

INTERNATIONAL KENNEL VISIT

Kennel Black Orange's

SUSANN OIHAGE



Me and my husband Håkan

I would like to give my best regards to Dennis Litojua who invited me and I would also like to thank Sharon, Benson and the Pom Reader for giving me this opportunity to tell my story.

My name is Susann Olhage and I breed Pomeranian under the kennel name "Black Orange's". I was inspired by my first and second Pomeranian, which were black and orange color, when I chose the name for my kennel.

Today I live in Sweden with my husband Håkan and my two daughters, Charlene 19 and Zabrina 18, but I was originally born and grew up in Finland. My family and I live on the westcoast in a place named Särö about 30km south of Gothenburg, which lies near the sea. All of our dogs are treated as family members and they even sleep in our bedroom. I make sure that we do not have more than 4-6 dogs at the same time, because I want to be able to give them equal attention and all the caring love that they need. It is not the quantity, but the quality that counts.

I work four days a week at the

Scandinavian main office for Forever Living Products, which lies not far from our home. The company is a world leader in Aloe Vera and is owned by Rex Maughan, who lives in America.

My interest in dogs, especially dogs of Spitz breeds was strong already when I was a child. Our neighbor had a Finnish Spitz, which is used in hunting. I often played with that dog and I even pretended that it was my own. Unfortunately my parents did not want a dog even though I begged and pleaded for one.

One day in 1993 when I was out walking with my children I met a lady with an orange colored Pomeranian. It was the very first time I saw a Pomeranian and I was fascinated by the little creature with big fur. I did not know what kind of breed it was and the lady was in a hurry so she could not help me. So I visited the public library and found a book about different dog breeds. I read all about Pomeranians and then called the Finnish Kennel Club to find out which breeders had puppies for sale at the moment. I was given several

phone numbers but none of them, who I called, wanted to sell a puppy to a family with small children of ages 6 and 5. I only had one breeder left to call, the late Marjatta Heinonen owner of Kennel Tiny Doll's in Helsinki Finland and from that moment my luck was about to turn. I was very happy when Marjatta invited me to her kennel the following day.

I knew in advance that I wanted an orange colored dog; I was sure of it. As my children and I came to Kennel Tiny Doll's, we were met by 30 dogs, 15 Poms and 15 Chihuahuas, all of them barking and jumping around our feet.

While talking with Marjatta I watched the dogs and to my disappointment there were only a few orange colored dogs. Despite that I was still charmed by a 5 year-old female Pom, which was black and named Black Bessie at Tiny Doll's "Bessie", already a Finnish Champion. Bessie was imported from England and was an offspring of Great Britain Champion Zentarr Mark. I was taken away by Bessie and she immediately got a special place in my

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Black Orange's King Of The Poms sired by INT Multi CH Multi Winner Toybox For Havens Sake

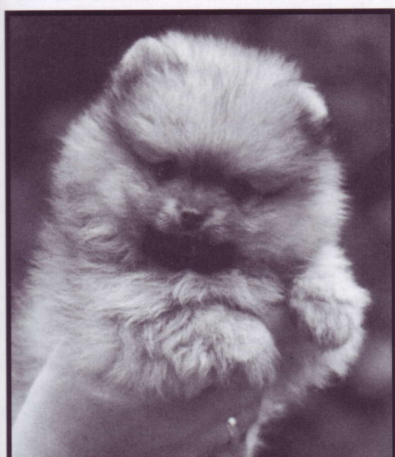


Black Orange's King Of The Pom
12 weeks

Black Orange's Royal Straight Flush,
Grace BIS 3 puppies



Black Orange's Royal Straight Flush
6.5 months old



Black Orange's King Of The Toys 7 weeks



Black Orange's Not For Sale
9 weeks



Black Orange's Moon Shadow



Black Orange's Not For Sale
14 months

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Me and my first Pom
Fin CH Black Bessie at Tiny Dolls

heart. The visit ended with me going home with Bessie and I was very much attached to the dog just like everyone else became when they met her.

In 1995 I decided to cover her with a creme colored male because I hoped that the offsprings maybe would be light orange or cream colored. Three black puppies were born and were sold to good homes. One of them Finnish Champion Black Orange's Baby Dolls, "Namu" was bought by Päivi Paajanen, who had great success with Namu at dog shows. Namu was also the dog Päivi started her own kennel with and she also named her kennel, Kennel Baby Doll's.

In 1996 I bought the American Cocker Spaniel male Royalgrest's Star On The Sky, "Mike", who was one year old at the time. The father and mother of Mike were both imported from the USA from Kennel Gazon; Mike was linebred on American Champion Harlanhaven's High Spirit.

Once I had bought Mike my interest in dog shows began. He got 2 Certificates quickly, but after that we did not have any future success in the ring. However, it made me start looking for a Pomeranian female of show quality, but I did not have any experience in how a promising puppy should look like.

Once again I contacted Kennel Tiny Doll's and Marjatta sold me a female puppie, with good pedigree, named Tiny Doll's Manilja "Molle". Her father was Finnish Champion Veltud's Shoot For The Stars and mother Veltud's Good Time Girl, both imported from England. Also in

Molles pedigree there is Great Britain Champion Zentarr Mark, who was Bessies father. I had great expectations of Molle as a show dog, but it was clear to me after only one dog show that she was only a brood bitch. The judges were not impressed; they thought she looked more like a Kleinspitz than a Pomeranian, which made me realize that a good pedigree does not always give a good showdog.

In 1997 I decided to cover Molle with Finnish Estonia Champion Estonia Winner 1994 Linnanhaltijan Herkules, who comes from the famous and most winning Pomeranian kennel Linnanhaltijan in Finland. Molle gave birth to two black puppies and one light orange male, which I kept for myself, Finnish Estonia Champion Baltic Winner 2000 Black Orange's Midnight Star "Gizmo". I had great faith in him from the beginning and decided to enter him and his sister Black Orange's Midnight Queen to the World Dog Show 1998 in Helisinki in Finland. It was my first big show and I was nervous many days before the big day. I did not have any friends that participated in dog shows with the same breed so I went by myself to the competition. I did not know how my puppies would react or behave once they were to walk in the ring in the big indoor arena. I was afraid that my nerves would rub off on the puppies. Now afterwards I should not have been nervous, Gizmo was extraordinary in the ring and won BOB puppy and his sister BOS puppie. Amazing, I was floating on clouds, it was my first time I showed my own breed puppies. It was a day I will remember always. I was so happy for the BOB that I missed to enter the BIS final. I will never forget the moment when I realized that I had missed the final, what a miss!

I had great success with Gizmo, he was correct in his body, short back and beautiful movements. However, I did not like his face because it was more of a typical spitz face instead of a bear face, which I prefer. During the two years I showed Gizmo, he became one of Finland's most winning males, he was even placed on the Top Ten list in Finland in 1998 and 1999. Gizmo finished his Finnish Championship when he was 15 months and 4 days old. The age limit for becoming Champion in Finland was 15 months at the moment. Just a few months later Gizmo became Estonia Champion; he also won BOB at the big Baltic Winner Show in Estonia in 2000. Gizmo has produced a couple of

Champion. One of them is the female Finnish Champion Black Orange's Surprising Sun. The latest offspring is our own Black Orange's Royal Straight Flush "Grace", of which we have great expectations.

At the same time, I was looking for a female to use in dog shows and I had heard of a Kennel named Yllinkyllin, which was expecting a litter with an interesting pedigree. Fortunately, I had the opportunity to buy one female from that litter, Finnish Estonia Champion Yllinkyllin Dirlandaa "Bambi". In Bambi's pedigree there were many famous dogs, such as American Champion Sungold's Max Of Harbin, American Champion Great Elms Prince Charming II and Great Britain Champion Tookeyes Toy Boy.

Already in the puppy BIS final at the Finnish Kennel Club shows Bambi was successful. Bambi was one of the most winning female Pomeranians in Finland during 1999 and 2000. Bambi was about to become International Champion, and only needed one more Cacib. As I realized that she was not appropriate to use as a breeding dog, my best friend Helena Kallio convinced me to sell Bambi to her as a pet. Bambi got a good life living with Helena and two other dogs of my own breed.

During 1998 at one of the dog shows I attended, I saw a wonderful female BIS International Norwegian Swedish Finnish Champion Norwegian Winner 1999 Sunline I've Got The Kick O'You "Kicki". Once I came home from the show I read in the catalogue that Kicki was owned by



Multi CH Sunline Lady In Red BOB
twice at soon 7 years old, under
jugde Elina Tan Hietalahti, Finland

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Solveig Olsen at Kennel Sunline in Norway. I instantly wrote a letter to Solveig and asked if I might buy a female puppy after Kicki. The years went by and I did not hear from Solveig, but I could not forget Kicki. However, two years later, as I came home from work, my phone rang. It was Solveig Olsen, who offered me to buy a female offspring of Kicki's sister, Sunline Talking Head. Of course I wanted to buy her and I have never regreted that purchase. A few months later I got my first import, BIS International Finnish Swedish Danish Champion Swedish Winner 2003 Sunline Lady In Red "Bonnie". The real success began to take place of dog shows. I won almost everything with Bonnie and she was placed at the Top Ten list in Finland 2001 when she was only one year old. Bonnie was one of Scandinavian's most winning females in 2002 and 2003, and most winning female in Sweden 2002!

Bonnie is not only a good show dog but a good breeding dog as well. She has given good genes to her offsprings. Bonnie is a mother of Swedish Champion Black Orange's Wave Of The Year "Woody". Woody finish his Championship on his first try and he was the most winning European born

male at the Top Ten list in Sweden 2005! That same year I was Top breeder of Pomeranian in Sweden, who had been placed best on dog shows with your own breed. Woody moved this year in May to Janneke Vd Wal-Seinstra at Kennel House Of The Poms in Holland. Woody has already won BOB, Cacib and Certificate in Holland and needs only one more Cacib to finish his International Championship title. Woody will soon become a proud father of many offsprings in Holland. We are looking forward to seeing them grow up.

In 2001 I was offered to buy Bonnie's father BISS international Norwegian Swedish Estonia Danish Finnish Champion, Norwegian Winner 1999 Copenhagen Winner 2000 Tiny Jewel's Casanova from Kennel Tiny Jewels in Norway. Casanova moved to me when he was three years old; by then he already had many Champion titles and was a qualified show dog. Casanova made my year at the dog shows a success. I competed with him during six

Champion Woodrose Making Waves "Mostly", import from Hawaii, to ask if I might use him to breed. Instead of just using him to breed I have got the opportunity to buy him as he was for sale at the time. I did not hesitate for one second, because he was my dream dog. He was six years old and was the most lovely Pomeranian I had ever seen. I changed his food and started exercising him to improve his movements. Only six months later I entered him to a dog show, which he became BOS, BOB veteran and BIS 2 veteran. The day after that he became BOB and group reserve and BOB veteran. Mostly was also BIS Veteran on the Pomeranian Speciality Show in 2004! He became the Best Veteran at the Pomeranian Top Ten Veterans 2004 in Sweden. Mostly was also placed as NO. 7 on the Top Ten list 2004 hereby the oldest Pomeranian at the Top Ten list in Sweden through all times! He has a special place in my heart and he is one of the most beautiful dogs I have ever got to show. There are many famous dogs from Kennel Great Elms in his pedigree. Mostly has a temperament that I wish all my dogs had. He has produced several Champions, one of them Swedish Champion Black Orange's Wave Of The Year, Woody. He is also father of our "rising star" and future hope, junior female Black Orange's Not For Sale "Cayenne". I give my best regards to Clarice and Yvette Oganeku at Kennel Woodrose in Hawaii for this wonderful male.

At the same time as we moved to Sweden we imported a Kleinspitz female, Copenhagen Winner -04 Tirhan Nach Exemple "Terri" from Scandinavian most winning Kleinspitz kennel Tirhan&Tempore in Finland owned by Esa and Laura Ruotsalainen. Terri needs only one more CAC and one more Cacib to finish her International, Swedish and Danish Championship titles. Terri gave birth to three lovely puppies this year, and they become our first Kleinspitz litter. There are only about 50 Kleinspitzen in Sweden so it is not easy to find good males for breeding. We plan to have one more litter the coming year and we will then see if we will continue with Kleinspitzen or if we will stick to Pomeranians only.

I have never had a mentor to assist me at dog shows or in breeding. I have listened to good friends and studied pedigrees and results from dog shows to learn about Pomeranians. I have always taken my own decisions and done things my way. I



Susann with Woody BIS 2 under judge Nina Karlsdotter, Sweden



Me and Woodys owner Janneke

months and during that period of time he won BIS twice and he also won the group several times in both Finland and Estonia. Casanova was one of Scandinavian most winning Pomeranians in 2001.

In spring 2002 I decided to move with my family and kennel to Sweden. I was very well informed about the dogs here and had followed the results from dog shows and different kennels and breeders in Sweden at the time. This was all to my help when I had to choose a male to cover Bonnie. I called the owner of International American Swedish Danish Finnish

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Susann with Casanova
BIS at International show in Finland
under judge Terry Thorn, England,
over 5,000 dogs competing

have had setbacks; I have lost puppies and grown-up dogs. I have suffered a great loss when my best show dog was stolen from me. However, there is something special about Pomeranians, and they have helped me through difficult times. Last summer I lost two out of three puppies in one litter. It feels so hopeless and meaningless when puppies die and I think to myself, "Why do I do this?" However, I did not hesitate when my next female was ready for covering, she gave birth to five puppies, from which two died. I had to hand feed the three other puppies for weeks just so that they would survive. Despite the hard work I still get a great reward when the puppies grow older and start walking around the house playing with each other.

I can sit hours in front of the computer, visiting breeders websites, studying ways of trimming, reading about diseases and exchanging knowledge with other breeders around the world. I believe that 90% of my free time goes to studying dogs, learning new things about Pomeranians and grooming my dogs. I probably show a dog up to 20-25 times per year, if I have a good show dog. I can plan dog shows many years ahead and plan breeds and possible stars that I in the future can compete with in dog shows.

I breed mostly because I think it is fun and that is also why I only have about one or two litters a year. I always hope that one of the puppies in every litter can be good enough for me to use in dog shows.

Training is very important to me and the puppies and that is why I begin to teach the puppies as soon as they are four to five weeks old to stand on the table, show their teeth and teach them to get used to baths and brushing and cutting their claws. I cut all my dogs claws once a week and I brush their fur as well and once a month I give them a bath. Before a dog show I usually give them a bath as often as needed. I trim all my dogs once a month, even the dogs that do not go to dog shows because I want to have them in great shape. I only have a few dogs at home because I want to be able to shows all my dogs that I use for breeding and I never use a dog in breeding if it does not get excellent on a show.

Our puppies are usually sold at the age of 10 weeks and I still have good contact with the owners of the puppies. The puppies that I keep I put in training classes.

I also walk almost 10 km three to four times a week with my dogs so that they will have a good body structure and good muscles. The dogs also enjoy playing ball on a big ballcourt, which is good for their muscles and condition. It is well known that dogs with good muscles and movements often win in dog shows. The food is a very important part of a dogs well being. Our dogs eat dog food with a lot of Omega 3 and I also give them one tablespoon with oil every day.

I would like to recommend for those who are thinking of buying a Pomeranian to visit dog shows and contact breeders before one decides which kind of Pomeranian one would like to buy. It is important to think of what the purpose of the dog is. Is it going to be used for dog shows or as a pet? I myself was very surprised over the differences between show dogs and dogs that do not qualify as a show dog. One could easily believe that the different dogs are not even the same breed. Though, it can be difficult to buy a dog of show quality if its purpose is to be a pet for the family. Breeders often want to sell a dog like that to people that are interested in dog shows.

I was very lucky to buy a Champion as my first dog. Although my second dog did not become a show dog, all my other dogs I either bought or owned became Champions. Since I started showing Pomeranians in 1998, I have always placed at least one of my dogs at the Pomeranian Top Ten list in Finland or Sweden every year.

Today, I have high standards on the dog



Susann and CasanovaBOG1Estonia
under judge Karl-Erik Johansson,
Sweden

or puppy that I buy. I have searched over a year now and I am still searching for the ideal male for my Kennel, I like the American type, with good bone structure, bear face and big thick fur and of course good movement. However, I prefer health and good bloodlines before good looks and it is important to me to breed healthy dogs.

Black Orange's big hope just now is junior female Black Orange's Not for Sale "Cayenne" and our female puppy Black Orange's Royal Straight Flush "Grace", who will both make their debut at dog shows this summer. They are both offspring from Bonnie.

I would like to thank Solveig Olsen at Kennel Sunline in Norway, for entrusting me with Bonnie, without you I would not have been where I am to today. There are many I would like to thank all around the world for supporting me with phone calls, mails and all the great times together at dog shows. I send my best regards to all of you.

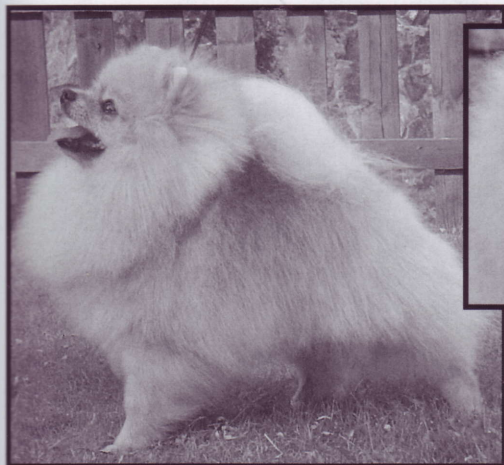
I would like to give a special thank to my family, to my children, who help me with my litters and my dogs every day when I am at work. Last but not least, I would like to thank my wonderful husband Håkan, who travels around Europe with me to dog shows. You are the sunshine in my life. You are special and I can see why the dogs love you, especially Bonnie who never listens to me; she only has eyes for Håkan.

I hope you all enjoyed your visit and I would like to welcome you to my website www.blackoranges.se to find out more about our dogs.

Best regards, Susann Olhage
at Kennel Black Orange's in Sweden
blackorangess@hotmail.com

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S CH Black Orange's Wave Of The Year
2 years old



S CH Black Orange's
Wave Of The Year
18 month old



FIN EST CH Baltic Winner -00 Black
Orange's Midnight Star



FIN CH Black Orange's Suprising Sun

Multi CH
Yllinkyllin
Dirlandaa



WoodroseMakingWaves
BIG 5 under judge Per - Erik Wallin, Sweden

Multi CH
SWinner - 03
Sunline Lady
In Red



