

Marilee Griswold

CFA Director at Large Candidate

Moving CFA Forward

In a cat world more globally connected than ever before, we MUST begin reflecting CFA values in a diverse, yet cohesive way. This means more than caring about the cats. It means listening to—and drawing on the talents of—the PEOPLE of our organization.

Since my start in the fancy in 1994, people have told me I am level-headed, knowledgeable, and a great listener. I would like to believe that I am an “idea person” with the ability to move CFA forward into the expanding world of cat genetics and inter-connectivity. Now I am ready to draw on my ideas—as well as YOURS—to provide the answers CFA needs to meet today’s challenges.

- We need to move CFA into the world of verifiable genetics regarding health issues. CFA is behind many other organizations in allowing genetic testing to be tied to the registration of a cat, if desired.
- CFA should move towards being more paperless. For example, our show catalogs could be uploaded into an app that could be available for our cell phones.
- I would love CFA to better utilize the resources we have already, such as our people. We have an enormous pool of talent out there ready to contribute to the strength of our organization. Let’s involve people in our committees who specialize in what we need.
- We should involve the CFA clubs and constituents in decisions that are being made to move CFA forward. Many years ago, most decisions were made solely by the CFA board. Now, however, we are more connected than ever before through social media. We can involve the entire CFA cat fancy with just the touch of a button. It’s time to make this happen!

I’m asking for your club’s vote for Director at Large

I’d love to hear your thoughts and answer your questions!

Marileemed@yahoo.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/marilee.griswold/>



CFA Credentials

- CFA judge since 2014
- Judged the CFA International Show in 2018 and 2019; on the slate for 2023
- Served as a CFA ambassador via international judging assignments and guest judging for the World Cat Federation and Co-ordinating Cat Council of Australia
- Scottish Fold Breed Council Secretary
- Recipient CFA Star Award (gold)
- Member, Judging Program Committee (file administrator for training/advancing judges)
- Member, Credentials Committee 2021-2023
- Member, CFA COVID Committee
- Published a peer-reviewed scientific publication on Scottish Folds and the health problems facing the breed in the prestigious genetics journal “Human Genetics” (<https://rdcu.be/cu6rN>)
- Created presentations on British Shorthair and Scottish Folds focusing on health issues and helping breeders produce healthier, more robust cats. Have delivered these presentations in Romania, Indonesia, Thailand and Italy

Outside of CFA

- Graduated University of South Carolina School of Medicine 1998 with a Doctor of Medicine (MD)
- Worked for 25 years as board-certified psychiatrist, retiring in 2023
- United States Navy active duty 1994-2006, finishing with honorable discharge as lieutenant commander
- Advanced Sommelier with the United States Sommelier Association
Certified Specialist of Wine with the Society of Wine Educators
Level 2 Certified with the Wine and Spirit Education Trust
Introductory Sommelier with the Court of Master Sommeliers