

Region 9 Report

Director: Bess Bruton, TX

2012 Fall Executive Board Meeting, December 5 & December 8 New Orleans, Louisiana

Nicole Landrenau, the regional webmaster and e-newsletter editor, is doing an excellent job with keeping the **Region 9 Website** updated, so our members stay informed. The goal is for an all inclusive Website to benefit our GMO's and participating members. Banner ads are offered, and we now accept credit cards and PayPal for all transactions. Also, check out Region 9 on Facebook. And Region 9 now has a Web Store, with Region 9 branded merchandise. Proceeds go to help fund the various Region 9 grants, etc.

The **Region 9 Summer Meeting** in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma was productive and fun. Thanks to Oklahoma Dressage Society 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 Website.

Both our Youth and Adult Amateur Committees are working towards new goals to give back to those two very important member groups. Funds have been established for each group.

A full slate of PM and GM delegates are going to the USDF convention, prepared to represent our members.

Our 2013 Summer Meeting will be in Fort Worth, Texas with Fort Worth Dressage Club as host. These meetings are very important for our region's GMOs and members to get together, brainstorm, discuss, and plan the future of our region, so dressage will continue to grow.

We are gearing up for a huge (record breaking number of riders / horses) **Region 9 GAIG/USDF/SWDC (4 day) Championship Show in Katy, Texas**. Kathy Jones, HDS, and the show committee have worked long hours planning and preparing. It is an arduous task to say the least.

Over 100 volunteers (along with hopefully good weather) will help to make it a success. At last year's championships, there was a total of 1000 volunteer hours- FORT WORTH, ADA, BACH, CTDS, MSEDA, TRISTATE all sent volunteers and donated to the raffle.

The 17th edition of the **Region 9 Omnibus - 2013** will be available by the end of November, as a PDF on the Region 9 Website, or for purchase as a printed book, CD, or flash drive. Thanks to Bruce and JoHannah Lawrie and Gloria Beduhn for their patience and long hours of work.

The Region is gearing up for the **annual USDF convention in New Orleans – “Let the Good Times Roll”**. Southern Eventing & Dressage Association is the sponsor GMO. They have worked long, hard hours, and guarantee all attending will have fun !!! The Welcome Party is being held at a New Orleans favorite – Mulates Restaurant. Sponsored by SEDA, HDS, and Region 9.

Since our region is financially stable, we offer grants for GMO's to help with dressage camps, judges, and instructor/trainer seminars. A couple of GMO's have already applied this year for the **Region 9 Educational Grant**. We also offer a **Region 9 GMO Board Travel Grant**, to help a GMO send a member to either the regional summer meeting or the USDF convention.

New this year, is **Continuing Education Recognition for Region 9 Instructors/Trainers**. It helps I/T's keep up with their education hours, and prospective clients know how much continuing education the I/T's have obtained.

Another new program available for **Region 9 Youth is the Youth Schooling Show Challenge**. It offers Region 9 Youth an opportunity to earn a certificate or a patch for competing in schooling shows! Thanks to Anne Kuhns for organizing the program. Detailed information can be found on the Region 9 Website.

Two major Regional Awards are given each year –

Region 9 Horse Person of the Year – its 20th year, **Vera Muckleroy** is the much deserved recipient for 2011.

Region 9 Teaching Excellence Award - its 4th year, with congratulations to **Susan Hancock** for a job well done.

The **Region 9 FEI Jr/YR's** were busy fundraising this year. They pay for the entry fees and give each NAJYRC rider, and the chef, funds to help with NAJYRC travel expenses. They have already started on fundraising for next year, with several projects in place for the championship show.

On a sad note, we lost one of our region's most beloved members – **Jonathan Wentz**. He had recently returned from London where he was a member of the U.S. Team that earned seventh place at the 2012 Paralympic Games. At those Games, Wentz also finished fourth in the Individual Test and fifth in the Freestyle Test in Grade 1b competition riding Kai Handt's NTEC Richter Scale. These strong results earned Wentz the distinction of being the highest-placed American equestrian at either the London Olympic or Paralympic Games. Jonathan will be greatly missed. He will forever be remembered for his kind and caring nature, his love for dressage and horses.

Our GMOs, shows, clinics, and members remain active, offering camps, seminars, "L" Program, Judges continuing education, Youth and Adult Team competitions, and instructor certification workshops.

ADU is hosting the **4th Annual ADU Judging Seminar with Christoph Hess on February 2-3, 2013**. If past judges seminars are any indication, this one will be standing room only.

Thanks to all the regional board for their hard work and dedication. They keep our members informed, and make the business side of our region more effective and efficient.