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eCentaur

President's Message

RMDS and Region 5 had a very successful Rocky Mountain Sport Horse and USDFBCS Rocky Mountain Series Final Championships! Hobby Horse Farms provided the venue, a huge THANK YOU to them. It was a very quiet, low key venue, perfect for all of the youngsters! It was so much fun watching the horses gain confidence with each presentation!

With our Show Season winding down, it is time to think about educational programs and winter clinics. The L Program will be starting on November 5 & 6, Auditors are welcome. This is an amazing opportunity to learn so much! If your club is hosting an educational program, please add it to the RMDS calendar. It is also time to start thinking about Awards Banquets. Be sure to check your scores and volunteer hours!

The end of an era is coming with the retirement of Beth Geier. Beth has been an integral part of RMDS for as long as most of us can remember. With Beth's retirement comes HUGE shoes to fill. RMDS is now looking for a Central Office Manager. Beth has agreed to stay on until June to help train whoever fills this position. If you are interested, please submit a bid to Beth at the Central Office and me.

RMDS is also accepting bids for the RMDS Championship Show Manager. For any questions or bids, again, please reach out to Beth and me. The positions of President and Vice President are up for election this year. The Presidential position is a two year commitment and the VP is a one year commitment. We also have the following Committee Chairs positions up for election: Adult Amateur, Championship Show, Communications, Marketing, Junior/Young Rider and Scholarship. This is YOUR club, it relies on your input, time, and energy to run. Without members willing to fill the necessary positions, this club cannot function at its' best. If you are interested in either of these positions, please plan on attending the Board of Governors meeting on November 19 beginning at 9 am at the Renaissance Hotel in Denver. Please remember, all

members are invited and encouraged to attend this meeting!! Hope to see many of you there!

Each day I am thankful for nights that turn into mornings, friends that turn into family, dreams that turn into reality, and likes that turn into love

Drake

Dorothy Kapaun
RMDS President

USDF Region 5 Director's Message

I hope everyone has a successful Regional Championship competition if you've attended one of the nine Regional Championships this year! I'm excited to have attended 3 different Regional Championships this year, including our own Region 5 Championships. It's always fantastic to watch the success of our competitors and the dedication to our sport.

We will have the USDF Region 5 Jr/YR clinic with George Williams at Nighthawk Equestrian Center in Longmont, Colorado on October 15-16, 2022. Spectators will be allowed this year and we hope that you'll join us. Thank you very much to Karen Whitman, Eleanor Harrison, Kim Luther, and Gedeon LaFarge for the donation of your lovely facility for this clinic. Congratulations to the folks who were selected to ride – Audrey Allen, Bailey Armbrrecht, Emilia Deyarmond, Ryler Horansky, Megan Kelleghan, Elizabeth Petersen, Sophia Still, and Olivia Williams. The alternates named for the clinic are Isabelle Veed and Emma Glass.

There are many fun things on tap for education with our GMOs in the near future, so please be sure to check your local calendars and participate in these great opportunities! One of the upcoming events is a clinic with Amelia Newcomb October 22-23 at the beautiful American Ranch in Prescott, Arizona. The Northern Arizona Chapter of the Arizona Dressage Association will be hosting this clinic. For more information, please contact Sherry Tekamp at dtekamp@gmail.com.

Here is a list of some of the upcoming educational opportunities in our region:

- North, south, and middle Introductions to the new dressage tests –
- RMDS Chapter PPDS - November 3rd with Janet Foy
- Central Arizona - November 26-27 with Gary Rockwell and Jan Ebeling
- Santa Fe Dressage – December, clinician TBA

Santa Fe Dressage Symposium with Steffen Peters – September 10-11

Arizona Dressage Association - Bill Warren clinic – October 15-16

Utah Dressage Society Instructor certification – In the works, contact UDS for more information!

RMDS L program – more information at www.rmids.org .

USDF Region 5 Junior/Young Rider clinic with George Williams October 15-16 in Longmont,

Till next month!

Heather Petersen

L Judge Program Update There is Still Time to Sign Up!

We currently have space for one more participant and several additional auditors. Applications will be accepted as they come in. When we have received the applications we will then send out information on hotels and more details on each session. We will send out updates as needed so you can make plans for travel. Please read the application and fill it out accordingly, missing information will hold up your acceptance.

If you are interested in applying, please contact Gwen Ka'awaloa at this email address: kaimana_co@hotmail.com, subject 'L' Program. Please make sure you can commit, and then complete the application (found on our calendar at RMDS.org) and pay the amount listed. Participants must pay the full amount to be accepted. Auditors may pay for one session at a time but will not be guaranteed a spot in the next session as it is held by those who have committed with payment.

Dates:

A session – November 5 -6, 2022 Instructor Joan Darnell

B session – February 18 – 19, 2022 Instructor Dorie Vlatten Schmitz

C session – March 25 – 26, 2022 Instructor Debbie Rodriguez

Trophy Returns: A Reminder From

Shannon Lemons

Please note the following from the trophy agreement that everyone read and signed off on at the banquet:

1. The deadline for returning all trophies is September 30, 2022. ALL late trophies will have a \$25 fee assessed for the first month, \$50 if not received by October 15, 2022. If late fees are not paid, your membership goes on hold.
2. Silver trophies MUST be cleaned and polished before return and need to be wrapped in PAPER, not plastic. A \$20 cleaning fee will be charged if they are not cleaned. Again, if fees are not paid, your membership goes on hold.
3. Please remember to bring the 9x12 perpetual plaque with your trophy. The 5x7 plaque is yours to keep, but the bigger one (if your trophy has one) travels back with the trophy.
4. Trophies must be returned in person to the Central office or the Awards chair. This year, you can also return them to Shannon Lemons at Region V Championships in Santa Fe.

All About RMDS!

Membersh:

Membership:

We currently have 660 members! We are growing. Please encourage everyone you know to join-they will get more than their money's worth as a member, and the club will be stronger with new members. We are now accepting dues for 2022: \$80 Just go to our website and pay through our PayPal portal.

Horse Shows:

RMDS brings great shows to you. For 2022 we had 7 - RMDS recognized

shows. In addition, we had 30 - USEF/USDF recognized shows, which does not include Championships & Regionals.

Please log into our dashboard and check your scores. They cannot be changed after October 10th. It is the rider's responsibility to confirm accuracy!

Website:

Our website is in good working order and we recently performed an upgrade to the software. If you have any problems working with our website, please let Central Office know so we can address the program.

Volunteers:

We have several open Board and Committee Chair positions available. Along with support for the banquet, we have communications and marketing opportunities that can be performed from home, on your schedule. So far, this year, our volunteers have donated more than 3,000 hours to support our favorite organization, RMDS!

Don't forget, in order to be eligible for awards, you must perform 4 hours of volunteer work and 8 hours of volunteer work to be eligible for scholarships. Please make sure your hours have been recorded.

Board Meeting Oct 13th:

All members are encouraged to attend the Board Meetings. This is an opportunity for members to meet those who have leadership positions within RMDS and find out what is going on. You might learn about a volunteer role that would be perfect for you. Members will be impressed with all that is going on. We have many committees that are actively working to make RMDS the best it can be. If you would like to join the Zoom meeting, please let the Central Office know to receive an invite.

Board of Governors Meeting November 19th:

The Board of Governors (BOG) will be held at the Renaissance Hotel on Quebec street in Denver. Lunch will be provided, so let Central Office know if you would like to attend so we can have a meal for you. The BOG is an annual event where RMDS conducts important business, elects new Board and

Committee members, and reviews Standing Rules and Bylaws. This meeting is in-depth and we will review how things went last year, and plans for next year.

All members are encouraged to attend and learn how RMDS operates. Remember, this is your organization! While all are invited to attend--only delegates can actually vote. The Chapters are required to send delegates to the meeting. This in-person meeting will allow you to meet our members and bring ideas to the Board. Please know that your input will be heard--we want to know what you think.

Banquet January 14th, 2023:

Please save the date and help us celebrate all of our accomplishments this year. Please start thinking about what you would like to donate to the silent auction. The silent auction is always super fun and it's a huge money maker for RMDS so please plan on contributing. We need volunteers to assist our coordinator in acquiring items. We would love a photographer to cover this event. Please contact Nadia Westra at nadia.westra@gmail.com to volunteer.

Ad Hoc Volunteer Committee

This year at the BOG, we will vote on whether to create a permanent Volunteer Committee. Last year at the BOG, we voted and approved on an Ad Hoc Volunteer Committee. You may recall that the Committee conducted a survey for members regarding their volunteer experiences. Based upon this survey and with input from the Board, the Ad Hoc Committee developed a Committee Work Plan below:

The Volunteer Committee upholds the mission, vision, and purpose of RMDs. This Committee recognizes that RMDS is an organization reliant upon its members as volunteers to build a strong dressage community.

The RMDS Volunteer Committee will:

- Warmly welcome and foster member participation
- Provide relevant training, support, and recognition
- Educate members as to the diverse volunteer opportunities available
- Routinely evaluate our efforts

The Volunteer Committee will be led by a Volunteer Chair and oversee the work as outlined below.

Planning:

Present an annual Volunteer Plan to the Board for review and approval.

Update the Board regularly on the plan's progress and make recommendations to the Board.

Recruitment:

Engage new members and help them understand how to access volunteer opportunities.

Work with the Chapters/Board/Committees to promote all volunteer opportunities.

Ensure volunteer opportunities at all events, shows, clinics, and banquets held by RMDS and Chapters are well advertised and posted via RMDS email, website, online signups, and social media.

Identify and promote non-competition volunteer opportunities.

Advertise on local volunteer internet recruiting sites for positions that do not require horsemanship skills.

Develop relationships with 4H, Boy Scouts, and local colleges for volunteer recruitment for competitions.

Design new volunteer recruitment materials, as needed.

Retention:

Survey volunteers routinely to ensure ongoing satisfaction.

Review current volunteer training available through RMDS and develop training materials as needed.

Recognition:

Research, develop and implement ways to acknowledge the contribution of volunteers.

Work with the RMDS Office to ensure volunteers know how to review and submit volunteer hours.

Submit deserving members to USDF for GMO year-end awards.

Manage a budget, under the supervision of the RMDS Treasurer and the Board.

Submit Volunteer of the Month/volunteer updates E-Centaur.

Interested in learning more about the Ad Hoc Volunteer Committee? Please contact Sally at slodwyer@gmail.com

RMDS Horse Heroes: An Interview with Stan Admanson

By Rebecca Ciota

Many of you probably already know Stan, who is a man of many talents. He has served in leadership positions both in RMDS and the Boulder Valley Dressage Society for many years. He was a Pastor of several churches for more than forty years. Stan is a busy man and, aside from horses, he publishes the oldest climbing guide to Longs Peak in print. He serves on the Board of the Colorado Council of Churches, the people who put on the annual Red Rocks Sunrise Service. Stan plays the bodhran, the Irish frame drum, and the guitar, and is learning blues harmonica. He built his own computer a couple of years ago. He is married to his sweetheart, Clare, for fifty-two years.

How did you become involved with dressage?

I've always loved animals, especially horses. In 1990, my wife got a horse and started to train it in dressage; and I helped her with it. We joined RMDS about 25 years ago, taking a break to pursue eventing, then about 10 years ago we returned exclusively to dressage with our Irish Cobs.

Why do you volunteer for RMDS?

I like dressage because I love horses and I appreciate the rational training process that dressage represents. I use the discipline of dressage to build a relationship with my horses. Through volunteering, I meet trainers, officials, and other riders; and I get to see how dressage works – how to run a dressage show.

What I also really appreciate about volunteering for RMDS is that I get to make riders' dreams come true. Without volunteers, dressage shows can't run, and shows have been canceled due to a lack of volunteers. But when there are enough volunteers and the shows do run, you get to see the riders' grit and the harmony they have with their horses; and knowing that I helped others achieve that is really rewarding.

If you could give prospective volunteers advice, what would it be?

Every volunteer job is important, and you might make the difference between if a show goes on or not. So, take pride in being a volunteer for RMDS. Be a gift to other competitors and volunteer to make sure the shows run with less stress for all involved.

What is your greatest challenge when volunteering?

Being properly trained can be a challenge. For example, I know how to do a bit check, but if I had to do it right now, I would have a lot of anxiety. I would need to re-read the rulebook to make sure I knew everything. So, my recommendation is to ensure sure you're trained to do the job you're going to do and prepare yourself ahead of time. But don't worry too much: once you volunteer, you'll find it's rewarding and not as anxiety-provoking as you thought. It'll get easier.

What is your favorite role when volunteering?

I really enjoy being the announcer at shows. Being an announcer isn't for everyone: it's time-consuming, tedious, and sometimes exhausting. But I really enjoy getting to see all the different horse and rider combinations at all the different levels.

Is there anything else you would like to add that we haven't asked?

When you volunteer, you learn a lot. You meet different people from different walks of life who are trying to do the same thing. Some are wealthy, some sacrifice a lot to ride and compete. If you volunteer, you get a wide perspective of what dressage is all about and it makes you a better dressage rider.



Stan Adamson

Stan announcing at the Boulder Valley Dressage Banquet



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