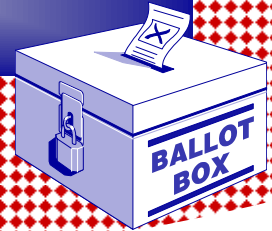


Texas Greyhound Association, Inc. 2005 ELECTIONS Candidates Issue

January 2005 Issue



"Nobody will ever deprive the American people of the right to vote except the American people themselves...and the only way they can do that is by not voting." Franklin D. Roosevelt, U.S. President

"It is much easier to be critical than to be correct."
Benjamin Disraeli

"To vote is like the payment of a debt—a duty that is never to be neglected, if its performance is possible.."
Rutherford B. Hayes, U.S. President

"A pessimist sees the difficulty in every opportunity; an optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty." Sir Winston Churchill

"Those who stay away from the election think that one vote will do no good: 'Tis but one step more to think one vote will do no harm." Ralph Waldo Emerson

"Be miserable. Or motivate yourself. Whatever has to be done, it's always your choice." Wayne Dyer

Inside this issue:

<i>Meet the Candidates</i>	2, 3 & 5
<i>TGA By-Laws Elections</i>	7
<i>TX Bred Registry</i>	4
<i>Important Spring Meet Dates</i>	6

Special points of interest:

- February 7, 2005 - Elections Committee to prepare and mail ballots
- March 1, 2005 - All Slot reservations dogs to be named—Bertillion cards & copies of papers due to TGA offices.
- March 7, 2005 - Draw for Eliminations round
- March 12th—Pancake Breakfast & Eliminations Round
- March 14, 2005 - Draw for Finals
- March 18, 2005 - Annual TGA Membership meeting
- March 19, 2005 Membership BBQ & Finals

VOTE

It is time for the elections for two of our Districts and the office of President. District II and District V both have openings in 2005. David Hays is running unopposed for President.

Ronny Moffatt, representative for District II, and Gary Alexander, representative for District V have both contacted the Executive Director to inform her that they have decided not to run for reelection, after many years of outstanding service to the TGA.

There has been quite a bit of interest in these two positions and this newsletter is dedicated to those nominated.

Per the TGA By—Laws, any voting member of the TGA, in a district, can run for office as representative of their district or as an officer. Each of the nominees has completed all the necessary paperwork mandated by our by-laws and their

names have been placed on the ballot for this year.

We wanted to give each of them the opportunity to express themselves as to why you should vote for them. We asked them to give us some personal information: what issues they feel are most important to our industry and how they would address them, what their goals for the TGA are, and what they, as individuals in the position of district representative, offer to the members in a leadership position.

Being a District Representative or officer in the TGA is a wonderful opportunity to learn more about our industry, Texas government, and our association. Not to mention the chance to make this association the best it can be and advance greyhound racing in Texas.

We wish each candidate good campaigning.

Billy Galbreath

District II

My name is Billy Galbreath and I am running for District #2 Representative. My wife Robin and I have been married for 17 of my 47 years. We have three children; McKenna 14, Kelsey 12, and Grant 10. I've been employed by TXU in Rockdale for 28 years. As a family we have always been involved with church, community and youth organizations.

I have been a member of the Texas Greyhound Association for 20 years. I have obtained experience in all aspects of the industry. My family and I have volunteered at many of the TGA meets in the past. I have personally been a paddock judge, starter, official judge and an announcer.

With input from industry leaders, I became knowledgeable in raising quality greyhounds. My next step was to board outside dogs. In 1991 an associate and myself opened a racing kennel. In two short years our kennel was number one in wins and money earned. Even being the top kennel at a small track, I soon discovered you weren't assured a profit. Because of the low margin of profit, I chose to dissolve the racing kennel and simply return to raising greyhounds for myself.

I strongly believe the declining purses and handles are the most important factors our Texas industry faces today. This is one of the major reasons I have become interested in representing you. We stand to lose many tracks if we don't move forward on these issues. In order to maintain three viable Texas greyhound tracks, it is imperative to pass VLT (*Video Lottery Terminal*) legislation.

As a current member of the legislation committee, I am working towards a strategy to be successful in this area. It will take each and every Texas Greyhound Association member

uniting together to be successful. We must energize and mobilize the membership by making our presence known in Austin.

My goal is for the Texas Greyhound Association to lead the industry, not follow. I don't want the TGA to be limited by other state or national organization's ideas. The TGA must retain its political strength.

Scholarships, RMSA (Racetrack Management Services Agreement), TGA Headquarters and Training Track and Test Facility, are direct results of strong TGA political strengths. The TGA needs to inspire research and disseminate that information to the members. The TGA must strive to reduce member operating cost whenever possible. A TGA Co-op would be an option offering reduced prices on feed, medication, flea control and all expenses greyhound farmers encounter.

The TGA should lead the industry in providing a safe racing surface at the tracks. Greyhound owners have millions invested in their greyhounds and the tracks must display the utmost concern for these animal's welfare and safety.

I come to you with six years of experience in negotiations. I was on a committee responsible for negotiating wages and benefits for 800 people at TXU. I have five years experience as an executive committee member for the IBEW (*International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers*). I am experienced in all aspects of the greyhound industry. I am open-minded and will analyze all angles of an issue and make a decision that is in the best interest of the TGA and the membership as a whole.

Lastly, the TGA should strive to leave a legacy to our children of a strong, united association that allows them to make a living in a sport that we all love.

Rod Neal

District II

Fellow TGA Members:

My name is Rod Neal. I have been a member of the TGA for seven years. My wife Darin and I have been in the greyhound business for approximately ten years. We began buying greyhounds at the track, but the last four to five years we have acquired our own broods and are raising four to five litters per year. We do not have a farm, so all of our broods and pups are boarded in the state. Darin and I have two married daughters who each have two sons. Our oldest grandson is a junior at Texas A & M and our youngest is in the ninth grade in high school.

I feel the survival of greyhound racing in the State of Texas, with or without VLT's, is most important.

We as greyhound breeders, owners, farmers, kennel owners and track operators must do everything that we possibly can to maintain our great sport.

I believe we must strive to raise the level of public awareness and acceptance by being pro ambassadors for our sport and do everything possible to promote a good image especially through the adoption programs.

I believe we must carry our message of keeping Texas

money in Texas strongly and forcefully to the legislature and if successful at that, then to the general public for referendums.

I have two goals for the TGA. The first is to see that everything humanly possible is done to secure the passage of legislation for VLT's at our tracks.

Secondly, I will do everything I can to see that all parties, with or without VLT's, are treated honestly, fairly and evenly. This includes breeders, owners, farmers, kennel operators and track operators.

My reason in seeking election to this position was not to replace an existing board member, but to offer my talents and services to the good of the TGA. I have completed two successful careers already, one with the Texas Highway Department and the second with one of the largest heavy highway contractors in the United States. First as a project manager and then as an area manager.

I believe I am a quick study, and I do not believe in rushing into a decision until I have all the facts. I believe I am an excellent business manager and managed over \$500 million in construction projects before I retired.

*I have been retired for two years now and believe I have the time, vision, experience, and wherewithal to help the TGA be even more successful than it already has been. **

ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

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

This year's committee chairperson is Ms. Ennis Bogle, and she is joined by Dr. Robert "Bob" Smith and Jason Johnston.

The Executive Director, Diane Whiteley, has verified all nomination signatures and paperwork presented by the candidates and now it is up to the committee.

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 on or about February 7th (date subject to change without notice per the committee).

Ballots must be returned in the "official" envelope provided by the committee before the deadline to 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 Friday, March 18th

See pages 6 & 7 for By-laws pertaining to Election of Officers and Committee Members.

Texas Bred Registry

BIEHLE, KENNETH	DODGEM BY DESIGN-ODE TO MUSIC	09/04/04	1-1
	FORTRESS SON-FOOLISH FANTASY	09/12/04	4-5
	COLDWATER KONOW-RAPIDO FROSTY	09/25/04	4-4
CREED, GAIL or			
SMITH, GREEN	GABLE OSCAR-KEYSTONE TAG	08/01/04	4-1
GALBREATH, B.	COURAGEOUS NICKY-MARILU HENNER	10/02/04	3-2
GOEBEL, HARLYN	GABLE DODGE-B B BLUES	09/14/04	0-1
	PAT C DIE HARD-GABLE TOPAZ	09/17/04	4-3
	GABLE DODGE-CHARO	09/02/04	7-1
	GABLE DODGE-CLARE PENNY*	10/04/04	4-1
L	GABLE OSCAR-CJ FLY SO FREE	09/23/04	2-0
	GABLE OSCAR-CJ WYNONA	10/06/04	3-2
GOSSELIN, JOE	JG STEMWINDER-JG RAZZIE	09/22/04	4-2
GRAY, CAROLYN	GOLDDUST MEMORY-CJ FARONIKA	08/14/04	2-4
HEIMAN, R.-L	TEAMSTER-KC SUNDROP	09/15/04	2-3
L	OSWALD COBBLEPOT-KIOWA PARK CANDY		
		09/25/04	3-0
HIBBS, LaVERNE-L	OSHKOSH SLAMMER-BABERAHAM	09/14/04	3-2
KASBERG, L.B.	RIVER BLAZE-RIVER LYDRA	09/29/04	6-1
	ELWAY DRIVE-RIVER GRACELAND	10/12/04	2-6
LIBERATORE, J.-L	AIMIN BY DESIGN-KELSOS TAPIOCA	10/05/04	4-2
LIMMER, PETER	GABLE DODGE-ONECO CINDERELLA	09/14/04	8-1
McELHINNY, GAYLE			
	SHADOW OFA DOUBT-HANNAH BODEN	10/04/04	0-1
McELHINNY, RUSS			
L	GREYS FLAMEBEAU-GABLE TOOTSIE	09/21/04	1-5
L	WW APPLE JAX-GABLE OBSESSION	09/17/04	2-6
	SHADOW OFA DOUBT-KEEPER FOXY	10/07/04	6-2
MOFFATT, R.-L	OKIE COOPER-JAMMIN PEARL	07/24/04	4-3
PANCHER, JIMMY	DODGEM BY DESIGN-KESSLER SEVEN	09/05/04	5-2
PECK, DAVID	WW GREYS DRIFTER-CTW JULIE RATES	09/19/04	2-5
	LONESOME CRY-ROOFTOP CINDY	09/22/04	5-1
	ONECO SPIRIT-CTW FOR RANSOM	10/05/04	3-5
PEVEHOUSE, C.	CRAIGIE WHISTLER-GABLE PEARL	09/05/04	1-3
	QUIET TRAVELER-LOVELY LINDSEY	09/07/04	4-6
SEELEY, JACK	CLAPPIN THUNDER-SEEGOLD ZULA BEE		
		09/05/04	5-3
	CLAPPIN THUNDER-TEODY JO	08/27/04	1-6
	CTW LEGENDARY-TAZZY JO	09/07/04	1-1
SHEPHERD, J.D.	MAKER ME DICTATE-U TOO GOGGLES	10/06/04	3-2
STUMPP, LAURA	BE DISCRETE-JENA SNOW	10/08/04	4-3
TAYLOR, CONNIE	AIMIN BY DESIGN-DESTRY STEALTH	01/09/05	3-5
VIP EXPRESS, INC.	COLDWATER KONOW-BOBBY'S SWEETYE		
		09/26/04	1-6

New TGA Members

**Lee Morton of
Rockdale, TX**

**Janet L. Brecheen of
League City, TX**

**Raimondo G. Campana
of Temple, TX**

Deepest Sympathies

Bennie L. Griggs ~ was called home on December 20, 2004 by our Lord. Bennie was well known in the greyhound racing industry and was very instrumental in getting it in Texas. Bennie was infamous for his BBQ in the Waco area and if you attended the 2003 TGA Spring Meet you will know why.

Bennie will be missed by many.

John Liberatore

District V

*H*ello, my name is John P. Liberatore. I live here in Houston, Texas with my wife Vanessa and my two sons, Scott and Tyler. I own and operate Libby Racing Kennels at Gulf Greyhound Park and Birmingham. I have been a member of the TGA since 1996. I have been active in the greyhound industry for over 25 years. I am a graduate of Lowell University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering.

I believe there are several important issues facing the greyhound industry and the TGA. First, I am confident that all TGA members support VLT legislation for Texas racetracks. We must turn that support into grassroots action to help turn this into a reality. As a member of the Legislative Committee, I have been working with other TGA members, members of the Executive Committee and other industry representatives to promote the VLT legislation. We must also continue working to

maintain and improve the image of the greyhound industry with the general public. We must work with the NGA and appropriate greyhound adoption groups to expand greyhound adoption efforts. We should support the NGA and AGTOA in their efforts to improve greyhound health (especially kennel cough) and reduce injuries. Finally, we should work with Gulf Greyhound Park to find a solution to fund the scholarship program.

The TGA belongs to the members. I would like to see the membership become more involved in developing ideas, making decisions and contributing time, talent and resources to accomplish our goals and strengthen the organization.

I have over 25 years of experience in the greyhound industry. I have been a trainer and kennel operator throughout New England, West Virginia, Florida, Alabama, and Texas. I have been active in kennel associations at several racetracks. I have been active in the TGA. I am currently serving as a member of the Legislative Affairs Committee. I would like to offer my service as a TGA Executive Board Member. I appreciate your vote and support.

Dale Loner

District V

Allow me to introduce myself, I have been a member of the TGA since 1996. I do not own a farm or have a kennel booking but I raise and board approximately four to six litters a year.

The issue I feel is most important to our industry is **SURVIVAL**. In an attempt to achieve this I would address the following:

1. Minimize our expenses in preparation for more hard times.
2. Utilize our financial and human resources effectively.
3. Get the membership involved in promotion of VLT's.


4. Attempt to recapture the lost attendance at the racetracks that existed in the early 1990's.
5. Increase our membership and greyhound ownership.
6. Attempt to improve our **IMAGE** with the Anti-racing groups, if possible.

My goals for the TGA are to improve communications between the membership and the association, attempt to help restore unity among the membership, and to utilize our membership resources for the common good and welfare of the association.

In a leadership position in the TGA I feel I can offer no more than any other member except the willingness, at this time, to commit my time, energies, business experience to work promoting our association and industry.

IMPORTANT SPRING MEET DATES :

March 1st~ A copy of each dogs certificate from NGA and a TGA Bertillion card are due to the TGA offices on this date. If you have not received a bertillion card(s) please notify the TGA offices.




Mondays, March 7th & 14th ~ DRAWS

Drawing for position for the 2005 TGA Spring Meet will be as follows:

Day 1 races: *Monday, March 7, 2005*

Finals: *Monday, March 14, 2005*

The draws will be held at the TGA offices at **1:00 p.m.** & everyone is welcome to participate.



Saturday, March 12th Events:

****Kickoff Pancake Breakfast @ 8:00 a.m.**

Elimination Round @ 11 a.m.



Friday, March 18th

***Annual Membership Meeting @ 1:00 p.m. ~ TGA office**

TGA BY-LAWS—ARTICLE V; ASSOCIATION MEETINGS; SECTION 1. ANNUAL MEETING: The Association shall hold its Annual Meeting on a day and time during the Spring Meet as determined by the Executive Committee.; SECTION 8. NOTICE OF MEETINGS: Written notice of the Annual Meeting of the Association at which official Association business is to be transacted shall be mailed to the last known address of each member at least thirty (30) days before the date of the meeting, except as may be otherwise specifically provided by these By-laws.

Saturday, March 19th Events:



****Annual membership BBQ @ 11:00 a.m.**

Finals @ 1 p.m.

****Note that Pancake Breakfast and Membership BBQ will be at no charge to TGA members only. Price for non-members will be announced at a later date.**

Texas Greyhound Association, Inc. ~ By-Laws

As last amended 2/14/03

ARTICLE II; SECTION 1 MEMBERSHIP:

Any person of good moral character, 18 years of age or older, who is interested in the betterment of the breeding, racing, and humane care of greyhounds, and who agrees to abide by the By-Laws of the Association, and the rules and regulations promulgated by the Association, may apply for membership. Membership shall not be denied because of race, color, creed, sex, or national origin.

A. **VOTING MEMBER:** A voting member must be a voting member in good standing with the National Greyhound Association; must reside in the state of Texas; must have registered one or more greyhounds with NGA; and, must have been a member of TGA for at least 60 days in order to have voting rights. Each voting member shall be entitled to one vote.

ARTICLE III; OFFICERS; SECTION 1. ELECTED OFFICERS : The elected officers of the Association shall be a President, a Vice-President, and a Secretary-Treasurer to be elected by the membership of the Association and to serve until their successors have been duly elected and assume office.

SECTION 2. NOMINATION PROCEDURE: The Executive Director, upon written request, shall furnish nominating papers and a conflict of interest agreement to a *new* candidate for office of the Association. A candidate must return the nominating papers with ten (10) valid signatures of voting members in good standing, and a completed conflict of interest agreement, to the Executive Director prior to January 1st preceding an election. An incumbent will automatically be added to the ballot unless a written notice is received by the Executive Director prior to January 1st requesting the incumbent's name be withdrawn from the ballot. *An incumbent will automatically be added to the ballot unless a written notice is received by the Executive Director prior to January 1st requesting the incumbent's name be withdrawn from the ballot.*

SECTION 3. ELECTION: Ballots listing the nominees shall be mailed to all Voting Members at least thirty (30) days prior to the Annual Meeting. To be valid, an official ballot must be received in an official sealed envelope at a site designated by the Election Committee two (2) days before the Annual Meeting. A quorum of the election Committee, and at least two (2) observers appointed by the President, shall open and tabulate the ballots at a meeting prior to the Annual Meeting. The nominee receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared elected to the position. In the event that two (2) or more persons have an equal number of votes, and a higher number than any other nominee, the Election Committee shall determine the winner by lot. The results of the election shall be officially announced at the Annual Meeting by the Chairman of the Election Committee.

SECTION 4. TERM OF OFFICE: The President, Vice-President, and Secretary-Treasurer shall be elected by the Voting Members for a two year term. Their terms will be staggered. Effective Spring of 1992, the President will be elected for a one-year term. The Vice-President and Secretary-Treasurer will be elected for a two-year term in 1992. The President will be elected to a two-year term beginning in the Spring of 1993. Officers may be reelected at the end of the term of office to which they were elected.

SECTION 6. VACANCIES: A vacancy in any office because of death, resignation, removal, or otherwise will be filled by a majority vote of the Executive Committee for the un-expired term of the office.

SECTION 7. DUTIES: The duties and powers of the officers of the Association are as follows:

A. **PRESIDENT:** It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all meetings of the Association and Executive Committee. Unless otherwise indicated in these By-laws, he/she shall have the power to appoint all standing or special committees. He/she shall have and exercise such other powers as are usually accorded presiding officers, unless inconsistent with these By-laws, and subject to the approval of the Executive Committee. The President shall be a member of the Executive Committee and non-voting ex-officio member of all standing and special committees, except the Election Committee.

ARTICLE IV; EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE; SECTION 2. QUALIFICATIONS: Any member who has been a Voting Member in good standing for at least thirty-six (36) months and has signed a conflict of interest agreement shall be eligible to be nominated to serve as a member of the Executive Committee or as an officer of the Association.

SECTION 3. NOMINATING PROCEDURES: The Executive Director, upon written request, shall furnish nominating papers and a conflict of interest agreement to a candidate for the Executive Committee. A candidate must return the nominating papers with ten (10) valid signatures of voting members in good standing of the Association district in which he/she resides, and a conflict of interest agreement, to the Executive Director prior to January 1st preceding an election. *An incumbent will automatically be added to the ballot unless a written notice is received by the Executive Director prior to January 1st requesting the incumbent's name be withdrawn from the ballot.*

SECTION 4. ELECTION: Ballots listing the nominees shall be mailed to all Voting Members in each district in which a committee member is to be elected, at least thirty (30) days prior to the Annual Meeting. To be valid, an official ballot must be received in an official sealed envelope at a site designated by the Election Committee two (2) days before the Annual Meeting. A

quorum of the Election Committee, and at least two (2) observers appointed by the President, shall open and tabulate the ballots at a meeting prior to the Annual Meeting. The nominee receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared elected to the position. In the event that two (2) or more persons have an equal number of votes, and a higher number than any other nominee, the Election Committee shall determine the winner by lot. If a district by population of voting members exceeds one hundred (100) voting members, an additional committee member shall be elected for that district not to exceed a maximum of two (2) committee members for any district. If there are more than two (2) nominees in a district with over one hundred (100) voting members, the two nominees with the highest number of votes will be declared elected to the positions. The results of the election shall be officially announced at the Annual Meeting by the Chairman of the Election Committee.

SECTION 12. AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITY: The Governing Body of this Association shall be the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall have supervision, control and direction of the affairs of the Association; its committees and publications; shall determine its policies or change therein; shall actively prosecute its objectives and supervise the disbursement of its funds. The Executive Committee may adopt such rules and regulations for the conduct of its business as shall be deemed advisable, and may, in the execution of the powers granted, delegate certain of its authority and responsibility.

ARTICLE V

ASSOCIATION MEETINGS; SECTION 1. ANNUAL MEETING: The Association shall hold its Annual Meeting on a day and time during the Spring Meet as determined by the Executive Committee.

Mailing Address: Post Office Box 40; Lorena, Texas 76655-0040

Physical Address: 15406 Interstate 35 South; Bruceville, Texas 76630

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We're on the Web:

www.texasgreyhoundassociation.com

Texas Greyhound Association

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“People often say that, in a democracy, decisions are made by a majority of the people. Of course, that is not true. Decisions are made by a majority of those who make themselves heard and who vote—a very different thing.”
Walter H. Judd