

FRED HAUSMANN

I was born on September 17, 1952 in Tuscola, Illinois. I am the 2nd oldest child from a family of 4 children, 2 boys and 2 girls. I met my wife, Becky, at Kraft Foods in Champaign, Illinois where I am an Electronic Tech and she is a Lab Technician. We got married on June 14, 1975 and had 2 sons named Chad & Jason. I have been involved with Hunting Dogs since I was a young boy. Even in Grade School, when I went hunting with my Dad we always had a Bird Dog. I continued to hunt as an adult and when the birds starting getting scarce, I decided to get a Beagle and take up hunting Rabbits. I bought my first Beagle from a local Dog Jockey and she did about everything but run a Rabbit, so I returned her and he gave me another dog that turned out to be gun shy. After learning the hard way that you don't always get what you pay for, I met a man by the name of Ron Eades. I bought a hound from him, by the name of Sangamon Ridge Lady, that dog was a real Rabbit Dog. That purchase of a Rabbit Hound was to be the start of a long and close relationship with Ron Eades and his family. I joined Ron and his two sons, Randy and Mike, as part of Sangamon Ridge Kennel in 1991. Through this close association with Ron and his sons, I have gained much knowledge and experience which I have tried to pass on to others.

I started competition hunting in 1998 and joined the Central Illinois Rabbit Hunters Club. I was elected Secretary/Treasurer in 1989 and since joining this club, I have held various other positions such as Master of Hounds and Club President. I have been an active Field Judge since 1988, judging in all of the Big Four including the finals of the World Hunt. I became a member of the ARHA Little Pack Board of Directors in 1989 and have served on this Board ever since. In August of 1993 I was elected Chairman of the Board of Little Pack and I held this position through 1998. During my tenure, my goals were to get rid of the cheaters, clear up the rules, get training for the Field Judges and promote diversification of ARHA Big Four Hunts. The organization has come a long way in ridding itself of the cheaters by cleaning up the running rules and the promotion of a Field Judging Tape. The Big Four Hunts have been spread out across the United States in areas that never before had been considered. Now a more diverse group of individuals have the opportunity to attend one of these hunts.

Our kennel has been very successful in Little Pack. Our hounds have won 12 Big Four Titles and finished 2nd in 3 Big Four Hunts. We have 6 hounds that have been inducted into the Hall of Fame, 5 hounds from Competition and 1 as a Reproducer. Our kennel has the 1st hound to be inducted into the Hall of Fame whose Sire and Dam also are in the Hall of Fame and was bred and raised in our kennel.

Being a part of the ARHA has given me the pleasure of working with many good people and meeting many more. I have had a chance to run my hounds in many different areas of the country that I may never of had a chance to see. I have had the pleasure of running my hounds against many a good hound under a lot of different conditions, and seeing some of the best hounds in this country run.

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