

Susan Souza – President

I have been a member of the Portuguese Podengo Pequenos of America since 2009 and was involved in recruiting members during the Club's early years, prior to its AKC recognition in 2010. I have served on the PPPA Board of Directors since 2018, both as a Board member and as President.

I believe the Board's role is to serve the membership as a whole, while acting in accordance with the Club's Bylaws and in the best interests of the PPPA. My years of service have included involvement in many of the Club's programs, events, and organizational development. Since 2015 I have served as Awards Chair after proposing the Membership Awards Program and receiving Board approval for its implementation. I have also played an active role in the Club's transition from AKC Licensed Club status to AKC Member Club status and have contributed to the development of guidelines for numerous programs, including the National Specialty, Top Twenty, and Futurity/Maturity programs.

I was a past editor of the PIP and serve as an approved mentor and presenter for Judges Education. I have served as the National Specialty Show Chair five times. Beginning with the 2016 National Specialty when I assisted then-President Suzanne Faria. I have also served as Show Chair for two Regional Specialties.

Also, I am a member of the Miniature Pinscher Club of America, President of the Mensona Kennel Club, and serve on the Board of the Golden Gate Arabian Horse Association.

My career in purebred dogs began in 1982 with the purchase of my first show dog, a Labrador Retriever. After moving to California in 1986 I began obedience and conformation with Shetland Sheepdogs and Collies. I purchased my first Miniature Pinscher in 1994 (I still have one) and my first Portuguese Podengo Pequeno, The Captain, in 2012.

I maintain a small breeding program with an emphasis on health testing and I am an advocate for the PPPA CHIC certification program through the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals (OFA). I am also an AKC judge for Miniature Pinschers and Portuguese Podengo Pequenos.

Professionally, I have worked for Legacy Marketing Group, an insurance marketing company, for 28 years and currently hold the title of Senior Relationship Manager. I live in Santa Rosa, CA with my husband of 30 years, Will.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. I can also be reached by phone or text at 707-293-3432 Pacific Time.