

Welcome to the newly-updated Upper Midwest Boykin Spaniel Club website. Many thanks to Kellyn of NyaStar Kennels for establishing and maintaining our site. This club was founded in 2010 with the intention of building a support network for Boykin spaniel owners across this region of the country, where the population numbers of the breed are small, but growing.

In typical midwestern fashion, we hope and expect that our members will take advantage of this opportunity to establish their own somewhat local communities of Boykin spaniel owners. As such, the UMBSC only coordinates two "club events" each year. Our "**Spring Fling**" is held in late April/early May, somewhere in southern Minnesota. As hints of Autumn begin to arrive in September, Hunters Point Hunt Club in southeastern Wisconsin surrenders their entire 200 acres and beautiful cedar lodge to us for a weekend we call "**Boykin Fest**." Both of these events are open to club members and non-members, and they afford opportunities for Boykin spaniel owners and non-owners to assemble and have fun with their dogs and other dogs.

The details of each event are forecast and published in the club's newsletters, which are usually about a dozen pages long, published at least quarterly, and available only to club members. We have two types of memberships: Regular members are Boykin spaniel owner-families who live in our region, and Affiliate memberships are available to Boykin spaniel owners who live outside the region or to people who don't yet own a Boykin spaniel. Both types of members receive the e-mailed newsletters, but only Regular members are allowed to hold club offices and vote in elections and similar matters of club business. The membership year begins May 1 and ends April 30, and applications are available via email request to membership@umbosc.com and can also be downloaded from here on the website.

We strongly encourage all of our members to belong to the Boykin Spaniel Society for one very simple reason: if not for that organization, we would not have these wonderful dogs in our lives. Please follow the Internet link we've provided on the Home Page to the Boykin Spaniel Society website to learn more.

Please make note of the Gallery page of the newly revised website. These are just a few of the photos we had of Upper Midwest Boykins, our webmaster will add more every month or so as we receive them from members who want to share. And we'll also have another gallery page of member dogs with their title ribbons as we accumulate more photos of those.

The purpose of this part of the website is to provide periodic updates on the activities and accomplishments of the club and its members. I suppose there might be a few personal perspectives shared, too. More current information, as well as more opinions plus a chance for you to voice yours, is made available at the Boykin Spaniel Forum, hosted by our friends of the Midsouth Boykin Spaniel Retriever Club. The web address of the forum is <http://msbsrc.proboards.com> Newcomers have to go through a free registration process and it might take a few days for the MSBSRC site administrator to complete their end of the process. The forums on that site are a great source of knowledge, and also a way to learn more about the lives and lifestyles of Boykins and Boykin owners in other parts of the country.

I am going to close this first "Presidents Corner" message by once again thanking Kellyn for the work she did for us, and finally with a thought that was sent to me by a very good friend almost two years ago:

"I truly believe our dogs purpose is to inspire us to be the sort of person that they believe we are."

Thanks again to all who have made and continue to make this club a success.

Bruce Warnimont
August, 2011

Go Back to the Home Page at <http://www.umbosc.com>