

KWPN-NA meeting and more interesting international news from the World of Breeding and Dressage

March 28 2009

**Dear Monique,
Potent mix of good horses, speakers and face to face meets at KWPN-NA meeting**

By Lita Dove for **dressagedirect**

This year's KWPN-NA meeting was held in San Diego, California—an excellent choice as winter has much of the world still under siege of wind and snow and cold. But San Diego was its usual temperate, magical self—even a cool gray morning gave way to sun each day.

This year's meeting was a potent mix of good horses, knowledgeable speakers and the fun that comes from seeing other breeders face to face—which in a country as large as the United States, does not happen very often.

Although the lecture part was held in the Hilton hotel, the hands-on part was held each day at Steffen Peters' farm.

First day, trainer/breeder/Deurne faculty member Cor Loeffen gave a dynamic explanation on how to evaluate a horse for conformation and movement.

That afternoon, the horses were evaluated live and scores were given.

The next day, after more lectures on veterinary updates and breeding, Steffen Peters gave a lovely talk on how he picks a prospect. He stressed that he looks for suppleness—a horse that responds easily and fluently to a rider's light aid, pointing out that a horse that stays mentally relaxed puts less wear and tear on its body.

That afternoon, horses were shown under saddle. Steffen rode a 4 year old Rhodium gelding, and Cor Loeffen, acting as commentator, said, "Here is a man who rides as he talks!"

At the other end of the spectrum, the next rider in was soon to be 15 years old Ashlyn de Groot on wellknown KWPN-NA approved stallion Idocus, and she rode a lovely Intermediaire II, about which Loeffen said, "This is how it should be, a young rider learning from such a wonderful teacher!"

After the other horses were evaluated under saddle, Steffen Peters returned with Olympic mount Ravel and rode his newly reworked freestyle, and if it goes as well in Las Vegas in a few weeks, then World Cup could prove another amazing victory for this top sport pair.



Idocus ridden by Ashlyn de Groot credit Siegi Belz-Fry



Olympic mount Ravel ridden by Steffen Peters credit Siegi Belz-Fry

FEI Rolex World Cup™ Final chance for breeders to meet

The FEI World Cup™ Final in Las Vegas will be a great opportunity for dressage and breeding enthusiasts to meet! No less than three stallions actually are competing in the dressage Final: KWPN approved IPS Painted Black (Anky van Grunsven, NED), Swedish bred and approved Briar (Jan Brink SWE) who will make his final appearance for the international crowds and KWPN-bred Kingston (Leslie Morse, USA). A meeting of breeders is being organized at the FEI World Cup™ at the Thomas Mack Arena in Las Vegas 4/15 – 4/19. The meeting is being held in the arena on Friday morning at 8 am. Please be advised to have a 4/17 day session dressage showcase ticket

to enter the arena for the meeting. The box office opens at 8 am to purchase tickets.



Las Vegas overview



Read more about the meeting and the prospect of the meeting [here](#)

Freestyle Symposium next Monday

The French association Top Dressage Team which is based in the Rhone Alpes area and is composed of breeders, riders, judges and dressage lovers will be organizing on

Monday March 30th an evening on the theme of the Dressage Musical Freestyle. Monique Sattler, president of Top Dressage Team along with Luc Childeric, the French saddle maker and sponsor of the event have invited Catherine Haddad, who is the official trainer of TDT (present for a 2 day clinic) and the great concert pianist Mikhail Yurkov a patron of the association, along with several officials of the French Federation, such as: Nadine Cochenet (president of the French Dressage Committee), Bernard Maurel (International Judge), Hubert Perring (International dressage rider), Grand Prix level riders from the Rhone Alpes area, national dressage judges, musicians and fans of dressage.

This meeting will be held in the lovely medieval village of Pérouge and has for aim to share the various experiences on the making of freestyles and the importance of the synchronization of the horses'

gaits the music.

We hope that all of the different ideas, opinions and enlightened guidance of Catherine Haddad and Mikhail Yurkov will help improve this aspect of French dressage in future competitions.



Catherine Haddad will give her opinion on the specialties of the Freestyle next Monday evening in Pérouge, France. Her own Freestyle on Maximus is on the theme of the Gladiator

First International Dressage Forum for the Purebred Lusitano

Speaking about a Freestyle Forum, the second official FEI Freestyle Forum has been organized in Portugal last year. Now from 30th October to 1st November 2009 the first international Dressage Forum for the Purebred Lusitano will be held in Portugal in the same Portuguese Academy near Lissabon.

The Lusitano is one of man's ancient saddle horses. It's unique quality and beauty, combined with an overwhelming talent and readability, makes him one of Portugal's most secret and extraordinary treasures.

The aim of this Forum, organized by the Portugal Dressage Academy and Lusófona

University (the leading Educational group in Portugal) is to integrate the most advanced knowledge (scientific, technical and practical). Also it will bring forward experiences through the participation of the best international scientists, dressage judges, trainers, Olympians and world class competition riders, thus contributing to a better knowledge of the Lusitano and therefore improving the Lusitano Horse as a dressage competitor. In order to achieve its purpose, the forum is organized in four structural and thematic areas: Breeding, Riding and Training, Competing and Marketing & Business opportunities, with theory and practical sessions, inviting participation of all worldwide Lusitano Breed Associations and Lusitano fans, who appreciate, cherish and promote the Lusitano.

More info coming soon. Those who are interested are invited to send a mail to academiadressage.cl@sapo.pt or Lusitano.dressage.forum@gmail.com



Carlos Pinto won the B-Final of the FEI World Cup™ Dressage in Las Vegas 2007 showing his remarkable Lusitano stallion Galopin de la Font



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