

Cavaliers of the Midwest
04/08/11, Indianapolis, IN
Judge: Dale Martin (HMS)

I extend my sincere Thank You to Cavaliers of the Midwest for the invitation to adjudicate at their Club's April 2011 Specialty weekend on Friday in Indianapolis. This was my first experience judging at a CKCSC, USA Specialty Club show, and it was truly an honor and pleasure to get to go over your lovely Cavaliers and spend time with you who love this breed as much I have for nearly 25 years. The show committee is to be congratulated on organizing such a lovely weekend of shows; your hard work resulted in a show and a level of hospitality I will never forget. A special thanks to Kathy Peterson for her assistance in keeping my ring running smoothly, and to Ellen Poti, Kathy Matters, and Cindy Koehring for taking such complete care of me leading up to and during the show weekend; your efforts are recognized and appreciated! Finally, what would a show be without exhibits and exhibitors? So, my most grateful thanks are to all of you who invested your time, energy and money to enter, groom and show your Cavaliers to me. As a fellow breeder and exhibitor I never forget the hours of work behind each entry, and I always try to recognize that with the respect you and your beloved Cavaliers deserve in the ring. Thank you for matching that with your exemplary sportsmanship to my decisions.

Junior Puppy Dog (5)

1. Canyoncrest Star Blazer (Duross) Lovely overall balance, moved cleanly coming and going away, nice dark eyes and nose pigment, good coat quality, good tail set. **2. Miletree Carnival at Shirmont** (Henry) Lovely size, well-broken dark blenheim markings on a coat of good quality, well laid back shoulders, large dark eyes; needs a bit more time for nose pigment to completely fill in. **3. Krystle Coleman** (Torgersen) Good bone, well-broken markings, clean movement coming and going; needs time for nose to fill and bite to correct. **4. Denham Dynamite Joe** (Maddox) Happy boy; good turn of stifle and well let down hocks, but moving a bit closely behind today; needing more cushioning under the eyes and in the muzzle, which hopefully will come with maturity.

Senior Puppy Dog (4)

1. Marshelle Designer Genes (Stout) Loved the outline of this young dog; held a nice topline as he floated around the ring, resulting from a combination of his well laid back shoulders, good turn of stifle and well let down hocks; he could use a slightly larger eye, but that could come as he comes out of his "teens". **Best Puppy Dog**
2. Brookhaven Jessie (Ayers/Martz) Lovely cushy head, highlighted by round, dark eyes and nose pigment; nice cobby body; just needs time for his confidence to come and for his bite to correct. **3. Krystle Born On The Fourth of July** (Torgersen) Happy boy with a well-broken coat of good quality, and nice dark eyes; needs time for mouth to correct, and preferred the smaller size of the two dogs placed ahead. **4. Sandyglen Jazz Hot** (Fulton/Chertock) Very openly marked blenheim, with dark, rich red where the color exists; nice cobby body; earnest expression resulting from the desired padding over his eyes; unfortunately, he was not happy to be here today.

Graduate Puppy Dog (4)

1. Orchardhill Tough Enough, JW (Venier) More mature dog with good round bone, lovely outline and proportions, level topline finished off with beautifully set on tail; masculine head with desired cushioning, dark eyes and pigment, and lovely ear set; moved cleanly coming and going; took some time for him to settle and focus, but when he decided to in the challenge for Winners Dog, he was a delight to watch going around the ring; filling my eye for type and movement, I was delighted to award him Winners Dog and ultimately Best In Show at the end of the day. Congratulations, again, to his breeder as I was told this finished his title today! **Winners Dog, Best in Show, Best Blenheim in Show, Best American Bred in Show, Best Bred By Exhibitor in Show**
2. Forestcreek Brass In Pocket (Cline) Young dog of lovely size and balance; moderate bone; nice to see another with such beautiful tail set; this dog floated around the ring; round, dark eye, and nose pigment; preferred the bite on 1st place dog. **3. Dreamvale Smart As Th Dickens** (Warshaw/Sage) Lovely little tri-colored dog with good overall balance; lovely dark, round eye; nice cushioning in face; needs to settle down on the move, losing out to 2nd place in the last go around. **4. Jayba Johnny Jump Up at Kalidunn** (Dunn) Heavily marked blenheim with lovely flat coat quality; beautiful large round, dark eyes; preferred the movement of those placing above due to his more upright shoulders.

Bred By Exhibitor Dog (1)

1. Alderbridge Logan Crestbury (Alders) Standing alone in his class, I found him to be an honest, quality dog with lovely bone and beautiful tail set; his good turn of stifle resulted in strong driving rear movement; a wide blaze separates large dark, round eyes; regarding his head piece, I would prefer just a bit more breadth and cushioning of muzzle to balance his masculine skull, which unfortunately is "cosmetically" accentuated by his wide blaze.

Junior American Bred Dog (1)

1. Shirmont Password (Henry/Kinser) A more elegant type blenheim dog; well broken, rich red markings; dark eyes, although nose pigment could be darker; topline needs to settle over the loin.

American Bred Dog (4)

1. Quail Garden Tad O Magic (Barrett/Geller/Mittelman) Eye-catching blenheim dog with good balance and nice moderate size; lovely flat coat quality; soft masculine head with dark round eyes and soft expression; good return of upper arm highlights his forehead. **2. Brookhaven Enchanted Forest** (Clark) Cobby bodied dog and a very honest mover, holding a good topline; a bit shorter in the foreface, I prefer the more classic type head of the dog above; rich red body markings, but nose pigment a bit off today. **3. Tassajara Hugh Jackman** (Seidman/Hughes/Berkau) Moderate sized, heavily marked blenheim, with good pigment and eye color; carrying his tail a bit too "proudly" on the move today. **4. Avia Sgt. Pepper** (Marler) Nice cobby body, and movement was good coming and going; however, another one carrying his tail too high, and nose pigment a bit off today.

Special Limit Blenheim Dog (2)

1. Liane's Happy Jack, JW (Westfall) Dog of lovely size and balance of proportions; clean, rich, blenheim markings on a lovely flat coat; lovely dark round eyes; very nice moving dog, both, on the down and back, as well as going around, holding a level topline. **2. Brookhaven Jacob** (Fairchild) A happy boy with a lovely head, very large dark eyes with melting expression; good pigment and cleanly marked; a bit higher on the leg than the dog above.

Special Limit Tricolor Dog (3)

1. Pinecrest Dixieland Band (Scanlan Johnson) Moderately sized dog; his narrow blaze does not show off his large, round, dark eyes; clean moving down and back; level topline going around, and also standing when he finally decided to settle and focus for his handler. **2. Veribas Point Break** (Cusick) Another compact dog with nice moderate size and level topline; in fact, this was a very close decision between 1st and 2nd; good layback of shoulder and turn of stifle; clear face markings; interestingly, due to being so heavily marked on the left side of his body, with the black going well down his lower front left leg, it first appeared that he stands low on leg, but after careful examination on the table I discovered that his elbow is in correct placement (50/50) between withers and foot. Yet another example of how deceiving markings can be and the importance of taking adequate time in evaluating structure. **3. Westwind Me N My KC** (Koehring) A bit higher on leg and shorter in foreface than 1 and 2 above, nice large dark eye, lovely long ear fringes and shiny black coat.

Special Limit Ruby Dog (1)

1. Tanglewood Rebellion (Saban/Fairchild) Although a bit high on leg in outline, the head is not too "blocky" as is often seen on whole colors; although the eyes could be a bit larger in size, they are a lovely dark color, as the nose pigment is also dark; clean movement down and back; tail well set on.

Special Limit Black & Tan Dog (2)

1. Harana Rocketman (Stanton) When I look at whole colors, I look for the same qualities and proportions that I look for in parti-colors, and that includes the head qualities; this black and tan has a *lovely* head piece that would be considered a classic type on a quality parti-color (by the simple addition of a white blaze) including his round dark eyes and dark pigment; lovely bright tan facial markings, although the black coat is a bit woolly over the rump; nice level topline and a tail that is well set on; a happy boy and an easy mover. **2. Jax The Lad at Khatibi** (Maddox/Tarabad) Lovely shiny black coat and longest of ears on this black and tan; good dark eyes and nose pigment; preferred the head piece of dog above compared to this dog's shorter foreface and high skull; being a bit short on front legs also affects desired level topline.

Open Dog (2) My notes say, "Two lovely dogs!" In hindsight, placing this class of two dogs was the hardest (read, closest) decision I made all day! Both being top quality dogs with some strengths in common, they also each carry slightly different virtues, all important to our breed.

1. Ch Pascavale Stefano, JW (Cline) Squarer in outline than the dog below, due to this dog having slightly more leg under him; good bone; dark eye with good padding over the eyes, although I think his expression would benefit from a slightly wider blaze; blanketed blenheim with lovely, dark, rich color and flat coat quality; but where this dog absolutely excels is in his strong, driving hind movement, the result of his beautifully angulated hindquarter. It was my pleasure to award him *Reserve Winners Dog* and finally *Reserve Best in Show*.

2. Ch Jayba Don Juan, JW (Lander) Lovely, handsome-headed dog; beautiful eye and nose pigment; ever-so-slightly longer cast in body than dog above, with correct moderate bone; blanketed blenheim with beautiful, flat coat quality; good layback of shoulder and well set on tail.

Junior Puppy Bitch (5)

1. Der Hagen's Girl Can't Help It at Clamar (Clark) Lovely feminine bitch puppy; blenheim with well broken body markings; good level topline; well angulated forequarter and especially hindquarter; moved cleanly down and back; she possesses such a happy temperament! **2. Orchardhill Indiscreet** (Venier) Another very nice puppy, although bit "stronger" head type than bitch above; lovely size with moderate bone; good angles fore and aft; well

let down hocks; dark eyes and nose pigment; beautifully marked. **3. Brookhaven Darbie** (Ayers/Martz) Pretty, feminine tri-color with lovely head and eyes; good turn of stifle and return of upper arm. **4. Miletree Wendy McKenzie at Shirmont** (Henry) Puppy with good bone for age; lovely flat coat quality, with sufficient amount for age; dark nose and eye color, although showing a bit of white in right eye; not as clean "coming in" as those above, a bit out at the elbows at the moment.

Senior Puppy Bitch (8)

1. Hillwood Diamond Diva (Bennett/Miller) Solid bitch with open markings; carrying nice level topline standing and on the move; well set on tail; head piece is well balanced in length and width of muzzle to skull; good dark, round eye; correct amount of cushioning under the eyes and on muzzle; well set on ears; **Best Puppy Bitch** and showed well to the end to be **Best Puppy in Show**.

2. Marshelle Some Like It Hot (Stout) Another quality puppy; lovely moving bitch with well angulated forequarter and hindquarter; blanketed markings; lovely size with moderate bone. **3. Nightingale Kismet**

(Paplauckas/Mulligan) Feminine bitch with good outline and proportions; very cute feminine face and head; round dark eyes; pigment okay. **4. Angel's Pride Jane Austen** (Hansen) Smaller eyes than those above, but dark and with good pigment; another with lovely shape and with good angles happy temperament showing well for her handler.

Graduate Puppy Bitch (5)

1. Forestcreek Piece of My Heart (Cline) Very pretty, compact bitch with a level topline and well set on tail; rich, well-broken blenheim markings; lovely, feminine head with dark round eyes and dark pigment; true, clean movement down and back, and going around as well. From these notes made after her class win, it is clear that I liked her, but I had no idea at the time that by the end of the challenge, she would become my **Winners Bitch**.

Congratulations to her breeder, owner; I understand this was the first time she had shown her! **Winners Bitch, Best of Opposite Sex**

2. Clamar Lady Isabella (Clark) Lovely, elegantly moving bitch; very eye-catching going around; level topline; needs to fill in foreface, but may come with time. **3. Shirmont Apple McIntosh, JW** (Henry/Dodson) Good bone on this happy bitch; not the angles of the two above; good quality coat of medium color; could use darker rims to enhance expression. **4. BackNTime Red Roses On Velvet** (Niemi) Lovely ruby with correct head for a quality parti-color; true movement down and back; good color and quality of coat, could just have used more of it today!

Novice Bitch (3)

1. Althof Java Mana (Hansen) Lovely movement on this small, 10 month old, very feminine, openly-marked blenheim puppy; good reach and drive while holding a level topline; good pigment and eye color; face fill should come given her age. **2. Blueheart Jewel Of The Sea** (Berg) Loveliest of heads with melting expression; not the mover nor as well angulated as 1 above; very happy showing for her handler! **3. Piccadil Charlotte's Web at Krystle** (Torgersen) Happy tri-color girl; good eye color and nose pigment; coat a bit out of condition but adequate amount; showing a bit of ticking; more mature than 1 & 2 above.

Bred By Exhibitor Bitch (1)

1. Ch Denham Dreamed About, JW (Maddox) Pretty headed feminine ruby; good proportions; speedy mover; nose pigment off, but lovely dark round eye.

Junior American Bred Bitch (5)

1. Althof Café D'Amour (Hansen) Lovely compact outline; rich blenheim markings; true movement down and back, and good movement going around, as well; but head piece is out of balance with back skull too wide for length of muzzle. **2. Pinecrest Whistlin' Dixie** (Eubank) Another lovely outline; good level topline, well angulated front and hind quarters; a bit wide coming in; lovely headed, in spite of very narrow blaze. **3. Brookhaven Enchanting Dawn, JW** (Ayers/Martz) Yet another with a good outline; good bone on this richly colored Blenheim; dark eyes and pigment; good angles, especially her rear, although going away one of her hocks turns in. **4. Avia Black Pearl** (Poti/Childress) Feminine black and tan with dark shiny black coat, could just use more of it today; higher on leg, I preferred the proportions of those above, as well as their angles.

American Bred Bitch (3) My notes say, "Good class!"

1. Jayba Sweet Tea (Lander) Compact blenheim girl; good turn of stifle and well let down hock; nice topline standing and on the move; well-coated with rich color; large, round, dark eyes and dark pigment. **2. Rutherford Evangeline** (Jones) Very feminine face and loveliest of heads; nose pigment could be darker; topline not as level as 1 above on the move, but presents a lovely picture standing. **3. Seneca Manor Morning Glory** (Gerkin/Richmond) Another lovely outline; moderate size and bone; happy good dark eye; not the fill of face as 1 and 2 above.

Special Limit Blenheim Bitch (4)

1. Ch Loranka's Heaven Sent at Jayba (Lander) Very feminine blenheim girl; compact outline; lovely rear angles; good level topline; beautiful coat in top condition; large round dark eyes; good pigment; lovely overall bitch. **2.**

Huntcrest High Society (Check/Pope) Another very pretty, compact girl; classic head proportions; good blenheim

color; nose pigment a bit off today; nice turn of stifle; happy to be here. **3. Charnell Monte Lucia, JW** (Ayers/Martz) Good compact body; dark eyes and pigment; lovely color; happy girl; prefer head proportions and topline of 1 and 2 above. **4. Sheeba Madeline Rose** (Johnson) Open marked blenheim girl with good amount of coat; longer cast and not quite the angles of those above, but good overall; nose pigment a bit off today.

Special Limit Tricolor Bitch (2)

1. Orchardhill Next Stp Wndrland (Venier) Exuberant girl; substantial but balanced; lovely head, strong but with soft expression; well angulated front and back ends; good topline; tail set on and carried well. **2. Kinvar Cute To Boot** (Alders) Higher on the leg and not quite the angulation of 1 above; very earnest girl with lovely blue-black on her broken up body markings.

Special Limit Ruby Bitch (2)

1. Darane Red Sonja, JW (Kates) Feminine ruby; a bit longer cast, more elegant type; rich color, just a bit shy of furnishings today; dark eye and pigment. **2. Avia Gardenia** (Poti) Cobbler girl, but a bit loaded in the shoulders; very happy girl; preferred her level topline, but lacking the elegance of 1st today because of the weight she carried in her front.

Open Bitch (1)

1. Ch Pinecrest Rockamysoul (Eubank) Lovely outline; very pretty, feminine balance of skull to foreface; lovely chiseled muzzle; large dark eyes; nice topline; good turn of stifle and reach of neck; quality bitch and a pleasure to go over; very close in the challenge for Winners Bitch, and I was extremely happy to award her *Reserve Winners Bitch*.

Senior Open Bitch (1)

1. Avia Referee's Call (Poti) As one would expect in this class, a mature blenheim, having a great day out, and very happy showing and strutting her stuff; lovely melting expression; doing everything her handler asked -- for the bait!

Veteran Bitch (3)

1. Sevenwoos Diabolique (Shidler) Lovely to watch this 10 year old tri-color move around the ring, still driving with gears to spare. I was honored to award her *Best Veteran in Show*. **2. Burrelane Ruby Slippers** (Maxwell) Ruby with a topline the youngsters should envy; rich color and the sweetest of expressions. **3. Avia Referee's Call** (Poti) Lovely blenheim with melting expression, enjoying her time, again, in the ring (see class above), and holding up better than some youngsters!