

RMDS Executive Board Meeting  
January 10, 2008  
Perkins Restaurant

Meeting called to order at 6:35 PM by President, Laura Speer.

Present: Nicole Bizzarro, Alex Curnette, Gavin Ehringer, Beth Geier, Barb Goldman, Dolly Hannon, Heather Petersen, Michael Petersen, Sue Rudman, Laura Speer, Sharon Soos, Simone Windeler.

Proxies: Brenda Haley, Sharon Ghilarducci, Tiger Adams, Tammy Fagan.

Minutes from September 13, 2007: Approved as corrected. Corrections were as follows:

Page 1 under Proxies: Add Catherine Siemiet.

Page 7 under Chapter Reports: Northern Colorado submitted a report.

\_\_\_\_\_Still need copy of report from Laura to include summary\_\_\_\_\_

Heather Petersen moved to approve the minutes with corrections. Simone Windeler 2<sup>nd</sup>.  
Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Given by Beth Geier for Lisa Wiggins.

Wells Fargo checking account as of December 13, 2007 was \$69,998.52

Wells Fargo Money Market account as of December 13, 2007 was \$44,095.43

Beth commented that RMDS is in a better position than 2006 for the same time period.

Laura Speers announced that an auditor, Bill Siebert, Siebert and Associates, has been retained to audit the 2007 books.

Office Manager Report given by Beth Geier:

Membership:

At this time, registration for 2008 is 547 members, of which 10 are Centaur only. And, there have been 46 horses registered since September 30, 2007.

Join on line is now available on the website – [www.rmds.org](http://www.rmds.org). Paypal is working very well and 100 members have used it.

A new office computer has been purchased at an expense of \$600.

Beth Geier commented on the importance of email addresses and stressed the need for their inclusion when registering.

Show Recognition: There was a discussion about Arkansas Valley's question about insurance and it was agreed by general consensus to allow Arkansas Valley the coverage for the two events.

TD Reports: Two reports were received and reviewed with the following discussions.

All Breed Dressage Show (RMDS 1038) - The Technical Delegate sighted 12 specific concerns. There was considerable discussion about the Show Management and the need

for the manager to attend the Show Management Training in February, including, the possibly of provisional recognition for a show and a satisfactory Technical Delegate report. A letter is to be sent about the concerns for a recognized show in the future.

#### Last Chance Show (RMDS 1015)

Overall, Technical Delegate's comments were positive. However, there was the comment of the need for Show Managers to attend the training in February because of the number of new Show Managers. In this case, the Technical Delegate added the positive comment that the Show Manager was willing to learn, and had a very experienced show secretary to help.

There was discussion of having Show Managers apprentice at a show if they are not able to attend the Training.

The topic of Technical Delegate testing every two years was raised. Since testing was not done in 2007, it should be done in 2008. The discussion centered on the frequency of the testing. Should it be waived for 2007? Should RMDS change testing to once every three years like USEF? Veronica Holt wants to be paid to create the test for this year. Using the current USDF test, Heather Petersen volunteered to modify the test to 20 questions.

#### Centaur:

Beth gave a reminder that the deadline for submissions is the 10<sup>th</sup> of the prior month. Also, the Central Office as well as Gavin needs to be notified of any submissions to be included. All calendar submissions go through the Central Office.

#### Country Supply:

On line purchases of which RMDS receives a small percentage, has reached the first benchmark. RMDS percentage is \$54.58 to date and a check for \$50 will be received.

Executive Board Meetings (2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the odd month) are held at Perkins Restaurant (1-25 & Colorado Blvd.) will be held The schedule in 2008 is:

March 13  
May 8  
July 10  
September 11  
Nov 8 – BOG

#### Permanent Committee Reports:

##### Awards: Presented by Barb Goldman

The Banquet on November 10, 2007 went OK. A lot of the awards had to be shipped, costing around \$500 for the shipping, packaging, and postage. All awards except for the pony stall plates and JR trophy have been shipped. JR Trophy broke in transport and is being repaired. There have been only two requests for corrections to plates. These will be ordered shortly. Barb suggested the Sean and Bob be given another try in 2008 as presenters. Problems and issues with awards were not their fault. It was determined that

an open meeting be set to discuss awards and banquet. This will be Thursday, February 21, 2007, at 6:30 PM at Perkins Restaurant (I-25 & Colorado Blvd.).

The 2008 Banquet will be hosted by Boulder Valley. The Central Office does not that the location at this time.

#### Communications:

##### Centaur:

Gavin Ehringer spoke on three items: 1) Chapter reports are lacking; 2) The need for articles continues; and, 3) RMDS should consider an editor, thereby splitting the editor and the layout roles.

##### Omnibus:

Nicole Bizzarro reported that it has gone to print. A six year comparison was provided for review. The deadline of having it to the printer was met and compared favorably with past years. The number of pages, 237, is less than in past years, except 2003. The number of Advertisers was within the norm.

##### Website:

Michael Petersen reported that the website is updated as information is received.

##### Education: Presented by Heather Petersen

USEF "r" Dressage Judges Program, January 18-20, 2008 – The lecture on the 18<sup>th</sup> will be held at the Radisson in Longmont, and the riding portion will be held at Autumn Hill on the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. Autumn Hill is donating the facility. There will be 11 participants instead of 10, which incurs an additional cost of \$100. However, this is an unanticipated extra \$750 to help support the costs of the program. There is also a Show on the 20<sup>th</sup> to support the "r" program. Those interested in being a "demo" rider on Saturday, should contact Heather Petersen.

RMDS Judges' Continuing Education: 2008 Judges' Continuing Education will be January 26, 2008 at Freedom Farms, Parker, CO, by Kristi Wysocki. Currently, there are negotiations on the fee. Kristi would like to charge \$600 which is the same amount as an L faculty or USEF "r" faculty. Kristi is neither. Freedom Farms is donating the facility.

Technical Delegates / Show Management Education: 2008 TD/Show Manager Education is scheduled for February 9, 2008, and is to be held at Table Mountain, Golden, CO. Deeda Randle will conduct the TD portion, and Heather Petersen and Camille Griffin, the Show Management portion. As of this date, there are no applications for this event. Expenses will include photocopies, \$100 fee for Deeda Randle plus mileage. The question was raised as to minimum number of applicants to hold the event. However, there was no resolution.

2008 Freestyle Clinic: There will be a lecture, held in the Lounge at Autumn Hill Saturday morning for 3 hours. A demonstration of a completed 3<sup>rd</sup> Level Freestyle designed by Terry (Shannon Fox) will occur after lunch, followed by the clinic riders.

The Juniors and Young Riders will be doing lunches each day, along with snacks, breakfast, and coffee. Applications will be taken up to March 1, 2008. Twelve (12) riders is a base for the clinician's base fee. However, more can be accepted.

Applications for two (2), \$5000 grants have been made to USDF.

Instructors' Continuing Education: Rachel Savadra and Jill Cantor Lee has been asked to sponsor this program which will be held February 16-17, 2008 at Sexton Farms in Longmont, CO. After considerable discussion of the pros and cons, a motion was presented.

Alex Curnette moved to sponsor the Saavadra and Jill Cantor Lee Clinic on February 16-17, 2008, at Sexton Farms in Longmont, CO. Barb Goldman 2<sup>nd</sup>.

The motion failed.

Other projects under discussion were:

Co-sponsorship of the 2008 Symposium the first weekend in December, 2008 to be held at the National Western Stock Show complex. Volunteers will be needed and those interest should contact Heather Petersen.

The question was raised about hosting any USEF or USDF programs in 2009. Perhaps an instructors workshop? Or, take the year off. No decision was made.

Shows: In Debbie Wilke's absence a written report was provided and given by Beth Geier (?)

RMDS Winter Wake-Up: The facility rental has increased by \$100 per day to \$850.00. Also, there will be only one drag at the start of the day. USEF High Performance Classes will be offered which requires 3 FEI judges. However, if there are no High Performance entries, one of the judges will be cancelled. Judges are Marian Cunningham, Lilo Fore, and Hilda Gurney. The TD is Deeda Randle. The host hotel is the Clarion which will offer rooms at \$65 per night.

RMDS Championships 2008: The judges are Betsy Berrey, William Solyntjes, Kem Barbosa, Marilyn Heath and Paula Lacey. The second breed show judge is Debbie Riehl-Rodriguez. The Technical Delegate is Joyce Hardesty. Simone Windeler has been hired to manager for 2008 by 2 White Feet since Veronica has a conflict with another competition in California. Michelle Anderson will be the volunteer coordinator, Nicole Donohue will be the stable person, Susan Gregg will do awards, Anne Sushko will be assistant secretary, Betsy Grandos will be the judge fluffer and Joe Coleman will be the grounds manager. Sponsors are being sought. The question was raised as to hold the auction again, and, should a formal competitors' dinner or a more laid back dinner outside be held. Preference seemed to be for the laid back dinner. However, no final decision was made.

Questions for 2009: The question was raised as to whether or not RMDS should submit a bid to host the 2009 Regional Championships. If so, where. Also, does RMDS want to continue with the Winter Wake-Up, and, if so, where? Some consideration is being given to holding these events in the Pueblo area. A contingency of Heather Petersen, Alex

Curnette, and Simone Windeler, will plan a trip to Pueblo to look at the Colorado State Fair grounds facility.

#### Junior/Young Riders: Presented by Susan Rudman

The Junior/Young Rider Camp for 2008 is scheduled for June 29 through July 2<sup>nd</sup>, and will be held at 8<sup>th</sup> Heaven Farms, Castle Rock, CO. The cost is \$350.00 per camper with an attendance of 12 Campers.

The Junior/Young Riders continue with fundraisers for Region 5 North American junior and Young Riders Championships (NAJYRC). Planned fundraisers include the January 20<sup>th</sup>, EMDS “r” program at Autumn Hill, and, the April 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> Freestyle Clinic at Autumn Hill. The fundraising “Luncheons” initiated here, has begun in other areas of Region 5 with success. The hotel, Comfort Suites of Castle Rock has been selected for the Region 5 NAJYRC teams and rooms reserved. Susan also mentioned the lack of response from individuals at the Colorado Horse Park regarding the NAJYRC.

#### Nominating Committee:

The president, Laura Speer, reported that she will be appointing a Nominating Committee.

#### Scholarship Program:

In the absence of Grace Maddox, Simone Windeler reported that Grace is still reviewing and preparing the Scholarship Program to be presented to the RMDS Executive Board at the March meeting.

#### Appointed Committee:

USDF Capital Campaign: Laura Speer and Heather Petersen reported that a \$4000 check has been sent. Currently, \$7000 of the \$20,000 pledge has been submitted.

Heather Petersen moved to use proceeds from the “r” judges program towards the pledge. Alex Curnette 2<sup>nd</sup>. The motion passed.

#### Old Business:

USDF Convention: Laura Speer presented the President’s expenses incurred in attending the 2007 USDF Convention. The allowed amount was \$1135 and the actual expense to RMDS was \$860.96, resulting in a savings of \$274.04.

USEF Affiliates: Heather Petersen reported that RMDS is now a USEF Affiliate, which means RMDS memberships can be processed at horse shows and accept any paperwork

on behalf of RMDS at horse shows. This will allow RMDS to “enforce” RMDS membership status at local shows.

Horse Expo/High Plains Request: High Plains Dressage Chapter is getting ready for the Horse Expo and continues the request for copies of the Centaur.

#### Chapter President Reports:

Alex Curnette moved to accept the Chapter Reports as written and forgo the oral report. Dolly Hannon 2<sup>nd</sup>. The motion passed.

Arkansas Valley Dressage Association: Officers elected for 2008 are: Brenda Haley, President; Catherine Siemiet, Vice President; Karen Randall, Secretary/Treasurer; Soraya Van Asten, Publicity. Work continues to build membership through the print media, fund raiser, and an in-hand clinic. There are three schooling shows planned for 2008: April 5<sup>th</sup>, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, and June 7<sup>th</sup>. And, a wellness clinic is planned.

Boulder Valley: No Report

Colorado Springs: The 2008 calendar includes the Annual awards banquet, January 13<sup>th</sup>, Meetings February 19, and March 18<sup>th</sup>, and Dressage at the Peak Mid-Spring, April 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>. The 2008 Board remains largely the same as in 2007.

Foothills: The new Board members for 2008 are: Aimee Edwards, President; Dolly Hannon, Vice President; Sally Higgins, Secretary; and Laura Quackenbush, treasurer. Aimee Edwards, will be stepping down as President because she and her family will be moving to Dallas, Texas. Dolly Hannon will serve in the interim until a new President is found. Currently, there are two shows scheduled at Table Mountain Ranch for 2008. The spring show is Sunday, May 18<sup>th</sup> with Simone Ahern-Harless judging. The fall show is Sunday, September 14<sup>th</sup> with Suzanne Zimmer judging. Chapter meetings have been changed to the first Thursday of every month.

Grand Valley: There are few changes or additions since the annual report and the shows will remain as posted. The Club is working on a fund to benefit the mother of one of the members, who was critically injured in a biking accident before Thanksgiving.

High Plains: The Sabine Schut-Kery Friesian Clinic was a success and enjoyed by all, riders and auditors. The year was closed with the Holiday gathering at the California Café. At this time, the focus is on preparations for the Rocky Mountain Horse Expo booth.

Northern Colorado: The 2008 officers are: Laura Speer, President; Susie Reed, Vice President, Pat Schultheiss, Treasurer, and Kathleen Kilkelly, Secretary. An active year is planned, including two spring schooling shows, the NCDA Classic RMDS/USDF/USEF show in Cheyenne, educational events, a tack swap, and a visit to Skelton Mountain Dream Ranch.

Penrose: January 26, 2008 is the Annual Activities Meeting.

Tri-State: The Education Committee is putting together the 2008 schedule for Clinics and Schooling Show Series. The schedule will be ready to present for approval at the January meeting.

Western Colorado: No Report

Heather Petersen was awarded the 2007 Russ Fawcett Award.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 Pm by President, Laura Speer.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Sharon Soos, substituting for Alex Curnette, Secretary