



### Special points of interest:

- Tainted Food

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# D & M Farm Kennel December 2012 Newsletter

Volume 6, Issue 12

December 2012

## Merry Christmas To All 2012 !

It is hard to believe that it is already December. Cold weather is upon us. All the trees and plants we enjoyed throughout the summer are now dormant, denuded of foliage. The animals have their winter coats to keep them warm and we provide as many comforts for the winter as we can. The Chows don't seem bothered by the cold at all. We wish we could say the same for us humans. Invariably, the cold seeps into our bones.

Our kennel is filled with puppies. Amber had 7 healthy puppies ... 6 blacks and 1 red. Dixie had 9 puppies ... 5 creams and 4 blacks and Raven has 5 puppies ... 2 reds and 3 blacks. We also had a surprise litter from Jazzy & Yogi. This was Jazzy's first litter. She has 5 puppies, 2 reds, 1 cream, and 2 blacks. All

girls!

The kennel is warm and cozy ... filled with sounds of puppies snuffling their mothers and an occasional cry when one puppy



has offended another. Our focus has turned inside. Lots of paperwork to get ready for tax season. Some inside projects to get done before spring comes around again.

We have an abundance to be

thankful for this Christmas season. We are healthy and all of our animals are healthy as well. We continue to stay in contact with many of our Chow friends and meet new clients on a regular basis. Our son has embarked on a new career in woodcarving in our wood shop here on the farm and it is doing well. We are blessed with eight healthy, rambunctious grandchildren that provide the bright light in our lives.

We hope this joyous season brings God's love to your home, filling it with his blessings. And we hope to see many of you in the coming year 2013 !

## And the "Best Picture of the Year" award goes to ...

This has got to be one of the best pictures we have ever received of a black puppy! Anyone with a black Chow knows how extremely difficult it is to get a good picture that doesn't look like a mass of black fur!

This little gem has been named Suki. She now lives in New York where she has

become a much beloved mem-



ber of the family. Her natural beauty pops out for everyone to enjoy!

Suki is a puppy from Pixie & Kaiser. What a cutie!

## Beware of Tainted Pet Foods & Treats !



**“Tainted food is a reality. Only you can prevent your dog from eating bad food and treats by checking the label.”**

We recently were notified by one of our clients about the loss of Bruno, their 4-year old male Chow. He had eaten tainted dog treats that destroyed his immune system. Their veterinarian was unable to reverse the damage in time to save Bruno.

In 2007, there was a lot of publicity concerning a recall of pet foods that contained ingredients from China ... specifically chicken jerky.

After doing some research, we found that this continues to be an ongoing problem. Identifying products that include ingredients from China is very difficult. You should stay away from anything that contains chicken Jerky because it could have come from China.

We did some research to see if the bar code might identify where the food is manufactured and packaged. It doesn't. Recently, we read that you could tell by the first three numbers, but according to Snopes, this is not true.

Look for information on the package that states, “Manufactured in America” or “American Made”. If it says “packaged in America” it may mean that the ingredients are coming from outside the country.

The United States has a hard

enough time monitoring food manufactured in our own country. There is no way they can oversee China or any other country.

Dog food is not the only problem. There have been reports of cat food and horse feeds also being tainted. This is an ongoing problem and all pet owners need to be aware and vigilant in reading labels. This is important in protecting our pets.

The two main health concerns are kidney and/or liver failure and immune system failure. Bruno started out by having crusty sores on his nose and ears. This progressed until his body was covered with sores. His vet said his immune system was depleted and his liver had failed. He had been fed **Waggin Train & Ever Pet** treats.

The USDA is investigating this, but it began in 2007 and we are no closer to an answer today nor any regulation enacted to prevent this from happening. Each of us can write our congressman and/or the USDA to complain and demand action on this issue before more pets are lost. In 2011 there were over 900 cases reported of pets suspected of being affected by tainted treats. The stores are still selling the products reported to have used ingredients from China that may have been

tainted.

Most of our pets only eat what we give them. They no longer forage for themselves. So, we are responsible for their safety.

The following are some of the brands known to have used tainted chicken from China:

- **Waggin Train**
- **Canyon Creek Ranch**
- **Dogswell**
- **Hartz Snausages**
- **Booda Bones**
- **Aspen Pet**
- **Milo's Kitchen**
- **American Kennel Club**
- **Kingo's**
- **Beefeaters**
- **Cadet Sargents**
- **Ever Pet**
- **Home Pet 360**
- **Walgreen's Simple**
- **Beggin' Strips**
- **The Kingdon's Pets**
- **Pupperoni**
- **Canine Carryout**

One article on the web is at [www.humanesociety.org/animals/resources/facts/pet\\_food\\_safety.html](http://www.humanesociety.org/animals/resources/facts/pet_food_safety.html). If you search the web you will find many articles that address this issue.

## Azul & Luna in Ohio

Azul and Luna are best pals. Luna isn't as innocent as she would want you to believe in this picture. She ripped up the floor and is now standing on the new one. Azul is a sweetie. They fill their home with their unconditional love.

Azul is a puppy from Shadow & Kaiser. Luna is from Brandy & Yogi.



## Lucy ... aka "Scarlet" Goes to her New Home in Indiana



On August 31, 2012 Rick and I had to put our wonderful Chow of 12 1/2 years to sleep, Cinni gave us the best years we could imagine. After much grief, we both decided that we would not get another Chow. As time went on, Rick would comment how I looked for Cinni all the time and I still could hear him hitting the back door wanting to come back inside. After three months, I decided that I would find Rick a new puppy for Christmas.

The search began by calling different vets in our area and checking with different pet stores and could find nothing. There were no breeders in our area so I went to the Internet and started the search. D&M Farm Kennel came up in the search and as I browsed through their website I saw beautiful Chows and they just sounded like a couple that really care and love their animals. I placed a phone call and left a message that we were looking for a Chow puppy, Darrell called back the next day and said that at the present time he didn't have any red male Chows available. Being disappointed, I asked Darrell if I could bring my husband for a surprise visit to their farm & kennel? He said any-

time we wanted to come would be fine, so we set up a time and on December 8, 2012 we went to visit the Allen's.

On that Saturday morning, trying to be coy, I asked Rick if he was up to a road trip. I did not let him know what was going on, just a surprise. When we arrived, Rick knew what the trip was all about. Greeting us were about 4 different kinds of dogs and Maleah. What a pleasant couple they were and greeted us like old friends. We took a tour of the farm and met all the animals they have. Next came meeting the many Chows that they have on their farm. It was unreal how friendly all of them were. As we walked into the kennel, we immediately noticed this one little red Chow, as she came up to the front and started greeting Rick, she was adorable. Immediately, Maleah said, "she is not for sale, I am keeping her for myself." We then started talking about what would be coming available and when. Rick looked at me and said I have been searching everywhere trying to find a puppy for you, but it looks like you found the best place and I am so glad you did. We all stood in the kennel and talked about the new puppies that had just

been born and there was not one red male in any litter. Finally, Maleah got this adorable little red girl out for us and handed her to Rick and of course the kisses began and she was so excited she could hardly hold still. Then all of a sudden Maleah made eye contact with Darrell and mouthed to him "he can have her"! She then said to Rick, "you can have her." Darrell was in shock and we couldn't believe our ears. I looked at Maleah and asked, "are you sure" We all knew that Scarlet was her baby, but she said that was what she wanted to do.

Maleah told us that when we got home to look on their website for the November Newsletter and when we read the letter we could not believe how lucky we were. Maleah never told us the whole story while we were visiting them and after reading her story we found out that she had truly given us her little miracle.

Scarlet now has a new name, it is "Maleah's Lucinda" and our granddaughter named her Lucy. We will never be able to thank Darrell & Maleah enough for the new joy they have brought to our lives. We have our Christmas miracle. As it turns out, I was trying to surprise Rick & he wanted to surprise me. However, Maleah had the best surprise of all !

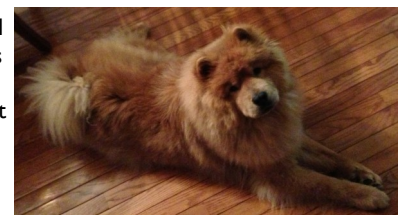
## Miyuki in Ohio

This has got to be one of the best pictures we have ever



received! You could put all sorts of captions under this one. What a sleeping beauty. I'm sure she isn't spoiled in the least!

Miyuki is a puppy from Daisy & Kaiser.





## Louie in New Jersey



Louie has fit into his new family very well. He brings them joy

and laughter.

He has been attending a puppy class. He has done well, but has exhibited the typical Chow stubborn streak now and again.

Louie is a puppy from Lila and Teddy.



Bath time! Guess who I am ?

## Kobe in Pennsylvania



Kobe is quite the traveler.

Here he is, vacationing in Florida with his family. He even visited a restaurant where the owners also own a Chow.

Kobe is a puppy from Cindy & Hagrid. (Cindy passed away in 2010.)

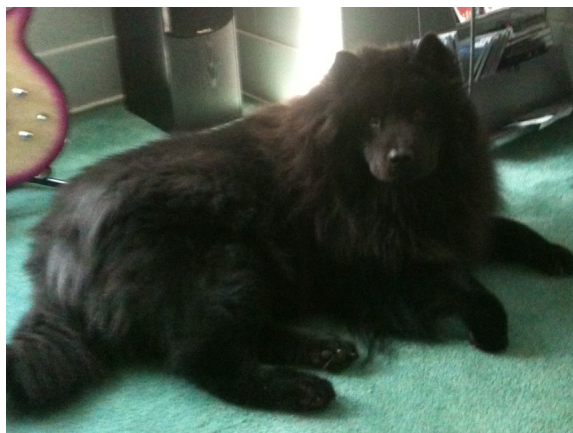


**“More of D & M  
Farm Kennel’s  
prodigies to  
enjoy!”**

## Warlock in Pennsylvania

What a beauty ! Warlock continues to be the love of his owner. He is such a special boy. Here is a picture of a rare moment when he isn’t on the move. Not a bad picture for a black Chow. Those of us with blacks know how difficult it is to capture a decent photo.

Warlock is a puppy from Pixie & Khan.



## Mystic in Colorado

*From an email:*

Here is your latest Mystic puppy picture fix. Taken last weekend at Fox Run Park where she got to chase ducks, meet all kinds of people hiking, and staging their Christmas pictures. She really loves kids and water. Had a very hard time keeping her out of the lake at the park ( her vet doesn't want her in lake water until she's 6 months old.) In the end, we lost. We had her on a flexi lead and I'd thought I had given her just enough lead to explore the waters' edge in front of me,



However, she doubled back on me giving the leash slack, then took that opportunity to take a flying leap into the water. Luckily, only her legs and belly got wet. Fortunately, we

had clean water with us and paper towels, so we washed her right there and tried to dry her with the paper towels. I am sure you can imagine trying to dry a puppy with paper towels ... i.e., shredded paper towels flying everywhere. Unannounced, we entertained a great many people at the park! Oh well ... that's okay. She puts a smile on everyone's face that meets or sees her. In this case

they were just laughing at our efforts.

Mystic is a cinnamon puppy from Bella & Kaiser.

**"Hope you  
enjoy these  
updates just  
half as much as  
we do!"**

## Miss Izzie Bella in Michigan

Here is the Michigan clan. Don't they all look like they are smiling?  
Miss Izzie Bella decided she would like to be a part of Santa's crew.

Miss Izzie Bella is a cream puppy from Izzie & Hagrid.



## Inky in Virginia

*From our client::*

Coming from strong sturdy stock, his excellency requires two photographs in order to attempt to document his imposing physical presence. We keep trying ... but it isn't an easy thing ... trying to capture excellence! No, not a wolf nor bear ... just one big Chow!

Inky is a puppy from Onyx & Hagrid.





## Yoshi Bear & Biscuit in New Jersey

*From one of our client's email:*

Here in central New Jersey, two of your springtime puppies, Yoshi Bear of Yardville and Biscuit of East Windsor met seven weeks ago at a local PetSmart store for one of their training programs. This week, Yoshi Bear, a puppy from Pandy & Teddy and Biscuit, a puppy from Dixie & Kaiser, graduated from PetSmart's Intermediate training program. Yoshi

excelled in topics such as *Heel*, *Stay with distractions* and *On your*

*bed*. Biscuit was proficient in *Loose Leash walking*, *Wait* or any activity where the reward was a treat. Maleah, you were correct nicknaming Biscuit 'Tank' at six weeks old. He loves to eat and looks just like his father. Yoshi is beautiful and has a calming, sweet personality. Yoshi and Biscuit's charm during PetSmart's class exercises can be measured by the numerous customers young and old who wanted to pet them.



## Grace in Virginia

Here is Grace. She is happy, healthy, and growing very fast.

Grace is a puppy from Brandy & Yogi..



Here's my, "I'm gona get you" face.

**"More of D & M  
Farm Kennel's  
prodigies to  
enjoy!"**

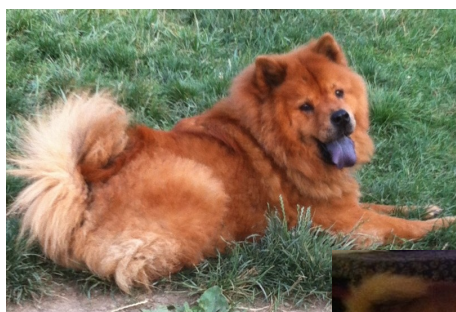
## Mei Ling in Ohio

Mei Ling will soon be 5 years old. She continues to have a very sweet personality and has become a favorite at the dog park. She sometimes even gives out free kisses.

She and her companion Kitt, keep things lively.

Mei Ling is a red puppy from Gypsy & Budha.

(Both Budha and Gypsy have passed on.)



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*"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**



also Dixie and Kaiser's litter. Dixie had nine puppies! Then on New Year's eve Mercedes and Ceasar blessed us with a litter. The kennel is really hopping right now!



As usual, I'm running a day late and a dollar short. Hope you enjoy the late December newsletter anyway.

Winter has hit and we are all bedded down for the winter. We sure hope it is a short one. We still have plenty of snow and ice.

We had three litters born in December. On Dec 1 Jazzy and Yogi had their litter. All girls! Dec 5 and Dec 6 brought Raven and Frosty's litter and



What a blessed year we have had. We and all our four-footed family have been healthy. A few minor mishaps

along the way, but nothing serious. Everyone in our kennel and barn are doing well. We are looking forward to two new foals in the spring. We also have a goat that appears to be pregnant. This spring will also be the time for us to finally have our cows bred. Things never slow down and life is good ... down on the farm! We send warm wishes to all of our extended Chow family! Happy New Year 2013 !