

Cavaliers of the Midwest

02/23/13, Dallas TX

Judge: Andrew H. Brace (Tragband--UK)

This was not only my first visit to Texas but also to judge for “the old club” and let me open by thanking all involved with this Cavalier extravaganza for their kind hospitality. This was an interesting entry to judge where I found more depth in the bitches than the males. Judging is always a matter of compromise and life would be so simple if we could take the head of one, the body of another and the movement of something else and construct the perfect dog. Type must always be paramount and so I was a little forgiving of less than ideal out-and-back movement when dogs pleased me standing and on the go-around.

Junior Puppy Dog (6)

1. Starmarc Sugar Bear (Hooper) 5 months Blenheim who initially was determined to wag his tail but refuse to move! With perseverance his performance improved immensely and he has great promise all through. Beautiful head with mid brown eye, correctly balanced and proportioned. Great promise in outline with optimum angles front and back, carrying wonderful body for his age and his coat is sufficiently well broken. When we actually got him to gait he displayed sufficient soundness to convince me he was the winner. Sufficient promise to take **Best Puppy Dog**.

2. Starmarc My Boy Charlie (Hooper) Again 5 months Blenheim who was almost as reluctant to start with but eventually settled. The winner – his litter brother I see - scored marginally in expression and length of neck and he is better angulated behind but this dog is beautifully broken and very well bodied with an air about him. **3.**

Cruisin Mr Ted E Bear (Rackler) 6 months Ruby who has quality and type. Pleasing head and eye, basic construction is pleasing but he is a little long coupled. Nonetheless he holds a firm topline and carries himself with style. **4. Hiddencreek Hugo Boss** (Green) 8 months Blenheim and if there had been a prize for the best performance and carriage he would have walked off with it in a heartbeat. In beautiful condition and carrying plenty of body (maybe too much so for this age), he is a little strong in backskull, rather heavy over the shoulder and I would like his colour to be much better broken. I am sure other judges will rate him far more highly.

Senior Puppy Dog (4) None of the dogs in this class had what I consider to be perfect bites, but I know that bites can improve way beyond this age.

1. Briarcrest Burberry (Katz) 11 months Blenheim of excellent type and with a look of class. Pleasing head with lustrous eyes, excellent balance and strong underjaw. Very well balanced outline, excellent bone and body, nicely ribbed already and his colour is reasonably broken. Very steady mover, holding his tail nicely and the basic construction and angulation is first class. **2. Windnsea Starbucks** (Sutton) 9 months Blenheim, better broken colour than the winner but not quite as well bodied and a shade longer coupled. Very pleasing head type, soft expression, needs to strengthen behind and his tail carriage could be a little more relaxed. **3. Jalesto Super Trooper** (Gentil) 11 months Ruby, all male but not too coarse. Head could be a shade better balanced and he is a little long cast. **4. Bentwood Reason To Believe** (Barton/Harrison) 10 months old Blenheim, loved his size as he is a real Toy Spaniel. Unfortunately his eyes are far too prominent and show the whites, his muzzle is too short and his tail carriage a little extreme. In beautiful condition and presented immaculately.

Graduate Puppy Dog (5)

1. Jayba Easy Does It, JW (Lander) 13 months Blenheim of ideal size if a little long coupled, however as is so often the way that little extra length gives him such scope on the move as he really covers ground and has a way of going that is free and effortless. Quality head which is essentially masculine, enough bone without being clunky and he is well ribbed. Holds his outline and tail at all times and has a sensible temperament. Sound and steady mover. **2. Chewcreek Three Amigos Dusty Bottoms** (DePhillip) 14 months Blenheim who was my immediate winner on the first go-around as he is better broken than 1 but like him a fraction long cast. Beautiful head type and soft expression, good bone and ribs, well angulated front and rear but he has an irritating habit of ski-sloping his topline on the stack. On the move however he levels out and looks great going around. The cross he has to bear is his front which through shortcomings in the front assembly means that he comes on rather wide and loose. A shame as I liked him a lot. **3. Canyoncrest Pleasingly Pumpkin** (Du Ross) 16 months Blenheim and possibly better balanced than those above as he is shorter coupled and very much “all of a piece”. Nicely proportioned head but the eye is a little small and expression not as soft as 1 and 2. Very nicely bodied and

conditioned, colour could be better broken, moves briskly. **4. Royalmark Crystal Blue Persuasion** (Barrett) 16 months and the eye catcher in the class as he has a kind of presence on the go-around but at the moment his head appears too small for his body, he is rather straight in shoulder and his topline somewhat soft. Consequently the outline lacks flow and looks rather angular and boxy. Coat is very open, colour reasonably well broken. Moves steady and true.

Bred By Exhibitor Dog (4)

1. Mtnvista Buffalo Bill Cody (Curtis) Almost 2 years Blenheim who caught my eye as soon as he came into the ring and held it. Very good size male with excellent balance of outline and beautifully broken colours. Nicely proportioned head but possibly a shade severe in stop and the eye could be a little larger to perfect the expression. Beautifully constructed all through with no extremes or exaggerations and he is a sound and steady mover. Tail carriage not always ideal but on overall picture **Reserve Winners Dog, Best Bred By Exhibitor Dog.**

2. Ch Mimric Consensus, JW (Hodges/Perkins) 17 months Blenheim, a smaller framed dog than 1 but very well made and with amazingly well sprung ribs for a dog of this size. Head could be a little drier and he could have a fraction more neck but his outline is an object lesson in balance and construction and he gave a good account of himself on the move. **3. Ch Autumnhill Ring of Fire, JW** (Parente) Almost 2 year old Ruby who is a free and scopy mover with a quality coat and he is an ideal size. Like so many of the moving machines he has a little length about him but his biggest problem is the head which is rather short muzzled, over wrinkled and full-eyed. **4. Canyoncrest Star Blazer, JW** (Du Ross) 2 ½ year old Blenheim of ideal size and balance, soft expression and nicely balanced head. Rather short in ribcage and his croup and tailset could be better. Also for a dog of this age I would like him to be carrying a little more body condition.

Junior American Bred Dog (2)

1. Cloudbase Alexander (Scanlan Johnson) 9 months Blenheim, a shade long coupled but has a quality head, nicely proportioned and with soft expression, excellent overall construction with good angles front and back, well ribbed but topline needs to settle. Coat could be better broken, sound and steady mover. **2. Darane Suddenly Seymour** (Kates) 1 year Blenheim, more compact than 1 and better broken, and for sure a real Toy Spaniel. That said his head needs a little more finish and he is rather lacking in body condition. Quite well broken and has ideal bone for his size. He moves amazingly well behind when going away but not as cleanly in front.

American Bred Dog (7)

1. Kinglys Clint Black of Bekenhall (Hall/Herrington) Very impressive Blenheim with a definite charisma about him and in beautiful bloom. Masculine head which still has quality and his outline is clean and well balanced. Coat is of wonderful quality and quite well broken and he handles himself well on the move. At first I thought his tail carriage was a little intense but he soon relaxed and got into the swing of things, going soundly and with style. He's top size for me but on overall virtues I considered him good value for Winners Dog. A shade smaller overall and he could really hit the high spots. **Winners Dog, Best of Opposite Sex, Best Blenheim Dog, Best American Bred Dog**

2. Sikeleli I Wanna Be A Rock Star (Nel) Tricolour who was my winner on the first go-around as I just love his carriage and deportment. On the table he pleased in overall make and shape but a slightly darker eye would help his expression and he didn't have quite the body condition of 1. Nicely broken coat and so very much together when gaiting with perfect tail carriage. **Best Tricolour Dog** **3. Oggbrae Don Ottavio** (Bales) Blenheim whose head I simply adored for its quality and expression. Bodywise he is nicely put together and solidly built, if a shade long cast. Nonetheless his topline never falters. In beautiful coat and bloom, could be a little better broken. On the move he could be a little more outgoing and use his tail more and he could also be stronger behind. **4. Brookhaven Dante** (Ayers/Martz) Upstanding Blenheim with very masculine head, good overall construction if a shade long coupled and the second thigh could be a little better returned. Nicely boned and ribbed, looks great going around but coming on he is rather generously wide.

Special Limit Blenheim Dog (6)

1. Kinvaar's Mile High Club (Harrison) Very much the overall package in the class, this mature Blenheim made a very pleasing picture. There is no questioning his sex and yet there is no suggestion of coarseness with his overt masculinity. Balanced head, nose pigment could be stronger, beautifully boned, bodied and broken and he has exemplary angulation. Standing he can sometimes slope off in topline but on the move he holds it

perfectly. **2. Pinecrest White Lightning, JW** (Eubank) Something of a contrast as this younger dog looked raw by comparison and yet has so much quality. Pretty head type but he is a shade lippy, ideal size and well constructed through the front though he could be shorter coupled and be a little better let down behind. That said, on the go-around he has a natural style and presence about him and was in beautiful condition. **3. Miletree Carnival at Shirmont, JW** (Henry) Another quality Blenheim of perfect size, pleasing head and expression but rather short in ribcage and he needs to carry more body condition and be a little more settled in coat. Could have edged higher if he had been more confident with his tail. **4. Turretbank Oliver** (Green) Completing a quartet of Blemheims he is of excellent overall type, just a shade long cast for his size and he gives a little in topline. Very attractive head type, nicely broken coat, beautifully angulated front and rear and very well let down behind and he moves true. A shade shorter coupled and he too could have changed the script!

Special Limit Tricolor Dog (1)

1. Angel's Pride Love Vegas (Gentil) Pleasant headed dog of good overall type and shape, well balanced outline but his markings could be more even and he could be a little better ribbed back. Holds himself well on the move and his topline is firm and level at all times, sound up and down and excellent tail carriage.

Special Limit Ruby Dog (4)

1. Stepamgar's Copper Penny (Martz/Shreffler) Compact, stylish and of excellent size, quality head, pleasing eye and expression, well angulated front and rear but could be a little less angular over the croup. Looks great going around, comes on true but going away he is very weak in hock. **Best Ruby in Show** **2. AutumnHill Spencer** (Weinstein/Parente) Longer cast dog who is not as dry in skull as 1 but he has great forechest and rib and holds his topline well. Steady mover with good angles front and back. **3. Denham Dream Boat, JW** (Maddox) Good basic stamp, not the richest colour but he has a certain appeal in head and is very solidly built with good angles front and back. Topline and tailset could be a little better but he moves adequately. **4. Meadowlake Licence To Kill** (Swanson) Good size, head could have a little more quality and softness in expression but his biggest problem is topline as he tends to roach and spoil the overall picture, and lacks outline on the move. Well angulated front and rear and not a bad mover.

Special Limit Black & Tan Dog (3)

1. Charma Laid Back Louie at Carlen (Close) Won on his overall shape being by far the best balanced in the class. Quality head, kind eye, could have a tad more angulation front and back but he makes the best of what he has and looks good going round, holding a firm backline and correctly carried tail. **Best Black & Tan in Show** **2. Brookhaven Bob Bailey** (Schilling) Sturdily built but noticeably longer cast than 1 which upsets the overall balance. His eyes are a little prominent and could be a shade darker but otherwise the head is essentially typically. Great bone and ribs and makes the absolute best of himself on the move. **3. Meadowlake Blue Devil** (Swanson) Giving a lot away in age and maturity he lacks the body and finish of 1 and 2 but still has some type and quality. Pleasing eye and expression, needs to body up and generally harden with maturity. Tended to scrabble on the move but he has time on his side.

Open Dog (5)

1. Ch Pascavale Jackson (Cline) Blenheim of ideal size and on his toes. Good head type but skull could be a little drier, beautiful eyes, excellent bite, well boned and bodied, nicely broken colours and he moves so true. **2. Bozi V.H. Lamslag** (York) Tricolour of excellent shape and balance throughout, quality head but a darker eye would improve expression. Quite well broken coat, sound and steady mover with lots of style but tail carriage could be better. **3. Ch Orchardhill Shirmont Back Talk, JW** (Henry/Venier) Mature Blenheim dripping in coat but beautifully presented, a little lower built than 1 and 2 and his rather lazy tail carriage emphasised the fact. Head type is a little extreme being rather short in muzzle and strong in skull. Very nicely marked and obviously at his age he has ideal bone and body condition. **4. Ch Turretbank Beaujolais** (Green) Ruby of good overall shape and with a quality head and beautiful eyes. Basic construction is essentially correct but his very long, straight coat pattern I found a little alien, albeit beautifully presented. Moved and showed steadily.

Junior Puppy Bitch (6)

1. Jayba Knockout (Lander) Scrumptious Blenheim of 6 months and what an exciting prospect. Beautiful size and shape, glorious head with beautiful eyes and she even has a perfect bite! Optimum bone and substance for her age and sex, construction is first rate and her colour is well broken. Moving she handles herself like a seasoned campaigner, floating over the ground with scope and never losing her outline for a second. Dead sound up and down, this is a baby any breeder would kill for. Best Puppy and, had there been a special award for the

dog the judge would most like to have taken home, it would have been hers in a heartbeat! **Best Puppy Bitch, Best Puppy in Show**

2. Pinecrest Flamin Gogh (Eubank) 5 months Blenheim giving a lot away in forwardness and general finish which is to be expected. Feminine all through, sweetest of heads, reasonably well broken and her basic make and shape appeal. On the go-around she handles herself with confidence and poise, displaying a firm backline and well carried tail. **3. Bekenhall You Had Me From Hello** (Hall) 7 months Blenheim, solidly built but still she is essentially feminine. Excellent head type, soft expression, colour could be a little better broken but she is nicely put together with well spring ribs and moves steadily. **4. Hiddencreek Juicy Couture** (Green) 8 months Blenheim, loved her size and shape and she is feminine throughout. Pleasing eyes but a little short in foreface and the bite needs to settle. Solid body, nicely marked, needs to strength behind.

Senior Puppy Bitch (6)

1. Piccadil Destined To Be Rich (York) 9 months Blenheim with a beautiful head, dry, well contoured, nicely balanced with the most delightful eye and expression. Excellent overall balance, good neck, firm backline, well ribbed, nicely broken coat of excellent texture. Handles herself well on the go-around but needs to strengthen in hock when hopefully she will be a little truer going away. **2. Kinvaar La Esperanto** (Johnson) 10 months Blenheim who pushed hard, the same basic shape of frame but at the moment looking a little more “up in the air” than 1 and more lacking in middlepiece. Attractive head and expression nicely broken coat, stylish mover. **3. Chapelcreek Heavens To Betsy** (Hensley) 10 months Blenheim of excellent overall type and shape. Well proportioned head profile with kind eye, just a tad full in cheek. Firm backline, well broken coat, needs to strengthen behind. **4. Bentwood Chloe of Forestcreek** (Cline/Harrison) 10 months Blenheim who posed a problem as she was one of the best bodied and best moving in the class. She has a beautifully feminine head and is essentially well constructed and nicely bodied. However she is rather long cast and so didn’t have the overall balance and silhouette of those above.

Graduate Puppy Bitch (8)

1. Pinecrest Destiny’s Child, JW (Eubank) 15 months Blenheim, utterly feminine and all of a piece. Sweet head and expression, clean, well balanced outline, nicely broken coat with quality texture, optimum bone and rib but needs to drop into her rear a little. Holds a firm topline on the go-around and is true up and down. **2. Cobbhill Golden Marguerite** (Brunson/Rose) 15 months Blenheim not as well broken as 1 but otherwise she pushed hard. Typical head, with glorious eyes, feminine with no exaggeration, well balanced outline, excellent angles front and back and she knows how to move. **3. Almeara Scrumpdillyicious** (Whitmire) 14 months Tricolour of the same basic size and shape as 1 and 2 but again rather heavily marked. Not quite the head finish of 2 but well bodied and fundamentally well put together. Moved well enough. **4. Chadwick Paparazzi, JW** (Matos) 16 months Blenheim out of a slightly larger mould than those above but still a very typical Cavalier. Heavier head type but beautiful eyes and soft expression. A little longer coupled than the lead bitches and not quite so enthusiastic with her tail but she moves true enough.

Novice Bitch (3)

1. Cloudbase Porcelain Moon (Scanlan Johnson) Blenheim of ideal size and shape, pretty head with expressive eyes, well boned and bodied, nicely broken coat, needs to strengthen behind but moved as well as any and had a correct bite. **2. Blackfire Understudy** (Reichardt) Black and Tan rather more rangy than 1 and slightly undershot. Quality head of good proportions and kind expression. Good coat texture, promising body well angulated and moved out well. Needs time to develop in body. **3. Luxxar Sugar Babe** (Helleson/Campanozzi) Cobby little Blenheim, very much a Toy spaniel but rather extreme in head type and not a perfect bite. Well boned and clearly enjoys her food! Standing throws out a very compact and nicely balanced outline. Could be steadier on the move.

Bred By Exhibitor Bitch (4)

1. Ch Starmarc I Believe, JW (Hooper) 16 months Tricolour full of quality who has such a lovely way of going and such freedom of action, really reaching out and using her powerful rear. Excellent head type with no exaggeration but a slightly darker eye would be the icing on the cake. Excellent bone and body, firm backline, lovely to go over on the table and such a true and accurate mover. Could be a hint better broken but she was in lovely bloom and on the go-around she looked the part. **Reserve Winners Bitch, Reserve Best in Show, Best Tricolor in Show**

2. Shirmont Apple McIntosh, JW (Henry/Dodson) 3 years Blenheim and a real petite princess. Utterly feminine all through, especially in head with lavish ear fringes, nicely balanced outline, reasonably well broken but coat could be more settled. Not quite as strong behind as 1 and she tends to pin a little in front. **3. Mtnvista Belle Star** (Curtis) Blenheim rising 2 and at this age I would expect a perfect scissor bite. Great stamp of bitch with lovely type all through, well boned and bodied, nicely broken coat, very much an unexaggerated head of good proportions and she looks good in profile but needs to collect her front. **4. Tidewater Dazzled By Luv** (O'Brien) 6 years Blenheim beginning to give her age away in topline a shade but she is nicely broken with an unexaggerated head and large expressive eyes. Could have made more of herself on the move.

Junior American Bred Bitch (8)

1. Bekenhall Playing With Fire (Hall) 7 months and in the most amazing muscular condition for a bitch of such youth. Beautiful head and eye, compact, solid body, nicely broken coat, dead true mover and has a real look of quality. Loved her size and shape and should develop well. **2. Pinecrest Soul Sister, JW** (Eubank) 15 months Blenheim out of a slightly larger frame but still well within the Standard and perfectly balanced. Very correct head, impeccable outline with really well angulated rear. Just needs to carry a little more bodyweight and tighten a shade in front. Lovely quality coat well broken. **3. Darane All About Eve** (Kates) 12 months Blenheim, sound and scopy but with a little extra length. Feminine head, very well broken and quality coat texture, excellent size again and holds her outline well. **4. Padamere Fiddlesticks** (Miller) 16 months Blenheim of excellent overall type, substantial but with quality. Correctly balanced head, well ribbed, not quite as animated on the move as the leaders but the sort that could breed something interesting.

American Bred Bitch (8)

1. Jayba Tres Jolie (Lander) Glorious headed Blenheim whose face I could have stared into for hours as her head is exquisitely balanced and she has those come-to-bed eyes. Beautifully put together, solid with great angles and everything fits and flows if maybe she could have a tad more neck. Her coat could be a little better broken for perfection but she is as sound as they come, up, down and around. Wonderful size and gorgeous type all through. Her many virtues and lack of serious faults took her through to BIS. *Winners Bitch, Best in Show, Best Blenheim in Show, Best American Bred in Show, Best Bred By Exhibitor in Show*

2. Kinglys Reba McEntire (Herrington) Younger, far less forward in body and her bite still needs to settle but she has a look of great quality despite her general narrowness. Feminine head, beautifully balanced outline, quality coat nicely broken, needs to project herself a little more when she matures. **3. Darane Casablanca at Chewcreek** (DePhillip) Tricolour of excellent size and shape, well balanced head with not much blaze to enhance the aesthetic appeal. Well boned and bodied, clean and balanced outline, just needs to pull her front together on the move. **4. Pinecrest Mountain Dew** (Rosenberg) Blenheim a little more rangy than those ahead but she has some promise and scope, has a balanced frame that she now needs to fill and a pretty head with beautifully expressive eyes. Moved adequately.

Special Limit Blenheim Bitch (6)

1. Pascavale Kira (Kinser) From the first go-around I figured she would win because she has such beautiful carriage and is the size I love, however on the table I found her a bit snub-nosed and so that bothered me, even though other aspects of her head I really liked. Excellent bone and body, well broken coat, such a sound mover. As her closest rival couldn't match her on the out and back she still held her pole position. **2. Bekenhall Blue Suede Shoes** (Hall/Kent) Blenheim of a little more matronly stamp than 1 but more appealing in head. Solid, well balanced, with a well broken coat she was about to edge ahead of 1 but when she moved out and back she couldn't quite match her. **3. Hadara Soul Speak** (Koch) Very feminine Blenheim with a delightful head and expression and good overall balance even though she could have a little better flow of neck into shoulder. Moves with a certain smartness but I would like her colour much better broken. **4. Gayhalo Mosaic** (Ayers/Martz) Chunky Blenheim of good type but just a little too much Hausfrau about her as I would like her a tad more elegant. Decent head, appealing eye, well boned, happy temperament and an adequate mover.

Special Limit Tricolor Bitch (4)

1. Manorhouse Amazing Grace (McCaslin) Very feminine with a delightful head and expression and very much all of a piece on the move where she handles herself with style. Coat could be better broken but she has excellent overall shape and balance with excellent angles. Could come on a little truer but otherwise she has great appeal moving. **2. Emekay Truly Truly Fair** (Peterson) Another who is rather heavily marked and she isn't quite as elegant as 1 but she has a very pleasing head and expression and is essentially of good shape.

Could be a little stronger behind. Not moving with the same panache as 1 but sound enough. **3. Riverwood Scarlett O'Hara** (Brian) Pretty bitch rather inexperienced as this was only her second show but she has a lot of feminine charm, a sweet head, but is too heavily marked. Needs to be freer and more outgoing on the move. **4. Benchmark Shameless** (Hoorman) Rather more matronly than the leaders and very heavily marked but she has very correct head type and is fundamentally well made so could possibly, if bred right, produce well. Holds her topline on the stack and moves reasonably well.

Special Limit Ruby Bitch (3)

1. Brookhaven Lucky Penny (Schilling/Ayers) Won the class on her wonderfully free and easy movement and impressive carriage. I'd take an inch out of her loin to balance her up; she has a good head that could still be a tad drier and a lovely eye. Great to go over, in excellent form, well boned and ribbed and I love the way she holds her topline and tail on the go-around. Goes away a little close. **Best Ruby Bitch** **2. Liane's Xaviera, JW** (Poti) Slightly shorter coupled than 1 but she doesn't quite have the carriage and poise of 1. Essentially good head type, well angulated front and rear and holds a firm topline on the stack. **3. Riverview New Years Even** (Du Ross) Feminine bitch not long off maternal duties so not quite in the bloom of 1 and 2. Pretty head, topline can be a bit erratic and she needs to collect her front.

Special Limit Black & Tan Bitch (1)

1. Roseriver Hallelujah (Young) Very well made and moved accordingly being dead true out and back. Pleasing head type, topline could be more settled and handler needs to sort out the correct speed to move her as she has a tendency to pace at some speeds. **Best Black & Tan Bitch**

Open Bitch (3)

1. Ch Pinecrest Shirmont Moonlight Madness, JW (Henry) Blenheim, solidly made but with quality. Nicely balanced head with soft expression, good bone and rib, nicely broken colours. Great attitude, goes around with style but could be a little firmer behind and a little cleaner coming on. **2. Pinecrest Moonshine, JW** (Eubank) Younger and not as forward in body Blenheim who has great quality and style, just needs a little more time to get that extra finish. Classy head with beautiful eyes, excellent neck and topline, beautifully broken and nicely angulated all through. **3. Ch Chadwick Embrace, JW** (Eckersley) Completed a trio of quality Benheims, pleasing head and expression, well bodied, quite well broken, tends to look a little angular over the croup on the stack and rolled a little on the go-around.

Veteran Dog (1)

1. Ch Hurleaze Bristol Blue at Shirmont, ROM (Henry/George) 11 ½ Blenheim with the most glorious head and expression and still moving as well as some of the youngsters. In great shape and still exudes charisma, quality and poise. Interested to see he won BOB under me at the AKC National Championships few years ago.

Best Veteran in Show

Stud Dog (1)

1. Ch Bekenhall Jailhouse Rock (Hall) Tricolour with 7 of his get, all inheriting his style on the go-around and being very even in type.

Brace (1)

1. Hadara Easy Does It & Luxxar Justin Case (Koch) Two well matched Benheims of quality who could have a little stronger pigment.