

Hello Mid Pacific members!

My name is Kittie Ruttan and I am asking for your vote as the next Mid Pacific Regional Director.

TICA has been an important part of my entire adult life, in 1979 after graduating from high school, I joined this exciting and brand new organization. In 1984 I was licensed as a TICA judge and have had the honor of judging your lovely cats for over 35 years.

Over the last 39 years, I have and continue to belong to several well established clubs as well as having been involved with starting others. I have bred and shown several breeds and entered untold numbers of shows. I believe I have a unique perspective on TICA in view of my involvement with this ever growing international organization. As such, I feel I am more than ready and equally as capable of giving back and leading this region successfully.

I humbly ask for your support and vote because I believe strongly that this region must come together for the good of all and the only way to succeed, is to work as a team. I am ready to be that team leader and ask you all, to round out this team!

I believe we must re-establish a fun filled family that competes well but also cheers each other on. I encourage open and honest communication and a willingness to share, learn and help one another to move forward.

My goal is to establish a committee to work with breeders & exhibitors to help mediate member disputes so that the facts are known and amicable solutions can be found for everyone

As a region, we must work together to expand our clubs, member base and shows. This is not an easy task, especially in California where our traditional show halls are far outside the reach of new clubs. I am hoping to identify facilities where one day or alternative format shows can be held with the goal of increasing our presence and reaching out to our communities. I will put together a group of people who can participate in local neighborhood Pet Fairs and Expo's to promote TICA and the cat fancy in general. The more people who know about cat showing and breeding, the more our membership will increase.

I will expand our Junior Exhibitor program to bring in new youth and increase the areas of training and learning for our existing young members. In addition to holding Junior Exhibitor sessions, I will hold classes for the kids, giving them an opportunity to ask questions, learn how to work with their cats, and gain more confidence in speaking and handling them. I think pairing new Junior Exhibitors with older youth, or even exhibitors, will help mentor them and make it more fun for everyone. My hope too is to have the Junior Exhibitors involved in all functions of these shows, from fundraisers to helping show planning and set up.

I will not shy away from difficult issues or sugar coat the fact that while the Mid Pacific is my primary concern, my decisions and actions will include our association as a whole. Compromises will have to be made for the good of our region, the growth of TICA and the future of our hobby.

If I am privileged to become your regional director, I pledge to be open and available to all members. I want to vastly increase the amount of communication within the Region including social media, email and my own presence at our shows. To do this will ensure that information on TICA issues is disseminated to all of our members on a timely basis. I want to create a region where all members are valued and where we utilize the amazing talent pool that exists within.

Sincerely

Kathrine Ruttan