AKC Filming

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pup should gain one to two grams per day for each pound of anticipated adult weight. For example, if an adult is expected to weigh 20 pounds, the pup should gain 20 to 40 grams per day for the first five months of life. (An owner is slightly less than 30 grams.) Supplemental feeding or a better quality diet is indicated if this growth rate is not achieved.

During the first few weeks of life, the puppy can sleep and eat the twitching and jerking during activated sleep is important for muscle development. For the first two weeks, the puppy’s body temperature is 94° to 97°F. There is no shivering reflex for the first six days, and the puppy is dependent on the mother or an external heat source to sustain normal temperature. Many puppy deaths are caused by chilling, and the bitch and puppies should be kept no lower than 70°F.

Check the weight to be sure the pups are thriving. Be sure they are kept warm.

Cold Weather Notes

Antifreeze is very toxic to dogs. Dogs seem to love it, and a very small amount can be fatal. Prompt veterinary attention is necessary if any is ingested. Be careful where you drain radiators.

If dogs are kept outside in cold weather, be sure they have a dry bed and protection from drafts. Additional feed may be needed. Avoid shifting between heated and unheated kennels. Different breeds have different requirements. All very young puppies must be kept warm.

City dogs often walk on salted sidewalks. Wash their feet with warm water regularly. Dry with a towel and check between the pads.

Dogs kept in warm apartments should wear a sweater or coat when taken outside in cold weather, especially toy breeds and those with short hair.

Cats may get under the hood of cars. There have been some nasty accidents. If this is the only warm place for your cat, it might be well to check its whereabouts before you start the car.

Don’t neglect regular grooming. Bathing usually is not necessary if the dog is kept clean by brushing and combing. As a general rule, regular or frequent bathing is not necessary.

Many dogs will shiver when frightened, excited, or emotionally upset. They will shiver when they are cold. This is not necessarily a sign of illness.

Keep your vaccination schedule up-to-date. Some infectious diseases occur more frequently in cold weather.

William A. MacKay Scholarship Fund

William A. MacKay, Belle Meade, NJ, has endowed a scholarship fund at the School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Pennsylvania.

“Our School receives more applications for admission than any other veterinary school in the nation,” said Dean Robert R. Marsuk, “yet the difficulty of obtaining sufficient financial aid turns many bright students away. Mr. MacKay’s contribution aids us in our efforts to admit the most highly qualified students, regardless of their ability to pay.”

“We wanted to do something for one of the veterinary schools,” said Mr. MacKay. “Our veterinarian, Dr. Amos Siuks (V’35), is a Penn alumnus, and that in part determined that our contribution would go to the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine. A scholarship fund is a meaningful way to help tomorrow’s veterinarians, particularly in light of ever-rising tuition fees.”

Mr. and Mrs. MacKay and their six children are ardent dog lovers. “I have had dogs since I was three years old,” he said. “My parents owned boxers, German shepherds, and Doberman pinschers. Now my family has wirehaired fox terriers, Doberman pinschers. Lakeland terriers and Pekingese.”