



Courtesy of Wayne Sabo

Under the watchful eye of Rebekah Wesatzke, Deirdre's trainer and Reggie's owner, they launched their show

career in August 1997 at the Pecan Tree Farm show in Houston, placing second. While this first test was a "Green as Grass Test," it was a beginning and the first of many adventures and victories. As Deirdre prepared for college, Rebekah offered Reggie to accompany Deirdre to Baylor University. Given the length of time, however, Rebekah was persuaded to sell Reggie to Deirdre and so off they went to college together leading to many long nights for Deirdre doing her homework in Reggie's stall under his mentoring and muzzle rubbing.

Through the years, Reggie earned numerous dressage titles at the regional, national and open level. In 2005, Deirdre decided to take a big step and take Reggie into the Fédération Équestre Internationale (FEI) levels of competition. Nobody saw the "little guy" coming. That year, Reggie proved his mettle at the Region 9 Championships, Southwest Dressage Championships and Houston Dressage Society Show. After these victories, Regulus Starr earned his Legion of Honor and, thereby, allowed to show a "+" after his name. Propelled by this honor, Reggie and Deirdre earned multiple awards competing at the Intermediaire I (FEI) level in 2006.

With the rigors of the International tests wearing on his tendons, Deirdre decided to semi-retire her best friend to prolong his happy years ahead. In his career, Reggie was able to allow Deirdre to earn her Bronze and Silver Medals from the United States Dressage Federation and to gain one qualifying score needed to add the Gold Medal.

In July, Reggie went lame and was diagnosed with Cushing's Disease. The X-rays showed extensive damage to his front hooves and the condition was complicated due to insulin resistance from the disease. Despite a full regime of treatment, by the end of July, the X-ray showed total degradation of the front hooves and Reggie could no longer walk. Last summer, Deirdre decided that it was time to put her best friend to rest.

After eating a bag of carrots (his favorite thing) in a grassy meadow on August 2 at the Andalusians of Texas farm overlooking the river Reggie loved to swim in, he was laid to rest. We say goodbye to a loving friend remembering him in the words of Sue Blinks, the Sydney Olympics Bronze Medalist, who said to Reggie, "This horse is a miracle. It shows what heart can do; the little engine that could."

—Wayne Sabo

## Where in the WORLD

*Modern Arabian Horse* is looking for photos of you with your latest issue of the magazine taken during your travels, with or without your horse(s). If you have a photo of yourself and your *MAH* in an interesting domicile, we want to share it with our readers. Send us your best shot to [editor@arabianhorses.org](mailto:editor@arabianhorses.org).

BARBARA REYNOLDS, president of the Arabian Horse Club of Connecticut, volunteered at the Region 16 booth at the 2009 Equine Affaire in Springfield, Massachusetts, holds her favorite magazine. The booth was next to the AHA booth and she said she had a wonderful time volunteering at the booth.



Courtesy of Barbara Reynolds



Courtesy of Kea Kercheval

KEA KERCHEVAL of Elbert, Colorado, reads a copy of *Modern Arabian Horse* on the bow of her family's boat, Spectra, while traveling down the Corpus Christi Ship Channel to Island Moorings Marina in Port Aransas, Texas.