

**RMDS EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**January 14, 2017**

**Darcy's Bistro & Irish Pub – 303-770-0477**

**4955 S Ulster St #103**

**Denver, CO 80237**

The room is reserved beginning at 6:00 pm

(See directions at end of agenda)

**@ 6:30 PM**

**Attendance:** Gwen Ka'awaloa, Beth Geier, Heather Petersen, MaryJo Hoepner, Tiffany Busch, Cassandra Dipentino, Nicole Bizzarro, Sharon Soos, Una Schade, Patricia Leech, Sarah Dodge, Beverly Swanson, Kathy Simard, Michelle Stevens, Anclaire Spaulding, Andrea Chirich, Didi DeKrey (7:15pm)

**Proxies:** Joan Clay to Heather Petersen; Sandra Rosewell to Nicole Bizzarro; Arlene Rhodes to Didi DeKrey; Simone Windeler to Heather Petersen; Barbara Graham Terry to Nicole Bizzarro; Ginka Kubelka to Heather Petersen; Beth Hart to Didi DeKrey; Kristann Cooper to Cassandra Dipentino; Michelle Anderson to Gwen Ka'awaloa

**Guests:** Mark Gilbert

**Call to Order-President**

**Gwen Ka'awaloa**

**Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm**

**President Report**

**Gwen Ka'awaloa**

This is the first meeting with our Executive Board and I want to welcome our new team. We have a busy year ahead with Education and Shows.

RMDS is now a working partner with the Colorado Horse Park. We will work together on Clinics and Shows.

USDF has a new program, the National Education Initiative. This program will help smaller GMO's and Chapters of GMO's to hold educational programs to benefit their members. With guidelines and grants to help with costs.

Tonight we will review the Scholarship Committees applicants and vote to help a few members to move forward with their horses and their own education.

We need to go over the Freestyle Extravaganza and whether or not we can get it done this year or move it to 2018.

Our show schedule is evolving as we have lost some shows and others are moving. We have new shows as well. Adult Amateur clinics and JR/YR clinics are in the works. CHP and RMDS are holding a MEGA clinic in May. Details are still in the works but mark your Calendars from May 20 to 24<sup>th</sup>. Our Professionals clinic will be the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> at CHP.

We need to start now to get donations and sponsorships for our Championship Show. I am hoping that all our Chapters will get on board with our Marketing Chairperson to make our Show a success.

Let's get started and let's make 2017 a success for all our members.

**Introductions of the board and folks present.**

**Secretary -Approval of Minutes**

**Heather Petersen**

**Una Schade moved to approve the minutes from September 2016, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Nicole Bizzarro. Motion passed unanimously.**

**MaryJo Hoepner moved to approve the minutes from the October 2016 budget meeting, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sharon Soos. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Treasurers Report**

**Sharon Soos**

Funds as of December 31, 2016	
RMDS Checking Account	\$46,800.40
RMDS Paypal	\$ 5,480.27
RMDS Scholarship	\$ 6,555.63
<u>Wells Fargo Money Market</u>	<u>\$44,085.67</u>
TOTAL	\$102,921.97

**Vice President Report**

**Joan Clay**

No Report

**Central Office**

**Beth Geier**

**Membership**

- Registration – 317 as of 1/1 members for 2017; 8 new horses since October, 2016
- See reports with chapter membership totals.
- Accepting dues for 2017: \$65.00

**Shows:**

- For 2017: RMDS recognized shows: are USEF/USDF recognized and RMDS only shows
- Just added recognition for Santa Fe (July 22-23) and Arizona (Jan 21-22; March 18-19, Nov 18, 19)
- 6 RMDS only shows, 39 USDF/USEF shows – total of 45 shows without the cancelled Somerset shows. Maybe 46 if PPDS does a show in April.

**Omnibus:**

See Nicole Bizzarro's report

**General:**

- Chapters receive free email blasts for educational purposes.
- RMDS Executive Board members get ½ price admission to RMDS events as auditors only.

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

**2016 Awards Banquet:** January 16 (Saturday)

**2017:**

**Executive Board Meetings:**

Jan 12    March 9            May 11    July 13            August 29 (Tuesday)

Oct 12-Budget    Nov 4 BOG (Saturday)

**2017 Championships:** September 14-17 Colorado Horse Park

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

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002
Members:	313	756	750	741	827	797	868	897	945	1030	1008	1036	1019	1151	1177	1162
Horses:	8	93	59	63	59	135	123	132	132	166	246	262	234	207	337	274
AV	15	25	29	26	27	25	27	24	15	26	12	-	-	-	-	-
BV	70	182	168	171	180	182	190	200	188	205	172	178	179	199	208	230
CS	9	24	35	47	52	63	115	124	115	127	126	143	130	137	155	134
FH	23	73	79	76	64	65	71	72	75	76	77	74	73	109	103	115
GV	46	95	71	55	71	53	65	83	87	105	102	88	92	93	98	77
HP	53	149	156	151	176	190	208	226	256	265	260	259	251	267	283	278
NC	31	77	77	89	94	93	110	132	107	124	137	137	139	162	151	150
OB	20	43	42	33	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PP	37	63	70	63	62	44	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WC	9	22	18	19	23	27	31	22	21	25	25	32	34	44	55	64
No Chapter		3	5	11	12	13	15	14	25	14	16	22	21	34	36	24
PN								Dissolved	inactive	12	13	13	14	15	14	13
PR		6/30/16	10	11	18	14	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TS								Dissolved	36	51	68	90	86	91	74	77
WA		Dissolved	19	21	26	28	24	24	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>313</b>	<b>756</b>	<b>779</b>	<b>741</b>	<b>801</b>	<b>755</b>	<b>832</b>	<b>897</b>	<b>925</b>	<b>1030</b>	<b>1008</b>	<b>1036</b>	<b>1019</b>	<b>1151</b>	<b>1177</b>	<b>1162</b>
Juniors	14	86	88	95	120	117	120	134								
Amateurs	69	163	152	176	209	220	239	230								
Education	11	17	16													

**RMDS - OFFICERS 2017 - D & O Insurance**

Chapter	Title	Name
Arkansas Valley	President	Beth Hart
	VP	Nancy Leonard
	Treasurer	Candace Bridgers
	Secretary	Renee McMillen
Boulder Valley	President	Sandra Rosewell
	VP	Kristi Cooper-Camp
	Treasurer	Beth Geier
Colorado Springs	Secretary	Stan Adamson
	President	Pat Leech
	VP	
Foothills	Treasurer	CiCi Lee
	Secretary	
	President	Kris Cooper
Grand Valley	VP	CC Ross
	Treasurer	Laura Quakenbusch
	Secretary	Nicole Riffe
	President	Arlene Rhodes
High Plains	VP	Pat White
	Treasurer	Susan Gregg
	Secretary	Deb Crooks
Northern Colo	President	Kathy Simard
	VP	Suzie Halle
	Treasurer	Stephanie Figgins
	Secretary	Lori Keilt
	President	Denise "Didi" DeKrey

	VP	Rosemary Balfour
	Treasurer	Karla Lauritsen
	Secretary	Jacki Rosellen
On the Bit Dressage	President	Ginka Kubelka
	VP	Kelly Wolfe
	Treasurer	Tom Wolfe
	Secretary	Anna Chalfoun
Pikes Peak Dressage	President	Tiffany Busch
	VP	Mary Jo Hoepner
	Treasurer	Michelle Anderson
	Secretary	Heather Petersen
Western Colo	President	Barbara Graham Terry
	VP	Sue Pietrzak
	Treasurer	Justina Potter
	Secretary	Barbara McElnea

**MaryJo Hoepner made a motion to approve the chapter officers as presented for our D&O insurance, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sharon Soos. Motion passed unanimously.**

#### **2016 Awards Banquet Report**

January 14, 2017, Renaissance Hotel – 3801 Quebec Street – Denver, CO

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

Reservations are a must – no late reservations.

Any questions, please contact Beth Geier – 2942 Park Lake Drive – Boulder, CO 720-890-7825  
[rmds@indra.com](mailto:rmds@indra.com)

Beth Geier

Banquet Chairman for 2017”

The above message has been sent out many times. Unfortunately, there were several people that wanted rooms and had not made them by the cut-off date so no rooms were available.

At the moment we have 149 people coming, great attendance.

**Una Schade** has been putting together the silent auction and doing a fabulous job. Her helper is **Abigail Cane**. **Shannon Lemons** has put together all the awards and **Heather Petersen** has done the video portion. A great group to work with - thank you so much for all the help!!

A wonderful time will be had by all!!

We did purchase a projector in December since it is needed for many events and cheaper than constantly renting one from various venues.

**Permanent Committee Reports:**

**Adult Amateur**

**Anclaire Spaulding / Michelle Stevens**

Anclaire and Michelle are planning to hold a “Get Ready for Championships- Ride-a-Test” Clinic. The date is tentatively scheduled for August 26<sup>th</sup> and we are working diligently to book a judge and venue. Anclaire and Michelle plan to apply for a new educational grant program that USDF is offering clubs which will make this event (and possibly others) a USDF sponsored event. Suggested date from several board members of Labor Weekend – Kristi Wysocki is available. This moves the event off of another RMDS recognized show on August 26<sup>th</sup>.

In addition, Anclaire and Michelle have been brain-storming for other ideas – i.e. wine-and-yoga-stretch party in the evening during one of the major shows at CHP.

Any and all suggestions welcome on how we can help make 2017 the best year for RMDS yet!

**USDF Team Competition**

July 8<sup>th</sup> at Table Mountain Ranch – Simone Ahern and Simone Windeler are the judges.

Event Budget worksheet

<b>USDF Region 5 Adult/Youth Team Competition</b>	7/8/2017
Table Mountain Ranch-19000 W. 58th Ave - Golden, CO 80403	
Prepared by: Beth Geier	Date Prepared:

<b>Income</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Actual</b>
Participants 25 @ \$60.00	\$ 1,500.00	
Auditors	\$ -	
Donations		
Grants		
Sponsors		
Other Income (List)		
<b>Total Income</b>	\$ 1,500.00	
<b>Expenses</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Actual</b>
Judge(s) 2 @ \$275	\$ (550.00)	
Facility Rental	\$ (400.00)	
Insurance	\$ (75.00)	
Per Diem or Meals	\$ (100.00)	
Photocopying	\$ (20.00)	
Port-A-Potty	\$ (120.00)	
Postage		
Supplies		
Travel		
USDF Credit		
Facility Crew	\$ (150.00)	
<b>Total Expenses</b>	\$ (1,415.00)	
<b>Net Profit / Loss</b>	\$ 85.00	

Discussion that the expense of \$120 port-a-potty and \$150 for facility crew may be deleted.

## 2. Awards

**Shannon Lemons**

Shannon is getting ready for the banquet. Report on this past year and the banquet will come at the March meeting.

## 3. Communications

**Beverly Swanson**

### 2017

- Increase membership
- Increase attendance at RMDS and Chapter sponsored events
- Communicate clearly and often about volunteering and scholarship opportunities
- Offer increased visibility to our professionals
- Work in concert with marketing to reach out to sponsors
- Work with chapters to help publicize their events
- Keep website up-to-date with events, forms, etc.
- Funnel **ALL** Communication and Centaur emails to: [centaurpublisher@gmail.com](mailto:centaurpublisher@gmail.com)
- Schedule a series of 1-2 question surveys on various topics - again, anyone who would like to suggest topics or questions, please just email me. Quick and easy!

I plan to use MailChimp extensively for our communications, and would ask that you email me anytime if you need assistance with an RMDS event or show.

### **Centaur**

The printed Centaur depends heavily on articles from members. I will be asking for contributions from members ahead of clinics (e.g. Lars Petersen), personal stories, professional tips and tricks, and general interest. And ALWAYS send pictures! Please remember that contributing to the Centaur earns 2 volunteer hours.

We always need more advertisers, esp for the print Centaur. Again, working with marketing, while we reach out for additional sponsors, we will also be soliciting ads. Think outside the box here, folks! Horse people use a lot of products and services related to our health, our barns and our property, not just directly for our horses. Pricing is reasonable, and advertisers have a targeted demographic like no other. The e-Centaur will have in-line click-thru advertising at a larger size for more results.

The e-Centaur will be primarily event-based, i.e. keeping members informed of upcoming events, shows, clinics, and other timely RMDS announcements. This will also be where photo-stories will be featured (e.g. Team Competition). PLEASE forward the e-Centaur on to non-members and possible advertisers that you know. We will add non-members to (just) the e-Centaur list, with the goal of building our marketing lists.

Beth asked if we could do a paragraph or two with a link to the rest of the article. Beverly says this is definitely something we can do. New ad design has been well received.

The January Centaur is out, with a slightly redesigned masthead. Current design plans are to feature article and event headlines with teasers on the cover page, similar to a magazine. The rest of the format will remain, with all the boilerplate kept in the same positions (calendar, officers, prez message, chapter reports, etc.).

I look forward to serving RMDS as Communications Chair in 2017, and once again thank Linda Gaber for the superb job she has done for RMDS in the past few years.

I plan to be in contact with everyone on a regular basis, so DON'T BLOW OFF MY EMAILS! LOL!

Brought up that CHP is giving us a booth space for marketing and sponsorship during the CHP Educational Symposium.

Extra copies of the Centaur will be needed for March (Expo) and May (CHP) – approximately 50 each event.

**Omnibus**

Nicole Bizzarro

**2017 Specifications**

<b>P R I N T E R</b>	JAZ Print and Promo/Jen Zawistoski — All digital printing
<b>Q U A N T I T Y</b>	Internal Binder Pages: 700 sets of 285 pages – 5.5" x 8.5" Last Page Folded Form: 700 – 11" x 8.5" folded to 5.5" x 8.5" Blank Sheet: 700 – 5.5" x 8.5" Bank Tabs: 700 sets of 6 – 6" x 8.5" Catalog Envelopes: 400 - qty for mailing (may change slightly) – 7.5" x 10.5" Catalog 2-Color Covers: none needed – 5.5" x 8.5"
<b>S T O C K</b>	Internal Binder Pages: 60# White Offset Last Page Folded Form: 60# White Offset Blank Sheet: 60# Natural Offset Bank Tabs: 110# Index Offset Catalog Envelopes: 28# White Wove Catalog 2-Color Covers: 110# Index Offset
<b>I N K</b>	Internal Binder Pages: Black only - 2 sides (EXCEPT PAGES IN FULL COLOR) Last Page Folded Form: Black only - 2 sides Blank Sheet: No Printing Bank Tabs: CMYK - 2 sides Catalog Envelopes: Black only - 1 side Catalog Covers: 2-Color 1 PMS plus black
<b>P R O O F S</b>	PDF and Laserprinted Proofs
<b>B I N D E R Y</b>	Collate all pages, Fold Form, 3-hole drill and band in sets: 700 Qty Address sort, inkjet onto envelopes, drop at USPS: Qty TBD
<b>C O S T S</b>	700 sets each All Internal Pages plus Tabs includes collate, drill. Only stuff and mail envelopes that you have a mailing label for remaining sets and envelopes can be delivered to the central office separately. (RMDS Endicia Used - no postage included) Note: Remaining Sets will be banded, boxed and delivered in bulk to RMDS, but are not to be stuffed in envelopes. No covers printed this year. Does not include postage.

Omnibus 2017 to printer Jan. 5

Omnibus 2016 to printer Jan. 11

Omnibus 2015 to printer Jan. 4

Omnibus 2014 to printer Jan. 10  
Omnibus 2013 to printer Jan. 6  
Omnibus 2017 printing and finish work \$6,790  
Omnibus 2016 printing and finish work \$6,940  
Omnibus 2015 printing and finish work \$6,824  
Omnibus 2014 printing and finish work \$6,055  
Omnibus 2013 printing and finish work \$5,783  
Omnibus 2017 no. of pages 285  
Omnibus 2016 no. of pages 277  
Omnibus 2015 no. of pages 259  
Omnibus 2014 no. of pages 230  
Omnibus 2013 no. of pages 240  
Omnibus 2017 no. of Advertisers 58  
Omnibus 2016 no. of Advertisers 52  
Omnibus 2015 no. of Advertisers 51  
Omnibus 2014 no. of Advertisers 53  
Omnibus 2013 no. of Advertisers 60  
Omnibus 2017 no. of hours 83.75  
Omnibus 2016 no. of hours 78.25  
Omnibus 2015 no. of hours 86.50  
Omnibus 2014 no. of hours 84.75  
Omnibus 2013 no. of hours 100.5

**Website**

Michael Petersen

It's running?  
He's been very responsive to all requests.  
Blog needs to be updated.

**4. Education**

**MaryJo Hoepner/Michelle Anderson**

**2017 "L" Continuing Education & Musical Freestyle Certification**

I have 3 more checks to give to Beth and have been contacted by 3 other people asking to audit. Right now we're still running at a loss but I know there are several L grads who need to attend this year to remain eligible to judge RMDS shows and they haven't registered yet. Have a total 5 registered, 1 more on the way and a few more potentials.

We need to do another email blast.

I'll need to get the projector after the awards banquet. Since Gwen is likely heading to an airport hotel and out of town the next day it might be best if Heather takes it home with you and I can get it at the PPDS meeting next week.

**2017 RMDS TD Continuing Education**

Feb 4, 2017 with Laurie McTavish for TD portion  
Heather for show management.  
Location – Douglas County Extension Office



1 person signed up for show management piece so far. Encourage more people to participate in this program and learn about the different jobs.

### 2017 “L” Group Sit Time

Michelle is working to organize it for the Sunday of Dressage in the Rockies.

Gwen is looking for scribes for Friday/Saturday of Dressage in the Rockies for an “R” sit program. Small salary and meals provided. Scribing experience needed.

### 5. Junior/Young Riders

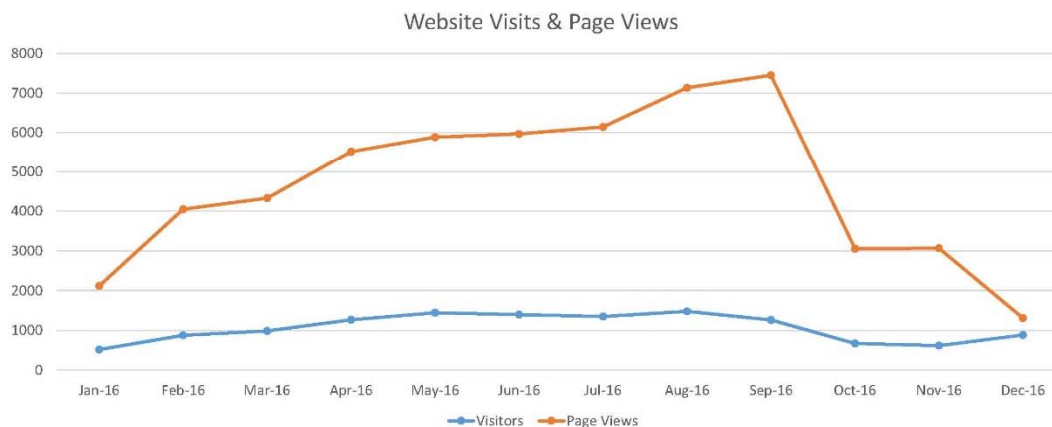
**Cassandra Dipentino**

After surveying my students and their parents regarding the interest in a “horse-less” clinic I have decided to not move forward with it. Not enough interest. I would like to focus on reintroducing the “summer camp” idea. I am thinking that the week or few days prior to the Team Competition would be perfect so that they can use what they learn towards a team to compete at a real show. It would also support the team competition. I am open to ideas as always. Could use the camp as a goal for the end of the camp. Kathy Simard is going to help Cassandra.

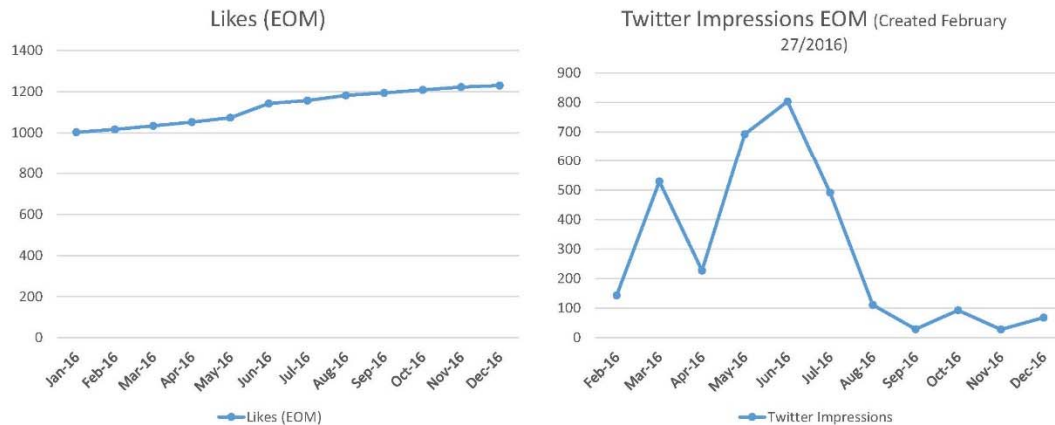
### 6. Marketing

**Una Schade**

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



# Social



## Other Notes:

I've been working hard to get Silent Auction donors as well as RMDS members to register for the banquet. Many of our trainers have donated lessons, a few members have donated items, some local small equine businesses have donated items, and more. Auction for Banquet – Sharon wants us to beat \$2600 from last year 😊

Discussion of posting articles from the Centaur print issues out in social media a little bit more. Una and Beverly will try to look at ways.

## Fundraising Opportunity:

From GroupRaise.org - In the months of January, February, & March Rocky Mountain Dressage Society RMDS can host fundraisers at Royal Clay Oven, Protein Bar, and Jason's Deli and they will donate back 15 - 40% of sales to your organization.

Rocky Mountain Dressage Society RMDS is invited to choose up to 5 dates for this Spring (if you need more let us know).

All you do is view restaurant locations giving back, choose the dates of your fundraisers and make a request online in less than 5 minutes.

[View Restaurants Near Rocky Mountain Dressage Society RMDS Giving Back](#)

I really hope this opportunity helps Rocky Mountain Dressage Society RMDS in fundraising and you have fun in the process!

Lars Petersen is set for the Colorado Horse Park – Indoor arena for Thursday/Friday, open clinic outside Saturday/Sunday. Auditing for the weekend will be packaged into their clinics. We will handle the fees for Thursday/Friday.

Discussion of the set-up of the symposium at the Horse Park, our part in it, the responsibility.

## **8. Scholarship**

**MaryJo Hoepner**

Applications for 2017 season received. Meeting to discuss the results is January 10. Results of summary will be presented at the January 12 Board meeting. The board will vote on the recipients.

A member had questions regarding how funds may be used. This will be discussed at the Board meeting.

Approval of Scholarship applications – discussion of the review process for those who are new to the board.

**Kathy Simard moved we approve \$600 for applicant #2 for the Solid Seat and applicant #3 for the Open Door Scholarships. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Cassandra Dipentino. Sarah Dodge called to question after discussion. Motion passed unanimously with MaryJo, Heather and Beverly abstaining and their proxies.**

#2 for Solid Seat was Shannon Lemons and #3 for Open Door was Jennifer Weber.

## **9. Shows – Championship**

**Andrea Chirich / Una Schade**

Sarah is going to do the trainers' dinner again on Friday evening. Andrea and Una will work on other events, advertising, marketing and such.

Heather talked about facility set up, layout, details of pricing and cost. Gwen asked every board member to help raise sponsorship. Una, Andrea, Beverly and Heather will review sponsorship packets.

## **Appointed Committee Reports:**

### **1. Western Dressage Liaison**

**Simone Windeler**

No report

Mark visited from western dressage. Recommends WDACO approval to help attract the riders. Cassandra suggested an awards program, but our L graduates are not required to have western dressage education. Discussion of the requirements of the shows, awards programs, western dressage vs. english dressage.

### **2. Nominating Committee – Chapter Presidents**

**Someone Needed**

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

Gwen asked for volunteers – Tiffany Busch will do it.

### **3. Historical Committee-Archives**

**Pat Leech**

Pat Leech resigned this evening from chairing the committee. Beth has all of the archives from Pat. Beth is going to send out an email to the organization to see if anyone in the organization is interested.

**4. BOG – November 4, 2017****Heather Petersen**

Have contacted National Western to reserve the facility for the date needed.

**5. Banquet – January 13, 2018-Renaissance Denver Hotel****Beth Geier**

Beth will check with them and get it reserved.

**Region 5 Report****Heather Petersen**

I hope everyone had a great Holiday season! We had a great week at the USDF Convention in St Louis, Missouri in December. Many thanks to those of you who joined us and there were a lot of you. We had great interaction and discussions at the Region 5 meetings and a couple of very nice tables for the awards dinner. I was so happy to have my daughter join me for a couple of days for her first USDF convention.

The USDF Convention is always a great chance for networking, catching up with old friends and participating in the governance of our great sport. Our regional meetings went well and a lot of information was exchanged, including the discussion of a possible western venue for the US Dressage Finals which will be visited soon to check on feasibility.

There were some nice restaurants in the area and we were a block from the Arch. It was a lovely park, but we were sad that the tram to the top was closed.

Some key things to come out of the convention this year:

- We will continue the \$200 reimbursement grant for those attending the USDF Convention as USDF Region 5 PM Delegates for the 2017 USDF Convention in Lexington.
- The Board of Governors approved a dues increase for all membership categories except Group Membership.
- The budget was presented as balanced after the dues increase passed and was approved. The finances of USDF in the future were very dependent on the dues increase and it will help us stay positive and provide for the ability to grow.
- PM membership is up. GMO member is down a little but overall USDF membership is doing very well.
- USDF National Championships continue to be very well received and more rave reviews this year.
- Thank you very much for re-electing me as your regional director!

**Old Business:**

- Freestyle competition – struggling to get a date at National Western. Tabling for 2017. Heather will start working on 2018 dates with National Western.

**New Business:**

- USDF Education initiative was discussed by Gwen – new grant program from USDF – approximately \$3000 per year will be offered per region per year.

- Anclaire would like to propose that RMDS use Venmo – payment system. No fees involved for the organization. Subsidiary of Paypal. Will bring more information to next meeting.

**Chapter Presidents:**

**MaryJo Hoepner Moved to approve all chapter reports as submitted. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Nicole Bizzarro. Motion passes unanimously.**

**1. Arkansas Valley**  
No report

**Beth Hart**

**2. Boulder Valley**  
No report

**Sandra Rosewell**

**3. Colorado Springs**  
**No Report -**

**Pat Leech**

**4. Foothills**

**Kris Cooper**

Plans for 2017 include RMDS shows scheduled for Table Mountain Ranch on June 11 and August 27, a Ride A Test clinic and a western dressage/long lining clinic.

Our next chapter meeting Monday, January 30, at Tuscany Tavern in Evergreen. We will award our first western dressage high-point trophy at this meeting

2017 Foothills Officers

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

CC Ross Vice President

Nicole Riffe Secretary

Laura Quakenbush Treasurer

Marilou Metcalf Scholarship

Cassandra DiPentino Education

Linda Gaber Shows

**5. Grand Valley**

**Arlene Rhodes**

Our Officers for 2017 remain the same as for last year:

Arlene Rhodes - President

Pat White - Vice President

Susan Gregg - Treasurer

Deb Crooks - Secretary

Ann Shoftstall is our new Volunteer Coordinator and Judi Devore and Jennifer Weber will be working on some activities for youth.

We ended the year with a well-attended Awards/Christmas party. We gave away more awards this year than in several years prior - interest in showing is growing!! We had several Freestyle awards in different categories- Western, traditional and Pas De Deux. Our informal silent auction raised over \$350 which will go towards our clinic and future awards.

We don't have meetings again till the spring so the club doesn't have much else to report. We've had some interest in members doing an Intro Freestyle so we have made copies of a scoring sheet

we found on the internet for them to use in our schooling shows.

## **6. High Plains**

**Katherine Simard**

High Plains will have just had their first meeting of 2017 on the Tuesday before this meeting. We will be putting the final touches on our 2017 Youth Clinic! Julie Burt and Kathy Simard are our clinicians. Westmanton Stables is kindly offering Iron Horse Farms. The date will be February 26, 2017 with a snow date of March 5<sup>th</sup>. We are hoping to see a lot of smiling horse loving faces there! I'm sure we will come together with a lot of ideas for 2017, but we need to have a meeting first!

## **7. Northern Colorado**

**Didi Dekrey**

NCDCA 2017 Board: President – Didi DeKrey, Vice President – Rose Balfour, Treasurer – Karla Lauritsen, Secretary – Jacki Rosellen

Our Christmas Party was hosted once again by Shelley and Jake Jansen at their lovely home in east Fort Collins. Italian fare from a local restaurant supplemented by pot luck goodies filled the air with enticing aromas. Laughter and lively conversations about (what else?) our equine antics spilled out from the walls into the crisp night.

Some highlights – besides all the wonderful food, spirits and people – topped the evening.

The traveling Trophies for year-end awards were presented to the three NCDCA members with the highest points garnered from the qualifying series:

- Award of Distinction went to Ms. Whitney Haugen and Deja Bleau
- Reserve Champion is Ms. Julie Haugen and Classic Royal Pride
- Champion is Ms. Kathleen Kilkelly and Most Wanted

Last year's winners were given a framed photo of them, their horse and the trophy to keep as mementos.

Gifts of Silver Pony ornaments were presented to our nominated Volunteer of the Year, Ms. Margie Mathews and retiring NCDCA Secretary Ms. Kathleen Kilkelly.

Our own Joan Clay was active in the RMDS world by representing us all as a Delegate at the USDF Convention in and in the coming year continuing in the role of Vice President for RMDS.

Other members hit the show circuit, some qualifying for year-end awards, or just enjoyed clinics, trail riding and their horses in general!

Plans for 2017 events include presentation at the January meeting by Dr Dora Ferris, DVM on equine sports medicine, continuation of a series in Centered Riding by Ms. Andrea Chirich, our schooling shows, and other fun and informative events.

## **8. On The Bit**

**Ginka Kubelka**

We ended 2016 joyfully with a Christmas party. Even though several members were not able to attend due to a heavy snowstorm that evening, we had plenty of delicious food, fun games, a raffle, and a great time together!

The New Year will bring new officers to our club; only Kelly Wolfe remained as the vice president. Ginka Kubelka will take over the position of president (thank you, Jessica Ford, for a great job over the last 4 years!), Anna Chalfoun will be the new secretary, and Tom Wolfe the new treasurer. By adding several chair positions we are assuring that planned events will be successful and we will keep our former officers actively involved! Jessica Ford will be the Show Chair, Connie Woodruff will be in charge of organizing clinics as the Clinic Chair, and Stephanie Gies will continue to do a wonderful job of keeping everyone informed about important and interesting events as our Communications Chair.

We feel like we are well prepared to start into a year full of educational events, clinics, and a schooling show in July at a great new facility in Laramie.

#### **9. Pikes Peak**

**Tiffany Busch**

We had a busy 2016 with a few bumps in the road due to weather and officer resignations, but found more stability later in the year and are hoping that continues into 2017!

Our annual RMDS recognized show at Kaimana Farm in April was cancelled due to a blizzard – one of THREE we had that month so it was fortunate we didn't try to reschedule immediately. That show was finally held at Shiloh Ranch on October 15 and we are so grateful to Melody, the ranch staff and all of our volunteers for their work to make that show a success.

We do plan an RMDS show for April 2017 but have not yet finalized a location or officials.

Our Communications Chair was forced to resign for personal reasons but Bev Swanson kindly stepped in to fill that void. Then our Education Chair moved out of state for a new job opportunity and Judy Carnick has very ably stepped into that void.

Heather Petersen hosted a small but enthusiastic clinic with Sharon Schneidman on August 13 at her farm in Elbert. It was great fun to watch the improvement in each partnership during their session.

Our October meeting included a wonderful Pilates session with our own Sharon Meazell, a certified Pilates instructor. She provided exercises for both those actively in the saddle and members recovering from injuries that temporarily limit their abilities. We hope to repeat this event for more members in 2017.

Finally we plan an evening at Bingo's Saddlery next week, combining our election of 2017 officers and our holiday party and sharing of homemade horse treats.

For the most current information on our chapter activities visit our website at

<http://pikespeakdressage.org/Main/Home>.

#### **10. Western Colorado**

**Barbara Terry**

No report

**Una Schade moved to adjourn, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tiffany Busch. Motion passed unanimously.**

Meeting adjourned 9:16 pm

Respectfully submitted,  
Heather Petersen  
Secretary