

D & M Farm Kennel

November 2014 Newsletter

Holiday Season Precautions

Here we are once again facing the upcoming holiday season ... some with joy and some with dread. Don't let a preventable accident with your pet ruin your holi-



day season!

During the holidays we have many new things in our homes that they haven't seen before or at least not since last year. Our pets are very curious creatures and have to be protected from their own curiosity sometimes.

Foods are a big deal around the holidays.

Many of the ingredients can be dangerous to our pets. For example, raisins can be deadly. Onions will make them sick. Some nuts can also be toxic. Alcohol is a definite no, no! No one wants a dog vomiting or experiencing diarrhea on their carpets. Bones can often prove hazardous, either from choking or splintering in the intestines.

Tinsel and ornaments are shiny and bright and many pets love to play with them. Unfortunately, tinsel, when ingested, can cause serious intestinal issues that may result in surgery. Swallowed ornaments and broken ornaments can result in a visit to the emergency vet, due to lacerations on paws and mouth! It's unlikely that any of these incidents will occur during normal office hours!

Pine needles, holly, mistletoe, and poinsettias are all

toxic to our pets. Some can even be fatal. Puppies love to try new things and they typically use their mouth. Place all plants out of reach.



Extension cords are commonly used for decorations and lights. Dogs have a propensity to chew on things, even when they haven't chewed in a long time. Something about that cord laying there! This can cause burns to the mouth or, even worse, electrocution.

Be safe! Take time out of your busy schedule to consider your pet's safety during the holidays. It's always better to be safe than sorry!

Volume 8, Issue 11

Special points of interest:

- *Holiday Season Precautions*
- *New Facebook Page*
- *Rayna's Story*

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New Facebook Group Page

Just a reminder that there is a new Facebook Group started by our client and friend, Rhonda. It is called, "*I Love My D&M Chow Chow*".

It is a great place to share pictures, stories and swap

advice about your Chow. It is also great to communicate with others, who have a Chow from the same litter of your Chow!

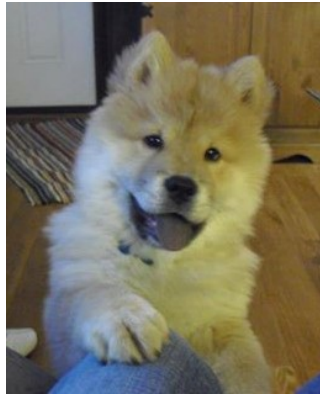
You can also learn from and share with other Chow owners about any

issues you may have with your Chow ... grooming, health, food products, diet, training, etc.

Come join our extended Chow family and enjoy daily photos of everyone's beautiful Chows.!

Willow Woo in New York

When I lost my last Chow after 16 years, I said I didn't want another one ... as I was too heartbroken. After a year or so, I told my daughter that if I ever did get another Chow I'd name her Willow Woo. On Christmas morning the last gift I opened was what looked like a shirt box, but it felt almost empty. I sure was wrong ... inside that almost empty box was a gift from my kids ... pictures of a little Chow baby and a little pink collar with a name tag that said "Willow Woo". I was so touched by this that it actually brought me to tears. After a lot of research, my daughter had contacted **D&M Farm Kennel** and purchased Willow Woo.



a pink collar.

Willow Woo is a fantastic dog! She is beautiful, smart, and has an amazing

The hardest part was waiting to go pick her up, but she was worth it! Willow Woo grew to be a beautiful girl...and she'll always have

personality. My daughter Corrie did an excellent job in finding you. You will never know how getting those baby pictures of Willow for Christmas brightened my day. You see, I lost my son Adam on December 19, 2009, he was only 31 years old. Since then, Christmas has been very hard for me. Again, thank you for my wonderful Willow Woo...she was my Christmas angel.

Willow Woo is a puppy from Raven & Frosty.



Sage in Colorado

Happy Thanksgiving from Sage.

Sage looks like one happy camper! Who asked if Chows can be raised alongside cats? The photo provides a definite answer to that question!

What a beauty! It's always nice to hear how our puppies have adapted so well to their new homes!

Sage is a puppy from Raven & Yogi.

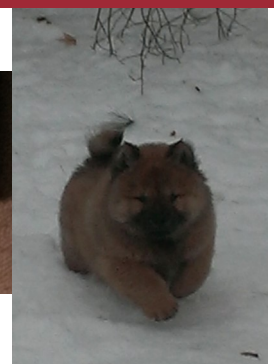
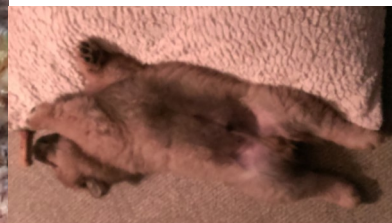


Thor in Maine

Is that a raccoon? No, it's a cuddly teddy bear!

Thor is a bouncing 16 pounds now! He loves the outdoors and especially the snow. Typical chow! He also loves to sleep on his back. That seems to be something that many of our Chows like to do.

Thor is a puppy from Bella & Macho Bear.



Rayna's Story from Vermont

Greetings from Vermont, the Green Mountain State. My name is Rayna & I'd like to share my story with you!

I am a miracle puppy sent to my human mother, Heather, by my Uncle Riley. My Uncle Riley (Bella & Kaiser) passed away on May 12, 2014 leaving my Momma very sad. Darrell & Maleah



were sad also. They wanted Momma to be happy again & promised to help

find her the perfect baby. Momma decided she would like a puppy from Amber & Solomon because they were expecting in June. She also decided she would like a little girl & chose the name Rayna.

My Momma is a camper & in 14 years had never camped without a Chow Chow. She was very lonely, and bor-



rowed lots of different dogs from friends to ride in her golf cart & sleep in her camper. They helped with the loneliness, but they weren't Chows. June came & went & no puppy. On July 3rd, Momma called Darrell & told him she had, had a dream that her puppy would be born on the 4th of July. Darrell prob-



ably thought my Momma was a little nuts, but she was right! On July 4th my birth Momma, Ruby, produced 8 puppies. Regrettably, she passed following the births, along with 5 of my siblings. Over the next few days, 2

more siblings passed, leaving me as the only survivor. This was a very traumatic experience for my D & M family. They had never lost a female giving birth. This was also Momma Ruby's first litter. When the first of my remaining 2 siblings passed, there was some initial confusion leaving Darrell & Maleah thinking that only 2 boys had survived. Based on that belief, Darrell called Heather to wish her a Happy Fourth of July, while feeling sad at the same time. He knew she wanted a girl, but thought under the circumstances she might consider one of Ruby's remaining boys. He was right! She chose a new name ... Grady. Perfect for a boy! However, when the second puppy passed, Maleah realized the surviving puppy was in fact a little girl! Darrell sent Momma a quick note: "Maleah has a secret, that I can't reveal yet!" Heather was confused & anxious, but patiently waited for Maleah to share her secret. Maleah then called my Momma, telling her that "Gracie" might be a better name than "Grady". A girl, a miracle girl, a dream come

true! I was surrogated by Shadow, who had just had her puppies on July 1st. She was a wonderful Momma, but her puppies were slightly bigger & I had to be strong & vocal to survive. The "Puppy Whisperer", Rhonda, spent time with me, telling me all about my human Momma & how happy I would be with her. Everyone sent pictures & videos to my Momma, helping her through the 8-week wait. On August 29th, while Darrell & Maleah were on vacation, Rhonda gave me a plush lavender bath, put me in a travel carrier & sent me on a plane to Vermont. It was love at first sight between Momma & I. We are both so very happy! I am as

social as she is & enjoy meeting & greeting people & other dogs. I make myself at home wherever I go. I especially like exploring kitchens! I have a special friend in Nottingham, New Hampshire ... maiden Lulu Bear. She is also from D & M. We love our play dates, even though it takes 3 hours to get to each other's homes. I have a special godmother, Barbara Dixon, who makes sure Momma does everything right so that I will be happy & loving. I also get to talk to my D&M family; Darrell, Maleah & Rhonda cause Momma doesn't want me to ever forget them. They

gave Momma her miracle baby! My Uncle Riley loved my Momma so much he sent me, the sole survivor of Ruby & Simba's litter, to live with her forever!



Puppy Pickups!



Unfortunately, we don't always get pictures taken and we don't always put them on the same disk. If we missed anyone we're sorry. Please send us a photo and we'll put it in the next newsletter! Thank you!

D & M Farm Kennel

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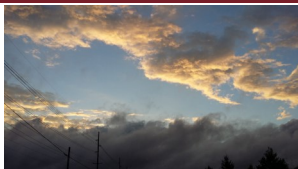
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Quality Chows
With Exceptional Temperament

*"The goal of D & M Farm Kennel
is to
breed quality Chow Chows
with exceptional temperament.
We want all of our puppies to be
good
ambassadors of the breed"*

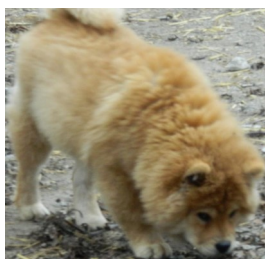
D & M Farm Happenings - November 2014



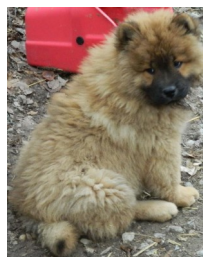
It has been fairly quiet around the kennel these fall days, but we expect things to pick up. Sumo & Hagrid had their first litter born on Nov 29th. She had a litter of 3 reds ... 1 male and 2 females. All very plump!



Of course our new puppy, Diva, keeps everyone entertained. She has more energy than she knows what to do with. Diva is a puppy from Bluebelle & Macho Bear.



Misha is our other new puppy. She is much quieter than Diva, but likes to play and rough-house just the same. Misha is a puppy from Bella & Macho Bear.



They now get the run of our kennel yard with all of the adult females who are nursing puppies. They both think they are all grown up!

However, they must first grow up a bit! They will both enter our breeding program when they are about a year and a half old. We always have a need for red puppies! You're the future girls!



Darrell finished my milking parlor! It is grand! He used one of my horse stalls and had a concrete floor poured. Then he insulated the walls and added a nice ceiling. He put in a partition wall so I can milk Heidi our cow on one side and the goats on the other. He also put in a feed trough to Heidi's delight! I have all the shelving I can possibly use. He is also going to install a heater for those cold wintry days! I'm sure those in the old days never had it so good! In fact, Darrell tells me stories of the 1950s that amaze me! Thank you Darrell!

D & M Farm Happenings - November 2014 ... Con't



T-Bone, our Angus/Holstein bull calf from the summer, got too big to safely nurse Heidi got relegated to our pasture with a run-in shed! He has been replaced by a Jersey bull calf loaned to us by the brother of one of our close Amish friends! Since Maleah doesn't want to milk morning and night, it is imperative that we have a calf.

We contacted our Amish friends up in Holmes County and asked if they knew anyone who might have a calf for sale. As it turns out, his brother had three calves. Initially we were just going to buy one, but after some discussion, we worked it out that he would simply loan us a calf for nursing, and when it got too big, we would return it and get another. Perfect for both of us! I dubbed the new calf Simon. At least he is not destined for our freezer! Now I only have to milk when we want milk and the calf gets the rest. The perfect solution!

We have all of the raw milk we want and are able to give to friends .



The snow has since melted, but we had our first big wet snowfall on November 17th this year. We got about 8-10" and the

ground was covered. It looked like winter wonderland for about a week!



It is always nice to get our first snow of the season, but we always worry about not having snow for Christmas!



Amos has his full winter coat and is looking good! Two of his lady friends, Shirley & Lucy, are in a horse stall in the horse barn awaiting delivery of their kids!

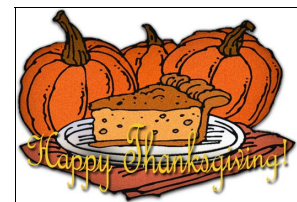
Laverne, who had her two kids in August is spending the winter with Amos & T-Bone in our pasture with the run-in shed!



Our daughter Stephanie has started a new cottage business called [The Pointed Needle](#). She does custom embroidery, makes personalized clothing; i.e. shirts, hats, pajamas and outfits.



Check her out on Facebook!



We had a great Thanksgiving with many of our friends. We call them the family we have met along the way. We consider you one of them!