

RMDS EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

March 9, 2017

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

4955 S Ulster St #103

Denver, CO 80237

The room is reserved beginning at 6:00 pm

(See directions at end of agenda)

@ 6:30 PM

Attendance: Gwen Ka'awaloa, Beth Geier, Heather Petersen, Una Schade, Stephanie Figgins, Michelle Anderson, Tiffany Busch, Simone Windeler, Sharon Soos, Andrea Chirich, Kathy Simard, Beverly Swanson, Jim Cooper (AKA Steffen Peters), Kris Cooper, Aline Brandau, Sandra Rosewell, Didi DeKrey, Cassandra Dipentino, Joan Clay

Proxies: Anclaire Spaulding to Kathy Simard; Arlene Rhodes to Didi DeKrey; Ginka Kubelka to Heather Petersen; Barbara Terry to Heather Petersen; Patricia Leech to Didi DeKrey; MaryJo Hoepner to Michelle Anderson; Shannon Lemons to Heather Petersen

Guests:

Call to Order-President

Gwen Ka'awaloa

Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm

Introductions

Secretary -Approval of Minutes

Heather Petersen

Sharon Soos moved to approve the minutes from January 2017 with the addition of Michelle Anderson's proxy to Gwen Ka'awaloa, 2nd by Joan Clay. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurers Report

Sharon Soos

Funds as of February 28, 2017	
RMDS Checking Account	\$33,370.25
RMDS Paypal	\$ 8,636.79
RMDS Scholarship	\$ 5,958.63
<u>Wells Fargo Money Market</u>	<u>\$44,085.67</u>
TOTAL	\$92,051.34

All donations have been distributed for 2017 in early March.

1099s were mailed at the end of January. Copies to IRS were mailed at the end of February. We do have a booth at the Horse Expo this coming weekend.

President Report

Gwen Ka'awaloa

With the new partnership with the Colorado Horse Park RMDS has a lot of work and opportunities ahead. Helping CHP to have a successful Dressage in the Rockies Educational Symposium will benefit all RMDS members. Their success will give our members a chance to learn from some of the best in the Dressage Community. Riders and Auditors will have a variety of clinicians to learn from and get inspiration for the future.

We have to get started on our Championship Show. Sponsorship and entertainment are a priority.

The “L” Education in January was a great success. The TD/Management was a small group but very well received.

RMDS can be proud of the work we have done in providing education to our members. We have more to come.

Vice President Report

Joan Clay

No Report.

Central Office

Beth Geier

Membership

- Registration – 473 as of 3/1 members for 2017; 19 new horses since October, 2016. Membership numbers are only down 15 people from this same point in March, 2016.
- See reports with chapter membership totals.
- Accepting dues for 2017: \$65.00
- Cost for mailing Omnibus now \$6.65 – Not in Standing Rules (P.E-20) Sec VIII Dues and Assessments so Board may make fee change. Right now it is \$5.00 added after January 1 to the dues. Recommend \$7.00 added after January 1 starting in 2018. Should decide by September 1st to let members know and published membership forms for the Championships show program is correct.

Shows:

- For 2017: Just added Pikes Peak Chapter Show April 15– RMDS only recognized.
- May have one more show being added for recognition. Will know soon.

Adult/Youth Team Competition:

- The western dressage and the gaited classes may not receive the medals that USDF gives out. How do we want to handle this?
 - Offer 3 separate placings – overall RMDS ribbons, then USDF medals, then western dressage.
 - Cassandra will contact WDACO for medals or ribbons for the western dressage.

TD:

- Change format?? Suggestion from Laurie Mactavish, who has taught the last two years’ classes. *Meet at a RMDS or schooling show – classroom in am and actual practice in pm??* It was suggested to change the by-laws/standing rules to remove the classroom session to 1 day of apprenticeship with a USEF TD who can take apprentices per USEF at an RMDS level show or higher. Joan and Didi, 2 of the 3 TDs for RMDS, were both in favor of this.

Omnibus:

- Nicole Reported in January

General:

- Chapters receive free email blasts for educational purposes.
- RMDS Executive Board members get ½ price admission to RMDS events.
- Chapters, if you change or adjust your by laws, you must send them to the central office so we have them on file for the IRS.

2017 Executive Board Meetings March 9 May 11 July 13 August 29 (Tuesday)
Oct 12-Budget Nov 4 BOG (Saturday)

2017 Championships: September 14-17 Colorado Horse Park

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

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002	
Members:	473	756	750	741	827	797	868	897	945	1030	1008	1036	1019	1151	1177	1162	
Horses:	19	93	59	63	59	135	123	132	132	166	246	262	234	207	337	274	
AV	19	25	29	26	27	25	27	24	15	26	12	-	-	-	-	-	
BV	104	182	168	171	180	182	190	200	188	205	172	178	179	199	208	230	
CS	10	24	35	47	52	63	115	124	115	127	126	143	130	137	155	134	
FH	26	73	79	76	64	65	71	72	75	76	77	74	73	109	103	115	
GV	64	95	71	55	71	53	65	83	87	105	102	88	92	93	98	77	
HP	100	149	156	151	176	190	208	226	256	265	260	259	251	267	283	278	
NC	48	77	77	89	94	93	110	132	107	124	137	137	139	162	151	150	
OB	34	43	42	33	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
PP	53	63	70	63	62	44	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
WC	15	22	18	19	23	27	31	22	21	25	25	32	34	44	55	64	
No Chapter	0	3	5	11	12	13	15	14	25	14	16	22	21	34	36	24	
PN									Dissolved	inactive	12	13	13	14	15	14	13
PR		6/30/16	10	11	18	14	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TS									Dissolved	36	51	68	90	86	91	74	77
WA		Dissolved	19	21	26	28	24	24	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	473	756	779	741	801	755	832	897	925	1030	1008	1036	1019	1151	1177	1162	
Juniors	39	86	88	95	120	117	120	134									
Amateurs	105	163	152	176	209	220	239	230									
Education	14	17	16														

Permanent Committee Reports:

1. Adult Amateur

Anclaire Spaulding / Michelle Stevens

Anclaire and Michelle called around to all of the FEI judges and all are booked for 2017. We will work to book someone for 2018 summer, "Ride-a-Test" clinic before championships. We will also apply for the grant program per our last update.

Anclaire and Michelle are putting together a "survey monkey" to send out to the AAs to see what interests them for 2017. We still want to do an AA Appreciation night at a show with wine and yoga. We are also brainstorming for an additional gift the AAs can contribute to Dressage for the Cure in May.

Any and all suggestions welcome on how we can help make 2017 the best year for RMDS yet!

2. Awards

Shannon Lemons

All awards have been sent out with postage requests. Banquet went well, only a few issues with typos that were corrected. Engraver did the over 70 scores incorrectly, listing them as a number instead of an *, but will correct for next year. No new business at this time! Beth did note that 50% of the postage has come in.

3. Communications

Beverly Swanson

Centaur: March is Out

Current design implementation underway, with feature article and event headlines with teasers on the cover page, similar to a magazine. The rest of the format will remain, with all the boilerplate kept in the same positions (calendar, officers, prez message, chapter reports, etc.). This will likely be tweaked as we go along.

e-Centaur Feb

Again, a slight redesign to accommodate content and give advertisers better visibility. April e-Centaur content is already underway.

Centaur Survey

Sent March 3 to ask members what topics they would like to see. Out of 174, 128 people like to hear about chapter news and events. 141 like clinic coverage, 106 equine health, 110 event coverage, 139 training tips and smaller numbers for several other categories: personal stories, national dressage news, breed articles, barn highlights, board member bios and instructor spotlights. Adult amateurs were the largest group responding. Largest showing group responding was those who do USDF/USEF recognized shows.

CHAPTER REPORTS

I need these for each odd number month, but I need them by the 7th of the previous month. I will always send Chapter presidents a reminder. PLEASE send us something, we like to know what your chapter is doing. Even a few lines of your future plans, your news, is welcome. Remember, your ideas inspire others!

Thank you to Kathy Simard for her amazing article on the surgical journey with her mare undergoing an oophorectomy - watch for the article in May.

Also a shout out to previous Centaur editor, Kathleen Donnelly (Mayger) on her excellent report of the judge's CE freestyle clinic, and Suzie Halle for her dispatch from Wellie-world.

Omnibus

No report

Nicole Bizzarro

Website

A report for the website is due,
The secretary is bugging me through and through.
All is going well,
The IP traffic is swell,
This ends my report for you.

Michael Petersen

4. Education

MaryJo Hoepner/Michelle Anderson

L Continuing Education

2017 L Graduate Continuing Education was a great success and realized a profit of \$154.92, plus we should receive a check from The Dressage Foundation for \$200 as well.

Per USDF these sessions may all be held indoors in a classroom setting. Given Colorado weather (and having frozen at several past events) I would recommend this for all future sessions! Walk-ins and auditors are likely to be greater if people know they will be comfortable.

I'd like to consider bringing an out of state instructor in for 2018. Only requirement from USDF is that they be an S judge. Depending on who I can engage, is there any interest in having a clinic with that person the day before and/or after the CE session? Again, given the time of year, we probably need a heated barn and easy access roads, with some on site stabling. It was suggested we get Melissa Creswick – great teacher. Beth suggested we talk to Lookout Ridge for a nice heated barn.

TD / Show Management training

We had four attendees for the TD continuing education. Joan Clay graciously proctored this session taught by Laurie McTavish as I was just out of surgery.

Heather Petersen taught the Show management portion. There were 7 attendees.

Douglas County has returned the 'damage fee' of \$100.

Group sit time for L Graduates

See separate budget worksheet. Suggest opening date of May 1, 2017. Debbie Riehl-Rodriguez is confirmed. Change to April 1, 2017 opening date and open to outside RMDS May 1, 2017.

Event Budget worksheet

Event: 2017 RMDS "L" Group Sit Time	Date of Event: Aug 6, 2017
Location of Event: Colorado Horse Park	
Prepared by: Michelle Anderson	Date Prepared: 3/1/17

Income	Amount
Participants: 10 RMDS "L" Grads @ \$100 each	\$1,000
Total Income	\$1,000
Expenses	Amount
Instructor: Debbie Riehl-Rodriguez	\$550
Lodging	\$100
Per Diem or Meals	\$40
Photocopying	\$20
Travel	\$50
Total Expenses	\$760
Net Profit / Loss	\$240

It was suggested for this budget that the hotel room expense be increased.

Scribing Clinic at PPDS RMDS Show

There has been some interest expressed in having a "How to Scribe" clinic. We thought we could do this in conjunction with the PPDS RMDS show at Latigo on April 15 (providing no rain or snow since we are outside). We would need to charge a fee to cover test printing (\$10?). As an L graduate Michelle can judge from the side bleachers. Simone mentioned if you make it too inexpensive people perceive a lack of value. **Kathy Simard moved that we approve the clinic with Michelle Anderson judging from the side, working with the potential scribes, and we charge \$15 whether you are an RMDS member or not and we advertise it in as many places as possible. 2nd by Tiffany Busch. Motion passed unanimously.**

5. Junior/Young Riders

Cassandra Dipentino

Planning for the 2017 Summer Camp has hit a bit of a financial snag. Table Mountain Ranch wants to charge \$250 for each day of the camp AND we can't call it a "camp". Apparently TMR's insurance will not cover "camps". I was unable to get a better deal from the manager. There are rumors that the facility is possibly going back up for sale. Will look for a back up facility and sorted by the end of the month. I would like to get the dates on the calendar for July 5, 6, 7 and possibly the 8th. Budget

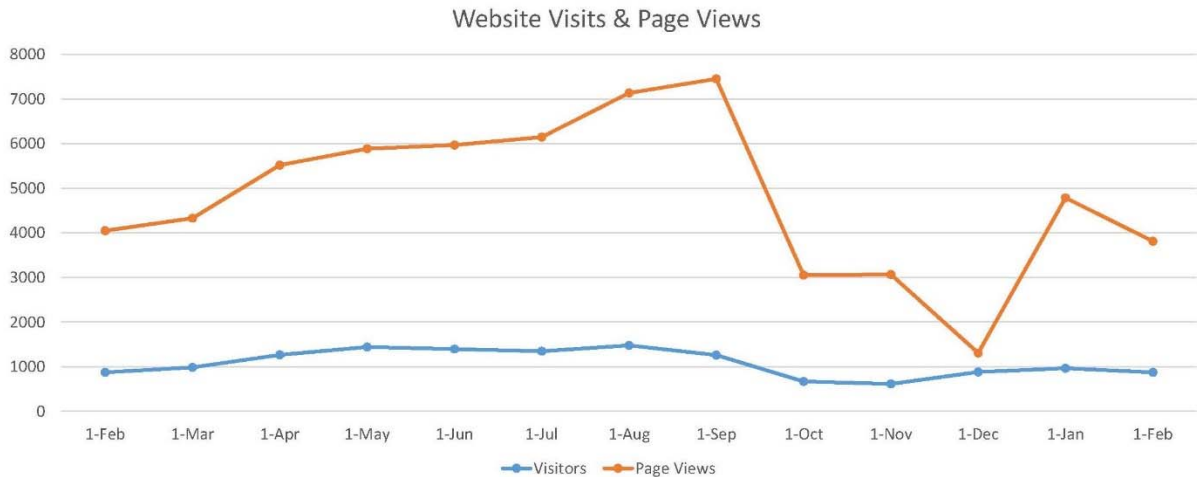
is a bit dependent and will email out in the next month for approval. I have calls in to a few trainers to come teach the kids but nothing confirmed. Have talked to Maureen Sterling. Also suggested Nell Foxworth, Sarah Dodge, Megan Bretey. I hope to have everything confirmed by the end of March. Need to get a flyer out for the dates and get people to put it on their calendars. On a side note...I am very impressed with the High Plains Youth Day clinic last weekend. I brought 6 students and they had a great time and learned a ton! I would like to see this continue.

6. Marketing

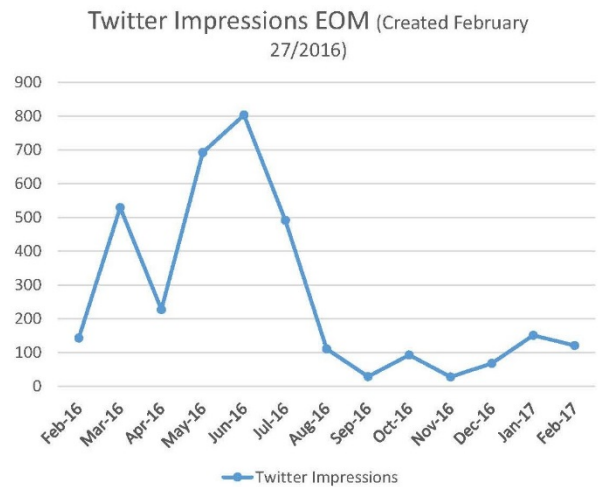
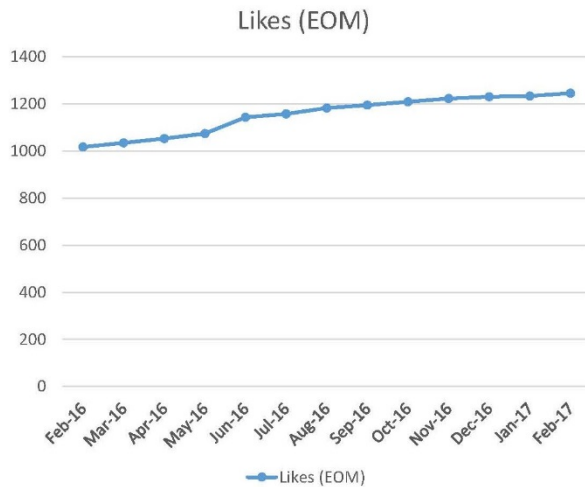
Una Schade

- I redid the RMDS Blog to make it more functional whenever anyone lands on one of the blog pages (the news articles on the right side of the homepage and underneath the slideshow). You get to the blog articles by clicking any of the *read more* buttons. Or you can get there by going to <http://blog.rmds.org>
- If you have any neat blog article ideas –please send them my way! They could be about horse health, dressage, etc! It was suggested to put NAJYRC declaration information, sport horse show information and a push to renew your RMDS membership.
- Along with Andrea, we are starting to put together our list for Championship Sponsors so that we can start gathering sponsorships to make a successful show! We will be redoing the Championship Sponsorship Packet along with Heather to ensure we are charging and offering accordingly! And also to make sure each sponsorship level is spelled out properly.

RMDS Website Data (Started Analyzing 1/17/2016)



Social



7. Professional Trainers/Riders Committee

Sarah Dodge

2 professionals signed up for riding currently.

3 signed up for the open day. Auditors for open day handled by the Colorado Horse Park. It was discussed that our Lars Petersen open clinic be opened for Juniors since it is more affordable than other CHP offerings and it is on the weekend and because there are many other offerings for folks to ride with. **Heather Petersen moved we open the Lars Open clinic to AA and Jrs, then open riders. 2nd by Michelle Anderson. Motion passed unanimously.**

Discussion of the set-up of the symposium at the Horse Park, our part in it, the responsibility.

For 2018 Gwen and Heather are helping them develop and set rider selection procedures for the clinics and select clinicians.

8. Scholarship

MaryJo Hoepner

Requests for checks to be sent to the two 2017 recipients were submitted.

9. Shows – Championship

Andrea Chirich / Una Schade

We had a meeting before the RMDS board meeting this evening. Andrea and Una are working forward.

Penalty – Una moved we accept the penalty for USEF as written, 2nd by Andrea. Motion passed unanimously.

Following discussion of the penalty was discussion of what we should do with the X Halt Salute show. 3 options – cancel it, move it to Tuesday or completely different set up for Wednesday. Una Schade moved we run X Halt Salute show on Tuesday for 2017, 2nd by Cassandra Dipentino. Motion passed unanimously. Judges are Kathy Simard and Simone Windeler. Joan Clay is the TD.

Discussion of prizes we will do this year. Coolers, halter and directors' chair. We will move forward with those. Encourage promotion of the sport horse shows. Discussion of having a handler clinic.

Appointed Committee Reports:

1. Western Dressage Liaison

Simone Windeler

Simone had an idea! Lol! WDACO members allowed to attend RMDS educational events at RMDS membership prices. **Simone Windeler moved that we allow members of the WDACO group to attend RMDS educational events at RMDS membership prices. 2nd by Didi DeKrey. Motion passed unanimously.**

2. Nominating Committee – Chapter Presidents

Tiffany Busch

Need nominees for 2 years: Vice-President (1 year), President, Treasurer, Secretary, Awards, Education, Marketing, Professional

She will start working on it soon.

3. Historical Committee-Archives

?????

Beth is going to send out an email to the organization to see if anyone in the organization is interested.

4. BOG – November 4, 2017

Heather Petersen

Have signed the contract and will get a check tonight to send in with it for a deposit.

5. Banquet – January 13, 2018-Renaissance Denver Hotel

Beth Geier

Contract signed, deposit paid, same place.

Region 5 Report

Heather Petersen

I know a lot of us in Colorado would sure appreciate some moisture soon (at least at this point in mid-February!), and it would be nice if the wind would settle some, but at least the weather is warm and we are getting lots of riding in!

Fundraising efforts are once under way for the USDF Region 5 Juniors and Young Riders as they try to qualify and travel to the 2017 FEI North American Junior and Young Rider Championships. The Championships will be held July 18-23, 2017 at Hits-On-The-Hudson in Saugerties, New York. It is going to require a tremendous amount of funding to send our teams as most likely we will have to fly the horses in order to avoid 3 days of driving on either side of the competition. If we drive them, this will very much mean we will have to arrive to the competition quite early in order to give them enough rest before they show. We hope we will be able to send 8 riders with their horses, grooms and Chef d'Equipes. In addition to the transportation to the show, there are the expenses of hotel, team uniforms, chef expenses, feed, bedding and oh so much more that they need help with. 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 or 970-420-0877 or our Fundraising Chair, Kathy Gillespie at kjpagillespie@msn.com or 303-921-5253. If you are still interested in participating in the FEI Junior and Young Rider program for 2017, the last intention

deadline is May 16th but the less expensive deadline is May 2nd, so be sure to get in your intentions soon.

Regional Championship bids for 2018 have been received and we should know soon where the competition will be held. USDF will announce the locations of the 2018 Regionals in May. I hope everyone is planning on attending the Regionals in 2017 in Parker, Colorado at the Colorado Horse Park. It's a beautiful venue with lots of fun things to do. Many improvements have been made in the last couple of years. It should be a great show hosted by the Rocky Mountain Dressage Society! If you are interested in being a delegate to the Board of Governors meeting, please contact our Nominating Council representative and have your name added to the ballot for Participating Delegate. Please contact Eva Maria Adolphi at adolphi@redrock.net and let her know your interest and she can provide you with more details on the potential responsibilities. PM Delegate nominations are due in to the USDF office no later than April 15th.

If you have made plans to travel to Omaha at the end of March, enjoy a great World Cup! It should be a great roster of riders and a fantastic competition. Omaha is a fun city with many great restaurants and some fun things to do. Mark your calendars because the World Cup will be back in the United States in 2020 in Las Vegas at the MGM Grand.

Old Business:

2016 Awards Banquet Report

January 14, 2017, Renaissance Hotel – 3801 Quebec Street – Denver, CO

Banquet Financials January 14, 2017			Banquet Financials January, 2016		
Income:					
Reservation 154 @ \$40	\$ 6,160.00		184 @ \$40	\$ 7,360.00	
Auction-paypal	\$ 2,370.62			\$ 2,608.50	
Auction-Deposit	\$ 1,545.00				
Total Income:	\$ 10,075.62	\$ 10,075.62		\$ 9,968.50	
Expenses:					
Meals	\$ (6,201.83)			\$ (8,159.19)	
Audio Visual (screen, podium, mike)	\$ (662.36)				
Supplies (paperclips, frames, ink)	\$ (127.90)			\$ (278.17)	
	\$ (6,992.09)	\$ (6,992.09)		\$ (8,437.36)	
Net Profit		\$ 3,083.53			\$ 1,531.14
Renaissance paid: ck#8504	\$ 990.00				
Renaissance: paid ck#8802	\$ 6,201.83				
We overpaid the Renaissance \$327.64 which will apply to the 2018 deposit if we sign.					

New Business:

- **Volunteer Medal Recognition Program**

In 2009 NEDA created a program to recognize NEDA Volunteers. The program required volunteers to track their hours of service, then upon reaching a variety of benchmarks, volunteers would be awarded “medals” (pins).

The pins cost \$12 and were made by Lovell Designs. 390 pins were ordered in June 2009 at a total cost of \$4600.

Bronze Medal ~~300 hours~~ lowered to 100 hours (January 2017)
Silver Medal ~~600 hours~~ lowered to 250 hours (January 2017)
Gold Medal ~~1,000 hours~~ lowered to 500 hours (January 2017)
Platinum Medal tbd

As of the close of 2016, the following people have been awarded Volunteer Medals
< insert list of who has been awarded medals >

Because the program hasn’t been properly publicized, and many of our volunteers have NOT taken the time to track and report their hours, the Membership Committee made the following recommendations to the board, which were approved at the January 2017 meeting.

1. Create a list of people who have already been awarded medals.
2. Assign all volunteers an identification number in the YM database (if volunteers are or have been members, their ID will be their membership number).
3. Create a process to collect volunteer names and hours from event managers throughout each calendar year, and record that information in YM.
4. Lower the hour requirements for each medal (see above).
5. Issue a certificate, annually, to each volunteer, thanking them for their number of hours. This certificate will serve as an annual reporting of hours to both the volunteer and the board.
6. Once a volunteer has received a Bronze, Silver and Gold Medal, their total hours will be reset to zero, and they can begin the recognition process again, achieving the status of “Double Bronze,” “Double Silver,” etc.
7. Board Members will be awarded medals based on years of service (**number of years still to be determined**).
8. Board Members who volunteer outside their board role may track and report their non-board hours for inclusion toward the hour requirements for medals.
9. As the program continues to take shape, the following things should be considered:
 - a. Where should medals be awarded? At the Year End Awards Banquet and/or the next event a recipient is volunteering at?
 - b. Recipients should be recognized in the Tip.
 - c. Past and present recipients should be listed in The Salute and on the NEDA website.

Gwen would like to appointment a committee to develop something. Beth Geier will chair the committee and Sharon Soos will help her.

- E Centaur – Bev Swanson would like to do a memorial to the Foxcreek Outfitters owner and SP Hollywood Eclipse.

Chapter Presidents:

Tiffany Busch moved to approve all chapter reports as submitted or amended below. 2nd by Joan Clay. Motion passes unanimously.

1. Arkansas Valley

Beth Hart

AVDA has been busy planning this year's shows and clinics. We are also looking into working with other clubs and equine groups in the area. We would like to have short performances, showing the art of dressage and what it's all about. We are hoping this will spark interest in young riders and have them join us in our clinics and possibly show in the future.

We are excited to announce our two schooling shows this year in Florence at Pathfinder Park. June 10th will be our first show and we are thrilled to have MaryJo judging the show again this year.

October 1st will be our second show and we are happy to have Kathy Simard judging for us. Kathy has also offered a clinic on the 2nd and we expect it will fill up fast.

We will continue our "how to prepare and ride in a show" before our schooling shows. These ½ day clinics include dressage test prep and discussion.

1. How to Visualize your Test.
2. Strategies to Pick Up Easy Points.
3. What to do if you make a Mistake.

And Practice Test with your horse or without, individualized session. Ride the test of your choice. Or, do live visualization in the dressage arena with specific attention to your issues. Work with you or your horse and walk you through an actual visualization in the arena. If interested in signing up, call 719-429-1244.

We are still working on a couple other clinics and a ride-a-test for 2017. We hope to have an arena available to us in Penrose, which would be closer for those of you up north. There is also a clinic in Pueblo West coming up and we will have further information next month.

We have a new volunteer for Education chair and she will be having ½ day clinics on preparing your horse (and yourself) for the show, equine massage, dentistry and a day of equine therapy. We are looking forward to warmer weather (and less windy) to begin.

AVDA had a business meeting last Thursday. We had four new faces, two from Westcliffe and two from Pueblo West. I am hoping to see our membership grow this year. Our club designated a New Member Chairperson and she is in charge of staying in contact with our new members and any potential members, as well as any new faces at our clinics and shows. We also decided we will be purchasing some new corners for our arena and spent time putting together a budget for our schooling shows, which was accepted by all.

The RMDS symposium is on our calendars. We are getting a group of us to carpool up to Parker together and audit on one of the days. It makes the 3-4 hour round trip drive much more enjoyable!

Feel free to contact me if you are interested in any of our events. Auditors are always welcome!

2. Boulder Valley

Sandra Rosewell

Our Ride-a-Test for spring is coming up. It will be held on April 30th at Lookout Ridge Farm on 5349 Lookout Road in Longmont, CO. The new show secretary for BVD is Patti Hallock, she can be

reached at 720-323-6691; bvdressage@comcast.net. USEF "r" judge Julie Haugen will do 20 minutes with each ride. Julie Smith is donating the use of the facility. Beth added that April 10th is their next meeting and they are having a truck sale. There will be 7 vendors at Lookout Ridge Farm.

3. Colorado Springs

Pat Leech

No Report – It was decided for Gwen to contact Pat since we have not had a report from the CSDA chapter for quite a while.

4. Foothills

Kris Cooper

Foothills Chapter officers have planned a busy set of activities for all. Join us for these scheduled educational programs, many detailed at our website, <http://www.cofoothillsdressage.org>.

- Give-A-Friend-A-Seat Lesson Clinic on Sunday, March 12, Anchorage Farm, Pine. Foothills Chapter President Kris Cooper and Jim Cooper presenters.
- Ride-A-Test Clinic on Saturday, June 10, (the day before Foothills' Spring Into Summer dressage show) – with USEF 'r' Judge Julie Haugen at Table Mountain Ranch, Golden.
- Spring Into Summer Show on Sunday, June 11, with USEF 'S' Judge and Foothills member Debbie Riehl-Rodriguez at Table Mountain Ranch, Golden. Check Omnibus and website for prize list for dressage and Western dressage classes and entry information. Both our June and August dressage shows qualify for Western Dressage Association of Colorado high-point awards.
- Last Chance Show on Saturday, Aug. 26, with Judge Julie Haugen 'r' at Table Mountain Ranch. Details are in Omnibus and at our website.

New this year is a chance to win a gift certificate for volunteering at our two dressage shows, as well as an increased reimbursement of \$100 per member for helping at chapter programs and attending an equine educational event. It pays to learn!

Still being planned are a Western dressage clinic, Foothills' participation in RMDS Junior/Young Rider Camp July 5-7 and a gathering to celebrate our volunteers and members.

Our next chapter meeting will be Monday, March 20, at Mimi's Cafe in Golden.

2017 Foothills Officers

Kris Cooper President 303-847-9862 kris@anchoragefarm.com

CC Ross Vice President

Nicole Riffe Secretary

Laura Quakenbush Treasurer

Marilou Metcalf Scholarship

Cassandra DiPentino Education

Linda Gaber Shows

5. Grand Valley

Arlene Rhodes

We have several educational and fun events planned. We rented the Mesa County fairgrounds covered arena for a few hours in March, April and May for our members to practice at the show location. Judi DeVore, Jennifer Weber and youth member MacKensy Quigley have lots of ideas to attract our younger members to these events. We will be allowing members to invite a friend, we will have a few Prix Caprilli jumps to practice and of course pizza! Tammy Fagan our educational chair is setting up two Prix Caprilli clinics at her facility this spring. She is also organizing our Debbie Riehl-Rodriguez clinic the first weekend of July. We have also applied for a Dressage Foundation grant for clinic-symposium event on the western slope in early June... we hope to hear soon about the outcome and will let everyone know if we get it. There seems to be lots of ideas and energy in

our members. I am looking forward to see what they create!

6. High Plains

Katherine Simard

Our 2017 Youth Clinic was a success! Julie Burt and Kathy Simard had a fun and busy day teaching 10 very enthusiastic kids! Westmanton Stables kindly offered Iron Horse Farms and our participants enjoyed this lovely facility. The most amazing thing about the day was how much the kids supported each other. There was lots of clapping and cheering when a fellow rider achieved a goal in the lesson! The parents, the trainers, and the kids really showed us what a bright future our sport has with these young ladies!

We are sorry to announce that Andreas Hausberger will not be coming to the United States this year. High Plains is currently seeking an alternative event to host.

At the February HPD meeting Kathy Simard informed the HPD board that she will not be running again in 2018.

7. Northern Colorado

Didi Dekrey

NCDCA 2016 Board: President – Didi DeKrey, Vice President – Rose Balfour, Treasurer - Karla Lauritsen, Secretary – Jacki Rosellen

We are pleased to say NCDCA continues to operate in the plus column financially and with offerings to our members. Last year was a busy one with events, and we are continuing with more this year. This year we have already had two presentations at our meeting: Dr. Dora Ferris, DVM lectured on equine sport medicine, and Mr. Bill Lange of Houska's Garage gave a presentation on winter trailer safety. We will have two Clinic Series this year. The first is a set of 3 Centered Riding sessions with Ms. Andrea Chirich, Centered Riding Instructor II. The sessions will be held in February and March at Phantom Hill Farm in Fort Collins. Our next series will start late summer/early fall with Ms. Joan Clay. NCDCA members receive a discount for the clinics.

Judges have been contracted for our two schooling shows; Ms. Julie Haugen, "r" for the Spring, and Ms. Sharron Sarchet, "L" for our Fall show. Check out the Omnibus for details and the Prize List!

8. On The Bit

Ginka Kubelka

On The Bit has a lot happening this spring. In order to draw more attention to our club, we are planning a community tack and clothing swap on April 22nd. Feel free to spread the word!

We are attempting to make our monthly meetings more interesting and get better attendance, so we will be offering some educational opportunities before our regular meetings. For the meeting on April 4th we have an educational session on equine first aid planned at 6 pm.

For the first Saturday in May we are planning a Kentucky Derby party as a fundraiser. Since it will be a big event, we are still working on figuring out all the details. This event should allow us to raise awareness of our club beyond the horse community.

We are also working on finalizing the details of our schooling show. It will be on July 22nd at Spur Ridge Equestrian Center, where we will have perfect conditions with an indoor and outdoor arena, and stabling available. Julie Haugen will be our judge and we will have her on Sunday for a clinic. Stay tuned for more information on all of these events, check out our website, www.onthebitdressage.com, or come to one of our meetings every first Tuesday of the month at 7 pm. We would love to see some of our Colorado friends in our neck of the woods this year!

9. Pikes Peak

Tiffany Busch

We have planned a RMDS show for April 15th 2017 being held at Latigo Trails Equestrian Center in Elbert, CO with judge as Gwen Ka'awaloa .

We feel like we are well prepared to start into a year full of educational events, clinics, and a RMDS show in April. March Meeting will be trailer safety demonstration at Norris Penrose on the 26th. All members are welcome to attend. If you're a member outside of PPDS there is a small fee of \$10. May's Meeting will be on the 16th featuring a fire safety evacuation discussion and all are welcome as this season could be a scary fire season.

For the most current information on our chapter activities visit our website at <http://pikespeakdressage.org/Main/Home>.

10. Western Colorado

No report

Barbara Terry

Una Schade moved to adjourn, 2nd by Andrea Chirich. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned 8:47 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Heather Petersen
Secretary