

September 2012

Special points of interest:

- Good Manners
- Pet Insurance

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D & M Farm Kennel

September 2012 Newsletter

Does your Chow have “Good Manners”?

A dog with good manners is always much more pleasant to be around than the one that jumps on you, won't come when called, barks unnecessarily, etc. We all know that it takes training to accomplish this, but do we invest the required time. Really?

It doesn't have to consume an excessive amount of time to properly train your dog. They are always available, willing and at your beckoned call. You don't have to set a specific time aside to train. Whenever you have a few spare minutes, call your dog over and work on a behavior.

Working with puppies is always easier. They just want to please and the world hasn't become a distraction. You are their world.

Calling them to come to you and rewarding them with a piece of kibble or a treat will instill in

them at an early age to come. Accompanying commands with hand signals can become important. If you are in a very noisy situation trying to yell over all the noise might present a problem. Once you have your dog's attention, signaling them with hand gestures can be much easier.

Training a dog to sit on command isn't difficult. Get their attention with a treat, ask them to sit and use your chosen hand signal. Be consistent. You can gently push on the hips to get them to sit down. Once they sit, give them praise and the treat. This is probably the easiest command to master.

Getting them to lay down is easily done from the sitting position. You can state your command and then pull their front legs to ease them to a prone position. A few repetitions, including

lots of praise and a treat will instill this command with your pet.

Chow puppies often jump up on your legs, but adult Chows rarely do this unless it has been encouraged. When your puppy jumps up on you, push him down and tell him “no” in a stern voice. Then pet him while all four feet are back on the ground. They need to learn that they will only get attention when their feet are on the ground.

Once you have mastered some of the basic commands, continue to reinforce with practice. You want your dog to always react to your commands immediately. Reinforcing your commands will help you do this. Dogs like to please so the praise is as important if not more so than the treats.

Assist your dog in being a great ambassador with training!

Cap'n Jaxson in Indiana

Cap'n Jaxson continues to mature into a handsome boy. He loves to go for walks in the

park and really loves to chase cats. However, when he catches one, he really just wants to play. Too bad the cats don't know that!

He is fiercely loyal and a wonderful pet.

He is a puppy from Pandey & Frosty.



"Pet Insurance may provide the financial help that will allow you to save your pet."

Taz in Florida



Taz spends a lot of his time hanging around the pool. (Sounds like a true "Floridian"!) However, that is "around" the pool ... not "in" the pool.

His family adores him and he reciprocates in kind.

Taz is a puppy from Onyx & Hagrid.



The Value of Pet Insurance

With the rising costs of veterinary care and prescription drugs, pet insurance is becoming a necessary expense in caring for your pet.

Many people are put in a position of deciding whether to provide a very expensive medical procedure or having their pet euthanized. This often becomes driven solely by finances. Not everyone can afford \$2 - \$5 thousand dollars if their beloved pet needs an operation and extensive care. Many care facilities require full payment at the time of service. Rarely do they provide a payment option. There are some who will offer financing, but not many.

Pet insurance can vary from \$6 - \$75 per month. There are several very good plans for under \$10 per month, or \$120 per year. Considering the fact that one medical procedure can literally cost thou-

sands ... \$120 per year doesn't seem so bad.

Here is a link that compares different plans.

www.petinsurancereview.com/dog.asp

Things you must consider are:

- predisposed conditions of your breed of dog
- coverage might not include preexisting conditions
- dogs must be a minimum of 8 weeks and not older than 9 years at the time of initial coverage
- your ability to pay the premiums

Most people would rather not have to pay for insurance. For the number of dogs we have, it isn't cost

effective. Nevertheless, we can assure you from experience that veterinary bills can run up quickly. We had a dog that had a spontaneous pneumothorax. This is when the lung sacs balloon and burst causing air to fill the chest cavity. This will subsequently cause organ failure. Four days later our wallet was \$1700 dollars lighter and this was several years ago. You never want to be put in the position that you have to give up on your pet because you cannot afford the cost of medical care.

Pet insurance will give you the piece of mind that you will be able to provide for your pet in a time of emergency or a serious medical crisis. We encourage you to protect yourself and your pet by considering the option of pet health insurance. Like Yogi once said, "you only need it when you need it"!

Yoshi Bear in New Jersey

From our client:

Upon Yoshi Bear's arrival, she was completely housebroken and presented no problems right off the bat, and has never needed to be crated nor restricted in the house at all. I was able to be with her enough early on and she earned our trust and has not done anything damaging in the house. In fact, I've never had such a smart, well-behaved puppy! Since she was 3 months old, she has responded perfectly to the commands "sit" and "down". At four months, she accompanied us on a long trip to my mom's, where she was absolutely amazing! No one could believe she was actually a puppy, with her perfect manners and her uncanny intelligence. Upon hearing us mention whether she needed to go outside, she would even attempt to retrieve my shoes. Early on, she would bark intensely at me to tell me when she needed something ... either to go outside, her water bowl was empty, or if she was just hungry. Now I know her rhythms, and so she has stopped barking and she just comes and tells me exactly

what she wants. .. by coming to me ... looking at me ... and walking to whatever it is that she wants. She is truly amazing! Everyone loves her and she's the groomer's favorite dog to groom. However, she does have one flaw ... she is attracted to dirt and has had to be thrown in the tub twice and groomed three times already. I must keep a large towel near the back door because you never know what she might have gotten into in our garden! But, she cooperates and likes to be brushed and towed off.

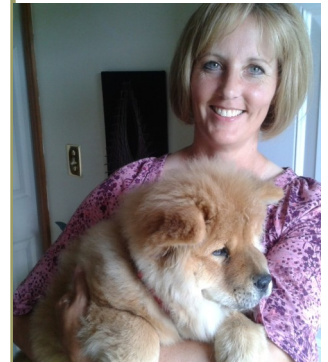
She is attending puppy obedience classes now, but appears to have known everything they've thrown at us, and she does it all without treats or clickers. She is very easy going and absolutely loves to meet people. Nevertheless, she is still very cautious and reserved around new dogs, although she gets along great with our four cats and our Boston Terrier.

She has found three baby rabbits that must have been abandoned or something. There are a few cats in our neighborhood they possibly might have brought

them into our yard). Regardless, she does respond readily to "DROP IT!" Because of that incident, we decided to get her rabies shot a few weeks early. Rabbits do not typically carry rabies, but one never knows. Although our yard is completely fenced in, the small bunnies can slip through the fence and perhaps being scared were simply hiding. She dropped the last bunny when I yelled at her, and she just looked at me and laid down next to it to guard it.

Yoshi has been a savior in mending my broken heart over the loss of my beloved yellow lab Sandy, and has been an absolute joy. I have had total strangers come up to me and offer to pet sit her, and people who claim they don't even like animals, come pet her because she is so beautiful. Her personality is so sweet and unique, and she is so fluffy! I thank you D & M Farm Kennel for all you have done to bring her into our world. She is truly a cherished member of our family.

Yoshi is a puppy from Pandy and Teddy.



*"We love to
showcase stories
from our clients
and other
readers."*

The Threesome from Michigan

Miss Lulu Belle (cream), Miss Izzie Bella (red), and Piper taking a break after their training session.

How's that for posing? Don't they appear to be anxious to please?

Miss Izzie Bella is a puppy from



*"More beautiful
puppies from our
kennel for you to
see!"*

Lola in New Jersey

Lola is a very calm puppy and enjoys all her surroundings. She is a joy to her new family.

Doesn't she blend right into her environment? She honestly looks like a beautiful live teddy bear laying on the carpet. Which is a toy and which is real?

Do you think she might be loved? What a playmate to grow up with!

Lola is a puppy from Lila and Teddy.



Teddy in Rhode Island

Teddy is four months old and 23 lbs. What a happy boy! Look at that smile!

His mom was approached at the park by a professional photographer who wanted to take his picture to put in their portfolio.

Teddy is a puppy from Amber and Yogi.



Harley in Washington

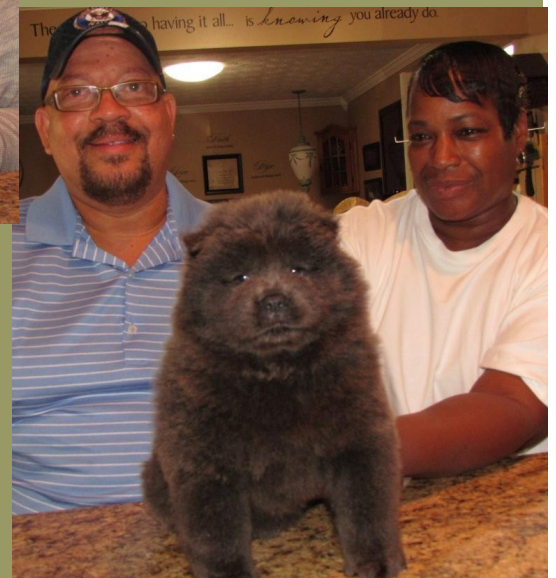
Nine month old Harley is a handsome beauty! He could pass for our Simba's twin.

Oops ... looks like we let another one slip away! Hmmm ... why didn't we just keep him for ourselves? We're jealous with envy!

Harley is a puppy from Bella and Kaiser.



Pickups





D &
KENNEL

M FARM

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www.dmfarm.com

The goal of D & M Farm Kennel

is to breed the highest quality

Chow Chows

with exceptional temperaments.

We want all of our puppies to be good

ambassadors of the breed"

D & M Farm Happenings

It has already been a busy month! Onyx & Hagrid blessed us with 10 puppies. Wow! 6 creams and 4 blacks.

All are healthy. Onyx is a fantastic mom.

Izzie had 6 puppies, 3 reds and 3 creams. Unfortunately, she lost a little cream, but all the rest are doing great.

Pandy and Brandy are both in the maternity ward awaiting their blessed event.

We made our trek up to the Exotic Animal Auction in Holmes County, Ohio. We took friends with us and we enjoyed a great time ... as usual!

As normal, we went up with no intention of purchasing anything. We did take our rabbits and pheasants to the auction. The grandkids had lost inter-

est. They were all beautiful, but we just couldn't carve out enough quality time to justify keeping them.

What we ended up with was 20 geese; Toulouse, Chinese, and Sebastopol. Ducks; Indian Runner and Wood Ducks. Laying hens and Silky chickens, and a few guineas. The Toulouse geese are the ones you see in cartoon films such as Charlotte's Web. Large and gray. The Chinese geese look a lot like swans and the Sebastopol have ruffled feathers. It sure makes our barnyard lively! The Indian Runner Ducks are very upright in their stance and walk like penguins. They do not fly. The Silky chickens look like they have soft fur rather than coarse feathers.

We can never resist picking up some interesting poultry and fowl for our

barnyard!

We have ordered 80 guinea chicks as a new endeavor. We plan to raise them to sell. The ones we ordered are all considered rare in color. We ordered Pintos, they are white with some gray on them; ice blue, they are bright blue; chocolate, they are solid brown; and blonde, which is a mocha color. We are setting up our brooder which will keep the chicks warm. We plan to keep them in one of the horse stalls through the winter. Darrell is getting everything ready to include netting over the top of the stall to keep them contained once they learn to fly. The chicks will come in the mail and the post office will call us to come pick them up. We love trying something new.



Darrell & Maleah with a puppy destined for Denver, Colorado! Isn't she a beauty?



Farm Happenings con't

We have had the propane tanks filled for winter. We are also winterizing the garden and the greenhouse. The pool is closed and we have to put up all the chairs, grill, etc.; for next year.

We are also having our dairy calves bred. They are old enough to become mama cows. We'll have baby calves next June.

Our horse carriage is at Pioneer Equipment in Holmes County,

Ohio having lights installed. We still plan to participate in parades. Looks like the Christmas parade in Lebanon, Ohio will be our first one.

We're hoping for another mild winter this year. If the horses coats are any indication, it should be. My dad was a farmer and predicted the winter by the thickness of the coats the animals developed in the fall. He was pretty accurate with this method.



Toulouse Geese



Oscar, Chinese Goose



Sebastopol Goose



Indian Runner Ducks