

# D & M FARM KENNEL JANUARY 2011 NEWSLETTER

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## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Annual Checkups
- What Makes Chows So Great?
- Farm Happenings

## HAPPY NEW YEAR!

2011 is here! It is truly amazing to me how quickly time passes. The holidays have come and gone and we are now beginning a new year.

We have two new females that will be added to our breeding program. They are both blue. We have named one Bluebelle, "Belle" for short. The other one is Shadow. We also have a very light red male that we kept from Kaiser & Bella that will be added to the breeding program when he gets bigger. He is only about five months old right now and is still a bundle of fur. His call name is Simba.

More work in the kennel is on our agenda. We have new dividers to put between the inside kennels as well as new fronts

for the last two kennels. These are much more heavy duty than what we started with.

We had electricity ran to each of the outdoor kennel structures in each yard run last fall. This makes it much easier accommodating the heated buckets required for this time of year. In years past, I have used heavy duty extension cords. It is so nice to just have individual outlets to plug each of them into.

We are already looking forward to spring. We have had several weeks of extremely cold weather. We currently have two litters in the kennel. This is usually our slow time of the year. We only planned to have Dixie's litter in December, but

Izzie decided she didn't want to set this one out as planned. Our next litters will begin in February.

We look forward to hearing from all of our past clients with updates of the puppies from our kennel. We also look forward to meeting all the new clients this year. We encourage everyone to come visit. We love to see all of you!

We wish all of you a happy and prosperous New Year 2011 and trust all have good health!

## ANNUAL CHECKUPS

We are told that we should do annual maintenance on our homes, such as changing batteries, in January, etc. This is also a great time to schedule your dog's checkup with your veterinarian.

Having your dog seen by the vet once a year, gives you piece of mind that he is really healthy. And, you can get him "tuned

up" before warm weather. Worming, heartworm medication, required vaccinations, nail clipping, etc. I think dogs that are considered middle-aged should start having a blood panel run once a year. Many things can be detected early by doing this, to include any vitamin deficiency.

This is also a good time to

check his collar/harness to make sure it is in good condition. Does his water/food bowls need to be replaced. How about thoroughly cleaning his water bowl?

A little focus now can prevent problems later when you are ready to play and enjoy the warm weather that is just around the corner.

### ZEUS (VERNOY) IN



Oh! Were those cookies for Santa?

Zeus enjoyed Christmas this year. Maybe a little too much!

Zeus is a puppy from Sampson & China.



Belly's full. Time for a nap.



Tell me again why there is a tree in our living room?

### JASMINE & SUGAR BEAR IN OHIO

Jasmine and Sugar Bear enjoy the snow like most Chows. Jasmine is a cinnamon Chow on the right in the picture. Sugar Bear is a cream.

Jasmine is smaller but is the alpha. She was the first in the home. She rules, but is very sweet to Sugar Bear. Jasmine weighs around 40 lbs.

Sugar Bear weighs in at

a whopping 65 lbs, but is a loveable lap dog. She defers to Jasmine and accepts her as the pack leader.

Jasmine is a puppy from Ceasar & Daisy and Sugar Bear is a puppy from Hagrid & Izzie.



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

### DINO IN NEW JERSEY

It is always nice to receive presents for Christmas, but it is even more special to be the present! Dino was brought home and with help



of neighbors, wrapped in a box and placed on the porch at the door. When the doorbell rang the kid's faces told it all.

Dino now shares her home with two cats, Pebbles and Bam Bam. She has also become fast friends with the house rabbit, Thumper.

Dino is a puppy from Ceasar & China.



## CAYENNE IN TENNESSEE

Cayenne is a big girl! She is 52 lbs at 7 months. She likes to hang out at Grandma's house. She obviously has no problem making herself at home.

Cayenne is a puppy from Hagrid & Izzie



## WHAT MAKES CHOWS SO GREAT?

This is a rhetorical question for those of us who have been adopted by a Chow. But, let me elaborate on the positive characteristics of the Chow breed.

This is by no means an all inclusive list, but the things that come immediately to mind are:

1. They do not need a large exercise area. Chows are a non-working breed, so they are quite content to lay in the room with you ... along with regular time outside or on walks.
2. They are not socially needy. Chows like to be **around** you, but they don't have to be **on** you. Ours usually comes up

to us and stands there looking up until we pet them. Then they go lay down of their own accord. They are just not demanding.

3. They do not overeat dry food. You do not have to ration their dry food to prevent weight gain.
4. They are protective of their family. As long as they have been properly socialized, they will take their queues from you about how they should react to strangers.
5. They are clean. Chows are very cat-like. They do not have the doggy odor many breeds have. Baths are only needed if they get in the mud or

roll in something while outside. Regular brushings are really all that is required.

6. Their medium-size build is ideal for most environments. They are not too large, but are large enough to truly be a good protector.
7. They are a very healthy breed. Chows are predisposed to eye entropion, elbow dysplasia and hip dysplasia. They can acquire other health issues, just like we humans, but not disproportionate to other breeds.

Chows are such a special breed. We obviously love them & feel they would do well in most any environment..

“There are many positive characteristics of a Chow”

## JUNIOR & SHEBA IN NEW JERSEY

Junior and Sheba are right at home with their mom and dad. Obviously spoiled, they are loved by everyone. They are great ambassadors for the breed with sweet personalities.

Junior is a puppy from Yogi & Pandi & Sheba is from Buhda & Mercedes.



**We are on the web!**

**www.dmfarm.com**

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“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”

## **QUALITY CHOWS WITH EXCEPTIONAL TEMPERAMENT**

### **FARM HAPPENINGS AT D&M FARM KENNEL**

Still trekking through the snow to do the daily chores. The dogs love it! It's amazing how they love to burrow their nose into the snow then look up at you with that look of ... “What?”.

The kennel renovations are almost complete. We placed the kennel panels in the front room and have the panels for the back room.

Daisy has a beautiful litter of three cream puppies and we are awaiting Raven and Yogi's litter. She is due the end of February.

The winter has outstayed its' welcome. We are ready for spring to be here. Unfortunately, we don't have control. So, we have been occupying ourselves by doing some painting and cleaning in the house. If I get it done now it will give me

more time to be outside when the warm weather finally gets here!

We have been having some really



cold weather for Ohio. Below freezing temperatures for weeks. The forecast doesn't show any end in sight! All the animals seem to be faring well. This always amazes me. I'm freezing when I'm outside even with layers of clothes on. Yet the animals prefer to be outside rather

than in the barn or in the dog-houses. Some of the chickens actually prefer to roost in the trees at night rather than go into the henhouse. We keep heat lamps in the henhouse and one for the cats. Yes, our animals are pampered even if they don't realize it. I remember our barn when I was a kid. It certainly wasn't airtight. You could see daylight between most of the boards. It was hard to find a place out of the wind and forget finding a warm place. Animals are much more resilient than we give them credit for.

Anyway you cut it, we are ready for spring and the warm weather it brings. Along with the flowers and budding trees.