NEWS – APPEL – NEWS – APPEL – NEWS

July 2016

Website in new design

Welcome to the redesigned website of Philippe Karl! The new website provides all important information about the Ecole de Légèreté – in a modern design, with a clear and user-friendly navigation and useful features such as a worldwide map search for courses and riding teachers.

www.philippe-karl.com

Also new is the prominent presence of APPEL in the main navigation menu. The association supports the website of the Ecole de Légèreté financially with the aim to further spread the riding philosophy of the Ecole de Légèreté and, in particular, to enable the licenced and trainee teachers of the school to advertise their services through this central platform.

Many thanks to Jo and Derek Clark as well as Ilka Flegel for the realisation of the new website!

The new website is published in English as standard language to best cater to the needs of the international community of the Ecole de Légèreté and the association APPEL.

Private tip of Antje Matthes:

Using an online translation tool such as the one provided by the company PROMT, you can display the whole website in your own language. Just open the page www.online-translator.com and type in the URL (the address of the respective website). For private use, this online service is free of charge. The results are quite all right compared to other website translation tools.

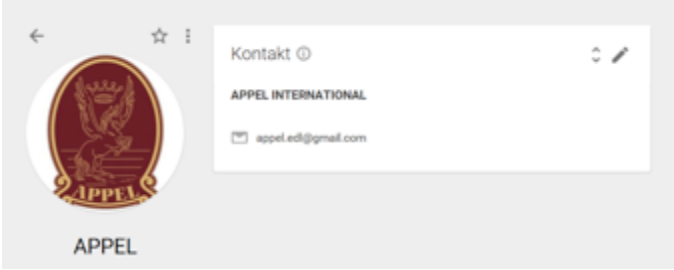
Contact the Board directly

Do you have questions, suggestions or ideas for projects? From now on, you can contact the APPEL board directly and personally at appel.edl@gmail.com.

This new email address provides a central point of contact for all your queries. We will answer your inquiry as quickly as possible; if necessary, we will transfer your request to the person responsible within the association.

Just add APPEL to your email contact list.

In this way, you will also make sure that important member information emails from the association will not end up in the spam folder by mistake.



Successful start of fair presentations in 2016

In the first half of 2016, thanks to the support of the association APPEL, the Ecole de Légèreté successfully presented its philosophy at two major horse fairs: HansePferd in Hamburg (D) and BEA in Bern (CH).

HansePferd 2016 in Hamburg ...

From 22 to 24 April, 12 licenced and trainee teachers of the Ecole de Légèreté performed in public under the direction of Philippe Karl at the HansePferd horse fair in Hamburg, which attracted nearly 50 000 visitors. Thr programme of the school included three half-hour presentations: a theory lecture and two practical demonstrations – in the training ring and in the big show arena.

In the packed forum "Horse Competence", Philippe Karl talked about the role of the forehand together with biologist Dr. Tamina Pinent. Tamina Pinent presented a scientific study carried out under her direction, which shows that the raising of the horse's neck is always associated with a corresponding raising of the withers – both without and with rider. When ridden, by raising their neck most horses even succeed in compensating for the initial dropping of the withers caused by the rider's weight. Using jumping, passage and school walk as examples, Philippe Karl explained the implications of this anatomical relationship in riding. In contrast to "Rollkur" and hyperflection, the raising of the neck combined with a time-limited, proper neck extension is thus classical and a precondition for preserving the health of the horse under the saddle.

In the training ring, Bea Borelle and Sabine Mosen – two master teachers of the Ecole de Légèreté who are both instructing trainee teachers of the school – demonstrated the work of the Ecole de Légèreté together with the riders Nicole Rädel and Mira Semelka. They explained the most important principles of the training plan, such as the separation of the aids or the correct neck extension, and showed how to implement them in practice.

One of the highlights of the HansePferd was the daily presentation of the Ecole de Légèreté, commented by Philippe Karl, in the big show arena. On horses of various breeds, nine teachers of the school demonstrated the main elements of the basic work, from the lateral bend, raising of the neck and neck extension through the various turns around the forehand and hindquarters on to the lateral movements. The spectators appreciated the harmony and relaxation demonstrated in the show – not least because of the great variety of breeds presented on different training levels. The riders were: Irene Boss, Tamara Drunkenmölle, Sonja Hellwig, Katja Lauer,

Kerstin Lehmann, Tamina Pinent, Mira Semelka, Andrea Walz and Nicole Weinauge.

Many visitors seized the opportunity to meet Philippe Karl at the booth of APPEL/Ecole de Légèreté and asked him to sign their books and DVDs. On all three days, the dedicated fair team was at the disposal of the visitors to answer their questions and provide information about the Ecole de Légèreté.

[Pictures: Reitanlage Hellwig & Matthes]

... and BEA 2016 in Bern

From 29 April to 8 May, the Swiss members of the Ecole de Légèreté presented the school for the second time at the biggest horse fair in Switzerland, BEA PFERD in Bern, in a joint project of all three teacher groups together with the participants in Bea Borelle's B.E.A. Concept course.

On two days, four to five riders demonstrated the basic work of the Ecole de Légèreté in the big arena. At the end of the one-hour presentation, the riders with horses on an advanced level also showed the preparation for piaffe as well as flying changes, school walk and passage. The show was commented by Gabriele Greindl Schweizer so the spectators could understand what they saw and gain a sound insight into the training concept of the school. The riders were: Kornelia Bolli, Stéphanie Durand, Walter Gegenschatz, Laura Ochsner and Sylvia Stössel.

The small arena was available to the Ecole de Légèreté teachers on three days for 1.5 hours for public lessons. On Tuesday, Corinne Daepp and Gabriele Schweizer explained the concept of the Ecole de Légèreté by showing various teaching sequences with their students Claudia Züblin, Deborah von Lerber and Sabrina Martin, and on Sunday, Stéphanie Durand gave a lesson to Corinne Daepp. On the weekend, Bea Borelle joined the fair team. Together with her students Kathrin Eichler, Isabelle Lehmann and Hannah Greindl, she presented TTeam work and work in the "anti-spook" course. On the second day, she demonstrated the lungeing work and showed how this leads conclusively to riding according to the principles of the Ecole de Légèreté. Despite the early hour – the shows began at 9 a.m. – many spectators found their way to the small arena to watch the presentations. On Sunday, Bea Borelle opened her demonstration with an homage to her husband, Philippe Karl, and his untiring work, which moved fair team and spectators alike.

Throughout the duration of the fair, the team was available at the information booth of APPEL/Ecole de Légèreté for questions, resulting in many animated discussions with the visitors. In addition, the whole range of books and DVDs of the Ecole de Légèreté was offered for sale. The fair team was confronted time and again with critical questions, which showed once more how important it is that the teachers of the Ecole de Légèreté master the training concept and be able to explain it in a logical and understandable way.

Sylvia Stössel, master teacher of the Ecole de Légèreté who coorganised and participated in the BEA 2016 presentations, summarises the impressions of the team: "Our presence at the fair required a big effort, which was possible only thanks to the great dedication of the numerous participants. But we all had a lot of fun. We are convinced that it is important to present our school as often as possible to a wide audience and thus remain in the public eye – for the welfare of the horses!"

[Pictures: Sophie Duwan and Jasmin Wirth]

Third general meeting

The third yearly general meeting of APPEL was held on 26 April 2016 in Pegestorf (D), with 28 members of the association attending the meeting. The agenda included the reports of the Board on projects and finances. Proposals and questions to the Board were also discussed. The minutes of the meeting are currently being finalised in four languages and will be sent to the members as soon as possible.

Project preview 2016

The following projects were approved by the Board and will receive support from APPEL in 2016:

- Germany: **02–03 July 2016**:
  Event „Légèreté for school children and students" at the Weidenhof in ***Beselich-Schupbach***
- Sweden: **22–24 July 2016**:
  Presentation of the Ecole de Légèreté at the festival of classical dressage Arena 2016 in ***Sparreholm***
- USA: **19–24 September 2016**:
  Information booth of the Ecole de Légèreté at the Andalusian World Cup in ***Las Vegas***
- Italy: **10–13 November 2016**:
  Presentation of the Ecole de Légèreté at the horse fair Fieracavalli 2016 in ***Verona***

Greetings from Philippe Karl

Dear APPEL Members,

The first half of 2016 is behind us. Thanks to the active support of the association, the Ecole de Légèreté was able to present itself successfully at the latest horse fairs in Hamburg and Bern.

Next November, I will participate in the presentations of the Italian riders of the school at the horse fair in Verona.

Thanks to all the members of APPEL – your support is enabling our school to take part in this type of event!

Best wishes to you all,

Philippe Karl

We thank all the participants and the members of the association for their dedication and their ctive and financial support of the Ecole de Légèreté!

The Board