



D & M Farm Kennel

March 2010 Newsletter

Inside this issue:

Teeth & Gums	2
Zeus	2
Rio	2
Massage	3
Mei Ling	3
Maui	3
Farm Happenings	6

Special points of interest:

- Origins of the Chow
- Teeth & Gum Inspection
- Art of Dog Massage
- Farm Happenings

Did You Know . . .

The origin of the Chow can be dated back to around 150 B.C. That was during the Han Dynasty in China. It is said that the Chow Chow originated in the Arctic and then migrated to Mongolia and China.

During this period they were used for hunting, guard dogs, and also used for meat and fur.

In 1833 Chow Chows were brought to England and kept in cages as wild dogs for exposition. Eventually, they were domesticated and became pets.

Some of the famous owners of Chows include President Calvin Coolidge, Sigmund Freud, Elvis Presley, and Martha Stewart.

Chow puppies are born with 44 teeth while all other ca-

nine breeds only have 42. They are a double coated breed. The only other breed that has the blue/black tongue is the Chinese Shar-



Pei which is a descendant of the Chow.

Chows are the only breed with the straight back legs that give them, what some refer to as, a stilted gait. There are only five colors which include red, black, cream, cinnamon,

and blue. Reds come in many variations from dark mahogany to a light red with lots of cream in the coat. Cinnamon is a misnomer for the color. It is not the color of the spice. Instead, it is a fawn ... beige brown color. Cream is an off-white with buff color on the ears and sometimes down the back. Blue is actually gray in color from charcoal to silver.

Chows are unique in their appearance as well as their personality. They are known as the felines of the canine world. Not surprising since they resemble a lion or bear more than a dog. They are very loyal and affectionate without being needy. Some say they are aloof. Really they are just independent. They are born old and wise with a touch of mischief, you can see it in their eyes.

Cooper in West Virginia

It is reported that Cooper meets absolutely no strangers! His owner has to be careful because everyone wants to take him home! Cooper is a puppy from Ebony & Kaiser.



Do you have to take a picture when my mouth is full?

"To catch the reader's attention, place an interesting sentence or quote from the story here."

Maintaining Healthy Teeth & Gums

We all know how Chows don't show pain. Checking their teeth and gums becomes all that more important. Without regular checks a serious condition could develop before you are aware of it.

You should check for loose or broken teeth and for red and/or swollen gums. Bad breath can also be an indicator of infection or gum disease. As dogs age, plaque and tarter can become a problem. Young dogs can loosen teeth

by playing too rough. Baby teeth are nothing to worry about. But, permanent teeth must be kept in good condition. Older dogs can also break teeth off. This will expose the dentin and is very painful.

You can brush your dogs teeth to remove the plaque and tarter. You should start this when they are very young. Older dogs often take exception to this practice. And Chows will think you have lost

your mind!

We prefer to use chew toys, bones, and chew sticks to remove the unwanted debris left on teeth. Large bones from the butcher are great and the dogs love them. Dry dog food and treats such as Milk Bones all help to scrape off tarter and plaque.

Monthly checks will keep you informed of any potential problems and keep your dog in good condition.

Zeus in Michigan

From the owner: Hello everyone at the farm! Just wanted to send some new pictures of Zeus and let you know how he's doing. Winter seems to be agreeing with him to a large degree. He loves snow more than any other dog we've seen! After our first big snow fall here in Detroit, he ran around in circles, burying his head into the mounds and kicking it up onto his back. He doesn't want to come in! Winter snow is his playground!

His coloring has changed a lot

and keeps changing at a slower rate now. He was darker on his tail, ears, and chest when we got him. He's now almost all white with red on his head and back. He's also getting a smoky gray color on the undercoat on his back and his tail. At almost a year old now, he has mellowed out of his play-time-all-the-time phase and is very relaxed most of the time. We've been in love with him since day one! For



Halloween he was a werewolf and he did not mind his costume one bit.

Zeus is a puppy from Bella & Kaiser.

Rio in New Mexico

From baby to beauty queen! Rio is 11 months old now and has matured into a very beautiful lady. Although snow is not uncommon in the mountains where she lives ... she delights in every flake! Rio is a puppy from Bella & Kaiser.



**"Massage creates trust
and promotes bonding"**

Ahhhh Yes ! Massages Are Great !!!!!

One of the greatest things you can do for your puppy or adult dog is massage. There are so many benefits to this practice and your dog will come to look forward to it and love it.

Massaging your dog creates trust and promotes bonding with your canine. It is also a very relaxing process for the dog. This is especially great for a dog that isn't feeling well. It promotes circulation which promotes healing.

It will give you, the dog owner, an opportunity to detect any abnormal bumps or lumps. Just as in humans, early de-

tection of disorders is key to diagnosing, treating, and recovery.

Start by using both your hands on either side of the



head and begin kneading. Feel the ears all the way to

the tips and then begin moving down the body. After you have massaged the entire trunk, begin massaging each leg.

Dogs will often go to sleep during this process. It will completely relax them. The first few times you do it, you may have to convince them it is a good thing. But once they have it figured out ... don't be surprised when your dog comes to you with those soulful eyes begging for a massage.

Mei Ling in Ohio

Mei Ling is a very happy dog. She loves her chew toys and gets along well with humans and other dogs.

She is a joy to be around and is very much loved by her family.

Mei Ling is a puppy from Gypsy & Budha.



Maui in Ohio

From the owner:

Maui is getting big! He is a real joy, although sometimes he can be a little devilish ! Since he has destroyed all the toys he got when he was little, he now has a duck that quacks and it hopefully will last at least a few days.



He fetches!
I've never
had a chow
that fetched
before, so we
are quite
amused.
Maui is a
puppy from
Onyx and
Hagrid.



D & M FARM KENNEL

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

Phone: 937-767-7075
Cell: 937-369-8425

www.dmfarm.com



**Quality Chows with Exceptional
Temperament**

**“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 of the breed”**



Happenings at D&M Farm



Winter ... snow, snow, and more snow. We have had more snow this winter than in many years! Makes life on the farm a little more interesting.

First, Ginger had her little boy. Then, during one of the worst snowstorms in February ... Pandey decided it was the most opportune time to have her puppies. She had a whopping nine puppies! All red. She had five boys and four girls.

The last one born was a girl. She is the smallest. Since Pandey only has accommodations for eight, I have been handfeeding her every four hours. She is almost big

enough and strong enough to return to her mom and be able to fight for her share. Ahhh, the luxury of a full night's sleep once again!

Two more of the girls are in the maternity ward ... Ebony and Bella.

The weather hasn't been good enough to move the baby goats outside ... so they are still occupying a pen in the kennel. We, they, and the dogs are anxious for them to move to new quarters. None of us care for the kennel smelling like goats! Even if they are so darn cute!

We are all looking forward to spring. It ap-

pears it is going to be late in coming this year. We are forecast for more snow this weekend and the temperatures haven't been warm enough to get rid of the previous snow. Oh well, it should help with the water table. It sure will be good to see the sun and some green grass though! Oh yes ... the picture below reminds me of that illusive contentment of undis-

