

BOYKIN SPANIELS FOREVER

QUARTERLY JOURNAL

VOLUME IV

2007



A Dog's Purpose (from a 6-year-old).

Being a veterinarian, I had been called to examine a ten-year-old Irish Wolfhound named Belker. The dog's owners, Ron, his wife, Lisa, and their little boy, Shane, were all very attached to Belker, and they were hoping for a miracle.

I examined Belker and found he was dying of cancer. I told the family we couldn't do anything for Belker, and offered to perform the euthanasia procedure for the old dog in their home. As we made arrangements, Ron and Lisa told me they thought it would be good for six-year-old Shane to observe the procedure. They felt as though Shane might learn something from the experience. The next day, I felt the familiar catch in my throat as Belker's family surrounded him. Shane seemed so calm, petting the old dog for the last time, that I wondered if he understood what was going on. Within a few minutes, Belker slipped peacefully away.

The little boy seemed to accept Belker's transition without any difficulty or confusion. We sat together for a while after Belker's death, wondering aloud about the sad fact that animal lives are shorter than human lives. Shane, who had been listening quietly, piped up, "I know why."

Startled, we all turned to him. What came out of his mouth next stunned me. I'd never heard a more comforting explanation. He said, "People are born so that they can learn how to live a good life -- like loving everybody all the time and being nice, right?" The six-year-old continued, "Well, dogs already know how to do that, so they don't have to stay as long."

Live simply.

Love generously.

Care deeply.

Speak kindly.

Remember, if a dog was the teacher you would learn things like:

When loved ones come home, always run to greet them.

Never pass up the opportunity to go for a joyride.

Allow the experience of fresh air and the wind in your face to be pure.

Ecstasy.

Take naps.

Stretch before rising.

Run, romp, and play daily.

Thrive on attention and let people touch you.

Avoid biting when a simple growl will do.

On warm days, stop to lie on your back on the grass.

On hot days, drink lots of water and lie under a shady tree.

When you're happy, dance around and wag your entire body.

Delight in the simple joy of a long walk.

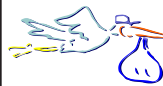
Be loyal.

Never pretend to be something you're not.

If what you want lies buried, dig until you find it.

When someone is having a bad day, be silent, sit close by and nuzzle them gently.

ENJOY EVERY MOMENT OF EVERY DAY!



STORK-A-GRAM

Hollow Creek Litters

Expected

November 1 &

December 13

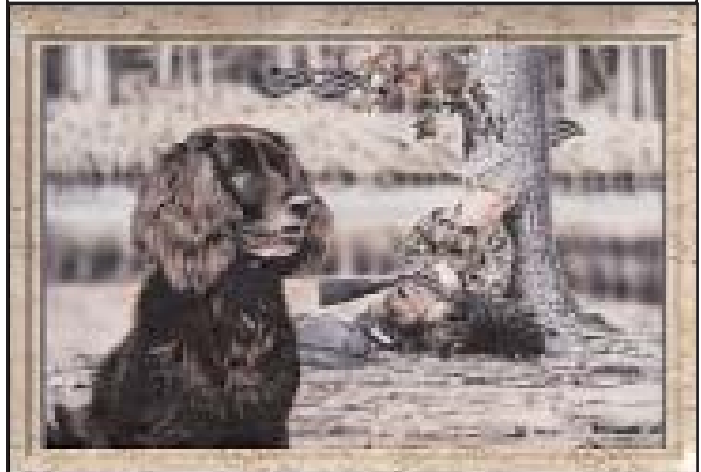
2007!!!

(803) 532-0990



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://dannyo-driscoll.com>

Features...

Editorial	3
Owner's Choice	4-5
Puppyhood: Immaturity vs. Capability	6-7
Grooming Directions	8
Waggin' & Braggin'	9-11

COVER PHOTO: "ROXIE"
OWNER: RHONDINE HORTON

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

Editorial

In 1986, Gigi Mabry Hucabee wrote an insightful article about the Boykin Spaniel titled *Owner's Choice*. It appeared in the South Carolina Wildlife Magazine and is well worth inclusion in this issue ... especially for those who have never read it. The new photos are courtesy of Hollow Creek Kennel. Many folks that Ms. Hucabee quotes or mentions are no longer around or are retired politics about this breed remain...but her description of the breed rings truer than any I have ever read. Our greatest "Southern Secrets" can now be found all over the United States and further...and they are now recognized by many national

registries including the United Kennel Club and the American Kennel Club.

Sharon Potter is a good friend and excellent trainer and her article on Puppyhood (pages 6-7)...provides a great base for training a pup. Be sure to read it and learn.

I want to thank all of our readers ...we are now way into the hundreds...for their continued support and contributions of stories and photos. Please keep them coming and be sure to identify yourself and the pets name.

It is my sincere wish that you all have a safe and happy holiday season....next edition is focusing on hunting so pick up

those cameras and snap some good ones....

Merry Christmas
and Happy New Year

Pat Watts
Hollow Creek
Kennel



Fall 2007 Hunt Test

November 3 & 4, 2007 Southwest Georgia HRC

Concerning Field Trials you can visit the HRC website:

www.huntingretrieverclub.org and go to premiums-test entry forms or www.hrc-ukc.com. There is a great menu on this site, with an item called calendar of events and there is one that has maps and directions. The AKC website is www.AKC.org click on events & awards search. Feel free to visit and navigate about. Some events of interest are for the HRC and AKC are:

October 6 & 7, 2007 The Maryland Sporting Dog Association, Poolesville, MD will be hosting an AKC Hunt Test. Contact there is Karen Cottingham karenc@dmv.com

October 13 & 14, 2007 Liberty Cocker Spaniel Fanciers is hosting an AKC Hunt Test in Chester Springs, PA. Contact there is Jean Marie Tate at jeanmarietate@verizon.net

October 20 & 21, 2007 Midland Hunting Retriever Club will host an HRC test. Contact info is midlandhrc.net

November 3 & 4, 2007 Dogwood Welsh Springer Spaniel Club of America will be hosting an AKC Hunt Test. Contact Susan Willingham at awillingham@bellsouth.net.

November 10 & 11, 2007 Charleston Retriever Club is hosting an HRC Hunt Test. Contact Susan Darby at osudarbyusc@comcast.net

November 10 & 11, 2007 Pittsburgh English Springer Spaniel Club will host an AKC Hunt Test. Contact Sue Hershey at 704-264-3052.

December 1, 2007 Charleston Retriever Club will host a one-day Club Trial. Contact Susan Darby at osudarbyusc@comcast.net

December 1 & 2, 2007 Cocker Spaniel Specialty Club of Georgia in Cedartown, GA will be hosting an AKC Hunt Test. Contact Sue Kelly at kelly.s@mindspring.com

Owner's Choice *By: Gigi Mabry Hukabee*

Seamus



FLOPPY SPANIEL EARS, docked tail and curly coat give the impression of a dark, slightly larger version of the dog's city cousin, the cocker spaniel. A "lap dog" some might say, but give closer examination to those demon-yellow eyes. Their intensity reminds that first impressions can't be trusted.

For the last 70 years only a small percentage of South Carolinians have recognized this particular breed as the "jewel" that it is - a supercharged hunting dog and a great family pet, the Boykin spaniel.

A welterweight among hunting breeds, mature male Boykins stand between 15 ½ and 18 inches at the shoulder and weigh 30 to 40 pounds soaking wet. Like a paint chart for shades of brown, coat coloration can range from dark chocolate to rich liver, often taking on reddish tints with exposure to the sun. Coat texture also varies, even among litter mates. Wavy to moderately curly is the norm, with a small minority having straight, short coats. Eyes range from amber to brown.

This small brown dog was no lucky accident but the result of careful and deliberate breeding by South Carolina hunters of the early 1900s. Wild turkey and ducks abounded then, as now, along the swamplands of the Wateree River in Kershaw and Sumter counties.

For those that floated the river and trod its swamps a dog was needed that could work both types of game. It had to be a breed small enough to fit comfortably in a turkey blind or in a cramped boat with men and camping gear. For turkey hunting it had to possess good scenting and flushing abilities and sit quietly on command. Duck hunting required alertness, marking skills, retrieving

instincts and a love of water. Also necessary were the desire and willingness to hunt. The dogs bred to fill these needs were the forerunners of today's Boykin spaniel.

As with many breeds, time and lack of accurate record-keeping have obscured the details of the line's evolution. However, tradition has it that the original progenitor was a small chocolate-brown dog of obvious spaniel bloodline.

L. Whitaker Boykin, of the small Kershaw County community by the same name, was one of those early twentieth-century turkey and duck hunters and is credited with the initial cross that resulted in the breed. Through his efforts and those of his family, friends and descendants, the Boykin spaniel was developed.

Other hunting breeds were introduced to improve the stock, although when and by whom is a matter of some debate. The Chesapeake Bay retriever, American water spaniel, cocker spaniel and springer spaniel are reportedly among the Boykin's ancestors.

The building of a dependable, recognized breed takes time, and for many years few knew of these dogs except those who hunted along the river. Any treasure enjoyed by some, however, cannot remain unknown forever.

By the mid-seventies the little brown dogs were drawing praise and respect from sportsmen across the Palmetto state. This attention did not go unnoticed by members of the state and national outdoor press, including South Carolina Wildlife magazine. (See "The Spaniels of Boykin," September-October 1975.) A decade later, much to the delight of all Boykin owners, the South Carolina General Assembly designated the Boykin as the state dog.

Recognition for the breed continues to grow as owners aren't one bit bashful in proclaiming the Boykin's sterling qualities as a hunter and its lovable disposition. These traits, they say, combine to make the Boykin an ideal weekend companion afield and everyday companion at home.

ALTHOUGH STILL USED AS A DUCK DOG, the Boykin, a many-faceted gem, has adapted to other hunting situations. South Carolina sportsmen use the dog primarily in the dove field, but some Kershaw County residents, including Dr. Baynard Boykin, have found the energetic, sharp-nosed spaniel to be ideal as a jump dog in deer drives.

In other sections of the country, Boykins are making their reputation as flushing dogs for a wide variety of game, often under adverse conditions. As in South Carolina, their owners can't seem to praise them enough.

David Parr of Newberry says that one of his dogs was sold to a man from

Buffalo, New York, who later claimed that this Boykin was "the best grouse dog he ever had."

Bill Gaddy of Tucson, Arizona, says of his Boykin, Rosie, "She's the most versatile dog I've ever owned, and I've been hunting for many years."

Gaddy often uses Rosie to flush quail and notes that after only a few trips she learned where the birds were and how to flush them for the shot. "It doesn't matter what the cover is; she goes right into it," he says. "We have a thorny bush called catclaw, similar to briar bushes in the South, and Rosie goes right into them. I take her everywhere. She hunts ducks and doves and never tires."

"I think what I enjoy most about my Boykin is that he adjusts to situations," says Kelly Mahone, a physician from Hot Springs, Arkansas. While confessing that Willie was purchased as a pet for his wife, Mahone praises the dog's ability on pheasant and duck. "He's at his best, however, when used in quail hunting. He'll honor my pointing dogs, then retrieve the dead birds."

As versatile as the Boykin is, in hunting situations requiring long-distance swimming, breaking ice, or negotiating turbulent waters, the larger breeds still have the upper hand. Because of the Boykin's smaller dimensions, it is also not a recommended breed for use in goose hunting. "They have the heart to do it; they just may not be big enough," explains McKee Boykin Jr. of Camden.

This explanation seems more than sufficient upon hearing from owners such as Jim Finley of the Chicago area, who tells about these spaniels' adaptability to varying weather.

"They are great upland game dogs on pheasant and chukar," says Finley, who uses his Boykins for pheasant hunting in Wisconsin, dove hunting in South Carolina, and retrieving blue quail in Texas. "They'll work in heavy snow and it doesn't seem to bother them. They just jump and run."

Thus, the Boykin appears to be a dog for nearly all game and all seasons, a dog capable of withstanding the merciless heat of southern dove fields and adapting easily to northern snows. Owners claim that the dogs are equally adept at becoming a part of family life.

One purchaser of a Boykin pup wrote kennel owners John and Anne Chappell of Leesville that in just a few days his dog had made more friends in the neighborhood than he and his wife had made in four years.

"If our children had been as eager to please as our Boykins," says Mabel Bush of Lexington, "raising a family would have been a lot easier."

"A people dog," says Dr. Eddie DuRant
(continued on pg 5)

Owner's Choice (continued from page 4)

of Sumter who has been associated with the breed for 40 years. "The ideal pet as well as hunting dog... the more love you give him, the more affectionate he becomes."

All owners emphasize, however, that the animals are much too good as hunting dogs to be used just as family pets. Intelligence, willingness to please, and their natural flushing and retrieving instincts combine to make Boykins a breed that practically train themselves through their desire to please.

"They are just as smart as a whip.... They have plenty of sense," says Nat Gist of Sumter, who has trained many Boykins.

If the true worth of a hunting dog is measured by performance afield, the small but stout-of-heart Boykin has changed many a hunter from skeptic to enthusiast. A gathering of owners is sure to unveil stories such as that told by Mahone about a ribbing he took about his dog Willie's small size while the two were in a South Dakota hunting camp. At day's end, after seeing Willie work, the same doubter offered to buy him. Mahone, of course, wouldn't sell. How could he when infected with the Boykin mystique?

Like the cry "Gold" among California's early miners, Boykin "fever" is sure to produce a contagious "rush." The case of fifteen-year-old Clay Watkins of Lexington is not too different from that of many juvenile and adult owners. At 13, Watkins read about the Boykin's talents as a hunting dog and, determined to have one, traded his hard-earned cash and new shotgun for a pup. He's since purchased another gun and when not hunting, he and Duxbak are found competing in field trials while father, Bill, and mother, Sarah, are judging the puppy classes.

In a breed known for boundless energy, a hyperactive dog is occasionally found. Owners say that a degree of this trait, however, is beneficial, giving the Boykin the extra energy to retrieve when other

dogs quit.

Every breed of dog has physical problems, and the Boykin is no exception. Malocclusions (over-shot or under-shot jaw) occasionally occur, but hip dysplasia, a degenerative disease of the joints, is a more serious problem for the tough little dogs. Both defects are apparently hereditary and can be diminished through time and carefully-controlled breeding programs. Informed buyers and conscientious breeders are the keys.

One organization dedicated to maintaining the Boykin as a top-caliber hunting breed is the Boykin Spaniel Society. This Camden-based organization began in 1977 with a makeshift office and volunteer staff. Within one year over 300 people from 25 states had joined. A permanent facility and two paid employees with nearly 2,000 members attest to the society's current status and to the popularity of the Boykin.

To promote the dogs nationally and to preserve the purity of the breed, the society has established a breed standard. While encouraging breeders toward this standard, the society emphasizes the primary importance of retaining the Boykin's natural hunting instincts. "We are hoping that breeders will take this overall concept and breed toward a better dog," says society executive director Kitty Beard.

As a further step toward promoting and preserving the breed, the society has founded a Boykin Spaniel Registry. From a foundation stock of 677 dogs in 1979, the registry now has over 4,000 Boykins in its computer bank. Of these, the majority are listed in states east of the Mississippi while the remainder are scattered throughout the nation with a few in Canada.

The Carolina Boykin Spaniel Retriever Club, another organization devoted to maintaining the Boykin as a hunting companion, promotes the breed through its hunting trials. Club president McKee Boykin Jr. emphasizes that the courses

used in club trials are designed to conform as closely as possible to actual hunting conditions.

"These trials give us a chance to work our dogs during the nonhunting months," says club member Kirby Jordan of Florence. "It's also a good way to keep the family together."

Hunting and the trials' hunting tests keep the dogs working at top performance. Equally important, according to Boykin owners, is the daily contact between dog and master. Boykins, like other breeds designed to work closely with the sportsman, need attention that can't be given by locking them up for use only on weekends. If testaments from Boykin owners can be believed, this is not likely to happen to the little spaniels.

The names given many Boykins - Wade Hampton, John C. Calhoun, Swamp Fox, Pocotaligo's Water Moccasin, Governor Riley - reflect the breed's South Carolina origins and owners' pride in their state and its dog.

Efforts by the Boykin Spaniel Society and the popularity of field trials held by the Carolina Boykin Spaniel Retriever Club will continue to spread the discovery of South Carolina's little-known hunting treasure. Performance of the dog under the gun and around the home, however, are the deciding factors that will make the Boykin an increasing choice for owners nationwide.

Gigi Mabry Huckabee is a freelance writer from Lexington.

Following are remarks that are under several Boykin pictures in the article:

Another of our home-grown treasures has been discovered. Unlike some prized possessions, however, this one is not being hoarded but shared enthusiastically nationwide.

If the true worth of a hunting dog is measured by performance afield, the small but stout-of-heart Boykin has changed many a hunter from skeptic to enthusiast.

Owners say the Boykin's sterling qualities as a hunter and its lovable disposition combine to make it an ideal weekend companion afield and everyday companion at home.

Intelligence, willingness to please and their natural flushing and retrieving instincts make Boykins a versatile breed.



- Gigi Mabry Huckabee



Article in South Carolina Wildlife Magazine - November-December 1986

Puppyhood: Immaturity vs. capability *By: Sharon Potter*

Expecting mature behavior from an immature dog will guarantee failure, instead use puppyhood to foster your dog's desirable traits

Gently yet firmly hold a puppy until he accepts your restraint and ceases wiggling and struggling. This establishes your leadership early in your pup's development.

You've waited for weeks for this day, maybe even months. At last, your new puppy is old enough to take its place in your home, your family, and your heart. In all their innocent and youthful exuberance, puppies have no idea what a heavy burden they are carrying — and most of us don't realize we've placed it upon them. That cute little ball of fur is carrying our hopes, dreams, and expectations.

Whether it's your first puppy or your tenth, the fact remains that we have a pretty good idea of what we expect him to do for us as an adult dog. Sometimes those expectations are the result of trying to replace an old dog that we've lost, or they may be thoughts of having a dog that hunts and performs as well as a friend's dog we admire, or perhaps we have dreams of winning in competition. Whatever the reason, we've unwittingly put our new puppy in the difficult position of fulfilling our dreams.

Can this puppy do all that? Assuming that we did our homework before we decided on this particular puppy, the answer is yes. Before we go any further, let's explain what we mean by homework.

First of all, does our puppy have the right genetic material to please us? That depends on what we want. If the parents were high-powered, big-running competition dogs and we want to compete in field trials, then yes, there's the genetic material available for our puppy to succeed. If we want that same puppy to hunt very close on foot, we've probably set ourselves up for disappointment.

Gently yet firmly hold a puppy until he accepts your restraint and ceases wiggling and struggling. This establishes your leadership early in your pup's development.



The reverse can be true if mamma and daddy were good, solid, close-working pleasure-hunting dogs and we expect something different from Junior. That's not the puppy's fault — it can only use what was bred into it. The puppy can only have the

genetic potential provided by the pedigree.

The rest is left up to us, as owners, handlers, and trainers of our young protege. When choosing a pup, have a vision in mind of what the end product will be, and keep that vision in mind throughout the dog's training. Use it as an end goal to work toward. The important part here is to keep it a vision rather than an instant demand. Getting to that end result takes time, patience, and training. Too often, expecting three-year-old behavior at 12 weeks or 12 months ruins a good puppy.

Learning by experience



Being in a crate should be a comfortable and happy experience, whether it's at home or in your vehicle. This puppy is anticipating having some fun.

Being in a crate should be a comfortable and happy experience, whether it's at home or in your vehicle. This puppy is anticipating having some fun.

One of the most critical mistakes made with puppies is not allowing them to learn by experience. Every experience comes with a "first time," and there's no way around letting them learn. Don't deprive your dog of the consequences of its behavior!

This is the best way for our puppies to develop good thinking skills, and by over-protecting and over-controlling them, we teach them to not use their brain.

It's kind of like rearing kids: You can tell them the stove is hot, and even pull their hand away, but eventually they will touch it; and at that point, they will find out what "hot" means.

As our puppy gets older (to the "teenager stage") at around eight to 12 months, the lessons become harder.

Think of telling your teenager not to speed when driving the car. If he's like most of us, the lesson will come in the form of a speeding ticket, and having to pay for his mistake out of his own pocket will make a valuable impression.

Again, we repeat: Do not cheat your dog of the consequences of its behavior. (Please note that there are times to make an exception, such as running after cars or onto the road.)

While you're allowing your puppy to

learn by experience, you do have some level of control over what those experiences are and in what order they are presented to your puppy. We've found that doing a good job of socializing puppies and letting them explore as their world expands allows them to learn with confidence.

One extremely important experience that is often introduced way too soon is gunfire. This usually happens due to human impatience: "Let's make sure he's not gunshy." If you have to see if he's gunshy, you'll probably be responsible for making him gunshy!

Loud noises need to be introduced carefully, and preferably combined with another distraction so the puppy doesn't focus on the noise. Introducing a pup to gunfire should be the last thing on your list of things to do.

If you take the time to do the socialization and allow the puppy to learn, gunfire will be no big deal. On the flip side, if you rush the introduction to gunfire, you may create the very same fear you are trying to prevent. You cannot make a mistake by going too slow!

Control and domination

One of the finest qualities a good bird dog can have is the ability to think on its own. We want a dog to go and hunt for birds, and this requires a level of independent thinking.

Expecting mature adult behavior from an immature dog will guarantee failure. One thing we see far too often is too much control

One of the finest qualities a good bird dog can have is the ability to think on its own. We want a dog to go and hunt for birds, and this requires a level of independent thinking.

or domination on the part of the people around the puppy. When we say control and domination, we're not talking about basic obedience. Basic obedience is what makes any dog a good citizen, both in the field and in the house.

Too much control and domination, on the other hand, refers to telling the puppy what to do every second and trying to make it into a robot.

One of the finest qualities a good bird dog can have is the ability to think on its own. We want a dog to go and hunt for birds, and this requires a level of independent thinking. A puppy that has been controlled too much will wait for you to tell him where the birds are, and if you knew that, you wouldn't need a dog!

(continued on pg 7)

Puppyhood: Immaturity vs. Capability (continued from page 6)

When a puppy has been totally controlled, it will grow up thinking that everything they do will be directed by a human — they will always look to that person and wait for directions.

This is great for an obedience dog but not what we're looking for in a gun dog.

We'd rather have an independent dog that will go after a crippled bird on its own as opposed to a dog that waits for us to tell it what to do and where to go to find that wounded game. We want a trained dog that can and will think.

Fostering leadership



Teaching puppies to relax on the chain sets the tone for later education by showing them how to accept restraint and be content wherever they have to be.

The kind of control we do want with our puppies is leadership. Dogs, just like people, need and want to have structure in their lives. They want to belong to the pack. Puppies, just like people, want to look up to and follow a leader who is confident, efficient, consistent, and organized. This gives them a feeling of security.

What can we do to encourage this feeling of leadership? Puppies want to learn, and the basis for their thinking for the rest of their lives is formed during the first six months.

If a puppy thinks it can do what it wants, whenever it wants, with whatever it wants at three months of age, it will have the same thoughts as a three year old adult dog. Our leadership begins with making our puppy secure with our control.

The best way to start this process is by simply holding your puppy. When we pick up a puppy, we cradle it gently in our arms. Usually the pup will wriggle and squirm, and while they do, we simply continue to hold them, gently yet firmly. It's not necessary to say or do anything else at this moment; just let the pup work it out while you hold it. Once the puppy settles down and is quiet and still, we will gently set it down. This teaches the puppy at a very early age that we are the Alpha in their pack, and they will submit

to our leadership.

Another important step in asserting our leadership is teaching puppies not to jump up on us. Jumping is a form of dominant behavior, and while it may be cute at three months and a few pounds, it's a nuisance at three years and 80 pounds!

Our preferred way of eliminating the jumping is to tap, very gently, on the toes of the hind feet as the puppy starts to jump up. Don't try to step hard or squash their toes; the objective is respect, not pain. After a few episodes of this, your puppy will come close to you and pause, waiting for you to reach for it, without jumping up. We start this at eight weeks, since it is much easier to prevent a bad habit than fix one later.

If we are consistently calm and steady in our behavior around our puppies, they will become secure in our leadership. If something happens that frightens them, use the same calming technique we described above. Don't overreact or panic, since an out-of-control leader is the last thing they need at that moment.

Often, if something is new or scary, your puppy will look to you to see how you are reacting, and will take their cue from you. If you act confident, they will be confident. Even if you are nervous about something, don't let on that you feel that way. Always act as if everything is fine. On the other hand, if you tell your pup by your actions and attitude that the world is a scary place, you will raise a spooky puppy.

The chain gang



This little guy is perfectly content to be right where he is. Note the relaxed facial expression and the position of the tail — this is a happy and confident pup!

Puppies can learn to be tied on the chain gang as early as eight weeks. This is usually the first time they are restricted; but given time to adjust, they will learn that being restricted is okay and that life can be an adventure wherever they are.

Another valuable training tool that can be utilized is the puppy dragline.

This is a short piece of rope about three feet long attached to a correctly fitted collar, or it can be tied around the puppy's neck, fitted the same as a collar so it can't slip off. (Never use a slipknot that can tighten and choke!)

The line allows the puppy freedom to roam around, while at the same time get-

ting it used to having a rope around its legs and the feel of a pull on the neck.

Puppies in a group will lead-break one another, since the dragging rope is just begging to be picked up and pulled on; few pups can resist the temptation to grab that rope as it goes past them. They have a good time and a big adventure while learning that a tug on their neck means give in, go along. This makes leading lessons much easier, since the pups don't intimidate one another when playing this little game.

As you train your new puppy, have realistic expectations and make plans in small steps, with the final goal in mind. Don't expect mature behavior in an immature dog.

Let your puppy have a childhood full of leadership, learning, and fun, and your final product will be a dog that thinks but has its energy channeled into working within a successful pack, with you as the leader. The genetics are pre-programmed into our pups, but we are solely responsible for the rest.

Our goal is to utilize and make the most of all the potential that is bred into our puppies, with the end product being a gun dog that will do us proud.

- Sharon Potter
www.redbranchkennels.com



Boykin Spaniel Grooming Directions

Step 1. Make sure that your dog has been bathed within the last 24 hours and is thoroughly dry. Use a dog shampoo with a color enhancer or a good oatmeal shampoo. Use a dog conditioner all over the dog's coat to enhance to shine and feel. Make sure both shampoo and conditioner are thoroughly rinsed from the coat.

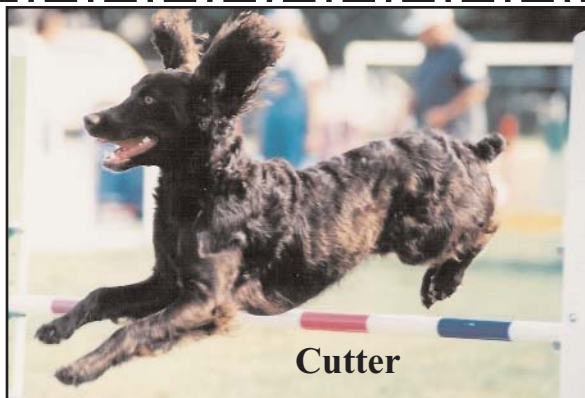
2. Top Coat: You will need clippers and a #10 blade. (Oster makes an affordable clipper and I encourage you to invest in a good brand of clippers. Expect to pay at least \$100.00. Start at the neck and continue to the base of the tail and down the sides even with the elbows. Shave in the direction of hair growth. Use a stripping knife (PetEdge.com) to blend in the feathering on the sides and loin area.

3. Feet: Remove all hair between the pads on the bottom of the feet. A pair of blunt curved shears and toe clippers are needed. First clip the nail being very careful not to hit the quick. Trim the hair from the sides of the feet. Brush the hair on the top of the feet in the direction of growth and trim the tops of the feet of any unruly hairs that may stick out.

4. Clipper cutting: Use your clippers with a #10 blade against the growth of the hair on the sides of the face from the cheek bone to the end of the muzzle. Clipper the top of the muzzle against the growth. Clipper the top of the head against the growth direction and 1/3 the distance down the ears in the opposite direction of hair growth. Clipper the neck area opposite the growth direction from the breastbone to the chin. Blend in any rough edges with the stripping knife.

5. Finishing touches: Clipper under the nail in the opposite direction of hair growth. Use a stripping stone (petEgde.com) to blend in any unruly edges. The final appearance should look smooth. There should be no hair hanging off the end of the tail or under the tail.

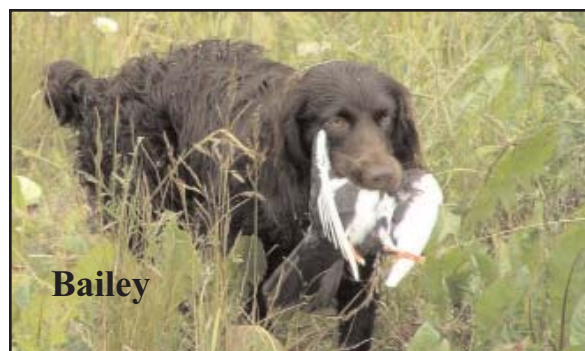
**REMEMBER ~ THE BOYKIN SPANIEL
HAS BEEN APPROVED TO ADVANCE TO
THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB MISC.
CLASS, EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2008.**



Cutter



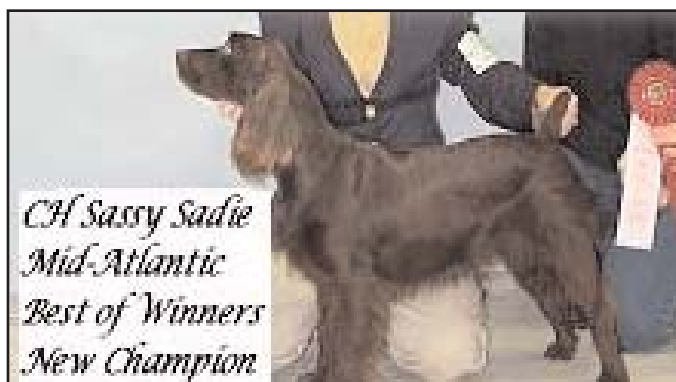
Cocoa



Bailey



Surfer



*CH Sassy Sadie
Mid-Atlantic
Best of Winners
New Champion*

Waggin' Tails ...



"Shako"
- The Robinson's, NC

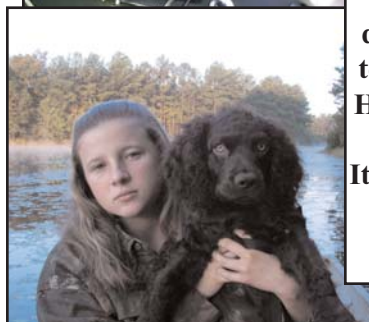
"Abby" -
4 months
David &
Robyn
D'Agresta,
Tampa,
Florida



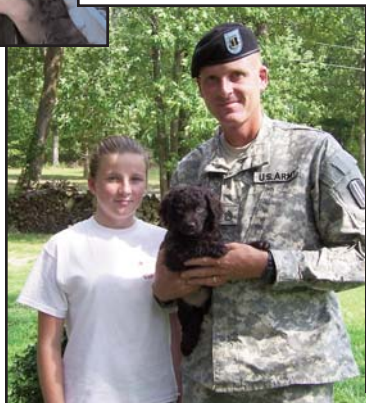
"May" - Christopher Blanton,
Columbus, GA



"Cooper" has two dove flush and retrieves under his collar now (which he now sports a new Clemson color). He is doing a few doubles, no blinds yet, but he is only five months old. He's a little hard headed on the heal, but we are working through it. He loves to play with our cat, she love loved to play too, until one day Cooper out grew her. He will do a up land test 20-21 Oct in Johnston, if they will let him. He will be a week shy of six months at the time of the event. It has been a life changing event having Cooper in our lives.
- Donnie Judy, Columbia, SC



"Jackson" - Josh Goff,
Atlanta, GA



"Beau'regard"
- Josh Roberson, Utah



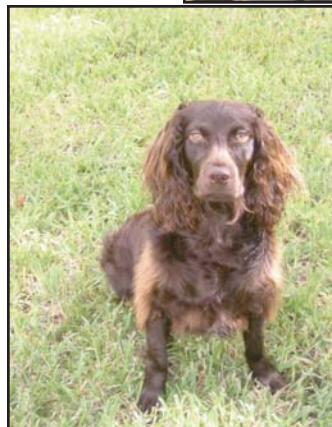
Yule Bruner, SC



Sam Houston on our big adventure to the Wagonhound Ranch in Wyoming this past January. Sam was 5 months old at the time. You can see he loved playing in the snow.
- Nancy Miertschin, Chattanooga, TN



Waggin' Tails ...



This is Jumper's upset look, because I only hit four birds. The day was a success because I was able to see good friends and to confirm that Jumper loves to hunt. - Charlie & Maureen Griffin, VA

Nashville "Minnie", a Boykin Spaniel rescue, earned her AKC Companion Dog (CD) title in Pensacola, FL, June 10, 2007, with my wife, Sheila handling her. This is a picture of her front on recall.
- Butch Norckauer Guntersville, AL



...& More Waggin' Tails!



"Pippin" - One of my favorite things to watch is him in the morning looking out the back door to our deck with the anticipation of chasing the birds away from the bird feeder. It is his favorite thing to do.

This is a shot we took of our dog after playing a little fetch in the back yard. (6 months old) In truth, we started out practicing T-Ball with my daughter and Pippin decided to join in by retrieving the balls after she hit them.

- Andy Isley



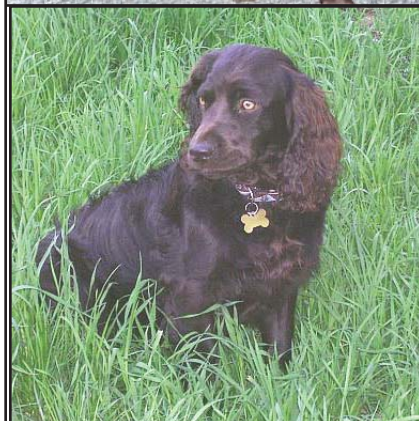
"Scout" is doing fantastic what a wonderful puppy.

- Kenny Richards, GA

I lost my Springer/Choc.Lab cross last May to cancer. He looked just like a Boykin Spaniel. Only bigger as he weighed 75 pounds. I was looking for another brown dog when I happened upon a Boykin website. I could not believe how much they resembled my Leroy. And they were half his size. I began contacting breeders to see if they had any male pups or older dogs. I had no luck. One night I got on the Boykin Spaniel Society website and found an ad for a male pup. I contacted the owner and told them about losing my dog Leroy. And how much I missed my brown dog. Carey and Tambra sold Tucker to me in November. "Tucker" arrived on December 1, 2006. Tucker has brought so much joy into our lives. He has a wonderful personality and loves to be with us at all times. He is now 10 months old and has started to flush doves in the field. He is a natural. He enjoys his swimming pool with his brother Luke. And he loves to go for long walks and swim in streams and ponds. And after a hard day of play he hops up on our bed and is fast asleep. These little brown dogs are the south's best kept secret. What wonderful companions they are! - Mary Whitney, New Hampshire



"Tucker" & brother "Luke"



"Angel" - Greg Copeland, TX



"Trapper" (8 wks. old) - Joanne Maurice, Calgary Canada



Happy Hollow-days!



BoykinSpanielsForever.com

Hollow Creek Kennel

Patricia L. Watts

803-532-0990

TEXAS TRACE
THE TEXAS HOME OF BOYKIN SPANIELS

Web Site:
www.texas-trace.com

Phone:
979-826-3147

Our goal is to breed champion hunters with a loving personality thriving on human companionship.

Got Anything Boykin Spaniels?

Want to them to be published in the Journal?

Email them with a caption or description and

your name and state of residence to

BoykinsForever@aol.com



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://www.vmdb.org/cerf.html>



QUARTERLY JOURNAL

BOYKIN SPANIELS FOREVER
C/O HOLLOW CREEK KENNEL
1018 ASBILL COURT
LEESVILLE, SC 29070

HTTP://BOYKINSPANIELSFOREVER.COM

BOYKINSFOREVER@AOL.COM