

The Grippet

The Official Publication of the
United Perro de Presa Canario Club

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Newest Club Members

Michael Wren

St. Louis, Missouri

Donald P. Tierney

Staten Island, New York

Toby Hudson

Mission Viejo, California

Robert Gomez

Homestead, Florida

Benjamin Rosario

Norfolk, Virginia

Premier K-9

Art Washington
Ellenwood, Georgia

Kayla House

Arlington, Texas

Mandy Cantu

Scottsdale, Arizona

Tyquan Gooding

Yonges Island, South Carolina

Trisha Anderson

Republic, Missouri

David Espinoza

Phoenix, Arizona

Brian Montgomery

Newark, New Jersey

Josh Draper

Scottsdale, Arizona

Shera L. Sauve'

Central Point, Oregon

Richard E. Lawrence Jr.

St. Stephens Church, Virginia

Patrick Comitite

Dunwoody, Georgia

Eric Sawyer & Angela Middleton

Jenkinsville, South Carolina

Above Par Presas

Fred & Kim Garoutte
Mt. Vernon, Missouri

Michael Malone

Merriville, Indiana

Frank Hurley

New Egypt, New Jersey

Raymond Shaw

Wells, Maine

Siobahn Driscoll

Douglasville, Georgia

Carol A. Harris

Topeka, Kansas

Timothy Fleming

Capital Heights, Maryland

Raymond Underwood

Detroit, Michigan

Pete Sherlock

N. Augusta, South Carolina

Johnnie Small

Westampton, New Jersey

David Butler

Bronx, New York

UPPCC membership has now grown to 306 from the latest enrollment of these 28 new members. We wish to extend to all a heartfelt welcome to the largest Presa Canario Club and registry in the United States.

May 1st thru August 10th the UPPCC has recorded one thousand seven hundred sixty six Presa Canario dogs, generated from two hundred recorded litters. It is our expectation to achieve the level of two thousand recorded with the UPPCC by December 30, 2004.

Rude Human Behavior

Humans often behave in ways that frighten dogs, especially puppies. Human behaviors that can spook pups include direct eye contact, walking directly toward, reaching quickly toward, looming over, moving suddenly, and reaching a hand in and suddenly pulling it away. Many of these behaviors would be considered rude if done to a human stranger, yet we seem to forget ourselves around animals. Fact is that their social systems share some of the same rules: Strangers stand at a distance until introduced, both parties must want interaction for it to proceed, rapid body contact is inappropriate, staring is rude... If we thought to follow some of our own rules of conduct when interacting with animals, it would make things easier for the dogs.

Metro Dog

New Presa Names

AKCM Lacuda	Bagheera de Sancho
BCK Blake	BCK Bruno
BCK El Diablo	BCK Jinx
BCK Montezuma	C.C. Blitz Kreig
C.C. Curjack	C.C. Tango
Capitan Barba Azul	Coco
Devo de Sancho	ECPC Bam Bam
ECPC Gamba Tigger	ECPC Huney
ECPC Kern	ECPC Shaq
ECPC Zeus	Eze Ree
GCK Mya	GCK Nalla
GK Repo	GK Sloan
G.A. Baby	G.A. Bain
G.A. Norman's Nikita	G.A. Northern Light
G.M. Kiki	GM Duece
GM Mason	GM Sir Patrick of Owosso
Heineken	J.J. Bella
J.J. Bojjo	J.J. Chanti
J.J. Clark	J.J. Corona
J.J. Dante	J.J. Inda
J.J. Cassandra	J.J. Nala
J.J. Preston Diego	J.J. Sly
J.J. Teeka	JJ's Sheba of Ueyville
Kendrick Hodge	MK Ameryka
MK Arjun	MK G'Money

Mac's Black Jack	Mangos Dieogy
McGee's R.D.F.R.P. Storm	Meka's Royal Princess
NB Aranta Del Cielo	Patriot's Bella
Patriot's Daisy Mae	Payledore de Sancho
Poquito de Sancho	Pride Rock's Dakota Hudson
Pride Rock's Dark Rebel	RR Aramina Geverola
RR Katie	RR Maton
RR Rico	RRK Sir Roman
RRK Zeus the Moose	Red Star Tonka
Rojo Grande	Rulo Farm Presa Roslin
Attisa de Sancho	Chico de Sancho
Chino de Sancho	Choya de Sancho
Diablo de Sancho	Elijah de Sancho
Evita de Sancho	Sarco de Sancho
Tank de Sancho	Sasha de Espinoza
Sir Hugo Maximus	Smokey
Tall Oaks My Sharona	Tall Oaks Sidra
T.O.K. Savannah of Taprock	T.G. Chuklez of Cerberus
Tailpipe	Tiye
Top Notch Harlie	Trina
	Venus Massey

Additional Kennel Identification

RSPC	Rock Solid Presa Canario
PMK	Peace Makers Kennel
RRK	Rock Runner Kennels
PPK	Prestigious Presa Kennel
CPK	Crown Presa Kennel
G.M.	Mock's Kennel

Presa Show News

Old Line State United Dog Club Bel Air, Maryland, held their, April 17th, UKC dog show. There were 10 Presa Canario entries. G'Kar de Alacant-Bull owned by Richard Kelly won Best Male, Best of Winners, Best of Breed and a Group 1, in the AM Guardian Dogs. In the PM show he won Best Male, Best of Breed and a Group 3. G'Kar was handled by daughter Nicole Kelly. (check out the photo)

American Rare Breed Association (ARBA) Upper Marlboro, Maryland, held there Cherry Blossom Classic on April 24th and 25th. There were 5 Presa Canario and 3 Dogo Canario entered in the 24th AM event. Ch. G'Kar de Alacant-Bull won Best of Breed and D.D. Bruno owned by Adolfo Sanchez, took Winners Dog, earning his first ARBA - CAC. Bruno is out of Busto de Ordepaifos and D.D. Cash. The PM show was judged as DOGO CANARIO and the lady judge never looked at the handler (Nicole Kelly) or Ch. G'Kar and gave the class to a nine month old Dogo Canario female.

At the ARBA Sunday event, S.S. Gius Ceaser aka Cuba Nigel, owned by Kevin Cunningham, won the AM & PM events, winning 2-Best of Breed and 2-Winners Dog. He now has earned 2 of the 9 CACs needed for an ARBA Championship. Cuba weighed in at 125 lbs.@ 12

months. His sire is Ch. G'Kar de Alacant-Bull TT and the dam is S.S. Lleida

ARBA - American Rare Breed Association Hutto, Texas, held their Lone Star Classic on May 15 & 16. TNK - Kobe, earned his ARBA Championship with a BEST in SHOW win and two group ones. Kobe defeated some of ARBA's top winning dogs

United Kennel Club PREMIER held in Kalamazoo, Michigan, on June 11,12 & 13, 2004. There were four Presas entered, two males and two females. TNK - Kobe took First Place, Best Male and Best of Breed on Friday. On Saturday, G'Kar de Alacnt-Bull took First Place, Best Male, Best of Winners and Best of Breed. TNK - Kobe took Reserve Male. On Sunday, TNK - Kobe won First Place, Best Male and Best of Breed. Mock's Bruno performed very well during his first introduction to a UKC Protection demonstration.

IABCA - International All Breed Canine Association, PURINA FARMS, St. Louis, Missouri, held their 3-show event on June 19 & 20. Competing were 10 Presa Canario and two Dogo Canario. A Dogo Canario male took Best of Breed at the first show. S.S. Lilith, owned by Mark Clemens of Mango Kennel took Best Pup and Heineken owned by Carol Harris of Topeka, Kansas, took Best of Breed defeating the Dogo male in the second show. Heineken is out of Godo de Honto-Bull and MK - Megan. Larry McCall of Topeka, Kansas, 2-year old female Mac's Bantay Birtha took Best of Breed defeating the Presa and Dogo male in the third show. Birtha is out of sire Godo de Honto-Bull and dam MK - Megan.

Mamma says: "A day without love is like pasta without sauce."

IABAC - International All Breed Canine Association, Austin, Texas, held four shows on June 26 & 27. Larry McCall's 19 month old female Mac's Bantay Birtha won 3 - Best of Breed and 1 - second place. Larry's 6-month old male puppy took all four Best of Breed Puppy - Mac's Black Jack is out of Rico Delgado Marble & Bryant's Nefertiti.

KC wins First Place at Utah show! Rob & Ruth Combe's young son David and their presa KC attended the West Haven City Dog Show on June 26th. This was the first show for both. There were 20 dogs competing for Best Large Breed. KC acted like she had been walking the show ring her whole life. KC and David took first place in the Large Breed. This was especially notable since David is just 11 years old. KC was an absolute natural in the show ring and stole everyone's heart in the process. She takes after her daddy G'Kar. KC and Paylee represented the Presa Canario breed very well; they were well mannered with other dogs and with everyone in attendance. Congratulations to David and KC, and the Combe family.

Quips & Quotes

FLIRT POLES are a great way to exercise and play with your Presa Canario. The dogs will learn to twist and jump, and learn to lower themselves for gravity. It's a great tool to bring out the prey drive in your presa. Here's a simple inexpensive way to build a flirt pole. The material can be purchased at most hardware stores. You'll need the following:

- An 8-foot length of $\frac{3}{4}$ or 1 inch electrical pvc conduit. Cut to a length of 7½ feet.
- 12 feet of nylon rope in a diameter to pass through the pole.
- 1 strip of real cowhide (12" long by 3 to 4" wide) or you can use heavy burlap.

Now thread the rope through the conduit. Drill a hole at about two inches from the end large enough to thread the rope through and tie a knot, then burn the rope ends so they don't become frayed and undone. Cut a hole in the cowhide and pass the rope through and tie-off. Now you can move the hide along the ground like a rabbit or raise it up off the ground causing the dog to chase or leap up towards the bait. Have Fun!

Don't touch my dog! More than once, in the city, people have said that they don't want anyone to touch their dog because they want the dog to be protective. If you really want a protective dog (and not just an antisocial, fearful dog), socialize him as much as you can. Let him or her learn what normal human behavior is so they'll recognize when something is truly amiss. This way, if that time ever comes, they'll be by your side and not end up in the back room because they are out of control.

Watchdog or Guard Dog? For many urban dwellers, fear is the norm. A good answer to that fear can appear to be a dog trained to attack. What better protection can you have than a best friend ready 24/7 to protect. Actually owning such an animal is more complicated (and dangerous) than it can appear. First of all, once a dog knows how to fight (and has been taught to enjoy fighting) with a human, it is no longer a pet. Having a dog trained to the high level required for this work demands your time and energy as well - daily. You can't relax about training and your insurance company will probably not cover a trained guard dog, so check it out. A better

plan is to have a well-trained responsive dog, a dog standing with you at the door, alert but under control. This in itself can be quite intimidating; as people don't know how extensively your dog has been trained. A dog who barks at strange sounds or activity, but is not trained to battle it out, is a watchdog, and that is the kind of companion most of us need.

Dear Abby, My husband is not happy with my mood swings. The other day, he bought me a mood ring so he would be able to monitor my moods. When I'm in a good mood it turns green. When I'm in a bad mood it leaves a big red mark on his forehead. Maybe next time he'll buy me a diamond.

Sincerely,

Bitchy in Virginia

Presa K-9 in Texas Last night we accidentally left the garage door open as well as the camper top on our pickup. This caused a local sheriff's deputy to knock on our door to make sure everything was okay. Apparently there had been a lot of break-ins in the area. While there we began talking and I showed him my dogs. He was shocked and told me that he had a Presa Canario K-9 that came from Holland, a fawn male. The Presa is Tracking, Patrol and Narcotics certified. His training commands are all in Dutch. The deputy is completely confident and proud of this dog. Reportedly, the dog came from a place that trains police dogs here in Texas (near San Antonio) who had imported the Presa from Holland. Watch out bad guys!

Off Topic but interesting for Americans! This is eerie... Something to think about since America is typically represented by an EAGLE. Saddam should have read up on his Muslim passages. The following verse is from the Quran, (the Islamic Bible)...

Quran (9:11) - "For it is written that a son of Arabia would awaken a fearsome EAGLE. The wrath of the EAGLE would be felt throughout the lands of ALLAH and lo, while some of the people trembled in despair still more rejoiced; for the wrath of the EAGLE cleansed the lands of ALLAH; and there was peace." Note the verse number!! Submitted by: Ruth Combe

A true "WORKING" Presa Canario! Rodney Lerner of Missouri City, Texas, has always owned large dogs, in fact his last breed owned were Rottweilers, and as Rodney states: "These were the dumbest dogs I've ever owned. I just wanted them to learn one simple task and that was to recover my daily newspaper at the end of the driveway and fetch it back to the house. They just couldn't do it!" Well, Rodney decided to favor a new breed of dog and purchased a Presa Canario pup from Mark Clemens of "A Kennel called MANGO." The new pup is known as "Romeo" and is out of G.A. Marcus Aurelius & G.A. Nika. And as Rodney tells us, "He is the smartest dog he has ever owned!" In just a few short months he has taught ROMEO to fetch the newspaper at the end of the driveway and return it to the house. He is so proficient at this task, that when they go for their daily walk if they come upon a newspaper lying at the end of a neighbor's drive, Romeo will instinctively pick it up and transport it to the front door of that house. Now that is truly a working Presa Canario. By the way, Romeo is just 8 months old.

"Regrets for the past is a waste of the Spirit"

Presas Territorial? Jack pickle of Breeders Choice Kennel tells how his 140 lb. female ZENA noticed a German Shepherd coming onto their 11 acre property, she immediately charged out after the intruder, the Shepherd was quick to notice Zena and quickly turned tail running back the way he came in. As soon as Zena reached her territory boundary she halted, whereupon Jack ably called her back to the house. During the recall the Shepherd decided to attempt another foray onto the kennel property and when he entered the clearing, Zena sensed his presence, turned and began the renewed pursuit repeating the first scenario. No stranger (man nor beast) is allowed entry without invitation. So be it the Presa.

"Living in a nudist colony takes all the fun out of Halloween"

Eugene Mizzell of Linden, New Jersey, stopped by Show Stoppers to show off his 5 month old black brindle male called S.S. Shariff who is completely Obedience trained. We must say Shariff is one stable, confident presa. Well done! Eugene!

In Memory My name is Kelli Carraci, I'm married to a man named Christopher who purchased a Presa Canario pup in 1993 from your kennel. Bella had a long and beautiful life with us, but unfortunately she has lived out her life. She was injured while playing with her brothers and sisters. The injury to her hip and leg would have meant surgery but the orthopedic doctor said she was too old to undergo such an invasive procedure. My husband and I are both thankful that we had her in our lives and grieve in her passing. Bella was born in November - 1993 and died in April - 2004. She was out of Medusa by Calybos. Chris reminds you that the day he came to pick up his pup was during a bad snow storm, so he wrapped her up in his best down sleeping bag so she wouldn't get cold, she was laid to rest in that same sleeping bag.

"True friends are those who really know you but love you anyway." Edna Buchanan

How defensive are Presas? The owner of ROXY an 8-month old female presa tells exactly how defensive presas can be. While having

dinner at his In-laws home he became embroiled in a rather heated argument with his father-in-law, this exchange quickly escalated into a shouting match where suddenly both men were standing closely facing each other when the older man shoved the son-in-law in the chest. "Roxy" who had been sitting nervously close by, observed the inter-action between the two men and sprinted to her owner's defense. She leaped over her owner's shoulder lunging towards the aggressor and biting him in the shoulder, tearing his shirt. When the dog was finally restrained and calm restored, Roxy behaved as if nothing had happened and went about playing with the family's children.

"Three things in life are important: The first is to be kind. The second is to be kind. And the third is to be kind."

Henry James (1843-1916)

Torquemada here! Hi everyone! I'm just checking in to let everyone know I'm doing just fine, in fact I weigh 73 lbs. at 5 months of age, and I'm not fat. By the way, I am much better with noises and still just as sweet with everyone I meet. But, I'm known to protect my best friend (a kitten) even against my doggie playmates. Just the other day the yellow lab started chasing my kitten friend so I chased him down and when she was safe I just calmed right down. The other day at the vets office a guy came in with a huge pit bull who began barking and snapping at me, so I rolled out of his way knocking him off his feet and close muzzled him in the throat where I pinned him on the floor. My owner's dad pulled me back and told me what a good puppy I was. The man and his dog both had a look of utter incredulity. I'll send a photo of myself soon, I promise. Bye!

"A good friend will bail you out of jail, but a true friend will be sitting beside you saying, "Dang that was fun!!!"

What to do, what to do! A Presa breeder got a call from a customer who told him of a recent incident involving his Presa. The owner was walking his dog through the park like he usually does when he came upon a lady walking her Rhodesian ridgeback. Her dog was running off leash, barking and having a generally good time until he spotted the Presa and immediately charged my dog. The dogs faced off, sniffed and soon tails were wagging. The lady approached and began yelling at her dog for not obeying her command to return. When she got close, her dog lunged to bite the Presa in the face, the Presa owner realizing his dog was on a leash and disadvantaged, so he dropped the leash and stepped back. The Presa caught the other dog's leg and bit, the leg was instantly broken. The Ridgeback came back again and once again the same leg was bitten, two bites, two breaks. The dog lay down and began whimpering. The Presa did not pursue the injured dog. It made no difference that the Ridgeback outweighed the 104 lb. Presa by 20 lbs. Presa owners try to avoid situations like this and consider carrying pepper spray to circumvent a similar event and be aware of your surroundings at all times.

Presa celebrity! Frank Collins a breeder of Presa Canario, from Indianapolis, recently sold a Presa pup to movie/TV star Morgan Freeman.

Holy Presas! Faithfully, each morning around 7am there would start a low moaning escalating into a louder and louder howling. This choir of howling caused area residents to begin calling the local authorities asking if there are coyotes in the neighborhood. After some investigating it was determined that a congregation of resolute kenneled Presas would evoke their ceremonial coyote wailing when the neighboring church bells chime their call to service. Their howling continues until the last bell is rung and tranquility then returns to the community and the neighbors sigh: AMEN!

Modern dogs not so distant from wild kin. Researchers who compared dog and wolf genes say it's not far from forest lair to family room. Like humans, dogs have about 99 percent of their genes in common with one another. But a few very distinct genetic differences separate them into some 400 breeds known worldwide. Researchers who compared dog genes to wolves found that a group of ancient dog types split off first. Later, the majority of canines evolved into three other clusters of dog variants - Hunters, Herders and Guard dogs - largely as a result of breeding programs developed over the past couple of hundred years. Among the closest to their wild wolf ancestors are the Siberian husky, Chinese Shar-Pei and African basenji. One of the most interesting questions still to understand...is why did the wolf keep locked, in its genome everything that was necessary to make a Pekingese to a Great Dane. Two branches of the canine family tree were the earliest to diverge from the wolves. One branch includes the oriental breeds: Shar-Pei, Shiba Inu, Chow Chow and Akita; the other includes the seemingly diverse breeds of African basenji, Siberian husky, Alaskan Malamute, Afghan hound and Saluki.

"If you want others to be happy, practice compassion. If you want to be happy, practice compassion."

The Dalai Lama

GRIPPER GRIPE

Parting Comments A few years ago (2001) a few Presa Canario aficionado got together to discuss forming a club, assemble a board of officers and directors, write a breed standard historically accurate in name and coat colors, and vote to adopt breeder requirements with the purpose of achieving breed recognition by one of the major dog registries. The information gathered to help promote the new club (UPPCC) was taken from the archives of the foundation club - the National Perro de Presa Canario Club (NPPCC). A prospectus of all this information was presented to the officers and directors of the United Kennel Club (UKC) where they officially accepted and recognized the Perro de Presa Canario breed.

Realizing the breed was in its infancy and evolving rapidly, the board of directors voted to adopt Hip and Temperament testing for breeders to follow and to have this all done by a fixed dateline. In addition, there were many other considerations: What about the breeder who has many dogs and lives miles away from any Penn-hip certified veterinarian? What about the hardship in terms of costs to a breeder of size, the time constraints, the overall logistics moving dogs to and fro? What about temp testing kennel dogs versus household dogs? Again the logistic problem, how to move a number of dogs to a qualified; ATTS - Temperament testing location or even a CGC evaluation? We had people with the attitude "Hell, I have been breeding these dogs for twelve years, and some of us have 30 plus years of breeding experience, we don't need someone dictating what we can or cannot do or how quickly we must do it." (imagine, telling the Martinez Brothers, or Swineford, or Lucero, and or Curto, that they could not breed a pair of dogs till we see their hips score and present a temperament certificate). We, meaning the evaluators with limited breeding experience were to approve or deny litter registration.

In the perfect world all breeding pairs would be Penn-hip or OFA'd and only dogs displaying outstanding working temperament would be; allowed to be bred. Breeders would then cull pups that did not display this temperament and the breed would continue to be a representative of its true heritage. In the real world 98% of the presas are purchased as family companion guardians. After roughly 15 years of its presence in the United States there are few Presas competing in working events. I hope this situation will change. It is good to see more people training to compete in various activities such as weight pull, obedience, agility, hog-catching, drug interdiction, bomb detection, cadaver search, protection training, therapy and law enforcement.

In order to accommodate all breeders we decided to make hip x-ray and vet certification a valid hip test. The idea was for the breeder to obtain a letter from his vet, on his letterhead, stating an evaluation of the dog's hips. Then submit a copy of the letter and X-ray to the UPPCC as proof. There had been no plan or intention or vote for submitting these documents to the UKC for regulatory enforcement or administration.

This compromise seemed reasonable to me. When my vet showed me Sancho's x-ray, he said they would OFA good. He showed me several x-rays and explained how arthritis forms because of loose hips, he did not explain about embedded genes. I figured it would not be unreasonable to allow for vet certification. What about Temperament Tests? It became obvious that some provision had to be made since ATTS and CGC may not be available in sparse parts of the country. Just what does CGC or ATTS do anyway? These are basic temperament tests that show that the dog is stable, and confidant, not a fear biter, not overly aggressive. They were never designed to be a gauge of performance or ability. We all know that early socialization and obedience training are mandatory for a well-balanced Presa. At a minimum we wanted to have some proof that all requirements were met, indicating the dogs are of healthy, sound temperament. I recently suggested, as an idea, to let each breeders vet sign off on their dogs stability. For the record, most vets will not place their license in jeopardy by signing documents evaluating a dogs' temperament. Joe Brown got tired of compromise, he wanted strict adherence to the original requirements (which did not include UKC being the enforcer and administrator for all UPPCC litter registrations). Joe wanted strict enforcement. Not being able to control those who could or should be allowed to breed the Presa Canario he chose to resign his position as UPPCC - Secretary. He made it clear he wanted to remain a club member, yet he spitefully removed the UPPCC database. I am unwilling to abandon enforcement of the breeder requirements in order to register breeder litters with the UPPCC & UKC, which will directly impact their livelihood. I have submitted a letter to all officers and directors calling for a vote on three options. Ten of the fourteen voting members (all major breeders) chose option three which states they will abide by the UKC Breeder Code of Ethics and that the UPPCC will administer and enforce both the UPPCC & UKC rules for breeding healthy dogs. On this basis I have submitted my resignation as Vice-President - UPPCC, *David Espinoza*

Introducing our newly elected Officer and Director

UPPCC - Secretary. Gary Goolsby, of Thonotosassa, Florida. Gary brings ten years of breeding experience (Rotts & Presas) to our membership. Since becoming associated with the club he has proven his dedication by increasing the clubs membership. He is known for mentoring several other club initiates with their breeding programs. Gary is a positive thinker and is always available to those who reach out to him. His kennel is known as JJ's Kennel (813 / 982-0050).

UPPCC - Director. W.R. (Bill) Thyfault, of Guardian Angels Kennel, Louisburg, Missouri. Bill became interested in the Presa Canario back in 1990 and purchased his first five of his twenty four presas in 1995. Bill has significantly contributed to the overall development of the Presa Canario. Bill has 30 years experience in breeding cattle, dogs and game birds. He has mentored several young breeders towards producing quality Presas. Bill brings a wealth of knowledge regarding genetics that can be advantage to our membership and associated breeders.

The UPPCC Vice-President position is vacant. We welcome all nominations. Send to the UPPCC headquarters, 239 Raritan Ave., Middlesex, NJ. 08846-1025.

Health Notes

Incorrect food preparation can be hazardous to your pet!

Salmonellosis the bacteria are resistant to environmental factors and remain alive for many months or years in the soil. In dogs, the disease usually is acquired from eating raw or commercially contaminated foods such as: eggs, poultry, pork and beef.

Onset signs of infection (Gastroenteritis) can appear 12 to 72 hours after exposure with bloody, foul-smelling stool. Fever, loss of appetite and depression occur. Bacteria carried in the bloodstream can cause abscesses in the liver, kidneys, lungs and uterus. It can also cause arthritis and inflammation of joints and tendons. Untreated will lead to death. The acute illness lasts four to ten days, but chronic diarrhea may persist for a month. Dogs that recover may become symptomatic carriers.

Campylobacteriosis is a disease characterized by acute diarrhea in puppies. It can occur in kennel dogs and strays, most often in individuals that are poorly cared for and suffering from other intestinal infections. The bacteria; is acquired by ingesting contaminated water, or feces, it is also found in 70% of the raw chicken sold in the US.

Houseflies are known to be a vector

The incubation period is from one to seven days. Signs include diarrhea with a watery stool that contains mucus and blood. Vomiting sometimes occurs. The disease usually runs its course in seven to ten days.

E. Coli There are strains of this; bacteria when concurrent with a viral infection of the intestinal tract in dogs of all ages can become pathogenic and produce a fatal illness. Onset of illness usually appears 1 to 8 days after exposure. It can lead to kidney failure and brain damage. Survivors often have kidney dysfunction, seizures, blindness and/or paralysis. The most common method of transmission is through raw ground beef and unwashed-uncooked vegetables.

Important note Handling raw food for dogs can be dangerous to humans unless strict personal hygiene is practiced. All of the above mentioned also infect humans with the same or similar symptoms.

K-9 Promise My eyes are your eyes... to watch and protect you and yours. My ears are your ears...to hear and detect evil minds in the dark. My nose is your nose...to scent the invader of your domain. And so you may live... My life is also yours.

Author Unknown

Control of Canine Genetic Diseases by George A. Padgett DVM

Excerpts are quoted from this book concerning certain diseases affecting the Presa Canario and what if anything can be done to overcome the breed deficiencies.

Neither OFA nor CERF state: that their clinical examinations' makes a dog breedable, because neither evaluates the genotype of the dog.

No matter what these two organizations state, breeders have come to accept an OFA or CERF numbers as meaning that a dog is breedable. Unfortunately, this attitude has been boosted again by the recent addition of OFA and CERF numbers to the "official" AKC pedigree. So here we are again trying to breed dogs for disease control based on phenotype when we know that carriers both for single

-gene and polygenic traits are phenotypically normal. There is little sense to it with polygenic traits, because we know mass selection (breeding based on a normal phenotype alone) works, although it is very, very slow, there is no sense to it with any of the single-gene traits except the dominant ones.

Again, we are presented with the "only talk about the good dog" philosophy by the actions of both of our major disease registries as well as by the AKC, the major dog registry in this country. We know this doesn't work. You cannot name one eye disease in any breed of dog in the United States in which the frequency of the disease has been reduced as a result of CERF. With only two exceptions, the Portuguese Water Dog and the Bernese Mountain Dog, the reduction in the frequency of hip dysplasia (not a percent change in frequency) has been almost nil for all other breeds over the last 30 years. Breeders have spent 30 million dollars on OFA radiographs with little or no results. When are we going to learn that we need to know about the affected dogs if we want to control disease?

Tradition says that breedable dogs are dogs that win in the show ring or in field or working trials, the obedience ring or any competitive format. In fact, AKC suggests that determining breeding worth is the major purpose of showing dogs.

For the sake of brevity, let's talk about conformation and remember that what I am saying also applies to all methods of measuring dogs competitively.

I have a hard time thinking of a person trying to breed dogs for conformation using parents that cannot win in the show ring in the show ring. I have an even harder time thinking of a person using the winner at Westminster for breeding if that dog has serious health deficiencies and then claim they are bringing their dogs (and breed) to perfection. In my opinion, that's just plain stupid!

The purpose of a show event should be to evaluate dogs competitively, matching them against the best animals in the breed to evaluate their potential value as breeding stock, and to have fun - to take part in the sport of dogs with or without the goal of breeding the winners. Showing dogs should be in and of itself fun; being involved in competition should be enjoyable, and there shouldn't have to be any other goal.

Certainly, selecting breeding stock based on phenotype alone is no better, because it is done by means of the show ring rather than through a radiograph. Here are some important points to consider when selecting a dog for breeding:

- What the grandparents and parents produced
- What the parents' littermates are like
- What the dog's littermates are like
- What the dog has produced in terms of, offspring

There are far more important factors than looking at the phenotype of the dog whether breeding for disease control or conformation. The conformation of the dog is important, of course, but it is just one parameter. If we want to make any impact in controlling genetic disease in dogs, we must agree that an ethical approach is based on fairness, openness, and honesty.

If 30 to 40 percent of our dogs have a defect themselves and, in addition, carry four or five genes for other deleterious traits, isn't the situation almost impossible to resolve? The answer clearly is, "Yes, unless something is done to put order into the picture." We must prioritize the traits, working on those that harm our dogs first and placing those that do little harm or are easily corrected on the bottom of the list.

Since every time you breed dogs, you get whole dogs, not just eyes or hips or elbows or hearts, you should look at the whole dog first. The whole dog is composed of as many as 110,000 genes. It should be obvious that it is easier to control one, two or even five genes than to control 110,000. Therefore you must choose a dog or dogs for breeding that will allow you to accomplish your goal(s), be it conformation, hunting, obedience or the production of quality pets. If your goal is to win in conformation competition, it will do you no good to produce an animal with superb hips if it fails to win. You will not be satisfied with the dog, even though it's healthy. Information is essential if you want to approach the control of genetic disease in a logical manner. The old adage outcross, and you will get rid of a trait doesn't work, because at least 40 percent of all dogs we produce have a defect of one kind or another. We must take into consideration the distribution of traits and carriers as they occur in dogs. This distribution is not at all like it is in people. Outcrossing in dogs is as risky as close inbreeding is among people.

There are some traits that override the primary selection parameters (conformation, hunting and working abilities). In my opinion, one of these is TEMPERAMENT. It should be obvious to those of us involved with purebred dogs that the public (including legislators) is upset about the potential for physical harm that exists with dogs. We need to come to grips with the fact that many people cannot handle some of the dogs produced by breeders. They are not familiar with aggressive dogs and do not have the knowledge or skills to handle them. This is why it is so critical to emphasize to the customer the importance of socialization and early obedience training of their new puppy, and why the breeder must educate and remain accessible to their clients.

You should never pick an ugly dog for breeding just because it is genetically normal. You should never pick a hunting dog for breeding

that can't find the duck blind (much less the duck), just because it does not produce hip dysplasia. You should never pick a dog for breeding that does not have the characteristics that fulfill your goal just because it has gene(s) that would be useful in a test mating.

The crippling defect of hip dysplasia is of special concern to dog owners because of its widespread incidence in many breeds. Hip dysplasia is the result of a complex set of inherited traits, including failure of the head of the femur (thigh bone) to fit into its socket in the pelvis (hip), and insufficient muscle mass in the hip area. Overfeeding causing rapid growth may be more likely to elicit the problem in a predisposed animal. Generally, the larger breeds; are at greater risk for developing HD. It is generally accepted that the underlying defect is caused by a series of genes. Normal parents can produce affected offspring. The incidence of affected offspring increases with the increasing severity of disease in the parents.

Selection programs concentrating on reducing, or eliminating breedings using severely or moderately affected animals have succeeded in reducing the percentage of affected puppies, but not in eradicating the defect of hip dysplasia.

NuJoint Plus is not just for older dogs. It functions primarily as an anti-inflammatory hip and joint therapy. It works to reverse and heal the devastating effects of osteoarthritis and major hip and joint problems including non-genetic dysplasia. Unfortunately, these conditions can occur in dogs at any age. NuVet Joint Plus works on the entire body. It contains shark cartilage, which is anti-inflammatory that is effective in preventing non-genetic dysplasia and often eliminates the stiffness associated with minor to medium arthritis. Read the brochure.

Humans benefit from animal contact! Studies have shown that when people have something to care for, they live longer. The Delta Society, whose mission is to improve human health through service and therapy animals, includes these points on a list of the benefits of animals. Source: <http://www.deltasociety.org>

- Pet owners have lower blood pressure
- Pet owners have lower cholesterol levels than non-owners
- Pet owners have a better psychological wellbeing
- Seniors who own dogs go to the doctor less often than those who do not
- Contact with pets develops nurturing behavior in children and children exposed to pets during their first year have a lower frequency of allergic rhinitis and asthma

Fun trivia facts about our pets

Although it has been believed for quite some time... Dogs don't sweat by salivating and panting...they sweat through the pads of their feet.

Although our dogs come running when they smell food, they actually cannot taste it as well as we can... This is all because they only have about 1700 taste buds, and we humans... well, we have about 9000 taste buds.

Results from animal therapy just amazing!

Within minutes of the trained therapy dogs appearance in an activity room, residents began speaking about dogs they used to know.....conversations that continued even after the dog left to visit more people. Dogs often inspire smiles on cheerless faces during their hour-long, monthly visits.

Many pet therapists accept no payment for bringing their trained, controlled animals to places such as nursing homes, hospitals, schools or prisons, where individuals would otherwise seldom get to see companion animals.

Not just any canine can be a therapy dog. That designation is given to dogs completing obedience school training. Those of you who are interested should contact THERAPY DOGS Inc. a Wyoming organization that provides registration and support for more than 4,000 members across the nation.

Those interested in joining the group must first follow a member on a therapy visit, without his or her dog. Then the behavior of the prospective member's dog around other animals, and people, is tested. After the dog makes at least visits under a member's supervision, he or she can receive a therapy dog tag and the owner can be registered as a TDI member.

Mamma says: "The fish with the biggest mouth is the easiest to catch."