

RMDS Executive Board Meeting  
September 13, 2007  
Perkins Restaurant

Meeting called to order at 6:33 P.M.

Present: Laura Speer, Beth Geier, Gavin Ehringer, Michael Petersen, Heather Petersen, Nicole Bizzarro, Susan Rudman, Deb Wilke, and Sharon Soos.

Proxies: Alexandra Curnutte, Marlene Coonradt, Tammy Fagan, Judith Family, Lisa Wiggins.

Laura Speer gave a brief overview of the resignation of President, Jane McBride from the Board and RMDS. A note of thanks to Jane for her service will be communicated via the Centaur. Also a gift approximately \$100 in value will be selected for Jane.

Sharon Soos was appointed Vice President to fill the vacancy for the remaining term created by Laura Speer assuming the Office of President.

Minutes from May 10, 2007: Approved as corrected.

It was suggested that corrections to the minutes should be listed and abbreviations should not be used. Corrections were as follows:

Page 1 under Communications: Correct spelling of Nicolle to **Nicole**.

Page 2 Old Business: Correct spelling of Buisness to **Business**.

Page 3 under Office Manager Report: change is to **will be**. Statement to read  
October 1, 07 horse reg. will be \$40 and change fee will be \$15.

Page 3 under Office Manager Report: Correct spelling of Halley to **Haley**.

Page 3 under Scholarship: It was noted that there had not been any follow  
through with the ad in the Centaur in June and July.

**Beth Geier moved to approve the minutes with corrections. Nicole Bizzarro 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion passed.**

Minutes from July 12, 2007: Approved as corrected.

Corrections were as follows:

Page 1 under Proxies: Correct spacing after Fagan and before Marlene from  
Fagan ,Marlene to be **Fagan, Marlene**.

Page 1 under Treasurer Report: WF is **Wells Fargo**.

**Heather Petersen moved to approve the minutes with corrections. Susan Rudman 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion passed.**

Treasurer's Report: Given by Beth Geier for Lisa Wiggins.

Wells Fargo checking account as of September 13, 2007 was \$91,162.63

Wells Fargo Money Market account as of September 13, 2007 was \$42,315.58

Wells Fargo Y/R Account has been closed.

Profit and Loss with Previous Year Comparison for January 1 through

September 12, 2007 was provided. Beth noted that Bank interest has not been included.

## Office Manager's Report:

### Central Office Reporting

RMDS Scholarship Funds. Have been notified of a bequeath in a Will of \$150,000.

A note will be placed in the Centaur reminding members that bequeaths can be made in their Wills to the Scholarship Fund.

Joan Myers passed away. Acknowledgement of her passing will be made in the Centaur.

### Membership:

Registrations for 2007 are 1007; 16 are Centaur only.

Membership in RMDS continues to decline.

Horses – 246 new registrations since September 30, 2006.

Reminder – Horse Registration Fee will be \$40 and the Change Fee will be \$15.

Differentiating between Business and Individual memberships was discussed, however, no changes are being made at this time. Businesses are listed in the Directory.

Chapter Presidents have been notified of the number of delegates their respective Chapters have to the Board of Governors for a total of 53 delegates.

The Treasurer for each Chapter is the contact name provided to the IRS.

### Omnibus:

Advertising rates have changed. Advertising Contracts with the rates have been sent to advertisers and show managers.

### TD Report: Six reports were received and reviewed with the following discussions.

So Long to Summer (RMDS 1006) – Issue is with the TD, who did not pickup on the situation when the Show Secretary gave a number to a participant who had not completed the paperwork, nor, pay the fees.

Pendragon Stud Dressage Show (RMDS 1045) – Unsportsmanlike conduct witnessed by TD. In deciding whether or not to send a letter it was determined that more details were needed.

Autumn Hill Sunday #3 (RMDS 1020) – TD comments were contradictory on the state of the footing. TD responded with a positive about the footing then listed footing in the outdoor arena as a feature needing improvement.

The topic of TD training was discussed.

### By-Laws: Proposed Changes were reviewed and will be published in the Centaur.

#### Proposed changes to Bylaws:

Page E-6, 7 Article VII (Officers), D (President), 2:

2. Upon assuming office in January, the President shall appoint (with the approval of the Executive Board) an auditor **a third party** who shall be charged with reviewing the financial records of the previous year. A full **audit review** of the financial records must be performed with every change of Treasurer or at least every five (5) years. The auditor **reviewer** shall report the findings to the President and the Executive Board.

Proposed changes to Standing Rules:

Page E-18, Section V (Awards – Year End), F (Sport Horse Breeding Show Year End Awards):

1. Eligibility

- c. Only scores earned when the owner and handler (~~delete and handler~~) are current members of the Society in good standing may be used to determine Year End Awards.
- f. All owners and handlers (~~delete and handlers~~) are responsible for verifying and documenting their scores with the Awards Chairperson prior to September 30 of the competition year. If scores are not checked, RMDS and/or the Awards Chairperson are not responsible for any errors that may occur.

Page E-22, 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:

Individual	\$50.00	<del>\$50.00</del> \$55.00
Additional Family member	\$35.00	<del>\$35.00</del> \$40.00

The use of Paypal was brought up for discussion. This would required the opening of Another checking account or a sub account to the existing account for Paypal only. ~~Laura Speers moved to open an account for Paypal. Heather Petersen 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion passed with one nay vote.~~

Communications – Presented by Nicole Bizzarro

Price changes are out.

Gavin needs articles for the Centaur.

“Artwork Contest” – RMDS Art Show. Gavin will write an article for the Centaur about the contest. Bring or send the art to the BOG meeting. The contest should have various categories for art and also age. Suggested age categories were 0-14, 15-21, 22 & over. Art to be judged by a Guest Artist.

Gavin announced that he is going to Mexico for 3 months and will return in January. He does not anticipate any problems with communications during this time. Gavin requested that someone interview winners and take photos at social events. Susan Rudman suggested the Young Riders.

The Centaur continues to be a money loser. To help cover the cost ad rates have been raised and a proposal to raise Membership fees has been made. A concern was raised about the ability to gain access to The Centaur online via the

Website without being an RMDS member. The discussion centered on whether or not someone should be able to gain access to The Centaur without being a member or a subscriber. Beth Geier suggested that the current month or two should require the use of a person's RMDS number and name, similar to "score checks," to gain access and older issues should be available to everyone.

Debbie Wilke requested to give her report out of order since she needed to leave.

Show – March/Championship – Presented by Debbie Wilke

Debbie reported that items were still being taken for the Silent Action. She was working United Airlines and Southwest Airlines for Auction items. Southwest needs 3 months advance preparation so a donation from them is unlikely. However, Debbie is still hopeful about United Airlines. Debbie has offered her trailer in which items can be kept. Thursday and Friday, the set up will be by the Show Office. A crew is still needed to set up Saturday in the banquet area.

Education – Presented by Heather Petersen

USEF "r" Judge Program – Currently there are 6 participants: 3 checks received for \$850 each; and, 3 email confirmations. Applications must be postmarked by December 1<sup>st</sup>.

Jane Savoie Clinic – Advertising has started in The Centaur.

Arrangements have been made for Jane Savoie in Ft. Collins at the Hampton Inn, and Sunday night at the Days Inn Business Center near the airport. "Portapotties" have been reserved. Stabling is \$25 per night and includes bedding. Seating (bleachers) is still uncertain because the auditor preregistration is low. So far there are 36 auditors registered.

Freestyle Clinic – April, 2008 – The first deposit and contract were not received by Terri So they have been resent. Autumn Hill is donating the facility for the riding portion. Heather thought that the lecture portion would be at the Radisson Hotel. However, consideration is being given to holding the lecture portion in the lounge at Autumn Hill. This could be cost effective. Applications will be posted in the Championship show program and also run in The Centaur. Rider applications will close March 1<sup>st</sup>. The clinic can take a base of 12 riders for the clinician's

base

fee. More can be accepted if needed. Riders will be decided by level ridden and a committee made up of Heather Petersen and other, unnamed at this time. In response to the question of asking for a video, the answer was "yes."

Cost was discussed using these figures: Riders - \$150 member, \$200 non-member. Auditor - \$60 member, \$80 non-member. However, no decision was made. According to Heather, Terry receives \$35 per auditor, over 10 auditors. Since the handling of lunch had not been determined, Susan Rudman Suggested the Young Riders take on the food as a fund raiser. Since this is a closed event, a licensed caterer is not required. It was suggested that those Young Riders working the lunch should receive a reduced audit fee of \$35.

Heather Petersen has applied for a \$2500 Grant.

Other Projects:

Co-sponsorship of the 2008 USDF Symposium – Do not expect any information until January or February of 2008.

The 2008 Judges' Continuing Education will be held January 26, 2008, at Freedom Farms, Parker, CO.

The 2008 TD/Show Manager Education will be held February 9, 2008. Deeda Randle will do the TD portion and Heather Petersen will do the Show Manager portion.

Championships Report – Presented by Heather Petersen

Approximately \$99,000 in income has been received. Several entries a day are still coming in. The Breed show is open until September 18<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers are still needed. Currently, there are 18 horses in the Breed Show, 281 horses in the Championship show, and 816 riders. Heather added that this is on par with 2005, and there is one less judge. The hope is to break even or make \$14,000-\$15,000. It was necessary to substitute a judge. Judges consist of 5 FEI, 2 "S", and 1 "r."

USDF Capital Campaign Report – Presented by Heather Petersen

\$2500 donated so far this year. It is uncertain if anything was made on the "L" program. Beth Geier stated that money was not made and provided these figures: \$9240 Income and \$10,800 Expense.

Junior/Young Riders – Presented by Susan Rudman

2008 Championships are here. Susan put out some questions: What can the Junior/Young Riders do? Volunteers? Should they block hotel Rooms? Susan requested a membership roster.

Scholarship – Raffle – No Report

Awards – Nicole Bizzarro substituting for Barb Goldman

Nicole did not receive a report, but did pass on Barb's need for plenty of tables at the banquet. Laura Speer started that 15 tables have been planned.

New awards: Two 12 & under awards, and a Pony Award for First Level.

Banquet – Presented by Laura Speer

"Everything is OK." The Master of Ceremony is set. Kid's plate (10 & under) is \$3.00 less than last year. There is a wine list and cash bar.

Nominating Committee- Presented by Laura Speer

Alex Curnutte (Secretary) and Lisa Wiggins (Treasurer) are continuing.

## New Business:

USDF Affiliates – Heather Petersen reported that USEF has a new rule. No paperwork can be accepted at a USEF recognized show unless it is a member of USEF. USDF is a member, but RMDS is not. To accept RMDS membership at a show (USEF), RMDS needs to become and affiliate. The fee is \$150.

Heather Petersen moved that RMDS become an affiliate for 2008 by paying the \$150. Nicole Bizzarro 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion passed.

## Horse Expo / High Plains – Presented by Sharon Soos

High Plains Chapter is sponsoring an Exhibit Booth at the 2008 Rocky Mountain Horse Expo, March 14 – 16, 2008, at the National Western Complex. The estimated cost is \$500 - \$600. High Plains is requesting support for the event from RMDS through the following: 1) Extra copies of The Centaur; 2) Communications via The Centaur about the exhibit booth; 3) Current membership Forms; 4) Current horse registration forms; 5) Listings of the 2008 Show & Event Calendars, and 6) Permission to reprint select articles from The Centaur, (with the permission of the article's author).

Plans are to contact other Chapters which may want to participate. However, each chapter would be responsible for the cost of the admission and parking for their volunteers since the sponsorship fee only includes 2 passes and 1 parking. Heather Petersen will donate her passes and RMDS will donate theirs.

## Chapter Reports:

Laura Speer moved that Board members could read the Chapter Reports at their own discretion. Susan Rudman 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion Passed.

Arkansas Valley – Catherine Siermiet has resigned as the Chapter President because of her husband's health issues. Brenda Haley is acting president until Chapter elections.

Boulder Valley Dressage – The Boulder Valley sponsored show held over the Labor Day Weekend at Somerset Farms (Longmont) was a success and thanks were extended to the show manager (Jeannette Hillary) and show secretary (Barb Newman) and the wonderful volunteers. The Chapter is still seeking volunteers including delegates to the Board of Governors meeting. The Chapter will be electing new officers at the October 8<sup>th</sup> meeting: the annual banquet is scheduled for Saturday, January 19<sup>th</sup>: and, the Adult Amateur Camp is planned for the weekend of July 18, 2008.

Colorado Springs Dressage Association – The Aspen Ridge Schooling Show and RMDS Show were held September 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>, and judged by Linda Ohlson-Gross. The Chapter was very pleased with the number of juniors which participated. A Clinic with Gary Rockwell, to be held at Whispering Winds, is being planned and will be open to volunteers only. The actual date is yet to be determined. Also on the calendar are the monthly meetings of September 18<sup>th</sup> and October 16<sup>th</sup>.

Foothills – No report.

Grand Valley – No report.

High Plains – Chapter meeting attendance continue to be unpredictable, however, the August meeting was well attended. Topics remaining for 2007 are review for the Bylaws for needed updating; election of officers, recruiting delegates for the Board of Governors meeting; year-end get-together. Other discussions focus on Clinic sponsorship, Rocky Mountain Horse Expo booth; Schooling and RMDS shows at Colorado Horse Park; and educational activities for Chapter meetings.

Northern Colorado – No report

Penrose – No report.

Tri State - The July 27<sup>th</sup> show, during the 4-H JR Horse Show had to be cancelled because of a major rain storm which flooded the fair grounds. The final show of the series is planned for September 22<sup>nd</sup> with a clinic to follow with Barbara Bell.

Western Colorado – The Chapter continues to hold schooling shows, with the next scheduled for September 23. The shows are open to all and attract pony clubbers and eventers.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:15 P.M.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Sharon Soos, substituting for Alex Curnutte, Secretary