

THE CENTAUR

Gone to Gladstone!

Disabled rider Matt Trott Triumphs in Colorado Springs

With the name "Trott," you'd imagine that the riding part comes easily. But nothing comes easily for Matt Trott, a 34-year old man who suffers from Friedreich's Ataxia, a degenerative neuro-muscular disease that is slowly robbing him of muscular control.

Seven years ago, Matt became wheelchair-bound and thought he'd never walk again. One year ago, he got new legs - four of them.

Matt was among 14 riders from across the USA who participated in a special clinic held last May at the Penrose-Norris Events Center in Colorado Springs.

Hosted by the Colorado Springs Dressage Association, the event kicked off with a two day clinic with U.S. Paralympic Equestrian Team coach Jerry Schwartz. Following the clinic, the riders competed in a schooling show as part of the CSDA's "Dressage at the Peak" event.

"We wanted to do this for disabled riders throughout the country, but especially for our local riders," said Jane McBride, who worked alongside RMDS president Heather Petersen to make the event happen. "It was especially worthwhile having

Paralympic Coach Jerry Schwartz here, watching riders he might not otherwise have seen."

Trott feels that the benefit of disabled rider programs such as this are inestimable.

"No one can explain what it is like to walk. It was as though I had forgotten," said the Herndon, Va., resident. "Riding reminded me of what it was like to move with legs. It's cool."

Cool. Like Matt. Were you to see him only on horseback, you wouldn't know he was disabled.

While he doesn't have a ramrod straight seat (not uncommon for a training level rider), he rode with a beaming smile that instantly won him the support of the crowd and the judges.

Probably the most enthusiastic person in the audience, however, was his trainer Dada Suvak. Originally from Osijek, Croatia, Suvak is an FEI-level riding instructor as well as a therapeutic instructor. Suvak works with the extremely active Lift Me Up! riding program in Great Falls, Va., and made the long trip to help Matt.

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Matt Trott

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IF IT IS THE RIDER'S GOAL TO PRESENT THE HORSE IN BRILLIANT WAYS, THE RIDER NEEDS TO BE COMPLETELY FREE OF MANIPULATING THE HORSE WITH THE FORCE OF THE BIT - XENOPHON, 430 B.C.

Presenting "Thoughts About the Classic Art of Riding Over the Course of Time: The Development of the Classic Art of Riding," by Chevalier Ralf Schmitzer. (page 15)

In this and the next few issues of *The Centaur*, it is our good fortune to present a series of articles by German riding instructor Ralf Schmitzer. In this series, Schmitzer examines the development of Classical Dressage. It is our hope that you will enjoy this well-thought out examination of classic European riding as exemplified by the great schools of "haute ecole," that have set the standards for horsemanship across centuries. - editor.

Disabled Riders Clinic (cont.)

Little did either of them know that he would earn the top score in his class and qualify to participate in a special clinic among fellow Paralympic dressage riders at the United States Equestrian Team Foundation's Dressage Festival of Champions in Gladstone, N.J., held June 15-20.

"I have to see what all this means," said Trott upon learning that he would be riding among and learning from the country's best riders in Gladstone. "It's cool - and a lot closer to home than Colorado."

Fortunately, he didn't have to bring a horse to the Rocky Mountains. Trott and the other riders relied on mounts borrowed from CSDA members and local therapeutic riding centers. Trott's horse, Sprocket, a "Nebraska Warmblood" (draft horse cross) was on loan from the Whispering Winds Farm of Black Forest, Colo.

Not all the riders were relative newcomers to the show scene. Another top-placing contestant, Jonathan Wentz, 15, of Dallas, Texas, has been riding nearly his entire life.

A sufferer of cerebral palsy, Wentz said the clinic was a great opportunity to meet

and encourage fellow riders.

"The coach [Jerry Schwartz] was very good. Very facilitating," said Wentz, who normally competes at training level in



In a class by himself, rider Jonathan Wentz.

USDF-sanctioned shows. "It was nice meeting other riders and hooking up with them."

Like Trott, Wentz sees great benefit in programs such as this one put on by Colorado Springs chapter.

"It was really helpful to me. And it encourages other riders with disabilities," he remarked. "I know, for me, riding is the thing that keeps me going. If I had not started riding, I probably wouldn't be walking right now."

Wentz also sees shows like this one in Colorado Springs as a springboard to greater goals.

"In 2012, I want to be competing at the Paralympic Games in London," he said.

London? For riders like Trott, Wentz and the rest, there seems to be no goal too distant - and they're getting there with help from their four-legged partners.

Congratulations to Matt, Jonathan, Meghan Shannon, Kim Decker, Fiona Larsen, Wendy Fryke and Sheryl Gardner, qualifiers for the USET Paralympic training session.

Article and photos by Gavin Ehringer.

CSDA's "A Night Under The Lights" A Shining Success

The Colorado Springs Dressage Association hosted its annual RMDS/USDF/USEF recognized show on May 20-21 at Norris Penrose Event Center. On Saturday, in parallel with the regular show, there was a morning of competition for riders with disabilities judged by Paralympic judge Anita Owen. Four new riders were selected to go to Gladstone, N.J., this year to train with Team USA. CSDA and the riders wish to thank the wonderful folks who loaned horses for the clinic and competition.

Dressage at the Peak annually includes NAYRA and Young Horse qualifying classes. The Evening-Under-the-Lights competition and demonstrations, as always, were the highlights of the event. Sarah Martin delivered an informative and entertaining narrative explaining dressage with rider Jennifer Diamond demonstrating various movements aboard Polaris. Sheryl Gardner, a CA rider with a disability, rode Prince Yiyi QT ("Joe," Heather Petersen's horse) in



Show stars Frances Carbonelle & Teo.

an FEI musical freestyle and received a score of 71.25! Joan Clay, on Chatham, won the Halloh perpetual trophy in Prix St.

Georges. Frances Carbonelle gave a thrilling demonstration on her Arab-Holsteiner cross. "Teo" bowed and performed a Spanish walk to end their performance. Their ride brought a wonderful conclusion to the evening. Afterward, Frances welcomed the crowd to pet her horse and ask questions.

CSDA expresses their heartfelt thanks to all the class sponsors, volunteers, riders and staff who made this event possible. Katie Reeves, the stable manager, did an amazing job as did Judy Carnick, the volunteer coordinator. Helen Slate and John Stevenson worked tirelessly in the barns with the horses, riders and volunteers. Many thanks to the show's Gold and Silver sponsors: American Competition for Riders with Disabilities, The Clarion Hotel, Experience Colorado Springs at Pikes Peak Visitor's Center, Intermountain Rural Electric Association, Mountain View Electric Association, Norris Penrose Event Center and North American Riding for the Handicapped. Also, Jane McBride & Heather Petersen, Show Management & Board; Simone Windeler & Jean Patton, organizing board.

Article by Jane McBride, CSDA. Photo, Gavin Ehringer.

Andria Allen

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Editor's Page

From the Desk of RMDS President Heather Petersen...

Hi again folks,

Summer is in full swing, RMDS Championships are only two and a half months away, and USDF Region V Championships are only three months away. If you haven't qualified yet, it's time to get to it!

The RMDS board is getting ready for next year and we're looking for a few good volunteers. Up for election this year is the Vice Presidency (2-year term that moves into the Presidency during the second year) and all the Standing Committee Chairs. The Standing Committee Chairs include: Adult Amateur, Awards, Championships Show (also RMDS Winter Wake-Up), Communications, Education, Junior/Young Riders, Marketing and Fundraising and the Young Rider Repre-

sentative (not a Committee Chair, but a very important position).

Without people who care and are willing to fill the positions, RMDS cannot function at full capacity. We need your help, your input and your opinions. If you are at all interested in finding out more about these positions or in serving in one of these positions, please call myself, Heather Petersen (719-683-8435), or call our Nominating Coordinator Susie Goran (970-407-7357).

Happy harmony and see you around soon!

Heather

Help!

Make *The Centaur* a better publication. We've changed the look, added new features and tossed others in the manure pile. Tell the new editor what works and what fails miserably.

Send letters, to the editor: gavinehringer@earthlink.net. Send cartoons. Send photos. Send articles. Send words of wit & wisdom.

(Contact the editor directly about gifts, free vacation opportunities, and cash bribes).

The Latest Scoop from the (New) Editor's Stall.

As my photo implies, I am not from the English side of the horse world. Or, at least, I wasn't.

For six years, I worked as a cowboy and horse wrangler in Colorado's Sangre de Cristo Mountains. Realizing there was no money in the profession, I settled on the Front Range intent on becoming a writer - work nearly as romantic and scarcely better compensated.

My first job was with *Western Horseman* magazine; I soon became a columnist there covering the sport of rodeo.

Over time, I expanded my freelance career to include all manner of horse periodicals, from breed publications to specialty magazines. I wrote about trucks and trailers, leather care products, bits, bridles - and some of the biggest equestrian events on the planet.

I've only been in an English saddle a handful of times - my show career, though mercifully short, included several second and third place ribbons in English classes. My strategy mainly involved following the other riders around the rail and apeing whatever they were doing.



So, obviously, I have lots to learn. I have just enough experience with dressage to ask questions. I am counting on many of you to supply the answers.

The Centaur is your magazine. As far as I am concerned, anything of interest to you is fair game for the readers.

Everyone, from training level to Grand Prix rider, has the potential to contribute. Do you have a new tool in your barn, a new bit, bridle, saddle or fly cover that works for you? Write a review.

Have you recently imported a horse from Europe? Tell us how you did it, and what difficulties you had to overcome.

Did your vet or farrier give you some sound advice? Did you attend a clinic featuring a big-name rider? Tell us what they said and did, and how it helped you.

You and I, we're not so different. Horsemen, no matter their discipline, spend 90 percent of their horse time grooming, cleaning stalls, exercising their horse or themselves, watching videos to pick up tips, or just sharing their passion with similarly horse-afflicted friends and family.

The 10 percent of the time spent riding is the payoff. While I certainly want to hear about shows and clinics, I want us all to share in a wide ranging dialogue about all the things of importance to equestrians.

Think of *The Centaur* as a barn chat with a friend. Don't worry about grammar and spelling - those I can fix. Think instead about sharing your thoughts, insights and ideas. Share your passion.

Gavin Ehringer, editor

Trainer Talk

Metaphorically Speaking...with Kathy Johnson

I am currently teaching a man who is strangely unaware of his place in the arena. Do you have any good teaching strategies on cross-roads or circulation places?

—*Amy from England.*

Amy,

Metaphors can be a good way to teach riders who learn kinesthetically or "by feel." It sometimes works well for visual learners, too, if you are relating what they feel and see to something they have seen before. Metaphors are often not as effective for auditory learners, who listen to "tapes" in their heads.

Knowing a student's ideal learning style helps in teaching. If your rider is kinesthetic and learns best by feel, he will relate a metaphor to something he has felt before. If the rider has never felt the other end of the metaphor, it won't work.

For instance, a person who has never held a bird in his hand might not get the analogy of holding the reins like little birds he should neither crush nor let go. Children might understand how riding a horse is something like riding a bicycle, but they won't understand how it is like driving a car. Most adults who drive respond very well to car metaphors.

Let's use that. Think of the horse's poll as the hood ornament of a vehicle. Just as a driver would line up his hood ornament parallel with the centerline of the road, he must line up the horse's poll with the 'line' he wants the horse to follow. Looking down is like checking the gauges in the car. A driver might let his eyes flicker down occasionally to check his speed, his oil pressure or his gas gauge, but he must look right back up to check out the windshield. He should never drop his head and stare down at the gauges or he may crash.

Likewise, a rider should keep half an eye on the hood ornament of the horse so he knows which way it is going, but he should constantly be looking up and out the windshield to watch for traffic, other horses, and "road signs" - dressage letters.

Gauging pace: Looking out their windshields, most drivers look two cars ahead. The faster they drive, the farther ahead they must look or they will not have stopping room. In riding, look three horse lengths ahead at the walk, six horse lengths ahead in the trot, and nine horse lengths ahead in the canter. Riders must always stay at least one horse length away from other horses. Tailgating is dangerous, as is sideswiping.

Overtaking another car (horse): never pass on the shoulder of the road. The rail is the guard rail and the car could get trapped if the other vehicle swerved. Always pass on the inside. Better yet, cut across the arena.

Facing on-coming traffic: just as in driving in America, stay in the right lane. This will always put you left hand to left hand with oncoming riders. You can add the exceptions later.

Avoid student drivers. If a beginner is milling around obviously without steering, avoid a collision by staying as far away as possible. The better drivers must watch out for the learners. Here in Colorado, a lot of people ski, so skiers all understand the metaphor of watching out for the "bunnies," as they call beginners.

I would also teach this rider Sally Swift's "hard eyes" and "soft eyes," or how to use peripheral vision. The exercise used in Centered Riding is for the trainer to stand by the horse's shoulder. Ask the rider to note where you are standing. Tell him to note when he can't see you any more. Have the rider pick a point straight ahead on the wall and stare at it. These are hard eyes. Then move back toward the horse's tail. He will usually say he can't see you when you are near the horse's hip.

Now, repeat the exercise, telling him to



Writer Kathy King Johnson and her Friesian gelding, Bram.

keep his head straight, but let his eyes flicker back and forth, "soft eyes." He will usually say he can't see you when you are somewhere past the horse's tail. This exercise helps people understand how to use their range of vision when riding. If they are riding around with a large group of riders, they need to keep soft eyes. If they are headed someplace specific, like over a jump or over a bridge the horse doesn't want to cross, they need to use "hard eyes."

It is important when using hard eyes to look further ahead than the place the rider wants to go. I explain this like breaking boards in karate. If we are going to punch the board, we aim our blow at the other side of the board, not at the board. The riders should look well past the jumps or well past the obstacles, not down at them. Then their whole body language is directed toward pushing the horse past the point of resistance, not at it.

I hope that helps. I suspect the problem is in the rider's visual awareness and focus. As he becomes more comfortable on the horse, it will improve. Teach him simple school figure and letters early when there are no other horses in the arena: change of rein MXK, HXF, turn across the arena at B and E, down centerline at A and C. Even at the walk, this will help him learn his road signs.

Author Kathy King Johnson is a former college professor with a masters degree in education. She teaches dressage at Table Mountain Ranch in Golden, Colorado. www.kathyjohnsondressage.com

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First Show Jitters: A Rider Shares Her Maiden Test

by Katherine Evans

"Scared Silly" would be an apt description for my first RMDS show. I have done several schooling shows at my barn and those were very helpful. However, I know that the judges are very forgiving and are making these a pleasant learning experience by being as positive as possible. I chose 'Dressage for the Cure' because it is a very good cause (Renee's Friends Fund) and because it was at my barn, Cottonwood Riding Club, and we did not have the increased pressure of traveling and showing in a strange place.

My first challenge was signing up for the show. I joined RMDS - this was pretty uncomplicated - and then I had to join USEF in order to ride as an adult amateur. This was less straightforward. It was not clear which type of membership I needed and I initially chose the wrong one.

When my card came it was a 'non-competing' membership. I called USEF and they were very nice and helped me convert



Evans and her TB gelding, Claus.

to the correct membership to allow me to ride as an amateur. Then I had to fill out the RMDS entry form itself. The form lists a USDF number (which I don't have!) as mandatory.

Should I list a trainer or am I the trainer? What are my trainer's RMDS and USEF numbers? Which of the fees did I need to pay? Did I sign in all the required places? These are all things I'm sure I will take for granted after my first show, but they were definitely issues to be faced my first time.

I do not know how to braid and Claus is tall and can be very fussy about being groomed. My husband has been my groom in the past, helping with Claus, handing me my jacket and dusting my boots, but I knew Claus needed to be bathed, his socks bright white and his mane braided for this show and Dave definitely does not do braids!

I had to find someone to help me groom for the show. It turned out that there was a big hunter show the same day as my show and most of the girls from my barn had agreed to work there. I did find

continued on facing page

<p>AUGUST 4-6, 2006</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• \$7,500 in Prize Money and Awards• \$500 Adult Amateur and Open Training Level Challenge• \$500 Adult Amateur and Open First Level Challenge <p>Judges: Betsey Berrey 'S' Tracey Lert 'S' Joan Macartney 'S' Ulrich Schmitz 'S'</p> <p>Spiceship Info: Lee Carrothers (303) 978-9686</p> <p>Show Office: (303) 841-7461 (day of the show)</p> <p>Show & Prize List Info: Jennifer Killinger (818) 841-3554 cornerstoneinfo@glenroys.com</p> <p> THE COLORADO HORSE PARK WWW.COLORADOHORSEPARK.ORG PARKER, COLORADO</p> <p>DOWNLOAD PRIZELIST AT WWW.CORNERSTONEEDRESSAGE.COM</p>	<p>DRESSAGE IN THE ROCKIES I, II & III</p> 
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COLORADO'S 14TH ANNUAL PREMIER DRESSAGE EVENT

Axel Steiner Slated for Colorado Horse Park Clinic

Riders and Auditors Invited to Learn from One of the USA's Olympic Level Judges

Parker, Colo. — The Colorado Horse Park is pleased to welcome FEI 'O' Judge Axel Steiner to Parker on Thursday, August 4 and Friday, August 5 for a wonderful educational opportunity. Private lessons are available on both days. Auditors are welcome for all sessions. Riders at all levels are encouraged to participate. "Basics with quality" is Steiner's motto in all training endeavors. In addition, Steiner will lecture during a wine and cheese reception and guests will be invited to participate in a question and answer session with one of America's premier dressage judges.

Axel Steiner has been involved with dressage for most of his life. He is a member of the



FEI 'O' Judge Axel Steiner.

USEF Dressage Committee, an instructor/examiner for all judge promotions, and a faculty member for the USDF 'L' program. Steiner holds the highest judge rating—USEF 'S' and FEI 'O' levels. He has judged in more than 30 countries and was on the judging panel for the 2000 Olympic Games, the 2003 Pan American Games and the 2005 World Cup Finals.

Private lessons are \$225 per ride. A few slots are still available. Auditing tickets are available for \$20 and include the wine and cheese reception and lecture on Thursday, August 4, from 4:00-5:30 p.m.

For more information or to register please call 818-841-3554 or email Glenda@glenroys.com.

Rider's First Test (cont.)

someone who agreed to groom for me (and she was great) but I stressed out over trying to locate someone and tie her down to a commitment and schedule.

Luckily I had bought a jacket and show shirt for my schooling shows. I also had dress boots, although my first pair was so dreadfully uncomfortable that I couldn't wear them for more than the four minutes a Training Level test took – I had unwisely tried to save a few dollars by getting an inexpensive pair of boots. I had to replace those with the boots I should have bought in the first place.

We continued with our established riding/training schedule: I rode two or three times per week and my trainer rode once or twice. We practiced the figures in the Training Level 1 and 2 tests but we did not practice the tests themselves. Claus tends to 'memorize' the tests and then anticipate the transitions and the figures. Test 1 and test 2 are very similar but call for transitions at different spots and I needed to be sure he was listening to me and not doing the test he wanted to do.

The day of the show was beautiful. My groom did a superb job and Claus looked so handsome. He was calm and not at all affected by the activity and unfamiliar horses. The show was well organized and the show secretary was very helpful and answered all my silly, first-timer questions

(which arena was which, where could I lunge, where to put the number thingy) very patiently.

My ride times were 10:50 AM and 2:39 PM. I did not feel any more nervous than I had at the schooling shows. Claus was very good in the warm-up arena. I watched several of the rides preceding mine and although I was a little intimidated by some clearly expensive warm bloods, I was confident I could ride the test as precisely as most of those I watched. . . until I got into the arena, that is!

I had taken Claus into the arena that morning on a lead rope to show him the arena, the letters and the judges' stand. He had never seen an actual dressage arena before. He was interested but not alarmed. But when we got started our warm-up just outside the ring he seemed more concerned – or he was picking up my nervousness. Once we got in the ring and began our test he seemed a little sluggish and reluctant to go to near the vinyl arena edges – including into the corners. We rode the test but I knew we were not doing nearly as well as we were capable of doing. We finished and as we left the arena a steward checked Claus' bit and asked me for my whip. She measured it and told me it was an inch longer than the allowable 43.3 inches and I would be eliminated.

Lesson #1 – Know the rules. I didn't even know there was a rule about the

length of the whip! I did receive my score – a 62.7. Although I was disappointed in my ride and my foolishness in not reading the dressage regulations, I was thrilled with the score because I had not expected to do that well in an RMDS show, even if I was riding well.

My afternoon test (with a shorter whip) was also disappointing. I had felt Claus wasn't moving forward in the morning (although we did not lose points for this) and I was determined that we would be forward in the second test. My trainer said we "ran" through the test and pointed out that there is a difference between moving forward and running. We scored 61.9 and we actually got a ribbon – 3rd Place.

The show was fun and a definite learning experience – see Lesson #1 above – and we certainly scored a lot better than I had predicted we would. It was not nearly as intimidating as I had expected and my scores were not any lower than I had received in several of the schooling shows.

The RMDS is very supportive and Brenda Haley has been so encouraging. Last weekend I went to High Prairie and watched one of my friends ride Third Level at Dressage at High Prairie and I realized that Claus and I can do this – maybe not Third Level - but we can certainly continue to show and make progress and enjoy the process.

Author Katherine Evans and Claus were featured in the June Centaur.

Five Things My Horse Taught Me About Investing

by Claudia Barkmeier

If there is one wonderful thing about a rider's relationship with her horse, it's that there is never just one thing. I find that my riding lessons are often about something other than just riding. Each hour on my horse teaches me patience, forbearance, determination, flexibility and acceptance, to name just a few.

Recently while reflecting on the fact that riding has made me a better mother, wife and person, I was delighted to discover that it has also made me a better investor. Investing and wealth management have many similarities to the work we do with our horses. The market is temperamental and unpredictable - just like our horses.

Here are five things that my horse has taught me about investing (and I imagine she has many more left!)

Patience. Great riders, great horses, great performances and great wealth

aren't made overnight. Successful investing and wealth accumulation require time. Great fortunes that last are built over years and decades, not weeks and days. Often the best thing to do when a horse spooks or bolts is nothing: keep your head about you and wait for the situation to resolve itself. Conversely, when things are going exactly right, the best thing for the rider to do is nothing - allow the horse to carry himself and be part of him, not against him. Investing is similar: allow your portfolio to do its job. Don't overreact to current events but be courageous and patient when times are trying.

Planning. When working or riding our horses, we are much more successful when we have a plan. From something as simple as deciding, "I will make a 20 meter circle at A" to completing a complicated reining pattern, both horse and rider perform better and are more relaxed when there is a

plan. A well thought out investment plan prevents us from making emotional decisions. It is generally accepted that two of the biggest motivating emotions that drive our decision making are fear and greed. Fear can cause us to sell or leave the markets at an inopportune time, while greed may influence us to hang on or add more funds to an investment that has already run its course.

Fundamentals Are Key. Executing the basics well is the sign of an accomplished horse-rider partnership. Regardless of your riding discipline, quiet hands and a steady seat will serve you well. When things go wrong, returning to the basics may save you from an accident or injury. How many times have our trainers advised us to "go back to the basics" when trying to solve a difficult horse problem? In-

continued on facing page

Let Your Inner Dressage Queen Come Out!

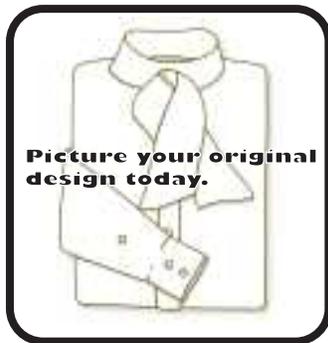
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Investing advice (cont.)

vestors are served well by following the same advice. Trying to time the market, chasing the latest fad, or looking for the newest hot tip seldom lead to long term financial success. As Warren Buffet once said, "To invest successfully over a lifetime does not require a stratospheric IQ, unusual business insights, or inside information. What's needed is a sound intellectual framework for making decisions and the ability to keep emotions from corroding that framework."

Understanding. Seek to understand your horse, so your horse can understand you. Each horse has his own personality and style of learning. Some are more sensitive than others, some learn faster. What scares one barely startles the next. When investing, a good rule of thumb is don't in-

vest in anything that you don't understand. If you can't explain it to your spouse then it is probably too complicated. Investing isn't that complicated - however, that doesn't mean it's easy. Remember your plan from earlier.

And last but not least - breathe! Remember, "This too shall pass." A difficult problem may seem insurmountable at first, but with time it will get better. Bear markets don't last forever - don't believe everything you read in the papers or see on the TV, and have faith in yourself, your investment plan - and your horse.

Claudia Barkmeier is a Senior Vice President - Investments and a Certified Financial Planner™ professional at the Boulder office of Robert W. Baird & Co. She can be reached at 303-786-7240 or email her at cbarkmeier@rwbaird.com.

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| 2007 | |
| Jan 27 | Judges Continuing Education |
| Feb 3-4 | USDF "L" Session A - Lois Yukins |
| Feb 10 | Show Managers & TD Continuing Education |
| March 10-11 | USDF "L" Session B - Janet Foy |
| March 24-25 | 24-25 RMDS Winter Wake Up Show |
| April 14-15 | USDF "L" Session C - Debbie Riehl-Rodriguez |
| June 9-10 | USDF "L" Session D - Lois Yukins |
| Sept 26 | Breed Show and Breed Championship |
| Sept 27-30 | RMDS Open and Championship Show |
| Sept 27-30 | Region V Championships-Colorado |
| | USDF "L" |
| | contact Heather Petersen 719-683-8435 |

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

Contact the RMDS Central Office for more information

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One-of-a-kind 16.5 acre rural property with amazing views. This spacious home has been updated with beautiful wood flooring on the main level and features granite counters, maple cabinets and stainless appliances in the kitchen. Set up for horses and includes ample water rights.

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EQUESTRIAN LIVING

Here is an opportunity to own a horse property and raise children in a rural environment where they are free to play and explore. This tantalizing 35 acre property with a 5400 sq. ft. log home includes a 5 stall barn, outdoor arena and hot fenced pastures.

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Spectacular views of the Front Range from this property surrounded by a historic farm preserve! A 3 bed, 3 bath ranch house and pond on 3 acres of land offer a rare opportunity to establish a horse property along the quiet St Vrain Road.

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CR 16.5, Longmont | \$219,000 | MLS# 491321



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Special Series: The Classic Art of Riding by Ralf Schmitzer

Part 1: The Genesis of the Classic Art of Riding

Preface

I have been fascinated by the Classic Art of Riding for a long time and I realize more and more the righteousness and truthfulness of this inherited and long-growing knowledge. Let me take you on a journey through the history of this very unique art to make this philosophy very easy to understand for everyone.

I would like to write about this art, not to write something “new,” but to revive the inherited knowledge through my own words. First, let us take a look at the cultural history of the horse to understand what the message of the Old Masters was.

One of Xenophon’s most famous quotes that is still valid 2,400 years later, states: “The rider who brings the horse into a certain frame, appears very impressive and beautiful.”

Unfortunately today the perception of this beautiful frame seems to be veiled. If you have the desire to reach the level of riding which Xenophon described in one sentence, then accompany me through a series into this past to bring it back to life.

Too often this philosophy is presented in an untouchable and remote way, sometimes even mystical, which of course is very unpractical for the rider of today. Or is it? Is the philosophy of the Classic Art of Riding relevant today and could one ride the modern horse accordingly?

I would like to answer these questions for you. My goal is to preserve the history of Classic Riding and to bring the inherited knowledge that has been forgotten back to life, to be a valuable resource and enrichment to all riders of all levels, and to present this artform in an open book that is very easy to understand.

– Ralf Schmitzer

When one encounters the philosophy of the Classic Art of Riding, an overwhelming flood of different terms usually come to the surface. The fact that there are so many different terms may stem from some type of fear of dealing with this philosophy. This certainly represents a potential danger to keep one from deeply delving into this subject and also to keep one away from understanding the immense treasure that comes with knowing this centuries old art of riding.

We may ask, “What exactly is the Classic Art of Riding?” This philosophy may appear intangible and mystical to many of us. Another question may be, “Can this philosophy be followed in our modern way of riding?” Discussions like these have interested horsemen throughout modern times.

For this reason, I am not able to respond to these questions with simple answers. Instead, I would like to take a look at the history of riding with you.

Throughout history there were persistent and controversial discussions about the Art of Riding as well as about the training of the horse. The influence of many different cultures with their individual riding masters set the paving stones for certain training and riding methods that remain present today. However, it can be said that the ancient Greeks had already developed the art of riding in its high-

est refinement during the antiquities.

This time era represents a highly developed level of knowledge in science and also in refined philosophical studies, which gave way to the development of a sensitive, thoughtful approach towards each individual characteristic of the horse.

Xenophon, General and Governor of the State (430 B.C.), recognized the advantages of his experiences with horses from war activities and peaceful times. He documented his knowledge in his famous text “Peri Hippikes” (About the Art of Riding.) One of his most famous statements was, “When a rider brings his horse into this certain frame, where the horse grows into its unique self of highest beauty, the rider has accomplished that his horse is presented as one of the highest thrills for an observer’s eye, happy, proud and impressive.”

Today, this statement still leaves a deep impression on most riders and horse lovers.

The Romans also had very prominent methods of training that emphasized war activities and crusades. During the Roman times the horse was mostly used as a war horse.

In a one-on-one fight that decided over one’s life or death, the familiar and famous high air movements of the horse were established and used partially as deadly

continued on page 16

weapons. During the Middle Ages riding also reached some level of high training, due to the knights and their tournaments.

The breakdown and destruction of countries along with the relocation of cultures was responsible for the gradual decline of the art of riding. The Renaissance rekindled the ideals of the Classic Art of Riding and at the same time was heavily influenced by the Iberian warlords. Riding academies were founded by famous riding masters still known today. Some of the most known are Federico Grisone, Pignatelli and Pluvinel.

In the year 1532, Frederico Grisone founded a riding academy for noblemen in Naples, Italy. Significantly, instruction was not based upon war strategies. This was a decisive moment where the horse became a creature for entertainment - a fruitful beginning for the rediscovery of the Classic Art of Riding.

Southern France, Spain and Portugal (where the Iberian bull fighting tradition had preserved fragments of the Classic Art of Riding) contributed towards the re-discovery of the Classic Art of Riding as well. But a real blooming of this art happened in the Riding Academy in Versailles. France.

The most prominent riding master of this time was Francois Robichon de la Guerinere (1688-1751), who was greatly respected throughout his career. Like no other, he

refined this art of riding further. His work continues to influence riding to this day.

The 17th and 18th Centuries fortunately played their role in preserving the Classic Art of Riding by cultivating it in the European royal courts. Here, the already highly developed Art of Riding was brought to its highest fulfillment ever. Elegance in dancing movements, refined expression, and pureness in all movements were the main focus of the Classic Art during these times.

This art was the privilege of kings and dukes who worked closely together with their riding masters towards an ultimate perfection.

Noblemen also entertained themselves with their horses during times of peace. The Art of Riding was tailored for the type of horse prevalent at those times. This type of horse was bred of the noblest oriental bloodlines and well established bloodlines from southern European regions.

Horse breeds developed over large areas in Europe like the Andalusian, Lipizan, and Neapolitan, which were favored and highly respected at the Royal Court during the Baroque Times. This is the most obvious definition for the Baroque horse bred during

the Baroque Times.

Today, the most original form of the Classic Art of Riding is practiced at the Spanish Riding School in Vienna, which was founded in 1572.

(to be continued in the August Centaur...)



A military leader and statesman in ancient Greece, Xenophon made his most enduring contribution to mankind in the art of equitation.

Xenophon 430 BC

Born in Greece, father of two sons, author, governor, general and founder of the Classic Art of Riding in ancient times. Through him, riding changed to a sensitive, horse friendly and very esthetic expression. The very first script about the Classic Art of Riding was inherited from him, remaining highly recognized to this day.

Francois Robichon de la Guerinere (1688-1751)

He was and remains until today one of the most prominent riding masters. Robichon shifted the Art of Riding from its focus on war strategies towards a refined art form. He was the main influence on the development of the Classic Art of Riding. Guerinere taught at a private riding academy in Paris and then at the Royal Marstall. His book "Ecole de la Cavalerie" was printed in 1729 and was translated in almost every European country. In 1730, he was named head of the famous riding track in Tuilerien, which made him world famous. He founded the exercise "shoulder-in" as well as the dressage seat prevalent today. His principles remain 100% valid in the modern context of riding.

2006 Shows & Events

JULY

- 1-2 Dressage at the Peak II Summer Show – Penrose Stadium - USEF**
Contact Heather Petersen 719-683-8435 slush@drgw.net
- 2-3 Bridget DiPasquale Clinic-Grand Junction**
Contact Sue Boulware 970-216-4800 sue843@msn.com
- 9 Autumn Hill Sunday Series #2 – Autumn Hill Longmont - RMDS**
Contact Jane Donnelly 970-669-5775
- 7-9 Max Gahwyler Clinic - Huntley, MT**
Contact Barbara Ramlow 406-348-2280 crkside@nemontel.net
- 8-9 Shannon Peters Clinic - K2 Ranch Dacono**
Contact Kate Shepard 303-587-4848
- 11 Janet Brown Foy Clinic - Reiterhof Ranch**
Contact Jody 303-646-9520 reiterhofranch@aol.com
- 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**
Contact Martha Fischer 970-532-4603 marthafischer@earthlink.net
- 15 Kelly O’Leary Clinic, Black Forest Area,**
Contact Patricia Johnson 719-749-9866 patricia@oarfairranch.com
- 16 Twin Peaks Dressage #2 – Tomora Training Center - Greeley - USEF**
Contact Martha Fischer 970-532-4603 marthafischer@earthlink.net
- 15-16 Tri State Summer Dressage Show Riverton, WY - USEF**
Contact Denise Denhardt 307-332-4722 happyhalfhalts@hotmail.com
- 17-18 Jos Sevriens Clinic-Chatellen-Ft Collins**
Contact Liz Schump 970-481-2621
- 21-23 Autumn Hill Summer Dressage Festival Longmont – USEF**
Contact Jane Donnelly 970-669-5775

- 21-23 4th Annual English Horse Show & Equestrian Fair Dillon, MT**
Contact John Xanthopoulos 406-683-7018 showinfo@umwestern.edu
- 25 Janet Brown Foy Clinic - Reiterhof Ranch**
Contact Jody 303-646-9520 reiterhofranch@aol.com
- 27 Janet Foy Clinic - Black Forest Area**
Contact Patricia Janssen 719-749-9866 patricia@parfairranch.com
- 29 Pendragon Stud RMDS Dressage Show #1 – Larkspur – RMDS**
Contact Leslie Terry 303-688-4147
- 29-30 Jan Eberling Clinic – Middle Fork Ranch Lyons, CO**
Contact Mike/Colin 303-747-2626 mschikora@abacus-us.com
- 30 Kristi Wysocki/Matt Davis Clinic-Crooked Willow**
Contact details in Centaur

AUGUST

- 4 Dressage in the Rockies #1 – Colorado Horse Park - Parker – USEF**
Contact Jennifer Killinger 818-841-3554 jennifer@glenroys.com
- 4-5 Alex Steiner Clinic - Colo. Horse Park**
Contact Glenda McElroy 818-841-3554 glenda@glenroys.com
- 5 Dressage in the Rockies #2– Colorado Horse Park Parker – USEF**
Contact Jennifer Killinger 818-841-3554 jennifer@glenroys.com
- 6 Dressage in the Rockies #3 – Colorado 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@drgw.net
- 5-6 Cheyenne Dressage & Eventing Club Dressage Show - Cheyenne, WY - USEF**
Contact: Rowena Heckert 307-632-4151
- 7-9 Christianne Borchet Clinic – Casper, WY**
Contact Anne MacGuire 307-237-9148
- 11-12 Christianne Borchet Clinic – Ft Collins**
Contact Liz Schump 970-674-3026

2006 Shows & Events

- 11-13 Nina Fout Clinic – Middle Fork Ranch – Lyons, CO**
Contact Mike/Colin 303-747-2626
mschikora@abacus-us.com
- 12 Foothills Chapter Dressage Show-Golden-RMDS**
Contact Susan Kracklauer 303-421-3511
- 13 Autumn Hill Sunday Series #3 – Autumn Hill Longmont-RMDS**
Contact Jane Donnelly 970-669-5775
- 15 Janet Brown Foy Clinic - Reiterhof Ranch**
Contact Jody 303-646-9520 reiterhofranch@aol.com
- 19 Sun Prairie Stable Sport Horse & Breed Show & Dressage Show - Peyton - USEF**
Contact Camille Griffin 303-663-0041
- 26 Utah Dressage Society Annual Show #1- Lehi, UT - USEF**
Contact Eva-Maria Adolphi 801-254-3247
adolphi@redrock.net
- 27 Utah Dressage Society Annual Show #2 Lehi, UT - USEF**
Contact Eva-Maria Adolphi 801-254-3247 adolphi@redrock.net
- 26 CSDA Schooling Show – Aspen Ridge**
Contact Heather Petersen 719-683-8435 slush@drgw.net
- 27 Aspen Ridge RMDS Dressage Show Aspen Ridge - RMDS**
Contact Heather Petersen 719-683-8435 slush@drgw.net
- 29 Janet Brown Foy Clinic - Reiterhof Ranch**
Contact Jody 303-646-9520 reiterhofranch@aol.com
- 31 Janet Foy Clinic - Black Forest Area**
Contact Patricia Janssen 719-749-9866
patricia@parfaitranch.com
- SEPTEMBER**
- 2 Boulder Valley So Long to Summer – Somerset Farm - Longmont - RMDS**
Contact 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 – RMDS**
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songlady@rentalsgj.com
- 9 Pendragon Stud RMDS Dressage Show #2 Larkspur – RMDS**
Contact Leslie Terry 303-688-4147
- 10 Table Mountain Ranch Dressage Show-Golden - RMDS**
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cannell747@aol.com
- 14 RMDS Executive Board Meeting-6: 30 pm Perkins Restaurant I-25 & Buchtel - Denver**
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- 16-17 Adult Amateur Clinic-Broken Spoke - Penrose**
Contact Brenda Haley 719-275-0118
- 19 Janet Brown Foy Clinic - Reiterhof Ranch**
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- 21 2006 Cosequin/Breeders Championship & RMDS Breed Championships & Open Breed Show**
Contact Heather Petersen 719-683-8435 slush@drgw.net
- 21-24 Certified Horsemanship Assoc. International Conference - CSU - Ft Collins**
Contact Christy Landwehr 800-399-0138
clandwehr@cha-ahse.org
- 22-24 RMDS Dressage Championships & Dressage Open Show - Parker-USEF**
Contact Heather Petersen 719-683-8435 slush@drgw.net
- OCTOBER**
- 3 Janet Brown Foy Clinic - Reiterhof Ranch**
Contact Jody 303-646-9520 reiterhofranch@aol.com
- 6-8 Region V Championships – Expo New Mexico, Albuquerque**
Contact Donald Simpson 505-550-6735
dsimpson62@aol.com
- 7-8 Paul Belasik Clinic - Cottonwood Farm Grand Junction**
Contact Lynea Schultz-Ela 970-872-3961
lynea@direcway.com
- 17 Janet Brown Foy Clinic - Reiterhof Ranch**
Contact Jody 303-646-9520 reiterhofranch@aol.com
- 20-22 Christianne Borchet Clinic – Casper, WY**
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For compulsive planners who want to see further into the future, please see the calendar at the RMDS website, www.rmds.org.

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The Centaur Newsletter

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CONTACT INFORMATION:

For article suggestions, articles, columns, letters to editor: Centaur editor Gavin Ehringer, PO Box 9 Colorado Springs, CO 80907 ph. 719-471-8764 e-mail gavinehringer@earthlink.net

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

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

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Trainer/Judge/Vet Talk: Submit your questions, we will find an expert to write a reply.
Editor: gavinehringer@earthlink.net

RMDS Information

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) Penrose (Cañon City)
 Western CO (Aspen, Carbondale) 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 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 Governors meeting is held the second Saturday of November. Contact the Central Office for precise dates.

RMDS Chapter Meeting Schedule & Contacts

Boulder Valley, 2nd Monday, even months.

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

Colorado Springs, 3rd Tues., location TBD.

Simone Windeler, 719-287-2040, or check CSdressage.org

Foothills, 2nd Wednesday, every other month.

Kathy Johnson, 303-494-0905

Grand Valley, 1st Tues. every month, roaming location.

Kelly Schlagel, 970-242-5935

High Plains, 3rd Monday every month, location TBD.

Alexandra Curnutte, 303-663-0358 curnuttet@msn.com

Northern Colo., 3rd Tues every month, CSU Vet Teaching

Hosp., Susie Gordon, 970-407-7357 sgordon@fcgov.com

Penrose, 1st Wed., every month, roaming location

Sharon Ghilarducci, 719-462-5760

Tri State, TBA; contact Darlene Vaughan, 307-332-7261

Western Colo., contact Judith Family, 970-923-8832

DNS@rof.net

Show Information

Always call the contact individual to check show info, as dates, times and places may change.

NOTE: ALL COMPETITORS SHOULD DO A SCORE CHECK WITH THE CENTRAL OFFICE, ESPECIALLY PRIOR TO AWARDS. Phone: (720) 890-7825

Calendar Submissions

Submissions of events for the RMDS 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 correctly spell all proper names (clinician/judge, location, contact) and include a phone number where you can be reached with questions. Send all calendar items and/or events requiring RMDS sanctions to: Beth Geier, RMDS Central Office, (720) 890-7825.

Technical Delegates, Judges & Certified Instructors

Dressage Judges Ratings & Levels Qualified to Judge

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

*May only judge or officiate at RMDS only.

Any class ridden before a judge not qualified to judge at the level must ride "hors d'concours" (score does not count).

JUDGES

FEI 'I'

Janet Foy
719-633-0231

USEF 'S'

Debbie Riehl-Rodriguez
303-642-7708
Sandra Hotz
303-817-2030

USEF 'R'

Janey "Dolly" Hannon
303-467-3221
Kristi Wysocki
303-648-9877

USEF 'r'

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

USDF 'L' Graduate – Schooling & RMDS only recognized shows

Simone Ahern-Harless*
719-749-9274
Ilyse Auringer
970-588-3859
Francie Brashear
303-840-7626
Julie Burt
719-852-5269
Rae Ann Cook*
970-225-1408
Emmy Detlof
719-495-4188
Marti Foster *
303-277-1132
Beth Geier
303-673-9840
Jan Goodrich-Spear
303-664-0152
Gwen Ka'awaloa*
303-646-4363
Ann MacGuire* (WY)
307-237-9148
Sarah Martin*
720-891-1369

Kathleen Mayger
970-310-8729
Bridget Milnes
303-660-4986
Linda Ohlson-Gross*
303-840-9818
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

Janet Foy 'R'
719-633-0231
Debbie Riehl-Rodriguez 'R'
303-642-7708

Kristi Wysocki 'r'
303-648-9877

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Eva-Maria Adolphi (UT) - r
801-254-3247
Veronica Holt - R
303-646-3829
Laurie Mactavish - R
970-476-2932
Deeda Randle (WY) - R
307-638-6737
Catherine Siemiet - r
719-942-5311
Diane Stanley
(MT) - r
406-652-4061
Libby Stokes - r
303-688-2795

RMDS

Joan Clay
970-490-1927
Jeannette Hillery
303-494-7718

Jane McBride
719-598-4496
Susan Selby
970-227-9530
M. Elaine Thomas
719-495-1510

USDF CERTIFIED IN- STRUCTORS TRAINING – 2ND

Julie Burt
719-852-5269
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
303-646-9059
Bridget Milnes
303-660-4986
Kristi Wysocki
303-648-9877

USDF CERTIFIED IN- STRUCTORS TRAINING – 4th

Simone Ahern-Harless
719-749-9274
Nancy DeVaney
303-681-2516
Loma Fowler
303-841-0417
Sarah Martin
720-891-1369
Kathy Simard
720-981-4448
Melinda Weatherford
970-484-5218

*Denotes graduating with distinction

2006 Omnibus Corrections

A-10 TD-USEF Laurie Mactavish 970-390-5160 C-59 Black Hills Dressage Show recognition #246949

C-7 Cheyenne Dressage and Eventing Club Dressage Show Cheyenne, WY C-61 2nd Judge: Beverly Rogers (S)

C-69 Secretary Kathi Averill - same contact information

For USDF Recognized Shows:

Rider and Owners: for non-qualifying classes, riders and owners can also have IM cards or PM cards as well as the GM and non-member numbers

C-25 Secretary: April – Nell Foxworth 303-545-5988
Sept - TBA
Manager: April Suzanne Brennan
Sept 2 show – Jeannette Hillery 303-494-7718

Junior Rider-Junior Team Tests, no equivalent will be ridden; they will ride the Jr. Team Test at the finals. The Jr. Individual Test will qualify for 4th level. The Jr. Preliminary Test cannot be used as a GAIG/USDF Qualifying class. Please update any printed material.

C-31 Columbine Dressage Show II
Judge: Sarah Michael "S"
TD: Laurie Mactavish

Young Rider Team Test, competitors will rider the YR Team Test at the championships

C-33 Autumn Hill Sunday Series: add pony divisions'

ENTRY FORM – Must use form that has April 1, 2006 in upper right hand corner-found on line at www.rmids.org

C-38 TD: Jane McBride

Chapter News

Foothills Chapter

Scholarship Winner Announced! Our Scholarship Committee is excited to announce that Golden-based trainer/instructor/judge Janet "Dolly" Hannon, a long-time Foothills Chapter member, is the recipient of the first annual Foothills Chapter Scholarship. More details to come in the next issue and on our website (www.foothillsdressage.org)

1st Annual Pool Party and Freestyle Fest – July 28, at Table Mtn. Ranch – great fun, good food, family, and just-for-fun freestyles. Bring your swimsuits! Chapter members present informal rides to music and/or in costume! Contact Kathy Johnson (kathykingjohnson@uswest.net) to sign up for riding a freestyle.

Summer Fun RMDS Show - The Foothills Chapter RMDS show is August 12 at Table Mtn. Ranch. Look for our page in the Omnibus. This is a fun show with great footing and convenient facilities.

We want and need your participation! Please attend our monthly meetings (2nd Weds. of each month), 7:00 pm at Table Mtn. Ranch, 19000 W. 58th Avenue in Golden.

Visit our Updated Website: www.foothillsdressage.org. Contact info, meeting minutes, forms, Member Photos (send your photos to kathykingjohnson@uswest.net for posting), and more! We will also use it to post ride times for the Summer Fun Show.

Northern Colorado Dressage Assoc.

Hard to believe another annual Rocky Mountain Dressage Classic is over. After months of preparation and hard work, the show drew to a close on June 11 with high accolades from all the participants. Secretary Jane Donnelly, manager Joan Clay, and volunteer coordinator Sue McCarty were outstanding. Everyone enjoyed working with the judge, Sue Malone-Casey from the Dallas area, and loved our friendly TD, Catherine "Cat" Siemiet. We got to watch some really wonderful riding – more about our high point competitors in the next newsletter. Two riders received scores in 3rd Level Test 3 that complete their requirements for earning a USDF Bronze Medal – congratulations to Taydie Drummond (65.333%) riding Dennis, and Ruth Hurst (64.889%) on Passat!

Thanks to the generosity of our sponsors, including show patron extraordinaire Gail Burger, we're optimistic that NCDCA will be able to send a check from the proceeds of RMDC to the Susan G. Komen Foundation in support of breast cancer research.

Summer is a time for the club to take a breather but we'll look forward to getting back together at our September meeting to hear about everyone's adventures, ribbons, prizes, and no doubt fabulous show scores. Meantime, we hope you'll consider signing up for NCDCA's two-day Adult Amateur Day Camp on September 16-17 in Fort Collins. We hugely appreciate Rocky Mountain Dressage

Society's generous financial support, which helps keep the costs down to a very affordable \$95! Please call Joyce Hall at (970) 484-8113 for more information about this fun camp.

High Plains Chapter

As President of High Plains I have been busy with summer showing and various clinics. Keeping two teenage girls out of trouble also has something to do with where the time goes. The High Plains Chapter still hopes to host another schooling show before the end of the summer. Any further information on that will be in newsletters or the August Centaur. Our meetings are the 3rd Monday of the month. We have been alternating between Parker and other cities within our area. Call any officer for more information about meeting times and places.

Alex Curnutte, curnuttes@msn.com, home phone 303 663 0358.

Tri State Chapter

We just had our last chapter meeting before our sanctioned show on July 15th and 16th in Riverton Wyoming. Once again it is great to see everyone pitching in to make it happen. It is truly grass roots dressage at it's finest and we always have a lot of fun and put on a great show. I especially wanted to recognize the main people who are the movers and shakers in Tri State Dressage:

Continued on page 27



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3 year AWS mare 16.2, Satine is stunning pinto mare. A elegant mare with correct conformation and type. A unbelievable mover with tons of suspension! She has excellent bloodlines, will be started under saddle soon!. - \$18,000.

5 year Oldenburg gelding 15.2, Little Bear is beautiful marked pinto gelding. Three phenomenal gaits and a wonderful friendly temperament. Currently under saddle. Will make a great amateur or jr/young riders prospect! - \$15,000.

2 year AWS gelding 16.0, Hollywood is a flashy pinto gelding! Three wonderful gaits, correct conformation with a bold personality. - \$9,000

2 yearling colts - Elvis is a super handsome colt! A wonderful uphill mover with tons of suspension! Excellent conformation and a sweetheart temperament! Cowboy is a beautiful marked dark bay/black pinto colt! He is a modern elegant colt with correct conformation and type. A unbelievable mover! Super sweet personality! - \$7,500.

1 year old black/white pinto filly - Ruby will take your breath away. Wonderful markings, an incredible mover with a bold personality . Three excellent gaits and conformation. Her brother was awarded Supreme Award at his testing. - \$9,500.

11 year old Oldenburg gelding 17.0 - Shrimp is a really special horse! Hanoverian lines Grande on top, A-line on bottom. He is a solid 3rd level horse schooling 4th level. Will make a great amateur or Jr/Young Riders horse. Very bombproof! Sadly for sale due to owner's son's premature birth. - \$35,000

Please visit my website to pick out your next champion! www.yarbroughacres.com Contact Jeri - 303-857-0388 or Cell phone 303-210-8974.

NOBEL SON, FOALED 5/16/2006! This 3/4 Andalusian is the only get of Nobel to have most of his physical characteristics, especially 2 white rear hooves, long, straight legs and compliance. Come see this charmer who is already in halter, leading at 3 weeks. Dam on site. Cortijo ValMoor, 719-495-0248; valmoor@aol.com

Reg. TB Gelding, 17h, 15yr chestnut. Heavy boned, very pretty. Working 3rd, lovely, powerful mover with great work ethic. 5 years training with local German trainer. Very sweet. Needs experienced rider. Healthy, sound, no vices. \$15,000.00 OBO 719-649-0295.

For sale 16 year old black Paint, 15.3 H. Professionally trained. Training 3rd level, showing 2nd with scores in the upper 60s. Loads and trailers well. Excellent ground manners. Clean X-rays. \$7,000 for Lola and aka Mighty Charger.

2005 Oldenburg/Arab gelding-gorgeous and sweet. Floating gaits, easy to handle, ponies, ties, loads. Bay, 2 matching hind socks. \$6,500.00-Sue-303-444-7833

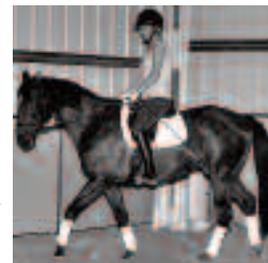
For Sale: 3yr. old Reg. AWS Clydesdale Warmblood Cross. Dam is a TB-App. Sire is a Clyde-TB. Dual Reg. with AWS and AAHA {App}. Scored " Premium" in inspections. Four White Socks, and blaze and blanket, with a very gentle disposition and good movement. No Vices, and correctly started. \$3,500 firm. Rachel Veed - 303-621-8929

Impressive, 5 year old Oldenburg, Chestnut mare by Frohwind. Exceptional movement, wonderful, willing temperament.Going beautifully at Training, schooling First. This mare has been in training with a young rider and has cliniced with numerous international trainers, all of whom thought the mare was outstanding. \$25,000. Contact Liz at 970-481-2621

For Sale: 7 yr. old Black and White, 50/50,Reg. Paint Mare. Great Safe Horse! Has had extensive English Pleasure, Jumping, Western [including cattle work] training. 16h. Long arched neck, good movement, and muscular. This would be a great working broodmare. 100% sound and safe. No vices or issues. Will side pass, soft steady mouth, use hind end, and stop well. Previously ridden by the whole family. And great on trails. Sacrifice at \$4,000 Rachel Veed - 303-621-8929

HORSE FOR SALE Legacy, my wonderful thoroughbred bay with a white blaze on his face, is for sale. He's 15 (born 3.3.90), has Jockey Club papers, is 16.2, intelligent, calm, affectionate, and great to ride. I've been riding him for six years. He won ribbons at every Training Level dressage show, and is ready to move up to First Level. He is easy-going on trail rides, loads perfectly, and is a joy to own. I'm happy to give you his medical information. I'm selling him because I have stopped riding. Price: \$5,000 or best offer. Call Evelyn at 303-449-8474 or email ep-kaye@msn.com.

Elegant Thoroughbred Gelding for Sale: 17 hands, 11 years old, training first level. He is a big, black, good mover with a noticeably large overstep and good, solid gates. He's very sound and has a great attitude. He's had minimal dressage training and obviously enjoys it; he wants to learn more! Sadly, I have to sell him as I'm a college student. \$5,500 OBO. To EXCELLENT home only! (719) 930-7636



For Sale: Bashkir Curly cross colts. DOB 4-17-06. One is a Blue-eyed Cremello with wavy mane and tail. other is a tri-color pinto. Both are heavy muscular, and quite friendly and gentle. Out of large Lesson-performance Mares. Sire was exported to England and a 15.3h.Tri-colored Buckskin Tobiano. Buy now, and price is \$900ea. Great re-sale projects, or safe second husband horse. Healthy and sound. Rachel Veed- 303-621-8929

For Sale: Gorgeous 16.3 hand Swedish WB - 1987 Chestnut Gelding, trained through fourth level, currently working second. "Brigadoon" can teach someone a lot and has a great personality. He has great ground manners, and loves trail rides. Sadly have to sell him because I'm going to college. \$6000, contact Kristine 303-641-0402.

Weigel Stables offers for sale "Par-Fay " 1997 15.1 h Reg. APHA mare. 3 years dressage training with USDF scores in the 60%'s. Now schooling in First level. Photos on web site: www.weigelstables.homestead.com. Also jumps, works cows, and loves trail rides! Call Edee 406-348-2624

2004 Premium Oldenburg gelding. Fantastically bred colt, great type and movement with temperament to please anyone. By Madison(Matcho aa). Extensive groundwork has been done, will be ready to start lightly next spring. Currently showing in-hand. Over 15hh at 2yo, will mature 16+ \$10,200 OBO. 719-683-9387 elashby@falcon-broadband.net.

County Connection, 17" N, gusseted panel, excellent cond., black. Asking \$2650 (new sells for \$3295). Maureen (303) 988-1304 or email mmyask@comcast.net.

County Fusion -17" inch saddle, new as of February 2006, bridle, blankets, etc. \$3,000. Contact June Bachman at 303 670 0500 or email at jimcappa@msn.com

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Chapter News (cont. from pg. 22)

our President Darlene Vaughan, Secretary Tammy Fagan, Treasurer Denise Denhardt along with Lyndenn Denhardt-Dempster and Marianne Pryor. These ladies are at the heart of most of our activities and we really appreciate them. We will be holding our annual meeting on the evening of the 15th at the Bull Restaurant, which gives our out-of-state members a chance to attend while they are here for the show. We look forward to seeing our friends from Montana, Colorado and the far reaches of Wyoming.

I hope everyone is enjoying great riding weather, not too many bugs and cool evening breezes. As always, Happy Half Halts from Tri State Dressage.

Boulder Valley Chapter

Summer is well under way and the Boulder Club is staying busy in spite of the heat! Plans are under way to revive our adult amateur camp – look for that in the summer of 2007. Coming up in September is our “So Long to Summer Show” – for more details and the prize list please visit our website at <http://www.bvdressage.org>. The Ride A Test before our Spring Fling show was such a success we are going to do it again. Look for more information on the website or The Centaur. Perhaps you would like to volunteer and help out with this event? If so please contact Glenda Needles at pinsand@aol.com or 303-442-8757. We are using the Ride A Tests as a fundraiser for Dressage For The Cure, so please continue to support us by either riding or volunteering.

The World Cup is returning to Las Vegas in April 2007 – we would like to see if the club would be interested in putting together a group trip – let me know of your interest the time to plan is now. Drop me a line and let me know.

It is also not too early to start thinking about our year end banquet/party. Look for changes in the venue, menu and activities. We have out grown our space at The Bridge School – does anyone have any ideas on where to have this in January 2007? Our next meeting is scheduled for Aug. 14 at 6:30 PM at my house. We will have food, drinks and fun – please come and join us.

Claudia Barkmeier, President
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