

## RMDS EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

May 12, 2022

Zoom Meeting

Meeting @ 6:30 PM

**Attendance:** Joan Clay, Bettina Bosma, Dorothy Kapaun, Beth Geier, Karen Harkin, Heather Petersen, Andrea Price-Valenzuela, Stan Adamson, Pippa Bird, Nadia Westra, MaryJo Hoepner, Sharon Soos, Nicole Bizzarro, Eleanor Harrison, Lauren Still, Gwen Ka'awaloa, Katie Knight, Ginka Kubelka, Shannon Lemons, Natalie DeFee Mendik, Sally O'Dwyer

**Proxies:** Audra Littlewood to Heather Petersen; Nancy Leonard to Katie Knight

### Call to Order-President

**Dorothy Kapaun**

Meeting called to order at 6:36 pm by Dorothy Kapaun

**Secretary - Approval of Minutes -**

**Heather Petersen**

**March 2022 minutes – Sharon Soos moved to approve the minutes as presented. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Stan Adamson. Motion passed unanimously.**

### Treasurers Report

**Sharon Soos**

Funds as of April 30, 2022

RMDS Checking Account \$25,884.45

RMDS PayPal (as of 12/15/2021) \$20,695.01

#### **Restricted Funds as of February 28, 2022**

RMDS Scholarship \$ 4,842.29

Barbara H McElnea Scholarship \$9,500.00

TOTAL \$60,921.75

Funds as of May 12, 2022

RMDS Checking Account \$45,625.17

RMDS PayPal (as of 12/19/2018) \$ 1,461.78 Total \$47,086.95 operating cash total

#### **Restricted Funds as of May 12, 2022**

RMDS Scholarship \$ 2,842.29

Barbara H McElnea Scholarship \$ 9,500.00

Payable \$1500.00

Pending Deposit

Subtotal \$10,842.29

TOTAL \$57,929.24

### President Report

**Dorothy Kapaun**

Why are we members of the Rocky Mountain Dressage Society? What benefits does this membership provide to us?

What does our membership require of us?

The first thing that comes to mind is the community that is RMDS. The many people that have come into our lives because of the membership. The friendships that are built at a show or educational event.

Being a member of RMDS has many benefits. First is this amazing monthly newsletter that informs you of what is happening in our organization and a new feature, introduces you to one of our Young Riders interviewed by our Young Rider Juliet Mendik! Then there is our incredible Omnibus with photos of so many of our member, the shows and advertisements by many of our wonderful sponsors. Membership also gives us the ability to participate in clinics with top riders and judges. The RMDS Website gives us valuable information, links to other organization and the ability to look back in our history through the old Centaur Editions. RMDS provide several educational events throughout the year.

Then, of course, there are the shows and our Championship Competition at the end of the year. Let's not forget about the Awards Banquet!!

So, what is required of RMDS members? Of course, we must pay our dues. If you want to be considered for a year end award, you must volunteer at least 8 hours per year. However, RMDS is like many other things in life, the more you put into it, the more you get out of it. So, if you would like to become more involved, reach out to the Chair of the committee that interest you the most or to anyone on the board and we will be so very happy to welcome you.

### **Vice President Report**

**Bettina Bosma**

We had our first Junior Rider fun activities this past weekend during the DFTC show.

We had about 15 juniors stop by.

Lauren and I are working on forming a committee to help with new ideas and gain momentum. We would like to ask if it's possible for our volunteers to get volunteer hours? Absolutely.

Next event will be during Nighthawk.

### **Central Office**

Beth Geier

#### **Membership**

- Registration – 583 members as of 5/1 for 2022 –87 new horses since October 2021. We have several more since then.
- See Reports with chapter membership totals.
- Accepting dues for 2022: \$80

#### **Shows:**

- For 2022: 7 RMDS shows: 30 USEF/USDF recognized shows which does not includes Championships and Regionals.
- Added 1 RMDS only Recognized show

#### **Omnibus:**

#### **Database/Website:**

- Working well – let us know of any problems you are having.
- Please ask your chapter members to see if there is a donor in the group or if they know of one.

#### **Banquet:**

- January 14, 2023

#### **Volunteer:**

- Interesting statistic: recorded with RMDS for 2021: 296 people 3843.75 hours (average 13 hrs.person)

#### **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**

<b>Summer Intensive</b>	June 8-10
<b>RMDS Team Competition</b>	June 25
<b>Executive Board Meetings:</b>	May 12, July 14, Sept 8, Oct 13 (budget)
<b>BOG</b>	Nov 19

### **2023**

**Banquet** January 14

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

5/9/2022

	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002
Members:	455	714	636	700	725	752	756	779	675	827	797	868	751	945	1030	1008	1036	1019	1151	1177	1162
Horses:	87	161	109	159	161	91	93	59	63	59	135	123	132	132	166	246	262	234	207	337	274
AV	36	40	39	39	36	39	25	29	26	27	25	27	24	15	26	12	-	-	-	-	-
BV	132	160	138	151	162	159	182	168	171	180	182	190	200	188	205	172	178	179	199	208	230
FH	51	65	51	56	70	57	73	79	76	64	65	71	72	75	76	77	74	73	109	103	115
GV	92	89	78	80	77	91	95	71	55	71	53	65	83	87	105	102	88	92	93	98	77
HP	125	146	117	162	164	169	149	156	151	176	190	208	226	256	265	260	259	251	267	283	278
NC	58	69	57	64	75	69	77	77	89	94	93	110	132	107	124	137	137	139	162	151	150
OB	23	30	40	37	38	49	43	42	33	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PP	65	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							
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>583</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	47	64	54	66	73	80	86	88	95	120	117	120	134								
Amateurs	152	240	140	217	205	195	163	152	176	209	220	239	230								
Education	14	12	11	14	18	21	17														
Business	13	16	12	12	9/2																
Life	38/1	43	35/1	33/1	32/2																

**Permanent Committee Reports Continued:**

**Adult Amateur**

**Pippa Bird**

- **May 14/15 - Dawn White O'Connor at Lake View Equestrian, Longmont, CO.**
  - Looking forward to a great Clinic this weekend
  - Budget attached showing profit to date. Hopefully we will have more auditors.
  - Una Schade is kindly offering to attend and take Photos/Videos for all riders at a reasonable rate. I think would be a great service that we can offer to all future Clinics. See attached her Flyer for this weekend.
  - Tammy Anderson not only graciously donating her facility for this event she is hosting a Pot Luck at her house for the Riders Saturday Night.
- **Team Competition scheduled for June 25th at Happenstance Farm**
  - Latigo Schooling Show is being held on the same day, same costs, same classes offered including costume and lead line classes. I want this to be successful so I am concerned about direct competition. I did ask Simone if she can move to Sunday, unfortunately the answer was no.
  - I understand we cannot control what events and schedule that others put on. I just want to express though it does not feel good for all the Volunteers and their efforts to date when they are so excited to make this and/or any other RMDS event a success and then they see an event that directly competes. My goal is and will always be to have a sense of community and inclusivity. I just feel it is important to communicate how if nothing else this feels to others
  - Festivities day of event secured to date:
    - Taco Truck
    - Photographer
    - Lunch Entertainment (Two Local Trainers will do a Pas De Deux) will be donating money to do this
    - Lunch Entertainment (To include our small children - special lead line class during lunch) A local Trainer is sponsoring this event
    - Happenstance (my barn) is doing a competition to see who can bring in the most gifts or sponsorships for the event

**FINANCIALS**

- QUESTION - if we make a Profit on an AA event where does that money go?
- Can it be used to take down the costs/expenses of other future events?

**EVENT SPACE/VENUES**

I am still actively looking at Venues to hold future events that provide indoor arenas and stalls because as you know very limited. Setting up an appointment in a couple of weeks to view Douglas County Fairgrounds and Messer Event Center at this time with Heather Petersen.

- Need HELP - If any Chapters know of any Indoor Event Space with Stalls that would be willing to host a Clinic, Schooling Show or Ride-A-test please let us know

#### **FUTURE EVENTS**

- Looking into the Fall/Winter of this year. I think it would be great to figure out as a group what Events we can provide for the Community to prepare PRIOR to Show Season for example: Clinics, Ride A Tests, Symposiums and Schooling Shows in the various areas of RMDS.
- I feel there is a need after Regionals/Nationals for us all to evaluate what we learned from Showing this year and what do we need to prepare ourselves and our horses for next year. Whether improving you score, going up another level or dealing with just the stress of shows. I know as a Competitor myself I always do this, set my goals, talk to my trainer, and we set out a clear plan ahead of time for what events etc. to attend to achieve my goals prior to show season.
- If I attend clinics during Show Season usually the reason is the weather is better and I can get my Horses off Property, give me confidence, deal with my stress of trailering etc. confirm I am going in the right direction or gathering tools to get that score up a point.
- Also it is important to support out Trainers as well. Bringing Clinicians in also provides additional education for them and their goals during Training Season.
- In short I know there is some Weather Restrictions in Colorado but I do think it can be done to help the overall Dressage Community with some effort:
  - Local Trainers - can travel to different areas within RMDS and provide clinics, keeping costs down.
  - Educational Zoom Events
  - Virtual schooling shows or Ride A Tests
  - Clinics and Schooling Shows in respective areas of RMDS (less traveling for all)
  - if limited stalls maybe provide a Schooling Show over a two day period versus one so others have the opportunity to attend i.e. a rider shows only one day only.
  - Symposium for all Trainers, AA and/JR Young Riders would be awesome between Oct-Dec.
  - I am also happy to Host any Event in any area of RMDS that helps the Community if the Event Space is available

Also good to note that everyone has a Budget for Clinics/Shows and if we have too much on the Calendar then some events will never fill. Private Events/Private Barns obviously not a concern.

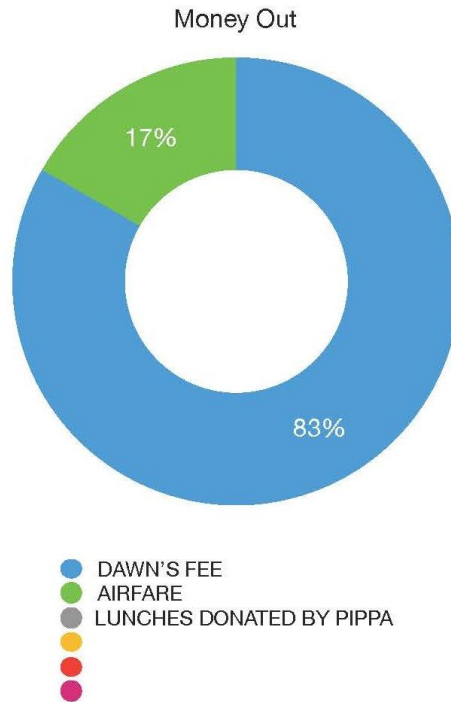
- Claudio's assistant Jess (Piaffe/Passage Clinic) - still trying to confirm dates for Fall this year

# RMDS - DAWN WHITE O'CONNOR CLINIC - MAY 14/15, 2022

Money In	
AUDITORS X 8 \$375.00	\$3,000
AUDITORS X 2	\$130
<b>Total income</b>	<b>\$3,130</b>

Money Out	
DAWN'S FEE	\$2,500
AIRFARE	\$503
LUNCHESES DONATED BY PIPPA	\$0
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>\$3,003</b>

Money Left Over	
Income minus expenses	\$127



## Awards

Some things we've mailed out have gotten lost, that's been a bit of an issue. Everything paid has been sent out. I've had to replace a few things, but not much. We'll start in August reminding folks to return their trophies.

**Shannon Lemons**

## Communications

### Proposed Motion:

**Ecentaur goes out monthly to paid members only. Recommend that Ecentaur be used as a marketing tool and send to all people in database (we have more than 800 emails in our database)—with would serve as a reminder to all that being a member is worthwhile.**

Nicole brought up doing a membership/recruitment campaign perhaps instead of the newsletter. Beth raised that a lot of them do get the email blasts, just not the e-Centaur.

**Sally O'Dwyer**

Ecentaur published the first interview with a young rider. Seeking updates from all the board members and committees to ensure all relevant information goes out to those interested. Editor will begin requesting monthly input the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month to publish.

We are ALWAYS looking for input. This newsletter belongs to the club and would be better served if we had more input from the members.

**Facebook Update.** Posts are daily. Kristina Lee, who is a professional marketer has taken our social media to the next level. She is currently creating posts for all the trainers who have donated lessons to the fundraiser and also now creating attractive posts for our

Omnibus sponsors.

The Communications volunteers work for you, so if you have a message your would like to have shared on facebook, please reach out to: [kristinalee11@gmail.com](mailto:kristinalee11@gmail.com) or [slodwyer@gmail.com](mailto:slodwyer@gmail.com)

Growth below from January 1, 2022 – May 8, 2022

## Total Page Followers

As of 5/12/2022, we have

1,859 likes

2,092 followers

Many posts reach 300-400 people on average. Some posts reach over 1000 people.

### Some popular posts:

You can see those different types of content appeals to followers....

Nighthawk show post reached 1.4K people

Thanks to Jessica Greer advertising reach 1.2K people

Article about show ring etiquette reached 1.2K people

Visit RMDS website to learn about fundraiser reached 1.3K people

RMDS April activities post reach 1K people

Magazine – we'll have financials at the next meeting.

Website – Heather says it's going well outside of what Beth is dealing with regarding uploading results and such.

## Education

**MaryJo Hoepner**

Working with Gwen on bringing L Program to Colorado late this year through early next year.

Latest budget and information

Dates for L program

- o November 5,6 2022 Joan Darnell (A session Kiowa, then Sunday noon - close at Happenstance)
- o February 18,19 2023 Confirming with Dorie Vlatten-Schmitz (B session Kiowa classroom a.m. both days, p.m. Happenstance both days)
- o March 25,26 2023 Debbie Rodriguez (C session, Saturday Larimer County classroom, Sunday at Tomora)

Dougco is available Feb 18 19

Gwen has a line on facility in Parker for November

Kathy Coors place will be used for horses for session a.

Budget

Part 1

Income

Participants--one fee covers A,B,C \$850 x 15 \$12750

Auditors per session \$100 x 30 \$3000

Lunches \$47 x \$20 x 6 \$5400

Income \$21,150

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Expenses

Instructors

Joan Darnell fee \$800 x 2

Debbie Rodriguez fee \$800 x 2

Dorie Vlatten-Schmitz fee \$800 x 2

airfare \$800 x 3 \$2400

lodging \$180 x3 x3 nights \$1620

Kiowa Meeting room (A,B) \$250 x 4 \$1000

Larimer County Meeting room (C) \$250 x 1 \$ 250

Continuing Education in Musical Freestyle Judging (optional addition to part C to be held as Judges Continuing Ed at a later date)

Sound system at barns \$200 x 4 \$ 800

Portapots \$100 x 6 \$ 600

Food at venues 47 x \$20 x 6 \$5400

Seating bleachers \$510 per day	4 x \$510	\$2040
Roxbury (Kathy Coors) (A)	\$250 x 1	\$ 250
Happenstance (B)	\$100 x 2	\$ 200
Tomora (C -- Sunday)	\$250 x 1	\$ 250
Insurance (million)		
Application fee to USDF	\$100	\$100
Expense total	19,560	

**Shannon Lemons moved to approve the program and its budget, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Katie Knight. Motion passed unanimously.**

## Junior/Young Riders

**Lauren Still**

It's been a busy couple of months!

### Summer Intensive

I'm super excited about this year's Summer Intensive! It filled in April (12 riders) and we are starting a waitlist (1 so far) and accepting daily auditors.

- Wednesday June 8 – Friday June 10 (check-in June 7th) at Tomora Training Center in Greeley.
- Wonderful line-up of clinicians: Sara Storch-Kay, Annie Morris, and Dolly Hannon (for a special Musical Freestyle day!), plus several special guest appearances planned: Joan Clay, Shannon Warner, and Elizabeth Petersen are confirmed.
- NCDAA Schooling Show at Tomora is on Saturday and Sunday (June 11 & 12) –stay and show!
- Registration forms (to waitlist or audit) are on the RMDS Calendar for download.

### Outreach

Pippa and I have spoken to several chapters via Zoom to get input and introduce ourselves. It's been very valuable and we would love to touch base with the remaining chapters.

### Virtual Community Events

We held our first ever JR/YR virtual community event via Zoom on April 11. Annie Morris kindly volunteered to speak and shared some great visuals on rider position and aids. We had around 20 attendees and received very positive feedback and a request for more events like this.

### Youth Activities at Shows

Bettina organized an awesome pizza and ice cream party at DFTC! Thanks Bettina!!! We have others wanting to help with future youth activities, and will hold a Zoom call to connect everyone and brainstorm.

### Youth Activity Committee – Seeking Interested Parties

If anyone would like to be part of planning of youth activities, please contact me and I will add you to the committee. The more the merrier!

### Exploring a Lendon Gray clinic in Colorado

I am exploring with Dressage 4 Kids (D4K) having Lendon Gray out to do one of her TEAM Clinics.

Holding D4K clinics in CO would open up other avenues for our youth such as Lendon knowing local riders if they apply for her Winter Intensive or other D4K events, as well as the D4K horse match program.

D4K runs on a different model from what we are used to: D4K collects the fees and pays for Lendon's travel and expenses – from us they would ask for logistical support on the ground (finding a host location willing to donate the arena, help marketing). Revenue to RMDS would be from audit fees (we could also hold an one-day adult clinic in conjunction, for which we could also charge audit fees). Therefore the budget is small (lunches etc) but the income to RMDS may also be small based on auditors. *Because this is not the usual clinic model, I would like the Board's input on whether I should pursue further.*

## D4K TEAM Clinic Budget

		<i>ESTIMATED</i>	
<b>Income</b>		@	\$40 per day
Auditors	25		\$1,000
total across both days			<u>\$1,000</u>
<b>Expenses</b>		@	(\$12) per day
Lunch for riders & clinician	10		(\$120)
Lunch for auditors	25		(\$300)
Waters & coffee etc			(\$50)
			<u>(\$420)</u>
<b>NET INCOME</b>			<u>\$580</u>

**Additional tasks:** We locate a facility willing to donate an arena with room for auditors for this event. Facility can charge for stabling, shavings, etc.  
We assist with marketing in the area.  
We find volunteers to do 2 lectures per day at lunch and after rides (e.g., colic, shoeing, psychology, etc.)  
If someone would like to host Lendon at their house nearby the facility, D4K appreciates such offers.  
We can potentially get sponsors for the water, coffee, lunch to reduce expenses.

**D4K provides:** Lendon's time for lessons  
Collection of funds from riders  
Travel arrangements and related expenses  
Insurance for the event  
Event on D4K calendar

**Other notes:** Cost for riders would be \$250 + stabling and facility fees for the weekend (payable to D4K)  
Monetary risk for RMDS is quite low, and as long as we can get a good number of auditors, this clinic can make money for RMDS.  
Lendon can often stay an extra day to offer an AA clinic. Lauren and Pippa are in communication on this.  
RMDS can charge what they want to above Lendon's fee and have auditors for the optional AA clinic.  
For the first D4K clinic in an area, Lendon likes to do the clinic personally. Future clinics may be a staff member.

*We are going to pursue looking at the October 29-30 date for having Lendon come out and do a clinic and add a day for AAs afterwards.*

## Marketing

**Adrienne Murphy**

RMDS fundraiser is in full swing  
\$790 raised so far  
need to keep promoting on social media and email blasts  
RMDS championship show. Waiting for a chairperson to be named to organize and promote a fundraising event. Have been working on ideas with Denver Polo Club.

## Professionals

**Joan Clay**

### 2022 RMDS PROFESSIONALS' SYMPOSIUM

**Event Summary:** The RMDS Professionals' Symposium featuring Lilo Fore was held April 23-24, 2022, at Tomora Training Center in Greeley, CO. There were 8 horse/rider combinations and there were 13 auditors on Saturday and 17 auditors on Sunday. Dolly Hannon acted as moderator all day Saturday and half day on Sunday. Kathy Simard took over as the moderator on Sunday afternoon. Beth Geier handled the registration desk and organized the lunch orders and Joan Clay was the overall organizer.

Nicole Roach-Reisvold and Natalie Ellis, Tomora owners, went above and beyond the call of duty as facility hosts for this event. Out of concern for the visiting horses during the windstorm, they moved some of their personal horses to allow the clinic horses to stay in permanent stalls all weekend. This was very much appreciated by the riders and allowed the horses to be safe and well rested for their rides. The footing quality was excellent and was well maintained throughout the weekend and the indoor arena and seating area were beautifully set up in advance. Tomora donated coffee and snacks and they also had a very nice table arrangement for lunch service, which facilitated great conversation and social time during the lunch hour.

As always, Lilo's instruction was of exceptionally high quality and her answers to questions and feedback during the discussion sessions was very interesting, informative, and much appreciated by the riders and the auditors. The feedback from the riders and auditors was very positive with high praise for the instruction, the quality of the horses and riders, the format, and the facility. There was minimal negative feedback offered on the evaluations.



The primary areas of improvement would be to make sure that side conversations were taken outside so everyone could hear and that we stop the wind (HA!).

There was a very good response for the call for riders with 14 horses applying for the 8 available rides. Our auditor attendance was lower than expected, with only 11 paid auditors on Saturday and 15 paid auditors on Sunday (Joan Clay and Dolly Hannon were auditing for free, due to their involvement as organizer and moderator, respectively). This event received USDF University accreditation, and 5 participants chose to pay the extra fees to get USDF University Credit. The required USDF materials, evaluations and fees were mailed on USDF on April 25, 2022.

#### **Demonstration Riders**

- Brooke VonHoffman on her own Royallist
- Glenda Needles on her own DaVinci SCS
- Nicole Roach-Reinsvold on Yonder (Wendy Dungan, owner)
- Annie Morris on her own Floriade
- Verena Diaz on Debonair MF (Shannon Moyes Clark, owner)
- Christina Rudman on Elina Reina VZ (owned by Mona Baker)
- Sue Martin on Freestyle (owned by Mary Kraft)
- Anita Williams on her own Ducarlos

**Finances:** A separate budget worksheet is included with this report. The expenses were well managed with no surprises, and we came in under the original budgeted amount by \$446. Unfortunately, the income received was less than planned due to a lower turnout of auditors than expected. We had 11 paying auditors on Saturday and 15 paying auditors on Sunday, but we expected 20 paying auditors each day. We had planned on receiving \$3000 of auditor income, but we only received \$1875 from auditors.

This event did receive a \$1000 grant from The Dressage Foundation's Max Gahwyler Fund, which helped immensely to cover our shortfall. All required evaluation materials were returned to TDF on May 10, 2022. The original budget did not list \$500 from the RMDS Professional's Committee 2022 budget, because we had hoped to have broken even without any extra funds from RMDS. We will need to use the \$500 allotted to the RMDS Professional's Committee for 2022. With these additional sources of income, we still experienced a loss of \$44.10.

#### **AUDITOR ATTENDANCE**

The possible reasons for decreased attendance are listed below:

1. There were many RMDS events during April and early May, so professionals may have had to pick and choose which events they could attend to still balance meeting their workload and client needs (for example coaching at a show or taking a client to a clinic). Here are the events that occurred during April and early May 2022 that may have created time constraints for area professionals.
  - a. April 16-17, 2022: RMDS Adult Amateur Clinic with George Williams
  - b. **April 23-24, 2022: RMDS Professionals' Clinic featuring Lilo Fore**
  - c. April 23, 2022: Pikes Peak Dressage Show (RMDS Recognized) – PPD is a chapter of RMDS
  - d. April 23-24, 2022: Grand Valley Schooling Show – GVDS is a chapter of RMDS
  - e. April 29-May 1: Robert Dover Symposium presented by Northern Colorado Dressage Association - NCDA is a chapter of RMDS.
  - f. May 6-8, 2022: Dressage for the Cure, RMDS/USEF/USDF Recognized and qualifier for NAYC, USEF Festival of Champions & USEF Young Horse Championships
2. We had to raise auditor fees.
3. We scheduled the symposium on a weekend when it had typically been scheduled on a weekday. We had previously received feedback from participants asking for a weekend schedule. However, I think all the weekend events made it difficult for some professionals to find 1 or 2 days to attend this event.
4. The weather was horrible (high wind events with high wildfire danger for several days in a row) which may have prevented some people from attending as a walk-in.
5. This event hasn't happened since 2018, so people are out of the habit of making time for this symposium in their calendar.

RMDS needs to make sure this event is scheduled without so many other events on the same and surrounding weekends, if possible. We may also want to consider going back to a weekday schedule. However, we had this

event scheduled for the same weekend in 2020, 2021 and 2022, so the other events/shows got added due to clinician and facility availability and it was hard to coordinate everyone's activities after having so many cancellations and postponements over the past two years.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- 1) Investigating offering a USDF Certified Instructor/Trainer Workshop Series in 2023 at the suggestion of Annie Morris.
- 2) Need to start plans for the next RMDS Professionals' Symposium in 2024.

Event Budget worksheet

Event: RMDS Professional's Symposium	Date of Event: 4/23-24/22
Location of Event: Tomora Training Center	
Prepared by: Joan Clay	Date Prepared: 5/10/22

Income	Budget (\$)	Actual
Participants - Demo Riders (8 @ \$400 ea)	3200	3200.00
Auditor Fees (20 @ \$150 ea)	3000	1870.00
<b>*See below for breakdown</b>		
Grants (TDF Max Gahwyler Fund)	1000	1000.00
USDF University Registration		25.00
RMDS Professional Committee Budget		500.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>7200</b>	<b>6595.00</b>
Expenses	Budget (\$)	Actual
Clinician - Lilo Fore (2 x \$1500/day)	3000	3000.00
Equipment Rental (2 Patio Heaters)	350	179.52
Facility Rental (Tomora Training Center)	700	700.00
Insurance	70	70.00
Lodging (Lilo - 2 nights, Beth 1 night, Dolly 1 night)	450	480.48
Per Diem or Meals (Lilo - Dinners)	150	131.42
Photocopying	20	0.00
Port-A-Potty	175	160.00
Postage	0	29.12
Supplies (Tea/Coffee supplies)	30	33.21
Travel (Lilo - 1st Class Airfare & Ground Transport)	1200	1022.22
USDF University Application	40	40.00
Box Lunches (60 @ \$15 ea)	900	768.13
USDF University Credit Fees		25.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>7085</b>	<b>6639.10</b>
<b>Net Profit / Loss</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>-44.10</b>

**\*ACTUAL AUDITOR FEES COLLECTED\***

- 8 @ \$150 = \$1200
- 1 @ \$90 = \$90
- 3 @ \$80 = \$240
- 3 @ \$65 = \$195
- 1 @ \$145 = \$145
- 2 @ \$0 = \$0

**TOTAL AUDITOR FEES = \$1870**

## Scholarship

Natalie DeFee-Mendik

Five checks for half of the awards totals were distributed to the 2022 scholarship recipients (4 RMDS scholarships and 1 Western Colorado Chapter scholarship).

## Shows – Championships

Currently Vacant

Sport horse Championships – Heather presented that we have the opportunity to host the sport horse championships again this year at Hobby Horse Farm in Longmont, CO with local judges and such. This is really desired by our local breeders and owners. **Sharon Soos moved to approve the Rocky Mountain Sport Horse Championships, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dorothy Kapaun – motion passes with Heather Petersen abstaining. The Championships will be held September 15<sup>th</sup>.**

Dorothy will schedule a sit down with Tara and Andrea, herself and Heather regarding RMDS Championships.

## Appointed Committee Reports:

### 1. Western Dressage

Simone Windeler

No report for Western Dressage.

### 2. Nominating Committee – Chapter Presidents

Stan Adamson

The following RMDS Officers for even-numbered years, were elected at the Board of Governors on November 19, 2022:

- President
- Vice President Bettina Bosma (GVDS)
- AA
- Championships
- Communications
- Jr/YR
- Scholarships

### 3. BOG - November 19, 2022

Heather Petersen

### 4. Banquet –

Beth Geier

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

### 5. AD HOC Volunteer Committee Report –

Judi Devore

The volunteer page of the RMDS website has been updated to have quick links to volunteer sign-ups for our region's shows. If you are holding a show and have a sign-up created, please send to Heather Petersen to post on the RMDS volunteer page. We also encourage show management to send their sign-ups for volunteers to Sally O'Dwyer, Communications Committee for posting on Facebook. The Grand Valley Dressage schooling show had good success with getting the remainder of our positions filled by including the sign-up link in the email about ride times. Many people won't sign up prior to getting their ride times and this is a good reminder to do so once they know their availability. Please send any feedback or success stories about volunteerism to Volunteer Co-Chairs Judi DeVore [jdevore2000@mac.com](mailto:jdevore2000@mac.com) or Eleanor Harrison [eleanor@quitsa.net](mailto:eleanor@quitsa.net). We would like to do a feature in the eCentaur about volunteerism or profiles of your outstanding volunteers.

## Region 5 Report

Heather Petersen

Kids are doing well in qualifying for NAYC and Convention is in Kentucky this year, please join us!

## Old Business:

- No old business.

## **New Business:**

**Bids are due June 30<sup>th</sup> for the July meeting for 2 year cycles.**

## **Chapter Presidents:**

**Joan Clay moved to accept the chapter reports as written, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Katie Knight. Motion passed unanimously.**

### **1. Arkansas Valley**

**Nancy Leonard**

Our club has been very active this spring with clinics and preparing for our show on May 21. We are doing our show at Pathfinder Park in Florence. We want to assure everyone that it will be safe for your horses. There have been no horses infected outside of the prison herd. We are accepting registrations through next Tuesday with no late fee. Our judge will be Gwen Ka'awaloa. We are looking forward to this RMDS rated show. We have continued to have successful clinics with Holly Bergay and she will be doing another clinic for us in May. We are planning to have a clinic in June with Simone Windeler. Our members have been participating in shows with 3 of our members doing Ride for the Cure this past weekend. Several of our members will be auditing the Cowboy Dressage Clinic this weekend in Aurora. We are happy to have members who teach lessons so we all can improve our horsemanship. We have all been struggling fighting the wind, like everyone else but continue to enjoy our horses and the closeness of our horse community. Happy riding to you all!

### **2. Boulder Valley**

**Stan Adamson**

BVDA met at 7 p.m., Monday, April 11, 2022. We completed routine business, then Sally O'Dwyer announced that the Boulder Valley Dressage book club had run its course and is being retired. We all thanked Sally for her leadership and the good time the participants had.

We heard comments from members who participated in Monique Potts' virtual Trailer Loading Clinic on April 6. Stan Adamson reported on conversations with Michael Graham at Volte about hosting a clinic, but all the 2022 dates he had available would not work for us, we decided. We will continue to discuss possibilities for Volte hosting a clinic in 2023.

Beth Geier has offered to serve as Volunteer Coordinator to recruit, train and support volunteers for our annual Dressage at the Fairgrounds shows.

Nicole Donohue, Show Manager for BVDA, reported on progress in planning the annual Boulder County Fairgrounds Shows on July 29-31, 2022. Nicole reported that all was in place for the shows, and several of us will follow up with local sponsors to be sure we have high point winner gifts, volunteer appreciation gifts, and the Ford pickups for the judges and scribes.

Shannon Moyes-Clark has continued to work on improvements to our web site; we are looking to improve the invitation and resources section and other upgrades. We are very appreciative of Shannon's work!

We are already planning for the next Awards Banquet, which will take place at the Boulder Country Club on January 28, 2023.

The club has grown to 132 members as of last count. Our next meeting, via Zoom, will take place June 13, 2022.

### **3. Foothills**

**Cassandra Dipentino**

Foothills Chapter of RMDS has been busy preparing for our four shows this summer. Our amazing show committee meets a few times a month now that we're in the home stretch.

Our USDF/USEF show in July is a new show, at new venue (to most!), with new management. However, we are receiving a lot of interest and support from RMDS members from all over the state! We are so thankful for the support and guidance of Heather Petersen and Simone Windeler through this daunting process! We have also had a ton of support from local sponsors, and we are blown away by the generosity of the people who have reached out. Our first show at Table Mountain Ranch is on June 5<sup>th</sup> and we're hoping for another great turnout.

While our current focus is mostly on shows right now, we still have ideas and plans in the works for clinics and learning in the future.

It is such a great time to be involved in dressage in Colorado! So many fresh ideas and fun events. It will be a busy summer of learning, camaraderie, and progress!

### **4. Grand Valley**

**Karen Harkin**

Grand Valley Dressage Society (GVDS) had a busy few months with the focus on improving our riding skills and knowledge.

We started April with an excellent clinic with Julie Haugen, co-sponsored by WDACO. Although the intent was for it to be a western dressage clinic, the riders were a nice blend of classical and western dressage. Riders were excited about the new exercises they learned from Julie as well as getting a good morale-boost prior to start the show season.

The following weekend we hosted a “Contact and Connection Symposium” with Emily Donaldson. Each day included a session with Emily riding and describing her ride on two very different horses at different phases of their connection. Paige Burnham’s four-year-old Zyana Mustang mare was used to demonstrate a young horse at the lower end of the training scale, just starting in training level and young horse classes. Judi DeVore’s Believe WS demonstrated a horse starting third level. Emily’s calm demeanor had all the horses and riders taking a calming breathe and relaxing through their exercises. Horses were happy, riders were happy. Saturday night was a potluck and a Zoom discussion about contact and connection, which was open to anyone who wanted to attend. Although Emily was new to many of the members, she offered a refreshing and different perspective.

In early May we had a member-sponsored clinic with Kristen Aggers. A Sue Martin protégé, Kristen had a similar style to the very-popular Sue, but a lovely overlay of her own exercises, positive feedback and encouragement for the riders. Kristen is coming again later in May, as her clinic was so popular.

When we weren’t learning, we were showing what we learned at our first schooling show of the year at the end of April. The show was over-subscribed but our secretary, Darby Savoca, did a great job trying to get as many wait-listed riders as possible into the show. We used the Signup app for volunteers. We were excited to see so many new faces, due in part to the shorter time commitments and our focused improvement on volunteer appreciation. Kudos to our Volunteer Coordinator, Barb Progress, with her lovely basket of volunteer goods and to Secrest and Wittingham Properties for the donation of the insulated travel mugs for the volunteers. A lovely touch which was most appreciated. Although we started the weekend on Friday with 60mph winds and sideways rain, followed by 30-degree cooler temps, the exhibitors were great sports, as most did not school on Friday and just started the weekend “riding the horse they had”.

Our recognized and RMDS shows are open for entries till May 23. Lots of entry activity for all three shows – an RMDS show on Friday, and two separate Level Two shows on Saturday and Sunday. We really hope we sell out on all three. We are excited to announce our presenting sponsor Alpine Bank. We pick up the “big check” on Monday in a quiet presentation. Having two outstanding judges (Dolly Hannum on Friday, Dolly and Janet Foy as a panel on Saturday, and Janet on Sunday) and an opportunity to qualify for Region 5 Regionals AND RMDS Championships in a single weekend, we think these will be great draws for the western state riders from Colorado, Utah, New Mexico, Wyoming and Arizona.

## 5. High Plains

No report

**Andrea Price Valenzuela**

## 6. Northern Colorado

### **On April 30 – May 1, 2022, Robert Dover Symposium**

An exciting group of Colorado horse and rider combinations learned from dressage master, Robert Dover. The auditor slots were full both days. The riders and auditors gave rave reviews of the event! Thank you to Sue Woods (VP for NCDCA) and Kathy Coulson, owner of the host facility.

**NCDCA’s next events include:**

### **May 14, 2022, Ride A Test with Sandy Hotz FEI\* judge at Blue Roof Equestrian Center**

The first of three scored events which count towards the NCDCA Year-End Awards!

**June 11, 2022, NCDCA Schooling Show I** with Sharron Sarchet at Tomora Training Center

**June 12, 2022, NCDCA Schooling Show II** with Amy Jablonovsky at Tomora Training Center

**NCDCA has been featuring interesting topics at each meeting starting in**

February with [Amy and Steve LeSatz](#) **Emergency Preparedness for Horse Barns**

March with [Monique Potts](#) **Trailer Your Horse**

April with [Kelly McGhee](#) **Bodywork and Biomechanics**

May with [Joan Clay](#) **New Rules on Dressage Attire**

## **7. On The Bit**

**Ginka Kubelka**

We had a great day with Joan Clay in Laramie on March 27<sup>th</sup> working with Franklin Balls to become better riders! Everyone enjoyed the instructions and the outcome, so we will do this again!

At our May meeting, we had a special guest: Dorothy Kapaun. We invited Dorothy to get a closer connection with our mother organization, get questions of our members about RMDS answered, and to communicate challenges we are facing. We had a lovely evening with Dorothy and very much enjoyed her company! Thank you, Dorothy!

The next event on our calendar will be a clinic with Kathleen Donnelly on June 25<sup>th</sup> at Jane Swanhorst's facility in Cheyenne. We will have more information and a sign-up form on our website soon.

We are also working hard on getting ready for our recognized show on July 23 & 24 at the Hansen Arena in Laramie. Our judges will be Jeff Moore (S, CA) and Renee Johnson (S, CA). Join us for a friendly and fun show!

We are always happy to see new faces, so come join us through zoom or in person for one of our monthly meetings! Connect with us through Facebook or our website, [onthebitdressage.com](http://onthebitdressage.com).

## **8. Pikes Peak**

**Audra Littlewood**

PPDS held a very successful show at Latigo in April. The show was a great warm up for Dressage for the Cure, and entries were full. To promote the club, competitors received vinyl logo stickers and custom chapsticks. We also had baseball hats available for purchase that were very popular. PPDS logo saddle pads were also given to division winners, and a random volunteer. PPDS effort to promote the club has gotten off to a great start.

In addition to the show, PPDS also hosted a dinner at Latigo for members to participate in. The dinner took place the Friday before the show, after set up. It was well attended, with over thirty members present. Everyone had a great time getting to know new faces. Given the success of this event, PPDS plans to keep regular social events on the calendar.

PPDS planned a natural horsemanship clinic for May. However, with show season getting off to a busy start, this has been temporarily postponed. We will also ask members for feedback on what sort of events and clinics they would be most interested in.

**Next Meeting is July 14th.**

**9:10 pm Sharon Soos made the motion to adjourn. 2<sup>nd</sup> by many. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Respectfully submitted, Heather Petersen**