



I acquired my first basset in 1969 and like most of us, we got her in all the wrong ways. She was from a backyard breeder on an Army base, she was only 8 weeks old, her ears were so infected that you could not touch her head without her screaming and she had hook worms. Despite all that, she was a wonderful dog and we fell in love with the breed. We added a second basset 4 years later and she was a rescue who was literally on her way to euthanasia when we got her. In 1989, we found ourselves basset-less and were referred to Pat Alton, Red Bay Bassets, right in my own area. Pat had just bred her first litter and I purchased a female from her as a pet. Pat convinced me to enter her in obedience and she earned her CGC and CD within a short period of time and then became a Registered Therapy Dog. A few years later, we wanted to add another dog. I wanted to continue with the show scene and Pat convinced me that a male would be a good addition. As it turned out, we got two males from her third litter and as they say, the rest is history. From that point on, Pat and I co-owned and co-bred every litter and became close friends. She kept all of the females at her house and I kept all of the males at my house – very convenient and as someone told us, “good stud management”. Over the ensuing years, we bred a total of 17 litters and showed more than 30 bassets to championships. Sadly, in the summer of 2011, Pat died after a short illness, and I have been “flying solo” with Red Bay Bassets and

continue to breed and show. At the current time, I have 3 bassets, (all Champions) ranging in age from 4 - 10 years old, who comfortably take up all of the couch space on a daily basis. The youngest one, Savannah, is working to earn her Grand Championship and is very active doing Therapy Dog work in a Memory Care Unit, several schools, a church and fire department rescue response team.

I attended the University of Toledo (Toledo Ohio) earning a Bachelor of Science (Pre-Med), a Masters of Education (Curriculum & Instruction) and a Doctorate of Philosophy (Educational Administration and Curriculum & Instruction). I retired in 2008 after a 32 year career in education, with experience including teacher of high school biological science, chemistry and math, junior high assistant principal and elementary school principal. I was the principal of one of the largest elementary schools in our system with more than 650 students for 16 years. During my time as an elementary school principal, I always had at least one dog who was a Registered Therapy Dog and went to work with me once a week, serving as an academic/behavioral reward or therapy for the students at the school.

Following my retirement and the death of my husband in 2016, I was able to become more involved in community, church, and Basset Hound clubs and events. I have served as an Explorer Scout resource, robotics volunteer and I am currently the volunteer coordinator for the marching band for my grandchildren’s high school. I also am the curriculum director, secretary and librarian for our church. I love to sew for my family, Basset Hound clubs and rescues.

- I have served on the Board of Directors for the Basset Hound Club of Western Pennsylvania and chaired the annual raffle held at the Canfield Ohio Specialty for 10 years. I currently serve as the Secretary of the club.
- I am also involved with Basset Rescue of Michigan, on an as-needed basis for pick-ups at local shelters and local area transports.
- I have been involved actively with Daphneyland Basset Rescue in Acton California, assisting with fundraising and in an advisory capacity for 15 years, joined the Board of Directors in 2012 and since then have served as the secretary and adoption coordinator of this group.
- As a member of BHCA (1992), I have served on the Teller Committee twice, was the Raffle and Auction Chairperson for the 2011, 2013, 2016, 2018, 2021 and 2022 Nationals. I am chairperson of the Rescue Advisory Committee and have been the Coordinator of the Basset Fun Day at Nationals since 2015. I have also served on the Health and Research Committee since 2016. I have been on the BHCA Board of Directors for 7 years and served as Recording Secretary for 1 year, Director for 2 years and Corresponding Secretary for 4 years. I also have been assigned the responsibility for the BHCA Facebook page and the Constant Contact emails that are used to keep the membership informed about current events. As a Board Member, I was the chairperson of the team that negotiated the release and transport of the ten glaucoma colony dogs to BHCA. I drove the middle leg of the transport, including an overnight at my home and currently assist with monitoring the health of the remaining dogs. I look forward to continue serving the BHCA in the coming years.