

Region 9 Report

Director: Bess Bruton, TX

2022 Spring Executive Board Meeting, April 20

Region 9 has had some winter weather, but overall compared to the storms of 2021, we have been fortunate. Shows are still following the required COVID - 19 protocol. It seems we have all gotten accustomed to it. Seems to be a norm.

Shows, clinics and seminars are in full swing, with the GMO's busy providing educational opportunities for their members.

Two continuing education freestyle seminars for judges have already taken place. And a USDF L Grad program is scheduled.

Almost 30 recognized shows are scheduled for this year. And twice that many schooling shows offered for riders to take advantage of and work toward their goals.

The Tex-Over Farm CDI2*/1*/Am/YH/Y/J/P/CH and Houston Dressage Society (HDS) Spring Classic I & II will be held at the Great Southwest Equestrian Center in Katy, Tx on April 28-May 1, 2022. This is the 11th CDI that HDS has held for our region. It takes alot of people and work. All those involved are greatly appreciated. It gives riders in the middle of the country an option to compete at a CDI, without having to travel to the east or west coast.

We welcome 2 new GMO Presidents... Brazos Association of Classical Horsemanship - new president is Julie Brown. Central Texas Dressage Society - new president is Betty Beebe. Thanks to BACH's Emily Mullins, and CTDS's Tina Zehnder for their service as outgoing presidents.

Two of our long-time Region 9 board chairs resigned... Donna Meyer in Adult Programs Education. And Anne Kuhns in Youth Programs. We truly appreciate their dedication, and hard work over many years of serving and helping the region !!! We know their knowledge and experience will continue to be an asset to their GMOs and the region.

Graciously accepting the position of Region 9 Adult Educational Chair is Betty Beebe, and Jessica Fan the Region 9 Youth Programs Chair. We look forward to working with Betty and Jessica.

Our Region 9 Omnibus is already gathering sponsors and advertisers. It is published in October, and will include the new dressage test. Though it is a once a year publication, the Region 9 Omnibus team of Arlene Gaitan, Nicole Miller, Nettie Olsen, and Sherry Guess work year round gathering information, editing, proofing, etc.

The Region 9 Evie Tumlin Memorial Fund provides financial assistance to Adult Amateur riders, who reside in Region 9. Applications are made through the generosity of The Dressage Foundation. We appreciate all who have donated to the fund, to help our AA riders.

This is the 30th year to award the prestigious Region 9 Horse Person of the Year. It was started in 1993, to honor a Region 9 volunteer who has worked tirelessly, making great contributions to help our region and its members.

The Region 9 Dressage Teaching Excellence Award is in its 14th year. It is awarded to a Region 9 instructor for top qualities in teaching dressage.

Region 9 offers several funds, all of which are possible due to the success of our omnibus:

The Region 9 Education Fund is offered to GMO's to provide assistance in holding educational events.

The Region 9 Youth Education Fund helps GMO's finance events geared toward youth.

The Region 9 Travel Fund offsets expenses for smaller GMO's to help send a member to the regional meeting, or USDF National Convention.

The Region 9 travel fund helps PM delegates, and Region 9 Board with travel to the in person regional summer meeting and the USDF National Convention.

Becky Brown, our Region 9 Jr/Yr coordinator, assisted by Inez Campbell, have worked tirelessly to promote the program, and are instrumental in fund-raising for both the NAYC, and the regional clinic.

A new Region 9 NAYC guideline book, written by Inez Campbell, is now being published, to help those jr/yr with their quest leading up to and attending NAYC.

Becky is busy working on a fall clinic with Anne Gribbons. As well as another Lendon Gray Dressage 4 Kids Clinic.

Becky and Inez are helping with a new potential Region 9 Jr/Yr coordinator - Marsha Lewis, who will take over the reins in 2023. We are so fortunate to have awesome volunteers who work with each other achieving goals to further and improve our regional services.

The Region 9 Dec 2021 Zoom meeting was well attended. It was held during the Adequan USDF Zoom Annual Convention, which was slated to be held in our very own Houston, Tx.

We look forward to hopefully hosting an in-person convention in Houston in 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

Bess Bruton
USDF Region 9 Director