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D & M Farm Kennel

April 2014 Newsletter



Special points of interest:

- * Spring Has Sprung
- * Gearing Up For Summer
- * Tools of the Trade

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Spring Has Sprung & the Pests have Arrived !

With the arrival of beautiful spring weather, comes the beginning of the pesky bug season. It also means a lot of mud for many of us. Our pets have to be a concern to ensure they don't become a victim of their environment.



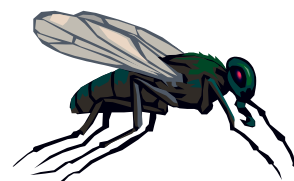
Flies, mosquitoes, fleas, ticks and chiggers are the primary concern as we enter the warm season. Ticks enjoy wet conditions and seem to explode in population during this time of year. Depending on your area, you may have the common black tick or the brown deer tick, which can carry the dreaded Lyme disease.

Some simple precautions may deter ticks. There are always the "apply to the skin" preventive medications. However, be aware that you are applying a toxin to your pet and it is being absorbed into their body. Another less expensive method, is to purchase Avon Skin So Soft. Put some on your hands and rub it in their coat. Ensure you get their legs. For some reason, bugs don't like it. I used this on my children and it worked great to prevent mosquito bites. Use only on their coat, so it doesn't get absorbed. You should also check after being in a wooded area or in high weeds to



make sure some tick didn't adhere to your dog, you, or your clothing!.

Skin So Soft also works as a preventive



for mosquitoes which can carry Heartworm. It also appears to deter flies.

If you have more than one dog, observe that they don't lick it off of each other. It won't hurt them, but it obviously would render the application ineffective.

This tip is a simple, safe, inexpensive green way to protect your pet. After all, it is our job to protect our pets from any hazards and risks!

Max in Ohio

Max has attended puppy obedience school and did great! He is fast becoming yet another great ambassador for the Chow breed !



As you can see, he has no problem sharing his food.

Max is a puppy from Teddy & Pandy.



Gearing Up for Summer Activities?

Getting prepared for summer weather activities is always an important task as warm weather approaches. There are precautions to be taken that many of us do not readily think of.

For example, mulch can be a problem for dogs. Especially the mulch that smells like chocolate. This can be deadly for our pets, if eaten.

Fertilizers and pesticides can also be a problem for our pets. Make sure you read the label thoroughly!

Barbequing is always a favorite summer pastime. Make sure your pet

doesn't consume food that is not prepared for them. Onions can actually be toxic, so a piece of steak with



onions on it can make your pet ill. It may only take a small amount to cause an upset stomach, but for others it may become acute and deadly.

Bones that may be left within a paws reach can also be deadly. They may present a choking hazard, and of course chicken bones can splinter and slice the esophagus or intestines.

Precautions are certainly preferable to trying to fix a problem once something bad has occurred.

Grooming Tools of the Trade—Which are the Good Ones?

Grooming tools can be pleasant to use or they can become a pain to work with. Ergonomic works best for me. I have arthritis in my hands, so larger handles seems to reduce the stress on my joints.

Chows require very few grooming tools. A slicker brush, a dematting comb, and a rake will suffice.

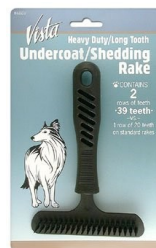


A newly designed self-cleaning slicker brush is my preference. It allows me to use my other hand to move the fur, and other hand to secure my dog so he doesn't try to jump down. With a

press of the button, and a light tap on the trash can, the hair is gone and I'm ready to continue brushing.



The dematting comb has a fat handle which is easier for me to work with. It makes it easy to work through any mats there may be and allows me to get close to the skin without scratching it.



A rake is perfect for removing the undercoat during their "molting". You must be care-

ful not to push it all the way to the skin, as it has sharp points and can possibly scratch the skin. With your dog's thick fur, this is unlikely, but you must use caution. The rake will remove all dead undercoat with ease. The rake I prefer has a single row of approximately 12 teeth. Most of the rakes you find in pet stores now are larger. You can always look in the cat supplies. I prefer the smaller one because it gives me more control.

Use a mild shampoo puppy shampoo or Johnson's baby shampoo, and only bathe when needed. Too much bathing may cause dry spots on the skin which can turn into hot spots.

Regular grooming will keep your pet healthier and much more pleasant to be around.

"Grooming is a necessity. Having the proper tools can make it a much easier task."

Sasha and Sibil in Michigan

We had Chows before, and we decided to get another puppy after our last one passed. We researched breeders looking for dogs that were friendly with a good temperament. We found D&M Farm and went to visit them. We got our first Chow, Sasha from D&M Farm in April 2013. She was a red



Chow. When picking her up, my husband fell in love with the cream colored Chows. Sasha was socialized three times a week. She had puppy play dates, people play dates, puppies

to her house for play dates. We walked



downtown for new experiences. Four months after we got her, I received a card from Sasha letting me know she would like a little sister. She had saved money and placed a deposit with D&M Farm for a cream sister. Sasha continued to experience new things. Walking on the board walk, boat rides. walks with other dogs, a couple of puppy classes, the Christmas parade with dog friends, the Gilmore motorcycle show, archery weekends with

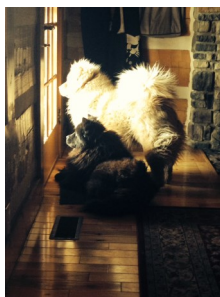
us, which included hotel stays, just to name a few. Then we got the call that her sister Sibil was born. We were excited to add to our family. In February 2014, we took a road trip to Ohio and another hotel stay, which included an elevator ride this time. Sasha got to visit with her extended family while picking up her sister. Sibil is now starting her own socialization ventures.

Sasha is a puppy from Bluebelle & Hagrid. Sibil is a puppy from Izzie & Hagrid.



Bexley and Bear in Ohio

Bexley and Bear continue to keep watch at their home. They make sure all is well! Bexley is a puppy from Raven & Frosty and Bear is a puppy from Shadow & Simba.

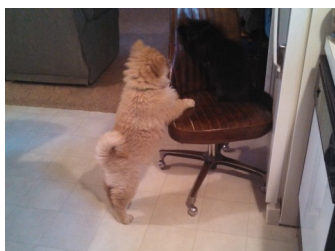


Sage in Texas

Thank you once again for our puppy



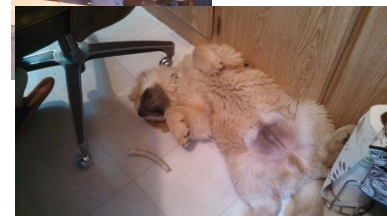
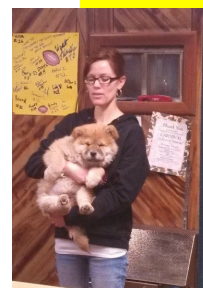
(Sage) he has brought a lot of excitement and joy to our house. Sage has



made 2 trips to school for show and tell which has been a hit each time. Our 2 cats and other dog Sadie all

keep a close eye on him especially outside. Sage and Sadie will be going to the beauty shop next week for a bath and grooming, she is very good with all the animals. Thank you once again here are a few pictures of Sage and will send more as he grows.

Sage is a puppy from Raven & Yogi Bear.



**"Chows, Chows, and
more Chows for your
enjoyment!"**

Shady in Virginia

Shady goes to work with me everyday and loves it. He gets so excited in the morning. He will even find his leash and wait with it till we leave.. He is getting very strong from all the running and playing at work.. He has a huge warehouse to run and play in five days a week and he loves to chill at home on the weekends..

Here is Shady's own web page...
www.facebook.com/shady.gaumer

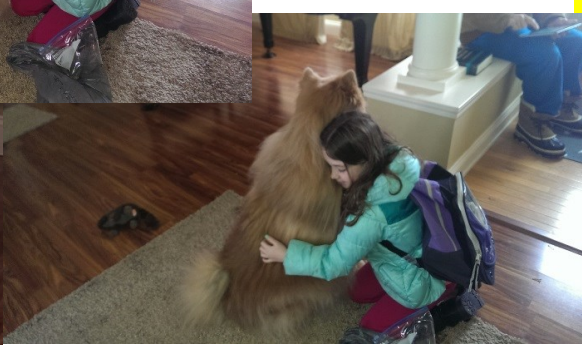
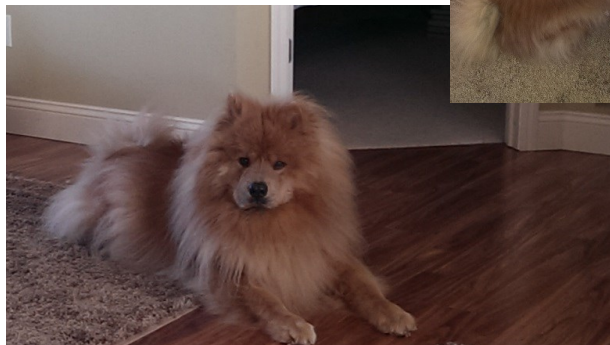
Shady loves the balcony !

Shady is a puppy from Dixie & Kaiser.



Max in Ohio

Max is 5 years old, 80 pounds and a great ambassador for the Chow breed. He is a big ball of fur and love! Max was a puppy from a Pandi & Teddy litter born Oct 27, 2008.

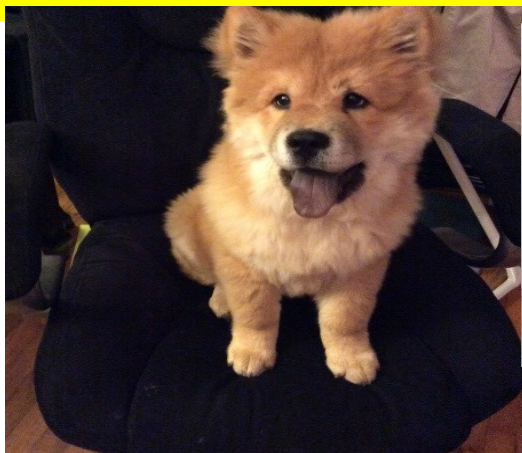


"You never get
tired of seeing
more Chows!"

Scrappy in Kentucky

15 weeks old First BIG outing yesterday to the kite fest... about 300 people ... barked at first ... then did really well with about 100 people petting him ! Love this baby !

Scrappy is a puppy from Raven & Yogi Bear.



D & M Farm Kennel

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**Quality Chows with Exceptional
Temperament**

We're on the Web

www.dmfarm.com

The goal of D & M Farm Kennel is to

breed quality healthy Chow Chows

with exceptional temperament.

We want all of our puppies to be good

ambassadors of the breed"

D & M Farm Happenings for April 2014

Second month into retirement and I'm loving it! When people say they are busier after retirement, I can attest to that truth. I'm busy all the time, and that is good! I am doing things I want to do. Well, for the most part. There are always tasks on the farm that aren't exactly fun, but even those provide me time to think about other things.

My favorite time is spent with all the animals. The chicks are growing fast. Our two yearling colts are growing like weeds! We took our 3-yr. old gelding, Magic, to a trainer. He will be ready to ride or be driven when he returns home. I don't like having any of my babies off our farm in someone else's hands, but after being thrown from a horse in 2005 and breaking my back, I am more than willing to leave the initial training to someone else.

Darrell's landscaping skills are in full swing, getting things ready for the upcoming warm weather. We will be making our annual run to our Amish friends in Indiana to get most of our flowers. They have two large greenhouses and the flowers are always stunningly gorgeous. All the puppies are gone, but one. He won't be picked up until the end of May when his new owners return from vacation. It always seems odd to walk into a quiet kennel. It doesn't happen very often.

We are also busy making preparations for our daughter and her family who will be moving onto our property in June. Having lived in Germany for 12 years, it will be priceless having them

here! They have three boys and we can't wait to be able to spend time with them every day.

God has blessed our family in so many ways that I'm sure we don't even recognize them all. Regardless, we are truly thankful. We have made so many wonderful friends through our extended Chow family, and for that ... we are truly grateful.

Our farm is always open to our current and future friends! Please plan a visit soon! We always feel special when clients bring their adult Chows back for a visit to their birthplace here at D & M Farm Kennel.