



The Centaur

Educating Horse and Rider as Partners.

An RMDS Publication

June 2012

The Learning Curve — Holly Mason's Secrets of Bending

By Natalie DeFee Mendik, www.mendikmedia.com, Illustrations by Sandy Rabinowitz

Originally published in the February 2012 Edition of *Equine Journal*

Are you ready to increase your dressage learning curve? Holly Mason of *Dressage by Design* breaks down the mechanics of bending in her popular "Secrets of Bending™" clinic. Do you want to know what the biggest secret is? It's all actually very straightforward. In *Dressage by Design*, Mason's goal is to help riders understand how their bodies and the horse's body work. In doing so, abstract dressage concepts suddenly make sense. Mason likes to change the way riders think about certain concepts by changing the lexicon we use for those ideas. In "Secrets of Bending™," the concept of bending is approached as curving. Bending is as simple as first curving the horse's spine, then riding that curve.

Lateral Steps to the Rescue

Although dressage riders are familiar with the "back to front" drill, Mason likes to establish bend by first addressing the forehand. She explains that the forehand can actually be an impediment to good motion when the horse is not adequately supple in front. "The forehand has to be appropriately supple so that the hind legs can do their job," remarks Mason. In fact, Karl



Sideways steps help the horse build superior abdominal strength. The pelvis curls under, the hips supple, the back lifts, and the hind legs come more forward underneath the rider.

Mikolka, former Chief Rider at the Spanish Riding School in Vienna and Mason's longtime mentor, noted that the horse's head, neck and shoulders are so powerful they can stop the motion of the back. Incorporating lateral work into schooling is one of Mason's first steps in establishing bend. This lateral work in the form of leg-yields promotes flexibility in the horse. Mason begins working the horse in-hand at the walk



Lori and Unico GPA

I have attended some of the different private and chapter events available to all RMDS members. I attended the Ralf Schmitzer clinic hosted by Simone Windeler, our past RMDS President, at Tuscany Hill in Franktown. Ralf is a pleasure to watch and the horses look so happy to be working with him too. I also attended the Fred Kappler clinic at Anchorage Farm in Pine. Fred is a fun instructor with a wealth of knowledge to share. I valued that Fred worked with all types of horses and riders. Aspen Creek Animal Hospital presented

a nutrition seminar that was educational and included wine and cheese. My own Foothills Chapter hosted the Heather Robertson clinic in Golden at Capricorn Farm. Everyone had a great time and enjoyed riding with Heather again or for the first time. There are so many educational opportunities available I just can't get to them all. I love to see the variety and support of the sport.

I have made this recommendation before and I will so again – attend some of these amazing educational events that are offered to RMDS members. There is something for everyone!

RMDS Symposium update – our AA chair, Education chair and Jr/YR chair are hard at work preparing the details of the RMDS Symposium for 2013. The clinician has been contacted and we are waiting for the details to be ironed out. It does look to be in the winter; therefore a heated arena is

also a must. I am sure this fine group of ladies will have all the details in the Centaur soon.

Cathy Van Berg, our Centaur editor is working on revamping the newsletters look again. If you have any ideas that you would like for her to consider including, please contact her to share your ideas.

I have some exciting news to end with – 2013 Regional Championships will be here in Colorado and hosted by RMDS and managed by Two White Feet. It is always an honor to be able to host this regional event.

“Continuity gives us roots; change gives us branches, letting us stretch and grow and reach new heights.”

-Pauline R. Kezer

-Lori Mitchell, President, RMDS

ROSTER CORRECTIONS

Susan Reeve Cope

303-880-1562

High Plains

Well the first 5 months of the year have flown by and show season is started. By way of recovering from tax season, I spent the last days of April in Del Mar watching some of our country's best. I continue to be awed by the quality of our athletes, human and equine alike, and our young riders who are coming up. I don't know about you but I am looking forward to watching some good riding coming from London this August.

While I have been focusing on my “day job” during tax season, our dynamo of a VP, Suzie Halle, has been gathering pictures and fans for our photo contest on our Facebook page. If you haven't “liked” us yet go visit and put up a picture. Thank you to Suzie for keeping the focus on while I went AWOL. No surprise that our membership has peaked with the approach of show season. Please let us know what you would like to see to make your membership more of a value to you. Some of the chapters, in addition to holding meetings and educational events, have an awards dinner for the membership. Let me know what you think. We have a lot of talent in our chapter.

Is there something you think would be of interest to you and your fellow members? Is there a clinician that hasn't come to Colorado in awhile (or ever) that you'd like to suggest? We'd love to hear from you if you would

like to be involved in shaping the direction of our Chapter. Our next meeting will be in July. Please watch your email for date, time and place.

-Wendy Cibis, High Plains Dressage President

Arkansas Valley Chapter

We have been having a great time in the Arkansas Valley! The club had a very productive board meeting in March in which they began the process of reviewing and changing the bylaws. In April, we had an educational meeting where Jamee Amundson presented Dressage Tack and Attire based on the USEF Rulebook.

By publication, AVDA will have had their first Ride-A-Test Show/clinic with Ellene Kloepfer. At the time I'm writing this, we have 15 entries for the show and are very much looking forward to this educational event.

June 2 and 3 will bring a Musical Freestyle Clinic to our club with Simone Windeler as the clinician. This should be a great event also. Club members are trail riding, lesson-ing and preparing for show season. Happy half-halts!

-Jamee Amundson, President, Arkansas Valley

Northern Colorado

NCDA's “Ride-A-Test” clinic held on Saturday April 7th at Stone Gate

Ranch attracted thirteen riders who received valuable instruction and encouragement from the judge, Kathleen Donnelly. It was a gorgeous, sunny Colorado day and several Easter bunnies were sighted. Equine and human participants were treated to baskets of carrots and sweets. In addition to the educational aspects of the clinic, the event was a great chance to meet other NCDA members and enjoy watching horses of a variety of breeds and levels. A special “Hats off” to host Mimi White who rode Molokai Molokini (aka Mugs) in an Intermediare I test. This was Mimi's first test ride since her recovery from serious injuries incurred in a farm accident 7 months ago.

On April 25th, NCDA members gathered over refreshments at Rae Ann Cook's Phantom Hill Farm for an evening with Alex Gerding, dressage and show jumping trainer, instructor, and “R” judge. Alex discussed his philosophy of “horse friendly” training in relation to dressage. He emphasized that people should speak up when they observe abusive practices being performed in the warm-up ring and show ring. Alex also spoke about the current controversy about judges' scores in various international dressage competitions. He fielded questions ranging from selection of the dressage horse to the biomechanics of classical versus other training methods.

Cont'd on pg 5



OMNIBUS CORRECTIONS

- Page A-8 Add:
Platte River Chapter, Laura Speer, 970-371-2934, riversidestables_evans@yahoo.com
Pikes Peak Chapter, Simone Windeler, 719-287-2040, simonedressage@gmail.com
Change:
Colorado Springs Chapter Patricia Leech, President, 719-749-2860, pat.leech@skybeam.com
- Page A-11 Ellene Kloepfer 303-523-019
- Page C-5 August 25-26 Utah Dressage Society Annual Show I & II
- Page C-7 May 12 Mariah Farms Schooling Show- not the 19th
- Page C-29 Dressage for the Cure Warm Up and Dressage for the Cure at the Peak now being presented by 2 White Feet, Inc.
- Page C-29 Licensee is now 2 White Feet, Inc, Heather Petersen, Owner
- Page C-30 Checks should now be drawn to 2 White Feet and all proceeds will go to Sense of Security.
- Page C-35 Jane Ayers has been replaced by Ida Anderson Norris (S), Maine/Florida
- Page C-35 Technical Delegate is Eva Maria Adolphi (r), Utah
- Page C-43 Second Judge is Eleanor Stine-Masek (S), Arizona
- Page C-63 Dressage at the Peak II Summer Warm-Up and Dressage at the Peak II Summer now presented by 2 White Feet, Inc.
- Page C-64 Checks should now be drawn to 2 White Feet.

USEF Membership Form has been changed. You can now obtain a non-member adult amateur card. Go to www.USEF.org to get the newest one.

Cont'd from pg 3

Do you need to build trust with your horse, give your youngster confidence in a controlled setting, or just freshen up “Old Faithful” with new challenges? Cross-training in a number of disciplines might be just the ticket. To this end, dressage enthusiasts, Nancy Brian, Shelley Jansen, and Hana Van Campen, as well as riders from other disciplines tackled a trail obstacle course held at Two Spruce Farm in Longmont on April 21st. The clinic incorporated basic groundwork, some natural horsemanship techniques and gentle guidance from instructors over a wide variety of “scary” items. The maneuvers were true tests of dressage training and that old “the responsiveness to seat and leg” turned out to be pretty handy.

NCDA events to be held in May include a seminar on May 1 entitled “Barn Fire Prevention and Safety” co-hosted by the Northern Division of the Colorado Arabian Horse Club and NCDA. Look for announcements of more educational opportunities to be sent by email.

-Hana Van Campen, NCDA President

Boulder Valley

Boulder Valley Dressage held two terrific events in April! A volunteer party and the BVD Spring Fling.

The volunteer party was hosted by Somerset Farms, and despite the surprise snow storm we still had a very good turnout. There were volunteers from all the Boulder county shows

and some new people interested in helping out in the future. It was great to be able to say thank you to everyone who helps us feed our passion by volunteering for our shows!

The Spring Fling this year was again graciously hosted by Singletree farm. The riders were thrilled to finally have a chance to ride outside thanks to good weather for a change! The size and feel of the show made it a fun day for everyone.

Our next event will be the So Long to Summer Show in August...but let's get into summer before we even discuss that! Good luck to everyone at all their shows this summer!

-Kim Lampert, BVD President

Foothills Chapter

The 2012 show season is in full swing with many of members taking advantage of the good weather by participating in the May shows and ride-a-test clinics. The Foothills Chapter held the Heather Robertson Clinic on May 19 and 20 at Capricorn Farms with a “full house” of participants and auditors. Foothill members audited the clinic free of charge and many joined Heather for a group dinner on Saturday night. We will be hosting a second clinic with Heather on August 4 and 5. Please check our website for details on how to register.

We want to remind everyone to join us for the “Ride-A-Test” with Dolly Hannon on June 16th at Roberts

Ranch, Littleton. Trainers will have an opportunity to hear Dolly's comments about the movements, and suggestions for improvement from a judge's viewpoint. Trainers should contact Lori Mitchell at bandwdressage@aol.com to register. Information regarding the event is provided on the Foothills website.

Congratulations to Kristie Cotton, who is the recipient of the Foothills Chapter 2012 scholarship. Kristie and her 5 year old Belgian cross mare have already taken advantage of the scholarship by participating in Foothills' Heather Robertson clinic and this month's Ride-A-Test.

On a final note, we are calling out to members to volunteer for the upcoming events. Volunteering is a great opportunity to meet other members and expand your network. It will also provide an opportunity to learn new skills like scribing or show management. If you are interested in volunteering, please send an email to ccross.co@gmail.com indicating the event you may be able available to give us a hand.

We hope everyone has a chance to take advantage of the many training opportunities throughout the summer. Also, good luck to everyone for a successful show season – we will be cheering for you!

-CC Ross, Secretary, Foothills Chapter

2012 RMDS Junior/Young Rider Dressage Camp
“Ready...Set.... Show!!”

July 18-21, 2012
Tomora Training Center, Greeley, CO

RMDS Jr/YR Dressage Camp is open to any RMDS junior/young rider that is at least 10 yrs of age or older. Participants will camp in tents and we will spend four busy days together making new friends, riding with top local trainers, learning from area horse experts and riding in a schooling show.

Camp Costs: \$375 per camper (This includes stabling, meals, lessons, activities and schooling show entry). Campers must provide their own: horse, tack, transportation/trailer, horse feed and bedding, and human cots/bedding. A \$175 deposit is required for pre-registration.

Camp Director: Julie Haugen 970.290.8360 defiancesport@q.com

PRE-REGISTRATION FORM

Camper's Name: _____

Age: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone: _____

Riding Experience: _____

Please mail the completed pre-registration form and a deposit check for \$175 (made out to RMDS) to:

Julie Haugen 417 Promontory Dr. Loveland, CO 80537

RMDS SPONSORED EDUCATIONAL EVENTS

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

2012

June 9-10	RMDS Winter Wake-Up (in the Summer), Tomora Training Center, Greeley
July 18-21	RMDS Junior Camp, Tomora Training Center, Greeley, CO
July 22	USDF Youth & Adult Team Competition, Tomora Training Center, Greeley, CO
Sept 20	RMDS Breed Show, Colorado Horse Park, Parker, CO
Sept 21-23	RMDS Championships, Colorado Horse Park, Parker, CO
Nov 10	RMDS Board of Governors' Meeting & Awards' Banquet

For details on these and other RMDS events:

Contact Michelle Anderson, the RMDS Education Chairman, at 303-646-1375, michand@hotmail.com. Also, read the Centaur, go to www.rmids.org, or contact the RMDS Central Office at 720-890-7825, rmids@rmids.org.

RMDS PAID POSITIONS

Every two years, RMDS goes through the open bid process for paid positions. Bids should be emailed to RMDS President Lori Mitchell at bandwdressage@aol.com. The following positions are up for bid and/or renewal:

- **Website Maintenance and hosting, effective August 1**
- **Central Office Manager, effective September 1. Will train.**

These are paid RMDS positions for qualified persons. Contracts will be awarded at the July Executive Board meeting.

Call the RMDS Central Office, email rmids@rmids.org, or go to the RMDS website for guidelines about each position.

Bids must be received by **June 15, 2012**. We hope you will plan to attend the July 10th Executive Board meeting as there may be questions asked of you.



Order Form

Rocky Mountain Dressage Society
Polo Shirt with RMDS Logo

Name: _____ Phone #: _____

Shipping Address:

Street: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Women's Polo Shirt - Short Sleeve **Price: \$28.00 (includes tax and shipping)**

Color: _____ Blue with White Logo _____ White with Blue Logo

Size: _____ X-Small _____ Small _____ Medium _____ Large _____ X-Large

If ordering multiple shirts, indicate the color for each size (B=Blue, W=White)
Note: Women's sizes run small

Men's Polo Shirt - Short Sleeve **Price: \$28.00 (includes tax and shipping)**

Color: _____ Blue with White Logo _____ White with Blue Logo

Size: _____ Small _____ Medium _____ Large _____ X-Large

If ordering multiple shirts, indicate the color for each size (B=Blue, W=White)

Order and Payment Summary

Women's Polo Shirt - Short Sleeve _____ (#) X \$28.00 = \$ _____

Men's Polo Shirt - Short Sleeve _____ (#) X \$28.00 = \$ _____

Total Order \$ _____

Make check Payable to RMDS
Mail order form with payment to:

Sharon Soos, Marketing Chairman, 33500 Meadow Hill Lane, Elizabeth, CO 80107



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13912 N. 87TH STREET, LONGMONT
MLS #678955. PRICE \$589,500.
Great property in a great location. 6 acre turnkey horse property with 5 stall barn, heated tack room, heated shop, three car garage. Home is 2486 sq ft, completely remodeled with glazed maple cabinetry, granite, travertine and more. Arena and cross fenced pastures.



2075 DOYLE DRIVE, BERTHOUD
MLS# 667627. NEW PRICE: \$1,175,000
2.89 acres, 5 beds, 8 baths. Fabulous country estate. Custom home w/ fantastic finishes, 4 car garage, fabulous landscaping w/ outdoor & entertaining area that includes an outdoor kitchen & spa. Detached RV & two car garage/shop with storage loft. Check out the virtual tour at www.2075.wkre.com or www.andriaallen.com



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YTD March 2011 vs
March 2012 Stats

- 39.3% Increase in closed March sales year over year.
- 26.4% Increase in closed sales year-to-date vs March 2011
- 15.8% Decrease in active listings (390)
- 15.9% Increase in closed sales year-to-date(March) vs 2011 for Firestone, Frederick and Dacono
- ALL local areas are have higher Average and Median Sales Prices vs 2011

These stats are courtesy of Land Title, Longmont

To see photos and more information about any of these properties, please visit my website at

www.AndriaAllen.com • 303-810-8375



2012 RMDS Executive Board

PresidentLori Mitchell 303-816-2375bandwdressage@aol.com
Past PresidentSimone Windeler 719-287-2040simonedressage@gmail.com
Vice PresidentMary Jo Hoepner 719-495-3648vicepresident@rmds.org
SecretaryHeather Petersen 719-683-8435slush@drwgw.net
TreasurerSharon Soos 303-904-7534sksoos@mesanetworks.net

Permanent Committees

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Omnibus AdvertisingCentral Office 720-890-7825rmds@rmds.org
Omnibus ProductionNicole Bizzarro 303-939-0110nicbiz@indra.com
WebmasterMichael Petersen 719-683-8435webmaster@rmds.org
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EducationMichelle Anderson 303-646-1375michand@hotmail.com
Insurance, Show StandardsCentral Office 720-890-7825rmds@rmds.org
Junior/Young RidersJulie Haugen 970-217-7820youngriders@rmds.org
Junior Camp 2012TBA
MarketingSharon Soos 303-904-7534sksoos@mesanetworks.net
Membership and
Horse RegistrationCentral Office 720-890-7825rmds@rmds.org
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RMDS Show LiaisonSusan Rudman 303-697-8528sewrunred@msn.com
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ScholarshipMary Jo Hoepner 719-495-3648scholarship@rmds.org

Chapter Presidents

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Wasatch MountainsLinda Nickerson 801-647-3291mail@snowypeaksranch.com
Western ColoradoJudith Family 970-923-8832dns@rof.net

Governing Bodies

UNITED STATES DRESSAGE FEDERATION

USDF 859-971-2277www.usdf.org
4051 Iron Works Parkway, Lexington, KY 40511

USDF Region 5

DirectorHeather Petersen 719-683-8435slush@drwgw.net
FEI JRYR CoordinatorJoan Clay 970-420-0887jnclay@comcast.net
Websitewww.usdfregion5.org

US EQUESTRIAN FEDERATION, INC 859-258-2472www.usef.org

USEF

4047 Iron Works Parkway, Lexington, KY 40511

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

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RMDS CHAPTER MEETING SCHEDULE

Arkansas Valley: 4th Tuesday, 6 pm, Sunflower Bank in Canon City. Jamee Amundson, 308-672-1364, piaffenpassage@aol.com

Boulder Valley: 2nd Mon., even months, location TBD, Kim Lampert, 303-638-3606, Dive4java@comcast.net

Colorado Springs: 3rd Tues., For location information contact Pat Leech, 719-749-2860, pat.leech@skybeam.com, www.CSDressage.org

Foothills: quarterly meetings, location TBD, Lori Mitchell, 303-816-2375, bandwdressage@aol.com

Grand Valley: 2nd Thurs. each month, location TBD, Inka Spatafora, 970-260-2660, classicaldressage@earthlink.net

High Plains: Bi-monthly mtg, location TBA. Wendy Cibis, 720-570-6413, wcibis@comcast.net, www.highplainsdressage.com

Northern Colo.: 3rd Tues., each month, location TBD, Hana van Campen, 303-918-3863, bigsprucefarms@bendelow.net

Pikes Peak: Mtg time and location TBD. Simone Windeler, 719-287-2040, simonedressage@gmail.com

Platte River Dressage: Mtg time and location TBD, Laura Speer, 970-371-2934, riversidestables_evans@yahoo.com

Wasatch Mountains
Linda Nickerson, 801-647-3291, mail@snowypeaksranch.com, Location TBD

Western Colorado: Judith Family, 970-923-8832, dns@rof.net

Meeting Schedule of the RMDS Executive Board

All RMDS Executive Board meetings are open to all and occur on the second Thursday of every odd-numbered month. Meeting time is 6:30 pm. Meeting dates in 2012 are January 12, March 15, May 10, July 10, September 13, and October 11. Contact the RMDS Central Office for location. Steering Committee meetings are held on the second Monday of every even-numbered month. Board of Governors' meeting is held the second Saturday of Nov (this year is Nov 10). Contact the Central Office for precise details.



Q: How many dressage riders does it take to change a lightbulb?

A: This must not be rushed, this task must be approached slowly, and may take many years. Never EVER use any type of gadget when changing the lightbulb - you could do irreparable damage.

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WITH THE CADRE NOIR IN SAUMUR AND
MODERN DAY CLASSICAL DRESSAGE
MASTER

WWW.SANTAFEPK.COM

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 7th of the month prior to the month of publication, i.e. January 7th 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, Cathy Van Berg, 1767 Rose Petal Lane, Castle Rock, CO 80109, Phone: 303.916.6136, email: vanbergc@yahoo.com

ADVERTISING

RMDS Office, Beth Geier, 2942 Park Lake Dr., Boulder, CO 80301, Phone: 720.890.7825, email: 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. Acceptable forms include: jpeg, pdf, tiff, eps, and doc. IF UNSURE ABOUT AD FORMATTING, please contact the editor (contact info above) for consultation. 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 \$50, 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 email 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

Email ads to: rmds@rmds.org, and cc the electronic copy to vanbergc@yahoo.com. Send payment and hard-copy to the 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\$1507" x 9.5"

Half Page\$907" x 4.5"

Outside back half\$1057" x 4.5"

1/4 Page (Vertical Only) . \$553.25" x 4.5"

1/8 Page (Business Card) \$303.5" x 2"

(horizontal only)

Ask about discounts for multi-month or annual ad contracts.

Payment for ads is due on the 7th of the month. If not received by the following 7th of the month, the person will be listed on the RMDS website under the suspended category.

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, and not necessarily that of RMDS, its officers or employees.

Utilize the RMDS Network:

Trainers and Instructors:

Use the RMDS Website to 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: RMDS Central Office, 2942 Park Lake Dr, Boulder, CO 80301, Phone 720.890.7825, or email: rmds@rmds.org (note on subject line "Trainer Info".) Please include your name, phone, address, email, training locations and other pertinent info such as awards, certifications, lesson types, schooling horses, etc.

The website averages 200 hits per month on the trainer page and RMDS receives 25-30 emails per month requesting names of trainers 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 RMDS Central Office is notified in advance (rmds@rmds.org), the ad will be removed from the website once the date of the event advertised has passed.

Please limit content of the ad to 20 words. Your email and website addresses will be displayed as links.

Because of the implicit connection to the RMDS, we reserve the rights to:

- Refuse any ad.
- Edit ad content.
- 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 mailing the Central Office at rmds@rmds.org.

Proof of AA status must be sent to the Central Office every year. Showing proof at shows is not enough for the year-end awards. Owner, rider, and 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.

Technical Delegates, Judges, and Certified Instructors

Dressage Judge Ratings and Levels Qualified to Judge

Any class ridden before a judge not qualified to judge at that level must ride "Hors d'concours" where the score does not count.

Status	Status	Levels	Status	Status	Levels
"L"	Learner*	Training - Second (RMDS only)	"S"	Senior	All
"r"	Recorded	Training - Second	3*	(FEI C)	All
"R"	Registered	Training - Fourth	4*	(FEI I) International	All
			5*	(FEI O)	All

*may only judge at RMDS recognized shows.

FEI PARA Dressage 3*

Kristi Wysocki 303-648-9877

FEI 4*

Janet Foy^ 719-260-1566

USEF 'S'

Debbie Riehl-Rodriguez^* 303-263-0768

Sandra Hotz^ 303-817-2030

Anita Owen 303-953-9904

Janet "Dolly" Hannon^* 303-919-4112

Kristi Wysocki^* 303-648-9877

^ = FEI Young Horse Certified

* = Dressage Seat Equitation Certified

USEF 'r'

Loni Gaudet 985-966-3832

Amy Jablonovsky 970-493-2833

Gwen Ka'awaloa 303-917-3679

USDF 'L' Graduates (Schooling and RMDS

Only recognized shows)

Simone Ahern* 719-749-9274

Julie Burt 719-431-2342

Alison Child* (UT) 435-640-3287

Linda Coates-Markle 303-469-0279

Alex Curnutte 303-906-7083

Kathleen Donnelly* 970-310-8729

Amy Fulstone* 775-721-1123

Beth Geier 303-673-9840

Jessica Greer 970-581-5613

Julie Haugen 970-290-8360

Sarah Martin* 719-379-3716

Linda Ohlson-Gross* 303-840-9818

KC Parkins-Kyle 303-841-9953

Kathy Simard* 720-981-4448

Simone Windeler 719-287-2040

*Denotes Graduation with Distinction

Dressage Sport Horse Breeding Judge

Janet Foy 'R' 719-260-1566

Gwen Ka'awaloa 'r' 303-917-3679

Debbie Riehl-Rodriguez 'R' 303-263-0768

Kristi Wysocki 'R' 303-648-9877

FEI Level 1 Dressage Steward

Rusty Cook 505-877-1456

Heather Petersen 719-683-8435

Technical Delegates USEF

Eva-Maria Adolphi (UT), r .. 801-254-3247

Rusty Cook (NM), r 505-877-1456

Laurie Mactavish (CO), R . 970-390-5160

Debbie Moloznik (CO), r ... 818-515-0377

Heather Petersen (CO), r . 719-683-8435

Catherine Siemiet (CO), r . 719-942-5311

Dianne Stanley (MT), R 406-652-4061

Technical Delegates, RMDS sanctioned shows only

Joan Clay 970-420-0887

Jeannette Hillery 303-494-7718

Mary Jo Hoepner 719-495-3648

Mindy Maguire 720-301-0089

Dee Stiers 970-876-2987

USDF Certified Instructors

Training - Second

Julie Burt 719-431-2342

Jill Cantor Lee 970-209-8491

RaeAnn Cook 970-225-1408

Janet "Dolly" Hannon 303-279-4546

Ellene Kloepfer 303-523-0191

Clayton Martin 719-379-3716

Bridget Milnes 303-660-4986

Kristi Wysocki 303-648-9877

Training - Fourth

Simone Ahern 719-749-9274

Nancy DeVaney 303-681-2516

Loma Fowler 303-841-0417

Sarah Martin 719-379-3716

Kathy Simard 720-981-4448

Melinda Weatherford 970-484-5218

Shows and Events

All shows are RMDS recognized except schooling shows.

JUNE 2012

- 1-3 **High Prairie Dressage I, II, III, Colorado Horse Park, Parker, CO-USEF**
Glenda McElroy, 818-841-3554, glenda@glenroys.com
- 2-3 **GVDS Ned Marshall Schooling Show II, Mesa County Fairgrounds, Grand Junction, CO**
Contact Inka Spatafora, 970-260-2660, classicaldressage@earthlink.net
- 2-3 **Dance with Your Horse Musical Freestyle Clinic, Palomino Gaits, Canon City, CO**
Contact Brenda Haley, brenadahaley@q.com, 719-369-2421
- 9-10 **RMDS Winter Wake-Up In Summer, Tomora Farm, Greeley, CO-USEF**
Contact Heather Petersen, 719-683-8435, slush@drwg.net
- 15-16 **Sage Creek I & II, Sage Creek Equestrian, Heber, UT-USEF**
Contact Bobbie Jo Derksen, 801-376-9062, bbsagecreek@hotmail.com
- 16 **Ride-A-Test with Janet Hannon, Roberts Ranch, Littleton, CO**
Contact Lori Mitchell, 303-816-2375, bandwdressage@aol.com
- 16 **Dressage Schooling Show, Hidden Creek Equestrian Center, Peyton, CO**
Contact Sue Borders, 719-740-1099, susan.e.borders@gmail.com
- 23-24 **Autumn Hill Dressage Festival I & II, Autumn Hill Equestrian Center, Longmont, CO-USEF**
Contact Julie Barringer-Richers, 720-341-5033, jrbarringerichers@comcast.net
- 30 **Sun Prairie RMDS Show II, Sun Prairie Farms, Peyton, CO**
Contact Camille Griffin, camillegriffin@msn.com, 719-287-9197
- 30 **Tuscany Hill Farm Schooling Show, Franktown, CO**
Simone Windeler, 719-287-2040, http://eleganttrider.com/schooling.html

JULY 2012

- 1 **Sun Prairie RMDS Show III, Sun Prairie Farms, Peyton, CO**
Contact Camille Griffin, camillegriffin@msn.com, 719-287-9197
- 7-8 **Rocky Mountain Dressage III & IV, Somerset Farm, Longmont, CO-USEF**
Contact Heather Petersen, 719-683-8435, slush@drwg.net
- 10 **RMDS Executive Board Meeting, OPEN TO ALL, 6:30 PM**
Contact RMDS Central Office for more details, 720-890-7825, rmds@rmds.org
- 13 **Dressage at the Peak Summer Warm-Up, Fountain Valley School, Colorado Spgs, CO-USEF**
Contact Heater Petersen, 719-683-8435, slush@drwg.net
- 13 **Wasatch Back I, Heber City, UT-USEF**
Contact Alison Child, 435-640-3287, achild@kirwin.com
- 14 **Wasatch Mountain Dressage Show, Heber City, UT-USEF**
Contact Heater Petersen, 719-683-8435, slush@drwg.net
- 14 **Dressage at the Peak Summer II, Fountain Valley School, Colorado Spgs, CO-USEF**
Contact Heater Petersen, 719-683-8435, slush@drwg.net
- 15 **Centaur Rising Dressage Show II, Pine, CO, RMDS**
Contact Kristann Cooper, 303-838-5086, kris@anchoragefarm.com

- 15 **AHIEC Sunday Series #2, Autumn Hill Equestrian Center, Longmont, CO**
Contact Julie Barringer-Richers 720-341-5033, jrbarringerichers@comcast.net
- 18-21 **RMDS Junior Camp, Tomora Training Center, Greeley, CO**
Contact Julie Haugen, defiancesport@q.com
- 21 **MM Ranch Schooling Show, Fountain, CO**
Simone Windeler, 719-287-2040, http://eleganttrider.com/schooling.html
- 22 **USDF Youth & Adult Team Competition, Tomora Training Center, Greeley, CO**
Contact Julie Haugen, defiancesport@q.com
- 27-28 **Sage Creek III & IV, Sage Creek Equestrian, Heber, UT-USEF**
Contact Bobbie Jo Derksen, -801-376-9062, bbsagecreek@hotmail.com
- 28 **Dressage Schooling Show, Hidden Creek Equestrian Center, Peyton, CO**
Contact Sue Borders, 719-740-1099, susan.e.borders@gmail.com
- 28-29 **Autumn Hill Dressage Festival III & IV, Autumn Hill Equestrian Center, Longmont, CO-USEF**
Contact Julie Barringer-Richers, 720-341-5033, jrbarringerichers@comcast.net

AUGUST 2012

- 1 **Ballet on Horseback, Boulder County Fairgrounds, Boulder, CO**
Two performances
- 3-5 **Dressage in the Rockies I, II, III, Colorado Horse Park, Parker, CO-USEF**
Glenda McElroy, 818-841-3554, glenda@glenroys.com
- 4-5 **Cheyenne Dressage & Eventing Dressage Show, Cheyenne, WY-USEF**
Contact Steve Siegel, 307-632-7587, steve@wyomingcarriages.com
- 4-5 **Heather Robertson Clinic, Capricorn Farm, Golden, CO**
Contact Lori Mitchell, 303-816-2375, bandwdressage@aol.com
- 10-12 **Dressage at Sun Prairie I & II, Sun Prairie Farms, Peyton, CO-USEF**
Contact Camille Griffin, camillegriffin@msn.com, 719-287-9197
- 11 **Tuscany Hill Farm Schooling Show, Franktown, CO**
Simone Windeler, 719-287-2040, http://eleganttrider.com/schooling.html
- 11-12 **Millbrook Farms Dressage Show, Fairfield, UT-USEF**
Contact Jan Lawrence, 801-631-2516, millbrk@xmission.com
- 12 **Centaur Rising Dressage Show III, Pine, CO-RMDS**
Contact Kristann Cooper, 303-838-5086, kris@anchoragefarm.com
- 17-19 **Paragon I, II, III CDI***, Estes Park, CO-USEF**
Contact Heather Petersen, 719-683-8435, slush@drwg.net
- 25 **CSDA Dressage Show, Norris-Penrose, Colorado Springs, CO**
Contact Jennifer Glass, 719-749-2293, saglass25@msn.com
- 26 **Boulder Valley So Long to Summer, Sextant Farm, Longmont, CO-RMDS**
Contact Beth Geier, 303-673-9840, bethgeier1@comcast.net
- 25-26 **Utah Dressage Society Annual Show I & II, Heber, UT-USEF**
Contact Susan Jero, 801-330-5763, sjero@aol.com

SEPTEMBER 2012

- 1 **Ride-A-Test-with Debbie Riehl-Rodriguez, A Rising Star, Arvada, CO**
Contact Lori Mitchell, 303-816-2375, bandwdressage@aol.com
- 1-2 **GVDS Fall Show, Mesa County Fairgrounds, Grand Junction, CO-USEF**
Contact Inka Spatafora, 970-260-2660, classicaldressage@earthlink.net
- 2 **Foothills Last Chance Dressage Show, A Rising Star, Arvada, CO**
Contact Lori Mitchell, 303-816-2375, bandwdressage@aol.com
- 8 **Pendragon Stud Dressage Show II, Larkspur, CO-RMDS**
Contact Leslie Terry, 303-688-4147, Lt2@kellin.net
- 13 **RMDS Executive Board Meeting, OPEN TO ALL, 6:30 PM**
Contact RMDS Central Office for more details, 720-890-7825, rmds@rmds.org
- 15 **Tuscany Hill Farm Schooling Show, Franktown, CO**
Simone Windeler, 719-287-2040, http://eleganttrider.com/schooling.html
- 15-16 **USDF JR/YR Clinic with George Williams, Stellar Stables, Franktown, CO**
Contact Susan Rudman, 303-697-8528
- 20 **RMDS Breed Show, Championships & Open Show, Parker, CO-USEF**
Contact Heather Petersen, 719-683-8435, slush@drwg.net
- 21-23 **RMDS Championship & Open Show, Parker, CO-USEF**
Contact Heather Petersen, 719-683-8435, slush@drwg.net

OCTOBER 2012

- 5-7 **USDF/Great American Region 5 Championships, Wasatch Event Center, Heber City, UT**
Contact Heather Petersen, 719-683-8435, slush@drwg.net
- 6 **Ride-A-Test Show/Clinic with Jenny Baldwin, Palomino Gaits, Canon City, CO**
Contact Jamee Amundson, piaffenpassage@aol.com, 308-672-1364
- 11 **RMDS Executive Board Meeting, OPEN TO ALL, 6:30 PM**
Contact RMDS Central Office for more details, 720-890-7825, rmds@rmds.org
- 13-14 **GVDS Fall Harvest Schooling Show III, Mesa County Fairgrounds, Grand Junction, CO**
Contact Inka Spatafora, 970-260-2660, classicaldressage@earthlink.net
- 20 **Dressage in Pink, Sextant Farms, Longmont, CO**
Contact Donna Baxter, 303-857-3879, highbrowbling@mesanetworks.net

NOVEMBER 2012

- 3-4 **USDF L Program, Final Exam, ADA Fall Fiesta, Scottsdale, Arizona.**
Contact Dorie Vlaten Schmitz, 480-580-0634, dvschmitz@msn.com
- 10 **RMDS Board of Governors'**
- 10 **RMDS Awards' Banquet**

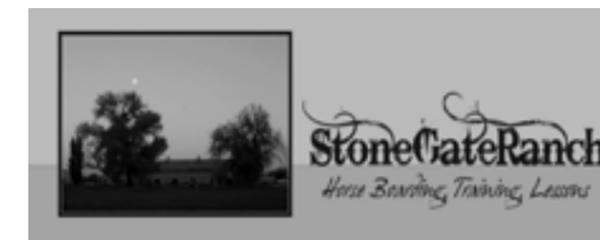
DECEMBER 2012

- 5-8 **2012 Adequan/USDF Annual Convention, New Orleans, LA**
Contact USDF.org/convention

2012 Rocky Mountain Horse Expo

Submitted by *Sharon Soos*

A special thank you to each of the volunteers, namely, Stephanie Boyles, Kailey DeVore, Pamela DeVore, Pauline Foss, Linda Gaber, Julie Haugen, Debbie Moloznik, CC Ross, Pete Soos, and Laura Speer, who helped to cover the RMDS booth at the Rocky Mountain Horse Expo, March 9th – March 11th. We also want to thank our RMDS members who stopped by to say hi, since we always look forward to seeing you. The Horse Expo gives us a great opportunity to meet and talk with others about RMDS, Dressage, and our various programs.



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970-581-5613
jessicagreendressage@hotmail.com www.jessicagreendressage.com

3628 N Taft Hill Rd, Ft Collins, CO
970-430-0181 www.stonegatehorses.com

I've just returned from the USDF Executive Board Spring Meeting and what a jam-packed 3+ days we had. This year the meetings were held during the Rolex 3 Day so our breaks and free time were devoted to watching the eventers and shopping in the fabulous trade fair. I wish we could have that much shopping at our dressage shows – thank gosh for will power and limited time or I would have had to buy another suit case.

We had a little more time to meet this year than in previous years and we actually made it through our entire agenda. We looked at the preliminary budget for next year for USDF and though it was balanced when the meetings started, we're looking at adding some new programs for 2013 and we're going to have to work a little more on the budget before it's presented at the Board of Governors meeting in December. We also had a first look at the budget and preliminary information for the National Championships next year. It was very exciting to be at the Kentucky Horse Park discussing our new venture to be held there in 2013. Several of the committees have new projects going on and I'll be sharing more with you as the year goes on.

The Executive Board awarded the 2013 USDF/Great American Region 5 Championships to the Rocky Mountain Dressage Society and they will be held September 19-22, 2013 at the Colorado Horse Park. The Board also discussed the concerns of

the Arizona Dressage Society and the new deadline for Regional Championships to be held before October 20th. There was a lot of concern for their dilemma but at this point, a solution could not be found. The hope is West World will climate control their main arena and have an earlier date, but if this is not possible, other venues and dates earlier will have to be looked at. The Executive Board does hope that something will present itself for ADA before the application process for 2014 starts.

Nominations are still open for 2 USDF Executive Board positions – President and Secretary. If you are interested in either of these positions, please let Kay Lorenzen know – kaylorenzen@cox.net.

I'm also very happy to announce that Region 5 will host a Junior/Young Rider clinic again this September. We are excited to have George Williams return to Stellar Stables in Parker, Colorado September 15-16, 2012. Mark your calendars – although only Juniors and Young Riders are allowed to apply to ride, the clinic is open to auditors of all ages!

We have 22 declared Junior/Young Rider combinations for the 2012 FEI North American Junior and Young Rider Championships. If you would like to contribute or help with their fundraising efforts, please contact Joan Clay, our Region 5 Jr/YR FEI coordinator at jnclay@comcast.net or 970-420-0877.

The 2012 USDF Convention will be held December 5-8, 2012 in New Orleans, Louisiana. This is a week later than we have scheduled previously. Hotel room prices and convention registration prices will be some of our lowest in a long time, so please consider joining us for the education programs and the governance of this great organization. There will not be a symposium this year, but the educational programs will be plentiful!

Till next month!
Heather Petersen, Region 5 Director



A girlfriend of mine used to train at home with her mobile phone in her joddies, and whenever the phone rang she'd drop the reins and answer it. Well at an official comp once she was riding a lovely test when all of a sudden someone's phone rang. You guessed it...the lovely horse dropped his head immediately to eat and nearly yanked her out of the saddle!!! Needless to say she never again carried her mobile phone when training.

-EW, Somewhere in Australia

Cont'd from pg 1

by asking the horse to move laterally away from her. This in-hand work encourages the horse to soften in the poll and release the shoulders away from the handler. Riders can perform the same exercises under saddle by first riding a circle at the walk. Begin by feeling the horse's rib cage rhythmically swinging between your legs. The moment the horse's rib cage swings away from your inside leg is also the moment when the horse's inside hind begins to lift into the air and step forward. The swing can also be felt in the hips as the inside of the rider's pelvis is pushed forward.

At this phase of the horse's gait you are best able to influence the horse's inside hind. Riding in the walk on a circle, feel for this moment of timing. When the rib cage swings to the outside, use your inside leg to ask the horse to leg-yield outward. This leg-yield should be performed in a slow "tai-chi" motion while the horse relaxes and lets go. From human exercise physiology, it is known that low-level warmups work better to oxygenate muscle tissue.

You'll find that when the horse begins to move fluidly laterally in the forehand, the inner hind leg also begins to cross over more easily. "Working front to back unlocks blocks in the body, allowing the hind legs to move," explains Mason. This promotes a positive spinal effect. "Nice crossover steps make the horse more supple all the way through the hindquarters from the lower back to the sacroiliac

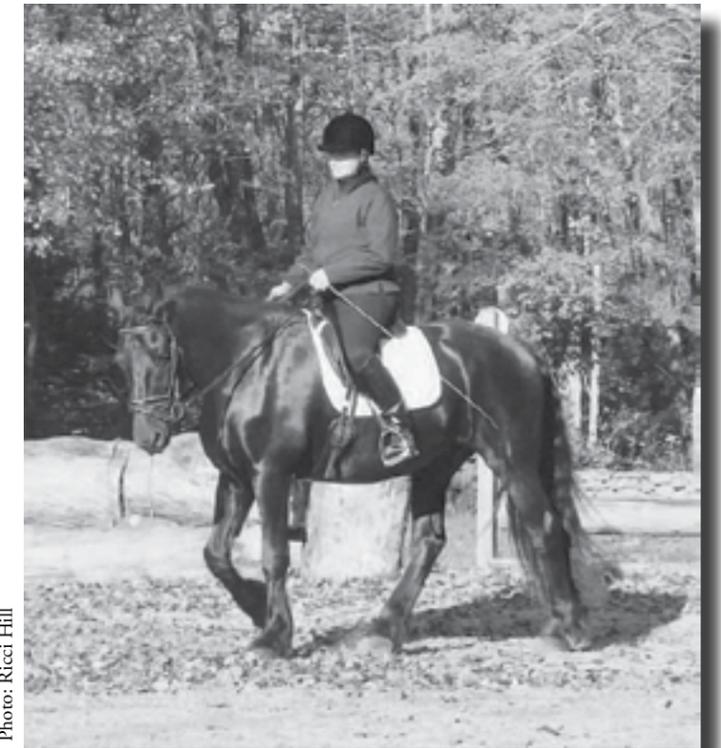


Photo: Ricci Hill

The horse's rib cage starts to swing away from the rider's inner leg, as the inner hind leaves the ground. The head, neck and shoulders in this picture are softly and correctly curved, and as you can see, a slightly higher inside rein and lower outside rein helps explain this to the horse so that the correct turn of the head is achieved.

joints to the hips, to the stifles and to the hocks." All of this creates a supple and engaged horse.

Mason recommends any time you're having difficulty establishing your horse's bend to ask for a lateral sideways step. "The horse will pretty much curve in order to maintain balance," she explains. "When you sit tall through your spine and shift your weight to the side, the horse will move under you to hold you up."

Playing with the bend by switching from true bend to counter bend is another wonderful suppling exercise. Riding on a circle, change your body and your horse's bend so that you are curving to the outside. When in rising trot, be sure to change your diagonal so the horse is best able to reach under with whichever hind leg is on the inside of the curve.

Put it all Together
In order to better influence the horse's

Cont'd on pg 18

poll on the circle, raise your inside rein and lower your outside rein. "The goal is to soften the jaw and the two vertebrae behind the ears," explains Mason. "When you turn the horse's head to inside, it stops the horse from blocking in the base of the neck and in the chest muscles."

So how do you know if you are bending your horse correctly? On the circle, you should see the inside eye, which is the result of the horse's skull rotating to the inside. You'll note that the ears stay level, but inner ear comes farther back toward you. The goal is for the curve of horse's spine to be the same as the curve of the circle. If the whole neck has come to the inside, the horse is only bending at the base

of the neck. You should see a very slight curve in mane. If you don't see the eye, but the horse's neck is low and supple, you are almost there and need to apply more bending aids.

On the circle, the rider's inside shoulder should come back a bit at the same time they ask for softening with the inside rein. "When you bring your inside shoulder back, your shoulders are tracking with the horse's shoulders on the circle," says Mason. "There should actually be a slight twist to upper body when on a circle. This allows the inner hip to come forward. When the inner pelvis comes forward in time with inside hind leg, it allows the horse to take bigger, more fluid steps." Allowing the horse to rhythmically swing your seat forward can help loosen your hips.

Once you have established the horse's bend, bring your outside arm in a little closer to your body to close the outside rein; this maintains the curve. Throughout this your elbows should be by your sides.

Mason's two-step approach to bending has the rider first soften and then add seat and leg to send the horse forward. From the bending exercise you can let your horse flow forward. Once you have established bending on the curve, you can then ride that curve forward and go large. "Forward motion makes it work. Like humans limbering with a side bend, the horse

can then take long strides in order to come forward afterward. The horse's pelvis must curl under to create better motion sideways. Sideways steps develop the abdominal muscles, so the horse can bring the hind legs under himself," notes Mason. "This allows the pelvic flexibility necessary for the horse to be truly a back mover instead of a leg mover."

The inner rein has softly curved the horse's neck, which allows the inner hind to step under the rider's center of gravity as the leg-yield begins. The rider's inner shoulder is back and one could easily tap the horse at the hip to further supple the upper joints of the hindquarters and increase the size of the sideway steps.



Photo: Ricci Hill

Bending Success Checklist

- Check your position all the time.
- Make sure you're level and balanced in your stirrups, your shoulders and your spine.
- You should feel the horse come over the back with a fluid stretch over the topline; when the horse's neck is down, the back is up.
- The horse should be balanced and rhythmic. Don't rush.
- When the horse is fluid and balanced, sitting correctly should feel easy.

can then take long strides in order to come forward afterward. The horse's pelvis must curl under to create better motion sideways. Sideways steps develop the abdominal muscles, so the horse can bring the hind legs under himself," notes Mason. "This allows the pelvic flexibility necessary for the horse to be truly a back mover instead of a leg mover."

Teamwork

Mason encourages riders to not only think about how their bodies and their horse's bodies work, but to have the courage to play around with different techniques. "Work together to make it happen. Experimenting with bending your horse is just like us doing some limbering exercises before

we go for a run," says Mason. "I like to encourage people to experiment with different ways of doing things in riding. There is a lot of worry that we are going to ruin our horses, but horses are very tolerant. Doing any kind of flexibility work with your horse is a bonus. Bending and lateral steps simply make the horse more limber and agile."

Learning more about the biomechanics of your body and your horse's body takes much of the mystery out of dressage. "Behavior problems are often physiological," notes Mason. "Biomechanics explains frustrating behavior and circumstances. Horses have better lives when they are supple; they are happier and misbehave less."



Photo: Steve Simpson

For sidesteps in-hand, first soften and turn the head towards you, keeping the ears level. Then ask the horse to move laterally away from you in the shoulders as the hind legs follow. The soft lateral curve of the spine is retained and adjusted by the outside rein.

Dressage by Design

Dressage rider and instructor, Holly Mason, takes the mystery out of how the anatomy of horses and riders works together. Armed with clear descriptions and visualizations, riders learn to think and work together with their horses. Look for Mason's DVD, *Focus on Flexibility*, and her book, *It's Never Too Late*, to bring her concepts straight to your home. Visit Mason online at www.dressagebydesign.com

Conifer Fire Evacuation

By Linda Gaber, Foothills Chapter member

In the West, anytime is wildfire season.

This spring, fire came ferociously to Jefferson County's Conifer forests 30 miles west of Denver. Fifty-plus mph winds reignited a Colorado State Forest Service controlled burn on March 26. Over the next week, the Lower North Fork Fire was fought by more than 500 firefighters from six western states using helicopters, Korean War-era heavy air tankers and ground equipment. It evacuated more than 900 homes and hundreds of livestock, burned 4,140 acres, destroyed 28 structures, and killed three residents.

Fortunately, from this tragedy have come new policies aimed at helping livestock owners and residents. A new three-stage evacuation plan aims to get more residents and their animals out of danger faster. Residents with animals are urged to leave first in a Level 1 Evacuation. According to the plan, this stage means "...be ready. Residents should be aware of the danger that exists in their area. . . . People with livestock or pets should consider moving them out of the area. Evacuations at this time are voluntary, but if you have concerns, evacuate now." Level 2 Evacuation means leave soon. Level 3 Evacuation means leave immediately.

In another change after the fire, remedies were made to the area's reverse-911 calling system. In March,

about 12 percent of area residents were not notified to evacuate by this program. JeffCo residents can visit the FirstCall Network online at aler-registration.com/jeffersoncountyco/ to enter their phone number(s) so as to receive voice and or text messages for emergencies that may affect their safety, health, or property. Then, they can call (800) 653-9232 to verify that their phone numbers are in the system. For fire or emergency information at any time, contact the local Sheriff's Office. In JeffCo, call (303) 277-0211.

These improvements are good news for RMDS members, including the 19 horses and 10 owners whose livestock and pets were evacuated after dark March 26 from Pam and Chad DeVore's Pleasant Ridge Farm off

Pleasant Park Road, on the fire's south border. Here is what the DeVores and other Foothills Chapter members learned during their evacuation:

Fire moves fast.

Do not wait to be told to evacuate. Use available trailers to move livestock as soon as you smell smoke, see fire or believe you are in danger. This can avoid traffic on roads and enable animals to have the time they need to load. When government authorities take command of evacuation procedures, access to roads, property, vehicles, trailers, and animals can become restricted.

My son told me about the reverse-911 fire alert call he received in Evergreen about 5:45pm. By 7pm, access to Pleasant Ridge Farm roads, trailers and animals was blocked by the State Patrol. Our horses, and the DeVores' pets, and a 4-H Angus beef cow, now would be arranged to be moved from fire danger only by JeffCo Animal



The JeffCo Fairgrounds evacuation site.

Control. Transport was by trailers and staff, and other volunteers, including the Jefferson County Horse Evacuation Assistance Team, www.Jeffco-HEAT.org.

We were advised to go to the Conifer High School fire information center for details about our evacuated animals. Several of our horse owners drove to the JeffCo Fairgrounds large

animal evacuation site in Golden to see which of our animals were unloaded there. By midnight, all but three of our horses had been accounted for in Fairgrounds' stalls, and inspected by livestock and veterinary staff. Through the night at the high school, residents dropped off their dogs and cats to be housed in kennels in school rooms. Cots with bedding, as well as fast food and drinks, even magazines to read, also were set up by American Red Cross volunteers to accommodate evacuated residents at the high school.

Prepare for an Emergency

Tag your halters and school livestock for trailer loading. While our evacuation was at night under lights, by non-owners using some stock trailers and amid the urgency of an emergency, extra time was needed for some horses to load. For efficiency, our Belgian draft boarder, Dakota, and a mare and foal were left behind to be evacuated in daylight March 27.

Practice trailer loading your horse in your trailer and in other trailers. Have others load your horse. Have pasture



Alpacas at the JeffCo Fairgrounds large animal evacuation site.



Linda Gaber's Gallod Enki left and Kailey DeVore's Tango right (she was RMDS Training Level Champ!) at the Fairgrounds. Kathy Simard said they seem to be asking each other, "Isn't this the weirdest show we've ever been to?"

horses spend time in stalls. Use lead ropes and halters on livestock that have not used them before.

There was no need for owners (or JeffCo Animal Control staff) to take hay, water or buckets to JeffCo Fairgrounds. These were on hand and provided, at no charge, for all livestock. Needed veterinary care also was provided at no charge to owners of impounded livestock.

Put your livestock's inspection papers in a safe place. These are the only legal sale documents specifying your ownership. These should be presented at the Fairgrounds to take your livestock home from the Sheriff's Department's impound site.



The mare and foal and our Belgian Dakota who made it to the Fairgrounds on March 27. This is how some of the stalls were set up.

Oversee Your Animal's Care

While the JeffCo Horse Council's Emergency Evacuation Team (JHCEET) volunteers feed, water, clean stalls and monitor livestock in its care 24 hours a day, owners are encouraged to be involved. Special-care animals that are pregnant, light-water drink-

ers, heavy eaters with special feed, or using medication are welcome to receive daily attention from owners. Owners can bring in their own feed. Volunteers can feed only grass hay and water, without a veterinarian's prescription. Volunteer veterinarians

are on call around the clock to care for impound livestock. Owners also should monitor the livestock chart posted at each stall for each animal, where volunteers note daily feed given and eaten, water drunk, amount of manure and other notes on the animal's status. Owners also can take their animals out of stalls for exercise. Owners/visitors should register at the Fairgrounds Fire Office to receive a Visitor's Pass and information from volunteer staff.

In March, the fire occurred during JeffCo schools' spring break. Many JHCEET volunteers were horse-owning and horse-loving school teachers on vacation. Others included a retired airline pilot, accountant, house painters, and at-home moms. Many are members of the nonprofit JeffCo Horse Council, www.JeffcoHorse.com which, coincidentally, was meeting at the grounds March 26. Council volunteers stayed through the night



All horses were given a rump/tail ID tag at intake. Here is Enki getting out into the Fairgrounds arena, overlooking Barn B.

and morning to process livestock. In this fire, they registered 249 animals, including horses, alpacas, burros, mini horses, a mule, yaks, llamas, goats, and cattle. They were housed there approximately 10 days. There was no charge to livestock owners.

How can you help?

Respect barn rules, feeding schedules and the 8am to 8pm "visiting hours." Volunteers work to feed and water all livestock at one time, limit distractions such as media attention, and reduce "Lookie Lous" to help evacuated animals relax in their new environment. "Our job is to take care of your animal to relieve your stress from the fire," said Barb Suggs of Golden, JHCEET operations manager. "We want owners to come here and relax, with one less thing to worry about."

To volunteer during a livestock evacuation, check the Horse Council web site for contact information. Also, within 12 hours of an emergency, news media will report a Fairgrounds support telephone number. "This was the first fire that a lot of volunteers were from the evacuation area," Suggs said. "We want to give them a pat on the back for helping." Horse Council donations are "strictly and totally used for the evacuation team," including purchasing hay during this fire, she said.

Other Colorado counties are working to cooperate on their evacuation plans and services to back each other up in an emergency. Residents always are needed to help, Suggs said.



USDF News

USDF Manuals Now Available on Kindle

The USDF Lunging and USDF Training Manuals are now available for download on your Amazon Kindle or through the Kindle app on your smartphone or tablet. Both titles can be downloaded through the Kindle Store or you can visit the USDF Store for links to the downloads, or to purchase the hardcopies of these manuals. More titles to come, so check back regularly!

Halt and Read This!

New USEF rule: "The halt must be shown for at least 3 seconds and the halt should be shown throughout the salute." (DR102.1)

Instructor Grants and Funding

The Dressage Foundation has several grants available for instructors who seek certification and continued education. In addition, the United States Pony Club has several grants available for instructors seeking education and certification through our Instructor/Trainer Program.

Time to Rethink Outdated Deworming Strategies

Merial, a leader in animal health and supporting sponsor of the

Great American Insurance Group/USDF Regional Championships, has launched ReThinkDeworming.com, a one-stop resource dedicated to helping people better understand parasite management. The site features educational videos, articles and a quiz to test your parasite knowledge.

Earn While You Learn

USDF University accredited online courses are offered through DressageTrainingOnline, My Horse University, Equine Nutritional Solutions, Tallgrass Animal Acupressure Institute and DressageClinic.com. Visit their websites for details.

Nutrena/USDF Adult Clinic Series Continues in 2012

"The Classical System Simplified" features Lilo Fore. During each clinic Lilo will get into the nitty-gritty of the classical system, starting with the basics. Visit the website to find the date and location near you. Tune in to the last 10 minutes of episode 120 of Dressage Radio Show to hear Lilo Fore's advice on selecting the appropriate competition level based on your training program and hear her goals for the clinic series during the USDF portion of the show. Experience Lilo's teaching style during an adult clinic on e-TRAK.





RMDS MEMBERSHIP FORM

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

Individual Membership - \$60.00 [~~\$65~~ after January 1-late fee] Additional family members (same address) - \$45

Business Memberships - \$100.00 Centaur newsletter only - \$35.00 Life Membership - \$750.00

Life Business Membership \$1,000.00 - Transfer Life Business to new owner \$100.00

All business memberships include one individual membership.

Please include all information for person designated as individual member. If an adult amateur, include current copy of USEF AA card. All individual members will receive Centaur newsletter & the Omnibus.

Membership & horse registration acknowledged via postcard or email. Mail completed form with check made payable to RMDS.

Indicate Local Chapter (only one):

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Arkansas Valley | <input type="checkbox"/> Foothills (Golden, Evergreen) | <input type="checkbox"/> Pikes Peak (Colo. Sags. area) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Boulder Valley | <input type="checkbox"/> Grand Valley (Grand Junction) | <input type="checkbox"/> Platte River (Greeley, E. Colorado) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Colorado Springs | <input type="checkbox"/> High Plains (Parker, Littleton, Aurora) | <input type="checkbox"/> Wasatch Mountains (Utah) |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> N. Colorado (Ft. Collins, Loveland) | <input type="checkbox"/> Western Colorado (Aspen, Vail etc.) |

Name _____ Date of Birth _____

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 Scholarship Fund. (Include amount with your membership check)

____ Please remove my name from lists sold by RMDS ____ Renewing member: Needs binder-include additional \$8.00

____ Referred by: _____ Permanent Bridle Tag (a pair) add \$50

RMDS 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.

Both rider AND horse AND owner must be current before scores count toward year end awards and qualifying for RMDS championships.

The name and all information on this registration must be the same as that used on horse show entry forms.

Check One: _____ Lifetime Horse Registration - \$40.00 _____ Changes (i.e., owner or horse's name) - \$15.00

Horse Name _____ Sex _____ Breed (if known) _____

Registration # (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 (H) _____ (E-Mail) _____

Name of Representative (if owner is a business) _____

HORSES

Friesian Gelding 10 years old; Oh Kaspar, Contact Shelley Dyer 720-308-9762

Selle Francais Mare 16 years young 16.2 hands 3rd level. Perfect for an Adult Amateur or Jr/Yr wanting to have fun at shows, anyone can show. She has also done some jumping would make a good event horse as well. Contact Nicole 970-381-3953 ArtisticDressage@gmail.com 12K

2008 chestnut Hanoverian mare for sale - Registered and branded. 15.2 hands and growing. Not started last year due to immaturity--ready to start now. Super FEI candidate. Sound but requires shoes in front for toe crack (growing out) so asking broodmare price of \$3500.00. For more info call Laura 970-371-2934

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Koenig dress boots Never worn. Shoe size 7; 20 inches high on outside 18 1/2 inches high on inside Asking \$500 OBO retails for \$1000. Please call Mar 303 443 5139 marsugarloaf@aol.com

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Cont'd on pg 26



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Cont'd from pg 25

TRAINERS

USDF Gold Medalist, Christa Elaine Wood, is now accepting a limited number of students and horses for training at Lazy J Bar S in Loveland, CO. Please call (970)219-3120.

OTHER

RMDS Membership Cards- You may download your membership card by going to the RMDS website, www.rmids.org. Click on "Forms" then "Membership Card."



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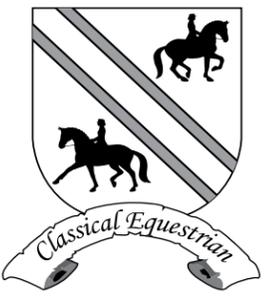

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Tail Bag (Schweifflasche) of a stallion doing a Capriole at the Spanish Riding School in Vienna.