

2005 BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING - November 12, 2005

Hosted by High Plains Chapter, Embassy Suites Hotel, Englewood, CO
By Janet Alexander

CALL TO ORDER - Susan Shelby, RMDS President; 8:40 a.m.

DELEGATE ROLE COUNT - Heather Petersen, RMDS Vice President

Boulder Valley (9) Barb Goldman, Claudia Barkmeier, Tara Peltier, Kevin Horst, Julie Barringer-Richers, Clarissa Blair, Shirley Hoffman, Proxy: Lori Oakley, Deb Stromberg
Colorado Springs (7) Heather Petersen, Jane McBride, Cici Lee, Judi Tobias, Sharon Meazell, Liz Rael, Elaine Thomas
Foothills (4) Tina Wright, Kathy Johnson
Grand Valley (5) Kelly Schlagel, Terry Yates
High Plains (13) Terri Wallace, Kathy Simard, Carol Rush, KC Parkins-Kyle, Debbie Williams, Nancy Evans, Julie Breen Forman, Linda Ohlson-Gross, Beverly Swanson, Mary Sherman, Alex Curnutte
Northern Colorado (7) Susie Gordon, Kathleen Mayger, Jane Donnelly, Wendy Lanham
Penrose (1) Catherine Siemiet
Tri State (5) none - all via proxy
Western Colorado (2) Barbara McElnea

Heather Petersen declared we do have a quorum.

Others in attendance: Beth Geier

AGENDA Change - Motion was made to switch the 9:20 Committee Chair Reports with the 10:50 By Laws to accommodate Beth Geier. PASSED

2004 BOG MINUTES APPROVAL - Janet Alexander, RMDS Secretary

Board of Governors Minutes from 2004 was presented. Motion by Cici Lee to approve as is. PASSED

ELECTION OF OFFICERS - FIRST READING OF NOMINEES

➤ Adult Amateur Brenda Haley
➤ Education Catherine Siemiet
➤ Secretary vacant
➤ Treasurer vacant
➤ Vice President Jane McBride

Treasurer position was described. Position comes with computer, printer; Quickbooks helped to expedite functions, generally takes 2 hours 1-2x/week.

TREASURERS REPORT - Tara Peltier, RMDS Treasurer

Tara Peltier presented RMDS account balances as of 11/10/2005:

➤ Wells Fargo RMDS Checking Account \$40,433.25
➤ Wells Fargo Advanced YR Account 1,104.35
➤ Wells Fargo Money Market 16,997.34
➤ Wells Fargo Mutual Fund 23,565.57

Projected Profit/Loss for Year -

Actual net income for year 11/10/05 \$ 3,368.73
Projected net income in Nov & Dec 10,000.00 (based on 2003 & 2004 data)
Projected income for 2005 year \$13,368.73
Expect \$5,000 profit. Lots of clinics helped generate income.

Tara included the following documents: Balance Sheet - Comparison with previous year, 2005 Budget vs. Actual, 2006 Budget Worksheet, and Profit & Loss Statement - Comparison with previous year.

Hiring Foreign Judges and Clinicians - Not having the proper work documentation for the United States creates a lot of extra work for the treasurer. TIN/SSN information should be requested on the contracts.

Taxes for 2004 -This was the first year that The GreenSpan group prepared our taxes. The GreenSpan group donated most of their time for free. The GreenSpan group only charged the time spent fixing the incorrect financial statements for two clubs - we were not charged anything for preparation time on the other clubs. The donation was not in contract and unexpected. A very nice surprise!

While preparing the 2004 taxes, we discovered that a transposition error had been made in the group identified in the past. This is the ID number that allows each chapter to inherit the 501(c)3 status from RMDS. This problem has been fixed. 3472 is our group ID with the IRS, even though some (not all) chapters have their own TIN. The Group ID links us together.

CENTRAL OFFICE REPORT - Beth Geier

RMDS Office purchased a new printer.
Membership Report submitted as of November 2005. Registration 1019 members, 21 of these are Centaur only; 4133 horses are in the database; down approximately 140 from last year.

Education Workshops

- Kathy Connelly/Toine Hoefs - Oct 14-16, 2005 at Douglas Co Fairgrounds. Great success! Clinic was almost cancelled, as people were not signing up until the last minute.
- Debbie McDonald - YR Clinic Oct 22-23, 2005 at Crooked Willow Farm, very well attended.
- USDF Instructor Workshops:
 - 3rd-4th Level at Chatellen, very successful
 - Training-2nd Level PreCert; Feb 3-5, 2006 at Columbine Equestrian Center with Lilo Fore and Debbie Bowman
 - Training-4th Level - Final; April 21-23, 2006 - Penrose Equestrian Center with Gerhard Politz and Cindy Sydnor.
- "r" program - Janet Brown; Aug 6-7, 2005 Testing at DIR- very successful. They all appreciated the diversity and caliber of the riders.
- Continuing Judges Education - Lois Yukins is coming for Saturday, January 28, 2006. If 2 people need to do it, Dolly Hannon will be the 2nd person. Possibly expand it to 1½ to 2 days.
- Continuing Education for TD, Show Managers - February 11, 2006 workshop. TD session will begin at 9:00 am and the show management at 1:00pm - \$35 per session or \$50 for both. Open to everyone.
- Continuing Education for Instructors - Rachel Saavedra is willing to come and work with the instructors. Contact the Central Office if you are interested. Beth wants to plan some weekend every year for on going education.

Omnibus

Advertising information has been sent out to all from last year and to others from the Centaur. USEF Prize List Information - See submitted sample. This page is going into the Omnibus as rules that apply to all shows. The idea being that each price list does not have to repeat all the information. It was suggested to use a bright color and refer to page# in bold. Plan for 2007 Omnibus but with what Beth already has she will include in 2006 Omnibus.

Centaur

Non-profit postage rate may not be used when advertising includes travel, insurance or credit cards. To include them we would need to change the mailing to Presorted Standard and it will cost about \$.10 per piece making it about \$.25 instead of \$.13 to \$.15 which it is now. At the moment this affects Tami George only, Markel Insurance.

There was discussion on the website to contain Centaur and Omnibus with membership password. Cost to implement versus income makes this not feasible. For \$20 club can post pricelist on the website.

RMDS CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS - Beth Geier

None.

RMDS STANDING RULES - Beth Geier

SECTION V. AWARDS - YEAR END

- A. Eligibility:
 - c. i & ii. Change reference in USEF Rule book to DR119.3
 - c. iii Change reference to DIR 127

Heather Petersen motioned to approved, PASSED

SECTION VII USDF "L" Graduate Program for RMDS

Add: F. Must scribe 8 hours with a USEF judge at a USEF competition every year.

Discussion:

- Kathy Simard likes concept however lots of "L" graduates are trainers as well, ability to get to 8 hours is a lot.
- KC Parkins-Kyle - instead hour mandate suggests requiring 2 shows w/different judges.
- Barb Goldman suggests instead of required scribing just audit, sit with judge for feedback.
- Central office would track, show judge would sign and confirm hours.
- Suggestion of total of 12 hours over 2 years.

Motioned made to table discussion as new business, Julie Barringer-Richers 2nd motion. Motion Passed.

SECTION XII - PROTESTS, CHARGES, HEARINGS, and WARNINGS

A. A non-refundable fee of \$150 needs to be paid at the same time as a written request is submitted for regarding a hearing, protest, charge etc. Must be filed within 30 days of the event.

B. Default to USEF Rules & Regulations

Incident with chapter at 2004 show where these standing rules were needed.

Motion made by Terry Yates, 2nd by Cici Lee. All approved, PASSED.

SECTION XIV - RMDS CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW

B. Qualifications For Dressage Championship Classes:

Add 1. Membership requirements: The horse, owner, & rider must be current RMDS members prior to qualifying rides.

Julie Barringer-Richers motioned to accept, Terry Yates 2nd. All approved, PASSED.

B.4(5)c The minimum qualifying score for each level ...

Add: Not exceed USDF requirements

Heather Petersen moved to accept, Tara Peltier 2nd. All approved, PASSED.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

WEBSITE - Michael Petersen

Highlights

- July - Completed move to professional hosting provider (Site5). This should improve uptime, responsiveness, and otherwise be transparent to website users.
- September - In conjunction with 2WhiteFeet, developed a Live Scoring system for Championship. Competitors provide much positive feedback. Hope to refine the system in the future.
- October - Equine Event Photo graciously provided highlight photos from the 2005 Championships. These are available in the Photos sections (along with 2004 photos and the Zettl Clinic.)
- The website won an award from USDF. Congratulations to Michael Petersen Webmaster.

Statistics -

- Top Pages: Centaur, Calendar, Championship Scores, Marketplace, 2005 Champ Photos.
- Visits: Approximately 2500 per month, about 1300 are unique.

Income - \$394 year-to-date; \$50 per Marketplace Ad (1 yr), \$12 per homepage "news" item (1 mo)

Expenses - \$50 per month (hosting, updates, page maintenance)

The Centaur is currently posted on the website, not the Omnibus. Per Michael it is easy to control access with member IDs, harder to do with passwords. Question raised - Why keep it closed and not open to all? Keep as an advantage of joining RMDS.

Central Office keeps e-mail address to use by chapters to distribute newsletter, communications, etc. Requests are made by Chapter President and downloaded in Excel.

Online membership and renewal are not available, as we do not have credit card capability. The membership form is already there to download.

ADULT AMATEUR

Report was covered with the Central Office report by Beth Geier

JR/YOUNG RIDER - Co-Chaired by Julie Barringer-Richers and Deb Stromburg

Events in 2005

- JR and Young Riders both got involved with the 2005 "Dressage for the Cure" in several ways. First we had "Braid for the Cure" at the RMDS Winter Wake-up Show. Rachel Israel braided several horses and all the money went to "Dressage for the Cure". In April, Advanced Young Rider Greta Barringer-Richers performed her self-choreographed and sound edited/recorded freestyle to a crowd of well over 150 people and raised over \$600.00 for Dressage for the Cure/Renee's Friends Fund. In May, JR/YR Danielle Culver, Kyley Stromberg and Rachel Israel along with Advanced YR Leigh Romano went to the Dressage for the Cure Horseshow and provided braiding services. We are very proud of all of these riders' efforts and we hope to see even more participation in 2006.
- Region 5 fielded a complete team of 4 riders for this year's NAYRC and our team was the Bronze medal winner and Anna Wood of Boulder was the individual Bronze Metal winner. Needless to say we are so very proud of the team and our "buttons are bustin" because all 4 of them are RMDS members!
- The Advanced Young Riders held a very successful silent auction at the May High Prairie Show which brought in close to \$7000 for the team. This money added to the money raised in 2003 by Anna Wood and others helped to purchase jackets, hats, shirts, a banner, etc for the team and also went a long way to offset the other costs involved.
- Unfortunately the Camp did not happen this year due to lack of entries. We hope that it will be a go for 2006.
- There was a great turnout of JR/YR at Championships, both for RMDS and USDF events for 2006.
- A clinic is being planned for March at Autumn Hill for all JR/YR. It will consist of 4-5 educational "classes" that the kids will attend throughout the day. It will also include a catered lunch. Julie is applying for a grant that USDF is offering that should cover the cost of the day, assuming that most of the class teachers donate their time. We hope to get the Advanced Young Riders involved as teachers for some of the classes. Autumn Hill is donating the facility.
- The RMDS Advanced YR will be selling "Chick Filet" calendars as a fundraiser, starting today at the banquet. The calendars are \$5.00 each and have \$30.00 worth of coupons inside. Thanks to Susan Gregg for setting this up.
- Another Silent Auction is being planned for the 2006 NAYRC team for Region 5. We hope to hold it at the June High Prairie Show.
- Camp is being talked about... but we are open to ideas. Autumn Hill is willing to hold it there, as they now have show stabling. Any ideas? Let us know.
- We also hope to resurrect the USDF Regional JR/YR Team Championships (which is open to all JR/YR Walk/Trot through Fourth Level). Again Autumn Hill would be willing to attach it to one of their smaller shows.
- Please note:
- It is very important that shows continue to offer all of the FEI Junior Tests each day. Also, even if you are not a Young Rider Qualifying show, please consider offering the FEI Young Rider tests or FEI test of choice each day as well.
- It would also be nice to see shows split the JR/YR division at Training and First Levels for kids 15 years and under and 16 years and older. Their division is determined by what age they will turn within the current year that they are showing.
- Also consider offering the FEI Pony Tests as well.

AWARDS - Barb Goldman

- RMDS board gave approval for two new awards to be added in 2006. They are a Pony Award and Friesian Award. I am currently looking for sponsors. I have approached several members who are considering a trophy donation; Julie Barringer-Richers (Training Level) and Veronica Holt (1st Level) for Pony Award.
- Plates and Plaque prices will be increasing in price. Do we want to consider changing the program guidelines? This year we spend over \$1,700 in plates and plaques.
- RMDS is also giving out quite a few Sweepstakes awards? Do we want to review this award? Freestyles? Not many qualify in this category.
- We will have spent close to \$5,000 for the awards program in 2005. A minimum of 10% of our budget goes to awards.
- A new picture was purchased to replace the broken 4th level open trophy.
- Check out the new picture and volunteer of the year awards. The artist gave us a 14-15% discount on the products. She wants to help promote dressage and is willing to give a discount on the products or customize tiles with the club, barn or shows logo. Can we link her to the RMDS website?
- Need new Awards Chair for 2006.
- Committee was created to assist Barb Goldman to discuss proposals for the 2006 BOG; Cici Lee, Allison, Julie Barringer-Richers.

Great American/USDF Region 5 Championships RMDS CHAMPIONSHIPS 2005 - Veronica Holt reporting for 2WhiteFeet

Once awarded the bid as management team, 2WhiteFeet launched into a very aggressive outreach plan.

We tackled the Sport Horse competition first. I felt that we had to find out why this competition had not been well supported in the past. We wrote to everyone that had entered any sport horse competition in the past two years, advising them of upcoming Cosequin Qualifying opportunities, membership and horse registration requirements. I met with several key breeding establishments in the area, and received very helpful feedback. As an outcome of this plan a couple of the local Cosequin competitions reported higher entries; we were up 20%. We hired two well-known and well respected sport horse judges and the reaction was positive. It was a safe and efficient triangle. Thanks to Camille, this was her first effort as secretary for a sport horse competition and she survived with honors.

Outreach for the Championships included a massive mailing to all previous sponsors and others that we know might be interested in our efforts. Not daunted by largesse I managed to forge a relationship between Ariat and Ulcerguard, recently named as the official stomach ulcer product of USEF. They sponsored the competitor party and the morning breakfast.

Our goal and focus going into this competition was to provide quality customer service in the show office, and easy going out in the dirt. Footing, always a challenge got more attention than it was used to. Over the weekend we ran two maintenance teams, we were everywhere. The glue for that effort was Jane McBride. She was spectacular.

My job was made easy thanks to the unrelenting efforts of Clarissa Blair, a volunteer coordinator extraordinaire. Her first line team were brilliant, barns were taken care of, judges were happy.

A first for this area was our electronic scoring. The minute the scorers totaled the test, the result was immediately available on a monitor and also went live to our website. Not only that, when Heather made changes to the schedule, those changes were reflected on the website file. Very cool! Thanks to Michael Petersen, Lloyd Landkamer and a truly outstanding scoring team.

There are many statistics that can be worked a number of different ways, but bottom line we had 50 open horses, (not entered in any championship - a big revenue base - never drop this open opportunity) and according to Heather we were down 5 horses from two years ago. 200 horses entered the RMDS Championship and 134 horses in the USDF Regional Championship. Many of those were double entered.

Suffice it to say that success is sweet - we made a profit! Our reputation across the country is glowing. USEF said that our result reporting was perfect, according to them the first show of this size without issues. That's thanks to the Abacus expert in this team! Our books were great, and believe me, I have examined three regional championship boots this year - ours were great! Thank you RMDS for the opportunity to serve this community.

MARKETING and COMMUNICATIONS - Bev Swanson

Centaur

- 2005 has been a successful year for the Centaur, thanks in no small part to our new editor, Kathleen Mayger, and our Office Manager Beth Geier.
- Kathleen initiated a "Letter from the Editor" and also was instrumental in bringing the highly informative and popular nutrition articles from Gretchen Topel.
- Beth Geier has been tireless in tracking the ad revenue, the calendar updates and seeing that all RMDS educational events are well publicized to the members.
- Our ad revenue has been steady, and with our combined ad package with the Omnibus, we have several yearly contracts for larger ads, including KL Realty, who has purchased a 2-page spread since July. We are grateful to all our advertisers, as they support a significant amount of the cost of the Centaur.
- The Centaur has filled 28 pages each month for the entire year. We always welcome stories and articles from members, and encourage everyone to contribute ideas and information pertinent to members.
- We are continuing to have postal delivery issues, but unfortunately we have no control over timely delivery. For example, Wyoming got their November copy on the 7th and Denver (mine) came on the 10th. I also have been missed once this year. There is no particular rhyme or reason; however the northern Colorado area seems to have the majority of the problems. The Centaur is distributed out of the Parker, CO post office, and it obviously makes it to the various regional post offices in a timely fashion, so if members have problems it is with their local post office delivery. This is where they should complain.

The website always has a PDF of the current issue, and the Central Office will mail a hard copy if requested.

- We have had very few classified ads missed this year. We know this is a sensitive issue to our members, and we do our best, but there are always "cracks" to fall through on the way. Please tell members if they have a problem to bring it to my attention immediately and I will remedy the situation. The best way to assure ad placement is to use my email to send the ad, bswanson2003@qwest.net and be sure to send payment to the Central Office on time with a note for what ad you are paying.
- 15th-20th each month to the printer. 1st of the month it is sent to Michael for website, so ads get full month. It is usually on the website before mailed.
- Color option for December's publication - Red & Black.

Omnibus

- Nicole and Burke Design continue to do an excellent job on the Omnibus, despite the delays imposed by our members. Unless and until all prize lists and ads are submitted by the deadlines provided, including the final proofs, we cannot expect Nicole to work overtime during the holidays trying to meet an unreasonable deadline. Please get your information and/or ads to Nicole ASAP.
- The addition of the tabs for the Omnibus have proven quite popular, even to the point of starting bidding wars for the most desirable tabs. The policy of the Omnibus and Centaur is "first with the money to the Central Office gets first choice." There is no exception to this rule.
- The pull-through on Omnibus ads to yearly Centaur ads has been successful.

Web Page

Congratulations to Michael Petersen for this USDF Excellence Award in the Web Page category for member organizations of 500+. The website is getting hundreds of hits a month, and as it so well received, we may want to explore more avenues for website usage.

Miscellaneous

- We have revised our ad contract for 2006 to include Championships and Web Page advertising as additional options. A PDF of the contract will be on the web.
- The Post Office informed us that under our non-profit bulk mail status, we cannot take any insurance advertisements, credit cards and travel. Suggest we go to the post master for further clarification then evaluate going to 1st class postage (10 cents more).

SCHOLARSHIP - Heather Petersen

This committee was supposed to be headed by Gail Burger. There was little support with the \$1.00 donations on the entry forms. We need better and bigger sponsorship. Gail was to develop guidelines and requirements. Currently \$96.00 has been donated. We need to put something in the Centaur to alert members of the need and to expand this program.

Kathy Simard motioned to approved committee reports, PASSED

ELECTION OF OFFICERS - SECOND READING OF NOMINEES - Susan Selby

Vice President - Jane McBride
Secretary 2006-2007 term - none
Treasury 2006-2007 term - none
Adult Amateur - appointing Brenda Haley
Education - appointing Catherine Siemiet

REVISIT Standing Rule Change

SECTION VII USDF "L" Graduate Program for RMDS

Add: F. Must scribe 8 hours with a USEF judge at a USEF competition every year.

- Kathy Simard suggested a variety of options for continuing education. It was noted that 6 different "L" graduates submitted this proposal.
- Further discussion on 8 hours/year versus 12 hours every 2 years.
- Kevin Horst the proposal doesn't itemize what; give list of options with authority given from BOG to Executive Board.
- Heather Petersen motioned to accept Kevin Horst's amended wording -- PASSED

Add: F. "L" graduates must also undertake 12 hours per 2 years of continuing education as approved by the RMDS Executive Board.

BUDGET - Tara Peltier

2005 Budget vs. Actual (thru 11/8/2005)

Centaur - Expenses were in line, but income was low
 Central Office - Beth put in more hours as a result of filling in for Education Chair.
 Clinics - projected \$1000 loss, came in as \$12,668 profit (includes the "L" program profit).
 Membership Dues - income should improve, 2004 saw \$14K in receipts Nov & Dec
 Omnibus - income should improve, 2003 & 2004 saw ~ \$9,000 in receipts Nov - Dec.

2006 Budget

Discussion:

Centaur, Central Office, Omnibus -

- Increase in postage rates effective 1/1/2006. Discussed option to "opt out"; save postage versus increase in cost based volume printing threshold on bulk mail.
- Bridle Tags - stop future orders. It is difficult to read from judges point of view. Championship contract with USEF we are unable to use. Show Secretary doesn't like using. However, recently ordered 150 more tags.
- Suggested visiting other checking type accounts with better interest. Defer to next Treasurer.

JR/YR - Julie Barringer-Richers requests this category be broken out into:

- RMDS Advanced Riders which has it's own account to allow access for NAYRC
- Advanced JR
- JR/YR Youth

Show offset up to \$800 - policy guidelines approved at board meetings.
 Possible expenses - Camp, offset qualifying (out-of-state) shows, \$900 used to subsidize 3rd judge in 2005. Budget \$1000 for subsidize, Camp \$3000 expense/income.

Donations - Actual \$ and organizations decided at January RMDS Executive Board. Usually CoHoCo, NAYRC, RMDS Advanced Riders, ASMIS.

2006 BUDGET	Income	Expense	Net
BOG Awards	50	5,250	(5,200)
BOG - Banquet	5,000	7,000	(2,000)
BOG - Symposium	0	0	0
Centaur	15,000	25,500	(10,500)
Central Office	0	9,500	(9,500)
Championships Show	60,000	55,000	5,000
Champ Breed Show - Include with Championships	0	0	0
Education/Grants	0	2,000	(2,000)
General/Interest	2,000	1,500	500
JR/YR	3,000	4,000	(1,000)
Marketing	0	0	0
Membership - Dues	45,000	27,000	18,000
Membership - Horses	8,000	0	8,000
Misc/ donations	2,000	1,500	500
Omnibus	12,500	20,000	(7,500)
Operating	0	2,000	(2,000)
Scheduling/Insurance	3,000	2,000	1,000
Taxes/Legal	0	650	(650)
Website	600	600	0
Winter Wake Up Show	20,000	19,000	1,000
TOTAL	176,150	182,500	(6,350)

Footnotes:

Education/Grants - category is defined by non-riding educational lectures, events.
 Misc/donations - NAYRC \$500, RMDS Advanced YR \$500, Dressage Foundation \$300, CoHoCo \$200

Budget 2006 - Net Loss \$6,350. Motion made to accept 2006 budget as amended. Motion Passed.

CHAPTER REPORTS

BOULDER VALLEY - Presented by Barb Goldman, President

2005 was a rather quiet year. We tried to keep events to a minimum. We held the end of year party at the Bridge School in January. There were over 70 people in attendance! The club put on two shows at Singletree. Rae Ann Curtis and Sarah Martin were the judges. Attendance and the weather were both excellent. The September show was even held outside. This is the first year of the Boulder Valley Show series (RMDS only shows). Results will be announced at the end of year awards party in January 2006.

For 2006 we hope to breathe new life into the club by trying to provide events that help bring along the "newbie's". They could be those who are just starting and may not know a lot about dressage culture, or those who are unaffiliated with a boarding stable. In the past these members have grown into core members of BVD. BVD will be asking members for input through an upcoming survey. The end of year party will be held on January 21, 2006.

Officers for 2006: President: Claudia Barkmeier
 VP: Glenda Needles
 Treasurer: Beth Geier
 Secretary: Nell Foxworth & Clarissa Blair

COLORADO SPRINGS - Presented by Heather Petersen on behalf of Simone Windeler, President

2005 was a busy year for CSDA with a total of 9 shows - 4 RMDS recognized, one fully recognized and 4 schooling shows. Overall the shows were successful, we would have wished for a bigger turnout for our May show (fully recognized). As a result we have decided to hold a total of 9 shows next year, 3 RMDS recognized, 3 fully recognized and 3 schooling shows. Our May show will be once again at Penrose, only one ring. We have however added another arena with a clinic and one day of a fully recognized show for Paralympic riders since we have Anita Owens as our judge. She is currently recognized as a FEI "O" for Paralympics and has judged several of these in the past. We are very excited about this venture. We will be looking for suitable horses that people would like to volunteer for this weekend - for more information on this please contact Jane McBride.

In addition the May show is a NAYRC qualifier and the 2nd judge will be Trena Atkins. Once again we will hold the "Evening under the Lights" on Saturday of the May show. For the past two years all the Freestyles and some of the upper level tests have been held at night in front of a larger audience. It is great experience and preparation for our riders, who are competing at larger venues (e.g. CA, FL, and NAYRC).

Our second fully recognized show will also be held at Penrose - June 30, July 1 and 2. The judges for this will be Kristi Wysocki (Fri) and Marianne Ludwig (Sat/Sun) who might also stay for a clinic afterwards. We are excited about our first show on the 4th of July weekend and hope for a great turnout.

Last year Penrose received an "excellent" rating on their footing (received an award from USDF) and therefore we have chosen Penrose as the venue for 7 of our 9 shows. The success and resulting income of our shows has allowed us to offset clinic costs for our members - a nice way to thank them for the many volunteer hours they put in for all these events.

Overall CSDA had well attended meetings (about 10) throughout the year. Our average attendance is 10 to 15 members. Thanks to our education person, Judy Carnick, we had several interesting topics and guest speakers. For 2006 Judy is already planning some great meetings. We are looking forward to a great 2006 and hope to see you at many of our events.

CSDA has elected the same officers for 2006:

President: Simone Windeler
Vice Pres: Heather Petersen
Secretary: Jane McBride
Treasurer: Jean Patton

FOOTHILLS - by Tina Wright, President

Table Mountain Ranch is thriving again. Schooling shows made profit with good attendance. 2006 will be MORE year - more shows, more clinicians. Scholarship for Foothills chapter: Faith Perfetti, Jan Wingate, Kathy Johnson, and Susan Kracklaur. End of year party scheduled for December 6th.

Officers for 2006:
President: Tina Wright
Vice Pres: Kathy Johnson
Secretary: Maureen Yaskaunin
Treasurer: Laura Quakenbush

GRAND VALLEY - Presented by Kelly Schlagel, President

Once again we have enjoyed another successful year in dressage on the western slope. Our shows and clinics have been well attended.

- Shows: March Schooling Show, Spring Show I & II, GVDS Summer Finale, Western Slope Championship and Open Show, October Schooling Show.
- Clinics: The Mind/Body Connection in Horsemanship with Diana Coe, The View from B Program with Judge Betsy Berrey, Clinic with Kathy Simard following the fall schooling show.

Support from our surrounding barns included show and clinic opportunities. Dalwhinnie Ltd. Hosted a schooling show in April and 4 shows during the summer. Cottonwood Farms sponsored clinic opportunities with Paul Belasik, Meagan Georges, and Hilda Gurney.

Our club made a big step forward by distributing our newsletter via email. This has been a great success. Joan George has kept our website in order and updated providing club information. Our goal is to expand this tool to provide show and education information.

Under the leadership of Sue Petty, we obtained our goal of volunteer recognition. We took the opportunity to honor past supporters of GVDS, recognized invaluable support from current members and those people who provide the strength and manpower for successful shows and club events. Long overdue recognition for some, but appreciated by all.

2005 has strengthened mature relationships and established new friendships within our horse community. GVD is 92 members strong encompassing the western slope of Colorado and into Utah. We will continue to grow and enhance Dressage opportunities in the year 2006. No change to officers for 2006.

HIGH PLAINS - Presented by Terri Wallace, President

This year High Plains held one schooling show in February. This was our Valentine schooling show held at Freedom Farms in Parker, CO. It was a lot of fun and we made a little money on it.

We held our big recognized show on August 20/21 at Columbine Equestrian Center. It was actually quite successful, even though there were a few hitches. We lost our TD about a week and a half out. We had a new management/secretarial team, this being their maiden show. But we managed to get things done and got a final ok and passing from the big wigs, USDF and USEF.

This year was HP turn to host the BOG and Banquet. We sent a newsletter out to the membership near the end of October asking for help at the banquet, delegates for the BOG, silent auction donations, etc. This newsletter also notified the members of a meeting to be held November 3rd. We actually got 12/13 people to attend this meeting. Everyone was ready to help. We even voted in three new officers for 2006. No one stepped in to fill the president's position.

Some of the other things we tried planning didn't pan out, mostly due to lack of interest and poor planning.

HP plans to do some reorganizing of the club. Set more definite meetings, more newsletters. We have decided we will not have a USEF, USDF recognized show this year. We would like to consider an RMDS show but have not scheduled it as yet. The board will meet in December to decide on this.

Officers for 2006:

President: Terri Wallace
Vice Pres: Alexandra Curnutte
Secretary: Jennifer Greer Slade
Treasurer: Nancy Evans

NORTHERN COLORADO - Presented by Susie Gordon, Acting President

It was a busy and successful year for NCDA. With a membership averaging around 135 people, finances were good and the club enjoyed a number of activities. Vice President Susie Gordon and the rest of the board acted as an executive committee throughout the rest of the year to manage NCDA's affairs after Jennifer Nisbet had to resign as president due to time constraints.

A new mission statement was adopted in March to clarify NCDA's role in providing education and activities. Educational programs were scheduled at several of the monthly meetings, including an excellent "show preparation 101-102" series, with Jen Wright (Happy Horse Tack), Ruth Hurst and Joan Clay contributing good tips about show turn-out and how to prepare entries.

Three schooling shows held in the spring at Poudre River Equestrian Center were well attended. As always, the series brought out a lot of our friends and neighbors from the non-dressage equestrian community eager to start up the show season.

For the third year running, the Rocky Mountain Dressage Classic was held at Laramie County Community College in Cheyenne. Despite an epic downpour on Sunday, the show management and volunteers rallied to keep everything running with minimal delays. Many thanks to NCDA's Wyoming members, who were a great help!

An Adult Dressage Day Camp was held this fall for the fourth year. Fourteen lucky campers were treated to a full, fun weekend of dressage activities at the Last Resort Equestrian Center north of Fort Collins. Joyce Hall and Paula Lumberry provided wonderful food and gift treats donated by Happy Horse Tack Shop and made everyone feel comfortable.

We still have several more functions scheduled for 2005 that promise fun and informative opportunities for NCDA members. The club's November 17 meeting will be held at Jennifer Nisbet's stable, Hillcrest Farm, where we will get demonstration of the farm's new AquaPacer underwater treadmill - the first in Colorado. We are bringing in a clinician December 3-4; special prices are available for current NCDA members to ride with instructor Bill Warren from Rhode Island. The clinic will be held at Chatellan Stables near Windsor. And in December, a holiday party will give everyone a chance to turn out in their fancy apparel and catch up on a great year for NCDA.

For 2006 we will probably put on 3 schooling shows again and clinics as they present themselves.

PENROSE - Presented by Catherine Siemiet

For Penrose English Riding Club (PERC) this year has included good health for families and horses and lots of entertaining and educational lessons. There has even been warm weather and some free time planned for back country trail rides and family picnics that provides opportunity for some casual quadrille practice at an introductory level.

Our President and resident instructor, Sharon Ghilarducci, was able to ride two days with Stephen Kieseewetter at a Colorado clinic this year and travel to California and ride both of her horses with Conrad Schumacher during a total of five separate sessions which she described as enlightening and encouraging. Sharon returned from each clinic she attended with new exercises and enthusiasm for training the horses and students that she supports in our area during weekly lessons in either Canon City or Penrose.

In April 2005, six PERC members traveled to the World Cup in Las Vegas for a terrific experience and a crowded and crazy time in the big city.

Several PERC members were able to ride in the schooling and RMDS shows scheduled during the spring of 2005 by our nearest neighbor, the Colorado Springs Dressage Club. All riders agreed that those people in Colorado Springs know how to run show with a smile and plenty of efficiency.

Our evening PERC meetings have taken on a sharing educational format invigorated by the health articles printed in the Centaur Newsletter this year. Members have been sharing informed knowledge with each other regarding shoeing, forage analysis, probiotic support products and the dangers of the high sugar content found in most Colorado grass hays.

Our 2005 will end with a November Fun Day at Marlene Coonradt's house that will include a delicious potluck picnic and some Field Games for riders. December will bring us together on the 30th for a Family Christmas and New Years celebration and a chance to plan a Spring Schooling Show in Fremont County at a brand new facility. Our plans will be announced as soon as they are complete.

TRI STATE - written report submitted

This past year has been another successful time for Tri State. We had another good recognized show and a great series of schooling events. We are financially sound with the excellent help of the local gals and their spouses and friends, and everyone else we can find during the county fair. The members of the education committee are planning some wonderful experiences for 2006. In addition to our next recognized show and more schooling sessions, a dressage camp is in the works. We continue to work to include beginner dressage enthusiasts, both young and old, since they are the ones that will become the heart of the sport in future years. A newsletter will be published the first part of December with most of the meeting dates including the schooling shows and clinics. Our 2006 show will be in the RMDS omnibus and once again will be recognized USEF, USDF, RMDS and Montana Dressage Society. We are hoping to reorganize our Tri State awards program to more fully recognize not only show accomplishments, but also other aspects of being a member of a great group. The Tri State website is on the internet and available for everyone. It is quite attractive with loads of information. Looking forward to 2006 and having a great time with our horse and our friends!

Two items the Tri State Chapter would like to ask RMDS (these are the same as we requested in 2004)

1. That our representatives to the USDF convention ask for an option for horses exhibiting in dressage shows to be able to enter without the \$20 ID fee. We have non-member fee for humans, we need something for the horses. We may be excluding the participation of those who want to give it a try or those that only show once a year. The Tri State Chapter would like to see this changed.

* Heather Petersen will talk to Darlene Vaughn. The \$20 ID fee is a one time only fee.

2. We would request that the membership information from RMDS be emailed to the chapters along with the hard copy mailings. We would like that information to include members email addresses. We would then be able to put the information into our spreadsheet and immediately have not only mailing labels but quick communication with our chapter members.

** Beth Geier can supply the email addresses.

Unfortunately, no one was able to make the trip again to the BOG, so our proxy is in Beth's hands. We do not want to support any increases in any costs to our club or members, but hope that dressage finds a way to make this sport more affordable to our riders. Greetings from all the Tri State Members!

WESTERN COLORADO - Presented by Barbara McElnea, Secretary

Western Colorado Chapter maintains a bank account at Vectra Bank of Colorado El Jebel Branch. Our treasurer is Justina Potter. We currently have \$7,974.71 in our account. Attached is our year end to date Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Statement for 2005.

At our last chapter meeting we voted to have an all professional staff to manage, score and announce our recognized shows Aspen Festival Dressage I and II, July 14-15 and July 16 respectively for 2006. We have secured the services of Dawn Benson, Tracy Berry and Kate Trafton from California (formerly with Glenda McElroy) for show management. The very popular Brian O'Connor will announce. Once again we are privileged to have Axel Steiner, FEI-O, USEF-S together with Elizabeth McMullen, FEI-O, USEF-S (Canada) for our judges panel. The highly experienced Debra Reinhardt (also an expert in show management and Fox Village Software) will be on board as our Technical Delegate. By popular demand, Axel Steiner will again do a Symposium/Clinic of either one or two days following the competition. Western Colorado Chapter is proud to offer this Dressage Superstar Team for our 2006 Fully Recognized Competitions.

Western Colorado Chapter maintains a website www.aspendressage.com as an electronic Newsletter. We are linked to the RMDS website and the Grand Valley Chapter website.

We invite members and other interested parties to access ongoing up-dates concerning chapter business, calendar of events, message board, electronic entry forms, membership applications, show prize lists, show results, Roster of Chapter Officers, and current Bylaws. Western Colorado Chapter has re-elected 2005 officers to another term for 2006.

OLD BUSINESS - Heather Petersen

USDF CONVENTIONS 2004, Lexington, KY

The convention was not well attended, but fun. Education portion was weak as key speaker ruptured their spleen and was unable to attend.

USDF Convention 2005, Burbank, CA

Scheduled for November 29 thru December 4, will be attended by Susan Selby, Heather Petersen, Sarah Martin, Deeda Randle.

USDF Capital Campaign Fund

- Topic requested by Teresa Hunt, Region 5 Director to discuss the capital campaign to raise \$5 million.
- Capital Fund categories of \$20K, \$25K, \$30K to be paid over 5 years.
- Have a fund raiser for coming up with the money.
- Checks written to RMDS (donation)
- RMDS has already given \$500
- 3/5 of money goes to education, not to building fund. \$3 Million goes into endowment fund.

Kathy Simard made motion that RMDS pledges \$20,000 to USDF Capital Campaign over 5 years. A Committee will be created to come up with fund raising event. Heather Petersen will chair. Heather Petersen 2nd the motion. Motion passed by majority vote.

EW BUSINESS

SHOW SCHEDULES - Tara Peltier on behalf of Beth Geier

- Adding Aspen Festival I & II to the schedule.
- Check Centaur for show schedule as well as website.

2006 RMDS Winter Wake-UP - Heather Petersen for 2WhiteFeet

- March 18-19, 2006
- RMDS received a generous \$5,300 donation from Vance Diggins and Paragon Equestrian Center to offset the costs of the facility and judges. Show will be held indoors again at CHP.
- Judges: Janet Foy, Maryal Barnett, Lilo Fore. Deeda Randle, TD.

2006 CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW - Heather Petersen for 2WhiteFeet

- September 22-24, 2006, Breed show September 21, 2006
- Possible qualifier for 2007 NAYRC Championships - will be determined in the summer of 2006.
- We will be tight on volunteers this year as we are also going against the Region IX Eventing Championships to be held the same weekend at Abby Ranch.
- Judges: Axel Steiner, Jeannie McDonald, Jane Weatherwax, Elizabeth McMullen, David Schmutz (R). TD: Bobby Keville (CA)
- Hoping to have similar competitor events and sponsorships
- Offering Pony Championships at Training and First - no limitations on Open/Junior/AA - these are only classes only.
- Hope to have same electronic scoring and online posting available
- Looking for key people again - paid positions: Volunteer Coordinator, Grounds Manager, Awards, Stabling, and Hospitality.

Demo Riders at Symposiums - Julie Barringer-Richers

We ask people to be demo riders, is it appropriate to have riders pay? Consider this on future educational events.

FINAL READING OF CANDIDATES FOR EXECUTIVE OFFICE, VOTE

- | | | |
|------------------|--------------|--------|
| ➤ Vice President | Jane McBride | PASSED |
| ➤ Secretary | Carol Rush | PASSED |
| ➤ Treasurer | vacant | |

ADJOURED 4:30 p.m.