

RMDS EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Romano's Italian Restaurant – 720-344-9530

May 10, 2012

Attendance: Cathy Van Berg, Cici Lee, Patricia Leech, Jamie Admundson, Michelle Anderson, MaryJo Hoepner, Lori Mitchell, Nicole Bizzarro, Beth Geier, Laura Speer, Sharon Soos, Pete Soos, Elaine Haberman, Susan Rudman, Simone Windeler, Heather Petersen, Joan Clay, Julie Haugen

Proxies: Wendy Cibis to Lori Mitchell, Inka Spatafora to Beth Geier, Kim Lampert to Heather Petersen, Linda Nickerson to Heather Petersen

Call to Order by Lori Mitchell at 6:33 pm.

Lori Mitchell discussed some things regarding the presidency, some issues that have come to her and caused a lot of extra work and she would really like everyone to focus on why we've all chosen to be on the RMDS Executive Board: to uphold the clarity and focus of the RMDS mission statement. Please treat each other with respect and dignity and remember to focus on our sport. Keep things positive.

The March 15, 2012 Minutes:

Simone Windeler made a motion to approve the March 15, 2012 minutes, 2nd by Laura Speer. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurers Report by Sharon Soos

Balance in each account as of April 30, 2012:

Checking Account	\$34,357.05
Scholarship Account	\$4136.33
PayPal Account	\$5709.03
<u>Money Market</u>	<u>\$44,439.16</u>
Total:	\$88,641.57

The RMDS tax return was mailed May 4, 2012. In profit and loss, there are some wide swings. Bridle tags were purchased, increased purchasing of supplies for the treasurer – treasurer supplies listed under central office. Sharon was low on things and had to increase her inventory. Increase in USDF membership fees for 2012, reflected in membership. New Omnibus binders were purchased. Website increased expenses were the maintenance of the database – discussion and a decision that this expense be moved to Central Office since the database is for membership and awards tracking. There was also billing for 6 months of website maintenance in 2011 that was paid in 2012.

Western Dressage Liaison Report by Kelly Hendricks

Lot's of things going on in the WD world! List of events as follows:

- Jec Ballou Clinic 6/30-7/1 Douglas County Arena -Jec is the author of both "101 Dressage Exercise" and "Equine Fitness" – should prove to be a fantastic clinic

Schooling Shows to take place: (for more specific info go to the WDACO website)

- May 12- Castle Rock and Canon City
- May 19 Franktown
- May 20 and June 2 Longmont
- June 16 Peyton

There will be a WDACO Demonstration and Social on June 30, 2012 – for info and to sign up to attend also visit the WDACO website- good opportunity to see Western Dressage in action and meet new folks

Western Dressage will now be offered in classes at the 2012 Pinto World Championship – another venue for the new discipline to show off it’s stuff!

Office Manager Report by Beth Geier

Membership

- Membership is currently at 714, 15 are Centaur only. 80 new horses registered since October 2011.
- Some chapters have taken advantage of the free email blasts approved at the last meeting.

Insurance

- Delete Mindy Maguire and Elaine Haberman from the D&O insurance officers’ list for CSDA

Shows

- Added a CSDA show August 25th as RMDS only recognized
- Cancelled June 17 Centaur Rising I
- TD Reports: Sun Prairie I, BVD Spring Fling
 - Clarify: How many RMDS members participated? Riders only?
 - Discussion of need of numbers and who is responsible for reporting.

Omnibus

- Reminder: Extra copies are: Innards \$14, binder \$8, postage \$5.50 for \$27.50 for the whole package.

Centaur:

- Covers vote: #1a: 1 #5: 2 #8: 1 majority want discussion

General

- Received show schedule from Colorado Horse Park. Our ad is in the Visitor’s Guide.
- Volunteer criteria: on website? Boulder Valley put together a job description booklet for volunteers. Can we put this on the website – put it under forms or volunteers some place. Also put up the USDF Guide for Scribes.
- Chapter Bylaws need to be on file with the Central Office: I need:
 - AV-2007 is updating this year
- Facebook: Arkansas Valley, Grand Valley & Platte River are the only ones not on Facebook as pages but instead as group.
- Paid positions up for bids this year.
 - July: Deadline: June 15 to Lori Mitchell
Website Maintenance & hosting – effective August 1
Central Office Manager – effective August 1

Office:

- Rental Items – if reserved, do they need to pay if not used (Pony Measuring Stick/Arena)?
- Tentative meeting schedule for this year...
 - July 10 - Tuesday
 - September 13
 - October 11 – Budget planning
 - Board of Governors Meeting November 10th

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Members:	1162	1177	1151	1019	1036	1008	1030	945	921	868	714
Horses:	274	337	207	234	262	246	166	132	132	123	80

AV	-	-	-	-	-	12	26	15	24	27	24
BV	230	208	199	179	178	172	205	188	200	190	164
CS	134	155	137	130	143	126	127	115	124	115	55
FH	115	103	109	73	74	77	76	75	72	71	53
GV	77	98	93	92	88	102	105	87	83	65	51

HP	278	283	267	251	259	260	265	256	226	208	171
NC	150	151	162	139	137	137	124	107	132	110	82
PP	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	41
PR	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	12
WA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20	24	24	23
WC	64	55	44	34	32	25	25	21	22	31	23
No Chapter	24	36	34	21	22	16	14	25	14	15	15

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	714
Juniors									134	120	89
Amateurs									230	239	185

Adult Amateur Report by Beth Geier

March 17:

Symposium on *Teaching the Rider to Feel* by Sarah Martin.

Stellar Farms-Parker

A very successful symposium. A lot of auditors signed up at the last minute.

34 attended – 25 auditors, 9 riders

Income: \$1470.00

Expense: \$1002.00

Net Profit: \$398.00

July 22:

USDF Region 5 Adult & Youth Team Competition

At Tomora Farm-Greeley - Working with Julie Haugen on this.

Awards by Shannon Lemons

- Shannon has reworked the awards recipient letter and postcards and presented them for approval.
- **Julie Haugen moved we approve the amended Awards Recipient Letter effective for 2012 awards recipients into RMDS Policy, 2nd by Beth Geier. Motion passed unanimously.**
- **Julie Haugen moved we approve the Awards Recipient Postcards effective for 2012 awards recipients into RMDS Policy, 2nd by Beth Geier. Motion passed unanimously.**

Communications by Nicole Bizzarro

- Michael added a new button to the website to make “become a member” more noticeable and fewer clicks than before. Nicole will design a “button” look for the new button.
- Nicole would also like to add something similar for “advertise with RMDS”. She is thinking that a downloadable PDF of the marketing kit would be the best way to do this, but we could also create a new page on the site with the information from the marketing kit. We are open to ideas on how best to do this.
- Nicole would also like to revise, slightly, the info in the Centaur about advertising on the web and add the Omnibus. Plus, add the web and Centaur to the next Omnibus.
- Our Facebook page continues to grow, and with 342 fans, has become everything I had hoped it would be. While the new timeline format has made reciprocal FB to FB page “likes” a little less visible, I am trying to like all the chapter pages. It would be great if the chapters would all like RMDS too. A few chapters are set up as groups and I think a page would be better. Nicole spoke to this a little bit and the chapters that were present were happy to change formats.
- Nicole is working with Beth on a Competition Evaluation Form and it should be finished soon.

- There was a discussion concerning the RMDS Website Market place and limiting the ads to those that are geared towards horse people if the product itself is not horse related, such as truck sales, skin care, etc. It was determined it is ok with IRS policies on non-profit advertisers and RMDS would allow these products.
- Only one advertiser is currently using the full pixels allowed on the RMDS Website Market Place. We need to encourage more usage of the space. We should add to the marketing information that help is available.
- Centaur
 - There was much discussion of the covers that Cathy presented and the abilities to mix and match ideas. Nicole suggested we decide on a mast head tonight and then go to the format of the newsletter next.
 - Voting on the covers is as follows:
 - 1a with logo moved into the dressage arena – 18
 - 2 – texture mountain – 0
 - 3 – picture squares – 3
 - 4/6 – 7
 - 5 – 5
 - 8 – solid mountain – 3
 - **Susan Rudman makes a motion that we accept the results of the voting for exploration of the top two votes of the new mast heads for the Centaur. 2nd MaryJo Hoepner. Motion Unanimous.**
 - We will decide on the bottoms and narrow down the mast head by email votes.
 - **Lori Mitchell moved that we vote on the body style of the cover – block, columns or teasers and explore the top 2 options via email. 2nd by Heather Petersen. Motion passed.**
 - Voting on the body style is as follows:
 - Block – 6;
 - Columns – 1;
 - Teasers – 11.
 - Teasers and block will be explored.

Education Report by Michelle Anderson

“L” Judge Continuing Education 2013

I have already engaged Kristi Wysocki for next year’s education, location TBD pending a decision on live rides vs. DVDs. (Discussion in tonight’s meeting)

Heather Petersen – She was asked by several L graduates to contact Gary Rockwell also as presenter since he was coming to the area for clinics and he is willing and available.

Michelle will present a budget on both options for an email vote.

January 26th is the current date for the Judges Education in 2013.

Technical Delegate / Show Management Education 2013

Location and speakers pending

February 9th – Michelle asked Heather, and she is willing to do the show management session for free, just mileage.

Michelle will ask Veronica to do the Technical Delegate portion.

Future Events

Symposium with George Williams Feb 23-24, 2013

Heather has contacted him and he has these dates available, day fee TBD

DC Fairgrounds indoor is heated, would cost \$900/day for a non profit.

At this time DC indoor/outdoor arena are available however they usually don't confirm bookings this far in advance. I have a call in to see if we can even book this far out.
Conference call was a wonderful opportunity and well done.
Michelle will email out proposed budget when we get George's fees

Junior/Young Riders Julie Haugen (and Jon)

- We have 8 confirmed campers to date, we are aiming for 12. Deposits were given to Beth tonight.
- Kelly Hendrick cannot do the Assistant Camp Director position, so we are working on confirming Melanie Newkirk, a past student of Julie's. Not completely confirmed yet.
- We have confirmed Jessica Greer as one of the guest instructors and have contacted Karen Perkins as another. She is checking her calendar and will get back to Julie.
- Have sent out information to other interested campers, but have not received confirmation as of now. The central office has also done email blasts.
- Working on details of camp activities to include ridden games, crafts and educational talks or demos. Upper level horse demonstrations, watching NAJYRC via live stream, etc.
- We want to get information from Joan Clay about the team riders so as to educate the campers on them and give them future goals.
- We will take any ideas to help further reach and connect the Jr/Yrs of this area! We would love to have representatives from the various chapters to communicate with. We will put together an email to ask for assistance.

Marketing Sharon Soos

- Media Kit
 - Completed and is easy to maintain and update
 - Received written authorization from USEF to use the Demographic Information
 - Delivery to Wells Fargo Bank – Wells Fargo Branch Manager (Elizabeth)
 - Mailed to Metro Broker – Jace Glick (South/South East Douglas/Elbert County)
- RMDS Polo Shirts
 - Order Form completed and added to the Website
 - Plan – Order Form will appear in the June Centaur. There was discussion about adding “No PO BOXes please” and a picture of the shirt on a model so folks would have an idea of the style.
 - Plan – Send email blast.
- Omnibus and Centaur advertisers – Preparing for 2013
 - Requested list of 2012 advertisers
 - Requested list of those no longer advertising(if available-may have to compile)
 - It was also brought up that we put the flyer Sharon created “Why Advertise with RMDS” in some format on the RMDS website. Nicole will work with the flyer to create something.

Scholarship by MaryJo and Heather

For this coming season MaryJo has had questions come up.

If someone has won scholarships from their local RMDS chapter, should they be eligible for RMDS awards? On one hand it is good to spread the awards around. On the other hand if there is a significant need perhaps it should be allowed. It was discussed and decided we would ask for disclosure.

Shows by Susan Rudman

PROXY to Lori Mitchell

Wake up questions – do we have ads already – 2 in hand currently. Trying to contact Roaches about touring the carriage facility. Heather will help Susan with that. Heather will get the same dumpster/potty rental folks. Platte River Valley will explore concessions and let Heather know by Sunday.

Championship Shows

Committee of Sharon, Susan, Lori and Heather met.

Zumba – Friday 7am – free instructor, Susan will have her sign a contract and a release to hold RMDS harmless. Friday evening fashion show with Vendors. Talked to the Boogie Machine – normally \$3500, but will come down to \$1500 if we can bring in enough money can we cover it? Also consider a DJ and price it. Show committee is going to do a silent auction. Elaine is going to chair the silent auction. It will be outside. Heather will negotiate tables and such for Susan for the auction.

Appointed Committee Reports:

Nominating Committee by Laura Speer

- Need nominees for Chairmen for 2 years: Vice-President (1 year), Adult Amateur, Awards, Championship Show Committee, Communication, Education, Junior/YR, Marketing, Scholarship
- No one currently nominated but some people interested in the positions. Laura will be speaking to current chairs to see if they would like to be re-nominated for their positions.
- Will get a report together for publication in the Centaur.

Banquet & BOG– November 12, 2012 from Laura Speer

- Last year's place will accommodate earlier set up time. Need auction items for banquet, so left over Championships items and chapter baskets and such.

USDF Region 5 Update by Heather Petersen

I've just returned from the USDF Executive Board Spring Meeting and what a jam-packed 3+ days we had. This year the meetings were held during the Rolex 3 Day so our breaks and free time were devoted to watching the eventers and shopping in the fabulous trade fair. I wish we could have that much shopping at our dressage shows – thank gosh for will power and limited time or I would have had to buy another suit case.

We had a little more time to meet this year than in previous years and we actually made it through our entire agenda. We looked at the preliminary budget for next year for USDF and though it was balanced when the meetings started, we're looking at adding some new programs for 2013 and we're going to have to work a little more on the budget before it's presented at the Board of Governors meeting in December. We also had a first look at the budget and preliminary information for the National Championships next year. It was very exciting to be at the Kentucky Horse Park discussing our new venture to be held there in 2013. Several of the committees have new projects going on and I'll be sharing more with you as the year goes on.

The Executive Board awarded the 2013 USDF/Great American Region 5 Championships to the Rocky Mountain Dressage Society and they will be held September 19-22, 2013 at the Colorado Horse Park. The Board also discussed the concerns of the Arizona Dressage Society and the new deadline for Regional Championships to be held before October 20th. There was a lot of concern for their dilemma but at this point, a solution could not be found. The hope is West World will climate control their main arena and have an earlier date, but if this is not possible, other venues and dates earlier will have to be looked at. The Executive Board does hope that something will present itself for ADA before the application process for 2014 starts.

I'm also very happy to announce that Region 5 will host a Junior/Young Rider clinic again this September. We are excited to have George Williams return to Stellar Stables in Parker, Colorado September 15-16, 2012. Mark your calendars – although only Juniors and Young Riders are allowed to apply to ride, the clinic is open to auditors of all ages!

We have 22 declared Junior/Young Rider combinations for the 2012 FEI North American Junior and Young Rider Championships. If you would like to contribute or help with their fundraising efforts, please contact Joan Clay, our Region 5 Jr/YR FEI coordinator at jnclay@comcast.net or 970-420-0877.

The 2012 USDF Convention will be held December 5-8, 2012 in New Orleans, Louisiana. This is a week later than we have scheduled previously. Hotel room prices and convention registration prices will be some of our lowest in a long time, so please consider joining us for the education programs and the governance of this great organization. There will not be a symposium this year, but the educational programs will be plentiful!

Nominations for USDF President, Treasurer, and Regional Directors in regions 2, 4, 6 and 8 will be accepted until **June 1, 2012**. USDF President, Treasurer, and Regional Director (2, 4, 6, and 8) nominations will also be accepted from the floor of the Board of Governors meeting at the annual convention in New Orleans, LA. All nominations, in addition to any inquiries regarding nominations, should be sent to nominations@usdf.org.

Old business:

- Membership pins – We will do email vote on the figures – Simone will send them out.

New Business:

- RMDS Policies and Procedures:
 - We use USDF policies and procedures as a base. Lori and Beth have gone through the minutes for policies created, so they have started the process of documenting these approved policies. We will look at several policies per meeting.
 - USDF convention policy:
 - 1 – strike the entire letter A
 - 2 – change can to will, and strike “or an elected RMDS Executive Board member” and “if it is not already being attended by the President and President elect that year.”
 - 2 – Strike the entire letter A and make B become part of the main body of 2.
 - 4 - \$85 per night up to 4 nights. A should state that USDF limits rooms to \$149 per night plus tax.
 - 7 – Internet connections in the room if there is **RMDS** business going on...
 - **Beth Geier moved we accept the policy as corrected. 2nd by Julie Haugen. Discussion included a deadline on when submission of receipts will be required. Motion passed with one abstention by Patricia Leech.**
 - It was asked by several folks if we can get the policies ahead of time for review? Lori will work on this for the next meeting.
 - It was also asked if we can look into adding in a policy meeting or another meeting to help with time.

Chapter Reports: Nicole made the motion that all chapter reports be accepted as written, 2nd by Beth, Motion Passed unanimously.

Arkansas Valley

Jamee Amundson

The Arkansas Valley has been enjoying a lot of nice weather and an upswing in activity. The show committee has been actively planning two Ride-A-Test shows to be held at Palomino Gaits facility in Canon City, CO on May 19th and October 6, 2012. The Ride-A-Test clinics will be set up exactly like a horse show with entry forms, classes, and ribbons. Each rider will get a 10-minute lesson after each ride. These shows will offer a Western division. The show committee is currently arranging for officials and setting a budget.

Our marketing chairperson, Marcy Wadlington, has been very active re-designing the club's website. Visit www.arkansasvalleydressage.org to see the excellent work she has done.

We have been having a great time in Arkansas Valley! The club had a very productive board meeting in March in which they began the process of reviewing and changing the bylaws. In April, we had an educational meeting where Jamee Amundson presented Dressage Tack and Attire based on the USEF Rulebook. By publication, AVDA will have had their first Ride-A-Test Show/Clinic with Ellene Kloepfer. At the time I'm writing this, we have 15 entries for the show and are very much looking forward to this educational

event. June 2 and 3 will bring a Musical Freestyle Clinic to our club with Simone Windeler as the clinician. This should be a great event also. Club members are trail riding, lesson-ing and preparing for show season. Happy Half-halts!

Boulder Valley

Kim Lampert – PROXY to Heather Petersen

BVD held two terrific events in April! A volunteer party and the BVD Spring Fling.

The volunteer party was hosted by Somerset Farms and despite the surprise snow storm we still had a very good turnout. There were volunteers from all the Boulder county shows and some new people interested in helping out in the future. It was great to be able to say thank you to everyone who helps us feed our passion by volunteering for our shows!

The Spring Fling this year was again graciously hosted by Singletree farm. The riders were thrilled to finally have a chance to ride outside thanks to good weather for a change! The size and feel of the show made it a fun day for everyone. Our next event will be the So Long to Summer Show in August..but let's get into summer before we even discuss that! Good luck to everyone at all their shows this summer!

Colorado Springs

Patricia Leech

The CSDA board has completed a careful review of our schedule and as a result, we have decided to cancel the two schooling shows for 2012 so that we can concentrate on making the August RMDS recognized competition one competitors will want to come back to every year. We have confirmed the dates, venue, and officials for this competition.

As part of this process, CSDA is actively working with the facility staff at Norris-Penrose Event Center in Colorado Springs to address issues with the footing both in the indoor and outdoor warm-up rings. Other improvements are underway as well with new, level floors in all of the show barn stalls and the start of construction on a second indoor. Once the second indoor is completed in late 2012, there will be an option for competitions to have either two indoor competition rings or an indoor competition ring with an indoor warm-up.

Please check the CSDA www.csdressage.org and RMDS www.rmids.org online calendars for current competition information.

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

Our last meeting was April 9th at Capricorn Farm in Golden.

In attendance, Lori Mitchell, CC Ross, Laura Quakenbush, Heather Lamb, Marci Krummick, Joan Bruck, Jan Danis, Debbie Reihl Rodriguez, Linda Gaber, Heather Fitzgerald and Pam DeVore.

Treasurer's Report

Laura Quakenbush reported that she has sent in the Chapter's insurance renewal and asked for a list of any additional coinsured names for the 2012 Foothills events. Heather Fitzgerald will provide information for Capricorn Farms, Debbie Rodriguez will follow-up for A Rising Star and Dolly Hannon/Lori Mitchell will get information for Roberts Ranch.

Bank balance is at \$6,452. Laura indicated that the chapter needs to delete Marti Foster and add a cosigner to the account at US Bank. Lori Mitchell, current Chapter President, will be added and new checks ordered reflecting the change. Motion approved.

Recap

Heather Robertson clinic is full for riders. Foothills member are encouraged to come and audit since the chapter has sponsored the clinic with additional funds, members can audit for free. The schedule was sent out to the riders and the clinic should begin at 8:30am each day.

Dolly Hannon's Ride-A-Test – The Chapter is looking for a volunteer coordinator for the event. Jan Danis will volunteer, if she does not participate as a rider. We will get an email out to members asking for volunteers when it gets closer to the event. Dolly wants to invite trainers to participate in the day and sit with her to hear and see what a judge sees and discuss. This is free to trainers.

Debbie R Ride a Test – and Last Chance Show – Debbie will get with A Rising Star to discuss the cost for the facility. She too will allow trainers to sit with her during her RAT.

Foothills Scholarship - was awarded to Kristie Cotton in the amount of \$500.

Evergreen Parade - Linda Gaber and Pam Devore wished to have the chapter participate in the Evergreen Parade this years theme is the Olympics. We decided not to participate since it was the same weekend as Dolly's RAT. We will consider it for next year.

North Fork Fire – Pam Devore and Linda Gaber provided an update on the evacuation of horses. Most were evacuated to the Jeffco Fairgrounds and returned safely.

Next Meeting – July 9, Tuscany Tavern in Evergreen @ 6:30pm

Grand Junction

Inka Spatafora – PROXY to Beth Geier

The Grand Valley Chapter is doing OK. Our finances are in good standing and we have some extra money to cover costs that are occurring, Overall the attendance at our schooling shows is very light. Not many people are committed to show. We are worried about our September recognized show and are already making plans how we can attract more people. We will have a meeting this Thursday, May 10 to further discuss what our options are. We are not canceling this show.

Our education chair is organizing several speakers and we will hopefully have some more clinics. Western Dressage has become a hot item. We had one clinic so far which was well attended. There are several more on the calendar.

Fundraising has been light. We had our annual Auction at our last show, which brought in about \$900.00. This amount will help to offset the cost from the last schooling show and the Fun Show earlier this year. Overall we will have to make some changes for the coming year. A questionnaire will go out to find out what it is that our membership would like us to do. We also will have to take a look at our show schedule and replace some of the shows with clinics.

The membership has dropped drastically over the last several years. There are several ideas how we can interest new members and re-activate old ones. I will keep you informed.

I would like to know how the chapters are doing on the front range. Are you seeing the same trend there? What are you doing to keep the membership interested and how are you attracting new members. We are so isolated here at the Western Slope. It is very expensive to bring in quality clinician and money is generally tight. The income level is much lower here and everyone is holding on as much as they can. Any suggestions or ideas are greatly appreciated.

High Plains – no report

Wendy Cibis – PROXY to Lori Mitchell

Northern Colorado

Hana van Campen

1. The following NCDA activities were accomplished in January through May 1, 2012:

- 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 NCDA members.
- NCDA 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 NCDA offer similar activities in the future. The organizers and volunteers' assessment was the event could have used a few more volunteers.
- NCDA 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.
- 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.

- 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.
- 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.
 - We are planning to offer a schooling show, the date, location and organizers to be determined at a later date.

Pikes Peak –

Simone Windeler

Gary Rockwell clinic – a great success

PPDS hosted a clinic with 2008 and 2012 Olympic Judge Gary Rockwell on May 5-6, 2012. All the rider spots were filled and we had 10-12 auditors per day. The focus of the weekend was on increasing the quality of the gaits of each horse, using straightness and correct bending and developing more carrying power in each movement. Everyone had a great weekend and we will be having him back! The rider, judge and trainer perspectives he offered were very educational.

A very big Thank You to Simone Ahern for offering her facility and hosting the clinic.

Horseman's Day on Mar 24th:

We had a very successful booth at the 2012 Horseman's day in Falcon on Mar 24th. Simone Windeler represented PPDS and dressage in a round table discussion with other disciplines during the day. We had quite a few people stop by and learn about PPDS.

You can find more information about events, our officers and how to join our group at www.pikespeakdressage.org or like us on Facebook.

Our next meeting will be later in May. We are planning a little BBQ at Simone's house.

Platte River – no report

Laura Speer

Wasatch Mountains

Linda Nickerson – PROXY to Heather Petersen

The Wasatch Mountain Chapter is preparing for our first Chapter Show on July 14th with Shirley Rector "S" Judge, and Colorado TD, Lauri Mactavish. We are in cooperation with Alison Child and Margo Gogan of Hilltop Dressage who are organizing a show on the 13th of July. Both shows are separate entities, but we are working together with the same Judge, TD and the Heather Petersen show management team of Two White Feet.

Alison Child, Chapter Member, managing partner of the Collectives and UDS Treasurer, is the spearhead behind the bid for the 2012 Region 5 Championships in Heber, Utah. So come to these 2 shows and get a taste of the high mountain valleys of the Heber and Midway area which is 20 minutes from Park City, location of the 2002 Olympic Venues of Park City Mountain Resort, The Canyons Resort and the #1 North American Ski area 5 years running – Deer Valley Resort.

The shows are recognized by Utah Dressage Society, Rocky Mountain Dressage Society and, through trainer/rider, Chapter member, Shiloh Gilbert of Idaho, who went to medical school in Colorado and now lives in Park City, Utah, we also have recognition by the Idaho Dressage and Eventing Association.

Congratulations to Chapter Member, Evan Hills, who has just earned his USDF Silver Medal on his self trained horse Mega Bucks. Evan is training with his uncle, Chapter Member Gary Lawrence of Millbrook Farms. Evan is working to earn the scores necessary for what seems to be a very competitive Region 5 Junior / Young Rider Team.

Millbrook Farms and Chapter Members Gary and Jan Lawrence just hosted a successful clinic with Kathleen Raine of Murrieta, California.

To wrap up: anyone who would like to volunteer for scribing, scoring, running, ring management etc at our 1 day show on Saturday, July 14th, please contact Sally Shaffer – 435.640.8797. We are also looking for class sponsorships.

Western Colorado – no report

Judith Family – NO PROXY

Joan Clay made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:40 pm. 2nd by Sharon Soos. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Heather Petersen, secretary