

RMDS EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING  
**Darcy's Bistro & Irish Pub – 303-770-0477**  
July 8 (Tuesday), 2014 @ 6:30 PM

**Attendance:** Gwen Ka'awaloa, Michelle Anderson, Mary Jo Hoepner, Heather Petersen, Michael Petersen, Beth Geier, Jon Haugen, Julie Haugen, Linda Gaber, Beverly Swanson, Sharon Soos, Pat Leech, Jacque McIntyre, Renee Martig, Nina Felsenthal

**Proxies:** Simone Windeler to Heather Petersen, Barbara Terry to Simone Windeler to Heather Petersen, Shannon Lemons to Heather Petersen, Aline Brandau to Beverly Swanson, Brenda Haley to Aline Brandau to Beverly Swanson, Tammy Fagan to Nina Felsenthal, Sally Shaffer to Gwen Ka'awaloa, Sarah Barnes to Gwen Ka'awaloa, Laura Speer to Sharon Soos

**Call to Order-President**

**Gwen Ka'awaloa**

**President Gwen Ka'awaloa called the meeting to order at 6:30pm**

**Secretary - Approval of Minutes**

**Nina Felsenthal**

- May Minutes

There was discussion to record whether a Board member was in attendance, submitted a proxy, and/or submitted a report next to their name. This is to make it easier to recognize attendance and proxies for Board Members when scanning the minutes.

**Mary Jo Hoepner motioned to approve the minutes as revised, Julie Haugen seconded, and all were in favor except for Pat Leech who abstained.**

**Treasurers Report**

**Sharon Soos**

**Funds as of April 30, 2014**

RMDS Checking	22,606.99
PayPal (As of 4/17/14)	1,310.85
Scholarship	6,538.88
Money Market	<u>44,259.16</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>74,715.88</b>

Documents Available as of June 30, 2014:

- Current Year vs. Prior Year Profit and Loss Statement
- Current Year vs. Prior Year Balance Sheet

**President Report**

**Gwen Ka'awaloa**

Gwen has submitted a revised version of summarizing our lives outside of RMDS to also include time spent with family. Gwen is asking for submissions by volunteer ONLY. The hours will be presented in the September Centaur. Gwen has appealed to the Board to help encourage volunteering in their chapters to take committee positions on the board. There are several positions that are easy to do remotely and do not require attendance at every meeting, and allow the opportunity for more involvement from our more remote chapters. RMDS "Year of the Horse" shirts are selling quite well. They will continue to be for sale at shows and through the RMDS website.

- Reflection

"A dead end can never be a one-way street. You can always turn around and take another road." –Bo Bennett

"This is the start, this is not the end. To that end, where do we start?" – Jody Weintraub

**Vice-President Report**

**Aline Brandau**

Aline has drafted a "Property Release" to protect RMDS and the artist who released her artwork to us for use on the RMDS "Year of the Horse" shirts. It was drafted in such a way that we can continue to use it in the future as well. Any concerns or suggested changes can be sent directly to Aline.

## Central Office

Beth Geier

### RMDS CENTRAL OFFICE REPORT

#### Executive Board Meeting

July 8, 2014

## Membership

- Registration – As of July 1: 739 members for 2014 (794 in 2013) – 11 are Centaur only – 87 are new to RMDS this year. 88 juniors 161 adult amateurs

**Insurance:** 3 chapters have taken advantage of using insurance through RMDS

### Recognized Officials:

- TD Reports: Autumn Hill

### Omnibus:

- Need ads!!
- Discuss prices for Championship show ads

It was decided to keep the Omnibus prices the same for 2015 as 2014.

### General:

- Computer had a problem – got it fixed through the Geek Squad at Best Buy. Nominal fee, which covers us for 3 years. Had to buy a new key board.
- Need help with **advertising** for everything!!!!!!
- Centaur needs articles coming in

### Next Executive Board Meetings (2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday odd months) –

2014:            Sept 11            Oct 9-Budget    Nov 15- BOG

## Paid Position Bids

Gwen Ka'awaloa

- **Office Manager**

Beth Geier submitted the only bid for Office Manager. Beth Geier was absent from the room while there was discussion on approving her at \$15 an hour pay, which is \$1 above what she had proposed in her bid at \$14. All were in favor. **Sharon Soos motioned that we accept the bid as amended, Julie Haugen seconded and all were in favor.**

- **Website Maintenance**

Michael Petersen submitted the only bid for Website Maintenance. **Julie Haugen motioned to accept the bid, Sharon Soos seconded, all were in favor except for Pat Leech and Heather Petersen (and Simone Windeler and Shannon Lemons by proxy) who abstained.**

## Reflection

Gwen Ka'awaloa

"When your horse follows you without being asked, when he rubs his head on yours, and when you look at him and feel a tingle down your spine, you know you are loved." –John Lyons

## Permanent Committee Reports:

### 1. Adult Amateur

Heather Petersen

**In attendance, report submitted.**

I'm working with Jon Haugen to firm up dates to start an L program Part 2 for 2015. I will start working on a clinic if the board would like me to, but will ask at the meeting. Also working with Sally Davenport on an article concerning why

Adult Amateurs should audit the L program - similar to what was published in the USDF Connection but geared to the Adult Amateur.

## **.2. Awards**

**Shannon Lemons**

**Not in attendance, Proxy given to Heather Petersen, report submitted.**

**Shannon has requested that we put in the Centaur and send an email blast requesting that trophies be brought to championships, and notifying our new policy that they will no longer be mailed and must be returned in person.**

## **3. Communications**

**Linda Gaber**

**In attendance, report submitted.**

THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN DRESSAGE SOCIETY  
COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE  
Chair Linda Gaber, July 8, 2014

- Both June E-Centaur and July published Centaur were produced and delivered to members. The July Centaur was delivered late because of the many edits by the author on the Hallé article, combined with the July 4 holiday.
- Board members and staff continue to seek advertising and sponsors for RMDS Championships. Centaurs will continue to promote these opportunities and list contact information.
- I have informed Michelle Anderson that I will not be seeking reelection as RMDS Communications Chair. It has been tremendously rewarding because of the members I have met and their stories we have published. It also has been nice that USDF has honored several RMDS members for their Centaur articles, as well as the RMDS website, these past two years. But, I am a better journalist than rider, so now I want to concentrate on improving my dressage skills. We are fortunate to have Centaur production contractor Beverly Swanson to continue her very capable work with a new Communications Chair.

- Centaur

**Beverly Swanson**

Beverly is asking for more articles and submissions to the Centaur. She is suggesting that when a Board Member attends a clinic or an educational session, they submit a short write-up of their experience or what they have learned, in order to share it with RMDS members.

- Omnibus Production

**Nicole Bizzarro**

Advertising is needed for the Omnibus, especially with the cost of printing all new tests this coming year.

- Website

**Michael Petersen**

## **4. Education**

**Jon Haugen**

**In attendance, report submitted.**

- Instructor Certification

The final for the Instructor Certification is scheduled to be held Oct 24-26. We are still trying to find a willing, suitable facility to hold it. (Ideally, this would contain 2 arenas and a warm-up, with available stalls).

- 'L' Program

I have received 8 participant applications, 6 from within the state. I have received an email of another on the way. I have only received 1 auditor application, but I think it might be early for auditors.

## **5. Junior/Young Riders**

**Julie Haugen**

**In attendance, report submitted.**

This year has sadly not had a camp as of yet. Our USDF Team competition was quite a success though! Thanks to Beth Geier, Jon Haugen and the folks at Tomora Training Center, we had a wonderful day of fun in the sun. Below are the stats on the day.

2014 USDF Region 5 Youth and Adult Team Competition

7 Adult Teams/ 23 Riders

7 Intro level                      14 Training Level

12 First level                      3 Second level

3 Third level                      1 FEI

2 Youth Teams / 7 Riders

3 Intro level                      5 Training Level

3 First level                    1 Second Level  
0 Third level                    1 FEI

Julie Burt judged a full day and Beth Geier judged for a few hours to make sure the day didn't go too long. As we do every year, the teams all were represented by an individual color. Each team was given bandanas of their color and asked to wear them in some way. All the teams were extremely creative and did a wonderful job showing their colors! It is such a fun wonderful competition! I have asked that all the competitors that get photos to please submit them to the RMDS website.

ViVi Keeton and Holly Kaye volunteered all day doing whatever needed to be done! Joan Clay scribed in the morning. Thanks to 2 White feet for the useful bags that all the exhibitors received. We awarded some wonderful key-chains that Renee Martig Donated to the Adult and Youth teams that were the most creative with their use of color and gave gift card from Murdock's to the High scorers from both the Youth and Adult as well as one for the hard luck low score of the day.

Everyone had a great time and we all look forward to it next year!

As for other news from the Junior/Young rider chair, I am looking into doing some Developing Rider clinics in the next few months. I feel it would be good to begin to get junior riders thinking of what they have to know for the FEI tracks that are available to them. I am also looking into the possibility of offering a non riding camp in August at the YMCA to work on team building and the many other aspects of dressage that many times get briefly brushed upon due to the fact that the riders are riding and not intellectualizing.

## **6. Marketing**

**Sharon Soos**

### **In attendance, report submitted.**

- 2014 Championships
  - Year of the Horse T-Shirts for 2014 Championships  
Coordinated by Gwen Ka'awaloa
    - Sales Revenue posted through 6/30/2014: \$755.00
- Materials available at Championships
  - Omnibus Advertising Rates?  
It was decided to keep the Omnibus rates the same for 2015 as 2014
  - Centaur Advertising Rates?  
It was decided to keep the Centaur rates the same for 2015 as 2014
  - Media Kits?
  - ???
- RMDS Polo Shirts
  - Small Inventory Remaining
  - Should these be available at Championships?

## **7. Professional's Committee**

**Simone Windeler**

**Not in attendance, proxy given to Heather Petersen, no report submitted.**

## **8. RMDS Championships**

**Beverly Swanson**

**In attendance, report submitted.**

Show Liaison Report

Beverly Swanson

July 8, 2014

Timing is everything!

Initial outreach to local sponsors (Parker, Castle Rock, Elizabeth, Franktown) is underway. I have contacted several local businesses with Local Sponsor packet (with map). Interest seems good, will be following up closer to event date. Expect that most of these will be either advertisers or packet inserts.

-Following up with larger sponsors.

-Constant Contact Champs messages to begin this month.

PR outreach to local papers, news this month.

CHALLENGE:

I would like every board member and chapter president to give me two names as possible sponsors. I will do the sales follow up. Please email to me by end of week (July 11, 2014) along with contact information.

High Plains Chapter: Request your assistance in reaching out to local sponsor possibilities (think restaurants, specialty boutiques, locally owned businesses) that would benefit from the championship attendees. Please contact your members with request for people they know.

### 9. Scholarship

MaryJo Hoepner

**In attendance, report submitted.**

Scholarship report:

1. New articles for the Centaur on volunteering – written by me and by Lori Mitchell.
2. Getting reports from those who were awarded scholarships.
3. Will write more information on volunteering and how to apply

MaryJo Hoepner

### Appointed Committee Reports:

#### 1. Nominating Committee- Chapter Presidents

Michelle Anderson

**In attendance, report submitted.**

#### Current Roster of Candidates/Status

VP	Aline Brandau	Incumbent	Willing to run again
Adult Amateur	Heather Petersen	Named to complete term	Run for full term?
Awards	Shannon Lemons	Incumbent	Will run if no other volunteers
Communications	Linda Gabor	Incumbent	Will not run again
Education	Jon Haugen	Incumbent	Run again?
Junior/YR	Julie Haugen	Incumbent	Will not run again
Marketing	Sharon Soos	Incumbent	Will not run again
	Aline Brandau		
RMDS Show Liaison	Beverly Swanson	Incumbent	Will run if no other volunteers
Scholarship	Mary Jo Hoepner	Incumbent	Will run if no other volunteers

I have sent a personal appeal to each chapter president, suggesting jobs that could be performed remotely for those groups that are far afield (Example: Scholarship) and even suggesting some active members within their chapter for certain positions. I reminded them again of the 50% off educational events benefit.

I would like to run a short story/appeal in the next print Centaur listing the positions and can we identify a list of the 2014 educational events that are eligible for 50% off? (I know the "L" Continuing Ed if not an "L" and probably the "L" certification sessions, but am not sure about the new test clinic?)

Michelle Anderson

Pikes Peak President

2014 Nominating Committee Chair

**There was discussion clarifying Michelle Anderson's question regarding what is eligible for 50% off. RMDS Board Members receive 50% off the Audit Fee for RMDS Run Events.**

#### 2. Banquet & BOG- November 15, 2014

Laura Speer

**Not in attendance, proxy given to Sharon Soos, no report submitted.**

#### 3. Western Dressage Liaison

Frances Carbonnel

**Not in attendance, no proxy given, no report submitted.**

### Region 5 Report

Heather Petersen

**In attendance, report submitted.**

August 2014 Region 5 Message

Congratulations to our 2014 NAJYRC teams! These girls worked very hard to qualify for the teams this year and we are very proud of them. Good luck in Kentucky!! Many thanks to those coming along to help and all the families and coaches of each of the riders. We couldn't do it without you.

Region 5 Young Riders – Chef d' Equipe, Heather Petersen

Devon Wycoff / Power Play

Erin McHenry / Bailando

Region 5 Junior – Chef d'Equipe, Joan Clay

Inga Fuengerlings / Milo

Lauren Asher / Lysias

Congratulations to members of our Region who may also qualify for the USEF Young Horse and Eveloping Horse Championships – Unfortunately we don't know those finalists as we go to print!

And one more – Way to Go Devon Wycoff and Power Play on your **third place** finish at the Gladstone Festival of Champions in the Young Rider Division!!

Another reminder of several important **DEADLINES** that 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 nominations are open for [Newsletter Awards](#), [Website Awards](#), and [Photography Awards](#). Don't forget that all nominations are due to the USDF office by **August 31**. 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 2014 Adequan/USDF Annual Convention in Cambridge, MA. 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 December 3-6, 2014 in Cambridge Massachusetts.

Please mark your calendars for our Region 5 sponsored events and plan to join us:

- USDF/Great American Region 5 Championships – September 18-21, 2014. Parker, Colorado.
- USDF/Great American Region 5 Championships – October 9-11, 2015. Scottsdale, Arizona.

Till next month!

Heather Petersen

Region 5 Director

## Chapter Presidents:

### 1. Arkansas Valley

Brenda Haley

**Not in attendance, proxy given to Aline Brandau to Beverly Swanson, report submitted.**

July 2014

Report for AVDA

Members enjoyed a cavaletti clinic in May taught by Simone Windeler.

Our schooling show scheduled for June was cancelled due to lack of interest.

July 12<sup>th</sup> we are having a clinic with Amelia Newcomb, a grand prix rider from California, 9 rides are scheduled and we are hoping it won't be too hot!

We currently have nothing on the agenda until our schooling show in October but will discuss adding more events before then at our next meeting.

Respectfully,

Brenda Haley

AVDA President

### 2. Boulder Valley

Sarah Barnes

**Not in attendance, proxy given to Gwen Ka'awaloa, no report submitted.**

### 3. Colorado Springs

Pat Leech

**In attendance, no report submitted.**

### 4. Foothills

Lori Mitchell

**Not in attendance, no proxy submitted, no report submitted.**

### 5. Grand Valley

Tammy Fagan

**Not in attendance, proxy given to Nina Felsenthal, no report submitted.**

## **6. High Plains**

**Jacquelin MacIntyre**

**In attendance, report submitted.**

The summer show season was kicked off with ribbons for Claire at the High Prairie Dressage Shows. The ribbons were worn by exhibitors and office staff to remember Claire Davis and the kindness that she displayed each day. Look on our Facebook page to see photos of all the wonderful people who exhibited the ribbons. Her family appreciated the show of compassion for Claire. Thanks to all the High Plains member who helped put together this tribute to Claire.

The Andreas Hausberger clinic is full for riders but auditing is still available. Andreas is the Chief Rider at the Spanish Riding School and will be at Stellar stables, July 19-21, 2014. There will be many different levels of riders, from training through Grand Prix. He will teach a lunge and long line lesson also. Go to our website to sign up <http://www.highplainsdressage.org>

We are working on a fall pot-luck get together, we will have more details soon. Have a great summer.

Jacque McIntyre, President, HPC

## **7. Northern Colorado**

**Renee Martig**

**In attendance, no report submitted.**

## **8. On The Bit**

**Jessica Ford**

**Not in attendance, no proxy submitted, no report submitted.**

## **9. Pikes Peak**

**Michelle Anderson**

**In attendance, report submitted.**

We held a small potluck and meeting during the June Fountain Valley Show. Due to lack of participation we cancelled the potluck & meeting in July. Our next regular club meeting will be on Tuesday, Sept. 2 at a location TBD.

Future plans include our long postponed Lungeing and Long Lining Clinic, hopefully in conjunction with an October meeting. We are also looking at a yoga session to aid riders with out of the saddle exercises and an evening of baking horse cookies in conjunction with our holiday party and gift exchange.

The liberty horse training clinic was cancelled due to lack of member interest.

As always, the most current information for our chapter is available at our website at

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

Michelle Anderson

Pikes Peak Chapter President

## **10. Platte River**

**Laura Speer**

**Not in attendance, proxy given to Sharon Soos, no report submitted.**

## **11. Wasatch Mountains**

**Sally Shaffer**

**Not in attendance, proxy given to Gwen Ka'awaloa, no report submitted.**

## **12. Western Colorado**

**Barbara Terry**

**Not in attendance, proxy given to Simone Windeler to Heather Petersen, no report submitted.**

**Mary Jo Hoepner motioned that we accepted Chapter Reports as submitted, Sharon Soos seconded, all were in favor.**

## **Other Business**

There was discussion about continuing to hold meetings at Darcy's Bistro. The consensus among meeting attendees was that everybody enjoyed the quiet, private room, and the ability to use the television if we need to make presentations.

## **Reflection**

**Gwen Ka'awaloa**

"Horses lend us the wings we lack." –Pam Brown

## **Adjourn**

**Nina Felsenthal motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:29pm, Renee Martig seconded and all were in favor.**