

Cavaliers of the South
03/15/14, Williamsburg, VA
Judge: James Reynolds

I would like to thank the Cavaliers of the South and their exhibitors for both an excellent entry and an excellent day at the show. I have been privileged to judge Club shows as well as shows for AKC and CKC for over 30 years and I was impressed by the improvements in the overall quality of the entry. Heads have always been a forte for the Club shows but in early days as much attention wasn't focused on structure. The entry today had head pieces ranging from good to outstanding. I was particularly impressed by eye colour--I don't think I had one light eye and therefore expressions were usually soft and pleasing. I would like to have seen a little more cushioning and sometimes more under eye fill but overall heads were still a forte. The major improvement I saw was in structure. I do understand that this is a Toy breed meant to please the eye of the beholder but proper structure is as much a part of the overall "canvas" to please the observer and there were huge improvements here. My major criticism is that balance is still a problem as it is in many breeds. Shorter legs and upper arm destroy the overall balance which is so important to the silhouette of the breed. I found that at times I had to compromise on size and this was particularly true in the dogs where to get everything else I believe the standards asks for I had to forgive a little in size but as an old time breeder said of her breed, "there is always something my dear". Throughout this critique you will find references to soundness and movement which are not specifically addressed in the standard. My experience says that is the function of the body which proves the presence or lack of many of the structural qualities to contribute to the ideal Cavalier. I thought the puppy classes were particularly strong and bode well for the future.

Junior Puppy Dog (8)

1. Clopsville Meridian (Rychlik) Well balanced Blenheim who showed great type and soundness, attractive head, a little loose in movement but he is very young in the end after a bit of a struggle it put him first over. **2. Nightingale The Eyes Have It** (Mulligan/Duke) And they did, loved his head an expression. Compact and relatively sound, showing well. **3. Chewcreek Red Solo Cup** (DePhillip) Heavily marked and not as sound in rear as those above but I preferred his head and eye over anything in the class--the one I would have slipped in my pocket to take home. **Best Tricolor Dog** **4. Autumnhill Believe In Me** (Parente) Not quite as pretty as those above nor moving as well simply giving away in maturity to the others.

Senior Puppy Dog (8)

1. Bonitos Companeros Eldorado, JW (Magera/Mitchell) An outstanding puppy with a gorgeous head, gay showman and moving soundly. I would prefer a little more air under him and he needs to firm up a little in topline but love his size and his future. **Best Puppy Dog, Best Puppy in Show**
2. Orchardhill Tough Crowd (Venier) A little taller puppy with good proportions, very sound but not the head piece of the puppy above him. **3. Rosehill Recalculating** (Sage/Warshaw) A little more solid colour than I would like but good balance and attractive head and eye along with his movement won him his place. **4. Darane Hellboy** (Kates) Puppy with good balance land proportion, pretty head but a little constricted in his movement both from the side and coming and going.

Graduate Puppy Dog (4)

1. Piccadil Hit Me With Your Best Shot (York) A tri dog who is large but his well constructed head, sound movement and good balance could not be denied. **2. Denham Superstorm** (Maddox) A ruby dog of a better size, nice head but not as well constructed in the shoulder which affected his movement. **3. Foxwyn A Storybook Romance** (Baker-Fox) A dog of good balance but straight in shoulder, nice head. **4. Darane Frodo Baggins** (Kates) Very much a baby so developing in many parts and so hard to deal with in comparison with those above.

Novice Dog (1)

1. Wellsworth My Fifty Shades (Wells/Brasire/Bill) A very pretty Blenheim dog. Excellent balance and proportion, pretty face and eye. Would like a different croup and tail set but he carries it well.

Bred By Exhibitor Dog (7)

1. Ch Piccadil Peppermint Twist (York) A lovely Blenheim dog. He is a big dog but after that you have said it all. Gorgeous head eye and expression which are in balance. Outstanding conformation and tail carriage. A natural showman who owns the ring. **Reserve Winners Dog, Reserve Best in Show, Best American Bred in Show, Best Bred By Exhibitor in Show**
2. Marshelle Xtra Bold (Stout) A better size dog with great type and disposition. Showed his lovely balance as he moved around the ring. **3. Ch Orchardhill Why Wonder, JW** (Venier) Another taller dog but in good balance and moved well as did this kennel's entries throughout. Would like a different front assembly but is balanced. **4. Ch**

Forestcreek Double O Seven, JW (Cline) Could reverse this dog and the one above at any time. Preferred the head and expression on this dog but was not carrying himself as well on the move.

Junior American Bred Dog (7)

1. Forestcreek Bradley (Cline) A dog who excels in great balance with a very pretty head and sound. **2.**

Brookhaven Kid Rock At Almeara, JW (Whitmire/Ayes/Martz) Liked his balance and type. Not quite the head of the one above and not as good from the side when he moves. **3. Dreamvale Motley Cru** (Sage/Colbert) Good balance and type. Again not the head of the winner. **4. Bentwood Imagistic** (Borton) Very pretty head but weakness in the rear coupled with a rather out of control movement pegged him back.

American Bred Dog (13)

1. Bentwood Brighton (Cromer) A lovely Blenheim with well broken up colour, very pretty head. sound and looks lovely from the side in profile. **2. Hiddencreek Hugo Boss, JW** (Green) A little more colour than the one above but again great proportion, lovely head and great profile standing and moving. **3. Dreamvale Ollivander** (Sage/Hallsted) A little taller than above and not quite as balanced but moves well coming and going. **4. Markley Double Play** (Storey) Lovely dog with good type and proportions not quite as pretty in the head as the one above but could easily reverse.

Special Limit Blenheim Dog (6)

1. Orchardhill Letters Home (Slusher/Venier) A lovely dog with excellent head, good balance and type. Lovely expression. **2. Chantismere Caruso of Chadwick** (Eckersley) Another pretty dog with a lovely head, not quite as sound or as firm a top line as the winner. **3. Nightingale Jackson Browne** (Birmingham) I was back and forth between this dog and the one above. In the end I preferred the head and cushioning in muzzle of the one above. **4. Clarmarian Covertly Wicked** (Gogol/Young-May) Nice balanced dog. Moves well. Would prefer a different muzzle and expression.

Special Limit Tricolor Dog (3)

1. Chadwick Midnight Sun At Hudsonview (Glynn) Lovely size dog with a pretty head and expression. Moves well. **2. Orchardhill Play For Keeps** (Darr/Venier) A little larger dog with a good head and expression. A little upright in shoulder but his rear construction and movement scored over #3. **3. Stellar Romancing The Stone At Tycwn** (Knauss/Rose) A pretty headed dog but both front and rear need more angulation which would improve the movement.

Special Limit Ruby Dog (3)

1. Autumnhill Spencer, JW (Weinstein/Parente) A very balanced dog with adequate movement both up and down and from the side. Pretty head and expression with good eye. **2. Blackfire Aquavit N. Bordeaux** (Lauve) A tall dog with a little extra length to balance. Moves well from the side. Good head. **3. Cambridge Ruby Dream** (Magera/Mitchell) A very pretty headed dog but very unsure and needs time to develop confidence.

Special Limit Black & Tan Dog (5)

1. Darane Leonardo Da Vinci At Nebyula (Birbeck) A dog in beautiful condition with great deportment. A relatively short dog but balanced and in this class making the most of himself. Lovely head, eye and expression. **Best Black & Tan Dog** **2. Elyzian Double Take** (Arnold) Again a lovely head and expression but not quite the finish of the dog above. A little upright in shoulder but moves freely. **3. Lynsfair Above The Law** (Fairchild) A rather fine dog and lacking a little in masculinity in head. Rather upright front and rear. **4. Charteroak Claude Monet** (Obadowski) A good head but refusing to make the most of himself on the move or indeed when standing making him rather unbalanced and hard to appreciate.

Open Dog (5)

1. Ch Bonita Companeros Kaleo at Diorchavon (Bialek) A lovely Blenheim dog who addressed all that I wanted in head eye, type and soundness. He filled the bill for me and to be hypercritical I would prefer a little less all the way round. *Winners Dog, Best in Show, Best Blenheim in Show*

2. Ch Dreamvale Tri Your Luck at Parkbury JW (Parker) A tri dog who scores with little difference in head and soundness over the third place dog which I also loved. I could change these two at any time. **3. Ch Turretbank Magic Spell** (Green) Scores with his beautiful head but not quite as good in front or from the side. **4. Ch Melrose Gold For Bonitos Companeros, JW** (Magera/Mitchell) A lovely ruby dog with an outstanding head, probably one of the best that I saw all day. Good topline but gives away in movement and follow through with rear quarters. *Best Ruby in Show*

Senior Open Dog (2)

1. Stellar Fireball at Tycwn (Knauss/Gregg) Lovely ruby with good balance, moved freely. Pleasant head. **2. Taron Brandys Ricky at Carlen** (Close) A little shorter dog with a pleasant head. Showing his age in movement.

Junior Puppy Bitch (11)

1. Tudorr La Dolce Vita (Mixon/Stough) Lovely balance and type, very pretty head, gay and happy as she moves

and simply got better as the day progressed. Will be a really strong contender. **2. Chadwick Laura** (Eckersley) For a while I thought she would be my winner. Lovely type balance and movement just not as pretty in head as the winner. **3. Ingold Adromeda** (Pickett) Very compact and sound with a good head and expression, moved well and earned her place in this very strong class. **4. Mimric Buffalo Gal** (Hodges/Perkins) Another lovely puppy, a little taller and with less broken colour than those above. Made a very pleasing picture from the side when moving.

Senior Puppy Bitch (12)

1. Kean Pristine of Valentyne (Keane/O'Brien) A lovely Blenheim of great type, lovely head, great balance, dropped off a little in croup so that her rear movement was not as good as some others but a lovely puppy who later in the challenge would miss her owner and not make the most of herself. **Best Puppy Bitch**
2. Almeara Look At Me (Whitmire) Another lovely puppy with a pretty head, good body and sound. At this time moving a little close in front until forechest develops. **3. Dallarock Dora** (Geldermann) A strong contender who had all the good attributes of the one above her but I preferred the head and expression of the number 2 puppy. **4. Autumnhill Desire Me** (Parente) Another pretty puppy of great type. Very compact, makes a nice package with a good topline and good head and expression just not as filled as those above. **Best Ruby Bitch**

Graduate Puppy Bitch (8)

1. Blackfire I Approved This Message (Weidig/Kennedy) A lovely bitch with a beautiful outline and sound. Has all the essential body parts, would prefer a different head and expression. **2. Rutherford Byoncee** (Jones) A very pretty bitch with a good head and expression. For a while she was in first but her shoulder let her down in front and side movement. **3. Seraphaven Put A Spell On You** (Gogol) A very typy bitch with good head eye and balance. **4. Denham Moonstruck** (Maddox/Fairchild) A very sound bitch but head and expression not up to those above her.

Novice Bitch (4)

1. Autumnhill California Dreamin (Parente) A lovely ruby with a good head. Lovely shoulder and topline, sound on the move but although happy insists on not carrying her tail up which rather spoils the picture. **2. Chewcreek Piper** (DePhillip) A much happier ruby and very well constructed but not the head and expression of the bitch above her. **3. Chadwick Lace Nightie** (Eckersley) A nice Blenheim but a little too low on leg but with a good head and sound. **4. Cantia Kiss From A Rose** (Kent) A Tri whose topline is not her fortune either on the move or standing.

Bred By Exhibitor Bitch (5)

1. Ch Kean Ultraviolet, JW (Keane) My kind of bitch. Lovely head and expression. Moves well with a great outline. Pushed hard for the challenge. **2. Ch Piccadil Destined To Be Rich, JW** (York) A very nice bitch with an attractive head but a little harder in expression. Like the others from this kennel, lovely balanced outline and moving well. **3. Kalais Never Too Late To Party** (Hess) A black and tan. A little more compact than those above, pretty head and balanced structure. **4. Closeburn Tibbie Stuart** (Fairchild) Pretty head. A little straight front and rear which spoiled the overall outline particularly on the move.

Junior American Bred Bitch (6)

1. Shirmont Delightful Caper (Henry/Rosenberg) An extremely pretty bitch with a lovely head and very good balance. Looks good coming and going. **2. Truluv Eve** (Nikaci) A very nice bitch with a great outline and movement. A little plainer in head than the winner. **3. Linrica Femme Fatale** (Liu) A very nice bitch overall. Would like a little more length of leg to balance her. **4. Mimric Move Over Boys** (Hodges/Perkins) Again a nice bitch with good outline, pleasant head and expression. Moves well.

American Bred Bitch (9)

1. Nightingale Goldilocks At Nebuyla (Birbeck) Very pretty bitch with lovely head, moves well with good balance and proportions. **2. Piccadil Gone With The Wind** (York) A little larger bitch but like all the entries from this kennel, sound with well constructed head piece. Shows well. **3. Bekenhall This Is The Life At Royal Caper** (Clayton) Very pretty bitch with good head. Could use a little more leg. **4. Oggbrae Donna Elvira** (Bales) Very good bitch with particularly good balance.

Health & Conformation Bitch (1)

1. Chadwick Winter Solstice (Eckersley) Balanced tri with a pretty head. Great type. Moved and showed well.

Special Limit Blenheim Bitch (4)

1. Kissabella Arabella (Bronowicka/Carter) A very nice balanced bitch who moves smoothly, Rather plain in head but her make and shape earned her this place. **2. Dancasa Summer Thyme** (Rubino/Tiedemann) A little better in head than the one above but upright in shoulder which interfered with her movement and outline. **3. Brookhaven In The Garden, JW** (Ayers/Martz) Good type with a pretty head and expression. She is a little soft in topline and could use a better shoulder layback. **4. Nightingale Bewitching** (Mulligan) Very immature at this time and not at all certain of herself.

Special Limit Tricolor Bitch (5)

1. Orchardhill Unadorned (Venier) A lovely bitch of proper size, lovely head and ears, exceptionally sound as are most of this kennel's exhibits. Comes by her name honestly as she does not have a lot of white but she is lovely. **Winners Bitch, Best of Opposite Sex, Best Bred By Exhibitor Bitch, Best American Bred Bitch, Best Tricolor in Show**

2. Monarch's That's My Little Margie (Bellflower) A lovely head not as sound coming or going as the bitch above. **3. Truluv Aly** (Nikaci) Very typical and was pleasant in head and movement. **4. Bluesday Fly Me To The Moon** (Gross) Pretty head and eye. Based on soundness and gaiety moved her way up.

Special Limit Ruby Bitch (2)

1. Dawnaquin Paint The Town Red (Magera) A lovely head with good length of leg and great balance. Moves well with her good layback of shoulder. **2. Darane My Darling Clementine at Chewcreek** (DePhillip) A little shorter in leg and softer in topline which with the better head of the bitch above put her in this place.

Special Limit Black & Tan Bitch (6)

1. Rutherford Venus W, JW (Jones) A lovely head and eye with good expression, Free moving in all directions with excellent balance. **Best Black & Tan in Show** **2. Blackfire Understudy at Hytea** (Reichardt/Weidig/Kennedy) A little less feminine bitch but wins placement on soundness, layback and topline. **3. Piedpiper Queen of Clubs** (Saban) A smaller and very feminine bitch with good head and reasonable side gait. **4. Kalais Pirate's Booty** (Hess) A nicely balanced bitch with all the essentials but a little fond of her tail on the day.

Open Bitch (3)

1. Ch Pinecrest Moonshine, JW (Eubank/Storey) Really liked this bitch, feminine Blenheim, great type and pretty head, a little soft in topline on the move and standing more a question of condition than structure I think but in the end it cost her the challenge. **Reserve Winners Bitch, Best Blenheim Bitch**

2. Ch Chesham A Minute of Your Time, JW (Eckersley/Taub) A softer bitch but with great type and a lovely head just couldn't push the one above her quite hard enough to win. **3. Ch Prima Quartett Bloody Mary** (Bronowicka/Carter) A very lovely headed tri but her straight front and rear both moving and standing cost her to the two above.

Senior Open Bitch (1)

1. Chadwick Pickety (Taub) A lovely bitch in great condition. Lovely head and expression, great type and soundness.