# **JULY 2014 NEWSLETTER**

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#### What ... Is That Smell?

Chows do not have the same doggy odor as most dogs. They are more like cats and are quite hygienic! Nevertheless, some of our Chowdren just haven't mastered the art of drinking water without getting wet all down their chest. Most puppies do this and most of them outgrow it. Regrettably, there are some who don't.

For those exceptional "droolers", you must keep their coat clean and dry. Otherwise they begin to smell a bit sour, musty, yucky. They can also develop a fungus on the skin if allowed to remain wet.

You may need to keep a towel handy and wipe them down each time they visit the water bowl. For most of us, this would be unrealistic. There are other ways

to deal with this issue.

Fortunately, water fountains are available for dogs. They drink from the top of



the fountain, thereby reducing the amount of water



available. The bowl area is small, which helps in re-

ducing the drool affect. This is what I would recommend for inside the house. Outside, you can use an attachment on



your water spigot that allows water to drip when licked. The dogs learn very quickly how to drink from these.

If an outside spigot isn't handy, you can run a hose to the area and attach a water fountain that operates when stepped on. Again, a few tries and the dog can be easily trained to use these.

Another benefit of these fountains is that the water remains fresh!

#### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTER-EST:

- ♦ What ... Is That Smell?
- ♦ Shady Spots
- ♦ Protect Those Pads

## Snickers and Twix in Michigan

We wanted to give you an update on how Snickers & Twix are doing. Snickers is 92 lbs. and turned 3 in March. Twix is 78 lbs. and turned 1 in February. They are awesome! Snickers is perfect in every way and Twix is the most playful and social Chow I've ever met! We constantly get compliments on them eve-

ry time we take them for walks.



We thank you for our beautiful babies!

We hope you have a wonderful summer.

Both Snickers (cream male) & Twix (black male) are from Onyx & Hagrid!

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#### HARLEY IN WASHINGTON

Harley loves his human parents. And of course they love him! He thinks his dad is pretty special. They live on a lake and Harley likes to go swimming, but he won't go in without his dad. Smart boy! Never swim alone ... always swim in pairs!

Harley is a puppy from Bella & Kaiser.



## The Benefits of Providing Shady Spots

Many of our dogs stay inside on very hot days. But some must stay outside for longer periods of time. Providing them with sufficient shade is essential!

"Providing your

necessity during

pet shade is a

hot summer

days."

Chows have an undercoat that protects them against the heat. Cutting this undercoat will expose their skin to potential sunburn. It was not meant for direct sunlight. It also exposes the skin to elements that may cause

fungus growth and other unwanted conditions.

Providing a shady area for you dog is really all that is needed. Shade trees can offer ideal conditions, allowing breezes to provide further cooling.

You must be especially careful with Chows who have dark coats such as the blacks & blues. The darker colors absorb the heat

causing their body temperature to quickly rise. Providing adequate shade will alleviate this.

For our pets who must stay outside for longer periods of time during the heat of the summer, please provide lots of shade and fresh cool water. They will be fine and looking forward to your return. A heat stroke is a very serious matter! Think ahead!

#### Inky in Virginia

The many faces of Inky! Inky on duty and Inky being the clown under the stool. Even the postman inquires about this beautiful boy! Inky is a puppy from Onyx & Hagrid





### Lucy (aka Scarlet) in Indiana

This little girl has quite a story. She had a rocky beginning and Maleah spent a lot of time with her to nurture her along. Maleah decided she was going to keep her and named her Scarlet.

Then one day a couple came to visit and were looking for a puppy. We had lots of puppies, but none that were available. Maleah let the man hold Scarlet and it was love at first sight for both of them. Scarlet is now known as Lucy and she is a very much loved little girl in her family!



Lucy is a puppy from Pandy & Yogi Bear



### Protecting Those Pads Will Protect Those Paws!

Have you ever walked barefoot on hot sand? It burns and you step lively until you get off of it. It is no different for our four legged friends.

Hot sand, pavement and concrete may all cause burns on the pads of your Chow's feet. This can then be an invitation for infection. Not to speak of the pain the burns will cause.

Be mindful of where you are walking your dog on extremely hot days. Hard surfaces such as concrete and pavement that have had the sun beating on it all day can be very hot. Humans don't

notice it because we wear protective shoes. However, your pet will often walk on it giving no indication there is a problem until it is too late.

Consider boots for your dog if you plan to make a trip to the beach, walking on hot sand.

These same boots will work on hot concrete, pavement, brick or stone.

If you notice that your dog's pads are burned, take him to the veterinary immediately. They can provide soothing salve that will promote healing and provide pain relief.

How do you know if your dog has burns? It may not be apparent at first. One symptom might be that the worn calloused pads appear pink in spots. The best indication will be your dog's actions. Limping, licking it's feet, refusing to walk all are clues.

Be alert to the pads of those Chows who love the water! The pads can become soft and more susceptible to heat and abrasions.

Watch out for your dogs paws as you would your own feet and all should stay healthy and happy!

#### Shady in Virginia

Shady is doing awesome! He is



so very smart! We are now training him simple commands using venison as his treat. He loves that and I enjoy giving him the leftovers.

My neighbor has an Akita. Shady is in love with her! The owner hired a trainer and we were asked to attend a behavioral evaluation of her dog. Their trainer stated she has never seen a Chow with such a good disposition.. I am sooooo proud!

We thank you again!

Shady is a puppy from Dixie & Kaiser.

"MORE THAN ONE

**BEHAVIORIST HAS** 

RECOGNIZED OUR

CHOWS'

**EXCEPTIONAL** 

TEMPERAMENT! WAY

TO GO SHADY!"

#### Cody in Illinois

Hi ... I promise I won't overwhelm you with too many updates, but I thought I would pass along a few more recent pics of my handsome guy! He is now 47 pounds and continues to develop an even sweeter personality. He loves to snuggle and he loves to kiss. His new favorite place to go is the Montrose Dog Beach here in Chicago, where he can run around with his sister and play with the other dogs. He plays so nicely too (except he did pull the tail of a little Pug last

time... I suppose it was just a little too hard to resist ...Ha Ha!). He also enjoys trying to chase the neighborhood squirrels and bunnies. Despite living in the city, we seem to have an overwhelming number of rabbits and squirrels! He also has learned to patrol HIS yard. He enjoys laying by the fence and keeping guard. He will accept the occasional pets of people passing by. He is quite popular with the neighborhood kids, who now go out of their way to walk by and

say hello to him. He has also learned that when it comes to sleeping at night, the floor is for the birds. Instead, he loves to spread out on the bed and even allows the two cats to snuggle with him. He's got it made! I think it is safe to say that he is one of the two happiest Chows around.

Hope all is well with you and your Chows!

Cody is a puppy from Izzie & Hagrid.



#### D & M Farm Kennel

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WE'RE ON THE WEB
WWW.DMFARM.COM

QUALITY CHOWS WITH EXCEPTIONAL TEMPERAMENT

The goal of D & M Farm Kennel is to

breed quality healthy Chow Chows

with exceptional temperament.

We want all of our puppies to be good

ambassadors of the breed"

### D & M Farm Happenings - July 2014

Holy smokes where has the summer gone! I can't believe it is already July!

Fortunately, we have been blessed with sufficient rain all summer! Therefore, everything is green and lush. All of our animals are in good health and enjoying all the great weather!

Repairs and projects continue on the farm and kennel. Maleah has begun renovations of the kennel. She has painted one room, stained the floor and sealed it. It looks bright and clean. The other rooms will have to wait for now.

Fence building continues and the farm is shaping up. There are always repairs to be made every year, as well as stocking the horse barn with hay for the winter.



Darrell, Maleah, and our farmhand, Andrew began cleaning the pole barn. Everything had to be moved out so it could be cleaned. Bobcat, Gator, tractor, mowers, log-splitter, etc. Then everything had to be cleaned and organized. Our good friends Sherry and Bruce (owners of Gabriel & China) were here and volunteered to pitch in and help, and our grandsons, Ryan and Jakob, carried things to

the other barn. Hurrah for young legs! Many hands make light work! The pole barn looks great now and we can actually locate and get to what we need.

Garden harvest will be soon begin. Most everything is doing well. Here are the potatoes drying in the sun.



Maleah isn't happy with her tomatoes. They just aren't coming on the way she would like. Her plans are to can tomatoes and juice. She may only get to can tomatoes, since the Rutger tomatoes don't seem to be doing well. The peacocks don't help any. They like to peck at the ripe tomatoes, so Maleah has to be quick to pick them as soon as they are ripe.

Summers are always busy, but a joy at the same time. It is great to be outside in the sunshine enjoying God's creation. Slobbering kisses from the horses and the dogs are always appreciated!

Summers are also a good time for kennel visits. It's always nice to see clients return to our farm with their grown and mature puppies they left with! One favorite local treat is to take our visitors for a special ice cream trip to Young's Jersey Dairy!



Taking time away from the farm & kennel for socializing with our Chow friends is important! Rhonda, (owner of Romeo, Sally & Lucy) who lives locally ... and Tracy, Yazu & family (owners of Scrappy & Lacy) from Georgetown, Kentucky, all enjoyed the day at the farm!

We have lots of poultry ... exotic chickens, guineas, peacocks, ducks, geese & turkeys, which make for constant entertainment!





### D & M Farm Happenings — July 2014 ... con't

As all of our extended Chow family know, grooming is a never ending necessity ... especially at our kennel!



Fortunately, Maleah enjoys it! Brenda (owner of Keiko) from Powder Springs, Georgia is taking notes! Our older Chows seem to rather enjoy all of the attention and it presents an excellent time for bonding! However, with so many Chows, this chore is unending!



We have really enjoyed having our oldest daughter Stephanie & family staying with us on the farm. Since our daughter and grandkids have lived overseas for several years, it is very strange for us to have family so near and their presence & help around the farm & kennel has been priceless! Our youngest daughter Amy & family traveled from Arlington, Virginia for a visit and we all had a wonderful time. It was hard to see them go! She works at the Pentagon in Washington, DC. A much different environment than here on the farm!



We enjoyed a visit from Sherry & Bruce (the owners of Gabriel & China). They reside in Cincinnati, Ohio. Both Chows are gorgeous, but Gabriel is a special treat at 110 lbs.



So much for Darrell's "mid-life crisis" and the Corvette convertible he ordered in 2001.



Much to Maleah's chagrin, those aging pains got to him once again and he found another old man's toy ... a Nissan 370 Z Sport Roadster. So as not to feel left out, Maleah went out the next day and got her a beautiful Morgan buckskin mare! Oh well, I guess if energy prices keep skyrocketing, we should always have reliable transportation!



We stop breeding our females when they are 7 yrs. old. We then bring them up to run with our "pack" in the yards surrounding our home. We sometimes place them in loving homes with the elderly. Several months ago, we placed Raven with a wonderful couple who live in Muskegon State Park and found both to be a perfect match. We stopped by for a visit and left with bittersweet memories! Thank God for Chows!



When was your last visit to D & M Farm?



## D & M Farm Happenings — July 2014 ... con't

We truly enjoy entertaining friends here on the farm, whether it is visiting around a campfire or touring a local museum!





















