

RMDS EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING AGENDA

Elephant Bar – 720-529-9920

March 13, 2014 @ 6:30 PM

**Attendance:** Gwen Ka’awaloa, Michelle Anderson, Beth Geier, Beverly Swanson, Sharon Soos, Jon Haugen, Jacque McIntyre, Simone Windeler, Renee Martig, Julie Haugen, Aline Brandau, Linda Gaber, Nina Felsenthal, Pat Leech

**Proxies:** Sally Shaffer to Gwen Ka’awaloa, Lori Mitchell to Sharon Soos, Brenda Haley to Aline Brandau, Barbara Terry to Sarah Barnes, Shannon Lemons to Nina Felsenthal, Laura Speer to Sharon Soos,

**Call to Order-President**

**Gwen Ka’awaloa**

Meeting was called to order at 6:33pm by Gwen Ka’awaloa

**Secretary - Approval of Minutes**

**Nina Felsenthal**

- January Minutes

Two corrections were made to the January minutes; Under Treasurer’s Report, change Budget for Championships to Budget for 2014, and under Marketing Report, the suggested handouts to be made by Chapter Presidents were for Rocky Mountain Horse Expo. Julie Haugen motioned to approve the minutes as corrected, Sharon Soos seconded. All were in favor.

**Treasurers Report**

**Sharon Soos**

**Funds as of February 28, 2014**

RMDS Scholarship	5,748.88
PayPal	794.46
Checking	35,153.26
Money Market	<u>44,259.16</u>
<b>Total Checking/ Savings</b>	<b>85,955.76</b>

Sharon encouraged all RMDS members to read through the details of the Treasurer’s Report. Sharon has detailed information available for anybody who is interested, including the transaction summary.

**President Report**

**Gwen Ka’awaloa**

“Life isn’t a matter of milestones, but of moments”

Heather, Sharon, Aline and Beth all met to go over the finances for Championships, to check for overages or losses. This was to clear up everything so people could read and understand the statements of Championships Finances. The Reports are available to read, so if members have questions, please ask!

**Gwen wants to give a huge Thank You to everybody who is participating in meetings and working in positions in RMDS.**

**Vice-President Report**

**Aline Brandau**

**Central Office**

RMDS Central Office  
2942 Park Lake Drive  
Boulder, CO 80301  
720-890-7825 phone & fax  
[rmds@rmds.org](mailto:rmds@rmds.org)

Beth Geier  
Beth Geier, Office Manager

**Membership**

- Registration – As of March 6: 538 members for 2014 – 11 are Centaur only – 35 are new to RMDS this year. 38 new horses since October 1, 2013

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
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Members:	1162	1177	1151	1019	1036	1008	1030	945	921	868	797	827	538
Horses:	274	337	207	234	262	246	166	132	132	123	135	59	38
AV	-	-	-	-	-	12	26	15	24	27	25	27	21
BV	230	208	199	179	178	172	205	188	200	190	182	180	113
CS	134	155	137	130	143	126	127	115	124	115	63	52	26
FH	115	103	109	73	74	77	76	75	72	71	65	64	51
GV	77	98	93	92	88	102	105	87	83	65	53	71	42
HP	278	283	267	251	259	260	265	256	226	208	190	176	102
NC	150	151	162	139	137	137	124	107	132	110	93	94	66
OB	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	22	20
PP	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	44	62	46
PR	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	14	18	8
WA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20	24	24	28	26	14
WC	64	55	44	34	32	25	25	21	22	31	27	23	18
No Chapter	24	36	34	21	22	16	14	25	14	15	13	12	11
PN	13	14	15	14	13	13	12	inactive	Dissolved				
TS	77	74	91	86	90	68	51	36	Dissolved				
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1162</b>	<b>1177</b>	<b>1151</b>	<b>1019</b>	<b>1036</b>	<b>1008</b>	<b>1030</b>	<b>945</b>	<b>921</b>	<b>870</b>	<b>797</b>	<b>827</b>	<b>538</b>
Juniors									134	120	117	120	51
Amateurs									230	239	220	209	99

**Shows:** 44 recognized shows for 2014 - 7 are RMDS only shows.

- **Added** USEF Show: June 14-15 Fountain Valley Dressage

**Recognized Officials:**

- Didi DeKrey-**Accept** as new RMDS TD?
- For the TD Continuing Education: Attend TD workshop held in February; **add: work with a USEF td at a show?**

**Omnibus:**

- Mailed in February –
- Sent copy of ad to all advertisers that are not RMDS members.

**General:**

- Need help with **advertising** for everything!!!!!!!
- Centaur needs articles coming in
- \*\*\*Shannon Dahmer will **donate** one of her horse head wreaths for auction for JR/YR or banquet.

**Office:**

- Always here for you..... 😊

**Next Executive Board Meetings (2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday odd months) –**

**2014:**            **Mar 13**            **May 15**            **July 8-Tues**  
**Sept 11**            **Oct 9-Budget**    **Nov 15- BOG**

Membership is creeping up slowly. We did add a new show: June 14-15 is Fountain Valley Dressage, a USDF recognized show.

- Proposed By-Law Changes Review

**There was discussion regarding TD by-law changes to require that TD's continue to work two apprenticeships with a USDF TD in the calendar year. This will be proposed before the BOG.**

- May meeting will be moved from the 8<sup>th</sup> to the 15<sup>th</sup>

Jon Haugen made the motion to approve Didi DeKrey as a TD, with the provision that she continue her education with two more apprenticeships at USDF approved shows in this calendar year. Linda Gaber seconded the motion. All were in favor.

#### **Paid Position Bids**

**Gwen Ka'awaloa**

- **Centaur/E-Centaur: 2015-2016**

Beverly Swanson of Piaffe Designs submitted the only bid. **Linda Gaber motioned that we approve Beverly Swanson of Piaffe Designs for 2015-2016 , Nina Felsenthal seconded, and all were in favor.**

- **Omnibus: 2015-2016**

Nicole Bizzarro designs submitted a bid for the Omnibus for 2015-2016. **Michelle Anderson motioned to accept Nicole Bizzarro's bid for the Omnibus, Beverly Swanson seconded, and all were in favor.**

It has been requested that RMDS declare a change fee to any ads that are changed during proofing. This is to encourage thorough proofing before ads are submitted.

- **Championship Shows: 2015-2016**

Two White Feet have submitted a bid for 2015-2016 Championships. They are the only submission for Championships. **Beverly Swanson motioned to approve Two White Feet for the 2015 and 2016 Championships and Region 5 if we win another Region 5 bid, Julie Haugen seconded the motion. Pat Leech was absent from the vote, Simone Windeler abstained, and all else were in favor.**

It has been requested that before we go to Championships, Two White Feet Provide and maintain a budget for expenses. Regarding Judges, if we seek outside the country, we either need to find a reciprocal country, or backing withholding. It was also requested that clarification for meals will need to state Per Diem.

USEF does not require two EMT's, but our Farrier will be our second stand-in EMT.

A letter of agency will need to be provided to authorize Heather Petersen to do the hiring for Championships.

#### **Permanent Committee Reports:**

##### **1. Adult Amateur**

**Jennifer Glass**

Gwen Ka'awaloa and Jon Haugen have put together a clinic with Debbie Riehl-Rodriguez, and this Adult Amateur Clinic will be held under Education with Jon Haugen.

##### **2. Awards**

**Shannon Lemons**

Shannon Lemons was not present. We need to make a plan for trophies and awards not picked up at the Awards Banquet. The issue has been tabled until our May meeting.

##### **3. Communications**

**Linda Gaber**

THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN DRESSAGE SOCIETY

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Chair Linda Gaber, March 13, 2014

In February, members received their 2014 Omnibus by mail.

This winter, the January and March printed Centaurs and February E-Centaur advertised for submissions from professionals for RMDS paid positions, with proposals due Feb. 28. A proposal was received from current Centaur production contractor Beverly Swanson to continue her services for two years at the same rate. The board will vote on this tonight.

- **Centaur**

**Beverly Swanson**

RMDS logo use is not authorized for use outside of RMDS. If seen in a situation where we are not connected, please report to the Central Office immediately.

- **Omnibus Production**

**Nicole Bizzarro**

- **Website**

**Michael Petersen**

By-laws and Minutes have been updated. It was requested that we put out more information asking for members to submit current pictures with their horses.

- **Membership webpage**

**Nicole Bizzarro**

- Advertising Sales Person

We are looking for one or two specific people to head up Sales for Advertising. Interested parties should contact Beth Geier. Advertising Sales Person will receive 15% of every sale for Advertising.

#### 4. Education

**Jon Haugen**

##### Education Report

**March 2014**

**Submitted by Jon C. Haugen**

- **'L' Program CE**

Held February 1st in Loveland at the Larimer County Fairgrounds. Bill Solyntjes did a wonderful presentation to about 30+ courageous folks who braved the weather. I received many compliments on the room and facility in general. Lesson learned: better signage in the future. The CE did make \$893.03 profit.

- **TD/Show Management Clinic**

Veronica Holt and Heather Petersen shared the duties of this clinic, complementing each other. Veronica handled the TD duties and was very informative regarding the upcoming rule changes for the TDs in attendance. The afternoon was devoted to the show management portion and Heather provided indepth expertise to the workings of a show office. We did have 3 attendees that came from the Western Dressage and Arabian show world. They all commented on how insightful the whole day was. The clinic did show a \$7.50 loss, which considering that only 3 TDs were due to attend for CE, and we had an increase in expenses for clinicians is acceptable.

- **Instructor Certification**

March 15-16 held at Phantom Hill Farm in Ft. Collins. We have 8 participants, and 10 auditors. Vickie Hammer will be instructing this session.

- **Biomechanics Clinic**

April 19 at the Larimer County Fairgrounds, hosted by Debbie Riehl-Rodriguez will utilize information from the 'L' Program to highlight the biomechanics of horse and rider, as well as how the conformation of various breeds differs.

- **Scribing/Scoring Clinic**

This clinic will be held the Sunday of Dressage for the Cure, and will offer participants the opportunity to learn how to scribe with actual judges, scribing actual tests. There will also be the availability to learn how to score tests both with an adding machine and Fox Village, the leading Dressage management software. Thanks to Heather Petersen and 2 White Feet for this wonderful opportunity.

- **Instructor Cert. Refresher**

May 3-4 at Phantom Hill with Debbie Bowman

- **Instructor Cert. Final**

Oct 24-26

TBD Sarah Geike & Lilo Fore

- **'L' Program A Session**

Nov 12

Larimer County Fairgrounds with Lois Yukins

- **'L' Program B Session**

Jan 10-11

Tomora with Bill Solyntjes

- **'L' Program CE 2015**

Freestyle focus, need to have an 'L' Faculty member, Terri Ciotto-Gallo narrates the videos, do we need to have her in person?

- **TD/Show Management Clinic 2015**

Date and Location TBD based on availability

- **'L' Program C Session**

In March, dates and location pending (Parker/Elizabeth area)

- 2014 Judges' Continuing Education  
Vickie Hammer-O'neil

**Jon Haugen requested that the board approve the April 19 Biomechanics Clinic Budget. Simone Windeler motioned that the budget be approved, Beverly Swanson seconded, and all were in favor.**

- 2015 Freestyle Clinic

There was discussion regarding whether we need to have Terri Ciotto-Gallo in person for the Freestyle Clinic. It was suggested that better advertising to our members be done in order to have great attendance if Terri comes in person. RMDS is an educational organization, and we want to bring more opportunities to our members. **Simone Windeler motioned that we hire Terri Ciotto-Gallo and Debbie Rodriguez as L program clinicians in 2015 and 2016, Julie Haugen seconded and all were in favor.**

- Future Events

Kristi Wysocki will be doing a new test clinic with demonstration riders in February 2015. Per our budget, if we have 40 auditors at \$30 per person, we will break even. In 2007, we had 147 attendees. **Simone Windeler motioned we approve the budget for the new test clinic, Julie Haugen seconded, and all were in favor.**

### **5. Junior/Young Riders**

**Julie Haugen**

RMDS Youth Committee Report

March 2014

2014 Camp

No proposals have been submitted to date. I am looking into organizing a modified camp/clinic in June before the Team competition.

Supporting the NAJYRC local riders

I want to propose supporting the NAJYRC with some of the funds that have been profit from past camps. I would love to have RMDS sponsor 250.00 towards the riders that are trying to get to Kentucky this year. I would also like to use some of the email blasts available to this committee to help these riders get the word out to our members that they need sponsorship.

- Julie is proposing that the board approve 3 email blasts for JR/YR information.

**Aline Brandau motioned we approve to donate three email blasts for JR/YR information, Nina Felsenthal seconded, and all were in favor except for Julie Haugen who abstained.**

### **6. Marketing**

**Sharon Soos**

- Shirt Sales Update  
Inventory is 7 shirts.
- Advertising in Centaur and Omnibus Marketing Plan

### **7. Professional's Committee**

**Simone Windeler**

The first question was posed to several professionals and the answers were printed in the last Centaur.

I think this is a great way for our trainers and professionals to get more exposure. I need more questions though. Please send me some. ~Simone Windeler

The next question is "What should you and your horse be able to do to compete at First Level this year? It was asked whether or not the Questions for the Professionals should be printed in the Centaur, e-Centaur, or both.

### **8. RMDS Championships**

**Beverly Swanson**

Awaiting decision on Year of the Horse logo to set up sponsor docs. Have started with contacts to Medved and Bozarth.

- 2015/2016 Show Management

### **9. Scholarship**

**MaryJo Hoepner**

Engaging the list of previous winners for articles. Gearing up for this year. So far good communication from recipients

Coming September, each Chapter should be sending a representative to help recruit for scholarships.

### **10. Western Dressage Liaison**

**Frances Carbonnel**

Gwen stood in for Frances who was absent from the meeting. The Western Dressage interest has been very active, and if you want more information on the tests, please check the Western Dressage Association Website (WDAA.com)

## **Appointed Committee Reports:**

### **1. Nominating Committee- Chapter Presidents**

Need nominees for Chairmen for 2 years: Vice President (1 year), Adult Amateur, Awards, Championship Show Committee, Communication, Education, Junior/YR, Marketing, and Scholarship  
**Michelle Anderson is volunteering to head up the Nominating Committee.**

## 2. Banquet & BOG- November 15, 2014

Laura Speer

It was proposed that we continue the bar pre-banquet, but we discontinue the appetizers.

### Region 5 Report

Heather Petersen

#### USDF Region 5 April 2014 Update

Show season is coming to full swing now in the upper part of our region and winding down a bit in our southern areas. The same holds true around most of the rest of the country and there are plenty of clinics and educational events to choose from in most areas. New Mexico Dressage is wrapping up an L program and Rocky Mountain Dressage will be starting a new L program in November – to receive more information on their new program, please contact Jon Haugen at 970-217-7820. Several of our GMOs are holding other great educational events – Arizona Dressage will be hosting Jan Ebeling April 12-13 – to receive more information on this great clinic, please contact Sarah Lindsten at 480-586-7103. Please be sure to let me know if your barn, GMO, club, chapter or other groups are hosting events and we'll get them in our monthly USDF Region 5 newsletter, our Region 5 email blasts and on the Region 5 website. We want to let our members know about as many dressage opportunities as we can.

The deadline for Participating Member Delegate nominations is **April 15**. Our region will have 5 PM delegates for the 2014 USDF Convention in Cambridge, Massachusetts December 3-6. You can check the status of our delegate nominees by going to the link below. Please check your status to make sure your acceptance is there if you would like to be a PM delegate candidate. If you are not listed and you would like to be a PM delegate, please contact Scarlett Fahrenson at [stgeorg@dakotacom.net](mailto:stgeorg@dakotacom.net). Please do not commit to be a delegate unless you know you can attend. There is some financial assistance from our Region for those PM delegates who do attend the convention.

<http://www.usdf.org/about/about-usdf/governance/nominating/accepted.asp>

As of April 30<sup>th</sup>, our potential candidates for the 2014 FEI North American Junior and Young Rider Championships will be finalized. As I write this in early March, we have 3 riders who have declared, but I believe from talking to folks that we should hopefully have enough riders who will declare to field two full teams. If you would like to contribute or help with their fundraising efforts, please contact Joan Clay, our Region 5 Jr/YR FEI coordinator at [jnclay@comcast.net](mailto:jnclay@comcast.net) or 970-420-0877 or Julie Barringer-Richers, our fundraising coordinator, at [jabr57@gmail.com](mailto:jabr57@gmail.com) or 720-341-5033. PLEASE DON'T FORGET TO TURN IN YOUR DECLARATIONS!

Till next month!

Heather Petersen

Region 5 Director

#### Old Business:

- Tabled from January: Review Policy for USDF Convention Aline Brandau

It was proposed to the board that in the event of Acts of God incurring extra expenses for members traveling to the USDF Convention, the board would approve to cover the expenses. **Simone Windeler motioned that we approve the proposal, Renee Martig seconded, all were in favor.**

- Updating Contracts Pat Leech/ Aline Brandau

Pat Leech submitted Statements of Work for the Board to Review. The goal was to create Statements of Work that narrow down the bidding process so we could receive a more comparable group of bid applications. On the last page of SOW Championship Show Management, Pat would like to remove section 7. There was also discussion that on page 1, sections 8a and 8b need to be removed, and section 5 needs to be re-worded before the SOW can be reviewed for approval.

Gwen is challenging every RMDS board member to thoroughly read the SOW's submitted by Pat Leech. They are being tabled until the May meeting when we can further discuss them.

- Meeting Location Discussion Gwen Ka'awaloa

Elephant Bar was a successful meeting spot for the March 13 meeting. We will return to Elephant Bar for the May 15 meeting, with a different table arrangement.

#### New Business:

- Marketing and Incentives (T-shirts) Gwen Ka'awaloa is proposing:

Volunteers for Championships will receive a t-shirt with the RMDS logo on the front, and the “Year of the Horse” logo on the back. Approximately \$600 in Sponsorships will need to be raised to cover the cost of the t-shirts for the volunteers. There is a company in Parker who is able to do each t-shirt in black and white for just under \$5 a shirt. We will need to seek Sponsors who can pay for the t-shirts.

Additionally, a third T-shirt will be available for Sale. This Commemorative t-shirt will have a large logo on the back. The same logo, but in color, will be on the front of the Championships Program. **Nina Felsenthal motioned to approve a volunteer shirt with a black logo on a color shirt, a larger logo commemorative shirt, and the color logo for the Championships program. Beverly Swanson seconded the motion, and all were in favor.** Additionally it was agreed that a Thank You card needs to be sent to the artist who donated the designs for RMDS to use.

## **Chapter Presidents:**

### **1. Arkansas Valley**

**Brenda Haley**

Members are getting ready for riding season with saddle fittings, chiropractic work on their horses, getting into shape themselves and lots of grooming! Horse hair flies on those warm days, bringing visions of good rides only to be immediately replaced by days of more snow and ice. It's very frustrating not having any indoor arenas in our area but spring usually comes early here so we are hopeful! We are having our March meeting and pot luck this coming Saturday which will be our last meeting on the weekend until winter returns. Meetings will begin in April on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month.

A show prep clinic will be held in April and members are welcome to bring their horses to ride around the gorgeous acreage of Patch Ranch in Wetmore. They can also try out the new outdoor arena with great footing, built by JoElyn Newcomb. We plan on having more clinics there.

We finally have a young rider coordinator and are looking forward to having more youth participate in our clinics and shows. The first riding clinic will be in May.

Respectfully,

Brenda Haley

AVDA President

### **2. Boulder Valley**

**Sarah Barnes**

Since the last RMDS meeting, Boulder Valley Dressage hosted a successful year-end celebration and awards banquet at the Boulder Country Club at the end of January. The party was well attended and the silent auction earned a substantial sum which will go toward supporting BVD educational activities. We congratulate all of our award winners.

Our bi-monthly meeting was held on February 17 at Kathy Hibbard's home and was attended by a somewhat larger group than usual, which made for a great exchange of energy and ideas. We reviewed 2013 balance sheet and approved the 2014 budget, as well as discussing plans for the coming year.

This month, Boulder Valley Dressage will be sending out a survey with the aim of gaining a better understand of why our members have joined RMDS/BVD and what they would like to see provided by the club. The survey should go out this week and we hope to have the results available for discussion at our April 14 meeting. We are especially interested in learning how we can serve members who are not as interested in competing.

We've instituted a new program, called “BVD Ambassadors”, aimed at those in the dressage community who do want to show but are new to the experience, and possibly a little intimidated. We'll have volunteers at our shows, and at the Triple Creek schooling shows, who will be available to answer questions, help with logistics, and generally serve as a friendly, welcoming face.

The opening date for the BVD Spring Fling Show and Ride-a-Test is just around the corner, on April 1<sup>st</sup>. The events will take place at Singletree Farm in Boulder on April 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>. L-Judge Stephanie Soule will officiate on Sunday, while for the Ride-a-Test on Saturday, L-Judge Jan Goodrich-Spear and Instructor Sarah Barnes will team up to evaluate rides and offer coaching. In keeping with our aim of reaching out to the wider dressage community, we're offering some great incentives for first timers and those returning to the show ring after a significant hiatus. If it's the rider's first time showing, or the horse's first show, or if either has not shown in the last five years, competitors will be entered to win a \$50 gift certificate. Blue ribbon winners in all divisions will receive a BVD saddle pad.

Boulder Valley Dressage continues to publish an electronic newsletter that helps to keep our members up-to-date on BVD and RMDS activities. This year, we are running a series of articles spotlighting horse-related non-profits in Boulder

County. The first article profiled Medicine Horse program. The second article, scheduled for the April edition, will focus on the Colorado Horse Rescue.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sarah Barnes  
BVD President

### **3. Colorado Springs**

**Pat Leech**

The 2013 CSDA Year End Awards Banquet was held on January 25 2014 at the Monument Hill (Woodmoor) Country Club. We presented, for the 34<sup>th</sup> consecutive year, perpetual trophies, ribbons, and plaques to our members to celebrate their accomplishments in competitions. We would like to thank Kris Kuchenbrod for her donation of a Danish Breed trophy to the chapter. Please check the CSDA website at [www.csdressage.org](http://www.csdressage.org) for a complete list of the 2013 winners.

For 2014, the CSDA board will be focusing on educational programs, clinics, and fund raising as we begin providing the programs the membership has requested. These programs will be designed to encourage and engage our membership base to participate more actively in the Chapter.

We participated in the 2014 Colorado Springs Horsman's Day event February 22 with a booth where we had ribbons, trophies, our banner, a basket raffle, and our banner. We had a lot of past, current, and potential new members stop by to chat, enter to win the basket, and pick up RMDS membership forms. Interest was so great that we ran out of the membership forms by lunch and had to go and print additional copies to hand out in the afternoon.

CSDA general membership meetings are held the third Tuesday of every even numbered month and all CSDA members and their guests are welcome to attend. The meeting time, location, and directions are posted on the website at [www.csdressage.org](http://www.csdressage.org).

Respectfully submitted,  
Patricia Leech  
CSDA President

### **4. Foothills**

**Lori Mitchell**

Held a Lunch & Learn on March 1<sup>st</sup> at Tuscany Tavern, Evergreen. Was well attended, many local riders who were non-RMDS members attended. After paying expenses, the chapter was able to make a nice profit. Kristie Cotton our Education Chair put this event together.

Our Foothills Scholarship Bank is now open. CC Ross our Scholarship Chair completed the procedures and distributed to the FH Members. We will be awarding scholarships for shows, clinics, or education.

The website will be getting an overhaul in the next month, but we have already added new member photos into the gallery on home page.

We continue to produce a e-news letter for our members, maintain a Facebook page and website. Plans to have a Foothills Forum to build better community is in the process and we are creating a Foothills flyer to distribute to local barns to make people aware of RMDS and the chapter.

Foothills next meeting is in April 14th at Tuscany Tavern, Evergreen  
Submitted by,  
Lori Mitchell, President

### **5. Grand Valley**

**Tammy Fagan**

### **6. High Plains**

**Jacque McIntyre**

High Plains chapter's last meeting was on 2/12/14 where we learned about equine nutrition and made horse treats from scratch. It was a lot of fun and the horse loved the treats.

Our next meeting will be on March 20, 2014 at 6:30 pm at Stellar Stables to discuss and vote on budget issues for the year. We have a few clinic ideas that include Andreas Hausberger from the Spanish Riding School and an educational clinic on the horses' hoof and shoeing.

We have another meeting scheduled on April 10 at 7 pm at the Tack Shack in Littleton. We are looking forward to a fun event. We are trying to increase member participation, we hope to do this with these fun events. Keep up to date on our facebook page and website <http://www.highplainsdressage.org/>.

### **7. Northern Colorado**

**Renee Martig**

We have a cross training clinic coming up on April 6th at Paradise Found Farm in Ft. Collins. We've working on organizing a 'Get Ready to Show' clinic. Finding a date this spring has been difficult, so much going on with RMDS in our area and an early show season. Couldn't find a date for our schooling show so it will have to wait until fall.

We had a couple of activities in January and Joan Clay presented a lungeing clinic in February.

That's it for now.

Renee Martig  
President NCDA

#### **8. On The Bit**

#### **9. Pikes Peak**

Our January 14 meeting featured a talk from farrier Chad Toney. Chad's presentation was both informative and entertaining. Several of us commented that we would have enjoyed a lecture several hours longer! We learned the pros and cons of shoeing vs. barefoot, the huge variety of shoeing options available for any horse (or budget!), and the potential for correcting and mitigating damage from conformation faults through shoeing.

On February 4 we held our first annual awards dinner, recognizing the following Pikes Peak member riders for their personal achievements at schooling, RMDS or USEF/USDF shows.

Training Level	Silver Medal	Shannon Lemons
	Gold Medal	Natalie Lewis Shannon Lewis
First Level	Silver Medal	Michelle Anderson Christy Shires MaryJo Hoepner
	Gold Medal	Erin Ashby Mary Chamberland
Second Level	Bronze Medal	Christy Shires
	Silver Medal	Trenton Gage
Third Level	Silver Medal	Trenton Gage

Congratulations to all our inaugural PPDS awards winners and another thank you to our awards chair Shannon Lemons – the medals are quite lovely!

PPDS hosted a booth at the Penrose Horseman's Day, which was a resounding success. We had the opportunity to speak to many people about the Sport of Dressage, Membership opportunities, upcoming meetings, events and our chapter show. "The Spectators Guide to Dressage" continued to be the most popular handout, as we were able to distribute them to people who came over to watch the freestyle videos we played throughout the entire event.

Our March 4 meeting featured Shayna Warner DVM, who gave an entertaining talk on preparing the horse for showing in terms of mitigating stress and legal medications. Her presentation was given in a "Jeopardy" game show format which encouraged audience participation. We are still seeking a venue for a longeing and long lining clinic in early May.

Our first RMDS recognized show is scheduled for April 12 (snow date April 13) Judged by Simone Windeler, it will be held at Gwen Ka'awaloa's facility in Elizabeth, CO. Check the RMDS Omnibus for all the details.

We are also planning a used tack & clothing sale with a portion of the proceeds benefitting our chapter (PPDS members give 10% of their profits, all others give 15%). If you would like to clean out your barn or closet and make some extra cash, please contact our secretary Nina Felsenthal, [ninafelsenthal@gmail.com](mailto:ninafelsenthal@gmail.com).

The most current information for our chapter is available at our website at

<http://pikespeakdressage.org/Main/Home>.

Michelle Anderson  
Pikes Peak Chapter President

#### **10. Platte River**

#### **11. Wasatch Mountains**

#### **12. Western Colorado**

**Jessica Ford**

**Michelle Anderson**

**Laura Speer**

**Sally Shaffer**

**Barbara Terry**

**Jon Haugen motioned we approve the Chapter Reports as presented, Sharon Soos seconded and all were in favor.**

#### **Other Business**

#### **Adjourn**

Nina Felsenthal moved to adjourn the meeting, Renee Martig seconded, all were in favor. Gwen adjourned the meeting at 9:18pm.