

Letter from the President

We often tell people that Boykin Spaniels are the little brown dogs that do not rock the boat. This certainly only refers to their stature. The best I can tell is that there has been quite a lot of boat rocking going on!

By now most have heard the news that the American Kennel Club's Board of Directors voted unanimously at its April 2009 meeting to approve the Boykin Spaniel breed standard as the official standard and to move the breed from the Foundation Stock Service into the Stud Book of the American Kennel Club on December 2, 2009. The breed will become eligible to compete in the Sporting Group beginning on December 30, 2009. Open registration will be maintained until January 1, 2015.

This is a tremendous achievement certainly for all of those whose commitment to the breed has remained unwavering through the years. Certainly this recognition is an affirmation of what we all know to be true.... The Boykin Spaniel is truly one of the finest hunting and companion dog to be found. My personal thanks to Pat Watts, the club's founder, and to all of those that joined the club's Board of Directors and have volunteered to join committees. Each has helped to successfully restore the organization to its intended mission to provide opportunity, outreach, education and advocacy for the Boykin Spaniel breed in support of the mission of the American Kennel Club.

One can not forget Christine Prince, a true friend to the breed, who shares her time and knowledge not only with the club but in educating the general public through her successful internet groups that have served as a catalyst for bringing so many people together. The list of thank you's is so long but should also acknowledge the kind guidance of Mari-Beth O'Neill of the American Kennel Club and Michael and Linda Pitts for their ongoing counsel and willingness to move the breed forward in the conformation ring and continue to educate judges and individuals by giving their time always without hesitation. Congratulations to everyone and our wonderful little brown dogs!

In early January Pat and I attended the American Spaniel Club's Annual Flushing Spaniel Show held in Philadelphia. While there, we presented the Boykin Spaniel through a Meet the Breed event to judges and attendees. As the ninth flushing spaniel to be sanctioned by the American Kennel Club, the Boykin Spaniel will be eligible to participate at this event in January of 2010. Event coordinators warmly welcomed us and shared the organization's excitement about the Boykin Spaniel's upcoming debut. This uniquely focused specialty show provides the true spaniel connoisseur with a venue at which to not only participate but also learn more about our spaniels, their heritage and their future.



Steeped in history, the invitation extended to the Boykin Spaniel to compete is one that should be equally as revered as the breed's recent full sanctioning. The American Spaniel Club (ASC) was established in 1881 as the official club of all sporting spaniels. When ASC first joined the American Kennel Club, which the ASC founding predates by several years, it was accepted and recognized as the parent club of all of the sporting spaniel breeds. It was not until September of 1946 that the American Kennel Club recognized the separation of the cocker breed that we now know as the American Cocker Spaniel. Following this and as a result of a significant rise in popularity of the spaniel breeds, the ASC helped nurture the development of our current flushing spaniels and aided in building many organizations that now serve as AKC spaniel breed parent clubs.

While the American Spaniel Club continues to serve as the official parent club of the American Cocker Spaniel, it retained its right without consultation or permission of any

specialty club to offer events for all flushing spaniels. The ASC's Annual Flushing Spaniel Show serves as an important historical marker for flushing spaniels. The event continues to remind us of the heritage of all sporting spaniels and will now include the Boykin Spaniel.

The American Spaniel Club's ongoing and steady devotion to spaniels makes the organization's annual event a standout opportunity for the soon to be sanctioned Boykin Spaniel. The show is scheduled for Friday, January 8 through Sunday, January 10, 2010. It is currently set to be held at the Valley Forge Convention Center in King of Prussia, Pennsylvania. More details can be found on the ASC's website <http://www.asc-cockerspaniel.org> as they are made available. With its early date in 2010, it is certainly a choice destination for Boykin owners looking to ring in the New Year and work toward long awaited AKC conformation titles.

Our 2009 membership drive continues. Please remember to send in your renewal and updated membership information by filling out a membership application that can be found on the club's web site at www.boykinspanielclub.org. Although you may have previously filled out an application, the club is updating its records for a member directory and breeder referral program to be announced later this year.

The BSCBAA's annual meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 20th. This year we will meet at Hollow Creek Kennel in Leesville, South Carolina. Additional details can be found on the club's website. Please consider joining us to celebrate the full sanctioning of the Boykin Spaniel, share stories and look together toward the future.

Keep rocking those boats!

Paisley

- Paisley Stevens Knudsen,
President for the Boykin Spaniel
Club and Breeder's Association of
America, the Official AKC Parent
Club of the Boykin Spaniel

Healthwise

Vaccination – What’s the Harm? by Sharon Kauzlarich

With the arrival of spring, many Boykin lovers will be welcoming new puppies. And with these new arrivals comes the decision as to vaccination protocol for puppies and adult dogs alike. Traditionally puppies are vaccinated at an early age and then again annually. There are some in the dog world that are beginning to question the medical need of such a protocol. Vaccinations have protected our pets from harm by preventing deadly diseases, that is a given. What is not a given, however, is the safety of continually exposing dogs to vaccinations on a yearly basis.

But what’s the harm of these vaccinations? Plenty. Vaccinations have been linked to some minor and some potentially deadly side effects including encephalitis, allergies, behavior problems, digestive and autoimmune disorders, cancer and death. With each additional vaccination the chance of reaction increases.

So how often should you vaccinate, I wish I had that answer. Dr. Ronald Schultz (Professor and chair of pathobiological sciences at Wisconsin

School of Veterinary Medicine) has been researching the subject of vaccinations since 1970. Dr. Schultz feels, as is the case with humans, once immunity is established in our dogs, it will last their lifetime. But, most dog owners are not willing to accept this. So, Dr. Schultz has advocated the core vaccinations, those for disease that are life-threatening, be given very three years after initial inoculation. Dr. Schultz indicates veterinarians who have switched to a three-year, instead of annual, vaccination program have found no increase in the number of dogs with vaccine-preventable diseases.

Other precautions that may lessen the chances of dogs having an adverse reaction to vaccinations include the following:

- Use single-dose vaccinations. Combination vaccinations can be harder on a dog by confusing and stressing the dog’s immune system.
- Avoid vaccinating a dog during time of stress such as heat cycles, whelping, travel, or surgery.
- Space all vaccinations at least 30 days apart.
- Until your puppy has received

his Parvo and Distemper vaccination keep him away from heavily used dog areas such as dog parks and training classes. Carry the pup into the vet; don’t let his feet touch the ground. Socialize your pup by letting him play with other dogs you know are healthy, take him to the parking lot of the grocery store or other places you feel are safe.

As with all health issues, please discuss with your professional care giver. Understand both the benefits and risks associated with vaccinations. Ask your vet to show you the recommendation of the teaching schools on this subject. And then choose the path you feel is best for your dog.

Editors Comment: Sharon has provided us with an interesting and thought provoking article. It is not the standard of practice for the last 20 years; nor does it reflect standards I have been following for many more years than that. However, it is a thought provoking article and one that deserves deliberation and debate. As Sharon points out in her article, “As with all health issues, please discuss with your professional care giver”...or veterinarian.

Nestlé Purina PetCare Company recently made the difficult decision to discontinue the manufacturing of Purina® Hi Pro brand dog food.

Please know that this was a business decision based on a number of factors, including a complete analysis of their total portfolio and increasing consumer preference for other trusted Purina® brands.

They recognize the discontinuance of Hi Pro will require longtime users to switch to another brand. To that end, they hope that as a dedicated Purina user you will consider one of their products that deliver comparable levels of protein, fat and calories.

Hi Pro was formulated at 27% Protein 15% Fat and provided 441 kcal/cup. To help you in your selection, please consider the following Purina products:

- Pro Plan Chicken & Rice All Life

Stages

- o 26% Protein
- o 16% Fat
- o 454 kcal/cup
- Purina ONE – Small bites Beef & Rice Formula
 - o 26% Protein
 - o 16% Fat
 - o 441 kcal/cup
- Purina ONE Lamb & Rice Formula
 - o 26% Protein
 - o 16% Fat
 - o 451 kcal/cup
- Purina ONE Chicken & Rice Formula
 - o 26% Protein
 - o 16% Fat
 - o 449 kcal/cup

Importantly, Pro Plan and Purina ONE brand formulas are also part of the Purina Pro Club weight circle redemption program. In fact, Pro Plan Chicken & Rice All Life Stages is redeemed at 12 points per pound and Purina ONE is

redeemed at 11 points per pound versus the 8 points per pound you receive for Purina Hi Pro brand weight circles.

Purina ONE products can be found in Pet Specialty, Grocery stores and Mass merchandise outlets.

Pro Plan Chicken & Rice All Life Stages is the original Pro Plan Chicken & Rice Adult formula and was re-introduced in early February into the Pet Specialty channel which includes select Farm and Feed stores and most distributors.

In addition, may we suggest that you consider Purina® Dog Chow® brand dog food and Purina® Puppy Chow® brand puppy food for your kennel.

For example, Purina® Puppy Chow® Complete & Balanced for Growing Puppies features 27 percent protein, 12 percent fat and 431 kcal/cup and is complete and balanced for all life stages.