Summary Information

Title: Evans, George Bird. Papers
Creator: Evans, George Bird
Inclusive dates: 1932-2013
Bulk dates: 1932-1998
Extent: 16 ft. 8 in. (37 document cases, 5 flat storage boxes)
Abstract:

Papers of George Bird Evans, a widely published author and illustrator of books and articles regarding hunting and bird dog breeding. Most of his work was produced at his home "Old Hemlock" in Preston County, West Virginia. Records document his careers as an author of books and articles regarding bird dog hunting; as a breeder of quality bird dogs; an illustrator for several national magazines and the United States Navy during World War II; and as co-author with his wife, Kay Evans, of mystery novels. Materials include: George Bird Evans' Gun Diary with entries and illustrations regarding hunting, fishing, and dog breeding experiences for 65 years; correspondence with friends, patrons, publishers, and other hunters; manuscripts and galleys; cassette tapes (2 items) of recordings of readings by George and Kay Evans; DVDs (3 items) containing 188 digital scans of illustrations by George Bird Evans; and a scrapbook documenting the Evans' career as mystery writers under the pen name "Brandon Bird". There are also 32 oversize drawings by G.B. Evans; oversized photographs and art pieces (7 items) of George Bird Evans, Kay Evans, and their dogs; a DVD of an 18 minute motion picture regarding George Bird Evans; and several sportsman journals, most with published articles by George Bird Evans. See scope and contents for link to photographs in West Virginia History OnView.

Call number: A&M No.: 3610
Language: The materials are in English
Repository: West Virginia & Regional History Collection

Access and Use

Access Restrictions:

No special access restriction applies.

Copyright:

WV&RHC Retains all Rights

Preferred Citation:

A&M No. and Collection Title

Related A&M Nos.:

Separated Material:

Books by George Bird Evans separated to the Rare Book Collection.
Historical Note

George Washington Bird Evans and Eve Hunt Evans celebrated the birth of their only child, George Bird Evans, in 1906. Their comfortable Uniontown, Pennsylvania home provided a secure environment for young George to learn and develop his talents in art and literature. George's father also wasted no time pouring into his young son his love for hunting, bird dogs, and the outdoor life. George Bird Evans attend Carnegie Institute to pursue a career in art. He later transferred to the Art Institute of Chicago, staying for two years before moving to New York in 1927 to establish a career as an illustrator, but not alone. He had met and married Kay Harris from Wheeling; their marriage would last for over seventy years. In New York George Evans found success as an illustrator. He also included trips home for the hunt of game on Chestnut Ridge during hunting season. George started keeping a "gun diary" or journal in 1932, recording every outing for hunting, shooting, or bird dog training over the next 65 years. The Evans loved the Chestnut Ridge area, leaving New York in 1939 to buy a farm in Preston County, West Virginia, naming their new homestead "Old Hemlock". George enjoyed working out of his new surroundings, mailing his work to publishers in New York and having time to roam and hunt with Kay and their dogs.

This ideal life was interrupted by World War II when George volunteered his services and was commissioned a Lieutenant J.G. in Navy. He used his talents by illustrating equipment repair manuals, substituting pictures for complicated language. After the war George and Kay chose to venture into writing mystery novels as a team under the pen name "Brandon Bird". It was a success. The Evans were also beginning to breed Belton English Setters in their quest for the best bird dog possible. In 1956 George started using his journal as a source for articles, publishing over a hundred over the next forty two years. In 1971 his first book, "The Upland Shooting Life", was published, achieving status as a classic. Twenty seven more upland shooting books followed. Most of the photographs published with the articles and books were taken by Kay Evans. Always careful with their projects, George and Kay Evans began publishing their own books in 1983 under the name "Old Hemlock". George Bird Evans died in May, 1998 at the age of ninety-one. He had been hunting only a few weeks before with his best friend Kay and their family of bird dogs.

Collection Scope and Content Note

Papers of George Bird Evans, including records documenting his career as an author of books and articles regarding bird dog hunting, and as a breeder of his own line of Belton English Setter bird dogs called the "Old Hemlock Line" in partnership with his wife, Kay Evans. There are also records regarding his career as a magazine illustrator, including his original art works (32 oversize drawings) that were published with fiction that appeared in several popular women's magazines before and after World War II (including "Cosmopolitan" and "McCall's" among others). The collaborative writing career of George and Kay Evans under the pen name of "Brandon Bird" is documented in a scrapbook (ca.1950-1962) containing photographs, clippings, and book reviews regarding their five published mystery novels.

The collection includes a journal, which Evans referred to as his "Gun Diary", with entries ranging from 1932 to 1997 where Evans recorded and illustrated his hunting, fishing, and bird dog training excursions for 65 years. There are also several periodicals, such as "Field and Stream", "The Pointing Dog Journal", and "Gun Dog", among others, most issues contain articles by George Bird Evans and a few by Kay Evans. Other materials include extensive correspondence with publishers, friends, outdoor sports writers, hunters and breeders (such as Nash Buckingham, Dr. Charles Norris, and Dr. Gordon Gullion), and patrons of his bird dog breeding business. There are several manuscripts and galleys of published books, including "The Upland Shooting Life" and "The Best of Nash Buckingham", among others. There are also financial records regarding the publication and sales of his books, videos, and cassette tapes. The collection also includes 188 digital scans of illustrations by Evans on DVD discs (3 items), audio recordings (2 cassette tapes) of readings by George and Kay Evans, and oversized framed photographs and art pieces (7 items) of George Bird Evans, his wife Kay, and their dogs.

There are 23 series in this collection, including:

1) Biographical Information
2) Journal of George Bird Evans
3) Correspondence
4) Manuscripts -- Published Books
5) Manuscripts -- Published Articles
6) Manuscript
7) Manuscripts -- Illustrations
8) Manuscripts -- Galleys
9) Projects -- Dr. Charles Norris
10) Projects -- Nash Buckingham
11) Financial Records
12) Magazine Articles
13) Subjects
14) Audio Tapes
15) Digital Files
16) Scrapbook
17) Art Works
18) Oversize Pictures of George Bird Evans and Others
19) Artifacts
20) Motion Picture -- Published
21) Sportsman Journals
22) Motion Pictures -- Unpublished
23) Oversize

1. Biographical Information. Regards the life and career of George Bird Evans, including feature articles in the Morgantown "Dominion Post" newspaper (1993) and The West Virginia and Regional History Collection Newsletter (Spring 2008). Also contains a 3 in. x 5 in. photograph of George Bird Evans with one of his setters and a "kill" (a grouse); a photograph of Evans with friend, David Hall; and two photos of Evans with his wife Kay on a fishing trip (1936).

2. Journal Of George Bird Evans. Spanning 65 years (1932-1997), the journal documents the hunting, fishing, and dog training excursions of George Evans through text and illustrations. The journals were a primary source for most of the books and articles Evans authored.

3. Correspondence. Includes a substantial amount of correspondence with the book publishers (Winchester, Amwell, and Alfred Knopf Company), book dealers, and magazines (including: "Field and Stream", "Gun Dog", "American Hunter", and "The American Sportsman") that were publishing material authored by Evans. Also includes research requests, permissions, and releases for material used in publications by Evans. Other correspondents includes friends and fellow hunters. Many letters were from patrons and fans such as David Hall and the Ingrahams. There is a series of letters "written" by the setters at Old Hemlock to their family members that were living with the Ingrahams.

4. Manuscripts -- Published Books. This series contains 16 manuscripts of published books by George Bird Evans, including his first book pertaining to dogs, guns, and hunting, "The Upland Shooting Life" (1971) and his last, "Grouse & Woodcocks in the Blackwater/Canaan" (1997). There is one incomplete manuscript of a published book, "From My Covers" (1995).

5. Manuscripts -- Published Articles. This series contains 17 published articles and seven "copies" of published articles authored by George Bird Evans with photographs by Kay Evans. Most were published in "The Pointing Dog Journal", but some appeared in "Pennsylvania Gaming News" and Field and Stream", among others publications. There are also four forewords by George Bird Evans, including an introduction for the 1989 edition of "Eastern Upland Shooting" authored Evans' close friend Dr.Charles Norris.

6. Manuscript. Contains the manuscript of "Three Englishmen and A Lady" by George and Kay Evans; it follows the lives of four of the Evans' Belton English Setters, including Ruff, Blue, Feathers, and Wilda. Publication information is unknown; it was apparently never published as an entire work.

7. Manuscripts -- Illustrations. Includes several of George Bird Evans' "Gun Diary" sketches taken from his journal. Many were used in Evans' books (including "Grouse Along the Tramroad") and articles. There are also charts comparing 41 seasons (1939-1980), grouse numbers, and grouse per coverts.

8. Manuscripts -- Galleys. Proofs of published works includes two books, "Living With Gun Dogs", nine rolled and sealed galleys and "Hawk Watch" authored by George and Kay Evans, unrolled galleys; also includes three articles and /or chapters, "Charles Hallock, 1834-1917", "V.E. Willouby" and "S.T. Hammond 'Shadow', 1831-1925".

9. Projects -- Dr. Charles Norris. Dr. Norris was a close friend George and Kay Evans. When writing the book "Eastern Upland Shooting" Norris became too ill to complete it; this series includes three copies of the unfinished manuscript. George Bird Evans used the unfinished work as the basis for "Recollections of a Shooting Guest"; an incomplete copy of the manuscript for "Shooting Guest" is also included in this series. There are also copies of letters Dr. Norris wrote to George and Kay Evans over a period of eight years which were used as a resource for information and quotations included in the book. This series also includes photographs of Dr. Norris and his dogs, ephemera from hunting and shooting establishments, and clippings.

10. Projects -- Nash Buckingham. George Bird Evans wrote two books to honor Nash Buckingham by focusing on Buckingham's own material, including "The Best of Nash Buckingham" and "Dear John . . . Nash Buckingham's Letters to John Bailey". The collection has one copy of the manuscript of "The Best Of Nash Buckingham" and two copies of the manuscript for 'Dear John . . . Nash Buckingham's Letters to John Bailey'. Evans used, among other sources, the extensive correspondence of Nash Buckingham for both books. The letters are included in the collection. There is also correspondence with Buckingham's family and friends relating facts and anecdotes regarding Nash Buckingham; photographs of Nash Buckingham; and ephemera, including programs from the Hunting Hall of Fame ceremony honoring Nash Buckingham as a 1974 inductee.
11. **Financial Records.** Includes ledgers compiled by the Evans to record sales of their books and audio tapes. There are also several royalty statements.


13. **Subjects.** Includes a variety of material, including: a 1988 pedigree chart for the Old Hemlock line of English Setters bred by Stephen Hitsman and George and Kay Evans; research notes compiled by George Bird Evans from his reading of books related to hunting; a greeting card to the Evans labeled by George and/or Kay "idea for opus 12 jacket"; and ephemera (three cards advertising publication of books by George Bird Evans).

14. **Audio Tapes.** Two cassettes titled "An Evening at Old Hemlock" (1989/06 and 1993/Fall) are recordings of George and Kay Evans reading selections from several books authored by Evans.

15. **Digital Files.** Three DVD discs with 188 digital files of scans of illustrations by Evans that appeared in "Cosmopolitan", "McCall's", and other magazines.

16. **Scrapbook.** One scrapbook documenting the collaborative writing career of George and Kay Evans under the pen name "Brandon Bird", which produced five mystery novels and a number of fiction pieces for magazines. Includes: clippings of articles regarding the Evans as a writing team and the awards they had won; book reviews of the Evans five mystery novels by several publications, including the New York Times Book Review; press releases announcing the publication of a new novel and several 8x10 photographs of the Evans, their home and their dogs; also includes correspondence and clippings regarding the song "Dixie's Land" composed by George Bird Evans' great-grandmother's second husband, Daniel Decatur Emmett (the original manuscript of the song was in the possession of George and Kay Evans at their home Old Hemlock; see also box 17, folder 4 for manuscript of article by Evans regarding the Evans - Emmett connection).

17. **Artworks.** Original copies of illustrations by George Bird Evans (Includes: 30 oversize pieces, most published in popular women's magazines [such as Cosmopolitan and McCall's] before and after World War II, ca. 1938-1948; one 8 1/2 x 12 inch watercolor illustration for book "Mission Murder" by Hugh Pentecost; and two drawings by Lieutenant J.G. Evans for the Navy during WWII, including equipment and jet.)

18. **OVERSIZED PICTURES OF GEORGE BIRD EVANS AND OTHERS.** Seven photographs of George Bird Evans, Kay Evans, their dogs, and members of the Evans family; also includes two art works by Evans of Evans and / or his dogs.

19. **Artifacts.** Includes easel, two brushes, and hunting gear (hat, backpack, shell box, and shell holster).

20. **Motion Picture -- Published.** Contains one DVD of undated 18 minute motion picture documentary featuring footage of George Bird Evans describing his home, property, and way of life.

21. **Sportsman Journals.** Includes periodicals such as Field and Stream, The Pointing Dog Journal, Game and Gun, Gun Dog, Shooting Sportsman, and Pennsylvania Game News, among others. There are also three editions of The American Sportsman book series with photographs from the ABC-TV series, The American Sportsman. Several of the publications have articles by George Bird Evans and Kay Evans (most are written by George Bird Evans, some are co-authored with his wife, Kay Evans, and a few are by Kay Evans only).

22. **Motion Pictures -- Unpublished.** Includes motion picture film in 8mm of dog training, and of special events in the lives of George and Kay Evans and their dogs.

23. **OVERSIZED.** One framed illustration of a hunting dog by G.B. Evans.

**Contents List:**

1. **Biographical Information**

   Box 1; Folder 1; Information regarding the life and career of George Bird Evans (includes: article from Morgantown’s Dominion Post [1993/08/06]; West Virginia and Regional History Collection Newsletter [2008/Spring]; photocopies of the front cover and title page of George Bird Evans' biography, "George Bird Evans: Life of A Shooting Gentleman"; and four photographs of George Bird Evans: 1) George Bird Evans with setter and grouse; 2) George Bird Evans with friend, David Hall; 3-4) two photographs of Evans and his wife Kay on a fishing trip [1936]); 1936, 1993, 2008

2. **Journal of George Bird Evans**

   Box 1; Folders 2-23; Journals documenting the hunting, fishing, and dog training excursions of George Evans.; 1932-1953

   Box 2; Folders 1-11; Journals documenting the hunting, fishing, and dog training excursions of George Evans.;
1954-1964

Box 2; Folders 12-14; Journals documenting the hunting, fishing, and dog training excursions of George Evans.; 1966-1968

Box 3; Folders 1-13; Journals documenting the hunting, fishing, and dog training excursions of George Evans.; 1969-1981

Box 4; Folders 1-16; Journals documenting the hunting, fishing, and dog training excursions of George Evans.; 1982-1997

3. Correspondence

Box 5; Folder 1; Correspondence with Dr. and Mrs. E. R. Ingraham, friends and owners of dogs from the Evans' Old Hemlock breeding line (includes several letters and cards "composed" by the pedigree dogs at Old Hemlock to their family now with new owners or "people" [ghostwritten by George and Kay Evans]); ca. 1951-1954

Box 5; Folder 2; Correspondence between the Evans and several friends and businesses (includes: dog "composed" letters and cards, correspondence with the Angler's and Shooter's Bookshelf [book dealer] and new dog owners); 1954-1996

Box 5; Folders 3,4; Correspondence with friend, David Hall (includes: cards, letters, church bulletins, copies of articles, photographs of guns, and Hall's family; also includes photographs of puppies and dogs from the Evans breeding line and a journaled account of George Bird Evans last day of hunting); ca. 1959-1998

Box 5; Folder 5; Correspondence regarding the Evans' bird dog breeding business (includes several letters from patrons reporting their puppies' progress); 1983/08-1983/10

Box 5; Folder 6; Correspondence to Kay Evans (includes: letters from a sixth grade class at Bruceton School, Preston County, West Virginia, thanking Mrs. Evans for a donation of books; also includes several e-mails and photographs from owners of dogs from the Evans' breeding line, regarding the progress of their new puppies); 2000-2005

Box 5; Folder 7; Correspondence regarding "Opus 10" (includes: letters, responses to research requests, copies of articles and invoices); ca.1978-1983

Box 6; Folder 1; Correspondence regarding "An Affair With Grouse" (includes: several clippings of magazine articles, letters granting permission to use material, 1942, 1943 and 1944 West Virginia pamphlets listing open seasons, bag limits, and state laws; also includes "An Investigation Concerning Length of Ruffed Grouse Hunting Seasons" by Gordon W. Gullion of the University of Minnesota; 1980); ca. 1942-1981

Box 6; Folder 2; Correspondence regarding "The Upland Shooting Life" (includes: responses to research requests, notes for the book content, and exchanges with publishers); ca. 1965-1969

Box 6; Folder 3; Correspondence relating to recipients of complimentary copies of "The Grouse Book" and "The Woodcock Book"; ca. 1969-1974

Box 6; Folder 4; Correspondence pertaining to permissions to use materials in "The Ruffed Grouse" and "The Woodcock Book"; 1976-1977

Box 6; Folder 5; Correspondence from John Bailey used in "Troubles With Bird Dogs"; 1974-1982

Box 6; Folder 6; Correspondence regarding "The Bird Dog Book" (includes: permissions to use materials, acknowledgments, articles and copies of articles and lists of recipients of complimentary copies); ca. 1977-1978

Box 6; Folder 7; Correspondence regarding "The Upland Gunner's Book" (includes: permissions to use materials, copies of clippings, and acknowledgments); ca. 1978-1979

Box 6; Folder 8; Correspondence regarding "An Affair With Grouse" (includes: orders, invoices, estimates and balances); 1981-1982

Box 6; Folder 9; Correspondence - Balances sheets and receipt for "Opus 10: Men Who Shot. . ."; 1982-1983

Box 7; Folder 1; Correspondence regarding "Troubles With Bird Dogs" (includes: balance sheets, account information, invoices and editing notes for reprint); 1985

Box 7; Folder 2; Correspondence from George Bird Evans biographer, Catherine Harper to Kay Evans; 2000
4. Manuscripts - Published Books

Box 9; Folder 8; "The Upland Shooting Life" - photograph captions for the book; ca. 1971

Box 9; Folders 9,10; "The Upland Shooting Life" - parts one and two (folded in three parts) of a typescript copy of the manuscript; ca. 1971

Box 10; Folder 1; "The Upland Shooting Life" - part three (folded in three parts) of a typescript copy of the manuscript; ca. 1971
Box 10; Folders 2-4; "The Upland Shooting Life" - one typescript copy of the manuscript (folded in three parts); ca. 1971

Box 10; Folder 5; "The Upland Shooting Life" - list of galley corrections; also includes style sheets and acknowledgments; ca. 1971

Box 10; Folders 6,7; "Grouse On the Mountain" - one typescript copy (folded in two parts) of the manuscript; 1994

Box 11a; Folders 1-3; "Troubles With Bird Dogs" - one typescript copy (folded in three parts) of the manuscript; ca. 1975

Box 11a; Folder 4; "Troubles With Bird Dogs" - photograph captions and layout; ca. 1975

Box 11a; Folders 5-7; "The Bird Dog Book" - one typescript copy (folded in three parts) of the manuscript; ca. 1979

Box 11b; Folders 1-6; "The Upland Gunner's Book" - two typescript copies (each copy foldered in three parts) of the manuscript; 1979

Box 11b; Folders 7,8; "The Ruffed Grouse Book" - one typescript copy (folded in two parts) of the manuscript; ca. 1988

Box 12; Folders 1-4; "An Affair With Grouse" - two typescript copies (each copy foldered in two parts) of the manuscript; ca. 1982

Box 12; Folder 5; "An Affair With Grouse" - illustrations (2 items) (used and unused) in book publication; n.d.

Box 12; Folder 6; "An Affair With Grouse" - corrections on page proofs; n.d.

Box 13; Folders 1,2; "Men Who Shot and Wrote About It" - one typescript copy (folded in two parts) of the manuscript; ca. 1983

Box 13; Folders 3-8; "Grouse Along the Tramroad" - three typescript copies (each copy foldered in two parts) of the manuscript; ca. 1986

Box 13; Folder 9; "Grouse Along the Tramroad" - layouts and photocopy of photograph (photograph moved to Box 1/ Folder 1); ca. 1986

Box 14; Folders 1,2; "A Dog, A Gun and Time Enough" - one typescript copy (folded in two parts) of the manuscript (includes an article, "Cold Noses" by George Bird Evans, published in "Gun Dog" magazine, 1983/03); ca. 1986

Box 14; Folders 3,4; "A Dog, A Gun and Time Enough" - incomplete typescript (folded in two parts) of the manuscript (includes several galleys of articles by George Bird Evans and published in "Gun Dog"); n.d.

Box 14; Folders 5,6; "The Woodcock Book" - one typescript copy (folded in two parts) of the manuscript; ca. 1988

Box 15; Folders 1-3; "October Fever" - one typescript copy (folded in three parts) of the manuscript (includes the galley of the article, "A Christmas Grouse" published in "Gun Dog", 1984/11 [folder 1]); ca. 1989

Box 15; Folders 4-6; "Grouse & Woodcock in the Blackwater/ Canaan" - one typescript copy (folded in three parts) of the manuscript; ca. 1997.

Box 15; Folder 7; "Grouse & Woodcock in the Blackwater/ Canaan" - research notes; n.d.

Box 16; Folders 1-4; "Living With Gun Dogs" - one typescript copy (folded in four parts) of the manuscript; ca. 1992

Box 16; Folder 5; "Living With Gun Dogs" - one printed copy of the manuscript (includes: editing notes, hand written in the margins and two typeface manuals); 1992

Box 16; Folder 6; "Living With Gun Dogs" - page templates and sketches; ca. 1992

Box 16; Folder 7; "From My Covers" - incomplete typescript manuscript (includes list of "22 Vintages" and the book layout); ca. 1995

5. Manuscripts - Published Articles


Box 17; Folder 4; Copies of eight typescript manuscript published articles (includes: 1) "Tradition In My Hands", published in "Gun Dog", 1982; 2) "Fowling Piece For a Wife" by Kay Evans, publication information unknown; 3) "Wild Clays", published in "The Shooting Sportaman",1988/06; 4) "A Winter's Tale" published in "The Shooting Sportsman", 1988/12; 5) "The Day the Purdey Broke" publication information unknown; 6) "Tony's Mayhawk Speck: 17 June 1923 - 9 November 1935 " publication information unknown; 7) "A Gunner's Tale" publication information unknown; 8) "A Family Connection" [photocopy] published in "Civil War Times Illustrated" 1961/11 [regards the song "Dixie's Land" composed by George Bird Evans' great-grandmother's second husband, Daniel Decatur Emmett; see also box 27 for correspondence and clippings regarding the same]; also includes four "Forewords" by George Bird Evans, 1) "Woodcock Shooting" author, Edmund W. Davis; 2) Gordon Guillen's book, title unknown; 3) "Upland Game Bird Shooting" author, Eugene Connett; 4) "Eastern Upland Shooting" author, Charles Norris; also includes four pages of Evans' notes, photocopies of articles regarding upland shooting and clippings of obituaries); ca. 1961-1989

6. Manuscript
Box 17; Folder 5; "Three Englishmen and A Lady" - Typescript copy of the manuscript (publishing information unknown); n.d.

7. Manuscripts - Illustrations
Box 17; Folder 6; "Gun Dog " magazine sketches "used and unused" (several published in the book, "Grouse Along the Tramroad" among others; also includes charts comparing 41 seasons (1939-1980) of grouse coverts and grouse numbers; ca.1984-1986

8. Manuscripts - Galleys
Box 18; Folder 1; "Living With Gun Dogs" - nine rolled and sealed galleys; ca. 1991

Box 18; Folder 2; "Hawks Watch", authored by "Brandon Bird", a pseudonym for George and Kay Evans (unrolled); 1956

Box 18; Folder 3; Two article galleys (unrolled); 1) "Charles Hallock, 1834-1917" and 2) "V. E. Willoughby" ; n.d.

Box 18; Folder 4; One article galley, "S. T. Hammond ("Shadow") 1831-1925" (unrolled); n.d.

9. Projects - Dr. Charles Norris
Box 19; Folder 1; Photographs (includes several photographs of Dr. Charles Norris and his dogs; also includes seven large black and white photographs of unidentified hunters, dogs and their kills); ca. 1930-1953

Box 19; Folder 2; Magazines and clippings (includes: two issues of "The Shooting Times & Country Magazine", 1957/03/29 and 1953/04/18, the 1957/07/12 issue of "The New York Herald Tribune Book Review", and several clippings); ca. 1953-1959

Box 19; Folder 3; Ephemera (includes: pamphlets, road maps, brochures, business cards and post cards regarding hunting and shooting establishments) ; n.d.
Box 19; Folder 4; Correspondence - miscellaneous (includes: information and confirmations from the state and private shooting preserves and information regarding bills before the Pennsylvania legislature to regulate shooting preserves); ca. 1948-1958

Box 19; Folder 5; Correspondence of George Bird Evans regarding Dr. Norris' biographical information; ca. 1962-1969

Box 19; Folder 6; Correspondence between Dr. Charles Norris and George Bird Evans (includes "letters quoted in the manuscript"); 1952-1953

Box 19; Folder 7; Correspondence of Dr. Charles Norris to George Bird & Kay Evans (subjects includes: hunting, dogs, George and Kay's published mysteries and the death of Dr. Norris' wife); 1953-1955/07

Box 19; Folder 8; Correspondence of Dr. Charles Norris to George Bird & Kay Evans (includes: invitations to visit Fairhill and hunting and dog stories); 1955/08-1956/05

Box 19; Folder 9; Correspondence of Dr. Charles Norris to George Bird & Kay Evans (subjects include: breeding bird dogs, family matters and sharing research regarding their writing); 1956/08-1957/02

Box 19; Folder 10; Correspondence of Dr. Charles Norris to George Bird & Kay Evans (subjects include: hunting and the bird dog breeding business); 1957/03-1958/01

Box 19; Folder 11; Correspondence of Dr. Charles Norris to George Bird & Kay Evans (subjects include: visits to Fairhill, breeding bird dogs and hunting); 1958/07-1959/01

Box 19; Folder 12; Correspondence of Dr. Charles Norris to George Bird & Kay Evans (subjects include: dogs, Dr. Norris health issues and the Evans visit to Fairhill); 1959/02-1959/06

Box 20; Folder 1; Correspondence of Dr. Charles Norris to George Bird & Kay Evans (subjects include: George's published articles, dogs, and the grouse at Fairhill); 1959/07-1959/12

Box 20; Folder 2; Correspondence of Dr. Charles Norris to George Bird & Kay Evans (subject include: George and Kay's published mystery, updates regarding their dogs and Dr. Norris serious health issues [Dr. Norris died February 26, 1961]); 1960-1961

Box 20; Folders 3-6; "Mostly Shooting" - Unfinished manuscript draft (foldered in four parts); ca. 1958

Box 21; Folders 1-5; "Mostly Shooting" - Unfinished typescript manuscript (foldered in five parts); ca. 1958

Box 22; Folders 1-4; "Mostly Shooting" - Unfinished typescript manuscript draft (foldered in four parts); ca. 1958

Box 22; Folders 5,6; "Recollection of a Shooting Guest" - typescript manuscript (incomplete [foldered in two parts]); n.d.

10. Projects - Nash Buckingham

Box 23; Folder 1; Correspondence between Nash Buckingham and George Bird Evans (includes: stories of shooting, hunting with friends and samples of Buckingham's 'down home' language; also includes: copies of Nash Buckingham's obituary, reviews of Evans' book, "The Best of Nash Buckingham", published in newspapers and written in private letters to Evans); ca. 1969-1979

Box 23; Folder 2; Correspondence between George Bird Evans and John Bailey regarding Nash Buckingham; 1972-1978

Box 23; Folders 3,4; "Notes, Stories and Letters" collected by George Bird Evans pertaining to Nash Buckingham's life, his literary career, and his shooting skill; ca. 1971-1973

Box 23; Folder 5; Notes of George Bird Evans regarding Nash Buckingham (includes: anecdotes about Nash Buckingham, a page of "Notes on Scent", written by Buckingham (photo-copy), and several lists including: Buckingham's published books and articles, his guns, and "his people"); n.d.

Box 23; Folder 6; Ephemera (includes: programs and memorabilia from The Hunting Hall of Fame's Second Awards Dinner, honoring Nash Buckingham as one of the 1974 inductees, the 1982/01 issue of "MS Outdoors" featuring an article about John Bailey, a close friend of Nash Buckingham and advertisements for "The Nash Buckingham Award Gun"; ca. 1973-1982

Box 23; Folder 7; Photographs (3 items): 1) Nash Buckingham receiving the award as the "1962 Outdoorsman of the Year"; 2) Nash Buckingham at age 85, 1965; 3) A 1984 photograph of a photograph portrait of Nash.
Buckingham; 1962, 1965 &1984

Box 24; Folders 1-4; "The Best of Nash Buckingham" - one typescript manuscript (folded in four parts); ca. 1973

Box 24; Folder 5; Letters to John Bailey from Nash Buckingham (subjects include: hunting, shooting and fishing in various regions of the country, and breeding bird dogs; also includes Nash Buckingham's work on a federal task force to investigate illegal trapping during the depression years [ca.1936-1938] and his strong opinions against Franklin Roosevelt and his "New Deal" ); 1935-1959

Box 24; Folder 6; Letters to John Bailey from Nash Buckingham (subjects include: the building of John Bailey's Lodge, farm preserves, a copy of a speech given by Buckingham at an awards dinner, habitat destruction and hunting); 1960-1966

Box 24; Folder 7; Letters to John Bailey from Nash Buckingham (subjects include: federal hunting legislation, habitat destruction, "Sling Shot Charlie" and the world's largest sling shot, hunting, dogs and family); 1967-1971

Box 25; Folders 1-6; "Dear John ... Nash Buckingham's Letters to John Bailey" - two copies of typescript manuscript (each copy foldered in three parts); ca. 1984

11. Financial Records

Box 25; Folder 7; Ledger: Records of book and tape sales; 1995

Box 25; Folder 8; Ledger: Records of book and tape inventory, accounts and sales; 1988-1999

Box 25; Folder 9; Ledgers (2 items): Records of book inventory, accounts and sales; 1984-1999

12. Magazine Articles


13. Subjects

Box 26; Folder 17; Pedigree Chart (for Old Hemlock Line of English Setters breeded by Steven Hitsman, George Bird Evans, and Kay Evans); 1988/06
Box 26; Folder 18; Research Notes by George Bird Evans (regarding his readings of books related to hunting);

Box 26; Folder 19; Ephemera (three cards advertising publication of books authored by George Bird Evans);
1990, 1997

Box 26; Folder 20; Greeting card - "Idea for 'Opus 12' jacket" ; n.d.

Box 26; Folder 21; Loose items removed from inside of books authored and owned by George Bird Evans
(includes: notes, address, mailing information, and a payment check for a book) ; ca.1975-1988

14. Audio Tapes

Box 26; Folder 22; Audio Tapes (2 items) - "An Evening at Old Hemlock" (includes George and Kay Evans
reading selections from several books authored George Bird Evans); 1989/06 &1993/ Fall

15. Digital Files

Box 26; Folder 23; DVD discs (3 items) - 188 digital files of scans of illustrations by Evans that appeared in
"Cosmopolitan", "McCall's", and other magazines.; n.d.

16. Scrapbook

Box 27; "Brandon Bird" Scrapbook. One scrapbook documenting the collaborative writing career of George and
Kay Evans under the pen name "Brandon Bird", which produced five mystery novels and a number of fiction
pieces for magazines (includes: clippings of articles regarding the Evans as a writing team and the awards
they had won; book reviews of the Evans five mystery novels by several publications, including the New York
Times Book Review; press releases announcing the publication of a new novel and several 8x10 photographs
of the Evans, their home and their dogs; also includes correspondence and clippings regarding the song
"Dixie's Land" composed by George Bird Evans' great-grandmother's second husband, Daniel Decatur Emmett
[the original manuscript of the song was in the possession of George and Kay Evans at their home Old
Hemlock; see also box 17, folder 4 for manuscript of article by Evans regarding the Evans - Emmett
connection]]; ca.1948-1975

17. Artworks

Box 28; Original copies of illustrations by George Bird Evans (Includes: 30 oversize pieces, most published in
popular women's magazines [such as Cosmopolitan and McCall's] before and after World War II, ca.
1938-1948; one 8 1/2 x 12 inch watercolor illustration for book "Mission Murder" by Hugh Pentecost; and one
16 x 20 inch drawing of military equipment, drawn by Lieutenant J.G. Evans for the Navy during WWII.); Item
Description: ["Mission Murder"], watercolor on paper, 8 1/2 x 12 inches, unsigned; ca. 1938-1948

Box 28; Original copies of illustrations by George Bird Evans (cont.); Item Description: [Woman with Peacock],
unknown media on paper, 13 1/2 x 10 1/2 inches, signed; ca. 1938-1948

Box 28; Original copies of illustrations by George Bird Evans (cont.); Item Description: [Saturday Evening
Post, Woman with Globe, June 6, 1942], unknown media on paper, 13 1/2 x 11 inches, unsigned; ca.
1938-1948

Box 28; Original copies of illustrations by George Bird Evans (cont.); Item Description: [Man and Woman
Kissing], unknown media on paper, 11 1/2 x 16 inches, unsigned; ca. 1938-1948

Box 28; Original copies of illustrations by George Bird Evans (cont.); Item Description: [Man with Gun in
Closet], unknown media on paper, 11 x 16 inches, unsigned; ca. 1938-1948

Box 28; Original copies of illustrations by George Bird Evans (cont.); Item Description: ["Easy to Look at"
Woman with Jewelry], unknown media on paper, 13 1/2 x 21 inches, unsigned; ca. 1938-1948

Box 28; Original copies of illustrations by George Bird Evans (cont.); Item Description: ["Jilted Woman],
unknown media on paper, 11 x 16 inches, unsigned; ca. 1938-1948

Box 28; Original copies of illustrations by George Bird Evans (cont.); Item Description: [Man and Woman at
Bar], unknown media on paper, 11 1/2 x 16 inches, unsigned; ca. 1938-1948

Box 28; Original copies of illustrations by George Bird Evans (cont.); Item Description: ["The Clod and the
Grand Duke"], unknown media on paper, 11 x 16 inches, unsigned. Inscribed on reverse is a note to "George"
about the image.; ca. 1938-1948

Box 28; Original copies of illustrations by George Bird Evans (cont.); Item Description: [Man and Woman in a
Theater?], unknown media on paper, 12 x 17 inches, unsigned; ca. 1938-1948
Box 28; Original copies of illustrations by George Bird Evans (cont.); Item Description: [Military Men, Woman with Scarf], unknown media on paper, 12 x 18 1/2 inches, unsigned; ca. 1938-1948

Box 28; Original copies of illustrations by George Bird Evans (cont.); Item Description: ["The Holy Terror! Boxing Match"], unknown media on paper, 12 x 15 1/2 inches, unsigned; ca. 1938-1948

Box 28; Original copies of illustrations by George Bird Evans (cont.); Item Description: [Man and Woman in Swimsuits], unknown media on paper, 12 x 17 1/2 inches, signed; ca. 1938-1948

Box 28; Original copies of illustrations by George Bird Evans (cont.); Item Description: ["She Trod the Carpet"], unknown media on paper, 12 x 16 inches, signed; ca. 1938-1948

Box 28; Original copies of illustrations by George Bird Evans (cont.); Item Description: ["...and Ensuing Complications"], unknown media on paper, 12 x 16 1/2 inches, signed; ca. 1938-1948

Box 28; Original copies of illustrations by George Bird Evans (cont.); Item Description: ["Heart on a String"], unknown media on paper, 11 x 16 1/2 inches, unsigned; ca. 1938-1948

Box 28; Original copies of illustrations by George Bird Evans (cont.); Item Description: [Male Dancer], unknown media on paper, 12 x 19 inches, unsigned; ca. 1938-1948

Box 28; Original copies of illustrations by George Bird Evans (cont.); Item Description: [Male Dancer and Female Audience Member], unknown media on paper, 12 x 19 inches, unsigned; ca. 1938-1948

Box 28; Original copies of illustrations by George Bird Evans (cont.); Item Description: ["Chew Mail Pouch" Ad on Barn], unknown media on paper, 14 x 20 inches, signed; ca. 1938-1948

Box 28; Original copies of illustrations by George Bird Evans (cont.); Item Description: [Male Dancer, Female and Male Audience Members], unknown media on drawing board, 23 x 20 inches, signed; ca. 1938-1948

Box 28; Original copies of illustrations by George Bird Evans (cont.); Item Description: [Machinery], unknown media on paper, 21 x 16 1/2 inches, unsigned (this may be the drawing of military equipment by Lieutenant J.G. Evans for the Navy during WWII); ca. 1938-1948

Box 28; Original copies of illustrations by George Bird Evans (cont.); Item Description: [Family at Christmas], unknown media on paper, 20 x 15 inches, signed; ca. 1938-1948

Box 28; Original copies of illustrations by George Bird Evans (cont.); Item Description: [Diver and Boat on Water], unknown media on paper, 20 x 15 inches, signed; ca. 1938-1948

Box 28; Original copies of illustrations by George Bird Evans (cont.); Item Description: [Family at Christmas], unknown media on drawing board, 30 x 22 inches, signed; ca. 1938-1948

Box 28; Original copies of illustrations by George Bird Evans (cont.); Item Description: [Man and Woman, Man with Gun], unknown media on drawing board, 30 x 22 inches, signed; ca. 1938-1948

Box 28; Original copies of illustrations by George Bird Evans (cont.); Item Description: [Man and Woman at Butcher Shop], unknown media on drawing board, 22 x 28 inches, signed; ca. 1938-1948

Box 28; Original copies of illustrations by George Bird Evans (cont.); Item Description: [Boat of Spectators], unknown media on drawing board, 29 1/2 x 16 inches, signed; ca. 1938-1948

Box 28; Original copies of illustrations by George Bird Evans (cont.); Item Description: [Man and Woman with Poultry], unknown media on drawing board, 22 x 30 inches, unsigned; ca. 1938-1948

Box 28; Original copies of illustrations by George Bird Evans (cont.); Item Description: [Boxing Match], unknown media on drawing board, 22 x 30 inches, signed; ca. 1938-1948

Box 28; Original copies of illustrations by George Bird Evans (cont.); Item Description: [Diver], unknown media on drawing board, 28 1/2 x 15 1/2 inches, unsigned. Stamped on reverse: "Property of Cosmopolitan Magazine."; ca. 1938-1948

Box 28; Original copies of illustrations by George Bird Evans (cont.); Item Description: [Man and Woman in Front Seat of Car], unknown media on drawing board, 29 x 22 inches, unsigned; ca. 1938-1948

Box 28; Original copies of illustrations by George Bird Evans (cont.); Item Description: ["The Clod and the Grand Duke"], unknown media on drawing board, 22 x 28 inches, signed; ca. 1938-1948

Box 28; Original copies of illustrations by George Bird Evans (cont.); Item Description: [Dancing Girls, Man
and Woman Flirting], unknown media on drawing board, 29 x 22 inches, signed; ca. 1938-1948

Box 29; [Original perspective drawing of a military jet, "xf8f-1"], unknown media on paper, 34 1/2 x 55 inches, unsigned, drawn by Lieutenant J.G. Evans for the Navy during WWII (rolled item); 1944

18. Oversized Pictures of George Bird Evans and Others

Box 29; Seven photographs of George Bird Evans, Kay Evans, their dogs, and members of the Evans family; also includes two art works by Evans of Evans and / or his dogs; n.d.

19. Artifacts

Box 30; Easel, two brushes, and hunting gear (hat, backpack, shell box, and shell holster) (note: all of the artifacts listed for box 30 were returned to the donor, since they were on loan); n.d.

20. Motion Picture -- Published

Box 31; One DVD of 18 minute motion picture documentary featuring footage of George Bird Evans describing his home, property, and way of life; undated

21. Sportsman Journals

Box 31; Folder 1; Item 31 / 01; Golden Seal; Vol. 19 No. 4 p. 36 -- "A George Bird Evans Sampler: Hunting the Blackwater Canaan"; 1993/Winter

Box 31; Folder 2; Item 31 / 02; Wildlife in North Carolina; Vol. 34 No. 10 p. 7 -- "The Man Who Is Welcome"; 1970/10

Box 31; Folder 3; Item 31 / 03; The American Hunter; Vol. 1 No. 1 p. 10 -- "The October Bird"; 1973/10

Box 31; Folder 3; Item 31 / 04; The American Hunter; Vol. 5 No. 5 p. 48 -- "The Positive Point"; 1977/04

Box 31; Folder 4; Item 31 / 05; Gray's Shooting Journal; Preliminary Issue p. 76 -- "A Bird in the Hand"; 1975/ Fall

Box 31; Folder 4; Item 31 / 06; Gray's Shooting Journal; Vol. 1 No. 5 p. 24 -- "The Quest for Quality"; 1976/Fall

Box 31; Folder 4; Item 31 / 07; Gray's Shooting Journal; Vol. 2 No. 4 p. 60 -- "The Covert"; 1977/Fall

Box 31; Folder 5; Item 31 / 08; The American Rifleman; Vol. 122 No. 6 p. 94 -- "The October Bird"; 1974/06

Box 31; Folder 6; Item 31 / 09; Waterfowl; Vol. 1 No. 1 p. 34 -- "Opportunity Flies But Once" by Nash Buckingham, edited by George Bird Evans; 1985/08-09

Box 31; Folder 7; Item 31 / 10; Sporting Classic; Vol. 5 No. 3 p. 14 -- "My View"; 1986/05-06

Box 31; Folder 7; Item 31 / 11; Sporting Classic; Vol. 5 No. 5 p. 66 -- "My Purdey"; 1986/09-10

Box 31; Folder 7; Item 31 / 12; Sporting Classic; Vol. 6 No. 5 p. 30 -- "Quest for the Perfect Gun Dog"; 1987/09-10

Box 31; Folder 8; Item 31 / 13; Game Journal; Vol. 1 No. 1 p. 77 -- "Luck of November"; 1992/01-02

Box 31; Folder 8; Item 31 / 14; Game Journal; Vol. 1 No. 2 --No articles by George Bird Evans; 1992/03-04

Box 31; Folder 9; Item 31 / 15-16; Game Journal; Vol. 1 Nos. 3 & 4 --No articles by George Bird Evans; 1992/05-1992/08

Box 32; Folder 1; Item 32 / 01; The Pointing Dog Journal; Vol. 3 No. 1 p. 48 -- "Anniversary"; 1995/01-02

Box 32; Folder 1; Item 32 / 02; The Pointing Dog Journal; Vol. 3 No. 2 p 16 -- "Char"; 1995/03-04

Box 32; Folder 1; Item 32 / 03; The Pointing Dog Journal; Vol. 3 No. 3 -- No articles by George Bird Evans; 1995/05-06

Box 32; Folder 2; Item 32 / 04; The Pointing Dog Journal; Vol. 3 No. 4 p.30 -- "Dissertation on Missing"; 1995/07-08

Box 32; Folder 2; Item 32 / 05; The Pointing Dog Journal; Vol. 3 No. 5 p. 20 -- "The Witchery of Woodcock";
Box 37; Folder 1; Item 37 / 05; Pennsylvania Game News; Vol. 31 No.11 p. 16 -- "Empty Shells - Part III";
1960/11

Box 37; Folder 2; Item 37 / 06; Pennsylvania Game News; Vol. 32 No.1 p. 25 -- "Empty Shells - Part IV";
1961/01

Box 37; Folder 2; Item 37 / 07; Pennsylvania Game News; Vol. 33 No. 12 p. 20 -- "The Christmas Grouse";
1962/12

Box 37; Folder 2; Item 37 / 08; Pennsylvania Game News; Vol. 34 No. 2 p. 25 -- "Daddy Miss Bird? - Part I";
1963/02

Box 37; Folder 2; Item 37 / 09; Pennsylvania Game News; Vol. 34 No. 3 p. 24 -- "Daddy Miss Bird? - Part II";
1963/03

Box 37; Folder 3; Item 37 / 10; Pennsylvania Game News; Vol. 34 No. 4 p. 19 -- "Daddy Miss Bird? - Part III";
1963/04

Box 37; Folder 3; Item 37 / 11; Pennsylvania Game News; Vol. 35 No. 4 p. 25 -- "Your New Gun Dog";
1964/04

Box 37; Folder 3; Item 37 / 12; Pennsylvania Game News; Vol. 35 No. 5 p. 55 -- "Your New Gun Dog- Part II";
1964/05

Box 37; Folder 3; Item 37 / 13; Pennsylvania Game News; Vol. 36 No. 11 p. 27 -- "How Not To Be a Gunning Widow" (by Kay Evans); 1965/11

Box 37; Folder 3; Item 37 / 14; Pennsylvania Game News; Vol. 37 No. 4 p. 2 -- "Don't Move There is a Quail On Your Head" (by George Bird and Kay Evans); 1966/04

Box 37; Folder 4; Item 37 / 15; Pennsylvania Game News; Vol. 37 No. 7 p.61 -- "Open Letter to Fast Man Behind the Wheel"; 1966/07

Box 37; Folder 4; Item 37 / 16; Pennsylvania Game News; Vol. 38 No. 7 p. 16 -- "Bird in Hand"; 1967/07

Box 37; Folder 4; Item 37 / 17; Pennsylvania Game News; Vol. 38 No. 10 p.14 -- "Top Map"; 1967/10

Box 37; Folder 4; Item 37 / 18; Pennsylvania Game News; Vol. 39 No. 3 p.12 -- "When You Inherit a Purdey";
1968/03

Box 37; Folder 5; Item 37 / 19-20; Pennsylvania Game News; Vol. 39 No. 8 p. 2 -- "Would I Encourage a Boy To Shoot?" (two copies); 1968/08

Box 37; Folder 5; Item 37 / 21; Pennsylvania Game News; Vol. 39 No. 9 p. 7 -- "The Senior Sportsman";
1968/09

Box 37; Folder 5; Item 37 / 22; Pennsylvania Game News; Vol. 40 No. 4 p.14 -- "Twilight Astronaut"; 1969/04

Box 37; Folder 5; Item 37 / 23; Pennsylvania Game News; Vol. 40 No. 7p.14 -- "Man Without a Gun";
1969/07

Box 37; Folder 6; Item 37 / 24-25; Pennsylvania Game News; Vol. 40 no. 2 p. 15 -- "Passing of a Pennsylvania Sportsman" (two copies of issue); 1969/02

Box 37; Folder 6; Item 37 / 26; Pennsylvania Game News; Vol. 41 No. 3 p. 21 -- "A Path to Our Door" (by Kay Evans); 1970/03

Box 37; Folder 6; Item 37 / 27; Pennsylvania Game News; Vol. 42 No. 1 p. 7 -- "Portrait of a Setter"; 1971/01

Box 38; Folder 1; Item 38 / 01; Field and Stream; Vol. 66 No. 5 p. 122 -- "Gun Dogs"; 1961/09

Box 38; Folder 1; Item 38 / 02; Field and Stream; Vol. 67 No. 6 p. 10 -- "I'm Not A Gunning Widow" by Kay Evans; 1962/10

Box 38; Folder 1; Item 38 / 03; Field and Stream; Vol. 69 No. 7 p. 29 -- "Blackwater Paradise"; 1964/11

Box 38; Folder 2; Item 38 / 04; Field and Stream; Vol. 69 No. 12 p. 180 -- "Scent Pointing Without Birds";
1965/04
Box 38; Folder 2; Item 38 / 05; Field and Stream; Vol. 71 No. 7 p. 146 -- "The Aging Gun Dog"; 1966/11
Box 38; Folder 2; Item 38 / 06; Field and Stream; Vol. 71 No. 1 p. 66 -- "Test Your Hunting Know How"; 1967/05
Box 38; Folder 3; Item 38 / 07; Field and Stream; Vol. 72 No. 10 p.162 -- "Scent and the Gun Dog"; 1968/02
Box 38; Folder 3; Item 38 / 08; Field and Stream; Vol. 74 No. 5 p.152 -- "Range: How Close and How?"; 1969/09
Box 38; Folder 3; Item 38 / 09; Field and Stream; Vol. 75 No. 2 75th Anniversary Issue p 234 -- "Dogs That Live Forever" (by George Bird and Kay Evans); 1970/06
Box 38; Folder 4; Item 38 / 10; Field and Stream; Vol. 75 No. 7 p. 142 -- "The Bloody Merry and Other Problems"; 1970/11
Box 38; Folder 4; Item 38 / 11; Field and Stream; Vol. 75 No. 12 p.220 -- "When Your Retriever Refuses"; 1971/04
Box 38; Folder 4; Item 38 / 12; Field and Stream; Vol. 76 No. 3 p. 126 -- "The Grouse and the Woodcock Dog"; 1971/07

22. Motion Pictures -- Unpublished

Boxes 39-42; Motion picture films in 8mm of dog training, and of special events in the lives of George and Kay Evans and their dogs; ca. 1950-1975

23. Oversize

unboxed; One framed illustration of a hunting dog by G.B. Evans, ["Toby's Mayhawk Speck-1931" with text], media unknown, 20 x 25 1/4 inches, signed, 68 of 750; 1986

Subject Terms

Subjects
- Evans, George Bird
- Art and artists.
- Authors - Letters and papers.
- Bird dogs.
- Fowling - United States.