

Papillon Club of America Health & Genetics



LINDA FOILES



I am a second-generation preservation breeder. My family bred and showed Great Pyrenees in California. Wanting to have my own breed I purchased a Sheltie puppy. At the age of 13 I finished my first champion Sheltie. I have always had several breeds at our home but did not breed them all. Some breeds were just simply pets because I liked the breed. Over the years we have owned a Great Pyrenees, Border Collie, a CH.Pug, I showed. I bred and finished over 65 Champion Tibbies over some 40 years (Nat'l specialty winners and group winners and placers as well as a RBIS winner) I also bred and finished six Silky Terriers so Toy dogs were not new to me. I also was involved in Novice Obedience a very long time ago on a dare from my husband, but that is another long story.

I have been a member of PCA since 2013 but I have been around Papillons for some 30 yrs or more. I showed a Pap for a friend in California when we lived there some 38 years ago. I was a close friend to Pap people in the Maryland area when I was breeding and showing Tibetan Spaniels. I was mentored, over the years by Donna Clas (Jazzbo) and others. As I was helping MAP during the

National in Frederick, MD I turned to Donna and said, "I think I would like to get a Papillon." That week of show activities began my search for a quality Pap.

Now a bit of dog history and clubs I have been working for over the years. I am a member of the American Shetland Sheepdog Club, Inc. The Tibetan Spaniel Club of America, Inc I am currently JEC and the Delegate but have held many club positions including President for four years. The only position I have not held was Treasurer, but I am Treasurer of the Tibetan Spaniel Club of America Rescue and Health Trust. I am a member of The Potomac Valley Tibetan Spaniel Club as well and the newly recognized Papillon Club of the Carolinas (Board member) and The Great Pyrenees Club of America, Inc. where I work on the Top 20 and Puppy Invitational. I am also a member of the American Dog Show Judges organization having judging approval by AKC for five breeds. I have judged Tibetan Spaniels in Australia, Scotland and all over the US, including the National Specialty two times and if all goes well will be judging it for the third time in May! I am proud and humbled by my peers to select me for a third time. I am also a past member of the Greater Fredericksburg Kennel Club in Virginia, holding numerous positions (Board and President) plus I was the All-Breed Cluster Chair four times for the Cherry Blossom Circuit.

I would like to work and give back to the Papillon by effectively working with a group of individuals that are like minded, moving the Club forward, in a positive way and work for the breed and group as a whole.

I hope to work to help the Club bring its members together, be more inclusive to all and help direct the Club to be able to develop a much-needed Illustrated Standard. I realize a great deal has gone before this Club regarding this, but we need to help educate both present and future judges. As our breeders are all getting older, of which I am among this group, I would also like to see our Club to try to focus on growing younger members/breeders to have continued support for this fabulous breed. This takes a focused effort and if we don't do it who will?

Change is sometimes difficult but if we focus on what is best for the organization and the breed, in the end, the Club can prosper and grow in a positive way.

In my personal life I am a retired Pre-school and Elementary school teacher of 37 years. I spent the 17 years prior to retirement as a Reading Specialist, K-5. I was Culpeper County's Teacher of the Year in 2009. I have been married for 51 years, have two daughters and six grandchildren. Thank you for taking the time to read this letter

I appreciate your time and attention.