

# The GRIPPER

The Official Publication of the  
National Perro de Presa Canario Club

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### A Modern Fable--- The plight of the "Floo-Floo" bird

In the mountains of an island called MARI, there lived a tribe of poor farmers who scratched a living from the land. They lived on root crops and grain, and their only source of protein was eggs. The birds that provided the eggs were valued too much for their eggs that no one would ever consider eating their flesh.

The farmers bred their birds and refined their egg laying ability. As a result, the quality of the eggs became remarkable in their taste, quite unlike any other birds eggs. They called their birds "FLOO –FLOOS."

In time, strangers from the outside came to trade with the island farmers and soon discovered the remarkable eggs and the birds from whence they came. These traders passed a few eggs to their friends who were also amazed at the quality and unique taste.

A few FLOO-FLOO birds were obtained from; the islanders by people who appreciated the quality of the breeding that had been done by the mountain farmers.

In time one woman "discovered" the eggs of the FLOO-FLOO birds and said to herself "I will get some FLOO-FLOO birds and sell the eggs for a handsome price, and I shall be rich and famous." Without having real knowledge of the birds she failed in her attempt to raise a clutch of birds. She quickly learned that others who knew how to raise the FLOO-FLOOS were successfully raising some. She said "If they have the FLOO-FLOOS and raise eggs---

How will I get rich and famous from?

The she had an idea. She proclaimed herself "Queen of the FLOO-FLOOS." In her land, she then announced that only eggs from REAL FLOO-FLOOS, should be allowed to be called FLOO-FLOO eggs. She denounced all other FLOO-FLOOS in her land as fakes and their eggs as worthless. She gathered a few loyal subjects who agreed with her that REAL FLOO-FLOOS were too special for common people to own and with village people on the island of Mari, they decided that only people who's palate was discriminating enough should have FLOO-FLOO eggs to eat. It was almost a sacrilege that the poor farmers fried and boiled their eggs instead of making omelets and soufflés as befitted such a delicacy. This queen then passed laws to take the birds away from the farmers.

But what about the FLOO-FLOOS that had already left the island? The Queen said they must sort out the REAL FLOO-FLOOS from the fakes. "I have the REAL FLOO-FLOOS" she proclaimed. One person said; "I also have real FLOO-FLOOS because my FLOO-FLOOS have the same parents as yours." "No!" shouted the Queen. You cannot tell a FLOO-FLOO by its parents, it must be proclaimed REAL to be a

FLOO-FLOO. The people asked, "What must we do to have our birds proclaimed REAL?" "Bring your FLOO-FLOOS to me and I will have it judged for you" the Queen said.

The people asked, "Who will judge the FLOO-FLOO?" "Someone who agrees with me, for I know a real FLOO-FLOO and if a person agrees with me, then he or she is an acceptable judge. If he or she is an expert on judging birds but does not agree with me (who knows everything about FLOO-FLOOS) then they are not qualified judges."

About this time the Queen and her friends said to themselves "FLOO-FLOOS" is a bad name, it will make people think the bird flies, and since it can fly but mostly walks we need a new name." "We will call the birds "SCREW-Ya" and people will not worry about it not flying." Then the Queen said "If you want bird to be a "SCREW-Ya" you must bring it to me to be proclaimed as such." Many people said that it would be a long trip and create a hardship to pack up their birds and bring them to the Queen to be proclaimed. The Queen became enraged "If I can find a man to agree with me and bring him to my city, then there is no reason that the people cannot pack up their birds and cross rivers, mountains and fruited plains to come to me. I don't care if you have jobs or whatever, if you want to have a "SCREW-Ya" you have to do it." Then to herself she said "It is impossible for most to comply, so I will have the only "SCREW-Yas" and I shall be rich and famous."

But once again her clutch of eggs didn't develop and the Queen still had no birds. So she ranted; "The people raising healthy clutches don't care about the birds. Look at me, my chicks die, my hens get sick, I spend a lot of money and I know more about the "SCREW-Ya" than any living person. That proves the others are bad. If they cared about their birds their chicks would die and their hens would get sick, and they would have no eggs to sell."

Word of the Queens rants, reached the farmers who developed the FLOO-FLOOS and they said, "When our hens became sick and lost their chicks we didn't breed them again and when the hen was sick we isolated her and didn't breed her. Had we loved our FLOO-FLOOS more we too could have had our chicks die and our hens get sick. This is the kind of bird people want eggs from. The Queen is right, we are too ignorant to raise FLOO-FLOOS."

Absurdity and truth sometimes point to each other. In the Mongol Dynasty peasants who developed certain fruit were not allowed to eat it under pain of death. It was so special that only the Imperial house could have it. The Ming Dynasty had a special blue pottery that was taken from the artisans who created it. Justinian, the Bysatine emperor had the purple dye made originally by the weavers in fishing villages taken as Imperial property. Any person possessing the dye who was not weaving for the Emperor was killed. All through history we find the Self-proclaimed "Elite" proclaiming themselves the only persons with rights. Rights to property or whatever.

Isn't it strange that the farmers who developed the Presa would now be deemed as unfit to breed them, by a group who within their own group have probably never had a working flock guardian or a flock or herd to guard.

Rambling old dog man

# New NPPCC Members

**Cedric D. Chapman**

Fort Washington, Maryland

**William Hartranft**

Bethlehem, Pennsylvania

**Derek M. Wolfe**

Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

**William Stover**

Clinton, Maryland

**Kenneth & Charlotte Hayes**

Dubuque, Iowa

**Dee Dee Hoffman**

Kansas City, Missouri

**Jerome Pervall**

Newark, New Jersey

**Christopher M. Bretches**

Emporia, Kansas

**Susan Craney**

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

**Edward Peltsman**

Stoughton, Massachusetts

**Cedal Rogers**

Dayton, Texas

**Julius Celso M. Gomez**

Bellflower, California

**Onneke M. Shaff**

DeBarry, Florida

**Deitre S. Harris**

Dayton, Texas

**Pierce Gillenwater**

Newsoms, Virginia

**Vincent Alain**

Carlsbad Springs, Ontario, Canada

**John V. Bellinger**

Culpeper, Virginia

**Matt Bowen**

Statesville, North Carolina

Any member wishing to contact another member may do so by sending a written request to the NPPCC headquarters, state whom you wish to contact and how they may respond to your request, ie. Contact you via your phone# or e-mail or snail mail address? With the welcoming of these eighteen new members, the NPPCC membership has now risen to One Hundred Sixty Nine!

# Registered Presa Names

D.D. Cash	Ruffway Rosey May
Ruffway Flo Jo	G.A. Melvin Edwards
Ruffway Clubber Lang	Letalone Creek Jasmine
Mt. Olympus Hercules	Mt. Olympus Persephone
G.A. Lightning	MK Nino
Gus Von-Solly	MK Letta Lynn 3
God's Country Vesuvius	UPK Ultimate Mufasa
G.A. Tank	Mango Sam
Mango Little Nika	Calin's Maximus Gomez
Xena de Willowa of G.A.K.	G.A. Precious Diamond
G.A. Ezekiel's Archangel	Royal Duchess Johnson
G.A. Zedo	Matthewson's Conan
MK Kooma	Kalit de Barnacan Bull
G.A. Simba	G.A. Sahib
G.A. Maja	Elite Floyd
Elite Evie	Ranger Telk
G.A. Nala II	GK Shack
MK Sugar Mama	GK Peaches
God's Country Leucious	Letalone Creek R. Sheba
Mango Arnold the Bully	G.A. Madanfo
Frizzell Lemmy	Neon de Barnacan Bull
Elite Gacela	M.K. Luna
M.K. Bushka	M.K. Paco
M.K. Don	M.K. Carmen

As of May 31, 2002, the NPPCC has recorded 1,074 PRESA CANARIO dogs. The registry to date is derived from 117 litters, consisting of 43 litters from Show Stopper Kennels, and 74 litters from club associated Presa Canario breeders.

# Show Results

**The Rarities dog show - April 20th & 21st** Held at Lumberton, New Jersey. There were two FCI judges in attendance. Dr. Victor Valino of Argentina and Marit Sunde of Norway. The Pickel brothers had a rather successful Saturday. Tom's Presa - Marco de Irema Curto took Best of Breed in both shows. Jack's 9½ month old Presa Zena took Best of Opposite. Tom's fawn female puppy Gabby, won her breed class in the 6 to 9 mo. In the working group, Marco placed fourth out of twelve dogs. Both dogs, Marco and Zena passed the CGC test, that is; the Canine Good Citizen trial. Jack tells of his Zena placing second out of 5 dogs in the Obedience trials. Congratulations to the Pickel brothers on both their dogs' successes.

**ARBA - the American Rare Breed Association**, sponsored their annual 2-day, 4-shows known as the Cherry Blossom Classic on May 11th & 12th. The events were held at the SHOW PLACE indoor arena in Upper Marlboro, Maryland. In addition to the dog shows there were five rare breed seminars scheduled. By invitation, Richard Kelly, of the NPPCC, conducted the PRESA CANARIO seminar at noon on May 11th. Topics covered: personal dog experience, breed history & classification, Presa standard, Presa health, California bite incident. A 25-minute video and brochure were freely provided by the NPPCC to those in attendance, as well as samples of the NuVet Lab supplements and Diamond dog food. Show Stopper's Ch. G'Kar was exhibited as the breed representative during the presentation. It was quite uplifting to see so many Presas in attendance, a conservative estimate was 30 to 35 Presas, although only 15 or so showed in the ring competition. Richard reported his arrival at the show location wasn't without incident, it seems he noticed a blurring and loss of vision in his left eye while driving through the state of Maryland and the loss of sight got progressively worse as the day wore on. When he returned home that evening he contacted an optometrist where it was determined he needed corrective surgery. The following morning laser surgery was performed and the prognosis from the procedure is the eye was saved and sight should return close to normal. We wish to thank our friends who called expressing concern. And, congratulations to all those first time novice, exhibitors showing their dog or puppy in the confirmation ring. Keep up the effort and you'll soon have your Presa titled as a champion.

**Marco de Irema Curto** - owned by Tom Pickel, placed second in Open Males, the three shows entered in the ARBA Cherry Blossom Classic. It won't be long now before Marco has earned enough CACS for his Championship title.

**Breeders Choice Kennel** - owned by Jack Pickel & Jean Meader proudly report the results of their two Presas. ZENA won a 1st place and WINNERS BITCH twice, in the 9-15 month puppy class, earning her two of the required 9 CACS needed for her confirmation Championship. Zena is out of: Rbl. Tsunami & Ch. G'Kar. Their Curto pup Caton won Best of Breed, Junior Puppy.

**William Patrick Stover of Clinton, Maryland**, won Best of Breed in the 6 to 9 month puppy class, during the Sunday AM show at the ARBA Cherry Blossom Classic. His Presa, UPK - Ultimate Mufasa is out of Letalone Creek Rome Kuta and G.A. Egypt Kenyatta, who are owned by Kevin & Kimneich Cunningham, of Ultimate Presa Kennel located in Silver Springs, Maryland. This was Williams first attempt at showing. Well done.

**Exhibitors!** If you would send us the results of your show efforts we will gladly share your successes with the membership. You can send the information via snail-mail to NPPCC, 239 Raritan Ave., Middlesex, N.J. 08846 or e-mail to: [showstoppers@tds.net](mailto:showstoppers@tds.net). In addition to posting your Presa wins we will keep track of your point accumulation towards achieving your NPPCC Championship and certificate.

Remember, please send us the name of the show, the date, the location, the name of your Presa, it's age, your name & address, and the events won, ie. Best of Breed, Winners dog or bitch, Best of Opposite, any Group placements, or Best in Show.

## Quips & Quotes

**Sad Days!** We are expressing our condolences to two club members, two friends who are suffering the loss of their Presa Canarios. Michael Santos of Miller Place, New York, lost his beloved S.S. Montoro, aka: Darius, on February 9th, to a reckless, speeding driver while walking his dog in his neighborhood. Michael feels Darius saved his life by forcing him off the road, out of harms way. This Presa was mentioned in the previous GRIPPER as to his excellent Pennhip rating. Darius was 9 months old, 130 lbs. and 26 ½" at his death. His sire was: Ch. G'Kar and the dam was: S.S. Mulan.

**David and Kimberly Rispoli of North Miami Beach, Florida**, called us to tell of losing their beautiful Shaolin to cancer on April 22nd. The cancer was rampant throughout her intestines, stomach and lungs. She had given birth to her second litter on December 26th, 2001. Shaolin was just four years old at her passing. Her photo can be seen on the NPPCC newsletter, volume 19 on the Show Stopper website. A photo of her last litter is shown on this issues photo page. The sire of the litter was: G.A. Spawn.

If you pick up a starving dog and make him prosperous,  
He will not bite you.  
This is the principal difference between dog and a man.

"MARK TWAIN"

**Greetings** My name is Sarah, and I just visited your wonderful Show Stopper website. Unfortunately, I first heard about your breed with the tragic news stories, but I was very curious as having never heard of this breed of dog, so I decided to do some research. What I found was a very informative and responsible website. These dogs are some of the most beautiful animals I have ever seen. I own a 1-year old American Bulldog, and these rare breeds seem to have a lot of similarities, in temperament, history, and loving abilities. I just wanted to commend you for a very responsible stance on your dogs. A dog's personality and temperament is the reflection of the owner's devotion and dedication to not only owning a dog, but for taking absolute responsibility for it's proper training and socialization. Thank you again for introducing me to this wonderful breed. Sincerely, Sarah Witthoft

Many Kudos When I brought my ultimate Presa pup home from Kevin & Kimmiech of Ultimate Presa Kennels, Silver Springs, Maryland, I knew without a doubt that I had become a very lucky person to own and be owned by this magnificent breed of dog. I couldn't help but admire and appreciate the integrity and dedication it must have taken to produce the same mirror image of conformation and mental soundness that my "Ultimate Mufasa" has shown. Mufasa has bonded so well with our two boys, Melvin, age 12, and Mikkel, age 8. He is truly a family orientated dog. My wife, Sabrina was not a dog fancier, but you wouldn't know it because when she comes home you can hear her say, "where's my Mufasa?" Well I guess I could on and on, but I'll just end this letter with an old saying that pets don't make our whole life, but they do make our lives whole. Thank you Mr. & Mrs. Cunningham.

Truly, William P. Stover

**Lovin' the girls** Show Stoppers reports their 3-year old ARBA/NPPCC Champion G'Kar de Alacant-Bull has sired 18 litters. This gentle giant is now 144lbs. and 25 ½, and truly loves his role as top stud.

**Stranger than fiction** We've all heard rumors of the so called healing powers of owning a dog, well Dana Childers of Pride Rock's kennel, Medford, Oregon, tells of a situation that adds to the list of miraculous cure-alls. Not long ago, a potential customer showed up at her kennel looking for a companion-guardian. From his overall appearance he didn't look like a man in good health, in fact, as Dana describes "He looked like a walking stick". She soon learned he was suffering with cancer. Dana was concerned as to whether he would be capable or strong enough to handle a Presa. Several days after purchasing his Presa, he called Dana and thanked her for selling him such a wonderful dog and that this dog was going to save his life. It wasn't but a few months later that Dana heard from this gentleman and the story of how his Presa saved his life. "He was taking his dog for a walk in a wooded area that he normally would never frequent but for his dog, and was heading for a secluded pond when he was bitten by a rattlesnake. He was able to make it back to an area where treatment could be administered countering the snakes bite. On his next doctor's visit for his cancer treatment, he happily learned for some strange reason his cancer was now in full remission. The doctors attributed his recovery to some unexplained effect the snakes venom may have had on the cancer cells. He quickly called Dana, reminding her of his prediction that this Presa would save his life."

**Presa Anxiety** Joe Brown of Seattle, Washington, shares this little scenario. Bessie his lovely female Presa had a wonderful time while he was away for 11 days at Christmas. She ate one sofa, all his boxing gear, all her paperwork, "A history of Narrative Film" (I hated that book anyway), her dog bed, my sheets, a sleeping bag, a bag full of garbage, a light bulb, and she did a lovely job of carving her initials into the dining room table. Needless to say we had a joyous and tearful reunion. I'd like to extend my best wishes to everyone in the New Year. Joe.

**Just like Dad** William Hartranft of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, reports his new Presa pup - S.S. Kronos, weighs in at 88lbs. at 5 mos. His dad is no other than Ch. G'Kar and mom is S.S. Queen Amidala. Bill says, "this is the smartest dog I've ever owned."

**How smart is smart** Jack Pickel of Breeders Choice Kennel describes the behavior of his two Presa pups: Zena, out of G'Kar and Rbl. Tsunami, and Gabriel out of Marco & Peni de Irema Curto. Both dogs (5 & 4 months of age, respectively) reside in an enclosed sun porch. The exterior door operates on a spring latch and the dogs have learned to hit the latch and go outside, but once outside they are unable to operate the mechanism to get back in. The pups quickly learned a system to overcome their dilemma. One dog goes out and when ready to return barks to come in, the dog that stayed inside then hits the latch and lets the other dog in. The cycle is quickly reversed for the other dog. Smart?

**Hello again** Just thought I'd tell you about Bessie's first Fun Run with the Extreme agility team at the Seattle Agility Center. Bessie was twice the size of any dog out there, and the least experienced, with less than 3 months of training. She wowed the crowd, successfully completing the entire course twice, including send outs, 90 degree turns, jumps, tire, A frame, dog walk, chute, tunnels, teeter totter, table and even weave poles. Bessie ran as hard as she could and made no mistakes other than to obey faulty commands from her inexperienced and winded handler (me!). Seeing her hit the equipment was pure joy and quite a sight. One of her instructors compared her to "a runaway beer truck." I'll keep you posted on her further progress. Joe Brown

**Michael Giampapa**, Virginia I own a 1½ year old Presa Canario that is out of Ranger Kennels. He was sired by, Ch. El Zorro. Seeing as how his lineage is out of Show Stoppers on both sides, I thought I should let you know that I could not be happier with my "Genghis Khan". He is by far not only the most athletic but the smartest dog I've ever known. I have spent a lot of time with him since he was a puppy and it has definitely paid off. He is everything I could have wanted and more. I was very cautious with feeding him early on so as to avoid any potential hip or other joint or bone problem. He is 98 lbs., lean and ridiculously fast and agile. Genghis is very protective around strangers, but still loves other dogs, big and small. So I took him to a couple of different "Off leash dog parks" because I knew he would enjoy the experience, though I was very cautious of what the other owners and their dog reactions would be. He did wonderful. He represented the breed better than I could have dreamed! Maybe I'm not the first to attempt this but I definitely did a lot of good P.R. work for the breed. Everyone at the parks after seeing his disposition wanted to learn about him and the breed. I apologize for the lengthiness, but thought you would like to know.

**For our Adversaries** In my opinion, EVIL often begins with jealousy. An edifice is then built to house that jealousy, in an unconscious effort to deny this humiliating emotion: the individual finds a section of writing or constructs a forum, hoping to win converts. As the group grows, obsession may result. If it does, and the object of jealousy remains unfazed, hatred may take root. At this point, the organization may stabilize and become entrenched in society, or it may become violent, which can happen when its leaders are malicious. Finally, if that violence produces pleasure, I believe the worst sort of EVIL has been born. Marilyn Vos Savant

**Cape Fear, North Carolina** Mark Regoord, Presa owner, E-mailed us on Jan. 10th & 31st about his pup's induction into obedience training. Mark writes, "S.S. Justice is the smartest dog in the class. There are only 5 other dogs so it's no big accomplishment, but it sure makes dad proud. The instructors took quite an interest in him. They said he seems to be quite smart. He can sit, come, lay-down, show his belly, and I'm starting to teach him to speak. Because of his size at 5 months the trainers keep forgetting how old he is, when they remember, they boast about his intelligence. He picks up on commands within minutes and obeys them without hesitation. I am considering in entering him in competitive Obedience and Agility trials. I live right down the road from the Cape Fear River, so I've been taking him to play in the woods and along the River bank. As the weather warms we'll both be swimming in the river. The temperament of this dog is incredible, I don't think I'll ever have an interest in any other breed. We'll keep you apprised of his further development."

**Dog Scootering** Joe Brown tells about a fun activity he's gotten into, it's called "Dog Scootering". It's just catching on in the US but I believe it's a lot bigger in Europe, Australia and New Zealand. It's derived from mush training for sled dogs, and basically involves hitching your dog to a special scooter and having it pull you along.

The equipment you need:

Jones, Blauwerk, or Diggler scooter, at \$150 to \$700  
Tug line - \$20 to \$30  
Harness - \$35 to \$45

After a couple weeks of practice and you will be off and running. There is a website run by: Daphne Lewis of Seattle, Wa., <http://www.dogscooter.com> Daphne sells the Jones and Blauwerk scooters, and you can buy the "Digglers" from: <http://www.diggler.com>

**A little brag** Bessie and I took second place in a two mile run through a woodlands course, with a time of 17:04. The winner was an Aussie/Belgian, with a time of 16:46. We were actually first across the finish line due to a staggered start. We're doing three miles daily, and our record is 15 miles. Lots more runs are in the works, so if you have a dog that's fairly socialized and you think it might be fun, please drop by the website and check us out. I think the Presas are going to do very well in this new sport. Sounds like a fun thing!

**Hog Catching Presas** Tyrone Brown and Rahsan Cummings have titled several of their dogs in Hog Catching. Tyrone's Hino de Irema Curto and Digi Digi Rough House have earned their WB/I, WB/II, & WB/III titles. Rahsan's Digi Digi Reina and Digi Digi Cervantes earned their WB/I, WB/II, & WB/III titles. For more information contact them at Digi Digi Kennel, 856/465-7677 or e-mail: [agiepb@yahoo.com](mailto:agiepb@yahoo.com) or reach out to: <http://www.dixiewardogs.com>

**Training Success** Jean Meader & Jack Pickel of Pine Grove, New Jersey proudly announce their Rbl. Zena has completed two obedience courses and has two more to go. She was voted top dog in her last class by the instructor. Last week she tested for a PPC certificate and was one of two dogs out of 15 that passed. This event consisted of lead tests and a noise reaction test (a 22 cal. Pistol with blanks fired behind the dog). Independent judges including an AKC judge scored the dogs. The dogs needed a passing grade to receive their

certificates. Our other Presa - Gabriel, aka: Gabby (out of Curto lines) completed her first Obedience class, scoring among the best in her class.

**Competition** Just got back from the SCOOTER RALLY in Arlington, Wa. Weather was beautiful. There were about 12 teams, but one couple brought a whole team of Alaskan Huskies, so over 20 dogs in all. We raced a seven-mile course around the local airport, muddy forest paths, slight grades, swooping corners with washouts at the bottom (great place to crash). In first place was an Alaskan Husky, followed by a Siberian. A team of two service dogs (Lab/Shepherd mixes) ran third most of the way, but my Presa - Bessie passed them in the last half mile. The rest of the field came rolling in some fifteen to twenty minutes after we did. Bessie ran in front for the first three miles, but just didn't have the stamina to stay ahead of the Huskies after that. But we never lost sight of them or ever got much more than 100 yards behind the leader, and we passed the lot of them at every hill, where the Huskies couldn't pull and the drivers had to get off and run. Lots of great passes, near misses, and everything was just gorgeous. The dogs were ecstatic and Bessie made lots of new friends. A reporter was there and took a bunch of pictures and interviewed me about Bessie and the Presa. After the race I took an extra scooter and went out ahead and let her ride with Bessie. She was breathless from the experience--- the surge of acceleration, the wind in her face, the finesse of the dog and what's required of the driver. She wanted to know if I was planning on racing Bessie and exclaimed "She' a Champion!" If her article is picked up in syndication I'll gladly share it with the club. Joe Brown

**A new standard of IGNORANCE** Show Stoppers wishes to share with the membership one of their most recent e-mails: "your dogs don't look like Presas stop selling junk please." Should anyone owning one of these junk Presas desire to educate this unidentified, cowardly individual, please feel free to reach out to: mrgarage04@aol.com

# Gripper Gripe

Newspaper Headlines: Report - Police dog shooting justified! This was taken from the March 8th, 2002, Plainfield Courier, Plainfield, New Jersey, the article was written by staff writer, Nicole Morella. (908/707-3132) A K-9 unit dog was improperly handled on a call in Plainfield in which it was shot by city police officers. During a stolen car pursuit, the German shepherd "Git", handled by Sheriff's Sgt. John Gillespie, chased a 12-year old girl who had run from the car, cornered her, then attacked Plainfield Police Officer Ron Fusco as he came between the girl and the animal. Fusco and his partner fatally shot the dog, unaware it was a police canine. Prosecutor Thomas V. Manahan reported that the officers' actions were justified. "Even if the officers had known the animal was a police canine, it is unrealistic and unreasonable to expect that Officer Fusco should have endured the attack upon himself and should have waited for the handler to arrive." Sgt. Gillespie told investigators He was unable to get the dog on it's lead line and ran after it, BUT WAS UNABLE TO CALL THE DOG OFF and then lost sight of it.

The key phrase to this incident is: The trained handler could not control, nor call off the pursuit of his trained K-9. There are many Presa owners who emphatically believe that the Presa Canario should be Protection trained or Attack trained in order to be a better guardian. It is this approach that causes concern for several reasons. The bite law is quite different for a PP trained dog versus your household pet. In most municipalities and states, a dog bite inflicted by the household pet is: Civil Negligence as opposed to the penalty for a PP/attack trained dog bite, which in most cases is a CRIMINAL FELONY. The judicial outcome between the offenses can be substantial. Case in point, the owner of the Presa in the California incident is facing a maximum of 15 years for causing a fatality, whereas there is an incident in April of this year in the state of Wisconsin where 3-Schutzhund trained Rottweilers killed a 6-year old boy. The woman owner is facing a Minimum of 51 years in prison only because the dogs were trained and were considered a weapon. If the persistence still exists to have your Presa trained in other than Obedience, please learn the laws in your area as they pertain to PP/attack trained dogs. Then contact your Insurance carrier to be sure you have adequate Liability coverage. One other thing to consider, knowing the defensive nature of the Presa, who in the household will be able to control the dog should it perceive a movement from your children's' playmates as a threat, your wife? your children? If a trained K-9 Officer couldn't call off his dog, how can you expect untrained woman and children to control a powerfully trained dog?

# Health Notes

On March 1, 2002, NuVet Labs Launched a full-line discount pet store with over 16,000 products!!! Hundreds of Brand name items offered at discount prices. THIS IS YOUR PERSONAL PET STORE!!!! Shop the convenient way for your pet supplies - ON LINE!!! <http://www.nuvet.com/56221>

"Nu Vet Plus and breeding." Most breeders who are using this supplement on their females find that they have larger and healthier litters. It has also been reported to us that the mothers are recovering much faster after whelping and their coats stay as beautiful as ever. Puppies whose mothers have been on Nu Vet Plus also benefit, as they get a dose of the vitamins and herbs through their mother's milk. In addition, Nu Vet has helped the females with the natural cleansing process after giving birth. Breeders, who previously had to use Oxytocin after each litter, find that it is no longer necessary.

The newest product Nu Joint Plus is a long-term anti-inflammatory hip and joint therapy that should be given to your companion pet daily. The ingredients present a front line defense against any future damage and it will help to quickly and effectively reverse and heal the devastating effects of OSTEORATHITIS.

Poisonous Mushrooms This is the time of year to watch your yard for mushrooms! They pop up overnight and should your pet ingest one it could be deadly. Here's some symptoms that indicate you have a problem.... dilated, fixed pupils, depressed respiration and heart rate, sub-normal body temperature, and a decreased blood glucose. If you see your dog eat a mushroom - induce vomiting immediately. Use a tablespoon of Hydrogen peroxide and get it out of your dogs system. It could save its life. One of the most common and deadly fungi is called "Destroying Angel" (amanita virosa). It thrives on roots of Oak trees and any found in that area should be suspect. Characteristics: all white, white top, stem and gills. Has a crumbly texture, very fragile. Mature mushrooms have a flat, round top that is 2 to 3" wide and 2 to 4" tall. Immature mushrooms (still deadly) have more of a "ball" appearance to the cap. A 3 x 3" mushroom can kill an adult.

Nick Copeland of Springfield, Missouri proudly shares the results of the PennHip evaluation of his 17-month Presa female G.A. Kiya with the membership. From the attached copy of this report his dog is certainly deemed worthy of breeding. By the way, Nick's operation is known as Conquistador Kennel.