

RMDS EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

May 12, 2015

Darcy's Bistro & Irish Pub

Attendance: Gwen Ka'awaloa, Aline Brandau, Beverly Swanson, Frances Carbonnel, Heather Petersen, Jon C Haugen, Robin Gay, Beth Geier, Didi Dekrey, Nina Felsenthal, Pat Leech, Kris Cooper , Sharon Soos

Proxies: Beth Hart to Pat Leech, Renee Martig to Didi Dekrey, MaryJo Hoepner to Heather Petersen, Simone Windeler to Heather Petersen

Call to Order-President

Gwen Ka'awaloa

Meeting called to order at 5:30pm

Secretary - Approval of Minutes

Nina Felsenthal

Heather Petersen motioned to approve the March minutes as submitted, Beverly Swanson seconded and all were in favor.

Treasurers Report

Sharon Soos

RMDS Checking	\$46,557.16
RMDS Paypal	\$3,664.30
RMDS Scholarship	\$5,214.96
<u>RMDS Money Market</u>	<u>\$44,169.36</u>
TOTAL	\$99,605.78

Documents available-

Current Year vs Prior Year Profit and Loss Statement

Current Year vs Prior Year Balance Sheet

Approved Donations

President Report

Gwen Ka'awaloa

The Christoph Hess Clinic coming up this weekend (May 15 to 17) has received excellent response, and we are looking forward to a very successful weekend! The year for RMDS has started very well, and with many exciting events coming up within the rest of the year, we are anticipating excellent opportunities for education and increased involvement and participation for RMDS members.

Reflection: "The biggest failure you can have in life is making the mistake of not trying at all."

Central Office

Beth Geier

Membership

- Registration – 665 members for 2015 – 59 new horses since October 1, 2014
- Dues now \$65.00 until next year

	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Members:	665	773	827	797	868	921
Horses:	59	63	59	135	123	132
AV	28	26	27	25	27	24
BV	140	171	180	182	190	200
CS	36	47	52	63	115	124
FH	56	76	64	65	71	72
GV	61	55	71	53	65	83
HP	142	151	176	190	208	226
NC	68	89	94	93	110	132
OB	37	33	22	-	-	-
PP	64	63	62	44	-	-
PR	6	11	18	14	14	-
WA	11	21	26	28	24	24
WC	11	19	23	27	31	22
No Chapter Education	3	11	12	13	15	14
PN						
TS						
TOTAL	665	773	827	797	870	921
Juniors	77	95	120	117	120	134
Amateurs	142	176	209	220	239	230

Shows:

- TD Reports: Pikes Peak; BVD
- New show added: Dressage Undercover-Utah-May 30,31

Recognized Officials:

- TD Test will need to be taken in the Fall of 2015
- Two people have requested td forms to begin the program

Omnibus:

-

General:

- Need help with advertising for everything!!!!!!
- Centaur needs articles coming in

Office:

- Always here for you.....

Next Executive Board Meetings (2nd Thursday odd months) –

2015: July 7 (Tuesday) September 10 Oct 8-Budget Nov 21 BOG

We are up to 665 Members Total!

A reminder that all TD's this year will be taking the test.

We desperately need advertising for the Centaur

Permanent Committee Reports:

1. Adult Amateur

Didi DeKrey

Chapters are under way with their many activities planned for this year. Thus, the Adult/Adult Amateur events are in the planning stage for 2016.

The current plan is to hold 3 different Events in three different areas of our GMO – probably all in Colorado. The events, as discussed last meeting, will be:

- Horse/Rider interaction: basics of horsemanship, equitation, and dressage
- Clinic setting
- Ride A Test

I am in contact, or contacting, our chapters to garner support for the events and to establish steering committees for each. I also am exploring grants from the Dressage Foundation.

I have broken us up into the three areas with (suggested) clubs for steering committee:

- “Northern Colorado and Wyoming” section
 - o Comprising clubs: NCDCA, On The Bit, Boulder Valley, and Platte River
- “South and East Colorado” section
 - o Comprising clubs: Colorado Springs, Arkansas Valley, High Plains , and Pikes Peak
- “Western Colorado and Utah” section
 - o Comprising clubs: Grand Valley, Wasatch, Foothills, and Western

(these are suggested and not yet firmed up)

Happy Trails!

Didi DeKrey

denisedekrey@gmail.com

970-222-3104

a. Adult/Youth Team Competition- June 28

2. Awards

Shannon Lemons

No report, no proxy

3. Communications

Kerry-Louise Boucher

Hi everyone,

I'm sure we are all looking forwards to sunny days and shows by now!

If anyone who is attending the Christoph Hess clinic would be willing to write a piece on it with pictures, I'm sure those who couldn't attend would enjoy reading up on it!!!!

As always we would like to see more classifieds if anyone has some great ideas for increasing/promoting that area.

We are always looking for new articles and original ideas! We've had a couple of new writers contribute over the last couple of months, let's keep it up!

- Centaur

Beverly Swanson

June is on track, with an article from Kristi Wysocki on coming back from injury. Would like someone to do a short write-up on World Cup in Las Vegas, with pics if possible.

Simone Windeler will do an article on Christoph Hess for the July issue from the trainer point of view. Would like one from an auditor point of view also.

Note to Chapters: The e-Centaur (even numbered months) does not publish Chapter reports, only in print issues (odd numbered months).

Also, if Chapters hold a show and wish to publish a report in the Centaur, please send pics and article to me, and will get in for you.

4. Education

Jon Haugen

- Mar 14-15 - L Program 'C' Session – Was presented by Debbie Riehl-Rodriguez at the Douglas County Fairgrounds and Iron Horse Farms. Well received and excellent feedback on the evaluations from the participants. Thank you to Beth and Heather for taking care of Saturday's organization. We had approximately 20 auditors and 18 participants.
- L program Part 2
 - We could use a couple of volunteers for the May 30-31 D1 session at the Colorado Horse Park. We need a scribe for the Instructor and perhaps someone to help with adding tests.
 - The Arizona Dressage Association cancelled their show October 31-November where we were going to host our Part 2 Final. Heather contacted the Houston Dressage Society and we are instead going to have the final the same weekend at the Houston Deep in the Heart of Texas show.
- Christoph Hess seminar and clinic – Beth will give an update, but it looks to be well within budget. Gwen will pick up Christoph at the airport, funds have been wired to pay him and Heather has touched base with him on lunches and transport.

Aline Brandau motioned that any profit received from the Christoph Hess Professional's Clinic go towards the Professional Clinic for 2016. Nina Felsenthal seconded, and all were in favor except for Didi Dekrey (and by proxy, Renee Martig) who was opposed.

5. Junior/Young Riders

Julie Burt

-Team Competition June 28

Kathy Simard will be judging. It is very low key, and a lot of fun for all participants!

6. Marketing

Aline Brandau

Aline is looking for Marketing ideas for Championships, and has thought of possibly ordering polo shirts and hats as a fundraiser.

7. Professional Trainers/Riders Committee

Simone Windeler

8. Scholarship

Mary Jo Hoepner

1. I have had 3 inquires about scholarships for this upcoming year.
2. I propose that each chapter encourage scholarship applicants. And report back at our RMDS meetings on any activity / interest.

It was discussed that Mary Jo could reach out to each Chapter President encouraging their members to apply for Scholarships.

9. Shows – Championship

Beverly Swanson

I have begun talking to possible larger sponsors, including Potestio Bros. (John Deere). I'm also pushing class sponsorships and prizes. Because of location in Estes Park this year, I'm not sure there would be much local support, there are already a lot of horse shows there and the town does not seem likely to do any large sponsorships.

Again, if anyone has contacts or possible donors, please let me know!

It was discussed that we utilize the phrase 'Dressage with Altitude' as our theme for 2016 Championships. We also discussed ordering shirts for volunteers in a bright color again, as it was a very successful way to reward our volunteers and allow competitors to identify the volunteers.

Appointed Committee Reports:

1. Western Dressage Liaison

Frances Carbonnel

It has been a very successful year for entry level participants of Western Dressage in Colorado. It has been a wonderful way to begin introducing Dressage to people who want to participate, but might be intimidated by Classical/ Traditional Dressage. Frances has been traveling all over the place holding Western Dressage Clinics, and has been very impressed with the cooperation and goodwill between the Classical/ Traditional Dressage group and the Western Dressage group.

2. Nominating Committee – Chapter Presidents

Olga Hendrickson

No report, not present, no proxy

3. Historical Committee-Archives

Pat Leech

There are no new updates for the archives

BOG – November 21, 2015

Heather Petersen

4. Banquet – January 16, 2016-Renaissance Denver Hotel

Beth Geier/ Aline Brandau

Region 5 Report

Heather Petersen

Old Business:

1. Christoph Hess

New Business:

1. 2016 Championships

There was discussion about writing an article for the Centaur regarding Show Etiquette (to include behavior by volunteers, participants and spectators). There was also discussion about writing an article about the value of volunteers/volunteering.

2. Sponsorships

3. CDI

There will no longer be a CDI held in August. Sharon Soos motioned that we utilize the entire \$2,000 set aside for both CDI's, and utilize it all for the CDI in May. Didi Dekrey seconded, and all were in favor, with the exception of Heather Petersen (and Mary Jo Hoepner and Simone Windeler by proxy) who abstained.

4. RMDS Volunteer Hours

It has come to our attention that the Colorado Horse Park is now paying their volunteers. We want to make it abundantly clear that RMDS Policy is that a volunteer is somebody who does not receive monetary remuneration when volunteering at RMDS and Chapter recognized events. Beverly Swanson motioned to accept the wording of the RMDS Policy as written. Nina Felsenthal seconded, and all were in favor. It was suggested that the policy be added to the RMDS volunteer hour submission form.

Chapter Presidents:

1. Arkansas Valley

No report, proxy to Pat Leech

Beth Hart

2. Boulder Valley

No report

Robin Gay

3. Colorado Springs

No report

Pat Leech

4. Foothills

Kris Cooper

1. A western dressage clinic with Frances Carbonnel was held on Sunday, April 12. This clinic was sponsored by our chapter and sanctioned by the Western Dressage Association of Colorado.

a. We had a full clinic of eleven riders.

b. By means of lecture and video Frances described the differences between western and traditional dressage. (Not many! Mostly a western saddle.)

c. We used non-traditional methods of marketing: flyers to all local barns and trainers, Jefferson County Horse Council, Western Dressage Association of Colorado.

d. Many of the participants were riding fairly green horses. Frances did a great job of encouraging them to use correct dressage methods without making them feel out of place or awkward.

e. All riders and auditors seemed to have a great time and were inspired to improve their riding.

f. The Foothills Chapter's geographical area will be home to at least four shows this year that feature western dressage classes.

2. A Ride-A-Test Clinic with KC Parkins-Kyle was held May 3 at Table Mountain Ranch.

- a. We had a full clinic of 10 riders, from training to second level and one western dressage rider.
 - b. KC did a wonderful job of encouraging everyone. Some participants had never ridden their horse in a dressage show before.
 - c. Participants rode their test once and were scored. KC gave a lesson. Then each participant rode her test and was scored again. Everyone improved, some as many as 10 percentage points!
 - d. Table Mountain provided a perfect venue, great weather to match!
3. A schooling show on June 7 will culminate our above efforts. Stephanie Soule will judge.
 - a. We hope to provide mentors for anyone new to showing who does not already have a trainer/coach.
 - b. We will also provide low-key opportunities for those new to volunteering..
 4. Our traditional fall Last Chance RMDS show will be held on September 6 at A Rising Star Equestrian Center.

We hope to have an end-of-the-year celebration which honors traditional show achievements and volunteer contributions, also Foothills events participation and all kinds of personal accomplishments of our members. We want to celebrate the success of everyone!

If anyone reading this wants to help in any way, please let me know.

Kris Cooper

President, Foothills Chapter

303-847-9862

kris@anchoragefarm.com

5. Grand Valley

Arlene Rhodes

Our first schooling show of the year was May 2nd and 3rd and we had an overwhelmingly successful show!! For the first time in many years we had a waiting list for Saturday, and on Sunday had 7 hours of classes. Stephanie Soule, was our Judge and offered every rider a chance to talk about their test and answer their questions. We offered a great variety of classes including a PARA -test, a Gaited test, Prix Caprilli, Combined Training (with the Hunter Jumper show), and the full range of Western Dressage. We also had all the traditional dressage classes from FEI to Intro, free styles and Equitation classes. We had two mules competing ... and doing well, scoring between 65-70. We had one owner, Betty Lou Canterbury, who rode her own horse Mable in the show for the first time. She had watched her for several years being shown by the trainer.. she braved her "first show" anxiety and scored a very respectable 67.857%. Tears were on lots of faces! We did offer a \$10 per class discount for all "first timers" which encouraged lots of new riders. We also offered a discount to all Junior and Young riders which seemed to really encourage a lot new young riders.

Our new arena and show office worked very well, thanks to an outstanding show Secretary, Dee Closson and Show Manager, Pat White. We had lots of volunteers and in less than 30 minutes after the last class we were all driving home. Such a great, fun group of hardworking people made this weekend one of GVDS's best shows ever.

6. High Plains

Olga Hendrickson

No report, not present, no proxy

7. Northern Colorado

No report, proxy to Didi Dekrey

Renee Martig

8. On The Bit

No report, not present, no proxy

Jessica Ford

9. Pikes Peak

No report, not present, no proxy

Susan Borders

10. Platte River

No report, not present, no proxy

Laura Speer

11. Wasatch Mountains

No report, not present, no proxy

Sally Shaffer

12. Western Colorado

No report, not present, no proxy

Barbara Terry

Pat Leech motioned to accept the Chapter Reports as submitted, Sharon Soos seconded and all were in favor.

There was discussion about moving the meeting time back to 6pm, as many Board Members were unable to attend the 5:30pm meeting time. The room will continue to be reserved for 5:30pm for those who wish to arrive early and eat before the meeting.

Pat Leech motioned we adjourn the meeting, Didi Dekrey seconded, and all were in favor. Gwen Ka'awaloa adjourned the meeting at 7:36pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Nina Felsenthal
RMDS Secretary