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It is often very difficult to produce something each month for this column. Possibly the only people who really know just what a task it can be are those who have come before. Hopefully there will be more of you willing to do a "guest" spot now and then. Beginning in January, a series of biographical sketches of your officers and board members is planned. Hopefully, this way more of you will feel that you know those people who are guiding your club. Your suggestions are always welcome about other ideas that you might like to see in this space.

Throughout the year an honest effort is

Throughout the year an honest effort is made not to inject personal opinions into this column any more than can be avoided. Often there are many things that could or possibly should be voiced but might sound as "axe grinding" and should be aired in the Bulletin rather than here. For this month there will be a change. It needs to be said, not by a whisper campaign or innuendo as so often is the case in the dog fancy. Whatever your faith, Donna and I extend to all of you our warmest holiday greetings as well as our best wishes for a wonderful 1975.—B. Nolan Dale, Gleanntan, 8217 Warfield Rd., Gaithersburg, MD 20760

## NORWICH TERRIERS NORWICH TERRIER CLUB OF AMERICA

This Fall, the 1974 English Norwich Terrier Club Championship Show was a show to remember. It is the equivalent of our Specialty. The membership picks the judge, first nominating a slate, then voting on it. Their rule is that the judge chosen will be unable to judge this show again for ten years.

There were sixty-one entries and the competition was good. In England the breed is divided. The Norfolk (drop ears) had their own show a few weeks later. The English show classes are different. The same dogs have the opportunity to compete in more than one class, which is fine for the spectator and the exhibitor. To be an English Champion a dog must win three Challenge Certificates under three different judges. No matter how many are won before twelve months of age, one more certificate must be won after the dog is one year old.

It was ten years since I had seen their last show and I was impressed by the higher overall quality, the uniformity and the sportsmanship of the breeders and owners. They all handled their own dogs. It was a leisurely well-run show, enjoyed by all. The Interfields breeder, Mr. Hammersley was the show manager, assisted by Mr. Ford, the Thrumpton breeder. In charge of the refreshments were the Betden breeders, Mr. and Mrs. Tierney.

After the morning classes, we all adjourned to The Globe, in Weedon Northhants, for lunch. An English pub is hard to beat for conviviality and good food. We then returned to

the Weedon Village Hall where the classes continued. It was a great pleasure to renew old friendships, including Mrs. Fisher-May of Whinlatter fame; Sheila Monckton, whose Jericho group reflected their breeder's long association with Norwich; and Marjorie Bunting, the extremely knowledgeable Ragus breeder.

I certainly missed Mrs. Hardy and the indomitable Miss MacFie. Their Quartzhill and Colonsay strains were dominant ten years before and, since they died, are remembered in many of our best pedigrees. Over here there is still a Quartzhill in the ring.

Among the new faces were the Montelimar, Ickworth, Bluecedars, and Hoylebank breeders. The Colycroft entry alas was absent and Mrs. Fagan was unable to make the journey. Mrs. Cullis showed her well-known stud, Ch. Culswood Bargrange Penny Wise.

After a delicious English tea it was an honour to be invited to once again present the trophies. The two youngest exhibitors and able handlers gracefully accepted the top wins. Young Miss Forman and her home-bred black and tan, Waleric Stargazer, won the bitch C.C. and was Best of Breed. Miss Leslie Bunting with her home-bred Ragus False Colours, also a black and tan, won the dog C.C. and was Best Dog Puppy. These two young dogs were outstanding in temperament, conformation and condition. They enjoyed the show and deserved the many trophies they collected. False Colours is by the Fords' top stud, also top stud this year in England, Ch. Thrumptons Lord Redwood.

Down the old Roman Road that evening, the countryside was green and unspoiled; the villages timeless. It had been a day well spent among friends old and new and among those good-looking happy English Norwich Terriers.—Mrs. Sterling Larrabee, King's Prevention, Chestertown, MD 21620

## IRISH TERRIERS IRISH TERRIER CLUB OF AMERICA

Today, as October is on the way out, we are having a windy showery day. The first rain in so many months is more than welcome.

It is so quiet around here ever since I put Joyce Wilson on the plane to return to New Jersey. So much good visiting as only old friends can constantly engage in. It is always relaxing to have dogwise house guests. It is a novelty to my guests, who don't own dogs, to watch me "doing for the dogs." Joyce is so many times one step ahead of my schedule.

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Our club held an informal puppy match in Jim and Linda Thomas' back yard. Joyce acted as judge. We had a good turnout of Southern California members, but had hoped for more puppies. This is quite a challenge to get a good showing of puppies under a year. They are going through so many awkward stages from 3 months to a year. The majority of new owners