

The Official Publication of the National Perro de Presa Canario Club

Contents: May 1999

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Let us all extend a special welcome to our newest international club members...

David Rodriguez
Yokosuka, Japan

Victor Kudin
Kiev, Ukraine

New National Club Members

GINA (BOBBI) WEEKS
El Cajon, CA

James R. Cook
Inkster, MI

Earl B. Morey
New Paltz, NY

Mallarri A. Tifah
St. Louis, MO

Max S. Anderson
St. Petersburg, FL

Angus McLeod
Steamboat Springs, CO

Terrance Jackson
Hull, TX

Tyrone Brown
Cherry Hill, NJ

Monica Pinfield & Family
Jackson, NJ

36 New PRESA CANARIO Names

El Zorro de Alicant-Bull
Zula de Alicant-Bull
Zeus Shaka Titan
Guardian Angels Gomani
Mikasa
Spike
Lasi
Thunder
Diamond

Zorro II
G.A. JuJu
Egypt Kenyatta
Jeledi Ako
Chakka Sunami
Cohiba
Tank
Maleetah
Zsa Zsa

Salsa	Mango Duke
Rossa	Gypsy
Guadi de Honto-Bull	Kaylee Hope
Guardian Angels Diablo Negor	Fairlady
Sugar Ray	Gloss New Star
Baro New Star	York New Star
Blan New Star	Donna New Star
Doll New Star	Baska New Star
SK Appolo-Angus McLeod	Decca

QUIPS & QUOTES

"LET ALONE CREEK FARM KENNEL", located in Baskerville, Va., owned & operated by Bill & Amanda Gordon. The Gordons are long time breeders of the "Great Pyrenees" and are still actively breeding "Welsh Corgi". As you can see from the color photo page in this "Gripper", both Bill & Amanda are now actively breeding "Presa Canario". With 12 pups on hand, we know they certainly will be active the next few months.

Medford, OR, Dana Childers of "Pride Rock Kennel, mentioned her new acquisition "S.S. Sultan", Who is 42mos.old and 120 lbs? Dana also told us, both "Mercedes & Sultan" are trained in personal protection. The Childers have a working dog club that meets at their house on Saturdays. The club includes several breeds: German Shepherds, American Bulldogs, Pits and several cross breeds. D and her husband-Bruce, both do agitation work, plus they use several outside agitators. She States the other agitators really balk at working the "Presa's" because they have such hard drive. There's no room for a mistake with a PRESA. Quote "They are by far the best protection dogs in the club - even the other dog owners agree" By the way "SULTAN" has already sired his second litter while at "Pride Rock".

ROSS POOLE of Dale City, Va., owner of S.S. BELLA REINA (Beautiful Queen), 11 mos. out of S.S. Medusa x S.S. Mufasa, sends words of thanks to the staff at Show Stoppers, namely Donna Kelly-Burton, 11 yr.old Nicole Kelly and Richard. We quote: "I wanted to drop you a quick letter to say thanks for all you have done. You have given me sound advice, beautiful dogs and treated me like a friend, for that I say thanks! Please keep up the work you have done with the Presa breed, it needs you. Thank you. Ross Poole". It was good to have Ross and friends at the ARBA-Cherry Blossom Classic, competing with his beautiful Female Presa and his newly acquired pup - "S.S. MALO DEMONIO" (S.S. Malavta x S.S. Posiden).

PHOENIX CITY, ALABAMA. Presa owner and trainer, Jerry Barnes informed us his 27mo. Old female, Out of (Bad Mamba Jamba x Posiden), Just completed level B in Schutzhund training and is now working towards level 1. Jerry describes his Presa's prey drive as being so strong when she does the scent trial, her focus is unmatched by other breeds. When she locates the bait, she sits, barks and then stays completely focused. She remains unmoving, even when someone approaches her from behind. Other dogs will all turn their heads to see who is coming up from behind. We can't wait to hear about her level I achievement.

APRIL 11th, 1999. A voice from the past came forth from Lihue, Hawaii. The owners S.S. ZEUS, the first Presa Canario into the islands, notified us of a change of address. Co-owner Danielle Merlino tells us Zeus is 170lbs. and a sweet gentle baby. He doesn't let me out of sight. He is so sensitive. He loves a bath and of course riding in the back of the pickup truck. If co-owner Ben is playing with Zeus and I go outside to do something, he will leave Ben in a hot second to follow me. He is very protective and a wonderful Companion.

DEAR MOM & Dad, I know you and Mr. Kelly don't miss me. I don't miss you either! I'm a pampered House pet now. My big brother "Jake Henry" lets me play with his toys. Nana taught me sit, lay down & Wait (for food treats - so I don't chew her arm off when I'm big). My cousins are a Great Dane, called "Scooby Doux", with ears and "Winston Bone", an Old English Bulldog. The Vet said cutting ears off is mean. Aaron is letting me keep mine!! I have my own room & kennel with a feather bed and pink pillows. LOVE - S.S. Kaylee Hope Lindley, Southampton, New York.

KATHERINE GAWTHROP of Waldorf, Md. has achieved her breed club Championship with her 2yr. Old male Presa "S.S. MAXIMILIAN" (S.S. Andromina x S.S. Posiden), this from just 8 shows at two separate events. The CKC-"Top Dog" held in Alexandria, VA. And the most recent ARBA-"Cherry Blossom Classic", held in Washington, DC Congratulations Kay. Go get'um. (check the winter "Gripper-Vol.15 for Max's photo). Kay's final comment, "now I'm really getting the show 'buzz' and you guys will be seeing more of this fine dog". THANKS.

DECEMBER 20th,1998, Sacramento, Ca. Jim McNairy writes about his two Presas S.S. KYLO (Medusa x Calybos) and S.S. PETRA (Elektra x Mufasa). Kylo is now 3yrs old and weighs in at 145 lbs. He is an extraordinary animal in every regard. He is the embodiment of what I believe a guard/companion dog ought to be. Petra is just over 1 yr. Old and weighs 11 lbs. She's exactly what Show Stoppers said would be fiery character and lots of energy. She seems to have developed nicely (see photo). I want to Pass-on some of my dogs

interesting traits. Within a five minute walk from my house there is a retired Orchard, bordered by a river. We often take the dogs there to exercise. The path we use is bordered by tall grass, which can reach 4-5 feet in the summer. There are many ground squirrels throughout the orchard that Kylo just loves to chase. One would think the ground squirrels could easily outmaneuver a large dog especially with cover of tall grass. Unfortunately (for the squirrels), Kylo has frequently caught the squirrels in the orchard; even squirrels with the advantage of a 100 yard lead. Anyone who thinks a 145lb. Presa can't be athletic is sorely mistaken - believe me. Petra has her own specialty - she is fond of chasing deer and has an uncanny ability to sniff them out, even in the deepest of cover. P.S. I've seen your new web site <http://www.showstopperkennels.com>. It's really nicely put together. Great job. I'm glad to see Show Stoppers has a strong presence. I've grown tired of seeing so-called legitimate Presa breeders hawking their dogs. I've seen more than one blue-coated Presa advertised on the web. I really wish people would stop trying to pan-off bandogs or neo-crosses as bona-fide Presas. Please keep up the good work.

A.K.A. Tom Robinson writes Hello Rich, long time no see. I'll be sending you a photo of S.S. NUCKLES NUCLEUR (Logan). He's now 5yrs. Old and weighs 152 lbs. - not a bit overweight. He is an amazingly athletic dog. Logan is completely obedience and protection trained, which you assured me years ago would be a snap for him. You were so right. He did not disappoint me. The truly amazing thing is he is so gentle with my son - they are the best of friends. The most comforting thing is that in my line of work knowing that my family is safe. This is most important and knowing my sentinel is always on duty, let's me sleep well at night. Thanks for everything...

A.K.A. Ron Lucas, Canton, Ohio, tells about his male Presa - S.S. Polo, (151 lbs.). Ron states: I love Polo to death, he's so good with my wife and kids. He is trained for obedience and personal protection. Three months ago he got into a fight with two adult raccoons and they opened a gash in his side so that his guts were hanging out, but he was still standing. I remembered what Richard had said about how strong these dogs were and how high a pain tolerance they had. Until this moment, I didn't quite believe what he had said, but Polo jumped up into the back of the pickup truck where I then rushed him to the Vet where they fixed him up. Today, he seems stronger than ever.

CHRISTOPHER GRONDIN, Presa breeder at "DOGFATHER KENNEL", Kingsville, Ontario, writes show Stopper Kennels: Just wanted to let you know that the male Presa I purchased (S.S. DOGZILLA) is the most incredible dog I have ever seen. He is the ultimate protector and family dog. Since purchasing dogzilla I have acquired two incredible female Presas from Guardian Angels Kennel and two others from Spain. Dogzilla is all of 140 lbs. and able. He is the ultimate working dog. When I take him for walks, he becomes the main conversation piece. I was very happy to see Show Stopper and Guardian Angels journey to Spain was a great success. I know with the knowledge of both kennels; the best of Spain's Presa now resides in these two kennels.

AUTHOR UNKNOWN A shutzhund trainer in Virginia complained vehemently to the Presa owner That his dog was not a good prospect for Schutzhund work. Schutzhund is a sport, the Presa was too serious, too protective of its owner and too defensive of itself. What led the trainer to speak so, was the following incident. It seems the Presa was positioned inside a three sided blind along with it's owner and as the Agitator came around the one side of the blind, just as his one leg became exposed to the Presas vision, the dog exploded, crashing into the blind, throwing it high into the air in his attempt to get the intruder. For this protective effort, the agitator chastises the Presas owner for having such a guard dog. Oh well...

WHEN KIRK & KAREN FLOECK, of Stauton, Va. Visited with us at the ARBA Cherry Blossom Classic, they informed us of their move to PANAMA and that they were taking their new Presa siblings Out of (Elektra x Mufasa). Their fawn male is called "S.S. Mango Duke" and the fawn female is called "LASI". Kirk told us he couldn't believe how early the Presa protectionism manifested itself when his 3- month -old female would not let strangers' approach the front porch of their home. As is the case, we are certain their resort property in Panama will be well secured by these fledgling Presa guardians.

HOLY MOSES! A burglar broke into a house one night. He shined his flashlight around looking for valuables, and when he picked up a CD player to place in his sack, a strange, disembodied voice echoed from the dark saying, "Jesus is watching you". He nearly jumped out of his skin, clicked his flashlight off and froze When he heard nothing more after a bit, he shook his head and promised himself a long vacation after his next big score, then clicked the light back on and began searching for more valuables. Just as he pulled the Stereo out, clear as a bell he heard, "Jesus is watching you". Freaked out, he shined his light around frantically looking for the source of the voice. Finally in the corner of the room, his flashlight beam came to rest on a parrot. "bid you say that?" He hissed at the bird. "Yep" the parrot confessed, the squawked, "I'm just trying to warn you". The burglar relaxed. "Warn me, huh? Who the heck are you?" "Moses", replied the bird. "Moses?" the burglar laughed. "What kind of people would name a parrot Moses?". The bird promptly answered, "Probably the same kind of people that would name a 125 lb. PRESA CANARIO - Jesus". Submitted by Katherine Gawthrop

The Gripper Gripe

"Avoiding Sour Grapes" It seems, no matter what you do or say, you can never please everyone. This is especially true if you are the judge in a dog show ring. As an exhibitor there is nothing more painful then watching titled champion dogs defeated by a young open class dog of the same breed, be it male or female. Or being able to understand the mindset of the judge as he select the novice dog

over purported champions. To come to grips with this ongoing dilemma, one must first understand what is a judge. According to "Webster", A judge is to form an opinion about through careful weighing of evidence and testing of premises. Each show judge has his very own concept/picture as to what that particular breed should look like, it's confirmation, expression, it's movement and having the least visible faults. Some judges are exceptionally biased as to movement, others strictly adhere to overall confirmation and yet other judges will use a combination of all criteria. Whatever the outcome of the judges final selection, each exhibitor must graciously accept the final decision and move on. It does little good to openly criticize the judges ability, showing poor sportsmanship. Remember tomorrow is another day. Unfortunately, there is a group of Presa aficionado who tend to believe they are omnipotent and cannot accept the fact, there are in the eyes of the judge superior Presas in the show ring as opposed to their dogs.

Case in point - Katherine Gawthrop's male Presa (S.S. Maximilian) received 2 Winners Dog, 2 Best of Winners, 1 Best of Opposite and 1 Best of Breed, all at the most recent ARBA - Cherry Blossom Classic. In her efforts, she beat Dr. G's imports and other "PCCA" champions. As Kay says it: (God it felt good). But Lo & Behold, what sour grapes were picked off the PRASA CANARIO on the WEB-BBS-

- Quote: SHOW QUESTION?. From Alex of Red Star, Guys, I have a question. I do not know much about shows but it appears to me that under Spanish judges wins one dog and then he gets nothing on ARBA show, then dog loses under Spanish judge and wins under ARBA judge. Why do you worship both shows? Don't you see the difference in judgement? Which judges do you trust? No offense please, this is not aimed to any particular dog (I'm not a show expert), just curious. Continuing along this line of thought, we read another quote from another PCCA associate: Hi Alex, I don't know anything about shows but I think I know the reason for part of it. It's true that there are differences in types that win shows sponsored by different clubs. Spanish judges seem to prefer a different type than ARBA. I don't know which breed standard ARBA recognizes. I am ALMOST positive the ARBA goes by the AMERICAN (ICCF) standard for the Cane Corso, even though the breed standard is clearly outlined by the parent club in Italy and FCI recognized!. Didn't you know Alex? The Americans know EVERYTHING.' They know more about Cane Corso than Italians and more about Presa than Spanish and Islanders put together. Just ask (Americans) and they will tell you!! And what does the "A" in ARBA stand for? Signed, CARLO

THINGS ABOUT DOGS

DON'T IGNORE LUMPS AND BUMPS - Assuming the old adage is true that "personal experience is the best teacher", let us share a painful personal experience with one of our smaller breed of dog. One who just had a cancerous tumor removed. Our hope is that our experience will alert members to be especially vigilant about investigating lumps and bumps on their pets.

One morning, as we ran hands through our dog's coat, we felt a pit-sized lump on his upper right hind leg. "Where'd this come from all of a sudden?" We thought, with concern but no particular alarm. However, whenever the slightest deviation from the norm is evidenced in our pets, it's off to our Vet. When we somewhat off-handedly pointed to the mysterious lump, our veterinarian was anything but offhanded as he aspirated the growth.

Fully expecting the usual benign, fatty tumor diagnosis common with aging dogs, it came as a shock when the vet called to say the test indicated a mast cell tumor. His advice was that it should be removed immediately, since all mast cell tumors are potentially malignant. Heeding his advice, the operation was performed the next day.

Our vet provided a detailed description of the classifications of mast cell tumors and their treatments:

Grade 1, requires no additional treatment after surgery depending on tissue margins, Grade 2, may require radiation or cortisone if the tumor borders are not "clean", While Grade 3 signifies aggressive malignant cells requiring radiation and/or chemotherapy.

Our vet excised significant tissue surrounding the tumor in an attempt to remove all abnormal tissue. Three days later, the diagnosis came back from the laboratory. It was a Grade 2 tumor and the margins of healthy tissue around the tumor seemed adequate - a good sign. In addition, blood tests indicated no mast cells in the circulation, another very good sign.

A board-certified oncologist at Pennsylvania's vet school, said that to her knowledge, no one offers pet radiation in New Jersey. However, she noted that most veterinarians provide chemotherapy treatment when indicated. Radiation treatments are given under anesthesia three times per week for four weeks, which can cost up to \$2,000.

For some reason, dogs get more lumps and bumps than cats. Most are simple lymphomas (benign fatty tumors). When in doubt, don't wait. Investigate!