

# D & M Farm Kennel

## June 2014 Newsletter

### Why Choose a Chow Chow?

It is extremely important when considering a puppy for your family that you consider the characteristics of the breed.

Chows are arguably the oldest breed of dog. They originate from China and were used as palace guard dogs. They also were used to hunt bear and were raised for meat. It is reported that they believed the darker the tongue, the more tender the meat. Ugh!!

Chows also are one of the healthiest breeds. They are predisposed to Entropion. This is an eye condition, where the eyelid turns slightly inward causing the eyelashes to irritate the eye; thereby causing excessive tearing. If left untreated, it could cause ulcers of the eye and eventual blindness. Treatment as a puppy only requires a single stitch to rectify the condition for life. If left until the dog matures, it will require surgery. The vet will remove a small portion below the eyelid to shorten it. It only takes a few days for it to heal. **It is of utmost importance that you find a veterinary who has successfully performed this procedure.** It is even better if the vet comes recommended by pet owners familiar with the procedure! It takes a certain amount of finesse to ensure they only surgi-

cally remove just enough and not too much skin. A botched job will last a lifetime and may cause extenuating conditions!

Chows can also be afflicted with Hip/Elbow Dysplasia. This is where the hip socket doesn't fully form around the ball of the femur bone. Chow puppies are often slow in the development of their sockets and are often falsely diagnosed with hip problems that they will actually outgrow.

Chows, as well as any other breed of dog can be afflicted with health problems. However, Chows are not considered *pre-disposed* to anything else.

Chows are born with 44 teeth. All other canine breeds are born with 42. (Bears have 44 teeth.) As Chow puppies lose their baby teeth, they are replaced with 42 teeth like all other canines.

Chows have partially retractable claws. If you place a Chow's paw in your hand and depress their pad, they will often flex their claws. (Bear's have partially retractable claws.)

Chows are very catlike in their mannerisms and are considered the felines of the canines. They are very obsessively clean. Some consider them aloof, but actually they just aren't what we

consider as socially needy. They are quite content to be in the room with you. They do not need to be up on your lap or in your face. Our Chows are very aware of where we are in the house, and often move to the room we are in. Or, they are content to lay by the door to the room we are in. If there is a family, the Chow will often sleep in the hallway outside the bedrooms at night. This permits them to guard everyone.

Chows are not inherently aggressive. They will draw a "line in the sand" and as long as you don't cross it, they typically won't bother you. They are shy by nature, so it is imperative they are very well socialized while they are still young. Otherwise, they may become a fear biter. Chows that are not socialized are very wary of humans. They don't want to be touched and become very fearful. This is where they get their "bad" reputation. Because they are misunderstood, not because they are a vicious breed!

Chows make great companions for individuals or families. They do well in all environmental settings ... apartments, with a small yard, or acres to roam. They tend to be "couch potatoes". They like to walk, but they are not normally a good jogging companion. All puppies like to play, but as Chows get older many become more sedate. They will play for short periods, but are content to watch from the sidelines.

We are indeed biased, but we think Chows are the best breed of dogs to have! They fit many people like a glove ... for us ... like a big furry glove! Indeed ... big live teddy bears!

### Special points of interest:

- > Why a Chow Chow?
- > Chows as Service Dogs

### Inside this issue:

Ollie & Rosy	2
Wilson	2
Chows as Service Dogs	2
Stella	3
Miss Izzie Bella	3
Bear	3
Farm Happenings	4

## D & M Farm Kennel

### Ollie & Rosy in New Mexico

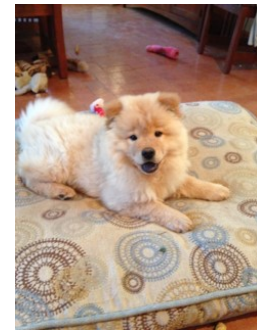
We are so thrilled with Rosemary & Oliver (Rosy & Ollie)! They arrived hungry and thirsty, but happy and eager! They have the most wonderful personalities. We marvel constantly at how sweet they are! They love their big brother Emmett (a five-year old Chow mix) and everyone gets along wonderfully. We took them to the vet last week for follow-up puppy shots. Ollie weighed 21 pounds and Rosy 20 pounds! Our vet pronounced them "perfect puppies" and we totally agree! They are now 13 weeks old and are ready for grooming. We are working on obedience commands. They will do anything for a piece of a hot dog! We hope to start Puppy School within the next month. They are still

somewhat afraid of the horses and chickens; Rosy is more confident and will run full speed through the



barn. Ollie stands about 5 feet from the door of the barn and listens and watches. He will scoot through the barn if we all run together. Rosy is the adventurer of the two while Ollie likes to stay close to his people and his big brother. They are both loving and very sweet.

Thank you so much for our wonderful puppies; we love them so much! We will keep you updated as they grow to be beautiful, majestic Chows!



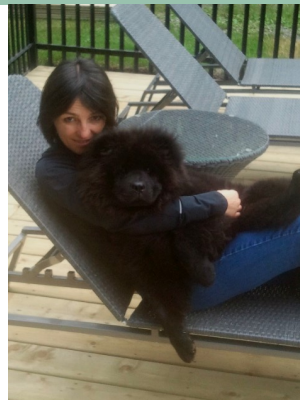
Both Ollie & Rosy are puppies from Onyx & Hagrid.

### Wilson in Quebec, Canada

Wilson loves to lounge around the new deck dad recently built for around the pool.

Cuddling is a must!

Wilson is a puppy from Raven & Yogi.



### Chows As Service Dogs?

Chows may not be the first breed you think of as a service dog, but several of our clients have used them as such.

One is a regular at local nursing homes and visits with the elderly residents. When the dog was a puppy, it was put on the bed of a lady who had not been able to speak for a long time. She patted the puppy and amazingly

said, "nice puppy".

Another makes frequent visits to the Children's Ward at a local hospital. This gentle "bear" brings squeals of delight from many of the children. The sicker children have their days brightened by being able to pet this furry animal with the purple kisses.

Service dogs must go thru rigorous tests to ensure they have the right temperament for the tasks they will be required to do. Chows are often viewed by many as unsuitable ... before they are tested ... so they must perform really well. They can and have done very well and continue to surprise and amaze the many doubters and naysayers!



**Mystic runs for the cure!**

## Stella in Ohio



What a beautiful girl! Stella is a cinnamon puppy from Teddy & Lila.



## Miss Izzie Bella, Piper & Miss LuLu Belle in Michigan

Our client provided a pencil drawing of three very much loved dogs.

Their owner says the artist captured their likeness to a tee!

Miss Izzie Bella, the beauty on the right, is a red puppy from Izzie & Hagrid..



## Bear in Ohio

Bear is very inquisitive and friendly. Here he is inspecting the uniform delivery truck and driver. Fortunately, they passed inspection!

Bear is a puppy from Shadow & Simba.





We're on the Web

[www.dmfarm.com](http://www.dmfarm.com)

**"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 Kennel

Quality Chows with  
Exceptional Temperament

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## Farm Happenings at D & M Farm— June 2014

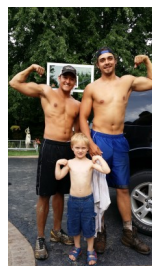
Well, one of Maleah's dreams came true this month! She has wanted to get a milk cow for a long time and we finally acquired one from an Amish farmer. Heidi is a 2-year old Jersey. She was producing about 5 gallons of milk a day. Even with our daughters family of three sons, we couldn't consume that much milk. So, we went on a search for a bottle-fed calf. This is a 3-day to 2-week old calf to nurse from the cow. We were able to obtain an Angus/Holstein cross-bred bull calf. We named him T-Bone. Heidi took him as her own. This freed Maleah up to only milking her when we want milk.

Heidi gives a lot of cream so

Maleah has been able to make butter and our daughter Stephanie has made ice cream. It is some of the best we've ever had!

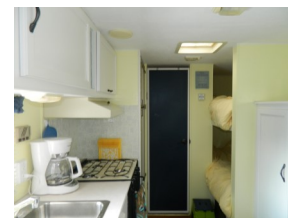


Our daughter decided to take a sabbatical from teaching.. She and her family are living in a 37' 5th wheel RV. They moved into our barnyard. Stephanie has been a great help in the garden and helping with the milking. She and Maleah share many of the same hobbies and likes. They also enjoy doing things together.



Darrell and his helper, Andrew, have been replacing farm fencing. What they have done looks so nice and we no longer have to worry about the cows or horses.

Maleah purchased a small 5th wheel camper that sleeps six. She completely refurbished it and it is now our bunkhouse. It has a kitchen and bathroom with a seating area. Very homey and ready for visitors!



Nice and cozy and ready for visitors.

