

D & M Farm Kennel

June Newsletter

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Summertime

Summertime brings fun times but precautions need to be taken for the welfare of your pet.

Heat is always a concern, especially for Chows. Make sure your pet has plenty of water and shade to get out of the sun. On extremely hot days, if possible, take them inside. Chows typically fare pretty well in the heat. Ones with black coats do need extra attention paid. That black fur absorbs the heat and they can suffer from heatstroke more quickly.

We do not recommend you shave your Chow. But, if you do, make sure you don't cut the fur so close that the skin is subject to sunburn. Chows have skin that is very sensitive to sun. They are a double-coated breed and their skin is not meant to be exposed.

Care should be taken when having outdoor barbecues. Alcohol is not good for your



dog and can cause severe health issues. Be careful that drinks are not left where your curious four legged friend can get to them.

Human snacks can cause severe intestinal upset when dogs are not used to them. This can be just as unpleasant for you as it is for your dog! So, advise your friends not to succumb to that sweet face asking for a treat.

Cintronella and other pest deterrent coils and oils should be kept away from dogs and especially puppies.

Beestings can cause severe reactions. Many dogs like to snap at bees. This should be avoided.

A little care and attention will result in a happy, healthy summer.

Belle in IL

The birthday girl! Belle is now one year old. She is a beautiful and loving pup. She loves to play with all her siblings, human and animal alike. She also uncharacteristically like to fetch. Most Chows look at you as though to say, "If you

wanted it you shouldn't have thrown it!" But Belle enjoys the game.

Belle is from a litter of Ceasar and Ginger.



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Special points of interest:

- Summer Precautions
- Great References
- When Things Go Wrong
- Dog Rules

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Ani in IN

Ani is all grown up. What a beautiful girl she has become.

She went camping and hiking for the first time and loved it. She was a joy to be with so there are many more trips planned in the future for Ani.

Ani is from a litter of Kaiser and Sheba.



Pia in IL

Pia fools everyone with that sweet face. But, in fact, she is as ornery as can be. She likes to get into things she knows she shouldn't and keeps everyone on their toes. She is so cute everyone loves her though. So, she gets away with most of her antics.

Pia is from Ebony and Kaiser's litter.



So sweet sugar wouldn't melt in her mouth!



Cooling off the tootsies.

Great Reference

A great website to visit when you have questions about your pet is www.asPCA.com. They have a wealth of information to be tapped into.

Ever wonder if the plants you have are toxic to animals? This site has a list of plants and what their affect could be.

Another good site is the Humane Society of the United State, www.hsus.org. They have many tips and tricks for pet owners.

You must always use your own judgment when going to any site for information. Most sites speak in generalities that may or may not apply to your Chow. An example is the recommendation to not fly your pet as cargo. Young dogs, especially Chows, fare very well. You do want to take precautions and have them health checked by your veterinarian. As your Chow gets older any travel they are not used to may cause undo stress. Again, you must use

your judgment to decide what is best for your pet.



Murphy in IN

Owner report: Here is a picture of Murphy, the best Chow Chow ever! He is nearly three feet nose to tail, weighs 60 pounds and stands 21/2 feet tall! And he is only 6 mo old now!. He has been such a joy. He has also been instrumental in our obese cat becoming healthier. Murphy desperately wants to be friends with the cat. The cat has run and climbed so much from Murphy that he has now learned to jump and climb. Now he sits on benches, tables, and chairs when he is outside and tries to sit in the highest spot he can get to in a room. He enjoys sitting in chairs so much that he has now learned to push

chairs out from the table so he can get in them. He also LIKES to sit in a warm bath and soak, very relaxing I guess after you've spent the day chasing the cat!

Murphy is a puppy from Teddy and China.



Do ya have to use the flash?

When Things Go Very Wrong

This past weekend tragedy struck our kennel. Misty went into labor on Friday and had a puppy around 5:00 pm. Unfortunately, it was dead when I found it. She didn't have another puppy by 9:00 pm so we had to make a trip to the Emergency Veterinary Hospital. After checking her out they decided not to do a cesarean section. Instead they wanted to wait to see if she could have them on her own. They said they could feel a puppy in the birth canal and sent us home.

As I drove into the driveway I could hear Misty having a puppy in the kennel cage. I jumped out, grabbed a towel, and began working on the puppy. It was stillborn.

I moved Misty into the kennel and began the vigil of watching and waiting. About three hours later she had another puppy. Again, it was stillborn.

Misty laid down and went to sleep. She was exhausted. At 8:00 am I took her to our normal clinic where they proceeded to give her oxytocin to help with the contraction. Still no puppies so they decided to do a cesarean. Misty was really exhausted by this time and there was real concern about

putting her under anesthesia. As you know, Chows don't do well under anesthesia under the best of circumstances. Now you have a dog who is exhausted which affects their breathing anyway.

They delivered two puppies. Both were alive but one died shortly after birth. The other appeared to be healthy. Each of the puppies were covered in a yellow grit. The veterinary thinks it might be some type of infection but had never seen anything like it before.

The last puppy eventually died two days later. Obviously, something wasn't right.

In hindsight, I should have insisted on the cesarean section at the Emergency Veterinary Hospital. If we had gotten to the puppies sooner we might have been able to save some of them. And, it would have been much easier on Misty in the long run.

I tell you this story to illustrate that things do not always turn out as we hope. Misty is only five years old, healthy, and has successfully delivered puppies before. Many people want their female to deliver one litter so their children can experience the miracle of birth. This is one instance that I

would not have wanted any children present to witness. It would have been impossible to explain this tragedy when I can't explain it to myself.

Fortunately, Misty is doing fine. It was really rough on her and her uterus was in bad shape. Again, they think that whatever the problem was affected her uterus. So, we decided to have her spayed. She is more important to us than having more puppies. She will now move to the front yard after she heals to become one of our "pet pack".



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“The goal of D & M Farm Kennel is to
breed quality Chow Chows
with exceptional temperament.

**Quality Chows with Exceptional
Temperament**

We want all of our puppies to be good
ambassadors of the breed”

DOG RULES

1. The dog is not allowed in the house!
2. Okay, the dog is allowed in the house, but only in certain rooms.
3. The dog is allowed in all rooms, but has to stay off the furniture.
4. The dog can get on the OLD furniture only.
5. Fine, the dog is allowed on all the furniture, but is not allowed to sleep with the humans on the bed.
6. All right, the dog is allowed on the bed, but ONLY by invitation.
7. The dog can sleep on the bed whenever he wants, but NOT under the covers.
8. The dog can sleep under the covers by invitation ONLY.
9. The dog can sleep under the covers every night.
10. Humans must ask permission to sleep under the covers with the dog.

