

RMDS EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Romano's Italian Restaurant – 720-344-9530

January 12, 2012

Attendance: Sharon Soos, Pete Soos, Laura Speer, MaryJo Hoepner, Lori Mitchell, Shannon Lemons, Beth Geier, Heather Petersen, Nicole Bizzarro, Patricia Leech, Susan Rudman, Michael Petersen, Kim Lampert, Wendy Cibis, Julie Haugen, Jon Haugen

Proxies: Michelle Anderson to MaryJo Hoepner, Simone Windeler to Heather Petersen, Jamee Amundson to Lori Mitchell, Inka Spatafora to Beth Geier

Call to Order by Lori Mitchell at 6:30 pm.

Lori asked for everyone to go around and introduce themselves.

Lori Mitchell has received the resignation of Laura Speer by email as RMDS Show Committee chair. **MaryJo Hoepner moved we accept the resignation of Laura Speer as RMDS Show Committee Chair, 2nd by Kim Lampert, Motion passed.** Lori Mitchell then therefore appoints Susan Rudman as the new RMDS Show Committee chair.

Lori Mitchell has received the resignation of Shannon Lemons as president of Colorado Springs Dressage Association. Patricia Leech will be Acting President until additional elections are held.

There has been a request for the approval of a new chapter, the Pikes Peak Dressage Society. **Beth Geier moved that the RMDS Board approve the application for a new chapter, Pikes Peak Dressage Society, 2nd by Laura Speer, motion passes with Heather Petersen and the proxy she holds for Simone Windeler abstaining.**

The October 13, 2011 Minutes:

Motion made to approve the minutes by Beth Geier, 2nd by Shannon Lemons. Motion passed.

Treasurers Report by Sharon Soos

Balance in each account as of December 31, 2011:

Checking Account	\$34,897.60
Scholarship Account	5,964.99
PayPal Account	5,207.83
Money Market	44,439.16
Total:	\$90,509.58

Donation dispersements: All donations approved at the 2011 Board of Governors meeting for 2012 have been dispersed except the sponsorship of the 2012 Paragon Dressage CDI, which will be done at a later date.

Budget for the 2012 fiscal year as approve at the Board of Governors meeting is below:

Rocky Mountain Dressage Society			
2012 Budget			
2012 Budget	Income	Expense	Net Change
Adult Amateur	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,500.00	\$ (500.00)
BOG Awards	\$ 350.00	\$ 5,500.00	(\$5,150.00)
BOG Banquet	\$ 5,500.00	\$ 7,000.00	(\$1,500.00)
Centaur	\$ 16,100.00	\$ 28,000.00	(\$11,900.00)
Central Office	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 13,000.00	(\$9,500.00)
Championship/Breed Show	\$ 78,000.00	\$ 76,000.00	\$2,000.00
Clinics	\$ 5,500.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$500.00
Education / Expo	\$ -	\$ 750.00	(\$750.00)
General / Interest	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$0.00
Jr/Yr Program	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 3,500.00	\$500.00
Marketing	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00	(\$1,000.00)
Membership - Dues	\$ 50,200.00	\$ 25,600.00	\$24,600.00
Membership - Horses	\$ 8,500.00	\$ -	\$8,500.00
Misc. / Donation	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 4,500.00	(\$2,900.00)
Ominbus	\$ 12,500.00	\$ 16,000.00	(\$3,500.00)
Operating	\$ -	\$ 2,000.00	(\$2,000.00)
Scheduling / Insurance	\$ 2,800.00	\$ 2,600.00	\$200.00
Scholarship	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 2,000.00	(\$200.00)
Taxes / Legal	\$ 600.00	\$ 1,000.00	(\$400.00)
Team Competition	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$0.00
Website	\$ 800.00	\$ 720.00	\$80.00
Winter Wake-up Show	\$ 18,500.00	\$ 18,500.00	\$0.00
Total	\$ 215,850.00	\$ 218,770.00	(\$2,920.00)
Approved 11/13/10 by Board of Governors			

Net income for 2011 was down about \$6000, which is not too bad according to Sharon and is a minimal percentage. Since there is some carry over between years that affects the Profit and Loss statements, we are doing ok. Some corrections need to be done to P&L then Sharon will email updated P&L statements for 2011 to the board.

Office Manager Report by Beth Geier

- Membership is currently at 426, 8 are Centaur only. 24 new horses registered since October 2011.

- Shows: 39 USEF/USDF shows; 14 RMDS only shows. 6 have Breed Show In Hand classes. Several have added Western Dressage classes.
- Recognized Officials: TD reports were reviewed for Last Chance Show and Dressage in Pink, Beth comments that nothing stood out.
- Omnibus: Wasatch Chapter and Sage Creek still owe for their prize lists. Beth has spoken to them all. Jenny Baldwin, Snowy Peaks and Taka Chi still owe for their ads.
- Chapter By Laws need to be on file with the RMDS Central Office. If there have been updates, please send a new set to the office.
- P&L statements from chapters need to be completed by the end of January.
- Paid positions up for bid this year:
 - March – Deadline Feb 28th
 - Centaur Production & Editing – effective May issue
 - Omnibus Production – 2013/2013 Omnibus
 - 2013/2014 RMDS Winter Wake Up Management
 - New Deadline for 2013/2014 RMDS Championships January 23rd.
 - July – Deadline June 30th
 - 2013/2014 Junior Camp
 - Website Maintenance & Hosting – effective August 1st.
 - Central Office Manager – effective August 1st.
- Rental Items – nobody paid for usage last year – were any of the arenas or measuring stick used by outside groups? Heather Petersen reported that the pony stick was not rented and the RMDS arena was minimally used. There are already reservations for the pony stick to be present at the Dressage for the Cure show in April, 2012.
- Tentative meeting schedule for this year...
 - January 12
 - March 8
 - May 10
 - July 12
 - September 13
 - Board of Governors Meeting November 10th

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Members:	1162	1177	1151	1019	1036	1008	1030	945	921	868	426
Horses:	274	337	207	234	262	246	166	132	132	123	24

AV	-	-	-	-	-	12	26	15	24	27	16
BV	230	208	199	179	178	172	205	188	200	190	95
CS	134	155	137	130	143	126	127	115	124	115	46
FH	115	103	109	73	74	77	76	75	72	71	30
GV	77	98	93	92	88	102	105	87	83	65	39
HP	278	283	267	251	259	260	265	256	226	208	86
NC	150	151	162	139	137	137	124	107	132	110	59
PP	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15
PR	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	6
WA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20	24	24	11
WC	64	55	44	34	32	25	25	21	22	31	15
No Chapter	24	36	34	21	22	16	14	25	14	15	8

PN	13	14	15	14	13	13	12	inactive	Dissolved
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TS	77	74	91	86	90	68	51	36	Dissolved		
TOTAL	1162	1177	1151	1019	1036	1008	1030	945	921	870	426
Juniors									134	120	34
Amateurs									230	239	105

Adult Amateur Report by Beth Geier

- March 17: Symposium on *Teaching the Rider to Feel* by Sarah Martin at Stellar Farms-Parker
Projected Budget:

Fee & Airfare	\$	750.00
Hotel	\$	-
Food	\$	75.00
Facility-Port-A-Potty		\$125.00
Hand outs		0.00
Insurance		\$70

TOTAL EXPENSE \$ 950.00

Demo Riders

Auditor Fee \$50 15 people	\$	750.00
Rider \$40/group \$70/indiv	\$	380.00

TOTAL INCOME \$35

This will be an auditor friendly symposium that has many handouts etc.

Overview:

Teaching the Rider to Feel: Every rider can learn techniques that help him or her develop their feel!

One day symposium: AM Discussion using two demo horses/riders: Alignment: how each part of you affects each part of your horse. This is done as a visual presentation complete with color-coding horse and rider to make it very auditor friendly.

Timing: Basic techniques that every rider can take home. Correct timing is the basis of every half halt, THE building block of Dressage. Transitions and Lateral work are covered at walk, trot and canter. Allow 4 hours for am, basically 8-12 with a 15-minute break at 10 am. I may need Tara and her mare as one of the demo pairs, if Tara is willing!

This symposium is one of a kind, using strong auditor participation. Sarah provides notebooks, with frequent admonitions for when to write things down! Auditors will leave with techniques and a book full of notes they can implement on their own at home.

Afternoon session: Alignment and timing in practice. Can do individual or group lessons [max 3 to a group] 45-minute privates, 1-hour group, 4 hours from 1 pm to 5 pm, RMDS can fill however they choose and charge accordingly. Afternoon teaching still involves engaging the auditors- they will be asked to describe what they see to help them understand the learning process!

Tara helps Sarah with setting up horses and is a wonderful asset in pointing out aspects I take for granted, so again this enhances the auditor/presentation relationship. [She will also say "write this down!"]

Tara and Sarah reserve the right to sell DVD's books, etc at the forum.

MaryJo Hoepner moved that the board approve the Teaching the Rider to Feel clinic in concept, 2nd by Julie Haugen, Motion passed. Beth will work on firming up the facility as there was some discussion concerning various options available.

- Some other ideas Beth brought forward:

- **Horse Camp** – Friday – Sunday: Arrive Thursday night; 3 days group lesson in morning; individual in afternoon; Programs on going through out the whole day so when not riding, education session is going on. Also others could attend sessions.
- **Clinic:** Arena Geometry. Lower level movements demonstrated: good & bad (ties in with judging). Why special exercises are used in tests to show progress and why tests help you move up the levels
- The Board suggested that Beth pursue these ideas and flesh them out more for the next meeting.

Awards by Shannon Lemons

2011 Wrap Up

- 2 trophies remaining –
 - One too heavy to mail, have spoken with recipient and we are working on getting together.
 - One not being released.
- Final Corrections – a few errors, duplicates ordered are in process.
- 2nd Level freestyle –
 - Never received by RMDS or awards chair, as of 1/1/2012 was also not delivered to 2011 winner.
 - Letters since banquet have not been received?
 - Trophy supposedly mailed today, Shannon will follow up and see if 2011 recipient receives it.
 - What do we do about fees since she says she didn't received warning, trophy due for replacement in 2012? Membership has been put on hold, what can we do about late fees? After some discussion, it was decided we will enforce the fees since adequate notice has been given.
- Sport Horse Mare 4 +
 - Never was received by RMDS to award to the 2011 recipient.
 - Several requests have been made to the donor and still no trophy has been received.
 - We need to get a trophy to the winner.
- Awards will be coming in about \$500-\$1000 under budget depending on how many shipping reimbursements come in.

2012 Plans

- Shannon will begin reworking the trophy release and present it at the March meeting
 - Require written permission before others can pick up a trophy
 - Can we let those under 18 sign or do we need to require an adult. It was decided an adult should take responsibility and sign.
 - Clarify dates, fines, etc.
- Recommend no out of state mailing unless the recipient will pay for professional packing and shipping – 2 trophies were damaged this year and 1 last year in shipment, both to out-of-state recipients.
- Shannon will begin purchases permanent storage boxes since there was an excess in the awards budget in 2011.
- She will work on updating the policy manual.
 - New trophy pictures
 - New policies, recommendations, etc.
- Replacements needed for 2012:
 - Jr/YR Training Level
 - 2nd Level Freestyle – already have a sponsor and donor.

Communications by Nicole Bizzarro

- Omnibus:
 - The transition of the native files from Quark Express to Adobe Indesign, last year, paid off with easier and faster production. The book was printed with the same direct digital printing technology as last year. The print costs are significantly less due to our usual print supplier starting a new company and being able to offer us terrific print pricing this year. We are printing more pages than last year but getting a lower price. This break, this year, will help when all the dressage tests change again. I am especially happy with the number of ad submissions, though we will not make the goal of being budget neutral, at least it is progress in that direction. Ad submission could be more timely, complete, correct, etc., but what's new? Hey! This is the 10th year I've been doing the Omnibus, thank you everyone!
 - As usual sent to the printer the first or second week of January – this year January 4th.
 - One of the highest page count to date – 254 pages.
 - Best year ever in terms of advertisers – 59!! Up 15 advertisers from last year!
 - Without a doubt, every year I could spend less time on the Omnibus if everyone would be more timely, and pre-proof what they submit before I format it, and if advertisers submitted ads to specification. Omnibus 2012 no. of hours – 80, but that's the least yet!
 - 900 sets plus new covers printed at great new prices and added color tabs, and the bill went down \$500. Incredible savings.
 - Think about having color pages and colalate them in.
- Centaur – coming out nice and early, doing a great job.
- Website – run full page omnibus ads in the market place – need standard pixel dimensions for the marketplace in order to do this. Set max at 850 pixels by 300 pixels high. Nicole moves such, Lori seconds, unanimous.
- Nicole will submit a new bid for 2013/2014 omnibus.
- Additional 10 hours billable per year, ads and such on design, posters for Expo, setup of facebook page... would like to move we approve the 10 hours per year for the next 2 year period. Heather 2nd, unanimous.
- Website:
 - No news is good news...?
 - December crash of uploading material. Moved the website to a new server and some things were lost – Centaur and a few calendar entries.

Education Report by Michelle Anderson, proxy to MaryJo Hoepner

"L" Judge Continuing Education 2012

- Scheduled January 28 at Sun Prairie Farm in Peyton with Janet Foy as instructor.
- Simone is donating her facility use and only asked for us to provide a portapotty since she is on a septic system. As she is a "L" graduate and is also arranging the demo rides, suggest she not be charged for the clinic.
- As of 1/6/12, 10 persons have paid registration for a total of \$570. (Some registrations from RMDS Board members @ 1/2)
- We did apply for a USDF grant to cover expenses.
- Glen Dupler will be catering both this event and the TD/Show Mgr. NOTE that the price for the clinics does NOT include food. All food and drinks will be charged separately.
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Technical Delegate / Show Management Education

- Scheduled for Staybridge Suites in Park Meadows Feb. 11. Deeda Randle will cover TD and Heather Petersen will cover show management.
- One RMDS board member registrant to date.

Future Events

- None scheduled at this time.

Junior/Young Riders Julie Haugen (and Jon)

- Junior Camp – Tomora July 18 – 21, 2012 – looking for instructors, helpers, etc.; would love to get some photos of the event for this year for facebook, omnibus, centaur.
- USDF Youth & Team Competition – Tomora July 22, 2012.
 - Judge: Simone Windeler
 - TD: Jeannette Hillery
- Plans for a Series of Youth Days through the Winter and Spring. Rotating locations and mix of Educational and Fun, community building get-togethers.
- Organizing a Schooling Series at Lazy J in Loveland to benefit the RMDS Jr/YR. Looking at dates in March, April, and May. Other places too if facilities offer up.

Marketing Sharon Soos

Marketing Material:

Media Kit – re-writing to a Word Document – Should be ready for review by end of week – Will send to board members for review without photos. Solicit pictures to include via email request. Found source of demographic information on Horse Connection and noted as “research courtesy of USEF, 2009 and <http://goronaldo.com>. However, Sharon was unable to access this website. She is working on drafting a Letter of Introduction and will send it to board members for review.

- Will deliver to Wells Fargo as soon as ready
- Will deliver to Wells Fargo Advisor ass soon as ready (Potential for Championships)
- Will deliver to Parker Adventist Hospital as soon as ready (Into letter needs to come from President of RMDS)
- Other companies to contact
 - Ranch-Way Feed (Colorado Based)
 - Nutrena
 - Purina
 - Progressive
 - Seasons

Centaur Advertising Information – Information from Centaur copied to a Word Document for ease of use as an email attachment. This resulted from a request for information about advertising. Beth and Nicole commented that we have a more complete version available from the Central Office and Beth will get this to Sharon.

Identifying Community Event Calendars

- Denver Post – Basic – no cost
- Need to identify other news outlets with community Event Calendars at no cost.

Events:

- Horse Expo – March 9-12, 2012
 - Application submitted prior to December 31, 2011 in order to receive discounts

- Have Marketing Kit available
- 100 copies of Centaur (March Issue)
- Give away?
- Winter Wake-Up
 - Sponsors
 - Advertisers
- Championships – Sponsors
 - Sponsors
 - Advertisers
 - Working with Heather and Susan Rudman on both Winter Wake-Up and Championships

2013 Advertising Campaign – To be reviewed by Board members as it is developed

- Omnibus – Timeline
 - July – Initiate 2013 campaign
 - August – “Get the Word” out
 - September – Focus on Opening Date – October 1st
 - October – Push for ad
 - November – Focus on Closing date November 15th
- Centaur – Identify previous Centaur advertisers from years back – Once a list is drafted, Sharon will ask board members to review it before contacting them. We need to identify any that should not be contacted.

RMDS Shirts

- Sending in payment for the RMDS logo adjustments
- Have order for 4 shirts that Sharon will pay for and can be used as samples.
- Logistics:
 - Create and complete an order form – work with Michael to put on the RMDS website.
 - Receive payments
 - Place order for shirt with shipping address.

Scholarship MaryJo and Heather

- We received:
 - Leg Up scholarship -- 2 applicants
 - Solid Seat scholarship -- 5 applicants
 - Junior / Young Rider scholarship -- 2 applicants
 - Opening Door scholarship -- 7 applicants
- Heather and I met to go over the applications and rank them. The BOD will vote on the recipients at the January 12 meeting.
- In addition, we received one more article from the 2011 season to be published in the Centaur.
- And I received inquiries for this coming year regarding how remote members can fulfill their volunteer requirements. In addition to physically being at shows / events, I suggested working with their club(s) to get sponsorships / do fund raising.

Approval of recipients was done by all RMDS board members at the meeting, with the exception of Beth Geier, Laura Speer and Julie Haugen, who were applying for scholarships. Jon Haugen also left the room as the spouse of an applicant. Please note that though Patricia Leech sat in for the discussion regarding the awarding of the recipients, she abstained from all votes.

Leg-up Recipient: Linda Gaber

Solid Seat Recipient: Ann Edelman

Opening Doors Recipient: Gwen Ka'awaloa

Jr/YR Recipient: Zoe Austermann

MaryJo Hoepner will work on notifying all scholarship recipients and put together a brief notice for the Centaur.

Shows by Susan Rudman/Heather Petersen

- Main sponsor for Championships has recommitted but wishes to have a low profile in terms of acknowledgements.
- Heather is working on hiring 2013 judges and will pass this information on to the bid winner for that competition..
- Finally found 2012 2nd judge for Winter Wake Up after losing one to the USEF Olympic Selection Trials.
- Zumba parties at the shows for fundraising was suggested by Wendy Cibis.
- Mimso morning on Sunday covered with sponsorship.
- It's never too late to begin work on sponsors! Heather will present the Championship Sponsorship packet to the board no later than the March meeting.

USDF Region 5 Update by Heather Petersen

- Convention went very well. We had great Region 5 representation. The next USDF convention will be December 6-8, 2012 in New Orleans, LA. Looking forward to seeing everyone there. There will not be a symposium in 2012, but we will have a horse health symposium in 2013 when we meet in Lexington, Kentucky.
- The USDF National Championships were approved and will be starting the 2nd week in November in 2013. This will affect Region 5 quite a bit as all Regional Championships must now conclude by October 20th and Arizona is currently unable to meet this deadline.
- There was much discussion at the 2011 convention concerning Training Level Freestyles. This could really give folks something fun to play with and create more possible show income, especially at championship-type competitions. The judges' committee and freestyle committee will be discussing this a lot this coming year.

- The Host Site Application for the 2013 Regional Championships is now available. It can be found on the USDF website. This year the document is in a write-able pdf, to make things much easier. They are due to the Regional Director on February 13, 2012.
- Nominations are being accepted for Participating Member delegates in all regions until **April 15, 2012**. Nominations for USDF President, Treasurer, and Regional Directors in regions 2, 4, 6 and 8 will be accepted until **June 1, 2012**. USDF President, Treasurer, and Regional Director (2, 4, 6, and 8) nominations will also be accepted from the floor of the Board of Governors meeting at the annual convention in New Orleans, LA. All nominations, in addition to any inquiries regarding nominations, should be sent to nominations@usdf.org. If you are interested in being a Participating Member delegate, please email Kay Lorenzen at kaylorenzen@cox.net.

Appointed Committee Reports:

Nominating Committee by Laura Speer

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

Banquet & BOG– November 12, 2011 from Laura Speer

- The 2011 Banquet and BOG was a huge success! The event was at a wonderful location, the Renaissance Hotel in north Denver. The hotel staff was fantastic! They helped Shannon and all the art exhibitors with bringing in and taking out their boxes. Shannon finished setting up in record time and was able to enjoy the evening. We also had a record number of baskets and auction items and a very large attendance for the evening, with more than usual staying until the end of the evening. Plus, we made a small profit, including all the meeting expenses, of \$31.26. **Nicole Bizzarro moved that the RMDS Board of Governors Meeting and Awards Banquet continue at the Renaissance Hotel in north Denver for November 10, 2012 if available, 2nd by Wendy Cibis, Motion passed.**
- \$121.56 reimbursement came in 2012 – we overpaid the bill.
- It was discussed that we maybe not have the art show since none of the artists sold any art, but instead have a few vendors selling holiday horse stuff.
- Delegates really need to attend if they say they are coming as we pay \$50 per head the BOG.

Old business:

- Conflict of Interest papers – Beth will email them out to everyone. They are based on the USDF templates.
- Western Dressage: RMDS had a email from Boulder Valley – Gwen Dordick was convinced that Julie Haugen was the Western Dressage committee chair, and it was noted RMDS does not have a Western Dressage committee. Julie made the motion to approve allowing Western Dressage in RMDS shows. Lori doesn't feel we need a committee, just perhaps a liaison. Lori will appoint someone soon after following up on some communications.

New Business:

- USDF Convention Policy – **Susan Rudman made the motion to table discussion on the USDF Convention Reimbursement Policy, 2nd by Julie Haugen, Motion Passed.**
- Appoint Chapter Officers so they are covered for insurance:
 - Arkansas Valley:
 - President: Jamee Amundson

- Vice President: Sis Harmon
- Treasurer: Sandy Vernon
- Secretary: Kathy Burke
- Boulder Valley:
 - President: Kim Lampert
 - Vice President:
 - Treasurer: Stephanie Margulis
 - Secretary: Kathie Hibbard
- Colorado Springs Dressage:
 - President:
 - Vice President: Patricia Leech
 - Treasurer:
 - Secretary: Elaine Haberman
- Foothills:
 - President: Lori Mitchell
 - Vice President: Pam DeVore
 - Treasurer: Laura Quakenbush
 - Secretary: Cecilia Ross
- Grand Valley:
 - President: Inka Spatafora
 - Vice President: Betsy Small
 - Treasurer: Susan Radka
 - Secretary: Deb Crooks
- High Plains:
 - President: Wendy Cibis
 - Vice President: Suzie Halle
 - Treasurer: Judith Weber
 - Secretary: Meredith Mathers
- Northern Colorado:
 - President: Hana van Campen
 - Vice President: Renee Martig
 - Treasurer: Pat Schultheiss Cole
 - Secretary: Kathleen Kilkelly
- Pikes Peak Dressage:
 - President: Simone Windeler
 - Vice President: Heather Petersen
 - Treasurer:
 - Secretary:
- Platte River:
 - President: Laura Speer
 - Vice President:
 - Treasurer: Sharon Soos
 - Secretary:
- Wasatch Mountain:
 - President: Linda Nickerson
 - Vice President:
 - Treasurer: Sally Shaffer
 - Secretary: Amanda Trickett

- Western Colorado:
 - President: Judith Family
 - Vice President: Sue Pietrzak
 - Treasurer: Barbara McElnea
 - Secretary: Barbara Graham Terry

Kim Lampert moved that we accept the above slate of officers for each chapter, 2nd by Susan Rudman, Motion Passes.

- July date for meeting – July 10th was agreed upon to move the meeting, still at Romano's.
- Laura will take minutes for March meeting since Heather will be attending a training session in Florida.
- One bid has been received so far for the 2013/2014 RMDS Championships. Heather Petersen presented the bid for 2 White Feet, Inc. and answered any questions that board had concerning the bid. She did note that RMDS needed to decide whether they wanted to bid for the 2013 USDF Region 5 Championships as this was part of the requirements needed to be contained in the bids for the management of the 2013/2014 shows. **Beth Geier moved that RMDS submit a bid for the 2013 USDF Region 5 Championships and that all management bids for the 2013/2014 need therefore contain the appropriate management experience in order to complete the bid process for the 2013 USDF Region 5 Championships, a Level 4 competition. 2nd by Julie Haugen. Motion Passed.** Heather Petersen said she would help RMDS with the bid process no matter what management team was awarded the Championships contracts.

Chapter Reports: Heather Petersen made the motion that all chapter reports be accepted as written, 2nd by Sharon Soos, Motion Passed.

Arkansas Valley

Jamee Amundson – Proxy to Lori Mitchell

We are just getting started for the year. The Arkansas Valley Chapter had a wonderful Christmas party at Michael's on Main in Canon City on Dec. 20th. The club had a great time discussing the past year's showing and training successes and all things horses. We presented Marcy Wadlington with her Volunteer of the Year Award. We are very grateful for Marcy's dedication to the club in 2011 from concessions and scoring at horse shows to support, to marketing and all of her tireless efforts. The chapter will have a planning meeting on January 24th to discuss the goals and direction for 2012. I am looking forward to a fun and active club.

Boulder Valley

Kim Lampert

It's a New Year and BVD started it off right with a fantastic party January 7th at the Hotel Boulderado! We had a record attendance of over 60 party goers! On a snowy night no less!! A huge THANK YOU to all of our members who came and supported the banquet this year. BVD appreciates you!! Julie Barringer-Richers was our fabulous MC for the night. She made the night come alive! Thank you Julie!! Thank you to our new Western Dressage ambassador Keith Jacobson who came and gave us all a glimpse into the new discipline of Western Dressage. (Although he thought he was just coming to dinner we called upon him to give a speech.) Thanks for stepping up Keith! RMDS has approved this new type of dressage into their shows for the first time this year. There will be a few shows in Boulder Valley including the new tests this year. BVD's Spring Fling this April at Single Tree Farm and So Long to Summer in August at Sextant will include them. Autumn Hill summer Sunday series and Dressage in Pink in October are also including them. Many thanks go out to the people behind the scenes who made it all happen! Gwen Dordick and her assistant Kelly, for her super woman organizing skills and for getting door prizes for our members. Thank you to Natalie Equestrian for their donation of full seat show breeches, the Tack Collection for a terrific vest, Stephanie Boyles of Unbridled Rider for her 101 Dressage Exercises application,

Kathleen Bryan for dressage a personal photo donation, and Foxcreek for a Equine Spa package! Thank you to Bill Terry for the dauntless job of getting all the calculations done, ordering the ribbons and rounding up the perpetual trophies and having them engraved and ready for the show! Bill graciously donated the cost of engraving each one of those awards for the winners. THANK YOU BILL for your donation to the club of your time and money. I would like to thank Stephanie Boyles, owner of Unbridled Rider social website, for donating her time and skills to put together an DVD of BVD horses and riders that played through out the night Thank you to Kathleen Bryan who donated 70 pictures of our riders! It was extremely well received! Thank you to Dani Culver, our information technology guru who got the word out on Facebook and Unbridled Rider! Thank you to Kathie Hibbard, our Secretary, Wiley Gilmor, our treasurer, and Beth Geier for getting things going, organizing the details, getting information and ideas out in putting together this shin dig! All of your hard work is appreciated!

Once again, our upcoming events include a Volunteer Party hosted by Somerset Farms in April, our Spring Fling show and Ride a Test on April 28th and 29th.

Please join us for our next meeting February 13th. Details will be emailed to members.

Colorado Springs

Patricia Leech

The last year has been a turbulent one for CSDA with many changes happening to both the club and membership. One of these changes has been the resignation on January 11 2012 of Shannon Lemons as the CSDA president, effective immediately. Additional resignations from board members are expected in the coming days, which will require CSDA to hold elections at the February meeting. I have stepped up to act as the interim President until the CSDA board and membership can make permanent selections for any and all of the vacant positions.

Another change was the sale of the four CSDA USEF/USDF/RMDS recognition licenses held by CSDA to Heather Petersen, effective with the 2012 competition year. CSDA is currently engaged in a review of all contracts signed for officials, venues, and insurance on behalf of CSDA for the 2012 competitions.

The focus for CSDA in the coming year will be on providing quality educational events for the membership in the Southern Colorado area. In addition to monthly educational events, CSDA is planning to hold a tack swap and sale sometime in March or April and a symposium style clinic with a clinician sometime in the fall.

Foothills

Lori Mitchell

The latest chapter meeting was held on January 9th at Tuscan Tavern.

Heather Robertson Clinic – May 19 and 20 and August 4 and 5, Capricorn Farm in Golden is hosting both clinics. The chapter agreed to financially support FH riders with discounted rider fee (\$235 vs. \$270) and free auditor fee (\$20/day or \$30/2 Day). Donations accepted by all. Already have four riders that have contacted the chapter about participating. Ellen Storeim is working on flyer for the Centaur, and chapter will most likely use our free (highest bid for chapter basket at RMDS Award Banquet) page at that time.

Ride A Test with Dolly Hannon – June 16 Dolly talked to Miggy Monroe, owner of Roberts Ranch Equestrian Center in Littleton and Miggy confirmed the use of the facility. Dolly will work hard with the 22 rides to be scheduled.

Bylaws -The chapter rewrote the bylaws and sent them to RMDS Central Office at the end of 2011. We revised some of them at the meeting and will make the necessary changes and post them to our website and send a revised copy to Central Office after the chapter approves again.

Foothills Scholarship Committee - One \$500 scholarship will be awarded this year to a FH member. Heather Fitzgerald was not present at the meeting, but will work with the other committee members (Laura Quakenbush and Linda Gaber) to get the information out to membership.

Website – All information to update has been sent to our web person. She will get it updated in the next week.

Grand Junction – no report

Inka Spatafora – PROXY to Beth Geier

High Plains – no report
Northern Colorado – no report
Platte River

Officers for 2012 are President & Secretary--Laura Speer and Sharon Soos treasurer. VP position is open and hopefully we will have a volunteer to fill it soon. Sharon and Laura are going to work on getting more members. Our next meeting we will be discussing events for 2012.

Pikes Peak –

Wendy Cibis
Hana van Campen – NO PROXY
Laura Speer
Simone Windeler – PROXY to Heather Petersen

With the RMDS Board approval of our new chapter, we are looking forward to a great year. We have finished our new Constitution and ByLaws and we hope to have our open board positions filled at our first meeting. We are currently working on a meeting schedule and we have set up an account with Skype to allow folks to call in from home or work if they are unable to make the meetings.

We have dates for clinics set with Hilda Gurney and Gary Rockwell and we will announce them once we get our contracts back. We're very excited to pursue some fun educational activities and different topics. Several of our members, Simone Windeler, Janet Foy and Frances Carbonnel, have volunteered to give talks and presentations at meetings and to host educational clinics also.

Feedback and help is always welcome! We travel a new road and we look forward to having some fun and learning a ton! (yep, I rhymed that!)

Wasatch Mountains – no report
Western Colorado – no report

Linda Nickerson – NO PROXY
Judith Family – NO PROXY

MaryJo Hoepner made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:07 pm. 2nd by Susan Rudman. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Heather Petersen, secretary