



THE SOLID COLOURS COCKER SPANIEL ASSOCIATION (UK)

October 26, 2013

We never did find the “planned” town of Milton Keynes, the site of the Championship specialty show of the Solid Colours CSA. To David Flanagan, my son Tom and myself, Milton Keynes is comprised of a space age type shopping mall and a thousand roundabouts – we never did see any type of town or city. Roundabouts are a modern British phenomenon; their signage leaves much to be desired and well - let’s just not go there anymore.

However, thanks to Lorraine Palmer (who even missed an exit herself) we arrived at the Stantonbury Leisure Center where the show was being held and David had been invited to judge the bitch classes. And walked into a perfectly lovely show hall, set up in a gym, with baby gate ring fencing, royal blue matting for the two rings, and a red, white and blue display of British and American flags on the balcony – not to mention similar décor for their Basket Raffle – it looked like the 4th of July!! In addition to chairs for spectators, there was actual benching – all cocker size, of course, neatly laid out around the hall and everyone put their dog crates on the benches and their grooming tables in front. And there was nary a dog dryer to be heard.....

Imagine my surprise when one of the first persons I met was none other than ECSCA member, Cathy Pearce-Boyd, formerly of Alaska, but now permanently resident in the UK teaching and lecturing on her favorite non-doggy subject – British maritime history!

The show committee had done a great job with their trophy table festooned with rosettes, as well as a silver loving cup donated by David for Best of Breed (Best in Show) and two red, white and blue sashes from

Liz Neff and David for the CC winners.

And all those cockers with their long tails wagging happily – didn’t bother me at all – the breed is it’s wonderful self, no matter where you meet them. It was very exciting just being there, being able to take photos and meet many people who I had corresponded with over the years. I’m quite sure David had a great time, as the following critique will demonstrate. (But we really don’t want to even try to find Milton Keynes, if indeed it exists - someplace.....)

Kate Romanski

Judge’s Critique (Bitches)

David W. Flanagan (USA)

Judging bitches at The Solid Colours Cocker Spaniel Association on October 26 was one of the most pleasurable experiences of my judging career. From start to finish the day was delightful. The venue was large and well-lit and comfortable for man and beast.

I can’t say enough about the warmth of my welcome and the gracious manner with which my decisions were received. The Committee had obviously worked hard to insure that everyone had a grand day. Kudos for such an excellent show! My thanks also to my efficient and kind stewards who made certain that I didn’t stray from procedure.

Now, to the dogs. I think many assume that the cockers on each side of the “pond” differ greatly. Truthfully, from what I have seen, this is incorrect. From what were shown to me, your dogs carry a bit



more weight, and presentation of coat differs, but a good cocker is a good cocker anywhere. I was impressed with many of the fronts – some wonderfully filled chests. Most exhibits had lovely bodies and good round rears. I was thrilled with my short list for the Challenge Certificate and was hard pressed to choose. The puppy winners were beautiful.

Every coin has a reverse side, and I would be remiss if I didn't mention an area that concerns me. I found too many narrow muzzles with small teeth, and more than a few questionable bites. This fault has crept into the American Cocker Spaniel breed in the U.S., so do be careful.

Again, I thank one and all for a lovely day!

Special Puppy Bitch (Red/Golden/ Liver/ Liver & Tan)

1. **Canigou Suntanned** – I told the owner I would buy this bitch (she refused). [Golden] Beautifully balanced, lovely head, in lovely condition and showing like a dream. **Best Puppy in Show.**
2. **Zkova Ginger Spice** – Another lovely golden, unlucky to meet the above bitch. Not as forward as number one, but a very nice bitch.

Special Graduate Bitch [Red/Golden/Liver/Liver & Tan]

1. **Helenwood Gift Wrapped** – Very attractive red bitch with all the essentials. A pity she was alone in her class as she is a worthy winner.

Special Open Bitch [Red/Golden/Liver, Liver & Tan]

1. **Canyonn Classic Harmony** – Quality golden bitch/ Lovely head, neck and shoulder and moves freely and with drive. In lovely condition, gleaming coat.

Special Puppy Bitch [Black, Black & Tan]

1. **Merryhaze That's Jazz** – Very attractive black, nicely balanced and showing well.
2. **Karesmere Simply Delicious** – Slightly smaller black, lovely body, happy show girl. Lost to the first bitch on head, but a pretty bitch.

Special Graduate Bitch [Black, Black & Tan]

1. **Quettadene Star Secret JW** – A beautiful black in full bloom, excels in overall quality. Is worthy of Challenge Certificates.
2. **Molkara Anastasia With Jozelah** – Another lovely black. I thought she carried a bit too much belly coat spoiling her balance, but a very nice bitch.

Special Open Bitch [Black, Black & Tan]

1. **Sh. Ch. Canigou Love On The Rocks** – A perfectly beautiful black, teeming with quality. She moves with drive and is hard to fault, in lovely condition. **Reserve**

Challenge Certificate

2. **Withiflor Shiny Boots** – Similar make and shape, not quite the showmanship of the bitch ahead, a very attractive bitch nonetheless.

Special Puppy Bitch [Parti-colour]

1. **Courtmaster Songbird at Beckaby** – Lovely upstanding blue, Beautiful throughout. Pretty head, lovely balance and showy.
2. **Conabec Cookies N Cream** – A surprise – an open-marked chocolate and white. Not the amount of coat of some others, but a beautiful body and four good legs. A very nice bitch.



Special Novice Bitch [Parti-colour]

1. **Glowhill Miss Saigon** – Dark blue, small, compact and beautifully balanced bitch. Pretty head, attractive mover.
2. **Royaldean Georgia Belle** – Slightly larger light blue or ticked bitch. Not quite the headpiece of the bitch ahead and perhaps could shed a pound or so. Nice mover.

Special Open Bitch [Parti-colour]

1. **KalrziennesZheva Glenntree** – rather heavily marked blue. A beautiful bitch, another worthy of Challenge Certificates.
2. **Shanez Thistle** – lightly marked medium blue, quality throughout. Beautiful body, lovely feet.

Veteran Bitch [Any Colour]

1. **Merryhaze Martini** – Lovely old lady, good head, body and balance, enjoying her day out.
2. **Wilmerella Wave Dancer At Melandroy** – Another very good girl, little to choose between these two, first place bitch kept slightly better topline.

Minor Puppy Bitch [Any Colour] – A super class, filled with quality.

1. **Canigou Bright Tan Beautiful** – Absolutely lovely black and tan, excels everywhere. In beautiful condition and showing gaily.
2. **Edenloch Dutch Surprise** – very lovely golden bitch, well matched with the bitch ahead. Lovely headed bitch.

Puppy Bitch [Any Colour] – Another very strong class.

1. **Clavaire La Traviata** – blue roan, very self assured which won her the class. An overall quality bitch.

2. **Kalrziennes Zazzle** – Anther blue of good make and shape. Not quite the eye expression of the first bitch and was rather silly on the go.

Junior Bitch [Any Colour]

1. **Sh. CH Dillonpark Peroni JW** – Superlative [black] bitch from head to toe, in magnificent condition and showing every second. AS

beautiful a bitch as I have ever handled. I wish she were mine. **Challenge Certificate & Best in Show.**

2. **Chativore Cascade** – Lovely dark blue, pretty head, beautiful body. No disgrace to go behind first place bitch.



Yearling Bitch [Any Colour]

1. **Evaremoc Buttons N Bows** – nice blue bitch, compact and correct, could be showier.

2. **Sandlauga Lexii Foxx** – good red, carrying a bit too much weight, but a nice bitch.

Novice Bitch [Any Colour]

1. **Glowhill Miss Saigon**

2. **Karesmere Simply Delicious**

Undergraduate Bitch [Any Colour]

1. **Clavaire Hummingbird** – Very attractive dark blue, cobby and correct. Let down a bit but gave enough to

win the class.

2. **Miska Razzle Dazzle** – Very nice bitch with correct shape, I felt the first bitch was a bit stronger in front.

Post Graduate Bitch [Any Colour]

1. **Shanaz Oaty** – Beautiful blue with all the essentials, in lovely bloom and showing well. Pretty head and good feet.

2. **Kastrian Eternity JW** – Very pretty black, much like the first bitch in make and shape, just pipped in front piece.

Special Beginners Bitch [Any Colour]

1. **Evaremoc Buttons N Bows**

2. **Martiso Mojito** – Attractive black, similar to first bitch, not as much fore-chest as number one.

Limit Bitch [Any Colour]

1. **Cachel French Kiss** – Lovely upstanding black and tan. Well balanced with good markings.

2. **Shanaudvarn Lady Winnie** – Lovely compact bitch, just lost to first bitch on a slightly prettier head on the black and tan.

Open Bitch [Any Colour]

1. **Sh. Ch. Canigou Secon Tan Rose** – Absolutely beautiful black and tan, balanced and showy, in lovely condition.

2. **Carmelfiar Silver Bangle** – Beautiful blue which is worthy of her title. Two very pretty bitches.



*David Flanagan with his bitch winners; left to right
Sh. Ch. Canigou Love On The Rocks, Reserve CC; **Sh. CH. Dillonpark Peroni**, CC/later
BIS, **Canigou Suntanned**, Best Puppy Bitch/Berst Puppy in Show. (Photo by Ian Scott)*