

2019 GPCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS
CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

Name: Amy Zacher **City/State:** Long Grove, IL **Member of GPCA since:** 1986

Nominated by: Nominating Committee: Bob Brown, Nancy Carr, Rick Fitzgerald, Joanne Krausman,
Mary Lou Mayer, Greg Mills, Terrie Strom

Biographical Summary:

My husband, Bret, and I bought our first dog in 1986. We quickly became involved in the Metro Milwaukee club (GPCMM) and the GPCA. I have trained Pyrs in conformation, obedience, and versatility. Bret & I bred 5 litters from the late 1980's to 2000. I have been a core member of GPCMM for over 30 years, serving 15 years as newsletter editor and a core member of our annual Regional Specialty and 1991, 2011 & 2019 National Specialty teams. I compile the Rescue data, handle the National Specialty registration annually and am currently the Secretary for the GPCA. In addition to my dog life, I raised a family, worked full-time as a Director of Global Trade Compliance until 2017, and previously served as elected School Board of Education Member.

Why I want to serve on the Board:

My experience in showing, obedience, breeding, rescue and committees allows me to address topics from a broad perspective. I have solid global business experience working in teams, managing people and projects, and contributing as an individual. As a school board member, I have unique experience in compromise and consensus, making decisions regardless of how difficult they may be. At this time in GPCA I think it is very important to be impartial. Not currently showing, breeding or purchasing dogs contributes to my ability to look at issues objectively. My focus is on what is best for the breed and the club. As a GPCA board member, I look at the information presented and make my decision based on that information. From the first days just helping out where I could, to today as a GPCA Officer, I have always found my contributions rewarding. I would like to continue to serve and help us move forward to a stronger unified organization supporting the betterment of our breed.

Prior experiences- Offices/Chairmanships/Committees served on:

GPCA: GPCA Secretary (2016-present), Rescue, National Specialty Registration, National Specialty various committees plus other support as needed every year, Minute Review, Service Dog Committee.

Regional Pyr club: Multiple Board and committee positions over more than 30 years, including Regional and National Specialty show committees, Regional Rep & Newsletter Editor.

All – Breed: Obedience Club show committee

I believe that the 3 areas of greatest concern to the GPCA should be:

1. Working together and moving forward. We need find ways to communicate differently. This may be forming a committee to survey the membership, focus groups to discuss issues, on-line Q&A, or other tools.
2. Documenting and standardizing policies, guidelines and procedures. There is too much variation in how things are handled from one year to the next. We can no longer rely on tribal knowledge. I have started a project to document things in a clear and organized manner that will be available on-line to all members. I believe this will help eliminate confusion and mistrust and make our functions run more smoothly.
3. Involvement of new and existing members to ensure the vitality and development of the club. We need to reach out to people. First to be more inclusive to pet and LSG owners. Second to increase mentoring. Finally, to existing members who would help if only asked.

I will attend the Annual Meeting, wherever it may be held in the US (barring a personal emergency), and will support my own travel expenses. Yes No

Of the last 5 Annual Meetings, I have attended 5.

Of the last 5 National Specialties, I have attended 5.

I certify that to the best of my knowledge, the above is true and correct.

Signed: Amy Zacher