



Central Plains Dressage Society is a USDF Group Member Organization in Oklahoma. We offer dressage enthusiasts a place to learn about the sport, socialize with other dressage riders, participate in shows and clinics, and more.

Central Plains DressageNews

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East Meets West at Holiday Launch Party

Our motto: Fun, Friendly, Forward

Chris Cashel, Central Plains Dressage president, greeted a large group of members at the December holiday launch party in Claremore with a positive message: Let's move forward now and make our new GMO fun and friendly. Many Stillwater people came to the Horse of Course that evening, bringing the Eastern and Western sides of our group together. New friendships are bound to bloom in this collaborative atmosphere.

Central Plains has a unique organizational perspective: We encourage member participation through a committee-based structure. This allows members to gather a group and develop a new program or one-time event.

Chris also reminded us that "we need money in the bank." T-shirts are available, long-sleeved and regular, for \$20, and if you haven't sent your membership fee in yet, that's another good source of income for Central Plains.

Many important documents have now been uploaded to our

website, including our Bylaws and Policies and Procedures, and our Mission Statement and motto:

Mission Statement: Central Plains Dressage Society supports the dressage community by offering educational and fun activities in an encouraging environment to help advance each member's journey with her or his horse.

We believe in promoting the health and well-being of horse and rider.

We believe in fostering a supportive and friendly environment to advance dressage, western dressage and related disciplines in the region.

Our motto: Fun, Friendly, Forward



**FIRST SCHOOLING SHOW OF 2018:
JAN. 13
VALLEY VIEW**

**Shine your boots and practice
your tests!**

News in Brief

Teri Nemmers: 2017 Volunteer of the Year

Teri Nemmers was named the Great Plains Volunteer of the Year for 2017. You may recognize her as the arena gate keeper.

Teri grew up on a farm in South Dakota and had a pony or horse from the third grade until she went to college. She loved her animals and rode almost daily.

After a successful career in the Army, Teri relocated to Oklahoma from Oregon and

pursued a doctorate at Oklahoma State. She then taught in the Physical Therapy program at Langston.

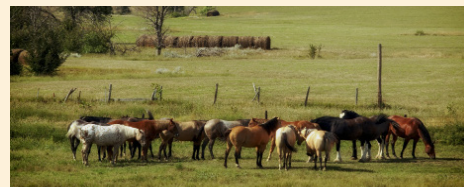
Teri stopped riding when she was in the Army, but as a volunteer at our dressage shows she can be near the horses she loves and support all the riders.

Choosing the Volunteer of the Year is always difficult because all of our volunteers are loyal and willing to endure all types of weather to help with whatever show duties they are assigned. Teri was

chosen because she volunteered for every day of all our shows except one.

Next time you enter the arena, be sure to thank Teri for her service. She is always smiling, which has a positive effect on participants and spectators alike.

Thank you, Teri!



USDF Announces New Adult Amateur Musical Freestyle Awards

Lexington, KY

The United States Dressage Federation is pleased to announce the new Adequan/USDF Adult Amateur Musical Freestyle Awards. These awards are designed to recognize adult amateur riders competing in musical freestyle, and will first be awarded in the 2018 competition year.

Awards will be given at the following levels: First, Second, Third, Fourth, Intermediate I, and Grand Prix, with the champion and reserve champion at each level receiving a commemorative award, presented at the Adequan/USDF Annual Convention.

For complete award requirements, as well as a list of all other USDF award and recognition opportunities, visit the USDF website, reference the 2018 USDF Member Guide, or contact the USDF office at awards@usdf.org.

Welcome



At the launch party, Central Plains President Chris Cashel challenged us to “win awards” in 2018. As a new GMO, that will help us establish an identity and put us on the map, so to speak.

USDF awards and other opportunities for recognition are listed on the USDF website. Take a look, plan ahead and set your goals early in the year.

Chris also said if an award doesn't exist we can create one. What about Best Photo or Best Newsletter? Inspired? Start

brainstorming at your barn or with your friends to find new challenges.

One idea that came up at the meeting was to publish a 2019 Central Plains Dressage Society calendar. I raised my hand to design it and Nancy Eytcheson signed on as project sponsor. I'll be researching this before we jump in, but right now it seems like fun and, well, an “award-winning” idea. More details soon.

Best regards,
Nancy Spring

News from Region 9

Sign up to receive Region 9's newsletter directly.

Congratulations to Region 9 Members

The 2017 Region 9 Horse Person of the Year went to Barbara Harty for her drive to advance dressage in our region. During her years as president of Fort Worth Dressage Club, Barb has been recognized for her enthusiasm, professionalism and ability to inspire others to enjoy the volunteer experience.

Martin Arnold was selected to receive the USDF Region 9 Teaching Excellence Award which is managed by The Dressage Foundation. Established by Meg Flemming, this is the eighth year this award has been presented. The recipient is awarded \$5,000 for their unique contribution to the sport of dressage.

Once again, a Region 9 youth was selected to be the USDF candidate for the US Equestrian's Youth Sportsman Award. Sixteen-year old Jackson LaTorre from the Alamo Dressage Association impressed all with his riding and humanitarian efforts.

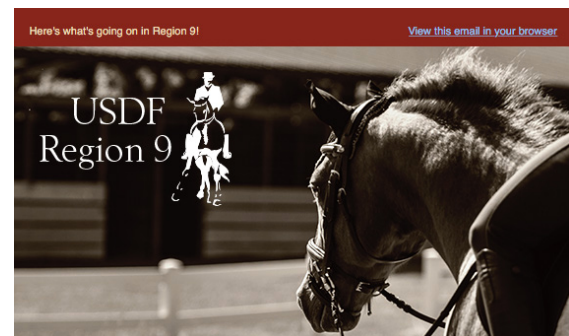
Evie Tumlin Memorial Fund

The goal of the Evie Tumlin Memorial Fund is to provide financial assistance to Adult Amateur riders who currently reside in USDF Region 9, to aid in their development in dressage.

Grants will typically range in the amount of \$250 – \$750, to be used for educational experiences that will further the applicant's knowledge of dressage and are in addition to the applicant's typical training plan. These events may include camps, clinics, riding lessons, etc.

Additional consideration will be given to riders who also participate in eventing, as well as to those who have a history of volunteer work related to dressage and/or eventing.

You can read all the USDF news at usdf.org or sign up to receive newsletters from Region 9. Go to the USDF Region 9 webpage at <http://www.usdfregion9.org> and click on the green button. New information is usually posted around the 15th of the month.



Central Plains DressageNews

The newsletter of the
Central Plains Dressage Society

www.centralplainsdressage.org

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