

**RMDS BOARD OF GOVERNORS
SATURDAY November 12, 2011
The Renaissance Denver Hotel
Denver, CO 80207**

Meeting called to Order: by Simone Windeler @ 8:32 am

Attendance and Delegate count:

Arkansas Valley: Mary Rae – 2 votes: Proxy to Heather Petersen

Boulder Valley: Kim Lampert - 3 votes
Donna Baxter
Nicole Bizzarro
Stephanie Boyles
Danielle Culver
Gwen Dordick
Beth Geier
Stephanie Margulis – absent no proxy

Colorado Springs: Shannon Lemons – 2 votes
Heather Petersen
Mary Jo Hoepner
Simone Windeler
Tami Fredrich – absent at roll call; arrived before votes

Foothills: Pamela DeVore
Heather Fitzgerald – Proxy to Lori Mitchell for AM
Cecilia “CC” Ross
Lori Mitchell

Grand Valley – Inka Spatafora - 4 votes. Proxy to Beth Geier

High Plains: Cindi O’Shea – 3 votes – absent at roll call; arrived before votes
Wendy Cibus – 2 votes – Proxy Michelle Anderson
Michelle Anderson – 3 votes
Gwen Ka’awaloa – 3 votes

Northern Colorado: Susie Reed – 2 votes
Joan Clay – 2 votes
Julie Haugen – 2 votes

Platte River: Laura Speer

Wasatch Mountain: Sally Shaffer – 2 votes: proxy to Simone Windeler

Western Colorado: Judith Family: no proxy received

Barbara McElnea: 1 vote - proxy to Beth Geier

Non-delegates attending (no vote): Jon Haugen, Cathy Van Berg, Libby Stokes, Sharon Soos

46 possible delegate votes in attendance.

Possible delegate voting rights of RMDS Chapters is 48 votes.

Quorum requires 32 votes (66%) of total RMDS delegates for a motion to pass.

Approval of Minutes November 2010 BOG

Corrections: 1). Pg. 2, First line of Treasurer's Report – add \$ in front of 85,285.00

2). Pg. 2, 5th line of Treasurer's Report – remove "with a \$50. late fee as well."

3). Pg. 3, 8th line of Central Office Report - \$8 of our current membership fees.

Gwen Ka'awaloa moves to approve minutes from BOG 2010 **as corrected**, 2nd by Julie Haugen.

Motion carried.

First reading of election roster with nominations from the floor:

Slate for 2012: President: Lori Mitchell
 Vice-President: Mary Jo Hoepner
 Secretary: Heather Petersen
 Treasurer: Mary Rae, Sharon Soos nominated from floor.

Treasurer's Report: Sharon Soos

Cash on hand		<u>\$79,395.49</u>
RMDS Checking Account		\$29,219.67
Paypal Account	\$588.83	
Scholarship Account		\$5207.83
Money Market		\$44,379.16

Issues/Discussion:

- Email blasts – probably over \$3000 for this year!
- Money market annual service fee \$60 – earning no income. Sharon would like to move excess money into the money market to maintain the safety net in case of problems.
- **Beth Geier moved that RMDS moves excess money into the money market to maintain the safety net in case of problems. 2nd by MaryJo Hoepner, motion passes.**
- Championship show earned an estimated profit of \$2091
- Winter Wake Up loss of \$648
- Centaur 2012 advertising through 10/31/11 is \$2916
- RMDS 2012 membership dues received through 10/31/11 \$1045 – comparable to previous years.
- Omnibus 2012 advertising received through 10/31/11 \$2037

Current profit and loss statement shows RMDS at a loss of \$19269. If the stated income for 2012 booked in 2011, and state Income and Expense for 2011 booked in 2010 is taken into consideration, the loss is \$16,437.

Central Office Report: Beth Geier

Membership:

- 870 members, 15 of these are Centaur only (120 Juniors; 239 AA). 137 new horses since September 2010.
- Now accepting 2012 dues - \$60 until Dec. 31. Will take memberships today at the BOG and the awards banquet.

Shows:

62 shows recognized in 2011 – 48 held: 18 RMDS: 1 postponed to 2012, 3 cancelled, 44 USEF: 3 changed to schooling shows, 8 cancelled.

Recognized Officials:

- Approve Dee Stiers as new RMDS TD – **Beth Geier moved that Dee Stiers be approved as a new RMDS Technical Delegate. 2nd by MaryJo Hoepner, Motion passed.**
- New RMDS TDs in 2011: MaryJo Hoepner and Dee Stiers
- Dropping of two Technical Delegates – Libby Stokes and Susan Selby. There was some discussion regarding the situation that occurred in dropping one technical delegate and it was noted that our standing rules adequately covered it. We will look also at clarifying the rules a little in 2012.
- Elaine Thomas has asked to be removed, does not want to continue as an RMDS Technical Delegate.
- Continuing Education available through RMDS for “L” graduates and RMDS Td’s, along with show management.

Omnibus:

- Working with Nicole – advertising due by Nov 20th.
- Prize lists due Nov 15.

Centaur: Working with Cathy.

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Members:	1162	1177	1151	1019	1036	1008	1030	945	921	868
Horses:	274	337	207	234	262	246	166	132	132	123

AV	-	-	-	-	-	12	26	15	24	27
BV	230	208	199	179	178	172	205	188	200	190
CS	134	155	137	130	143	126	127	115	124	115
FH	115	103	109	73	74	77	76	75	72	71
GV	77	98	93	92	88	102	105	87	83	65
HP	278	283	267	251	259	260	265	256	226	208
NC	150	151	162	139	137	137	124	107	132	110
PR	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14
WA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20	24	24
WC	64	55	44	34	32	25	25	21	22	31
No Chapter	24	36	34	21	22	16	14	25	14	15

PN	13	14	15	14	13	13	12	inactive	Dissolved	
TS	77	74	91	86	90	68	51	36	Dissolved	
TOTAL	1162	1177	1151	1019	1036	1008	1030	945	921	870
Juniors									134	120
Amateurs									230	239

OFFICIALS FOR RMDS RECOGNIZED ONLY SHOWS

USDF ‘L’ Graduate – Schooling & RMDS only recognized shows

*Denotes graduating with distinction

Simone Ahern * 719-749-9274
 Julie Burt 719-431-2342
 Alison Child-UT* 435-640-3287
 Linda Coates-Markle 303-469-0279

Kathleen Donnelly*	970-310-8729
Amy Fulstone*	775-721-1123
Beth Geier	303-673-9840
Jessica Greer	970-581-5613
Julie Haugen	970-290-8360
Sarah Martin *	719-379-3716
Linda Ohlson-Gross *	303-840-9818
KC Parkins-Kyle	303-841-9953
Kathy Simard*	720-981-4448
Simone Windeler	719-540-2000

TECHNICAL DELEGATES/RMDS – RMDS only recognized shows

Joan Clay	970-420-0887
Jeannette Hillery	303-494-7718
MaryJo Hoepner	719-495-3648
Mindy Maguire	720-301-0089
Dee Stiers	970-618-2033

Can use all USEF/USDF officials as well.

Upcoming meeting dates for 2012 – Romanos Italian Restaurant – C470 and Broadway:

- January 12th
- March 8th
- May 10th
- July 12th
- September 13th
- November 10th – BOG

Committee Chair Reports:

Adult Amateur: Lori Mitchell

Recap of the Year:

- AA Survey (January)
- Evening with Janet Foy (March)
- Youth and Adult Team Competition (July)
- AA Clinic with Heather Robertson (September)

AA Survey – Did not send out questions as I did in the past, but just an informal email to the membership that opened up the dialog and allowed them to reach me and tell me in their own words what they would like to see. I did guide the conversation with some basic questions. Results were pretty much the same as the previous year with a top clinician to come to teach all levels, keeping the cost as low as possible. Keeping showing cost down and having more schooling shows were top requests.

Evening with Janet Foy - Janet contacted me after the AA survey and suggested we have this evening event for the AA's, though it was open to all RMDS Members. Janet donated her time, and I had a sponsor, The Leadership Difference to co-sponsor the event and help cover the event at the Hyatt Hotel at Park Meadows. The evening was well attended (28 participants) and refreshments were served. The event cost was reasonable and those who attended learned from Janet about showing, judging, and any questions they had regarding

anything and everything dressage. I think this would be a fun event with different trainers/judges in the area for a yearly event.

Region 5 Youth/Adult Team Competition – This year’s event was a success and had more participants than the previous year. It was organized and presented by the Boulder Valley Chapter, but we have decided it would be best that this become a RMDS Board organized event. For 2012, I will work with the Junior/Youth Chairperson and Education Chair along with the RMDS Central Office to organize this event. It is a fun event and we hope that it continues to grow. We have already agreed on a date and location. Julie Haugen and Lori Mitchell have already started work on it. July 22nd – Tomora Training Center.

AA Clinic with Heather Robertson Dressage – This clinic was scheduled for June and then had to be moved to September due to the Equine Herpes virus outbreak. We lost our location of Normandy Farm, they could not host on the new date, but we were able to get another location donated, Capricorn Farm in Golden. The clinic was held over Labor Day weekend. We had many auditors and some wonderful riders who learned a ton from Heather. I was able to receive a grant from The Dressage Foundation for \$750. This kept the rider and auditor cost down. We did not use the entire grant amount and were able to donate the remaining balance back to The Dressage Foundation.

2012 Ideas - “Evening with _____” event, low cost and a great value to AA’s to ask questions to professionals. Possibly AA Camp? Possible follow the Junior Camp for a day or two... Some other ideas were thrown around by members of the board of governors and noted by Lori for the incoming AA chair.

Banquet: Laura Speer

This was the first year that a committee put on the BOG & Banquet. The committee started as Laura Speer, Lori Mitchell, and Heather Fitzgerald. Heather wasn’t able to continue the commitment but Shannon Lemons stepped in. The committee members had a few challenges to overcome but we believe that based on the experience the process will only get better and better. We would like to continue to have a BOG/Banquet Committee and would invite more people to volunteer.

The first item was the hotel...seems there are a lot of hotels that book Veterans’ Day celebrations. We called and visited several locations before deciding on this one. A big hurdle was the cost, there are a lot of expensive choices that were open but staying in the budget was a factor on our final decision. We also took into consideration location, parking, and ambience. We hope all of you enjoy yourselves today (and tonight if you are staying). The committee will look into the location for next year’s banquet immediately following this one.

There were many small issues along the way that the committee worked out. As always, people waited until the last minute to make reservations. We have several folks thinking they can just show up and they’ll somehow be accommodated. Some folks can’t READ still—checks made out to me instead of RMDS, didn’t know where to find the reservation form, didn’t check the dates, etc.

Which leads to the art show with some of the same issues there. Lori headed up getting the Art Show vendors. We hope this is enjoyable while waiting to be seated. A few artists didn’t think it was worth it to be here (they aren’t here) and some thought they should get a bigger venue. However, Lori explained that the art show wasn’t the focus—the Awards Ceremony was—and those folks agreed and are still attending. The purpose is to have a place for equine artist to display some of their work and get some free exposure. The artist have a contract Lori set up where they will donate a percentage of any sales they make Again, we hope to refine the event too.

The committee would also like to request that the BOG and Banquet budgets be reassigned due to their separate purposes. We believe that the Banquet should not be responsible for absorbing some of the costs for the BOG. Yet, the BOG needs to stay within the allotted budget as its own line item. Also, any monies made during the Banquet through raffling or silent auctions or donations should be retained as a separate budget or

line item under the Awards budget. Hopefully, this will allow in the future for a cushioning in case there are extra expenses (trophy replacement, increased banquet costs, decline of auction items, etc.) so RMDS can continue to provide a fairly reasonably priced awards banquet for its' membership.

We have a small survey that we would like everyone to fill out either here or at the banquet tonight. You can place them in the folder marked "Survey" on the table in the back. As always, ideas and suggestions now and throughout the year will be greatly appreciated!

143 currently signed up for banquet! 2nd biggest ever.

Junior Young Rider: Julie Haugen

Plans for 2012:

2012 Junior/Young Rider Camp

Tomora, Greeley, CO - July 18-21, 2012 (note this is during NAJYRC)

- Similar format to 2011
- Addition of "mentors or camp directors"
- Promote camaraderie and friendship
- Create a better understanding of "the basics" and understanding of the training scale, while making it a fun and an interactive experience.

2012 Team Competition

Tomora, Greeley, CO July 22, 2012

- 2011 was a great success! Continue the same idea
- By having the dates back to back it is our hope to get the riders from the camp interested in staying and competing.
- We want to have activities on Saturday evening that are educational, fun and team building.
 - Horse bowl
 - "minute to win it" games.

Other ideas: Thoughts to contact people like Julie Barringer-Richers and Gwen Dordick and to organize day events during off season to promote camaraderie and education.

- Braiding and wrapping with pizza
- Video party with snacks and discussion
- Movie days
- Informational sessions on colic and founder

Junior Camp: Joan Clay

- Camp did very well financially
- Campers had fun, only a few little incidences.
- Most were very interested in returning.

Some discussion of what size of camp is appropriate followed – numbers of campers we can take, etc. It was decided somewhere around 12 was appropriate if we stay with a similar format.

Awards: Shannon Lemons

2011 Review:

1. Awards Notebook updated and revised
 - a. Added examples of all types of awards, spreadsheets, sample budget, postcards.
 - b. Updated vendor information, job description

- c. All data is also in digital format
 - d. Added contacting owners as well as riders as standard procedure
2. New Awards/Replace Awards
- a. Three new sport horses trophies – sponsored
 - b. Replaced glass horse missing from Stallion trophy – bought a replacement but was not as claimed so will check with donor
 - c. Still working on repair of Jablonovsky – was not completed at trophy shop.
 - d. New sponsor for 4th level Freestyle obtained

2012 Plan:

1. New trophies:
 - a. 2nd Freestyle – have sponsor
 - b. Junior/Young Rider Training, Morgan needed
2. Housekeeping
 - a. As budget allows, replace various cardboard boxes with plastic totes
 - b. Enforcing fines on late return of trophies, especially as we are engraving. One person still has not returned their trophy and they are winning another one this year. It has been decided she will not receive the one this year she won. Discussion of the fines and whether we collect it from them. **Beth Geier made a motion that if they return the trophy tonight, then they will pay a late fee of \$25. If they do not return the trophy tonight, then they will be charged \$200 whether the trophy is returned or not. 2nd by Nicole Bizzarro.** Discussion – Shannon read the letter all folks sign and thoughts on how to proceed were discussed. **Motion failed. Heather Petersen moves that we charge the \$25 late fee and the engraving cost if trophy returned by November 11th (date of BOG). If trophy returned November 12th or later, then \$25 late fee, engraving cost, shipping fee and replacement cost if trophy not returned by November 30th, 2011. 2nd by Lori Mitchell. Motion Passed.** Future discussion about the trophy receipt letter, fines and modifications – tabled until the January Board meeting as it's too late to change the letters and fines systems for tonight's dinner.
3. Budget:
 - a. 2012 request will be same as 2011
 - b. Everything late getting to me so don't have current year data. I have not received the invoices from the engraver yet due to lateness of engraving returns.
4. Other requests, concerns? None noted.

RMDS shows- Winter Wake-Up / Championships: Laura Speer and Heather Petersen

Winter Wake-up: The 2011 show was held on June 11 & 12 at Tomora Training Center. Unfortunately, the EHV epidemic was winding down but the risks of traveling and showing seemed to keep most at home. The show went from a two day two ring show to a two day one ring show. Heather will give full financial reports. NCDA was one of the sponsors and provided volunteers and other help for RMDS.

NCDA has given up that weekend and Heather has already put the documents through to USDF giving that weekend to RMDS. This will be a RMDS owned show only in 2012 (no co-sponsorship with a chapter). Tomora Training Center has already graciously donated their facility again. They were very pleased to host the event this year and hopefully the show will do well in 2012.

Championships: The weather this year was beautiful. The volunteers came out in hoards—thank you! The riders I talked to enjoyed themselves. We also had a lot of good vendors.

RMDS Winter Wake-Up Report from 2 White Feet, Inc.

Expenses:

Awards - ribbons	\$412.50
Facility – stalls and bedding (arenas donated!)	\$1855
Fees - Judges/TD/EMT/ Brian Ross (\$1000); Sue Curry Shaffer (\$900); Rusty Cook (\$450); On Site EMTS (\$500);	\$2850
Fees - Management	\$1634
Fees - USEF, USDF, Recognition	\$910
Hospitality/Meals – Judges dinners, volunteer meals, ice, etc.	\$546.09
Lodging	\$1219.83
Misc Expenses/Supplies/printing/dumpster/potties	\$1305.69
Postage	\$20
Refunds	\$135
Travel	\$1960.30
Total:	\$12848.51

Income:

Entry, Registrations, etc	\$9050
Show Sponsorships/Donations	\$3300

Total: **\$12350.00**

2011 Winter Wake-Up

- Wonderful sponsorship from BizTek International, LLC and portion of facility donated. We paid for all stabling at full price (\$35 per night) and dumpster, trash cans and porta potties.
- EHV1 dramatically affected attendance – this was the first show after the scare.

Ideas/Changes for 2012 Winter Wake-Up

- Might not have our sponsor for next year, so some fundraising would be very helpful. Facility still donating all arenas; just have to pay stabling and dumpster, trash, porta potties.
- No NAJYRC Qualifier/Young Horse Qualifier at the Horse Park the weekend before so it should help our attendance.
- Hopefully no EHV1!!!!
- Looking for other fun ideas to draw people into the show.... Let us know if you have any.

2011 RMDS Championships and Open Show Breakdown By 2 White Feet, Inc.

Expenses:

Awards	4269.37
Coolers/embroidery - \$1903.45; ribbons - \$2365.92	
Facility	24,484.00
Arenas - \$4500, arena setup donated	
Stalls - \$15,900; RV spaces - \$1175;	
Shavings – \$2660.50	
Other costs include ice, trailer ins, vendor fees.	
Fees - Judges/TD/EMT/Vet/Farrier/Announcer	\$15,725
Nicho Meredith (\$1600); Janine Malone (\$1600); Joan Darnell (\$1500);	
Ulirich Schmitz (\$2000); Marilyn Heath (\$1500);	
Dr. Parmajeet Chopra (\$1650); Deeda Randle (\$900);	
Jennifer Roth (\$1650); Shannon Lemons, DVM (\$800);	
Lisa Berg, DVM (\$800); Chad Toney (\$700); On Site EMTs (\$1025)	
Fees - Management	\$9019
(11 arenas (\$500), 233 entries (\$13), 49 office hours (\$10))	
Fees - USEF, USDF, Recognition	\$3899.25
Hospitality/Meals –	\$4021.39
All competitor dinners covered by sponsorship income; Wild Willies, judges dinners, volunteer meals and set up days, band for Saturday	
Lodging	\$2718.39
Golf Carts	\$650
Supplies	\$459.71
Paid Workers	\$5525
Steph DiCenso \$500, Laura Speer \$400, Scott Wehrli \$400	
Nicole \$875, Susan Gregg \$800, Joe Coleman \$1125,	
Anne Sushko \$900	
Parking attendant \$525	
Postage - mailing back USDF coolers/coats/ribbons, results, etc	\$30
Printing	\$1262.51
show program (\$1078.56)	
copying of tests, scoring, day sheets, etc (\$183.95)	
Prize Money (futures)	\$175
Refunds	\$275
Travel	\$5130.32
Total:	\$77643.94
Income:	
Entry, Registrations, ads, etc some mixed in...	\$72145.5
Program ads/Show Sponsorships/Donations	\$7489.50
Total:	\$79635.00

Profit: \$1991.06

Notes:

- 2 White Feet donated all the competitor bags for 2011, combs for the competitor bags, one competitor's party we weren't able to get sponsorship for, quite a bit of postage for mailing back banners, tests, etc several other misc. expenses.

- Weather was great and since it wasn't Regionals, we were able to cut quite a bit of expense we had last year.
- Since the Horse Park allowed us to sell bedding again, we were able to raise a little extra money on those bedding sales to help cover the Parking person.

Comments for 2012:

- We have already secured sponsorship for the Saturday evening competitor party and band, though they may switch an anonymous donor, opening additional sponsorship opportunities.
- We suggest raising the open class fees \$5 and perhaps the Championship class fees, leaving all other fees the same.
- 6 Judges for next year and one TD.

Communications

This time last year we implemented improvements and changes to all aspects of RMDS communications. Michael Petersen gave the RMDS website both new functionality and a new look. Cathy Van Berg gave the Centaur a new look. A comprehensive logo archive and Logo Usage Guide was created. And the Omnibus files were converted to InDesign to update the production process.

This year has seen all of these aspects thrive. The Centaur has been switched back to offset print production and Cathy Van Burg and Spradlin Printing has done an amazing job getting each issue out and in mailboxes early each month. Each issue has been full of useful information and there has been no shortage of terrific article submissions from members. Plus, the upcoming stallion issue will offer full-color ads for the first time.

Michael Petersen added new search functionality to the website along with adding to the slideshow of riders and their horses on the home page. In addition members can now print their membership cards from the website.

RMDS joined Facebook. The Facebook page has grown to 296 Fans. The analytics show that within the last month RMDS posts were viewed 3,825 times! The page reaches fans in The United States, Canada, Australia, Germany, Iraq, Austria, United Kingdom, Italy, Morocco, New Zealand, The Netherlands and France; with 25% of our demographic being women aged 45-55. It has become a lively place for sharing, questions, and information with a lot of interaction.

The logo archive and use manual were useful in creating promotional items that were given to potential new members at RMDS outreach events such as the Rocky Mountain Horse Expo.

This year the Omnibus has a goal of breaking even, and has added a full-color ad option for the tab sections that will hopefully boost ad submissions and revenue. The tests are not anticipated to change much this year and that will help with keeping the production costs down.

Centaur: From Cathy Van Berg

A big thanks to all who have contributed to articles and placed ads this year! We've had some great feedback about the Centaur from members...we want it to continue. New deadline of the 7th of the month – moved up 3 days to make publication timelier. We've gone back to John Spradlin for printing due to printing quality issues.

Along with the normal functions of the Centaur (show/calendar info, contact info, Chapter info, RMDS business, et al), the Centaur should be the "go-to" resource for placing and finding advertisements related to dressage. It should become more self-supporting by encouraging advertisement from the community, and increasing advertisers' return-on-investment from placing ads. Members should know the Centaur is the best resource to find the information, goods, and services they need.

Utilizing the Centaur as “information central” costs little monetarily. It requires planning with the marketing team, and then is self-re-enforcing as the Centaur is distributed with a heightened focus on information dispersal.

Future Focus

Working with **Marketing** to pin down the **Editorial Calendar**. This should complement the seasonal focus of any specialty editions:

- January: Stallion edition (color ads available)
- April: Membership Roster
- November: Thank Yous (after Championships)

And other issues concentrating on specific equine areas, ie:

- Veterinarian services
- Tack
- Trainers
- Fitness and Nutrition, equine and human
- Show & Events
- Marketing Services

Working together to inform both advertisers and members what to expect from certain issues will increase the use of the Centaur as an information exchange resource. This will be supported and reinforced through the RMDS website and marketing materials.

Focusing and defining information for advertisers and members during these tough economic times will increase revenue from advertisers, and increase expectations from members. This will result in a better return for all, and will set the stage as the economy rebounds.

I will be working to make Centaur break even for this next year.

Education: Michelle Anderson

“L” Judge Continuing Education 2011 & 2012

A successful session was held at Ft Collins Equestrian Center on January 29 with Sandra Hotz. There were 33 attendees and net profit from event was \$1,145. Simone Ahern has volunteered the use of her facility for the 2012 session scheduled January 28 and Janet Foy has agreed to be the instructor. Simone can probably fill most if not all demo rider spots from within her barn but there are a few riders on standby to fill openings. Application for a USDF/Dressage Foundation grant to underwrite costs for this event has been submitted and approved.

Technical Delegate / Show Management Education

Sessions were held Saturday, February 12 at the Comfort Suites in Castle Rock. There were 18 attendees for all or part of the day and net profit was \$763.50.

There was great interest in a Fox Village dedicated session which Eighth Heaven Farms hosted in their lounge at no charge. Only cost was mileage for Heather.

2012 Session is scheduled for February 11 at the Staybridge Suites at Park Meadows Mall. Heather Petersen will cover show management and Deeda Randle will cover the TD portion.

Sport Horse Handling Clinic

Sport Horse Handling Clinic was moved from Colorado Horse Park to Kaimana Farms in Elizabeth to reduce costs. There were 15 paying attendees (1 board member @ ½ price) and 7 attendee horses. Clinicians were Kristi Wysocki and Chad Toney. Net loss was \$650.74. Good information about how confirmation leads to functionality.

Professional Trainer/Instructor Clinic

Kristi Wysocki has offered use of her facility for this event. Clinicians and dates are still being discussed. Clinic will be open only to professionals so that discussion may be as frank as possible. This will likely be a summer 2012 event held on weekdays to avoid show conflicts. I hope to apply for a USDF grant to underwrite costs for this event.

Marketing: Sharon Soos

Initial focus since becoming the Marketing Chairman has been to review the marketing material and plan developed in 2010 and the action items identified for 2011.

Focus for 2012:

- Complete media kit
- Sponsorship – traditional and non-traditional
 - Winter wake-Up
 - Championships
- Centaur Advertising
 - Stallion Issue
 - Real Estate- South/South East (Douglas/Elbert County)
 - Feed and Supplies
- Develop Press Release Contact List – will have Beth send email asking for contacts also from the membership.
- Rocky Mountain Horse Expo
- Omnibus Advertising for 2013
- RMDS Shirts (prepay to order) – have talked to Stacey Mikula and have some quotes. Logo digitalization – just need to change from the Championship logo. About \$25 per shirt at this point for ladies polo. ¾ length sleeve also available and a men’s polo shirt. See expense breakout Sharon will provide.
- Centaur Advertising income over the last 2 years has been dropping significantly as has membership. Omnibus income has stayed about steady.

Scholarship: MaryJo Hoepner and Heather Petersen

- Applications for the 2012 Scholarship year are due November 15.
- We have had several inquiries regarding procedures. 4 at the time of the BOG meeting and hopefully one more tonight.
- Few complete applications have been received.
- All of our reports have been completed except one from previous years’ recipients.

Some discussion on one recipient’s ability to use the money – tack instead of lessons, and committee said educational uses not tack uses. Other made some suggestions for uses of the money and ways to approach it. Since she contacted Laura Speer again, Laura will follow up with her.

Bylaw and Standing Rule Changes: Beth Geier

BYLAWS: No changes suggested

STANDING RULES:

1. Page E-12 SECTION III. RMDS RECOGNIZED/APPROVED COMPETITIONS
 - L. At RMDS only recognized shows, all US Equestrian Federation rules regarding competitions shall be followed with the following exceptions:
 5. **Allow Western Dressage classes, exempting USEF rule DR121.1 for those classes only.**

Motion by Julie Haugen to approve the changes as noted in red above, 2nd by Nicole Bizzarro, motion passes.

2. Page E-15 SECTION V. AWARDS - YEAR END

E. Perpetual Trophies:

Add & renumber -3. New RMDS Awards requires that there be a minimum of 5 competitors in any chosen level or division in order for the Executive Board to consider approval of said award. This policy applies to all Horse of the Year Awards and Breed Awards. As the Executive Board must approve all new awards, our policy is that any new awards must be presented to the Awards Chairman by the end of June of the competition year. In order to be presented in the current competition year, new awards must be voted on in the July Executive Board meeting. Any award proposals made after June will not be presented and voted on until the following year.

Motion by Heather Petersen to approve the changes as noted in red above, 2nd by Gwen Dordick, motion passes.

3. Page E-18, 19 SECTION VII. USDF "L" Graduate Program for RMDS

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 equivalent) once every two (2) years.

Motion by Nicole Bizzarro to approve the changes as noted above, 2nd by Gwen Ka'awaloa, motion passes.

2nd reading of election roster:

President:	Lori Mitchell
Vice President:	MaryJo Hoepner
Secretary:	Heather Petersen
Treasurer:	Mary Rae, Sharron Soos

BUDGET: Sharon Soos

Rocky Mountain Dressage Society 2012 Budget			
2012 Budget	Income	Expense	Net Change
Adult Amateur	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,500.00	\$ (500.00)
BOG Awards	\$ 350.00	\$ 5,500.00	(\$5,150.00)
BOG Banquet	\$ 5,500.00	\$ 7,000.00	(\$1,500.00)
Centaur	\$ 16,100.00	\$ 28,000.00	(\$11,900.00)
Central Office	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 13,000.00	(\$9,500.00)
Championship/Breed Show	\$ 78,000.00	\$ 76,000.00	\$2,000.00
Clinics	\$ 5,500.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$500.00
Education / Expo	\$ -	\$ 750.00	(\$750.00)
General / Interest	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$0.00
Jr/Yr Program	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 3,500.00	\$500.00
Marketing	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00	(\$1,000.00)
Membership - Dues	\$ 50,200.00	\$ 25,600.00	\$24,600.00
Membership - Horses	\$ 8,500.00	\$ -	\$8,500.00
Misc. / Donation	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 4,500.00	(\$2,900.00)
Ominbus	\$ 12,500.00	\$ 16,000.00	(\$3,500.00)
Operating	\$ -	\$ 2,000.00	(\$2,000.00)
Scheduling / Insurance	\$ 2,800.00	\$ 2,600.00	\$200.00
Scholarship	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 2,000.00	(\$200.00)
Taxes / Legal	\$ 600.00	\$ 1,000.00	(\$400.00)
Team Competition	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$0.00
Website	\$ 800.00	\$ 720.00	\$80.00
Winter Wake-up Show	\$ 18,500.00	\$ 18,500.00	\$0.00
Total	\$ 215,850.00	\$ 218,770.00	(\$2,920.00)

Notes on budget discussion:

Adult amateur – includes a \$1K RMDS “donation” to the budget line.

BOG Awards – income is reimbursement of postage.

BOG Banquet – budgeting expense for cost of meetings (lunch, breakfast, room)

Centaur – we tried to switch printers for cost savings, but poor quality, so went back.

Central Office – supplies, central officer person salary. Income is email blasts, bridle tag sales.

Championships/Breed show – based exactly off of 2011 numbers.

Clinics – Judges’ continuing Education, TD/Show management

Education/Expo – booth costs and freebies. Would like to maintain a double booth.

General/Interest – organization expenses – IRS, state, etc.

Jr/Yr Program – mostly camp income and expense.

Marketing – media kits, Colorado horse Park program advertising.

Membership dues – expense is the cost to USDF for GMO memberships.

Horse membership – no real expense – just income from registrations.

Misc/donations – breakout sheet.

Omnibus – hoping for more income but will budget conservatively.

Operating – expenses are postage, data base updates and such...

Scheduling/Insurance – as makes sense.

Scholarship – income is donations, expense is the scholarships themselves. – 4 @ \$500 each at this point.

Taxes/Legal – organization tax return is expense, chapters paying their portion is the income.

Team Competition – The show in July – Adult and Junior Region 5 Team Competition.

Website – bid for expense and then market place ads for income

Winter Wake Up – hoping for a better year after the EHV1 outbreak.

Shannon Lemons moved to approve the budget for 2012 as presented, 2nd by Simone Windeler. Motion passes.

Old Business:

Simone Windeler - Report on USDF Convention 2010: New USEF helmet rule installed, Heather Petersen became Region 5 director, E Trak presented, quite a few RMDS people attended the banquet and received schwaggg, good educational offerings. Good roundtable discussions – buttons for membership and volunteer hours. Buttons for 10, 20 and 30 continuous years of membership. Cost for about 400 in first order - \$500-\$600. Going to convention again in San Diego for 2011.

New Business:

2012 Show Schedule: 8th Heaven facility is now gone, AHIEC only doing 2 Sunday series instead of 3. UDS Annual Show will be sometime in August. Qualifying 2012.

Chapter Reports:

Arkansas Valley: No report

Mary Rae

Boulder Valley: No report

Kim Lampert

Colorado Springs:

Shannon Lemons

Shannon took over as president in February 2011 and started a record book for the club and actually keeping track of minutes. Accepting bids now for 2013/2014 show management and will advertise such in the January/February Centaur. Looking at how to increase income for the shows and have made some price considerations for our 2012 prize lists. Survey done of the membership at the meetings and where the members want to go with the club and what directions they would like to take. Some new ideas for education topics given and a definite go ahead to keep running shows. Lots of suggestions for what the club needs to do but no one will

help actually follow through with the efforts. Elections and by-law changes November 15th. January is our awards dinner.

Foothills:

The chapter had the following events, all successful, fun and educational –

- New Test Clinic presented by Dolly Hannon and Debbie Riehl-Rodriguez in January. They used a slide presentation and demo riders for a full day event.
- Ride A Test with Dolly Hannon and Debbie Riehl-Rodriguez
- Last Chance Show – smaller show this year.

2011 Foothills Scholarship was awarded to two members, both in the amount of \$500 for a total of \$1000 in scholarship money. One recipient has already reported the use of her money in a Centaur article and the other recipient is scheduled to have her article in the Centaur soon. We will not be awarding scholarships in 2012.

2012 Foothill Chapter events to include – check the chapter website (www.foothillsdressage.org) for updates, details and new events listed.

- Heather Robertson Clinic twice in the year (May 19-20 and August 4-5) at Capricorn Farms.
- Ride A Test and Last Chance Show the same weekend (June 16 with Dolly Hannon and September 1 with Debbie R-R and show on 2nd)

2012 Foothills Chapter Board

- Dolly Hannon – President Emeritus and Past President
- Lori Mitchell – President
- Pam DeVore – Vice President
- Cecilia Ross – Secretary
- Laura Quakenbush – Treasurer

Foothills pays for the first round of drinks and appetizers for those who attend their meetings. They have seen a significant increase in attendance.

Grand Valley: Not present and no report sent.

High Plains:

Gwen Ka'awaloa

Problems with president not being able to make a lot of the meetings this year causing a large change in membership on the board. In spite of that, we've run a volunteer seminar that was pretty successful. Event created a nice volunteer book which is available for purchase from the High Plains Chapter or you can borrow it to look for ideas.

Did have a good attendance to the last meeting and elections – President: Wendy Cibis, Vice President: Suzie Halle, Secretary: Meredith Mathers, Treasurer: Judith Weber

Survey – 20% answered the survey and most events were offered but attendance did not increase.

Northern Colorado:

Highlights of 2011

December-January

- Tricia Howley creates and manages our new NCDA webpage and Facebook page: www.sites.google.com/site/myncda
- Sandy Hotz clinic at Fort Collins Equestrian Center, Judges Continuing Education put on by RMDS.
- NCDA Members begin to organize our responsibilities for "Volunteers and Sponsorship for "Winter Wake-Up".
- The process of writing and approving By-laws begins.

February-March

- USDF "L" judge, Kathleen Donnelly-Mayger, presentation on New Dressage Tests and new format.

- Two members attend the Volunteer Educational Session sponsored by High Plains.

March-April

- 2011 Dressage Tests lecture, Power point presentation and riding, directed by Dolly Hannon, at Lazy J Bar S and Hobby Horse Farms
- Brigitte Schmidt created a Membership Survey to poll members on what they want from NCDA. The results of the survey showed our membership has a broad range of interests and ideas for NCDA activities. Members want more learning opportunities, clinics, presentations and for the club to be more "inclusive".

June

- NCDA Constitution and By-laws adopted.
- "Winter Wake-Up" Tomora Training Center - Successful despite EHV-1. i.e. Saturday had 62 rides. Down scaled from two arenas to one; not a moneymaker, but as shows go, very pleasant for those who showed up! 35 NCDA volunteers each day. Thank you to all volunteers, Tomora Training Center for donating its facility, Laura Speer, show liaison, BizTek International, LLC and RMDS.

July

- Decision to give up NCDA June show weekend with USDF, based on NCDA treasury balance, show costs, economy, and member interest.
- RMDS Kid's Camp, Tomora Training Center, Joan Clay supervisor.

September and October

- Raissa Chunko and Brook Santangelo give presentations on their experiences at Lamplight and Kentucky Horse Park, respectively.
- Halloween Party, "Are You Haunted by Dressage" Phantom Hill Farm October 30th. Thank you to RaeAnn Cook for donating her facility, decorating, and allowing NCDA members to Party Up. Twelve horses and riders were in costume and everyone agreed it was a great time. Thank You to Kathleen Kilkelly for providing the refreshments and to Pat Cole for being MC. The party was the vision of our new president, Hana van Campen. We have a lot to look forward to in 2012.

November

- As of November 10, 2011, we have roughly 100 members and exactly \$3,180.85 in our account.
- Election for new NCDA president - Hana van Campen and vice-president Renee Martig.

Based on his unfailing help to NCDA, Bill Chunko is getting the NCDA volunteer of the year award. He helped at Winter Wake-Up from before dawn until late at night, helped at the RMDS Camp, and was an immense help to Raissa on her journey to Lamplight. Paula Lunberry, Vice-President, deserves the NCDA "Model of the Year" for her devotion to NCDA and for her diligence in helping behind the scenes, at meetings and events, going to RMDS meetings, and for her vision and dedication to our club.

Thanks also go to Pat Cole, our Treasurer. Thank You as well to Kathleen Kilkelly, Secretary, who does an amazing job of writing up the minutes, sending out e-mail notification of our meetings, and in general, keeps us on course. Thank You to Tricia Howley who is charge of our NCDA website. We will miss her very much when she moves to CA. Thank You to Joan Clay for organizing educational events for our club.

Platte River Dressage:

PRD is the new chapter of RMDS that runs basically along the South Platte River from Brighton to Greeley and east.

Earlier this year we held elections of the officers.

There were several meetings, a Dolly Hannon Clinic, and a fundraiser.

Currently there are 14 members. This number should grow as PRD will now be a selection on the membership form.

The officers and members will begin diligently this year to expand the chapter, its events, and fundraising. A big thank you to all of the members who have supported the new chapter! At one meeting we had 70% attendance!!!

Wasatch Mountains: No Report

Sally Shaffer

Western Colorado:

Western Colorado Chapter maintains a bank account at Vectra Bank of Colorado, El Jebel Branch. Our treasurer is Barbara McElnea and our assistant treasurer is Justina Potter, 6059 County Road 100, Carbondale, CO 81623-8815. We currently have \$8,788.76 in our account.

We are proud of members Jennifer Wessel, Sue Pietrzak, Cameron Martin, Bethany Roof, Debra McGrath, Carrie Washburn, and Michelle Bryan who all made scores of 60 and above in RMDS recognized shows.

Western Colorado Chapter collaborated with Marian Nilsen's Healthy Horse Boutique to present a Kathleen Raine "Ride a Test" Clinic at Pam Johnson's Cedar Ridge Farm. Kathleen judged the accompanying schooling show that was the first of our Summer Schooling Series. The last summer schooling show took place at Barbara McElnea's Les Corbeaux Farm and was well attended with Pony Clubbers and members in abundance. Colorado

Chapter maintains a website www.aspendressage.com as an electronic Newsletter. We are linked to the RMDS website.

We invite members and other interested parties to access ongoing up-dates concerning chapter business, calendar of events, electronic entry forms, membership applications, show prize lists, show results, Roster of Chapter Officers, and current Bylaws.

Western Colorado Chapter has elected President Judith Family jfamily@rof.net, Vice President Sue Pietrzak pietrzak@rof.net, Secretary Barbara Graham Terry bgterry1@comcast.net, Treasurer Barbara McElnea barmac@sopris.net, Assistant Treasurer Justina Potter justina@co.pitkin.co.us to serve for 2012.

Final Reading of Candidates for Executive Office:

President:	Lori Mitchell
Vice President:	MaryJo Hoepner
Secretary:	Heather Petersen
Treasurer:	Mary Rae, Sharon Soos
Adult Amateur:	Donna Baxter, Beth Geier

Adult Amateur added since Lori will step down if elected president.

Heather Petersen moves to accept the slate as above for the unopposed positions and then have a ballot vote for the Treasurer and Adult Amateur positions. 2nd by Gwen Ka'awaloa. Motion passed.

Ballot results:

Adult Amateur:

Donna Baxter – 10 votes

Beth Geier – 27 votes

Treasurer:

Sharon Soos – 29 votes

Mary Rae – 8 votes

Other Business:

Discussion – Process of RMDS TD testing brought forward by upset RMDS member who lost their RMDS TD license. Per policy, it will be odd number years for all technical delegates no matter when they became a TD, similar to USEF procedures.

Stephanie Boyles moves to adjourn, 2nd by Joan Clay, motion passes.

Meeting adjourned at 2:25 pm.