

RMDS EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Colorado Horse Park Show Office

September 17, 2013

Attendance: Jon Haugen, Susan Gregg, Simone Windeler, Beverly Swanson, Sharon Soos, Peter Soos, Patricia Leech, CC Lee, Gwen Ka'awaloa, Michelle Anderson, Linda Gaber, Sarah Barnes, Beth Geier, Heather Petersen, Jennifer Glass, Michael Petersen, Aline Brandau, Shannon Lemons

Proxies: Barbara Terry to Heather Petersen; Wendy Cibis to Aline Brandau; MaryJo Hoepner to Michelle Anderson; Sally Shaffer to Gwen Ka'awaloa; Catherine Siemiet to Gwen Ka'awaloa; Renee Martig to Jon Haugen; Shannon Lemons to Heather Petersen; Tammy Fagan to Susan Gregg

Call to Order by Gwen Ka'awaloa at 6:32 PM

Treasurers Report by Sharon Soos

Balance in each account as of April 30, 2013:

Checking Account	\$31,356.23
Scholarship Account	\$5730.88
PayPal Account	\$4641.08
<u>Money Market</u>	<u>\$44,419.16</u>
Total:	\$86,047.35

Discussion: tax return completed, signed and put in the mail. We're going to really look at our fixed assets, starting to create lists. All chapters will be paying \$50 for tax prep.

Western Dressage- Frances Carbonnel has asked if she can take over the Western Dressage liaison person and would talk to Kelly about taking over the position. Mary Gunn will be at the Championships with a table as presence for Western Dressage at the show.

President's Report by Gwen Ka'awaloa

Colorado has experienced major flooding which has produced a lot of damage and there has been talk by folks that we shouldn't be concerned with Championships and instead we should be donating those funds to flood relief. Gwen talked about putting out an email to RMDS members concerning groups that we can support as individuals, the USEF policy on refunds, have it state what we're going to do, and the policy we have and USEF has regarding who will get refunds. The email should also discuss costs, what goes into these shows, etc so that our membership has a better understanding.

It was also decided we would create a short standard email blast for RMDS that's standard issue for natural disasters that lists charities, resources and such for our members to donate or draw from.

Gwen Ka'awaloa moved we return the advertising dollars of the Colorado Horsecare Foodbank that they paid for an ad in the RMDS Championships Show Program, 2nd by Sharon Soos. Motion approved unanimously.

Scratches at the Championships are minimal – most due to horse issues, not the flooding. Only one person stated they scratched due to flooding issues.

We need to address the relocation of RMDS arena. It would be more beneficial to have it closer to the horse park since that is the place where it is used the majority of the time. Simone Windeler has a possible place. She will explore it and if it works, will arrange to get the arena from Laura Speer and move it.

Discussion on the treatment of volunteers will be tabled and discussed under By Laws.

The Professional Trainer/Rider appointed committee has several people interested – Kelly Boyd, Dolly Hannon and Debbie Riehl-Rodriguez have expressed interest and Gwen is working further on it.

Central Office Report by Beth Geier

Membership

- Registration – 826 members as of 9/9/13 – 12 are Centaur only. 96 new horses since October, 2012
- Beth distributed the delegate counts for each chapter for the November BOG. Would love to have bodies instead of proxies. Non delegates are allowed and welcome but the must pay for their own lunch and/or breakfast.

Shows:

- TD Reports: Centaur Rising II & III, Sun Prairie III, BVD So Long to Summer
 - Some concerns were discussed regarding the USEF Level 1 rules that apply to RMDS competitions that have caused a couple of situations. We will work on educating our L grads, TDs and show managers of these different rules.
- Scores are inputted and up to date
- Green Horse/Green Rider – Rising Star – Masters: judges are different from the other divisions sometimes. Staff from one of our local shows told competitors that their scores would qualify them for RMDS Championships. There are issues though with offering these classes as separate classes and not divisions. Do we add all masters scores into the system or just the highest test of the level? **Beverly Swanson moved that we include all masters classes in RMDS year end scores and RMDS Championship qualifying scores. 2nd by Aline Brandau. Motion passed unanimously.**

Recognized Officials:

- TD's need to take the written test in October and score 85% or better Standing Rule: VI, B.6. Heather is working on the exam with a couple other USEF tds.

Omnibus: Kaycee Douglas should be getting ads soon. Had a meeting with her in August – Nothing since then.

General:

- Pay for clinic chairmen's rooms & meals: should we also pay for awards chairman & banquet chairman 1 night & banquet meal? **Michelle Anderson moved that RMDS pays for hotel rooms (if the hotel has not comped them already) for the Banquet and Awards Chairpersons and that we encourage them to room together. 2nd by Sarah Barnes. Motion passed unanimously.**

Office:

Just a note to let you know I may have to take a quick trip East for 3 days – do not know when.

Next Executive Board Meetings (2nd Thursday odd months) – Romano's Italian Restaurant – 720-344-9530

2013:	Oct 10	Budget & Camp Director	
	Nov 9	BOG	
2014:	Jan 9	Mar 13	May 8
July 8 or 10?	Sept 11	Oct 9-Budget	BOG 8 or 15??

It has been decided to move the July meeting date to July 8th and the BOG will be held November 15th. Laura Speer stated that the current hotel will not book out that far in advance but that she would check with them when they did start booking. Laura also resigned her Banquet chair position effective at the conclusion of the 2013 BOG and Banquet. Beverly Swanson's husband will research hotels and prices for 2014.

Proposed By Law and Standing Rule Changes

BYLAWS:

1. Add the following committee: proposed by Gwen Ka'awaloa Page E-8

ARTICLE VIII. COMMITTEES

A. Permanent Committees:

3. The responsibilities of the Permanent Committees relate to coordination of the major activities of the Society.

- h. PROFESSIONAL TRAINERS/RIDERS COMMITTEE shall be responsible for developing educational, social and competitive programs for the Society's Professional Trainers/Riders. These programs shall be developed and run in coordination with the RMDS Education Committee

comments from 9/17/13 meeting – h needs to be changed to i.

2. Need discussion: mentioned at a meeting Page E-8

ARTICLE IX. EXECUTIVE BOARD

A. The Executive Board shall consist of the four elected Officers, the Chairpersons of the Permanent Committees, the immediate past President of the Society, and the President of each non-suspended Chapter. Executive Board members shall not hold a chair position for which they receive remuneration for activities related to that committee. Nor shall they hold a proxy for that chair position. A person is limited to holding no more than two proxies per meeting. The Central Office Manager shall not hold a board position or carry proxies.

comments from 9/17/13 meeting – much of the discussion was to rescind the limitation of proxies. Sarah Barnes moved we rescind #2 from consideration by the Board of Governors. 2nd by Michelle Anderson. Motion passed unanimously.

STANDING RULES:

3. Need clarification: Central Office Page E-15

SECTION V. AWARDS - YEAR END

- D. Rider Awards:
2. If 5 scores or more of 60% or better are accrued

comments from 9/17/13 meeting – Sarah Barnes moved we rescind #3 from consideration by the Board of Governors. 2nd by Michelle Anderson. Motion passed unanimously.

4. change number of shows from 3 to 4: proposed by Kristi Wysocki Page E-15, 16

- E. Perpetual Trophies:
4. Horse of the Year Perpetual Trophies will be awarded at the RMDS annual banquet to horse/rider combinations based on the median scores from at least four (4) shows, four (4) judges and five (5) rides. Two (2) of the scores must be at least 55% at the most difficult test of the level and at least two (2) of the shows must be recognized by US Equestrian Federation. The median must be 55% or higher to qualify for an award. FEI levels will be based on four (4) shows, four (4) judges and four (4) rides. The median must be at least 55% or higher to qualify for an award.

5. change to Central Office? To comply with current procedure Page E-16

- F. Sport Horse Breeding Show Year End Awards
f. All owners are responsible for verifying and documenting their scores with the Central Office (was Awards Chairperson) prior to September 30 of the competition year.

6. Add Complaints: proposed by Aline Brandau & Gwen Ka'awaloa Page E-21

SECTION XII. PROTESTS, CHARGES, HEARINGS, WARNINGS, AND COMPLAINTS

- C. Complaints are to be written and emailed or sent to the RMDS Central Office. The RMDS Central Office is responsible for dealing with the complaint, and resolving the complaint with the President and Vice President of RMDS.

comments from 9/17/13 meeting – it was discussed that complaints should be emailed to an "RMDS complaint Department email address or emailed to President, VP and Central Office. It was then discussed that complaints may be filed per the current RMDS complaint policy and this was not needed.

7. Add e-Centaur: to comply to Centaur change Page E-22

SECTION XIII. COMPENSATED PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

- C. Contracts that the Society awards on a yearly and /or bi-yearly basis may include the following:
3.e. The Chairperson of the Communications Committee shall present a contract for the e-Centaur newsletter publications artist for approval by the Executive Board.

8. Delete following section: Page E-15

Section V AWARDS – Year End

E. Perpetual Trophies

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.

comments from 9/17/13 meeting –Heather Petersen moved we rescind #8 from consideration (meaning these requirements will still stand) by the Board of Governors. 2nd by Sarah Barnes. Motion passed unanimously.

Adult Amateur Report by Jennifer Glass

The Adult Amateurs in RMDS have indicated they would like to have a biomechanics clinic. I have been able to find two clinicians that would be able to fill the position, James Shaw and/or Stephanie Mosely. Stephanie is a Bronze Medalist and level 2 RWYM instructor under Mary Wanless. She came highly recommended from Mary herself. She has been teaching for 30 years and working with Mary for 15 years. Her fee is \$700 a day for a three day clinic which comes to \$2100 for all three days. She charges \$800 per day for a two day clinic which comes to \$1600. She lives in Georgia so there will be traveling expenses incurred as well. The next clinician I have lined up is James Shaw; he created the “ride from within system”. He combines his knowledge of Tai chi and Ba Qua to riding. He taught a weekly class for Betsy Steiner and her students at Malibu Golf and Riding Club. He charges \$1000 a day plus expenses and the clinics are three days. I have talked to the owner of Iron Horse Farms (where Westmanton is located), and she has graciously allowed us to use their facility for the clinic at no charge. They do have temporary stalls if needed for riders. So the only cost would be the clinicians, travel and expenses. I have based this clinic information on May 9, 2014 weekend.

Sarah would not hold her spring clinic with James Shaw to help support the RMDS clinic if James Shaw is chosen. Friday PM would be a theory session, Saturday is ground work session without horses, up to 12 riders on Saturday and Sunday and these formats can accommodate many riders. Experience is martial arts, breathing, balance and using the force of the horse. It was decided we need different dates as that weekend in May is a horse show. **The board moved to approve the James Shaw clinic as long as it was on a different weekend and a complete budget was supplied to the board at the January meeting. 4 voted yes and the rest abstained.**

Award Report by Shannon Lemons

New Award –

I was contacted by a member who had previously donated a silver bowl that was not ever put in to use as far as I can tell. There is a silver bowl in the unused/donated inventory that could be used. She would like to create a new award for sportsmanship for a Junior/Young Rider. This would be under the category of Special Awards and would be a nomination award, with the board voting if there is more than one nomination. I already have a nominee for this year if the award is approved – Joan Clay knows the name of the girl who offered to scratch her ride so that one of the Dressage Seat Riders would have a horse when her horse was suffering from a colic right before the finals at Paragon. We need a vote for approval or not. **Gwen Ka’awaloa moved to table the award and further specifications until the January 2014 RMDS Executive Board Meeting. 2nd by Aline Brandau. Motion to table was unanimous.**

Volunteer/Service Awards

Russ Fawcett Memorial Award – For Lifelong Dedication to the Sport of Dressage through Education and Giving Back. Please make any further nominations, and we will do an email vote if there is not a quorum present at the meeting.

Nominee(s): Kristi Wysocki, Veronica Holt – Shannon will get short bios and do an email vote.

RMDS Volunteer of the Year – Please make any nominations, and we will do an email vote if there is not a quorum present at the meeting.

Nominee(s): It was decided to give Volunteer nominations to Gwen.

Donors/Sponsors – I need a list of the donors and sponsors we would like to recognize with plaques this year.

Chapter VOTY - I need all chapter presidents to send their chapter VOTY name to me by no later than October 15!!! Is there any problem with a club having co-winners? I am not aware of anything in the by-laws that prevents co-winners. If no objections, I will tell the club asking about co-winners that it is acceptable.

Banquet –

Notifications – I will add a link for accessing banquet sign up onto the postcards that go out to winners. Sending a letter to everyone who receives an award would more than double the cost of making notifications, since the vast majority are only for rider plates. Those that are receiving a trophy do receive a letter, and I can add a form to those, but sending them to everyone seems to be using up a lot of paper that is likely to end up in the round file☺

Set Up – I think we need to plan on 15 tables. And, although I greatly appreciate the attempts to help, it really is harder for me to set up with a lot of people in the banquet hall when I'm setting up, so I am asking that I have time to get everything generally in place before anyone else comes in to try to help. We will also do drawings for those who submitted volunteer hours to the Central Office. Left over gift certificates will be given for volunteer drawings at Championships as well.

Vendors –

I will be meeting with awards vendor next week to clarify all the different types we need and our budget constraints. If any issues arise, I will let the board know by email since this is our last meeting before the banquet.

Communications Report by Linda Gaber

There was some discussion of the exclusion of the RMDS Banquet Reservation form from the Centaur and ways to remedy the situation so as to maximize attendance.

Centaur – The banquet form was dropped due to a finite number of pages. The link and information was listed in the new section “Whats New Online” in the Centaur.

E Centaur – Constant contact click through count is under reported. The ads are doing fairly well.

Omnibus – We have sold 5 tabs so far and one has been comped to the Roaches for donating their facility. Our advertising person has not done any work and someone else had expressed interest in the position. Do we go back to them and see if they are still interested? Could each board member work on bringing in an ad?

Website – We have added a Championships blog entry – may move the news section over to the blog format too and perhaps increase the blog presence.

Completed since July meeting:

- Assisted in preparing content and production of August E-Centaur and September printed Centaur.
- Read and advised Beth Geier on letter for Omnibus advertisers.
- Communications Committee Chair maintains on-going coordination of article topics with RMDS members and contributors. Watch for articles on:
 - RMDS member Ginny Wegener of Arkansas Valley Chapter has completed two Century Club rides. Article on her to be reproduced with permission from August 2013 Sidelines magazine.
 - New saddle-fitting techniques and advice from Beverly Harrison with The Tack Collection, Lafayette, as a result of a summer trip to Great Britain.
 - Series of topics on Dressage and the Barefoot Horse by Leslie Carrig, a certified hoof care practitioner who operates High Desert Hoof Care in Longmont.
 - Benefits of creating a legal trust designed to provide assets and a caretaker for your horse upon your death.
 - Holistic veterinarian by Sarah Barnes.
 - Stories behind RMDS championship trophies from their donors.

- Profiles of RMDS members nominated for 2014 RMDS Board.
- For each issue, continued content communication with members and contributors, initiating article topics and soliciting content and photos, and writing, editing and proof-reading through the completed newsletter.

Board members, please continue to forward your article suggestions or issue themes, with suggested writers. Always looking for members who attend clinics to write articles.

Education Report by Jon Haugen

- Fox Village Clinic: November 2, 2013 9:00-12:00 - Instructed by Heather Petersen, providing in-depth knowledge of the show management software.
- Instructor/Trainer Clinic – Beth
- 2014 Judges' Continuing Education: February 1, 2014 - Bill Solyntjes has agreed to come and instruct. Will be a video only presentation, which should allow us to spend more time on freestyles and others.
- 2014 TD/Show Management Clinic: February 15, 2014 - Heather Petersen will conduct the Show management portion, and Laurie McTavish has been contacted to handle the TD portion.

Jr/YR Report by Julie Haugen

With the help of Natalie Ellis and Beth Geier, I compiled a bid outline for people that may have an interest in putting on future youth camps.

I have set into motion an ice cream social/ taco bar for jr/yr members on the Saturday of the RMDS/USDF championships. I feel it would be a great way to get the youth together in a setting they are already there for, to have fun and get feedback from them for future events/ educational ideas.

Have thoughts to educate the youth about the assets of going to the many educational events that are coming up this fall and winter. I feel they may not realize that these events would benefit them and want to let them know they would gain lots from attending.

Marketing Report by Sharon Soos

Championships RMDS Table:

- RMDS Shirts Available
- 2014 Media Kit
- Advertising Rate Post Cards (Omnibus and Centaur)
- Clinic Fliers (2013 & 2014 scheduled)
- Banquet Reservation Forms
- 2014 Omnibus advertising information
- Is the January issue of the Centaur going to be a stallion issue? We need to get that information out to the membership and advertisers if so.

2014 Omnibus advertising - Getting the word out from the office. Thank you Beth for staying on top of this.

Scholarship Report by MaryJo Hoepner

We have written articles for Centaur highlighting volunteer position duties.

Just sent an email blast about volunteering for championships to encourage folks to get their hours in order to apply for scholarships.

Show Chair Report by Beverly Swanson

"How Dressage and Horses Have Shaped My Life"

- Put together new Sponsorship Packages
- Uploaded Complete Sponsor Info Packets, Class Sponsor Form, and Ad Form to website
- Secured Devon Wycoff as our theme representative for PR and Friday night dinner
- Asked WDAA to join us on Saturday & Sunday, they will have a table with info
- Using Constant Contact for weekly "asks" for sponsorship

- Have Press Release ready, will send out week of the 9th to media
- May need a volunteer freestyle/GP rider for demo

Have approached auto dealers for Platinum Sponsorship – because of short lead time, this may prove impossible for 2013, but looks very good for 2014 if we get our ask in early. Medved of Castle Rock was very interested.

In the pipeline (contact made):

- Ed Bozarth Chevy
- Harmony Sport Horses
- Big O Tire
- Littleton Large
- Comfort Suites
- Suzy Sweitzer

Still need a lot of volunteers....

Recap of class sponsors to date (with a few more coming in...) :

RMDS Futurity Susan Mikula and Total Equestrian Services

Training Level – Open Barbara McElnea

Training Level - AA Friez Insurance Agency

Training Level - Junior John and Susan Smith

Training Level – Young Rider John and Susan Smith

First Level - Junior Mistanny Troika Memorail Trophy - Madeline and Debi Smith

First Level – Young Rider John and Susan Smith

First Level – Freestyle Renee Martig

Prix St. George – AA Ann Edelman – Perpetual Trophy

Prix St. George – Junior

Intermediare I – Open Anne McNeil?

Intermediare Freestyle Silvertip Farm – Deborah Carter

Grand Prix - Open The Pyrok Memorial Trophy –

Westmanton Stables / Grant and Sharon
Schneidman

Any Champ class left:

Laine and Staci Collins

Julia Boaz Cooper

Anne MacGuire – 3 classes

Susan Traylor

John and Susan Smith – 2 other classes also

New Perpetual trophy – Kristi Wysocki – in honor of Red Adair – High Point RMDS

Championship FEI Freestyle

Open Show Class Sponsor – all first places in open show receive donated items:

Kim Kelleghan

Open class sponsors in addition:

Jill Knowles

Kathy Simard

Special Award Sponsors:

Sarah Friez – True Grit

Anita Williams – Sportsmanship

Horses Unlimited – American Born FEI Horse – High scoring

Horses Unlimited – American Born National Horse – High scoring

Horses Unlimited – High Point Pony – donated Pony Double Bridle

Stacey Mikula – donating high point awards also

Dinners:

Wed – 2 White Feet - Pizza

Thurs – Teller Park Vet and Colorado Equine Vet
Fri - ?
Sat – Horses Unlimited
Sunday Brunch - ? – cancelling most likely
Golf Cart – Susan deSylvia
Several ads have come in

STILL NEED 1-2 ARENAS FROM OUR CHAPTERS FOR THE SHOW!

We need to start working on sponsorship for 2014 so that we give more lead time to potential sponsors. Sponsorship is down a bit this year due to the floods and fires and people allocating their resources to those disaster relief efforts.

Appointed Committee Reports:

Nominating Committee Report by Sarah Barnes

We have heard from the current treasurer that she is willing to serve another term. The current secretary is also willing to serve another term, if no one else would like to take on the job. We have not heard from the current president or vice president about their willingness to serve additional terms and we have not received any additional nominations.

We are working to get bios of the candidates for the October/November Centaurs.

Banquet Committee Report by Laura Speer

It is not appropriate that the banquet reservation form was not published in the September Centaur. We need to make every effort to get the information out to the membership. Everything else is coming along nicely.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

October 10th meeting will be for a preliminary budget and review of Jr/YR Camp director bids. Sharon will send budget requests to committee chairs.

Chapter Reports: Heather Petersen moved that we accept chapter reports as written. 2nd by Susan Gregg. Motion passed unanimously.

Arkansas Valley

No Report

Catherine Siemiet

Boulder Valley

Sarah Barnes

Our "So Long To Summer" show on August 25th was a success, due to many last minute entries. Thanks to our super organizing team of Beth Geier and Jeannette Hillery, as well as our host facility, Sextant Farm and Stephanie Margulis, not to mention many willing volunteers. Our website and monthly newsletter continue to serve as effective means of keeping chapter member informed of BVD and RMDS activities, as well as great vehicle for featuring the accomplishments of our members and volunteers. Plans are coming together for our annual awards banquet in January.

Colorado Springs

Patricia Leech

In 1979, the first CSDA year-end award of the Ruth Chase Tyree Perpetual Trophy was presented to Kathy Thompson as the Training Level Champion. Kathy also won the High Point Champion trophy. Over the years, CSDA has continued to expand our Chapter awards program and in 2012, we presented a total of 55 separate trophies, ribbons, and plaques to our members. These awards included riders from Training Level through FEI, horses in the breed and in-hand categories, and non-riding awards to

volunteers and individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the Chapter and the sport of Dressage.

This year, the Chapter Board has updated our awards program. Many of the qualification requirements for the year-end awards have been changed and the updated program is now posted on the CSDA website at www.csdressage.org/awards.php.

2012 CSDA Year-End Award winners need to return of their trophies to CSDA on or before October 1 2013. Contact the CSDA Awards Chair Joan Stang at 719.633.7549 or by email at stang204-joan@yahoo.com to make arrangements to return your award.

DO NOT LEAVE CSDA YEAR END TROPHIES IN THE SHOW OFFICE AT CHAMPIONSHIPS.

CSDA will not be picking trophies up from the show office at Championships. If you leave the trophy there, it may become lost and the winner will be charged for the cost of replacing it. Last year, one trophy left at the show office had to be tracked down and retrieved from Wyoming.

CSDA general membership meetings are held the third Tuesday of every month and all CSDA members and their guests are welcome to attend. The agenda, meeting time, location, and directions are posted on the website at www.csdressage.org.

Foothills

Lori Mitchell

Last meeting was in August at the Golden Hotel, Bridgewater Grill. Very well attended with many new faces. Discussion was held on various subjects that included the direction of the chapter and RMDS, the education the chapter hopes to offer in 2014 and why the 2013 Seat clinic didn't happen as we had hoped as the RAT.

Reminder that at October meeting the chapter will elect the 2014 FH Board.

September 8th was the Last Chance Show. Attendance was a bit stronger than last year. Jan Danis, Show Chair tried her hand at managing the show. Linda Gaber organized the first "Foothills Flea".

Grand Junction

Tammy Fagan

GVDS members continue to enjoy taking in club sponsored events this Summer and Fall.

The Sarah Martin Clinic held on July 28th & 29th at the Roy Yates Arena was well attended by riders as well as auditors. We have a great group of members that work well together making it a very good atmosphere for learning. We are in the process of getting more dates to have her back.

Aug. 31, - Sept. 1st was our recognized show with Judge Ulrich Schmitz. The show was light but we held it together and it went well. The problem with low entries will be considered at the next show committee meeting to be held Sept. 26th.

Our last schooling show of the season is coming up Oct. 12 – 13 L the judge is Trisha Kerwin "L". Show opens Sept. 16th.

To give a brief update; GVDS has had continued problems with the owner of "Otto Be Bold", Jill Solbach. She sent in an entry for the Aug. 31 – Sept. 1 GVDS recognized Fall Show for "Otto", one day, one test. We refused entry per "Otto Be Bold" Hearing decision. Jill called me saying she had contacted USEF and they said she has grounds to protest, but she wouldn't protest if we let her enter. I told her I would talk with USEF to let them know what's going on from our end. I spoke with Emily at USEF regulations. She said we cannot refuse entry on a suspension. I told her it's not from a suspension; we are refusing entry for cause, safety issues and a brief story of what we have been dealing with, that it was handled properly, the decision was made thru a show committee hearing. She suggested two ways to handle it. (1.) Accept "Otto's" entry and report to them any safety or abuse and let them handle it, it would take us out of the loop or (2.) Refuse entry, then if she protest, they will notify us and we at that time can send in our records on the matter and ask for a dismissal, they will then decide if it should be heard in front of a hearing. I told her that I cannot and would not go against the show committee hearing decision. I will talk to the show committee about it and am willing to talk with Jill of the possibility of her working with the show committee on a possible plan for Otto to prove that he can be safe at GVDS activities. The show committee decided that the hearing decision stands, the hearing decision was not made lightly; it was made after 5 years of continued problems and written complaints from competitors and witnesses attending our shows. The show committee feels that GVDS has the responsibility to provide a safe atmosphere for all attending our activities. I spoke with our TD Catherine Siemiet before

the show about the possibility of Jill showing up at the show. Jill did show up on Saturday, luckily without "Otto"; she took pictures and notes.

Our General Meeting this month has been moved to Sept. 12th, 6:30 pm at Deb Crooks home. Next month the meetings will resume at the regular day, time and location; on the third Thursday of the Month at the Mesa Mall Community Meeting Room.

Please feel free to contact me anytime at tfagandressage@wyoming.com

High Plains

No Report

Wendy Cibis

Northern Colorado

Renee Martig

We haven't had many activities over the summer but are busy planning for the fall. A schooling show for October or early November is in the works as well as a cross training clinic using cavaletti and small gymnastic jumps. We're trying to get members motivated. A letter was sent out to our membership asking for volunteers and participants. Hopefully we'll see more active members this fall.

On the Bit

No Report

Jessica Ford

Pikes Peak –

Michelle Anderson

Our September business meeting was held at Paravicini's Italian Bistro on the 10th where we covered a great deal of planning in a very short time.

We voted to sponsor a championship class at RMDS/Region V championships and also encourage all members to volunteer, even if only for a few hours.

Prior to this meeting our treasurer Erin Ashby reports a balance of \$1,110.34 in our bank account.

Judy Carnick has volunteered to assemble our chapter gift basket for the award banquet auction. Members are asked to bring a contribution to the Oct/Nov meeting.

Our BOG delegates will be myself, Bev Swanson, Shannon Lemons & Nina Felsenthal.

I have to recognize our AMAZING awards chair Shannon Lemons for putting together a wonderful rider recognition program for our chapter which truly rewards riders for their personal achievements, regardless of what color ribbon they might have received or how their horse compares to others. Bronze, Silver & Gold medals (similar to military medals rather than on neck ribbons) will be awarded for individual scores at each level in any show judged by at least an "L" graduate. Please see our website for application forms and more information! I think this program will reward riders for those small personal victories that matter to each us.

Our tentative schedule for the next few months is as follows:

- Combined Oct/Nov meeting will be Tuesday, October 29, 7pm, at a location yet to be determined. We are looking for a restaurant at the north end of town. Election of 2014 officers will be held at this meeting and nominations are welcome from the floor at that meeting. All current officers are willing to stand for re-election.
- Our December holiday party/meeting on the 10th will be combined with another shopping evening at Bingos Saddle Shop near Penrose. It will be a potluck and each member is asked to bring a gift for exchange valued at \$10-15.
- Our January meeting will be on the 14th and we are planning to have a Farrier speak about shoeing and how it contributes to (or detracts from) movement and soundness. February 4th will be our chapter awards dinner.
- January & February locations are yet to be finalized.
- Also planned for 2014 are a veterinary speaker, a long lining/longing clinic postponed from this year, another edition of "Ready, Set, Show" and a chapter trail ride.

For the most up to date information about chapter events please visit our website, <http://pikespeakdressage.org/Main/Home>.

Platte River

Peter Soos

Since Platte River Dressage Chapter did not have a logo, we solicited logo designs from our members. The one above is the one selected by chapter members.

The chapter officers want to congratulate Mary Kraft for submitting the winning design and she is awarded a \$50 Gift Certificate to Dover Saddlery. It is a free-hand drawing of the dressage pirouette with the mountains in the background and the river in the foreground.

Wasatch Mountains

Sally Shaffer

In cooperation with The Utah Dressage Society, the Chapter organized the volunteers for the Utah Dressage Society's 41st Annual Show and the Schooling Show's Championships.

We awarded \$50.00 Gift Certificates to the UDS' Annual Show 1 & 2 to Open, Adult Amateur and Junior Riders in USDF and FEI level Classes.

The awards are going to:

Show1

USDF:

Open - Shiloh Gilbert with a score of 65.600 at Training Level Test 3

AA - no one

JR/YR - Isabella Miller with a score of 63.226 at 1st Level Test 3

FEI:

Open - Cassie Benson with a score of 60.789 at Intermediare 1

AA - no one

JR/YR - No one

Show 2

USDF:

Open - Cassie Benson with a score of 72.143 at Training Level Test 2

AA - Alison Child with a score of 71.552 at 1st Level Test 1

JR/YR - Genneva Blanchard with a score of 66.282 at 3rd Level Test 3

FEI:

Open - no one

AA - No one

JR/YR - no one

The Gift Certificates are to Horse Crazy in Salt Lake City.

Western Colorado

no report

Barbara Terry

Had three very successful schooling shows (June 19, July 24, and August 7, 2013). The August 7th show was followed by our year end awards luncheon/pool party. Our three shows and luncheon were held at Les Corbeaux Farm in Carbondale, Co, the home of our chapter secretary, Barbara McElnea. All schedules and scores are posted on our web site: aspendressage.com

Sarah Barnes moved we adjourn, 2nd by Jennifer Glass

There was no objection - the meeting adjourned at 8:53 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Petersen, RMDS secretary