

**RMDS BOARD OF GOVERNORS
SATURDAY November 10, 2012
The Renaissance Denver Hotel
Denver, CO 80207**

Meeting called to Order: by Lori Mitchell @ 8:32 am

Attendance and Delegate count:

Arkansas Valley:	Jamee Amundson – 2 votes: Proxy to Lori Mitchell
Boulder Valley:	Kim Lampert - 4 votes: Proxy to Heather Petersen for 3 votes, 1 vote to Gwen Ka’awaloa Sarah Barnes Julie Barringer-Richers – arrived at 9:20 am Nicole Bizzarro: Proxy to Beth Geier Beth Geier Stephanie Margulis
Colorado Springs:	Patricia Leech Jennifer Glass Rebecca Hutton Anita Johnson
Foothills:	Pamela DeVore Heather Fitzgerald: Proxy to Lori Mitchell Cecilia “CC” Ross Laura Quackenbush - arrived at 8:45 am
Grand Valley:	Inka Spatafora - 3 votes. Proxy to Beth Geier
High Plains:	Wendy Cibis – 6 votes Susan Rudman Aline Brandau Debbie Moloznik
Northern Colorado:	Joan Clay – 3 votes Julie Haugen – 2 votes
Pikes Peak:	Simone Windeler Shannon Lemons Heather Petersen
Platte River:	Laura Speer
Wasatch Mountain:	Linda Nickerson: Proxy to Wendy Cibis Sally Shaffer: proxy to Wendy Cibis

Western Colorado: Judith Family – 2 votes: proxy to Beth Geier

Non-delegates attending (no vote): Peter Soos, Jon Haugen, Linda Gaber, Sharon Soos, Michael Petersen

46 possible delegate votes in attendance.

Possible delegate voting rights of RMDS Chapters is 46 votes.

Quorum requires 30 votes (66%) of total RMDS delegates for a motion to pass.

Approval of Minutes November 2011 BOG

Corrections: 1). Pg. 2, Add Sharon Soos as non-voting representative.

Julie Haugen moved to approve minutes from BOG 2011 as corrected, 2nd by Wendy Cibis. Motion carried.

First reading of election roster with nominations from the floor:

Slate for 2013:

Vice-President: Peter Soos, Gwen Ka'awaloa

Adult Amateur: Beth Geier

Awards: Shannon Lemons

Communications: Linda Gaber

Education: Jon Haugen

Jr/Yr: Julie Haugen

Marketing: Sharon Soos

RMDS Shows:

Scholarship: MaryJo Hoepner

Treasurer's Report: Sharon Soos

Cash on hand	<u>\$83,660.05</u>
RMDS Checking Account	\$31,256.89
Paypal Account	\$3,501.67
Scholarship Account	\$4,462.33
Money Market	\$44,439.16

Issues/Discussion:

- Email blasts –over \$2200 for this year at this point in time.
- Winter Wake Up Loss of \$1,271
- Championships Show Profit \$8,158
- Omnibus 2013 advertising as of 10/31/12 \$2,715
- Centaur 2013 advertising as of 10/31/12 \$2,982
- RMDS 2013 membership dues as of 10/31/12 \$2,825

Current profit and loss statement shows RMDS at a loss of \$7,096. If the stated income for 2013 booked in 2012, and state Income and Expense for 2012 booked in 2011 is taken into consideration, the loss is \$10,993.

Central Office Report: Beth Geier

Membership:

- 797 members, 13 of these are Centaur only. 135 new horses since October 2011.
- Now accepting 2013 dues - \$60 until Dec. 31 then \$65. Will take memberships today at the BOG and the awards banquet.

Centaur & Omnibus:

- Working on the advertising for both publications. We have contracted an advertising person, Kayce Douglass. Please send in – Nov 20 is deadline for ads.

- Omnibus prize lists. November 20 deadline – send to RMDS Central Office.
- Articles: please send in for Centaur

Shows:

- Receiving applications for 2013 RMDS recognition for shows. Report on this later.

Office:

- Co-ordinate with the committee chairs and helps out where needed.

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Members:	1162	1177	1151	1019	1036	1008	1030	945	921	868	797
Horses:	274	337	207	234	262	246	166	132	132	123	135

AV	-	-	-	-	-	12	26	15	24	27	25
BV	230	208	199	179	178	172	205	188	200	190	182
CS	134	155	137	130	143	126	127	115	124	115	63
FH	115	103	109	73	74	77	76	75	72	71	65
GV	77	98	93	92	88	102	105	87	83	65	53
HP	278	283	267	251	259	260	265	256	226	208	190
NC	150	151	162	139	137	137	124	107	132	110	93
PP											44
PR	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	14
WA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20	24	24	28
WC	64	55	44	34	32	25	25	21	22	31	27
No Chapter	24	36	34	21	22	16	14	25	14	15	13

PN	13	14	15	14	13	13	12	inactive	Dissolved		
TS	77	74	91	86	90	68	51	36	Dissolved		
TOTAL	1162	1177	1151	1019	1036	1008	1030	945	921	870	797
Juniors									134	120	117
Amateurs									230	239	220

Please use the following “L” graduates in the RMDS only recognized shows. These have kept up with their continuing education.

Simone Ahern *	719-749-9274
Julie Burt	719-431-2342
Linda Coates-Markle	303-469-0279
Alex Curnutte*	303-906-7083
Kathleen Donnelly*	970-310-8729
Beth Geier	303-673-9840
Jessica Greer	970-581-5613
Julie Haugen*	970-290-8360
Sarah Martin *	719-379-3716
Linda Ohlson-Gross *	303-840-9818
KC Parkins-Kyle	303-841-9953
Kathy Simard*	720-981-4448
Simone Windeler	719-287-2040

Please use the following RMDS TD’s in the RMDS only recognized shows. These have kept up with their continuing education.

Joan Clay	970-420-0887
Jeannette Hillery	303-494-7718
MaryJo Hoepner	719-495-3648
Mindy Maguire	720-301-0089
Dee Stiers	970-618-2033

Can use all USEF/USDF officials as well.

Upcoming meeting dates for 2012 – Romanos Italian Restaurant – C470 and Broadway:

January 17th (third Thursday)

March 14th

May 9th

July 11th

September 12th

October 10th (budget and retreat?)

November 9th – BOG

Western Dressage: No report but an article coming in the Centaur soon.

Committee Chair Reports:

Scholarship: MaryJo Hoepner

- Have articles from Ann Edelman and from Gwen Ka’awaloa.
- Waiting on articles from Zoe Austerman and Linda Gaber.
- Have received one application for this coming year - Deadline is November 30.
- Volunteer hours are accounted for.
- It was asked to publish the grading scale used on the website – the committee will work to get this done.

Adult Amateur: Beth Geier

2012

March 17

Sarah Martin Clinic: Teaching the Rider to Feel

Thank you to Stellar Farm for the facility & demo riders - Donna Baxter & Leigh Romano

This was a very informative clinic for both riders and instructors.

We made a profit of \$531.00

July 22

USDF Region 5 Youth & Adult Team Competition

There were 6 Youth Teams & 8 Adult Teams: 46 riders for 92 rides. 2 judges

Thank you for Tomora Training Center for donating the facility; Simone Windeler & Amy Jablonovsky for judging.

The competition was a lot of fun & very popular!

We made a profit of \$1625.56

2013

February 23-24 George Williams Symposium – rider applications are now on the RMDS website

USDF Region 5 Team Competition – date to be determined

If there is a particular clinic or event you would like to have, please let me know.

Junior Young Rider: Julie Haugen

This year’s camp was a wonderful success. The campers and organizers had a great time and there was a profit of \$700. I cannot thank the many people who helped me enough. It is my hope that next years’ will be as successful. As I have already determined, the dates are June 19-22. I think the campers really enjoy the idea of a show and that there is also a need to continue their dressage education. I have thoughts of concentrating more on educating them specifically of the concepts of the training scale and how it relates to competition. I feel it would be good for them to learn what goes into putting on a show, and am considering the idea of them helping me run a schooling show. I am still in the planning stages and will keep you updated as to specifics. I welcome any input as well.

As far as other ideas that would get our youth more involved and educated, I thought it would be good to organize a group that could sit together during the upcoming Symposium. I think it would be good to survey the youth of RMDS and ask them to let us know what they have an interest in being involved in. This year has gone by so quickly, and it amazes me how many little good ideas never had time to develop. It is a very humbling reality to look back and realize what didn't get done and how much there is to do. I think that these jobs are much easier to critique and much harder to do. Thankfully, there is another year to look forward to, and many more ideas to work on.

It was suggested RMDS consider holding the USDF Adult and Junior Team Competition on June 23rd instead of in October. Most seemed in agreement.

Junior Camp: Julie Haugen

About a year ago I agreed to take on the responsibilities as the RMDS Junior Young rider director. Joan Clay had taken on the responsibilities of the USDF Jr/YR position and promised me she would help me with my new position. The year has flown by! She has been a tremendous help with every aspect of the camp and helped it to be a wonderful success. So many people need to be thanked for their part in its success. My husband has been instrumental in the organizing process, from emails to flyers, he has been my go to man. I have learned so many things about computers and the art of emailing. Bill Chunko was our camp Dad, set up a wonderful group tent and made sure the campers' tents were safe and secure. He made sure we could wash our hands and provided a solar shower for those of us that wanted to get some of the dirt off. His nightly horse checks did not go unnoticed and everything he did made the time there better for all of us. Natalie Ellis graciously decided she did have the time to be the assistant camp director. Her involvement was priceless! We had a wonderful time together and the campers all loved her! Of course her wonderful husband Craig was there when we needed him too! It was fun to have Nicole Reinsvold and Jessica Greer as our guest instructors. The campers had a great time with them and learned lots. We had a mock show on Saturday and Amy Jablonovsky kindly donated her time to help judge the kids. Many other moms and friends pitched in to make great food and wonderful crafts. A big thanks to Diane Iwanicki, Anne Schmid, Lisa Couse and of course Mary Lempke for her great food. We would have been unable to do any of these without the use of the wonderful facility of Tomora Training Center.

In the end, we all had a great time. I loved sharing my love for horses and dressage with the youth of the area and getting to know all of their individual and unique personalities. I also loved having so many wonderful people come together to help me. I have learned that if you ask, there are many that will help! Most of the campers stayed and enjoyed the team competition the next day, and so we all had one more night to hang out and enjoy the heat... Did I mention it was super hot?! It helped to remind us that it was summer. So here's to another year, and thanks again to the campers, listed alphabetically: Erik Chucko, Raissa Chucko, Dani Couse, Tita Curtin, Tecla Gough, Danielle Iwanicki, Bug Karls, Eva Morrison, Ally Price and Chloe Schmid.

Chloe wrote a few words about her experience, "My favorite parts of camp were all of the games and riding bareback! I also loved the private lessons and the schooling show. Pretty much everything rocked!"

Eva gave a wonderful response to me about her experience, "RMDS camp this year was a really wonderful experience, and a great way to develop as a junior and/or young rider. I had a lot of fun and learned a lot from different people, which is good when it comes to not having the same instructor all the time. We had fantastic "counselors" and everyone at camp was very helpful. I had a young horse and I think it was also a positive learning experience for her. Thanks so much to everyone involved with camp."

Awards: Shannon Lemons

Budget/Expense 2011

- Budget - \$5500.00
- Actual = \$5372.77
- Detail available from Treasurer

Budget 2012

- Budget - \$5750.00
- Expect to come in about \$400 under budget

Budget Request 2013

- \$5000
- No replacements, limited in light of current financial status of RMDS

2012 Review:

1. Trophy boxes purchased and labeled for all trophies
 - a. Delivery/mailing instructions included and attached in each box-
 - A. One of 3 options – Cannot mail, only mail with professional packaging, can be mailed
 - B. Boxes can be used for mailing
 - C. \$25 if box not returned
 - b. Clearly labeled on 3 sides
 - c. Lined with padding for protection
2. Replacement trophies
 - a. Jr/YR Training – donor obtained
 - b. Westfalen – new award with donor
 - c. Freestyle GP – trophy donated, RMDS provided plaque – original trophy lost in fire
 - d. Replaced RFMA that was lost many years ago.
3. Policies
 - a. New awards agreement
 - A. Higher fees for late return
 - B. Added instructions regarding trophy return to the agreement
 - b. Notification to Winners
 - A. Letter sent to trophy winners rather than postcard
 1. Need written notice that someone else will be pickup up awards if they can't do it themselves.
 2. Some awards cannot be mailed
 - B. Notification sent to both riders and horse owners
 - c. Banquet: Updated slide show presentation

Projected 2013:

1. Trophies: Evaluate trophy box project for improvement condition of trophies when returned.
2. Old donated trophies:
 - a. Many old silver ice bucket trophies that are being passed on – donated to RMDS by unknown/unrecorded individuals, for awards other than those offered by RMDS
 - b. What can we do with these?
 - i. Recycle?? Actual recycle/sale is limited as they are generally plate and not sterling silver.
 - ii. Recycle as new awards?? Would have engraving other than what the award is for.
 - iii. Central storage? Becoming more tarnished and scratched up by the year...
 - iv. Dispose??
3. Historical Data

- a. Many trophies are being kept for sentimental reasons and because they are really nice, so we are accumulating multiple plaques for some trophies
- b. Do we keep sending multiple plaques for on trophy?
- c. Since we don't have a permanent building/facility, would like to consider a project to permanently record winner data, including pictures of full plaques that have then been disposed of. Should be something that can travel with the Awards Chair position, such as a high quality pictorial log/scrapbook.
- d. Colorado Horse Park says they will display our retired trophies if we provide display.

Final thoughts:

- We now have a policies and procedures manual including pictures of all trophies with donor information, retire dates, etc in digital and paper form.
- We now have proper storage and transport boxes labeled and protected for each trophy.
- We have maintained a great relationship with a good source for plaques and plates who continues to keep costs as stable as possible because of efforts made to organize and collate data for awards that makes his job easier.
- Next year we don't need any new trophies, only a couple for 2014. However, starting after 2015, we will need around 5 per year, so if you are looking for a way to give back to RMDS, either as an individual or in your club, keep that in mind in the coming years!

RMDS Show Committee: Susan Rudman

As RMDS Show Liaison I focused on the 2012 RMDS Championships. My goal was twofold, to make championships more of an event and to increase funds to RMDS. Championships offers unique opportunities to successfully accomplish these goals, making the Show Committee Chair position very valuable and alleviating show Management from having to take away from their duties keeping the show running smoothly. Here are championship happenings:

Executive Shine (boot shine): Offers that special shine to your show boots or shoes. Provides a great extra at no cost to RMDS.

Fashion Show: Participants in the fashion show were show vendors or businesses that had contributed prizes or silent auction items giving them the opportunity to show off their wares. They wrote up and announced their own fashion descriptions; I simply introduced each business & turned the mic over to them. Everyone enjoyed this event. The vendors had a blast showing off their stuff and the audience was very interested. I don't think there was an empty seat! There was no cost to RMDS or the participants for these events.

DJ: I hired a DJ for the Saturday night event, "DJ on Demand". Bands are considerably more expensive and the DJ offers requests with over 40,000 tunes available. DJ on Demand was \$350.00 compared to over \$800.00 + for bands of previous years. They have offered us a discounted price for future bookings.

Silent Auction: We had a wide variety with 80 items up for auction offering some great bargains. Elaine Haberman brought two thirds of the auction items, all of them very nice. Our current income from the silent auction is \$3,491.50. Yes, I would consider this a success! It also worked well to have the auction close on Sat. evening so folks could pick up items that evening and Sunday morning. An excellent revenue producer for RMDS.

Prizes: I brought 13 donated prizes to Championships to be used as the management felt fit for high point, class winners, etc. Three were from Dover, six from Murdoch's, two from A Bit of Tack and two from a private individual, Terry Baker. This offered a variety to the prizes and kept cost down.

Water: 16 cases of water were donated by Vitamin Cottage, which was available to everyone.

Advertisements & Sponsors: I contributed to both of these areas but other individuals also contributed much effort. Sponsorship was at an all time high of \$9,000. This is an area that takes involvement from many and continued contact to secure donors.

I will not continue on in this chair position but I would be glad to offer input to whoever does. This is a great opportunity for someone that likes to meet new people and develop relationships for RMDS. I would like to thank all of those that have helped and supported me throughout the year.

2012 RMDS Championships Management Report

Basic Numbers:

Sport Horse Office Fees:	21
Under Saddle Office Fees:	195
School Office Fees:	8
Total arenas Thursday-Sunday:	11

Total number of rides that went down centerline Friday-Sunday: 476

Notes:

We will not be using RMDS Permanent Bridle Tags for Championships in the future. They do not allow us to delineate championship rides appropriately and sometimes over lap our assigned number sequence which creates a lot of work renumbering duplicate entries. This was a major issue this year. USDF Sponsorship definitely rules it out for 2013.

Does the board want to be listed in the show program? Just the Exec board or all positions?

Sponsorships were up for 2012. Several of the major sponsors have recommitted for 2013 with the possible addition of another couple of larger sponsors. Advertisers were down, but ads from sponsors were up. Hopefully we'll increase advertisers for 2013.

Special Events: Parties went fairly well. Thursday pizza was cleaned out (ordered more pizzas than normal and there were no leftovers), Friday's retirement party was cleaned out and the fashion show went over very well. Saturday's foot was cleaned out and the DJ did a nice job but a lot of competitors commented that they missed the live band aspect and didn't hang around much because of that. We'll need to weigh the cost savings of a DJ versus the attraction of a bigger party for Regionals with a live band. The Mimosa Morning on Sunday had a smaller attendance than last year, so we will work on promoting that more, increasing the food offerings and perhaps moving it to the show office area for greater attendance. Zumba was only attended by the organizer and instructor, so we need to reconsider that offering. During the day is very difficult and evenings were not desired by trainers and competitors that were polled, they felt more relaxed events like dinners were more inviting. Silent Auction went well. We are looking for an organizer for it for 2013, and several folks have expressed interest.

2 additional party sponsors needed for 2013. 2 White Feet will continue to donate the competitor bags and cover one party if additional sponsors are not acquired.

Weather was great. RMDS arena worked well. We will need 2 additional arenas next year that RMDS will either need to get donated or rent from other sources. We need 6 rings for 2013 (5 competition rings, 1 awards arena – can be small ring).

Since the Horse Park allowed us to sell bedding again, we were able to raise a little extra money on those bedding sales to help cover the Parking and stabling person.

We need 2 parking people for 2013 per the Horse Park. We will again be able to sell bedding, which will help a little. We should also continue to sell parking spaces as we did the last 2 days of the show to help raise additional revenue to cover the parking folks.

We are working with the Horse Park to schedule a meeting to go over the contract for 2013 and sign it. We will work with Lori Mitchell and her schedule, along with the Horse Park, to get this accomplished. We will be the lone event at the facility that weekend.

Officials for 2013:

Judges:

Paula Lacy
 Janet Curtis
 Melissa Creswick
 Bill Warren
 Anne Cizadlo (R)
 Marlene Schneider
 Maryal Barnett
 Lorraine MacDonald

Sport Horse Judges:

Melissa Creswick
 Gwen Ka'awaloa

Technical Delegates:

Elisabeth Williams
 Joyce Hardesty

Proposed 2013 USDF Region 5 / RMDS Championships and Open Show Projected Budget

Expenses

Awards – coolers, ribbons	\$4700
Fewer coolers to purchase – have a few left	
Facility	\$31,000
(\$27,853 in 2010 but no bedding so this Adds the bedding expenses)	
Fees – Judge/TD/EMT/Vet/Farrier/Announcer	\$27,125
Nicho (\$2000)	
6 judges for 4 day (\$500x24 = \$12,000)	
2 judges for 5 days (\$500 x 10 = \$5000)	
2 TD for 5 days (\$350x10 = \$3500)	
1 Vet for 5 days (\$400 x 5 = \$2000)	
EMT for 5 days/12 hours (\$25x60 = \$1500)	
Farrier for 5 days (\$225x5 = \$1125)	
Management Fees	\$13,500
Based on 18 arenas, 290 entries, 73 office hours	
Fees – USDF/USEF, Recognition	\$5800
Hospitality/Meals	\$5300
Parties, judges' meals, volunteers, etc	
Lodging	\$4800
Golf Cars	\$1000
Misc Expense/Supplies	\$1000
Volunteer gifts, DJ or band, Supplies	
Paid Workers	\$6630
Hospitality (\$600)	

Volunteer Coordinator (\$1000)	
Head Scorer (\$500)	
Barn Manager (\$1200)	
Awards (\$1000)	
Grounds (\$1250)	
Assistant Secretary (\$1080)	
Postage – results, banners, leftover USDF stuff	\$100
Printing – programs, tests	\$1900
Prize Money – futurity	\$250
Refunds	\$1000
Travel	\$7000
Total Expenses	\$111,105
(Compared to \$103084 in 2010)	

Income

Entries - Based on 725 rides like 2010 of open show And championship classes mixed	\$40,500
Stabling -	\$37,000
Office fees – (290 horses)	\$14,500
Drug Fees (290 horses)	\$4640
Futurity Nominations	\$250
RV Hookups	\$2400
Late Fees	\$600
RMDS Scholarship	\$40
USDF/USEF Nonmember	\$300
Show Program Ads	\$300
Sponsorship	\$9500
Vendor Fees	\$750
USDF Grant Money	\$1000
Total Income	\$111,780
Projected Profit	\$675

Break – 10:02 – 10:17

Communications: Nicole Bizzarro

I apologize for not being able to make the meeting today...I have bitten off a bit more than I can chew.

The Low-Down

- The Centaur editor has resigned and I am filling the gap until the changes to the monthly newsletter get stabilized and the contract can go out for bid.
- Send all Centaur information to the Central Office instead of Nicole currently. Please put Centaur in the subject of the email or omnibus if concerning omnibus.
- Michael Petersen continues to update and improve the website.
- The Facebook page has grown to 396 Fans and continues to be an important part of the RMDS communication tools.
- The Omnibus will be produced by Nicole again this year, and there will be no significant changes. The tests are not anticipated to change much and that will help with keeping the production costs down.

- The new assignment of a commissions-based advertising sales person is anticipated to help slow or reverse the loss of ad revenue that we have seen across all publications in the last few years.
- Website:

Education: Michelle Anderson

“L” Judge Continuing Education 2013 – Saturday January 12

Profit made in 2012

Stellar Stables in Parker has agreed to host this session

Gary has returned signed contract.

Michelle will follow up soon with Terri at Stellar.

USDF funding grant has been submitted and approved.

Registration flyer should be in the December Centaur and email blasts will be coming soon.

Technical Delegate / Show Management Education 2013 – Saturday February 9

Profit made in 2012

Heather Petersen engaged for show management and Veronica Holt for TD.

Location is the Comfort Suites in Castle Rock. Contract still pending (I've called twice, will call again)

Registration flyer to be in January Centaur and future emails blasts.

Symposium with George Williams 2013, Feb 23-24 (Feb 22 w/instructors only)

Symposium location will be Tomora Training Center in Greeley.

George has returned signed contract and likes theme of The Training Scale.

Reg V grant approved for minimum amount requested with promise of additional if we incur a loss.

The Dressage Foundation grant application in progress.

Rider & auditor applications are posted on the website.

Beth Geier has located a vendor for box lunches.

Julie Haugen will house George as he prefers private residences

Marketing: Sharon Soos

Commercial break – ¾ length sleeve polo shirts with RMDS logo, well modeled.

Summary of 2012:

- Completed media kit
- Sponsorship
 - Championships went well
- Rocky Mountain Horse Expo – Focus on:
 - Chapters
 - RMDS/USDF
 - Breed Shows
 - Shows & Clinics – making more information available
- Omnibus Advertising for 2013
 - Earn Money for your chapter – deadline is 11/25/2012 – earn a % of sales based on ad size.
- RMDS Shirts (prepay to order)
 - Small inventory available

Marketing Plans for 2013:

- Rocky Mountain Horse Expo
- RMDS Merchandise
- Promote Advertising at RMDS sponsored events

- Form Marketing Committee

Lori talked about the USDF BOG basket and items we needed and those already collected.

Bylaw and Standing Rule Changes: Beth Geier

RMDS Bylaws:

ARTICLE IV. MEMBERSHIP AND REPRESENTATION

A. Membership: Page E-4

3. Upon joining the Society, members shall select a Chapter to represent their interests in forming Society policies and in managing the Society. **Should a member fail to select a Chapter, he/she shall remain a member-at-large and will not have Board of Governors representation.** Members may change Chapter affiliation by notifying the RMDS Central Office in writing of their desire. **BOARD**

Susan Rudman moved we accept as written, Stephanie Margulis 2nd. Discussion. Discussion continued of why this is needed and why folks don't choose chapters, why this change was proposed. Discussed pros and cons of the issue and that isn't the first time this has been a proposed bylaw change. **Susan Rudman called to question. 2nd by Laura Quackenbush. Motion passed unanimously to call to question. Roll call vote taken on the motion – fails 10 in favor, 35 against. No abstentions.**

B. Chapters: Page E-4

3. All members of a Chapter must be members of the Society in good standing.

If a Chapter board member who is elected by the membership is not a member of RMDS in good standing by the January RMDS Board meeting they can not take office and will not be included in the D&O insurance and not be recognized as a board member (RMDS or Chapter) and no other board member can take that responsibility unless elected by the membership or Executive Board. **BOARD**

Debbie Moloznik moved we accept as written, 2nd by Wendy Cibis. Discussion – If a change of office occurs midyear, does a replacement need to be a member? Talk about how membership applies. Following was a discussion of how the D&O insurance works – 50% of chapter officers must be elected and then appointed by the RMDS board for insurance coverage. Discussion of how to reword for mid-year changes.

Susan moves we accept the friendly amendment, 2nd by Julie Haugen. Motion passed unanimously for friendly amendment in red as below.

...by the January RMDS Board meeting, **or at the time of election if elected midterm**, they can not take office and will not...

Rebecca Hutton suggested a friendly amendment to delete the word "board" in last sentence, 2nd by Patricia Leech. Motion passes unanimously.

Susan Rudman calls to question, 2nd by Pam Devore. Motion passed unanimously.

Overall vote: motion passes unanimously.

Final Wording: All members of a Chapter must be members of the Society in good standing.

If a Chapter board member who is elected by the membership is not a member of RMDS in good standing by the January RMDS Board meeting, or at the time of election if elected midterm, they can not take office and will not be included in the D&O insurance and not be recognized as a board member (RMDS or Chapter) and no other member can take that responsibility unless elected by the membership or Executive Board.

ARTICLE VII. OFFICERS

- A. The elected officers of the Board of Governors being, President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer, shall act in their respective capacities as the officers of the Society. All officers shall be members of the Society in good standing and a participating member of the United States Dressage Federation.

- B. Term of Office: Page E-6

4. The Vice President shall be elected to a 1-year term to begin January 1, **limited to two consecutive terms.** **Debbie Moloznik moved we accept as written, 2nd by Patricia Leech. 4 against (Heather Petersen, Aline Brandau, Simone Windeler, Shannon Lemons), motion passed.**

D. President: Page E-6

4. ... In the event the president is unable to complete their term, the Office shall normally be filled by the ascension of the Vice President. In the event the office of Vice-President is either vacant or held by an appointee of the Executive Board, the office of President shall be filled within 30-days by an election of the Board of Governors and shall fulfill the remainder of the term. BOARD

Wendy Cibis moved we accept as written, 2nd Julie Barringer-Richers. Discussion – why did we put this in place – so that we have as much of a voice of the membership as possible. Susan Rudman called to question. 2nd by Pam DeVore. Motion passed. Actual motion passed unanimously.

ARTICLE IX.

EXECUTIVE BOARD page E-8

- A. The Executive Board shall consist of the four elected Officers, the Chairpersons of the Permanent Committees, the immediate past President of the Society, and the President of each non-suspended Chapter. Executive Board members shall not hold a chair position for which they receive remuneration for activities related to that committee. Nor shall they hold a proxy for that chair position.

Debbie Moloznik moved we accept as written, 2nd by Wendy Cibis. Discussion: perception versus eliminating the volunteers out there who could serve on the board. Keep things transparent. Much discussion conflicts of interest in the policies and procedures. Debbie Moloznik offered a friendly amendment that was not accepted regarding assigning the proxies to someone else for a vote if they do hold a chair and it's a conflict of interest. Discussion again of auditing. Patricia Leech called to question, 2nd by Rebecca Hutton. Motion passed. Actual motion: 4 opposed (Susan Rudman and Aline Brandau plus 2 others), 4 abstain – Debbie Moloznik, Julie Haugen. Motion passed

Second sentence: The Central Office Manager shall not hold a board position or carry proxies. Beth Geier moved we accept as written, 2nd by Heather Petersen, no discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Second election reading:

Slate for 2013:

Vice-President: Pete Soos, Gwen Ka'awaloa
Adult Amateur:
Awards: Shannon Lemons
Communications: Linda Gaber
Education: Jon Haugen
Jr/Yr: Julie Haugen
Marketing: Sharon Soos
RMDS Shows: Jennifer Glass, Laura Speer
Scholarship: MaryJo Hoepner

RMDS Standing Rules

SECTION III. RMDS RECOGNIZED/APPROVED COMPETITIONS

- M. RMDS Recognized Competition Approval: page E-12
1. Chapter sponsored competitions that are presented and recognized at the RMDS Fall Board of Governors meeting shall have their dates protected for **one** year. **BOARD**
Debbie Moloznik moved we accept as written, 2nd by Lori Mitchell. Discussion: none. **Patricia Leech opposed, motion passed.**

SECTION V. AWARDS - YEAR END

- A. Eligibility: Page E-13
2. Only current members of the Society in good standing shall be eligible to receive Society Year End Awards.
 - a. Members who have failed to return or make restitution for missing/damaged perpetual trophies from the previous year, **by Oct 20 of the current year**, shall not be considered in good standing and **will** therefore not **be** eligible for Society Year End Awards.
Susan Rudman moved we accept as written, 2nd by Julie Haugen. Discussion – Julie B-R proposed a friendly amendment adding “of the current year” and it was accepted by Susan Rudman and Julie Haugen.
Call to vote – motion passed unanimously.
 - b. **Members must complete 4 hours of documented volunteer hours in order to be eligible for any year-end award. Members must submit proof of volunteer hours to the Central Office by October 1 of the current year.**
Sarah Barnes moved we accept as written, 2nd by Susan Rudman. Motion by Beth Geier to amend should to must in second sentence. 2nd by Wendy Cibis. Some discussion followed on pros and cons of requiring volunteer hours. **Pam DeVore called to question, 2nd by Heather Petersen. Motion passed unanimous on call to question. Motion to accept the amendment of should to must – opposed 4 - Pam Devore, Simone Windeler, Shannon Lemons, Julie Barringer-Richers. Motion passed.**

Julie Barringer-Richers proposed a friendly amendment – members must verify proof of volunteer hours with the Central Office by October 1 of the current year. Not accepted as a friendly amendment.

It was asked we conduct a straw poll to see how the group felt about the amendment. The straw poll on the entire amendment is about split.

Back to discussion on the concept, lots of it! **Shannon Lemons called to question, 2nd by Simone Windeler. Motion for call to question passes unanimously. Voting on the final motion – fails 22 in favor, 24 opposed.**

7. Page E-14 add: and renumber
8. **In order to receive a year-end award, you must volunteer 4 hours at an RMDS recognized show or event during the current season. If you are unable to do this, someone may do this for you. A volunteer form must be filled out, signed by the organizer of the event and submitted to the Central Office by October 1 of the same year.**
Change not to be considered since previous motion failed.

- E. Perpetual Trophies: page E-15
1. Perpetual trophies are the property of RMDS and are loaned to the recipient contingent upon the signing of a contract specifying penalties for late return, damage or loss of the trophy. Trophies must be returned **by Oct. 1** to the RMDS Awards Chairperson. A keeper ribbon will be provided by RMDS.
Susan Rudman moved we accept as written, 2nd by Julie Haugen – motion passed unanimously.
 2. **If the trophy is not returned by October 1, a fine of \$25 will be assessed. If the trophy is not returned by October 20, it will be considered lost and the recipient will be required to pay for a replacement trophy.**
Laura Quackenbush moved, 2nd by Jennifer Glass. Motion defeated unanimously.

SECTION VI. RMDS TECHNICAL DELEGATES PROGRAM

- B. RMDS Technical Delegates Continuing Recognition Requirements RMDS Technical Delegates who meet the following conditions shall be approved to continue to officiate at competitions recognized only by RMDS.

Page E-18

6. An RMDS Technical Delegate must take a technical delegate's exam once every two (2) years and must receive a mark of 85% or better before their certificate is renewed. **The test is to be administered in October of the odd numbered years.**
Julie Haugen moved we accept as written, 2nd by Pam Devore. Discussion – how it's done, etc. **Vote on motion: Debbie Moloznik, Rebecca Hutton, Anita Johnson, Patricia Leech abstained. Motion passed.**
7. **If test is not passed, an individual must do the whole program again: as stated in Section VI, A. above.**
Sarah Barnes moved we accept as written, 2nd by Joan Clay. Alina Brandau opposed, Motion passed.

SECTION XIV. RMDS CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW

- A. General: page E-23

6. Horse and rider combinations, which are champions from previous years and received an RMDS qualifying score in that championship class for Training Level through Fourth Level & **Training Level** through Fourth Level Freestyle, are not eligible to compete again in Championship Classes at the same level at which they were champions.

Susan Rudman moved we accept as written, 2nd by Julie Haugen, motion passed unanimously.

- B. Qualification For Dressage Championship Classes:

Championship Classes shall be open to all Society members in good standing who meet the qualifying criteria specified below:

5. Horse/rider combinations may qualify for Championship Classes by submitting scores meeting the following criteria:

page E-24

C. The horse/rider combination must receive two (2) qualifying scores from RMDS recognized competitions at the level of the Championship Class that they wish to qualify to ride in the current RMDS show year; **one of the tests must be the highest test at that level.** The scores must be from two (2) different judges at two (2) different shows. The minimum qualifying score for each level for RMDS Championships ONLY shall be (not to exceed USDF requirements):

Susan Rudman moved we accept as written, 2nd by Pam DeVore. Discussion of why – some statistics, reasons why. **Wendy Cibis called to question, 2nd by Lori Mitchell. Motion to call to question passed unanimously. Motion itself passed unanimously.**

Second reading of election roster with nominations from the floor:

Slate for 2013:

Vice-President: Pete Soos / Gwen Ka'awaloa

Adult Amateur:

Awards: Shannon Lemons

Communications: Linda Gaber

Education: Jon Haugen

Jr/Yr: Julie Haugen

Marketing: Sharon Soos

RMDS Shows:

Scholarship: MaryJo Hoepner

Break – 12:05 – 12:50 PM

BUDGET: Sharon Soos

<p>Rocky Mountain Dressage Society 2012 Budget</p>
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2012 Budget	Income	Expense	Net Change
Adult Amateur		\$500	(\$500)
BOG Awards	\$ 350.00	\$5000	(\$4650)
BOG Banquet	\$5,700	\$5,700	0
BOG Meeting		\$1,700	(\$1700)
Centaur	\$16,100.00	\$24,500.00	(\$8,400.00)
Central Office	\$3,500.00	\$13,000.00	(\$9,500.00)
Championship/Breed Show	\$111,800.00	\$111,100.00	\$700.00
Clinics	\$2,375.00	\$1,705.00	\$670.00
Education / Expo	\$5050	\$5850	(\$800.00)
General / Interest	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$0.00
Jr/Yr Program		\$500.00	(\$500.00)
Junior Camp	\$4000	\$3000	\$1000
Marketing		\$700	(\$700)
Membership - Dues	\$44,000.00	\$22,000.00	\$22,000
Membership - Horses	\$8,500.00		\$8,500.00
Misc. / Donation	\$1,750.00	\$3550.00	(\$1800)
Ominbus	\$12,500.00	\$16,000.00	(\$3,500.00)
Operating (USDF Conv/Treas Exp)		\$3,000.00	(\$3,000.00)
Scheduling / Insurance	\$2,800.00	\$1,600.00	\$1200.00
Scholarship	\$800.00	\$2,000.00	(\$200.00)
Taxes / Legal / Audit	\$550.00	\$4,400.00	(\$3850.00)
Team Competition	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$0.00
Website	\$700.00	\$780.00	(\$80.00)
Total	\$222,575	\$228,685	\$-6110.00

Notes on budget discussion:

BOG Awards – income is reimbursement of postage.

BOG Banquet – banquet does include silent auction income
Centaur – shows decreased expenses for 2 months of online during our new trial period.
Central Office – supplies, central officer person salary. Income is email blasts, bridle tag sales. Treasurer expenses were here, but they will be pulled out to operating.
Championships/Breed show – based exactly off of 2010 and 2012 numbers.
Clinics – Judges’ continuing Education, TD/Show management
Education/Expo – booth costs and freebies. Would like to maintain a double booth, George Williams symposium.
General/Interest – organization expenses – IRS, state, etc.
Jr/Yr Program and Camp – mostly camp income and expense.
Marketing – media kits, handouts, Colorado horse Park program advertising maybe... depending on reciprocal agreements with CHP.
Membership dues – expense is the cost to USDF for GMO memberships. Income decreased by 8% of 2012 numbers.
Horse membership – no real expense – just income from registrations.
Misc/donations – breakout sheet.
Omnibus – hoping for more income but will budget conservatively.
Operating – expenses are postage, data base updates and such...
Scheduling/Insurance – as makes sense.
Scholarship – income is donations, expense is the scholarships themselves. – 4 @ \$500 each at this point.
Taxes/Legal – organization tax return is expense, chapters paying their portion is the income. Audit this year at about \$3500.
Team Competition – The show in June for 2013 – Adult and Junior Region 5 Team Competition.
Website – bid for expense and then market place ads for income
Winter Wake Up – voted away this year.
Discussion – when does RMDS feel the need to break even and get a positive budget? Focus on sales person to get the organization more advertisers and sponsors. All BOG need to help support the organization and get a positive light on things, all getting support for the organization from connections.

Susan Rudman moved to approve the budget for 2013 as presented, 2nd by Sarah Barnes. Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business:

Simone Windeler’s report on USDF Convention 2011: Please refer to any reports she made at the January RMDS Executive Board meeting. San Diego was not as warm as we had hoped. Pins idea we had talked about came out of the USDF convention a couple of years from the NEDA group. 2011 USDF Convention did see the approval of the National Championships and training level freestyle.

USDF Region 5 Report: Heather Petersen

Another great year in Region 5 as usual! The USDF/Great American Region 5 Championships were held for the first time in Utah this year and they did a great job bringing in folks from all over our region and a ton from Region 6. The hospitality was amazing and though there were some issues with the footing, they worked really hard to make things as good they could be! The team work of the management with the trainers was wonderful to see. Next year the Regional Championships will move back to the Colorado Horse Park in Parker, Colorado. We really need to get bids in for 2014 soon and I hope we’re able to keep Arizona in the loop.

Our NAJYRC Young Rider team did very well again in 2012! The team, made up of Maddi Birch with Uoeri, Victoria Fernalld with Amazing, Brandi Roenick with Weltino’s Magic, and Devon Wycoff with Power Play, brought home the Team Gold Medal. Brandi Roenick and Weltino’s Magic also completed the triple play and came home with the Individual Gold and the Freestyle Gold. Maddi Birch and Uoeri

finished 6th in the Individual and Freestyle standings and Devon Wycoff and Power Play finished 7th in the Individual and Freestyle standings. Victoria and Amazing finished 15th in the Individual test but could not go through to the freestyle since a team can only send 3 riders to the Freestyle. We were sad not to have her in the final leg, but it was a good situation for our team to have qualified all 4 riders for the Freestyle event. We were happy to have one Junior who travelled with the Young Rider team, Bethany Roof and Welkin. Unfortunately, Welkin developed some hoof problems before the jog and was unable to jog. Bethany did a great job despite the circumstances and was a great boost to the Young Rider team, as was Megan McCracken, who travelled with the team as a groom since her Junior horse also was unable to compete. Congratulations to all who worked so hard to make the team and to all our team members.

Some of the other events that have taken place in our Region this year:

- USDF Adult and Youth Team Championships. These were held July 22 in Greeley, Colorado. The show was very well attended and the team atmosphere was great. Many thanks to the Rocky Mountain Dressage Society for hosting the show.
- USDF Junior / Young Rider Clinic, held September 15-16 at Stellar Stables in Parker, Colorado. Region 5 was very happy to have George Williams back as the clinician. Our local youth love working with George and continually ask for him to come back. Although applications were slow to come in, the clinic ended up being full and there were a nice amount of auditors. Food sale proceeds went to the FEI Junior/Young Riders and will help with the fundraising efforts for the 2013 NAJYRC. Feedback from the clinic was once again extremely positive.
- USDF Region 5 Life Time Achievement Awards. We received several nominations this year for some very worthy individuals. The award will be presented at the USDF Convention.

This year Region 5 was allocated 5 Participating Member delegates to the USDF Board of Governors meeting. Kay Lorenzen, our Nominating Committee member, rounded up a nice diverse roster of 5 individuals to fill those spots. These 5 members were a nice representation of the different states/areas in Region 5. Kay also worked hard to get representation for all our eligible GMOs in the Region or proxies to cover their votes.

Many of our regional GMOS have been busy also. Here are updates from a few of them:

Arizona Dressage Association Report

The ADA has been very active last year and we are looking forward to a great show season ahead. Last year we added an additional one day show called 'Fun in February' this year we have added another one day show called 'December Holiday Fest' on December 2 in Litchfield Park. We also held our other three annual shows last year (November-'Fall Fiesta', March-'Spring Celebration', August - 'Mountain Air' & 'Dressage in the Pines'. All of our shows this year had good attendance and all competitors had a good time. The ADA also held 7 schooling shows. Our schooling shows average about 70 rides in each show. We are grateful for the participation at these shows.

On November 3-4 we have our combination State Championships and our Fall Fiesta show that kicks off our show season for this show year. In September we held our annual Member's Only Schooling Show that was a very successful two ring show. We are on course for each of our annual shows and are excited about the extensive renovations of WestWorld. When this facility is complete it is going to be spectacular. There will be numerous indoor arenas, stalls, concessions, viewing platforms, warm up arenas and spectator grandstands. All of this will be air-conditioned which will make competitions in our hot summer climate possible. WestWorld will also be doing additional extensive additions to their entire facility throughout this coming year.

The ADA has also begun online entries and memberships. This is exciting for our members and makes entering the shows and becoming a member or renewing memberships so very easy. We are hoping that the ability to use a credit card to enter will gain more entries for our shows.

Our organization continues to put out our monthly newsletter and our annual Omnibus publications.

One of our junior/young riders, Catherine Chamberlain, was selected as USDF Youth Volunteer of the Year. She will have her name engraved on a perpetual trophy, housed in the Roemer foundation/USDF Hall of Fame. Catherine will also receive a scholarship. We are so very proud of Catherine and this award was very deserving.

Big Sky Equestrian Association

BSEA is a small USDF GMO whose members live in south-central Montana and north central Wyoming. Like many small, geographically challenged GMOs, we face the dual problem of maintaining an adequate membership base and finding volunteers to serve as club officers and organize events.

Although we would like to expand our offerings to club members to include schooling shows and a range of clinics, at the present time we do not have the manpower necessary to accomplish this. We have, however, put on four successful dressage clinics in 2012, drawing enthusiastic riders from both Wyoming and southern Montana. Our clinician, Jutta Schott, has been coming to Billings to conduct these clinics for BSEA for over 20 years and has done a great deal to provide a strong classical dressage foundation for her students in this region.

BSEA is particularly proud of long-time member Linda Priddy, who earned her USDF Silver medal this year on her self-trained American warmblood gelding, Jim. BSEA was also tickled to hear that two other members, twin sisters Shelby and Amelia Rexford, completed their C3 Pony Club ratings this year.

Plans for 2013 include offering 4 more dressage clinics with Jutta. We will also send out quarterly newsletters and forward, via E mail, bulletins from USDF and other pertinent organizations containing information relevant to our membership.

Although the board would like to hold regular club meetings, the wide geographical distribution of our members has tended to make this an impractical goal. At the present time, we have 25 members. We hope to have some new faces volunteer for 2013 board positions and to recruit more individual members in the upcoming year.

We are pleased to have two members planning to attend the USDF convention in December in New Orleans. Thanks to Brooke Alderson, our USDF GMO delegate and Linda Priddy, recipient of a Ruth Arvanette grant, for representing us. We are sure these ladies will return with some great information to share.

Paso del Norte Dressage Society

Our Amigos de Dressage show that we held in May was a success and we were able to donate the profits to Therapeutic Horsemanship of El Paso. Our next rated show will be held to benefit THEP again on April 27, 28 2013. Sonya Vracko will be our judge.

Nov. 30-Dec. 2 PdNDS is hosting Pilates for Dressage with Janice Dulak and Sarah Martin. That's about it but it's helping service the dressage enthusiasts in the area. Our club is so small we are worried every year that we won't qualify as a GMO but we always manage to squeak by.

Rocky Mountain Dressage Society

The GMO started our year with a Judges Continuing Education program with Janet Foy. We are very lucky to have Janet Foy in our own backyard and rely on her for such educational events. Our AA chair, Beth Geier organized a "Teaching the Rider Feel" Symposium with Sarah Martin which was a spectacular educational event for our membership. The technical delegate and show management education day was also well attended.

For our Juniors/Young Riders we were able to offer a camp in July wrapped up with the USDF Region 5 Team Competition for the second year in a row. This event is getting more popular each year we host it and really encourages the membership to go out to show or move up a level. We have many members who show for the first time at this event with the support of a team.

The GMO is excited to offer a new Judges Continuing Education with Gary Rockwell, and the following month a symposium with George Williams open to all riders at the beginning of 2013. We are hoping that we can also continue to produce some additional educational programs for our entire membership.

Tucson Dressage Club

TDC is hosting a musical freestyle clinic Oct 13 and 14 with Cynthia Collins of Luna Tunes. Our recognized show, TDC Fall Festival is Nov 17th and 18th at Pima County Fairgrounds

We are planning a two day symposium with Charles de Knuffy next May. There is an early bird special for TDC members- \$100 if received before Jan 31. Registration after that is \$125 for members and \$175 for non-members. There will be lectures and rider demos.

TDC elections are coming up in Jan. We have several board positions open and would like some "new blood"

Also there are several more schooling shows on the schedule before the end of the year.

New Business:

Shows:

Show recognitions are starting to come in.

- For 2013 there are 47 RMDS recognized shows: 35 are USEF/USDF recognized and 12 are RMDS only recognized shows. 6 will have breed shows - 2 USEF/USDF shows are pending RMDS recognition
- For 2012: 52 RMDS recognized shows: 38 were USEF/USDF and 14 RMDS only and 4 of these cancelled. 6 included breed shows
- A couple of corrections to the calendar as presented...

Chapter Reports:

Julie Barringer-Richers moved that we accept all written chapter reports as written and those not providing written reports be given a chance to speak. 2nd by Julie Haugen. Motion passed.

Arkansas Valley:

Jamee Amundson – Proxy to Lori Mitchell

Arkansas Valley Chapter members enjoyed a busy summer of riding and training in the Canon City and Penrose area. The chapter had a wonderful educational meeting at the home of member Sandy Vernon on August 24th where they sampled wine and watched a Jane Savoie DVD. In July and September, the club had business meetings where they updated the Chapter Bylaws and took nominations for Chapter Volunteer of the Year. Chapter President Jamee Amundson was named 2012 Volunteer of the year (I am extremely honored and humbled by the club for this honor - THANK YOU!).

Two club members showed horses at the 2012 RMDS Championships. Margie McNew and her OTTB gelding Stamp 'N Pirate were 5th place at AA First Level. This pair worked extremely hard all summer long and deserve the recognition they received at Championships. Chapter President Jamee Amundson had a wonderful time running horses in Sporthorse Championships for owners/breeders Elaine Haberman and Lanie Tolari. Their horses received

many deserved accolades for their fine quality.

AVDA will have had their final Ride-A-Test/Schooling show of the year on Oct. 13 at Marcy Wadlington's Palomino Gaits in Canon City. The show was a HUGE success with 31 rides from 18 riders. Everyone really enjoyed input from Judge Jenny Baldwin. The format of the show was ride-a-test, followed immediately by a 10 minute mini-lesson. The chapter hopes to continue these shows in 2013.

In November the Chapter elected the following Executive Board:

President: Catherine Siemiet

Vice President: Brenda Haley

Secretary: Kathleen Burke

Treasurer: Sandy Vernon

The Chapter is looking forward to a fun Christmas party in December and then a 2013 planning meeting in January. AVDA wishes you continued Happy Riding and Happy Half-halts in 2013.

Boulder Valley:

Kim Lampert PROXY to Heather Petersen

BVD has held their elections for the 2013 Board Officers. Congratulations to:

Sarah Barnes – President

Stephanie Margulis – Vice President

Kathie Hibbard – Secretary

Beth Geier –Treasurer

Our membership is at 182 members as of August of this year.

We held our So Long To Summer Show at Sextant Farms again this summer. It was very well attended, well run and people had a great time! Thanks to Stephanie Margules for allowing BVD to use her great facility.

We have many leadership opportunities and committee posts available and we invite all BVD members to get involved and share your skills and enthusiasm with our membership. Please send your inquiries via e-mail to bvdrsvp@gmail.com and plan to attend our first meeting of 2013 on Monday, February 11th @ 6:30 PM.

Details about our meetings and events can be found on our newly updated website! Please visit www.bouldervalleydressage.org

Boulder Valley Dressage's Annual Awards Banquet will be held on January 12, 2013 at the Hotel Boulderado. Please join us to celebrate the accomplishments of our many talented riders and your fellow BVD members. Details and a registration form will soon be available on our website and members will receive an invitation via e-mail that will feature on-line registration for your convenience. We currently have opportunities for BVD Award Trophy sponsorships available. If you or your facility would like to sponsor a trophy, please contact our Award Committee Chair, Julie Barringer-Richers at jbarringerrichers@comcast.net.

To ensure that you receive our BVD e-mail communications, add bvdrsvp@gmail.com to your approved contacts. If you have changed your e-mail address or have not provided it to BVD, please contact Beth Geier at bethgeier1@comcast.net with your updated information.

Colorado Springs:

Patricia Leech

CSDA has had a very busy year in 2012 with the changes we have undergone, getting our internal programs and processes redefined, and working to find a sustainable focus and direction for the Chapter that will meet the expectations and interests of our membership.

Our RMDS recognized competition in August was a success with very positive feedback from the competitors about the venue, the friendly show management, and the overall laid back atmosphere of the entire day. We are taking the lessons learned from this experience and will be applying them to future competitions to make our competitions a preferred venue for competitors.

For 2013, the CSDA board will be focusing on educational programs and clinics as we begin to provide services that our membership has requested. These programs will encourage and engage our membership base to participate more and become an active part of CSDA.

CSDA general membership meetings are held the third Tuesday of every month and all CSDA members and their guests are welcome to attend. The agenda, meeting time, location, and directions are posted on the website at www.csdressage.org.

Foothills:

Lori Mitchell

It has been a busy year for the Foothills chapter. We had two clinics, with Heather Robertson from California. Two Ride A Tests, one hosted at Roberts Ranch in Littleton with Dolly Hannon as the judge. Dolly really focused on educating the rider and trainer team. Our second Ride A Test was held the day before our Last Chance Show in September. Debbie Reihl-Rodriguez judged at A Rising Star Equestrian Center, Arvada. Debbie was a real trooper, while she had a horrible cold and was not feeling well she was able to give her expert advice and guidance to the riders and horses for the morning rides and Dolly Hannon stepped in for the afternoon. Debbie was back with gusto the next day as she managed our Last Chance Show. Thank you RMDS members who participated in all of our 2012 Foothills Chapter events.

The 2013 Educational events will include, more Ride A Tests, Last Chance Show and a Lunge/Seat clinic! Check our Foothills website, www.foothillsdressage.org for details and dates and the RMDS Calendar.

New 2013 Board Members were elected at the October 2012 meeting as follows – Our first meeting of 2013 will be held at El Senor Sol, Arvada location on February 4th at 6:30pm.

President: Lori Mitchell

Vice President: CC Ross

Treasurer: Laura Quakenbush

Secretary: Heather Fitzgerald

Show Committee: Jan Danis, Joan Bruck, Linda Gaber

Education Committee: Pam DeVore, Dolly Hannon, Betsy McKenzie

Scholarship Committee: Heather Fitzgerald

Grand Valley:

Inka Spatafora PROXY to Beth Geier

The Grand Valley Dressage Society had a good year. In spite of the economy we were able to build our membership and host 5 shows - a fun show, 3 schooling shows and 1 recognized show.

Our show committee worked very hard on keeping the cost per show as low as possible. This allowed us to offer affordable prices to our competitors. The year started out very slow and we were worried about the recognized show in September. As the year progressed we were able to change our judge for the show. Anita Owens came to Grand Junction and everyone was excited to show under her. The show filled and we did not experience the financial burden that we expected. This show gave us new momentum and we finished the year with a full schooling show in October. We are now looking forward to the 2013 show season.

Our goals for next year consist of:

Having more educational exposure in the community like the Horse Expo in March and the Animal Expo later in the fall. We also plan to do as many demonstrations for 4H groups and other horse organizations as possible.

We were able to attract a number of western dressage riders through out the year and plan to offer several western dressage clinics.

Fundraising will be high on our priority in order to offer affordable shows without the worry about money. We need to be a strong presence in our community with a vision of the future to come.

With the end of the year quickly approaching we will have a new board of officers elected in December.

Our new president will be Tammy Fagan, Vice President: Megan Gregg, Treasurer: Inka Spatafora and Secretary: Deb Crooks.

High Plains:

Wendy Cibis – oral.

Had some challenges this year due to president's lameness. Working on talking to all members to thank them for membership and working on providing them with volunteer opportunities and polling them to see what events they'd like to see. Focus on giving back to RMDS for 2013. Elections at the end of November for 2013.

Northern Colorado:

Hana van Campen PROXY to Joan Clay

1st quarter of 2012

1. Joan Clay has agreed to serve as proxy for NCDCA at the next RMDS meeting on March 8, 2012.
2. A survey of the NCDCA membership was conducted in 2011. Brigitte Schmidt prepared the following summary of the results. "The survey respondents were mostly older adult amateurs who have been members of NCDCA for more than five years. Only 2 jr/yr responded. Respondents were from various locations, which may speak to the distances of our membership--from Estes Park to SD and MT. Most however seem to attend horse activities in Fort Collins, Loveland and Greeley. Most seem to be active with lessons, clinics and shows. When it comes to questions about NCDCA many said the organization is doing well and indicated time constraints and other conflicts limited (and will continue to limit) their involvement. Most indicated keeping the recognized show date if it made money for the club. Suggestions for increasing volunteers focused on benefits such as reduced clinic or entry fees. Being more assertive in requesting help was also mentioned. It appears members would enjoy educational offerings and social functions. " Education, economy and having fun while enjoying the beauty of dressage were values expressed by members.
3. Taking heed from the survey, the NCDCA board and members have discussed a list of activities for 2012, which they hope, will suit many members.
 - a. The first educational and social function was viewing 2 DVDs, Suzanne Von Dietze's "Back-to-Back" and Steffen Peters schooling Ravel. Rae Ann Cook provided commentary for both presentations.
 - b. The next activity planned for March 25, 2012 is an educational and social event, "Visit with the Trainers", featuring dressage riders/trainers/ instructors, Jessica Greer and Joan Clay. They will be covering the Training Scale and featuring horses of different breeds and levels of training to emphasize the value of dressage for any horse. Jessica and Joan are planning on attending Dressage at Devon in September and will also describe their plan to reach this goal.
 - c. It was decided to survey the members as to their preference for having a schooling show vs a "Ride-a-Test". The latter had quite a bit of interest on the part of members attending the board meeting. Therefore, NCDCA will be featuring a "Ride-a-Test" on April 7th with Kathleen Donnelly as the judge/instructor and held at Mimi White's Stone Gate Ranch. Offering a schooling show is still an option for this year.
 - d. Given the great response to the Halloween Party in October, we are planning to hold the social and horse activity "Dance with Your Horse". This, no "dance-holds" barred event will occur on May 6, 2012, hosted by Rae Ann Cook at Phantom Hill Farm.
 - e. The USDF recognized show has been relinquished as NCDCA has lost money on this event for 2 consecutive years. The feedback from the volunteers was generally negative.
4. Joan Clay did an excellent job of updating the NCDCA mission statement and sent it for inclusion at the Horse Expo.

NCDCA report to RMDS – 2nd quarter of 2012

1. The following NCDCA activities were accomplished in January through May 1, 2012:
 - a. An educational event featuring dressage riders/trainers/ instructors, Jessica Greer and Joan Clay, was held on March 25, 2012 at Mimi White's Stone Gate Ranch in Fort Collins. Jessica and Joan gave an excellent seminar on the importance of the Training Scale in the development of the horse. The principles of relaxation and rhythm were illustrated by four horses of diverse breeds, levels of training and pre-existing training problems. This was a successful activity with good attendance by NCDCA members.
 - b. NCDCA held a "Ride-a-Test" on April 7th with Kathleen Donnelly as the judge/instructor at Mimi White's Stone Gate Ranch. The event attracted 13 rider/horse combinations for 15 rides. Feedback from the participants was favorable and people indicated that they would like to see NCDCA offer similar activities in the future. The organizers and volunteers' assessment was the event could have used a few more volunteers.
 - c. NCDCA took advantage of visiting instructor Alex Gerding's schedule to hold an evening seminar on a variety of dressage related topics at Rae Ann Cook's Phantom Hill Farm. Alex is a proponent of "horse friendly" dressage. He brought up a couple of controversial topics such as abusive practices in dressage training and the scoring of tests at the international and local levels. This

was a social as well as an educational activity with excellent attendance and mouth-watering array of food and beverages.

- d. NCDA co-sponsored a seminar on May 1 entitled "Barn Fire Prevention and Safety" with the Northern Division of the Colorado Arabian Horse Club. The seminar was given by NCDA and RMDS member Trisha Swift. Veterinarian Dr. Taylor and members of the Windsor fire department were on hand to offer their experiences with barn fires and related horse injuries. Several NCDA members attended the seminar. The seminar is highly recommended for all barn owners whether the barn is large or small.
 - e. We are lucky to have Renee Martig, NCDA vice-president, volunteer to take primary responsibility for NCDA's website and facebook pages.
2. Continuing to take cues from the survey of the NCDA membership, the NCDA board has discussed a list of activities for 2012, which they hope, will suit many members.
 - a. We have postponed the social and horse activity "Dance with Your Horse" for a later date. We are considering a series of seminars on musical rides to be given by an instructor/rider with musical ride experience and success in the show ring. The first installment would be an introduction to musical rides and how to get started. The second potential installment would be a clinic where interested riders could try out their music and routines.
 - b. We are planning to offer a schooling show, the date, location and organizers to be determined at a later date.

NCDA report to RMDS – 3rd quarter of 2012

1. The following NCDA activities were accomplished in June 2012:

NCDA sponsored a trail ride for charity on Saturday, June 16, which was hosted by the Rocky Mountain Lazy J Bar S Ranch in Loveland. The 5 NCDA members who attended donated \$150.00 to the "Colorado Unwanted Horse Alliance" with a special request to cover any situations that arise from the forest fires this summer.
2. RMDS member, Donna Baxter, has volunteered to give a presentation and demonstration on "Western Dressage" with her QH gelding, Haint this coming Saturday July 14th at the Rocky Mountain Lazy J Bar S Ranch. A flyer for this activity was distributed to the RMDS membership via an "email blast".
3. Plans for the rest of 2012 include:
 - a. Christa Elaine Wood has volunteered to give an introduction to musical rides. The first installment would be an introduction to musical rides and how to get started. The second potential installment would be a clinic where interested riders could try out their music and routines.
 - b. We are still planning to offer a schooling show in the fall in a partnership with Mimi White of Stone Gate Farm.

NCDA report to RMDS – 4th quarter of 2012

1. The following NCDA activities were accomplished since the last report:
 - a. NCDA members were treated to a presentation on "Western Dressage" given by Donna Baxter and her foundation bred QH gelding, Haint, on Saturday July 14th. This NCDA educational event was held at the Rocky Mountain Lazy J Bar S Ranch in Loveland. In her introductory remarks, Donna articulated the history and rationale for the development of western dressage classes. She emphasized that classical dressage principles were maintained in the training of the western dressage horse. Donna gave a mounted demonstration of the expectations for western dressage, which included the connection of the rider to the horse's mouth through contact with the bit. Donna and Tina's horses also demonstrated the gaits that are characteristic of the QH and Saddlebred breeds. Donna discussed the conformation of the two horses and how it affected gaits and balance. Currently, the western dressage tests are equivalent to Introductory and Training Level tests in classical dressage. Donna covered the "dos and don'ts" of tack and dress for both the horse and rider.
 - b. On August 12th, national grand prix freestyle champion Christa Elaine Wood presented an introduction to musical rides to NCDA members at Renee Martig's home. In this first installment, Christa Elaine lectured on the minimum requirements of the horse and rider to consider before undertaking a musical ride. She illustrated with a selection of videos the impressions achieved by different genres of music and how the music needed to be carefully matched to the horse's tempo and type. The eye-opener for the attendees was the concept of choreography and coordination of the ridden movements with the phrasing of the music itself. Currently, we are

- planning a second chapter in which four of the people who attended the first session would bring a video of themselves riding their horse at all 3 gaits and 3 selections of music.
- c. Due to a lack of volunteers, plans for a schooling show have been postponed until spring 2013.
2. Plans for the last quarter of 2012:
The Halloween party is scheduled for Sunday, Oct. 28th, at Rae Ann Cook's Phantom Hill Farm. This will be a social activity.

Pikes Peak Dressage:

Simone Windeler

A New Chapter

Pikes Peak Dressage Society was founded early in 2012. It serves primarily the Pikes Peak region around Colorado Springs, though some of our membership is out of state. You can find more information about events, our officers and how to join our group at www.pikespeakdressage.org or like us on Facebook. Since its inception our membership has increased about 5 times. We are very excited about our growth and hope to get even bigger for 2013.

New Officers to be elected soon / Year End Awards Program

Our annual election meeting will be held on Nov 13, 2012. This is also our annual shopping spree at Bingo's Saddle Shop in Colorado Springs. We will start at 6:30 pm. Special discounts and door-prizes await – everyone is invited.

PPDS is also working on Year-End Awards. Several members have stepped up and offered to donate. We are in the process of working out the requirements and our members will be able to qualify for awards as soon as our awards policy is completed.

Events

This past year we held a very successful lunging clinic with a long-lining demo as well as a Gary Rockwell clinic. Everyone was so excited about the chance to ride with Gary Rockwell (who judged the past Olympics) – that we are happy to announce that he will be back in Jan.

Dec 11 – Holiday Party at Simone's house – we start at 6 pm. Details on our website

Jan 11 and Jan 13 – Gary Rockwell clinic – look for all the details on our website

Other plans include – Riding to Music, Trailer safety, Getting ready to show

Platte River Dressage:

Laura Speer

The main event this year was a money raiser held at the RMDS Winter Wake-up show at Tomora Training Center. PRD made over \$160 by providing concessions for this show.

Our numbers continue to be small (about 14). Not quite sure there is a need for this chapter after all but we will see how it proceeds in 2013.

Wasatch Mountains:

Sally Shaffer PROXY to Wendy Cibis

A short Year End Synopsis of our Activities: Under President, Linda Nickerson of Snowy Peaks Ranch, our Chapter held it's first USDF Recognized Show at the Sweetwater Equestrian Center in Midway, Utah. It was a one day, one ring show with "S" judge Shirley Rector of Arizona, held in conjunction with The Collectives, a Utah Dressage Society group of members, who organized a one day, one ring show the day before our show and then went on to produce The Region 5 USDF Championships in Heber, Utah at the beginning of October.

With part of the proceeds from our show we supported the Region 5 Championships by sponsoring the Saturday night Pizza Party.

We hope to reproduce these efforts during the coming year, 2013.

Western Colorado: NO REPORT

Judi Family PROXY to Beth Geier

Final Reading of Candidates for Executive Office:

Slate for 2013:

Vice-President: Pete Soos / Gwen Ka'awaloa

Adult Amateur: Jennifer Glass

Awards: Shannon Lemons

Communications: Linda Gaber

Education: Jon Haugen
Jr/Yr: Julie Haugen
Marketing: Sharon Soos
RMDS Shows: Laura Speer
Scholarship: MaryJo Hoepner

Heather Petersen moves to accept the slate as above for the unopposed positions and then have a ballot vote for the Vice President position. 2nd by Lori Mitchell. Motion passed.

Roll Call vote for Vice President – Gwen Ka’awaloa elected as Vice President

Ballot results:

Vice President:

Peter Soos – 11 votes

Gwen Ka’awaloa – 33 votes

2 Abstain

Other Business:

Patricia Leech moved we change the free email blasts for chapter educational events from 2 to 4 in perpetuity, 2nd by Susan Rudman. Motion passes unanimously.

Debbie Moloznik moved to adjourn, 2nd by Susan Rudman, motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 3:37 pm.