

Winter

Volume 44

# The GRIPPER



*The Official Publication of the United Perro De Presa Canario Club  
Founded in 1990 and recognized by the UKC & AKC/FSS*

***Contents:***

*Editorial  
New Registered Presa Names  
New Club Members  
Show Results  
Quips & Quotes  
Health News  
Certificates of Achievement  
Presa Showcase*

***January - 2009***

[www.uppcc.net](http://www.uppcc.net)

## Editorial

**I am a breeder.** My food receipts for a family of 7 and my dog food bills match. My water bill has doubled. My electric has tripled. It is I, a breeder, who when my fridge quit, saved the dog meds and let the food go bad. My feet find the way to the kennel before I have even grabbed a cup of coffee in the morning and the kennel is the last stop before bed. While my friends are on a cruise to the Bahamas and my family meets for Christmas I am home delivering puppies. I haven't had a real vacation in 7 years, but maybe soon. All plans are made around heat dates, whelp dates and vet dates. I shower and 10 minutes later my grand kids say I smell like a dog. My clothes are all stained with fecal matter, urine, afterbirth or bleach. I have to remember to clean my shoes before church.

Most of my friends breed dogs; who else can call you at 3 am for support? Who else has the experience I sometimes need, the medicine I sometimes need, or just an uplifting word I sometimes need? Who else would understand how it feels to have invested hours and hours and hours in a weak puppy only to lose it; Or the joy investing hours in one puppy that lives? I have slept on the floor beside a litter until the crucial 2 weeks have passed. I have bottle fed a litter of 12... feeding every 2 hours and it taking 90 minutes each time for weeks at a time. I have learned to be proficient at micro chipping, vaccinations, bottle feeding and tube feeding. My vet knows me by my first name. The vet knows my children and the vet now knows my grand-children. My vet knows it was I who added on the wing to the vet clinic. **I am a breeder.**

It is to me that 63 days takes on a new meaning; I'm still excited by every new life. It is I who delivers all my pups, towels and heat lamp at the ready. Happiness and sadness sometimes intermingled. Even though it increases my work load, I look forward to the 10<sup>th</sup> day stage when eyes open, and puppies begin to emerge from the helplessness of newborns. Exhilaration coming from the smell of puppy breath; the sound of a first bark, and it's exploration. I am not uneducated, unemployable, illiterate or lazy as some Animal Rights folks would imply of breeders. I am a conscientious lover of animals and I have found my niche. **I am a breeder.**

And although I feel no shame there is a part of me that feels the need to hide from powers that could come to invade my home and take my dogs.... maybe, for finding a minor infraction; a leaf in the water dish, a kennel not yet cleaned for the day? I am a breeder and I am not cruel, dumb, uncaring or criminal. I am not raking in money while sitting on my butt. Every penny I make I earn through blood, sweat and tears. My greatest joy is a healthy puppy going to a wonderful home. The cards of thanks and the pictures of my puppies with their new families is the fringe benefit of my efforts. I am an animal lover, nurse, midwife heavy laborer, customer service representative and marketer, and yes, **I am a breeder.**

Author Unknown

*Newly Registered Presa Canario Names.*

*Above Par - Bella*  
*Above Par - Diesel Curjack*  
*Above Par - Granite*  
*Above Par - Kane*  
*Above Par - Precious*  
*Above Par - Tank*  
*Above Par - Teeonuh "Sissy-Plot"*  
*All Presa - Mr. Duke*  
*All Presa - Princess*  
*All Presa - Suze Curlee*  
*All Presa - Zig Zag*  
*Angel De Queen*  
*Angelo's - "Conan"*  
*Angelo's - Hercules*  
*Angelo's - Onyx*  
*Antonio's - Escobar*  
*Antonio's - Leo*  
*Antonio's - Midnight*  
*Antonio's - Pandora*  
*Antonio's - PH 1*  
*Antonio's - PH 2*  
*Antonio's - Sterling*  
*Antonio's - Vic*

*Anubis*  
*Bo Zo*  
*Brandy*  
*Brock*  
*Brutus*  
*Bundy*  
*Devo*  
*Diesel*  
*Dozer*  
*Eazy*  
*Ghetto*  
*Gitana*  
*Jade*  
*Kona*  
*Nyla*  
*Pepper*  
*Presa*  
*Presley*  
*Rocco*  
*Roxy*  
*Sherry*  
*Veta*  
*Zoey*

*Baasha De Barzil-Lai*  
*Baby Boy Diesel*  
*Bayou De Barzil-Lai*  
*Bear Claw's - Stelios*  
*Bear Claw's - Motley*  
*Blackwell Cabeza Grande*  
*Binti De Russo*  
*Blitz De Russo*  
*Bowers Alley*  
*Bowers Big Momma*  
*Bowers Rocky*  
*Brina De Russo*  
*Bubbles Bennett*  
*BMP - Diamond*  
*BMP - Indy Love*  
*BMP - King De Leonidas*  
*BMP - Molly Proffitt Barden*  
*BMP - Tiger Orion*

*Ca.Presa -OCK - Lara "Kelsey"*  
*Ca.Presa - OCK - Maggie/Athena*  
*Ca.Presa - OCK - Molly Grace*  
*Ca.Presa - OCK - Nelly Zoey*  
*Ca.Presa - OCK - Nigel*  
*Carlyn's Jorja of Port Royal*  
*C & C - Achilles Aetos*  
*C & C - Diamond Jaid*  
*C & C - Diesel*  
*C & C - Indio*  
*C & C - Pandora*  
*C & C - Xena of MVP*  
*C.P. - El Cid Campeador Navarro*  
*Cleo DE Russo*  
*Crown Presa - D.J.*  
*Crown Presa - Keiah*  
*Crown Presa - Lilia*  
*Crown Presa - Maximus*

*BMP - Winston*  
*BMP - Tiger Skyy Treadway*  
*BMP - Twotone Trooper*

*DeGuello's - Cane*  
*DeGuello's - Gabriella*  
*DeGuello's - Maximus*  
*DeGuello's - Simba*  
*DeGuello's - Tenner*  
*DeGuello's - Thor*  
*Diamond Me Carroll*  
*Doc Presa Burton*  
*Dolce De Russo*

*Gladiator's - Cleopatra*  
*Gladiator's - Gunny*  
*Gladiator's - Sasha*  
*Gladiator's - Scrappy*  
*Gladiator's - Shamrock*  
*Gladiator's - Spike*  
*Gladiator's - Star*  
*Gladiator's - Sugar*

*Lady Turner*  
*Lights out - Remy*  
*Lola Townsend*  
*Lozano's Gypsy Princess*

*Nina Bonita*  
*Nyla Drummond*

*On Guard - Brutal Force*  
*On Guard - Magnus Cain Von Navd*  
*On Guard - Mighty Tyson*  
*On Guard - "Nala"*  
*On Guard - Sassy*

*El Chaos de Jungle Dog kennels*  
*Elite Chuey*  
*Elite Luna*

*Freya Socceroo de Irema Curto*

*Harley Guerrero*  
*High Velocity Homeboy*

*Jable De Russo*  
*Joshua CJ Stephenson*

*Kato De Tamaran Bull*  
*Kilo De La Corona*

*MK - Ace*  
*MK - Bolo*  
*MK - Enna*  
*MK - Sereena*  
*MK - "T-Rex"*  
*MK - Tela*  
*Maximus Rex*  
*Mid-West "Co-Co"*  
*Moses of Nile*

*PB - Liala*  
*PK - Dirty Harry*  
*PK - Lexi*  
*PK - Little Z*  
*PK - Tyson*  
*PK - Una*  
*Perry's Tonka Truck*  
*Picture Perfect Vitorian*  
*Prada Olson*  
*Precious Bailey*

RBK – Beoneye  
RBK - Cassidy  
RBK – Chopper of Top Rank  
RBK – Hercules  
RBK – Konan  
RBK – Quedira Diamond  
RBK – Sahara  
RBK – Storm  
Reina De Russo  
Rocky Lozano  
Rough'n Ready Rex

Tall Oaks – Noche  
Tall Oaks – Remy  
Tall Oaks – Rex  
Tall Oaks – Titan II Quires  
Tall Oaks – Tyce  
Tank Lozano  
Tank Peeples  
Taylor's – Bella Dolce  
Taylor's – Geezy  
Thorpe's – Loco Moss  
Top Rank Dutchess  
Trigger De loco

S.S. Alesia  
S.S. Alydar  
S.S. Andireia Angel  
S.S. Apollo  
S.S. Debo  
S.S. Gee  
S.S. Icon of C & C  
S.S. Jagg  
S.S. Lil' Momma  
S.S. Negri Quila'va  
S.S. Pantara of C & C  
Sander's Moonchee Keno  
Sander's Rocky  
Sir Maximus  
Sir Roc Blaze Dickerson  
SMS's Dragonbaly Mayhem  
Stinson's "Ginger"  
Stinson's Mercedes  
Stinson's Thor

Walker's Beama

---

To date the UPPCC has registered 3,906 Presa Canario

### Aphorisms:

1. *The nicest thing about the future is that it always starts tomorrow.*
2. *Money will buy a fine dog but only kindness will make him wag his tail.*
3. *If you don't have a sense of humor, you probably don't have any sense at all.*
4. *Seat belts are not as confining as wheelchairs.*
5. *A good time to keep your mouth shut is when you're in deep water.*
6. *Scratch a dog and you'll find a permanent job.*
7. *There are no new sins; the old ones just get more publicity.*
8. *No one ever says 'it's only a game' when their team is winning.*
9. *I've reached the age where the happy hour is a nap.*
10. *After age 50 if you don't wake up aching in every joint, you are probably dead.*
11. *Why is it that at class reunions you feel younger than everyone else looks?*
12. *No one has more driving ambition than the boy who wants to buy a car.*
13. *How come it takes so little time for a child who is afraid of the dark to become a teenager who wants to stay out all night?*
14. *After 50 if you don't wake up aching in every joint, you are probably dead.*

## New UPPCC Members

*Martina Silvestri  
Louisville, Kentucky*

*Shannon Bowles  
Vancouver, British Columbia*

*Charles V. Vallejo  
Tulalip, Washington*

*Kenneth Linder  
Hudson, Florida*

*Edgar & Lizette Perez  
Fort Bragg, North Carolina*

*Meghan Lewis  
Fort Myers, Florida*

*Edward P. Bendavid  
Middleton, Massachusetts*

*Olga Siampos  
Forked River, New Jersey*

*Raymond & Lorna Hamilton  
Silver Springs, Maryland*

*Ashley Barbour  
Wichita, Kansas*

*Todd Montgomery Oifer  
Davepont, Florida*

*Troy Massey  
Brandywine, Maryland*

*Robert & Opal Squires  
Christiansburg, Virginia*

*Beth & Shawn Rolle  
Dubuque, Iowa*

*Kenneth Linder  
Hudson, Florida*

*Lisa Mace  
Cincinnati, Ohio*

*Gerald & Belinda Bennet  
Cibolo, Texas*

*Mindy Durkee  
Chesterfield, Virginia*

*Wayne Swanson  
Decatur, Georgia*

*Sheldon Huggins  
Hollywood, Florida*

*Shannon Locklear  
Miami, Florida*

*Tyrone Holden  
Kansas City, Missouri*

*Did you ever notice when you put the 2-words 'The' and 'IRS' together it spells 'THEIRS'...*

# Show Results

## Rarities "Buckeye Classic" Middletown, Ohio

Master Supreme Grand Champion OGK - Luna      2 x Best of Breed  
Owner: Beau Hadden      1 x Group 1  
Bravo's Kennel      1 x Group 2

Master Supreme Champion Bravo's Nay-Na      1 x Best of Show  
Owner: Beau Hadden      3 x Best of Breed  
Bravo's Kennel      2 x Group 1  
1 x Group 3

---

## ARBA - "Liberty Bell Classic" Neshaminy Park, Ben Salem, Pa. July 12 & 13 - 4 Shows

S.S. Germanicus, aka: Dozer      2 x First Place  
Owners: Ken & Marty Morino      2 x Winners Dog  
Saylorsburg, Pa.      2 x Best of Breed  
2 x Group 1

---

## Rarities - "Delaware River Classic" Pennsville, NJ. July 12 & 13 - 5 Shows

Master Supreme Grand Champion - Bravo's Nay-Na CGC      1 x Best of Breed  
Owner: Beau Hadden      1 x Group 3

Master Supreme Grand Champion - OGK Luna CGC      1 x Best of Breed  
Owner: Beau Hadden      2 x Best of Opposite  
1 x Group 3

Adult Class:  
Bravo's Mya      1 x Best of Breed  
Owner: Chris Kowalewski      1 x Group 1  
Massapequa Park, NY      1 x Reserve Best of Show  
(See photo)      1 x Winners Bitch  
1 x Best of Winners

Bravo's Colosus Ajax      2 x Best of Breed  
Owner: Anthony Bartolotta      1 x Best of Opposite  
Staten Island, NY      1 x Group 2  
(See photo)      1 x Group 3

Junior Puppy Class:

*Bravo's Mya* 2 x Best of Show  
Owner: Chris Kowalewski 2 x Best of Breed  
Massapequa Park, NY 2 x Group 1

*Bravo's Colosus Ajax* 1 x Best of Show  
Owner: Anthony Bartolotta 3 x Best of Breed  
Staten Island, NY 2 x Group 1

---

**Rarities - "Pocono Showdown" - Carbondale, Pa.  
August 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> - 5 Shows**

*Master Supreme Grand Champion Bravo's Nay-Na CGC* 4 x Best of Breed  
Owner: Beau Hadden 1 x Group 2  
Brooklyn, NY 1 x Group 3  
2 x Group 4

*Master Supreme Grand Champion OGK - Luna CGC* 1 x Best of Breed  
Owner: Beau Hadden 1 x Group 4

*S.S. Germanicus TT aka: Dozer* 3 x Best of Opposite  
Owners: Ken & Marty Morino

---

**ARBA - "Turnpike Classic" Monmouth Battlefield Park, NJ  
August 23<sup>rd</sup> - 3 Shows**

*S.S. Germanicus TT aka: Dozer* 1 x Best of Breed  
Owners: Ken & Marty Morino 1 x Group 3  
Saylorsburg, Pa. 1 x Winners Dog

*S.S. Avatar* 1 x Best of Breed  
Owner: Richard Kelly 1 x Group 2  
Middlesex, NJ 1 x Winners Dog  
Show Stopper Kennel 2 x Reserve Winners

*Bravo's Colosus Ajax* 1 x Best of Breed  
Owner: Anthony Bartolotta 1 x Group 2  
Staten Island, NY 1 x Winners Dog  
1 x Reserve Winners

---

*The older you get, the tougher it is to lose weight, because by then your body and your fat have gotten to be really good friends... ..*



**UKC – “Old Line State Dog Club” Beltsville, MD.  
August 30<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup> – 2 Shows**

<i>Tall Oaks Tonka of Top Rank</i> <i>Owner: Wynard Beltan</i> <i>Clinton, Md. (see photo)</i>	<i>1 x Best in Show</i> <i>1 x Best of Breed</i> <i>1 x Group 1</i>
<i>Tall Oaks Zeek</i> <i>Owner: Beverly Shupe</i>	<i>1 x Best of Winners</i>
<i>Tantallion’s Deuce of TNT</i> <i>Owner: Tin Valentine</i> <i>Cheltenham, Md. (See photo)</i>	<i>1 x Best of Breed</i>

---

**Mid-Atlantic Kennel Club – Warrenton, Virginia  
September 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> - 2 Shows**

<i>Tall Oaks Tonka of Top rank</i> <i>Owner: Wynard Belton</i>	<i>1 x Best of Breed</i> <i>2 x Winners Bitch</i>
<i>Ch. C &amp; C Ming Yiengling</i> <i>Owner: Connie Gillison</i>	<i>1 x Best Female</i> <i>1 x Champion of Champions</i>
<i>Tall Oaks Justice for All</i> <i>Owner: Beverly Shupe</i>	<i>1 x Best Female</i>
<i>Ch. Reina De Kboltz</i> <i>Owner: Deb Vigil</i>	<i>1 x Champion of Champions</i>
<i>Ch. Tall Oaks Cyrus</i> <i>Owner: Beverly Shupe</i>	<i>1 x Champion of Champions</i> <i>1 x Best of Breed</i>

---

**Rarities – “Diamond Creek Classic” – Tarrington, Ct.  
September 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> – 5 Shows**

<i>Master Supreme Grand Champion Bravo’s Nay-Na CGC</i> <i>Owner: Beau Hadden</i> <i>Brooklyn, NY</i> <i>Bravo’s Kennel</i>	<i>1 x Best of Show</i> <i>1 x Reserve Best of Show</i> <i>5 x Best of Breed</i> <i>2 x Group 1</i> <i>1 x Group 2</i> <i>1 x Group 3</i> <i>1 x Group 4</i>
--	--

---

*Rarities – “Lums Pond Classic” – Bear, Delaware  
September 20<sup>th</sup> - 3 Shows*

<i>Master Supreme Grand Champion Bravo's Nay-Na CGC Owner: Beau Hadden</i>	<i>1 x Reserve Best of Show 3 x Best of Breed 1 x Best of Opposite 1 x Group 1 2 x Group 3</i>
--	--

---

*RARITIES & NAKC*

*Master Supreme Grand Champion Bravo's Nay-Na CGC    1<sup>st</sup> HALL of FAME*

---

*Rarities – “Sea Shore Classic” – Pitts Grove, New Jersey  
October 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> - 6 Shows*

<i>Master Supreme Grand Champion Bravo's Nay-Na CGC Owner: Beau Hadden</i>	<i>1 x Best of Show 6 x Best of Breed 1 x Group 1 1 x Group 2 3 x Group 4</i>
--	---

---

*Mid-Atlantic Kennel Club, Chesterfield, Virginia  
November 7, 8, 9 - 5 Shows*

<i>S.S. Zimbacardi of Fou-paws Owner: Debra Preister</i>	<i>1 x Best Female 1 x Best of Winners</i>
<i>Tall Oaks Magnum Pi Owner: Beverly Shupe</i>	<i>2 x Best of Winners</i>
<i>Ch. C &amp; C Ming Yiengling Owner: Connie Gillison</i>	<i>1 x Best Female 1 x Champion of Champions</i>
<i>Ch. Tall Oaks Cyrus Owner: Beverly Shupe</i>	<i>2 x Best of Breed 1 x Champion of Champions 1 x Group 2 1 x Group 3</i>
<i>C &amp; C Diablo Owner: Connie Gillison</i>	<i>1 x Best Male</i>
<i>Tall Oaks Justice for All</i>	<i>1 x Best of winners</i>

**UPPCC - Regional Specialty - Bel Air, Maryland**  
**October 11, 2008**

**Pee Wee Handlers:**

<i>Trinity Gillison</i>	<i>First Place</i>
<i>Caleb Cooke</i>	<i>Second Place</i>

**3 to 6 mo. Junior puppy:**

<i>Angel De Queen Cooke</i>	<i>First Place</i>
<i>Owner: Shawn Cooke</i>	

**6 to 9 mo. Puppy:**

<i>S.S. Lioneitis of C &amp; C</i>	<i>First Place</i>
<i>Owner: Connie Gillison</i>	

**Bred by Exhibitor:**

<i>S.S. Avatar</i>	<i>First Place</i>
<i>Owner: Richard Kelly</i>	

<i>Ch. C &amp; C Cidius</i>	<i>Second Place</i>
<i>Owner Connie Gillison</i>	

**American Bred:**

<i>Tiger De King Cooke (Male)</i>	<i>First Place</i>
<i>Owner: Shawn Cooke</i>	

<i>Tall Oaks Zeta of C &amp; C (Female)</i>	<i>First Place</i>
<i>Owner: Connie Gillison</i>	

**Open Class:**

<i>Ch. Tantallion's Deuce De TNT CGC</i>	<i>First Place</i>
<i>Owner: Timothy M. Valentine</i>	

<i>MK - Gonzo</i>	<i>Second Place</i>
<i>Owner: Mose Hugghis Jr.</i>	

<i>Crown Presa Chingon</i>	<i>Third Place</i>
<i>Owner: Larry Mc Call</i>	

### Champion Class:

*S.S. Avatar* *First Place Dog*  
*Owner: Richard Kelly*

*Tantallion's Deuce de TNT CGC* *Reserve*  
*Owner: Timothy M. Valentine*

*Reina de Kblotz* *First Place Bitch*  
*Owner: Deb Vigil*

*Tall Oaks Tonka of Top Rank* *Reserve*  
*Owner: Wynard Belton*

*Ch. S.S. Avatar* *Best of Breed*

*Ch. Reina de Kblotz* *Best of Opposite*

*Ch. S.S. Avatar* *Best of Winners*

---

## *Hampton Roads Weight Pull Club - 3 Days - 3 Shows Virginia Beach, Virginia*

*S.S. Zimbacardi of Fou-paws* *1 x Best of Winners*  
*Owner: Debra Priester*

*Ch. S.S. G'Llaila TT* *1 x Champion of Champions*  
*Owner(s): Richard Kelly & Connie Gillison*

---

A redneck came into town with his dog. He tied the dog under the shade of a tree, and headed into a bar for a cold one. Twenty minutes later, a policeman entered the bar and asked, "Who owns the dog tied under that tree outside?" The redneck said it was his. "Your dog seems to be in heat" the officer said. The redneck replied, "No way. She's cool cause she's tied up under that shade tree." The policeman said, "No, you don't understand. Your dog needs to be bred." "No way," said the redneck "that dog don't need bread, she ain't hungry cause I fed this morning." The exasperated policeman said, "NO! You don't understand. Your dog wants to have sex!" The redneck looked at the cop and said, well go ahead. I always wanted a police dog!"

*"In my many years I have come to a conclusion that one useless man is a shame, two is a law firm, and three or more is a congress.*

*John Adams*

## QUIPS & QUOTES

*Great news for all Presa / Dogo Canario's in the United Kingdom. The United Perro de Presa Canario Club – United Kingdom (UPPCC\_UK) has now officially become the first recognized, International Sister Club for the Presa Canario throughout the United Kingdom. This will benefit all Presa Canario breeders, owners and perspective owners. Our long term goal is the betterment of this fantastic breed within the United Kingdom. This will mean that all Presa Canario's / Dogo Canario's with a certified 3 generation pedigree can be registered with the UPPCC-UK.*

*Long term benefits of joining the membership of the UPPCC-UK will include receiving annually, three issues of the clubs newsletter the "GRIPPER"; which includes facts, information and color supplement of Presas from within both groups. Additionally, membership will offer entitlement to register dogs, litters, puppies, change of ownership and provide a 3-generation pedigree from this recognized club. This fact will help those members interested to achieve registry with the (United Kennel Club (UKC) and the American Kennel Club / Foundation Stock Service (AKC/FSS).*

*For the future we will be arranging through our sister club (UPPCC) –Presa Canario Conformation Shows (Open to All) and three other certificates that can be earned on the day of show for "Temperament" and Obedience". For all of these we will be arranging for some of the top US judges. Earned certificates are recognized by the above mentioned kennel clubs. This can only help us in the future towards breed recognition by the United Kingdom Dog Association.*

*We welcome all interested parties to contact: International club Director -UK, Jane Paton, at: [rougkennels@yahoo.com](mailto:rougkennels@yahoo.com) or [www.rogue-kennels.co.uk](http://www.rogue-kennels.co.uk)*

**Believe it or Not** – Connie Gillison of C & C Kennels, Mineral, Virginia took co-ownership of one black brindle female Presa known as Ch. S.S. G'Llaila TT aka Layla from Richard Kelly of Show Stopper Kennels. Connie so loved this dog that she made Layla her the house dog along with her three children, a ferret, a kitten, parrot and pork-belly pig. Now for the rest of the story, Connie lives in a lovely colonial home with a large deck off the back connecting to a swimming pool. When the children would be swimming, Layla would just lie on the deck watching them, never entering the pool. One day Connie decided to have some fun with Layla, she jumped into the pool diving to the bottom and just sat there. Looking up she could see Layla standing at the edge of the pool peering down searching for her. Suddenly this Presa who had never been in water, (other than for a bath) dove in swimming to the bottom grabbing Connie's arm in her mouth and began swimming, pulling her upward. With some assistance from Connie they succeeded in reaching the surface, clamoring onto the deck and panting from exhaustion they just lay there hugging. Connie had never seen nor heard of any Presa showing such fearless heroism rescuing its pack leader from drowning. Now, the children are upset because every time they jump in the pool, Layla jumps in and attempts to grab their arms trying to rescue them.

**Memorial to S.S. Shabbah** - Noreen Verdin owned her 11 year old, 160 lb., fawn gentle giant who offered her family years of loving protection and countless hilarious stories. This magnificent Presa Canario passed away on Halloween eve. What a sad night this was for the family. He was out of Gr.Ch. S.S. Medusa TT by Gr.Ch. S.S. Mufasa TT. For those who have read through back issues of the "GRIPPER" may recall some of the stories written about "Shabbah". How as a puppy he would bunch up his blanket holding it between his paws while lying there sucking on it and humming. He continued this routine throughout his life until his death. This gentle giant would cradle Noreen's little Chihuahua in his mouth and protectively carry his playmate all over the property. What was funny you could only see the head sticking out one side of Shabbah mouth and the tail showing out the other side. Then there was the time Noreen's husband Sherman had a large wooden storage shed delivered to the rear yard where proceeded to store his lawn mower and garden tools only to come home from work to find Shabbah had pulled everything out of the shed making himself at home in his new dog house. He will be sorely missed by all who knew him.

**Guardian Angels Kennel**, Louis burg, Missouri, is owned by Presa Canario breeder Bill Thyfault. Bill has always been interested and active in breeding dogs (pit bull, hunting dogs, American Bulldogs, Bullmastiffs) and finally in 1994 he met Richard Kelly and was introduced to the Presa Canario breed which quickly became his breed of choice as the best all round companion guardian. In 1995, with the guidance of friend Richard he put together a Presa Canario breeding program purchasing 5 dogs, one which became an outstanding stud known as S.S. Shaka Zulu, out of Gr.Ch. S.S. Medusa TT by Gr.Ch. S.S. Mufasa TT. Unfortunately, as nature would have it Shaka succumbed to the malady known as old age; he passed away on July 24 at the age of 13 years. This great dog produced many outstanding examples of what the breed is all about.

**Sad but True.** There are reports of Presa's found dead from hanging. Yes, you guessed it : **SOLID COLLARS.** These devices may look cutesy, even fancy, but in fact can be quite deadly when left on an unattended dog. It doesn't take much for a collar to get caught on a stationary object such as fence or dog run. The collar gets hung up, the dog struggles to free itself, the harder it struggles the more anxious it becomes until it collapses from exhaustion and finally expires. Word of caution: Don't leave an unattended dog wearing a solid collar. We have found much success in using only choke chains (Not Prong Collars). The loose chain is a control as well as a correction device. We have never seen a dog rebel against wearing the choke chain. For puppies we recommend using the rolled nylon choke collar, it's an excellent teaching device. As a matter of fact, no solid collars or prong collars are ever allowed in the dog show ring.

*Do you realize that in about 40 years, we'll have thousands of old ladies running around with tattoos?*

**Weight-Pull.** Ken & Marty Morino of Saylorsburg, Pennsylvania have started their Presa Canario "S.S. Germanicus aka: Dozer in competition weight pulling. After acquiring a fitted harness for their 160 lb. Dozer; they attended their first ever weight pull event where Dozer pulled a weight of 2,500 lbs. With this accomplishment from his first pull I would expect to hear of some extraordinary weight pull feats in the very near future. It wasn't that long ago that a 95 lb female Presa (Elizabeth, aka Bessy) pulled a reported weight of 4,500 lbs. For those who may be interested we suggest going to the UPPCC website ([www.uppcc.net](http://www.uppcc.net)) and scroll through the menu topic WPPCC for the rules and regulations. Before attempting this activity it is extremely important that your dog be properly fitted with the correct weight pulling harness to help prevent injury. I strongly recommend contacting **Missy Kehler** at: [Alaskandreammials@verizon.net](mailto:Alaskandreammials@verizon.net) and/or review her website - [www.Alaskandream.org](http://www.Alaskandream.org) or [www.theworkingcanine.com](http://www.theworkingcanine.com). If you give Missy your e-mail address she will keep you informed of many weight pull dates and their locations.

**The Meaning of Eye Contact:** Dogs communicate with their eyes. They use their eyes to express love, contentment, anxiety, and anger. **Direct Eye Contact** with a keen alert look, the dogs are feeling happy and confident; this how they look when they're greeting someone or inviting them to play. **The Hard Stare** is exhibited when dogs see something that warrants closer attention, like an intruder. They may decide that further action is required, it is then they'll lower their head a little and squint slightly. This the same expression wolves use when they're watching their prey for weakness. Dogs adopt a similar expression when they're feeling defensive, threatened or aggressive. **Averted Gaze** is how dogs try to keep the peace. Dogs look this way when they meet other, more dominant dogs or when they sense they've done something to displease their owners. **Looking Sideways** out of the corners of their eyes, dogs are being coy or asking to play. It's a polite way of expressing interest without being pushy. **Eyes Opened Wide** signifies astonishment and surprise, and sometimes fear. A sudden noise can cause dogs to jump, turn around, and look wide-eyed at the source of the sound. Dogs who are frightened may open their eyes so wide that the whites show more than usual. **Narrowed or Half-Closed Eyes** are exhibited by dogs who are happy and relaxed. This is how they look when they're enjoying something like a tummy rub. Those half-closed eyes convey total bliss. **Blank Stares** don't need much interpretation - they mean bored dogs. If they're awake and their eyes are wide opened but no one appears to be home, then they're in a bored-stiff trance. **Oblique Stare.** Sometimes, a stare isn't a sign of aggression; but from dogs who are starring but trying hard not to show it, and whose eyes are almost closed, are planning something. **Blinking** is another way dogs communicate. At a first meeting they may give an exaggerated blink. This doesn't mean they're distracted or not interested. It's their way of saying there's no problem or threat.

**In January - 2009, the UPPCC website experienced 90,052 hits.**



## Health News

### ***ALERT - Canine Influenza Virus (Canine Flu)***

***Situation:*** This acute respiratory infection has been identified in dogs in shelters, humane societies, boarding facilities and veterinary clinics all along the eastern seaboard. This highly contagious virus is a newly emerging respiratory pathogen in dogs and causes a clinical syndrome that mimics “kennel cough.” Canine influenza virus infections are frequently mistaken for infections caused by the Bordetella bronchiseptica/parainfluenza virus complex.

***Clinical Signs:*** Because this is a newly emerging pathogen, all dogs, regardless of breed or age, are susceptible to infection and have no naturally acquired or vaccine induced immunity. Virtually 100 percent of exposed dogs become infected. Nearly 80% have clinical signs. There are two general clinical syndromes – the milder syndrome and a more severe pneumonia syndrome. The milder syndrome occurs in most dogs.

In the milder disease, the most common clinical sign is a cough that persists for 10 to 21 days despite therapy with antibiotics and cough suppressants. Most dogs have a soft, moist cough, while others have a dry cough similar to that induced by the Bordetella virus infection. Many dogs have purulent nasal discharge, and a low-grade fever. The nasal discharge likely represents a secondary bacterial infection that quickly resolves with treatment with a broad-spectrum, bacterial antibiotic.

Some dogs develop a more severe disease with clinical signs of pneumonia, such as a high fever (104\* to 106\*) and increased respiratory rate and effort. Thoracic radiographs may show consolidation of lung lobes. Dogs with pneumonia often have a secondary bacterial infection and have responded best to a combination of broad-spectrum, bactericidal antibiotics and maintenance of hydration with intravenous fluid therapy.

***Fatality Rate:*** The fatality rate for the serious form has been between 1 & 5%.

***Incubation / Shedding Period:*** Is two to five days after exposure before clinical signs appear. Infected dogs may shed virus for seven to 10 days from the initial day of clinical signs. Nearly 20% of infected dogs will not display clinical signs and become the silent shedders and spreaders of the infection.

***Prevention:*** There is no Vaccine for Canine influenza virus at this time. The virus is spread by aerosolized respiratory secretions, contaminated inanimate objects and even by people moving back and forth between infected and uninfected dogs. This is an enveloped virus that is most likely killed by routine disinfectants, such as quaternary ammoniums or 10 percent bleach solutions. Because the virus is highly contagious and all dogs are susceptible to infection, veterinarians, boarding facilities, shelters and pet stores should use isolation protocols for dogs that have a “kennel cough.”



***What is being recommended?*** Be on the alert for this disease, particularly in animal facility settings. Veterinarians are overseeing disease control at kennels and other animal facilities reviewing the sanitation and infection control practices within these facilities. Suspected canine influenza cases should be placed in respiratory isolation (different airspace) from other canines as soon as possible. Ventilate the affected facility thoroughly, clean and disinfect potentially contaminated areas / objects (food and water bowls, toys, etc) with the type cleaning compounds noted above or others with strong anti-viral properties.

Facilities should institute infection control practices to inadvertent spreading of the virus on contaminated clothing, shoes and other materials. **Note: Frequent hand washing is vital in preventing the spread of all diseases. Be alert to the described conditions and limit exposing your dog to any facilities identified as being infected unless absolutely necessary.**

### **Can a diet rich in antioxidants boost cognitive abilities in the aging dog?**

As a dog ages, owners may notice the dog becoming less responsive to them, not being able to remember simple commands and becoming easily confused with new scenarios. A contributor to cognitive aging is believed to be oxidative stress. This occurs when the free radicals (harmful chemicals produced by the body) damage the body at the cellular level. When free radicals are present in the brain, they damage neurons. Damaged neurons cause learning and memory problems.

Antioxidants are nutrients or other food additives that arrest or tie up free radicals and thereby limit their ability to cause damage. In the case of aging dogs, antioxidants could, therefore, be a factor in halting the decline of the brain.

So how should your dog's diet be adapted? Whatever you do, don't simply supplement you're your dog's current diet on your own. You may end up doing more harm than good. If you are feeding a good-quality diet and your senior dog's health is fine, then your dog doesn't require a different diet. If your senior dog is beginning to show signs of cognitive aging consult with your veterinarian for suggestions to boost antioxidant levels in your dog's food.

**Calling an illegal alien undocumented is like calling a drug dealer an unlicensed pharmacist.**

*Dear members, the "GRIPPER" has proven itself to be an excellent tool for which many interested dog lovers have come to appreciate our breed due to the stories, the photos and the information provided in each of the 44 volumes produced through the years. However, there is a constant need for material about the breed if we wish to continue producing the GRIPPER. Please feel free to make available to us any stories, anecdotes and photos you wish to share of your Presa's for future publications. Let's all help continuing to advance the Presa Canario's recognition in the United States.*

