

Region 9 Report

Director: Bess Reineman, TX

2009 Fall Executive Board Meeting, December 2 – December 6 Austin, Texas

Region 9 Web site

The Region 9 Website continues to achieve new heights. We are working on making all our forms and applications “online friendly”. Nicole Landrenau, the regional webmaster, is doing an awesome job keeping the Web site updated so our members stay informed.

Region 9 Newsletter

We have a new Region 9 Newsletter Editor, Carrie Schwab. With my help, she has taken on the arduous task of keeping our GMO's and special groups informed with weekly news items and deadlines. Anybody that would like to receive news from her is welcome to contact her at TxPiaffe@aol.com.

Once a month I send an Eblast newsletter out thru the USDF office to all Region 9 members. We are exploring other possibilities and avenues, so that the goal of “better communication” for our members is becoming a reality.

Adequan/USDF National Convention and Symposium

Our region is gearing up for the Adequan / USDF National Convention and Jan Brink Symposium coming to Austin, Texas, the first week of December. Central Texas Dressage Society and Houston Dressage Society are sponsoring the “Lone Star Welcome Party” for the attendees. Oklahoma DS, Brazos ACH, Alamo DA and Dallas DC are sponsoring convention pins, helping with the decorations for the Salute Gala/ Awards Banquet, garnishing volunteers, manning a Region 9/Austin Table at the registration desk, and helping to sponsor a meeting break.

Region 9 Summer Meeting

The Region 9 summer meeting in Grapevine, Texas, was well attended. Thanks to the Dallas Dressage Club and Fort Worth Dressage Club for their work and support in making it a success. Regional and GMO reports, along with the summer meeting minutes are posted on the Region 9 Web site.

We were graced by Lynn Seidemann, Region 9's own Para-Equestrian Olympian, and the new Region 9 PE Committee chair. She gave an informative talk on Dressage Para-Equestrians.

Our 2010 summer meeting will be held in New Orleans and Southern Eventing and Dressage Association is already working on the plans. These meetings are very important for our region's GMOs and members to brainstorm, discuss, and formulate the future of our region to ensure dressage will continue to grow and prosper.

Region 9 Teaching Excellence Award

New this year is the 1st annual Region 9 Teaching Excellence Award. A plaque and a check for \$5000 will be presented to the recipient at the Region 9 GAIG / USDF

Regional Championship show. This award exemplifies the success of an individual as a dressage instructor. Thanks to the "The Dressage Foundation" for their role as consultant, and for managing the fund.

Region 9 Omnibus

The 14th edition of the Region 9 Omnibus will be available by the end of November, as a PDF on the Region 9 Web site, or for purchase as a printed book, CD, or flash drive. Thanks to Tess Wheat and Liz Grimsley for their patience and tireless work.

The omnibus is possible due to the continued support of the GMO's, shows, regional board, regional coordinators/chairs, and advertisers. Their collaboration makes possible the following:

- Adult Educational fund to help GMO's finance events geared toward adults.
- Youth Educational fund to help GMO's finance events geared toward youth.
- FEI Jr/YR funds to offset expenses for attending NAJYRC.
- Smaller GMOs – travel fund – to help send one of their board members to the regional summer meeting, and/or USDF convention.
- Continuing educational programs for USEF licensed judges and USDF "L" graduates. These are open to all regional members, not just for judges.
- Funds to help Region 9 PM delegates attend the convention.
- Funds to help the volunteer regional board, coordinators, and committee chairs attend the regional summer meeting and the USDF convention.
- Funds to help finance the regional Web site.
- Funds to help purchase the Region 9 bench, located in the courtyard at the USDF National Educational Center in Lexington, Kentucky.
- Funds for the "Region 9 Horseperson of the Year" award.
- Funds to help sponsor the USDF convention when held in Region 9.

Our GMOs, shows, clinics, and members remain active, despite the economic downturn. There is a drop in attendance from 2008, but the spirit is still strong and I feel we will weather the storm.

Thanks to all the regional board, coordinators, and committee chairs that help make this region run like a smooth clock... we just keep on ticking.

Adult Education

Only one GMO has applied for Region 9 Education Funds for 2009. BACH held a Jane Savoie Seminar in March.

Competition Management

Our recognized shows already have dates set for 2010. Due to new USEF rules, we may lose two or more shows qualifying status as USEF/NAJYRC Qualifying Competitions. They will hopefully be able to acquire exemptions for modifications.

Three of our specialized competitions: Youth Team, Adult Team, and Sport Horse Breeders Final, were well attended.

FEI Jr/ YR and Dr. Bob Fund

We had nine FEI Juniors and seven FEI Young Riders declare for the North American Junior/Young Rider Championships held in Lexington, Kentucky, in 2009. We were able to send a complete team of four Juniors and an almost full team of three Young Riders to the championships in July to represent Region 9.

Topsider Farms generously donated the proceeds of a schooling show held at their facility in May to the Jr/YR Fund.

In June we held a luncheon, fashion show, freestyle demonstration and silent auction at Paragon Stables to help raise funds for the teams. We rose over \$7,000 that day. A special thanks to Melany Lipar and Anna Burtell, our hosts, for all the special preparations and efforts on behalf of the teams.

The Dr. Bob Fund awarded \$1000 to Kassidy Peacock and Ruby Reithel as the 2009 recipients. This award helps with the expenses of declared riders campaigning for NAJYRC.

GMO's

Two GMO's have applied for the Region 9 Travel Grant to help send their board member to the convention. Four of our GMO's are in complete compliance with USDF. The other eight are close to completing the requirements.

Nominations

The following PM delegates will represent Region 9 at the 2009 convention in Austin, Texas:

Kathryn Kyle
Sarah Jane Martin
Sally Chionsini
Paul Kathen
Leslie Cummings
Evelyn Tumlin

Thanks again to Jeanette Snow and Gillian Gourley for their work on the Canvassing Committee.

Region 9 Horse Person of the Year

The 2009 Region 9 Horse Person of the Year award recipient is Lyndon Rife. Lyndon is an individual who has dedicated his life to dressage and helped our region progress and grow.

The past recipient, in the 17 year award, will be recognized and honored at the Saturday night festivities during the Regional Championships.

Thanks to Burnis Foy, our chair, for her years of dedication. She is retiring at the end of this year and Carolyn Vandenberg will be the new HPOY chair in 2010.

2009 GAIG/USDF Region 9 Championship and HDS Autumn Classic

The 2009 GAIG / USDF Region 9 Championship and HDS Autumn Classic will be held in Katy, Texas. Plans have been well under way for a year to make this the best championship ever. HDS, the host, generously has programs tied to the show to help give back to our region and GMO's. Thanks to all the GMO's that send volunteers!