

REV. JOHN PARKS

Rev. John Parks, a United Methodist Minister, got his first beagle in 1954, and was active in breeding hunting beagles and participating in field trials until 1972. In 1987 he began writing articles on breeding and training beagles in The Rabbit Hunter magazine, calling on his knowledge of genetics and his early experience with hounds. In 1989 he was elected ARHA Sportsman of the Year.

In 1990, Rev. Parks authored the book, "Breeding Better Beagles", which has been widely accepted among the beagling community as a guidebook for breeders of hunting beagles.

In 1990 until 1993, Rev. Parks was the author of the Open Forum on Breeding in The Rabbit Hunter in which he answered readers' questions both personally and in the magazine. At one time during the final year of this column he answered over one hundred letters a month. Over the years, besides answering thousands of letters, and advising kennel owners who consulted him by telephone, he has visited nearly a hundred kennels in 16 states in conjunction with his present continuing column, Beagle Beginnings. However, he has never written or printed articles about his own hounds.

Rev. Parks helped organize, and has been active in the Walnut Creek Beagle Club in Indiana, as Master of Hounds and Show Judge, and is presently on its Board of Directors. He has attended numerous ARHA hunts in most divisions in the past twelve years.

He was elected to the ARHA Hall of Fame in 1993.