

D & M Farm Kennel

January 2013 Newsletter

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Special points of interest:

- Dew Claws
- Health Guarantee

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Introducing "Macho Bear" to our Kennel Family

Please meet Macho Bear. He is our most recent up and coming new sire. He has such a sweet personality and is full of fun and mischief!

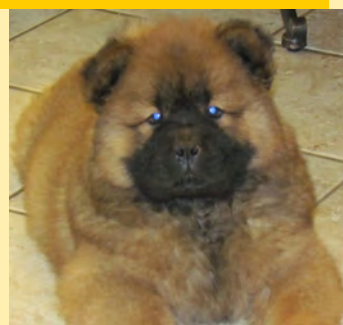
He is currently being raised in the house until it warms up enough for him to reside outside all the time in his own kennel yard.

Many of you know our blue house girl Char. She is a great babysitter and also sets the limits for Macho while still being a playmate. They have become great friends. He thinks all the "big" dogs in our front yard are great to run with. He has even mastered not going out the front gate. He caught on very quickly that the dogs don't go to the gate when open.

He is always interested when people come to visit and loves to greet them along with the rest of our motley crew. He

has become very social. He is also very interested in the puppies that are brought up to the house when being picked up by their new owners. Of course, he has to be right in the middle of everything. He does think he should be the center of attention.

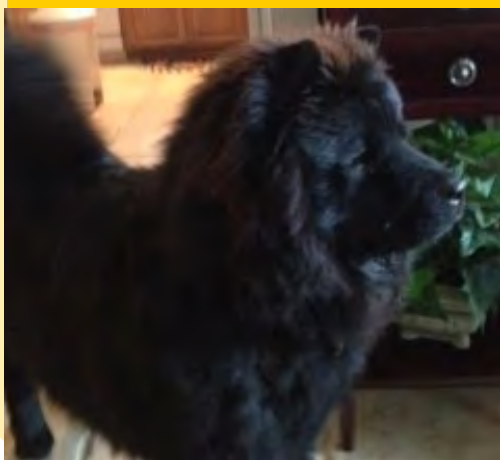
Macho Bear was born to Yogi & Brandy on Saturday, October 6, 2013. We are hoping he keeps his beautiful black mask! Let's welcome Macho Bear to our kennel family!



This is what "Stinkin' Cute" looks like!



Dazzling Onyx Cloud in Texas



This Texas beauty is very much loved by her family.

She was shipped to Texas and quickly integrated into the family. She has two black lab sisters to play with. They make quite a trio.

Cloud is a puppy from Onyx and Hagrid.

With those two as parents, she will surely be the most friendly ambassador in the neighborhood!

What a beautiful lady!

Should we or shouldn't we remove Dewclaws ?

We get a lot of questions about dewclaws. Should you have them removed or not?

We do not have the dewclaws removed on our puppies. Chows rarely have any issues with their dewclaws. They are protected with the fur around them. Unlike short-haired dogs, who can easily catch their dewclaw on something and tear it loose.

Dewclaws are thought to be left over digits from prehistoric times. In many dogs they have no use, but some dogs actually use their dewclaws to help grasp a toy or bone.

Chows rarely, if ever, have dewclaws on their hind legs. Only on the front legs.

Dewclaw removal can be problematic if not done prior to eight weeks of age. In many dogs, Chows being one of them, the dewclaw is actually attached to the bone. This requires major surgery to have it removed. Past eight weeks of age, the chance of infection rises dramatically. Our recommendation? Unless there is a problem just leave them alone. If it is not broke, don't fix it.

You do need to check their dewclaws on a regular basis

and trim if needed. The nail can become a problem if it curls when it grows. It can become embedded into the leg and removal will be necessary. If you see the nail is growing long, keep it trimmed. Trim it the same as any other nails. They may not use this digit any longer, but it definitely has nerves and feeling. Many Chows self groom the dew claws by chewing back the nail and keeping it the correct length.

Keeping an eye on them is all that is needed to prevent any potential problems.

Dewclaws don't have to be removed. Just keep an eye on them for any potential problems. Chows rarely have issues with them.

Looking for those Picture Perfect Moments

We love to show off puppies and adult dogs that have come from our kennel. Many of you provide us with updates and pictures. But . . . many haven't. All our Chow lovers never tire of seeing pictures of Chows. And, to see a dog that is related to the one they have is even better!

It is difficult for us to scan in

hard copy photos that are sent to us, but not impossible. We prefer you email digital photos. This allows us to crop and size the photo to fit our newsletters.

However, we'll take whatever you can provide us. Stories are great to share. They don't have to be long. All of our pets do funny and quirky

things on a daily basis. Everyone loves to hear the stories. If you want to post videos, pictures, and stories on our Facebook page, please go to our website and click on the Facebook icon at the bottom of the Home Page.

Remember, if your pet's stories are interesting to you, then others will enjoy them also!

Kia in West Virginia

Kia recently turned one year old. At 40+ lbs. she is indeed maturing, but still very much a puppy at heart. She has been a good ambassador by being friendly to everyone ... both people and pets. She can be a bit rambunctious around the grandkids, but that is still the playful puppy in her.

Kia travels well, going on vacations with her family. She is very much loved and a big part of the family.

Kia is a cream puppy from Izzie and Hagrid.



Update on Lucy ... aka "Scarlet" ... in Indiana



From our Client:

Rick and I want to thank you again for letting us have Lucy. She is such a joy and the most loveable puppy there is. Rick still has never left her alone, I think they are tied at

the hips, or something like that. We have made copies of the newsletters and wanted to thank you both for letting us share our story with other readers that follow your monthly newsletters.

She accompanies Rick to the nursing home where his parents reside and she is becoming a super hit with the patients. The staff told Rick she is the best therapy dog they have ever seen. She greets every patient there and then the nurses come and take her to those patients who are bedridden and she loves on

them. One patient whom seldom speaks or reacts to anyone or anything, said to the nurse "sweetest puppy ever". So touching!

Today was another vet visit and she now weighs 20 1/2 lbs. It is hard for me to carry her now, so she spends a lot of time on my lap. We also took her to our vet today for a microchip and when we got home she ate some food and went right to sleep. She is now up and playing like she always does. Normally she is a ball of fire.



For those of you readers who do not know the history, Lucy started out life as Scarlet. She is a puppy from Pandi & Yogi. Review previous issues for details!

Our 3-Year Health Guarantee Update Notice

We have updated our Health Guarantee on our website. It also includes the disclaimer of the guarantee being voided in the event we close the kennel. This isn't something we expect to do anytime soon, but one never knows what the future may hold. We aren't getting any younger.

Our guarantee is very important to us. It reflects the confidence we have in our breeding dogs and program. It also makes clear our desire to produce healthy puppies and demonstrate responsible accountability for our kennel. We take great care in establishing breeding pairs, never breeding dogs from the same bloodlines. This is something we disagree with many "show kennels", who in their quest to maintain a subjective appearance, sometimes engage in the practice of inbreeding to accomplish that goal. However, doing this can bring the recessive genes to the surface and produce many unwanted traits to include obvious health issues. We are very attentive to the nutrition we provide to our breeding dogs and puppies. Regardless of the best precautionary measures,

Mother Nature's plan takes precedence and the results do not always turn out the way we want and puppies can still develop genetic disorders. Our goal is to minimize those risks as much as possible!

We know what it is like to become attached to a puppy as it matures, only to discover something is physically wrong that cannot be fixed. This can be devastating! The next best option is management of the health problem, but there are times when this isn't possible either. This is when our health guarantee becomes very important. No one can ever replace a beloved pet, but a new puppy can often times fill the void left behind.

With our one-time replacement policy, comes some stipulations to make that feasible. We will try to replace your puppy with the same color and sex, if you so desire. But, providing us with a second color preference may allow us to provide you with a puppy much sooner. So, a second color choice must be provided. If you insist on the same color, you are accepting the fact that it may be several months

before we can provide you a replacement puppy. Our guarantee does not mean you will receive the next puppy available, nor right of pick. We often have several clients on our Waiting Lists, some may have been waiting several months. We have to consider them as well.

With all living creatures and things, there are very few guarantees in life. We obviously cannot guarantee our puppies for their entire life. We have discussed this with several of our veterinarians and have done extensive research. We cannot guarantee things that are obviously out of our control, but what we can guarantee is in the event something does go wrong, we will show compassion, offer advice and if necessary, provide a replacement puppy. We feel that our guarantee is fair and our veterinarians feel it is very generous. They have shared that they know very few breeders willing to guarantee their puppies and certainly do not go beyond the first six months to one year. They have even questioned why we would want to guarantee our



"Our Health Guarantee is our way of showing our confidence in our breeding dogs and our kennel operation."

puppies until their third birthday. Maybe we are old school, but we believe that we have to show confidence in our dogs and our guarantee is our way of doing this. No one can guarantee that bad things won't happen in life, but we can guarantee that in the event that these bad things do occur, we vow to be responsible breeders, and loyal friends of our clientele to work through them on a case by case basis! This is called integrity!

Lola in New Jersey

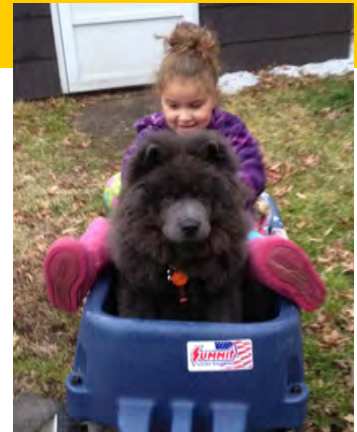
Being outside . . . Great.
Having a nifty wagon . . . Fun.
Having your best friend to
share it with . . . Priceless!

From our Client . . .

We wanted to let you know
how Lola is doing. She is get-
ting so big and loves playing
with our daughter Aubrey!
She is the sweetest and calm-
est dog we have ever been

around. You can see she
liked to ride in Aubrey's
wagon with her too!

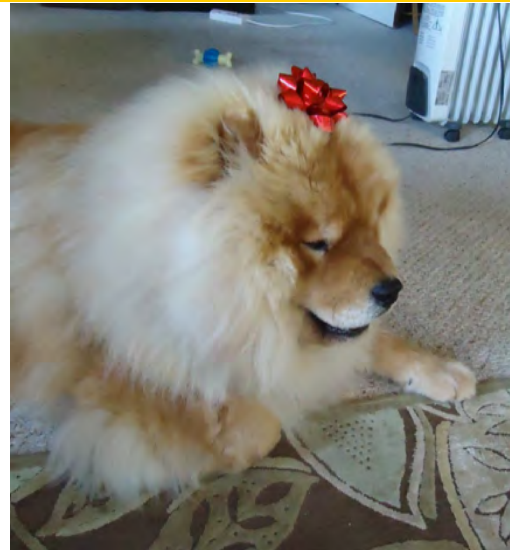
Lola is a blue puppy from
Teddy and Lila.



Song Li in Washington

Song Li, aka Harley, is one
year old now. What a hunk!
Look at that lion mane. He
may not think the bow is all
that dignified but as usual he
puts up with his owners be-
cause he loves them.

Harley is a red puppy from
Kaiser and Bella.



Pepper in Oklahoma

Pepper lives in Oklahoma.
Her owners picked her up on
their way back from visiting
W. Virginia. She made the
long trip like a trouper. No
problem for her.

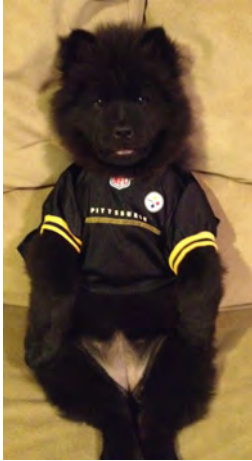
Pepper will have a sibling in
the spring. Her family plans
to adopt a puppy from Izzie
and Hagrid.

Pepper is a black puppy from
Yogi and Brandy.



Gypsy in Ohio

Gypsy would make a great



cover girl! She obviously likes to play dress up. What a cutie!

Gypsy is a black puppy from Teddy and Pandy.



Mystic in Colorado

Mystic has received her AKC Star Puppy Metal. She is well on her way to her Canine Good Citizen Award.



Mystic obviously felt the need to be sworn in to her new position. She is reported to be very verbal about her feelings.

She continues to be a sweet puppy with lots of energy but is growing by leaps and bounds.

Mystic is a cinnamon puppy from Kaiser and Bella.

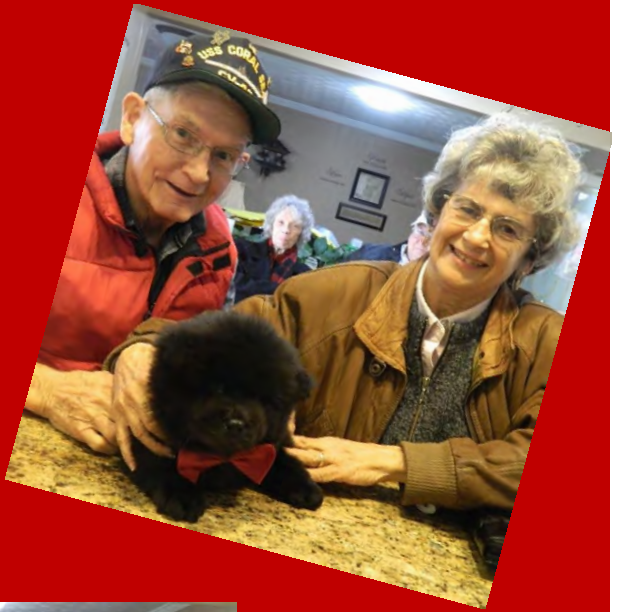


"More of our beautiful puppies."

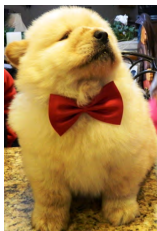
PUPPY PICKUPS



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D & M Farm Kennel



Primary Business Address
617 W. Dayton-Yellow Springs Rd.
Fairborn, OH 45324

Phone: 937-767-7075
Cell: 937-369-8425
Email: dnmfarm@aol.com

Quality Chows with Exceptional
Temperament

WE'RE ON THE WEB
DMFARM.COM

*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.*

Farm Happenings at D & M Farm !

The weather can't seem to figure out which direction it wants to go. We get a few days of really warm weather to tease us with spring and then we are plunged back into the deep freeze of winter.

Everyone seems to be fairing well. Mercy & Ceasar had a litter and Lila & Teddy also had a litter. We now have Pixie & Bella in the maternity ward. Bella is bred to Kaiser and Pixie to Simba.

Rowdy, our old Quarter Horse, is staying in more than out with the frigid temperatures. He is 22 years old and has a hard time staying warm. He likes being treated special and loves getting the extra feed to keep his weight on.

Darrell seems to be finally getting over his illness. He came down with the flu on December 23d. It is one of those bugs that just hangs on.

Maleah had a bit of it, but it didn't last nearly as long.

Our son Jason has embarked on a wood carving career. He has always been a closeted artist. He was laid off his government defense contractor position and the economy has really been tough finding another job. We finally convinced him to use his talent and our woodshop. A local Master Woodcarver has been blown away by Jason's talent. He says his carvings reflect skills of an experi-



enced carver. We wish him well!! He takes custom orders! Anyone interested?

We kept a little cream girl out of Dixie & Kaiser's litter and a little red girl out of Jazzy & Yogi's litter. Ivory and Ruby will be integrated into our breeding program. For now, they are just playful little puppies to be cuddled and loved.

We are heading toward spring and making plans for new projects. We are also looking forward to meeting new clients through our Chows and staying in touch with those who have adopted our babies.

The Amish auctions will begin soon and we have raised some guineas to take, along with a couple horses and a couple calves. We enjoy mingling with the Amish.

We always welcome visits to our farm & kennel! Have you planned your next visit to D & M Farm?



A doorway surround with Welcome on the header and wild animals carved on the sides.