

Cavaliers of the South

Atlanta, GA, May 13, 2016

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Thank you to the Board and Committee of Cavaliers of the South for the opportunity to judge at this, their 40th Annual General Meeting and Specialty Show Weekend. I appreciated the generous hospitality and welcome extended to me. Thank you to the exhibitors for bringing your dogs for my appraisal. It was a real privilege to judge such a lovely entry of Cavaliers. The quality was high and some decisions were made on some very minor points against the breed standard, or just on performance on the day; especially in the open classes and the top awards. What a lovely position for the breed to be in, that judges have a hard job deciding from quality, against quality. I was happy to be part of a new initiative for CKCSC shows, providing a verbal critique after the dog judging and bitch judging, as a way to make it more interesting for the audience. I hope that this idea can be developed, if continued. I heard some good suggestions for improvements taking it forward.

DOGS

JUNIOR PUPPY DOG (0)

SENIOR PUPPY DOG (3)

1. Valentyne The Irish Tenor (O'Brien)

Mature well-made Blenheim boy, almost a year old with lovely head, super dark eyes and good pigment. He is striking with his well-broken silky coat of rich tan and white markings. Balanced outline, lovely reach of neck and with good angulation throughout. Moving with drive from short rear pasterns and well-let-down hocks. Tail carried happily, wagging at all times showing his outgoing, confident temperament. ***Best Puppy Dog***

2. Brookhaven The Dream Lives On (Ayres/Martz)

Another lovely Blenheim boy of good construction, level topline and correct croup, good tail carriage. Lovely dark eyes giving the required soft expression and sweet head and good pigment to nose and eye rims. Lovely rich colour to the tan in his well-marked coat. A little less mature than the class winner, but right for age. He lost out a little in animation and look-at-me.

3. Cambryce Tommy Bahama At Caribe (Upthegrove/ Carnes)

This 10 month old boy has lovely eyes and sweet expression. He is not as mature as others in the class. He needs the ribs to spring and to build body as he matures. The tailset is a little lower than ideal. He is a little weak in rear movement, but this may improve as he matures with more muscle tone.

GRADUATE PUPPY DOG (5)

1. Mimric American Heartthrob (Barton/Perkins)

A very nice boy, heavier marked than ideal, but with a lot of good points. Well made. I would prefer a tighter rear on the move; this may come with more muscle tone as he matures. He is well bodied for his age. Strong masculine head with lovely pigment to nose and eye rims. He has a level topline and good tailset coming off the back.

2. Aranel MacKenzie (Green)

It was a very hard decision between 1 & 2 as I also liked this boy very much. On the move, he was a little less animated. Lovely eyes in a well-balanced head. His coat looked to be on the change today so not looking its best. He has good angulation throughout. Once he gets into his stride on the move I am sure he will do very well going forward.

3. Manorhouse Sullivan (Wells)

Tricolour boy with a lovely head, good sized dark eyes giving a lovely expression. He has a good reach of neck and well-placed shoulders which usually go hand in hand in a well-made

front assembly. The rear is not quite as well constructed giving him a less precise rear movement. The tailset was a little lower than ideal due to a slight rounding over the croup, however he carried it well.

4. **Ellemich Bo Berry** (Land/Land)

This Blenheim boy has a nice head with lovely large dark eyes, well placed ears with good length to leathers and good fringing, black pigment to nose and eye rims. Rich tan to his coat. For me, he did not have the best overall balance and structure, which was reflected in his movement.

NOVICE DOG (1)

1. **Closeburn Gleneagles Stuart** (O'Brien/Tatum)

Standing alone in this class a lovely Blenheim boy with rich tan to his soft silky coat is deserving of his place. Good head properties with dark eyes and well feathered ears framing his face. He has good rear angulation providing drive on the move. His length of neck is adequate and follows through to good lay of shoulder.

GRADUATE PUPPY DOG (3)

1. **Ch Brookhaven Here Comes Hogan, JW** (Ayers/Martz)

Very handsome Blenheim boy, short coupled with a very attractive head and expression with his well-feathered ears framing his very typical head. He is well made throughout and sets himself up standing four-square. He has a lovely neck and shoulders, standing with his front legs underneath his shoulders and with a good fore-chest. Good spring of rib. His coat has good rich tan markings and is of good length and texture. He moved out well driving from well-let-down hocks, making a lovely picture on the move.

2. **Canyoncrest Pleasingly Pumpkin** (Du Ross/Nechiporenko)

This Blenheim boy has a lovely expression and well balanced head. He has dark, gentle eyes. He is slightly longer cast than my winner. He has a well-made rear and good tailset. His movement did not quite have the drive of my class winner.

3. **Ch Foxcreek Hear Me Roar, JW.** (Johnson)

Blenheim boy with a well-broken coat. Soft expression from large dark eyes. He is better made on the rear than on his front. He moved out well but without the strong movement to give that extra touch of style and elegance as he went around the ring. A slightly better length of neck and angulation of the shoulders would have been helpful to match up to the class winner.

JUNIOR AMERICAN BRED DOG (2)

1. **Almeara Extra Extraordinary, JW** (Whitmire)

A tough decision in this class between these two handsome Blenheim boys. In the end the decision was tipped on the balance in the head, with this boy having a muzzle more closely aligned to the breed standard. Correct stop and black pigment to nose and eye rims. Well filled foreface. Lovely shape and size overall, with good neck and shoulders and good rear angulation. Moved out well with drive off a strong rear. Presented in lovely condition with correct silky coat of rich tan on well-broken pearly white background.

2. **Rutherford Olivier** (De Hass/Jones)

The same comments apply to the first placed boy in this class. He is a lovely shape and well balanced overall. Moved out with drive. The dividing factor was the head properties where I would have preferred a little more length to the muzzle to give that extra balance to the head. It was such a close decision because of the almost equal positives for both the dogs in this class.

AMERICAN BRED DOG (6)

1. **Foxwyn Cool Water** (Norton/Baker-Fox)
Very nice Blenheim boy with richly coloured tan on white background. Super warm dark eyes with depth to them giving the required softness of expression. Black pigment to eye rims, nose and lip lines. Moderate well balanced head with correct tapered muzzle, and plenty of cushioning to foreface. Overall well balanced with good spring of rib and level topline, good tailset carried well, but can carry a little higher as he gets more animated on the move, still acceptable. He moved very well, driving off well-angulated rear.
2. **Brookhaven Beau Rivage at Lanmar** (Hubbard/Beavers)
Another lovely Blenheim boy, a little different in head than the first placed, broader skull, but still with a soft expression, lovely dark eyes and good pigment. Well-set ears with good length of feathering framing the face. I would prefer a little more length to the neck and more layback of shoulder. Presented in lovely coat of correct texture. Moved out happily, showing his outgoing temperament.
3. **Hiddencreek Mason** (Green/Green)
Sweet richly marked Blenheim boy. A little shorter in the muzzle than ideal and I would prefer a slightly larger eye. He is compact and has a good topline and tail. Moved out well and happily.
4. **Blackfire Plaza Suite** (McLaughlin, Kennedy, Weidig/Kennedy)
Nice Blenheim boy, not quite the balance I was looking for overall. He has lovely dark eyes and soft expression, good earset with super length to the fringing. He has a shorter upper arm which affects the lay of shoulder and angulation on the front. The rear angulation is better and gave him drive on the move, not matched by the movement from the front.

SPECIAL LIMIT BLENHEIM DOG (7)

1. **Toraylac Here's Hugo** (Cromer)
Very well-made Blenheim boy, up to size but so well balanced. Lovely neck and shoulders, good front, level topline and good rear angulation. Richly coloured tan in a well-marked coat of the correct texture. Lovely neck and shoulders well angulated front, good spring of rib. Well-held topline standing and moving, and good rear angulation. Lovely head properties, with large, dark, warm eyes, good width to muzzle, black pigment and ample cushioning to foreface. Loved the way he moved out with such balance and drive.
2. **Creekside Watch Out For Me!** (Mathies)
Another handsome Blenheim boy, more within the size range and shorter coupled than the class winner. Not quite the neck and shoulders of the winner, but these were adequate. Good head properties with large dark, warm eyes and good pigment. Lovely length to ears, which are well placed, framing the face. Coat in super condition and of correct texture. Moved out well with level back, correct tail carriage and driving off well-turned stifles.
3. **Tudorr Checkmate** (Mixon, Mixon/Cline)
This boy is also of an ideal size. Not of quite the same overall balance and construction of the higher placed dogs. Soft head and well placed ears. He has a good quality coat with rich tan markings. Could be stronger in the rear to give a more positive driving action on the move.
4. **Forestcreek Apollo** (Walzer/Cline)
Lovely headed boy with full well feathered ears well set-on. Lovely dark eyes giving correct expression. The angulation to the front assembly and length of neck is not as correct as I would like it to be, giving a less elegant appearance on the move. He moved out with enthusiasm.

SPECIAL LIMIT TRICOLOUR DOG (1)

1. **Pascavale Dodger** (Jacks)
Lovely tricolour boy, liked him as soon as he entered the ring and he did not disappoint as I examined him on the table. He has a very classic head and well-balanced outline. Rich tan markings to head and in all the right places. Coat of the correct texture, lacking in a little

gloss on the day, may be changing coat. Well-muscled, in good hard condition. He moved out with a strong driving action around the ring. Although alone in this class he deserved his first place and was a serious consideration for RWD.

OPEN DOG (7)

What a fantastic group of dogs to choose from. Finding four winners from a very worthy group of winners was no easy task and all exhibitors are to be congratulated.

1. **Ch & Eng. Ch. Brookhaven Believe It Or Not JW** (Ayres/Martz)
Handsome Blenheim boy of lovely size, shape and balance. Super dark well pigmented eyes, soft and warm with black eye rims adding enhancement. Well-filled foreface and correctly tapered muzzle. He has good reach of neck leading down to well-laid shoulders, good front assembly and length of upper arm allowing the legs to naturally place under the shoulders. Good fore-chest and well sprung ribs. Level topline and correct tailset. Moved out with drive and style, in profile and coming and going. All of this wrapped in a correctly textured coat, with well-broken rich tan markings. Could not resist giving him **Winners Dog, and Best in Show**. Also making him **Best American Bred Dog, Best Bred by Exhibitor Dog, Best Blenheim Dog**.
2. **Pascavale Bijou** (Cline)
What a lovely tricolour boy with the sweetest of expression, pretty boy head. Well-balanced outline, neat package, short across the loin, well sprung ribs, good topline and tailset. Well-turned stifle and short from hock to floor, giving good drive from the rear. Well coated in super shiny black and white jacket with rich tan markings in all the right places. **Reserve Winners Dog**, his expression and head just tipping the balance in a well contested challenge. He also took **Best Tricolour Dog**.
3. **Ch Tudorr Rhythm N Blues, JW** (Mixon)
I feel like I am repeating myself in this class with such quality to choose from. This Blenheim boy has a slightly heavier marked coat, but of the richest tan colour and adequate amount of white. Super large dark well pigmented eyes, well balanced head markings and good cushioning to foreface. Black pigment to nose and eye rims. Overall well-balanced with good construction. Good spring of rib.
4. **Eng. Ch. Stonepit Franco I Believe.** (Gentil/Searle)
Liked this tri boy when I judged him in the UK. He is an ideal size and has a lovely outline and head properties. His coat was presented in excellent condition. He moved steadily holding his topline. I was disappointed that he lacked animation on the day and did not make the best of his qualities. It was not for the want of trying by his handler. Unfortunately judges only see those few minutes in the ring when the dog needs to be up on his toes in such strong competition.

SENIOR OPEN DOG (2)

1. **Brookhaven Bob Baily** (Schilling)
Very well coated and presented black-and-tan boy. He has a wealth of thick coat that hides his good front construction from view. Well-placed shoulders and good upper arm, nice length to neck. Masculine head with lovely rich tan markings, good size of eye and length of muzzle. Moved out positively with drive. **Best Black-and-Tan Dog**
2. **Tassajara Hugh Jackman** (Siedman, Siedman/Hughes/ Berkau)
Lovely shaped Blenheim boy, heavily marked coat with good tan colour. Liked his head, which was generous without being over-done, lovely expression. Good reach of neck and well placed shoulders, nice front. Well-sprung ribs and good rear angulation. Moved out with drive but not quite as true as the class winner.

BITCHES

JUNIOR PUPPY BITCH (12)

- 1. Chadwick Sentimental Journey** (Eckersley)
In such a lovely group of puppies, this one just caught my eye. Very pretty 8 month old baby, well made, moved well. Has lovely eyes to draw you in, good pigment in a head that is developing well and right for her age, with a sweet expression. She is well balanced with good angulation throughout. Some baby coat around the rear feathering giving a fluffy trouser appearance that will go to reveal her shapely rear. Showing so much promise going forward. *Best Puppy Bitch and Best Puppy in Show.*
- 2. Brookhaven Susie Q** (Ayes/Martz)
A nice, well balanced 8 month old puppy, lovely shape. Lovely large dark eyes and good black pigment to nose and eye rims. Short coupled with lovely neck and shoulders. Good angulation to rear with well-let-down hocks. Level topline standing and moving. Moved out well with drive from rear. Another good prospect going forward for the future.
- 3. Rutherford Pippa** (Jones)
Pretty 8 month old Blenheim girl. Super dark eyes and good pigment. Neat shape giving a lovely outline. Moved out with drive off her well-made rear. Well-broken coat of good texture and with rich tan markings. Could easily swap places with 1st and 2nd on another day. I see a bright future for this girl going forward.
- 4. Azalearun Red Hot Valentine** (Schilling)
Richly coloured ruby girl. She has some developing to do and is still quite raw at this 5 month stage. I liked the outline of her with her lovely neck and shoulders. She has a sweet head and black pigment to her nose. She is the youngest in this lovely quality class, competing with 9 month olds that are more finished. Typical of wholecolours, she will take time. I feel sure she will do well going forward, hence her award.

SENIOR PUPPY BITCH (6)

- 1. Ivyline Sugar Puff** (Giampapa)
Very sweet Blenheim girl, lovely shape and size. She looks balanced in outline with an elegant neck and well-laid shoulders indicating a good front. At almost a year old, she is not as mature as some in the class and she has more to come but everything is there. She has a good expression with lovely large dark eyes and good pigment, her well-feathered ears framing her correct head. She moved out well with elegance and driving off a good rear with well-turned stifles and let down hocks.
- 2. Rosearbor Bijou** (Eckersley)
This black-and-tan girl has lovely rich tan in all the right places. Her black coat is shiny and in excellent condition. She pressed hard for 1st in this company. She has a very nice head, sweet expression and lovely balanced outline. She moved out true, holding her topline both moving and standing. She is well made throughout.
- 3. Tudorr La Dolce Angela** (Mixon/Mixon/Cline)
Pretty young Blenheim girl. Good shape and well-bodied. Good reach of neck and lay of shoulder. Nice head with lovely dark eyes and good pigment. Good ear-set with the Blenheim spot well placed between her well placed ears. At 10 months old she has time to mature and tighten up on the front when moving, she is a little soft on condition at the moment.
- 4. Jayba Bootylicious** (Lander/Lander)
This puppy is a lovely tri-colour that I was thrilled with on hands-on assessment. Lovely head, super outline, rich tan and lovely dark eyes. Just beautiful. It made my decision so hard, but she was a very naughty puppy on the move to the extent that I could not see her move in a straight line at any time. Much as I felt she should move well based on construction, it would be unfair to reward her without seeing her move, even briefly. I was so pleased that on the following two days, and with a change of handler, she got her act together,

moved straight and soundly winning the class and Best Puppy Bitch on both days. As the song says, 'What a difference a day makes, 24 little hours'.

GRADUATE PUPPY BITCH (2)

1. **Brookhaven Simply Southern** (Toepfer/Martz)
Liked this girl as she entered the ring with her lovely elegant outline, correct balance between length and height. Very pretty head, super dark eyes and well-cushioned foreface. Good angulation front and rear allowing her to move out very well.
2. **Chantismere Marianna** (Land/Land)
This Blenheim girl is shorter set. I would like a little more balance to her overall. She has a lovely head. She was lacking in drive and animation on the move for me. Moving her a little faster may give her more animation.

NOVICE BITCH (1)

1. **Tidewater Hotlanta** (Tatam/O'Brien)
Lovely, up-to-size Blenheim girl, standing alone in this class, worthy of her 1st place. Well balanced outline, elegant neck and head carriage, good topline, well sprung ribs and good rear angulation. She has a lovely head, flat between her well feathered ears. Even head markings. She moved out well.

AMERICAN BRED BITCH (4)

1. **Brookhaven Sexy Sadie, JW** (Ayres/Martz)
Lovely Blenheim bitch, so much to like about her. Well balanced, lovely substance to her body, very good angles front and rear. Well boned, without being heavy looking. Good ribcage giving plenty of heart-room. Elegant neck giving lovely head carriage on the move. Good rich tan colour to her correctly textured coat. Soft expression for her lovely dark eyes and good pigment to nose and eye rims. Lovely long well set ears framing her head. She moved out with style and drive off well-let-down hocks.
2. **Archpark Caterina** (Lyman)
Pretty Blenheim girl with lovely head properties. Nice outline on the stand and moving. Very feminine and of a lovely size. She has a good topline and tailset. Well presented in lovely coat. She moved out very well.
3. **Brookhaven Beckett** (Land/Land)
Richly coloured Blenheim girl. Heavier marked. Very sweet head with dark eyes and good pigment. She moved out well with drive.
4. **Closeburn Bonny Baronet** (Fairchild)
This is a lovely young Blenheim girl that has many qualities. She is very well made with a lovely head and good pigment. Sadly, she was unsettled in the class and this affected her performance, which was a shame. On conformation, I felt she was very worthy and would merit a higher placing if settled and more confident in herself.

SPECIAL LIMIT BLENHEIM BITCH (2)

1. **Charnell Jaimie at Huntland** (Land/Land)
Very pretty girl with lovely outline, good spring of rib, level topline. Lovely dark eyes surrounded by black rims, soft and warm. Lovely head properties, moderate and giving the desired expression. Lovely neck and shoulders and a well angulated rear. She moved out with drive from the rear.
2. **Hiddencreek Butterscotch Schnapps** (Parente/Green)
Another sweet girl that is very similar in quality to the winner of this class and these two could easily change places on another day. She has a lovely balanced shape. A little heavier marked and heavier set than the winner. She moved out well.

SPECIAL LIMIT TRICOLOUR BITCH (2)

1. **Windnsea Olivia** (Sutton/Sutton)
Sweet girl with a lovely outline and balance. Pretty head, lovely expression, soft and gentle with warm, dark eyes. Good moderate bone just right for her size, adding to her balance. Short over loin with level topline. Good angulation enabling her to move out positively with drive. Beautiful coat of silky texture and matching the breed standard, being well broken. Presented in lovely condition.
2. **Closeburn Bonny Wee Kilt** (Fairchild)
Pretty head. Heavier marked girl with lovely rich tan marking to cheeks, inside ears and under tail. Not quite the overall balance I was looking for, a little squarer in outline. She would benefit from a little more strength on her rear to give her more positive drive when moving.

SPECIAL LIMIT RUBY BITCH (2)

1. **Brookhaven Lucky Penny** (Schilling/Ayres)
Although up to size this girl presents a very nice outline. She has a pretty head with lovely black pigment and dark eyes. Good reach of neck and lovely lay of shoulders leading to a good topline and tailset. I would like a richer tan to her coat to finish the picture. She moved our well with drive. **Best Ruby in Show**
2. **CA Cambridge Effie** (Magera/Mitchell)
Smaller, neat shape, for me, she did not have quite the balance and elegance of my winner. Very sweet expression. Moving, she did not have quite the reach and drive I was looking for. Moving her out with more pace may improve this. She has a lovely silky richly coloured coat, which is important in this colour.

SPECIAL LIMIT BLACK-AND-TAN BITCH (3)

1. **Hoo Dite Ilan Du Jardin De Claire of Sumara, JW (Gentil)**
Lovely girl. She was lacking a little animation today but doing what was required. Lovely outline, super neck and shoulders giving her an elegant head carriage and supported by good front assembly. Well sprung ribcage, level topline, leading to correct tail placement. Very good angulation, moving out with plenty of drive. Like her very much. **Best Black-and-Tan in Show**
2. **Harana Dragonflye Beyonce** (Klutts)
Up to size and a little longer in loin than my winner, this is still a lovely girl. She has a lovely neck and shoulders. She moves out with drive. She has a lovely head, but I would prefer a darker eye. Her tan markings are a good colour and her coat is in shining condition.
3. **Kalidunn Texas Tea** (Magera/Mitchell)
Smaller girl, shorter overall. Coat in good condition. Sweet head, but I would like a slightly darker eye on her. Good tan points, good earset and she holds a level topline on the stand and when moving. She moves well.

OPEN BITCH (8)

This was another very competitive class that made my choices difficult and minor points split the places.

1. **Ch Jayba Delicious** (Lander/Lander)
Delicious by name and by nature. This girl just grabbed my heart; I could happily take her home with me. Small, compact and well-balanced outline meeting the breed standard on shape. Sweetness of head, she has super dark eyes that draw you in, surrounded by black pigment, all set off with long well placed ears framing her head. She has good structure throughout, lovely neck and shoulders, good front and rear angulation with level topline and correct tailset. She moved smartly around the ring with positive drive and elegance. She has rich tan markings in her well-presented coat. She totally deserved her **Winners Bitch** award, **Reserve Best in Show**, **Best of Opposite Sex**, **Best Bred by Exhibitor Bitch**, **Best American**

Bred Bitch, and Best Blenheim Bitch.

2. Ch Linrica Just a Dream (Hsiung/Liu)

Such a lovely tri girl, she is a dream. Well bodied with good angulation throughout. Lovely, evenly and cleanly marked, well balanced head with rich tan points and cheek markings. Set off by a lovely neck leading down to well laid shoulders. She moved out true coming and going, with well gaited movement in profile. She was typically outgoing and happy all the way through the class. I have a very soft spot for a lovely tricolour as they are possibly the most difficult to breed with so many things to get right. I was pleased to award her **Reserve Winners Bitch.**

3. Ch Carmas Penne Pasta at Crizwood (Moulton/Wornall)

A little larger in size this Blenheim girl has a sweet head, good topline and moved out well, although I would like her to be a bit stronger on the rear. She has good head properties and expression, with the most amazing feathering on well-placed ears. Very well presented and attentive to her handler.

4. Orchardhill Girl Talk (Venier/Venier)

This Blenheim girl is up to size for me. She has a very pretty head framed by long, full ears. Lovely coat with well-broken markings, presented in good condition. She has a lovely level topline and good tail carriage. She makes a super picture standing. On the move she tends to be a little less positive in her rear movement.

VETERAN DOG (3)

I love these oldies and we should all be proud to show them off as long as they are enjoying it. Thank you for bringing them to the show.

1. Chadwick Jack in the Box (Storey)

Lovely 14 year old tricolour. Liked his overall shape and balance. I felt he would have fared well in the ring in his younger days. He is so lively and strides out around the ring with style. A lovely boy. Pleased to award him **Best Veteran in Show.**

2. Karvale Brookhaven Finn C-TC (Utych)

Younger Blenheim boy at 8 years old. In lovely condition, well-made, he moved out with drive. Lovely head and still has good black pigment.

3. Chadwick Star Spangle Banner. (Taub/Eckersley)

At 13 years, he is showing his age a bit. He is still game to do his best. He has a lovely sweet head. It is hard for him to hold his topline on the move, which many of us can identify with as we get older. He loves his owner and he is a happy show boy.

VETERAN BITCH (2)

1. Chadwick Idol Gossip At Markley (Storey/Eckersley)

Blenheim girl 9 years old with a lovely head and expression. In good coat. Still has her teeth and a voice to let us know how happy she is. She moves with drive and never stopped wagging. She has a lovely length of neck and good front angulation. Happy show girl, so pleased to be out there.

2. Avia Referees Call (Marler)

Blenheim girl 12 years old. Very sweet expression. Short coupled with neat shape. Showing her years a little now with some grey touches giving her distinction. Still has lovely pigment. She moved out happily and was enjoying her day out. Lovely to see.

