

July 2009 Regional Message

DEADLINES: Region 5 GMO volunteer of the year award, nominations for GMO newsletter and website of the year are due to USDF by August 31. The Ruth Arvanette Grant for three members to go to the USDF convention (up to \$500 airfare expenses, plus free registration, and ½ hotel expense) is due to USDF by August 31. The Youth Executive Board offers four scholarships up to \$1000 for the convention. Take advantage of this opportunity to attend the convention in Austin, Texas. Applications are due August 15 and are available on line at www.usdf.org.

The FEI Junior and Young Riders are preparing for the NAJYRC championships at Kentucky Horse Park. As I write this we still have qualifying competitions and the riders are not selected. We have had a great fundraising year and a lot of enthusiasm. Good Luck to those that make the team or compete as individuals and a big thanks for all the volunteers and contributions!

This year our Regional Championships will be at WestWorld in Albuquerque, NM on October 16-18, 2009 and the next year they will be at Colorado Horse Park on September 2-5, 2010. We had to move the dates earlier due to the 2010 World Equestrian Games September 25 - October 10, 2010 at the Kentucky Horse Park. So plan your competition year in 2010 to qualify 30 days prior to our championships.

We are initiating a Life Time Achievement Award for our region. The purpose is to recognize significant, longtime volunteer service to our region. Region 5 is on the frontier of dressage with many geographical and cultural challenges. Diligent efforts of individuals within our region encouraged the start and continued growth of dressage in our region benefiting our members. I would like to have five people for the selection committee: Dianne Stanley, our historical committee representative, and three others to represent different GMO's in our region. If you are interested in serving on this committee and helping to develop this and other historical initiatives, please contact me as soon as possible. I would like to have this committee in place by July 1 with an August 1 deadline for submission of nominees. I am planning to announce the award at the regional championships. I still need volunteers to serve on the committee. If you are interested, please email Dianne pstanmt@bresnan.net or me huntery8@gmail.com (new email address).

Stay Cool and Happy Riding!

Theresa Hunt
Region 5 Director