



National Newsletter Chow Chow Fanciers of Canada



Oct 2001 - Nov 2001

It is time once again to put our best foot forward to make a Great show out of this year's Chow National. Friday night Oct 26 there will be an Auction hosted by the BC Chow Fanciers to help pay for the wonderful prizes. Door prizes and great FUN as always. Saturday 6 PM will start off with Yearling and Veteran Sweeps, judged by Chow Breeder Mike Burton, Luv Mi Chows, Maryland USA. Respected Judge Sally Bremner, BC will be judging the regular classes.

There are 5 shows on this weekend for Chows....great way to finish your championships.

We would still appreciate Auction Items and donations for the Trophy Fund. Please send them to Suzanne Staines (address on page 8).



Marked and Mailed Catalogues,
Chow Pins and Zipper Pulls
available at
\$8.00 Can Funds each
\$5.00 US Funds for each
(Shipping Included)

Chow Chow Fanciers of Canada

National Specialty Oct 27 2001

Note: CCFC Annual General Meeting
Will be held Saturday Oct 27th 2001
in the Tradex Building,
Abbotsford Airport, Abbotsford BC
12:00 PM Noon to 1:45 PM
Meeting Room 1
(located in the main lobby)

We're
having
a
party!



Bits & Bites

Aug 19 2001

Hello,

Just come back from 2 days of international shows CACIB Bratislava (Slovakia). We spent a great weekend there with friends. First day Sihh- Jin's Chow Mark to Vienna chow won CAC, CACIB and BOB

(intermedium class) the judge was Mrs. Libuse Ubrova (CZ) today he won C,CACIB,BOB (intermedium class) the judge was Mr. Stefan Sinko (SLO) and under Mrs. Lisbeth Match (CH) at Best in Show Mark got the second place in the fifth group. I am so proud of him! For those you who don't know his pedigree. He is sired by Aase Solvik Nillsen (Norway)

CH. Tsingfu's Zhag-Xian and his Dam is CH. Sihh-Jin's Chow Cream Victoria. Owned-handled and loved by me.

Chow4now, Gordana

Sept 23 2001

We had an International show in Lendava this weekend and Mark won CAC, CACIB and BOB!!! The judge was Mr. Terry Thorn (GB)I am the proud mom. I have a new webpage if you have any free time please visit it. A lot of new photos of Mark on page 6. Gordana
<http://tinpanalley1.topcities.com/index.html>
 Gordana

Oct 1 2001

Just wanted to share good news with you. This weekend we had International show Austria

Bundessiegeraustellung Tulln 2001and my Mark won CAC,CACIB,BOB.

And on Sunday we had a National show in Croatia CAC Dzakovo.Mark won CAC,BOB and at the Best in Show he won the third place in five group. You can see my boy in Austrian club web page among news where is Bundessieger 2001

<http://chowchow.at/welcome.html>

Best wishes to you all,
 Gordana

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Tin Pan Alley Chows

Cerebellar Hypoplasia ("Shakey Puppies") in Chow-chows: Help us understand the cause.

We are a genetics research group at Harvard Medical School and would like to find out what causes Cerebellar Hypoplasia (CH) in Chows. CH causes clumsiness and trouble walking in pups, a condition commonly known as "shakey puppies" and is probably caused by an abnormal gene. Parents of affected pups are probably "silent carriers" of a gene defect; affected pups are probably only found when both parents are carriers. We would like to identify the gene.

Knowing the cause of CH would enable us to perform DNA testing to know what breeders would be at risk for having affected pups. We would hope that breeding pairs could then be selected ahead of time so that they were not both carriers.

All it takes is a blood sample.

All we would need would be simple blood samples from several dogs that suffer from CH. No autopsy is necessary, and the affected pups need not be harmed in any way. We can do our genetic research just on blood samples. We can support the costs of confirming the diagnosis and collecting and transporting the blood samples to our lab at Harvard from anywhere in the world. We are happy to share our results with any interested collaborators. Complete confidentiality is assured.

Please contact me if you know of any affected Chow-chows with CH, or if you know anyone else who might know.

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Mary Van Pelt died suddenly on Aug 5th 2001.

I didn't know Mary very well, I first met her in the early 80's when we were looking for our first Chow. She not only bred Chows but was also well know for her Goldens and Bloodhounds.

Just after Mary's death we accompanied her daughter Lillian "Putsy" to Mary's home to pick up 8 dogs, with one being an old Chow Girl, Remital Jen Jen, Nov 28th, 1987, Remital's Braggin Bogart x Remital Yum Yum. Jen Jen will be living out her

days with our Vet, Elena and her Vet tec, Sharon. Jen Jen was looking a little lost without Mary but is fitting in very well on the farm.

At the service for Mary, Elena read a poem that Mary had hanging in her home that really does sum up what Mary thought about her life and how she spent her time in this world.

Mary always cared for her animals better than herself most times. She became a foster home for the new Fraser Valley Humane

Society and ran a business she started from scratch, F.I.P. (Forever in Peace) a pet crematorium. Mary always cremated the deceased Pets and unclaimed animals from the Fraser Valley Humane Society, and the S.P.C.A. at no charge.

Mary was a complicated soul, she didn't seem to embrace life as most people do, but choose to quietly go along doing things her own way. The people she met will not forget Mary, for she left a lasting impresssion on anyone that she did stop to talk too.

I Am What I Am

Mary is now
"Forever In Peace"

I am my own special creation
So come and take a look - give me the hook or the ovation.
It's my world that i want to have a little pride in
My world and it's not a place I have to hide in.
Life's not worth a damn till you can say -
"Hey World" I am what I am.

I am what I am- I don't want praise - I don't want pity.
I bang my own drum - some think it's noise, I think it's pretty.
And so what if I love each feather and each spangle.
Why not try to see things from a different angle.
Your Life is a sham till you can shout out - I am what I am.

I am what I am and what I am needs no excuses.
I deal my own deck - sometimes the aces - sometimes the deuces.
There's one life and there's no return no deposit -
One life so it's time to open your closet.
Life's not worth a damn till you can say -
"Hey World" I am what I am.

WHAT PLAN DO YOU HAVE FOR YOUR DOG SHOULD A NATURAL DISASTER STRIKE?

"Toto, I don't think we're in Kansas anymore," says Dorothy, in the classic movie. But the gentle twister that carried Dorothy and Toto to Oz doesn't compare to the one that ripped the roof off Dr. Jo Ann Eurell's home in April 1996.

"It was very scary and happened very fast. I came close to losing my life that night," says Dr. Eurell, a veterinarian at the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine in Urbana, who huddled in an interior bathroom with her three dogs while the tornado tore through her home.

Dr. Eurell considers herself very lucky. "I was caught unprepared. I had no leashes and no way to handle my dogs once the house was damaged. I'd encourage people to be prepared with a disaster kit and a disaster plan for yourself and your pets," she says.

Coincidentally on the same April date as the 1996 tornado, Champaign-Urbana's sirens rang out the first tornado warning of 2000. For those of us caught unprepared, this storm was a wakeup call to dust off those

unused Y2K supplies and add preparations for our animal companions. Think about how you will move your pet to safety



in an emergency situation -- include leashes or crates for your cat or dog and a totebag carrier or sturdy, light weight container for your bird, ferret, or rabbit. Dr. Eurell recommends keeping food and bottled water in the kit. "In longer term disasters, you need to be prepared with food, water, and medications for your pets."

In addition, a large blanket or thick quilt will help protect you and your pets from dangerous flying glass or other debris in a tornado. Learn how to turn off the gas and electricity in your home, and don't forget to include the proper tools in the kit. Dr. Eurell also suggests a flashlight, weather radio, and cell phone with charger.

Pet owners may also want to include the book *Pet First Aid*, available through the Red Cross. The Red Cross also offers a first aid/CPR class for

animals. Contact your local chapter for more information.

Pets should always wear a collar with the owner's name and phone number. This simple step can dramatically increase the chances that you will be reunited with Fluffy or Fido if you are separated in a disaster. On that note, microchipping may be something to consider for people who lose sleep over just the thought of a lost pet.

Another good idea is to include copies of your dog's and cat's vaccination records. A copy of your driver's license can be helpful in the event your wallet is lost in the confusion.

The next step is to make sure you pick a safe place for you and your pets to wait out a tornado warning -- a basement, crawl space, area under a stairway, or interior room without windows.

"If there is a tornado warning and the sirens are blowing, don't wait to see the tornado to get in your shelter," says Dr. Eurell. "Take the warnings seriously. You may just twiddle your thumbs because the tornado goes somewhere else -- it may be wasted time, but it might also save your life and your pets' lives."



Once you are ready for the next tornado, formulate plans for other possible emergencies. "Fire is another potential problem," says Dr. Eurell. "Is the smoke alarm up and running? Does the fire department have a way to know there are pets in the house?" Fire safety stickers let fire crews know what pets might be in your home. They can be a lifesaver for a pet trapped in a fire.

Authorities will do their best to rescue pets," says Dr. Eurell. But often, people who evacuate without their pets later seek to reenter their dwellings to retrieve animals left behind.

It can be a very unsafe situation for someone to cross police lines to rescue a pet. If you are unable to take your pets with you, don't go back in on your own," says Dr. Eurell. "The police, fire, and emergency personnel are there to make sure the gas lines are off and dwellings are safe to enter. Once the area is determined to be safe, they will allow access to the property."

If you travel to or live in other



areas of the country, also consider emergency plans in the event of a hurricane, flood, mudslide, or earthquake. "It is one of those things you don't want to think about, but it's a good idea to have a plan in place for you and your pets," says Dr. Eurell. A significant obstacle that people with animal companions face in disaster situations is the inability of disaster relief shelters to accommodate people with pets. "That was a dilemma for me after the tornado," says Dr. Eurell. "I knew my dogs couldn't go to the Red Cross shelter. But I felt it was important to go there to use the phone and register so that my family and friends could find me."

Though it may seem unfair to pet owners, disaster relief shelters have good reason to turn away animals. "Many people are allergic, the animals are highly stressed and may bite, and if they are not particularly well-socialized, they may fight. It is in the best interest of humans that pets are not allowed into shelters," says Dr. Eurell.

Canadian Chow Scene

□History Column□

This was printed in 1963 in the Canadian Chow Chow Newsletter

We are grateful to Dr. K.H. Abshagen for what is probably the one and only description of the legendary

Monastery Chow Chows in their homeland, which follows:

Had Miss Collett of the English Chow Chow Club, not specially asked me to do so, I should probably never have come to write about my experiences with Chow Chows in their homeland. Although I am a great lover and admirer of this unusual breed of dogs and have in the course of the years had various fine examples in my possession, I must acknowledge that I don't feel myself an expert in the Chow-sphere, since I am neither a breeder now a judge.

During the short time that my wife and I have been back in Europe, we have become conscious of how many misconceptions there are about these splendid dogs and how grievously this breed on the whole differs from the true Chinese Chows. As we were able to get to know and prize them there. I hope in this article to show European Chow breeders quite clearly how far their breeding today is on the wrong track.

It is not true that Chow Chows in China are street dogs and only fit to be eaten. On the contrary. The Chow so rarely appears in the street there that in Peking and elsewhere I was repeatedly approached by distinguished Chinese where I went walking with my dark

red Chow bitch, Kin Ko. In their broken English they said: "Fine dog, Chinese dog, very rare, very expensive. Do you expect any children from her?" They then handed me their visiting cards with the polite request that I should let them know when we were looking for buyers for the children!

The `dog meat` that despite all prohibition is still secretly offered for sale in some Chinese harbor towns is decidedly not from purebred Chows, but from true curs, which are met with in China as they are all over the world. Naturally, it is inevitable that among these mongrels there are some crossbreds with Chows which could easily be taken for Chows by those who don't know.

A very good friend of mine, an American lady who has lived a very long time in China and has friends in Chinese circles, told me a lot about the breed. She herself bred Chows and my own show bitch, Kin Ko, came from her kennels in Peking, from pure Chinese Chows. Through her I learned also that Chows throughout China are bred very carefully according to fixed principles by which the centuries old tradition in this sphere is always maintained.

The finest variety was considered to be the "blue" Chow Chows from the Buddhist monasteries in Manchuria

and Mongolia. I might have never have had sight of these almost legendary creatures, since these monasteries are strictly forbidden to foreigners, but quite by chance - certainly a happy one - I was able to enjoy the great privilege of seeing these blue Chow Chows from Mongolia with my own eyes, not only that: I obtained much remarkable information from the abbot of one of these monasteries.

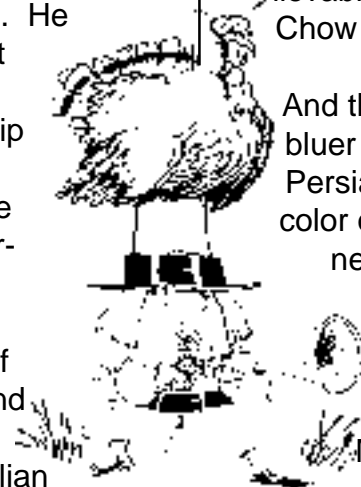
It was at the time of the so-called China conflict when the Japanese had occupied the greater part of North China, in the war against Chian Kai Shek. One day when I was making an official journey in Inner Mongolia, I came to Paoto, the headquarters of the Japanese North Division, and there came into contact with a major of the army medical service. We started talking about the conditions in the country, and among other things the major told me how he had met the abbot of a monastery of lamas, which was about a day's journey away from Paoto. He had gradually got friendly with this abbot, a friendship which was reinforced on his side by regular deliveries of various medical supplies for the inmates of the monastery and their cattle, and the many Mongolian

nomads who had sought shelter in the monastery. One fine day the major asked me whether I might perhaps be interested in going with him and taking this chance to have a look at a Buddhist monastery. Although normally no foreigners were admitted, he thought he could get permission for me, with the help of the welcome deliveries of medical supplies. Before we started in his rather antediluvian Ford he advised me to take along a strong stick "to keep the blue dogs away for me". You can imagine that my ears immediately pricked up; "Blue Dogs"! Were they really the famous blue Chows? My growing impatience made the journey seem to last at least twice the time it really did. At last, after a tiring journey thorough the steppes covered with flowers and tall grass - it was June - we saw in the distance the monastery lying in the hollow of a gently sloping ridge. When we got near it the gate opened and a large pack of dogs streamed out, fully 50 splendid, unbelievably beautiful blue Chow Chows!

And they were blue - bluer than the finest blue Persian cats; I think the color of a wild dove is the nearest thing to it.

For a moment I was overwhelmed by so much beauty at once.

Meanwhile the dogs



surrounded the car. Barking violently with the well-known and distinctive Chow bark, till they were called off by three monks and we were able to get out without hindrance. Although they let us alone after that, I felt safer with my walking stick in my hand. But I could now see and examine them in peace.

This imposing group of fully 50 similar dogs was such a splendid spectacle that I am afraid that no description of mine will ever do it justice' there was naturally no question of photography on this holy ground. The most striking features of these splendid dogs, apart from their heavenly color, was the harmoniousness of their appearance, the uncorrupted quality of their build, their vitality, their fluid movements - those of truly natural creatures - and many of those other characteristics that I admire so much in wild animals; a certain untouchability, a not-yet-corruptedness and a sense of not-to-be "licked" by "culture".

These Chows, like all Chows that I got to know in China, are somewhat smaller and also rather more slightly built; about 20-25 kg in weight, with a shoulder height of 45 - 50 cm but for all that certainly no less imposing than their European cousins. They have a very gloomy expression, without a trace of wrinkles such as a Bloodhound

has; the smallest imaginable, rather slanting very dark, wide-space eyes' a fairly distinct passage from the forehead to the bridge of the nose' but not the Bulldog kind of deep stop that many modern Chows have. I must add here that neither in this monastery nor any other in China, had any one heard of entropion' and indeed this kind of manifestation of degeneracy would be quite out of the question in a race so healthily bred and natural in their bearing. The bridge of the nose and the mouth remain wide from the base up to the tip of the nose. The skin is thick and free of wrinkles. The lips lock, so that the mouth remains visible looked at from in front or from the side, without overhanging jowls under which the lower jaw disappears. The Chow Chow thus preserves its typical, wry grin.

The small, triangular, thick ears, slightly rounded at the tips, are inclined attentively rather forward but are not so exaggerated that, looked at from the front, one looks straight at the tips or, seen from the side the upper



line runs horizontally from the base to the tip - which in our part of the world seems to be considered the ideal. The nose itself is fairly large and wide, with well formed nostrils and coal-black! Yes, even among these blue Chows! The teeth are strong and healthy and set in a straight line in the jaw, without any gaps between the individual incisors. Lips and palate are specklessly black, and the tongue is a deep dark blue without any trace of lighter coloring. A red fleck excludes a Chow in China from being considered a Chow, and stamps him automatically as a mongrel. The hair is very thick and fairly harsh and not so long or soft and woolly as in Europe, and so does not spoil the harmonious outline. The bones in the legs are very strong and straight but on the whole rather less coarse than among the products of European breeding. The hocks also are placed much higher. The paws are indeed small, strong and round with strong black claws. All in all, one could see that these sturdy, healthy Chows were equal in every respect to their very extensive tasks. In the first place, they guard and protect the monastery and its inmates, then they serve to round up the hundreds of head of cattle, and finally they are excellent hunting dogs, hunting a wide range of game from pheasants to bears.

Now for just a brief history of this particular race of blue Chows. This monastery was founded in the 15 century by a reformed lamaistic branch of Tibetan Buddhism. Blue Chows were already bred there and throughout the following centuries plentiful records concerning breeding were kept (a stud book?). The only new blood that is introduced is through the occasional exchanges of Chows with Chows from other monasteries, thousands of kilometres apart from one another, reaching into Tibet. There is no attempt at crossing with other breeds, and such a policy, moreover, would not be in accord with the uniformity of the breed throughout China' this, on the contrary strictly enjoins a very careful and consistently applied breeding with families.

Is it not therefore doubly regrettable that, while this breed in its ancestral homeland has been kept pure for hundreds, indeed for thousands of years, in the West breeders have, in a characteristic features and peculiarities and the original beauty of this breed in their quest for change and so-called improvement! Can the Chow Chow in Europe still be saved?



Please send me your news and Tid Bits of information. I do welcome any and all help with this Newsletter. If you have ideas of what you would like to see in upcoming issues send your suggestions along....Ed



Please feel free to contact any of the Chow Chow Fanciers Exc. with ideas or questions.

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