

Pat Ide - President

1. I have been a member of the Greyhound Club of America for 32 years...since 1970.
2. I have missed only one Western Specialty since 1969. I have attended and/or exhibited at the majority of Eastern Specialties.
3. If elected, I will feel it my responsibility to attend every meeting. Only a dire emergency will keep me from doing so.
4. I do not support the closing of the Studbook. I do not have track bred dogs and I have no immediate plans to breed in that direction. However, I feel that it is truly foolhardy and imperious to make it impossible for greyhound breeders to be kept from seeking whatever purebred greyhounds they wish to have or use in their breeding programs. Furthermore, the breed has not shown any ill effects from allowing all purebred greyhounds to be AKC registered over the many years during which the breed has been AKC affiliated. If NGA dogs should become ineligible for registration, I can see no benefits and many drawbacks occurring for the breed in general.
We already have several members who have chosen to incorporate NGA bloodlines into their breeding programs. These people have been very active in supporting the club's various activities. I do not feel that we should tolerate our club telling these folks, in essence, that their dogs are not worthy of being recognized. It would result in very hurt feelings with no upside that I can see.
5. The critical issues for which the Board should take leadership and be held accountable are, first and foremost, the issue of protecting the breed and its standard. This very ancient breed has come to us over many years of breeding by dedicated people who cherished the breed. It should be our primary function to see to it that the torch, which was handed to us, is not extinguished because of fear and ignorance. For many years, very thoughtful people who followed a doctrine of preservation of this wonderful breed ran our club. They, being transitory, saw to it that they did no harm to the breed.
The Board and, for that matter, the entire membership is transitory. However, the decisions we make will affect the breed long after we are all gone. We should be very careful that, in our zealotry for "improvement" we do no harm.
6. If elected, my main commitment to the club would be to see that the interests of the entire membership are given consideration and that all club business is open and above board. Board meetings should be open to any member who wishes to attend. People who are duly sponsored for membership should be discussed at open Board Meetings. Input from sponsors should be taken into consideration and, if the proposed person is denied membership, the reasons for such denial should be given in writing to the individual and to his sponsors. This is simply common courtesy.
In the past six or so months ten applicants have been denied membership in the GCA. Most of these people are serious and dedicated greyhound folk and a few have extremely impressive credentials. The Board voted on their petitions in secret and denied them all membership. There were no reasons given nor were their sponsors even notified. To me this is unconscionable as well as rude.
7. I feel that I am well qualified for the position of GCA President. I served in numerous capacities over the years, including President, Vice President, Board member (15 years), Western Specialty show chairman (10 years), Gazette Columnist (about four years), and Editor of Newsletter (which I resurrected). During my term as President, I was instrumental in acquiring incorporation for the GCA, for the 1990 revision of our club Constitution, for providing lure coursing and obedience at the Western Specialty, for appointing an Awards Committee to make proposals for various awards for the membership, for causing to be made the club medallions which have been given out as awards ever since and for maintaining fiscal responsibility. There are other accomplishments I had a hand in over the years, such as allowing the membership to vote for judges and supplying eighty some photos for the book, Greyhounds in America, which was sponsored and published by the club.

I was a founding member of Shoreline Dog Fanciers Association of Orange County, an all breed club. I was also a founding member of the Combined Western Sighthound Association and the Western Hound Association, one of the first to put on a Group Show. I have been a member and officer of the Afghan Hound Club of California, the Scottish Deerhound Club of America, the Afghan Hound Club of America and the American Whippet Club.

I am a Graduate of San Diego State University with Master's Degrees in Child Psychology and Psychometrics. I was a teacher for 12 years which included teaching grades from second through eighth. I then went into psychometrics. I am an AKC approved judge of Hounds and have begun to apply for some toy breeds. I have judged dogs in many countries around the world.