D & M Farm Kennel

# **May 2014 Newsletter**

#### **Preparing For The Arrival of Your New Puppy**

## Special points of interest:

- Good Chews, Bad Chews
- Puppy Vaccinations
- Beware of toxic plant

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Preparing for the arrival of your new puppy is always an exciting time. However, it requires more than buying toys, brushes, and leashes.

You will want to have done your research in locating a veterinary that you feel comfortable with. If you don't already have one, then interviews are in order. Not all veterinarians are fond of Chows and your Chow will quickly pick up on this. Amazingly, some veterinaries refuse to treat Chows. You will want to ask your perspective clinic if they treat Chows and inquire as to what they think about them. If you detect any hesitation on their part, move on. Chows are very sensitive, and if they sense someone doesn't like them, they will be very wary of them. This does not bode well for a good relationship with your veterinary.

You also want to have a relationship with your veterinary that allows you to discuss any concerns you might have. You don't want someone who just tells you what is best, but rather one who is willing to explain things.

You want to make sure your home environment is ready for a very inquisitive puppy. Dangers to be considered are electrical wires, toxic plants, stairs, small objects that could be swallowed, inadequate containment in a yard and exposure to other animals. Your puppy is very much a baby and loves to test things out with its' mouth. You would be amazed at what they can find that you didn't even realize existed.

You should definitely consider purchasing a crate. We recommend you get one that will fit the puppy once it is full grown. Chows do not like to mess where they sleep or eat. Rarely will they make a mess in their crate, so it is a nice place to put them when they cannot be observed.

You can also quadrant them off in a bathroom or kitchen on a hard surface floor. I would recommend you put newspaper down if you are going to leave the puppy for a few hours. They will arrive already paper- trained so they will know what the newspaper if for. If you choose, use puppy pads to protect the floor, but place a newspaper on top of it. Newspaper is what we use; therefore, it is familiar to the puppy. Puppy pads may not be recognized for what they are intended.

The crate can be used as your puppy grows. It will soon be identified as a safe haven. Older puppies and adult dogs soon learn to go to their crate, if they don't want to be bothered. A good rule is that the crates are off limits if the dog enters. If



they don't feel well or if there are a lot of people in the home, you may often find them in their crate, chilling out.

Puppies can be a laugh a minute. Please ensure that you have made all proper preparations for the arrival of your puppy, so you can enjoy your puppy while it is growing and maturing into adulthood.

Attention to preparations will give you solace in knowing that you are indeed ready for the arrival of your new puppy.

We wish you all the best!



"Not all chews are

safe for your puppy or

your adult dog."

#### Leilani in California

THANKS AGAIN FOR LEI-LANI! She is soooooo adorable & we have all become attached. She is such a blessing to our home & has already been filling our hearts with her love. We thought we'd send some pictures for your enjoyment. Thanks for sending over the pictures of Leilani's brothers on Facebook. They are also soooo adorable! It is obvious that Bella & Macho Bear made quite the beautiful litter!

Talk to you soon & THANKS AGAIN SOOOOO MUCH !!!!!!

Bob, & Laurie







## **Good Chews - Bad Chews**

We all like to buy chew toys and chew treats for our pets. Which ones are good and which ones are bad?

Rawhide is never a good idea for Chows. They love them, but if they swallow them, they are very hard for their system to digest and can cause a blockage. Puppies can easily choke on a wet, slippery piece of rawhide. A safer choice is the hard cookie

type like Purina Busy Bones. Or, there are lots of organic treats that are safe. Our dogs especially like the ones made from sweet pota-

The serious problem of tainted treats that contain chicken jerky imported from China continues to be a deadly concern. One of our clients lost a Chow due to tainted treats. Her Chow acquired an auto -immune deficiency which mani-

fested itself in skin sores and ultimately damaged his kidneys and liver. He could not be saved and her vet is convinced it was due to the treats she fed.

Carefully read the labels and ensure the treats are from the U.S. or Canada ... not just packaged here. You want to make sure all the ingredients are from America, to avoid possibly tainted ingredients.

#### Lily in Wisconsin

Here are a couple of the very few pictures I have been able to get of Lily. She's a lively little gal. To say she has settled in, is an understatement. She OWNS this house and all of us in it. She also knows where the door to the backyard is and is studying the doggie door.

Yesterday, my vet came to meet her. Lily was very accommodating. She's growing and

now weighs 16 pounds and is very healthy. Just thought I would keep you updated.

Lily is a puppy from Lila & Frosty



#### The Importance of Puppy Vaccinations

Why are puppy vaccinations so important? Puppies get the antibodies from their mothers to fight infections or diseases. When they are weaned from their mother, they still do not have a normal functioning immune system. Their immune system will not be fully functioning until they are around 16 weeks old. Therefore, it is important to provide them with some immunity. We give them vaccinations to provide immunity for the most prevalent diseas-

es they may come in contact with. These are very specific and do not provide blanket immunity for all possibilities out there. It is very important to protect your puppy.

Do not let them come in contact with other animals that you do not know to be healthy. Do not let other clients at the vet clinic handle your puppy if they have handled another animal. Your puppy is very much an infant and you want to protect it from

coming in contact with something not covered by the vaccination.

Visiting the veterinary is like going to the emergency room. You never know what you may come into contact with, Don't allow your puppy to interact with the pets of other clients. Touching your puppy may transfer something from their animal to your puppy.

Protection is key and prevention is necessary!



## I Love My D&M Chow Chow

One of our clients and good friend, Rhonda Bade, started a new Facebook page. It is for all of those of you who have puppies from our kennel. There are several who are already posting pictures of their dogs.

This is a great way for you to find siblings to your puppy and follow then as they grow.

This is also a great way for us to

follow our babies out there.

We still want to have inputs for our newsletters though.

Go on Facebook and do a search for I Love My D&M Chow Chow. Submit a friend request to be accepted into the group. Rhonda is the owner and administrator of the site.

Thank you Rhonda for setting this up. It is really special to

have a site dedicated to dogs who have come from D & M Farm Kennel!

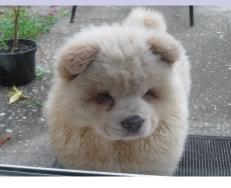
> "Love those Chow Chows!"

#### **Buddy Frost in Florida**

Buddy is adjusting to his new home

I'm trying to acclimate to this Floridian sunshine!

Buddy is a puppy from Bluebelle & Frosty.





Did you forget you put me out here?

I know you are in there.

## **Scrappy in Kentucky**

He's a wild child! Loves going out at night cricket hunting!!!
And he eats them!!! YUCK!
Oh Beetles too? Double
YUCK! 17 weeks old in this pic!

Scrappy is a puppy from Raven & Yogi Bear!



## **Unnamed Puppy in Virginia**

I just wanted to share a few pics of our cinnamon male Chow Chow puppy! He immediately seemed to feel at home and it took our female Chow Chow only a day to think she was his momma. The cat, however, took a couple weeks. Now they all chase each other through the house.

This puppy has brought our entire family so much love and entertainment. We still have not given him a name that has stuck.

It always takes us a while to name our pets. This gorgeous puppy is from Lila & Frosty!





#### Kona in Washington

Graduation day from the STAR puppy class. Kona is just 4 months and 4 days!

Great job Kona!

Kona is a beautiful puppy from Shadow & Simba.





"More of our puppies!"

#### **Beware of Toxic Plants**

Copied from Facebook . . .

FB friends, we got the biopsy report back and with great sorrow I must share this. Our darling little girl died from the toxin in this plant that I have on my deck. It is called heliotrope and is highly toxic, causes total liver destruction. The pathologist said our angel had the worst liver damage he's ever seen. Goldie would nibble at the leaves of this plant every so often and we had no clue it was toxic. (It can come in white or purple.)

Please share with any dog owners you know, to hopefully prevent their dog from becoming a statistic like Goldie. We are even more heartbroken now knowing her death was preventable.

Please share her story so that something positive may come of it and create awareness of toxic plants. Our own vet had no idea this was a toxic plant!!



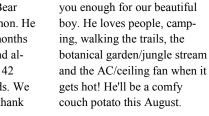
#### Loki in Florida

Hello from Florida! I thought



you would appreciate these pictures of Solomon's puppy (Dec. 2013 litter). We named him Loki

Red Bear Solomon. He is 5 months old and already 42 pounds. We can't thank



Starting obedience class next week, very smart and will do almost anything for freezedried liver or duck.

Loki is a puppy from Amber & Solomon!



#### **Bailey in Kentucky**

Rest in peace Bailey!

Bailey came from our kennel in 2001.

He passed away in 2014. He brought many years of happiness and love to his human family.

Baily was a puppy from Sugar & Sampson.



## Puppy Pickups



Canada Bound!



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

Phone: 937-767-7075 Cell: 937-369-8425 Email: dnmfarm@aol.com

Quality Chows with Exceptional Temperament

> We're on the Web 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"

## May 2014 D & M Farm Happenings

Let the work begin! Now that warm days have returned, it is time to start doing the projects we couldn't do during the winter. Darrell has purchased the fencing required to replace most of our farm fence. We put up the original fence 16 years ago and it shows wear and tear from our horses. They can be really hard on fencing.

Thankfully, our helper, Andrew, is back from college. This will be the last summer he will be here to work for us. We plan to do as much as we can with his help. He is a fine young man that we rely on very heavily. We know if we give him something to do, we don't have to check up to see if it was done right. Darrell enjoys having Andrew work alongside him. They have become great friends over the last five years he has worked for us. We couldn't have accomplished all the projects without his help. He is also responsible for filling all the dog feeders, water buckets, cleaning up the kennel yards, and mowing once a week.

We will have to clean all the barns and out buildings. They always need it after the winter. During the cleaning we always spot repairs that need to be done. How do these animals make the messes they make! Places you wouldn't think a horse could get it's teeth, has marks and the wood needs repaired or the metal need replaced. You would think their mouths would be damaged, but only the buildings seems to suffer.

Maleah is readying the garden and planting. Since our daughter and her family are moving up from South Carolina, we have expanded the garden. There will be lots of canning going on in the fall!

We made our annual trip to our Amish friend's greenhouse to stock up on flowers. It is really hard to say no to such beauty.

Lots of plans for the summer!







One can never have too many flowers!