

*Continued from page 5* Healthwise - Benefits From Feeding Raw Diet

is become obese.

**Raw Diet Costs Less**

Yes, this is true. Although meat and bones can be expensive, with planning feeding raw can cost less than feeding a premium kibble. Ways to keep the costs in line include feeding free meat from hunters such as deer, rabbits, squirrels, fish or whatever else you get lucky enough to bag. I've fed elk, beaver and wild turkey. Purchase out-of date and sale meats from your store. Dogs really don't care if meat is past its prime. In fact, they seem to enjoy it. And join cooperatives that pool their needs to buy in quantity at a discount. When combined with my next point (lower vet bills), you will be dollars ahead.

**Lower Vet Bill**

When feeding raw you'll see a decrease in visits for teeth cleaning, ear infections, skin and anal gland problems. These dogs, overall, will be healthier and thus able to fight infections better. One saved visit to the vet will pay for lots of burger!

**Chewing Satisfaction**

Dogs need and enjoy chewing. Strauss may take 10 minutes to finish one meal. The act of chewing creates a good number of benefits the least of which is a happier dog. Chewing will help develop and strengthen teeth, jaws, and necks. It also stimulates the dog's digestive system. Perhaps a raw fed puppy will be better equipped to develop a proper bite. He certainly will be better equipped with the necessary muscle strength to carry a bird.

**Clean Teeth and Breath**

A proper raw diet virtually eliminates the need for dental care from your vet. Your dog's teeth will be sparkling white with no tartar buildup. An added pleasure is nice fresh breath.

**Improved Stools**

Yes, you'll get excited about "doggie poop". The stool of a raw fed dog is much smaller and decomposes much quicker than a kibble fed dog. Also there is less odor. The texture of the stool works to keep anal glands empty.

Once you switch to raw you'll be amazed at the difference in your dog. I hope this gives you some

"food for thought" on how important your dog's diet is to overall health and happiness. As stated earlier, I am no expert and I hope my articles will prompt discussions among the many knowledgeable dog owners in the Boykin community. A good forum for continuing such discussions would be at our yahoo group site [BoykinSpaniel@yahoo.com](mailto:BoykinSpaniel@yahoo.com).



## Spotlight on Lucky's Tennessee Jed



Lucky's Tennessee Jed is really all that and everyone who come's in contact with the curly brown bundle loves him as much as we do (well almost). We hunt ducks and geese alot. He is 2 years old and started retrieving ducks when he was a year old, he retrieved training tools earlier of course. His favorite, toilet tissue rolls, started ealier than that, his only dis-cresion, never harmed, just delivered to hand like everything he delivers.

He is so smart and although we don't run the circuit, compete and so on, he is trained to, and would do well. Also he scents, plays frisbee, dock jumps and agility course for fun. We rough hunt mostly, often, and hard. He puts many smiles on faces with his manners, stillness, attention to job, and then very strong retrieves when prompted. He will retrieve anything and will work as a flushing, pointing dog if needed, although we rarely do that type hunting.

A friend from South Carolina insisted we have him, when his male and female had a litter, and he knew we hunted alot. I was hesitant at first but now would never have anything else. He is more a friend than our retriever, but he is such an awesome retriever.

He travels often, and loves elevators and escalators...but he loves to be home with his sisters (the cats) as much as a day in the blind (well almost).

We really like your journal and look for it to read. I didn't mean to go on, but wanted to share briefly our boykin story.

- Chris and Ginger Lumsden  
Tupelo, Mississippi



## Kansas Pheasant Hunt by Hal Roemer



We left Texas in early November heading out to Kansas for our annual November pheasant hunt. Only three of us met up in Linn, KS – Pat Watts (South Carolina), Greg Copeland (Texas) and me, Hal Roemer (Texas). The other three in our party could not make the trip due to last minute interferences (life). At least the three of us who made the trip have our priorities straight. With several crates and a trailer, the three of us did manage to bring 12



Boykins to find pheasant.

We have always had good accommodations and great food due to our own cooking, but this year was our first year out of the last 9 annual hunts that we had first class accommoda-

tions, excellent food not of our own making and outstanding hospitality. We stayed in Carol's Cozy Cottage, a Bed & Breakfast (& lunch & dinner) owned by the parents of our guide. The hospitality and food were just fabulous and we truly took pleasure in the opportunity to spend time visiting with owners Carol and Rodney.

Back to the hunt – Even though the weather was hot, dry, windy and mostly uncooperative, the wild birds were plentiful and somewhat cooperative, with the

help of our Boykins of course.

Our Boykins all did great, in fact they did so well we had our limits each day within two hours which, unfortunately, severely cut our time in the field. Of course that means in addition to the dogs doing an absolutely great

job, we humans did a pretty fair job of knocking the pheasants down. Pat even managed to get her first double!

There's always something that can have the possibility of making a great trip less so, and ours was having too many dominant dogs off leash in the same place at the same time. Eventually one is going to try to make a point with another one. We had two encounters, one that resulted in an ear sliced through that required Pat's medical attention and surgical glue. Lesson learned: never completely trust that your dog is going to get along with all other dogs. This includes females.

After hours of working dogs that did not get enough in the field, and long talks, and watching the news, and long naps, we went in search of other things to do with our afternoons. Two of us

*Continued on page 7*

### Hal & Bear

