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Volume 8, Issue 3



D & M FARM KENNEL NEWSLETTER MARCH 2014

What is "Dominance" in Dogs?

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Special points of interest:

- Dominance
- Bug Season

Dogs show dominance in many different ways. Sometimes it appears cute, but it is important to understand when a dog is showing any dominant behavior.

Did you know that a dog leaning on you is dominance? Most of us would think it is the dog trying to get attention and just wants to be near you. But in the dog world this is a way for them to show dominance over you.

Dogs mounting another dog is more often a gesture of dominance, not sexual in nature. Dogs want to be on top to show they are in charge.

Nipping, biting & growling, are all obvious dominant actions.

All of these behavioral traits must be stopped before they become a problem

It is unacceptable for a dog to show dominance over you or another dog. A balanced dog does not have to show dominance and can get along with it's human and/or dog pack members.

While your dog is still a puppy, is the ideal time to stop unwanted behavior.

This is also the best time to do the required training for attaining a socially acceptable dog that will be a joy to be around.

The common commands of sit, stay, and shake hands are all ways of teaching your puppy to submit to you. Training is vital to instilling obedience and submission to the Pack Leader. If you do not assert your position of Pack Leader, your dog will! There ALWAYS must be a leader of the pack in the dog world.

Puppies will use their mouths to explore. They put their mouths on you to test. If they apply too much pressure, you need to vocalize loudly, then tell them sternly NO! If this doesn't work, then you must proceed to rapping them on their muzzle with two fingers and tell them NO! The intention is not to inflict pain. Pain only makes them scared. It is not an effective method of training. If both these fail to correct the behavior, then you must place the puppy on their back and hold them there securely until they relax; i.e. submit. When a puppy or dog misbehaves in a pack, the Alpha dog will pin them to the ground and hold them there until they submit. This method is understood by the puppy/dog, because it is natural Pack behavior.

All corrections must be done immediately! Dogs live in the present. They don't remember what they did five minutes ago. Once they move on to something else, the incident is immediately forgotten.

Many believe their dog feels guilty when they do something wrong. Actually, the "guilty behavior" is in response to the tone in your voice. Listen to how you talk to them when they have done something wrong. It is a disapproving tone. They learn very quickly to discern when you are displeased with them, even if they don't understand why.

Understanding Pack behavior is the key for success. Cesar Milan's books, "Be the Pack Leader" and "How to Raise the Perfect Dog" are two great resources to learn more about how dogs behave and more about Pack behavior and being your Pack's leader.

XIX

"Prepare for the bugs now so you have a pleasant summer season."

The Bug & Pest Season Approaches!

With warm weather comes the bugs. Now is the time to prepare. Heartworm is spread by mosquitoes. Heartworm preventive medications should be started about a month before mosquito season begins.

Fleas and ticks will manifest themselves soon for those of us who live in a seasonal climate. Although we prefer to treat only when necessary, if you choose to use preventive meds, now is the time to begin so you are ahead of the game. We recommend you use a preventive med that is absorbed into the oil glands of the skin as opposed to one that is absorbed into the fat

layer under the skin. Those absorbed into the fat layer must exit the system via the liver and kidneys. The preventive medications are sometimes necessary, but remember, they are their self poison that is being absorbed into your dog's system.

Your Chows will be "blowing their coats" very soon now. Grooming is always good for your dog, but it also offers a chance for you to get up close and personal. Check the skin for any issues. Check the paw pads and between the toes. Check the ears, they should not have an offensive odor. Check your dog's mouth and teeth. Make

sure you groom their rear area and ensure feces and urine do not contaminate the hair. This can attract flies which presents a whole new set of problems. Flies lay eggs that produce maggots.

If any irregularities are found, make an appointment with your veterinarian for a checkup. NO annual booster shots. The American Veterinary Medical Association does not recommend annual boosters. They can be hazardous to your dog's immune system.

Please remember, prevention is the key to a happy, healthy pet.

Winston T. Cooper in Ohio

I have settled into my new home and am starting to make friends with my 4 cat roommates. They don't understand all I want to do is play with them. But, we are getting accustomed to each other and the 2 tiger cats, Moe & Screech, are starting to come up & rub up against me

I go with Vicki to show properties & sometimes I even go inside the house. Everyone loves me! I like to ride in the car. I better... they took me to Florida. We went on vacation & to deliver an Italian greyhound to Colin's parents. We got along, but I wanted to play, but she didn't. So she growled at me. I still love her. I did very well in the car.

In Florida where it was warm, I sat on Dad's lap & let the wind blow thru my

Oh I forgot to tell you my



name. Each one of my siblings got to name me. My



oldest sister Lauren liked the name Winston, my other sister Rachel wanted Cooper & my brother Nick wanted Thor. So my parents call me Winston T. Cooper.

Black tongue kisses,

Winston T. Cooper is a puppy from Amber & Solomon!

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Shady in Virginia

From our client;

Dear Darrell & Maleah,

I thank you so very much for the wonderful experience of purchasing a quality Chow. Shady is perfect! He is now 12 weeks old and gets bigger every day, so very smart, loves people (especially the ladies) he enjoys meeting other dogs and wants to play. He is a excellent companion even at 12 weeks old, I have no doubt that he will continue to amaze me in the future..

Shady is a puppy from Dixie & Kaiser





Miss Izzie in Michigan

Miss Izzie is now a "Biker Babe"! She was celebrating St. Patty's day.

Although Miss Izzie is now a 2-year old beauty queen, she was a puppy from Izzie & Hagrid.



"More of our babies from around the nation!"

Winston in Illinois

Hi there! I thought you might like to see how adorable and great this little Chow Chow puppy is doing! We named him "Winston" and he's 13 wks. old now. We are still working on house training, but he's settled in and doing great! We love him!!!! Thank you for breeding such wonderful chows!

Winston is a puppy from Dixie & Kaiser.



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Hercules "Herc "in Ohio

Hi! In case you don't remember me...this is Hercules! I

celebrated my first birthday on February 28th! I live in Akron, Ohio with my human parents & brother, "Kozzmoe". I sent you a picture of me pretending to be nice to him! I weigh 80 pounds, and I have huge teeth and am not afraid to use them! I like toys, but

prefer to play with plastic hangers, milk jugs and Gatorade bottles! In addition, I have chewed most wood surfaces in the house! I also enjoy chewing slippers and shoes. My parents have become much better at putting their slippers and other alluring objects in high places so that I can't reach them!

I read your newsletter every month and I have read about the dogs that receive achievement awards for good behavior. I am not one of those dogs. My Mom has threatened to bring me back to you on several occasions. We had some issues, particularly with potty training. She never had

a puppy before, so I would wake her up at night, 3-4

times, making her think I had

takes us on walks in all kinds of weather. We love to walk!

I love my brother, but we sometimes make a lot of noise when we play, and sometimes Kozzmoe seems like he gets tired of playing, but I know that he's not...so I just keep going!



go...then, I'd come back in the house and pee and poop on her cream colored carpet (Hee

Hee) Now, that carpet is brown and yellow and I overhear them talking about hardwood floors a lot! That was a fun game! When I was 6 months old, I decided to stop that game. I think she was happy!

I wag my whole body when my family comes home because I am sooo happy to see them! The more they hug me and squeeze me, the more I wag my tail. This is because I love them so much! Mom

I just wanted to let you know that I love my family, and I am very happy and very healthy. Thank you for taking care of me and thank you for being such a great place to start out! My mom tells me all of the time that she got a call on February 28th ... saying, "Hercules has arrived!" ... and ever since then life's never been the same!

Here is s puppy from Onyx & Hagrid.



"We love to showcase of past puppies!"

Cody in Illinois

Hi! Just thought I'd pass along some pictures of the not-so-little Cody! He is growing sooooo fast! He and Lily are the best of friends now too. They still have the occasional argument, but they love to be around each other. Our veterinarian is very impressed with him as well. He said that he has never seen such a healthy purebred puppy. We are very proud of him. But here are some pics! These photos were taken



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Kona in Washington

I fall more in love with Kona everyday I have him!! He's responding quite well to Crate Potty Training especially since he gets a yummy treat for going in. Half of a Chewy Chicken Milk Bone.

This picture was taken today during our AM walk, I asked him to sit and he did so right away!! <3

(I keep telling my husband we need to get him a sister Chow, hehe)

Hope all is well with the both of you and all your animals!!

Kona is a puppy from Shad-

ow & Simba







Tanker in Michigan

Ever since we brought Tanker home he has slept in the bay window in the living room. In a few more weeks he will no longer fit. He fills a big void in our family.

Tanker is a puppy from Amber & Solomon.



"Our beauties!"

Buddha (the Therapy dog) in West Virginia

I am writing to update you on our 13 wk. old, red male puppy named Buddha.

Buddha Bear weighs 26 pounds, and he is still coming to therapy everyday and doing well.

He is also doing great in social situations.... baseball & basketball practices, Cub Scouts, birthday parties, with patients and strangers on

street. He also behaves well @ the groomer & the vet.

Buddha went on a little vacation to downtown Pittsburgh this weekend. He was a "show stopper" while being walked around the city. He also did very well in his crate, in the hotel room, while we attended a Pittsburgh Penguin hockey game. He is beautiful & growing

nicely! Buddha is a puppy from Izzie & Hagrid.



D & M FARM KENNEL

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QUALITY CHOWS
WITH EXCEPTIONAL
TEMPERAMENT

We're on th e web 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 Happenings—March 2014

The weather is beginning to give us a few sporadic days of warm, sunny weather. It only makes us want more! This has been a long, harsh winter and we are really looking forward to warmer days.

It is always a pleasure to see our dogs laying out in the yard, stretched out for a snooze while sunning themselves. I think they are tired of the cold weather too!

Bella and Macho Bear had a litter of 4 puppies. This is Macho's first





litter. They are all going to be a gorgeous dark red. Here are pictures of two of them. As you can see, they are almost identical. All four puppies look just the same.

Our chicks are growing by leaps and bounds. It is

an amazing thing to see how quickly they grow. Those little puffs of fluff



sure are cute. That's why we ended up with so many. Maleah just can't pass up the chicks and all the farm stores had different breeds. She thought she needed some of each. We are going to be drowning in eggs in a few months!

Farm cleaning has begun. We have collected all the water heaters used throughout the winter and have put them away for another year. All the yard areas have been cleaned of all debris and we're hoping the grass jumps out of the ground soon. We are now in mud season.

The garden beds have all been prepped and the peas are in the ground. The birds sing when we go out in the morning. Spring has sprung. Now if the temperature would stay above 40 degrees we would be all set!