

**CAVALIERS OF THE WEST**  
**09/6/21. BELLEVUE, WASHINGTON**  
**DALE MARTIN, HMS CAVALIERS**

I would like to thank Cavaliers of the West for the invitation to adjudicate at your Fall Specialty weekend held in the Pacific North West – The Robert L. Smith Memorial Specialty weekend. I remember Bob as a kind and gentle man, as well as a distinguished President of COTW for many years, so, it is a privilege to be part of this event named in Bob’s memory. My special and heartfelt thanks go to the extremely committed and organized members of this show committee. I know based on the smooth and timely correspondence I received from the show chairs, namely Kathi Ogle and Trudy Owens, that MANY hours were spent long before the show began, arranging (and re-arranging!) for judges (and more judges!) during these difficult times of Covid. Thank you ring steward Kevin Ellingson for doing an exemplary job of keeping me organized and on track, so that I could focus on the Cavaliers in the ring.

I especially thank each exhibitor for showing your commitment to our shared “best of breeds” by training, entering, traveling, grooming and showing your lovely Cavaliers in spite of some relatively late, but required changes. Your unwavering sportsmanship was recognized and appreciated as I made my selections and placements in classes and in the final challenges. The day could never happen without each one of you participating.

As Cavalier judges we all work from the same printed blueprint – the Breed Standard. But as we all know each judge, just as each of you as breeders, interprets the Breed Standard with a slightly different eye. The following are attributes you may see often in this written critique: balance, proportions, boning, angulation, cushioning/fill/padding, reach and drive, coat quantity/length/quality. In all attributes, however, I look for moderation, not for excess. So, please understand that if you read, “could use more fill”, that doesn’t mean that the exhibit with the MOST fill is best; it simply means that this exhibit needs more of that attribute for it to be correctly MODERATE (or sufficient). Similarly, “moderate” does not mean plain. No, plain is plain, in other words “somewhat lacking”, just as “too much” is not moderate, but is “too much” or excessive...yes, there can be too much of an otherwise positive attribute. Balance is when the correctly moderate attributes fit together in proper amounts. I hope this will help you better interpret my written critique of your Cavaliers.

*Dale Martin*

**DOG CLASSES**  
**JUNIOR PUPPY DOG (3)**

- 1) **COVINGTON NEVER SAY NEVER** (Gonyo/Brocck) Lovely quality Blenheim puppy dog! Very nice head with good balance of muzzle to skull, pretty face with sufficient fill for his age. Dark, round eyes with gentle expression; dark nose pigment. Ears well set on. Good layback of shoulder and return of upper arm in forequarters resulting in a proper length of neck and reach on the move. Well-let-down hocks providing good drive from the rear which, combined with his construction in front, resulted in a level topline

on the move. Tail set could be just a bit higher, but he carries it at a correct angle on the move. Coat quality and quantity are excellent for his age. A happy and confident youngster, working as one with his owner. I expect a bright future for him as he matures!

**BEST PUPPY DOG.**

- 2) **QUAIL RUN HOT CROSS BUNS** (Kornhi) Blenheim boy with dark eye and nose. More heavily marked with rich, dark chestnut coloring. Good bone on this young boy, with good layback of shoulder and return of upper arm, strong hocks. Nice proportions. I preferred the head piece of the dog placed ahead of him.
- 3) **BLACK DIAMOND HAPPY DANCE** (Bennett) Heavily marked Tricolor with dark eyes and nose. I preferred the rear movement on the 2<sup>nd</sup> place dog, as this dog moved a bit close in the hocks going away.

**SENIOR PUPPY DOG** (1)

- 1) **aSTARRING ALL THE CATS PAJAMAS** (Flowers Foster) Heavily marked Blenheim with rich chestnut color and beautifully groomed coat quality and quantity. Lovely headpiece with soft cushioning of the muzzle which, along with padding over the dark round eyes, gives a nice soft expression; dark nose pigment. Being slightly longer cast body, he lacks length of neck required to produce the desired balanced outline. Moved cleanly going away and coming in, but a bit of a rise just over the loin in side gate. Trimming a bit of weight off him may be to his advantage when moving.

**GRADUATE PUPPY DOG** (1)

- 1) **CEDAR CREEK CHANCES ARE AT CREEKSIDE** (Mathies) Lovely Blenheim dog with many virtues! Masculine headpiece with correct balance of muzzle to skull, along with the desired cushioning in the face. Dark, round eyes with soft expression. Good bone, level topline, and clean movement coming and going. He carries a gorgeous quality of profuse coat that is in excellent condition. I expect a winning future for this dog when he settles and works as one with his handler.

**JUNIOR AMERICAN BRED DOG** (2)

- 1) **BROOKHAVEN ALMOST PARADISE** (Ayers/Martz) A quality more heavily marked Blenheim dog. Lovely dark, round eye; dark eye rims and nose pigment. Carries a level topline standing and on the move. Very clean rear movement going away, and in front when coming in. Tail is set on correctly and carried well on the move. At 16 months of age the head and body on this dog will continue to mature and only improve with time.
- 2) **KENDALL KASTLE LORD BROCH TUARACH** (Ogle) Very dark, rich chestnut on this Blenheim dog. Nice body proportions and good bone. I would like to have seen him carrying more quantity of coat. Nice dark eye and nose pigment. Very outgoing temperament. I preferred the rear movement, topline and tail set of the 1<sup>st</sup> place dog.

### **AMERICAN BRED DOG** (1)

- 1) **SWEETGOLD BRADLEY** (Anton) Three-year-old compact Blenheim dog with nice proportions and moderate bone. Sweet face with round, dark eyes. Moves just a bit wide in the front and close behind. Tail is set on a bit low. When the dog does settle the topline improves over the loin when he is standing or moving.

### **HEALTH AND CONFORMATION DOG** (1)

- 1) **CAN. CH. PAUROI HOCUS POCUS AT QUAIL RUN** (Kornhi/Wells) Eight (plus) year old Blenheim dog with rich chestnut coat color. Nice proportions, good bone. Shallower in stop and lacking a bit of cushioning in the muzzle, resulting in a plainer head type than I prefer. Clean movement coming and going, although would prefer to see more angulations in front and rear. Strong hocks but they are set a bit higher than ideal. Enjoying his time in the ring! **[BEST HEALTH AND CONFORMATION DOG & BEST HEALTH AND CONFORMATION IN SHOW](#)**

### **SPECIAL LIMIT BLENHEIM DOG** (4)

- 1) **HARRINGTON THE BEAR NECESSITIES** (Marina-Tompkins/Gonyo/Gonyo) Lovely dog in absolutely gorgeous condition. Well-broken markings on a generous coat of beautiful flat, silky quality. Soft masculine headpiece with good balance of muzzle-to-skull in, both, length and breadth. Large round, dark eyes could be further enhanced by slightly darker rims; however, he has good dark pigment of nose and lip line. This dog has lovely moderate bone. His forequarter angulation includes good layback of shoulder and return of upper arm, with the base of the arched neck transitioning into a level topline. Hindquarters are highlighted by lovely turn of stifles and well-let-down hocks. His tail, well set on and carried nicely, finished the picture of quality when moving and standing. I was pleased to award him **[WINNERS DOG, RESERVE BEST IN SHOW, BEST BLENHEIM DOG, BEST BRED BY EXHIBITOR IN SHOW, BEST AMERICAN BRED DOG.](#)**
- 2) **FOREST CREEK ANGELO** (Byroads/Cline) Lovely, generous headed dog in good condition. Slightly larger in size than I prefer, but well balanced overall. Large, round, very dark eyes! While this dog moved cleanly coming and going, I preferred the angulations, both front and rear, of the 1<sup>st</sup> place dog standing and moving. He kept a good tail carriage on the move and showed well for his handler.
- 3) **MARILEE INDICA FRED** (Collins/Max) Nice size younger dog; soft, moderate headpiece; large dark round eyes with dark rims, giving a soft expression; nose pigment could be darker. Carries a level topline standing and on the move. Unfortunately, today he was moving close behind and was a bit too proud of his tail.
- 4) **MAYFIELD HERCULES AT HIFIT** (Parris/Parris) Four-year-old dog. Muzzle lacking the cushioning to correctly balance his breadth of skull. Nice topline on the move and standing. However, I preferred the more positive forward movement of those placed

above, as he could use more angulations, both, front and rear. Another that was a bit proud of his tail today.

### **SPECIAL LIMIT TRICOLOR DOG** (1)

- 1) **TRUELEGANCE PISTOLS AT DAWN** (Ogle) Seven years old with nice proportions and moderate bone. Pretty head and face with large dark eyes, good pigment of nose and lip line. Unfortunately, moving bit close behind and proud of his tail today.

### **OPEN DOG** (1)

- 1) **BROOKHAVEN DON'T STOP BELIEVING** (Ogle) Handsome four year old tricolor with lovely proportions partly from his short coupling. He possesses the large and round eyes that are too rarely found on tricolors; they are also very dark, as are his nose pigment and lip line. Angulations, both, front and rear are correct resulting in good reach and drive on the move. Correct tail set and carriage complete the picture on the move.

**RESERVE WINNERS DOG, BEST TRICOLOR DOG, BEST TRICOLOR IN SHOW.**

### **SENIOR OPEN DOG** (1)

- 1) **COVINGTON HOPJACK AT KENDALL KASTLE** (Ogle) Nine-year-old Blenheim with very good proportions of height to length. Large dark eyes; maintaining good nose pigment, especially for one of his age. Topline is not his forte today, and I would have preferred for him to be carrying more coat. A bit narrow in hindquarter.

## **BITCH CLASSES**

### **JUNIOR PUPPY BITCH** (5)

- 1) **KENDALL KASTLE KEEP THE FAITH** (Ogle) Heavier marked tricolor bitch puppy with a very pretty head. Dark eyes and nose pigment. Jet black coat with rich tan markings over the eyes and on the cheeks. Lovely compact proportions from short coupling of the loin. Well-angulated in front and rear quarters, with good return of upper arm and well let down hocks providing her with reach and drive on the move. Holding a nice topline, and with a correct tail set. Very full of herself in temperament and confidence -- enjoying her time in the ring!
- 2) **CHADWICK BACCARAT OF CEILIMOR** (McCarty/Eckersley) A more openly marked tricolor bitch puppy. Much stated about the 1<sup>st</sup> place puppy above also applies to this lovely girl. Toplines at this age can be "iffy" to evaluate, but in the final decision I preferred the topline over the loin and slightly broader rear of the 1<sup>st</sup> placement.
- 3) **QUAIL RUN TOUCH OF PINK** (Kornhi) Blenheim girl with a very nice outline on the move, and holding a nice topline. Clean front movement coming in. A bit plainer in head type today than the two placements ahead, but at this tender age there is time for the

stop to deepen slightly and for fill of more muzzle to come. Showed very well for her handler.

- 4) **MOX MOX A CHARMED LIFE PHOEBE AT HRH CAVALIERS** (Feilbach) A black and tan with a shiny black coat and rich tan markings where they should be. A bit too short in foreface to correctly balance the length of skull. A bit longer cast in body with lighter bone. Tail carriage is a bit high.

### **SENIOR PUPPY BITCH** (2)

- 1) **BROOKHAVEN MARY JANE** (Ayers/Martz) Such a well-constructed Blenheim bitch with lovely boning! Compact and just off-square in proportions due to her short coupling of the loin. Correct angulation in her front and rear quarters with good return of upper arm and well-let-down hocks. Clean coming and going. Level topline standing and on the move, ending in a correct tail set. **BEST PUPPY BITCH & BEST PUPPY IN SHOW.**
- 2) **CROSSBOW THE RELUCTANT DEBUTANTE** (Schiffman) A lovely feminine type bitch with an equally lovely feminine headpiece enhanced by beautiful dark, round eyes and rims, and appealingly sweet face. Rich Blenheim open markings on the coat. Though no less correct, she is a very different style bitch, being built on more feminine lines, from 1<sup>st</sup> place. I did, however, prefer the angulations, positive movement, and topline over the loin of the 1<sup>st</sup> place bitch.

### **GRADUATE PUPPY BITCH** (4)

- 1) **SORELLA HERE COMES CHLOE JW, MP** (Green) Very nice proportions on this compact Blenheim bitch, with short coupling of the loin. Nice boning for her moderate size. Good lay back of shoulder and return of upper arm, along with good turn of stifle and strong, well-let-down hocks. Clean movement coming and going, and carrying a level topline when standing and on the move, good tail set and carriage. Lovely feminine headpiece with ears set on well; large, round, dark eyes. Dark eye rims and nose pigment. Just the right amount of cushioning in the muzzle and fill under the eyes to maintain a sweet, soft feminine expression. Quality bitch who stood out in the bitch challenge. **RESERVE WINNERS BITCH.**
- 2) **BEARIVER CHANEL** (Toepfer) Another lovely and nicely balanced Blenheim bitch with excellent proportions. Wider blaze giving an initial impression of a broader skull, but in fact very much in balance with her feminine face. Nice level topline standing and on the move. Clean movement coming and going. Nice angulations in front and rear. A bit lighter boning than the 1<sup>st</sup> place bitch.
- 3) **CHIYODA JUST MY CUP OF TEA AT GLENELLEN** (Murphy) A lovely headed Blenheim bitch with a nice eye and sweet face. I preferred the cleaner topline and more positive movement of the two placements above.
- 4) **MARILEE BLISS'S LITTLE PISTOL** (Collins) Another very nice, quality, compact Blenheim bitch. Pretty, feminine head with round, dark eyes, and lovely ear set and ear leathers. Clean movement coming and going. Her lighter boning is similar to 2<sup>nd</sup> placement above. Happy girl!

### **BRED BY EXHIBITOR BITCH** (3)

- 1) **INTRYNZIK DANCED ALL NIGHT** (Goodwin) Lovely quality Ruby bitch. With an imaginary addition of a white blaze between the eyes, her feminine headpiece could easily be on a quality parti-color; this is something I look for in whole-color Cavaliers and try to reward it when found. Her richly colored flat coat quality is in excellent condition, with sufficient feathering on ears, tail, and skirts. Good angulations resulted in easy movement going around, and strong rear movement going away. A tiny bit proud of her tail today, but she may have a right to be given how densely it's feathered! **BEST RUBY BITCH, BEST RUBY IN SHOW**
- 2) **KENDALL KASTLE LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT** (Ogle) Compact Blenheim with a level topline. Lovely round, dark eyes with soft padding above them and fill below. However, I preferred the more feminine head type and positive movement of the 1<sup>st</sup> place above.
- 3) **HA'PENNY QUEEN ELEANOR LAST SHOT OF EXPRESSA** (Maris/Rollins) Lovely dark forward-facing eyes on this tricolor bitch, which a wider blaze might show to greater advantage. Compact in proportions, and strong hocks. Clean coming and going. Preferred the topline, when standing and moving, of the 2<sup>nd</sup> place exhibit.

### **JUNIOR AMERICAN BRED BITCH** (1)

- 1) **CHADWICK LACE COLLAR** (Eckersley) A Blenheim bitch of moderate size and boning, but carrying just a bit of extra weight. She has good padding above and cushioning below very nice dark, round eyes. She has good ear set and shape of top skull, however she is a bit short in the muzzle to be in proper balance to her skull. Topline is better on the move than when she's standing, and a bit more turn of stifles may help level her derriere; as this one-year-old matures this could still improve. Her movement, however, coming and going is clean. Her coat is slick, but slight today.

### **AMERICAN BRED BITCH** (1)

- 1) **KALLEASUN FAITH ON A JET PLANE** (Van Cleave) A more mature, moderate Blenheim bitch with good bone and a nice breadth of pelvis. She has a lovely feminine headpiece framed by well set on ears with long, broad leathers and good feathering. She is cleaner in her front movement coming in than in her rear movement going away where she moves closer in the hocks, unexpectedly given her noted broader pelvis.

### **SPECIAL LIMIT BLENHEIM BITCH** (2)

- 1) **CEDAR CREEK JELLY BEAN** (Owens) This is a bitch of the highest order, dripping in breed type from her gorgeous feminine headpiece to her tail set and carriage! Her lovely coat quality and its glorious condition were immediately eye-catching upon her

stepping foot into the ring. And regarding “stepping”, she rarely put a foot wrong moving or standing. The construction of her forequarters and hindquarters provides her with absolutely flowing movement viewed from any direction and picture-perfect views from any angle when standing. Hers is a classic head type with nothing overdone, but absolutely nothing lacking either: Her muzzle-to-skull balance is lovely, as are her large round, dark wide-set eyes set into a feminine skull that is framed by well set ears with wide leathers and long feathering. The resulting shape of her topskull could not be more pleasing! Dark nose and lip-line pigments, along with just the right amount of cushioning of the muzzle complete this beautiful head study. One of the best front assemblies of the day created the arch of neck so necessary for that special look of elegance and this became more apparent on the move later in the challenges for Winners Bitch and Best in Show. Hopefully, her slight extra length of loin will bode well when her time comes for the whelping box. Finishing off with a tail that is set and happily carried straight off her back, as you are likely aware, she totally filled my eye -- my heartfelt congratulations to her breeder!! **WINNERS BITCH, BEST IN SHOW, BEST BLENHEIM IN SHOW, BEST AMERICAN BRED IN SHOW.**

- 2) **QUAIL GARDEN SHOW BIZ** (Colombo) A very nice more mature Blenheim bitch who on another day could do quite well, but was unfortunate to meet her competition in today’s class! She possesses nice dark, round eyes in a feminine head that could use a bit more fill in the muzzle. She has good proportions and is clean moving down and back. I preferred the tail carriage, front and rear angulations and the resulting positive movement in side view on the 1<sup>st</sup> place exhibit.

### **SPECIAL LIMIT TRICOLOR BITCH** (3)

- 1) **HARRINGTON COVINGTON ONCE UPON A TIME** (Gonyo/Gonyo) Glamorous bitch with an eye-catching long, silky, shiny, jet black blanketed coat and white collar. Pleasing head and eyes, framed by long and wide ears. Lots of tan on the cheeks and above the eyes. Carries a level topline standing and on the move, although would have preferred her to have more angulations in front and rear to provide a more positive reach and drive to her forward movement. Clean movement, however, coming and going. **BEST TRICOLOR BITCH**
- 2) **BECKWITH KENDALL KASTLE DANCING IN THE DARK** (Maris/Rollins/Ogilvie/Ogilvie) Compact, younger tricolor bitch with good boning. Nice headpiece with good balance of breadth of skull to cushioning in muzzle. Large dark, round eyes with correct fill under the eyes. I preferred the rear movement, especially in the hocks, of the 1<sup>st</sup> place exhibit. Very happy, outgoing puppy.
- 3) **HAPENNY EMPRESS MATHILDA** (Ogle) Another nice compact tricolor bitch. She has a good eye with an expression that a wider blaze could help to accentuate. A bit lighter in bone than the two exhibits placing above her and, unfortunately, another one moving closely behind.

### **SPECIAL LIMIT BLACK AND TAN BITCH** (1)

- 1) **ROBIN'S NEST SUNNY DAY ON A CAROUSEL** (Johnson/Prodanovich) Very happy black and tan bitch and thoroughly enjoying her time in the ring today! A bit up in size and carrying extra weight for her moderate bone – again, loving her treats! Black coat of good quality, although would prefer to see her carrying longer ear feathering. Adequate moving down and back, but having her relax more when standing (perhaps less baiting?) could help her show a more level topline. **BEST BLACK AND TAN BITCH, BEST BLACK AND TAN IN SHOW**

**VETERAN DOG** (2) “I always feel humbled when judging the Veteran classes. Their graying muzzles and soulful eyes bring so many precious memories.”

- 1) **ROYAL FANTASY FRIZZANTE AMORE** (Bet) This Blenheim statesman has no idea of his age. At nine years old his level topline never faltered standing or on the move and his wagging tail never stopped beating each half second in hour! His expression was so soft and soulful, and his joyful, uninhibited spirit so contagious that, in spite of his extra poundage, I could not deny him **BEST VETERAN IN SHOW**.
- 2) **CAN. CH. PAUROI HOCUS POCUS AT QUAIL RUN** (Kornhi/Wells) This is another veteran that defies his age and truly could be mistaken for being five years younger. I salute his owner for keeping him in such fit condition!