

## NOTES FROM MRNA PRESIDENT MARDEE SWANSON

It seems like it should be May 30. I am not for sure where the summer has gone, but it most certainly disappeared in a hurry. Many compliments to the pageant committee's, style show committee, luncheon committee, and all who were involved with the pageant for the Miss Rodeo Nebraska 2009 and Miss Teen Rodeo Nebraska 2008. A special Thank You to Jerry Hoff and his helper Jody Smith who did an outstanding job with the new photogenic concept. Kristen MRN 2008 and Tammy MTRN 2007 were kept very busy from the time NEBRASKALand Days started until it was over, and they both made us very proud. Congratulations to our Lady-In-Waiting MRN 2009—Amy Amack from Chadron and Kristin Kohmetscher our 2008 Miss Teen Rodeo Nebraska from Lawrence. Several changes were made this year with all positive outcomes; the evening style show was very well attended and I believe it is a change that will stay. A special Thank You to the honor and recognition that you gave to "The Golden Girls" Betty Priel, Sharon Halligan, Karen Troyer, and myself for our combined participation of over 100 years with the Buffalo Bill Rodeo Queen Pageant and the Miss Rodeo Nebraska Pageant. We were so surprised and felt very overwhelmed, just a very special moment in our lives. The July meeting was small in attendance, but much appreciation to the ones that came. The by-laws were passed, and now we are up-to-date on them. The "Prep and Polish" for Kristen was held August 22nd and 23rd at the home of Ted and Lolly Klug. A special Thank You to the Klugs for their hospitality and to Carl and Kathy Wilkinson for putting it all together. As we prepare for fall, the annual meeting and election of officers will be in North Platte October 12, at the LaQuinta Inn at 3:00 p.m. We are encouraging everyone to bring at least one new person to this meeting and introduce them to the Miss Rodeo Nebraska Association members. October 18th will be the date for the Send-off celebration for Kristen, we hope that you will all attend. It is always a wonderful evening. I sign off with grateful thanks and appreciation to each of you for your continued effort in building the Miss Rodeo Nebraska Program and we will see you October 12.

Mardee Swanson, MRNA President

### 2008 WLD WEST RODEO QUEEN CLINIC

This year's clinic was held at Becky's Hall of Celebration in North Platte March 8th and 9th. The Clinic was hosted by the Miss Rodeo Nebraska Association and was to feature Miss Rodeo America 2007, Ashley Andrews, but due to the flu she was unable to attend. So all of the participants had the pleasure of spending time with our own 2007 MRN Erin Robbins. She shared her past year with the girls and the knowledge she had gained. She presented appearance, knowledge, speech, interview, and horsemanship to the girls and parents. We also had guest clinicians Paul Cleveland, Brent Larreau, Ron Moorhead, and Bill Redinger. The girls learned about Rodeo rules for each of the events, a stock contractor's view of the Rodeo Queen and her responsibilities, the importance of horse care, and the effects of the horse slaughter bill that passed last year and how it has affected the equine industry. They also learned personal safety and why we all must be diligent and aware of every situation when we are traveling to different locations. We had a special visit from a modeling agent from Omaha, Karla Maddux. She presented ten steps to making a good first impression and making it last. We had 16 participants and quite a few parents. The pageant committee served the food again and that was delicious. Door prizes were handed out the last day and Jerry Hoff and his wife gave each girl a keepsake photo for their participation. Sunday morning Jan Deatrich came and shared her music and ministry with us. Thanks Jan, it was very enjoyable and inspiring. Thank you to all the members, committees, and participants for making this another successful year!

Please join us next year—March 7th and 8th.

## "THE WAVE OF A RODEO QUEEN"

SHE RACES AROUND THE ARENA,  
AS THE AUDIENCE CHEERS AND SCREAMS.  
SHE SMILES A SMILE AND THE RODEO STARTS,  
WITH THE WAVE OF A RODEO QUEEN.

THE HORSES STOMP IN THE CHUTES,  
A LITTLE GIRL LOOKS UP AND DREAMS.  
OF A TIME WHEN SHE'LL MAKE THAT RIDE,  
AND SHE WAVES TO THE RODEO QUEEN.

MANY THINK THAT HER JOB IS OVER,  
AS SHE RIDES OUT THE ARENA GATE.  
SHE ADDED SOME CLASS TO THE DAY,  
WITH HER BEAUTY, STYLE, AND GRACE.

MOST DON'T KNOW OF THE HOURS SHE'S SPENT,  
PROMOTING THIS RODEO.  
RIDING IN PARADES AND GIVING INTERVIEWS,  
WORKING HARD WHEREVER SHE GOES.

SHE EDUCATES THE PUBLIC,  
A SPOKESWOMAN OF THE BEST SORT.  
WHO DISPELLS THE RUMORS AND MYTHS,  
ABOUT AMERICA'S NUMBER ONE SPORT.

SHE CAN RIDE A HORSE LIKE THE WIND,  
A MASTER AT HORSEMANSHIP.  
A HAND AT WINNING OR LOSING,  
A WOMAN OF SPORTSMANSHIP.

SO NEXT TIME YOU SEE THIS YOUNG LADY,  
YOU'LL KNOW SHE'S NOT JUST SEQUINS AND  
BEADS.  
THERE IS SO MUCH MORE TO THIS BEAUTY,  
THAN THE WAVE OF A RODEO QUEEN.

BY GEORGEANN WEARIN  
HYANNIS, NEBRASKA



THANK YOU GEORGEANN FOR ALLOWING US TO  
USE YOUR BEAUTIFUL POEM THAT WAS  
FEAUTRED IN THE AUGUST 16TH EDITION OF  
*THE FENCE POST* MAGAZINE !!