



# CENTAUR

*educating horse and rider as partners*

NOVEMBER 2015

## A Peek Inside

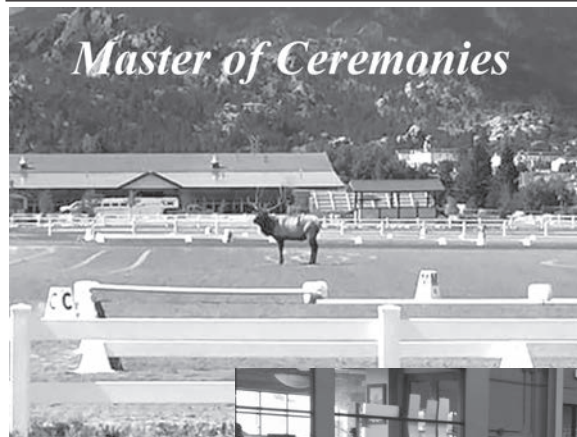
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## Another Championship Season



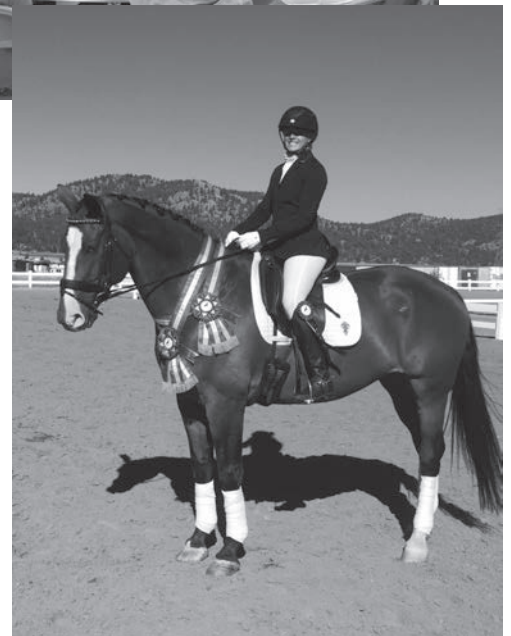
Thank you to everyone who made this another fabulous Championships! See our volunteers and sponsors on pages 6-7, and read two stories of personal triumphs at the show on page 22.



*Jr/YR Pizza Party*

*Heather, Simone, Jon, Nicho, Nicole, Susan, Beth, Gwen, and Stephanie: I want to thank you all for all your hard work putting on the show. Each one of you worked so hard to make championships a wonderful show and I really appreciate it.*

*Sincerely, Sue Traylor*



*Taryn Anderson and Addison: 2nd Level AA Champion and 2nd Level Freestyle Champion*

*Season to Give*

# ng 18

*Suggestions & Gift Ideas from Our Members*

Information and articles in the Centaur Newsletter are the sole opinion and responsibility of their authors, and not that of RMDS or its Executives.

## President's Message

I cannot believe that 2015 is coming to an end. Just around the corner we have our Board of Governors Meeting on November 14th at the Western Stock Show Events Center in Denver. This will be the first meeting that is not scheduled on the same day as the awards banquet.

We are hoping that we can spend the time to work on the 2016 calendar and to plan the events for the year.

I sincerely hope that all members have spoken with their delegates so your voice and desires will be heard and discussed. The current board members have been busy looking over our successful year and making plans for 2016 based on what worked and which items need improvement. 2015 was a very busy Educational year and most of the events made a profit. All were successful in terms of attendance and provided valuable information for both participants and auditors.



*Safariie helped Gwen Ka'awaloa complete her USDF Gold Medal requirements. Photo by Kathleen Bryan.*

After a successful RMDS Championship show and another Christoph Hess Professional and Open clinic we have one more clinic in November. The Western slope members are offering a Freestyle Clinic catering to Adult Amateurs.

December is the USDF Convention in Las Vegas and I have heard many RMDS members will be attending. USDF has several educational events planned as we will team up with the

Veterinarians who are attending their own convention. RMDS will have a chance to work with other GMOs on plans for 2016, including the possibility of hosting the Adult Clinic here in Colorado.

Once again I encourage all of you to participate in the many clinics and symposiums we have coming up. Education is our primary purpose and we have offered several different types of events. Participation in these clinics and symposiums insures that we can continue to offer educational opportunities to our members.

As the Holiday Season begins please take time to enjoy your families and friends. I look forward to working with our delegates at the BOG.

*Aloha,  
Gwen Ka'awaloa*

## Vice President's Message

Happy fall wishes to all my dressage friends. As we prepare for the cooler weather here in the Rocky Mountains, it is the perfect time to reflect, and assess our goals. My goals are to build my house on my horse property by next summer, and I would like to show my mare third level. A lot of preparation goes into the winter training season!

I believe in supporting the adult amateur clinics because these clinics grow our sport at a "grass roots" level. We are working with Western Dressage to make dressage more accessible to beginning horse enthusiasts. I want to continue our Professionals Clinics, where we bring in world-renowned clinicians to train our trainers. In addition, I also have been working



*Aline Brandau with her 8-year-old black Hanoverian "Aline's Sara" out of Simply Spruce Meadows bloodline.*

at bringing the junior young riders together, at Championships and at the

Awards Banquet, to provide mutual support and a sense of camaraderie within the younger dressage rider community.

I am looking forward to attending the USDF Annual Convention in December, and seeing everyone at the Awards Banquet in January. Please send in your pictures of Championships, and we are looking for people who would like to write articles about dressage, and their personal experiences with horses. Beverly Swanson publishes the Centaur, and we are always looking for interesting, personal stories to share with our dressage readers. Thanks for your support,

*Aline Brandau, JD  
VP RMDS*

## Arkansas Valley

AVDA had a perfect end to our show season. Beth Geier came to judge and she was fabulous as always! We had 25 rides and a full day of showing. Many thanks to all our volunteers, it went off without a hitch. As many of you know, it is a lot of work to put on a show and the volunteers are priceless! Our high point was Jan Thomas from Westcliffe on Venco at 67.18. Congratulations Jane!

As the year winds down, AVDA will be planning next year's show year and discussing an RMDS show for qualifying points for championships next year. We will also have our year end holiday gathering with food and drink, games and a lot of laughs. It has been a great way to stay connected in the winter.

I hope you have all had a great riding season. We have been blessed by all our clinicians and judges to come down this way and spend a day with us. Mary Jo, Beth, Amelia, Sabrina just to name a few. Thank you for all your support to us and our horses!

## High Plains Dressage

High Plains Dressage would like to wish a hearty Congratulations to all competitors and volunteers for making 2015 a successful RMDS show Season. Best of luck to all going to Region 5 for Regionals! We will be announcing USDF medal winners soon, so if you have not contacted us yet please do so by the end of October to be recognized. (a quick email can be sent to: [suzie.halle@comcast.net](mailto:suzie.halle@comcast.net))

High Plains Dressage will be looking for volunteers to fill the position of President, Treasurer and Secretary. Please email: [Olgahendrickson@gmail.com](mailto:Olgahendrickson@gmail.com) if you are interested.

## NCD Chapter Report

NCD has had a lot of members participate in shows this season as well as attending the clinics that have been offered. Thanks to these great learning experiences the quality of riding has improved along with higher scores.

On October 18th at Tomora Training Center in west Greeley, we'll be hosting a schooling show for the benefit of 'Hearts and Horses Therapeutic Riding Center'. We will use our profit toward a child size dressage saddle from Happy Horse Tack. It will be a fun show with a costume class, western dressage and a gaited dressage class. The judge for the day is Julie Burt. We encourage everyone to come (even if not riding) to learn more about 'Hearts and Horses' and drop a dollar or two in the donation can. We'll be serving refreshments and having a silent auction.

This show will be the last opportunity for NCD members to earn points toward 'year end' awards. We have lovely perpetual trophies to present at our Christmas Party.

Nominations are being accepted for the NCD board with elections at the November meeting.

Renee Martig  
NCD President

## Board of Governors Meeting


November 14, 2015 - 8:30 am

Western Stock Show Complex


## Awards Banquet

January 16, 2016

Renaissance Hotel, 3801 Quebec St., Denver  
(same place as the past few years).



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# Proposed Bylaw & Standing Rule Changes

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## BYLAW:

### 1. ARTICLE IV. MEMBERSHIP AND REPRESENTATION

- C. Removal of Chapter Recognition: Any Chapter may lose Society recognition when any of the following conditions exist:
1. The number of Society members represented by the Chapter falls below ten (10) *on April 1 (Change to June 15)* of the current membership year
  2. Whenever, in the judgment of the Executive Board, the best interests of the Society would be served thereby. Loss of Chapter recognition shall require a 2/3 vote of the Executive Board at a regularly scheduled Executive Board meeting. All members of the Executive Board must be sent written notification of the intention to move for the revocation of recognition at least ten (10) days prior to the Executive Board meeting where the vote will be taken.

## STANDING RULE:

### SECTION V. AWARDS - YEAR END

A) When determining the number of scores to use, if 80% of the number of scores results in a non-integer number, standard rounding rules will be used: if the fractional part is 0.5 or greater, the number of scores used will be rounded up to the next higher integer; if the fractional part is less than 0.5, the number of scores used will be rounded down to the next lower integer.

OR

B) When determining the number of scores to use, if 80% of the number of scores results in a non-integer number, the number of scores used will be rounded down (truncated) to the next lower integer.

*A is mathematically correct, but B helps riders more in a few instances and may be more in line with the spirit of the 80% rule. That's for the organization to decide.*

### 2. SECTION VII. USDF "L" Graduate Program for RMDS

In an effort to provide quality judging RMDS has established a certification program that will allow USDF "L" Graduate to officiate at RMDS only recognized competitions. May judge through 2nd Level. The requirements are as follows:

- A. Must be certified by the USDF as having successfully passed the USDF "L" judges program.
- B. Must be a RMDS member in good standing and over 21 years of age.
- C. Must be a current member of US Equestrian Federation.
- D. Must officiate at a RMDS recognized competition, dressage schooling show or Eventing unrecognized event, which cumulatively includes a minimum of 30 dressage rides (USDF Intro-USEF 2nd Level or equivalents) once every two (2) years.
- E. Must attend a RMDS, US Equestrian Federation, or USDF recognized continuing education for judges program once every two (2) years
- F. "L" graduates must also undertake 20 hours every 2 years of continuing education as approved by the RMDS Executive Board, 8 hours of which must include scribing (*delete "and sitting"*) with a "R" judge or higher.
- G. *"L" graduates must also undertake 8 hours of sitting at a competition every 2 years which must be with an "L" faculty member or one of the approved apprentice judges from the USEF "r" program.*

### 3. SECTION XIV. RMDS CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW

#### A. General:

6. Horse and rider combinations, which are champions from previous years and received an RMDS qualifying score in that championship class for Training Level through Fourth Level & Training Level through Fourth Level Freestyle, are not eligible to compete again in Championship Classes at the same level at which they were champions *more than three times*.

## Valegro's Shoe from Las Vegas World Cup to be Auctioned to Benefit TDF's Skvarla Fund

*Photo Credit to Christy Cunningham-Adams*

Join us this winter for the opportunity to win a piece of dressage history AND support The Dressage Foundation! The top bidder will receive Valegro's winning shoe from the 2015 Las Vegas World Cup Finals, a photo of Valegro autographed by Charlotte Dujardin, and a Certificate of Authenticity from Carl Hester, all in an elegantly framed set.



The auction will be held online at [32auctions.com/ValegroShoeTDF](http://32auctions.com/ValegroShoeTDF), and will run from December 1st through December 11th. Bidding is open for North American residents only.

"We are thankful for the generosity of Carl Hester and Charlotte Dujardin, who so kindly donated these special items for this auction," said Jenny Johnson, TDF Executive Director. "It is incredible to know that they support the education of dressage professionals around the world."

Proceeds from the Valegro Shoe Auction will support the Karen Skvarla Fund for Young Dressage Professionals. The Skvarla Fund was created in 2014 by Diane Skvarla, in memory of her sister, Karen. Karen was a budding equestrian when she passed away in 1968 at the age of 9 years old. Her family created this Fund to honor Karen, her love of horses, and joy in riding. The purpose of the Karen Skvarla Fund is to provide grants enabling young dressage professionals to pursue training or educational opportunities. Grant applicants should be in the beginning stages of their dressage careers as instructors and/or trainers.

## USEF Equine Disaster Relief Fund

In order to be prepared for future disasters the USEF has initiated a permanent USEF Equine Disaster Relief Fund and requests contributions from individuals and organizations. Formation of this fund is consistent with the USEF mission to help ensure the safety and well-being of horses.

Having originated during the aftermath of Hurricanes Rita and Katrina the USEF Equine Disaster Relief Fund was formed to help ensure the safety and well-being of horses during trying times. Money donated to the USEF Equine Disaster Relief Fund is used to prepare for disasters and assists equids of any breed who are victims of disasters including but not restricted to hurricanes, tornadoes, floods, blizzards, and fires. Money donated to the fund is held by the USEF in an account restricted for this purpose. "It is important to understand this fund is a dollar in and a dollar out," says USEF Chief Executive Officer, John Long, "nothing is withheld." Any donation to the USEF Equine Disaster Relief Fund is a timely and efficient benefit for horses and horse owners.

All donations are held by the USEF in a restricted fund for this purpose and distributed only upon authorization of the USEF Chief Executive Officer.

For further information, please contact:

Colby Connell  
4047 Iron Works Pkwy  
Lexington, KY 40511  
Phone: 859-225-2024

Many thanks for making your donation to the USEF, a non-profit 501c3 organization.

# Volunteers Championships 2015

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Tammy Anderson

Laura Backus

Lisa Battan

Aline Brandau

Teresa Butler

Anne Campbell

Caroline Cheval

Rachel Clark

Pamela Clarke

Joan Clay

Jennifer Kirch and daughter

RaeAnn Curtis

Nancy Davis

Martha Fischer

Emma Foreman

Wendy Fryke

Robin Gay

Wiley Gillmor

Julie Haugen

Whitney Haugen

Brenda Hendrix

Grace Hodges

Cynthia Hunter

Carol Jones

Gwen Kaawaloa

Kim Kelleghan

Debbie King

Jennifer King

Bob Kinne

Melody Dykes

Angie Ladeau

Elizabeth-Jo Leverock

Andy Lewis

Grace Maddox

Dorie Magee

Renee Martig

Sue McCarty

Marilou Metcalf

Melissa Mullin

Courtney Newman

Marsha Novicki

Emily Olivier

Meredith Reiff

Lynn Roberts

Sandra Rosewell

CC Ross

Carie Sciss

Melissa Scott

Sally Shaffer

Pete and Sharon Soos

Beverly Swanson

Melissa Thomas

Pat Vaillancourt

Olivia Williams

Sue Woods

Natalie Youngblood

# Sponsors and Advertisers Championships 2015

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2 White Feet  
A Bit of Training (Melody Klikus)  
Ann Edelman  
Anne MacGuire  
Arkansas Valley Dressage  
Beverly Swanson & The Horse reSource Book  
Boulder Valley Dressage  
CC Ross  
Celia Schneider  
Colleen Diamond  
Custom Saddlery  
Denver Arthritis  
Dressage Pacifico, Wild Rose Farm, Didi Dekrey, Carol, Maggie  
Eileen Claffy  
Event EMS  
Foothills Chapter  
Gwen Ka'awaloa & Kaimana Farms  
Happy Horse Tack Store  
Hidden Creek Equestrian Center, LLC  
Janet "Dolly" Hannon  
Jenny McCreary  
Jessica Greer's Students  
Jessica Greer Dressage  
Julie Burt  
Kathleen Bryan  
Kathy Simard  
Laurie Mactavish  
Lesya Ukrainchuk  
Lisa Battan  
Mary Lynne Munn  
MaryJo Hoepner, Shade, & Milton  
McAlister's Deli  
Melissa Scott/Cadence School of Equitation  
Mesa Crest Farm / Tom and Susan Alvey  
Mystany Troika  
On the Bit Chapter  
Pikes Peak Dressage Society  
Pro Horse Productions (Susan deSylvia)  
Red Adair  
Sage Creek Equestrian  
Sandi Jones / Equine Kinder Care, LLC  
SilverPony Designs - Renee Martig  
Southwest Sport Horse  
Star Hughes  
Susan Traylor  
Teller Park Vet (Shannon Lemons)  
The Cheval Family  
The Kelleghan Family  
Torque-Tight, Jonathon & Lindy Thompson  
Total Equestrian Services: Susan Mikula  
TYL Dressage  
Una Schade  
Wasatch Chapter  
Westmanton Stables  
Wild Rose Farm and Pacifico Dressage

# Thankful Members Put Thought Into Gifts for Barn Friends

From Linda Gaber, RMDS Communications Chair 2012-2014

In the November 2014 Centaur, members listed plenty of people, horses and things they were thankful for. Praise came in for barn owners, trainers, friends, veterinarians, farriers, and family members and, of course, horses.

Continuing that theme in this Thanksgiving month, here are some suggestions for showing appreciation with a bow on top.

Here are some great ideas to get you started:

- Attach a picture of each tenant's horse to personalize a gift.
- Make cookies or candy and include the recipe.
- Give a car plug-in insulated mug (Bed Bath & Beyond) with homemade goodies.
- Buy some Lottery tickets to add to a holiday card or gift check.
- Gift certificates from Dover Saddlery, Murdoch's, Big R, Starbucks and elsewhere fit all sizes. So do loaded restaurant gift cards (King Soopers, Safeway), as well as credit cards available at most banks. Many gift cards can be ordered by phone or online and mailed to you or the recipient.
- It's easy to please a horse owner, as they need just about everything. Brushes, sprays, sponges, cleaners, bags, covers, engraved tags and wraps, horse treats and toys are welcome.
- The same goes for riders: warm gloves, helmet liners, stock pins, pens and stationery, socks, bags and anything with bling.
- Perfumed and conditioning soaps and lotions for riders are plentiful, too. (TJ Maxx, Ross, Bed Bath & Beyond, Tuesday Morning)
- Holiday decorations and anything that commemorates a horse or horse memory are appreciated. A picture frame with a photo from a horse event or a T-shirt, or anything that depicts a horse that looks like the recipient's horse is a sure score. Horse jewelry, key chains, yes license plate holders are available, too.
- Education materials, videos and magazines (*Dressage Today*, *Chronicle of the Horse*, *Practical Horseman*) and breed memberships and associations.
- Give a financial donation in the name of a friend to the Colorado Horse Rescue, Colorado Horsecare Food Bank, Colorado Therapeutic Riding Center, Harmony Equine Center, other equine nonprofits or your area animal shelter.

## Horse Head Wreaths

Shannon Dahmer

Email: Berrgeust411@hotmail.com

I make horse head wreaths! I charge \$55/wreath. I can customize colors. I can make Halloween, Fall, Bronco and Christmas wreaths.



## Random Honey: Fresh honey and lip balm

Suzie Halle

suzie.halle@comcast.net

All organic from our apiary Random Honey. Honey is pure raw and unfiltered for maximum health benefits. Honey tastes of citrus with a high note of mint and a finish of lavender. Lip balm is pure beeswax from our hives, organic coconut oil and organic mint oil. Goes on smooth, long lasting, moisturizes and non greasy. Super for horses to soothe and prevent bit rubs!

Super holiday hostess gifts.

- \$8 for 6 oz
- \$5 for 5 oz
- \$5 lip balm



cont. on pg 9

## Cheri Isgreen, Artist

970-596-5555 cisgreenwatercolors@icloud.com  
<https://cheriisgreenfineart.wordpress.com>

I am an equine artist working in watercolor and mixed media (2D on canvas and 3D sculptures). With a focus on light, form, and color, my paintings will enliven contemporary homes with modern decor, log homes emphasizing rustic or western chic, collectors of modern western art, animal art collections, and of course equestrians who love horses. A lifelong horsewoman, I have intimate knowledge of a horse's body. Providing daily care, I observe and touch my horses' sinuous curves, tendon lines, and muscular shapes. I have fallen deeply into a horse's gaze, buried my nose into his coat to inhale his scent, and shared



*"Out of the Shadows"*  
watercolor, 11" X 15"



his breath. I study dressage and teach Equitherapy. Monarch, my wise and sensitive partner in this healing work, is a Lipizzan X Andalusian gelding and frequently appears as a subject of my paintings.

## Burlap or Vine Wreaths

### Una Schade

Contact me for these wreaths here:  
<https://www.etsy.com/shop/DressageCouture>

The burlap ones can be circle or square, the vine ones are only circle. And they can be customized nearly any way someone wants!

[www.unaschade.com](http://www.unaschade.com)



## Unique Bottle Stoppers for a Cause

**Sue Curry** [suecurrysfw@gmail.com](mailto:suecurrysfw@gmail.com)  
[www.stopyourwineing.com](http://www.stopyourwineing.com) or [www.etsy.com/shop/stop-wineing1](http://www.etsy.com/shop/stop-wineing1)

One-of-a-kind bottle stoppers & dressage judge bells made by Owners/Artisans Sue Curry and Debbie Wiegmann who are Sonoma County Equestrians & animal lovers. Sue is a USEF 'S' Dressage Judge .

For every stopper sold part of the proceeds will go to Dog Spot Rescue (<http://www.thedogspotrescue.org>). Bottle stoppers make great gifts along with a nice bottle of wine. Each stopper is shipped in a nice velvet or burlap gift bag.



## Windweaver Art and Design

### Jody Roche

[windweaverart@yahoo.com](mailto:windweaverart@yahoo.com)

I work with pen and ink and colored pencils to create spirit animals. I am also rekindling my love for sculpture and sculpting in clay to later be bronzed.



## Gifts for Barn Friends *cont. from pg 9*

### Blessed Tails Jewelry

Cathie Peterson

[Etsy.com/shop/blessedtailsjewelry](http://Etsy.com/shop/blessedtailsjewelry)

Making custom jewelry and accessories from your horse's tail, a timeless piece to keep close to you forever.



### Luxury Weavings

Beverly Swanson

[b@piaffedesign.com](mailto:b@piaffedesign.com)

One of a kind custom order shawls, ponchos, throws, scarves. All natural fibers: silk, cashmere, alpaca, wool. From \$100.



### Pas de Cheval: Dancing with Horses

Kelsey Jacobsen

Photography by: M. Blanch

[ponydancer@wispertel.net](mailto:ponydancer@wispertel.net)

Pas de Cheval is a startup project in combining one fine art, dance, with another, horsemanship. My dancers and I are classically trained with a strong emphasis on Ballet. We practice Dressage, Western Dressage and natural horsemanship in each piece that we create. I hope for Pas de Cheval to be a way for me to share and showcase my two passions.

**Advertise with RMD\$ in their Publications**

Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_

Publication(s):  Omnibus  Shows  Centaur No. of insertions (for Centaur only): \_\_\_\_\_

Start Date: \_\_\_\_\_ End Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Payment Method:  Check Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_  PayPal

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

RMD\$ Publication	Ad Dimensions	Single Insertion	Package Price for Two or More*	Savings
All ad prices below are for Black and White unless otherwise stated. Add \$100 for 1 page color ad.				
<b>Centaur - Centaur publication size: 8.5" x 11" printed on the odd months</b>				
Ad sizes	Ad Dimensions		If 6 months purchased(1 year)	
Outside Back Half Page	7" x 4.5"	\$105.00	\$567.00	\$63.00
Full Page	7" x 9.5"	\$150.00	\$810.00	\$90.00
Half Page	7" x 4.5"	\$90.00	\$486.00	\$54.00
1/4 Page	3.25" x 4.5"	\$55.00	\$297.00	\$33.00
Business Card (horizontal only)	3.5" x 2"	\$30.00	\$162.00	\$18.00
Classified-Inc. website listing		\$20.00		
Centaur e-Newsletter - published on the even months		\$50.00	\$300.00	171 X 171 pixels-include URL
Website Marketplace	One-year contract: \$50.00 (members) \$100.00 (non-member)			850(l) X 300(h) pixels
<b>2015 Omnibus - Omnibus publication size: 5.5" x 8.5"</b>				
Ad sizes	Ad Dimensions			
Full Color Front Tab Full Page	4.5" x 7.5"	\$510.00	\$469.00	\$41.00
Front Tab Full Page	4.5" x 7.5"	\$410.00	\$369.00	\$41.00
Full Color Regular Tab Full Page	4.5" x 7.5"	\$395.00	\$365.50	\$29.50
Regular Tab Full Page	4.5" x 7.5"	\$295.00	\$265.50	\$29.50
Full Page	4.5" x 7.5"	\$210.00	\$189.00	\$21.00
Half Page	4.5" x 3.75"	\$120.00	\$108.00	\$12.00
Quarter Page	4.5" x 1.875"	\$85.00	\$76.50	\$8.50
Directory of Services		\$25.00 (Text Only)	2 lines/name + 10 words	
Change Fee to ads after submitted		\$25.00		
<b>2015 Championship Show Program publication size: 8 1/2" x 11"</b>				
Ad Sizes	Ad Dimensions	Per Show		
Inside Front Cover	7.5" x 10"	\$175.00 (\$275.00 for color)		
Inside Back Cover	7.5" x 10"	\$175.00 (\$275.00 for color)		
Outside Back Cover	7.5" x 10"	\$175.00 (\$275.00 for color)		
Regular Full Page	7.5" x 10"	\$130.00		
Half Page - blk/wht	7.5" x 4.75"	\$90.00		
1/4 Page - blk/wht	3.75" x 4.75"	\$60.00		
Business Card - blk/wht	Stand. Business Card	\$40.00		
Center Page (full color)	7.5" x 10"	\$250.00 - 4 available		

## RMDS AD CONTRACT INSTRUCTIONS

**ALL ADS ARE SOLD ON A FIRST CHECK IN, FIRST SERVED BASIS. NO EXCEPTIONS!**

**Open date: September 15 (reserve your spot) Closing Date: November 20 (ad files due)**

**Call 720-890-7825 for additional information**

Calculate your ad price and discount as follows. Payment must be made in full for entire year to receive discount.

### **Centaur only**

10% discount with 6 issues contract. Circle the price in the "6 issue Centaur Contract" column. This is the amount to send.

### **Package Price Deal - Centaur plus Omnibus**

10% discount on Omnibus

To calculate your package ad cost, circle the price for each publication in the "Package Price" column according to your package preference (two or more publications) and calculate the sum.

All artwork must be provided in electronic format of Hi-Res (300dpi) TIFF, JPEG, EPS, or print-optimized PDF. *Emailed ads in any other format will incur a production charge of \$50 per hour.*

### **Artwork email addresses and phone numbers:**

CENTAUR: rmds@rmds.org Beth Geier 720-890-7825

OMNIBUS: nicbiz@indra.com Nicole Bizzarro (303) 828-6763

SHOW PROGRAM: slush@drwg.net Heather Petersen (719) 683-8435

WEBSITE: rmds@rmds.org

### **Payments and copy of contract should be sent to:**

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

Advertiser: I understand that all payments are due upon submission of artwork (single insertions).

Yearly contracts may change artwork from month to month, but must be received by the deadline.

<b>DEADLINES:</b>	Centaur ads:	7th of each month prior to issue
	Omnibus ads:	November 20th
	Omnibus prize lists:	November 15th
	Show Programs:	Championships – Call Heather Petersen

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**THERE WILL BE A \$25.00 FEE FOR ANY CHANGES TO OMNIBUS ADS AFTER THEY HAVE BEEN SUBMITTED.**



## Aim Higher and Achieve More with ANDRIA ALLEN

Now is the time for your *DREAM HOME* in your *DREAM LOCATION!*  
 Many factors are creating the best move up market in decades.  
 Make this your time.



**ANDRIA ALLEN**

*Aim Higher and Achieve More*

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### 294 WEDGE ROCK DRIVE, LYONS

PRICE: \$725,000

Fantastic, 10 acre complete horse property minutes from Lyons. 6 stall barn, round pen, arena, loafing shed. Large, modern home. Access to National Forest nearby for trail riding galore.



### 10135 N. 75 STREET, LONGMONT

163 acres, three building lots, executive home, guest house, shop, pond, views! Two properties totaling 163 acres:

**73 acres** with two building lots surround the Clover Basin Reservoir. PRICE: \$1,500,000

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57 +/- acres along with 97 shares of Left Hand irrigation water. Water tap on property. Bordered by Left Hand Creek to the north. Ag zoned, no conservation easement.

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

[www.AndriaAllen.com](http://www.AndriaAllen.com)



**303-810-8375**



## Shows and Events

All shows are RMDS recognized except schooling shows.

### RMDS CALENDAR

#### NOVEMBER 2015

6-9 USDF Natl Championships-need to qualify through Regionals

14 Board OF Governors Meeting  
Western Stock Show Complex, starting at 8:30 am

#### JANUARY 2016

9-10 USDF "L" Program Session A-Central AZ Dressage Academy-AZ  
Contact Dorie Vlatten Schmitz 480-580-0645 dvschmitz@msn.com

16 RMDS Awards Banquet  
Renaissance Hotel, 3801 Quebec St. Denver

#### FEBRUARY 2016

20-21 USDF "L" Program Session B-Central AZ Dressage Academy-AZ  
Contact Dorie Vlatten Schmitz 480-580-0645 dvschmitz@msn.com

#### APRIL 2016

16-17 USDF "L" Program Session C-Central AZ Dressage Academy-AZ  
Contact Dorie Vlatten Schmitz 480-580-0645 dvschmitz@msn.com

#### JUNE 2016

4-5 USDF "L" Program Session D1-Parker, CO  
Contact Dorie Vlatten Schmitz 480-580-0645 dvschmitz@msn.com

#### AUGUST 2016

6-7 USDF "L" Program Session D2-Parker, CO  
Contact Dorie Vlatten Schmitz 480-580-0645 dvschmitz@msn.com

#### SEPTEMBER 2016

14 RMDS Sport Horse Championships-Estes Park, CO USEF  
Contact Heather Petersen 303-648-3164 slush@drwg.net

15-18 RMDS Championship & Region 5 Championships  
Estes Park, CO USEF  
Contact Heather Petersen 303-648-3164 slush@drwg.net

#### OCTOBER 2016

1-2 USDF "L" Program Final-Burbank, CA  
Contact Dorie Vlatten Schmitz 480-580-0645 dvschmitz@msn.com

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS – open to all-2nd Thursday of the odd months-6:30 pm. Contact RMDS Central Office for location For updates to the calendar, check the website at [www.rmds.org](http://www.rmds.org)

## New RMDS Apparel- Great Holiday Gift!

Show your pride with the new updated RMDS branded clothing choices. Order NOW from the Central Office at 720-890-7825, email: [rmds@indra.com](mailto:rmds@indra.com)



Sport Jacket in Red - \$40  
White RMDS Logo



Sport Tek Shirt in White - \$35  
Blue RMDS Logo



Sleeveless Polo in Navy - \$25  
White RMDS Logo

*If you would like to write about your  
Chapter Show,  
please send report and pictures to  
CentaurPublisher@gmail.com*

## **SHOW MANAGERS & SHOW SECRETARIES**

Wonderful booklet of  
"How To" information.  
\$30, postage included.  
Contact RMDS Central Office  
(720) 890-7825

**Don't miss the Annual Awards Banquet!**

**January 16, 2016**

**Renaissance Hotel, 3801 Quebec St.,  
Denver Colorado**

## **RMDS BRIDLE TAGS MAKE GREAT GIFTS!**

Only \$50 for 2  
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(720)890-7825

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

**THESE EVENTS ARE DEPENDENT ON VOLUNTEERS. IF YOU CAN HELP, PLEASE  
CONTACT THE EVENT ORGANIZER!**

**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS – open to all-2nd Thursday of the odd months-6:30 pm**

Contact RMDS Central Office for location

**Get your Omnibus Ad in NOW!  
Deadline is November 20th!**

## 2015 RMDS EXECUTIVE BOARD

President .....	Gwen Ka'awalo .....	303-917-3679 .....	Kaimana_co@hotmail.com
Past President.....	Simone Windeler.....	719-287-2040 .....	simonedressage@gmail.com
Vice President.....	Aline Brandau.....	720-323-0578 .....	alinebrandau@gmail.com
Secretary .....	Nina Felsenthal .....	530-515-8986 .....	ninafelsenthal@gmail.com
Treasurer .....	Sharon Soos.....	303-904-7534 .....	sksoos@mesanetworks.net

## PERMANENT COMMITTEES

Adult Amateur .....	Didi DeKrey.....	970-222-3104 .....	denisedekrey@gmail.com
Awards.....	Shannon Lemons.....	719-686-0064 .....	lemons_shannon@yahoo.com
Results.....	Central Office.....	720-890-7825 .....	rmds@indra.com
Communications.....			
Centaur Editor.....			
Centaur Production.....	Beverly Swanson .....	720-401-0357 .....	bj@piaffedesign.com
Advertising.....	Central Office.....	720-890-7825 .....	rmds@rmds.org
Omnibus Production .....	Nicole Bizarro.....	303-939-0110 .....	nicbiz@indra.com
Webmaster .....	Michael Petersen.....	719-683-8435 .....	webmaster@rmds.org
Constitution, By-laws.....	Central Office.....	720-890-7825 .....	rmds@indra.com
Education.....	Jon Haugen.....	970-217-7820 .....	defiancesport@q.com
Junior/Young Riders.....	Julie Burt.....	720-347-8084 .....	greeniemtn@msn.com
Junior Clinics .....	Julie Haugen .....	970-290-8360 .....	defiancesport@q.com
Marketing .....	Aline Brandau.....	720-323-0578 .....	alinebrandau@gmail.com
Membership/Horse Registration .....	Central Office.....	720-890-7825 .....	rmds@indra.com
Nominating.....	Olga Hendrickson .....	720-556-4852 .....	olgahendrickson@gmail.com
Professional Trainers/Riders .....	Simone Windeler.....	719-287-2040 .....	simonedressage@gmail.com
RMDS Show Liaison .....	Beverly Swanson .....	720-401-0357 .....	ShowLiasionRMDS@gmail.com
Scholarship .....	MaryJo Hoepner .....	719-495-3648 .....	scholarship@rmds.org

## APPOINTED COMMITTEES

Banquet .....	Laura Speer .....	970-330-7233 .....	Riversidestables_evans@yahoo.com
Nominating.....	TBA		
Western Dressage Liaison.....	Frances Carbonnel.....	720-979-3120 .....	classicallegacy@aol.com

## RMDS CENTRAL OFFICE

Insurance, Show Standards .....	Central Office.....	720-890-7825 .....	rmds@indra.com
Registration Officials and Show Standards .....	Central Office.....	720-890-7825 .....	rmds@indra.com
Scheduling.....	Central Office.....	720-890-7825 .....	rmds@indra.com

## CHAPTER PRESIDENTS

Arkansas Valley.....	Beth Hart .....	719-821-9354 .....	bethhart7@gmail.com
Boulder Valley .....	Robin Gay .....	303-516-1917 .....	blondie17536@yahoo.com
Colorado Springs .....	Pat Leech .....	719-749-2860 .....	pat.leech@skybeam.com
Foothills .....	Kris Cooper .....	303-838-5086 .....	kris@anchoragefarm.com
Grand Valley .....	Arlene Rhodes .....	970-201-1779 .....	arlene@skypony.org
High Plains.....	Olga Hendrickson .....	720-556-4852 .....	olgahendrickson@gmail.com
Northern Colorado .....	Renee Martig.....	970-278-0500 .....	silverpony@friei.com
On the Bit Dressage.....	Jessica Ford.....	307-797-2478 .....	aprilscomet97@yahoo.com
Pikes Peak.....	Susan Borders.....	719-740-1099 .....	Susan.e.borders@gmail.com
Platte River Dressage.....	Laura Speer .....	970-371-2934 .....	riversidestables_evans@yahoo.com
Wasatch Mountains.....	Sally Shaffer .....	435-655-3323 .....	sshaffer4@yahoo.com
Western Colorado.....	Barbara Graham Terry .....	970-963-4649 .....	bgterry1@comcast.net

## GOVERNING BODIES

United States Dressage Federation (USDF) ..... 859-971-227 ..... www.usdf.org  
4051 Iron Works Parkway, Lexington, KY 40511

### USDF REGION 5

Director ..... Heather Petersen ..... | 303-648-3164 ..... | slush@drwg.net || FEI JRYR Coordinator ..... | Joan Clay..... | 970-420-0887 ..... | jnclay@comcast.net |
| Website ..... |  |  | www.usdfregion5.org |

**US Equestrian Federation, Inc (USEF)**..... 859-258-2472 www.usef.org  
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 Thurs.-monthly, location TBD, Beth Hart, 719-821-9354, bethhart7@gmail.com1 check www.arkansasvalleydressage.org for times and locations

Boulder Valley: 2nd Mon., even months, location TBD, Robin Gay 303-516-1917 blondie17536@yahoo.com

Colorado Springs: 3rd Tues.-even months, location TBD, Pat Leech 719-749-2860 pat.leech@skybeam.com

Foothills: quarterly meetings, location TBD, Kris Cooper 303-838-5086 kris@anchoragefarm.com

Grand Valley: 3rd Tues. of the month, location: Mesa Mall Community Meeting Room 6:30pm Arlene Rhodes 970-201-1779 arlene@skypony.org

High Plains: Bimonthly- location-TBD, Olga Hendrickson 720-556-4852 olgahendrickson@gmail.com

Northern Colo.: 2nd Tues., each month, location TBD Renee Martig 970-278-0500 silverpony@frii.com

**On the Bit:** location TBD, Jessica Ford 307-797-2478 aprilscomet97@yahoo.com

**Pikes Peak:** 2nd Tuesday of the month - check www.pikespeakdressage.org for dates & location, Susan Borders susan.e.borders@gmail.com 719-740-1099

**Platte River:** location TBD, Laura Speer 970-371-2934 riversidestables\_evans@yahoo.com

**Wasatch Mountain:** location TBD, Sally Shaffer 435-640-8797

**Western Colorado:** location TBD, Barbara Graham Terry 970-963-4649

## RMDS EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

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 p.m. Meeting dates in 2015 may be variable, please check the calendar or the website. Contact the RMDS Central Office for location.

# 2015/16 RMDS-SPONSORED EDUCATIONAL EVENTS

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

### 2015:

Nov 14 Board of Governors-Denver Coliseum Complex

### 2016:

January Judges Continuing Education

January 16 Awards Banquet-Renaissance Denver Hotel-Quebec Street-Denver, CO

February TD/Show Management Clinic

April/May Instructors' Symposium & Clinic

June Adult/Youth Team Competition

Sept 15-19 RMDS Championships & Region 5 Championships

### ***For details on these and other RMDS events:***

- Contact the Education Chairman: education@rmds.org
- Read the Centaur
- Go on the website - www.rmds.org
- Contact the RMDS Central Office 720-890-7825 rmds@indra.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: RMDS Office, Beth Geier, 2942 Park Lake Dr., Boulder, CO 80301, Phone: 720.890.7825, email: [rmds@indra.com](mailto:rmds@indra.com)

### ADVERTISING

RMDS Office, Beth Geier, 2942 Park Lake Dr., Boulder, CO 80301, Phone: 720.890.7825, email: [rmds@indra.com](mailto:rmds@indra.com)

### 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@indra.com](mailto:rmds@indra.com), and cc the electronic copy to [nicbiz@indra.com](mailto:nicbiz@indra.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 ..... \$150 ..... 7" x 9.5"

Half Page ..... \$90 ..... 7" x 4.5"

Outside back half ..... \$105 ..... 7" x 4.5"

1/4 Page (Vertical Only) . \$55 ..... 3.25" x 4.5"

1/8 Page (Business Card) \$30 ..... 3.5" 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@indra.com](mailto:rmds@indra.com) (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 marketplace receives between 300-400 hits per month, and the trainer page averages about 80. RMDS receives emails 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@indra.com](mailto:rmds@indra.com)), 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@indra.com](mailto:rmds@indra.com).

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

### All Current RMDS Members

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
"r"	Recorded	Training - Second	3*	(FEI C)	All
"R"	Registered	Training - Fourth	4*	(FEI I) International	All
"S"	Senior	All	5*	(FEI O)	All

**FEI 4\***  
Janet Foy^ ..... 719-260-1566

**FEI PARA Dressage 4\***  
Kristi Wysocki ..... 303-648-9877

**FEI 3\***  
Sandra Hotz ^ ..... 303-817-2030  
Anita Owen ..... 303-953-9904  
Kristi Wysocki ..... 303-648-9877

**USEF 'S'**  
Janet Foy ^ ..... 719-260-1566  
Janet "Dolly" Hannon ^\* ..... 303-919-4112  
Sandra Hotz ^ ..... 303-817-2030  
Anita Owen ..... 303-953-9904  
Debbie Riehl-Rodriguez ^\* ..... 303-263-0768  
Sue Curry Shaffer ..... 707-483-0860  
Kristi Wysocki ^\* ..... 303-648-9877  
^ = FEI Young Horse Certified  
\* = Dressage Seat Equitation Certified

**USEF 'r'**  
Amy Jablonovsky ..... 970-493-2833  
Gwen Ka'awaloa ..... 303-917-3679

**USDF 'L' Graduates** (Schooling and RMDS  
Only recognized shows)  
\*Denotes Graduation with Distinction  
Simone Ahern \* ..... 719-749-9274  
Julie Burt ..... 720-347-8084  
Kathleen Donnelly\* ..... 970-310-8729  
Beth Geier ..... 303-673-9840  
Jessica Greer ..... 970-581-5613  
Julie Haugen\* ..... 970-290-8360  
Sarah Martin \* ..... 720-891-1369  
Linda Ohlson-Gross \* ..... 303-840-9818  
KC Parkins-Kyle ..... 303-841-9953  
Kathy Simard\* ..... 720-981-4448

Stephanie Soule\* ..... 970-201-0747  
Simone Windeler ..... 719-287-2040

**L FACULTY**  
Janet Foy ..... 719-260-1566  
Debbie Riehl-Rodriguez ..... 303-263-0768

**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

**USDF Sport Horse Seminar Faculty**  
Janet Foy ..... 719-260-1566  
Debbie Riehl-Rodriguez 'R' ..... 303-263-0768  
Kristi Wysocki 'R' ..... 303-648-9877

**FEI 4\* Para Dressage TD**  
Kristi Wysocki ..... 303-648-9877

**FEI Level 1 Dressage Steward**  
Rusty Cook ..... 505-249-7586  
Debbie Moloznik ..... 818-515-0377  
Heather Petersen ..... 719-683-8435  
Dianne Stanley ..... 406-690-9450

**Technical Delegates USEF**  
Eva-Maria Adolphi (UT), r .. 801-913-6054  
Rusty Cook (NM), r ..... 505-249-7586  
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 .... 406-690-9450

### Technical Delegates, RMDS recognized shows only

Joan Clay ..... 970-420-0887  
Jeannette Hillery ..... 303-494-7718  
Mary Jo Hoepner ..... 719-495-3648  
Mindy Maguire ..... 720-301-0089  
Didi DeKrey ..... 970-568-3916  
Dee Stiers ..... 970-876-2987

### USDF Certified Instructors

#### Training - First

Sheila Buschette ..... 406-672-9378  
Joan Clay ..... 970-420-0887

#### Training - Second

Julie Burt ..... 720-347-8084  
RaeAnn Cook ..... 505-249-7586  
Bridget Milnes ..... 303-660-4986  
Kristi Wysocki ..... 303-648-9877

#### Training - Fourth

Simone Ahern ..... 719-749-9274  
Loma Fowler ..... 303-229-5108  
Janet "Dolly" Hannon ..... 303-919-4112  
Gwen Ka'awaloa ..... 303-917-3679  
Clayton Martin ..... 719-379-3716  
Sarah Martin ..... 720-891-1369  
Kathy Simard ..... 720-981-4448

### USDF Instructor/Trainer Junior Faculty

#### Training - 1st Level

Kathy Simard ..... 720-981-4448

### USDF Instructor/Trainer Faculty

#### Training - 4th Level

Sarah Martin ..... 720-891-1369

Note: If you are a TD, Judge, or Certified Instructor and a current RMDS member and your name is not listed here, please contact the Central Office at 720-890-7825 or email: [rmds@indra.com](mailto:rmds@indra.com)

# Secrets from the Trainers' Vault

## Lets YOU Ask the Question



*Simone Windeler, Professionals & Trainers Liaison for RMDS, edits this feature column, "Secrets from the Trainers' Vault." RMDS members are encouraged to send questions to Simone (simonedressage@gmail.com) and she will publish a select query with answers from member professionals. If you are a professional and would like to take part as a guest responder, contact Simone with your info and area of expertise.*

# What's Your Question?

*This month, the question deals with judges and scribes. We will soon have a new crop of 'L' graduates (congratulations in advance!), so we asked Dolly Hannon, 'S' judge, to give her advice on how to make this crucial partnership work at its best.*

When I meet a new scribe after introductions I ask about their experience, especially if there are upper level tests that I will be judging. If they have no upper level experience and it is a big show I might ask the manager to come help make sure they are ready so we can get off to a good start.

Their level of experience will help to determine how many comments I can give and have them be able to keep up. If they are new I will try to be brief with my comments and streamline them to a few key words. Judges are required to have a comment for everything that scores 6.5 or lower but not for scores of 7 and above.

I will ask the scribe to double check that we have the right tests for the class and that they are in order and they have either pulled out or marked the scratches. I also ask to make sure they have the right test for that competitor and have verified the number and/or have asked the competitor what their number is, and to mark the number inside the test or circle it on the label.

I then explain how I judge.

Some judges give the comments and then the score and others, like me, give the score and then the comment. This way works for me, because if we have all the scores, the comments can be filled in later if needed. Sometimes the scribe may need to change scores if something happens and the judge has given the score too quickly.

- Next I remind the scribe to include a .0 or .5 after every score number and where in the score sheet to put them.
- I tell them where to note errors and how I handle them and make sure the red pen is working and handy
- One of the more important things to discuss is my commonly used

abbreviations as these can vary from judge to judge. I will write down a quick list on the day sheet for quick reference. Some common abbreviations I use are :

- SI For Slightly
- Str for straight
- F. For fairly
- C/L for centerline

There are many more, so it is good have an idea what words the Judge commonly uses.

If the judge is experienced and has a consistent routine the scribe should not have an issue, but if the tests had some problems it can get a little confusing.

If I notice a scribe struggling to keep up, I will modify my verbiage to use fewer words or I might tell them which box number we are on.

It is the judge's job to keep the scribe on track and calm as the judge is ultimately responsible for the outcome.

If you are scribing and find it hard to keep up, say something to the judge so they can say less or slow down so you can follow.

*cont.on pg 21*

# Trainers' Vault cont. from pg 20

If as a scribe, you really feel overwhelmed, you should tell the judge so they can find someone else. There is no shame in saying you can't keep up, scribing is a skill that improves over time with experience. If you are new, start with schooling shows and work your way up.

Occasionally we can get off by a box and it makes the test look messy when you adjust where the scores and comments were supposed to be. My advice is to put a mark on the side of the test where a comment was missed to remind us to fill it in later. If a test is really messy I might rewrite it during a break so the competitor can read it but that is unusual.

I personally rarely have an issue with a scribe unless they are not confident with the upper level rides. The scribe will get used to my rhythm and you can see them relax. I will

usually ask them if they are having any problems keeping up.

I ask them to make sure I have signed all the tests, filled in missed comments, filled in the collective marks and initialed any changes of scores before the tests are turned in.

It is a big responsibility to scribe well, but with a judge who puts you at ease it is a fun and educational experience. I find most scribes to be very knowledgeable and they usually make my job much easier to do when they are good at it

Many shows now pay the scribes so it is worthwhile to practice and get proficient!

<http://www.usdf.org/about/about-dressage/competition/judging-scribing.asp>

## Notes From the Scribe's Seat

The scribe's job is critical to giving competitors a completed test that is informative and correctly records the judge's scores and comments. Most judges are considerate and helpful like Dolly, telling the scribe what to expect and how she likes to judge. For those new judges out there, here are some suggestions that will help your scribe.

- Tell me how you judge (comment/score or vice versa)
- If we get off track with each other, quickly tell me which movement (box) number you are on, and we can go back later to fill in or correct.
- Remember the size of the box I have to write in. All the abbreviations in the scribing dictionary won't help if you are giving a dressage lesson in one comment.
- Speak clearly. Even though you must keep your voice down, please don't be the golf announcer of dressage.
- Please be careful of critical comments outside of the test. There is a good likelihood that many competitors are friends of mine.

As Dolly said, scribing can teach you a lot about the finer points of dressage. Once you are in a rhythm with the judge, scribing is a lot of fun and makes you feel part of the team. And if you are good, you will definitely be in demand!



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# Championship Stories - The Personal Triumphs

## Stephanie Figgins and Coco

At the beginning of 2015, my 9 year old Swedish Warmblood, Chocolat (Coco for short) managed to buck me off in a routine lesson -- successfully breaking my collarbone. After a rushed visit to the ER and 6-8 long weeks of recovery, Coco and I worked to rebuild trust and make up for lost time while preparing for the upcoming show season.



Right away we ran into additional problems on our journey. As if my confidence had not already been shaken, we still struggled with bucking issues and yet another fall to the ground (this time was a tuck-and-roll dismount with no injuries). The diagnostic process began to identify any issues with pain or discomfort. Dr. Page of Colorado Equine Clinic worked with me and Coco on injecting her stifles where inflammation and lameness was apparent. In addition, Ellen Fitzgerald, founder of SaddleHands Inc., worked with me to determine that my saddle was hindering my horse's ability to come round through her back.

After months of shopping, we had no luck with finding a saddle that fit both my horse and me as the rider. It wasn't until mid-show season that a tree developed by Karen Borne of Borne Saddlery turned out to be the right fit for Coco and I. Bad news was that this saddle needed to be custom ordered and is still in the process of being built. That left me to borrow a friend's saddle all show season.

By RMDS championships in Estes Park, Coco and I had been tried and tested in every possibly way. Championships in Estes Park was so beautiful and our hard work paid off when Coco and I walked away as Third Level Adult Amateur 2015 Champions! Thank you to Shannon Dahmer, my wonderful trainer, and to all my wonderful friends and family who have supported me along the way. Congrats to all the competitors in the 2015 show season and I look forward to seeing everyone next year!

## Caroline Cheval and Kelsey

Championships 2015 held a lot of moments for me. From great ones of being with my barn community and other Young Riders and Juniors, to bittersweet ones like my last rides as a pony rider.

There is one moment though, with both qualities that really shines through. It was the last awards ceremony of championships. I had come back into the warm-up after doing one round of ribbons and was to get the next. When the Reserve Champion ribbon was placed around my pony, Kelsey's neck - there are no words to describe how I felt. After a weekend of many ups and some downs, I was determined to make my last ride down centerline with



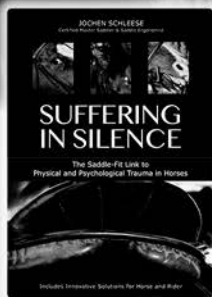
Kelsey the best it could be. She pulled off a great test after having a bit too much fun in our freestyle and all I could think was how lucky I was to have her as my partner for the last three years.

When our Reserve Champion ribbon was given to us, it was not the fact that we had won reserve or how she had beat many much larger horses, but that the weekend a success - the past three years really had paid off with Kelsey trying her hardest up until the very end. That moment will always be one of my favorites and I am so grateful to have found Kelsey. It really was, as I always say, Serendipity: the occurrence and development of events by chance in a happy or beneficial way.

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Another great competition year has passed for USDF and we have wrapped up the Great American/USDF Region 5 Championships in Scottsdale, Arizona. I'm very sorry I wasn't able to attend this year due to family commitments but the classes looked quite large and there was great representation from all over our region. Many thanks to the great show management team and the wonderful volunteers of the Arizona Dressage Association and other volunteers from all over the Region who pitched in to help at the show. Thanks to everyone for joining in for a fantastic show.

The 2016 Great American/USDF Region 5 Championships will be September 15-18, 2016 at the Stanley Park Fairgrounds in Estes Park, Colorado. The Rocky Mountain Dressage Society will be our host and we're looking forward to another great year. We're hoping for some new and diverse bids for the 2017 championships. I'd love to hear from any interested parties as soon as possible so I can get you a list of the information we're going to need for those bids. All Regional Championships still must be held by mid-October since the winners of the Adult Amateur and Open divisions will continue to feed into the Nationals Championships. We will know hopefully by the USDF Convention if we will be seeing the National Championships rotate to a new venue for 2017. The

National Championships keep growing and it's great to see so many folks from the Region 5 Championships planning to attend the Nationals.

The USDF convention is just around the corner and it's time to book your hotel rooms, airfare and register for the convention and symposium if you haven't done so already! It's Vegas Baby! December 2nd-5th. Information and registration forms for the Convention and Symposium are available at [www.usdf.org/Convention/](http://www.usdf.org/Convention/). If you're coming to the awards dinner, let me know and we'll save room for you at our Region 5 tables!

A reminder that your Participating Member Delegates to the USDF Convention for 2015 are Eva-Maria Adolphi, Joan Clay, Rusty Cook, Scarlett Fahrenson and Susan Leutwyler. Please contact them or myself if you have any concerns regarding items listed on the BOG agenda or anything you would like to have brought forward at the 2 Regional meetings during the convention.

Till next month!  
*Heather Petersen, Region 5 Director*

RMDS Online - [www.rmds.org](http://www.rmds.org)

## Forms/Info Online:

- USDF Instructor/Trainer Workshop Application
- RMDS 2015 Membership Forms
- 2015 Championship Sponsorship

Find Complete Awards list from The Dressage Foundation: [www.dressagefoundation.org](http://www.dressagefoundation.org)

2014 USEF Dressage Developing Program:  
[www.usef.org/documents/highPerformance/dressage//2014/2014DevelopingDressageProgram.pdf](http://www.usef.org/documents/highPerformance/dressage//2014/2014DevelopingDressageProgram.pdf).



## 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) - \$10.00  
 Business Memberships - \$100.00 Education (non-competing) - \$45.00 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"/> Grand Valley (Grand Junction)           | <input type="checkbox"/> On the Bit (Wyoming)                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Boulder Valley                | <input type="checkbox"/> High Plains (Parker, Littleton, Aurora) | <input type="checkbox"/> Pikes Peak (Colo. Spgs. area)       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Colorado Springs              | <input type="checkbox"/> N. Colorado (Ft. Collins, Loveland)     | <input type="checkbox"/> Western Colorado (Aspen, Steamboat) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Foothills (Golden, Evergreen) |  |  |

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

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Phone (Home) \_\_\_\_\_ (Work) \_\_\_\_\_ (E-Mail) \_\_\_\_\_

USDF No. \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Names, DOBs, & USDF #s of additional family members \_\_\_\_\_

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## 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 F.I.C. 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) - \$100.00

Horse Name \_\_\_\_\_ Sex \_\_\_\_\_ Breed (if known) \_\_\_\_\_

Registration # (include copy of papers. List grade if no registry papers available.) \_\_\_\_\_


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