

# Old Hemlock Foundation

# Art of George Bird Evans



George taught himself to do scaled cut-away mechanical drawing. During WWII, he served as an artist at the Pentagon while a Lieutenant for the Navy.

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*The wine of Autumn  
whose bouquet permeates the coverts.  
George Bird Evans*



The Old Hemlock Foundation's mission is to preserve and promote the legacy of George Bird Evans and Kay Harris Evans.



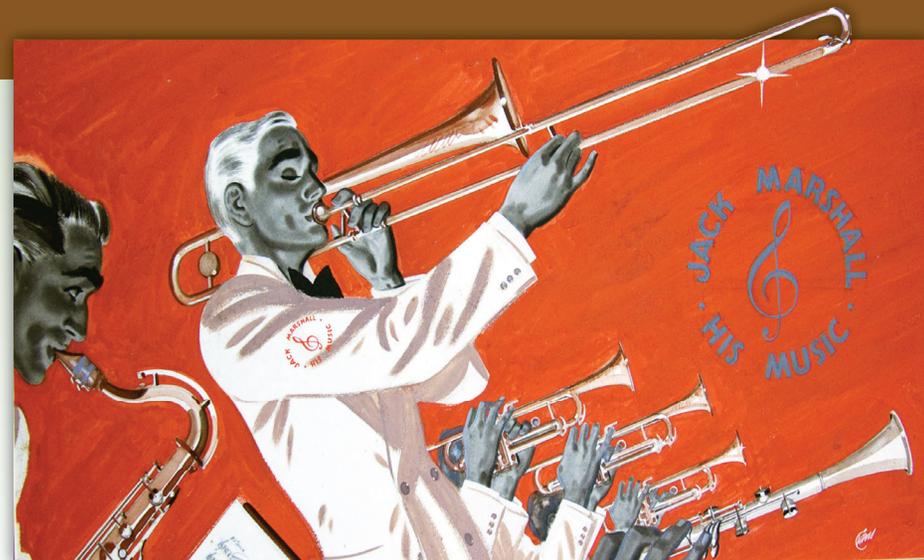
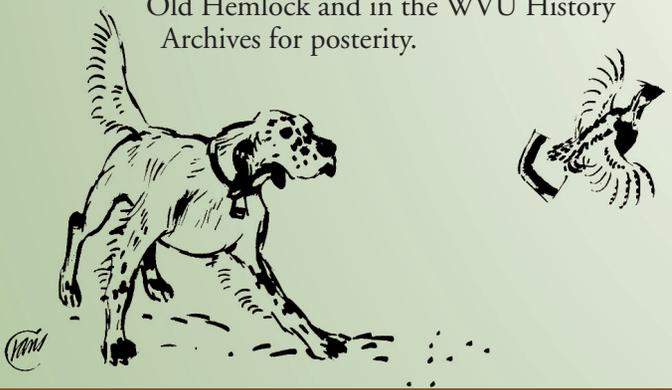
George and Kay at the entrance of their studio apartment in New York City, NY in 1934.





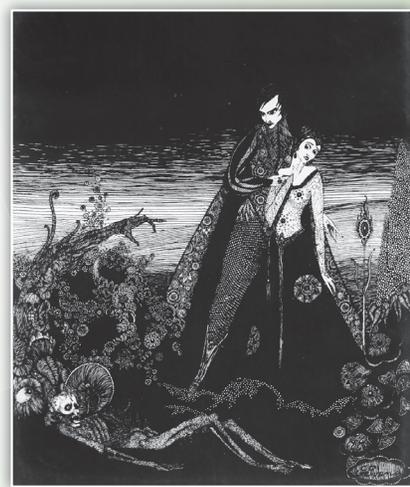
After studying at Carnegie Institute of Art and the Chicago Art Institute, George Bird Evans moved to New York City to begin his graphic arts career. He spent the next eleven years in NYC, freelancing as an illustrator for ad campaigns and a variety of magazines, including *American*, *Woman's Home Companion*, and *Redbook*. In 1938, he finally signed an exclusive contract with *Cosmopolitan*, illustrating featured detective stories. The next spring, George convinced his publisher that he could complete his work while residing in his Revolutionary War-era farmhouse which he named "Old Hemlock Farm" in Preston County, WV. Then in 1942, eligible for the draft, George decided to volunteer for the war effort in the capacity he could best serve. He was commissioned as a LTJG in the United States Navy and, based on his portfolio of earlier work for Fairchild Aircraft, was assigned to the Navy's Bureau of Aeronautics Engineering Division, where he illustrated scaled cut-away drawings. At the end of the war, Evans returned to his life at Old Hemlock as an illustrator, but, because of the increasing popularity of photographs in magazines, he decided to reinvent himself as an author. In his new calling, George continued to illustrate, but now they were his own stories rather than someone else's. This was nothing new for George though, as he had been illustrating his hunting journals from the time he started recording his experiences in the field. We maintain many of the originals of these works at

Old Hemlock and in the WVU History Archives for posterity.



This G.B. Evans *Cosmopolitan* magazine illustration was a favorite of Kay's. It reminded her of George's dance band days at the Carnegie Technical Institute.

Cover: George Bird Evans's illustration from *Cosmopolitan* magazine.



The Café and Biscuit ads are samples of George's commercial art.



Here's a money-making idea for you!

Tell your customers to "Trim the Tree with Sunshine"



... They will buy these tape-handled, nickel packages by the dozen

These kiddie packages are extra big sellers at Christmas. They're inexpensive. They're good food and good fun. And they hang easily by their convenient tape handles. Profit by pointing out these facts to customers!

**Sunshine Biscuits**  
LOOSE-WILES BISCUIT CO. • Branches in over 150 cities

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