



# newsletter

LA FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE D'EQUITATION THERAPEUTIQUE

March 2009

**Secretariat**

F.R.D.I. Office,

P.O. Box 134, Damariscotta  
ME 04543, USA

**Tel** +44 207 183 1256

**Email:** office@frdi.net

**Website:** www.frdi.net

**OFFICERS 2006 - 2009**

**President**

Mrs. Gundula Hauser

**Vice President**

Ms. Sanna Mattila-Rautiainen

**Treasurer**

Mrs. Pauline Perry

**Executive Committee Members**

Prof. Ann O'Shallie

Dr Khatuna Saganelidze

Mrs Carolyn Walker

**Public Officer**

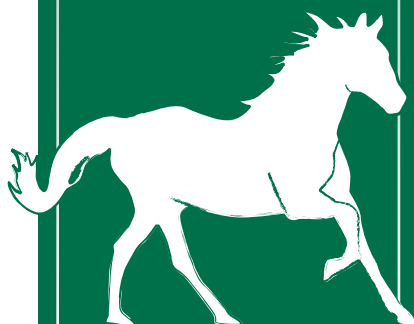
Mme. Marie-Therese Kuypers

**Secretary**

Miss Norma Pearce

**Secretary – Elect**

Ms Gisela Heimsath-Rhodes



## XIII INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF THERAPEUTIC RIDING – MUNSTER, GERMANY 12–15 AUGUST '09

“Horses for Body Mind and Soul” is the headline – the idea of the 13th Congress for Therapeutic Riding in Münster. More than 1.000 specialists representing 40 nations and even more are expected in Münster's indoor arena “Halle Münsterland”. They will come to exchange and extend their knowledge. DON'T MISS OUT – REGISTER NOW! See page 4-5 of this newsletter for more information.



Will we meet in Münster at the International Congress (August 12 to 15)?

## IMPORTANT: THE F.R.D.I. OFFICE IS ON THE MOVE!

### NEW F.R.D.I. Office Address & Contact Details



From 1 April, 2009 the F.R.D.I. Office will be operating from the U.S.A. Mail sent to the Australian address will be re-directed for the first few months.

NOTE: Material from the Office in Australia is being shipped to the US. Gisela is looking forward to getting to know members via the email connection and will endeavour to answer queries promptly. We ask for your

patience should there be delays related to the arrival of files from across the Pacific. The couriers assure us that transfers will be swift...BUT...we have heard those stories before!!

**FROM NORMA: Many thanks to those who have sent their good wishes. I do appreciate your kind thoughts. I hope to see many of you in Munster.**



## HOST COUNTRY REQUIRED FOR...

### XV INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF THERAPEUTIC RIDING, 2015

We are seeking Expressions of Interest from member countries interested in hosting the XVth Congress in 2015. It was decided some years ago that the Congresses should move around the world if possible. Any Full Member with potential interest in hosting the 2015 Congress should contact Gisela at the Office

and an Expression of Interest form with guidelines for hosting an International Congress will be provided. Such Expressions of Interest can be indicated to Council Members during the Congress in Münster. We aim to give potential hosts sufficient time to organize and seek sponsorship.

## SCIENTIFIC AND EDUCATIONAL JOURNAL OF THERAPEUTIC RIDING, 2009

FRDI publishes the Journal annually and seeks submissions of original work for inclusion.

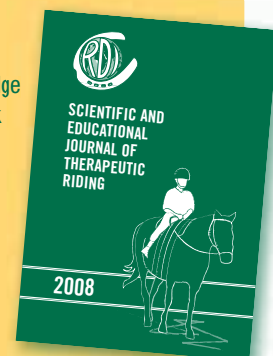
Submitted articles may be reports of original research, theory, practice, education, or reviews of existing literature. All articles will be independently and anonymously reviewed. Selected articles will make a contribution to the advancement of knowledge in the field of therapeutic riding and other equine assisted activities. Submitted work should be unpublished and should not be under consideration for publication by another journal or publisher.

Contact: Sanna Mattila-Rautiainen,  
Email: sanna.mattila@saunalahti.fi

or

FRDI Office: P.O. Box 134, Damariscotta, ME 04543, USA

Email: office@frdi.net





## GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT: GUNDULA HAUSER REVIEW 2008: PART 2

In my last message in the December newsletter I promised to continue with the review of activities in 2008. After rereading that message I noticed that I had omitted two visits.

In January Dr Karol Hornacek and the Slovakian Riding Association organized an information day for Therapeutic Riding. The atmosphere there was excellent & I hope that all riding instructors who attended received an impression of what Riding Therapy means, and that they should seek help if they are uncertain about a riding student.

In June there was an invitation to Hitzacker – a little village in Germany, where they had decided to use a whole week to demonstrate the different possibilities of how to use horses. Werner Wecker, well known to some people working in the field of “the horse in psychotherapy” lives there and he was responsible for the Therapeutic Riding section.. I am grateful that we are friends because I was able to learn much from him, and was pleased to represent FRDI and present a paper. Gabi Eckmeyer, who is responsible for Special Olympics in Germany gave a great demonstration on what people with an intellectual disability can do in vaulting.

November was the 20th anniversary of the Polish “Fundatio Hipoterapia”. Anna Struminska invited me to participate in the celebrations. Everyone who

knows Anna admires her creative way to work with people with special needs. She herself illustrates informative books about horse riding for her clients with special needs, but also encourages them to be creative themselves – writing little poems or drawing/painting their experiences. The anniversary was celebrated in the elegant rooms of the rector of the agricultural faculty of Warsawa. It was a real festivity with Polish music, a grand buffet and interesting talks.

As I mentioned in my last message – I was to go to Russia in December, but there were many difficulties in obtaining my visa in time – so many questions, and every time the application was submitted I was told something was missing (e.g. the tax number of the Russian association, a hand written voucher for where I will stay etc. etc.. So I had advised the Russian President Noemi Robert that I would not be able to come. Noemi could not accept that! She wanted the phone number of the embassy and...three days later I had my visa – just one day before my scheduled flight. What did she tell the ambassador??...It was a miracle!!

I received a very warm welcome in Moscow. This big country has so many horses, but also a lot of difficulties to organize therapeutic riding. So many questions were asked and they wished for so much information. For my part I was overwhelmed by the

flood of interesting researches and I hope that some of these people will be able to come to Munster and share their knowledge. I really hope for an intensive exchange with these people.

Teresa Morris, president of NARHA visited Vienna in mid December – for a vacation with her daughter but also to learn what is happening with Therapeutic Riding in Vienna. Of course a visit to the Spanish Riding School was on the program, but in addition we had the opportunity to talk with the leading riding instructor and with some of the responsible people, having a glass of wine together and after the performance being guided through the stable and all the equipment!

Afterwards we also had time to visit the new stable of the association “E-motion –Equotherapy” where the EU Conference in April 2008 was held, and to watch the well-educated horse at their communicative ground work with clients. There was time to visit my horses who behaved well & demonstrated the minimal information they needed to obey.

It was a year full of different impressions that enriched my life and I want to thank everyone with whom I could share my time getting new ideas. I hope to see you all in August in Munster at the International Congress!

**Gundula**, President



Teresa Morris NARHA, Gundula, SHS



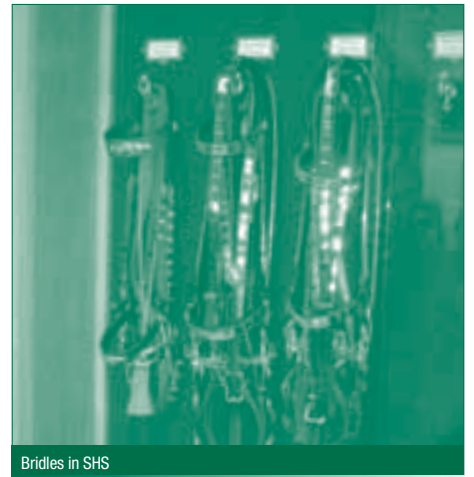
Therapietag Hitzacker June 2008



5th Russian Congress for Hippotherapy



Saddles in SHS



Bridles in SHS



Bridles and saddles in SHS



20th Anniversary in Fundation Hipoterapia Poland



## NATURAL DISASTERS IN AUSTRALIA BUSHFIRES IN VICTORIA & FLOODS IN QUEENSLAND

FRDI members come from many countries around the world where the effects of natural disasters can be devastating. This year Australia experienced the worst natural disaster in our recorded history – in terms of loss of life and property. In February extreme weather conditions in Victoria resulted in horrendous bushfires. The temperature in Melbourne was 46.5 degrees Celsius – and even hotter in the fire area. Wind velocity was 147 kilometres per hour changing direction unexpectedly and with frightening speed. Thousands of hectares of forest, farmland, homes and small townships were burned. Bushfires are not new to Australia, but the conditions on what is now referred to as Black Saturday were so extreme and unpredictable that many people were unable to enact previously well-planned coping strategies. At this time 210 people are confirmed dead, over 40 people unaccounted for and 7000 people left homeless. Three small picturesque townships have been almost totally destroyed – with only 2 or 3 buildings left standing.

Expressions of concern have been received here at the Office from so many FRDI members internationally, and this is very much appreciated. During the fires members of the FRDI family in Victoria and other states were quick to offer support to those affected by the fires, with some offering

agistment for horses and others providing feed. Such huge areas of potential feed was destroyed and other stocks had to be brought from interstate. As far as we are aware no FRDI members lost lives, but there was loss of property. One of the national squad members from the Australia para-equestrian team lost all her sheds and saddlery and 2000 bales of hay. Fortunately her horses had been moved to safety and her home was saved. Another volunteer coach lost her home. The trauma of these events will take some time to fade from people's memory, but the expressions of concern and support from so many of you in countries quite remote from Australia has been much appreciated.

Soon after the fires, devastating floods were experienced in North Queensland – approx 3000 kilometres from Victoria – Australia is a land of contrasts. Now begins the clean-up and rebuilding of people's lives. Anyone who had planned to visit Australia in the coming months is urged to do so, while being sensitive to the feelings of the victims...as people and businesses need to be revived.

Sincere thanks from all FRDI Australian members – and indeed the community at large.

**Norma Pearce**



Flooding in Queensland



Jeune Mark (horse) with his owner, whose life he saved during the Victorian Bushfires



### National Federation:

**DKThR e. V.**  
Deutsches Kuratorium für  
Therapeutisches Reiten e. V.  
Freiherr-von-Langen-Str. 8a  
48231 Warendorf, Germany  
Phone: +49 25 81 92 79 194  
Fax: +49 25 81 92 79 199  
Email: [dkthr@fn-dokr.de](mailto:dkthr@fn-dokr.de)



# XIIIth INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF THERAPEUTIC RIDING

## 12-15 AUGUST 2009 IN MUNSTER, GERMANY



### HIGHLIGHTS OF THE FRDI INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS IN GERMANY 2009!

- More than 150 lectures, workshops and presentations from over 20 nations
- Workshops with world renowned experts: Klaus Balkenhol, Olympic champion in Dressage and former USEF National Coach Susanne von Dietze, author of 'Balance in Movement' Reinhard Mantler, founder of Reinhard Mantler Horse-Man-Ship Training
- A spectacular Gala Show with Olympic champions Ingrid Klimke, eventing and Hubertus Schmidt, dressage
- Demonstrations with the famous stallions of the State Stud farm in Warendorf
- Therapeutic Vaulting and Driving presentations
- Selected Scenes of the play 'The Little Prince', presented by integrated Therapeutic Riding groups

- Meet your colleagues from all parts of the world at the "Get together". Share something typical from your country: a special delicacy or an art presentation
- Visit the Stud Farm in Warendorf.
- Get up close to the famous stallions and enjoy a dress rehearsal for the "Sinfony of the Stallions" (Transportation by bus available).

Inquire about our special fellowship rates to the congress for therapeutic riding students. More information at [www.dkthr.de](http://www.dkthr.de)

### BEFORE & AFTER THE CONGRESS

Open House at Therapeutic Riding Programs: Farms and institutions around Muenster invite you to come and visit.

What an opportunity to exchange experiences! Buses organized by Pferdesportverband Westfalen. There will be many horse related happenings and events. The Congress will provide a wonderful opportunity to experience so many equestrian events and activities.

### REGISTER FOR THE CONGRESS

#### THE 2009 CONGRESS IN GERMANY IS FAST APPROACHING MAKE SURE YOU DON'T MISS OUT – REGISTER TODAY!

Watch for the LATEST ANNOUNCEMENTS on the website.

Visit [www.rdi.net.au](http://www.rdi.net.au) or [www.dkthr.de](http://www.dkthr.de) for more details  Plan to be there and bring a friend!





## NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD



### JAPAN NEWS FROM HELLO HIPPO

Hello Hippo is a not for profit riding organization located two hours outside central Tokyo. It is dedicated to providing riding for people with various disabilities and various ages. Currently there are programs three days a week and approximately 1,500 total rides per year. They also take in riders which come outside the normal program. There also is a pony club for young children every Sunday.

It is unique that the riding is part of a large welfare group "Yukiwariso" that offers home help, short stays, employment, recreation for the disabled etc.

Aside from the programs with individual riders, Hello Hippo is keen on learning from outside and sharing their experience. In November 2008, for the third year in a row, a rider's clinic and competition were held. At this time, Mary Longden (Australia) and Vicky Melville (New Zealand) were invited to teach, lecture and coach riders.

The clinics were held across three days about an hour each focusing on specific needs of the rider.

In some sessions, riders were working on riding skills such as holding reins and turning. In others, the various therapy positions were used in order to improve the riders' postures, breathing, etc.

A competition was held on the fourth day with approximately 40 riders participating. The classes

were set so everyone who wished had a chance to participate. The most basic class was keeping your balance while going through a course (slaloms, bridges etc.). Riders could be led and did not have to hold the reins. There was also a class for independent riders going through a gymkhana course.

The most unique class was "pony agility", which is like a gymkhana but all done lead on the ground. In this class, one able bodied pony club member, one disabled rider, and one guest (one of the instructors) made up one team. There were four teams altogether that competed. The two which won the first round competed in a final round.

All of this was enjoyed not only by the participants, but also by parents and carers etc that had a chance to get out of the house and have fun.

Aside from the clinic and competition, a three day training course was held for physiotherapists and occupational therapists who benefited from the onsite work.

After the competition, a two day course for instructors was also held.

Hello Hippo being a leader in Japan, hopes to hold the same series of events once again in 2009. The courses will be in Japanese and English. Any person from around the world who would like to join is welcome (dates and details to be determined).

Mary Longden, is a FEI Paraequestrian committee member, international level three coach and chair of the FRDI Sport & Recreation Committee. Vicky Melville is a physiotherapist and FEI international classifier.

Contact: Hello Hippo

Email: [y-hippo@ceres.ocn.ne.jp](mailto:y-hippo@ceres.ocn.ne.jp)



Hello Hippo provides riding to people of various ages



A Hello Hippo session in action



Hello Hippo, Japan

# INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES 2009

## ISRAEL COURSES CONDUCTED BY INTRA (ISRAEL NATIONAL THERAPEUTIC RIDING ASSOCIATION)

Following the interest of so many people we are delighted to announce that there is the possibility of taking one or two instructor courses at INTRA, in the summer of 2009. Please see the attached form for information.

The courses will be held at the Israel National Therapeutic Riding Association, INTRA, a magnificent center nestled right along the coastline just north of Netanya and south of Haifa, in Neurim Village.

The two courses are:-

A diploma course for therapeutic riding Instructors

A Riding instructor course that offers a British Horse Society AI, BHSAI, or Israeli Riding Instructor Certificate

Both certificates are matrixes to the International Group of Equestrian Qualifications:

BHSAI Riding Instructor

Therapeutic Riding Diploma Course

Hurry up and sign up! Check the INTRA website for details of the course

Contact: INTRA

Email: [intra@012.net.il](mailto:intra@012.net.il)

Website: [www.intra.org.il](http://www.intra.org.il)



Therapeutic riding at INTRA

### MAY 2009

#### 1 – 3 May:

CanTRA's 2009 National Conference, Canada

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER:** Dr Jeanette Holden – “The Bridge Between”. Dr Holden is a leading researcher into Autism Spectrum Disorder and also a sibling to someone with ASD. She believes that with the right tools therapeutic riding instructors can help riders cross the bridge between the frightening and the fantastic world of communication.

Other speakers and topics are:

Danielle Champagne “Improving Postural Control with Hippotherapy for Children with Down Syndrome and Hypotonia

Anita Shkedi “Equine Therapy: An Appropriate Treatment for Autism” & “Equine Therapy, a Focused Therapy”

Christian Lowe “Saddle Fitting”

Pippa Hodge “Fitting the saddle to the Rider with a Disability & Helping the Rider become More Balanced”

Marc Andre Blouin “Taking care of our Horses – Nutrition for Seniors and Outdoor Living”

Susan Cressy “Equine facilitated Mental health in Canada”

Nancy Picken “Specialised Tack”

Mary Longden “What to Look for in a Therapy Horse & Ground Training a Therapy Horse”

Contact CanTRA to register.

Theme: “Liaison Cheval”

Contact: CanTRA

Email: [ctra@golden.net](mailto:ctra@golden.net)

Location: 5420 Hwy, 6 North, Suite 11,  
R.R.#5 Guelph, ON N1H 6J2, Canada

#### 1 – 3 May:

AHA Inc. 2nd International Conference, USA

For information on the conference refer to the AHA website ([www.americanhippotherapyassociation.org](http://www.americanhippotherapyassociation.org)) or call 1 888 851 4592.

Theme: “Making Connections”

Location: The Westin Atlanta North,  
Atlanta, Georgia, USA

Phone: 1 888 851 4592

Website: [www.americanhippotherapyassociation.org](http://www.americanhippotherapyassociation.org)

#### 13 – 15 May:

Hippotherapy RDA Qualifying Workshop, Australia:  
Hippotherapist Level 1 & Horsehandlers Level 1

Location: Brookleigh Equestrian centre,  
1235 Great Northern Highway,  
Upper Swan, WA 6069

Email: Jane Liddiard:  
[janevl@live.com.au](mailto:janevl@live.com.au)

Jean Lishman:  
[ian.lishman@bigpond.com](mailto:ian.lishman@bigpond.com)

Jessie Anderson:  
[jessie.anderson@health.wa.gov.au](mailto:jessie.anderson@health.wa.gov.au)

#### 21 – 24 May:

Bi-ennial National Training Seminar, New Zealand

Theme: “Leading the Way”

Location: Marlborough RDA Group,  
Blenheim, New Zealand

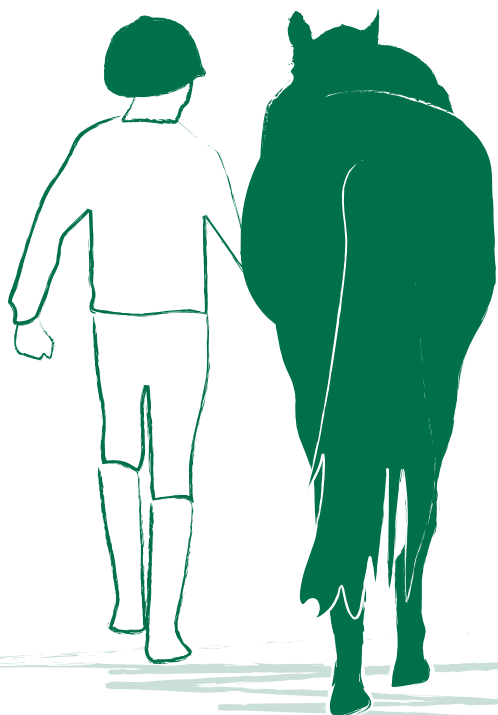
Accom: Scenic Circle Blenheim Country Hotel

Leaders: Lorrie Renker BSc (USA)  
Dr Lois Surgenor Psychol.Medicine NZ),  
Dr Joy White (CVCP, Chiropractic  
Kinesiology-NZ)  
David Sim (Vet)  
Amanda Bashford  
Dudley Farwell (Carriage Driv.)  
Effie Deans (NZ)  
Vicky Melville (NZ FEI classifier)

Contact: Guy Ockenden, NZRDA

Email: [admin@rda.org.nz](mailto:admin@rda.org.nz)

Continued page 8





# FRDI Membership Application



## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES 2009

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title - Mr/Mrs/Ms/Dr/Other \_\_\_\_\_

Organisation \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Postal/Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Fax \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

### I wish to apply for membership of FRDI

(tick appropriate box)

Full: \$550 (USD)  Associate: \$110 (USD)

Concession: \$22 (USD)

I enclose my cheque/money order for

I include a donation of

Donation to Mary Selway-Swift Development Fund of

Please charge my membership to my credit card

Visa  Mastercard  American Express

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

Expiry Date \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

### JUNE 2009

#### 13 – 14 June:

A.C.P.T.R. (Association of Chartered Physiotherapists in Therapeutic Riding), UK. Biennial Conference in Edinburgh, Scotland.

Conference will feature main speakers and practical demonstrations. ACPTTR hopes that physiotherapists from other countries will be able to join them.

Theme: Science Behind our Practice

Email: Geraldine Walker  
gmwalker@lineone.net

Lynne Munro  
lynne\_munro6@tiscali.co.uk

Phone: 852 2465 5914

Email: info@rda.org.hk

Website: www.rda.org.hk

### 2010

#### JULY 2010

##### 1 – 4 July:

12th International IAHAIO Conference on Human-Animal Interactions, Sweden.

Call for abstracts: Can be submitted via the website. Deadline for submission of abstracts is 30 November 2009.

Theme: "People & Animals for Life"

Location: Folkets Hus, City Conference Center, Stockholm

Website: www.iahaio2010.com

General requests: iaahaio2010@congrex.com

Registration & Hotel requests:  
iaahaio2010.registration@congrex.com

Abstract related questions:  
iaahaio2010abstract@congrex.com

Phone: +46 8 459 6600

Fax: +46 8 661 9125

Postal address: Congrex Sweden Ab,  
Attn: IAHAIO 2010  
P.O. Box 5619,  
SE-114 86 Stockholm, Sweden

### AUGUST 2009

#### 12 – 15 August:

XIIIth International Congress of Therapeutic Riding, Münster, Germany.

See details on page 4-5 of this newsletter.

Contact: Almut Schlingenkotter, DKThR:  
Freiherr-von-Langen-Str.8a. 48231  
Warendorf, Germany

Phone: 49 (0) 2581-927919-4

Fax: 49 (0) 2581-927919-9

Email: DKThR@fn-dokr.de

#### 20 – 23 August:

FEI - Open European Para Equestrian Championships, Norway.

Location: Kristiansand, Norway

Email: Ann Kern-Godal  
ann@godal.com

### OCTOBER 2009

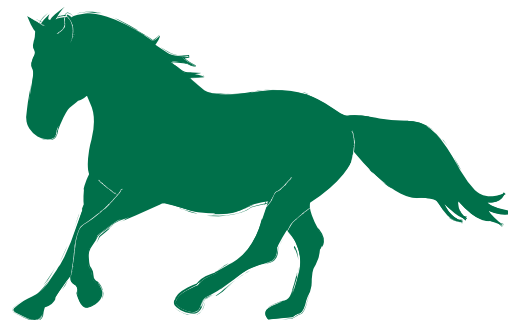
#### 29 – 30 October:

3rd Asia Pacific Conference (RDA Hong Kong), Hong Kong.

Theme: "Preparation of Paralympic Riders"

Location: Beas River Country Club, Sheung Shui, New Territories, Hong Kong

Contact: Mr Nick Rodgers,  
Conference Co-ordinator



CLOSING DATE FOR COPY FOR THE JUNE NEWSLETTER IS **MAY 22, 2009**

SEND COPY TO THE NEW EMAIL ADDRESS: **OFFICE@FRDI.NET**

### NEWSLETTER SPONSORSHIP

2009 will be a significant year in the development of FRDI - culminating in our international Congress in August 2009. Sponsorship of our newsletter will be a great opportunity to assist with this...and will provide the sponsor with the opportunity for publicity in over 50 different countries and on the web. Contact the office with information regarding potential sponsors or donations for the publication and distribution of the newsletter worldwide.

**Mail to:**  
F.R.D.I. Office, P.O. Box 134,  
Damariscotta, ME 04543, USA

**or Email:**  
office@frdi.net

