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SHOW REPORT

THE 1995 CHERRY BLOSSOM CLASSIC

It was a dark and gloomy weekend, but the brave and die-hard exhibitors dragged on. ARBA once again did a fantastic job selecting judges from all around the world. The judging panel represented the United States, Finland, Hungary, and Portugal. They were not only extremely knowledgeable about the breeds, but were also very personable. I enjoyed meeting and exhibiting under them very much, and would like to see them back again.

Sunday PM Show was the NPPCC Regional Specialty. It was really a honor to be able to hold a Specialty at such a prestigious Show. Our judge was Mrs. Jane Pampalone. Mrs. Pampalone is quite knowledgeable in the Rare Breeds, especially the Molosser Breeds. She currently has Black Russian Terriers, but was one of the first to bring the Neapolitan Mastiff here to the United States.

Best of Breed for the 1995 Regional Specialty was ARBA CH, FIC CH, S.S. Posidan, bred by Richard Kelly, and owned and handled by Donna Kelly-Burton.

Even through the downpours, spirits were high, and few were quitting. There were four covenanted Best in Shows at stake and this year the wins went to the rookies. A Swedish Vallhund, an Azawakh, a Holland Shepherd and a Spinone Italiano. This was the first Best in Show for all of the dogs. CONGRATULATIONS to all of them.

I hope next year we can have our National Specialty at this show, and I also hope more of you come out and exhibit or just watch and support the Presas in the ring.

Until next year...

Donna Kelly-Burton
Show Chairperson

The 1995 show season has proven to be quite successful for the Presa Canario. There has been a strong showing at almost every show this year, with the Presa consistently placing in the working group as well as a going Best in Show. This is a great accomplishment for our breed, it shows there are more dogs being shown and the judges are finally beginning to recognize the breed and

appreciate them enough to use them in the group. All this is wonderful, but we need to see even more Presas out there. The entries have been averaging six a show, with the highest entry coming at the ARBA Motor City Classic in Detroit, Michigan, with an entry of ten dogs. It would be wonderful to see even more Presas out there, especially those that truly personify the true breed type, of large, heavy boned Mastiffs. So please, I urge you to get your puppies and adults alike out there and be seen, who knows, maybe you will have the next Best in Show Presa Canario.

We would also like to say CONGRATULATIONS to this year Regional Specialty Best of Breed Winner, ARBA CH. FIC CH. S.S. Posidan, bred by Richard Kelly and Donna Kelly-Burton and owned and handled by Donna Kelly-Burton. It was a wonderful turnout of Presa Canarios, with eight adult entries. It was truly an honor to have our Regional Specialty at the prestigious ARBA Cherry Blossom Classic in Washington, DC. Hopefully we can have our National Specialty there next year.

This year National Specialty is tentatively set for the end of October at the Tri-State Working Dog Association fall show in Heightstown, NJ.

"Quips And Quotes" by Megan Kelly

Louisburg, Missouri: The locale of W.R. (Bill) Thylault's 52-acre farm and his new Guardian Angels Kennel. Bill has become one of the newest future breeders of Presa Canario's. To initiate the start-up of his kennel, he recently purchased three of the five contracted Presa Canario pups from Show Stopper Kennels. Bill's foundation stock consists of a stud male (Shaka) out of S.S. Mufasa x S.S. Medusa. The bitches are (Sarabi) out of S.S. Posidon x S.S. Cassiopia and three, yet unnamed, out of S.S. Thedyus, S.S. Andromina and S.S. Bad Mamaba Jamba. All bred to S.S. Posidon. We are confident Bill will be adhering to the Show Stopper principles of breeding for type, size, soundness and true island temperament. In addition to breeding the Presa's as companion guard dogs, Bill will also be raising (Dogue de Bordeaux, Bull Mastiffs and American Bulldogs). Let us all wish him much success with his "Guardian Angel" kennel.

Southern Specialty Kennels: Owned by Celia L. Badon and located in Pearl River, Louisiana, is another new Presa Canario breeder starting out with Show Stopper Kennel stock. Celia recently drove to New Jersey to collect two of her three contracted Presa Canario pups. Her stud male (Southern Comfort) is out of Ch. S.S. Posidon (Bull) and S.S. Hera. Her first female (Southern Spice), a gorgeous fawn with Black Mask, is out of Int. Ch. S.S. Mufasa and Gr. Ch. S.S. Medusa. The second female contracted will be out of Ch. S.S. Elektra (Lexus) and S.S. Mufasa (BaLu). I'm sure we can expect show champions in the near future considering Celia's dedication for excellence in her breeding program.

Tenerife, A Gran Canaries Island is the home of our worthy Presa Canario and where Presa Breeder Jorge Diaz resides. Jorge, a native islander has contracted to exchange male Presa pups with Show Stopper Kennels. Especially since seeing the results of their breeding program. Understandably, with the limited amount of unrelated Presa males on the island, Jorge would want to enhance his existing gene pool with some of the best American Presa's. By the way, Jorge's kennel is where now four time champion S.S. Mufasa originated. Jorge's new pup was born July 1st at the Show Stopper Pennsylvania kennel. This fawn is out of S.S. Posidon and S.S. Thedyus. The pup will be shipped to the island at three months of age. Show Stopper's contracted exchange is for a tiger brindle with black mask. And unrelated to Mufasa. This exchange will solidify Show Stopper Kennel's breeding program of type, size, soundness and true island temperament.

Believe It Or Not - No not "Ripley's" historic facts, but rather the latest reported stats from some of our club members regarding their Presa Canario.

Ben Salud called from his homeland, Lihue, Hawaii, to tell us his 9 " month old male Presa (Zues) was recently weighed at the vet. And he tipped the scale at 155lbs. Yes, this is a Calybos/Medusa pup. What is even more amazing, is the fact the pup was shipped at three months of age and was held in quarantine for four months.

Sandra Miller of Pascagoula, Mississippi stated in her recent letter that her Bad Mamba Jamba/Calybos Presa, known as (Magi), weighs 144 lbs., stands 27", at the age of fifteen months.

Dr. Sheldon Nassberg of Fort Lauderdale, Florida just called the breeder, bragging about his male Presa (S.S Buster Bunny). At ten months of age, Buster was weighed at the vets. At a solid 145 lbs. and standing 31" at the withers. Buster is the result of a Elektra/Calybos breeding.

Attributes Of The Presa Canario:

- Discern: Distinguish between, to detect with the eyes, to detect with the senses other than vision.
- Discriminate: To make good judgment
- Intuition: Quick and ready insight

Richard Kelly, co-owner of Show Stopper Kennels confirms all of the above statements as he is ever learning from this wonderful breed - the Presa Canario. Richard states he has always known the Presa to possess a strong ability to discriminate between a good person or someone who exudes bad vibes. Admittedly, many breeds of dogs have an awareness and intuitiveness when it comes to categorizing strangers, but none as heightened as the Presa. What is difficult to understand, is how a young Presa can have the power or faculty to direct cognition without any evident, rational inference. Richard gives this illustration. At the most recent ARBA dog show held at Heightstown, NJ, he was walking a six month old, female Press (Mia) around the show grounds, encountering many other dogs and many interested spectators and exhibitors. This young Press never showed any anxiety or aggression. But when, on two separate occasions, individuals approached both he and the Presa, she immediately stood a defensive posture, hackles up on both back and tail, while growling menacingly and warding off both of these individuals. Richard's personal observations of people is that they are either good or evil. He knowingly categorizes both of these men as evil types, but how did this young female Press know?

The Gripper Gripe - An Open Letter To Club Members

I am sure you have all heard the familiar expression "caveat emptor" (Let the buyer beware). Sound familiar? It was only a short while ago we shared comments about questionable back yard Presa breeders selling questionable Presa Canario pups at bargain prices (\$400.00+). Often as not, these newspapers advertised pups are nothing more than glorified "Band Dogs". Their characteristic flaws are quite obvious to the learned, but not the unsuspecting, unknowledgeable public, who are duped into believing their newly purchased, blue-coated, blue-snout, light colored eyes (blue, gray, yellow), rat tailed, short/fine coated pup is really a pure Presa. Wrong! Wrong! Wrong!

You cannot believe how many calls for help that this club receives, from people who have purchased so-called Presa's from unscrupulous breeders. The most memorable situation happened only a few days ago. A very frustrated woman, from around the Philadelphia area called, asking for assistance in handling an aggressive female Presa. Her dog was unruly, constantly attacking and biting her husband as well as her English Mastiff. She reportedly purchased the then nine-week-old female pup from a dubious back yard breeder of questionable Presa Canario dogs. We stress questionable because we have seen this breeder's stud as a young dog (yellow eyes, a Fila-like head and showing Fila Brasileiro tendencies). It was at that time we learned this questionable breeder purchased her then "Parvo" infected male pup from yet another dubious backyard breeder. So what does she do? She continues to perpetuate the same fraudulent scenario on the unsuspecting as was done to her. The woman seeking our help had asked the so-called breeder if she stood behind her pups and would she provide help should it be needed. She was told most emphatically yes, sure she helps all her clients. To this day, this breeder in question refuses to answer and/or return any phone calls. She has completely stonewalled any contact, adding to the frustration of the dog owner.

Additionally, the concerned client had asked the breeder earlier, if there were any Presa clubs she should join. The breeder's answer was an emphatic no! She knew of no such club. What a bald

faced lie. This so-called breeder was in fact denied membership with the parent organization, in the United States, namely the National Perro De Presa Canario Club. Yes, she was denied access because according to the club bi-laws, she was misrepresenting her impure dog as a Presa and breeding this dog certainly fails to meet the Spanish Kennel Club standards. In fact, this questionable breeder was asked to remove herself and her bogus Presa from a certified dog show because it was so obvious to the judges and show chairperson, hers was not a true Presa Canario and could not compete against bonifide Presa's. Unfortunately, there is little consolation we can offer the owner of the aggressive female, but to say Presa Canario dogs are not by nature, people aggressive. It would behoove her to contact a reputable animal behaviorist and keep her fingers crossed as well as out of the reach of her band dog.

While we're griping on the subject of unconscionable, fabricating breeders, let's consider the remarks being spread by our northern neighbors. Upon questioning from inquiring consumers, why is there a noticeable difference in appearance from their Presa and those of their American cousins? Their response was "there are new world and old world Presa's". What bunk! A Presa is a Presa. So long as it's genetic make-up includes the foundation dogs, the Bardino, the Mastiff and Olde Bull-Baiting Bulldog, and not the genetics of blue-coated dogs (Neapolitan Mastiff, Pit Bull Terrier, American Staffordshire Terrier), American Bulldog and/or Fila Brasileiro, as we have seen time again throughout the United States. As Owners of Presa Canario dogs, let ups hope and pray these so-called breeders fall between the cracks. As Club members, continue to support those reputable Presa Canario breeders who adhere to the credo of maintaining the historic purity of the breed.

Helpful Tips

Did you know even our healthy pets can use a worming, especially in the beginning? New pets and worms usually come together even though we don't like to think about it worms have lived with our pets for many years and their life cycles are very much intertwined.

Early worm stages lying dormant in the tissues of the mama area awakened and move to the newborns on their way out into their new world. Other forms of transmission are through insects, directly through the paws or through the oral/fecal route. From early beginnings the worms can be there. If the worm load is large, trouble can start as early as two to three weeks of age causing poor digestion, bloating and possibly intestinal blockage.

The worms are quite busy reproducing themselves. Their motto is "Safety In Numbers". As with flies and most insects, when the conditions are right, rapid effective reproduction ensures their survival until the next opportunistic time. Most pet intestinal worms reproduce in cycles of two to three weeks, almost constantly showering the intestine with massive numbers of eggs. The adult worms are essentially egg factories, sending the eggs out individually or reproducing neatly packaged versions for further travels in the animal and plant kingdoms.

Signs of worms can be quite varied, from vomiting, coughing, poor coat, underweight, overweight, loose or bloody bowels, hyperactivity, to no signs at all. Signs suggestive of worms usually require some form of treatment even through no eggs are seen in the stool. Diarrhea will wash away the eggs or the adults can be in a rest period from producing eggs. A strong and healthy animal will not be affected by worms, the vitality will keep the worm numbers low or almost non-existent, through strong digestion and excellent immune function.

Most of our pets need a little help, especially in the beginning. The newer worm medications are extremely effective, safe and gentle. There are still older, harsher and less effective products available; these are best left alone. Pyrantel (Strongid-T), Fenbendazole (Panacur), and Febantel (Rintal) are safe and effective for many of the common pet intestinal worms. A treatment best consists of doses of medication approximately eighteen days apart. This is due to the medication only removing adult worms. In two to three weeks the larval stages that have matured into adults must also be killed to break the reproductive cycle. There are also time tested worm herbs and remedies for aiding in the expulsion of worms. Garlic, cloves, thyme extract, Zymex and many more have been used. Rigorous testing of these products is absent since little money can be made in using these readily available natural food items. Ridding our pets of excessive worms is

and added boost for helping them get on the right road to health. Worm medications and herbs can be abused. As the frequent need for limiting the worm load indicates an underlying lack of vitality. This is usually based on poor nutrition, poor breeding, unnatural environment or over vaccination. Combinations of any of these factors can reduce vitality significantly.

Providing the pets fresh, wholesome food, in balance with fresh air, exercise and loving and meaningful interaction will maximally ensure a vital, beautiful, vibrant pet.