

*Winter-2006*

*Volume – 39*

# The GRIPPER

*The Official Publication of the United Perro de Presa Canario Club*

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***Season Greetings Dear Friends and Club Members; Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, Feliz Navidad, Happy Chanukah, Happy Kwanzaa; Best wishes to all in 2007.***

The year 2006 was a milestone for the UPPCC in several areas. First, this club has registered over 3,000 Presa Canario. Next, this club had the largest turnout of Presas (35) at the spring Regional Specialty held in Florida. We've had more dogs become titled than in any of the previous years in Conformation, Temperament test, Canine Good Citizenship, Weight-pull and Therapy; thanks to the efforts of our breeder/members.

More of our associate breeders have been working harder than ever to abide by the UPPCC/UKC Code of Ethics while producing quality Presa Canario according to the breed standard and are striving to educate the public about this wonderful breed through the avenues of advertising and exhibition. Unfortunately, a few breeders/members have seen fit to exempt themselves from the UPPCC; claiming they no longer need nor benefit from this association.

On a brighter note, 2007 is expected to produce even greater results in terms of promoting the Presa Canario breed; starting with our planned "National Specialty" to be held this coming May 12; on the mall directly in front of our Nations Capital. This event will be held in conjunction with the American Rare Breed Association's (ARBA) "Cherry Blossom Classic". As you may recall, in 2006, ARBA designated the UPPCC as their official parent breed club for the Presa Canario with their organization. Now, thanks to the effort of this club; all the major registries: United Kennel Club (UKC), American Kennel Club/ Foundation Stock Service (AKC/FSS), American Rare Breed Association (ARBA), Rarities and the International All Breed Canine Association (IABCA) all now recognize our breed as the historic PERRO DE PRESA CANARIO. Let's make a concerted effort to support these organizations.

It is the planned intention for the UPPCC to develop a pedigree database, which will include all the: UPPCC registered Presa Canario to date. Access to this information when available will be only to those current dues paying members.

***"May God Bless Our Troops, May He Bless Us All,  
And May God Bless America."***

***There are two ways of exerting one's strength: one is pushing down; the other is pulling up.***

*Booker T. Washington (1856 – 1915)  
Educator*

Tom Rignola of Howell, New Jersey, sends a page out of the January issue of Dog World showing his male Presa "S.S. Busta" as one of six winners of their photo contest. Busta is out of S,S, Lleida by Ch. G'Kar. Check out the photo page.

# New Club Members

*Anthony K. Wilson  
North Charleston, South Carolina*

*Michael G. Desmond  
Kansas City, Missouri*

*Irene Hoeflich – Wiederhold  
Cape Coral, Florida*

*Curtis M. Morris Jr.  
Clinton, Maryland*

**This is the lowest membership enrollment in any previous tri-mester. There were no new members recorded in the month of November. Remember, it is through the induction of new members and through the renewal of established members that allow the Clubs newsletter “THE GRIPPER” to be produced three times a year. It is through this publication that we are able to introduce stories and information that should be beneficial to all Presa Canario owners and breeders. This document is extremely time consuming and costly to produce. If the consensus of the membership feels there is no longer any value to the newsletter, please let us know; or if you feel there is something you would like to read about, again please let us know. Your comments and continued participation are important to us. We encourage all to send us stories and photos about your dogs. “Sharing is Caring”.**

## **“Belief is all you need”**

A man was lost while driving through the country. As he tried to read a map, he accidentally drove off the road into a ditch. Though he wasn't injured, his car was stuck deep in the mud. So the man walked to a nearby farm to ask for help. “Warwick can get You out of that ditch,” said the farmer, pointing to an old mule standing in a field. The Man looked at the haggardly mule and looked at the farmer who just stood there repeating, “Yep, old Warwick can do the job.” The man figured he had nothing to lose. The two men and Warwick made their way back to the ditch. The farmer hitched the mule to the car. With a snap of the reins he shouted, “Pull, Fred! Pull, Jack! Pull, Ted! Pull, Warwick!” And the mule pulled the car from the ditch with very little effort. The man was amazed. He thanked the farmer, patted the mule and asked, “Why did you call out all of those other names before you called Warwick?” The farmer grinned and said, “Old Warwick is just about blind. As long as he believes he's part of a team, he doesn't mind pulling.”

*James W. Moore  
Dimensions*

# New Presa Names

MK – Mita May

MK – Bruno

MK – Secret

MK – Topeka

MK – Shadow

MK – OCK Mrs. Lacy

MK – Animal

MK – Dink Jamal Emerson

MK – Kobe

MK – El Belleva Marron

MK – Simba

Askari's – Boogie

Askari's – Stealth Camouflage

Askari's – Miseree

Askari's – Sexy Gorgeous

Askari's – Rage

Askari's – Storm

Ransom's – Dog

Ransom's – Akeelah

Ransom's – Casey

Reasner's – Dozer

Reasner's – Chi Chi

Reasner's – Fierabras

Reasner's – Chaos

Stella De Strong Willed

Tyson De Russo Gibson

Vito De Russo Carter

Zoe De Russo Carter

Freya the Huntress de Vigilant

Hurricane the Revolution

Above Par – Caine

Angel Eyes

C&C – Kemo

Bravo's Nay-Na

Bravo's – Munstro

Duchess

Layla

Foxy

Polo

Yae – Yae

Max

BCK – Argus

AKCM – Hermosa OSA

AKCM – Pita

AKCM – Chase HW

Max –A – Millian

FC – Nitro

CCK – Sally

Carter's – Tayo Lane

Bella Reynolds

Crown Presa – Pango

JJ's Kal-El

JJ's – Macy

JJ's – Bocefus

JJ's – Cheyenne

JJ's – Dama Reynolds

Cypha ABD Nequito

Storm Robinson

Carter's – Sway Wade

Conan De Warsney

BPK – Athena Paige G/M

APK – Missy Muzzles Porter

Tall Oak's – Jacobus  
Ca.Presa – OCK – Achillies  
Ca.Presa – OCK – Cole Trikk  
MK – Casadore  
Southern Rock's Tank  
Southern Rock's Bruiser  
Southern Rock's Kilroy  
Southern Rock's Diamond  
Southern Rock's Venus  
SRK – Black Jack, Son of Kronus  
Bentley Perkins  
Dezmodo Dragon de Shogun Knl.  
C&C - Diablo

Tall Oak's – “Sock it to Me”  
Wildstreak's – Sampson  
Wildstreak's - Tigresa  
MK - Isaac  
Southern Rock's – Venom  
Southern Rock's - Titus  
Southern Rock's - Freya  
Southern Rock's – Ruby Red  
Southern Rock's – Kayla  
SRK – Raging Brooke  
Hank  
Thorpe's – Raven

**How to call the police when you're old and don't move fast anymore!**

George Phillips of Meridian, Mississippi was going up to bed when his wife told him he'd left the light on in the garden shed, which she could clearly see from the bedroom window. George opened the back door to go turn off the light but stopped when he saw people in the shed stealing his things. He quickly phoned the police, who asked, “Is someone in your house?” and he said “no”. Then they said that all the patrols were busy, and that he should simply lock his door and an officer would be along when available. George said, “Okay,” hung up, counted to 30, and phoned the police again. “Hello, I just called you a few seconds ago because there were people in my shed. Well, you don't have to worry about them now cause I've just shot them all.” Then he hung up. Within five minutes three police cars, an armed swat unit, and an ambulance showed up at the Phillips' residence and caught the burglars red-handed. One of the Policeman, said to George: “I thought you said that you'd shot them!” George said, “I thought you said there was nobody available!”

**True story.**

# Show News

## Special Announcement

Rarities, Inc. will be sponsoring a 2-day, 4-show exhibition event on February 10 & 11, 2007 called the "SWEETHEART CLASSIC". The location is the New Jersey Convention & Expo Center Edison, N.J. This building is just a few miles off Exit 10 of the N.J. Turnpike. Event is held indoors – Super Pet-Exposition. FCI – Judge: Roberto Elinan, from Ecuador. This would be a great place to introduce your Presa to the thousands of people who will be attending. Pre-entry closes on January 28<sup>th</sup>. You can make copies of the enclosed form or e-mail for more info at: [rarities@hughes.net](mailto:rarities@hughes.net) or [www.rarities.ca](http://www.rarities.ca)

### Newly Certified Club Champion:

ARBA, Rarities, UPPCC, Ch. S.S. Syrianna (12 mos.old)  
Owned by: Richard G. Kelly

### The UPPCC Regional Specialty held in Conjunction with Rairities, Inc. On September 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> at Fort Mott, New Jersey

If one remembers that was the day Tropical storm "Ernesto" brought "Rain, Rain, Heavy Rain and more Rain. The 8 Presas in attendance along with their handlers were thoroughly soaked all the daylong but they stayed the course. Here are the results of the 2-day, 5 shows:

Mezzon De Irema Curto (Open Class)  
UPPCC Regional Winner  
Owners: Eugenia Baryshnikova & Maxim Bychkov

1 x Best of Winners  
1 x Best of Breed

S.S. G'Llaila (American Bred)  
Owner: Richard G. Kelly

4 x First Place  
4 x Winners Bitch  
1 x Best of Winners  
3 x Best of Breed  
1 x Best of Opposite  
1 x Group three

<b>S.S. Syrianna (6 to 9 mos.) (see photo)</b> <b>Owner: Richard G. Kelly</b>	<b>2 x First Place</b>
<b>Tall Oaks Mankato (Open Class)</b> <b>Owner: Beverly S. Shupe</b>	<b>4 x Winners Dog</b> <b>4 x Best of Opposite</b>
<b>Ch.OGK – Bandito (9 to 12 mo.) (see photo)</b> <b>Owner: Beau Hadden</b>	<b>5 x First Place</b> <b>5 x Reserve Winners</b> <b>4 x Best Jr. Pup in Breed</b>

**American Hairless Terrier Association – September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2006**  
**Hickory, North Carolina – UKC Dog Show**

<b>Ch. “Drago” Heart of the Dragon</b> <b>Owner: Deb Vigil</b>	<b>3 x Champions</b> <b>3 x Best of Breed</b>
<b>Ch.Rosario’s – Wadaba</b> <b>Owner: Deb Vigil</b>	<b>3 x First Class</b> <b>3 x Best Male</b>
<b>Conan De Warsney</b> <b>Owner: Deb Vigil</b>	<b>1 x First Class</b> <b>1 x Best Male</b>

**ARBA – “TURNPIKE CLASSIC – September 29<sup>th</sup> & 30 – 2006**  
**Thompsons Park, Jamesburg, New Jersey – 4 Shows**

<b>S.S. Syrianna (10 mo.old) (Bred by Exhibitor)</b> <b>Owner: Richard G. Kelly</b>	<b>4 x First Place</b> <b>4 x Winners Bitch</b> <b>4 x Best of Breed</b> <b>1 x Group 1</b> <b>1 x Group 2</b> <b>2 x Group 3</b>
<b>S.S. Andorra (14 weeks) (Junior Puppy)</b> <b>Owner: Richard G. Kelly</b>	<b>4 x First Place</b> <b>4 x Best of Breed Jr. Pup</b> <b>4 x Puppy Group 1</b> <b>1 x Best in Show Jr. Pup</b>

**United White German Shepherd Club – October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2006**  
**Perry, Georgia UKC Dog Show**

<b>Ch. Tall Oaks Blithe Spirit</b> <b>Owner: Deb Vigil</b>	<b>3 x First in Class</b> <b>3 x Best Winners</b> <b>3 x Best of Breed</b>
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**Conan De Warsney**  
**Owner: Deb Vigil**

**3 x First in Class**  
**3 x Best of Winners**

**Old Line State Dog Club – October 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>, 2006**  
**Bel Air, Maryland – 4 UKC Dog Shows w/ 8 Presas**

**Ch. “Drago” Heart of the Dragon**  
**Owner: Deb Vigil**

**3 x Champion**  
**1 x Best of Breed**  
**1 x Group 1**  
**1 x Reserve Best in Show**

**Conan De Warsney**  
**Owner: Deb Vigil**

**3 x First Place**  
**3 x Best of Males**  
**1 x Best of Breed**  
**1 x Group 2**

**S.S. Syrianna**  
**Owner: Richard G. Kelly**

**2 x First Place**  
**1 x Best Female**  
**1 x Best of Winners**  
**1 x Best of Breed**  
**1 x Group 1**

**Ch. S.S. G’Llaila**  
**Owner: Richard G. Kelly**

**2 x Reserve**

**“Rarities, Inc” “HARTFORD CLASSIC” – October 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>, 2006**  
**Hartford, Connecticut – 4 Shows**

**Ch. OGK – Bandito (9 to 12 mo.)**  
**Owner: Beau Hadden**

**4 x First Place**  
**4 x Best in Breed Jr. Pup**  
**4 x Best of Breed**  
**2 x Group 1**  
**1 x Group 4**  
**2 x Best in Show Jr. Pup**

**The Boykin Spaniel Club & Breeders Association of America**  
**Dallas, North Carolina – UKC Three Class Show**

**Ch. “Drago” Heart of the Dragon**  
**Owner: Deb Vigil**

**2 x Champion**  
**1 x Reserve Champion**  
**2 x Best of Breed**

**Ch. Tall Oaks Blithe Spirit**

**1 x Champion**

**Owner: Deb Vigil  
1 x Best of Breed**

**1 x Reserve Champion**

**Conan De Warsney**

**1 x Reserve Champion**

**Mid-Atlantic Kennel Club – November 11 & 12, 2006  
Chesterfield, Virginia – UKC – 4 Class Shows**

**Tall Oaks “Sock it to Me”  
Owner: Beverly Shupe**

**3 x First in Class  
2 x Reserve  
2 x Best Female  
1 x Best of Breed  
1 x Group 4**

**Tall Oaks Nakomis  
Owner: Beverly Shupe**

**3 x First In Class  
2 x Reserve  
2 x Best Female**

**Ch. Tall Oaks Mankato  
Owner: Beverly Shupe**

**1 x Reserve**

**Ch. “Drago” Heart of the Dragon  
Owner: Deb Vigil**

**1 x Champion  
2 x Reserve Champion  
1 x Best of Breed  
1 x Group 3**

**Ch. Tall Oaks Blithe Spirit  
Owner: Deb Vigil**

**1 x Champion**

**Ch. Rosario’s – Wadaba  
Owner: Deb Vigil**

**2 x Champion  
2 x Best in Breed  
1 x Group 1  
1 x Group 2**

**Rarities,Inc. “Year End Super Show” – November 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>, 2006  
Woodstown, New Jersey – 2 Days with 5 shows Plus Champions**

**Ch. OGK – Bandito  
Owner: Beau Hadden**

**1 x First Place  
1 x Best of Winners  
1 x Best of Breed  
1 x Best of Opposite  
1 x Group 1  
1 x Best in Show Stopper**

**Ramzes Perro Presa Grand  
Stan Etelis** 1 x Best of Breed Owner:

**Ch. S.S. G'Llaila** 3 x Best of Breed  
Owner: Richard G. Kelly 1 x Group 3  
1 x Group 4

**S.S. Andorra (3 to 6 mo.) Jr. Puppy Class** 2 x First Place Female  
Owner: Richard G. Kelly 2 x Best Puppy in Breed

**S.S. Syrianna (9 to 12 mo.) Puppy Class** 2 x First Place  
Owner: Richard G. Kelly 2 x Winners  
2 x Best of Opposite

19 dogs competed in the special "CHAMPION of CHAMPION" with one Presa in contention – Ch. S.S. G'Llaila.

9 dogs competed in the special "GRAND CHAMPION OF GRAND CHAMPION"

**Tidewater Dog Performance Club – December 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup>, 2006**  
**Courtland, Virginia – 6 Dog Shows**

**Gr.Ch. UWP "Drago" Heart of the Dragon** 1 x Grand Champion  
Owner: Deb Vigil 6 x Best of Breed

**Conan De Warsney** 3 x Reserve Champion  
Owner: Deb Vigil

**Ch. Rosario's Wadaba** 3 x Champion  
Owner: Deb Vigil

**Ch. Tall Oaks Blithe Spirit** 1 x Champion  
Owner: Deb Vigil

**Tall Oaks "Sock it to Me"** 3 x First Place  
Owner: Beverly Shupe 1 x Reserve Female

**Tall Oaks Nakomis** 3 x First Place  
Owner: Beverly Shupe 2 x Reserve female  
3 x Best Female  
2 x Best of Winners

**C&C Cidious** 3 x First Place  
Owner Connie Gillison 3 x Best Male  
1 x Best of Winners

**Event Manager # 1001 – December 15,16,17, 2006**  
**New Kent, Virginia - Dog Shows**

<b>Ch. Rosario's Wadaba</b> <b>Owner: Deb Vigil</b>	<b>1 x Grand Champion</b> <b>4 x Best of Breed</b> <b>1 x Best in Show Stopper</b>
<b>Conan De Warsney</b> <b>Owner: Deb Vigil</b>	<b>4 x Reserve Champion</b>
<b>Ch. Tall Oaks "Sock it to Me"</b> <b>Owner: Beverly Shupe</b> <b>New Champion at 7½ mos. Old</b>	<b>2 x First Place</b> <b>2 x Best Female</b>
<b>S.S. Temperance of Tall Oaks (Jr.Puppy)</b> <b>Owner: Beverly Shupe</b>	<b>1 x Reserve Female)</b>

**Congratulations to all these exhibitors. It takes a concerted effort to prepare and train your Presa to remain confident and stable in the show ring; often its surrounded by other working/guardian class dogs; and may be touched by many unknown judges. Exhibiting requires planning to make time available to attend these two or three day shows; there is also a cost to be considered: Travel expenses, Lodging, Meals, Clothing, Entry fees, Grooming the dog(s), Dog supplies. This is just to name a few of the required incidentals when exhibiting a dog(s). One thing you can be certain of is that none of these owners/breeders are breeding for or producing Presas strictly for showing, but rather they are proving once again that the Presa Canario can be trained for anything. By earning their Championship title each Presa has validated that he/she conforms to the breed standard, exhibited expression, and showed the fluidity of movement required of a working dog. We encourage all Presa owners to come forward and meet the challenge of exhibiting your dog, proving its worth, earning that special Championship, meeting and making new friends. What better place to start, than at the May 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> - 2007 UPPCC National Specialty to be held in Washington, DC., to be located on the mall directly in front of our Nations Capital. UPPCC & ARBA entry forms are enclosed in this packet. For more information, e-mail our show chairperson: Beverly Shupe at: [talloakskennel@netzero.net](mailto:talloakskennel@netzero.net) or call 804 / 633-9612**

*If there are no dogs in Heaven, then when I die I want to go where they went.*  
*Will Rogers*

## **“Kansas Winter Warm-up” – Topeka, Kansas – December 8,9,10, 2006**

Larry McCall, Presa breeder, UPPCC Director & Club member helped organize this first time ever event with help of Christy Colley, Presa breeder, and Lynn Carradine, American Bull-Dog breeder. Lynn reports 28 Presas showed up for the conformation and the competition was tough. Judge – Shane Carter chose “Above Par – Gracie” owned by Larry McCall as Best of Breed and with Mose Hugghis male –Presa “MK – Gonzo” earning Reserve Winners. Unfortunately, we don’t have any information as to the names of the other dogs and their owners who may have won places in the other conformation classes.

Judge Shane Carter administered the AKC Canine Good Citizen testing. Many Presas went home with the CGC letters behind their dogs’ name. In fact Larry McCall had 6 of his Presas pass their CGC’s. Mose Hugghis Presa MK – Gonzo passed his CGC. We will post the names of all those dogs’ who passed this test when we receive copies of their certification.

The “IRONDOG” competition consists of three parts; a Sprint Race, a Weight-pull, and Hardest Hitting Dog. Understandably, the Herding breeds ran away with the quickest times in the Sprint Race. In the weight-pull event, Clayton Reasner and his Presa “Biggie Biggs Smalls” took First Place with an awesome first time pull of 1,250 lbs. The final event was the Hardest Hitting and was won by a Dutch Shepherd; with Mose Hugghis and his German Shepherd capturing second place. The next event of the weekend was the “FUN HARDEST HITTING” competition. Christy Cooley’s male Presa “Kilo” smashed the sleeve to grab second place.

Overall, the show was deemed a success by all the attendees. It was such a fun event that the trio; are making plans for a bigger and better show in September 2007. As Lynn and Larry proclaimed “it was truly a joy to be surrounded by great dogs with great owners who brought their dogs for an entertaining and educational weekend.”

Many kudos to Lynn, Larry and Christy in accomplishing this successful yet difficult task of planning and executing all the required facets that make up a memorable event such as this. We believe this event was put together in a matter of a few weeks. That’s comes from what is commonly known as “TEAM WORK”. It is this type of effort that will help the Presa Canario become recognized as a complete working guardian. With this kind of exposure people will continue to learn that the Presa Canario is able to perform in any given venue. We’re all looking forward to next September-2007. Good job everyone!

# Quips & Quotes

**Karen & Brent were out doing some Christmas shopping and had planned on visiting BOSCOV's, a well known department store in Wilkes Barre, Pennsylvania. As they reached their destination they drove down into the underground parking garage. Karen mentions, "It was extremely cold outside but it felt even colder in the concrete parking area and as we were walking towards the store entrance I could hear a puppy crying. We began searching and soon found what appeared to be an 8-week old puppy, just sitting alone in a corner, whining and shivering. The heck with shopping, I scooped the puppy up into my arms placing it next to my body covering it with my coat to help warm it. We jumped back into the car and headed for a nearby veterinarians office. After a careful examination by the vet it was determined the puppy was in fact about 8 weeks of age and it was a FRENCH BULLDOG. The vet assured us the pup was healthy but was in need of immediate care. So, we headed directly home to begin providing comfort to this lost soul. I next phoned the police to find out if anyone had reported a missing or stolen puppy; the answer was negative. Well, I was pleasantly surprised – Santa apparently came early, I had a new friend and so did my two Presas – Malcolm & Prema. Prema immediately befriended the little pup and 150 lb. Malcolm became its protector; he would lay close to her cage with that look on his face challenging anyone to try and hurt his new buddy. We feel so blessed. Christmas came early."**

*I wonder if other dogs think poodles are members of a religious cult. Rita Rudner*

**A young Louisiana lad goes off to LSU, but about 1/3 of the way through the semester, he foolishly squandered away all of the money his parents gave him. Then he gets an idea. He calls his daddy. "Dad," he says, "You won't believe the wonders that modern education are coming up with! Why, they actually have a program here at LSU that will teach our dog Ole Blue how to talk!" "That's absolutely amazing," his father says. "How do I get him in that program?" "Just send him down here with \$1,000" the boy says. "I'll get him into the course." So, the father sends the dog and the \$1,000. About 2/3 way through the semester, the money runs out. The boy calls his father again. "So how's Ole Blue doing, son," his father asks? "Awesome, Dad, he's talking up a storm," he says, "but you just won't believe this – they've had such good results with this program that they've implemented a new one to teach the animals to read!" "READ," says his father, "No kidding! What do I have to do to get him that program?" "Just send \$2,500, and I'll get him in the class." His father sends the money. The boy now has a problem. At the end of the year, his father will learn the dog can neither talk, nor read. So he shoots the dogs. When he**

gets home, his father is all excited. “Where’s Ole Blue? I can’t wait to see him talk and read something!” “Dad,” the boy says, “I have some grim news. Yesterday morning, just before we left to drive home, Ole Blue was in the living room kicked back in the recliner, reading the Morning Advocate, like he usually does. Then he turned to me and asked, “So, is your daddy still messing around with that little redhead who lives on Oak Street?” The father says, “I hope you SHOT that son of a bitch before he talks to your Mother!” “I sure did, Dad!” “That’s my boy!”

*My dog is worried about the economy because ALPO is up to \$3.00 a can. That’s almost \$21.00 in dog money.*  
Joe Weinstein

### Two Wolves

One evening an old Cherokee told his grandson about a battle that goes on inside people. He said, “My son, the battle is between two “Wolves” inside us all. One is Evil. It is anger, envy, jealousy, sorrow, regret, greed, arrogance, self-pity, resentment, inferiority, lies, false pride, superiority, and ego. The other is Good. It is joy, peace, love, hope, serenity, humility, kindness, benevolence, empathy, generosity, truth, compassion and faith.” The grandson thought for a minute about what the old man had said and then asked his grandfather “Which wolf wins?” The old Cherokee simply replied, “The one you feed.”

*“The game of life is like the game of boomerangs. Our thoughts, deeds and words return to us sooner or later, with astounding accuracy”.*  
Florence Shinn (1871-1940) Writer

“A Call for Help.” “Hello, my name is George and I have a bit of a problem; I’ve had my male Presa two and a half years and now all of a sudden he is turning on me. I mean standing off from me, growling as if he were guarding something. I don’t hit him or anything; it appears like he just lost his mind. Should I just get rid of him? One reason I think his behavior changed was just after the first time being bred, which was only a few weeks ago. I’m at a loss as to what to do.” Thanks to associate Presa breeder – Toby Hudson of California Presas Kennel, who accepted Georges’ challenge and responded to him – “George, I suggest getting your male into a training program with a professional trainer ASAP. He is challenging you because he does not see you as the dominant pack leader. Presas are of an Alpha mentality, the males especially can be strong willed once they reach two years of age. One exercise to consider is to walk him several times a day outside of “his” property while making him follow you. Do not let him pull you or walk in front of you. Both of these maneuvers are allowing him to dominate over you. Stay calm but assertive. It’s all in how you project your body language and what’s going through your mind. If you think your dog is going to bite you at any moment, you are naturally going to be scared and your dog is going to pick up on the fear and react to it. You don’t need to be choking him with a pinch collar, or punishing him physically. You need to give your dog structure with discipline, exercise and affection. Good luck.”

*“There is no greater joy nor greater reward than to make a fundamental difference in someone’s life.”*  
Sister Mary Rose McGeady

## **“Put your pet in a holiday mood”**

Gifts for pets don't have to be elaborate or expensive. Finding the right toys though, can be a challenge. All pet toy producers issue a caution in small print to watch your pet as they play with any toy. The last thing you want is for them to swallow the flotsam and jetsam inside a toy or, worse, ingest the squeaker. A time-tested product to consider is “Tuffles Rumble Ring” (10 inch diameter), VIP Products boasts of seven rows of stitching and four layers of impervious material. Rugged is an understatement. The ring comes in various sizes and colors. So do their Stone Bones, Tug-O-War, Fleece Flyer and Bowmerangs. More info at: [www.mydogtoy.com](http://www.mydogtoy.com) Of course, your pet has no idea it's Christmas or Chanukah. They just want to be part of the festivities. Think simple. Give a dog a bone, but with one caveat. If you choose rawhide, pick one that cannot splinter and pierce vital organs. “Pedigree” has launched *SUPER CHEW*, a long-lasting meat-flavored bone available in several sizes that they pledge not to splinter. “HARTZ” makes a marvelous green “*DENTI\_CHEW*”, an edible bone with a rigid surface firm enough to encourage beneficial chewing to remove plaque but won't damage teeth or splinter. One of the nicest gifts you can give to help anonymous dogs is by making a contribution to a rescue group or shelter who, operate on a shoestring.

### **Don't mess with a child!**

The children were lined up in the cafeteria of a Catholic elementary school for lunch. At the head of the table was a large pile of apples. The nun made a note, and posted it on the apple tray: “Take only ONE. God is watching.” Moving further along the lunch line, at the other end of the table was a large pile of chocolate chip cookies. Posted to the cookie tray was a child's hand written note, “Take all you want. God is watching the apples.”

### **Unusual sign noticed in a Canadian store window:**

**“We would rather do business with 1,000 Al Qaeda terrorists, than with one single Canadian.”**

This sign was prominently displayed in the window of a business in the city of Hamilton. You are probably outraged at the thought of such an inflammatory statement. One would think that the anti-hate groups from all across the country would be marching on this business and that the Royal Canadian Mounties might have to be called out to quell the angry crowds. But, perhaps in these stressful times one might be tempted to let the proprietors simply make their statement... We are a society, which holds Freedom of Speech as perhaps our greatest liberty. After all, it is just a sign. You may ask, what kind of business would dare post such a sign? The answer: A FUNERAL HOME.

**THIS IS FOR THE NOW GENERATION: Bill Gates gave a speech at a High School about 11 things they did not and will not learn in school. He talked about how the feel-good, politically correct teachings are creating a generation of kids with no concept of reality and how this concept sets them up for failure in the real world.**

**Rule 1: Life is not fair – get used to it!**

**Rule 2: The world won't care about your self-esteem. The world will expect you to accomplish something BEFORE you can feel good about yourself.**

**Rule 3: You will not make \$60,000 a year right out of high school. You won't be a vice-president with a car phone until you earn both.**

**Rule 4: If you think your teacher is tough, wait till you get a boss.**

**Rule 5: Flipping burger's is not beneath your dignity. Your grandparents had a word for burger flipping; they called it opportunity.**

**Rule 6: If you mess up, it's not your parents' fault, so don't whine about your mistakes; learn from them.**

**Rule 7: Before you were born, your parents weren't as boring as they are now. They got that way paying your bills, cleaning your clothes and listening to you talk about how cool you thought you were. So before you save the rain forest from the parasites of your parents generation, try delousing the closet in your own room.**

**Rule 8: Your school may have done away with winners and losers, but life HAS NOT! In some schools, they have abolished failing grades and they'll give you as MANY TIMES as you want to get the right answer. This doesn't bear the slightest resemblance to ANYTHING in real life.**

**Rule 9: Life is not divided into semesters. You don't get summers off and very few employers are interested in helping you FIND YOURSELF. You must do that on your own time.**

**Rule 10: Television is NOT real life. In real life, people actually have to leave the coffee shop and go get jobs.**

**Rule 11: Be nice to nerds. Chances are you'll end up working for one.**

**ROAD RAGE:** A man was being tailgated by a stressed out woman; on a busy boulevard. Suddenly, the light turned yellow, just in front of him. He did the right thing, stopping at the crosswalk, even though he could have beaten the red light by accelerating through the intersection. The tailgating woman hit the roof, and the horn, screaming in frustration as she missed her chance to get through the intersection. As she was still in mid-rant, she heard a tap on her window and looked up into the face of a very serious police officer. The officer ordered her to exit the car with her hands up. He then took her to the police station where she was searched, finger printed, photographed and placed in a holding cell. After a couple of hours, a policeman approached the cell and unlocked the door. She was escorted to the booking desk where the arresting officer was waiting with personal effects. He said, "I'm very sorry for this mistake. You see, I pulled up behind your car while you were blowing your horn, flipping off the guy in front of you, and cussing a blue streak at him." "I noticed the '**Choose Life**' license plate holder, the '**What Would Jesus Do?**' bumper sticker, the '**Follow Me to Sunday-School**' bumper sticker, and the chrome-plated **Christian Fish** emblem on the trunk. Naturally, I assumed you had stolen the car".

Today we mourn the passing of a beloved old friend, **COMMON SENSE**, who had been with us many years. No one knows for sure how old he was, since his birth records were lost long ago in bureaucratic red tape. He will be remembered as having cultivated such valuable lessons as knowing when to come in out of the rain, why the early bird gets the worm, life isn't always fair, and maybe it was my fault.

**COMMON SENSE** lived by simple, sound financial policies (don't spend more than you earn); and reliable parenting strategies (adults, not children are in charge). His health began to deteriorate rapidly when well intentioned but overbearing regulations were set in place. Reports of a six-year-old boy charged with sexual harassment for kissing a classmate; teens suspended from school for using mouthwash after lunch; and a teacher fired for reprimanding an unruly student, only worsened his condition.

**COMMON SENSE** lost ground when parents attacked teachers for doing the job they failed to do in disciplining their unruly children. It declined even further when schools were required to get parental consent to administer "Panadol", sun lotion or a sticky plaster to a student; but could not inform the parents when a student became pregnant and wanted to have an abortion

**COMMON SENSE** lost the will to live as the Ten Commandments became contraband; churches became businesses; and criminals received better treatment than their victims.

**COMMON SENSE** took a beating when you couldn't defend yourself from a burglar in your own home and the burglar can sue you for assault. **COMMON SENSE** finally gave up the will to live, after a woman failed to realize that a steaming cup of coffee was hot. She spilled a little in her lap, and was promptly awarded a huge settlement.

**COMMON SENSE** was preceded in death by his parents, Truth & Trust; and his wife, Discretion; his daughter, Responsibility; and his son, Reason. He is survived by three step-brothers: I Know My Rights, Someone Else is to Blame, and I'm the Victim.

Not many attended his funeral because so few realized he was gone. If you still remember him share this message. If not, Join the majority and do nothing.

***How to anticipate a dog- fight – Most of the time. Some fights happen in seconds, but most of time you can see it coming if you know what to look for:***

- Two dogs approach each other slowly and stiffly, tails up, head and ears erect (no one is submitting, so a fight is necessary to ensure that one dog submits. There are no equals in dogdom).
- One dog (usually a young dog) continually puts his head or front paws on another dog's shoulders or attempts to hump the other dog. Owners commonly mistake this as playing – it is not.
- Two dogs lunge for an object (toy, bone, food) at the same time.
- A dog runs by fast and by mistake clips another dog on his way by. The clipped dog will often try to even the score the next time that dog comes within reach. Dogs do not bump into each other (or you) by accident. It is an assertive move to see if they do it. If they can, you are below them in the universal order of things.
- A dog (often adolescent) rushes into your dogs' space. Your dog reacts (as it should), the rusher takes offense, and a fight is on.
- A supremely confident dog or one who enjoys a good fight may give little or no warning before firing. The former may stiffen but will rarely growl and the latter can wag his tail and look happy right up to the instant he responds.

# Health Report

## Potatoes....any better than grain?

The latest trend in pet foods is the addition of potatoes. Potatoes contain a carcinogen - *\*ACRYLAMIDE* – As a daily maintenance food, potatoes are not a health food! They may actually be a part of the cancer epidemic in pets! The August 14,2002 issue of the journal of Agriculture and Food Chemistry, reported presence of high levels of Acrylamide in carbohydrate rich food like potatoes. Acrylamide induces gene mutations and has been found in animal tests to cause malignant stomach tumors. It is also known to cause damage to the central and peripheral nervous system.

## Easy TICK Removal

A school nurse wrote the following: I had a pediatrician tell me what she believes is the best way to remove a tick. This is great, because it works in those places where it is some times difficult to get to with tweezers: between toes, in the middle of a full head of dark hair, etc. Apply a glob of liquid soap to a cotton ball. Cover the tick with the soap-soaked cotton ball and swab it for a few seconds (15 – 20), the tick will come out on it's own and be stuck to the cotton ball when lift it away. This technique has worked every time I've used it (and that was frequently), and it's much less traumatic for the patient.

## Canine Compulsive Disorder

Thanks to television shows such as “MONK”, the general public became aware of the human psychiatric disorder known as obsessive-compulsive disorder or OCD. What many pet owners don't realize is that a canine equivalent exists – and that it can cause as much anguish as the human counterpart can cause people.

In dogs, the disorder is called canine compulsive disorder, or CCD. In extreme cases, dogs can suffer debilitating physical problems caused by the psychological issues; some dogs may exhibit behaviors too difficult for owners to handle. Treatment of CCD usually requires a lifelong combination of medication and management.

A dog with CCD spends an inordinate amount of time pursuing an unusual behavior. Typical symptoms are tail-chasing or circling, light / shadow-chasing, flank-sucking, snapping at flies, digging and nonstop, monotonous barking. Other behaviors may include chewing fabric, eating inedible objects such as rocks (pica), snapping at water, fence-running or chasing imaginary prey. Determining

whether your dog has CCD can be difficult because some of these behaviors can have medical causes. Often, behaviors are misdiagnosed as neurological problems, therefore a full medical workup should be performed and a qualified veterinary behaviorist should also be consulted. CCD appears to be a stress and anxiety-related disorder. A dog's surroundings may play a significant role in whether a dog develops CCD. If a dog is stressed or lives in a stimulus-deprived environment, he may begin to exhibit quirky behavior to compensate. Researchers suspect that CCD also has a genetic component because typical CCD behaviors are often linked to certain breeds.

CCD is incurable and progresses with age; a dog that has mild symptoms as an adolescent can become seriously incapacitated as an older dog. While some behaviors won't result in physical debilitation, others – such as licking and flank sucking – can turn into serious medical problems such as *lick granuloma or skin infections*. In extreme cases, a dog may cease eating or drinking because he is so distressed by his behaviors. If treated, CCD in dogs can be successfully managed long-term with dedicated owner commitment.

Early recognition of CCD, coupled with intervention, is important, but the condition can be addressed at any age with a combination of behavior modification, environmental management and medication. Mild cases may be completely managed simply by creating a more interesting environment and adding exercise. If the dog is in a sterile environment, then putting it with other dogs, taking it to doggie day care and playing with it more will certainly be helpful. Walks in particular can be very helpful in reducing canine stress, they get to sniff, and see, and hear so many new things on a walk, and that's a motivation that all dogs have. They have a need to check out new things. If you deny them that, their anxiety level increases.

Behavior modification may also help by giving the dog a sense of control. Cut back on unsolicited interactions with your dog (petting, talking, playing) and instead temporarily implement a “Nothing in life is free” approach by requiring the dog to perform a behavior, such as sitting, before receiving a reward. Rewards can range from treats to going outside to being petted to taking a walk.

Changing the behavior of the dog's owner may be important as well. Owners who attempt to soothe their dogs by petting them when they exhibit compulsive behavior, or who try to distract them by offering treats, may unintentionally reinforce undesired behavior. Ignoring the behavior may help remove some of the power from it. On the flip side, dogs should never be punished for performing compulsive behaviors, as this can make them even more anxious and worsen the condition. If a behavioral and environmental approach doesn't work, then pharmacological interventions may be added. *Tricyclic antidepressants* such as: *Clomicalm* have been very successful in more extreme cases.

*C.C. Holland – Dog Watch*

## Canine Body Language

We all know that dogs and people speak different languages. The greater the differences; in communication signals between species, the greater the chance for miscommunication. Inadvertent miscommunication is a common reason why people are often bitten by dogs. When we greet dogs, we tend to face them, make eye contact, lean forward and reach out over their head to pet them. All these gestures in canine language are offensive threats, not friendly signals. A friendly greeting in dog language includes submissive behaviors, such as slight turn of the head to avoid eye contact, and of course the sniffing of body parts, including the nose, ears and rear end.

Dogs have to learn through experience that we do not intend for our greetings to be threatening. Friendly, well socialized dogs will usually pull their ears back or lower their heads slightly even when familiar people reach out to pet them.

In situations where miscommunications are likely, dogs have evolved signals that clarify their intentions. These ritualized behaviors are often exaggerated postures, so that they are sure to be noticed, and are extremely consistent in appearance. A perfect example is the play-bow. The easiest way to describe the meaning of play-bow is that it tells the other dogs "Whatever I do next, don't take it seriously." Dogs use play-bows not only to initiate play, but also to remind their partners during play that the next behavior is still play.

Play is another context in which miscommunication between people and dogs' is likely. When people play with dogs, they also use behaviors that dogs view as threatening. We may make growling sounds, stare at the dog, run towards the dog or even use our hands to "paw" at the dog's face or body. Dogs can easily misinterpret these behaviors as threatening, especially when we initiate this "play" bout. Without a clear way for us to tell our dogs that we are playing, they may instead be quite frightened or threatened by these attempts at play. Consider this actual situation: the owner of a large dog crouches menacingly and approaches the dog slowly, step by step, while growling. The dog appears quite nervous and backs away a few steps, and on this occasion begins to growl softly and show its' teeth. When the man reached the dog, it allowed him to pet it, but was still anxious. This is creating a dangerous situation, producing stress and anxiety for the dog.

This is why wrestling and rough-and-tumble play with dogs can backfire. Dogs may become too excited, fearful or threatened. They may then bite or snap in play or from fear. Regardless, putting dogs in any situation that results in them biting or snapping is not a good idea.

At the very least, a dog owner should try play-bowing with his dog *before* using any threatening behaviors. If the dog relaxes and becomes friendly or playful, it may be acceptable for the owner to continue his behavior. More likely, it's better that he should just abandon this type of "Play" altogether.

*Dog Watch*

