

Ping Pirrung

I am very honored to accept the nomination for Recording Secretary of ASFA. I view this position on the ASFA Board as one of great responsibility. I have experienced Joe Shoemaker's incredible job as ASFA's Recording Secretary and they have been big shoes to fill. However, I know with his willingness to share his experience and knowledge, I feel fortunate to have had the opportunity to follow in his footsteps. My first two years have been a learning experience so, if elected, I can continue more easily.

I have been involved with lure coursing and ASFA since I first learned of lure coursing around 1975. This is a sport dear to my heart for so many reasons. I meet amazing people and dogs and spend a weekend outside enjoying the company of like-minded people and their hounds.

One could easily say that my life has gone to the dogs Or has always been there. At no time during my life have I been without a dog of some sort. My family always had at least two dogs and at times even got up to my dad's imposed limit of 4. Even in college, my dog accompanied me to every class as well as across the stage to accept my diploma.

Borzoi were my beginning with sighthounds. My husband, at the time, and I showed and bred Borzoi. Lure coursing was a natural fit, as being outside and active gives me great joy. The athleticism along with the pure joy of watching the dogs do what they were bred to do, is an indescribable thrill.

We had two daughters who also went with us to almost all field trials with my second daughter practically being born on a coursing field. At times I even ventured off coursing on my own. There are some that remember me slipping dogs with a baby in a backpack and a camera in my other hand. In 1985, when the girls were old enough to be on their own during a trial, I became a judge. This has afforded me the opportunity to see dogs lure course all over the county at the same time experiencing some amazing runs.

Whippets came into my life when my daughters were young and since the late 1980's I have had only Whippets. I am now remarried to Dennis McCann who enjoys our growing family at Labyrinth Whippets. At this point we have 5 living at our house and enjoy every minute of it. During the spring and fall almost every weekend is taken up with lure coursing or open field coursing. During the week I spend a lot of time with the dogs either biking, walking or working on their skills.

I have been the Field Trial Secretary for several II's, the first being in the early '80s. At most field trials I love to help out in whatever way I can; I prefer be doing something rather than sitting around waiting for our dogs turn to run. I am a founding member of Tri-State Sighthound Club in Western PA and have been

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President of the club for several years. I was elected as the Corresponding Secretary of the ASFA in 2008 and reelected in 2010 which was a joy as it put me in touch with so many of the fancy all over the country. I was elected President of ASFA in 2012 and reelected in 2014. In 2017 I was elected Recording Secretary. I have embraced the challenges and enjoyed the work of maintaining ASFA as the premier lure coursing organization.

Every weekend we have many opportunities to attend a myriad of dog related activities. The challenge is to keep ASFA lure coursing a prominent choice. With your passion and contributions, together we can position and strengthen ASFA for the future.