

Potomac 2010, Mary Roseberry Critiques, Sweepstakes Puppy Dogs

I would like to thank the Labrador Retriever Club of the Potomac for the great honor and privilege of judging Puppy Dog Sweepstakes at their 35th Annual Specialty Show. As usual, the club put on a fantastic show! A special thank you to Buddy Voshell who made sure that our rings ran smoothly and on time, and who stepped in himself when we needed him. My sincere appreciation to our ring stewards Dorothy, Becky & Carol for a job well done. Thank s to Diane and Chuck Taggert who tried their hardest to keep a watchful eye on us, and saw to it that we had some wonderful mementos and goody bags to commemorate this special event.

I hope that anyone who loves this breed as much as I do will someday have an opportunity to experience the thrill of putting their hands on some the most spectacular Labradors in the world. I will never forget this experience, and the joy that it brought to me.

I was truly honored by the many well-known breeders and exhibitors who respected me enough to show their pretty puppies to me. There were so many nice ones to choose from, that not every puppy that deserved a cut or placement got one, but I tried to do my best and select some puppies that I would personally love to own.

Sweepstakes, 6 & Under 9 Months, Black Dogs

1 #35 Wiscoy Yogi

This was a very mature puppy for the age group (he turned 9 months old the day after I judged him). I loved his gorgeous front and rear angulation with an excellent turn of stifle and well developed thigh. He had a decent head, neck and shoulder placement that went into a beautiful topline, tailset, and a gorgeous coat that made a perfect otter tail. He was short-coupled, well balanced and powerful on the move.

2 #195 Briarwood's Cover Boy at Namur

This was another really exceptional puppy. I struggled between this puppy and the class winner because he looked more age appropriate for the class. He was just barely over 6 months old so he was at the opposite end of the spectrum from the class winner. He had a really pretty head; good bone, gorgeous front angulation and big thick rear with good turn of stifle, his topline and tailset flowed into a fantastic otter tail. At this time, he lacked the leg under him to give him the pretty balance that the class winner had, but still a very nice puppy.

3 #603 Clearcreek Bonaventure Snafu

This was another really pretty puppy with good length of neck and well laid-back shoulders, nice head, topline and tailset. He had a slightly longer wavy coat, not quite the rear angulation of the top two puppies, but a pretty otter tail and he moved well.

4 #377 Time Square Ulysses

This puppy had a pretty head, nice neck length and good shoulder placement and upper arm. He was a little longer cast and appeared slightly high in the rear at this point in time which made his topline appear soft, but still a nice puppy that will only get better with maturity.

Sweepstakes, 6 & Under 9 Months, Chocolate Dogs

1 #265 Lor-Als Hot Diggity

This was my favorite chocolate puppy boy that I judged. He was so well made with a really nice compact body, not overdone in any way, but just right. He had pretty angulation front and rear, plenty of bone, really pretty head, and beautiful neck flowing nicely into well laid-back shoulders, pretty topline and tailset. I loved his thick coat—such a pretty color. He made the cut for Best in Sweeps.

2 #783 Keepsake Chicken Marcello

This was another very nice puppy. Cute head, lots of bone, pretty angulation in the front and nice strong rear, pretty coat and tail, nice rich color. A little longer in body than class winner, but I liked his attitude and think he was shown very well.

3 #449 Blueknight Gorgeous Prince

This was a cute boy, a little longer in body so lacked some spring of rib. His front angulation was adequate, but would have liked to have seen a lot more turn of stifle in the rear.

Sweepstakes, 6 & Under 9 Months, Yellow Dogs

1 #819 Zinfndels Firebird

This was a real pretty boy with nice balance, pretty angulation front and rear, good bone, pretty head with plenty of pigment, nice length of neck and well laid-back shoulders and good upper arm. He had a nice thick, rich colored coat and pretty otter tail and was good on the move.

2 #553 Cornerstone's Sparks Fly at Maritime

This was another very nice boy close to number one puppy. He had good bone, coat and pretty otter tail, pretty front assembly. He was slightly soft in the topline right now, but still an outstanding puppy.

3 #817 Zinfndels Bambino

I saw in my catalog that this is the brother to my first place dog. He is also nice and very similar to his littermate. I preferred the head and front angulation of the other; however, I think this puppy excelled in showmanship.

4 #667 Boradors Vivo Barefoot

This baby puppy was adorable. I loved his beautiful face, very pretty front angulation with a moderate turn of stifle, nice thick coat, and I loved his tail. The only thing he lacked at the moment was a little leg under him which affected movement, but showed really pretty breed type.

Sweepstakes, 9 & Under 12 Months, Black Dogs

This class was a tough one for me to judge. The class had so much depth of quality which made for a difficult decision. I later saw that two of these boys did very well under the regular class judge and were awarded Winner's Dog and Reserve Winner's Dog which says a lot about this puppy class.

1 #297 Fortune's Feet Don't Fail Me Now

This puppy was just beautiful from head to toe, and for me excelled in overall balance and breed type. Not overdone or underdone in any way--just right. He had a really pretty head, gorgeous angles front and rear, pretty neck that went into well laid-back shoulders, pretty topline, tailset and pretty coat and tail with just the right amount of bone, and he moved well. He made the cut for Best in Sweeps, and was on the top of my list for BOS in Sweeps. I was pleased to see that he was Reserve Winner's Dog in the regular class. What a lovely boy, with a bright future.

2 #295 Fortune's Blueprint

I see that this was the brother to the class winner. Another really nice dog that I'm sure could change places with his brother on any given day. Many of my same comments apply to this dog. He had a lot of coat around his neck at this point in time which made him appear somewhat stuffy compared to the cleaner line of his littermate, but certainly was a beautiful boy that deserved his placement.

3 #833 Moonlit's Drum Roll

This was another exceptional boy who later went on to become Winner's Dog in the regular classes. He was a big powerful boy that was shown in top condition. He had real pretty angles front and rear. Beautiful neck and shoulder

placement, with good topline and a tail that went straight off his back. He moved well, and presented a pretty clean balanced picture.

4 #483 Hyspire Mainland Bears Repeating

This was another really pretty boy. Not quite as mature as the top 3 placements, but a quality puppy with nice breed type. He's a moderate dog with a pretty head, nice angles front and rear, pretty coat, nice topline and tailset and shown very well.

Sweepstakes, 9 & Under 12 Months, Chocolate Dogs

1 #373 Holland's Brown Bear

This puppy had a really rich dark chocolate coat, decent head, and adequate front angulation. I would have liked to see a more defined turn of stifle to balance out the picture.

2 #299 Show Me The Way-Export DC Porter

This puppy had a nice shoulder placement and topline with decent rear angulation and good tail. Was close to first dog, but would have liked to see a longer upper arm.

3 #131 Stargaze's Orion

This dog was also a nice rich color chocolate, decent angulation front and rear, preferred the head of class winner.

Sweepstakes, 9 & Under 12 Months, Yellow Dogs

1 #447 Summerlin's Call Of Duty

This boy painted a picture of balance and soundness for me. He is moderately angulated front and rear. He was very compact and shown in excellent hard condition. He had one of the prettier heads that I saw on a yellow, with nice neck into a pretty shoulder placement and a rock hard topline. He had a wavier coat, but it was hard and dense and formed a nice otter tail. He moved like a dream. He made the cut for Best of Sweeps. I think he's a boy with a great future.

2 #717 Wit's End Porkerface At Tremont

I also really liked this dog. It was a tough decision between him and the class winner. This puppy had a pretty overall balance, beautiful rich yellow color, pretty head, good thick coat and otter tail. Nice bone, excellent angles front and rear. He was not quite as showy as the class winner on the day, but an outstanding puppy just the same. Another boy I will be watching in the future.

3 #775 Lobuff Aquarius Semper Fi At Shoreline

This was another nice boy. He had a good head, nice bone, pretty coat and tail, nice neck and shoulder placement, slightly longer in body. He had pretty angulation in the rear, but fell a little short in upperarm.

4 #849 Retrong Toby On Vacation

This was a very light shade of yellow. He was a pretty boy with nice balance overall and good angles front and rear, pretty topline and tailset. He had lots of coat, but a more open softer coat than I personally prefer, but a quality boy just the same.

Sweepstakes 12 & Under 15 Months, Black Dogs

1 #311 Talimar's Scratch'N Sniff

This was a big powerful dog with a very nice overall balance. He had a strong head with a beautiful neck and shoulders, pretty topline and tailset flowing in to a nice otter tail. He had a hard dense coat, good angulation front and rear, and was a pretty dog on the move. A promising boy.

2 #357 Snowgoose Carbon Copy

This was also a very nice dog. Close up to the winner. I would have liked to see a little more animation. I liked his beautiful topline that flowed perfectly from the top of his head to the end of his tail. He had a pretty head, pretty neck and shoulders, front and rear angulation, beautiful coat, and a pretty mover.

3 #383 Big Sky's Jacob

This boy was quite the showman; his tail never stopped wagging. He caught my eye in the ring with his nice overall balance, good bone, short-coupled, pretty angulation front and rear and nice topline and tailset and good coat and tail. His head wasn't quite there yet, but a nice boy just the same.

4 #303 Tequilabs Famous Ferry

This boy also had a lot of nice qualities. He wasn't quite as mature or animated as some of the others, but he had a nice head, pretty neck and shoulders, good coat, great front angulation. I would have liked to see a slightly more defined turn of stifle.

Sweepstakes 12 & Under 15 Months, Chocolate Dogs

NO ENTRIES

Sweepstakes 12 & Under 15 Months, Yellow Dogs

1 #557 Beechcroft's Perfect Blend

This was a big flashy boy. He was very nicely balanced with pretty angles front and rear, decent head with dark pigment, good length of neck and beautiful shoulder placement. He was short-coupled, with a heavy dense coat and big otter tail that flowed right off his back. He moved around the ring with purpose, and even though he was a handful, you could tell his handler really enjoyed showing him. He made the cut for Best in Sweeps. I think he is a boy with a promising future.

2 #21 Caer Bren Hastings

I really liked this boy too. He had one of the prettiest heads that I saw in the yellow classes. He was a very pretty dog overall. Good length of neck and pretty shoulder placement, nice straight topline and tailset. He had good upper arm, great bone, pretty rear angulation and he stood four-square and was handled very well. He was slightly longer in body which made him appear not quite as balanced as the class winner, but still a quality boy.

3 #305 Chablais Dogwood George

This was another pretty boy with good overall balance and angles. He had a pretty head, and moved well. His downfall this day was he was quickly losing his coat, which took away from the bloom of some of the others in the class.

4 #455 July Avenue's Royal Dragon

This was a cute boy with a sweet face and many nice things about him. He had pretty angles front and rear, but he had so much coat that it made him look stuffy and appeared to shorten the length of his neck. The coat was a pretty color, but a little soft and open at the moment.

Sweepstakes 15 & Under 18 Months, Black Dogs

This was another class with great depth of quality!

1 #429 Dickendall Ironore Bluefish

This dog was my Best of Opposite in Sweeps winner. He was a gorgeous boy that I would gladly have taken home with me. He was a showman and demanded attention from the time he entered the ring until the end. He was just my cup of tea--Beautiful from head to toe. He was beautifully balanced with just the right amount of leg under him, short-coupled, strong boned, suburb front, long neck that flowed into pretty shoulder placement that continued down the topline to the end of his tail. He moved with drive and purpose and was presented in great condition. He had a gorgeous masculine head that reminds me of the old classic stuff that you don't see often anymore. He had gentle soft eyes that twinkled like he knew he was special. I can't wait to see this boy again. I think he has a bright future ahead of him.

2 #187 Annual's Dream Machine

Here is another gorgeous dog that I just couldn't deny. I loved him from the tip of his nose to the end of his tail. He was presented in top condition, with well developed thick muscular thighs that aren't seen often. He has a beautiful head, elegant neck that flowed into a well laid-back shoulder and beautiful topline. He had a pretty front, great thick dense coat with a beautiful otter tail, and he moved well. Another one I will watch in the future.

3 #273 Laurglen Ardent Rogue At Hyspire

This was another top dog with beautiful breed type and balance. Loved his gorgeous head, shoulders, topline and tailset, beautiful bone, thick dense coat, pretty angles front and rear, handled well and moved with purpose. This was a lovely boy that could have easily won on a different day.

4 #81 Darling Hill Lobuff All That & Then Some

This was another dog that was shown in good condition. He had a pretty head, elegant long neck that flowed nicely into his topline and tailset. He had pretty angulation front and rear. He was a little longer in body and didn't have the dense coat at this time, but a pretty dog just the same.

Sweepstakes 15 & Under 18 Month, Chocolate Dogs

1 #251 Blackdux Fudge Ripple

This was a big strong boy who sold me on his movement. He presented a nice clean outline with moderate angulation front and rear. He was shown in hard working condition. He had a decent head, but would have preferred a richer eye color, but a nice boy overall.

2 #841 Folkaur Auld Lang Syne

This was also a nice boy. He had the best coat in the class, a pretty dark color, hard and dense. He was slightly longer cast than the class winner, and lost out on spring of rib.

3 #689 BonaVenture's Oscar

This boy was losing coat fast, but he had decent angulation front and rear and he had a nice tail. He was a little shorter on leg which took away somewhat from the overall balance that I like to see.

4 #465 Eagertrieves Downtown Brown

This dog was very showy. He had a really pretty head, neck and shoulders. I really liked his front angulation, but would have liked to see a more defined turn of stifle and more leg underneath him to balance the picture. He had a decent tail that he carried slightly higher.

Sweepstakes 15 & Under 18 Month, Yellow Dogs

1 #309 Huckleberry's How Do You Like Me Now

This was a big strong boy who excelled in movement. He had a pretty head and neck, good amount of bone, decent front angulation, with a pretty thick well defined rear and nice coat and otter tail. He had nice balance and was shown well.

2 #787 Upland's Home for Christmas

This was a very flashy boy with tons of attitude. I loved his head neck and shoulders, nicely angulated front and rear and moved well. He was slightly smaller for this age group, but just a really pretty dog overall.

3 #285 Cornerstone Thank You At Kowalski

This was a nicely balanced and very showy dog whose tail never stopped wagging. He was nicely balanced front and rear. Lost out a bit on coat at this time, and he had a bit of a rounder eye than I prefer, but still a nice boy.

4 #791 Upland's Tannenbaum

This was also a pretty boy. I see that he is the litter brother to number 2 in the class. He had a pretty coat and tail. He was a more moderately angulated front and rear than his brother, but still presented a pretty picture and nice overall balance.