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# eCentaur

## President's Message

It is hard to believe it is already April! Now is the time to buckle down and learn your test, go over the rule changes, and make sure the show wardrobe (both equine and human) is ready to go! Perhaps you don't plan to show this year; there are still many ways to participate! Of course, you can volunteer at the shows and clinics, but there are many other ways to volunteer. If you are interested in more ways to become more active with our fantastic organization, just reach out to me or the president of your club!

The other point I would like to bring up that can make show season easier and perhaps save your horse's life is trailering. It was very fortunate that not a single horse was lost in the recent Marshall fire. It is immensely important that your horses load well in an emergency situation. It has become very clear that wildfires can happen any time of year and in more urban areas. Please take the time to teach your horses to load well and have an evacuation plan. We have witnessed how quickly these fires can move and grow, let's do our best to be prepared for them and hope we never have to execute our plans!

*Success is no accident, it is hard work, perseverance, learning, studying, sacrifice, and most of all, love of what you are doing or learning to do* Pele

Happy Riding,  
Dorothy Kapaun

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## USDF Region 5 Director's Message

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summer are ahead of us, with lots of time with family, friends, and our horses. The deadline for Participating Member Delegate nominations is April 15. Our region will have 4 PM delegates for the 2022 USDF Convention in Lexington, Kentucky November 30 - December 3. You can check the status of our delegate nominees by going to the link below. Please check your status to make sure your acceptance is there if you would like to be a PM delegate candidate. If you are not listed and you would like to be a PM delegate, please contact Dorothy Kapaun at [dorothykapaun@yahoo.com](mailto:dorothykapaun@yahoo.com). Please do not commit to being a delegate unless you know you can attend. There is some financial assistance from our Region for those PM delegates who do attend the convention.

<https://www.usdf.org/about/about-usdf/governance/nominating/accepted.asp>

As of May 10, our potential candidates for the 2022 FEI North American Junior and Young Rider Championships August 10-15 in Travers City, Michigan will be finalized, but the first of the early application deadlines have now passed, though there is still an opportunity to apply! As I write this, we have 12 riders who have declared (7 Juniors and 5 Young Riders). If you would like to contribute or help with their fundraising efforts, please contact Joan Clay, our Region 5 Jr/YR FEI coordinator at [jnclay@comcast.net](mailto:jnclay@comcast.net) or 970-420-0877. This competition is a reasonable distance for us to travel by trailer, which makes things much more feasible, but we still need your help in order to be able to. If you're a rider, PLEASE DON'T FORGET TO TURN IN YOUR DECLARATIONS!

Till next month!

Heather Petersen

Region 5 Director

[www.usdfregion5.org](http://www.usdfregion5.org)

## **RMDS Seeks Volunteer(s) to fill the Championship Liaison Chair Position**

**The RMDS Championship Show is a wonderful year-end event where members qualify and compete for awards and celebrate the year's**

**Are you a go-getter that enjoys reaching out, meeting new people, working with teams, making a difference, and growing our organization? We are looking for a volunteer to lead the FUNraising and marketing efforts for our RMDS Championship show (Sept 30-Oct 2nd). While this is a leadership position, the Volunteer Championship Chair does not work alone. This event requires a team effort and they will work closely with our Board and our Committee Chairs, particularly the fundraising, marketing, and communications teams, and the volunteer committee. The Championship Chair will be mentored by the Executive team--which has decades of experience running this event. RMDS already has a robust list of previous sponsors to work from. For more information, please contact us at [rmds@indra.com](mailto:rmds@indra.com) We are looking forward to working with you to make this show the best ever.**

#### **Here are the responsibilities:**

Generate revenue for the RMDS Championship Show by acquiring sponsorships with our Sponsorship Package. This involves personally selling sponsorships as well as creating committees and overseeing their results to increase the number of, and revenue from, sponsors.

- Work with Marketing Chair and RMDS Show Secretary on reviewing and finalizing sponsorship package and sponsorship solicitation letters for e-mail to prospects.
- Organize committees to target specific markets and categories of business such as barns and trainers, farriers, vets, health clubs, etc.
- Actively pursue sponsorships for RMDS Championships via e-mail, phone calls, in-person visits.
- On an ongoing basis, update and maintain a Google spreadsheet for sponsorship activity with RMDS Secretary.
- Ensure sponsors' send monies for advertising to RMDS Show Secretary, and that ads are submitted prior to deadlines.
- Assist sponsors with selecting the level of participation and getting their information to the correct contact person prior to deadlines.
- Write a report for Executive Committee meeting and Board of Governors meeting.
  - Level of Sponsorship acquired for championships



## Recent Used Tack Sale Hosted by NCDA a Huge Success

A super fun, Second Annual Used Tack Sale was held recently at Phantom Hill Farm in Fort Collins. The indoor area was temporarily turned into a shopping mall. Vendors set up tables laden with everything the dressage enthusiast needs. There were tons of bits and bridles, halters, blankets, saddles, girths, sport boots, saddle pads, and

grooming items. For the fashion-conscious rider, there were lots of show clothes, boots, jackets, and other equine-inspired wear. There was even a horse carriage for sale. Considering the retail price of all things equine, this sale was the place to be. During the sale, NCDA featured ongoing educational events.

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### **RMDS Clinic Presented by Colorado's Janet Foy Was Featured in the USDF Publication, The Connection.**

**"From Training Level to the Top of the World,"  
Written by RMDS member Natalie Fee Mendick.**

Don't miss this terrific article currently available online on the USDF.org website. Natalie offered a great overview of the RMDS clinic offered by Judge Janet Foy to our judges and auditors called "Improve Your Judging Eye," last September. During the presentation, Janet talked from the point of view of the judges and how they are trained to provide appropriate scores, which is vitally important for competitors to understand. During the clinic, Janet encouraged riders to "sell their test" to the judges. To find out more and read

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## Spotlight: Meet the RMDS Junior/Young Riders

**By Juliet Mendik, Age 16, Castle Rock, Colorado**

**Juliet: Tell us a little about yourself and your horse.**

**Sophia:** I am 16 years old, from Denver, and have been riding dressage for about four and a half years now. The horse I am riding currently is Josie, a 23-year-old chestnut mare owned by Kiki Stein. Even though she's a little older, she still has plenty of spunk and character. She is trained to I-1 and has so much to teach me. I've only been riding her since October, but it's been a blast learning her and all of her quirks. Before Josie, I was riding and competing on my little Haflinger pony, Lucy, who I adore and still have so much fun with.

**Juliet: What's the most important thing that dressage has taught you?**

**Sophia:** The most important thing that dressage has taught me is patience and confidence. You have to have lots of patience in dressage: with your horse, you know that they won't be perfect every time, but you have to trust that they'll get there; with yourself, you have to be patient with your own progress because even though its frustrating, progress is not linear and you have to take a breath and try again. Confidence has also been a big learning process with dressage as you must be confident enough on the horse for them to trust you, which teaches you to trust yourself. Dressage also builds confidence when you become more independent and knowledgeable, there's a little bit of power in that.

**Juliet: What's your favorite dressage moment and why?**

**Sophia:** My favorite dressage moment isn't necessarily one moment, but more of a recurring one. Every time my horse or I learn something new, or reach a new understanding, or find another 'ah-ha' moment. These are my favorite moments because they're all so exciting and genuine and show that we're making progress and learning. They're just little moments but they make the day-to-day riding so important because it's not just about the competition and bigger moments - those can't happen without the little ones.

## COMING SOON: First Annual RMDS Lesson Fundraiser

The Fundraising Committee will be offering you a list of amazing trainers who are raising money for our scholarships and organization! This would not have

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You will be able to purchase a donated lesson (or more) from these trainers once the fundraiser GOES LIVE. Here is your chance to try a new trainer, learn from a different perspective, or purchase from your current trainer. All proceeds go to RMDS!

**The Fundraiser will go live at 9:00 AM MST on Monday, April 25, 2022. Lessons are FIRST COME FIRST SERVE with payment via the [RMDS ONLINE PAYMENT](#) (PAYPAL) page. Please check our website and Facebook page for upcoming details.**

We look forward to seeing you at the shows



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# Sophie and Josie float!

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