

D & M Farm Kennel

August 2013 Newsletter

D & M FARM KENNEL

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Training for Life
- Health of a Chow
- Puppy Pickups

TRAINING FOR LIFE

Puppies are so darn cute and their antics can provide great entertainment. But, letting them get away with things while they are small, can set you up for problems in the future.

We recommend books by Cesar Milan (The Dog Whisperer). They provide us humans with insight into dog mentality and behavior. You will better understand what makes your dog tick and how to control its' behavior.

Dogs are "pack animals" and therefore, there must be a Pack Leader. If no one fills this role, then their natural instinct tells them they must. That means they will make the decisions on how they react to different situations. This is not what we want our dogs to do.

We must assume the role of Pack Leader and we do this by showing leadership. This is done in many different ways, consciously and unconsciously. Your puppy is learning by observing everything you do. If he bites and you laugh, he learns this as positive behav-

ior. If you give him a sock to chew on, then all socks are fair game.

As you can see, minor things may produce bad consequences. So, get in a training mindset and be careful of your responses. When a puppy does something that will not be acceptable as an adult, then you must correct the behavior immediately. Start out by telling them NO! ... in a raised voice. In many cases this disapproval is all that is needed. The next thing is to rap them across the nose or swap them with a newspaper. Neither is intended to cause pain, only get their attention. A Pack Leader in the dog world will give them a nip to get their attention and correct the behavior.

The next step is to flip them over on their back and hold them down until they relax (submit).

I had an issue with Macho Bear when I was trying to groom him when he was about four months old. He didn't want me to groom him, he had

other things to do. So, he would put his mouth on my arm. He didn't bite down but it was still unacceptable. I flipped him over and he screamed like a little girl! You would have thought I was killing him. It took three times of holding him down before he got the message. But, now he sits quietly for me to groom him. No more resistance.

A Pack Leader in the dog world would do this to another dog to let them know they have crossed a boundary. They pen the offender to the ground with bared teeth in their face. They will not let them up until they become quiet and let the leader know they have succumbed or submitted to them. The offender will not commit this offence again knowing the consequences will be worse.

A sound, well behaved dog is a joy to be around. Bad behavior is never pleasant. So, get ahead of the game while your puppy is still like a sponge soaking up all the knowledge it can. They learn quickly. Just ensure what you are teaching is being done consciously.

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BOGIE IN OHIO

Bogie is with his new family and is having a great time. He makes them popular wherever they go.

They took him to Grater's Ice Cream where they enjoyed ice cream while Bogie attracted all kinds of attention.

What a cutie!

As you can see by his photo he is a very happy puppy.

Bogie is a puppy from Amber & Solomon.



THE HEALTH OF A CHOW

Chows are not only one of the oldest breeds known to man ... if not the oldest ... they are also one of the healthiest, according to research I have done.

Chows are only prone to two health issues, eye entropion and hip dysplasia. Obviously, just as we humans, they can be afflicted by many diseases and issues, but they just are not prone to them as a breed.

Hip dysplasia is where the hip joint is very shallow and the end of the femur can pop out of socket or just have too much movement in the joint. This causes extensive wear and tear in the joint causing pain. Hip dysplasia cannot be completely eradicated from the breed. It is a genetic disorder that can be passed down from past generations.

So, even though the parents and grandparents are known to be healthy with no joint problems, a puppy can still be afflicted later in life.

There is research now that suggests hip dysplasia can be caused by poor nutrition while a dog is growing. If they do not receive the appropriate nutrients in their food, it can adversely affect their development. Calcium and protein is required for bone and muscle growth. Puppy foods are formulated to have the adequate nutrients although some of the cheaper brands still do not hit the mark. If you have questions about your puppy's dog food, ask your veterinarian to review the label. He can tell if the nutrient levels are adequate. Adult dog foods DO NOT have adequate amounts of calcium and pro-

tein. These products should never be fed to puppies.

Eye entropion can be a genetic disorder. It is where the eyelid curls slightly inward and causes the eyelashes to irritate the eye. If it goes untreated it may ultimately cause blindness.

Correction is fairly easy. In young puppies it only requires a simple stitch to prevent the lid from curling as it grows. Older dogs may require surgery to remove a small portion of skin from below the lid. This shortens the lid, therefore correcting it from curling. Both procedures are easily done and recovery time is minimal.

Chows are healthy as a rule. With a little vigilance you can do everything you can to keep them that way.

"Chows are not only one of the oldest breeds, if not the oldest, they are also one of the healthiest."



PERSIA IN GEORGIA

Persia is an absolutely amazing dog, we get compliments everywhere we go on him. His temperament continues to amaze everyone we meet, who always say, "I thought Chows were mean". We tell everyone we can about your dogs. Our vet parades him around the office to all the staff every time we come in because he is such a gentle giant at his appointments.

Persia is another great ambassador for the Chow Chow breed. He is a puppy from Gracie & Khan.



LITTERS BORN THIS MONTH

Lila and Teddy blessed with a litter this month followed by Onyx and Hagrid.



Lila's litter

Having eaten, they all snuggle up together and take a nap.



Onyx's litter



CASPER IN MINNESOTA

We finally agreed on a name that everyone felt fit this big boy's personality and looks! In the photo, Casper is enjoying some shade, down at our pond with Buddha (13 year old, red, male Chow Chow). They all get along beautifully (4 Chow Chows, one 160 pound giant Malamute, two Maine Coons, one red Kangaroo). Casper is such a smart puppy and we love him dearly!!

Casper is a puppy from Dixie & Kaiser.



MYSTIC IN COLORADO

Mystic and her best friend Taco an eclectic parrot discussing plans for Mystic's birthday.

Mystic will soon be a full fledged therapy dog. Just one more Chow Chow showing the world what a great breed she comes from.

Mystic is a puppy from Bella & Kai-ser.



Mystic and her parrot buddies at the park.

INKY IN VIRGINIA

Inky is a big guy. One would never guess he has a thing for Sugar Smacks. While waiting patiently for his share, he was showered with dust from the Sugar Smacks bag. Doesn't look like it phased him much!

Inky is somewhat of an enigma when his owner tries to get a picture that really captures his personality and beauty. To say

he is loved ... is an understatement. But, I think this pictures says it all. He looks just plain huggable!

Inky is a puppy from Onyx & Hagrid.



 "We love to show off our puppies no matter what their age!"

MILLIE IN OHIO

Hello! We wanted to check in with you guys. Millie has settled in very well. Its been almost two weeks and she is almost house broken.

She finally will go into her crate by herself to rest ... without treats!

Millie came just in time. We were glad to get her a week early, because our older chow Emmy passed last Sunday

night from her cancer. Millie's presence has helped the whole family including our Lhasa Apso Maggie.

We believe all things happen for a reason.

Millie is a puppy from Amber & Solomon.



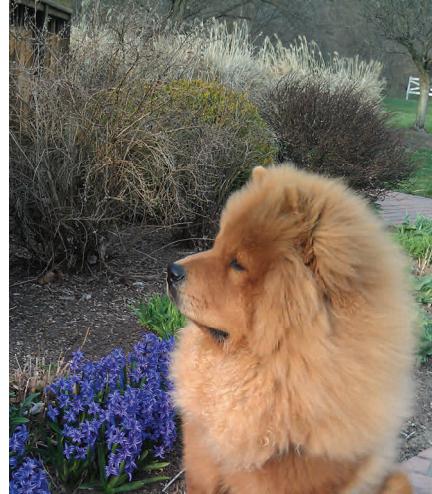
ROMEO IN OHIO



Romeo will turn a year old next month and has turned out to be quite a beauty. He is very laid back and loves everyone. He is a big boy, so he is intimidating to some. Children regularly give him hugs ... much to the chagrin of their parents. Everyone knows how vicious Chows are! ☺

In the next picture he seems to rival the beauty of the flowers.

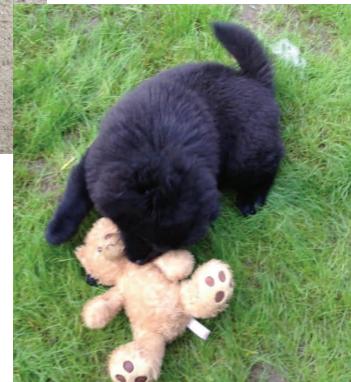
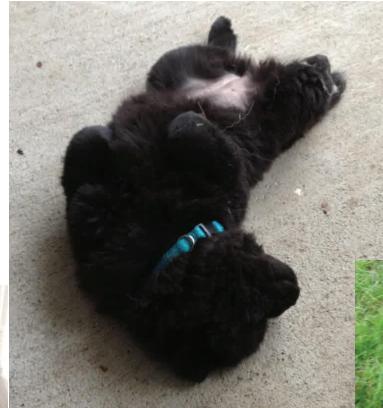
Romeo is a puppy from Izzie & Hagrid.



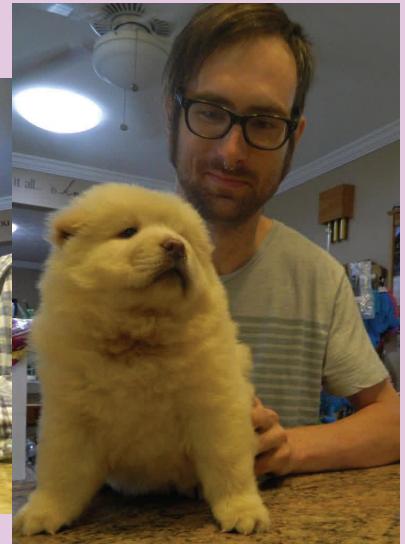
LIBBY IN ALASKA

Here's Libby with her best friend Rajah. She is very much a puppy right now, but they are going to make a striking pair.

Libby is a puppy from Dixie & Kaiser.



Puppy Pickups





D & M FARM KENNEL

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Quality Chows with Exceptional Temperament

"The goal of D & M Farm Kennel is to breed quality Chow Chows with exceptional temperament. We want all of our puppies to be good ambassadors of the breed"

D & M FARM HAPPENINGS

Winter preparations have begun. You have to start early on the farm.

We have our hay put up in the horse barn and boy does the barn smell good! We have also been doing fence repairs and getting things in good working order for those upcoming cold months. It is predicted that we are going to get lots of snow this year. We don't mind the snow, but dislike ice!

Onyx and Lila blessed us with their litters this month. Onyx has five puppies and Lila also has five. All fat and healthy. Bella is in the maternity ward and will soon have her litter.

Our weather has been hot and dry ... borderline drought. We could definite-

ly use some rain, but none in sight.

We are also making preparations for our trip to Europe. Two of our friends, who have never been to Germany, Austria or Switzerland, are going with us. Having lived in Germany for many years, it will be fun showing them the sights and seeing everything again. Darrell especially enjoys the annual traditional Bavarian costume parades that precede the Oktoberfest. We are also planning to see sights in Switzerland and Austria that we have not visited before.

We're looking forward to our trip, but know we are going to miss all our animals. Even in good hands, we still

worry about them all. You always know how much you've missed, when you've been gone for a period of time.

Many of you know Rhonda from Facebook. She will be watching our place while we are gone, along with another friend of ours who works at the local veterinary clinic. With both of their capable hands, we shouldn't have anything to worry about.

Everyone is doing well in our kennel and on the farm. We have really been blessed with good health for ourselves as well as all our animals.

