



D & M FARM KENNEL NEWSLETTER

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November 2010

Happy Holidays 2010 — Thank You !

This is the last newsletter for 2010. I always take December off so I can do all the holiday things that need to be done. Where has the year gone? It always amazes me how fast the months fly by. It seems only yesterday that I was looking forward to the warm days of spring & getting ready to open the pool.

This year has been good & bad for us. We have met really terrific people through our dogs. It is always fun to watch the puppies grow from birth & then go off to their wonderful new families. Sadly, we lost four of our beautiful male dogs ... Leo, Cha Chi, Sampson & Buhda. We will miss all of them dearly. Sampson, who was our oldest at 12 years, will be missed for his sweet mischie-

vous personality. Buhda, our most vocal Chow was the next oldest at 10 years. He will be missed for his butt-wagging



enthusiasm he always greeted you with. Leo was our one-eyed Jack, having lost one eye to a poke from a sibling's nail when he was a baby. It never bothered him nor us. He was a son of Sampson and had much of

the same personality. Cha Chi came back to us from a home who could no longer keep him. Cha Chi had a hard time fitting into kennel life after being a single owner household pet. But, he liked his kennel mates, seemed happy, & sired beautiful puppies. We want to thank all of you who have our puppies and who keep in touch. We love all the updates and love putting them in the newsletter to share with all. It is always fun to see a sibling to your puppy in another part of the country. And, it is always a treat to see how much they have grown. We wish you all a great Thanksgiving, a blessed Christmas, and a prosperous New Year. From all of us at D & M Farm, both two-legged and four-legged!

Special points of interest:

- *Picking Up Baby*
- *Designer Dogs*
- *Shy vs Neurotic*
- *Breaking Up A Fight*
- *Puppy Pickup Photos*

* Beautiful Ari's Personal Story *

This is a story submitted by one of our clients:



When we lost our precious baby girl Chow, Maia, in June of 2009, after 15 years, I was devas-

tated. She was my best friend, my little girl, one of the family. I can honestly say I loved her more than just about everyone in the family! I never thought I would find another Chow to ease the pain of losing her. She was with me 24/7. She fol-

lowed me from room to room, minute by minute. She traveled with us. She was our little girl, and the pain and emptiness I experienced was debilitating. I didn't think I could get over the loss. I knew I had to get another baby Chow for our family. Not to take the place of Maia, but to fill the emptiness in my heart. Instead of a female, I decided I would like a baby boy. I had never owned a male Chow and I didn't want to compare another female to Maia, so I figured this would be a good idea. Maia was black and so I decided that I would get a light-colored Chow. I never knew such a beautifully colored Chow existed. I searched the Internet unsuccessfully to find a reputa-

ble breeder in the New York/ New Jersey area. Luckily, I came upon Darrell & Maleah's website and researched their information. I sent an email telling them my story and of the loss of my Maia. They returned my email with a phone call while they were on vacation! I knew at that moment that these were professional breeders of high standards, morals and compassion. After many emails, and phone conversations, we decided we would choose one of their puppies. As it turns out, I was looking for a cinnamon, thinking that the puppy would be red. Oops! I didn't know there was a difference.

Inside this issue:

Picking up Baby	2
Designer Dogs	2
Shy vs Neurotic	3
B'Elanna	3
Breaking up a Fight	3
Sierra	4
Puppy Pickups	4
Puppy Pickups	5
Farm Happening	6



Ari's Story con't

Therefore, my puppy, due to my lack of knowledge concerning the different shades of red Chows, was already spoken for and I would have to wait for the next litter. Darrell & Maleah were sympathetic to my dismay and offered me a puppy that had been born a few weeks earlier that was a most unique color. Everything happens for a reason, because this little boy is the love of my life! We named him Ari, short for Ariel, which in Hebrew means "comfort" He is a wonderfully bred and gorgeous boy. He is the color of a beautiful glass of white Zinfandel wine .. a rose champagne color that no one has ever seen before. We love the differences between him and Maia. He is definitely

more aggressive, more challenging, more stubborn, and more unpredictable. He is also more cuddly, more loving, and definitely a Mama's boy! People stop me on the street and want to take his picture! He is in puppy class at this time and while he does what he wants ... when he wants ... he is the life of the party. Typical Chow, he runs the class! He's also going to begin his travels soon. We will be taking him with us to visit family in Connecticut the end of this month and then we're off to Florida for some sun and fun. He loves his sister, Sophia, a Chihuahua. She on the other hand, tolerates him. He has brought us so much joy and sunshine and comfort. We still grieve the loss of our

Maia, but look forward to many years of joy and happiness that our little Ari will bring us. In a house that has always been filled with girls, two-legged and four-legged ... he's the little boy I never had and always wished for. Thank you so very much for parting with such a precious gift of life. He is my new best friend and we thank you for him. Bless you both.....and if I can talk Tommy into it, I'd love to take another road trip some day and get a brother or sister for Ari. Meanwhile, he's more than enough to keep us busy. We love him madly and we thank you, Donna & Tommy ... (and Ari) New York.

** Ari is a puppy from Kaiser and Ebony.*

Picking Up Baby!

We often get questions about what age is best to pick up a puppy. It varies by breed. But, with Chows, we find six weeks generally works well. As long as they are physically mature enough. On rare occasions, we may have an undersized litter born. These may take a little longer to attain the desired weight we want them to have before going to their new homes. These puppies may be kept until they are seven weeks old.

I discovered doing research, where they say that Chow puppies bond well between six and seven weeks of age. At

five weeks the weaning process normally begins. Mom doesn't like staying in with the puppies all the time anymore. They have teeth and a voracious appetite. We start leaving her out most of the day and she only comes in at night. This helps her milk dry up gradually which causes her less discomfort and helps the puppies

wean themselves from her.

By five weeks they are eating Purina One Puppy Chow for Large Breed Dogs. This is available for them 24/7. They also have access to clean fresh water at all times. In addition, we supplement their

diet with finely ground, canned chicken dog food. This is for additional calories while they are growing so fast. We use Pedigree canned wet food. The puppy formula is best, since it has the added calcium and protein for bone and muscle growth. At twelve weeks we recommend discontinuing the canned dog food as their growth rate begins to level off at this age. It still can be given as an occasional treat. A puppy's immune system is not fully mature until they are around sixteen weeks of age. So, when you pick up your puppy, be aware that it is comparable to taking home a newborn baby from the hospital ... not a toddler!

"Research shows that Chow puppies bond best at six to seven weeks of age."



Designer Dogs ? What's Next ?

The newest fad is designer dogs. Can you imagine what these dogs endured to make them look like Pandas? Especially the puppies! I'm guessing they started out as creams and then the areas were dyed black. I suspect they must have sedated at least the puppies in order to do the precision hair dyeing. As you may guess, I'm not a fan of this trend. These were beautiful Chows. Why try to make

them look like something else in the animal kingdom? I'm amazed how people can be that insensitive, stupid, thoughtless, or cruel? The bad part is ... this fad seems to be spreading. Chows are not the only breed I have seen this done to.



Shy versus Neurotic

Chows are shy by nature. Socialization is key and must be started at an early age. While still in the puppy stage they are like clay, to be molded. Never forget, your puppy is learning every time he is around you. Hopefully, learning the positive things you want, rather than something negative. You must be aware of what signals you are sending. Most behaviors, good and bad, are directly attributed to the owner. Having said that, all Chows have their own personality and rate of maturity. Meaning ... their personality will develop and mature at different rates. Some Chows never appear shy and are very outgoing. Others tend to hang back and assess every situation. They really do

not differ from humans in that manner. We all have our own way of reacting to new situations and people we do not know. They also will pick up on your unintended signals. They know if you are nervous. They won't understand why you

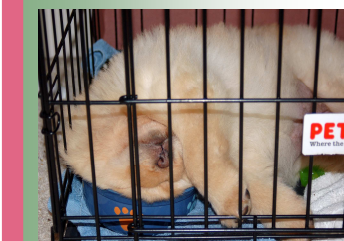
are nervous so they are alerted to also be cautious. Trainers or behaviorists,

who are not familiar with Chows in particular, often misdiagnose a Chow as neurotic. Or, caution the owner that their Chow is going to become neurotic and fearful to the point of requiring medication. Worse case scenario ... Chows prefer their own family and are wary of people they do not know. Best case scenario ... they easily accept meeting new people. And then ... there is everything in between. As long as there is no aggression or undue growling, there is nothing to worry about. Please believe me ... your Chow will not become a neurotic recluse!



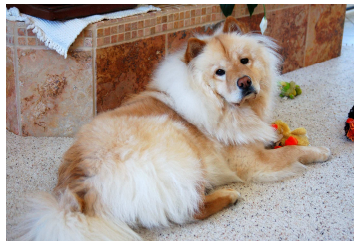
B'Elanna in Virginia

B'Elanna, also known as Bells, is quite a character. She loves everyone and everyone loves her. She can be quite mischievous. In an attempt to attract attention from the electrician, she continually tries to steal his screwdrivers and then give him kisses. She loves all the other pets,



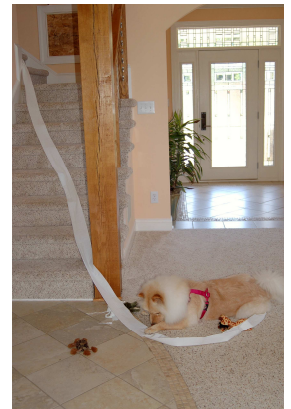
This way I'll know when it's time to eat.

but wants to keep all the attention for herself. She brought lots of laughter into a home that was saddened by the loss of our previous Chow. She draws attention from everywhere when she is in public. Many people who "don't like Chows" have been won over by Bells. She is an exceptional ambassador for the breed.



ambassador for the breed.

* Bells is a puppy from Muffin & Khan.



It must have gotten caught in my waistband, uh, er, harness!

How to Break Up a Fight and not get Hurt

There are occasions when dogs will get into a fight. This can be stressful, as well as dangerous. What can you do and not put yourself in jeopardy? Dogs move quickly when they are fighting and they don't distinguish your leg or hand from the other dog during the frenzy. Trying to pull your dog away will sometimes put them in jeopardy because they cannot protect themselves. The best thing we have found is a hand held air horn. Yep,

an air horn, normally found in the sporting goods department at Wal-Mart. It hurts their ears and they typically will duck and move away. This usually will give you time to collect your dog and hopefully the other person will do the same. Sometimes fights will break out in our kennel runs, when we



These two are buddies and are only playing.

have two females together and one is in heat. Or, when there are new people in the area and the excitement can cause a fight. You must be watchful at dog parks or passing other dogs on the street. Even the most even-tempered dog will protect themselves if attacked. Remember ... be responsible ... be proactive!



Sierra in Ohio

Sierra is still a puppy, although she looks all grown up now. Another bright light for a family. Sierra is very much loved by all. In return, she ... like all Chows, is loyal, non-judgmental and doesn't care what you are wearing. She is always waiting with lots of love to lavish on her family.

* Sierra is a puppy from Pixie and Khan.



Puppy Pickup Photos



Chow Chow

Heritage of love . . .
Noble of heart . . .
Gentle of spirit . . .
Regal of stature . . .
I shall grow to become your faithful companion . . .
Your defender . . .
Your best friend.





Puppy Pickup Photos



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**Quality Chows with Exceptional
Temperament**

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

Farm Happenings at D&M Farm Kennel

It's snowing ... so I guess winter is officially here, even if the calendar doesn't agree. We've done everything we can do to make things as easy as possible through the blustery cold days to come. We are predicted to have a long and very cold winter. Not sure if that also means a lot of snow. All of the outside animals have thick, shaggy coats to fend off the cold. It always amazes me that they don't seem to mind the weather. Many of our Chows will lay outside while the snow is falling. Soon they will look like white mounds on the ground, until you call them, and their heads pop up. It is usually us yelling to them ... asking why they aren't in the dog shelters? The only litter born in November was from Dixie and Kaiser. Pixie and Khan must have decided to set out this round, because she didn't have puppies as expected. Sometimes that happens. We are now awaiting Izzie and Hagrid's litter to be born. She was not suppose to have a litter this fall. I separated her from

Hagrid to give her this season off. I guess she decided she didn't want to set it out. She got pregnant anyway by coming into season long after she was due. Obviously the dogs have a close relationship with Mother Nature and often thwart our at-

tempt to intervene. Besides Dixie's litter, we have a few puppies still in the kennel awaiting pickup or shipment to their new homes. You know you are needed when you are met with barking and whines when you arrive in the kennel. They very much like attention and fully expect to get their share when humans come around. Of course, we gladly give all the attention they can stand. Our lives are full of blessings and we will not forget to give thanks during this holy season. We very much look forward to the new year 2011 with anticipation of meeting more great Chow Chow lovers and making more friends. We also look forward to all the updates that will be coming from the new families. We always greatly anticipate the news of how our puppies are doing and pictures of them as they grow and mature.

Merry Christmas to all of you and may you have a blessed and prosperous New Year 2011!



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