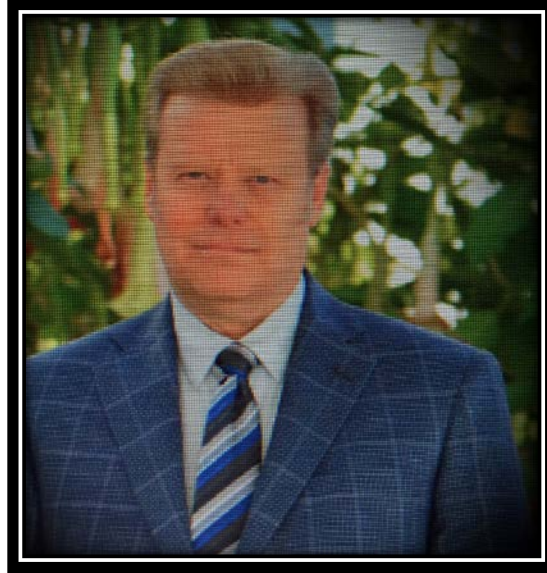

WADE KOISTINEN



Wade Koistinen's love of dogs spans 43 years, and his show career began when he purchased his first show dog while in high school. After college he worked in the hotel industry and eventually joined his first kennel club in 1982. At that time he began showing dogs for friends and other kennel club members as well as his own, working at the hotel during the week and showing dogs on weekends, and in 1993 he decided to leave the hotel industry to show dogs exclusively.

As a professional handler he has shown and titled a variety of breeds, but he has personally bred and put championships on the Keeshond (50+), Papillon (50+), Low Chen (33), and Brussels Griffon (6). He has won 34 BIS's and 7 National BISS's.

He has not owned a Silky Terrier, but has shown them and earned Champion and Grand Champion titles. In 2013 he was the Top Twenty handler judge at the Kansas City STCA National. In addition, he has attended the STCA sponsored Judges Education seminar as well as the STCA approved ringside mentoring.

He has been a member of the Keeshond Club of America for 33 years, serving as National Show Chair one year; the Low Chen Club of America; Jesse James KC, and Mo-Kan Toy Club. He has been a member of several other all-breed clubs over the years where he has served in various officer and Board positions.

He has judged many matches and regional sweepstakes, the national sweepstakes for the Keeshond 3 times, Papillon and Samoyed. He has also judged four national Top Twenty events (Keeshond, Papillon, Lhasa Apso, and the Silky Terrier).

His plans for the future include becoming a licensed judge.

He says he loves judging puppies and that it would be an honor to be selected by the membership to judge the 2018 National Sweepstakes.