

Dean Reinke's introduction of Bev Matthews for the Life Patron Hall of Fame Award

Beverly Matthews bought her first Springer in 1994. In 1995, she bought another, and the next year another. I think we can all see where this is going. She was hooked. There was no turning back.

Bev's son Jason made his first AFC when he was just 15 years old and for years she was known as "Jason's Mom." Unfortunately, we lost Jason to a heart problem in 2009, but Bev stayed involved with local clubs as Hunt Test and Field Trial Secretary. She's dedicated countless hours on and off the field, from judging trials to serving on many local and National Field Trial committees. She continued competing in trials, too, and placed third in the 2015 National Amateur Championship.

Eventually Bev was asked to serve as Secretary for the ESSFTA Foundation and from there moved on to the English Springer Spaniel Field Trial Association, the Parent Club of our breed where she served as Eastern Regional Governor, Membership secretary and finally Field Vice President.

Beverly Matthews has come a long way from being "Jason's Mom." She's made a name for herself, and it is one held in great regard. The springer community owes Bev a big debt of gratitude for her incredible service and commitment and we proudly honor her today.