

THE CENTAUR



Summer Camp



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RMDS To Recognize 'Lifetime Achievement' Via Russ Fawcett Memorial Award

The " RFMA" will be awarded to an individual (professional or Amateur) who has shown dedication to the sport of dressage through education and "giving back."

The RFMA will be awarded based on individual written nominations sent to the RMDS Central Office received by September 1. A committee will review applications and choose the winner.

The award is being donated by Janet Foy, Fawcett's longtime friend.

Please send your nominations to the office at: RMDS, 2942 Park Lake Dr., Boulder, CO 80301.

.....
MANY THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE AND BUSINESSES FOR THEIR DONATIONS & FOR SUPPORTING THE RMDS JUNIOR CAMP

In addition to the list in the July issue of the Centaur, we would also like to thank:

Misty Pine

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LETTERS

When the flyer went up at the barn advertising a schooling show at the Colorado Horse Park, I dared myself to enter. As an adult amateur rider, all my previous visits to the CHP were as a wishful spectator. I avoided competitions at this venue because my delicate confidence combine with a very young horse could not possibly belong on this nationally recognized stage.

All these fears were erased when my trainer casually mentioned "You should do the schooling show at the CHP Sandy," as if it were that simple. With hope as my strategy I entered the schooling show and the RMDS show. Both my horse and I survived and had a good experience. I actually think this horse enjoys the CHP. Since the atmosphere was slightly informal, he had the opportunity to investigate the judge's stand in a vacant arena and removed it from his equine inventory of "things-to-flee-from." This year's addition of a schooling show followed by a RMDS recognized show at the CHP was exactly what this beautiful but complex sport needed. There are so many devoted, hard working dressage students in Colorado that just need that little nudge to get the butterflies out and schooling shows like this one provided that important opportunity.

Thank you for adding this event to the schedule,
Sandy McNary

Attention RMDS women:

I recently managed a competition in Dallas. One of the vendors was a dermatologist who specialized in skin cancer screening. They offered free cancer screenings for all those on the grounds. In addition to this service, they consulted and sold various prescription "anti-aging" products.

I thought this was a wonderful (vendor) service at a dressage competition and I wonder if there is anyone who you know in the Rocky Mountain region who would like to be a part of the Great American/USDF Region 5/RMDS Championships at the end of September. If so, I'd love to hear from them. Contact veronicholt@comcast.net. Thanks.

Veronica Holt

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Attention Competition Managers, Secretaries & Contacts:

Due to the addition of the Opportunity classes to the USEF Rule Book, the USEF Non-Member Statement will be changed effective 04/01/2007. Please make sure you incorporate this change when you create your prize list. Life, senior active and junior active members shall be eligible to participate in all classes at Regular Competitions, Eventing Competitions at the Preliminary Level or above and Combined Driving Competitions at the Advanced Level, Dressage, Reining and Vaulting Competitions and Endurance Rides provided the respective breed/discipline dues or breed/discipline category fee has been paid. A nonmember may participate as a handler, rider, driver, owner, lessee, agent, coach or trainer at Regular Competitions, Eventing Competitions, Dressage Competitions, Reining Competitions and Combined Driving Competitions upon payment of a \$20 nonmember registration fee and a \$5 breed/discipline category fee for each breed/discipline. Participants in the following classes are exempted from the Requirements of this rule: 1) leadline; 2) exhibitions; 3) games and races; 4) classes for 4-H members; 5) walk trot and academy classes (academy classes are classes limited to horses used regularly in a lesson program); 6) USDF introductory level tests, pas de deux and quadrille classes; 7) NRHA Endorsed Reining Competitions; 8) Opportunity classes. 9) citizens of other nations who have proof, in English, of current membership in good standing of their own National Federation, 10) USEA beginner novice division; and 11) assistant handlers in Dressage Sport Horse Breeding classes.

Andria Allen

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ELEGANT REMODEL ON 39 ACRES IN BOULDER COUNTY

This home must be seen to be believed. Beautifully renovated home, fantastic outdoor entertainment area, 39 irrigated acres w/Gaynor Lake access, pastures, barn, sheds, roundpen & outdoor arena. 3-car detached garage w/900 sq ft office w/wetbar, bath & fireplace. MLS # 527570. Price \$1,795,000.

BERTHOUD PARADISE VALLEY ESTATES

Stuporous ranch w/walk-out lower level in prestigious Paradise Valley Estates. Elegant, custom home resides on 5 acres w/ Lonestree Res views. Custom cherry cabinets, slab granite countertops, maple wood flooring, elegant archways & custom paint finishes define this beautiful home. 2 fireplaces, 3 BDs, 3BAs. MLS # 528026. Price \$825,000.



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2007 RMDS EXECUTIVE BOARD

President.....Jane McBride	719-598-4496	mcbride@pcisys.com
Past-President.....Heather Petersen	719-683-8435	slush@drgw.net
Vice-President.....Laura Speer	970-378-7573	riversidestables_evans@yahoo.com
Secretary.....Alex Curnutte	303-663-0358	curnuttes@msn.com
Treasurer.....Lisa Wiggins	303-598-3619	Lisawiggins1@aol.com

PERMANENT COMMITTEES

Adult Amateur.....Brenda Haley	719-275-0118	shininghorse@copper.net
Awards.....Barb Goldman		boelandjarb@hotmail.com
Results.....RMDS Central Office	720-890-7825	rmds@rmds.org
Championship Show.....Debbie Wilke	303-646-8937	ddwilke@concentric.net
Communications.....Nicole Bizzarro	303-939-0110	nicoleb@burkedes.com
Centaur Production.....Gavin Ehringer	719-471-8764	gavinehringer@earthlink.net
Omnibus Production.....Burke Design-Nicole Bizzarro	303-939-0110	nicoleb@burkedes.com
RMDS Central Office.....Beth Geier	720-890-7825	rmds@rmds.org
Webmaster.....Michael Petersen	719-683-8435	webmaster@rmds.org
Education.....Heather Petersen	719-683-8435	slush@drgw.net
Junior/Young Rider.....Susan Rudman	303-697-8528	sewrunred@msn.com
Junior Camp.....Hollie Price	720-275-8311	Hollie24k@comcast.net
Membership.....RMDS Central Office	720-890-7825	rmds@rmds.org
Registration Officials.....RMDS Central Office & Show Standards	720-890-7825	rmds@rmds.org
Scheduling & Insurance.....RMDS Central Office	720-890-7825	rmds@rmds.org
Scholarship.....Kathy King Johnson	303-494-0905	kathykingjohnson@uswest.net

CHAPTER PRESIDENTS

Arkansas Valley.....Cat Siemiet	719-942-5311	catsbarn@piopc.net
Boulder Valley.....Claudia Barkmeier	303-417-1675	cbarkmeier@rwbaird.com
Colorado Springs.....Simone Windeler	719-540-2000	wjsimone@msn.com
Foothills.....Kathy King Johnson	303-494-0905	kathykingjohnson@uswest.net
Grand Valley.....Tiger Adams	970-523-7464	tiger@thehorseinsport.com
High Plains.....Alex Curnutte	303-663-0358	curnuttes@msn.com
Northern Colorado.....Laura Speer	970-378-7573	riversidestables_evans@yahoo.com
Penrose.....Marlene Coonradt	719-372-3864	mrcoonradt@bresnan.net
Tri State.....Tammy Fagan	307-856-5451	tfagan@wyoming.com
Western Colorado.....Judith Family	970-923-8832	dns@rof.net

GOVERNING BODIES

RMDS is a USDF Group Member Organization.
RMDS members are automatically USDF Group Members.

United States Dressage Federation (USDF)
4051 Iron Works Pkwy. Lexington, KY 40511
859-971-2277

RMDS Central Office: rmds@rmds.org
2942 Park Lake Rd.
Boulder, CO 80301
Phone: 720-890-7825

US Equestrian Federation (USEF)
4047 Iron Works Pkwy. Lexington, KY 40511
859-258-2472

USDF Region 5 Director
Theresa L. Hunt
hunterry@mindspring.com
USDF YR Rep: Tammy Fitch, tfitch@lcfsystems.com
USDF Youth Coordinator: Julie Barringer-Richers, 720-341-5033 jbarringerichers@comcast.net

Federation Equestre Internationale (FEI)
Ave. Mon Repos 24, PO Box 157
1000 Lausanne 5, Switzerland
41 21 310 47 47

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RMDS Meeting Schedules RMDS Executive Board

All RMDS Executive Board meetings occur on the second Thursday of every odd-numbered month. Steering committee meetings are held on the second Monday of every even-numbered month. Board of Governor's meeting is held the second Saturday of Nov. Contact the Central Office for precise dates.

RMDS CHAPTER MEETING SCHEDULE

Arkansas Valley TBD

Cat Siemiet 719-942-5311
catsbarn@aol.com

Boulder Valley, 2nd Mon., even months

Claudia Barkmeier 303-417-1675
cbarkmeier@rwbaird.com

Colorado Springs, 3rd Tues, location TBD. (Check CSDressage.org website).

Simone Windeler 719-540-2000 wjsimone@msn.com

Foothills, 2nd Wed. each month.

Kathy King Johnson 303-494-0905
kathykingjohnson@uswest.net

Grand Valley, 1st Tues. each month, location TBD.

Tiger Adams, 970-523-7464
tiger@thehorseinsport.com

High Plains, 3rd Tues. each month, 7 pm, location TBD.

Alex Curnutte 303-663-0358
curnuttes@msn.com

Northern Colo., 3rd Tues. each month, location TBD.

Laura Speer 970-378-7573
riversidestables_evans@yahoo.com

Penrose, 1st Wed, each month, location TBD.

Marlene Coonradt 719-372-3864
mrcoonradt@bresnan.net

Tri State, TBA,

Tammy Fagan 307-856-5451 tfa-gan@wyoming.com

Western Colorado, Judith Family,
970-923-8832 dns@rof.net

2007 OMNIBUS CORRECTIONS

- A-9 Correct zip for USDF is 40511
- C-14 Junior Tests-Junior Individual can be used to qualify for 4th level Great American/USDF Regional Championships
Young Rider Test-YR Team Test is equivalent to 4th level not Prix St Georges
- C-29 Boulder Valley So Long to Summer September 2 Judge: KC Parkins-Kyle "L"
Cancel the September 1 schooling show
- C-37 Autumn Hill Sunday Series – TD July Show-Susan Selby
- C-43 Foothills-Last Chance Show-Mail Entries to:
Heather Petersen - 12395 Gull Lane - Peyton, CO 80831 slush@drgw.net

Hurry and sign up to ride – or just to audit. Either way, Jane is sure to inspire you with her positive teaching style and her motivational exercises. So no matter what level you're riding at – or whether or not you compete –

*“Believe You Can
Ride the Possibilities”*



Photos by Sue Sexton / Mary Phelps

The 2007 USDF Adult Clinic Series with Jane Savoie

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Editor's Page

From the desk of RMDS President Jane McBride...

Dear Members,

The board received the RMDS treasurers report at last night's meeting. Since we had a full meeting to get through, the executive board decided to meet again in August to go over the RMDS finances carefully.

I traveled up to Ft. Collins on Sunday to present a teambuilding session at the Junior Camp. The girls attending camp this year were just delightful. They worked together and were respectful of each other and their leaders. I'm sure you will be hearing more about the camp next month.

I hope everyone is able to help with

Championships this year. I know the organizers will need your help. The amount of money we make depends on the numbers of entries and of volunteers to reduce expenses. I'd personally like to thank all of our wonderful volunteers. Your efforts are what make this organization a success.

A final quote, from six-time Olympic Gold medal winning swimmer Amy Van Dyken:

The most important lesson I've learned from sports is how to be not only a gracious winner, but a good loser as well. Not everyone wins all the time, as a matter of fact, no one wins all the time. Win-

ning is the easy part, losing is really tough. But, you learn more from one loss than you do from a million wins. You learn a lot about sportsmanship. I mean, it's really tough to shake the hand of someone who just beat you, and it's even harder to do it with a smile. If you can learn to do this and push through that pain, you will remember what that moment is like the next time you win and have a better sense of how those competitors around you feel. This experience will teach you a lot on and off the field!

Jane McBride

Region 5 Message with Theresa Hunt

Congratulations to our riders who qualified for the North American FEI Junior and Young Riders Championships in Lexington, VA. Region 5 fielded two full teams. Our Junior Team: Danielle Culver and Florian, Laura DeCesari and Domino B2, Cassy Fitch and Kilroy, Holly Bergay and Soliloquy and our Young Riders Team: Greta Barringer-Richers and Lewis, Kathryn Cross and Weltee, Christina Rudman and Oebalia, Lindsey Grindle and Cristofori. Ellie Stine-Masek is our Chef d'Equip for both teams.

It really has been a team effort from the shows that hosted qualifying classes, to all the efforts of the riders, parents, silent auction contributors, and supporters throughout our region. The transportation costs to Virginia alone were a significant hurdle.

Tammy Fitch, FEI Jr/Yr Coordinator, assisted by Susan Rudman and Julie Barringer-Richers in the northern tier, worked diligently with everyone to make this happen. Region 5 rider Bobbie Lynn McKee riding Jamalone was the Young Rider Freestyle Gold Medalist last year, and I am sure both our teams will do well at the Championships. Everyone who participates in this premier competition with its Olympic-like atmosphere is a winner.

Our regional championship show is at Colorado Horse Park, September 27-30, 2007. Many fun and exciting events, combined with a superb judging panel await competitors. We still need sponsorships for some of the competitor events, for more in-

formation visit the RMDS website www.rmids.org. The prize list and entry form will be on the USDF website www.usdf.org.

On October 13-14, the USDF Region Adult Education Clinic featuring Jane Savoie will be held Phantom Hill Farms in Fort Collins. She is an inspiring motivational speaker, and the clinic has had rave reviews in other regions. Details will be available at www.usdf.org.

Arizona Dressage Association will be conducting a USDF "L" program starting with session A, November 10-11, 2007; session B, January 5-6, session C, March 1-2 if you are interested in participating contact Kay Lorenzen 602-789-7782 or kaylorenzen@cox.net.

Deadlines: Region 5 GMO volunteer of the year award is due to USDF by August 31. The Ruth Arvanette Grant for three members to go to the USDF convention (up to \$500 airfare expenses, plus free registration, and ½ hotel expense) is due to USDF by August 31. Also it is time to start thinking about GMO baskets for the convention, a great way to show off your

GMO at the convention. Stay Cool and Happy Riding!

Theresa Hunt

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Cedar Rock

Our Precious Seniors

by Belinda Christner

Meet Rusty and his faithful owner, Cara. Their friendship began eight years ago when Cara decided to realize her childhood dream and enter into the world of horses. With her 9-year-old daughter Meg at her side, the adventure began with the first of many riding lessons. Low-and-behold, they became infected with horse fever. Within a year of riding lessons, learning to groom, and enduring the inevitable chore of mucking stalls, a horse of their own now became their dream.

Calling around to start their search, Cara called Debbie, their first riding instructor. Upon learning of their new-found excitement in deciding it was time to buy a horse of their own, she joined them in the search for the perfect mount.

About 6 months before, one of Debbie's boarders had moved a few states away. She felt that her 29-year-old horse, Rusty, would not weather the long trip, so she left him in Debbie's care. Rusty turned out to be a wonderful school horse for her students. Steady and strong. How he could fly a lead change! However, as time went by, Debbie became aware of his increasing sadness.

Then one night Debbie had an unusual dream that she could not forget. Even though she figured she would be labeled a Looney-Toon, the next day she called Cara to tell her about the dream. In her dream, Rusty cried as he told Debbie how much he wanted a home. As Cara listened, she knew that deep in her heart Rusty - despite his advanced age - was the horse for her. She went the next day to pick him up. She now had her first horse - and he was free to boot.

For the next year or so, Cara and Meg went to the boarding stables to groom, ride and care for him almost every day. He taught them everything a new horse owner learns. He patiently waited out their mistakes and would diligently get back under them when balance was questionable. Out of respect for his age, they would time their rides on him to an hour each. They continued weekly dressage lessons on him and progressed in their knowledge.

Rusty, on-the-other-hand, radiated and flourished with happiness.

As the dream became more of a reality,

they acquired two new younger horses. Cara's youngest son, Luke, learned to ride on Rusty and she never had to worry about his safety. Her oldest daughter, Kate, also learned on Rusty and caught horse fever too. Kate soon bought a purebred Saddlebred with whom she is now pursuing polo at the Cottonwood Riding Stables.

Inevitably, the time came to buy horse



Cara and Rusty in 2006.

property and take the herd home.

Rusty through the years has happily given many rides to friends and novices. About two years ago, Cara decided it was time for Rusty to retire his saddle and hang up his bridle. It was 2003, the same year Cara thought was his last.

One day (on Sunday of course, when the vet bills triple) he laid down with colic. Calling out a friend, they agreed he was not well enough to withstand another day without veterinary care. They thought, with his age it must be the end. Sadness filled the silence. Even the other horses were quiet and still.

The vet came out and within a day, Rusty was fine.

Another day Cara went out to feed and he was down again, seemingly okay but definitely not getting up. Still being new to horses and all their medical issues, Cara knew a horse down and not getting up

could be the end and with his age, she dashed off to call the vet.

The vet rushed over and quickly after assessed the situation. He and his assistant leaned over, grabbed Rusty's hooves and with no further ado rolled the old guy over. As quickly and with as much dignity as he could muster, Rusty got up, shook out a dust storm, then looked at Cara with an indignant expression that seemed to say, "Why did I have to wait for them?" He then proceeded to amble off and stand in his regular morning shade spot.

That morning Cara learned about horses becoming "cast." At Rusty's age, a hillside can be as solid as a wall.

The worst and most terrifying incident was when she went out to feed just to find Rusty standing at the barn door covered in blood. All over his hind end and back legs bright red was dripping. Not knowing a thing she ran like a sprinter back into the house to call the vet. i

"He is bleeding to death" she said in a panic stricken voice. "Hurry!".

Once again, the vet rushed to Rusty's side. After his examination and cleaning, it was determined he had been impaled between the back legs to quite a substantial depth.

When Rusty was all doctored up and safe in his stall to start his lengthy time of recovery, the hunt for the cause began.

Back tracking the trail of blood led them to Rusty's favorite scratching post, a very large thicket of scrub oak. It was then very obvious that Rusty's favorite scratching post had gave way under his weight and unfortunately, he sat on a broken branch.

Then there were the bouts of Pigeon Fever that year and all the veterinary care that went along with it.

Thanks to Rusty, Cara is now quite proficient in cleansing wounds and an expert at draining abscesses. She can now spot mild to severe colic and has become a horse-taught equine senior nutritionist.

With Rusty's excellent medical care through the years and with Cara doing all the right things with her equine senior, at

(cont. pg. 10)



KI Realty



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\$599,000 | MLS# 537576



LUXURY EXECUTIVE HOME

Develop and nurture your family in this luxury 6 bedroom, 8 bath home! Built on 8 acres with amazing amenities including a fabulous kitchen, indoor synthetic-ice shooting rink, home theater, outdoor putting course, and barn.

\$2,250,000 | MLS# 521676



FAIRFIELD FARM

Enjoy town & country at this 35-acre parcel with a 7000 sq.ft., 6 bed, 7 bath home, off Baseline Road, just east of 75th. The house is privately set and well screened by evergreen trees. It also includes a 6-stall barn and fully fenced pastures.

\$3,250,000 | MLS# 527837



SOPHISTICATED ESTATE

A French country home with a riding facility built on 8 acres. The 5 bedroom, 6 bath house features an equine facility with an indoor arena, 10-stall barn, loafing sheds, and a caretaker's apartment.

\$3,600,000 | MLS# 511350



EQUESTRIAN ACADEMY

This 30-acre riding academy is conveniently located for a huge market and presents a rare opportunity for an investor. The equine facilities include two barns with eighteen stalls, loafing sheds, an apartment, 2 outdoor arenas and hay storage.

\$1,999,000 | MLS# 509254



AUTHENTIC BOULDER VALLEY FARMHOUSE

Owners must sell! Beautifully sited, traditional farmhouse, conveniently located in Boulder Valley on 29 acres of sub-irrigated pastures. Includes 2 barns with 14 stalls and outdoor arena.

\$1,340,000 | MLS# 491764



FANTASTIC LONGMONT LOCATION

Enjoy views of the Rockies and Gaynor Lake from this 5600 sq. ft., 4 bed, 4 bath home on 2 acres. Extensive landscaping, herb and flower gardens, and an inviting entryway with a large porch create an elegant and serene environment.

\$1,225,000 | MLS# 489438



WELD COUNTY COUNTRY RANCH

Almost 20 acres in the Weld County Corridor! With 2 decks, mature trees, a pond, and water rights, this home also features extensive horse facilities with a 12-stall barn & office, 5 paddocks, and 2 arenas.

\$866,000 | MLS# 519829



ECLECTIC MOUNTAIN HOME

Bordering Roosevelt National Forest, this amazing 5.38-acre property features a four level home, state-of-the-art horse barn, detached garage & apartment, access to mountain trails, and complete privacy.

\$779,000 | MLS# 520348



PARADISE VALLEY

Custom home on 3+ acre landscaped lot with mountain and lake views. 5 bedrooms, 5 baths, office, and theater room. Equestrian facilities include a luxury 4-stall barn, arena and more.

\$999,000 | MLS# 528974



UPSCALE RURAL NEIGHBORHOOD

The charming 5 bedroom, 2 bath, wood-frame and brick house, features a remodeled kitchen, a living room with moss-rock fireplace, and gorgeous mountain and meadow views.

\$950,000 | MLS# 501247



COUNTRY LIVING

Level 2.5 acre lot with plenty of space for animals. This 4 bed, 2 bath home comes with a beautiful year-round pond surrounded by trees, creating a tranquil and inviting environment to unwind.

\$470,000 | MLS# 531871



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Panoramic views of the Continental Divide set the tone for this custom 5,036 sq. ft. 4 bed, 3 bath home with solar panels. Set on 122 acres of pine forests, aspen groves, trails, and peaceful meadows.

\$1,250,000 | MLS# 538654

www.klrealty.net

BOULDER'S INDEPENDENT REAL ESTATE BROKER

The KL Team | 1531 Broadway, Boulder, CO 80302 | 303.444.3177

Our Precious Seniors

(continued from pg. 7)

the age of 37 he is in great physical condition and appears to have many more years as a part of Cara's family. He is quite the character and Cara would never get rid of him just because he is no longer useful as a riding horse.

"He dozes a lot these day," Cara said, "but he still keeps the youngsters in their places. I think when I am that old, I would like to be able to doze a lot too."

Cara, as most of us, has seen a lot of foolishness with young horses bought by inexperienced people. The danger to them and the damage that is done to the horse is, at best, plain silly. She could not stress strongly enough on the priceless value of the older, kinder, more experience equine who has a life of knowledge to teach us. Rusty, she'll tell you, was a blessing to her and her family.

Sadly, many people treat horses like disposable tools rather than family members - typically being bought and sold until the perfect mount is acquired. Then there comes a day when that horse cannot perform as strong and it is time to find a replacement. The perfect scenario would be to keep your noble steed and continue with his medical, dental, quality senior feed and proper seasonal care - he has definitely earned the right to his retirement.

I would like to look at the options we have when we are faced with the decision on what to do with a senior horse that is no longer useful to us. I do understand how finances and space sometimes play a large part in the decision-making.

Please, do not sell any horse at an auction, many of the horses at auctions eventually end up in equine slaughterhouses.

Instead, consider the following options:

Equine rescue operations that guarantees not to sell their horses.

Retirement homes that guarantee not to sell their horses.

Donate or lease the horse to a therapeutic riding program.

Give the animal to a family as their first horse, asking they not sell it.

Last but not least, humane euthanasia is a much better option than slaughter.

If this story can keep one precious equine senior out of the auction, then an equine heart will sing.

Update: This article was written in February 2005. Rusty finally laid down to rest in September of 2006. At the glorious age of 39, he went with the love and tears of the one lady, Cara, who would not give him anything less than the best possible. He died with dignity and love in his own barn in Franktown, Colorado.

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TEBBI MILLER

SUGGESTED BYLAW/STANDING RULE CHANGE

Please use the current 2007 Bylaws and Standing Rules for your reference.

Email (or mail) your suggested changes to the RMDS Central Office (rmds@rmds.org) by August 30, 2007 for consideration at the Board of Governors meeting November 10, 2007

Bylaw change _____ Standing Rule change _____

Page number _____ Article # _____ (be specific)

Rewrite section you wish to change and show what is to be deleted (if anything):

Name: _____ E-Mail: _____

Reason for change: _____

RMDS Central Office-2942 Park Lake Drive-Boulder, CO 80301

Horses For Sale

Dom Perignon (/Beau) - 16 y.o. Hanoverian gelding. 16+ h. chestnut. School master through 2nd level schooling all 3rd level movements, Sound, forward, and calm. Huge round body. All show scores this summer were qualifying scores (including 1-4) with amateur rider at 1st level. Wonderful in the warm-up arena, over fences and on trails. \$9000.00

Luna - 15 yo dark bay appendix type quarter mare. Very elegant, cat like movements. Excellent for beginning dressage rider and trails. Light in the bridle. \$4000.00

Squirt-14.2 large white quarter/Arab cross pony gelding. 15 yo. Jumps the best! VERY tight front end. Wonderful bascule. Quiet on the flat. Very round barrel. Will take an adult leg. Fabulous on the cross country course. Fun pony for anyone from a intermediate beginner up.

Sport- Husband proof trail and arena □ horse for sale. 15.2 bright chestnut gelding. 13 yo. Very bombproof with good forward walk. Quiet in arena as well. \$3500.00

Call Judy Carnick 719-685-4134 for photos & video clips.



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OCTOBER 27 - 28, 2007

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 AND RMDS CHAMPIONSHIPS
UPDATE**

Important Items of Change or Reminders

- The prize list has been updated – check www.rmids.org, www.usdf.org or www.2whitefeet.com.
- This show is now a NAJYRC Qualifier for 2008
- RMDS Pony Championships Classes were left out of the omnibus – they are on the updated prize lists.
- Ponies at the Championships show must have USEF Pony Cards to compete in pony classes.
- If you have a pony that needs to be measured at the Championships, please notify Heather ASAP.
- The Competitors’ dinner will be Saturday evening and is open to all – please come support the silent auction to benefit the Douglas County Women’s Crisis Center and the USDF Capital Campaign.

Many thanks to our Sponsors

(Here are those we had at press time)

Legacy Communications
 Equi-Imports
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 Stephanie Busley and Endeavor Equestrian
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 8th Heaven Farms
 Colorado Springs Dressage
 Janet “Dolly” Hannon
 Westmanton Stables and the Schneidmans
 Colorado Arabian Horse Club
 Namaste Farm and Sandra Rooks
 Southwest Sport Horse
 Cheval and Becky Moore
 The Tack Collection

Additional Sponsorship opportunities are available – if you’re interested, please email veronicaholt@comcast.net or slush@drgw.net or call 303.646.3829.

Don’t forget! Entries for the Great American / USDF Region V Championships and RMDS Championships and Open Show close on August 28, 2007. Entries postmarked after that date will be charged a late fee.

Entries for the Rocky Mountain Series Sport Horse Breeding Championships must be postmarked by September 16, 2007.



2007/2008 Shows & Events

AUGUST 2007

- 3-5 **CHP Dressage in the Rockies #1,2,3** - Parker - USEF
Contact Glenda McElroy 818-841-3554
- 5 **The Urban Farm Schooling Show** Denver Contact Angel Hoskins
720-810-5466 ah@angelshorses.com
- 10-11 **Bent Jensen Clinic** Wild Wind Farm, Elizabeth
Contact Ann Edelman 303-228-1684
- 11-12 **Cheyenne Dressage & Eventing Dressage Show**
CANCELLED Expect to return in 2008 - Contact
Rowena Heckert rheckert@msn.com
- 12-13 **Bent Jensen Clinic** Caduceus Farm, Broomfield
Contact Margaret Judy 303-475-2608
- 14 **Janet Foy Clinic** - Reiterhoff Ranch Contact Jody 303-646-9520
www.geocities.com/ingolfin/ or reiterhoffranch@yahoo.com
- 14-16 **Christiane Borchert Clinic** Chatellen - Fort Collins
Contact Liz Schump 970-532-4603 eschump@aol.com
- 18 **Dressage & Breed Show at Sun Prairie**-Sun Prairie Farm-Peyton-USEF
Contact Camille Griffin 303-663-0041 719-488-2812
camillegriffin@msn.com
- 18-19 **Shannon Peters Clinic** Meadow Creek Farms Lafayette
Contact Jan Goodrich-Spear 303-664-0152
- 19 **Autumn Hill Sunday Series #3**-Longmont - RMDS
Contact Julie Barringer-Richers 720-341-5033
- 24-26 **Paragon Dressage I,II,III**-Colorado Horse Park-Parker-USEF
Contact Martha Fischer
- 25-26 **Utah Dressage Society Annual Show I II**-Charleston, UT-
USEF Contact Eva-Maria Adolphi 801-254-3247
adolphi@redrock.net
- 28 **Janet Foy Clinic** - Reiterhoff Ranch Contact Jody 303-646-9520
www.geocities.com/ingolfin/ or reiterhoffranch@yahoo.com

SEPTEMBER 2007

- 1 **Aspen Ridge Schooling Show**-Monument, CO Contact
Heather Petersen 719-683-8435 slush@drwg.net
- 1 **Grand Valley Fall Show**-Grand Junction-USEF
Contact Tiger Adams 970-523-7464 tiger@thehorseinsport.com
- 2 **Boulder Valley So Long To Summer Show** Somerset, Longmont
(RMDS) Contact Jeanette Hillery 303-494-7718
jmhillery915@comcast.net
- 2 **Western Slope Championship & Open Show** RMDS
Contact Tiger Adams 970-523-7464 tiger@thehorseinsport.com
- 2 **Aspen Ridge Dressage**-Monument, CO RMDS
Contact Heather Petersen 719-683-8435 slush@drwg.net
- 8 **Pendragon Stud Dressage Show** Larkspur RMDS
Contact Leslie Terry 303-688-4147
- 8-9 **Shannon Peters Clinic** Meadow Creek Farms Lafayette
Contact Jan Goodrich-Spear 303-664-0152

- 11 **Janet Foy Clinic** - Reiterhoff Ranch Contact Jody 303-646-9520
www.geocities.com/ingolfin/ or reiterhoffranch@yahoo.com
- 13 **RMDS Executive Board Meeting**-6: 30 pm Perkins Restaurant
I-25 & Buchtel-Denver Contact Central Office 720-890-7825
- 14 **RMIHC All Breed Dressage Show** - Castle Rock RMDS
Contact Heather Petersen 719-683-8435 slush@drwg.net
- 15 **The Urban Farm Schooling Show** Denver Contact Angel Hoskins
720-810-5466 ah@angelshorses.com
- 16 **Foothills Chapter Last Chance Show** Table Mountain - Golden RMDS
Send Entries to Heather Petersen 719-683-8435, slush@drwg.net
Contact Suzanne Koczon-Shiple 303-697-0552
- 25 **Janet Foy Clinic** - Reiterhoff Ranch Contact Jody 303-646-9520
www.geocities.com/ingolfin/ or reiterhoffranch@yahoo.com
- 26 **Rocky Mountain Sport Horse Breeding Chmp. &
Qualifying Open Breed Show**
Contact Heather Petersen 719-683-8435, slush@drwg.net
- 27-30 **Great American/USDF Region V & RMDS Dressage
Championships & Open Show** - Parker-USEF
Contact Heather Petersen 719-683-8435, slush@drwg.net

OCTOBER 2007

- 9 **Janet Foy Clinic** - Reiterhoff Ranch Contact Jody 303-646-9520
www.geocities.com/ingolfin/ or reiterhoffranch@yahoo.com
- 13-14 **USDF Adult Jane Savoie Clinic**-Phantom Hill Farm-Ft Collins
Contacts Heather Petersen 719-683-8435, slush@drwg.net
RMDS Central Office 720-890-7825 rmds@rmds.org
- 20-21 **Paul Belasik Clinic**-Cottonwood Farm-Grand Junction
Contact Lynea Schultz-Ela 970-872-3961 lynea@direcway.com
- 23 **Janet Foy Clinic** - Reiterhoff Ranch Contact Jody 303-646-9520
www.geocities.com/ingolfin/ or reiterhoffranch@yahoo.com
- 26-28 **USDF Succeed 2007 FEI-Level Trainers' Conference** Jan Brink
Sacramento, California Contact USDF 859-971-2277

NOVEMBER 2007

- 6 **Janet Foy Clinic** - Reiterhoff Ranch Contact Jody 303-646-9520
www.geocities.com/ingolfin/ or reiterhoffranch@yahoo.com
- 10 **RMDS Board of Directors & Awards Banquet** -
NCDA Chapter
- 20 **Janet Foy Clinic** - Reiterhoff Ranch Contact Jody 303-646-9520
www.geocities.com/ingolfin/ or reiterhoffranch@yahoo.com

DECEMBER 2007

- 4 **Janet Foy Clinic** - Reiterhoff Ranch Contact Jody 303-646-9520
www.geocities.com/ingolfin/ or reiterhoffranch@yahoo.com
- 18 **Janet Foy Clinic** - Reiterhoff Ranch Contact Jody 303-646-9520
www.geocities.com/ingolfin/ or reiterhoffranch@yahoo.com

JANUARY 2008

- 18-20 **USEF "r"** Autumn Hill * Radisson Hotel, Longmont -
Contact Heather Petersen 719-683-8435 slush@drwg.net

2007/2008 Shows

19 **Boulder Valley Dressage Banquet** Spice of Life Event Center Boulder
Contact Glenda Needles 303-619-8292 geminidr@geminidressage-llc.com

26 **Judges Continuing Education** - Kristi Wysocki Freedom Farms, Parker
Contact Heather Petersen 719-683-8435 slush@drwg.net

FEBRUARY 2008

9 **TD/SHOW MANAGER EDUCATION** Deeda Randle, Heather Petersen -
Location TBA Contact Heather Petersen 719-683-8435 slush@drwg.net

MARCH 2008

23 **RMDS Winter Wake Up Show/USEF Young Rider Qualifier - High Perf.**
Norris-Penrose Events Center, Colo. Spgs.
Contact Heather Petersen 719-683-8435 slush@drwg.net

APRIL 2008

12-13 **Freestyle Clinic - Terry Ciotto Gallo TBA**
Contact Heather Petersen 719-683-8435, slush@drwg.net

AUGUST 2008

23-24 **USEF "r" - Paragon Dressage - Parker**
Contact Heather Petersen 719-683-8435, slush@drwg.net

SEPTEMBER 2008

25 **Rocky Mountain Sport Horse Breeding Championships & Qualifying Open Breed Show USEF** Colo. Horse Park, Parker
Contact Heather Petersen 719-683-8435, slush@drwg.net

26-28 **RMDS Dressage Championships & Dressage Open Show** -
Parker-USEF Contact Heather Petersen 719-683-8435 slush@drwg.net

**Secretary Change:
Last Chance Show
September 16, 2007
Table Mountain Ranch**

**MAIL ENTRIES TO:
Heather Petersen
12395 Gull Lane
Peyton, CO 80831**

Show Info

Always contact the individual to check show info, as dates, times and places may change. ALL COMPETITORS SHOULD DO A SCORE CHECK WITH THE CENTRAL OFFICE OR ON-LINE at www.rmids.org.

Calendar Submissions: Submissions of events for the RMDS calendar need to be received no later than the 10th of the month prior to the date of the calendar listing. Please be sure to correctly spell all proper names (clinician/judge/location/contact) and include a phone number where you can be reached with questions. Send calendar items and events requiring RMDS sanction to Beth Geier, RMDS Central Office, 720-890-7825.

RMDS SPONSORED EDUCATIONAL EVENTS

All events are open to everyone to audit or participate unless otherwise stated. A great opportunity to continue your learning!

2007

Sept 26 Rocky Mountain Series-Sport Horse Breeding Finals - Colorado Horse Park
Sept 27-30 RMDS Open and Championship Show - Colorado Horse Park
Sept 27-30 Region V Championships-Colorado - Colorado Horse Park
Oct 13-14 USDF Adult Clinic featuring Jane Savoie - Phantom Hill Farm - Ft Collins
Nov 10 Board of Governors Meeting & Awards Banquet-Ft. Collins

2008

January 18-20 USEF 'r' - Janet Foy - Autumn Hill & Radisson Hotel - Longmont
January 20 RMDS Show - Autumn Hill - Longmont
January 26 Judges Continuing Education - Kristi Wysocki - Freedom Farms-Parker
February 9 TD/Show Manager Education - Deeda Randle, Heather Petersen - TBA
March 22-23 RMDS Winter Wake Up Show- Penrose - USEF
April 12-13 Terry Ciotti Gallo Freestyle Clinic - Autumn Hill - Longmont
August 23-24 USEF 'r' exam - Janet Foy & Lois Yukins - Parker
Sept 25 Rocky Mountain Series-Sport Horse Breeding Finals - Colorado Horse Park
Sept 26-28 RMDS Open and Championship Show - Colorado Horse Park



For details on these and other RMDS events: Contact Heather Petersen 719-683-8435 slush@drwg.net - Education Chairman OR Read the Centaur OR Go on the website - www.rmids.org OR Contact the RMDS Central Office 720-890-7825 or rmids@rmids.com

THE CENTAUR NEWSLETTER

The Centaur Newsletter is published monthly. To guarantee that ads and articles will run in a given month, they must be received by the 10th of the month prior to the month of publication, i.e. January 10 for the February edition. If not received by the deadline, articles and ads may be placed in the following issue, if not time sensitive.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For article suggestions, articles, columns, letters to the editor: Centaur editor Gavin Ehringer, PO Box 9, Colorado Springs, CO 80901 ph. 719-471-8764, e-mail gavinhringer@earthlink.net.

ADVERTISING

RMDS office, Beth Geier, 2942 Park Lake Dr., Boulder, CO 80301 ph. 720-890-7825, e-mail rmds@rmds.org.

DISPLAY ADVERTISING

For information about corporate advertising and/or sponsorships, please contact Beth Geier (contact info above).

Artwork (ads) must be provided in electronic format only. Acceptable forms include: JPG, PDF, TIFF, EPS, Quark XPress (include all fonts and image files). IF UNSURE ABOUT AD FORMATTING, please contact editor (contact info above) for consultation and advice. Microsoft Word IS NOT an acceptable form of advertisement submission, except in the case of classified ads.

No substitutions may be accepted. If your ad is submitted in a file format other than those listed above, you will be contacted regarding an additional charge for reformatting or redesign. Hourly charge for redesign/reformat is \$35, in minimal units of one hour.

Please be sure to include a printed version of your ad with your payment so that the ad may be proof-read against the electronic version. Printed ad copy cannot be used as final art.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Classified ads may be submitted via e-mail to the RMDS office, address above. You may also type or hand-write a classified ad and mail it to RMDS headquarters, attn. Beth Geier, *The Centaur*. Please, limit your classified ad copy to 50 words or less. Exceeding 50 words will result in additional charges per line.

PAYMENT AND AD COPY DELIVERY

E-mail ads to: RMDs@rmds.org, and cc the electronic copy to: gavinhringer@earthlink.net. Send payment and hard-copy to: RMDS Office, Beth Geier, 2942 Park Lake Dr., Boulder, CO 80301.

AD RATES AND SIZE SPECIFICATIONS.

Classified \$12 per item for sale. 50 words maximum.
w/photo\$22 per item for sale.
Full page\$125.....7.5" x 9.5"
Half page\$85.....7.5" x 4.75"
Outside back half.....\$100.....7.5" x 4.75"
1/4 page.....\$50.....3.75" x 4.25"
1/8 page (business card)\$25.....3.625" x 2.25"
Ask about discounts for multi-month or annual ad contracts.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Articles submitted for publication will not be returned. Please contact the editor before submitting unsolicited articles or photos. Articles represent the work and views of their authors, not necessarily the RMDS, its officers or employees.

TRAINERS AND INSTRUCTORS - Get on the World Wide Web and Build New Business.

If you wish to increase business, you can place your information on the RMDS website at very low cost. Send information to: Michael Petersen, 12395 Gull Lane, Peyton, CO 80831, ph. 719-683-8435 or e-mail: webmaster@rmds.org (note on the subject line "trainer info").

Please include your name, phone number(s), postal addresses, e-mail, locations where you train and other pertinent info, i.e. awards, certifications, lesson types, schooling horses, etc.

The website averages 200 hits per month on the trainer page and RMDS receives 25-30 e-mails per month requesting names of trainers/instructors in the RMDS region. Don't miss the opportunity to expand your client base and gain recognition.

Cost is \$50 annually. Mail check to: RMDS Central Office, 2942 Park Lake Drive, Boulder, CO 80301.

ADVERTISE EVENTS ON THE RMDS WEBSITE

Website ads on the RMDS site provide your event with high visibility. Your ad will run for one month from the date it first appears. Unless the webmaster is notified in advance (webmaster@rmds.org), the ad will be removed from the website once the date of the event advertised has passed.

Please limit content of the ads to 20 words. E-mail and website addresses will be displayed as links.

Because of the implicit connection to the RMDS, we reserve the rights to:

- 1. Refuse any ad.
- 2. Edit ad content.
- 3. Limit the number of ads displayed at any one time.

MEMBERSHIP

Awards are based on the information on your membership card. Be sure to double-check everything very carefully.

Duplicate cards are available for \$2.00. If emailed to you, they are free. Request a new one by emailing the Central Office at rmds@rmds.org

Proof of adult amateur status must be sent to the Central Office every year. Showing proof at shows is not enough for the year-end awards.

Owner, rider, horse MUST be current members PRIOR to any ride for the score to count towards qualifying for RMDS Championships and for qualifying for any year-end award.

If PONY is not listed under breed and you have a pony, send a copy of the measurement form or the permanent pony card, to the Central Office.

Remember, membership and its details are your responsibility.

Be sure corrections are made!

Beginning October 1, 2007 all horse registrations will be \$40 and corrections will be \$15 per correction.



RMDS Membership Form

RMDS is a USDF Group Member Organization. All members are automatically USDF Group Members.

Individual Membership - \$50.00 (prior & renewing members add \$5 after January 1)

Additional family members (same address) - \$35

Business Memberships- \$75.00 Centaur newsletter only - \$35.00 Life Membership - \$650.00

All business memberships include one individual membership.

Please include all information for person designated as individual member.

All individual members will receive Centaur newsletter & the Omnibus.

Indicate Local Chapter (only one):

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Arkansas Valley | <input type="radio"/> Colorado Springs | <input type="radio"/> Foothills (Golden, Evergreen) |
| <input type="radio"/> Boulder Valley | <input type="radio"/> Northern Colorado (Fort Collins) | <input type="radio"/> Penrose (Canon City) |
| <input type="radio"/> High Plains (Parker, Littleton, Aurora) | <input type="radio"/> Western Colorado (Aspen, Vail etc) | <input type="radio"/> Grand Valley (Grand Junction) |
| <input type="radio"/> Tri-State (Wyoming, Adjacent States) | | |

Name _____ Date of Birth _____

Address _____

City _____ County _____ State/ZIP _____

Phone (Home) _____ (Work) _____ (E-Mail) _____

USDF No. _____ Occupation _____

Names, DOBs, & USDF #s of additional family members _____

I pledge \$ _____ to go towards the RMDS pledge to the USDF Capital Campaign. (Include amount with your membership check)

Type of Membership: (check one) Individual Business Family Centaur Only

_____ Please remove my name from lists sold by RMDS Renewing member - Need another binder-include additional \$6.00

-----Tear Here-----

Horse Registration Form

→ Horses must be registered with RMDS to be eligible for year-end awards and for horse-of-the year award.

→ Eligibility starts on the date the envelope containing this form and check is postmarked.

→ The name on this registration must be the same as that used on horse show entry forms.

Lifetime Registration Fee - \$35.00 Changes (i.e., owner or horse's name) \$10.00

Horse Name _____ Sex _____

Breed (if known) _____ Registration No. (include copy of papers) _____

(list grade if no registry papers available.)

Owner Name(s) (one owner must be an RMDS member) _____

Address of Owner _____

Owner's Phone (Home) _____ (E-Mail) _____

Name of Representative (If owner is a business) _____

Membership & horse registration acknowledged via postcard. Mail completed form with check made payable to RMDS

to: RMDS Central Office - 2942 Park Lake Dr. - Boulder, CO 80301 720-890-7825

January, 2007

First Class Passes after 25 Wonderful Years

Former Bundeschampion was unforgettable

It is with great sadness that Millbrook Farms announces the death of our beloved Oldenburg stallion and friend, First Class. He was euthanized due to a sudden and serious illness on June 15, 2007. He did not suffer and for that we are grateful.



new owners, Rick and Patti Melde, of Scottsdale, Arizona. Patti Melde asked the ISR/Oldenburg N. A. to consider the inclusion of sporthorse type Arabian mares and because of the Anglo Arabian blood in the pedigree of First Class, the ISR/Oldenburg agreed to a trial of 20 or so mares over three years to determine if the cross was viable. The cross proved to be very suc-

cessful and as a result of that trial, Arabian mares are today allowed into the Mare Book of the ISR/Oldenburg N. A. for any stallion.

First Class was born in Garrel, Germany in 1983. He was bred by Paul Wendeln, who selected Furioso II for his excellent mare Chinchilla. She had already been awarded Champion Mare for all of Oldenburg for the past three years. In 1983, the year she foaled First Class, she was Champion Mare for all of Germany, and there were high expectations for the colt she produced. Furioso II was the hottest stallion in Europe at the time and was producing approved stallion sons. When the big chestnut colt was born, everyone believed he would be wonderful.

First Class lived up to all that and more. He was the Reserve Champion of the stallion inspection as a two year old. At age three he completed the 100 Days Stallion Testing with a score of 118.93 points and received his lifetime breeding license. His maturity improved significantly during his fourth year and he was crowned Bundeschampion, Champion Riding Horse Under Saddle for all of Germany. Few Bundeschampions ever made it to the United States, but the owners of American Performance Horse Farms were looking for a new stallion and they set their sights on First Class.

In his sixth year, Mike and Anna Doriazo brought First Class to California. He was an immediate sensation. First Class was competed by Oliver Luze on both coasts and won the California Dressage Society Futurity and tied for CDS Horse of the Year at First Level. His scores were as high as 82.913% during that first year. The liquidation of American Performance Horse Farms brought First Class to Arizona, where he was stood at stud for his

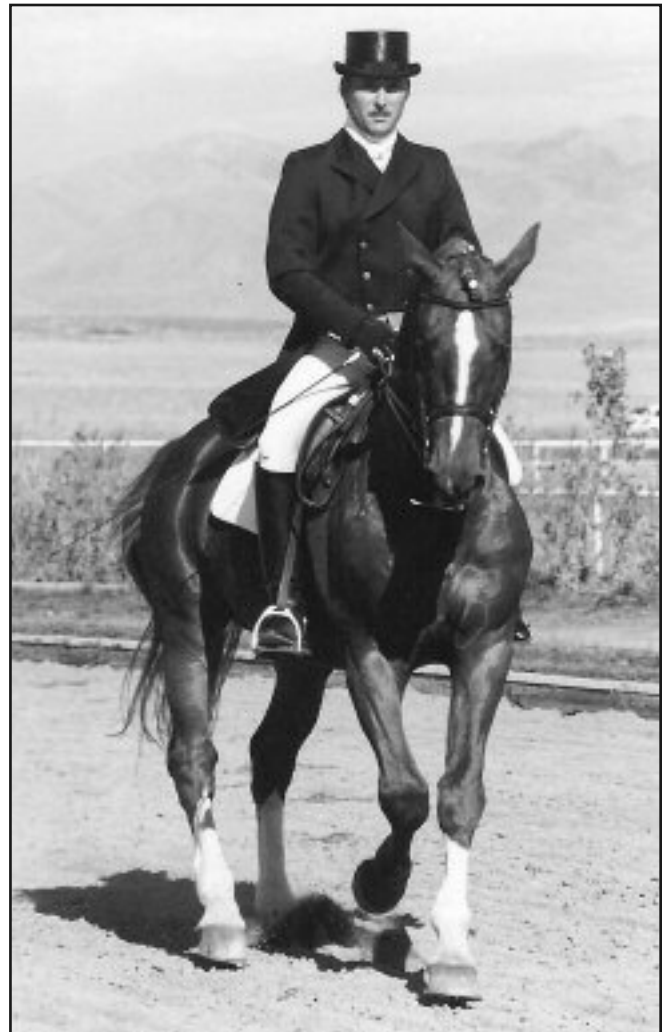
life to the end of his days. During his partnership with Gary Lawrence, First Class achieved Five Star status in the ISR/Oldenburg Registry.

This achievement requires the stallion to be proven in every aspect of his life, his conformation, his performance, the quality of his offspring and their performance as well. This achievement was earned in a very short time due to the virtuosity of First Class and that of his offspring. To date 150 of his foals have been presented to the ISR/Oldenburg Registry N. A. for approval and 75 have been awarded Premium Foal status. Premium Foal status was achieved regardless of the type of mare he bred. He was put to Thoroughbreds, Arabians, Warmbloods, Appendix TBs, etc. and his strong genetic pre-potency brought out the best

in every mare. At least ten of his daughters have been presented for Mare Book approval and given Premium Mare status. Foals of his daughters in Germany will often be in the Elite Foal Auction catalog in Germany. His daughter, Accente', earned Gary Lawrence the USDF Gold Medal and was twice the USDF All Breeds Champion at Grand Prix.

Friends of First Class and owners of First Class offspring are invited to share pictures and memories in an online memory book and view a slide show at www.millbrookfarms.com. He was incredibly beautiful, a complete gentleman and a fun loving character all rolled into one. It was a privilege to have shared his life.

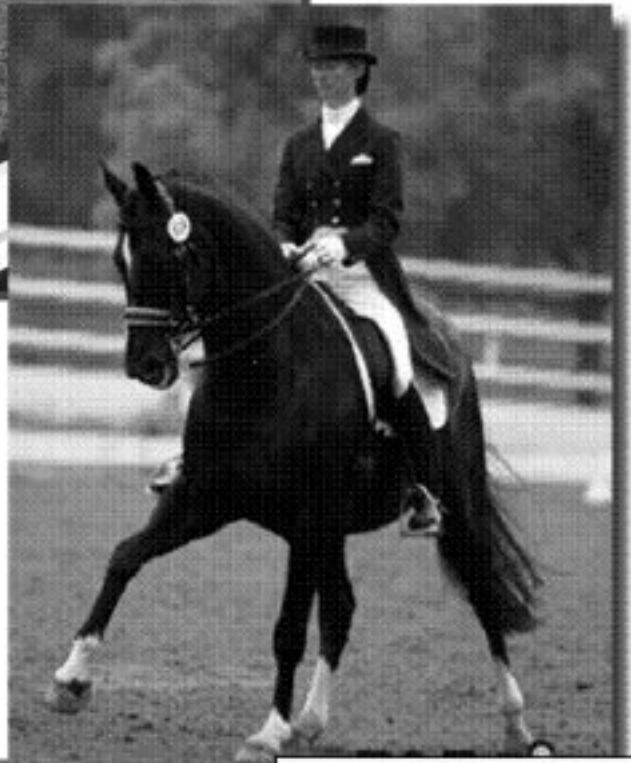
We thank Millbrook Farms for this wonderful recounting of the accomplishments of this great horse.



Meadow Creek Farms Equestrian Center



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Center
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Shannon Peters Dressage Clinic

August 18 & 19
September 8 & 9

11051 Jasper Road
Lafayette, CO 80026
Kate Shepard
Business Owner, Manager
303-587-4848



Clinic Review

“Ride Him Forward, Ride Him Round...” Clinic with Nancy Smith

Add “ride with 100% concentration,” and you’ll have an idea of the intensity of Nancy Smith’s coaching style. As soon as you pick up the reins, you are ‘on the clock,’ and so is your horse. Remember, you are training your horse with every second you are riding, and if you are not asking for 100%, you are not going to get it.

The clinic, held at 8th Heaven Farms over Memorial Day weekend, was a mix of breeds and levels, including a beginning 6-year-old Westphalian/Thoroughbred, a 2nd Level Saddlebred, a 17.2 hh Hanoverian, a Paint started Western, a green Friesian cross, an Akhal-Teke, a Holsteiner jumper, a Morgan stallion, a Trakehner eventer, and a PSG Level Dutch Warmblood

Smith started each session by asking where the pair was in their riding, what the goals were, and any particular issues to address. Smith’s style of teaching is very “eyes on,” keeping after the rider to make corrections as she noticed the horse evading or going incorrectly. Seeming to have X-ray eyes, Smith easily spotted when a rider’s outside leg was absent, and quickly pointed out a horse’s failure to come into a transition 100% correctly or maintain a steady tempo. Although insistent for the rider to be completely focused, Smith also offered a “Bravo!” or “Super!” when things went right.

No matter the level of ride, Smith took each pair through a warm-up to check for fundamentals: a long, low neck reaching for the contact, forward from the leg with an active rhythmic stride and regular tempo, and roundness, balancing the horse from the inside leg to the outside rein. All of these elements have to be in place without compromise before further work can commence.

Lessons in Forward and Round

Charlemagne, a 10 yo Hanoverian owned by Lynn Marohn and ridden by Jr/YR Jessica Sheppard, began with what appeared to be a big walk and trot – an illusion he creates by his sheer size of 17.2 hh.

Smith urged Jessica to push him forward with more activity, keeping his inside flexion by supporting with the outside leg. At the same time, he was not allowed to lose tempo or back away from the contact. The tempo and activity must remain the same, even when correcting the horse.



Smith coaches flying changes with hunter pair Stephanie Bell on Mille Belle, owned by Angie Joyce.

After several 20m circles, the trot visibly improved into a big floating stride with the hind legs fully engaged. As they came down the long side, Smith reminded Jessica to keep her outside leg close for support, saying, “Don’t let the wall ride the outside of the horse for you. The outside leg is just as important as the inside leg, giving support to the horse.”

The next horse was Cooper, a 13 yo Saddlebred going 2nd Level, owned and ridden by Jr/YR Hannah Lewis. Because of his breed characteristics, Cooper has a tendency to hold his head high and tight. Getting him to reach and stretch forward was most difficult, but necessary for him to supple his back. As Hannah urged him to stretch forward, Cooper made full use of several evasions: first running away, then letting his haunches drift out, then sucking in his neck and getting tight and tense. Smith sent the pair into spiral in/out, going to the 10m and then out to the 20m circle. “Don’t give the reins away to encourage the horse to stretch – you must keep the contact and push to a feel on the rein. Flex and give, flex and give, over and over and over.”

“You must keep your figures accurate,” says Smith. “Without accuracy, you cannot

hold yourself or your horse accountable. Insist on being accurate!”

Being Honest on the Aids

Olaf, a 10 yo Dutch Warmblood, has shown to PSG but has not been asked for much hard work for several months. Now owned by 8th Heaven Farms and ridden by KC Parkins Kyle, the program has been stepped up. Again, Smith asked for the fundamentals first, asking KC to get him stretching lower to soften his topline. “Even riding Grand Prix, the majority of time working with the horse is spent getting him honest on the aids.”

Similar to Cooper, Olaf tended to be short in the neck and slightly behind the vertical, giving the picture but not the reality of an engaged frame. Smith encouraged KC to flex him to the outside sometimes to go lower with his neck, using half-halts on the inside rein for control. “Take and give, don’t take and drop” the reins. As KC continued asking for roundness and the inside flexion, Smith reminded her to keep her outside aids in place – “don’t let his shoulder pop out.”

“Olaf is a beefy, big-muscled guy, but he is not flexible yet. He needs to be honest (forward and round) when the leg comes on. If you need to take him to a hectic trot to get him to come to the party, then that is okay, because you are making a point.” Similarly, Smith said that when asking for forward activity, a few trot steps at the walk or canter strides at the trot is okay – don’t correct the horse for giving you the forward activity, just come back to the gait.

At the canter, Smith pushed for big long strides with hind legs fully engaged, then when asking for the trot transition, push him sideways to keep them engaged. Still at the canter, the pair was asked to go shoulder-in down the long side, then half-pass across the long diagonal. “The shoulder-in gets the engagement, and the half-pass gets the horse on the aids, especially when using the long diagonal CORRECTLY!” As a movement in 3rd level, where the flying change is asked for at the finish of the diagonal half-pass, the horse must absolutely be on the aids. If he is not, the movement should continue into a counter-canter, getting onto the aids. *(continued on pg. 25)*

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Review: Aromatherapy for You and Your Pets

You may have experienced the effects of aromatherapy during a massage, when the therapist applies a scented oil to your muscles and a lovely aroma fills the air, immediately relaxing your body and calming your mind. It might surprise you to know that aromatherapy is not just beneficial to humans, but can also be used to treat animals for a variety of ills. It's no surprise to Frances Fitzgerald Cleveland. Frances, the owner of Frogworks, a Littleton-based aromatherapy company, has been working with horses for over twenty-three years, and in the past decade, she has been applying her knowledge of aromatherapy to her work with horses and other animals. At Kaeru Studio, a charming restored 1900's building on her horse facility, Outback Farm, Frances creates and produces all-natural essential oil blends for the physical and mental wellbeing of horses, dogs, cats, and, yes, even humans.

Aromatherapy is not a "New Age" fad; since ancient times, people have used aromatic oils for a variety of purposes. Modern aromatherapy has its roots in the early 1900's in France, when Dr. René Maurice Gattafoaussé coined the term to describe his work with essential oils. Essential oils result from the distillation or expression of plants and their parts, such as flowers, leaves, twigs, root, bark, or berries. These oils have varying degrees of healing qualities. Some are used for their antiseptic and bacterial properties, while others have anti-toxic and antiviral effects. Specific oils are believed to have specific therapeutic properties. For example, lavender can be used for relaxation or wound healing, while rosemary is beneficial for exhaustion or circulatory problems.

Frances, a riding instructor and certified aromatherapist, has combined her knowledge of essential oils with her love for animals to create products that have therapeutic benefits and undeniable healing powers. Drawing on the knowledge she gained in her studies with Caroline Ingraham, the pioneer of equine aromatherapy, Frances developed Pete's Equine Remedy. Frances created this remedy for her horse, Pete, who had a skin problem and subsequent rubbing damage on his tail.

Within a few weeks of using this all-natural essential oil product, Pete's skin healed and his hair grew back. Another success story was Nadine, a quarter horse mare who had a severe skin problem that resembled sweet itch, with significant hair loss and a rash that extended from under her neck all the way to her belly. After two weeks of using Pete's Equine Remedy as well as several additional oils to treat Nadine's moodiness, Nadine's owner reported that her skin was completely healed, her hair was growing back, and, best of all, Nadine was back to her usual pleasant demeanor.

As with Pete's Equine Remedy, many of Frances' products arise out of a direct need in her life, and when she discusses the origins of her products, her passion for her work is evident. When her dog Jake was suffering from frequent hot spots, Frances developed Jake's Canine Remedy. This unique, all-natural product healed Jake's skin and has since successfully treated many other dogs with skin problems such as bald spots, fungus, dermatitis, flea/tick bites, and small abrasions.

Aromatherapy is not only useful in treating skin conditions, but can also be effective in treating behavioral problems in animals. Frances has successfully used aromatherapy to treat

atypical behaviors in horses, to help colts with weaning, and has even helped gorillas and orangutans at the Denver Zoo cope with the stress of captivity.

Frances' products are not just for animals. Anyone who has spent time working or playing outdoors in Colorado's extreme climate can understand the need for soothing remedies for the skin. Kaeru Facial Mist rejuvenates and nourishes the skin, and was designed as a convenient skin freshener to spray on after riding, swimming or gardening. Too Much Sun helps relieve the pain of sunburn, promotes healing, and repairs and prevents sun damage – common concerns for Coloradoans who love the outdoors.

In addition to her line of products, available through her online store, Frances provides individual consultations to develop custom blends of essential oils tailored specifically for you or your animal. All of FrogWorks' oils are pure, organic, ecologically grown and carefully wild-crafted. Frances can be contacted at (303) 973-8848 or through her website, <http://www.ffrogworks.com>.

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Chapter News

Clinic Review: Nancy Smith (cont. from pg. 20)

Western Colorado Chapter

Western Colorado Chapter maintains a website www.aspendressage.com and publishes a print newsletter. At our last chapter meeting, it was decided to resume our Summer Schooling Show Series. The first show is Sunday, July 15. Two additional schooling shows are planned. The second schooling show date is Sunday, August 18. The third show date is Saturday, September 8, or possibly the 15th. Several Western Colorado chapter members attended the Tina Konyot Clinic June 22-24 in Eagle, at Anita Williams' barn, and plan to attend the second Tina Konyot Clinic is scheduled at Anita's for July 26-29.

Foothills Chapter

[From outgoing president Kathy Johnson]

With great regret, yet great excitement, I am announcing the end of my final term as Foothills President. I have really loved working with both the Foothills Chapter and RMDS, but no longer have enough time to do the position justice. I have accepted a position as C.O.O. of the Medicine Horse Program in Boulder, a non-profit organization that helps disadvantaged children through horses. I look forward to this time to give back more to the horse community. I also hope to continue my friendship with so many of you in different ways. Please come by in person or visit online at www.medicinehorse.org My new email is kathy@medicinehorse.org

Please be sure to attend our August meeting as we will be accepting nominations for both a new club President and a new Secretary. If you would like to nominate via email, contact Laura Quakenbush at laura.quakenbush@comcast.net

Our next event is a Dressage in Europe Presentation by Jasmine Becker, Wednesday July 11th at 7:00 at Table Mt. Ranch. Jasmine will bring slides and photos from her most recent trip to the dressage action and auctions in Europe.

Don't miss our Last Chance Show Sept. 16th 2007. Note the change in show secretary to Heather Petersen. Check for details and prize list at our website, www.foothills-dressage.org

Second Day Results

All horses and riders who signed on for a two-day lesson were visibly improved from the initial session, allowing Smith to build on the basics from the previous day. Lauren Lustig, a young eventer on Halo, a newly purchased Trakehner, had obviously taken Smith's advice to heart. Smith had drilled the two on several figures to help Halo come onto the aids and especially develop his flexion to the right. On this day, Smith had the two doing 10m circles left and right from the centerline, six-loop serpentines across the whole arena ("make it like ribbon candy, doubling back a little with each loop"), and leg-yields at both trot and canter, insisting on accuracy of hitting the letter and making the canter get softer, not faster. Enjoying the moment, Smith called out to Lauren "Red Rover, Red Rover, make Halo come over!"

KC and Olaf were also "at the party" on the second day. More active and honest to the aids today, the pair repeated the shoulder-in/half-pass exercise with much greater success. Noting that Olaf's shoulders have a tendency to "be-bop" left and right, Smith told KC to "mold him like clay right into the middle," also reminding her "it takes two hands (and two legs) to handle a whopper!"

Wrap-Up

After watching two full days, and reviewing the DVD's filmed by Castlewood Productions, the consistency of Smith's coaching throughout the clinic was apparent. Her advice went right to the core fundamental issues each rider needed to work on. (I know I will NEVER forget to use my outside leg again!)

Professional yet personable, Smith struck just the right note for each individual pair. Her experience with all disciplines, including jumping and Western, allowed her to provide solid lessons for those riders or horses new to dressage, while lending her own FEI skills to those riders more advanced.

For more information, contact Beverly Swanson at 8th Heaven Farms, 303-688-5727 or info@8thheavenhorses.com. More about Nancy Smith can be found at her website, www.equisentialinc.com help the rider) are often open only to certain levels.

**“Smithisms”
advice from Nancy Smith**

Go “on the clock” the minute you step into the arena and pick up the reins.

Always get the fundamentals in place first: forward from the leg, stretching into the contact, and balancing from the inside leg to the outside rein.

Insist on being accurate with your figures.

Ride with two hands and two legs (both sides of the horse).

Ask for change, work through the resistance, and trust yourself to ask for more.

Expect reaction to the aids to be immediate – do not compromise.

Even when relaxing, keep the horse active and in the bridle.

The stretchy/chewy trot must be forward, with flexion, and still in the bridle.

Probably at least 80% of horses have more left rein contact, so it is almost always easier to supple the horse to the left.


Go to a circle whenever you lose the flexion, but don't lose the tempo.

Riders who win shows have their horse ALWAYS on the aids.

The horse only gives what you ask for – Believe In Yourself, and Ride Your Horse 100% - no compromising!

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