

LABRADOR RETRIEVER CLUB OF THE POTOMAC

CRITIQUE – 2009

The Potomac is the Labrador breeders' National Specialty. It is the melting pot of national and international bloodlines where breeders and exhibitors come together to share information, learn, and enjoy the camaraderie of Labrador enthusiasts. Judging Veterans and Best of Breed was an honor, privilege, and an exciting highlight in my judging career. Accolades must be given to the Potomac Officers, Board of Directors, and Committee Chairpersons for their dedication, organization, attention to detail and hospitality. The Potomac is a first class event due to the club's positive teamwork and exhibitor support. I thank the Potomac for inviting me to officiate and sincerely thank the exhibitors who entered their Labradors under me and for their graciousness in accepting my decisions. It was a pleasure to judge so many wonderful Labradors.

I strongly believe that "Form Follows Function." What this means to me is best described by the general appearance section of our Labrador Standard that serves as the breed's blueprint for my judging decisions and critique. The Labrador's foundation is its characteristic head, coat, and tail. These characteristics plus overall balance define Labrador type and enable it to function as a retrieving gundog. Soundness and movement, as well as a stable temperament, are essentials that contribute to a Labrador's function and versatility.

BEST OF BREED COMPETITION

I was absolutely delighted to see the depth of quality among the Best of Breed entries in both dogs and bitches. My first cuts in each group were Labradors with positive merits in terms of head, coat, tail, and balance. Additional cuts were made based on correctness of coat, head and a kind, gentle expression, topline to include tail set and carriage, balance of front and rear angles, working condition, and movement. The Labradors in my final lineup were all outstanding representatives of the breed and possessed the form essentials to function as a working gundog. On any given day, these final contenders could be the BISS winner.

BISS – CH BEEHCROFT STUDY'S TOP SECRET. A superb moderate black that exuded breed type from head to tail with a glorious reach of neck and shoulder line. Totally correct with compact balance of height to length and a coat that wrapped the body to form an otter tail. He had all the breed essentials and was sound coming and going and moved effortlessly around the ring. I was most pleased to award him BISS. Owners: Magdy Caban & Cecelia Martinez, & Mary A Wiest

BOW – CLEARCREEK BONAVENTURE WINDJAMMER

A beautifully made black bitch winner out of a strong Bred by Exhibitor class under Lynne Minchella with a clean outline, pleasing head and expression, correct coat texture, compact proportions, a smooth flow of neck into shoulders, a firm topline and moved soundly coming, going, and in profile. She deserved the BOW accolade.

Owners: Elizabeth Martin & Tom & Gail Shearer

BOS – CH TABATHA'S PRISTINE. This bitch is perfection and a joy to go over as her front and rear angles are so beautifully balanced. Shown in top class condition. Good, clean neck set into well-angulated shoulders. Short back, deep through the rib. Good turn of stifle and width of quarter. Correct otter tail coming straight off the back and moved well coming and going. Owner: Carol Heidl

AOW – CH JANLON'S LIGHT MY FIRE. A quality, athletic yellow with balanced angles front and rear displaying a lovely, clean outline, well shaped head with alert expression, long clean neck, well placed shoulders flowing through to a strong level back and powerful loins. Moved with authority and ease. Owners: Carrie & Janis Granneman

AOM – CH BLACKWING SUPERFINE. A superbly balanced black dog with great depth of body, pleasing head with intelligent expression, excellent angulation front and rear, powerful hindquarters and moved so freely. Owners: Lenore & Michael D. Hamilton.

AOM – CH SKY'S STONE KUTTER. A superbly constructed, compact black of excellent balance, lovely molded head with a kind but mischievous expression, short-coupled body with firm muscle tone, and powerful hindquarters, which enabled him to move with drive. Owners: Steven & Shari Kirschner

AOM – CH HYSPIRE ADRENALINE RUSH. An eye-catching masculine black dog that is full of quality and oozes breed type. I loved his kind head and expressive eye, super clean neck and shoulders, deep body, solid topline, strong rear quarters and well let down hocks which enabled him to cover ground effortlessly. Owners: V & J Russell & J Heim & L Daross

AOM – CH PARADOCS TABATHA’S CAILLOU. A very stylish black dog with a superb outline, lovely head, good reach of neck smooth shoulder line, level topline, strong hindquarters, excellent coat, and movement. Owners: Karen & John Helmers & Carol Heidl

AOM – CH LOBUFF HOLLYRIDGE KISSKADEE. A top class bitch with a good, clean neck set into well angulated shoulders, strong quarters, deep-bodied, and very sound on the move coming and going. Owners: Julie Quigley-Smith & Lisa Weiss Nolechek

AOM - CH PARADOCS DELIANS SCRUBBING IN. A smart, typey stylish black dog with a well chiseled head, good eye, correct textured coat, deep through the chest with well angulated shoulders and well developed quarters that enabled him to move with drive and ease. Owners: Bonnie Anthony & Deloris Van Sant

AOM – TABATHA’S GALA. A lovely black bitch that teems with breed type and quality with compact, balanced proportions, a smooth flow of neck into shoulders, an excellent jacket and tail, and a firm topline that was held coming and going. Owner: Carol Heidl

AOM – CH BORADORS BY GEORGE. This substantial yellow veteran dog is well proportioned with a clean outline, balanced angles front and rear, a pleasing head and expression, well boned, and in excellent condition for being ten years young. He enjoyed his trip around the ring and the applause of his many supporters. Owner: Vicky Creamer

AOM – CH LOBUFF’S TURTLE DOVE. This quality yellow feminine veteran bitch has excellent conformation, a pleasing head and expression, a good reach of neck, level topline, carries a proper coat, and moved freely coming and going. It was a pleasure to recognize her merits with an AOW and Best Veteran. Owners: Lisa Weiss & Julie Quigley-Smith

AOM – ENDLESS MT’S MACK TRUCK. A quality black dog that was awarded Winners today from the Open class under David Craig possessing a strong neck, pleasing shoulders, excellent topline, deep body and strong well muscled hindquarters that allowed him to move freely in all directions. Owner: Donna Stanley

BRACE CLASS

1 – BIG SKY’S STONE KUTTER & BIG SKY’S HEAVEN SENT FROM TRINITY. This pair of black typey dogs matched each other with pleasing heads and expression, compact deep bodies with correct angles, coat, and solid toplines. The Brace moved with authority and drive. The catalog stated that this was a father/son brace.

Owners: Steven & Shari Kirschner

2 - VENETIAN COPY THAT & CH WOODHULL'S ROGER THAT. Two lovely chocolate boys possessing pleasing heads and expression with correct eye color coat texture. Both boys moved well coming and going. Owners: Robert & Abigail Crosby

3 - FORESTWOOD SIMPLY ADORABLE & FORESTWOODS UNBELIEVABLE. This brace of yellow ladies were another well matched pair with sweet heads and expressions and good substance that moved soundly coming and going in unison. Owner: Leslie Plank

4- BROCKETT OF BLACKAMOOR & CH SANDYLANDS AIM TO PLEASE. This pair of black boys struggled with the concept of teamwork. One dog stuck to his handler like glue and the other dog wanted to do his own thing, which was to chase the brace of girls. The strong bond of affection between owner and brace was heart warming. Owner: H Price Jessup

TEAM CLASS

1 - TABATHA'S TEASE, TABATHA'S PRISTINE, TABITHA'S PESTER & TABATHA'S GALA. These four black bitches are clones of each other and drip with breed type as a team and individually. The four girls have balanced angulation, pleasing heads and expression, level toplines from head to tail correct coats and otter tails. Movement in an indicator of structure and these girls moved soundly coming and going with the attention focused on their handler. Owner: Carol Heidl

HUNTING RETRIEVER CLASS DOGS

1 - CH CAER BREN SUPERHERO MH RN CD. A solid yellow dog with a clean outline, deep body with good spring of rib and wonderful balance front and rear. This dog was in superb working condition and his sound movement going , coming, and in profile reflected his excellent structure. Owners: Phyllis Giroux DVM & Jackie Mischou

2 - CEDARWOOD'S BLACING BANDIT JH RN. A quality black dog with a pleasing head and expression, good coat, and moved cleanly coming and going
Owner: Nancy R Brandow

3 – CH ROCKYCREEK'S ON THE ROAD AGAIN JH CD. A black dog with a nice reach of neck that flowed well into his shoulders. He was not wearing his best jacket today. Owners: Geraldine Mines & Kathryn A Mines

4 – CASCOBAY'S RVF KRAVENMORE TANK SH. A cobby, well made black dog that was too proud of his tail today. Owners: Janine Piccosi, & Kristine Wescott & Lyn Thomas

HUNTING RETRIEVER CLASS BITCHES

1 – CH ATLANTIC'S MILLENNIUM JEWEL JH. A correctly made black bitch with balanced angles front and rear, deep body, good coat, pleasing head and expression that moved freely. Owners: Deborah & Bradley Weinman

2 – CH CAER BREN LOIS LANE JH. This black girl was in hard working condition with a good coat, pleasing expression, and overall balance that enabled her to move freely on the down and back. Owner: Jackie Mischou

3 - BEACHBROOK MELANITE O'WATEROAK JH. The correct coat on this black girl formed a thick otter tail and she moved cleanly with reach and drive. Owners: Jessica P Gore & Emily J Magnani

4 – CH BELLBURNS VANNAH BLACK JH RN. A black bitch with pleasing proportions, decent head and expression and carries a good coat and tail. Owner: Barbara A Corbelli

VETERAN DOGS – 7 YEARS & UNDER 9 YEARS

1 – CH SURRY'S BRICK IN THE WALL. A well-made compact yellow dog carrying a good coat, pleasing head and expression, well angulated front and good upper arm, and moved soundly with drive. Owners: Lynn Greskevitch, E Wenner & B Anthony.

2- CH BEEHCROFT'S STUDY IN BLACK. A deep-bodied black dog with a level topline, nice reach of neck and shoulder, kind expression, correct coat and otter tail and sound movement. Owners: Mary & Michael Wiest.

3 – CH LUBBERLINE MARTINGALE. Yellow dog with well proportioned head, pleasing expression, and correct length of muzzle. Well made through the front with

plenty of bone and good coat and tail. This dog had a glint of mischief in his eye and was full of himself on the move. Owner: Pauline Mortier

4 – CH STONECREST'S DAVY CROCKETT. A typey chocolate fellow with a pleasing head and expression, correct coat and otter tail, and moved well. Owner: Claire White-Peterson

VETERAN DOGS - 9 YEARS & UNDER 11 YEARS

1 – CH BORADORS BY GEORGE. An outstanding yellow male with well angulated front and rear angles, well-muscled hindquarters, and a solid topline that held on the move. His correct structure and movement also won him an Award of Merit in the BOB competition. Owner: Vicky Creamer

2 – SUPERBEMOKA DES SAVANES. A chocolate dog with a well-proportioned head, pleasing expression and eye color, excellent bone, good depth of body, correct coat texture, and moved cleanly. Owners: Jean-Louis Blais & Maurice Legare.

3 – MIRON'S LORD OF THE RINGS. Another well made chocolate male that was not wearing his best jacket today. Owners: Roger & Caroline Bannister.

4 – TABATHA'S STONEHENGE ABSOLUTE. A nice typey black male with good overall balance and bone. Owners: Kim Black & Carol Heidl.

VETERAN DOGS - 11 YEARS & OVER

1 – CH CAER BREN MR. PICKWICK JH. A substantial yellow male with a pleasing expression, balanced angles, deep bone, and solid topline. He was in solid working condition. Owner: Jackie Mischou.

2 – CH WITHARA'S BRODIE'S SOUVENIR. A quality black male, strongly made, good overall construction. Plenty of bone, good head with an expressive eye. Carried a good coat and tail and moved soundly. Owners: T. Farrington, E. Benziger, & A.Cogo

3 – CH TORMENTIL LABRADALE PRIMETIME. A well made typey yellow carrying a good coat, nice expression, and moved well for his age Owners: Liane Chaput Brennan & Ross Brennan.

4 – CH BOOTHGATE CHIEF PRODUCER, CD. A wonderful chocolate treasure with a kind, soft expression, and good substance and depth of body. He also moved fairly well for his age. Owner: Sylvie Miron

VETERAN BITCHES – 7 YEARS & UNDER 9 YEARS

1 – CH WILLCARE ROCKYCREEK KAHLUA CD JH. A quality chocolate bitch that exudes breed type. Nice depth of body, well balanced, good coat and tail and moved soundly. Owners: Kathryn & Geraldine Mines.

2 – TABATHA'S PARADOCS KALI. A well-made deep-bodied black bitch with a clean outline, beautiful coat and moved soundly coming and going. Owners: Karen & John Helmers & Carol Heidl

3 – CH CAER BREN WATER LILY JH. A compact yellow girl with a correct coat that wrapped the body to form the otter tail. Balanced angles front and rear enabled her to reach and drive with ease. Owner: Sara Raynor

4 – CH TABATHA'S TRINKET. A compact, strongly built black bitch with a clean outline and solid topline that flowed from head to tail. Owner: Carol Heidl

VETERAN BITCHES – 9 YEARS & UNDER 11 YEARS

1 - CH LOBUFF'S TURTLE DOVE. A quality yellow girl, feminine head, pleasing expression, good reach of neck, level topline, and moved with effortless reach and drive. An easy winner that went on to achieve AOW and Best Veteran Awards. Owners: Lisa Weiss & Julie Quigley Smith

2 - CH FENWYCK'S DARK CRYSTAL. A wonderful nicely balanced black bitch with correct coat texture, pleasing head and expression, and that moved freely.

3 – CH CAER BREN MAGNOLIA OF STONECROFT JH. Another well constructed yellow bitch with correct angles and free movement. She was not wearing her best coat today. Owners: Jackie Mischou & Virginia Fristoe

4 – CH WAFIN'S HIGH FLYING ADORED. A well balanced black bitch that stands four square with a pleasing head and expression. Owners: Leslie Personett DVM

VETERAN BITCHES – 11 YEARS & OVER

1 – CH ALLEGHENY'S GEM OF CAER BREN JH. A quality yellow bitch in superb working condition and coat with a level topline and moved with drive that defied her years. Owners: Clare Senfield

2 – CH BEACHBROOKS BLACK TIARA. A deep bodied black girl with a soft expression, correct coat and otter tail that moved well coming and going. Owner: EmilyMagnani

3 - CH SHADOW GLEN DUNRAVEN UD RE JH. Another well made balanced black bitch with a clean outline and movement. Owner: Margaret Wilson

4 – LOBUFF'S LILLO OF TIMBERLANDS. Feminine black girl with a soft expression, good coat, a decent tail and quarters for her age. Owner: Gregory Goebel

