

July 2015 Region 5 Message

I hope everyone has had a great start to their summer! I'm not sure about the rest of the Region, but man, have we had some rain this spring and early summer! I almost feel like I'm back in Iowa where I spent my childhood.... Mosquitos, humidity, constant mowing of the grass.... At least it's not as hot as the Midwest! I do love the smell of fly spray, but I definitely don't like the bug bites. Once I finish my paddock fencing, I'm looking forward to feeding less hay due to all the grass this year!

Several important **DEADLINES** 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 can submit nominations for [Newsletter Awards](#), [Website Awards](#), and [Photography Awards](#). Don't forget that all nominations are due to the USDF office by **August 31**. No more submitting hard-copy nominations! 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.
 - 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 2015 Adequan/USDF Annual Convention in Cambridge, MA. 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 Annual Convention December 2-6, 2015 in Las Vegas, NV. There will be a great panel of veterinary sessions this year since our convention is followed by the AAEP convention!

The end of the qualifying period is coming for the 2015 NAJYRC Championships as is the period for the USEF Championships Programs for Young Horses, Developing Horses and U25 Grand Prix. We wish all our intended competitors good luck in their endeavors.

Please mark your calendars for our Region 5 Championships and plan to join us! It will be a fun week.

- USDF/Great American Region 5 Championships – October 16-18, 2015 – WestWorld, Scottsdale, Arizona.

There are many educational opportunities being held over the next year around our region. Please be sure to double check your local calendars and those of the GMOs and barns just outside your area and take part in one of these wonderful events.

Till next month!
Heather Petersen

Region 5 Director