RMDS EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

May 9, 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, Natalie DeFee Mendik, Aline Brandau, Una Schade, Anclaire Spaulding, Michelle Stevens, Jewlee Bellah, Cassandra Dipentino, Ann Edelman, Jewel Cobb, Julie Providenti

Proxies: Linda Gaber to Cassandra DiPentino; Michelle Stevens to Heather Petersen; Kathy Simard to Heather Petersen; Arlene Rhodes to Heather Petersen; Ginka Kubelka to Heather Petersen; Beverly Swanson to Heather Petersen; Stephanie Figgins to Anclaire Spaulding; Shannon Lemons to MaryJo Hoepner; Tiffany Rutledge to Anclaire Spaulding; Simone Windeler to Heather Petersen;

Call to Order-President
Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm
Introductions

Gwen Ka'awaloa

Secretary - Approval of Minutes - April 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 April 30, 2019

 RMDS Checking Account
 \$42,794.50

 RMDS PayPal (as of 12/19/2018)
 \$ 100.00

 RMDS Scholarship
 \$ 5,697.29

 Reserve
 \$43,823.00

 TOTAL
 \$92,414.79

Things went well with our accountant on the new categorizations and we were able to show our income down below \$200K now.

President Report Gwen Ka'awaloa

- Gwen thanked everyone for all their hard work and welcomed all our new guests.
- We need to stay on task.
- Primary goal of the meeting is the data base and website concerns.

Vice President Report

Tiffany Busch

No report

Central Office Beth Geier

Membership

- Registration 554 as of 5/1 members for 2019. 94 new horses since October 1, 2018.
- See reports with chapter membership totals.
- Accepting dues for 2019 \$70.

Education:

• Heather revamped the RMDS TD report. We'll look at it if there is time at the end of the meeting.

Omnibus:

Binders ordered and being delivered.

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: May 9, July 9, Sept 5, Oct 10 (budget)

BOG Nov 2

2020

2019 Banquet: January 4 2020 Professionals: April 25-26 2020 Championships: Sept 23-27

RMDS MEMBERSHIP -YEAR-TO-DATE

5/6/2019

	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002
Members:	555	725	752	756	779	694	827	797	868	773	945	1030	1008	1036	1019	1151	1177	1162
Horses:	94	161	91	93	59	63	59	135	123	132	132	166	246	262	234	207	337	274
AV	38	36	39	25	29	26	27	25	27	24	15	26	12	-	-	-	-	-
BV	114	162	159	182	168	171	180	182	190	200	188	205	172	178	179	199	208	230
FH	35	70	57	73	79	76	64	65	71	72	75	76	77	74	73	109	103	115
GV	73	77	91	95	71	55	71	53	65	83	87	105	102	88	92	93	98	77
HP	118	164	169	149	156	151	176	190	208	226	256	265	260	259	251	267	283	278
NC	54	75	69	77	77	89	94	93	110	132	107	124	137	137	139	162	151	150
ОВ	31	38	49	43	42	33	22	-	- 14	-	1	-	-	-	=	-	-	-
PP	75	77	89	63	70	63	62	44	-	-	19		- E	-	-			1
WC	16	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		14	÷	-			9	-	-	Dissolved	inactive	12	13	13	14	15	14	13
PR			¥.	Dissolved	10	11	18	14	14	-	-	1	4	-	-	-	-	÷
TS		14	-	-	-	П	÷		1	Dissolved	36	51	68	90	86	91	74	77
WA		- 1		Dissolved	19	21	26	28	24	24	20	T	į.		141	-	u.	E
TOTAL	555	725	752	756	779	694	827	797	868	773	945	1030	1008	1036	1019	1151	1177	1162
Juniors	48	73	80	86	88	95	120	117	120	134	(°							
Amateurs	150	205	195	163	152	176	209	220	239	230								
Education	14	18	21	17	16													
Business	8	9/2																
Life	33/1	32/2																

Permanent Committee Reports Continued:

Adult Amateur

Michael Stevens/Anclaire Spaulding

I am working on a proposal for a Sports Psychologist to come to Champs and speak. They are Grad Students from DU and charge \$150 per hour. I will work with them to develop an agenda, but some topics to cover would be anxiety and steps to maintain focus. I will not be present at Champs and will need someone to receive the speaker, show them where to set up, make an announcement about the event, etc. We will plan on it for Thursday night and work it into the party.

We are working on an under saddle clinic for 2020.

Awards Shannon Lemons

No report.

Communications Beverly Swanson

May Centaur

Thank you to our contributors, Simone Windeler, Amber Clark and (me!) for their reports on the New Test Clinic. This was a VERY informative clinic, thanks PPDS.

Hope you all noticed the slight change in typography in the design - just a fresh face.

All looks good for June and July Centaur, lots of content coming in, keep it up. And THANK YOU Chapters, as always, for keeping us up to date.

June e-Centaur

Please be sure to send info on any upcoming events!

Omnibus Nicole Bizzarro

Omnibus binders are in Colorado.

Website/Data Base

MaryJo Hoepner

Review of bids on the website and data base.

9 total bids received

- 1. **CodeGeek:** Cost overall is high for re-engineering. 8 month time frame \$66K-\$88K. They can also make a proposal for hosting \$75. Based in Fort Collins.
- 2. **Cultura:** overall cost not as much but monthly hosting would make up for that. Questions on ownership and securities. Florida based.
- 3. **&Pixels:** Need more details on where he came up with costs, but has been willing to answer questions. Not as detailed in what he's presenting. Has given good history. We would need to ask more questions if we decide we may go with him.
- 4. **Rain:** Did a lot with what they have done in the past but would need to provide more details specific to us if we onsidered them.
- 5. **WeUsThem:** Same category as Rain.
- 6. **Debtech:** Concerned about the understanding of what we do. Their maintenance would be \$700 per month, which is very high per month. Would offset.
- 7. **IT Idol:** Basically re-wrote our proposal and concern on costs and their understanding. Stated expenses were very brief and not detailed.
- 8. **Lift:** Offshore, some concerns about data security and real-time support
- 9. **Aspire:** Vaperware. Not much to it.

First Round:

- We removed 8 and 9 after the bids were presented.
- The group also decided 7 is out.
- MaryJo recommended we keep Debtech in first round of keeping.
- WeUsThem 91K and 11K per year to maintain this one was removed from consideration.

- o Rain is on the maybe pile.
- MaryJo says &Pixels is a maybe.
- Cultura goes into the first round.
- o CodeGeek is the best by far for the majority of the folks around the table.
- So, first round consideration is narrowed down to CodeGeek, Cultura, &Pixels, Rain, Debtech.
- Una likes Cultura for the scope. Who owns the intellectual property? We can pay for plugins. Others
 don't like the WordPress format. Written documentation of the process. We can do our own
 maintenance as well. Cost of hosting is extremely high.
- CodeGeek is much more reasonable hosting, great scope. Holding them in top 2.
- &Pixels is out.
- o Rain: Super expensive. Didn't really answer the RFP. It's off the table.
- o Debtech: Lack of understanding overall after some discussion.

MaryJo, Una and Jewel will talk to our top 2, CodeGeek and Cultura. Their target is end of June to complete the meetings.

Education

MaryJo Hoepner/Pam Phillips

We have had interest in two more clinics.

- 1. DSHB clinic -- possible end of July date. Working on it. Have a possible location.
- 2. Muscial Freestyle -- Marie Medosi who writes Steffen Peters freestyles is willing to come to Colorado. No estimate on when and where. MaryJo is going to talk to Nighthawk.

Junior/Young Riders

Cassandra Dipentino

Decided not to go with Cassandra Hummert-Johnson this year due to cost. I have invitations out to Jenny Baldwin, Dolly Hannon, Debbie Rodriguez, Sara Storch and Nic Sigler.

I have received 4 deposits but have a tentative head count of 8 riders, two of which would like to bring two horses. How should I handle the billing for this? Charge double or give a discount for the second horse? I have sent out emails inviting past participants to join us again as well as reminder emails to the people that verbally committed to remind them to get their deposits and registration forms in.

June 20-22. Dolly and Sara have now responded. Cassandra is now a bit worries about having enough stalls. Looking to have them stabling in the runs, which would solve the issue. John (Lesya's husband) will do first aid. Dressage4Kids may come talk. Decided on \$300 for a 2nd horse.

Marketing

Una Schade/Dorothy Kapaun

- I would like to do another member survey (last one was end of 2017). This will help us appeal to potential advertisers.
- April website visits this year over last year are higher by 289 visitors.
- April Facebook likes are 120 people higher this April VS last April.
- 80 more Twitter impressions this April VS last April.

Email marketing engagement

Your subscribers, broken down by how often they open and click your emails.

52%	Often Your percentage of subscribers who are highly engaged and often open and click your emails.	\triangleleft
12%	Sometimes Your percentage of subscribers who are moderately engaged and sometimes open and click your emails.	\triangleleft
32%	Rarely Your percentage of subscribers who are not very engaged and rarely open and click your emails.	\triangleleft

Professionals Kathy Simard / Joan Clay

Sorry that neither of us is able to attend this meeting. We just have one question for the board. The Professionals Clinic with Lilo Fore is scheduled for April 25-26, 2020. Do we want to ask CHP about using their indoor arena for this event? Or should we put out a request for any venues who may be interested in hosting? It is a weekend. So, we will probably need to accommodate more professionals than when it has been during the week. Also, previous clinics were in May. This one being in April means that heat would be a plus. Or at least the ability to use space heaters of some kind. What is the board's general consensus?

Suggestions that were thrown out were RaeAnn's, Nighthawk, Petra's. It was strongly suggested to not consider CHP.

Scholarship Natalie DeFee-Mendik

Gayle Udall reported that as part of her scholarship award, she had the opportunity to ride in a clinic with Nancy Baker.

Shows – Championships

Anclaire will be sending out a sponsorship package, Heather gave a brief update on logistics. There was much discussion regarding the misunderstanding by several folks present as to the process we went through for both the 2019 and 2020 Championships with the Horse Park and how our dates were assigned by the Horse Park. Contrary to what was brought forward to the Board, we did not lose our dates by our own actions or any actions of Heather Petersen. The Horse Park did not have a weekend for us in 2019 or 2020 due to the jumper shows and Heather met with them several times to work out a way for us to be able to stay and co-exist with the jumper shows.

Beverly and Heather are working on championship prizes. The Intro division was added, but the Adult Amateur division was changed to the Non-Professional division so that folks would not be required to join USEF to get an Adult Amateur card.

Appointed Committee Reports:

1. Western Dressage

Simone Windeler

Anclaire Spauling/Michelle Stevens/Tiffany

WDACO held two very successful clinics so far – in February "Inside the Judge's Head" with Joyce Swanson and in April "How to design a freestyle" with Frances Carbonnel and Simone Windeler.

The clinic with Joyce gave riders the chance to ask questions, understand the different movements and why a specific score is given.

In the freestyle clinic riders found out the Beats per Minute for the different gaits of their horses, learned which elements are required at different levels, how to create exciting choreography and much more.

On June 22 there will be a clinic on riding with a bit and bosalita and on July 20 a clinic on riding Obstacles – in hand and under saddle.

The annual WDACO show is held on August 17 at Douglas County Fairgrounds.

Also – don't forget about the USEF recognized Western Dressage Show at the Horsepark in Parker on Aug 3 and 4.

The WDAA World show will be at the Lazy E in Guthrie, Oklahoma.

Due to increasing numbers they have added a day to the show. Dates are Oct 2 – Oct 6, 2019.

WDACO is a fun group and with quite a few educational events and shows planned throughout the year. Their website is http://wdaco.org/.

For more information on Western Dressage go to https://westerndressageassociation.org/ or www.wdaa.org.

2. Nominating Committee – Chapter Presidents

Stan and Tiffany

Need nominees for 2 years: <u>Vice President, Awards, Education, Marketing, Professionals. They are working on it.</u> Biggest to fill is Vice President. Will send an email out as well.

3. BOG - November 2, 2019

Heather Petersen

No changes since the last meeting.

4. Banquet - January 4, 2019

Beth Geier

See attached flyer –

- Need to determine price the recommendation is to raise it to \$47 and keep it there for a couple of years.
 Sharron Soos moved to make it \$47, 2nd by Stan Adamson. Motion passed unanimously.
- Meal options keep the same.

Region 5 Report Heather Petersen

We just finished a very productive set of USDF Executive Board meetings in Lexington, Kentucky. Lisa Gorretta did a great job leading her first set of in person meetings as President and lots of information was covered. Sites were selected for the 2020 Regional Championships and will soon be released to the membership by USDF. The agenda kept us busy for over a day and a half but it's great to see the progress that was made. I had the pleasure of starting the first morning off with a nice walk around the lake outside the Rolex Stadium, visiting a few of the cross country fence complexes that were set for the Land Rover 5*, and walking down around a few of the organizations that call the Kentucky Horse Park home. Sadly, it was raining on the second morning so we didn't go for a walk.

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. Mark your calendars and head south September 28-29, 2019 for a wonderful symposium with Laura Graves. Check the Regional updates each month for other educational activities coming up. Soon our potential candidates for the 2019 FEI North American Junior and Young Rider Championships will be finalized. As I write this in mid-April, we have 4 declared Juniors and 2 declared Young Riders. We had hoped to 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. 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 or 970-420-0877. 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!

If you have news you'd like to share, please let me know, we're happy to get it out and about for you.

Heather read the press release regarding the qualifying score for riding a freestyle. This lead to a long discussion on the sport, freestyles and many other things.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

- Raissa Chunko was selected for the Young Rider Dream Tour with 3 others from around the country.
- RMDS TD Report Heather revised.

Chapter Presidents:

1. Arkansas Valley No report.

Nancy Leonard

2. Boulder Valley

Stan Adamson

We continue to prepare for our first show of the year, Boulder Valley Dressage at the Fairgrounds 1 & 2, June 29-30, at the Boulder County Fairgrounds, Longmont. We held a show planning meeting on April 22 and are soliciting volunteers for the two show dates. Set up and schooling will occur on Friday, June 28 (set up at 8 a.m., schooling beginning at 1 p.m.). Victoria Powers will be our TD, with outstanding judges Lilo Fore and Mike Osinski.

Happy Horse Tack, Ft. Collins, will be our tack vendor, but we are seeking additional vendors; vendors will have to notify Nicole Donohue of their interest (hobbyhorse6789@yahoo.com), to receive approval and so that we can report their information to the Fairgrounds. Heather Petersen-Two White Feet will be providing show management. Boulder Valley School District Munchie Machine food truck will be our food vendor on site. On call vet services will be provided by Quality Equine Services (Tom Pryor, Kristi Downing and Mark Fitch). Our onsite EMT is Mark Huff.

The club also voted to allocate \$1,000 from our funds to RMDS for the web site upgrade, and \$300 to RMDS to sponsor classes for Championships.

3. Foothills Linda Gaber

I can't remember a stronger lineup of events for all riding disciplines presented by the Foothills Chapter! It will be a busy year of learning and doing for us. Every program is open to all RMDS members and non-members. The links below provide online information and registration. Many thanks to our Education Co-Chairs Lauren Still and Jewlee Barber. Contact them with any questions. All events are at Table Mountain Ranch, 19000 W 58th St., Golden, CO (TMR). Auditors are welcome.

Ride-A-(New) Test Clinic on Saturday, May 18, with clinician and L graduate Kathleen Donnelly, at TMR. Contact Jewlee Barber jewleedoll@gmail.com (720) 982-2887. Event Registration Link: https://www.eventclinics.com/a/r8WGjYtv Ui28t0mfrSJAQ.

Fabulous Figures Clinic, two days Friday, June 7, 5-8 p.m. and Saturday, June 8, 8 a.m.-6 p.m. with Joan Clay, USDF certified instructor Training-First Level and TD, at TMR. Contact Jewlee Barber jewleedoll@ gmail.com (720) 982-2887. Event Registration Link: https://www.eventclinics.com/a/KOxTb3fO7UKo1zM9N0N1Qg

Spring into Summer RMDS Foothills Chapter Dressage Show - Sunday, June 9, with L graduate Kathleen Donnelly at TMR. Qualifies for Western Dressage Association of Colorado (WDACO) awards points. Prizelists on FH website under events www.cofoothillsdressage.org, in Centaur newsletter calendar link and in RMDS Omnibus page C-43. Entries at https://www.theelegantrider.com/online-entry-form-foothills.html. Contact show co-managers Kelsey Jacobsen pasdecheval15@gmail.com and Nic Sigler nicsigler@aol.com (303) 903-3451.

Last Chance RMDS Foothills Chapter Dressage Show - Saturday, Aug. 31, with USEF 'S' Judge Debbie Riehl-Rodriguez at TMR. Qualifies for WDAOC awards points. Prizelists on FH website under events www.cofoothillsdressage.org and in RMDS Omnibus page C-43. Entries at https://www.theelegantrider.com/online-entry-form-foothills.html. Contact show Co-managers Kelsey Jacobsen pasdecheval15@gmail.com and Nic Sigler nicsigler@aol.com (303) 903-3451.

LandSafe Clinic Oct. 12-13 with instructors Keli and Danny Warrington and their mechanical horse, at TMR. See what the clinic is like: https://youtu.be/9uaJCwivbto. Contact Keli Warrington keli@landsafeequestrian.com, (484) 459-4974. Event Registration Link: https://www.eventclinics.com/a/CLEsltiwvESERV6o5vrnwA

Level Up! Clinic after show season get help to learn new tests and movements at a higher level. Approximately eight participants will work in one-hour semi-private lessons at TMR. Auditors can attend. Dates to come.

4. Grand Valley Arlene Rhodes

We completed our April Schooling show with judge Stephanie Soule. We had a completely full show with a waiting list. Everyone did really well despite the spring winds. We made sure all riders not in the club were aware of our GVDS year-end awards and we kept membership forms on the main registration table. A few people joined RMDS that day and we volunteered to mail in their entry forms together for them. The Introductory RMDS Championship information was also on the check-in table and was the reason at least one of the exhibitors joined that day. What a great idea!

Busy couple of months ahead. We have our second schooling show June 8/9 with Julie Haugen. Our members are starting to sponsor clinics with various clinicians so there are lots of choices and opportunities to learn in May and June.

We sent in the form for a USDF Benefit class and got our plate and ribbons that we will give away for our Training 3, AA class at our recognized show in August. It was easy to do and benefits education programs for USDF.

We will be talking about the new recognition program from USDF for the local schooling shows at our next meeting. Members seem very interested.

5. High Plains Stephanie Figgins

High Plains Dressage is happy to announce a full calendar for 2019. To apply to any of these events, please visit our website at highplainsdressage.org or call Stephanie Figgins at 720.480.7044 (Opening Dates Apply) On April 7th we hosted a Ride-A-Test with guest Judge Gwen Ka'awaloa at Paradox Ranch (Formerly Iron Horse Farms). Riders and horses participated in a full day of learning and testing and are excited to jump into the upcoming show season! (Centaur Article to Follow)

May 11th and 12th, 2019: Clinic with Dolly Hannon at Greenie Mountain Farms in Parker, Colorado (Julie Burt's Residence)

RESCHEDULED DUE TO WEATHER!

October 6th, 2019: Youth Clinic at Paradox Ranch in Elizabeth, Colorado (Formerly Iron Horse Farms)

Clinicians: Kathy Simard and Joan Clay

Special Guest: Current 2019 Region 5 Jr/Young Rider

Auditing: \$15

Upcoming Board Meetings:

- May 14th, 2019
- June 11, 2019

Meetings held on the second Tuesday of every month -- 5:30PM at 6796 Ponderosa Dr. Parker, CO Open to the public! Please RSVP to stephanieefiggins@gmail.com to attend

6. Northern Colorado

Didi DeKrey

No report, no proxy.

7. On The Bit Ginka Kubelka

On April 19th we hosted a Business After Hours for the Laramie Chamber Business Alliance. Lots of curious people attended, interested in finding out what dressage is and why we do it. We definitely raised awareness in the Laramie community about our Chapter and our love for dressage!

We have further plans for the summer: in June, Joan Clay will come to Spur Ridge in Laramie for a clinic! If you are interested in riding with Joan, please contact us through Facebook or by email (info@onthebitdressage.com). We will also hold our first USEF/USDF and RMDS recognized show this July in Laramie, WY! Come join us for a fun and friendly show on July 20 & 21 at the Spur Ridge Equestrian Community. Our judges will be Donna Richardson (S, CA) on Saturday and David Schmutz (S, CA) on Sunday. You will find a complete prize list soon on our website www.onthebitdressage.com or on www.2whitefeet.com. We are looking forward to seeing you in Laramie! We have picked up having little presentations on topics of interest to our members at our monthly meetings again, which makes the meetings not only productive and fun, but also educational. If you would like to learn more about our chapter, feel free to contact us! We are always happy to see new faces!.

8. Pikes Peak Tiffany Rutledge

No report.

9. Western Colorado Lesley Hill

Hello and Welcome to spring and summer 2019 Activities!

There is a lot of information here - take some time to go through it and please come and join in wherever you can! I am ready for lots of riding now that we have (almost) completed the greatest winter of many years and look forward to a green and lush spring and summer. The focus of WCC this year is on education so please contact me if you want to get the word out on any educational activities you are working on that I could disseminate to my email list. I especially want to encourage you to attend the Dr. Heuschmann Dinner and Symposium, at Happy Dog Ranch, Littleton, CO. Dr. Heuschmann gives a very informative and well-documented two mornings of education followed up by 4 riders in the afternoon, applying the principles of biomechanics of the horse and rider and classical training principles drawn from the recognized masters of training which we now refer to as "dressage" (a French word which simply means "training." His enthusiasm for education that leads to the evolution of the horse to its athletic potential is truly infectious. Some riding spots available and more auditing spots, for certain. The Eagle riding clinic has one or two riding spots open, and auditing spots, especially on the Wednesday 22 and Thursday 23rd. The panel at the Dinner Friday night will be very fun and I speak from experience of a wonderful clinic I recently attended at Happy Dog Ranch as an auditor with the original trainers and lead performers of Cavalia, Frederic Pignon and Magali Delgado together with Barbara Alexander. Happy Dog Ranch really know how to put on clinics and symposiums - it was a magical weekend. if you look at the flyers below you will find the information you need to sign up for the Dr. Heuschmann Dinner Panel and Symposium Friday May 24 and Saturday and Sunday May 25th and 26th.

9:02 pm Michelle Stevens made the motion to adjourn. 2nd by Pam Phillips. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted, Heather Petersen