

RMDS EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Romano's Italian Restaurant – 720-344-9530

March 14, 2013

Attendance: Lori Mitchell, Sharon Soos, Gwen Ka'awaloa, Beth Geier, Jennifer Glass, Linda Gaber, Nicole Bizzarro, Jon Haugen, MaryJo Hoepner, Sarah Barnes, Pat Leech, Renee Martig, Peter Soos

Proxies: Michelle Anderson to Gwen Ka'awaloa; Heather Petersen to Lori Mitchell, Tammy Fagan to Heather Petersen to Lori Mitchell; Wendy Cibis to Lori Mitchell; Laura Speer to Sharon Soos; Julie Haugen to Jon Haugen; Cat Siemiet to Gwen Ka'awaloa; Shannon Lemons to Simone Windeler; Sally Shaffer to Lori Mitchell

Guests: Joan Clay, Jordan Farr

Call to Order by Lori Mitchell at 6:30 pm

The January 10, 2013 Minutes:

Correction: Marketing- ...We will use the promotional (delete years insert items) we have left over...

Pat Leech made a motion to approve the January 10, 2013 minutes as corrected, 2nd by Sarah Barnes. Motion passed.

Treasurers Report by Sharon Soos

Balance in each account as of February 28, 2013:

Checking Account	\$29,107.03
Scholarship Account	\$6962.33
PayPal Account	\$9016.27
<u>Money Market</u>	<u>\$44,419.16</u>
Total:	\$89,404.79

Discussion: Clarification was made regarding the Centaur editor and production: In October, Nicole Bizzarro agreed to do the Centaur through the June issue for \$800 per month. In November, Linda Gaber was elected Communications Chairman and volunteered to be the editor of the Centaur.

Western Dressage Liaison Report by Kelly Hendricks

No report

President's Report by Lori Mitchell

I hope that the new meeting format starts to take hold this month, and progress our meeting even more. Again, please remember that you are no longer 'giving' your report. The report you send in is read by the board ahead of the meeting. The only time we need to address your report is when something needs to be added by you at the meeting, a vote and discussion or questions that a fellow board member has pertaining to your report.

The future of the Centaur needs to be one of our top priorities right now.

Please review my thoughts attached in detail under the Centaur/Communications report.

George Williams Symposium was a great success and thank you to Jon and Julie Haugen and Beth for running with that and making sure it was the success it was. THANK YOU!

Review of RMDS Executive Board Policy on Affiliations and Memberships:

AFFILIATIONS AND MEMBERSHIPS

1. RMDS shall maintain an “Alliance Association” membership with the United States Equestrian Federation, Inc., (USEF).
 - a. Each year this is renewed by RMDS Central Office.
2. RMDS shall maintain a membership with the Colorado Horse Council to enable RMDS to have a booth at the Rocky Mountain Horse Expo each year at a discounted rate.
 - a. To be approved each year at the Board of Governors meeting.
 - b. To be renewed by the RMDS Marketing Chair and RMDS Treasurer.
3. Other memberships and affiliations will be approved on a case by case basis by the RMDS Board of Governors or by the RMDS Executive Board.

Sharon Soos made the motion to accept the RMDS Executive Board policy for “Affiliations and Memberships” as corrected (in red) Peter Soos seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

2013 Executive Board Retreat:

Gwen Ka’awaloa is looking into several sites and will get back to us. Tentative date is set for October 19.

Office Manager Report by Beth Geier

Membership:

- Registration – 573 members as of 3/3/13 – 11 are Centaur only. 16 new horses since October, 2012
- Business Membership: \$100.00 Perks:
 - Free website ad: value \$50
 - Business tax write-off

No additional perks were suggested.

Shows:

- New RMDS recognized shows not in the Omnibus-How to notify membership? Is placing on calendar sufficient? Standing Rules Art III B. The competition dates must be published in the Society's newsletter (Centaur) or the Omnibus at least two weeks prior to the open date(s) of the competition. A prize list must be available to RMDS members at least 2 weeks prior to the opening date of the competition.

MaryJo Hoepner made a motion to offer a discount rate of \$35.00 for an email blast if the show would like to send it out as well as post it on the calendar. Gwen Ka’awaloa 2nd. Motion passed.

- USDF National Championships-Nov. in Kentucky-RMDS Recognize? We do automatically recognize all USDF Region 5 Championships.

Sarah Barnes made the motion to recognize the USDF National Championships – no charge. MaryJo Hoepner 2nd. Motion passed.

- RMDS Competition Evaluation-Need to approve

Pat Leech made the motion to approve the RMDS Show Evaluation as presented. 2nd by Sharon Soos. Passed unanimously

- Recognition for 2013
 - 39 USEF/USDF Shows; 14 RMDS only Shows. 6 have Breed Show In hand classes
 - Several have added the Western Dressage classes & the new Rider Test

Recognized Officials:

TD Reports: Have had 4 inquiries for the RMDS td program. 1 signed up-Didi DeKrey Pam DeVore is also signed up to apprentice TD.

Omnibus:

- 417 mailed bulk mail. I received mine two days later.
- New rates: \$5.60 to mail without binder; \$5.80 with binder. Now sending everything priority fixed rate for \$5.05 by going on the USPS website and printing labels & postage directly. I suggest we take the PayPal-I and apply it to the added cost of mailing the Omnibus.

we can cut down on travel expenses for this clinic. I also found that all these trainers were booked very heavily in 2013 and had a limited number of dates open for this year. This lack of availability would require us to plan on holding the clinic in 2014, so that we can have a larger selection of weekend dates instead of having to pick one of the remaining available dates for 2013.

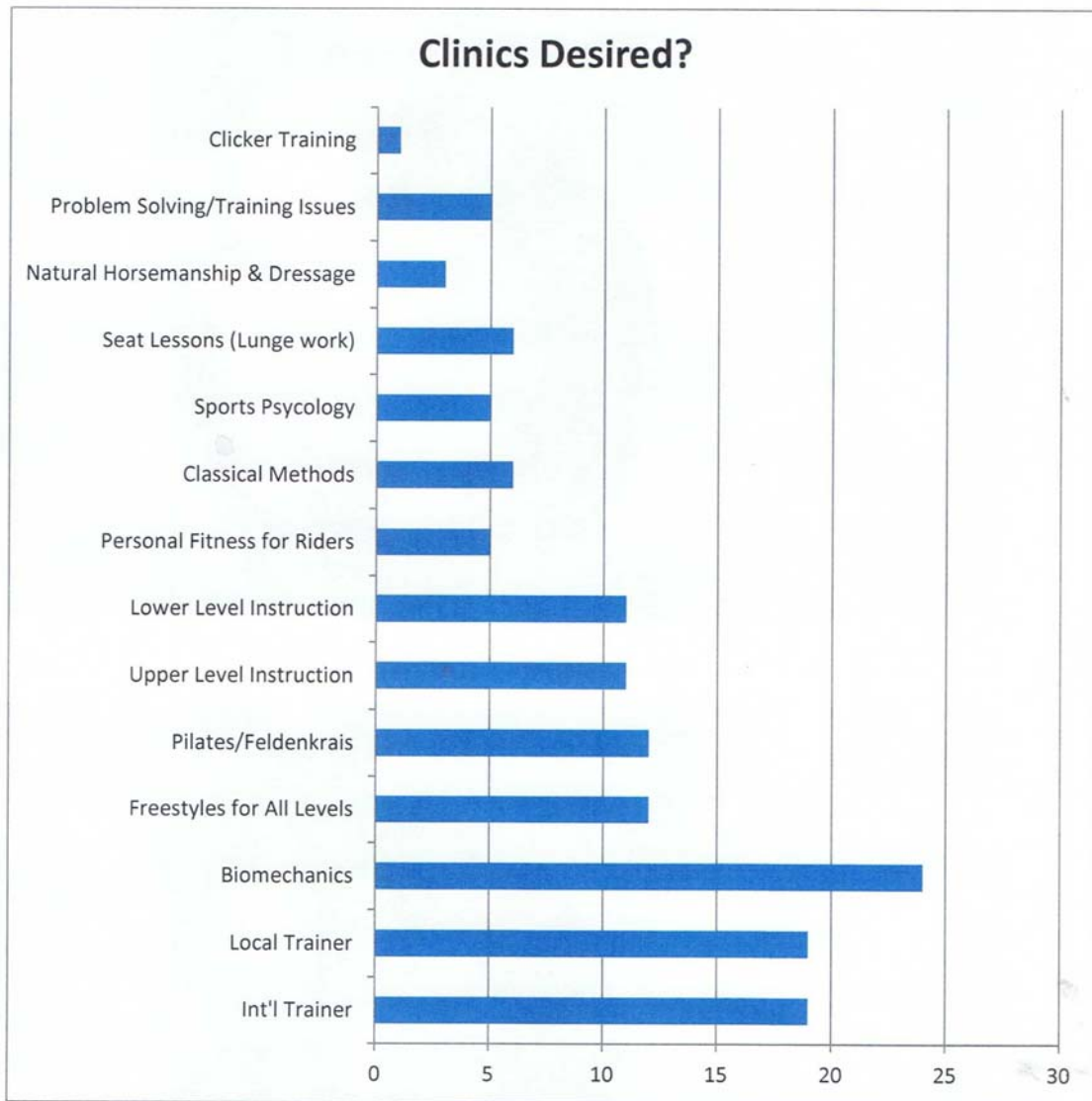
The three biomechanics trainers I have looked at are Colleen Kelly, Tapestry Institute, and Mary Wanless.

A clinic with Colleen Kelly is eligible for USDF University credits so we could apply for a USDF grant to help with the cost of this clinician. Colleen lives in Colorado and travels to the US, Europe, and Australia so we need a significant lead-time to successfully book her. I have not heard back from her so I do not have her cost at this time.

Tapestry Institute consists of two trainers Jo Belasco and Dr. Dawn Adams. They are local and run clinics for either a 7 rider one day clinic or 15 rider two day clinic. She charges \$200.00 per rider and \$80.00 per auditor. Dr. Adams has a seminar at the beginning of the clinic in which she discusses terminology and different aspects of biomechanics and then each rider begins a one on one lesson with Jo Belasco.

The last trainer I found is Mary Wanless who the author of "Ride with your Mind" books. She is based out of the UK but will be in the Utah area in May of 2014. She trains with Kyra and Richard Kyrklund. We would probably be able to get a USDF grant for her, also. Her cost for clinics runs \$1800.00 a day for twelve shared rides. She estimated traveling expenses at \$400.00. These are just preliminary ideas for clinics. Are there any other trainers that I should look into for presenting a Biomechanics educational opportunity? If using one of these trainers is acceptable to the RMDS board we can then look into pursuing a grant from USDF to help cover the cost of this program.

Jennifer will do a survey and will proceed with looking into a clinician.



Comments/Suggestions made also included –

1. Good footing is a must.
2. Lower Overnight cost would be helpful.
3. Group Lessons to make it more affordable.
4. More centralized Locations or move the clinics around to different areas.

Awards by Shannon Lemons

Premier Awards is not getting back to Shannon regarding the follow-up awards corrections and additions.

Communications by Linda Gaber

Accomplished since January meeting:

- Received considerable hours of help and ideas to launch e-Centaur.
- Thank-you to Lori Mitchell, Beth Geier, Nicole Bizzarro and Michael Petersen for their fast and effective efforts on content, graphic design, web work and production on RMDS's newest product and service to advertisers and members.

- Proud to receive several compliments on first edition of E-Centaur. It was sent to members' e-mail address first Monday in Feb. Now have an electronic template, delivery system, advertising sizing and pricing, and working links to numerous RMDS services and committees.
- Biggest achievement was creating updated advertising link on e-Centaur and RMDS web site providing information to advertise in Centaur, e-Centaur, Omnibus and Championship program.
- Created Job Description to advertise two-year Centaur Production Contract for online and print issues this spring.
- On-going coordination of article topics with RMDS members. Watch for their articles on:
 - Benefits of buying a dressage schoolmaster (several articles planned on how to buy one, out-of-state purchase trip and reselling) by Susan DeSylvia
 - Holistic veterinarian by Sarah Barnes
 - Stories behind RMDS championship trophies from their donors, first one by Amy Jablonovsky
- For each issue, continued content communication with members, and writing, editing and proof-reading.

Board members, please continue to forward your article suggestions or issue themes, with suggested writers. Always looking for members who attend clinics to write articles.

Nicole: Feedback is positive regarding the e-Centaur.

Omnibus: No report

Lori on the Centaur:

The RMDS CENTAUR is currently being done in two different ways. A published (printed at a printing company on paper, produced by a Production person, edited by the RMDS Communications Chair and a few other board members and sent out to each member via US Postal Service) on odd numbered months.

The E-CENTAUR is an emailed newsletter, using Constant Contact to produce. The same procedure is used to produce by the production person, and edits, but there is no printing and mailing. This happens on even numbered months.

We made the decision to try this to save RMDS money, while still giving the membership a benefit of a newsletter.

POINTS TO KEEP IN MIND

1. Nicole agreed to step in for a six month period, this will end with the July 2013 issue (June).
2. Nicole is currently being paid \$800/month. This is the same amount paid to the previous Editor and Production person.
3. Linda Gaber, Communications Chair is doing the editor portion of the newsletter as a volunteer.
4. We produce the newsletter as a membership benefit.
5. We will need to get a 'call for bid' out to membership, colleges, craigslist, and appropriate websites as soon as possible to leave enough time to get enough bids to have a good selection of applicants/bids.
6. Review of bids can be done in May and allow the new person to 'shadow' Nicole or we can review in July and give the new person no training period, but allow them to start with the E-CENTAUR for August.
7. The new Production person will only have a one year's agreement, July 2013 to June 2014. This will put them on the same rotation as other RMDS bids.

I would like to propose the following ideas. The board will have to choose one of these, or come up with something else, so we can move forward on what to happen with the Centaur and get out the correct guidelines for the bid process.

A. Continue for the next year to produce the newsletter in the odd month (printed) and even month (online). The online version was well received by members. Advertisers were told that they would get 12 printed submissions if paid for a year and others accordingly. Online adverts will be at additional costs since it is linked to a website. We only had one advertiser who was not happy and we refunded her remaining dollars. We should be saving dollars on the months we are not printing and mailing. We discussed this at the BOG to help us save dollars and hopes of coming closer to a balanced budget. Communication Chair continues to volunteer her time to be acting as editor and obtaining content, with the help of the board the production bid should be reasonably affordable.

B. Going Green! No printed Centaur. Only an online newsletter with no more than a couple of short articles, links to advertisers, links to RMDS website for calendar, officials, chapters, etc. The cost to use Constant Contact is \$250/year, plus the Production person's bid should be considerably less since it is less content which means less time working on it. The other benefits is a more timely news program for our members, advertising paid will hopefully pay for the production of newsletter. Advertisers would have to be addressed. We could refund money already paid for ads and they would have to come up with new ads and repay for the online version? We could possibly link to the Marketplace on the RMDS website with their ads on there for the entire year? Other suggestions? We are one of the last GMO'S to publish a printed newsletter. Others have already figured out the cost is too high to see any profit or break even. There may be backlash from membership for those who wish to see a printed newsletter. I do believe that this solution would put us in an even more balanced budget situation.

C. Going Green! As above, but at the end of the year putting out a color front and back 'yearbook' similar to that of USDF's. This would raise our cost of printing it and mailing it, but we still may be able to cover the cost with advertising dollars.

Note: I HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT OPTION B AND C WOULD HAVE TO BE APPROVED BY A BOG VOTE. I THEREFORE WOULD HAVE TO CALL FOR A BOG MEETING?

Lori asked Nicole & Linda to explain what they thought their jobs were.

Nicole stated that her part was production & layout only.

Linda stated that she:

- 1. Edits articles**
- 2. Continuity within the whole Centaur**
- 3. Helps people with articles**
- 4. Sometimes reaches out for more articles**

A discussion was had and the future plans for the Centaur will be placed on the 2013 Board of Governors agenda. Nicole made it clear that she does not get paid to transition or train a new production person. She will be available, if there are questions.

Pat Leech made a motion to approve option A: keep the Centaur & e-Centaur every other month. 2nd by Jon Haugen. Motion passed unanimously.

A bid will be put out for a production person for the Centaur & e-Centaur for one year to be voted on at the May 9 meeting.

Education Report by Jon Haugen

The 1st quarter has been busy, with the "L" program Continuing Education clinic in January, the TD/Show Management clinic in early February, and the George Williams clinic in Late February; it's time for a break. Just as show season is beginning.

The TD/Show management clinic had 18 attendees between the morning and afternoon, a very respectable turnout. The clinic made a \$377.50 profit. Deeda Randle was available to step in and instruct the morning, and Heather Petersen was

wonderful in the afternoon. In fact, we have organized a Fox Village Clinic for the 9th of February for Secretaries that have the software. Heather will instruct with lots of hands on time for the participants.

The George Williams symposium was a huge success. There were 14 riders with 16 horses that applied. The selection committee of Beth Geier, Dolly Hannon, Debbie Riehl-Rodriguez, and Loni Gaudet chose a very diverse and talented group of riders. All of the chosen riders were willing and able to accept instruction from Mr. Williams. Due to the weather, Gigi Brittain was forced to go home on Saturday afternoon, but Natalie Ellis willingly stepped up and filled the slot for Sunday. 101 auditors were on hand for Saturday, and a very stalwart 27 of the 63 preregistered showed up on Sunday in the snow. Friday night was an event for the professionals to spend time with Mr. Williams, and although it wasn't quite what we had expected, everyone had time to talk with Mr. Williams. Saturday evening was a time for just the riders and George to have a meal and conversation. On Sunday, every rider commented about what a wonderful experience the symposium was. RMDS received \$750 from USDF Region 5, \$1000 from the Dooley Foundation and \$750 from the Dressage Foundation 'Violet Hopkins Fund'. Because the symposium made a profit, we are asked to return the Dressage Foundation Grant. It was suggested that the \$1000 from the Dooley Foundation be returned to the education fund. After all of those monies are returned, the symposium still cleared a profit of \$3149.14 profit.

Income & Expense Summary

	\$ 8,147.00	Total Income from auditors etc.
	\$ 750.00	Dressage Foundation
	\$ 750.00	Region 5
Total Income	\$ 9,647.00	
	\$ (3,000.00)	George Fee
	\$ (506.79)	George-airfare
	\$ (45.28)	Sat dinner
	\$ (194.40)	Hotel
	\$ (285.00)	Port-A-Potty (3)
	\$ (483.33)	Heaters (4)
	\$ (42.87)	Propane
	\$ (97.50)	food & drink during day
	\$ (624.00)	box lunches 96 @\$6.00+tax
	\$ (303.55)	Friday night dinner
	\$ (137.14)	Airport-Mileage
	\$ (28.00)	Tolls
	\$ (750.00)	Dressage Foundation Refund
Total Expense	\$ (6,497.86)	
NET	<u>\$ 3,149.14</u>	

Education is looking into hosting the USDF Instructors Seminar, and/or the A, B, C session of the 'L' Program in the fall. Gwen Ka'awaloa discussed that the rate for an event should be set and be consistent for all groups of people.

This needs to be added to the policy statement for Program Proposals. Add to May agenda for approval

Junior/Young Riders by Julie Haugen

I am beginning to organize and get attractions for the camp. I have spoken to a woman about doing a vaulting demonstration which was a suggestion from the campers. Natalie Ellis and I will be getting together to work out details. I have sent some fun handouts to Sharon Soos for Horse Expo in hopes of drawing in some new youth to the club. As always, I seem to have more ideas than time and energy. I have also spoken with Joan Clay about some fun ideas for the youth of the area too, but need to get together to work them into something concrete.

Marketing by Sharon Soos

- I. The focus has been on the preparation for the Rocky Mountain Horse Expo which was March 8-10, 2013.
 - a. Information available at booth.
 - i. Chapter Information
 - ii. Region 5 Information
 - iii. Junior Camp Flier
 - iv. Team Competition Flier
 - v. Advertising – Types and Rates
 - vi. General RMDS – Registration forms, Calendar of Events, Trainers list, Centaurs
 - b. Verbal update about the Horse Expo
 - Friday & Sunday had normal attendance; Saturday was down due to bad weather.
 - Sharon Soos would like all of us to save the issues of The Dressage Connection and bring to the meetings for her to hand out next year.
 - Dolly Hannon did a great job with her presentations
 - The booth was very well attended and was a very positive image for RMDS
 - Lori suggested a single booth vs. the double booth
- II. RMDS Polo Shirts – an order has been placed to restock the inventory.
- III. FYI – Advertising Commissions @ 15%
 - a. Advertising Sold \$2947.00
 - b. Commission paid \$442.05

Sharon will look into a Business membership for COHOCO, compared to single booth costs where we have to pay for volunteer admission.

Scholarship by MaryJo Hoepner

- Recipients have been notified. Checks for their awards have been mailed.
- Those who were not chosen were notified via email.
- On to this coming year... We invite suggestions on how to engage more applicants.

A discussion was had to encourage more marketing towards additional funds and to remind the membership of the importance of volunteering.

Gwen mentioned that the professional recipients were VERY appreciative of the scholarships.

RMDS Championships by Laura Speer – no report

RMDS Championships Report from 2 White Feet, Inc.

2013

- Signed contract returned to the Colorado Horse Park along with deposit.
- Heather has submitted the application for the first grant of \$500 to USDF. We should receive this in the next month or so. The remainder of the grant money is not available until a successful completion of the Regional Championships, review of the show by the USDF Executive Board and the USDF Regional Championships committee. The final money is distributed in December.
- Bridal tags have been requested from USDF – they are sponsored and supplied for the Regional Championships.
- Shipping information for the Regional Championships has been submitted to USDF.
- Starting to work on RMDS Championship coolers with various vendors to get good pricing and possible sponsorships.
- Working on adjusting the 2012 sponsorship packet. Will send it to Laura and Sharon for review once adjustments are complete. Need to revisit the Centaur advertising parts of the packet once the future of the Centaur has been decided. May need to remove it from the sponsorship packets for 2013.

- A “r” judge has contacted us to judge at the Championships. She is willing to work for expenses only and this has worked well in the past. We are looking for someone to house her in the Parker area so save on hotel also. She comes with very good recommendations.

2014

- RMDS submitted a last minute bid for the 2014 USDF Regional Championships due to Arizona being unable to find a decent facility or dates that would work for them.
- This changes the rotation quite a bit within Region 5, but there were no other interested parties to submit a bid. Hopefully we will be able to get back onto the correct rotation in the future.
- The RMDS bid was the only bid received by Region 5 so should be accepted by USDF. Hiring of judges up to 7 currently, need to find one more. We have 1 technical delegate; need to get one more also. Update: We have hired the 2nd technical delegate. Still working on one more judge.
- Will need to sit down with the Horse Park and get this contract taken care of soon also, but we are on the calendar for the correct dates for 2014.

Appointed Committee Reports: no reports

Nominating Committee by Sarah Barnes – no report at this time. Sarah will send out an email asking for interested persons to step forward.

Banquet & BOG– November, 2013 by Laura Speer Laura emailed that she is in touch with the hotel for Nov 16 to see if they are available. The consensus is to keep the same hotel and be on the 16th. If we do not have the hotel available then move back to November 9th. Staying at the same location was priority.

USDF Region 5 Update

by Heather Petersen

I have once again been lucky to spend some time this winter and spring in Florida, working on my FEI and Technical Delegate licenses and officiating at some shows outside of our Region and it's been a great experience. I have seen several wonderful horses, some great riders, and what was more reassuring for me, some juniors and adult amateurs who are working hard with their education and showing. Show season is coming to full swing now around most of the rest of the country and there are plenty of clinics and educational events to choose from in most areas. Please be sure to let me know if your barn, GMO, club, chapter or other groups are hosting events and we'll get them in our monthly USDF Region 5 newsletter, our Region 5 email blasts and on the Region 5 website. We want to let our members know about as many dressage opportunities as we can.

The deadline for Participating Member Delegate nominations is **April 15**. Our region will have 5 PM delegates for the 2013 USDF Convention in Lexington, Kentucky December 4-7. You can check the status of our delegate nominees by going to the link below. Please check your status to make sure your acceptance is there if you would like to be a PM delegate candidate. If you are not listed and you would like to be a PM delegate, please contact Scarlett Fahrenson at stgeorg@dakotacom.net.

<http://www.usdf.org/about/about-usdf/governance/nominating/accepted.asp>

As of April 30th, our potential candidates for the 2013 FEI North American Junior and Young Rider Championships will be finalized. As I write this in early March, we only have 1 rider who has declared, but I believe from talking to folks that we should hopefully have enough riders who will declare to field two full teams. 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. PLEASE DON'T FORGET TO TURN IN YOUR DECLARATIONS!

We are looking for nominations for our 2013 Region 5 Lifetime Achievement Award. This award was started in 2009 by our then Regional Director Theresa Hunt and recognizes folks who have made significant contributions to dressage in our region. If you have someone you feel has made a contribution to our dressage community, please send me their name and a brief nomination letter. We will award one or more recipients this year and we would love input

from folks throughout the region. Please email me nominations at slush@drwgw.net. Our previous winners are Barbara Stine, Dr. Rudolf Vlatten, Theresa Hunt and Janet Foy.

Discussion: Sharon Soos contacted Scarlett and was told she would be placed on a wait list. To our knowledge this is incorrect – there should be many candidates allowed and the voting picks who attends.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

1. Pat Leech is working on the history of CSDA and has found some archived material which also applies to RMDS. She is compiling the information and will have it on a disc for preservation.
2. Gwen Ka'awaloa discussed the need for the professional rider/trainers to be represented on the Board as are the Youth and Adult Amateurs.

Pat Leech made a motion to create an AD Hoc committee for Professional Trainers/Riders with consideration for a permanent committee at the 2013 Board of Governors. 2nd by Sharon Soos. Motion passed. Gwen Ka'awaloa abstained.

Lori Mitchell appointed Gwen Ka'awaloa temporary chairman of the new ad hoc committee.

Chapter Reports: Sharon Soos made the motion that all chapter reports be accepted as written, 2nd by Gwen Ka'awaloa. Motion Passed unanimously.

Arkansas Valley

After an extensive meeting this month, committees were formed to prepare for upcoming activities. The show group is hard at work for our future Ride-A-Tests. A couple of us were fortunate enough to travel north to audit the recent George Williams clinic and even more happy to beat the snow home!

Boulder Valley

Spring is coming and along with it, lots of fun events to look forward to with Boulder Valley Dressage. On April 21, we'll be hosting a booth at the Boulder County Horse Association's fair at the Boulder County Fairgrounds. We're looking forward to this as a great opportunity to connect with other horse people throughout the local community. Next, on April 27th and 28th, we'll be holding our annual Spring Fling Ride-a-Test and Show at Singletree Farm. The opening date for both events is April 1st. We look forward to seeing lots of our BVD members there. Then, on May 18th, BVD is hosting another ride-a-test featuring the new USEF Rider Tests at Autumn Hill Equestrian Center. Sandy Hotz will be judging. The opening date is April 15th. Information on how to sign-up can be found on the BVD website at <http://www.bouldervalleydressage.org/> Think Spring!

Colorado Springs

For 2013, the CSDA board will be focusing on educational programs and clinics as we begin providing the services the membership has requested. These programs will be designed to encourage and engage our membership base to participate more actively in the Chapter.

CSDA has been working to move our membership communications from a paper to utilization of the latest in Internet technologies. Member updates regarding the Chapter are done utilizing email blasts, and our website while we use online surveys to ask our members what they want for educational events, clinics, and programs. This change has helped us communicate changes in a timelier manner with our membership and to keep them informed of what is going on with the Chapter.

CSDA purchased a vendor booth at the CEVS Horsemen's Day held on Saturday March 2. Total attendance at the event was about 900 people with 60 vendors. There was a lot of traffic by the CSDA booth, which we had set up with a TV/VCR playing dressage videos, some of the trophies from the CSDA year-end award program, and membership forms and calendar information about CSDA, RMDS, and USDF. It was great to be able to

Catherine Siemiet-proxy to Gwen Ka'awaloa

Sarah Barnes

Patricia Leech

talk to some past members, some new individuals interested in getting their families started in dressage, and some western riders who wanted to talk about how classical dressage is applicable to their own riding and training programs.

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 first meeting was February 4th. Well attended.

Chapter will be having a Ride-A-Test with Leslie O'Neal-Olsen (R) at Roberts Ranch on August 24. Planning another with a local judge in the spring, but having a hard time finding a location.

Seat Clinic was also discussed, Kathy Simard was also contacted to instruct, and the clinic to be held at Pleasant Ridge in Conifer. Date is still not set.

The chapter had three members who earned medals in 2012. One gold and two bronze. The chapter decided previously to congratulate these accomplishments with gift cards and card. CC Ross, VP will handle this for this year.

Next meeting will be in Evergreen location, Tuscany Tavern in May.

Grand Junction

Tammy Fagan-proxy to Lori Mitchell

We are off to a great start with good attendance of our monthly meetings and lots of members volunteering to serve on committees. Thank you everyone. We have changed the day our General Meetings to the third Thursday of the Month, the next meeting is March 21st, 6:30 pm at the Mesa Mall Community Meeting Room.

Our Awards Banquet held on Jan 26th at Carrino's Restaurant, was an enjoyable evening. Thank you, Sue Benjamin, Arlene Rhodes and Susan Radka for all the time planning for this event. The results are listed on our web site.

The first show of the season is the Spring into Fun Practice Show to be held March 16th-17th, it looks like we will have plenty of entries despite the cold winter we had.

I am happy to serve as president, please feel free to contact me. tfagandressage@wyoming.com or our web site www.gvds.org

High Plains

No Report

Wendy Cibis-proxy to Lori Mitchell

Northern Colorado

Renee Martig

1. January was a month for discussing activates and laying out plans for 2013.

2. February we finalized plans for a ride-a-test with Dolly Hannon in April. Confirmed our March activity with Kerri Belsito, DVM, on rehabbing the lame horse.

3. Many members attended the George Williams Symposium at Tomora Training Center on Feb. 23 and 24th.

On the Bit

No Report - no proxy

Jessica Ford

Pikes Peak –

Michelle Anderson-proxy to Gwen Ka'awaloa

Olympic Judge Gary Rockwell was scheduled to conduct a clinic on January 11th and 13th, but the clinic was canceled due to the bitter cold weather. We are proposing to reschedule the clinic in the Fall. We are hoping to do a potluck on a Friday night where we watch rides from the 2012 London Olympics while Gary gives his commentary on each ride.

Our February business meeting was followed by a very informative presentation on "Trailer Safety and Readiness" with Deb Reuter, Owner of The Hitchin' Post. Many thanks to Deb for sharing her time and expertise.

March activities include a table at the Horseman's Day inside the Indoor Arena at Norris-Penrose and "More Than the View from C" at our regular monthly meeting on March 12. This is an opportunity for members and guests to ask questions of our licensed officials who include "L" graduate & show manager Simone Windeler, Technical Delegate/FEI Level 1 Steward and show secretary/manager Heather Petersen & "r" Dressage and Dressage Sport Horse Breeding judge and EMT Gwen Ka'awaloa. We are so very fortunate to have this wealth of knowledge within our small chapter!

In April we are planning a clinic either April 13 or 14 that will give interactive, informative hands-on experience for preparing for the show season. We propose to set up "stations" including 'Braiding', 'Clipping', 'Grooming' (including emergency spot remover!), 'Paperwork' (filling out forms correctly, horse show entries, and membership forms) including what to have on hand at all times (i.e.; brand inspection, Coggins, etc.) and 'What To Pack' (divided into 3 subcategories: For yourself, your horse, and your trailer).

Also in April: We need volunteers for Dressage for the Cure and silent auction donations. For more information on what is needed, contact Heather Petersen.

May plans are for a longing and long lining clinic.

We will not have a June meeting in deference to our members' busy show schedules but are planning a potluck evening by the pool during the July show in Fountain. We hope members will join us whether showing or not (or volunteer for the day and then join us for dinner!)

Our awards chair Shannon Lemons is working on a medal system for chapter year end awards which will recognize all our members for each level of achievement during the season. Cash donations may be made towards this program.

Thanks to all our officers and members for your contributions to our FUN chapter and 2013 plans!

Platte River

Peter Soos

- We want to thank our members for:
 - Participating as volunteers for the 2013 Rocky Mountain Horse Expo
 - Renewing their memberships and we have met our first goal for 2013.
- To retain our membership from 2012 and work to expand it.
As of the end of February, we have 1 more member than we had in 2012.
- The chapter will gather later this spring with an open agenda.

**Wasatch Mountains -
Western Colorado**

**no report
no report – no proxy**

**Sally Shaffer proxy to Lori Mitchell
Barbara Terry**

There was no objection - the meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Beth Geier, acting secretary