

BOYKIN SPANIELS FOREVER

QUARTERLY JOURNAL

VOLUME III

2006



Editorial:

With the ever expanding world of online communication, several Boykin Spaniel enthusiasts have gathered online to discuss their favorite subject: Boykin Spaniels! While there have been active forums and bulletin boards elsewhere on the 'net, Yahoo! Groups has emerged as the current preference for ease of use and it's free cost for service.

The "Boykin Rescue News" is largest group with over 400 members. This group's address is still located at: groups.yahoo.com/group/BoykinRescueNews/; however there has been little to no activity since August 2004.

The group with the largest membership in activity is the "Boulder Brook Kennel Newsletter" group with over 270 members. Located at groups.yahoo.com/group/boykinfans/, membership to this list receive periodic newsletters from the list owner. The newsletters can be controversial; however it is always a pleasure to receive as it contains interesting political opinions and other spaniel related topics.

The Boykin Spaniel Quarterly Journal is the new kid on the block and it's also free to all who sign up. It already has a membership exceeding 200. The Boykin Spaniel Quarterly Journal offers a professional quality newsletter which features photos and articles of interest which are mainly generated from its readers. This journal provides the opportunity for everyone to participate and do a little bragging about their Boykin's without the burden of paying any membership dues. The Boykin Spaniel Quarterly Journal can be accessed at BoykinSpanielsForever.com.

Home to the largest discussion list, groups.yahoo.com/group/BoykinSpaniel/ is the address for the "Boykin Spaniel" group. Per the groups description "This is an email group devoted to widespread, useful and enjoyable discussion of the Boykin Spaniel breed. It was created to celebrate the versatility of the Boykin Spaniel. A positive, open view of all dog sports, venues & clubs is required."

A dues membership Boykin Spaniel group is the Mid-South Boykin Spaniel Retriever Club which is a UKC HRC and Boykin Spaniel Society supporting club. Newly formed in January 2006, this list supports the MSBSRC's agenda for "enthusiasts in Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee, Florida, Kentucky,

Louisiana and Arkansas."

groups.yahoo.com/group/MSBSRC/ is their address.

The Joey Mines show on Fox South also features segments on the Boykin Spaniel breed. As the owner of a terrific little Boykin, his love for the breed is evident. Check out his website for scheduling information.

As more Boykin Spaniel clubs are formed nationwide, there will undoubtedly be more email groups and forums to communicate and discuss the aspects of this fantastic breed.

I encourage you to participate in all these ventures. You will gain valuable information and knowledge about the diversity of the breed and it's breeders, owners and fanciers.



- Patricia L. Watts

Pups on the ground...
Christine Dewitt (843) 346-3674

Tuckered Out

by Danny O'Driscoll



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

Cover Photo: "GRCH Hollow Creek's Amos"
in the Bluebonnets,
owner is Josh and Amy Young, Texas

Features

Events	3	Letter to Editor	4
In Loving Memory	5	Healthwise	6
Shake, Rattle and Roll	8	Waggin' Tails	10

Upcoming 2006 Boykin Events

AKC Events

July

- 1-2 - Amherst Junction, WI - English Cocker Spaniel Club of SE WI
- 1 - Oklahoma City, OK - Cocker Spaniel Club of Central OK, Inc.
- 6 - Ventura, CA - English Cocker Spaniel Club of Southern CA
- 6 - Ventura, CA - Cocker Spaniel Club of Southern CA
- 6-9 - Sturbridge, MA - American Spaniel Club, Inc.
- 21-22 - Omaha, NE - Omaha-Council Bluffs Cocker Spaniel Club
- 28 - Waukesha, WI - Fanciers' Cocker Spaniel Club Of Southern WI
- 28 - Waukesha, WI - English Cocker Spaniel Club of Southeastern WI
- 29-30 - Gervais, OR - Northwest English Springer Spaniel Club

August

- 1-2 - Canfield, OH - Lake Erie English Springer Spaniel Association
- 10 - Alexandria, MN - American Water Spaniel Club
- 11 - Greeley, CO - English Cocker Spaniel Fanciers of Greater Denver
- 12-13 - Hilbert, WI - Fox Valley English Springer Spaniel Club
- 18 - Greeley, CO - Greater Denver Area Cocker Spaniel Club
- 18 - Enumclaw, WA - Cascade English Cocker Spaniel Fanciers
- 18 - Enumclaw, WA - Puget Sound English Springer Spaniel Association
- 18 - Enumclaw, WA - Washington State Cocker Spaniel Club, Inc.
- 19 - North Plains, OR - Northwest English Springer Spaniel Club
- 24-25 - Lake Elmo, MN - Twin Cities Voyageur English Springer Span Asc
- 25-26 - Bothell, WA - Irish Water Spaniel Club of Puget Sound
- 25 - Lake Elmo, MN - Hiawatha Cocker Spaniel Club, Inc.
- 25 - Chagrin Falls, OH - Cocker Spaniel Club of Northern Ohio
- 25 - Houston, TX - Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Club of Greater Houston
- 26-27 - Simsbury, CT - Central Connecticut Spaniel Club

September

- 1 - Hamburg, NY - Niagara Cocker Spaniel Club
- 1 - Rochester, WA - Mt. Ranier Sporting Spaniel Association
- 2-4 - Granby, MA - Eastern English Springer Spaniel Club
- 3 - Rochester, WA - Puget Sound English Springer Spaniel Association
- 4 - Rochester, WA - Clumber Spaniel Club of America, Inc.
- 7-9 - Milo, ME - Maine Spaniel Field Trial Club
- 8 - Des Moines, IA - English Springer Spaniel Club of Des Moines
- 8 - Des Moines, IA - Tall Corn Cocker Spaniel Club, Inc.
- 8 - Owensville, OH - Ohio Valley Cocker Spaniel Club
- 9 - North Branch, NJ - Garden State English Springer Spaniel Club
- 9 - Howell, MI - Heart of MI English Cocker Spaniel Club, Inc.
- 9-10 - Corona, CA - West Coast Cocker Spaniel Club
- 15 - Fort Lupton, CO - English Cocker Spaniel Fanciers of Greater Denver
- 16-17 - Highland, MI - Southern MI Springer Spaniel Training Club
- 16-17 - Elk Grove, CA - Sacramento English Springer Spaniel Club
- 17-18 - Fort Lupton, CO - Greater Denver Area Cocker Spaniel Club
- 21 - Eureka, MO - Sussex Spaniel Club of America
- 21 - Atlanta, GA - Cocker Spaniel Specialty Club of Georgia
- 22-23 - Fort Worth, TX - Field Spaniel Society of America
- 22-23 - Davisburg, MI - English Springer Spaniel Club of Michigan, Inc.
- 22 - Fort Worth, TX - Dallas-Ft. Worth English Springer Spaniel Assoc.
- 22 - Shelton, WA - Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Club of Puget Sound
- 22 - Fort Worth, TX - Cocker Spaniel Specialty Club of Dallas
- 23 - Florence, WI - Tilden Valley English Springer Spaniel Club
- 23-24 - Tolar, TX - Field Spaniel Society of America
- 29-30 - Monroe, MI - Detroit Cocker Spaniel Club
- 30 - Romulus, NY - Sussex Spaniel Club of America
- 30 - Romulus, NY - Finger Lakes Tibetan Spaniel Association

CBSRC Events

- September 23-24 - Camden, SC - Annual HRC Hunt Test

UKC Events

July

- 1 - Freehold, NJ - Northeastern Multi-breed & Obed Club
- 1 - Montpelier, OH - Northwest Ohio Dog Obed Club
- 1 - Conroe, TX - Great Southern Kennel Club
- 7 - Bellevue, MI - All American Bulldog Club
- 7 - Bellevue, MI - K9 Fanciers

- 7 - Randolph, OH - Carnation City Kennel Club
 - 7 - Auburn, WA - Volcano View Rat Terrier Club
 - 7 - Auburn, WA - UKC Washington Classic
 - 8 - Midvale, UT - Gone To The Dogs
 - 8 - Hamden, CT - Sleeping Giant Kennel Club
 - 8 - Long Beach, MS - Great Southern Kennel Club
 - 14 - Longmont, CO - Twin Peaks Dog Club
 - 15 - San Marcos, CA - Rip Curl Weight Pullers
 - 15 - Lakeland, FL - United IPOC
 - 15 - Warrenville, IL - Smack-Dab's Obedience Training
 - 15 - Evansville, KY - Lincoln Trail Belgian Shepherd Dog Club
 - 15 - Apex, NC - Carolina Canine Pet & Performance
 - 15 - Hampton, VA - Tidewater Dog Performance Club
 - 15 - Buchanan, MI - Echo Club
 - 15 - Sunfield, MI - Foundation Kai Club of America
 - 15 - Minneapolis, MN - United German Shepard Dog Alliance
 - 15 - Sparks, NV - Silver State American Pit Bull Terrier Club
 - 15 - Bridgton, NJ - Garden State Kennel Club
 - 15 - Ixionia, WI - Wisconsin Toy Fox Terrier Association
 - 21 - Hilbert, WI - Wisconsin Agility Company
 - 21 - Locke, NY - Finger Lakes Amer. Eskimo Dog Association
 - 22 - Golden, CO - Frontier Belgian Shepard Dog Association
 - 22 - Cornell, IL - United Piece of Cake Dog Club
 - 22 - Springfield, MO - Competition Dogs of the Ozarks
 - 22 - Quakertown, PA - Hilltown Dog Training Club
 - 22 - Claremont, CA - Alaskan Klee Kai Association of America
 - 22 - Dixon, CA - Northern CA Toy Fox Terrier Association
 - 22 - Lakeland, FL - Hurricane Alley Amer. Hairless Terrier Assoc
 - 22 - Topeka, KS - Heartland Toy Fox Terrier Association
 - 22 - Sherwood, MI - Michigan American Eskimo Dog Assoc
 - 22 - Longview, WA - Cascade American Pit Bull Terrier Club
 - 22 - Dayton, OH - Canine Activities & Traditional Sports (CATS)
 - 28 - Simpsonville, KY - Mason-Dixon Multi-breed Association
 - 29 - Tampa, FL - Dog Training Club of Tampa
 - 29 - Schiller Park, IL - Windy City Agility Club
 - 29 - Grantville, PA - US Traditional American Bull Dog Club
 - 29 - Hutto, TX - National Toy Fox Terrier Association
 - 30 - Simpsonville, KY - United Shetland Sheepdog Association
- #### ***August***
- 4 - Caledonia, MI - K9 Fanciers
 - 4 - Lynden, WA - Volcano View rat Terrier Club
 - 5 - St. Petersburg, FL - United Dog Train. Club of St. Petersburg
 - 5 - Urbana, IL - Dog Training Club of Bloomington-Normal
 - 5 - Canandigua, NY - Bristol Valley Training Club
 - 5 - Dayton, OH - Gem City Dog Obedience Club
 - 5 - Tulsa, OK - Tulsa Agility Club
 - 5 - Austin, TX - United River City Kennel Club
 - 12 - Rancho Cordova, CA - Northern CA Amer. Pit Bull Terrier
 - 12 - Claremont, CA - South Bay Dog Fanciers
 - 12 - Clearwater, FL - Upper Suncoast Dog Training Club
 - 12 - Randolph, NJ - Four Star Belgian Shepherd Dog Club
 - 12 - Warrenville, IL - Smack-Dab's Obedience Training
 - 12 - Fort Dodge, IA - Fort Dodge Canine Companion Club
 - 12 - Muskegon, MI - Muskegon Lakeshore Obed. Training Club
 - 13 - Elburn, IL - Kay-9 Petiquette
 - 18 - Mechanicsburg, PA - Obed. Training Class of Harrisburg
 - 19 - Claremont, CA - National Toy Fox Terrier Association
 - 19 - Enfield, CT - Apple Valley Rat Terrier Club
 - 19 - Laporte, IN - Trail Creek Dog Training Club
 - 19 - Romeo, MI - North American Kai Association
 - 19 - Genesee, MI - Dogsports of Genesee County
 - 19 - Vancouver, WA - Canine Action Pack
 - 19 - Longview, WA - Cascade American Pit Bull Terrier Club
 - 20 - Claremont, CA - Golden West Toy Fox Terrier Association
 - 23 - Cornelius, OR - Mutty Paws Dog Training Club of Oregon
 - 26 - Stevensville, MI - Lake Shore Siberian Husky Club
 - 26 - Madinas, OR - Volcano View Rat Terrier Club

continued on page 4

Letter to the Editor - Who Will Be Nominated?

Dear Editor,

Thank you for publishing the Boykin's Forever Journal. It is a fun read and I look forward to the next issue. I would like to comment on your "Full Disclosure..." article in the last issue. I agree that Boykin breeders and owners should be free to register and compete in BSC/BAA, UKC, AKC and BSS without the fear of rejection or persecution from anyone.

I have been a BSC/BAA member for several years and thank them for the steps they have taken to get the Boykin into AKC. I will continue to be a member and support them. Like some other Boykin fanciers, I am concerned about the direction the club is going. There have been some very good things that have taken place, but there are many ways this club needs to improve the way it is run.

The information filtering down from the Board of Directors to the membership does not tell a complete story. I do not think the by-laws as they are written on their website are being followed. I never saw meeting minutes until last year. I have never received notice of the "Annual Meeting" to be held in May as described in the by-laws. I don't recall ever receiving the annual ballot for voting on who gets to be on the Board.

The actions of the Board on removing a Director were in accordance with their by-laws, but did not show the maturity of the club in a very good light. The membership is still uninformed on the qualifications of the Board member chosen to fill the vacant position. It is disrespectful to the membership to leave them in the dark about the people who are making decisions for the club, especially when they are replacing the club's founding member.

The by-laws describe a "Nominating Committee" in Article IV, Section 4. NOMINATIONS AND BALLOTS in which they may nominate new Board of Directors and also how to write-in candidates. I wonder who will be nominated for next year's board and if we will get a chance to select the best candidates to represent the Boykin Spaniel and run the club?

- "Requested Anonymous"

Outdoors with Joey Mines Fox South



Joey Mines and Hollow Creek's Lady "Bug" Mines

Be sure to check out Joey's upcoming schedule at www.joeymines.com as he will feature new segments of Patricia Watts and her Boykin Spaniels of Hollow Creek Kennel on July 15, 2006.

Boykin Spaniel Pups for sale - males and females, parents excellent hunters, to approved homes only. Call (937) 725-0783 • John Phillips of Ceasar's Creek Kennels, Ohio.

UKC Events (Continued from page 3)

August

- 26 - Ixonia, WI - Wisconsin Toy Fox Terrier Association
- 26 - San Marcos, CA - Rip Curl Weight Pullers
- 26 - Medicine Hat Alberta, Canada - Gas City Dog Club
- 26 - Spring Grove, IL - WI-IL Agility Group
- 26 - Columbia, MO - Show-Me Canines
- 26 - Dayton, OH - Gem City Dog Obedience Club
- 28 - Durham, NC - Triangle Obedience Club

September

- 1 - Punxsutawney, PA - AK9'S
- 2 - Conroe, TX - Great Southern Kennel Club
- 2 - Salt Lake City, UT - Wasatch American Eskimo Dog Assoc.
- 2 - Juneau, AK - Capital Kennel Club of Juneau
- 2 - Lawrence, KS - KC Twisters Dog Training Club
- 3 - Punxsutawney, PA - Appalachian Toy Fox Terrier Assoc.
- 8 - Randolph, OH - Carnation City Kennel Club
- 8 - Randolph, OH - United Rottweiler Association
- 8 - Longview, WA - Cascade American Pitt Bull Terrier Club
- 9 - Enfield, CT - Amer. Pitt Bull Terrier Club of New England
- 9 - Hollywood, FL - South Florida American Terrier Association
- 9 - Hamlet, IN - United White Shepherd Club
- 9 - Ann Arbor, MI - Michigan Toy Fox Terrier Association
- 9 - Minneapolis, MN - United German Shepherd Dog Alliance
- 9 - Jacksonville, AR - Pinnacle Dog Training Club of Arkansas
- 9 - Modesto, CA - Heart of California Weight Pullers
- 9 - San Marcos, CA - Rip Curl Weight Pullers
- 9 - Longmont, CO - Twin Peaks Dog Club
- 9 - Cornell, IL - United Piece of Cake Dog Club
- 9 - Laporte, IN - Trail Creek Dog Training Club
- 9 - Gloucester, VA - Belroi Agility Club
- 10 - Gloucester, VA - Tidewater Dog Performance Club
- 15 - Warrenton, VA - Shenandoah Belgian Shep. Asc.
- 16 - Lebanon, CT - Apple Valley Rat Terrier Club
- 16 - Bellevue, MI - MI Amer. Pitt Bull Terrier Club
- 16 - Sparks, NV - Silver State Amer. Pit Bull Terrier Club
- 16 - Hutto, TX - Lone Star - LS Toy Fox Terrier Assoc.
- 16 - Warrenville, IL - Smack-Dab's Obedience Training
- 16 - New Hill, NC - Autumn Winds Agility Club
- 22 - Windber, PA - Pride and Prejudice APBT Association
- 22 - Spruce Grove Alberta, Canada - Rose Cty Canine Assoc.
- 22 - Hickory, NC - American Hairless Terrier Association
- 23 - Modesto, CA - Mid-Valley Kennel Club
- 23 - Hollywood, FL - Mid Florida Dog Club
- 23 - Charlotte, MI - Foundation Kai Club of America
- 23 - Minneapolis, MN - Northern Lights Amer. Eskimo Assoc.
- 23 - St. Helens, OR - Amer. Eskimo Dog Assoc. of Oregon
- 23 - Dodge City, KS - Dodge City Kennel Club
- 23 - Montpelier, OH - Northwest OH Dog Obedience Club
- 24 - Antioch, IL - Four Paws Training Club
- 29 - Perry, GA - Israel Canaan Dog Club of America
- 29 - Perry, GA - Middle Georgia Kennel Club
- 30 - Tulare, CA - Sequoia American Pit Bull Terrier Club
- 30 - Golden, CA - Frontier Belgian Shepherd Dog Association
- 30 - Mizucho-Cho, Japan - J-Taz's Kennel Club
- 30 - Westfield, MA - Amer. Eskimo Dog Club of New England
- 30 - Bridgeton, NJ - Garden State Kennel Club
- 30 - Graham, WA - Amer. Eskimo Dog Assoc. of Washington
- 30 - San Marcos, CA - Rip Curl Weight Pullers
- 30 - Santa Maria, CA - Santa Lucia Open Dog Obedience Club
- 30 - Cedar Rapids, IA - 4RK9'S

In Loving Memory of Just-In "True Friend, Faithful and Loyal Companion"



The cover photo of the last issue of this Journal had a photo of Curlee's Just-In who passed peacefully with the help of our vet not long after that issue came out.

The prognosis back in December 2005 was that Just-In had only 2 to 6 weeks left to live, so we are very thankful for the five months Just-In gave us to adjust.

Just-In was as true a faithful and loyal companion a person could ever have. We mourn his passing but take great pride in his being.

Just-In, as are all our pups, was regarded as a full-fledged member of the family, and was quite sure he was a human, not an animal. He went everywhere with us and if they would have issued him a frequent flyer card he would likely have more frequent flyer miles than the average human.

He brought us all unabashed joy and happiness and instilled a pride that we have not experienced before or expect to experience anytime soon. Just-In was also loving and would eventually win over the most reluctant person.

My spouse, Michelle, calls Just-In the King of All Dogs, and for good reason. He was a truly magnificent dog, with such character, intensity, drive and an aristocratic bearing. He was a certified alpha male; no therapy needed. All of this is accurately reflected in the cover photo of

last month's issue.

Just-In left long before his time. His death is incredibly hard and wrenching. Recovery will be painfully slow, but forgetfulness will not be part of it. I have lots of stories and will try to remember them and record them, including the time he saved my life.

I choose the words of Senator George Vest, circa 1870, to commemorate the passing of Just-In: "The best friend a man has in this world may turn against him and become his enemy. His son and daughter that he has reared with loving care may become ungrateful. Those who are nearest and dearest to us, those whom we trust with our happiness and our good name, may become traitors to their faith. The money that a man has he may lose. It flies away from him when he may need it most. Man's reputation may be sacrificed in a moment of ill considered action. The people who are prone to fall on their knees and do us honor when success is with us may be the first to throw the stone of malice when failure settles its cloud upon our head.

The one absolutely unselfish friend that man can have in this selfish world, the one that never deserts him, the one that never proves ungrateful or treacherous, is his DOG. A man's dog stands by him in prosperity and in poverty, in health and in sickness. He will sleep on the cold ground where the wintry winds blow and the snow drives fiercely, if only he may be near his master's side. He will kiss the hand that has no food to offer; he will lick the wounds and sores that come in encounter with the roughness of the

world. He guards the sleep of his pauper master as if he were a prince. When all other friends desert, he remains. When riches take wing and reputation falls to pieces, he is as content in his love as the sun in its journey through the heavens. If fortune drives the master forth an outcast into the cold, friendless and homeless, the faithful dog asks no higher privilege than that of accompanying him to guard him against danger, and to fight against his enemies. When the last scene of all comes, and death takes his master in its embrace and his body is laid away in the cold ground, no matter if all other friends pursue their way, there by his graveside will the noble dog be found, his head between his paws and his eyes sad, but open in alert watchfulness, faithful and true even to death."

Just-In was just such a dog -- as true a faithful and loyal companion a person could ever have.

- Greg Copeland



Greg with Just-In and Sadie following an afternoon pheasant hunt in Platt, SD.



Healthwise

THIS JOINT PROBLEM MAKES DOGS AND OWNERS WEAK IN THE KNEES

A Human Jock's Ailment Also Plagues Pooches; An \$80 Pet's \$6,000 Bill

By KEVIN HELLIKER

A dog named Paddi was chasing a cat through a suburban Seattle neighborhood when suddenly she pulled up lame. So tender was Paddi's hind leg that her owner, physician Kevin Bulley, had to carry her home.

The diagnosis turned out to be a ruptured cruciate ligament, an injury that Dr. Bulley, a family practitioner, had associated only with humans. Cruciate ligaments hold in place the parts of the knee, and wrong turns on the athletic field often injure these cords.

The cost of fixing Paddi's knee was about \$3,000. She had barely recovered from that surgery when the cruciate ligament in her other knee ruptured, prompting a second \$3,000 procedure -- all for a mutt that Dr. Bulley and his family had adopted and grown to love. "She's the most expensive free dog I've ever heard of," says the physician.

Being an athlete is a well-known risk factor for cruciate-ligament injury. A larger -- but lesser-known -- risk factor is being a dog. The number of dog knees undergoing cruciate-ligament repair each year in America is estimated to now exceed 1.2 million. That's about five times the number of human procedures -- even though humans outnumber dogs in the U.S. by nearly five to one. And it's not as though dogs have more knees: The joint on their front legs are elbows that aren't vulnerable to the problem.

Dog owners often have no idea that this danger exists. Pennsylvania engineer Martin Yester, for example, investigated the medical history of his yellow Labrador, Sarah, before purchasing her as a puppy. Knee risks didn't come up -- until her cruciate ligament ruptured in December. Even though certain larger breeds have been shown

to be more susceptible, "nobody talks about knee problems," says Mr. Yester.

The extraordinary rate of failure in dog knees is mystifying even to veterinarians. Is the prevalence of such canine injuries rising -- or are people less willing to let their pets hobble on three legs? "It's a bit of a mystery as to the cause," says Steven Budsberg, a veterinary surgeon who is director of clinical research at the University of Georgia College of Veterinary Medicine.

Today, cruciate-ligament repairs are the most common surgical procedures for injured or diseased dogs. And inside veterinary medicine, controversy is raging over the best treatments.

A relatively new technique, called tibial plateau leveling osteotomy, or TPLO, involves breaking and resetting the tibia, the long bone below the knee, in such a way as to obviate the need for a cruciate ligament. The surgery costs from about \$2,500 to \$5,000 per knee. That's about twice the cost of the conventional procedure, which like the human equivalent involves constructing a replacement ligament.

Many respected academic veterinary experts believe that TPLO offers a faster and fuller return of function. But published proof of that theory is lacking, prompting some to avoid the procedure. For instance, surgeons don't perform it at the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine, says Gail Smith, chairman of the department of clinical research. He calls TPLO "a fashionable procedure."

Still, TPLO now is used for an estimated 50% of cruciate-ligament procedures in the U.S., and by all accounts that percentage is growing.

Such treatments have helped fuel a doubling of the number of veterinary surgeons in the U.S. in the last decade

to 1,219 from 660. It is also the largest factor in a near doubling of the average annual cost of veterinary surgery visits -- to \$574 in 2004 from \$289 in 2000, says the American Pet Products Manufacturers Association.

Like Dr. Bulley, hundreds of thousands of Americans are digging deep into their pockets each year for a surgery most never realized a dog might need. A November article in the Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association estimated that Americans spent \$1.32 billion to fix dog knees in 2003.

Without surgery, only 20% of dogs will regain normal function, says Dr. Michael Konzemius, an Iowa State University veterinary surgeon and a co-author of the November JAVMA article.

Even if Americans increasingly consider dogs to be part of the family, health insurers don't. According to the pet products industry and insurers, fewer than 3% of dog owners have purchased a medical policy for their pet.

A spokesman for the largest pet insurer, Veterinary Pet Insurance of Brea, Calif., says that cruciate-ligament problems in dogs accounted for nearly \$4 million in claims in 2004, and that no other condition had a higher cost per claim.

One claimant was David Wright, a San Jose software engineer who several years ago bought two Labrador Retriever mixes for \$80 each. The male, Sage, tore the cruciate ligaments in both of his knees in 2002. "The \$80 dog became the \$6,000 dog," says Mr. Wright.

Then the female, Kenya, wrecked both of her knees. Of the \$12,000 that Mr. Wright spent on those surgeries, he says Veterinary Pet Insurance reimbursed him about \$5,000. "Thank God I

continued on page 7

Healthwise continued from page 6

had that insurance," says Mr. Wright, adding that reimbursement for other, non-knee-related medical expenses already had exceeded the premiums he'd paid.

Unlike human knees, dog knees don't lock -- their back legs are always bent. That means the ligaments of the joint are tense whenever the animal is standing.

This helps explain why canine cruciate tears often occur over time in middle-aged dogs, while human ruptures can happen at any age, and almost always result from an acute twisting or turning of the joint. As in humans, the dog knee contains two cruciate ligaments, and the front-most ligament is likeliest to tear. In humans this is called the anterior ligament, in dogs the cranial ligament.

Few warnings exist for puppy purchasers or dog owners. The Web sites of breeding clubs typically make no mention of cruciate-ligament injuries while offering warnings and advice about screening for hip problems in dogs. The Web site of PetSmart Inc., the nation's largest retailer of pet supplies and services, offers advice about problematic hips in dogs, but not knees.



In the bluebonnets is
"Texas Trace Angelina Angel"
Ginger Hurley, Texas

Diane Dahm, an orthopedic surgeon at the Mayo Clinic renowned for her knowledge of cruciate-ligament troubles in humans, says she isn't familiar with similar canine issues. "I'm aware of hip dysplasia in dogs," she says.

In fact, hips troubles aren't as common as canine knee problems. But hip problems have received attention in part because of a proven genetic component. Puppy buyers can demand certification of a family history free of hip dysplasia, a debilitating condition in which the ball and socket don't fit well together.

Some research suggests that cruciate-ligament tears also bear a genetic component. There always had been anecdotal evidence: For instance, Mr. Wright's two affected dogs are half siblings. An article in the January issue of the Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association identified a gene that appears to predispose Newfoundlands to cruciate tears.

Eventually, this discovery could lead to a test that would identify carriers of

that gene, ideally enabling breeders to screen out problematic dogs.

Even now, some doctors say purchasers of puppies belonging to the larger, more at-risk breeds -- Labrador Retrievers, German Shepherds and such -- should ask about family history of cruciate-ligament disease.

"Unfortunately, there's little you can do at this point except ask about it," says Dr. Conzemius.

For many pet owners, the thought of spending thousands of dollars on a dog knee remains laughable. "I'd never spend more than \$300 on a dog, no matter how much I loved it," says Roger Holwick, whose eastern Kansas farm is home to eight dogs.

The fastest, an Australian Shepherd, has a bum leg that Mr. Holwick never considered getting fixed. "She rules the roost, and she doesn't even know she has a disability," he says.

Write to Kevin Helliker at kevin.helliker@wsj.com

LEND ME A PUP

I will lend to you for a while, a beautiful pup God said,
For you to love while they live and mourn for them when they're dead.

Maybe for twelve or fourteen years, or maybe two or three,
But will you, until I call them back, take care of them for me.
They'll bring their charms to gladden you and should their stay be brief
You'll always have their memories as solace for your grief.

I cannot promise they will stay, since all from earth return,
But there are lessons taught below I want this pup to learn.
I've looked the whole world over in search of teachers true,
And from the folk that crowd life's land I have chosen you.
Now will you give all your love, nor think the labour vain,
Nor hate me when I come to take my pup back again.

I fancied that I heard them say Dear Lord Thy Will be Done
For all the joys this pup will bring, The risk of grief we will run.
We will shelter them with tenderness; we will love them while we may,
And for the happiness we've known, forever grateful stay.

But should you call them back, much sooner than we've planned,
We'll brave the bitter grief that comes, and try and understand.

If, by our love, we've managed, your wishes to achieve
In memory of them we loved, to help us while we grieve.

Author Unknown

Shake, Rattle and Roll

An ordinary pill bottle is the secret to this playful method for avoiding hardmouth



The simplest yet most unusual aid ever to arrive on my doorstep was a plastic pill bottle filled with small rocks. Not surprisingly, it came from amateur trainer Don Goodwin, Jr., who teaches dogs with fun and games.

The bottle is the essential ingredient in a two-step method for getting a soft-mouthed retriever without force training.

Step one starts on the pup's first day in its new home. Goodwin begins preconditioning with variations of the food-bowl techniques outlined in my book *Speed Train Your Own Retriever*. His sequence is sit, heel, sit-stay, come.

During heel, he shakes the food bowl, which rattles the kibbles and captivates the pup. After a short heel, he slips the leash around a table leg and does a sit-stay, holding little Duke in place as he seats himself on the floor with the bowl in his lap. Being on the dog's level makes the pup want to come to him, so when Duke settles into a short held-in-place sit-stay, he releases the leash with a come command and shakes the bowl again. Duke eats

his meal as Goodwin runs his fingers in and out of the bowl, teaching that a hand around the mouth is a normal thing when something important is going on.

As the pup eats, Goodwin takes advantage of the time to establish pack dominance. He simply leans forward over Duke and strokes him, saying, "Good boy".

Step two starts after Duke has learned sit-stay without restraint and as he tries his first clumsy retrieves. Goodwin introduces the bottle of rocks.

Shaking it sounds like the kibbles

RATTLE TRAINING IN 2 EASY STEPS

1 Use feeding time to train for sit, heel, sit-stay and come. During heel, shake the food bowl so that the kibbles rattle, becoming a sound that excites the pup.

2 When the pup attempts to fetch, switch to a rock-filled pill bottle for the rattling sound. When the pup is overcome with excitement, let him grab the bottle and mouth it. Eventually, the plastic cracks and the pup is mildly scolded. The game teaches that hard-mouth is unacceptable.

rattling in the bowl. Duke comes running, all pumped up by Goodwin's excitement and the rattling bottle. When the dog is totally focused on the bottle, Goodwin says "fetch" and opens his hand flat to allow Duke to grab it. Duke runs around a bit, rolling the bottle in his mouth, but a leash assures that Goodwin can quickly take it again as he says, "Leave it". Lavish praise follows.

There will be few repetitions of this shake, rattle and roll before Duke bites down and Goodwin hears plastic crack. He instantly scolds his pup but quickly makes up and goes on with the game. Duke soon realizes that chewing on the bottle displeases his pack leader and is on his way to becoming a soft-mouthed retriever.

By the time Duke is ready for formal fetch training, Goodwin already has a buddy that wants to please, won't go through the "I got the dummy/bird; try to catch me" phase, accepts hands around the mouth and finds delivery to be a natural extension of the ongoing game. Finally, that game will include retrieving ducks reliably and without teeth marks. Rarely if ever will this fun-trained pup and his owner need to face confrontational force training.



POPSICLE CURE Dummies are firm enough to discourage hard mouth habits in most dogs. But a soft, fresh-killed duck is a whole new level of temptation. It's wiser to introduce duck scent through fetch practice with a hard frozen bird. But avid duck hunter Don Goodwin's latest dog, Pete, a Chessie, adamantly refused to take cold objects in his mouth. So Goodwin got a popsicle, seated Pete, and teased him mercilessly, bringing it near but then jerking it out of his reach. When Pete wanted it so badly he was drooling, Goodwin brought it close. Pete knocked it off the stick and devoured it. At the rate of just one day of his favorite flavor, banana, Pete was soon ready to fetch frozen ducks.

OUTDOOR LIFE, Source for Hunting and Fishing Adventure; March 2006 Issue

Credit: reprinted with permission of author to Pat Watts

Preparing for the Arrival of Baby with Your Boykin Spaniel

Preface: I had briefly written on this subject on the Boykin Spaniel Yahoo! Group after someone posed the question about how to prepare your Boykin for the arrival of a new baby. Consequently, the BS Journal editor requested that I expand on the subject for an article here. I am happy to oblige and hope this provides some help for couples with canines who are planning on expanding their families with the addition on a new human bundle of joy!

Our dogs had been our family for many years. When we planned for the arrival of our first child we already had 5 dogs in the house that were actively competing in various dogsports. While they were accustomed to the excitement and action of dog shows and extensive travel, none of them had been exposed for any period of time to babies.

It was easy to find many articles written on the subject of babies and pets. Most of them focused on jealousy, setting rules for the dogs & children to respect each other and otherwise integrating the new baby into the household "pack". Many articles recommended training the dogs before the arrival to not get on the sofa, to be "crated" and to cure and behavioral problems before the baby comes home.

Luckily we did not have any serious bad behavior issues and our dogs are used to staying off all furniture as well as crating and being separated from us behind doggie gates. This gave us an advantage but we soon found out that our real life problems were not covered in most of the articles.

We continued to train the dogs for competitions daily as soon as the baby was home

and consequently the dogs did not feel much had changed in their life except that a tiny mushy human was now toted around and spent time in it's own crate we called a "crib". The dogs were used to walking on lead while I pulled the crate dolly so they easily transitioned to me pushing the stroller without fear of the wheels. Our daughter attended her first agility trial at 2 months old.

However, our first major issue was at nap time. Our dogs like to bark. It was not an issue to us; I can practice selective hearing to tune it out. I quickly found out that I cannot tune out a crying baby who was awakened from her nap! If it was only one dog barking we could have worked through the problem with training, but 5 dogs barking at once required more drastic measures. When traveling, we always used citronella collars in motel rooms & for one persistent dog we had a automatic anti-bark shock collar to keep them quiet. I just had to remember to take them off when we were awake & recharge them so they would be ready for nap time.

As our baby began to eat solid food, our dogs found a new hobby in watching the highchair area for falling snacks. This was easily rectified by separating the dogs into another room by baby gates. As the baby grew into a toddler our food problem evolved and then multiplied with the addition of a second baby in the family. At times the toddler offered snack in hand to the dogs; other times the snack was removed from her hand without her approval. We were usually alerted to the latter with a piercing screech, and the former caused all of the dogs to gain weight. Shutting the dogs behind doors or locking them outside worked as well as trying to require the toddler to eat

at the table. Anyone who has children knows that this is easier said than done!

Unique to families to who travel, we encountered the problem of crate rivalry in motel rooms. The dogs who are tired and ready to rest want to hole up in their bed to sleep. The toddler who is ready to play wants to use the crate for her fort, or occasionally finds it is more comfortable than the bed to sleep in. To avoid the conflict we simply packed an extra crate and strictly enforced the rule that the toddler is only allowed to enter an empty crate and is never allowed to crowd a dog out of the crate they have already settled in.

As the children have grown up we are now experiencing the problem of a pre-schooler who wants to have her own dog. She has taken an older retired conformation dog in a few BSCBAA hosted UKC shows in the Junior Showmanship classes and is working her way to earning the responsibility of a dog for her own. Our current dogs have difficulty understanding her voice; in fact most humans other than mommy and daddy have trouble understanding her! We'll work on that puppy bonding with her and learning the sound of her voice and hopefully in time she will be encouraged to continue training her pet to a competition level if she chooses.

Only time will tell if her younger brother will enjoy the dogs as much and what activities he chooses to pursue with them if any. No matter what our children choose to do with dogs in the future, we know that our dogs and children are happy and safe living together as a family.

- Chris Prince



AKC Hunt Test Results - Connecticut

A recent trip from South Carolina to Connecticut to run Boykin Spaniels in an AKC hunt test was long, but proved very successful. Seven Boykins ran on four separate tests earning 23 qualifying scores out of 28 tries. HR, UH Pocotaligo's Philly earned 3 Master qualifications and HR Hi-Brass Harley, SH earned 2 Master qualifications. Five of the seven Boykins returned to South Carolina with titles: Junior Hunter Pocotaligo's Bess, JH, owned by Barry Beal/Kim Parkman); Senior Hunters: SHR, Fist Full of Dollars, SH (owned by Chad Funderburk), Pocotaligo's Taylor Made, SH (owned by Barry Beal), Pocotaligo's Juke, SH (owned by Sandra Johnson/Kim Parkman) and SHR Lulu's Captain Nemo, SH (owned by Butch Shivers).



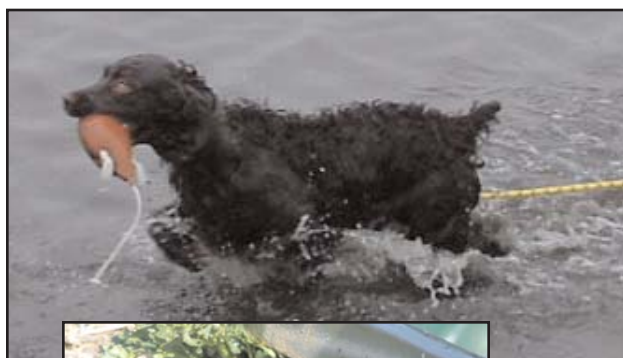
Waggin' Tails



"Hollow Creek's Wylie"

Investigator Ligon with the York County Multijurisdictional Drug Enforcement Unit in York County, South Carolina purchased Wylie from Hollow Creek Kennels with hopes of using him to be a narcotic detection K-9. Investigator Ligon is also an avid duck hunter. Wylie is already working off of hand signals and doing 30 to 40 yard retrieves in the water along with blind retrieves. This is truly exceptional for a puppy that is only 6 months old. Investigator Ligon says that he is probably the smartest dog that he has ever owned.

Investigator James M. Ligon
York County Sheriff's Office
Narcotics / SWAT- Entry Team Leader



"CH Hollow Creek's Amos" - Josh Young, Texas

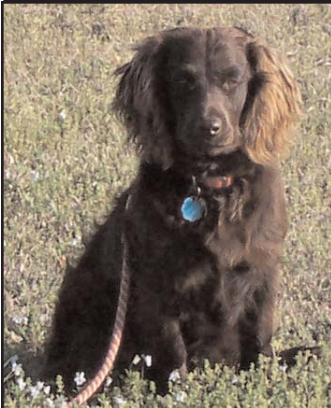


"Hollow Creek's Jackson" is certainly a water dog. He really enjoyed his first day at the duck club. Owners: Dr. Rick & Susan Nichols - California



More Waggin' & Braggin'

Frank Williams of
Marion, SC



"Catfish Creek Bitsy"



"Cedarway Catfish
Creek Abby"



"Hollow Creek's
Dooley"
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Web Links:

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



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