

KENNEL »OF MCKRUSTER«

by Tina Sterguljc Krušič

Dogs have been a part of our lives from the early childhood. My first dog was a family owned Irish setter, and my husband grew up with dogs of mixed breeds. In my teenage years I fell in love with the West Highland White Terrier and decided to own one sooner or later. But years have passed and in college I could finally fulfill my dreams and together with my husband we bought our foundation bitch Brigoree Uma and started our kennel »of McKruster« in 2004.

The origin of our kennel name is quite interesting, it consists of the first letters of both our surnames KRUSIC and STERGULJC, and because we owned a Scottish breed we added the "Mc" in front to give it a nicer touch. It became our vision and our trademark at the same time. With Uma I also made my first steps into showing and grooming, of course with the help of her breeder, and Uma soon became a champion and later also a veteran champion of Slovenia and a Veteran BIS. She is still the most amazing and intelligent terrier I can imagine and my alter ego.

After Uma we expanded to our second bitch, Lady Arwen, who was born in a small kennel near Laško. In 2007 we added two more members to our McKruster-Family. After long waiting of almost 2 years a male, Leonhard's Jack Brigore - Jack, came to our kennel, from the Leonhard's kennel in Germany and co-

owned with the kennel Brigoree. We also kept a bitch from Uma's litter Night Flower of McKruster - Flora. We concentrated our showing on Jack, who became the most successful Westie of his time in Slovenia by achieving Junior Champion of Slovenia, Junior Champion of Croatia, Champion of Slovenia, Champion of Austria, Champion of Croatia, Champion of Serbia and of course International Champion with CACIB's from Italy, Slovenia, Croatia and Austria. He has proved himself as an excellent producer with puppies in many different countries.

Our current active dogs are our bitch Ch. Under the Stars of McKruster – Lola and our co-owned Leonhard's Leon King Brigore - Lio. Since my Westies are great companions and primary our family dogs, we decided in 2015 to expand our kennel with a male American Cocker Spaniel, to add some color into our lives. But Westies are and will remain my number one breed.

My love to the breed of course expanded into the dream of being able to judge. I quickly started to get involved into our Terrier Club with helping on show organizations and breeding exams. My biggest wish is to see terriers with good temperament, good bone, being still able to work and move well with focusing on structure and health. I hope we will continue on with the breed we love for many more years to come.



Leonhard's Jack Brigore