

**RMDS EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING AGENDA**

**July 7, 2015**

**Darcy's Bistro & Irish Pub – 303-770-0477**

**4955 S Ulster St #103**

**Denver, CO 80237**

The room is reserved beginning at 5:30 pm

(See directions at end of agenda)

**@ 6 PM**

**Attendance: Gwen Ka'awaloa, Aline Brandau, Beth Geier, Beverly Swanson, Didi DeKrey, Renee Martig, Pat Leech, Kris Cooper, Simone Windeler, Sharon Soos, Heather Petersen**

**Guest: Jim Cooper**

**Proxies: Nina Felsenthal to Heather Petersen, Jon Haugen to Heather Petersen, MaryJo Hoepner to Heather Petersen, Arlene Rhodes to Didi DeKrey, Barbara Terry to Simone Windeler, Olga Hendrickson to Aline Brandau**

**Call to Order-President**

Gwen Ka'awaloa

**Meeting called to order at 6:06 pm**

Beth Geier will take minutes in the absence of Nina Felsenthal

**Secretary -Approval of Minutes**

Nina Felsenthal

Correction to May minutes: add Sharon Soos as attending.

**Sharon Soos made the motion to approve the minutes as corrected. Heather Petersen 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion passed unanimously**

**Treasurers Report**

**Sharon Soos**

RMDS Checking Account	\$45,390.95
RMDS Paypal	\$ 1,681.29
RMDS Scholarship	\$ 6,602.63
<u>Wells Fargo Money Market</u>	<u>\$44,169.36</u>
TOTAL	\$99,605.78

Sharon has received orders for more polo shirts, but has two in stock. What does she want us to do? Discussion regarding this under Championship Show report.

**President Report**

**Gwen Ka'awaloa**

- Commented on the success of the Christoph Hess clinic and the desire to do more clinics.
- Sponsorships are needed for Championships and we need to work on it now!
- Many want us to return to the Horse Park for championships. Since the horse park is working out their "kinks" as new owners, we will take the wait and see approach.

**Central Office**

**Beth Geier**

**Membership**

- Registration – 754 members for 2015 – 75 new horses since October 1, 2014

	2015	2014	2013	2012
Members:	754	773	827	797
Horses:	59	63	59	135
AV	30	26	27	25
BV	162	171	180	182
CS	36	47	52	63
FH	75	76	64	65
GV	68	55	71	53
HP	150	151	176	190
NC	77	89	94	93
OB	40	33	22	-
PP	67	63	62	44
PR	9	11	18	14
WA	19	21	26	28
WC	16	19	23	27
No Chapter	5	11	12	13
PN				
TS				
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>754</b>	<b>773</b>	<b>827</b>	<b>797</b>
Juniors	88	95	120	117
Amateurs	152	176	209	220
Education	16			

**Shows:**

- TD Reports:

**Recognized Officials:**

- TD Test will need to be taken in the Fall of 2015

**Omnibus:**

- Have a color tab already -

**General:**

- Need help with advertising for everything!!!!!! Received a full page ad for the Championship show program – inside front cover.
- Centaur needs articles coming in

**Office:**

- Always here for you.....

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

**2015: September 10 Oct 8-Budget Nov 21 BOG**

Comments: e-Centaur needs to be also sent to the Central Office in a pdf version as some people are unable to open the electronic version.

## Permanent Committee Reports:

### 1. Adult Amateur

**Didi DeKrey**

Chapters are under way with their many activities planned for this year. The Adult/Adult Amateur events are in the proposal stage for late 2015 and 2016.

I attended the Team Competition held at Tomora Training Center, Greeley, Colorado. The day was warm, the spirits high!

We had donations for the "Special" awards from Happy Horse Tack, Dekrey crafts and myself. This was the first time I went to this venue, and I must say I look forward to next year!

**It was added that a profit of \$1,831.84 was made. Heather Petersen requested that future team competitions have the ride-times, scores posted throughout the day. Since FoxVillage has this feature, it will be done in the future. A big thank you to the sponsors of this event: Tomora Training Center, Happy Horse Tack, Dekrey Crafts and Didi DeKrey.**

### Amateur Adult Clinics – Education Events

We have a proposal to submit to the Board for 2015/2016 Amateur Adult Clinic – Education events. As has been discussed in previous meetings – three different events in three different areas of our GMO. We have a Steering Committee composed of members from several different chapters, and we are ready to go with arrangements if/when we get Board approval.

For now, brief summary of what is on the table:

- November 2015, Western section will host a Freestyle clinic event
- April 2016, Northern section will host a traditional clinic and educational symposium event
- July 2016, Eastern section will host a Novice Horsemanship educational event

Happy Trails!

*Didi DeKrey*

denisedekrey@gmail.com

970-222-3104

#### a. 2015/ 2016 Clinics Proposal

**Because the proposal was not received by all the Board members, discussion for the 2016 adult amateur events was tabled. Beth will forward the documents to the Board and request comments due by July 25.**

Didi also presented a request for holding a Freestyle Clinic in Grand Junction. **Heather Petersen made the motion: If RMDS sponsors and runs this event; we will give a 50% discount on the standard RMDS audit fee of \$60.00 to \$30.00/day. Beverly Swanson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

The Board recommended changes to the proposal by raising the auditor fee to \$30.00 for members and \$85.00 for non-members thus creating a profit vs. a loss.

### 2. Awards

**Shannon Lemons**

#### No proxy

Shannon is trying to get the Saddlebred award to Shirley Hoffman, the donor. She requests that she be the keeper of the award on the years it is not presented to a winner.

### 3. Communications

**Kerry-Louise Boucher**

#### No report No proxy

##### a. Centaur

Beverly Swanson

- Call for articles/pics for upcoming issues
- August e-Centaur will have coverage of Team competition
- September will have Hausberger clinic report

##### b. Omnibus

Nicole Bizzarro

- We have one colored tab paid for and received. Location not specified
- c. Website Michael Petersen  
Back-up disc at Central Office

#### 4. Education

Jon Haugen

##### Proxy to Heather Petersen

###### a. Final Report on:

###### RMDS L Program D1 Session Review

For the D1 session at the end of May, we had all 10 participants attend. The weekend started Friday evening.

The participants had a chance to sit down and meet with Joan Darnell, the instructor for the weekend, ask questions that they had of her and discuss some of the expectations of the weekend, as well as review other key points. Both Saturday and Sunday were spent judging and discussing their planning with Mrs. Darnell.

Many thanks to Jon Haugen for aiding in the organization of the weekend, Beth Geier for scribing for Joan and thanks to Laura Wild, Karen Olivier, Amy Michelsen, Sarah Bielefeld, and Elizabeth Jo Leverock for volunteering to run and score tests. A profit of \$2,439.64 was made.

D2 session & Final: D2 in Parker at the Colorado Horse Park and the Final in Texas. Scott Wherl donating his time to go with Jon & Heather to do the scoring. Heather will scribe and Jon will be the facilitator for the event.

###### Christoph Hess Clinic May 15 to 17

Very successful clinic with a profit of \$4,497.99 made which will be rolled into the next professionals' clinic. The Board recommended that we keep the two private days for the professionals and an open day for everyone.

###### b. Upcoming Events:

###### Christoph Hess Fall Clinic (Budget presentation)

Proposed Budget for Christoph Hess Symposium/Clinic October 3-5, 2015 to be held in northern Colorado. This will be for 2<sup>nd</sup> level and up.

Budget is with a Facilitator.

###### Expenses:

Insurance \$60

USDF University credit \$25

Christoph Hess Air – \$1100

Hess Daily Fee \$1000 Euro per day x 1.4 exchange rate x 3 days = \$4200

This is very conservative – current exchange is 1.05 so could be as low as \$3150

Facility Fee – \$600

Hotel (3x3) \$1220

Food Facilitator/Christoph/Organizer \$400

Boxed Lunches Friday/Saturday – 16 x 2 x 14 = \$448

Copy/printing \$50

Misc \$100

Porta Potty \$200

**Total Expenses \$8403**

###### Conservative Income

8 demo horses Saturday/Sunday \$1800

8 participants Saturday/Sunday \$1200

Carry Over on Profit from May Symposium \$4000

8 riders Monday \$1400

6 auditors Monday \$360

**Total \$8760**

General Information:

8 horses Saturday/Sunday

8 horses Monday

Saturday/Sunday Demo Horses \$225

Saturday/Sunday Participants \$150

Monday Riders \$175

Monday Auditors \$60

**Aline Brandau moved to accept this proposal Christoph Hess Symposium October 3-5, 2015. Kris Cooper seconded. Passed unanimously.**

Note: prices were dropped some due to the overwhelming support of the first symposium.

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

**Julie Burt**

### **a. 2015 Clinic Series**

Julie would like to hold a gathering of all juniors and young riders right before the Awards Banquet in January. Aline is looking into the possibility of a room at the Renaissance to hold this in.

## **6. Marketing**

**Aline Brandau**

- Aline is volunteering to work at the Estes Park show in August and in her free time will approach the local businesses for sponsorships to the Championships in September.
- A new line of clothing was presented: a polo shirt, a sleeveless polo shirt, and a vented polo type shirt. **Heather Petersen made the motion to accept the new line of clothing. Price will be determined after confirmation of the logo and quantity pricing has been finalized. Sharon Soos 2<sup>nd</sup>. Passed unanimously.** Sharon asked that the current shirt requests stay at the current costs. All agreed to honor the existing prices on the new merchandise.

## **7. Professional Trainers/Riders Committee**

**Simone Windeler**

RMDS hosted the first ever Trainer's seminar with Christoph Hess this May.

The event was a resounding success, all trainers and professional riders that were able to attend came away inspired and with new ideas on training and improving their riding.

A huge thank you goes to Iron Horse Farms for graciously hosting the event as well as Grant and Sharon Schneidman that made everyone feel welcome. They even hosted a special wine and cheese event on Friday evening.

The seminar was moderated by Sarah Martin. She introduced the riders and also was able to relay questions. Some open and frank discussions were held after the rides and Christoph came across as very approachable and humble.

The horse selection showed a progression from lower to upper levels and some of the best horses in Colorado were presented. Christoph expressed that in his opinion some of these horses had the capacity to compete quite successfully at the highest national levels.

Overall a successful event for RMDS with the trainers and professionals clamoring for yet another seminar like this.

## **8. Scholarship**

**MaryJo Hoepner**

Wrote article for Centaur regarding volunteering.

Nothing new to report.

## **9. Shows – Championship**

**Beverly Swanson**

- Two ads so far have been bought and paid for: Inside front cover and outside back cover.

- Discussion was held as to whether we should pay for volunteers' rooms, lunch, and have a shirt. It was suggested to have a t-shirt with the VIP and RMDS logo on the front. On the back have "Dressage with Altitude" and up to 8 logos on the back surrounding the theme. Logo price will be \$200.00 - \$250.00. Bright purple was suggested as the color and 2WhiteFeet will buy one of the logo spots.

**Appointed Committee Reports:**

**1. Western Dressage Liaison**  
No report

**Frances Carbonnel**

**2. Nominating Committee – Chapter Presidents**  
**Need nominees for 2 years: Vice-President (1 year),**  
**President, Treasurer, Secretary, Awards, Education,**  
**Marketing, Professional**

**Olga Hendrickson**

Will be sending a request to the chapter presidents for help with suggestions.

**3. Historical Committee-Archives**  
No additional news

**Pat Leech**

**4. BOG – November 21, 2015**

**Heather Petersen**

Looking at National Western Complex for a room.

**5. Banquet – January 16, 2016-Renaissance Denver Hotel**  
**No report –**

**Aline Brandau**

Will secure a room for the junior meeting that Julie Burt and Joan Clay will be putting together.

**Region 5 Report**

**Heather Petersen**

Congratulations to our 2015 NAJYRC teams! These girls worked very hard to qualify for the teams this year and we are very proud of them. Good luck in Kentucky!! Many thanks to those coming along to help and all the families and coaches of each of the riders. We couldn't do it without you.

Region 5 Young Riders – Chef d' Equipe, Heather Petersen  
Lauren Asher / Lysias  
Victoria Fernald / Ahmaroo

Region 5 Junior – Chef d'Equipe, Joan Clay  
Lexy Donaldson / Power Play  
Megan McCracken / Amazing  
Dallas McCullough / Bailar  
Molly O'Brien / Vermeer

A big hug and round of applause also to those who worked hard but didn't make the teams this year – we are proud of your hard work too and hope to support you again next year in your quest!

Whitney Haugen / Juliette vom Rappenhof  
Jackson Gillespie / Rivendell  
Kate Sotiroff / Palermo SW  
Megan McCracken / Del Maggio

Congratulations to members of our Region who may also qualify for the USEF Young Horse and Developing Horse Championships – Unfortunately we don't know those finalists as we go to print!

Another reminder of several important **DEADLINES** that are coming up:

- USDF National and Regional GMO volunteer nominations, as well as GMO award nominations, are due to the USDF office by August 31.
  - GMOs nominations are open for [Newsletter Awards](#), [Website Awards](#), and [Photography Awards](#) . Don't forget that all nominations are due to the USDF office by **August 31**. See the nomination forms for detailed information.
  - Regional GMO Volunteer of the Year nominations can be submitted by any participating member, group member or the Region Director.
  - Volunteer of the Year and Youth Volunteer of the Year nominations can also be submitted by any participating member, group member or the Regional Director.
  - One deserving group member will receive the [Ruth Arvanette Memorial Fund Grant](#) to attend the 2015 Adequan/USDF Annual Convention in Cambridge, MA. The grant includes full convention registration and partial reimbursement for travel expenses. Applications due by **August 31**
- GMOs must return their GMO Delegate/Proxy Authorization form to the USDF office to appoint representation to the Board of Governors meeting at the USDF Annual Convention December 25, 2015 in Las Vegas, Nevada at the Rio.

Please mark your calendars for our Region 5 sponsored events and plan to join us:

- USDF/Great American Region 5 Championships – October 16-18, 2015. Scottsdale, Arizona.
- USDF/Great American Region 5 Championships – September 15-18, 2016. Estes Park, Colorado.

Till next month!

Heather Petersen  
Region 5 Director

#### **Old Business:**

#### **New Business:**

##### **1. 2016 Championship**

Have USEF approval for Estes Park and Regionals on September 15-19, 2016

This date will not be in conflict with as many other regions as this year due to the rotation of dates in 2016.

- Dressage Foundation has started a fund in Veronica Holt's name for TD's
- Trophy in Veronica's memory coming along. National Championship Perpetual Trophy for the Grand Prix Open
- 2015 USDF Convention: Las Vegas, NV @ The Rio
- 2016 USDF Convention: St Louis, MO

#### **Chapter Presidents:**

##### **1. Arkansas Valley**

**Beth Hart**

The monthly club meeting was held last Thursday. We are meeting every second Thursday at 6 pm for the summer. We met in Canon City last month and will meet in Penrose next month. We discussed the possibility of building an indoor arena in Fremont County. We have created a committee to work with other equine groups in our area to start brainstorming ideas.

AVDA is sponsoring Amelia Newcomb clinic on July 11-12 at Patch Ranch just south of Florence. We postponed the clinic in May due to the rainy season. AVDA has given a scholarship to one of our young riders to attend the clinic. We have room for one or two more riders, see here for info <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Arkansas-Valley-Dressage-Association/292505197521873?fref=ts> Auditors are welcome! Bring a chair.

We will be having a Ride-a-Test at Pathfinder Park in Florence on July 18th. Kathy Simard will judge and give a lesson after riding the test. We will send out an advertisement through RMDS next week. Also check out our FB page <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Arkansas-Valley-Dressage-Association/292505197521873?fref=ts> Auditors are welcome! If it is anything like our last show, there will be a great turnout.

AVDA fun-ride-a-day is the second Saturday through October. Amelia's clinic will coincide with July, so we will resume again in August. We agreed to ride at other barns and properties. The August ride will be posted on our FB page <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Arkansas-Valley-Dressage-Association/292505197521873?fref=ts>

Respectfully submitted,  
Beth Hart

719-821-9354 cell

**2. Boulder Valley**

**No Report No proxy**

**3. Colorado Springs**

**No Report -**

**4. Foothills**

1. Our goal for the year was to introduce new people to dressage. We did this in part through a western dressage clinic in April and a Ride-A-Test clinic in May.

2. A schooling show was held on June 7 at Table Mountain Ranch with Stephanie Soule as judge.

a. We had a total of 47 rides, seven in western dressage classes. We had a many exhibitors who showed in a dressage show for the first time.

b. The majority of our volunteers had never volunteered at a dressage show before. We are happy to say the show, nonetheless, ran fairly smoothly.

c. We felt our show was a success in introducing both exhibitors and volunteers to dressage.

3. Our Last Chance RMDS show will be held on September 6.

Kris Cooper

President, Foothills Chapter

303-847-9862

[kris@anchoragefarm.com](mailto:kris@anchoragefarm.com)

**5. Grand Valley**

**Proxy to Didi DeKrey**

Our second schooling show in June was full to the brim - just short of having a waiting list. We attribute our success at getting good participation in our schooling shows to several things:

First - we offer diverse classes! In this show we had a good portion of our rides in the non-traditional classes - Freestyle, Equitation, Western, Gaited, Prix Caprilli and Para-equestrian classes. We had three different mules entered in this show!

Second - we were flexible so that we could encourage new enthusiasts and promote safety and confidence. We had a "first" ever junior rider who was very nervous riding her first Intro A test. We

**Robin Gay**

**Pat Leech**

**Kris Cooper**

**Arlene Rhodes**



allowed her trainer to pony the young rider as this was something they had often done before. When requested we also allowed a second horse to be held or ridden next to the competition arena to help calm nervous green horses.

Third - Wonderful facilities! We have a large new competition arena with a full wall on the short end, and shaded fabric walls on one long side. The competition arena is centered within this area and all the horses seem to calm down and focus with little distraction from things going on around them

Fourth - Superior show staff and volunteers. Dee Closson our show secretary was friendly, super fast and accurate in getting scores out. She worked with rider requests and changes in a very pro-active and supportive manner. Everyone enjoyed their interactions with her and outcomes were win/win for the club and the riders. Pat White was our show manager and she was solution-focused every time a question came up. She was tireless in helping give breaks and checking with each volunteer to make sure they didn't need any resources to do their jobs. Terry Yates our volunteer coordinator was personally thanking each volunteer and she made sure a gift was awarded each day to one randomly chosen volunteer. We also had a great judge, Beth Geier, who allowed us to be flexible. She never knew what was going to enter the arena next! We appreciated her willingness to work with all the riders and judge such different tests all weekend long.

Due to the recent rainfall we arranged to rent the second covered arena for warm up for the show. This proved to be immensely popular with all the riders. They were able to warm up in the shade and a short walk took them to the shade of the competition arena. The GVDS show committee decided to use this covered arena for the warm up for all our remaining shows for this year and for next year as well!

We are hoping to promote participation in our Opportunity Classes in our recognized show on September 5-6. We plan on publishing an article in our club newsletter to help explain the advantages and requirements of this class.

Arlene Rhodes  
GVDS President

## **6. High Plains**

**No Report – Proxy to Aline Brandau**

**Olga Hendrickson**

## **7. Northern Colorado**

**Renee Martig**

Our last meeting for the summer was held May 28th at The Moot House restaurant in Ft. Collins. We had a full table for dinner with lively conversation about plans for the summer.

We have a Western Dressage clinic coming up with Frances Carbonnel on July 11th. More on that in the next issue.

A lot of our members are showing their horses this season. NCDAs took 1st and 3rd place in the USDF Team Competition June 28th. It was a fun event and I think the costumes were the best ever! This year NCDAs are giving year end awards for cumulative high scores at our Schooling Shows, May 3rd and Oct 18th with scores also counting from the Team Competition. Trophies will be awarded at our Christmas party in December.

We are happy to announce our Oct. 18th show will be a fund raiser for 'Hearts and Horses Therapeutic Riding Center' in Loveland. They do such great work through equine assisted therapy and can always use more equipment. We're hoping to raise enough to purchase a child's dressage saddle. There will be several smaller items on display that can be purchased and donated. We'll have a display board with lots of pictures of 'Hearts and Horses' students riding the horses they love. We encourage other chapters to come ride and help support this wonderful program!

That's all for now,  
Respectfully Submitted,  
Renee Martig

**8. On The Bit**

**No Report -No Proxy**

**Jessica Ford**

**9. Pikes Peak**

**No Report - No Proxy**

**Susan Borders**

**10. Platte River**

**No Report - No Proxy**

**Laura Speer**

**11. Wasatch Mountains**

**No Report - No Proxy**

**Sally Shaffer**

**12. Western Colorado**

**No Report - Proxy to Simone Windeler**

**Barbara Terry**

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

2015: September 10, Oct 8-Budget, Nov 21-BOG

**SEPTEMBER MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 6:30 PM**

2016: Jan 16-Banquet

Darcy's Bistro & Irish Pub – 303-770-0477

4955 S Ulster St #103

Denver, CO 80237

Meeting adjourned 8:10 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Geier

Acting secretary