



ESSA courier

No. 4 – November 2009

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The President's Editorial

Dear friends,

At first good news: the official registration of ESSA as a non-profit-organisation is done! The German law is very strict and it has taken quite a long time (through the German embassy in PARIS for me and through a Swiss lawyer for Dominik Burger) to build our European association officially! But now this administrative part, thanks to Alexandra Lotz who discovered and solved the difficulties at the same time, is finished and we can start working.



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Two very important topics are now possible (and already well prepared):

- the application for EU subsidies through the European General Direction for Education and Culture (with the very valuable help of LDC conseil, consultant for the French Haras Nationaux, and of Astrid von Velsen-Zerweck on behalf of MARBACH stud),
- and the campaign to get more ESSA members either through the state studs not yet affiliated, or through potential new individual members that you and the other stud directors can recommend to contact (with the very valuable advices of Gabriele Boiselle for that point).

The next ESSA board meeting in PRAGUE will be the place to get more information on these questions and I hope it will be as fruitful as the last meetings!

I hope all members will be ready to help us to push ESSA forward in order to jump these two first fences of our first year.

On behalf of the ESSA board,

Bernard Maurel
(ESSA president)

ESSA applies for an EU-operating grant

On behalf of ESSA MARBACH stud filed an application for an Annual Operating Grant by the European Union for the ESSA office. The EU Culture Programme running from 2007 to 2013 offers support for organisations active at European level in the field of culture. ESSA itself is too young to apply for European subsidies. Since the association does not have financial records of the previous year, it is not eligible to submit applications yet. Therefore, we are very grateful about the support of MARBACH stud. The application was worked out by the ESSA office and Nicolas Fourcroy, consultant of LDC conseil, financed by the Haras Nationaux.

During the upcoming months the applications will be evaluated and decisions will be taken in March. The operating grant would enable ESSA to work more efficiently with a full time staff at the ESSA office. The amount requested could also fund promotion activities and support our next General Assembly. In 2010 ESSA will be eligible to apply for grants itself. It is planned to submit an application for a Multi Annual Cooperation Project running from 2011 to 2013.



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Photo exhibition at GRAZ and PIBER in December 2009

The Boiselle exhibition with photographs of the European state studs will be shown at the international equestrian fair "Interhorse" from 10. to 13. December 2009 in GRAZ (Austria). After that the collection will move to the Austrian national stud of PIBER where it can be seen until 2010.

A newly designed ESSA leaflet will accompany the events informing people about the development of the association and giving them the opportunity to contribute.

ESSA is very grateful to Gabriele Boiselle for promoting the studs through her work. We also thank PIBER for hosting the exhibition in Austria.

Exchange programme of European professional schools

Schools teaching future horse professionals in France, Slovenia, Hungary, Germany and the Czech Republic are involved in an exchange programme supported by the European mobility programme for life-long-learning "Leonardo da Vinci". The project is coordinated by the Vocational School MÜNSINGEN close to MARBACH stud in Germany.

Under the headline "Extending qualifications for horse professionals on the European labour market" five meetings are planned during the next two years. The added qualifications facilitate the start of young equestrian professionals on the labour market and provide additional options of employment.

The participants of the project gain additional knowledge and experience for their professional development. Different European models of horse breeding are introduced, compared and analysed. In every country a local breed is in the focus of attention. Hereby, the schools are supported by the national studs breeding those horses. Thus, the young professionals have the chance to learn about special and sometimes even endangered European horse species.

Spreading the news about the results of the project supports the ideas of ESSA and promotes the association. The first meeting took place in LIPICA (Slovenia) in September 2009. The next meeting is scheduled for spring 2010 in KLADRUBY NAD LABEM (Czech Republic).



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For more information see: <http://www.horsebreeding-partnership.eu/>

Cooperation with National Riding Schools

During the ESSA board meeting in August the present members made the following statement regarding a partnership with the European National Riding Schools network:

The board of the European State Studs Association (ESSA), representing the directors of the European national and traditional studs, expresses its interest in the possibility of a partnership with the network of the European National Riding Schools.

Although the main activity of the State studs in Europe is around horse breeding and selection, more and more studs are also involved in teaching activities, mainly based on the knowledge of the horse, health, reproduction, riding of young horses, driving, sometimes vaulting, endurance or other specialties. In some cases, the promotion of competing stallions allows the stud to benefit from a partnership with highly experienced riders or trainers. All these riding activities could be improved by the exchange of experience with the Network of National Riding Schools.

The teaching and training activities of some of the European state studs are focused on a levelled animal science, in connection with scientists within the horse field. At this point a partnership with National Riding Schools could evolve and give more efficient connections with the horse industry in the countries concerned.

In most of the European national and traditional studs, the cultural heritage and the communication around this living, material and intangible patrimony is of interest for many visitors. They would be very happy to have some information about the National Riding Schools.

The preservation of different breeds in Europe, and the value given by the studs' employees to a good relationship with the animal are also objectives of our association. The connection with the National Riding Schools could also benefit from this opportunity to insist on endangered breeds and on the code of conduct we all have to apply. Therefore, such a partnership could reinforce our implication in both highly important concepts of biodiversity and animal welfare.

That is why the ESSA board unanimously approves the possibility of a partnership with the network of European National Riding Schools and supports this statement to be presented at their current meeting.



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Changes at LIPICA stud

From the Slovenian National Stud LIPICA we are informed that Matjaž Pust, member of the ESSA board, has given his resignation in September 2009 of his position as the director of the stud. Mr. Tomi Rumpf was appointed as new director by representatives of the government of Republic Slovenia.

Changes at FLYINGE stud

From Sweden we just get the information that Johan Bredberg, who attended the last ESSA General Assembly in June 2009, had to leave his position as Chief Executive Officer at FLYINGE national stud some weeks ago. The management of the stud is currently under the authority of breeding director Karl-Henrik Heimdahl.

Calendar of the European State Studs

Following the success to the 2009 ESSA calendar, Gabriele Boiselle has produced a 2010 calendar featuring photographs of the European state studs. In 13 beautiful motives she captures the spirit of different studs and breeds.

Gabriele Boiselle is involved in the ESSA activities as a personal member. Due to her professional background she is a perfect ambassador of the association and a great support of the ESSA idea.

The 2010 state studs' calendar is a perfect present and should be available at all studs. All ESSA members and friends are asked to consider the opportunity to raise awareness for the beauty, diversity and significance of the European state studs through the calendar texts and photographs.

Find out more under www.editionboiselle.de