

This is the first email regarding the litter born to May Day (GRCH/UKC CH Come What May) May is an incredibly sweet girl and her previous litters all her happy go lucky personality. I am excited to see how this litter will progress.

May went into labor Tuesday afternoon. It was very mild but she was quite clingy. Her temperature dropped to 87.5 which usually means puppies within 24 hours. I ended up sleeping on the floor next to her whelping box. Every 2 hours I popped up to see if anything had happened. Nope all it did is wake her up.

Wednesday morning I had a dentist appointment. It was one made over 4 months ago. I really hesitated, but May was showing no signs of progressing and I figured it to be only an hour, plus my husband works from home and could keep an eye on her. As I was leaving the dentist office, I received a frantic text PUPPIES!!! I raced home and my husband had already delivered the first puppy. Fortunately, it was a very smooth birth for all 4 puppies. The total amount of time was about 2 1/2 hours, and it was in the middle of the day. Mom and babies are doing fine.

On Saturday, everyone went out to the vet to have their dewclaws removed. The dewclaws are the small nails on the stifle (ankles) of the dog. I remove these nails for health reasons. Often these nails are not attached to the dog except through a small layer of skin. If the dog catches it on something such as thick carpeting, heavy dog beds, etc... it could rip causing extreme pain and potential injury. Every puppy had front claws removed, there were no back dewclaws. Their feet are healing quickly and with minimal pain.

Today I started neurostimulation. Basically I hold the puppy in several different types of positions in order to stimulate the adrenal gland. I also swipe the bottom of their feet with a q-tip and put them on a cool damp towel for several seconds. By stimulating the adrenal gland at this age, it raises the baseline for what "normal" would be in each individual puppy. This allows each pup to handle stress at a higher level without causing stress on their system. I have done neurostimulation on every Coton litter that I have whelped. I will continue the stimulation until the 16th day. After that day, it could cause more harm than good.

I am very pleased to announce the Hollywood Starlet litter. Each puppy was named after a Hollywood Icon. I am already seeing personality traits similar to their names.

Pink Collar Zsa Zsa- Zsa Zsa was born first. She came out squealing, as if to announce herself to the world. She is the talker of the bunch. If she can't get to Mom right when she wants her. She squeals. If Mom isn't right where Zsa Zsa can smell her, she squeals. She wants to boss the world around. She is the biggest pup at 12.4 ounces

Yellow Collar Ava- Ava was born literally minutes behind Zsa Zsa. She is almost identical in every way to Zsa Zsa except for her temperament. She seems to be much more laid back. She came into the world quietly. In fact, we had to make sure she was breathing. She was so placid. There was nothing wrong with her. She is just a tad lighter than her sister at 12.3 ounces. I cannot tell them apart without their collars, unless Zsa Zsa opens her mouth!

White Collar Lana- Lana arrived about 30 minutes after Ava. She too was more quiet than Zsa, but has since decided to make some noise. Lana loves to be under things. It is not unusual to look into the box and only find 3 puppies. Lana is usually bundled up in the bed sheet. When I pull her out, she loves to snuggle back under it again. I have a feeling she is going to want to be held and cuddle quite a bit. Lana is 11.6 ounces

Orange Collar Audrey- Audrey was born about 40 minutes after Lana. She slipped into this world practically unnoticed. My husband was watching May Day while I was tending to the other puppies. We looked down, and voila! there was a puppy! Audrey is a petite little girl of 9 ounces. She isn't shy, she is just little. She is the quietest of all of the sisters, but I suspect that will change as she matures. When I pick her up she is very alert and wiggly, she is just happiest under a heat lamp.