

COTW

JANUARY 19, 2025 - LAS VEGAS, NV

DALE MARTIN, HMS CAVALIERS

I would like to thank Cavaliers of the West for the invitation to judge *my favorite breed* at the Anne Shapiro Memorial Specialty in Las Vegas. As a past member of COTW, I fondly remember Anne's intelligence, wit, and kindness. I considered Anne and Steve friends, and I am honored to have judged a specialty in Anne's memory, which was a delightful assignment. The show committee is to be congratulated on mounting an extremely well-organized event. The stewards and announcer kept things moving at a steady and comfortable pace. The hotel serving as the venue was more than one would anticipate regarding the ring space, individual room accommodations, and the quality of cuisine from the restaurant's kitchen. As shown to me, hospitality was some of the finest I've ever experienced as a judge. However, none of this would happen without the individual efforts of club members, breeders, and exhibitors. Each of you, along with the lovely exhibits, is what makes your specialties so successful.

Thank you to the exhibitors for accepting my placements and comments with such professional sportsmanship.

Overall, I found the entries to excel in their moderate size, lovely eyes, and gay temperament. It was reassuring to see this depth of breed type. Front-end construction, which, if lost, can be quite challenging to correct, appears in somewhat better shape than rears. I was especially delighted to be able to award top honors to both whole- and parti-colors.

Respectfully,
Dale Martin

DOGS

JUNIOR PUPPY DOG (2)

- 1) **HARRINGTON TOUGH COOKIE** (Gonyo/Gonyo) This heavily marked tri-color youngster is a true toy spaniel. The hairline blaze did not detract from his lovely face and headpiece. His front and rear constructions are correctly angulated. He carries a dead level topline on the move and when standing, and as his tail is set on and carried correctly, the picture of him going around is delightful. His handler presented him well-trained while allowing his happy temperament to shine through. I was delighted to eventually award his **BEST PUPPY DOG, BEST TRICOLOR & BEST PUPPY IN SHOW.**
- 2) **NIGHTHAWKS ONCE UPON A LIFETIME** (Mitchell) A larger Blenheim boy with a nice topline and dark eyes. Time and maturing will allow for his muzzle to fill to balance the skull.

SENIOR PUPPY DOG (2)

- 1) **FALLING SPRINGS POP OUT N SHOW EM** (Christensen/James) An openly marked Blenheim with a correct front, resulting in an elegant length of neck and reach on the move. He has dark eyes and pigment.
- 2) **TEMPLAR'S NOT YOUR AVERAGE COWBOY V. NIGHTHAWK** (Moigi/Mitchell) Nice proportions on this puppy, with lovely coat quality and color, and large round dark eyes. Good rear angulation that was not so well balanced by a front end needing better layback of scapula that would also create more length of neck.

GRADUATE PUPPY DOG (1)

- 1) **KINGDOM RAVELLO BABIECA** (Neiser/Neiser) Lovely, elegant, moderate, Blenheim dog. Beautifully balanced throughout, with a classic head and beautiful dark round eyes. Lovely temperament.

BRED BY EXHIBITOR (1)

- 1) **CH BELLAROSE CUCCI GU** (Becker) Glamorous Blenheim dog with a lovely headpiece and round dark eyes. A bit weak in the hocks; slight to moderate angulations.

AMERICAN BRED DOG (4)

- 1) **DEL SOL MAGIC MOEMENT AW, MP** (Macrae) A Blenheim dog with correctly moderate bone and proportions; lovely moderate masculine headpiece with dark round eyes. Moderate angles front and rear. His movement is clean, both coming and going.
- 2) **CROSSBOW BALOO FROM THE JUNGLE AT BLUESTRARA** (Glines-Brezine/Alvarez) Blenheim with nicely broken-up markings. Good movement in the front end, but weaker hocks and not as clean going away as the first-place dog. Also, preferred the shorter coupling of the dog placed ahead.
- 3) **SORELLA CHEESEBURGER IN PARADISE** (Savage Green) BL More mature, heavily marked Blenheim dog, up in weight today. Lovely, classic headpiece with dark round eyes and pigment.
- 4) **BLUESTARA ALADDINS LIGHT AT HFIT** (Parris/Parris) BL Moderate-sized Blenheim with nicely broken markings, good rear angles although a bit upright in the shoulder. Round, dark eyes. Topline needs to settle over the loin.

SPECIAL LIMIT BLENHEIM DOG (3)

- 1) **STORYTIME & CEDAR CREEK'S HAPPY HOUR** (Owens/Blomquist) A true toy spaniel with a lovely topline, tail set and carriage, and strong hocks. His movement is clean, coming and going. Beautiful eyes and silky flat coat. A bit shorter in muzzle than I usually prefer, but otherwise, he is a well-balanced dog.
- 2) **COVINGTON RHAEGAL** (Gonyo/Mohn) A more mature dog with good head proportions of skull to muzzle, although insufficient ear feathering today to balance and frame the face and head; nice topline and tailset; dark, round eye.
- 3) **MINGCHEN YUKON RIVER AT HIGH FLIGHT** (Parris/Parris) Nice proportions, moderate angulations, although not as clean going away as those placed above. Dark eyes and pigment.

OPEN DOG (3) "Deep quality in this class!"

- 1) **CH FALLING SPRINGS BLACK FLAME AT MADRYN, JW, AW, CTKN** (Weeks/Weeks/Grimm Curley) Black and Tan dog of outstanding quality. Lovely masculine headpiece that is not overdone or blocky, especially for a whole-color. Good moderate bone. Lovely topline, neck, and shoulder layback. Equally nice angles in the hindquarters. Moved effortlessly around the ring with a strong, level topline that he kept while standing. His handler had his shiny black coat well turned out and saw that he maintained his happy, showy temperament each time he returned to the ring. I was pleased to award him **WINNER'S DOG & BEST AMERICAN BRED, BEST BLACK AND TAN IN SHOW** and ultimately **BEST IN SHOW!**
- 2) **BONITOS COMPANEROS ORINOCO** (Meager/Hess) A Blenheim dog also of lovely quality and balance, who pushed the first place dog hard! His is a classic headpiece with lovely proportions of skull to well-cushioned muzzle, and DARK round eyes and dark pigment. Another that moved well in all directions. **RESERVE WINNER'S DOG, BEST BLENHEIM IN SHOW & RESERVE BEST IN SHOW.**
- 3) **CH SORELLA TWO TICKETS TO PARADISE, JW** (Savage Green) Blenheim dog with lovely proportions, strong angulations front and rear, strong hocks. Beautiful expression and temperament. Nose pigment off today.

BITCHES

JUNIOR PUPPY BITCH (7)

- 1) **IVYLINE PARTY IN THE USA AT APPLEBRANCH** (Bennett) BL Lovely outline on this Blenheim puppy bitch with good moderate bone. She has a promising headpiece at this stage of development with desired round, dark eyes, and an attractive blaze. I appreciated her level topline along with a well-set on tail and carriage. **BEST PUPPY BITCH**
- 2) **NIGHTHAWKS OUTSTANDING PRESENTATION** (Mitchell) BL Another Blenheim with nice proportion and good bone. She carries a good topline for this age. Preferred the eye of the puppy above.
- 3) **HARRINGTON A SPOONFUL OF SUGAR** (Gonyo/Gonyo) Tri Lovely tricolor puppy with good bone. Good angulation front and rear, along with her well let down hocks. Clean movement going away. I preferred the more level tail carriage of the two standing above.
- 4) **DEL SOL SLICE OF PARADISE** (McHenry) Petite Blenheim with nicely broken-up markings and well-let-down hocks. Toplines can be “iffy” at this age, and hers should improve as she matures.

SENIOR PUPPY BITCH (1)

- 1) **FALLING SPRINGS RUN THE WORLD** (Younger) Lovely feminine Blenheim puppy with well-broken-up markings. Although she is a bit upright in the scapula today, she exhibits a strong rear angulation. She has a level topline when standing. Showing a bit of white in the eyes today.

GRADUATE PUPPY BITCH (2)

- 1) **IVYLINE COWGIRL BARBIE** (Giampapa) Feminine Blenheim bitch with nice moderate bone. Feminine head with dark eyes of moderate size. She maintains a level topline on the move and standing.
- 2) **LADY IN BLACK DE LOS URSIDOS KODIAK** (Murphy/Echazarra) Quality black & tan of nice moderate size with good proportions and dark, round eyes. Today, I preferred the tail carriage of the exhibit above.

BRED BY EXHIBITOR BITCH (2)

- 1) **ORCHARDHILL DIVERSIFIED** (Venier/Venier) Lovely feminine Blenheim bitch that excels in front assembly and firm hocks. She has a nice turn of stifles that she doesn't

want to show when free-standing, which diminishes the picture. However, she IS a picture on the move.

- 2) **GLYDEN I'M A BELIEVER** (Ellingston/Ellingston) Another quality Blenheim bitch with good rear angulation and well-let-down hocks. Classic head with soft expression and good balance of skull to well-cushioned muzzle without being overdone. She lost out to the bitch above on front angulation and reach of neck.

AMERICAN BRED BITCH (2)

- 1) **DEL SOL BREAKFAST IN BED** (McHenry) Blenheim bitch of moderate size and bone. She has proper angulation in the front and rear, which she uses so well when moving in all directions. Her feminine foreface is enhanced by lovely dark, round eyes and dark pigment. **WINNER'S BITCH, BEST OPPOSITE SEX TO BEST IN SHOW, BEST BRED BY EXHIBITOR**
- 2) **NIGHTHAWK JINX YOURE IT CRN, CCD, CGC, TK-N** (Mitchell) A compact Blenheim bitch with a rich-colored broken pattern. Lovely ear fringing framing her face. Her stifles are well-turned. Being a bit shorter in muzzle, I preferred the balance of skull to length of muzzle of the bitch above.

SPECIAL LIMIT BLENHEIM BITCH (1)

- 1) **CHADWICK LOOKING FOR TROUBLE** (Comer/Greak) Pretty Blenheim bitch with a lovely topline and one of the best tailsets and carriage of the day. Good angulations front and rear, with moderate strength of hocks. Shows a bit of white in one eye, and her headpiece could use a bit more length and breadth of muzzle to skull.

SPECIAL LIMIT RUBY BITCH (1)

- 1) **REGIS GOLD COUNTRY SPICY PARADISE** (Neiser/Neiser) Lovely ruby with proper angulations front and rear, in need of ring training. Unfortunately, her handler had to use a tight lead to control her, causing a roaching of the topline over the loin. The topline leveled out when she was moved on a loose lead at my request, but her nose went to the ground sniffing...out of control. With training, this ruby would surely be competitive. Along with her correct structure and size, she has a correct headpiece that would not be out of place on a quality parti-color, lovely coat color and quality. **BEST RUBY IN SHOW**

SPECIAL LIMIT BLACK & TAN BITCH (2)

- 1) **MYRNAC TINA TURNER TO SHERAH** (Crommett/Reid) A moderately-boned bitch with rich tan markings. Clean movement coming and going, and holding a level topline.
- 2) **FERAY VALOIR VIOLA D'OR** (Neiser/Neiser) Very pretty bitch with correct angles in front. The headpiece has a nice balance of muzzle to skull and dark eyes. The shiny black coat shows a white locket and a white line under the nose. These two exhibits could reverse places on another day.

SENIOR OPEN BITCH (1)

- 1) **DEL SOL ADORED** (McHenry) A tricolor in such lovely condition that she could have been mistaken for a puppy. Her compact proportions were enhanced by her level topline while standing and moving, correct tail set and carriage. Her feminine headpiece is classic in its balance of muzzle to skull. This 8 ½ year-old gave younger exhibits a masterclass in showmanship. It was my honor to award her **RESERVE WINNER'S BITCH & BEST VETERAN IN SHOW**. Congratulations to her breeder/owner who I later learned is also the breeder/owner of today's Winner's Bitch!