

American Fly Fishing Literature



Rocky Ford Creek / Paul Ford

2016 Exhibit Annotated Guide

The Paul and Mary Ann Ford Fly Fishing Collection

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This year's collection comprises some very valuable books, a bit of good humor and, we hope, the beauty of waters that enrich memory. We have emphasized the works of publisher William (Bill) Trego of Meadow Run Press. All of his books are published in the United States on "real" paper—not cheap gloss. Many of the books convey messages that will live on for the fly fishing community. All of these books are new, first editions unless there is a contrary notation. Here are the books.

A. Rusty Rat. ***Summer's Salmon***. Meadow Run Press. Far Hills, N.J. 1997. Pp. 70. Paintings and drawings by John Swan. There's one unbreakable rule for this fine salmon fishing camp. NO WOMEN. So we have a woman and sex and salmon. Trego must have published this in jest. Some have speculated that John Cole was the author, though we don't know. Quite fun if you're not a prude. Quarter bound in maroon linen with tan linen boards. Blue slipcase with the lovely lady, Summer, adorning the case.

Brown, Tosh. ***Megalops: An Angler's Affair with Tarpon***. Meadow Run Press. Far Hills, N.J. 2001. Pp. 65. Decorative art by John Rice. Red cloth cover embossed with gold tarpon. Hooking, landing and losing grand fish on a fly. Blue slipcase with leaping tarpon image.

Cardenas, Jeffrey. ***Marquesa: A Time & Place With Fish***. Meadow Run Press. Stone Harbor, N.J. 1995. Pp. 121. Illustrations by A. D. Tinkham. Decorative endpapers. Cardenas, a very busy Florida guide, spent two months alone in his houseboat called Huck Finn off the Florida coast within a group of islands called the Marquesas. He sought the peace of lonesomeness without ever being alone. A wonderful book. Red cloth boards with a gold fish imprinted on the cover board. In slipcase with tropical scene cover painted by Tinkham. **2 copies.**

Cardenas, Jeffrey. ***Marquesa: A Time & Place With Fish. Deluxe limited edition of the above.*** This is number 8 of 47. Signed. The book has a full black leather cover with the author's name engraved in gold and a permit imprinted above. The title is imprinted on the book's spine. Several underwater photos and a brief essay by Cardenas are enclosed in a drop spine case. The case is tan linen with black edging. (It strikes us as remarkable that the book was not letterpress printed on hand made paper).

Cardenas, Jeffrey. ***Sea Level: Adventures of a Salt Water Angler***. Meadow Run Press. Far Hills, N.J. 2002. Pp. 286. Introduction by Jimmy Buffett. Decorative endpapers. Buffett and Cardenas met in Key West in the 1970s, became friends and fished together thereafter. This work is of Cardenas fly fishing travels and his thoughts as he saw the world. Green boards with black and gold artwork in black slipcase with angler and large permit on slipcase front board.

Cardenas, Jeffrey. ***Sea Level: Adventures of a Salt Water Angler. Deluxe limited edition of the above.*** 2003. This is number 5 of 67. Signed by Buffett and Cardenas. Letterpress printed on Zerkall Book Wove paper. Uncut pages. Illustrations by Gordon Allen. Quarter bound in black goat skin with blue / white title label pasted on cover. Housed in blue linen drop spine case edged in tan linen. Elegant book. (See correspondence under front cover from Bill Trego of Meadow Run Press to Paul Ford about this book).

Churchill, E. G. S. (Edward George Spencer). ***Tarpon Fishing in Mexico and Florida***. Meadow Run Press. Far Hills, N.J. 1998. Pp. 77 (Reprint). Introduction by Randy Wayne White. Painting by John Rice. Early twentieth century fishing from Florida to Tampico. Churchill was a pioneer at harnessing the tarpon! Green board with black quarter cloth edging and gold tarpon seal on cover. Green slipcase with leaping tarpon image.

Cole, John. ***Fish Of My Years***. Meadow Run Press. Stone Harbor, N.J. 1995. Pp. 134. Illustrations by Diane Rome Peebles. Cole loves fishing not for the fish so much as for the "fishing life." We have seen that in his other books such as ***Tarpon***. He writes so well that it's a joy to read his antics as he chases from bluefish to brook trout to barracuda. Gold lettering on blue boards and spine in blue slip case with Peebles' barracuda on front board of slipcase.

Connett III, Eugene V. *My Friend the Trout*. Meadow Run Press. Stone Harbor, N.J. 1991. Pp. 115. Introduction by Ernie Schwiebert. Connett came from a moneyed family, was educated at Princeton, loved outdoor sports. Wrote five books about fishing, founded the Derrydale Press which is famous for its field and stream publications and was a leader in the Angler's Club of New York. This marvelous little book you hold is Connett's tribute to a love of his life. Too, it describes a fellowship of anglers that few of us see anymore. The cover and slipcase depict his "friends."

Dimock, A. W. (Anthony Weston). *The book of the Tarpon*. Meadow Run Press. Far Hills, N.J. 2004. Pp. 256. Photos by author. (Reprint). Introduction by Tosh Brown. Dimock was a wealthy late nineteenth century New York banker who liked to fish the Everglades. By chance he came across his first tarpon and he was caught forever. This book is a reprint of Dimock's original with all his find writing and photography. Stories well told and worth reading. He liked especially to fish from his own boat, the well turned out "ship," Irene. New, in slipcase with tarpon photo on case's cover.

McPhee, John. *The American Shad*. Meadow Run Press. Far Hills, N.J. 2002. Pp. 88. Signed. Illustrations by John Rice. Edition of just 500. (Bill Trego asked PF to edit this and a copy of PF's response is under the front cover). This book is an attempt to blend the sport of shad fly fishing with historical strands that may or may not fit. The reader must make that judgement. Green boards with gold fish embossed on cover. In slipcase with paste on label of an angler playing a fish. *2 copies*.

Middleton, Harry. *The Starlight Creek Angling Society*. Meadow Run Press. Stone Harbor, N.J. 1992. Pp. 57. Signed. Illustrated by Peter Corbin. This brief book is of a little boy growing up with two old men on a hardscrabble Ozark farm and close to Karen's creek. The old men created their Society by some mystical means which led to the even more mystical creation of Starlight Creek. Although this book is meant as a stand alone volume, much of its heart and soul are drawn from Middleton's *The Earth is Enough* (1989, Simon and Schuster). *Starlight Creek* is bound in black linen, has its title image pasted on the front maroon slipcase board. The book is of substantial value and should be treated with care.

Newberry, Arthur St. John. *Caught on the Fly*. Meadow Run Press. Stone Harbor, N.J. 1989. Pp. 306. (Reprint of the 1908 edition of 120 signed, special copies). A late nineteenth century East Coast industrialist, Newberry enjoyed the hunting and fishing pleasures of the wealthy chronicled here—from New England to Colorado, Florida and Nassau. Newberry was a fine storyteller. Cover is tan linen with green lettering and a moose and salmon fly drawn on cover.

Reiger, George. *The Bonefish: Tales of the Flats*. Meadow Run Press. Stone Harbor, N.J. 1993. Pp. 247. Signed. Edited and with Notes and an Introduction by Reiger. Illustrated by Peter Corbin. Many authors included. The history of bonefish sport fishing seems to have begun in the early twentieth century in Florida. These powerhouse speedsters, who will not jump but will rip fly line off a salt water beach angler's reel, The fish are found on and off beaches around the world and Reiger has included many adventures from the literature. (It has been my pleasure to share beaches with this fabulous fish). Tan quarter bound linen on blue linen board in slipcase with a Corbin angling scene pasted on cover.

Reiger, George. *The Silver King: Tarpon Tales*. Meadow Run Press. Stone Harbor, N.J. 1992. Pp. 227. Signed. Edited and with Notes and an Introduction by Reiger. Illustrations by Peter Corbin. Unlike the bonefish, tarpon were spread world wide, but are distributed more in the American south and to Cuba and grow to two hundred pounds or more and jump like fury itself. The first rod and reel caught fish probably were taken on American's Gulf coast about 1888. This book records the words of the pioneer tarpon fisher, fly fishers or bait bums! (Divine providence gave me my first tarpon to the fly on my second cast.) Tan quarter bound on blue linen board in slipcase with a Corbin angling scene pasted on front board.

Schwiebert, Ernest. *The Henryville Flyfishers: A Chronicle of American Fly Fishing*. Meadow Run Press. Far Hills, N.J. 1988. Pp. 206. Signed. Illustrated by Taylor Kane. (Note letter from publisher Bill Trego to PF under front cover). The author asserts, with substantial evidence that Pennsylvania's Broadhead River is the springboard of American fly fishing and that the Henryville House, that once stood on the river's banks—even from the time of George Washington—was America's first fishing hotel. So the book is of the river, its famous anglers from Bethune to Sparse and its survival. This is a great peace—in part because of its angling relationship to American social history. Black linen quarter bound on white linen with rising red inked trout on front board. (Ernie signed these in red ink too. Rest his soul!)

Sloan, Stephan. *Thanatofish: An Ocean Odyssey*. Meadow Run Press, Far Hills, N.J. 2004. Pp. 106. The slipcase images if of an original watercolor (coelacanth) created by James Prosek for this book. The coelacanth is a deep water fish thought to be extinct until its rediscovery in 1938. Signed by the author and artist. This book's theme is rooted in William Cullen Bryant's *Thanatopsis*. Gold embossed swordfish on blue linen front board.

Swanson, David. *Water Music*. Meadow Run Press. Far Hills, N.J. 1999. Pp. 124. Photos by the author. An American searches for a new SAAB, and, along the way, some grand salmon in Norway's rivers. A few "characters" appear in the text. Very attractive presentation because the Electra text is printed on tan eighty pound Mohawk Super Fine paper. Book's board is black linen with picture pasted on. Book is housed in leatherette drop spine case with gold embossing. *2 copies*.

Annotations by Paul Ford

Paul and Mary Ann Ford

Professor Emeritus Paul Ford joined Western's Department of Education in 1970. He served the University as teacher/scholar, college administrator, and vice president for academic affairs. A life-long fly fisher, he writes of the sport, and shares with his wife, Mary Ann, a love for searching out fly fishing titles.

Mary Ann Ford received her M.Ed. and Principal's Certificate from Western. She has served as a public school teacher, curriculum director, and principal. She is an astute judge of fly fishing literature and art, and a gifted needlework artist whose pictures include the fly fisher's world.

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