

## CAVALIERS OF THE MIDWEST

02/24/2017, DALLAS, TEXAS

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I would like to thank the officers and committee for the warm welcome given to Ian and myself. We both thoroughly enjoyed our visit and days spent at the show with you all. Judging on Friday meant I was able to meet with the exhibitors in the following days and enjoy chatting about our lovely breed and watch my fellow judges. The informative seminar hosted by Ted Eubank on Saturday evening was enjoyed by all, and gave us all a chance to discuss the breed standard and various points of emphasis. I was particularly pleased to hear the comments regarding trimming and coat length. Although dogs dripping in coat may seem attractive, it is not typical of our cavalier breed, who should have a long silky coat with feathering. The feathering should be obvious and not hidden amongst a forest of coat. I am pleased to say that, on the day, not many dogs were overcoated and most met the standard well.

Also highlighted, and a point I am particularly concerned about, is the tendency for round skulls with low set ears and short muzzles, whilst this may look “chocolate box”, it is also incorrect and needs to be born in mind when breeding.

I am pleased to say all temperaments were excellent, with lots of happy wagging tails to be seen each day. Understandably by the third day, some dogs were showing signs of the long weekend, whilst others particularly the young puppies, were looking like seasoned “show goers” after their weekend of ring training. With no exceptions, all dogs were immaculately presented; a credit to you all.

The final results varied for each day, showing the diversity of quality now available within the breed.

The sporting attitude of the exhibitors was a credit to the club, each day congratulating the winners, with those not so lucky accepting their placings with grace.

I was pleased with my final line up when they came back into the ring to parade around for my final decision making.

**JUNIOR PUPPY DOG (2)** “Both of these exhibits came in the ring full of fun and wanting to play as any puppy would. Watching the judging on Sunday, it was amazing how collected they had both become, fully understanding what was expected of them.”

1. **Almeara I Believe** (Parente) On Friday, once settled, he put in a very collective performance, really steady on the move with reach and drive from his well angulated rear quarters. Well balanced, with elegant reach of neck, set into well laid back shoulders, short back with level topline and correct tail carriage. Gentle in head with dark round eyes and cushioned muzzle, with high set ears. His well broken coat is correct, rich in colour, long and silky with required feathering. Pleased to award him: **BEST PUPPY DOG**, and later, **BEST PUPPY IN SHOW**
2. **Kinvaar Magnus** (Gentil) Pleasing sized Blenheim youngster built on a slightly smaller frame than the winner, with good bone for size. As yet, not as confident as the winner, although as the weekend progressed, he gained in confidence and relaxed more into his frame. Soft gentle expression to head with dark expressive eyes. Just needs time to mature.

### **SENIOR PUPPY DOG (3)**

1. **Emenkay Dream Lover** (Vezina/Orns) Sturdy, yet not oversized, tri boy, strong neck set into laid back shoulders, well sprung ribs, although a little longer in body, he has a firm level topline and well angulated rear quarters. Gentle expression to head with high set ears, broad flat skull and dark round eyes, enhanced by his rich tan markings. Heavier marked, but silky texture to coat, which was gleaming on the day. Moved out soundly to take the class.
2. **Canyoncrest the Leader of the Band** (Du Ross) Well broken tri with clear white markings, built on finer lines than winner, gentle in the head with correct shallow stop and dark eyes, ample width of skull and high set ears framing his face. He has an elegant neck set into well laid back shoulders, short in back, with level topline, giving balanced appearance. Good turn of stifle.

3. **Orchardhill Shirmont Back Story** (Henry/Henry) Built on a heavier frame, masculine Blenheim with a strong well ribbed body, firm topline and strong rear quarters which he really uses to advantage on the move, driving off those hocks to power around the ring.

### **GRADUATE PUPPY DOG (3)**

1. **Forestcreek Walton** (Betchley/Betchley/Cline) Well presented long silky coat with correct feathering to this 17 month Blenheim. He is a super size with moderate bone. He has a soft gentle un-exaggerated head, which has ample width and correct high set ears, large dark round eyes, tapering muzzle and shallow stop. Elegant neck set into well laid back shoulders, straight front and well turned stifle, moved out steadily. A dog whom I feel still has not reached his full maturity and will continue to blossom over the coming months.
2. **Briarcrest Going for Baroque**, (Katz) Heavier marked tri male, masculine head, deeper in stop than winner, broad skull with correct high set ears, framing his face, dark round eyes, well cushioned and rich tan markings, firm body with well sprung rib, well angulated rear quarters used well on the move where he strides out keeping a level topline & correct tail carriage.
3. **Kinglys Moves Like Jagger at Meadowlake** (Swanson) Like the size and balanced outline of this Blenheim dog, square in appearance with level topline and well turned stifle. Gentle expression to head, which is of ample width with high set ears. Moved out well.

### **BRED BY EXHIBITOR DOG (3)** “Lovely class of 3 worthy Champion Blenheim males”

1. **Ch Forestcreek Double “O” Seven, JW** (Cline) Beautiful well broken Blenheim dog, perfect for size with correct bone, Glorious head, such a soft gentle expression not exaggerated in any way, ample width of skull with high set ears framing his dark round eyes, so well cushioned, yet still with the required shallow stop, he is masculine all through. Well balanced in body with elegant neck, laid back shoulders, good spring of rib, firm topline and well turned stifle. Immaculately presented, long well feathered coat, considered him for top honours, just seemed to lack that “look at me” attitude when it came to the final awards, but one I would be proud to own.
2. **Ch Linrica Milan, JW** (Liu) Lovely size with correct bone, this compactly made, well broken Blenheim, has a soft gentle expression to his head, dark eyes with ample cushioning, shallow stop and correct tapering muzzle. Good reach of neck set into well laid shoulders, firm body, well ribbed with good turn of stifle, moved out well.
3. **Ch Clarmarian Classic by Design** (Young-May) Although 3<sup>rd</sup>, still a worthy Champion. Richly marked Blenheim of correct size with good bone, well sprung rib to his firm body, well angulated rear quarters. Gentle expression to his masculine head of ample width, correct high set ears framing his dark round eyes, so well cushioned, tapering gently to the muzzle.

### **JUNIOR AMERICAN BRED (1)**

1. **Sikeleli Prince Charming** (Nel) Although alone, a worthy winner, at just 8 months he is upright in stature, square in outline, soundly made and confident. Typical head of ample width, correct high set ears, good pigmentation, dark round eyes, good cushioning for age. Well broken silky coat completes the picture.

### **AMERICAN BRED DOG (3)**

1. **Woodsong Delta Blues** (Crancer) Richly marked, well broken, Blenheim who demands attention. Masculine head broad skull with high set ears, gorgeous dark round eyes fully pigmented and well cushioned, to give the desired expression. He is a good size with strong bone, ample neck, firm well-sprung ribs, and good turn of stifle. Looks a picture standing, needs to be moved out at the correct pace to show off his strong rear quarters, once going, he shows the required reach and drive. Pleased to award him **RESERVE WINNERS DOG.**

2. **Bentwood Forestcreek Rob Red** (Borton/ Cline/Harrison) Heavier coated, well broken Blenheim, presents a lovely picture standing with an elegant neck set into laid back shoulders, well angulated rear quarters, firm well sprung ribs, a little longer in body than the winner. Gentle expression to the head, although a little deeper in stop and shorter in muzzle than the winner, he has a broad rounded skull, with high set ears framing his dark expressive round eyes. Moved out well
3. **Redbud Wanna go for a Ride** (Scott) Not a big dog yet, well within the standard, compactly made, short in back with a super reachy neck, set into well laid shoulders, short level topline and well angulated rear quarters. Masculine head with ample width and correct high set ears, dark eyes, well cushioned. I feel he has yet to reach his full maturity and although not a thin dog, he just needs to gain more substance to his body, and strengthen in rear quarters to complete the picture. He still has time on his side. I would love to see him in 3 years time to see how he finishes.

#### **SPECIAL LIMIT BLENHEIM DOG (2)**

1. **Canyoncrest Pleasing Pumpkin** (Nechiporenko/Du Ross) Richly marked Blenheim with correct coat and feathering, he has a beautiful head, correct broad flat skull with long high set ears, dark round eyes and just enough cushioning to give the desired soft gentle expression. Balanced in body, he is correct for size yet still with the required firm bone, presents a square outline standing.
2. **Bekenhall Shirmont Hes the Ticket** (Henry/Henry) Built on a larger frame with strong bone, firm well sprung body and strong rear quarters. He has the most gorgeous dark round eyes, well cushioned with dense pigmentation.

#### **SPECIAL LIMIT RUBY (1)**

1. **Cruisin Mighty Mouse** (Rackler) A colour that so often takes a long time to become fully mature. This dog is so soundly made, with correct bone for size, good reach of neck set into well laid back shoulders, firm level topline and strong rear quarters, which he uses so well as he moves, showing good reach and drive, flowing around the ring, keeping a level topline and correct tail set. His masculine head is broad with high set ears, correct shallow stop between dark round eyes, well pigmented with strong tapering muzzle. Just needs time to add the finish of coat and feathering required to soften the expression and complete the picture. **BEST RUBY DOG**

**OPEN DOG (4)** “This was a lovely class and any of these four could have taken the 1<sup>st</sup> prize and would be worthy winners. On the day I chose...”

1. **Ch Brookhaven Here Comes Hogan, JW** (Ayers/Martz) At just over 2 years, he is now reaching maturity, he is a lovely size, yet strong and masculine. Loved his square outline, with correct angulation, short in back with firm level topline. He has a gentle expression to his head with correct high set ears, ample width of skull, dark round eyes enhanced by excellent pigmentation, well cushioned, with correct balance of muzzle to skull. His well broken, richly marked coat, was not overdone, it was long and silky. With the correct desired feathering it is the icing on the cake. So steady on the move with strong rear quarters driving around the ring, for me he had to be today’s winner. Pleased to award him.....  
**WINNERS DOG, BEST OF OPPOSITE SEX, BEST BLENHEIM DOG, BEST BRED BY EXHIBITOR, AND BEST BRED BY EXHIBITOR DOG**
2. **Ch & Eng Ch Stonepit Franko I Believe** (Gentil) It was wonderful to see this tri dog again, having awarded him his 3<sup>rd</sup> CC in the UK, I felt he looked good for his age (6years), was shown in wonderful condition, with his coat gleaming and his dark expressive eyes glowing. He is a lovely size, strong and masculine, yet still with the desired soft gentle expression. Soundly constructed with a strong elegant neck set into well laid shoulders, firm topline and well sprung rib, well angulated rear quarters, giving firm hind action on the move. Age just showing a little in his front now and hence had to give way to the winner on the day, but still loved him and was delighted to see him again.  
**BEST TRICOLOUR IN SHOW, BEST TRICOLOUR BITCH**
3. **Clarmarian Covertly Wicked** (Gogol/Young-May) Richly marked Blenheim, with well broken coat, long and silky with correct feathering. He is a good size with correct bone, expressive head, which has a

broad almost flat skull and correct high set ears, dark well pigmented eyes, with ample cushioning leading to correct tapering muzzle.

4. **Ch Bonitos Companeros Vahir** (Lemon/Lemon) Although placed 4<sup>th</sup>, still a worthy Champion, loved the compact square outline and sturdy well sprung body of this 2 year old. He has a gentle expression to his head with dark round well cushioned eyes.

**JUNIOR PUPPY BITCH (7)** “One of the best classes of the day, with so many gorgeous babies, all at different stages of development. I’m sure many will change places as they grow and mature. On the day I chose...”

1. **Forestcreek Fantasy Girl** (Cline/Cline/Cline) Stunning eye-catching baby, so confident and happy, she cannot be ignored. Soft gentle expression to her head, from her dark eyes, correct shallow stop and cushioned muzzle. Firm well ribbed body, perhaps a little longer than I prefer, but her overall confidence and ring presence and steady movement won her this place. **BEST PUPPY BITCH**
2. **Bekenhall Little Firecracker** (Hall) Loved this youngster, her overall balance, excellent neck set so well into well laid shoulders, short level back and well angulated rear. Pretty head, not overdone, with dark eyes & classic markings. She could so easily have been my winner if she had shown the confidence and enthusiasm of the winner. Sure once this comes she will be hard to beat.
3. **Beckenhall Dreaming in Red, White and Blue** (Hall) Sister to 2<sup>nd</sup> place and although heavier marked, similar remarks apply. Her coat is well enough broken, rich in colour and silky in texture, she has her sister’s excellent neck and laid back shoulders, balanced body with level topline. Soft gentle expression to her head, dark eyes and beautiful high set ears framing her face, one I am sure will also do well as she matures.
4. **Parlett Pinky Promise** (Williams/Williams) Adorable baby, so perfectly balanced with square outline, level topline, elegant neck set into well laid shoulders. So pretty in the head, with dark round eyes, beautifully cushioned and excellent pigmentation. On the move, she is so steady moving out freely, keeping her level topline and tail carriage, showing off her obvious personality. For me she is perfection in miniature, would have just liked her a shade bigger all round. As she matures this may happen once she gains in maturity she has all that is required to reach the top.

### **SENIOR PUPPY BITCH (3)**

1. **Nighthawks Coco Chanel** (Fadel/Fadel) Presented a square outline, standing with level topline, a little proud of her tail at the time, which needs watching. She is a good size with correct bone and has a richly marked, well broken coat, pleasing in head with broad skull and dark eyes and good pigmentation.
2. **Bekenhall Small Town Girl** (Skaggs/Hall) Pretty head with gorgeous dark round eyes, correct high set ears on fairly broad flat skull, good neck and shoulders, just lacking the maturity of body & spring of rib of the winner, hopefully this will improve as she gets older.
3. **Rutherford Ulalee** (Jones) Adorable Blenheim bitch who has the sweetest of expressions, gorgeous dark round eyes set in broad skull with correct high set ears. She has a really good body for size but would just have liked her a shade bigger all round. Although she moved out fairly well, she has a tendency to lose her topline, falling away at the croup, giving a tucked under appearance when moving, which for me spoils the overall appearance of this otherwise gorgeous little bitch. Would definitely have been “the one the judge would like to take home.”

### **GRADUATE PUPPY BITCH (3)**

1. **Nightingale Against the Wind at Falling Springs** (Curley) Well broken Blenheim bitch, presents a lovely outline standing, with elegant neck and well laid back shoulders. She is a lovely size and balance with soft gentle expression to her head, from her dark expressive eyes, correct shallow stop, and good pigmentation.

2. **Kingleys Baby Get Your Shine On** (Herrington) Heavier marked Blenheim bitch, short in back giving square outline, she moved out soundly keeping a level topline, pretty in head with correct high set ears and dark eyes with good pigmentation.
3. **Royal Caper Panache** (Clayton) Soundly made bitch with well sprung rib, she is a good size with correct bone. Strong neck, pretty head with dark eyes, good pigmentation

#### **BRED BY EXHIBITOR BITCH (1)**

1. **Kinglys The Glass Slipper Fits** (Herrington) Stood on her own, but lovely bitch with the longest of ears, not overdone in any way, gentle expressive head of ample width, with dark round eyes, shallow stop with tapering muzzle, elegant neck set into well laid shoulders, square in outline, with a level topline. A happy, attentive showgirl.

#### **JUNIOR AMERICAN BRED BITCH (2)**

1. **Foxcreek Nina Rose** (Johnson) She has the sweetest feminine expression to her head, dark round eyes so well cushioned, this short coupled Blenheim bitch with well sprung rib, good bone for size, just needs to learn how to make the most of herself, although that playful attitude cannot be criticized in one so young, sure her day will come.
2. **Wymns Hold that Thought** (Milosevic) Heavier marked Blenheim of attractive rich colour, built on a slightly larger frame, this bitch has a sturdy body with well sprung rib, expressive head, broad skull with correct high set ears, beautiful dark eyes well pigmented, so well cushioned giving soft expression. She moved out happily, just needs time to mature.

#### **AMERICAN BRED BITCH (3)**

1. **Woodsong Angelina, JW** (Kaiser) Feminine bitch with soft gentle expression to head, dark round expressive eyes, well cushioned with shallow stop and long well fringed high set ears framing the face. She has an elegant neck, pleasing in body with good bone for size, moved and showed well.
2. **La Dolce Angela** (Mixon/ClineTudorr) Well broken Blenheim who excels in rich chestnut markings set on clear white background, complete with Blenheim spot. Lovely head, correct broad flat skull with high set ears, dark round eyes, well pigmented, with good cushioning, giving desired expression. Elegant neck set into laid back shoulders, level topline, but a little longer in back, moved and showed well.
3. **Emenkay Walk** (Peterson) Another beautifully marked, richly coloured Blenheim with clear white markings. Well balanced, square outline with good topline, not as strong in rear movement as previous winners. She has a broad skull, with dark round eyes, with good pigmentation, correct high set ears framing her face, giving a soft gentle expression to her head.

#### **SPECIAL LIMIT BLENHEIM BITCH (3)**

1. **Forestcreek Florence** (Cline) Well broken Blenheim bitch with strong bone, super well sprung body, good neck with laid back shoulders, firm topline, strong well angulated rear quarters giving driving hind movement. A little heavier in head than I prefer for a bitch, she is broad in skull with correct high set ears, large dark round eyes, so well cushioned, enhanced by dense pigmentation. Conformation and sound movement secured her place today.
2. **Clarmarian Oooh La La** (McFarland/Young-Mays) Love the size, balance and bone of this bitch, gentle expression to her head, skull of ample width, well furnished high set ears framing her face, dark eyes which are well cushioned, shallow stop with gentle tapering muzzle, well cushioned. Richly marked coat with correct feathering. Just felt on the day she wasn't giving her all.
3. **Canyoncrest Rose Lane** (Du Ross) Well feathered, broken coated Blenheim with correct high set ears to her almost flat skull, gentle tapering muzzle and dark eyes, not overdone in any way.

#### **SPECIAL LIMIT TRICOLOUR (4)**

1. **Marilee Reggae** (Collins) I chose this tri girl, for her sturdy well ribbed body, strong neck set into well laid shoulders, excellent bone for size, strong well angulated rear quarters, used to advantage on the move, keeping her level topline and correct happy tail carriage. She has a well broken coat with correct rich tan markings and clear white contrasting. Her broad skull with correct high set ears framing the soft gentle expression from her dark round eyes, which are so well cushioned. **BEST TRICOLOUR BITCH**
2. **Starmarc Showboat** (Hooper) Heavier marked tri, with long silky coat & feathering covering her well ribbed body with ample bone. Gentle expression to head, rounded skull, dark round eyes well cushioned, with clear rich tan markings.
3. **Redbud Lilo and Stitch** (Rackler/Scott) Well broken tri, she is a good size with well ribbed body, perhaps carrying a little too much weight on the day. Gentle head with dark eyes and rich tan, moved and handled to perfection by her young handler.
4. **Royalcaper Applause** (Clayton) Although I notice she was placed 4<sup>th</sup> each day shown, this bitch is typical of the breed several years ago, a type perhaps not as fashionable in today's world, but should not be forgotten. She is longer and narrower in skull and muzzle, which has rich tan. She has the desired dark eyes, shallow stop, high set ears with well broken coat and correct feathering. Her size and bone are within the standard, with ample reach of neck, well laid shoulders and level topline, she appears gentle, laid back in attitude - not often seen these days. A true old fashioned toy spaniel.

#### **SPECIAL LIMIT BLACK-AND-TAN (3) "Heading a quality class three lovely bitches"**

1. **Iloo Dite Ilan Du Jardin De Claire of Sumara, JW** (Gentil) Beautiful compactly made girl, well bodied with correct spring of rib, sturdy neck, well laid shoulders, good turn of stifle. Soft gentle expression to her head. Gentle slightly rounded skull of ample width with high set ears, she has dark round expressive eyes, so well cushioned, complete with silky coat and clear rich tan markings, moved and showed well. **BEST BLACK-AND-TAN IN SHOW, BEST BLACK-AND-TAN BITCH**
2. **Darane True Colors** (Kates) A quality bitch with a touch of elegance about her, not overdone in any way. Soft gentle expression to her head, ample width without being overdone, correct high set ears, dark round eyes, tapering muzzle. She has a super neck set into well laid shoulders, level topline and well angulated rear quarters. Beautifully coated, rich, long and silky with the correct feathering. A responsive show girl who moved & showed well, unlucky to meet winner today.
3. **Bonitos Companeros Biscaya** (Lemon) Sturdy well bodied bitch of correct size with good bone, well sprung rib, firm topline, compact body, well angulated rear. Gently rounded skull, with lower set ears, dark eyes well cushioned, shallow stop and tapering muzzle. Quality long silky coat with clear rich tan markings. Moved and showed happily.

#### **OPEN BITCH (2)**

1. **Tassajara Forestcreek Cristal** (Cline) Ultra feminine, well broken Blenheim bitch that cannot be missed, strides out around the ring with ample reach and strong rear movement, tail wagging happily behind. So pretty in head with dark expressive eyes, shallow stop, and well cushioned muzzle. Nothing shelly about this bitch, although small in stature, she has good bone, correct width of chest, well sprung rib, elegant neck set into well laid shoulders with strong well angulated rear quarters. Yes I would prefer her a little shorter in body, but feel her other qualities outweigh this small point. Pleased to award her..... **BEST IN SHOW, WINNERS BITCH, BEST AMERICAN BRED IN SHOW, and BEST BLENHEIM IN SHOW,**
2. **Benchmark Call Me Maybe** (Hoorman) Quality, well broken, soundly made Blenheim bitch. Excellent neck well, laid back shoulders, level topline and well angulated rear. She is sturdy in body with good bone, yet still with feminine head, broad in skull with high set ears, dark round eyes so well cushioned, giving a soft gentle expression. Unlucky to meet winner today

## SENIOR OPEN BITCH (2)

1. **Ch Denham Dreamed About, JW (Maddox)** I felt for her age, this ruby really excelled, a colour that often takes so long to fully mature, for me she certainly looked the picture on the day. She is correct for size with good bone, well sprung in rib, firm level topline and well turned stifle. Feminine in head, almost flat with ample width, correct high set ears framing her beautiful dark sparkling eyes. Her shallow stop and gently tapering muzzle with ample cushioning gave the soft gentle expression. She has a good coat with the required correct fringing. Such a happy bitch, showed willingly to perfection on the day, she moved out freely with reach and drive keeping a level topline, did all that was asked of her. I truly believed she deserved.....  
**RESERVE WINNERS BITCH, BEST BRED BY EXHIBITOR BITCH, BEST RUBY IN SHOW, BEST RUBY BITCH AND BEST VETERAN IN SHOW.**
2. **Royalcaper Bluebell Bliss** (Clayton) Sturdy well made Blenheim bitch. Broad flat skull with correct high set ears, dark eyes well cushioned, in good condition for age, just not as agile as the winner who excelled on the day.

## VETERAN DOG (1)

1. **Ch Orchardhill Shirmont Back Talk, JW** (Henry/Jones/Scott) Super fit 11year old who came into the ring as if he owned it, obviously happy to be the centre of attention. Sturdy body with well sprung rib, strong rear movement from his well turned stifles. Masculine head, with broad flat skull and high set ears, large dark round eyes well cushioned. A delight to judge two such super veteran winners shown here today.

## VETERAN BITCH (1)

1. **Ch Denham Dreamed About, JW (Maddox)**