

Maremma Sheepdog Club of America



Mark Engemann
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Board of Directors Candidate Biography

Please return this application to the above address.

Date: October 13, 2021

Position(s) running for: 1st choice VP, 2nd choice Board Member

Name: _____
First Catherine(Kate) MI L. Last Sortensen

Residence
Address: 365 Coffee Creek Rd, Bozeman MT 59715

Phone: 406,600.8594 Email: sorensen_kate@yahoo.com

Please share a brief biography: _____

I grew up on a farm in Plankinton, South Dakota surrounded by livestock and farm dogs. I received my teaching degree at Black Hills State University in Spearfish, South Dakota. I live with my husband, Chris Wardle and reside outside Bozeman, Montana where we utilize Maremmas for guarding our livestock and poultry.

I have had extensive experience with numerous LGD breeds and I rescue and train LGDs through Montana Dog Rescue, our charity. Montana Dog Rescue focuses on rehabilitating LGDs that have been neglected, abused or abandoned. I also currently teach full time 4th grade at a private school in Livingston, Montana.

It is important to remember that having a passion for Maremma Sheepdogs as a breed requires commitment to the breed and the ongoing and dynamic exercise of education, support of the membership, and development methods to recruit, educate and foster the growth of the MSCA membership. I am committed to direct and personal participation, being a helpful and inclusive leader and promoting friendships and camaraderie within the membership. I will also serve as a professional guide for the advancement of the breed as well as EVERY member or interested future member or partner to the MSCA.

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Experience you have that would be helpful in this Board position?

My years of teaching have helped me to develop a level of patience, open communication, mediation and diplomacy that would benefit the MSCA membership. Ideally, this would help change the environment to foster encouragement, collaboration and by helping members and others with breed standards through education and mentorship. _____

I have been raised to be kind, considerate, and to have a helpful disposition. I am open to personal interaction which will be a welcome change. Personal relationships should be promoted, fostered and valued. _____

Why do you want to hold this position on the Maremma Sheepdog Club of America Board of Directors?

While there are many very good breeders and interested members, I feel that the membership is too fragmented and not incredibly cohesive. This is something that needs to change in order to advance the breed, the members and the club. I will strive to create the direction that the membership feels is most productive and valuable to their needs and advancement. _____

Any further information you would like the Membership to know about you?

Quitting is not an option. Obstacles arise and fall. I will make sure as one of the leaders of the club, that options and advancement of the cause is routinely reviewed to achieve the best result for the breed, the club and the members. _____

What is your vision for the future of the MSCA?

To advance member opportunities, embrace change and promote the continued advancement of the Maremma breed and club financial viability. _____

What are your top 3 priorities for the MSCA in the next three years?

Member participation, inclusiveness and to eliminate divisiveness / inner club conflict.____

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