

**RMDS BOARD OF GOVERNORS**  
**SATURDAY - NOVEMBER 20, 2021**  
Vail Room on the Atrium level @ Renaissance Hotel

Call to order at 9:00 am by President Dorothy Kapuan

<b>Arkansas Valley-2</b>	Debi Stevens (Proxy from Nancy Leonard)	1	Yes
	Katie Knight	1	Yes
<b>Boulder Valley-8</b>	Janeen Cochi – Proxy to Sally O’Dwyer		
	Beth Geier plus poxy from Nicole Bizzarro	2	Yes
	Eleanor Harrison	1	Yes
	Stan Adamsom	1	Yes
	Sally O’Dwyer	2	Yes
	Marcia Zuger	1	Yes
	Jenn Thompson	1	Yes
	Cassandra DiPentino	2	Yes
<b>Foothills-4</b>	Hillary Ross	1	Yes
	Nadia Westria	1	Yes
	Jenee Steward	1	Yes
	Karen Harkin	2	Yes
<b>Grand Valley-5</b>	Judi DeVore plus proxy from Charlene	2	Yes
	Barbara Progress	1	Yes
	Andrea Price Valenzuela	2	Yes
<b>High Plains - 8</b>	Lori Keilt	1	Yes
			Yes
	Natalie DeFee Mendik	1	Yes
	Pippa Bird	1	Yes
	Gemma Hanekom	1	Yes
	Agnes Audebert	1	Yes
	Sharon Soos	1	Yes
	Melanie Newkirk	1	Yes
<b>Northern Colorado-4</b>	Jon Haugen – proxy to Kellee James		
	Sue Woods	1	Yes
	Kellee James	2	Yes
	Ginka Kubelka	1	Yes
<b>On The Bit-2</b>	Tara Muir	1	Yes
	MaryJo Hoepner	1	Yes
<b>Pikes Peak-3</b>	Heather Petersen	1	Yes
	Shannon Lemons	1	Yes
	Lesley Hill – Proxy to Heather Petersen	2	Yes
<b>Western Colorado-2</b>			
	Total votes present: 38		
<b>Members attending without votes</b>	Dorothy Kapaun		Yes
	Cecilia Cox		Yes
	Shannon Clarke		Yes
	Ericka Gross		Yes

**Approval of the 2020 BOG Minutes****Heather Petersen**

No corrections brought forward.

***Motion made by MaryJo Hoepner to approve the 2020 minutes. Seconded by Stan Adamson. Motion passes unanimously.***

**President's Message****Dorothy Kapaun**

It was so wonderful to be very well represented at the National Dressage Finals! For riders we had Simone Ahern, Audrey Allen, Taryn Anderson, Lesley Eden, Eleanor Harrison, Jessica Greer, Sue Martin, Sally O'Dwyer and Shannon Warner representing RMDS. All did respectably well, especially Taryn Anderson and Sally O'Dwyer; they both are Champions of Freestyle at 3<sup>rd</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> level respectively. We were also well represented on the other side with Janet Foy and Sandra Hotz judging and Heather Petersen scribing!!

The Annual USDF Conventions is being presented via Zoom. The Conventions kicks off on December 1 at 1pm (mst) with Meeting the USDF Presidential Candidates; you can find the full agenda on the USDF website. I do hope that many of us will take advantage of the ease of attending the Convention. There are many interesting and educational forums to attend and there is no charge to any of it.

We were all so excited to get back to "normal" for the 2021 show season! However, this enthusiasm presented a unique challenge with shows filling in record time; as well as the familiar challenge of finding volunteers to help run the shows. Then we made the very difficult decision to cancel Championships for a second year. So, while 2021 was more normal than 2020, let's hope that 2022 will bring a few new shows and a lot more volunteers. We are seeking ways to make Volunteering more appealing and fully welcome any thoughts and ideas you may have in this regard. I think I speak for everyone when I say how very exciting it is that we will be hosting our RMDS Championships at the Denver Polo Club! There will be a show earlier in the year so that we may all have an opportunity to compete there before Championships. So, let's all do our best to make 2022 a fantastic year! One way to do this is by becoming more involved in RMDS. We have several Committee Chairs that need to be filled as well as the Treasurer, Secretary and Vice President positions. Please consider giving us something more precious than money – your time!

**First reading of election roster, nominations from the floor****Heather Petersen****The slate for 2022:**

Vice President (1 year):	Bettina Bosma
Secretary (2 years):	Heather Petersen, Shannon Clarke
Treasurer (2 years):	Sharon Soos
Awards (2 years):	Shannon Lemons
Education (2 years):	MaryJo Hoepner
Professionals (2 years):	Joan Clay
Adult Amateur (1 year):	Eleanor Harrison
Championships (1 year):	No Nominations
Marketing (1 year):	No Nominations

**Vice-President's Message****Gwen Ka'awaloa**

I must admit that the year passed very quickly for me since I had to spend most of my time working on my S judge requirements for testing. I have not been very available or participated in RMDS events this year. I have kept in touch with our President Dorothy Kapaun so I could be available for discussions and to check on the various needs of our organization.

RMDS had many shows this year and the members seemed very happy to attend and fill the shows to capacity. However I did notice the many calls for volunteers as we still seemed to suffer from a lack of the many people it really takes to run a show. I hope in 2022 that we can find a way to get our members to volunteer more so we can continue to hold shows.

I know our membership has declined, some due to folks moving away and others due to the lack of shows in 2020. I am hopeful that with more shows and the enthusiasm that our members have shown for education and shows that the

membership will increase.

USDF is working on programs to encourage more membership thru inclusion and focus on schooling shows and education. I am working on some of these programs and plan to help RMDS as the programs become available. I will always be available as your Past President and Vice President. I have reached out to Joan Clay the Professionals Committee Chair so I can help her in 2022.

RMDS has given me many opportunities as a Rider/Trainer/Judge. All my accomplishments are directly related to programs provided by RMDS. None of the programs were easy, but all required patience, perseverance, sweat, blood and hard work. RMDS brought these programs to the Rocky Mountain Region thus making it much easier for me to get involved.

Finally I apologize for not attending this Board of Governors Meeting. But as I stated earlier I am in the process of completing my S judge requirements and cannot attend. I hope to see everyone in 2022 and to be available when needed to the RMDS Board.

### Treasurers Report

Sharon Soos

#### Funds as of October 31, 2021

Operating Funds:	
RMDS Checking Account	\$25,013.80
PayPal Account (as of 10/19/20)	\$ 1,823.46
Subtotal	\$26,837.26
Restricted Funds:	
Website/Database	\$ 0.00
Scholarship Account	\$ 4,092.29
Reserve	<u>\$ 0.00</u>
Total	\$30,929.55

#### Database Code Geek Financials

Legal Review:	\$375.00
Development:	
2019	\$34,375.00
2020	\$53,625.00
2020 (after delivery)	\$11,150.00
2021	\$ 6,545.00
Total Code Geek	\$105,695.00
Monthly Maintenance:	\$75.00

#### Funds as of November 18, 2021

Operating Funds:	
RMDS Checking Account	\$28,926.62
PayPal Account (as of 10/19/20)	\$ 1,776.92
Subtotal	\$30,703.54
Deposit	\$ 735.59
Subtotal	\$31,439.13
Restricted Funds:	
Website/Database	\$ 0.00
Scholarship Account	\$ 3,842.29
Reserve	<u>\$ 0.00</u>
Payable (Scholarship 2 <sup>nd</sup> Park)	\$ (\$250.00)

Total \$35,031.42

Discussion of the financial reports and a few items that might draw attention.

## Central Office Report

Beth Geier

### Banquet:

- January 15 at the Renaissance – see flyer
- Need! Someone to organize and collect auction items
  - Chapters – provide a basket to be auctioned.
  - Nadia Westria and Ericka Senna stepped forward to do the auction, thank you so much
- 2022/2023 Award Banquet – dates – January 7, 14, 21?

### Chapters:

- Please notify the Central Office of any clinics or chapter events to be placed on the calendar.
- Chapters get 1 free email blast per event.

### Database/Website:

- Completed and now working out the few glitches that have been found.
- TD's, judges, officers, trainers/instructors: Must be current with RMDS & up-to-date with USDF to be listed on the website

### Education:

- 'L' grads –Reminder.
  - April 1 is USDF deadline to be sure all your credentials are current
    - Current Membership
    - Continuing Education up to date
    - Safe Sport completed
    - Must be “with distinction” to judge FEI levels at a schooling show
  - To be approved to judge RMDS only recognized shows you must be on the USDF list at the time of the show.
- RMDS TD's – We have 2 new RMDS TD's!: Cat Siemiet and Stan Adamson-welcome! In the “pipeline” to be completed by May 1, 2022: Sharon Soos, Sally O'Dwyer, Micheline Ward

### Membership

- Registration – 714 members for 2021 – 64 juniors, 240 amateurs; 161 new horses since October, 2020
- See report with chapter membership totals & yearly comparisons.
- Accepting dues for 2022: \$65.00 ?? after today

### RMDS Magazine-Omnibus:

- Accepting ads now-new media kit-more on this later

### Shows:

- 36 shows submitted results for 2021-31 were USEF/USDF recognized and 5 were RMDS only.
- Prize lists may be placed on the RMDS calendar-no charge. Send as a pdf. to the Central Office.

### General:

- Chapters receive free email blasts for educational purposes.
- RMDS Executive Board members get ½ price admission to RMDS events.

### Upcoming Dates:

#### 2022

Jan 15-2021 Awards Banquet

April 16-17 2022 Adult Amateur/George Williams-Hobby Horse-Longmont

April 23-24 2022 Professionals/Lilo Fore Tomora Equestrian

### Executive board Meeting:

Jan 13, Mar 10, May 12, Jul 14, Sept 8, Oct 13 (budget)

2023-2022 Awards Banquet: January 7, 14, 21?

**RMDS MEMBERSHIP -  
YEAR-TO-DATE**

	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002
Members:	714	636	700	725	752	756	779	694	827	797	868	773	945	1030	1008	1036	1019	1151	1177	1162
Horses:	161	109	159	161	91	93	59	63	59	135	123	132	132	166	246	262	234	207	337	274
AV	40	39	39	36	39	25	29	26	27	25	27	24	15	26	12	-	-	-	-	-
BV	160	138	151	162	159	182	168	171	180	182	190	200	188	205	172	178	179	199	208	230
FH	65	51	56	70	57	73	79	76	64	65	71	72	75	76	77	74	73	109	103	115
GV	89	78	80	77	91	95	71	55	71	53	65	83	87	105	102	88	92	93	98	77
HP	146	117	162	164	169	149	156	151	176	190	208	226	256	265	260	259	251	267	283	278
NC	69	57	64	75	69	77	77	89	94	93	110	132	107	124	137	137	139	162	151	150
NM	37	33																		
OB	30	40	37	38	49	43	42	33	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PP	56	62	87	77	89	63	70	63	62	44	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WC	21	20	23	25	29	22	18	19	23	27	31	22	21	25	25	32	34	44	55	64
No Chapter	1	1	1	1	1	3	5	11	12	13	15	14	25	14	16	22	21	34	36	24
CS				-	Dissolved	24	35	47	52	63	115	124	115	127	126	143	130	137	155	134
PN				-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Dissolved	inactive	12	13	13	14	15	14	13
PR				-	-	Dissolved	10	11	18	14	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TS				-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Dissolved	36	51	68	90	86	91	74	77
WA				-	-	Dissolved	19	21	26	28	24	24	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>714</b>	<b>636</b>	<b>700</b>	<b>725</b>	<b>752</b>	<b>756</b>	<b>779</b>	<b>694</b>	<b>827</b>	<b>797</b>	<b>868</b>	<b>773</b>	<b>945</b>	<b>1030</b>	<b>1008</b>	<b>1036</b>	<b>1019</b>	<b>1151</b>	<b>1177</b>	<b>1162</b>
Juniors	64	54	66	73	80	86	88	95	120	117	120	134								
Amateurs	240	140	217	205	195	163	152	176	209	220	239	230								
Education	12	11	14	18	21	17	16													
Business	16	12	12	9/2																
Life	43	35/1	33/1	32/2																

**Committee Chairman Reports**

**Adult Amateur**

**Currently Vacant**

Heather reports on the clinic schedule with George Williams for either April 15-16 or April 16-17. She presented the sign up sheet and the proposed budget. It needs to be decided which dates are preferred and who will be coordinating applications and such.

After a straw poll it was decided to do April 15-16, Friday/Saturday.

Discussion of the Team competition and a discussion of dates. No decision was made but it was encouraged to do it sooner rather than later.

**Awards**

**Shannon Lemons**

1. Trophies

- a. Arabian award become the ½ Arabian and Arabian
- b. Added an Intro Level trophy
- c. 2021 – Need new plaques or new sponsor:
  - i. RFMA – donated by Janet Foy – new plaque – Janet will donate it.
  - ii. HM >45 – Cariellen DeMuth – new plaque – RMDS will pay for
  - iii. Jablonovsky HM 3<sup>rd</sup>+ - new plaque
  - iv. Open 2<sup>nd</sup> – v large silver plate – Joan Myers? RMDS will pay for it.
  - v. Open 3<sup>rd</sup> – Stanich family? – Abstract painting – new sponsor?
  - vi. Fresian cross – need sponsor and trophy – this year doing ribbon/small plaque
  - vii. Introductory added this year, thank you Beth Geier!
- d. 2022 – Need new next year:
  - i. HM > 65 – Janet Foy, ask her to add new plaque?
  - ii. Open GP – Heather P – new plaque starting 2022?
  - iii. JR/YR 1<sup>st</sup> level – Wild Rose Farm – continue sponsoring?

- iv. Dutch WB – Shannon L – will purchase another plaque
- 2. 2021 Awards
  - a. Glasses and volunteer gifts in stock
  - b. Do not have ribbon estimate yet
  - c. Trophy engraving, rider plaques (many more than normal!) and plates likely to be higher
  - d. Gifts for RFMA, Junior sportsmanship to be determined still
- 3. Banquet
  - a. Program/slide show – I have RMDS projector. Will this work for presentation?
  - b. Emcee/presenter? **MaryJo Hoepner made a motion to invite Andy Burner as the Emcee for the 2021/2022 RMDS Awards Banquet (based on his acceptance of the offer) so we can help prevent over utilizing our main volunteer base. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sue Woods. Motion passed with Shannon Lemons and Beth Geier abstaining.**
  - c. Would like remarks from RMDS president to the effect that the Central Office will be assessing late fees and suspending if trophies are not returned on due date!!!! Still had to harass people even last year with only a few awarded! Probably won't make a difference....
    - i. Discussion of going from perpetual trophies to keeping little trophies folks don't return, but there was comment on the added expense and the loss of history. It is easier, but... It was decided Shannon will send the list earlier to the Office so Beth can get after them.
- 4. Awards structure
  - a. We decided at one BOG to make Open for undeclared riders, then later this was revoked to be the same as USDF. USDF can afford an Amateur, Junior/Young Rider, Professional and Open category. RMDS cannot.
  - b. Propose that Open be only undeclared and professionals to allow one category that is theirs alone. Adding an additional category for professionals is cost prohibitive, but if AA and JR already have their own division their scores should count in those divisions only, not in Open too – ie give the Open riders a chance to win/place instead of a JR or AA to win both open and their own category.
  - c. It was decided to leave the open awards to include all the divisions as not all AAs report their status and there are many undeclared folks. Instead, 2 White Feet, Inc. will sponsor a yearly high point ribbon for each division for professionals.
- 5. Housekeeping
  - a. We have accumulated quite a number of old silver champagne buckets and other retired trophies as well as a very large number of filled plaques. We have yet to figure out what to do with them.....
    - i. Virtual hall of fame then destroy/sell – this is a project someone else will have to take on
    - ii. Permanent storage in RMDS storage unit
    - iii. Discussion of auctioning them off to previous winners and if no winners bid, general population could bid. Anything that was left perhaps we could talk to National Western and see if we could display them in their new Hall of History.
  - b. Storage unit
    - i. Costs have increased significantly (30%) – options
      - 1. Buy shelving to allow use of a smaller storage unit – would have to be sturdy metal shelving units to go high in order to use a smaller area. Remove retired trophies and plaques would also be required
      - 2. Continue as current as I do use most of the 10x20 unit and the indoor storage means I can work on this large project in winter without freezing to death ☺.
- 6. Questions, concerns?
- 7. Debi Stevens asked that we reconsider the Arabian award being combined with the ½ Arabian horses. So we would need reverse the decision and add an ½ Arabian award. **Stan Adamson moved that we reverse the previous decision combining the Arabian award with the ½ Arabians and maintain a purebred Arabian**

**award and add a new ½ Arabian Award. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Beth Geier. Motion passed with MaryJo Hoepner abstaining. MaryJo Hoepner will sponsor the new award.** This award will go into effect for the 2022 competition season.

**Break from 10:20 until 10:35 AM**

## **Communications**

**Sally O'Dwyer**

New communications social media policy in place and approved by the board in October, 2021  
E-Centaur is only getting about a 50% open rate. Sally would like to consider posting the link to the E-Centaur on the Facebook page after it is distributed to the membership. The current month is limited to member only access, so we would have to get a cost estimate on how much it would be to remove that from Code Geek. Natalie thinks we should post each article individually or sound bites. Discussion of how many members aren't getting the e-Centaur because it goes to spam? Marcia suggested we post on Facebook for members to check their spam as well. We sadly didn't win an USDF awards for website or newsletters.

**Magazine** – Advertising opened today and we already sold the inside front cover. We have sold a couple of other ads. The Advertising packet is in your BOG packets, please try and bring in at least one ad per person to help RMDS. We hope to have the Magazine out at the end of February. Stan brought up discussion on what the cover would look like and will discuss it with Nicole. Test printing of USDF tests is \$125 per year.

## **Website**

Trainers and barns can be listed on the website, they just need to be a current member. Sally will make a Facebook post reminding people. Heather will add a line on the membership page to ask people to list their chapter on their paypal payment comments.

Dorothy mentioned that if your club is going to have a Zoom meeting, it would be nice if you could open it up to all the chapters. Post a contact person on Facebook to promote more community. Beth said we can also post chapter meetings and such too.

Pippa brought up Instagram but we are working to find how to get the password for an account that used to exist. Sharon also mentioned that we can't forget those who don't use social media. Sally is going to create a new Instagram account to connect to our Facebook page.

## **Education**

**MaryJo Hoepner**

2021 has been a year of changes and challenges.

We were able to hold our TD training via ZOOM. After being able to attend Convention via ZOOM I think all of us have developed the skills and the hardware to make that work.

Happily we were able to hold our Judges Continuing Education in person at the Renaissance. Janet Foy was the instructor. We had more auditor participation than we have had in the past.

For 2022, we will offer the TD training on TUESDAY, February 15 from 2 to 5:30. The Show Management will be on Tuesday, February 22 2 to 5:30.

I am investigating a Judges Continuing Education for the fall.

We are also investigating offering the L Program here in Colorado. It has been a number of years and we are in need of excellent L program participants and auditors.

It was suggested for the Judges' Continuing Ed, perhaps we do an outside instructor who stays and does a 2 day clinic. Bill McMullin, Bill Warren, Mike Osinski and Gary Rockwell were suggested.

## **Junior/Young Rider**

**Cassandra Dipentino**

As you all know, the 2021 Jr/Yr Summer Intensive was a huge success!!

I am currently in the planning stages now for the 2022 SI but do not have much to report on at this time. The 2022 SI dates are set for June 8-10 and will not be held in conjunction with the Team Competition this year.

I am also in the planning/brainstorming process with Heather Petersen and Joan Clay to develop the Yr/Schoomaster matching program. We are all super excited about this and have come up with some great ideas.

## **RMDS Championships**

**Vacant**

Heather reported on behalf of the show management. A meeting was scheduled with the RMDS Board for December 14<sup>th</sup> at 7pm to further discuss the facility and plans. We have all our prizes for 2022, ribbons are in hand, working on facilities and such currently. This will be our 50+1 anniversary show, so we hope for a big celebration.

## **Marketing**

**Vacant**

RMDS does plan to be at the Horse Expo in March. Gwen is doing the event as a clinician, not as an RMDS outreach. We will need volunteers to help man the booth and such. Sharon gave a brief history of the horse expo and our involvement. There are opportunities to put out fliers for RMDS members and chapters. Events can be advertised as well at the booth. This year the Horse Expo is February 24-27, 2022.

## **Professionals**

**Joan Clay**

### **2021 ACTIVITIES**

The 2021 Professional's Clinic with Lilo Fore was scheduled for April 24-25, 2021 at Tomora Training Center in Greeley. Lilo Fore was not comfortable traveling at the time of the clinic and rescheduled for April 23-24, 2022 at Tomora Training Center.

Gwen Ka'awaloa made a suggestion of bringing Lisa El-Ramey in for her "Rider Project" workshop to help professionals learn how to assess and correct rider biomechanics/seat issues. Due to continued uncertainties with traveling and gathering during the pandemic, we explored options for doing a virtual Rider Project workshop in order to generate interest in an in-person Rider Project workshop for RMDS professionals in the future. Lisa reworked her curriculum to be presented in a webinar format and RMDS professionals will submit video clips of riders for Lisa to use to guide our learning. Dates were set for early 2022 to provide continuing education opportunities when people have more availability after the holidays.

### **2022 SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES**

#### **I. "The Virtual Rider Project" online workshop with Lisa El-Ramey (4 hours total)**

##### **A. DATES**

1. Part I - Monday, January 24, 2022 (6:30-8:30 PM MST)
2. Part II - Monday, February 7, 2022 (6:30-8:30 PM MST)

##### **B. BUDGET**

1. Expense = \$750 to Lisa El-Ramey
2. Income = \$50 each x 15 participants = \$750

##### **C. FORMAT**

1. This workshop is open only to professionals.
2. Participants will submit videos of riders following specific videotaping instructions to observe rider position on circles and straight lines at walk, trot, and canter (Lisa would like at least 10 different riders to assess). The videos will be submitted in advance so Lisa can review them and select clips to use for presenting how to assess rider positional issues and determine exercises and strategies for instructors to use to help correct rider position issues.
3. Lisa will use a webinar format to present course material, including video clips.

#### **II. 2022 Professional's Symposium – Lilo Fore Clinic**

**A. DATES:** April 23-24, 2022 at Tomora Training Center, Greeley, CO

**B. BUDGET:** Original budget from 2019 will need to be re-evaluated. Lilo has agreed to honor her fees that were contracted for the original 2019 dates, but I am assuming travel and hotel costs will have increased, which will require adjustment to fees charged to riders and auditors.

**C. FORMAT:** Only Professional's may participate as riders and auditors (horse owner may observe their horse's session only). Riders will submit videos for selection to ride. Horse/rider combinations will be selected to insure a good representation through the levels. A moderator will help with guiding discussion between the auditors, the clinician and the rider. The closed format is to help foster a safe environment for professional's to openly discuss training and teaching issues.

### **NEW BUSINESS**



Annie Morris (USDF bronze, silver and gold medalist, a USDF Certified Instructor though Fourth Level and a member of the faculty for the USDF Certified Instructor Introductory Program) has recently relocated to Eagle, CO and is working as an Assistant Trainer with Anita Williams Dressage. Annie reached out to RMDS to inquire about offering a USDF Certified Instructor/Trainer workshop series and testing on the Western Slope. RMDS last offered a USDF Certified Instructor/Trainer workshop series/testing in Fort Collins in Fall 2013 and Spring 2014. I will be communicating with Annie Morris about this possibility and a proposal can be brought forward to the RMDS Executive Board if there is interest in this educational offering on the Western Slope.

**Second reading of election roster, nominations from the floor**

**Heather Petersen**

**The slate for 2022:**

Vice President (1 year):	Bettina Bosma
Secretary (2 years):	Heather Petersen, Shannon Clarke
Treasurer (2 years):	Sharon Soos
Awards (2 years):	Shannon Lemons
Education (2 years):	MaryJo Hoepner
Professionals (2 years);	Joan Clay
Adult Amateur (1 year):	Pippa Bird (Eleanor withdrew)
Championships (1 year):	No Nominations
Marketing (1 year):	No Nominations

**Break from 12:03 PM until 12:47 PM**

**Scholarship**

**Natalie DeFee Mendik**

The 2021 RMDS Scholarship was awarded to four recipients at \$500 per scholarship in the following categories: Beverly Swanson Memorial Adult Amateur Scholarship (2 recipients), Jr/YR Scholarship (2 recipients). All recipients have completed their educational events, volunteer hours, and articles.

Changing the structure of issuing scholarship funds in two allocations has proven useful in prompting the completion of obligations.

The RMDS executive board voted to allocate \$2,000 in scholarship funds for 2022. Guidelines for scholarships can be found at <http://rmds.org/Organization/Scholarship>. The deadline for 2022 scholarship applications is Nov. 30, 2021.

As of Nov. 20, 2021, we've received 2 applications for next year. I will run a third blast to membership. Chapter representatives: please encourage your members to apply.

Members interested in serving on the scholarship committee should contact Natalie Mendik. We will review applications in December.

**Appointed Committee Chairman Reports**

**Western Dressage**

**Simone Windeler**

WDACO held their annual show on August 14, 2021. They had a huge turnout and had to add a judge to handle all the entries.

WDACO also offered numerous clinics throughout the year which were all quite successful.

The WDAA World show was held as a online show and also as a live show at the Lazy E Ranch in Guthrie, OK. They will return there in 2022.

WDAA has updated their tests. The new tests will be available on their website soon. Shows may use the old tests until March 31, 2022.

You can find more information on their respective websites

[www.wdaco.org](http://www.wdaco.org) and [www.wdaa.org](http://www.wdaa.org)

**Banquet**

**Beth Geier**

The hotel is allowing us to push our deposit to 2022. Beth will see which weekend is available around Stock Show in January.

Beth will see if the hotel is available on November 19th.

### ByLaw and Standing Rule Changes:

#### ARTICLE VII.

#### OFFICERS

- F. Secretary: The Secretary shall give notice to officers of the Executive Board of all meetings of the Executive Board and shall give notice to the delegates of the Board of Governors meetings. He/She shall prepare agendas in advance of each meeting in cooperation with the President; distribute agendas to delegates of the Board of Governors, Executive Board members, and Committee Chairpersons **at least ten (10) days** prior to the meeting date; be responsible for minutes of all meetings of the Society; and **distribute immediately following each meeting a summary of the minutes of each meeting to all delegates of the Board of Governors, Executive Board members, and the Committee Chairpersons, and the editor of the Centaur and will make a copy of the minutes of available to the membership. Post imminently upon approval on website and provide to the RMDS Central Office.**

**Beth Geier moves to approve the above, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Stan Adamson, motion approved with Heather Petersen abstaining.**

#### ARTICLE VIII.

#### COMMITTEES

A. Permanent Committees:

1. There will be nine (9) **ten (10)** permanent committees: Adult Amateur, Awards, Championship Show, Communication, Education, Junior/Young Riders, Marketing, Professional Trainers/Riders, **Volunteers** and Scholarship.
2. The Chairpersons for the Awards, Education, Marketing, Professional **and Volunteers** Permanent Committees will serve terms of two (2) years beginning January 1 of even numbered years.
3. The Chairpersons for the Adult Amateur, Championship Show, Communications, Junior/Young Riders, & Scholarship Permanent Committees will serve terms of two (2) years beginning January 1 of odd numbered years.
4. The responsibilities of the Permanent Committees relate to coordination of the major activities of the Society.
  - a. THE ADULT AMATEUR COMMITTEE is responsible for developing educational, social and competitive programs for the Society's Adult Amateur riders. These programs shall be developed and run in coordination with the RMDS Education Committee
  - b. THE AWARDS COMMITTEE is responsible for the development and conduct of the Society's Awards System. The rules and policies of the Awards System will be described in the Standing Rules of the Society.
  - c. THE CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW COMMITTEE shall be responsible for RMDS Championship Competition as outlined in the Standing Rules Section XIV.
  - d. THE COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE is responsible for public relations; for the web site management; **for the publication of the Society's newsletter, Centaur e-Centaur; and for the publication of the Society's annual publication Omnibus. and for distributing information to the membership.**
  - e. THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE plans and coordinates the educational activities of the Society, including, but not limited to, educational workshops and seminars, riding and instructor clinics, etc., for the purpose of improving the knowledge and skill of riders and horses in dressage fundamentals, techniques and horsemanship.
  - f. THE JUNIOR/YOUNG RIDERS COMMITTEE is responsible for developing educational, social, and competitive programs for the Society's Junior and Young Riders. These programs shall be developed and run in coordination with the RMDS Education committee. The chairperson will also serve as the liaison between the Society and the national and regional Junior and Young Rider chairpersons of USDF.
  - g. MARKETING Committee shall be responsible for developing and executing marketing programs aimed at increasing the number of members and to increase funding for RMDS programs
  - h. PROFESSIONAL TRAINERS/RIDERS COMMITTEE shall be responsible for developing educational, social and competitive programs for the Society's Professional Trainers/Riders. These programs shall be developed and run in coordination with the RMDS Education Committee
  - i. THE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE shall be responsible for administering the RMDS Scholarship program in accordance with the current guidelines.
  - j. **Volunteer Committee shall be responsible for the oversight of all RMDS volunteers in accordance with current guidelines.**

- oversee and work with Volunteer Recruiter and Recognizer to create and implement an annual Volunteer Plan.
- update the Board regularly on progress, make recommendations for improvements/changes to the annual plan.
- review the website and make recommendations to improve/enhance our volunteer page
- review current volunteer trainings available and make recommendations to the Board.
- Seek to understand volunteer needs and develop new volunteer policies as needed.

Much discussion on the purpose of the new committee, what direction things would go, should a committee or direction go more towards membership engagement and marketing? Instead of adding a committee could we reorganize Marketing to help with membership engagement and new member packets?

**Beth Geier moved to accept the proposed motion, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Stan Adamson. 8 voted in favor, 30 voted against.**

**Judi DeVore proposed we form an Adhoc committee to meet and discuss the issues regarding volunteers and membership engagement. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Eleanor Harrison. Motion passed unanimously.** Judi DeVore and Eleanor Harrison will serve as co-chairs. Committee members will be Pippa Bird, Sally O’Dwyer, Stan Adamson, Agnes Audebert, Marcia Zuger, Shannon Clarke.

Barbara Prograss asked that we create a chapter report outline for reporting in the future. Sally O’Dwyer has agreed to create a chapter report template.

Next one to approve:

- d. THE COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE is responsible for public relations; for the web site management; for the publication of the Society’s newsletter, Centaur e-Centaur; and for the publication of the Society’s annual publication Omnibus. and for distributing information to the membership.

**Beth Geier moved to accept the proposed motion, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Katie Knight. Motion passed unanimously.**

**ARTICLE X. NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

- A. The Nominating Committee shall consist of Chapter Presidents. The President shall appoint a Nominating Committee Chairman from amongst the Chapter Presidents.
- B. The Nominating Committee shall be responsible for selecting a slate of nominees for the Society’s Officers and Chairpersons of the Permanent Committees. This slate shall be presented at the last regular Executive Board meeting held prior to the annual Board of Governors meeting. The election of officers will occur at the Board of Governors annual meeting.
- C. In all cases, consent of the nominee must be obtained prior to the preparation of a slate of nominees.
- D. All Society elections shall be announced in the Centaur to the membership at least 30 day’s prior to the date of the election.

Motion to approve made by Katie Knight, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sharon Soos, motion approved unanimously.

- B. The competition dates must be published in the Society's newsletter (Centaur) or the Omnibus magazine at least two weeks prior to the open date(s) of the competition. If late competition applications are approved, notifications must be sent to the membership at least two (2) weeks prior to opening date.

A prize list prize list must be available to RMDS members at least 2 weeks prior to the opening date of the competition. If late applications

Prize lists must be available to the RMDS membership at least two (2) weeks prior to the opening date of the competition.

**Katie Knight moved to approve the proposed changes, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Agnes Audebert, motion passes unanimously.**

- E. Applications for recognition of all previously approved competitions for the next competition year are due to the RMDS Central Office no later than November 1 of the current calendar year. Applications for recognition from previously approved competitions that are postmarked after November 1 will be assessed a late fee of \$25. All late fees will be assessed based on the **postmark or time stamped date** of the application. **Fees may be waived by the RMDS Central Office.**

**Katie Knight moved to leave in postmark and add the changes in green noted, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jenee Stewart. Motion passed unanimously.**

## SECTION V. AWARDS - YEAR END

- A. Eligibility:
1. Only scores from competitions recognized by the Society may be used in determining Year-End Awards.
  2. Only current members of the Society in good standing shall be eligible to receive Society Year End Awards. Riders that have an Education membership are not eligible for year-end awards. Riders or their representative are required to have a minimum of **4** recorded **change to 8** volunteer hours earned in the current competition year in order to be eligible for year-end awards. Members who have failed to return or make restitution for missing/damaged perpetual trophies from the previous year, by Oct 20 of the current year, shall not be considered in good standing and will therefore not be eligible for Society Year End Awards.

**Beth Geier moved to approve the change from 4 to 8 hours. 2<sup>nd</sup> by MaryJo Hoepner.**

Much discussion ensued regarding if it is too many, should it stay? Donations, etc.

**Motion failed 8 in favor, 30 against.**

- B. RMDS Technical Delegates Continuing Recognition Requirements RMDS Technical Delegates who meet the following conditions shall be approved to continue to officiate at competitions recognized only by RMDS.
1. Is a member in good standing with RMDS.
  2. Is an individual member in good standing with US Equestrian Federation and is 21 years of age or older.
  3. Has successfully completed the RMDS Technical Delegate Training Program.
  4. Must attend-either a RMDS or a US Equestrian Federation technical delegate-training program at least once every two (2) years since becoming a recognized RMDS Technical Delegate.
  5. Must officiate as the TD for a RMDS recognized show at least once every two (2) years; **or apprentice with a USEF TD for a minimum of 7 hours at a competition every 2 years.**
  6. An RMDS Technical Delegate must take a technical delegate's exam once every two (2) years and must receive a mark of 85% or better before their certificate is renewed. The test is to be administered in October of the odd years.
  7. An RMDS Technical Delegate must apprentice with a USEF recognized TD at least once every two years and pass with a score of 70% or better. Effective 1/1/19
  8. If the test or the apprenticeship is not passed, the individual must do the whole program again: as stated in Section VI, A. above.

**Heather Petersen moved to approve the proposed change, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Beth Geier. Motion passed with MaryJo Hoepner, Stan Adamson and Sharon Soos abstained.**

## SECTION VIII. DUES AND ASSESSMENTS

- A. Membership classes are defined in the RMDS By-Laws. The membership application and dues should be sent to the RMDS Central Office. The Society's membership fees shall be as follows: *effective 2020 December 1, 2021 for 2022 membership year*

Individual	65.00	70.00
Additional Family member	50.00	55.00
Life	825.00	
Education	50.00	55.00

Business-1 year

110.00

Business Life

1,100.00

Transfer Ownership-Business Life 100.00

- B. Fees received shall first be applied towards reducing past indebtedness by the applicant to the Society. A membership is not considered renewed until the date all such debts and current membership fees are paid in full
- C. There will be a \$50.00 charge plus bank fees if applicable on all returned checks. Section XII, B of these Standing Rules provides other penalties, which may be applied for returned checks.
- D. The lifetime horse registration fee is ~~\$40.00~~ **\$60.00**. There is a \$15.00 fee for any changes to the registration (i.e., horse name change, owner change, etc.).
- E. The member is responsible for obtaining proof of membership in RMDS. Membership may be proven by submitting a copy of the current RMDS membership card or a canceled check made payable to RMDS for payment of membership dues. Without such proof, membership is declared to be invalid. Participation in club activities or RMDS recognized horse shows is not considered proof of membership.

**Beth Geier moved to raise the Individual, Additional Family Member and Education memberships \$5, 2<sup>nd</sup> by MaryJo Hoepner.**

Sharon Soos presented a power point on the split of our membership dollars and where the club's money goes.  
**Motion passed unanimously.**

**Beth Geier moved to raise the horse registration from \$40 to \$60. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Katie Knight. Motion passed with 1 against.**

**Beth Geier moved to make the dues increases effect December 1, 2021 for the 2022 membership year. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Katie Knight. Motion passed unanimously.**

## **SECTION IX. MEMBER BENEFITS**

RMDS members in good standing shall receive the following benefits unless otherwise indicated:

- A. General Benefits:
  - 1. General membership in the United States Dressage Federation (USDF).
  - 2. Eligibility to receive Society Year-End Awards (subject to conditions of Section V of these Standing Rules.
  - 3. A subscription to the Society **newsletter Centaur publications** (not applicable to Family Members).
  - 4. **One copy Communication** of the RMDS recognized show bulletin **Omnibus** (not applicable to Family Members).
  - 5. A Chapter basic membership, to be determined by the RMDS Executive Committee to pay for the Directors & Officers insurance, shall be paid by RMDS to the Chapter selected by the member. (Note: Chapters may charge a supplemental membership fee at their discretion in accordance with Article V, Section C of the RMDS By-Laws.
  - 6. A card providing proof of RMDS membership shall be provided to each member at no charge. A fee will be charged to the member for additional copies of this card.
- B. Business Membership Benefits:
  - 1. Business Members shall be eligible for the following benefits:
  - 2. The business shall designate a single individual to receive the benefits specified under A (General Benefits) above. This person shall be designated upon application for Business Membership may not be re-designated during the membership year without Executive Board approval.
  - 3. Discounted advertising rates in RMDS publications in an amount to be determined by the RMDS Executive Board.
  - 4. Horses owned by a Business Member and registered with RMDS shall be eligible to participate in the RMDS Awards Program subject to the conditions of Article V of these Standing Rules.
- C. Education Members Benefits: (non-competing)

1. A group member of USDF
2. Education members may **access Centaur online and** receive e-Centaur. **No Omnibus**
3. Will be eligible for RMDS member discounts at RMDS events.
4. Scores will not count for RMDS.
5. There will be chapter affiliation
6. A card providing proof of RMDS education membership shall be provided to each member.

**Judi DeVore moved to accept all proposed changes to the membership benefits section. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Debi Stevens. Motion passed unanimously.**

## **SECTION XI. VOLUNTARY REMOVAL OF CHAPTER RECOGNITION**

- A. The Chapter Executive Board will notify, in writing, **either through the Chapter newsletter or the RMDS Centaur or by special mailing**, all of its current members that the members will be taking a vote on Chapter Dissolution. The notification MUST include the date, time, and location of where the vote will take place.
- B. The Chapter Executive Board vote for dissolution must be unanimous for the motion to pass. Dissolution of a Chapter must be done by a vote of the Chapter membership with a two-thirds (2/3) majority
- C. After a successful vote, the Chapter President shall write a letter to the RMDS President stating that the Chapter will be dissolved effective on a specified date. The letter should be sent certified mail with return receipt.
- D. The RMDS President shall inform the RMDS Executive Board of the Chapter's intent to dissolve and will then write an announcement to be **placed in the Centaur sent to the membership**. The announcement must include the Chapter name, effective date of the dissolution, information regarding the fact that all the members must designate a new chapter when they renew their membership, and contact for information on any inquiries. **The President RMDS shall also make sure that all RMDS materials are updated to reflect the Chapter change. the Centaur masthead is updated and that the next issue of the Omnibus also reflects the chapter change.**
- E. The Chapter then needs to do the following on or before the effective date of dissolution:
  1. Settle all outstanding Chapter debts and liabilities.
  2. Disperse all Chapter assets to a recognized, non-profit, educational organization. (Chapter assets include, but are not limited to:
    - a. All funds in any checking, savings, scholarship, money market, or other type of account.
    - b. Any property, such as arenas, office equipment, trophies, awards etc)
  3. If the Chapter decides to donate all assets to RMDS, the Chapter may designate how it wants the funds/property allocated and in what amounts as either a flat sum or a percentage of the total.
  4. Cancellation of any business/tax licenses that the Chapter may hold.

**Katie Knight moved to approve the proposed changes, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Debi Stevens. Motion passed unanimously.**

3. The RMDS **Centaur print and electronic** publications
  - a. **The Chairperson of the Communications Committee shall present a contract for the Centaur newsletter publications artist for approval by the Executive Board. No longer applicable – change lettering**
  - b. The Chairperson of the Communications Committee shall present a contract for the **Omnibus RMDS print newsletter** publications **artist designer** for approval by the Executive Board.
  - c. **The Chairperson of the Communications Committee shall present a contract for the Centaur newsletter editor for approval by the Executive Board. No longer applicable – change lettering**
  - d. The Chairperson of the Communications Committee shall present a contract for the **Omnibus RMDS print publications newsletter** editor for approval by the Executive Board.
  - e. **The Chairperson of the Communications Committee shall present a contract for the e-Centaur newsletter publications contractor for approval by the Executive Board.**
  - f. Duties for both of these positions shall be defined in the current job description for these publications.
4. Managers for the following yearly competitions and events:
  - a. RMDS Owned Shows
  - b. RMDS Junior/Young Rider Camp

**Stan Adamson moved we adopt all proposed changes in Section 13, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Eleanor Harrison. Motion passed unanimously.**

5.Horse/rider combinations may qualify for Championship Classes by submitting scores meeting the following criteria:

- a. Only scores meeting the acceptance criteria of the RMDS Year-End Awards Program (see Section V. of these Standing Rules) may be used to qualify for the Championship Classes. These scores may be from any test at the specified level.
- b. Horse/rider combinations may qualify for Musical Freestyle Championship Classes by submitting two scores of 60% or higher from a recognized musical freestyle class at the same level from two shows and two judges.
- c. **Qualifying for Introductory Level Championships (Open, Adult Amateur, JR/YR):  
The horse/rider combination must receive two (2) qualifying scores of 60% from any competition; one of the tests must be the highest test at that level (Intro C). The scores must be from two (2) different judges at two (2) different shows.  
Schooling shows count for qualifying – the judge must be a recognized USEF dressage judge OR if a USDF L graduate, must be listed on the USDF website.  
Send your 2 qualifying tests in with your entry.  
Intro Test C will be the test for the Championship class.  
Do not have to be a RMDS member when qualifying but must be a RMDS member to ride in the championship class.**
- d. The horse/rider combination must receive two (2) qualifying scores from RMDS recognized competitions at the level of the Championship Class that they wish to qualify to ride in the current RMDS show year; one of the tests must be the highest test at that level. The scores must be from two (2) different judges at two (2) different shows. The minimum qualifying score for each level for RMDS Championships ONLY shall be (not to exceed USDF requirements):

Level	Open	Adult Amateur	Jr/YR
i. <b>Intro</b>	<b>62%</b>	<b>60%</b>	<b>60%</b>
ii. Training	62%	60%	60%
iii. First	62%	60%	60%
iv. Second	60%	58%	58%
v. Third	60%	58%	58%
vi. Fourth	60%	58%	58%
vii. PSG	58%	56%	56%
viii. INT I	58%	56%	56%
ix. INT II	57%		
x. GP	56%		

**Beth Geier moved to accept the addition to the Standing Rules. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Debi Stevens. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Budget**

**Sharon Soos**

2022 Budget	Income	Expense	Net Change
Adult Amateur	\$5200	\$5200	0.00
BOG Awards	\$0	\$8500	(\$8500)
BOG Banquet	\$10,000	\$10,000	0

BOG Meeting		\$2,200	(2,200)
Centaur – removing from Final	\$0	\$0	0
Central Office	\$3,000	\$13,000	(10,000)
Championship/Breed Show	\$90,000	\$85,000	5,000
Donations		\$1,000	(1,000)
Education/Clinics	\$2,300	\$2,300	0
Jr/Yr Program		\$500	(500)
Junior Camp	\$4,500	\$4,500	0
Marketing/Expo/Merchandise	\$200	\$800	0
Membership - Dues	\$47,000	\$23,000	24,000
Membership - Horses	\$6,000		6,000
Miscellaneous	\$500	\$500	0
Operating (USDF Conv/Treas Exp)		\$4,000	(4,000)
Professional Committee	\$8,000	\$8,000	0
Publication (RMDS Magazine)	\$13,250	\$19,100	(5850)
Scheduling / Insurance	\$1000	\$2,500	(1,500)
Scholarship	\$1,500	\$2,000	(500)
Taxes / Legal / Audit	\$300	\$800	(500)
Team Competition	\$0	\$0	0
Website/Database	\$0	\$5,500	(5,500)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$192,750</b>	<b>\$198,400</b>	<b>(\$5,650)</b>

- Discussion of how the budgeting sheets work and packet material.
- Membership - \$47,000 income, \$23,000 expense. \$24,000 profit. Right on previous years.
- Horse dues – 2021 was higher than normal but wouldn't count on that next year, went with an average of the few previous years.
- Central Office – Income: Email blasts and some of the paypal excess fees; Expenses include office manager fees, supplies, phone calls, internet.
- Operating (USDF Convention/Treasurer expenses)
- Allocate \$500 to Juniors, Amateurs and Professionals.
- Adult Amateur – breakeven with the proposed clinic so far for 2022.
- Website/Database – Regular maintenance costs and software upgrades and such.
- Awards – could be significant increases in storage and ribbons.



- BOG Banquet – hopefully the silent auction will actually help us show a good profit but not putting into the budget at this point in time.
- BOG Meeting - \$2200 expense.
- Championships – still some things up in the air but hoping with the 50+1 that this can be a big fundraiser for the organization.
- Donations - since we have limited funds, we are just proposing to do our scholarship fund at this point in time.
- Education/Clinics – programs come before the board for approval as they are proposed.
- Junior Camp – Looking to break even, though it tends to make a little money.
- Marketing/Expo – Horse Expo and merchandise.
- Misc – pass through funds often times from people paying RMDS instead of who they were supposed to pay.
- Professionals committee – their clinic and such.
- Publications – the magazine and based on last year’s numbers.
- Scheduling/Insurance – show recognitions, insurance for club and chapters if asked for it. Event insurance, D&O.
- Scholarship – RMDS donations and outside donations plus what we give out.
- Taxes/Legal/Audit – self-explanatory.
- Team Competition – leaving as zeros until it’s scheduled and put together.

**Motion made to accept the budget by MaryJo Hoepner. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Cassandra Dipentino. Motion passed unanimously.**

### **Old Business**

- USDF Convention

**Dorothy Kapaun**

Dorothy discussed the virtual convention. Loved being able to attend the meetings she wanted to attend and sleep in her own bed to boot! Hoping for an in person convention for 2022, but virtual does save RMDS significantly. Try and make time for the educational sessions. Dorothy lead a discussion on the positives/negatives of zoom versus in person and those who’ve had the opportunity to attend either.

### **Region 5 Report**

**Heather Petersen**

Welcome to our second virtual convention. We had really hoped it would be in person, but sadly the tides haven’t turned quite fast enough so here we are again. I really look forward to seeing everyone in person again in 2022. I hope many of the folks from Region 5 are able to join us for this convention when they might not normally be able to get away. We’ll see you soon on Zoom!

2021 was a very good year for our Region. In spite of Covid, we had a large variety of educational opportunities to choose from all over our region and lots of shows as well. The shows in Colorado all had wait lists and were adding judges and rings as much as they could. Many of the shows in other parts of the region had excellent attendance as well.

Quite a few of our GMOs were able to offer judges’ continuing education sessions, symposiums and clinics. Many private groups and barns also hosed some great clinics it was great to see lots of words of wisdom and success stories posted in social media.

Congratulations to our many riders who qualified for the 2021 USDF Dressage Finals both this year and last year. I look forward to seeing you there and cheering you on! This year will be the first year the Juniors and Young Riders join the US Dressage Finals and it should be an exciting competition.

The bid process for the 2023 USDF Region 5 Championships opens very soon. I very much hope we’re able to keep as many parts of our Region in the process and hope that the championships will continue with a rotation to another great facility. Diversity is important and since our region is so large, it’s very important to host the Regionals in various areas. Here’s hoping we can keep the Regional Championships moving throughout our Region to better serve the membership. If you know of a facility we should consider, please let me know.

The North American Youth Championships were held in Traverse City, Michigan this year and we had the privilege of sending 4 lovely horse/rider combinations –1 Young Rider and 3 Juniors. We were honored that Claire Gunther & Easy Breezy, Nadine Lurz & B Special, Katherine Nayak & Gaspacho, and Elizabeth Petersen & Simba attended.

They represented our Region really well and did a great job of raising sponsorship and funding for helping to make the trip. Next year the NAYC will again be held in Traverse City, Michigan. Hopefully more fundraising can be done to help support sending both a Junior and a Young Rider team.

We had a few combinations attend the USEF Festival of Champions at Lamplight in Illinois and represented Region 5 very nicely as well! Congratulations to everyone who participated and thank you for your hard work.

The USDF Junior / Young Rider clinic was held October 23-24 at Hobby Horse Farms in Longmont, Colorado with George Williams. We had 13 applications and 9 riders were chosen to ride. Many thanks to Hobby Horse Farms and Kaitlyn Lorentz for donating the facilities for this clinic. Congratulations to the following riders that rode with George –Audrey Allen, Luna Barboza, Emma Glass, Claire Gunther, Megan Kelleghan, Nadine Lurz, Elizabeth Petersen, MacKenzie Saunders, and Olivia Williams.

This year Region 5 was allocated 4 Participating Member delegates to the USDF Board of Governors meeting. Dorothy Kapaun, our Nominating Committee member, rounded up a nice diverse roster of 4 individuals to fill those spots. Your delegates are Joan Clay, Cecilia Cox, Sarah Lindsten, and Sarah Martin. These 4 members are a nice representation of the different states/areas in Region 5. Dorothy also worked hard to get representation for all our eligible GMOs in the Region or proxies to cover their votes. If you are interested in being a PM delegate for 2022, please don't hesitate to contact Dorothy.

### **New Business**

- **2022 Show Schedule**

**Beth Geier**

Schedule can be found on the RMDS website [www.rmids.org](http://www.rmids.org).

- Discussion of banquet format and how we could make changes.

**Stan Adamson moved to accept all the chapter reports as presented, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Karen Harkin. Motion passed unanimously.**

### **Arkansas Valley**

**Nancy Leonard**

As members of a club in this year of many ups and downs we have managed to stay active and involved with each other and our horses.

We have continued to do clinics monthly with some wonderful clinicians who have been kind enough to make the trip down to Canon City so that our members continue to improve in our riding. There have been clinics on riding dressage, long lining and lunging. Many of our members have enjoyed the safety of outside activities and enjoyed our beautiful Colorado by way of trail rides.

We were happy to sponsor 3 shows this year, 2 schooling shows and our first RMDS rated show. Although this seemed like a big challenge to us, we went forward and put on a successful show, learning much in the experience.

We have scheduled 2 shows for next year and plan to start with another RMDS rated show in May.

Our numbers have increased to 40 with prospects of new members in our future.

We have had monthly meetings starting the year with zoom meetings and then with relief going to in person meetings again this summer. It was so good for our members to have the opportunity to meet in person.

Unfortunately due to an uptick in Covid cases in our county we will probably go back to zoom meetings for a couple of months and hopefully things will get back to some sort of normal in the spring.

This year we began having educational presentations at the beginning of each of our monthly meetings. These have been very interesting and given us new ways to learn about our favorite subject...horses. We were fortunate to have 2 Veterinarians speak at our last meeting and we learned a great deal about nutrition. They will be back soon for a presentation on lameness. Thank you Drs. Molly Kaplan and Richard Marrott.

Our club continues to grow, learn and support each other in our quest for better horsemanship.

### **Boulder Valley**

**Stan Adamson**

We have had an eventful year in 2021! We were able to resume more in person activities after having to cancel so much in 2020 due to the global COVID-19 pandemic.

MEETINGS: Due to COVID-19 public health measures, we continued to have our general meetings virtually via Zoom technology. We met five times in the even-numbered months, and decided not to meet in December, since we will have our annual Awards Banquet in January, 2022.

SHOWS: We were able to return to the Boulder County Fairgrounds in 2021, July 30-August 1, and had two terrific shows with Judges Heidi Berry and Amy McElroy, with Technical Delegate Deeda Randall. Despite rain and wind, the show went on when we were able to move one of our temporary outdoor arenas inside the indoor arena we had been using for warm-up. The swift action of our TD, show manager Nicole Donohue and Volunteer Coordinator Miranda Avila in recruiting enough volunteers to execute this change allowed the show to go on Saturday with minimal delay. We had more than 100 horses involved, and the show was a great success. We thank our sponsors Colorado Tack and Supply, who donated beautiful, engraved halters for our high point winners, and Mike Maroone Ford of Longmont for the loan of two air-conditioned pickups for our judges and scribes.

GIFTS TO RMDS: Thanks to our very successful show and other income, we were able to share the bounty with RMDS to the tune of \$3,034.91.

BOOK CLUB: Vice President Sally O'Dwyer started a book club this year, and the titles have been great:

- *Dressage for the Not-So-Perfect Horse*, by RMDS's own Janet Foy
- *Centered Riding*, the classic by Sally Swift
- *Ride Big*, by John Haime
- *The Girl on the Dancing Horse*, by Charlotte Dujardin, to be discussed in 2022

Book Club discussions have been virtual via Zoom, allowing any interested RMDS member to participate.

CLINICS AND TRAINING: We received the benefit of virtual and in-person clinics and training

- Julie Barringer-Richers "Preparing for Freestyle," a virtual presentation on Zoom
- Monique Potts, "Using Obstacles in Dressage Training," at Merry Go Round Stables in Broomfield
- Bruce Connolly DVM, "First Aid Kits for Shows," a virtual presentation on Zoom

AWARDS BANQUET: We will hold our 2021 season Awards Banquet at the Boulder Country Club on January 29, 2022. The banquet will feature several fun activities, including our silent auction and 2021 awards presentations. Members are encouraged to email photos of their 2021 dressage activities to Julie Barringer-Richers who will assemble them into a slide show. Members are also encouraged to donate items to the auction by contacting Marcia Zugar. VP Sally O'Dwyer's banquet committee is doing the planning.

OUR CHAMPIONS: Many BVD members did well at the Region 5 Championships in Santa Fe, New Mexico, and some went on to win big in the USDF National Finals in Lexington in mid-November. Notably, Sally O'Dwyer, club Vice President, became the 2021 National Champion Adult Amateur at 2<sup>nd</sup> Level Freestyle with her horse Rayme, while Taryn Anderson won the 2021 National Champion Adult Amateur 3<sup>rd</sup> Level Freestyle on Furst Romanov with a score of 71.356%, First in USDF Third Level Adult Amateur Freestyle with a score of 79.5%, and finishing in 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Level championship. Lesley Eden on Bianka SQF finished in 3<sup>rd</sup> place in both her 1<sup>st</sup> Level Test of Choice and in the 1<sup>st</sup> Level Championship Open Class, where she scored 73.380%. Eleanor Harrison and Diederik also did well placing 5<sup>th</sup> in USEF 4<sup>th</sup> Level Test of Choice and 8<sup>th</sup> in US Dressage Finals Adult Amateur 4<sup>th</sup> Level Championships. Congratulations are due not only to these wonderful riders, but to all their support teams as well!

NEW RMDS TD: President Stan Adamson completed the RMDS Technical Delegate training program and was certified an RMDS TD in October.

OFFICERS FOR 2022: At our October 11 meeting, held virtually, officers for 2022 were elected.

- President: Stan Adamson
- Vice President: Sally O'Dwyer
- Secretary: Janeen Cochi
- Treasurer: Dorothy Kapaun

We look forward to an exciting and productive year in 2022. We have the dates July 29-31, 2022, reserved at the Boulder County Fairgrounds for our big show. We are working on a series of clinics, some of which may be done in a hybrid fashion (in person and via Zoom). Our club continues to grow, and we have a lot of optimism about where 2022 will take us.

Well, I'd say that 2021 was a success!! We had 2 well attended RMDS recognized shows, 2 RAT clinics, and a great start to our "Foothills First Saturday" Clinic Series. The 1<sup>st</sup> one was with Kathleen Donnelly. Our 2<sup>nd</sup> one is with Maureen Sterling and is scheduled for December 4<sup>th</sup>. We plan to continue these clinics every other month at this point.

Our biggest new adventure for the 2022 show season is the USDF show that we have in the works. The planning for the Foothills Dressage Festival shows is well on its way! The dates are July 9th & 10th 2022. We are licensed and approved by the USEF and USDF. Forms and fees for RMDS have been submitted and are being reviewed this week! Our judges are Debbie Riehl-Rodriguez and Fran Dearing Kehr. Our TD is Victoria Powers.

The Jeffco Fairgrounds are also secured. We will have over 70 stalls available and up to 20 outdoor turnout areas with automatic waterers. There will be 2 show arenas (one indoor and one outdoor), a 20,000 square foot lunging arena, and a 20,000 square foot warmup arena.

We have a handful of unique vendors committed to setting up booths and will have a fun selection of food trucks each day. We are so excited to add another show to our amazing RMDS roster!

Here's to a successful 2022 show season!!

## **Grand Valley**

## **Karen Harkin**

As the year comes to a close, we are wrapping up loose ends and planning for 2022.

Our Awards/Holiday Celebration is December 4. The caterer is booked, prizes are here and being embroidered, the program and room set up are ready to go. We hope that the members will take advantage of this event to share stories, renew old friendships and make new ones.

We purchased a new-to-us stock trailer for storing our new arena. We needed something that was more enclosed than the trailer we were using to protect the arena from the elements. Susan and Mike Gregg were instrumental in finding and modifying the trailer for our use.

A western dressage clinic co-sponsored by GVDS and WDACO is planned for April 2-3, 2022. Julie Haugen is the clinician. Lots of details to work out yet, but it should be a great event. WDACO is applying for a TDF Lynn Palm grant to help with expenses.

We are working on our big clinic for 2022 based on a member survey. Many clinicians are already booked for spring clinics. This too should be a great event. Our program survey to members will be sent out this month to plan for cold season learning via Zoom.

Several of our RMDS/GVDS members were successful at the AQHA World Show, WDAA Congress, National Snaffle Bit Association World Show, Pinto World Show and Colored Breed Congress. Such versatility amongst our riders and horses! We're very proud of all of them.

GVDS is revamping our sponsorship program. Inka Spatafora has created some exciting opportunities for our existing sponsors plus some fresh ideas to bring in new sponsors, including naming rights to our shows!

Solicitation will start soon as businesses are working on their 2022 budgets now.

Like RMDS, GVDS is always seeking a better way to engage and appreciate our volunteers. Barbara Proggess our Volunteer Coordinator, is leading the charge on this effort.

## **High Plains**

## **Andrea Price**

2021 was a breath of fresh air after the challenging year prior. While we still had COVID-19 related precautions we took at each event, we were excited to reunite with our membership in person events. The year started off strong with the Board busy at work planning as many opportunities for our membership as time would allow. We stacked the events heavy at the beginning of the year to prepare as much as possible for the 2021 show season.

The first event of the year was a Zoom talk with a personal trainer on things to keep in mind when training for show season. From this Zoom, we were able to record the video as playback with a series of exercises with emphasis on core stability and others that target the muscle groups needed to ride.

The second Zoom session we had with Amelia Newcomb. Amelia is a dressage trainer based out of California who has been successful in online based training. She put together a course on the training scale of dressage which was a nice overview of things lower-level riders could appreciate and a refresher for upper-level riders. We had our Youth Clinic with Sara Storch and Kelly Boyd on March 20th at Happenstance Barn. This was very well received by the younger members of the High Plains organization, and we had excellent feedback on what

a positive and encouraging event this was.

Our last event of the year came just ahead of show season on April 17th. This was the Adult Amateur clinic with Colleen Diamond at Meadowbrook in Sedalia. We were excited to see a few newer members and a few eventers join us for this clinic. Colleens approach with all different breeds in attendance was enlightening and educational.

We do have a bit of turnover on the board with Lynn Van Voris (treasurer) and Lori Keilt (secretary) departing for the 2022 year. We are reaching out to our wonderful membership to recruit for these positions and look forward to announcing the new directors in the coming month.

We are busy at work planning our calendar for the upcoming year and are excited for a great year of continued educational events to bring value to our members!

### **Northern Colorado**

### **Jon Haugen**

NCDA has been planning for a number of events in 2022. We will be hosting the following events:

- RAT with Sandy Hotz
- Jessica Greer Clinic
- Tack Sale
- Robert Dover Symposium
- Two one day shows, Judged by Sharron Sarchet and Julie Haugen

Wishing everyone a healthy and happy holiday season.

### **On the Bit**

### **Ginka Kubelka**

The On The Bit Dressage Chapter had a great year! We had a lot of fun, and also offered educational opportunities for our members. We started out with a Ride-A-Test at Jane Swanhorst's beautiful facility in June. Kathleen Donnelly was our judge. She gave helpful feedback, and everyone had a good time. We were able to provide free lunch for the participants thanks to the Butcher Block in Laramie, who donated pulled pork.

We held our fully recognized show at the Albany County Fairgrounds in Laramie in July. We were excited to see many people from Colorado come up to Laramie! The footing at the fairgrounds presented a bit of a challenge to us, so we decided to move our show to a different location that just became available in Laramie for next summer. We hope to see all of you back in Laramie in July!

We will end our year with a Franklin Ball Clinic with Joan Clay, and, of course, our holiday party instead of a meeting in December.

For the new year, we will explore different strategies to recruit more active members, so we won't burn out our small but very engaged crew we have in Laramie. We will have educational presentations at our meetings to hopefully bring in a few more people. Besides that, we will offer a Ride-A-Test again in the early summer, our recognized show in July, and we are working on bringing Ulf Wadeborn to Laramie towards the end of summer. Lots of fun, so check out our website if you are interested in any of these events!

Our current officers will continue in their positions for next year:

Ginka Kubelka – President  
Kelly Wolfe – Vice President  
Anna Chalfoun – Secretary  
Tom Wolfe - Treasurer

### **Pikes Peak**

No report

### **Shannon Lemons**

### **Western Colorado**

No report

### **Lesley Hill**

Final Reading of candidates,

Heather Petersen

#### **The slate for 2022:**

Vice President (1 year):

Bettina Bosma

Secretary (2 years):

Heather Petersen, Shannon Clarke

Treasurer (2 years):	Sharon Soos
Awards (2 years):	Shannon Lemons
Education (2 years):	MaryJo Hoepner
Professionals (2 years);	Joan Clay
Adult Amateur (1 year):	Pippa Bird (Eleanor withdrew)
Championships (1 year):	No Nominations
Marketing (1 year):	No Nominations

***All positions except secretary were elected by acclamation. Heather Petersen was elected secretary 28 to 10.***

***At 4:26pm Judi Devore made the motion to adjourn. Seconded by Karen Harkin. Motion passes unanimously.***

Respectfully submitted,  
Heather Petersen