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SHOW REPORT

States Kennel Club (SKC), San Diego, Ca June 8th & 9th

S.S. Mufasa took four Best of Breeds and placed Group Third three times. In addition, Balu achieved his International Kennel Club championship (IKC) and earned ninety of the required one hundred and fifty points toward his SKC championship. To date, Balu holds an ARBA, FIC, IKC and breed club championships, all at the age of sixteen months.

Memorial Day Weekend Virginia Beach, VA

S.S. Bad To The Bone placed in four out of six working groups, while earning all six Best of Breeds. Booger finished her DFUSA, FIC and NPPCC championships and is well on her way to earning her Grand Champion title. The DFUSA. is a premier title as Booger is their first Presa champion.

Welcome New Members

The National Perro de Presa Canario Club, it's board of directors and current members, wish to extend our heartfelt welcome to our newest members:

Warren K. Dennard
Southfield, Michigan

W.R. (Bill) Thyfault
Louisburg, Mo.

Anwar Rashid
Queens, NY

What Is A Name? The growth of our 1996 list of Presa Canario names continues as impressive and unusual:

Pandora's Nikoli
Hydra
Chaos
Jumanji
Xena
Orion
Southern Comfort
Shaka

Sarabi
Beyo
Bella
Amos
Southern Spice

Have you noticed the Gripper has a theme logo, the Canary dog. Thanks to Richard Kelly.

Current Reports: The American bred Presa Canario continues in its quest for international status. It's been reported, the first ever Presas are being shipped to Aruba, St. Croix in the US Virgin islands and Lihue, Hawaii, thanks to the efforts and reputation of Show Stopper Kennels.

What's In A Name: A word or phrase that constitutes the distinctive designation of a person or thing. Here is a continuing sampling of names from some of our newest Presa member dogs:

Kenora
Fugley
Tike
Boomer
Mufasa
Trump
Orion
Odessa
Cerberus
Slick-Chic
Blaze of Fairtex
Persephone

Bonita Springs, Fl. has one of the toughest Presa pups around. Just ask owner Joe Eyster. Joe informed us his six-month-old male, Doc Holiday encountered his first rattlesnake bite! He handled the bite quite well, hardly restricting him at all. Young Doc weighed in at 96 lbs. and stood 24" high at the time of the showdown. In addition to Doc's prowess with the rattler, he is exhibiting very well in the show ring. While attending the WWKC show in Orlando, Fla. at the age of six months, he took best of breed and placed second in the puppy group. This was Joe and Doc's first attempt at showing. Congratulations to both.

Angora. Ca. We've all heard the nursery rhyme [This Little Piggy Goes To Market](#), etc. Well, at Mickey Blowitz house, the piggy ends up in his Presa Canario mouth. Mickey began training or should we say, he began polishing one of the natural characteristics of the breed. His female, Tike started training at three months to hunt wild boar. Now one year old, she is a proven veteran who truly loves to track and capture the local 75 lb. plus, wild boar. Mickey's training consisted of using a small bag of sand with a pig's ear attached. He taught Tike that biting the sandbag body tasted yucky, but grabbing the ear was yummy! It didn't take Tike long to learn the association. Tike is out of S. S. Bad Mamba Jamba and S. S. Calybos. By the way Mick, we've got some excellent barbeque sauce for those little piggies.

Sandra and Charles Miller recently of Punta Gorda, Fla, now of Pascagoula, Miss. just can't say enough good things about their female Presa pup Magnolia. She is bright and learns quickly. House breaking was a cinch. She is an absolute delight (the vet's words). These accolades are only supported by the facts, Charlie Miller (the Vet) has placed an order for his own personal Presa. Yes, you guessed it, the Presa will come from Show Stopper Kennels. By the way, Magi's playmate is a twelve year old English Mastiff. Sandra called recently just to give us an update on Magi's stats. Believe is or not, she weighs 105 lbs. and stands 25" tall at seven months. Also, she is beginning to growl with a southern drawl.

Dispelling rumors Presa's can live with other dogs as Joann Gerwitz attests to with her photo showing her Giant Schnauzer (four year old female) with her Presa playmate (ten month old female). The girls, Sadie and Lea love each other. Here is another rumor dispelled, Presa's can be raised in small confines. Joann lives in the city on a small lot, the driveway is the girl's playground. Also, Lea the Presa loves her baths and family. If I may, I would like to quote Joann from her most recent letter, "These are both great dogs, but we'll never own another Giant Schnauzer. Presa's are the only dogs in our future".

Central Point, Oregon On July 29th and 30th, Presa owners Dana and Bruce Childers brought out their Show Stopper junior puppy Mercedes; a 4 1/2 month old, brindle female Casey as she is called, is out of the famous Medusa and Calybos. With such heritage, no wonder she took four best of breeds, 3 group ones and a group two in the puppy group. This was achieved during the newest ARBA show, the Salmon Run Classic, held in Seattle, Wash. By the way, there were six to seven pups competing in the group. Congratulations

to Casey and her owners for completing here junior championship in one weekend. Commentaries regarding this young female were overheard at ringside, spoken by knowledgeable observers - "This pup is really smacked together" and from an international handler - "where did they get this magnificent Presa bitch with such a great rear?" Watch out Presa's, there is new competition on the horizon.

Dr. Carl Semencic, author of Pit Bulls And Other Tenacious Guard Dogs has recently completed his third book on the subject of working/guard dogs. While the title of the new book is not finalized, it is expected the book will be at the stands within the year. Some dog owners disagree with Dr. Semencic's breed commentaries or take fault with omission of a few rare breeds, but one cannot help to admire and acknowledge his efforts to obtain all available data on each of he reported breeds. He is in fact known to travel extensively to each breed's country of origin, researching all pertinent material and interviewing the notable breeders. At the recent Tri-State Working Dog Show, held in Heightstown, NJ, Richard Kelly of Show Stopper Kennels had an opportunity to meet with Dr. Semencic and compare notes on their most recent visits to The Canary Islands. It seems they were both on Tenerife at the same time. The doctor was their to meet and interview the Island's renowned Presa Canario breeder and author of the 1994 book El Perro de Presa Canario Manuel Curto Gracia. Unfortunately for those of us non-Spanish reading dog owners, this great book, published in Spain is written in Spanish, all 279 pages. We have seen this book, a beautiful, detailed history and description of the 150-year-old Presa breed. The book contains numerous color photos of the island Presa. If we can locate the book publisher, we will share the information with everyone. Until then, let's watch for Dr. Semencic's new book.

Catch Dogs For Tibetan Mastiffs - Would you believe a Presa Canario being used as a catch dog to fetch Tibetan Mastiffs to their masters. It's true. Pat and Melissa Wolfe, owners of Chang Ku Tibetan Mastiff Kennel and breeders of some of the top T.M.'s in the country, proclaimed the mastery of their seven month old female Presa, S.S. Bad To The Bone, known affectionately as Booger, as a great catch dog. If you are familiar with Tibetans, you know they can be very standoffish, aloof. Yes, that's the word, aloof! Well, the Wolfe property consists of one acre fenced land and at the rear portion of the property is where the five T.M.'s hang out. So when Pat and Melissa call the dogs from the house deck, the T.M.'s just stand their ground ignoring the playful calls to come. Booger responds immediately, but after seeing the T.M.'s remaining unmoved, she charges down upon command and will grab hold of a 28", 115 lb., male by the scruff of the neck and pull him back to the house. She then proceeds to gather the rest of the Tibetans with the same diligence and enthusiasm. Now the Mastiffs have learned to team up and capture Booger and restrain her. Alas, this tactic failed because the Presa out powers them all!

Flash: reports just received from south of the border, where an international dog show was being held in Mexico City. A Show Stopper Presa Canario brindle male owned by Gabriel Beltran Ramos received comments from those in the show that the judges and people attending the show fell in love with his magnificent Presa. The 2 1/2-year-old male is out of S. S. Andromina and S.S. Calybos. With this type of exposure, the Presa should receive it's deserved FCI recognition...

Murphy's Law With A Twist

The "Fortunate Isles" as they were once known, was the home of the giant people and is now called the "Gran Canaries", the birthplace of the Perro de Presa Canario.

Richard Kelly co-owner of Show Stopper kennels recently returned from a trip to these Canary Islands, namely the island of Tenerife. The purpose of the trip was two fold, first and foremost, locate and purchase a quality Presa Canario Male, secondly to observe the 1995 Presa Exposition held in Santa Cruz Tenerife, on October 7th and 8th.

We are being polite when we describe some of the events that befell Richard during his adventure, while in the Spanish Islands. Richard contracted for an English speaking taxi driver to meet him at the Island's north airport. This driver was to have located several of the local Presa breeders to expedite any Presa pup acquisitions. After landing in Madrid, Spain, Richard learned his connecting flight to Tenerife would be delayed two hours. Now the anxiety begins. Would the driver wait?

Upon arrival at the Tenerife airport, Richard discovers his luggage was left behind in Madrid and there to remain until he returned four days later. Next, the contracted taxi driver (Carlos) was there to meet him, but could not speak a word of English. Yes, you guessed it, he hadn't located any breeders. Undaunted, Richard pursued his goal. From the hotel, he located an English speaking taxi driver who acted as interpreter and assisted locating the show site. On Saturday morning, Richard met with several members of the Presa Canario Club, photographed many Presa's and located a beautiful nine-month-old fawn male for sale. This young dog's call name is Balu. His grand-sire is Urco, three time champion poster dog for the island. Richard hadn't planned on buying a large, older dog, but rather some puppies. In fact, he only bought 2 #400 size vari-kennels with him. Needless to say, Balu would not fit into the 400. The cost to purchase a 500 kennel in Tenerife is \$234.00 American. God smiled again. Richard located a pet shop owner who not only handled all the required paper work, but also would swap the two 400's for one 500's. (p.s. the 400's cost Richard \$58.00 each). Another plus is that Show Stopper Kennels has three more sources for Presa pups. In fact, the local breeders want to buy from Show Stopper!

Fate smiled once more, as Richard was able to recover his lost luggage in Madrid.

Show Stopper's newest addition currently weighs 100 lbs. and is 24 1/2" tall. His registered name is S.S. Mufasa, Swengali for the Lion King.

Mufasa has already started his show career and quite successfully. At the Tri-State Working Dog show, held on October 28th and 29th in Heightstown, NJ, he took Best of Breed, three of the four shows. At the most recent ARBA show (the Hollywood Classic), he won Best of Breed all four shows and earned a Group Two. Mufasa is now a Junior Champion. We wish him much success in the coming future.

Caveat Emptor

Yes, that's right, let the buyer beware! We mention this phrase as a precaution since receiving disturbing reports about some unscrupulous Presa Canario breeders selling dogs of questionable heritage and lineage as true Presa Canario dogs. Most knowledgeable people would identify the visible characteristics of crossbreeding Pit Bulls, Neapolitan Mastiffs, Am Staffs and whatever else would stand still during breeding. Unfortunately, there aren't many Presas in the country or published photographs to help educate the novice masses as to what is or is not a true Presa.

Red flags to give one immediate concern are the offering of so-called bargain prices for a Presa pup. One should draw a deep breath and ask some serious questions on any offerings of \$100 up to \$700 or \$800. Does the breeder or any of his client's show their dogs? Do they show with ARBA? Do any of these breeders and their clients belong to the only sanctioned Perro de Presa Canario Club, the NPPCC. We are the parent club of the Presa Canario breed in the United States and the only club recognized by ARBA whose breed standard (the Spanish Kennel Club standard) is the only one used by ARBA as well as all the licensed judges.

If the breeder in question uses any other breed standard he is saying as much as let's make the shoe fit the horse. At the point of sale, does the breeder send a video or photos showing the puppy, the litter, the dam and/or sire? Does he send health papers indicating all current wormings and shots? Does he provide registration papers for the pup? Is there any indication where the sire and dam are registered? What is the breeder's guarantee against congenital deficiencies? Just what is the breeder's reputation? Is it local or is he known internationally?

Do your homework and avoid the embarrassment of coming to a show and having the judges, handlers and owners tell you "If there was a lemon law for dogs, yours would qualify in a minute".

When in doubt, call this club anytime...