

Potomac Valley Specialty Show 2002

It was a privilege and a pleasure to be invited to judge the Potomac Valley Specialty Show 2002. It was a real pleasure to go over so many lovely typical and rangy hounds and happily very few of the short-legged or the heavily built square variety so untypical of a sight-hound. There was plenty of quality and promise in the puppy classes and in the 12 - 18 months old bitch class.

It is rather unfair to judge young males too harshly. They go through so many awkward stages as they grow. Some lines do not mature until they are up to four years old. The lines being shown seem to mature well, there were plenty of good hounds, both males and females, in the Best of Breed Competition. In some of the classes there was often little to choose between the winners. The hounds in the two veteran classes were lovely, very typical. I omit critical comments on the movement in the veteran classes in deference to their age.

Now that the gene pool for type is well established in your lines, this allows you to work on improving movement which was, in general, disappointing. There were plenty of hounds with a good stride but most of the hounds were unsound coming and going. Many well constructed hounds exhibited poor movement coming and going

and this made me wonder if the cause was environmental (feeding or exercise) rather than genetic. It is a wise policy to note the breeders whose hounds have sound movement and take their advice on feeding and exercising.

The other problem to work on is lack of angulation in the forequarters. Straight fronts tend to be a general problem in the breed and it may take time and patience to establish good fronts.

I would like to thank each and every one of the officers and committee who made me feel so welcome and to thank the exhibitors for their good sportsmanship. My thanks too to Peter Van Brunt, the Chief Steward, who kept the show running so efficiently. My congratulations to your Club on the good atmosphere so apparent and on running such a relaxed and friendly show.

Elizabeth C Murphy

Puppy 9 - 12 months Dogs

1. Calorien Glenamadda Ard Rhi*

Lovely typical puppy with good conformation. Good head. Moved well. Needs more ring confidence.

2. Armaitiu Mohr Presly of

Eagle
Nice youngster, still very immature. Movement should improve with maturity.

12 - 18 months Dogs

1. Brandywhine Dogherty of Eagle

Lovely typical hound. Nicely made. Movement coming and going should strengthen with maturity.

2. Kellamore Quinn

A nice youngster. Still very immature, promising. Would like a harsher coat.

Blair's Airgead Rua

3. Nice typical hound, nice rangy build. Good coat. Would like more angulation in the forequarters.

4. Karontara Starkeeper Grendel

Nice typical hound. Mature build. Good coat. Movement coming and going should strengthen with maturity. Would like better ear carriage.

Novice Dogs

1. Hound Hill Phoenix of Eagle
Lovely typical wheaten hound. Nice topline. Would like more angulation in forequarters. Nice stride, movement coming and going needs to strengthen.

2. Taliesin's Logan

Lovely typical hound, out of coat at present. Would like more angulation in the forequarters and pasterns.

3. Ansa Tiarnan Alainn
Lovely typical hound but needs more ring confidence. Movement coming and going needs to strengthen up.

4. Calyddon Babal
Another hound of lovely type. Movement coming and going needs to strengthen. Would like more angulation of the forequarters.

Bred-by-Exhibitor Dogs

1. Sidhe Dragonsbane
Lovely typical hound. Good head and coat. Good stride, moved well in front.

2. Taliesin's Lorcan
Nice typical hound, good coat. Movement not as sound as lst.

3. Hound Hill Porter of Eagle
Nice typical hound. Movement coming and going needs to strengthen up.

4. St Leger Capone
Nice hound, still very immature. Moved well.

American-Bred Dogs

1. Blair's California Sunshine
Typical hound. Good coat. Would like a little more angulation in forequarters and hindquarters. Strides out well for his build. Movement coming and going needs to strengthen up.

2. Armaitiu Niall of Eagle
Nice typical hound, well made. Would like better ear carriage and stronger hind movement.

3. Kellcastle Status Symbol

Nice typical hound. Well made. Good coat. Needs more ring confidence.

4. Solo's Failbhe of Eagle
Nice typical hound. Good rear. Would like more angulation in forequarters.

Open Dogs

1. Kindred Brahm
Typical hound with good conformation. Good stride, moved a little close behind.

2. Aurum von der Sillerquelle
Nice typical hound. Good topline and rear. Would like a little more shoulder angulation and better ear carriage.

3. Merefield Anikem O'Beltane
Nice hound. Good coat. Would like a little more angulation in front and rear and a little more length of stride.

**Winners dog:
Sidhe Dragonsbane
Reserve:
Taliesin's Lorcan**

BITCHES

Puppy, 6 - 9 months Bitches

1. O'Lugh Darcy of Blackwater
Lovely typical youngster. Good conformation and moved very well for her age.

2. Wolf Tone Bonne Louise
Lovely typical hound. Well made. Nice head and good coat. Moved well though hind movement needs to

strengthen up a little.

3. Starkeeper Wynde of Eagle
Another lovely puppy. Still immature but very promising.

4. Grealla Aerie of Eagle
Yet another lovely puppy, typical and well made. Movement should improve with maturity.

This was my favourite class so far.

Puppy 9 - 12 months Bitches

1. Onion Aerie of Eagle
Lovely tall rangy typical hound. Good conformation. Moved well for her age.

2. Calorien Starkeeper Annabelle
Nice typical hound. Good head. Tall, moved well. Hind movement should strengthen with maturity.

3. Calorien Ard Angel
Another nice youngster. Typical. Good coat. Ear a little heavy. Movement still a little close behind.

4. Brandywhine Mida of Eagle
Yet another nice typical hound. Good head and ear. Front movement still needs to tighten up.

12 - 18 Months Bitches

1. Claridon Aina of Eagle
Lovely typical hound. Good conformation. Good stride. Movement coming and going should strengthen with maturity

2. Brandywhine Clothra of

Eagle

Lovely typical hound. Good body and hindquarters. Would like more angulation of upper arm and pastern.

3. Redtops Raenagh

Typical and well made hound. Moved well for her age.

4 Brandywhine Diva of Eagle

Typical and well made hound. Movement coming and going should improve with maturity.

Novice Bitches

1. Karn's Faoilenn of Eagle

Excellent type. Well made. Moved well.

2. Karontara Starkeeper

Charleston

Typical and well made hound.

Less mature than winner.

Movement coming and going should strengthen with maturity.

3. Calyddn Ceridwen

Nice typical and rangy hound.

Good stride. Hind action

should strengthen with maturity.

4. Blair's Touch of Gold

Another typical and rangy hound. Well made. A little wide at elbow and straight in pastern. Good stride.

Bred by Exhibitor Bitches.

1. Kellyberry Betsy of Eagle

Lovely typical hound. Good conformation. Good head. Moved well. Would like lower hocks.

2. Lile Breach of Eagle

Lovely type. Well made. Good head. good stride. Movement coming and going should strengthen with maturity.

Pasterns a little too straight.

3. Starkeeper Cuhaven

Karontara

Typical and well made. Good stride. Hind action should strengthen. A little wide at elbow.

4. Redtops Music of the Night

Typical hound. Good head.

Good hindquarters. Moved true coming and going, stride a little short.

Would like more angulation of upper arm.

American-Bred Bitches

1. Amair Oelmuhle of Eagle

Lovely typical hound. Well made. Good Head. Good stride. Needs a little more ring confidence.

2. Karn's Fendi Keepsake of Eagle

Typical. Well made. Good head. Little less angulation than winner.

3. Padraic Brie Strawberry Girl

Typical. Well made. Good head and coat. Would like a little more angulation in forequarters. Movement coming and going not true.

4. Kellamore Starkeeper

Majora

Typical. Good hindquarters and good coat. Upper arm a little too straight. Lacks depth of brisket.

Open Bitches

1 Rathkeale's Catriona

Lovely type. Well made. Good coat. Good head. Good stride. Would like a little more shoulder angulation.

2. Kellykerry Becca of Eagle

Typical. Good shape. Good Hindquarters. Good stride. Would like more angulation of upper arm and pastern. Lacked depth of brisket.

3. Starkeeper Orion Na

Wolfhaven

Typical. Good shape. good head and hindquarters. Would like more angulation in front and more depth of brisket.

4. Lightfoot Lily

Typical. Good shape. Good hindquarters. Good head and coat. Would like a little more angulation of forequarters. A little wide at elbow.

Winners Bitch

Amair Oelmuhle of Eagle

Reserve

Karn's Faoilenn of Eagle

Veteran Dogs

1. Ch Karn's Emann of Eagle

Lovely typical hound. Well made and moved well.

2. Ch Singing Swords Majerle PJ.

Lovely typical hound. Good coat. Well made with good topline.

3. Am/Can Ch Antrim's
Starkeeper Tucker
Another lovely typical and well
made hound. Good head.

4. Ger/Fin/Am Ch Xanux von
der Oelmuhle
Lovely typical hound. Good
head, coat and hindquarters.
Would like more angulation in
forequarters.

Veteran Bitches

1. Ch Riverlawn Marga of
Eagle
Lovely typical and well made
hound. Good head and coat.
Good hindquarters.

2. Ch Hound Hill Pataire of
Eagle
Lovely typical hound. Well
made, good hindquarters.

3. Karn's Ennis of Eagle, NA,
NAJ
Lovely typical hound. Nice
shape. Good head.

4. Ch Summerhill Enchanted
Letter
Typical hound, good
conformation and good coat.
would like a smaller ear.

Best of Breed competition

Ch Arannwood Viking
A lovely example of the breed.
Typical. Good Conformation.
Strongly build without being
heavy. Moved Well.

Best of Breed:
Ch Arannwood Viking

Best of Winners:
Sidhe Dragonsbane

Best Opp Sex:
Ch Riverlawn Marga of Eagle

Best Puppy:
**Calorien Glenamadda Ard
Rhi***

***Note from PVIWC:** this dog
was subsequently declared
ineligible for placement at our
show by the American Kennel
Club due to noncompliance
with AKC registration
requirements.