

August 2019 Region 5 Message

I hope everyone is having a successful, goal fulfilling summer with their horses. Time is flying and Regional Championships will soon be here. I hope everyone is planning to attend the Great American/USDF Region 5 Championships at the Colorado Horse Park in Colorado September 19-22, either as a competitor, friend, groom or volunteer. It takes a village to put on a show of that size and I know your support is needed.

Sadly, we didn't have any of our Juniors or Young Riders decide to attend the North American Youth Championships this year in Old Salem, New York. The cost was a major factor and a few decided it was a better option to attend the USEF Festival of Champions later in August at Lamplight, Illinois. I hope everyone cheers them on, though they compete as individuals, they are going with the Region 5 mentality and working together as a team.

Congratulations also to the other members of our Region who may also qualify for the USEF Pony, Childrens, Dressage Seat Equitation, Young Horse, Small Tour, Large Tour and Developing Horse Championships!

Another reminder of several important **DEADLINES** that are coming up:

- USDF National and Regional GMO volunteer nominations, as well as GMO award nominations, are due to the USDF office by August 31.
 - GMOs nominations are open for [Newsletter Awards](#), [Website Awards](#), and [Photography Awards](#). Don't forget that all nominations are due to the USDF office by **August 31**. See the nomination forms for detailed information.
 - Regional GMO Volunteer of the Year nominations can be submitted by any participating member, group member or the Region Director. We did not have a volunteer of the year last year, so please please consider submitting someone from your area.
 - Volunteer of the Year and Youth Volunteer of the Year nominations can also be submitted by any participating member, group member or the Regional Director.
 - One deserving group member will receive the [Ruth Arvanette Memorial Fund Grant](#) to attend the 2019 Adequan/USDF Annual Convention in Savannah, Georgia. The grant includes full convention registration and partial reimbursement for travel expenses. Applications due by **August 31**
- GMOs must return their GMO Delegate/Proxy Authorization form to the USDF office to appoint representation to the Board of Governors meeting at the USDF Convention

I also recently just returned for the Pan American Games in Lima, Peru. It was a once in a lifetime experience to see some of our top sport in such a unique way. The Pan American Games are the 3rd largest sports event in the world behind the Olympics and the Asian Games. The Peruvians rolled out the red carpet and did an amazing job. I would highly encourage each and every one of you to take time someday and attend a multi-sport championship event like this. We met so many wonderful people from all over the Americas who participated in so many different sports and they all were talented people with incredible sportsmanship and dedication to their crafts.

Till next month!
Heather Petersen

Region 5 Director