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DRESSAGE
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CENTAUUR
N E W S L E T T E R

February 2006

Nine Chapters in Colorado & Wyoming

Highlights

Too Fat?Cover
Letter to the Editor 4
Breeding - First Time 8
RMDS Continuing Ed Events 2006 ... 20

In Every Issue

Thoughts from the President 3
The Latest Scoop 4
Judges, TDs, Instructors 12
Chapter News 13
Events Calendar 14-15
RMDS Info 16
RMDS Membership Form 17
Region 5 Report 21
Classifieds 26

USDF Instructor Training

February & April

**NEED DEMO HORSES &
RIDERS**

**Check out the RMDS
Educational Events for
2006**

on Page 20

Too Fat to Ride?

By Tina Burg

It is said to be the last politically correct prejudice. For those of us who are horizontally challenged, it is the bane of our existence. Add horses and riding to the equation, and the "Scarlet F" is a nearly unbearable burden.

Ten years ago my dressage trainer gave me a huge compliment. "Wow, Tina! You're really getting it! That was wonderful! Keep up the good work!"

I could have just burst with pride. My trainer was a Grand Prix level rider, trained in Germany, and I totally respected her. I could not have been happier if I had been handed the Pulitzer Prize. My horse was soft and supple, and we were forward and relaxed. I had a glimpse of the feel of that mythical centaur all dressage riders hold as the goal. My proud husband, who always came with me to my lessons, exclaimed, "That's great, honey! You really look like a dressage rider!" I remember smiling so big I thought my face would split.

I took a deep breath and whispered excitedly to my trainer, "Do you think I might be ready to try (gasp) a show?" My trainer, probably 90 pounds and looking much more like a boy than a girl, replied, "No, you're too fat to show." End of conversation.

Numb, I got off my horse, loaded him in the trailer, and never saw that woman again. I cancelled my weekly lesson and never went back. I did not get on a horse for six years. I kept my horses as pasture ornaments, fed them and cleaned up after them, and decided to start breeding so I could justify their expense. I had to pay other people to ride them. But, no matter how hard I tried to talk myself into selling them, I just couldn't do it. The fat around my waist did not block me from having horses in my heart.

That day is indelibly engraved on my soul like a hot brand. It is a deep scar that still bleeds on occasion. I was humiliated and shamed. Was there truth to her words? Certainly. I am overweight. I always have been, as a child and as an adult. I don't look as good on a horse as the skinny girls. But does that mean I am simply not allowed to play in the dressage world? More and more, it seems the answer is, "Yes."

Scribing for dressage judges is a great way to learn about the sport of dressage. It is also a great place to find out just how deep the word "judge" goes inside the minds of some people. A good friend who regularly scribes at shows and is also a dressage rider with the figure of a woman and not a prepubescent boy, told me of judge after judge who made horrid, rude wisecracks about the riders' sizes or weight. She was appalled at what she was hearing, knowing full well that what the rider had paid for was an opinion of her riding and training, not her breech size. Many judges even had the effrontery to have her scribe boorish comments about how terrible the

cont. on pg. 6

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Officers & Directors

President	Heather Petersen 719-683-8435 <i>slush@drgw.net</i>
Past President	Susan Selby 970-227-9530 <i>Susann10@juno.com</i>
Vice President	Jane McBride 719-598-4496 <i>mcbride@pcisys.net</i>
Secretary	Carol Rush 303-346-6910 <i>carolrush@aol.com</i>
Treasurer	Pam Buhl <i>kbelsito@aol.com</i>

Permanent Committees

Adult/Amateur	Brenda Haley 719-275-0118 <i>shininghorse@copper.net</i>
Awards	Barb Goldman 303-666-4528 <i>boelandjarb@hotmail.com</i>
Results	Central Office 720-890-7825 <i>rmds@indra.com</i>
Championship Show	Jane McBride 719-598-4496 <i>mcbride@pcisys.net</i>
Communications	Beverly Swanson 303-584-9904 <i>bswanson2003@qwest.net</i>
Editor	Kathleen Mayger 970-587-5546 <i>kathleendonnelly20@hotmail.com</i>
Centaur Production	Beverly Swanson 303-584-9904 <i>bswanson2003@qwest.net</i>
Omnibus Production	Burke Design - Nicole Bizzarro 303-473-0664 <i>nicoleb@burkedes.com</i>
Website	Michael Petersen 719-683-8435 <i>webmaster@rmds.org</i>
Education	Catherine Siemiet 719-942-5311 <i>catsbarn@piopc.net</i>
Jr/Young Riders	720-341-5033 <i>jbarringerrichers@msn.com</i>
YR Board Rep	Leigh Romano 303-444-9759 <i>Lromano@qwest.net</i>
Scholarship	Gail Burger 970-226-6815 <i>silbluffox@aol.com</i>
Membership, Scheduling/Insurance, Regis Officials/Show Standards	Central Office 720-890-7825 <i>rmds@rmds.org</i>

Chapter Presidents

Boulder Valley	Claudia Barkmeier 303-417-1675 <i>cbarkmeier@rwbaird.com</i>
Colorado Springs	Simone Windeler 719-540-2000
Foothills	Tina Wright 720-297-5192 <i>cowgrlaug@hotmail.com</i>
Grand Valley (Grand Junction)	Kelly Schlagel 970-242-5935 <i>Sue Benjamin: benacres@peoplepc.com</i>
High Plains	Terri Wallace-DeLaura 303-695-8566 <i>terri.wallace@worldnet.att.net</i>
Northern Colorado	Susie Gordon 970-407-7357 <i>sgordon@fcgov.com</i> Kerri Belsito - <i>kbelsito@aol.com</i>
Penrose	Sharon Ghilarducci 719-462-5760 <i>quailridgedrsg@hotmail.com</i>
Tri-State	Darlene Vaughan 307-332-7261 <i>popoagieranch@hotmail.com</i>
Western Colorado	Judith Family 970-923-8832 <i>DNS@rof.net</i>
RMDS Central Office	Beth Geier 720-890-7825 2942 Park Lake Drive Boulder, Colorado 80301 • <i>rmds@indra.com</i> / <i>www.rmds.org</i> For Membership, Marketing & Dues, please contact Central Office

Centaur Newsletter

Address Corrections Central Office 720-890-7825, *rmds@indra.com*
 Editor Kathleen Mayger 970-587-5546, *kathleendonnelly20@hotmail.com*
 Production Beverly Swanson, 303-584-9904, *bswanson2003@qwest.net*
 USDF Region 5 Director Theresa L. Hunt, *hunterry@mindspring.com*
 USDF859-971-2277
 USEF, Inc (formerly USA Equestrian)859-258-2472
 RMDS is a USDF Group Member Organization and RMDS members are automatically USDF Group Members

Thoughts

from the President

Wow! I'm still recovering from the January Executive Board meeting. After battling traffic and arriving quite late for the meeting, we arrived to find a full room. I'm not sure I've ever seen quite this large of a turnout for one of our monthly meetings. Congrats to everyone for their wonderful participation!

The RMDS Executive Board meetings are open to each and every one of our RMDS members. We meet on the 2nd Thursday of odd months (except November due to the Board of Governors meeting). Perkins is the place to be, and if you arrive at 6:30, you'll be on time! I encourage anyone/everyone to come and see how things run and voice your opinions.

Please note in this month's Centaur that there are several RMDS paid positions up for rebidding this year. These positions include the RMDS Omnibus production, Centaur Production, the RMDS Central Office and both of the RMDS dressage shows: RMDS Winter Wake-Up and RMDS Championships. If you have any interest in these positions, any questions regarding these positions, or you'd like to submit a bid, please give me a call (719-683-8435) and I'd be happy to help.

If you've notice lately, the RMDS Centaur has been a little light at times on articles. We've been lucky to have a year-long nutrition series, the president's letter, editor's letter and a few various other things, but we'd like to see MORE! If you have any feedback on the articles printed, please feel free to send a letter to the editor, or submit a factual rebuttal article. The Centaur is the voice of our membership, so please use it! We welcome opinions, but we'd also love to share in the knowledge of our diverse members. If you are a Pilates instructor and you know of some dressage-beneficial exercises, please consider doing an article. If you work in the insurance world, maybe give us a clue as to what kind of liability insurance the average horse property owner should have.

On a final note, I'd like to invite all of you to the RMDS Winter Wake-Up show. This show is a RMDS/USDF/USEF recognized show at the Colorado Horse Park in the Indoor arena with an Indoor warmup. It also is a Young Rider Qualifier and a High Performance Qualifier for the National I1 and Grand Prix Championships at Gladstone. The class fees will be the lowest of the year - \$20 for Training through 4th and \$25 for FEI classes. Our wonderful panel of judges includes Janet Brown Foy, Lilo Fore and Maryal Barnette. And of course, thanks so much to Paragon Equestrian Centre for their fabulous donation that is making all of this possible.

The Latest Scoop From The Editor's Stall



Happy Valentine's Day! I can't believe it, but spring is just around the corner. Spring time always makes me cheerful because I know it will just be a matter of time before foals begin appearing in the pastures. I love how the newborn foals enjoy romping in the fields and then sacking out on the green grass for a nap. What a life! Breeding a mare is a long, intense process before a new life begins. We are very fortunate this month because RMDS member Katherine Simard has shared her ups and downs by writing a series of articles on breeding her mare. I thoroughly enjoyed the article and I am looking forward to reading her next installment. Now is the time to begin thinking about preparing your mare if you are going to breed her and Katherine offers some great tips.

Many of the articles I received this month cover different issues we face in the dressage world such as retiring horses that we love. Make sure to read the arti-

cle about the great horses at Miss Helen's Place in Franktown and the contribution they are making to our sport, even in retirement.

Our cover article brings up an issue not only in the dressage world, but often seen in many sports, and that is weight. I hope this article really makes all of us step back and think about what we say and the effect it has on people. I was disturbed by the comment that a rider would be too fat to show. Is there such a thing? Since when was there a weight requirement to enter the show ring? If our sport is to flourish then we must encourage every rider and leave out prejudices.

I have received a great response to my plea for articles! Thank you to everyone who has taken the time to share their experiences and send in their articles.

I hope you enjoy all of the articles in this month's Centaur. I am looking forward reading what I am sent next month!

Kathleen



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Our 2006 Show Schedule

February 25 – CSDA Schooling Show
March 18-19 - Winter Wake Up
April 1-2 - CSDA Show Series #2
May 20-21 - Dressage at the Peak
June 2-4 - Dressage at High Prairie
June 30-July 2 - Dressage at The Peak 2
July 15-16 - Twin Peaks Dressage
August 4-6 - Dressage in the Rockies
August 12 - Table Mountain Ranch
August 26 - CSDA Schooling Show
Sept 21-24 - RMDS Championships

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cont. on pg.13



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Too Fat...*from cover*

rider looked, how they had to lose weight, and ordered her to write down unwarranted poor scores in spite of the well ridden test on a well trained, happy horse. My friend was so affronted by this all too common occurrence that she completely quit showing in dressage.

So when did the sport of dressage become a beauty contest? Doesn't dressage mean "training?" If a horse is well trained, moving correctly, happily carrying the weight of his or her rider without pain or complaint, is that not what the judge is there to judge? Is the "look" of a chubby rider a criterium for judging the training of the horse? If a man is at a normal weight for a man, is he easier for a horse to carry than a woman of the exact same weight though she would be considered fat?

It took me a long time to start riding again, but eventually I did. Slowly and only occasionally at first, requiring a ridiculous amount of will and positive self-talk. But, I got on, and I rode. I paid very close attention to saddle fit and experimented with many different pads. I didn't want to hurt my horse. My stout Trakhener, who I've had since his birth, has never offered a complaint, and at 17 years old is still perfectly sound. Seems my extra pounds have not hurt him too much.

Last year I had a brave moment and decided to step out, once again, into the "real" dressage world. I talked to a trainer I was acquainted with and asked for lessons. She offered to let me work for her lunging horses in exchange for lessons. I was to work eight hours for each one-hour lesson. I agreed.

At our first lesson, I decided to stop a problem before it started. I told her that the topic of my weight was off limits. And I meant OFF LIMITS. I was well aware of my weight, and comments or criticisms from her were not welcome. If she could not see beyond my body size, then we would not bother to begin. She unhesitantly agreed.

For six months I worked for her four hours a day, two days a week. I spent a whole lot of time on the end of a lunge line. But, when it was time for my lesson, I often found an excuse to leave early. I was terrified to ride in front of someone of her talent and caliber. Frankly, I was afraid to ride in front of ANYONE. I longed for the privacy of my home arena and my quiet, solo rides. But when I could talk myself into staying, the lessons were wonderful. I learned a great deal in a very short time. My horse was improving daily and I was having fun.

Being self-employed, I could not continue the arrangement. The time and gas driving to her barn, then working for what basically was the equivalent of \$5 an hour, put a powerful damper on my income producing business. I had to stop. But I intended to continue lessons with her as my erratic income allowed.

Months later I was talking to this trainer, who I now considered a friend, on the phone. I told her how excit-

ed I was about my beloved yearling colt, and how I hoped to keep him as my future riding horse. She took this opportunity to let me know that I was too fat to ride dressage. She told me that I needed to start riding western, in a western saddle, so the saddle would spread my weight more.

I was immediately taken aback. This was my taboo topic. Had she forgotten our agreement? She could not help but hear the cracking in my voice as I fought back tears. Realizing I was upset, she proceeded to dig the hole deeper. "We can't hide this issue under the rug, you know," she informed me. I hung up the phone.

Again, I had to face the fact that there was truth to her words. Yes, I am fat. No doubt about it. But I'm also as strong as the proverbial ox and aerobically fit. What am I to do? I come from a long line of large people, and have tried every diet, diet doctor, fad diet, and every weight loss program listed in the Yellow Pages. Nothing has ever worked. I have been saving money for obesity surgery, but have not even made a drop in the bucket of that astronomical expense.

So...did I really have to stop riding dressage? Was I just too fat to play with the skinny girls? Was I doomed to the observation bleachers forever?

I got an apologetic e-mail; so sorry she had hurt my feelings. She told me my "special personality transcended my weight issue." She said she treasured me in spite of my weight. Reading her words I felt like a diseased leper who was being tolerated by a magnanimous do-gooder. My weight was so horrific to her that it had to be "transcended" by my more acceptable traits. How touching.

So, am I too fat for dressage? Maybe, in some people's eyes. But for me, this time, I'm not going to beat myself up, and I'm going to let the trainer be wrong. I am going to ride and learn dressage unless my horse complains or is injured by my immenseness. That I don't look good enough or that some skinny trainer thinks she has the right to judge me by my body size, is no longer going to have the power to stop me. Of course, I'll never go to a show. I am honest enough with myself to know that I'm not nearly as thick-skinned as I'd have to be to face that kind of judgment. But, I can still learn and ride dressage and have fun with my horses. And while I totally forgive my trainer as a human being and know she had nothing but good intentions at heart, I will never ride with her again. She is no longer my trainer. She broke our agreement, and, right or wrong, that is beyond repair.

So.... I'm going to ride, and I'm not going to let anyone stop me. Not even myself.

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10 ACRES

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7996 Oxford Rd., Longmont | \$1,298,000 | MLS# 467171



Breeding - Not for the Faint of Heart!

by Kathy Simard

Like most mare owners, when I purchased my mare, I had the thought in the back of my head of possibly breeding her.. I certainly did not expect the opportunity to come as soon as it did. In this three part article I will take you through my adventure.

When I bought my Hanoverian mare, Ria, (Regazzoni/SPS Daviera/Davignon) I was just shopping for a nice horse male or female. I chose Ria for many reasons, but one of them was as Janet Brown (now Foy) put it "There is a gold mine in her ovaries." As part of the pre-purchase I included a reproductive exam. This exam cannot guarantee fertility, it just lets you know if your mare has all of the equipment and no major road-blocks to becoming pregnant and carrying a foal.

As a four year old, I took Ria to some breed shows, both for the sport horse classes and the experience of the show environment. She did well in these and was Cosequin Rocky Mountain Region Reserve Champion. I also took her to the Hanoverian inspection where she became an Elite Mare Candidate. I highly suggest to anyone considering breeding that they do these types of events. It is an education in what the judges are looking for and how your mare compares to the ideal. Even if you only own one mare and are just doing this for yourself to have an up and coming youngster, see if your mare has what it takes to produce a foal you can be proud to say you bred.

In the fall of 2003, I went to an open house of a large breeding facility. My husband and I went just for the education and to see what the facility was like for the future. At the open house they held a drawing for free breedings to their stallions. I looked at the stallions pedigrees and saw Cherif (Carentino/Rebekka/Landgraf I). He is the same color and size as my mare and the Cordelabryere and Ladykiller XX lines really caught my eye. I joked to my husband "boy that combined with Ria would make an athlete!" Little did I know I would get the chance to find out! Now I would suggest one does more research than I did in choosing a stallion. I lucked out in that this facility has excellent stallions and Cherif has a wonderful temperament he passes on to his offspring. In doing this combination, I bred a foal who was not eligible for either the Hanoverian or Holsteiner books. If that is important to you, check the registries rules and regulations regarding approved stallions.

Upon winning the breeding, my education began. For Christmas that year my husband bought me the book *Blessed Are the Broodmares* by M. Phyllis Lose, VMD.. I highly recommend this book. It will scare the heck out of you as it begins with a few pages congratulating you and then quickly moves into about two hundred pages of what can go wrong! I needed the reality check and the information, so I devoured every page. Later a friend of mine gave me Dr. Lose's second book,

Blessed are the Foals, and I also recommend it. It will scare you too, but it is better to be armed with knowledge than to go in blind.

In January of 2004, I began monitoring Ria's heat cycles on a calendar in the barn. Since I board Ria, I asked the barn manager to help me keep track. We were lucky in that Ria cycles year round and makes it very obvious when she is in heat. However, just because a mare cycles every month, it does not mean that she is always ovulating. I also took notes as to what was going on in her environment at the time. Did the weather change? Was a new gelding brought into the barn? Did turnout change? This was very helpful as I knew exactly when to bring her to the breeding facility to be inseminated and how she might react to the stimuli there.

In April, I brought Ria to the facility. Ria was seven years old and a maiden mare. We did not know how long it might take to get her successfully bred. I wanted to start early in the spring just in case there were complications. When I took her to the facility, it was already busy with stallions, mares and newborn foals. Ria was quite restless. They thought it would take her a few days to relax and come into heat. From my charts, I knew the environment would probably excite her and she would be in heat by the next day. Turns out I was right. Not only was she in heat, she had a follicle on each side. Ria was bred twice via artificial insemination from the recently collected stallion. One follicle was behind the other in development and the breeding manager was afraid of losing our chance with the larger one and then the smaller one reabsorbing. The concern now became twins. I brought Ria back to the boarding barn and almost daily talked to her about staying pregnant, but please not twins. She has always been an overachiever and I tried to convince her that two babies were not better than one.

By May an ultrasound confirmed that Ria was pregnant with twins! My research told me that was not a good thing, but the breeding manager took it all in stride. After the discovery of twins was made, the smaller embryo was pinched the following day. The procedure went as well as it possibly could have gone. Ria was then put on Regumate to ensure the procedure did not disrupt the development of the other embryo. Ria was then ultra sounded the next day. She and her baby were quite the overachievers! Not only was the embryo still viable, it had actually grown in 24 hours. Ria then went back to the barn I board her at as a proud mother to be. She was very glad to be done with the daily palpations. She never was naughty about them but played "catch the moving nose" when the staff tried to halter her.

cont. on pg. 19

CONTINUING EDUCATION
“TD” & SHOW MANAGERS
OPEN TO EVERYONE!

Technical Delegates: 9:00 am with Veronica Holt

Want to find out what happens behind the scenes of a show?
 Want to be a TD?
 Need to hone your skills?
 Need clarification of the rules and/or become aware of the new ones?
 Learn to measure ponies for RMDS only shows!

This workshop is for you!

Show Managers/Secretaries: 1:00 pm with Jane Donnelly & Heather Petersen

Arena set up
 What are the responsibilities of the secretary vs. show manager

RMDS is strongly encouraging all show managers to attend. This past year there were several changes that still need clarification.

Table Mountain Ranch
 Saturday, February 11, 2006

COST
One session only \$35
Both sessions \$50

Directions to Table Mountain Ranch: Take I-70 west to Colorado Hwy 58. Go west on Hwy 58 to Hwy 93. Go north on Hwy 93 approximately 2 miles to W 58th Avenue. Turn right (east) on W 58th Avenue. Table Mountain Ranch is _ mile on the right (south).

Reservations are necessary for the number of any handouts.
 Please fill out the form below and return with a check made payable to RMDS to:

RMDS Central Office
 2942 Park Lake Drive
 Boulder, CO 80301

Name: _____ TD or Show Manager _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

We will provide morning coffee and some snacks. Bring your own lunch/drinks/munchies if you want more!

AN EARLY RETIREMENT

by K.C. Parkins Kyle

MARVEL

In my minds' eye, I could see him 15 years younger. His tufted, tattered coat all sleek and shiny; nearly black in color. His distinctive white markings no longer blurred with the graying of age. The hollow of his back filled in with muscle. The elegant neck he must have carried then. The ample overstride he carried in the walk, was still an indication of his athleticism; then and now. He trotted down the centerline proudly with his rider, as he must have 15 years ago. I knew he was 'somebody.' It no longer mattered that his course had changed a bit, he was still doing his job. He was still admired by the others. His rider honored to have a mount as special as he; I was equally honored to be their judge.

BARRY

Although not new to him, the flapping sign was worth a good look. Ears pricked forward, a new alertness arose in the small but stealthy steed. Then a note of faith and confidence that this sight is not so treacherous as first thought. With his mane done up and tail carefully braided, he proceeded with his riders' task. But one must stay alert, just in case. Age had not taken his spirit, or his body – much. But he had acquired a knowledge that only age can bring; not all flapping objects are worthy of action. He walked proudly through his tasks, keeping a close eye out, in case he should need to protect his rider from the harms of the world around them. With complete awareness of the special needs of his rider, he proceeded boldly to go where asked. His job was clear to him, and he will do it very seriously, until he can no longer rise to his feet.

SHAWNEE

He was the envy of all the girls; of that he was certain. Of the riders' directions he was not so certain, but that was inconsequential. His elegant head and neck carriage easily portrayed the beauty this horse held. Age had not taken his coat or his physique as much as the others. With prissy, prancing steps, he trotted through his pattern, looking more for his ground guide than his rider, seeming to understand that the ground person was his truer path. He serviced two riders that day. One was quite a good rider, with a good seat; although sometimes her directions got a little muddled, they always got right back on track. As a team, they were a picture of ease and comfort. A joy to watch, as they performed. This horse knew he was still one of the prettiest, that was undeniable. Of course, winning the class was to be expected, because that's what he was accustomed to.

These were but a few of the special horses I was privileged to judge at the Urban Farm during a recent weekend. The horses are part of a Therapeutic Riding Center called Miss Helen's Place. Many of us may remember "Barry" as "Barishnikov," originally owned by Patty Sibley, who showed him in the dressage arena at 3rd Level at one time. The care and love these horses received touched me so deeply, I decided to send my early retirement horse to them for an effort at a job.

Most horses are completely happy in pasture with a herd of others. Some need more. They know that they are special animals and need to be appreciated by their human friends in some way for a few more years before full retirement is necessary. These riders all had exceptional seats, and although sometimes unbalanced in their hands a bit, they were quick to correct themselves. It was actually a more pleasant situation that your average school horse program. The love these riders offered their horses was more affection than most of us feel comfortable with exhibiting in public. But their lack of inhibitions, their clear-cut emotions suit these animals more than the confined example of affection we professionals normally administer.

Many of us have horses that can no longer perform at the capacity that we require. (I have more than most...) But these horses don't have to be useless, wandering souls waiting for their last days to arrive. I have agonized over what job I can give some of mine, and most of them I can. Babysitting youngsters, teaching people to groom, ponying young horses, or even as a disciplinarian. But one of mine needs more. He missed being "my" horse, and the attention that went with it. He wanted to be a horse to somebody. So despite the tears and pain it may bring me to part with him, perhaps it is time I let someone else enjoy him. Then he can be 'special' again to someone equally special.

Miss Helen's Place is located at 11413 E. Hilltop Road in Franktown, CO. Helen Witherspoon is the director of the program and is NARHA and EAGALA level 1 certified. She tries to cater to the individual needs of each rider to allow for as much independence as possible. As with any organization, they are always looking for volunteers and donations of almost any sort. To contact Helen, call: (303) 840-0476



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		Lassie
	Bismarck	Bolero
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	Gesa	Gaston
		Dohle

TECHNICAL DELEGATES, JUDGES & CERTIFIED INSTRUCTORS

DRESSAGE JUDGES RATINGS & LEVELS QUALIFIED TO JUDGE

Status	Status	Levels	Status	Status	Levels
USDF "L"	Learner (not a judge)	Training-Second	USEF "S"	Senior	All Levels
USEF "r"	Recorded	Training-Second	FEI "I"	International	All Levels
USEF "R"	Registered	Training-Fourth	FEI "O"	Olympic	All Levels

JUDGES

FEI "I"

Janet Brown Foy (CO)
(719) 633-0231

USEF 'S'

Debbie Riehl-Rodriguez (CO)
(303) 642-7708
Sandra Hotz (CO)
(303) 817-2030

USEF 'R'

Janet "Dolly" Hannon (CO)
(303) 467-3221
Kristi Wysocki
(303) 648-9877

USEF 'r'

Amy Jablonovsky
(970) 493-2833
Suzanne Zimmer
(303) 478-8325

USDF 'L' Graduate

Simone Ahern*
719-749-9274
Ilyse Auringer
970-588-3859
Francie Brashear
(303) 840-7626

Julie Burt
719-852-5269
RaeAnn Cook*
(970) 225-1408
Emmy Detlof
(719) 495-4188
Marti Foster*
(303) 277-1132
Beth Geier
303-673-9840
Janet Goodrich-Spear
303-664-0152
Linda Ohlson Gross*
303-840-9818
Gwen Kaawalooa*
(303) 646-4363
Ann MacGuire*
(307) 237-9148
Sarah Martin*
(303) 652-1158
Kathleen Mayger
970-310-8729
Bridget Milnes
(303) 660-4986
KC Parkins-Kyle
(303) 841-9953
Sally Robertson
303-237-6915

Kathy Simard*
(720) 981-4448
Valerie Spahr
970-922-5650
Maria Wasson
(303) 682-9594
Regina Wendler
970-879-7505
Simone Windeler
719-540-2000

Dressage Sport Horse Breeding Judge "R"

Janet Brown Foy
(719) 633-0231
Debbie Riehl-Rodriguez
(303) 642-7708
Kristi Wysocki
(303) 648-9877

Technical Delegates USEF

Eva-Marie Adolphi (UT)
(801) 254-3247
Veronica Holt (CO)
(303) 646-3829
Laurie Mactavish (CO)
(970) 926-8666
Deeda Randle (WY)
(307) 638-6737

Catherine Siemiet
(719) 942-5311
Diane Stanley (MT)
(406) 652-4061
Libby Stokes (CO)
(303) 688-2795

Technical Delegates RMDS

Joan Clay
(970) 490-1927
Jeannette Hillery (CO)
(303) 494-7718
Jane McBride
(719) 598-4496
Susan Selby
970-227-9530
M. Elaine Thomas
(719) 495-1510

USDF Certified Instructors

Training - 2nd
Simone Ahern
(719) 749-9274
Jill Cantor Lee
(970) 686-9163
RaeAnn Cook
(970) 225-1408
Janet "Dolly" Hannon
(303) 279-4546

Sabine Kallas
(307) 733-9497
Ellene Kloepfer
(303) 828-3879
Clayton Martin
(303) 652-1158
Sheri Mattei-Mead
(970) 669-3733
Kathryn Meistrell
(303) 550-5130
Bridget Milnes
(303) 660-4986
Kathy Simard
(720) 981-4448
Kristi Wysocki
(303) 648-9877

USDF Certified Instructors

Training - 4th
Nancy Chesney Devaney
(303) 681-2516
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CLINICIANS COMING TO OUR REGION *see calendar for details*

If you have a clinician coming to your barn, please list it on the RMDS calendar and we will include it on our clinician list!

Paul Belasik
Janet Brown Foy
Jill Cantor Lee
Steffen Peters

Chapter News

CSDA PRESENTS OUR THIRD ANNUAL "AN EVENING UNDER THE LIGHTS"

The event will be held on May 20th, 2006 at the Norris-Penrose Event Center as part of our Dressage at the Peak show.

As always we are featuring FEI rides, Freestyles and Jr/YR FEI tests. These rides are being judged and are part of the regular competition. It is a unique opportunity to ride in front of a larger audience and gain valuable experience.

For the spectators a chance to watch all the Freestyles and upper level rides. There will be an open bar and food will be available. Advanced tickets are available for \$7 through www.csdressage.com or by calling (719) 683-8435. Tickets at the door will be \$10. Participating riders and one groom will have free entry.



RMDS POSITIONS UP FOR BID

RMDS Omnibus Production

RMDS Centaur Production

RMDS Central Office Manager

**RMDS Winter Wake-Up Show Management
team for 2007 and 2008 Shows (must bid
on both)**

**RMDS Championships Show Management
team for 2007 and 2008 Shows (must bid
on both)**

All interested parties must submit bids prior to Executive Board Meeting on March 9th. Bids will be voted on at that time.

THIS SPACE IS RESERVED FOR CHAPTER NEWS

Rocky Mountain Saddlery by Petra

P.O. Box 623
Elizabeth, CO 80107
303-646-9530

www.rockymountainsaddlerybypetra.com

Announces

*An Invitation to Ralf Schmitzer Clinics
20-23 April 06 at Reiterhof Ranch, Elizabeth*

and

*27-30 April 06 at Whispering Winds Farm,
Colorado Springs*

- *Riding lessons according to the Classic School of Thought with Ralf Schmitzer from Germany.*
- *All Levels Welcome!*
- *A total of 10 riders will be accepted and should commit to all four days.*
- *Cost per Clinic \$350.00*
- *Auditors Welcome, No Admission Charge. Please Pre-register.*

**Please take a moment and read about
Ralf Schmitzer and the Classic School of Thought
at**

**www.rockymountainsaddlerybypetra.com
Call Petra at 303-646-9530 to register.**

2006 SHOWS & EVENTS

FEBRUARY 2006

- 3-5 Pre Cert-Training-2nd Level - Lilo Fore & Debbie Bowman Closed**
Columbine Equestrian Center
Contact RMDS Central Office 720-890-7825 rmds@indra.com
NEED DEMO RIDERS & HORSES
- 3-4 Nancy Smith Clinic - Hidden Ridge Farm, Parker**
K.C. Parkins Kyle 303-841-9953
- 5 NCDA Schooling Show-Bay Breeze Farm-Johnstown**
Contact Sherry Jefcoat 970-530-0772
Mile Hi Pony Club Schooling Show-Douglas County Fairgrounds
Contact Lisa Wiggins 303-598-3619 lisawiggins1@aol.com
- 11 Continuing Educ. for TD's & Competition Mgmt - OPEN**
8:30 am start - Veronica Holt
Jane Donnelly, Kathleen Mayger, Heather Petersen
Contact: RMDS Central Office 720-890-7825
- 16 Janet Brown Foy Clinic - Black Forest Area**
Contact Patricia Janssen 719-749-9866 patricia@parfaitranch.com
- 18 Columbine Spring Series #1-Littleton-RMDS**
Contact Kate Engel 303-840-1559
- 25 CSDA Schooling Show - Penrose Stadium**
Contact Heather Petersen 719-683-8435 slush@drwg.net
- 26 CSDA Show Series #1 - Penrose Stadium-RMDS**
Contact Heather Petersen 719-683-8435 slush@drwg.net

MARCH 2006

- 4 Kathleen Mayger Clinic - Whispering Wind Farm, Monument CO**
Judi Tobias, (719)593-7310 horsinaroundevents@yahoo.com.
- 5 NCDA Schooling Show-Ft Collins Equestrian Center**
Contact Sherry Jefcoat 970-530-0772
- 9 RMDS Executive Board Meeting-6: 30 pm Perkins Restaurant I-25 & Buchtel-Denver**
Contact Central Office 720-890-7825
- 11 Columbine Spring Series #2-Littleton-RMDS**
Contact Kate Engel 303-840-1559
- 16 Janet Brown Foy Clinic - Black Forest Area**
Contact Patricia Janssen 719-749-9866 patricia@parfaitranch.com
- 18-19 Winter Wake Up Show - Colorado Horse Park - USEF**
High Performance Qualifying Show and NAYRC Qualifier
Contact Heather Petersen 719-683-8435 slush@drwg.net
- 31-2 Equine Touch Level 1 & 2 Clinic- Raian Kaiser & Andrea Datz-Loveland**
Raian Kaiser 970-203-0725 equinetouchinfo@yahoo.com

APRIL 2006

- 1 CSDA Schooling Show - Penrose Stadium**
Contact Heather Petersen 719-683-8435 slush@drwg.net
- 2 CSDA Show Series #2 - Penrose Stadium-RMDS**
Contact Heather Petersen 719-683-8435 slush@drwg.net
- 2 NCDA Schooling Show-Ft Collins Equestrian Center**
Contact Sherry Jefcoat 970-530-0772
- 6 Janet Brown Foy Clinic - Black Forest Area**
Contact Patricia Janssen 719-749-9866 patricia@parfaitranch.com

- 8-9 Steffen Peters & Janet Brown Symposium - Penrose Stadium**
Contact Heather Petersen 719-683-8435, slush@drwg.net
- 20 Janet Brown Foy Clinic - Black Forest Area**
Contact Patricia Janssen 719-749-9866 patricia@parfaitranch.com
- 22 Foothills Annual Ride-A-Test - Table Mountain Ranch**
Contact Christian Hawley 303-669-6888 ilovefirmus@yahoo.com22
- Columbine Spring Series #3-Littleton-RMDS**
Contact Kate Engel 303-840-1559
- 23 Boulder Valley Spring FLING - Singletree-Boulder-RMDS**
Contact Barb Goldman 303-666-4528 boelandjarb@hotmail.com
- 21-23 USDF CERTIFIED INSTRUCTOR FINAL TESTING Training-4th Level - Penrose Stadium**
RMDS Central Office 720-890-7825 rmds@indra.com
NEED DEMO RIDERS & HORSES
- 29-30 Columbine Dressage Show #1-Littleton-USEF**
Contact KC Parkins-Kyle 303-841-9953

MAY 2006

- 7 Autumn Hill Sunday Series #1 - Autumn Hill-Longmont-RMDS**
Contact Jane Donnelly 970-669-5775
- 11 RMDS Executive Board Meeting-6: 30 pm Perkins Restaurant I-25 & Buchtel-Denver**
Contact Central Office 720-890-7825
- 12 Grand Valley Dressage Spring Show #1 - Gr. Jct - USEF**
Contact Zoe Krakowski 970-245-7444 songlady@rentalsgj.com
- 13 Dressage for the Cure - Cottonwood Riding Club - Littleton - RMDS**
Contact Heather Petersen 719-683-8435 slush@drwg.net
- 13 -14 Grand Valley Dressage Spring Show #2 - Gr. Jct - USEF**
Contact Zoe Krakowski 970-245-7444 songlady@rentalsgj.com
- 20 Janet Brown Foy Clinic - Black Forest Area**
Contact Patricia Janssen 719-749-9866 patricia@parfaitranch.com
- 20-21 Dressage at the Peak - Penrose Stadium-USEF**
Contact Heather Petersen 719-683-8435 slush@drwg.net
- 26 Dressage in the Plains I-Peyton-USEF**
Contact Camille Griffin 303-663-0041
- 27-28 Dressage in the Plains II-Peyton-USEF**
Contact Camille Griffin 303-663-0041
- 27-28 Dalwhinnie Dressage Show-Ridgway-USEF-YR Qualifier**
Contact Veronica Holt 303-646-3829 veronicholt@comcast.net

JUNE 2006

- 2 Dressage at High Prairie #1- Colorado Horse Park - Parker - USEF**
Contact Jennifer Killinger 818-841-3554 jennifer@glenroys.com
- 3 Dressage at High Prairie #2- Colorado Horse Park - Parker - USEF**
Contact Jennifer Killinger 818-841-3554 jennifer@glenroys.com
- 4 Dressage at High Prairie #3 - Colorado Horse Park - Parker - USEF**
Contact Jennifer Killinger 818-841-3554 jennifer@glenroys.com
- 3-4 USDF "L" D2 Session - Dressage at High Prairie - Marilyn Heath**
Contact Heather Petersen 719-683-8435 slush@drwg.net

2006 SHOWS & EVENTS

- 3-4 **Creekside Dressage – Huntley, MT USEF**
Contact Barbara Ramlow 406-348-2280 crkside@nemontel.net
- 10-11 **NCDRA Rocky Mountain Dressage Classic - Cheyenne, WY-USEF**
Contact Jane Donnelly 970-669-5775 dendy20@msn.com
- 10-11 **Millbrook Farms Dressage Show – Lehi, UT – USEF**
Contact Jan Lawrence 801-768-8739 millbrk@xmission.com
- 17-18 **Black Hills Dressage Show-Rapid City,SD-USEF**
Contact Sue Hinker 605-348-2816 thinker@rap.midco.net
- 17-18 **Columbine Dressage Show #2-Littleton-USEF**
Contact KC Parkins-Kyle 303-841-9953
- 24-25 **Autumn Hill Dressage Festival – Longmont – USEF**
Contact Jane Donnelly 970-669-5775
- 30 **Dressage at the Peak II Warm up– Penrose Stad.-USEF**
Contact Heather Petersen 719-683-8435 slush@drwgw.net

JULY 2006

- 1-2 **Dressage at the Peak II Summer Show– Penrose Stadium-USEF**
Contact Heather Petersen 719-683-8435 slush@drwgw.net
- 9 **Autumn Hill Sunday Series #2 – Autumn Hill, Longmont -RMDS**
Contact Jane Donnelly 970-669-5775
- 13 **RMDS Executive Board Meeting-6: 30 pm Perkins Restaurant I-25 & Buchtel-Denver**
Contact Central Office 720-890-7825
- 14 **Rocky Mountain Iberian All Breeds Dressage Show-Castle Rock-RMDS**
Contact Kris Garrett 303-841-2875 temerarioVII@aol.com
- 15 **Twin Peaks Dressage #1 – Tomora Training Center-Greeley-USEF**
Martha Fischer 303-652-1648 marthafischer@earthlink.net
- 16 **Twin Peaks Dressage #2 – Tomora Training Center-Greeley-USEF**
Martha Fischer 303-652-1648 marthafischer@earthlink.net
- 15-16 **Tri State Summer Dressage Show-Riverton,WY-USEF**
Denise Denhardt 307-332-4722 happyhalfhalts@hotmail.com
- 21-23 **Autumn Hill Summer Dressage Festival – Longmont – USEF**
Contact Jane Donnelly 970-669-5775
- 29 **Pendragon Stud RMDS Dressage Show #1 – Larkspur –**
Contact Leslie Terry 303-688-4147

AUGUST 2006

- 4 **Dressage in Rockies #1– Colo Horse Park–Parker – USEF**
Contact Jennifer Killinger 818-841-3554 jennifer@glenroys.com
- 5 **Dressage in Rockies #2– Colo Horse Park –Parker – USEF**
Contact Jennifer Killinger 818-841-3554 jennifer@glenroys.com
- 6 **Dressage in Rockies #3 – Colo Horse Park –Parker – USEF**
Contact Jennifer Killinger 818-841-3554 jennifer@glenroys.com
- 5-6 **USDF “L” Final – Dressage in the Rockies – Marilyn Heath, Lois Yukins**
Contact Heather Petersen 719-683-8435 slush@drwgw.net
- 5-6 **Cheyenne Dressage & Eventing Club Dressage Show-Cheyenne,WY-USEF**
Contact: Rowena Heckert 307-632-4151

- 12 **Foothills Chapter Dressage Show-Golden-RMDS**
Contact Susan Kracklauer 303-421-3511
- 13 **Autumn Hill Sunday Series #2 – Longmont-RMDS**
Contact Jane Donnelly 970-669-5775
- 26 **Utah Dressage Society Annual Show #1-Bluffdale, UT USEF**
Contact Eva-Maria Adolphi 801-254-3247 adolphi@redrock.net
- 27 **Utah Dressage Society Annual Show #2-Bluffdale, UT USEF**
Contact Eva-Maria Adolphi 801-254-3247 adolphi@redrock.net
- 27 **Aspen Ridge RMDS Dressage Show– Penrose Stadium**
Contact Heather Petersen 719-683-8435 slush@drwgw.net
- 27 **CDMHA Dressage Show-Loveland-USEF**
Susan Rocha 307-635-3296 sue@virtuallyoutsidethebox.com

SEPTEMBER 2006

- 2 **Boulder Valley So Long to Summer – Somerset Farm-Longmont-RMDS**
Barb Goldman 303-666-4528 boelandjarb@hotmail.com
- 2 **Grand Valley Fall Show – Grand Junction – USEF**
Contact Zoe Krakowski 970-245-7444 songlady@rentalsgj.com
- 3 **GVDS Western Slope Championships and Open Show – Grand Junction – USEF**
Contact Zoe Krakowski 970-245-7444 songlady@rentalsgj.com
- 9 **Pendragon Stud RMDS Dressage Show #2 – Larkspur –**
Contact Leslie Terry 303-688-4147
- 10 **Table Mountain Ranch Dressage Show-Golden-RMDS**
Contact Peg Cannell 303-279-4546 cannell747@aol.com
- 14 **RMDS Executive Board Meeting-6: 30 pm Perkins Restaurant I-25 & Buchtel-Denver**
Contact Central Office 720-890-7825
- 21 **2006 Cosequin/Breeders Championship & RMDS Breed Championships & Open Breed Show**
Contact Heather Petersen 719-683-8435, slush@drwgw.net
- 22-24 **RMDS Dressage Championships & Dressage Open Show -Parker-USEF**
Contact Heather Petersen 719-683-8435, slush@drwgw.net

OCTOBER 2006

- 6-8 **Region V Championships – Expo Albuquerque, NM**
Contact Donald Simpson 505-550-6735 dsimpson62@aol.com

NOVEMBER 2006

- 11 **RMDS Board of Directors**
Contact Heather Petersen 719-683-8435, slush@drwgw.net

SEPTEMBER 2007, 2008

- 26-30 **2007 RMDS Dressage Championships & Dressage Open Show -Parker-USEF**
RMDS Breed Championships & Open Breed Show
Contact Heather Petersen 719-683-8435 slush@drwgw.net
- 24-28 **2008 RMDS Dressage Championships & Dressage Open Show -Parker-USEF**
RMDS Breed Championships & Open Breed Show
Contact Heather Petersen 683-8435, slush@drwgw.net

RMDS and Centaur Information

DRESSAGE TRAINERS/INSTRUCTORS GROW YOUR BUSINESS!

If you'd like your business posted on the new RMDS Webpage send information to Michael Petersen, 5575 Heatherbrook Ct, Colorado Springs, CO 80915, 719-573-0398 or email webmaster@rmds.org (make subject read "Trainer Info"). Include your: name, phone #, address, email address, barn location(s) where you train, if you travel/clinic, your experience/qualifications, what level you train through, what special awards earned (like USDF medals), if you have lesson horses available, and any other specialties.

Cost is only \$50 annually. The website currently averages 200 hits per month on the trainer page, and RMDS receives 25-30 emails a month requesting names of trainers/instructors in the RMDS region. Don't miss this opportunity to expand your client base and gain recognition.

Mail check to RMDS Central Office, 2942 Park Lake Drive, Boulder, CO 80301.

RMDS EXECUTIVE BOARD

All RMDS Executive Board meetings occur on the second Thursday of every odd numbered month. The steering committee meetings will be held on the second Monday of every even numbered month. The Board of Governors meeting is held on the second Saturday of November. Call the Central Office for exact dates.

ADULT AMATEUR

A copy of your USEF Adult Amateur Card must be filed with RMDS each year to update your record with RMDS and to qualify for RMDS A/A year end awards.

RMDS Central Office

Phone number: 720-890-7825
Address: RMDS Central Office
2942 Park Lake Drive, Boulder, CO 80301

Contact: Beth Geier, rmds@indra.com, www.rmds.org

Website Contact: Michael Petersen
5575 Heatherbrook Ct,
Colorado Springs, CO 80915
webmaster@rmds.org

NOTE: All competitors should do a score check with the Central Office, especially prior to Awards. Call the Central Office at 720-890-7825 or email rmds@indra.com

SHOW INFORMATION

ALWAYS CALL THE CONTACT, UNLESS YOU HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED ALREADY, AS DATES, TIMES AND PLACES MAY VARY.

CALENDAR SUBMISSIONS

Submissions of events for inclusion in the Centaur calendar need to be received no later than the 5th of the month prior to the month that the item is to run. Please be sure to spell all names (clinicians/judge, location, contact) and include a phone number where you can be reached with any questions. Send all calendar items and/or requiring RMDS sanctions to: Beth Geier, RMDS Central Office, (720) 890-7825

RMDS CHAPTER MEETING SCHEDULE:

Boulder Valley, 1st Monday – even months

Contact: Barb Goldman – 303-666-4528

Colorado Springs, 3rd Tuesday – location TBD

Contact Simone Windeler - 719-287-2040 or check www.csdressage.org

Foothills, 2nd Wednesday – every month;

Table Mtn Ranch; Contact: Tina Wright 720-297-5192

Grand Valley, 1st Thursday – every month; roaming around

Contact: Kelly Schlager – 970-242-5935

High Plains, TBA;

Contact: Terri Wallace – 303-695-8566

Northern Colorado, 1st Thursday – every month;

CSU Vet Teaching Hosp.; Jennifer Nisbet 970-221-5545

Penrose, 1st Wednesday – every month; Roaming around;

Contact: Sharon Ghilarducci – 719-462-5760

Tri State, TBA;

Contact: Darlene Vaughan – 307-332-726

Western Colorado;

Contact: Barbara McElnea – 970-963-3234

Website ads provide your event with high visibility on the RMDS homepage. Because of the implicit connection with RMDS by being on the homepage, we reserve the right to:

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

Your ad will run for one month from the date it first appears on the website. Unless the webmaster is notified in advance (webmaster@rmds.org), the ad will be removed from the website once the date for the event being advertised has passed. Please limit content of ads to 20 words. Email and website addresses will be displayed as links.

BECOME A CENTAUR COLUMNIST

Features: 1000-1500 words. Find a great story and take the time to write it up as a feature.

Clinic Review: 750-1000 words. Write up in detail what you learned from your favorite clinician. Include name, date, and location.

Junior Corner: 500-750 words. Hey kids! Tell the Centaur what is going on in your area, profile juniors or horses, write in about special awards won, or just anything in general with riders 21 and under.

Ask The Barn Princess, Trainer, or Judge: Back by popular demand from our readers. Have a burning question that you don't know who to ask? This is your chance! Send your questions to the Barn Princess, Trainer, or Judge via the editor's e-mail. Each question will be answered personally.

Letters to the Editor: Have any article ideas or just have a comment about the Centaur? Here is your opportunity to voice your opinion. Write a letter to the editor!

Chapter News: Attention all RMDS Chapters. Every month there is a 1/4 page just for your chapter news. There is no charge for this 1/4 page, so submit your material ASAP!

NEWSLETTER NOTES

- The Centaur newsletter is published monthly .
- To guarantee that ads and articles will be run in any given month, they must be received with full payment by the 10th of the month prior to month of publication! i.e. January 10 for February issue.
- If not received by that date, they will be placed in the following edition if not time-sensitive

IMPORTANT ADDRESSES

Articles: Please send all articles for editorial review to:
Kathleen Mayger, kathleendonnely20@hotmail.com
2304 Brianna Ct. Johnstown CO 80534(970) 587-5546

The Centaur appreciates articles submitted by the membership for publication. Please remember – all articles submitted are subject to editorial changes and/or corrections at the discretion of the editorial staff.

Advertisement Production and Mailing Specifications:

- DUE DATE IS 10TH OF THE MONTH PRIOR TO MONTH OF PUBLICATION i.e. December 10 for January issue
- No Ads will be accepted without full payment.

DISPLAY ADVERTISING

For information about corporate advertising and/or sponsorships, please contact Beverly Swanson at (303) 584-9904 or email at bswanson2003@qwest.net.

Artwork must be provided in electronic format only. The following are acceptable file formats:

- Collected Quark document (all fonts and images included)
- Press Ready PDF
- Adobe Illustrator with type converted to outlines
- Adobe Photoshop 300 dpi jpeg, eps or tiff file

No substitutes can be accepted. If your ad is submitted in a file format other than those listed above, you will be contacted regarding an additional separate charge for file conversion and/or redesign.

Please send a printed copy of your ad with your payment to represent your expectation of what the submitted electronic file should look like. These printed copies CANNOT be accepted as final art.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Classifieds may be submitted via e-mail to Beverly Swanson at bswanson2003@qwest.net. You may also type or clearly handwrite your classified and mail it to the address below. In all cases, a hard copy of your classified should accompany your payment. Please try to limit your ad to 50 words or less. Space constraints may require that we edit your ad to fit, or an additional charge per line may be requested.

PAYMENT AND DELIVERY

E-mail electronic ads to Beverly Swanson at bswanson2003@qwest.net

Mail checks and hard copy to:

RMDS Central Office, attn: Beth Geier
2942 Park Lake Drive, Boulder, CO 80301

MEMBER AD RATES AND SIZE SPECIFICATIONS

Classifieds	\$12 per item for sale	
With picture (digital only)	\$22 per item for sale	
Full Page	\$125.00	7.5" x 9.5"
Inside Back Page	\$175.00	7.5" x 9.5"
Half Page	\$85.00	7.5" x 4.75"
Outside Back Page	\$100.00	7.5" x 4.75"
1/4 Page	\$50.00	3.625" x 4.625"
1/8 Page	\$25.00/issue	3.625" x 2.25"
	\$255.00/year	

ADVERTORIALS

Articles submitted that are considered "advertising" 1/4, 1/2, or full page formats are priced as above with photos included for an additional \$15/each. An editorial fee may be charged at a rate of \$25 per hour if required (by decision of editorial staff). 15% discount on all 1/4, 1/2 and full-page yearly advertising contracts.

Unsolicited manuscripts and photographs accompanied by return postage will be handled with care, but publisher, artist, and editor are not responsible for their safety or guaranteed return. Submitted articles herein are the opinion of the author and do not necessarily reflect the policies or position of the Rocky Mountain Dressage Society Executive Board or the Centaur Editor. RMDS defers copyright responsibility to submitting author.

RMDS 2006 MEMBERSHIP FORM

- Individual = \$50 Business = \$75 Lifetime = \$650
- Centaur newsletter only = \$35 (no other benefits)
- After one family member joins as an individual member, others in family may join at \$35 each.

Please include all information for person designated as representative.

All individual members receive the Centaur newsletter and the RMDS Omnibus.

RMDS is a group member organization of United States Dressage Federation and RMDS members are automatically USDF Group Members.

Indicate Local Chapter:

- Boulder Valley Northern Colorado (Fort Collins)
- High Plains (Parker, Littleton and Aurora) Colorado Springs
- Foothills (Golden, Evergreen) Western CO (Aspen, Carbondale)
- Penrose (Cañon City) Tri-State (Wyoming, adjacent states)
- Grand Valley (Grand Junction) Renewing member need new binder (\$6)

Name _____

Address _____ City _____

County _____ State/Zip _____

Phone (Home) () _____ (e-mail) _____

USDF No. _____ Occupation _____

Type of Membership

(✓ one) Individual Business Family CENTAUR Only

Total Fees _____ Please remove my name from lists sold by RMDS

Date of Birth _____

Be sure to send a copy of your 2006 Adult Amateur Card from USEF along with this membership form!

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

2006 HORSE REGISTRATION FORM

- Horses must be registered with RMDS to be eligible for RMDS year-end awards and for horse-of-the year award.
- To be eligible for year end awards, both owner and rider must be members of RMDS and the horse must be registered with RMDS.
- The name on this horse registration must be the same used on horse show entry forms.
- \$35 for a lifetime registration of horse, \$10 change fee.

Horse Name _____ Sex _____

Breed (if known) _____

Breed No. (include copy of papers) _____

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

Address of Owner _____

Owners Phone (Home) _____ (e-mail) _____

Name of Representative (if owner is a business)

Mail form and check payable to RMDS to:

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

Membership renewal is January 1 annually.

Any memberships received after Oct. will be issued for the following year.

RMDS 2006 L Program

RMDS will be offering a USDF L Program D2 and Final in 2006 - an excellent opportunity to retest for those of you who may have participated previously and didn't pass or for those of you who would like to graduate with Distinction in order to move on to the USEF "r" Judges' Program. The D2 will be at Dressage at High Prairie and the Final will be at Dressage in the Rockies. If you are interested in participating, space is very limited, so please call Heather Petersen ASAP for a space - 719-338-0854. We will also be offering a full L program review in January.

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Breeding...cont. from pg. 8

For Ria's twenty-eight day ultrasound I was lucky to have a local vet with a portable ultrasound come to the barn for the procedure. That saved both Ria and my nerves in trailering her for the exam. I got to see the embryo on the small screen. As the vet said, it resembles more a worm than a horse, but it was the most beautiful worm I had ever seen. I could even see its heart beat! Ria stayed on Regumate until she hit the forty-two day mark. On that day a blood draw determined her hormone levels were about double what they needed to be. Luckily this was not a bad thing. It meant we could decrease and then end the Regumate.

I tried to train and show Ria that summer, but it was

just not in the cards. She tired easily and her saddle quickly began to look like a postage stamp on her back! She also became very stressed on a trip to High Prairie, a place she had been many times before. If you are planning on breeding a mare you compete, plan on two missed show seasons depending on how she handles the pregnancy. Ria made it clear it was better for her to stay home and prepare to be a mom. I was able to move Ria to a pasture at the breeding facility at the beginning of November. My show horse went out to pasture with a small band of broodmares. I was worried, but she survived. Next month...It's a boy!

CONTINUING EDUCATION "TD" & SHOW MANAGERS OPEN TO EVERYONE!

Technical Delegates: 9:00 am with Veronica Holt

Want to find out what happens behind the scenes of a show?

Want to be a TD?

Need to hone your skills?

Need clarification of the rules and/or become aware of the new ones?

Learn to measure ponies for RMDS only shows!

This workshop is for you!

Show Managers/Secretaries: 1:00 pm with Jane Donnelly & Heather Petersen

RMDS POSITIONS UP FOR BID

RMDS Omnibus Production

RMDS Centaur Production

RMDS Central Office Manager

RMDS Winter Wake-Up Show Management team for 2007 and 2008 Shows (must bid on both)

RMDS Championships Show Management team for 2007 and 2008 Shows (must bid on both)

All interested parties must submit bids prior to Executive Board Meeting on March 9th. Bids will be voted on at that time.

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***TRAINERS**

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***INSTRUCTORS**

Janet Foy and Steffen Peters will give examples and demonstrate training exercises to help the horses/riders achieve the correct basics and balance for their level

***JUDGES**

FEI "I" Janet Foy who is on the L Faculty and examines and teaches r, R and S judges and has judged every major championship in North America and World Cup Finals Abroad will explain the mystery of "Why not a '10'???"

This Symposium has been presented to RAVE REVIEWS on the East and West Coast.
DO NOT MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY!!!

DEMONSTRATION RIDERS STILL NEEDED

Download Demo Rider information and symposium reservation forms by visiting the website at www.dressagestrategies.com or calling 719-260-1566 / 719-683-8435 with your fax or address

Early Reservations: \$150/2 days or \$90/1 day includes snacks & lunch

Late Reservations (after 4/1/06) or at door \$190/2 days or \$100/1 day includes snacks & lunch

Saturday Registration begins at 8:00 am; Symposium starts at 8:30 am

VENDOR SPACE ALSO AVAILABLE





USDF Region Five Report

by Theresa Hunt, Region 5 Director

The FEI-Level Trainers' Conference Jan 15-16 in Florida featuring Hubertus Schmidt was a huge success. Several trainers from our region attended and hopefully will share their experience with us. On the horizon, Robert Dover will lead the 2006 Kentucky Horse Park All-American Freestyle Symposium on April 21-23 in Lexington, KY. The symposium will include a trade show, horse farm tours, and many other events. Prior to the Symposium the USEF will hold its Judges' Forum (invitation only). USDF will hold the National Education Center ribbon-cutting and opening reception on April 21 from 4:30-6:30 pm at the park. A special evening gala freestyle performance, choreographed with a live performance by the Lexington Philharmonic will be held on April 22 at 6 pm. For more information go to www.kyhorsepark.com. This would be a great opportunity to visit the horse capital of the USA.

FREE MONEY! Each region has \$1500 in grant funding for adult-education opportunities. These funds can be used to reduce the price for educational events for adults, such as clinics, seminars and training seminars. Paso del Norte is planning a "Balimo Seat Symposium" May 6-7 that sounds like a great way to improve one's riding. Now these grants do not have to meet a monetary deficit in a program. However, it is a good way to make them more affordable for our members. Email me

for more information. The next fiscal year starts April 1st. We did not use all of our funds last year, let's try and take advantage of every penny this next year! We also have \$500 available for USDF Adult Team Championships that we did not use last year. Team competitions are a fun way to promote dressage competition and attract new members. For more information contact the USDF office or go to the website www.usdf.org/Programs/AdultTeam/StateLine.asp.

For show managers, the FEI score sheets are available at www.horsesport.org. This year there are new FEI Junior Tests for 2006. Starting this year the North American Young Rider Championships has expanded to include juniors. Each region can have a team of juniors (equivalent to fourth level) that will compete along with the advanced young riders at the championships. Please contact the FEI Junior/Young Rider Coordinators, USDF, or myself if you are interested or have questions.

Happy Riding!

Theresa Hunt

Region 5 Director

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2006 USEF National Grand Prix Championships
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2006 RMDS Junior Young Rider Team Challenge

Organizers:

2White Feet

Judges:

Janet Brown Foy (S, FEI I), Colorado Springs, CO

Lilo Fore (S, FEI I), Santa Rosa, CA

Maryal Barnett (S, FEI C), Holt, MI

Opening date – February 1, 2006 Closing Date – March 10, 2006

Fees (complete list in prizelist)


Training - Fourth Level	\$20.00
FEI Level / Musical Freestyles	\$25.00
Stabling	\$65 Friday night through Sunday PM
Additional nights	\$35.00 per each extra night (24 hour period)
Day Stall	\$25 per day (7am-7pm)
Grounds (trailer in)	\$10 per day
Office fee	\$20 (non-refundable)
Post-entry Surcharge	\$25.00

Arenas

All weather footing in competition and warm-up arenas. One covered competition, one covered warm-up arena, several outdoor arenas. If show warrants, outdoor competition arenas may be added in good weather. For longeing area inquire at show office. No foot traffic, or lessons, in warm-up area. Trainers and friends must abide by and respect these rules and their enforcement by our hard working stewards.

Complete prizelist available at www.rmids.org or www.2whitefeet.com
or by calling/emailing Heather Petersen at 719-683-8435 / slush@drgw.net

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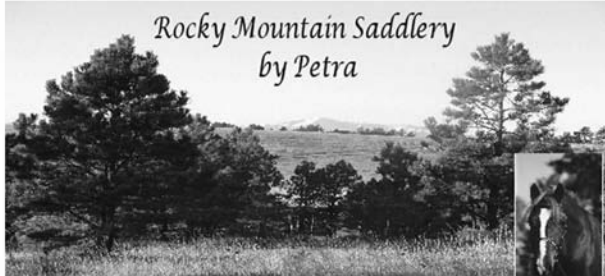


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Be sure to attend so we may continue to bring outstanding clinics, shows and events!

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- Jan 28 Judges Continuing Education – Table Mountain Ranch - Lois Yukins & Dolly Hannon
- Feb 3-5 Instructors' Pre certification-Training – 2nd Level – Columbine Equestrian Center - Lilo Fore & Debbie Bowman **NEED DEMO RIDERS**
- Feb 11 TD and Show Managers Continuing Education – Table Mountain Ranch – Veronica Holt; Jane Donnelly & Heather Petersen
- Mar 18-19 RMDS Winter Wake up – Colorado Horse Park
- April 21-23 Instructors' Final Testing – Training – 4th Level - Penrose Stadium – Gerhard Poliz & Cindy Sydnor **NEED DEMO RIDERS**
- Sept 21 Breed Show and Breed Championship
- Sept 22-24 RMDS Open and Championship Show
- Oct 14-15 Region V Championship – Parker, CO
- Nov 11 RMDS Board of Governors meeting
JR/YR Camp

ALSO (if we can find dates and people):


Freestyle Clinic, Understanding Bits, Understanding and Treating Lameness

Read the Centaur for details on these and other RMDS events.

Contact the RMDS Central Office for more information 720-890-7825 or rmds@rmds.org



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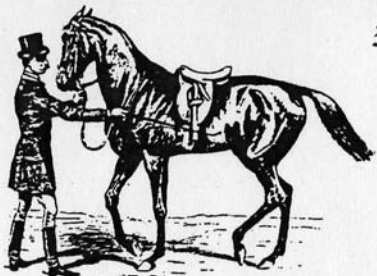
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To place an ad: please see instructions under RMDS Info on page 17

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FOR SALE: Hanoverian mare, 6yo in June, bay, 15.2 by Feinbrand (Feiner Stern) / Walker (Weltmeyer/Donnerhall) Schooling 2nd-3rd movements w/clean green flying change. FEI potential & type, just small. Suitable for experienced amateur or professional. Contact: Grant Schneidman/303.841.5280/gsschneidman@comcast.net

Beautiful Flaxen Morgan Gelding. Registered, 15.1h, 9 yo, going 1st level, schooling 2nd. Moves like an exceptionally expressive warmblood with '8' gaits. Very sweet, show experience, no vices. Prefer lease, but would considering selling @ \$12k. Jill Canter Lee: 970-209-8491

Available for 1/2 lease or purchase: Black and white Paint/Hanoverian mare; easily does half-pass, shoulder-in, renvers, travers, great horse for someone who wants to learn movements. Purchase for \$15,000. 1/2 Lease would be in Larkspur area with large indoor arena and an outdoor dressage arena. She's ready for the show season. 303-681-2215.

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All interested parties must submit bids prior to Executive Board Meeting on March 9th. Bids will be voted on at that time.

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