

Growing up as a city kid with parents who weren't really dog people, we didn't have dogs running around the house back then. Everything changed for me in 1983 when I moved to the farm with my aunt, uncle, and cousin—that's really when my love for dogs took off.

Over the years, our four-legged family members joined us starting out with Miniature Manchester Terriers and Cocker Spaniels as cherished pets, and later welcomed Shelties, Chihuahuas, and Schnauzers into our homes, learning the ropes of training, agility, and obedience right along with them.

In 2013, Doug and I took over his parents' kennel name, Lin Shan, which drew us back into the life of dog sports and of showing together. That same year, we brought home our Shar-Pei, Echo, and I also crossed paths with my very first Portuguese Podengo Pequeno—falling completely head over heels for the breed. We welcomed our foundation boy in 2014 and our foundation girl in 2015, which officially kicked off our Podengo breeding journey under the Lin Shan banner as a team.

As the years rolled on and a few health issues popped up, we ultimately decided to retire from showing Shar-Pei in 2022 and dialed back our breeding significantly to keep things manageable. Even with those changes, we're still going strong with our beloved Podengos, and we even brought Chihuahuas back into our home in 2025.

These days, whenever we aren't busy with our careers and the dogs, you'll find the two of us enjoying the slower pace of country life. We love spending our free time right on our small acreage hanging out together, tending to our small herd of cattle, and soaking up every single moment we can with our kids, grandkids, and the rest of the family. Life is short, after all—don't take it for granted, do what you love, and be with those you love.

Serving as a Board Member at Large, it is truly an honor and a privilege to help promote and enhance this wonderful breed.