

# THE CENTAUR

## USEF Shelves Dressage Qualification Standards Until 2009

**Lexington, Kentucky** - On January 13, the final day of the United States Equestrian Federation (USEF) Annual Meeting, the Board of Directors considered rule change proposals for all breeds and disciplines. Included in this review was the much-discussed performance standards proposal from the Dressage Committee, which would establish a qualification process for competing at certain levels at USEF-licensed dressage competitions.

After extensive discussion, the board voted to officially table the proposal until the next USEF Annual Meeting in January 2009, but also included in their motion to specifically note its support of the concept and charged the Dressage Committee to bring back a detailed proposal for final approval.

"There was overwhelming support from the USEF Board for this concept of performance standards for dressage," said USEF President David O'Connor. "This was an important first step. We look forward to seeing the specific proposals as they are further developed."

The Dressage Committee will further develop the specifics of the performance standards proposal over the coming

months, with a possible implementation in stages by dressage level. Current plans are to have the proposal ready for distribution to the membership in the summer of 2008, and feedback will be collected from potentially affected affiliates. In particular, the United States Dressage Federation (USDF), the national affiliate for dressage, will develop a communication network through its Group Member Organization (GMO) delegates and USDF Participating Member (PM) delegates this summer, which will allow for a more efficient system of communication and feedback to the Dressage Committee. Opportunities for further discussion of the proposal will be scheduled during the 2008 USDF Annual Convention in Denver, Colorado.

"We are pleased to have the support of the USEF Board of Directors for the concept of qualification standards for certain levels of dressage competition," said Marianne Ludwig, chair of the USEF Dressage Committee. "The Committee appreciates all of the feedback received from members, and we welcome the opportunity to bring a detailed proposal back to the board for next year's annual meeting."

*by Joanie Morris*

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### **SHOWING THIS YEAR?**

#### **SEND YOUR CARDS!**

**It is required that you send a copy of all membership cards with your entries - including your RMDS membership card!**

## Understanding the High Cost of Clinics

If you're like me, you've probably gasped in disbelief at the cost of a clinic with a well-known trainer. How can it POSSIBLY cost that much, and who is making all that profit?

Now that I am on the other side of the barn door, I've come to understand what makes these clinics so expensive, and also why they are worth the investment.

### **Why Does My Ride Cost So Much?**

First is the clinician. Any nationally known trainer who has competed or trained at the top levels, will charge a minimum of \$1,000 per day for 8 rides (\$125 per ride). The more well-known or in demand the cli-

nician is, the higher the price. The fee seems high, but look what we are asking: the clinician must take a minimum of 3 days away from her own business where her regular lesson charge is likely upwards of \$75. Then there is the travel (\$400 - \$600) - which is assuredly not fun these days, and the thrill of staying in a basic hotel room (\$100 a night) plus food (\$25 per day). We want her to be "on her game" for two full days, and be able to take us, sight unseen, and teach us something new.

Next are the barn and the cost of organizing the clinic. The facility must be clean, set up with sound, bleachers for auditors,

with food and drink available. The barn must also ask its regular boarders to do without the indoor arena for two days. Someone must go to DIA and pick up and drop off the clinician, and someone must be in charge of checking people in and making them comfortable. There are additional crew costs to groom the arena at least twice a day and to assist with overnight stabling and guest boarders.

So the total costs to the barn (without even counting extra crew, stabling and feed) and administrative costs, is a minimum of \$3,000, and often runs more to \$4,000. If

*Continued on page 2*

*High-cost of Clinics, Cont. from page 1*

we divide \$3,000 by 16 rides, the charge per ride to just cover basic costs is \$187.50. If it is \$4,000, the cost per ride is \$250. Remember, the barn has not made any profit for its work yet, and is actually working at a loss.

**So Why Is It Worth It?**

When we have top name riders and trainers come to Colorado, we showcase that, indeed, Colorado and the West have a thriving dressage community. We're proud of our barn and like to show it off, but our main purpose is to offer fellow riders the advantage of a top trainer's eye and competition wisdom.

You will always learn something new from a top clinician, something you can take home to your own trainer and program. When you come for a clinic, there is a camaraderie and fellowship of learning that supports you and your horse and your progress. You learn from other riders,

whether you are watching them or just sharing information in the stall aisle.

So next time you see a clinic you think might be good for you and your horse - go ahead! It is about the same price you pay to go to a show, and a clinic gives you education without competition - and the added bonus of new friends.

Author Beverly Swanson is the Events Manager at 8th Heaven Farms, located



*If you itemize the costs of a clinic, it begins to look like a great value!*

near Castle Rock, Colorado.

*Eighth Heaven Farm will produce a Classical riding clinic with Paul Belasik this coming April 5-6. Look for their ad in this month's Centaur.*

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Junior Camp .....	KC Parkins-Kyle	303-841-9953	murphyhors@aol.com
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Registration Officials.....	RMDS Central Office	720-890-7825	rmds@rmds.org
& Show Standards			
Scheduling & Insurance.....	RMDS Central Office	720-890-7825	rmds@rmds.org
Scholarship .....	Grace Maddox	303-823-8881	grace.maddox@gmail.com

## CHAPTER PRESIDENTS

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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 Drive

Boulder, CO 80301

Phone: 720-890-7825 Online dues paying now available at: www.rmds.org

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

USDF Region 5 Director

Theresa L. Hunt

huntery@mindspring.com

USDF YR Rep: Tammy Fitch, tfitch@lcfsystems.com

USDF Youth Coordinator: Julie Barringer-Richers, 720-341-5033 jbarringerrichers@comcast.net

Federation Equestre Internationale (FEI)

Ave. Mon Repos 24, PO Box 157

1000 Lausanne 5, Switzerland

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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** 3rd Thurs,  
Quality Inn, Canon City, 6 m.  
Brenda Haley 719-275-0118  
shininghorse@copper.net

**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**, 1st Thurs. each month.  
Aimee Edwards, 720-981-0996  
aimeeedwards@msn.com

**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 970-330-7233  
riversidestables\_evans@yahoo.com

**Penrose**, 1st Wed, each month,  
location TBD.  
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quailridgedrsg@hotmail.com

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### Calendar Info

Always contact the individual to check calendar information, as dates, times and places may change. SHOW COMPETITORS SHOULD DO A SCORE CHECK WITH THE CENTRAL OFFICE OR ON-LINE at [www.rmids.org](http://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.

**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 gavin ehringer@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 sponsorship, 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: gavin ehringer@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 \$20 per item for sale (includes web listing). 50 words maximum. Classified w/photo \$32 per item for sale.

Full page .....	\$150.....	7.5" x 9.5"
Half page .....	\$90.....	7.5" x 4.75"
Outside back half.....	\$105.....	7.5" x 4.75"
1/4 page.....	\$55.....	3.75" x 4.25"
1/8 page (business card) .....	\$30.....	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.

**IMPORTANT INFO ON RMDS 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.



### RMDS Membership Form

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

Individual Membership - \$55.00 (prior & renewing members add \$5 after January 1)

Additional family members (same address) - \$40

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):

Boulder Valley

High Plains (Parker, Littleton, Aurora)

Tri-State (Wyoming, Adjacent States)

Arkansas Valley

Colorado Springs

Northern Colorado (Fort Collins)

Western Colorado (Aspen, Vail etc)

Foothills (Golden, Evergreen)

Penrose (Canon City)

Grand Valley (Grand Junction)

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Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ 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 \$8.00**

-----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 Horse Registration Fee - \$40.00 Changes (i.e., owner or horse's name) \$15.00

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**

*Editor's Scoop*

Winter in the Rocky Mountains. It is always so exciting when the first snow arrives and the landscape is cloaked in a pristine covering of new snow.

Then the holidays roll through, and we get to enjoy warm evenings spent with family and friends.

But by now, maybe you are like me. The holiday hangovers have lead to a general malaise as the cold months drag on. Our horses are blanketed in the barn, growing fat and lazy from the lack of exercise. The arena is frozen into concrete and the driveway needs to be plowed. Again.

Sigh. It is easy during the long winter months in the Rockies to wonder, why am I a horseman anyways?

I admire those of you who endure the long

months of winter, breaking ice loose from the water buckets in your horse stalls, mucking out the horse pucks, rushing down to the barn at 11 pm to blanket the horses when a sudden cold wind blows from the north.

Honestly, it's hard work getting through winter. I recall, however, one day that seemed to make it all worthwhile. I was working on a ranch in Southern Colorado and we had one of those rare days when the sun was shining brightly on new-fallen snow.

We saddled up in the barn, all of our horses blowing steam and stamping their feet, literally rearing to go.

Five of us went out on the trail. As we crested a hill, we spied a herd of elk pawing at the snow, looking for some browse. We literally rode right up into the herd of ani-

mals, all going as silently as a pride of lions on the prowl. We literally came so close, you could smell the musky elk scent in the cold mountain air.

What a glorious morning! After we broke free of the herd, we let the horses have their heads and went for a fine gallop through the large pasture and out onto the silent road nearby. We returned to the ranch in fine spirits and, after cooling down the horses, enjoyed hot chocolate and strong coffee brewed on the woodstove.

I hope that, despite the deadness of our winter landscape, you find a few glorious moments to enjoy with your horses while waiting for the days to grow longer.

Gavin Ehringer, editor

*USDF Region 5 Message*

For this year our regional coordinators are Adult Education-Catherine Siemiet, [catsbarn@copper.net](mailto:catsbarn@copper.net); Awards-Eva-Marie Adolphi, [adolphi@redrock.net](mailto:adolphi@redrock.net); Competition Management - Heather Petersen, [slush@drwg.net](mailto:slush@drwg.net); Competitors-Beth Glass, [Quilthorse@worldnet.att.net](mailto:Quilthorse@worldnet.att.net); FEI Junior/Young Riders; Tammy Fitch, [tfitch3@cox.net](mailto:tfitch3@cox.net); GMO (large)-Kay Lorenzen-kaylorenzen@cox.net; GMO (small)-Scarlett Fahrenson, [Stgeorg@dakotacom.net](mailto:Stgeorg@dakotacom.net); Instructor/Trainer - Sarah Martin, [ahd@indra.com](mailto:ahd@indra.com); Nominating-Joyce Sanford, [azjoyce@comcast.net](mailto:azjoyce@comcast.net); Technical Delegates-Dianne Stanley, [pstanmt@bresnan.net](mailto:pstanmt@bresnan.net); Youth-Julie Barringer-Richers, [jbarringerrichers@comcast.net](mailto:jbarringerrichers@comcast.net).

Lisa Hennessey stepped down as the Adult Education coordinator due to job and educational commitments. Thanks for a great job, Lisa! These individuals have a great deal of experience and are your first resource and line of communication with USDF. Most attend the convention where your concerns can be brought up and discussed.

An important deadline is March 31, 2008: The United States Equestrian Federation (USEF) and the United States Dressage Federation (USDF) invite li-

censed dressage competitions to apply to become an official "qualifying competition" for the 2009/2010 USEF Dressage Developing Programs and the 2009/2010 FEI North American Junior & Young Rider Dressage Championships (NAJYRC) Program.

As part of a new schedule, competitions licensed for dates from July 1, 2008 - December 31, 2009 will be considered at this time. A completed application for each licensed competition must be submitted to the USDF office and received by March 31, 2008. Applications received after this deadline will NOT be considered. An application and more information about these

programs is available on the USEF and USDF websites.

FEI Jr and Yr qualifiers are underway, and we need to raise funds for our team. Please contact Tammy Fitch if you are going to declare as a competitor or if you would like to donate to the team. Also, many volunteers will be needed for the event at Colorado Horse Park and it will be a great opportunity for many to watch and/or help at the event.

Happy Riding!

Theresa Hunt

## Show Managers Show Secretaries

Wonderful booklet of "How To"  
information \$25, postage included  
(2008 update inserts \$7.50)  
Contact RMDS Central Office  
for more details.  
(720) 890-7825

# Editor's Page

*From the desk of RMDS President Laura Speer...*

## What you need to know about RMDS.

I hope that all of you will take the time to read my article this month as I'd like to express some important RMDS issues.

Before I do so, I feel you should know a little more about your RMDS president. I am a 38-year old, self employed small business owner. I am not wealthy and I work hard everyday on my farm. My husband and I own and operate a 25-acre horse boarding, breeding, and training facility near Greeley. I do not have employees so I personally take care of the 30 horses and our farm animals. I feed, turnout, muck stalls, blanket, etc., plus I train the young horses we breed. In the summer I hand-milk a cow twice a day. Plus, I have a 12-year old son who has interests that I'm involved in too. Talk about busy! I get up at 5 a.m. everyday and do not stop until after dark.

I just thought it beneficial that all of you know your president isn't some wealthy matron (ah, someday maybe) sitting around with nothing else to do but RMDS. Now, I'll move on to what I'd like to talk about: memberships, support, and the Centaur.

First, let's talk about RMDS membership. In recent years there has been a decline in membership. When I ask non-members or former members why they haven't joined,

the most popular answer seems to be "I don't show." Being an RMDS member doesn't mean that you have to be showing. Your membership provides support for the sport of dressage. This is like saying that you don't want to give to the United Way this year because you don't think you'll be needing their help or not supporting your local animal shelter because you won't be adopting a dog, RMDS provides education and scholarships in addition to the awards and championships. I would hate to see nothing available in the future because of no involvement today. Those of you reading my article right now have already joined this year. Please take the time to ask every dressage enthusiast around you to become a member today so we will have dressage in our lives tomorrow!

Second, support. This is a symbiotic relationship between the organization and its members. The more support you give RMDS, the more support RMDS can give you. This includes clinics, education, scholarships and shows. It is evident by looking at the calendar of events that there is a wide array of dressage events to attend. These functions can't happen without the support of volunteers and sponsors.

If you aren't riding at a local show, please

call up the manager and ask to help. A couple of hours will be appreciated and remembered. If you don't feel you have the time, please support with a class sponsorship or supply the volunteer goodies. Shows seem to always have a waiting list to ride but trying to get volunteer helpers to run these shows smoothly is on the decline. Please step up this year and volunteer!!

The last thing I want to talk about is the Centaur. This wonderful newsletter that takes Gavin hours to layout, a group of us to proof, and more hours to mail. I cannot tell you what a valuable tool this is! You members need to utilize it! Not only can the Centaur grow your business, as it did mine, but this is where your voice can be heard. You can write articles and reviews. Tell us about your barn's achievements, your trip to Germany, or your Olympic visit this year. Advertising is cheap and sometimes free (the calendar).

In closing, I'd like to remind you that things are changing in RMDS. There are a lot of new board members with a lot of fresh ideas breathing new life into this organization. Hopefully, with your help, we can take RMDS toward a successful future!

With forward thoughts,

Laura Speer

## RMDS SPONSORED EDUCATIONAL EVENTS

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

2008

February 9

TD/Show Manager Education - Deeda Randle, Heather Petersen, Camille Griffin - Table Mountain Ranch

March 22-23

RMDS Winter Wake Up Show- Norris Penrose Stadium, Colorado Springs- USEF

April 12-13

Terry Ciotti Gallo Freestyle Clinic - Autumn Hill - Longmont

June 29-July 2

Junior Camp - KC Parkins-Kyle 303-841-9953

August 23-24

USEF 'r' exam - Janet Foy & Lois Yukins - Parker

Sept 25

Rocky Mountain Series-Sport Horse Breeding Finals & USDFBC Finals - Colorado Horse Park

Sept 26-28

RMDS Open and Championship Show - Colorado Horse Park

2009

Sept. 24

Rocky Mountain Series-Sport Horse Breeding Finals & USDFBC Finals - Colorado Horse Park

Sept. 25-27

RMDS Open and Championship Show - Colorado Horse Park

For details on these and other RMDS events: contact Heather Petersen 719-683-8435 slush@drwgw.net - Education Chairman

OR read The Centaur OR go on the website - [www.rmids.org](http://www.rmids.org) OR contact the RMDS Central Office 720-890-7825 or

[rmids@rmids.com](mailto:rmids@rmids.com).

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## Technical Delegates, Judges & Certified Instructors

### Dressage Judges Ratings & Levels Qualified to Judge

Status	Status	Levels	Status	Status	Levels
"L"	Learner*	Training-Second (RMDS only)	"S"	Senior	All Levels
"r"	Recorded	Training-Second	"I"	International	All Levels
"R"	Registered	Training-Fourth	"O"	Olympic	All Levels
* May only judge at RMDS shows.					

<p><b>FEI 'I'</b></p> <p>Janet Foy .....719-260-1566</p> <p><b>USEF 'S'</b></p> <p>Debbie Riehl-Rodriguez ..303-642-7708</p> <p>Sandra Hotz .....303-817-2030</p> <p>Anita Owen.....303-953-9904</p> <p><b>USEF 'R'</b></p> <p>Janet "Dolly" Hannon.....303-919-4112</p> <p>Kristi Wysocki .....303-648-9877</p> <p><b>USEF 'r'</b></p> <p>Loni Gaudet .....970-532-0852</p> <p>Amy Jablonovsky .....970-493-2833</p> <p>Suzanne Zimmer .....303-478-8325</p> <p><b>USDF 'L' Graduate</b> – Schooling &amp; RMDS only recognized shows</p> <p>Simone Ahern-Harless* ...719-749-9274</p> <p>Francie Brashear.....303-840-7626</p> <p>Gigi Brittain* .....303-681-2516</p> <p>Julie Burt.....719-372-6270</p> <p>Rae Ann Cook * .....970-225-1408</p>	<p>Emmy Detlof.....719-495-4188</p> <p>Marti Foster *.....303-277-1132</p> <p>Beth Geier .....303-673-9840</p> <p>Ilyse Gold .....970-588-3859</p> <p>Jan Goodrich-Spear.....303-664-0152</p> <p>Gwen Ka'awaloa * .....303-646-4363</p> <p>Linda Coates-Markle.....303-469-0279</p> <p>Sarah Martin * .....719-379-3716</p> <p>Kathleen Mayger*.....970-310-8729</p> <p>Linda Ohlson-Gross * .....303-840-9818</p> <p>KC Parkins-Kyle.....303-841-9953</p> <p>Sally Robertson.....303-237-6915</p> <p>Kathy Simard* .....720-981-4448</p> <p>Maria Wasson .....303-682-9594</p> <p>Regina Wendler .....970-879-7505</p> <p>Simone Windeler .....719-540-2000</p> <p><i>*Denotes graduating with distinction</i></p> <p><b>Dressage Sport Horse Breeding Judge</b></p> <p>Janet Foy 'R' .....719-260-1566</p>	<p>Debbie Riehl-Rodriguez 'R' .303-642-7708</p> <p>Kristi Wysocki 'r' .....303-648-9877</p> <p><b>TECHNICAL DELEGATES USEF</b></p> <p>Eva-Maria Adolphi (UT) -r 801-254-3247</p> <p>Veronica Holt - R.....303-646-3829</p> <p>Laurie Mactavish - R .....970-390-5160</p> <p>Deeda Randle (WY) - R...307-638-6737</p> <p>Catherine Siemiet - r .....719-942-5311</p> <p>Dianne Stanley - r (MT) - 406-652-4061</p> <p>Libby Stokes - r.....303-688-2795</p> <p><b>RMDS-(RMDS sanctioned shows only)</b></p> <p>Joan Clay .....970-490-1927</p> <p>Rusty Cook .....505-877-1456</p> <p>Jeannette Hillery .....303-494-7718</p> <p>Susan Selby .....970-227-9530</p> <p>M. Elaine Thomas .....719-495-1510</p> <p><b>USDF CERTIFIED INSTRUCTORS TRAINING – 2ND</b></p>	<p>Julie Burt .....719-372-6270</p> <p>Jill Cantor Lee .....970-686-9163</p> <p>RaeAnn Cook .....970-225-1408</p> <p>Janet "Dolly" Hannon.....303-279-4546</p> <p>Sabine Kallas .....307-733-9497</p> <p>Ellene Kloepfer .....303-828-3879</p> <p>Clayton Martin.....719-379-3716</p> <p>Sheri Mattei-Mead .....970-669-3733</p> <p>Kathryn Meistrell .....303-646-9059</p> <p>Bridget Milnes .....303-660-4986</p> <p>Kristi Wysocki .....303-648-9877</p> <p><b>USDF CERTIFIED INSTRUCTORS TRAINING – 4th</b></p> <p>Simone Ahern-Harless.....719-749-9274</p> <p>Nancy DeVaney .....303-681-2516</p> <p>Loma Fowler .....303-841-0417</p> <p>Sarah Martin.....719-379-3716</p> <p>Kathy Simard.....720-981-4448</p> <p>Melinda Weatherford.....970-484-5218</p>
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## A Working Vacation in Bavaria: Classical Training with Ralf Schmitzer

by Simone Windeler

In November 2007, I was able to spend two full weeks with my mentor and trainer, Ralf Schmitzer, in Germany. I met Ralf in 2005, when he came to one of his first clinics in Colorado.

Ralf and Martina run the Classical Riding Academy Schmitzer in a little town close to Kempten in the very south of Germany. They have a barn with about 20 horses, 12 of them are used for lessons, the rest of them are boarded there. Some of the lesson horses are capable of Grand Prix movements, some even do airs above the ground (the kind that you actually ask for).

The indoor arena is a beautiful all glass and wood construction, airy and light with a view of a forest. It is 20 meters by 40 meters - very typical in Germany. That size gets interesting when you have six riders in the arena plus one horse being lunged.

November is normally not a very nice month weather-wise and the whole time I was there, I think the sun only shone once, the temperatures were at best in the 20's. That did not deter Ralf and Martina from working with me two to three times every day.

In the mornings I normally rode a Friesian stallion, Bauke. Bauke knows his lateral work, some piaffe and passage and we started with flying changes. His favorite thing to do, however, is step onto the podium (see picture). We normally ended the lessons that way. Bauke has been trained by Ralf for the last three years and is a joy to ride. In addition I rode his other Friesian stallion, Ascateur, who knows how to bow (kind of scary since he goes down on both knees), and Ralf's warmblood Gigant, who knows how to do Capri-

ole (not all that much fun, for me anyway), and a wonderful mare, who taught me a lot about half passes. In addition I tried all the school horses and found them to be extremely responsive to the right aids and not at all to the wrong aids. What great teachers they are.

Ralf has a very clear understanding of the biomechanics of the horse and rider. All his lessons are based on this knowledge. I learned how to sit correctly with the movement of the horse and where to put my weight according to the exercises.

Rolf likes to use leg yields at the walk to

teach the horse to load one shoulder and the rider how to feel and isolate one hind leg. Once you are good at doing leg yields, he has you do them on circles, serpentines and all over the arena. It is also possible to change from a left leg yield to a right one and vice versa on a circle for example. All the exercises improve both the horse's and rider's agility and help the horse to find better balance.

It is very important to have the horse rock back onto his hind end for the leg yields. Only if you can free the shoulders can you then move around the arena.

To prepare for more difficult figures in the leg yield we started with keeping the leg yield through the short side. I should mention here that we started leg yields on the long side with the head looking towards the wall (a very typical exercise in German riding schools,

not seen so often in the US). Try to ride a three loop serpentine in a leg yield without changing the leg yield throughout the serpentine - it is quite challenging. Or once you get good at changing from one leg yield to another (you always turn around the front) - ride serpentines with one loop being left leg yield, then a right one and finish with a left one. The possibilities are unlimited.

We also took the other lateral work off the rail and into the middle of the arena.

One of my favorites (and hardest): gradually spiral in from a 20 m circle to a 10 m circle in a haunches in, then spiral out in a shoulder-in. You can do this at a walk or a trot.

Ralf's arena has pillars installed around X, just like the ones they have in the Spanish Riding School (see picture). That way you can ride a shoulder-in to the right until you reach the pillars and change to a shoulder-in to the left as you are going through them. Of course the same is possible with travers. I found that I needed to be very careful with the angle through the pillars, it is easy to touch the horse's hindquarters in there.

In addition to mounted lessons, Ralf showed me how he works his horses in hand, from Piaffe to the Spanish Walk and some airs above the ground. It was fascinating to watch a true master performing his craft.

Best of all - I have an invitation to come back this November.

*A native of Bavaria, Simone Windeler is a USDF "L" graduate and instructor. She trains & teaches dressage at Whispering Winds Farm near her home in Monument.*



*Windeler gets a leg up on Bauke.*



*Schmitzer's cozy arena mimics the Spanish Riding School.*

# Chapter News

## Arkansas Valley Dressage Assoc.

AVDA has changed their meeting place to the Canon Inn because we are getting bigger. The Canon Inn has hot tubs we can take advantage of after our meetings and we plan on making use of them! The January meeting buzzed with lots of enthusiasm and ideas. We are having a series of two clinics with an instructor and an Equine Touch practitioner during Feb. and March, in which we will ride for 30 minutes, get off the horse so we both can be worked on and then reunite to experience improvements. It is a fund raiser and we are already full! Much discussion was had about our upcoming schooling shows and future clinics. The February meeting will have a speaker on equine denistry which will complement our planned horse wellness clinic in early spring. The March meeting will have a Pilates instructor showing us some ex-

cercises and planning with us an upcoming clinic with mounted Pilates exercises and unmounted work, complemented with a physical therapist.

To increase membership we have told many about us, resulting in an interview with the Pueblo Chieftain. They sent a photographer to a local farm to watch some of us during lessons and gave some great publicity with their article, which has resulted in several emails and phone calls about the chapter. We are excited about a fun and challenging 2008!

## Colorado Springs Dressage Assoc.

Hear ye, hear ye!  
CSDA announces two new locations for the fully recognized shows this year.

Our April show - to be held the 26th and 27th of April - will be at Cactus Creek (formerly known as Bara) in Fountain, Colo. This is about 15 miles south of Colorado Springs right off I-25. We also have secured a host hotel, the Crowne Plaza at I-25 and Circle at the very south end of the city. Please mention that you are with CSDA to receive the special rate of \$89 for the show (this is the former Sheraton). Contact at the hotel is Karin Ayers at 719-576-5900.

Our July show on the 18th, 19th and 20th of July will be held at Estes Park, Colo. Yes, quite a bit away from Colorado Springs but we could find no

*Continued on page 18*

## Northern Colorado's Premier Dressage Facility



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RACHEL SAAVEDRA AND JILL CANTOR-LEE

## USING POWER NOT FORCE

February 16 and 17

A USDF CONTINUING EDUCATION CLINIC AND FORUM

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Please join us for this unique learning opportunity as we explore how the concept of a **TRAINING SCALE FOR THE RIDER** relates to the progressive training of the horse. This will be the first time this concept of a **TRAINING SCALE FOR THE RIDER** will be presented. It outlines the sequential development of skills a rider must have to advance a horse through the pyramid of training. We will emphasize the systematic development of the rider's influence, seat and position in order to maximize harmony and enhance performance.

8 riders will be accepted with priority given to professionals. Auditors are welcome and appreciated and encouraged to interact in this forum.

Women for Women international is a highly effective, not for profit, a-political organization that helps women survivors of war by providing medical care, rape counseling, rights training, skills training, small scale business loans, and emotional support. It is a charity, with a sterling track record.

**PLEASE** come join us as we celebrate our strengths and help women in need! Contact Rachel Ames 303-818-2425 or [rachel@rachelames.com](mailto:rachel@rachelames.com) for details and stabling information.

# 2008 Shows & Events

## FEBRUARY 2008

**2-3 Kathleen Raine Clinic** - Triple Creek, Longmont.  
Contact Stephanie Leahey or Lynn McChesney, 303-444-4291

**9 Triple Creek Dressage Schooling Show** - Longmont  
Contact Lynn McChesney, 303-444-4291

**9 TD/Show Manager Education** - Deeda Randle, Heather Petersen, Camille Griffin-Table Mountain Ranch, Golden. Contact Heather Petersen 719-683-8435, slush@drwg.net

**9-10 Reliability & Fear Management Clinic** w/Roger Kyle, 8th Heaven Farms, Castle Rock. Contact: Beverly Swanson 303-688-5727

**16 Mariah Farms Schooling Show.** Mariah Farms, Castle Rock. Contact: Lisa Lamke 303 660-2456, llamke@msn.com

**16-17 Clinic w/ Rachel Saavedra & Jill Cantor-Lee** - Longmont. Contact Jill Canter-Lee 970-674-8098 mike\_jill\_lee@msn.com

**23 8th Heaven Farms Spring Starter Series #1**, Castle Rock. Contact Beverly Swanson 303-584-9904 eightheavenhorses@yahoo.com

## MARCH 2008

**1 Sun Prairie Schoolins Show** - Peyton  
Contact Cici Lee 719-495-3802

**8 Triple Creek Dressage Schooling Show** - Longmont  
Contact Lynn McChesney, 303-444-4291

**8-9 Reliability & Fear Management Clinic** w/ Roger Kyle 8th Heaven Farms, Castle Rock. Contact: Beverly Swanson 303-688-5727

**15 Mariah Farms Schooling Show** Mariah Farms, Castle Rock. Contact: Lisa Lamke 303-660-2456, llamke@msn.com

**22-23 RMDS Winter Wake Up Show**, Colo. Springs-USEF-YR Qualifier-High Performance. Contact Heather Petersen 719-683-8435, slush@drwg.net

**29 8th Heaven Farms Spring Starter Series #2**, Castle Rock. Contact Beverly Swanson 303-584-9904 eightheavenhorses@yahoo.com

## APRIL 2008

**5 Triple Creek Dressage Schooling Show** - Longmont  
Contact Lynn McChesney, 303-444-4291

**5 Riverwalk Series Schooling Show**-Pathfinder Park, Florence  
Contact Brenda Haley 719-369-2421 or Karen Randall 719-275-4220 or go to www.horsetop.com

**5-6 Paul Belasik Clinic** - 8th Heaven Farms, Castle Rock. Contact: Beverly Swanson 303-688-5727

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

**19 Mariah Farms Schooling Show.** Mariah Farms, Castle Rock. Contact: Lisa Lamke (303)660-2456, llamke@msn.com

**26-27 Dressage at the Peak** Mid-Spring, Fountain. USEF-YR Qualifier. Contact Heather Petersen 719-683-8435, slush@drwg.net

**26 Boulder Valley Schooling Show**, Singletree. Contact Beth Geier 303-673-9840 bethgeier1@comcast.net

**27 Boulder Valley Spring Fling**, Singletree. Contact Beth Geier 303-673-9840 bethgeier1@comcast.net

## MAY 2007

**3 Riverwalk Series Schooling Show**-Pathfinder Park, Florence  
Contact Brenda Haley 719-369-2421 or Karen Randall 719-275-4220 or go to www.horsetop.com

**4 Autumn Hill Sunday Series #1**, Longmont. Contact Camille Griffin 719-488-2812 camillegriffin@msn.com

**9 Grand Valley Spring Show #1**, Grand Junction-USEF  
Contact Lisa Binse 970-243-8543

**10 8th Heaven Farms Spring Starter Series #3**-Castle Rock. Contact Beverly Swanson 303-584-9904 eightheavenhorses@yahoo.com

**10-11 Grand Valley Spring Show #2**, Grand Junction-USEF. Contact Lisa Binse 970-243-8543

**17 Dressage for the Cure, Littleton.** Contact Tara Hieb 303-619-5101 tara@cottonwoodridingclub.com

**18 Foothills Spring Dressage Show**, Golden. Contact Aimee Edwards 720-981-0996 aimeeedwards@msn.com

**17-18 Paul Belasik Classical Dressage Clinic**, Grand Junction. Contact Lynea Schultz-Ela 970-872-3961 lynea@paonia.com

**23 Dressage in the Plains #1**, Peyton-USEF.  
Contact Camille Griffin 719-488-2812 camillegriffin@msn.com

**24-25 Dressage in the Plains #2**, Peyton-USEF.  
Contact Camille Griffin 719-488-2812 camillegriffin@msn.com

**5/30-6/1 Grand Valley Memorial Show**, Grand Junction-USEF.  
Contact Lisa Binse 970-243-8543

**31 Mariah Farms Schooling Show.** Mariah Farms, Castle Rock. Contact: Lisa Lamke (303)660-2456, llamke@msn.com

## JUNE 2008

**5 Riverwalk Series Schooling Show**-Pathfinder Park, Florence  
Contact Brenda Haley 719-369-2421 or Karen Randall 719-275-4220 or go to www.horsetop.com

**6 Dressage at High Prairie #1**, Parker-USEF-YR Qualifier  
Contact Glenda McElroy 818-841-3554

**7 Dressage at High Prairie #2**-Parker, USEF-YR Qualifier  
Contact Glenda McElroy 818-841-3554

**8 Dressage at High Prairie #3**, Parker-USEF-YR Qualifier  
Contact Glenda McElroy 818-841-3554

**14-15 NCDA Rocky Mountain Classic** - Cheyenne, WY  
Contact Jane Donnelly 970-669-5775 dendy20@msn.com

**14-15 Millbrook Farms Dressage Show**-Lehi, UT USEF  
Contact Jan Lawrence 801-768-8739 millbrk@xmission.com

**20 Sage Creek Dressage #1**, Charleston, UT USEF YR Qualifier  
Contact Alison Childs 435-640-3287

**21 Sage Creek Dressage #2**, Charleston, UT USEF YR Qualifier  
Contact Alison Childs 435-640-3287

**28 Autumn Hill Dressage Festival #1**, Longmont-USEF-YR Qualifier. Contact Heather Petersen 719-683-8435, slush@drwg.net

# 2008/09 Shows & Events

- 29 **Autumn Hill Dressage Festival #2**, Longmont-USEF-YR Qualifier Contact Heather Petersen 719-683-8435, slush@drgw.net
- 29-7/2 **Junior Dressage Camp**, 8th Heaven Equestrian Facility Contact KC Parkins-Kyle 303-841-9953
- JULY 2008**
- 12 **Taka Chi Dressage Summer RMDS Show-** Blanca Contact Sarah Martin 719-379-3716
- 13 **Autumn Hill Sunday Series #2**, Longmont. Contact Camille Griffin 719-488-2812 camillegriffin@msn.com
- 18 **Dressage at the Peak Summer Warm Up**, USEF Estes Park Contact Heather Petersen 719-683-8435, slush@drgw.net
- 19-20 **Dressage at the Peak II Summer Show**, USEF Estes Park Contact Heather Petersen 719-683-8435, slush@drgw.net
- 25 **Sage Creek Dressage #3**, Charleston, UT USEF YR Qualifier Contact Alison Childs 435-640-3287
- 26 **Sage Creek Dressage #4**, Charleston, UT USEF YR Qualifier Contact Alison Childs 435-640-3287
- 26 **Autumn Hill Dressage Festival #3**, Longmont-USEF Contact Heather Petersen 719-683-8435, slush@drgw.net
- 27 **Autumn Hill Dressage Festival #4**, Longmont-USEF Contact Heather Petersen 719-683-8435, slush@drgw.net
- 29-8/3 **CN JAYRC Championships**, Parker. Contact USDF 859-971-2277
- AUGUST 2008**
- 2-3 **Cheyenne Dressage & Eventing Open Show**, Cheyenne-USEF. Contact Rowena Heckert 3007-632-4151 rlheckert@msn.com
- 8 **Dressage in the Rockies #1**, Parker-USEF Contact Glenda McElroy 818-841-3554
- 9 **Dressage in the Rockies #2**, Parker-USEF Contact Glenda McElroy 818-841-3554
- 10 **Dressage in the Rockies #3**, Parker-USEF Contact Glenda McElroy 818-841-3554
- 16 **Dressage at Sun Prairie**, USDFBC Sport Horse Competition Peyton-USEF Contact Camille Griffin 719-488-2812 camillegriffin@msn.com
- 17 **Autumn Hill Sunday Series #3**, Longmont. Contact Contact Camille Griffin 719-488-2812 camillegriffin@msn.com
- 16-17 **Paul Belasik Classical Dressage Clinic**-Grand Junction Contact Lynea Schultz-Ela 970-872-3961 lynea@paonia.com
- 22 **Paragon Dressage I**, Parker-USEF Contact Heather Petersen 719-683-8435, slush@drgw.net
- 23 **Paragon Dressage II**, Parker-USEF Contact Heather Petersen 719-683-8435, slush@drgw.net
- 23-24 **USEF "r"-Paragon Dressage, Parker**. Contact Heather Petersen 719-683-8435, slush@drgw.net
- 23 **Utah Dressage Society Annual Show #1**, USEF Contact Eva-Marie Adolphi 801-254-3247
- 24 **Utah Dressage Society Annual Show #2**, USEF Contact Eva-Marie Adolphi 801-254-3247
- 24 **Paragon Dressage III**, Parker-USEF Contact Heather Petersen 719-683-8435, slush@drgw.net
- 25 **Sage Creek Dressage #1**, Charleston, UT USEF YR Qualifier Contact Alison Childs 435-640-3287
- 30 **Boulder Valley/Meadow Creek Dressage Classic #1**, Erie Contact Jeannette Hillery 303-494-7718
- 30 **Aspen Ridge Schooling Show**, Monument. Contact Simone Windeler 719-287-2040 wjsimone@msn.com
- 31 **Aspen Ridge RMDS Dressage Show**, Monument. Contact Simone Windeler 719-287-2040 wjsimone@msn.com
- SEPTEMBER 2008**
- 5 **RMIHC All-Breed Dressage Show - Castle Rock** Contact Tracy Vale 719-495-0248 valmoo@aol.com
- 6 **Pendragon Stud RMDS Dressage Show**, Larkspur Contact Leslie Terry 303-688-4147 leslieT34@aol.com
- 6 **Grand Valley Dressage Fall Show**, Grand Junction-USEF Contact Lisa Binse 970-243-8543
- 7 **Western Slope Championships & Open Show** Contact Lisa Binse 970-243-8543
- 6-7 **Boulder Valley/Meadow Creek Dressage Classic #2**, Erie. Contact Sarah Barnes 303-817-2783
- 14 **Foothills Last Chance Show**, Golden Contact Aimee Edwards 720-981-0996 aimeeedwards@msn.com
- 25 **Rocky Mountain Sport Horse Breeding Championships & Qualifying Open Breed Show**-USEF Contact Heather Petersen 719-683-8435, slush@drgw.net
- 26-28 **RMDS Championships & Open Show**, Parker-USEF Contact Heather Petersen 719-683-8435 slush@drgw.net
- OCTOBER 2008**
- 11-12 **Milbrook Farms Autumn Dressage Show**, Lehi, Utah-USEF Contact Jan Lawrence, 801-768-8739 millbrk@xmission.com
- 31-11/2 **Great American Insurance Group/USDF Regional V Dressage Championship**-Scottsdale, AZ Contact Sue Plasman 530-695-0509 splasman@comcast.net
- SEPTEMBER 2009**
- 24 **Rocky Mountain Sport Horse Breeding Championships & Qualifying Open Breed Show**-USEF Contact Heather Petersen 719-683-8435, slush@drgw.net
- 25-27 **RMDS Championships and Open Show**, Parker-USEF Contact Heather Petersen 719-683-8435, slush@drgw.net

*For updates to the calendar, go to the website: [www.rmids.org](http://www.rmids.org).*

# **FOXCREEK**

## *Mobile Equine Outfitters*

*It's time for our annual*

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*Friday and Saturday March 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>  
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### MOUNTAIN LODGE

Close-in, high end hunting- and family retreat. Extremely private setting with expensive rooms on 40 acres bordering national forest.

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Panoramic views of the Continental Divide set the tone for this custom 5,096 sq. ft. total home.

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### EXECUTIVE MANSION

Magnificently crafted, centrally located 8 bed, 8 bath executive home with amazing family amenities.

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### RURAL COMFORT

The property spreads over 14.5 acres, comes with irrigation rights, and magnificent views.

\$899,000 | MLS# 548961



### BEAUTIFUL ACREAGE

10-acre equestrian property amid the Foothills in an upscale neighborhood just minutes from Boulder.

\$950,000 | MLS# 501247



### SMALL FARM

Fabulous 8.5-acre farm, NW of Longmont, abutting a 400-acre Conservation Easement.

\$575,000 | MLS# 537576



### AFFORDABLE ONE-ACRE

3 bedrooms, 2 baths, energy-efficient; wood stove all accompany this beautiful horse property.

\$424,600 | MLS# 547419



### FAIRFIELD FARM

This substantial 6 bed, 7 bath luxury home on 35 acres features equestrian facilities.

\$3,250,000 | MLS# 527837



### 6077 JAY RD

5-acre treed lot in Boulder. Backs to open space. Includes a 2100 sq. ft. shed, irrigation water and power.

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### BUILDING SITE

Three county-approved building lots, ranging in size from 4.6 acres to 5.3 acres, totaling 102 acres.

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### FARMLAND WITH A VIEW

Gorgeous 39 acre building site with big water rights! Ideal spot for country estate with room for horses.

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2.02 acres of rural ambiance less than half a mile outside Boulder County.

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### 10 ACRES WITH VIEWS

The 4 bedroom house offers pleasant living spaces with lots of windows that bring the scenery inside.

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# Chapter News

*Continued from page 13*

other facility to accommodate us and this one will have some superior prizes and other goodies. A limited number of free hotel rooms for volunteers are available.

Our August show on the 30th and 31st of Aug. will be in its traditional spot – Aspen Ridge in Monument.

Since we know that many of our members would like to get their volunteer hours in and they might not be able to come all the way to Estes, we have decided to also count volunteer hours of the Winter Wake Up show towards the volunteer requirement. The RMDS Winter Wake Up show is to held on March 22nd and 23rd at the Norris Penrose Event Center in Colorado Springs.

Happy riding and stay warm.

Simone Windeler, President, CSDA

## High Plains Dressage

High Plains is proud to announce that the website is up and running. [www.highplainsdressage.com](http://www.highplainsdressage.com). Check it out for upcoming events and meeting dates and locations. Over the coming year we will be looking for input to add to the site and ideas on content.

Our next event will be the Denver Rocky Mountain Horse Expo, March 14 -16. The chapter is very excited about our booth and participating in this event. We need volunteers to help set up the booth and to staff it. For more info about volunteering, contact Sharon Soos at [Sherry@thesoosranch.com](mailto:Sherry@thesoosranch.com). You can also check out the Expo website at [www.RockyMountainHorseExpo.com](http://www.RockyMountainHorseExpo.com) to see more on this wonderful event.

This is a great opportunity for the dressage community to create some buzz about RMDS and the USDF Convention

which will be held in Denver December '08.

Upcoming events for the chapter are still being discussed and member input is crucial. Our meetings are normally held the 3rd Tues of the month in Parker. Go to [www.highplainsdressage.com](http://www.highplainsdressage.com) for meeting dates and locations.

With the holidays behind us all, now is the time to get onboard for the coming year. The Denver area is host to the NYRAC in July at the Colorado Horse Park and the USDF Convention in December. These are two huge events for this area in one year that you should plan on attending. RMDS will be maintaining a large presence at these events and will need volunteers to help in many different functions.

High Plains hopes to see more of you at the meetings and getting involved with upcoming events.

Alex Curnutte, President

## AUTUMN HILL INTERNATIONAL EQUESTRIAN CENTER

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JULIE BARRINGER-RICHERS, BARN MANAGER, INSTRUCTOR, SPECIALIZING IN CHILDREN

### CHECK OUT "WHAT'S NEW" AT OUR SHOWS IN 2008!

WWW

#### AUTUMN HILL SUNDAY SERIES-3 SHOWS\*RMDS RECOGNIZED

MAY 4<sup>TH</sup>-OFFERING W/T THRU GRAND PRIX + FREESTYLES + PARA-EQUESTRIAN  
JULY 13<sup>TH</sup>-OFFERING W/T THRU FOURTH LEVEL + FREESTYLES  
AUGUST 17<sup>TH</sup>-OFFERING W/T THRU SECOND LEVEL + FREESTYLES

WWW

#### AUTUMN HILL DRESSAGE FESTIVALS I, II, III & IV-USEF, USDF, RMDS RECOGNIZED

ALL 4 SHOWS OFFERING W/T THRU GP, ALL FREESTYLES, EQUITATION, QUADRILLE & PARA-EQUESTRIAN

AHDF I & II, JUNE 28<sup>TH</sup> & 29<sup>TH</sup>

(OFFICIAL QUALIFIER FOR THE 2008 NAJYRC)

AHDF III & IV, JULY 26<sup>TH</sup> & 27<sup>TH</sup>

CLINIC WITH LILO FORE ON JUNE 30<sup>TH</sup> & JULY 1<sup>ST</sup>

FOR MORE INFORMATION REGARDING OUR FACILITY, PLEASE CALL JULIE AT 720-341-5033/303-442-8922

# 2008 NAJYRC QUALIFYING SHOWS

Date	Event
<b>2007</b>	
August 24-26	Paragon I, II, III – Parker, CO Contact: Heather Petersen 719-683-8435
September 27-30	RMDS Championship Show – Parker, CO Contact: Heather Petersen 719-683-8435
October 20-21	TDC Fall Festival – Tucson, AZ
November 3-4	ADA Fall Show - Phoenix, Arizona
<b>2008</b>	
January 25-26	TDC Winter Heat – Tucson, Arizona Contact: Lynn Boice 520-906-5545
March 22-23	RMDS Winter Wake-Up – Colorado Springs, CO Contact: Heather Petersen 719-683-8435
March 22-23	TDC March Madness - Tucson, Arizona Contact: Dian Seabury 520-577-7480
April 5-6	ADA Spring Celebration – Phoenix, Arizona Contact: Peggy Farmer 602-942-6062
April 26-27	Dressage at the Peak Mid-Spring – Fountain, CO Contact: Heather Petersen 719-683-8435
June 6-8	High Prairie Dressage - Parker, CO Contact: Jennifer Killinger 818-841-3554
June 20-21	Sage Creek 1 & II – Heber City, Utah Contact: Heather Petersen 719-683-8435
June 28-29	Autumn Hill Dressage Festival – Longmont, CO Contact: Heather Petersen 719-683-8435

RMDS JR/YR Coordinator: Susan Rudman - 303-697-8528 - [sewrunred@msn.com](mailto:sewrunred@msn.com)

USDF Region 5 YR Rep.: Tammy Fitch - [tfitch@lcfsystems.com](mailto:tfitch@lcfsystems.com)

USEF website: Competitions – 2008 schedule – Region 8: to find out the USEF recognized shows

# RMDS Hosts USDF “r” Judging Program

January 18-20 saw Colorado playing host to eleven people from all over the United States working to attain their credentials as USEF r Dressage judges. This is the first time the program has been hosted in the US since RMDS last held it in 2004. The response from interested and qualified individuals wanting to participate in the program was overwhelming!

Local dressage judge and educator, Janet Foy, was asked to lead the program. She worked with all the candidates in a classroom format on Friday. Her lecture covered everything from the basic training scale, judging criteria at each level, to advanced breakdown of the movements through Second Level and how to judge freestyles. Saturday saw everyone moving over to Autumn Hill International Equestrian Center so we could work with demonstration horses. Candidates were able to watch six horses at each level, breaking the tests down by movements, looking at each gait, and working on establishing collective marks. Sunday the candidates practiced judging at the RMDS New Year’s Show.

This show was set up to provide the candidates enough different horses to evaluate in a show situation. The response to the show was overwhelming! There were over 50 rides from places as far away as Wyoming and as close as Autumn Hill. Riders and candidates enjoyed an unexpected warm and sunny day and the stressful weekend ended on a great note.

Many thanks go to Autumn Hill and the Wycoff family for donating their wonderful facility and all the arena time for 2 full days. They went out of their way to make RMDS and the USEF r program feel very welcome. A debt of gratitude also goes to Julie Barringer-Richers for helping to line up all of the demonstration horses used on Saturday. She gave up her entire weekend of lessons and encouraged all of her students to brave the “firing squad” of r candidates in order to provide us a great learning opportunity. Laura Speer volunteered many hours to help manage the show on Sunday, Shannon Fox was our wonderful gate keeper for the show, several husbands and some of Julie’s students also stepped in at the

last minute to help volunteer at the show. Also recruited to the volunteer field was Janet Foy’s great husband Michael. When he realized we were short volunteers, he stepped right up and scored tests for all 11 candidates and Janet. We could not have done it without him or without any of our other helpers!

Finally, a round of applause to Saturday’s demonstration riders and their horses: Meryl Compton and MG; Morgan Fleming and Bonjo; Claire Bovet and Silver; Elaine Maldin and Romke; Nora Heinrichs and Castello; Devon Wycoff and Hollywood; Isabelle Herz and Amper; Devon Wycoff and Lupo; Katie Patterson and Rho; Robin Gay and Odyssey; Alicia Goode-Allen and Lily; Morgan Heinrichs and Cloudy; Nicole Bizarro and Enviado; Kris Watson and Frank Sinatra; Danielle Culver and Fabriani; Beth Geier and Matador; Amelia Newcomb and Blue; and Robin Gay and Lenny.

*Heather Peterson, RMDS Education Coordinator.*

## ~Jessica Greer~

*Assistant to Sandra Hotz*

*Prix St. Georges Qualifier for 2003 NAYRC*

*4th Level Horse of the Year RMDS 2003*

*3rd Level Open Champion USDF (70.0%) 2007*

*2nd Level Horse of the Year RMDS 2006*

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*‘L’ Judge Candidate*

# Paul Belasik Clinic



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A graduate of Cornell University, Belasik has ridden and trained at every level in dressage, from young horses to beyond Grand Prix, and successfully competed at the highest levels of international competition. He also has extensive experience training and competing through the upper levels of eventing.

**Author of:**

**Riding Towards the Light  
Exploring Dressage Technique  
The Songs of Horses  
Dressage for the 21st Century**



*Paul Belasik*

*"I really cannot say enough about the caliber of Paul's teaching and the depth of his knowledge. He is a classical trainer—works with all levels of horses and riders—very direct, straightforward and engaging."*

*—Lynea Schultz-Ela  
3rd Level AA rider  
Grand Valley Chapter  
RMDS*

***Call or visit our website to register for this incredible learning opportunity and for more info on Paul, his philosophy, books, and DVDs.***

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regional AERC champion as 5yo. DVD available. \$15,000, call Terry (970) 523-5660.



## TACK/EQUIPMENT

**Prestige 2000/D,** size 17 X 35 Black Dressage Saddle. Great Condition. Used 5 years with TLC. \$1500.00 No leathers or girth. patroark@comcast.net 303-697-6606

CLASSIFIED ADS ARE AN INEXPENSIVE AND EFFECTIVE WAY TO GET RESULTS. PLACE YOUR AD HERE FOR \$20 (\$32 with Photo) AND GET ADDITIONAL EXPOSURE ON THE RMDS WEBSITE.

## 2008 Dressage Clinics with German Master Trainer Peter Borggreve

Master trainer and international competitor Peter Borggreve will clinic **March 18, 19 & 20th,** 2008 at Freedom Farms in Parker, Colorado.



Photo by Alexandra Curnutte

Since fall of 2004, Peter Borggreve has held the position of "First Riding and Training Master" at the world-famous Landgestüt in Warendorf, Germany. Peter is in charge of the training of all the 96 breeding stallions at the Landgestüt. His responsibilities include choosing the best rider for each stallion, deciding which ones are to represent the Landgestüt at competitions, coaching the stallions and their riders who are competing nationally, and designing a training schedule for each stallion.

Peter has been a member of the examination committee for aspiring professional horse trainers (Bereiter), and riding master candidates, as well as judges, for the last decade, and remains active in this position.

He holds the master degree in riding and teaching which he received in 1990 with distinctions. He was director and riding instructor at the RV Heiden from 1988 to 2004, teaching numerous students the art of dressage while competing successfully at the Grand Prix level. Today he continues to show top stallions, Floribot and Rheingau, at competitions in Germany.

Peter Borggreve started his professional career at the jumping barn of Rainer Suttmann and Horst Rumpf before he became more interested in dressage while doing his apprenticeship, to become a Bereiter at Hartmut Röders breeding facility. Since 1985 dressage has been his primary focus. Teaching this intricate interaction between horse and rider is his passion, which he even pursues in his free time on the weekends at his own barn in Heiden. He is accomplished, sincere, patient, and an excellent teacher. <http://www.landgestuet.nrw.de>



Cost per ride is \$150. Trailer in fee and possible day stalls available. Auditors welcome. Please contact Alexandra Curnutte (303) 663 0358 to make your reservations, or e-mail at [curnuttes@msn.com](mailto:curnuttes@msn.com) for more info.

**CONTINUING EDUCATION - "TD" & SHOW MANAGEMENT**  
**Saturday, February 9, 2008**

**OPEN TO EVERYONE! Learn the Inner Workings of a Show.**

**Technical Delegates: 8:30am - 12:15 pm with Deeda Randle (USEF TD)** 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?

**Show Managers/Secretaries: 1:00 pm with Heather Petersen and Camille Griffin**  
 What are the responsibilities of the secretary vs. show manager  
 Scheduling, general logistics, needed forms and information  
 Handbook available for \$30

RMDS is strongly encouraging all show management to attend. There are more upcoming changes in the rules!!!

**This workshop is for you!**

Table Mountain Ranch  
 19000 W 58<sup>th</sup> Ave - Golden

**COST**

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

**Non RMDS members \$45**  
**Non RMDS members \$60**

**At the door - \$65 for everyone.**

**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 58<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Turn right (east) on W 58<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Table Mountain Ranch is ½ mile on the right (south). 303-279-4546

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:

Heather Petersen  
 12395 Gull Lane  
 Peyton, CO 80831

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ TD or Show Management \_\_\_\_\_

E Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

**We will provide morning coffee and some snacks. Bring lunch if you want more!**

# RMDS To Host Premier Freestyle Designer – Terry Ciotti Gallo

## April 12-13, 2008

### Autumn Hill International Equestrian Center, Longmont, Co

Mark your calendars and save the date! World Class Freestyle designer Terry Ciotti Gallo will be coming to Colorado April 12-13, 2008 for a weekend of lectures and “hands-on” freestyle work.

Terry’s broad and colorful history in sports, dance, and music stretches over 30 years. She started as a theatrical choreographer where her works were seen on stage, film and on video, but with a background as a competitive gymnast, she also acted as a dance instructor, choreographer, coach, and judge for international- caliber gymnastics. Terry coupled the sports world with her dance and music knowledge to help a variety of athletes with the total development of their freestyle performances. This led to the establishment of her company Klassic Kur in 1989.

She has had the privilege of seeing her designs competed at the Olympics, World Equestrian, World Cup, and Pan American Games, as well as the North American Young Rider Championships. Because she believes that volunteerism and philanthropy are an important part of being a member of society, she donates her time to raise money for breast cancer research. She also serves as the chair for the United States Dressage Federation Freestyle Committee. Terry works with Steffen Peters, Debbie McDonald, Guenter Seidel, George Williams and many others of the top US Dressage competitors.

The lectures and riding session will be open to auditors and the participating riding spots will be open to all levels of riders and all divisions of riders. We hope to offer Terry the chance to work with riders from First Level through Grand Prix. This will also give the auditors and participants the chance to work with and see freestyle design for a large variety of horses and riders.

#### Clinic Pricing

RMDS Clinic Participants	\$150 (includes one ride, all lectures and handouts and auditing of other rides)
Non-RMDS Clinic Participants	\$200 (includes one ride, all lectures and handouts and auditing of other rides)
RMDS Clinic Auditors	\$60 2 days (includes all lectures and handouts and auditing of all rides) \$35 1 day
Non-RMDS Clinic Auditors	\$80 2 days (includes all lectures and handouts and auditing of all rides) \$45 1 day

All auditing rates will be \$15 more if reserved after April 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Auditor Sign-up forms will be available shortly at [www.rmids.org](http://www.rmids.org).**

#### Auditor Sign-up:

Rider Name \_\_\_\_\_ RMDS # \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Auditing (Please circle one):    BOTH                  Saturday                  Sunday

Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Send All Auditor and Rider Registrations to: Heather Petersen, 12395 Gull Lane, Peyton, CO 80831  
Questions: 719-683-8435 or slush@drwgw.net

**2008 RMDS Freestyle Clinic Rider Application – Must be Received for Review by MARCH 1<sup>ST</sup>**

Rider Name \_\_\_\_\_ RMDS # \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Horse Information**

Horse's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Breed \_\_\_\_\_

Age \_\_\_\_\_ Height \_\_\_\_\_ Color \_\_\_\_\_ Sex \_\_\_\_\_

Sire \_\_\_\_\_ Dam \_\_\_\_\_ Dam Sire \_\_\_\_\_

Owner's Name \_\_\_\_\_

**SELECTION CRITERIA**

Selection will be based on the following information concerning the achievements and history of the horse and rider combination, unless otherwise stated. A combination of riders will be selected for each clinic.

· At what level are you currently working with this horse? Schooling \_\_\_\_\_ Showing \_\_\_\_\_

· How long have you and this horse been working at this level? \_\_\_\_\_

· At what level are you currently working with other horses? \_\_\_\_\_

· Do you receive regular instruction from an instructor? YES NO Frequency \_\_\_\_\_

· Have you competed at your current level? YES NO

If YES, please provide the following information:

Competition Name/Date Test Scores Earned Was it USDF recognized?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

· Have you competed at a level higher than your current level? YES NO

If YES, at what level have you competed? \_\_\_\_\_

· At what level is your horse currently trained? \_\_\_\_\_

· What are your short and long term goals for this horse?

· *Please indicate your previous clinic experience (as a rider)*

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

You should submit a short video (preferably only 5-8 minutes) on a full-size VHS cassette or DVD of yourself and the horse listed on the application. Riders submitting videos will receive priority in the selection process. The work on the video should reflect the level at which you have stated you and your horse are currently working. **Video will not be returned. The selection committee will attempt to view submissions in other formats if convenient, but these formats may not be viewable and thus may not be considered. To guarantee consideration, please submit the requested formats.**

The criteria in this application are meant to serve as guidelines for selecting riders for this program. Accordingly, RMDS reserves the right to select riders most suitable for this program. Send all applications to Heather Petersen, 12395 Gull Lane, Peyton, CO 80831.

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**Heather J. McEntee Dressage**  
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(719) 338-9913



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USEF "R" Judge

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Barn: 303-2794546  
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