

Cavaliers of the Midwest

04/15/12, Chicago, IL

Judge: Dr. Kathy Head Aycock-McMurry (Highcotton)

I appreciate very much the invitation to judge your show in Chicago. Thank you to show chairs Sue Shidler and Piera Brown for their gracious hospitality and the lovely welcome basket. Judging a Cavalier show on Sunday is somewhat awkward due to staying in seclusion, not participating in the activities, not playing with the dogs, not visiting with exhibitors--in other words not doing any of the things that make dog shows so enjoyable! However it is very exciting to be in the ring and be surprised and thrilled to see what Cavaliers are in the parade. Thank you so much to my ring steward, hostess and friend Meg Hennessey who made the time before the show so much more enjoyable. Even though this was not a huge entry, there were many quality Cavaliers exhibited and not enough ribbons to adequately award all deserving winners. Dogs were conditioned and shown well for the most part. Bites were very good with only a couple level or slightly undershot, but not spoiling expressions. On a cautionary note, I'm not seeing as many correct, large, round, dark eyes that are so important to breed type. Size, shape and movement were really good overall.

Junior Puppy Dog (6)

1. Chadwick Snow Drift (Eckersley) Bl. Sweetest expression and head, big eyes, good thick coat, excellent topline and forechest, tight feet, nice spring of rib, beautifully presented. **Best Puppy Dog, Best Puppy in Show**

2. Pinecrest White Lightning (Eubank) Bl. Another very pretty dog, excellent shape, nicely framed ears, pressed hard for first. **3. Chiyoda Duke Kahanamoku** (Lemon) Black and tan youngster with a soft expression and good attitude. A little proud of his tail today. **4. Linrica Bye Bye Birdie** (Hsiung/Liu) Bl. Beautifully marked, bit larger with nice well let down hocks, pulling on the down and back making movement hard to assess, full coat.

Senior Puppy Dog (7) Beautiful class of Blenheim boys.

1. Tudorr Apollo (Mixon) Bl. Darkest nose pigment and dark eyes, nice bone, good spring of rib, full ears framing face. **2. Brookhaven Enchanted Dreamer** (Brown) Bl. Really nice shape and outline, well conditioned, silky coat, needs to fill out a little. **3. Shirmont Doctors Orders** (Henry) Bl. Handsome boy with good head, nice full coat, free-flowing movement, rich red with lozenge. **4. Hillwood Photo Express** (Bennett) Bl. Very open markings, a little longer cast, very attentive to handler, showy.

Graduate Puppy Dog (2)

1. Chantismere Caruso of Chadwick (Eckersley) Bl. Beautiful boy, gentle, alert expression with dark eyes, dark nose pigment, perfect size and shape with good forechest, very well schooled, showed like a pro. **2. Jordanic Luigi** (Gentil) Bl. Nice markings, more coat, dark eye, good feet, good angulated rear, nice front, elegant neck flowing into good topline.

Novice Dog (1)

1. Saintbrides Darane Come Sail Away (Kates) Bl. Absolutely stunning puppy. Was so surprised to see him in novice rather than puppy. Beautiful markings, lovely shape and outline, handsome head with nice dark eyes and full ears framing face. Very nice puppy.

Bred By Exhibitor Dog (3)

1. Sevenwoods Highfield Dune (Shidler) Bl. Ideal shape, nice, short hocks, gleaming dark red chestnut, pretty ears, silky coat, darling boy, expressive eyes, eager, outgoing attitude, best head. **2. Westwind Me N My KC** (Koehring) Tri. Another handsome head in a different color with long ears framing face, rest of coat a little unruly today, nice smaller size with gently wagging tail and good attitude. **3. Huntcrest Dream On** (Weiner Pope) Bl. Mushy head with very short muzzle, body great to go over, coat well conditioned, shown very well to his advantage, sound coming and going.

Junior American Bred Dog (3)

1. Autumnhill Ring of Fire, JW (Parente) Ruby. Very nice, best head of class with the darkest, biggest, round eyes, not fully mature but oh so nice, gleaming rich red coat what was there. **2. Forestcreek Prince William** (Koehring) Bl. Good outline, another with big, dark eyes, shown well but he was not interested in the process, kind of sleepy today, think he would have preferred to be in someone's lap. **3. Linrica I Dreamed A Dream** (Liu) Bl. Smaller, very nice mover, silky coat and showed with enthusiasm.

American Bred Dog (4) All Blenheims. Had to check my judge's book to make sure it wasn't the Special Limit Blenheim class!

1. Sheeba Guccio Gucci (Adair/Mitchell) Bl. Lovely outline and size, great showy attitude, compact size with sound movement. **2. Tassajara Hugh Jackman** (Seidman/Berkau/Seidman/Hughes) Bl. Love this boy. Such a rich red and darkest of eyes and pigment, elegant neck and good shoulders and front, distracted in the ring, but still close competition with 1. **3. Huntcrest Surfin Safari** (Patkowski) Bl. Sweet expression with good coat and attractive markings, nice topline. **4. Avia Sgt Pepper** (Marler) Bl. Attractive, masculine head, not overdone, good spring of rib, sound on the move.

Special Limit Blenheim Dog (4) Strong class of quality exhibits of sound movers.

1. Aranel Fanatic (Adair) Really handsome boy with oodles of coat, super outline and great layback of shoulder, sweetest expression, good topline and tail set, animated. **2. Chantismere Cast A Spell On Corduke** (Mulligan) Beautiful rich red on pearly white, sound and graceful movement, lovely headpiece with big, dark eyes. **3. Kinvaarr's Mile High Club** (Harrison) Very gentle, very clean, open markings, another fully coated boy, good head shape, clean lips. **4. Lanola Only Make Believe** (Matters) Long full ears, sweet, most appealing face, ideal size and shape, compact, in full bloom, quality.

Special Limit Tricolor Dog (2)

1. Veribas Point Break (Cusick) Glorious ears. Excellent in every way, except coat a little out of condition at the moment, good shape and size, sound coming and going. **Best Tricolor Dog** **2. Jardim Azuls August Flower** (Matos) Silkier coat, a little on the thin side, attentive to handler, another with glorious ears, moved well around the ring.

Special Limit Ruby Dog (2) A thrill for me when these two came into the ring.

1. Turrethbank Beaujolais (Green) So handsome in absolutely perfect condition with gleaming, rich red coat, not a hair out of place. Quite a ring presence with easy, flowing movement and wonderful head and expression, darkest of eyes, perfect outline and shape, **Winners Dog, Reserve Best in Show, Best of Opposite Sex, Best Ruby in Show.**

2. Sevenwoods Wildberry (Shidler) Another gorgeous headed ruby, good head shape and really dark, expressive eyes, rich, red coat, a handsome ruby boy, sound all ways.

Special Limit Black & Tan Dog (3)

1. Darane Smooth Criminal At Nightingale (Mulligan) The best black and tan I've seen in awhile, super shape and movement, lovely head, beautiful, shiny, correct coat, a contender for top honors, an instance when I wished for more awards. **Best Black and Tan in Show** **2. Brookhaven Bob Bailey** (Schilling) Another really nice Black and Tan in good condition and with strong, sure movement, very animated. **3. Roseriver Guinness Stout** (Lemon) Pretty headpiece but something funny was going on with his rear and tail today which spoiled the picture.

Open Dog (1)

1. Bonitos Companeros Halli Galli (Eubank/Kirschbaum/Vorderstrasse/Morrison) My notes say "fabulous" and he is. Pretty close to perfection in a Blenheim cavalier, could not fault him in any way. Lovely head, body, coat and furnishings, graceful and sure movement, gentle expression and demeanor. Deservedly a contender for top honors. **Reserve Winners Dog, Best Blenheim Dog**

Junior Puppy Bitch (7)

1. Pinecrest Moonshine (Eubank) Bl. Well balanced, great shape, good eyes, sweetheart with soft, kind expression, moved easily and freely, very typey. **Best Puppy Bitch**

2. Chadwick Paparazzi (Matos) Bl. Really adorable expression with the darkest of eyes and great head, smooth, silky coat, good topline, well conditioned, good movement. **3. Woodsong Catalina** (Kaiser) Bl. Another pretty baby, very alert, expressive and dark eyes, good topline, good on the move. **4. Hillwood A Likely Story** (Bennett) Bl. Sweet baby doll with a most appealing expression, silky, soft coat, delightful.

Senior Puppy Bitch (5)

1. Nightingale Kit Kat (Mulligan) Bl. Lovely little show dog, petite and feminine but not fine, with the kindest expression and beautiful coat. **2. Coverdale Fade Into Twilight** (Miller/Bennett) Super tri, everything in right place, nice eyes, good shape and outline, beautifully coated with lush full ears, strong, sure movement. **3. Forestcreek Pippa M** (Mixon/Cline) Bl. Best coat texture of the day, silky soft in exquisite condition, dark, rich red, shorter muzzle, big eyes, moved well. **4. Liane's Xaviera** (Poti) Yummy ruby girl, really pretty head with great ears, good shape and size, nice front, stronger rear would enhance movement

Graduate Puppy Bitch (4)

1. Bonitos Companeros Gianna Nannini (Adair) Bl. Sweetest head with lovely soft expression, good forechest with excellent layback of shoulder, silky coat, good proportions with ideal outline, great attitude and condition **2. Jordanic Madalaina** (Gentil) Bl. Huge, pretty eyes, silky coat with deep rich red, nice

layback of shoulder, good short hocks, tail wagging all the time, dynamic on the move. **3. Lynsfaire Spread The News** (Sams/Fairchild) Tri. Nice head and expression with dark eyes, a little thin on coat at present, well let-down hocks, wagging tail, friendly demeanor. **4. Brookhaven Madison to Love** (Knilians) Bl. Large, pretty eyes, all over the place on the move and pulling on lead so difficult to assess movement, fine on the table, nice shape and size, maturity should benefit.

Novice Bitch (1)

1. Dansyn Sonny Delight (Brown/Becker) Bl. Very, very nice head with dark, round eyes, clean lips and throat, in such good weight and condition, a pleasure to go over, animated little mover, presented beautifully, very typey, should have a bright future.

Bred By Exhibitor Bitch (2) Both of these girls are beautiful. I suspected when they waltzed into the ring that the decision would be difficult and I was right. They could easily change places and comments apply to both.

1. Hillwood Diamond Dust (Bennett) Bl. Gorgeous, never put a foot wrong, ideal size, shape and outline, dark eyes and pigment, lovely in every way with full ears and beautifully conditioned coat, so typey, quality through and through, shown well. **2. Shirmont Apple McIntosh, JW** (Henry/Dodson) Bl. Gorgeous ears, round dark eyes, well broken, good on the move—coming and going, good spring of rib.

Junior American Bred Bitch (2)

1. Nightingale Walkin' On Sunshine (Mulligan) Bl. Beautiful bitch in great condition, lovely head, eyes and expression, pretty and feminine not overdone in any way, full ears, very showy, stepped out with style.

Reserve Winners Bitch, Best American Bred in Show, Best Bred By Exhibitor in Show

2. Brookhaven Darbie, JW (Ayers/Martz) Tri. Beautiful head with full ears framing face, perfect shape and size, strong and sure on the move holding topline all the while, delightful. *Best Tricolor in Show American Bred Bitch (2)*

1. Cedar Creek Miles Of Style (Owens) Another lovely Blenheim with full, well-broken coat and rich red, good outline and lovely neck flowing into good shoulders and topline, good tailset and carriage, excellent bone, moved well. **2. Lilium Southern Magnolia** (Thorpe) Bl. Good head with dark eyes, coat a little unruly today, great showy attitude, good on table, kind expression

Special Limit Blenheim Bitch (3) Wonderful class of beauties.

1. Miletree Wendy McKenzie at Shirmont, JW (Henry) Exquisite, big dark eyes, adorable head and glamorous ears, perfect condition, beautifully shown, star quality. Moved effortlessly around the ring with level topline and correct tailset and carriage. Exudes breed type. A thrill to view and go over and most deservedly *Winners Bitch, Best in Show, Best Blenheim in Show*.

2. Royalcaper Bluebell Bliss (Clayton) Another nice bitch with really big, dark eyes, shorter muzzle and a sweet expression, well broken markings, coat in excellent condition, moved with style. **3. Spindlepoint Hope** (Compton) Prettiest ears, another rich chestnut red, ideal size, not as sure on the move, many good qualities.

Special Limit Tricolor Bitch (1)

1. Pinecrest Dixie Melody (Eubank) Pretty, pretty girl, lovely temperament and attitude, correct shape and outline with good spring of rib, attentive to handler, moved with verve, beautifully conditioned and trained.

Special Limit Ruby Bitch (1)

1. Sevenwoods Hollyberry (Brown/Shidler) Really attractive feminine ruby with nice eyes and pretty ears, gentle expression, moderate bone and good topline, rich coat color just not much of it yet, sound, sure mover, should mature beautifully as everything is in the right place. *Best Ruby Bitch*

Special Limit Black & Tan Bitch (2)

1. Veribas Wild Horses (Fitzgerald/Cusick) Silky coat, good ears, really handsome head, moved well with confidence, good topline, presented beautifully. *Best Black & Tan Bitch* **2. Lynsfaire Carolina Girl** (Sams) Sweet head, out of coat at the moment and moving wide in rear, happy attitude, a real sweetheart, should develop nicely.

Open Bitch (1)

1. Hillwood Diamond Diva (Miller/Bennett) Bl. Attractive girl with pretty ears, soft topline, good coat, not so happy so maybe not at the top of her game today, seemed tired or bored.

Senior Open Bitch (2)

1. Sevenwoods Diabolique (Shidler) Wonderful 11 year old Tri, great standing and on the move, in charge of the ring more so than some of the younger girls, beautiful eyes, lovely full coat and pretty ears, has been enjoying her food bowl a little too much. Cavaliers do love to eat! **2. Avia Referees Call** (Marler) Pretty 8

year old Blenheim, with a nice headpiece, fully coated although a little dry today, nice bone and ideal size, stylish on the move.

Veteran Bitch (2) Same as Senior Open Bitch.

1. Sevenwoods Diabolique (Shidler) Tri. Hard to believe she's 11, she's so lively and outgoing. Well deserved Best Veteran. Congratulations to breeder/owner. **Best Veteran in Show 2. Avia Referees Call** (Marler) Bl. A mere youngster in this class. If she keeps this up, she'll continue to age gracefully.