

Since George Evans passing on May 5, 1998 Jeff Kauffman and I have had the pleasure of being entrusted with carrying on the Old Hemlock line of English Setters. It has been a pleasure and joy to see the dogs continue and I feel George and Kay Evans would be quite pleased with the setters we have produced. George told me every breeder puts his mark on the dogs, due to the type and ones they use to carry on the line. He selected me because George and I liked the same kind of dog, pleasing on the eye, calm at home, and an athletic hunter that hunts for the gun with style and flair, producing birds. We strive to get it all in a dog: health, nose, ground coverage, brains, and style. It's time to pass that torch on to W. Hall Carter Jr. Jeff and I are placing the line in his hands, confident that he will continue just like George would have wanted producing dogs we all would want and desire. Hall has a great eye for dogs and knows just what both Jeff and I like in a setter.

It has been a fun and enjoyable journey and since George's passing a new bond has been formed in the Old Hemlock Family, something that came from our love of these beautiful setters. Thanks to Bob Rose for having the idea of a gathering to meet owners of the setters, and to find out what this new guy had in mind, the Old Hemlock Reunion was created. Thanks to Roy and Sally Sisler who run Hunting Hills, the location of the reunion, and all those owners who attended over the years. Sue Buckley created the Directory, which lists all the owners and continues to update it keeping us all connected and up to date, a thankless job but appreciated by all.

Mike McDonald came up with the idea of The Old Hemlock Newsletter and took on the job of actually editing and publishing it for all our owners. It grew into a wonderful venue for sharing stories and information helped by John McGranaghan and his wife. When Mike decided it was time to turn over the newsletter to someone else Bruce Buckley took it on and continues to do a wonderful job. The layout and design he and LeJay Graffious publish is first rate.

I want to thank all of you for being a big part of my life so far. Thanks to the many owners who raised litters and helped carry on George's dream. I'll always be an Old Hemlock Setter owner and part of this wonderful Old Hemlock Family. Good luck to Hall and the future of these wonderful dogs.

Sincerely,

Roger Brown