

## RMDS EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

January 12, 2022

Zoom Meeting

Meeting @ 6:30 PM

**Attendance:** Adrienne Murphy, Shannon Lemons, Joan Clay, Bettina Bosma, Dorothy Kapaun, Beth Geier, Sally O'Dwyer, Karen Harkin, Heather Petersen, Andrea Price-Valenzuala, Natalie DeFee Mendik, Stan Adamson, Pippa Bird, Cassandra Dipentino, Ginka Kubelka, Nadia Westra, Nancy Leonard, MaryJo Hoepner

**Proxies:** MaryJo Hoepner to Heather Petersen until MaryJo's arrival; Cassandra Dipentino assigned her proxy to Nadia Westra after she left the meeting;

### Call to Order-President

Dorothy Kapaun

Meeting called to order at 6:35 pm by Dorothy Kapaun

### Secretary - Approval of Minutes -

Heather Petersen

**October 2021** – Stan Adamson moved to approve the minutes as presented, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Joan Clay. Motion passed unanimously.

**December 2021** – Karen Harkin moved to approve the minutes as presented, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Stan Adamson. Motion passed unanimously.

**January 2022** – Dorothy Kapaun moved to approve the minutes as present, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Karen Harkin. Motion passed unanimously.

### Treasurers Report

Sharon Soos

Funds as of December 31, 2021

RMDS Checking Account	\$30,090.49	
RMDS PayPal (as of 12/15/2021)	\$13,515.36	Total \$43,605.85 operating cash total

#### Restricted Funds as of December 31, 2021

Database/Website	\$ 0.00
RMDS Scholarship	\$ 3,842.29
<u>Reserve</u>	<u>\$ 0.00</u>

TOTAL \$47,448.14

Funds as of January 12, 2022

RMDS Checking Account	\$31,522.21	
RMDS PayPal (as of 12/19/2018)	\$26,820.42	Total \$58,342.63 operating cash total

#### Restricted Funds as of December 31, 2021

Database/Website	\$ 0.00
RMDS Scholarship	\$ 3,842.29
<u>Reserve</u>	<u>\$ 0.00</u>

Payable	-2000.00
Pending Deposit	\$1000.00
Subtotal	\$2,592.29

TOTAL \$60,934.92

Reminder from Sharon Soos to collect 1099s on all clinicians for RMDS.

## President Report

Dorothy Kapaun

Happy New Year! I hope the New Year brings us all Health and Happiness and an end to all the Covid-19 variations. If you take a look at the RMDS Calendar, you will find it full of many exciting events! The RMDS Awards Banquet will be at the beautiful Renaissance Hotel in Denver once again. This is a wonderful opportunity to see your old friends, make new friends and bid on amazing items during the silent auction. I hope many of our member will attend this fun event.

We are putting out a survey that we are hoping most if not all members will reply to. We are trying our best to make this GMO the best it can be. To do that, we need everyone's input, so please take a few minutes to answer the survey. If you have ideas or want to become more involved, we encourage you to reach out to me or anyone else on the board. I hope that in this year to come, you make mistakes. Because if you are making mistakes, then you are making new things, trying new things, learning, living, pushing yourself, changing yourself, changing your world."

## Vice President Report

Bettina Bosma

No report from the 14 days in office 😊

## Central Office

Beth Geier

### Membership

- Registration – 273 members as of 1/1 for 2022 –26 new horses since October 2021
- See Reports with chapter membership totals.
- Accepting dues for 2022: \$70; later in the month it is \$80

### Shows:

- For 2022: 6 RMDS shows: 30 USEF/USDF recognized shows which does not includes Championships and Regionals.

### Omnibus:

- See Nicole's report.

### Database/Website:

- Working well – a few spots still need to be cleared up-spoke to CodeGeek
- Currently have raised \$23,766.91 as of 1/5. Asking people that have refunds if they want to donate – most say yes.
- Please ask your chapter members to see if there is a donor in the group or if they know of one.

### Banquet:

- January 15, 2022 – confirmed.
- As of Jan 4 – 95 attendees

### Volunteer:

- Interesting statistic: recorded with RMDS for 2021: 296 people 3843.75 hours

### General:

- Chapters receive free email blasts for educational purposes.
- RMDS Executive Board members get ½ price admission to RMDS events.

## Next Executive Board Meetings (2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday odd months-exceptions noted) – 2022

TD Clinic 2-5:30	Feb 17
Show Mgt Clinic 2-5:30	Feb 24
AA Clinic-George Williams	April 16-17
Professionals-Lilo Fore	Apr 23-24
Summer Intensive	June 8-10

Executive Board Meetings: Jan 12, March 10, May 12, July 14, Sept 8, Oct 13 (budget)  
BOG Nov 19 ?

## 2023

Banquet January 15?

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

1/9/2022

	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002	
Members:	273	714	636	700	725	752	756	779	675	827	797	868	751	945	1030	1008	1036	1019	1151	1177	1162	
Horses:		161	109	159	161	91	93	59	63	59	135	123	132	132	166	246	262	234	207	337	274	
AV	19	40	39	39	36	39	25	29	26	27	25	27	24	15	26	12	-	-	-	-	-	
BV	61	160	138	151	162	159	182	168	171	180	182	190	200	188	205	172	178	179	199	208	230	
FH	24	65	51	56	70	57	73	79	76	64	65	71	72	75	76	77	74	73	109	103	115	
GV	34	89	78	80	77	91	95	71	55	71	53	65	83	87	105	102	88	92	93	98	77	
HP	58	146	117	162	164	169	149	156	151	176	190	208	226	256	265	260	259	251	267	283	278	
NC	27	69	57	64	75	69	77	77	89	94	93	110	132	107	124	137	137	139	162	151	150	
OB	7	30	40	37	38	49	43	42	33	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
PP	33	56	62	87	77	89	63	70	63	62	44	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
No Chapter	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	5	11	12	13	15	14	25	14	16	22	21	34	36	24	
CS					-	Dissolved	24	35	47	52	63	115	124	115	127	126	143	130	137	155	134	
NM	dissolved	37	33											Dissolved	inactive	12	13	13	14	15	14	13
PN					-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Dissolved	inactive	12	13	13	14	15	14	13
PR					-	-	Dissolved	10	11	18	14	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TS					-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Dissolved	36	51	68	90	86	91	74	77
WA					-	-	Dissolved	19	21	26	28	24	24	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WC	dissolved	21	20	23	25	29	22	18	19	23	27	31	22	21	25	25	32	34	44	55	64	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>264</b>	<b>693</b>	<b>616</b>	<b>677</b>	<b>700</b>	<b>723</b>	<b>756</b>	<b>761</b>	<b>675</b>	<b>827</b>	<b>797</b>	<b>868</b>	<b>751</b>	<b>945</b>	<b>1005</b>	<b>983</b>	<b>1004</b>	<b>985</b>	<b>1107</b>	<b>1122</b>	<b>1098</b>	
Juniors		64	54	66	73	80	86	88	95	120	117	120	134									
Amateurs		240	140	217	205	195	163	152	176	209	220	239	230									
Education		12	11	14	18	21	17	16														
Business		16	12	12	9/2																	
Life		43	35/1	33/1	32/2																	

**Permanent Committee Reports Continued:**

**Adult Amateur**

**Pippa Bird**

Happy New Year!

- I hope to finalize by the end of today, Jan 12th dates for an AA Clinic with Amelia Newcomb to come to Colorado to provide a two day clinic/symposium with the theme of “Suppleness through the Levels”. With auditing capabilities up to 100 people. Location pending once dates are confirmed. I have pricing and a budget will be sent by end of this week for approval. Proposed date is now March 19<sup>th</sup>.
- I am also awaiting available dates with Brazilian dressage trainer, Claudio Oliveira, specializes in training piaffe and passage both in-hand and with the rider. Location pending once dates are confirmed. I have pricing and a budget will be sent by end of this week for approval.
- Team Competition - proposed date: June 25th at Happenstance Farm. Need approval of date. Pricing is \$60 for two rides. Once I have an idea on how many people to account for I will send budget summary. I myself have volunteered to organize/host.
- Upcoming events/clinics for the year working on pending interest:
  - Biomechanic Clinic - Britta Pederson, Biomechanics Therapist
  - Clinics with our fabulous local Trainers to keep the costs down to include Maureen McGrady Sterling, Jessica Greer, Susan Martin
  - Ride a Test (Dolly Hannon and/or Janey Foy)
- For the George Williams clinic, applications will go to Beth Geier. Heather and Pippa will find a committee to evaluate the applicants.

**Awards**

**Shannon Lemons**

Just about everything is ready for the banquet this coming Saturday. Picks up the UHaul on Friday after work. Helpers will be at the event and doing a bit of final clean up. Trophy forms will be a bit different this year. They have to read it, sign the form, it’s only 1 page. Andy has the powerpoint presentation as the MC. Postage will be a set fee, not an exact quote, so that folks can prepay ahead of time. Nadia has a person who would like to help and Shannon could use help with handing out trophies and packing up after the presentation.

**Communications**

**Sally O’Dwyer**

ECENTAUR has a 53% open rate. Monthly editions continued to be published. RMDS members have provided articles for the online newsletters.

I believe that increasingly, people are turning to social media for information and engagement and now that the social media policy has been approved by the board, we have improved direction and a better idea of what should be published, and we have significantly increased posts. As a result, engagement is up.

We have 1,795 likes and 2,007 followers. While I have not tracked these numbers monthly, we were hovering around 1,600 likes for quite a while.

I have begun working with RMDS member and volunteer Kristina Lee who has extensive marketing experience to better define what to post, and how to streamline the process by using Hootsuite—a social media platform that allows us to plan and put posts on a calendar to improve consistency, messaging, and topics. I am also using CANVA for post design. I am allowed to share CANVA at no cost to team members. We will continue to research ways to improve engagement by using video clips and other.

Once we come up with a weekly and monthly posting plan, more individuals can be involved in creating posts. These posts will be reviewed and added to the calendar as appropriate.

Post suggestions currently come from Beth, information provided by RMDS blasts and other. I have also been sharing information relevant to dressage and local area offerings. At the BOG, I took photos of most of the Board Members and Committee Chairs to share on social media.

As the Communications Chair I have been working with the volunteers interested in fundraising and marketing so that we can communicate their messaging to members.

Topics we currently cover are designed to promote

- membership, volunteering
- events, clinics, shows to demonstrate club value
- RMDS as an educational institution.
- Demonstrate leadership (Many of the chapters share our posts)
- Community building

### **My TODOS**

1. Recruit volunteers to assist with content creation—we could use two or three volunteers for this. They will be able to post on our calendar, but not directly to the page to allow for review.
2. Create the Jan Ecentaur—I would like to be able to teach others how to create and develop the Ecentaur so the club is not reliant on a one individual for this.
3. Work with Kristina to create a posting plan
4. Recruit volunteers to assist with photography for posts etc
5. We now have an Instagram for RMDS but I have to connect it to our Facebook account.
6. Work with the new marketing committee to ensure that their messaging is communicated.

### **Website/Data Base**

Beth and Heather have a few little projects to update but things are going well.

### **Education**

February 17 TD training

February 24 Show management training

Near future: Zoom training on setting goals. Planned by Sally O'Dwyer

Proposal -- have Zoom training on the various volunteer opportunities Need someone to host that has good communication skills.

Judges continuing ed, we're looking at this fall – probably October time frame. Would like to use Janet again if she's available.

**MaryJo Hoepner**

### **Junior/Young Riders**

Still working on clinicians for the SI. June 8-10 at Table Mountain Ranch. Flyer will be in the Magazine and posted shortly online.

**Cassandra Dipentino**

Dorothy has a great idea to do a regular section of the Centaur that will feature an interview with a different RMDS Jr/Yr each month. I was hoping to get the first one done for the January issue but didn't have enough time. We are working on a list of basic questions regarding the rider's dressage career and future goals. Natalie Mendik has offered to have her daughter, Juliette be the one to conduct these interviews. After much discussion, the column will be monthly and will feature an AA, a Jr/YR and an open rider each month.

**The Nominating Committee presented the nomination of Adrienne Murphy for the Marketing Chair. There were no additional nominations from the floor. Adrienne was elected unanimously.**

## Marketing

## Adrienne Murphy

The areas of importance that we were asked to focus on during the 2022 calendar year is increasing membership and fundraising.

### Membership

GOAL: 2021 750 members 2022 increase to 800

1. Membership questions on current survey will help us strategize the wants and needs of current members. This will help us create ideas to increase membership.
2. Looking into why junior membership / participation is so low compared to the USHJA and 4H participation.
3. Create a bigger and better social media presence with constantly changing content

### Fundraising

GOAL: \$5000

1. Pro/Trainer lesson fundraiser. Trainers donate lessons to be bid/purchased by individuals. All proceeds go to RMDS
2. RMDS Championship party.
  - Guest speaker
  - auction items
  - heavy appetizers and wine/beer/prosecco drink
  - All participants will be added to a drawing for a 2022 Regional entree(working on that)
  - Outrageous hat competition (more info to follow)

### Sponsor/Donor recognition

1. The need for follow up on all Sponsor/Donor with personal thank you and website recognition

## Professionals

## Joan Clay

### 2022 SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES

**"The Virtual Rider Project" online workshop with Lisa El-Ramey** is scheduled for Mon, January 24, 2022 (6:30-8:30 PM MST) and Mon, February 7, 2022 (6:30-8:30 PM MST). Cost is \$50 for RMDS members and \$65 for non-members (cost is for both sessions). Currently we have 4 paid participants and 6 more participants that have indicated that they are interested in the program. We need 15 total participants at the \$50 rate to break even. Lisa El-Ramey is aware that we may have to cancel if we don't get enough participants and is amenable to cancelling or rescheduling. We will be reaching out to other groups of professionals to try to boost our numbers.

**2022 Professional's Symposium with Lilo Fore** is scheduled for April 23-24, 2022 at Tomora Training Center, Greeley, CO. Lilo recently contacted me to inform me that she had raised her rates to \$1500 per day and was requesting permission to book First Class airfare due to Covid- 19. An emergency RMDS executive board meeting was called on Weds, Jan 5. With a review of the new budget estimates, the board approved allowing Lilo to book a first class plane ticket, and raising the rate for demonstration riders to \$400 (2 rides, 2 lunches and 2 full days auditing) and the rate for participants to \$150 (2 full days auditing and 2 lunches). Non-RMDS members will be charged a higher rate to demo ride or participate in the symposium. Additionally, an application will be made to The Dressage Foundation's "Max Gahwyler Instructor Education Fund" which will provide up to \$1000 to help the educational program to break even.

Hotels ended up coming in less expensive, with a group rate of \$109 per night at the Comfort Suites.

Event: RMDS Professional's Symposium	Date of Event: 4/23-24/22
Location of Event: Tomora Training Center	
Prepared by: Joan Clay	Date Prepared: 1/11/22

Income	Budget (\$)	Actual
Participants - Demo Riders (8 @ \$400 ea)	3200	
Unmounted Participants (20 @ \$150 ea)	3000	
Donations	0	
Grants (TDF Max Gahwyler Fund)	1000	
Sponsors		
Other Income (List)		
<b>Total Income</b>	7200	
Expenses	Budget (\$)	Actual
Clinician - Lilo Fore (2 x \$1500/day)	3000	
Judge(s)	0	
Technical Delegate(s)	0	
Other Hired Staff	0	
Equipment Rental (2 Patio Heaters)	350	
Facility Rental (Tomora Training Center)	700	
Insurance	70	
Lodging (Lilo - 2 nights & Beth 1 night)	450	
Per Diem or Meals (Lilo - Dinners)	150	
Photocopying	20	
Port-A-Potty	175	
Postage	0	
Supplies	30	
Travel (Lilo - 1st Class Airfare)	1200	
USDF Credit	40	
Other Expenses (List)	0	
-Box Lunches (60 @ \$15 ea)	900	
<b>Total Expenses</b>	7085	
<b>Net Profit / Loss</b>	<b>115</b>	

**NEW BUSINESS**

Investigating offering a USDF Certified Instructor/Trainer Workshop Series and Testing on the Western Slope at the suggestion of Annie Morris.

**Scholarship**

**Natalie DeFee-Mendik**

All 2021 scholarship award recipients have completed their requirements.

The RMDS Scholarship Committee met December 23, 2021 in Castle Rock. In attendance were Natalie Mendik, Mary Jo Hoepner, Heather Petersen, and Judi Devore.

The committee reviewed ten very solid scholarship applications: over double the number of scholarships available. After much deliberation, the committee makes the following recommendations:

- For Junior/Young Rider: Applicant 'A' demonstrates strong financial need, voiced in her own twelve-year-old words; has a strong and realistic financial plan attending local clinics; and received glowing recommendations.
- For Leg Up (Training and First Level): Applicant 'B' has experienced immense hurdles in life, but perseveres, working hard and being a team player; demonstrates strong financial need with an equally strong fiscal plan; accrued the most volunteer hours of any applicant overall; immerses herself into every aspect of the sport; and would be a strong para-dressage representative for our club.

**Stan Adamson moved to approve Application A and Application B for Jr/YR and Leg Up scholarships respectively. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sharon Soos. Motion passed with Natalie DeFee Mendik abstaining.** JrYR is Blake Anderson and the Leg Up is Katie Carpenter.

- For Solid Seat (Adult Amateur): Applicant 'C' shows a strong financial need with a clear and sensible plan to take lessons to gain skills to reach her next goal; has strong volunteerism.
- For Open Door (Professional): Candidate 'D' demonstrates strong financial need; has excellent letters of recommendation; and has a clear plan to attend a clinic to work toward a specific skill which she can then pass on to her local dressage community.

**MaryJo Hoepner moved to approve Applicant C and Applicant D for the Solid Seat and Open Door scholarship respectively. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dorothy Kapaun. Motion passed with Natalie DeFee Mendik abstaining.** Solid Seat is Stacy Adams and Open Door is Sara Storch-Kay.

In addition, Candidate 'E', the only candidate west of the Continental Divide, clearly outlines the access hindrances members on the western side of the state experience. She shows strong financial need, a solid budget, and a sensible plan for attending events in the Front Range area. She would be an ideal first recipient of The Barbara McElnea Scholarship. Natalie did make contact with Lesley and the group would like to proceed with awarding the scholarship for 2022. **Stan Adamson moved to approve Candidate E for the Barbara McElnea Scholarship pending receipt of the funds to RMDS from the Western Colorado Chapter. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Nancy Leonard. Motion passed with Natalie DeFee Mendik Abstaining.** Rhiannon Rowe is candidate E.

It was a delight to see so many well-presented applications and a difficult decision to select recipients. All applicants who were not selected this year are strongly encouraged to apply again next year.

#### Shows – Championships

Heather:  
Heather discussed current situations and thoughts.

#### Currently Vacant

### Appointed Committee Reports:

#### 1. Western Dressage

No report for Western Dressage.

Simone Windeler

#### 2. Nominating Committee – Chapter Presidents

The following RMDS Officers for even-numbered years, were elected at the Board of Governors on November 19, 2021:

- |                  |                      |
|------------------|----------------------|
| • Vice President | Bettina Bosma (GVDS) |
| • Secretary      | Heather Petersen     |
| • Treasurer      | Sharon Soos          |
| • Awards         | Shannon Lemons       |
| • Education      | MaryJo Hoepner       |
| • Professional   | Joan Clay            |
| • Adult Amateur  | Pippa Bird           |

Tonight, I nominate Adrienne Murphy for the Chair of Marketing, for a two-year term, starting now. Please see a list of Adrienne's previous marketing accomplishments below.

The following positions remain unfilled:

- Championships

ADRIENNE MURPHY events organized:

**FUNDRAISING and EVENTS**

**MIDWEST JUNIOR BIKE RACING FOUNDATION**

raised \$5000 for the team by having an auction of a variety of donated products and services

**HEART GALLERY**

Chaired the inaugural Missouri Heart Gallery event which included recruiting numerous professional photographers and event promotion. The goal was to recruit adoptive parents for older children in the foster care system. Successful event.

**MAKE A WISH**

Raised money by promoting a cyclocross race for 2 years in a row. Raised money to grant wishes for critically ill children, and included participation by my invitation of Steve Tilford

**YMCA**

Day long fundraising event that included a criterium at the Ritz- Carlton St Louis for the YMCA that was affected by the Oklahoma City bombing

**MULTIPLE PROMOTIONAL EVENTS FOR Mesa Cycles, St. Louis, MO**

**3. BOG - November 19, 2022?**

Heather Petersen

We are still trying to get confirmation from the hotel.

**4. Banquet –**

Beth Geier

January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023. We are also still trying to get confirmation from the hotel.

**5. Volunteers –**

Miranda Avila

**AD HOC Volunteer Committee Report**

The committee has had two very productive meetings with a large group of enthusiastic members tackling the volunteer problem. So far we have developed a mission statement to direct our activities and have designed a survey to canvas the membership for reasons why they do and don't want to volunteer.

Mission/Vision Statement: [RMDS is an organization reliant upon its members as volunteers to build a strong dressage community. To develop this culture RMDS will nurture and enhance the volunteer experience by:](#)

- [WARMLY WELCOMING AND FOSTERING MEMBER PARTICIPATION](#)
- [PROVIDING RELEVANT TRAINING, MANAGEMENT, AND RECOGNITION](#)
- [EDUCATING OUR MEMBERSHIP AS TO THE DIVERSE VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES THAT EXIST YEAR ROUND](#)
- [ROUTINELY EVALUATING OUR EFFORTS](#)

We will divide into subgroups for our next meeting to review the survey results and focus on action steps for our three main areas of interest: Recruitment, Training and Appreciation.

Funds have been donated by the Boulder Valley Dressage Chapter for enhancing the volunteer experience and we would like to request they be earmarked for that purpose and use by this committee for its activities. Our first use of these funds will be to pay for the member survey through Survey Monkey. **Sally O'Dwyer made a motion to approve \$150 to set up the survey through Survey Monkey. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Stan Adamson. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Region 5 Report**

Heather Petersen

I hope everyone had a great Holiday season! We had a productive 2021 USDF Virtual Convention at the beginning of December. Many thanks to those of you who joined us. We had good interaction and discussions at the two Region 5 meetings. Congratulations to everyone who "received" their rider awards during the Salute Gala. Don't forget there are two more virtual awards presentations coming up in January – on the 22nd we will celebrate the Horse of the Year Awards winners and on the 23rd we will celebrate the All Breed Awards winners. These will be Zoom presentations and I hope you will join in to cheer on our members and their accomplishments.



This year, one of the key items that was covered at the virtual convention were the upcoming rule changes, which include the new attire expansion for showing. There was a good presentation on these rules during the USEF Open Forum. During this forum, upcoming proposed rule changes were also covered. Please be sure to leave your feedback for these proposed changes on the USDF Website - <https://www.usdf.org/competitions/usefrulechanges.asp>. Your input is greatly appreciated.

The elections for new members of the USDF Executive Board was another key item this year. We welcomed George Williams back as the USDF President. George was nominated from the floor to run against Steve Schubert and Kevin Reinig. Lorraine Musselman returns as the treasurer, Debby Savage (2), Anne Sushko (4), and Bess Burton (9) returned Regional Directors. We welcome new Regional Directors Noah Rattner (6) and Helen van der Voort (8). The budget for our fiscal year April 1, 2022-March 30, 2023 passed with no issues. For Region 5, our finances are steady. The NAYC kids need to do some fundraising if they would like to use the funds in their account to go to NAYC for 2022. The 2021 NAYC team worked hard to not deplete the account. The PM delegate grant of \$200 per delegate was re-approved for 2022 PM delegates. Convention for 2022 will be held in Lexington, Kentucky. If you are interested in serving as a PM delegate, please contact our nominating committee member for Region 5, Dorothy Kapaun.

To all of our wonderful Region 5 committee members, your hard work doesn't go unnoticed and we really won't be the great organization we are without you! Many thanks to everyone for your support of myself as Regional Director. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns!

**Old Business:**

- No old business.

**New Business:**

The roster of chapter officers needs to be approved by the board for coverage under the RMDS D&O Insurance. Heather Petersen read the roster of chapter officers into record.

**RMDS - OFFICERS 2022 D&O Insurance**

Chapter	Title	Name
Arkansas Valley	President	Nancy Leonard
	VP	Katie Knight
	Treasurer	Debi Stevens
	Secretary	Debbie Hood
Boulder Valley	President	Stan Adamson
	VP	Sally O'Dwyer
	Treasurer	Dorothy Kapaun
	Secretary	Janeen Cochi
Foothills	President	Cassandra DiPentino
	VP	Lauren Still
	Treasurer	Erika Senna
	Secretary	Jennifer Stewart
Grand Valley	President	Karen Harkin
	VP	Judi DeVore
	Treasurer	Susan Gregg
	Secretary	Arlene Rhodes
High Plains	President	Andrea Price-Valenzuela
	VP	Gemma Hanekom
	Treasurer	Agnes Audebert
	Secretary	Pippa Bird
Northern Colo	President	Sandra Rosewell

	VP	Sue Woods
	Treasurer	Kellee James
	Secretary	Kelly McGhee
On the Bit Dressage	President	Ginka Kubelka
	VP	Kelly Wolfe
	Treasurer	Tom Wolfe
	Secretary	Anna Chalfoun
Pikes Peak Dressage	President	Amy Michelson
	President	Audra Littlewood
	VP	Mary Jo Hoepner
	Treasurer	Elaine Thomas
	Secretary	Heather Petersen

**Nancy Leonard moved to approve the roster of the D&O Insurance Officer's List. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Nadia Westra and Dorothy Kapaun. Motion Passed Unanimously.**

## **Chapter Presidents:**

### **1. Arkansas Valley**

**Nancy Leonard**

AVDA has been able to stay quite busy these last few months. We have been fortunate to have a series of clinics with Holly Bergay in November and December. These will continue this year with scheduled clinics Jan 22, and tentatively Feb 13 and 17th. We are planning a practice Ride a Test with one of our experienced members, Brenda Haley doing the judging honors. This will be on March 19th and will be for members only. We have scheduled our shows for 2022 with our rated show on May 21, with Gwen Ka'awaola as our judge and September 10 with Kathy Daly. We are very happy to have Brenda Haley return as Web Master as she was doing our website at the beginning of our club. We have new and returning officers.

President: Nancy Leonard

Vice President: Katie Knight

Treasurer: Debi Stevens

Secretary: Debbie Hood

Debbie Hood and her husband Dale Hood will be our show managers and we are delighted to have their expertise in our midst.

We were able to have a covid safe Holiday Party as we had it outside in a pavilion in Penrose Park. AVDA is very excited about this coming year, our clinics, shows and just getting together as horse people. Safe riding to all.

### **2. Boulder Valley**

**Stan Adamson**

As 2022 begins, we have three major priorities:

1. Safety and soundness of our members' families, horses and properties following the disastrous **Marshall Fire** of December 30-31, 2021. We know that Vice President Sally O'Dwyer's home was a total loss, and Melissa Mullins had to relocate because of smoke damage, but we are compiling data on any other members who may have suffered serious losses. Within this week we should be able to assess how we will recommend RMDS members help those who lost so much. We are heartened by members like Jana Ward, Sue Martin, Liz Certain, and barns like Nighthawk, who helped evacuate and safeguard animals during and following this disaster. We will keep RMDS apprised of the extent of loss and any ways to help.
2. Our annual **Awards Banquet** celebrating the achievements of the 2021 show season is scheduled for January 29, 2022, at the Boulder Country Club. We were deeply saddened to learn that centerpieces, goody bags, and some silent auction items were consumed in the fire at Sally O'Dwyer's home. We met January 4 and 11 to decide how to move forward; the continuing presence of the COVID-19 Omicron variant and county-wide mask mandate means we will be staying in touch with our venue to determine the safest way to proceed. Donors to the silent auction are being very gracious about the losses, and we are getting in touch with all of

them as well as registered participants and personnel to ensure the banquet can be the celebration it is intended to be.

3. Plans are moving forward for our annual show at the **Boulder County Fairgrounds** scheduled for July 30-31, 2022, with setup and schooling on July 29. Nothing currently leads us to believe that show will not go on. We will continue with the support of our sponsors and staff to plan for a great show that weekend. Nicole Donohue is our show manager, and Heather Petersen is show secretary. Stay tuned for more information.

We hope to plan further educational activities which we will report on in March 2022. Several of our members are involved in the RMDS Volunteer Task Force appointed at the December Board of Governors meeting and are active in the three sub-groups on recruitment, training, and appreciation/member retention.

Boulder Valley Dressage Association made a special gift of \$2,000 to RMDS in 2021, and we would like to designate \$1,000 of that gift to the work of the Volunteer Task Force, to support research and to help implement recommendations of the Task Force in 2022. We will make a motion to that effect in the meeting tonight. We wish all RMDS members a safe and enjoyable New Year in 2022!

### 3. Foothills

**Cassandra Dipentino**

We are excited to introduce our new chapter logo. We decided it was time for a refresh.

We have a full team in place for 2022, with some “veterans” of the chapter as well some new faces and perspectives. The USDF Level 2 Foothills Dressage Festival (July 9 & 10) sponsorship packet is complete and we are now working on finding sponsors for the show.

The clinic series has been going well and providing a much expanded educational offering to RMDS members, with a few lessons learned this past year. Our Education co-chairs are now planning for 2022.

Our ad for the Omnibus and the auction basket for the banquet are ready to go.

### 4. Grand Valley

**Karen Harkin**

Grand Valley Dressage Society (GVDS) celebrated the accomplishments of our members at our annual awards celebration and business meeting on December 4. With nearly 70 in attendance, it was an excellent way to rekindle old friendships, make new friends and enjoy the holiday spirit. After a brief review of the 2021 Chapter “wins” and a thank you to our sponsors, we were treated to an outstanding meal provided by The Ribber Catering. Our show secretary Darby Savoca entertained us with holiday songs followed by the equine version of the 12 Days of Christmas sung by Darby and her brother Elijah. The guests were in hysterics with the creativity of the lyrics. Scores and Awards Chairperson, Cindy Petersen, and Judi DeVore presented awards to our winners. Linda Chadwick Wirth was the GVDS Volunteer of the Year with nearly 140 hours devoted to our website redesign, webmaster, and newsletter editor. Elijah Savoca was the GVDS Junior Volunteer of the year. He volunteered 88 hours and he doesn’t even show dressage!

We started 2022 by piggybacking on Amelia Newcomb’s excellent goal setting zoom program held on January 1 with a more personal goal sharing zoom session on January 5. Hazel Hoff, GVDS member and life-coach, facilitated the discussion for the six participants. The camaraderie and support for one-another was strong with the promise of periodic check-ins on our progress. Informally dubbed the “shadbelly and sequin girls”, we look forward to supporting one another through the year(s) as we strive to achieve our audacious goals.

On January 24, Dr. Tanya Hess will present Equine Nutrition: It’s More Than A Meal via zoom. This will be an exceptional opportunity to glean equine nutrition information from a resource not affiliated with a feed or supplement company. Everyone is welcome.

Several member sponsored clinics are planned for January and February, including Monique Potts natural horsemanship and Sue Martin, whose clinics are always sold out.

### 5. High Plains

**Andrea Price Valenzuela**

No report

### 6. Northern Colorado

**Sandra Rosewell**

No report

### 7. On The Bit

**Ginka Kubelka**

2021 came to an end with a fun Holiday Party at Tom and Kelly's lovely house. Now we have lots of plans for the New Year!

We will have a Franklin Ball Clinic with Joan Clay and bring back educational presentations at our meetings to hopefully draw in a few more people. In the early summer, we will offer a Ride-A-Test again. Our recognized show in July will be moved to a location with better footing, and we are working on bringing Ulf Wadeborn to Laramie towards the end of summer. Lots of fun, so check out our website if you are interested in any of these events!

Our current officers will continue in their positions for next year:

Ginka Kubelka – President  
Kelly Wolfe – Vice President  
Anna Chalfoun – Secretary  
Tom Wolfe - Treasurer

## **8. Pikes Peak**

**Audra Littlewood / Amy Michelson**

### **2021 Activities:**

PPDS hosted guest speakers and give-aways during the monthly meetings. Topics included equine first aid kits (with a first aid kit raffled off) as well as How to pull a shoe (with a farrier kit raffled off). This was done in an effort to increase attendance at monthly meetings. PPDS leadership continues to look for way to increase member involvement in the organization.

The December monthly meeting was replaced with a Christmas Party held at Latigo Trails Heritage Center. This was another lively event for members to get to know each other and participate in fun gift exchange.

### **2022 Plans:**

PPDS will be hosting an RMDS show at Latigo Trails Heritage Center on April 23, 2022.

The topic of bringing year-end awards back has been discussed at previous meetings, and we will discuss these in more detail at upcoming meetings.

**Next Meeting is March 10th meeting.**

**8:54 pm Stan Adamson made the motion to adjourn. 2<sup>nd</sup> by MaryJo Hoepner. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Respectfully submitted, Heather Petersen**