

Cavaliers of the Northeast

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I was honored to be invited to judge the Cavaliers of the Northeast's AGM show for my first official judging assignment. A big thank you to show chairs Joe & Betty Ann Birbeck and to my ring steward, Trisha DePhillip, who did about 20 tasks that day, but kept the show moving along. Thanks also to Joan Twigg for coming to announce, and a sincere thank you to all who came to show under me.

The depth of quality in the exhibits was excellent, as usual. For the most part the heads were moderate and, overall, the eyes were fabulous. There were a handful of undershot mouths and quite a few sloping croups. A sloping croup spoils the outline of a Cavalier and in a couple cases, negatively affected the movement. Most of the exhibits moved very well with reach and drive, and there were only a few really bad tail sets. I saw no weedy exhibits and all of the dogs had good substance, which is a great sign for the breed!

JUNIOR PUPPY DOG (4)

1. **Dreamvale Devil Without A Cause** (Perini/Sage)

At almost 9 months old, he is a small blenheim boy with a lovely outline while standing. His head was pretty with dark eyes and his chestnut markings were rich, while his coat texture was perfectly silky. He moved fairly well, but could have more reach and drive. Kudos to his owner for her excellent training and handling.

2. **Fieldsedge It's A Small World** (Slusher/Slusher)

6 months old blenheim. This handsome fellow was just my type. Gorgeous head with large, round, sparkling eyes. Lovely neck leading into well laid back shoulders. Great topline and tail set and he moved with plenty of reach and drive once he got going. He was a bit nervous on the day, but should be quite a star when he becomes more comfortable in the ring.

3. **Foxwyn Miles Standish** (Fox)

6 months old blenheim with a handsome moderate head but needs to mature. He had good angles front and rear with correct movement to match. Tons of substance. Will only get better with time.

4. **Nebyula Do You Believe In Magic** (Birbeck/Birbeck)

6 months old blenheim with a sweet, moderate head, but shows white in his right eye and needs to fill in the muzzle. Crested neck leading into a level topline. Good coat coming in with well broken markings. Moved really well.

SENIOR PUPPY DOG (5)

1. **Chadwick Ace Of Spades** (Eckersley)
9 months old tri-color, had a masculine head with dark round eyes. He had loads of bone and substance and plenty of silky coat coming in with flashy, well broken markings. He has correct angles front and rear which allowed him to move happily around the ring with reach and drive. His tail never stopped wagging! **BEST PUPPY DOG, BEST PUPPY IN SHOW**
2. **Almeara I Believe** (Parente)
10 months old blenheim with a lovely head, but a bit extreme for my tastes. Similar to the first placed dog in that he had tons of bone and substance. He had rich, broken up chestnut markings. He moved really well. It was a close decision between first and second.
3. **Orchardhill True North** (Venier/Venier)
11 months old tri-color with blanket markings and a wide white collar. Masculine head with nice dark eyes. He had a super topline and moved okay, but lacks drive. He also had a wonderful happy temperament.
4. **Chadwick Code Black** (McCarty/Eckersley)
11 months old tri-color. Another heavily marked boy. I like this boy when standing. He has a very sweet face and great temperament. His shape was balanced, but on the move, he lost his topline. May settle with age.

GRADUATE PUPPY DOG (1)

1. **Chadwick Telltale Author, JW** (Eckersley)
12 months old Blenheim, very heavily marked with a few freckles on his muzzle. His head was rather extreme for his age, but he had big eyes and a sweet expression. His angles were good front and rear. He moved with ease around the ring with an excellent topline and tail set. He was considered for top honors.

NOVICE DOG (1)

1. **Nightingale Tadoo** (Mulligan/Duke)
20 months old tri-color. Another with blanket markings. He had a masculine head with good eyes and a sweet expression, despite being undershot. Where he excelled was his amazing movement. He was by far the best moving dog in the challenge. He floated around the ring with his tail flowing right out the back. Because of this, he was considered for top honors. A very nice little dog.

BRED BY EXHIBITOR DOG (2)

1. **Ch Linrica Milan, JW** (Liu)

18 months old blenheim. This boy had a lovely head with large, round eyes, but he didn't want to use his ears, which gave him a worried expression. A small dog, he had plenty of silky, well broken coat. Moved very well, but threw his tail up in the challenge, otherwise, a worthy exhibit.

2. **Ch & Eng Ch Forestcreek Double O Seven, JW** (Cline)

4 years old blenheim with a handsome head, but a bit too extreme for me. Compact dog with a good shape and well broken markings, but his coat was a bit wooly. He moved fairly well, but he, too, liked to carry his tail up at times.

JUNIOR AMERICAN BRED DOG (1)

1. **Orchardhill Enough Said** (Venier/Venier)

13 months old blenheim. This boy had a gorgeous head with huge, round, black eyes. He was rather large, but had a lovely neck flowing into well laid shoulders and a good topline. ,Lovely well broken markings and silky coat. His movement was rangy, but may settle as he matures.

AMERICAN BRED DOG (5)

1. **Chadwick Shooting Upwards** (McCarty/Eckersley)

18 months old blenheim with a lovely, masculine head set with large expressive eyes, framed by thick, silky ears. I loved his size, substance and perfect outline. He had great movement in all directions and carried his tail right out the back. To top it off he showed with such joy. *1st AWARD OF MERIT*

2. **Fieldsedge Avogadros Number** (Slusher/Slusher)

18 months old blenheim. Another with a gorgeous head and eyes. He had plenty of coat coming in with rich chestnut markings. A little guy but with good bone for his size. Good angles front and rear with good movement to match. He just needs time to mature.

3. **Hiddencreek One Shot Of Patron** (Weinstein/Green)

3 years old blenheim with large dark eyes, but a rather startled expression. He had plenty of bone and substance and moved with reach and drive.

4. **Tassajara Stoli** (Seidman/Hughed/Seidman/Berkau)

2 ½ years old blenheim with a pretty head. He seemed a bit thin to me. Liked his compact size. Moved okay.

SPECIAL LIMIT BLENHEIM DOG (6) “A lovely class!”

1. **Avia Make It Work** (Poti/Poti)

2 ½ years old blenheim. Lovely, huge, dark eyes on this boy. He was the perfect size and shape with lots of bone. He had a moderate amount of silky coat with deep, rich, chestnut markings, groomed to perfection. Most importantly he had a correct front angle and beautiful turn of stifle, which allowed him to power around the ring with ease,

carrying a level topline with his tail right out the back. I only wished he'd been slightly more animated. **RESERVE WINNERS DOG, BEST BRED BY EXHIBITOR DOG, BEST BLENHEIM DOG, BEST BRED BY EXHIBITOR IN SHOW**

2. **Almeara Extra Extraordinary, JW** (Whitmire)
2 years old blenheim. Another lovely boy very similar to the first placed dog. Huge eyes in a moderate head. Lots of silky, well broken coat. Lovely shape while standing and he moved fairly well, only shimmied a bit side to side, a quality dog.
3. **Dreamvale Follow All My Moves** (Perini/Sage)
2 ½ years old blenheim. This boy was full of glamour, he had a classic head with pretty eyes, but shows white in his right eye. Copious amounts of silky, straight coat with nice dark pigment. His overall shape is good, but he falls away at the croup and tends to flag his tail on the move. I enjoyed his happy temperament.
4. **Blackfire Exit Poll** (Weidig/Kennedy)
4 years old Blenheim. An honest dog with a sweet expression. Angles are okay but could have better shoulder lay back. He moved fairly well with reach and drive, but bounced a bit going around. He was so happy to be with his handler!

SPECIAL LIMIT TRICOLOR DOG (1)

1. **Chadwick Cheers at Hudsonview** (Glynn/Glynn)
4 years old tri-color with the most adorable head and expression and large, round, dark eyes. He was a small boy, but with the correct amount of bone and substance. He had blanket markings, but plenty of silky, straight coat that was not over-groomed, a naturally presented, handsome boy. His front and rear angles were correct and he glided around the ring carrying his tail straight out the back. He was thrilled to be with his beloved handler and never stopped showing! **WINNERS DOG, BEST AMERICAN BRED DOG, BEST TRICOLOR DOG, RESERVE BEST IN SHOW, BEST OF OPPOSITE SEX, BEST AMERICAN BRED IN SHOW, BEST TRICOLOR IN SHOW**

SPECIAL LIMIT RUBY DOG (1)

1. **Harana Huey Lewis** (Gentil)
17 months old ruby. He had large, pretty eyes, level bite, but his head was far too extreme for me. I did like him overall for shape and his deep ruby color, but his front angle was somewhat upright and while he seemed to move okay he was very nervous on the day. I believe he will be a winner when he gains confidence.

SPECIAL LIMIT BLACK-AND-TAN DOG (1)

1. **Jolly Jouet Du Jardin De Claire of Sumara** (Gentil)
2 ½ years old black-and-tan. Very sweet face on this happy little fellow. He had a pretty shape standing, and moved with drive around the ring. When excited, he might high step,

but not the whole time. Good topline and tail carriage, but he did put his tail up in the challenge. **BEST BLACK-AND-TAN DOG**

OPEN DOG (7) “ An excellent group of dogs!”

1. **Ch Kabaret Million** (Meager/Wise)

4 years old ruby with a precious expression and huge dark eyes. It's no secret that I love rubies and this boy reminded me so much of my beloved Sonja. He had dark color and plenty of coat. His shape was beautiful standing and moving and, while he moved a bit wide in the front, he had plenty of reach and drive going around the ring. **2ND AWARD OF MERIT, BEST RUBY DOG, BEST RUBY IN SHOW**

2. **Ch Valentyne The Irish Tenor, JW** (O'Brien)

2 years old blenheim. Cushy head on this compact dog. He had loads of bone and substance. Would like more neck, but he had a level back leading into perfect tail set. He moved very well in all directions.

3. **Ch Forestcreek Heart Of Rock N Roll, JW** (Gregory/Cline)

2 ½ years old blenheim. I was really splitting hairs between 2nd and 3rd place. These boys are quite similar. This boy's head was maybe a little more extreme but very cute. Another compact boy with deep color. He moved really well, but would sometimes put his tail up.

4. **Ch Nightingale Diorchavon Baby Its You, JW** (Bialek)

20 months old blenheim. Very sweet expression on this boy. Good neck leading into a level topline. He had lots of coat with a slight wave. Moved with reach and drive, but he also wanted to put his tail up.

SENIOR OPEN DOG (2)

1. **Welmforth Shooting Star** (Lasser)

7 years old blenheim with the gentlest of expressions. Nothing flashy or overdone about this dog. He had deep chestnut and good pigment for his age. Good angles front and rear. He moved with ease around the ring.

2. **Ch Chadwick Scotch On The Rocks at Hudsonview, JW, C-RN** (Glynn/Glynn)

9 years old blenheim with a cute face, but showed white in his right eye. He presented a pretty picture with lots of silky coat and well broken markings. Excellent topline and tail carriage. Moved okay.

JUNIOR PUPPY BITCH (6)

1. **Kalais Yes Siree** (Hess)

8 months old ruby. She had large pretty eyes and her head is good for this age, but she does need to fill in and soften a bit. Gorgeous ruby color and beautiful shape while standing with a good neck leading into a level topline and perfect tail set. Where she

excelled was her movement, best reach and drive in the class. She floated around the ring.

2. **Nightingale Fireball** (Mulligan)

5 months old blenheim. Just a baby and what a cutie pie she is! Adorable head with gorgeous eyes, undershot mouth. Great little shape with plenty of bone and substance. She moved very well and should mature nicely.

3. **Lewiswood Because I'm Happy at Hollytree** (Seymour)

6 ½ months old tri-color. Full blanketed tri, she had a nice head but needs to fill. Her eyes were perfect and sparkled, which we don't see often. Nice shape but could have more reach and drive, which may come in time.

4. **Linrica Iris Bleu** (Liu/Hsiung)

6 months old blenheim with pretty eyes, but muzzle needs time to fill in. Her front angle is rather straight and she lacks reach and drive. Her shape while standing was pretty and balanced.

SENIOR PUPPY BITCH (4)

1. **Chadwick Secret Code** (Eckersley)

Almost 1 year old blenheim. A truly lovely girl with a beautiful head and gorgeous eyes. She was maybe a bit longer in back than ideal, but she had a pretty neck, level topline and correct tail set. Fabulous, silky coat with well broken markings and a perfect blenheim spot. She moved very well with reach and drive. **BEST PUPPY BITCH**

2. **Orchardhill Tried And True** (Venier/Venier)

11 months old tri-color. I really liked this girl, but she was as wild as could be. She had a pretty head and eyes. Good shape with excellent angles front and rear and lots of silky coat. I was able to catch a few glimpses of her moving and what I saw was correct.

3. **Foxwyn Charmed I'm Sure** (Fox)

10 months old blenheim with lovely broken up markings. She had a sweet face and nice shape, but didn't always hold her topline. Moved well carrying her tail right out the back. Just needs time to mature.

4. **Foxwyn In the Ribbons** (Fox)

10 months old blenheim sister to the 3rd placed bitch. The two girls were very similar down to the off topline. This one was a bit more nervous but perked up at the end. She had a pretty face and moved okay.

GRADUATE PUPPY BITCH (3)

1. **Chadwick Tattleteller Tales** (Eckersley)

12 months old blenheim with a rather extreme head but with large, pretty eyes. Nice dark chestnut markings on a moderate coat. She had lots of substance. Good topline and tail set. She moved very well with reach and drive.

2. **Linrica Rose Petals** (Liu)

12 months old blenheim with a sweet, moderate head with good eyes. She had a lovely shape while standing, adequate neck leading into a good topline, with lots of substance, but she lacked drive on the move and she fell away at the croup.

3. **Marjorelle Rumour Has It** (Conley)

17 months old blenheim. This girl had gorgeous black eyes in a pretty face, but had an undershot mouth. Another with lots of substance. She lacked reach and drive and her sloping croup caused her tail to flag on the move.

NOVICE BITCH (5)

1. **Bonitos Companeros Josephine of Welmforth** (Lasser)

18 months old blenheim. I really like this little girl. She made a very pretty picture while standing, with a gorgeous head and eyes, super topline and well broken up markings with a moderate amount of coat. She moved very well with tail flowing right out the back. She was considered for top honors.

2. **Avia Coral** (Poti/Poti)

20 months old ruby. This bitch had the most glorious head and eyes, easily the prettiest of the day, certainly a look I'm familiar with. She was a little girl but with substance. Loads of silky, straight ruby coat of dark color. She moved well, but roached her topline going around, otherwise a beautiful glamour girl. ***BEST RUBY BITCH***

3. **Carlen Amber Marsala Spice** (Close)

20 months old blenheim. Moderate head with a blenheim spot on this girl, but she was a bit plain. She had a super neck leading into a dead level topline which she kept standing and on the move. Moved very well.

4. **Kalais Nuttin' But Love** (Hess)

6 months old tri-color. What a silly little girl she was! She had an adorable head with pretty eyes. Compact little body. She rarely settled, but she moved well when she did. Needless to say, she just needs time to mature.

BRED BY EXHIBITOR BITCH (2)

1. **Linrica Kissed By An Angel** (Liu)

21 months old blenheim with a pretty face and eyes. She had a nice shape while standing, but drops off a bit at the croup. Moved fairly well, but tail up a bit. A small girl with a moderate amount of coat.

2. **Hollytree Lollipop** (Seymour)
13 months old blenheim. Sweet, moderate head with pretty eyes and an undershot mouth. She looked great while standing with a short, level back. She moved well the first time around the ring, but then decided she didn't like her new leash, which was too bad because I liked her very much.

JUNIOR AMERICAN BRED (2)

1. **Chadwick Oh La La** (Greak/Comer/Eckersley)
15 months old blenheim. Another gorgeous head with huge eyes and a blenheim spot. Crested neck leading into a level topline. Her side gate was very good. She was wide moving away but had plenty of drive none-the-less.
2. **Diorchavon P S I Love You** (Bialek)
15 months old blenheim. Pretty face with spot but she was undershot. Her shape was okay but she was rather straight in the front and lacks reach on the move. Lovely coat and a wonderful temperament.

AMERICAN BRED BITCH (5)

1. **Kissabella Arabella** (Bronowicka/Carter)
5 years old blenheim with a cute face, good eyes, but some freckles on the muzzle. Plenty of silky coat with rich chestnut markings. She had a good neck leading into a dead level topline, excellent angles front and rear. By far the best mover of the day, she powered around the ring with ease, never faltering. **1ST AWARD OF MERIT, BEST BRED BY EXHIBITOR BITCH**
2. **Valentyne Pillow Talk** (O'Brien)
3 years old blenheim. Heavily marked but lots of silky coat. Head a bit overdone but she had lovely eyes. Long backed, but not long in loin, which allowed her to move very well with reach and drive, but she could have a stronger topline.
3. **Piaffe In The Tulips** (Rychlik)
3 ½ years old blenheim with the most lovely head and soft expression. Moderate well broken coat with rich chestnut markings. She had correct angles front and rear and moved well, but her topline dipped on the move.
4. **Kellene Copacabana** (Marshall)
4 years old blenheim. Heavy headed girl with correct eyes and dark pigment. She was a bit overweight. Moved well but didn't seem interested in being in the ring.

HEALTH AND CONFORMATION BITCH (1)

1. **Clopsville Santa Ana** (Rychlik)
6 ½ years old blenheim with the most adorable head and huge, round, dark eyes. I have always like this little girl. She had a beautiful shape, though maybe a tag long backed.

Well broken markings and good coat. Her movement is something to behold, floating with reach and drive around the ring, tail right out the back. **2ND AWARD OF MERIT**

SPECIAL LIMIT BLENHEIM BITCH (4)

1. **Chantismere Carrieanna** (Tibbetts)

19 months old blenheim. Heavily marked girl with deep chestnut color. I loved this girl the moment she stepped into the ring. She had an ultra-feminine, yet moderate head with lovely, dark, round eyes and long, and pretty ears perfectly framing her face. Good neck leading into well laid back shoulders and a dead level topline and correct turn of stifle. Good depth of chest and plenty of substance overall. She had excellent movement, powering around the ring with reach and drive, tail flowing right out the back. She was everything I look for in a Cavalier. **WINNERS BITCH, BEST AMERICAN BRED BITCH, BEST BLENHEIM BITCH, BEST IN SHOW, BEST AMERICAN BRED IN SHOW, BEST BLENHEIM IN SHOW**

2. **Orchardhill Ephemeral** (Venier/Venier)

2 years old blenheim. Very pretty face on this girl with beautiful eyes. She had a lovely arched neck and a good shape while standing with a moderate amount of silky coat. She moved okay, but could have more drive. Plenty of bone and substance.

3. **Linrica Mignon Mochi, JW** (Liu)

18 months old blenheim with a sweet, typical expression. Lovely shape with an excellent topline. She was out of coat today and not as mature as the two above, but she moved very well in all directions.

4. **Kissabella Bianca** (Bronowicka/Carter)

2 years old blenheim with a precious face and huge, round, dark eyes. She moved okay, but she drops off at the croup which made her tail flag. Excellent size with lots of substance.

SPECIAL LIMIT TRICOLOR BITCH (2)

1. **Kellene Lady Of The Lake** (Marshall)

5 years old tri-color with a well cushioned head though maybe a tad masculine. Good neck leading into a level topline. Fully blanketed markings and coat was a bit unkempt. She moved okay, though occasionally high stepping in the front, she was a happy showgirl.

2. **Sherah Sophia Loren** (Crommett)

3 years old tricolor. Gorgeous head and eyes on this girl. She had tons of silky coat but, she fell away quite severely at the croup and bounced on the move.

SPECIAL LIMIT RUBY BITCH (2)

1. **Infinidad Chocolate Box** (Laliberte)
2 years old ruby. She had huge eyes in a rather overdone head with an undershot mouth. She was a bit long, but moved very well with reach and drive carrying her tail right out the back.
2. **Harana Cyndi Lauper at Tarryon** (Burnham/Steele)
18 months old ruby. Moderate head with pretty eyes. She moved okay, but she had a dip at the withers and fell away at the croup. The stifle angle was very straight. She had a gorgeous coat with lovely color.

SPECIAL LIMIT BLACK-AND-TAN BITCH (4)

1. **Rosearbor Bijou** (Eckersley)
2 years old black-and-tan with a gorgeous head and huge, round eyes. She had a lovely outline and lots of silky coat. She lacked the substance I was looking for but, she moved fairly well, very flashy, carrying her tail right out the back.
2. **Harana Neneh Cherry** (Gentil)
2 ½ years old black-and-tan. She had a precious little face and lots of straight, silky coat. Her outline was good; I just slightly preferred the one above. She was small but had plenty of substance and moved well.
3. **Kalais One Day More** (Hess)
1 ½ years old black-and-tan who is very mature for her age. Okay head but she had sooty tans and she was undershot. Loved all her silky straight coat and she had a great outline and short back, although she was a bit longer in loin than ideal. She moved very well.
4. **Carlen First Pict Sangiovese** (Close)
2 ½ years old black-and-tan with an appealing head, though a tad masculine. Nice short back and lots of bone. Out of coat on the day. She moved with balance.

OPEN BITCH (3)

1. **Ch Tassajara Forestcreek Cristal** (Cline)
2 ½ years old blenheim whom I have long admired. She had a beautiful head with huge eyes and dark black pigment. Excellent, well laid back shoulders and correct turn of stifle created a lovely shape while standing. She had plenty of silky coat. Her chestnut was a shade or two lighter than ideal. She moved like a freight train around the ring and was so happy to be there. **RESERVE WINNERS BITCH, BEST AMERICAN BRED BITCH**
2. **Ch Iloo Dite Ilan Du Jardin De Claire of Sumara, JW** (Gentil)
3 years old black-and-tan with an adorable, feminine face. She had a lovely shape with lots of substance in a small package and plenty of straight coat. She lacked the animation

of the winner but she moved very well in all directions. **BEST BLACK-AND-TAN BITCH, BEST BLACK-AND-TAN IN SHOW**

3. **Ch Foxwyn A Likely Story** (Baker-Fox/Greak/Comer)

4 years old blenheim. She had a lovely face with jet black eyes and a blenheim spot. Another small girl with great substance, plenty of silky coat and a deep chestnut blanket. She moved fairly well, but wanted to race around the ring. All three exhibits in this class carried their tails high on the move.

SENIOR OPEN BITCH (2)

1. **Ch Prima Quartett Bloody Mary** (Bronowicka/Carter)

7 ½ years old tri-color. Sweet, moderate head, shows white in left eye. She could have more layback, but still had a pretty shape and moved very well around the ring with reach and drive. **BEST TRICOLOR BITCH**

2. **Avia Camellia** (Poti/Poti)

7 years old black-and-tan. Gorgeous head shape and expression on this little girl. She had a good outline while standing, but tended to roach her back on the move and her coat was a bit curly. Great overall substance, moved with reach and drive.

VETERAN DOG (1)

1. **Ch Nightingale Heat Wave, JW** (Mulligan)

Almost 10 years old blenheim. A dog I have loved since I first saw him at 4 months old. He had large, dark, round eyes in a moderate head and still had excellent pigment. Fabulous shoulder layback, dead level topline and well turned stifle. He moved very well with reach and drive, floating around the ring. **BEST VETERAN IN SHOW**

VETERAN BITCH (1)

1. **Majestic Ceili Dancer of Avondale at Ceilimor** (McCarty)

9 years old tri-color. Tri-colors are my favorite and this girl's face was the perfect example of why. She is simply adorable! She was so happy to be there and smiled at her handler throughout. Lots of silky, straight coat. She moved okay, but topline was a bit off. Loved her!

BROOD BITCH (1)

1. **Avia Camellia** (Poti/Poti)

7 years old black-and-tan bitch who was previously critiqued. Her offspring, a blenheim boy (who won Reserve Winners Dog on the day) and ruby girl, were very similar especially in head type. Both had huge black eyes in beautiful but also moderate heads. Both had straight coats with good pigment and both moved with reach and drive. A lovely family!

BRACE (1)

1. **Avia Logo & Avia Camellia** (Poti/Poti)

A very similar pair of black-and-tan half-sisters who were almost impossible to tell apart. They had the same shape and coat texture and virtually identical, adorable heads. They moved happily around the ring together, obviously very comfortable with each other. Beautiful girls!