

BOYKIN SPANIELS FOREVER

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Editorial

Wow,,, another year has just flown by! I hope that everyone is thus far enjoying a prosperous New Year. I want to thank everyone who has sent in photos and articles for the Journal. Keep them coming.... I may have to add pages!

In summary, the Boykin Spaniel has had a busy and exciting 2008:

In January of 2008, the AKC welcomed the Boykin Spaniel into the Conformation ring via the Miscellaneous Class. Since then many have invested time and money campaigning their Boykins, allowing AKC judges to become familiar with the breed. Early 2009, promises to bring news regarding the breed's full sanctioning in the AKC!

In February, amidst the Roxy's pups scandal, the President of the BSC/BAA resigned. In September, came the resignations of all the other board members, with the exception of Paisley Stevens Knudsen. With Paisley at the helm and under the guidance of AKC, new Directors were seated, including many of the founding directors. As a founding director of that club, I was asked to return to the board and assist in bringing credibility and vision back to the club. I continue to urge you to support and join the club now. Together we can assure that the Boykin remains as a working dog and in standard. Renewing and returning members will receive a beautiful color print as a gift with membership.

In November, after surgery, I was still determined to go on my annual pheasant hunt in Kansas. I met Greg Copeland and Hal Roemer (both from Texas) and we had a wonderful time hunting with our Boykin's (see page 6 for the down and dirty).

In late December, I was honored to have distinguished visitors at Hollow Creek Kennel in Leesville, SC. Mr. Aaron Wilkerson (Uno's handler and winner of Westminster 2008) and Ms. Denie Mounce, (AKC Judge) visited at length. The reason for the visit was to actually see and examine the AKC's foundation stock Boykin Spaniels. I am privileged to be the breeder and owner of many of these Boykin's. Rosey (14), Gus and Cocoa are the elders. They remain strong testimony to how well the breed matures and ages. They were also able to play with some very precious puppies. Both were very complimentary and quite taken by the breed. I was encouraged to continue breeding in accordance to the breed standards.

In January 2009, Paisley and I were invited by The American Spaniel Club to host a Meet the Breed for attendees and judges at their annual Flushing Spaniel Show in Philadelphia. It was cold and snowed More than us southern girls had seen before. What a weekend... But more of that in the next edition.

The Boykin Spaniel Journal will now begin to serve as the Boykin Spaniel Club & Breeders Association of America's official newsletter and will realign its content to allow club membership to be regularly informed of club business. Let me hear from you about topics you would like to see included in future issues.

Happy Hunting,
Patricia Watts



Letter to the Editor

Just wondering if you guys ever run into Chronic ear problems with your boykins. My boykin is my pride and joy and has had a chronic ear infection for about 2 years now. We have been to 2 different vets (in Charleston) and have spent well over \$2,000 trying to treat this never ending problem. I'm just asking you guys because I've tried to do my own research, gone to vets, holistic pet stores and have had no relief for my poor dog. He is my pride and joy and I just want him to feel better. Any suggestions or have you guys ever dealt with this issue and recommend a vet that helped you cure it?? Thanks!

*- John and Brandi. M
Charleston, SC*

I am not a veterinarian so I do not diagnose, however from my experience, this is common with all water spaniels... base problem is yeast/fungal in origin!... probably now bacterial too. Talk with your vet concerning my suggestions:

BEFORE you begin this program...have your vet sedate the dog and thoroughly clean/flush out the ears so that the meds can get to the entire inside or nothing will help.

1. Right now: your dog may have a raging bacterial/fungal infection... that will require strong antibiotics (Cephalexin 500 mg twice a day for 14 days and repeat for a second round if necessary and it usually is).... Publix will give it to you for free with a vets Rx...even for dogs.

2. Also use as a flush called Animal Pharmaceuticals M/Pharmaseb Flush solution 236.5 ml bottle (it contains Ketoconazole a antifungal and Chloroxylenol a antibacterial)...2-3 times a week for 30 days and then use weekly for maintenance.

(Your vet may not like it, but ask him/her NOT to substitute anything.)

3. Post infection: Mix 1:1 ratio of water to vinegar and use every time he has been in water...that is for AFTER you get this under control.

I also clip under hair under the ear on the face and under the ear flap itself very closely...so that air can circulate year round to help prevent this problem....and it work....and cost is minimal...except for the cleaning by the vet and that depends on his fee...should not be much.

Let me know.

- Pat Watts

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