



The Centaur

Educating Horse and Rider as Partners.

An RMDS Publication

October 2011

Paragon CDI*** Estes Park a Huge Success!

By Janet Foy, Photography by Dr. C. Mike Tomlinson



Competition in beautiful Estes Park, Colorado.

The cowboys and the dressage folk should be friends...or not! The song from Oklahoma played through my mind as I chased a barrel racer out of the lunging arena, and asked nicely for two cowboys swinging their ropes past our warm up arena to please quickly proceed to their own area of the fairgrounds.

It was interesting to see how the horses and riders dealt with the rodeo crowd. Some like Carolyn Adams from California, who eventually won the CDI Prix St. Georges and Intermediare I, joined the crowd to watch the mutton busting. Others were not so thrilled to try to lead their horses past those little sheepies.

Good news is that Heather has talked to Bo, the manager of the fairgrounds, and in 2012 the rodeo will be moved to another weekend. So, some of you may be sad that your winning ride at Fourth Level doesn't guarantee a free ride in the bareback bronc riding, others of you may breathe a big sigh of relief.

The Estes Park Fairgrounds, if you have not been there, is located right at the base of the Pike National Forest. On one side are the majestic Rockies which change color with each passing hour, and a huge lake. I think we Coloradans take our scenery for granted, as each and every out-of-stater was awed and amazed with the beauty.

What sort of comments did the riders from Olympian Debbie McDonald's group have?

1. *Great footing*
2. *Wonderful friendly volunteers*

Debbie coached Adrienne Lyle, the winner of the Grand Prix and the Special with Wizard, owned by Peggy Thomas. Their over 70% scores were higher than the scores received on the East Coast in another CDI***. Great viewing for a large and appreciative crowd!

Continued on page 4

Region 5 Report

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. We are in lovely San Diego this year November 30th-December 4th. Information and registration forms for the Convention and Symposium are available at www.usdf.org/Convention/.

Your Participating Member Delegates to the USDF Convention for 2011 are Eva-Maria Adolphi, Beth Geier, Shannon Lemons, Kay Lorenzen and Laura Speer. These ladies will be representing our Region during the voting portions of the Board of Governors meetings, in addition to representatives from each GMO. Please feel free to contact them regarding

your viewpoints. I know one big topic this year at the convention will be the introduction of a National Championships that will be fed from the Regional Championship program. We will also be voting on our first At-Large Directors that will represent the 3 different councils made up of all the various working committees. There are several people running for each At-Large Director position so please read up on those candidates and let your delegates know who you would like to see on the USDF Executive Board.

The USDF Platinum Performance Jr/YR Region 5 clinic will be held October 22-23, 2011 at Stellar Stables in Parker, Colorado, with George Williams. George is the current USDF

President and has many accomplishments in the saddle, including placing 5th on Rocher in the 2003 World Cup, winning USDF Horse of the Year honors at Grand Prix and the Grand Prix Freestyle, and earning the title of USET/Collecting Gaits National Grand Prix Champion. This clinic is open to auditors of all ages and I highly encourage you to attend this great educational opportunity.

Don't forget, the Great American/USDF Region 5 Championships open September 1st and close October 3rd. Join us in Scottsdale!

Till next month!

-Heather Petersen, Region 5 Director

Important Things to Know this Month

See the Standing Rule Change Proposal on page 11.

Reserve your seats for the Awards' Banquet, Saturday, November 12th!

See page 9.

DUES RENEWAL

October 15

The Central Office will begin accepting 2012 renewals. Dues are \$60 until Dec 31, and thereafter increase to \$65.

Save some cash and renew early!

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

are being accepted until November 15th.

See page 21 for details.

Have you done your SCORE CHECK? Very important to do! This affects the standings for year-end awards.

Deadline for corrections is October 10.



Simone and Gunnar.

First of all, a big thank you to all the volunteers that have helped at shows throughout the summer – we truly cannot do it without you. Next time you compete, take a moment to thank a volunteer, they are making it possible for you to show.

I also want to thank our sponsors – Championships and many of our shows would not be possible without your generous support.

Lastly, thank you to our competitors – we truly appreciate that you come out and show your horses.

It seems that the show season went by very fast this year, probably owing to

the fact that we started late due to the virus.

Speaking of shows, the CDI at Estes Park was a smashing success. Debbie McDonald turned out to be the nicest, most down-to-earth person you will meet. She had nothing but compliments for us. As a matter of fact, she thought that our footing was superior to most of the shows in California and that the show was extremely well run. High praise indeed from an Olympian that has shown all over the world.

Further, the town of Estes Park has decided that we are a very important event to them. There is talk about using the grandstands for next year. Even better, they are moving other events away from our weekend. That means no cowboys and cows for next year. While I observed many horses fascinated with the cows (some even took to grooming the calves while in their wash racks), there were enough horses unhappy with them. So, goodbye cows!

Overall a great show – thank you Janet Foy for bringing a show of this caliber to Colorado and thank you Heather Petersen for doing an outstanding job with the show office. Dealing with

the FEI adds a whole other layer of paperwork which makes USEF and USDF look downright harmless.

As we are moving towards the Board of Governors' meeting for RMDS and also USDF, I want to encourage you to make yourselves heard. Please consider attending the meetings as this is the best way for you to voice your opinion. At the BOG for RMDS we are deciding the course of RMDS for the coming year – so join us, learn more about your club and lend us your expertise in making our organization a better one.

Wishing you many great autumn rides,

-Simone Windeler, RMDS President

How about Dirk Glitz and Carolyn Adams, rider of Winterprinz? They came in order to get a score to qualify for the top riders at Gladstone...and they did! Carolyn is an Adult Amateur rider riding the black Hanoverian stallion Winterprinz. They are off to their next adventure...the Pan American Games Selection Trials!

1. *Wow, rubber mats in the stalls and they are level!*
2. *Wow, no rattle snakes in the stalls!*
3. *Great parties, everyone is so friendly!*

If you did not come to Estes as either a volunteer or a rider, please put the dates August 17-19, 2012 on your calendar.

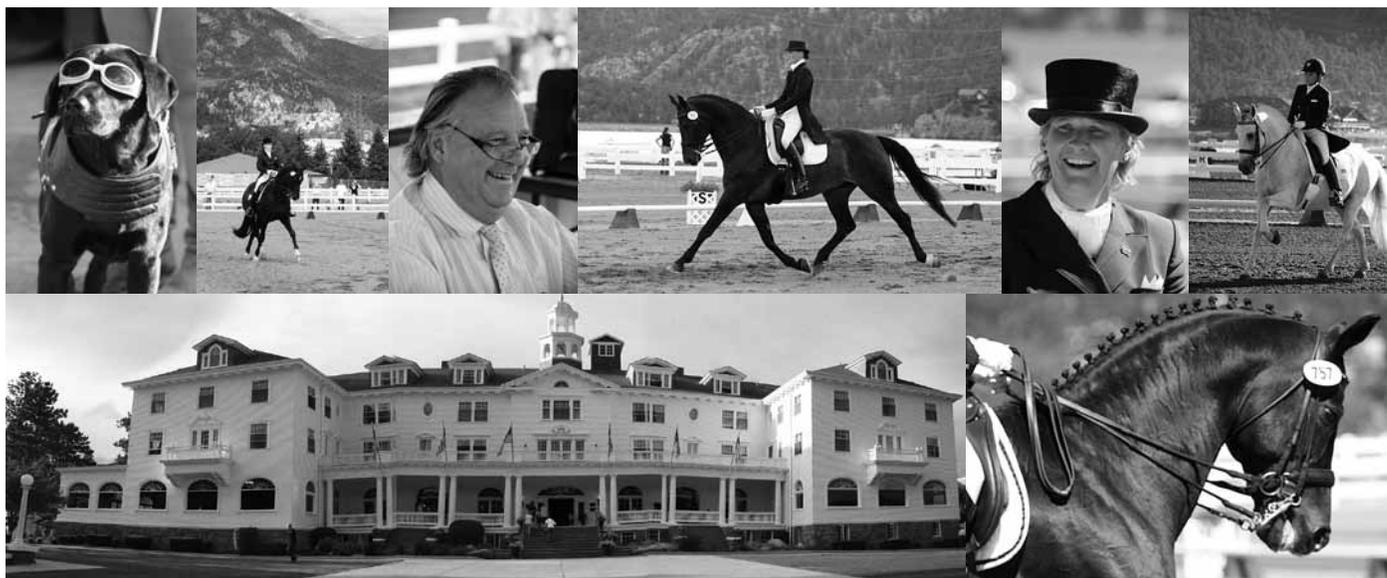
The show staff of Manager Janet Foy, Secretary Heather Petersen and Volunteer co-coordinator will welcome you with open arms! Remember, our volunteers were the "friendliest" around!

New events for next year will include the Doggie Costume class with the winning prize being a case of dog food! The horse and rider Costume class will also be held! If you did not see any of the photos, then go to dressedaily.com and check out the winners!

Top International judges are again booked for the venue. Included

will be Lilo Fore and Natalie Lamping of the United States; Maribel Quinzanos, Mexico direct from the London Olympics; Peter Holler from Germany; Lorraine MacDonald of Canada; Bill Solyntjes of Minnesota doing National Classes, and of course our dear Dr. Mike Tomlinson as the FEI vet. Lloyd Landkammer, who was our TD in 2011, will take the role of FEI Steward in 2012, and Joyce Hardesty will be our USEF TD. Joe Coleman will once again run the ground's crew.

Thank you to all of the great sponsors who make International Dressage a reality in Colorado and Region 5!



Many Thanks to our CDI*** Sponsors:

Paragon Equestrian Centre
Rocky Mountain Dressage Society
Sage Creek Equestrian Center
Hideaway Ranch LLC
Janet Foy and Heather Petersen
Deborah Bennett
High Plains Chapter of RMDS
Horsewares and Pinnacle Sport Horse
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Total Equestrian Services
Horse and Rider
Exceptional Equestrian
Sue Curry Shaffer and Fairwind Farm

Colorado Springs

With the show season winding down, CSDA is working on plans for next year's shows. Our October 18 meeting will include a presentation on how to "Winterize Your Horse" for the upcoming chilly weather, presented by Colorado Equine. Location is pending at press time, so check our website, www.csdressage.org for more details. We have several board positions that need to be filled for next year, and we hope to see more members getting involved in the upcoming elections that will be held at our November meeting.

Some of you may have read the poem, "Why God Gives Us Horses – And Takes Them Away Again" (Author Unknown). It's corny, but this poem reminded me of how much a part of my life my horses are; how many times a day I think about them and wonder when I'll be able to "play" with them again. These magnificent creatures can truly be our sanity in a crazy world. In the midst of trying to reach your goals with your riding and

trying to satisfy all the other obligations in your lives, I hope you all have time this fall to go out and just enjoy your horses!

-*Shannon Lemons*, President, CSDA

Arkansas Valley

The Arkansas Valley Dressage Association has been relatively low key in the last few months. The highlight of the summer was a schooling show which had a nice, although light, turnout. We were fortunate to have had Julie Burt judge our show and everyone was pleased with her comments. Our schooling shows offer an opportunity for the local dressage enthusiasts to test their skills. The majority of our riders participated in the Intro and Training level classes.

The club will hold another schooling show October 8. This show is important to determine the new rider awards established this year.

Meetings have been held on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 at Village Inn in

Canon City with approximately 35% of our membership attending. It is a great opportunity to exchange horse stories and enjoy the camaraderie of fellow riders. The club is excited about a fall clinic with Ann Blake scheduled for October 15-16 which will allow participants to explore different options of riding with music.

Although we have had a relatively hot and dry summer, everyone here is looking forward to mild fall weather and enjoying more riding

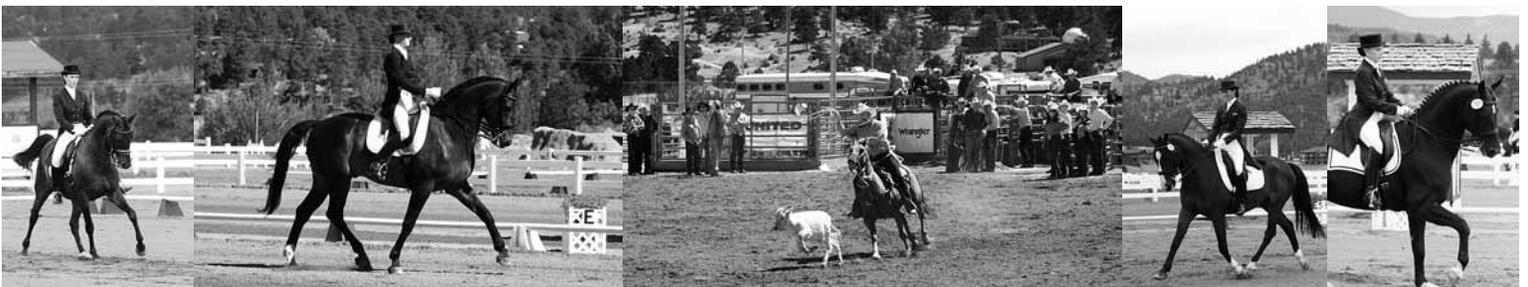
-*Mary Rae*, AVDA President

Leg-Up Scholarship

Continuing to work with Kristi Wysocki and have also had a lesson with Anne Barrett.

Finished showing for this year but very happy to have improved leg yields from 4s last season to 6 this season, and median at 1st level increased from last year as well.

-*Michelle Anderson*, Leg-Up Scholarship Recipient



She believed.



Living Images by Carol Walker

He danced.



Photo Credit Sara Haas



Photo Credit JM Photography

**“Don’t you sit upon the shoreline and say you’re satisfied...
Choose to chance the rapids and dare to Dance the Tide.”**

The River by Garth Brooks

Dance the Tide

“Doug”

May 27, 2001-August 19, 2011

Dispatches from the Dressage Arena

By Linda C. Gaber, Evergreen, CO, Co-Winner of the Foothills Chapter 2011 Scholarship



How is your 2011 show season going? As a recipient of an RMDS Foothills Chapter 2011 scholarship, I am reporting on my experiences, sharing what I have learned, and hoping that RMDS readers can benefit as well.

A word of warning: Some of my reports here are not pretty. Some are hilarious. Some can cause a husband to swear, and swear off ever coming to a show again. Some can make veteran riders shake their head in despair. All are true, and, to me, exceedingly instructional. Read on at your own risk.

My 10 year-old Welsh Cob Gallod Enki and I have been training with USDF certified judge and instructor Kathy Simard for about one year now. Our two dressage show experiences, funded by the scholarship, this summer include:

Learning to bathe, clip, braid and shine Enki ears to tail, slipping on his slinky cover, tying on a tail bag, and keeping him in a stall the night before the July 24, Autumn Hill Dressage Festival IV show in Longmont.

Arriving at 5 a.m. show day, Sunday, at the barn in Conifer to load in the lighted arena; At 6:30 a.m., after 1 1/2 hours of refusals, I (and three helpers) admit regretfully that Enki will not load and stay in the trailer this day.

I forfeit my \$116 show fee and sadly acknowledge that I am not riding my first 2011 USDF Intro C, Training 1 and 2 tests that Sunday.

I break training, lose three lessons and 10 days to attend a family wedding at Myrtle Beach, S.C., fortunately, a few weeks ahead of Hurricane Irene. Two weeks before the hurricane, we drive Irene's route north on I-95 from Georgia to Virginia to visit elderly relatives and friends.

Then I'm back working with Enki five days a week after every ride to load and stay in the trailer. I gleefully clock his relaxed 35-minute stay in my Logan two-horse slant trailer on the Friday before the Aug. 28, So Long to Summer show sponsored by Boulder Valley Dressage. "Why don't you go down the day before? You'll be much more relaxed and won't have to worry about loading," suggests RMDS junior/young rider Kailey DeVore. Her parents, Chad and Pam DeVore, own Pleasant Ridge Farm where Enki boards. Done. On Saturday, Enki marches calmly into the trailer, heading for his hay net. I close the doors and drive to Longmont the day before the show.

Showing the next day is more eventful. As I dress in the trailer, husband and first-time show groom Richard, ties Enki to the trailer to keep

the horse from eating weeds. With a metal bang, I look out of the dressing room door as Enki breaks his stud chain and canters off toward the show ring. "Loose Horse" alerts all that Enki is grazing on the Sextant Farm show grounds. To be fair, Richard did not know it was not safe to tie Enki's head high and tight with the lead rope knotted first to one U-shaped outside trailer tie and then loop the rope horizontally to knot it to the second trailer tie. (Better to tie safely to one trailer tie with a knot that is sturdy, but can come untied.)

Riding the Training 2 test, I earn 6 faults by simply forgetting the test pattern in two places, riding from memory without a reader. Off course, Judge Suzanne Zimmer rings her bell, motions me to her and asks, "Where are you going? I don't want to give you a 1." Good question. Start again, she says. Then, trotting instead of walking, she stops the test again and asks, "Do you know you should be walking here?" Another good question. Mercifully, she lets me redo and finish.

I am hot and flustered. Enki is hot, thirsty and flagging. For good measure, in a laughable bit of stupidity after the final salute, I dismount to pick up my dropped whip, remount and finally walk out of the arena. "Rider was a bit unorganized in this test," the judge writes in her remarks. (Better to ride with a reader calling out the test. Better to ask judge's permission to retrieve my whip, then walk out without remounting.)

Continued on page 8

Getting wiser as the sun and temperature rise into the 90s at noon, I accept Pam's offer to read my last test, Intro C. Encouraged and rehydrated, I am confident and Enki is energized with some attention-getting whip taps. Earning a 61 percent, I tell Judge Zimmer, "I salute YOU! Thank you!" The show ends well.

Back home, reading Judge Zimmer's remarks, on two tests I see she is a fan of Enki: "Cute and capable horse. Capable of higher scores." Hmmmmm, that's really a clear cue for his rider to improve.

With specific remarks for the rider, she notes I need to focus on more upright upper body, more consistent energy from Enki and smoother transitions. No, that's not a complete list, but an excellent guide for improvement.

So, wish us luck: Our last two shows are Centaur Rising's Dressage II in Conifer on Sept. 11, and my Foothills

Chapter's Last Chance Show at A Rising Star Equestrian Center in Arvada on Sept. 18.

Here's how I score my scholarship shows: They show me more than I imagined. They show me that with dressage, I have more to learn, more to enjoy and more potential for harmony with my horse. Thank you, Foothills Chapter members, for these positive possibilities. 🐾 🐾 🐾

Calling All Equine Artists!

RMDS is sponsoring an Art Show and Sale during cocktails at the Awards' Banquet November 12th at the Renaissance Hotel. If you are an equine artist, this is the perfect chance to showcase or sell your art to over 125 dressage enthusiasts in one place.

Please contact banquet committee co-chair Lori Mitchell at 303-816-2375, or BandWDressage@aol.com for details for to reserving your space.

RMDS Banquet and Awards Ceremony

November 12, 2011, 5:30pm

This year the RMDS Banquet and Awards Ceremony is hosted by RMDS (not a chapter) and will be located at the upscale Renaissance Hotel at Quebec and I-70. RMDS invites all members to attend and cheer on friends as they are recognized for their 2011 achievements. If you aren't receiving an award, you are still invited to come enjoy a night of fun and camaraderie. This is the perfect occasion to dress up and visit fellow dressage enthusiasts, sip cocktails, and enjoy a great dinner. Use the reservation form here in the Centaur and we'll see you there!

The Banquet Committee

Reserve space now. Reach Dressage Breeders throughout the Rockies with the first ever Color Advertising opportunity in the Centaur. Contact the Central Office at 720-890-7825, or rmds@rmds.org.

Promote your **STALLION**
in the January 2012 edition of the Centaur, in **Full Color!**



TEMERARIO VII

Full Page	\$200	7" x 9.5"
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1/4 Page (Vertical Only)	\$100	3.25" x 4.5"



RMDS AWARD BANQUET 2011
 Hosted by the Rocky Mountain Dressage Society
 Saturday, November 12th, 2011
 At the Renaissance Denver Hotel
 3801 Quebec Street, Denver, CO 80207



- 5:30 p.m. Cocktails, Hors D'oeuvres, and Art Show
- 6:00 p.m. Dinner Service Begins
- 6:30 p.m. Awards presentation Begins

Please RSVP by November 4th, 2011. Reservations and payment must be received by this date. A completed form with payment constitutes your reservation. Sorry, no phone reservations accepted. Late reservations will be accepted until November 7th for an additional \$10 fee.

Make checks payable to RMDS and mail to:
 Laura Speer, 4020 Empire Street, Evans, CO 80620

Directions: From east or west take I-70 to Quebec Street and turn south. Go south 1/4 of a mile. The hotel will be on the right. Free covered parking in the parking garage! (Tickets validated at the front desk.)

RESERVATIONS at \$38 per person:

Name: _____ phone: _____

Name: _____ phone: _____

Name: _____ phone: _____

Name: _____ phone: _____

Select one entrée choice per person and indicate the number of persons per entrée:

- Slow Cooked Beef w/au jus
- Chicken Marsala
- Portabella Stack (vegetarian and gluten free)

All dinners served with Chef's choice of vegetables, salad, and dessert

The Renaissance has a block of rooms under the RMDS name for the nightly rate of \$99 per room (not including tax) and will be held until November 1, 2011. Call the hotel at 303-399-7500 to make a reservation

2011 RMDS Executive Board

President	Simone Windeler	719-540-2000	simonedressage@gmail.com
Past President	Laura Speer	970-371-2934	riversidestables_evans@yahoo.com
Vice President	Mary Jo Hoepner	719-495-3648	vicepresident@rmds.org
Secretary	Heather Petersen	719-683-8435	slush@drwgw.net
Treasurer	Sharon Soos	303-904-7534	sksoos@mesanetworks.net

Permanent Committees

Adult Amateur	Lori Mitchell	303-816-2375	bandwdressage@aol.com
Awards	Shannon Lemons	719-686-0064	lemons_shannon@yahoo.com
Results	Central Office	720-890-7825	rmds@rmds.org
Communications	Nicole Bizzarro	303-939-0110	nicbiz@indra.com
Centaur Production	Cathy Van Berg	303-916-6136	vanbergc@yahoo.com
Omnibus Advertising	Central Office	720-890-7825	rmds@rmds.org
Omnibus Production	Burke Design	303-447-0993	rmds@rmds.org
Webmaster	Michael Petersen	719-683-8435	webmaster@rmds.org
Constitution, By-laws	Central Office	720-890-7825	rmds@rmds.org
Education	Michelle Anderson	303-646-1375	michand@hotmail.com
Insurance, Show Standards	Central Office	720-890-7825	rmds@rmds.org
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Junior Camp 2011	Joan Clay	970-420-0887	jncly@comcast.net
Marketing	Sharon Soos	303-904-7534	sksoos@mesanetworks.net
Membership			
Horse Registration	Central Office	720-890-7825	rmds@rmds.org
Registration Officials and			
Show Standards	Central Office	720-890-7825	rmds@rmds.org
RMDS Show Liaison	Laura Speer	970-371-2934	riversidestables_evans@yahoo.com
Scheduling	Central Office	720-890-7825	rmds@rmds.org
Scholarship	Mary Jo Hoepner	719-495-3648	scholarship@rmds.org

Chapter Presidents

Arkansas Valley	Mary Rae	719-784-6853	marraelambs@hotmail.com
Boulder Valley	Kim Lampert	303-638-3606	Dive4java@comcast.net
Colorado Springs	Shannon Lemons	719-686-0064	lemons_shannon@yahoo.com
Foothills	Dolly Hannon	303-919-4112	dollyhannon@msn.com
Grand Valley	Inka Spatafora	970-260-2660	classicaldressage@earthlink.net
High Plains	Cindi O'Shea	720-951-3517	cindioshea@yahoo.com
Northern Colorado	Susie Reed	970-416-7831	the.reed3s@gmail.com
Platte River Dressage	Laura Speer	970-330-7233	riversidestables_evans@yahoo.com
Wasatch Mountains	Linda Nickerson	801-647-3291	mail@snowypeaksranch.com
Western Colorado	Judith Family	970-923-8832	dns@rof.net

Governing Bodies

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USDF

859-971-2277

www.usdf.org

4051 Iron Works Parkway, Lexington, KY 40511

USDF Region 5

Director

Heather Petersen

719-683-8435

slush@drwgw.net

FEI JRYR Coordinator

Kathleen Donnelly

970-310-8729

Kathleendonnely20@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, 970-330-7233,
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 21, 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 Governors' meeting is held the second Saturday of Nov. Contact the Central Office for precise details.

Bylaw and Standing Rule Change Proposals

to be considered at the Board of Governors' meeting, November 12, 2011.

BYLAWS: No changes suggested

STANDING RULES:

1. Page E-12, SECTION III, RMDS RECOGNIZED/APPROVED COMPETITIONS

L. At RMDS only recognized shows, all US Equestrian Federation rules regarding competitions shall be followed with the following exceptions:

5. Allow Western Dressage classes, exempting USEF rule DR121.1 for those classes only.

2. Page E-15, SECTION V, AWARDS - YEAR END

E. Perpetual Trophies:

Add & renumber -3. New RMDS Awards requires that there be a minimum of 5 competitors in any chosen level or division in order for the Executive Board to consider approval of said award. This policy applies to all Horse of the Year Awards and Breed Awards. As the Executive Board must approve all new awards, our policy is that any new awards must be presented to the Awards Chairman by the end of June of the competition year. In order to be presented in the current competition year, new awards must be voted on in the July Executive Board meeting. Any award proposals made after June will not be presented and voted on until the following year.

3. Page E-18, 19, SECTION VII, USDF "L" Graduate Program for RMDS

D. Must officiate at a RMDS recognized competition, dressage schooling show or MSEA unrecognized event, which cumulatively includes a minimum of 30 rides (USDF Intro-USEF 2nd Level or equivalents) once every two (2) years.

The Centaur Newsletter

The Centaur newsletter is published monthly. To guarantee that ads and articles will run in a given month, they must be received by the 7th of the month prior to the month of publication, i.e. January 7th for the February edition. If not received by the deadline, articles and ads may be placed in the following issue, if not time sensitive.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For article suggestions, articles, columns, letters-to-the-editor: Centaur Editor, Cathy Van Berg, 1767 Rose Petal Lane, Castle Rock, CO 80109, Phone: 303.916.6136, email: vanbergc@yahoo.com

ADVERTISING

RMDS Office, Beth Geier, 2942 Park Lake Dr., Boulder, CO 80301, Phone: 720.890.7825, email: rmds@rmds.org

DISPLAY ADVERTISING

For information about corporate advertising and/or sponsorship, please contact Beth Geier (contact info above.)

Artwork (ads) must be provided in electronic format. Acceptable forms include: jpeg, pdf, tiff, eps, and doc. IF UNSURE ABOUT AD FORMATTING, please contact the editor (contact info above) for consultation. No substitutions may be accepted. If your ad is submitted in a file format other than those listed above, you will be contacted regarding an additional charge for reformatting or redesign. Hourly charge for redesign/reformat is \$50, in minimal units of one hour.

Please be sure to include a printed version of your ad with your payment so that the ad may be proof-read against the electronic version. Printed ad copy cannot be used as final art.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Classified ads may be submitted via email to the RMDS office (address above.) You may also type or hand-write a classified ad and mail it to RMDS headquarters, attn: Beth Geier, The Centaur. Please limit your classified ad copy to 50 words or less. Exceeding 50 words will result in additional charges per line.

PAYMENT AND AD COPY DELIVERY

Email ads to: rmds@rmds.org, and cc the electronic copy to vanbergc@yahoo.com. Send payment and hard-copy to the RMDS office, Beth Geier, 2942 Park Lake Dr., Boulder, CO 80301.

AD RATES AND SIZE SPECIFICATIONS

Classified \$20 per item for sale (includes web listing.) 50 words maximum. Classified w/photo \$32 per item for sale.

Full Page \$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 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 Foy719-260-1566

FEI ParaEquestrian Dressage 5*

Anita Owen303-953-9904

USEF 'S'

Debbie Riehl-Rodriguez ...303-263-0768

Sandra Hotz303-817-2030

Anita Owen303-953-9904

Janet "Dolly" Hannon303-919-4112

Kristi Wysocki303-648-9877

USEF 'r'

Loni Gaudet985-966-3832

Amy Jablonovsky970-493-2833

Suzanne Zimmer303-478-8325

Gwen Ka'awaloa303-646-4363

USDF 'L' Graduates (Schooling and RMDS

Only recognized shows)

Simone Ahern*719-749-9274

Gigi Brittain*303-646-1506

Julie Burt719-372-6270

Alison Child* (UT)435-640-3287

Linda Coates-Markle303-469-0279

Kathleen Donnelly*970-310-8729

Amy Fulstone775-721-1123

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

Beth Geier303-673-9840

Jan Goodrich-Spear303-664-0152

Jessica Greer970-581-5613

Julie Haugen970-290-8360

Sarah Martin*719-379-3716

Linda Ohlson-Gross*303-840-9818

KC Parkins-Kyle303-841-9953

Kathy Simard*720-981-4448

Patti Thurman* (UT)435-640-1362

Simone Windeler719-540-2000

*Denotes Graduation with Distinction

Dressage Sport Horse Breeding Judge

Janet Foy 'R'719-260-1566

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

Kristi Wysocki 'r'303-648-9877

FEI Chief Steward

Veronica Holt303-646-3829

Technical Delegates USEF

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

Rusty Cook (NM), r505-877-1456

Veronica Holt, R303-646-3829

Laurie Mactavish, R970-390-5160

Debbie Moloznik, r818-515-0377

Heather Petersen, r719-683-8435

Deeda Randle (WY), R307-638-6737

Catherine Siemiet, r719-942-5311

Dianne Stanley (MT), R406-652-4061

Technical Delegates, RMDS sanctioned shows only

Joan Clay970-420-0887

Jeannette Hillery303-494-7718

Mary Jo Hoepner719-495-3648

Mindy Maguire720-301-0089

Susan Selby970-227-9530

Libby Stokes303-688-2795

USDF Certified Instructors

Training - Second

Julie Burt719-372-6270

Jill Cantor Lee970-209-8491

RaeAnn Cook970-225-1408

Janet "Dolly" Hannon303-279-4546

Ellene Kloepfer303-828-3879

Clayton Martin719-379-3716

Bridget Milnes303-660-4986

Kristi Wysocki303-648-9877

Training - Fourth

Simone Ahern719-749-9274

Nancy DeVaney303-681-2516

Loma Fowler303-841-0417

Sarah Martin719-379-3716

Kathy Simard720-981-4448

Melinda Weatherford970-484-5218

"If your horse doesn't care, you shouldn't either."

- Linsy Lee

Shows and Events

All shows are RMDS recognized except schooling shows.

OCTOBER 2011

- 4 **Janet Foy Clinic, Linda Ohlson-Gross, Parker, CO**
Contact Jody, 303-646-9520, jbdrsj@hotmail.com
- 7-9 **Patrice Edwards Clinic, Glory Falls Ranch, Black Forest, CO**
Contact Kim Martin, 719-440-8875, glory.falls@yahoo.com
- 13 **RMDS Executive Meeting, 6:30 pm. Topic: 2012 Budget Romano's Italian Restaurant, Highlands Ranch, CO**
Contact RMDS Central Office, 720-890-7825, rmds@rmds.org
- 15-16 **GVDS Schooling Show, Grand Junction, CO, USEF**
Contact Inka Spatafora, 970-260-2660, classicaldressage@earthlink.net
- 18 **Janet Foy Clinic, Linda Ohlson-Gross, Parker, CO**
Contact Jody, 303-646-9520, jbdrsj@hotmail.com
- 22 **Dressage in Pink, Sextant Farms, Boulder, CO**
Contact Camille Griffin
- 22-23 **USDF Region 5 Junior/Young Rider Clinic with George Williams. Stellar Stables, Parker, CO**
Contact Susan Rudman, 303-697-8528, sewrunred@msn.com
- 28-29 **Christine Traurig Clinic, Sedalia, CO**
Contact Jayne Cordes, 720-936-6691, jaynecordes@aol.com
- 29 **Rancho del Soule Schooling Show, Grand Junction, CO**
Contact Stephanie, 970-201-0747, stephanie.soule@msn.com

NOVEMBER 2011

- 1 **Janet Foy Clinic, Linda Ohlson-Gross, Parker, CO**
Contact Jody, 303-646-9520, jbdrsj@hotmail.com
- 4-6 **Region 5 Championships, West World, Scottsdale, Arizona.**
Contact Jay Chabucos, 623-221-0707
- 5-6 **USDF Region 4 Adult Clinic with Lilo Fore, Palmyra, NE**
Contact USDF, www.usdf.org/education/clinics/adult/index.asp
- 12 **RMDS Board of Governors' Meeting, 8:30 am. RMDS Committee host.**
- 12 **RMDS Awards Banquet. 5:30 pm. RMDS Committee host.**
- 15 **Janet Foy Clinic, Linda Ohlson-Gross, Parker, CO**
Contact Jody, 303-646-9520, jbdrsj@hotmail.com
- 19-20 **USDF L Program, Session D1, Tucson Dressage Fall Festival, Tucson, Arizona.**
Contact Dorie Vlatten Schmitz, 480-580-0634, dvschmitz@msn.com
- 30-Dec 2 **USDF Convention, San Diego, CA**
Contact USDF, 859-971-2277, www.usdf.org

DECEMBER 2011

- 3-4 **USDF Symposium, San Diego, CA, with Anne Gibbons, Debbie McDonald, Jeremy Steinberg, and Scott Hassler**
Contact USDF, 859-971-2277, www.usdf.org
- 6 **Janet Foy Clinic, Linda Ohlson-Gross, Parker, CO**
Contact Jody, 303-646-9520, jbdrsj@hotmail.com

JANUARY 2012

- 21 **RMDS Judges' Continuing Education with Janet Foy, Sun Prairie Stables, Peyton, CO**
Contact Michelle Anderson, michand@hotmail.com, 303-646-137

APRIL 2012

- 7-8 **USDF L Program, Session D2, ADA Spring Celebration, Tucson, Arizona.**
Contact Dorie Vlatten Schmitz, 480-580-0634, dvschmitz@msn.com
- 21-22 **Region 5 USDF Adult Clinic with Lilo Fore, Utah**
Contact Nance Allen, 801-274-1288, nance@xmission.com

OCTOBER 2012

- 5-7 **USDF/Great American Region 5 Championships, The Collectives, Salt Lake City, UT**

NOVEMBER 2012

- 3-4 **USDF L Program, Final Exam, ADA Fall Fiesta, Scottsdale, Arizona.**
Contact Dorie Vlatten Schmitz, 480-580-0634, dvschmitz@msn.com

For updates to the calendar, go to www.rmds.org

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

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Congratulations!
Mary Jo Hoepner
has been approved as an
RMDS Technical Delegate.

THANK YOU!
for the great response the
Central Office received
after sending out the
request for members'
names' clarification!

- Yesterday brought the realization of a long-held and cherished dream. Esteban passed Revision and is now entitled to be called PRE as well as Andalusian. His daughter La Brita Faye also passed Revision!

The inspection was held at Victor Vargas' lovely Mira Vista Farm in Longmont, and was very efficiently and smoothly carried out by the Spanish Colonel. Victor presented 8 lovely, lovely horses for either Inscription or Revision, including some spectacular foals. He has a wonderful breeding program! What a happy and most momentous day. *-Frances Carbonel*

- Thanks to Lori Mitchell for organizing the Heather Robertson clinic. It was awesome! *-Clinic attendees and auditors.*
- Correction: The photo on the cover of the July 2011 issue of the Centaur should have been attributed to Michael P. Meyers of Artizen Creations.

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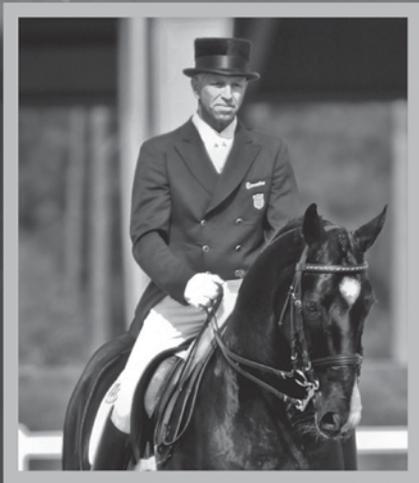
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JUNIOR/YOUNG RIDER
CLINIC SERIES



REGION 5

FEATURING

GEORGE WILLIAMS

October 22-23, 2011

Stellar Stables

Parker, CO

Dressage riders age 14 to 21 are encouraged to apply. USDF is looking for talented junior/young riders that are able to demonstrate a solid foundation and are dedicated to a future in dressage.

- Riders must be between the ages of 14 & 21
- Riders must have a USDF Participating, Youth or Life Membership
- Riders must have a USEF Active Competing, Junior or Life Membership

Each rider receives one 45-60 minute private lesson each day and will participate in a theory session with the instructor.

Auditors are welcome!

For more information on how to apply as a rider or auditor registration,
contact jyoungriderclinics@usdf.org

With Funding Support from The Dressage Foundation



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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

- Nov 12 Board of Governors' Meeting, 8:30am, Renaissance, Denver.
- Nov 12 Awards' Banquet, 5:30pm. Reservations Required.

2012

- Jan 21 Judges' Continuing Education with Janet Foy, Sun Prairie Stables, Peyton, CO
- Feb 11 Show Management & TD Training, Comfort Suites, Castle Rock, CO
- June 9-10 RMDS Winter Wake-Up (in the Summer), Tomora Training Center, Greeley
- TBA RMDS Junior Camp, Tomora Training Center, Greeley, CO
- TBA USDF Youth & Adult Team Competition, Loveland, CO
- Sept 20 RMDS Breed Show, Colorado Horse Park, Parker, CO
- Sept 21-23 RMDS Championships, Colorado Horse Park, Parker, CO
- Nov 10 RMDS Board of Governors' Meeting & Awards Banquet

For details on these and other RMDS events:

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

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).

USDF Region 5 Championship scores will count towards USDF & RMDS awards for 2012.

Page B-16:

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

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

Shows added to schedule:

- October 22 Dressage in Pink, Sextant Farms, Longmont, CO

Journey of a Fearful Rider

Help from the 2011 RMDS Solid Seat Scholarship

By Lori Mitchell, Solid Seat Scholarship Recipient



You all know me as the 2010 RMDS Volunteer of the Year, the RMDS Adult Amateur Chairperson, and Vice President of the Foothills Chapter. How I know myself is the woman who has a passion for dressage, love of horses, and enough fear to stop my progression of riding. Let me give you a shortened version of my life with dressage. I knew nothing of the sport or beauty of it until I moved here to Colorado in 2001 from Florida. Born and raised in the suburbs of Chicago I loved horses as any little girl. My sixth grade teacher would be the one who opened the door to English riding lessons and would pick me up, along with another classmate, every Sunday and take us for riding lessons at a fancy barn in Barrington, IL. No more horse activity until I was 38 years old and living here in Colorado. I bought my first horse after having five lessons under my belt and headed down the dressage path. I was lucky enough to have a local barn in my area that allowed me to be a working student which helped me learn about horses and how to ride and lunge horses while helping out the barn manager and spending every

waking moment at the facility. Soon I realized that this beautiful horse I had was not the appropriate one for me and had too many issues to sell to anyone else. My husband and I bought horse property to have our horses at home. I would spend the next two years just taking slow trail rides with my horse and my daughter and her horse. I would pretend to do dressage in our small arena and take some lessons here and there when my horse was not lame. In 2003 I bought Mozart. Mozart is a half Andalusian and half TWH. He was only four years old, so again not the best choice for a 40 year old woman who really had no serious riding experience or regular lessons.

Mozart and I had a good start; we could walk, trot and canter without issue. He was learning and so was I. One day as we were having a lesson, the trainer made a suggestion for me to wear spurs while on the lunge line. I had never worn spurs and Mozart had never lunged with a rider, so this was a dangerous combination. It didn't go well, because as the trainer asked me to begin the trot, I squeezed, and Mozart blew up. I am sure I just dug the spurs in as he bucked and ran around full force. I finally made the conscious decision to just let go, falling to the ground as Mozart jumped over me. The trainer did remark how high Mozart was bucking and how I was able to stay on.

However, I could not bring myself to trot Mozart without making excuses why "I can't do it." The "what ifs" crept in, and the stories that rushed into my head outweighed the joys of riding at times. I've tried hypnosis, EFT, visualization, and therapy to help me with the fear. I have taken so many lunge line lessons I think I could be accepted into the Spanish Riding School. I can trot on other horses, with some acceptable fear, but not my beautiful Mozart. I would tell myself that I guess I am not going to experience the beauty of dressage from the back of a horse and I have done a great job convincing myself that that's true.

In 2009 I accepted the volunteer position as RMDS AA Chairperson. My first task was to present a clinic with a good trainer who was able to help a diverse group of riders. I found Leslie O'Neal-Olsen and her "Five Simple Steps" DVD. Shortly after watching it I called Leslie to inquire if she would be available to help the AA riders of the Rocky Mountain Dressage Society. Leslie came in May of 2009 and was the clinician that year. I took one lesson from Leslie that year at my home on Mozart, and though I did not trot him for her she would begin to lay the foundation for me to start along that path again. That entire weekend Leslie would tell me how confident she was that I could do this.



In October 2010 I used my husband's frequent flyer miles and grabbed a friend who was supportive and encouraging and off we went to Leslie's barn in the suburbs of Atlanta, GA. Leslie borrowed a horse for me to ride that was perfect. Beau, an older ½ Andalusian x Quarter Horse (Azteca) and I were trotting the first lesson under Leslie's careful eye and encouraging words.

Once I returned home though, it was a different story. I would think I could trot on Mozart, but once on him, I would freeze. The dreaded excuses and "what ifs" would fill my head.

"what if..... I fall off?" · "what if..... he bucks me off" · "what if.....he canters off and then I fall off and I die... who will take care of my family?"

So, again I resigned myself to be part of the dressage world as a spectator and super dedicated volunteer, and never truly be a part of it the way I dreamed of.

I applied for the RMDS Scholarship knowing that this was my last effort to have the encouragement that Leslie O'Neal-Olsen could provide (and no other trainer was able to do) without money being an obstacle. I could devote time going to Atlanta again and



see if this time I could transfer the confidence I gained from there to my riding experience at home. Thanks to the RMDS Scholarship committee I was the recipient of the 2011 RMDS Solid Seat Scholarship, ironic since it was my "seat" I was worried about and "it" leaving the saddle!

I once again dragged my own one-man cheering section and dedicated friend to Villa Rica, GA and Leslie O'Neal-Olsen's barn, Willowbrook Equestrian Center. Leslie again had Beau trailered over for my lessons. The techniques Leslie had me learn were different this time. She had me working on control of myself and the straightness of the horse. She explained that I truly have natural balance over the horse and I needed to trust that balance. She even mentioned working on the CANTER! Of course, I was not ready for such a bold statement and immediately just continued to work on the easier stuff. "Easier stuff" was not so easy though. The control we must have in our own bodies is quite tiring and requires great finesse. One exercise that I do at home now is to keep the horse on the quarter line all the way down the arena. Sounds easy right? Oh, but is your horse straight? Are you moving down that centerline like a "drunken sailor," weaving and bobbing? I found that when I was doing the exercise on Beau under Leslie's watchful eye she would immediately see when I was leaning to my favorite left side and Beau began weaving and bobbing left too.

Another lesson learned was not to overdo anything. If you turn your body too much one way or another, then "something else will pop out." It's all

so very subtle, the shoulders of your body turn ever so slightly asking the horse for the same.

The trip was short, but again I gained a bit more confidence and had a plan of sorts to work on. No, it didn't involve trotting my own horse, but it did give me a way of feeling more in control.

Leslie then came back to Colorado at the end of July this year. She stayed with our family and I was lucky enough to be able to use frequent flyer miles to get her here. I was able to share her talent with some of the riders on the Western slope for a couple days and Leslie got to see that area of Colorado. The first lesson we had with Mozart was a great breakthrough moment for us. Leslie had me trotting Mozart, yes Mozart and I trotted! Something we had not done for a very long time and here I was, trotting my horse down the long side of the arena. Leslie would just place herself in the arena and I would then trot three, four, five strides to her. Mozart has gotten so in tune with my signals due to the control exercises we learned that once I lean a tiny bit forward or tighten a muscle he stops and immediately and starts to walk.

Leslie has reminded me to keep my "shoulders up, back, and down," sit up long and tall, and move my center beam between the horses ears." This has kept Mozart and I trotting down the long side of the arena each time we ride now.

Thank you RMDS for the scholarship that made this journey possible. Who knows, I might actually go straight when I get to go down centerline at our first show!





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RMDS Scholarship Program

Applications need to be received by November 15, 2011.
Go to <http://rmds.org/Organization/Scholarship> for more details.
Scholarship committee: MaryJo Hoepner, Heather Petersen

Basis of the RMDS Scholarship Awards:

- Scholarships are granted on the basis of financial need and volunteerism.
- Scholarship applicants must have completed a minimum of 8 hours of volunteering at RMDS events in the year prior to the scholarship year for which they are applying for a scholarship.
- Scholarship recipients must complete an additional 8 hours of volunteering at RMDS events during the year in which they were awarded the scholarship.
- Volunteer hours must be documented using the Volunteer Hours Form found on the RMDS website. (<http://rmds.org/Publications-Scholarships/Categories>)

The RMDS Scholarship Program shall award money to riders in the following categories:

- The "**Leg-Up**" Scholarship will be awarded to riders, regardless of age, who are training at Intro, Training or First Level.
- The "**Solid Seat**" Scholarship will be awarded to riders who qualify as USEF Adult Amateurs (must have a current USEF AA card on file with the RMDS Central Office). This scholarship is available to riders over the age of 21 and for any level.
- The "**Junior/Young Rider**" Scholarship will be awarded to a rider under the age of 21 and is available to riders of any level.
- The "**Opening Doors**" Scholarship will be awarded to riders/riding instructors of any age who are considered professionals according to the USEF rules. This scholarship is available to professionals, whether they compete or not, to help support their continuing education and/or competitive goals.



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2011 RMDS Adult Clinic with Heather Robertson

Sponsored by The Dressage Foundation and RMDS

By Natalie Roach, Adult Amateur

September 3rd and 4th proved to be the best weekend to not only enjoy good camaraderie, but absolutely perfect weather with wonderful clinician Heather Robertson. The ability that Heather has to get the most out of each rider and horse was exceptional. She took great care in both the horse's comfort level, as well as the rider's, while still pushing towards their stated goals. Heather often recounted stories of her five years of personal training with Edward Gal. She related back to the riders about how it is often much easier for a trainer to expect a certain training element to be accomplished than for the rider, as the rider may be learning this element for the first time. She explained early on in the clinic how there are many ways to reach a certain goal but we must always seek to return to those classical elements that make dressage, dressage. These classical elements are mostly forwardness, suppleness and connection.



The desire to move forward and the activity of the hind legs was addressed first. The hind legs must be engaged by the horse by listening attentively to the rider's aids to move forward.

Contact with the horse is important because the rider must feel that the horse's feet are stepping into the rider's hand, which was the analogy Heather gave. The rider must be that bridge that enables the horse to connect the active hind legs through the entire body. This can be achieved when the horse lifts his back by lowering the neck, creating suppleness.



One of the most memorable things that Heather often said throughout the clinic to riders from training level to PSG was, "Ask him over 200 questions every ride and expect that each one be answered promptly." Her point was that the attentiveness of the horse will be present because the horse is supple. For example, while going through a corner, ask the horse to shorten the stride drastically. She referred to this as the "pony trot." The horse should settle and be able to be supple in the pony trot. Then, the horse may be asked to increase a notch, then another notch and then another. Heather explained how important it is that aids must be simple

and clear. If you ask them to go forward, you should do so in one simple leg aid and be able to immediately put your heels down after that aid. If you can't, you did not give a good enough aid that went through to the horse to make an impression.

The balance of the horse was constantly stressed, as everything that is asked of the horse must be asked in such a way that the horse feels balanced and supple. After the warm up, the horse may be asked for more intensity and precision. The horse must be shown how to perform the task at hand and then be allowed to sort it out for themselves about where their own legs need to be, where the balance should be and how to accomplish what is being asked of them in a calm manner while staying supple. If they make a mistake, correct them and allow them to sort it out again as this is the only way for them to truly learn, and to also learn to listen. When you give an aid, mean it and then completely leave them alone. Do not micro-manage every step your horse takes.



When the horse was asked to move forward, she explained that if contact was not taken by the rider the horse is not as capable to step up underneath himself as the rider must be that bridge between the back and front of the horse. By increasing the activity of the hind legs, the horse can shift their weight back, creating weight-sustaining legs. When the hind legs are carrying weight, the shoulders and back have the freedom to lift. All of the patterns were kept very simple and clean so that the work and/or the aids were never muddled with complicated geometry. As Heather explained, once you achieve all of these elements, your half-pass is there, your shoulder-in is there, your flying changes are there and you don't have to grind the movements themselves into your horse's head because all the basic elements that make up those movements are already achieved.

Heather explained how many horses have a sense of a "fluffy collection" when one of these elements are not present. Meaning they are rocked back on their haunches but they are



thinking backwards and not forwards. This creates a gait that a rider cannot actually do anything with. To solve this, the horses were not allowed to back off or start thinking backwards when the rider took connection, as this is an evasion to not engage the hind legs and back. After connection was taken, the horse was kept supple to enable to back and shoulders to lift while the hind legs carried the weight.



My half Andalusian half Oldenburg gelding has been doing dressage for almost exactly one-and-a-half years as in his past life he was a show jumper. Heather worked with us a lot on getting the base of his neck lowered, getting his hind legs quickly up underneath him while sustaining an intense level of collection, which never lasted for more than one 20-meter circle, before he was sent back to the working canter. This showed both of us the extent to which his capabilities allow him to collect as well as move out into the working gait and back to the collected gait while staying supple. I will always remember Heather telling me

to keep him "packaged up" meaning that as his rider, it is my responsibility to be that bridge that connects the hind end to the front end. It is my job to make sure that his hind legs have a place to step up into, and when they do, his back is received with a soft seat and a supple back and hands.

As the clinic came to a close Sunday afternoon, the clinicians asked Heather

when she could come back and if it might be multiple times a year. Her response was simple: she would love to come back. Everyone was very happy with their rides, their horses, and with Heather. From the professional riders to the adult amateurs everyone has homework to work on

and hopefully Heather will be able to take each of us to an even further level of understanding including ourselves as riders, our horses, and the sport, when we bring her back for another clinic.

We could not have had such a great clinic without the donation of the facility by Katie Thomas, the owner and manager of Capricorn Farm in Golden. Katie and Joanne Hart, their resident dressage trainer, were there to assist with any questions we had, water the arena, move tables, plus anything else we needed. We all enjoyed the clinic as well as meeting new friends.





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):

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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) _____

Victoria Fernalld

From Trail Riding to Earning Her Dressage Gold Medal

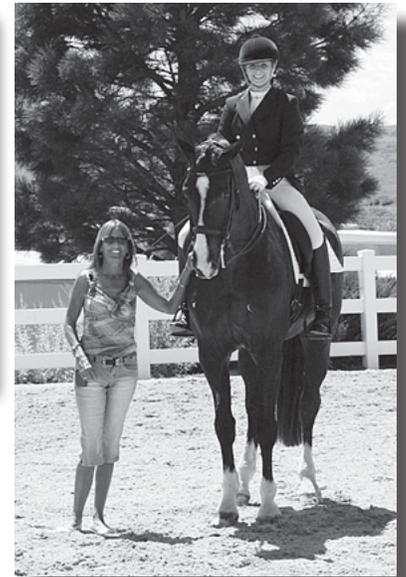
By Karen Perkins, Trainer



Victoria and Prince at the extended trot during competition.



After the Awards Ceremony, Victoria and Prince show off their piaffe.



Trainer Karen Perkins celebrates with Victoria.

At the young age of 16, Victoria Fernalld has accomplished something that many riders only dream about. But she has put in many hours “in the saddle” and has worked very hard to reach this incredible honor.

Victoria began riding horses at the age of 3 when she was ponied all over the mountains, graduating to being in control of her own horse going up and down steep mountains when she was 6.

She participated in Pony Club from age 6-13, which included jumping, cross country, bareback riding and dressage.

Victoria started training with Karen Perkins 8 years ago and when dressage became her passion, she began to make that her riding focus. She turned her jumping pony into a dressage pony. She then converted her Morgan hunter pleasure horse into her first star dressage horse taking her through 3rd level until graduating to her first warmblood at age 13.

Victoria has spent the last 3 years learning how to ride Prince. Last year when her instructor, Karen Perkins, felt like she was ready, she began competing the Dutch Warmblood gelding

at I-1. Victoria and Prince earned the USDF All-Breeds KWPN Junior/Young Rider I-1 Champion Year End Award with a score of 67.632%.

This year, at her first ever competition at the Grand Prix level, Victoria earned her USDF Gold Medal at the age of 16!

In the history of USDF there has only been one other 16 year old rider to earn the USDF Gold Medal Award.






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Gypsy's feeling good.

Photograph
By *Barbara Young*

"I got into photography because I couldn't find anyone who could take good pictures of the horses I had for sale," she said. It turned out to be a good decision. Earlier this year, one of her photos won best of show in the Equine Ideal: Winter 2011 Photography Contest, sponsored by the Equine Photographer's Network. She also won best professional black-and-



white photo in the same contest. And, on her Facebook page, Young has been posting a new photo a day since the first of the year, a project she and other equine photographers are continuing until Dec. 31. Most, but not all, of the photos are of horses, many of them from her own horse farm northwest of Montrose. To see more visit: www.barbyoungphotography.com. (Originally printed in the *Montrose Daily Sentinel*, Saturday, June 5, 2011, written by Bob Silbernagel.)