

Boykin Spaniel Rescue, Inc.

Summer 2016, Volume VII



Dedicated to the rescue, rehabilitation and rehoming of at-risk, purebred Boykin Spaniels.

From the Desk of Jill Freeman, Executive Director

As we are now into the back half of 2016, I am both humbled and grateful by the support of the Boykin community as we continue to intake at-risk Boykins. Through mid-July, we have taken in 36 dogs. Five (5) are heartworm positive, seven (7) are seniors, 3 are blind; 1 puppy requiring high-level fostering for an as-yet diagnosed swallowing issue; 1 in end-stage heart failure diagnosed during the intake wellness exam, and many others with typical conditions we see, such as skin conditions, ear infections, tumors and severe crate and/or separation anxiety. Three (3) intakes had issues, which have precluded them from being adoptable and were placed in our Permanent Foster Care Program.

We attended SEWE, Boykin Spaniel Nationals, as well as the Boykin Spaniel Club of Texas event. In addition to the tremendous support shown to BSR through donations and new volunteers, we also had the opportunity to spend time with and thank our volunteers and supporters, as well as meet new friends and develop new relationships.

ShopBSR continues to bring in new and fun items- new tees in summer colors, as well as items for the home and on-the-go. Please visit our website and see all the new offerings!

We are very grateful to all of you who answered our call to #thestanleypromise. His is a legacy we all will remember for some time to come, and your support of our initiative will allow us to continue on our mission.

Enjoy your summer!

Jill



Eric and Paw's Training Corner

Recall and the "Here" Command

Now that your dog has a good understanding of the "Sit and Heel" commands and is honoring these consistently, you can move into "Here" or recall as some refer to this command. "Here" is a critical command to your dog from both a control, as well as safety, perspective. The question I would ask anyone who has a dog is the following: "Can you stop your dog at any moment during any circumstance and command the dog to come to you immediately"? If you answered "No" to this question, then you have created an unsafe environment for your beloved pet. At some point your dog is going to be hurt or possibly killed due to the owner not instilling obedience into the dog and thus an opportunity for disaster. Here's an example: You are on vacation and your dog slips the lead and runs after a squirrel and the squirrel runs across the road with dog ensuing. If you can't stop the dog and command a safe return, then the outcome is going to be extremely bad.

Teaching "Here" is just another step in the direction of pleasurable dog ownership. You will need some treats for food-motivated dogs or a ball or bumper for work-motivated dogs and a check cord. Start in a controlled environment such as the house, or garage, and with the check cord on the dog. State the command "Here" and, if needed, show the treat or ball. With the correct response from the dog, the treat/ball/bumper is given when they comply along with praise for a great job. Then immediately take the ball/bumper from them with the command leave. If using treats, provide the treat followed by praise and a pat on the back, neck or chest...not the head. I'm not a fan of patting the head as it is a sensitive area and they would much rather receive a couple of firm pats in the back, side or chest area. If the correct response is not achieved, then another command of "Here" is given and reel the dog to you with the check cord. Remember less is more and always end on a good note. After several sessions, which can be days or weeks, then progress to a more open area and continue this same process while incorporating the check cord in case you need to reel them in to show the only option is obeying the command. After a solid foundation, and just like "Heel and Sit", you will then layer in some distractions, such as people and other pets, and continue to use the check cord if needed. Soon your dog will be grounded with the understanding that complying with this command is not an option, but a requirement. The end result will be a dog that you can control in order to avoid potential safety hazards as well as a pleasure to be around. After this firm foundation is achieved, layer in "Heel and Sit" and gain those responses before praise or treats are given as a reward. Remember, treats should ALWAYS and 100% of the time be given as a reward, meaning they do something to be rewarded for such as honoring a command, being obedient, kenneling, etc.

Permanent Foster Care Spotlight

Meet Snickers!

By PFC Foster Pat Paschal



Intake 2014



Snickers today

Snickers was rescued from a hoarding case in 2/2014 and taken in by Boykin Spaniel Rescue after spending a year at an animal control facility awaiting his previous owner's trial. A heart murmur and bradycardia was noted on physical exam by two vets when we were asked to foster him.

Snickers was diagnosed with a heart condition referred to as 3rd degree atrioventricular (AV) block. We drove Snicks, Joe (Boykin rescue) & Sam (BSR rescue) to The University of Georgia College of Veterinary Medicine for further evaluation by Dr. Amelia Sinkin and her excellent staff. Snick's prognosis was with the pacemaker he could live a long, full life. Without the pacemaker, he would be lucky to live 6 months. So, the next day Snicks had a permanent pacemaker (good for 8 years) put in place. Dr Sinkin also found hip arthritis and intervertebral disk disease.

Snicks has learned to enjoy short walks, riding in the car and the company of his fellow Boykins. We intend to make sure the rest of his life is safe, happy, good grub, lots of belly rubs and a soft, warm bed to curl up in at night. Most of the things he never had.



Where Are They Now?

Meet Sailor

By Dee Bee Wright

Sailor was picked up with his brother at a tobacco farm in 2010. He came to live with us over the Thanksgiving holiday in 2010. As he was an outside dog, we had to teach him about learning to live inside. He was anemic and had a poor coat, but with supplements and a good diet, he became a healthy, beautiful boy! He loves to be with us, and fits into our family.

Sailor just turned 11 years old, and is such a sweet, sweet boy! He is now very calm but he owns the house. We brought Maggie, a 4 month old Boykin to live with us about 18 months ago and she keeps Sailor on his toes!



Frosty Watermelon Treats

2 cups seedless watermelon puree

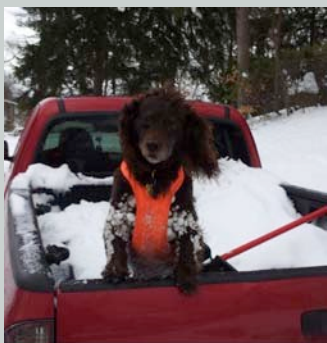
1 cup coconut water

1 tbsp honey (optional)

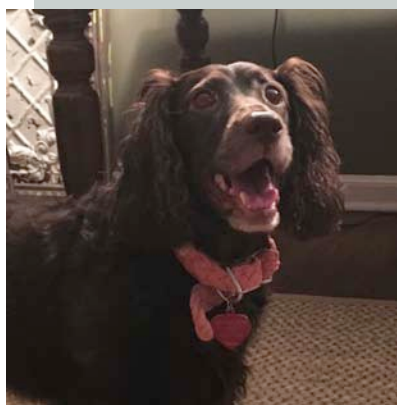
Puree all in a blender. Freeze in ice cube trays or molds.

Tip: Paw/bone silicone trays are great. They are available on Amazon for \$12.99 for a set of each (and don't forget to select Boykin Spaniel Rescue, Inc. as your Smile Charity of choice!)

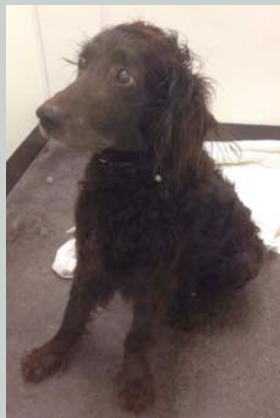
In Memoriam



"BSR Charleston Belle" Loved by the Phillips Family



"BSR Gabby" Loved by the
Pollack Family



"BSR Stanley" Loved by the
entire BSR Family



Where Are They Now?

Meet Cutter!! Living the Dream!

By Nancy Sikes

We had previously had two Boykins, who were family to us. We were looking to add to our family and Eric Grubbs introduced my husband to Cutter—and he instantly fell in love. He was soon a member of the family. Feeling nervous, he wanted to please us and be accepted. Apparently, he had been in 2 homes before coming to BSR. The previous owners wanted a hunting dog, and that wasn't for him—he just wanted to be loved! He has found a forever home with us—we, being retired and wanting a companion, have fallen in love with him. He and his sister, Cocoa the Cocker, are great together. He loves his toys, riding in the golf cart and chasing the sprinkler. Oh, and of course, he is our faithful companion, following step-for-step everywhere we go!

#thestanleypromise

In May, we were notified of a Boykin Spaniel in a shelter. His name was Stanley. Over the course of a week, Jeannine Culbertson and a team of BSR volunteers banded together with a plan. This is what Jeannine wrote at the end of the week.

"We in BSR don't generally post about what we do behind the scenes, but I'm going to break that rule today. On an average week we may be working to get 1 or 2 dogs into our system, transported to a foster and then on to get preliminary vet care to know what lies ahead for that dog. But a few weeks back we were actively working 7 cases: a stray for which we have a detailed 10-day owner search procedure; 1 owner surrender, 1 dog with another rescue deemed not at risk, 1 owner assist whereby approved applicants are channeled to an owner looking to re-home their own dog, and finally 3 shelter pulls.

For each dog we intake, a foster must be found and we contact regional coordinators all over to start scouring the lists of volunteers. Younger and healthier dogs are easier to find fosters for, although arranging transports to wherever that foster lives is part of the daily puzzle. Lately there have been no fosters in the same areas as the intakes, so we've started stretching up north, down to the south west and out to the midwest to get the job done.

And then there are dogs like Stanley.

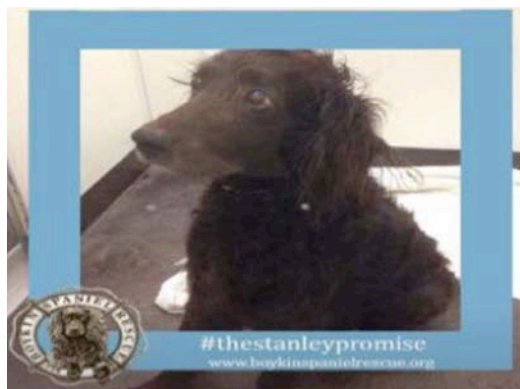
Our Facebook readers have seen me post about him, first trying to find a permanent foster, then when one devoted volunteer who had just finished fostering a dog for 5 months stepped up, more posts trying to get him to that foster in the Midwest. Today was to be Stanley's start of a life of love in his golden years. A life where we would cure his heartworms and severe bilateral ear infections, work around his deafness and blindness, and monitor some suspicious growths but otherwise nurse him back to health. All that was supposed to happen. But Stanley didn't make it.

By the time our special angel of a volunteer went to pull him from the vet where he had been staying while waiting for a home, we were met with veterinary staff who had done what they could but still had a terribly fear-driven, terrified and unpredictable dog that was exhausted by pain and the years' hard toll on him. This was a broken dog we couldn't fix. That special angel stayed with Stanley, helping him to cross the bridge with compassion, dignity and love.

This is rescue at it's rawest and ugliest, and yet, within hours, the messages were coming in about other dogs to track and investigate. We are thankful that Operation LBD can pursue the dogs we can't, and together we work to find a way, any way, of helping the less fortunate of the brown dog nation.

So in honor of Stanley, chip your dogs and keep your info current; give your dogs preventatives for heartworms, fleas and ticks, and allow them to grow old by your side, with all the love and care you have. Then, with the time and treasure you have left, consider helping rescue. I can't promise it'll all be fun, but it WILL make a difference to a dog!!

While we are all devastated by the loss of Stanley, we wanted to make sure that his memory is kept alive. We started #thestanleypromise- a conversation, and a campaign and pledge. What happened then shocked all of us at Boykin Spaniel Rescue. The Boykin community came together in a way that we could never have imagined. Hundreds changed their Facebook profile picture with #thestanleypromise overly, many people submitted applications to volunteer and we received donations in excess of \$24,000.



BREAKING NEWS!

Brown Dog Nation Keeps #thestanleypromise and donates \$24,306 to support at-risk Boykin Spaniels in just one week!

Six new volunteers have applied!

Thank You....

For keeping the Stanley promise—and keeping his memory alive.