

RMDS EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING AGENDA

Elephant Bar – 720-529-9920

May 15, 2014 @ 6:30 PM

**Attendance:** Simone Windeler, Frances Carbonnel, Michelle Anderson, Renee Martig, Beverly Swanson, Sharon Soos, Sarah Barnes, Beth Geier, Aline Brandau, Pat Leech, Linda Gaber, Jon Haugen, Heather Petersen, Mary Jo Hoepner, Gwen Ka’awaloa, Nina Felsenthal, Jacque McIntyre

**Proxies:** Shannon Lemons to Heather Petersen, Barbara Terry to Beverly Swanson, Brenda Haley to Pat Leech, Lori Mitchell to Sharon Soos, Laura Speer to Sharon Soos

**Call to Order-President**

**Gwen Ka’awaloa**

**Meeting was called to order at 6:31 by Gwen Ka’awaloa**

**Secretary - Approval of Minutes**

**Nina Felsenthal**

- March Minutes

Two corrections were made to the March Minutes. On page 3 regarding the bid for Centaur and E-Centaur, it was clarified that “the bid” was from Piaffe Design. On page 5 under Education/Future Events, 40 riders was changed to 40 auditors. **Mary Jo Hoepner motioned to approve the minutes as corrected, Heather Petersen seconded, and all were in favor.**

**Treasurers Report**

**Sharon Soos**

**Funds as of April 30, 2014**

RMDS Checking	22,528.50
PayPal (As of 4/17/14)	6,559.64
Scholarship	7,038.88
Money Market	<u>44,259.16</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>80,386.18</b>

Documents Available as of April 30, 2014:

- Current Year vs. Prior Year Profit and Loss Statement
- Current Year vs. Prior Year Balance Sheet

**President Report**

**Gwen Ka’awaloa**

- Reflection  
“Optimism is the faith that leads to achievement. Nothing can be done without hope and confidence.” -  
~Helen Keller
- Work Ethics/ Respect
- Work Hours

Gwen is proposing a two-part plan to the board that is strictly voluntary.

Part one of the plan: Gwen would like to list the name of each Board Member with information about what each member does outside of RMDS. The purpose is to help RMDS members realize that all Board Members have commitments and responsibilities outside of RMDS, and the commitment, dedication and volunteer hours we give are in addition to the responsibilities we have in our everyday lives. The information would be compiled, published and distributed by Linda Gaber, our communications chair.

Part two of plan: On November 1<sup>st</sup>, Linda will publish RMDS commitment hours for each board member, including board meeting related hours, volunteer hours for RMDS related events, and chapter hours for chapter events.

- Year of the Horse T-shirts

Shirts are available in white or black, and will be for purchase at shows for \$15. Shirts will also be available for purchase on the RMDS website for \$20 to account for S&H. The volunteer shirts for Championships will be red and long sleeved. The T-shirts with the color logo will be reserved for sale at Championships ONLY.

### Vice-President Report

**Aline Brandau**

- Year of the Horse T-Shirts Artwork

Aline would like to make up a short document concerning the artwork for the T-Shirts saying that the artist is accepting payment in the form of a vendor stall to display her artwork.

- RMDS Non-Profit Status

Aline will be putting together all information and issues that need to be addressed by RMDS in order to stay a non-profit.

### Central Office

RMDS Central Office  
2942 Park Lake Drive  
Boulder, CO 80301  
720-890-7825 phone & fax  
[rmds@rmds.org](mailto:rmds@rmds.org)

Beth Geier  
Beth Geier, Office Manager

### Membership

- Registration – As of May 1: 637 members for 2014 – 11 are Centaur only – 65 are new to RMDS this year. 63 new horses since October 1, 2013

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Members:	1162	1177	1151	1019	1036	1008	1030	945	921	868	797	827	637
Horses:	274	337	207	234	262	246	166	132	132	123	135	59	63
AV	-	-	-	-	-	12	26	15	24	27	25	27	26
BV	230	208	199	179	178	172	205	188	200	190	182	180	133
CS	134	155	137	130	143	126	127	115	124	115	63	52	36
FH	115	103	109	73	74	77	76	75	72	71	65	64	62
GV	77	98	93	92	88	102	105	87	83	65	53	71	51
HP	278	283	267	251	259	260	265	256	226	208	190	176	124
NC	150	151	162	139	137	137	124	107	132	110	93	94	73
OB	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	22	22
PP	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	44	62	57
PR	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	14	18	9
WA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20	24	24	28	26	15
WC	64	55	44	34	32	25	25	21	22	31	27	23	18
No Chapter	24	36	34	21	22	16	14	25	14	15	13	12	11
PN	13	14	15	14	13	13	12	inactive	Dissolved				
TS	77	74	91	86	90	68	51	36	Dissolved				
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1162</b>	<b>1177</b>	<b>1151</b>	<b>1019</b>	<b>1036</b>	<b>1008</b>	<b>1030</b>	<b>945</b>	<b>921</b>	<b>870</b>	<b>797</b>	<b>827</b>	<b>637</b>
Juniors									134	120	117	120	75
Amateurs									230	239	220	209	123

**Shows:** 44 recognized shows for 2014 - 8 are RMDS only shows. Added Pikes Peak show for April.

**Insurance:** Do we want to charge a fee to the chapter if they use the insurance through RMDS?

**Recognized Officials:**

- TD Reports: Pikes Peak, BVD Spring Fling
- “L” program coming for “L” graduates to get their continuing education.

**Omnibus:** need to start getting ads from the “big” guys.

**General:**

- Need help with **advertising** for everything!!!!!!!
- Centaur needs articles coming in

**Next Executive Board Meetings (2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday odd months) –**

**2014:                      July 8-Tues              Sept 11                      Oct 9-Budget              Nov 15- BOG**

- Insurance

Currently, we are only charging each chapter the amount the Insurance Company charges us. It was brought up in discussion whether or not we should be charging each individual chapter a processing fee for allowing the use of RMDS Insurance. **Mary Jo Hoepner motioned we charge a \$20 processing fee per chapter for every event in which they need to use RMDS Insurance. Simone Windeler seconded, and all were in favor except for Pat Leech who was opposed (and therefore Brenda Haley by Proxy). Renee Martig, Mary Jo Hoepner and Beverly Swanson abstained (and therefore Barbara Terry by Proxy).**

- TD Reports
- “L” Program/Graduates continuing education
- Omnibus

There was discussion regarding RMDS declaring a change fee for Omnibus Production: Change fee for changes made after the submission deadline will be \$20 for each change. **Heather Petersen motioned we declare a \$20 change fee for each change made after the submission deadline, Aline Brandau seconded and all were in favor except for Pat Leech who abstained (and therefore Brenda Haley by Proxy).**

**Permanent Committee Reports:**

**1. Adult Amateur**

**Jennifer Glass**

Jennifer Glass offered a verbal resignation to Gwen Ka’awaloa because she has not been available to fulfill the job requirements as the Adult Amateur Committee Chair. After some discussion, a vote was taken to accept the verbal resignation as Jennifer has been difficult to reach by phone or email and has not attended any meeting in 2014. **Nina Felsenthal motioned to accept the verbal resignation from Jennifer Glass, Mary Jo Hoepner seconded, and all were in favor except for Pat Leech (and therefore Brenda Haley by Proxy), Sharon Soos (and therefore Laura Speer and Lori Mitchell by Proxy) and Heather Petersen who all abstained.**

**2. Awards**

**Shannon Lemons**

In the past several years, the number of trophies that the Awards Chair has been required to mail out to recipients has increased significantly. Despite professional packing and shipping, this has resulted in an increasing number of damage incidents. As many of these trophies have a long history with RMDS, the Awards Chair feels that it is in the best interest of the Awards Program that we no longer mail trophies to recipients and that we require them to be returned in person. Attached are revised trophy agreements, notification letters, and the policies and procedures page from the Awards Notebook, as well as recommended changes to the Standing Rules (for Board of Governors) and the general Awards Policies already in place. In addition to preserving these trophies that have been generously donated to RMDS by our members, this step will also decrease the costs of postage by \$200-300 per year.

We received a request to donate a trophy for a breed award for Connemara ponies. However, we do not currently have 5 competing of that breed. I have responded to that effect, adding that they can make sure all

riders they know with Connemaras should be encouraged to make sure they have proper breed certifications registered with the Central Office so that we could then revisit the issue later in the year.

Please excuse my absence once again, but work commitments prevent me from attending this evening. If there are any items I need to address, please let me know.

Shannon Lemons

- Tabled from March : Plan for trophies not picked up at Awards Banquet

**Beverly Swanson motioned to approve the proposal that RMDS no longer mail out trophies, and that trophies must be returned in person. Simone Windeler seconded, and all were in favor.**

### **3. Communications**

**Linda Gaber**

No new items to report. Both April E-Centaur and May published Centaur were produced and delivered to members. Board members and staff continue to seek advertising and sponsors for RMDS Championships. Centaurs will continue to promote these opportunities and list contact information.

Check out the RMDS website or Beth Geier or Linda for all advertising opportunities.

- Centaur Beverly Swanson
- Omnibus Production Nicole Bizzarro
- Website Michael Petersen

For every Sponsor who donates over \$1000 to the CDI, we are purchasing RMDS Website advertisement for one year. We are asking that Chapter Presidents please encourage their members to send in recent pictures of them and their horses.

### **4. Education**

**Jon Haugen**

The April 19 clinic with Debbie Rodriguez was a wonderful success. We had 40 registrants and cleared a profit of \$1334. The response from attendees that I spoke with was very positive. The Instructor Certification on May 3-4 went well.

I am in discussions with show managers for 2015 shows to secure space to hold the D1, D2, and Finals for the L program. For the July meeting, I will have budgets for the board to approve.

- USDF Instructor Workshop Beth Geier/ Jon Haugen

We have completed 3 workshops and 1 refresher. All were very successful and very informative.

October: Teaching/Lungeing	\$1,655.12
March: Riding	\$231.02
May: Refresher	\$(1125.56)
Net Total:	\$760.58

It was hoped to have another refresher in August, but Jon, Gwen & I felt it would not be cost effective since we're not allowed to have auditors – estimated loss was \$900.-- - \$1500.00 depending on how many attended.

The testing is October 24-26 with Sarah Geikie & Lilo Fore as the examiners. At the moment there are 8 people who have indicated they want to test:

Friday: Training-1<sup>st</sup> Level

Stacey Williams, Joan Clay, Elizabeth Caron, Nicole Roach-Reinsvold

Saturday: 2<sup>nd</sup> Level

Joan Clay, Elizabeth Caron, Nicole Roach-Reinsvold, Bonnie Walker,

Gwen Ka'awaloa (lunge only)

Sunday: 3-4<sup>th</sup> Levels

Dolly Hannon, Clayton Martin, Gwen Ka'awaloa

-Beth Geier & Jon Haugen

40 registrants for DRR Clinic cleared \$1300 in profit.

Final Testing for Instructor Certification needs demo riders for October 24-26. If riders are interested, contact Jon Haugen. L Program starting in November

### **5. Junior/Young Riders**

**Julie Haugen**

Julie is considering resigning but would be willing to mentor somebody to take over the position.

**6. Marketing**

**Sharon Soos**

**7. Professional's Committee**

**Simone Windeler**

**8. RMDS Championships**

**Beverly Swanson**

We are ramping up on efforts to secure sponsors, donations and advertisers for Championships 2014.

Currently in the works:

- Sponsor packages sent to large donor possibilities, including:

Harmony Sport Horses, Horse Connection, Horses Unltd., Colts Unltd.; Big O Tires, Ed Bozarth Chevy, Parker Trailers, Berkenkotter Motors; Schleese, County, Custom, Borne Saddleries; Merhow, Platinum Coach, Sooner Trailers, Sundowner, Exiss, Featherlite, Logan Coach, Cimarron, Circle J Trailers

- Small sponsor info version available for smaller donors
- Postcard for insert/handout indicating interest
- Inserts and packages for Paragon CDI
- T-Shirt sales (Gwen K) – on website too
- Local business sponsors

Gwen/Michelle creating a “sponsor map”

Coming soon:

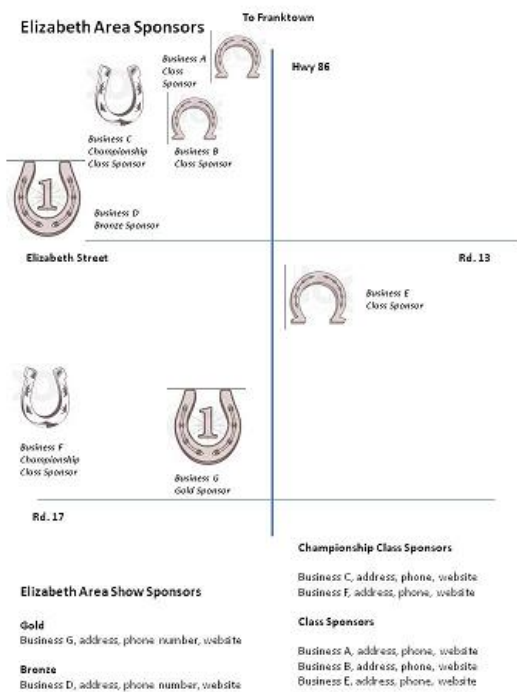
- Constant Contact (email news software) with donor news, etc. similar to 2013

Ideas for RMDS members:

- Get your local barns to do a communal sponsorship – easy to get people to donate \$10-\$20 to advertising and promoting their barn pride
- Don't forget about packet inserts: coupons, flyers, et al are easy and inexpensive ways for local businesses to participate and get noticed
- Ask me for help! Packages, postcards, phone calls, I'm here for support
  - Sponsorship Packages/ Postcards

Board members are encouraged to personally hit up their local businesses for Sponsorships through face to face contact. Group sponsorships are encouraged (for example, raising \$100 from your barn buddies). Any ideas or leads you have, please send to Beverly Swanson.

- Sponsorship Maps



The idea is that each business that purchases a sponsorship will be put on a map and included in each competitor's packet. This is to encourage businesses to purchase sponsorships and get free advertisement in return, with the possibility that competitors will patronize the businesses during the competition.

### 9. Scholarship

MaryJo Hoepner

We have one rider who is attempting to take lessons via SKYPE. I am looking forward to her reports on how it works out. Writing another article on volunteering.

MaryJo

There has been an increase in Solid Seat, Leg Up and Open Scholarships over the last few years, however, there have been zero applications for the JR/YR Scholarship. Discussion came up on whether we should discontinue the JR/YR scholarship, or is there a way we can encourage JR/YR applicants? The general consensus was to continue offering all four scholarships, and see how we can increase applications. Ideas brought before the board were to increase exposure through the website and Centaur, publish a list of winners from past years, and to change the application process from Hard Copy only to Hard Copy *or* Electronic Submission.

#### Appointed Committee Reports:

1. **Nominating Committee-** Chapter Presidents Michelle Anderson

Need nominees for Chairmen for 2 years: Vice President (1 year), Adult Amateur, Awards, Championship Show Committee, Communication, Education, Junior/YR, Marketing, and Scholarship

Michelle has reached out to all incumbents to discuss whether they would like to continue in position. She has also emailed all Chapter Presidents asking them to nominate new chairmen. As of this meeting, there is an opening for Adult Amateur for the remainder of the year, and Marketing will be an open position after this term is finished. There was discussion that the Adult Amateur Chair and JR/YR Chair need to be able to work with the Education Chair as a team. After some discussion, Aline Brandau has agreed to help with marketing in the next term. Sharon Soos will continue to run the Horse Expo, no matter who steps up for the Marketing Chair position.

**Banquet & BOG-** November 15, 2014 Laura Speer

2. **Western Dressage Liaison** Frances Carbonnel

Western Dressage has been exploring ways that they can involve riders in RMDS. The WDAA has a very active Colorado chapter that is giving regular clinics, and will be holding a Colorado Show at the end of September at the

Douglas County Fairgrounds. Anybody who is interested is encouraged to bring their horse and participate. WD gives us a great opportunity to bring Dressage exposure to a new demographic.

### **Region 5 Report**

Heather Petersen

National Championships was really well attended, with approx 300 horses (which was budgeted for) Nationals showed a loss of approximately \$90,000. A lot of it was incurred one-time expenses. Overall, we are under budget for USDF. The Convention will be held in Las Vegas for 2015. Carl Hester is coming to do USDF trainers symposium in Florida. There is a lot going on, please contact Heather Petersen for more information.

### **Old Business:**

- Meeting Location Discussion

Gwen Ka'awaloa

It was generally decided that Elephant Bar is too loud for our meetings, and other location options should be explored. Aline and Gwen will be exploring new options for the next meeting, specifically looking for restaurants that have a separate room with closed doors.

### **New Business:**

Mary Jo will be investigating the possibility of using web conferencing as an option during busy months, when fewer people are able to attend meetings during busier months.

### **Chapter Presidents:**

1. **Arkansas Valley**
2. **Boulder Valley**
3. **Colorado Springs**
4. **Foothills**

**Brenda Haley**  
**Sarah Barnes**  
**Pat Leech**  
**Lori Mitchell**

### **Foothills Chapter Report**

April 14th - Chapter meeting was held at Tuscan Tavern in Evergreen. Guests included Colorado Horsecare Foodbank (Juliana Lehman and Ellen Storeim). Discussion about Flowers for Food and other upcoming events. The chapter will continue to support this group and we will attend the Horse Tails and Hay Bales event by purchasing a table.

Dolly Hannon is doing a Freestyle Clinic, July 19th in Evergreen/Conifer at Bridlewood Stables. Open to All. We tried to use our free 1/2 page Centaur ad to advertise this that we earned by the top selling basket at the BOG, but apparently missed the deadline. We will use an email blast as the clinic approaches.

We awarded four Foothills Scholarships, three Juniors and one AA were recipients. Two were new Foothills members.

Submitted by, Lori Mitchell, Foothills President

5. **Grand Valley**
6. **High Plains**

**Tammy Fagan**  
**Jacquelin MacIntyre**

### **High Plains Chapter**

Chapter notes

May 12, 2014

High Plains Chapter has many exciting and meaningful things coming up. We are making ribbons in remembrance of Claire Davis, the equestrian that died in the Arapahoe High School shooting, for all participants to wear at the High Prairie Dressage Horse Shows, May 30-June 1, 2014. Display your ribbon and show love, kindness and support to our 2 and 4-legged friends in Claire's memory.

Also coming up is the Christine Traurig clinic auditing, May 17-18 at Stellar Stables. Christine is a wonderful teacher and we can learn many important training tips by listening to her give lessons to riders from Training to Grand Prix. Please come and join all RMDS members at this great clinic.

Our exciting news for the summer is a clinic with Andreas Hausberger from the Spanish Riding School in Vienna, Austria. We are so excited to be presenting this fabulous opportunity to train for three days, July 19-21, 2014, with this incredible teacher of Classical Dressage. He will teach everyone from Training level to Grand Prix. Andres will also conduct lessons in lunging and long rein training. There will also be a rider dinner with Andreas.

Please join and look at our Facebook page and web site for updates. Sign up for the clinics at <http://highplainsdressage.org/forms-and-other-important-links.html>

Jacque McIntyre  
HPC President

- 7. Northern Colorado
- 8. On The Bit
- 9. Pikes Peak

Renee Martig  
Jessica Ford  
Michelle Anderson

#### May 2014 Executive Committee Meeting

Our first RMDS recognized show was held on April 12 at Kaimana Farms in Elizabeth, CO. Mother Nature was extremely kind to us and with both the facility and all the professional services donated by chapter members, a generous show sponsorship from Made In The Shade, and the club's share of proceeds from our used tack sale, we realized a profit of just over **SEVEN HUNDRED DOLLARS!**

We also had an incredible corp of volunteers both before and during the show. Simone Windeler, Heather Petersen, MaryJo Hoepner, Gwen Ka'awaloa, Chad Toney, Nina Felsenthal, Erin Ashby, Judy Carnick, Cathy Gardner, Holly Kaye, Bev Swanson and her brother Jon & sister Jan, Karen Olivier, Darlene McInness, Christy Shires and Elizabeth Petersen all helped to make this show a great success. Also thanks to Joe & Steph Gallegos and Hawgs & Dawgs Concession, the Pine Ridge Pony Club for the wonderful bake sale goodies and to Kat Bryan for photos!

Our May 6 business meeting involved a great deal of planning for the future of our club, including:

We plan to continue our used tack & equipment show at the June Fountain Valley Show on Saturday afternoon June 14, followed by a potluck dinner for PPDS members and all competitors, volunteers & officials.

PPDS will host a potluck dinner on Friday evening July 11, also at the Fountain Valley show.

Future plans include our long postponed Lungeing and Long Lining Clinic, hopefully in conjunction with an October meeting. We are also looking at a yoga session to aid riders with out of the saddle exercises, an evening of baking horse cookies in conjunction with our holiday party and gift exchange, and a liberty horse training clinic with a past member of the Cavalia troupe.

We have so many great ideas and people and so little time. Thanks to all the PPDS members and volunteers for their enthusiasm and participation in making our chapter a success!

As always, the most current information for our chapter is available at our website at <http://pikespeakdressage.org/Main/Home>.

Michelle Anderson  
Pikes Peak Chapter President

- 10. Platte River
- 11. Wasatch Mountains
- 12. Western Colorado

Laura Speer  
Sally Shaffer  
Barbara Terry

MaryJo Hoepner motioned that we accept reports as written, Michelle Anderson seconded, and all were in favor.

Adjourn

Sharon Soos motioned we adjourn the meeting, Renee Martig second, and all were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:47pm