

RMDS EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

September 5, 2019

Armando's Ristorante Italiano

The Wine Room

720-851-6770

9355 Crown Crest Blvd,

Parker, CO 80138

The room is reserved beginning at 6:00pm

Meeting @ 6:30 PM

Attendance: Sharron Soos, Heather Petersen, Gwen Ka'awaloa, MaryJo Hoepner, Pam Phillips, Beth Geier, Stan Adamson, Anclaire Spaulding, Kathy Simard, Dorothy Kapaun; Natalie DeFee Mendik, Lori Keilt, Beverly Swanson; Cassandra Dipentino;

Proxies: Linda Gaber to Cassandra Dipentino; Didi DeKrey to Cassandra Dipentino; Una Schade to Heather Petersen; Ginka Kubelka to Heather Petersen; Stephanie Figgins to Lori Keilt; Simone Windeler to Heather Petersen; Arlene Rhodes to Heather Petersen; Shannon Lemons to Heather Petersen

Call to Order-President

Gwen Ka'awaloa

Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm

Secretary - Approval of Minutes - July 2019 meeting

Heather Petersen

MaryJo Hoepner made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. 2nd by Pam Phillips. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurers Report

Sharon Soos

Funds as of June 30, 2019

RMDS Checking Account	\$12,655.37	
RMDS PayPal (as of 12/19/2018)	\$18,874.06	Total \$31,529.43 operating cash total
RMDS Scholarship	\$ 5,817.29	
Reserve	\$43,823.00	
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>\$81,169.72</u>	

2nd page shows the deposit for the data base / website revamping.

Cover page changed a bit – grouping the active accounts and then the reserves and such.

President Report

Gwen Ka'awaloa

Thank you for taking the time to come tonight, we know it's a busy month. Main topic will be Championships tonight. Database committee is working hard and meeting with Ron tomorrow.

Vice President Report

Dorothy Kapaun

I have heard from many members that they would like to see lower costs associated with competing. I decided to look at the cost of competing in other disciplines.

I contacted a friend that competes at both the CHJA and A-Rated shows. CHJA shows are either \$25 or \$30 a class and about \$45 in Office Fees. A-Rated shows can run between \$80 and \$150 a class and about \$85 in Office Fees. I contacted Heather Peterson; she organizes several Horse Trails every year. She informed me that Horse Trails run between \$225 and \$250 plus the USEA fee of \$21.

I contacted my cousin that competes in the Ranch Horse Versatility competition. Her costs are \$200 per class with a \$25 Cow Fee per class, there are no Office Fees. She usually competes in three classes a weekend.

I spoke with a neighbor who competes in cutting horse competitions. He usually pays \$150 - \$200 per class and a Cow Fee of \$25 per class, there are no Office Fees. He usually competes in two classes per weekend.

None of these cost account for stabling, coaching or lodging as these cost are not included in competing. I feel this shows that the cost of Dressage competitions are not out of line with the cost of other equestrian competitions.

RMDS recognized shows require a sole membership to RMDS and not USDF or USEF and lower class and offices fees. There are also numerous Schooling shows that do not require any memberships and are quite affordable.

Central Office

Beth Geier

Membership

- Registration – 695 as of 9/1 members for 2019. 159 new horses since October 1, 2018.
- See reports with chapter membership totals.
- Accepting dues for 2020 starting October 15: - \$75.00

Education:

- 'L' grads –If it passes at BOG, must also be current on the USDF list.
 - April 1 is USDF deadline to be sure all your credentials are current
 - Current Membership
 - Continuing Education up to date
 - Safe Sport completed
 - Must be “with distinction” to judge FEI levels at a schooling show
 - USDF says the judge must be on the USDF “list” at time of the show.
- Fall of 2019: TD test. (every 2 years)

Omnibus:

- Will send out opening date flyer for ad placement (Tabs) - Prices stay same as this year?
 - Some discussion of increases – Champ program to stay the same, website to stay the same due to waiting on redesign. Should we combine print and e-centaur advertising rates?
 - **Dorothy Kapaun moved to increase all of our advertising rates by \$5. 2nd by Stan Adamson. Motion passed. 1 against (Beverly Swanson).**
- Ads will need to start coming in – deadline Nov 1.

Shows:

- 40 shows have submitted results – start doing score checks.
- Online scores listed correctly – FEI rankings might be off.
- SCORE CHECK!

Database/Website:

- Spent 2 hours with Ron on a remote session for the current usage. The committee is also meeting with him again on September 6th.

General:

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

Awards:

- Izabelle Durbin still owes for broken trophy that needs to be replaced – got a flurry of emails but no payment after I sent her the decision to place her on the suspension list.

Next Executive Board Meetings (2nd Thursday odd months-exceptions noted) –

2019:

Executive Board Meetings: Oct 17 (budget)

BOG Nov 2

2020

2019 Banquet: January 4

2020 Adult Amateur: April 4-5

2020 Professionals: April 25-26

2020 Championships: Sept 23-27

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

	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002
Members:	696	725	752	756	779	694	827	797	868	773	945	1030	1008	1036	1019	1151	1177	1162
Horses:	159	161	91	93	59	63	59	135	123	132	132	166	246	262	234	207	337	274
AV	39	36	39	25	29	26	27	25	27	24	15	26	12	-	-	-	-	-
BV	151	162	159	182	168	171	180	182	190	200	188	205	172	178	179	199	208	230
FH	55	70	57	73	79	76	64	65	71	72	75	76	77	74	73	109	103	115
GV	80	77	91	95	71	55	71	53	65	83	87	105	102	88	92	93	98	77
HP	161	164	169	149	156	151	176	190	208	226	256	265	260	259	251	267	283	278
NC	64	75	69	77	77	89	94	93	110	132	107	124	137	137	139	162	151	150
OB	37	38	49	43	42	33	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PP	86	77	89	63	70	63	62	44	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WC	22	25	29	22	18	19	23	27	31	22	21	25	25	32	34	44	55	64
No Chapter	1	1	1	3	5	11	12	13	15	14	25	14	16	22	21	34	36	24
CS		-	Dissolved	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		-	-	Dissolved	10	11	18	14	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TS		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Dissolved	36	51	68	90	86	91	74	77
WA		-	-	Dissolved	19	21	26	28	24	24	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	696	725	752	756	779	694	827	797	868	773	945	1030	1008	1036	1019	1151	1177	1162
Juniors	96	73	80	86	88	95	120	117	120	134								
Amateurs	201	205	195	163	152	176	209	220	239	230								
Education	14	18	21	17	16													
Business	12	9/2																
Life	33/1	32/2																

Permanent Committee Reports Continued:

Adult Amateur

Michael Stevens/Anclaire Spaulding

- I've secured two consultants from the Center of Performance Excellence at DU (through their Sports Psych department). Samantha Buxbaum and Meghan Fitzgerald.
- They charge will be \$100 for both, we can pay them there or send check. I've sent Sharon the info.
- Ads have gone out on Facebook and email-thanks so much.
- I'm hoping there will be a few announcements made at the Champs, if possible and maybe a few fliers put up to get people to attend.
- The event starts at 5:30 with food starting at 5:00. I'm hoping people will be seated and ready by 5:30.
- The AA committee will use the remainder of their funds to help with food/drink.
- Lisa Berg is going to help receive the girls, make sure the event gets going, etc.
- Please contact Lisa/Anclaire for anything last minute.
- G'wen is going to supply a whiteboard and markers and Anclaire is bringing pens. I also told the girls to bring an easel if they can with paper so they have a backup.
- The rough schedule is as follows, they will adjust accordingly.
 - 5:00: Meghan and Sam arrive
 - 5:00: Presentation begins
 - 5:00 - 5:10: Introduction/Overview of Sport and Performance Psychology
 - 5:10 - 5:20: Anxiety - what is it?; somatic vs. cognitive; individual zones of optimal performance
 - 5:20 - 5:55: Mental and Coping Skills: breathing techniques; cue words; how to create a pre-performance routine -- we plan to create handouts/worksheets for the riders to take home
 - 5:55 - 6:00: Wrap-up & Questions

Please encourage your students and anyone else to attend! If this goes well maybe this could be a tradition every year or two and then a riding clinic the opposite years from the AA committee???

Awards

Shannon Lemons

Will be sending out an email to remind folks to bring their trophies to Championships.

Communications

Beverly Swanson

I've been trying to get a quote from Spradlin on doing the calendar of events insert, but he may be out of town, his wife was handling the Centaur this month.

NOTE: This is something we could include in January 2020 Centaur as a center page, which would be 11"x 17".

Calendar of Events Insert Cost for January 2020

250 @ \$225.00
500 @ \$350.00
600 @ \$420.00.

Omnibus

Nicole Bizzarro

No report

Website/Data Base

Gwen for today

Gwen, Beth and Heather met with the president of the company and things are rolling along.

Education

MaryJo Hoepner/Pam Phillips

- January / February 2020 L graduate continuing ed Need topic suggestions
 - General education was the thought.
- February 2020 - TD / Show Management training; Beth made the comment that we really need new TDs. Kathy is interested.
- February / March 2020 Freestyle clinic
- Working on setting up a dressage sport horse breeding clinic.

Junior/Young Riders

Cassandra Dipentino

Working with Raissa to do relay races for championships. Wondering if some of the Jr/YR budget could go towards drinks. It's also the Trove cocktail evening. Discussion on thoughts occurred. It was decided to do a couple of hundred to ice cream sandwiches and such.

2020 camp will be discussed a bit in November, but the thought of late June is strong.

Marketing

Una Schade

Notes:

- Start thinking about our year end awards silent auction! Let's try to beat out previous years with donations and funds raised.
- We have 10 more Facebook likes since last meeting.




Mailchimp Email Campaigns




RMDS Members

This audience has **1,243** contacts. **1,109** of them are subscribers.

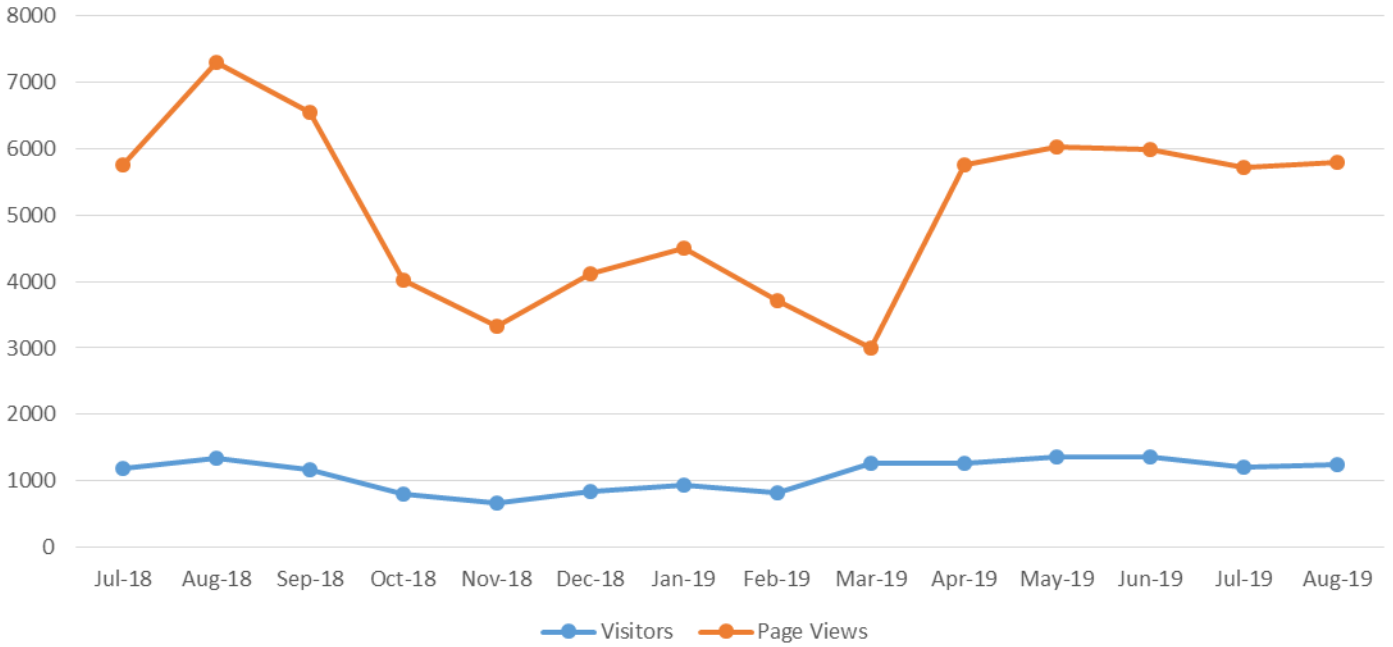


Engagement

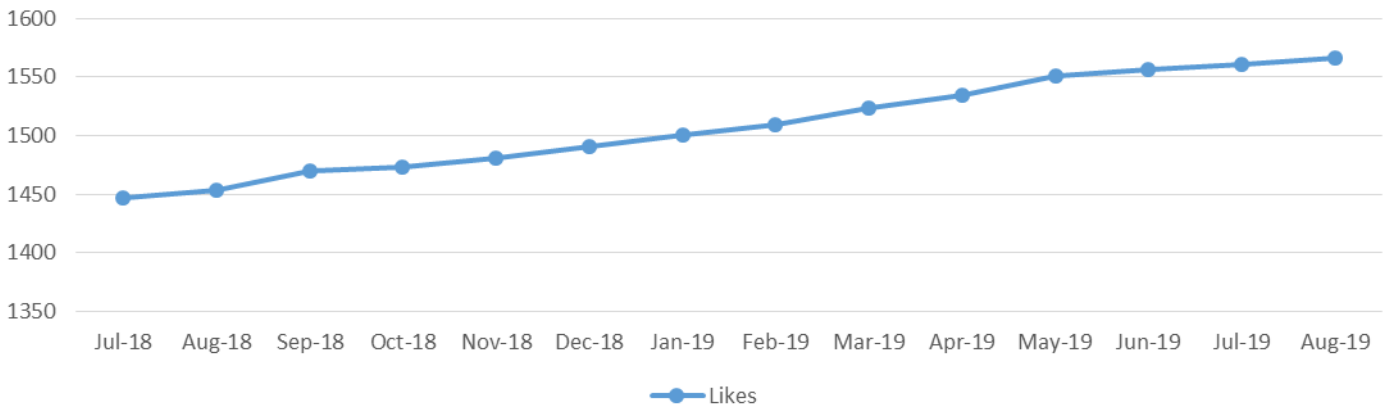
✉ Email marketing engagement	
Your subscribers, broken down by how often they open and click your emails.	
61%	Often Your percentage of subscribers who are highly engaged and often open and click your emails. 
12%	Sometimes Your percentage of subscribers who are moderately engaged and sometimes open and click your emails. 
26%	Rarely Your percentage of subscribers who are not very engaged and rarely open and click your emails. 

📍 Top locations	
Based on your contact's IP address when they interact with your emails and signup forms .	
1.	Denver, CO USA 
2.	Colorado Springs, CO USA 
3.	Boulder, CO USA 
These locations look accurate to me. Yes or No	

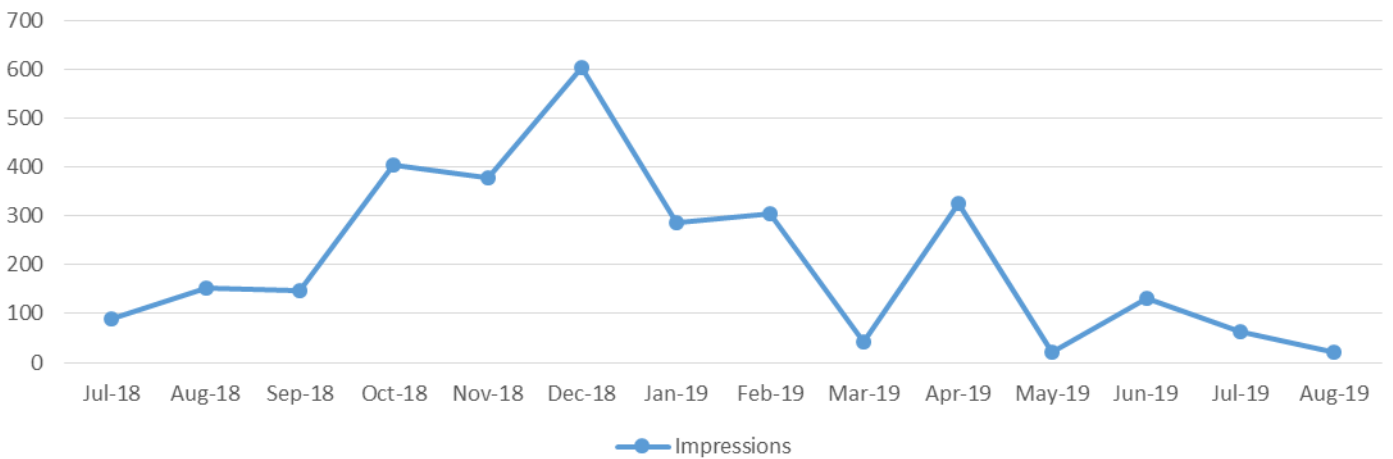
RMDS Website Analytics



Facebook Likes



Twitter Impressions



Professionals

Kathy Simard / Joan Clay

The Professionals will be once again be hosting the Friday night party at Championships. This year instead of asking \$250 from a few sponsors, we are asking the professionals to donate \$100 to sponsor the party. This year the party will be a thank you and send off party for Grant and Sharon Schneidman and Nicole Glusenkamp. At the time of this writing, our \$100 sponsors are:

Kathy Simard, Joan Clay, Susan Traylor, Colleen Diamond, Gwen Ka'awaloa, Shannon Warner, Simone Ahern, Amber Clark, Julie Barringer-Richers/Wild Rose Farm, Sara Storch-Kay, Allen Swafford, Andrea Doelling, Julie Burt, Frances Carbonnel/Classical Legacy.

We have also received a \$50 donation from Linda Gross towards the party. A few more trainers have been in touch with Beth Geier stating their wish to contribute. We gave everyone a deadline of this meeting for their names to be included in any printed materials. Kathy has a sponsor lined up to help the party reach its \$2500 goal. At the time of this writing, she is waiting to hear if the sponsor wishes to be recognized by name and any additional ideas or requests she may have regarding the party. She really wants this to be a nice evening for Sharon, Grant and Nicole. Do we have a gift yet? Yes there is a gift.

Anclaire is working with our party planner and I on the details. There is the addition of Trove which I am sure we will be discussing at this meeting. I would also like more information regarding the bar services. The Trove party is moving to Saturday evening.

Discussion of putting some money towards the bar tab. The professionals will put their budget towards it.

The Professionals Clinic with Lilo Fore is scheduled for April 25-26, 2020. Tomora is willing to host the clinic. They are reducing their \$500/day indoor arena rental fee to \$350/day. They have a heated indoor lounge as well as restroom for Lilo. They would like RMDS to also provide a porta potty. RMDS would need to rent the tall restaurant style heaters for in the indoor arena to keep Lilo warm as well as the attending instructors. Show stabling would be available. If the weather gets bad, they would arrange for indoor stabling. I need the board's approval to send them a contract. We will send a full contract to them after the final budget approval in October of the complete program but the board is in favor of it and we will ask them to hold the date and arrangements pending final approval.

Scholarship

Natalie DeFee-Mendik

I sent reminders to the four scholarship recipients reminding them of their obligations. Two have remained in touch and have fulfilled their volunteering and article writing duties. Two I have not heard anything from.

Shows – Championships

Anclaire Spauling/Michelle Stevens

We are doing well!! I think we have almost \$18k to date. We need a few more thousand so please help me help RMDS and the new database website.

T-shirts are ordered. We will sell hats and more t-shirts. Please don't forget about the silent auction!! We need more items. Silent Auction will end on Saturday night.

Reminders for the parties. Please say thank you to our sponsors in person!! All they need is a little recognition face-to-face. I will send out an email to the board with all the names of the major sponsors.

Champs Complainers - please ask them to see me unless it's horse show related. I will try to smooth over whatever is wrong and make nice.

My goal for this show - make everyone happy and smile.

Appointed Committee Reports:

1. Western Dressage

Simone Windeler

No report

2. Nominating Committee – Chapter Presidents

Stan

Need nominees for 2 years: Vice President (Dorothy), Awards (Shannon), Education (Pam and MaryJo), Marketing, Professionals (Kathy and Joan). Marketing is our key concern at this point in time.

3. **BOG** - November 2, 2019

Heather Petersen

No changes since the last meeting.

4. **Banquet** – January 4, 2019

Beth Geier

Region 5 Report

Heather Petersen

Congratulations to everyone from Region 5 who qualified and competed at the USEF Festival of Champions at the end of August at Lamplight in Illinois! We are so proud of your accomplishments.

The USDF convention is coming up quickly and it's time to book your hotel rooms, airfare and register for the convention and symposium. We are in Savannah, Georgia this year December 4th – 7th. Information and registration forms for the Convention are available at www.usdf.org/Convention/. All Group Member Organization's (GMO) were asked to designate their delegates for the USDF convention Board of Governors meeting by August 31st and if not determined by that date, the GMO president would become the delegate. If the GMO delegate/president is not able to attend the convention, a proxy for that delegate can be submitted at any time up until the night before the BOG meeting at the convention. The advantage for the GMO is that the delegate will be known and can receive communication from the USDF office earlier. GMO Delegates are included on a list of USDF delegates to receive e-mail communications containing pertinent information on issues that will come before the 2019 BOG meeting at convention. If GMO's have not yet sent in their delegate information, please do so as soon as possible.

I always encourage all of you to attend the convention and this location is a wonderful, historic town with many things to do and see on offer. If you are planning to attend the awards dinner on Saturday evening to pick up your rider medals or yearend awards, please let me know so we can save space for you at the Region 5 tables. Don't forget, the Great American/USDF Region 5 Championships are coming up September 19-22 in Parker, Colorado. Entries closed August 26th but we usually accept late entries, so it's not too late! We hope to see everyone there to cheer each other on or to help volunteer!

Old Business:

- None

New Business:

- Standing rule regarding convention expenses.
 - Reimbursement of Expenses – Proposed changes:
 - B – change hotel rooms for up to \$225 for a shared room or \$112.50 for an individual per night up to 4 nights.
 - C – Travel costs increased to \$600.

MaryJo Hoepner moved, 2nd by Sharon Soos. Motion passed with the abstentions of Dorothy and Gwen.

Proposed By Law and Standing Rule Changes

BYLAW:

None

STANDING RULE:

SECTION VII. USDF "L" Graduate Program for RMDS

In an effort to provide quality judging RMDS has established a certification program that will allow USDF "L" Graduate to officiate at RMDS only recognized competitions. May judge through 2nd Level. The requirements are as follows:

- A. Must be certified by the USDF as having successfully passed the USDF "L" judges program.
- B. Must be a RMDS member in good standing and over 21 years of age.
- C. Must be a current member of US Equestrian Federation.

- D. Must officiate at a RMDS recognized competition, dressage schooling show or Eventing unrecognized event, which cumulatively includes a minimum of 30 dressage rides (USDF Intro-USEF 2nd Level or equivalents) once every two (2) years.
- E. "L" graduates must undertake 24 hours every 2 years of continuing education add: to be composed of:
1. Classroom Continuing Education (CE) - 8 hours in a RMDS or USDF recognized CE session
 2. Sit Time – 8 hours with a North American "R" judge or higher at a show of RMDS or USDF show recognition.
 3. Scribing - 8 hours with an "R" judge or higher at a show of RMDS or USDF show recognition.
- Alternative CE to the above (USDF eTrak, other judges' education programs, etc.) must be approved in advance by the RMDS Executive Board.
- F. 'L' graduates must be current on the USDF 'L' graduate approved list.

Discussion was to remove E, change F to E. This would allow USDF to track education and such and remove the responsibility from RMDS. It will be sent to the BOG as such.

Chapter Presidents:

1. **Arkansas Valley** **Nancy Leonard**
No report
2. **Boulder Valley** **Stan Adamson**
We are taking aim at our Fall Show, the Boulder Valley Dressage Festival, September 14-15, which features a full show on Saturday, with Judge Gwen Ka'awaloa, and a clinic on Sunday with FEI 4* Judge and Trainer Sandra Hotz on Sunday, both at the Boulder Valley Fairgrounds (see the RMDS Omnibus 2019 for details).
3. **Foothills** **Linda Gaber**
No report
4. **Grand Valley** **Arlene Rhodes**
No report
5. **High Plains** **Stephanie Figgins**
No report.
6. **Northern Colorado** **Didi DeKrey**
We are all excited to announce the postponed NCDA Schooling Show III is moving forward! It will be held Sunday, September 15, 2019 at the Tomora Training Center. A few extra precautions will be in place to ensure safety of incoming horses and those that live at Tomora. Entries are still welcome, late fees will be waived!
Our General meetings start back up with a Social gathering at our favorite meeting place, Mimi's Café. We will be previewing 2020 Events and Meeting Presentations.
Keep an eye on our web page (<http://noco-dressage.org>) and Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/myNCDA>) for our goings-on!
General meetings are the second Wednesday of the month (September through May) at the Mimi's Cafe, 1450 Fall River Drive, Loveland, Colorado, 6:30 PM. Everyone is welcome to join us!
7. **On The Bit** **Ginka Kubelka**
Our first USEF/USDF and RMDS recognized shows on July 20th and 21st at Spur Ridge Equestrian Community in Laramie, WY were a great success! We had a lot of fun with amazing competitors, great judges, a lovely TD, perfect show management, wonderful volunteers, and generous sponsors. Thank you all!!!
We are already looking forward to our next show in 2020. We will be able to offer more onsite stabling next year, so please consider us when you are doing your show planning for the season!
We continue to have our monthly meetings on the first Tuesday of the month at 7pm at Altitude in Laramie. Feel free to join us, or contact us for more information!
8. **Pikes Peak** **MaryJo Hoepner**

No report.

9. Western Colorado

Lesley Hill

The WCC had a wonderful set of clinics here in the Roaring Fork Valley last month. Charmaine Brower and Crystal Springs Ranch hosted the esteemed German trainer Christoph Ackermann at Crystal Springs Ranch in Carbondale for a 3 day clinic. Rider and auditor spaces were full and it was so productive that Christoph will be returning to Crystal Springs October 14-15. Carolyn Miller and Cozy Point Ranch hosted Dr. Gerd Heuschmann for his second trip to the valley just a day after Christoph Ackermann. It was another wonderful clinic with a great group of riders and auditors. Dr. Heuschmann will also be returning to Colorado in October, with a clinic scheduled for October 18-19 in Eagle. For information about upcoming clinics, please contact the WCC on our Facebook page or Lesley Hill at ljs@rof.net

Next Meeting is October 17th.

8:57 pm MaryJo Hoepner made the motion to adjourn. 2nd by Pam Phillips. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted, Heather Petersen