

Cavaliers of the West
07/06/12, Oakland, CA
Judge: Norma Inglis (Craigowl)

This was a well organised show and everyone seemed to be enjoying themselves. From a show manager's perspective this is not an easy thing to ensure but the Hilton Hotel venue, rooms and facilities lent themselves well to a dog show and the organisers did well in finding a location that ticked all the boxes. I must thank Neil Rosenberg and Patty Fensterwald for looking after me when I arrived and to Susan Gonyo, Kevin Ellingson, Victoria Malinak and Paula Columbo and Patty for their hard work in the ring keeping things running smoothly. I was able to find winners that fulfilled my criteria and was thrilled to see that 3 out of the 4 top awards were won by Cavaliers bred in the USA. That is progress! Strengths and weaknesses I found. Long bodies, poor tail sets, weak rears appeared too often. On the plus side, coats were good, eyes were dark and in my major winners I was able to find toy dogs with substance who moved well. I loved the area and was even able to sample some of the finest Napa wines. Thank you all for your sporting acceptance of my decisions and making the trip memorable.

Junior Puppy Dog (1)

1. Lily Little Knight Madeir (Tyler) 6 months Ruby at the fluffy coat stage. Sweet face with good eyes, correct ear set and promise of good rich red coat. A good size but rather narrow all the way through at present and quite raw in his development. Tail carriage will hopefully settle as he grows up and matures.

Senior Puppy Dog (2)

1. Harrington Lochlmond Troubadour (Mittelman) Litter brother to 2. Both Blenheims. This one had the size and construction I was looking for and although he sported a few freckles, his expression appealed. Neatly made with short back. His good construction allowed him to move freely keeping a good outline on the move. Rich markings, nicely broken. Good pigmentation. **Best Puppy Dog**

2. Harrington Lochlmond Here For A Good Time (Mittelman) Quite different to his brother whose head, make and shape and size I preferred. A glamorous boy who stood out for his deep chestnut glossy coat. Drove off from a strong rear and showed happily. 10 months and feel with his maturity he would look better in a higher class.

Graduate Puppy Dog (1)

1. Tassajara Jack Kerouac (Green) Respectable Blenheim born in the USA out of English parents. Scored for size, gentle face and well feathered silky coat. A sweet natured dog with good breed type and glorious eyes that were large, dark and round. Dense nose pigmentation. More neck would add elegance to his outline and he could be stronger behind.

Bred by Exhibitor Dog (2)

1. Hathersage Intoxication, JW (Fowler) Hard to judge these two Blenheims as both were dogs of quality with different strengths and weaknesses. Winner had the edge on head with big eyes full of expression and his conformation appealed more. Liked his neck, shoulders and top line. Smart on the move, looking good in profile. At 18 months his prospects look promising. **2. Harmony Afternoon Tea** (Richmond) One of the best presented dogs here today. His coat gleamed with condition and his chestnut was more vibrant than 1. Toy dog description suited him and he was well bodied with enough bone for his frame. Tended to stand straight in stifle and preferred free and easy gait and more generous headpiece of winner.

Junior American Bred Dog (1)

1. Autumnhill Ring Of Fire, JW (Parente) Stylish Ruby of 16 months who presented a smart outline with good neck, shoulders and top line. Although short of coat the colour was a rich red and the texture, soft and silky. Good angles front and rear allowed him freedom of movement and he covered the ground in a light, easy stride. Spot on for size and he showed an engaging personality that appealed. Handsome head but found the dark furrows distracting. **Best Ruby in Show**

American Bred Dog (6) A good class.

1. Benchmark Up In The Air Of Onthemark (Chan/Mitchell) Blanketed Blenheim who caught my eye as he entered the ring and was not disappointed on closer examination as he held most of the essentials. Masculine head with flat skull, gentle eyes and good length of muzzle. Huge ears. Coat presentation was first class. He went well both coming and going and on the go around his outline showed his lengthy neck, good angles front and rear, firm top line and ideal tail carriage. With a more polished ring performance could have gone all the way. A happy dog and even happier owner who made a good team. Lovely boy who richly deserved **Reserve Winners Dog, Reserve Best in Show, Best American Bred in Show**. A popular win by the sound of the reception received.

2. Covington True Blood (Mohn) Nicely made Blenheim who was marked to advantage and even carried a lozenge spot. Head type appealed with gentle face and expression. Across the ring he demanded attention with his balanced outline and he had good posture on the move. Pushed winner all the way but because of his lack of

furnishings he was just showing too much daylight below him today and had to settle for 2nd. In full coat could challenge the best. **3. Barrowmore Ivyline It's-A-Me Weegee** (Giampapa) An honest Blenheim dog with above average qualities. Well broken markings, richly coloured, decent size, and excellent pigment. Moved well but was over exuberant and tended to race around the ring. His excitement also affected his expression. Calmed down he could do more. **4. Briarcrest Star Chaser, JW** (Mitchell) Neat and tidy 4 year old who looked well. Carried a good coat that was attractively marked. Head whilst not breath taking had good typical Cavalier characteristics. Good size for a Toy dog.

Health and Conformation Dog (1)

1. Allegría Made You Look (McHenry/Virrueta) A good ambassador for this class. 5 years old and looking in his prime with a wealth of Blenheim coat that was rich and glossy and felt good to the touch. A size up from my ideal but he had much to commend him. Good looking boy with broad skull, large eyes and black nose. Full of energy and he went around the ring with enthusiasm displaying a typical happy go lucky personality. He loved his showing and is a credit to his owner.

Special Limit Blenheim Dog (4)

1. Pascavale Jackson (Cline/Sedgwick) Seriously short of coat but apart from that one aspect, he had most of what I wanted. Head was generous with good eyes and a delicious expression. Ideal size with short back, good ribs and medium bone. Kept a good outline when moving. Needs to come back into coat and condition at which point he should have little difficulty in rising to the top. **2. Alberica Duke Of Earl** (Crommett) Glamour boy in a luxury coat marked to advantage. A different body shape to winner, longer and lower on leg, and so not the balance. Appealed in expression with soft eyes that were dark, big and round and his head was framed with long well feathered ears. Full of breed type and had style. Moving close behind. **3. Judyland Magical Fizz of Lochlomond** (Mittelman) Another pin up boy, well off for silky coat and his immaculate turnout was appreciated. Preferred expression of those above and a size smaller would suit me more but had sufficient breed points and a pedigree that make him worth considering as a stud dog. **4. Ellisiana Jupiter** (Tyler) Better size than 2 and 3 but not the construction to go higher. Rose over the loin. Lovely, happy disposition and I loved his face, eyes and jet black pigment. Well marked coat and lots of it.

Special Limit Tricolour Dog (1)

1. Veribas Point Break (Cusick) 3 year old full of glamour and breed type who has won under me on a previous occasion and continues to impress. His turn out was splendid and his generous expression text book. Probably had the best male head on display on the day. Lots to like with his face and body marked to advantage with rich tan placed where required. He was in bloom, carrying just the right amount of weight. Owner allowed him to forge ahead when circling the ring and he can lose his outline and dip in top line if not watched. Outline was firm when standing. If this is addressed, and moved more in tune with his handler then feel he could benefit. Fully deserving to be in the final cut. *Best Tricolour in Show*

Special Limit Ruby Dog (5) A class of varying shapes and sizes.

1. Kellene Barnaby Jones (Carter) Not carrying the coat of the others but his balanced outline appealed and he out moved the rest of the class. Scores for colouring, a rich red just as required in the Standard. A little over conditioned and must watch his weight as it can all gather on his neck and shoulders. Kind face coming from big, dark eyes and enough cushioning. Black nose. A happy boy with good ring manners and a sensible personality. **2. Lilycroft High Seas** (Karcher) Small and good looking with a great face. Liked his expressive eyes. Has a tendency to over angulate that made him look low to the ground but this improved when he moved. Shown in good coat and condition and he stepped out with precision. **3. Turretbank Beaujolais** (Green) Lavishly coated boy with so much coat he looked at first glance, larger than he actually is. His presentation was exemplary with not a hair out of place! A very sweet expression with excellent eyes. Good outline marginally spoiled by his tail carriage that I was pleased to see settled more over the next couple of show days. More compact body shape would be my choice. **4. Little Knight Truffle** (Tyler) This dog's head framed by long, feathered ears appealed to me the most. Generous and mellow expression yet distinctly male. Tidy size with the required coat colour. Sadly his construction pegged him back and he was being awkward and not cooperating with his handler.

Special Limit Black & Tan Dog (2)

1. Brookhaven Bob Bailey (Schilling) Stylish boy who had instant appeal as he stood naturally showing a clean, fluid outline. Everything fitted together smoothly. Nice neck set in well laid shoulders that blended into a firm top line, and a well set tail finished off the pleasing profile. Ideal size with good bone. He went around the ring with head up drawing my attention. Had no hesitation in selecting him in my final deliberation for Best Dog. My preference would be for a softer eye but he is a dog to be proud of. *Best Black & Tan in Show 2.* **Rosebury Pot O' Gold** (Swoboda) 6 year old who never put a foot wrong and did all that was asked of him. Shown in lovely coat and has the best eyes. Large, dark and round. Flat skull and his tan markings were bright. Had to give way to the younger dog who was more the size I like but full marks to his owner for the care and attention he obviously receives.

Open Dog (1)

1. Ch Bonitos Companeros Halli Galli (Eubank/Kirschbaum/Voderstrasse/Morrison) 3 year old Blenheim who stood alone but who has immense quality and could hold his own in the best company. Had a great rapport with his owner who got the best out of him and made my job easy. Not a lot I would want to alter. Perhaps a bit more masculine in outlook but he had a sweet face and the rest of him more than compensated. Spot on for size, with a neat body shape. Rich chestnut markings and he was presented in the peak of condition. All the body parts gelled nicely together and he moved soundly. Although known to me, I was able to judge this dog with a calm detachment and found nothing to beat him on the day. Gave "Branwell" Best of Breed at Crufts and today I was pleased to award his son *Winners Dog, Best in Show, Best Blenheim in Show*.

Junior Puppy Bitch (7)

1. Cedar creek Isa Jewel (Owens) Promising Blenheim who had instant appeal with many of the required ingredients. 8 months old and showed a clean outline with all body parts blending smoothly. No unwanted bumps. Promise of a quality coat and she displayed a sunny personality with her constantly wagging tail. Spot on for size and her head was charming. Good ring presence clinched it for her. **2. Chadwick Paparazzi** (Matos) Accurate moving Blenheim with many good points. Just bigger than 1 whose petite frame I preferred, but she managed to retain elegance and had a look of quality. Attractive head with pretty eyes. Even sported a lozenge. **3. Northwynd Chai Latte** (Moe) Well marked Blenheim with a good outline. A friendly girl with an appealing face. More substance needed and I thought her lean. **4. Lilycroft Madeir Lady Emma Rose** (Karcher) Her litter brother won the Junior Puppy Dog class. Rubies can be slow to develop and she will take time. But no rush. Fast maturity is not always a good thing. Her coat colour was good and she had a very pretty face, just hope she fills out under the eyes. *Best Ruby Bitch*

Senior Puppy Bitch (5)

1. Starmarc I Believe (Hooper) Impressive tricolour who had much going for her and at 9 months must have a rosy future. Good size, pretty face, neatly made, lovely coat and flashy markings, correct angles front and rear, willing show girl with good ring manners. Even markings on her face with plenty of rich tan made her easy on the eye. An exciting prospect. *Best Puppy Bitch, Best Puppy in Show, Best Tricolor Bitch* and *Reserve Winners Bitch* to thunderous applause.

2. Pinecrest Mountain Dew (Eubank) Respectable Blenheim who moved steadily around the ring. Super large eyes, long ears and a lozenge thrown in. Vibrant chestnut colouring with good coat length and texture. A size bigger than winner. **3. Ravens Rhianna Jewel** (Neely/Johns) Another quality puppy, this one a tricolour who appealed for her delightful face and expression, dark eyes and shiny coat that was silky to the touch. Again bigger than I was seeking but she had many virtues with more to like than not. **4. Lisa Magic Baccara** (Toepfer) Miss Personality with a glorious nature. Her waggy tail said it all. Super size and presented in a glossy, well marked coat. More cushioning below eyes needed.

Graduate Puppy Bitch (5)

1. Forestcreek Princess Diana (Cline) Lovely young Blenheim who has inherited so much that is good from her parents. Scores for neck, shoulders, top line and tail set. Saddle markings that worked in her favour accentuating her clean outline. Carried herself with great style and was quietly and ably shown by her young handler. Fitted easily into my line up and had what I was looking for. Small, good colour, pretty headed, well made with good breed type. Only 14 months old and the world must be her oyster. Loved her. *Winners Bitch, Best of Opposite Sex in Show, Best Bred By Exhibitor in Show, Best Blenheim Bitch*

2. Lawson Greyhawk Sugarexpress To Ivyline (Giampapa/Holm) Well coated Blenheim who looked a picture standing and her sweet face and expression had on the spot appeal. One size bigger than 1 and lost out to "Diana's" outline and exceptionally good tail carriage. However, she impressed with her breed traits and was an accurate mover. **3. Greyhawk Remembrance At Del Sol** (McHenry/Kubin) Another rich Blenheim with above board virtues. Same size as 2 and matched her well point for point. I see from the catalogue they are litter sisters. Good body with nice angles front and rear A bit messy on face and would look nicer without the staining. **4. Quail Run Royal Renaissance** (Kornhi) Tiny tot Blenheim who was a good rich colour with dark eyes and good ribs. Not well constructed.

Novice Bitch (1)

1. Y Cymry Cherokee (Martin) At her first show and at 2 years old, she didn't do badly. Liked her size and sweet facial features. Her coat shone with wellbeing. *Best Black & Tan Bitch*

Bred By Exhibitor Bitch (2)

1. Truluv Pirouette (Nikaci) Smart, pretty faced Blenheim who was a live wire with bubbly personality and gave 100% to her owner and was hard to overlook. Close scrutiny found she was well made with great neck, shoulders and top line. Neat body shape with good ribs and short back. Carried a long silky coat with even distribution of markings. See no reason why this bitch should not make up to Champion, as in my opinion she is worthy. Cream does rise to the top, she just needs to be in the right place, at the right time. **2. Benchmark Shameless** (Hoorman) A decent tri bitch just not so neatly made as winner being both longer and bigger. Winning face features with super eyes and shown in shiny, well conditioned coat. Bigger than my ideal, but a useful bitch.

Junior American Bred Bitch (1)

1. Quail Run Cosmic Candy (Kornhi) Petite Blenheim who was lightly marked with good depth of colour to her chestnut markings. Soft expression and friendly. She met me like an old friend....so Cavalier.

American Bred Bitch (3)

1. Forestcreek Piece Of My Heart (Cline) Liked this bitch a lot. Last time I saw her she was very out of coat but this time her coat was more plentiful. I suspect her coat isn't the easiest to prepare. Cosmetically pleasing markings and she is ultra-feminine in head properties. Fabulous ears. Loved her size and had the neck, shoulders, top line and tail I like. Steady mover. **2. Quail Garden Tis Magic** (Colombo/Geller) 2 years old with delightful personality. She was a wagger. Liked her size and she scored for eyes and pigmentation. Preferred neck and shoulders of winner. **3. Quail Run The Avenger** (Kornhi) Dinky Blenheim with sweet face and tranquil expression. Moving close behind and not the construction to go higher.

Special Limit Blenheim Bitch (3)

1. Gayhalo Mosaic (Ayers/Martz) Striking bitch who meets so many of the requirements. Was having an off day but her qualities won her the class. Blanket markings emphasised her neat, well made body. Glorious coat colour. Huge, thick ear leathers edged a pretty feminine face with large lustrous eyes and black nose. Firm top line. I understand she was upset by the loud hollering and clapping at a previous show and this has stuck in her head and at the moment is stopping her enjoying herself. Saw her later outside the ring where her inhibitions had disappeared and her confidence and fun loving attitude had returned. Patience and perseverance needed. She is worth the effort. **2. Loranka's Seraphim At Cuddlemore** (Moulton) Glamour girl with good clarity in coat that made her stand out. Refined expression with good eyes. Well off for body with well-turned stifles. Another not putting her all into showing today and began to enjoy herself more as the class was ending. A case of too little, too late. Will have better days. **3. Royalcaper Bluebell Bliss** (Clayton) A pretty bitch with a head to drool over. Feminine in outlook with a tender expression coming from soulful eyes. Soft coat in splendid condition. Rather heavy over the shoulders and would like more neck to add refinement to her outline.

Special Limit Tricolour Bitch (3)

1. Benchmark Brilliance At Briarcrest (Van Luchene) Lots of credits for this bitch. Size, coat, markings, balance of skull to muzzle, top line, well turned stifles...all satisfied. Extremely pretty and to top it all she was happy. Am used to seeing a brighter face tan. Small quibble on such a nice exhibit. **2. Ringhill Raven Khome Belle** (Neely/Johns) Heavily marked girl whose face was her fortune. Ultra feminine with gentle outlook. Preferred top line and croup of 1 but she had good breed type with lots of worthwhile features. **3. Millhill La Bonbon** (Mittelman/Mordecai) Liked the size of this girl but today she lacked coat and body and looked lightweight which showed in her movement. Needs to be brought back into condition. Pretty head properties.

Special Limit Black & Tan Bitch (2)

1. Clamar Chocolate Éclair (Clark) Feminine with lots of coat and at 18 months was well bodied. Nice body proportions and she covered the ground freely. Expression could be enhanced by larger eyes. **2. Maybelline's Pistol Pippa Of Bear River Ranch** (Toepfer) 5 months younger, so at 13 months did not have the furnishings of winner but the coat she had was soft and silky. A willing show girl who could do with more filling below eyes.

Veteran Dog (1)

1. Torlundy Allegría Billabong (McHenry) Tricolour dog who had good muscle tone and at 7 was in mint condition which showed in his firm top line and strong movement. A real show off with sparkling personality. An abundance of well marked coat. More tan on the face would soften his expression.

Veteran Bitch (1)

1. Benchmark Limelight (Peterson) 8 year old Blenheim with a very pretty face. Keen show girl good for size, type and movement. Enjoying her day out. One of several with this affix who appealed and won well today.

Best Veteran in Show