

I have been lucky to spend some time this spring in Florida, working on my licenses and officiating at some shows outside of our Region and it's been a great experience. I have seen several wonderful horses, some great riders, and what was more reassuring for me, some juniors and adult amateurs who are working hard with their education and showing. Show season is coming to full swing now around most of the rest of the country and starting to wrap up down in Florida and there are plenty of clinics and educational events to choose from in most areas. Please be sure to let me know if your barn, GMO, club, chapter or other groups are hosting events and we'll get them in our monthly USDF newsletter and on the Region 5 website.

The deadline for Participating Member Delegate nominations is **April 15**. Our region will have 5 PM delegates for the 2012 USDF Convention in New Orleans December 5-8. You can check the status of our delegate nominees by going to the link below. Please check your status to make sure your acceptance is there if you would like to be a PM delegate candidate. If you are not listed and you would like to be a PM delegate, please contact Kay Lorenzen at kaylorenzen@cox.net.

<http://www.usdf.org/about/about-usdf/governance/nominating/accepted.asp>

As of April 1st, our potential candidates for the 2012 FEI North American Junior and Young Rider Championships will be finalized. As I write this in early March, we have 21 folks who have declared, so hopefully Region 5 will field two full teams. If you would like to contribute or help with their fundraising efforts, please contact Joan Clay, our Region 5 Jr/YR FEI coordinator at jnclay@comcast.net or 970-420-0877.

We are looking for nominations for our 2012 Region 5 Lifetime Achievement Award. This award was started in 2009 by our then Regional Director Theresa Hunt and recognizes folks who have made significant contributions to dressage in our region. If you have someone you feel has made a contribution to our dressage community, please send me their name and a brief nomination letter. We will award one or more recipients this year and we would love input from folks throughout the region. Please email me nominations at slush@drwg.net. Our previous winners are Barbara Stine, Dr. Rudolf Vlatten, Theresa Hunt and Janet Foy.

Till next month!
Heather Petersen

Region 5 Director