

American Fly Fishing Literature



2018 Exhibit Annotated Guide

The Paul and Mary Ann Ford
Fly Fishing Collection

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JUST FOR FUN

This year's collection is a variety representing different ways of thinking about fly fishing. For example some take the sport as being a loneness without being alone; some view the sport as companionship with another angler or even one's dog. (You might be surprised at the number of anglers that won't touch their fly rods without including "Rover" on the trip.) There are some technicians with the vice and others who toss a big black streamer on floating or sunk line no matter the water. So that's only part of what the reader is faced with in digging into these volumes. Unless otherwise noted, all these books are in mint condition. Too, most are of Montana roots. A hearty chuckle to you as you read!

Blaisdell, Harold F. *The Philosophical Fisherman*. 1969. True first edition. Other editions are noted in later years as first editions, but that is not possible. (See Bruns, notation 171)

Dennis, Jerry. *It's Raining Frogs and Fishes*. 1992. First edition. Signed by the author and illustrator.

_____. *A Place on the River: An Angler's Reflection on Home*. 1993. First edition. Signed by the author and illustrator.

_____. *The Bird in the Waterfall*. 1996. First edition. Signed by the author and illustrator.

_____. *The River Home: An Angler's Explorations*. 1998. First edition. Signed by the author and illustrator.

_____. *From a Wooden Canoe*. 1999. First edition. Signed by the author and illustrator.

Thomas, E. Donnall. *Whitefish Can't Jump & other Tales of Gamefish on the Fly*. 1994. First edition. Signed.

_____. *Dream Fish and Road Trips*. 1996. First edition. Signed.

Fromm, Pete. *Indian Creek Chronicles*. 1993. First edition.

_____. *Blood Knot*. 1998. First edition.

Gasque, Jim. *Bass Fishing*. 1945. First edition.

Gierach, John. *A Fly Rod of Your Own*. 2017. First edition. Signed.

_____. *Dances with Trout*. 1994. First edition.

Gordon, Sid. *How to Fish from Top to Bottom*. Third Printing. 1963.

Holt, John. *Chasing Fish Tales*. Deluxe limited edition. 1993. Number 58 of 250. Signed by the author.

_____. *Coyote Nowhere*. 2000. First edition. Signed by the author and illustrator.

_____. *Waist Deep in Montana's Lakes*. 1992. First edition.

_____. *Guide Wars*. 1997. Deluxe limited edition. Number 8 of 250. Signed by the author, illustrator and publisher.

Hoover, Herbert. *Fishing for the Fun and to Wash Your Soul*. (multiple reprints.) 1963.

Lee, Robert. *Guiding Elliott*. 1997. First edition.

Leeson, Ted. *The Habit of Waters: Reflections on Trout Streams and Fly Fishing*. 1994. First edition

_____. *Inventing Montana: Dispatches from the Madison Valley*. 2009. First edition. Signed.

Lucas, Jason. *Lucas on Bass Fishing*. 1947. First edition. (Well used.)

Ransom, Elmer. *Fishing's Just Luck*. 1945. First edition.

Rubin, Louis. *The Even-Tempered Angler: Being a Treatise in Praise of the Fine Art of Bottom Fishing Together With Remarks on the Other Varieties of Fishermen & Fishing*. 1983. First edition.

Schuyler, Keith. *Lures: A Guide to Sports Fishing*. 1955. First edition.

Smith, Edmund Ware. *The One-Eyed Poacher of Privilege*. 1936, 1939, 1940, 1941. This in an unnumbered copy belonging to H. G. Tapply and for review only.

_____. *Tomato Can Chronicle and other Stories of Fishing and Shooting*. 1937. This is number 241 of 950.

_____. *Tall Tales and Short*. 1935, 1936, 1937, 1938. This is copy 10 of 950.

_____. *Upriver & Down*. 1965. First edition. Signed.

Waldie, Scott. *Travers Corners*. 1997. First edition. Signed.

_____. *Return to Travers Corners Stories*. 2002. First edition. Signed.

_____. *Travers Corners: The Final Chapters*. 2005. First edition.
Signed.

The tale to end all tales:

Paul Ford has sight-fished Rocky Ford Creek in Grant, Washington for thirty years using #14 scuds and 3x tippet and caught some twenty-plus inch rainbows. But a December 22, 2017 piece in the *Wenatchee World* put him to shame because it cited a brief from the *Spokane Spokesman Review* stating that an angler named Don Childress from Sandpoint, Idaho caught and released, earlier in the month, a thirty-inch fish from the same stream. Aside from the fish's unheard of size was the "whimpy" fly rod Don said he was using and guess what—a #20 scud and 5x tippet. Magic!

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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www.library.wvu.edu/specialcollections/Ford

