"Which way is St. Louis?
We better check our GPS!"

Join the fun at the NTCA National Specialty in St. Louis
(June 15, 2012)
THE NORWICH TERRIER NEWS
The Official Publication of The Norwich Terrier Club of America, Inc.

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Front (l. to r.): Castle-Bar “Daphne,” “Harley,” and “Niles,” owned by Brennie Brackett, Sonoma, CA
Back (top): Foxwood “Katie,” owned by Cheri McAlister, Bostic, NC
Back (bottom): Little Tramont “Diggy,” owned by Helene Gisin, Seprais, Switzerland
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Fall 2012 News Deadline

September 1, 2012 is the deadline for submitting all articles and photos for the Fall 2012 News. Articles may be snail mailed to Alison Freehling at her new address (as of May 15, 2012): 1208 Washington Avenue, Fredericksburg, VA 22401. If possible, however, I would much rather have your articles come online to nntcnws@hotmail.com, either as embedded e-mails or, preferably, as attachments in Microsoft Word. My computer often will not open articles sent in other formats. If you have questions about News’ submissions, please feel free to call me at my new home phone number: 540-373-4268.

When sending photos for the News, please snail mail original 35 mm photos (in color or black and white) or e-mail digital photos that meet criteria suitable for printing in the News. Please see the instructions about digital photos below.

To assure timely publication of the Fall 2012 News, please be sure to meet—or better yet to beat—the September 1 deadline. Thanks for your cooperation.

—Alison Freehling

Sending Digital Photos to the News

Even in this digital world, we prefer to work with good 8 x 10 prints of photos destined for the Showfront and New Title Holder sections of the News. Because we crop Showfront and New Title Holder photos so drastically to focus on the dog, they present special problems, and we are not able to do justice to the subjects in many of the show photos we receive digitally. If you cannot send the original of a show photo, please call 859-873-0550 and ask for Sharman.

We welcome digital photos for all other sections of the News. They should be at least 900 pixels wide (or tall, if the orientation is portrait). 1200 pixels at the longest dimension is even better, especially if you hope to have your photo considered for the front or back cover. Please note that, depending on your computer monitor’s resolution, a picture of this size may appear HUGE on your screen. Don’t worry about this (and please don’t resize the photo); it will be just right to print in the News.

As a general rule, you won’t have a problem with photos as long as you use a modern digital camera (less than 5 years old) AND set it to shoot at its highest resolution. (Please do not submit photos taken with cell phones.) Save your file as a JPG or TIF, and happy shooting!

—Sharman Pepper, Deerhaven Press, printer of the News
A Message from NTCA President Jean Kessler

Greetings to NTCA Members and Fellow Norwich Fanciers:

2012 shows promise of many positive steps forward for our club and our breed. My priorities as a club leader continue to be the health of our breed, educating and mentoring members about our breed, and encouraging social activities where members can become better acquainted and share ideas and information.

To that end, NTCA Health Chair Magda Omansky has kept us informed of what’s going on in our club’s association with the AKC CHF. She has announced breed health studies and surveys and has been most generous with her time and knowledge to individual members as well.

Reports in the News educate us on a variety of topics, as well as including pictures and show and trial results. Thanks to Alison Freehling for editing and putting all this information together. Seminars at our specialties add further educational experiences.

Hosted by Sandra Stemmler and Larry Adams, the NTCA National Specialty, June 14-17, 2012 in St. Louis, MO, will provide many opportunities for all of the above. There will be a breed health seminar, educational presentations, performance demonstrations and many chances to get to know fellow members and to see their dogs.

It has been a pleasure serving as one of the many leaders of NTCA. Our club is blessed with many capable and willing leaders.

—Jean Kessler, Nokesville, VA (luvnors@aol.com)

From The Editor

The Winter of 2011-2012 has been a mild one here in central Virginia. Daffodils, forsythia and even a few cherry trees were in bloom by mid-February. To date, we have had only 3 inches of snow, all of which melted within 24 hours. I have not missed shoveling snow off the dogs’ deck or walking our Norwich along slippery trails. 😊

As the front cover of the News indicates, the NTCA National Specialty will be held this year in St. Louis, MO rather than at the usual Montgomery County site in Pennsylvania. Orchestrated by NTCA maestros Sandra Stemmler and Larry Adams, who put together such a fun and memorable NNTC Independent Roving Specialty in St. Louis in May, 2000, the June 15, 2012 NTCA Independent Specialty will be held at the new, state-of-the-art Purina Farms facility in Gray Summit, MO. In addition to the conformation shows, health seminars, club dinners, etc., another highlight of having the NTCA Specialty in St. Louis is the opportunity to visit the AKC Museum of the Dog (venue for the Saturday June 16 barbecue dinner) with its outstanding collection of canine art.

This issue of the News marks the 50th anniversary of a Norwich breed club publication first dubbed the Norwich Terrier News by founding editor Constance Stuart Larrabee in May 1962. Thanks to all who contributed articles and photos for this half-century issue. “Happy Birthday” to the News—and here’s to many more! 😊

—Alison Freehling, Charlottesville, VA
Last August, Richard Giotta and I lost our beloved Norwich, “Nicholas.” We had purchased Nick from his breeder Kathleen R. Sadler (Fairmount) to be Richard’s companion when he retired. We did not expect to show him in conformation, but with his lovely red coat, plus his temperament and personality, we decided to do so. Our handler Roslyn Mintz finished Nicholas in 10 weeks or so in April 2006. I have written this tribute to Nick on behalf of my partner Richard Giotta because I want to share some memories of Nicholas which touched Richard’s life.

Nick was Richard’s little shadow; he followed him wherever Richard went. When Richard didn’t feel well, Nick would lie next to him to comfort him. Nick was Rich’s four-legged hot water bottle. Every night, he would sit on the couch next to Richard and put his right leg over Rich’s left leg while they watched TV. If Richard stopped petting him, Nick would push Rich’s elbow with his nose to ask, “Why did you stop?” When Nick slept in one of his little beds, he always looked as if he was smiling—which made us smile, too. Sometimes Nick would get tired and go up to Richard’s room and sleep on his bed. If Richard did not come up right away, then Nick would go back down to get him! Every morning for seven years Nick would come in from his early walk and run up to Richard’s room. He would climb on Richard’s bed, stick his nose under Rich’s wrist, and lift it up with his left leg. Then he would push Richard’s arm flat on the bed and rub his head on the palm of Richard’s hand. If that didn’t wake Richard up, Nick would lick Richard’s nose until he did! After Richard fed him, they would sit by the front door and look out at the yard. Always after a few minutes, two cardinals would land on the stoop and Nick would bark. That was his signal to tell Rich to bring the bird food. Nick loved this. He also loved his toys and knew each of his toys by name. When you talked to Nick, he would tip his head to one side; he knew what we were talking about. He could read; even if we spelled “cheese,” he ran to the kitchen. Nick loved his three long daily walks, east in the morning, south at noon and west at night. We didn’t walk Nick; we accompanied him. With each route, he visited his friends. He even knew our neighbors’ names. Richard would say “Linda,” and Nick would run right to her front door. Everyone knew Nick and called his name, even people we did not know.

Richard and I also have a condo in Manhattan, and we took Nick to the City in his Sherpa bag. He was excited to go to the City and jumped into his Sherpa bag when he saw it. We live near Lincoln Center, and Nick loved walking there to be admired near the fountains. One time, the concertmaster at the Met Opera spotted him and sent someone out with a treat. Nick attracted celebrities such as Lauren Bacall and Kitty Carlisle Hart, as well as numerous tourists who would ask if they could take Nick’s picture. Nick also loved to go to Central Park, where he would jump on a bench to watch the people go by. He was always everyone’s center of attention. One time he got up, walked along the bench and climbed onto the lap of a lady in a wheelchair. When he licked her face, the caretaker let out an “Oh.” I went to apologize, but the woman told me that her mother had had a stroke and hadn’t smiled in years and she was smiling now. That was our Nick and we will always miss our little red boy.

—Will Sparks, NTCA Ethics Chair, Merrick, NY
We Must Protect The Integrity of the Norwich Terrier Registry!

At an AKC conformation show on January 6, 2012, I showed a dark brindle Cairn Terrier mix with a docked tail. This dog, called “Ranger,” is registered with the AKC as a Norwich Terrier. The judge examined him, gaited him, and excused him, citing “lack of merit.”

A fellow concerned Norwich fancier had purchased an ad in the Cairn section of the show catalog inviting the Cairn Terrier people to come to the Norwich Terrier ring to see the “lost Cairn.” Some did. Although a few Cairn folks were aware that commercial breeders have been selling Cairn Terriers with docked tails as Norwich Terriers, they had no idea of the seriousness of the situation. Seeing a dog in the Norwich conformation ring that appeared to be a Cairn Terrier with a docked tail was an eye-opener.

My friend and fellow Norwich fancier had purchased this dark brindle male from a commercial breeder in Missouri. To find out what breed(s) “Ranger” truly is, she used the Mars Veterinary Wisdom Panel Purebred DNA test. Results of this blood test showed Ranger to be 50% Cairn and 50% Norwich. Ranger is a 6-year-old male, AKC registered as a grizzle Norwich terrier named “Lto Rage.” He had been used for breeding for several years.

The AKC has been registering non-purebred Norwich for nearly a decade (based on AKC stud books), yet few members of the fancy are aware of the situation. I showed this dark brindle Cairn mix to bring greater awareness of the continuing problem to the fancy—of the loss of integrity to the Norwich registry and of the misuse of Cairn Terriers by commercial breeders.

This problem runs deep. The situation is becoming so commonplace that one only needs to visit the AKC website and view the Classified Ad section to find puppies that are clearly not purebred Norwich. I did a search for Norwich Terriers in the AKC Classified section and found and for puppies that included the breeder’s website address. Upon navigating the website, I found a photo of the puppies’ dam that showed her to be a dark brindle bitch, clearly a Cairn! This website contained a photo album of dogs and puppies labeled as purebred Norwich Terriers, yet all appeared to me to be Cairn Terriers. I shared these photos with several Cairn Terrier fanciers. They all agreed that, based on their pictures, the adult dogs and puppies looked like purebred Cairn Terriers.

The AKC has worked with the NTCA in getting some of these Cairn or Cairn mixes removed from the Norwich registry. Most were removed after careful pedigree study and other information provided by NTCA Registry Integrity Committee Chair, Carol Suggs. Due to dogs being imported from Eastern European countries and to some less-than-scrupulous USA commercial breeders, however, more non-pure dogs are continuing to be registered by the AKC as purebred Norwich Terriers. This has gone on long enough and changes must be made to stop it!

People who are dedicated to their breed, who are passionate and committed, are and should be the guardians of their breed. Norwich fanciers must do whatever it takes to protect
our breed's registry and to make it pure. I am one of those people and I am alarmed, concerned, and shocked at the problems I am witnessing in the AKC registry of Norwich Terriers. Let's make year 2012 the year of change in AKC registration procedures for Norwich Terriers and stop non-purebred dogs from entering our registry! Stay tuned.......  
—Dana Esquibel, “tinytowne” Norwich Terriers, El Sobrante, Ca! (tinytowne@comcast.net.

Ed.: See Paula Smiddy's article about “Beau” (below) for an example of a Cairn Terrier being fraudulently sold as a purebred Norwich, in this case on the Internet. —AGF

The Right Place At The Right Time

I was helping a friend move and happened to have one of my Norwich Terriers with me when one of the movers said, “My brother has one of those.” I replied, “A Norwich Terrier?” He said, “Yes.” I asked him where his brother lived. He told me in Knoxville. I asked if he would mind giving me his brother’s phone number so that I could invite him and his Norwich Terrier to the Nor’wester Terrier Fun Day held at my house every year. He was glad to do that. I called his brother Jerry, told him who I was, and invited him to our fun day. I also said that I thought I knew everyone in Knoxville who had a Norwich and asked him from what kennel he had purchased his dog. He told me he had bought him from someone on the Internet for $1800, but that he didn’t know the name of the kennel. He also said that he had not yet received the dog’s AKC papers and the seller had told him it would be 6 months before he got those.

A “red flag” went off in my head. I proceeded to ask him what color his Norwich was and how old, etc. He said that he had bought him when he was around 9 weeks old; he was red, but he had some black on his face and coat. The seller had told him that the black hairs in his coat would go away as he got older. The puppy, named “Beau,” was about 7 months old at this time. I told Jerry that I would love to see him. It so happened that Beau was at an obedience facility just 5 minutes from my house. Jerry said I was welcome to go and see him.

As I drove up to the facility, several dogs came out to bark and to greet me, including a little short-legged cutie. I knew immediately that this dog was not a purebred Norwich and, from what I could tell, probably didn’t have any Norwich in him. Of course, being a terrier, he was very friendly and was very glad to see me. I played with him for a while and then brought him inside the facility to take photos of him. He had a brindle coat with black around his long muzzle and short legs.

I hated calling Jerry to inform him that he had not bought a purebred Norwich Terrier and that, in all probability, Beau was a Cairn or a Cairn mix. He replied, “I was afraid you were going to say that.” He had already thought that Beau didn’t look much like pictures of Norwich Terriers.
Terriers. He then told me that he had paid for the dog with his Discover card and that he would dispute the charges. I advised him to get that done immediately and then we would gather evidence that the credit card company would need.

I had recently been to the NTCA National Specialty in Pennsylvania and had gotten a Mars Wisdom Panel DNA test kit that was offered to those who wanted to send in a blood sample from their Norwich. I had just received the results back on my Norwich bitch “Macie” in the form of a picture pedigree showing that all dogs on both sides of her pedigree were purebred Norwich Terriers. I suggested that Jerry call and have a kit mailed to him so that he could test Beau. Beau’s DNA results showed that all the dogs on his dam’s side were purebred Cairns. Those on his sire’s side were half Cairn and an unknown half mixed breed.

Now that we were sure the Internet seller had committed fraud by selling Beau as a purebred Norwich, Jerry and I thought about what we needed to send the credit card company as proof. Luckily, Jerry had kept a copy of the web page where Beau was advertised as a Norwich. We sent that page, plus other pages where the website had guaranteed their dogs to be purebred. We also sent the DNA results from both Beau and Macie, a photo of a red Norwich Terrier, a photo of a brindle Cairn Terrier, and several photos of Beau. In the meantime, Jerry contacted Beau’s seller to try to get his dog’s pedigree. The seller said it would be several months longer. Jerry was never told the name of the kennel. As it turned out, Beau was not AKC registered.

About 2 months later, Jerry received word from the credit card company that his claim had gone through and that his $1800 would be refunded. He decided to keep Beau because, no matter what breed he was, Jerry loved him. Discover told Jerry that they would go after the people who sold Beau to him. Jerry was very fortunate to have his purchase price returned; we all know that this does not often happen. I am thankful that I was “in the right place at the right time,” met Jerry’s brother, and happened to have a Norwich with me.

Hopefully a lot of people looking for a Norwich will read this article and not let this happen to them. Many puppy buyers are often in too much of a hurry to find a Norwich and don’t want to wait the few months—or maybe even a year—that it can take to find one from a reputable breeder. Please let Jerry’s experience be a lesson to all never to buy any “Norwich” from the Internet.

—Paula Smiddy, “K-Town” Norwich Terriers, Strawberry Plains, TN (smiddy1234@bellsouth.net)

Report from the NTCA AKC Delegate

As the NTCA AKC Delegate, I communicate our club’s issues to the AKC’s Board of Directors, appropriate committee, or AKC staff. At the March 2012 delegates’ meeting, I spoke to the Parent Club Committee to ask for support in backing our club’s request to use the Wisdom Panel Test to verify our breed’s identity so as to safeguard the integrity of the Norwich Terrier Registry. At the Canine Health Committee, I expressed our club’s dissatisfaction with the administration of the AKC Breeder of Merit Program, i.e., its failure to verify participants’ claims of health checking their breeding stock. Breeders of Merit agree to follow the health recommendations of their parent club. The NTCA recommends participation in CHIC, which for Norwich means checking hips, patellae, and eyes and posting those results on CHIC’s open database.

The March delegates’ meeting included the annual meeting where the election of three new AKC directors took place. Replacing retiring directors Ron Menaker, Dr. Tom Davies, and
Walter Goodman are Patricia Cruz, Thomas Powers, and William Feeney. Following the annual meeting, the AKC Board met and selected Alan Kalter as the new Chairman of the AKC Board and Dr. Robert Smith as the new Vice Chairman.

AKC registrations have been falling annually for over ten years, and revenue from registrations had been the basis of most of the AKC’s programs. In recent years, the AKC has created alternative sources of revenue and thus has been able to survive financially. New initiatives have brought new competitive programs, which have increased entries and increased revenue. Other revenue comes from the AKC-licensed merchandise. There has also been some belt tightening, e.g. cutting back on staff and services, including reformatting the AKC Gazette from a print to a digital publication. The optimistic projection for 2012 is for a net profit of 1.7 million dollars for the AKC. One large contributing factor are the monies brought in by the 100,000 Canine Partners and their 30,000 entries in agility, obedience, and rally.

The March meeting agenda included a motion for a rules change to allow Reserve Winners Dog and Reserve Winners Bitch to receive a three-point major at one National Specialty specified by an AKC parent club. The club proposing this change withdrew the motion, so no vote was taken. The Board of Directors proposed an amendment to increase the number of judging Group from seven to eleven. If passed, this amendment would have allowed the Board of Directors to transfer breeds and the Sporting, Hound, and Working Groups would have been split. Although a majority of delegates approved the change, the motion failed because it did not get the necessary 2/3rds approval required for a rules change.

Last year the AKC announced a pilot program, which will commence in July, 2012. The program is for an Open Show, which is an informal AKC-sanctioned conformation event at which championship points are not earned. Open Shows are events at which dog clubs, judges, stewards, exhibitors and their dogs can gain experience needed for licensed events. Essentially an upgrade of the match shows of the past, this program is targeted for new exhibitors, with no professional handlers allowed. AKC-sanctioned Open Shows and the new four- to-six month old puppy competitions being tested now will, after July 2012, offer a beginner’s title, the Certificate of Merit (such as currently offered in the miscellaneous class). Also noteworthy is the new AKC owner-handler series, which showcases quality owner-handled dogs.

In the near future, we can anticipate the AKC Parent Club of Excellence program. This project seeks to recognize exemplary AKC parent clubs by developing objective, measurable criteria that will assess positive attributes of a parent club. Parent clubs are dedicated to the protection, preservation and promotion of their individual breed. They further support their breed through membership, mentoring, education, fun activities and events that develop the instincts and natural abilities of the breed. The AKC proposal, which will outline the criteria for a parent club to earn the Parent Club of Excellence Award, will be administered by the AKC Parent Club Committee.

—Betty McDonnell, NTCA AKC Delegate, Mahwah, NJ (kilykanewf@aol.com)

Dapper napper (5-day-old “Kilyka” pup)
“Bruno,” The First Norwich To Earn The New AKC Therapy Dog Title (THD)

“Bruno” was born June 7, 2008. To everyone’s surprise, he turned out to be a “fluffy” Norwich. He couldn’t be shown in conformation, but as early as 7 months of age, he showed signs of excelling as a therapy dog. This was evident one day at our local mall when Bruno and I met an elderly couple. I thought it would be good for Bruno to walk next to somebody using a walker with all the noises it made. After we had walked along with them for a while, the husband asked if he could hold Bruno. When he held him, Bruno wiggled and squirmed. Then the man’s wife asked if she could hold Bruno. When she held Bruno, he lay still and pushed his body against her while he continually licked her under her chin. When she started to speak and giggle, Bruno licked faster and faster. He would not stop, and he refused to be taken from her. She squeezed him, laughed and talked to him while she petted him as if they were old friends. She had looked so sad, but after we visited for a while, she was smiling and happy. All she could do was talk about Bruno. Her husband found me a little later and, with tears in his eyes, he told me that Bruno was worth a million dollars. He said that his wife hadn’t talked in over a year because she had had a stroke and suffered from depression. He was crying as he thanked me for helping his wife find her voice.

He said over and over that Bruno had done that for his wife.

This was the start of Bruno’s career as a therapy dog. I had evaluated him to become a Delta Society Therapy Dog. (www.deltasociety.org) Before therapy dog training can begin, every dog is given a pre-evaluation to look for things like disposition, maturity, temperament, friendliness and eagerness to greet all people, yet with a gentle nature. Bruno passed his certification test at one year of age. It is very unusual for dogs to pass at such an early age, but especially for a spirited terrier. The evaluator had never passed such a young dog, but Bruno and I passed with flying colors. We became a Pet Partner Team on June 25, 2009.

We started volunteering at Kaiser Permanente Hospital in Woodland Hills, CA in July 2009. Bruno and I visit patients in the Intensive Care Unit, DOU Unit, Medical-Surgical Units, Oncology, Infusion Center, Geriatric, Hemodialysis, Occupational Therapy and Pediatrics Units. Bruno also helps people who are in the waiting rooms and worried to relax. Sometimes he does tricks and people smile and clap. Bruno is known at the hospital as the dog that eats Cheerios.

He brings a little bit of home into the hospital setting; plus he is warm and soft to pet.

Visitors at the hospital love seeing Bruno too. They say that he makes the hospital a little less scary. The doctors, nurses and staff like to see him, as it gives them a little therapy in their busy day. Bruno has a vocalization that appears as if he is trying to talk. Sometimes he has a lot to say to the staff, patients and visitors.

Bruno’s innate sense of empathy towards people and their emotions have led him to perform small miracles with patients. People who have suffered strokes have moved their arms
and hands to pet him. A patient in a coma awoke due to Bruno’s licks on her fingers and his determined drive to stimulate her senses. Bruno has lowered many patients’ blood pressure by snuggling alongside the patient, while the doctors watch the blood pressure drop. A 12-year-old child with Autism stepped out of his world while locking eyes with Bruno long enough to say his first words: “doggie”. The child’s mother was present, and the entire room burst into tears! Bruno will bow his head so that the very elderly can pet him without having to lift their arms. These are just a few of the things that Bruno does visit after visit without prompting from me.

In June 2011, the AKC posted this announcement regarding therapy dogs: “As of June 27, 2011, AKC is rewarding therapy dog teams for their unselfish volunteerism. The AKC Therapy Dog title (THD) can be earned by dogs that have been certified by AKC-recognized therapy dog organizations such as Delta, TD Inc or TDI, and have performed 50 or more community visits. The title is available to ALL dogs, including mixed-breeds and rare breeds, as long as they are registered or listed with AKC.”

I compiled all my proof of visits and other requirements and sent them to the AKC. Bruno had made over 100 visits and performed more than 700 hours of therapy work in just over 2 years. He was awarded his AKC THD title, qualifying with the 50 visits that he made in 2010. Bruno also holds the AKC Canine Good Citizen (CGC) title and has been qualified and registered as a Service Dog (SD).

Bruno also serves as a Medical Alert dog. He can detect low blood sugar, an innate ability that he showed at 19 months of age. He has successfully identified six people in the hospital with low blood sugar and has alerted me. I, in turn, notify the nurses. He has had 100% accuracy with his alerts.

Bruno’s first 3 years have been very exciting and rewarding. I am so proud of my little teddy bear. My non-showable fluff Norwich Terrier’s resume reads as follows: Bruno THD, CGC, an Registered SD.

Hugs to all my fellow Terrier Lovers.

—Carole Hodge and Bruno
We Are AKC STAR Puppies!

In her note accompanying this photo, "Wylie's" owner, Lark Shlimbaum, mentioned that "Jack's" owner, Connee Dolin, lived near her on Long Island and that the two had taken their Norwich puppies to an AKC STAR program together [STAR=Socialization, Training, Activity, Responsibility]. Upon successful completion of the course, which provides basic training and socialization for puppies under a year old as well as useful tips for puppy owners, Wylie and Jack became AKC STAR Puppies. These litter brothers are pictured below proudly sporting their AKC STAR Puppy Medals. For more about the AKC STAR program, see the Spring 2009 News, p. 12.

—AGF

Happy Half Century to the News!

ed.: The Norwich Terrier News, founded by Norwich and Norfolk breeder Constance Stuart Larrabee ("King's Prevention") in May 1962, celebrates its 50th birthday in 2012. To commemorate this half-century milestone, I am reprinting from the 1986 Jubilee Issue of The Norwich & Norfolk News (pp. 64-65) then-editor Hope Levy's article about the history of the News from 1962 to 1986. 1986 was the 50th anniversary of AKC recognition of Norwich Terriers as an official breed. To honor this occasion, the NNTC published a special, oversized edition of the News. I have added a few paragraphs following Hope's article, briefly recounting the history of the News from 1986 to the present. —AGF

THE HISTORY OF THE NORWICH AND NORFOLK TERRIER NEWS

The minutes of the spring meeting of the Norwich Terrier Club on June 5, 1948 stated that the proposed Bulletin has not yet appeared as we are still searching for an editor. Its beginnings will be modest but, if proven a success, may move on to bigger and better." A prophetic
statement, indeed, as we view the steady publication of this interesting and amusing magazine for twenty-six years now.

The minutes of the June 11, 1949 meeting reported that Miss Daphne Bedford (only voted in as a member at that very meeting) had agreed "to take over" the Bulletin. The minutes went on to state that "the success of this venture depends largely on the response of our members with information and news items of interest to the club." The minutes of the October meeting in 1949 passed on the discouraging news that "our newly appointed editor left for England in August and the write-up on the Specialty show, prepared in July, reached us in September, having been pushed, through error, in a desk drawer."

Twelve years later in February of 1961, without benefit of any fanfare in the club minutes there appeared a two page publication called "Up and Down." Run off on legal size paper and stapled in one corner, Up and Down, edited by Joan R. Read, reported on show wins and included a half page of dog obituaries. It was marked Volume 1, Issue 1. It is not known if Issue 2 ever saw the light of day.

The minutes of February 1962 records that Constance Larrabee "has agreed to publish a newsletter twice a year and hopes that material or news about studs, puppies, anecdotes or imports will be sent directly to her." At the fail meeting of the same year it was voted to keep the price at $1.00 for three (sic) issues and to give Mrs. Larrabee $3.00 for working capital.

"I didn't realize it was going to be such a lot of work when I started it," says Mrs. Larrabee, "because we did it for fun. But at the time there was very little communication in our breed, so I found it very interesting. We printed one hundred copies of the first issue. It was put together here on my farm, and ten miles up the road a friend of mine on another farm typed it and then another friend on another farm who had a printing press printed it. So it was done on three farms and only one of which had Norwich on it. Then later I took it to a printer in town, and even later Ed Levy came to buy a puppy. He and I decided we would do it together and Old Dominion Press printed it."

That first issue of the NORWICH TERRIER NEWS, published in May 1962, was eight pages long and listed Joan R. Read as associate editor, a position she held until the fall of 1968. The next two issues for that year were twelve pages long and by the sixth issue at the end of 1963 the NORWICH TERRIER NEWS had grown to sixteen pages. In 1964 two issues a year were issued as has been the custom ever since. Issues that year grew to twenty-four pages, perhaps to compensate for the loss of the third issue.

In 1966 with issue number twelve the long association with Old Dominion Press was started. James Fagan Scharnb erg designed a new heading for the front page. The NEWS has sported a Scharnb erg heading ever since. Another by-line was added to the staff for the first time when Hope Hanley's name topped the compilation of show wins for the last six month period.

Back in 1962 the club had requested that the AKC permit the listing of ear carriage on registrations. (It was "understood" that one did not cross breed the ear-carriages.) Momentum had grown by 1968 for further separation of the two ear carriages and it was evidenced by the publication of different editions of the NEWS by ear carriage, drop ear or prick ear. The editor of the drop ear edition #15 in the spring of 1968 was James F. Scharnb erg. A prick ear edition also numbered #15 was edited by Constance Larrabee assisted by Mrs. Philip Hewes and Hope Hanley. The fall 1968 issues again were dual with the addition of Mrs. Sylvia Warren as co-editor of the drop ear edition.

In the spring of 1969 Mr. Scharnb erg was called the co-ordinating editor. Mrs. Elliot Wadsworth handled members news of the drop ear edition and Mrs. Philip Hewes for the
prick ear edition. The next issue, #18, had forty pages and the first obedience column was included, written by Mrs. John C. Williams. The next issue had a further change of staff: Mr. Scharnberg was no longer co-ordinating editor and Mrs. Joan Read and Miss Sylvia Warren were now listed on the masthead as co-editors. Mr. Scharnberg and Mrs. Larrabee still contributed articles to THE NEWS and in 1971 the lead article was on the American Working Terrier Association and was written by Mr. Scharnberg with Mrs. Patti Scharnberg handling the members news. Mrs. Maurice Matteson took over this function in 1972. Mrs. Matteson became co-editor with Mrs. Read in 1974 at which time the staff was enlarged to include a Western reporter, Mrs. James Hanning; a Mid-West reporter, Mr. Ric Routledge; Mrs. J. Meder for Veterinary News and Mrs. Will Parker for Obedience. Jim Scharnberg contributed “Notes on the Horn.” In 1976 Mrs. Lu Matteson took over as editor and Mr. and Mrs. Gerl took on subscriptions, Mrs. Thomas Yolken, editorials, and Mr. Levy and Dr. Yolken, the photography. Mrs. Philip Hewes did the Kennel and stud dog listings.

In 1978 the NEWS left Richmond and was published briefly in Collingdale, Pennsylvania. The publication acquired a new name in 1979 when it became THE NORWICH & NORFOLK NEWS at the time the breeds officially separated. The founding editor, Mrs. Larrabee, returned to the helm and the publication came back to Old Dominion Press in Richmond. Mrs. Larrabee recruited six new associate editors: Teresa Hill, Hope Levy (formerly Hanley), Doris McGee, Anne Riker, Margareta Wood and Joan Yolken. In later issues Julie Young and Susan Sikorski (nee Erkel) joined the staff.

Constance Larrabee and Hope Levy co-edited one issue in the fall of 1980 and then in 1981 Hope Levy was editor. Frances Wilmeth took on the obedience section of the NEWS, Doris McGee the working terrier section, and Dr. and Mrs. John Beeler the kennel listings. Joseph Mattison III edited for a year in 1984 and in 1985 Hope Levy returned as editor and is the present incumbent. Dr. Alex Garry has supervised the clinic section for several years and Mr. and Mrs. Steven Bell have contributed the working terrier section, the successor to “Notes on the Horn.” Mrs. Lindsay Payn coordinates the Breeders Update and the kennel and stud dog listings, and Margareta Wood the show front and champion section.

For a numerically small breed it is remarkable that we have had such a regularly produced and vigorous publication. This is due in part to the talented past editors and to the lack of shyness of its readers. The first editor set the tone of the NEWS using material from the readers as much as possible and the subsequent editors have continued that policy. It has been a forum for the members and subscribers, not a platform for the editor’s personal views. If materials is not in bad taste, too long, maudlin or lacking in general interest, it will appear in the NEWS. Like our two breeds, it is a nice sociable little publication.

—Hope Levy

A Short History of the News, 1986-Present

The 26 years that have passed since then-editor Hope Levy wrote the above history of the News have been a period of both continuity and change for the publication. Hope remained as editor of The Norwich & Norfolk News until her resignation in 1988. Beginning with the Summer/ fall 1988 issue (#57), Norwich breeder Margaretta (Missy) Wood and Norfolk breeder Susan (Sue) Ely became co-editors. From the Fall 1989 through the Spring 1992 issues, Missy continued as editor, with first Sue Ely and then Norfolk breeder Nathaniel (Nat) LaMar listed as associate editors. Missy would remain editor until the Winter 1996 News (#73). At that time, Norwich breeder Allison Frechling and Norfolk breeder Regina Swygert-Smith became co-editors, with Nat LaMar as consulting editor.
Starting with the Winter 1998 News (#77), Alison Freehling became editor of what would continue to be a two-breed publication for the next ten years. The two-breed format came to an end with the Fall 2008 Norwich & Norfolk News (#97) following NNTC members' vote in favor of club division. With the establishment of two separate breed clubs—The Norwich Terrier Club of America (NTCA) and The Norfolk Terrier Club—each club launched its own breed-specific publication. The inaugural issue of the NTCA newsletter was published in the Spring of 2009, with Alison Freehling as editor and a regular News staff covering such topics as Norwich health, rescue, working terriers, show and performance/companion events, etc. The newly-formed NTCA Board voted to carry on the name of Constance Larrabee’s original publication—The Norwich Terrier News—as well as the traditional twice-yearly, hard copy format. Just as founding editor Mrs. Larrabee envisioned, News readers, not the editor, remain the heart and soul of the publication, with club members and News subscribers alike contributing a wide range of articles as well as light-hearted, candid photos of their beloved Norwich.

Happy 50th birthday to the News! May the publication continue in its hard copy format for the next half century!

—Alison Freehling

P.S. As a personal aside, Bill and I purchased our first Norwich Terrier from Constance Larrabee in 1979—an historic link between the News’ founding and current editors. 😊
Rehoming A Norwich Obedience Trial Champion (OTCH)

I have an OTCH Norwich . . . in the only way that I will ever have one. You may remember reading in the Spring 2009 News about Bridget Carlsen and “Hemi,” the Norwich male she trained to the breed’s first and, to date, only OTCH title. Bridget got Hemi (OTCH Huntwood’s Four in the Floor UDX OA AXJ) from Susie Kipp when he was 9 months old and put the OTCH title on him by age 3½ years. She also trained him in agility and put some agility titles on him. Being Golden Retriever trainer at heart, however, Bridget got caught up in training her Goldens for national and international competitions. She’s going to Crufts this year with two of them. Although Hemi placed first in the terrier group the year he went to the National Obedience Invitational, he wasn’t going to beat the usual obedience winners, i.e., breeds such as Goldens, Border Collies, etc.

Hemi just wasn’t getting to work. That was hard on him, because he had come to love working, i.e., earning treats, and Bridget didn’t have time to work with him.

I heard about Hemi through NTCA connections. Bridget teaches obedience classes west of Chicago. Norwich owner and NTCA member Pam Lorenzen drives four hours each way from her home in Iowa to take those classes. When Bridget mentioned that Hemi might be happier in a home where he could continue to work actively, Pam suggested calling NTCA Health Chair Magda Omansky, Magda in turn called me as NTCA Performance Chair. I then called a couple of people whom I thought might be interested in Hemi. By the end of the day, I had about decided that my nearly 16-year-old Norwich “Darcy” might object less to a new 6-year-old adult dog than to a 6-month-old puppy. I remembered meeting Bridget and Hemi at an obedience seminar in Austin, Texas the year before and liking Hemi. I also realized that getting a 6-year-old Norwich would solve my concern as to whether, if I bought a puppy, I would be getting a healthy dog who could compete in agility. So I wrote Bridget, asking her to consider letting me have Hemi. As she explained it, “All I want from you is a home where Hemi will be able to work and play actively.” The rest was just a matter of Bridget being able to let go of this cute little terrier who had truly won her heart in the course of three years of very serious training.

I flew to Chicago in November, spent several hours with Bridget learning her commands for particular exercises, and watching Hemi’s very cute tricks like “Bite your butt” (Turn a very tight clockwise circle) and “Go to ground” (Head goes between owner’s legs). Hemi was just as wonderfully affectionate and sweet as I remembered, so there was no doubt in my mind about whether I liked this dog.

Happily, when I brought Hemi home to San Antonio, the two dog folks at my house liked him also. Señor Darcy is always sure that anyone new wants his food, but he’s decided that Hemi isn’t really a threat and that Hemi understands about the status of old men. And our Golden, of course, loves everyone.

Hemi and I have spent the last few months learning to work together as a team in agility. It’s been quite a while since I ran a Norwich and Hemi is quite fast, but we’re gradually getting our act together. He was used to a young and fast handler who could keep up with him, while I have to work from the rear some of the time. For instance, Hemi is learning to watch for rear crosses, where I change sides of the jump behind him, rather than front crosses, where I change sides in front of him. I had forgotten how much fun it is to run with your dog, even at age 63. We competed recently with reasonable success.

The last thing Bridget said to me before I left with Hemi was, “If Hemi doesn’t work out for whatever reason, let me know and I’ll fly down and get him.” She won’t need to do that.

—Carlynn Ricks, San Antonio, TX
(carlynnricks@earthlink.net)
Slaying the UAS Monster with “Legacy of Love”

A Personal Story by Magda Omansky

I think of Upper Airway Syndrome (UAS) as an ogre with multiple heads: everted laryngeal sacculae, enlarged tonsils, elongated soft palate, narrowed trachea, collapsing larynx. Have you heard of arytenoid cartilage malformations? Yep, another ugly head. Have you heard of a heart-shaped trachea? Another one. Have you heard of a twisted larynx? Yes, that one too.

How do you slay a monster that grows and re-grows multiple heads? With multiple blows. With multiple weapons. With a constant fight.

The NTCA has been really lucky to initiate Dr. Schoenebeck’s study designed to find a genetic marker for UAS in Norwich Terriers. This NIH research, when successful, will provide Norwich breeders with means to breed away from UAS. When, and if, we find what genes carry the predisposition, we will be able to eliminate the disease. This would be our nuclear weapon. Club members’ participation in the research has been wonderful. Dr. Schoenebeck is optimistic about the study’s success, but finding genetic markers is a long process. In the meantime, it makes sense to try every possible approach to understand UAS better and to diagnose it more accurately. Fight with smaller missiles, so to speak, rather than not fight at all.

When you look at things from various angles, new discoveries may come to light. Last year NTCA announced a very promising program of studying cells of Norwich larynxes. This is a completely new angle, using the powerful zoom of Johns Hopkins’ microscopes. NTCA member and Norwich owner Dr. Chris Zink, Professor and Director of the Department of Molecular and Comparative Pathobiology at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, offered to investigate the pathology of Norwich larynx cells. Her research requires taking a larynx out of a deceased dog. We knew from the start that participation would be a challenge for obvious reasons.

NTCA President Jean Kessler had the brilliant idea of calling the program Legacy of Love, aptly describing the selfless act of donating a beloved pet’s body to benefit the entire Norwich breed. Dr. Zink offered to provide a complete necropsy to ascertain what had caused a pet’s death. A local veterinarian agreed to provide a cremation service and to return the pet’s ashes to the owner. We sent repeated announcements for the program to all NTCA members. We got only a couple of dogs’ bodies.

It has been frustrating to hear of Norwich dying whose owners did not participate in Legacy of Love. I understand the hesitation. I understand the emotions that scream “No” to donating your best friend’s body to science. I do, however, know that the reality of the process is different from the understandable worries about it. I know, because I experienced it first hand.

Last year one of my Norwich was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. I threw myself into fervent efforts to stave off the cancer’s progress and to do everything possible to make “BB’s” quality of life the best it could be under the circumstances. The veterinary oncologist whom I consulted gave BB two months. We ended up having a little more than 4 months together: good walks, lots of lap time, a million tail wags.

I had time to think about the Legacy of Love. I knew I would participate. Yet, when the time came, I must admit it was hard. I wish someone could have told me that day what I am going to share with you. I hope that my story will help ease your apprehension about participating in the study.

On his last night, BB ate a home-cooked dinner with characteristic enthusiasm, dancing on his hind legs as I was filling up his bowl. An hour later he seemed more clingy than usual. He had always been my constant shadow, but that night he needed to touch me at all times as if fearing to allow any space between us. I spent most of the evening carrying him around to ease his constant shuffling to be close. By the time we settled down for the night, BB was pressing
his entire body against me. I fell asleep only to be woken up by BB pawing at me. I knew he was not doing well.

I had months to prepare for that night, yet when it came, I felt overwhelming sadness. I could ease BB’s physical pain with medication. I could help his anxiety by holding him in my arms. His breathing became effortless; his body slumped comfortably into my embrace. I was not so good at managing my own feelings of despair. I knew that the next day, I would be at my vet’s doorstep at the opening hour. I had no doubts that the time was right for euthanasia. I did have doubts about what would happen next. I had promised myself to participate in Legacy of Love, but now fears of my beloved BB’s body becoming just a scientific “object” slammed me full force.

I focused my energy on making BB comfortable and not burdened with my anxiety. I held him in my arms all through the night. My husband and I brought BB to the vet hospital before opening time so that we could say our “goodbyes” in merciful quiet. I never let BB out of my arms until he took his last breath.

I told my vet that I would be driving BB’s body to Johns Hopkins, a 5-hour drive each way. BB was laid in a carton casket on his own blanket, tucked just the way he liked to arrange his bedding. I wanted the lid off. I strapped the carton with a seat belt on the passenger’s side of my car’s front seat so that BB would be within a hand’s reach. After I made all the phone calls to alert the lab of our arrival and to clear my day’s schedule, we set off on our last long drive together.

My husband Michael had to go home to give breakfast to our other dogs, to take our daughter to school, to go to work, to try to function through the day. As it turned out, driving BB’s body to Baltimore made my grief more manageable and facilitated my healing. As I drove with BB, I could pet him. I could talk to him. I could cry my eyes out. I did not have to hold back loud sobs. Five hours is a long time. My emotions ran the entire gamut of grief. I was shocked that BB’s downturn had come on so quickly. Just a few hours ago, my beloved Norwich was dancing on his hind legs in anticipation of dinner. I was angry that BB’s life was cut short with cancer. I felt guilty that I was away when the first symptoms of the disease surfaced. I felt depressed. I felt alone. But I also started smiling through tears at some great memories of BB. I started thinking of the positive contribution that my decision to drive to Johns Hopkins would yield. I started feeling good about participating in Legacy of Love.

When we arrived at the loading dock, I was asked to park the car and to wait for someone to come and meet me. Very soon I was greeted by Dr. Sarah Beck. “She is so young” was my first thought. Sarah gave me her condolences, asked me about the trip, and offered me to take a minute with BB before she would take him. “Wow! She’s so understanding”, I thought. Without prodding on my part, Sarah assured me that she would take good care of BB. I wanted him to be taken still wrapped in his own blanket. By the time I handed BB to Sarah, I trusted her. You cannot fake that kind of bright-eyed sincerity and compassion.

My drive back to New Jersey was solemn and very sad, but somehow I felt calm and at peace. By the time I reached home in the late afternoon, I had already heard from Sarah. She told
me that it had indeed been time for BB to go. His cancer had spread to other organs. It felt good to know that my decision was right.

A few days later, I received a condolence card with hand-written notes from everyone at the lab. All my previous fears that BB would be an “object” did not come true. The entire process was dignified, respectful of my feelings and of BB’s body.

I miss BB terribly. It helps to know that his contribution to the breed is lasting not only in his wonderful progeny, but also through the Legacy of Love study too. I remembered BB with these words in the 2011 Montgomery County catalog:

BB came to live with me at the age of seven. He arrived for stud service, but his true destiny was to become my constant shadow, my boy. How can you ever explain the bond we forged? From morning to night BB was aware of my every move and weaved his way to stay close. On the days he accompanied me to work, he'd constantly shift towards me every time I rolled my chair even an inch. If I got up to get a cup of tea, BB trotted along. He lived for lap time, becoming a rag doll every time. BB showed affection constantly; it was the cutest thing. He'd put his big paw on my ankle or my arm, tail wagging, and give me “the look”. When I responded, the tail speed would go up and he'd press his forehead against me. Such a BB thing to do. I'd tuck him in the kitchen constantly. He was always underfoot. When my other terriers raced to the back yard after a rodent or a deer, BB was overjoyed not to have any competition over my attention and he would run as fast towards me. Such a BB thing to do.

He left quite a legacy. BB's contribution to the breed goes beyond his Specialty winning, multiple Group placing progeny. When BB died, I donated his body to Norwich Terrier UAS research. I drove my precious boy from northern New Jersey to Johns Hopkins, petting him, crying for him, remembering our time together; all the memories, all the love. It was a long, poignant and intimate farewell.

BB will live in my heart forever. I miss tripping over him when cooking dinner. I miss his head presses against me. I miss him running towards me every time my dogs chase a deer. I miss him every second of every day.

Participation in Legacy of Love has been a very positive experience for me. What I feared would be the kind of thing you must be strength to do because “it’s the right thing” was actually cathartic. It was more than acceptable. It was satisfying. I know that my effort will contribute to our knowledge of UAS, and I hope that someday some sweet Norwich will breathe easier because of it. That is a very good feeling that I hope many of you will choose to experience.

—Madga Omansky, “Dig-N –Pop” Norwich, Murray Hill, N
(dignpop.norwich@gmail.com,

**Ginger’s Struggle With Upper Airway Syndrome**

*Ed.: I asked NTCA member Jill Petersen if she would be willing to write an article about her Norwich “Ginger’" almost-8-year battle with Upper Airway Syndrome (UAS) so that News readers might better understand the terrible toll this not-uncommon breed health problem can take on both the dog and th dog’s owner. I would like to thank Jill for tackling this difficult assignment just a few months after he beloved Ginger (8/26/2003-11/1/2011) lost her battle. —AGF*
This has not been an easy article for me to write, but I hope that by sharing some of my experiences with Ginger, someone else’s Norwich JAS story will have a happier ending. Although the article’s focus is about the respiratory struggles and surgeries that plagued so much of Ginger’s life, I want all to know that these travails did not define her. Ginger had a sweet, pure spirit that was never stifled by her health challenges. She was a happy dog who loved everyone, and liked nothing more than to be acknowledged. She loved to do obedience and rally—because I love these events and she loved me. When she was happy, she would dance the “hokey-pokey.” She loved to cuddle, garden, catch rats. She was my constant companion. I miss her terribly; there will never be another dog like her.

It’s hard to point to a time when Ginger’s breathing troubles “began.” At about 6 months of age, I abandoned obedience and classes because she did not have the necessary stamina and I didn’t want to push her. I don’t recall a lot of noisy breathing at rest, but when people came over or some other stimulus excited her, she had obvious breathing difficulties. She had serious separation anxiety that exacerbated her breathing issues. She would cry or bark because she didn’t want to be left alone. This anxiety would exacerbate her breathing distress, which made her want even less to be left alone. It was a vicious cycle and none of the calming methods I tried made it easier for her. In later years she was with me 24 hours a day—either physically or in the car where, thank bodness, she never went through the panic of separation that she experienced at home.

Apart from the situations described, Ginger’s life was fairly “normal”. She was excellent at monitoring her own activity. Most of the time, many people would not recognize that she had a problem other than, for a young dog, she didn’t run and play as much as one might expect. When she was 3.5 years old, I had her spayed and asked the vet to check if her saccules were everted. (She was not drooping at that time). He noted that they were. I honestly don’t know if the intubation during the spay worsened Ginger’s existing condition, whether the condition was simply progressing or whether, once he knew she had everted saccules, I was more concerned about her breathing. Regardless, her breathing had seem worse, so a few months later I decided she should have surgery to “fix” the problem. This is where I made many mistakes that I hope, through my sharing, others will be able to avoid.

I was on a Norwich chatlist and although I asked some questions, I don’t recall if I ever specifically asked if anyone knew and could recommend a surgeon in my area. I also didn’t seek input from my own vet as to whom he would advise to do the surgery. I relied instead on the advice of a friend whose Newfoundland had gained many healthy years due to a tie-back procedure for laryngeal paralysis. This friend raved about the surgeon. In my naivete, I figured—board certified surgeon, rave reviews, familiar with larynx issues—sounds perfect. I met with the surgeon one morning, found him very personable and, I thought, knowledgeable. He performed the surgery later that day. Rather than save Ginger’s life, I believe that this procedure precipitated a struggle she was not able to win.
I got a call later that day that Ginger was out of surgery, but the news was not good. The surgeon told me that Ginger had a collapsed larynx and that her prognosis was poor; she likely had less than a year to live. He had surgically shortened her palate using laser and had scissored out the sacculles. Why he scissored the sacculles, I don’t know—perhaps because he had already given her a death sentence. I am quite certain he told me he would use laser, but this seemed rather a mute point at the time, given the diagnosis and prognosis.

In hindsight, everything that could go wrong did go wrong that day for Ginger. She was misdiagnosed, her palate was over-shortened, and the scissoring of the sacculles resulted in scar tissue (not that scar tissue couldn’t happen with lasering, but it probably would have been less likely and/or less severe). Amazingly she recovered fairly quickly from the surgery, but over the next several months, when I went to work or needed to go out for other reasons, she spent much of her time on Acepromazine, a powerful sedative. Sadly, I don’t think this was a quality life for her. I’m ashamed and so very sorry to say that, at least for a short while, I distanced myself emotionally fearing I would lose her any day. She made it through that year and, despite everything, her spirit and zest for life never faltered. Her breathing, however, worsened. Since I thought I was seeing the progression of the collapsed larynx and that there was nothing that could be done, that’s what I did. Nothing. Ginger, though, did not understand the prognosis and did not give up.

I recalled at some point that someone on the Norwich chatlist had mentioned a Dr. Brendan McKiernan and his work with upper respiratory issues. I discovered he was practicing in Medford, Oregon within driving distance (12 hours) of my home. I called to ask if he thought Ginger could be helped. We spent quite a while going over her history. He told me a collapsed larynx is very unusual and he didn’t think her symptoms indicated this was the problem. So Ginger and I made the drive. She had surgery the next day, which happened to be her fifth birthday. This marked the start of the most wonderful two years of her life.

Ginger did not have a collapsed larynx. This time when she was scoped, Dopran was administered to see if her larynx was functioning. Because, under anesthesia, a functional larynx can mimic a collapsed larynx, Dopran is used to stimulate the organ to see if there is intrinsic motion. This crucial step was obviously skipped during the first procedure and caused me to think for a year and a half that Ginger was dying while her condition remained untreated and worsened. What Dr. McKiernan did find was that she again had everted sacculles that appeared thickened and fibrotic. This time the sacculles were lasered, and the area treated with topical Mitomycin-C to help minimize scarring. There are so many “what ifs” in Ginger’s story that continue to haunt me. Wondering what would have happened if Dr. McKiernan had seen her before the first surgery is one “what if.”

This surgery was a huge turning point for Ginger’s quality of life. There were many things she was able to do comfortably for the first time. We had daily walks, she played with toys, we returned to training and obedience, she played with my other dogs. She and I savored every moment together. From that day on, she never stayed home alone. She was with me either physically or in the car where she was comfortable.

Over the next two years I could hear Ginger’s breathing becoming a little obstructed, but we were careful and it wasn’t bad enough to impact her activity. Then, at almost exactly the two year point, Ginger had some reverse sneezing and other symptoms of something stuck in her naso cavity. I panicked, worrying almost as much about this exacerbating her “existing” conditions as the symptoms themselves. Again we traveled to Medford. When Ginger was scoped, Dr. McKiernan found an unidentifiable object lodged in her choanae. Flushing alone was not successful, so forceps were used to help grasp and remove the object. It was observed she had some minor sacculle swelling and a small nodule on her larynx. That was lasered and again treated with the topical Mitomycin-C to inhibit scarring.
Sadly, Ginger never really recovered from that surgery. Around day 3 or 4, her breathing was more labored than it had been prior to or immediately after surgery. Though it did improve a bit for a short time, her stamina was severely compromised. Just a month later, we were back in Medford. This time Dr. McKiernan observed granulomous tissue around everted laryngeal sacules. Though there's a more complicated (and accurate) definition of granulomous, it basically meant that scar tissue was building up from all her surgeries. Another "what if:" was I too hasty in treating the nasal condition that had prompted the removal of the nodule?

Again at day 3 or 4, Ginger's breathing became more obstructed. I kept her on a low dose of prednisone, which did help. She got to a point where she could do short walks, and we were able to do a little bit of obedience training and showing. We made it to the TOPS competition near Denver, Colorado in May 2011, where Ginger competed in Obedience and Rally. [Ed.: See the Fall 2011 News, p. 28, for a photo of Ginger and her TOPS ribbons and prizes.] Sadly that was our last trip together and the last time she was able to go into the Obedience ring.

About 9 months following her fourth surgery, Ginger was in bad shape. Dr. McKiernan had since moved to Illinois, so I was once again looking for a local respiratory specialist I could trust. This time I asked my regular vet. He was wonderful and researched both internists and surgeons. I set up a consult with the surgeon he recommended before making any decisions. The surgeon turned out to be not terribly personable, but I didn't question his abilities. He had only treated a few Norwich, but had experience with a number of the brachycephalic breeds prone to the same UAS problems. He proposed going in through her throat; all prior surgeries had been through Ginger's mouth. This would provide access to places not reachable orally, but where there was likely additional scar tissue. He also planned to perform a debarking procedure that would open up the airway a bit more. Post-surgery he was less conservative with the use of prednisone, which I appreciated. He wanted her to start adequan injections about 2 weeks after surgery. This drug is typically used for arthritis, but it is made from the same material found in cartilage. He hoped it would strengthen her larynx. Lastly he planned to use a different anti-scarring topical to see if it might yield better results.

I think he had some good, progressive suggestions. Oddly, the day I dropped Ginger off, he decided he would go through the mouth rather than the throat as planned. I was relieved, as it was so much less invasive, but in hindsight this became another "what if." During surgery, he noted her airway was 65% blocked by scar tissue. He cleared a lot, but this time the scar tissue returned more quickly than ever. By the 3-month mark, Ginger was unable to walk more than 20 or 30 feet without labored breathing. Still, she would not let me leave the room without coming to "help" with whatever I did. Her sparkle was still there. It was heartbreaking.

Ginger's final vet experience was prompted by my researching scar reduction therapies and laser and ultrasound use to break down scar tissue. I found a wonderful "integrated animal" clinic which offered both of these modalities. The vet I saw is a large animal internist, but her practice also includes small animals. Our first meeting was so different from any other vet experience I've had. The consult was thorough and un rushed. She had already reviewed the records I'd sent and wanted to bring in a surgeon, if I was willing. The bottom line was that they would scope Ginger before making any decisions, but they felt at this point that alternative treatments would likely not be successful. They did think they could be helpful in recovery, if another surgery was performed. They were clear, and I knew, that this was Ginger's last hope. They said the surgery had about a 50% chance of success. Scoping revealed her airway was now about 85% obstructed, leaving an air passage about as big as a pinhead in diameter. They also observed that her surgically-shortened palate was too short, which caused her epiglottis to suction up into the palate area on inhalation, further blocking her air intake. The surgeon would use the approach through the throat.
BREED HEALTH

Unfortunately, Ginger fell on the wrong side of the 50%. The surgeon was able to remove
the scar tissue, but, at this point, it had been supporting her larynx. The removal caused the
larynx to collapse. Ginger died about 24 hours post-surgery, despite the temporary trach that
was still in place. I have no way to know if the follow-up laser and/or other healing support the
internist planned to provide would have helped. Another “what if”… I do know that having a
team that planned to stay with us post-surgery was a unique and wonderful thing. Despite the
outcome, this was one decision I am not second guessing. I would certainly use this team and
integrated approach again (in fact I am taking my other Norwich there for back treatment that
has made an amazing difference).

I think it would be useful for the Norwich community to compile a list of recommended
specialists for as many areas of the USA as possible. All “board certified” surgeons are not equal.
If you can’t find someone familiar with Norwich, look for a surgeon who has (extensive) experi-
ence with brachycephalic breeds. Ask your regular vet for suggestions. Read credentials and bios
to better understand the surgeon’s areas of expertise. For example, the surgeon at the last clinic
wasn’t well known in the Norwich community, but he lists as an area of special interest “head,
neck and upper airway surgery”. He’s also a member of the Society of Veterinary Soft Tissue
Surgeons. If possible, take time to do a consultation to confirm or contradict the opinions you
formed in the research process. Doing some study before an internist or surgeon is needed is not
a bad idea. Hopefully you will never need to contact that vet, but by doing so when you are not
in need, you are apt to make a more informed choice.

As a community (or breed club), it might also be useful to have a list of volunteers who
have experience with UAS issues, i.e., Norwich owners who are willing to help support (via
email or phone) those currently dealing with similar problems. It should be made clear that these
volunteers are not medical experts, but there are many things learned, sometimes the hard way,
when you are forced to deal with UAS problems. Sharing that knowledge, or even just being a
sounding board, might be of help to others. In that vein, I hope that sharing some of Ginger’s
and my experiences—good and bad—might help other Norwich owners who may have to deal
with upper airway breathing difficulties.

—Jill Petersen, Kenmore, WA
(dchipster1@yahoo.com)

Primary Lens Luxation DNA Test Confirmed For Norwich Terriers

Primary lens luxation (PLL) is an eye disease where the supporting ligaments holding the
lens of the eye are weak.

This condition can allow the lens to detach between the ages of 4 and 8 years, causing glaucoma
and eventual blindness. PLL affects many dog breeds and is common in terrier breeds. A simple recessive
mutation has been identified which causes PLL. A DNA test exists to determine if a dog has two copies
of the bad allele (affected), one copy (carrier), or none (clear). As a simple recessive, both copies of the
“bad” allele (one from the mother and one from the father) are necessary for the disease to develop.
There are a few documented cases where PLL has developed where only one copy or even no copies
of the identified bad allele are present. Researchers do not yet have a complete understanding of PLL.
Although such situations seem to be rare, they are of intense interest to researchers. More information
about PLL is available at http://www.caninegeneticdiseases.net/GLX/basicLUX.htm.
The Norwich Terrier “Jerusalem Chutney” (Chute), owned by NTCA member-breeder Dr. Phyllis Pullen, has PLL that was documented by an AVCO-certified canine ophthalmologist. Recently the PLL DNA test was performed on Chute. The test indicated that Chute has two copies of the bad allele. Thus it can now be considered as confirmed that the mutation which causes PLL in Norwich Terriers is the same mutation that is identified by the PLL DNA test.

Responsible Norwich breeders now have a tool to avoid PLL. Since the mutation is a simple recessive, there is no need to avoid dogs that are “affected” or are “carriers”, for as long as such dogs are bred only to “clears,” the disease should not develop. Thus genetic diversity need not be lost while the bad (“affected”) alleles are eliminated from the gene pool. A strategy of only breeding to “clears” should eliminate the bad mutation from the Norwich gene pool in three or four generations.

The PLL test can be ordered from the OFA web site (http://www.offa.org/dnatesting/pll.html). The test is a simple cheek swab for a cost of $65. If you have a dog’s blood sample banked in the CHIC DNA repository, you can ask that the sample be tested for PLL at a cost of $35 (http://www.caninegeneticdiseases.net/GLX/PLLt-rq.pdf).

Since Chute is closely related to my Norwich, I am having all my dogs tested with the DNA PLL test. Going forward, no Norwich will be used in my breeding program unless a DNA PLL test has been done or both parents are known to be “clears”. Breeders and owners of Norwich Terriers closely related to Chute or to his parents (Ch. Jerusalem Tyler Too x Jerusalem Primrose) should consider doing the PLL DNA test. (One can see how closely related two Norwich are to each other by using the relationship tool at http://shakspernorwich.net/pedigreedb/) It would be helpful if some Norwich that are not closely related to Chute could also be tested to see how widespread the PLL mutation is in the Norwich gene pool.

To provide a central repository of information about PLL in Norwich, I have set up a web page to list the PLL status (affected, carrier, or clear) of Norwich that have been tested. The web page is at http://shakspernorwich.net/health/pll/). Any Norwich owner can list the PLL status of his/her dog by sending me a copy of the DNA PLL report (electronic copy preferred), along with permission to make the information public. If the NTCA Health Committee would like to take over this repository, I will happily give it to them. If the PLL mutation turns out to be widespread in the breed, the NTCA Health Committee may want to consider adding the DNA PLL test to our list of CHIC requirements.

I would like to thank Dr. Phyllis Pullen for testing Chute and for agreeing to make Chute’s PLL status public. Hopefully other Norwich breeders will be as forthcoming about the PLL status of their Norwich. Using the DNA PLL test, responsible breeders can eliminate PLL in our breed. If would be terrible if another Norwich is bred that develops PLL and loses sight when a tool exists to prevent it.

—Blair Kelly. “Shaksper” Norwich, Odenton, MD
(blairkelly@att.net)

P.S.: Not long after writing this article, I learned that Dr. Pullen had had to make the hard decision to put Chute down. (Ch. Jerusalem Chutney CD RN, August 22, 1998 – January 2012).

P.P.S.: My Norwich pedigree database is now online at http://shakspernorwich.net/pedigreeb/. This database includes all Norwich Terriers in the AKC stud book from April 1936 (the first entry of a Norwich in the AKC stud books) to March 2011. Unlike other pedigree databases, every entry in my database cites its location in the AKC stud books. Provided they have access to the AKC stud books, this will allow anyone to quickly check the pedigree information. —BK
The Heimlich Maneuver for Dogs: It Could Save your Norwich’s Life

One late winter night, my niece Catherine was cleaning up after a quiet dinner at home. As she was washing the dishes, her dogs, Belle, a Cavalier King Charles, and Pip, a Norwich pup, I had placed with her a few months before, stood in the kitchen hoping for scraps. Catherine is always careful about giving treats and insists that the dogs take them gently. The dogs graciously accepted a few small pieces of steak. After taking the last piece, Pip trotted into the dining room. Catherine glanced in and noticed that this usually active puppy was quietly standing in the corner of the room, his head held low. As she got closer, she could hear that his breathing was not normal. She knew he was in distress. Picking him up, she ran upstairs to where her husband Chris was working on the computer. Chris is a Physical Education teacher for special needs children. He assessed the situation immediately, told Catherine to calm down, and then placed the limp puppy on the bed. He quickly checked Pip's mouth for any obstruction and because the puppy was small (not yet a year old and only about 9 pounds), Chris began the Heimlich method used on infants. He placed the knuckles of two fingers just below the puppy's ribs and applied short upward thrusts. After the second thrust, a small piece of steak flew out of Pip's mouth and landed on the floor. In true terrier fashion, Pip stood up, shook himself, jumped to the floor and retrieved his little tidbit. This time he ingested it safely.

Choking in a dog can be caused by several events, including but not limited to: respiratory disease/upper airway syndrome that involves obstruction of the airway; manual compression of the larynx or trachea causing strangulation (such as an overly tight collar or pulling on a lead); or obstruction of the airway by a foreign object. Upper airway syndrome is a serious condition that requires regular veterinary care and dedicated management of the symptoms. We can relieve choking caused by manual compression strangulation easily enough with common sense and training, e.g., a looser collar and some obedience training. By knowing simple canine first aid, we can help a dog that is choking on a foreign object lodged in its airway. The signs of something caught in a dog’s throat are sudden distress, pawing at the mouth, drooling, or gagging. A dog will occasionally gag or cough to expel an object stuck in its throat—a small kibble or a piece of biscuit gobbled too fast. Often the object will be successfully expelled by the forceful coughing brought on by the laryngeal stimulation. The indications that an object is caught in a dog’s larynx, deeper in the throat and above the windpipe, are coughing, choking, abnormal breathing, fainting, and/or respiratory distress. If the object cannot be dislodged, emergency veterinary care is required.

If a dog is coughing violently or showing signs of choking, the first thing to do is to check the mouth. Open his mouth, extend the tongue as far as possible, and lightly sweep the mouth from side to side with your finger, being very careful not to push an object that might be there. If possible, grasp the object and remove it; if not, do not try to manipulate it because that action could push the object farther down the throat. At this point, it would be helpful to administer abdominal compressions or the Heimlich Maneuver.

There are many variations of the Heimlich Maneuver for dogs. This suggested version was taken from “The Dog Owner's Home Veterinary Handbook,” 3rd Edition, James M Griffin, MD & Liisa D. Carlson, DVM, Howell Book House, 2000, page 288. However, it is strongly recommended that readers educate themselves on this procedure and keep references at home in case of an emergency.
BREED HEALTH

The Heimlich Maneuver

1. Abdominal compressions — It may be easiest to hold the dog in your lap upside down with his back against your chest. Place your arms around the dog’s waist from behind. Make a fist and grasp it with the other hand. Place the fist in the dog’s upper mid-abdomen close to the breast bone at the apex of the V formed by the rib cage. Compress the abdomen by forcefully thrusting up and in with fist four times in quick succession. This maneuver pushes the diaphragm upward and forces a burst of air through the larynx. This usually dislodges the object. Proceed to Step 2.

2. Finger Sweeps — Pull out the tongue and sweep the mouth. Remove the foreign body and proceed to step 5. If you are unable to dislodge the object, proceed to step 3.

3. Artificial respiration — Give five mouth-to-nose respirations. Even a small volume of air getting past the obstruction is beneficial. Proceed to step 4.

4. Chest thumps — Deliver a sharp blow with the heel of your hand to the dog’s back between the shoulder blades. Repeat the finger sweeps. If the object is still not dislodged, repeat steps 1 through 4 until the object is dislodged.

5. Ventilation — Once the object is dislodged, check for breathing and heart rate: administer artificial respiration and cardiac massage if necessary. When the dog revives, proceed to the veterinary hospital for further treatment.

Tragedy often occurs without warning, but some tragedies can be avoided by being prepared for the unexpected and remaining calm. Although Catherine’s husband probably never expected to use Heimlich on a dog, his calm reaction and quick assessment saved Pip’s life. As dog owners and breeders, we could all benefit from taking a canine first aid course or reading any of the myriad books on canine health and first aid. Many local dog clubs offer canine first aid classes, and the Internet has a wide range of articles about using the Heimlich maneuver on dogs.

Mitigating the outcome of any emergency requires calmness and preparation. Most times preparation requires us to have physical items—food, water, flashlights. In the case of a choking dog, the most critical thing to have is knowledge. Every dog owner’s library should have at least one quick reference book on canine first aid. Possessing such knowledge or having access to it could save your dog’s life.

—Judy Laffey, “Glengariff” Norwich, Long Beach, NY (judylafey@aol.com)

The Stats Are In...For CHIC, That Is

Two years ago, I reported the statistics for the health tests that the NTCA has identified for the Norwich Terrier CHIC (Canine Health Information Center) database. I am happy to report that since then, our breed’s participation in the CHIC program has almost tripled! At this time two years ago, there were 103 Norwich Terriers with CHIC numbers. Currently, there are 303.

The three health tests a Norwich Terrier needs to qualify for a CHIC # are CERF (Canine Eye Registration Foundation), OFA Hips, and OFA Patella. CERF tests increased from 221 to 303. OFA Hip tests increased from 413 to 693. OFA Patella testing increased from 222 to 527 evaluations.
I cannot explain why Norwich owners are not participating more in testing their dogs’ eyes—or, if they are testing, they are not submitting results to OFA. OFA only accepts normal CERF results directly from CERF. OFA will only accept abnormal CERF results from an owner. Based on the figures, it is easy to conclude that the numbers for Norwich with a CHIC # would be far higher if more Norwich CERF tests were sent to OFA. Norwich Terriers are listed as a breed that can have Genetic or “Juvenile” Cataracts, a disease that can lead to blindness.

The data shows a total of 693 OFA Hip evaluations for Norwich Terriers from 1974 through 2011. 598 of those were normal results and 93 (13.4%) were abnormal. This is a slight increase over the 13.1% abnormal results of 2 years ago. 7.1% of the OFA Hip results were “excellent”, 56.4% were “good,” and 22.8% “fair”. “Borderline” results accounted for 0.3% (2 dogs), “mild” 10.7%, moderate 2.5%, and severe 0.3%. The Norwich Terrier is ranked #72 in a ranking of 164 breeds, #1 being the breed with the highest percentage of hip dysplasia and #164 being the lowest percentage. Keep in mind, all abnormal results are not reflected in this data. According to the OFA website, “Unless the owner has chosen the open database, dysplastic hip grades are not in the public domain.” That means that our breed’s 13.4% abnormal results could be higher.

OFA Patella evaluations for Norwich Terriers from 1974 through 2011 totaled 527. Of those, 504 were normal and 23(4.4%) were abnormal. The OFA website gives general information about classifying the degree of luxation, but does not break it down in the statistics as it does with hips. The Norwich Terrier is ranked #34 among the 105 dog breeds listed, #1 being the breed with the highest percentage of abnormalities and #105 being the lowest percentage. The patella can be evaluated at 12 months of age for the OFA database and it is permanent. However, according to the OFA website, “it is recommended that dogs be periodically reexamined as some luxations will not be evident until later in life”.

The number of Norwich Terriers with CHIC #’s has increased tremendously over the past two years. I commend our membership for this great improvement. Participation in OFA Patella evaluations is particularly noteworthy. I encourage members to participate equally in reporting CERF results to OFA not only to obtain a CHIC#, but also because it will offer more useful data for the NTCA health committee and for Norwich breeders when making breeding decisions.

—Dana Esquibel, NTCA CHIC Liaison (tinytowne@comcast.net)

Happiness is a long summer’s nap . . .
Contacts and Websites for Participation in Norwich Health Studies

Legacy of Love Program
Study on the pathology of Upper Airway Syndrome. To participate, contact Nancy Nath at tel. (443)287-2953.

NIH Study of Genetic Mutations Implicated in Norwich Terrier UAS
Ongoing study at NIH. To order a sample kit and instructions, email: dog_genome@mail.nih.gov

Genetic Study for Canine Epilepsy
Ongoing study at the University of Helsinki. Owners of American Norwich Terriers participate by donating their dogs’ blood samples through the University of Missouri. For instructions, go to: www.canine-epilepsy.net

New OFA Tests and Resources
A new DNA test for Primary Lens Luxation (PLL) has been validated for Norwich Terriers. To order a test kit, go to www.offa.org/dnatesting and click on “Primary Lens Luxation.”
OFA has launched a new dentition database. The database is used to certify full dentition and is open to all breeds. For more information, go to www.offa.org and select “Dentition Database” on the home page.

Online Health Survey for Norwich Terriers
Go to www.offa.org, click on “survey” and select “Norwich Terrier.” The survey will be closed in May 2012.

“Fluffy Gene” Test
To order a test kit, go to: http://www.vetgen.com/

NTCA Recommended Health Tests for Breeding Stock:
- Hip evaluation through radiographs submitted to OFA or PennHip
- Patellar Luxation examination submitted to OFA
- CERF test for canine inheritable eye diseases

—Magda Omansky, NTCA Health Chair

This sure was a WARM winter!
SUMMER PLANS

Chewing the last tassel off Mom’s ottoman

Trying to beat the summer heat

Frolicking at the beach

Perfecting my surfing technique

Doing as little as possible
Kimberton 2011: Another Great Year!

Once again, Norwich and their friends had a fun and exhilarating time during the four days of Kimberton this past fall. There were more than twenty Norwich and Norfolk handlers and thirty or more dogs, way too many to keep track of all the details. So here are some highlights.

We welcomed several new agility participants, including NTCA members Don and Joan Kranz, each running one of their Norwich. Don ran incredibly elegantly with “Sammy,” earning Novice Standard Preferred (NAP) and Open Jumpers Preferred (OJP). Joan ran quite successfully with “Cricket,” earning their Open Standard (OA) and Excellent Jumpers (AXJ) titles and their first MACH points. Agility veteran Judy Laffey and “Paige” got their first open standard leg with a first place! Blair Kelly has been running some of his Norwich a long time, so he and “Bianca” are now running in performance, where the jumps are lower and the times are slower. They collected several qualifying ribbons. We were also joined by some nationally-ranked competitors. Dr. Rainee Johnson and “Savvy” collected lots of MACH points (which represent the number of seconds under the maximum course time allowed), as did Jill Lowry and “Mack.” [Some of us work really hard just to beat that maximum course time at all!] The indomitable Ursula Walsh was there with “Harry” and her new star, “George,” all of whom did a great job. Marcia Frank ran her new Norwich bitch, “Charm,” for the first time. Lucky Charm was rescued in Longview, Texas and rehomed in a complicated story before she finally ended up with Marcia. Patti Evans collected Double Q number 19 on “Marley,” who qualified in both standard and jumpers, as well as at least one first place ribbon on “Kirby.”

No Kimberton week is complete without the famous Noragility dinner. We welcome all comers to this get-together, whether or not they own a Norwich and whether or not they competed at Kimberton. This year at Uno’s, sharing their dog and other accomplishments for the year, we had people from all over the USA, including Vermont, Connecticut, New York, Maryland, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, California, Texas, Kentucky, Louisiana, and Delaware. We would love to add you to our group. Come see what’s happening. You might get hooked.

As of this writing, the NTCA anticipates hosting the agility, obedience, and rally events on the Thursday of Kimberton 2012. Come join the fun, and come to help! It’s the same thing.

—Carlynn Ricks, NTCA Performance Chair (carlynnricks@earthlink.net)
NTCA Members Shine At The AKC Agility Invitational

The top five agility dogs of each AKC breed receive an invitation to compete at the prestigious AKC Invitational, held annually in conjunction with the “Eukanuba.” This year the Norwich Terrier teams invited to the December 17-18 event included NTCA members Rainee Johnson DVM and her homebred speedster “Savvy” (MACH Breakaway’s In The Know MXF); Ursula Walsh and her multi-talented “Harry” (MACH3 Yarrow’s Mgb Beach Pine Harry, CD, RE, XF, SE); and Dr. Chris Zink and “Vespa” (Jerusalem Road Less Traveled, CD, RA, MX, MXJ, OF). Unfortunately, just a few days before packing her bags for Orlando, Chris made the difficult decision not to make the trip due to Vespa’s nagging tendon issue.

Another NTCA member received a special invitation to the event and played a huge role at the Invitational. Known in the sport of agility for his fair yet challenging courses and his always supportive attitude, Blair Kelly was honored by being chosen as one of the four judges and course designers for the 2011 Invitational. Many congratulations to Blair!

Competition at the Invitational is always at the highest level. The tiniest misstep by either dog or handler can, in a split second, knock a team out of one of the coveted spots in the Finals. Many agility teams dream of going to the Invitational, and it is the highest accomplishment to earn a spot in the Final Round. This year, of the 130 small dogs competing in the “8 Inch Class” (the jump bars are set 8” high), only the top 12 go to the Finals after 4 rounds of competition. A Norwich had never made it to the Finals in the history of the Invitational, although Savvy and Harry have come really close in years past. Even if the Norwich teams run four clean rounds, they still have to beat many taller, faster dogs on time to make it to the Finals.

As seems to be true at every Invitational, the courses were challenging and competition exciting. After perfect runs in the first two preliminary rounds, Ursula and Harry and Rainee and Savvy were still very much in the hunt for a spot in the Finals. Then, as Ursula explained, “I made a couple of mistakes in round 3, and while Harry tried to save me, I wouldn’t listen to him, so we lost points. In any case Savvy and Rainee were unbeatable; they were so great together!” Indeed, Rainee and Savvy ran clean in all four rounds and were fast enough to make the FINALS!

Rainee and Savvy had to run their best late on Sunday afternoon. They were competing against the top small dogs in the country—a Cairn, a Westie, a Papillion, a Bichon, two Corgis, etc. In a brightly-lit arena surrounded by bleachers filled with cheering spectators, Rainee and little Savvy took their spot at the start line. Here are a few of Rainee’s reflections of the occasion:

“My plan for the Invitational was to try to be consistent in my handling, letting Savvy know where she was going with plenty of advanced notice. (Also, I would wear my secret weapons—lime green socks and matching shoes!) I was most nervous going into the 4th Round, a course designed by our own Blair Kelly. We completed that round, not scorching fast, but clean and smooth, and now I was unbelievably a finalist at a national competition! I expected to be nervous, but I was just thrilled! Before the run, I felt surprisingly calm, but I was a bit concerned about Savvy. It had been a long few days and on Sunday afternoon before the Finals, she was sound asleep in her crate. When I woke her up to get ready for her run, she was really flat, not her usual self; but we played our pre-run games and she perked up a little. When the run started, she came alive and shot off the start line in her usual fashion. The course went smoothly until, just before the teeter, I cued a turn a little late and Savvy shot off in a totally wrong direction. I think we were both a bit off our game and both ready for a nap. Nevertheless, we finished the course and ended up a most respectable 10th overall. We had lots of support and cheers during that final run—and all weekend—from all our “Nor” and California friends. Everyone’s support was so appreciated! It was a thrilling weekend.

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The Invitational was the culmination of an incredible year for Savvy and me. Savvy earned our first MACH, she was the 1st Place Norwich going into the Invitational, #1 Norwich for the Invitational weekend, 10th overall in the Invitational 8 inch class, and #1 agility Norwich for the entire year. 2011 is my best year yet in agility competition. I don’t think I can be much happier with my little partner, Savvy! Everything else is just icing on the cake (or gravy on the kibble . . . ).”

Many thanks to Ursula and Rainee for sharing their experiences with News readers. Congratulations to everyone who attended the Invitational! And very special congratulations to Rainee and Savvy!

—Susan Novotny, Worthington, OH (tinyterriers@gmail.com)

“Magic,” My “First Everything” Dog

I am a relatively new member of NTCA. I live in Northern California with my husband, Norm Fleming, and our four Norwich Terriers. I have served on the Board of the Norwich Terrier Club of Northern California for the last several years, and I built and maintain that club’s website (www.norwichterrierclubofnortherncalifornia.org).

My Norwich bitch, “Razzy,” now 6 years old, came to me in the spring of 2006. For the past few years, I have been competing in conformation, agility, rally and obedience with Razzy’s pup, “Magic,” more formally known as Ch. Shonleh He’s A Magic Man RA AX AXJ OF. Magic is very special to me because he is my “first everything” dog. He was the first puppy born of Razzy’s first litter. He is my first dog to earn a title of any kind. He is my first conformation Champion. He is the first dog with whom I have shared the fun of training for, competing in, and earning ribbons in performance and companion events.

Magic will be 4 years old in May, 2012. My life with Magic has been an exciting, amazing ride, yet we truly are just hitting our stride. Despite Magic’s handicap (having me as a handler!), he has earned his Agility Excellent and Agility Excellent Jumpers and Open Fast titles. He is now competing in the most difficult level of AKC agility and is close to earning his Master agility titles. He is also on his way to earning his Rally Excellent title, and he recently completed his first Intro to Earthdog test, surprising even me with how well he “went to ground.” We plan to get his CD sometime in the future.

I have had dogs all my life and have loved each one of them. But Norwich Terriers, especially Magic, have changed everything for me. Magic is my “heart dog.” He accompanies me to work every day and sleeps cuddled next to me every night. Magic and I train weekly at Placer Dog in Granite Bay, CA along with NTCA member Raine Johnson DVM, and her Norwich “Savvy” and Gail Estrom and her Norwich “Malarky” (bred by Rainee).

I have learned so much on this journey with Magic into the world of competitive dog sports. Now in addition to Magic, my two-year-old Norwich, Norstar Tru Destiny (“Tru”), is training in Obedience, and my one-year-old, Norstar Clever Kismet (“Kizzy”), Magic’s half-sister, can’t wait to get started in agility. In fact, I had to take down the A-Frame in my yard because I could not keep Kizzy off it!
AGILITY

Competing with our Norwich at performance events is very much a family affair. My husband is my greatest supporter; he videos all my runs for me to review and helps with all our gear at events. Norm and I love the Norwich Terrier breed; we love agility; we adore Magic; and we are so thankful for the joy all our Norwich have brought to our lives.

—Patty Fornelli, Roseville, CA (norwichmagic@surewest.net)

New NTCA Agility Titles

As we all know, the sport of canine agility has grown tremendously. In calendar year 2011, the AKC reports its program alone held more than 2600 trials and recorded more than 1,000,000 entries. Even in our small breed, the number of Norwich competing is amazing! Although numbers like this are difficult to come by, in 2011, a total of 21 Norwich Terriers competed around the country in the highest, most challenging AKC Agility classes—the Excellent and Excellent Preferred Classes! Many more Norwich are progressing up to these classes. Norwich have become recognized as highly competitive and are proving their athletic ability and willingness to work with their handlers. Of course, this is nothing new to Norwich owners.

In 2011, by my count, 16 NTCA members and their 20 Norwich Terriers earned AKC agility titles. Huge congratulations to all of you! Starting with those just getting started in the sport, several members earned Novice titles. Three NTCA members earned *Novice Jumpers* titles: Carol Clark’s GCH Elysium’s Ciao Bella, Bonnie Carpenter’s Foxwood Grizwald Bear, and Rainee Johnson’s Ch. Den-Mar’s Breakaway Rocketman. Rocketman earned his *Novice FAST* title as well. Earning a *Novice Agility* title was Melanie Bryson’s Reverie’s Dream a Little Dream. In Mississippi, Gayle Holmen’s Ch. Mischief’s Little Mermaid added *Novice Agility Preferred* to her list of titles.

Classic’s Candy, owned and handled by Joan Krantz, earned SIX titles in the same number of months! In the Preferred classes, *Classic’s Candy* earned both *Novice Agility* and *Open Agility*, all three *Novice, Open* and *Excellent Agility Jumpers*, and *Novice FAST*. Wow!

Out in California, Patty Fornelli’s “Magic” (Ch. Shonleh He’s A Magic Man) earned both his *Open* and *Excellent Agility Jumpers* titles along with his *Open FAST* title. And Carol Clark’s Ch. Shoebutton’s Peggy Cass earned her *Open Agility Jumpers* title.

Running fast and running clean in the Excellent classes, the Norwich really brought home the ribbons! Joan Krantz’s “Cricket”(Elysium’s Summersong at Pinelake) earned a handful of new titles: both *Open* and *Excellent Agility*, both *Excellent* and *Masters Excellent Jumpers*, and *Novice FAST*. Another wow! Dig’NPop Digby, owned by Joanie Brobst, earned *Excellent Agility Jumpers* and *Master Agility Excellent* titles. Margaret Johnson’s Rogel’s In The Zone added an *Excellent Agility* title to his *Rally* and *Earthdog* titles. Ursula Walsh’s “George” (Slightly The Hired Hand) earned his *Agility Excellent* and *Open FAST* titles. Blair Kelly’s Jerusalem Olivia Lenox earned her *Master Agility Excellent* title, and Melanie Bryson’s “Molly” (Arcadian Dynamite Red Beryl) earned her *Master Excellent Jumpers* title. That list is really impressive!

Now for the BIG NEWS!!!! In mid-November, Ursula Walsh’s multi-talented “Harry” (affectionately known as the “Hair Bear”) made Norwich history and added an unbelievable *THIRD Master Agility Championship* to his name. He did it in grand style, bringing home that weekend not only his THIRLD giant MACH ribbon, but two first place, and second and fourth place, ribbons as well. Congratulations to MACH3 Yarrow’s Mgb Beach Pine Harry CD RE XF SE. Ursula, you are a wonder! Harry, you are phenomenal!

Whew! This is my longest report yet of new NTCA agility titles! You Norwich agility competitors, and, of course, your wonderful Norwich, ROCK! Keep up the great work! Run Fast—Run Clean—Have a Blast!

—Susan Novotny, Worthington, OH (tinyterriers@gmail.com)
Spring 2012 Rally News

Did you notice that the title of this report doesn’t say “Obedience News” or “Obedience and Rally News?” That’s because Norwich were very quiet, too quiet, on the Obedience front this past fall. In fact, they’ve been pretty quiet in Rally as well.

So extra congratulations go to six new title winners, four of them NTCA members, who are doing such a good job with Norwich in the Rally rings these days. We have lots of new Rally Novice titles. Karen and Terry Turner of Frederick, Maryland with Ch. Dk‘S Buster RN are off to a good start in Rally with their Rally Novice title, as are Brennie Brackett of Sonoma, CA with Castle-Bar Niles Of Stonehaven RN, Judy and Ed Ungar of New Port Richey, FL with Sarum’s I Fly Solo RN, and Morgan Turner with Rosecroft Show Girl Of Chalk Hill. Congratulations, and keep those great performances coming. We’ll be looking for news of Rally Advanced Titles on these dogs, although that requires the leap from on-lead to off-lead work.

Out in Kent, Washington, Margaret Johnson and “Flint” (Rogel’s In The Zone BN RA AX AXJ NAP NJP JE) are doing great things, including finishing the Rally Advanced title. You’ll notice that Flint also has numerous agility titles which, combined with his Junior Earthdog title, have earned him a NTCA Versatility Award. Congratulations to Flint and to his dedicated handler.

Up in the cold state of Alaska, where I had the privilege of spending time with her, Debbie Ross and “Meena” (Yvaine’s Lil Bit Xtra BN RE), finished the Rally Excellent title. Bravo! Now Meena is on to Obedience, where she has already earned her Beginner’s Novice title.

I love to write success stories, and these are great. I would love to write even more, so get out there and do some work with your dogs, then write to me to tell me how it went.

—Carlynn Ricks, NTCA Performance Chair
(carlynnricks@earthlink.net)

Mom sometimes lets me win our tug-of-war games.
One New Norwich Earthdog Title!

NTCA member Denise Faulkner from the “Show ME!” state of Missouri is showing that our Norwich can do it in Earthdog! Denise entered her homebred male Denwich The Lion-Hearted (aka “Leo”) in a morning and afternoon earthdog test sponsored by the Dachshund Club of St. Louis, Missouri on September 10, 2011. Denise reports that these were only his second and third tests, but Leo went right into the tunnel to the rat and “barked his head off at both trials . . .” He got his Junior Earthdog title (JE) on Saturday. She moved him up to Senior on Sunday. True to his name, the brave Leo went right into the tunnel to the rat, but he didn’t work it long enough and came out the false entrance. I am happy to report, however, that at his next test a month later, he showed his stuff and got his first Senior leg. Denise reports that she plans to enter Leo in earthdog tests at Purina Farms this March 31st and April 1st as he “loves it sooooo much!!”

This reporter has heard from a reliable source that there may be another Norwich trying out Earthdog in Florida. I’ll keep you updated on his progress as well as that of my MACH3 Yarrow’s MGB Beach Pine Harry, who will be trying for his 4th leg and Master Earthdog Title in April.

—Ursula Walsh, “Beach Pine” Norwich, Pinehurst, NC (ursthenurse@nc.rr.com)

Ed: Thanks to Ursula, I now know that a dog needs 2 legs to earn a JE, 3 legs for a Senior Earthdog title, and four legs for a Master Earthdog title. —AGF

I remembered to “Spring Forward”
The 2011 Montgomery County Specialty Weekend
Hatboro I & II, Devon, and Social Recap

After record rainfalls in the Northeast USA from Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee, Norwich fanciers were a bit chary when making plans for the 2011 NTCA Specialty weekend in eastern Pennsylvania. With fingers crossed and rain gear at the ready, we were all happily surprised to have lovely fall weather for the entire four days. Before the memories of Montgomery 2011 evaporate, here are the highlights:

Hatboro I
Thursday, October 6, Wrightstown, PA

The curtain rose on Norwich judging at 10 AM Thursday in the Ag barn. Judge Mr. Bob Busby was pleased with an entry of 13 class dogs and 17 class bitches. Two of the class dogs stood out because they were undocked, but this did not seem to faze Mr. Busby. From a lovely field his choices were:

Winners Dog/Best of Winners (Open Class): Ragus King of Swing at Saltarello (Nepomuk Vin Den Zwei Eichen At Saltarello X Crazy Rhythm At Ragus). Breeder: Leslie Crawley (UK). Owned by Anne Sikorski MD & Susan Sikorski.Handled by Roxanne Sutton. Swinger was one of the exhibits with an undocked tail. He is a littermate to UK Ch. Ragus Jazz King, Cruft’s 2011 BOB winner and Terrier Group Four.

Reserve Winners Dog (Bred-By): Fly’n High’s Rocket Man (Ch. Rosecroft Once More X Ch. Ascot Tiger Lily), bred and owned by Sharon Jones.

Winners Bitch (Bred-By): Norieland Queen For A Day (Ch. Norieland Harry Houdini X Ch. Norieland Rambling Rose), bred and owned by Karen and Steve Vaughn.

RWB (American Bred): Abbedale Brass in Pocket (Ch. Abbedale’s Brass Tacks X Ch. Abbedale’s Rettadini), bred and co-owned by Joan Eckert with Michaela Clancy. Handled by Lori Pelletier

BOB from a superlative field of specials was GCH Skyscot’s Texas Hold’ Em (Ch. Skyscot’s Poker Chip X Skyscot’s Pen Pal), bred by Leslie Becker, owned by Sharon Esposito MD, and handled by Brenda Lee Combs.

BOS: GCH Elysium’s Ciao Bella (Ch. Reverie’s Mr. Big Stuff X Ch. Dunbar’s Dauntless Debutante), bred by Karen and Bruce Sullivan and co-owned by Carol Clark with the Sullivans.

Select Dog: GCH Wairterock Jack Falstaff (Ch. Barnstable Stuffed Shirt X Ch. Wairterock’s Copacabana), bred and owned by Candice Harper and handled by Wood Wornall.

Select Bitch: GCH Pinelakes Fairy Tail (Ch. Pinelakes Mega Bucks X Ch. Shoebutton’s Peggy Cass), bred by Carol Clark and owned by Kelly and David Foos.

Awards of Merit:
GCH Itsy Bitsy Rocky Mountain High (Ch. Skyscot’s Cowboy Up X Ch. Itsy Bitsy Ruby Tuesday), bred and owned by Tonnie and Gerard Willrich and handled by Klayton Harris.
GCH Itsy Bitsy Troubadour (Ch. Skyscor’s Poker Chip X Ch. Itsy Bitsy Iz Mizbehavin), bred by Kristin Conlan, Peggy Schmidt, Tonnie Willrich and Gerard Willrich and owned by Tonnie and Gerard Willrich. Handled by Betty Bossio.

GCH Dignpop Dash of Panache (Ch. Abbedale Brass Tacks X Ch. Littlefield Razz’s Matazz at Dignpop OA, OAJ), bred by Magda Omansky and owned by Paul and Nancy Eddy and Magda Omansky. Handled by Lori Pelletier.

GCH Foxwood Chasing a Dream (Ch. Foxwood Wildgoose Chase X Ch. Foxwood Dazzling Aria O’Redfern), bred, owned and handled by Kathryn Mines.

Judge Busby shared a few observations about the Norwich he judged:

“The overall entry was absolutely lovely; however, I did witness a few bites that were questionable, a few eyes that were too round and/or too light in color. The movement of a Norwich should be free with the distance of feet and elbows the same. There were a few exhibits (in BOB competition as well) that did not have correct movement; it was restricted, fronts being too wide, shoulders being set on straight (with no lay back), and limited rear angulations (too straight in stifle). Some coats were coarser and denser than others but that is to be expected when dogs come from all over the country (different climates).

In my opinion, some tails are docked much too short; the standard states ‘tail medium docked. The terrier’s working origin requires that the tail be of sufficient length to grasp.’ I interpret that to mean that I should be able to grasp the tail with four fingers, not with my index finger and thumb.”

Hatboro II
Friday, October 7, Wrightstown, PA

Friday’s breed judge, Cathy Thompson-Morgan of England (“Belleville” Norwich & Norfolk), also generously contributed some observations about her Hatboro assignment:

“Overall I felt the showmanship of the Norwich was excellent; almost without exception they all showed well, despite the length of time some had to wait in the ring. My BOB went up because not only did I feel he was of superb type—lovely head, short back, low to the ground, good coat, well presented—but he was also the only exhibit that combined type with really good movement, both ways and in profile, covering the ground effortlessly. To be critical, I would like him a little smaller, but that was the only fault I could find. My Winners Dog and Winners Bitch both shouted Norwich, the bitch just being a bit more mature for BOW. I also really liked the BOS and the other main winners, but none could match the BOB on type and soundness.”

Friday’s results are as follows:

Winners Dog (Bred-By): Fly’n High’s Rocket Man (see Thursday’s RWD)
RWD (Open): Ragus King of Swing at Saltarello (see Thursday’s WD/BOW)
RWB (Open): Fooze’s Dark And Stormy at Millbrook (GCH Dignpop Dash of Panache X Ch. Moonshadow’s High Flyin), bred by Alyson Cleary and owned by Paul and Nancy Eddy and Lori Pelletier. Handled by Lori Pelletier.
BOB: GCH Fly’N High’s Sonic Boom (Ch. Rosecroft Once More X Ch. Ascot Tiger Lily), bred and owned by Sharon Jones and handled by Marjorie Good.

BOS: GCH Abbedale Take Two at Taliesin (Ch. Abbedale’s the Huntsman X Ch. Abbedale Polly Pockets), bred by Joan Eckert and owned by Lisa and John Sons and Joan Eckert. Sage was handled by Susan Kipp.

Select Dog: GCH Dignpop Dash of Panache (see third Award of Merit on Thursday)

Select Bitch: GCH Fishback’s Black-Eyed Susan (Ch. Dunbar’s Frozen Assets X Kinsridge High Time), bred by Susan Miller-Hall and owned by April Clark, Amy Grace Clark and Susan Miller Hall. Handled by Amy Grace Clark.

Awards of Merit:

GCH Huntwood’s Joy Ride of Moorcroft (Ch. Maxwell’s Vincent Van Gogh Huntwood X Ch. Huntwood’s Knight Joy Moorcroft), bred and owned by James and Lorrie Kinney and Susan Kipp. Handled by Susan Kipp.

GCH Watterrock Jack Falstaff (see Select Dog, Thursday)

GCH Itsy Bitsy Troubadour (see second AOM, Thursday)

GCH Itsy Bitsy Rocky Mountain High (see first AOM, Thursday)

Devon
Saturday, October 8: (Ludwig’s Corner, PA)

WD/BOW: Fly’N High’s Rocket Man (see RWD Thursday)

RWD (Bred-By): Amblegreen Top Notch (Ch. Abbedale Top Brass At Taliesin X GCH Amblegreen Notti But Nice), bred and owned by Heather and Geoff Tomlins.

WB (Bred-By): Highwood’s Parachute Hopper II (Ch. Deansleigh Interceptor X Highwood’s Parachute Ant), bred by Knowlton Reynders and owned by Knowlton Reynders and Faith Stewart-Gordon.

RWB: Itsy Bitsy Still in the Family (see Hatboro 2 WB/BOW)

BOB: GCH Skyscor’s Texas Hold’ Em (see Hatboro 1 BOB)

BOS: Ch. Abbedale Take Two at Taliesin (see Hatboro 2 BOS)

Select Dog: GCH Huntwood’s Joy Ride of Moorcroft (see Hatboro 2 First AOM)

Select Bitch: GCH Elysium’s Ciao Bella (see Hatboro 1 BOS)

Norwich breed judge Mrs. Charlotte P. Patterson also kindly contributed a few comments:

“The overall quality was excellent and certainly many deserving a placement went without on this day. I thought the quality was deeper in dogs. Coats were mainly very good, hard and the correct length. The one weakness that I did notice throughout was a lighter eye than I like. The darker eye contributes so much to that ‘Norwich look’ and I was disappointed to see it lacking. I would have been more than happy to give out Awards of Merit but was not given any instructions in that matter. The breed is in good condition and I saw several promising puppies I hope to have in my ring in the future. Thanks for your entry.”
Montgomery Weekend Social Recap and Other News

The Thursday evening members’ mixer “Pasta Party” was a lot of fun; the Health Seminar presented by Jeff Schoenebeck PhD: *The Genetic Study of Upper Airway Syndrome in Norwich Terriers* was timely and important; the awards banquet at the Four Seasons Banquet Hall was memorable. The notions table and the silent and live auctions were hugely successful. Judy Laffey and her husband and their friends Lisa and John Sons were the winning bidders for four “VIP” Westminster 2012 tickets donated by NTCA Notions Chair Patty Warrender. NTCA members were all pleasantly surprised by the new and lovely club member pins designed by Donna West using Meredith Dwyer’s NTCA logo drawing of the running Norwich. These pins will always be a treasured keepsake.

Saturday evening’s NTCA annual members’ meeting was lively, to say the least. This year Mr. Jonathan Jacobs, a Professional Registered Parliamentarian, was on duty for the first time to keep order in the house. Five motions were presented; all went down to defeat. However, the motion to roll back the fee for a second listing in the NTCA Breeders Directory from $80 to $40 was implemented by a subsequent board vote. A discussion was also held on docked vs. natural tails and there were many strongly-held opinions voiced once again. A motion was made to have the board study the feasibility of amending our breed’s AKC standard with regard to tails, but this too went down to defeat by a very narrow margin of just two votes.

There were a few changes worth noting at the 2011 Montgomery show: the Amateur Owner Handler class was dropped for lack of interest; the 12-18 months class was divided into 12-15 months and 15 –18 months. (It would be wonderful if the Devon Dog Show Association would similarly divide their puppy classes.)

Regarding Devon, many *News* readers may not realize that the Ludwig’s Corner show site was in jeopardy. On November 28, 2011, the Township of West Vincent board of supervisors voted to condemn and seize the grounds. According to the township’s press release, the move was part of an effort “to fulfill the vision of its Ludwig’s Corner Strategic Vision and Community Design Plan for a compact, walkable, traditional village center containing a blend of municipal, commercial and residential uses.” The supervisors backed down when faced with an ensuing public outcry, but this only serves to point out that great dog show venues like the Ludwig’s Corner Horse Show grounds shouldn’t be taken for granted.

Along these same lines, the lovely Doubletree Hotel will not be inviting our club (nor any other dog club) back once our contract runs out this year (2012). NTCA Show Chair John Francisco reports, “I was informed last October when I met with the Sales group that the Doubletree Suites would no longer welcome dogs. Reasons were many. I let them know I did have a contract for 2012, but I got the impression they were not going to honor it. After some discussion, they finally notified me that they would honor it, so the NTCA will be staying at the Doubletree Suites this year only, with new regulations that I will cover in my letter to club members later. NTCA show committee member Marger Johnson is now looking for a new hotel headquarters, but after the search I did 3 years ago, I’m not sure we will be able to find a suitable host hotel. It’s not a job you can do via phone or internet. Someone must visit and make sure the facility meets the club’s needs.”

Thanks to all who worked so hard to make our annual specialty such a success, especially Show Chair John Francisco and Hospitality Chair Jean Kessler and her “behind the scenes” hospitality committee “elves.” The hospitality for our National Specialty is wonderful and so appreciated. Plans for the supported entry at Montgomery 2012 are not yet finalized, but Jean
notes that the mixer will be on Thursday evening as usual. However, the dinner will not be held at the Four Seasons, but will instead be at the Doubletree, perhaps a fitting farewell.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the NTCA National Specialty weekend in St. Louis June 15-17, 2012.

—Leandra (Lee) Little, “Littlefield” Norwich
(llittle9@earthlink.net)

Norwich at the 2011 NTCA Montgomery Specialty:
Judge Beth Sweigart’s Critique

First I would like to say what an honor it was to judge the Norwich Specialty at Montgomery this year (2011). I felt very privileged to have been selected to do the breed that I have been involved with for so many years. I would also like to thank the exhibitors for presenting me with such a wonderful entry, not only in terms of numbers, but also in quality and presentation.

Overall I was impressed with the quality of the entry. The Puppy and Bred-By classes in both sexes, but especially bitches, were very strong. The Specials class would have been impressive for ANY breed, but for a numerically small breed like Norwich, it was truly a sight to behold.

I found throughout the classes that mouths were generally good, with not as many missing teeth as in years past. The things that I found problematic were many straight rears, which restricted movement, and many dogs that had a foreign expression caused by light eyes or by incorrectly placed or shaped eyes. I was very pleased to see so many dogs presented in good coat and condition, with only a few exceptions.

I selected my Winners Dog and Best of Winners from a strong Bred-By class. He had a good expression, a short, strong back, and carried himself with confidence. My Reserve Winners Dog came from the singleton American-Bred class. He carried a correct Norwich coat, had a lovely expression, and was beautifully presented. I found him just a shade longer cast than my WD.

In bitches, both the Puppy and Bred-By classes were exceptional. In the 6-9 months class, there were several I’d make my own. My Winners Bitch, from the 9-12 months class, owned the ring. She was well made, sound coming and going, and moved around the ring with a confidence befitting a much more experienced show dog. She was hard pressed by my Reserve Winners Bitch from the Bred-By class. The RWB was extremely typey and was presented in lovely coat and condition. She lost out in the end on showmanship, perhaps the heat of the day getting to her.

When the Specials class assembled in the ring and we had the first go-round, I think both I and the entire ringside audience were impressed by the quality. In the end, many dogs I have liked in the past were left out because there were not enough ribbons. My Best of Breed was a dog I have judged before and was equally impressed by him today. He is well made, with a bright, inquisitive expression; good eye; short, strong back; and a good mover down and back and around. My Select Dog was one I had not judged before. He was a lovely make and shape and a great little showman.

My Best of Opposite Sex and Select Bitch winners were both lovely and feminine. I found the decision difficult because each had a lot to offer. In the end, I found the expression of my BOS to be a little more pleasing and, on the day, she moved with more drive.

Again, thank you for having me. The day was truly as enjoyable as it was memorable.

—Beth Sweigart, “Yarrow” Norwich, Bowmansville, PA
(greenfield1183@aol.com)
Norwich Results at the 2011 NTCA MCKC Specialty:
Sweepstakes and Regular Classes, Sunday, October 9

Puppy & Veteran Sweepstakes
Judge: Carole Bullwinkle-Foucrault (“Briardale” Norwich)

Best in Sweepstakes (Puppy): Pouch Cove’s Which Witch Is Wich (Ch. Yarrow Venerie Old King Cold x Fentondale’s Good Witch), from the 6-9 months Puppy Bitches class. Breeder: Peggy Helming. Owners: Wheatley Wentzell & Peggy Helming. [For a photo of the Best in Sweeps, see the full page of 2011 MCKC Norwich Winners.]

Best of Opposite Sex in Sweepstakes (Puppy): Abbedale’s Punchinello (Ch. Abbedale’s Brass Tacks x Dralion’s Funnygirl At Abbedale), from the 12-15 months Junior Dog Class. Breeder: Joan Eckert & Linda Dowdle. Owner: Joan Eckert

Best in Veteran Sweepstakes: Ch. Skyscot’s Summer Shower (Ch. Baybreez Blacken Decker x Skyscot’s Indian Summer), from the 9 years and under 11 years Bitches class. Breeder: Leslie Becker. Owners: Nancy Wilde & Leslie Becker

Best of Opposite Sex in Veteran Sweepstakes: Ch. Highwood’s Red Rat (Ch. Highwood’s Ratfaced Macdougal x Ch. Highwood’s Black Stonelty), from the 11 years and over Dogs class. Breeder: Knowlton Reynders. Owners: Regina & Michael Swygert-Smith

Regular Classes
Breed Judge: Beth Sweigart (“Yarrow” Norwich)

WD/BOW/Best BBE: Fly ‘N High’s Rocket Man (Ch. Rosecroft Once More x Ch. Ascot Tiger Lily). Breeder-Owner: Sharon Jones


RWB: Highwood’s Parachute Hopper II (Ch. Deansleigh Interceptor x Highwood’s Parachute Ant). Breeder: Knowlton Reynders. Owners: Breeder & Faith Stewart-Gordon

BOS: Ch. Abbedale Take Two At Taliesin (Ch. Abbedale’s The Huntsman x Ch. Abbedale’s Polly Pockets). Breeder: Joan Eckert. Owners: Breeder & Lisa & John Sons

BOB: GCH Waiterock Jack Falstaff (Ch. Barnstable Stuffed Shirt x Waiterock’s Copabana). Breeder-Owner: Candice Harper

AOM/SEL Bitch: GCH Elysium’s Ciao Bella (Ch. Reverie’s Mr. Big Stuff x Ch. Dunbar’s Dauntless Debutante). Breeders: Bruce Sullivan DVM & Karen Sullivan. Owners: Breeders & Carol S. Clark

AOM/SEL Dog: GCH Skyscot’s Texas Hold ‘Em (Ch. Skyscot’s Poker Chip x Skyscot’s Pen Pal). Breeder: Leslie Becker. Owner: Sharon Esposito MD

AOM: GCH Fishback’s Black-Eyed Susan (Ch. Dunbar’s Frozen Assets x Kinsridge High Time). Breeder: Susan Miller Hall. Owners: Breeder & April Clark & Amy Grace Clark

AOM: GCH Scalawag The Sheriff At Stetlands (Beric’s Morgan Kelliwic x Scalawag’s Law And Order). Breeder: Yvonne Vertlieb. Owner: Teri Nyari

—Alison Freehling
Best of Breed: GCH Waiterock Jack Falstaff
(Ch. Barnstable Stuffed Shirt x Waiterock’s Copabana), pictured with Specialty judge Beth Sweigart, handler Jennifer Wornall and NTCA President Jean Kessler

Best of Winners/Winners Dog/Best BBE:
Fly’N High’s Rocket Man
(Ch. Rosecroft Once More x Ch. Ascot Tiger Lily)

Winners Bitch:
Itsy Bitsy Still In The Family
(GCH Itsy Bitsy Troubadour x Ch. Itsy Bitsy Mustang Sally)

Best of Opposite Sex:
Ch. Abbedale Take Two At Taliesin
(Ch. Abbedale’s The Huntsman x Ch. Abbedale’s Polly Pockets)

Best in Sweepstakes:
Pouch Cove’s Which Witch Is Which
(Ch. Yarrow Venerie Old King Cold x Fentondale’s Good Witch), pictured with Sweeps judge Carole Bullwinkle-Fourcraut, co-owner/handler Wheatley Wentzell, and NTCA President Jean Kessler

All photos by Ashbey Photography
The Champion Farndon Romeo Trophy Has Been Retired

The Ch. Farndon Romeo challenge trophy, a 12” scalloped-edged Reed & Barton silver-plated bowl offered by Mrs. A. C. Randolph in 1979 for Best of Opposite Sex at NNTC [NTCA] National Specialty shows only, has been retired by Grand Champion Abbedale Take Two at Taliesin after 32 years in competition. “Sage,” a red bitch bred by Joan Eckert and owned by Lisa & John Sons and Joan Eckert, was Best of Opposite Sex at three consecutive NTCA National Specialties in 2009, 2010 and 2011! —John Francisco, NTCA Show Chair (jfranco@neo.rr.com)

Ed.: Per AKC rules, “For permanent possession,” a challenge trophy is “to be won three times by the same owner, not necessarily with the same dog nor at consecutive Specialty shows.” The Ch. Farndon Romeo trophy was the last of the old-time NNTC/NTCA Specialty trophies still in competition. [See the Fall 2011 News, pages 11-12, for a short history of the trophy and its donor.] Congratulations to “Sage” and her owners! —AGF

NTCA Supported Entry/Sweepstakes: Richland County Kennel Club

December 17, 2011, Cleveland, OH

Breed Judge: Ms. Mary Jane Carberry - Entry: 4-7 (0-3)
Sweepstakes Judge: Mrs. Barbara Dillon - Entry: 2-5


BOW/WD/BOS: Abbedale’s Punchinello (Ch. Abbedale’s Brass Tacks x Dralion’s Funnygirl At Abbedale). Breeders: Joan Eckert & Linda Dowdle. Owner: Joan Eckert

RWD: Dunbar’s Timeless Legacy (Ch. Dunbar’s Frequent Flyer x GCH Dunbar’s Here Comes The Bride). Breeder/Owner: Joan Schurr Kefeli

WB: Dralion Charlies Ebony Angel (Ch Dralion’s Smiles And Chuckles x Dralion’s Ebony Reflection). Breeders/Owners: Peter & Linda Dowdle

RWB: Ma-Ya Sweet ‘N’ Sassy (Ch. Pinelake’s Mega Bucks RE AX MXJ x Ch. Sarum MA-YA’s My Sweet Valentine). Breeders/Owners: Yasuko Harr & Mark Harr

SEL: GCH Pinelake’s Fairy Tail (Ch. Pinelake’s Mega Bucks RE AX MXJ x Ch. Shoebutton’s Peggy Cass). Breeder: Carol S. Clark., Owners: Kelly Foos & David Foos

Sweepstakes:

BISS: Dunbar’s Timeless Legacy (See RWD above)

BOSS: Dralion Charlies Ebony Angel (See WB above)

—John Francisco, NTCA Show Chairman, Norwalk, Ohio (jfranco@neo.rr.com)

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The 2011 AKC/Eukanuba Invitational: Norwich Conformation Results

The 2011 AKC/Eukanuba National Championship was held on December 17 and 18, 2011, at the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando, FL. Entry into this show is by invitation only. The top 25 in each breed, plus dogs that finished from the Bred-by-Exhibitor and amateur owner-handler classes, are invited, along with all Grand Champions, BIS winners and the winner of each breed’s National Specialty. There are also provisions for entering veterans who in the past were ranked highly in their breed or who won a BIS or a National Specialty show.

We had an entry of 29 Norwich Terriers with only one absent! Our judge this year was Robert D. Black of Wrightstown, PA. The results (with owners’ names in parentheses) are as follows:

BOB: GCH Waiterock Jack Falstaff (Candice Harper)
BOS: Ch. Beric’s Taecini (Beth Blankenship)
Best BBE: GCH Foxwood’s Chasing a Dream, who also took a BBE Group 4 (Kathryn Mines)
JAM 1: GCH Foxwood’s Chasing a Dream (Kathryn Mines)
JAM2: GCH Littlefield Dignpop Dashiell of Dungeness (Elaine Jong, Lee Little, Britt Litchford)
JAM3: Ch. So Bb’s Tao of Pooh (Beth Blankenship and Michelle Leech)
JAM4: GCH Dignpop Dash of Panache (Paul and Nancy Eddy and Magda Omansky)
JAM5: GCH Scalawag The Sheriff at Stetland (Teri Nyari)

JAM means Judge’s Award of Merit. The number awarded are based on total breed entry. The judge is allowed to award JAMs based on his opinion that these dogs were also contenders for Best of Breed.

We couldn’t have asked for better weather. Area hotels were plentiful and reasonably priced. The venue for the 2011 Eukanuba, I thought, was far superior to that of the last five years in Long Beach, CA. The Orange County Convention Center is huge and just a short walk from several large hotels. There was plenty of space for larger rings as well as space and seating for spectators to sit ringside and watch the action. All the performance events and demonstrations as well as police dog competitions were held at this same venue. The “Meet The Breeds” areas were also much more spacious than in Long Beach and allowed the clubs more room to decorate. Our club’s MTB booth was ably decorated, staffed and run by Judy Laffey and always seemed to have a crowd.

I arrived with my daughter a few days earlier for the three all-breed shows held at the same location. A friend decided not to go and gave me her room at the headquarters hotel, The Peabody. In addition to the hotel’s lobby ducks, there was a television in the center of my bathroom mirror and a lot of restaurants and bars! We were in Orlando for a total of 5 days and had plenty to do besides the dog shows: shopping the vendors, eating out, and visiting the largest outlet mall I have ever seen just a few miles down the road! I had a great time seeing Norwich people who had come from all over, and I really enjoyed the camaraderie.
I came down with a serious cold the third day I was there and didn't recover until well into February. My little dog, "Jack," picked up a case of viral pneumonia and had to be taken straight to the vet from the airport when we arrived home in California the day after the show. I got him out of his bag on the jet way; he lay down and wouldn't get up! I thought it was from being curled up in his Sherpa Bag for 6 hours, but I couldn't get him to walk. He spent two days and nights at the vet in an oxygenated box. Fearing it was Canine Influenza, since we had been in Florida, the vet swabbed his lung, but it turned out to be common variety viruses. That was one expensive dog show! When I watch the footage of Jack in the Terrier Group at Eukanuba, I can't believe he showed as well as he did. The resilience of our little breed is amazing. It was a thrill to watch him in the ring and to think back to the days when I held this once 3-ounce puppy in the palm of my hand. I will be forever grateful to have been blessed with such a dog to love.

—Candice Harper, “Waiterock” Norwich, Lafayette, CA (waiterock@sbcglobal.net)

Norwich Results At Westminster 2012
Breed Judge: Mr. Jon Cole

Nine Norwich Terriers were entered at the 2012 Westminster Kennel Club show, down from the sixteen breed entries in 2011. One dog and one bitch were absent. From the seven Norwich present (6 dogs, one bitch), Mr. Cole selected the following:

**Best of Breed: GCH Waiterock Jack Falstaff** (Ch. Barnstable Stuffed Shirt x Waiterock Copabana). Breeder/Owner: Candice Harper

**Best of Opposite Sex: GCH Abedale Take Two At Taliesin** (Ch. Abedale’s The Huntsman x Ch. Abedale’s Polly Pockets). Breeder: Joan Eckert. Owners: Lisa & John Sons and Joan Eckert

**Award of Merit: GCH Foxwood Chasing A Dream** (Ch. Foxwood Wildgoose Chase X Ch. Foxwood Dazzling Aria O’Redfern). Breeder/Owner: Kathryn Mines

*Congratulations to all!* —Alison Freehling
Norwich Terrier Club of Greater Chicago
22nd Annual Specialty/Sweepstakes

Saturday February 25, 2012
Sweepstakes Entry: 10
Breed Entry: 11-11 (7-4)

Sweepstakes Judge: Mr. James Kinney

Best in Sweepstakes: Fishback Forget-Me-Not, April Clark, Amy Grace Clark, & Susan Miller Hall

Best of Opposite Sex in Sweepstakes: Camio’s Educated Aviator, Catherine Rogers

Breed Judge: Mrs. Barbara Dempsey Alderman

Best of Breed: GCH Abbedale Take Two At Taliesin, Lisa & John Sons & Joan Eckert

Best of Opposite Sex: GCH Skyscot’s Texas Hold’Em, Sharon Esposito, MD

Best of Winners: Dralion’s Jovial of Abbedale, Linda Dowdle & Joan Eckert

Select Dog: GCH Itsy Bitsy Troubadour, Gerard & Tonnie Willrich

Select Bitch: GCH Fishback’s Black-Eyed Susan, April Clark, Amy Grace Clark, & Susan Miller Hall

Winners Dog: Camio’s Educated Aviator, Catherine Rogers

Reserve Winners Dog: Thunderwood’s First Robin of Spring, Tonnie Willrich and Kristin Conlan

Winners Bitch: Dralion’s Jovial of Abbedale, Linda Dowdle & Joan Eckert

Reserve Winners Bitch: Itsy Bitsy Still in The Family, Amanda Kozora & Tonnie Willrich

Award of Merit: GCH Itsy Bitsy Tanglewood Ranger, Kristine Cwik & Anastasia Cwik

Award of Merit: GCH Fishback Biskit, Susan Miller Hall

Award of Merit: GCH Scalawag The Sherrif at Stetlands, Teri Nyari

Best Amateur Owner Handler: Paradym Yarrow Carnival Queen, Kelly Wood

Best Bred By Exhibitor: Dralion’s Jovial of Abbedale, Linda Dowdle & Joan Eckert

Best Puppy: Camio’s Educated Aviator, Catherine Rogers

—John Francisco, NTCA Show Chair, Norwalk, OH
(jfrancjo@neo.rr.com)
Norwich Terrier Club of Greater Chicago
Supported Entry

Sunday February 26, 2012
Sweepstakes Entry: 11
Breed Entry: 11-11 (7-3)

Sweepstakes Judge: Dr. Bev Sigi Felton

Best in Sweepstakes: Camio's Educated Aviator, Catherine Rogers
Best of Opposite Sex in Sweepstakes: Fishback Forget-Me-Not, April Clark,
            AmyGrace Clark, & Susan Miller Hall

Breed Judge: Mr. Desmond Murphy

Best of Breed: GCH Skyscot's Texas Hold' Em, Sharon Esposito, MD
Best Of Opposite Sex: GCH Abbedale Take Two At Taliesin, Lisa & John
            Sons & Joan Eckert

Best of Winners: Camio's Educated Aviator, Catherine Rogers
Select Dog: GCH Itsy Bitsy Troubadour, Gerard & Tonnie Willrich
Select Bitch: GCH Fishback's Black-Eyed Susan, April Clark, AmyGrace
            Clark, & Susan Miller Hall

Winners Dog: Camio's Educated Aviator, Catherine Rogers
Reserve Winners Dog: Thunderwood's First Robin of Spring, Tonnie
            Willrich and Kristin Conlan

Winners Bitch: Fishback Forget-Me-Not, April Clark, AmyGrace Clark &
            Susan Miller Hall
Reserve Winners Bitch: Dralion Charlies Ebony Angel, Peter & Linda
            Dowdle

Owner Handler: Camio's Educated Aviator, Catherine Rogers

—John Francisco, NTCA Show Chair
ST LOUIS 2012

Schedule of Events: The 2012 NTCA National Specialty

All Specialty events will be held at one of the following locations: Purina Farms Events Center, Gray Summit, MO; Holiday Inn Six Flags, Eureka, MO; AKC Museum of the Dog, St. Louis, MO.

Thursday June 14: Purina Events Center

• 3-5 PM: NTCA Health Seminar (Founders Banquet Room, second floor): Ed Dziuk (OFA), "Analysis of the Results of the Norwich Terrier Health Survey"; Dr. Angela Hughes (Mars Veterinary), "Optimal Selection. A New Genetic Tool for Breeders"

• 5:30 PM: Set Up; Hospitality (munchies, wine/beer/soft drinks); Puppy Match (Judge: Patsy Wade); Grooming demonstration (Judi Hartell)

Friday June 15: Purina Events Center

• NTCA Independent National Specialty/Sweepstakes (See 2012 Show Calendar, p. 48 of this News, for Breed and Sweeps judges.)

Friday June 15: Holiday Inn Six Flags

• 6:30 PM: Cash Bar

• 7 PM: NTCA Banquet/Awards/Auction

Saturday June 16: Purina Events Center

• Norwich Terrier Club of Greater Chicago Specialty/Sweepstakes in conjunction with the Rolla Missouri KC all-breed show (See 2012 Show Calendar, p. 48 of this News, for Breed and Sweeps judges.)

Saturday June 16: AKC Museum of the Dog

• 6 PM: Barbecue dinner (casual attire), hosted by NTCA member Sandra Stemmler

Obedience demonstration by NTCA performance gurus Carlynn Ricks & Betty McDonnell

Sunday June 17: Purina Events Center

• NTCA Supported Entry in conjunction with the Rolla Missouri KC all-breed show (See 2012 Show Calendar, p. 48 of this News, for Breed judge.)

The new, state-of-the-art Purina Events Center is truly awesome—and AIR-CONDITIONED!! Norwich will have a special grooming area close to our conformation ring. Come enjoy a gala weekend of festivities at the 2012 St. Louis Specialty. 😊

Ed.: NTCA Show Chair John Francisco and others contributed to this outline of Specialty events. —AGF

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2012 Show Calendar: NTCA & Regional Norwich Terrier Clubs

Feb. 25 **Specialty & Sweepstakes** – Norwich Terrier Club of Greater Chicago (NTCGC): International Kennel Club, McCormick Place North, Chicago, IL. (Benched)
Breed Judge: Barbara Alderman; Sweepstakes Judge: James Kinney (Puppy Sweeps only)

Feb. 26 **Supported Entry & Sweepstakes** – NTCG: International Kennel Club, McCormick Place North, Chicago, IL. (Benched)
Breed Judge: Ken McDermott; Sweepstakes Judge: Bev Felten (Puppy Sweeps only)

Apr. 13 **Specialty & Sweepstakes** – Norwich Terrier Club of Northern California: Northern California Terrier Assoc., Expo Center, Sacramento, CA.
Breed Judge: Mrs. Connie Clark; Sweepstakes Judge: Laurie Loeffler

Apr. 20 **Supported Entry & Sweepstakes** – Norwich Terrier Club of America (NTCA): Columbian Terrier Assoc. of Maryland, Inc., Maryland State Fairgrounds, Timonium, MD.
Breed Judge: Lee Streeves; Sweepstakes Judge: Ms. Margareta D. Wood (Puppy Sweeps only)

May 4 **Supported Entry & Sweepstakes** – NTCA: Garden State All Terrier Club, Inc., Mercer County Park, West Windsor Twp, NJ.
Breed Judge: Hans T. Lehtinen; Sweepstakes Judge: Fraya Katz

May 19 **Supported Entry & Sweepstakes** – NTCA: Mattaponi Kennel Club, Prince William County Fairgrounds, Manassas, VA.
Breed Judge: Joseph Gregory; Sweepstakes Judge: Mrs. Patricia Warrender (Puppy Sweeps only)

June 15 **National Specialty & Sweepstakes** – Norwich Terrier Club of America (an Independent Specialty), Purina Farm, Gray Summit, MO.
Breed Judge: Eileen Needham (England); Sweepstakes Judge: Ms. Joan Eckert

June 16 **Regional Specialty & Sweepstakes** – NTCG: Rolla Missouri KC, Purina Farm, Gray Summit, MO
Breed Judge: Steven Hurt; Sweepstakes Judge: Larry Cornelius
[N.B.: This is a change of judge. Sue Weaver, originally announced as the Sweeps judge, stepped down for medical reasons.]

June 17 **Supported Entry** – NTCA: Rolla Missouri KC, Purina Farm, Gray Summit, MO
Breed Judge: Mr. Merle Taylor

July 14 **Supported Entry** – NTCA: Comal County KC, Inc., Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center, San Antonio, TX.
Breed Judge: TBA

July 21 **Supported Entry** – Lone Star Norwich Terrier Club: Beaumont KC, Reliant Center, Houston, TX
Breed Judge:TBA

Aug. 26 **Supported Entry & Sweepstakes** – NTCA: Sammamish Kennel Club, County Marymoor Park, Redmond, WA
Breed Judge: TBA; Sweepstakes Judge: Heather Tomlins

Oct. 5 **Supported Entry** – NTCA: The Hatboro Dog Club, Middletown Grange Grounds, 576 Penn Park Rd., Wrightstown, PA.
Breed Judge: TBA

Oct. 7 **Supported Entry & Sweepstakes** – NTCA: Montgomery County Kennel Club, Inc., Montgomery Community College, Blue Bell, PA
Breed Judge: Larry Adams; Sweepstakes Judge: Ms. Leandra Little (Puppy & Veteran)

Dec. 8 **Specialty & Sweepstakes** – Lone Star NTG: Trinity Valley KC, Dallas Market Hall, Dallas, TX.
Breed Judge: TBA; Sweepstakes Judge: Heather Tomlins

—John Francisco, NTCA Show Chair, Norwalk, OH (jfranco@neo.rr.com)
**Norwich Terriers USA 1936-1966.** Edited by Constance Stuart Larrabee and Joan Redmond Read, this is a paperback reprint (1986) of the original hardback book of the same title. The book includes many wonderful photos of early Norwich and Norfolk Terriers and breeders, profiles of influential American kennels, and articles on early Specialty and Match shows. It is the definitive history of Norwich and Norfolk Terriers in America during the 30 years after official AKC recognition of the breed(s). Price: $20 postpaid to USA addresses; $25 to non-USA addresses. Please send a check, payable to NTCA, to Alison Freehling, 1208 Washington Ave., Fredericksburg, VA 22401.

**Back Issues of The Norwich & Norfolk News.** Now a collector's item, back copies of the News from the Fall 1998 through the Fall 2008 issues are available at a cost of $6 each from Alison Freehling, 1208 Washington Ave., Fredericksburg, VA 22401. The Spring 2003, Spring 2004, Spring and Fall 2005 News are sold out and no longer available. Please make checks payable to NTCA.

**New edition of Marjorie Bunting's The Norwich Terrier.** NTCA Notions Chair Patty Warrender has copies of this invaluable breed reference, edited and with two new chapters by Swedish Norwich breeder Renee Sporre-Willes. To order your copy, please send a check for $53.50 ($48.50 for the book, $5 for postage), payable to NTCA, to Patty Warrender, P.O. Box 1431, Middleburg, VA 20118. If you have questions, please e-mail Patty at pwnoridge@gmail.com.

"Kimmo" wishes everyone a great time in St. Louis.
2012 Olympic Hopefuls

"Equestrian cross-country is my best event."

"I'm going for the gold in balance beam."

Here's to our "sporting" terriers!