

RMDS EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING AGENDA

March 12, 2015

Darcy's Bistro & Irish Pub

March 12, 2015

Attendance: Beth Geier, Kris Cooper, John C Haugen, Heather Petersen, Didi Dekrey, Renee Martig, Aline Brandau, Mary Jo Hoepner, Simone Windeler, Gwen Ka'awaloa, Pat Leech, Sharon Soos, Beth Hart, Nina Felsenthal

Proxies: Shannon Lemons to Nina Felsenthal, Susan Borders to Nina Felsenthal, Kerry-Louise Boucher to Heather Petersen, Robin Gay to Julie Burt, Arlene Rhodes to Didi Dekrey, Sally Shaffer to Heather Petersen, Barbara Terry to Simone Windeler.

Call to Order-President

Gwen Ka'awaloa

Meeting called to order at 5:30pm

Secretary - Approval of Minutes

Nina Felsenthal

Nina Felsenthal made the following changes after the minutes were sent to the board for review: Foothills did submit a report for January, and it has been included in the January minutes. Additionally, the following proxies were added to reflect January: Nina Felsenthal to Gwen Ka'awaloa and Shannon Lemons to Nina Felsenthal to Gwen Ka'awaloa. Heather Petersen motioned that the January minutes be approved as revised, Mary Jo Hoepner seconded, and all were in favor.

Treasurers Report

Sharon Soos

RMDS Checking	\$49,917.88
RMDS Paypal	\$3,294.85
RMDS Scholarship	\$7,212.63
RMDS Money Market	\$44,169.36
TOTAL	\$104,594.72

Documents available- None

The accountant is currently reviewing the recommended adjustments made by the auditor for past years to determine how such adjustments should be reflected in the financials. Therefore, no postings for 2015 have been made at this time.

President Report

Gwen Ka'awaloa

There was discussion about making sure that any RMDS email blasts sent out in the form of advertisements include contact information. Moving forward, ads will be thoroughly reviewed before sending out to the entire GMO.

Excitement is building around Dressage for the Cure being held indoors this year, at the National Western Stock Show Event Center.

Educational Events this year represent some of the best opportunities we have presented to our members. We strongly encourage our members to take advantage of these great opportunities!

Central Office

Beth Geier

Membership

- Registration – 550 members for 2015 – 14 are Education. 34 new horses since October 1, 2014
- Dues now \$65.00 until next year

	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Members:	550	773	827	797	868	921
Horses:	34	63	59	135	123	132
AV	22	26	27	25	27	24
BV	123	171	180	182	190	200
CS	30	47	52	63	115	124
FH	41	76	64	65	71	72
GV	50	55	71	53	65	83
HP	119	151	176	190	208	226
NC	62	89	94	93	110	132
OB	29	33	22	-	-	-
PP	48	63	62	44	-	-
PR	6	11	18	14	14	-
WA	6	21	26	28	24	24
WC	11	19	23	27	31	22
No Chapter	3	11	12	13	15	14
Education	14					
PN					Dissolved	
TS					Dissolved	
TOTAL	550	773	827	797	870	921
Juniors	49	95	120	117	120	134
Amateurs	97	176	209	220	239	230

Shows: Season starts April

- Colorado Horse Park

Recognized Officials:

- TD Test will need to be taken in the Fall of 2015
- Two people have requested td forms to begin the program

Omnibus:

- Have collected \$11596.50
- Production: \$5720.00 Printing: \$6824.00 \$12544.00 total expense **Net loss: \$947.50**
- Would like to add "Pyramid of Training" – **where do you think it should be placed...**

General:

- Received another \$300.00 sponsor for the Instructor Clinic
- Need help with advertising for everything!!!!!!!
- Centaur needs articles coming in
- **D & O Insurance – CSDA needs to be added: Pat Leech, Claudette vanPelt**

Mary Jo Hoepner motioned that CSDA be added to the D&O Insurance. Renee Martig seconded, and all were in favor.

Office:

- Always here for you.....

All Chapter Presidents are encouraged to reach out to their past members who have not yet renewed. We are behind this year in membership renewals compared to previous years. Show Season starts in April!

There was discussion about the Colorado Horse Park, and all members are encouraged to continue to speak of the CHP in a positive way. We would like to continue to build a healthy relationship with the new owners of the CHP, so that Dressage can continue to be a big part of the events held there.

Omnibus loss is significantly less than previous years; it was suggested that next year we include the “Pyramid of Training”. If you have suggestions of where this should be included in the Omnibus, please let us know!

Currently, Platte River and Wasatch Mountains only have six (6) members each, making them incomplete chapters. Currently, the by-laws state that membership requirements for each chapter must be met by April 1st of the membership year. Mary Jo Hoepner motioned that the chapter’s compliance be re-evaluated at the July meeting. Heather Petersen seconded, and all were in favor. Meanwhile, the chapters will not receive funds until they reach the minimum ten (10) member requirement. There was discussion that a possible by-law revision should be made.

Permanent Committee Reports:

1. Adult Amateur

Didi DeKrey

To continue with outreach, I have spoken with several of our chapter presidents, barn owners, fellow adult riders, clinicians and trainers. There are a few common threads:

- Those that show appreciate having a non-professional division available
- Many adults (not necessarily official Adult Amateurs) are still hesitant to enter the recognized show venues
 - Cost is a significant factor
 - “Type” of horse they have
 - Location of shows – or rather, the lack of locations
- Clinics – be they with a clinician or a Ride A Test format are extremely popular
 - Again, cost and location are limiting factors
 - Cost (\$100 +) prohibits participating in more than one, thus, these riders are not able to progress – frustrating for them and the clinician!

The Chapters I have spoken with, have many activities planned for this year. All are open to other chapter members to participate in their various activities. Some of the individual adult riders are still not aware of the difference in being an adult and an amateur vs an Adult Amateur.

Based on these findings, and the review of the more official survey from 2009, I suggest the following concepts:

- RMDS sponsored clinic; use of RMDS trainer(s)
 - Up to 3 locations about the RMDS region
 - First come, first served AAs
 - Group sessions are a possibility
 - Introductory through 2nd level
 - Budget estimate: \$2,000

- Exhibitors cost: \$50 = \$75
 - Auditors cost: \$25 - \$35
- RMDS sponsored Ride A Test; use of RMDS Judge(s)
 - Up to 3 locations about the RMDS region
 - First come, first served AAs
 - Introductory through 2nd level
 - Budget estimate: \$2,000
 - Exhibitors cost: \$50 = \$75
 - Auditors cost: \$25 - \$35
- RMDS sponsored Horse/Rider clinic
 - i.e. how to work with your knowledge, your horse – no matter what the expertise or breed
 - concept of lectures, lunging, mounted session(s)
 - Budget estimate \$2,000
 - Daily rate of \$200 per horse/rider combination
 - Auditors (space permitting) \$45/day
- Donate \$\$ to Chapters to supplement existing venues
 - AAs have first go at the supplement
 - Budget \$1,200
 - Split between all the Chapters
 - No monetary reimbursement

A more detailed cost and itemization would be submitted to the Executive Board for the concept(s) approved this March meeting. Time frames would be dependent on facility and clinician schedules.
Happy Trails!

Didi DeKrey

denisedekrey@gmail.com

970-222-3104

There was discussion about creating a clinic for Adult Amateurs that meets them exactly where they are at in their riding ("Let's do Dressage!" ie: their level, their mount, etc.)

There was discussion and suggestion that clinics and educational opportunities for Adult Amateurs do not and should not be aimed at card carrying Adult Amateurs, but towards Adult Amateurs as a whole. The idea of doing a Clinic aimed at Equitation/Intro to Dressage was discussed.

a. Adult/Youth Team Competition- June 28

2. Awards

Shannon Lemons

2014 Awards –

1. An error in the way awards are calculated was discovered on the Jablonovsky Award. The requirements were incorrect, with the result that it was awarded to the wrong person. As it is so long after the fact, we will correct the trophy with this year's awards. The program for running reports has been corrected, and I will be contacting the person who should have received the award to let them know. We will also post the correction in the Centaur.

2015 Project –

1. Create a web page on RMDS site to highlight retired trophies in photographs and with lists of their previous winners – this will eliminate the need for maintaining multiple large plaques with trophies that we keep.
2. If anyone has a retired trophy that lists previous winners, please send me a list of the people engraved on the trophy so that I have complete information.

Shannon Lemons

It was suggested that when we acknowledge rider's going to Nationals, the Young Horse participants and owners should also be acknowledged at the Awards Banquet.

3. Communications

Kerry-Louise Boucher

Great success on the Veronica Holt Centaur. A BIG thank you to everyone who submitted a beautiful memory of Veronica. Bev and I had communicated about bringing up the idea of Barn and Trainer Spotlights in the Centaur. Thoughts? We would like to see more classifieds if anyone has some great ideas for increasing/promoting that area.

In light of the Barn and Trainer spotlights for the Omnibus, there was discussion about doing spotlights about specialty barns and programs like therapeutic riding programs in the area.

- a. Centaur Beverly Swanson
- b. Omnibus Nicole Bizzarro
- c. Website Michael Petersen

4. Education

Jon Haugen

Education Report
March 2015

- Jan 10-11 L Program 'B' Session - Bill Solyntjes did a wonderful job of presenting the B Session. We had 23 auditors, and the response to his presentation was very positive. The afternoons were spent at Tomora with wonderful demonstration horses. Thanks to Heather Petersen and Nicole and Natalie for providing the horses and venue.
- Jan 31 L Program CE Freestyles - This fantastic program developed by Terri Ciotto-Gallo was presented by Debbie Riehl-Rodriguez. Highly informative and detailed, this program designed for judges, was also very valuable to exhibitors. The information provided can not only help judges, but also help develop better freestyles for judges to judge. Profit \$825, would like to consider returning the \$200 grant check from the Dressage Foundation, so that money can go to another program that needs it.
- Feb 28 New test clinic - This clinic was wildly successful, and despite the need due to weather, for a last minute change in venue and format, garnered rave reviews from attendees. Heather Petersen spearheaded organization of this clinic and was dynamic in adjusting to the needs for changes. McAlister's provided a fantastic, sponsored lunch for all attendees! There were approximately 90 attendees. Total profit is approximately \$1900.
- Mar 7 Scribing/Scoring, TD/Show Management Clinic - Despite having to adjust the schedule due to poor weather, this was a very well attended clinic, and was a very busy day. Simone Windeler and Heather Petersen presented the scribing and scoring clinic, showing video tests and scribing those tests, attendees got an opportunity to get more comfortable with these important show facets. The

rest of the day was instructed by Heather, who took the task on with zeal. Clinic-goers said that this clinic provided a wealth of information regarding each of the various sections. Profit \$117

- Mar 14-15 - L Program 'C' Session - Will be presented by Debbie Riehl-Rodriguez at the Douglas County Fairgrounds and Iron Horse Farms.
- May and August Colorado Horse Park shows are confirmed now to be continuing with new management for 2015 so the Part 2 of the L program will proceed without issue thankfully.
- Christoph Hess seminar and clinic - we were able to add a third day into the schedule and opened that day to help make the opportunity more available to non professionals. Response to all three days has been quite good with more questions and interest being presented every day. A budget is available on separate sheet. This looks to be a well received event, especially now with the additional day of clinic open to all.

It was discussed presenting Tiffany Goldman and her husband with a Thank You Plaque for supporting RMDS through their generous donation of lunch from McAllister's Deli

a. Final Report on:

- i. "L" Program: B-Jan 10-11
- ii. 2015 Judges' Continuing Education-Jan/31
- iii. 2015 TD/Show management Education-Feb 21
- iv. New Test Clinic Feb-28
- v. Scribing-Scoring Clinic-March 7

b. Upcoming Events:

- i. C-Mar 14-15;
- ii. Instructors' Seminar May 15-16

Christoph Hess Budget

Expenses

Insurance - \$60

USDF University credit - \$25

Christoph Hess Air - \$700

Christoph Hess Daily Fee - \$1000 Euro per day x 1.4 exchange rate x 3 days = \$4200

This is very conservative - current exchange is 1.05 so could be as low as \$3150

Facility Fee - \$200 per day x 3 = \$600

Hotel (2x3) - \$720

Food Sarah/Christoph/Beth - \$300

Boxed Lunches Friday/Saturday - 16 x 2 x 14 = \$448

Copy/printing - \$50

Misc - \$100

Porta Potty - \$125

Total Expenses - \$7328

Conservative Income

8 demo horses Friday/Saturday - \$2000

8 participants Friday/Saturday - \$1400

Anonymous donation - \$1200

Markel Sponsorship - \$300

Professionals RMDS Budget - \$500

8 riders Sunday - \$2000

6 auditors Sunday - \$360
Total - \$7760

General Information:

8 horses Friday/Saturday
8 horses Sunday
Friday/Saturday Demo Horses - \$250
Friday/Saturday Participants - \$175
Sunday Riders - \$250
Sunday Auditors - \$60

iii. D1-May 30/31; D2-Aug1/2; Final-Oct-31-Nov 1

5. Junior/Young Riders

Julie Burt

a. 2015 Clinic Series

If anybody knows of any barns that focus on Junior/Young Riders, or suggestions on who Julie could get in contact with for future Junior/Young Rider events, please let her know!

6. Marketing

Aline Brandau

7. Professional Trainers/Riders Committee

Simone Windeler

Simone is going to work on writing an article for the Centaur about the Christoph Hess Clini

8. Scholarship

MaryJo Hoepner

1. Scholarship checks have been sent

2. Starting to get reports in from recipients.

3. Please remember, for each chapter, start now to encourage folks to plan to apply this fall.

Encourage volunteering. Encourage plans to gather information for the application now.

Please encourage your chapter members to begin volunteering now to meet their requirements for Scholarship Eligibility. It was recommended that we re-run the Centaur Article by Loni Gaudet on How to Write a Good Scholarship Application. Additionally, an article focusing on what the specific scholarships are would be helpful in letting our members know what is available to them.

9. Shows – Championship

Beverly Swanson

Heather is currently working on replacing an ‘S’ Judge for Championships who had to bow out due to a family illness. Another ‘S’ judge was already replaced by an ‘R’ judge who we have successfully used in the past. It is not too early to begin looking for Sponsors!

Appointed Committee Reports:

1. Western Dressage Liaison

Frances Carbonnel

Foothills Chapter is having a WD Clinic on April 12th and there is a WD Clinic at Douglas County Fairgrounds on April 26th. The involvement in Western Dressage continues to grow!

2. Nominating Committee – Chapter Presidents

Olga Hendrickson

Need nominees for 2 years: Vice-President (1 year),
President, Treasurer, Secretary, Awards, Education,
Marketing, Professional

3. Historical Committee-Archives

Pat Leech

Pat has created a spreadsheet listing the RMDS Executive Board from approximately 1980 to present. Currently, Pat is working on scanning three bins full of historical paperwork to document into CD's for historical archiving.

BOG – November 21, 2015

NEED

Heather Petersen continues to work on scouting for locations for the BOG. The Grange in Longmont (where the New Test Clinic was held) is \$300 a day. We are also looking into utilizing the National Western Stock Show facility for holding our BOG, at an estimated \$150 max. Both locations offer us the opportunity to either bring in our own food or break for lunch by visiting local establishments.

4. Banquet – January 16, 2016-Renaissance Denver Hotel

Beth Geier **temporary**

The contract for the Banquet on January 16 has been signed and submitted. Aline Brandau has offered to step up as the Banquet Chair for 2016.

Region 5 Report

Heather Petersen

Fundraising efforts are once under way for the USDF Region 5 Juniors and Young Riders as they try to qualify and travel to the 2015 FEI North American Junior and Young Rider Championships. The Championships will be held July 14-29, 2015 at the Kentucky Horse Park. It is a very large undertaking to take our group of 8 riders to Kentucky with their horses, grooms and Chef d'Equipes and they need all the support we can give them. 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 or our Fundraising Chair, Julie Barringer-Richers at jabr57@gmail.com or 720-341-5033. If you are still interested in participating in the FEI Junior and Young Rider program for 2015, the last intention deadline is April 30th but the less expensive deadline is April 1st, so be sure to get in your intentions soon.

Regional Championship bids for 2016 have been received and we should know soon where the competition will be held. Hope everyone is planning on attending the Regionals in 2015 in Scottsdale, Arizona at WestWorld. It should be a great show hosted by the Arizona Dressage Association! On a similar note, USDF is currently working through the bids received for the 2016-2018 USDF National Championships and we hope to know soon where that competition will be. It will be hopefully moving more west and should offer our region a venue that's a bit closer than Kentucky.

If you are interested in being a delegate to the Board of Governors meeting, please contact our Nominating Council representative and have your name added to the ballot for Participating Delegate. Please contact Scarlett Fahrenson at stgeorg@dakotacom.net and let her know your interest and she can provide you with more details on the potential responsibilities. PM Delegate nominations are due in to the USDF office no later than April 15th.

The FEI World Cup comes back to the United States April 17-19, 2015 in Las Vegas, Nevada. I'm going and I hope to see many of you there! It will be a fantastic opportunity to see some of the best dressage and jumping horses in the world. The World Cup will also return in 2017 to Omaha, Nebraska. This will be a new venue and I'm excited to work there this coming April as an FEI steward when they do the first test event for dressage. It's great to see International dressage coming to the state where the United States Dressage Federation was founded.

Till next month!

Heather Petersen
Region 5 Director

Chapter Presidents:

1. Arkansas Valley

Beth Hart

The club met in January and February to discuss calendar of events for 2015. Both meetings were well attended.

We have a few clinics, a ride-a-test, and schooling show planned for this year. Dates, times and clinician/judges will be posted on our web site and on Facebook.

On January 3rd, the old and new board met and transferred all documents. All paperwork, PO box, bank account, etc. are set for another year. The new address for AVDA is PO Box 823, Penrose, CO 81240.

The March AVDA business meeting is this Saturday the 14th.

Right after we will have a small clinic with JoElyn Newcomb at the ranch. We are working on our groundwork and trailer loading for those who need it.

Most of our horses have been "hanging out" the last couple months and are very fresh. The clinic will help horse and rider once again communicate and start the year off right.

Respectfully submitted,
Beth Hart

2. Boulder Valley

Robin Gay

No report, Proxy to Julie Burt (not present)

3. Colorado Springs

Pat Leech

Congratulations to the CSDA Chapter members who had great success with their horses this competition year.

CSDA held our 2014 Year End Award Banquet on January 10 2015 at the Monument Hill (Woodmoor) Country Club. We celebrated 35 years of our providing an awards program to our membership, their friends and family for their accomplishments in 2014.

The board is working toward providing educational opportunities for our membership with video presentations during our regular meetings. These videos include the Gymnastic series with Leslie Webb and the current On the Level DVD's from USDF.

We are also looking forward to our first annual swap and sale event on March 28 at Pine Run Ranch where we will provide the local equine community with the opportunity to sell or trade their no longer needed tack for items that they may need in the coming show season or for their new horse.

We are also confirming the dates, venue and clinician for a Ride-A-Test to be held later this year that will clinic focus on the new tests.

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.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Leech

CSDA President

4. Foothills

Kris Cooper

We began the year soliciting interviews from our membership. The input/ideas of those who volunteered to be included are summarized below:

1. It is a lot more difficult for a new person to become involved with dressage than it used to be.
 - a. The cost of showing and preparing for shows is beyond the means of the average person.
 - b. Onlookers associate dressage with stress and formality.
 - c. "Dressage used to be fun."
2. We need pathways to interest more people in dressage and to keep them involved.
3. Dressage doesn't exclusively mean showing to everyone. Dressage means training.
4. We need events that are inclusive and fun.
5. We need to encourage more people to join our chapter and hence RMDS.

As a result of these discussions four new events are planned for 2015:

1. A western dressage clinic with Frances Carbonnel will be held on Sunday, April 12. This clinic is sponsored by our chapter and sanctioned by the Western Dressage Association of Colorado.
 - a. The purpose of this clinic is to expose people to dressage who might otherwise be turned off by the perceived artificial and formal nature of dressage.
 - b. Correct dressage training is beneficial to all horses.
 - c. Western dressage serves as an alternative to training methods that might otherwise be detrimental to the horse's physical and psychological wellbeing.
 - d. We hope to convert new people to traditional dressage (and RMDS) through western dressage.
 - e. Western dressage also serves as a new show venue for current dressage trainers and riders.
 - f. The Foothills Chapter's geographical area will be home to at least four shows this year that feature western dressage classes.
2. A Show Preparation workshop will be held on April 20.
 - a. We hope to introduce new people to showing and to make showing sound fun.
 - b. We will also encourage new people to become volunteers at our shows.
 - c. A Ride-A-Test Clinic with KC Parkins-Kyle will be held May 3 at Table Mountain Ranch.
3. A schooling show on June 7 will culminate our above efforts. Stephanie Soule will judge. We hope to provide mentors for anyone new to showing who does not already have a trainer/coach. We will also provide low-key opportunities for those new to volunteering..
4. Our traditional fall Last Chance RMDS show will be held on September 6 at A Rising Star Equestrian Center.

We hope to have an end-of-the-year celebration which honors traditional show achievements and volunteer contributions, also Foothills events participation and all kinds of personal accomplishments of our members. We want to celebrate the success of everyone!

If anyone reading this wants to help in any way, please let me know.

Kris Cooper
President, Foothills Chapter
303-847-9862
kris@anchoragefarm.com

5. Grand Valley

Arlene Rhodes

Not present, proxy to Didi Dekrey

In February we held a Western Dressage focused horse-less clinic with Frances Carbonnel which was well received with over 40 attendees. We expect to see our show entries for Western Dressage expand this year as further clinics with this focus are being planned.

We have a new local Pilates instructor, Caren Vogt, who is also an equestrian. She opened her studio recently in Grand Junction. We held our February meeting at her facility which was well attended by our members. She did a great presentation on the benefits of Pilates for dressage and mentioned she hopes to have horse and rider Pilates workshop later this year.

Future GVDS events include a demonstration by Jennifer Weber-Quigley on April 4th where she will highlight the training she obtained from her 2014 National Dressage Foundation scholarship.

During our first schooling show this year on May 2nd and 3rd we will be adding some new classes to encourage entries. We will offer our first Prix Caprilli classes, and we also hope to work out a plan with the local Pony Club (also holding their show in the other covered arena at the Mesa County Fairgrounds Complex) to offer the dressage tests for their Combined Training entries in their show. With these innovative classes, plus the great weather we've had all winter, we expect a full schooling show!

6. High Plains

Olga Hendrickson

No report, not present, no proxy

7. Northern Colorado

Renee Martig

Renee would like to mention that the latest updates for Northern Colorado were included in the most recent Centaur, and there have been no updates since then.

8. On The Bit

Jessica Ford

No report, not present, no proxy

9. Pikes Peak

Susan Borders

Our chapter meeting location is now at the Olive Garden Restaurant, Citadel Mall, Colorado Springs, Colorado, on the FIRST Tuesday of every month.

Unfortunately, our March chapter meeting presentation by equine dentist Birgit Burglechner was cancelled due to a last minute personal emergency, however, our busy calendar continues with upcoming events –

Ready, Set, Show!!

March 28th, Hidden Creek Equestrian Center, Falcon, Colorado 1pm – Information and demonstrations including preparing entries, tack and warm-up etiquette, braiding and grooming.

Pikes Peak Dressage Society RMDS Show- April 11th, Kaimana Farm, Elizabeth, Colorado.

At our next chapter meeting on April 7th we will finalise plans for the RMDS show on April 11th

Susan Borders, President, Pikes Peak Chapter

10. Platte River

No report, not present, no proxy

Laura Speer

11. Wasatch Mountains

No report, proxy to Heather Petersen

Sally Shaffer

12. Western Colorado

No report, proxy to Simone Windeler

Barbara Terry

Mary Jo Hoepner motioned to accept the Chapter Reports as submitted, Beth Hart seconded and all were in favor.

Nina Felsenthal motioned we adjourn the meeting, Renee Martig seconded, and all were in favor. Gwen Ka'awaloa adjourned the meeting at 7:26pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Nina Felsenthal
RMDS Secretary

Next Executive Board Meetings (2nd Thursday odd months) –
2015: May 14 July 7 (Tuesday) September 10 Oct 8-Budget Nov 21 BOG
2015: Jan 16-Banquet