

RMDS Foothills Chapter Meeting

March 25, 2010

6:35-8:45

9 active members and three guests in attendance

* The chapter voted to sponsor a Leslie O'Neal Olsen clinic (returning to CO following her very successful and well-received clinic last spring!) to be held on June 26 and 27 at Bridlewood Stables in Evergreen. \$500 was approved to serve as scholarship money for Foothills Chapter members to ride in the clinic at a lower registration fee. Your responses to the chapter survey last year indicated your priorities for education and training and this is a way the chapter is hoping to support your goals! A flyer with additional details and registration information is coming your way very soon.

* We continued our discussion of the idea of an online chapter newsletter vs. Facebook page vs. more active use of the chapter website. Rachel Motsinger volunteered to talk with the CSU IT guy about online/website ideas and will report back to us at the next chapter meeting to support our choice on this subject. If you have thoughts about this, please email them to Heather to include in the discussion.

* There are some outstanding items related to the Ride-A-Test (RAT) and show on July 31 and Aug 1, respectively. Dolly is working on judges for the show and a trainer/judge for the RAT in the event she is unable to be here due to Rachel's success with the Jr/YR team (Go, Rachel!). Linda Coates Markel is currently lined up as a judge. More details will be confirmed at our meeting in May. Please stay tuned!

* Dolly and Nancy Hackett Harrison will offer their clinic, Integrated Riding, on May 7 and 8 at Robert's Ranch. The clinic is an opportunity to improve your riding through the benefit of the eye and dressage experience of an S judge combined with the biomechanical expertise of a physical therapist who is also an accomplished dressage rider. The clinic includes a semi-private lesson with Dolly, a group unmounted lesson with Nancy, a group mounted lesson with Nancy, and a private lesson with Dolly and Nancy. Cost is \$200 for both days, stabling overnight is \$30. There are 8 spaces available and 4 are already filled! Up to 12 auditors will be welcome. To register, please call Nancy at 970-846-3300 or email nghackett@comcast.net

* Our education was provided by Kelly Boyd who built on her key messages from our meeting in January. Rachel was the demo rider on a lovely lunge horse provided by Carol and Alma (thank you for the loan!). Kelly had Rachel demonstrate several lunge exercises which revealed her many strengths and only a few challenges. The exercises served to improve Rachel's awareness of her balance and she made very effective changes. The observers could clearly see the positive influence of her seat on the horse's movement and their improved harmony, both on and off the lunge line.

* Our next meeting is on Thursday May 27, 6:30pm at TMR. Details about chapter business and education to follow.

Respectfully submitted,
Heather Fitzgerald