

BOYKIN SPANIELS FOREVER

QUARTERLY JOURNAL

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Always enjoy reading Boykins Forever, especially the articles regarding Boykin health. I read with interest and commonality the article on ear infections. "Amanda," my Boykin, has a similar issue with her ears although not as pronounced. At one point I considered not running her in any more AKC or HRC events that involved water. She would completely stop swimming to violently shake her head and ignore the handling whistle. Conversations with vets and other owners convinced me that she could be allergic to the fillers in her food. At the testimonial of a friend who changed his dog food to "Innova," I made the change out of desperation. After several weeks of the change, I noticed an improved appearance and lengthening of her coat and that her ears were no longer bothered by water. Her ears are kept some what trimmed and I use the alcohol/water/vinegar after her water work but the food is making all the difference. Readers can Google "dog food analysis" and find lots of reading for their own conclusions.

No financial interest in Innova only interested in dog health,

- DeVon Ruth

Thanks...I had not heard of Innova.... I will read up on it. I know Purina's Salm-on is also very good when there seems to be allergy issues... I also like the real lamb (not lamb meal) in the Diamond Premium Edge.

- Pat

I read your most recent Quarterly Journal and loved it! If I may, I would like to assist in the communications in regard to Boykin "ear infections."

My little Boykin, Bunny, who will be 3 in May, has had chronic ear infections. When she was a puppy I fed her Wellness Puppy and never had problems with her ears except for a little issue when she swam. All I needed to do though is dry them out with cosmetic cotton pads and maybe a gentle ear cleaning solutions specifically made for dogs. When she turned 2, I thought I could save some money and started buying Blue Seal Lamb & Rice. Well... let me tell you the ear infections came on full blown! That poor little dog. I took her to the vet and the vet prescribed Animax Ointment 2 x a day for 10 days and put her back on Wellness Lamb & Rice. That is exactly what

I did, and no more ear infections! Also, we follow up with the once in a while vinegar / water solutions as you recommended as it was also recommended by my vet.

Also, there was a picture of a Boykin in this last Quarter Journal wading in an ALGAE infested pond! Please tell that reader and all of your readers, once again, that this ALGAE and/or Blue Algae is highly TOXIC to our dogs! I know this for a fact because I almost lost Bunny to Blue Algae in the summer of 2007.

As always, Thank You for keeping the Boykin pure and for all of your hard work. I greatly appreciate all that you do!



Patricia Watts,
Owner and Editor
of *Boykins Forever*,
a quarterly journal
written for the love
and well-being
of the breed

- Lisa



What A Dog!

Brutus is a military K9 at McChord. He's huge - part Boxer and part British Bull Mastiff and tops the scales at 200 lbs. His handler took the picture. Brutus is running toward me because he knows I have some Milk Bone treats, so he's slobbering away! I had to duck around a tree just before he got to me in case he couldn't stop, but he did. Brutus won the Congressional Medal of Honor last year from his tour in Iraq. His handler and four other soldiers were taken hostage by insurgents. Brutus and his handler communicate by sign language and he gave Brutus the signal that meant "go away but come back and find me." The Iraqis paid no attention to Brutus. He came back later and quietly tore the throat out of one guard at one door and another guard at another door. He then jumped against one of the doors repeatedly (the guys were being held in an old warehouse) until it opened. He went in and untied his handler and they all escaped. He's the first K9 to receive this honor. If he knows you're ok, he's a big old lug and wants to sit in your

lap. Enjoys the company of cats.

Remember that they can't do a lot of things for themselves and that they depend on you to make their life a quality life!

A PET'S TEN COMMANDMENTS

1. My life is likely to last 10-15 years. Any separation from you is likely to be painful.
2. Give me time to understand what you want of me.
3. Place your trust in me. It is crucial for my well-being.
4. Don't be angry with me for long and don't lock me up as punishment. You have your work, your friends, your entertainment, but I have only you.
5. Talk to me. Even if I don't understand your words, I do understand your voice when speaking to me.
6. Be aware that however you treat me, I will never forget it.
7. Before you hit me, before you strike me, remember that I could hurt you, and yet, I choose not to bite you.
8. Before you scold me for being lazy or uncooperative, ask yourself if something might be bothering me. Perhaps I'm not getting the right food, I have been in the sun too long, or my heart might be getting old or weak.
9. Please take care of me when I grow old. You too, will grow old.
10. On the ultimate difficult journey, go with me please. Never say you can't bear to watch. Don't make me face this alone. Everything is easier for me if you are there, because I love you so.



COVER PHOTO: "JAMACA & BUDDY" KNUDSEN
OWNER: LARRY & PAISLEY KNUDSEN OF ATLANTA, GA
"PHOTO COURTESY OF WILLIAM SIMMONS"

For Upcoming

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

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.

In Loving Memory of Sandalwood Collin Brice "Sandy"



Luanne and I got Sandy at 14 weeks old. He was the last of a litter in Greelyville SC. I paid \$200 even for him. Little did I know what deal I had got that day. Sandy was house broken in two weeks time, and we began training in the back yard. As I was not a trainer... I found one to "train" me so that I could train Sandy. At less than a year of age he was even impressing the professional trainer. Every morning we would meet and run dogs. Sandy loved working the field or the pond ... it made no difference to him as long as we were together. Some dogs do it because they love it, some dogs do it out of fear, some do it because they respect their owner, love them and want to please them as well as for the love of the sport, Sandy was one who respected and loved me and loved the open field. I know I have seen the dogs who were forced to do the job, there is no pleasure in that Sandy required no force... just love.

Sandy was never shy of a gun shot. In fact, that gave him even more energy it seemed. He was a faithful friend and companion as well as protector. He slept under our bed or beside it every night until we had children, and then he slept under thier crib. When we would go in to check on them you could see those big yellow eyes following across the room as you entered in. He even backed my wife's brother accross the room at their parents house in Florida because he thought he was hurting Luanne. I had to act quick to keep him from getting a chunk taken out of him. He was very even tempered, but protective when the need would arise. He was eager to please.

His first field trial was in the Puppy Division in Gresham, SC. He took third place his first time out. He didn't place, but did take Jams in the Nationals and many other events. His puppy's, as you know, are all over the country and they all bear his distinctive look. Hallow Creek's Muddy is one of his offspring that I own and he is looking just like his sire with the exception of having a little broader head. He even has a very tiny white tuff of hair on his chest like Sandy. Sandy is in fact, the best dog and most favorite dog I have ever had the priviledge of owning. We had him for nearly 14 years. He will be remembered in the legacy of the outstanding pups which carry his genes. When I see them in the Boykin Journal, I can still tell which ones he sired.

There are numerous stories I could tell you about him, but to sum it up....it was a love relationship. He loved our family and was part of our family. Luanne and I had him for 2 years before we had children so they grew up together ... as did we.

- Rev. Billy McClellan



"Sandy was an exceptional Boykin. He was a vital contributor to our foundation stock. His outstanding health, conformation and hunting instincts made him one of the top contributors of all time. He was a beautiful and loving pet and companion and a friend to those of us who were fortunate enough to have known him." - Pat Watts

A Painful Journey ...by Hal Roemer

Wednesday evening January 12, 2009: not a fun night for our family. Apparently in some kind of freak accident my Boykin, Hollow Creek's Roemer's Bear fractured his left elbow. It has all blurred into one long bad memory, but he came to us screaming like nothing I've ever heard in my life.

Of course this type of thing only happens in the middle of the night! I called the local vet "after hours", who pretty much said there wasn't much that could be done until morning, and that we should just keep him as quiet as possible through the night. Suffice it to say, no one got any sleep.

At first light I was at the local vet, waiting for them to open. The x-ray showed a fractured elbow. This vet said that he was not qualified to perform a repair. He referred me to a vet in Shreveport who was listed as an "Orthopedic Specialist".

If we thought the accident was bad enough, we were about to begin a true nightmare.

I respect my local vet clinic as a good and professional group. I took their referral at face value, as being a good recommendation. In addition, Shreveport is approximately 2 hours from the house and a straight shot up Rt 171, making it quite convenient as well.

I'm going to call the Shreveport vet "Dr. X".

Again, at first light I was at "Dr. X's" office before They opened. The vet looked at the x-ray and declared that if your going to have a fractured elbow, Bear had the best kind. He informed me that he was going to clamp it back together and by using a pin-screw combination to draw the fracture back together. He assured me that Bear should be close to 95% in a few months.

The operation was declared a success by "Dr. X". However, he said that the screw he had intended to use had broken. He used 3 pins assuring us that the pins would be just fine.

As per instructions to keep him as quiet as possible, Bear was confined to a 3' x 5' cage / crate for about 23 hours per day. I'm not sure Bear has ever understood what the deal was, but he accepted the situation as being what I wanted him to do.

About three days before the staples were due to come out, I didn't like the way he was holding his leg. I also noticed that one of the pins appeared to be working it's way out and pushing against the inside of the skin. Long story short, I brought him to the local vet, who again x-rayed the joint. Sure enough the fracture had separated.

I immediately made an appointment with "Dr. X". I should have written this guy off, but I was still working on the assumption that he was a good vet, and probably it was my fault for not keeping Bear quiet enough. Either way, returning to him is on me.

This time (second surgery) the broken screw was removed, and replaced with a proper one, slightly larger, as well as a pin to assist with stability. As soon as Bear was released from the vet's office he was holding his leg normally and placing his pad flat on the ground.



OK, I figured. Whew!.....

I'll give "Dr. X" this much, he didn't charge me for the second surgery. But that's all I give him.

I work in the Gulf of Mexico on an

offshore oil field. My boss had been letting me stay over on my time off to deal with this, but I needed to go back to work. I left Bear in the care of my wonderful wife, who did a great job.

At some point while I was off shore, my wife didn't like the way Bear was holding his leg. She passed on her concern when I called from offshore, but I assured her that since Bear had been kept restricted and quiet, and since there was a screw holding the bone together, he was probably just sore.... What can go wrong with a screw?

I got home Feb 10th. On the 11th I brought Bear in to the local vet to get his second set of staples out. I had to agree with my wife that he was holding his leg a little off, but I wasn't too worried, because the bone was held together with a screw. We re-x-rayed the elbow, and the screw had backed almost the entire way out, allowing the bone to nearly completely separate. I'm not kidding when I say that if "Dr. X" had been in the room, I'm not sure I could have been responsible for my actions. My local vet pretty much stated that now, since he had already gone through two operations. We were looking at an amputation, basically no other option.

My wife was devastated, because she considered this as happening on "her watch". I was upset, but not with her. This is important. I believe my anger at the situation came across as accusing. She was not to blame. She had done every thing any one could do to keep Bear quiet to allow the elbow to heal. If there was any one to blame, I had no further to look in the closest mirror and in the direction of Shreveport. I went home, and began to slowly freak out. My dog, my best dog, the best dog I've ever had, my one true hunting buddy..... was going to have his leg cut off. And it was partially my own fault for going to an incompetent veterinarian.

I called Pat. She was on the road out of town, but she instructed me not to do anything until she got back with me.

...continued on page 7

A Painful Journey...continued from page 6

She called back later that night. She had contacted a specialist in Columbia, South Carolina; Dr Randy Bassinger, a nationally and internationally recognized Veterinary Orthopedic Surgeon.

I may not have this part completely accurate, but the quotation is verbatim: She spoke to his wife (also a vet) after the dinner hour, at their house. Pat gave a brief history and at first was told we'd need to get a referral consult from "Dr. X". But after hearing a little more, Pat was pretty much told that we didn't need anything from this guy, just get the dog to Columbia ASAP. and..... "amputation is not an option". Those were his words.

"Amputation is not an option!" I'm thinking of getting that printed and framed.

I collected all the x-rays and records from my local vet. Then I directed "Dr. X" to email all of Bear's records to Dr Bassinger immediately. I don't recall him being overly pleasant in my request either.

After a 14 hour drive, straight through, I arrived in Leesville, SC at midnight. Our appointment was for 9 am the next day.

Dr Bassinger informed me at around 11:30 A.M. that the surgery was a complete success. He was able to install 4 anchors in fresh virgin bone: one screw (with washer), one pin. All those holes "Dr. X" had drilled were already starting to heal up and fill in. Amazing. The post-op x-ray showed a nearly perfect alignment of the joint.

Dr Bassinger's office gave us a regimen of physical therapy, range of motion, and hot / cold pack treatments for the next 10 days following the operation. They also informed us that in order for Bear to have a chance of regaining full use of the elbow, he'd probably require extensive hydro and physical therapy.

Obviously Bear wasn't able to put full weight on the leg, and the amount of muscle mass loss due to lack of use and atrophy was frankly shocking. But he still had all 4 legs, and there was hope.

Now let me say here, that Pat Watts is my "Sister-from-another-mother." We've been pretty much best friends / extended family for many years. Naturally we met because of Boykin Spaniels. With the blessing of my wonderful wife, I stayed at Pat's home, crashing on the couch so I could be next to my dog. Pat had very generously offered to keep Bear for his follow up physical therapy and treatment. I didn't want to burden her with all the nursing that would be required at home that first week after his surgery.

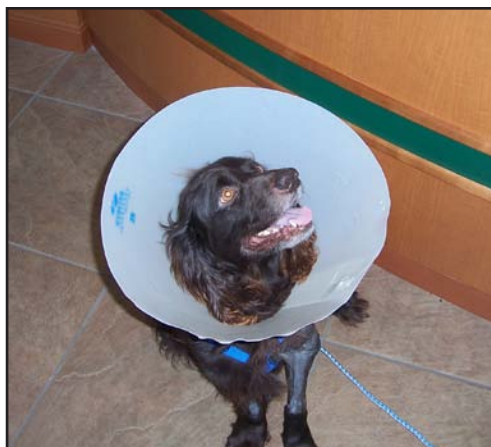
Then, of course, I had to go back off shore.

The report from South Carolina is that Bear is walking and playing almost normally. He's allowed to swim in Lake Murray to his heart's content. Looks like everything is going to be OK with my little brown dog.

The initial plan had been for Bear to undergo a minimum of 6 to 9 post surgery hydro and physical therapy sessions. However, due to his rapid recovery and excellent physical condition, that regimen was revised to one session per week for three weeks.

I am ultimately responsible for everything that I've put my little buddy through. I can blame it on the vet(s). What a painful lesson. I'll certainly continue to take advice from my local vet, however I in cases of very serious situations, I'll get as much input from people I truly trust.

Don't even ask how much all this cost..... I'll just leave it at that.



The Rule of 7's

By Pat Schaap

By the time a puppy is seven weeks old he/she should have:

- Been on 7 different types of surfaces: carpet, concrete, wood, vinyl, grass, dirt, gravel, wood chips, sand
- Played with 7 different types of objects: big balls, small balls, soft fabric toys, fuzzy toys, squeaky toys, paper or cardboard items, metal items, sticks or hose pieces
- Been in 7 different locations: front yard, back yard, basement, kitchen, car, garage, laundry room, bathroom
- Met and played with 7 new people: include children and older adults, someone walking with a cane or stick, someone in a wheelchair or walker
- Been exposed to 7 challenges: climb on a box, climb off a box, go through a tunnel, climb steps, go down steps, climb over obstacles, play hide and seek, in and out of a doorway with a step up or down, run around a fence
- Eaten from 7 different containers: metal, plastic, cardboard, paper, china, pie plate, frying pan
- Eaten in 7 different locations: crate, yard, kitchen, basement, laundry room, living room, bathroom



What a Stud

By Karen Lowry

Our male Boykin Spaniel, Bean, is a very handsome dog. Compact, broad-chested, sleek and sturdy, masculine, big head. He reminds me of a football player I used to date. He's not stupid by any means, but he definitely has more brawn than brains. He has such a gentle spirit he doesn't know his own strength. Oh and might I add that when our female Boykin Spaniel is in season, his brains are definitely in his—you know.

A while back we were approached by a family whose female Boykin is from the same litter as our female. They wanted Bean to sire their dog's puppies. We took Bean over to their house for a get-acquainted visit and things looked promising. So when their vet said the time was right, they brought their adorable little Cocoa over to spend a couple of days with Bean.

Our female is also named Cocoa. She is older than Bean and she thinks she is the top dog at our house so the two have never actually mated. But Bean courts her anyway. He never seems to give up hope.

When the guest Cocoa arrived the entertainment began. It was fun to see the Cocoa sisters together. Of course they had a striking resemblance. The same ear and head shape and the same little cowlick on the top of their heads. But our Cocoa seemed huge compared to her more petite sister. The girls seemed to get along right from the start. And

Bean was thrilled beyond measure to have a new girl in his yard.

Little Cocoa was horrified when her family left her with two bigger dogs in a strange place. But with the spunkiness of a true Boykin, she refused to cower. She was polite to let Bean do his doggie handshake (get-acquainted sniff) but when he lingered she wrinkled up her nose and snarled like a fighting dog.

For the next two hours it was like being a fly-on-the-wall watching a teenaged girl on a date with lech. Every time he got fresh she slapped his face and he would back off for a moment then he'd come right back. If he turned away for more than a few seconds she would go lie down in front of him.

Our Cocoa seemed oblivious to the commotion. In fact at one point she pretended to nap and would occasionally open one eye to glance disgustingly at the two noisemakers disturbing her slumber. One thing did bother her and that was for us to call the other dog by her name. So with all the snarling the littlest Cocoa was doing we nicknamed her Cujo and that seemed to work for everybody.

Little Cocoa/Cujo's family had wisely brought her bed and we put it in the corner of our den. At bedtime our dogs settled into their usual sleeping spots then little Cocoa/Cujo went to her bed, turned her back on all of us, threw a

condescending look over her shoulder, tucked her head under her paw, and went to sleep.

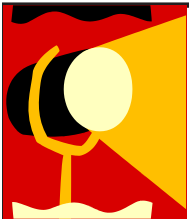
Early the next morning the dance of the dogs started again with Bean tirelessly pursuing his crush like a clumsy adolescent with a bit of a Forrest Gump innocence about him. Cocoa/Cujo fiercely defended her honor, snarling and snapping to prove she wasn't easy. But she was a tease. If Bean ever for a moment seemed to lose interest, she nibbled at his ears to get him stirred up again.

Little Cocoa/Cujo stayed with us for two days. Her cycle came and went—along with my husband's plans for spending the money he had hoped to make using Bean as a stud dog. Poor Bean never was able to score.

I decided that dog breeding is a lot more complicated than letting nature take its course. From now on, I think I'll leave the breeding to the experts.

Meanwhile, Bean is just as handsome as ever. When he snuggles up next to me my heart melts. He adores our Cocoa and he maintains hope that some day she will succumb to his charms because just like any bumbling adolescent boy, he still believes in his heart that he's a stud.

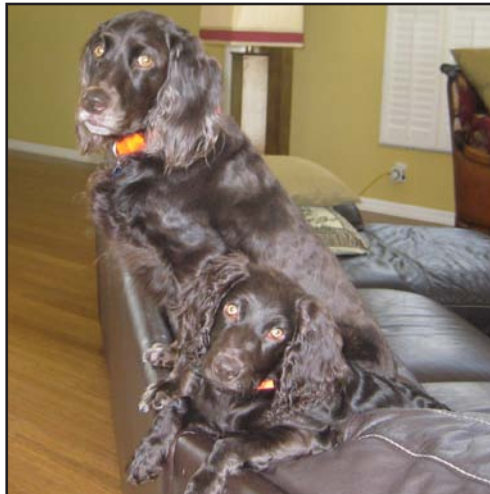
© 2009 Karen Lowry,
Mountain Brook, Alabama



Spotlight on . . .



**Hollow Creek's "Spencer" at 9 wks.
enjoying his first swim!**



Owner Joaquin Diaz of Apollo Beach, Florida



**Chesagrove Farms "Rex" pictured
here at 4 1/2 yrs.**

Waggin' Tails . . .



Above: "Cocoa" after her first walk on the beach, Below: with a pinecone
Owner: Susan Miller



"Gus"
Owners: Jim and Jacie Norine



"Gussie's" 1st snow!
Owner: Bob Gryb



4 year old Cocoa-pup "Brown" was rescued from a high-kill shelter in South Carolina as a puppy.
Owner: Margaret Blickenderfer of Flemington, NJ.



1 year old J&L's Crooked Creek "Kirby" He is developing into a good retriever and even got a few teal for me early this last hunting season.
Owner: John Wells

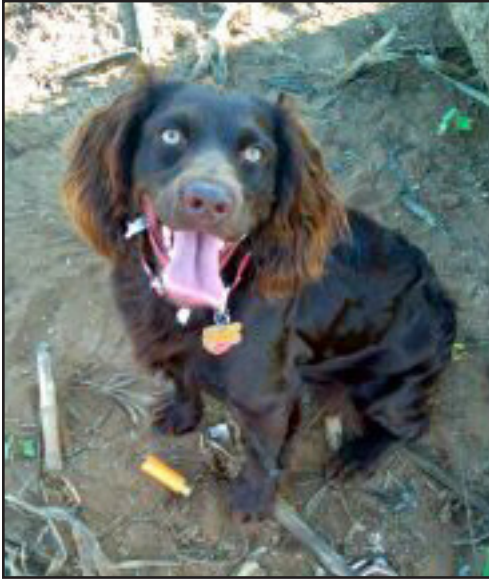


PJF's Pawleys Island "Daisy" and PJF's Pawleys Island "Jackson"

We visit Pawleys Island, SC, Rangeley, ME, and Neshanic Station, NJ at various times of the year. Think of the outdoors available for these two.

Owners: Joe and Pat Frick





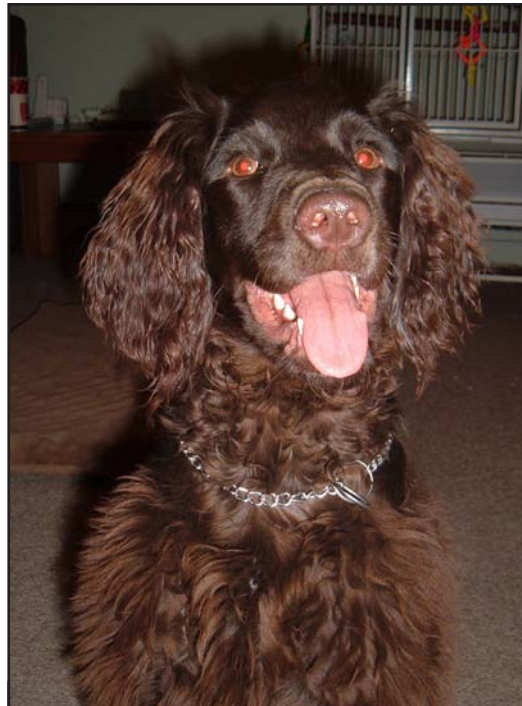
Hollow Creek Christmas "Holly"
Below: on a duck & dove
hunt with my kids
Owner: Brian Cothran of Anderson, SC



Maximus "Max"
Owner: Vonnie Wilson of GA



Lady Grace of Little River
"Gracie" is a wonderful duck dog,
but really shines in the dove field.
She's also very pretty, sweet,
loving, and very spry.
No squirrel is safe around her!
Owner: Berle and Cathy Wilson of
Elizabeth City, North Carolina.



1 year old "Luke"

Owner: Bonnie
Richardson
of Long Island, NY



This is "Lola" - my sweetheart!
Owner: Renate Piccinini
of Warrington, PA



**8 month old "Rascal" woke up to a snowy day in January 2009.
Owners: Scott & Christa Jordan of Aynor, SC**



**"Sullivan" on his 1st birthday.
Owners: Chris & Courtney Challoner of Norfolk, VA**



**"Sassy" and I have probably made 15 hunts this year. We'd try to go at least one day per weekend for 2-3 hours. She is a fantastic hunter/retriever.
Owner: Craig Parker of Houston, Texas**



Cache River "Hank" is already retrieving dummies from the ocean!

Owner: John Castro





BoykinSpanielsForever.com
Hollow Creek Kennel
 Patricia L. Watts
 803-532-0990



To feature your Boykin Spaniel in the Journal,
 Email photo with a caption or description and
 your name and state of residence to
 BoykinsForever@aol.com

Tuckered Out by Danny O'Driscoll



For information about
 Tuckered Out, which features
 Hollow Creek's Chocolate
 Mouse & GRCH
 Hollow Creek's Alli-gator,
 contact Danny O'Driscoll
<http://dannyo-driscoll.com>

Web Links:

American Kennel Club - www.akc.org • Boykin Spaniel Rescue - www.boykinrescue.org
 OFA - www.offa.org • CERF - <http://www.vmdb.org/cerf.html>



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