



e-Centaur

ROCKY MOUNTAIN DRESSAGE NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2016 E-CENTAUR
RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP NOW!

SAVE THE DATES

**EXECUTIVE
BOARD MTG**
JAN 12, 2017

**ANNUAL
AWARDS
BANQUET**
JAN 16, 2017
RENAISSANCE
HOTEL
[CLICK HERE FOR
RESERVATIONS](#)

JUDGES CONTINUING ED

Musical Freestyles-
Jan. 28, 8 am
[CLICK HERE FOR
INFO](#)
**TD/SHOW MGMT
WORKSHOPS**
Feb. 14, 8:30 am -
TD Clinic
Feb 14, 12:45 pm -
Show Mgr & Sec
[CLICK HERE FOR
INFO](#)

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[Send Your
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and Comments](#)

Share What You Learn, Earn Volunteer Hours

Attend an event, write an article
and share the knowledge.

Members who write an article
for Centaur earn credit for two
volunteer hours. A phone photo
is great, also. Deadlines are the
5th of every month. For details,
contact Communications Chair
[Beverly Swanson](#)

[Facebook](#)

[Website](#)

President's Message

2016 was a busy and productive year for the Rocky Mountain Dressage Society. We had several quality educational opportunities for our members and a full show season. Our Board of Governors meeting was primarily devoted to our 2017 schedule and so far we have a pretty active year in the works. Plans were revealed for some awesome educational events, including a partnership with the Colorado Horse Park for 4 days of Dressage Education May 18th thru 21st.

Joan Clay and I will be attending the USDF Convention and Board of Governors Meeting in St Louis, Missouri. We will be busy with both committee meetings and a variety of educational presentations.

RMDS was host to the USDF Adult Clinic in October and I'm proud to say our Colorado sessions had some of the highest attendance for this particular symposium. Our members continue to demonstrate their thirst for knowledge.

The 2016 Region V and RMDS Championship show was a success financially. With great sponsors for the entire show we were able to organize snacks and dinners every night as well as providing a winning atmosphere for judges and competitors alike. Heather Petersen and I were able to have several meetings with the Colorado Horse Park and with a vote of confidence from the BOG delegates we will be returning to the Colorado Horse Park for RMDS and Region V Championships in 2017.

The Executive Board has managed to organize and provide the education and show atmosphere that our members request. We have worked to be fiscally responsible and to grow our organization. Some thoughts as we move forward in planning the new year.

"We don't need to share the same opinions as others, but we need to be respectful" Taylor Swift

"That which we persist in doing becomes easier, not that the task itself has become easier, but that our ability to perform it has improved." Ralph Waldo Emerson

"Service is a smile. It is an acknowledging wave, a reaching handshake, a friendly wink, and a warm hug. It's these simple acts that matter most, because the greatest service to a human soul has always been the kindness of, recognition." Richelle E. Goodrich

With the support of our members we can continue to work to showcase dressage to the rest of the equestrian community and the public. One event planned is a Freestyle Competition. USDF and WDAA rules and tests will be used but there will be no show recognition so costumes will be encouraged and we also hope to have some celebrity judges. It should be quite the extravaganza.

RMDS continues to grow and as a result experience new problems. As a group we will strive to clarify what is needed and expected of our members at shows and clinics. RMDS has been a leader in providing continuing education for "L" graduates and in keeping with this tradition we have been approved by USEF to host a Freestyle Judging educational clinic for both "L" graduates and USEF Licensed Judges.

The holidays are upon us and regardless of which dates you celebrate I hope you will enjoy time with your families. I look forward to seeing you in the New Year, starting with our Executive Board Meeting on January 12th then our BIG Celebration the Awards Banquet on January 14th. Come join the festivities to pick up your awards, bid on amazing gift baskets and the chance for show and entries and office fees and enjoy time spent with the rest of the Colorado Dressage Community.

Aloha, Gwen Ka'awaloa



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RMDS Approves Leaders and Plans For Rewarding, Educational 2017

From Linda Gaber, retiring Communications Chair

It was decision-making time for RMDS members, chapter presidents and delegates, plus officers and committee chairs who met all day in Denver to plan for 2017.

NEW OFFICERS

Joan Clay - Vice President for one year

Anclaire Spaulding/Michelle Stevens - Adult Amateur Committee

Co-Chairs for two years

Beverly Swanson - Communications Chair for two years

Cassandra DiPentino - Junior/Young Rider Committee Chair for two years

Una Schade and Andrea Chirich - Show Liaisons for two years

MaryJo Hoepner - Scholarship Committee Chair for two years

NEW CHAPTER PRESIDENTS

On the Bit Dressage Ginka Kubelka

Pikes Peak Dressage Tiffany Busch

Return to Colorado Horse Park

The board also approved some horse show-related action, with votes to hold RMDS Championships at the Colorado Horse Park in Parker. Health certificates will be required for all horses, with a show "horse pass" available on site for \$10. Also planned at CHP is a professionals and an adult clinic with Lars Petersen May 18-21.

Two White Feet also plans to hold Dressage for the Cure and Paragon Dressage I, II and III at the horse park.

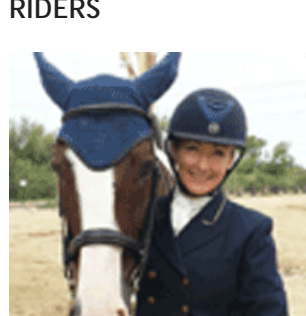
BONUS!! The 2016 Championships show earned a profit of nearly \$4,000.

BARN LIST UPDATE

Do you run a boarding barn or training barn?
We are updating our referral list.

Please send your info: Barn Name, address, email,
web, phone and any specialty to
[Beverly Swanson](#), Communications Chair

THE DRESSAGE FOUNDATION'S CAROL LAVELL GIFTED MEMORIAL FUND AWARDS \$9,000 TO ADULT AMATEUR RIDERS



USDF Region 5 RECIPIENT- Sarah Lindsten (AZ) and her KWPN, Cookie, will train with Bobbie Lynn McKee. Sarah is a member of Arizona Dressage Association.

(November 10, 2016) - The Dressage Foundation is proud to announce this year's recipients of the Carol Lavell Gifted Memorial Fund Scholarships for Adult Amateurs. Each will receive a \$1,000 Scholarship to enable them to set aside quality time in concentrated training with their horse, trainer of choice, and away from the daily pressures of job and family.

"Thanks to the generosity of Carol Lavell, her family, and friends, we are pleased to provide this financial support to adult amateurs who not only make time to further their dressage education, but who are tremendous volunteers for their dressage clubs," said Jenny Johnson, Executive Director of The Dressage Foundation. "Without the effort of volunteers such as these, dressage would not be alive and well in communities across the country. They certainly deserve to have some time away to concentrate on their riding!"

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