



The Centaur

Educating Horse and Rider as Partners.

An RMDS Publication

May 2011

Franktown Fire Report and Emergency Preparedness Suggestions

By Valerie Ritterbusch

I am a horse person whose profession is in the severe weather notification business. Because of the nature of my company's business, we have regular direct interaction with emergency management professionals all over the country.

All the signs are pointing to an extremely dry spring in the west. The fire in the Indian Hills area west of Golden, which started mid-March, may be an unfortunate portent of what's to come given the current weather patterns. I want to share our story of the Burning Tree Fire in the Colorado Horse Park area off Bayou Gulch Road in Parker, and hopefully get horse owners and enthusiasts thinking about putting plans in place NOW, so if ever faced with a similar situation, an efficient evacuation can be handled in the safest possible manner.



The author took this photo from Flintwood Road looking back west, hoping and praying the firefighters would win this one.

Our Experience on March 24th

We live about 3 miles east of the Colorado Horse Park in Bayou Hills on the north side of Bayou Gulch Road. Shortly after 1pm on Thursday, the 24th, I heard my husband yell "Uh, oh. FIRE!"

We saw a huge smoke plume fanned by 30+ mph sustained winds SW of us, blowing to the north from a fire that had apparently begun only minutes before. We immediately surfed the local Denver TV channels and turned on 850 KOA News-Talk radio. Nothing had hit local media yet.

With 9News, our company's local WeatherCall® affiliate, I was able to reach the news room with a "heads up" that a fire is developing fast somewhere between Franktown and Ponderosa High School so they could get news teams in optimum position to get accurate information on the air. By this time, the Denver media was picking up on how serious the situation was and many sta-

Region 5 Report

I've started my season of show management and I'm now spending a couple of hours each day processing entries. I am very excited to see everyone at the shows and various educational events and I'm proud of the many successes our Region 5 folks have had and will have this coming year! My goal this year is to get my new baby horse out to some sport horse shows and teach her about the world outside the pasture. I hope you're all working towards your goals for the year and may you be successful in meeting those goals.

The USDF Executive Board Spring Meeting is next week and it will be a great experience learning even more about what goes into the management of this great organization. I've been reading my binder for the meeting and we have a lot of great topics up for discussion and decision. There will be a presentation on the National Championships, several upcoming USDF educational projects, approval

of the 2012 Regional Championship sites, 2011 USDF Convention schedule discussions, and many other things covered. The June regional message will hopefully provide you with some great updates on many of these topics.

Many new rule changes have gone into effect this year, including some as recently as March, so please be sure to read up on your USEF rule book and be knowledgeable. The new helmet rule is a very important read. If you're not showing, reading the rule book, especially the definitions of gaits and movements, is a great educational tool. The definitions for the movements have changed this year also.

We have 18 declared Junior/Young Riders for the 2011 FEI North American Junior and Young Rider Championships. If you would like to contribute or help with their fundraising efforts, please contact Kathleen Donnelly, our Region 5 Jr/YR FEI coor-

dinator at kathleendonnelly20@hotmail.com or 970-310-8729.

I have not heard from anyone regarding nominations for our 2011 Region Lifetime Achievement Award. This award was started in 2009 by our then Regional Director Theresa Hunt and recognizes folks who have made significant contributions to dressage in our region. If you have someone you feel has made a contribution to our dressage community, please send me their name and a brief nomination letter. We will award one or more recipients this year and we would love input from folks throughout the region. Please email me nominations at slush@drgw.net. Our previous winners are Barbara Stine and Dr. Rudolf Vlatten. I would really love some help from our Region 5 members in determining who they feel is deserving.

'Til next month!

-Heather Petersen, Region 5 Director

Important Things to Know this Month

Re: Awards: Anyone who wants to submit a new award must do so by June. The award will be voted on in the July Executive Board meeting.

Re: Check out RMDS on Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/rockymountaindressage>
Interact with your friends!

Re: Nominations:
Nominations are being accepted for President, Vice President (one year only), Secretary, and Treasurer for the 2012-13 term.

Protective Headgear Rules for Dressage
Short summary statement for use in prize lists:
Effective March 1, 2011, for dressage: Anyone mounted on a horse must wear protective headgear except those riders age 18 and over while on horses that are competing only in FEI levels and tests at the Prix St. Georges level and above (including FEI Young Rider Tests, the USEF Developing Prix St. Georges Test and the USEF Brentina Cup Test).

High Plains

With show season underway, we were thrilled with the response to the Show Volunteer seminar held March 26th. It was great to see so many faces from our RMDS chapters plus the eventing community. What started as a quick meeting to discuss the shortage of volunteers at our shows, turned into a free seminar that couldn't have happened without the time and talents of many!

To all of our judges, TDs, show managers, show secretaries, scorers, and others who gave of their time, we THANK YOU! The Colorado Horse Park generously donated funds to help offset our costs. I want to personally thank Tara Nolan, Gwen Ka'awaloa and Michelle Anderson for their hard work in taking this from an idea to the actual event. A big thanks to Vivian Van Buren for securing the donation from The Colorado Horse Park and working on the Eventing portion of the seminar. To all of our judges, technical delegates, scorers, show management and show secretary reps, hospitality reps and show barn manager reps, we couldn't have done it without you.

I loved the fact that we were able to cross disciplines and am excited to volunteer as a jump judge at an Eventing show. (The Jump Judge station was my first stop at the seminar.) I look forward to helping out our Eventing community in addition to volunteering at our dressage shows.

Whether it's for a few hours on an entire day, GET INVOLVED! Want a change of scenery? Contact the

Mountain States Eventing Association to see how you can volunteer at an Eventing show. Finally, a warm thank you to our attendees. We are already receiving positive feedback and questions about when the next seminar will be held. Here's to a great show season whether it be as a competitor or volunteer!

-*Cindi O'Shea, President, High Plains*

Northern Colorado

In mid March NCDA members met at Pat Schulteiss's home for dinner and a casual talk by Alex Gerding. Alex was at StoneGate Ranch for a three day clinic. Alex proved to be an encyclopedia of information on dressage and equitation, factual and anecdotal. He discussed the pros and cons of showing, questioned "Who are the people who show?" and solved more than one problem for his audience. His approach in training is to emphasize the positive. "If your horse has a "7" walk, work to make it a "9" walk. He says that is more "horse friendly" than forcing your horse to bring a "5" gait up to a "6." When asked about the relationship between a horse tightening his back and being croup high he responded as if he were waiting for the question. He said, "He is probably too restricted in the bridle. The hind legs have no where to go." The ultimate croup high is when a horse refuses a jump." Everyone enjoyed the evening. He clinics often at Stone Gate Ranch. Contact Mimi if you would like to ride with him or with Sandy Hotz, also a clinician at Stone Gate.

We are organizing volunteers for Winter Wake-Up in June. Please

call me at (970-416-7831) or e-mail the.reed3s@gmail.com to choose a preferred job.

-*Susie Reed, President, NCDA*

Colorado Springs

When our president had to step down due to other commitments, I decided to offer to step in and try to continue Tara's efforts toward getting members more actively involved, and making CSDA an organization that meets our member's needs. Tara initiated a membership survey about what people want from CSDA, and our 2011 calendar includes a wide range of educational events that address their wishes as much as possible.

CSDA members are actively working on our annual breast cancer benefit show. The show will be over by the time the Centaur goes to press, but we have secured a new venue at the Colorado Horse Park, and we expect a great turnout.

At our membership meeting in April, we will have a veterinary presentation on "Keeping Your Horse Happy and Healthy at the Show" given by yours truly. We will talk about steps you can take before the show to keep your horse in great shape, as well as what should be in your emergency kit. In May, we will learn about braiding, turn out, and legal tack with Simone Windeler. We will even meet at Whispering Winds where there will be guinea pigs on site!

Our June meeting by Arrowhead Trailers will cover trailer safety and maintenance.

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President's Message

Hello Fellow Riders:

Recently I read an article that showed a link between rejection and physical pain. Apparently scientists have studied the brain and any time someone is rejected (either by a group or individually / romantically) the areas in the brain that are active are close or even overlap with those that show pain. As I was pondering this, another thought came to mind. Could the opposite be true as well? Does being welcomed and loved trigger well-being zones in our brain? Would that explain why so many of us love our animals? Most of our animals show a certain amount of enthusiasm when they greet us and this positive feeling is rewarding enough to want to ride on a cold evening when the fireplace beckons (most of the time anyway).

And talking about fire: A big thank you to all in the horse community around Franktown that responded so quickly during the fire. Many of you offered up your trucks and trailers to move horses to safety. Thankfully not even a single structure was damaged during this recent scare. This winter has been extremely dry – I have heard that we have about 50% of the regular moisture on the ground. If you have not developed a fire and escape plan yet, now would be a good time to think about it. Talk to your friends, other boarders at the barn (if you are boarding), the barn owner or manager, and make sure a plan is in place.

Last month I told you about the great success of our booth at the Horse Expo. We learned after the fact that many of the horses got sick

at the Expo. It has been identified as an equine influenza virus that was spreading fast and furious. All of the horses that come to the Expo have to have a health certificate and this still happened. If you are planning on showing this year you will be in a similar situation with many horses close together. Make sure you keep your vaccinations up to date – some like the protection against the influenza virus are short-lived. Work closely with your vet on this, he or she can give you the best advice.

And finally I want to leave you with a quote from Stephen C. Paul that just seems so appropriate for riding: “Everything you do can be done better from a place of relaxation.”

So relax and enjoy your horses!
-Simone Windeler, RMDS President

Omnibus Corrections 2011

ALL SHOWS: USEF Rule Change: Effective March 1, 2011, for dressage:

Anyone mounted on a horse must wear protective headgear except those riders age 18 and over while on horses that are competing only in FEI levels and tests at the Prix St. Georges level and above (including FEI Young Rider Tests, the USEF Developing Prix St. Georges Test and the USEF Brentina Cup Test).

Page B-16:

- C. i. - should be colts/geldings
- C. ii. - should be colts/geldings
- C. iii. - should be colts/geldings

Page C-71: CDEC Open Dressage Show - The new judge is David Schmutz, "S" CA

Page C-81: Class 11 should be Colt and Gelding Champion of Open Show / Great American / USDFBC Qualifier. (adds the word Gelding)

Continued from page 3

Meetings are the third Tuesday of each month; times and locations are on our website at www.csddressage.org. Come join us!

-Shannon Lemons, President, CSDA

Arkansas Valley

The Arkansas Valley Dressage Association has been very active in the winter months planning for spring and summer activities. We have established quite a few standing committees: Trail ride, Quadrille, Show, Publicity, Awards, and Education. This structure was patterned after RMDS's structure and has proven to be very effective for our membership, as it enables many members to contribute to the club and distribute the volunteer load.

Educational chair Brenda Haley has conducted a survey indicating 80% of the respondents were interested in clinics after the schooling shows, 70%

were interested in carpooling to out of town activities, 60% were interested in learning through video programs and 90% were interested in activities which included cavalletti and jumping. Brenda has also arranged for AVDA to sponsor the program "Sport Horse Lameness Seminar" to be presented by local veterinarian Tom Wendel, March 23rd at 6 pm in the Florence Library. This is open to the public and we will distribute information on our club and on dressage. Sandy Dorr, Publicity chair, is distributing our club information to a variety of different riding clubs from western to eventing through the internet. We are reaching out to these sources as they embody many of our current members' interests which include western, eventing and jumping.

Jamee Amundson, Awards chair, has been very busy not only creating our year-end awards program but has also

created a venue for interested parties to sponsor a year end award in their own area of interest. She has created a very attractive comprehensive prize list for our schooling shows and has also developed a show sponsorship form. These all can be viewed at www.horsestop.net.

Schooling show dates are April 30, May 21, and June 21. Julie Burt and Jessica Greer will be the judges for the first two shows, respectively.

AVDA held their March meeting at the Sporting Times Ranch where they were able to explore their new eventing course. Sporting Times hosted a Pair Pace Event April 2 at 10 a.m. More information can be viewed at www.sportingtimesranch.com. The club is looking forward to a season of learning and diversity.

-Mary Rae, President, Arkansas Valley

RMDS Roster Correction

Carbonnel, Frances

Phone: 720-979-3120

Through the Grapevine

Happenings in the RMDS Community

Our deepest condolences go out to **Pam Buhl** on the loss of her husband, John Barnes, on April 5th. They were married 24 years. All of us at RMDS send Pam healing thoughts and wishes for peace.

tions were going “wall-to-wall” with their coverage.

I board my horse at KC Parkins-Kyle’s “Hidden Ridge Farm” on Flintwood Road, between Bayou Gulch Road and Highway 86. I immediately sent a text to farm manager, Dee Kirby and KC that the smoke was increasing at an alarming rate.

Douglas County activated the 9-11 system ordering mandatory evacuations from Hilltop Road on the north, Parker Road on the west, Flintwood on the east, and Highway 86 on the south which included the Pinery and the Timbers – the only areas with “high density” housing. 8,500 people were under mandatory evacuation which included my house and Hidden Ridge Farm. Note this IMPORTANT fact: ONLY LAND LINES are included in 911 call lists. If you ONLY have a cell phone, you likely will NOT be called with an emergency notification message from your county. Also, think about the reverse side of this situation. If your house phone was called and you evacuated as instructed, how are you going to receive the “all clear” when it’s safe to return home if you’re NOT HOME? There is a lot of room for improvement in the many versions of emergency telephone notification systems available for general purpose use.

KC called me at around 2:00 and was heading back home from 8th Heaven Farm south of Franktown with a big trailer hooked up.

With our dogs, cats, critical documents, family photo albums, and other items of sentimental value packed into vehicles, we pulled out around 3:15pm. The bottom of Bay-

ou Hills Road – the only way into our neighborhood, was now cordoned off by the Sheriff’s Department, for the flames were now visible on the crest of the last hill above Bayou Gulch.

With my husband and daughter headed for our “safe haven” well south of Franktown, I left for KC’s with the truck and trailer where we loaded up the last of the 18 horses on her farm and headed out of harm’s way to 8th Heaven. By then the wind had shifted around from the west and was blowing the fire directly at us. As Roger Kyle and I walked the last 2 horses up to the trailer, we agreed – we’ve done all we can do. The animals and people are safe. If it burns, it burns. IT’S ONLY STUFF.

A steady line of horse trailer rigs interspersed with emergency vehicles from around the metro area packed the roads. After we got the last load of horses safely down to 8th Heaven, we heard on the radio that the mandatory evacuation order for north of Bayou Gulch Road was lifted with the understanding that all those that returned were doing so with a 10 minute “be able to leave” condition. Large animals were not allowed back until the next day when they issued an official OK.

Around 7pm, I drove past Hidden Ridge Farm as the sun was about to set. I took a picture from Flintwood Road looking back west, hoping and praying the firefighters will win this one.

Back home, we watched the fire teams fight the burn line as it continued to advance east along the south side of Bayou Gulch. The crews worked all night and had 70%+ containment by the next morning.

Friday morning brought the great news of the successful battle. We had another caravan out to 8th Heaven to bring all the Hidden Ridge refugee horses back home. All the horses had behaved perfectly; loading under very stressful “get your butt in the trailer and GO” conditions.

Luck + EXTREME skill by the fire fighting teams prevented the loss of any homes or structures. The eastern 25% to 30% of the X-Country course at the Colorado Horse Park was scorched with only a few jumps burned, but miraculously, the assemblage of the majority of moveable jumps stored near the main entrance was spared. The X-Country course is a very depressing sight right now, but the ground will eventually come back greener than ever when it rejuvenates after the fire.

“Luck” is the scariest word in the dictionary to emergency managers. They are consummate planners, and regularly practice what they plan. Horse people need to pay attention to that statement.

Here are some suggestions horse owners and equestrian facilities should consider, in the context of what appears to be a very dangerous fire season ahead:

Pre-select a Location to Which You Can Safely Evacuate Your Horses

Fairgrounds: Most counties will set up an evacuation facility at the fairgrounds for large animals. The relatively safe, empty stalls may be comparatively small for what big sport horses are used to, however. You’re on your own as far as providing water buckets and hooks, bedding, feed,

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Keeping Riders Centered and Relaxed

Tips from Sharon Schneidman,
Trainer and U.S. Paralympic Dressage Team Assistant Coach

By Julia McSherry



Sharon Schneidman with competitor and student Wendy Fryke at the World Equestrian Games last fall.

Whether she's teaching a serious competitor or coaching a paralympic rider preparing for the World Equestrian Games, or instructing an adult amateur riding for fun, Sharon Schneidman focuses on the training scale. She offers many tips for keeping riders centered and relaxed. Many of her tips are the same for all riders, no matter what their level or classification. But she emphasizes that all riders, and horses, are different, and that different approaches are important depending on the individual.

Based in Castle Rock, Colorado, Schneidman has over 40 years of training and competition experience. Key professional accomplishments include being listed for the USEF, winning FEIs in Florida and

USET Three-Day Event team member and USDF Gold and Silver medalist, and German-born Bereiter FN, Nicole Gluesenkamp.

"A successful riding instructor or coach knows the strengths and weaknesses and goals of each student. In training, one of the things we stress is 'practice makes perfect,' but it's perfect practice that is key. Training incorrectly doesn't get you anywhere," she emphasizes. "Repetition is key. Don't settle for mediocre responses from your horse in a schooling ride."

In something simple yet basic like a walk to trot transition, the rider should focus on the quality of

at Devon, earning her USDF Gold Medal, and serving as USDF Chairman of Advanced Young Riders. Her Westmanton Stables LLC is a dressage training service for juniors, advanced young riders, adult amateurs, and paralympic riders in Colorado, surrounding states and New England. Westmanton's team of three includes Sharon, husband Grant Schneidman who is a former

work, not the quantity. It doesn't do any good to trot around for 45 minutes if the standard is not what you really want. Horses respect corrections that are clear, concise, and fair.

Depending on where the horse and rider are on the training scale, transitions, bending exercises, establishing connections, perfecting the elusive half halt, make the more difficult movements much less difficult when the basics are executed correctly.

One thing riders should address is frustration, anxiety, and temper. All of these emotions happen with riders and horses don't understand any of them. Riders must understand that these things must be controlled, re-focused, and eliminated.

Frustration is easier to control by goal setting for themselves and their horse. Anxiety is trickier. It's often present in people's lives in other places. This is where fear resides and this can be a real element for an adult amateur. Temper has no place in the stable, the schooling arena, or the show ring and must be eliminated.

A rider who is the nervous type can benefit from Pilates or yoga train-



Wendy Fryke on Lateran finishing 7th in the WEG.

ing. Maybe they need to avoid caffeine. Warm-up is important. Take ten minutes, if the horse is safe, and walk on the buckle. Cross the stirrups, do breathing exercises, work the arms in a circle. Such exercises, as well as lunging lessons, are great exercises to calm and relax the rider. A calm, relaxed rider often results in a calm, relaxed horse.

Warm-up is important for the rider as well as the horse. Schneidman sometimes warms up her riders on the Balimo stool, a rider suppling device. Ten minutes of exercise on this stool, or an exercise ball, is wonderful for relaxing the rider. Riding is an interesting sport in that riders don't always warm up, she says; in fact, more often than not, they don't take the time. Often they come to the barn after a stressful day at work or on a schedule, tack up and get on their horse. Other athletes such as runners for example, always warm up. Hamstring and quad stretches are really good. The older the rider, the more important these

stretches are. They help prevent rider stiffness and create flexibility.

Stretches and warm-up also foster calmness and relaxation. "Whatever form the rider chooses, and everyone requires different exercises, I strongly recommend ten minutes of warm-up for the rider before mounting the horse," she says.

Especially when horses are not turned out, the warm-up period is huge. They are athletes and it is unfair to put them into strenuous work without this important element of training. Horse warm-up has positive impact on calmness of mind as well. To maintain a calm and relaxed horse, focus the horse on transitions, figures, and making sure the horse is paying attention to the aids. Sometimes what works with one rider and horse might not work with a different rider and horse or even the same rider on a different horse. What each horse and rider need can also vary from day to day and ride to ride. ♠ ♠ ♠



Colorado trainer Sharon Schneidman (background) was recruited by Missy Ranschouse, coach of the U.S. Paralympic Dressage Team, to assist with coaching in Beijing in 2008, and the World Equestrian Games in 2010. "Para-equestrian dressage is a very credible, wonderful program for unbelievable people," Schneidman says. "I had great support during my competition years. For me to be able to give back to these courageous people is a joy."

Keeping Horse and Rider Centered and Relaxed

Tips from Sharon Schneidman

- Always take the time to stretch and warm up the rider before mounting and to warm up the horse at the beginning of each ride. Ten minutes on a Balimo stool or exercise ball supplies, centers and relaxes the rider. Hamstring and quad stretches are also good.
- Pilates and yoga training can build core strength and balance as well as relieve anxiety, helping to keep the rider centered and relaxed.
- Horse warm-up is an important prelude to work and it also helps maintain a calm, relaxed horse. From the beginning of the ride, focus on transitions, figures, and making sure the horse is paying attention to the aids.
- For the competition rider, having appropriate grooming and other support is essential in order to remain centered and relaxed.
- Be prepared. The more a competition rider is prepared, the calmer they are. This means knowing the tests and sticking to schedules.

Monthly Fitness Tip: V-Up One Hundreds

By Jessica Carlin and Lindy Thompson, Sound Mind & Body Lifestyle Coaching

Last month in this column, we addressed an exercise for relaxation, a key element for any dressage pairing. This month, we're moving up the training scale to another important component for a successful dressage horse – CONNECTION.

While contact through the horizontal axis (the line from the elbow through the hand to the horse's mouth) is a necessary part of connection, the key to connection is the vertical axis. A strong vertical axis means the rider won't rely on the reins for balance, allowing a soft CONNECTION between the hand and the mouth. This soft CONNECTION allows the horse to go forward to the bit, rather than through a backward, pulling action with the hand. To help strength the vertical axis (the core), and by extension allow for an independent horizontal axis, this month we will be performing a variation on the classic Pilates move "The Hundred."

This exercise will help you to:

- Strength your abdominal muscles to aid core strength
- Increase torso stability and balance
- Tone upper arms
- Loosen shoulder and hip joints
- Encourage independent control over arms and legs

WHAT YOU NEED

- Yoga/pilates mat or towel to protect from floor

V-UP ONE HUNDRED

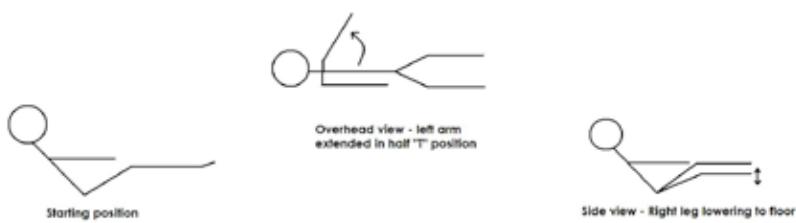
1. Lie on your back with your legs straight out in front of you and your arms by your sides
2. Activate core and lift arms and legs simultaneously to create a V, balancing on sit bones with your legs at a 45 degree angle to the floor and arms extended by the knees with the palms facing each other
3. Slowly bring left arm out to the side, making half a "T" shape, while the right leg lowers to the floor
4. Bring arm and leg to the starting position and repeat exercise with right arm and left leg, while remaining in the V-Up position
5. Do 3 sets of 20 (10 on each side

of the body) with a one minute break between each set

6. To make this easier, lie on your back, bring your knees to a 90 degree angle from the floor, and bring your head and shoulders to a position so the bottom of your shoulder blades are still touching the floor

TIPS & PROGRESSION

- Support your lower back and keep the core activated throughout exercise by pulling belly-button in towards spine
- Keep shoulders away from ears and toes pointed
- Inhale when taking limbs away from body, and exhale when bringing limbs back to body
- To make the exercise more difficult, lower the legs closer to the floor



Sound Mind & Body Lifestyle Coaching is dedicated to whole body wellness, from physical fitness to mental performance. Focusing on fitness for the equestrian, SMB Lifestyle recently launched SaddleFit boot camps designed to improve your fitness to improve your riding. Visit www.smbstylecoach.com for more information.

June 11-12, 2011
RMDS Winter Wake-Up
Organized in Conjunction with
Northern Colorado Dressage Association
Tomora Training Center – Greeley, Colorado

*Sponsored by BizTek International, LLC
And Tomora Training Center*

**Official Qualifying Competition for the FEI North American Junior and Young Riders' Championships
and Collecting Gaits Farm/USEF National Pony Rider, Junior, Young Rider & Brentina Cup
Championships.**

**Official Qualifying Competition for the Markel/USEF Young Horse Dressage Program and USEF
National Developing Horse Dressage Championship
(sponsored by the Dutta Corp & PSI)**

A GREAT SHOW FOR EVERYONE AT A GREAT FACILITY!

Organizers:
2White Feet

Judges:
Brian Ross (S), Fairfield, Virginia
Sue Curry Shaffer (S), Santa Rosa, California

Opening date – May 9, 2011

Closing Date – June 2, 2011

Fees (complete list in prizelist)

Training - Fourth Level	\$35.00
FEI Level / Musical Freestyles	\$45.00
Stabling	\$35 per night
Day Stall	\$30 per day (7am-7pm) as available
Office fee	\$20 (non-refundable)
Post-entry Surcharge	\$20.00

**ADDITIONAL CLASS SPONSORSHIPS AND ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE.
CONTACT HEATHER FOR MORE INFO!**

Arenas

All weather footing in competition and warm-up arenas. Two outdoor show arenas and outdoor warmup arena. For longing area inquire at show office. No foot traffic, or lessons, in warm-up area. Trainers and friends must abide by and respect these rules and their enforcement by our hard-working stewards.

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

2011 RMDS Executive Board

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

Governing Bodies

UNITED STATES DRESSAGE FEDERATION

USDF

859-971-2277

www.usdf.org
4051 Iron Works Parkway, Lexington, KY 40511

USDF Region 5

Director

Heather Petersen

719-683-8435

slush@drgw.net

FEI JRYR Coordinator

Kathleen Donnelly

970-310-8729

Kathleendonnelly20@hotmail.com

Website

www.usdfregion5.org

US EQUESTRIAN FEDERATION, INC

859-258-2472

www.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: 2nd Saturday, 1 pm, location TBD. Mary Rae, 719-784-6853, marraelambs@hotmail.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 Shannon Lemons, 719-686-0064, lemons_shannon@yahoo.com, www.CSDressage.org

Foothills: quarterly meetings, location TBD, Dolly Hannon, 303-919-4112, dollyhannon@msn.com

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

High Plains: Mtg time and location TBD. Cindi O'Shea, 720-951-3517, cindioshea@yahoo.com, www.highplainsdressage.com

Northern Colo.: 3rd Tues., each month, location TBD, Susie Reed, 970-416-7831, the.reed3s@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 2011 are January 13, March 10, May 12, July 14, September 8. Contact the RMDS Central Office for location. Steering Committee meetings are held on the second Monday of every even-numbered month. Board of Governor's meeting is held the second Saturday of Nov. Contact the Central Office for precise details.

Scholarship and Grant Opportunities through *The Dressage Foundation*

-Jenny Johnson, The Dressage Foundation Administrative Director

Violet Hopkins Fund - For GMOs to conduct educational clinics/seminars. Up to \$2,000 can be awarded per year for each GMO or GMO Chapter.

Dancing Horse Fund - Provides smaller grants to assist with freestyle clinics or to help with sound system purchase/repair.

Sally Swift Fund - Up to \$1,000 to conduct a Centered Riding Clinic.

Continuing Education for Instructors - Provides up to \$1,000 for a GMO to conduct educational events for Instructors. These grants CAN be used towards hosting the USDF Instructor Certification Program Workshops and Testing,

Also, as you may know, we have many grants and scholarships available for individuals. Here are a few:

Gifted Fund - for Adult Amateurs riding at ANY level. \$1,000 scholarship to use for a concentrated training time with a horse that is owned.

Continuing Education for Instructors - Individual grants to participate in the USDF Instructor Certification Program.

Renee Isler Dressage Support Fund - Provides grants to Young Riders and Professionals, typically for educational purposes.

Michael Poulin Dressage Fund - Awards grants that will promote and enhance the quality of dressage in the U.S.

For more information about these, and other grants, please visit our website at www.dressagefoundation.org. Click on "Funds and Programs" on the top menu bar. The Dressage Foundation is also on Facebook! Become a fan to keep up-to-date about important deadlines, new funding opportunities and special news: <http://www.facebook.com/home.php#!/pages/The-Dressage-Foundation/103053587073>

Our Young Rider Olympic Dream Program also has its own Facebook page: <http://www.facebook.com/home.php#!/pages/The-Dressage-Foundations-Young-Rider-Olympic-Dream-Program/100308486091>

The Centaur Newsletter

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

CONTACT INFORMATION

For article suggestions, articles, columns, letters-to-the-editor: Centaur Editor, 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 10th of the month. If not received by the following 10th 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 the 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 adult amateur status must be sent to the Central Office every year. Showing proof at shows is not enough for the year-end awards. Owner, rider, 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
"L"	Learner*	Training - Second (RMDS only)
"r"	Recorded	Training - Second
"R"	Registered	Training - Fourth

*may only judge at RMDS recognized shows.

FEI 4*

Janet Foy 719-260-1566

FEI ParaEquestrian Dressage 5*

Anita Owen 303-953-9904

USEF 'S'

Debbie Riehl-Rodriguez ... 303-642-7708

Sandra Hotz 303-817-2030

Anita Owen 303-953-9904

Janet "Dolly" Hannon 303-919-4112

Kristi Wysocki 303-648-9877

USEF 'r'

Loni Gaudet 985-966-3832

Amy Jablonovsky 970-493-2833

Suzanne Zimmer 303-478-8325

Gwen Ka'awaloa 303-646-4363

USDF 'L' Graduates (Schooling and RMDS Only recognized shows)

Simone Ahern* 719-749-9274

Gigi Brittain* 303-646-1506

Julie Burt 719-372-6270

Alison Child* (UT) 435-640-3287

Linda Coates-Markle 303-469-0279

Kathleen Donnelly* 970-310-8729

Amy Fulstone 775-721-1123

Status	Status	Levels
"S"	Senior	All
3* (FEI C)		All
4* (FEI I)	International	All
5* (FEI O)		All

Beth Geier 303-673-9840

Jan Goodrich-Spear 303-664-0152

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

Patti Thurman* (UT) 435-640-1362

Simone Windeler 719-540-2000

*Denotes Graduation with Distinction

Catherine Siemiet, 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

Mindy Maguire 720-301-0089

Susan Selby 970-227-9530

Libby Stokes 303-688-2795

USDF Certified Instructors

Training - Second

Julie Burt 719-372-6270

Jill Cantor Lee 970-209-8491

RaeAnn Cook 970-225-1408

Janet "Dolly" Hannon 303-279-4546

Ellene Kloepfer 303-828-3879

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

At its finest, rider and horse are joined not by tack, but by trust. Each is totally reliant upon the other. Each is the selfless guardian of the other's very well-being.

-Author Unknown

Shows and Events

All shows are RMDS recognized except schooling shows.

MAY 2011

- 1 **Foothills Chapter Ride-A-Test, Rising Star Equestrian Center, Arvada, CO**
Contact Lori Mitchell, 303-816-2375, bandwdressage@aol.com
- 3 **Janet Foy Clinic, Reiterhof Ranch, Franktown, CO**
Contact Jody, 303-646-9520, jbdrsj@hotmail.com
- 3-5 **Ralf Schmitzer Classical Riding Academy Clinic**
Contact Simone Windeler, 719-287-2040
simonedressage@gmail.com
- 7 **8th Heaven Spring Starter Series III, Castle Rock, CO**
Contact Denise Dunkin, 303-688-5727,
eighthheavenhorses@yahoo.com
- 7-8 **GVDS Schooling Show, Mesa County Fairgrounds**
Contact Inka Spatafora, 970-260-2660,
classicaldressage@earthlink.net
- 7-9 **Ralf Schmitzer Classical Riding Academy Clinic**
Contact Simone Windeler, 719-287-2040
simonedressage@gmail.com
- 12 **RMDS Executive Board meeting, OPEN to all**
Contact rmds@rmds.org
- 14 **CDEC Schooling Dressage Show & Two Phase, Cheyenne, WY.** Contact Rowena Heckert, 307-632-4151,
rlheckert@msn.com
- 14 **Mariah Farms Schooling Show, Mariah Farms, Castle Rock, CO**, Contact Lisa Lamke 303-660-2456 www.mariahfarms.net
- 14 **Pendragon Stud Dressage Show, Larkspur, CO**
Contact Leslie Terry, 303-688-4147, lt2@kellin.net
- 14 **Rocky Mountain Dressage I, Somerset Farms, Longmont- USEF-NAJYRC Qualifier**
Contact Heather Petersen, 719-683-8435, slush@drgw.net
- 15 **Rocky Mountain Dressage II, Somerset Farms, Longmont- USEF-NAJYRC Qualifier**
Contact Heather Petersen, 719-683-8435, slush@drgw.net
- 21 **AVDA Schooling Show, Pathfinder Park, Florence, CO**
Contact Cat Siemiet, 719-429-5696, horststop.net
- 21 **Rancho del Soule Schooling Show, Grand Junction, CO**
Contact Stephanie, 970-201-0747, stephanie.soule@msn.com
- 22 **Autumn Hill Sunday Series #1, Longmont**
Contact Julie Barringer-Richers, 720-341-5033
jbarringerrichers@comcast.net
- 24 **Janet Foy Clinic, Reiterhof Ranch, Franktown, CO**
Contact Jody, 303-646-9520, jbdrsj@hotmail.com
- 27 **Dressage in the Plains I, Sun Prairie Farms, Peyton, CO, USEF.** Contact Simone Ahern, 719-749-9274,
simone@sunprairiestables.com
- 27-29 **Leslie O'Neal-Olsen Clinic, Normandy Farms, Littleton, CO**
Contact Lori Mitchell, 303-816-2375, bandwdressage@aol.com
- 28 **Whispering Winds Schooling Shows, Monument, CO**
Contact Simone Windeler, 719-287-2040, simonedressage@gmail.com
- 28-29 **Dressage in the Plains II, Sun Prairie Farms, Peyton, CO, USEF**
Contact Simone Ahern, 719-749-9274,
simone@sunprairiestables.com

JUNE 2011

- 3 **High Prairie Dressage I, Colorado Horse Park, Parker, CO, USEF**
Contact Glenda McElroy, 818-841-3554, glenda@glenroys.com

- 4 **High Prairie Dressage II, Colorado Horse Park, Parker, CO, USEF**
Contact Glenda McElroy, 818-841-3554, glenda@glenroys.com
- 4-5 **GVDS Schooling Show, Mesa County Fairgrounds**
Contact Inka Spatafora, 970-260-2660,
classicaldressage@earthlink.net
- 4-5 **AA Clinic with Heather Robertson, RMDS Sponsored, Normandy Farms, Littleton, CO.**
Contact Lori Mitchell, 303-816-2375, bandwdressage@aol.com
- 5 **High Prairie Dressage III, Colorado Horse Park, Parker, CO-USEF**
Contact Glenda McElroy, 818-841-3554, glenda@glenroys.com
- 7 **Janet Foy Clinic, Reiterhof Ranch, Franktown, CO**
Contact Jody, 303-646-9520, jbdrsj@hotmail.com
- 11 **Mariah Farms Schooling Show, Mariah Farms, Castle Rock, CO**, Contact Lisa Lamke 303-660-2456 www.mariahfarms
- 11-12 **RMDS Winter Wake Up, Tomora Farms, Greeley, CO USEF-NAJYRC Qualifier**
Contact Heather Petersen, 719-683-8435, slush@drgw.net
- 11-12 **Millbrook Farms Dressage Show, Fairfield, UT-USEF**
Contact Jan Lawrence, 801-631-2516, millbrk@xmission.com
- 18 **Rancho del Soule Schooling Show, Grand Junction, CO**
Contact Stephanie, 970-201-0747, stephanie.soule@msn.com
- 18-19 **USDF L Program, Session D2, Central Arizona Riding Academy, Arizona**
Contact Dorie Vlatten Schmitz, dvschmitz@msn.com
- 19 **Centaur Rising Dressage Show I, Anchorage Farms, Pine, CO**
Contact Kris Cooper, 303-838-5086, kris@anchoragefarm.com
- 21 **Janet Foy Clinic, Reiterhof Ranch, Franktown, CO**
Contact Jody, 303-646-9520, jbdrsj@hotmail.com
- 24 **Sage Creek Dressage I, Charleston, UT-USEF**
Contact Chelsea Tracy, 440-376-9208, cohoofdance@gmail.com
- 25 **Sage Creek Dressage II, Charleston, UT-USEF**
Contact Chelsea Tracy, 440-376-9208, cohoofdance@gmail.com
- 25 **Whispering Winds Schooling Shows, Monument, CO**
Contact Simone Windeler, 719-287-2040, simonedressage@gmail.com
- 25 **AVDA Schooling Show, Pathfinder Park, Florence, CO**
Contact Cat Siemiet, 719-429-5696, horststop.net
- 25 **Autumn Hill Dressage Festival I, Longmont, CO-USEF- NAJYRC Qualifier**
Contact Julie Barringer-Richers, 720-341-5033,
jbarringerrichers@comcast.net
- 26 **Autumn Hill Dressage Festival II, Longmont, CO, USEF- NAJYRC Qualifier**
Contact Julie Barringer-Richers, 720-341-5033,
jbarringerrichers@comcast.net
- 2 JULY 2011
- 2 **RMDS Show at Sun Prairie II, Peyton, CO**
Contact Simone Ahern, 719-749-9274,
simone@sunprairiestables.com
- 3 **RMDS Show at Sun Prairie III, Peyton, CO**
Contact Simone Ahern, 719-749-9274,
simone@sunprairiestables.com
- 9 **Rocky Mountain Dressage III, Somerset Farms, Longmont- USEF-NAJYRC Qualifier**
Contact Heather Petersen, 719-683-8435, slush@drgw.net

Shows and Events

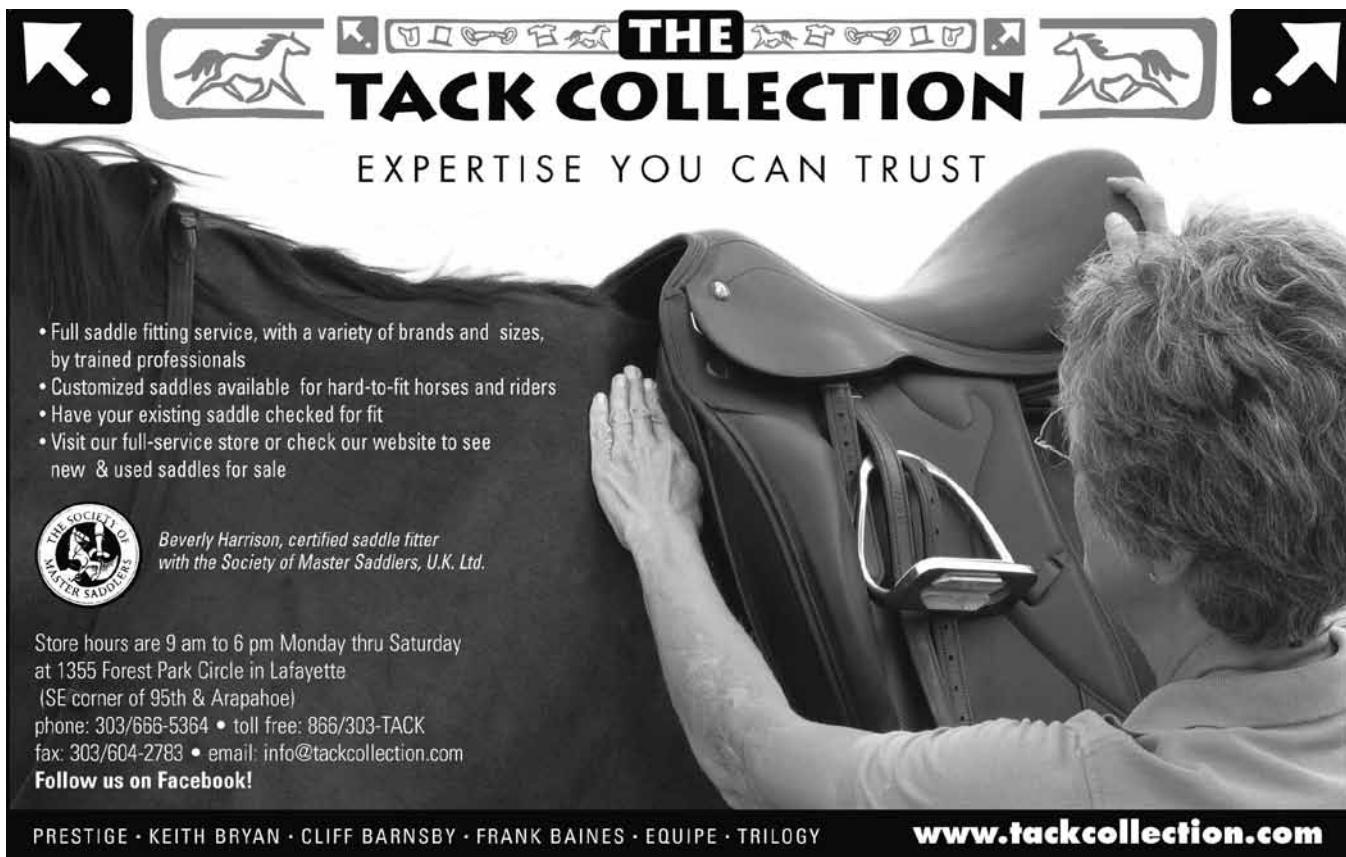
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|--------------------|--|------------------|--|
| 10 | Rocky Mountain Dressage IV & Breed Show, Somerset Farms, Longmont-USEF-NAJYRC Qualifier
Contact Heather Petersen, 719-683-8435, slush@drgw.net | 6-7 | Cheyenne Dressage & Eventing Dressage Show, Cheyenne, WY, USEF
Contact Rowena Heckert, 307-632-4151, rlheckert@msn.com |
| 10-13 | RMDS Junior Camp, Tomora Training Center, Greeley, CO
Contact Joan Clay 970-420-0887 jnclay@comcast.net | 12 | Janet Foy Clinic, Reiterhof Ranch, Franktown, CO
Contact Jody, 303-646-9520, jbdrsj@hotmail.com |
| 14 | RMDS Executive Board meeting, OPEN to all
Contact rmds@rmds.org | 12 | Utah Dressage Society Annual Show #1, Utah-USEF
Contact Susan Jero, 801-254-9107, SJero@aol.com |
| 15 | Dressage at the Peak Summer Warm-up, Fountain Valley School, Colo. Springs, CO-USEF
Contact Heather Petersen, 719-683-8435, slush@drgw.net | 13 | Utah Dressage Society Annual Show #2, Utah-USEF
Contact Susan Jero, 801-254-9107, SJero@aol.com |
| 15 | Wasatch Back Dressage Festival I, South Jordan, UT-USEF
Contact Alison Child, 435-640-3287, achild@kirwin.com | 13-14 | Dressage at Sun Prairie, Peyton, CO, USEF
Contact Simone Ahern, 719-749-9274, simone@sunprairiestables.com |
| 16 | Wasatch Back Dressage Festival II, South Jordan, UT-USEF
Contact Alison Child, 435-640-3287, achild@kirwin.com | 14 | Centaur Rising Dressage Show III, Anchorage Farms, Pine, CO
Contact Kris Cooper, 303-838-5086, kris@anchoragefarm.com |
| 16 | Dressage In the Pink, Mariah Farms, Castle Rock, CO
Contact Donna Baxter, 303-229-9085, highbrowbling@mesanetworks.net | 14 | Autumn Hill Sunday Series #3, Longmont, CO
Contact Julie Barringer-Richers, 720-341-5033, jbarringerrichers@comcast.net |
| 16 | Rancho del Soule Schooling Show, Grand Junction, CO
Contact Stephanie, 970-201-0747, stephanie.soule@msn.com | 19 | Paragon Dressage I & CDI***, Estes Park, CO-USEF
Contact Heather Petersen, 719-683-8435, slush@drgw.net |
| 16 | Centaur Rising Dressage Show II, Anchorage Farms, Pine, CO
Contact Kris Cooper, 303-838-5086, kris@anchoragefarm.com | 20 | Paragon Dressage II & CDI***, Estes Park, CO-USEF
Contact Heather Petersen, 719-683-8435, slush@drgw.net |
| 16-17 | Dressage at the Peak II Summer, Fountain Valley School, Colo. Springs, CO-USEF
Contact Heather Petersen, 719-683-8435, slush@drgw.net | 20 | Rancho del Soule Schooling Show, Grand Junction, CO
Contact Stephanie, 970-201-0747, stephanie.soule@msn.com |
| 17 | Autumn Hill Sunday Series #2, Longmont, CO
Contact Julie Barringer-Richers, 720-341-5033, jbarringerrichers@comcast.net | 21 | Paragon Dressage III & CDI***, Estes Park, CO-USEF
Contact Heather Petersen, 719-683-8435, slush@drgw.net |
| 23 | Autumn Hill Dressage Festival III, Longmont, CO-USEF
Contact Julie Barringer-Richers, 720-341-5033, jbarringerrichers@comcast.net | 26 | Janet Foy Clinic, Reiterhof Ranch, Franktown, CO
Contact Jody, 303-646-9520, jbdrsj@hotmail.com |
| 24 | Autumn Hill Dressage Festival IV, Longmont, CO-USEF
Contact Julie Barringer-Richers, 720-341-5033, jbarringerrichers@comcast.net | 27 | Whispering Winds Schooling Shows, Monument, CO
Contact Simone Windeler, 719-287-2040, simonedressage@gmail.com |
| 29 | Sage Creek Dressage III, Charleston, UT-USEF
Contact Chelsea Tracy, 440-376-9208, cohoofdance@gmail.com | 28 | Boulder Valley So Long to Summer, Sextant Farm, Longmont, CO. Contact Beth Geier, 303-673-9840 |
| 30 | Sage Creek Dressage IV, Charleston, UT-USEF
Contact Chelsea Tracy, 440-376-9208, cohoofdance@gmail.com | 2 SEPTEMBER 2011 | SEPTEMBER 2011 |
| 30 | Whispering Winds Schooling Shows, Monument, CO
Contact Simone Windeler, 719-287-2040, simonedressage@gmail.com | 2 | GVDS Fall Show I, Grand Junction, CO USEF
Contact Inka Spatafora 970-260-2660, classicaldressage@earthlink.net, |
| 30 | Sport Horse Handling Clinic, Colorado Horse Park, Parker, CO.
Contact Michelle Anderson, michand@hotmail.com, 303-646-1375 | 3 | GVDS Fall Show II, Grand Junction, CO USEF
Contact Inka Spatafora, 970-260-2660, classicaldressage@earthlink.net |
| 30-31 | USDF Adult/Youth Team Competition | 4 | GVDS Fall Show III, Grand Junction, CO USEF
Contact Inka Spatafora, 970-260-2660, classicaldressage@earthlink.net |
| AUGUST 2011 | | | |
| 5 | Dressage in the Rockies I, Colorado Horse Park, Parker, CO-USEF
Contact Glenda McElroy, 818-841-3554, glenda@glenroys.com | 8 | RMDS Executive Board meeting, OPEN to all
Contact rmds@rmds.org |
| 6 | Dressage in the Rockies II, Colorado Horse Park, Parker, CO-USEF
Contact Glenda McElroy, 818-841-3554, glenda@glenroys.com | 9 | Janet Foy Clinic, Reiterhof Ranch, Franktown, CO
Contact Jody, 303-646-9520, jbdrsj@hotmail.com |
| 7 | Dressage in the Rockies III, Colorado Horse Park, Parker, CO-USEF
Contact Glenda McElroy, 818-841-3554, glenda@glenroys.com | 9 | CSDA Fall RMDS Show, M & M Ranch, Fountain, CO,
Contact Heather Petersen, 719-683-8435, slush@drgw.net |
| 10 | | 10 | Mariah Farms Schooling Show, Mariah Farms, Castle Rock, CO, Contact Lisa Lamke, 303-660-2456, www.mariahfarms.net |
| 17 | | 17 | Rancho del Soule Schooling Show, Grand Junction, CO
Contact Stephanie, 970-201-0747, stephanie.soule@msn.com |
| 17 | | 17 | Whispering Winds Schooling Shows, Monument, CO
Contact Simone Windeler, 719-287-2040, simonedressage@gmail.com |

Continued on page 18

Shows and Events

Continued from page 17

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|----------------------|--|----------------------|--|
| 17 | Last Chance Show, Rising Star Equestrian Center, Arvada, CO
Contact Lori Mitchell, 303-816-2375, bandwdressage@aol.com | 4-6 | USDF L Program, Final Exam, West World, Scottsdale, Arizona. Contact Dorie Vlatten Schmitz, dvschmitz@msn.com |
| 22 | RMDS Sport Horse Open Show & Championships, Colorado Horse Park, Parker, CO, USEF
Contact Heather Petersen, 719-683-8435, slush@drgw.net | 4-6 | Region 5 Championships, West World, Scottsdale, Arizona. Contact Jay Chabucos, 623-221-0707 |
| 23 | Janet Foy Clinic, Reiterhof Ranch, Franktown, CO
Contact Jody, 303-646-9520, jbdrs@hotmail.com | 12 | RMDS Board of Governors' Meeting, 8:30 am. RMDS Committee host. |
| 23-25 | RMDS Championships, Colorado Horse Park, Parker, CO, USEF
Contact Heather Petersen, 719-683-8435, slush@drgw.net | 12 | RMDS Awards Banquet. 5:30 pm. RMDS Committee host. |
| OCTOBER 2011 | | | |
| 4 | Janet Foy Clinic, Reiterhof Ranch, Franktown, CO
Contact Jody, 303-646-9520, jbdrs@hotmail.com | 12 | Mariah Farms Schooling Show, Mariah Farms, Castle Rock, CO. Contact Lisa Lamke, 303-660-2456, www.mariahfarms.net |
| 8 | Mariah Farms Schooling Show, Mariah Farms, Castle Rock, CO, Contact Lisa Lamke, 303-660-2456, www.mariahfarms.net | 15 | Janet Foy Clinic, Reiterhof Ranch, Franktown, CO
Contact Jody, 303-646-9520, jbdrs@hotmail.com |
| 15-16 | GVDS Schooling Show, Grand Junction, CO, USEF
Contact Inka Spathafora, 970-260-2660, classicaldressage@earthlink.net | 30-Dec 4 | USDF Convention and Symposium, San Diego, CA
Contact USDF, 859-971-2277, www.usdf.org |
| 18 | Janet Foy Clinic, Reiterhof Ranch, Franktown, CO
Contact Jody, 303-646-9520, jbdrs@hotmail.com | DECEMBER 2011 | |
| 29 | Rancho del Soule Schooling Show, Grand Junction, CO
Contact Stephanie, 970-201-0747, stephanie.soule@msn.com | 6 | Janet Foy Clinic, Reiterhof Ranch, Franktown, CO
Contact Jody, 303-646-9520, jbdrs@hotmail.com |
| NOVEMBER 2011 | | | |
| 1 | Janet Foy Clinic, Reiterhof Ranch, Franktown, CO
Contact Jody, 303-646-9520, jbdrs@hotmail.com | 21 | JANUARY 2012
RMDS Judges' Continuing Education
Contact Central Office, 720-890-7825, rmds@rmds.org |
| APRIL 2012 | | | |
| 21-22 | Region 5 USDF Adult Clinic with Lilo Fore, Utah
Contact Nance Allen, 801-274-1288, nance@xmision.com | | |



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RMDS SPONSORED EDUCATIONAL EVENTS

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

2011

June 4-5	AA Clinic with Heather Robertson, Normandy Farms, Littleton, CO
June 10-13	RMDS Junior Camp, Tomora Training Center, Greeley, CO
June 11-12	RMDS Winter Wake-Up (in the Summer), Tomora Training Center, Greeley, CO
July 30	Sport Horse Handling Clinic, Colorado Horse Park, Parker, CO
July 30-31	USDF Youth & Adult Team Competition, Loveland, CO
Sept 22	RMDS Breed Show, Colorado Horse Park, Parker, CO
Sept 23-25	RMDS Championships, Colorado Horse Park, Parker, CO
Nov 12	Board of Governors' Meeting and Award's Banquet, RMDS Committee Host

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.rmds.org, or contact the RMDS Central Office at 720-890-7825, rmds@rmds.org.

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etc. If your plan is to evacuate to public fairgrounds, create a checklist and place it in a visible spot so this info is available to whoever is on site when the decision is made to "GO". Make sure you have:

- Enough hay for a couple of days
- Water buckets
- Extra halters and lead ropes
- Bags of shavings, if available
- Muck buckets + forks
- Grain as needed for at least a couple of days
- Any necessary medications
- A multi-use pocket tool of some kind
- A handful of bailing twine
- Duct tape

Private Facilities: Disasters are often very localized and relatively small in actual size. Consider making a reciprocal agreement with a private facility at least 10 to 15 miles away from where your barn is, who has the ability to temporarily house your horses and vice-versa. Visit the facility and discuss the options – whether there are stalls available, individual or shared runs or pens, how many horses are going to need temporary care, etc. Know who gets along with whom if you need to double up in runs or put multiple horses out together on a pasture. Write these decisions down and put them in a safe place, such as taping to the wall of your trailer's dressing room.

Additional Thoughts to Build Into Your Emergency Plans

If boarders park their truck and trailer rigs at the barn, make sure the facility manager has a set of keys in a safe place on site. If the rig's owner

lives downtown and can't get out to the farm for close to an hour, it may be too late. If borders typically don't store their truck/trailer rigs at the barn, consider requiring, or at least requesting, they do during this very dangerous fire season. Rigs should be hooked up, and in the "ready" position so if you find yourself having to take emergency action with very little time to spare, it's a HUGE step in being prepared to evacuate.

Designate someone at the barn with a big enough SUV or minivan to be in charge of gathering tack and loading it into their vehicle so the horse handlers don't have to concern themselves with this detail. Pick up a roll of masking tape and a permanent marking pen. During your next visit to the barn, take 5 minutes to write the horse's name or owner's initials on masking tape and put it somewhere on the saddle and bridle where it will be hidden. If in a panic, they all get scooped up and thrown into somebody's SUV; you'll have an easier time of matching them back up when the emergency is over.

If you have horses that are difficult to load, take the time to work on this issue NOW. When there's smoke in the air and tensions are high, this is NOT the time to be dealing with a horse digging its heels and saying "No way-this is too scary."

A little bit of planning will go a long way if you're ever faced with a situation like this. A lot of information is available from the FEMA website regarding animals: <http://www.ready.gov/america/getakit/pets.html>, plus your county emergency management

or public safety department can be a great place to learn about available local resources.

I wish there was an appropriate way to express the extreme gratitude everyone has for the firefighters. "Thank you" just doesn't do enough. I am sure if we asked them, they'd say "Please donate money."

I am going to propose an idea to all who read this article. We are uniquely capable of doing just that. We can raise money for the fire departments that dispatched to Bayou Gulch with an equestrian exhibition for the public. Such an event could be dove-tailed into an already-scheduled competition at the Horse Park rather than starting from scratch. It could include an hour filled with jumping demonstrations, dressage musical freestyles and quadrille demonstrations, reining, "petting" opportunities, etc. It could be an excellent opportunity for trainers and facility owners to promote their businesses. I suspect people who live in The Pinery and The Timbers that come out every year for "Halloween for Horses" would enthusiastically support such an event if they knew it was going to benefit the firefighters who battled the flames so successfully on March 24th. I think they realize that the fire could have easily moved into the thick timber and tight neighborhoods of these communities without the heroic efforts of these trained professionals. If it had, it would have left little remaining in its path.

Please send comments/ideas/thoughts to valerie@weathercall.net



The USDF Region 5 FEI Junior and Young Riders are Proud to Announce their 2011 Fundraising Opportunities

Food will be for sale at the following venues:

- Rocky Mountain Dressage I and II, May 14-15
- AA Clinic with Heather Robertson Clinic, June 4-5
- NCDA/RMDS Winter Wake-up, June 11-12
- Rocky Mountain Dressage III and IV, July 9-10

All the food sales will benefit the Region 5 Junior and Young Rider teams.

The 8th annual Silent Auction will be held at the NCDA/RMDS Winter Wake-up Show. Come bid on must-have items. To donate to the silent auction, contact Kathleen Donnelly at (970) 310-8729 or kathleendonnelly20@hotmail.com.

Keep an eye out for more information regarding an exciting exhibition at Autumn Hill.

The proceeds from these events will go to the Region 5 Junior and Young Rider teams for their trip to Kentucky to compete at the North American Junior Young Rider Championships. All Donations are tax deductible.

The Region 5 Juniors and Young Riders wish to extend a big Thank You to those who have already donated to the silent auction, food sales, or supported the Young Riders. We couldn't do it without you!



USDF REGION FIVE

RMDS JR/YR SUMMER CAMP

“Here we SHOW again!”

July 10-13, 2011
Tomora Training Center - Greeley, CO



Who can participate? Any RMDS junior/young rider that is at least 10 yrs of age or older.

Where will we stay? We'll camp in tents right outside the show stables at Tomora Training Center.

What will we do? We'll spend 4 busy days together...taking care of your own horse; making new friends; riding with top local trainers; learning about dressage, horse care, and showing from area experts; participating in crafts and games; and riding in a dressage schooling show with an "L" judge!

How much does it cost? Camp will cost \$375 per camper. This includes stabling, meals, lessons, activities and schooling show entry. Campers must provide their own: horse, transportation/trailering, horse feed and bedding, and cots/bedding. A \$175 deposit will be required with your registration.

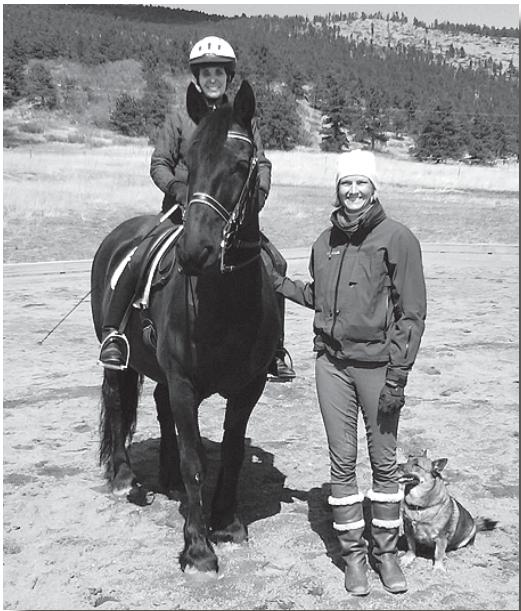
Why is camp called “Here we SHOW again”! Since there are new USEF and USDF dressage tests this year, we thought it would be fun to focus on learning about the new dressage tests so campers can practice riding them at the schooling show. We'll also learn about other show-related activities such as dressage seat equitation, showing in-hand, riding to music, and lots, lots more!

Who is in charge of the camp? Joan Clay is the camp director. Nicole and Natalie Roach are our hosts from Tomora Training Center.

How do we get more information and registration materials? Please contact Joan Clay at 970-420-0887 or jnclay@comcast.net or go to the RMDS website at www.rmds.org

It Took Bilateral Hip Surgeries to Bring My Horse Romke Up to Third Level

By Elaine Maldin



Elaine on Romke, with trainer Jenny Baldwin and her dog Buddy in Autumn Hill's outdoor arena.

Even though medical setbacks may cause a rider to feel unable to push forward and get back in the saddle, think again.....I have a story that will prove quite the opposite. My name is Elaine Maldin, and I'm back in the saddle after bilateral hip replacements. My riding is better than it has ever been thanks to my trainer, my beloved horse Romke, all my friends and family, and the fact that medical technology has made it possible to turn us "seasoned riders" into "Bionic Riders." Here is my story:

It is exactly 8 years to the day tomorrow, March 17th, 2003, that I purchased my Friesian horse Romke. (St. Patrick's Day may also be known to me as "Romke Day.") Anyway, I rode Romke for about 3 years with

little or no pain in my hips. Romke had just turned 6 and had been going "pre-training level." Within 3 years, with the help of my trainer Jenny Baldwin, we managed to get little Romke out of pre-training level into confirmed first level. This was a real feat for me in that I was only receiving 1- 2 weekly dressage lessons from Jenny, and had started dressage late in life (age 52 when I purchased Romke).

Things spiraled down quickly after what started out to be a slight stiffness in my left hip, progressing to severe pain. By

the summer of 2007, I continued to ride Romke as best I could despite pain, but suffered significantly after my ride. Just putting away my tack and walking him back to turnout was a challenge for me. I was one of those "silent sufferers" and would try my very best to hide my limping and not complain to anyone except my immediate family. I continued to ride daily, relying on my dose of Aleve or Advil, and further diminishing some pain by swimming 40 laps and spending time in a dry sauna in the afternoons. This vigorous game plan of mine worked for about 10 months. I was in denial, despite the fact that I was told I had osteoarthritis of my left hip. I was determined I would fight this without surgery.

Finally I could take it no longer. By July of 2008, I had visited three different orthopedic surgeons in the Boul-

der/Denver area and was told by all three that I was a prime candidate for a full hip replacement. I can remember vividly scrutinizing my x-ray with the first surgeon; viewing the bone on bone, three bone spurs, but thinking during all this, "What the heck am I going to do with Romke?" I know all you horse owners out there know exactly the feeling one gets when you are told about a medical condition that will prevent you from riding. We start envying all the cyclists, snowboarders, golfers skiers, etc. who can nicely store their equipment away in the back of their closets and not have to worry about the welfare of their equipment. Looking back, I realize I was at my lowest point emotionally and physically. I was terrified of major surgery, knew of no one who had hip replacements and rode seriously afterwards, and most of all, I was terribly depressed at the thought of never being able to ride Romke again! As irrational as it may have seemed to those around me, I really did think that by selling Romke I could move on and not be subjected to the loss I might have. "Out of Sight, Out of Mind," I thought.

Robert Burns said this best, "The Best laid plans of mice and men often go astray." I successfully promoted my horse for sale on Dream Horse, and canvassed the local shows, tack stores, etc., with lovely flyers of Romke for sale. When the calls came in, I found myself incapable of allowing potential buyers to even come out to see Romke, let alone talk to them on the phone about his merits. I was a mess!

After about 15 phone calls, I realized there was no way I was ready to sell Romke!

With the help of my two very good horse friends, Morgan Heinrich, and Pat Cantwell, Romke was cared for and ridden 5 times a week. Pat was his predominant rider and Morgan rode once a week. I came out for every ride starting three days after I returned home from the hospital. You have no idea how uplifting it was for me to just spend time at the barn and watch Romke go. Instead of feeling all sad about not riding, I got motivated to get myself in shape so I could ride once the surgeon gave his ok. On December 31st, 2008, almost 4 months post surgery, I was back in the saddle again! Romke had not missed a beat. Within a few weeks, I was back riding first level movements, and very, very happy!

My elation of riding Romke after the first hip-replacement was short lived. By 8 months post surgery of my left hip, I began feeling the familiar aches, stiffness and pain of osteoarthritis in my right hip. I knew even before I went back to the surgeon what was in store for me. At my annual check-up exam for the left hip replacement, I was once again told

that I had bone on bone, and needed a full hip replacement on my right hip. Once again, I needed time to adjust to having yet another surgery. I knew exactly the protocol and felt much more positive. I looked forward to life without pain. This time around though, I was going to put Romke into a full training program with Jenny Baldwin, a luxury I had never afforded myself. So in early June of 2010 I went in for a second hip replacement, and Romke went into "Boot Camp" with Jenny.

I cannot speak highly enough of the value of having your horse in full training when you want your horse to advance past what you know. It's funny in a way that it took bilateral hip replacements to finally get my horse advanced out of first level. I'm not advocating that amateurs should not ride their own horses, however if you want your horse to advance up a level or two, full training is the way to go. I was so very fortunate to have a trainer like Jenny Baldwin to teach my old horse Romke some new tricks!

What an education it was for me to see my horse getting transformed right before my eyes! He went from first level to schooling third level in 4 months! Watching Jenny teach Romke to piaffe first in hand and then under saddle, was exhilarating. What impressed me most in the 4 months was how quickly a horse can learn new things if the training is correct and not interrupted by the "wrong training." All the little successes from day to day seem to build on each other. By the end of my 4 month post op recovery period, Romke looked



Jenny Baldwin warming up Romke in the trot, July 2010.



A cool day in July of 2010. Jenny Baldwin cantering Romke one month into his full training program.

like he had grown 2-3 inches, was ridden now in a double bridle, and was a horse I never thought he would be! I always knew Jenny to be an excellent riding instructor, but now I also valued her talent as an excellent horse trainer.

On September 16, 2010, I was back on Romke exactly one day past the anniversary date of my initial hip replacement September 15, 2008. It was a monumental feeling for me to be back in the saddle. With a little "breaking in period," I began riding Romke better than I have ever ridden him. I feel much younger and energetic now that I no longer have to deal with chronic pain. I'm currently schooling Romke at third level. Who ever thought this was going to happen? Certainly not me!

At this time, I would like to thank all my horse friends at Autumn Hill who supported me during my pre- and post surgeries and my family members who always believed I would be back on Romke even when I thought I wouldn't. And a very BIG THANKS to Jenny and Romke. You both kept me going!



REGISTRATION Form

Your Name _____

Phone		email
Address		
Horse/Name/Breed/Age		
Riding Level		
Hope to work on in this clinic?		

Rider Fee for both days - \$210 RMDS Member – USEF AA CARD Amount Enclosed - \$

USEF# _____ RMDS# _____

Rider Fee for both days - \$260 NON RMDS Member Amount Enclosed - \$

Lunch \$8 – Saturday Special requirements:

Lunch \$8 - Sunday

TOTALS TOTAL Enclosed - \$

Please return this registration by: May 21st, 2011 To: Lori Mitchell, 236 Spring Dr , Pine, CO 80470

Jr/Yr will have food for sale!!!! Please bring a chair.

Auditor Registration

Name _____ RMDS# _____

Email _____ phone _____

Please circle all the days that you are intending to audit.

Saturday Audit - \$10 Sunday Audit - \$10 RMDS MEMBERS ONLY

Saturday Audit - \$20 Sunday Audit - \$20 NON RMDS MEMBERS

LUNCH - \$8 per day Circle day(s) you wish to have lunch provided by the Jr/Yr's
SATURDAY +\$8 SUNDAY +\$8

Special Diet Requirements: TOTAL ENCLOSED \$_____

RMDS Presents ... 2011 Adult Amateur Clinic with ...



Heather, Maguin, and Edward Gal

A Grand Prix dressage rider, Heather Robertson has competed successfully across Europe, North America and Canada.

Heather and her home-bred Swedish Warmblood stallion Maguin were Short Listed for the Canadian Equestrian Team every year from 2001 to 2005. After winning Maguin's first Prix St Georges at the Golden State Dressage Show, Heather and Maguin flew to Holland to study under Edward Gal. In four years Heather became Gal's top assistant rider, and showed horses in both the VSN and the Pavo Cup Finals. She also enjoyed great success with Maguin at Prix St Georges and Intermediaire 1 at CDI's in Austria, Italy and the Netherlands. In their first Grand Prix in Holland, Heather and Maguin placed second.

Heather works with riders and horses at all levels of dressage. Emphasis is put on developing correct basics. Riders learn to follow the Training Scale: Rhythm, Suppleness, Contact, Impulsion, Straightness and Collection. Attention to the rider's seat and correct aids helps riders develop the grace and effectiveness that makes dressage so beautiful.

Training of young horses is a specialty. Having started over 25 horses under saddle, and competed young stallions in the VSN (Dutch Championships for 3 year olds) the Pavo Cup, (Dutch Championships for 4 & 5 year olds), Heather enjoys working with young horses. Great care is taken to develop a horse that is confident, quiet, and focused on his rider.

Adult Amateurs with young horses are encouraged to ride!

Registration is on a first come basis. All Adult riders welcome!

Adult Amateurs (USEF Card) will be given rider spots first.

Registration deadline – **May 21st** – NO REFUNDS after deadline.

Questions: Lori Mitchell, 303-816-2375

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Non Member \$260

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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"/> No. Colorado (Ft. Collins, Greeley) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Boulder Valley | <input type="checkbox"/> Grand Valley (Grand Junction) | <input type="checkbox"/> Platte River (Eastern Colorado) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Colorado Springs | <input type="checkbox"/> High Plains (Parker, Littleton, Aurora) | <input type="checkbox"/> Wasatch Mountains (Utah) |
| | | <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) _____

RMDS Members Well Represented at Arabian Sport Horse Nationals

By Debbie King, As Reported in September, 2010

The Eighth Annual Sport Horse Nationals for Arabian and Half Arabian horses was held in Nampa, Idaho September 22-25. Almost 400 Arabians and Half Arabians were shown in various sport horse disciplines including dressage, jumping, carriage driving and in-hand classes.

CP Mercury Bey, a 12 year old half Arabian gelding, owned and ridden by Heather Sanders from Littleton won the Fourth Level ATR. Heather and Mercury also handily won the Prix St. Georges claiming the High

Point FEI score of the show with an overall score of 67.76%, including an impressive 70.3% from one of the judges. For this accomplishment, they made a victory appearance at the Dressage Award Ceremonies on Saturday night during formal festivities.

Debbie King of Parker rode Goetz Grace, a 10-year old half Arabian mare, to a U.S. National Top Ten award in Second Level for Half Arabians, amateur to ride. Grace also took a Top Ten in Half Arabian Mares In-Hand and Half Arabian Show Hack, ATR.

Last but not least, Rashad Alcibiades, an 11-year old purebred Arabian gelding was ridden by Kathleen Donnelly, and owned by Tamara Boose, both of Johnstown, Colorado. Kathleen rode a very determined test in a very large class of 44 entries in the Training Level for purebred Arabians and won a U.S. Top Ten award.

The Sport Horse Nationals in Nampa celebrated its eighth anniversary in 2010. It is the only Sport Horse Show offered by a breed association. The 2011 competition will be held September 28-October 2 at the Kentucky Horse Park.



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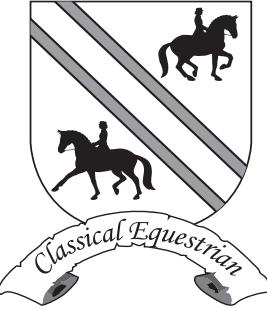
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LeFire
Acrylic on Canvas

by Beverly Harrison

"LeFire is a commissioned piece of a fantastic horse owned by Nicole Roach.

It was supposed to be a portrait for his "retirement" from the show world, but once the piece was hung in Nicole's office at Tomora in Greeley, LeFire decided he didn't want to retire; true to his personality!"

Beverly owns The Tack Collection in Lafayette, Colorado. The full-color version can be seen at [www.tackcollection.art_art.html](http://tackcollection.art_art.html), along with many of Beverly's other pieces of artwork.

