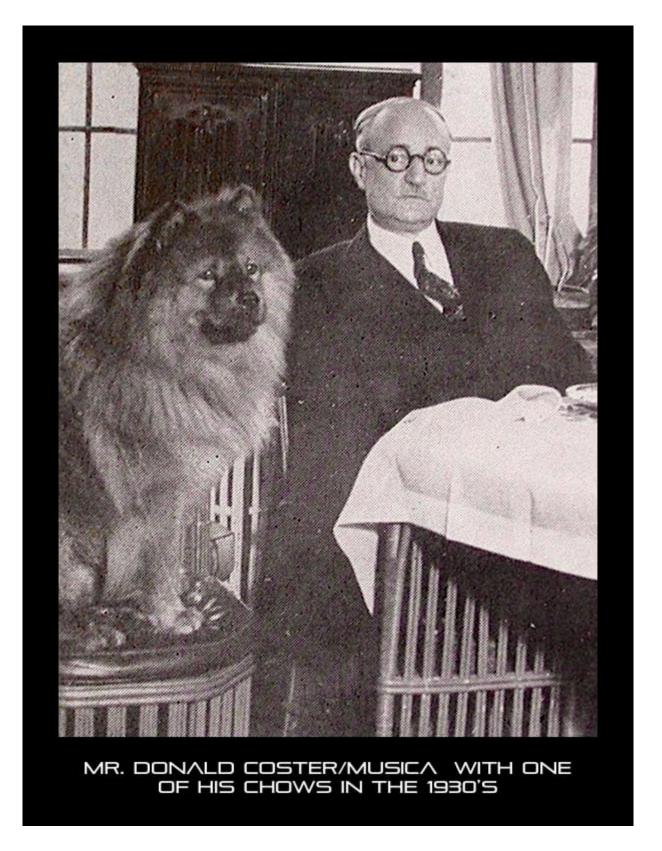
CHOW DOG- A MYSTICAL SYMBOL IN THE MUSICA DRUG SCANDAL



Fascinating..FASCINATING...I sound like Mr. Spock on

Startrek...but I'll say it again...FASCINATING!!!

It all started with my research on an original 1938 photo in my personal collection of Mrs. Donald Coster posing with one of her chows. The photo states on the back it was "taken some time ago". It also refers to her as a widow of the masquerading drug head Musica.



GAME ON!!!....Now as my research got deeper...this information below became the JACKPOT of all jackpots as" Emmy-winning producer Robert Kalm presents the forgotten and unbelievable American story that only he could tell from a decade of research, a lifetime of family stories, and the original sources handed down to him.

Pieced together from the relatives, the corporation, the press, and the law, no one ever told the true story because no one ever had the full story. Filmed on location in New York, Connecticut, California, and Canada."



THERE ARE MANY IMAGES OF THE COSTERS/MUSICA WITH THEIR CHOWS
IN THIS TRAILER BELOW WHICH ROBERT SO KINDLY GAVE ME
PERMISSION TO SHARE WITH MY CHOW AUDIENCE. THIS IS A "MUST
SEE" DOCUMENTARY FOR ANY CHOW HISTORY BUFF...OR ANYONE FOR THAT
MATTER!!



CLICK THIS BANNER TO READ EVEN MORE ABOUT THE MUSICA SAGA



And it doesn't stop here. This news clipping I unearthed was new to Robert so I sent him both this and my image of Mrs Coster for his own research.

'Chow Dog' a Mystic Symbol In Life of the Musicas

By The United Press

NEW YORK, Dec. 17-Chow dogs and letters about chow dogs appeared so frequently today in the affairs of the' Musica family that investigators believed that the word "chow" had some symbolic meaning, perhaps supplying a code word for their communications about smuggling.

At the Fairfield, Conn., mansion of Philip Musica, alias F. Donald Coster, president of Mc-+-Kesson and Robbins, Inc. who killed was arrested here in 1929 as a fugihimself yesterday, a chow had the tive from Chicago, where he was run of the estate.

men who went to the home of Cantor was arrested after he was Arthur Musica, alias George Ver-recognized as a spectator at hear-nard, a brother of the president ings conducted by Atty. Gen. John and an official of the company, to J. Bennett Jr. into the McKesson arrest him in connection with the and Robbins case. Connecticut State firm's eighteen million dollar short-, Troopers attending the hearing rec-

in Westbury, N. Y., there were two with a "phony stock deal."

Stenographer Supports Mystery

At Mount Vernon, N. Y., where Coster-Musica at one time oper ated a little hair tonic business and made such a profit that Wall Street financiers backed him in the gi-

wanted for passing a worthless check, and in Pittsburgh in 1934

At the home of a sister, Maria, ford warrant was in connection

Coster Married In New York

By The United Press NEW YORK, Dec. 17-Police said

PITTSBURG PRESS DEC. 17 1938

gantic wholesale drugs corporation, John R. Mosca disclosed that when he worked as a stenographer for Coster-Musica in 1924 and 1925, most of the letters dictated to him were about chows.

The letters were mostly to persons in England. Mr. Mosca said, and he could not seee any sense in them. He decided that Coster-Musica was "a bit eccentric."

Federal and state investigators, convinced now that nothing Coster-Musica did was without a definite purpose, believed that "chow dogs" might provide the answer to how he made such vast profits with such a little hair tonic plant. The years 1924 and 1925 were prohibition years. Coster-Musica used lots of alcohol in his tonic.

'Chow' May Have Meant Alcohol

He had the necessary permits to deal in alcohol by virtue of his business, and he apparently had agents in Europe who had aided him in a one million dollar bank draft swindle with a human hair company that put him in jail in 1913.

The suggestion was that "chow dog" meant alcohol, and that Coster-Musica imported it from Europe to avoid arousing suspicion by buying too much on the domestic markets. His plant would have been an ideal place to store it.

From what was known of the thoroughness with which he operated, it was believed that he might have bought chow dogs for himself and relatives to give the appearance that he was a chow fancier in case his letters were intercepted and seemed suspicious.



A photo of Mrs Coster and her family with a litter of chow puppies and adult



Below is another clipping I found but seem to have misplaced the credit which I will add later. Mention of 2 dozen chows the Coster's owned

Wanting to be closer to his factory—and farther away from anyone in New York who could possibly identify him—Coster moved with his wife to Fairfield in 1926. They bought a stately eighteen-room mansion on Mill Plain Road that was modeled after an Italian villa with stucco walls and a terracotta tile roof. They decorated it in "a heavy, bourgeois manner," according to the *New Yorker*, including one room made to resemble "a sultan's bedchamber." It was nestled on a well-manicured seven-acre parcel and was also home to two dozen chows, a Saint Bernard, a sheep, and a parrot named Ricky.

BELOW IS AN AKC RECORD OF ONE OF THEIR DOGS ENTERED IN THE STUD BOOK

Note Carol is using her last name from a previous marriage as the breeder's name

The American Kennel Gazette and Stud Book - Volume 34 - Page 1060

books.google.com/books?id=Kr5YAAAAYAAJ 1922 - Read

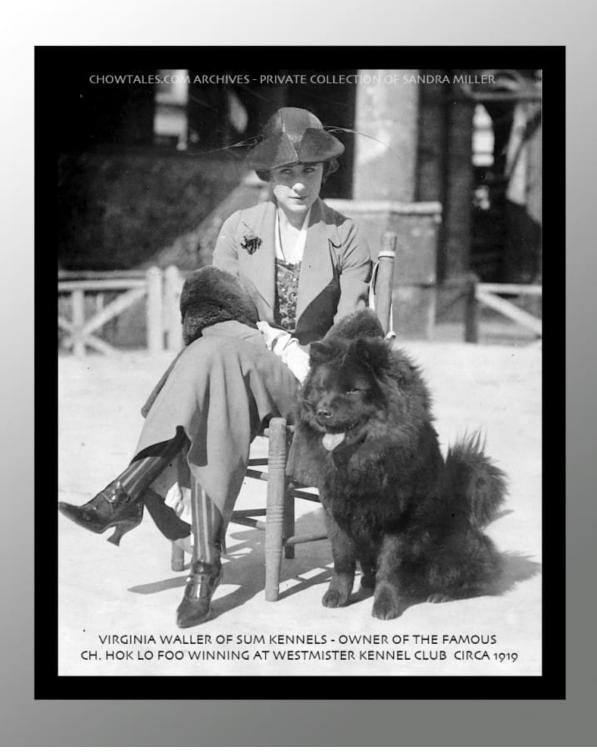
By Pusa of Amwell out of Kowa Juni, by **Chow** Chung Yot out of Wyndham's Beauty, by Chud- lelgh Lion out of Chudleigh FEE CUM'S H'SUAN (344,660)— Frank D. **Coster**, 460 Throop Avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y. Breeder, Carol E. Hubbard.

And oh my…look at who shows up as Fee Cum's H'suan's father

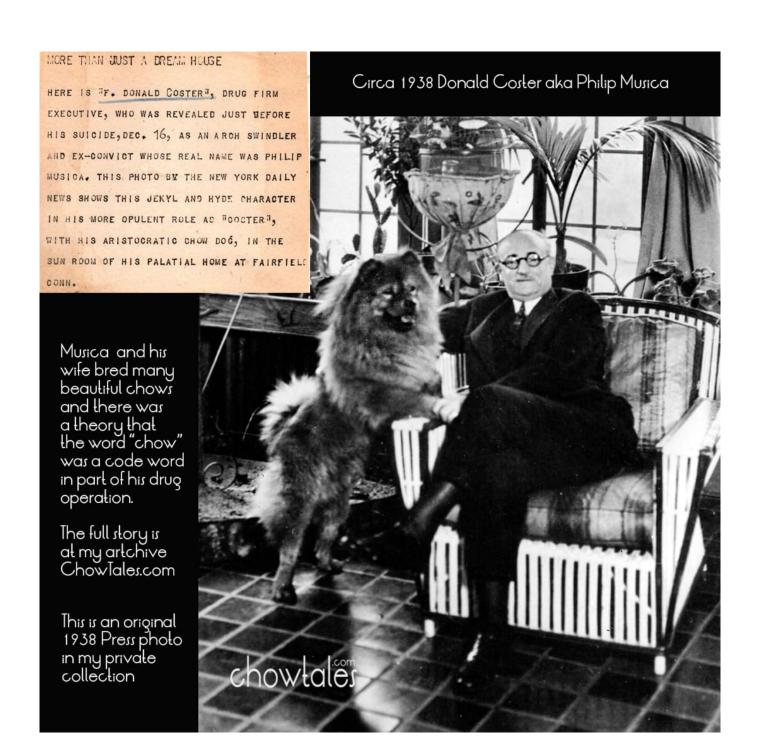
None other than the famous black chow from Virgina Waller of
the Sum Kennels

CH. HOK-LO-FOO PICTURED BELOW

FEE CUM'S H'SUAN (344,660)—Frank D. Coster, 460 Throop Avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y. Breeder, Carol E. Hubbard, 2429 Myrtle Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y. Whelped Feb. 12, 1922. Black. By Hok-Lo-Foo (248,409, Vol. XXXV) out of Fee Cum's Girl (309,843, Vol. XXXVIII).



A very rare original photo in my personal collection. This was taken at the Westminster Kennel Club show in 1919 after Virginia Waller breeder/owner won the breed with her stunning black dog.



ABOVE IS AN ORIGINAL PHOTO I ACQUIRED JANUARY 2021