



Tami Whitney (Candidate for BHCA Director from the Western Section)

I was born in Olympia, Washington and am happy to call the beautiful Pacific Northwest home. I have been in the information technology (IT) field for almost half of my life. My analysis, problem-solving, organizational and communications skills have allowed me to excel in my career. Currently, I am the Associate Director of Testing for the Washington State Board of Community and Technical Colleges. I have held many other IT positions throughout the years and have expertise in the following areas; technical writing, business analysis, project management, training, and have become a subject matter expert on the systems I have worked on. I am one of the few people that does not have a college degree in my field. I worked hard to get where I am today and couldn't have done it without wonderful mentors along the way who recognized my intelligence and drive and ran with me. I am so grateful!

I was introduced to the Basset Hound in 1994 when I began dating my husband, Tom. He has had bassets since age five, when his dad brought home Barnaby. Barnaby was his parent's compromise between a large and a small breed. Large dog, short in stature. I immediately fell in love! A few years later we rescued a Basset and I became active in Basset Hound rescue, fostering and creating Basset jewelry and charms to sell at rescue events. All proceeds were donated. Through rescue I met a reputable breeder who was going to have a litter and was active in conformation. I thought to myself, I can show a dog, how hard can it be? You just walk around the ring. Boy was I mistaken! This is where my current journey began. I joined the BHCA in 2012 and dove head first into the fancy. Tom would say that I took his passion for the breed and put it on steroids. Just like in my career, I was passionate about learning as much as I could about the breed I had fallen in love with. I educated myself on the breed standard, networked to meet experts in the breed and created lasting friendships with those who were willing to adopt this newbie, take her under their wing and teach her everything they knew. I have created relationships that have allowed me to excel in the short time I have been in the breed.

Throughout the years, Tom has wholeheartedly supported my passion with his talents. We have donated art, garments, and trophies for many events that have benefitted our beloved breed. We were the clothing chairs for the 2015 and 2020 Nationals and are also the 2024 Nationals clothing chairs. We are members of the Basset Hound Club of Sacramento. In 2022, I coordinated the Basset Hound Club of Greater Seattle specialty shows at a wonderful venue in Olympia. I have been behind the scenes on many other projects, always doing my best to make things special for the exhibitors.

As with my career and my hobby, if elected to the BHCA Board of Directors, I will give it my all! I believe my analysis, communication and project management skills, go-getter attitude and my passion for the breed, make me a valuable asset to both the membership and to the BHCA Board of Directors. Please consider me for the Director position when you vote!

Tami Whitney
Olympia, WA