

TEXAS GREYHOUND ASSOCIATION

2008 Elections



2008 Annual Membership Meeting
March 15, 2008

TGA Lunch

11:00 - 12:00 pm

***Please RSVP* by Friday**

February 29, 2008; 5:00 pm

Membership Meeting

12:00 - 1:00 pm

Board of Directors Meeting
Following Membership Meeting

Vice President

Harlyn Goebel - Unopposed

Secretary/Treasurer

James "Tuddy" Dietz

Jason Johnston

District III

Charlie Pevehouse - Unopposed

District IV

David Peck - Unopposed

Elections

Tuddy Dietz
Secretary/Treasurer

My name is Tuddy Dietz and I am currently serving as your Secretary/Treasurer of the Texas Greyhound Association and have been serving in this capacity since 1992. I have worked with several Presidents and Executive Directors and some wonderful Board of Directors over the years. The present Board has been very dedicated and it has been a pleasure working with them.

We've had difficult decisions to make at various times, whether it was financial, political or the day to day operation of the office and the training track. We've always had a budget and operated within that budget. It takes careful planning of the income and expenses and the Board of Directors, Executive Director and the office staff have done an excellent job in cutting expenses.

I am currently in the greyhound business and have been since 1988 and last week I counted the greyhounds on my farm and we now have 192 dogs at this time. With my partner, William Maierhofer, we had been operating a kennel at the Corpus Christi Race Track until it's closing on December 30, 2007. We kept the kennel going even though we were losing money because we tried to do our part in keeping live racing going in Texas.

I made many trips to Austin during the last 5 sessions of the Legislature in support of VLT's. I also made many meetings of the Texas Racing Commission and presented information to the Commission on how CCGRT was not in compliance with the rules of racing. We had three workshops with the Commission to help them understand the greyhound business a little better and these meetings were very productive.

I made several coalition meetings in Austin trying desperately to get VLT's passed. It takes a lot of time, money and traveling expense to represent the TGA in all areas. I never turned in my expenses to the TGA for reimbursement on my travel, meals, etc and most of the time, I was able to ride with Harlyn Goebel.

Another issue has been keeping up the TGA race track. It was built for research and development of racing greyhounds and a place to hold our stake races. On one hand, that was a good idea and on the other hand it cost too much money to operate and serves only a few of our members. This year we put a cap on the track expenses not to exceed \$20,000. To me that is enough money to subsidize the track. When that is gone, the few members that still use it will have to bear the expense of the upkeep or close it down. We need to use more of our money in our efforts to get VLT's passed in the 2009 legislature. That will help every member of the TGA, not just a few.

It is your decision, so I ask you for your vote and support in the TGA election. I will continue to work for the betterment of the greyhound industry and the Texas Greyhound Association.

Thank you for your time.
James "Tuddy" Dietz

Jason Johnston

Secretary/Treasurer

Personal/Family Information: I have been married to Vicki Hennigan Johnston since June 13, 1998. We have two children: Johnathan (5) and Jady (2). We live in Waco, where in addition to breeding and raising greyhounds, I work at McLennan Community College as a Licensed Athletic Trainer.

Experience in Greyhounds: I became interested in greyhounds while Vicki and I were dating. I bought my first greyhound, Botella, from Paul Hennigan in September 1998 and my second one, Marque Pauline, from David Hays in October 1998. In the nine years since I have combined efforts with Paul Hennigan to breed, raise, and train several litters of greyhounds each year.

As a member of the TGA I served on the Election Committee and in various capacities/roles on the Spring Stakes Committees, including fundraising, stud donations, and track maintenance during the meet.

TGA Executive Board Member: I am running for Secretary Treasurer because I would like to work improve the status of the greyhound industry in Texas. At this pivotal time we face, declining membership, smaller pari-mutuel purses, a track closure and opposition to VLT's. I feel that I can bring some new ideas and a fresh influence to the Board. My vow is to be open, truthful and accessible to the membership of the TGA. I will work with the board and general membership to improve the future of greyhound racing in Texas.

ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

The TGA's Elections Committee is gearing up for this year's elections.

This years committee chairperson is Ray Campana.

The Executive Director, Diane Whiteley, has verified all nomination signatures and paperwork presented by the candidates.

Ballots will be prepared for mailing by the committee with minimal assistance from the office staff and are scheduled to be mailed to every Voting TGA member by February 13th. Ballots must be returned in the "official" envelope provided by the committee, and be received by March 13th to be counted. Copies of a ballot will not be counted.

The committee will retrieve the ballots from the post office, count them and then announce the winners at the Annual Membership Meeting on Saturday, March 15th.