

Well, it's been an interesting competition year for USDF. A few of you have been able to show, but many of the folks in our region took the year off from competing and instead focused on training. I still would like to congratulate all of our members who may have competed or focused on training and give thanks to our volunteers, officials, volunteers, barn owners, grooms, veterinarians, farriers, and families. And of course our equine partners! I hope you have met your goals for this odd year and you should be very proud.

The USDF convention and the 2 evening awards presentations are just around the corner and it's time to set some time aside in your busy schedules and join us on Zoom for some good information and unique socialization. The convention schedule has been posted online at www.usdf.org so that you can start to plan out the meetings and educational sessions you would like to attend.

A reminder that your Participating Member Delegates to the USDF Convention for 2019 are Joan Clay, Cecilia Cox, Sarah Lindsten, Kay Lorenzen and Sarah Martin. Please contact them or myself if you have any concerns regarding items listed on the BOG agenda or anything you would like to have brought forward at the Regional meeting during the convention. There are some very important things that will be covered, so please let your delegates know how you feel.

We are hoping for 2021 that the competition season (and the rest of our lives) return more to the usual routine. The 2021 Great American/USDF Region 5 Championships will be September 16-19, 2021. We are set to be at HIPICO Santa Fe in Santa Fe, New Mexico. The New Mexico Dressage Chapter of the Rocky Mountain Dressage Society will be our host and we're looking forward to a great year. We're hoping for some new and diverse bids for the 2022 championships. I'd love to hear from any interested parties as soon as possible so I can get you a list of the information we're going to need for those bids. All Regional Championships still must be held by mid-October since the winners of all divisions will continue to feed into the Nationals Championships. That's right folks! The Junior/Young Riders will also now be competing at the US Dressage Finals, currently held each November in Lexington, Kentucky.

There were a few educational opportunities in our Region this year and we were able to host the USDF Jr/YR Clinic in October in Colorado. We had 8 lovely riders who participated in the clinic and traveled from all over Colorado and Utah to be there. More great things are being planned by our GMOs throughout the winter and into next year so please be sure to check them out and support your local groups with your attendance as participants and auditors so these educational opportunities can continue!

Finally, a huge congratulations go Jane Wilmes of the New Mexico Dressage Association and her equine partner, Travis, who completed their Century Ride in October at the Miller Horse Farm near El Paso/Las Cruces, New Mexico.

Till next month!
Heather Petersen

Region 5 Director