

We just finished a very productive set of USDF Executive Board meetings in Lexington, Kentucky. Lisa Gorretta did a great job leading her first set of in person meetings as President and lots of information was covered. Sites were selected for the 2020 Regional Championships and will soon be released to the membership by USDF. The agenda kept us busy for over a day and a half but it's great to see the progress that was made. I had the pleasure of starting the first morning off with a nice walk around the lake outside the Rolex Stadium, visiting a few of the cross country fence complexes that were set for the Land Rover 5\*, and walking down around a few of the organizations that call the Kentucky Horse Park home. Sadly, it was raining on the second morning so we didn't go for a walk.

There are many educational events around our Region so if you're not spending a weekend with family or showing, consider supporting one of our well-organized and great educational opportunities sponsored by the local GMOs (Group Member Organizations) such as Arizona Dressage Association, Tucson Dressage Club, Utah Dressage Society, Rocky Mountain Dressage and so forth. Mark your calendars and head south September 28-29, 2019 for a wonderful symposium with Laura Graves. Check the Regional updates each month for other educational activities coming up.

Soon our potential candidates for the 2019 FEI North American Junior and Young Rider Championships will be finalized. As I write this in mid April, we have 4 declared Juniors and 2 declared Young Riders. We had hoped to have enough folks to field two full teams but it is a large endeavor and expense to take our teams to New York, so it might be a smaller year. It's the experience of a lifetime for our Youth and 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](mailto:jnclay@comcast.net) or 970-420-0877. These young adults work very hard, as do their parents, trainers and friends and every little bit of support is greatly appreciated. **DON'T FORGET TO TURN IN YOUR DECLARATIONS IF YOU ARE INTENDING TO TRY FOR OUR TEAMS!**

If you have news you'd like to share, please let me know, we're happy to get it out and about for you.

Happy Spring!

Till next month!  
Heather Petersen

Region 5 Director