lead rope to act as a gentle annoyance - not so hard that all you get is resistance. At the first few lessons you may need to bend down to demonstrate what you’re asking for and use a carrot slice or other eat fast treat if an incentive is needed. When you get even the slightest head movement down or a significantly submissive response, immediately stop the annoying jiggle and praise profusely.

When your horse understands, continue, each time getting the head lower and lower. After mastering the head down almost to the knees, ask for a few walk steps with head down, advancing to a short walk and eventually to longer walks. You can do up to three sessions a day. Finally, practice hand walking and eventually riding past other horses, and ultimately past mares in heat. You can do up to three sessions a day.

You will know this training program is successful when you can very quietly say “down,” with only the slightest jiggle: your stallion’s head immediately drops and stays down; no more than a low hum can be heard; and the walk is never more than a very collected passage. Your success can be especially rewarding when you can ride in the show arena and the judge doesn’t really notice the subtle voice and rein aids you’ve used, while onlookers comment on what a beautiful gentleman your stallion is.



*Maestoso II Sabrina - aka
"Smokey"*

Greetings,

As you may already know, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the USLF will not be publishing a 2021 Lipizzan Calendar, though we hope to do so again in the future. Instead, USLF board members and volunteers are investigating other fundraising options and, over the next few weeks, the USLF will be offering some new and exciting merchandise.

How can you help?

We are requesting of our members to submit photographs of your gorgeous Lipizzans to use for some offerings. Unlike past calendar requests, there is no size requirement for these photographs. As long as the photographs are your **own, or you have permission for the USLF to use them**, are of good quality (images are clear, reasonable file size, etc.), and you are willing to share them, please submit them to the USLF via

JAMUSLF19@gmail.com.

With the photos, please include horse's name, owner's name, handler's name, and photographer's credit.

Some of these photos may be used in other USLF promotional activities such as Facebook posts or ads.

As always, thank you for your contributions and your support. The USLF relies on its membership to preserve, protect, and promote the Lipizzan breed.

Be well and stay safe.



HERE ARE TWO EXAMPLES:

Featured above are Sam Martinson and Genola.

Photo credit:
Valeria Gift

(Valeria also owns Genola)

The colt, at left, is Neapolitano Kulpa (Kai) (born in 2019, now owned by Brooke Leininger). Kai was born and bred at Mississippi View Farm.

Photo credit:
Megan & Miare Connelly



Tim Foley (man of action)

Tim Foley, in your years of leading this organization you demonstrated an abundance of perseverance!



Congratulations!

Congratulations on becoming our second member to receive Legacy Membership.

AMERICAN DRIVING SOCIETY

Come Drive with Us!

ADS MEMBERS RECEIVE

The Whip magazine

The Wheelhorse e-newsletter

Grant opportunities

Members only website section

Online driver education

and much more ...



with USLF since 2010

Partnering

www.americandrivingsociety.org



U.S. Lipizzan Federation
PO Box 310
Creswell, OR 97426-0310

PRSR1 STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO 344
SALEM, OR



Red Door
EQUESTRIAN
· fine art farm life portraiture ·

www.reddoor.me Call for a quote 865-964-1382

