

Spring – 2007

Volume – 40

The GRIPPER

Special Edition

The Official Publication of the United Perro de Presa Canario Club

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May – 2007

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UPPCC – NATIONAL SPECIALTY

The UPPCC club officers and directors are so excited about our planned Specialty that they felt it necessary to give everyone advance notice so that there could be no excuse for Presa owners to come out in support of the breed, make new friends, compare dogs and dog stories, exhibit their dogs, win some bragging rights and in general; just have some fun.

The UPPCC will hold the Specialty on Saturday – October 13th. There will be 18 class events in which to compete. All classes will be critiqued by a UKC judge; (Fred Lanting) quite familiar with the Presa Canario breed. Each of the class winners will receive a bronze-medallion; world-class ribbons and the top four winners will receive an engraved silver plated tray or bowl. Food and drinks will be available to all participants.

The “Old Line State United Dog Club” show organization will be conducting 4 dog shows at this same location. Two will be held on Saturday and two on Sunday. We encourage all in attendance to participate in these events and help support this fine group of dog fanciers. Exhibiting with this group could help earn your dog an International Championship.

In conjunction with the UPPCC Specialty and the Rarities dog show events, the “AMERICAN TEMPERAMENT TEST SOCIETY” has been contracted and agrees to administer their test to all dogs entered over the age of 18 months. Those dogs passing the test will be issued a “TT” number and certificate, upon which the dog will be able to carry the TT letters after their registered name; thus, proving their confidence and stability.

All event descriptions, entry forms and applicable fees are included in this special edition of the “GRIPPER”. Please feel free to make any additional copies as needed. If there are any questions or concerns please contact: Richard Kelly at 732 / 805-0554, Beverly Shupe at: 804 / 633-9612 or Connie Gillison at: 540 / 872-4316

NEW CLUB MEMBERS

**Walter R. Nasert
Spring Hill, Florida**

**Patrick Sanders
Stone Mountain, Georgia**

**Kory Moore
Charleston, South Carolina**

**Danny Le Nguyen
Lee's Summit, Missouri**

**Dale Powell
Point Pleasant, New Jersey**

**Patrick Pate
Columbus, Georgia**

**Clayton Reasner
Ozawkie, Kansas**

**Teresa Boorman & Jack Novoa
Lackawana, New York**

**Kathy & Debi Olson-Wilkerson
Dana Point, California**

**Marla Walker
Chipley, Florida**

**Tyrone Jenkins
Richmond, Virginia**

**Dianne Furey
Spring Grove, Virginia**

**George Canada
Hopkinsville, Kentucky**

**Steve Todd
Winchester, Illinois**

**John & Becky Fontes
Chandler, Arizona**

**Raymond Jackson
Oxon Hill, Maryland**

**James Gordon
Palm Coast, Florida**

**John D. Clark
Waldorf, Maryland**

**Earl King
Memphis, Tennessee**

**Kelly McClimans
Mechanicville, New York**

NEW PRESA CANARIO NAMES

| | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Tall Oaks – Ritalin | C&C – Gypsy Girl Lozano |
| Tall Oaks – Spartacus | C&C – Ming Yieng Ling |
| Tall Oaks – Kaos of C&C | C&C – Chief |
| Tall Oaks – Achilles Peleus | C&C – Nikka |
| Tall Oaks – Trinity | C&C – Nikita |
| Tall Oaks – Kaution | Crown Presa - Leonidus |
| Tall Oaks – Zeus | Crown Presa – Jefe de Ganado |
| Tall Oaks – El Grande Ace | Crown Presa – Cracker LeRoy |
| Tall Oaks – Kaos | Crown Presa – Toby Maximus |
| Tall Oaks – Cappone | Crown Presa – Hanna |
| Tall Oaks – Lakota | Crown Presa – Lolita |
| Tall Oaks – Grimaldo | Crown Presa – Dameon |
| Tall Oaks – Tiger | Crown Presa – Endora |
| Tall Oaks – Keno | Crown Presa – Saybee |
| Tall Oaks – Logan Lee | Crown Presa - Dammar |
| | Crown Presa – Dillon |
| Ca.Presa’s – Gunnar McCullough | TPK – Big Branch Chili |
| Ca. Presa’s – Bella | TPK – Basco |
| Ca. Presa’s – Ciera | TPK – Aztlan |
| Ca. Presa’s – Cayden | TPK – Capon |
| Ca. Presa’s – Dolce | TPK – Tessa |
| Ca. Presa’s – Diamond | TPK – Valour |
| Ca. Presa’s – Max | BCK – Bella Jordan |
| Argos de Irema Curto | AKCM – Deja |
| Nisa de Irema Curto | SRK – Caesar |
| Above Par – Makita of C&C | Taylor’s – Enoch |
| Above Par – Margo Rules of Tall Oaks | Taylor’s – David |
| Above Par – Magnus of Tall Oaks | Taylor’s – Big Show |
| Above Par – Black Pearl | Taylor’s – Sarah |
| Above Par – Dark Karma Sunshine | Taylor’s – Gemina |
| Gordon’s – “Tank” | Bravo’s – Diva |
| Gordon’s – “China” | Bravo’s – Choco-Late’ |
| C&C – Sheena | BCK - Zeus |

Reasner's – Akilla
Reasner's – "Raven"
MWP – The Dreaded Foosa

PK – Conquistador
PK – Adonis
PK – Bianca Campbell
PK – Blaze
PK – Ramesh Penlope
PK – Yoo Hoo

Quintana's – Anakin
Quintana's – Bella
Quintana's – Boris Karloff
Quintana's – Jaida
Quintana's – Maya
Quintana's – Princess Leia
Quintana's - Puppito
Quintana's – Thor
Quintana's – Tiger Lily
Quintana's – Tom

Uey's – Ultimate Furey
Kinser
MK – Sweetie
Paco
Smoke De Russo
Vito De Russo II
Shack's – Spartan
Shack's – Isis
Shack's – Analya
On Guard – Karebella
Guido de Presa Kingdom

On Guard – Bentley
On Guard – De'ja Vu
MWP – Maximus Martinez

Tirza de Tsunami
El Toro
Ceus Garcia
F.C. – Kaos Smith
Don Vato
Mitchel's – Diva

Justice Lynn
Pete's Lexus
Arron
Valentin
Shadow Lester
Maya Santiago
All Presa's - Bear
Rakeden's Simply Prada
MK – El Belleza Marrow
Big Dog's – Red Bone Tiger

Tella Voronina
Az.Presa's - Oso
BCK – Xena Johnson
Maximus De Russo
Tyson De Russo Jones
BCK – Bishop Hutton
Shack's – Si'Si'
Shack's - Duna
MK - Cloe
On Guard – Bella Prima
AKCM - Diamond

SHOW NEWS

Here are the Conformation and CGC results of last Decembers – Topeka, Kansas, “Winter Warm-up” held on the 8th, 9th, & 10th.

Larry McCall of Crown Presa Kennel had eight (8) of his UPPCC registered Presas pass the American Kennel Club/Canine Good Citizen program (CGC). This is the type of effort that’s needed to prove the stability of the breed. OUTSTANDING!

Conformation Results for Males:

(3 – 6 mo.)

Crown Presa – Pango
Owner: Larry McCall

1st Place
Reserve Jr. Puppy

(6 – 9 mo.)

Crown Presa – Hiboy
Owner: Larry McCall

1st Place

Hank

Owner: Clayton Reasner

2nd Place

MoKan Casadore

Owner Albert Villafain

3rd Place

(9 – 12 mo.)

MoKan Kobe
Owner: William Moore

1st Place
Best of Breed Puppy

(1 – 2 yr. old)

Biggie Biggs Smalls
Owner: Clayton Reasner

1st Place

(2 – 4 yr. old)

MK – Gonzo
Owner: Mose Hughhis Jr.

1st Place
Best of Breed Adult

**Mac's Black Jack CGC
Owner: Larry McCall**

2nd Place

**GBK – Sarge CGC
Owner: Larry McCall**

3rd Place

**DCL's – Toro CGC
Owner: Larry McCall**

4th Place

**(4+ yrs.)
Veijo Amarillo
Owner: Larry McCall**

**1st Place
Reserve Best of Breed**

**Blackwells Maximus
Owner: Larry McCall**

2nd Place

Conformation Results for Females:

**(3 – 6 mo.)
Crown Presa's – Hammy
Owner: Larry McCall**

**1st Place
Best of Breed Jr. Puppy**

**Dark Karma Sunshine
Owner: Vikkie Ungeheuer**

2nd Place

**Crown Presa's Black Pearl
Owner: Larry McCall**

3rd Place

**(6 – 9 mo.)
Crown Presa LoLa
Owner: Larry McCall**

**1st Place
Reserve Best of Breed Pup**

**Kenya de Gladiator Kennel
Owner: Chaol Fay**

2nd Place

**(9 – 12 Mo.)
MoKan Tara
Owner: Mose Hughis Jr.**

**1st Place
Best of Breed Puppy**

| | |
|---|---|
| MoKan Cheena Owner: Mose Hugghis Jr. | 2nd Place |
| Crown Presa Hannah CGC Owner: Larry McCall | 3rd Place |
| (1 – 2 yr. old) Above Par Gracie CGC Owner: Larry McCall | 1st Place Best of Breed Adult |
| MoKan Dana Owner: Mose Hugghis Jr. | 2nd Place |
| (2 – 4 yr.old) S.S. Diva Owner: Larry McCall | 1st Place Reserve Best of Breed |
| Patriot Corpus Owner: Larry McCall | 2nd Place |
| (4+ yrs.) S.S. Rhea Owner: Mose Hugghis Jr. | 1st Place |
| DCL's – Lera Owner: Larry McCall | 2nd Place |
| Patriot Scott Owner: Tyson Scott | 3rd Place |

Trisha Anderson of Republic, Missouri, is the first person known to have her Presa Canario male “ Int. Ch. AKCM – Dieogy CGC, TD1 certified and recorded with the UPPCC in not only passing the AKC – Canine Good Citizen criteria but, is the very first to successfully accomplish the “Therapy Dog Program”. Trish worked exceptionally hard to succeed in titling her dog and now looks forward to bringing Dieogy to the Children’s Hospital and the Assisted Living facilities, providing the ever needed well being a dog can offer. Well Done! CONGRATULATIONS Trish!

(Check out her Certificates & photos)

RARITIES, Inc. "SWEETHEART CLASSIC"- Feb. 10 & 11, 2007
FCI – Judge: Roberto Elinan (Ecuador)
NJ – Convention & Expo Center – Edison, New Jersey

(3 – 6 mo.)

Bravo's - Diva (F) 1 x Best of Breed Jr. Puppy
Owner: John Stratigakis 1 x Group 1

Bravo's – Nay-Na (F) 3 x Best of Breed Jr. Puppy
Owner: Beau Hadden 2 x Best in Show Jr. Puppy

(6 – 9 mo.)

S.S. Andorra (F) 2 x First Place
Owner: Richard Kelly 1 x Reserve Winners

(Open Class)

Titan de Alacant-Bull (M) 2 x First Place
Owner: Vincent & Erika DiLorio 1 x Best of Breed
Quebec, Canada 1 x Group 4

(Best of Breed)

Ch. S.S. G'Llaila (F) 1 x Best of Breed
Owner: Richard Kelly 1 x Group 3

Ch. OGK – Bandito (M) 2 x Best of Breed
Owner: Beau Hadden 1 x Best of Opposite
1 x Group 4

Mstr.Ch. OGK – Luna (F) 1 x Best of Breed
Owner: Beau Hadden 1 x Best of Opposite
1 x Group 1
1 x Reserve Best in Show

UKC – Dog Show – New Kent, Virginia

4 – Shows March 3rd & 4th

C&C – Cidius (M) 2 x Best Male
Owner: Connie Gillison 2 x Best of winners

S.S. Syrianna (F) 2 x Best Female
Handler: Beverly Shupe

| | |
|--|------------------------------|
| Ch. Rosario's Wadaba | 3 x Best of Breed |
| C&C – Diablo (M) Owner: Connie Gillison | 2 x Best Male |
| Ch. Tall Oaks Mankato (M) Owner: Beverly Shupe | 1 x Best of Breed |
| S.S. Temperance of Tall Oaks (F) Owner: Beverly Shupe | 1 x Best Female Puppy |

RARITIES Inc. “Rhode Island Classic” 4-shows – March 10th & 11th
Convention Center – Providence, Rhode Island

| | |
|---|---|
| (Puppy Class) | |
| Bravo's – Diva (F) Owner: John Stratigakis | 4 x Best of Breed 1 x Group 1 1 x Best in Show |
| Bravo's – Nay-Na (F) Owner: Beau Hadden | 4 x 2nd Place |
| (Best of Breed Class) | |
| Ch. OGK – Bandito (M) Owner: Beau Hadden | 4 x Best of Breed 2 x Group 3 2 x Group 4 |
| Mstr.Ch. OGK – Luna CGC | 4 x Best of Opposite |

RARITIES Inc. “READING CLASSIC” – March 17th & 18th
Reading, Pennsylvania - 4 Shows

| | |
|---|---|
| <u>(Puppy Class)</u> | |
| Jr.Ch. Bravo's – Nay-Na (F) Owner: Beau Hadden | 4 x First Place 4 x Best Puppy |

(Adult Dog)

S.S. Germanicus – aka – Dozer (M) **2 x First Place**
Owner: Ken Marino **2 x Winners dog**

(Best of Breed)

Int.Ch. S.S. G'Llaila (F) **2 x Best of Breed**
Owner: Richard Kelly **1 x Group 4**

Gr.Ch. OGK – Bandito (M) **2 x Best of Breed**
Owner: Beau Hadden **2 x Best of Opposite**
1 x Group 3

Mstr.Ch. OGK – Luna CGC (F) **2 x Best of Opposite**

RARITIES Inc. “TRI STATE SHOWDOWN” May 5th & 6th
Matamoras, Pennsylvania 5 - Shows

(6 to 9 mo.)

Bravo's – NayNa (F) **5 x First Place**
Owner: Beau Hadden **2 x Reserve Winners**
2 x Best Jr. Puppy in Breed

(9 to 12 mo.)

S.S. Andorra (F) **3 x First Place**
Owner: Richard Kelly **3 x Reserve Winners**
3 x Best Junior Puppy in Breed

(Best in Breed)

Ch. OGK – Bandito CGC **5 x Best of Breed**
Owner: Beau Hadden **1 x Group 1**
1 x Group 2
2 x Group 3
1 x Group 4

Mst. Ch. OGK – Luna CGC **3 x Best of Opposite**
Owner: Beau Hadden

QUIPS & QUOTES

Hello, my name is Adam Bilodeau. I was directed to the UPPCC website by an associate from our local humane society and animal shelter. In 1998 I rescued what I believe to be a Lionheart Presa Canario? I live in Vermont, and our local humane society called me, and my girlfriend, to let us know; that they just received a call to pick up a dog with massive scar tissue. I rescued this dog and to my knowledge it was apparent she was used for fighting. After 5 months of getting to know each other she finally came to trust me, and my pregnant girlfriend. To make a long story short we had moved into a house a year later when my son was born, and when we brought my son home this dog never left his side; she was always with him or with anyone who was holding my son. Over the winter we had a wood stove fire and this guardian wouldn't leave my son for nothing. She died in the house and was found under the crib of my son. She was a true guardian. Thank you, for allowing me to share my story. Sincerely, Adam

Hi, I was wondering if you could tell me about how many Presas are in the United States today? I ask, because 4 years ago, I rescued a pup, who; I believed to be a purebred presa. As I live in the country in Oklahoma about 30 miles south of Tulsa, I found it extremely odd that a dog this rare would turn-up on my doorstep. But then I am known to be the rescuer of large, "so-called" problem breeds and that may account for how he got here. I still have him, he had been through hell and we had over \$1,200 in vet bills the first month. By the time he got well enough to consider placing him for adoption, we had bonded so closely with him I decided he could never leave. He is now my closest companion. I am trying to understand his temperament, as he is very aggressive towards other dogs. I have worked with him a lot and he is trying hard to control his aggression, People just love him and he loves them in return. Other than the mystery of how he came to me, starving, shot twice and hit by a car, he is still a sweetheart that wins friends everywhere he goes. I no longer worry about being home at night alone, as he usually is lying beside my wheelchair, with his head resting on my foot. He is unmistakably a Presa Canario.

*Iris Bentley
Salt Creek Sancttuary*

Words of Wisdom - "Sometimes I think war is God's way of teaching us geography"
Paul Rodriguez

Beverly Shupe of Tall Oaks Kennel, Bowling Green Virginia has the distinction of having registered the three thousandth (3,000) Presa Canario with the UPPCC. Congratulations to Beverly and to her client -Victoria Weeks of Las Vegas, Nevada, who owns the three-thousandth, registered female Presa named “Tall Oaks Godiva”. This dog will be a playmate for her Presa male – “S.S. Draconian”. The UPPCC is honoring Victoria for this particular accomplishment by awarding her an honorary membership in the club.

Words of Wisdom “ A study in the Washington Post says that women have better verbal skills than men. I just want to say to the authors of that study; “Duh.”

Conan O’Brian

One of our board of directors – Tomas Rodriguez of Traditional Kennel, Oglesby, Illinois, took the initiative to help booster the Clubs membership and help promote the Presa Canario breed by further educating new Presa owners by enrolling them as new UPPCC members. Tomas personally enrolled five of his most recent customers as members. From his actions, it’s apparent he recognizes some value offered in the issues of the “Gripper” and the club thanks him for his special effort. Well Done!

Words of Wisdom “ I think I know how Chicago got started. A bunch of people in New York said, “Gee, I’m enjoying the crime and the poverty, but it just isn’t cold enough. Let’s go west.”

Richard Jeni

Breed Temperament. I have purchased a very nice Presa pup at 8 weeks of age, who I think already displays a very good temperament. My girlfriend and I have 3 children and now she is querying the suitability of the breed as a family dog due to their guarding nature. Her concern has been manifested by remarks made from her aunt; who is heavily involved in the dog fraternity as well as being a champion breeder of Skye Terrier’s and Great Danes. The aunt stated that the Presa is a one-person dog that can and will attack and is totally unsuitable for a household pet. She stated that the aggressive instinct has not been bred out of the dog and is still strong in temperament. I am planning on getting the dog totally obedience trained and if needed protection trained so that he doesn’t have to make the decision on whether there is a real or perceived threat. Is there some way I can allay my girlfriend’s fears? **It would have been nice of the breeder to give some guidance (a puppy packet) on to how to help your pup develop into a social, confident, stable, companion – guardian. Since that obviously didn’t happen, we can only recommend she search through the club website (www.uppcc.net) and click on the menu subject of “The GRIPPER” and scroll through each of the thirty volumes, especially under the contents of “QUIPS & QUOTES.”**

Words of Wisdom: “My Mom said she learned how to swim when someone took her out in the lake and threw her off the boat.” I said, “Mom, they weren’t trying to teach you how to swim.”

Paula Poundstone

Wishful thinking. We received a letter from a young man, who obviously had access to the last “GRIPPER” and after reading the dilemma the club was experiencing in lack of new members; he penned the following: Dear Sir, I think the Gripper is an asset to anyone who wants and needs information about the Presa Canario and other canine related events or facts. It would be a tragedy if it were no longer printed. I can’t afford a Presa right now but am able to continue my membership in hopes of keeping the Gripper in circulation. I have an idea that could be beneficial for continuing the Gripper. Have a raffle. A puppy raffle “Pick of the Litter” with proceeds; going to the newsletter fund. Also, it gives the chance for some lucky person, hopefully me to enjoy the love of owning the most courageous and most loyal dog of all dogs. What do you think? I’ve never seen a Presa in person, but I like the brindle male. Thank you and God bless you. Sincerely, *Ben Hamlin Jr., 1105 Woodbourne Ave., Baltimore, Maryland 21212*

Words of Wisdom: “Suppose you were an idiot. And suppose you were a member of Congress.. But I repeat myself.”

Mark Twain

Security Blankets. Those of you who have children may have notice at times, a certain behavior during their young age they would tightly hold onto a certain blanket, toy or some special item and perhaps hold part of the object in their mouth or hold the item close to their face while sucking a thumb. Well, the same behavioral traits have been observed in some grown Presas. A rather large male known as “Shabbah” was observed at a dog show in Washington, DC, lying in his crate with a Mexican blanket crumpled between his paws, kneading the blanket while sucking on a portion of the blanket and believe it or not, making humming sounds. On another occasion, a young female Presa was observed going into her sleeping crate where she began to cuddle and suckle her rather large stuffed dog that she’s had since she was a puppy. This situation alone may be unusual, but what is truly amazing she has not gutted this stuffed dog in 2 years that she’s had it in her possession. Has anyone else who owns a Presa observed these or any other strange behaviors? Please share your stories with the membership.

Words of Wisdom: “Remember in elementary school, you were told that in case of a fire you have to line up quietly in a single file line from the smallest at front to the tallest at the rear. What is the logic in that? What, do tall people burn slower? *Warren Hutcherson*

Stoughton, Massachusetts. Joe Ennis describes his male Presa “Max” as a large boned dog who he further describes as being very muscular & athletic, but he never would have believed the speed that he witnessed of his dog had he not seen it with his own eyes. Max has always behaved like a laid-back type dog, especially when playing with the neighbors Labrador, except on this particular day when the Lab got too close to one of Max’s bone. Before anyone could react, Max crossed from one side of the backyard to where the Lab stood (bone in mouth) in what Joe thought was about one second and slammed into the Lab pinning him to the ground, holding him by throat Max never growled or broke skin. He immediately released the Lab once the bone was recovered. They both then proceeded to romp and play as if nothing had ever happened. Joe’s comment, “What a fantastic breed is the Presa!”

The Purina Diet. I was in Wal-Mart buying a large bag of Purina dog chow and was standing in line to check out. A woman behind me asked if I had a dog....Duh! I was feeling a bit crabby so on impulse, I told her no, I was starting the Purina Diet again, although I probably shouldn't because I ended up in the hospital last time; I had lost 50 pounds before I awakened in an intensive care unit with tubes coming out of most of my orifices and IV's in both arms. Her eyes about bugged out of her head. I went on and on with the bogus diet story and she was totally buying it. I told her that it was an easy, inexpensive diet and that the way it works is to load your pockets or purse with Purina nuggets and simply eat one or two every time you feel hungry. The package said the food was nutritionally complete so I was going to try it again. I have to mention here that practically everyone in the line was by now enthralled with my story, particularly a tall guy behind her. Horrified, she asked if something in the dog food had poisoned me and was that why I ended up in the hospital. I said no.... I'd been sitting in the street licking my butt when a car hit me. I thought the tall guy, who now was rolling on the floor was going to have to be carried out of the store.

Bettie Fleming

Words of Wisdom: “ You can say any foolish thing to a dog, and the dog will give you a look that says, My God, you're right! I never would have thought of that.”

A. Whitney Brown

DOGS vs WOMEN

1. The later you arrive home the more excited your dogs are to see you.
2. Dogs will forgive you for playing with other dogs
3. If a dog is gorgeous, other dogs don't hate it.
4. Dogs don't notice if you call them by another dogs name.
5. Dogs like it if you leave a lot of things on the floor.
6. A dog's parents never visit.
7. Dogs do not hate their bodies.
8. Dogs agree that you have to raise your voice to get your point across.
9. Dogs like to do their snooping outside rather than in your wallet or desk.
10. Dogs seldom outlive you.
11. Dogs can't talk.
12. You never have to wait on a dog!; they're ready to go 24 hours a day.
13. Dogs find you amusing when you're drunk.
14. Dogs like to go hunting and fishing.
15. Another man will seldom steal your dog.
16. A dog will not wake you at night to ask, “If I died would you get another dog?”
17. A dog will let you put a studded collar on it without calling you a pervert.
18. A dog won't hold out on you to get a new car.
19. On a car trip, your dog never insists on running the heater.
20. When your dog gets old, you can have it put to sleep.
21. Dogs are not allowed in Bloomingdale's or Neiman-Marcus
22. Lastly, if a dog leaves, it won't take half of your stuff

Vincent DiLorio

Words of Wisdom: “When I die, I want to die like my grand-father – who died peacefully in his sleep... Not screaming like all those passengers in his car.”

Author Unknown

Hey Tex ! (Gary Goolsby). Thanks for all the valuable information. I’m looking forward to seeing these awesome dogs you were talking about. I will send pictures of my beautiful two best friends (Pumpkin & Tara). Tara is the smaller of the two and is a very smart dog; an instinctive good fighter (my opinion from watching the two play fight). Pumpkin on the other hand has the ultimate look, size and disposition; she is very friendly, but laid back. She is not as high in street smarts as is Tara. Tara seems to be able to tell what kind of mood I’m in just by listening to me, and then acts accordingly. When she approaches me she’ll lay down at my feet, wagging her tail in a submissive gesture until I pet her and praise her a little, then she is up and confident looking again. Both of my Presas are constantly on guard against the COYOTES, doing a fine job keeping them away from my goats and ducks. I am VERY happy with this pair of dogs. Presas truly are an outstanding breed, and I’ve had just about every large dog out there.

Pues adelante. Adios y que te vaya bien, amigo. Atchout

Ireland Declares War On France

Jacques Chirac, the French President, is sitting in his office when his phone rings. “Hallo, Mr.Chirac!”, this Paddy Down at the Harp pub in County Clare, Ireland. I’m ringing to inform you that we are officially declaring war on you. “Well, Paddy,” Chirac replied, this is important news! How big is your army?” “Right now,” say Paddy, “there’s meself, me cousin Sean, me next door neighbor Seamus, and the entire darts team from the pub. That makes eight!” Chirac paused, “I must tell you, Paddy, that I have 100,000 men in my army waiting to move on my command. “Begorra!” say Paddy. “I’ll have to ring you back. Sure enough, the next day, Paddy calls again. “Mr.Chirac, the war is still on. We managed to get us to get us some infantry equipment!” “And what equipment would that be Paddy?” Chirac asks. “Well, we have two combines, a bulldozer and Murphy’s farm tractor.” Chirac sighs, amused. “I must tell you, Paddy, that I have 6,000 tanks and 5,000 armored personal carriers. Also, I have increased my army to 150,000 since we last spoke.” “Saints preserve us!” says Paddy. “I’ll have to get back to you.” Sure enough, Paddy rings again the next day. “Mr.Chirac, the war is still on! We managed to get ourselves airborne! We have modified McLaughlin’s ultra-light with a couple of shotguns, and four boys from the Shamrock Bar have joined us.” Chirac was silent for a minute and then spoke, “I must tell you Paddy, that I have 100 bombers and 200 fighter planes, my military bases are surrounded by laser-guided, surface-to-air missile sites, and I have increased my army to 200,000!” “Jesus, Mary and Joseph!” says Paddy, I will have to ring you back.” Sure enough, Paddy calls again the next day. “Top o’ the morning, Mr.Chirac! I am sorry to inform you that we have had to call off the war.” “Really? I am sorry to hear that,” says Chirac. “Why the sudden change of heart?” “Well,” say Paddy, “we had a long chat over a few pints of Guinness, and we decided there is no friggin’ way we can feed 200,000 prisoners.” **“Erin go bragh”**

“LAUS DEO” a little history lesson.

One detail that is not mentioned in our Capital is that there can never be a building of greater height than the Washington Monument.

On the aluminum cap, atop the Washington Monument in Washington, DC, are displayed two words: *LAUS DEO*. No one can see these words. In fact, most visitors to the monument are totally unaware they are even there and for that matter, probably couldn't care less. Once you know the *LAUS DEO* - history you will want to share this with everyone you know. These words have been there for many years, perched atop the monument, 555 feet, 5.125 inches high, facing skyward to the Father of our nation, overlooking 69 square miles which comprise the District of Columbia, capital of the United States of America.

***LAUS DEO!* Two seemingly insignificant, unnoticed words. Out of sight and, one might think, out of mind, but very meaningfully placed at the highest point over what is the most powerful city in the most successful nation in the world. So, what do those two words, in Latin, composed of just four syllables and only seven letters, possibly mean? Very simply, they say “*PRAISE BE TO GOD!*”**

Though construction of this giant obelisk began in 1848, when James Polk was President of the United States, it was not until 1888 that the monument was inaugurated and opened to the public. It took twenty five years to finally cap the memorial with a tribute to the Father of our nation, “*LAUS DEO*”..... Praise be to God!” From atop this magnificent granite and marble structure, visitors may take in the beautiful panoramic view of the city with its division into four major segments. From that vantage point, one can easily see the original plan of the designer, Pierre Charles L'Enfant.... A perfect cross, imposed upon the landscape, with the White House to the north. The Jefferson Memorial is to the south, the Capital to the east and the Lincoln Memorial to the west

A cross you ask? Why a cross? What about separation of church and state? Yes, a cross; separation of church and state was not, is not, in the Constitution. So read on. How interesting and, no doubt, intended to carry a profound meaning for those who bother to notice. Praise be to God! Within the monument itself are 898 steps and 50 landings. As one climbs the steps and pauses at the landings the memorial stones share a message; on the 12th landing is a prayer offered by the city of Baltimore; on the 20th is a memorial presented by some Chinese Christians; on the 24th landing a presentation made by Sunday School children from New York and Philadelphia quoting Proverbs 10:7, Luke 18:16 and Proverbs 22:6. Praise be to God!

When the cornerstone of the Washington Monument was laid on July 4th, 1848 deposited within it were many items; including the Holy Bible presented by the Bible Society. “Praise be to God!” Such was the discipline, the moral direction, and the spiritual mood given by the founder and first President of our unique democracy. “ONE NATION, UNDER GOD.” We are awed by; Washington’s prayer for America. Have you read it? If not, this is a unique opportunity, so read on!

“Almighty God; We make our earnest prayer that Thou wilt keep the United States in Thy Holy protection; that Thou wilt incline the hearts of the citizens to cultivate a spirit of subordination and obedience to government; and entertain a brotherly affection and love for one another and for their fellow citizens of the United States at large. And finally that Thou wilt most graciously be pleased to dispose us all to do justice, to love mercy, and to demean ourselves with that charity, humility, and pacific temper of mind which were the characteristics of the Divine Author of our blessed religion, and without a humble imitation of whose example in these things we can never hope to be a happy nation. Grant our supplication, we beseech Thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.”

George Washington, President

When one stops to observe the inscriptions found in public places all over our nation’s capital, he or she will easily find the signature of God, as it is unmistakably inscribed everywhere you look. You may forget the width and height of the location of “*LAUS DEO*”, or the architects; but no one who reads this will be able to forget its meaning, or these words: “Unless the Lord builds the house its builders labor in vain. Unless the Lord watches over the city, the watchmen stand guard in vain.” (Psalm 127:1)

It is hoped you will share this with every child, with every sister, brother, father, mother or friend. They should not find offense, because you have shared a lesson in history, that they probably had never learned before. Be not ashamed, or afraid, but have pity on those who will never learn of the historic lesson because it failed to be passed on.

Jean Pickel

GRIPPER GRIPE

A Letter from an Animal Control Officer

Hello everyone. I'm your friendly neighborhood Animal Control Officer, and I'd like to officially tell you all to bite my butt. Before I ride off into the sunset, however, here are some parting words...

- 1) To all the jackasses who ask me if I don't have something better to do than giving them a ticket for no dog license or dog off leash. The answer is "No!" I have nothing better than to take my precious time and taxpayer dollars to write you a COMPLETELY LAME ticket for not doing what was your responsibility to do in the first place. I love nothing more than babysitting grown adults who seem incapable of wiping their own butt without law enforcement present. Thanks, dirt-bags.
- 2) To all the jackasses who ask why I'm not rounding up all the killer pitbulls. WHERE.....WHERE!?! Where are all these killer pitbulls that are roaming the streets and attacking the women and children. My God, the city should just issue you all shotguns to fend off these land sharks. In other news, THERE IS NO VICIOUS PITBULL EPIDEMIC. Let's all hold hands and say it together folks, the only epidemic is misinformation, ignorance and animal neglect. Thanks, please drive through to the second window and receive a punch in the face.
- 3) To all the idiots who refuse to spay/neuter, or who think they're "BREEDERS" because they put fido and fifi together and produced a litter of mongrels; who will all likely end up in a barrel behind the shelter by the time they reach sexual maturity: DIE! DIE DIE DIE DIE. I wish to God that there was a mandatory spay/neuter law and that the penalty for breaking it was to be forced to spend a day working in the euthanasia room. Seriously. It's simple *#&@^% math, people. Every dog you carelessly add into this world takes away a home for a dog that already exists. So senseless breeding means killing.... So have a good day, executioners! I hope the bucks you made off that puppy makes you feel real good.
- 4) There is no dam thing as "NO KILL." I hate to burst your bubble, but when you call and ask if our shelter is "NO KILL", don't treat me like I'm a murderer when you're told NO! There are simply not enough resources or homes available to find every pet a home and that is NOT MY FAULT. Quite simply, there is no "Dog Whisperer" in the world who can save your eight-year old Rottweiler that spent his entire life chained to a tree in your backyard. Sorry. Buster – but this one's on you. And the places that claim to be "NO KILL!" They simply send the unplaceable pets across the street to Animal Control who do the killing for them. WAKE UP! Until mandatory spay/neuter becomes law, killing is going to happen.
- 5) You know what's funny? Being told that I must "really hate dogs" because I'm an Animal Control Officer. Yes sir! I have to put up with retards like you, receive abysmally low pay, and wear this fabulously flattering uniform just so I can take all my bitterness out on your dog. That's also why I foster animals, paying for

their care out of my own pocket and using my precious little free time to do it. Yeah, that's it. Now how's about you shut your mouth and put a leash on your dog, you hiney-hole, so I don't have to peel him off the street later.

- 6) LEASHES, PEOPLE. They're not just for the "bad dogs". Quite frankly, dogs are carnivores – predators, if you will. When they see something furry and running fast, like a squirrel, rabbit or cat – they tend to chase after it. Next thing you know, I'm scooping up SCOOBY with a plastic bag...not fun. Or, how about the person who does not in fact, like dogs and has to be accosted by your pooch when they walk down the street? Or, what about the aggressive dog being walked safely and in control on a leash until your, unleashed dogs runs up and just wants to say "hi"? Dog-fights are pretty ugly, and NO ONE seems to anticipate them until it's too late. So don't pee and moan when I give you a verbal warning for having your dog off leash... because that leads me to say:
- 7) Your mouth will earn you a ticket. Oh yeah, no kidding. I hate writing tickets. They're a pain in the butt. I have to deal with your melt down, then, I have to go back to the office and write a report about it. Next, I have to show up in court because you want to contest the ticket, even though 60% of the time YOU NEVER SHOW UP YOU CHICKENSHIT BASTARDS. So, the deal is this – if you're nice and not egregiously breaking the law, I'm probably just going to warn you and then go about my day. As soon as you break out the lip however, I'm breaking out the ticket book. Press hard there's four copies.

In conclusion, I quit! You dip-shits broke me a while back and it's been months of therapy before I could write this little missive. I still shudder when I see a pair of testicles on a dog though, so watch out.

Irishflower – USA, Philly

HEALTH REPORTS

Hip dysplasia and diet: “The 75-Percent Rule.” A 14 year study of dogs, diet and dysplasia reinforces earlier findings with younger dogs: Deliberately feeding dogs less than the recommended amount listed on the bag of food label helps reduce the severity of a painful, crippling affliction. Most breeders of large dogs have learned to curtail the amounts of protein and fat offered to large breed puppies, thereby slowing the bone growth pattern and reducing the chance of dysplasia.

A couple of years ago a study was reported by Cornell hip dysplasia experts that found the 25-percent-less diet was good for younger dog’s hips. The conclusion by researchers (at the universities of Pennsylvania, California-Davis and Washington State) is this: “A lifetime maintenance of 25% less food diet restriction delayed onset and reduced severity of hip joint osteoarthritis, thus favorably affecting both duration and quality of life.”

Researchers agree that almost all dogs experience some degree of degenerative changes in their joints as they age. – While they’ve observed that signs of canine hip dysplasia show up on x-rays “well before the geriatric period”. A study showed at 5 years of age, 39 percent of the dogs who were allowed to eat freely had radiographic evidence of hip osteoarthritis, compared to 13 percent of the dogs who were fed at 75-percent rations.

New Drugs for Canine Epilepsy: Epilepsy, which occurs naturally in rodents, cats, dogs, horses, cattle, goats and non-human primates, is the most common acquired chronic neurological disorder in humans. The same goes for the dog population of which between 0.5 and 5.7 percent are affected, depending on breed and several other factors.

Up until now, the routine treatment for dogs has been the antiepileptic drugs, phenobarbital or potassium bromide. However, there is preliminary evidence that newer human antiepileptic drugs, such as *gabapentin and levetiracetam*, may prove useful for dogs in the near future.

When Life is Priceless: A study of 5,200 pet owners; reported in the trade journal *Veterinary Economics*, found where the buck stops, for some of us. When asked how much they would spend to save a pet’s life, 10 percent said, “up to a thousand dollars,” 17 percent drew the line at \$5,000. But 70 percent of surveyed pet owners said they would pay “any amount of money.”

Dogs, and the Ringworm Dermatophyte: Something to think about, the parasitic fungus *Microspotum canis* was found in the coats of 20.5 percent of the dogs living with people who had tinea corporis (ringworm) lesions. That doesn’t mean that pets are the only way to get ringworm, but researchers say both cats and dogs should be considered a major source of pathogenic dermatophytes for humans even when the pets do not present clinical signs of dermatophytosis.

Dog Watch- Cornell University

Pythiosis in Dogs: A Presa in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, died from this condition. Pythiosis is an infectious disease caused by a fungus-like organism, *Pythium* *Sidiosumthai* naturally inhabits wetlands, ponds, and swamps. In dogs, the disease usually is manifested by gastroenteritis or dermatitis. Presumably dogs become infected, by ingesting, or swimming in contaminated water and/or retrieving objects, such as sticks, from contaminated water and then chew them. Dogs with open wounds are predisposed to acquiring cutaneous pythiosis..

Gastrointestinal pythiosis is usually a fatal disease. Pathologically, the organism is highly invasive and angiotropic, so the infection can be complicated by disruption of the vascular supply. The infection typically involves the full-thickness of the stomach or intestine and sometimes extends to adjacent organs. Extensive fibrosis often results in stenosis of the affected segment of gut producing clinical signs referable to the site of infection.

Successful treatment of dogs with pythiosis is difficult. The only treatment option available for a potential cure is surgery and the goal is complete resection of the affected tissue. But the prognosis is poor. For cutaneous pythiosis involving the extremities, amputation may be required.

Yumi Yuasa, ECFVG

Sugar-Free Treats: A Danger? *Xylitol, a naturally occurring sugar substitute, isn't safe for your dog. Be careful of feeding him snacks that might contain it.*

We all know that chocolate is toxic to our confection-loving canines. Now sugar free treats that contain xylitol; has been shown to cause liver failure and in prove fatal in a small number of cases, according to a new report in the *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association* (JAVMA). Xylitol, which has been used in foods since 1960s, is a white, crystalline substance that looks and tastes like sugar and is found in many sugar free chewing gums, candies, baked goods and even some toothpastes. The powder is believed safe for human consumption – especially for diabetics.

If only it were that beneficial to dogs. Researchers at the poison control unit of the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, collected data on eight dogs treated after they products containing xylitol. All eight became ill and five died or had to be euthanized because of liver failure due to eating products containing the substance.

People please, be aware sugar-free gum can kill your dog. There's no doubt that xylitol can cause liver failure in dogs, the exact process by which it affects the liver is unknown, however. "Poisoning may result as a direct effect of the toxin on the liver cells themselves, which can cause changes in the **DNA** of an animal and prohibit the cells from functioning properly. It may also cause oxidative damage by free radicals. In either scenario, it is believed to cause acute cell death of liver cells.

Karen Lee Stevens Dog Watch

PET DENTAL HEALTH: Periodontal disease (problems in the area around the teeth) is one of the most common health problems in dogs. It is estimated that 80% of dogs over the age of 3 suffer from some level of periodontal disease. Just as in the human mouth, the process begins with plaque, which is made up of salivary proteins and bacteria. The bacteria irritate the gum, causing an inflammatory reaction known as gingivitis. If the plaque is removed by brushing the gingivitis is resolved. If the plaque is not removed it hardens into “tartar” or “calculus.” Bad breath may be noted at this point. Inflammation continues and can result in loss of bone structure around the tooth. Eventually the teeth become loose and fall out. In addition to tooth loss, periodontal disease has other, more serious, consequences. The millions of bacteria in an unhealthy mouth can spread to other parts of the body, such as the heart, lungs, kidneys, and liver, causing disease in these vital organs.

Periodontal Disease can be a painful condition and many dogs endure this pain constantly since their owners are unaware of this condition, The good news is that the disease is completely preventable! Removing the plaque reverses the inflammatory process in the gums. As we know from our own experience, plaque removal is best accomplished by brushing. In order to be effective, brushing must be done every day. A soft-bristled, small headed, tooth-brush is best. Special toothpaste in such flavors as poultry or seafood helps your pet enjoy the experience. Human toothpaste should not be used as it can cause stomach upset. Letting your dog chew on special toys can also help reduce plaque.

Once calculus is present, however, a professional cleaning is required. (Calculus is the brown or opaque discoloration noted usually along the gum line on the back molars. Although the bone destruction cannot be reversed, the inflammatory can be stopped or slowed with proper treatment. Routine treatment involves ultrasonic scaling above and below the gum line. Because your veterinarian cannot simply tell your pet to “hold still” these procedures require anesthesia. Since anesthesia has inherent risks, most veterinarians use the newer and safer drugs significantly reducing the occurrence of reactions. To further minimize risks, the vet may recommend blood tests before these procedures are done. Extraction may be necessary if significant bone loss has already occurred. This can at least remove the source of the pain they may be experiencing.

If you have questions regarding your pet’s dental health, please contact your veterinarian. A scheduled plan of prevention can provide your companion with a lifetime of fresh breath, clean teeth, healthy gums, and help keep your pet pain free and in overall good health.

Mark Hale, DVM

Words of Wisdom: “Relationships are hard. It’s like a full time job, and we should treat it like one. If your boyfriend or girlfriend wants to leave you, they should give you two weeks’ notice. There should be severance pay. The day before they leave you, they should have to find you a temp.”

Bob Ettinger