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eCentaur

RMDS President's Message from Gwen Ka'waloa

August is here and we are still adjusting to the changes we need to make to function on a daily basis. Our shows are few and educational opportunities are on hold till 2021. Some clinics are still happening but are down to only a few and auditors are not allowed due to the restrictions of the State and Counties.



So what is RMDS up to????

Gwen Ka'waloa

Well we are still working on our database and website upgrades.

RMDS plans to keep everyone safe and thanks to the ZOOM system we can have our meetings and practice being safe in our own homes. If you show please follow the rules. They are there so we can show. Wearing a mask for short periods of time is possible for everyone. Take the time to find one that is comfortable and does not cause you problems.

Preparation is the key to showing and a mask is a small part of that preparation. Let's keep the shows going by following the rules and protecting each other. Looking forward to seeing everyone soon.

Aloha, Gwen Ka'awaloa

Remembering Beverly Swanson,

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It is with deep sadness that we announce the very sudden passing on June 29 of Beverly Swanson, editor of the RMDS Centaur and RMDS Communications Chairman. Beverly was a huge influence on RMDS for many years through her tireless volunteer efforts at horse shows, RMDS Championships, communications and in any other way she could find to be of help. And her devotion and professionalism in delivering a quality Centaur month after month demanded Herculean efforts as she dealt with debilitating chronic pain from hip and back issues for years, but she never wavered from her commitment.



Ironically, Beverly's health had recently improved, she was largely pain free and was riding her beloved mare Ellie again. Hearing her praise Ellie with "Pretty mare! Pretty mare!" as she rode was one of the most joyful things that will remain in my memories of Beverly, because she was so happy and full of hope to be riding again after so many struggles. She was larger than life, full of orneriness, opinionated, feisty, and she wore her soft heart on a tough sleeve, but she was always so generous with her time, an absolutely unshakeable friend, one of the best folks to have on your side ever. She will leave huge holes that will be hard to fill, especially in the hearts of those that loved her. So long, Bev-travel well and see you again someday!

~Frances Carbonnel

RMDS is deeply saddened by Beverly's passing and we offer our condolences to Beverly's husband, family, and friends. She will be greatly missed, but never forgotten.

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Cancellation of the USDF Region 5 and RMDS Championships

The Great American Insurance Group/USDF Region 5 Dressage Championships Licensed by USEF & Rocky Mountain Dressage Society Championships & Open Show, to be held on September 17-20, 2020, has been cancelled due to uncertainties related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

USDF Region 5 competitors may choose to compete in another region, but must change their region with USDF by the closing date of the regional championship they plan to attend (fee exempt).

In addition to the normal qualifying procedures, horse/rider combinations from Region 5 that change into another region may still qualify for the 2020 Great American/USDF Regional Championships under the amended qualifying criteria outlined below:

- Earning two scores of at least the minimum qualifying percentage from either 2020 Great American/USDF qualifying classes, 2019 Great American/USDF qualifying classes, 2019 Great American/USDF Regional Championship classes, and/or 2019 US Dressage Finals classes. The qualifying fee did not need to be paid prior to riding in these classes.
- Competitor must contact USDF in writing to request the previously earned score(s) be recorded as Great American/USDF qualifying and pay the qualifying fee(s) to USDF. Request and fee must be paid prior to the closing date of the regional championship competition.
- Scores can be earned at one or more competitions and may be from the same judge or judge panel.

The RMDS Board has also decided to move to a virtual Board of Governors meeting on November 21st instead of an in person meeting and we will not be having our Annual Awards Banquet in January of 2021. We will be holding an online presentation of our awards and an online auction to help raise funds for the organization and our scholarships. More information on these items will be forthcoming.

USDF Region 5 Message from Heather Petersen

I hope everyone is staying safe this summer and enjoying time with their family and horses. Time is passing by a bit slower this summer with COVID and in my opinion, the year really can't end soon enough so we can perhaps return to a bit of normalcy in the near future.

Many things are still up in the air right now with year-end activities.

Congratulations to the members of our Region who have qualified for the USEF Pony, Childrens, Dressage Seat Equitation, Young Horse, Small Tour, Large Tour and Developing Horse Championships! We wish you well at Lamplight and we'll be cheering for you!



A reminder of several important **DEADLINES** that are coming up:

- USDF National and Regional GMO volunteer nominations, as well as GMO award nominations, are due to the USDF office by August 31.
 - GMOs nominations are open for [Newsletter Awards](#), [Website Awards](#), and [Photography Awards](#). Don't forget that all nominations are due to the USDF office by **August 31**. See the nomination forms for detailed information.

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We did not have a volunteer of the year last year, so please please consider submitting someone from your area.

- Volunteer of the Year and Youth Volunteer of the Year nominations can also be submitted by any participating member, group member or the Regional Director.
- One deserving group member will receive the [Ruth Arvanette Memorial Fund Grant](#) to attend the 2019 Adequan/USDF Annual Convention in Savannah, Georgia. The grant includes full convention registration and partial reimbursement for travel expenses. Applications due by **August 31**
- GMOs must return their GMO Delegate/Proxy Authorization form to the USDF office to appoint representation to the Board of Governors meeting at the USDF Convention

We still are also looking for a person to serve on the USDF Nominating Committee for Region 5 – please!

Here are the goals and objectives of the Nominating committee:

Goals

1. Secure nominations for regional Participating Member (PM) delegates and the USDF Executive Board.
2. Ensure that all GMO members are represented on the Board of Governors by GMO delegates.
3. Educate the membership about the candidates and oversee the election process.

Objectives

1. Procure nominations for the following USDF Executive Board positions by June 1: Administrative Council At-Large Director (ALD), Technical Council ALD, and Activities Council ALD.
2. Procure nominations for PM delegates in all nine regions by April 15.
3. Obtain GMO delegate and proxy appointments when designated by each GMO.
4. Educate the membership about candidates and oversee the election process.

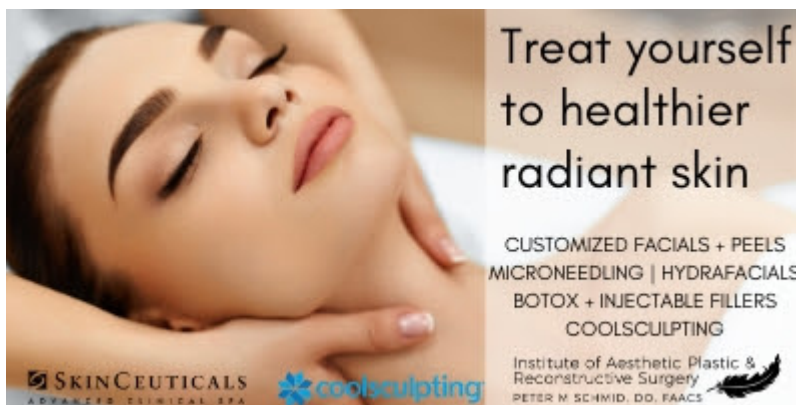
The person who would serve for Region 5 would help obtain Region 5 PM delegates yearly - we help them by asking folks at each convention if they are interested in serving for the next year; they would also follow up with GMOs who don't send in their delegates or proxies. This is a few phone calls and emails in October and November. They also confirm Regional Director Candidates as well and help guide others who may be interested in running for USDF President, VP, secretary, treasurer. There are also a few conference calls throughout the year and we also ask that they attend the USDF Convention each year.

Please let me know if you know anyone who may be interested so we can follow up with them, or have them contact myself!

Till next month!
Heather Petersen

Region 5 Director

[Visit the USDF Region 5 Website](#)




Advertise with RMDS - Opportunities starting at \$20 and up!

RMDS Bylaw Changes

Deadline to submit any bylaw changes is August 31, 2020.

Our current bylaws can be found here: <http://rmds.org/Organization/Home>

Download the form to submit a bylaw change request: <http://rmds.org/uploads/Publications/rmds-bylaws.pdf>



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2020 Awards Information from Shannon Lemons

Our Awards Program is one more thing to be affected by COVID. I know we are all tired of hearing about all the things we cannot do and all the events we cannot attend, but hopefully you are able to get in a little extra training so that when we do all finally get to show we might be a little bit further along.

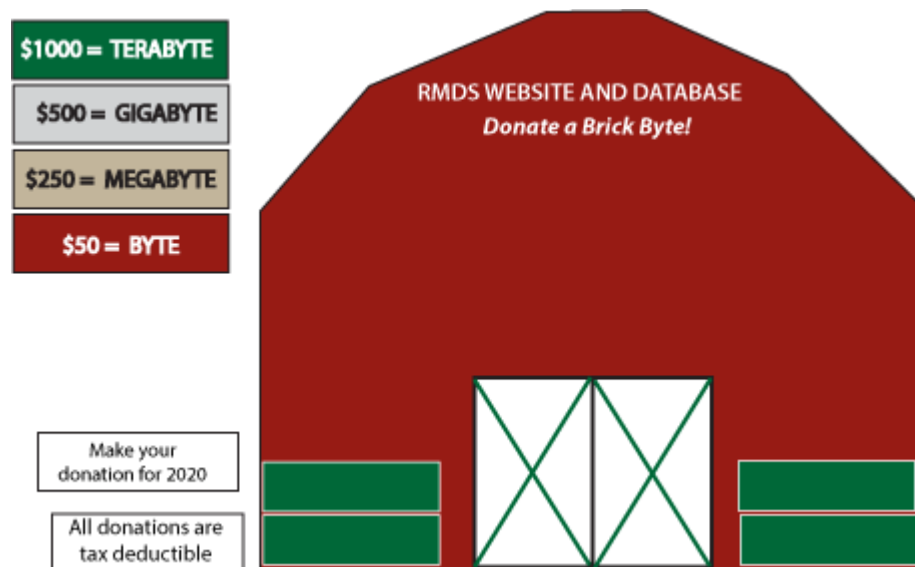
RMDS will be following the lead of USDF in that we will not be changing the qualifications required for our year end awards. We will, however, waive the volunteer hours requirement for 2020. The dramatically decreased number of available show days means that many of our year end trophies will likely not be awarded this year. To that end, the RMDS Executive Board has elected to cancel this year's Awards Banquet, previously scheduled for January of 2021.

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can be picked up at the Central Office or by arrangement with the Awards Chair. Ribbons and rider recognition plates for your plaques will still be done as usual and will be mailed out to you. RMDS will ask for postage to be paid before we mail out your awards. Senior rider glasses can also be picked up unless we find a good method to mail them since they are so fragile.

Since we won't have a big evening together to recognize our riders and volunteers, we are planning to do a spread in the Centaur to recognize all that our members still manage to achieve despite the pandemic! Watch your Centaur for details on an online auction to support the scholarship program in lieu of the silent auction at the banquet.

Meanwhile, keep on riding out there! Horse time is even more precious right now for the break from reality it gives us. This too shall pass!



RMDS is having a new database built and website designed. Our current database is over 30 years old and needs to be revamped in order for our organization to move forward.

Make your tax-deductible donation for 2020! RMDS is a 501(c)3.

We are building a Byte Barn! Donate a Brick Byte:

\$50 donation = 1 Byte

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