

The Region 9 Director, Bess Reineman, called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. on Wednesday, December 2, 2009.

Those present included Sally Chionsini, BACH; Jan Colley, CTDS; Leslie Cummings, HDS; Joan Darnell, DDC; Bill Eash, ADA; Laura Freeman, SEDA; Sarah Griffith, DDS; Sherry Guess, ODS; Susan Howard, CTDS; Jennifer Jarvis, CTDS; Kathy Jones, HDS; Paul Kathen, HDS; Marilyn Kulifay, HDS; Kathryn Kyle, PM; Nicole Landreneau, SEDA; Bruce Lawrie, DDC; Sarah Jane Martin, PM; Donna Meyer, BACH; Vera Muckleroy; Marsha Murry, TSDS; Jackie Nixon-Fulton, FWD; Elizabeth Rice, MSED; Mary Alice Ruleman, MDA; Suzan Saylor, HDS; Christy Sanantonio, SEDA; Carol Schmickrath, ADU; Lynn Seidemann, Para; Renee Smola, LEDA; Evie Tumlin, MSED; Carolyn VandenBerg, ADA; Michele Voorhees, BACH.

Bess made the following recognitions. The 2009 Horseperson of the Year was Lyndon Rife. Marie Morgan was the recipient of the 2009 Teaching Excellence Award. The 2009 recipients of the Dr Bob award were Ruby Reithel and Kassidy Peacock. The 2009 Youth Executive Board representative is Faith Morris. The region has a brand new GMO, Austin Dressage Unlimited. Our new Horseperson of the Year chair is Carolyn VandenBerg. Carolyn also made the centerpieces for the banquet.

The 2009 GMO delegates include ADA, Cindy Dix Weathersbee; Ark DS, Sherry Guess; BACH, Sarah Jane Martin; CTDS, Jen Jarvis; DDC, Teresa Deeter; FWDC, Teresa Deeter; HDS, Kathy Jones; LEDA, Renee Smola; MSED, Elizabeth Rice; ODS, Sherry Guess; SEDA, Christy Sanantonio; Tri State, Marsha Murray. Our PM delegates for 2009 are Evie Tumlin, Paul Kathen, Kat Kyle, Leslie Cummings, Sarah Jane Martin, and Sally Chionsini.

Kat moved that we accept the minutes as written. Evie seconded the motion and it passed.

Bess presented the treasurer's report. We currently have \$51,732.34 in our account. Sherry Guess moved and Donna seconded that we approve the treasurer's report. The motion passed. Kat Kyle and Sarah Jane Martin along with our treasurer will be the 2010 finance committee.

This year's USDF Convention has fewer than 300 people attending.

Bess then discussed things that happened from the Executive Board meeting. There were no penalties assessed at any USDF Regional Championships.

We had several visitors. Janine Malone came in to clarify the delegates. The USDF office lost the proxies for Sherry Guess and Sarah Jane Martin. Kat and Bess have fixed it. Visitor Stephan Hienzsch arrived to thank Region 9 for hosting convention. Treasure candidates came in, Steve Schubert and Robert Higgins.

Bess announced there are grants available for Adult ED and youth Ed. She suggested, in the future, discussion of a fund to send 2 adult amateurs to convention.

USDF hired a tax attorney and it is reported that now GMOs don't have to send in bylaws and articles of incorporation because they are separate entities. They will have to sign a contract that their bylaws conform to USDF.

Region 9 USDF National award winners included:

Newsletter articles

First person won by CTDS March/April 2009 Savings Q's Life by Megan Georges, Honorable mention was CTDS May/June 2009 The Joy of Dressage by Megan Georges.

General Information award was first place, Are dressage riders unfair to their horses? by Paul Kathen.

Web site design awards included;

For GMOs of 75 to 174 members 1<sup>st</sup> was CTDS. For GMOS of 175 to 499 HDS won Honorable mention.

For GMOs with 75 to 174 members in Layout design first was won by SEDA for May/June 2009 Honorable mention was SEDA for the July/August 2009.

Syrisse Longbottom from Magnolia, TX of HDS won the national volunteer year award.

Carol Schmickrath announced that the new GMO, ADU is selling a cookbook.

The meeting was adjourned @ 10:45.