

## **1936 - USA - 1966**

### **(reprint from Norwich Terriers USA 1936-1966)**

It is thirty years since the breed was recognized in America. In the beginning the Norwich was a terrier cocktail, the breed far from uniform and almost every horseman, both professional and amateur, added his own ingredient to the mixture. The foxhunting fraternity bred for the sheer satisfaction of producing small, sturdy, fearless, working terriers. That the Norwich in this country are as uniform as they are today, is a great credit to those enthusiastic pioneers.

Witherslack Sport, Gordon Massey's first import to Maryland, was a large, short coated dog with wonderful ear carriage and disposition. Mr. Massey bred both ear types and in the early days cropped their ears, he kept meticulous weight records. No Massey dog was ever over 12 pounds.

The Norwich Terrier Club, founded unofficially in the thirties, adopted the 1932 English Standard. Its first officers were Harry T. Peters, Mrs. Robert Winthrop (Mrs. A. Randolph), Miss Jean Hinkle and Henry Bixby. Early members were Mrs. Alice McLean, Miss Edith McCausland, the Dean Bedfords and Gordon Masseys. In 1947 a small group of interested Norwich Terrier owners met with Mr. Bixby in the dusty halls of the Mechanics Building, Boston, and soon after the Club was officially recognized by the American Kennel Club.

In 1935 Henry Bixby of Long Island, brought over a pair of drop ear youngsters, Merry and Mark of Beaufin. Mark, a bit big, had one erect and one drop ear and was not shown. In 1937 Merry's first litter by Mark mostly prick ears included Peter Russett. Merry was next bred to Witherslack Sport. Mrs. Alice McLean imported Norwich in 1936 from Farndon, Neachley, Mrs. Phyllis Fagan and Mrs. Normandy Rodwell. These prick ear imports were exhibited and with show competition the breed survived. Ch. Merry of Beaufin was the first American champion followed by Mrs. Winthrop's Ch. Rachael, the first American prick ear champion bitch. The Norwich show ring prior to World War II was dominated by the Windholme winning prick ears, many, had black backs. Harry T. Peters founded his Windholme strain on Mrs. McLean's and Mrs. Massey's studs. Westminster 1939 Best of Breed was Windholme Mischief by Ch. Ponto The Sagacious Dog.

Not alone in his conviction that drop ears were the true Norwich, Henry Bixby received ring competition in the late thirties from two stalwart New Englanders, Miss Edith McCausland and Miss Jean Hinkle, whose original drop ear stock from Miss Macfie founded their Kedron and Port Fortune Kennels. Miss McCausland's Angel's Whisper of Colonsay appeared in the Norwich ring at New England shows; her owner always stayed for the Terrier Group, whether there had been breed competition or not and the public gradually became acquainted with the sporting terriers. Kedron also acquired a reputation in the Obedience ring. In time, Miss McCausland sold her remaining stock to another terrier fancier Josephine Gould of Milton. Mrs. Gould soon imported from the best bloodlines preserved by English drop ear breeders during the war. Her Colonsay Flap was Best of Opposite Sex at the 1952 Match in which Mrs. Talmage's Nixon was Best In Match. Mrs. Gould exhibited sparingly. High Rising and Chidley breeders and Len Brumby were all students of Mrs. Gould's lore.

Miss Jean Hinkle, a breeder of Welsh Terriers, in 1938 commissioned Percy Roberts to bring back the litter mates Colonsay Allkiff and Colonsay Allacando from England. Allkiff was the first black and tan drop ear dog to gain his title, while his sister proved to be a grand foundation bitch carrying the dark color gene. Her most influential descendant, Port Fortune The Ace, would have been "a sure champion in any terrier man's book, but for the war".

As the Norwich Club grew, the necessity for impartial breed judges became apparent. Miss Hinkle proved a dedicated judge, helping Norwich gain their present status. She would have been proud of the Port Fortune descendants and disciples. Exhibitors were warned that type and size had to be established. Her judging was positive, novices were never discouraged by enumerating faults. She not only knew dogs - she also knew dog lovers.

Before the war drop ear exhibitors were joined by Mrs. Duncan Spencer who in 1948 became the first official Club President. Josephine Spencer imported Trump of Boxted, by Tobit, as a foundation sire for her Partree Kennel. Her next import, Cobbler of Boxted, was Best Of Breed, 1948 Specialty, repeating his win as a champion in 1949. He produced winners for Port Fortune, Kedron and Pinch, his Colonsay breeding suited the American dogs he served. Today, although the overall quality of drop ears is more uniform, the breed seems to lack as sound and typical an individual as "The Cobbler".

Cobbler's blood at Castle Point is greatly valued and Newry has his stamp through Ch. Woodchuck of Wingan, grandson of Port Fortune the Ace. A devotee of hunting vermin, Woodchuck was also an accomplished retriever. Between 1956 and 1958, through Henry Bixby's Pinch line Newry attained stature with the three champion Newry brothers, McAleenan, McShane and McGilly.

River Bend has been a bastion for both ear types ever since Mrs. Josephine Spencer gave her friend Miss Sylvia Warren her first Norwich, Bruff, in 1942 and the Breed in America took a huge stride forward in 1946 when in turn Sylvia Warren gave a drop ear Norwich to her sister Katherine Thayer. Before her sudden death in 1958 the Breed's future in homes, the fields and the show ring was firmly established due to Mrs. Thayer's untiring efforts on behalf of these little dogs. At Maplehurst Farm, her dogs were all house dogs; many remember her home-bred Ch. Pippet,. Primarily interested in working terriers, she believed in showing them in natural coat and exhibited at Westminster solely for the good of the breed. After the war, Mrs. Thayer and her great friend Mrs. Josephine Spencer recognized the unofficial Breed Club and, thanks to these two dedicated drop-ear breeders and exhibitors, the Club gained official American Kennel Club recognition in 1947 and won the breed - at home and abroad - new friends. In 1948 Mrs. Spencer as the first President with Mrs. Thayer as the first Secretary, unified Norwich interests, they gathered invaluable statistics and visited active breeders in many states. That year the first Specialty Show was held in Massachusetts with an excellent entry of over thirty dogs. Soon after, the Club and the Breed suffered a severe loss with the sad death of the sporting Mrs. Spencer.

The stalwart Katherine Thayer carried on, adequately coping with the growing Club's responsibilities and problems. Judges were sent a copy of the Standard, prospective members were personally contacted, and detailed records kept. Mrs. Thayer made no secret of her contempt for trophy hunters. She had observed several grand breeds fall into disrepute through the exploits of the few and was a champion of the "the show-it-yourself" school. Cooperating with British breeders, the foundations were laid which have preserved the Norwich as a sporting companion in both countries. Her achievements were supported and much appreciated by Club Presidents Oakleigh Thorne and Alden Blodget and their fellow officers. Today the Club well represents breeders and owners of both ear types in the growing Norwich family and Mrs. Thayer's ideals continue to be an inspiration to those who safeguard the best interests of the Breed.

Mr. Robert Sedgewick in 1952 followed Mrs. Spencer as the next President. His outstanding success in improving the various breeds of terriers in which he was interested, earned for him a position of high respect in the dog world. A fine sportsman and first class terrier man, his death was a great loss to the Club.

In 1953 Oakleigh Thorne of Millbrook took office as President. His Ch River Bend Jiffy, daughter of Ch. John Paul Jones, bred to Ch. Farndon Romeo, produced a quintet of lads, among them the well-named future champion Thorndale Alert, sire of Ch. High Rising Hardy Perennial and Ch. Upland Spring Jock II. Mr. Thorne imported Rednor Red Rufus, a light-boned, mahogany colored little dog with hard coat, black eye and well-dropped ears. He soon became a champion, was the first of Ch. Red Wraith's get to sire black and tans over here, and his line descends through Newry and Mt. Paul.

The Norwich Terrier Cub A.K.C. Delegate, Morgan Wing, Jr., and his family are all ardent dog lovers. Ch. Sandanona Ruffian bred by Warren Adriance, is always shown by Jill Wing. They own a pack of beagles, working Labradors and Mrs. Wing's prize-winning sled racers.. This Siberian Husky team has competed in Alaska with Mrs. Wing at the reins.

Mr. Blodget, one of the Club's earliest members, became President in 1955, an office he was to hold for five years. Many delightful meetings were held in his New York home where he lived with his wife, Cornelia Otis Skinner. He owned John Paul Jones of Groton, the first post-war American bred champion. Bred by Mrs. Randolph in 1943, this busy terrier, with a dark eye and small prick ears, was blind in one eye from a hunting accident when he first entered the show ring. In 1946 he went Best of Breed at Westminster. Ch. John Paul Jones of Groton, fearless, a bon vivant, city slicker, country squire and keen hunter, had great charm for the fair sex from Maryland to Massachusetts. His virtues outweighed his handicaps; he won his championship against keen competition and for eighteen years was the devoted companion of his sportsman owner Alden Blodget.

Pax of the Briars, imported in 1948 by William C. Hunneman, Jr., was a true representative Norwich. A low stocky dog with a harsh red, non-trim coat, his head was clean and heavily maned. He had plenty of bone for his size. Eventually Mr. Hunneman gave Pax to Bill Thomas, at that time Whip to The Radnor Hunt.

Today's leading drop ear kennels are Castle Point, Bethways, Miss Itch. Mrs. Barbara Fournier's kennel has produced a record number of champions. Two breeders who owe Henry Bixby a debt of gratitude are Mrs. Haggerty whose Norwich bred to the Pinch name established her Newry line and Club Secretary Mrs. Winston whose Mt. Paul dogs have all had outstanding terrier temperaments.

New Jersey is a drop ear stronghold. Our popular President from 1961 to 1963 was Mrs. Stevens Baird. The well known breeder of consistently true to type Castle Point drop ears, Mrs. Baird's calm, diplomatic interest in dogs gave all breeders confidence in the progress of the breed. Ch. Partree Sparkle 1951 Specialty BOS, acquired from Mrs. Spencer's estate, was Castle Point's foundation bitch.

Mrs. John Winston and Mrs. Stanford Mallory have contributed to raising the standard of the drop ears with their Mt. Paul and Wendover Norwich. The Tar Heel Kennels of Bain Cobb in Far Hills, using Robincott Trump Card, a full brother of Tempest, are breeding fine drop ear specimens. Ch. Wendover Cobbler is owned by Mrs. Basil Stetson of Princeton, where she also breeds Irish Wolfhounds under the Sionnach prefix.

The Lewis Murdocks, long interested in the breed, often take their five Norwich Terriers hunting with the Essex Hounds. Mr. Murdock has a special English carrying bag in which he places a chosen terrier. When the fox goes to ground, the terrier is released and bolts him from cover too small for hounds to enter. Down in Middleburg, Virginia, the Frederick Warburgs have bred many litters over the years. Mr. Warburg had a daughter of Willum Jones called Memima, through whom he became interested in the Jones. He thinks they were bigger in type than the present Norwich, but had all their characteristics and charm. "We have never shown any except once at a local show when we brushed up a dog, dragged him to a show and he beat an English Champion."

Four Norwich have been exported to England: two prick and two drop ear. The first was Heath Tinker exported in 1957 by High Rising to Mrs. Sheila Monckton. Heath Tinker is the great great grandsire of High Tor's Grange Gambit and King's Prevention Bourbon Tor, two young bitches by Ch. Longways Felix, bred in 1966 by Mrs. Morris Dixon.

Mrs. Winston exported Foxhunter's Tally Ho in 1965. His dam, Gumdrop, is "a lovely type with a dark red coat and good eye" whose grandsires were the Champions Ragus Jimmy Joe and Castle Point Simon. In 1966, Mrs. Phillip Fell, who breeds Whippets and Norwich Terriers at her Badgewood Kennels in England, imported the American drop

ear Ch. Newry's Mrs. McThing, in whose background are the Champions Brigham Young, Woodchuck of Wingan, Waveney Valley Alder and Newry's Pinch Hitter.

When Jock Whitney became our Ambassador to the Court of St. James, he took Charing Cross Baccio with him. Baccio, preferring country living to formal Embassy parties, joined the Whinlatter Kennels where he became our breed Ambassador. At one time he held the breed record for the most champions sired by one dog. An invaluable stud, he also produced black and tans. He was bred by Gilbert Kahn, a breeder in the fifties whose foundation bitch was Dame Elaine by Ch. Farndon Rodney. One of the early breeders in Canada was Mr. Alan Case in Toronto; followed by Mrs. Frank Bunce who established her small Fair Hope Kennel on stock from High Rising. In California in the forties, the Wensum Kennels of Mark Watson bred drop ears based on Castle Point and Colonsay stock.

In the early fifties breeders in the Millbrook, New York area began to show. Norwich were first introduced to the Millbrook Hunt as fox bolters and Mrs. Paul Peabody, joint Master of the Hunt, owned a Norwich, Tennoc Bandy. Her terriers came from Commander Connett's Tennoc Norwich, bred from Mrs. McLean's original pre-war imports and noted for their handy size and hunting instincts. Bandy was a great snake killer and hunter. No mouse was too small nor woodchuck too large to escape his attention and his favorite sport was treeing squirrels. When they rode over the Millbrook hills, Bandy followed, often covering eight or ten miles on his short legs. He sired forty-eight puppies - all good and some champions. His black and tan companion, Hopie, whelped many litters, never a black and tan. She once accounted for a raccoon twice her size. Pursuing her quarry three feet underground one day, she blocked her own exit while digging and had to be freed with a pick and shovel. Mrs. Peabody bred John Richter's Ch. Horatio Jones, BOW at Westminster under Percy Roberts. Horatio was killed by a car soon after, when chasing a squirrel.

Among horse lovers from the Hudson to Millbrook, Harry Richter is another breeder of working Norwich well-known for his game terriers. Warren Cabot Adriance continued in the Tennoc tradition with a sure Norwich champion, Pippin. Unfortunately, his first love, Hackney ponies, proved so time consuming that Pippin was seldom shown. However, Mr. Adriance is still devoted to Norwich and plans to resume breeding in the near future.

In Virginia, Col. R.J. Kirkpatrick raised excellent stock, from Quartzhill imports, which won success under the Oakley, Heath and King's Prevention banners. "Col. Dick" bred

the two champions Oakley Kirk and Briton of King's Prevention; their sire Quartzhill Quince claimed Pax of the Briars (sire of Eng. Am. Ch. Farndon Randolph) as his great-grand sire. 1959 Specialty BOS, Ch. Oakley Kirk was one of this country's finest studs. Ch. Briton "superb in head, expression, front and topline," with Kildoon Ruby was 1962 Specialty Best Brace. Although from opposite shores, they were obviously from the same mold.

In Connecticut, Whiteshill Muggsie O'Leary, Mopsa and Corcas are Mrs. Gilroy Daly's first home bred black and tans. Predominantly interested in black and tans with Mrs. Hanning, they are studying the lines which produce them. Also in Connecticut, a wonderful deep red prick ear of happy temperament is Mrs. Daniel Cooney's Bramblewyck Graham Cracker by Upland Spring Red Fox ex Ch. Upland Spring Red Spinner. He is the sire of Mrs. Philip Hewes' first champion, Nod Hill's Biscuit. 1965 Best in Match was "a showy little guy," Bandit of Weekapaug. In Massachusetts, Mrs. William Lane's first home bred, Bandit has ten point towards his championship. The last in the litter, he is a spirited young fellow. Blu-Frost is Weekapaug's gaurdian angel, Mrs. James Hanning showed at Westminster for her friend and under her guidance the Lanes imported Withalder Black Arrow, a grand young black and tan in wonder coat, who was Best Puppy in Show at the 1966 Match.

Our honorary Treasurer, Gerard M. Thompson, a familiar figure stewarding at Westminster, has owned Norwich for many years. He recently introduced his elderly bitch Patsy to young Pepper, bred by Henry Filter. A foxhunter and fine judge of dogs, Mr. Filter has been interested in Norwich from the early thirties.

A pioneer breeder in Mexico City, Samuel Fuller III imported Quartzhill Kingcup by Quartzhill Box ex Foxybrook Echo. This small red brindle prick ear survived several ordeals in route to Mexico; first by jet from London to Dallas, then a one thousand mile car ride from Dallas through Texas and North Mexico. Hawaiian pioneers are Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Tackers' Jericho Dirk and Sparkle.

The leading prick ear kennels today are Blu-Frost, Chidley, Grange, King's Prevention, Longways, Oakley, Pemberton, River Bend and Upland Spring.

Mrs. Theodora Randolph has bred Norwich for thirty years under Groton, Halfway and Oakley prefixes and her small, typey Norwich are found in almost every state. Mrs. Emory Alexander's Longways dogs represent the breed at all major shows. Mrs.

Alexander and Mr. R.C. Kettles imported the brother and sister champions Whinlatter Allercombe Hiker and Hetty. Eng. Am. Ch. Whinlatter Hiker's stud influence has been confined to Longways. He defeated his champion get, all strong with Whinlatter blood, before retiring in 1965, after winning BOB at Westminster. Ch. Gaybar Montmorency, 1956 Specialty BOS, was also owned by Mr. Kettles.

The Blu-Frost breeders, Mr. & Mrs. James Hanning, never waver from rigid adherence to the Standard. A great future is predicted for Blu-Frost Paper Doll, the epitome of the true Norwich type. Mrs. Sydney Glass at Grange and Mrs. Sterling Larrabee at King's Prevention are two selective breeders who believe in individual attention and freedom which so obviously promotes soundness and good temperament in their terriers. Mrs. Larrabee founded the Norwich Terrier News in 1962.

King's Prevention has a team of steady showmen. Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Nicholson and Mr. & Mrs. Walter Hanley exhibit their litter mates, Barnaby and Amber. Barnaby has three majors and two points to go. The Hanley's Amber is expecting a litter by Ch. King's Prevention Jolly Ragus, a first for both dogs. Ch. King's Prevention Hardy Bear has founded a dynasty. His Wisconsin daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Harrington's Tammy Bear, their first Norwich was 1966 BOS Chicago. Mrs. Louisa d'A. Carpenter chose another daughter, Wonder Bear, as her foundation bitch; while Hardy Bear's son Happy Bear and a Chidley maiden form the nucleus of Jon and Judy Barton's small Maryland kennel.

Mrs. Howe Low, with an enviable record and a long string of Upland Spring champions to her credit, has contributed substance to the breed which will have a permanent influence on all American prick ears. The Dolobran strain of Mr. & Mrs. C.A. Griscom, III was established in 1965 with Ch. Longways Hector and this year they acquired Chidley Turnover Topsy. The Deswin and Patricia prefixes will soon be found in pedigrees from two young breeders, Desmond Murphy and Patricia Brumby. 1966 produced three pairs of champion litter mates: Chidley Montague and Buster Brown, Longways Leda and Labeo, and Wendover Favor and Foxhunter. Today, show competition is well distributed along the Eastern Seaboard.

Mr. and Mrs. Dean Bedford are popular patrons of the breed, with a lifelong respect for horses and dogs. Both are qualified judges and enthusiastic exhibitors and at Pemberton breed Norwich Terriers and English Cocker Spaniels. They imported the first

English and American Champion, Farndon Randolph, BOB Crufts 1950 and three times BOB at Westminster 1951-1953.

Long a staunch Norwich advocate, Mrs. Curtis Read became our sixth President in 1964. Her enthusiasm is contagious, her knowledge of the breed limitless, and her guidance has assured a vigorous Norwich future. According to the English judge Mrs. Esmee O'Hanlon, Ch. Chidley Little Nell, bred by Mrs. Read "stands out for temperament, quality, correct size and perfect expression. She shows like a veteran, moves beautifully; short coupled with a grand front, the best legs and feet, she has substance without coarseness."

The general quality of Norwich much improved through sound and responsible breeding, is largely due to the outstanding cooperation between the English and American Norwich Terrier Clubs. The two English Honorary Secretaries, Col. G.B. Williams and Major N. Bradshaw, have worked hard for their breed. Col. Williams, a knowledgeable, severe champion, is a critical judge with an unerring eye for type. During Major Bradshaw's term of office breed separation by ear type was accomplished in England - the drop ears became Norfolk and the prick ear remained Norwich. In America the prick ears and drop ears remain one breed - the Norwich Terrier.

The personal appeal that a Norwich possesses as an individual is perhaps his most enchanting attribute. Few owners ever switch their breed loyalty and many breeders, inspired by Katherine Thayer's Herculean efforts to insure that the breed be presented and judged according to the standard, as a working terrier, have endeavored to preserve the true Norwich character.

It is hoped that the Norwich Terriers' greater orbit in popularity will not diminish the characteristics for which they were bred. Let us perpetuate our weather proof working terriers. May their numbers always increase. We trust that the future will decrease their faults yet protect their virtues. Long live the Norwich!