

## RMDS EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

July 13, 2017

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

4955 S Ulster St #103

Denver, CO 80237

The room is reserved beginning at 6pm

@ 6:30 PM

**Attendance:** Joan Clay, Beth Geier, Heather Petersen, Cassandra Dipentino, Simone Windeler, Andrea Chirich, Beverly Swanson, Michelle Anderson, Sharon Soos, Gaye Barrett, Aline Brandau, Sara Reega, Didi DeKrey, Kathy Simard, Anclair Spaulding

**Proxies:** Arlene Rhodes to Didi DeKrey; Gwen Ka'awaloa to Joan Clay; Una Schade to Andrea Chirich; Anclaire Spaulding to Cassandra Dipentino; Kris Cooper to Cassandra Dipentino; Barbara Graham Terry to Heather Petersen; MaryJo Hoepner to Michelle Anderson; Tiffany Busch to Heather Petersen; Sandra Rosewell to Heather Petersen; Ginka Kubelka

### Guests:

#### Call to Order-President

Joan Clay

Meeting called to order at 6:38 pm

#### Introductions

Secretary - Approval of Minutes - May meeting

Heather Petersen

*Sharon Soos made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. 2nd by Michelle Anderson. Motion passed unanimously.*

#### Treasurers Report

Sharon Soos

Funds as of June 30, 2017

RMDS Checking Account	\$32,062.31
RMDS Paypal (as pf 6/19/17)	\$11,166.28
RMDS Scholarship	\$ 6,560.63
Money Market	\$43,963.99
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$93,753.21</b>

- On P&L under education – we have moved the trainers' seminar out of instructors, etc. Will probably change the title so it's more comparable and consistent.
- Working to get the new computer, printer and Microsoft Office Pro as well with Michael.
- Looking at getting rid of the money market account to move it to a savings account. The fees are not covering the interest we make – losing money overall.

#### President Report

Gwen Ka'awaloa

Sorry I am missing this meeting with all of you tonight. As is my nature I must follow the way of a judge and go where I can make some money to feed my horses.

I am hoping that there will be a fun and exciting report from the Team Competition and the young rider camp. Please discuss the volunteer issues we have been experiencing this year's suggestions of requirements for yearend awards

Also I would like to appoint Sarah Martin as the advisor and chairperson for the Professional Clinics. We need her counsel and expertise to move forward with the clinic series.

How are we doing with Sponsors for the Championship shows?

I have Nicole Musmanno-Vinzant booked to give a yoga warmup class each morning of Championships. She is donating part of the time and I am sponsoring the rest of her fee, \$100 so we can offer this as a perk to our competitors, grooms and their families.

I have also asked Sarah Dodge to offer the professionals sponsorship of the Friday dinner at 150 instead of 250 with

no limit on participants. Hoping more trainers will be interested at a more affordable rate. Ideas?????  
I am sad to hear that the CSDA chapter is no longer active. Remember they were one of the first for RMDS.  
Thank you to all for coming together to help RMDS.

**Vice President Report**  
**No report**

**Joan Clay**

**Central Office**

Beth Geier

**Membership**

- Registration – 719 as of July 2 members for 2017; 136 new horses since October, 2016
- See reports with chapter membership totals.
- Accepting dues for 2017: \$65.00
- CSDA has dissolved as of July 1, 2017

**Shows:**

- 25 shows completed – 2 have been RMDS only approved.
- Judges: Kristi Wysocki now a FEI 5\*Para Judge
- Add Michael Taylor as a “r” technical delegate
- Add Deeda Randle as a “R” technical delegate

**Adult/Youth Team Competition:**

- See report

**TD:**

- Foothills Spring Show
  - Heather is donating all her radios
- Suggested Standing Rule change:  
MaryJo Hoepner & Joan Clay are going to rewrite this. Need it for the August meeting.

**Omnibus:**

- Postage fee now \$10 starting with 2018 dues.

**General:**

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

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

**2017 Awards Banquet:** January 13, 2018 (Saturday)

**2017 Executive Board Meetings**

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:	719	756	715	694	827	797	868	773	945	1030	1008	1036	1019	1151	1177	1162
Horses:	91	93	59	63	59	135	123	132	132	166	246	262	234	207	337	274
AV	30	25	29	26	27	25	27	24	15	26	12	-	-	-	-	-
BV	148	182	168	171	180	182	190	200	188	205	172	178	179	199	208	230
FH	55	73	79	76	64	65	71	72	75	76	77	74	73	109	103	115
GV	87	95	71	55	71	53	65	83	87	105	102	88	92	93	98	77
HP	160	149	156	151	176	190	208	226	256	265	260	259	251	267	283	278
NC	67	77	77	89	94	93	110	132	107	124	137	137	139	162	151	150
OB	49	43	42	33	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PP	80	63	70	63	62	44	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WC	26	22	18	19	23	27	31	22	21	25	25	32	34	44	55	64
No Chapter	17	3	5	11	12	13	15	14	25	14	16	22	21	34	36	24
CS	7/1/2017	24	35	47	52	63	115	124	115	127	126	143	130	137	155	134
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>719</b>	<b>732</b>	<b>779</b>	<b>694</b>	<b>801</b>	<b>692</b>	<b>717</b>	<b>773</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	78	86	88	95	120	117	120	134								
Amateurs	176	163	152	176	209	220	239	230								
Education	21	17	16													

**Permanent Committee Reports:**

**1. Adult Amateur**

**Anclaire Spaulding/Michelle Steven**

**Adult Team Championships:**

- There were 7 adult teams and 2 youth teams with a total of 34 riders and 64 rides that went down centerline. (2 sick and 1 no show)
- Simone Windeler and Sharron Sarchet were the judges. (Sharron filled in for Simone Ahern who had a family emergency)
- The show was at Table Mountain Ranch beginning at 8:00 am and ending about 12:30 pm followed by an awards program. Anclaire Spaulding gathered some wonderful prizes for the event this year.
- RMDS provided ribbons through 8 placings and USDF provided medals through 6 placings for both youth and adults teams.
- Volunteers came to the rescue and we ended up having more than enough.
- Plans are already under way for next year!!
- Anclaire found several places that donated awesome prizes!!
- Cassandra and her crew at Table Mountain did a fabulous job getting the facility ready. Everything was outside by the arenas.
- Discussion of contacting Western Dressage for ribbons/medals for western dressage teams – Simone Windeler will help take care of this for next year.

Anclaire Spaulding, Casandra DiPentino-managers

Beth Geier- secretary

**Financials:**

Income:           \$2410  
Expense:          \$1225.99  
Net:                \$1184.01

Una and Anclaire are working to bring Judy Reynolds to Colorado for a clinic. Judy is \$1750 per day plus expenses.

Location: Reverie Farms, Longmont, Colorado

Date: TBD

Number of Riders: 10

Estimated Cost: \$2750 (her fee is ~\$1750 and I'm estimating ~\$1,000 in fees).

In order to help pay for the clinic, we would like to do a 'drawing' at Championships. 1<sup>st</sup> prize is "Win a ride with Olympic Irish rider Judy Reynolds" and the 2<sup>nd</sup> prize is 1 of the VIP seats given to RMDS by CHP for the Team Championship Show that we did not use.

We need board approval to use 1 of the VIP tickets to help offset the cost of the AA clinic. The other 2 tickets will be used for the silent auction at Year End Awards.

There was a lot of discussion regarding the use of the VIP ticket and concern that Championships is behind in sponsorship commitments. It was also discussed that the clinic has not yet been approved or even confirmed so several folks the VIP package "drawing" or auction at Championships should go to help fund championships.

As for the clinic, much discussion was had regarding budgeting, set up, expenses, and logistics. The expenses listed are not complete and there was a lot of concern that the expenses would be significant for a clinician like this and that it would not really target the Adult Amateur competitors in our area.

**Kathy Simard proposed the clinic go back for more complete budgeting and clinician consideration. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Beverly Swanson. The motion passed unanimously.**

**Beverly Swanson proposed that the 3 remaining VIP DSIR packages be used in the following ways:**

- **1 - Championships fundraising to support Championships**
  - **2 - Silent auction at awards banquet to fund the awards banquet**
  - **3 – Live or silent auction at awards banquet to support the AA clinic if the clinic has approval by the time of the awards banquet.**
- 2<sup>nd</sup> by Didi DeKrey. The motion passed unanimously.**

## **2. Awards**

**Shannon Lemons**

We do have a training level freestyle trophy, and that's about all the business I have. Other than to please make sure we get a notice in the centaur for the next two months about returning trophies to championships.

Discussion of volunteer hour requirements for year end awards. Also discussion of wording the request in a more positive manor. A proposal for volunteer hour requirements needs to go to Beth for the August meeting.

## **3. Communications**

**Beverly Swanson**

- **Centaur:**
  - **June - July Centaurs**
    - Thrilled to be getting content from lots of members - and a special thank you to Kathy Simard for getting the story with Suzanne Von Dietz, which will appear in the September issue.
    - Our survey indicated that members want training tips and clinic articles, so keep them coming!

- Thank you to our Dressage Symposium contributors also: Una Schade, Sarah Martin, Rae Ann Cook, and Andrea Chirich - great info.
  - **August e-Centaur**
    - August will feature the Team Dressage and JR/YR Intensive leading up to the show, and possibly the Beth Baumert clinic sent in from GVDS.
    - If you have any announcements/banners/ads - especially about Championships - August is the issue to really drive these home, so please let me know what you need to accomplish our goal of a successful 2017 Championship Show.
  - **Chapter Reports** - BIG THANK YOU to all chapters for sending in reports. Keep us all informed!
  - **Discussion of color for the outside and inside pages** – Since she had had a few inquiries regarding color, Beverly talked to Spradlin, cost not too much more but Beverly feels we would have to charge a lot more for it and feels unless we did slick glossy it wouldn't really be a good "look".
- **Facebook Page** - As soon as I have enough pictures of the Team Competition, I will assemble a collage and replace our outdated profile picture.
- Omnibus Nicole Bizzarro  
No report
- Website Michael Petersen  
No report – miss the haiku!

#### 4. Education

**Michelle Anderson/MaryJo Hoepner**

##### L Continuing Education

- 2018 session is scheduled for Jan 27.
- Melissa Creswick has agreed to teach and USDF can provide videos for judging rather than having a live session. Location TBD but will look for a location in Boulder/Longmont as she has also agreed to do a clinic and Lookout Ridge has offered to host. Looking at a 2 day clinic probably after the session – Julie Smith has offered Lookout Ridge. Melissa loves working with AA and confidence issues as well.

##### TD / Show Management training

- Scheduled with Deeda Randle for February 10, location TBD.

##### Group sit time for L Graduates

- Debbie R-R - Debbie's hotel room has been booked. We currently have 7 registrants (1 from AZ) so the investment in the USDF recognition was worthwhile. Three more spots still available.

##### Scribing Clinic

- This was so well received – perhaps consider making this an annual session?
- Simone suggested we create a scribe database in the main office.
- There was discussion of doing one at the end of July – Michelle will ask Kathleen and Sharron Sarchett to see if either was available at the last moment to do one.

Respectfully submitted,  
Michelle Anderson & MaryJo Hoepner

#### 5. Junior/Young Riders

**Cassandra Dipentino**

- The 2017 Jr/Yr Summer Intensive was a success!! We ended up with 8 students and 3 wonderful clinicians. I know have a better idea of how to run this program and am excited to build on it for next year!! I've attached the financial reports. I did learn that I need to plan it quite a bit more ahead of time. It did end up being a sleepover camp.
- Correction to financials – add in \$500 Jr/YR budget – now financials show a profit.
- Suggestion of using the \$350 profit for an ice cream social at championships.

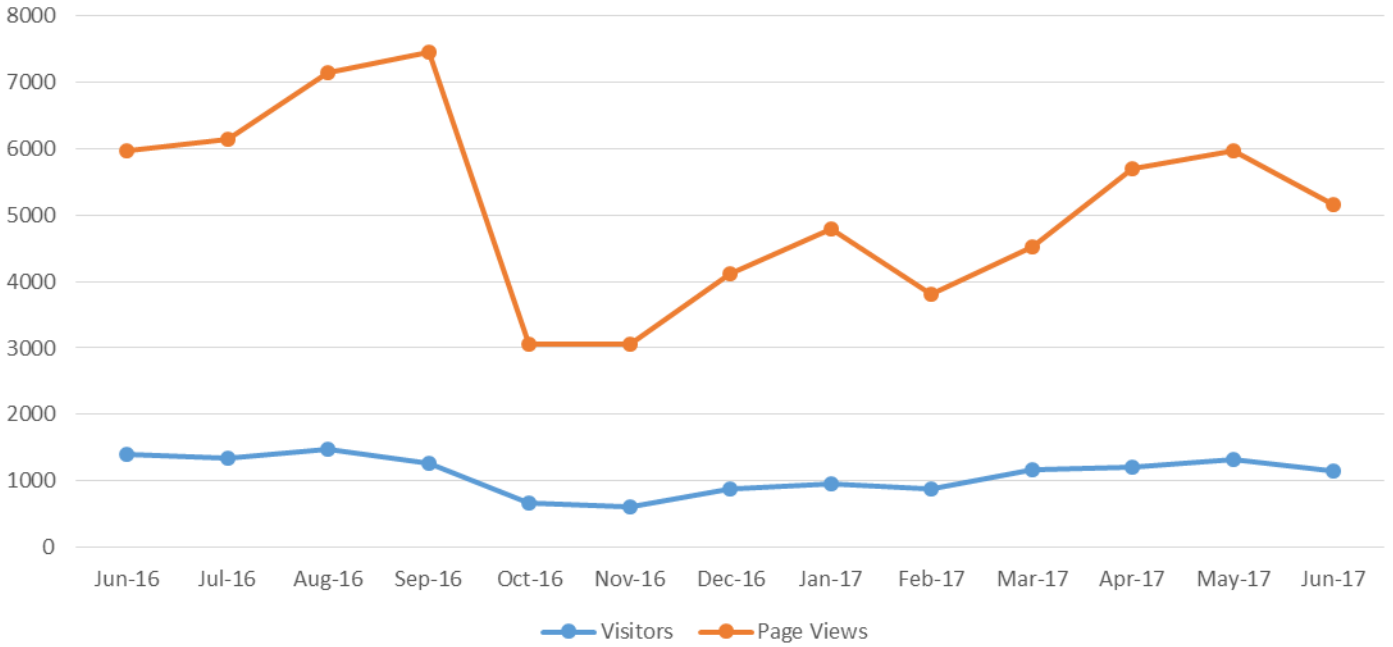
#### 6. Marketing

**Una Schade**

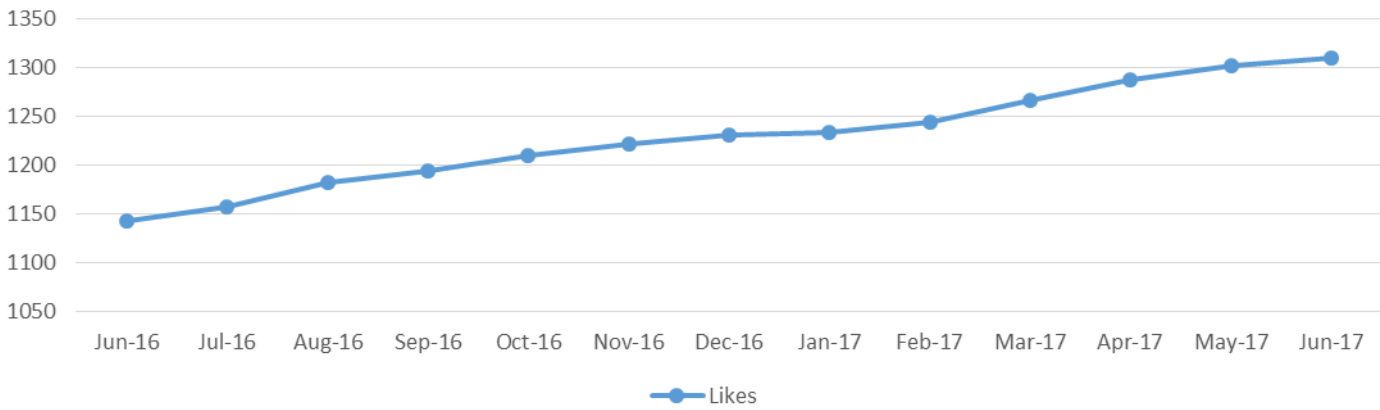
- We Are STILL started seeking Championship Sponsors. **Do you work for a company that advertises to humans? WE WANT TO GET IN TOUCH WITH THEM!**

- The sponsorship packet can be found on the RMDS website homepage in the top right portion of the blog section, or at: <http://blog.rmds.org/partner-with-rmds-for-the-largest-dressage-show-of-the-year/>
- Attached in the last page of this report is the email I have been sending to potential sponsors. Please feel free to utilize it to reach out to people you think might sponsor us! (You will have to edit signature details).
- Andrea & I are working with Gwen to host a morning Yoga/Stretch session every morning of championships. Gwen has a professional committed to working with us every morning (and is donating half the cost) & Gwen is sponsoring the cost that the Yoga Professionals is not donating herself.

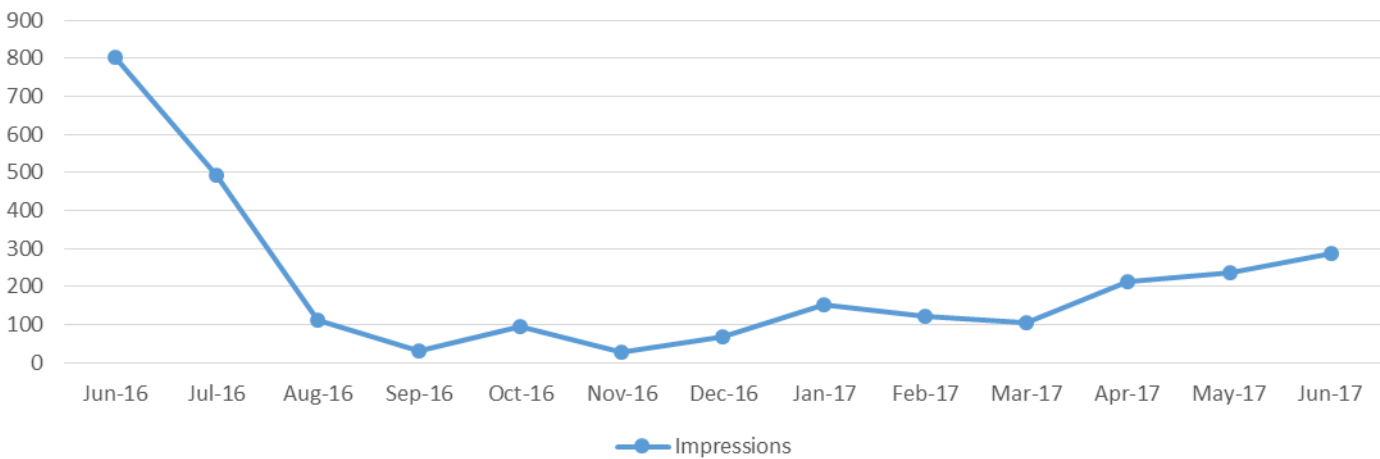
### RMDS Website Analytics



### Facebook Likes



### Twitter Impressions



*Letter going to potential sponsors:*

Hello,

I am a Board Member on RMDS (Rocky Mountain Dressage Society) and we have our year end championship show coming up September 14-18 in Parker, Colorado at the Colorado Horse Park.

**We are currently looking for a title sponsor and advertisers for our Championship Show (the largest dressage show in Colorado this year).** This event draws competitors and spectators from all over Colorado, as well as surrounding states. During the competition, competitors trailer their horses to the event, spend money at local restaurants and businesses, stay at hotels or rental homes, and **they are exactly the type of customers you would target for your company - they are equestrians in and around Colorado that on average 77% own their own home and make a household income of \$75,000 or above.**

[Here are the current rate cards for the Championship Show.](#) For more information on all available sponsorship opportunities through RMDS, [follow this link](#) or reach out to [marketing@rmds.org](mailto:marketing@rmds.org).

The show program is valuable to approximately 300 competitors and their support network of up to five attendees per rider, plus daily spectators, vendors and volunteers all from 12 RMDS geographic regions throughout the West.

Let me know if you are interested in being an advertising partner or sponsor, I think it would be great for your business!

Sincerely,  
Una Schade

Marketing Chair | Executive Board  
Rocky Mountain Dressage Society  
[www.rmds.org](http://www.rmds.org)  
[720-862-4444](tel:720-862-4444)

*RMDS stands for the Rocky Mountain Dressage Society, a local equestrian organization that is a Non-Profit. RMDS supports the sport of dressage in the Rocky Mountain region.*

**7. Professionals**

**Sarah Dodge/Beth Geier**



## Lars Petersen May 18-21

	Budget	Actual
<b>Expenses:</b>		
Fee 2000 x 4	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 8,000.00
Airfare	\$ 600.00	\$ 350.00
Box Lunch Th/Fr 16 x 2 x \$14	\$ 448.00	\$ 768.97
Copies	\$ 50.00	\$ -
Facility	\$ -	
Food-Sarah/Lars/Organizer	\$ 300.00	\$ 199.18
Hotel 2 x 4 x \$95/1@114.03	\$ 760.00	\$ 906.03
Insurance	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00
Porta potty	\$ -	
Supplies-Coffee/cups etc	\$ 100.00	\$ 103.30
USDF Credit	\$ 35.00	\$ 35.00
<b>Total Expense:</b>	<b>\$ 10,443.00</b>	<b>\$ 10,512.48</b>
 <b>Income:</b>		
8 riders th/Fr	\$ 2,320.00	\$ 2,320.00
12 auditors Th/Fr	\$ 2,040.00	\$ 2,432.50
Anonymous donation	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
Professional's budget	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
8 riders Sat/Sun	\$ 3,600.00	\$ 4,050.00
<b>Total Income:</b>	<b>\$ 10,460.00</b>	<b>\$ 11,302.50</b>
 <b>NET</b>	 <b>\$ 17.00</b>	 <b>\$ 790.02</b>

Submitted by Beth Geier

Comments from Beth – frustration is everyone signs up last second. It would make thing easier if people entered earlier. Offering an opening week discount or raise prices after the opening week.

Great feedback on Lars Petersen. Survey said people liked the location but didn't think it was as friendly of an atmosphere as previous facilities – Kathy raised that some of that is the group of people involved and the professionalism of the auditors as well. Would like to see lower auditor fees.

Gwen would like to appoint Sarah Martin to chair the professionals symposium. The board has asked for a clearer roll and description. It's been tabled until August.

### 2018 Clinic – May 15-17 with Lilo Fore

#### 8. Scholarship

**MaryJo Hoepner**

I recommend for each email request for volunteers that goes out there be a reminder that volunteer hours count toward hours required for scholarship applications

All RMDS clubs need to encourage scholarship applications. Please identify potential applicants and determine if they need assistance to create their applications

## 9. Shows – Championships

Andrea Chirich/Una Schade

Desperately need more championship sponsors. Link for sponsorship is on the home page.

Working with Gwen on a morning yoga stretch session every morning at Championships. Gwen is sponsoring costs for the yoga professional not donated.

### Championship Volunteer Update:

In general , the SignUp.com pages are set for 1/2 day shifts starting at 07:15 AM to Noon, and Noon to 5:30 PM

The X Halt Salute page has been added: Presumed 2 arenas for all day (0715 AM - 5:30PM).

The Breed show, September 13, 2017 has two arenas all day, with two judges and two warmup arenas.

Championships: presume 5 arenas, 2 judges each, all day for 4 days, 3 warmup arenas.

Working with High Plains Chapter to see if we can get some “Housing” for those Volunteers with a long drive; to help out their pocket books!

## Appointed Committee Reports:

### 1. Western Dressage

Simone Windeler

WDACO held its June Jubilee show at Douglas County Fairgrounds, Castle Rock on June 24 and 25, 2017. This show was recognized by WDAA but not USEF. They had a great turn out with about 70 rides each day. The show was judged on Saturday by Julie Haugen and on Sunday by Simone Windeler.

The first USEF recognized show in the region to be held at the Colorado Horse Park on August 5 and 6, 2017. For the prizelist check out 2whitefeet.com. Rumor has it that competitors will come in all the way from California to attend this inaugural show.

There are also numerous schooling shows that are WDACO recognized and offer Western Dressage classes. For prizelists check out theelegantrider.com.

WDACO holds multiple events throughout the year, find out more on their website

### 2. Nominating Committee – Chapter Presidents

Tiffany Busch

Need nominees for 2 years: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Awards, Education, Marketing, Professional

### 3. Historical Committee-Archives

New person?

### 4. BOG - November 4, 2017

Heather Petersen

### 5. Banquet – January 13, 2018- Renaissance Denver

Beth Geier

## Region 5 Report

Heather Petersen

I hope everyone is having a great summer! I am taking a big family summer vacation for the first time in a long time and wondering how this break in my horse show season will go ☺ It's going to be a wonderful trip, I'm just not used to down time during the summer much anymore. The temperatures for the summer could be a little lower, but I'm a warm weather kind of girl, I enjoy the 60s much more than anything else. Hopefully everyone is staying cool!

Several important **DEADLINES** are coming up:

- USDF National and Regional GMO volunteer nominations, as well as GMO award nominations, are due to the USDF office by August 31.
- GMOs can submit nominations for [Newsletter Awards](#), [Website Awards](#), and [Photography Awards](#). Don't forget that all nominations are due to the USDF office by **August 31**. No more submitting hard-copy nominations! See the nomination forms for detailed information.
- Regional GMO Volunteer of the Year nominations can be submitted by any participating member, group member or the Region Director.
- Volunteer of the Year and Youth Volunteer of the Year nominations can also be submitted by any participating member, group member or the Regional Director.
- One deserving group member will receive the [Ruth Arvanette Memorial Fund Grant](#) to attend the 2017 Adequan/USDF Annual Convention in Lexington, Kentucky. The grant includes full convention registration and partial reimbursement for travel expenses. Applications due by **August 31**

- GMOs must return their GMO Delegate/Proxy Authorization form to the USDF office to appoint representation to the Board of Governors meeting at the USDF Annual Convention November 29 – December 2, 2017 in Lexington, Kentucky.

The end of the qualifying period has come for the 2017 NAJYRC Championships, this year in Region 8 at the HITS facility in Saugerties, New York. Congratulations to our Juniors and Young Riders who worked to make the teams or decided to qualify instead for the Lamplight National Championships. It has been a tough year for our kiddos. NAJYRC is very expensive due to its location on the East Coast and many folks have juggled the decision of whether they could afford to go or not. The kids have worked hard a lot of the qualifier competitions as show elves – reading tests, braiding, cleaning stalls, night checks, morning checks and oh so much more. These funds will go to helping them get to all of the various championships they working towards. We will know a bit more about who is going to the NAJYRC in the next few days, but not at the time I write this.

The qualifying period for the 2017 USEF Championships Programs for Young Horses, Developing Horses, Ponies, Young Riders, Juniors and U25 Grand Prix will close at the end of July. We wish all our intended competitors good luck in their endeavors for those championships as well.

Please mark your calendars for our Region 5 Championships and plan to join us! It will be a fun week. USDF/Great American Region 5 Championships – September 14-17, 2017 – Colorado Horse Park, Parker, Colorado.

There are many educational opportunities being held over the next year around our region. Please be sure to double check your local calendars and those of the GMOs and barns just outside your area and take part in one of these wonderful events.

#### **Old Business:**

- **Volunteer awards program**-Una will report on in August.

#### **New Business:**

- None.

#### **Chapter Presidents:**

##### **1. Arkansas Valley**

**Beth Hart**

Our Anna Blake clinic was fabulous! We started early, learned a lot about ourselves and our horses and how we are relating to them. Both the Anna Blake clinic and Jana Steffen clinic were held at Liberty Landing Stables in Pueblo West. We are blessed to have trainers come down and spend the day with us.

AVDA had its June 10<sup>th</sup> schooling show. Many thanks to MaryJo Hoepner for judging the show! We are all so appreciative of our show manager, office and scorers, scribes, runners and our put up/tear down arena crew! We couldn't do it without you.

There are more local clinics our club riders are attending as well as riding in RMDS shows. Our little chapter has grown to 30 members. We will continue to have meetings throughout the summer and fall this year. We love to catch up, talk shop and discuss equine news!

Our next club event will be our September 30<sup>th</sup> schooling show after championships. The weather will be cooler and we are hoping for a great turnout.

Feel free to contact me if you are interested in any of our events. Auditors are always welcome!

##### **2. Boulder Valley**

**Sandra Rosewell**

Boulder Valley Dressage Demonstration and Meeting

Monday, August 14 at 6:30 p.m.

Blue Roof Equestrian Center

10951 Isabelle Road

Lafayette, CO 80026

Demonstration - Correct and Incorrect movements: The movements in dressage all have a purpose. They are there to help improve the horse's suppleness, his balance and his reaction to your aids. The movements can also help you discover where your horse needs a bit more work. If you have a problem in a movement, you, the rider, being the smarter of the two in the partnership, needs to figure out which aid is not working for you. Vanessa Chavez, Silver Medalists and trainer at Blue Roof Equestrian Center will moderate as a rider demonstrates both correct and

incorrect movements and how to change your aids for more success! Snacks will be served! We will have a brief meeting after the demonstration!

### **3. Foothills**

**Kris Cooper**

Riders ready to compete in 2017 filled both the Ride-A-Test Clinic on Saturday, June 10, with 'L' graduate Wendy Fryke, and the RMDS-sanctioned "Spring Into Summer" show the next day. Both were held at Table Mountain Ranch, Golden.

Our own Foothills' member, USEF 'S' Judge Debbie Riehl-Rodriguez, rated the 60 riders competing June 11. Seven exhibitors vied for Western Dressage Association of Colorado high-point awards. Our Technical Delegate was DiDi DeKrey. An eventer competing in her first dressage show scored in the 70s. She was so enthusiastic that she joined RMDS at the show!

Next up is the chapter's "Last Chance Show" on Saturday, August 26. Our judge is Julie Haugen 'r'. It will also be held at Table Mountain Ranch. Check the RMDS Omnibus, the Foothills website and RMDS calendar for our prize list. We will once again feature Western Dressage classes. Overnight stabling is available at TMR with a horse health certificate.

Volunteers kept our shows running smoothly and on time. Many, many thanks to knowledgeable and congenial staffers Darrell Walters, Gail Wheat, Melanie Nuchols, Heather Appel, Karen Schoenecker, Marilou Metcalf and CC Ross.

Our next Foothills Chapter meeting will be held Monday, August 14, at 6:30 p.m. at Tuscany Tavern, Evergreen. You are invited to share a meal, a beverage and conversation!

Submitted by Linda Gaber, communications and show chair.

### **4. Grand Valley**

**Arlene Rhodes**

Our latest club event was a two day clinic with Debbie Riehl-Rodriguez July 1-2. We held the clinic at the beautiful Stirrup Cup Farm in Delta, Colorado. It was impressive to see the changes in each rider/horse combination over the two days. Debbie's positive approach with accurate feedback on what to change/improve were incredibly helpful. She will be here again in September for our recognized/schooling show combo weekend and if the show doesn't fill each day she will offer lessons for those not showing with her anymore that weekend. All the riders asked if we could find a way to have her return again.

At our last club meeting we decided to try and move up our future recognized show starting in 2018 so that it will meet the deadlines for the USDF and RMDS championships each year. Susan Gregg is working with the Mesa County Fairgrounds to see if that can be accomplished. Though August is a warm month, the misters in the covered warm up arena and the covered competition arena make for a fairly pleasant experience even in hot temperatures.

Judi Devore is working on a program for one of the summer meetings with a unique speaker who is a registered nurse and a PARA dressage rider who coaches athletes on handling fear in their performance/competitions. We will notify all the members when a date has been set.

### **5. High Plains**

**Kathy Simard**

The Adult Amateur Clinic with Julie Burt and Kathy Simard on May 13<sup>th</sup> was a big success! You can read about it in the Centaur article. There were wishes expressed that High Plains would put on another one in the fall. But due to the lack of planning time, we decided not to. However, it will be added to our 2018 calendar of events! Thank you again to Julie Burt for the use of her farm in Parker for the clinic.

The Board has completed the revision of our bylaws and has submitted them to RMDS Central Office. We encourage everyone to add a section regarding social media, the internet and the keeping of passwords in this technological age.

### **6. Northern Colorado**

**Didi DeKrey**

While it is the lazy days of Summer for us, the board and members are still keeping busy with shows, horse related activities, and summer fun!

Look soon for our upcoming September Clinic Series featuring our own Joan Clay, Dressage Instructor Training through First Level. The clinic is a series of 3 sessions at Tomorra Training Center, Greeley, Colorado. Put these dates on your calendar: September 23, 24 and October 1st. First is the lecture and group activity session, followed by a mounted session, culminating with a Coached Ride A Test with judge Jessica Greer. All are welcome to attend! There will be options for Unmounted and Mounted participants, one day, two days or the whole shebang! Monthly meetings will start up again in September at our new location; The Ranch in Loveland, Colorado.

**7. On The Bit**

**Ginka Kubelka**

Our educational movie night on May 18<sup>th</sup> didn't quite go as planned: a snow storm kept most of our members from being able to attend. We will offer another educational movie night later this summer or in the fall to make up for it! The next educational event, a colic seminar held by Irina Weese, DVM, was a great success. Irina was able to explain the hows and whys of the digestive system of the horse in a fun and easy manner, backed by scientific facts. Since everyone enjoyed this seminar, we are planning further similar educational events for later this year. Currently, everyone at On The Bit is busy getting ready for our Summer Schooling Show on July 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Spur Ridge Equestrian Community in Laramie, WY. This will be the perfect opportunity for inexperienced horses or riders to be introduced to the show environment! Our judge will be Julie Haugen ("r"). Julie will be available the day after the show (Sunday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>) for lessons. Make sure you check out our prizelist on the RMDS calendar soon, because entries will close on July 14<sup>th</sup>! If you are interested in any of our events, check out our website, [www.onthebitdressage.com](http://www.onthebitdressage.com), contact us through [info@onthebitdressage.com](mailto:info@onthebitdressage.com) or facebook, or come to one of our meetings every first Tuesday of the month at 7 pm at Altitude in Laramie!

**8. Pikes Peak**

**Tiffany Busch**

**9. Western Colorado**

**Barbara Graham Terry**

**8:44 Michelle Anderson made the motion to adjourn. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Cassandra Dipentino. Motion passed unanimously.**