

RMDS BOARD OF GOVERNORS
SATURDAY - NOVEMBER 5, 2016
Stock Show Complex Denver, CO 80207
NW Club-Front

AGENDA

Call to order at 9:00 am by President Gwen Ka'awaloa.

Attendance and delegate count taken by Heather. 42 votes total 37 present – 5 came later

Arkansas Valley-2	Beth Hart Nancy Leonard
Boulder Valley-10	Sandra Rosewell – 5 votes Grace Maddox Beth Geier - 3 votes Kristi Cooper-Camp – Proxy to Sandra Rosewell Sharron Sarchet Pat Leech – 9:13 AM arrival
Colorado Springs-2	CiCi Lee – 9:13 AM arrival
Foothills-4	Kris Cooper Cassandra DiPentino Linda Gaber Marilou Metcalf Arlene Rhodes - 3 Votes
Grand Valley-5	Susan Gregg Judi DeVore Kathy Simard – 3 Votes
High Plains-8	Stephanie Figgins Lori Keilt Sharon Soos Anclaire Spaulding Una Schade Didi DeKrey
Northern Colorado-4	Rose Balfour Andrea Chirich Amy Kugelman Ginka Kubelka – 2 votes
On The Bit-3	Tammy Au-France
Pikes Peak-4	Gwen Ka'awaloa Beverly Swanson/MaryJo Hoepner Michelle Anderson Heather Petersen 2 votes – PROXY TO HEATHER PETERSEN
Western Colorado-2	

Guests: Michelle Stevens, Shannon Lemons

Approval of the 2015 BOG Minutes

Heather Petersen

Susan Gregg made the motion to approve the 2015 minutes as corrected. Seconded by Stephanie Figgins. Motion passed unanimously.

President's Message

Gwen Ka'awaloa

2016 was a busy and productive year for the Rocky Mountain Dressage Society. We had several quality educational opportunities for our members and a full show season. Today we will plan our 2017 schedule and so far we have a pretty active year in the works.

We will also be electing members to fill some Chair positions. A few Chairs have chosen to rerun and we also have some new faces who have put in their names as well. New people means new ideas for the Executive Board but we will have some stability with remaining Chairs.

Joan Clay and I will be attending the USDF Convention and Board of Governors Meeting in St Louis, Missouri. We will be very busy with lots of committee meetings and education presentations to attend.

RMDS was host to the USDF Adult Clinic in October and I'm proud to say our Colorado sessions had some of the highest attendance for this particular symposium. Our members continue to demonstrate their thirst for knowledge.

The 2016 Region V and RMDS Championship show was a success financially. With great sponsors for the entire show we were able to organize snacks and dinners every night as well as providing a winning atmosphere for judges and competitors alike.

The Executive Board has managed to organize and provide the education and show atmosphere that our members request. We have worked to be fiscally responsible and to grow our organization. Today we will as a group work to plan 2017 with a bright and clear goal for success.

"We don't need to share the same opinions as others, but we need to be respectful" Taylor Swift

"That which we persist in doing becomes easier, not that the task itself has become easier, but that our ability to perform it has improved." Ralph Waldo Emerson

"Service is a smile. It is an acknowledging wave, a reaching handshake, a friendly wink, and a warm hug. Its these simple acts that matter most, because the greatest service to a human soul has always been the kindness of recognition." Richelle E. Goodrich

With everyone here today we can work on our goals to bring Dressage to the equestrian community and to the public. One way we are working on getting this done is to host a Freestyle Competition, USDF and WDAA rules and tests but no recognition so costumes can be used. Lots of plans ahead and we will work as a team to make this an extravaganza.

RMDS continues to grow and experience some new problems in understanding of rules and regulations. As a group we will work to clarify what is needed and expected of members at shows and clinics. RMDS provides some of the best education for L graduates and we strive to continue forward in this educational program.

Let's get started

First reading of election roster, nominations from the floor

Gwen Ka'awaloa

The slate for 2017:

Vice-President (1 year):	Joan Clay
Adult Amateur (2 years):	Anclaire Spaulding/Michelle Stevens
Communication (2 years):	Beverly Swanson
Jr/Young Rider (2 years):	Cassandra Dipentino
Show Liason (2 years):	
Scholarship (2 years):	MaryJo Hoepner

No nominations were made from the floor.

Vice-President's Message

Joan Clay

Joan talked about anxiety and today's society and what takes away our anxiety. Hiding out at the barn with our horses, friends, family and clients. It's a common denominator for our group. Worked to bring in Cassandra as the Jr/YR chair to help strengthen the program and increase activities and participation.

Treasurers Report

Sharon Soos

Funds as of October 31, 2015

RMDS Checking Account	\$52,964.19
PayPal Account (as of 10/20/15)	\$11,317.63
Scholarship Account	\$ 6,555.63
Money Market	<u>\$43,962.89</u>
Total	\$114,800.34

There was no banquet in 2015 – note that one was in November 2014, the other was January 2016. A difference in Championships from 2015 – no Regionals in 2015 and Regionals in 2016. Discussion of Profit and Loss, holding of expenses, omnibus, Centaur, championships. Have not had a lot of membership renewals yet, which contributes even though it's for the 2017 year, they go in in 2016. Scholarship contributions are gradually increasing.

Central Office Report

Beth Geier

Membership

- Registration – 756 members for 2016 93 new horses since October, 2015
- See reports with chapter membership totals.
- Accepting 2017 dues today at \$60 - \$65 after Dec 31.

Omnibus:

- Lining up advertisers now. Need help!! Nov 20 is the deadline. Need every person at the BOG to bring in a full page ad.

Shows:

- Championship Volunteers: 107 volunteers to fill 211 spots – 21 were not RMDS members. Good job everyone!!
- Approve 2017 schedule later

Education:

- USDF Region 5 adult clinic registration.
 - Great success – about 100 people on Saturday and 90 something on Sunday. Well attended and ran smoothly.

Marketing:

- Emails and website ads are coming in.

General:

- Chapters receive free email blasts for educational purposes.
- RMDS Executive Board members get ½ price admission to RMDS events.
- We need to keep in mind the expense of rebuilding the data base / software for the central office. Looking at about 15K-20K.

Awards Banquet:

- January 14, 2017 – 10 rooms have been set aside. If those are taken, then she will add more rooms to the “block” up to 25 rooms. Good until December 14. Reserve as early as possible so you get the rooms.

Next Executive Board Meetings (2nd Thursday odd months-exceptions noted) –

2017:

Awards Banquet: January 14 (Saturday)

Executive Board Meetings: Jan 12 March 9 May 11 July 11 (Tuesday) Sept 7 (1st Thursday)

Oct 12 (Budget) Nov 4 or 11 BOG

2017 Championships: September 13-17.

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

	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002
Members:	756	760	752	827	797	868	897	945	1030	1008	1036	1019	1151	1177	1162
Horses:	93	59	63	59	135	123	132	132	166	246	262	234	207	337	274
AV	25	29	26	27	25	27	24	15	26	12	-	-	-	-	-
BV	182	168	171	180	182	190	200	188	205	172	178	179	199	208	230
CS	24	35	47	52	63	115	124	115	127	126	143	130	137	155	134
FH	73	79	76	64	65	71	72	75	76	77	74	73	109	103	115
GV	95	71	55	71	53	65	83	87	105	102	88	92	93	98	77
HP	149	156	151	176	190	208	226	256	265	260	259	251	267	283	278
NC	77	77	89	94	93	110	132	107	124	137	137	139	162	151	150
OB	43	42	33	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PP	63	70	63	62	44	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PR	6/30/16	10	11	18	14	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WC	22	18	19	23	27	31	22	21	25	25	32	34	44	55	64
No Chapter	3	5	11	12	13	15	14	25	14	16	22	21	34	36	24
PN							Dissolved	inactive	12	13	13	14	15	14	13
TS							Dissolved	36	51	68	90	86	91	74	77
WA	Dissolved	19	21	26	28	24	24	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	756	779	752	801	769	846	897	925	1030	1008	1036	1019	1151	1177	1162
Juniors	86	88	95	120	117	120	134								
Amateurs	163	152	176	209	220	239	230								
Education	17	16													

Committee Chairman Reports

Education

Michelle Anderson/MaryJo Hoepner

We were asked to step into this position after the elected Chair resigned early this year. First, some results from the 2016 events.

The "L" Continuing Education covered Western Dressage and as such was not eligible for a USDF grant to cover expenses. Fortunately there were 19 registrants and the session made a small profit while also assisting the "L" graduates in judging Western Dressage – classes they are frequently asked to officiate.

The TD & Show Manager educational session was unfortunately poorly attended and had a small loss, but this was covered by the "L" session profit (as is often the case).

Group sit time to meet the new "L" requirement for judging RMDS shows was privately organized but we hope to have RMDS organize this in the future.

We have applied for the 2017 "L" Continuing Education to be a Musical Freestyle Certification for all levels of judges with USEF as well. A grant from The Dressage Foundation has been approved and USEF approval is still pending. Currently the session is scheduled for Jan 28 at the La Quinta Inn on Tower Rd with Debbie Riehl-Rodriguez & Dolly Hannon. This will be a USEF Freestyle Education Approved session.

February 4, 2017 is the date for the TD / Show Management training. This TD training is for all interested in learning about what a TD does. It is also great information for those wishing to manage or secretary an RMDS or a USEF recognized show. Laurie McTavish will be the presenter.

The Show management training is excellent information for those interested in holding an RMDS or even a schooling show.

These sessions will be held at the Douglas County Fairgrounds in the Extension office (downstairs).

Group sit time for "L" graduates (or candidates if space allows) may be planned in 2017 pending the show schedule, availability of a judge willing to instruct the group, and enough interest from candidates to cover the expense.

The 2017 Professional's Symposium is scheduled for May 18-19 with Lars Petersen with a 2 day open clinic to follow on May 20-21. Location will be the Colorado Horse Park. They will be doing an educational week with us as well. Steffen Peters, Axel Steiner, Natural Horsemanship and western dressage. VIP packages, grass seating. 50% of profits from the Horse Park events will go to RMDS. RMDS will have control of the Lars Petersen aspect. Arenas will be donated for our portion.

RMDS Sponsored Educational Events

2017

January

- 14 2016 Awards Banquet
Renaissance Denver Hotel – 3801 Quebec Street – Denver, CO
- 28 Judges' Continuing Education – Freestyles
La Quinta Inn – 6801 Tower Road – Denver, CO

February

- 4 TD/Show Management Clinic with Laurie Mactavish & Heather Petersen
Douglas County Fairgrounds – Castle Rock, CO

May

- 18-19 Professionals Symposium with Lars Petersen
- 20-21 Adult Clinic with Lars Petersen

September

- 13 X Halt Salute RMDS Show
- 13 USDF & RMDS Breeders' Championships
- 14-17 RMDS and USDF Region 5 Championships

2018

May

- 15-16 Professionals Symposium with Lilo Fore
- 17 Adult Clinic with Lilo Fore

Adult Amateur

Didi DeKrey

The Adult Amateur committee is tasked with providing support to the Educational committee, especially for events open to the Adult Amateurs in RMDS. The following report focuses on the activities of the Adult Amateur chair. Many educational activities were offered in the past year for our RMDS members through the Educational committee.

The RMDS/USDF Team Competition was held in June at the Tomora Training Facility in Greeley, CO. Both Junior/Young Riders and Adults are encouraged to attend this fun event. Ribbons were awarded for individual scores. In addition, and perhaps the high point of the event, special prizes were awarded for Best Use of Colors, "Hanging Together" Team, Best Costumes, Best Themes, and other fun categories. Northern Colorado Feed, located in Ft. Collins, donated four bags of horse cookies. Ft. Collins artist Tony DeKrey donated hand-crafted metal stall door halter holders, and I gave some hand crocheted gifts.

This year RMDS was selected as the site for the USDF Region V Adult Clinic series. The clinic featured Ms. Kathy Connelly and Ms. Betsy Steiner. These two well-known instructors have teamed before to rave reviews. Eight of our riders were chosen from all of those that submitted their videos and information. Our Region was well represented by the riders that rode –well, let's just get around the arena Level through Piaffe and Passage. Horses also represented the ranges of talent and breed; Morgan, Dutch Warmblood, Andalusian, Welsh-Quarter Horse to name a few. The weather couldn't have been more delightful, Reverie Farms is an open welcoming venue, and Auditors filled the sidelines!

Please, continue to be involved with your local clubs; interact with fellow chapters; document your volunteering times (use the RMDS form!). Volunteering not only helps the activity, but also can be used to apply towards the scholarships and grants available for us.

Gwen would like to see the clinic from last year put back out there to our membership with more support and advertising because the idea was great and well organized.

Adult committee does get \$500 seed money and another \$400 from another chapter that dissolved donated to the AA committee, so a total of \$900 for an event this coming year. We do have a potential date for July 8th for the Adult/Jr Team competition and it will be at Table Mountain Ranch.

Junior/Young Rider

Cassandra Dipentino

I want to introduce myself to the RMDS Board. My name is Cassandra DiPentino and I am a Dressage trainer at Table Mountain Ranch in Golden. I have been a trainer on my own since 2010. I became interested in becoming the Jr/Yr Committee Chairperson to help provide more educational opportunities to the youth of our sport. As a trainer I have quite a few young riders ranging in ages from 7-21 as well as many adult amateurs. I have worked with programs such as 4H and even Westernaires (mostly to help bring proper Dressage to them) and have had much success with these kids.

I am very passionate about working with the youth of this sport. I feel it is very important in cultivating a passion for Dressage as well as proper horsemanship which they can carry with them into the future and become productive Adult Amateurs and Professionals.

I feel that in the past we have had many great opportunities for team building and fun for our youth. I would like to see that grow further. My first idea is to organize a horse-less clinic during the cold winter months. I am open to educational ideas. I would like to include a segment for the parents regarding the commitment requirement to nurture a Jr/Yr who shows the drive to make it to the NAJYRC.

We have many wonderful Professionals in our community who work with kids. I would like to arrange a meeting to brainstorm ideas for the coming year.

Thank you for this opportunity!!!

Unmounted clinic in March – show clothes, braiding, grooming and the basics of the test with a judge, and then a session with parents concerning financials and parental responsibilities.

Awards

Shannon Lemons

2015 –

- As Usual, still some trouble with getting trophies returned despite notices in Centaur, individual emails sent by Awards Chair (people must not read them because I did not get bounce backs that they didn't arrive), and the trophy agreement.
 - It puts quite a burden on Beth Geier and myself to get these all together when people don't follow instructions, and they also are not paying the late fees.
 - It's not realistic to say awards will be forfeit because by the time I get them it is too late to change orders...
 - Beth and I kept track of who did not send in their postage reimbursements, and this year their notifications will include a notice that they must show up with that amount in order to pick up or be mailed any awards. (Trophies will still not be mailed). This year I will try keeping track of those who return awards late and assess it in the following year?
 - This year will also add another email blast in addition to the individual ones, but in reality it is not that they don't know the rules, they just forget, don't think they need to worry about it, etc., because we've never really followed up on the threat to forfeit awards. Do we go hard line or asses the next year?
 - I will ask our MC at the banquet to emphasize that fees will be assessed if you do not return your trophy on time.
- Under budget, working well with vendors.

2016 –

- Replacement/New trophies – if anyone of you needs help finding a trophy, please let me know. I need to get trophies to engraver next week (i.e. the plaques to go with the trophies) and can go ahead and order those. Let me know if you have a trophy or want help finding one.
 - Futurity –
 - RMDS/Awards budget to purchase new plaque, \$80

- Keep current trophy, no retired trophy to dispose of
 - Long Way Baby
 - Olga Hendrickson purchasing new plaque
 - Keep current trophy, no retired trophy to dispose of
 - High Score Mare – Cassandra & Joseph Dipentino
 - Grade Horse
 - C.C. Ross – new trophy (I am ordering new plaque for you)
 - Previous trophy
 - AA Training –
 - Sandy Roswell – plaque?
 - AA PSG – Veronica Holt Memorial
 - Heather Petersen/Susan Gregg – plaque
 - Waterloo Trophy – return to Lori Oakley
 - Pony Training
 - Renee Martig – plaque
 - Retired – Julie B-R
 - Pony 2nd –
 - Pikes Peak Dressage
 - New Trophy
 - Open 1st – High Plains
 - Open I2
 - RMDS/Awards budget to purchase new plaque, \$80
 - Keep current trophy
 - Thanks to these generous donors, we have been able to limit the Awards budget liability to two new plaques! There are two offered donors who have not responded to date...
 - New Procedures for 2016:
 - Postage reimbursements were monitored and those who did not submit their reimbursement after we mailed awards to them at our cost will receive a different notification, as follows:
 - If you wish to pick up awards at the banquet, or have them picked up, you need to arrange to meet this debt before the banquet or bring adequate funds to cover these fees before you will be given your awards.
 - This year's awards will not be mailed to you until you pay for last year's overdue balance and this year's expected balance up front.
 - If your trophy was returned late, as per RMDS Standing Rules, you will be assessed a late fee, to be paid before the banquet if you wish to pick up awards, or before any awards will be mailed to you.
 - To the current reminder and notification system of the awards agreement, individual emails, notifications in the Centaur, will add another email last from RMDS central office to see if this will improve compliance.
 - Budget – no numbers yet 😊
- 2017 –
- Many new trophies needed in 2017 (these will be filled this year with the 2016 competition year)
 - Freestyle I1 – Joint Venture Trophy – Dolly Hannon/Whit Watkins – will ask Dolly if she wants to continue to sponsor and if she would like to keep same trophy or if we should find a new donor.
 - Oldenburg – Heinrichs family – Beth will contact.
 - Thoroughbred – Cowboy Cadillac Memorial – Shannon Badillo – Anyone know her.
 - Open PSG - Pregelstrand Memorial – Mile High Horse Ranch/Vanda Werner – keeping trophy, Kathy Simard will contribute for the new plaque.
 - Open I1 – no donor listed – will poll our local artists for something new.

Any Questions?

RMDS Championships

Beverly Swanson & Heather Petersen

Still finishing thank-you notes, almost done, but had to do a lot of research to get addresses. Should be finished next week. The financials and a wrap up of the show in Estes Park was given by Heather. There were quite a few problems with the facility not being adequately prepared this year for the size of the competition and the needs that were specified in our contract with the facility. Staffing and equipment support were the biggest issues.

Gwen and Heather met with the Colorado Horse Park shortly after Championships regarding returning to the facility for 2017 – if it was possible with other shows in existence and if there was enough room to hold Regional Championships. Gwen and Heather presented the information, the costs and made the recommendation that we return to the Colorado Horse Park.

Beth Geier makes the motion that we go back to the Colorado Horse Park, 2nd by Tammy Au-France. 4 proxies again. Gwen and Heather and their proxies abstain.

Second reading of election roster, nominations from the floor Gwen Ka'awaloa

The slate for 2017:

Vice-President (1 year):	Joan Clay
Adult Amateur (2 years):	Anclaire Spaulding/Michelle Stevens
Communication (2 years):	Beverly Swanson
Jr/Young Rider (2 years):	Cassandra Dipentino
Show Liason (2 years):	
Scholarship (2 years):	MaryJo Hoepner

No nominations were made from the floor.

Resumed Committee Chair Reports after a short lunch break

Communications

Linda Gaber

Today ends my one-year term as 2016 Communications Committee Chair and Centaur Editor. Previously, I completed a two-year term 2012-2014. Also today, Centaur and E-Centaur production contractor Beverly Swanson is seeking your vote as the new Communications Chair for two years. She has mine!

This year has been routine for this committee. Its three paid professionals were rehired for two-year terms. They are Beverly Swanson, and Nicole Bizzarro, who will continue to produce the annual Omnibus. Michael Petersen's contract also was renewed for Website management and hosting.

Together, by December we will have produced six emailed E-Centaurs in even months using MailChimp, completed and snail-mailed the printed Centaur (28 pages in odd months for a total of 168 pages), and compiled the 2016 RMDS Omnibus show guide this January. Each included client advertisements, web addresses, and some had click-through ads and other valuable links.

I am Pleased to Share Our Good News: Members Write

Nearly 25 members wrote and submitted newsletter articles and photos in 2016, which we published, representing a leap in member participation and shared education. Yes, we reminded readers in each issue that they receive two hours of volunteer credit for each article. We also selected two of these articles to submit to the United States Dressage Federation's 2016 newsletter article competition. It was nice to win Honorable Mention for my article on "Cleanliness Best Biosecurity for Show Competitors and Managers."

Now for our Annual Unhappy News: The Budget

According to Treasurer Sharon Soos' 2016 budget figures, Centaur expenses \$15,400 exceed income \$3,500, for a (\$11,900) loss. It is the same for Omnibus expenses \$15,000, income \$12,000 for a (\$3,000) loss. The Website totals are \$800 expenses, \$650 income for (\$150) loss.

The numbers are similar every year. Overages are not caused by our contractors' fees or excessive spending. Their requested wages are very reasonable and usually are not increased in their new contract bids. We are very lucky to have Beverly, Nicole and Michael committed to working with us. Also Office Manager Beth Geier

helps to secure and coordinate advertising.

While advertising income is steady, it does not ever offset costs. Solutions could be increasing advertising rates to boost income and producing more products online (the printed Centaurs and Omnibus) for reduced expenses. Other options could be explored. The fact is that printing production, paper and postage are costlier than publishing on the Internet, on your iPhone, Twitter and computer.

The goal for all RMDS communications products is to provide you with articles, information and advertising you want to see. Committee volunteers welcome and want your suggestions.

Discussion of advertising rates, decreasing paper versus increasing paper Centaurs, getting more advertisers before we increase the rates. Effectiveness of Centaur versus Omnibus advertising.

Communications/Centaur Report

Beverly Swanson

Thanks to USDF, I received press credentials to cover the Steiner/Connelly clinic, along with Suzie Halle as photographer. Because of the amount of material needed to complete the article, was late getting the Centaur to the printer. But think you will really enjoy the extra effort!

Championship results were printed in the November issue.

Would like to revisit the cost and effectiveness of the click-thru ads on e-Centaur. I would prefer to see the ad(s) placed within the body of the publication, I think it gets missed/ignored where it is now.

OMNIBUS

Nicole Bizarro

Building has started for 2017. Need to get advertising and prize lists collected.

Website

Michael Petersen

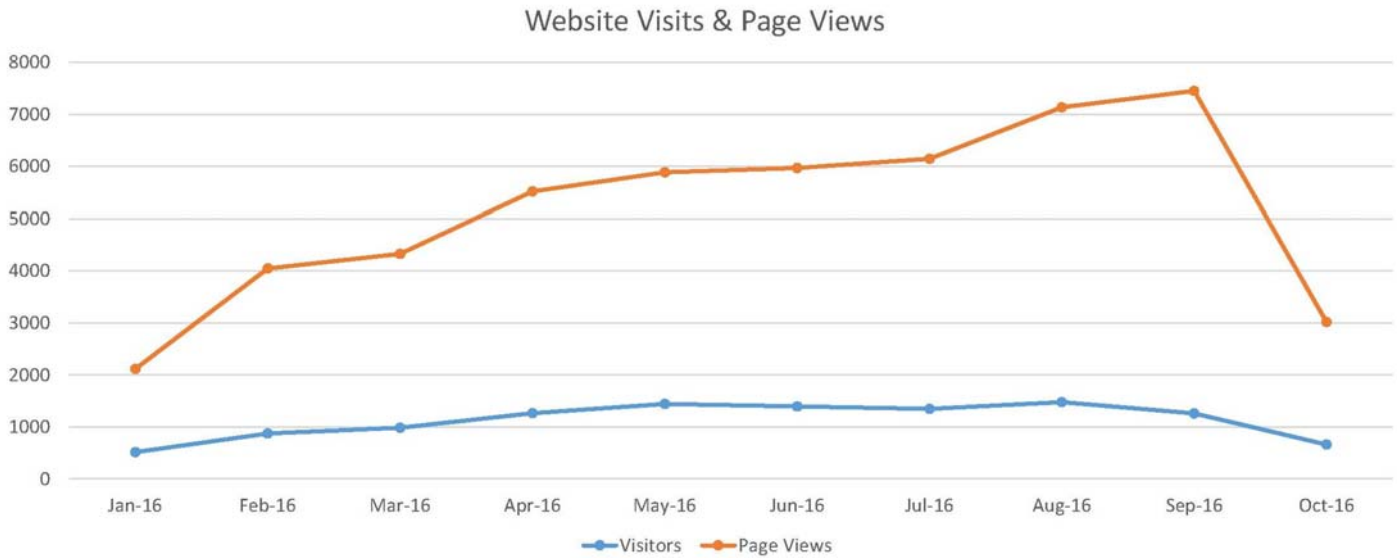
This website report is being submitted
To the board of governors befitted
Everything is well
Except for a spell
In October we had an outage unpredicted

After some time and a stern fit throwing
The web host got the server going
A few problems got attention
Steps were made for prevention
But all is good now with web pages a flowing

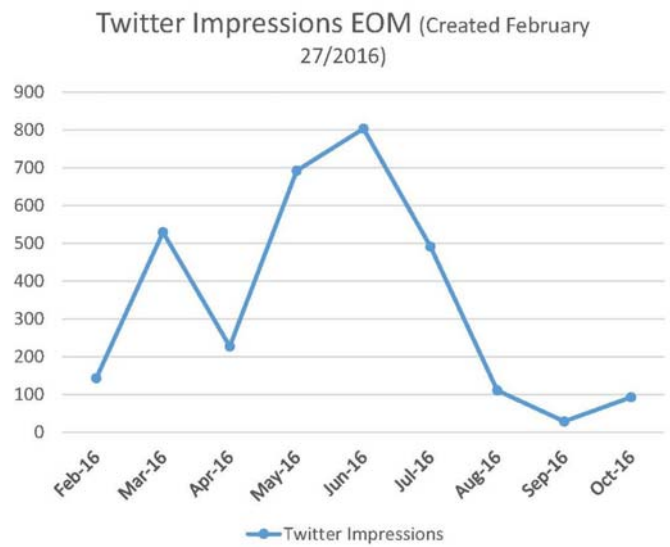
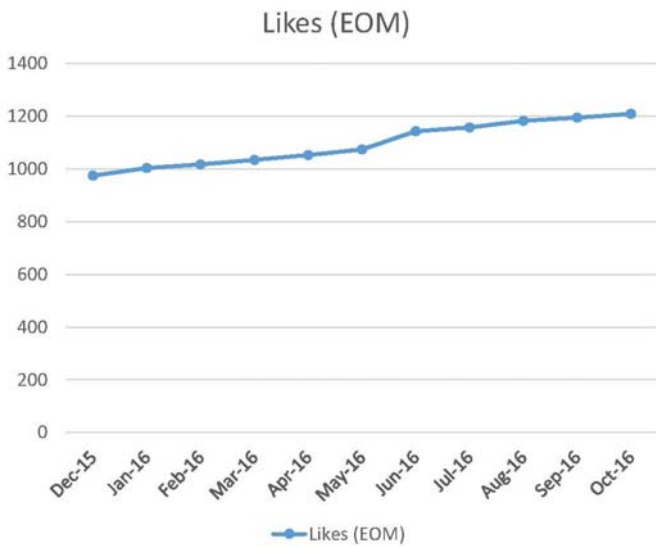
Marketing

Una Schade

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



Social



We made a few changes to the RMDS Website over 2016. We added a blog section to be able to communicate more informal information with our members and audience. We got Google Analytics installed on the site 1/17/2016 in order to track the type of usage we see on the site. Here are our top 10 viewed areas for year to date:

Page	Pageviews	Unique Pageviews	Avg. Time on Page	Entrances	Bounce Rate	% Exit	Page Value
	51,622 % of Total: 100.00% (51,622)	40,415 % of Total: 100.00% (40,415)	00:01:15 Avg for View: 00:01:15 (0.00%)	18,626 % of Total: 100.00% (18,626)	41.71% Avg for View: 41.71% (0.00%)	36.08% Avg for View: 36.08% (0.00%)	\$0.00 % of Total: 0.00% (\$0.00)
1. /	12,522 (24.26%)	10,555 (26.12%)	00:00:39	10,296 (55.28%)	21.10%	22.06%	\$0.00 (0.00%)
2. /Calendar/Home	11,867 (22.99%)	9,929 (24.57%)	00:03:38	5,076 (27.25%)	75.39%	69.43%	\$0.00 (0.00%)
3. /Awards/Home	3,035 (5.88%)	2,058 (5.09%)	00:00:48	348 (1.87%)	21.84%	16.54%	\$0.00 (0.00%)
4. /Organization/Membership	2,780 (5.39%)	1,862 (4.61%)	00:02:31	503 (2.70%)	61.03%	39.71%	\$0.00 (0.00%)
5. /Marketplace/Home	2,148 (4.16%)	1,288 (3.19%)	00:00:11	152 (0.82%)	16.45%	6.38%	\$0.00 (0.00%)
6. /Championships/Home	1,837 (3.56%)	1,341 (3.32%)	00:01:30	330 (1.77%)	51.82%	41.59%	\$0.00 (0.00%)
7. /Publications/Home	1,367 (2.65%)	997 (2.47%)	00:02:13	112 (0.60%)	52.68%	44.18%	\$0.00 (0.00%)
8. /Main/Home	1,171 (2.27%)	895 (2.21%)	00:01:03	91 (0.49%)	39.56%	24.08%	\$0.00 (0.00%)
9. /Organization/Home	1,040 (2.01%)	834 (2.06%)	00:00:37	26 (0.14%)	42.31%	16.44%	\$0.00 (0.00%)
10. /Marketplace/Classifieds	980 (1.90%)	824 (2.04%)	00:00:56	249 (1.34%)	51.41%	36.53%	\$0.00 (0.00%)

We are always looking for new sponsors to help make RMDS bigger and better. If you have any suggestions regarding companies to reach out to for sponsorship please email marketing@rmds.org.

So far YTD we have increased by 206 Facebook Fans, which can be attributed to sharing articles, cross posting information and events into Facebook Groups and our membership base.

Need to double our sponsorship for 2017 RMDS/USDF Region 5 Championships - \$30K goal.

Professionals

Sarah Dodge

I have enjoyed working with RMDS this past year and I am looking forward to representing our RMDS trainers as the Professionals Committee Chairperson next year. The Professionals sponsored party was a big success and I have had a lot of support and requests to make it an annual event at Championships. In addition we are looking forward to doing another Trainers Symposium, with Lars Petersen on May 18-19. Going forward I am going to work on securing several articles this winter for the Centaur Trainers Q&A column. I am going to reach out to the professionals thru email and personally to try to get as many submissions as possible during the slower winter months. I am also thinking it may be more interesting to branch out from just a Q & A and perhaps encourage all submissions that trainers are interested in writing. For example, tell us about the most difficult horse you've worked with and what did you learn, or what advice would you give to your younger self. Any question that gives insights to the trainers' philosophies and how they execute their training program. I hope the professionals on the RMDS board will be the among the first to submit to this column ;)

Discussion of the professionals party and championships and allocation of the sponsorship dollars. Ideas for 2017 party and discussion of making sure that at least 10% of the funds are not spent towards the party.

Scholarship

MaryJo Hoepner

This year our Scholarship recipients are:

- Bev Swanson -- Leg Up
- Melissa Mullin -- Solid Seat
- Kristann Cooper -- Opening Doors
- Sarah Jean Reaga -- Junior / Young Rider

Each has been able to gain training opportunities that would not have been available to them.

The deadline for 2017 scholarships is November 30. We hope each chapter is encouraging their members to apply for these \$500 scholarships.

There are many opportunities to volunteer and different ways you can volunteer – website management, newsletter, shows, horse expo, etc.

Discussion of references and the quality and presentation of the references.

Thanks to all who apply.

January 10, 2017 is the meeting to go over all the applicants.

Appointed Committee Chairman Reports

Western Dressage

Frances Carbonnel

No report – Gwen is going to appoint Simone Windeler to the position for 2017.

Banquet – January 14, 2017

Beth Geier

Renaissance Hotel – 3801 Quebec Street – Denver, CO

10 rooms have been set aside until December 14. If those are taken, then more will be added to the “block” up to 25 rooms. This is also a stock show week so reserve as early as possible so you get your rooms. Let me know if no rooms are available up to Dec 14.

Reservations are a must – no late reservations.

Any questions, please contact Beth Geier – 2942 Park Lake Drive – Boulder, CO 720-890-7825
rmds@indra.com

Una Schade and Stephanie Figgins are doing the silent auction and are looking for donations.

Raffle for show entries as well this year.

Historical

Pat Leech

This year the focus of the committee has been on organizing additional material provided by long time members. From three bins the archive has grown to five and still expanding. Efforts are ongoing to scan these very fragile documents into an electronic format and to then save them to DVD. I am now working on the 1970's with a goal of moving into the 1980's in 2017.

I would like to ask the chapter presidents to go to their membership and ask them if they have any old RMDS or chapter related documents that they would like to give to RMDS for inclusion in the archive. If they do, please let me know and I will make arrangements to pick them up.

Old Business

- USDF Convention **Gwen Ka'awaloa**
Gwen gave a basic report of the meetings and events of the USDF Convention.

Region 5 Report

Heather Petersen

2016 has been a busy year! The folks in our region had lots of educational opportunities to choose from all over our region and lots of shows as well.

USDF/Great American Region 5 Championships were held in Estes Park, Colorado at the Stanley Park Fairgrounds, hosted by the Rocky Mountain Dressage Society. The show went well despite some heavy winds on Sunday. There were great competitors parties each day that were very well attended and the USDF Championship classes were larger than expected. I attended as part of the show management and tried to make a few of the awards ceremonies as well. Next year the Regional Championships will be back in Colorado hosted by the Rocky Mountain Dressage Society.

The bid process for the 2018 USDF Region 5 Championships opens very soon. I very much hope we're able to keep as many parts of our Region in the process and hope that the championships will rotate out of Colorado to another great facility and GMO. Diversity is important and since our region is so large, it's very important to host the Regionals in various areas. Here's hoping we can keep the Regional Championships moving throughout our Region to better serve the membership. If you know of a facility we should consider, please let me know.

The North American Junior and Young Rider Championships were held this year in Colorado at the Colorado Horse Park. It was a great show and amazing chance to have so many top athletes visit our Region. Thank you also to so many folks from our Region who stepped up to volunteer and make the show a success.

We fielded a full team of Juniors and one Young Rider this year at NAJYRC and they worked hard and did really well! Our NAJYRC Young Rider was Lexy Donaldson and Power Play. They combined with Region 4 & 7 and earned Team Bronze. Lexy also earned Individual Bronze and was 7th in the freestyle.

Our Juniors this year were Jackson Gillespie on Westpoint, Gaylen Davis on Mojito RH, Paige Davis on Welkin and Katie Scotford on Dean Martin. The team faced a ton of adversity this year. Paige's horse choked the day before the jog, Katie's horse had to be reinspected at the jog, but did pass, Gaylen's horse was kicked after it passed the jog and did not compete. Katie did end up withdrawing her horse after the Team Test as she felt it best for his welfare. All of our kids coped well and they were a great group to work with. Jackson finished 6th in the Individual Test and won the Bronze in the freestyle. Congratulations to all who worked so hard to make the team and to all our team members. Gaylen Davis was awarded the Dressage Style Award which recognized her "style" while mounted, her positive behavior and demeanor at the competition and at organized functions. She was selected by show officials, including the judges, FEI Stewards and FEI veterinarians.

Many thanks to Joan Clay, USEF Region 5 Chef d'Equipe, who was also honored with the Albers Award, which recognizes the team chef d'equipe who best demonstrates the level of dedication, enthusiasm and team spirit of Patsy Albers. Albers was the long-time Region 1 Chef d'Equipe, as well as an ardent supporter and friend.

The USDF Adult and Youth Team Championships were held in Region 5 again this year. These were held June 11 in Greeley, Colorado. The show was a little down in attendance this year but the team atmosphere was great. Many thanks to the Rocky Mountain Dressage Society for hosting the show and all the volunteers who helped put the show on. RMDS is considering hosting it next year as well, but is looking at a weekend that is not quite as surrounded by recognized shows to encourage increased participation.

The USDF Adult Clinic was held October 8-19 at Reverie Farm in Longmont, Colorado. 22 horses applied for 8 slots, which was an excellent participation level. It also had 70 preregistered auditors (which is great!) and not sure what total attendance was as I have written this report before the clinic occurred.

The USDF Junior / Young Rider clinic was October 29-30 at Bandalero Ranch in Tucson, Arizona. Sadly, we were down in applications and had to open it up to some other options. We will look at relocating it during the next cycle to a different area of the Region.

This year Region 5 was allocated 5 Participating Member delegates to the USDF Board of Governors meeting. Scarlett Fahrenson, our Nominating Committee member, rounded up a nice diverse roster of 5 individuals to fill those spots. Your delegates are Eva-Maria Adolphi, Rusty Cook, Scarlett Fahrenson, Susan Leutwyler and Sarah Martin. These 5 members are a nice representation of the different states/areas in Region 5. Scarlett also worked hard to get representation for all our eligible GMOs in the Region or proxies to cover their votes.

Our regional GMOs and other organizations within our Region have been very busy hosting lots of educational programs. Here are some of the ones I know of and I'm sorry if some were left out. Please realize how much your GMOs have to offer and support them with your membership!

Central Arizona Riding Academy – complete USDF L program

January 2016 – October 2016

Rocky Mountain Dressage Society – USDF Judges' Continuing Education Program

January 2016

Utah Dressage Society – Annual Winter Education Symposium

February 2016

Rocky Mountain Dressage Society – Technical Delegate and Show Management Clinic

February 2016

High Plains Chapter of RMDS – Youth Clinic

February 2016

Utah Dressage Society – Musical Freestyle Clinic

March 2016

Utah Dressage Society – USDF Instructor Program

April 2016

Rocky Mountain Dressage Society – Instructor Clinic and Open Clinic w/ George Williams

April 2016
Tucson Dressage Club – Beth Baumert Clinic
April 2016
Tucson Dressage Club – University Session
May 2016
Big Sky Equestrian Association – Clinics with Jutta Schott
May, June, August, September 2016
Arizona Dressage Association – Clinic with Heather Blitz
October 2016

Budget	Sharon Soos		
	Income	Expense	Net Change
2017 Budget			
Adult Amateur	\$ 497	\$997	\$(500)
BOG Awards	\$500	\$6,500	\$(6,000)
BOG Banquet	\$7,500	\$8,000	\$(500)
BOG Meeting		\$1,500	\$(1,500)
Centaur	\$5,000	\$12,500	\$(7,500)
Central Office	\$2500	\$11,350	\$(8,850)
Championship/Breed Show	\$125,000	\$127,000	\$(2,000)
Clinics/Education	\$3000	\$3000	\$0
General / Interest	\$100	\$100	\$0
Jr/Yr Program		\$500	\$(500)
Junior Camp	\$1500	\$1000	\$500
Marketing	\$500	\$1250	\$(750)
Membership - Dues	\$43,000	\$21,500	\$21,500
Membership - Horses	\$7000		\$7000
Misc. / Donation		\$2785	\$(2,785)
Omnibus	\$13,000	\$15,000	\$(2,000)
Operating (USDF Conv/Treas Exp) Treasurer/USDF Conv.		\$3,000	\$(3,000)
Professional Committee		\$500	\$(500)
Scheduling / Insurance	\$2,200	\$1,800	\$400
Scholarship	\$1500	\$2000	\$(500)
Taxes / Legal/ Audit	\$250	\$750	\$(500)
Team Competition	\$3,000	\$2,000	\$1,000
Website	\$150	\$860	\$(710)
Total	\$216,197	\$223,892	\$(7,695)

Motion made to accept the budget as corrected by MaryJo Hoepner. Seconded by Sharron Sarchett. 42 Ayes 1 Naye. Motion passed

New Business

- **2017 Show Schedule** **Beth Geier**
Schedule can be found on the RMDS website www.rmids.org
- Freestyle Competition/Exhibition. Trying to get an October date at National Western Complex. 2 White Feet will manage it. Will be USDF and Western Dressage freestyle test sheets, no recognition, costumes allowed. 3 divisions, training thru Grand Prix, Pas de deux and Quadrille. Debbie R-R and Dolly committed depending on dates. Also looking at celebrity judges

- Gwen suggested a thank you recognition for the 2 White Feet staff at the awards banquet – a plaque and gift. **MaryJo Hoepner moved we approve \$250 budget for it, 2nd by Judi DeVore. Motion passed unanimously with Heather Petersen abstaining.**
- Move September 2017 meeting to Tuesday, August 29th due to scheduling conflicts for Gwen.
- Move July 2017 meeting back to July 13th.
- Kathy Simard – USEF is having a certified instructors and L graduates will need to do safe sport program.
- Transportation to the US Dressage Finals. Travel grant program. Heather explained that USDF has a program in process.

Arkansas Valley

Beth Hart

Arkansas Valley had another great year. Membership was down from 2015; we will be implementing a new member packet as well as other ideas to keep our membership growing.

We again had new faces and old at our events. We had numerous clinics, two schooling shows and a ride-a-test. We started our first events with two clinics with Joseph Newcomb in the spring. Joseph traveled from California and we not only learned a lot but also had lots of laughs. Our first schooling show, MaryJo Hoepner came down to judge the show. We appreciate all of our clinicians and judges who make the trek to our neck of the woods. All of you travel quite a ways to get to us and it is very appreciated!

We had 2 clinics with JoElyn Newcomb on “how to prepare and ride in a show” before our last schooling show on October 1. The clinics included dressage test prep and discussion.

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

Practice Test with your horse or without. These were well attended and we will continue to support our riders this way in 2017.

We had our ride-a-test with Julie Burt in July. July is a hot time to ride and our friends at the B-bar-B Ranch in Westcliffe opened up their barn for the event as well as a clinic with Sabrina Bablitz. Both clinic and ride-a-test were well attended and a great place to have events in the middle of the hot summer months.

October 1st was our final schooling show this year. Judged by Beth Geier, it was a beautiful day to ride. We were very happy to have Beth come down from Boulder again this year. There were High point prizes for our riders. The day was easy, fun and a great way to end our show season.

There is no way to say enough about our volunteers this year. They have been fabulous at all our events. All of us appreciate the time and dedication our volunteers give at each event. Every one of us appreciates the hours they spend helping us make our events a reality. Many thanks to you all!

Our next AVDA meeting is Nov. 19th and we will have tentative dates for 2017 events. We look forward to another year of enjoying our camaraderie and our horses together. We hope you can join us for one of our events next year!

Boulder Valley

Sandra Rosewell

Updates from Boulder Valley Dressage

Looking back over 2016

- Boulder Valley Dressage held two shows and a ride-a-test this past year.
- Ride A Test May 7 Blue Roof Equestrian Center Judge Jessica Greer
- Spring Fling May 8 Singletree Farm Judge Sarah Martin
- So Long to summer August 28 Somerset Farm Judge Gwen Kaawaloa
- The shows were well attended and quite successful.

Accomplishments from BVD riders

- Two BVD members (Paige Smith & Gaylen Davis) were part of the FEI North American Junior and Young Rider Championships Team
- Congratulations to all the BVD Open & AA riders who did so well this past year!
- This fall a very successful USDF Clinic with Kathy Connelly & Beth Steiner was hosted by BVD member, Nancy Davis at Reverie Farm in Longmont, CO

Coming up

- o December Boulder Valley Dressage meeting/holiday party will be held at Jana Wards Monday, December 12
- o The Boulder Valley Dressage banquet will be held on January 29, 2017 at the Boulder Country Club
- o Beth Geier will be honored at the banquet with a Lifetime Award for her service to BVD
- o Patti Hallock has taken over as show secretary for BVD
- o The spring 2017 Ride-a-Test will be held at Lookout Ridge Farm. Thank you to Julie Smith.
- o Thank you as well to Singeltree Farm and Jan Treadwell for hosting our Spring Fling for many years.
- o The So Long to summer show will be in August at a new venue, after years at Somerset Farm. Thank you to Kim Lampert for hosting many years of shows.

Colorado Springs

Patricia Leech

Congratulations to the CSDA Chapter members who had great success with their horses this competition year. CSDA is celebrated 37 years of providing an awards program to our membership, their friends, and family for their accomplishments in the show ring.

2017 will be a year of working toward engaging the membership in chapter programs and educational opportunities. To do this we are:

- o Working toward providing educational opportunities for our membership with video presentations during our regular meetings. These videos are from the CSDA video library and include the Gymnastic series with Leslie Webb and the current On the Level DVD's from USDF.
- o Working on confirming the dates, venue, and clinician for an educational weekend to be held in 2017 that will focus on equitation for the rider and how it influences the horse's performance.

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

Kris Cooper

Foothills hosted four clinics and two shows in 2016. Every event was profitable, netting approximately \$2500 so far for the year.

- o April 10 Western Dressage Clinic with Frances Carbonnel
- o May 22 "Give a Friend a Seat Lesson" clinic at Anchorage Farm
- o June 12 "Spring into Summer" RMDS-sanctioned show
- o August 27 "Last Chance" RMDS-sanctioned show
- o October 23 Western Dressage and Long Lining Clinic with Frances Carbonnel

We plan to wrap up the year with a holiday party and celebration, currently set for Saturday, January 7. We hope to recognize all of our members including our exhibitors, volunteers, parents, trainers and helpers of all kinds. We could not have had such a successful year without you!!

Our new website, compliments of Nicole Riffe, is <http://www.cofoothillsdressage.org/>. Up-to-the-minute news can also be found on our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/FoothillsDressage/>.

Our next chapter meeting Monday, January 30, at Tuscany Tavern in Evergreen.

2017 Foothills Officers

Kris Cooper	President	303-847-9862	kris@anchoragefarm.com
CeCe Ross	Vice President		
Nicole Riffe	Secretary		
Laura Quakenbush	Treasurer		
Marilou Metcalf	Scholarship		
Cassandra DiPentino	Education		
Linda Gaber	Shows		

Grand Valley

Arlene Rhodes

I am happy to report that the Grand Valley on the Western slope has a healthy and growing dressage community! We know it is healthy for several reasons: our membership has been growing steadily the last few years (nearly 100 this year), our shows and events are seeing increased numbers of younger riders, the

variety of classes being entered is increasing and our show entries overall have been increasing each year. At our last show of the season in October, we had a waiting list of entries!

Part of the reason for this growth is due to a consistent and dedicated group of officers on our board that are committed to finding ways to help club members become involved and feel welcome – Susan Gregg, Deb Crooks and Pat White. We have an incredibly talented show secretary, Dee Closson, and an energetic and competent show manager, Pat White, for all of our shows. Our volunteer base is growing each year making it a pleasure to work with everyone at the show events. Our new volunteer coordinator Ann Shoftstall is eager to begin working with this great group of people. We are also blessed with an excellent facility here at the Mesa County fairgrounds, and use of the shaded covered arenas for warm up and competition is a reason many people continue to enter and show. Our webmaster, Jennifer Weber, does a great job keeping the information about the upcoming shows and events current our website, GVDS.org.

The October show was particularly fun! Our judge Julie McDermott had two full days with a great variety in her arena each day. We had a total of 8 freestyles over the weekend, including three Pas de Deux performances, one of them side-saddle! We had two leadline entries and I heard a rumor that a leadline Pas De Deux entry may be in the works for next year! We had a separate class for “With Assistance” and had entries for this class as well. Our western dressage classes are about a fourth of our entries and the quality of riding has been increasing each year – they are a pleasure to watch. We always have some entries in our Prix Caprilli classes and we now have two jump height divisions. We love to see entries from our Para-equestrians and we’ve had entries every show. Our crew of workers made the event run very smoothly. We beat our record for clean up – last entry at 4:40pm and by 5:10pm we were all driving home – the arena, office and all equipment packed up and carted off. Our show workers are numerous and talented!!

Upcoming events remaining this year include an open riding invitation to members for Saturday afternoon on November 19th at the fairgrounds. We will be watching the freestyles from the Olympics at a video and snack night at Susan Gregg’s home on November 21. December 3rd is our Christmas party and Awards night. We will be having a “Fun-Raiser” silent auction, gift exchange and door prizes – plus year-end awards for the riders and for the volunteers with the most hours donated.

It is hard to imagine a more successful year but we do have some goals for 2017. We are looking forward to having over 100 members next year. We are planning a clinic in June with Debbie Riehl- Rodriguez and will have her return for a recognized show in September. We will have more open riding events at the fairgrounds arenas for our members and we expect our schooling shows to be fun and full again in 2017.

We are thankful for our members, volunteers, officers and exhibitors – without which none of this could happen. We hope all the RMDS chapters experience the same growth and supportive comradery that we did in 2016.

High Plains

Kathy Simard

High Plains Dressage had a busy year! We would love to see more people in attendance to our meetings and education events and are going to work on ways to improve attendance. One simple suggestion we will be implementing is to no longer call then board meetings and just call them monthly meetings so it does not seem limited to the board.

This year we held our first Youth Day. Our instructors were Julie Barringer Richers and Greta Vowell. We had a nice group of kids from all disciplines for this first event. HPD already has confirmations for our 2017 Youth Clinic! Julie Burt and Kathy Simard have agreed to be our clinicians. Westmanton Stables is kindly offering Iron Horse Farms. The date will be February 26, 2017 with a snow date of March 5th. We are currently working on our lecture subject(s) and possible lunch Q and A guest(s).

High Plains is continuing an open dialogue with the Horse Park to help ensure a positive relationship with it and dressage in the area. We provided sugar cube bags with chapter information cards in cute bags to the competitors at the High Prairie Dressage show this summer.

High Plains hosted SRS Chief Rider Andreas Hausberger in July. It was once again well attended. We made a decent profit. The exchange rate between the Euro and the dollar was in our favor! We hope to continue to offer this clinic. We realize that Stellar’s limited parking area limits the number of auditors we can accept. Have talked to the Horse Park but covered arena won’t be available until maybe 2018. Also the week day dates are difficult for those who work and need more advanced notice. We have no control over the dates, but we are always working on improving this clinic as well as everything High Plains does!

Please let us know any suggestions you may have for us in 2017! We are hoping to see some new faces at our events and meetings!

Two educational meetings – evening with a vet with Littleton private club meeting. Also had a meeting with Heather Petersen on showing, rules, awards and such.

Northern Colorado

Didi DeKrey

NCDA 2016 Board: President – Didi DeKrey, Vice President – Rose Balfour, Treasurer - Karla Lauritsen, Secretary – Kathleen Kilkelly, Delegates – Renee Martig and Julie Haugen

Monthly meetings started back up in September; they are the second Wednesday of the month starting at 6:30 PM with business, presentation topics start at 7PM. This month's meeting will be all business, including election of officers and appointing delegates for the Board Of Governors meeting in November.

October is also our month for the annual Fall Schooling show. This show is the third in a set of events that lead up to annual awards.

NCDA members flocked to the USDF Adult clinic in October! We all enjoyed seeing the variety of horse/riders and could empathize with every bobble and lack of breathing! I took plenty of notes, even though the movements may be (way) past where I ride, the exercises – and patience – still relate.

November meeting will feature a presentation by Ms. Andrea Chirich, Centered Riding Instructor. Our meetings are open to anyone interested – just contact me for information.

On the Bit

Stephanie Gies, On the Bit Secretary

On The Bit works closely with local, regional, and national organizations to improve the general Understanding of dressage through educational clinics, forums, and seminars. We assist and cooperate with local and regional dressage organizations in matters of common concern, as well as cooperate with other organizations having an interest in training horses, riders, and judges through the principles of dressage. We are the only Group Member Organization in Wyoming with members in Wyoming, Nebraska, and Montana.

TREASURER'S REPORT

We currently have 42 members from 3 states. We have a core group of about 10 members who are active and participate in meetings and events. The majority of our members are from places other than Laramie and don't participate in our club on a regular basis.

SCHOOLING SHOW

We hosted our second schooling show in Laramie in July. We had decent attendance at a new facility, Spur Ridge Equestrian Center. This facility will enable us to have a recognized show or multiple day event in 2017. We are exploring the cost and feasibility of a recognized show in Laramie, but are unsure if we have the ability to put on a show and if we will have adequate attendance.

FUNDRAISING EVENT

We are working on a community fundraiser for 2017. As we think about a recognized show, fundraising becomes more important. We are looking into a "Dancin with the Stars" event or a Kentucky Derby party.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

We hosted Kristi Wysocki for a two day clinic in Laramie. We had 18 rides, despite the weather challenges and having to reschedule it for the middle of the week. We hosted Heather Petersen for a Banned Substances clinic and Jennifer Holroyd for a seminar on biomechanics. We continue to look for new opportunities to educate members.

2017 OFFICERS

President - Ginka Kubelka

Vice-President - Kelly Wolfe

Secretary - Anna Chalfoun

Treasurer - Tom Wolfe

We have also added 3 chair positions

Show Chair - Jessica Ford

Pikes Peak

Michelle Anderson

We had a busy 2016 with a few bumps in the road due to weather and officer resignations, but found more stability later in the year and are hoping that continues into 2017!
Our annual RMDS recognized show at Kaimana Farm in April was cancelled due to a blizzard – one of THREE we had that month so it was fortunate we didn't try to reschedule immediately. That show was finally held at Shiloh Ranch on October 15 and we are so grateful to Melody, the ranch staff and all of our volunteers for their work to make that show a success.
We do plan an RMDS show for April 15, 2017 but have not yet finalized a location or officials.
Our Communications Chair was forced to resign for personal reasons but Bev Swanson kindly stepped in to fill that void. Then our Education Chair moved out of state for a new job opportunity and Judy Carnick has very ably stepped into that void.
Heather Petersen hosted a small but enthusiastic clinic with Sharon Schneidman on August 13 at her farm in Elbert. It was great fun to watch the improvement in each partnership during their session.
Our October meeting included a wonderful Pilates session with our own Sharon Meazell, a certified Pilates instructor. She provided exercises for both those actively in the saddle and members recovering from injuries that temporarily limit their abilities. We hope to repeat this event for more members in 2017.
Finally we plan an evening at Bingo's Saddlery next week, combining our election of 2017 officers and our holiday party with a talk on equine nutrition and sharing of homemade horse treats.
For the most current information on our chapter activities visit our website at <http://pikespeakdressage.org/Main/Home>.

Western Colorado

Barbara Terry

Western Colorado Chapter maintains a bank account at Vectra Bank of Colorado, El Jebel Branch. Our treasurer is Justina Potter. We currently have \$11,712.34 in our account.
Our chapter has had two summer schooling shows, drawing riders from the Roaring Fork Valley, Grand Valley, and Vail Valley.
2017 Slate of officers
President.....Barbara Graham Terry
Vice-President.....Sue Pietrzak
Secretary.....Barbara McElnea
Treasurer.....Justina Potter
Our Chapter maintains a website www.aspendressage.com as an electronic Newsletter. We are linked to the RMDS website.
We invite members and other interested parties to access ongoing up-dates concerning chapter business, calendar of events, electronic entry forms, membership applications, show prize lists, show results, Roster of Chapter Officers, and current Bylaws.

Final Reading of candidates,

Gwen Ka'awaloa

nominations from the floor for executive office

The slate for 2017:

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Vice-President (1 year): | Joan Clay |
| Adult Amateur (2 years): | Anclaire Spaulding/Michelle Stevens |
| Communication (2 years): | Beverly Swanson |
| Jr/Young Rider (2 years): | Cassandra Dipentino |
| Show Liason (2 years): | Andrea Chirich / Una Schade |
| Scholarship (2 years): | MaryJo Hoepner |

Arlene Rhodes made the motion to accept the candidates running since everyone is unopposed. Seconded by Michelle Anderson. Motion carried unanimously.

At 4:20 pm **MaryJo Hoepner made the motion to adjourn. Seconded by Susan Gregg. Passed unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,
Heather Petersen