



D & M Farm Kennel Newsletter February 2010

Happy Valentine's Day



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Special points of interest:

- Keeping paws healthy
- Do puppies feel guilt?
- Chew Bones
- Gardening Precautions

Puppy's Paws

The pads of puppies feet are very sensitive and soft when they are young.. However, they will become very durable over time.

As puppies, they may be sensitive to hot surfaces during the summer and exposure to caustic materials in the winter.

In the hot summer months , check asphalt or concrete surfaces before setting your puppy down. If it is too hot to the touch of your hand, it will be too hot for their paws. Hot surfaces such as these may cause blisters.

In the harsh winter months , caustic materials such as road salt and sand may irritate their pads and also their mouth and belly. Puppies often will chew

on their paws to clean them and get the salt into their mouth. Of course, their bellies can have salt kicked up on them. Make sure you clean the feet and belly after being outside. This will help prevent irritation.

If their paws appear dry or cracked, you can use petroleum jelly to soften and moisturize them. Vitamin E or Aloe are also good especially in the summer months.

Keep the hair between the toes trimmed to prevent it from collecting debris, and if necessary ... trim their nails. Long nails can be painful to walk on.

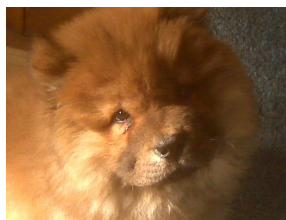
You should inspect your puppy's paws on a regular basis to ensure they are



Check paws for cracks or debris regularly.

healthy. Chows are typically stoic when it comes to pain. You may not notice something is wrong until it is already serious. Regular inspections will prevent this and allow you to take care of any issues before they become a major problem. You are the main protector of your puppy's welfare!

Kobe in Pennsylvania



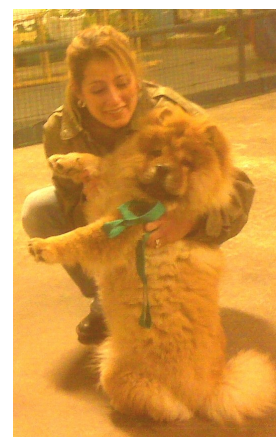
From the owner: Western Pennsylvania has received its fair share of snow this winter. Kobe is enjoying the snow as only a child could, chasing snowballs and making tunnels through the snow. Mainly because he's just not tall enough to stand atop 3 feet of snow.

But then again that doesn't stop him from enjoying it.

Now that he is 4 months old, he started puppy classes. Our trainer has commented on how well Kobe behaves, although he is little shy. Well, it is winter and people tend to hibernate during the cold.

We would like to thank you for this wonderful piece of love on 4 paws.

Kobe is a puppy from Cindy & Hagrid.



Mom and Me at school.

Avalanche in Utah

Avalanche is spending the snowboarding season in Utah. Summers are spent in California. She loves the snow and is great with everyone. She keeps her owners aware that someone new is around.

Avalanche is 6 1/2 months old in these pictures.



What a beautiful dog!

She is a puppy from Ginger & Kahn.



Feelings of Guilt and Remorse?

Dogs do not feel guilt in the way humans do. Dogs live in the moment. If they have done something wrong, they don't know it is wrong. Only if you catch them in the act can you correct a behavior.

If you come home to find your dog has chewed on shoes or gone through the trash, it does no good to try to correct him after the fact. He may cower and hide, but this only in response to your behavior ... not

the incident at hand.

We have had dogs that immediately hid when we entered our home. I have often believed they know what they have done. But research shows this may not be the case.

You cannot take the chance of punishing your dog for something, if you are not absolutely sure he understands what the correction is for. It is no differ-

ent than a toddler. If you catch them playing with the light socket you can correct them. But, to show them the light socket and scold them makes little sense to them.

Dogs are very intelligent, but they don't remember things they have already done. Catch them in the act or leave it alone. You don't want to inadvertently create fear and/or confusion for your dog.

"Dogs live in the moment and do not feel guilt nor remorse the same way humans do."



Miyuki in Ohio



Miyuki has won the hearts of her entire family. She is learning to sit and stay. But, doesn't understand yet that she has to do it every time she is asked. She is reported to be a joy to have around.

Miyuki was born in November to Daisy and Ceasar. She is a cinnamon puppy from Daisy & Ceasar.



Zeus in Ontario, Canada

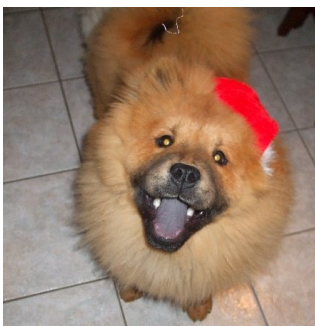
Zeus is already a whopping 47 lbs. He is growing like a weed.

Curiosity abounds in this little guy. This was his first Christmas and first time with snow. Both of which he thought were really cool.

Zeus is from Rosy & Sampson.



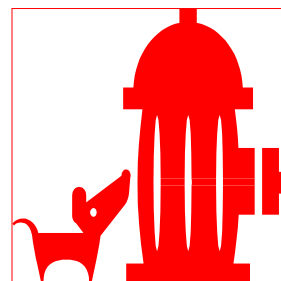
I'm trying to take a nap here!



Smiling, smiling . . .



Zeus and his pal.



The Pros & Cons of Chew Bones

We all like to give our pets treats. Chewing is a natural behavior of canines so giving them something to chew on is good. It also helps keep their teeth in a good healthy condition.

"Kongs" are a good choice. You can stuff them with cheese or peanut butter and then freeze them. It will keep your pooch occupied for hours.

Beef bones are another good option. You can get these from your butcher or meat department. Buy only large bones. It is best to boil them and then let them cool completely. Boiling them kills off bacteria and cooling allows the bones to harden.

The chewing cleans plaque and tarter off the teeth and keeps the gums healthy. Dogs

would do this in the wild so it is a good thing to provide.

Stay away from any bones that might splinter. This can be very dangerous. That is why chicken bones are never a good idea.

Healthy teeth and gums are an integral part of a healthy dog. Keep an eye on those pearly whites to promote good health in your dog.



"Healthy teeth and gums are an integral part of a healthy dog."

Nina in Wisconsin

Most Chows like the snow and cold and Nina is no different. She loves hanging out in the snow. She obviously likes to just let the snow fall and cover her. As you can see, the only parts not covered are her ears and her face. She must think the deck was made just for this purpose!

Nina is a puppy from Raven & Leo.



Cold? Of course I'm not cold!

Amore

Anastasia in Ohio

Anastasia is all grown up. She is a gorgeous girl whom her family loves very much.

Doesn't she exude royalty?

She is a puppy from Gypsy & Budha.



I wanna see!

Gardening Precautionary Tips for Spring

As we head towards spring, many of us are beginning to plan for our gardens. It is important to keep your pets in mind during your planning.

Some mulch, like cocoa mulch, can be hazardous and even fatal to our furry friends.

Fertilizers can be a definite hazard, whether applying to your garden, flowers or your lawn. Be careful to prevent your pet from coming into con-

tact with liquid fertilizers. They are likely to lick their paws and may ingest some of the fertilizer. This will wreak havoc with their intestinal tract.

Insecticides can also be a hazard if it gets on the animal's skin or is ingested. Keep all chemicals out of reach of your pet. You would be surprised at how many dogs have punctured a can with their teeth.

Certain types of plants need to

be considered when planning your garden space. Some plants are hazardous to animals. Rhododendron and Azaleas are both toxic to dogs. We have both in our yard and our dogs have never bothered them. We do keep puppies away from them though.

An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure when protecting our pets!

"Plan your garden carefully and be aware of potential hazards for your pet."

Chai Mai Ling in Indiana

As you can see, Chai Mai Ling is very regal in her appearance. She is a gorgeous girl that is now 5 1/2 years old. She is a puppy from Gypsy & Budha.



Dressed for success.



HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY

**Quality Chows with Exceptional
Temperament**

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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 for the breed"**



Happenings at D&M Farm & Kennel



As with most people, we like to think that we're on top of things. However, we are often surprised by one of our animals. We sold our male goat last fall and didn't intend on having anymore goats. We have a female goat we very appropriately call Nanny. We knew she was getting fat, but then so are our horses. They tend to get hay bellies in the winter and we just thought Nanny was doing the same. Boy we were terribly mistaken!

We were doing the evening chores in the dark and we had just finished feeding the horses, when Darrell asked if I

had seen Nanny. I shined a flashlight into the horses run-in shed and I spotted Nanny. About the same time, we heard a small bleat coming from the shed. I went back around through the barn and entered the shed and was amazed to see two baby goats. I had just yelled to tell Darrell that there were twins when I spotted the third one ... triplets! It was cold outside and the babies were cold too. Things didn't look good. When babies get chilled, they are at risk. Fortunately, it wasn't as cold as it had been, nor is now! So, we quickly made a bed in



the kennel for the babies, and placed them under a heat lamp. Then we brought Nanny in. They now reside in the kennel in one of our whelping cages. Thankfully, the little fawn female is now doing well. With some warm milk, a warm towel, and time under the heat lamp, she rebounded. The other two appeared to be fine.

The dogs are a little confused by their presence, but so far, it hasn't been a problem.

We're happy to report that Mom and babies are all doing well. She has two girls and one boy. The Billy boy is brown and white. We named him Gizmo. The little fawn girl is Nutmeg and we're open to suggestions for naming the little black & white girl. Any suggestions?

