

BY DANA ESQUIBEL

THE FANCY

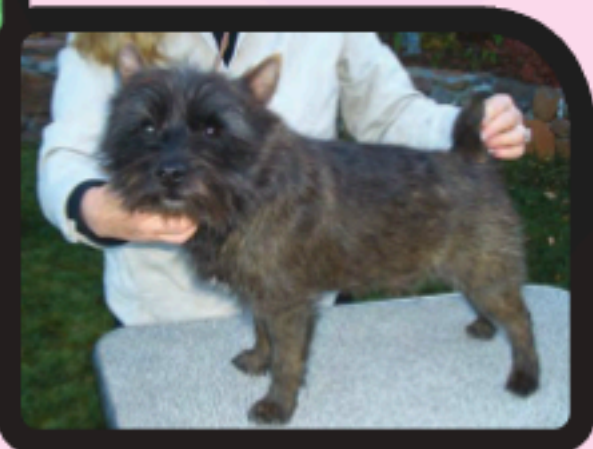
SPEAKS

I showed an AKC registered Norwich Terrier recently (in the conformation ring) that looks like a Cairn Terrier. He is black brindle and has a docked tail. A friend and legitimate Norwich fancier purchased him in Missouri from a commercial breeder. Although he came with AKC registration, she decided to use the new Mars Wisdom Panel Purebred Dog DNA test on him and the results came back he is 50% Cairn Terrier and 50% Norwich Terrier. Not only is this non-pure-

bred dog eligible for the conformation ring, much worse, he is eligible for breeding more non-pure AKC registered Norwich Terriers. He is 6 years old and has been used for stud for years. Not anymore.



We decided to take advantage of this opportunity to bring awareness of the problem of non-purebred dogs being registered with AKC as purebred Norwich Terriers. It has been going on for over a decade, yet few are aware of the problem. Changes need to be made to close the loopholes for non-purebred dogs getting into the registry. This is the 3rd group of dogs I have been involved with over the past few years that were AKC registered as Norwich Terriers, yet they are not purebred. People need to be aware



that there is a problem before they will be receptive to making changes. Our goal was to let folks see this dog and see the reality of the problem first hand. The more the fancy knows about this issue and becomes aware there is a need for change, the easier it will be to get changes made.

Let's make year 2012 the year of change in AKC registration procedures for Norwich Terriers and stop non-purebred dogs from entering the registry!