

BOYKIN SPANIELS FOREVER

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**COVER: HOLLOW CREEK'S CABELLA
"BELLA"**

MITCHELL HUNTER OF ATLANTA, GA

There are numerous articles that have been written about the Boykin Spaniel. Some talk about the breed's ability to hunt while others describe a family pet that cannot be duplicated. What I have found in our little brown friend, Bella, is the most all around dog that I have ever been around. Bella brings so much joy to each of us in many different ways. To my wife she is the lap dog, for my daughter she is the soccer player and for my son and me she is the ultimate hunting companion.

When I first brought Bella home at the age of 7 weeks, I wasted no time on getting her accustomed to the whistle and teaching her the basic commands. Within two weeks she was sitting and staying on command. My original plans for Bella involved sending her off to a professional trainer; however, all of us became so attached to our new family member that the thought of sending her off for several months was not something we were looking forward to. After much begging from the kids, I decided to take a shot at training her myself. I had no experience with training a dog and I certainly didn't have the time. After calling several friends I came across a gentleman at Big Red Oak Plantation in Gay, Georgia, Mike, who was willing to train Bella and me. After just a couple of sessions you could tell that Bella was a natural. By the time she was 7 months old Bella was flushing and retrieving quail as if she had been doing it for years. The time that I have spent working with her in the field has created a bond between us that would otherwise not be there. These dogs are more than just a pet they are our family members, our friends, and our partners. I will never enter a field again without my Boykin.



**For Upcoming
Boykin Spaniel Events go to
American Kennel Club • www.akc.org
United Kennel Club • www.ukcdogs.com**

Tuckered Out

by Danny O'Driscoll



**For information about this print, which features Hollow Creek's Chocolate Mouse & GRCH Hollow Creek's Alligator, contact Danny O'Driscoll
<http://dannyo-driscoll.com>**

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