

## RMDS EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

May 10, 2018

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

4955 S Ulster St #103

Denver, CO 80237

The room is reserved beginning at 6pm

**Meeting @ 6:30 PM**

**Attendance:** Gwen Ka'awaloa, Sharon Soos, Beverly Swanson, MaryJo Hoepner, Kathy Simard, Lori Keilt, Ginka Kubelka, Pamela Phillips, Andrea Chirich, Rosemary Balfour, Joan Clay, Didi DiKrey, Anclaire Spaulding

**Proxies:** Sandra Rosewell to Heather Petersen; Stephanie Figgins to Lori Keilt; Una Schade to Andrea Chirich; Arlene Rhodes to Didi DeKrey; Tiffany Busch to Pam Phillips; Cassandra DiPentino to Anclaire Spaulding;

**Members:** Beth Geier

### Call to Order-President

Gwen Ka'awaloa

Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm

### Introductions

**Secretary** - Approval of Minutes - March 2018 meeting

Heather Petersen

*Beverly Swanson made a motion to approve the minutes. 2nd by Anclaire Spaulding. Motion passed unanimously, Heather Petersen abstained due to absence.*

Bids are due for website and central Office by June 30<sup>th</sup>. There are specifics needed for the website regarding database interaction.

### Treasurers Report

Sharon Soos

Funds as March 1, 2018

RMDS Checking Account \$51,192.22

RMDS PayPal (as pf 12/18/17) \$ 7,392.97

RMDS Scholarship \$ 5,040.63

Reserve \$43,823.00

TOTAL \$107,448.82

Things are fairly much in line. If you have questions, please email and Sharon will get back to you. A few categories that need to be cleaned up but minor details.

### President Report

Gwen Ka'awaloa

- We'll cover some things including the DSIR and participation.
- Thanks to everyone for making the trip to the meeting.

### Vice President Report

Tiffany Busch

No report

### Central Office

Beth Geier

#### Membership

- Registration – 590 as of 5/1 members for 2018. Down a little over 100 from last year's year end numbers.
- See reports with chapter membership totals.
- Accepting dues for 2018: \$70.00

#### Shows:

- Show Season has started!
- Working on Volunteers for 2018 Championships go to: <http://signup.com/go/OXFZnZx>

**Omnibus:**

- Please include Omnibus when trying to get advertising from vendors.

**Chapters:**

- The president and vice president have resigned from Western Colorado Chapter.

**Banquet:**

- No report

**General:**

- Hats – have quotes – Dressage with Altitude. Beth presented some bids. Beverly has a source that can do the hats for less money and is going to get us some additional bids. **Maryjo moved that Beverly pursue the additional bids and we'll do an email consideration of the price to move forward. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Joan Clay. Motion passed unanimously with the artwork #1.**
- I am working on volunteer DSIR. Let's make this work, we are getting good coverage though.
- Chapters receive free email blasts for educational purposes.
- RMDS Executive Board members get ½ price admission to RMDS events.
- Bids due for July meeting for Website, Central Office

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

**2018:**

**Executive Board Meetings:** May 10 July 12 Sept 6 (1<sup>st</sup> Thursday) Oct 11 (Budget)

**BOG** Nov 3

**2018 Championships:** September 20-23.

**2018 Awards Banquet:** January 5, 2019

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

	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002
Members:	590	752	756	779	694	827	797	868	773	945	1030	1008	1036	1019	1151	1177	1162
Horses:	67	91	93	59	63	59	135	123	132	132	166	246	262	234	207	337	274
AV	33	39	25	29	26	27	25	27	24	15	26	12	-	-	-	-	-
BV	134	159	182	168	171	180	182	190	200	188	205	172	178	179	199	208	230
FH	44	57	73	79	76	64	65	71	72	75	76	77	74	73	109	103	115
GV	68	91	95	71	55	71	53	65	83	87	105	102	88	92	93	98	77
HP	121	169	149	156	151	176	190	208	226	256	265	260	259	251	267	283	278
NC	69	69	77	77	89	94	93	110	132	107	124	137	137	139	162	151	150
OB	35	49	43	42	33	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PP	64	89	63	70	63	62	44	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WC	21	29	22	18	19	23	27	31	22	21	25	25	32	34	44	55	64
No Chapter	1	1	3	5	11	12	13	15	14	25	14	16	22	21	34	36	24
CS		7/1/17	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>590</b>	<b>752</b>	<b>756</b>	<b>779</b>	<b>694</b>	<b>827</b>	<b>797</b>	<b>868</b>	<b>773</b>	<b>945</b>	<b>1030</b>	<b>1008</b>	<b>1036</b>	<b>1019</b>	<b>1151</b>	<b>1177</b>	<b>1162</b>
Juniors	56	80	86	88	95	120	117	120	134								
Amateurs	136	195	163	152	176	209	220	239	230								
Education	14	21	17	16													

**Permanent Committee Reports:**

**1. Adult Amateur**

**Anclaire Spaulding/Michelle Stevens**

The Adult Amateur Clinic with Bill McMullin was a success! We had a full clinic with 8 riders and many auditors. The budget is till TBD since I was able to secure the USDF grant. Sharon is reviewing it. I hope everyone enjoyed the clinic. More auditors on Saturday and fewer Sunday, which is typical. A few of the riders volunteered to write essays that I will submit to USDF for the magazine.

This was really great experience for me and I hope to organize more in the future.

Large discussion followed Anclaire's report on communication and getting people to read and learn what we are offering.

Adult/Youth Team Challenge – Anclaire working on prizes.

## 2. Awards

**Shannon Lemons**

It has been asked if volunteer hours can be purchased. **Sharon Soos moved that we do not accept monetary donations for volunteer hours. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Lori Keilt. Opposed by Anclaire Spaulding. Motion passed.**

## 3. Communications

**Beverly Swanson**

### **Centaurs: Apr - May Centaurs**

Thank you to Amber Clark and Katherine Simard for their great articles!

Hope everyone was able to view the slide show on the Apr e-Centaur of the kids at the HP Clinic.

### **June - May Centaurs**

Pat Van Buskirk interviewed Joan Clay on her core exercise routine, complete with pics for June e-Centaur.

I also hope to get different reports on the Dressage Symposium and the Professionals' and Open Clinic with Lilo Fore and Janet Foy.

Does anyone want to give me a report on the Bill McMullin clinic? I was unable to attend, as my BEES came that same weekend.

Looking forward to the USDF Team competition, always great story and pics.

MaryJo is going to remind folks for articles for scholarship.

### **New Idea --**

I was thinking of doing a 1-2 question survey in the e-Centaur, anonymous, easy and fun. What do you think? If you like the idea, I could coordinate with other chairs for pertinent questions, esp Marketing.

Newsletter evaluation document presented, written by Didi DeKrey. Discussion: The guidelines presented are basically what is written in our contract with Beverly currently and we need to look at other avenues possibly? It was suggested an editorial content group perhaps. Beverly raised some points including the last minute notification of this item and her role as the communications chair. Content was discussed and the publication's mile stones recently. Andrea Chirich has volunteered to help with content. Linda Gaber does the super duper proof reading of articles. Heather Petersen will be the technical editor. Beth Geier for the calendar/ads, and Lori Keilt for editorial.

### **Omnibus**

No report.

**Nicole Bizzarro**

### **Website**

We are looking for bids due in July.

**Michael Petersen**

## 4. Education

**MaryJo Hoepner**

As announced previously this year, I (Michelle Anderson) am formally resigning as Education Co-Chair for personal reasons. I believe MaryJo Hoepner has a candidate to fill the position. Pam Phillips has been put forward to fill the vacant co-chair position. **MaryJo Hoepner moved we accept Pam as the co-chair for education. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sharon Soos. Motion passed unanimously with Pam abstaining with her proxy.**  
**Group sit time for L Graduates**

Group sit time with Debbie Riehl-Rodriguez is scheduled for Sunday, May 27 at the Paragon show. There are currently 6 paid attendees with one refund due to a serious accident.

Final expenses will be submitted after that date.

Need a vote on how long an extension on her requirements to judge RMDS shows we give to Stephanie Soule following her very serious accident earlier this year. It was decided to uphold the continuing education requirements and once she is well she will be able to catch up quickly and be instantly reinstated.

#### **Scribing Clinic**

Approved to hold this at the Foothills Last Chance Show. Michelle will teach it. Gwen is judging so we can carpool and as a result costs should be limited to copying. Flyer coming soon.

#### **New Business**

Proposed changes to "L" CE requirements for judging RMDS shows was covered at the March meeting and should be added to the BOG agenda (standing rule changes).

L education proposal for next year under new business.

MaryJo proposes February 9<sup>th</sup> for TD / Show manager training.

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

#### **Cassandra Dipentino**

I have confirmed Dolly Hannon and Debbie Riehl-Rodriguez as clinicians for the Summer Intensive. I am having a harder time finding the 3<sup>rd</sup> clinician so that I can complete the budget. Currently working on this task as well as finding other learning opportunities for the kids.

I have one deposit and 5 more kids interested.

Please contact me if you have any ideas regarding a 3<sup>rd</sup> clinician or educational activities.

Board will need a complete budget to approve by June 1<sup>st</sup>. Gwen will contact Cassandra regarding this.

### **6. Marketing**

#### **Una Schade**

- Sorry I'm missing another meeting and missing you all! They have fallen while I've been travelling for work/etc.
- The Marketing Packet is complete – please proofread! Once all is approved, will send out an email version and post to the website! Would love to start hyping up sponsorship opportunities now since show season is in swing!
- We are looking for people willing to reach out to potential sponsors to try and help make this daunting task more manageable. If you are willing to help reach out to sponsors, please let myself or Andrea Chirich know!



Mailchimp Email Campaigns

**RMDS Members**

Created Jun 16, 2016 2:14 pm



928

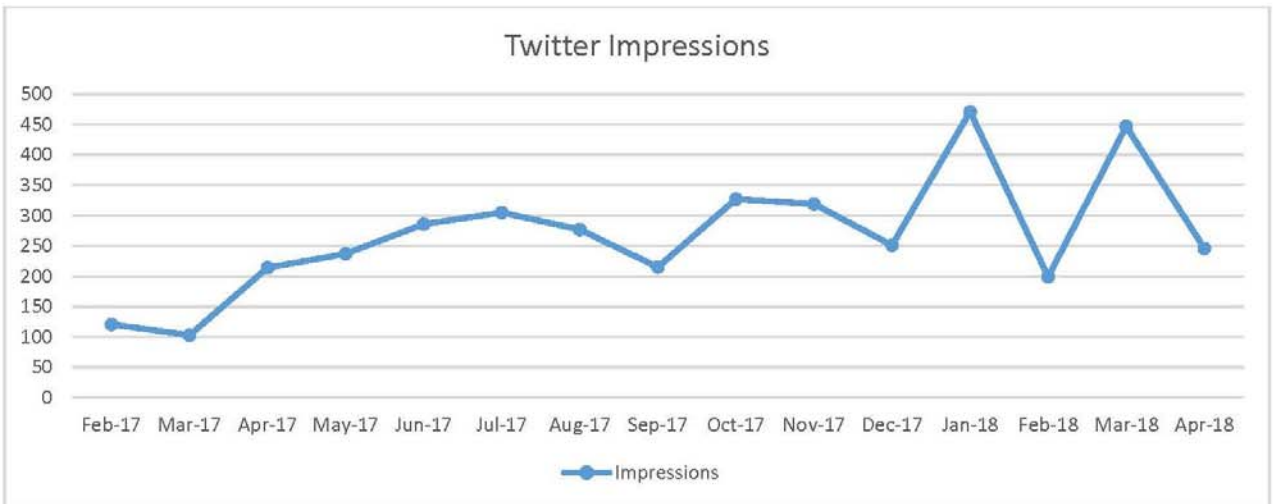
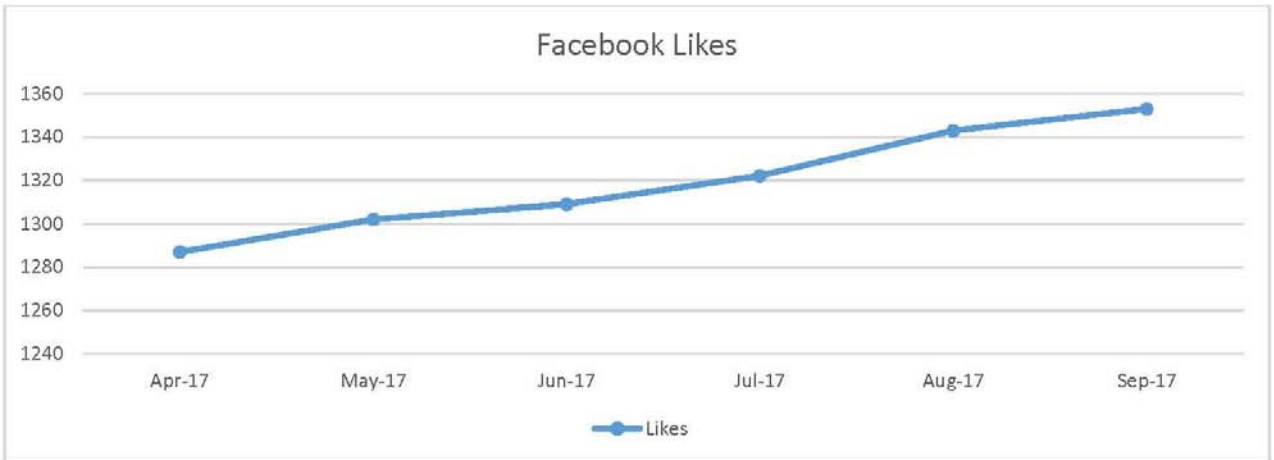
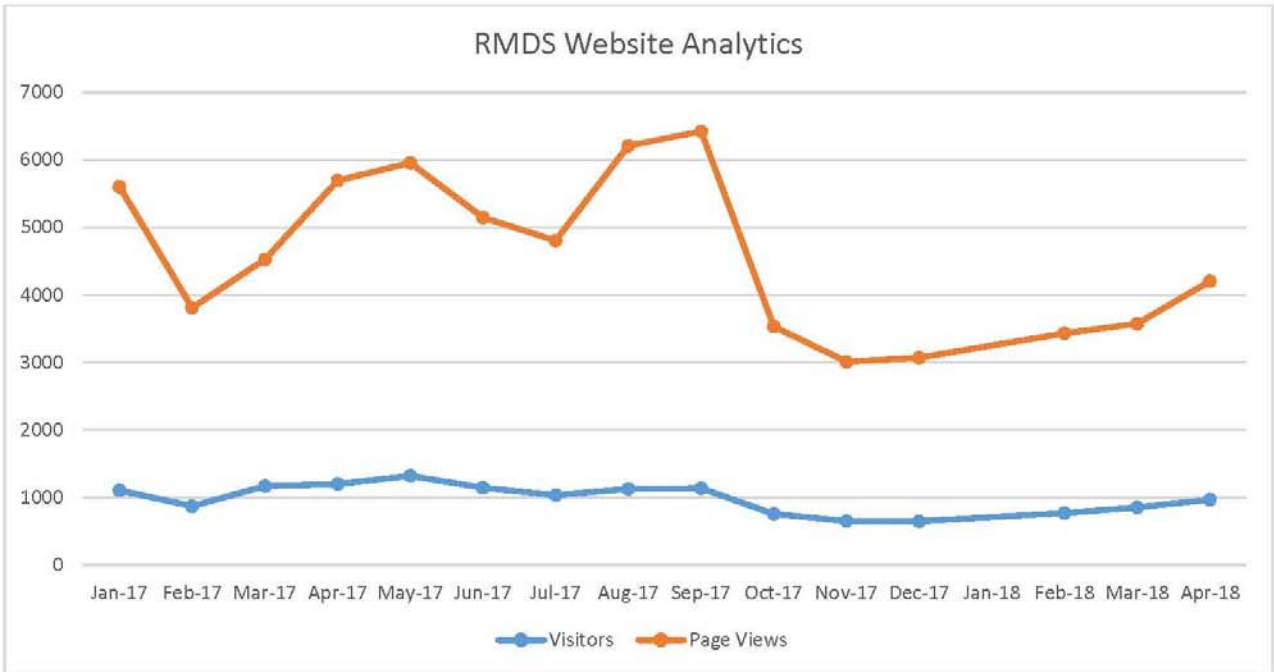
Subscribers

40.7%

Opens

1.8%

Clicks



Discussion of a second format of sponsorship report and removal of trade fair space as a benefit for championships.

**7. Professionals**

**Kathy Simard / Joan Clay**

Plans for the 2018 Professionals’ Symposium are in the final stages. We have eight riders with two alternates and excess in the wings should they be needed. Joan and I called the professionals listed with RMDS and personally invited them to attend. While I am not sure it increased the number of auditors this year, I do feel it improved the pool of riders who applied to participate. It was a luxury to have so many good ones to choose from!

Gwen Ka’awaloa will be picking Lilo up at the airport and taking her to the hotel. She will also be Lilo’s mode of transportation both Tuesday and Wednesday. Kathy Simard will be the moderator for the Symposium. Beth Geier will handle check in and lunch. Joan Clay will be our floater.

We will be utilizing index cards as well as raised hands for questions this year. We hope to get some of the more shy people to ask questions this way.

Current budget numbers show RMDS making a small profit on this event. Hoping for even more auditors to boost the numbers!

**8. Scholarship**

**MaryJo Hoepner**

Verifying that last year’s recipients have submitted all their reports for the Centaur.

**9. Shows – Championships**

**Andrea Chirich/Una Schade**

*CALL TO ACTION!*

Time to start finding sponsors, advertisers and well-wishers for our 2018 Championships Una and I want to encourage all of our members to get involved in securing sponsors and advertisers. To make it as easy as possible, we have created a Sponsorship/Advertising package, and form letters for our members to use.

Use the advertising package to easily show all of the options and find the best choice to fit their budget! The form letters can be sent via e-mail with the advertising package to your favorite business, or use the information on the form letters for talking points. As you secure sponsors, send all of the information to Una and I so we may update our spreadsheet and ensure everything needed is gathered and collected by the deadlines.

We think it would be fun and rewarding to have a drawing based on sales! Una and I will keep track of sales totals. We’re working on ideas for prizes that we can use for the drawing.

We will be sending out a MailChimp with the Sponsor Package, form letters, and drawing details. Please talk with your membership about the need for sponsors, and the importance of all of us securing at least one sponsor. There is something for every budget; From \$50 business card ads, to \$5,000 Title Sponsorships, a Thank you to clients/students, or a thank you *from* clients and students!

Ideas for potential sponsors:

Veterinarians	Health Clubs	Trainers/Boarding facilities	Acupuncturists
Farriers	Physical Therapists	Restaurants	Camper Sales
Trailer Sales	Feed Stores/Pet Food Stores		Hotels
Trailer Repair	Colleges/Universities	Chambers of Commerce	Excavators
Landscapers	Motorcycle Dealerships		

And any business or services that you rely on!

**Appointed Committee Reports:**

**1. Western Dressage**

**Simone Windeler**

No report for this meeting. The Horse Park is doing a great series of schooling shows, recognized shows and clinics. Please help support the community.

**2. Nominating Committee – Chapter Presidents**

Need nominees for 2 years: President, Vice President, Scholarship, AA, Communications, Jr/YR, Show Chair  
Tiffany Busch will contact the chapter presidents for someone to head up the committee.

**3. BOG - November 3, 2018**

**Heather Petersen**

Looking into another site otherwise it will be at the Stock Show complex. It was discussed and decided to stay at the stock show as long as they would have us for this year.

## Region 5 Report

Heather Petersen

It's almost time for the USDF Spring Executive Board meeting, once again being held in Lexington, Kentucky. By the time May does arrive, we will have met and I'll have more to share in my June update. We have quite a few things on our plate for the upcoming meeting and it's always an interesting time getting together with dedicated volunteers from across our country to help work on the future of our sport. We will be discussing the USDS Strategic Plan and starting to evaluate our currently offered programs, approving the 2019 Regional Championship bids, reviewing some potential new programs and oh so much more. It's a very informative and productive couple of days. There are many educational events around our Region so if you're not spending a weekend with family or showing, consider supporting one of our well-organized and great educational opportunities sponsored by the local GMOs (Group Member Organizations) such as Arizona Dressage Association, Tucson Dressage Club, Utah Dressage Society, Rocky Mountain Dressage and so forth. The upcoming Dressage Symposium in the Rockies May 17th-20th with 6 different national and internationally known clinicians will be a special treat for our Region. Thank you to the Colorado Horse Park for hosting this event. The Rocky Mountain Dressage Society is also hosting an Instructors' Continuing Education session with Lilo Fore on May 15th and 16th at the Colorado Horse Park. Tucson Dressage has already started planning for 2019! Mark your calendars and head south September 28-29, 2019 for a wonderful symposium with Laura Graves. As of May 16th, our potential candidates for the 2018 FEI North American Junior and Young Rider Championships will be finalized. As I write this in mid April, we have 4 declared Juniors and 1 declared Young Rider. I hope we have enough folks to field two full teams but it is a large endeavor and expense to take our teams to New York, so it might be a smaller year. We will at least have a great team of Juniors! It's the experience of a lifetime for our Youth and if you would like to contribute or help with their fundraising efforts, please contact Joan Clay, our Region 5 Jr/YR FEI coordinator at [jnclay@comcast.net](mailto:jnclay@comcast.net) or 970-420-0877 or Kathy Gillespie, our fundraising coordinator, at [kjpgillespie@msn.com](mailto:kjpgillespie@msn.com) or 303-921-5253. These young adults work very hard, as do their parents, trainers and friends and every little bit of support is greatly appreciated. **DON'T FORGET TO TURN IN YOUR DECLARATIONS IF YOU ARE INTENDING TO TRY FOR OUR TEAMS!** US Equestrian has published an updated Annex A with guidelines to bits that are legal for both national competitions and FEI competitions and it has some great illustrations. They have also updated the Dressage Tack and Attire book, so if you are looking to show this season, please be sure to read both and be current in the rules. Also, make sure you have the appropriate vaccination information with you when you travel to a horse show that is USEF recognized. Some shows are asking for the proof with your entry information, so this may help you to have it a bit more organized. If you don't vaccinate, there are requirements you must follow in order to be on the show grounds. If you are crossing state lines, make sure you are travelling with a health certificate and a current coggins. If you have news you'd like to share, please let me know, we're happy to get it out and about for you.

Discussion of sponsorship for convention.

**Lori moved, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Anclaire for \$1500. Discussion produced another option. Motion failed unanimously.**

**Heather Petersen moved RMDS sponsor \$3000 and 2 White Feet sponsor \$2000 and we do the USDF Welcome Party jointly. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Anclaire Spaulding. Discussion of lead billing and if a sponsorship should be split. Motion passed, Beverly opposed.**

## Old Business:

- DSIR needs more auditors. Lots of great learning opportunities. Only \$50 per day.
- CHP has offered a scholarship with Lisa Wilcox to RMDS members.

## New Business:

- New format for professionals' clinic in 2019, including L graduates.
- Weekend to include 8 hour class for certification in Heartsaver and First Aid thru the American Heart association (Gwen will lead the class and bring in additional instructors as needed)

- Biomechanics lecture and videos for instructors and L program for both horses and riders, trying to get availability from Debbie R\_R for a spring Program. This would be Day 2 – biomechanics lecture on horse and rider from the L program.
- Venue to be determined, hoping for something south of Denver so I can use instructors from the Elizabeth Fire Department. Suggestions for a venue that can hold 20 to 50 people? Possibly an evening program after the CPR class.
- Thoughts of including Safe Sport presentation and quiz session.

## **Chapter Presidents:**

### **1. Arkansas Valley**

**Brenda Haley**

A 2018 budget has been proposed. New chairs are learning their jobs and delegating tasks in order to reduce burn out. Insurance policy is up to date.

We have most of the details ironed out and are looking forward to our 1<sup>st</sup> schooling show on April 28<sup>th</sup>. Judge will be Simone Windeler.

Our 2<sup>nd</sup> show will follow on June 6<sup>th</sup> with Kathy Simard judging. We are planning a clinic with her on the following day.

Dolly Hannon will be giving us a 2 day clinic June 30<sup>th</sup> and July 1<sup>st</sup>, to be held at Latigo's facilit

Our last schooling show will be the first week in October.

We have some fun clinics with Joseph Newcomb, "the in hand guy" and his sister Amelia will be coming in April to Wetmore.

Hopefully groups will get together to attend RMDS events this year, with volunteering a priority.

Meetings have had a good attendance the past few months with an average of 10-12 members attending.

Enthusiasm is high, and we have decided to have monthly meetings because of the interest and fun. Currently meetings are on Saturdays at different members homes and we will changing that back to Thursdays with spring almost here!

### **2. Boulder Valley**

**Sandra Rosewell**

2018 Shows & Clinics:

BVD Spring/Summer Show-USEF/USDF

Boulder County Fairgrounds June 30-July 1

Judges: Melissa Creswick 'S'

Gwen Ka' awaloa 'r'

Melissa Creswick 'S' Clinic-July 2

Blue Roof Equestrian

September Fall Show-RMDS only

Boulder County Fairgrounds September 8-9

Judges: Debbie Riehl-Rodriguez 'S'

Bill McMullin 'R'

Bill McMullin 'R' Clinic September 10

Blue Roof Equestrian

Boulder Valley Dressage has a new website! <https://www.bouldervalleydressage.org/>

Next Meetings:

June 11, Aug 13, Oct 8

### **3. Foothills**

**Linda Gaber**

No report

### **4. Grand Valley**

**Arlene Rhodes**

No report

### **5. High Plains**

**Stephanie Figgins**

The High Plains Dressage Society hosted a Ride-A-Test in Parker, Colorado with USDF "L" program graduate and USDF certified instructor Julie Burt. We had riders participate all the way through the FEI levels. The 13 participating riders



rode a test of their choice, were judged on it, and then had a mini-lesson to work on some of the points where they may need to clean up to get a better score at that level.

Riders worked on things like moving more forward, accepting the contact better, making more accurate figures, utilizing corners properly, how to get more sideways in your lateral work, flying changes, and more!

A huge thanks to all the members of the HPDS Board and volunteers that made this day so successful, as well as a huge thanks to Julie Burt for judging these rides and working with all of the riders. Lastly, don't forget about our second annual Adult Clinic, held in Parker Colorado on June 23<sup>rd</sup>. We are looking forward to a fun and casual day of learning with Kathy Simard and Joan Clay! Application can be found on our website @ [highplainsdressage.org](http://highplainsdressage.org)!

**6. Northern Colorado**

**Didi DeKrey**

Our Circles In The Sand clinic series culminated in the Coached Ride A Test at Tomora Training Center in Greeley. Riders spent Warm Up time with Joan Clay before being escorted to the arena for their Ride A Test. Ms. Kathleen Donnelly was the judge.

The April meeting featured a presentation from Ms. Serene Calkins, Physical Therapist. The presentation: FOUR Biomechanical Considerations, THREE Vital Stretches, TWO Important Principles, all in ONE Fun Evening lived up to the name!

NCSA Spring Schooling show was very popular! We had over 60 rides down centerline! Everyone braved the dense ground fog, fumbled their way through the warmup arena and had a good time.

Riders from Introductory to Intermediare, Western Dressage and Eventing Dressage levels performed before Judge Julie Haugen, r.

Our May Moot House Madness meeting will review the information gathered from our survey and announce the High Point Champions. Good food, good friends, good times are on the menu!

General meetings are the second Wednesday evening September through May. Follow us on Facebook or see our new web page, [www.Noco-dressage.org](http://www.Noco-dressage.org) and check out all the new features!

**7. On The Bit**

**Ginka Kubelka**

In April we were watching the On the Levels DVD to get our minds ready for the show season. We combined it with a potluck, so it was an inspiring and delicious event!

We have big plans for this summer! We will have Kathy Simard in Laramie for a clinic on June 16 & 17. If you are interested in riding or auditing, please contact us under [info@onthebitdressage.com](mailto:info@onthebitdressage.com) for more information!

We will also have our first RMDS recognized show on August 11 & 12 (two shows, two judges). On Saturday, Ulf Wadeborn ('S', CA) will be our judge, so we can offer all levels. Kathy Simard ('L' graduate, CO) will be the judge on Sunday. Please consider coming to this show! We would like to turn this into a fully recognized show in the future, if it goes well this year. It is just a little over an hour drive from Fort Collins, and the weather is beautiful here in August! Both the clinic and show will be held at Spur Ridge Equestrian Community, which is a beautiful new facility in Laramie. Feel free to contact us for further information!

We are always happy to see new faces, so connect with us through Facebook or join us at our meetings every first Tuesday of the month at 7 pm at Altitude Chophouse in Laramie, WY!

**8. Pikes Peak**

**Tiffany Busch**

No report.

**9. Western Colorado**

**No current president**

No Report.

9:28 pm

Joan Clay made the motion to adjourn. 2<sup>nd</sup> by MaryJo Hoepner. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted, Heather Petersen