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Region 1 Report

Director: Lisa Schmidt, NJ

2011 Fall Executive Board Meeting, November 30 – December 4 San Diego, California

It has been a busy first year for me as Region 1 Director. We are lucky in this region to have an active group of GMO's willing to host many local educational events and help organize and support regional and national competitions and clinics. Our horse and rider combinations excelled nationally and internationally.

I have continued to keep the region and the dressage community up to date with information about the region through monthly enewsletters, facebook and the newly designed website.

The following events have taken place or will have by the USDF convention in December 2011:

- GAIG/USDF Championships will be held at the Virginia Horse Center in Lexington, Virginia, hosted by VADA October 21-23. As of this writing, entries were lower than previous years. 2011 was the first year that the BLM Championships and the Regional Championships were held at back to back weekends which may have affected the number of entries.
- BLM Championships were held October 14-16, at the Horse Park of New Jersey in Allentown, New Jersey. Trilogy Saddlery is a three year title sponsor. Despite torrential rain and sloppy footing on the first day, the rings drained quickly and the weather was perfect for the weekend days. Competitors and judges were full of complements for show management and host, ESDCTA.
- The Adult Team Competition was originally to be hosted by ESDCTA and scheduled for September 24 and 25 at the Horse Park of New Jersey, but due to lack of entries it was cancelled. In order to hold this show as a separate entity, 16 teams were needed to make it viable. LVDA stepped up to the plate and convinced the Bucks County Horse Park to schedule the team competition in conjunction with a licensed show on October 22. As of this writing, ten teams planned to compete. The region will have to analyze how this competition can be run in the future given the economy and inconsistent interest in the event.
- The Junior Team Competition was hosted again by VADA/NOVA at Morven Park in Leesburg, Virginia in July. From all reports it was successful and the riders love the prizes, stall decorating and pizza party.
- The Festival of Champions was held at the USET Headquarters in Gladstone, New Jersey, in September and ESDCTA helped rally volunteers for the national championship show. USDF Secretary and Region 1 member, Janine Malone, was the show manager. Again, this year rainy conditions prevailed and schedule changes were necessary. However, it is always a treat to have this high performance championship in Region 1 and see the US's top horse and rider combinations. Two Region 1 riders had great success in the Pan Am qualifiers: Cesar Parra of New Jersey made the Pan Am team cut and Heather Mason of New Jersey was named an alternate. Kya Endreson was Junior champion.

- At the North American Junior Young Rider Championships in Kentucky, Region 1 youth brought home four medals. The Junior Team won the team gold medal, junior Julia Burttt was awarded an individual bronze and Chase Hickok took home the individual bronze and freestyle silver. Chef D'equipe Anne Moss stayed on this year to help the teams through the week of extraordinary heat. The region was lucky to have many riders vying for teams with a talent for fundraising. With their help, an NCDCTA silent auction, and donations from dressage enthusiasts, the region was able to reimburse the team members their entry fees.
- Dressage at Devon took place September 28-October 2, 2011. Entries again were low and the closing date was extended. As usual, it would not be Devon without rain and on that front the weather did not disappoint. But handlers, horses and riders were tenacious and performed. Region 1's Suzanne Handler was awarded the Sportsmanship award for riding and warming up under some adverse conditions. Heather Mason of New Jersey cleaned up in the small tour. Jim Kofford won the Grand Prix for the Special.

Plans for 2012

- The spring Region 1 meeting will be hosted again by the Hassler's at Riveredge in Chesapeake City, Maryland, on March 18, in conjunction with an FEI Jr/YR clinic with Jeremy Steinberg on March 17 and 18. We are lucky to have such a wonderful facility in the region for training and education.
- There will be two Youth Team competitions in 2012 to help riders cut down on travel time from one end of the region to the other. NCDCTA will hold a championship in conjunction with their Capital Classic show in June for youth in the southern end of the region. VADA will host a standalone Youth Team competition in July at Morven Park for more northern based riders.
- VADA will host the BLM Championships at the Virginia Horse Center on October 18-21, 2012.
- NCDCTA will host the USDF/GAIG Regional Championships in Williamston, North Carolina, on November 1-4, 2012.
- NCDCTA will organize the USDF Adult Clinic with Lilo Fore at Averett University in Danville, Virginia, on October 6-7, 2012.

Concerns

- Finding enough volunteers to help with all the shows and events in the region is an ongoing problem. Volunteer burn out is always a consideration.
- Communication with the GMO's is not always existent. Many GMO's work in a vacuum, despite continuous outreach.
- Entries are down overall at competitions due to the economy.
- Membership is down for most GMO's in the region.

Region 2 Report

Director: Kenneth Levy, IN

2011 Fall Executive Board Meeting, November 30 – December 4 San Diego, California

Key Accomplishments for 2011

- Attended the 2011 USDF Executive Board Spring meeting in Lexington, KY.
- Participated in three USDF Executive Board conference calls.
- Participated in the USDF Web re-design Committee. Reviewed new layout and features for the USDF web site and provided input on functionality. The re-designed web site is much more user friendly and the E-TRAK learning is a major addition to the educational offering to all USDF members.
- Filled all Region 2 volunteer positions for National committees.
- Region 2 nominations committee secured a full contingent of candidates for the 2011 election of PM Delegates. Ten delegated were elected from a field of thirteen candidates.
- Maintained an active and up to date Region 2 web site. Schooling shows, clinics and educational programs are updated at a minimum every month.
- Region 2 selected as the first test site for the USDF Youth Clinic and Talent Search with the USEF National Youth Coach Jeremy Steinberg. The clinic will be held March 26 – 27, 2011, at Tempel Farms in Wadsworth, Illinois.
- Region 2 fielded complete teams for both the USDF FEI Junior and Young Rider teams. The Junior team consisted of: Rosemary Julian-Samos, Allison Gerit, Matthew Manibusen and Megan Wisniewski. The Young Rider team consisted of: Jennifer Harding, Victoria Retamoza, Emily Wright and Katie Foster.
- Six GMOs contributed to the 2011 NAYRC Region 2 team generating \$1,200.00. Thank you to the GMOs that contributed (Mid-West Dressage Association, Indiana Dressage Association, Northern Ohio Dressage Association, Kentucky Dressage Association, Glass-Ed and Centerline Dressage). In addition, thank you to Sue Hughes and Legacy Farm Dressage for their individual contributions to the Region 2 team.
- Established 2012 Region 2 Regional Championship Selection Committee. In addition to the Regional Director, the following individuals have agreed to serve on the committee: Sue Mandas, Gail Anderson, Deb Heier and Nancy Lewis-Stanton. Upon close of the submission date for Regional Championship candidates we had three candidates to evaluate. The committee selected KDA and the Kentucky Horse Park as the venue for the 2012 Region 2 Championships. The 2012 competition will

be held October 11 – 14, 2012. Sheila Woerth from KDA has put together a development plan for improvement to the Dressage Complex at the KHP. The plan is to be completed in two phases and the region has been assured the committee has contingency plans in the event that delays in construction occur.

- Dancing Horse Farms conducted parts A, B and C (January, March and May) for the USDF “L” program. Parts D1 and D2 are being scheduled for 2012.
- On October 2, 2011, the Region 2 Director conducted a telephone conference call for all GMO Presidents and Region 2 PM Delegates. The 1-hour conference call was very successful with the majority of the call focused on the development of educational programs. A Region 2 Education Committee will be created and a few individuals offered to help staff the committee. It was proposed that in 2012 we not do a riding clinic (due to Adult Clinic) but consider conducting a non-riding educational program. An interesting concept was discussed where we could conduct an educational program and use live-streaming video to make the clinic available to Region 2 members (and maybe others) by simply logging on to a web portal. The Education Committee will further develop this concept.
- In 2012, Lake Erie College will be the host for the USDF Adult Clinic. The clinician will be Lilo Fore. We will do quite of bit of promotion via the Region 2 web site, the Region 2 newsletter and through a direct email campaign to the Region 2 GMOs.
- Region 2 submitted one candidate to the USEF Youth Sportsman’s Award. This year’s Region 2 candidate is Faith Evans. We all wish Faith best of luck and believe that she is a well-rounded candidate with a wide range of equestrian experience and excellent academic performance.
- Successful 2011 Region 2 Championships held September 22-25, at Majestic Farms (Batavia, OH). Approximately 380 horses competing in the Championship classes. The weather was cold with rain two of the four days of competition. Competition footing was excellent in spite of the weather; however the general warm-up arena was crowded.

Disappointments for Q1 2011

- Lost one GMO (Little Egypt) due to low number of members interested in competing and interest in pursuing equestrian disciplines outside of Dressage.
- The economic situation continues to negatively impact Region 2 USDF membership and competition attendance. There appears to be slight decline in recognized show attendance. However, this is slightly offset by an uptick in schooling show participation.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kenneth Levy Ph.D., MBA
USDF Region 2 Director

Region 3 Report

Director: Kimberly Taylor, FL

2011 Fall Executive Board Meeting, November 30 – December 4 San Diego, California

The Great American Championships were held October 14, 15 and 16 at HITS, in Ocala, Florida. What an amazing weekend. The weather was picture perfect with blue skies, cool temperatures and a nice breeze coming in from the ocean. Reminded all of us why we live in Florida after the sizzling hot summer we all came out of.

I was in awe of all the nice horses that came to the competition for the Great American Championship classes and the open show. We had a good turn out and I was not aware of any problems with the competitors except for some lighting issues with a couple of the barns, the sound system was turned down, but was turned up when brought to attention of the grounds keeper.

We had a record turn-out of volunteers to help. There was a bit of confusion in the office on the first day, directing the volunteers in what direction they needed to go. But on into the second day, they had their groove on working thru what the scope of their responsibilities were. Some not ever being around horses did a wonderful job. I want to say a big thank you to all who came; we could not have pulled this show off, if it had not been for our volunteers!

Vendors Row was spectacular with great shopping that met the needs of the competitors. It also had Amerika horse, the equine simulator (mechanical horse) where riders could ride each gate and feel like they were on their own horse, even do flying changes. The mechanical horse was enjoyed by young and old. Shadow Trailers (Novia West LLC), sponsored Amerika the Ultimate School horse.

I would like to say a special thank you to our sponsors: GREAT AMERICAN INSURANCE GROUP/Smart Pak/ Merial/ Mathew Dunn/ Shadow Trailers/Kesmarc of Florida/ A.J. Stapleton & Top Brass Farm/ Bess Darrow, DVM IAED/ Brent Barrett, DVM, CJF/Diamonte Farm of Wellington, Florida.

The holders of tickets to the VIP tent enjoyed the classical guitar music of Steve Ferrell.

The competitor's party on Thursday, at KESMARC of Florida, gave demonstrations of the services offered to our equine companions. Friday featured ZUMBA Latin dances by Heaven Colon, and vocal music by Jodi Olshina, as well as the silent auction to benefit STIRRUPS N STRIDES THERAUPUTIC RIDING. Saturday night was decorate your own table with a theme using apples and different fall decorations. The music was provided by Walt Dover, plus wonderful food with bids on the best table decorations. This raised money for Paws for Patriots (Southeastern Guide Dogs). Friday we had music by Jodi Olshina, and Saturday was the Silent Auction with music by Walt Dover.

This was my first Championships as Regional Director; I want to personally thank Donna Rocchetti from USDF for coming down. She helped guide me in my responsibilities and helped make the show a success.

I want to say it has been a great year as Regional Director. I am looking forward to the convention in San Diego. I hope to do some brain storming with attendees from Region 3 on Championships. To see how we can grow attendance and make the show run like a well oiled machine. Putting great minds together should produce great ideas. I would also like to touch the topic of growth within GMO's to meet the needs of our members.

We also will be discussing the vote on the National Championship for USDF to be held in Lexington, Kentucky. This is exciting within itself!

We have a lot of amazing things happening out in the field of Dressage. I feel we are on the door step of great things happening in our sport. I am proud to be a part of such a wonderful sport.

I am looking forward to this 2012 competition year. I look forward to seeing you out there at the shows, clinics and symposiums.

Safe riding, remember to wear a helmet even if you are a seasoned competitor, it makes it cool for the younger ones coming up in the sport!

Cheers!
Kimmie Taylor
Region 3 Director
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Region 4 Report

Director: Lloyd Landkamer, MN

2011 Fall Executive Board Meeting, November 30 – December 4 San Diego, California

2011 has been the Year of Communication for Region 4.

We launched our bulk email system (USDF Region 4 E-news) to 1648 subscribers. This is a huge percentage of the dressage population within the region. Information has included posting of qualifying competitions and dates (now for 2012) for USEF Championships and the NAJYRC.

The Facebook page “USDFRegionFour” has proven to be a favorite for members and interested parties. Debbie Walkinshaw (debbiechris@gmail.com) will help in the administration of the page.

Upgrade to the Region 4 Web site is in process. It will include the posting of the GMO newsletters for everyone to read. There will be a calendar installed so that people can post clinics and other educational activities for everyone to view online.

The committee working with the FEI Young Riders and Junior Riders are looking into how to utilize the USDF credit card processing and designated accounts to help raise funds for the 2012 season.

Nebraska Dressage Association (NDA) hosted the USDF Adult clinic with Lilo Fore on November 5-6, 2011.

CSDEA hosted the Instructor Certification Series throughout the 2011 year with a final testing planned for 2012. The three held where Lunging, Riding, and Teaching. The clinics where organized by Colleen Holden of Minneapolis.

Kansas City Dressage Association continues with the L program that started in 2010.

DSHB shows have been developed throughout the region with a finals competition held at the Region 4 Championships. The series finals classes each boasted \$500 prize money to be paid out to the winners.

Two judges promoted from “r” to “R” in the last USEF R Dressage Program – Ms. Anne Cizadlo of IA and Ms. Cheryl Holekamp of MO.

Region 5 Report

Director: Heather Petersen, CO

2011 Fall Executive Board Meeting, November 30 – December 4 San Diego, California

We've had a busy year in Region 5 as usual and while some folks are wrapping up their show season in the northern parts of Region 5, others in the southern part of Region 5 are just gearing up for their major competition season. The USDF/Great American Region 5 Championships are still to come as I write this report. They will take place November 4-6, in Scottsdale, Arizona and I'm looking forward to my first trip to the Arizona venue! Next year we will try a new site and move the Regional Championships to Utah.

Our NAJYRC teams did very well again in 2011! Our Young Riders brought home the Team Gold Medal and our Juniors brought home the Team Bronze Medal. In the Junior Individual Test, Devon Wycoff with Power Play finished 4th and Brook Santangelo with Daylight finished 9th. In the Young Rider Individual Test, Brandi Roenick with Pretty Lady finished 2nd and Maddi Birch with Uoeri finished 8th. In the Junior Freestyle, Brook Santangelo with Daylight finished 4th and Devon Wycoff with Power Play finished 7th. In the Young Rider Freestyle, Brandi Roenick with Pretty Lady finished 4th and Maddi Birch with Uoeri finished 5th. Congratulations to all who worked so hard to make the team and to all our team members.

Some of the other events that have taken place in our Region this year:

- USDF Adult and Youth Team Championships. These were held July 30-31, in Berthoud, Colorado. The show was well attended and the team atmosphere was great. Everyone had a lot of fun and learned quite a bit too.
- USDF Junior / Young Rider Clinic held October 22-23, at Stellar Stables in Parker, Colorado. The clinician again this year was George Williams. Our local youth love working with George and continually ask for him to come back. Although applications were slow to come in, the clinic ended up being full and there were a nice amount of auditors. Food sale proceeds went to the FEI Junior/Young Riders and will help with the fundraising efforts for the 2012 NAJYRC.
- USDF Region 5 Lifetime Achievement Awards. We received two nominations this year and both were very worthy individuals, so it was decided to award both of them with this honor. One presentation will be made at the Regional Championships and the other one will be made at the USDF convention.

Our Region 5 Nominating Committee member, Kay Lorenzen, had a busy spring working to get our 2011 Participating Member Delegates. Twelve names were submitted to run as PM Delegates for our region. The intent was to obtain as many candidates from as many of our states as possible so that the entire Region has good representation. Of the twelve names submitted, eight accepted the nomination and appeared on the ballot. The results were 3 delegates from Colorado, 1 delegate from Utah and 1 delegate from Arizona.

Many of our regional GMOS have been busy also. Here are updates from a few of them:

Paso del Norte Dressage Society

We have been trying to recruit new members by holding our dressage schooling shows in conjunction with the Las Cruces Hunter/Jumper shows. This has been a successful endeavor. Our annual Amigos de Dressage show held in May to benefit Therapeutic Horseman's of El Paso (THEP) was held at Sunland Park Racetrack. We raised \$1500 for THEP. Club members held clinics with Hans Biss, Tracey Lert, and Ellie Stine-Masek. In addition, Seana Adamson is coming for a clinic November 12 -13. Paso del Norte Dressage received a grant from the Dressage Foundation to hold a mini-dressage camp December 16-18, 2011, with Sarah Martin (USDF Certified Instructor and L Program Graduate). The camp is for our newer members or those new to dressage that have not shown a lot. We hope to bring more individuals to the opportunity classes we are offering at our annual rated show. It will be held once again in May at Sunland Park Racetrack for 2012. Christine Hastings will be our judge. Not bad for a little club of around 40 members!

Rocky Mountain Dressage Society

RMDS is a large GMO of 869 members with its central office located in Boulder, Colorado. It is always a challenge to engage this many members as they are so diverse geographically.

Annually, we support a continuing education program for judges, especially the 'L' graduates, which is open to everyone to audit and we had a great turnout for 2011 with presenter Sandy Hotz. We also have a Show Managers/Technical Delegates clinic where we encourage all show managers to come. We review the proper way to run a show and emphasize the new rules for the coming year. This year we met in Castle Rock, Colorado with instructor Laurie Mactavish for the TD portion and Heather Petersen, Camille Griffin and Laura Speer for the Show Management portion. There was an additional clinic this year hosted by the Wasatch Chapter in Utah that was taught by Eva Adolphi and Heather Petersen.

RMDS recognizes shows, which are considered schooling shows in most areas, but have a few more stringent requirements. We recognize these shows and include them in our year-end awards program and RMDS Championship qualifying criteria. This allows our 'L' graduates an opportunity be able to judge actual shows and also provides for our RMDS Technical Delegate program. To qualify to become an RMDS TD, you must attend the Show Managers/Technical Delegates clinic, apprentice with a minimum of two USEF TD's and take a written exam. This program is highly successful and some of the people have continued on into the USEF ranks.

RMDS has two large shows per year, one in the spring/early summer and the other in the fall (Championships); the rest of the shows in the area are run by individuals or by businesses.

We encourage clinics, seminars and anything else educational that wants to come to the area or someone wants to put on.

Tucson Dressage Club

Tucson Dressage Club is a small (145 members), but very active club. We have seven recognized shows, and a full schooling show schedule (nine shows this year). We are hosting the Arizona State Championships this year also. We also do a lectures series as part of our educational program. This year we held a horse health day with presentations from a nutritionist, massage therapist, farrier, and veterinarian. We also had presentations on show preparation, equine nutritional supplements and equine colic. Our fundraising program included an "Evening at the Theater" and silent auction. We have recently started a new program for our juniors and young riders. Our representative will be at the annual convention this year also. Our awards banquet will be in February 2012 and we are planning a riding clinic, as well as the lecture series next year.

Utah Dressage Society

In 2011, UDS held a Freestyle Clinic in January, followed by a "Meet the Tests" Clinic in March which was well-attended and made use of the new Wasatch Event Center. We also created and produced the wildly successful "Short Tour Series," which garnered 25 new members, and allowed many of our members to experience showing without the umbrella of expenses found at USDF and USEF competitions.

UDS updated the bylaws, rules and procedures; streamlined the accounting and membership records; and improved the newsletter and brought it online. We applied for and received approval for 501-c-(3) status for the organization.

The UDS had a "Town Hall Meeting" to discuss the future of the annual show. This may have been the single largest turnout for an event that didn't require participants to arrive towing a loaded horse trailer! In addition, so far this year the Board has managed to increase the UDS coffers by 46 percent and in a economic downturn, we've managed to increase our membership from about 150 members to just under 200. And we're not done yet!

Next April, Lilo Fore will be in Utah for the first ever USDF Adult Amateur Clinic in this part of Region 5. August brings us the 40th Anniversary of the UDS Annual Show which started before there were recognized dressage tests in the US. In October, we will continue the "First Ever" theme by co-hosting the Regional Championships.

It's been an active year with many "First Evers" that we intend to continue through 2012.

Region 6 Report

Director: Donna Longacre, WA

2011 Fall Executive Board Meeting, November 30 – December 4 San Diego, California

Region 6 and NW Dressage Championship Show

The highlight of the year was a very well run and successful Championship show in Nampa, Idaho in late September. The show was blessed with good attendance and glorious late summer weather! There were many positive comments from the competitors concerning the Idaho venue, plus there were several special evening activities including a Welcome BBQ sponsored by Whidbey Equestrian Center, and a Regional social and dance evening sponsored by Region 6 and the Idaho Dressage and Eventing Association.

The trade fair was great and conveniently located, so many competitors were able to stop, shop and socialize as they passed through on their way between the office and the stabling.

The Dressage NW Management Team produces the annual show. Kudos go to Show Manager Rose Newman and her staff who have done an outstanding job producing a top notch competition opportunity for our Region 6 members.

GMO's

Several GMO's have been busy hosting volunteer training sessions for their members. There was also a Show Biz session offered for show managers that are new and/or those just needing a refresher course to keep up with rule changes.

ODS is always going above and beyond in serving the needs of their members. They organized and sponsored a very successful USDF L Education Program Part 1 in the spring of 2011 with 30 candidates, and many more auditors benefited from the information of these three sessions. The program was hosted by Devonwood Equestrian Center which boasts a great classroom and multimedia experience, as well as a connected indoor arena.

Equestrian's Institute does an outstanding job of offering a full schedule of well run competitions in the greater Seattle area for our Region's dressage competitors. They also sponsored a USDF L Education Program Part 2, with Sessions held in Oregon, Washington and a final exam in Sacramento, California. The program was very successful with all eight candidates from Region 6 passing the program, two as graduates and six passing with distinction.

Adult Education

ODS is the sponsoring organization for the 2012 Adult Education Clinic Series. The event is scheduled for November 10-11, 2012, at DevonWood EC, Sherwood, Oregon. Be sure to watch the ODS website for more information closer to the event.

NEW- Adult Leadership Teleconference Series

Region 6 is sponsoring a monthly teleconference workshop with Life Coach Cathy Rivers of Big Horse Dreams. Cathy has a great way of paralleling horse training to life issues. Perfect for the horseman that would like to understand people half as well as they do their horse! An example of topics to be discussed are Developing Teamwork, End Barn Drama, and the Joy of Giving. Information is on our Region 6 Facebook page.

NAJYRC

Region 6 sent a full team of Juniors to NAJYRC Championships in Kentucky and were proud to once again bring home the Gold medal. Sadie Lahey and her mount Up to Date P showed their character and tenacity by overcoming several health challenges to win it all and bring home the Gold.

Molly Eastridge's mount Ruger overcame challenges, and was nominated for the "Horse Power Award" (for the horse that shows courage and inspires people).

The two grooms that attended reportedly worked tirelessly with great attitudes, and plan on drawing from the experience in order to be prepared competitors themselves in the future.

The Region is very grateful to Chef de Equip Kate Shoemaker who did a fantastic job of keeping the kids and horses healthy; kids, parents and grooms organized; and promoting the importance of team spirit. Her dedication to the team, as well as extraordinarily good horsemanship was directly responsible for the success of the team. She also stepped in as acting Coordinator for Emma Dye who had to step down mid season due to other commitments, and was very active in helping the kids with several fundraising efforts.

Youth

The second annual Region 6 Youth Camp was sponsored by ODS and held July 5-7, at DevonWood Equestrian Centre. This year's camp served 56 kids between the ages of 8 and 21 from Washington, Oregon, and Idaho. A big "Thank You" goes to Instructors Meredith Crawford, Shaun Meyers, Heather Oleson, Natalie Perry, Jessica Rattner, Nikki Grandia, and Morgan Barrows who worked tirelessly over the course of the weekend. Educational presentations were also given by several top rated professionals including Katie Twombly, Dr. Mark Revenaugh, Allison Brunelli, and Barbara Tuohino-Funk. Many thanks go to the instructors, speakers, and sponsors who made this event possible. Proceeds of the camp go to support the Region 6 Young Rider program and NAJYRC Team.

Plans for 2012 include moving the Oregon camp to August 6-9, immediately prior to the Glisan Street Jr/YR Team Championships. There are also plans to add a Washington and an Idaho camp and several "day clinics" in order to allow for easier access and increased participation throughout the Region.

RYDRs (Regional Youth Dressage Riders)

RYDR is a new youth program designed to provide a way to locate and communicate with our dedicated young riders of all ages, give them the opportunity to be seen and coached by some of the best instructors/trainers in the industry, develop camaraderie at all levels, and provide a venue for previous Advanced Young Riders to give back and/or mentor new upcoming talent. Proceeds of the program go to support the development of

the youth program in the Region, as well as those riders selected to represent the Region at the NAJYRC. There is a nominal membership fee which can easily be recouped thru discounts at various Regional events.

Region 6 Mini-Convention

Sponsored by Equestrian Institute and held November 19, at the Northwest Arts Center in the beautiful Bellevue, Washington area, north of Seattle. The event is held in conjunction with the EI Annual Business Meeting and Awards Banquet. Several guest speakers as well as EI's very popular used tack sale make the day complete.

Region 7 Report

Director: Terry Wilson, CA

2011 Fall Executive Board Meeting, November 30 – December 4 San Diego, California

It has been business as usual in Region 7 this year. Even with the areas' economic problems, shows, clinics, and educational activities have been conducted for the various GMO members.

The Aloha State Dressage Society held rated open shows with top judges in April, August, and September and a Junior/Young Rider team championship in October. Unfortunately, the June show had to be cancelled due to thunderstorms, a possibly dangerous situation for Oahu. The Awards Banquet and the rider biomechanics clinic were special events for ASDS.

The Hawaii State Dressage Society on Maui and the Hawaii Isle Dressage and Eventing Association on Hilo also had many activities for their riders. They each feature a Facebook page so members can share ideas and learn about plans.

The Dressage Association of Southern California keeps its members notified of activities and shows through its award-winning web site and its Facebook. They offer volunteer incentives and awards for trainer, student, volunteer, show manager, and show venue of the year.

Although DASC only conducts one show a year, it recognizes many shows sponsored by private equestrian centers. Members can qualify for the September DASC Championship at these venues. This year, Materiale classes for 3, 4, and 5 year olds were added to the list of classes.

Information packets on how to start a team and how to judge a quadrille are available from the California Quadrille Association along with a lot of CQA merchandise. This small GMO continues to try to get new members and to support the quadrilles performing in Region 7.

The California Dressage Society began the year on the Queen Mary with its 44th Annual Meeting and then focused its attention on the activities designed for each segment of its membership. The three Amateur clinics, which featured lessons and discussions, were conducted this year by Donna Richardson, who, in the words of one of the riders, was "kind, direct, and quick to get to the heart of each rider and horse's weaknesses." Amateur riders also had the opportunity to compete in one of the three Regional Adult Amateur Competitions. These shows have more entries each season (180 this year) as they gain popularity with those members who do not wish to compete against the elite riders at the open shows in California.

In addition to the hundreds of rated shows held in 2011, riders of every level had the opportunity to compete at the nine CDIs and the CDS/GAIG/USDF Region 7 Championships. This year the CDS portion of the show was sponsored by

Horseshow.com and featured special media coverage. During the event when press releases were being sent out, more than 200 new friends joined Facebook. One of the special features of this show is the CDS Futurity. More age divisions were added with total prize money of \$9200 for all age divisions and \$5000 for the Cal Bred horses.

Over 130 Juniors and Young Riders attended their championships in both Northern and Southern California. These shows offered special events for the youngsters and their families. Michele Vaughn, who has taken over the Jr/YR scene for both CDS and USDF Region 7, produced a Junior website link, a Junior newsletter, and a subcommittee of Junior representatives to the show committee. She also organized the fundraising, and the qualification and participation in NAJYRC. This year's teams did well, and all the riders wrote interesting articles for Dressage Letters.

The Platinum Performance/USDF Region 7 youth clinic with National coach Jeremy Steinberg is to be held at Michele Vaughn's Starr Vaughn Equestrian Center in November.

There are many instructors and trainers in Region 7. In addition, many special visitors conduct clinics. In 2011, some of these clinicians included Jane Bartles-Wilson, Stephan Kiesewetter, Conrad Schumacher, Adreas Hausberger, Herbert Seiberi, and Mary Wanless.

The CDS Scholarship and Travel Grant Funds helped defray expenses for many members who took their horses east or who needed financial help to ride with a special instructor. In addition to the \$10,000 travel grant given for the trip to NAJYRC, four individuals and two CDS Chapters were given scholarships.

Many California riders competed nationally in the Markel Young Horse Finals and the Festival of Champions. Steffen Peters and Marissa Festerling are going to be competing at the Pan American Games.

Finally, CDS wants all the convention delegates to note its 45th anniversary logo, which was selected from 32 designs submitted to the Society. The logo will be on display at the welcome party along with the birthday cake.

Region 8 Report

Director: Fern Feldman, CT

2011 Fall Executive Board Meeting, November 30 – December 4 San Diego, California

Congratulations to Lendon Gray, this year's USDF inductee into the Hall of Fame. And, congratulation to Ann Guptill, USDF's newest examiner for the USDF Instructor/Trainer program. Go Region 8!!

The USDF Adult Clinic Series, featuring clinician Lilo Fore, was held in Region 8 October 22-23, 2011, at Sugar Hill Farm in Victor, New York. We are thrilled that there were over 75 auditors, and that we were able to locate this clinic near Rochester, New York—not the usual hub of Region 8 clinics. I know that area is strong in dressage, and runs some wonderful clinics (in fact, USDF President George Williams has been seen in the Cazenovia, New York area more than once!), but we were especially pleased that we could locate this major USDF event there. A special thanks to Betsy Kubiak, owner of the facility and her crew, and to Deb Borra, President of WNYDA. Even better, the three strong GMO's of that area—WNYDA, CNYDCTA and CAYUGA—all worked together to support this program. Thanks so much to all of them. The riders were: Bobbie Coats, Chad Basile, Maribeth Absi, Regina Cristo, Mark Weissbecker, Jean Kopperud, Carol Heckman, and Susan Barisone, Gilson.

This from Deb Borra:

I just wanted to follow up and let you know that the Region 8 Adult Clinic with Lilo Fore was a huge hit this past weekend up in this area. I have received multiple emails through the USDF office from various people (riders and auditors) thanking them/us for sending Lilo and for such a wonderful clinic. Since I suspect it was you that was behind funneling this to us - I thought you should know what a great thing this was for our members and the surrounding horse community. There was an overlap in disciplines that attended (i.e. eventers, hunters, etc all came) from the other clubs up this way as well.

We had just about 100 auditors and eight riders (and their grooms/family) , multiple students from Houghton College who came to help us set up the ring and chairs (USDF gave them daily passes) . That was a really cherished opportunity for the Houghton students who are all GMO members and huge supporters/volunteers of and for WNYDA, but ordinarily never could have afforded to audit - so they were thrilled.

My board members really worked well together on this and it was truly exactly the infusion of energy and professionalism that was sorely needed in these parts.

If there is something you want to send our way again - I assure you - it will be put to good use and very much appreciated.

Dressage4Kids, Inc. hosted Lendon's Youth Dressage Festival again in July at HITS, Saugerties, New York. The show was the largest ever, but, because the team is so seasoned, it probably was one of the smoothest running events we've had. We had over 250 entries with six divisions of USDF teams (approximately ten teams per division). One of our highlights is our Parade of Teams after the Saturday night dinner: all the kids march in, in team format and dress, for the announcement of the winning teams. It really is a wonderful spectacle. At the dinner, we also have all the judges speak at the dinner to the entire assemblage, briefly speaking of their thoughts on the weekend, whether it is

a piece of advice, an observation on the quality they are seeing, or whatever they feel is important to share.

Our Region 8 Championships, run by the experienced NEDA team (headed by USDF's Vice-President Beth Jenkins), were very well-attended. NEDA uses their extensive volunteer base, their ability to attract and hire excellent judges, and the HITS show grounds to run a professional and high-talent competition. I know that at some point, NEDA will hope to have the show grounds to themselves, so that the competitors can enjoy more convenient stabling and competition rings. The issue always is the tight calendar for both the HITS jumper shows and our dressage shows: just not enough weeks in the August/September months!

The usual kudos to Debbie Reinhardt and her Centerline Events group. They manage many of our recognized shows in Region 8, and are always looking to provide us with quality competitions. I know both judges and competitors are pleased when asked to officiate or able to compete.

In a departure from my usual format, I asked the various GMO's if they would like to submit their own news. The following entries were submitted:

CAYUGA DRESSAGE and COMBINED TRAINING

Submitted by: Carol Morris, President, CDCT, Inc.

January: Meeting with WNYDA and Central NYDCTA to discuss increased collaboration among the upstate GMO's, including an awards program to encourage participation in each others' shows, both at the schooling and recognized levels.

April: Adult camp with Margaret Freeman, including lessons, discussions of the new tests, video-based discussions, and good food and drink.

June: Recognized DSHB show June 18 and schooling show June 19.

September: 2-day recognized show, which was run as a fund-raiser for Reins of Hope, a local therapeutic riding center.

We produced a calendar of photographs of local farriers working on a variety of breeds of horses, which is being sold to raise money both for Reins of Hope and for CDCT.

Additionally, club members have sponsored clinics with Vitor Silva and David Thind. While these are not sponsored by the GMO, they offer GMO members and others interested in dressage an opportunity to train with world-class instructors, and also serve to attract new members to the GMO.

CENTRAL VERMONT DRESSAGE ASSOCIATION

Submitted by: Terri Satterlee, President, CVDA

Central Vermont Dressage Association (CVDA) conducted a New Test Clinic with Janet Foy in April to prepare members for show season. CVDA's focus this year has been to provide educational opportunities at an affordable cost to members. Clinics were subsidized so affordable rates could be offered and auditing has been extended to all free of charge. We have offered two "Back to Basics" clinics which were very well

received with participants ranging from those with green young horses to those working on a specific training issue -such as lengthenings or flying changes.

The Adult Camp was a highly successful event in June - riders not only were able to participate in a standard lesson but were also able to join in a musical exploration and quadrille session with their horses. Supplemental educational sessions including Rider Fitness and Biomechanics were also included.

CVDA has conducted three Schooling Shows which was challenging due to the tropical storm which compromised 166 VT roadways right before our Fall Schooling Show. We were able to change the venue in time and those able came to participate.

In August we held the 10th and final Kathy Mann Memorial Clinic featuring Cindy Sydnor as the clinician. This clinic also contained an educational lecture/demo on "Conformation of the Dressage Horse."

Our last event before our Annual Meeting in October is a "Gymnasticizing Your Horse" with Joe Forest clinic using cavelletti and gymnasticizing exercises in a group lesson format.

Mary Piro will be the incoming president for 2012.

SOUTHERN NEW HAMPSHIRE DRESSAGE and COMBINED TRAINING ASSOCIATION

We had a record year at SNHDCTA in 2011. Here is a list of some of our activities.

- January- Awarded a grant to Upreach for its work in therapeutic riding.
- March-Annual Meeting - we invited Yvonne Coleman-Larsen (L) to come discuss the changes in the dressage tests. Yvonne trains and shows locally and was very helpful in walking our members through the changes in the tests. We also unveiled our new line of SNHDCTA gear which included saddle pads, polo's, and t-shirts.
- April- We began our season with a Ride-Review-Ride with clinician Leslie de Grandmaison (L). Echo Ridge Farm in Lee, New Hampshire hosted and there was a nice mix of both Junior and Adult participants.
- May-Stuart Pittman returned for our popular CT clinic hosted by Green Acres Farm in Madbury, New Hampshire. This clinic actually was so well attended we are bringing him back in 2012 for a third year. Many of our junior riders participate in both dressage and combined training.
- June-Lois Yukins was the clinician for our Dressage clinic. Lois is an FEI ("I") and USEF ("S") dressage judge. This was held at Atkinson Riding Academy in Atkinson New Hampshire. The clinic was very well attended even though there were several recognized shows in the New England region the same weekend.
- July-Our summer schooling show was held at The University of New Hampshire. In addition to Judge Jerilyn Neider (r) we had to hire a second judge, local trainer Gail Harrington, to accommodate the demand for classes.
- Dressage for Kids-For the second year we had a junior member represent the club at the Youth Dressage Festival in Saugerties at the HITS showground.
- September-Our fall show was held at Oak Rise Farm in Goffstown, New Hampshire and again we had to add a second ring and judge to accommodate the request for classes. Our judges were Willette Brown (L) and Yvonne Coleman-Larsen (L).

- November-We will hold our Annual Banquet and Awards Ceremony. Last November we had a record turnout and anticipate the same this year.

The most satisfying part of 2011 has been taking a club that was nearly extinct three years ago and now being faced with the challenge of running clinics and shows which have doubled in attendance. We have rebuilt our Board, rebuilt our membership, and are looking forward to an exciting 2012 season. The club is very proud of its success and the variety of clinicians and venues we offered to our members this past season.

CENTRAL NEW YORK DRESSAGE and COMBINED TRAINING ASSOCIATION

Submitted by: Susan Camp

CNYDCTA was quite the activity center this year. We teamed up with Cayuga and Western to create a joint awards program. Those awards will be given out as part of the 2011 awards. A rider/horse team must have shown in at least two GMO shows to earn the award.

We hosted a dressage camp with two clinicians and twelve riders at Cazenovia College. Emma Griffen and Donna Young were instructors supreme for the August Camp.

Additionally, we hosted two schooling shows, one combined test and dressage show, one mock horse trials with associated tack sale, multiple clinics including a sport horse in-hand clinic and an informal show to open the season.

ORANGE COUNTY DRESSAGE ASSOCIATION

Submitted by: Donna Rose, member

- Held "Learn the New Tests" with Margaret Freeman in March.
- Two schooling shows - April and August.
- One rated show in July.
- Clinic for lower level riders in September.

EASTERN NEW YORK DRESSAGE and COMBINED TRAINING ASSOCIATION

Submitted by: Regina Cristo, President, ENYDCTA

Great Dressage Clinic with Kathy Rowse from Virginia and Lendon Gray from New York. Unmounted Clinic USDF New Tests featuring Judge Margaret Freeman. It was very well attended and was a huge success!

Dressage at Saratoga 2011 entries were the same as 2010 which we thought was great. \$6,000 in cash and prizes from generous sponsors. Beautiful venue and nice weather made for a really nice weekend!

Member get together at a local tack store. Owner provided snacks/wine/soft drinks for a discounted member shopping night. It turned out to be really fun and a very social night!

Year end Volunteer BBQ to thank all who helped out this season, as well as our Awards Banquet and Elections in November!

We have plans for some programs this winter and clinics in the spring.

We in the past have had a series of Schooling shows throughout the season, but our area seems to have a lot of them, which is great for our members, so we did not have our series this year.

CONNECTICUT DRESSAGE and COMBINED TRAINING ASSOCIATION

Submitted by: Cheryl Mathewson, President, CDCTA

- **BOARD OF DIRECTORS:** The CDCTA Board meets monthly. At one meeting this year, we invited a lawyer to review our constitution and bylaws and to discuss conflict of interest contracts.
- **SCHOLARSHIP MONEY:** CDCTA awarded \$1,500 in scholarship money to deserving members this year. This money can be used for lessons, clinics or other educational opportunities that members select.
- **LESSON MONEY:** Names of members who volunteer at CDCTA activities are put into a bi-monthly drawing and winners are awarded \$100 to be used towards their riding lessons.
- **CLUB RUN SHOWS:** CDCTA organized two dressage and combined training schooling shows this year and one USDF recognized dressage show. All shows were well attended!
- **YEAR-END AWARDS:** At the annual awards luncheon, junior, amateur and professional members are recognized for their accomplishments in dressage and combined training divisions. Outstanding volunteers are also recognized for their efforts at this time.
- **WEBSITE and MONTHLY NEWSLETTER:** Cdctaonline.com is kept updated for members to easily locate all information for CDCTA activities and a calendar of local events. Members also receive a monthly electronic newsletter. A monthly submission about CDCTA is sent to The Pedlar, a regional magazine that all club members receive.
- **SILENT AUCTION:** The silent auction is the club's big social event and fundraiser of the year that boasts many quality horse and non-horse items. Attendees have an evening with good horse people and great deals!
- **ERNIE:** How many clubs have their very own horse? CDCTA's horse, Ernie, is available for lease on a rotating basis. Members can read Ernie's blog on the club website.
- **NEW CLUB SHIRTS:** We recently redesigned our club logo and ordered dry weave shirts. These are proving to be very popular!
- **CLINICS:** CDCTA organized a dressage, cross-country and stadium clinic for members and non-members. We work with professional trainers at quality facilities to bring our members the best experiences possible!
- **CDCTA TEAM:** CDCTA sponsored a team at the annual Northeast Regional Adult Amateur Dressage Championships held at a USDF recognized dressage show in October. In both 2010 and 2011, the team placed first bringing much pride to the club!
- **EMERGENCY CONTACT LIST:** Our most recent initiative is to sign up members for an emergency contact list for use in emergency trailering situations.

CONNECTICUT DRESSAGE ASSOCIATION

Submitted by: Chris Rogers Aquilio, President, CDA

CDA has an annual Omnibus that contains all the programs and information for the year. We do a series of schooling shows, and have awards for both these and recognized shows for our members—presented at our annual awards party in late January. We had a popular clinic on a Riding Simulator; a “Balance Your Frame and Frame of Mind” clinic, and a “Strategies for the New 2011 Dressage Tests” clinic. Our newsletter is monthly, and our website is active. Our Board meets monthly to plan the activities that we feel our members will enjoy.

Region 9 Report

Director: Bess Reineman, TX

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Nicole Landrenau, the regional webmaster, is doing an excellent job with keeping the Region 9 website updated so our members stay informed. The goal is for an all inclusive website to benefit our GMO's and participating members. Banner ads are offered, and we now accept credit cards for all transactions. Also, check out Region 9 on Facebook.

The Region 9 Summer Meeting in Galveston, Texas was productive and fun. The Tremont Hotel set the precedence for future regional meeting hotel sites. Thanks to Houston Dressage Society for their work and support in making it a success. Regional and GMO reports, along with the summer meeting minutes and financial statements are posted on the Region 9 website.

Though the region is financially stable, one very important aspect that came out of the meeting is Region 9 setting up an emergency fund for future use...in case of an economic downfall.

Fund raising was the hot topic at the meeting, with some excellent brainstorming and proposals going forward.

Both our Youth and Adult Amateur Committees are working towards new goals to give back to those two very important member groups. Funds have been established for each group. Thanks to Alan Fox for his contribution to the Adult Amateur Fund, and to Mary Wetzel for her donation of the Youth Fund.

A full slate of PM and GM delegates are going to the USDF convention, prepared to represent our members.

Our 2012 Summer Meeting will be in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, with Oklahoma Dressage Society as host. These meetings are very important for our region's GMOs and members to get together to brainstorm, discuss, and plan the future of our region so dressage will continue to grow.

Region 9 was the name sponsor for the regions first CDI in eons. Region 9 CDI was held in April, at Great Southwest Equestrian Center. Thanks to Houston Dressage Society, and the many volunteers from around the region for a very successful show. Plans are already in the works for next year's CDI – the last weekend in April.

We are gearing up for a huge (record breaking number of riders / horses) Region 9 GAIG/USDF/SWDC (four day) Championship Show in Katy, Texas. Kathy Jones, HDS, and the show committee have worked long hours planning and preparing. It is an arduous task to say the least. Over 100 volunteers (along with hopefully good weather) will help to make it a success. At last year's championships, there was a total of 1000 volunteer hours- FORT WORTH, ADA, BACH, CTDS, MSED, TRISTATE all sent volunteers and donated to the raffle. The clubs received a total of \$2200.

At present, over \$16,000 in sponsorship has been given for the show. The fun part of the championship show will be Saturday night – dinner and masquerade ball.

A new fund has been established in memory of Bee Pape, a life-long USDF member from Oklahoma. Bee has set the bar for enthusiasm, dedication, and love of our sport. The Bee Pape Scholarship Fund will be utilized to help the Region 9 youth.

The 16th edition of the Region 9 Omnibus - 2012 will be available by the end of November, as a PDF on the Region 9 website, or for purchase as a printed book, CD, or flash drive. Thanks to Bruce and JoHannah Lawrie and Gloria Beduhn for their patience and long hours of work.

Since our region is financially stable, we offer grants for GMO's to help with dressage camps, judges, and instructor/trainer seminars. A couple of GMO's have already applied this year for the Region 9 Educational Grant. We also offer a Region 9 GMO Board Travel Grant to help a GMO send a member to either the regional summer meeting or the USDF convention.

We have finished paying for the beautiful Region 9 Bench which proudly sits in the USDF National Education Center courtyard. Thanks again for all your support!!!!

Two major Regional Awards are given each year:

Region 9 Horse Person of the Year – its 19th year, Meg Flemming is the much deserved recipient for 2011.

Region 9 Teaching Excellence Award - its 3rd year, with congratulations to Ashley Hammill for a job well done.

The Region 9 FEI Jr/YR's were busy fundraising this year. They pay for the entry fees and give each NAJYRC rider, and the chef, funds to help with NAJYRC travel expenses. Also in the planning stages is the upcoming January 2012 FEI Jr/YR clinic with Jeremy Steinberg, at North Texas Equestrian Center.

Richard Howard just resigned as the regional rep. Thanks Richard for your dedication. Ed Lavallee is the new FEI Jr/YR regional rep, and I know he will work well in unifying the program.

The USDF Region 9 Adult Amateur Clinic with Lilo Fore will be March 2012, at Stormin' G Ranch in College Station, hosted by BACH.

Our GMOs, shows, clinics, and members remain active, offering camps, seminars, "L" Program, Judges continuing education, Youth and Adult Team competitions, and instructor certification workshops.

Thanks to all the regional board for their hard work and dedication. They keep our members informed, and make the business side of our region more effective and efficient.

